

Warmup: any concerns?

```
/** Represents a finite, closed
range
 * of real numbers. */
public class Interval {
    /** The smallest number in the
     * range; finite. */
    private final double lo;

    /** The largest number in the
     * range; finite and no less
     * than `lo`. */
    private final double hi;
```

```
    public Interval(double lo,
                    double hi) {
        this.hi = hi;
        this.lo = lo;
    }

    public Interval intersect(
        Interval other) {
        return new Interval(
            Math.max(lo, other.lo),
            Math.min(hi, other.hi));
    }
}
```

Warmup

- A. There is a problem related to **visibility** (access modifiers)
- B. There is a problem related to **scope** or **shadowing**
- C. There is a problem related to **mutability**
- D. There is a problem related to preserving the **invariant**
- E. There is a problem with **static types**

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CS 2110

Lecture 4

Specifications, testing,
abstraction



Reminders

A1 (late)

Quiz 2

Bugs

What is a bug?
How do we catch them?
Who gets the blame?





Defensive programming

Last time: Encapsulation

- **Access modifiers** protect an object's state against arbitrary *client* modification
- But what about buggy modification by implementers?

What about implementer bugs?

- Want to know if invariant is ever violated
- Add a method to check whether the invariant is true
 - `private void assertInv() { ... }`
- **Assert** that the invariant is true
 - Want program to *crash* if ever false
 - Assert at end of every method

Java's `assert` statement

- `assert` *<boolean expression>;*
- Crashes program if condition is false
- Not checked by default outside of unit tests!
 - Must add “-ea” to VM options in IntelliJ “Run configuration”

Demo: Fraction

- Define `checkInv()` using asserts
- Check invariant at end of constructor
- Check invariant at end of mutating methods



What is a bug?

- Our class invariant is never violated; are we bug-free?
- How can we **verify** that our methods behave correctly?
 - Given a method's output, how do you decide whether it is right or wrong?



Specifications

Abstraction: what vs. how

- A *specification* says **what** a class or field represents or **what** a method should accomplish
- An *implementation* dictates **how** some behavior is achieved
 - More than one way to do it!
- It is *impossible* to verify an implementation without a spec
 - “Not even wrong”
- Not “just documentation” – specs define what it means to be a bug

Example: JavaDoc

<https://docs.oracle.com/en/java/javase/21/docs/api/index.html>

Verification

Testing

- Confirm that impl satisfies spec at particular input values
- Spec is used to determine expected outputs (or properties thereof)

Code review

- Human confirms whether impl logic appears to satisfy spec
- Without spec, can only look for “bad practices”; cannot say whether impl is right or wrong
 - Applies to TAs/Consultants!

Good specs: methods

- **Returns:** what is special about the return value?
 - **Creates:** the return value is a new object
- **Modifies/effects:** how does the method mutate its target or arguments?
- **Requires:** what is assumed about its target or arguments?
- Interpret *every* parameter

```
/**  
 * Return the area of a  
 * regular polygon with  
 * `nSides` sides of  
 * length `sideLength`.  
 * Requires `nSides` is  
 * at least 3, `sideLength`  
 * is non-negative.  
 */  
  
static double  
polygonArea(int nSides,  
             double sideLength)
```


More examples of specs

1. `A1.med3()`
2. `A1.intervalsOverlap()`
3. Counter (lec04 edition)
4. Fraction (lec04 edition)

A good spec doesn't tell you how a method does its job;
it tells you how you could *verify* that it did its job right.

Preconditions and postconditions

Preconditions

- Assumed to be true at start of method
 - **Undefined behavior** if violated
- Responsibility of the *client*
 - Implementer *may* assert to be defensive
- “Returns” clause
- Implicit
 - Class invariant is true
 - (Arguments are non-null)

Postconditions

- Promised to be true at end of method
- Responsibility of *implementer*
- “Returns” and “Modifies/Effects” clauses
- Implicit
 - Class invariant is true



Demo: Asserting preconditions

- `A1.polygonArea()`

Poll

Should you write a test case to verify method behavior when preconditions are violated?

- A. Yes
- B. No



Good specs: fields

- Fields are private, so their specs are for the implementer
- Explain how fields represent the logical state
- Capture invariants

```
/** Represents a rational
 * number. */
class Fraction {
    /** The numerator of the quotient
     * representation `num/den`. */
    int num;

    /** The denominator. Must
     * be positive, and the GCD
     * with `num` must be 1. */
    int den;

    ...
}
```

Specifications are a contract

Between client and implementer (public)

- If preconditions are violated, client is at fault
- Otherwise, class is buggy
- Cannot be changed without affecting *every* client

Between implementer and future maintainer (private)

- Guardrails for changing state representation or method implementations
- Violations are a bug even if all observable behavior (currently) works

When to write specs?

- Before writing any code!
 - How can you write code if you haven't said what it's supposed to do?
- Don't think of as “documentation”
 - Specs define what behavior is “right”
 - Without specs, “all bugs are features”
- From here on, **all** methods, fields, and classes require a spec



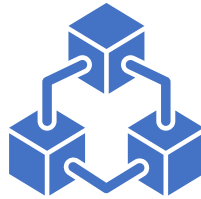
Testing

Scopes of testing



Unit testing

Isolated modules



Integration testing

Several interacting modules



End-to-end testing

Full application

Why not just end-to-end testing?

- Could just verify that application meets user requirements
 - Bug = requirement not met
 - No need for intermediate notions of correctness, specs
- How would you debug? When would you debug?
 - Unit testing finds bugs sooner and isolates them
 - Incremental testing saves time!

Black box testing

- Verify method postconditions against their spec
 - Don't even look at method implementation
1. Read the spec
 2. Think of a scenario (satisfying the preconditions)
 - Create supporting objects; call the method with arguments
 3. Deduce properties of the output/effects implied by the postcondition
 4. Assert that these properties are true
 - Write JUnit assertions

Tip: Given, when, then

- “Given *X*, when *Y* is done, then *Z* should happen.”
 - Setup, operate, check (“arrange, act, assert”)
 - Document the test’s purpose in English (for JUnit, use `@DisplayName("...")`)

Examples:

- **Given** a Point in quadrant I, **when** it is rotated 90 deg CCW about the origin, **then** it should be in quadrant II.
- **Given** a Calendar representing Jan 31 in a leap year, **when** it is “rolled” by 1 month, **then** it should represent Feb 29.

Longer example

Scenario: User requests a sell before close of trading

- **Given** I have 100 shares of MSFT stock
 - And I have 150 shares of APPL stock
 - And the time is before close of trading
 - **When** I ask to sell 20 shares of MSFT stock
 - **Then** I should have 80 shares of MSFT stock
 - And I should have 150 shares of APPL stock
 - And a sell order for 20 shares of MSFT stock should have been executed
- Setup*
- Call the method-under-test*
- 3 asserts*

Which scenarios?

- At least one “nominal case” with an obvious answer
- All off-nominal behavior (still satisfies preconditions, but spec prescribes special treatment)
- Several “edge cases”
 - Remember: goal is to break your code, not baby it

Common “edge cases”

Numbers

- 0
- Positive and negative
- Less than and greater than 1
- Min and max values
 - e.g. dates, times
- (Special floating-point values)

Collections

- Empty
- Single element
- Two elements
- 3+ elements (general case)
- Duplicates
- Sorted/unsorted
- Full

JUnit

- JUnit assertions != Java `assert` statements
 - `assertEquals()`
 - `assertTrue()` / `assertFalse()`
- Argument order: *expected*, then *actual*
- Floating-point is tricky (see comment in A1Test)

Practice: Black-box tests

```
/** Return a solution `x` to the equation
 * `a*x^2 + b*x + c == 0`. Requires `a != 0`,
 * `b^2 >= 4*a*c`. */
static double qSolve(double a, double b, double c) {
    ...
}
```

Use Junit's `assertEquals(expected, actual)`.

Coverage

- Testing is not sufficient to *prove* correctness
- How confident are you that there aren't lingering bugs that weren't triggered by your test cases?
- Quantifying coverage for black-box testing is difficult

Glass box testing

- Look at implementation; choose inputs to trigger different branches
- Can measure “line coverage”
- Any code not covered is code where your *customer* will be the first person to ever run it, with no evidence that it’s expected to work
- Disadvantage: breaks abstraction barrier
 - Focus on breaking the how, not stressing the what

Poll

What is the minimum number of test cases needed for complete **line coverage** of `Counter.increment()`?

- A. 0
- B. 1
- C. 2
- D. 9,999
- E. 10,000

```
void increment() {  
    if (counts == 9999) {  
        counts = 0;  
    }  
    else {  
        counts += 1;  
    }  
}
```

