

SWEN20003

Object Oriented Software Development

Classes and Objects

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The Road So Far

Lectures

- Subject Introduction
- A Quick Tour of Java

Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this topic you will be able to:

- Explain the difference between a *class* and an *object*
- Create classes, and give them *properties* and *behaviours*
- Implement and use simple classes
- Identify a series of well-defined classes from a *specification*
- Explain object oriented concepts: abstraction, encapsulation, information hiding and delegation
- Understand the role of Wrapper classes

Overview

This topic will be delivered through three lectures (Lectures 3, 4 and 5) each covering the following subtopics.

Lecture 3: Slides 4-34

- Introducing Classes and Objects
- Defining Classes
- Using Classes

Lecture 4: Slides 35-66

- Updating and Accessing Instance Variables
- Static Attributes and Methods
- Standard Methods in Java

Lecture 5: Slides 67-95

- Introducing Java Packages
- Information Hiding
- Delegation through Association
- Wrapper Classes

Introducing Classes and Objects

Introduction

All programming languages support four basic concepts:

- Calculation: constants, variables, operators, expressions
- Selection: `if-else`, `switch`, `?`
- Iteration: `while`, `do`, `for`
- **Abstraction**: The process of creating self-contained units of software that allows the solution to be parameterized and therefore more general purpose

Abstraction is the fundamental concept that differentiates procedural programming languages such as C from Object Oriented languages such as Java, C++.

Abstraction in Procedural Languages

Abstraction in procedural languages is provided through *functions* or *procedures*.

Functions manipulate external data to by performing operations on them.

Example of a function in C that calculates the average of two floating point numbers:

```
float calculate_average (float a, float b) {  
    float result;  
    result = (a + b)/2;  
    return result;  
}
```

Abstraction in Object Oriented Languages

Abstraction in Object Oriented (OO) languages is provided through an *Abstract Data Type (ADT)*, which contains *data* and *functions* that operate on data.

In Java a **Class** is an implementation on an **Abstract Data Type**.

Classes

- A “generalization” of a real world (or “problem world”) entity
 - ▶ A physical real world thing, like a student or book
 - ▶ An abstract real world thing, like a university subject
 - ▶ An even more abstract thing like a list or a string (data)
- Represents a template for things that have common properties
- Contains *attributes* and *methods*
- Defines a new **data type**

Keyword

Class: Fundamental unit of abstraction in *Object Oriented Programming*. Represents an “entity” that is part of a problem.

Objects

- Are an *instance* of a class
- Contain **state**, or dynamic information
- “**X** is of type A”, “**X** is an object of the class A”, and “**X** is an instance of the class A” are all equivalent

Keyword

Object: A specific, concrete example of a class

Keyword

Instance: An object that exists in your code

Motivating Example

Throughout this topic we will be referring to the following specification:

*Develop a system (a set of classes) for a simple **Drawing Pad** application. The application should allow drawing different types of shapes, such as **circles**, **squares**, **rectangles**, display their geometrical properties: e.g. **area**, **circumference**. It should also allow different types of actions such as moving, resizing to the performed on shapes.*

How would you develop this, right now? What additional information do you need?

Drawing Pad Application - Classes

What classes can we use for our example problem?

Fundamental:

- Drawing Pad
- Circle
- Square
- Other shapes

Additional:

- Drawing Tool
- Paint Brush
- Fill Colour
- Fill Type
- Many more

Identifying Attributes and Methods

Let us consider the `Circle` class.

Can you identify the *attributes* and *methods* of the class?

Attributes:

- Centre
- Radius
- Fill Colour, Fill Type
- Many more

Methods (Operations):

- Compute Circumference
- Compute Area
- Move
- Resize
- Many more

Object Oriented Features

Following are some key features of the object oriented design paradigm:

- Data Abstraction
- Encapsulation
- Information Hiding
- Delegation
- Inheritance
- Polymorphism

Data Abstraction

Keyword

Data Abstraction: The technique of creating new data types that are well suited to an application by defining new classes.

A class is a special kind of programmer-defined data type.

- For example, by creating classes such as Circle, Drawing Pad, you are creating new data types, that can be used in applications.

A class is somewhat close to a structure in C but have additional features - attributes and methods.

The class definition determines the types of data (attributes) that an object can contain, as well as the actions (methods) it can perform.

Encapsulation

Keyword

Encapsulation: The ability to group data (attributes) and methods that manipulate the data to a single entity through defining a class.

A class encapsulates data and the methods that operate on the data into a single unit.

This method of encapsulation is unique to OO programming and is not provided by the procedural programming paradigm.

Defining a Class

Defining a Class

Syntax:

```
<visibility modifier> class <ClassName> {  
    <attribute declarations>  
    <method declarations>  
}
```

A bare bone class:

```
// Circle.java - Circle class definition  
public class Circle {  
  
}
```

Defining a Class - Adding Attributes

Attribute Syntax:

```
<visibility modifier> <type> <variable name>;
```

Adding attributes (also called data, fields) to the Circle class.

```
1    // Circle.java - Circle class definition
2    public class Circle {
3        public double centreX; //centre x coordinate
4        public double centreY; //centre y coordinate
5        public double radius;  //radius
6    }
```

Defining a Class - Adding Attributes

The attributes added to the `Circle` class in the above example are referred to as *instance variables*.

- these attributes maintain the state of the object; i.e. by giving values to `centreX`, `centreY`, `radius` we define a `Circle` object with particular size and position.

Keyword

Instance Variable: A **property** or **attribute** that is unique to each *instance* (*object*) of a class.

Defining a Class - Adding Methods

Method Syntax:

```
1      <visibility modifier> <void or typeReturned> myMethod(paramList)
2      {
3          variable declarations
4          statements
5      }
```

- If the method returns data, the data type must be specified in the method definition, otherwise, it is defined as **void**.
- If the method returns data, the method body must contain a return statement, which returns a variable of the specified return type.
- Variables can be declared inside the method - such variables are called *local variables*.

Note: Local variables are inside the method as opposed to the instance variables (introduced earlier) which are outside the method declaration.

Defining a Class - Adding Methods

Adding methods to Circle class.

```
1      // Circle.java
2      public class Circle {
3          public double centreX;
4          public double centreY;
5          public double radius;
6
7          public double computeCircumference () {
8              double circum = 2 * Math.PI * radius;
9              return circum;
10         }
11         public double computeArea () {
12             double area = Math.PI * radius * radius;
13             return area;
14         }
15         public void resize (double factor) {
16             radius = radius * factor;
17         }
18     }
19
```

Using a Class

Using the Circle class

Follow the steps below to use the Circle class we just created.

- Create a file `Circle.java` and write the code.
Note: the file name should match the class name.
- You can use an Integrated Development Environment (IDE), such as IntelliJ for this (will be introduced in the workshops), but in this instance you a text editor such as notepad, wordpad, vim, kate etc.
- Compile the class using the following command:

```
javac Circle.java
```

This creates a file `Circle.class`
- Circle becomes a derived data type that can be used in a Java program.

Using the Circle class

By creating the Circle class, you have created a new data type Circle - **Data Abstraction**.

- Variables of type Circle can be now defined in a program
- Circle is a **Derived Data Type** (as opposed to a Primitive Data Type such as int, float)

Example:

```
/* CircleTest.java: A test program to test the Circle class */
public class CircleTest {
    public static void main(String args[]) {
        Circle aCircle;
        Circle bCircle
    }
}
```

Using the Circle class

The declarations:

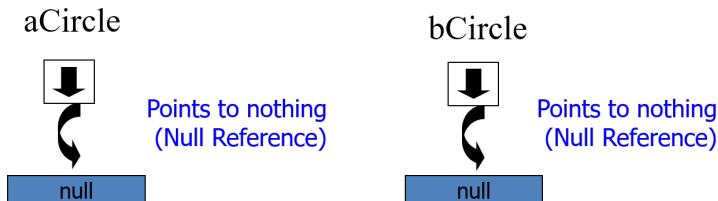
```
Circle aCircle;
```

```
Circle bCircle;
```

in the previous example did not create Circle objects.

aCircle and bCircle are simply **references** to Circle objects (not objects):

- Currently they point to nothing, hence **null references**.



The `null` Reference

Keyword

`null`: The Java keyword for “no object here”. Null objects can't be “accessed” to get variables or methods, or used in any way.

Instantiating a Class

Objects are **null** until they are *instantiated*.

Keyword

Instantiate: To create an object of a class

```
// Instantiate an Circle object  
Circle circle_1 = new Circle();
```

Keyword

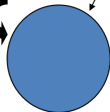
new: Directs the JVM to allocate memory for an object, or *instantiate* it

Creating Objects

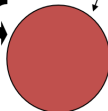
Objects are created dynamically using the **new** keyword.

```
// CircleTest.java: A test program to test the Circle class  
public class CircleTest {  
    public static void main(String args[]) {  
        Circle aCircle, bCircle;  
        aCircle = new Circle(); //aCircle now points to an object  
        bCircle = new Circle(); //bCircle now points to an object  
    }  
}
```

aCircle = new Circle();



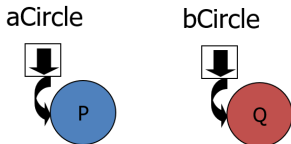
bCircle = new Circle();



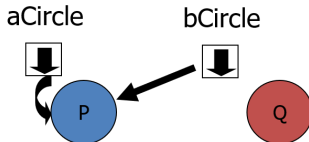
Assigning References of a Class

```
// CircleTest.java: A test program to test the Circle class
public class CircleTest {
    public static void main(String args[]) {
        Circle aCircle, bCircle;
        aCircle = new Circle(); //aCircle now points to an object
        bCircle = new Circle(); //bCircle now points to an object
        bCircle = aCircle; // Assigning a class reference
    }
}
```

Before Assignment



Before Assignment



Garbage Collection in Java

- In the previous example, object **Q** does not have a valid reference and, therefore, cannot be used in future.
- The object becomes a candidate for **Java Automatic Garbage Collection**.
 - ▶ Java automatically collects garbage periodically, and frees the memory of unused objects and makes this memory available for future use; you do not have to do this explicitly in the program.

Using Instance Variables and Methods

Syntax:

```
<objectName>.<varibaleName>;  
<objectName>.<methodName>(<arguments>);
```

Syntax is similar to C syntax for accessing data defined in a structure.

Example:

```
Circle aCircle = new Circle();  
double area;  
  
// Initialize centre and radius  
aCircle.centreX = 2.0;  
aCircle.centreY = 2.0;  
aCircle.radius = 1.0;  
  
//Invoking methods or sending a "message" to methods  
area = aCircle.computeArea();  
aCircle.resize(2.0);
```


Using the Circle Class - Example

```
// CircleTest.java - Test program to test the Circle class
public class CircleTest {
    public static void main(String args[]) {
        Circle aCircle = new Circle();
        aCircle.centreX = 10.0;
        aCircle.centreY = 20.0;
        aCircle.radius = 5.0;
        System.out.println("Radius = " + aCircle.radius);
        System.out.println("Circum: = " + aCircle.computeCircumference());
        System.out.println("Area = " + aCircle.computeArea());
        aCircle.resize(2.0);
        System.out.println("Radius = " + aCircle.radius);
    }
}
```

Program Output:

```
Radius = 5.0
Circum: = 31.41592653589793
Area = 78.53981633974483
Radius = 10.0
```

Back to the main method

- A program in Java is just a class that has a `main` method.
- When you give a command to run a Java program, the run-time system invokes the `main` method.
- The `main` is a `void` method, as indicated by its heading:

```
public static void main(String[] args) {  
  
}
```

- `static` - it is still to come - please wait!

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Lecture 4: Slides 35-66

- Updating and Accessing Instance Variables
- Static Attributes and Methods
- Standard Methods in Java

Lecture 5: Slides 67-95

- Introducing Java Packages
- Information Hiding
- Delegation through Association
- Wrapper Classes

Updating and Accessing Instance Variables

Updating and Accessing Instance Variables

- Generally initialising/updating/accessing instance variables is done by defining specific methods for each purpose.
- These methods are called **Accessor/Mutator** methods or informally as **Getter/Setter** methods.
- Initialise/update an instance variable using:

```
aCircle.setX(10); // mutator method or setter
```

- Access an instance variable using:

```
aCircle.getX(10); // accessor method or setter
```

- Usually IDEs such as IntelliJ, Eclipse IDE support automatic code generation for getters and setters.
- You will see better reasons for using getters and setters when we learn topics such as *information hiding, visibility control and privacy*.
So please be patient if you are not convinced as to why we are doing this!

The Circle Class with Getters and Setters

```
public class Circle {  
    public double centreX, centreY, radius;  
    public double getCentreX() {  
        return centreX;  
    }  
    public void setCentreX(double centreX) {  
        this.centreX = centreX;  
    }  
    public double getCentreY() {  
        return centreY;  
    }  
    public void setCentreY(double centreY) {  
        this.centreY = centreY;  
    }  
    public double getRadius() {  
        return radius;  
    }  
    public void setRadius(double radius) {  
        this.radius = radius;  
    }  
    // The rest of the code as before go below  
}
```

Using the Circle Class with Getters and Setters

```
// CircleTest.java - Test program to test the Circle class
public class CircleTest {
    public static void main(String args[]) {
        Circle aCircle = new Circle();
        aCircle.setCentreX(10.0);
        aCircle.setCentreY(20.0);
        aCircle.setRadius(5.0);
        System.out.println("Radius = " + aCircle.getRadius());
        System.out.println("Circum: = " + aCircle.computeCircumference());
        System.out.println("Area = " + aCircle.computeArea());
        aCircle.resize(2.0);
        System.out.println("Radius = " + aCircle.getRadius());
    }
}
```

Program Output:

```
Radius = 5.0
Circum: = 31.41592653589793
Area = 78.53981633974483
Radius = 10.0
```

Initializing Objects using Constructors

- When objects are created, the initial value of the instance variables are set to default values based on the data type.
- In the previous examples, we set the initial values using the mutator/setter methods.

```
// CircleTest.java - Test program to test the Circle class
public class CircleTest {
    public static void main(String args[]) {
        Circle aCircle = new Circle();
        aCircle.setCentreX(10.0);
        aCircle.setCentreY(20.0);
        aCircle.setRadius(5.0);
    }
}
```

- ▶ What if we have 100 attributes to initialise?
- ▶ What if we have 100 objects to initialise?
- ▶ We need a better... **method**

Constructors

How does this actually work?

```
Circle aCircle = new Circle();
```

- The right hand side *invokes* (or calls) a class' *constructor*
- Constructors are **methods**
- Constructors are used to initialize objects
- Constructors have the same name as the class
- Constructors cannot return values
- A class can have **one or more** constructors, each with a different set of parameters (called overloading; we'll cover this later)

Keyword

Constructor: A method used to **create** and **initialise** an object.

Defining Constructors

```
public <ClassName>(<arguments>) {  
    <block of code to execute>  
}
```

Default Circle constructor:

```
public Circle() {  
    centreX = 10.0;  
    centreY = 10.0;  
    radius = 5.0;  
}
```

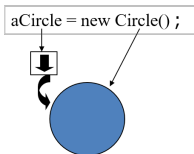
More useful Circle constructor:

```
public Circle(double newCentreX, double newCentreY, double newRadius) {  
    centreX = newCentreX;  
    centreY = newCentreY;  
    radius = newRadius;  
}
```

Using Constructors

Previous Code (without a Circle constructor):

```
Circle aCircle = new Circle();
```

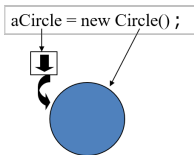


At creation time the center and radius are not defined.

aCircle will have a centre (0.0, 0.0) and radius 0.0 – default values for variables.

New Code (with Circle Constructors):

```
Circle aCircle = new Circle();
```



At creation time the constructor with no arguments will be called.

aCircle will have a centre (10.0, 10.0) and radius 5.0 – default values for variables.

Constructor Test - Example

```
public class CircleConstructorTest {  
    public static void main(String args[]) {  
  
        Circle circle_1 = new Circle();  
        System.out.println("Defined circle_1 with centre (" +  
            circle_1.getCentreX() + ", " + circle_1.getCentreY() + ")  
            and radius " + circle_1.getRadius());  
  
        Circle circle_2 = new Circle(10.0, 20.0, 12.2);  
        System.out.println("Defined circle_2 with centre (" +  
            circle_2.getCentreX() + ", " + circle_2.getCentreY() + ")  
            and radius " + circle_2.getRadius());  
    }  
}
```

Program Output:

```
Defined circle_1 with centre (10.0, 10.0) and radius 5.0  
Defined circle_2 with centre (10.0, 20.0) and radius 12.2
```

The Circle class with more Constructors

```
public class Circle {
    public double centreX, centreY, radius;
    public Circle() {
        centreX = 10.0;
        centreY = 10.0;
        radius = 5.0;
    }
    public Circle(double newCentreX, double newCentreY, double newRadius) {
        centreX = newCentreX;
        centreY = newCentreY;
        radius = newRadius;
    }
    public Circle(double newCentreX, double newCentreY) {
        centreX = newCentreX;
        centreY = newCentreY;
    }
    public Circle(double newRadius) {
        radius = newRadius;
    }
    // More code here
}
```

Method Overloading

- Methods have the same name; are distinguished by their signature:
 - ▶ number of arguments
 - ▶ type of arguments
 - ▶ position of arguments
- Any method can be overloaded (Constructors or other methods).
- **Method Overloading:** This is a form of *polymorphism* (same method different behaviour).
- *Do not to confuse with **Method Overriding** (coming up soon!).*

Method Overloading and Polymorphism

Keyword

Polymorphism: Ability to process objects differently depending on their data type or class.

Keyword

Method Overloading: Ability to define methods with the same name but with different signatures (argument types and/or numbers).

Pitfall: Constructors

Let us look at our previous definition of the Circle Constructor.

```
public Circle(double newCentreX, double newCentreY, double newRadius) {  
    centreX = newCentreX;  
    centreY = newCentreY;  
    radius = newRadius;  
}
```

But what if we did the following instead?

```
public Circle(double centreX, double centreY, double radius) {  
    centreX = centreX;  
    centreY = centreY;  
    radius = radius;  
}
```

How does the code differentiate the two variables?

Introducing the `this` Keyword

Keyword

this: A **reference** to the **calling object**, the object that owns/is executing the method.

```
public class Circle {  
    public double centreX, centreY, radius;  
  
    public Circle() {  
        this.centreX = 10.0;  
        this.centreY = 10.0;  
        this.radius = 5.0;  
    }  
  
    public Circle(double centreX, double centreY, double radius) {  
        this.centreX = centreX;  
        this.centreY = centreY;  
        this.radius = radius;  
    }  
    // More methods go here  
}
```

Static Attributes and Methods

Static Members

Keyword

Static Members: Methods and attributes that are not specific to any object of the class.

Keyword

Static Variable: A variable that is shared among all objects of the class; a single instance is shared among classes. Such an attribute is accessed using the class name.

Keyword

Static Method: A method that does not depend on (access or modify) any instance variables of the class. Such a method is invoked (called) using the class name.

Defining Static Variables

Static attribute are shared between objects (only one copy): e.g. count of the number of objects of the type that has been created.

Adding a static attribute, `numCircles`, to the `Circle` class.

```
// Circle.java
public class Circle {
    // static (class) variable - one instance for the Circle class, num
    public static int numCircles = 0;
    public double centreX, centreY, radius;

    // Constructors and other methods
    public Circle(double x, double y, double r){
        centreX = x; centreY = y; radius = r;
        numCircles++;
    }
    // Other methods go here
}
```

Using Static Variables

Let us now write a class CountCircles to use the static variable.

```
// CountCircles.java
public class CountCircles {
    public static void main(String args[]) {
        Circle circleA = new Circle( 10.0, 12.0, 20.0);
        System.out.println("Number of Circles = " + Circle.numCircles );
        Circle circleB = new Circle( 5.0, 3.0, 10.0);
        System.out.println("Number of Circles = " + Circle.numCircles );
    }
}
```

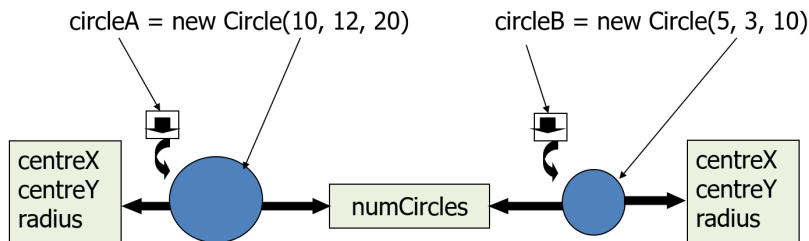
Program Output:

```
Number of Circles = 1
Number of Circles = 2
```

Instance vs Static Variables

Instance variables: One copy per object. e.g. centreX, centreY, radius (centre and radius in the circle)

Static variables: One copy per class. e.g. numCircles (total number of circle objects created)



Defining Static Methods

Adding a static method, `printNumCircles`, to the `Circle` class.

```
// Circle.java
public class Circle {
    // static (class) variable
    public static int numCircles = 0;
    public double centreX, centreY, radius;

    // Constructors and other methods
    public Circle(double x, double y, double r){
        centreX = x; centreY = y; radius = r;
        numCircles++;
    }

    // Static method to count the number of circles
    public static void printNumCircles() {
        System.out.println("Number of circles = " + numCircles);
    }

    // Other methods go here
}
```

Using Static Methods

Using the static method, `printNumCircles()`.

```
// CountCircles.java
public class CountCircles {
    public static void main(String args[]) {
        Circle circleA = new Circle( 10.0, 12.0, 20.0);
        Circle.printNumCircles();
        Circle circleB = new Circle( 5.0, 3.0, 10.0);
        Circle.printNumCircles();
    }
}
```

Program Output:

```
Number of Circles  = 1
Number of Circles  = 2
```


Using Static Methods

- Static methods can only call other static methods.
- Static methods can only access static data.
- Static methods cannot refer to Java keywords such as, `this` or `super` (will be introduced later) - because they are related to objects (class instances).
- Do not make all methods and attributes in your classes static; if you do that you may end up writing procedural programs using Java as opposed to good OO programs - you will be penalized for doing this in the assignments and exams.

Important: Before you decide to make an attribute or a method `static` think carefully - consider whether it is a class level member or an instance specific member.

Back to the main method

When a Java program is executed the Java virtual machine invokes the main method, which is a **static** method.

```
// HelloWorld.java: Display "Hello World!" on the screen  
import java.lang.*;  
public class HelloWorld {  
    public static void main(String args[]) {  
        System.out.println("Hello World!");  
    }  
}
```

Standard Methods in Java

Standard Methods

There are some methods, that are frequently used, that are provided as standard methods in every class.

We will look at three such methods:

- the `equals` method
- the `toString` method
- the copy constructor

Standard Methods - *equals*

```
public boolean equals(<ClassName> var) {  
    return <boolean expression>;  
}
```

- It is useful to be able to compare if two objects are **equal**
- Doing the equality test with == operator will only check if references are equal as opposed to checking if objects are equal
- How to determine if objects are equal is up to you; use **one or more** properties of the objects
- This is version one; we'll “improve” it as we go

Adding equals to Circle Class

We will now add the equals method to the Circle class.

How would you compare a Circle object to another Circle object?

```
public boolean equals(Circle circle) {  
    return Double.compare(circle.centreX, centreX) == 0 &&  
        Double.compare(circle.centreY, centreY) == 0 &&  
        Double.compare(circle.radius, radius) == 0;  
}
```

Standard Methods - toString

- What if you want to print the attributes of the Circle class - is there an easy way?
- What would happen if you have:
 - ▶ `System.out.println(c_1);` - `c_1` is a reference to a Circle object
- The `toString` method which returns a String **representation** of an object is the way to go:
 - ▶ It is automatically called when the object is asked to act like a String, e.g. **printing** an object using: `System.out.println(c_1);`

```
public String toString() {  
    return <String>;  
}
```

Adding the toString method to the Circle Class

We will now add the toString method to the Circle class.

```
public class Circle {  
    // Other attributes and methods  
  
    public String toString() {  
        return "I am a Circle with {" + "centreX=" + centreX +  
            ", centreY=" + centreY +  
            ", radius=" + radius + '}';  
    }  
}
```

```
System.out.println(new Circle(5.0, 5.0, 40.0));
```

Program Output:

```
I am a Circle with {centreX=5.0, centreY=5.0, radius=40.0}
```


Standard Methods - *Copy Constructor*

```
public <ClassName>(<ClassName> var) {  
    <block of code to execute>  
}
```

- Is a constructor with a single argument of the same type as the class
- Creates a **separate copy** of the object sent as input
- The copy constructor should create an object that is a separate, independent object, but with the instance variables set so that it is an exact copy of the argument object
- In case some of the instance variables are references to other objects, a new object with the same state must be created using its copy constructor - *deep copy*

Adding a Copy Constructor to the Circle Class

```
public class Circle {  
    public double centreX, centreY, radius;  
    // Copy Constructor  
    Circle (Circle aCircle) {  
        if (aCircle == null) {  
            System.out.println("Fatal Error."); //Not a valid circle  
            System.exit(0);  
        }  
        this.centreX = aCircle.centreX;  
        this.centreY = aCircle.centreY;  
        this.radius = aCircle.radius;  
    }  
    // Other methods  
}
```

```
Circle c1 = new Circle(10.0, 10.0, 5.0); //s new object  
Circle c2 = c1; //a reference to the same object pointed by c1  
Circle c3 = new Circle(c1); //a new object - state is same as c1
```

Overview

This topic will be delivered through three lectures (Lectures 3, 4 and 5) each covering the following subtopics.

Lecture 3: Slides 4-34

- Introducing Classes and Objects
- Defining Classes
- Using Classes

Lecture 4: Slides 35-66

- Updating and Accessing Instance Variables
- Static Attributes and Methods
- Standard Methods in Java

Lecture 5: Slides 67-95

- Introducing Java Packages
- Information Hiding
- Delegation through Association
- Wrapper Classes

Introducing Java Packages

Packages in Java

Keyword

Package: Allows to group classes and interfaces (will be introduced later) into bundles, that can then be handled together using an accepted naming convention.

Why would you group classes into packages?

- Works similar to libraries in C; can be developed, packaged, imported and used by other Java programs/classes.
- Allows reuse, rather than rewriting classes, you can use existing classes by importing them.
- Prevents naming conflicts.
 - ▶ Classes with the same name can be used in a program, uniquely identifying them by specifying the package they belong to.
- Allows access control - will learn more when we learn *Information Hiding/Visibility Control*.
- It is another level of **Encapsulation**.

Creating Java Packages

- To place a class in a package, the first statement in the Java class must be the `package` statement with the following syntax:

```
package <directory_name_1>.<directory_name_2>;
```

- ▶ This implies that the class in `directory_2`, which is a sub-directory of `directory_1`.

Example:

```
package utilities.shapes;  
  
public class Circle {  
    // Code for Circle goes here  
}
```

- ▶ `Circle.class` must be in directory `shapes`, which is a sub-directory of directory `utilities`

Using Java Packages

- To use classes in a package, the **import** statement, which can take one of the following forms must be used:

```
import <packageName>.*; // Imports all classes in the package
import <packageName>.<className>; // Imports the particular class
```

- ▶ Once imported the, the class importing the package, can use the class.
- ▶ The parent directory where the classes are placed must be in the CLASSPATH environment variable - similar to PATH variable.

Example:

```
import utilities.shapes.Circle;
public class CircleTest {
    public static void main(String aargs[]) {
        Circle my_circle = new Circle();
    }
}
```

- ▶ The parent directory of utilities directory, must be in the CLASSPATH environment variable.

The Default Package

- All the classes in the current directory belong to an unnamed package called the `default` package - no package statement is needed.
- As long as the current directory (.) is part of the CLASSPATH variable, all the classes in the default package are automatically available to a program.
- If the CLASSPATH variable is set, the current directory must be included as one of the alternatives; otherwise, Java may not even be able to find the .class files for the program itself.
- If the CLASSPATH variable is not set, then all the class files for a program must be put in the current directory.

This was a very brief introduction to packages; if you want to use packages you will have to read up more. Here is one good [link](#).

Information Hiding

Information Hiding

- The OO design paradigm allows information related to classes/objects (i.e. attributes and methods) to be grouped together - **Encapsulation**.
- Actions on objects can be performed through methods of the class **interface** to the class.
- The OO design paradigm also supports **Information Hiding**; some attributes and methods can be hidden from the user.
- Information Hiding is also referred to a **Visibility Control**.

Keyword

Information Hiding: Ability to “hide” the details of a class from the outside world.

Keyword

Access Control: Preventing an outside class from **manipulating** the properties of another class in **undesired** ways.

Information Hiding

Java provides control over the **visibility (access)** of variables and methods through **visibility modifiers**:

- This allows to safely seal data within the capsule of the class
- Prevents programmers from relying on details of class implementation
- Helps in protecting against accidental or wrong usage
- Keeps code elegant and clean (easier to maintain)
- Enables to provide access to the object through a clean interface

Visibility Modifiers

Keyword

public: Keyword when applied to a class, method or attribute makes it available/visible everywhere (within the class and outside the class).

Keyword

private: Keyword when applied to a method or attribute of a class, makes them only visible within that class. Private methods and attributes are not visible within *subclasses*, and are not inherited.

Keyword

protected: Keyword when applied to a method or attribute of a class, makes them only visible within that class, *subclasses* and also within all classes that are in the same package as that class. They are also visible to *subclasses* in other packages.

Note: We will learn about *subclasses* when we learn Inheritance.

Visibility Modifiers

Modifier	Class	Package	Subclass	Outside
<code>public</code>	Y	Y	Y	Y
<code>protected</code>	Y	Y	Y	N
<code>default</code>	Y	Y	N	N
<code>private</code>	Y	N	N	N

The Circle Class with Visibility Modifiers

- Attributes of the class must be made **private** and accessed through getter/setter methods, which are **public**.
- Methods that other classes do not call must be defined as **private**.

```
public class Circle {  
    private double centreX, centreY, radius;  
  
    //Methods to get and set the instance variables  
    public double getX() { return centreX;}  
    public double getY() { return centreY;}  
    public double getR() { return radius;}  
    public double setX(double centreX) { this.centreX = centreX;}  
    public double setY(double centreY) { this.centreY = centreY;}  
    public double setR(double radius) { this.radius = radius;}  
    // Other methods  
}
```

Mutability

Keyword

Mutable: A class that contains public mutator methods or other public methods that can change the instance variables is called a *mutable class*, and its objects are called *mutable objects*.

Keyword

Immutable: A class that contains no methods (other than constructors) that change any of the instance variables is called an *immutable class*, and its objects are called *immutable objects*.

Back to the Circle Class

```
// Circle.java
public class Circle {
    private double centreX, centreY, radius;
    private static int numCircles;

    public Circle(double newCentreX, double newCentreY, double newRadius) {
        public double getCentreX() {.. }
        public void setCentreX(double centreX) {.. }
        public double getCentreY() {.. }
        public void setCentreY(double centreY) {.. }
        public double getRadius() {..}
        public void setRadius(double radius) {..}
        public double computeCircumference() {..}
        public double computeArea() {..}
        public void resize(double factor) {..}
        public static int getNumCircles() {..}
    }
}
```

Is this an immutable class?

How would you create an immutable Circle class?

Creating an Immutable Class

```
// ImmutableCircle.java
public class ImmutableCircle {
    private final double centreX, centreY, radius;
    private static int numCircles;

    public ImmutableCircle(double newCentreX, double newCentreY,
                           double newRadius) {...}

    public double getCentreX() {...}
    public double getCentreY() {...}
    public double getRadius() {...}
    public double computeCircumference () {...}
    public double computeArea () {...}
    public static int getNumCircles() {...}
}
```

Delegation through Association

Delegation

- A class can **delegate** its responsibilities to other classes.
- An object can **invoke methods** in other objects through **containership**.
- This is an **Association** relationship between the classes (will be explained in more detail later).

Delegation - Example

We will demonstrate the Association relationship and Delegation through a Point class contained within the Circle class.

```
public class Point {  
    private double xCoord;  
    private double yCoord;  
  
    // Constructor  
    ....  
  
    public double getXCoord() {  
        return xCoord;  
    }  
  
    public double getYCoord() {  
        return yCoord;  
    }  
}
```

Delegation - Example

```
public class Circle {  
    private Point centre;  
    private double radius;  
  
    public Circle(Point centre, double radius) {  
        this.centre = centre;  
        this.radius = radius;  
    }  
    public double getX() {  
        return centre.getXCoord();  
    }  
    public double getY() {  
        return centre.getYCoord();  
    }  
    // Other methods go here  
}
```

A Point object is contained in the Circle object; methods in a Circle object can call methods in the Point object using the reference to the object, centre.

Wrapper Classes

Back to Primitive Data Types

Primitives like `int` and `double`:

- Contain **only** data
- Do **not** have attributes or methods
- Can't “perform actions” like parsing

Keyword

Primitive: A unit of information that contains only data, and has no attributes or methods

Wrapper Classes

- Java provides “wrapper” classes for primitives
- Allows primitive data types to be “packaged” or “boxed” into objects
- Allows primitives to “pretend” that they are classes (this is important later)
- **Provides extra functionality for primitives**

Keyword

Wrapper: A class that gives extra functionality to primitives like `int`, and lets them behave like objects

Wrapper Classes

Primitive	Wrapper Class
<code>boolean</code>	Boolean
<code>byte</code>	Byte
<code>char</code>	Character
<code>int</code>	Integer
<code>float</code>	Float
<code>double</code>	Double
<code>long</code>	Long
<code>short</code>	Short

Integer Class

Provides a number of methods such as:

- Reverse: `Integer.reverse(10)`
- Rotate Left: `Integer.rotateLeft(10, 2)`
- Signum: `Integer.signum(-10)`
- **Parsing**: `Integer.parseInt("10")`

```
Integer x = Integer.parseInt("20");  
int y = x;  
Integer z = 2*x;
```

Parsing

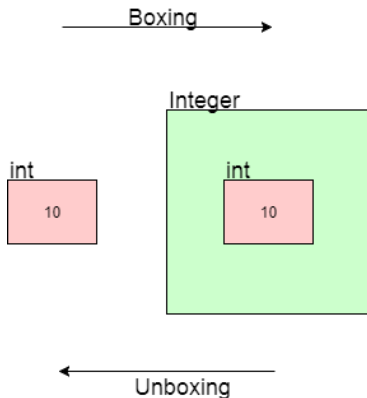
Every wrapper class has a parse function:

- `xxx var = XXX.parseXXX(<string>);`
- `int i = Integer.parseInt("1");`
- `double d = Double.parseDouble("1");`
- `boolean b = Boolean.parseBoolean("TruE");`

Keyword

Parsing: Processing one data type into another

Automatic Boxing/Unboxing



Keyword

(Un)Boxing: The process of converting a primitive to/from its equivalent wrapper class

Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this topic you will be able to:

- Explain the difference between a *class* and an *object*
- Create classes, and give them *properties* and *behaviours*
- Implement and use simple classes
- Identify a series of well-defined classes from a *specification*
- Explain object oriented concepts: abstraction, encapsulation, information hiding and delegation
- Understand the role of Wrapper classes

References

- Absolute Java by Water Savitch (Fourth Edition), Chapters 4 & 5