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Object Oriented Programming

Abstraction and Encapsulation

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Lecture Topics

- Basics of Object Oriented Design
 - Objects
 - Classes
- Instance Variables/Fields
- Constructors
- Access Modifiers
- Methods
 - Mutator Methods
 - Accessor Methods
 - Utility Methods
- Class Diagrams

- Overloaded Methods
- String Representation
- Copying Objects
- Object Equality
- Static Fields and Methods

Colors/Fonts

 Local Variable Names **Brown** Primitive data types **Fuchsia** Literals Blue Keywords Orange Object names Green Operators/Punctuation – Black • Field Names Lt Blue Method Names **Purple** Parameter Names Gold Comments Gray Package Names **Pink**

Source Code - Consolas
Output - Courier New

What is Object Oriented Programming?

- A programming paradigm where software is written so that a program functions as a system of objects.
 - A different way of designing software.

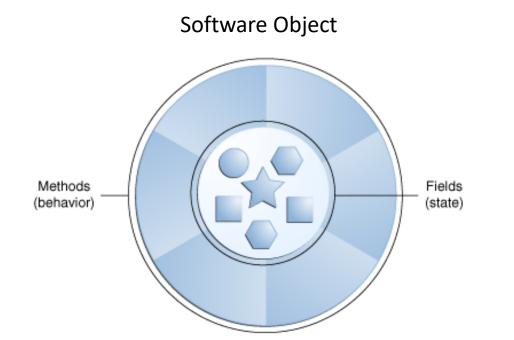
• The objects interact with each other to complete the program's tasks.

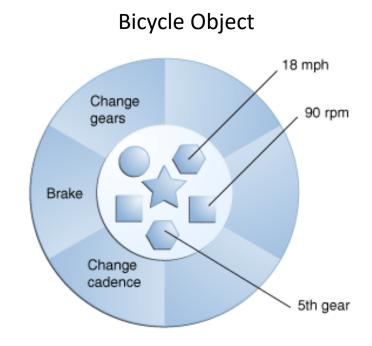
• Software objects are coded to contain information about themselves and allow interaction with other objects.

What are Objects?

- A software object is conceptually similar to real world objects.
- Real world objects all have two characteristics:
 - They have attributes- properties that make something unique.
 - A bicycle's attributes could be its speed, color, tire size, etc.
 - They have behaviors actions that it can do.
 - A bicycle's behaviors could be pedaling, braking, changing gear, etc.
- When we model a software object, it too has attributes and behaviors.
 - Objects store their attributes in variables referred to as fields.
 - Objects expose their behaviors as functions.

A Bicycle Object





Why apply Object Oriented Programming?

- Modularity (Abstraction)
 - The code for an object is written and maintained separately from the code of other objects.
- Information Hiding (Encapsulation)
 - By interacting with the object's methods, the details of its internal implementation is hidden.
- Reusability
 - You can create multiple instances of an object.

Abstraction

• **Abstraction** is an OOD principle that software objects are able to function as individual entities.

Using fields, the object can hold information about itself.

• Using methods, the object can perform various actions and operations and communicate with other objects.

Encapsulation

- **Encapsulation** is an OOD principle that suggests we design objects so that all relevant data (attributes) and behaviors (methods) are together.
 - The object also controls how its information is seen or changed.
- Only attributes and behaviors relevant to the object should be in the object.
 - Other data or functions not related to the object's use should be placed in other objects.
 - For example, it wouldn't make sense for a Bicycle object to have a fuel level attribute (but would, perhaps, make sense in a Moped object.)

What are Classes?

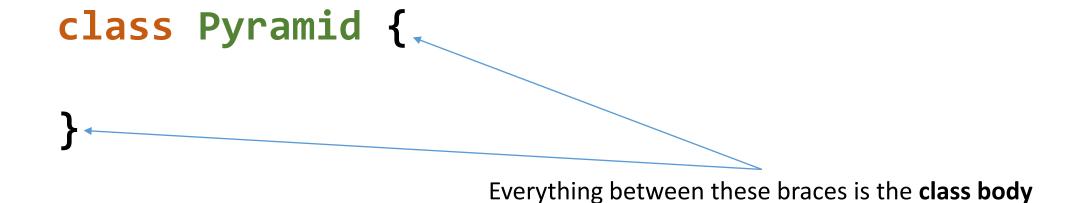
• A *class* is the blueprint from which objects are created.

- It is the *source code* of the object.
 - The object is the <u>idea</u>, the code in the class is the <u>implementation</u> of the idea.

- When a new software object is created from a class, this is referred to as instantiation.
 - Creating a new instance of an object.
 - Instantiating an object.

Classes

• Class Declaration (or Class Header) for an object named "Pyramid" is shown below.



Classes

We will create a Pyramid class throughout the rest of this lecture.

 After completing our Pyramid class, we will instantiate a Pyramid object in a separate program.

- We have been using classes already.
 - We have only seen the use of a *main* method, which is not required in every class.
 - A main method allows the JVM to know where to start executing a Java program.

Instance Variables

- An *instance variable* is a field that is accessible by the methods of the class.
 - It is declared inside the class, but outside of any method.

 The data stored in an instance variable is unique to each instance of an object.

Declaring Instance Variables

```
class Pyramid {
  int width;
  int length;
  int height;
  String color;
}
```

- Declared just as we have seen before, but not within any particular method.
- Can be initialized at declaration or in a method.

Creating an Instance of an Object

- In a second class (and in a separate source code file) named
 PyramidTest, we will instantiate a Pyramid object in its main method (shown below).
 - Instantiation is the term used when you create an instance of an object.

```
class PyramidTest {
   public static void main(String[] args) {
      Pyramid example = new Pyramid();
   }
}
```

The Default Constructor

- Objects are instantiated using a special method called a *constructor*.
- Constructors are used to "set up" or construct an instance of an object.
- When there are no constructors present in a class, the compiler automatically adds a default constructor.
 - This guarantees every object has a constructor.

```
class Pyramid {
   public static void main(String[] args) {
      Pyramid example = new Pyramid();
   }
}
```

Accessing an Instance's Fields

• We can access an instance's fields using dot notation.

```
class PyramidTest {
  public static void main(String[] args) {
    Pyramid example = new Pyramid();

  //Sets the object's width attribute to 3
  example.width = 3;
}
```

Accessing an Instance's Fields

• We can access an instance's fields using dot notation.

```
class PyramidTest {
   public static void main(String[] args) {
      Pyramid example = new Pyramid();
      //Sets the object's width attribute to 3
      example.width = 3;
      System.out.println("The pyramid's width is " + example.width);
                                            The pyramid's width is 3
```

• Constructors are a special type of method/behavior that prepares the instance of the object.

- Constructors almost always have the same name as the class file.
 - Not always the case as a single source code file can contain multiple classes.

- Classes may have multiple constructors.
 - This is referred to as overloading or having overloaded constructors.

The No Argument (No-Arg) Constructor

```
class Pyramid {
   int width;
   int length;
   int height;
   String color;
   Pyramid() {
       width = 1;
       length = 1;
       height = 5;
       color = "White";
```

- Replaces the default constructor added by the compiler.
 - A class only has a default constructor when the class has no constructors defined.
- The code in the no-arg constructor's body will be executed when the no-arg constructor is called.
- The names of any constructors must always match the class name.

}

Without the No-Arg Constructor

```
class PyramidTest {
   public static void main(String[] args) {
       Pyramid example = new Pyramid();
       System.out.println("The pyramid's width is " + example.width);
       System.out.println("The pyramid's length is " + example.length);
       System.out.println("The pyramid's height is " + example.height);
       System.out.println("The pyramid's color is " + example.color);
The pyramid's width is 0
The pyramid's length is 0
The pyramid's height is 0
The pyramid's color is null
```

With the No-Arg Constructor defined

```
class PyramidTest {
   public static void main(String[] args) {
       Pyramid example = new Pyramid();
       System.out.println("The pyramid's width is " + example.width);
       System.out.println("The pyramid's length is " + example.length);
       System.out.println("The pyramid's height is " + example.height);
       System.out.println("The pyramid's color is " + example.color);
The pyramid's width is 1
The pyramid's length is 1
The pyramid's height is 5
The pyramid's color is white
```

Passing Values into a Constructor

 In many cases, you will want to pass data into a constructor to set the values of the fields.

- Parameters are variables that represent data that is given (or passed) to a constructor.
 - Data given to the constructor are called arguments.
- If a constructor declares a parameter list, a value for each parameter must be present.
 - The list must include the data type for each parameter.

```
Pyramid() {
                    width = 1;
                     length = 1;
                                               No-Arg Constructor
                     height = 5;
                     color = "White";
Parameter
                 Pyramid(int widthIn) {
                    width = widthIn;
                     length = 1;
                                               A Constructor with 1 Parameter
                     height = 5;
                     color = "White";
```

• Now, we have a second way to instantiate an instance of a Pyramid object.

```
class PyramidTest {
   public static void main(String[] args) {
                                                 Argument
      Pyramid example1 = new Pyramid();
      Pyramid example2 = new Pyramid(5);
      System.out.println("The first pyramid's width is " + example1.width);
      System.out.println("The second pyramid's width is " + example2.width);
                                            The first pyramid's width is 1
                                            The second pyramid's width is 5
```

```
Pyramid() {
    width = 1;
    length = 1;
                                                No-Arg Constructor
    height = 5;
    color = "White";
Pyramid(int widthIn) {
    width = widthIn;
    length = 1;
                                                 A Constructor with 1 Parameter
    height = 5;
    color = "White";
Pyramid(int widthIn, int lengthIn) {
    width = widthIn;
    length = lengthIn;
                                                A Constructor with 2 Parameters
    height = 5;
    color = "White";
```

```
Pyramid(int widthIn, int lengthIn, int heightIn) {
    width = widthIn;
    length = lengthIn;
    height = heightIn;
    color = "White";
}

Pyramid(int widthIn, int lengthIn, int heightIn, String colorIn) {
    width = widthIn;
    length = lengthIn;
    height = heightIn;
    color = colorIn;
}
A Constructor with
4 Parameters
```

 Now, there are 5 different ways to instantiate an instance of a Pyramid object.

```
class PyramidTest {
   public static void main(String[] args) {
      Pyramid example1 = new Pyramid();
      Pyramid example2 = new Pyramid(5);
      Pyramid example3 = new Pyramid(7, 7, 15, "Blue");
      System.out.println("The third pyramid's height is " + example3.height);
      System.out.println("The third pyramid's color is " + example3.color);
                                         The third pyramid's height is 15
                                         The third pyramid's color is Blue
```

Constructor Signatures

- There is no limit to the number of constructors in a class.
- However, each constructor must have a unique signature.
 - A constructor signature consists of its name and parameter list data types.

```
Pyramid()
Pyramid(int widthIn)
Pyramid(int widthIn, int lengthIn)
Pyramid(int widthIn, int lengthIn, int heightIn)
Pyramid(int widthIn, int lengthIn, int heightIn, String colorIn)
Signatures:
   Pyramid()
   Pyramid(int)
   Pyramid(int, int)
   Pyramid(int, int, int)
   Pyramid(int, int, int, String)
```

Constructor Signatures

- If our Pyramid class had the following constructors, it would not compile.
 - Their signatures are not unique.

```
width = widthIn;
  length = 1;
  height = 5;
  color = "White";
width = 1;
  length = lengthIn;
  height = 5;
                          Pyramid example = new Pyramid(5);
  color = "White";
                          There's no way to know which constructor to use.
```

Access Modifiers

- Access Modifiers specify how classes, fields, and methods can be accessed by other objects.
 - This limits other objects from making changes to the data in the fields or using methods that pertain only to the object's internal implementation.

public

 Modifier that allows a field or method to be accessible to all other objects.

private

 Modifier that does not allow a field or method to be accessible to other objects.

Private Fields

```
public class Rectangle {
   private int length;
   private int width;
}
```

- This Rectangle class has two private fields.
- These fields cannot be accessed anywhere except from within the Rectangle class.

Private Fields

- A private field is not accessible.
- The only way to change or retrieve the value of a field would be to use a method.

Methods

- A *method* is a collection of statements that operates on an object's internal data.
 - After the method finishes executing its code, it may or may not return data.

• The code in a method runs when the method is *called*.

Methods

- Most methods in an object are either a mutator method or an accessor method.
- A mutator method changes (or "sets") data in an object.
 - Colloquially called a "setter" method.
- An accessor method retrieves (or "gets") data from an object.
 - Colloquially called a "getter" method.
- The use of mutators and accessors allows the object to specify how (and if) its private data is accessed or changed.

Mutator Method (Length)

```
Access Modifier
(Optional)

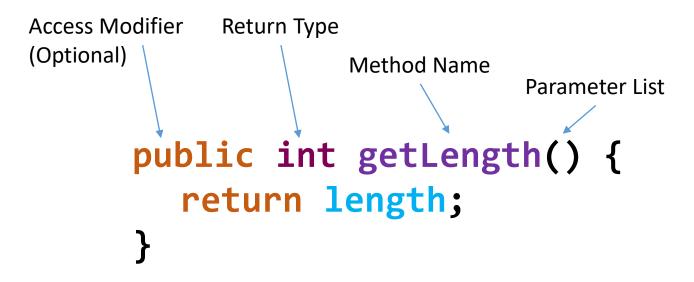
Parameter

public void setLength(int lengthIn) {

length = lengthIn;
}
```

- This method will change the current value of the object's length field.
- A method that does not return data must have a void return type.
 - Mutators typically do not return data. They "set" data- they don't "get" data.

Accessor Method (Length)



- This method will return the current value of our gear instance variable.
- A return statement indicates the value that is returned by the method.
- The type of data returned must match the method's return type.
 - Since this method's return type is int, the method can only return an int value when called.

Using Method Calls to set/get an Instance's Data

```
public class RectangleTest {
   public static void main(String[] args) {
       Rectangle example = new Rectangle();
                                       Argument
       example.setLength(7);
       System.out.println("The rectangle's length is " + example.getLength()
                                                                            Parameter
                                                   public void setLength(int lengthIn) {
                                                      length = lengthIn;
The rectangle's length is 7
                                                   public int getLength() {
                                                      return length;
```

Accessor and Mutator Method (Width)

```
public void setWidth(int widthIn) {
    width = widthIn;
}

public int getWidth() {
    return width;
}
```

Using Method Calls to set/get an Instance's Data

```
public class RectangleTest {
   public static void main(String[] args) {
      Rectangle example = new Rectangle();
      example.setLength(5);
      example.setWidth(10);
      System.out.println("The rectangle's length is " + example.getLength());
      System.out.println("The rectangle's width is " + example.getWidth());
The rectangle's length is 5
The rectangle's width is 10
```

Checking Data

 Using mutators to change the state of the object gives the object control of its state.

- For example, we can add checks to the length and width field mutators to check for negative distances or distances of zero.
 - The object (through its methods) can decide what happens.

Checking Data

- Additional code can be added to the mutator to check the argument passed to it.
 - Now, a zero or negative argument will cause the length field to be assigned 1.

```
public void setLength(int lengthIn) {
   if(lengthIn <= 0) {
      length = 1;
   }
   else {
      length = lengthIn;
   }
}</pre>
```

Checking Data

A similar check can be added in the mutator for the width field.

```
public void setWidth(int widthIn) {
  if(widthIn <= 0) {
    width = 1;
  }
  else {
    width = widthIn;
  }
}</pre>
```

Using Method Calls to set/get an Instance's Data

```
public class RectangleTest {
   public static void main(String[] args) {
       Rectangle example = new Rectangle();
       example.setLength(-66);
       example.setWidth(0);
       System.out.println("The rectangle's length is " + example.getLength());
       System.out.println("The rectangle's width is " + example.getWidth());
The rectangle's length is 1
                                            It's now impossible for a Rectangle object's length
The rectangle's width is 1
                                            or width fields to be zero or negative.
```

Utility Methods

- Another type of method is a utility method.
 - These are methods that aren't wholly concerned with setting or getting data to/from an object, but perform some other operation or function.
 - A utility function may or may not return data.
- A Rectangle object might have a utility method to calculate the area or perimeter of the shape.

Utility Method (Area)

• This calculateArea method will calculate and return the area of the shape.

```
public int calculateArea() {
   int area = length * width;
   return area;
}
```

Utility Method (Perimeter)

• This calculatePerimeter method will calculate and return the perimeter of the shape.

```
public int calculatePerimeter() {
   int perimeter = 2 * (length + width);
   return perimeter;
}
```

Utility Methods

```
public class RectangleTest {
   public static void main(String[] args) {
      Rectangle example = new Rectangle();
      example.setLength(6);
      example.setWidth(5);
      int calc1 = example.calculateArea();
      int calc2 = example.calculatePerimeter();
      System.out.println("The rectangle's area is " + calc1);
      System.out.println("The rectangle's perimeter is " + calc2);
                                           The rectangle's area is 30
                                           The rectangle's perimeter is 22
```

Method Naming

- By convention (in Java), method names are in camel-case.
- A method's name should always describe what it does.
 - Accessor methods normally start with "get".
 - For example: getValue, getName
 - Mutator methods normally start with "set".
 - For example: setValue, setName
 - Utility functions will vary in name.
 - For example: fixHeaders, validateData, updateValues, toSquareFeet
 - Methods that return a boolean normally start with "is" or "has".
 - For example: isFinished, isClosed, hasCorrectData

Method Access

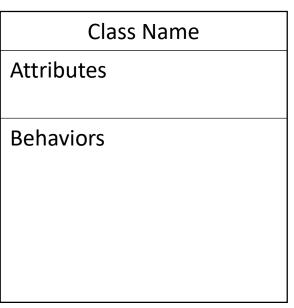
- Accessor and mutator methods are normally public.
 - Other objects need to call these methods to interact with the object.
- Utility methods may or may not be public.
 - It depends on the object's design.
 - Make the method private if you don't want other objects to call it.

Method Signatures

- Like constructors, methods have signatures.
- A method signature consists of its name and parameter list data types.
- All methods in a class must have unique signatures.

Class Diagrams

- Unified Modeling Language provides a set of standard diagrams for graphically depicting an object oriented system.
- In UML, each class is shown as a box, with three sections:
 - The Class Name
 - Class Attributes (Fields/Variables)
 - Class Behaviors (Constructors and Methods)



Class Diagrams

- When displaying fields (and parameter names in methods) in a class diagram, the format to use is:
 - name : type
- Access specifier symbols:
 - + public fields/methods
 - - private fields/methods
 - None (or ~)
 No access specifier.

Class Diagram (Fields)

```
class ExampleClass {
   private int field1;
   public String field2;
   double field3;
   public ExampleClass(int argIn) {
        //Constructor code
   public int method1(double arg1In, int arg2In) {
       //method1 code
   private void method2() {
       //method2 code
```

- field1: int
+ field2: String
field3: double

Constructors and Methods

Class Diagrams (Constructors and Methods)

- When displaying a constructor in a class diagram, the format to use is:
 - name(arg: type, ...)

- When displaying a method in a class diagram, the format to use is:
 - name(arg : type, ...) : returnType

Access modifier symbols used are the same as for fields.

Class Diagram (Constructors and Methods)

```
class ExampleClass {
   private int field1;
   public String field2;
   double field3;
   public ExampleClass(int argIn) {
        //Constructor code
   int method1(double arg1In, int arg2In) {
       //method1 code
   private void method2() {
       //method2 code
```

ExampleClass - field1 : int + field2 : String field3 : double + ExampleClass(argIn : int)

method1(arg1In : double, arg2In : int) : int

Overloaded Methods

 A method is *overloaded* when two or more methods share the same <u>name</u> but have *different* parameter types/lists.

 No limit to the number of times a method can be overloaded.

```
public void setLength(int lengthIn) {
   if(lengthIn <= 0) {</pre>
       length = 1;
   else {
       length = lengthIn;
public void setLength(double lengthIn) {
   if(lengthIn <= 0) {</pre>
       length = 1;
   else {
       length = (int)Math.round(lengthIn);
```

Overloaded Methods

- Overloaded methods give the appearance of one method that handles multiple types of arguments.
 - Overloaded methods are also known as *polymorphic methods* for this reason.

```
class RectangleTest {
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        Rectangle example = new Rectangle();
        example.setLength(7);
        example.setLength(4.3); //Changes the length to 4.3 (rounded to 4)
    }
}
```

Overloaded Methods

 It's common practice to chain overloaded methods together, just as we chain constructors.

```
public void setLength(int lengthIn) {
   if(lengthIn <= 0) {</pre>
       length = 1;
   else {
       length = lengthIn;
public void setLength(double lengthIn) {
   setLength((int)Math.round(lengthIn));
public void setLength(String lengthIn) {
   setLength(Integer.parseInt(lengthIn));
```

String Represenation

- An object's toString() method normally returns a String that describes the current state of an object.
 - It may include some or all of the current values of the object's fields.
 - Can be useful for debugging
- All objects have a toString() method, even if the method is not defined in the class.

An object without a toString() method defined

```
public class CircleTest {
public class Circle {
                                                        public static void main(String[] args) {
    private int radius;
                                                          Circle example = new Circle(10);
    private double area;
                                                          String output = example.toString();
    private double circumference;
                                                          System.out.println(output);
    public Circle(int radiusIn) {
        radius = radiusIn;
        area = Math.pow(Math.PI * radius, 2);
        circumference = 2 * Math.PI * radius;
                                                       package.Circle@659e0bfd
                                            Name of the package
                                                                                 Memory address
                                                               Name of the object
```

An object with a toString() method defined

```
public class Circle {
                                                       public class CircleTest {
    private int radius;
                                                         public static void main(String[] args) {
    private double area;
                                                           Circle example = new Circle(10);
    private double circumference;
                                                           String output = example.toString();
                                                           System.out.println(output);
    public Circle(int radiusIn) {
        radius = radiusIn;
        area = Math.pow(Math.PI * radius, 2);
        circumference = 2 * Math.PI * radius;
 public String toString() {
                                                        Radius: 10
    return "Radius: " + radius +
           "\nArea: " + area +
                                                        Area: 986.96...
           "\nCircumference: " + circumference;
                                                        Circumference: 62.83...
```

Creating a toString() method

• When an object has a toString() method, it is implicitly called when concatenating.

```
Circle example = new Circle(10);

String output = "Circle Information:\n" + example;

System.out.println(output);

Circle Information:
Radius: 10
Area: 986.96...
Circumference: 62.83...
```

Creating a toString() method

• It will also be implicitly called when passed to System.out.println (or print, or printf)

```
Circle example = new Circle(10);
System.out.println(example);

Radius: 10
Area: 986.96...
Circumference: 62.83...
```

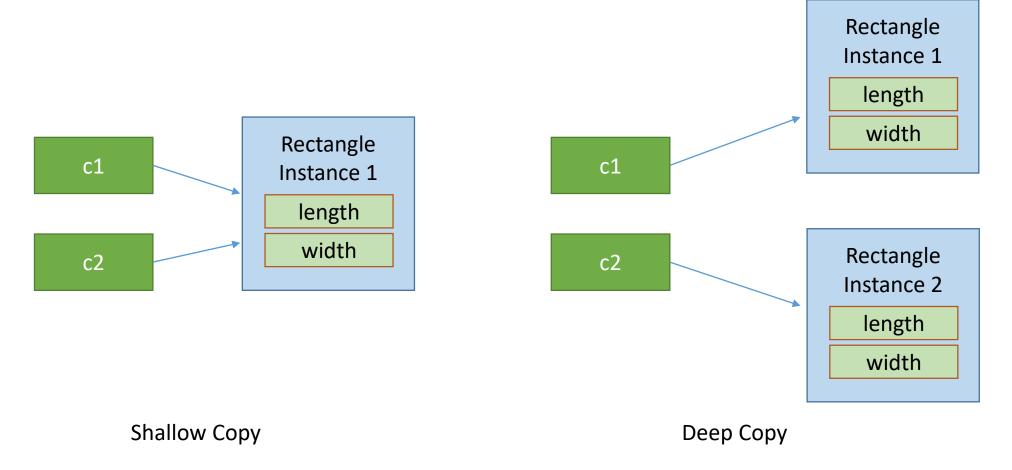
Shallow Copy vs Deep Copy

There are two ways to create a copy of an instance.

 Deep Copy: The data referenced by one variable is copied to a new location in memory, and is then referenced by a different variable.

 Shallow Copy: The *reference* to data at a location in memory is copied from one variable to a different variable. In essence, both variables reference the same data/object in memory, <u>NOT their own</u>.

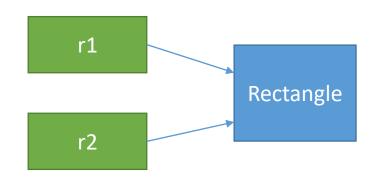
Copying Instances



Shallow Copying Instances

- To shallow copy an instance, simply use the assignment operator =
- Remember, the shallow copy is not a new instance.
 - The new variable will point to the <u>same instance</u> in memory.

```
public static void main(String[] args) {
  Rectangle r1 = new Rectangle(8, 9);
  Rectangle r2 = r1;
  r2.setLength(10);
  System.out.print("r1's length is ");
  System.out.println(r1.getLength());
}
```



Deep Copying Instances

- A deep copy gives us an entirely new instance with the current state of the instance we wish to copy.
 - All fields of the new instance should have the same values as the original instance.

- There are a number of techniques to deep copy instances, but we will look at two:
 - A method that returns a new instance with all of the new instance's fields set to the same values as the original instance.
 - A copy constructor.

A simple clone method

 This method in the Rectangle class would return a new instance of a Rectangle object, using this instance's data/fields.

```
public Rectangle clone() {
   return new Rectangle(length, width);
}
```

Deep Copying Instances

are their own instances, not shallow copies.

```
Instance
public static void main(String[] args) {
  Rectangle r1 = new Rectangle(11, 5);
                                                             r2
  Rectangle r2 = r1.clone();
                                                                            Rectangle
  r1.setLength(20);
                                                                             Instance
  System.out.print("r1's length = ");
  System.out.println(r1.getLength());
  System.out.print("r2's length = ");
  System.out.println(r2.getLength());
                                           public Rectangle clone() {
r1's length = 20
                                               return new Rectangle(length, width);
r2's length = 11
The values are different because r1 and r2
```

Rectangle

r1

Copy Constructor

- A *copy constructor* is a constructor that takes an object of its own type as its argument.
 - It uses the data of that object to set its own fields.

```
public Rectangle(Rectangle rectangleIn) {
  length = rectangleIn.getLength();
  width = rectangleIn.getWidth();
}
```

Copy Constructor

```
r1
                                                                           Instance
public static void main(String[] args) {
  Rectangle r1 = new Rectangle(5, 4);
                                                            r2
  Rectangle r2 = new Rectangle(r1);
                                                                           Rectangle
  r2.setLength(20);
                                                                           Instance
  System.out.print("r1's length = ");
  System.out.println(r1.getLength());
  System.out.print("r2's length = ");
  System.out.println(r2.getLength());
                                                 public Rectangle(Rectangle rectangleIn) {
                                                  length = rectangleIn.getLength();
r1's length = 11
                                                  width = rectangleIn.getWidth();
r2's length = 20
```

Rectangle

Equality of Instances

- What does it mean for two instances of an object to be "equal" to each other?
 - Do all of the fields in the two instances need to have the same values? Maybe only some fields?
- Two ways to test equality of instances:
 - If two different variables reference the same instance (ie. they are shallow copies)
 - If two different instances, referenced by two different variables, contain the same data (or however you define "equal")

Testing the Equality of Instances

• Using the equality operator == will only tell us if the two variables being compared reference the same instance.

```
Rectangle r1 = new Rectangle(8, 9);
Rectangle r2 = r1;
    true
if(r1 == r2) {
    System.out.println("r1 shares the same reference as r2");
}

    Rectangle lnstance
```

Testing the Equality of Instances

- Even though r1 and r2's instances have the same dimensions below, that is not what the equality operator checks for.
 - Since r1 and r2 have different references, the equality operator returns false.

```
Rectangle r1 = new Rectangle(8, 9);
Rectangle r2 = new Rectangle(8, 9);

false
if(r1 == r2) {
    System.out.println("r1 shares the same reference as r2");
}

r1

Rectangle
Instance
Rectangle
Instance
```

Testing the Equality of Instances

- Every object is different, so there can be no one-size-fits-all solution.
- To determine if two instances of the same type are "equal", you will need to decide what makes two objects equal and create a method to compare them.

Writing an equals method

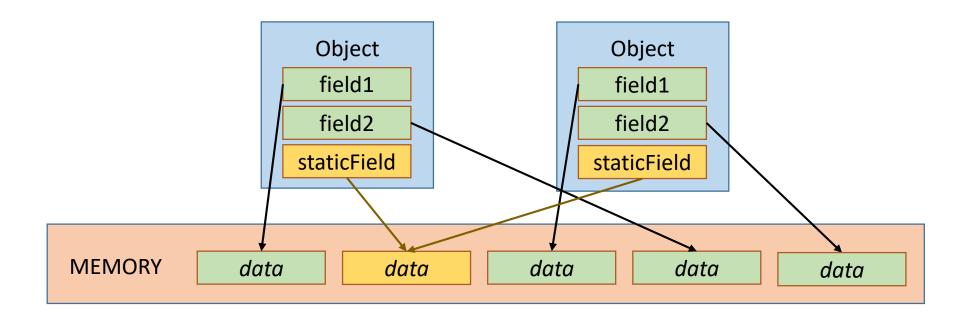
- As an example, we could add the method below to the Rectangle class from earlier in the lecture.
 - We would also now need (at least) getter methods for the length and width fields.
- This equals method compares the fields of the parameter Rectangle object to this Rectangle object's fields.

```
public boolean equals(Rectangle otherRectangle) {
   if(otherRectangle.getLength() == length &&
      otherRectangle.getWidth() == width) {
      return true;
   }
   return false;
}
```

Writing an equals method

```
Rectangle r1 = new Rectangle(9, 12);
Rectangle r2 = new Rectangle(9, 12);
       true
if(r1.equals(r2)) {
  System.out.println("r1 and r2 have the same dimensions");
else {
  System.out.println("r1 and r2 do not have the same dimensions");
                                                   public boolean equals(Rectangle otherRectangle) {
rl and r2 have the same dimensions
                                                    if(otherRectangle.getLength() == length &&
                                                       otherRectangle.getWidth() == width) {
                                                      return true;
                                                    return false;
```

- A *static field* (also called a *class field*) is a field whose reference is shared across <u>all</u> instances of the object.
 - Unlike instance fields, which have unique references.



Declaring a Static Field Variable

• Place the **static** keyword before the field's data type.

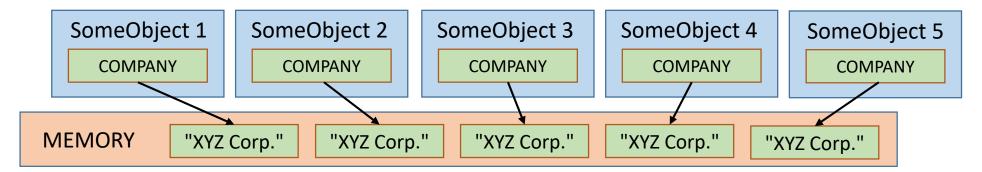
MODIFIERS static TYPE VARIABLE;

Example: private static String myStaticField;

- The most common use of a static field is for any fields that are constant.
 - Imagine a class with a constant instance field:

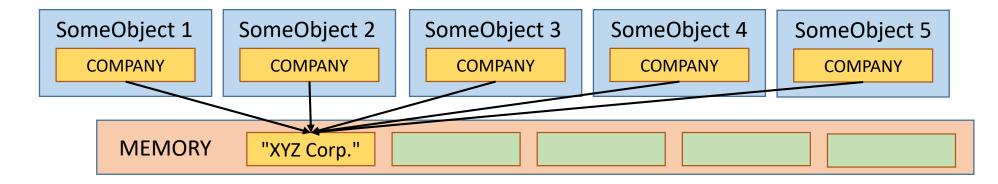
```
public final String COMPANY = "XYZ Corp.";
public SomeObject() {
    ...
}
```

 Every time we instantiate this object, space is allotted for each object's COMPANY field.



• By making the constant a static field, we can save space:

```
public final static String COMPANY = "XYZ Corp.";
public SomeObject() {
    ...
}
```



• Another common use of static fields is to count how many instances of an object has been created:

```
private int length;
private int width;
private static int numInstances = 0;
public Rectangle(int lengthIn, int widthIn) {
   length = lengthIn;
   width = widthIn;
   numInstances += 1;
public int getNumberOfInstances() {
   return numInstances; ←
```

Since the numInstances variable is static, the same value will be referenced for any instance of a Rectangle object.

```
public static void main(String[] args) {
   Rectangle r1 = new Rectangle(8, 9);
   System.out.println("Total instances = " + r1.getNumberOfInstances());
   Rectangle r2 = new Rectangle(10, 3);
   System.out.println("Total instances = " + r1.getNumberOfInstances());
}
```

```
Total instances = 1
Total instances = 2
```

- Every println statement uses "r1"
 - Notice we haven't done anything to r1 besides call a getter method.
- Every constructor call incremented the value of the numInstances field, which shares the same reference across all instances.

Using Static Fields Within a Class

- Static variables have class scope.
 - They can be used by all methods and constructors in the class, just like any instance variable.

```
private double nonStaticExample;
private static int staticExample;

public SomeObject() {
    staticExample += 1;
    nonStaticExample += 2.5;
    ...
}

public double getSumOfValues() {
    return staticExample + nonStaticExample;
}
```

Using Static Fields Within a Class

• However, local variables cannot be static.

```
public void exampleMethod() {
    static int value;
    ...
}
Will not compile
```

Static Methods

- A **static method** is a method that can be called without having an instance of the object.
 - When you get the square root of a number using the Math class, notice how
 you don't have to instantiate a Math object to do so. The sqrt method, like all
 methods in the Math class, are static.

• IMPORTANT: Since static methods can be called without an instance of the object, the body of a static method cannot use its object's instance fields.

Declaring a Static Method

• Place the **static** keyword before the method's return type.

```
MODIFIERS static TYPE NAME(PARAMETERS) {
```

```
Example: public static String myStaticMethod() {
```

Static Methods

 The add method in the Calculate class below can be called with or without an instance of the object.

Static Methods vs Non-Static Methods

Static methods

- Can contain local variables of any data or object type.
- Can use the static fields of its class.
- Cannot use the instance fields of its class.
- Can call any static methods in the same class.
- Cannot call any non-static methods in the same class.
 - As non-static methods may rely on using instance fields.
- Can be called without an instance of the class.

Non-static methods

- Can contain local variables of any data or object type.
- Can use any (static or non-static) fields of its class.
- Can call any method (static or non-static) in the same class.
- Cannot be called without an instance of the class.

Static Members in UML

- In UML Class Diagrams, static members are underlined.
 - Only the name; not type, return type, or parameters.

Rectangle

-length: int
-width: int
-numInstances: int

+Rectangle(lengthIn: int, widthIn: int)
+getNumberOfInstances(): int