INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY ROORKEE



CSN-103: Fundamentals of Object Oriented Programming

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Introduction



- All example classes were taken from the same name space
- This means that a unique name had to be used for each class to avoid name collisions
- Java provides a mechanism for partitioning the class name space into more manageable chunks → Package
- The package is both a naming and a visibility control mechanism
- You can define classes inside a package that are not accessible by code outside that package
- You can also define class members that are exposed only to other members of the same package

Defining a Package



- To create a package
 - Include a package command as the first statement in a Java source file
 - Any classes declared within that file will belong to the specified package
- If you omit the package statement
 - The classes are put into the default package, which has no name
 - Most of the time, it is best to define a package for your code

Package



- Java uses file system directories to store packages
- The .class files for the classes belonging to a package must be stored in a directory whose name is same as the package
- More than one file can include the same package
- The package statement simply specifies to which package the classes defined in a file belong to.

Package Hierarchy



- You can create a hierarchy of packages
 - By simply separating each package name from the one above it by use of a period

```
package pkg1[.pkg2[.pkg3]];
```

- Need to be stored in pkg1\pkg2\pkg3 in a Windows environment

 OR
- Need to be stored in pkg1/pkg2/pkg3 in a Windows environment

Finding Packages



- Packages are mirrored by directories
- How does the Java run-time system know where to look for packages that you create?
- Three ways:
 - By default, the Java run-time system uses the current working directory
 - You can use the -classpath/-cp option with java and javac to specify the path to your classes
 - You can specify a directory path or paths by setting the CLASSPATH environmental variable

Compilation and Execution



- The easiest way:
 - Simply create the package directories below your current development directory
 - Put the .class files into the appropriate directories (packages)
 - Then execute the programs from the current development directory

Access Protection



- Classes and packages: Means of encapsulating, Acts as containers
- Classes act as containers for data and code
- Packages act as containers for classes and other subordinate packages
- Four categories of visibility for class members:
 - Non-subclasses in the same package
 - Subclasses in the same package
 - Classes that are neither in the same package nor subclasses
 - Subclasses in different packages

Access Protection



- Anything declared public can be accessed from anywhere
- Anything declared **private** cannot be seen outside of its class
- When a member does not have an explicit access specification, it is visible to subclasses as well as to other classes in the same package

 This is the default access
- If you want to allow an element to be seen outside your current package, but only to classes that subclass your class directly
 - Declare that element protected

Class Member Access



	Private	No Modifier	Protected	Public
Same class	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Same package subclass	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Same package non-subclass	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Different package subclass	No	No	Yes	Yes
Different package non-subclass	No	No	No	Yes

Access Specifiers for Classes

Public and Package-Private

import Statement



- Packages are a good mechanism for compartmentalizing diverse classes
- All of the built-in Java classes are stored in packages
 - All of the standard classes are stored in some named package
- Classes within packages must be fully qualified with their package name
 - Tedious to type in the long dot-separated package path name for every class you want to use
- import statement
 - Bring certain classes, or entire packages, into visibility

import Statement



- import statements occur
 - Immediately following the package statement (if it exists)
 - And before any class definitions
- This is the general form of the import statement: import pkg1 [.pkg2].(classname | *);
- All of the standard Java classes included with Java are stored in a package called java
 Examples:

```
import java.util.Date;
import java.io.*;
import java.lang.*;
```