

Polymorphism - Overloading

Brandon Krakowsky



Polymorphism



Signatures

In any programming language, a **signature** is what distinguishes one function or method from another



Signatures

In any programming language, a **signature** is what distinguishes one function or method from another

- In C, every function has to have a different name



Signatures

In any programming language, a **signature** is what distinguishes one function or method from another

- In C, every function has to have a different name
- In Java, two methods have to differ in their *names* or in the *number* or *types* or *sequence* of their parameters



Signatures

In any programming language, a **signature** is what distinguishes one function or method from another

- In C, every function has to have a different name
- In Java, two methods have to differ in their *names* or in the *number* or *types* or *sequence* of their parameters
- For example:
 - `foo(int i)` and `foo(int i, int j)` are considered different
 - `foo(int i)` and `foo(int k)` are considered the same
 - `foo(int i, double d)` and `foo(double d, int i)` are considered different



Signatures

In any programming language, a **signature** is what distinguishes one function or method from another

- In C, every function has to have a different name
- In Java, two methods have to differ in their *names* or in the *number* or *types* or *sequence* of their parameters
- For example:
 - `foo(int i)` and `foo(int i, int j)` are considered different
 - `foo(int i)` and `foo(int k)` are considered the same
 - `foo(int i, double d)` and `foo(double d, int i)` are considered different
- In Java, a method signature does not include the return type



Polymorphism

Polymorphism means *many* (poly) *shapes* (morph)



Polymorphism

Polymorphism means *many* (poly) *shapes* (morph)

- In Java, polymorphism often refers to the fact that you can have multiple methods with the same *name* in the same *class*



Polymorphism

Polymorphism means *many* (poly) *shapes* (morph)

- In Java, polymorphism often refers to the fact that you can have multiple methods with the same *name* in the same *class*
- Polymorphism is divided into two types:
 - Overloading
 - Having two or more methods with the same *names* but different *signatures*
 - Overriding
 - Replacing an inherited method with another having the same *signature*



Overloading



Overloading

- Here's a class with 2 *myPrint* methods: they have different parameters

```
public class MyPrintingUtility {  
  
    //prints given int i  
    public void myPrint(int i) {  
        System.out.println("int i = " + i);  
    }  
  
    //prints given double d  
    public void myPrint(double d) { //same name, different parameter  
        System.out.println("double d = " + d);  
    }  
  
    public static void main(String args[]) {  
        MyPrintingUtility printingUtility = new MyPrintingUtility();  
        printingUtility.myPrint(5);  
        printingUtility.myPrint(5.0); //call same method name with different argument type  
    }  
}
```



Why Overload a Method?

- So you can use the same names for methods that do essentially the same thing
- These all take a single argument and print it
 - `System.out.println(int)`
 - `System.out.println(double)`
 - `System.out.println(boolean)`
 - `System.out.println(String)`
 - etc.



Why Overload a Method?

- So you can use the same names for methods that do essentially the same thing
- These all take a single argument and print it
 - `System.out.println(int)`
 - `System.out.println(double)`
 - `System.out.println(boolean)`
 - `System.out.println(String)`
 - etc.
- These all take 2 arguments and compare them
 - `assertEquals(int expected, int actual)`
 - `assertEquals(String expected, String actual)`
 - `assertEquals(Object expected, Object actual)`
 - etc.



Why Overload a Method?

- So you can supply defaults for the parameters:

```
public class MyCountingUtility {  
  
    int count = 0;  
  
    //increments count by given amount  
    //returns count  
    public int increment(int amount) {  
        this.count += amount;  
        return this.count;  
    }  
  
    //increments by 1 and returns count  
    public int increment() {  
        return this.increment(1); //Note, one method can call another of the  
same name  
    }  
}
```



Why Overload a Method?

- So you can supply additional information:

```
public class MyResults {  
  
    double total = 0.0;  
    double average = 0.0;  
  
    //prints total and average  
    public void printResults() {  
        System.out.println("total = " + this.total + ", average = " +  
this.average);  
    }  
  
    //prints given message and prints results  
    public void printResults(String message) {  
        System.out.println(message + ": ");  
        this.printResults();  
    }  
}
```



DRY (Don't Repeat Yourself) Principle of Software Development

- When you overload a method with another, very similar method, only one of them should do most of the work:

```
public class MyInformation {
    int first;
    int last;
    String[] dictionary;
    //prints first, last, and dictionary info in between
    public void debug() {
        System.out.println("first = " + this.first + ", last = " + this.last);
        for (int i = this.first; i <= this.last; i++) {
            System.out.print(this.dictionary[i] + " ");
        }
        System.out.println();
    }
    //prints given checkpoint s and debugs
    public void debug(String s) {
        System.out.println("At checkpoint " + s + ":");
        this.debug();
    }
}
```



Legal Variable Assignments

- In some cases, you can assign a different type of data to a predefined data type
- Widening (going to a "wider" data type) is legal

```
double d = 5; //legal
```



Legal Variable Assignments

- In some cases, you can assign a different type of data to a predefined data type
- Widening (going to a "wider" data type) is legal
`double d = 5; //legal`
- Narrowing (going to a more "narrow" data type) is illegal
`int i = 3.5; //illegal`

Unless you cast

```
int i = (int)(Math.round(3.5)); //legal
```



Legal Variable Assignments

- In some cases, you can assign a different type of data to a predefined data type

- Widening (going to a "wider" data type) is legal

```
double d = 5; //legal
```

- Narrowing (going to a more "narrow" data type) is illegal

```
int i = 3.5; //illegal
```

Unless you cast

```
int i = (int)(Math.round(3.5)); //legal
```

- Rule: All ints are doubles but all doubles are not ints, so Java gets mad unless you do the cast!



Legal Method Calls

- Method calls have the same rules
- The following call to *myPrint* is legal due to widening

```
public class MyPrintingUtility {  
  
    public void myPrint(double d) {  
        System.out.println(d);  
    }  
  
    public static void main(String args[]) {  
        MyPrintingUtility printingUtility = new MyPrintingUtility();  
        printingUtility.myPrint(5); //widening is legal: will print 5.0  
    }  
}
```



Illegal Method Calls

- Method calls have the same rules
- The following call to *myPrint* is illegal due to narrowing

```
public class MyPrintingUtility {  
  
    public void myPrint(int i) {  
        System.out.println(i);  
    }  
  
    public static void main(String args[]) {  
        MyPrintingUtility printingUtility = new MyPrintingUtility();  
        printingUtility.myPrint(5.0); //narrowing is illegal  
    }  
}
```



Java Uses the Most Specific Method

- If your methods are legally overloaded, Java will figure out which one you want to use

```
public class MyPrintingUtility {  
  
    public static void myPrint(double d) {  
        System.out.println("double: " + d);  
    }  
  
    public static void myPrint(int i) {  
        System.out.println("int: " + i);  
    }  
  
    public static void main(String args[]) {  
        MyPrintingUtility.myPrint(5); //prints "int: 5" using myPrint(int i)  
        MyPrintingUtility.myPrint(5.0); //prints "double: 5.0" using  
myPrint(double d)  
    }  
}
```



Multiple Constructors I

- You can overload constructors as well as methods

```
public class Counter {  
  
    int count;  
  
    //creates counter and starts count at 0  
    public Counter() {  
        this.count = 0;  
    }  
  
    //creates counter and starts count at given start  
    public Counter(int start) {  
        this.count = start;  
    }  
}
```



Multiple Constructors II

- One constructor can call another constructor in the same class, but there are rules
 - You call the other constructor with the keyword **this**
 - The call must be the *very first thing* the constructor does

```
public class Point {  
  
    int x;  
    int y;  
    int sum;  
  
    //creates a point at given x and y  
    public Point(int x, int y) {  
        this.x = x;  
        this.y = y;  
        this.sum = x + y;  
    }  
  
    //creates a point at 0, 0  
    public Point() {  
        this(0, 0);  
    }  
}
```



Summary

- Rule: You should *overload* a method when you want to do essentially the same thing, but with different parameters



Dog Project



Dog Class

```
Dog.java
1 package poly;
2
3 /**
4  * Represents a Dog.
5  * @author lbrandon
6  *
7  */
8 public class Dog {
9
10     //static variables
11
12     /**
13      * Default name for a dog.
14      */
15     static String DEFAULT_NAME = "Generic dog";
16
17     /**
18      * Default age for a dog.
19      */
20     static double DEFAULT_AGE = .5;
21
22     /**
23      * Default weight for a dog.
24      */
25     static double DEFAULT_WEIGHT = 1.75;
26
27     /**
28      * Default food for dog.
29      */
30     static String DEFAULT_FOOD = "Generic dog food";
31
32     /**
33      * Default dog bark sound.
34      */
35     static String DEFAULT_BARK = "Bark!";
36
37     /**
38      * Default number of times for dog to bark.
39      */
40     static int DEFAULT_NUM_TIMES_BARK = 1;
41
42     /**
43      * Constant weight gain value.
44      */
45     static final double WEIGHT_GAIN_INCREASE = 0.01;
46 }
```



Dog Class

```
40
47      //instance variables
48
49-    /**
50      * Name of dog.
51      */
52      String name;
53
54-    /**
55      * Age of dog.
56      */
57      double age;
58
59-    /**
60      * Owner of dog.
61      */
62      String owner;
63
64-    /**
65      * Weight of dog.
66      */
67      double weight;
68
```



Dog Class

```
68
69 //constructors
70
71 /**
72  * Creates a Dog with given name, age, owner, and weight.
73  * @param name of dog
74  * @param age of dog
75  * @param owner for dog
76  * @param weight for dog
77  */
78 public Dog(String name, double age, String owner, double weight) {
79     this.name = name;
80     this.age = age;
81     this.owner = owner;
82     this.weight = weight;
83 }
84
85 /**
86  * Creates a Dog with given name and age.
87  * @param name of dog
88  * @param age of dog
89  */
90 public Dog(String name, double age) {
91     //call first constructor with 2 given values
92     //and 2 default values
93     this(name, age, null, Dog.DEFAULT_WEIGHT);
94 }
95
96 /**
97  * Creates a dog that barks immediately.
98  */
99 public Dog() {
100     //call second constructor with 2 default values
101     this(Dog.DEFAULT_NAME, Dog.DEFAULT_AGE);
102
103     //dog barks after creation
104     this.bark();
105 }
106
```



Dog Class

```
106
107- /**
108     * Dog eats given amount of given food.
109     * @param amount to eat
110     * @param food to eat
111     * @return new weight
112     */
113- public double eat(double amount, String food) {
114     System.out.println(this.name + " is eating " + amount + " of " + food);
115
116     double weightGained = Dog.WEIGHT_GAIN_INCREASE * amount;
117
118     this.weight += weightGained;
119
120     return this.weight;
121 }
122
123- /**
124     * Dog eats given amount of generic dog food.
125     * @param amount to eat
126     * @return new weight
127     */
128- public double eat(double amount) {
129     //calls first eat method with given amount
130     //and default dog food
131     return this.eat(amount, Dog.DEFAULT_FOOD);
132 }
133
```



Dog Class

```
133
134- /**
135     * Dog eats given amount.
136     * Parses given amount as a double.
137     * @param amount to eat
138     * @return new weight
139     */
140- public double eat(String amount) {
141
142     double returnVal = 0.0;
143
144     //try some code in try block
145     try {
146         //cast given amount to double with static parseDouble method
147         double amountAsDouble = Double.parseDouble(amount);
148
149         //calls second eat method with given amount
150         //and gets return value
151         returnVal = this.eat(amountAsDouble);
152
153         //code may fail, in which case we end up in catch block
154     } catch (NumberFormatException e) {
155         //print friendly message
156         System.out.println(amount + ": can't be casted to double");
157     }
158
159     return returnVal;
160 }
161
```



Dog Class

```
162- /**
163  * Dog makes given bark sound given number of times.
164  * @param numTimes to make sound
165  * @param barkSound to make
166  */
167- public void bark(int numTimes, String barkSound) {
168  //prints dog's name
169  System.out.println(this.name + " says:");
170
171  //iterate using numTimes to print barkSound
172  for (int i = 0; i < numTimes; i++) {
173  System.out.println(barkSound);
174  }
175
176  System.out.println();
177  }
178
179- /**
180  * Dog makes given bark sound given number of times.
181  * @param barkSound to make
182  * @param numTimes to make sound
183  */
184- public void bark(String barkSound, int numTimes) {
185  //calls first bark method with given bark sound
186  //and number times
187  this.bark(numTimes, barkSound);
188  }
189
190- /**
191  * Dog makes generic bark sound once.
192  */
193- public void bark() {
194  //calls first bark method with default values
195  this.bark(Dog.DEFAULT_NUM_TIMES_BARK, Dog.DEFAULT_BARK);
196  }
197
```



Dog Class

```
197
198- /**
199     * Returns dog's weight.
200     * @return weight
201     */
202- public double getWeight() {
203     return this.weight;
204 }
205
206- /**
207     * Set new name for dog.
208     * @param name of dog
209     */
210- public void setName(String name) {
211     this.name = name;
212 }
213
214- /**
215     * Sets dog's owner.
216     * @param owner for dog
217     */
218- public void setOwner(String owner) {
219     this.owner = owner;
220 }
221
```



Dog Class

```
222  /**
223   * Returns String representing this dog.
224   */
225  @Override
226  public String toString() {
227      return this.name + ", " + this.weight + ", " + this.age + ", " + this.owner;
228  }
229
```

Dog Class

```
229
230 public static void main(String[] args) {
231
232     //create dog using first constructor
233     Dog dog1 = new Dog("Princess", 12.7, "Brandon", 9.3);
234
235     //create dog using second constructor
236     Dog dog2 = new Dog("Fido", 5.5);
237
238     //create dog using third constructor
239     Dog dog3 = new Dog();
240
241     //print dogs
242     System.out.println(dog1);
243     System.out.println(dog2);
244     System.out.println(dog3);
245
246     System.out.println("\n");
247
```

Dog Class

```
247
248 //set name for dog3
249 dog3.setName("Samantha");
250
251 //re-print dog3
252 System.out.println(dog3);
253
254 System.out.println("\n");
255
```



Dog Class

```
255
256     //calls first eat method
257     //prints new weight
258     System.out.println(dog1.eat(2.1, "Beneful"));
259     System.out.println("\n");
260
261     //calls second eat method
262     System.out.println(dog2.eat(1.1));
263     System.out.println("\n");
264
265     //calls second eat method with int (widening)
266     System.out.println(dog3.eat(1));
267     System.out.println("\n");
268
269     //calls third eat method with string which can be parsed as a double
270     System.out.println(dog3.eat("12.1"));
271     System.out.println("\n");
272
273     //calls third eat method with string which cannot be parsed as a double
274     //should print friendly error
275     dog3.eat("twelve");
276
277     //print weight for dog3 -- it should be the same
278     System.out.println(dog3.getWeight());
279     System.out.println("\n");
280
```



Dog Class

```
281 //calls first bark method
282 dog1.bark(2, "Woof!");
283
284 //calls second bark method
285 dog3.bark("Help me!", 1);
286
287 //calls third default bark method
288 dog2.bark();
289 }
```

