

Core OOP: Polymorphism, Abstraction, & More!

Programming Foundation

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Objectives

- What you will learn today
 - Subclassing using Polymorphism
 - Abstraction
 - Creating contracts Interfaces
 - Imports & packages
- How this builds on previous lectures
 - Classes can now be a parent or child
 - Methods in a class may now have a signature to which they must adhere

common goal





Polymorphism

From methods to behaviors

- We move from just calling functions to swapping behaviors without changing callers
 - Behavior is what an object does when you call a method on it
- Same call can trigger different behavior at run time. Eg:
 - Payments: cash, debit, credit, etc
 - Notifications: SMS, WhatsApp, etc
 - Ticket class changes while the booking flow stays stable
 - Notifications can send by SMS, WhatsApp, or email



Polymorphism: one call, many behaviors

- Polymorphism means one parent type can refer to many child types
 - The call is the same but the behavior depends on the actual object
 - Eg: Notification -> WhatsAppNotification and SMSNotification
- Objects provide their own method bodies
 - Eg: Notification::sendNotification
 - WhatsAppNotification::sendNotification
 - SMSNotification::sendNotification
- Runtime dispatch chooses which overridden method runs
 - Eg: notification.sendNotification(); OR whatsappNotification.sendNotification();
- Storage and loops
 - Use an array of the parent type to hold different child objects
- Boundaries: Methods, not fields, are polymorphic



Overriding vs Overloading

- Overriding
 - Subclass replaces a parent method with the same signature
 - Uses `@Override` to let the compiler verify
- Overloading
 - Same class name with different parameter lists
 - Overloading is not polymorphism
- Key rules for overriding
 - Access cannot be stricter than the parent
 - Return can be a subtype (the child)
 - Keep behavior well defined for boundary inputs

```

class TrainTicket {           // parent
    int fare(int km) { return (km <= 0) ? 0 : km * 2; }
}

class AcTicket extends TrainTicket { // overriding
    @Override public int fare(int km) {
        return (km <= 0) ? 0 : km * 3;
    }
}

class FlexCalc {               // overloading in same class
    int price(int km) { return (km <= 0) ? 0 : km * 3; }
    int price(int km, int surcharge) { return price(km) +
        surcharge; }
}

// Polymorphism: TrainTicket t = new AcTicket(); t.fare(10) → 30
// Overloading: new FlexCalc().price(10, 5) → 35
  
```

Train tickets: what varies vs what stays

- Stable data
 - PNR, passenger name, travel date
- Varying behavior
 - fare(km) calculation
 - coachType() label
- Design direction
 - Put shared data in a base class
 - Let children supply their own fare(km) and optionally coachType()

```
class TrainTicket {  
    // shared default  
    String coachType() { return "Sleeper"; }  
    int fare(int km) { return (km <= 0) ? 0 : km * 2; } // boundary  
}  
  
class AcTicket extends TrainTicket {  
    @Override String coachType() { return "AC"; }  
    @Override int fare(int km) { return (km <= 0) ? 0 : km * 3; }  
}
```


A top-down view of a wooden desk. In the center is a large white rectangular paper. In the top-left corner of the paper is a small wooden bowl filled with various colored pencils and pens. In the top-right corner of the paper is a white mug filled with a frothy beverage. The word "Interfaces" is written in the center of the white paper.

Interfaces

Abstract classes: declare the contract

- Abstract class
 - Cannot be created directly; may have fields, constructors, concrete and abstract methods
- Abstract method
 - Declares what children must implement (no body here)
- Relevance in the train example
 - Enforce that every ticket defines fare(km)

```
abstract class TrainTicket {
    final String pnr;
    TrainTicket(String p) { this.pnr = p; }
    abstract int fare(int km);           // must implement
    String coachType() { return "Sleeper"; } // optional
}

class AcTicket extends TrainTicket {
    AcTicket(String p) { super(p); }
    @Override int fare(int km) { return (km <= 0) ? 0 : km * 3; }
    @Override String coachType() { return "AC"; }
}
```

Overriding rules that matter

- Signature match
 - Same name and parameters; `@Override` verifies the match
- Access
 - Child access is the same or more open than parent
- Return
 - May be a subtype of the parent's return (covariant return)
- Final
 - A final method cannot be overridden
 - Applies to variables - a variable declared with final cannot have its value changed

```
class Base {
    protected Number price() { return 10; }
    public final int code() { return 42; } // non-overridable
}

class Child extends Base {
    // more open + subtype return
    @Override public Integer price() { return 12; }
    // @Override int code() { return 7; } // not allowed (final in Base)
}
```

@Override: make the compiler your guard

- What is it?
 - Annotation that tells the compiler “this method must override a parent method”
- Why use it?
 - Catches typos and wrong parameter types that would create an overload
- Rule of thumb
 - Put @Override on every intended override

```
class TrainTicket {
    int fare(int km) { return (km <= 0) ? 0 : km * 2; }
}

class AcTicket extends TrainTicket {
    // typo without @Override would silently overload: 'kms' ≠ 'km'
    @Override int fare(int km) { return (km <= 0) ? 0 : km * 3; }
}
```

Activity 1: Train tickets

- Goal
 - Build TrainTicket base; SleeperTicket, AcTicket override fare(int km)
- Design / Rules
 - fare(km) is abstract or overridable in base
 - Boundary rule: km <= 0 -> 0 in every child
 - Optional coachType() label differs per child
- Acceptance checks
 - new SleeperTicket().fare(10) -> 20
 - new AcTicket().fare(10) -> 30
 - TrainTicket[] arr = { new SleeperTicket(), new AcTicket() }
 - Loop prints two fares with no if on class type

Activity 1: Solution recap

- Class shape
 - Base holds shared pieces
 - children implement fare(km) and optionally coachType()
- Proved polymorphism
 - Same call t.fare(10) produced different results in a loop
- Boundary confirmed
 - km <= 0 -> 0 for all ticket types
- Boundary rules
 - perKmFare below one becomes one
 - startKm below zero becomes zero

```
TrainTicket[] arr = { new SleeperTicket(), new AcTicket() };  
for (int i = 0; i < arr.length; i++) {  
    System.out.println(arr[i].fare(10)); // 20, 30  
}
```

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Interfaces

Interfaces: contracts without shared state

- What is an interface?
 - A type that declares method signatures; implementing classes must provide bodies
 - No shared object state in the interface
- Use case
 - Many classes share a capability, not shared data
 - Eg: Plug in new payment providers without touching callers

```
// contract
interface Payable { int pay(int amount); }

class CreditCard implements Payable {
    @Override public int pay(int amount) {
        System.out.println("Credit card paid " + amount);
        return amount;
    }
}

class DebitCard implements Payable {
    @Override public int pay(int amount) {
        System.out.println("Debit card paid " + amount);
        return amount;
    }
}
```

Default & static methods on interfaces

- Default method
 - A reusable body shared by implementers (good for small helpers)
 - Use Case: To add new functionality to interfaces without breaking existing classes
- Static method
 - Utility on the interface type
 - It can be called using the interface name. Eg:
InterfaceName.method()
- Use cases & benefits
 - Defaults reduce duplication; static gives a central utility without a class

```
interface Payable {  
    int pay(int amount);  
    default int validate(int amount) { return (amount <= 0) ?  
    0 : amount; }  
    static String currency() { return "INR"; }  
}  
  
class Upi implements Payable {  
    @Override public int pay(int amount) {  
        int a = validate(amount);  
        System.out.println("UPI " + a + " " +  
        Payable.currency());  
        return a;  
    }  
}
```

Multiple interfaces: combining capabilities

- One class, many capabilities
 - Implement several small interfaces in one class
- What's combined?
 - Method obligations and default bodies, not fields or state
- Use cases & benefits
 - Payments that can also refund; orthogonal features stay decoupled

```
interface Payable { int pay(int amount); }
interface Refundable { int refund(int amount); }

class CardGateway implements Payable, Refundable {
    @Override public int pay(int amount) {
        System.out.println("Card pay " + amount);
        return amount;
    }
    @Override public int refund(int amount) {
        System.out.println("Card refund " + amount);
        return amount;
    }
}

class App {
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        Payable p = new CardGateway(); p.pay(300);
        Refundable r = new CardGateway(); r.refund(100);
    }
}
```

Resolving default-method conflicts

- When conflict happens
 - Two interfaces provide the same default method name and signature
- Resolution rule
 - Override in the class and select explicitly: `InterfaceName.super.method()`
- Benefit
 - You stay explicit about which behavior you keep or combine

```
interface A { default String note(){ return "A"; }}
interface B { default String note(){ return "B"; }}

class Combo implements A, B {
    @Override public String note() {
        return A.super.note() + "+" + B.super.note(); //
        choose/compose
    }
}

class App {
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        System.out.println(new Combo().note()); // A+B
    }
}
```

Activity 2: Card payments

- Goal
 - Define Payable and implement CreditCard, DebitCard, Upi
- Design / Rules
 - default int validate(int amount) normalizes input
 - pay(amount) returns the validated amount and prints provider line
- Acceptance checks
 - new CreditCard().pay(500) -> 500 with provider print
 - new DebitCard().pay(0) -> 0 using validate
 - Payable[] arr = { new CreditCard(), new Upi() } loop calls pay(300) with two provider-specific prints
 - No if on class type in the driver

Activity 2: Solution recap

- Interface + classes
 - Payable with validate (default) and currency (static)
 - CreditCard, DebitCard, Upi override pay
- Polymorphism
 - Same call p.pay(...) yields provider-specific prints in a loop
 - pay(amount) returns the validated amount and prints provider line
- Boundary
 - Amount $\leq 0 \rightarrow 0$ via validate

```
Payable[] arr = { new CreditCard(), new DebitCard(), new Upi() };  
for (int i = 0; i < arr.length; i++) {  
    int out = arr[i].pay((i == 1) ? 0 : 300);  
    System.out.println("out -> " + out);  
    // Expected prints: CC line, Debit line (0), UPI line  
}
```


Polymorphism w/ interfaces

- Polymorphism can be used with interfaces in addition to classes
- A single call like `notifier.send(msg)` on a common type (interface or base class) dispatches to the actual object
- From behavior swapping to channels
 - One call `send(msg)`; different notifier objects handle it (SMS, WhatsApp, Email)
- Why this matters
 - Switch channels without touching calling code

```
interface Notifier { void send(String msg); }

class SmsNotifier implements Notifier {
    @Override public void send(String msg){
        System.out.println("SMS -> " + msg);
    }
}

class WhatsAppNotifier implements Notifier {
    @Override public void send(String msg){
        System.out.println("WA -> " + msg);
    }
}

class App {
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        Notifier n = new SmsNotifier(); n.send("Order packed");
        n = new WhatsAppNotifier();    n.send("Out for delivery");
    }
}
```

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Packages

Packages: organizing rail, payments, notify

- Map classes to folders; eg: com.rail.*, com.payments.*, com.notify.*
- Top line must match directory; eg: package com.rail; for files under com/rail
- Import across packages; use explicit imports for clarity

```
// file: com/rail/AcTicket.java
package in.rail;
public class AcTicket { public int fare(int km){ return (km <= 0) ? 0 : km * 3; } }

// file: com/payments/CreditCard.java
package in.payments;
public class CreditCard { public int pay(int amount){ System.out.println("CC -> " + amount); return amount; } }

// file: App.java
import in.rail.AcTicket;
import in.payments.CreditCard;
class App {
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        System.out.println(new AcTicket().fare(10)); // 30
        new CreditCard().pay(500); // CC -> 500
    }
}
```

Imports and name clashes

- Same simple name in two packages
 - Import one; use fully qualified name (FQCN) for the other
- Be explicit
 - Avoid wildcard imports when names collide

```
// Assume both classes exist with simple name 'Ticket'
import com.rail.Ticket;           // main use in this file

class App {
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        Ticket rail = new Ticket();    // com.rail.Ticket
        com.payments.Ticket pay = new com.payments.Ticket(); //
FQCN
        System.out.println(rail.info() + " | " + pay.info());
    }
}
```

Putting it together: arrays and loops across packages

- Let's look at an example with one pattern and three domains
 - TrainTicket[] (rail), Payable[] (payments), Notifier[] (notify)
- Boundary
 - Guard null entries

```
import com.rail.SleeperTicket;
import com.rail.AcTicket;
import com.payments.Payable;
import com.payments.CreditCard;
import com.payments.Upi;
import com.notify.Notifier;
import com.notify.SmsNotifier;

class App {
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        TrainTicket[] ts = { new SleeperTicket(), new AcTicket() };
        for (TrainTicket t : ts) System.out.println("fare -> " + t.fare(8));

        Payable[] ps = { new CreditCard(), new Upi(), null };
        for (Payable p : ps) { if (p == null) continue; System.out.println("paid -> "
+ p.pay(300)); }

        Notifier[] ns = { new SmsNotifier() };
        for (Notifier n : ns) n.send("Delivered");
    }
}
```

Abstraction vs interface: pick the right tool

- Abstract class
 - Use when implementations share state or common code
 - Enforce required methods via abstract signatures
- Interface
 - Use for roles/capabilities across unrelated classes
 - Add small helpers with default, utilities with static
- Rules to follow
 - New field is private and validated in the child constructor
 - Override exactly one method; call super(...) and act only on success
- Acceptance checks
 - CashbackWallet 1% adds ₹1 on a ₹100 successful addMoney
 - PrepaidMetroPass blocks the 4th ride when the limit is 3

```
abstract class TrainTicket {  
    abstract int fare(int km);  
    String coachType(){ return "Sleeper"; }  
}  
  
interface Notifier { void send(String msg); }  
interface Payable { int pay(int amount); }
```




That's for today!
Any questions?