# Introduction to Object-Oriented Programming Classes

Christopher Simpkins

chris.simpkins@gatech.edu

# The Anatomy of a Class Definition

#### Card.java

```
import java.util.Arravs;
public class Card {
  public static final String[]
    VALID RANKS = {"2", ..., "ace"};
  public static final String[]
    VALID_SUITS = {"diamonds", ... };
  private String rank;
  private String suit:
  public Card (String aRank, String
    aSuit) {
  public String toString() {
    return rank + " of " + suit;
  private boolean isValidRank(String
    someRank) { ... }
```

#### A class definition file contains

- import statements
- class declaration
- static variable definitions
- instance variable definitions
- constructor
- public methods
- private helper methods

### A Card Class, v0

#### Consider how to represent a Card ADT:

- rank the rank of a playing card, e.g., 2, jack, ace
- suit the suit of a playing card, e.g., spades, diamonds

```
public class Card0 {
    String rank;
    String suit;
}
```

- rank and suit are instance variables
- Every *instance* of Card0 has its own copy of instance variables.

# Using Card0

```
public class Card0 {
    String rank;
    String suit;

public static void main(String[] args) {
        Card0 c = new Card0();
        System.out.println(c);
    }
}
```

Note that we can put a main method in any class. This is useful for exploratory testing, like we're doing here.

The String representation isn't very appealing. (What does it print?)

# Card Class, v1

```
public class Card1 {
    String rank;
    String suit:
    public String toString() {
        return rank + " of " + suit;
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        Card1 swedishPop = new Card1();
        swedishPop.rank = "ace";
        swedishPop.suit = "base";
        Card1 handy = new Card1();
        handv.rank = "jack";
        handv.suit = "all trades";
        System.out.println(swedishPop);
        System.out.println(handy);
```

Now we have an "ace of base" card and a "jack of all trades" card. But those aren't valid cards.

# Encapsulation: Card, v2

Let's protect the instance variables by making them private:

```
public class Card2 {
    private String rank;
    private String suit:
    public String toString() {
        return rank + " of " + suit;
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        Card2 c = new Card2();
        c.rank = "ace";
        c.suit = "base";
        System.out.println(c);
```

Why does this still compile?

■ main method still part of Card2 - has access to private parts

Let's make a dealer class to represent client code:

### A Dealer Class<sup>1</sup>

(We'll synchronize the names of Dealer classes with the names of Card classes, so Dealer2 is meant to test Card2.)

```
public class Dealer2 {
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        Card2 c = new Card2();
        c.rank = "ace";
        c.suit = "base";
        System.out.println(c);
    }
}
```

This won't compile (which is what we want). Why?

CS 1331 (Georgia Tech) Classes 8 / 37

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Our Dealer class plays the role that a Driver class often plays in your homework₀ a ⊘

### Mutators: Card, v3

```
public class Card3 {
    private String rank;
    private String suit;

    public void setRank(String rank) {
        rank = rank;
    }
    public void setSuit(String suit) {
        suit = suit;
    }
}
```

- Now client code can set the rank and suit of a card by calling setRank and setSuit.
- setX is the Java convention for a setter method for an instance variable named x.

# Dealing Card3

#### Let's try out our new Card3 class.

```
public class Dealer3 {
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        Card3 c = new Card3();
        c.setRank("ace");
        c.setSuit("base");
        System.out.println(c);
    }
}
```

Oops. Prints "null of null". Why?

# **Shadowing Variables**

#### The parameters in the setters "shadowed" the instance variables:

```
public void setRank(String rank) {
    rank = rank;
}

public void setSuit(String suit) {
    suit = suit;
}
```

- rank in setRank refers to the local rank variable, not the instance variable of the same name
- suit in setSuit refers to the local suit variable, not the instance variable of the same name

# Dealing with this: Card, v4

```
public class Card4 {
    private String rank;
    private String suit;

    public void setRank(String rank) {
        this.rank = rank;
    }

    public void setSuit(String suit) {
        this.suit = suit;
    }
}
```

- Every instance of a class has a this reference which refers to the instance on which a method is being called.
- this.rank refers to the rank instance variable for the Card4 instance on which setRank is being called.
- this.rank is different from the local rank variable that is a parameter to the setRank method.

CS 1331 (Georgia Tech) Classes 12 / 37

# Dealing Card4

```
public class Dealer4 {

   public static void main(String[] args) {
        Card4 c = new Card4();
        c.setRank("ace");
        c.setSuit("base");
        System.out.println(c);
   }
}
```

Now we have encapsulation, but we can still create invalid Card4s, e.g., "base" is not a valid suit. How to fix?

### Class Invariants

Class invariant: a condition that must hold for all instances of a class in order for instances of the class to be considered valid.

#### Invariants for Card class:

- rank must be one of {"2", "3", "4", "5", "6", "7", "8", "9", "10", "jack", "queen", "king", "ace"}
- suit must be one of {"diamonds", "clubs",
   "hearts", "spades"}

# Maintaining Class Invariants via Input Validation

#### rank invariant can be maintained by adding:

```
private final String[] VALID RANKS =
    {"2", "3", "4", "5", "6", "7", "8", "9",
     "10", "jack", "queen", "king", "ace"};
public void setRank(String rank) {
    if (!isValidRank(rank)) {
        System.out.println(rank + " is not a valid rank.");
        System.exit(0):
    this.rank = rank:
private boolean isValidRank(String someRank) {
    return contains (VALID_RANKS, someRank);
private boolean contains(String[] array, String item) {
    for (String element: array) {
        if (element.equals(item)) {
            return true:
    return false;
```

public class Card5 {

# Class Invariants Ensure Consistent Objects

### Now we can't write code that instantiates an invalid Card5 object:

```
public class Dealer5 {
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        Card5 c = new Card5();
        c.setRank("ace");
        c.setSuit("base");
        System.out.println(c);
    }
}
```

### yields:

```
$ java Dealer5
base is not a valid suit.
```

# Classes and Objects

Card5 now ensures that we don't create card objects with invalid ranks or suits. But consider this slight modification to Dealer5:

```
public class Dealer5 {

   public static void main(String[] args) {
        Card5 c = new Card5();
        System.out.println(c);
        c.setRank("ace");
        c.setSuit("base");
        System.out.println(c);
   }
}
```

What if we printed our Card5 instance, c, before we called the setters?

# Object Initialization

There are two ways to initialize the instance variables of an object:

■ Declaration point initialization:

```
public class Card {
  private String rank = "2";
  // ...
}
```

#### Constructors

```
public class Card {
  public Card() {
    rank = "2";
  }
  // ...
}
```

A constructor is what's being called when you invoke operator new.

4 D > 4 P > 4 B > 4 B > B 9 Q C

# **Initializing Objects**

Since we didn't write our own constructor, Java provided a default no-arg constructor that simply sets instance variables (that don't have their own declaration-point intializations) to their default values. That's why Card5 objects are null of null after they're instantiated. We have to call the setters on a Card5 instance before we have a valid object.

In general, it's poor style to require multi-step initialization.

- After new Card5() is called, instance variables have useless defaults.
- Client programmer must remember to call setter methods.
- Often there can be order dependencies that we don't want to burden client programmers with.

The way to fix this is by writing our own constructor.

CS 1331 (Georgia Tech) Classes 19/37

### A Card Constructor

If we write a constructor, Java won't provide a default no-arg constructor. (We may choose to provide one.)

```
public class Card6 {
    // ...
    public Card6(String rank, String suit) {
        setRank(rank);
        setSuit(suit);
    }
    // ...
}
```

Now we have a safer, more consistent way to initialize objects:

```
public class Dealer6 {
   public static void main(String[] args) {
        Card6 c = new Card6("queen", "hearts");
        System.out.println(c);
   }
}
```

### Intermission



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:AceofBaseTheSignAlbumcover.jpg

CS 1331 (Georgia Tech) Classes 21/3

# **Progress Check**

Let's review our progress with our Card class design:

- We have a nice string representation of Card objects (Card1).
- We have encapsulated the rank and suit in private instance variables (Card2) with mutator methods (Card4) to set their values.
- We validate the rank and suit in the mutator methods so we can't set invalid ranks and suits in Card objects (Card5).
- Card6 has a constructor, which ensures that instance variables are initialized when an instance of Card6 is created.

CS 1331 (Georgia Tech)

### Static Members

Do we need a separate instance of VALID\_RANKS and VALID\_SUITS for each instance of our Card class?

static members are shared with all instances of a class:

#### Given the declarations above:

- Each instance shares a single copy of VALID\_RANKS and a single copy of VALID\_SUITS
- Since they're final, we can safely make them public so clients of our Card class can use them

4 D > 4 P > 4 B > 4 B > B 990

### One Final Enhancement

Card6 is pretty good, but we can write code like this:

```
public class Dealer6 {
   public static void main(String[] args) {
        Card6 c = new Card6("queen", "hearts");
        System.out.println(c);
        c.setRank("jack"); // modifying c
        System.out.println(c);
   }
}
```

Does this make sense? Should Card objects be mutable?

# Immutable Objects

Card objects don't change. We can model this behavior by removing the setters and putting the initialization code in the constructor (or making the setters private and calling them from the constructor):

```
public Card(String aRank, String aSuit) { // constructor
   if (!isValidRank(rank)) {
      System.out.println(aRank + " is not a valid rank.");
      System.exit(0);
   }
   rank = aRank;
   if (!isValidSuit(aSuit)) {
      System.out.println(aSuit + " is not a valid suit.");
      System.exit(0);
   }
   suit = aSuit;
}
```

Note the use of another idiom for disambiguating constructor paramters from instance variables (as opposed to using this).

CS 1331 (Georgia Tech) Classes 25 / 37

# Designing Immutable Classes

An immutable class is a class whose instances cannot be modified. To make a class immutable:

- Don't provide mutator methods ("setters")
- Make the class final so it can't be extended (there's another way to accomplish this, but making the class final is good enough for now)
- Make all fields final
- Make all fields private
- For fields of mutable class types, return defensive copies in accessor methods (we'll discuss this later)

CS 1331 (Georgia Tech)

### **Prefer Immutable Classes**

In general, make your classes immutable unless you have a good reason to make them mutable. Why? Because immutable objects

- are simpler to design becuase you don't have to worry about enforcing class invariants in multiple places,
- are easier to reason about because the state of an object never changes after instantiation,
- are inherently thread-safe becuase access to mutable data need not be syncronized, and
- enable safe instance sharing, so redundant copies need not be created.

### A Few Final Bits of Polish

Take a look at the final evolution of our Card class, <u>Card.java</u>. It contains a few more enhancements:

- Instead of simply terminating the program, the constructor throws IllegalArgumentException on invalid input so that client code can choose to deal with the exception at run-time.
- Input is normalized to lower case and spaces trimmed to make the Card object robust to oddly formatted input.
- It has an equals() method.

# Equality

- == means identity equality (aliasing) for reference types (objects).
- The equals (Object) tests value equality for objects.

Given our finished <u>Card.java</u> class with a properly implemented equals (Object) <u>method</u>, this code:

```
Card c1 = new Card("ace", "spades");
Card c2 = new Card("ace", "spades");
Card c3 = c1;
System.out.println("c1 == c2 returns " + (c1 == c2));
System.out.println("c1.equals(c2) returns " + c1.equals(c2));
System.out.println("c1 == c3 returns " + (c1 == c3));
System.out.println("c1.equals(c3) returns " + c1.equals(c3));
```

#### produces this output:

```
c1 == c2 returns false
c1.equals(c2) returns true
c1 == c3 returns true
c1.equals(c3) returns true
```

By the way, what if we left off the parentheses around c1 == c2 in

```
System.out.println("c1 == c2 returns " + (01 == c2)) ? o
```

CS 1331 (Georgia Tech) Classes 29 / 37

### **Review Question 1**

```
public class Kitten {
    private String name;

    public Kitten(String name) {
        name = name;
    }
    public String toString() {
        return "Kitten: " + name;
    }
}
```

#### Assume the following statements have been executed:

```
Kitten maggie = new Kitten("Maggie");
Kitten fiona = new Kitten("Fiona");
Kitten fiona2 = new Kitten("Fiona");
```

### What is the value of maggie?

**2** 

### **Review Question 1 Answer**

```
public class Kitten {
    private String name;

    public Kitten(String name) {
        name = name;
    }
    public String toString() {
        return "Kitten: " + name;
    }
}
```

#### Assume the following statements have been executed:

```
Kitten maggie = new Kitten("Maggie");
Kitten fiona = new Kitten("Fiona");
Kitten fiona2 = new Kitten("Fiona");
```

#### What is the value of maggie?

■ the address of a Kitten object

### **Review Question 2**

```
public class Kitten {
    private String name;

    public Kitten(String name) {
        name = name;
    }
    public String toString() {
        return "Kitten: " + name;
    }
}
```

#### Assume the following statements have been executed:

```
Kitten maggie = new Kitten("Maggie");
Kitten fiona = new Kitten("Fiona");
Kitten fiona2 = new Kitten("Fiona");
```

### What does maggie.toString() return?

**?** 

### **Review Question 2 Answer**

```
public class Kitten {
    private String name;

    public Kitten(String name) {
        name = name;
    }
    public String toString() {
        return "Kitten: " + name;
    }
}
```

#### Assume the following statements have been executed:

```
Kitten maggie = new Kitten("Maggie");
Kitten fiona = new Kitten("Fiona");
Kitten fiona2 = new Kitten("Fiona");
```

### What does maggie.toString() return?

■ "Kitten: null"

### **Review Question 3**

```
public class Kitten {
    private String name;

    public Kitten(String name) {
        name = name;
    }
    public String toString() {
        return "Kitten: " + name;
    }
}
```

### Assume the following statements have been executed:

```
Kitten maggie = new Kitten("Maggie");
Kitten fiona = new Kitten("Fiona");
Kitten fiona2 = new Kitten("Fiona");
```

#### What is the value of the expression fiona == fiona2?

**?** 



### **Review Question 3 Answer**

```
public class Kitten {
    private String name;

public Kitten(String name) {
    name = name;
    }
    public String toString() {
        return "Kitten: " + name;
    }
}
```

### Assume the following statements have been executed:

```
Kitten maggie = new Kitten("Maggie");
Kitten fiona = new Kitten("Fiona");
Kitten fiona2 = new Kitten("Fiona");
```

### What is the value of the expression fiona == fiona2?

■ false

ロト 4回 ト 4 恵 ト (恵) から(で)

### **Review Question 4**

```
public class Kitten {
    private String name;

    public Kitten(String name) {
        name = name;
    }
    public String toString() {
        return "Kitten: " + name;
    }
}
```

### Assume the following statements have been executed:

```
Kitten maggie = new Kitten("Maggie");
Kitten[] kittens = new Kitten[5];
```

### What is the value of kittens[0]?

**?** 

### **Review Question 4 Answer**

```
public class Kitten {
    private String name;

    public Kitten(String name) {
        name = name;
    }
    public String toString() {
        return "Kitten: " + name;
    }
}
```

### Assume the following statements have been executed:

```
Kitten maggie = new Kitten("Maggie");
Kitten[] kittens = new Kitten[5];
```

#### What is the value of kittens[0]?

■ null