

# Abstract Data Types

L.EIC

Algoritmos e Estruturas de Dados

2023/2024

P Diniz, AP Rocha,  
A Costa, B Leite, F Ramos, J Pires, PH Diniz, V Silva

# Procedural and Data abstractions

- Procedural abstraction:
  - Abstract from details of procedures
  - Specification is the abstraction
  - Satisfy the specification with an implementation
  - Use of a procedure depends on its purpose (what it does) but not on its implementation (how it does it)
- Data abstraction:
  - Abstract from details of data representation
  - Also a specification mechanism
    - A way of thinking about programs and design

# The need for data abstractions (ADTs)

- Organizing and manipulating data is pervasive
  - Inventing and describing algorithms less common
- Start your design by **designing data structures**
  - How will relevant data be organized
  - What operations will be permitted on the data by clients
- Potential problems with choosing a data abstraction:
  - Decisions about data structures often made too early
  - Duplication of effort in creating derived data
  - Very hard to change key data structures (modularity!)

# Abstract Data Type

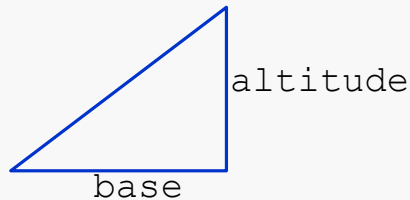
- ADT abstracts from the *organization* to *meaning* of data
- ADT abstracts from *structure* to *use*
- Representation should not matter to the user
  - So hide it from the user
- ADTs support *abstraction*, *encapsulation* and *information hiding*

Abstract Data Type = data + operations

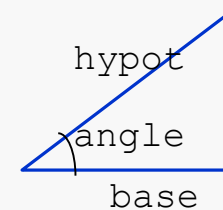
specification of data and operations that can be performed on the data (functionality)

# Abstract Data Type

```
class RightTriangle {  
    float base, altitude;  
};
```



```
class RightTriangle {  
    float base, hypot, angle;  
};
```



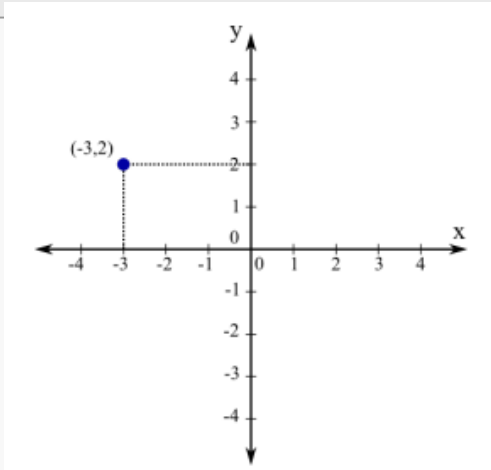
Representation should not matter to the user

– So hide it from the user

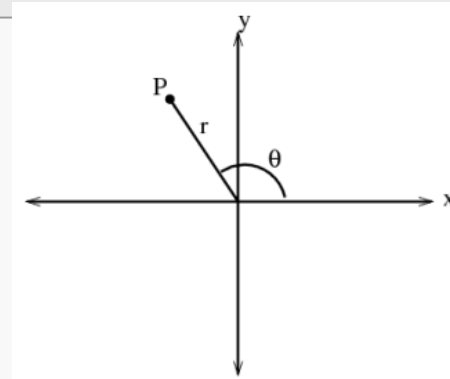
- Instead, think of a type as a **set of operations**:  
*create, getBase, getAltitude, getBottomAngle, ...*
- Force users to call operations to access data

# Abstract Data Type

```
class Point {  
    public float x;  
    public float y;  
};
```



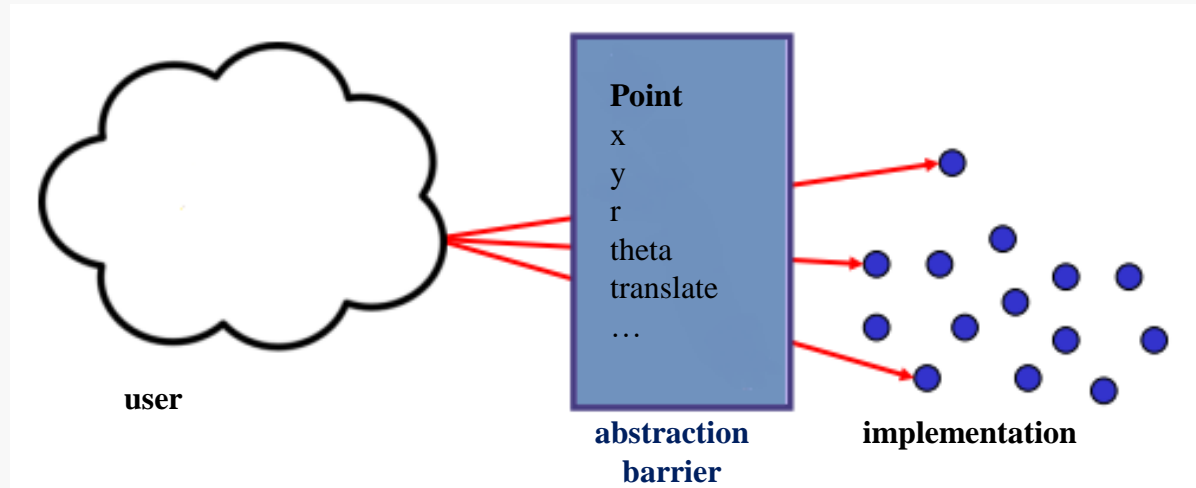
```
class Point {  
    public float r;  
    public float theta;  
};
```



Are these classes the same?

- *different*: cannot replace one with the other in a program
- *same*: both implement the concept of “2-d point”
- goal of ADT methodology is to express the sameness:
  - users depend only on the concept “2-d point”

# Abstract Data Type



- Implementation is hidden
- Only operations on objects of the type are provided by abstraction

# Abstract Data Type

- Specifying a data abstraction
  - A *collection* of procedural abstractions
    - not a collection of procedures
  - An *abstract state*
    - not the concrete representation in terms of fields, objects, ...
  - Each operation described in terms of:
    - Creating
    - Observing
    - Producing
    - Mutating



# Classifying types and operations

- **Types** (built-in or user-defined) can be:
  - **Mutable:** objects of a mutable type can be changed
  - **Immutable**
- **Operations** are classified as:
  - Creators: create new objects of the type
  - Producers: create new objects from old objects of the type
  - Observers: take objects of the abstract type and return objects of a different type
  - Mutators: modify objects

	<i>mutable</i>	<i>immutable</i>
creators	✓	✓
producers	✓	✓
observers	✓	✓
mutators	✓	✗

# example: IntSet

```
// an IntSet is a mutable, set of non repeated integers.  
// a typical IntSet is {x1, ..., xn}  
class IntSet {
```

- **Creators**

- create a new object

```
// creates a new IntSet = {}  
IntSet()  
  
// creates a new IntSet = {x}  
IntSet(int x)
```

# example: IntSet

- **Observers**

- take objects of the abstract type and return objects of a different type
- used to obtain information about objects of the type

```
// returns true if x belongs to this, false otherwise
bool contains(int x) const

// returns the cardinality of this
int size() const
```

- **Producers**

- operations on a type that create other objects of the type
- more common in immutable ADTs, but mutable ADTs may have producers too

```
// returns the elements of this plus the elements of s2
// non-repeated (as a IntSet)
IntSet union(const IntSet &s2) const
```

# example: IntSet

- **Mutators**
  - operations that modify an element of the type
  - **not** in immutable ADTs

```
// modifies this by inserting a new element x
bool add(int x)

// modify this by removing x
bool remove(int x)
```

# Representation exposure

Representation exposure means that code outside the class can modify the representation directly

```
// immutable data type
class Tweet {
    string author, text;
    Date timestamp;
    Tweet(string a, string t, Date ts);
    string getAuthor();
    string getText();
    Date& getTimestamp();
};
```

intention: *Tweet* should be an immutable data type

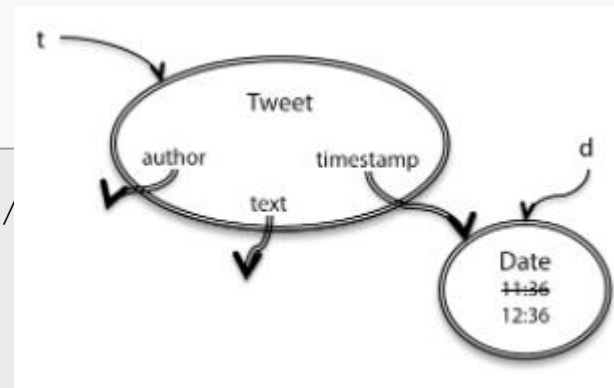
```
Tweet::Tweet(string a, string t, Date ts) {
    author = a; text = t;
    timestamp = ts;
}

Date& Tweet::getTimestamp() {
    return timestamp;
}
```

## Representation Exposure

Consider this user code that uses *Tweet*:

```
// return a tweet that retweets t, one hour later*/
Tweet retweetLater(Tweet t) {
    Date d = t.getTimestamp();
    d.setHours(d.getHours()+1);
    return new Tweet("joao", t.getText(), d);
}
```



**Problem:** *Tweet* leaked out a reference to a mutable object that is immutability depended

```
// new version
Data& Tweet::getTimestamp() {
    Date *d = new Date(Date.getTime());
    return *d;
}
```

**Lesson:** storing a mutable object in an immutable collection can expose the representation