# เรื่องที่ 11 Abstract และ Interface

ENGCE174 การเขียนโปรแกรมเชิงวัตถุ (Object-oriented programming)

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# **Abstract Classes and Methods**

Data abstraction is the process of hiding certain details and showing only essential information to the user.

Abstraction can be achieved with either abstract classes or <u>interfaces</u> (which you will learn more about in the next chapter).

The abstract keyword is a non-access modifier, used for classes and methods:

- Abstract class: is a restricted class that cannot be used to create objects (to access it, it must be inherited from another class).
- Abstract method: can only be used in an abstract class, and it does not have a body. The body is provided by the subclass (inherited from).

# **Abstract Classes and Methods**

An abstract class can have both abstract and regular methods:

```
abstract class Animal {
  public abstract void animalSound();
  public void sleep() {
    System.out.println("Zzz");
  }
}
```

# **Abstract Classes and Methods**

From the example above, it is not possible to create an object of the Animal class:

To access the abstract class, it must be inherited from another class. Let's convert the Animal class we used in the <u>Polymorphism</u> chapter to an abstract class:

Remember from the <u>Inheritance chapter</u> that we use the <u>extends</u> keyword to inherit from a class.

# Abstract Classes and

# Methods

Why And When To Use Abstract Classes and Methods?

To achieve security - hide certain details and only show the important details of an object.

Note: Abstraction can also be achieved with <u>Interfaces</u>, which you will learn more about in the next chapter.

```
Abstract class
abstract class Animal {
  // Abstract method (does not have a body)
  public abstract void animalSound();
  // Regular method
  public void sleep() {
    System.out.println("Zzz");
// Subclass (inherit from Animal)
class Pig extends Animal {
  public void animalSound() {
    // The body of animalSound() is provided here
    System.out.println("The pig says: wee wee");
class Main {
  public static void main(String[] args) {
    Pig myPig = new Pig(); // Create a Pig object
    myPig.animalSound();
    myPig.sleep();
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```

### Interfaces

Another way to achieve <u>abstraction</u> in Java, is with interfaces.

An interface is a completely "abstract class" that is used to group related methods with empty bodies:

```
// interface
interface Animal {
  public void animalSound(); // interface method (does not have a body)
  public void run(); // interface method (does not have a body)
}
```

# Interfaces

To access the interface methods, the interface must be "implemented" (kinda like inherited) by another class with the implements keyword (instead of extends). The body of the interface method is provided by the "implement" class:

```
Interface
interface Animal {
 public void animalSound(); // interface method (does not have a body)
 public void sleep(); // interface method (does not have a body)
// Pig "implements" the Animal interface
class Pig implements Animal {
 public void animalSound() {
   // The body of animalSound() is provided here
   System.out.println("The pig says: wee wee");
 public void sleep() {
   // The body of sleep() is provided here
   System.out.println("Zzz");
class Main {
 public static void main(String[] args) {
   Pig myPig = new Pig(); // Create a Pig object
   myPig.animalSound();
   myPig.sleep();
```

# Interfaces

#### Notes on Interfaces:

- Like abstract classes, interfaces cannot be used to create objects (in the example above, it is not possible to create an "Animal" object in the MyMainClass)
- Interface methods do not have a body the body is provided by the "implement" class
- On implementation of an interface, you must override all of its methods
- Interface methods are by default abstract and public
- Interface attributes are by default public, static and final
- An interface cannot contain a constructor (as it cannot be used to create objects)

#### Why And When To Use Interfaces?

- 1) To achieve security hide certain details and only show the important details of an object (interface).
- 2) Java does not support "multiple inheritance" (a class can only inherit from one superclass). However, it can be achieved with interfaces, because the class can implement multiple interfaces. Note: To implement multiple interfaces, separate them with a comma (see example below).

```
// Interface
interface Animal {
  public void animalSound(); // interface method (does not have a body)
  public void sleep(); // interface method (does not have a body)
// Pig "implements" the Animal interface
class Pig implements Animal {
  public void animalSound() {
    // The body of animalSound() is provided here
    System.out.println("The pig says: wee wee");
  public void sleep() {
    // The body of sleep() is provided here
    System.out.println("Zzz");
class Main {
  public static void main(String[] args) {
    Pig myPig = new Pig(); // Create a Pig object
    myPig.animalSound();
    myPig.sleep();
```

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# **Multiple Interfaces**

To implement multiple interfaces, separate them with a comma:

```
interface FirstInterface {
  public void myMethod(); // interface method
interface SecondInterface {
  public void myOtherMethod(); // interface method
class DemoClass implements FirstInterface, SecondInterface {
  public void myMethod() {
    System.out.println("Some text..");
  public void myOtherMethod() {
    System.out.println("Some other text...");
class Main {
  public static void main(String[] args) {
    DemoClass myObj = new DemoClass();
    myObj.myMethod();
    myObj.myOtherMethod();
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```