
CS2030 Lecture 4

Interface: Contract Between Classes

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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
- ❑ 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
```

```
abstract class shape {  
    abstract double getArea();  
}
```

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;
    }

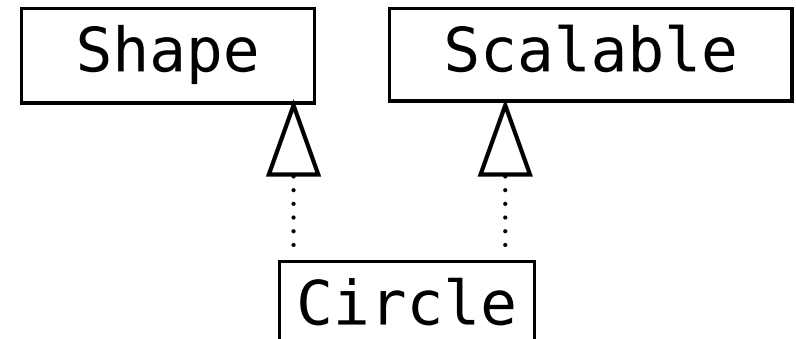
    @Override
    public Circle scale(int factor) { // implementing scale from Scalable
        return new Circle(this.radius * factor);
    }
    ...
}
```

- 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

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

Case Study: Java List Interface

- `List<E>` *generic* interface
 - specifies a contract for implementing a *collection* of possibly duplicate objects of type `E` with element order

<code>void</code>	<code>add(int index, E element)</code>	Inserts the specified element at the specified position in this list.
<code>boolean</code>	<code>add(E e)</code>	Appends the specified element to the end of this list.
<code>void</code>	<code>clear()</code>	Removes all of the elements from this list.
<code>boolean</code>	<code>contains(Object o)</code>	Returns <code>true</code> if this list contains the specified element.
<code>E</code>	<code>get(int index)</code>	Returns the element at the specified position in this list.
<code>int</code>	<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.
<code>boolean</code>	<code>isEmpty()</code>	Returns <code>true</code> if this list contains no elements.
<code>E</code>	<code>remove(int index)</code>	Removes the element at the specified position in this list.
<code>boolean</code>	<code>remove(Object o)</code>	Removes the first occurrence of the specified element from this list, if it is present.
<code>E</code>	<code>set(int index, E element)</code>	Replaces the element at the specified position in this list with the specified element.
<code>int</code>	<code>size()</code>	Returns the number of elements in this list.

List Implementations

□ Classes that implement List can be

- mutable: e.g. ArrayList, LinkedList, Vector

```
jshell> List<Integer> list = new ArrayList<Integer>()  
list ==> []
```

```
jshell> list.add(1)  
$.. ==> true
```

```
jshell> list.get(0)  
$.. ==> 1
```

List.<Integer>of(1,2,3)
list ==> [1.2.3]

- immutable: e.g. AbstractImmutableList using List.of(..)

- ▷ Read-access is allowed: get, size, isEmpty, ...

List.of(1,2,3)
list ==> [1,2,3]

```
jshell> List.of(1, 2, 3).get(0)  
$.. ==> 1
```

- ▷ Write-access is **not** allowed: add, remove, set, sort...

```
jshell> List.of(1, 2, 3).add(4)  
| Exception java.lang.UnsupportedOperationException  
|     at ImmutableCollections.uoe (ImmutableCollections.java:72)  
|     at ImmutableCollections$AbstractImmutableCollection.add (ImmutableCollections.java:100)  
|     at (#1:1)
```

Java Collections Framework

- `List<E>` *inherits* from a parent interface `Collection<E>`

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.

- 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)`,

List Sorting Using a Comparator

- Example: sorting a list of shapes by
 - ascending order of area
 - descending order of perimeter
 - ...
- A possible (but highly unlikely) sort method for `List<E>`

```
void sort(Comparator<E> cmp) { // using bubble sort as an example
    for (int i = 0; i < this.size(); i++) {
        for (int j = i + 1; j < this.size() - 1; j++) {
            if (cmp.compare(this.get(i), this.get(j)) > 0) {
                ...
            }
        }
    }
}
```

- Implementation of a `Comparator<E>` interface is passed to the sort method that specifies *how* two elements are compared
 - `compare(x,y)` should return < 0 if `x` comes first;
 > 0 if `y` comes first; or 0 otherwise

Example: Comparator<Integer>

- Sorting a list of integers in ascending order

```
jshell> List<Integer> list = new ArrayList<Integer>(List.of(3, 2, 1))
list ==> [3, 2, 1]
jshell> class IntCompAsc implements Comparator<Integer>
...> public int compare(Integer i, Integer j) { return i - j; }
| created class IntComp
jshell> new IntCompAsc().compare(1, 2)
-1
jshell> list.sort(new IntCompAsc()) // ArrayList is mutable! :(
jshell> list
list ==> [1, 2, 3]
```

- Sorting a list of integers in descending order

```
jshell> list
list ==> [1, 2, 3]
jshell> class IntCompDsc implements Comparator<Integer>
...> public int compare(Integer i, Integer j) { return j - i; }
| created class IntCompDsc
jshell> new IntCompDsc().compare(1, 2)
1
jshell> list.sort(new IntCompDsc()) // or list.sort(new IntCompAsc().reversed())
jshell> list
list ==> [3, 2, 1]
```

Example: Comparator<Shape>

- Example: define ShapeAreaComp as an implementation of the Comparator<Shape> interface

```
jshell> class ShapeAreaComp implements Comparator<Shape> {  
...>     public int compare(Shape s1, Shape s2) {  
...>         double diff = s1.getArea() - s2.getArea();  
...>         if (diff < 0) {  
...>             return -1;  
...>         } else if (diff > 0) {  
...>             return 1;  
...>         } else {  
...>             return 0;  
...>         }  
...>     }  
...> }
```

```
| created class ShapeAreaComp
```

```
jshell> new ShapeAreaComp().compare(new Circle(1), new Rectangle(2, 3))  
$.. ==> -1
```

```
jshell> new ShapeAreaComp().compare(new Rectangle(2, 3), new Rectangle(3, 2))  
$.. ==> 0
```

Sorting List<E> using Comparator<E>

- Sorting list of shapes in ascending order of area

```
jshell> List<Shape> shapes = new List<Shape>()
shapes ==> []

jshell> shapes.add(new Rectangle(2, 3))
$.. ==> true

jshell> shapes.add(new Circle(1))
$.. ==> true

jshell> shapes
shapes ==> [Rectangle 2 x 3, Circle with radius 1]

jshell> shapes.sort(new ShapeAreaComp())

jshell> shapes
$.. ==> [Circle with radius 1, Rectangle 2 x 3] // state change!
```

- ImList has an *effect-free* sort implementation!

```
jshell> ImList<Shape> shapes = new ImList<Shape>(). // using ImList
...> add(new Rectangle(2, 3)).
...> add(new Circle(1))
shapes ==> [Rectangle 2 x 3, Circle with radius 1]

jshell> shapes.sort(new ShapeAreaComp()) // creates a new sorted list
$.. ==> [Circle with radius 1, Rectangle 2 x 3]

jshell> shapes // state remains unchanged
$.. ==> [Rectangle 2 x 3, Circle with radius 1]
```

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
```