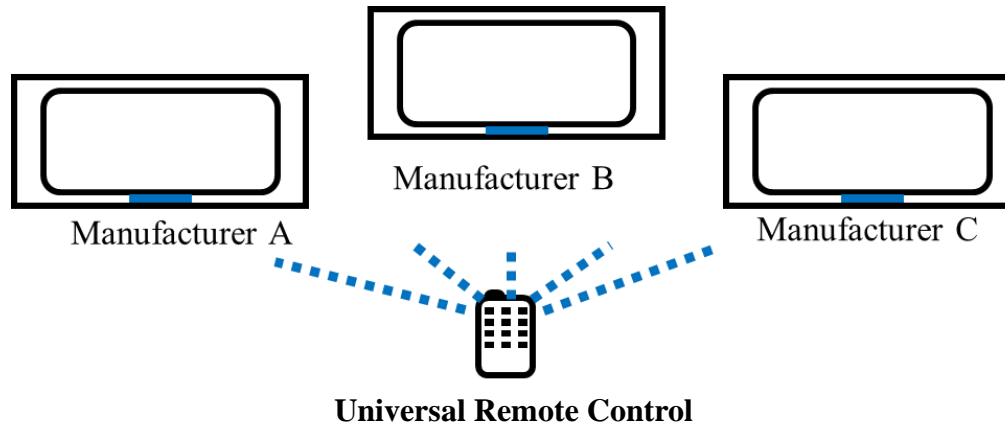




Polymorphism



Dr. Abdelkarim Erradi

CSE@QU

Outline

- Polymorphism
- Abstract classes
- Interfaces

Polymorphism

Polymorphism

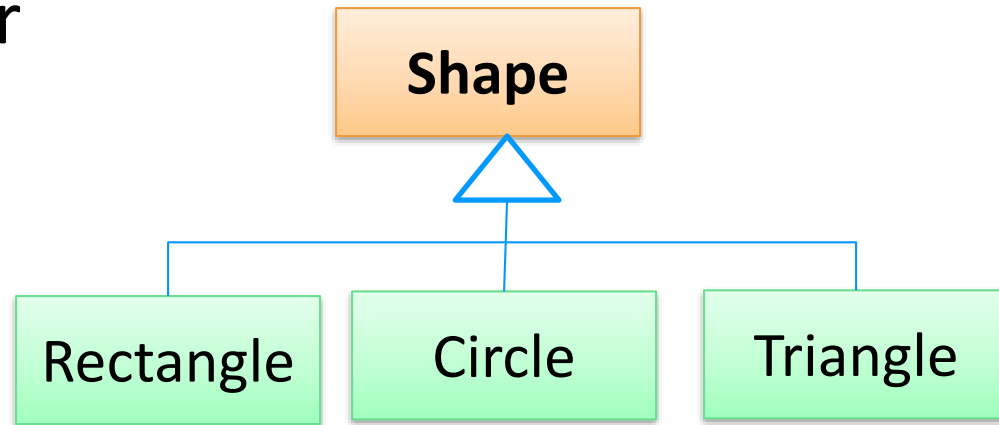
- Poly = many, morph = forms
- A way of coding generically
 - Ability to use a superclass type as ***array type, a method parameter or a method return type.***
 - Ability to use variables of the superclass type to call methods on objects of subclass type
 - At execution time, **the correct subclass version of the method is called** based on the type of the referenced object.
 - The method call sent to subclasses **has “many forms” of results =>** hence the term **polymorphism**
- Polymorphism relies on **dynamic binding** (or late binding) to determine at runtime the exact implementation to call based the receiving object
 - **Dynamic binding** = figuring out which method to call **at runtime**

1) Using Polymorphism for Array Type

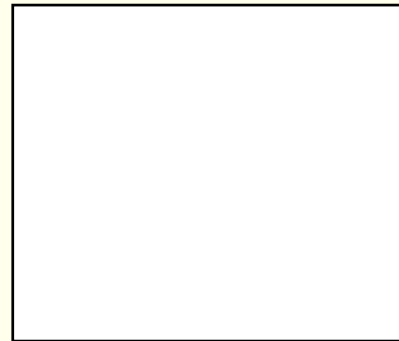
We can declare an array or ArrayList of type

Shape[] shapes

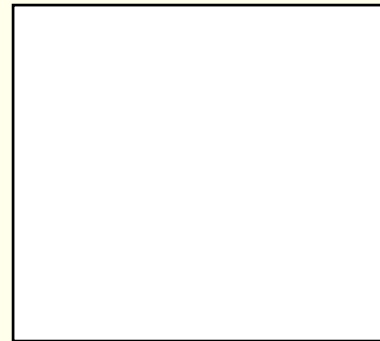
then put in it *rectangles*, *circles*, or *triangles*



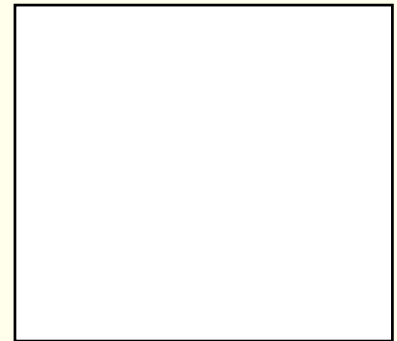
Shape[] shapes



[0]



[1]

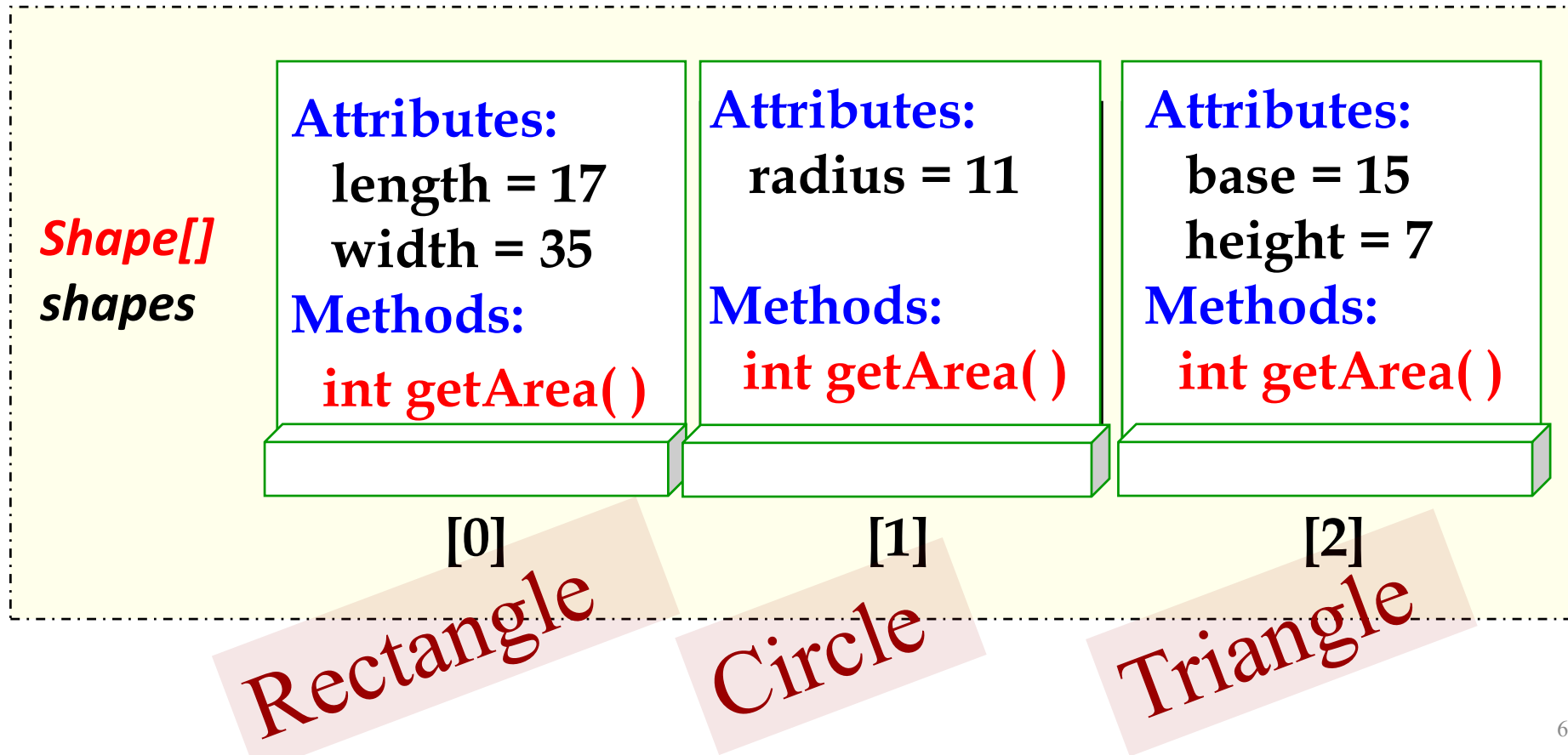


[2]

- Declaring the array **using the supertype** keeps things generic: can reference a lot of objects using one generic type

1) Using Polymorphism for Array Type

- To use polymorphism we use the **superclass** **Shape** as the data type of the array so that we can store in it *rectangles*, *circles*, or *triangles*.



2) Using Polymorphism for Method Parameters

- We can create a method that has **Shape** as **parameter type**, then use it for objects of type **Rectangle**, **Circle**, and **Triangle**
- Polymorphism allows writing **generic code** that can handle multiple types of objects, in a unified way

```
public static double getPaintCost (Shape shape) {  
    int PRICE = 5;  
    return PRICE * shape.getArea();  
}
```

The actual definition of **getArea()** is known only at runtime, not compile time – this is “**dynamic binding**”

This is polymorphism! **shape** object passed in could be instance of **Circle**, **Rectangle**, or any class that **extends** Shape

Dynamic Method Binding

- Dynamic Method Binding
 - Actual method implementation used is not determined until runtime (e.g., the compiler does not know which `getArea()` method to use until the program runs)
 - Contrast with **static binding**, in which method gets resolved at compile time
 - For dynamic binding method **calls** using the superclass reference **get** **routed at runtime to the appropriate implementation** based on the type of the referenced object.
- Example
 - **Triangle**, **Circle**, and **Square** all subclasses of **Shape**. Each has an overridden **getArea()** method
 - When calling **getArea()** using the superclass reference, the program determines at runtime to appropriate implementation of **getArea()** method based on the type of the referenced object

3) Using Polymorphism for Method Return Type

- We can write general code, leaving the type of object to be decided at runtime

```
public Shape createShape(ShapeTypeEnum shapeType)
{
    switch (shapeType) {
        case ShapeTypeEnum.Rectangle:
            return new Rectangle(17, 35);
        case ShapeTypeEnum.Circle:
            return new Circle(11);
        case ShapeTypeEnum.Triangle :
            return new Triangle(15, 7);
    }
}
```

Polymorphism Example 2



Note that all animals have **Talk** method but the **implementation is different**:

- Cat says
Meowww!
- Dog says:
Arf! Arf!
- Bulldog : **Aaaarf!**
Aaaarf!

Polymorphism Example 2 (cont.)

- Example:
 - `Animal` array containing references to objects of the various `Animal` subclasses (Cat, Dog, etc.)
 - We can loop through the array of animals and call the method *talk*
 - Each specific type of `Animal` does *talk* in its own unique way.
 - The method call sent to a variety of objects *has* “*many forms*” of results => hence the term **polymorphism**.

Benefits

- Enables “***program in the general***” rather than “***program in the specific***”
 - This can simplify programming by writing general code that can handle multiple types of objects, **in a unified way**
- Makes it possible to **call methods with different implementations using one interface**
- **Easier to extend the program** by adding subclasses without modifying the **general portions** of the program that use the superclass type to call methods on objects of subclass type

e.g., Add a Lion class that extends Animal and provides its own talk method implementation. The generic code that manipulates the List<Animal> can invoke the Lion *talk* method

Universal Remote



instanceof operator

- The **instanceof** operator is used to determine if an object is of a particular class.

```
if (shape1 instanceof Circle)
```

Returns **true** if the object to which **shape1** points "is a" **Circle**

- Every object in Java knows its own class by using the **getClass** method inherited from the **Object** class
 - The **getClass** method returns an object of type **Class**
 - To get the object's class name you can use **shape1.getClass().getName()**

Downcasting

- Attempting to invoke a subclass-only method directly on a superclass reference is a compilation error.
- A technique known as **downcasting** enables a program to invoke subclass-only methods

```
if (member instanceof Instructor)
    System.out.println(
        (Instructor) member).getOffice());
```

```
if (member instanceof Student)
    System.out.println(
        (Student) member).getGpa());
```

Abstract classes

Abstract Classes

- Idea
 - Use an abstract class when you want to define a **template** to guarantee that all **subclasses** in a hierarchy will have certain common methods
 - Abstract classes can contain implemented methods and **abstract methods** that are NOT implemented
- Syntax

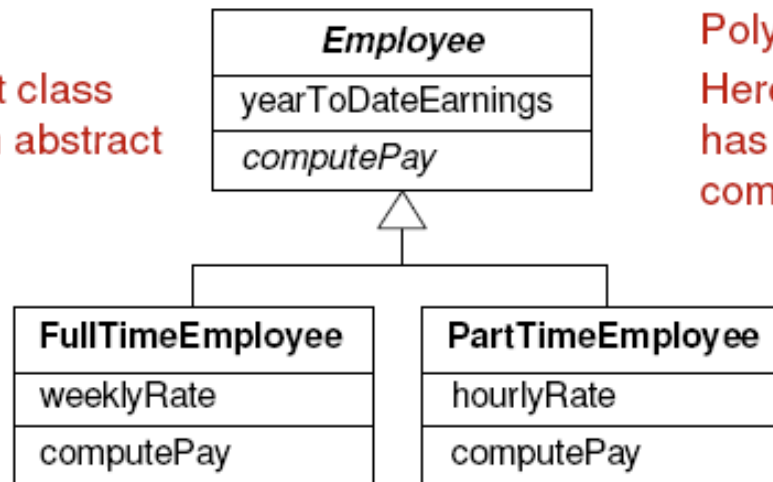
```
public abstract class SomeClass {  
    public abstract SomeType method1(...); // No body  
    public SomeType method2(...) { ... } // Not abstract  
}
```
- Motivation
 - Guarantees that all subclasses will have certain methods => **enforce a common design.**
 - Lets you make collections of mixed type objects that can be processed polymorphically

Abstract Classes

- An abstract class has one or more abstract methods that subclasses **MUST** override
 - Abstract methods do not provide implementations because they **cannot be implemented in a general way**
 - Constructors and `static` methods cannot be declared abstract
- An abstract class cannot be instantiated

Abstraction:

Employee is an abstract class and *computePay()* is an abstract operation (italicized)



Polymorphism:

Here, each type of Employee has its own version of `computePay()`

Abstract Class Example

Shape.java

```
public abstract class Shape {  
  
    public abstract double getArea();  
  
    public String getName() {  
        return "Shape";  
    }  
}
```

Rectangle.java

```
public class Rectangle extends Shape{  
    private double width;  
    private double height;  
  
    public Rectangle(int w, int h) {  
        this.width = w;  
        this.height = h;  
    }  
  
    @Override  
    public double getArea() {  
        double area = width * height;  
        return area;  
    }  
  
    @Override  
    public String getName() {  
        return "Rectangle";  
    }  
}
```

Abstract Class Example

Shape.java

```
public abstract class Shape {  
  
    public abstract double getArea();  
  
    public String getName() {  
        return "Shape";  
    }  
}
```

Circle.java

```
public class Circle extends Shape {  
    private double r;  
  
    public Circle(double r) {  
        this.r = r;  
    }  
  
    @Override  
    public double getArea() {  
        return Math.PI * r * r;  
    }  
  
    @Override  
    public String getName() {  
        return "Circle";  
    }  
}
```

Example illustrating using Abstract Classes + Polymorphism

- You have Circle and Rectangle classes, each with getArea methods
- Goal: Get sum of areas of an array of Circles and Rectangles

=> Declare an array using an abstract class ***Shape***

```
Shape[] shapes = { new Circle(...), new Rectangle(...) ... };  
double areaSum =  
    shapes.stream().mapToDouble(s -> s.getArea()).sum();  
System.out.printf("Sum of area of all shapes %.2f ", areaSum);
```

Class Modifiers

- **Public** - publicly accessible
 - without this modifier, a class is only accessible within its own package
- **abstract** – cannot be instantiated
 - its abstract methods must be implemented by its subclass; otherwise that subclass must be declared abstract also
- **final** class cannot be extended (e.g., String class)
- **final** method in a superclass cannot be overridden in a subclass

Interfaces

Interfaces

- Idea
 - **Interfaces** are used to define a set of common methods that must be implemented by **classes not related by inheritance**
 - The interface specifies **what** operations a class must perform but does not specify **how** they are performed

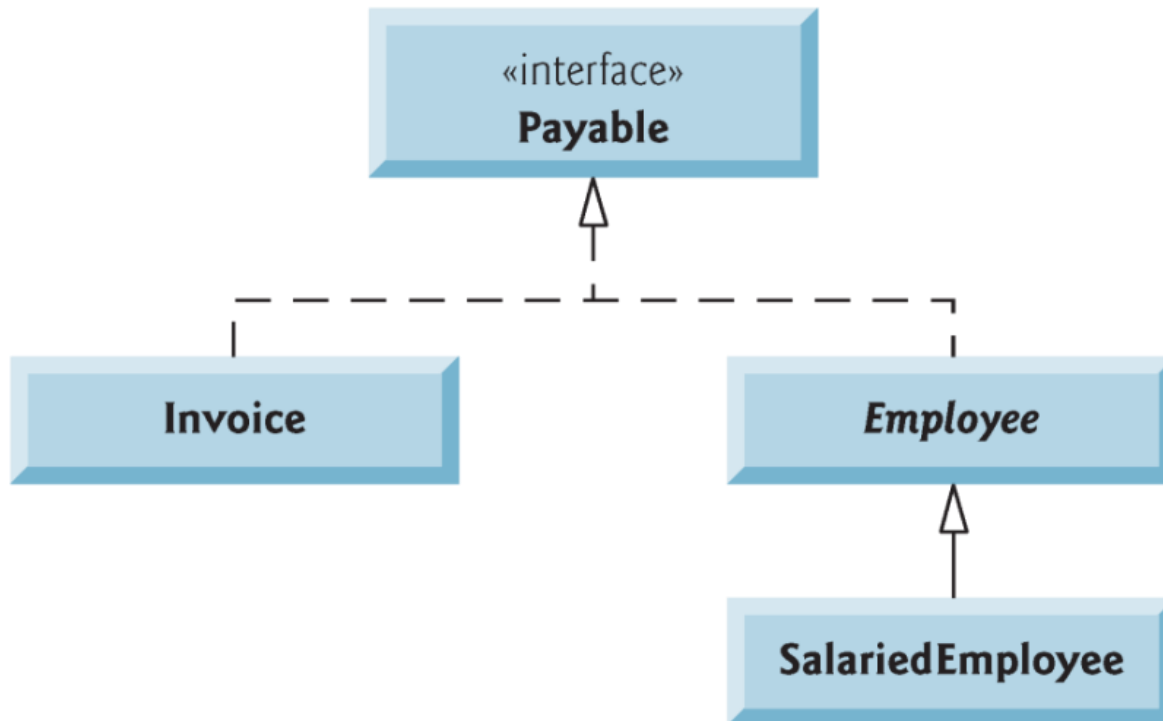
- Syntax

```
public interface SomeInterface {  
    public SomeType method1(...); // No body  
    public SomeType method2(...); // No body  
}  
  
public class SomeClass implements SomeInterface {  
    // Real definitions of method1 and method 2  
}
```

- Motivation
 - Interfaces enables requiring that **unrelated classes implement a set of common methods**
 - **Benefit from polymorphism:** objects of unrelated classes that implement a certain interface can be **processed polymorphically**

Interface Example

- A finance system has Employees and Invoices
- Employee and Invoice are not related by inheritance
- But to the company, they are both *Payable*



Interface Example

Payable.java

```
public interface Payable {  
    double getPaymentAmount();  
}
```

Employee.java

```
public class Employee implements Payable{  
    ...  
    @Override  
    public double getPaymentAmount() {  
        return this.salary;  
    }  
    ...  
}
```

Invoice.java

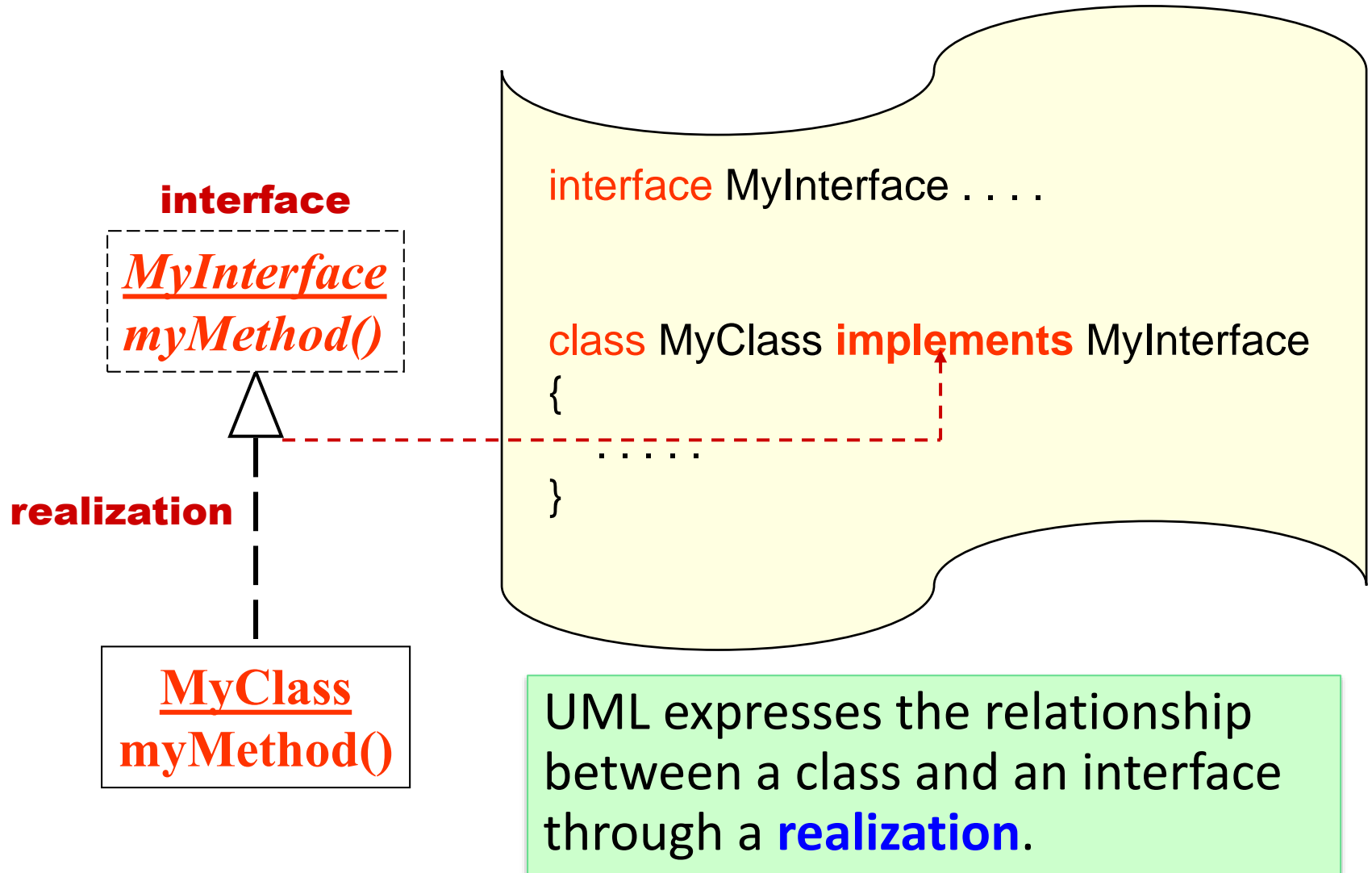
```
public class Invoice implements Payable {  
    ...  
    @Override  
    public double getPaymentAmount() {  
        return this.totalBill;  
    }  
    ...  
}
```

Think of this *Interface!!!* implemented by ALL Living Creators (Animals and Plants) regardless of their inheritance hierarchy!

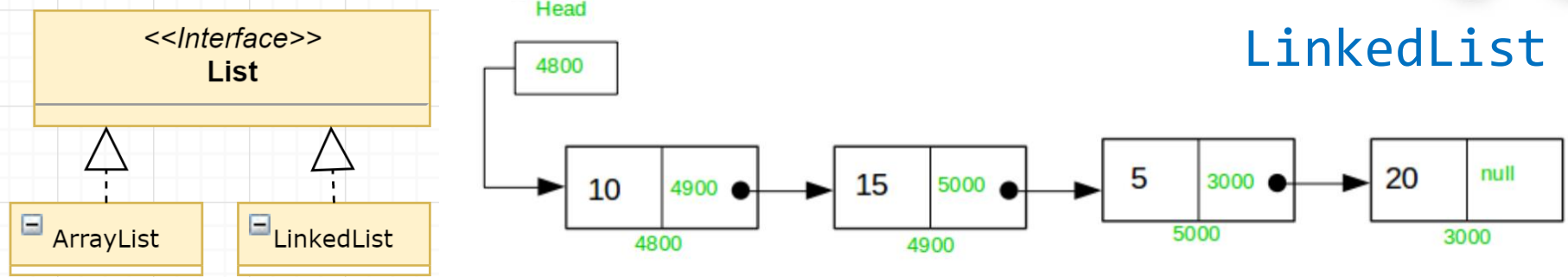
```
public interface LivingCreator {  
    // "وَمَا مِنْ دَابَّةٍ فِي الْأَرْضِ إِلَّا عَلَى اللَّهِ رِزْقُهَا"  
    // القارت (الانسان) العاشب (البقرة) اللحم (القط)  
    void eat();  
  
    //Crawl, swim, run, fly  
    // "وَاللَّهُ خَلَقَ كُلَّ دَابَّةٍ مِنْ مَاءٍ فَمِنْهُمْ مَنْ يَمْشِي عَلَى بَطْنِهِ وَمِنْهُمْ مَنْ يَمْشِي عَلَى رِجْلَيْنِ وَمِنْهُمْ مَنْ يَمْشِي عَلَى أَرْبَعٍ يَخْلُقُ اللَّهُ مَا يَشَاءُ"  
    void move();  
  
    //Increase in size of individual cells or in the number of cells  
    // "هُوَ الَّذِي خَلَقَكُمْ مِنْ تَرَابٍ ثُمَّ مِنْ نُطْقَةٍ ثُمَّ مِنْ عِلْقَةٍ ثُمَّ يُخْرِجُكُمْ طِفْلًا ثُمَّ لِتَبْلُغُوا أَشُدَّكُمْ ثُمَّ لِتَكُونُوا شُيُوخًا"  
    void grow();  
  
    //Reproduce either from egg, pollen, sperm, etc.  
    // "يَا أَيُّهَا النَّاسُ اتَّقُوا رَبَّكُمُ الَّذِي خَلَقَكُمْ مِنْ نَفْسٍ وَاحِدَةٍ وَخَلَقَ مِنْهَا زَوْجَهَا وَبَثَّ مِنْهُمَا رِجَالًا كَثِيرًا وَنِسَاءً"  
    void reproduce();  
  
    // "كُلُّ نَفْسٍ ذَائِقَةُ الْمَوْتِ"  
    //Animals and Plants die in different ways  
    void die();  
}
```

Interfaces

UML Notation Typical Java Implementation



Java Example - List Interface



- **List** = A collection that stores its elements in a sequence, and allows access to each element by its position in the sequence.
- **List** is an interface that can be assigned either an `ArrayList` or a `LinkedList`
- **ArrayList** stores its elements in an array
 - When adding an item to an `ArrayList`, if the underlying array is full then a new `ArrayList` object is created with extra 50% of current array size, and the elements are moved to this new `ArrayList`
- **LinkedList** is best to use when there are lots of insertions and deletions in the middle of the list

Interfaces: Declare **Common** Methods

Spot the Similarities!



Cars

- Play radio
- Turn off/on headlights
- Turn off/on turn signal
- Lock/unlock doors
- ...

Cars and Bikes
have in common

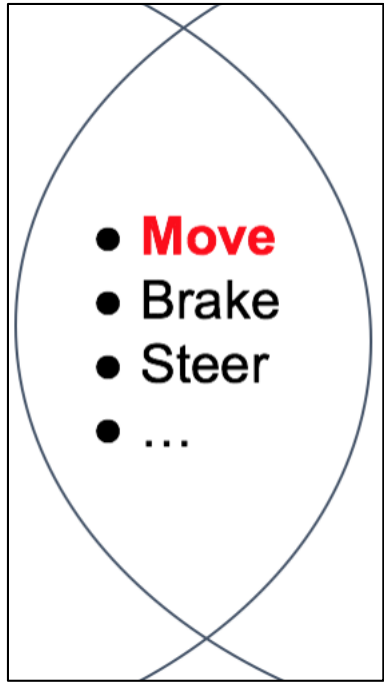
- **Move**
- **Brake**
- **Steer**
- ...

Bikes

- Drop kickstand
- Change gears
- ...



Interface declares common methods



- **Interfaces** declare common methods of different classes: “lowest common denominator”
- E.g., both Car and Bike have **move** method but implemented in different ways:
 - cars drive
 - bikes pedal
- Interfaces are contracts that classes agree to **implement** (i.e., define all methods declared the in interface)

Declaring an Interface

```
public interface Transporter {  
    public void move();  
}
```

- Interfaces declare methods - not define them
 - Interfaces are only contracts, not classes that can be instantiated
 - **ensure consistency** and guarantee that classes has certain methods
- All classes that sign contract (implement this interface) **must define actual implementation** of declared interface methods

Creating Interfaces

- An **interface declaration** begins with the keyword **interface** and contains only **constants** and **abstract methods**
 - All interface members must be public
 - All methods declared in an interface are **implicitly public abstract methods**
 - All attributes are implicitly public, static and final
- A class **implementing** the interface must declare each method in the interface with specified signature

Implementing an Interface

```
public class Car implements
Transporter {

    public Car() {
        // constructor
    }

    public void drive() {
        //code for driving car
    }

    @Override
    public void move() {
        this.drive();
    }

}
```

- **Car** implements **Transporter** interface
 - declare that **Car** “acts-as” **Transporter**
- Promises compiler that **Car** will define all methods in **Transporter** interface i.e., **move()**
- Method ***signature*** (name and number/type of parameters) **must match how it’s declared in interface**
- Otherwise...

“Error: **Car** does not override method **move()** in **Transporter**”

Implementing an Interface

```
public class Car implements Transporter {  
  
    public Car() {  
        //code elided  
    }  
  
    public void drive() {  
        //code elided  
    }  
  
    @Override  
    public void move() {  
        this.drive();  
    }  
  
    //more methods ...  
}
```

```
public class Bike implements Transporter {  
  
    public Bike() {  
        //code elided  
    }  
  
    public void pedal() {  
        //code elided  
    }  
  
    @Override  
    public void move() {  
        this.pedal();  
    }  
  
    //more methods ...  
}
```

@Override is an annotation – a signal to the compiler to enforce that the interface actually has the method declared

Implementing Multiple Interfaces

- Classes can implement **multiple** interfaces
 - “I signed my rent agreement, so I'm a renter, but I also signed my employment contract, so I'm an employee. I'm the same person.”
 - The Car can implement both the Transporter and the Colorable interface
- Class implementing interfaces must define **every single method** from each interface

```
public interface Colorable {  
    public void setColor(Color c);  
    public Color getColor();  
}  
  
public class Car implements Transporter, Colorable {  
    public Car(){ //body ... }  
  
    public void drive(){ //body ... }  
    public void move(){ //body ... }  
    public void setColor(Color c){ //body ... }  
    public Color getColor(){ //body ... }  
}
```

Polymorphism Using interfaces

- A way of coding **generically**
 - way of referencing many related objects as one generic type
 - cars and bikes can both `move()` → refer to them as **Transporter** objects
 - phones and Teslas can both `getCharged()` → refer to them as *Chargeable* objects, i.e., objects that implement **Chargeable** interface
 - Employees and invoices can both `getPaymentAccount()` → refer to them as *Payable* objects

```
for ( Payable payable : payables ) {  
    payable.getPaymentAmount();  
}
```

default Interface Methods

- Interfaces also may contain **public default methods** with concrete default implementations used when an implementing class does not override the methods.
- To declare a default method, place the keyword **default** before the method's return type and provide a concrete method implementation.
- Any class that implements the original interface will not break when a default method is added.
 - The class simply receives the new default method.
- Interfaces can also have static methods.

Abstract Class vs. Interface

- Abstract classes and interfaces cannot be instantiated
- Abstract classes and interfaces may have abstract methods that must be implemented by the subclasses
- Classes that implement an interface **can be from different inheritance hierarchies**
 - An interface is often used when unrelated classes need to provide **common methods** or use common constants
 - When a class implements an interface, it establishes an **IS-A** relationship with the interface type. Therefore, interface references can be used to invoke polymorphic methods just as an abstract superclass reference can.
- Concrete subclasses that extend an abstract superclass are **all related to one other by inheriting from a shared superclass**
- Interfaces cannot define instance attributes and constructors
 - Interfaces can have abstract methods, methods with a default implementation, static methods and static constants.
- Classes can extend only ONE abstract class but they may implement more than one interface

Summary

- Inheritance = “factor out” the common attributes and methods and place them in a single superclass
 - => Removing code redundancy will result in a smaller, more flexible program that is easier to maintain.
- Interfaces are contracts, can’t be instantiated
 - force classes that implement them to define specified methods
- Polymorphism allows for generic code by using superclass/interface type variables to manipulate objects of subclass type
 - make the client code more **generic** and ease extensibility