20 Generic Classes and Methods: A Deeper Look

Objectives

In this chapter you'll:

- Create generic methods that perform identical tasks on arguments of different types.
- Create a generic `Stack` class that can be used to store objects of any class or interface type.
- Learn about compile-time translation of generic methods and classes.
- Learn how to overload generic methods with non-generic or generic methods.
- Use wildcards when precise type information about a parameter is not required in the method body.

Outline

1. 20.1 Introduction
2. 20.2 Motivation for Generic Methods
3. 20.3 Generic Methods: Implementation and Compile-Time Translation
4. 20.4 Additional Compile-Time Translation Issues: Methods That Use a Type Parameter as the Return Type

5. 20.5 Overloading Generic Methods
6. 20.6 Generic Classes
7. 20.7 Wildcards in Methods That Accept Type Parameters
8. 20.8 Wrap-Up

1. Summary
2. Self-Review Exercises
3. Answers to Self-Review Exercises
4. Exercises