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# CS 234: Object-Oriented Programming in Java

Lecture – Object Oriented  
Design & Concepts

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## Outline

- Object-Oriented Programming Model
- Encapsulation/Access Control
- Inheritance
- Polymorphism
- Method Overriding
- Abstraction
- Interfaces



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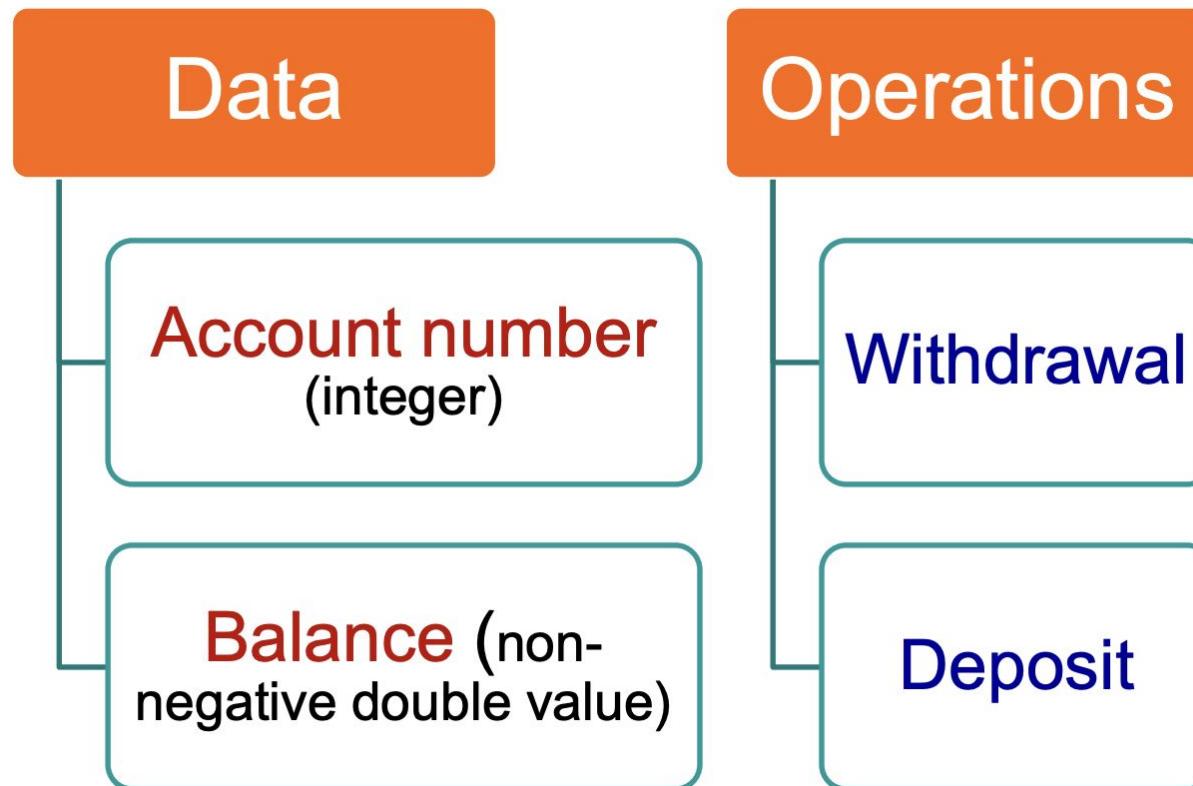
## OO Programming Model



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## Example

- Design a program that models a bank account

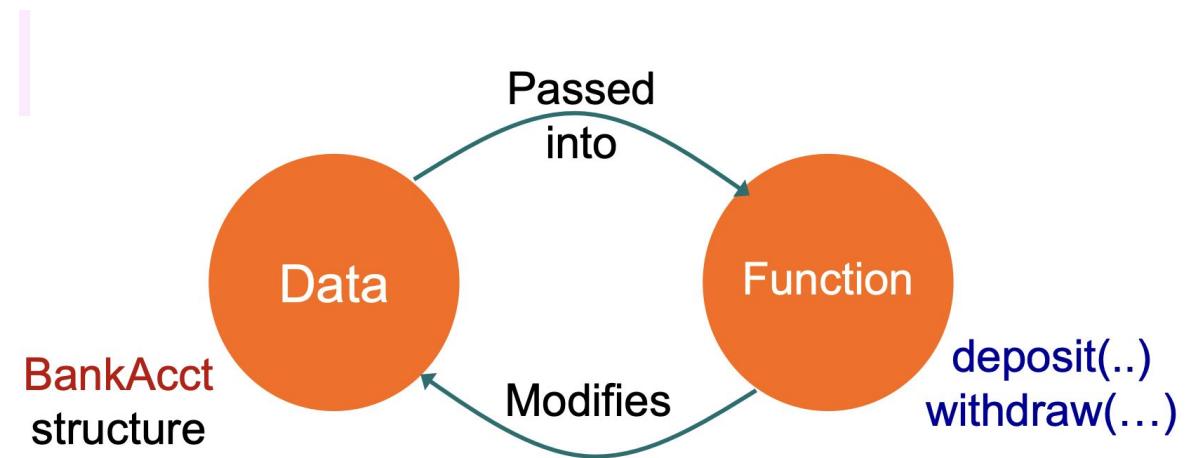




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## Bank Account (Procedural Implementation)

- Data (structure) and functions (operations) are treated as separate entities
- Program is viewed as transforming data





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## Bank Account (Procedural Implementation)

```
typedef struct {  
    int acctNum;  
    double balance;  
} BankAcct;
```

Structure to hold data

```
void initialize(BankAcct *baPtr, int anum) {  
    baPtr->acctNum = anum;  
    baPtr->balance = 0;  
}  
  
int withdraw(BankAcct *baPtr, double amount) {  
    if (baPtr->balance < amount)  
        return 0; // indicate failure  
    baPtr->balance -= amount;  
    return 1; // indicate success  
}  
  
void deposit(BankAcct *baPtr, double amount)  
{ ... Code not shown ... }
```

Functions to provide basic operations

Correct use of `BankAcct` and its operations

```
BankAcct bal;  
  
initialize(&bal, 12345);  
deposit(&bal, 1000.50);  
withdraw(&bal, 500.00);  
withdraw(&bal, 600.00);  
  
...
```

Wrong and malicious exploits of `BankAcct`

```
BankAcct bal;  
  
deposit(&bal, 1000.50);  
initialize(&bal, 12345);  
bal.acctNum = 54321;  
  
bal.balance = 10000000.00;  
  
...
```

Forgot to initialize

Account Number should not change!

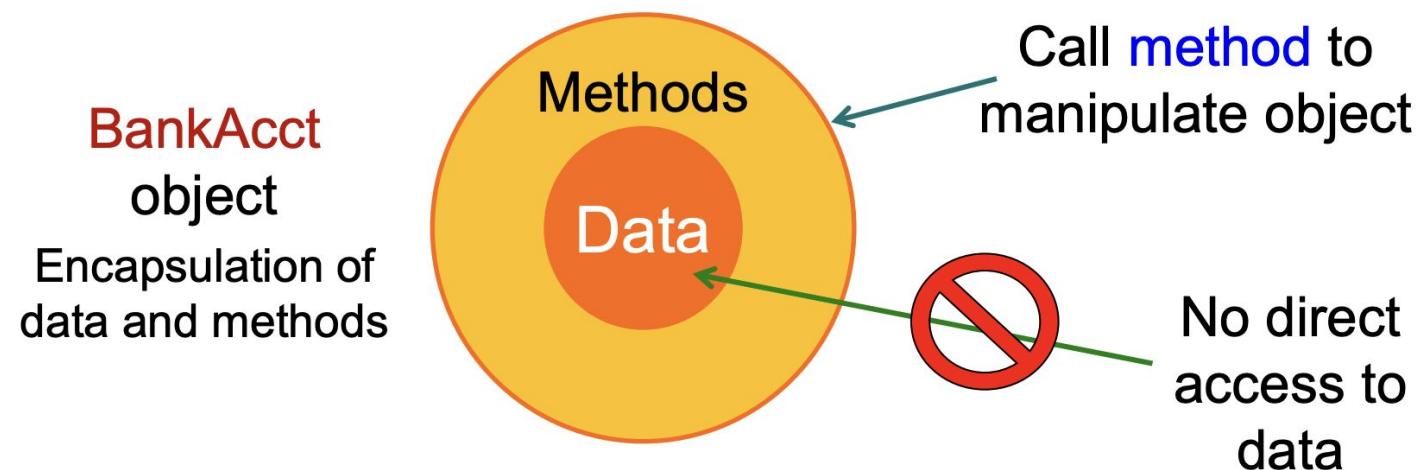
Balance should be changed by authorized operations only



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## Bank Account (OO Implementation)

- Program is viewed as a collection of **objects**
  - Computation is done via object interaction
- Each object has a set of **attributes** and **functionalities**
  - Functionalities are generally exposed
  - Attributes are generally hidden





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## Procedural (e.g. C)

- Procedural/Imperative
  - View a program as a process of transforming data
  - Data and associated functions are separated
  - Data is publicly accessible to everyone
- Advantages
  - Resembles execution model of computer
  - Less design overhead
- Problems
  - Harder to understand (unclear relation between data and functions)
  - Hard to maintain
  - Hard to extend



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## OOP (e.g. Java)

- Concepts: encapsulation, inheritance, abstraction, and polymorphism
- Advantages
  - Easier to design (resembles the real world)
  - Easier to maintain (enforces modularity)
  - Extensible
- Problems
  - Reduced execution efficiency
  - Longer code (higher design overhead)



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## Fundamental OOP Concepts

- **Encapsulation**

- Bundling data and associated functionality
- Hiding internal details and restricting access

- **Inheritance**

- Deriving one class from another (code reuse)

- **Abstraction**

- Hiding the complexity of the implementation
- Focusing on specifications instead of implementation details

- **Polymorphism**

- Changes in functionality depending on data type



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## Encapsulation

Access Control



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## Encapsulation

- Wrapping up of data under a single unit
- It is the mechanism that binds together **code** and the **data** it manipulates
- It is a protective shield that prevents data from being accessed by outside code
  - Protect the data stored in a class from system-wide access



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## Encapsulation

- Implemented by making fields **private** and accessing only through member functions of own classes
- These special member functions for accessing private variables are called **getter** and **setter** methods
- **Getter methods** return the field
- **Setter methods** changes the value of the field



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## Example (without Access Control)

```
public class CreditCard {  
    String cardNumber;  
    double expenses;  
    void charge(double amount) {  
        expenses = expenses + amount;  
    }  
    String getCardNumber(String password) {  
        if (password.equals("SECRET!3*!")) {  
            return cardNumber;  
        }  
        return "jerkface";  
    }  
}
```



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## Malicious Class

```
public class Malicious {  
    public static void main(String[] args) {  
        maliciousMethod(new CreditCard());  
    }  
    static void maliciousMethod(CreditCard card)  
    {  
        card.expenses = 0;  
        System.out.println(card.cardNumber);  
    }  
}
```



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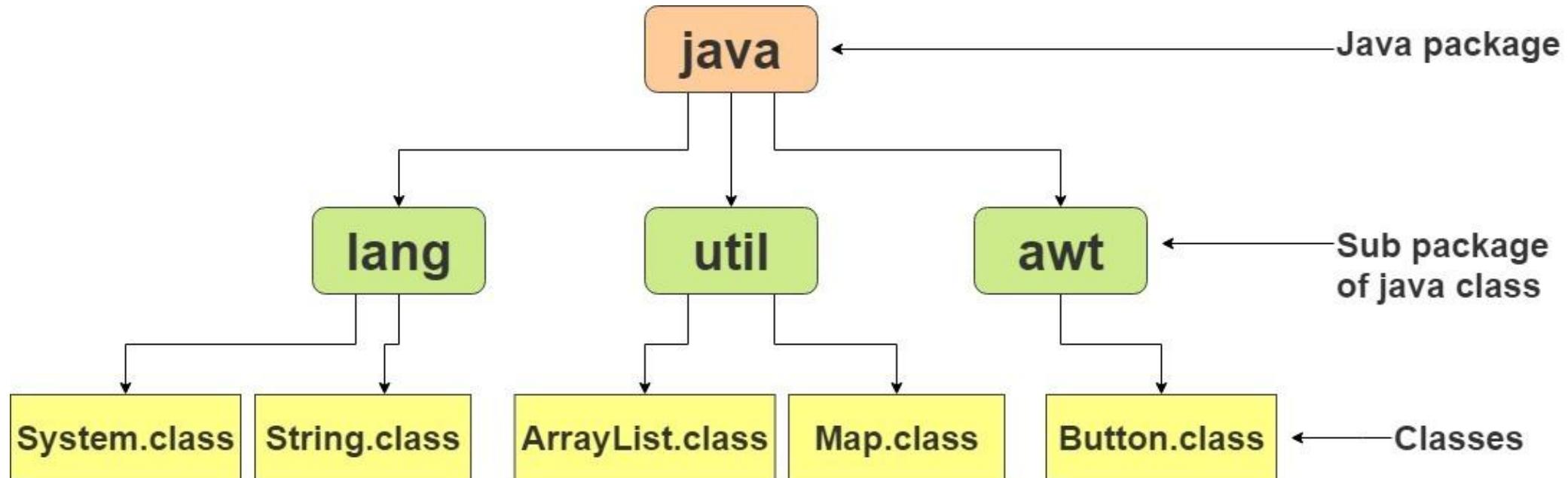
## Java Packages

- A group of similar types of classes, interfaces & sub-packages
- Two types: **built-in & user-defined**
  - Built-in examples: java, lang, awt, javax, swing, net etc...
- Benefits
  - Categorize classes and interfaces for easy maintenance
  - Access protection
  - Prevents naming collisions



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## Built-in Java Packages





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## Java Package Example

- The **package** keyword is used to create a package in Java

```
package packA;

public class A {
    public static void main(String args[]){
        System.out.println("Hello");
    }
}
```



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## How to access class in a package

- import package.\*;
- import package.classname;
- fully qualified name

```
package packB;  
import packA.*;  
  
class B {  
    public static void main(String args[]){  
        A obj = new A();  
        obj.msg();  
    }  
}
```

```
package packB;  
import packA.A;  
  
class B {  
    public static void main(String args[]){  
        A obj = new A();  
        obj.msg();  
    }  
}
```

```
package packB;  
  
class B {  
    public static void main(String args[]){  
        packA.A obj = new PackA.A();  
        obj.msg();  
    }  
}
```



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## Java Sub-packages

- Packages inside other packages are called **sub-packages**

Package    1st level subpackage    2nd level subpackage

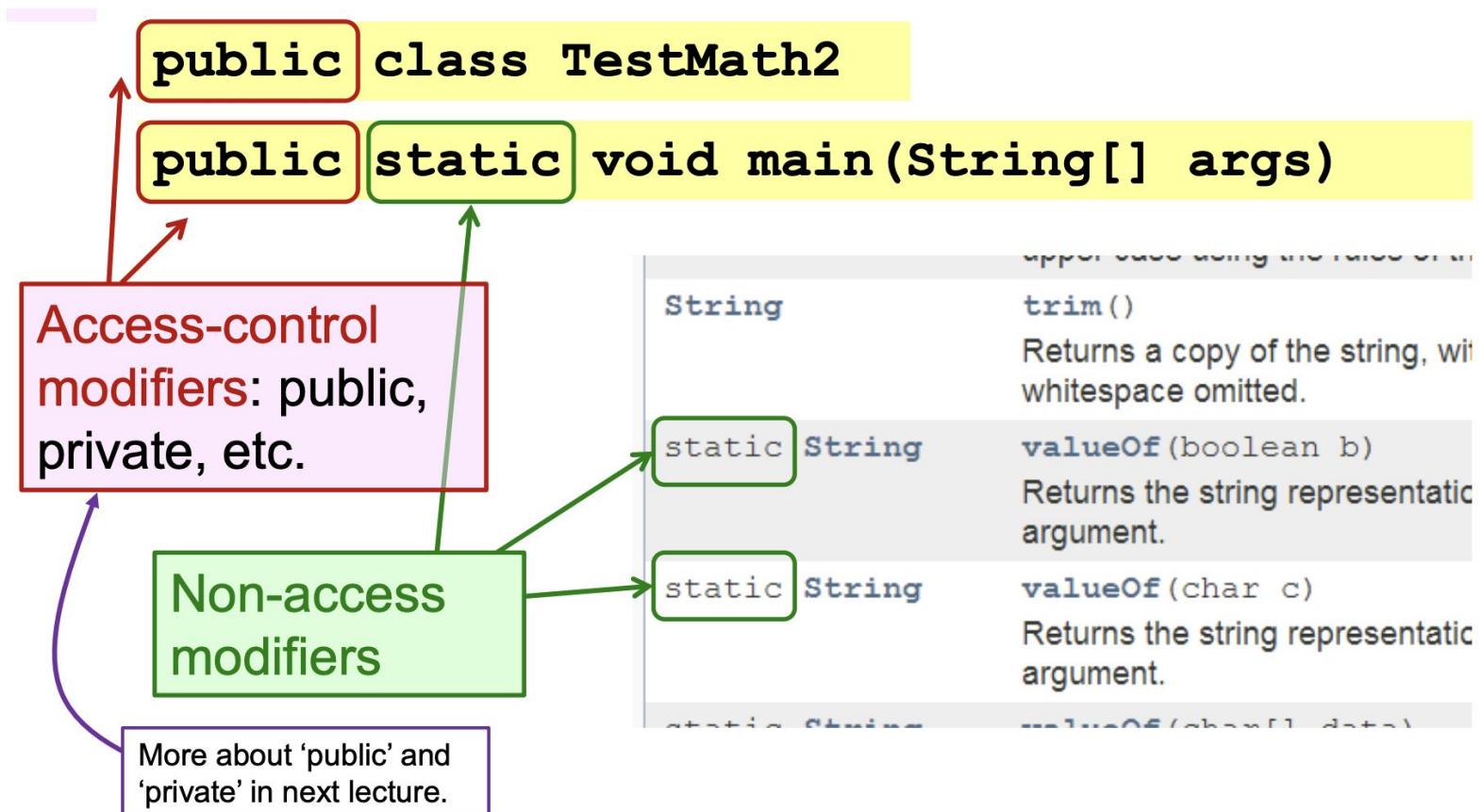
```
package pack.subpack.subsubpack;
```



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## Modifiers

- Keywords added to specify how a class/attribute/method works





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## Access Modifiers

- Specify accessibility or scope of a field, method, constructor or class
- Types
  - **Private**: accessible only within the class
  - **Default (none)**: accessible only within the package
  - **Protected**: accessible within the package and outside via a child class (not accessible outside if no child class)
  - **Public**: accessible everywhere (within/outside class or package)



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## Access Modifiers

Access Modifier	within class	within package	outside package by subclass only	outside package
<b>Private</b>	Y	N	N	N
<b>Default</b>	Y	Y	N	N
<b>Protected</b>	Y	Y	Y	N
<b>Public</b>	Y	Y	Y	Y



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## Example (with Access Modifiers)

```
public class CreditCard {  
    private String cardNumber;  
    private double expenses;  
    public void charge(double amount) {  
        expenses = expenses + amount;  
    }  
    public String getCardNumber(String password)  
    {  
        if (password.equals("SECRET!3*!")) {  
            return cardNumber;  
        }  
        return "jerkface";  
    }  
}
```



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## Why Access Modifiers?

- Protect private information
- Clarify how to use the class
- Keep implementation separate from interface



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## Access Modifier Guidelines

- **Attributes** are usually **private**
  - Information hiding – shield object data from outside view
  - Provide public methods for accessing attributes
  - Exceptions – **Point** class has public attributes **x** and **y**
- **Methods** are usually **public**
  - So that they are available to users
  - Internal methods in service of the class should be declared **private**



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## How to Access?

- Using getter and setter methods

```
class Animal {  
    private String name;  
    private double averageWeight;  
    private int numberofLegs;  
  
    // Getter methods  
    public String getName() {  
        return name;  
    }  
    public double getAverageWeight() {  
        return averageWeight;  
    }  
    public int getNumberofLegs() {  
        return numberofLegs;  
    }  
  
    // Setter methods  
    public void setName(String name) {  
        this.name = name;  
    }  
    public void setAverageWeight(double averageWeight) {  
        this.averageWeight = averageWeight;  
    }  
    public void setNumberofLegs(int numberofLegs) {  
        this.numberofLegs = numberofLegs;  
    }  
}
```



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## Inheritance



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## Introduction

- The process by which one class acquires the **properties** and **functionalities** of another class
  - **Super (Base) Class:** the class whose features are inherited
  - **Sub (Child) Class:** the class that inherits the other class
- Inheritance enables code reusability
  - Each subclass defines only those features that are unique to it. The rest of the features can be inherited from the parent class.
- Code in the base class need not be rewritten in the child class



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## Introduction

- Each subclass can be a superclass of future subclasses
- A subclass can add its own **fields** and **methods**
- A subclass is **more specific** than its superclass and represents a **more specialized** group of objects
- The subclass exhibits the behaviour of its superclass and can **add its own behaviours** specific to the subclass



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## Examples

- **Superclasses** tend to be *more general* and **subclasses** *more specific*

Superclass	Subclasses
Student	GraduateStudent, UndergraduateStudent
Shape	Circle, Triangle, Rectangle, Sphere, Cube
Loan	CarLoan, HomeImprovementLoan, MortgageLoan
Employee	Faculty, Staff
BankAccount	CheckingAccount, SavingsAccount



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## Syntax: Inheritance in Java

- To inherit the class we use the **extends** keyword
- Class **A** is the **child** class and class **B** is the **parent** class

```
class A extends B {  
}
```



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## Creating a subclass

- Consider an existing **BankAccount** class

```
class BankAccount {  
  
    private int accNumber;  
    private double balance;  
  
    public BankAccount() {}  
  
    public BankAccount(int acc, double bal) {}  
  
    public int getAccNumber() {}  
  
    public double getBalance() {}  
  
    public boolean withdraw(double amount) {}  
  
    public void deposit(double amount) {}  
  
    public void print() {}  
}
```



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## Creating a subclass

- Let's define a new **SavingAccount** class
- Basic information
  - Account number, balance
  - **Interest rate (new requirement)**
- Basic functionality
  - Withdraw, deposit
  - **Pay interest (new requirement)**
- Compare **SavingAccount** vs **BankAccount**
  - SavingAccount shares more than 50% of the code with BankAccount



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## Creating a subclass

- Duplicating code is **undesirable** as it is hard to maintain
  - Need to correct all copies if errors are found
  - Need to update all copies if modifications are required
- Duplicating code logically separates them
  - Two classes that share this code are still logically unrelated
- We should create `SavingAccount` as a **subclass** of `BankAccount`



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## Creating a subclass

```
class BankAccount {  
    protected int accNumber;  
    protected double balance;  
  
    ...  
  
}  
  
class SavingAccount extends BankAccount {  
    protected double rate; // interest rate  
  
    public void payInterest() {  
        balance += balance * rate;  
    }  
  
}
```

The **protected** keyword allows Subclass to access the attribute directly

The **extends** keyword indicates inheritance

This allows the subclass of SavingAccount to access the rate. If this is not intended, you may change it to private.



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## Benefits of OO Inheritance

- Can **save time** during program development by basing new classes on existing proven and debugged high quality software
- Reduces the amount of redundant code
  - In SavingAccount class – no definition of accNumber & balance, no definition of withdraw () and deposit ()
- Improves **Maintainability**
  - E.g. if a method is modified in BankAccount class, no changes are needed in SavingAccount class
- Reduces unintended changes
  - The code in BankAccount class remains untouched
    - Other programs that depend on BankAccount are unaffected



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## Constructors in subclasses

- Unlike normal methods, constructors are **NOT** inherited
  - You need to define constructor(s) in subclasses

```
class SavingAccount extends BankAccount {  
  
    protected double rate; // interest rate  
  
    public SavingAccount(int acc, double bal, double rate) {  
        accNumber = acc;  
        balance = bal;  
        this.rate = rate;  
    }  
  
    ...  
}
```



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## Using the subclass

```
public class TestSavingAccount {  
  
    public static void main(String[] args) {  
        SavingAccount sa1 = new SavingAccount(2, 10000.0, 0.05);  
  
        sa1.print();  
        sa1.withdraw(50.0);  
        sa1.payInterest();  
        sa1.print();  
    }  
  
}
```

Method inherited from BankAccount

Method in SavingAccount



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## The “super” keyword

- The **super** keyword allows us to use the methods (including constructors) in the superclass directly

```
public class SavingAccount extends BankAccount {  
    ...  
    public void print() {  
        super.print();  
        System.out.printf("Interest: %.2f%%\n", getRate());  
    }  
}
```



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## The “super” keyword

- The **super** keyword allows us to use the methods (including constructors) in the superclass directly
- If you use the superclass' constructor, it must be the **first statement** in the method body

```
class SavingAccount extends BankAccount {  
  
    protected double rate; // interest rate  
  
    public SavingAccount(int acc, double bal, double rate) {  
        super(acc, bal);  
        this.rate = rate;  
    }  
  
    ...  
}
```



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## Method Overriding

- Sometimes we need to modify the inherited method:
  - To change/extend the functionality
  - this is called **method overriding**
- In the `SavingAccount` class:
  - The `print()` method inherited from `BankAccount` should be modified to include the interest rate in the output
- To override an inherited method:
  - Re-implement the method in the subclass using the same method header
  - **Method header** refers to the name and parameters type of the method (also known as **method signature**)
  - The overridden method cannot be more restrictive



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## Example: Method Overriding

```
public class SavingAccount extends BankAccount {  
    ...  
    public void print() {  
        System.out.println("Account Number: " + getAccNumber());  
        System.out.printf("Balance: Tsh%.2f\n", getBalance());  
        System.out.printf("Interest: %.2f%%\n", getRate());  
    }  
}
```



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## Subclass as substitute

- An added advantage of inheritance is that:
  - Whenever a superclass object is expected, a subclass object is **acceptable as a substitution**
    - Caution: the **reverse is NOT true** (E.g. A cat is an animal but an animal may not be a cat.)
  - Hence, all existing functions that work with the superclass objects will work on subclass objects with no modification



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## Example: subclass as substitute

```
public class TestAccountSubclass {  
  
    public static void transfer(BankAccount fromAcc, BankAccount toAcc, double amount) {  
        fromAcc.withdraw(amount);  
        toAcc.deposit(amount);  
    }  
  
    public static void main(String[] args) {  
        BankAccount ba = new BankAccount(1, 2500.00);  
        SavingAccount sa = new SavingAccount(2, 5000.0, 0.05);  
  
        transfer(ba, sa, 500.00);  
  
        ba.print();  
        sa.print();  
    }  
}
```

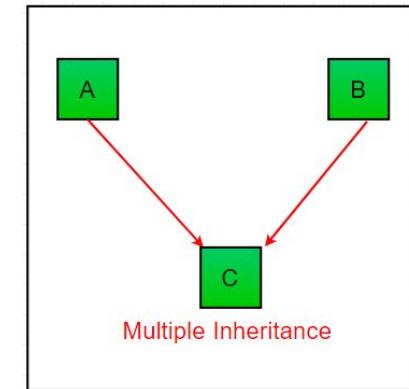
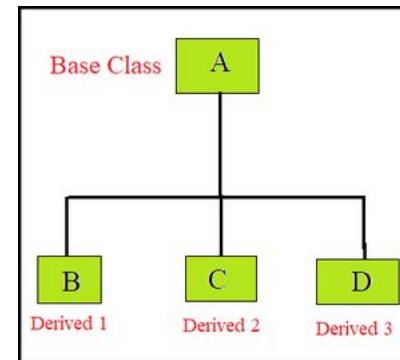
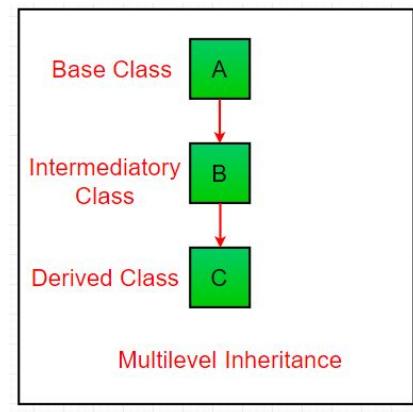
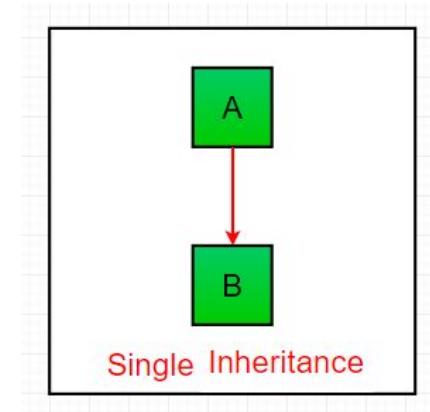
A red arrow points from the parameter `sa` in the `transfer` call to a callout box containing the text: "transfer() method also works on the SavingAccount object sa". Another red arrow points from the value `500.00` in the same `transfer` call to the same callout box.



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## Types of Inheritance

- **Single Inheritance:** child and parent class relationship where a class extends the another class.
- **Multilevel inheritance:** child and parent class relationship where a class extends the child class. For example class A extends class B and class B extends class C.
- **Hierarchical inheritance:** child and parent class relationship where more than one classes extends the same class. For example, class B extends class A and class C extends class A.
- **Multiple Inheritance:** one class extending more than one classes, which means a child class has two parent classes.





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## Direct vs Indirect Superclass

- The **direct superclass** is the superclass from which the subclass explicitly inherits
- An **indirect superclass** is any class above the direct superclass in the class hierarchy
- The Java class hierarchy begins with the class Object (in java.lang)
  - Every class in Java directly or indirectly **extends** Object
  - Any methods that work with the Object reference will work on **objects of any class**
  - Two inherited Object methods are: `toString()` and `equals()`



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## Inheritance in Java

- In Java, **only single inheritance is allowed**
  - Multiple inheritance: C++, Python, Perl, Scala etc..
- Java's alternative to multiple inheritance can be achieved through the use of interfaces - to be covered later. A Java class may implement multiple interfaces.)



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## is-a vs has-a relationship

- **Caution:** Do not overuse inheritance
- The subclass-superclass relationship is known as an *is-a* relationship
  - Use the *is-a* as the rule of thumb
  - SavingAccount **is-a** BankAccount
- Frequently confused with the *has-a* relationship
- ***Is-a* represents inheritance**
  - In an *is-a* relationship, an object of a subclass can also be treated as an object of its superclass
- ***Has-a* represents composition**
  - In a *has-a* relationship, an object contains as members references to other objects



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## Preventing Inheritance

- Sometimes, we want to prevent inheritance by another class
  - e.g. To prevent a subclass from corrupting the behaviour of its superclass
- Use the **final** keyword
  - E.g. `final class SavingAccount` will prevent a subclass to be created from `SavingAccout`
- Sometimes, we want a class to be inheritable, but want to prevent some of its methods to be overridden by its subclass
  - Use the **final** keyword on the particular method:
    - `public final void payInterest() { ... }`
  - This will prevent the subclass of `SavingAccount` from overriding `payInterest()`



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## Quiz 1

```
public class ClassA {  
    protected int value;  
    public ClassA() {  
    }  
    public ClassA(int val) {  
        value = val;  
    }  
    public void print() {  
        System.out.println("Class A: value = " + value);  
    }  
  
    public class ClassC extends ClassB {  
        private int value;  
        public ClassC() {}  
        public ClassC(int val) {  
            super.value = val - 1;  
            value = val;  
        }  
        public void print() {  
            super.print();  
            System.out.println("Class C: value = " + value);  
        }  
    }  
}
```

Class A: value = 123  
-----  
Class A: value = 455  
Class B: value = 456  
-----  
Class A: value = 0  
Class B: value = 788  
Class C: value = 789

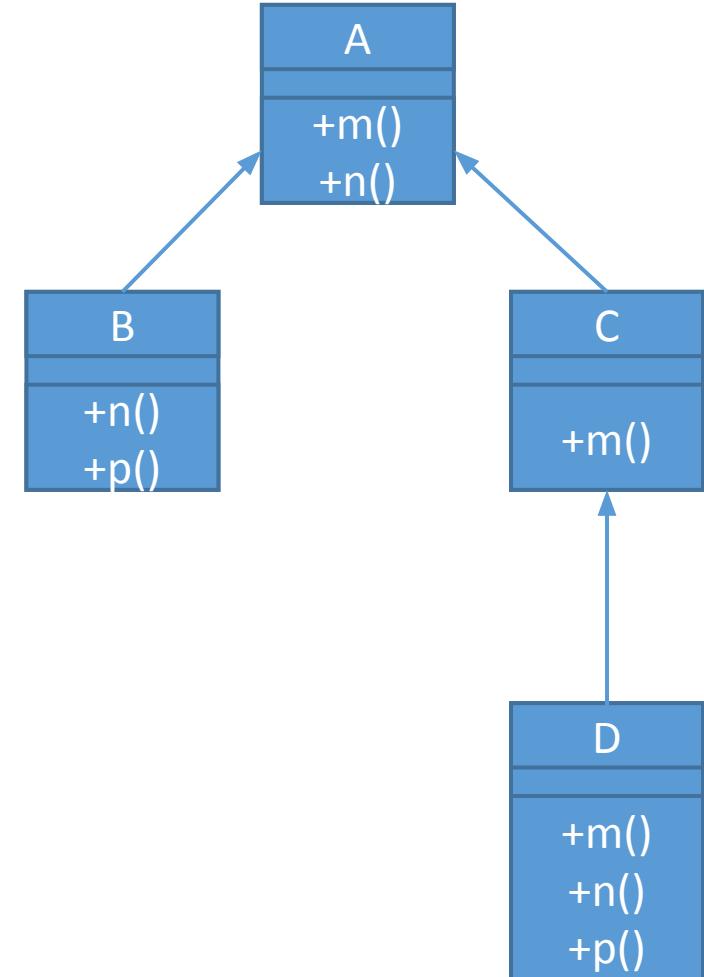
```
public class ClassB extends ClassA {  
    protected int value;  
    public ClassB() {}  
    public ClassB(int val) {  
        super.value = val - 1;  
        value = val;  
    }  
    public void print() {  
        super.print();  
        System.out.println("Class B: value = " + value);  
    }  
  
    public class TestSubClasses {  
        public static void main(String[] args) {  
            ClassA objA = new ClassA(123);  
            ClassB objB = new ClassB(456);  
            ClassC objC = new ClassC(789);  
  
            objA.print();  
            System.out.println("-----");  
            objB.print();  
            System.out.println("-----");  
            objC.print();  
        }  
    }  
}
```



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## Quiz 2

- Assume all methods print out a message of the form <class name>.<method name>
  - E.g. method m() in class A prints put “A.m”
- If a class overrides an inherited method, the method’s name will appear in the class icon. Otherwise, the inherited method remains unchanged in the subclass
- For each code fragment in the table that follows, indicate whether
  - The code will cause a compilation error, and briefly explain why?
  - The code can compile and run. Supply the execution result





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## Quiz 2

Code Fragment	Compilation Error? Why?	Execution Result
A a = new A(); a.m();		A.m
A a = new A(); a.k()	Method k() is not defined in class A	
A a = new C(); a.m();		
B b = new A(); b.n();		
A a = new B(); a.m();		
A a; C c = new D(); A = c; a.n()		
B b = new D(); b.p();		
C c = new C(); c.n();		
A a = new D(); a.p();		



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## Outline

- Object-Oriented Programming Model
- Encapsulation/Access Control
- Inheritance
- **Polymorphism**
- **Method Overriding**
- **Abstraction**
- **Interfaces**



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## Polymorphism



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## Introduction

- Polymorphism
  - An important concept in object-oriented programming
  - Means **more than form**
  - The same entity (**method, operator or object**) can perform different operations in different scenarios



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## Example

- Superclass: Polygon
- Subclasses: Square and Circle
- The `render()` method is used to render the shape
  - However, the process differs between the square and circle
  - It behaves differently in different classes
- Hence, `render()` is **polymorphic**

```
class Polygon {  
    // method to render a shape  
    public void render() {  
        System.out.println("Rendering Polygon...");  
    }  
}  
  
class Square extends Polygon {  
    // renders Square  
    public void render() {  
        System.out.println("Rendering Square...");  
    }  
}  
  
class Circle extends Polygon {  
    // renders circle  
    public void render() {  
        System.out.println("Rendering Circle...");  
    }  
}  
  
class Main {  
    public static void main(String[] args) {  
        // create an object of Square  
        Square s1 = new Square();  
        s1.render();  
  
        // create an object of Circle  
        Circle c1 = new Circle();  
        c1.render();  
    }  
}
```



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## **Ways to achieve polymorphism in Java**

- Method Overriding
- Method Overloading
- Operator Overloading



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## Method Overriding

- In the **parent-child** relationship, the method in the subclass **overrides** the same method in the superclass
- In this case, the same method will perform one operation in the superclass and another in the subclass
- The method that is called is determined during program execution
  - Hence, method overriding is called **run-time polymorphism**

```
class Language {  
    public void displayInfo() {  
        System.out.println("Common English Language");  
    }  
  
class Java extends Language {  
    @Override  
    public void displayInfo() {  
        System.out.println("Java Programming Language");  
    }  
  
class Main {  
    public static void main(String[] args) {  
  
        // create an object of Java class  
        Java j1 = new Java();  
        j1.displayInfo();  
  
        // create an object of Language class  
        Language l1 = new Language();  
        l1.displayInfo();  
    }  
}
```



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## Method Overloading

- In a Java class, we can create methods with the same name if they have different parameters
- This is known as **method overloading**
- The same method will perform different operations based on the parameter

```
void func() { ... }  
void func(int a) { ... }  
float func(double a) { ... }  
float func(int a, float b) { ... }
```



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## Polymorphism using method overloading

- The `display()` method performs different operations based on arguments passed
  - Prints pattern of \* without arguments
  - Prints pattern of the parameter if a single char is passed
- The method that is called is determined by the compiler
  - Hence, method overloading is called **compile-time polymorphism**

```
class Pattern {  
  
    // method without parameter  
    public void display() {  
        for (int i = 0; i < 10; i++) {  
            System.out.print("*");  
        }  
    }  
  
    // method with single parameter  
    public void display(char symbol) {  
        for (int i = 0; i < 10; i++) {  
            System.out.print(symbol);  
        }  
    }  
  
class Main {  
    public static void main(String[] args) {  
        Pattern d1 = new Pattern();  
  
        // call method without any argument  
        d1.display();  
        System.out.println("\n");  
  
        // call method with a single argument  
        d1.display('#');  
    }  
}
```



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## Operator Overloading

- Some Java operators behave differently with different operands
  - For example, the + operator is overloaded to perform *numeric addition* and *string concatenation*
  - &, |, and ! are overloaded for logical and bitwise operations

```
int a = 5;  
int b = 6;  
  
// + with numbers  
int sum = a + b; // Output = 11
```

```
String first = "Java ";  
String second = "Programming";  
  
// + with strings  
name = first + second; // Output = Java Programming
```



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## Polymorphic Variables

- A variable is called polymorphic if it refers to different values under different conditions
- Polymorphic variables are represented using object variables in Java
  - An object variable can refer to objects of its class or subclasses

```
class ProgrammingLanguage {  
    public void display() {  
        System.out.println("I am Programming Language.");  
    }  
  
class Java extends ProgrammingLanguage {  
    @Override  
    public void display() {  
        System.out.println("I am Object-Oriented Programming Language.");  
    }  
  
class Main {  
    public static void main(String[] args) {  
  
        // declare an object variable  
        ProgrammingLanguage pl;  
  
        // create object of ProgrammingLanguage  
        pl = new ProgrammingLanguage();  
        pl.display();  
  
        // create object of Java class  
        pl = new Java();  
        pl.display();  
    }  
}
```



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## Why Polymorphism?

- Allows us to create **consistent code**
  - Instead of writing different methods e.g. renderSquare() and renderCircle()
  - Enables us to program **in the general** instead of **in the specific**
  - The print () method is an example of polymorphism. It can print char, int, string etc
- A single variable can be used to store multiple data values
  - Value of inherited variable can be changed without affecting the value in the superclass
- We can design and implement **extensible** systems
  - New classes can be added with little or no modification
  - Only parts that require direct knowledge need to be altered



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## Abstraction



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## Introduction

- Abstraction is the feature of OOP that **shows** only essential information and **hides** unnecessary information
  - Hides unnecessary details from users
- Through abstraction, a developer ensures that only functionality is provided to the user
  - Implementation and other aspects are kept hidden to reduce complexity



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## Abstract Class

- An abstract class is a class that deals with the abstraction of our program
  - Declared using the **abstract** keyword
  - Cannot be instantiated
  - Is permitted to have both abstract and non-abstract methods
  - A class needs to be declared as an abstract class if it contains abstract methods
  - To use an abstract class, one needs to extend its child class and provide an implementation of all the abstract methods



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## Declaring an Abstract Class in Java

```
public abstract class Person {  
}
```

- We cannot create an instance of this class

```
Person personInstance = new Person(); //not valid
```



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## Abstract Methods

- Abstract methods are methods without bodies or implementation
  - Meant to be used by abstract classes only
- We declare a method abstract by adding the `abstract` keyword in the method declaration. The method also ends with a semicolon.

```
public abstract class Person {  
    public abstract void myJob();  
}
```

```
public class Teacher extends Person {  
    public abstract void myJob(){  
        System.out.println("My job is Teaching.");  
    }  
}
```



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## Why Abstract Class?

- Main purpose of abstract classes is to function as base classes to be extended by their subclasses
- If a method will be overridden in all child classes there is no point in implementing it in the parent class
- By making this method abstract, we make it compulsory for all subclasses to implement this method
  - Otherwise, we will encounter a compilation error



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## Interfaces



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## What is an Interface?

- An interface is a **specification** of
  - a **required behaviour** – any class that **implements** the interface must perform the behaviour
  - **constant data values**
- An interface is a **fully abstract class**
  - It includes a group of **abstract methods** (methods without bodies)



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## Why use interfaces?

- Separate specification of behaviour from its implementation
  - Many classes can **implement** the same behaviour
  - Each class can implement the behaviour in its own way
- Benefits
  - The invoker of the behaviour **is not coupled** to the class that implements the behaviour (only knows the interface)
  - Enables polymorphism and code re-use



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## Writing an Interface

- An interface (before Java 8) may contain only:
  - abstract public methods
  - public static final variables (constants)
- You can omit the defaults
  - All methods are **public abstract**
  - All variables are **public static final**

```
public interface Valuable {  
    public static final String CURRENCY = "Tsh";  
    public abstract double getValue();  
}
```

No method body

```
public interface Valuable {  
    String CURRENCY = "Tsh";  
    double getValue();  
}
```

Automatically **public abstract**



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## Implementing an Interface

- A class that implements an interface must implement all the methods in the interface
- It may use any static constants in the interface

```
public static Money implements Valuable {  
    private double value;  
  
    public double getValue() {  
        return value;  
    }  
  
    public String toString() {  
        return Double.toString(value) + " " + CURRENCY;  
    }  
}
```



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## Capabilities of an Interface

- Interfaces can contain
  - public static final values (constants)
  - public instance method signatures (with no code)
  - Default implementations of methods (Java 8+)
- Interfaces **cannot** contain
  - static methods (prior to Java 8)
  - non-final or non-static variables
  - constructors



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## Limits on Interface use

- What you can do
  - Declare a class that implements an interface
  - Implement more than one interface
  - Define variables using interface types (or create an array or ArrayList using an interface as type)

```
// Iterator is an interface with type parameter
Iterator it = wordlist.iterator();
Valuable m = new Money(5, "Baht");
List mlist = new ArrayList();
```



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## Limits on Interface use

- You cannot
  - Create objects of an interface type
  - Access static behaviour using an interface type

```
Comparable cmp = new Comparable(); // ERROR  
Valuable m = new Valuable(); // ERROR
```



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## Example: Interface

- Many applications need to sort an array of objects
  - Requirement: one method that can sort almost anything
  - Question: what does the method need to know about the objects
  - Answer: needs a way to compare two objects
- The **Comparable** Interface
  - `compareTo()` return the result of the comparison
  - `a.compareTo(b) < 0` a should come before b
  - `a.compareTo(b) > 0` a should come after b
  - `a.compareTo(b) = 0` a and b have same order in the sequence

```
package java.lang;  
  
interface Comparable {  
    int compareTo(Object obj); //the required behaviour  
}
```



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## Sorting using `Arrays.sort()`

- `Arrays` is a class in the package `java.util`
- It has a static `sort` method for arrays
- Uses the `Comparable` interface
- Sorts any kind of object that implements `Comparable`
- `Arrays.sort(Comparable[] a)`

```
String[] fruits = {"orange", "grapes", "apple", "mango", "banana"};
Arrays.sort(fruits);
for (String s : fruits)
    System.out.println(s);
```



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## Comparable Interface

- `Arrays.sort()` **depends only** on the `compareTo()` behaviour, not on any particular class
  - It can sort anything
- Enables code re-use
  - Any application can use `Arrays.sort` to sort an array
  - Any application can use `Collections.sort` to sort a list



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## Implement the Comparable Interface

```
public class Student implements Comparable {  
    private String firstName;  
    private String lastName;  
    private long id;  
  
    @Override  
    public int compareTo(Object o) {  
        Student other = (Student) o;  
        if(other == null) return -1;  
        if(this.id < other.id) return -1;  
        if(this.id > other.id) return +1;  
        else return 0;  
    }  
}
```



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## Problem with Comparable

- A problem with Comparable is that it accepts any Object
  - student.compareTo(teacher)
  - You have to do a lot of type checking

```
public int compareTo(Object other) {  
    if (!(other instanceof Student))  
        throw new IllegalArgumentException("...");  
    Student st = (Student) other;  
    // now compare using Student st  
}
```



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## Solution: Parameterized Interfaces

- In Java 5.0+ interfaces and classes can have **type parameters**
- a **Type parameter** is a variable that represents a type i.e. the name of a class or interface
  - E.g. the comparable interface has a type parameters (T) that is a placeholder for an actual data type
- The compiler will help to check compatibility i.e. this is called **type safety**

```
interface Comparable<T> {  
    int compareTo(T obj);  
}
```



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## Example: using Parameterized Interface

```
public class Student implements Comparable<Student> {  
    private String firstName;  
    private String lastName;  
    private long id;  
  
    @Override  
    public int compareTo(Student other) {  
        // No cast or type-check needed  
        if(other == null) return -1;  
        return Long.compare(this.id, other.id);  
    }  
}
```



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## Java 8 Interfaces

- Java 8 interfaces **can contain code**
  - default methods (instance methods)
  - static methods

```
public interface Valuable {  
    // abstract method that must be implemented  
    public double getValue();  
  
    // default method that is supplied by the interface  
    default boolean isWorthless() {  
        return this.getValue() == 0.0;  
    }  
}
```



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## Multiple Interfaces

- A class can also implement multiple interfaces
  - By separating the interface names by commas

```
public class MyApplication implements Comparable, Cloneable {  
  
    // implement required behavior by Comparable  
    public int compareTo(Object other) { ... }  
  
    // implement behavior for Cloneable  
    public Object clone() { ... }  
    ...  
}
```



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## Summary of Java Interfaces

- An interface can contain only:
  - static constants
  - instance method signatures (but no code).
- Implicit properties:
  - all methods are automatically public.
  - all attributes are automatically public static final.
- An interface may **NOT** contain
  - static (class) methods (**allowed in Java 8**)
  - implementation of methods (**allowed in Java 8**)
  - instance variables
  - constructor



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## Interfaces vs Abstract Classes

- **Type of variables:** Abstract class can have final, non-final, static and non-static variables. The interface has only static and final variables.
- **Implementation:** Abstract class can provide the implementation of the interface. Interface can't provide the implementation of an abstract class.
- **Inheritance vs Abstraction:** A Java interface can be implemented using the keyword “implements” and an abstract class can be extended using the keyword “extends”.
- **Multiple implementations:** An interface can extend another Java interface only, an abstract class can extend another Java class and implement multiple Java interfaces.
- **Accessibility of Data Members:** Members of a Java interface are public by default. A Java abstract class can have class members like private, protected, etc.



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## Quiz 1

- The following Java application contains errors. Point out the statement(s) that contain errors. Explain what each of the errors is, and how it can be fixed.

```
public class OOPExercises {  
    public static void main(String[] args) {  
        A objA = new A();  
        System.out.println("in main(): ");  
        System.out.println("objA.a = "+objA.a);  
        objA.a = 222;  
    }  
}
```

```
public class A {  
    private int a = 100;  
    public void setA( int value) {  
        a = value;  
    }  
    public int getA() {  
        return a;  
    }  
} //class A
```

Point out the error(s) and how they can be fixed.



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## Quiz 2

- Show the output of the following application

<pre>public class OOPExercises {     public static void main(String[] args) {         A objA = new A();         B objB = new B();         System.out.println("in main(): ");         System.out.println("objA.a = "+objA.getA());         System.out.println("objB.b = "+objB.getB());         objA.setA(222);         objB.setB(333.33);         System.out.println("objA.a = "+objA.getA());         System.out.println("objB.b = "+objB.getB());     } }</pre>	<b>Output:</b>
---	----------------

<pre>public class A {     int a = 100;     public A() {         System.out.println("in the constructor of class A: ");         System.out.println("a = "+a);         a = 333;         System.out.println("a = "+a);     }     public void setA( int value) {         a = value;     }     public int getA() {         return a;     } } //class A</pre>	
---	--

<pre>public class B {     double b = 123.45;     public B() {         System.out.println("----in the constructor of class B: ");         System.out.println("b = "+b);         b = 3.14159;         System.out.println("b = "+b);     }     public void setB( double value) {         b = value;     }     public double getB() {         return b;     } } //class B</pre>	
---	--