

CS2030 Programming Methodology
Semester 2 2022/2023

15 & 16 February 2023
Problem Set #4 Suggested Guidance
Java Generics

1. Consider the following JShell program fragment.

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

jshell> int one = 1
one ==> 1

jshell> Integer two = 2
two ==> 2

jshell> list = list.add(one).add(two).add(3)
list ==> [1, 2, 3]
```

Which of the following code fragments will compile? If so, what is printed?

- (a) `for (Integer num : list) { System.out.print(num + " "); }`
- (b) `for (int num : list) { System.out.print(num + " "); }`
- (c) `for (Double num : list) { System.out.print(num + " "); }`
- (d) `for (double num : list) { System.out.print(num + " "); }`

```
jshell> for (Integer num : list) { System.out.print(num + " "); }
1 2 3
jshell> for (int num : list) { System.out.print(num + " "); }
1 2 3
jshell> for (Double num : list) { System.out.print(num + " "); }
| Error:
| incompatible types: java.lang.Integer cannot be converted to java.lang.Double
| for (Double num : list) { System.out.print(num + " "); }
|           ^--^

jshell> for (double num : list) { System.out.print(num + " "); }
1.0 2.0 3.0
```

2. For each of the code fragments below, indicate and explain the source of the error(s).

- (a) `List<? extends Object> list = new ArrayList<Object>()`

list assignment is valid since (read <: as "is substitutable for")...
`ArrayList<Object> <: ArrayList<? extends Object> <: List<? extends Object>`

```
list.add(new Object())
```

list.add(new Object()) is invalid since list could refer to ArrayList<Integer>

(b) `List<? extends Object> list = List.of("abc");`

list assignment is valid since
`List<String> <: List<? extends String> <: List<? extends Object>`

```
list.add("def");  
String s = list.get(0);
```

Both list.add("abc") and String s = list.get(0) are invalid since list could refer to ArrayList<Integer>. However, Object o = list.get(0) is fine.

(c) `List<? super Integer> list = new List<Object>();`

list assignment is invalid since List is an interface. It will be fine if we change List<Object> to ArrayList<Object> since
`ArrayList<Object> <: List<Object> <: List<? super Object> <: List<? super Integer>`

```
list.add(new Object())
```

list.add(new Object()) is invalid since list could refer to ArrayList<Integer>. However, list.add(1) is fine; Integer i = list.get(0) is invalid.

(d) `List<? super Integer> list = new ArrayList<int>();`

Error. A generic type cannot be primitive type.

(e) `List<? super Integer> list = new ArrayList();`

Compiles, but with a unchecked conversion warning. Use of raw type should be avoided.

(f) `List<?> list = new ArrayList<String>();`

List<?> can refer to all lists! list assignment is valid since
`ArrayList<String> <: List<String> <: List<?>.`

```
list.add("abc");
```

list.add("abc") is invalid since list could refer to ArrayList<Integer>.