
CS2030 Lecture 4

Interface: Contract Between Classes

Henry Chia (hchia@comp.nus.edu.sg)

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Lecture Outline and Learning Outcomes

- ❑ Be able to define and implement an **interface**
- ❑ Understand when to use inheritance and when to implement an interface
- ❑ Understand how inheritance and interfaces can both support polymorphism and substitutability
- ❑ Be able to define an **abstract class** for the purpose of inheritance
- ❑ Understand the **SOLID principles** and their application in the design of object-oriented software
- ❑ Familiarity with the *Java Collections Framework*
- ❑ Be able to make use of interfaces specified in the Java API

Designing Circles and Rectangles as Shapes

- Define Shape as a parent class of Circle and Rectangle with corresponding properties and getArea() methods

```
class Shape {  
    double getArea() { return -1.0; }  
}  
  
class Circle extends Shape {  
    private final int radius;  
    Circle(int radius) {  
        this.radius = radius;  
    }  
    @Override  
    double getArea() {  
        return Math.PI * radius * radius;  
    }  
    @Override  
    public String toString() {  
        return "Circle with radius " +  
            this.radius;  
    }  
}
```

```
class Rectangle extends Shape {  
    private final int width;  
    private final int height;  
    Rectangle(int width, int height) {  
        this.width = width;  
        this.height = height;  
    }  
    @Override  
    double getArea() {  
        return width * height;  
    }  
    @Override  
    public String toString() {  
        return "Rectangle " + this.width +  
            " x " + this.height;  
    }  
}
```

```
jshell> new Shape() // does not make sense to create a Shape object!  
$.. ==> Shape@68be2bc2  
  
jshell> new Shape().getArea() // ???  
$.. ==> -1.0
```

Defining an Interface as a Contract

- Shape is not an object; it should only *specify behaviours* (or methods) to be defined in the implementation class
- Implementing the Shape interface as a “contract”

```
interface Shape {  
    double getArea(); // specify getArea as a method of the contract  
}
```

- Interface methods are implicitly **public**, hence overriding implementation methods are defined with the same access

```
class Circle implements Shape { // use the implements keyword  
    private final int radius;  
  
    Circle(int radius) {  
        this.radius = radius;  
    }  
  
    @Override  
    public double getArea() { // implement the contract method specification  
        return Math.PI * this.radius * this.radius;  
    }  
    ...  
}
```

Implementing Multiple Interfaces

- Implementing behaviours specified in multiple interfaces

```
interface Scalable {
    Scalable scale(int factor);
}

class Circle implements Shape, Scalable {
    private final int radius;

    Circle(int radius) {
        this.radius = radius;
    }

    @Override
    public double getArea() { // implementing getArea from Shape
        return Math.PI * this.radius * this.radius;
    }

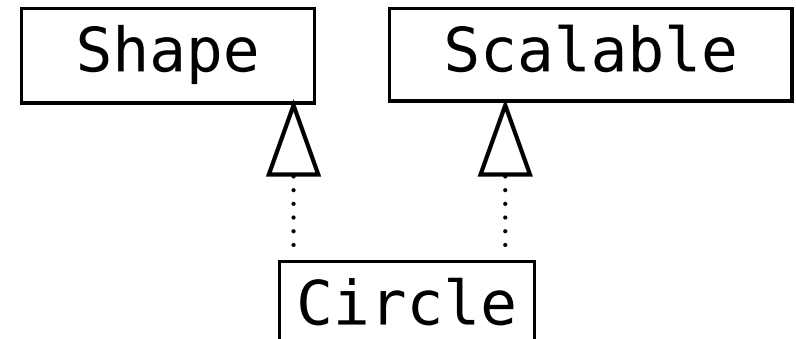
    @Override
    public Circle scale(int factor) { // implementing scale from Scalable
        return new Circle(this.radius * factor);
    }
    ...
}
```

- Unlike interfaces, a child class **cannot** extend from multiple parents; **class** A **extends** B, C {...} is invalid!

Is-A Relationship Revisted

- An implementation class is *substitutable* for its interface
 - Circle *is a* Shape; Circle *is a* Scalable

```
jshell> Circle c = new Circle(1)
c ==> Circle with radius 1
jshell> Shape s = c
s ==> Circle with radius 1
jshell> s.getArea()
$.. ==> 3.141592653589793
jshell> s.scale(2) // scale is not defined in Shape
| Error:
| cannot find symbol
|   symbol:   method scale(int)
|   s.scale(2)
|   ^-----^
jshell> Scalable k = c
k ==> Circle with radius 1
jshell> k.scale(2)
$.. ==> Circle with radius 2
jshell> k.getArea() // getArea is not defined in Scalable
| Error:
| cannot find symbol
|   symbol:   method getArea()
|   k.getArea()
|   ^-----^
```



From Concrete Class to Interfaces

- **Concrete class** defines the actual implementation with data (properties) and behaviour (methods)
- **Interface** specifies methods to be implemented, with no data
- **Abstract class** is a trade off between the two
 - can have properties to be inherited by child classes
 - can have some methods defined; hence cannot instantiate

```
abstract class FilledShape {  
    protected final Color color;  
    FilledShape(Color color) {  
        this.color = color;  
    }  
    // declare method as abstract  
    abstract double getArea();  
    Color getColor() {  
        return this.color;  
    }  
}
```

```
class Circle extends FilledShape {  
    private final int radius;  
    Circle(int radius, Color color) {  
        super(color);  
        this.radius = radius;  
    }  
    @Override  
    double getArea() {  
        return Math.PI * radius * radius;  
    }  
}
```

- Multiple inheritance, even for abstract classes, is not allowed

In CS2030, we use only “pure” interfaces. fyi, as of Java 8 “impure” interfaces can include default methods with implementations.

SOLID Principles in OO Design

- **Single responsibility principle:**

a class should have only one reason to change

— Robert C. Martin (Uncle Bob)

- **Liskov substitution principle:**

Let $\phi(x)$ be a property provable about objects x of type T . Then $\phi(y)$ should be true for objects y of type S where S is a subtype of T .

— Barbara Liskov

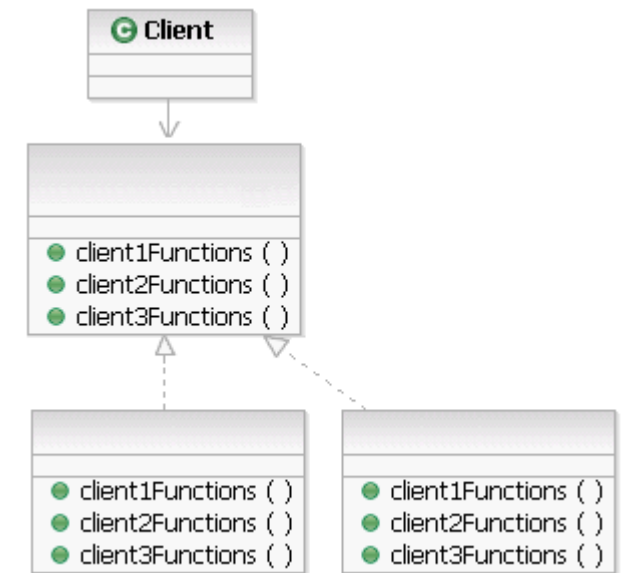
- If S is a *subtype* of T (denoted $S <: T$), then an object of type T can be replaced by that of type S *without changing the desirable property* of the program

SOLID Principles in OO Design

□ Open–closed principle:

classes should be *open for extension, but closed for modification*
— Bertrand Meyer

```
jshell> class A { void foo() { } }  
| created class A  
  
jshell> void client(A a) { a.foo(); }  
| created method client(A)  
  
jshell> client(new A())  
  
jshell> class B extends A { }  
| created class B  
  
jshell> class C extends A { @Override void foo() { } }  
| created class C  
  
jshell> class D extends B { @Override void foo() { } }  
| created class D  
  
jshell> client(new B()) // client does not need modification  
jshell> client(new C()) // C:foo() invoked  
jshell> client(new D()) // D:foo() invoked
```



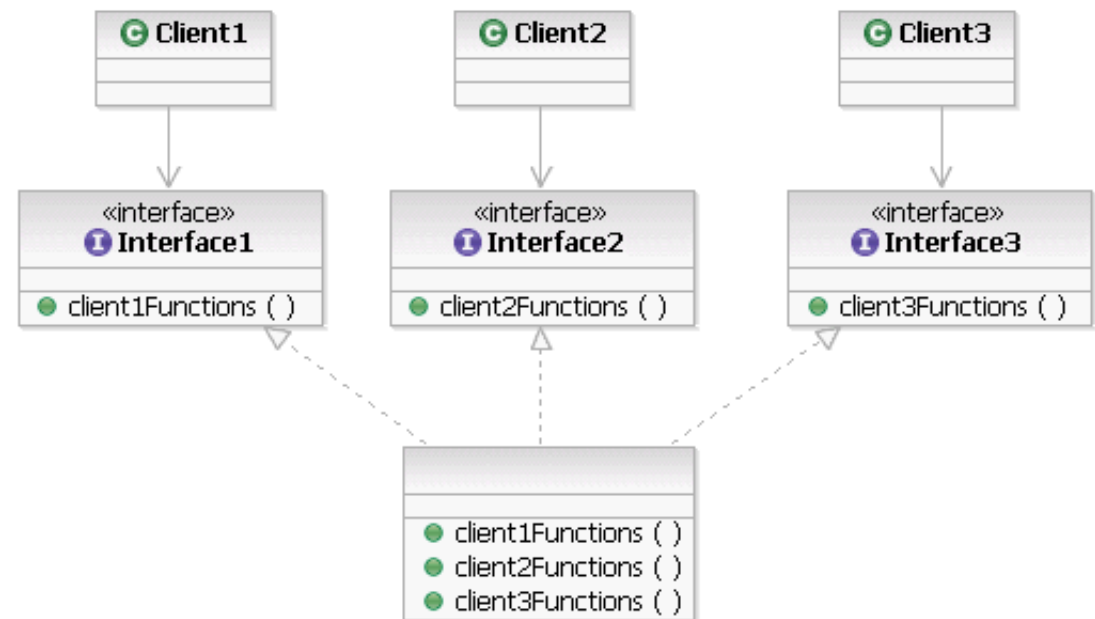
SOLID Principles in OO Design

□ Interface segregation principle:

no client should be forced to depend on methods it does not use.

— Uncle Bob

```
jshell> Circle circle = new Circle(1)
circle ==> Circle with radius 1
jshell> double client1(Shape s) {
...>     return s.getArea();
...> }
| created method client1(Shape)
jshell> Scalable client2(Scalable k) {
...>     return k.scale(2);
...> }
| created method client2(Scalable)
jshell> client1(circle)
$.. ==> 3.141592653589793
jshell> client2(circle)
$.. ==> Circle with radius 2
```



SOLID Principles in OO Design

□ Dependency inversion principle:

Program to an interface, not an implementation.

— GoF

```
jshell> /list Shape
```

```
1 : interface Shape { // Shape is the contract
    double getArea();
}
```

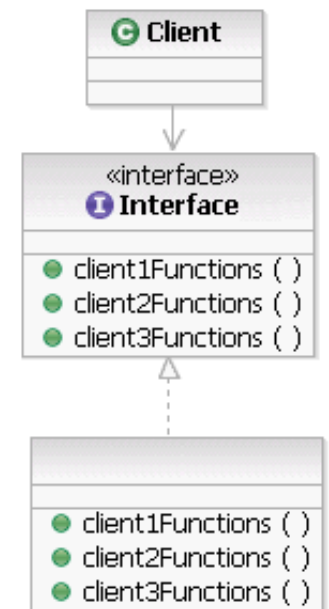
```
jshell> Shape s = new Circle(1)
s ==> Area 3.14 and perimeter 6.28
```

```
jshell> class Circle implements Shape { // Circle follows contract specs
...>     private final int radius;
...>     public double getArea() {
...>         return Math.PI * this.radius * this.radius;
...>     }
...> }
```

```
| created class Circle
```

```
jshell> double client(Shape s) { // client codes according to contract
...>     return s.getArea();
...> }
| created method client(Shape)
```

```
jshell> client(circle)
$.. ==> 3.141592653589793
```



The List Interface

- List interface specifies a contract for implementing a *collection* of possibly duplicate objects with element order
- Classes that implement List includes:
 - public-facing: e.g. ArrayList, LinkedList, Vector
`List<Integer> list = new ArrayList<Integer>();`
 - non-public-facing: e.g. AbstractImmutableList
`List<Integer> list = List.of(1);`
- List *inherits* from a parent interface Collection
 - Java API provides collections to store related objects
 - ▷ provides methods that organize, store and retrieve data
 - ▷ there is no need to know how data is being stored

Java Collections Framework

- Collection-framework interfaces declare operations to be performed generically on various type of collections

Interface	Description
Collection	The root interface in the collections hierarchy from which interfaces Set, Queue and List are derived.
Set	A collection that does not contain duplicates.
List	An ordered collection that can contain duplicate elements.
Map	A collection that associates keys to values and cannot contain duplicate keys.
Queue	Typically a first-in, first-out collection that models a waiting line; other orders can be specified.

- Collections of *generic* type `<E>` contain references to objects (elements) of type `E`

Java Collections Framework: List<E>

void	<code>add(int index, E element)</code>	Inserts the specified element at the specified position in this list.
boolean	<code>add(E e)</code>	Appends the specified element to the end of this list.
void	<code>clear()</code>	Removes all of the elements from this list.
boolean	<code>contains(Object o)</code>	Returns true if this list contains the specified element.
E	<code>get(int index)</code>	Returns the element at the specified position in this list.
int	<code>indexOf(Object o)</code>	Returns the index of the first occurrence of the specified element in this list, or -1 if this list does not contain the element.
boolean	<code>isEmpty()</code>	Returns true if this list contains no elements.
E	<code>remove(int index)</code>	Removes the element at the specified position in this list.
boolean	<code>remove(Object o)</code>	Removes the first occurrence of the specified element from this list, if it is present.
E	<code>set(int index, E element)</code>	Replaces the element at the specified position in this list with the specified element.
int	<code>size()</code>	Returns the number of elements in this list.

- Methods specified in interface `Collection<E>`
 - `size()`, `isEmpty()`, `contains(Object)`, `add(E)`, `remove(Object)`, `clear()`
- Additional methods specified in interface `List<E>`
 - `indexOf(Object)`, `get(int)`, `set(int, E)`, `add(int, E)`, `remove(int)`,

Iterator Interface

- Elements in a list can be looped successively via an *iterator*
- `Iterator` is the parent interface of `Collection`, and hence also the parent interface of `List`
 - `Iterator` interface specifies the `iterator()` method which returns an `Iterator`
 - `Iterator` is an interface that specifies the `next()` and `hasNext()` methods
- Any implementation of `List`, say `ArrayList`, has to implement the `iterator()` method which returns an implementation of the `Iterator` interface, say `Itr`
 - must define the `next()` and `hasNext()` methods

Iterator Interface

- Using Iterator's hasNext() and next() methods to iterate over list elements

```
jshell> List<Integer> list = List.of(1, 2, 3)
list ==> [1, 2, 3]

jshell> Iterator<Integer> iter = list.iterator()
iter ==> java.util.ImmutableCollections$ListItr@20e2cbe0

jshell> while (iter.hasNext()) { // Iterator is mutable!
...>     int i = iter.next(); // or Integer i = iter.next();
...>     System.out.print(i + " ");
...> }
1 2 3
```

- Using the enhanced for construct as syntactic sugar

```
jshell> List<Integer> list = List.of(1, 2, 3)
list ==> [1, 2, 3]

jshell> for (int i : list) {
...>     System.out.print(i + " ");
...> }
1 2 3
```