Object-Oriented Programming



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Object-Oriented Software Design

Responsibilities:

Divide the work into different actors, each with a different responsibility. These actors become classes.

• Independence:

Define the work for each class to be as independent from other classes as possible.

Behaviors:

Define the behaviors for each class carefully and precisely, so that the consequences of each action performed by a class will be well understood by other classes that interact with it.

Software must be

Correct: works correctly on all expected inputs.

Readable: easily understandable & verifiable by others.

Robust: capable of handling unexpected inputs that are not

explicitly defined for its intended application.

• **Efficient:** makes good use of computing time & memory resources.

Adaptable: able to evolve over time in response to changing

conditions in its environment. Is easy to update & debug.

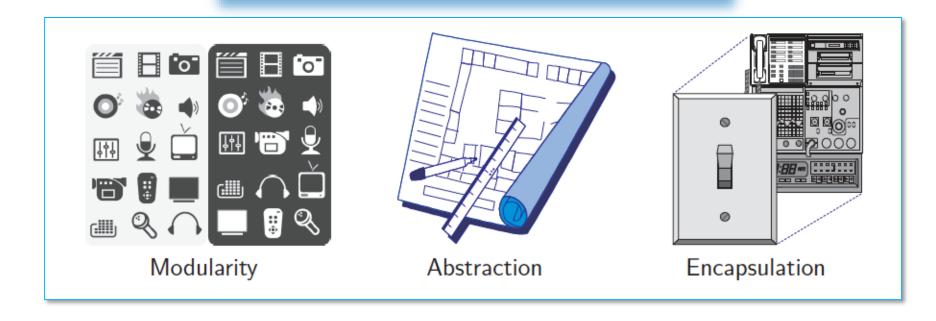
• Flexible: easily generalizable to handle many related scenarios.

Reusable: the same code should be usable as a component of

different systems in various applications.

Object-Oriented Design Principles

- Abstraction
- Modularity
- Encapsulation
- Hierarchical Organization



Abstraction

- Abstraction is to distill a system to its most fundamental parts.
 - The psychological profiling of a programmer is mostly the ability to shift levels of abstraction, from low level to high level.

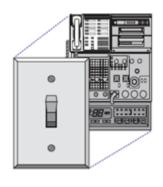
 To see something in the small and to see something in the large.
 - Donald Knuth





Abstraction, 1922. By *Wassily Kandinsky*

Encapsulation



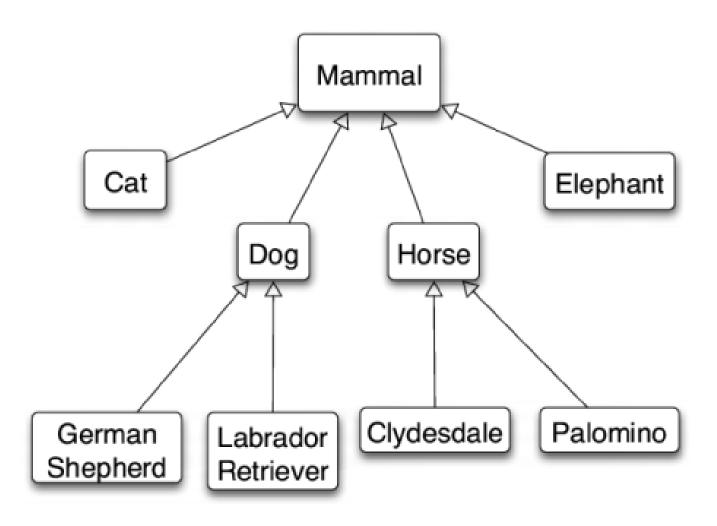
- Information hiding.
- objects reveal only what other objects need to see.
- Internal details are kept private.
- This allows the programmer to implement the object as they wish, as long as the requirements of the abstract interface are satisfied.

Modularity



- Complex software systems are hard to conceptualize, design & maintain.
- This is greatly facilitated by breaking the system up into distinct modules.
- Each module has a well-specified role.
- Modules communicate through well-specified interfaces.
- The primary unit for a module in Java is a package.

A Hierarchy



Hierarchical Design

Hierarchical class definitions allow efficient re-use of «interface» common software over Collection different contexts. «interface» «interface» List Set «class» «class» «class» «class» «class» LinkedHashSet HashSet LinkedList **TreeSet ArrayList**

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Design Patterns ©

Algorithmic patterns:

- Recursion
- Amortization
- Divide-and-conquer
- Prune-and-search
- Brute force
- Dynamic programming
- The greedy method

Software design patterns:

- Iterator
- Adapter
- Position
- Composition
- Template method
- Locator
- Factory method

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Abstract Data Types

- Abstraction is to distill a system to its most fundamental parts.
- Applying the abstraction paradigm to the design of data structures gives rise to abstract data types (ADTs) with state (data) & behavior (functionality).
- An ADT is a model of a data structure that specifies the type of data stored, the operations supported on them, and the types of parameters of the operations.
- An ADT specifies what each operation does, but not how it does it.
 - The "how" is provided by the software that implements the ADT.
- The collective set of behaviors supported by an ADT is its public interface. The interface guarantees certain invariants.
- **Invariant:** a fact about the ADT that is always true, e.g., a Date object always represents a valid date.

Class Definitions

- A **class** serves as the primary means for abstraction in OOP.
- In Java, every variable is either a base type or is a reference to an object which is an instance of some class.
- Each class presents to the outside world a concise and consistent view of the objects that are its instances, without revealing too much unnecessary detail or giving others access to the inner workings of the objects.
- The class definition specifies its members. These are typically instance variables (aka, fields or data members) that any instance object contains, as well as the methods, (aka, member functions) that the object can execute.

Unified Modeling Language (UML)

A class diagram has three parts.

- 1. The name of the (concrete or abstract) class or interface
- 2. The recommended instance variables or fields
- The recommended methods of the class.

class:	CreditCard	
fields:	customer : Stringbank : Stringaccount : String	<pre>— limit : int # balance : double</pre>
methods:	 + getCustomer(): String + getBank(): String + charge(price: double): boolean + makePayment(amount: double) 	<pre>+ getAccount() : String + getLimit() : int + getBalance() : double</pre>

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Interfaces

 The main structural element in Java that enforces an application programming interface (API) is an interface.

- An interface contains constants & abstract methods with no bodies; all public by default.
- It has no constructors & can't be directly instantiated.
- A class that implements an interface, must implement all of the methods declared in the interface (no inheritance); otherwise won't compile.

Abstract Classes

- An abstract class also cannot be instantiated, but it can define one or more methods that all implementations of the abstraction will have.
- Their sole purpose is to be extended.
- A class must be a subclass of an abstract class to extend it & implement all its abstract methods (or else be abstract itself).

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Interfaces & Abstract Classes

- A class that implements an interface, must implement all of the methods declared in the interface (no inheritance); otherwise won't compile.
- As a result, unlike abstract classes, interfaces are non-adaptable: you can't add new methods to it without breaking its contract.
- However, interfaces offer great flexibility for its implementers:
 a class can implement any number of interfaces, regardless of
 where that class is in the class hierarchy.

Inheritance

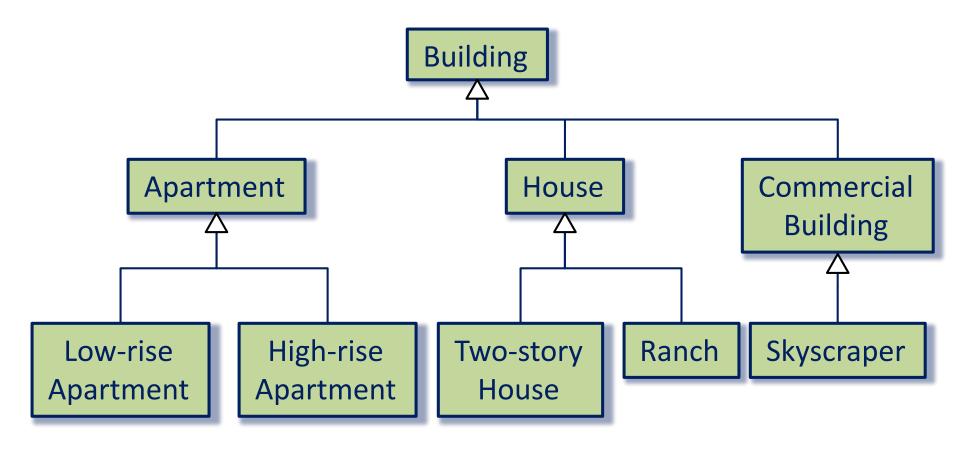
- is a mechanism for modular and hierarchical organization.
- A (child) subclass extends a (parent) superclass.
- A subclass inherits (non-constructor) members of its superclass.
- Two ways a subclass can differ from its superclass:
 - Can extend the superclass by providing brand-new data members & methods (besides those inherited from the superclass, other than constructors).
 - Polymorphism: may specialize an existing behavior by providing a new implementation to override an existing non-static method of the superclass.

Java is Single Inheritance

- Java (unlike C++) is single inheritance OOL:
 any class other than the root class Object,
 extends exactly one parent superclass.
 That is, Java classes form a tree hierarchy.
- Regardless of where it is in the inheritance tree, a class can implement several interfaces.

This is *multi-role playing* (aka, *mixin*), **not** multiple inheritance.

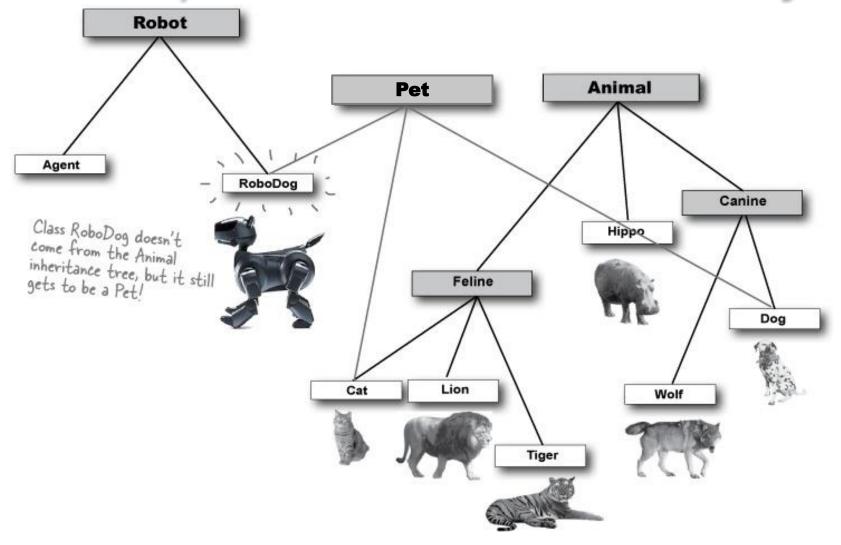
Class Inheritance Tree Hierarchy



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Class/interface DAG Hierarchy



Constructors

 A user can create an instance of a class by using the **new** operator with a method that has the same name as the class.



 Such a method, known as a constructor, establishes a new object with appropriate initial values for its instance variables.

Inheritance and Constructors

- Constructors are never inherited in Java;
 hence, every class must define a constructor
 - which can refine a superclass constructor.
 - must properly initialize all class fields, including any inherited fields.
- The first operation within the body of a constructor must be to invoke a constructor of the superclass, which initializes the fields defined in the superclass.
- A constructor of the superclass is invoked explicitly by using the keyword **super** with appropriate parameters.
- If a constructor for a subclass does not make an explicit call to **super** or **this** as its first command, then an implicit call to **super**(), the zero-parameter version of the superclass constructor, will be made.

Polymorphism

- Polymorphism: means taking on many forms.
- Example: Super var = new Sub(...);

says *var* is declared as *Super* type, but is instanceof and references an object of *Sub* type.

 var is polymorphic; it can take one of many forms, depending on the specific class or subclass of the object to which it refers at runtime.

Dynamic dispatch

- With polymorphism, one method works on many classes, even if the classes need different implementations of that method.
- Dynamic dispatch is a process used by JVM at runtime to call the version of the overriden method most specific to actual (dynamic) type, not declared (static) type, of the polymorphic variable var.
- Example: Super var = new Sub(...);
 Suppose we call var.myMethod
 and at runtime (var instanceof Sub) is true.
 Will JVM execute var.(Sub.myMethod) or var.(Super.myMethod)?
 - JVM calls Sub.myMethod, since var refers to an instance of Sub, even though its static type is Super.

Overriding vs overloading

- Overriden method selection is dynamic (uses dynamic dispatch)
- Overloaded method selection is static,
 based on compile-time type of the parameters.
- Because overriding is the norm and overloading is the exception, overriding sets people's expectations for the behavior of method invocation.
- Most often, instead of overloading, we can use different names.
- Constructors can't use different names & are typically overloaded, but fortunately they cannot be overriden!

Motto: avoid confusing uses of overloading.

See more examples on the following pages.

Example: Overriding

```
------ What does this program print?
public class Wine {
                                                               output:
     String name() { return "wine"; }
                                                                  wine
public class SparklingWine extends Wine {
                                                                  sparkling wine
                                                                  champagne
     @Override String name() { return "sparkling wine" ; }
public class Champagne extends SparklingWine {
     @Override String name() { return "champagne" ; }
public class Overriding {
     public static void main(String[] args) {
          Wine[] wines = { new Wine(), new SparklingWine(), new Champagne() };
          for (Wine wine : wines) System.out.println( wine.name() );
```

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Example: Overloading

```
------ Broken! – What does this program print?
public class WineRegion {
     public static String region (Wine w) { return "Napa Valley" ; }
     public static String region (SparklingWine s) { return "Niagara" ; }
     public static String region ( Champagne c ) { return "France" ; }
                                                               output:
     public static void main(String[] args) {
                                                                      Napa Valley
          Wine[] wines = {
                                                                      Napa Valley
                new Wine(),
                                                                      Napa Valley
                new SparklingWine (),
                new Champagne ()
          };
          for (Wine w: wines) System.out.println(region(w));
```

Example: Overloading - fixed

```
// Fixed by a single method that does an explicit instanceof test
public class WineRegion {
     public static String region ( Wine w ) {
          return (w instanceof Champagne)? "France":
                 ((w instanceof SparklingWine)? "Niagara": "Napa Valley");
                                                              output:
     public static void main(String[] args) {
                                                                     Napa Valley
          Wine[] wines = {
                                                                     Niagara
                new Wine(),
                                                                     France
                new SparklingWine (),
                new Champagne ()
          };
          for (Wine w: wines) System.out.println(region(w));
```

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Class definition syntax

```
class SubClass
      extends SuperClass
      implements Interface1, Interface2, Interface3
            // definitions of non-inherited instance variable
            // subclass constructors
            // overriden superclass methods
            // other, inherited, superclass methods omitted
            // implementation of all interface methods
            // brand-new methods
```

Interface definition syntax

Example

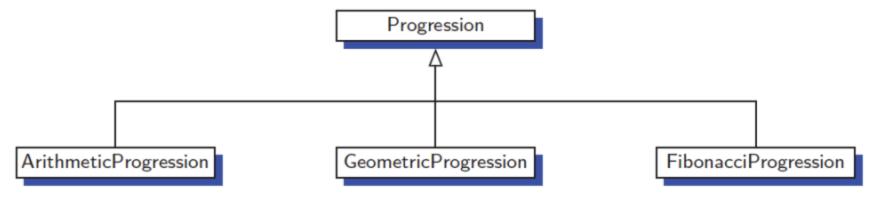
```
abstract class Figure {
          abstract double area();
                                                          Circle
class Circle extends Figure {
          final double radius;
          Circle (double radius) { this.radius = radius ; }
          double area() { return Math.PI * radius * radius ; }
class Rectangle extends Figure {
          final double length, width;
          Rectangle (double length, double width) {
                    this.length = length;
                    this.width = width;
          double area() { return length * width ; }
class Square extends Rectangle {
          Square (double side) { super(side , side) ; }
```

Figure

Rectangle

An Extended Example

- A numeric progression is a sequence of numbers, where each number depends on one or more of the previous numbers.
 - An arithmetic progression determines the next number by adding a fixed constant to the previous value.
 - A geometric progression determines the next number by multiplying the previous value by a fixed constant.
 - A **Fibonacci progression** uses the formula $N_{i+1} = N_i + N_{i-1}$



The Progression Base Class

```
/** Generates a simple progression. By default: 0, 1, 2, ... */
    public class Progression {
 3
      // instance variable
      protected long current;
 6
      /** Constructs a progression starting at zero. */
      public Progression() { this(0); }
 9
10
      /** Constructs a progression with given start value. */
      public Progression(long start) { current = start; }
11
12
13
      /** Returns the next value of the progression. */
14
      public long nextValue() {
15
        long answer = current;
16
        advance(); // this protected call is responsible for advancing the current value
17
        return answer:
18
```

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The Progression Base Class, 2

```
19
      /** Advances the current value to the next value of the progression. */
20
21
      protected void advance() {
22
        current++:
23
24
25
      /** Prints the next n values of the progression, separated by spaces. */
26
      public void printProgression(int n) {
        System.out.print(nextValue()); // print first value without leading space
27
        for (int j=1; j < n; j++)
28
          System.out.print(" " + nextValue()); // print leading space before others
29
        System.out.println();
30
                                                 // end the line
31
32
```

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ArithmeticProgression Subclass

```
public class ArithmeticProgression extends Progression {
 3
      protected long increment;
      /** Constructs progression 0, 1, 2, ... */
 6
      public ArithmeticProgression() { this(1, 0); } // start at 0 with increment of 1
 8
      /** Constructs progression 0, stepsize, 2*stepsize, ... */
      public ArithmeticProgression(long stepsize) { this(stepsize, 0); }
                                                                             // start at 0
10
      /** Constructs arithmetic progression with arbitrary start and increment. */
      public ArithmeticProgression(long stepsize, long start) {
        super(start);
13
14
        increment = stepsize;
15
16
      /** Adds the arithmetic increment to the current value. */
      protected void advance() {
18
        current += increment;
20
```

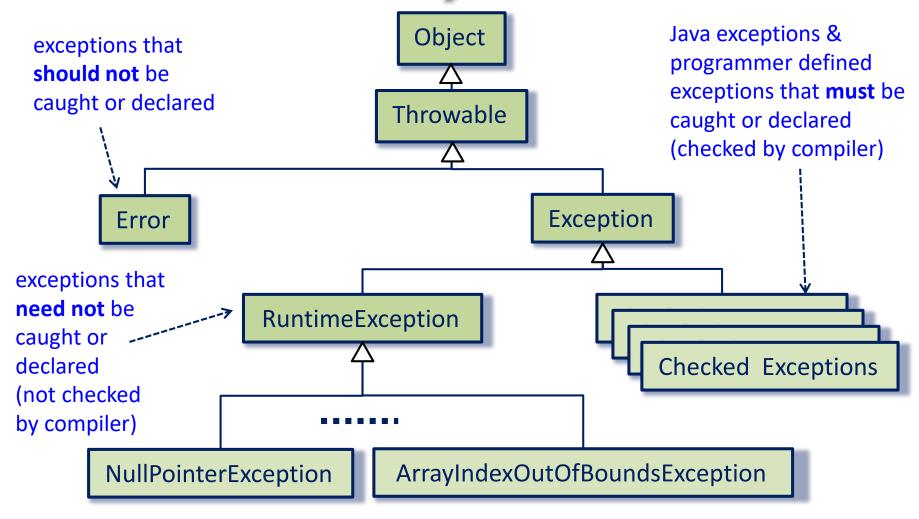
GeometricProgression Subclass

```
public class GeometricProgression extends Progression {
      protected long base;
      /** Constructs progression 1, 2, 4, 8, 16, ... */
      public GeometricProgression() { this(2, 1); }
                                                               // start at 1 with base of 2
      /** Constructs progression 1, b, b^2, b^3, b^4, ... for base b. */
      public GeometricProgression(long b) { this(b, 1); }
                                                                                 start at 1
10
11
      /** Constructs geometric progression with arbitrary base and start. */
      public GeometricProgression(long b, long start) {
12
13
        super(start);
        base = b;
14
15
16
      /** Multiplies the current value by the geometric base. */
17
18
      protected void advance() {
        current *= base;
19
                                                // multiply current by the geometric base
20
```

FibonacciProgression Subclass

```
public class FibonacciProgression extends Progression {
      protected long prev;
 5
      /** Constructs traditional Fibonacci, starting 0, 1, 1, 2, 3, ... */
 6
      public FibonacciProgression() { this(0, 1); }
 8
      /** Constructs generalized Fibonacci, with give first and second values. */
 9
      public FibonacciProgression(long first, long second) {
        super(first);
10
11
        prev = second - first; // fictitious value preceding the first
12
13
14
      /** Replaces (prev, current) with (current, current+prev). */
15
      protected void advance() {
16
        long temp = prev;
17
        prev = current;
18
        current += temp;
19
20
```

Exceptions



Examples of Exceptions

Exception	Occasion for Use
IllegalArgumentException	Non-null parameter value is inappropriate
IllegalStateException	Object state is inappropriate for method invocation
NullPointerException	Parameter value is null where prohibited
IndexOutOfBoundsException	Index parameter value is out of range
ConcurrentModificationException	Concurrent modification of an object has been detected where it is prohibited
UnsupportedOperationException	Object does not support method

Exceptions

- Exceptions are unexpected events that occur during the execution of a program, for example due to:
 - an unavailable resource (error if not recoverable)
 - unexpected input from a user (checked exception if recoverable)
 - a logical error on the part of the programmer (run time exception)
- In Java, exceptions are objects that can be **thrown** by code that encounters an unexpected situation.
- An exception may also be caught by a surrounding block of code that "handles" the problem.
- If uncaught, an exception causes the virtual machine to stop executing the program and to report an appropriate message to the console.

Catching Exceptions

The general methodology
for handling exceptions is

 a try-catch or try-catch-finally
 construct in which a guarded
 code fragment that might throw an exception is executed.

```
try {
      guardedBody
} catch (exceptionType1 variable1) {
      remedyBody1
} catch (exceptionType2 variable2) {
      remedyBody2
} finally {
      cleanupBody // e.g., close file
}
```

- If it **throws** an exception, then that exception is caught by having the flow of control jump to a predefined **catch** block that contains the code to apply an appropriate resolution.
- If no exception occurs in the guarded code, all **catch** blocks are ignored.
- If the **finally** block is present, it is always executed (even if no exception is thrown) and has *higher* precedence than **catch** blocks.

Throwing Exceptions

- Exceptions originate when a piece of Java code finds some sort of problem during execution and throws an exception object.
- This is done by using the **throw** keyword followed by an instance of the exception type to be thrown.
- It is often convenient to instantiate an exception object at the time the exception has to be thrown. Thus, a throw statement is typically written as follows:

throw new exceptionType(parameters);

where *exceptionType* is the type of the exception and the parameters are sent to that type's constructor.

The throws Clause

- When a method is declared, it is possible to explicitly declare, as part of its signature, the possibility that a particular exception type may be thrown during a call to that method.
- The syntax for declaring possible exceptions in a method signature relies on the keyword throws (not to be confused with an actual throw statement).
- Example: the parseInt method of the Integer class has the following formal signature:

public static int parseInt(String s)
 throws NumberFormatException;

Design Decision

If an unusual situation occurs, should I throw an exception?

- If you can resolve the unusual situation in a reasonable manner, you likely can use a decision statement instead of throwing an exception.
- If several resolutions to an abnormal occurrence are possible, and you want the client to choose one, you should throw a checked exception.
- If a programmer makes a coding mistake by using your method incorrectly, you can throw a runtime exception. However, you should not throw a runtime exception simply to enable a client to avoid handling it.

Casting

- Casting with Objects allows for conversion between classes and subclasses.
- A widening conversion occurs when a type T is converted into a "wider" type U, i.e., "T IS_A U"

Example:

```
Super var1 = new Sub(...); // implicit widening
```

Narrowing Conversions

- A narrowing conversion occurs when a type T is converted into a "narrower" type S, i.e., "S IS_A T"
- In general, a narrowing conversion of reference types requires an explicit cast.

Example:

```
Super var1 = new Sub(...); // implicit widening
Sub var2 = (Sub) var1; // explicit narrowing
```

Quiz: What is the output?

```
public class Quiz {
    static class A { String a; public A() { a = "AAA"; } }
    static class B extends A { String b; public B() { b = "BBB"; } }
    static class C extends B { String c; public C() { c = "CCC"; } }
     public static void main(String[] args) {
         A v = new B(), w = new C();
          System.out.println(v.a);
          System.out.println( v.b );
          System.out.println(((B) v).b);
          System.out.println( ( (C) v ).a );
          System.out.println( ( (B) w ).a );
```

Generics

- Java includes support for writing generic types that can operate on a variety of data types while avoiding the need for explicit casts & with type safety through compile-time type-checking.
- Prior to generics (as of Java SE 5), Object was used as the universal super-type. Disadvantages:
 - frequent casting to specific actual type.
 - thwarted compiler's type-checking mechanism.
- The generics framework allows us to define a class in terms of a set of formal type parameters, undefined at compile time, which can then be used as the declared non-primitive type for variables, parameters, and return values within the class definition.
- Those formal type parameters are later specified by actual type arguments when using the generic class as a type elsewhere in a program.

Syntax for Generics

• Example: a generic paired item by composition:

```
public class Pair<A,B> {
    A first;
    B second;
    public Pair(A a, B b) {
        first = a;
        second = b;
    }
    public A getFirst() { return first; }
    public B getSecond() { return second;}
}
```

Can be re-used to instantiate any paired item:

```
Person: (String name, Integer age)
Stock-ticker: (String stock, Double price)
2D point: (Double x, Double y)
```

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Type inference with generics

(as of Java SE 7)

```
1. // declare explicit actual type
       Pair<String , Double > bid;
      // instantiate by explicit actual type
       bid = new Pair<String, Double>("ORCL", 32.07);
 Alternatively, rely on type inference by <> (the "dymond"):
       // instantiate by type inference
       bid = new Pair<> ("ORCL", 32.07);
3.
       // combined declaration & instantiation:
       Pair<String , Double > bid = new Pair<> ("ORCL" , 32.07);
4.
       String stock = bid.getFirst();
       double price = bid.getSecond(); // auto unboxing
```

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Bounded generics

- Wild-card "?" stands for "any class or interface"
- Bounded generics with wild-cards:
 - <? extends T >

stands for any subtype of T: any class or interface in the hierarchy rooted at the type represented by the generic type T.

<? super T>

stands for any supertype of T: the generic type <T> or higher up in its hierarchy (as direct or indirect super-class or super-interface).

Recursive type bounding:

e.g., <T extends Comparable<T>>
may be read as: "for any type T that can be compared to itself"

- Generics are a compile-time construct
 - the type information is lost at runtime.
- This was a deliberate decision to allow backward compatibility with pre-generics Java code.
- As a consequence:
 - you can declare an array of generic type,
 - but you cannot create an array of generic type,
 because the compiler doesn't know how to create
 an array of an unknown component type.

- Two important incompatibilities between arrays & generics:
- Arrays are covariant & reified
- Generics are invariant & non-reified (aka, type erase)
 - Covariant: A is subtype of B ⇒ A[] is subtype of B[]
 - Invariant: A & B distinct types ⇒ List<A> and List have no hierarchical relationship
 - Reified: retains & enforces static (compile-time) type at runtime
 - Non-reified (aka, type erase): loses type information at runtime
- Why is Generic Array Creation not Allowed in Java? Answer.
- So, how can we create "generic" arrays? ... next page.

```
Object-based collection – a prime candidate for generics
// Raw type is not type-safe: any type element can be pushed into stack.
public class Stack {
     private Object[] elements; // declaring raw type array
     private int size = 0;
     private static final int CAPACITY = 100;
     public Stack() {
                                        // raw type constructor
          elements = new Object[CAPACITY];
     public void push (Object e) {
          elements[size++] = e;
     public Object pop() {
          if (size == 0) throw new EmptyStackException();
          Object result = elements[--size];
          elements[size] = null;  // eliminate obsolete reference
          return result;
```

```
Initial attempt to generify Stack – won't compile!
public class Stack<E> {
     private E[] elements;
                                        // using "generic" array
     private int size = 0;
     private static final int CAPACITY = 100;
     public Stack() {
                         // "generic" type constructor
          elements = new E[CAPACITY]; // compiler error
     public void push (E e) {
          elements[size++] = e;
     public E pop() {
          if (size == 0) throw new EmptyStackException();
          E result = elements[--size];
          elements[size] = null;  // eliminate obsolete reference
          return result;
```

```
/** First solution: apply explicit cast in constructor.
 * The elements array will contain only E instances from push(E).
 * This is sufficient to ensure type safety, but the runtime type
   of the reified array won't be E[]; it will always be Object[]!
 */
@SuppressWarnings("unchecked") // risky - use cautiously!
public Stack() {
     elements = (E[]) new Object[CAPACITY]; // explicit cast
// ... the rest unchanged
```

```
/* Second solution: apply explicit cast in pop().
 * Appropriate suppression of unchecked warning
 */
public E pop() {
     if (size == 0) throw new EmptyStackException();
     // push requires elements to be of type E, so cast is correct
     @SuppressWarnings("unchecked")
     E result = (E) elements[--size];
                                   // eliminate obsolete reference
     elements[size] = null;
     return result;
// ... the rest unchanged
```

Generic Methods

```
public class GenericDemo {
    public static_<T> void reverse ( T[ ] data ) {
         int low = 0, high = data.length -1;
         while (low < high ) { // swap data[low] & data[high]</pre>
             T temp = data[low];
              data[low++] = data[high]; // post-increment low
              data[high--] = temp; // post-decrement high
      modifier <T> indicates that this is a generic method
```

A call to **reverse(arr)** reverses elements of array **arr** of any declared reference type.

```
6 public class GenericDemo {
         public static <T> void reverse(T[] data) {
  70
              int low = 0, high = data.length - 1;
  8
             while (low < high) { // swap data[low] & data[high]</pre>
 10
                 T temp = data[low];
                 data[low++] = data[high]; // post-increment low
 11
 12
                 data[high--] = temp; // post-decrement high
 13
 14
 15⊜
         public static <T> void test(T[] data) {
 16
             System.out.println("\nA New Test:");
 17
             for (T e : data) System.out.print(e + " ");
             System.out.print(" <-- REVERSED --> ");
 18
 19
             reverse(data);
 20
             for (T e : data) System.out.print(e + " ");
 21
 229
       public static void main(String[] args) {
             test(new Integer[] { 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 });
 23
             test(new String[] { "Merry", "Tom", "Dick", "Harry" });
 24
 25
 26
■ Console ※
<terminated> GenericDemo [Java Application] C:\Program Files (x86)\Java\jre7\bin\javaw.ex
A New Test:
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 <-- REVERSED --> 7 6 5 4 3 2 1
A New Test:
Merry Tom Dick Harry <-- REVERSED --> Harry Dick Tom Merry
```

Bounded wildcards increase API flexibility

- For maximum flexibility, use wildcard types on input parameters that represent **producers** or **consumers**.
- Don't use wildcards on return types.

Motto: PECS stands for producer-extends, consumer-super.

- Example: method max(list) returns the maximum element of list. This needs elements of list to be Comparable so that we can apply the compareTo method on them.
 - max: list is producer, Comparable is consumer.
 - The attempted generic solutions follow ...

Bounded wildcards ...

```
public static <E> E max( List<E> list)
                         generic E should be Comparable
   public static < E extends Comparable<E> >
                   E max( List<E> list)
                          PECS
public static <E extends Comparable<? super E> >
                E max( List<? extends E> list)
```

Bounded wildcards ...

```
public static <E extends Comparable<? super E> >
               E max(List<? extends E> list) {
     // see Slide 7 on List ADT & Iterators
     Iterator<? extends E> iterList = list.iterator();
     E result = iterList.next();
     while ( iterList.hasNext() ) {
          E e = iterList.next();
          if (e.compareTo(result) > 0 ) result = e;
     return result;
```

Nested Classes

- a class definition nested inside the definition of another class.
- There are 4 kinds of nested classes:
 - static, non-static, anonymous, local.
 All but the first are called inner classes.
- The main use for nested classes is when defining a class that is strongly affiliated with another class.
 - enhances encapsulation & reduces undesired name conflicts.
- Nested classes are a valuable technique to implement data structures. A nested class can be used to represent a small portion of a larger data structure, or an auxiliary class that helps navigate a primary data structure.

Summary



- object oriented design principles:
 - abstraction, modularity, encapsulation, inheritance, polymorphism
- program development:

design, coding, errors, testing & debugging

- ADTs
- interfaces, concrete & abstract classes
- exceptions
- casting
- **generics:** for an in-depth study click here or read "Effective Java".
- nested classes

