Inheritance

Theory

* Inheritance is needed when multiple classes are very similar in nature
* The inheritance relationship is called the “**is-a(n)**” relationship
* Thankfully this means we save some coding since it will be shared

Below are two example classes:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Employees |  |
| Full Time Professor | Part Time Professor |
|  |  |
| **last name** | **last name** |
| **first name** | **first name** |
| **Ssn** | **ssn** |
| **Address** | **address** |
| **Birthdate** | **birthdate** |
| **vacation days** | **contact number** |
| **health insurer** | **Employer** |
| **office phone** |  |
| **Tenor** |  |
| **sick days** |  |

* Notice how both classes are very similar in many aspects.
* Also, we can create other classes (like Secretary, Janitor, etc…) that would again use many of the same variables, but may have different members pertaining to their job responsibility.
* Also, either a Full Time Professor or Part Time Professor “is – a(n)” Employee.
* Some other examples of the “is a(n)” inheritance relationship
  + A student is a person
  + A professor is a faculty member
  + A lecturer is a faculty member
  + An adjunct professor is a faculty member

Breaking it down - The base (super) class

* Since so many classes shared many variables, lets create a BASE CLASS, that will let others called **sub or derived** classes share the common variables and methods/functions
* also called a **super or base** class, since the keyword super will be used to access the base classes' methods

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| --- | --- | --- |
|  | BASE (SUPER) CLASS |  |
| Employee |
| SUB (DERIVED) CLASS |  | SUB CLASS |
| Full Time Professor | **last name** | Part Time Professor |
|  | **first name** |  |
| **vacation days** | **ssn** | **contact number** |
| **health insurer** | **birthdate** | **Employer** |
| **office phone** | **address** |  |
| **tenor** |  |  |
| **sick days** |  |

In Practice

* we are creating more specialized subclass (objects)
  + a specific task that adds to the super (base class)
* all objects should (at minimum) have a complete class profile
  + accessors
  + mutators
  + etc…
* with this established, we can reuse for other projects we might get later
* subclasses may be
  + much smaller than the base class
  + have some of their own member variables/methods/”behaviors”

Visual representation of Base & Sub Classes

* a visual understanding may be of some help
* please notice
  + an instance of a subclass will inherit both features of the subclass AND base
  + how the distinct players in this process are also called (super, derived, …)

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| Visually understanding Inheritance |
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The Extends Reserved word

* extends can be thought of as a “better version”, more detailed version
  + you are “extending a template”
* used only in the subclass
* notice the naming convention **for objects** below
  + base class has a simple name
  + extended class (subclass) has the Extended and Base classes object
* “extends” induces a **subtyping** relation
  + Part Time professor would be a “subtype” of Employee
* S <: T
  + (S is a subtype of T)
* P ⊢ Q (called a turnstile)
  + means that Q is derivable from P
  + Or from P, I know that Q…

Overall Example with Extends

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| **Cube and Extended Cube Example** |
| **public** **class** Cube  {  **private** **double** side;    **public** **void** setSide(**double** x) {side = x; }  **public** **double** getSide() { **return** side; }  **public** String toString() { **return** "This cube’s sides are" + getSide(); }  } |
| **public** **class** ExtendedCube **extends** Cube  {  **public** **double** getSurfaceArea() { **return** 6 \* getSide() \* getSide(); }  **public** **double** getVolume() { **return** getSide() \* getSide() \* getSide(); }  **public** String toString()  {  **return** "This cube’s sides is" + getSide() + "\n" +  "This cube’s surface area is" + getSurfaceArea() + "\n" +  "This cube’s sides are" + getVolume() + "\n";  }  } |
| **public** **class** Driver  {  **public** **static** **void** main(String args[])  {  Cube basic = **new** Cube();  ExtendedCube advanced = **new** ExtendedCube();    basic.setSide(6);  **advanced.setSide(10);**    System.*out*.println(basic);  System.*out*.println(advanced);  }  } |

1. The “advanced” instance above called what method that IT DIDN’T have. Which one was it?? Why was it able to call that method??
2. Draw what the ExtendedCube would look like (show relation to Cube (arrow) ) Answerb:
3. Draw what the INSTANCES look like, and what they should return as values
4. Copy and Paste the code into your IDE and run.

Inheritance and the file/project makeup

* This example uses a default package
  + So really no package
  + Notice that all of the .java files are together

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| Inheritance File Setup |
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Eclipse can help with Inheritance

* Again, let the IDE help you
* As long as you have BOTH the base and derived classes setup, the IDE will tell you what options you have

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| IDE help with Inheritance |
| Base Class |
| (forgot toString) |
| Derived Class |
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* The IDE will also keep track of the class member's visibility
* many IDE's already help you identify which members you can reference DEPENDING on where you are physically writing code
* but you need to BIG picture in mind as well

In Cube/ExtendedCube, change data member “side” to public. What does an IDE window show now? (What does the public data member look like?)

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| Eclipse and automated member access |
| "side" is a private variable that does not have direct access and needs a getter/setter to access |

Inheritance and a game plan

* you have to be able to design and overall game plan
* start with a base object, then break into smaller more defined objects
  + the deeper (or more derived) the LESS code and material it should have

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| Example Inheritance Applications |
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Inheritance and UML (game plan)

* So much better
* Can translate to any language

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| UML of Inheritance in Action |
| Example of inheritance using tree notation |

The Final keyword

* the final keyword prevents an overriding **of methods and member variables, classes, etc…**
* **not a bad idea to have the base class as final**

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| **Final Example** |
| **public** **class** Base  {  **private** **int** data;    **public** Base () {data = 0;}  **public** Base (**int** n) {data = n;}  **public** **int** getData() {**return** data;}  **public** **final** String toString() { **return** "base's data " + data; } 🡨 no overriding  }  **public** **class** Derived **extends** Base  {  **private** **int** subData;    **public** Derived (**int** b, **int** d)  {  **super**(b); // sending 'b' to super class  subData = d;  }  **public** **int** getSubData() {**return** subData;}  **public** String toString() 🡨 Error (will not compile)  {  **return** **super**.toString() + "\n" +  "subclass's data " + getSubData();  }  } |

Inheritance and Class Member Visibility

* public (UML +)
  + access members via the subclass class functions
* protected (UML #)
  + DIRECT access member via ONLY the subclass class functions
  + items are “shared within the family”
  + # (UML symbol)
* protected final
  + this can be the only instance of this named function/variable
* private (UML -)
  + *NOT accessible in the subclass class!*
  + UNLESS YOU USE AN ***ACCESSOR METHOD!!***

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| --- | --- |
| **Class Member Visibility Example** | |
|  |  |
| 🡨 Can this object access:  variableA? Y/N  variableB? Y/N  variableC? Y/N |
| 🡨 Can this object access:  variableA? Y/N  variableB? Y/N  variableC? Y/N |

// Using the Cube example, in your code, try accessing Cube’s side data member DIRECTLY from ExtendedCube. What does the error say??

The order of the extended classes has to be Square, then Rectangle, then Shape. Why??

BASE Object constructors and Super

* constructors work the same as before and MUST be created in the BASE class (at least)
* here are the issues
  + Base class constructor is called before Derived class constructor
  + any SUBCLASS will need to call the ***BASE CLASS’s*** constructor using the “super” reserved word ***IF A BASE CLASS*** constructor is present
    - MANDITORY
* Lupoli’s hints
  + start from the child’s class constructor
  + but make sure the base class’ constructor is satisfied

***BELOW ARE LEARNING EXAMPLES ONLY!!!***

(we won’t really do it this way!)

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| --- | --- |
| Constructors and “super” in action | |
| Example 1 ***(Not OK)*** | |
| **public** **class** Base  {  **private** **int** data;    Base () {data = 0;}  Base (**int** n) {data = n;}  **public** **int** getData() {**return** data;}  } | * base class has both a default and programmer defined constructor * the sub-class does not have a constructor, so by default calls the base class’ default constructor * this set up is NOT ***OK*** |
| the derived class need a constructor in order call the **base class** default constructor. |
| **public** **class** Derived **extends** Base  {  **private** **int** subData;    **public** **int** getSubData() {**return** subData;}    } |
| Derived example1 = **new** Derived(); // **will work**  Derived example2 = **new** Base(5); // will not work, Derived MUST have a constructor with one parameter  Derived example3 = (Derived) **new** Base(5); // will not work, Derived MUST have a constructor with one parameter  Derived example4 = **new** Derived(3,4); // will not work, Derived MUST have a constructor with one parameter | |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Example 2 ***(Not OK)*** | |
| **public** **class** Base  {  **private** **int** data;  **public** Base (**int** n) {data = n;}  **public** **int** getData() {**return** data;}  }  this code will not compile correctly since the base class has a defined constructor, Java will not automatically provide a default constructor for it. | * the base class has a programmer defined constructor * this will not compile since the base class has a defined constructor, but the subclass does not call the base class’ constructor * this setup is ***not OK*** |
|  |
| **public** **class** Derived **extends** Base  {  **private** **int** subData;    **public** **int** getSubData() {**return** subData;}    } |
| Example 3 (OK) | |
| No matter what, the Derived class calls the only constructor Base has   * the base class is the same * the subclass specifically calls the base class constructor using the “super” command * notice the parameter in the super is the same as the number of parameters in the base class | |
| Derived example1 = **new** Derived(); // will not work, Derived does not have a constructor with no parameters  Derived example2 = **new** Derived(5); // will not work, Derived does not have a constructor with one parameter  Derived example3 = **new** Derived(3,4); // will work | |

Super calls in a nutshell

* Only in a derived class can call “super” IF the method/member variable is public or protected!!
  + Not private!!

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| Super calls |
| **public** **class** Base  {  **public** **int** data;  **protected** **double** price = 23.23;  Base () {data = 0;}  Base (**int** n)  {  data = n;  }  **public** **int** getData() {**return** data;}  **private** **int** getData2() {**return** data;}  } |
|  |

Using the Cube/Extended Cube, the overall goal is to have ExtendedCube’s constructor pass the side value. Make sure to have a “super” call in ExtendedCube’s constructor.

Game planning

* In proper planning using inheritance start with an application that could use inheritance to stop redundancy of code
* Start drawing out the various objects of the application first and list their respective members

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| The various Vehicles | | | | | | |
| Plane | Truck | Submarine | Motorcycle | Spaceship | Car | Train |
| wingSpan  engineType  numberOfSeats  speed  numberOfPilots  numberOfPassengers  fuelType  autopilot  wheels | Gas tank  Seats  Radio  Gears  Tire wheel  Doors  Weight  License  Engine (V6)  Price  Electric  A/C  Fluid  Key  Mirror | Flag (operating country)  Manufacturer  Year of construction  Type (military, civilian,...)  Operating range  Sonar Range  Maximum speed  Maximum bottom time  Min operating crew  Max crew capacity  Power source  Armament | Speedometer  Breaks  Gas Tank  Handlebar  VIN #  Clutch  Wheels  Radio  Engine | doors  brakes  boosters  lazers  lights  steering  VIN  wigns  engine  seats  windows  saftey\_eq  pilot  cargo  electronics  comm\_eq | Weight  Wheels  Fuel  Seats  Electronics  License Plate  VIN #  Horn  Windows  Doors  Lights  A/C  Fluids  Gears  Steering  Cargo | TicketCost  Cargo  Dinning  Beds  Tracks  Wheels  Doors  Carpet  Charis  Crew  TypeTrain  PowerSource  Whistle  Light  Breaks |

* Group related members into a base class (in theory)
  + This will take some adjustments and “compromises”
  + The member name may need to be more detailed

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| The various Vehicles (after combining like members) | | | | | | |
| Plane | Truck | Submarine | Motorcycle | Spaceship | Car | Train |
| wingSpan  Type  numberOfPilots  fuelType  autopilot | Gas tank  Radio  Gears  Tire wheel  Price  Electric  A/C  Fluid  Key  Mirror | Flag (operating country)  Type (military, civilian,...)  Operating range  Sonar Range  Maximum bottom time  Min operating crew  Max crew capacity  Power source  Armament | Brakes  Gas Tank  Clutch  Radio | brakes  boosters  lazers  lights  steering  saftey\_eq  pilot  cargo  hyperdrive  electronics  comm\_eq | Fuel  Electronics  Horn  Lights  A/C  Fluids  Gears  Steering  Cargo | TicketCost  Cargo  Dinning  Beds  Tracks  Carpet  Charis  Crew  TypeTrain  Whistle  Light  Breaks |

|  |
| --- |
| The new BASE class |
| Vehicle Class |
| // overall vehicle details  **float** weight;  **int** yearMade; // would love to use short, but would have to cast  String make;  String model;  String color;  String ID;  **int** wheels;  // people related  **int** occupants;  // compartment related  **int** bathrooms;  **int** seats;  **int** doors;  **int** windows;  // engine related  String powerSource;  String engineType;  **int** horsePower;  **int** engineCount; |

* Determine accessibility
  + Base class
    - Data members in the BASE should be **protected** at least
      * Validation, but shared among it’s derived classes
    - functions should be **protected** at least

|  |
| --- |
| The new BASE class |
| Vehicle Class |
| // overall vehicle details  **- float** weight;  **- int** yearMade; // would love to use short, but would have to cast  **-** String make;  **-** String model;  **-** String color;  **-** String ID;  **- int** wheels;  // people related  **- int** occupants;  // compartment related  **- int** bathrooms;  **- int** seats;  **- int** doors;  **- int** windows;  // engine related  **-** String powerSource;  **-** String engineType;  **- int** horsePower;  **- int** engineCount; |

* + Derived class
    - Data members should be private
    - functions should be public
    - So the main can access

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| The various Vehicles (after combining like members) | | | | | | |
| Plane | Truck | Submarine | Motorcycle | Spaceship | Car | Train |
| * wingSpan * Type * numberOfPilots * fuelType * autopilot | * Gas tank * Radio * Gears * Tire wheel * Price * Electric * A/C * Fluid * Key * Mirror | * Flag (operating country) * Type (military, civilian,...) * Operating range * Sonar Range * Maximum bottom time * Min operating crew * Max crew capacity * Power source * Armament | * Brakes * Gas Tank * Clutch * Radio | * brakes * boosters * lazers * lights * steering * saftey\_eq * pilot * cargo * hyperdrive * electronics * comm\_eq | * Fuel * Electronics * Horn * Lights * A/C * Fluids * Gears * Steering * Cargo | * TicketCost * Cargo * Dinning * Beds * Tracks * Carpet * Charis * Crew * TypeTrain * Whistle * Light * Breaks |

* Code the BASE class
  + Create the data members (private)
  + Use all IDE features to build the rest of the
    - Mutators/accessors (protected) and toString
    - Constructors (Fully Programmer defined)

|  |
| --- |
| Code the Base Class first |
| **public** **class** Vehicle  {  // overall vehicle details  **private** **float** weight;  **private** **int** yearMade; // would love to use short, but would have to cast  **private** String make;  **private** String model;  **private** String color;  **private** String ID;  **private** **int** wheels;    // people related  **private** **int** occupants;    // compartment related  **private** **int** bathrooms;  **private** **int** seats;  **private** **int** doors;  **private** **int** windows;    // engine related  **private** String powerSource;  **private** String engineType;  **private** **int** horsePower;  **private** **int** engineCount;    // velocity related  **private** **int** maxSpeed;    // constructor  **public** Vehicle(**float** weight, **int** yearMade, String make, String model, String color, String iD, **int** wheels, **int** i,  **int** j, **int** k, **int** l, **int** m, String powerSource, String engineType, **int** horsePower,  **int** engineCount, **int** n) {  **this**.weight = weight;  **this**.yearMade = yearMade;  **this**.make = make;  **this**.model = model;  **this**.color = color;  ID = iD;  **this**.wheels = wheels;  **this**.occupants = i;  **this**.bathrooms = j;  **this**.seats = k;  **this**.doors = l;  **this**.windows = m;  **this**.powerSource = powerSource;  **this**.engineType = engineType;  **this**.horsePower = horsePower;  **this**.engineCount = engineCount;  **this**.maxSpeed = n;  }  // getters and setter (Mutators and Accessors)  **protected** **float** getWeight() { **return** weight; }  **protected** **void** setWeight(**float** weight) { **this**.weight = weight; }  **protected** **int** getYearMade() { **return** yearMade; }  **protected** **void** setYearMade(**int** yearMade) { **this**.yearMade = yearMade; }  **protected** String getMake() { **return** make; }  **protected** **void** setMake(String make) { **this**.make = make; }  **protected** String getModel() { **return** model; }  **protected** **void** setModel(String model) { **this**.model = model; }  **protected** String getColor() { **return** color; }  **protected** **void** setColor(String color) { **this**.color = color; }  **protected** String getID() { **return** ID; }  **protected** **void** setID(String iD) { ID = iD; }  **protected** **int** getWheels() { **return** wheels; }  **protected** **void** setWheels(**int** wheels) { **this**.wheels = wheels; }  **protected** **int** getOccupants() { **return** occupants; }  **protected** **void** setOccupants(**int** occupants) { **this**.occupants = occupants; }  **protected** **int** getBathrooms() { **return** bathrooms; }  **protected** **void** setBathrooms(**byte** bathrooms) { **this**.bathrooms = bathrooms; }  **protected** **int** getSeats() { **return** seats; }  **protected** **void** setSeats(**int** seats) { **this**.seats = seats; }  **protected** **int** getDoors() { **return** doors; }  **protected** **void** setDoors(**int** doors) { **this**.doors = doors; }  **protected** **int** getWindows() { **return** windows; }  **protected** **void** setWindows(**int** windows) { **this**.windows = windows; }  **protected** String getPowerSource() { **return** powerSource; }  **protected** **void** setPowerSource(String powerSource) { **this**.powerSource = powerSource; }  **protected** String getEngineType() { **return** engineType; }  **protected** **void** setEngineType(String engineType) { **this**.engineType = engineType; }  **protected** **int** getHorsePower() { **return** horsePower; }  **protected** **void** setHorsePower(**int** horsePower) { **this**.horsePower = horsePower; }  **protected** **int** getEngineCount() { **return** engineCount; }  **protected** **void** setEngineCount(**int** engineCount) { **this**.engineCount = engineCount; }  **protected** **int** getMaxSpeed() { **return** maxSpeed;}  **protected** **void** setMaxSpeed(**int** maxSpeed) { **this**.maxSpeed = maxSpeed; }  @Override  **public** String toString() {  **return** "Vehicle [weight=" + weight + ", yearMade=" + yearMade  + ", make=" + make + ", model=" + model + ", color=" + color  + ", ID=" + ID + ", wheels=" + wheels + ", occupants="  + occupants + ", bathrooms=" + bathrooms + ", seats=" + seats  + ", doors=" + doors + ", windows=" + windows  + ", powerSource=" + powerSource + ", engineType=" + engineType  + ", horsePower=" + horsePower + ", engineCount=" + engineCount  + ", maxSpeed=" + maxSpeed + "]";  }    } |

* Code the Derived class
  + Create the data members
  + Use all IDE features to build the rest of the
    - Mutators/accessors (public)
  + In the Derived class, code the Extend to it’s BASE class
    - **This updates the IDE to let it know your derived class has inherited features**
    - Create constructor
      * Should have super(….) in it now to fill the base class members
    - Create toString

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| Creating the Derived class |
| Before Extends Vehicle |
| **public** **class** Plane {  **int** wingSpan = 0;  **int** numberOfPilots = 0;  String fuelType;  **boolean** autoPilot;    **public** **int** getWingSpan() { **return** wingSpan; }  **public** **int** getNumberOfPilots() { **return** numberOfPilots; }  **public** String getFuelType() { **return** fuelType; }  **public** **boolean** isAutoPilot() { **return** autoPilot; }  **public** **void** setWingSpan(**int** wingSpan) { **this**.wingSpan = wingSpan; }  **public** **void** setNumberOfPilots(**int** numberOfPilots) { **this**.numberOfPilots = numberOfPilots; }  **public** **void** setFuelType(String fuelType) {**this**.fuelType = fuelType; }  **public** **void** setAutoPilot(**boolean** autoPilot) { **this**.autoPilot = autoPilot;}    } |
| After Extends Vehicle |
| **public** **class** Plane **extends** Vehicle{  **int** wingSpan = 0;  **int** numberOfPilots = 0;  String fuelType;  **boolean** autoPilot;    **public** Plane(**float** weight, **int** yearMade, String make, String model,  String color, String iD, **int** wheels, **int** i, **int** j, **int** k, **int** l,  **int** m, String powerSource, String engineType, **int** horsePower,  **int** engineCount, **int** n, **int** wingSpan, **int** numberOfPilots,  String fuelType, **boolean** autoPilot) {  **super**(weight, yearMade, make, model, color, iD, wheels, i, j, k, l, m,  powerSource, engineType, horsePower, engineCount, n);  **this**.wingSpan = wingSpan;  **this**.numberOfPilots = numberOfPilots;  **this**.fuelType = fuelType;  **this**.autoPilot = autoPilot;  }    **public** **int** getWingSpan() { **return** wingSpan; }  **public** **int** getNumberOfPilots() { **return** numberOfPilots; }  **public** String getFuelType() { **return** fuelType; }  **public** **boolean** isAutoPilot() { **return** autoPilot; }  **public** **void** setWingSpan(**int** wingSpan) { **this**.wingSpan = wingSpan; }  **public** **void** setNumberOfPilots(**int** numberOfPilots) { **this**.numberOfPilots = numberOfPilots; }  **public** **void** setFuelType(String fuelType) {**this**.fuelType = fuelType; }  **public** **void** setAutoPilot(**boolean** autoPilot) { **this**.autoPilot = autoPilot;}  @Override  **public** String toString() {  **return** "Plane [wingSpan=" + wingSpan + ", numberOfPilots="  + numberOfPilots + ", fuelType=" + fuelType + ", autoPilot="  + autoPilot + ", getWeight()=" + getWeight()  + ", getYearMade()=" + getYearMade() + ", getMake()="  + getMake() + ", getModel()=" + getModel() + ", getColor()="  + getColor() + ", getID()=" + getID() + ", getWheels()="  + getWheels() + ", getOccupants()=" + getOccupants()  + ", getBathrooms()=" + getBathrooms() + ", getSeats()="  + getSeats() + ", getDoors()=" + getDoors() + ", getWindows()="  + getWindows() + ", getPowerSource()=" + getPowerSource()  + ", getEngineType()=" + getEngineType() + ", getHorsePower()="  + getHorsePower() + ", getEngineCount()=" + getEngineCount()  + ", getMaxSpeed()=" + getMaxSpeed() + ", toString()="  + **super**.toString() + ", getClass()=" + getClass()  + ", hashCode()=" + hashCode() + "]";  }    } |

* Create the Driver Class
  + Create one instance to test

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| Create an instance in the Driver |
| **public** **class** Driver {  **public** **static** **void** main(String[] args) {  Plane SouthWest = **new** Plane(10000, 2014, "Boeing", "787", "Orange", "SW 1976",  5, 150, 3, 150, 7, 55, "Jet Fuel (JP8)", "Pratt and Whitney", 2500,  4, 400, 80, 2, "Jet Fuel (JP8)", **false**);    System.***out***.println(SouthWest);  }  } |

Building subclass functions quickly

* thanks Nick Levandoski UMBC training Su’14
* after the creation of your base class, any functions that also need to be addressed in subclass can be automatically generated
  + again, the base class must be completed first

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| Lazy Eclipse Users (sub class generation) |
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Overriding (not overloading, but darn close)

* same as overloading, but between related objects (base – subclass)
  + in C++ this would be done using the “virtual” keyword in the base class
* subclass has a method with the same **name and number and (possibly) type** of parameters as a method in a super class
  + notice, same number/type of parameters (not like overloading)
* use must also worry about member method/member visibility
  + a private in a base class cannot be accessed by a subclass

|  |
| --- |
| **Overriding Example** |
| **public** **class** Base  {  **private** **int** data;    **public** Base () {data = 0;}  **public** Base (**int** n) {data = n;}  **public** **int** getData() {**return** data;}  **public** String toString() { **return** "base's data " + data; }  }  **public** **class** Derived **extends** Base 🡨 Subclass inherited the toString() method  {  **private** **int** subData;    **public** Derived (**int** b, **int** d)  {  **super**(b); // sending 'b' to super class  subData = d;  }  **public** **int** getSubData() {**return** subData;}  **public** String toString()🡨 Subclass overrides the inherited method  {  **return** **super**.toString() + "\n" + 🡨 invokes the inherited the toString() method  "subclass's data " + getSubData();  }  } |
| Derived example3 = **new** Derived(3,4); // will work  System.*out*.println(example3); |
| base's data 3  subclass's data 4 |
| * notice two display methods * also notice subclass’ calls base class’ (super) display * \*A TOSTRING method is much better than a display method (just used this example) |

Rules for overriding an Inherited Methods

* the overriding method’s header (signature) must be exactly the same as the header of the inherited method
* the visibility of the overriding method cannot be more restrictive than the visibility of the inherited method
* constructors ***cannot*** be overridden
* a function with static ***cannot*** be overridden

Overriding vs. Overloading

* Overriding
  + Same function name or “signature” in 2 or more inherited (related) objects
* Overloading
  + Same function name or “signature” in 1 object **(except parameters)**

Developing Inheritance Structures Guide

* Look for Objects that have common attributes and behaviors
* Factor common items into a single class
* Determine which subclasses need specialized features
* Examine groups of subclasses that may exhibit common behaviors
* Apply the IS-A test

// Develop a structure for a Contestant, then it’s child classes Bowler and Golfer

Solutions

|  |
| --- |
| ExtendedCube overview |
|  |

Sources

UMBC CMSC 202 Notes

<http://www.ibm.com/developerworks/rational/library/content/RationalEdge/sep04/bell/>