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Generics and Collections

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About me



Trayan Iliev

- CEO of IPT Intellectual Products & Technologies
- Oracle[®] certified programmer 15+ Y
- end-to-end reactive fullstack apps with Java,
 ES6/7, TypeScript, Angular, React and Vue.js
- 12+ years IT trainer
- Voxxed Days, jPrime, jProfessionals, BGOUG, BGJUG, DEV.BG speaker
- Organizer RoboLearn hackathons and IoT enthusiast (http://robolearn.org)



Where to Find the Code?

Java Web Development projects and examples are available @ GitHub:

https://github.com/iproduct/course-java-web-development



Agenda for This Session

- toString(), hashCode(), and equals()
- Collections Overview,
- Collection interfaces,
- Sorted collections, comparators
- Using Collections
- Generic Types





Arrays. Comapring and Sorting

- Arrays and working with them
- Utility methods of the class Arrays:
- -equals()
- -fill()
- -copyOf() и copyOfRange()
- -binarySearch()
- -sort()
- Comparing objects interfaces and Comparator

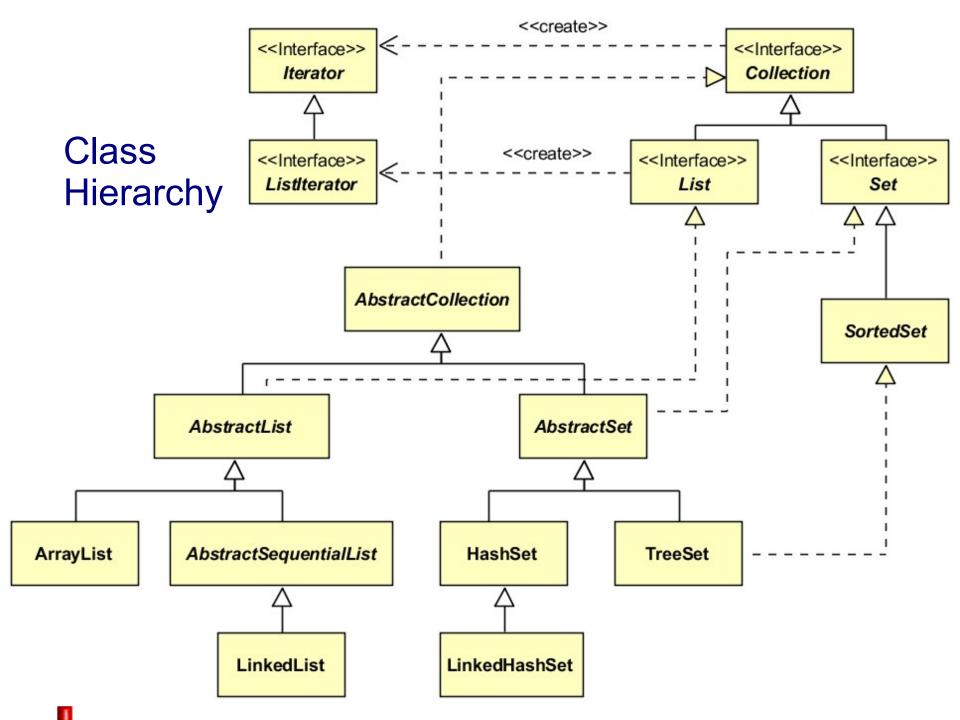
Comparable



Container Classes and Interfaces. Iterators.

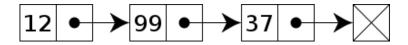
- ❖Колекции интерфейс Collection
- ❖Списъци интерфейс List, реализации ArrayList, LinkedList, ...
- ❖Множества интерфейс Set, реализации HashSet, TreeSet, …
- ❖Асоциативни списъци интерфейс Мар, реализации – HashMap, TreeMap, LinkedHashMap, WeakHashMap, ...
- ❖Обхождане на колекция с итератор.
- ❖Реализиране на структури от данни стек, опашка, дек – интерфейси Queue и Dequeue. Реализации.



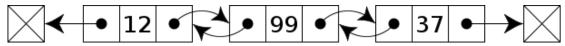


Data Structures

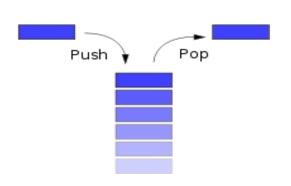
•Linked list:



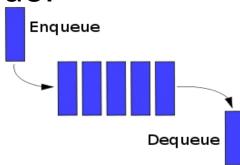
•Doubly-linked list:



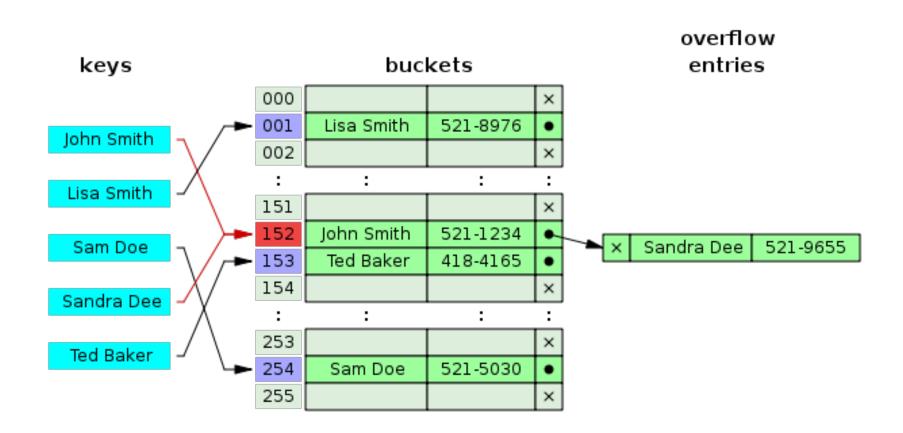
•Stack:



•Queue:



Hashinng. Hash-Functions. Hash Tables





Parameterizied Types: Generics (1)

- Collections and their methods before Java 5 were limited to handle a single type of elements.
- ❖If we want to create typed containers we had to implement different container types for each entity type.
- *Example: In a e-Bookstore we want to sell Books and want the container to contain only Books (being strongly typed) --> we should implement separate class BookList, as well as for each Book we want to keep a list of Authors --> we should implement AuthorList too, and so on.



Parameterizied Types: Generics (2)

- Solution: We can skip writing multiple similar classes (e.g. typed containers for each type of elements) using Generic types
- ❖ Generic type invocation:

List<Book> books = new ArrayList<Book>()
List<Author> authors = new ArrayList<Author>()

❖ <> - Diamond operator - new in Java™ 7, allows automatic inference of the generic type:

List<Book> books = new ArrayList<>()

List<Author> authors = new ArrayList<>()



Parameterizied Types: Generics (3)

Generic type declaration:

```
public class Position<T extends Product> {
    private T product
                              Generic data type
    public Position(T product, double quantity) {
           this.product = product;
           this.quantity = quantity;
           price = product.getPrice();
    public T getProduct() {
           return product;
```

Conventions Naming Generic Parameters

Generic parameters naming conventions:

```
•T – type parameter (if there are more – S, U, V, W ...)
•E – element of a collection – e.g.: List<E>
•K – key in associative pair – e.g.: Map<K,V>
•V – value in associative pair – e.g.: Map<K,V>
•N – number value
❖ Example:
public class Invoice < T extends Product> {
    private List<Position<T>> positions = new ArrayList<>();
```



Generic Methods (1)

We can implement generic methods and constructors too:

```
public static <U extends Product> String
getPositionsAsString (List<Position<U>> positions) {
   StringBuilder posStr = new StringBuilder();
   int n = 0;
   for(Position<U> p: positions){
       posStr.append( String.format(
"\n| %1$3s | %2$30s | %3$6s | %4$4s | %5$6s |%6$8s |",
++n, p.getProduct().getName(), p.getQuantity(),
p.getProduct().getMeasure(),p.getPrice(), p.getTotal()
        ));
   return posStr.toString();
```



Generic Methods (2)

Invoking generic method / constructor:

```
result += Invoice.<T>
getPositionsAsString(positions);
```

❖OR we can let Java to automatically infer the generic type:

result += Invoice.getPositionsAsString(positions);



Bounded Type Parameters

❖We can define upper bound constraint for the possible types that can be allowed as actual generic type parameters of the class / method /constructor:

```
public static <U extends Product> String
getPositionsAsString (List<Position<U>> positions) { ... }
```

⇔OR

Generics Sub-typing

- ❖If the class Product extends class Item, can we say that List<Product> extends List<Item> too? Can we substitute the first with the second?
- ❖The answer is "NOT", because the basic generic type is not designed to reflect the specifics of of the Products.
- ❖Dos and donts when using generics inheritance:

```
interface Service extends Item; Service s = new Service( ...); Collection<Service> services = ...; services.add(s); // OK interface Product extends Item; Product p = new Product( ...); Collection<Product> products = ...; products.add(p); // OK Collection<Item> items = ...; items.add(s); items.add(p); // OK items = products; // NOT OK items = services; // NOT OK
```



Using ? as Type Specifier (Wildcards)

❖If we want to declare that we expect specific, but not pre-determined type, which for example extends the class **Item**, we could use ? To designate this:

```
Collection<? extends Item> items; // Upper bound is Item
items = products; // OK
items = services; // OK
Items.add(p); // NOT OK – Can not write into it – it is not safe!
Items.add(s); // NOT OK – Can not write into it – it is not safe!
for(Item i: items) { // OK - Can read it - it is known to be at least Item.
   System.out.println( i.getName() + ":" + i.getPrice() );
List<? super Product> products; // Lower bound is Product
products.add(p); // OK – Can write into it – it is now safe.
Product p = products.get(0); //NOT OK may be superclass of Product
```

❖Producer extends and Consumer super (PECS) principle



Type Erasure & Reification

•Type Erasure – chosen in java as backward-compatibility alternative – information about generic type parameters is erased during compilation, and is NOT available in runtime – the generic type becomes compiled to its basic raw type:

Collection<Product> products; --(runtime)--> Collection products;

This design decision creates problems if we want to create generic type instance with **new**, or to convert to the generic type, or to check the generic type using **instanceof**.

•Reification – better alternative strategy, implemented in languages such as C++, Ada μ Eiffel, using which the generic type information is accessible in runtime.



Generic Containers

- Allow compile time type checking earlier error detection
- Remove unnecessary typecasting to more specific types less ClassCastExceptions
- **❖**Examples:

```
Collection <String> s = new ArrayList <String>();
Map <Integer, String> table = new HashMap <Integer,
String>()
```

❖New for loop – for each element of a Collection :

for(String i: s) { System.out.println(i) }



Main Implementing Classes. Examples

- Associative lists (dictionaries) interface Map
- Comparing different implementations:
- -HashMap
- -TreeMap
- -LinkedHashMap
- -WeakHashMap
- ❖ Hashing.
- ❖Cash implementations Reference, SoftReference,
 WeakReference и PhantomReference
- Choosing a container implementation



Литература и интернет ресурси

Oracle Generics tutorial –

https://docs.oracle.com/javase/tutorial/extra/generics/index.html

Thank's for Your Attention!



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