#### **INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY ROORKEE**



#### **CSN-103: Fundamentals of Object Oriented Programming**



## **Overloading Methods**



- When an overloaded method is invoked
  - Java uses the type and/or number of arguments to determine which overloaded method to call
- Overloaded methods may have different return type
  - The return type alone is **insufficient** to distinguish two overloaded methods
  - Return type doesn't play a role in overload resolution

## **Overloading Methods**



- When an overloaded method is called:
  - Java first looks for an exact match between the arguments and method's parameters
    - Number and type is matched
  - if exact match method is unavailable
    - Automatic type conversion → Overload resolution

## **Overloading Constructor**



Similar to methods, constructors can also be overloaded

```
class Box {
   double width;
   double height;
   double depth;
Box(double w, double h, double d) {
   width = w;
   height = h;
   depth = d;
```

```
class Overload3 {
  public static void main(String args[]) {
        Box mybox1 = new Box();
Overload3.java:15: error: constructor Box in class Box cannot
be applied to given types;
   Box mybox1 = new Box();
required: double, double, double
found: no arguments
reason: actual and formal argument lists differ in length
```

1 error

# **Objects as Parameters**



- Just like primitive types, objects can also be used as parameters to methods
- Constructors can also have Objects as parameters
  - Useful in duplicating objects

## **Argument Passing**



- Two ways:
  - Call-by-value: Value of argument passed to the parameter of subroutine
    - Changes made to the parameter don't affect the argument
  - Call-by-reference: Reference to an argument is passed to the parameter of subroutine
    - Changes made to the parameter will affect the argument
- In Java,
  - Primitive types: Call-by-value
  - Objects: Call-by-reference

## **Example: Call-by-value**



```
class Test {
      void meth(int i, int j) {
      i *= 2;
      j /= 2;
class CallByValue {
      public static void main(String args[]) {
      Test ob = new Test();
      int a = 15, b = 20;
      System.out.println("a and b before call: " + a + " " + b);
      ob.meth(a, b);
      System.out.println("a and b after call: " + a + " " + b);
                                              OUTPUT:
                                              a and b before call: 15 20
                                              a and b after call: 15 20
```

## **Example: Call-by-reference**



```
class Test {
      int a, b;
                                                OUTPUT:
                                                ob.a and ob.b before call: 15 20
      Test(int i, int j) {
                                                ob.a and ob.b after call: 30 10
       a = i;
       b = i:
      void meth(Test o) {
      o.a *= 2;
      o.b /= 2;
class CallByRef {
      public static void main(String args[]) {
      Test ob = new Test(15, 20);
      System.out.println("ob.a and ob.b before call: " + ob.a + " " + ob.b);
      ob.meth(ob);
      System.out.println("ob.a and ob.b after call: " + ob.a + " " + ob.b);
```

## **Returning Objects**



- Methods can return any primitive type and class type you create
- Note:
  - If an object created anywhere inside the program will continue to
     exist as long as there is a reference to it somewhere in the program
  - Create a temporary object inside a function and return its reference to use it in future