

Golang Programming

Interfaces. Http handlers. Routing with ServeMux. Sorting. Templates. JSON

Where to Find The Code and Materials?

https://github.com/iproduct/coursego

Interfaces as Contracts

- Interfaces in Go are abstractions (generalizations) of the concrete types' behaviors. They specify the contract that concrete types implement.
- While type embedding effectively achieves non-virtual inheritance, interfaces in Go allow for virtual inheritance.
- Structurally typed interfaces provide runtime polymorphism through dynamic dispatch.
- Go interfaces are satisfied implicitly duck typing. Substitutable impl.
- An interface type specifies a method set called its interface.
- A variable of interface type can store a value of any type with a method set that is any superset of the interface. Such type implements the interface.
- The value of an uninitialized variable of interface type is nil.

Example 1: Interface Writer and fmt.Fprintf()

```
package io
type Writer interface {
    Write(p []byte) (n int, err error)
type ByteSlice []byte // implements Writer
func (slice *ByteSlice) Write(data []byte) (n int, err error) {
    *slice = append([]byte(*slice), data...)
    return len(data), nil
func main() {
     var b ByteSlice
     fmt.Fprintf(&b, "Interfaces in Go are %s\n", "useful")
     fmt.Printf("%v", b) //[73 110 116 101 114 102 97 99 101 115 32 105 110 32 71
                         // 111 32 97 114 101 32 117 115 101 102 117 108 10]
```

Example 2: Interface Writer and fmt.Fprintf()

```
package io
type Writer interface {
    Write(p []byte) (n int, err error)
type ByteCount int // implements Writer
func (c *ByteCount) Write(p []byte) (int, error) {
    *c += ByteCounter(len(p))
    return len(p), nil
func main() {
    var c ByteCount
    fmt.Fprintf(&c, "Interfaces in Go are %s\n", "useful")
    fmt.Printf("%v\n", c) //Result: 28
```

Method Receivers and Interfaces

```
type Abser interface {
      Abs() float64
func main() {
      var a Abser
      f := MyFloat(-math.Sqrt2)
      v := Vertex{3, 4}
      a = f // MyFloat implements Abser
      fmt.Println(a.Abs())
      a = &v // *Vertex implements Abser
      // Vertex do not implement Abser
      //a = v
      fmt.Println(a.Abs())
```

```
type MyFloat float64
func (f MyFloat) Abs() float64 {
    if f < 0 {
         return float64(-f)
    return float64(f)
type Vertex struct {
    X, Y float64
func (v *Vertex) Abs() float64 {
    return math.Sqrt(v.X*v.X + v.Y*v.Y)
```

Example 3: Interface File - Multiple Implementations

```
type File interface {
   Read([]byte) (int, error)
   Write([]byte) (int, error)
   Close() error
type MyFile struct { /*...*/ } // Implementation of File interface
func (p MyFile) Read(b []byte) (n int, err error) { return /*...*/ }
func (p MyFile) Write(b []byte) (n int, err error) { return /*...*/ }
func (p MyFile) Close() error
                                                    { return /*...*/ }
type OtherFile struct { /*...*/ } // Another implementation of File interface
func (o *OtherFile) Read(b []byte) (n int, err error) { return /*...*/ }
func (o *OtherFile) Write(b []byte) (n int, err error) { return /*...*/ }
func (o *OtherFile) Close() error
                                                        { return /*...*/ }
var f File
f = MyFile{} //or &MyFile{}
fmt.Printf("%T", f)
f = &OtherFile{}
fmt.Printf("%T", f)
```

Interface Types

```
type Reader interface {
       Read(p []byte) (n int, err error)
type Closer interface {
       Close() error
type ReadWriter interface {
       Reader
       Writer
type File interface {
       Reader
       Writer
       Closer
```

Interface Types – Errors: Selector Duplication

```
type ReadWriter interface {
       Read(b Buffer) bool
       Write(b Buffer) bool
type Locker interface {
       Lock()
       Unlock()
type File interface {
       ReadWriter // same as adding the methods of ReadWriter
                  // same as adding the methods of Locker
       Locker
       Close()
type LockedFile interface {
       Locker
       File
               // illegal: Lock, Unlock not unique
       Lock() // illegal: Lock not unique
```

Interface Types – Errors: Recursive Embeding

```
// illegal: Bad cannot embed itself
type Bad interface {
         Bad
}

// illegal: Bad1 cannot embed itself using Bad2
type Bad1 interface {
         Bad2
}

type Bad2 interface {
         Bad1
}
```

Interface Conformance and Duck Typing

```
// Declaring io.Writer interface implementation by *bytes.Buffer
var io.Writer = (*bytes.Buffer)(nil)
// Interface satisfaction
var w Writer
w = os.Stdout // *os.File has method Write()
w = new(bytes.Buffer) // *bytes.Buffer has method Write()
w = time.Hour  // compile time error: no method Write()
w.Write([]byte("abcd"))
var f File
f = os.Stdout
w = f
f = w // compile time error: w has no methods Read() and Close()
```

Maps of Interfaces as Keys and Values

- The comparison operators == and != must be fully defined for operands of the key type.
- If the key type is an interface type, these comparison operators must be defined for the dynamic key values; failure will cause a run-time panic.
- Examples:

```
var m1 map[*Writer]struct{ x, y float64 }
var m2 map[string]interface{}
```

Embedding Interfaces in Structs

```
type Bouncer interface {
       Bounce()
type Football struct {
       Bouncer
type Ball struct {
       Radius
              int
       Material string
func (b Ball) Bounce() {
       fmt.Printf("Ball bouncing ... %v\n", b)
func main() {
       // Interfaces embedding
       fb := Football{Ball{Radius: 5, Material: "leather"}}
       fb.Bounce()
```

Interface Values

- Under the hood, interface values can be thought of as a tuple of a value and a concrete type: (value, type)
- An interface value holds a value of a specific underlying concrete type.
- Calling a method on an interface value executes the method of the same name on its underlying type.

Interface Values Example

```
package main
import (
    "fmt"
    "math"
type I interface {
     M()
type T struct {
     S string
func (t *T) M() {
     fmt.Println(t.S)
```

```
type F float64
func (f F) M() {
    fmt.Println(f)
func main() {
    var i I
    i = &T{"Hello"}
    describe(i) //(&{Hello}, *main.T)
    i.M() //Hello
    i = F(math.Pi)
    describe(i) //(3.141592653589793, main.F)
    i.M() //3.141592653589793
func describe(i I) {
    fmt.Printf("(%v, %T)\n", i, i)
```

Interface Values with nil Underlying Values

```
package main
import "fmt"
type I interface {
    M()
type T struct {
    S string
func (t *T) M() {
    if t == nil {
       fmt.Println("<nil>")
       return
    fmt.Println(t.S)
```

```
func main() {
   var i I
   var t *T
   i = t
   describe(i) //(<nil>, *main.T)
   i.M() //<nil>
   i = \&T{"hello"}
   describe(i) //(&{hello}, *main.T)
   i.M() //hello
func describe(i I) {
   fmt.Printf("(%v, %T)\n", i, i)
```

Nil Interface Values

```
package main
import "fmt"
type I interface {
       M()
func main() {
       var i I
       describe(i)
       i.M() // (<nil>, <nil>)
              // panic: runtime error: invalid memory address or nil pointer dereference
              // [signal 0xc0000005 code=0x0 addr=0x0 pc=0x49c106]
func describe(i I) {
       fmt.Printf("(%v, %T)\n", i, i)
```

The Empty Interface

- The interface type that specifies zero methods is known as the empty interface: interface{}
- An empty interface may hold values of any type. (Every type implements at least zero methods.)
- Empty interfaces are used by code that handles values of unknown type. For example, fmt.Print takes any number of arguments of type interface{}.

```
func main() {
    var i interface{}
    describe(i) // (<nil>, <nil>)

    i = 42
    describe(i) // (42, int)

    i = "hello"
    describe(i) // (hello, string)
}
```

Type Assertions

 A type assertion provides access to an interface value's underlying concrete value.

$$t := i.(T)$$

- This statement asserts that the interface value i holds the concrete type T and assigns the underlying T value to the variable t.
- If i does not hold a T, the statement will trigger a panic.
- To test whether an interface value holds a specific type, a type assertion can return two values: the underlying value and a boolean value that reports whether the assertion succeeded.

$$t$$
, ok := i.(T)

Type Assertion Examples

```
import "fmt"
func main() {
       var i interface{} = "hello"
       s := i.(string)
       fmt.Println(s) // hello
       s, ok := i.(string)
       fmt.Println(s, ok) // hello true
       f, ok := i.(float64)
       fmt.Println(f, ok) // 0 false
       f = i.(float64) // panic
       fmt.Println(f) // panic: interface conversion: interface {} is string, not float64
```

Type Switches

- A type switch is a construct that permits several type assertions in series.
- A type switch is like a regular switch statement, but the cases in a type switch specify types (not values), and those values are compared against the type of the value held by the given interface value.

Interface Conversion using Type Switches/Assertions

```
type Stringer interface {
      String() string
var value interface{} // Value provided by caller.
func String() {
      case string:
            return str
      case Stringer:
            return str.String()
      if str, ok := value.(string); ok { // The same as above with type assertion
            return str
      } else if str, ok := value.(Stringer); ok {
            return str.String()
```

Errors: Generation and Handling (Recap)

```
import (
       "errors"
       "fmt"
func calculateArea(radius int) (int, error) {
       if radius < 0 {</pre>
               //return 0, errors.New("provide positive radius: " + strconv.Itoa(radius))
               return 0, fmt.Errorf("provide positive radius: %d", radius)
       return radius * radius, nil
func main() {
       areaValue, err := calculateArea(-12);
       if err != nil {
               fmt.Printf("Error: %v", err) //Error: provide positive radius: -12
               return
       fmt.Println(areaValue)
```

Interface error (Recap)

Errors should implement the built-in, universally accessible error interface:

```
type error interface {
         Error() string
}
```

They can have additional fields capturing the complete error context - Ex:

Callers that care about the error details can use a type switch or assertion:

```
if e, ok := err.(*os.PathError); ok && e.Err == syscall.ENOSPC { ...
```

Example Handling PathError (Recap)

```
for try := 0; try < 2; try++ {
      file, err := os.Create(filename)
      if err == nil {
             return
      if e, ok := err.(*os.PathError); ok && e.Err == syscall.ENOSPC {
             deleteTempFiles() // Recover some space.
             continue
      return
// Do something useful with the created file ...
```

Custom Errors(Recap)

```
type MyError struct {
      When time. Time
      What string
func (e *MyError) Error() string {
      return fmt.Sprintf("at %v, %s",
             e.When, e.What)
func run() error {
      return &MyError{
             time.Now(),
             "it didn't work",
func main() {
      if err := run(); err != nil {
             fmt.Println(err)
```

https://blog.golang.org/error-handling-and-go, https://golang.org/doc/effective_go.html#errors

Sorting by implementing sort.Interface (1)

```
import ("fmt"; "sort")
type Sequence []int
// Methods required by sort.Interface.
func (s Sequence) Len() int {
       return len(s)
func (s Sequence) Less(i, j int) bool {
       return s[i] < s[j]</pre>
func (s Sequence) Swap(i, j int) {
       s[i], s[j] = s[j], s[i]
// Copy returns a copy of the Sequence.
func (s Sequence) Copy() Sequence {
       copy := make(Sequence, 0, len(s))
       return append(copy, s...)
```

Sorting by implementing sort.Interface (2)

```
// Method for printing - sorts the elements before printing.
func (s Sequence) String() string {
    s = s.Copy()
    sort.Sort(s)
    return fmt.Sprint([]int(s))
}
func main() {
    s := Sequence{54, 12, 3, 17, 29, 77, 22, 34, 2, 3, 91, 22, 5}
    fmt.Println(s) //[2 3 3 5 12 17 22 22 29 34 54 77 91]
}
```

Sorting using sort.IntSlice().Sort() - Shorter

```
type Sequence []int
// Copy returns a copy of the Sequence.
func (s Sequence) Copy() Sequence {
      copy := make(Sequence, 0, len(s))
      return append(copy, s...)
// String method sorts elements and returns them as string
func (s Sequence) String() string {
      s = s.Copy()
      sort.IntSlice(s).Sort()
      return fmt.Sprint([]int(s))
```

Example: Sort solar planets by multiple criteria

https://github.com/iproduct/coursego/tree/master/sorting/sort-keys

Interface http.Handler

```
type Handler interface {
        ServeHTTP(ResponseWriter, *Request)
}
```

func hello(w http.ResponseWriter, req *http.Request) {

```
fmt.Fprintf(w, "hello\n")
func headers(w http.ResponseWriter, r *http.Request) {
       fmt.Fprintf(w, "%s %s %s\n", r.Method, r.URL, r.Proto)
       fmt.Fprintf(w, "Host = %q\nRemoteAddr = %q\n\n ", r.Host, r.RemoteAddr)
       for name, headers := range r.Header {
              for _, h := range headers {
                      fmt.Fprintf(w, "%v: %v\n", name, h)
func main() {
       http.HandleFunc("/hello", hello)
       http.HandleFunc("/headers", headers)
       http.ListenAndServe(":8080", nil)
```

Example: HTTP QR Link Generator





① localhost:8080/?s=https%3A%2F%2Fgithub.com%2Fiproduct%2Fcoursego&qr=Show+QR



https://github.com/iproduct/coursego

Show QR

Example: HTTP - QR Link Generator - Code

```
import ( "flag"; "html/template"; "log"; "net/http")
var addr = flag.String("addr", ":8080", "http service address")
var templ = template.Must(template.New("qr").Parse(templateStr))
func main() {
       flag.Parse()
       http.Handle("/", http.HandlerFunc(QR))
       err := http.ListenAndServe(*addr, nil)
       if err != nil {
              log.Fatal("ListenAndServe:", err)
// QR http handler function return the HTML template with QR code for the input link
func QR(w http.ResponseWriter, req *http.Request) {
       templ.Execute(w, req.FormValue("s"))
```

HTML Template [https://golang.org/pkg/html/template/]

```
const templateStr = `
<html>
<head>
<title>OR Link Generator</title>
</head>
<body>
{{if .}}
<img src="http://chart.apis.google.com/chart?chs=300x300&cht=qr&choe=UTF-8&chl={{.}}" />
<br>
{{.}}
<br>
<br>
{{end}}
<form action="/" name=f method="GET"><input maxLength=1024 size=70</pre>
name=s value="" title="Text to QR Encode"><input type=submit
value="Show QR" name=qr>
</form>
</body>
</html>
```

Text Templates [https://golang.org/pkg/text/template/]

```
3 books:
import ("html/template"; "log"; "os")
const textTempl =
`{{len .}} issues:
                                                                  ID: fmd-DwAAQBAJ
{{range .}}-----
ID: {{.ID}}
                                                                  Title: Hands-On Software Architecture with Golang
Title: {{.Title | printf "%.64s"}}
{{end}}`
                                                                  ID: o86PDwAAOBAJ
func main() {
                                                                  Title: Learn Data Structures with Golang
        tmpl := template.New("report")
        tmpl, err := tmpl.Parse(textTempl)
        if err != nil {
                                                                  ID: xfPEDwAAQBAJ
                log.Fatal("Error Parsing template: ", err)
                return
                                                                  Title: From Ruby to Golang
        err1 := tmpl.Execute(os.Stdout, goBooks)
        if err1 != nil {
                log.Fatal("Error executing template: ", err1)
```

JSON Marshalling and Unmarshalling

```
// Structs --> JSON
data, err := json.Marshal(goBooks)
if err != nil {
       log.Fatalf("JSON marshaling failed: %s", err)
fmt.Printf("%s\n", data)
// Prettier formatting
data, err = json.MarshalIndent(goBooks, "", "
if err != nil {
       log.Fatalf("JSON marshaling failed: %s", err)
fmt.Printf("%s\n", data)
// JSON -> structs
var books []Book
if err := json.Unmarshal(data, &books); err != nil {
       log.Fatalf("JSON unmarshaling failed: %s", err)
fmt.Println("AFTER UNMARSHAL:\n", books)
```

Example: Bookstore Web App

https://github.com/iproduct/coursego/tree/master/http/bookstore

Routing with http.ServeMux (1)

```
type database map[string]Book
func (db database) list(w http.ResponseWriter, req *http.Request) {
       for , book := range db {
              fmt.Fprintf(w, "%s: %s - $%6.2f\n", book.ID, book.Title, book.RetailPrice)
func (db database) price(w http.ResponseWriter, req *http.Request) {
       id := req.URL.Query().Get("id")
       if book, ok := db[id]; ok {
              fmt.Fprintf(w, "$%6.2f\n", book.RetailPrice)
       } else {
              w.WriteHeader(http.StatusNotFound) // 404
              fmt.Fprintf(w, "no book with ID: %q\n", id)
```

Routing with http.ServeMux (2)

```
var db database = make(map[string]Book, 10)
func init() {
       for _, book := range goBooks {
              db[book.ID] = book
func main() {
       mux := http.NewServeMux()
       mux.HandleFunc("/list", db.list)
       mux.HandleFunc("/price", db.price)
       log.Fatal(http.ListenAndServe("localhost:8080", mux))
```

Exercise: Implement additional Bookstore handlers

- Extend the Bookstore web application (from previous slide) with following functionality:
 - In the /books main page, present an HTML button <Add to Favorites> next to each book, that submits the selected book to the server, and server ads it to Favorites collection, and <Details> button that presents the book details in a corresponding page (/book?id=<bookID>).
 - /favorites web page that presents the books added to Favorites, and shows a <Remove> button next to each favorite book, that removes it from Favorites, as well as a <Details> button that presents the book details in a corresponding page, and <All Books> button redirecting to /books.
 - /book?id=<bookID> page that presents full details about the book together with <Add to Favorites>/<Remove>, and < All Books > buttons with the same functionally as explained above.

Generality Using Interfaces

- If a type exists only to implement an interface and will never have exported methods beyond that interface, there is no need to export the type itself.
- Exporting just the interface makes it clear the value has no interesting behavior beyond what is described in the interface. It also avoids the need to repeat the documentation on every instance of a common method:

Homework 3 (Building simple web application) (1)

Implement a web server in Go that allows User registration and authentication:

- 1. Implement an interface UserDetails with following methods:
 - Username() returns username
 - Password()/SetPassword() returns/sets password
 - Authorities()/Set Authorities() returns/sets user authorities (roles andr permissions)
 - NonExpired()/SetNonExpired() returns/set whether the user's account has expired
 - Enabled()/SetEnabled() returns/sets whether the user's account is enabled
 - String() returns string representation of UserDetails
- 2. Implement concrete type User that implements UserDetails interface and NewUser() constructor function. The available user roles should be USER and ADMIN as enumerated constants and they should be used as user authorities.
- 3. The user database (map) should be initialized with a default ADMIN user

Homework 3 (Building simple web application) (cont)

- 3. Implement a web server exposing the following handlers:
 - /register presents HTML form for user registration and submits the data to the server using POST method to the same URL
 - /login presents an interface for user login and submits the data using POST method to the same URL, after successful login user is redirected to /users page, or otherwise an error is shown in the error page
 - /logout logouts the currently logged user
 - /users in case the user is not logged in, redirects to /login page, otherwise presents the list of all registered users, and shows edit and delete buttons:
 - in case the current user is in ADMIN role can edit and delete all registered users (including changing their roles)
 - in case the current user is in USER role can edit and delete only own data (no role change is allowed)
 - /user?id=<userID> presents full user details, excluding password
 - /user?id=<userID>&edit=true allows changing the user data, except username

Recommended Literature

- The Go Documentation https://golang.org/doc/
- The Go Bible: Effective Go https://golang.org/doc/effective_go.html
- David Chisnall, The Go Programming Language Phrasebook, Addison Wesley, 2012
- Alan A. A. Donovan, Brian W. Kernighan, The Go Programming Language, Addison Wesley, 2016
- Nathan Youngman, Roger Peppé, Get Programming with Go, Manning, 2018
- Naren Yellavula, Building RESTful Web Services with Go, Packt, 2017

Thank's for Your Attention!



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