



UNIVERSITY WITH A PURPOSE



Object Oriented Programming



Creating a Multilevel Hierarchy

- We can build hierarchies that contain as many layers of inheritance.
- For example, given three classes called **A**, **B**, and **C**, **C** can be a subclass of **B**, which is a subclass of **A**.
- When this type of situation occurs, each subclass inherits all of the traits found in all of its superclasses. In this case, **C** inherits all aspects of **B** and **A**.



Creating a Multilevel Hierarchy

```
// Extend BoxWeight to include shipping costs.
class Box {
private double width; private double height;
private double depth;
// construct clone of an object
Box(Box ob) { // pass object to constructor
width = ob.width; height = ob.height;
depth = ob.depth; }
// constructor used when all dimensions given
Box(double w, double h, double d) {
width = w; height = h; depth = d; }
// constructor used when no dimensions given
Box() {
width = -1; // use -1 to indicate
height = -1; // an uninitialized
depth = -1; // box }
// constructor used when cube is created
Box(double len) {
width = height = depth = len; }
// compute and return volume
double volume() {
return width * height * depth; } }
```

```
// Add weight.
class BoxWeight extends Box {
double weight; // weight of box
// construct clone of an object
BoxWeight(BoxWeight ob) { // pass object to constructor
super(ob);
weight = ob.weight;
}
// constructor when all parameters are specified
BoxWeight(double w, double h, double d, double m) {
super(w, h, d); // call superclass constructor
weight = m;
}
// default constructor
BoxWeight() {
super();
weight = -1;
}
```

Creating a Multilevel Hierarchy

```
BoxWeight(double len, double m) {  
    super(len); weight = m; } }  
// Add shipping costs.  
class Shipment extends BoxWeight {  
    double cost;  
    // construct clone of an object  
    Shipment(Shipment ob) { // pass object to constructor  
        super(ob);  
        cost = ob.cost; }  
    // constructor when all parameters  
    Shipment(double w, double h, double d,  
        double m, double c) {  
        super(w, h, d, m); // call superclass constructor  
        cost = c; }  
    // default constructor  
    Shipment() {  
        super(); cost = -1; }  
    // constructor used when cube is created  
    Shipment(double len, double m, double c) {  
        super(len, m); cost = c; } }
```

```
class DemoShipment {  
    public static void main(String args[]) {  
        Shipment shipment1 =  
            new Shipment(10, 20, 15, 10, 3.41);  
        Shipment shipment2 =  
            new Shipment(2, 3, 4, 0.76, 1.28);  
        double vol;  
        vol = shipment1.volume();  
        System.out.println("Volume of shipment1 is " + vol);  
        System.out.println("Weight of shipment1 is "  
            + shipment1.weight);  
        System.out.println("Shipping cost: $" + shipment1.cost);  
        System.out.println();  
        vol = shipment2.volume();  
        System.out.println("Volume of shipment2 is " + vol);  
        System.out.println("Weight of shipment2 is "  
            + shipment2.weight);  
        System.out.println("Shipping cost: $" + shipment2.cost); } }
```

When Constructors Are Executed

When a class hierarchy is created, in what order are the constructors for the classes that make up the hierarchy executed?

For example, given a subclass called **B** and a superclass called **A**, is **A**'s constructor executed before **B**'s, or vice versa?

- The answer is that in a class hierarchy, constructors complete their execution in order of derivation, from superclass to subclass. Further, since **super()** must be the first statement executed in a subclass' constructor, this order is the same whether or not **super()** is used.
- If **super()** is not used, then the default or parameter less constructor of each superclass will be executed.

When Constructors Are Executed

```
// Demonstrate when constructors are executed.
// Create a super class.
class A {
A() {
System.out.println("Inside A's constructor.");
}
}
// Create a subclass by extending class A.
class B extends A {
B() {
System.out.println("Inside B's constructor.");
}
}
// Create another subclass by extending B.
class C extends B {
C() {
System.out.println("Inside C's constructor.");
}
}
```

```
class CallingCons {
public static void main(String args[]) {
C c = new C();
}
}
```

The output from this program is shown here:

Inside A's constructor
Inside B's constructor
Inside C's constructor

Method Overriding

- In a class hierarchy, when a method in a **subclass** has the same name and type signature as a method in its **superclass**, then the method in the subclass is said to override the method in the **superclass**.
- When an overridden method is called from within its subclass, it will always refer to the version of that method defined by the subclass.

Method Overriding

```
// Method overriding.
class A {
    int i, j;
    A(int a, int b) {
        i = a;
        j = b;
    }
    // display i and j
    void show() {
        System.out.println("i and j: " + i + " " + j);
    }
}
class B extends A {
    int k;
    B(int a, int b, int c) {
        super(a, b);
        k = c;
    }
    // display k – this overrides show() in A
    void show() {
        System.out.println("k: " + k);
    }
}
```

```
class Override {
    public static void main(String args[]) {
        B subOb = new B(1, 2, 3);
        subOb.show(); // this calls show() in B
    }
}
```

The output produced by this program is shown here:
k: 3

Note: When **show()** is invoked on an object of type **B**, the version of **show()** defined within **B** is used. That is, the version of **show()** inside **B** overrides the version declared in **A**.

Method Overriding

- If we wish to access the superclass version of an overridden method, you can do so by using **super**.
- For example, in this version of **B**, the superclass version of **show()** is invoked within the subclass' version. This allows all instance variables to be displayed.

```
class B extends A {  
    int k;  
    B(int a, int b, int c) {  
        super(a, b);  
        k = c;  
    }  
    void show() {  
        super.show(); // this calls A's show()  
        System.out.println("k: " + k);  
    }  
}
```

If we substitute this version of **A** into the previous program, you will see the following output:

```
i and j: 1 2  
k: 3
```

Here, **super.show()** calls the superclass version of **show()**.

Method Overloading

- Method overriding occurs only when the names and the type signatures of the two methods are identical. If they are not, then the two methods are simply overloaded.

// Methods with differing type signatures are overloaded – not overridden.

```
class A { int i, j;  
A(int a, int b) {  
i = a; j = b; }  
// display i and j  
void show() {  
System.out.println("i and j: "+i+" "+j); } }  
// Create a subclass by extending class A.  
class B extends A {  
int k;  
B(int a, int b, int c) {  
super(a, b);  
k = c; }  
// overload show()  
void show(String msg) {  
System.out.println(msg + k); } }
```

```
class Override {  
public static void main(String args[]) {  
B subOb = new B(1, 2, 3);  
subOb.show("This is k: "); // this calls show() in B  
subOb.show(); // this calls show() in A  
}  
}
```

The output produced by this program is shown here:

This is k: 3
i and j: 1 2

Note: The version of **show()** in **B** takes a string parameter. This makes its type signature different from the one in **A**, which takes no parameters. Therefore, no overriding (or name hiding) takes place. Instead, the version of **show()** in **B** simply overloads the version of **show()** in **A**.

References

Schildt, H. (2014). *Java: the complete reference*. McGraw-Hill Education Group.