Effective Java



Welcome!



Please tell us your:

- Name
- Responsibility
- Background in Java
- **Expectations**



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Course Sections

- 1. Creating and destroying objects
- 2. Common object methods
- 3. Mastering classes and interfaces
- 4. Generics
- 5. Enumerations
- Mastering methods
- Programming techniques
- 8. Working with Exceptions



1: Creating and Destroying Objects



Objectives

- Static factory methods
- Builders
- Singletons
- Avoiding creating unnecessary objects



Boolean's valueOf Method

Code: ch01/Test

- To get an instance of a Boolean, say for True, you almost always use Boolean.valueOf(true) instead of new Boolean(true)
 - With former, you may compare two instances like this:

```
Boolean b1 = Boolean.valueOf(true);
Boolean b2 = Boolean.valueOf(true);
// b1==b2 will be true
```

- With new, you can't:

```
Boolean b1 = new Boolean(true);
Boolean b2 = new Boolean(true);
// b1==b2 will be false
```

Static Factory Method (SFM)

- The above valueOf method is a Static Factory Method
- A class may provide both regular constructors and SFMs
- SFMs are different from Factory Methods from "Gang of Four" Design Patterns
- Advantages of SFMs:
 - Can have meaningful names
 - Don't have to return a new object each time it's called
 - Can return an object of any subtype of the return type
 - Reduce the verbosity of creating parameterized type instances



SFMs Can Have Meaningful Names

- An SFM with a well-chosen name is easier to use and the resulting client code easier to read
 - For example, BigInteger has an SFM probablePrime
- A class can have only a single constructor with a given signature; SFMs don't share the restriction
 - If a class requires multiple constructors with the same signature, replace the constructors with SFMs and carefully chosen names to highlight their differences



SFMs Don't Have to Return a New Object

- Allow classes to use pre-constructed instances, or cache instances as they're constructed, and dispense them repeatedly to avoid creating unnecessary duplicate objects
 - For example, Boolean's valueOf method
- Can greatly improve performance if equivalent objects are requested often, especially if they are expensive to create
- Allow classes to maintain strict control over what instances exist at any time
 - Called instance-controlled



SFMs Can Return an Object of Subtype

- Can return an object of any subtype of the return type
- Can return objects without making their classes public
 - As long as the classes implement a public interface
 - E.g., java.util.Collections provides many convenient SFMs for creating various kinds of collections

```
static <T> Collection<T>
    synchronizedCollection (Collection<T> c)
static <K, V> Map<K, V>
    synchronizedMap (Map<K, V> m)
```

. . .

They all return objects of nonpublic classes



SFMs Reduce Verbosity

 Using a constructor to create an instance of a parameterized class typically requires you to provide the type parameters twice, e.g.:

```
MyCoolMap<String, List<String>> m =
  new MyCoolMap<String, List<String>>();
```

- With SFMs, the compiler can figure out the type parameters for you - known as type inference
 - E.g. suppose an SFM getInstance is defined for MyCoolMap, then you may use:

```
MyCoolMap<String, List<String>> m =
   MyCoolMap.getInstance();
```



Disadvantages of Providing Only SFMs

- Classes without public or protected constructors cannot be sub-classed
- Not readily distinguishable from other static methods
 - Some common names for static factory methods:
 - valueOf
 - getInstance
 - newInstance
 - get Type
 - new Type



Constructors with Many Optional Params

- If a class has many optional fields, how do you provide the constructors?
 - Telescoping: provide one that takes all the required parameters, second one with one optional parameter, third with two optional parameters, ...
 - Hard to read and write
 - Use set methods to set optional fields
 - Object may be in an inconsistent state partway through its construction
 - Impossible to make a class immutable



Builder Pattern to the Rescue

- The client calls a constructor (or static factory) with all of the required parameters and gets a builder object
- Then the client calls setter-like methods on the builder object to set each optional parameter of interest
- Finally, the client calls a parameterless build method to generate the object, which is immutable
- The builder is a static member class of the class it builds.



Code: ch01/Customer

```
public class Customer {
    private final String firstName;
    private final String lastName;
    private final String middleName;
    private final String streetAddress;
    private final String city;
    private final String state;
    private final String zipCode;
    private final String homePhone;
    private final String cellPhone;
    private final String email;
    public static class Builder {
            // Required parameters
        private final String firstName;
        private final String lastName;
```



```
// Optional parameters
private String middleName = null;
private String streetAddress = null;
private String city = null;
private String state = null;
private String zipCode = null;
private String homePhone = null;
private String cellPhone = null;
private String email = null;
public Builder(String firstName, String lastName) {
    this.firstName = firstName;
    this.lastName = lastName;
```



```
public Builder middleName(String s) {
    this.middleName = s;
    return this;
public Builder streetAddress(String s) {
    this.streetAddress = s;
    return this;
public Builder city(String s) {
    this.city = s;
    return this;
public Builder state(String s) {
    this.state = s;
    return this;
```



```
public Builder zipCode(String s) {
    this.zipCode = s;
    return this;
public Builder cellPhone(String s) {
    this.cellPhone = s;
    return this;
public Builder homePhone(String s) {
    this.homePhone = s;
    return this;
public Builder email(String s) {
    this.email = s;
    return this;
```



```
public Customer build() {
        return new Customer(this);
private Customer(Builder builder) {
    this.firstName = builder.firstName;
    this.lastName = builder.lastName;
    this.middleName = builder.middleName;
    this.streetAddress = builder.streetAddress;
    this.city = builder.city;
    this.state = builder.state;
    this.zipCode = builder.zipCode;
    this.homePhone = builder.homePhone;
    this.cellPhone = builder.cellPhone;
    this.email = builder.email;
```



To Use the Customer Class

```
Customer joe = new Customer.Builder("Joe", "Smith").
    streetAddress("10000 Research BLVD").city("Austin").
    state("TX").zipCode("78759").build();
```



Disadvantages of Builder Pattern

- In order to create an object, you must first create its builder
 - Could be a problem in some performance critical situations
- More verbose than the telescoping constructor pattern
- Should be used only if there are enough parameters



Enforcing Singletons

- A singleton is simply a class that is instantiated exactly once
- Before Java 5.0, two common singleton implementations:
 - Singleton with public final field
 - Singleton with an SFM
- Since Java 5.0, one can use a single-element enum type



Singleton with Public Final Field

```
public class Singleton {
   public static final Singleton INSTANCE =
        new Singleton();
   private Singleton() { ... }
   ...
}
```

Usage:

```
Singleton singleton = Singleton.INSTANCE;
```

Advantage: declarations make it clear that the class is a singleton



Singleton with an SFM

```
public class Singleton {
    private static final Singleton INSTANCE = new Singleton();
    private Singleton() { ... }
    public static Singleton getInstance() { return INSTANCE; }
    ...
}
```

Usage:

```
Singleton singleton = Singleton.getInstance();
```

 Advantage: flexibility - may change the class to be a nonsingleton without changing the API



Singleton with a Single-Element Enum

```
public enum Singleton {
    INSTANCE;
    ...
}
```

Usage:

```
Singleton singleton = Singleton.INSTANCE;
```



Serialization of Singletons

- Using first two approaches, implementing a Serializable interface is not enough:
 - Each time a serialized instance is de-serialized, a new instance will be created
 - To fix:
 - Declare all instance fields transient, and
 - Provide a readResolve method

```
private Object readResolve() {
    return INSTANCE;
}
```

- Using single-element enum, you get serialization for free
 - All enums extend java.lang.Enum which implements
 Serializable



Avoid Creating Unnecessary Objects ...

Can you spot what's wrong with this program?

```
public static void main(String[] args) {
  Long sum = 0L;
  for (long i = 0; i < Integer.MAX_VALUE; i++) {
     sum += i;
  }
  System.out.println(sum);
}</pre>
```

- Because of autoboxing, the program constructs about 2³¹ unnecessary Long instances
- Lesson: prefer primitives to boxed primitives, and watch out for unintentional autoboxing



Avoid Creating Unnecessary Objects

- Use SFMs to construct objects when it's appropriate to reuse objects
- But don't take it too far maintaining your own object pools in general is not recommended unless the objects in the pool are extremely heavyweight
- Classic examples that justify for object pools
 - Database connections
 - Threads



Summary

- Use SFMs to create objects when appropriate
- You may use builders to construct objects when the objects have many optional fields
- In addition to the usual ways of creating singletons, you may also use single-element enums
- Avoid creating unnecessary object instances



Exercise

- In the labs, do the exercises:
 - Create a ConfigDepot Class
 - Use Builder Pattern to Create Objects
 - Create Singleton ConfigDepot



2: Common Object Methods



Objectives

- equals and hashCode methods
- Implementing toString
- Cloning objects



Object's equals Method

For any non-null reference values x and y, Object's equals method returns true, if and only if x and y refer to the same object

```
-x == y is true
```

- It is not "logical" equal
- Any class that wants equals to mean "logical" equal has to override it



Requirements for equals

- Reflexive: x.equals(x) must return true
- Symmetric: x.equals(y) must return true if and only if y.equals(x) returns true
- Transitive: if x.equals(y) returns true and y.equals(z) returns true, then x.equals(z) must return true
- Consistent: multiple invocations of x.equals(y)
 consistently return true or consistently return false, if
 no information used in equals comparisons on the
 objects is modified.
- x.equals(null) must return false



Pitfalls in Implementing equals Code: ch02/Point2D

Suppose we have defined an equals method for a 2D point class:

```
public class Point2D {
    private double x;
    private double y;
    public Point2D(double x, double y) {
        this.x = x;
        this.y = y;
    }
    @Override public boolean equals(Object o) {
        if (o == this) return true;
        if (!(o instanceof Point2D))
            return false;
        Point2D p = (Point2D)o;
        return p.x == x && p.y == y;
```

Pitfalls in Implementing equals Code: ch02/Point3D

We now extend the 2D Point to a 3D Point class:

```
public class Point3D extends Point2D {
    private double z;
    public Point3D(double x, double y, double z) {
        super(x, y);
        this.z = z;
     // Broken - violates symmetry!
    @Override public boolean equals(Object o) {
        if (!(o instanceof Point3D))
            return false;
        return super.equals(o) && ((Point3D) o).z == z;
```



Pitfalls in Implementing equals ...

Let's test it out:

```
public static void main(String[] args) {
    Point2D p1 = new Point2D(1.0, 2.0);
    Point3D p2 = new Point3D(1.0, 2.0, 3.0);
    System.out.println("p1.equals(p2) is " + (p1.equals(p2)));
    System.out.println("p2.equals(p1) is " + (p2.equals(p1)));
}
```

Output:

```
p1.equals(p2) is true
p2.equals(p1) is false
```

It violated the symmetry rule!



Pitfalls in Implementing equals ...

• If you change the Point3D equals method to:

```
@Override public boolean equals(Object o) {
   if (!(o instanceof Point2D))
      return false;
      // If o is a 2D Point, do a 2D comparison
   if (!(o instanceof Point3D))
      return o.equals(this);
      // o is a 3D point; do a full comparison
   return super.equals(o) && ((Point3D)o).z == z;
}
```



Pitfalls in Implementing equals ...

Let's test it:

```
public static void main(String[] args) {
    Point3D p1 = new Point3D(1.0, 2.0, 3.0);
    Point2D p2 = new Point2D(1.0, 2.0);
    Point3D p3 = new Point3D(1.0, 2.0, 4.0);
    System.out.println("p1.equals(p2) is " + (p1.equals(p2)));
    System.out.println("p2.equals(p3) is " + (p2.equals(p3)));
    System.out.println("p1.equals(p3) is " + (p1.equals(p3)));
}
```

Output:

```
p1.equals(p2) is true
p2.equals(p3) is true
p1.equals(p3) is false
```

It violated the transitivity rule!



Pitfalls in Implementing equals

- This is a fundamental problem of equivalence relations in object-oriented languages
- There is no way to extend an instantiable class and add a value component while preserving the equals contract, unless you are willing to forgo the benefits of objectoriented abstraction
- In JDK, java.sql.Timestamp extends java.util.Date and its equals method is not symmetric!
 - Its javadoc has a disclaimer on this



Steps for Writing a equals Method

- 1. Use the == operator to check if the argument is a reference to *this* object
- 2. Use instanceof to check for the right argument type
- 3. Cast the argument to the correct type
- 4. For each "significant" field in the class, check if that field of the argument matches the corresponding field of this object
 - For float fields, use the Float.compare method
 - For double fields, use Double.compare
 - For other primitive types, use ==
 - For object reference fields, invoke the equals method



The Object.hashCode Method

- Returns a hash code value (of int type) for the object, used by all hash-based collections, such as HashMap, HashSet, and Hashtable
- If two objects are equal according to the equals (Object) method, then calling the hashCode method on each of the two objects must produce the same hash code
 - Hence you must override hashCode if you override equals!



What If You Don't

- All hash-based collections may behave erroneously
- For example:

```
Map<Point2D, String> interestingPoints = new HashMap<Point2D, String>();
interestingPoints.put(new Point2D(0.0, 0.0), "origin");
String p = interestingPoints.get(new Point2D(0.0, 0.0));
```

- -p will be null instead of "origin", even though the two instances of the Point2D objects are equal
- The default Object.hashCode usually is implemented by converting the internal address of the object into an integer



What Is a Good Hash Function

- Tends to produce unequal hash codes for unequal objects
- Should distribute any reasonable collection of unequal instances uniformly across all possible hash values



A Good (enough) hashCode Recipe ...

- 1. Initialize hash code result with some constant nonzero value, say, 17
- 2. For each field f in your object that plays a role in the equals method, do the following:
 - a. Compute an int hash code c for the field:
 - I. If the field is a boolean, compute (f ? 1 : 0)
 - II. If the field is a byte, char, short, or int, compute (int) f
 - III. If the field is a long, compute (int) (f ^ (f >>>
 32))
 - IV. If the field is a float, compute Float.floatToIntBits(f)

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A Good (enough) hashCode Recipe ...

- V. If the field is a double, compute

 Double.doubleToLongBits(f), and then hash the resulting long as in step 2.a.iii
- VI. If the field is an object reference and this class's equals method compares the field by recursively invoking equals, recursively invoke hashCode on the field. If the value of the field is null, return 0 (or some other constant, but 0 is traditional)
- VII. If the field is an array, treat it as if each element were a separate field. That is, compute a hash code for each significant element by applying these rules recursively, and combine these values per step 2.b. If every element in an array field is significant, you can use one of the Arrays.hashCode methods added in release 1.5



A Good (enough) hashCode Recipe ...

- b. Combine the hash code c computed in step 2.a into result as follows: result = 31 * result + c
- 3. Return result.
- 4. Write unit tests to verify whether equal instances have equal hash codes



Example – hashCode for Point2D

```
@Override public int hashCode() {
   int result = 17;
   long doubleBits = (Double.doubleToLongBits(x));
   result = 31 * result + (int) (doubleBits ^ (doubleBits >>> 32));
   doubleBits = (Double.doubleToLongBits(y));
   result = 31 * result + (int) (doubleBits ^ (doubleBits >>> 32));
   return result;
}
```



The Object.toString Method

- The default Object.toString() method returns a string that consists of:
 - Fully qualified class name
 - **—** "@"
 - Unsigned hexadecimal representation of the hashCode()
- Example:

```
com.scispike.effectivejava.ch02.Point2D@3fd1
```

It is recommended that all subclasses override toString

Why Overriding toString

- toString is automatically invoked when an object is passed to:
 - -print methods
 - String concatenation
 - -assert
 - print by debugger
- toString should return a concise but informative representation that is easy for people to read



Example toString Method

For Point2D class:

```
@Override
public String toString() {
    return String.format("[%.02f, %.02f]", this.x, this.y);
}
```



Object.clone() Method

- Object.clone() method creates and returns a copy of this object
 - Field-by-field copy is a "shallow" copy, not "deep" copy
- A class must implement the Cloneable interface (a tag interface with no method) to indicate to
 Object.clone() that it is legal for it to be called
 - Otherwise, CloneNotSupportedException thrown
- By convention, classes that implement Cloneable interface should override Object.clone (which is protected) with a public method



The (Loose) Contract for clone() ...

- For any object x, the expression x.clone() != x will be true
- v.clone().getClass() == x.getClass() will be true (not an absolute requirement)
- Typically, x.clone().equals(x) will be true (not an absolute requirement)



The (Loose) Contract for clone() ...

- By convention, the returned object should be obtained by calling super.clone
 - If a class and all of its super classes (except Object)
 obey this convention, it will be the case that
 x.clone().getClass() == x.getClass()
- By convention, the object returned by this method should be independent of this object (which is being cloned)
 - This requires deep copy



Potential Problems with clone()

- Because you need to work off super.clone() object, it's not possible to write a properly functioning clone() method unless all the class' super classes provide a well-behaved clone() method
- clone() is incompatible with normal use of final fields referring to mutable objects
- Deep copy can be error-prone



Do You Really Need clone()?

- Some choose to never override the clone() method and never invoke it
 - With exception to copy arrays
- A better approach is to provide a copy constructor, one that takes an instance of the class as input, e.g.:

```
public Point2D(Point2D p) {...}
```

Or a copy SFM

```
public static Point2D copy(Point2D p) {...}
```

Summary

- If you override equals (), you must override hashCode ()
- Always override toString()
- Copy constructor or copy SFMs might be better choices than overriding clone()



Exercise

- Do the exercise:
 - Create an Employee Class



3: Mastering Classes and Interfaces



Objectives

- Accessibility of members and classes
- Accessors vs. fields
- Composition vs. Inheritance
- Interfaces
- Class hierarchies
- Implementing strategies with function objects



Review of Access Levels

- For members (fields, methods, nested classes, and nested interfaces), there are four possible access levels:
 - private: Accessible only from the class where it is declared
 - package-private: Accessible from any class of the package
 - This is the default access if none is specified
 - protected: Accessible from subclasses and any class of the same package
 - public: Accessible from anywhere



Minimize the Accessibility ...

- To maximize information hiding, make each class or member as inaccessible as possible
- If a top-level class or interface can be made packageprivate, it should be
 - If you make it public, you are obligated to support it forever to maintain compatibility
- The public class is part of the package's API; the package-private top-level class is part of its implementation



Minimize the Accessibility

- Protected members should be relatively rare
 - They are actually part of the class' exported API and must be supported forever
- Instance fields should never be public
- Classes with public mutable fields are not thread-safe
- Public static final fields (commonly used for defining constants) should only contain either primitive values or references to immutable objects
 - In particular, arrays are always mutable; don't define public static final array fields



Expose Fields or Not

- Public classes should never expose mutable fields
 - Make them private and provide public accessors (getters) and mutators (setters)
- It is less harmful to expose immutable fields
- Sometimes it is desirable for package-private or private nested classes to expose fields, whether mutable or immutable



Immutable Classes

- An immutable class is simply a class whose instances cannot be modified
 - All of the information contained in each instance is provided when it is created and is fixed for the lifetime of the object
 - For example, String, BigInteger, etc.
- They are easier to design, implement, and use than mutable classes
 - Less error prone and more secure
- Inherently thread-safe



To Make A Class Immutable

- 1. Don't provide any mutator methods
- 2. Ensure that the class can't be extended
 - Generally accomplished by making the class final
- 3. Make all fields private final
- 4. Ensure exclusive access to any mutable components
 - If the class has any fields that refer to mutable objects, ensure that clients of the class cannot obtain references to these objects
 - Never initialize such a field to a client-provided object or return the object reference from an accessor



An Immutable Bill Class

Code: ch03/ImmutableBill

```
public final class ImmutableBill {
    private final float amount;
    private final Date billingDate;
    public ImmutableBill(float amount, Date billingDate) {
        this.amount = amount;
        this.billingDate = billingDate;
    }
    public float getAmount() {return amount;}
    public Date getBillingDate() {return this.billingDate;}
         // Notice that instead of changing the internal state,
         // we create and return a new instance
    public ImmutableBill addAmount(float amount) {
        return new ImmutableBill(this.amount + amount, this.billingDate);
```



Inheritance Can Be Dangerous

- Inheritance is a powerful way to achieve code reuse
- It is safe to use inheritance within a package
 - The subclass and the super class implementations are under the control of the same programmers
- But inheriting from ordinary concrete classes across package boundaries is dangerous



Inheritance Violates Encapsulation

- A subclass depends on the implementation details of its super class for its proper function
- The super-class's implementation may change
 - The subclass may break, even though its code has not been touched
 - A subclass must evolve in tandem with its super-class
- Super-classes should be designed and documented specifically for the purpose of being extended



Example: Extending HashMa

Code: ch03/InstrumentedHash Map

Suppose we want to extend HashMap so that we can keep track of how many <key, value> pairs have been put in the map:

```
public class InstrumentedHashMap<K, V> extends HashMap<K, V> {
    private int putCount = 0;
    @Override
    public V put(K key, V value) {
        putCount++;
        return super.put(key, value);
    }
    @Override
    public void putAll(Map<? extends K,? extends V> map) {
        putCount += map.size();
        super.putAll(map);
    }
}
```

Example: Extending HashMap

```
public int getPutCount() {
        return putCount;
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        InstrumentedHashMap<String, String> ihm =
                 new InstrumentedHashMap<String, String>();
        ihm.put("First President", "George Washington");
        HashMap<String, String> rest = new HashMap<String, String>();
        rest.put("Second President", "John Adams");
        rest.put("Third President", "Thomas Jefferson");
        ihm.putAll(rest);
        System.out.printf("%d presidents have been put in the map\n",
                  ihm.getPutCount());
Output: 5 presidents have been put in the map
```



Use Composition Instead

- The problem in the above example is HashMap's putAll method internally calls put
 - Forcing us to know the inner workings of super-class
- Solution: use composition instead of inheritance
- In object-oriented data modeling world:
 - Inheritance represents is-a relationship
 - Composition represents a has-a relationship
- When inheritance is used for code reuse purpose, prefer composition over inheritance



How to Use Composition and Forwarding

- In the new class, use a private field to reference an instance of the existing class - composition
- Each instance method in the new class invokes the corresponding method on the contained instance of the existing class and returns the results
 - This is known as forwarding, and the methods in the new class are known as forwarding methods



Example: Use Composition

Code: ch03/ForwardingHashM

```
public class ForwardingHashMap<K, V> implements Map<K, V> {
   private final Map<K, V> m;
    public ForwardingHashMap(Map<K, V> m) {this.m = m;}
    public int size() {return m.size();}
   public boolean isEmpty() {return m.isEmpty();}
    public boolean containsKey(Object key) {return m.containsKey(key);}
    public boolean containsValue(Object value)
        {return m.containsValue(value);}
    public V get(Object key) {return m.get(key);}
    public V put(K key, V value) {return m.put(key, value);}
    public V remove(Object key) {return m.remove(key);}
    public void putAll(Map<? extends K, ? extends V> m) {this.m.putAll(m);}
    public void clear() {m.clear();}
    public Set<K> keySet() {return m.keySet();}
   public Collection<V> values() {return m.values();}
   public Set<java.util.Map.Entry<K, V>> entrySet() {return m.entrySet();}
```



Example: Extending Forwarding Class ...

```
public class InstrumentedHashMapWrapper<K, V>
        extends ForwardingHashMap<K, V> {
    private int putCount = 0;
    public InstrumentedHashMapWrapper(Map<K, V> m) {
        super(m);
    }
    @Override
    public V put(K key, V value) {
        putCount++;
        return super.put(key, value);
    @Override
    public void putAll(Map<? extends K,? extends V> map) {
        putCount += map.size();
        super.putAll(map);
```

Code: ch03/InstrumentedHash MapWrapper

Example: Extending Forwarding Class ...

```
public int getPutCount() {
        return putCount;
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        InstrumentedHashMapWrapper<String, String> ihm =
                 new InstrumentedHashMapWrapper<String, String>
                          (new HashMap<String, String>());
        ihm.put("First President", "George Washington");
        HashMap<String, String> rest = new HashMap<String, String>();
        rest.put("Second President", "John Adams");
        rest.put("Third President", "Thomas Jefferson");
        ihm.putAll(rest);
        System.out.printf("%d presidents have been put in the map\n",
                          ihm.getPutCount());
Output: 3 presidents have been put in the map
```



Wrapper, Decorator, Delegate

- The InstrumentedHashMapWrapper is known as a wrapper class
 - Each instance contains ("wraps") another instance of HashMap
- This is also known as the decorator pattern
 - The InstrumentedHashMapWrapper class "decorates" a HashMap by adding instrumentation
- Sometimes the combination of composition and forwarding is loosely referred to as delegation



Prefer Interfaces over Abstract Classes

- Existing classes can be easily retrofitted to implement a new interface
 - Add the required methods if they don't yet exist
 - Add an implements clause to the class declaration
- Interfaces are ideal for defining mixins
 - A type that a class can implement in addition to its "primary type" as some optional behavior
 - -E.g. Comparable



Prefer Interfaces over Abstract Classes ...

- Interfaces allow the construction of nonhierarchical type frameworks
- For example:

```
public interface Singer {
        AudioClip sing(Song s);
}

public interface Songwriter {
        Song compose(boolean hit);
}

public interface SingerSongwriter extends Singer, Songwriter {
        AudioClip strum();
        void actSensitive();
}
```



Prefer Interfaces over Abstract Classes ...

- Interfaces enable safe, powerful functionality enhancements via the wrapper class idiom
- You can combine the virtues of interfaces and abstract classes by providing an abstract skeletal implementation class to go with each nontrivial interface that you export



Disadvantages of Interfaces

- It is far easier to evolve an abstract class than an interface
 - Almost impossible to add a method to a public interface without breaking all existing implementing classes
- Public interfaces must be designed carefully
 - Once an interface is released and widely implemented, it is almost impossible to change



Class Hierarchies or Tagged Classes

When a class whose instances come in two or more flavors, sometimes you see code like this:

```
class Figure {
    enum Shape { RECTANGLE, CIRCLE };
    final Shape shape; // Tag field
    double length; // Used only if shape is RECTANGLE
    double width; // Used only if shape is RECTANGLE
    double radius; // This field is used only if shape is CIRCLE
    . . .
    double area() {
        switch(shape) {
        case RECTANGLE:
            return length * width;
        case CIRCLE:
            return Math.PI * (radius * radius);
        ...}}
```



Prefer Class Hierarchies

It's far better if we create class hierarchies instead:

```
abstract class Figure {
   abstract double area();
class Circle extends Figure {
   . . .
   double area() { ... }
class Rectangle extends Figure {
   double area() { ... }
```



What are Function Objects?

- It is possible to define an object whose methods perform operations on other objects that are passed in
- An instance of a class that exports exactly one such method is effectively a pointer to that method
 - Such instances are known as function objects
- For example:

```
class StringLengthComparator {
    public int compare(String s1, String s2) {
        return s1.length() - s2.length();
    }
}
```



Function Objects Represent Strategy

- A StringLengthComparator instance is a concrete strategy for string comparison
- Usually there is a strategy interface that concrete strategies implement, e.g.:

```
public interface Comparator<T> {
    public int compare(T t1, T t2);
}
class StringLengthComparator implements Comparator {
    public int compare(String s1, String s2) {
        return s1.length() - s2.length();
    }
}
```



Using Strategy

The StringLengthComparator strategy, for example, can be used in:

```
Arrays.sort(stringArray,
    new StringLengthComparator())
```



Summary

- Try minimize the accessibility of classes and members
- Use accessors instead of public fields
- Immutable objects are your friends
- Inheritance can be dangerous; prefer composition
- Interfaces have many advantages over abstract classes
- Prefer class hierarchies to tagged classes
- Use function objects to represent strategies



Exercise

- Do the exercises:
 - Create an Immutable Class
 - Create an Encryption Strategy
 - Create a Decorator



4: Generics



Objectives

- Avoiding Raw types
- Favoring generic collections
- Creating generic types and methods
- Increasing API flexibility



Review Generics-related Terms

Term	Example
Parameterized type	List <string></string>
Actual type parameter	String
Generic type	List <e></e>
Raw type	List
Formal type parameter	E
Unbounded wildcard type	List
Bounded wildcard type	List extends Number
Bounded type parameter	<e extends="" number=""></e>
Recursive type bound	<t comparable<t="" extends="">></t>
Generic method	<pre>public <t> List<t> toList(T[] a)</t></t></pre>



Don't Use Raw Types in New Code

- Generics were added in JDK 1.5
- Any new code targeting JDK 1.5+ should not use raw types
- Generics provide compile time type safety
 - Avoiding raw types' runtime ClassCastException
- With generics, no need to explicitly cast types any more
- Raw types remain in Java for source code backward compatibility



Use Unbounded Wildcard Types

When using a collection whose element type you don't care, don't use raw types, use unbounded wildcard types:

```
int numCommonElements(Set s1, Set s2) { // Don't do this
  int result = 0;
  for (Object o1 : s1)
     if (s2.contains(o1))
        result++;
  return result;
}
- Instead, do this:
int numCommonElements(Set<?> s1, Set<?> s2) { // Do this
        ...// same as above
```



Raw Type vs. Unbounded Wildcard Type

- You can put in anything into a raw typed collection and corrupt it at runtime (ClassCastException)
- You can't put any element (other than null) into a unbounded wildcard type collection
- You must use raw types in:
 - Class literals, i.e. List.class, not
 List<String>.class
 - -instanceof operation

```
if (o instanceof Set) {
   Set<?> s = (Set<?>)o; // Don't cast it to raw type
   ...
}
```



Generic List or Arrays

- Arrays are covariant: if S is a subtype of T, then S[] is a subtype of T[]
- Generics are invariant: for any two distinct types S and T, List<S> is neither a subtype nor a supertype of List<T>:

```
List<Object> ol = new ArraysList<String>(); // Incompatible types
```

- Generics and arrays do not mix well
 - You can't have new ArrayList<String>[]
 - You can have
 - ArrayList<String>[] array = new ArrayList[10];



```
import java.util.LinkedList;
public class Queue<T> {
    private LinkedList<T> items = new LinkedList<T>();
    public void enqueue(T item) {
        items.addLast(item);
    }
    public T dequeue() {
        return items.removeFirst();
    public boolean isEmpty() {
        return (items.size() == 0);
    }
    @Override
    public String toString() {
        return items.toString();
```

Creating Your Own Generic Typ Code: ch04/Pair

```
public class Pair<P1,P2> {
    private P1 p1;
    private P2 p2;
    public Pair(P1 p1, P2 p2) {
        this.p1 = p1;
        this.p2 = p2;
    }
    public P1 getFirst() {
        return this.p1;
    public P2 getSecond() {
        return this.p2;
    @Override
    public String toString() {
        return String.format("[%s, %s]", this.p1, this.p2);
```

Testing Your Generic Types

Code: ch04/Test

```
public static void main(String[] args) {
    Queue<String> q = new Queue<String>();
    q.enqueue("George Washington");
    q.enqueue("John Adams");
    q.enqueue("Thomas Jefferson");
    System.out.println(q);
    q.dequeue();
    System.out.println(q);
    Queue<Pair<String, String>> q2 = new Queue<Pair<String, String>>();
    q2.enqueue(new Pair<String, String>("George Washington",
                                          "April 30, 1789"));
    q2.enqueue(new Pair<String, String>("John Adams", "March 4, 1797"));
    System.out.println(q2);
[George Washington, John Adams, Thomas Jefferson]
[John Adams, Thomas Jefferson]
[[George Washington, April 30, 1789], [John Adams, March 4, 1797]]
```



Generic Methods

- A generic method is one with type parameters
- Suppose we need to write a method for finding the intersection of two sets
 - If using raw type:

```
public static Set intersection<Set s1, Set s2) {...}</pre>
```

– Since we try to avoid using raw type, let's try using generic type. How about:

```
public static Set<T> intersection<Set<T> s1, Set<T> s2) {...}
```

- But compiler will think that T is an actual type and will complain that T is undefined!
- We need a way to tell the compiler that T is a type parameter



Example Generic Method

 The type parameter list that goes between the method's modifiers and its return type, tells the compiler that they are type parameters

```
public static <T> Set<T> intersection(Set<T> s1, Set<T> s2) {
    Set<T> rslt = new TreeSet<T>();
    for (T x : s1)
       if (s2.contains(x))
            rslt.add(x);
    return rslt;
}
```



Bounded Wildcard Increases Flexibility

Suppose we need a new addAll method for Queue:

```
public void addAll(Collection<T> collection) {
    for (T item : collection)
        enqueue(item);
}
```

Suppose we defined a Queue<Number> instance:

```
Queue<Number> q = new Queue<Number>();
```

- q.enqueue(1) works fine because 1 (boxed to Integer) is a subtype of Number
- The following is not ok b/c Collection<Integer> is not a subtype of Collection<Number>:

```
Collection<Integer> integers = new ArrayList<Integer>();
integers.add(1);
q.addAll(integers);
```



Bounded Wildcard Increases Flexibility

Change the addAll method to use bounded wildcard type will make the above code work:

```
public void addAll(Collection<? extends T> collection) {
   for (T item : collection)
      enqueue(item);
}
```

- Now you may pass in any collection of type that is a subtype of T
 - Any type is also a subtype of itself



Bounded Wildcard Increases Flexibility

Suppose we need a new removeAllTo method for Queue:

```
public void removeAllTo(Collection<? extends T> collection) {
   while (!isEmpty()) {
      T item = dequeue(); // Remove an item from the queue.
      collection.add(item); // Add it to the collection. ILLEGAL!!
   }
}
```

- Using Collection
 be too restrictive; but using Collection<? extends
 T> collection will cause error
- Solution:

```
public void removeAllTo(Collection<? super T> collection) {...}
```



The Rule of PECS

- PECS: Producer-extends, consumer-super
- For an in argument, its type should be any subtype of the target type, i.e. <? extends T>
 - Because an input will eventually appear on the right side of an assignment: T element = inputElement;
- For an out argument, its type should be any super type of the target type. i.e. <? super T>
 - Because an output element will eventually appear on the left side of an assignment: outElement = element;
- Same reason you can assign a String to an Object,
 but not an Object to a String (without casting)



Misc. Best Practices

- Do not use wildcard types as return types, e.g. Set<E>, not Set<?>
 - It would force client code to use wildcard types
- Properly used, wildcard types should be nearly invisible to users of a class
 - If the user of a class has to think about wildcard types,
 there is probably something wrong with the API
- If a type parameter appears only once in a method declaration, replace it with a wildcard



A Generic max Function

- It takes a List of type T as input, where T is a subtype of Comparable that compares instances of T
- Initial definition:

```
public static <T extends Comparable<T>> T max(List<T> list) {...}
```

Revised to use wildcard types:

```
public static <T extends Comparable<? super T>> T max(List<? extends T>
    list) {...}
```

- Always use Comparable<? super T> in preference to Comparable<T>
 - -A Comparable of T always consumes T instances
 (and produces integers)



Implementing max

```
public static <T extends Comparable<? super T>> T
  max(List<? extends T> list) {
   T result = null;
   for (T e : list) {
     if (result == null || (e != null &&
            e.compareTo(result) > 0)
       result = e;
   return result;
```



Summary

- New code should not use raw types any more
- Create your own generic types and generic methods
- Use bounded wildcard types to increase your API's flexibility



Exercise

- Do the exercise:
 - Create a Generic Stack



5: Enumerations



Objectives

- Defining enumerations
- Using annotations



What Is enum Type

• An enumerated type is a type whose legal values consist of a fixed set of constants, e.g.:

```
public enum Planet {
     MERCURY, VENUS, EARTH, MARS, JUPITER, SATURN, URANUS, NEPTUNE;
}
```

- The enum declaration defines a class (called an enum type) that implicitly extends java.lang.Enum
 - enum types are full-fledged classes
 - enum constants are really just public static final fields
 - enum types do not support extension
- You can not create instances of an enum type



enum's Builtin Methods ...

- The compiler automatically adds some special methods when it compiles an enum type
 - The static values() method returns an array containing all of the values of the enum in the order they are declared

```
for (Planet p : Planet.values())
   System.out.printf("%s ", p);

Output

MERCURY VENUS EARTH MARS JUPITER SATURN URANUS NEPTUNE
```

- The printf statement above calls the enum's toString
 - By default, toString returns the enum's constant as it appeared in the declaration



enum's Builtin Methods

- Enum's base class java.lang.Enum implements Comparable and Seriablizable interfaces
 - Give you the compareTo method
- name () Returns the name of this enum constant, exactly as declared in its enum declaration
- int ordinal() Returns the position in its enum declaration of this enumeration constant, first one is 0



Associate Data with enum Constants

- You may associate data with enum constants
 - Define enum constants first
 - 2. Define any fields or methods
 - 3. Define package-private or private constructor
- Enums are immutable, hence all fields must be final
- Example, we can associate mass and radius with each planet in our Planet enum and provide a method for computing weight of an object on the planet



Associate Data with Planets

Code: ch05/Planet

```
public enum Planet {
    MERCURY (3.303e+23, 2.4397e6),
    VENUS (4.869e+24, 6.0518e6),
    EARTH(5.976e+24, 6.37814e6),
    MARS (6.421e+23, 3.3972e6),
    JUPITER (1.9e+27, 7.1492e7),
    SATURN (5.688e+26, 6.0268e7),
    URANUS (8.686e+25, 2.5559e7),
    NEPTUNE (1.024e+26, 2.4746e7);
    private final double mass; // in kilograms
    private final double radius; // in meters
    private final double surfaceGravity;
         // universal gravitational constant
    private static final double G = 6.67300E-11;
```



Associate Data with Planets ...

```
private Planet(double mass, double radius) {
    this.mass = mass;
    this.radius = radius;
    this.surfaceGravity = G * mass / (radius * radius);
}
public double mass() {
    return mass;
public double radius() {
    return radius;
}
public double surfaceGravity() {
    return surfaceGravity;
public double surfaceWeight(double mass) {
    return mass * surfaceGravity;
```



Code: ch05/Test

```
public class Test {
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        double myWeightOnEarth = 170.00d;
        double mass = myWeightOnEarth/Planet.EARTH.surfaceGravity();
        for (Planet p : Planet.values())
            System.out.printf("I weigh %.2f on %s%n",
                 p.surfaceWeight(mass), p);
}
I weigh 64.22 on MERCURY
I weigh 153.85 on VENUS
I weigh 170.00 on EARTH
I weigh 64.39 on MARS
I weigh 430.19 on JUPITER
I weigh 181.22 on SATURN
I weigh 153.87 on URANUS
I weigh 193.52 on NEPTUNE
```



Associate with Different Behavior

- If you need to associate different behavior with each enum constant:
 - Define an abstract method in the enum class
 - Each enum constant provides its own implementation of the abstract method
- Example: An Operation enum type below shows:
 - How to define different behavior for each enum constant
 - How to override toString method



An Operation enum ...

Code: ch04/Operation

```
public enum Operation {
    PLUS("+") {
        double apply(double x, double y) { return x + y; }
    },
    MINUS ("-") {
        double apply(double x, double y) { return x - y; }
    },
    TIMES("*") {
        double apply(double x, double y) { return x * y; }
    },
    DIVIDE ("/") {
        double apply(double x, double y) { return x / y; }
    };
```



An Operation enum

```
private final String symbol;
Operation(String symbol) {
    this.symbol = symbol;
}
@Override
public String toString() {
    return symbol;
}
abstract double apply(double x, double y);
```



Using the Operation enum

Code: ch05/TestOperatio



Use EnumSet

- java.util.EnumSet takes a set of values from a single enum type as input
- Internally represented as a bit vector
 - If the underlying enum type has sixty-four or fewer elements, the entire EnumSet is represented with a single long

```
public enum Style {
     BOLD, ITALIC, UNDERLINE, STRIKETHROUGH
}
...
applyStyles(EnumSet.of(Style.BOLD, Style.italics))
```



Emulate enum Extensions with Interfaces

- Because every enum type implicitly extends java.lang.Enum and Java doesn't allow multiple inheritance, you can't have one enum type extends another
- But an enum type can implement any arbitrary interfaces
- Let both enum types implement a same interface
 - Clients should use the interface type instead of the enum types
 - Wherever one enum type is used, the other can be used too



"Extending" the Operation enun

Code: ch04/Operation

```
public interface OperationInterface {
    double apply(double x, double y);
}
public enum BasicOperations implements OperationInterface {
    PLUS("+") {
        public double apply(double x, double y) { return x + y; }
    },
    MINUS("-") {
        public double apply(double x, double y) { return x - y; }
    },
    TIMES("*") {
        public double apply(double x, double y) { return x * y; }
    },
    DIVIDE("/") {
        public double apply(double x, double y) { return x / y; }
    };
```

"Extending" the Operation enum ...

```
private final String symbol;

BasicOperations(String symbol) {
    this.symbol = symbol;
}

@Override
public String toString() {
    return symbol;
}
```



"Extending" the Operation enun

Code: ch05/ExtendedOpe

```
public enum ExtendedOperation implements OperationInterface {
    EXP("^") {
        public double apply(double x, double y) {
            return Math.pow(x, y);
        }},
    REMAINDER ("%") {
        public double apply(double x, double y) {
            return x % y;
        }};
    private final String symbol;
    ExtendedOperation(String symbol) {this.symbol = symbol;}
    @Override public String toString() {return symbol;}
}
```



Testing the Operation enum

Code: ch04/TestOperationInterfa

ce

```
public static void main(String[] args) {
    double x = 2.00;
    double y = 10.00;
    test(ExtendedOperation.class, x, y);
}
private static <T extends Enum<T> & OperationInterface> void test
   (Class<T> opSet, double x, double y) {
    for (OperationInterface op : opSet.getEnumConstants())
        System.out.printf("%.2f %s %.2f = %.2f%n",
                          x, op, y, op.apply(x, y));
2.00 ^10.00 = 1024.00
2.00 \% 10.00 = 2.00
```



Use @Override Annotation Consistently

What does this program print and why?

```
public class NameValuePair {
   private String name;
    private String value;
    public NameValuePair(String name, String value) {
        this.name = name;
        this.value = value;
    }
    public boolean equals(NameValuePair pair) {
        return pair.name.equals(this.name) &&
                  pair.value.equals(this.value);
    public int hashCode() {...}
    public String toString() {...}
```



Use @Override Annotation Consistently

```
public static void main(String[] args) {
    Set<NameValuePair> s = new HashSet<NameValuePair>();
    for (int i = 0; i < 10; i++)
        s.add(new NameValuePair("lastName", "Adams"));
    System.out.println(s.size());
}</pre>
```

- It prints out 10
- But we defined a equals method and Set is supposed to have no duplicates!



Use @Override Annotation Consistently

- Reason: we thought we were overriding Object's equals method but we were not!
- If we always used the @Override annotation to state our intention, the compiler would have caught that we defined the equals method wrong
- The right equals method:

```
@Override public boolean equals(Object o) {
   if (!(o instanceof NameValuePair))
      return false;
   NameValuePair pair = (NameValuePair)o;
   return pair.name.equals(this.name) && pair.value.equals(this.value);
}
```

Now it prints out 1



Summary

- Enum types are full-fledged classes
- Enum constants are really just static constants
- You may define fields and methods on Enum types
- Use @Override annotation on every method that you believe to override a super class method



Exercise

- Do the exercise:
 - Create an enum Class for Eurozone Countries



6: Mastering Methods



Objectives

- Designing method signatures
- Validate parameters
- Method overloading
- Using variable lists of arguments



Design Method Signatures Carefully ...

- Choose method names carefully
 - Should be understandable and consistent with other names in the same package
 - Should be consistent with the broader consensus. Use Java API as guidance
- For parameter types, if there is an appropriate interface to define a parameter, use it in favor of a class that implements the interface
- Prefer two-element enum types to boolean parameters
 - Makes your code easier to read and to write
 - Makes it easy to add more options later



Design Method Signatures Carefully ...

- Don't go overboard in providing convenience methods
 - Too many methods make a class difficult to learn, use, document, test, and maintain
 - Especially true for interfaces
 - Too many methods complicate life for implementers as well as users
 - Consider providing a "shorthand" only if it will be used often
 - When in doubt, leave it out



Design Method Signatures Carefully ...

- Avoid long parameter lists
 - Aim for four parameters or fewer
- Three techniques for shortening parameter lists
 - Break the method up into multiple methods, each of which requires only a subset of the parameters
 - Create helper classes to hold groups of parameters
 - Typically these helper classes are static member classes
 - Adapt the Builder pattern from object construction to method invocation



Check Arguments' Validity

- Most methods and constructors have some restrictions on what values may be passed into their parameters
- You should document such restrictions and enforce them at the beginning of the method
- For public methods, use the Javadoc @throws or
 @exception tag to document the exception that will be thrown if a restriction on parameter values is violated
- You don't want to do such checks if they are too expensive or impractical



Check Argument Validity Example

For example, Integer's parseInt method:



Use Assertions to Check Arguments

- For nonpublic methods you should generally check the arguments using assertions
 - Assertions throw AssertionError if they fail
 - Have no effect unless enabled by passing the -ea (or -enableassertions) flag to java
 - For example:

```
// Private helper function for a recursive sort
private static void sort(long a[], int offset, int length) {
    assert a != null;
    assert offset >= 0 && offset <= a.length;
    assert length >= 0 && length <= a.length - offset;
    ...
}</pre>
```



Make Your Methods Defensive

- Program defensively, with the assumption that the clients may be ill-behaved - intentionally or not
- If a class has mutable components that it gets from or returns to its clients, the class must defensively copy these components
 - Unless the cost of the copy would be prohibitive and the class trusts its clients not to modify the components



```
public class Timer {
    private final Date start;
    private final Date end;
    public Timer(Date start, Date end) {
        if (start.compareTo(end) > 0)
            throw new IllegalArgumentException(start + " after " + end);
        this.start = start;
        this.end = end;
    }
    public Date start() {
        return start;
    }
    public Date end() {
        return end;
    ... // Rest omitted
```



What's the Problem ...

- The class should maintain a invariant of start <= end</p>
- But a client can attack like the following:

```
Date start = new Date();
Date end = new Date();
Timer t = new Timer(start, end);
end.setYear(80); // Modified the internal object!
```

Or this:

```
t.getEndTime().setYear(80);
```



Solution: Make a Defensive Copy

```
public class Timer {
    private final Date start;
    private final Date end;
    public Timer(Date start, Date end) {
        if (start.compareTo(end) > 0)
            throw new IllegalArgumentException(start + " after " + end);
        this.start = new Date(start.getTime());
        this.end = new Date(end.getTime());
    }
    public Date getStartTime() {
        return new Date(start.getTime());
    }
    public Date getEndTime() {
        return new Date(end.getTime());
    ... // Rest omitted
```



Defensive Copying Can Be Costly

- Defensive copying can have a performance penalty and isn't always justified
- If the class and its client are both part of the same package, then it may be appropriate to do without
- Alternatively, where possible, use immutable objects as components of your objects



Be Careful with Overloading

Code: ch04/OverloadingCollec tion

What does this program print out?

```
public class OverloadingCollection {
   public static String classify(Set<?> s) {
      return "Set";
   }
   public static String classify(Collection<?> c) {
      return "Unknown Collection";
   }
   public static void main(String[] args) {
      Collection<?> c = new HashSet<String>();
      System.out.println(classify(c));
   }
}
```



Overloading Is Different from Overridden

- It prints out "Unknown Collection"
- The choice of which overloaded method to invoke is made at compile time
- But choice among overridden methods is at run time
- To achieve what the program meant to achieve, define a single method that uses instanceof to differentiate

```
public static String classify(Collection<?> c) {
    return c instanceof Set ? "Set" : "Unknown Collection";
}
```



Rules of Thumb Regarding Overloading

- A safe, conservative policy is never to export two overloadings with the same number of parameters
- If a method uses varargs, a conservative policy is not to overload it
- For constructors, you can't use different names but you can expose static factory methods instead of constructors



Watch Out for Generics and Autoboxing

- When designing overloaded methods, remember that two types are radically different if it is clearly impossible to cast an instance of either type to the other
- With generics and autoboxing, this can be tricky



Overloading, Generics, and Autoboxing

Code: ch06/Test

```
public static void main(String[] args) {
    Set<Integer> set = new TreeSet<Integer>();
    List<Integer> list = new ArrayList<Integer>();
    for (int i = -3; i < 3; i++) {
        set.add(i);
        list.add(i);
    }
    System.out.println("Original: " + list);
    for (int i = 0; i < 3; i++) {
        set.remove(i);
        list.remove(i);
    }
    System.out.printf("Remaining: Set = %s, List = %s", set, list);
Original: [-3, -2, -1, 0, 1, 2]
Remaining: Set = [-3, -2, -1], List = [-2, 0, 2]
```



What Happened

- The Set<E> remove (Object o) is used with autoboxing
- But the List<E> interface has two overloaded methods:
 - remove (Object o) removes the first element o from
 the list
 - remove (int i) removes the element at position i
- Before generics and autoboxing, Object and int are radically different, not any more



Use Varargs Judiciously

Code: ch06/VarargTest

Varargs accept zero or more arguments of a type, e.g.

```
static int sum(int... args) {
   int sum = 0;
   for (int arg : args)
      sum += arg;
   return sum;
}
```

 To accept one or more arguments, you would define one normal parameter, and then one varargs parameter

```
static int min(int firstArg, int... remainingArgs) {
   int min = firstArg;
   for (int arg : remainingArgs)
      if (arg < min)
        min = arg;
   return min;
}</pre>
```



Varargs Has Performance Implication

- Varargs works by:
 - First creating an array of size the number of arguments
 - Putting the argument values into the array
 - Finally passing the array to the method
- If you want varargs' flexibility but concerned with the performance, and say the majority of the calls of a method takes 3 parameters or less, you may do this:

```
public void foo() { }
public void foo(int a1) { }
public void foo(int a1, int a2) { }
public void foo(int a1, int a2, int a3) { }
public void foo(int a1, int a2, int a3, int... rest) { }
```



Summary

- Carefully designing the methods will make your API easier to learn and use and less prone to errors
- You should document and explicitly check the restrictions on the parameters
- Sometimes it's necessary to make defensive copies of objects that come from or return to clients
- The choice among overloaded methods is at compiletime, not at runtime
- Varargs gives you flexibility but has performance implication



Exercise

- Do the exercise:
 - Create an Order System



7: Programming Techniques



Objectives

- For-each loops
- Minimizing scope of local variables
- Working with exact numbers
- Strings vs. more meaningful classes
- Interfaces vs. Reflection



Prefer for-each to for Loops

 The for-each loops (since JDK 1.5) are much cleaner, less error-prone than traditional for loops

```
enum Suit { CLUB, DIAMOND, HEART, SPADE }
enum Rank { ACE, DEUCE, THREE, FOUR, FIVE, SIX, SEVEN,
            EIGHT, NINE, TEN, JACK, QUEEN, KING }
Collection<Suit> suits = Arrays.asList(Suit.values());
Collection<Rank> ranks = Arrays.asList(Rank.values());
for (Iterator<Suit> i = suits.iterator(); i.hasNext(); )
    for (Iterator<Rank> j = ranks.iterator(); j.hasNext(); ) {
        . . .
Vs.
for (Suit suit : suits) {
  for (Rank rank : ranks) {
```



For-each Loops Work on any Iterables

 For-each loops let you iterate over collections, arrays, or any type that implements Iterable interface

```
public interface Iterable<T> {
    // Returns an iterator over the elements in this iterable
    Iterator<T> iterator();
}
public interface Iterator<E> {
    boolean hasNext();
    E next();
    void remove();
}
```

- If writing a class representing a group of objects, implement Iterable even if not implementing
 Collection
 - Allow users to iterate over the type with for-each loop



When Can't You Use for-each Loop

- Filtering If you need to traverse a collection and remove selected elements, then you need to use an explicit iterator so that you can call its remove method
- Transforming If you need to traverse a list or array and replace some or all of the values of its elements, then you need the list iterator or array index in order to set the value of an element
- Parallel iteration If you need to traverse multiple collections in parallel, then you need explicit control over the iterator or index variable, so that all iterators or index variables can be advanced in lockstep



Minimize the Scope of Local Variables ...

- Java lets you declare variables anywhere a statement is legal
- To minimizing the scope of a local variable, declare it where it is first used
- Declaring a local variable prematurely can cause its scope not only to extend too early, but also to end too late
- Nearly every local variable declaration should contain an initializer
 - If you don't yet have enough information to initialize a variable sensibly, you should postpone the declaration until you do



Minimize the Scope of Local Variables

- Loops present a special opportunity to minimize the scope of variables
- The for loop, in both its traditional and for-each forms, allows you to declare loop variables
 - Their scope consists of the body of the loop as well as the initialization, test, and update preceding the body

```
for (int i = 0, n = expensiveComputation(); i < n; i++) {
  doSomething(i);
}</pre>
```

- Keep methods small and focused
 - If you combine two activities in the same method, local variables relevant to one activity may be in the scope of the code performing the other activity



Floats and Doubles are not Exact

- The float and double types are designed primarily for scientific and engineering calculations
 - Designed to furnish accurate approximations quickly
- They do not provide exact results and should not be used where exact results are required
- Particularly ill-suited for monetary calculations because it is impossible to represent 0.1 (or any other negative power of ten) as a float or double exactly



Problem Using Double for Currency

Code: ch07/TestFloat

Suppose you have a dollar and there are pencils priced at 10¢, 20¢, 30¢, and so forth (at 10¢ increase). You buy one of each, starting with the one that costs 10¢, until you can't afford to buy the next one:



BigDecimal for Currency Calculations



- But we should have been able to buy 4 items (0.1 + 0.2 + 0.3 + 0.4 = 1.00)
- Use BigDecimal, int, or long for currency calculation

```
public static void main(String[] args) {
    final BigDecimal TEN CENTS = new BigDecimal(".10");
    int itemsBought = 0;
    BigDecimal funds = new BigDecimal("1.00");
    for (BigDecimal price = TEN CENTS; funds.compareTo(price) >= 0;
              price = price.add(TEN CENTS)) {
        itemsBought++;
        funds = funds.subtract(price);
    System.out.println(itemsBought + " items bought.");
    System.out.println("Money left over: $" + funds);
4 items bought.
Money left over: $0.00
```

When Should You Avoid Using Strings

- Strings are poor substitutes for other value types
 - Data originally comes into a program from a file, network, or keyboard, and it is often in string form
 - It should be translated into the appropriate type
- Strings are poor substitutes for enum types
- Strings are poor substitutes for aggregate types
 - If an entity has multiple components, it is usually a bad idea to represent it as a single string, e.g.:

```
String compoundKey = className + "#" + i.next();
```

- What if "#" occurs in one of the fields?
- To access individual fields, you have to parse the string



String Concatenation Is Slow

- Strings are immutable; when two strings are concatenated, the contents of both are copied
 - Concatenating n strings requires time quadratic in n
- For string concatenation, use StringBuilder's append method instead



Reflection Is Powerful As Well As Costly

- java.lang.reflect offers programmatic access to information about loaded classes
 - Given a Class object, you can obtain Constructor, Method, and Field instances
 - With them you can programmatically construct instances, invoke methods, and access fields, etc.
- This power comes at a price:
 - Lose all the benefits of compile-time type checking
 - The code required to perform reflective access is clumsy and verbose
 - Performance suffers. Reflective method invocation is much slower than normal method invocation



Use Reflection Only to Instantiate

- If at all possible, use reflection only to instantiate objects
- Then access the objects using interface or super-class
 - Their type is known at compile time, hence type-safety

```
Class<?> cl = Class.forName(className);
Set<String> s = (Set<String>) cl.newInstance();
// Exercise the set
s.addAll(...);
```



Summary

- When possible, use for-each loops instead of the forloops
- One should minimize the scope of local variables
- float and double are not precise types, use
 BigDecimal, long, etc. for monetary calculation
- Avoid using strings to represent other data types
- String concatenations are expensive
- When you have to use reflection, try only use it to instantiate an instance and then use interface or super-class to interact with the objects



Exercise

- Do the exercise:
 - Create a Stock Portfolio



8: Working with Exceptions



Objectives

- Handling exceptional conditions
- Using standard exceptions
- Unnecessary checked exceptions
- Exceptions and abstractions
- Capture failure information



Exceptions Are for Exceptional Conditions

- Exceptions should not be used for ordinary control flow
- A well-designed API must not force its clients to use exceptions for ordinary control flow
 - A class with a "state-dependent" method should generally have a separate "state-testing" method indicating whether it is appropriate to invoke the statedependent method
 - For example, the Iterator interface has the statedependent method next and the corresponding statetesting method hasNext



Three Kinds of Throwables

- Checked exceptions for conditions from which the caller can reasonably be expected to recover
- Runtime exceptions to indicate programming errors
 - Most indicate precondition violations, for example, ArrayIndexOutOfBoundsException
- Errors are reserved for use by the JVM
 - It's best not to implement any new Error subclasses
- All of the unchecked throwables should subclass
 RuntimeException, directly or indirectly



Avoid Unnecessary Checked Exceptions

- Checked exceptions force the programmer to deal with exceptional conditions
- But overuse of checked exceptions can place a nontrivial burden on the programmer
- The burden is justified if:
 - The exceptional condition cannot be prevented by proper use of the API
 - The programmer using the API can take some useful action once confronted with the exception



Technique to Reduce Checked Exception

- Sometimes it is possible to break the method that throws the checked exception into two methods:
 - The first returns a boolean that indicates whether the exception would be thrown
 - The second is the actual method

```
// Invocation with state-testing method and unchecked exception
if (obj.actionPermitted(args)) {
    obj.action(args);
} else {
    // Handle exceptional condition
    ...
}
```



Favor the Use of Standard Exceptions

- Reusing preexisting exceptions has several benefits
 - Makes your API easier to learn and use
 - Programs using your API are easier to read because they aren't cluttered with unfamiliar exceptions
 - Fewer exception classes mean a smaller memory footprint and less time spent loading classes



Commonly Used Standard Exceptions

Exception	Occasion for Use
IllegalArgumentException	Non-null parameter value is inappropriate
IllegalStateException	Object state is inappropriate for method invocation
NullPointerException	Parameter value is null where prohibited
IndexOutOfBoundsException	Index parameter value is out of range
ConcurrentModificationException	Concurrent modification of an object has been detected where it is prohibited
UnsupportedOperationException	Object does not support method



Exception Translation

- When a method simply propagates an exception thrown by a lower-level abstraction, it may:
 - Expose exceptions that have no apparent connection to the higher layer
 - Pollute the API of the higher layer with implementation details
 - Break existing client programs if lower level implementation changes
- Higher layers should catch lower-level exceptions and throw exceptions fit for the higher-level abstraction
 - This idiom is known as exception translation



Exception Translation Example

 The following code segment is from List implementation

```
/**
  * Returns the element at the specified position in this list.
  * @throws IndexOutOfBoundsException if the index is out of range
  * (\{\emptyset \text{code index} < 0 \mid | \text{index} >= \text{size}()\}).
 */
public E get(int index) {
      ListIterator<E> i = listIterator(index);
      try {
          return i.next();
      } catch(NoSuchElementException e) {
          throw new IndexOutOfBoundsException("Index: " + index);
```



Exception Chaining

- Lower level exceptions are helpful in debugging the root cause of higher level problems
- The lower level exception (cause) is passed to the higher-level exception
- This idiom is called exception chaining, a special form of exception translation

```
try {
     ... // calling lower-level code
} catch (LowerLevelException cause) {
    throw new HigherLevelException(cause);
}
```

Most standard exceptions have chaining-aware constructors



Don't Over Do It

- Where possible, the best way to deal with exceptions from lower layers is to avoid them
 - By ensuring that lower-level methods succeed
 - E.g. Checking the validity of the higher-level method's parameters before passing them on to lower layers
 - Have the higher layer silently work around these exceptions
 - E.g. The higher-level method simply catch and log the exception



Capture Failure Contributing Factors

- To capture the failure, the detail message of an exception should contain the values of all parameters and fields that contributed to the exception
 - For example, ideally the detail message of an IndexOutOfBoundsException should contain
 - The lower bound
 - The upper bound
 - The index value that failed to lie between the bounds
- One way to help enforce this is to require the information in their constructors



A Better IndexOutOfBoundsException

```
/**
* Construct an IndexOutOfBoundsException.
*
 @param lowerBound the lowest legal index value.
* @param upperBound the highest legal index value plus one.
* @param index the actual index value.
*/
public IndexOutOfBoundsException(int lowerBound, int upperBound,
                                   int index) {
   // Generate a detail message that captures the failure
   super("Lower bound: " + lowerBound + ", Upper bound: " + upperBound +
          ", Index: " + index);
   // Save failure information for programmatic access
   this.lowerBound = lowerBound;
   this.upperBound = upperBound;
   this.index = index;
```



Summary

- Exceptions are for exceptional conditions, not for ordinary control flow
- Checked exceptions are for recoverable conditions
- Runtime exceptions are for program errors
- Reuse standard exceptions as much as possible
- Exception translation and chaining help shield higherlevel code from lower-level details and provide more meaningful exceptions for the layer
- Exceptions should include all contributing factors in the detail message



Exercise

- Do the exercise:
 - Exception Chaining



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