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Introduction to Java (cs2514)

Lecture 7: Inheritance

M. R. C. van Dongen

February 6, 2017

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- Revisit class and instance attributes.
- Revisit class and instance methods.
- Study inheritance.
 - With inheritance you can share common code.
 - The common code is written in a common superclass.
 - The common superclass implements common behaviour.
 - Subclasses inherit common behaviour from their superclass.
- We shall carry out two case studies.

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- Java has class and instance methods.
 - For a class method, you put static in the declaration.
- It also has class and instance variables.
 - For a class attribute, you put static in the declaration.
- □ *Instance methods* & *instance variables* are owned by instances.
 - There is one method/variable per instance of the class (one-to-one).
 - To access the method/variable you need the instance.
 - Instance attributes are for representing *object* state.
 - Instance methods are for object behaviour.
- □ Class methods & class variables are owned by the class.
 - There is one method/variable per class (one-to-one).
 - To access the method/variable you need the class.
 - □ Class attributes are for representing *class* state.
 - □ Class methods are for "class" behaviour.
- □ The class-to-instance (attribute/method) relation is one-to-many.

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About this Document

- □ Consider an encapsulated (private) instance attribute, attr.
 - ☐ The attribute is only visible inside the class.
- □ Consider an instance, instance, of the defining class, C.
- Statements can only access/reference/see instance.attrif
 - They are defined inside *C*; and
 - ☐ They have reference to instance.
- ☐ There are two ways statements can reference to instance:

Direct They can access the object reference instance; or Indirect They're in an instance method of C that was called using the object reference instance.

Using the Object Reference

Direct Access

Java

```
public class Example {
    private int attribute;
    public Example( int initialValue ) {
        attribute = initialValue:
    public static void main( ) {
        final Example good = new Example( 42 ):
        final Example bad = new Example( 666 );
        bad.method( good );
        method( good, bad );
    // artifical example only: this should never have been an instance method
    private void method( final Example object ) {
        object.attribute = 666;
    private static void method( final Example first, final Example second ) {
        System.out.println( (first.attribute + second.attribute) );
```

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Java

```
public class Example {
    private int attribute;
    public Example( int initialValue ) {
        attribute = initialValue:
    public static void main( ) {
        final Example example = new Example( 42 );
        example.method(); // direct access: you need the dot notation
    private void method() {
        // indirect access inside the instance method: no need for dot notation
        System.out.println( attribute ); // indirect access
```

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```
Java
```

```
public class Example {
    private int attribute:
    public Example( int initialValue ) {
        attribute = initialValue:
    public static void main( ) {
        final Example example = new Example( 42 );
        example.method( ); // direct access: you need the dot notation
    private void method( ) {
        // in instance method you can always fall back on this
        System.out.println( this.attribute ); // direct explict access
```

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References

- The notation for class methods depends on where "you" are.
- \blacksquare You may always write ' $\langle class \rangle$. $\langle method \rangle$ ($\langle arguments \rangle$).'
- lacksquare In the defining class you may write ' \langle method \rangle (\langle arguments \rangle).'
- lacksquare Same for variables: you may always write ' $\langle class \rangle$. $\langle variable \rangle$.'
- Inside the defining class you may also write '⟨variable⟩.'

Example

Java

```
public class Inside {
   public static int attribute;

   public static void method() {
      int varl = attribute;
      int var2 = Inside.attribute;
      System.out.println( varl + " = " + var2 );
   }
}
```

```
Java
```

```
public class Outside {
   public static void method() {
        // System.out.println( attribute ); // Not allowed.
        System.out.println( Inside.attribute );
   }
}
```

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Example

Java

```
public class Inside {
   public static int attribute;

   public static void method() {
      int varl = attribute;
      int var2 = Inside.attribute;
      System.out.println( varl + " = " + var2 );
   }
}
```

```
Java
```

```
public class Outside {
    public static void method() {
        // System.out.println( attribute ); // Not allowed.
        System.out.println( Inside.attribute );
    }
}
```

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References

- The notation for instance variables and methods is similar.
- You may always use '\reference\range.\range\method\range(\range\arguments\range\).'
- You may use '⟨method⟩(⟨arguments⟩)' in defining class.■ (Provided you're in an instance method.)
- For attributes you may write '⟨reference⟩.⟨variable⟩.'
- \blacksquare But in the defining class you may also write ' $\langle \texttt{attribute} \rangle$.'
 - □ (Provided you're in an instance method.)

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References

- The dotless notation is only allowed inside instance methods.
- Inside instance methods you use 'this' for the "current" object.
- Using '(instance variable)' without dot-notation means
 □ 'this. (instance variable).'
- For instance methods this is the same.
- lacksquare So ' $\langle instance\ method \rangle$ ($\langle arguments \rangle$)' means
 - ☐ 'this.\(instance method\)(\(\langle arguments\)).'

Java

```
public class Inside {
    private int attribute;
    private static void classMethod( int var ) {
        System.out.println( var );
    public void instanceMethodl( ) {
        classMethod( attribute ):
    public void instanceMethod2( ) {
        classMethod( this.attribute );
```

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Java

```
public class Outside {
  public static void main( String args[] ) {
    Inside inside = new Inside();
    inside.instanceMethod1();
    inside.instanceMethod2();
}
```

Java

```
public class Simulation {
   private int attribute;

   public static void classMethod( Simulation current ) {
        System.out.println( current.attribute );
   }

   public void instanceMethod() {
        classMethod( this );
   }
}
```

Java

```
public class Main {
   public static void main( String args[] ) {
        Simulation simulation = new Simulation();
        // The following calls are effectively identical.
        simulation.instanceMethod();
        Simulation.classMethod( simulation );
   }
}
```

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About this Document

- Remember Larry and Brad?
- Brad's final solution had five classes:
 - □ One Shape *superclass* for default, common shape behaviour.
 - A dedicated class for each actual shape.
 - Each dedicated class was a *subclass* of the Shape class.
 - ☐ All, except for Amoeba, inherited all behaviour from Shape.
 - Amoeba overrode behaviour for playSound, and rotate.
 - ☐ This let Amoeba objects do things differently.
- □ Larry thought Brad's final class had lots of duplicated code:
 - □ "Your classes have same code for playSound and rotate."
 - "This makes it impossible to maintain your code."
 - "For each change, you need to edit 4 classes."
 - \blacksquare Editing n class files is n times more work than editing 1 file.
 - Each edit increases the probability of errors: more errors.
- But then Brad explained his design.

Brad's Final Design

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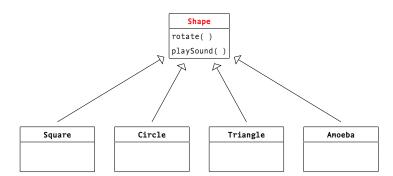
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Square

Circle

Triangle

Amoeba



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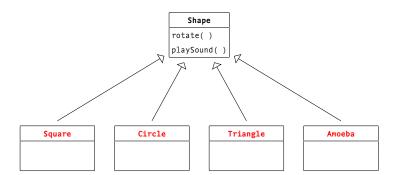
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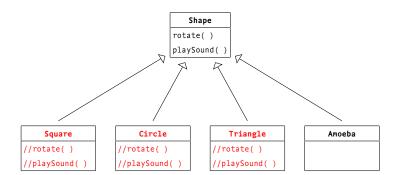
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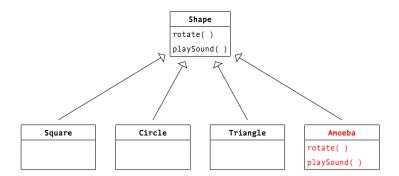
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- About this Document

- There are two main advantages of *inheritance*:
 - Increases ability to reuse implementation effort.
 - Separates class-specific from general code.
- Code is structured in classes so as to maximise reuse.
- □ Common code is put in a common, more abstract class.
- The common, more abstract class is called the superclass.
- The code in the superclass is shared by subclasses.
- The subclasses are more specific:
 - Subclass provides same functionality as its superclass.
 - So if the superclass has a method then so does the subclass.
 - Here, the subclass *inherits* the method from its superclass.
 - However, the subclass functionality may be more specific.
 - E.g., the subclass may implement a method in a different way.
 - Here, the subclass overrides the method of its superclass.
- Subclasses may also have more specific, additional behaviour.
- A subclass is said to extend its superclass.

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☐ Let's suppose we have a Surgeon and a GP class.

Let's also suppose we have a Doctor class.

■ Both Surgeons and GPs are Doctors, they are more specific:

■ A Surgeon is-a Doctor.

■ A GP is-a Doctor.

 $lue{}$ So the Surgeon and GP classes extend the Doctor class.

■ Both have a method called treatPatient().

■ Both have a property worksAtHospital (a boolean).

Any Doctor has it.

■ For a Surgeon it is true.

■ For a GP it is false.

■ Surgeons and GPs differ from Doctors in general:

Surgeon: ☐ Has additional makeIncision() method.

☐ Has *special* implementation for treatPatient.

Overrides default treatPatient() implementation.

GP: ☐ Has additional attribute makesHouseCalls.

■ Has additional method giveAdvice().

- We put the *more general* code in the Doctor class.
- This is the code that any Doctor should have:

```
public class Doctor {
   public boolean worksAtHospital;

public void treatPatient() {
     // Default patient treatment.
   }
}
```

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References

- We put the more general code in the Doctor class.
- This is the code that *any* Doctor should have:

```
public class Doctor {
   public boolean worksAtHospital;

   public void treatPatient() {
        // Default patient treatment.
   }
}
```

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References

- We put the *more general* code in the Doctor class.
- This is the code that any Doctor should have:

```
public class Doctor {
   public boolean worksAtHospital;
   public void treatPatient() {
        // Default patient treatment.
   }
```

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- We put the more general code in the Doctor class.
- This is the code that any Doctor should have:

```
Java
```

```
public class Doctor {
   public boolean worksAtHospital;

   public void treatPatient( ) {
        // Default patient treatment.
   }

   public void chargePatient( ) {
        // Let's face it, they all do.
   }
}
```

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Example Continued

The More Specific Code: The Surgeon Class

Java

```
public class Surgeon extends Doctor {
    public Surgeon() {
        worksAtHospital = true;
    }

    @Override
    public void treatPatient() {
        // Specific patient treatment.
    }

    public void makeIncision() {
        // Additional behaviour.
    }
}
```

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Example Continued

The More Specific Code: The GP Class

```
public class GP extends Doctor {
   public boolean makesHouseCalls;

   public GP( boolean makesHouseCalls ) {
      worksAtHospital = false;
      this.makesHouseCalls = makesHouseCalls;
   }

   public void giveAdvice() {
      // Additional behaviour.
   }
}
```

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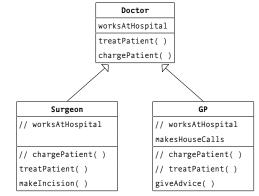
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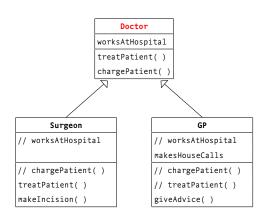
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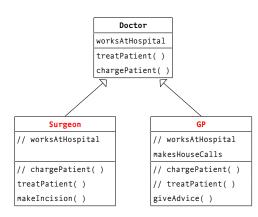
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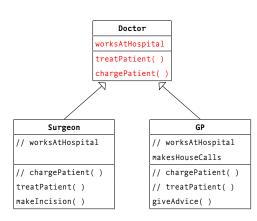
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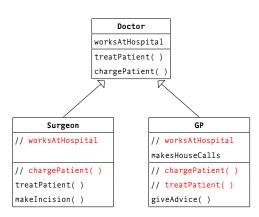
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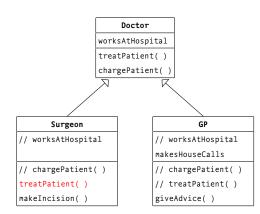
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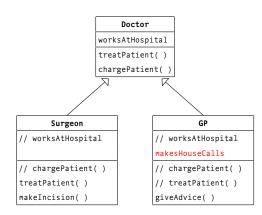
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Specific Attribute



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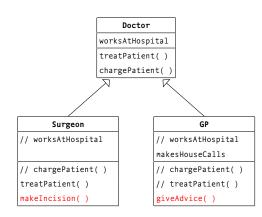
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A Play in Four Acts

Act I: The Challenge.

Act II: Larry Presents his Solution.

Act III: Brad Presents his Solution.

Act IV: Collecting the prize.

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Larry and Brad.



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They want a killer app.



Act I: The Challenge

I want yous to work on it.



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About this Document

■ Fota Wildlife Park has lots of animals:

- A lion;
- □ A cat;□ A wolf;
- A tiger;
- A dog; and
- ☐ They're expecting a hippo.
- Each animal:
 - Has a picture String;
 - Has a certain kind of food: grass or meat;
 - Has an integer hunger level;
 - Eats;
 - Makes noise; and
 - Has a roaming behaviour.

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Oh yeah.



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The winner get's a prize.



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About this Document

Fish and chips at Lennoxes.



Introducing the Contestants: Meet Larry



- □ Larry has been taking Java lessons with Amy.
- He has just started to learn about inheritance.
- He knows inheritance is the key to solving this problem.
- ☐ He just knows he will beat Brad.

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Introducing the Contestants: Meet Brad



- Brad is just delighted with this application.
- This is a textbook example of inheritance.
- He knows this can't be too difficult.

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Meanwhile in Larry's Cubicle



- Larry quickly carries out a noun analysis.
- Tells him the main actors are animals.
- ☐ He now knows the main class should be Animal.
- He puts all the common methods and attributes in this class.

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Meanwhile in Larry's Cubicle



- □ Larry quickly carries out a noun analysis.
- Tells him the main actors are animals.
- ☐ He now knows the main class should be Animal.
- He puts all the common methods and attributes in this class.

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```
Java
public Animal( final String picture,
             final boolean eatsGrass,
             final int hungerLevel ) {
   this.picture = picture;
   this.eatsGrass = eatsGrass;
   this.hungerLevel = hungerLevel;
System.out.println( "Eating " + hungerLevel + " portions of " + food( ) + "." ):
private String food() {
   return (eatsGrass ? "grass" : "meat");
public void makeNoise() { } // Should be overridden.
public void roam() { } // Should be overridden.
public String toString( ) {
   (omitted)
```

Java

```
public class Hippo extends Animal {
   private static final int HIPPO_HUNGER_LEVEL = 10;
   private static final String HIPPO_PICTURE = "hippo.jpg";
   public Hippo( ) {
       picture = HIPPO_PICTURE;
       eatsGrass = true:
       hungerLevel = HIPPO_HUNGER_LEVEL;
   public void roam( ) {
       System.out.println( "I'm Lazy: not roaming." );
   public void makenoise( ) {
       System.out.println( "Grunt." ):
```

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Unix Session

```
$ java Main
next: Animal[ picture = dog.jpg, eatsGrass = meat, hungerLevel = 4 ]
Roaming in my pack.
Eating 4 portions of meat.
Arf. Arf.
next: Animal[ picture = cat.jpg, eatsGrass = meat, hungerLevel = 1 ]
Roaming alone.
Eating 1 portions of meat.
Mew. Mew.
next: Animal[ picture = hippo.jpg, eatsGrass = grass, hungerLevel = 10 ]
I'm Lazy: not roaming.
Eating 10 portions of grass.
```

Animal

picture
eatsGrass
hungerLevel
eat()
makeNoise()
roam()

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Cat	Tiger	Lion	Wolf	Dog	Hippo
// picture					
// eatsGrass					
// hungerLevel					
// eat()					
makeNoise()					
roam()	roam()	roam()	roam()	roam()	roam()

Superclass

Animal
picture
eatsGrass
hungerLevel
eat()
makeNoise()
roam()

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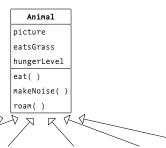
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Acknowledgements

References

Cat	Tiger	Lion	Wolf	Dog	Hippo
// picture					
// eatsGrass					
// hungerLevel					
// eat()					
makeNoise()					
roam()	roam()	roam()	roam()	roam()	roam()

Subclasses



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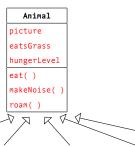
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References

Cat	Tiger	Lion	Wolf	Dog	Hippo
// picture					
// eatsGrass					
// hungerLevel					
// eat()					
makeNoise()					
roam()	roam()	roam()	roam()	roam()	roam()

Common Methods and Attributes



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Cat	Tiger	Lion	Wolf	Dog	Hippo
// picture					
// eatsGrass					
// hungerLevel					
// eat()					
makeNoise()					
roam()	roam()	roam()	roam()	roam()	roam()

Inherit

Larry's Class Diagram

Animal picture eatsGrass hungerLevel eat() makeNoise() roam()

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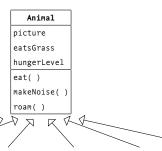
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References

Cat	Tiger	Lion	Wolf	Dog	Hippo
// picture					
// eatsGrass					
// hungerLevel					
// eat()					
makeNoise()					
roam()	roam()	roam()	roam()	roam()	roam()

Override



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Cat	Tiger	Lion	Wolf	Dog	Hippo
// picture					
// eatsGrass					
// hungerLevel					
// eat()					
makeNoise()					
roam()	roam()	roam()	roam()	roam()	roam()

Did Larry Win?



Larry:

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Did Larry Win?

You feckin' eejit.



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Did Larry Win?

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Your hippo is silent.

Unix Session

next: Animal[picture = hippo.jpg, eatsGrass = grass, hungerLevel = 10] I'm Lazy: not roaming. Eating 10 portions of grass.



- □ Larry couldn't understand it.
- ☐ He had overridden the Hippo's noise method.

Java

```
public void makenoise( ) {
    System.out.println( "Grunt." );
}
```

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- □ Larry couldn't understand it.
- He had overridden the Hippo's noise method.
- But Amy discovered the error.

```
Java
```

```
public void makenoise( ) {
    System.out.println( "Grunt." );
}
```

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- □ Larry couldn't understand it.
- ☐ He had overridden the Hippo's noise method.
- But Amy discovered the error.
- ☐ There was a typo in his Hippo class.

Java

```
public void makenoise( ) {
    System.out.println( "Grunt." );
}
```

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- Larry couldn't understand it.
- ☐ He had overridden the Hippo's noise method.
- But Amy discovered the error.
- ☐ There was a typo in his Hippo class.

Java

```
public void makenoise( ) {
    System.out.println( "Grunt." );
}
```

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- Larry couldn't understand it.
- ☐ He had overridden the Hippo's noise method.
- But Amy discovered the error.
- ☐ There was a typo in his Hippo class.

Java

```
public void makeNoise( ) {
    System.out.println( "Grunt." );
}
```

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- Larry couldn't understand it.
- ☐ He had overridden the Hippo's noise method.
- But Amy discovered the error.
- There was a typo in his Hippo class.

Java

```
@Override // Makes sure we actually override an existing superclass method
public void makeNoise( ) {
    System.out.println( "Grunt." );
}
```

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Meanwhile at Brad's Laptop



- Brad had read about Lennoxes in the Lonely Planet.
- Eating there is supposed to be a lifetime experience.
- He is very keen on winning this prize.
- Brad's design is completely different from Larry's.

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Meanwhile at Brad's Laptop



- ☐ Brad had read about Lennoxes in the Lonely Planet.
- Eating there is supposed to be a lifetime experience.
- He is very keen on winning this prize.
- ☐ Brad's design is completely different from Larry's.
- He notices there are really three kinds of animals:

Canines animals with dog-like behaviour; Felines animals with cat-like behaviour; and Others animals with other behaviour.

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- Brad had read about Lennoxes in the Lonely Planet.
- Eating there is supposed to be a lifetime experience.
- He is very keen on winning this prize.
- Brad's design is completely different from Larry's.
- ☐ He notices there are really three kinds of animals:
 - Canines animals with dog-like behaviour; Felines animals with cat-like behaviour; and Others animals with other behaviour.
- He decides to build this into his class design.

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References





- Brad creates two additional classes: Canine and Feline.
- Both extend the Animal class.

Java

```
public class Canine extends Animal {
  public Canine() { eatsGrass = false; }

  @Override
  public void roam() { System.out.println( "Roaming in my pack." ); }
}
```

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References



- Brad creates two additional classes: Canine and Feline.
- Both extend the Animal class.
- ☐ All Canines eat meat.

Java

```
public class Canine extends Animal {
   public Canine() { eatsGrass = false; }

@Override
   public void roam() { System.out.println( "Roaming in my pack." ); }
}
```

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References



- Brad creates two additional classes: Canine and Feline.
- Both *extend* the Animal class.
- All Canines eat meat.
- □ All Canines roam in packs.

Java

```
public class Canine extends Animal {
  public Canine() { eatsGrass = false; }

  @Override
  public void roam() { System.out.println( "Roaming in my pack." ); }
}
```

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- Brad creates two additional classes: Canine and Feline.
- □ Both *extend* the Animal class.
- All Canines eat meat.
- All Canines roam in packs.

Java

```
public class Canine extends Animal {
  public Canine() { eatsGrass = false; }

@Override
  public void roam() { System.out.println( "Roaming in my pack." ); }
}
```

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References



- Brad creates two additional classes: Canine and Feline.
- Both extend the Animal class.

```
public class Feline extends Animal {
  public Feline() { eatsGrass = false; }

@Override
  public void roam() { System.out.println( "Roaming alone." ); }
```

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References



- Brad creates two additional classes: Canine and Feline.
- Both extend the Animal class.
- □ All Felines eat meat.

```
public class Feline extends Animal {
  public Feline() { eatsGrass = false; }

@Override
  public void roam() { System.out.println( "Roaming alone." ); }
```

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References



- Brad creates two additional classes: Canine and Feline.
- Both *extend* the Animal class.
- All Felines eat meat.
- All Felines roam alone.

```
Java
```

```
public class Feline extends Animal {
  public Feline() { eatsGrass = false; }

  @Override
  public void roam() { System.out.println( "Roaming alone." ); }
}
```

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References

- Brad's design is really clever.
- ☐ His design factors out all common Canine behaviour.
- ☐ This simplifies the Canine subclasses.
 - All Canines inherit the roaming behaviour.
 - By default, eatsGrass is false for all Canines.



Tava

```
public class Dog extends Canine {
    private static final int DOG_HUNGER_LEVEL = 4;
    private static final String DOG_PICTURE = "dog.jpg";
    public Dog() {
        picture = DOG_PICTURE;
        // eatsGrass is false by default.
        hungerLevel = DOG_HUNGER_LEVEL;
    }
    // Inherits eating behaviour from Animal class.
    // Inherits roaming behaviour from Canine class.
    @Override
    public void makeNoise() { System.out.println( "Arf. Arf." ); }
}
```

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References



Java

```
public class Cat extends Feline {
    private static final int CAT_HUNGER_LEVEL = 1;
    private static final String CAT_PICTURE = "cat.jpg";
    public Cat() {
        picture = CAT_PICTURE;
        // eatsGrass is false by default.
        hungerLevel = CAT_HUNGER_LEVEL;
    }
    // Inherits eating behaviour from Animal class.
    // Inherits roaming behaviour from Feline class.
    @Override
    public void makeNoise() { System.out.println("Mew. Mew."); }
}
```

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References



Java

```
public class Hippo extends Animal {
    // (constants omitted)
    public Hippo() {
        picture = HIPPO_PICTURE;
        eatsGrass = true;
        hungerLevel = HIPPO_HUNGER_LEVEL;
    }
    // Inherits eating behaviour from Animal class.
    @Override
    public void roam() { System.out.println("I'm lazy: not roaming."); }
    @Override
    public void makeNoise() { System.out.println("Grunt."); }
}
```

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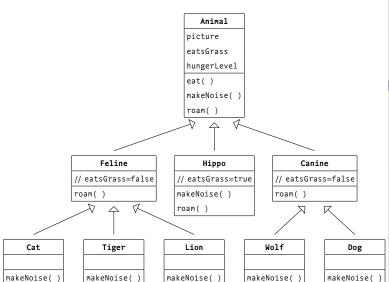
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Brad, you're a geenjis.



Off to Lennoxes.



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Collecting the Prize





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Collecting the Prize: Cats love Fish





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Poor Style

Java

```
public class Canine extends Animal {
   public Canine() {
      eatsGrass = false;
   }

@Override
   public void roam() {
        System.out.println( "Roaming in my pack." );
   }
}
```

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Poor Style

```
public class Canine extends Animal {
   public Canine() {
      eatsGrass = false;
   }

@Override
   public void roam() {
      System.out.println( "Roaming in my pack." );
   }
}
```

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Superclass Implementation Violates Encapsulation

public class Canine extends Animal { public Canine() { eatsGrass = false; } @Override public void roam() { System.out.println("Roaming in my pack."); } }

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References

Superclass Attributes are Mutable and Cannot be Private

public class Canine extends Animal { public Canine() { eatsGrass = false; } @Override public void roam() { System.out.println("Roaming in my pack."); } }

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Calling the Superclass Constructor

Should be First Call in Constructor

```
public class Canine extends Animal {
    private static final boolean EATS_GRASS = false;

    public Canine( final String picture, final int hungerLevel ) {
        super( picture, EATS_GRASS, hungerLevel );
    }

    @Override
    public void roam() {
        System.out.println( "Roaming in my pack." );
    }
}
```

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Calling the Superclass Constructor

Superclass Implementation Respects Encapsulation

```
public class Canine extends Animal {
    private static final boolean EATS_GRASS = false;

    public Canine( final String picture, final int hungerLevel ) {
        super( picture, EATS_GRASS, hungerLevel );
    }

    @Override
    public void roam() {
        System.out.println( "Roaming in my pack." );
    }
}
```

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References

Calling the Superclass Constructor

Superclass Attributes are Private and Immutable

```
public class Canine extends Animal {
    private static final boolean EATS_GRASS = false;

    public Canine( final String picture, final int hungerLevel ) {
        super( picture, EATS_GRASS, hungerLevel );
    }

    @Override
    public void roam() {
        System.out.println( "Roaming in my pack." );
    }
}
```

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```
Java
public class Animal {
    private final String picture;
    private final boolean eatsGrass:
    private final int
                         hungerLevel;
    public Animal( final String picture,
                  final boolean eatsGrass,
                  final int hungerLevel ) {
                        = picture;
        this.picture
        this.eatsGrass = eatsGrass;
        this.hungerLevel = hungerLevel;
```

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References

- □ Study the presentation.
- Study Chapter 7 from the book.

Acknowledgements

■ This lecture is partially based on■ [Sierra, and Bates 2004].

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References

- □ This document was created with pdflatex.
- ☐ The धTFX document class is beamer.