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Object-Oriented Programming

9. Lecture
LS 2025/2026
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Java Reflection API (java.lang.reflect)

- Examining and modifying a program during runtime (itself)
- Inspection of classes, interfaces, methods during runtime
- Creating new class instances
- Dynamic method calls
- Get and set method attributes
- Note: this does not make Java a dynamic language (we cannot add attributes, methods, classes, etc.) and does not always support "OOP"

The `java.lang.reflect` core

- `Class`
- `Field`
- `Method`
- `Constructor`
- `Modifier`

get() vs getDeclared()

<https://docs.oracle.com/javase/tutorial/reflect/class/classMembers.html>

Class Methods for Locating Fields

| Class API | List of members? | Inherited members? | Private members? |
|----------------------------------|------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| <code>getDeclaredField()</code> | no | no | yes |
| <code>getField()</code> | no | yes | no |
| <code>getDeclaredFields()</code> | yes | no | yes |
| <code>getFields()</code> | yes | yes | no |

Class Methods for Locating Methods

| Class API | List of members? | Inherited members? | Private members? |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| <code>getDeclaredMethod()</code> | no | no | yes |
| <code>getMethod()</code> | no | yes | no |
| <code>getDeclaredMethods()</code> | yes | no | yes |
| <code>getMethods()</code> | yes | yes | no |

Class Methods for Locating Constructors

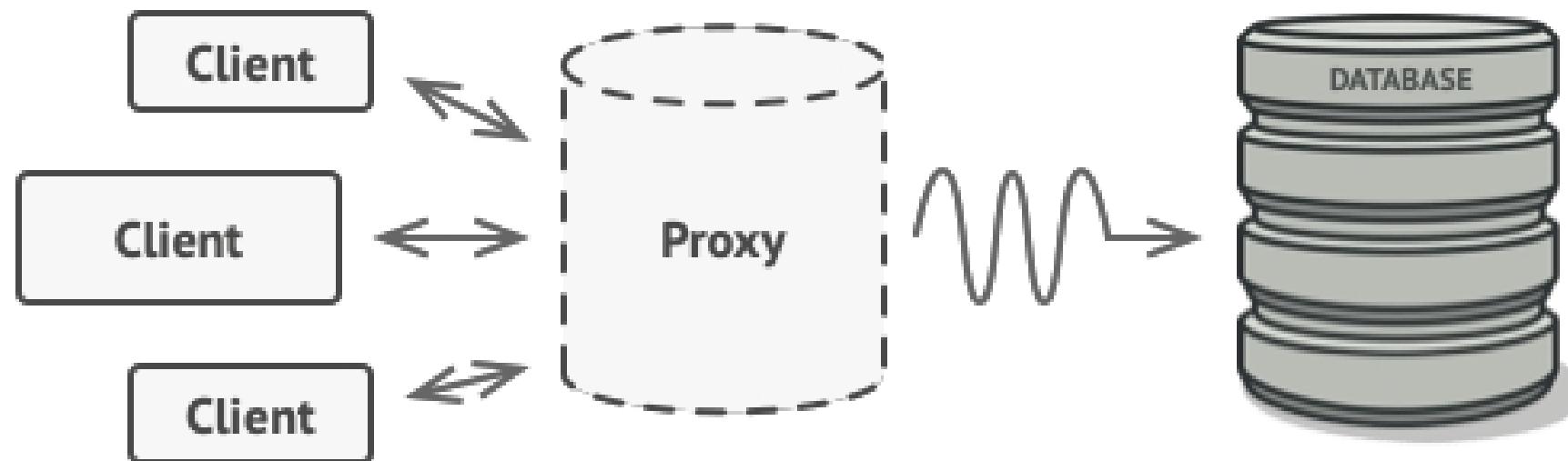
| Class API | List of members? | Inherited members? | Private members? |
|--|------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| <code>getDeclaredConstructor()</code> | no | N/A ¹ | yes |
| <code>getConstructor()</code> | no | N/A ¹ | no |
| <code>getDeclaredConstructors()</code> | yes | N/A ¹ | yes |
| <code>getConstructors()</code> | yes | N/A ¹ | no |

¹ Constructors are not inherited.

getMethods() vs getDeclaredMethods()

| Methods | getMethods() | getDeclaredMethods |
|-----------------------------|--------------|--------------------|
| public | ✓ | ✓ |
| protected | ✗ | ✓ |
| private | ✗ | ✓ |
| static public | ✓ | ✓ |
| static protected | ✗ | ✓ |
| static private | ✗ | ✓ |
| default public | ✓ | ✓ |
| default protected | ✗ | ✓ |
| default private | ✗ | ✓ |
| inherited public | ✓ | ✗ |
| inherited protected | ✗ | ✗ |
| inherited private | ✗ | ✗ |
| inherited static private | ✓ | ✗ |
| inherited static protected | ✗ | ✗ |
| inherited static private | ✗ | ✗ |
| default inherited public | ✓ | ✗ |
| default inherited protected | ✗ | ✗ |
| default inherited private | ✗ | ✗ |

Proxy pattern



- <https://refactoring.guru/design-patterns/proxy>

Real world usage

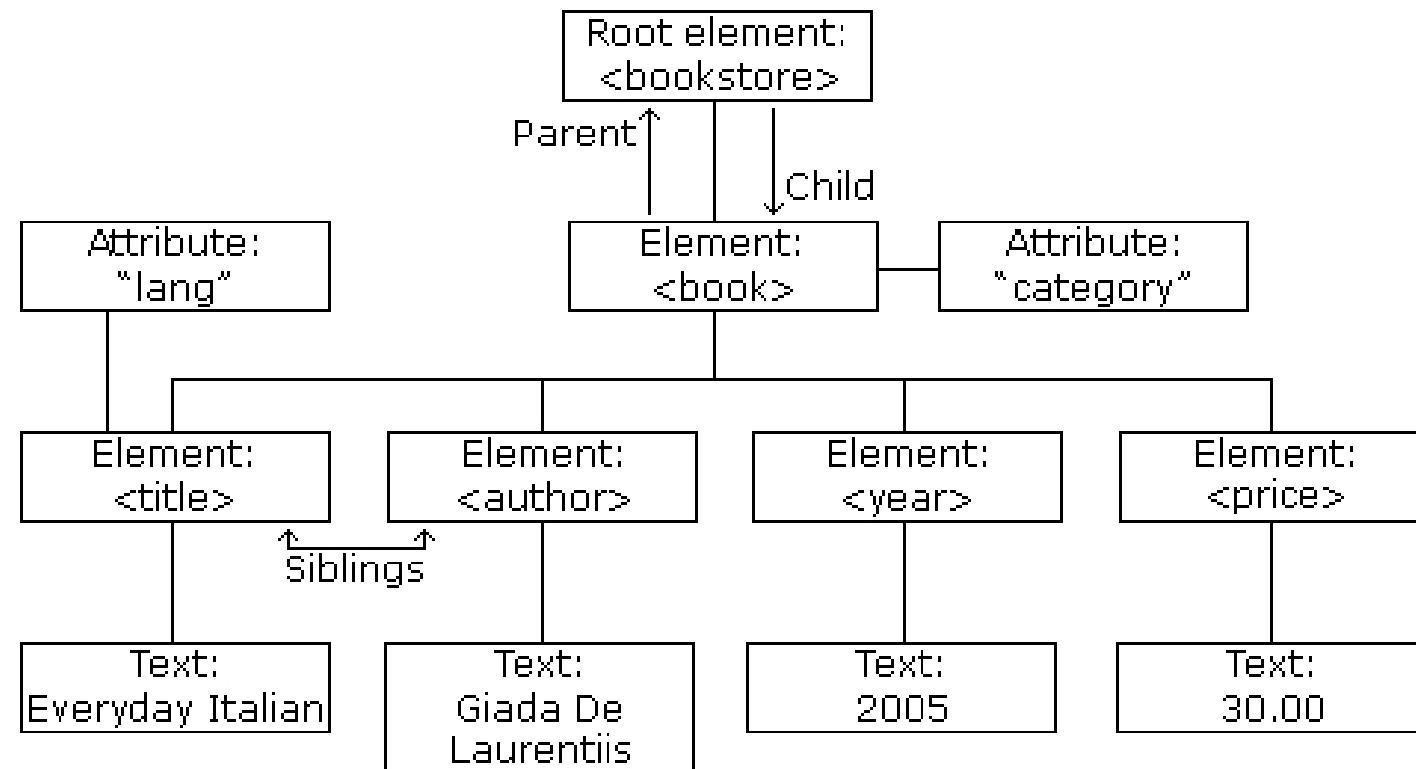
- Spring framework – e.g. proxies (AOP), configs (XML)
- Hibernate – e.g. fields
- JUnit, Mockito – e.g. Runners
- Jackson/GSON – e.g. fields
- JavaFX, Swing

XML

- eXtensible Markup Language
- Configuration files (e.g. Maven, Spring), data transfer
- Relatively verbose
- Tree structure:

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<note>
  <to>Tove</to>
  <from>Jani</from>
  <heading>Reminder</heading>
  <body>Don't forget me this weekend!</body>
</note>
```

XML structure



XML Schema

- Prescription of how (specific) XML should look:

```
<xs:element name="note">  
  <xs:complexType>  
    <xs:sequence>  
      <xs:element name="to" type="xs:string"/>  
      <xs:element name="from" type="xs:string"/>  
      <xs:element name="heading" type="xs:string"/>  
      <xs:element name="body" type="xs:string"/>  
    </xs:sequence>  
  </xs:complexType>  
</xs:element>
```

`javax.xml.*`

- DOM (Document Object Model) - Tree-based **in-memory** representation
- SAX (Simple API for XML) - **Event-based** streaming parser
- StAX (Streaming API for XML) - **Pull-parser** approach

Maven

- Project management
- (Build)
- (Manage dependencies)
- Standardized project structure
- Dependency hell!
- CI/CD integration
- We don't want to do the same thing manually over and over again

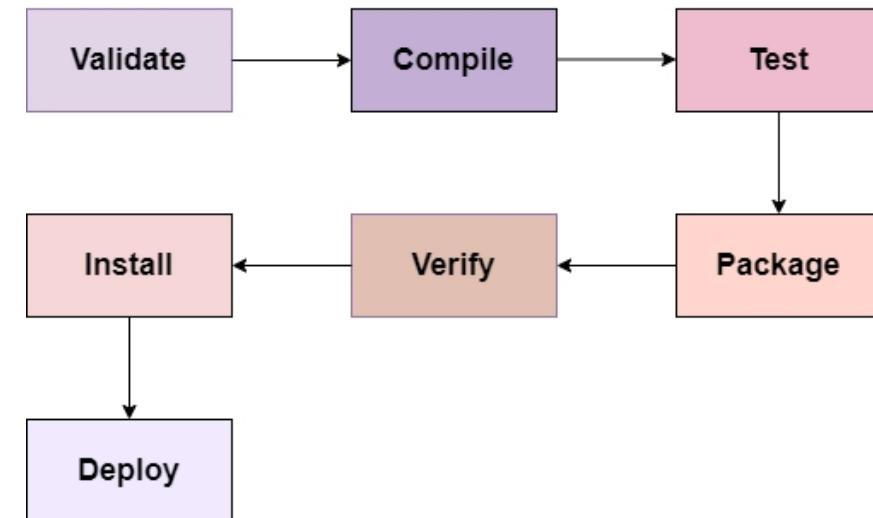
Maven

- POM (Project Object Model) – pom.xml
- Lifecycle and Phases (clean, compile, test, package, install, deploy)
- Dependency Management
- Repositories (local, central, remote)

Lifecycle

- mvn clean: deletes the target directory.
- mvn compile: compiles source code.
- mvn test: runs unit tests.
- mvn package: creates JAR/WAR file.
- mvn install: installs artifact in local repository.
- mvn dependency:tree: shows dependency hierarchy.

Maven Build Lifecycle



pom.xml

- <project>
- <modelVersion>4.0.0</modelVersion>
- <groupId>com.example</groupId>
- <artifactId>my-app</artifactId>
- <version>1.0.0</version>
-
- <dependencies>
- <dependency>
- <groupId>junit</groupId>
- <artifactId>junit</artifactId>
- <version>4.12</version>
- <scope>test</scope>
- </dependency>
- </dependencies>
- </project>

Quiz time