Iterator Pattern

Use a list iterator to iterate through the elements of a linked list (good method below for traverse)

```
LinkedList<String> list = . . .;
ListIterator<String> iterator = list.listIterator();
while (iterator.hasNext())
   String current = iterator.next();

    hasNext tests where end of iterator

    Next returns current element and advance iterator

    Iterators do not expose internal structure of a class

    Info hiding

    Contracts

    Other traversal methods are shit

EX. Suppose we have a queue class
 void add(E x) • E - type of queue elements
 E peek()
 E remove()
 int size()
Array structure with random access
```

```
E get(int i)
void set(int i, E x)
void add(E x)
int size()
```

But its harder to add/remove elements from the MIDDLE of linked list Cursor Implementation for Traversal

- Implement a list with a cursor
- · List cursor marks a position like cursor in word
- Interface of list with cursor

```
    E getCurrent() // Get element at cursor
    Next method resets cursor to start
    Next method advance it to next element
    To traverse the list
```

Cons of cursor:

- Bc there is one cursor, you can't compare different list elements
- · Cant print list
- USE ITERATOR

Pros of iterators:

- · You can attach more than one iterator to collection
- Useful outside of collection classes
 - Scanner is an iterator (string tokenizers)
 - o input streams

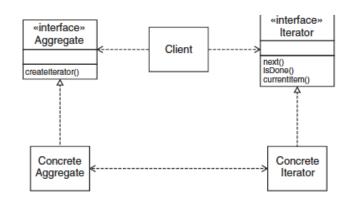
ITERATOR:

Context:

- 1. An object (aggregate) contains other objects (elements)
- 2. Clients (method that use the aggregate) need access to the elements
- 3. Aggregate should not expose its internal structure
- 4. There may be multiple clients that need simultaneous access

Solution:

- Define an iterator class that fetches one element at a time
- Each iterator object needs to keep track of the position of the next element to fetch
- 3. If there are several variations of the aggregate and iterator classes, it is best if they implement common interface types. Then he client only need to know the interface types, not concrete classes



· Names of interface types, classes and methods are examples, not actual methods within libraries

Linked list iterator example:

Name in Design Pattern	Actual Name		
Aggregate	List		
ConcreteAggregate	LinkedList		
Iterator	ListIterator		
ConcreteIterator	An anonymous class that implements the ListIterator interface type		
createIterator()	listIterator()		
next()	next()		
isDone()	Opposite of hasNext()		
currentItem()	Return value of next()		

Important to have:

- Aggregate
- · Concrete aggregate
- Iterator
- Concrete Iterator

COMPOSITE PATTERN

- The composite pattern teaches how to combine several objects into an object that has the same behaviour as its parts
- Where primitive objects can be grouped into composite objects, and the composites are considered primitive objets
- A method of the composite object must also be applied to its primitive objects and combining the results
 - Ex. To find the right size of a container, the container must get the right size of all the components of the container and combine the results

winterface» Primitive method() Composite method() Calls method() for each primitive and combines the results

Context

- Primitive objects can be combined into composite objects
- Clients treat a composite object as a primitive object

	Primitive	Component
	Composite	Container or a subclass such as JPanel
	Leaf	A component that has no children such as JButton or JTextArea
	method()	A method of the Component interface such as

Actual Name

Solution

- 1. Define an interface type that is an abstraction for the primitive objects
- 2. A composite object contains a collection of primitive objects
- 3. Both primitive classes and composite classes implement the interface type
- 4. When implementing a method from the interface type, the composite class applies the method to its primitive objects and combines the results

Name in Design Pattern

DECORATOR PATTERN

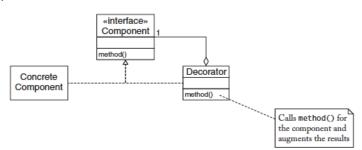
- Adding a scroll bar is a decoration
 - When components has more info that can be shown on screen
- The Decorator pattern teaches how to form a class that adds functionality to another class while keeping its interface
- Use decorator whenever a class enhances the functionality of another class while preserving its interface
- Decorator implements a method from the component interface by invoking the same method on the component and then augmenting the result.

Context

- 1. You want to enhance the behaviour of a class. We'll call it the component class
- 2. A decorated component can be used in the same way as a plain component
- 3. The component class does not want to take on the responsibility of the decoration
- 4. There may be an open-ended set of possible decorations

Solution

- 1. Define an interface type that is an abstraction for the component
- Concrete component classes implement this interface type
- 3. Decorator classes also implement this interface type
- 4. A decorator object manages the component object that it decorates
- 5. When implementing a method from the component interface type, the decorator class applies the method to the decorated component and combines the result with the effect of the decoration



JTextArea

Notes:

- Decorator looks very similar to composite pattern
- · Min difference:
 - Decorator: enhances the behaviour of a single component
 - Enhance and modify the behaviour of ONE component
 - Composite collects multiple components
 - Collects and treat them all the same
- The differ in the number of concrete components
- SWING decorator example

Name in Design Pattern	Actual Name
Component	Component
ConcreteComponent	JTextArea
Decorator	JScrollPane
method()	A method of the Component interface. For example, the paint method paints a part of the decorated component and the scroll bars.

How to Recognize Patterns (composite and decorator looks alike)

- 1. Look at intent
 - Composite: group components into a whole
 - Decorator: decorate a component
- 2. Where is pattern used?
- Decorator: scroll bar
- 3. Follow contexts...they are that pattern if all context is true
- Swing border is not a decorator pattern

OBSERVER PATTERN

Ex. When u have a present and edit window (ex. Web development). When you type text into one window, how does it show up in another window?

- They implemented a model/view/controller architecture
- The model object holds info in some data structure...holds raw data
 - It has no visual appearance
- The view object draw the visible parts of the data
- Each view has a controller object (that processes user interaction)
 - May process mouse and keyboard events from he windowing system etc.

Ex. User types text into one of the window

- · Controller tells model to insert text somewhere
- Model notifies all views of a change in the model
- All views repaint themselves
- During painting, view asks model for the change to update Notification mechanism
- Model knows a number of observer objects
- **Observers** are interested in state changes in the model

Observer pattern teaches how an object can tell other objects about events.

Notification patter = observer pattern

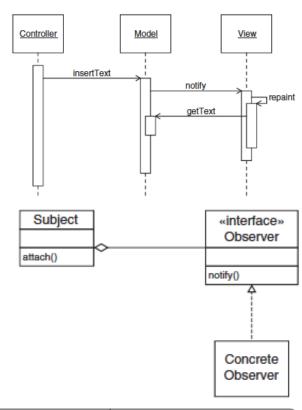
Context

- 1. An object (subject) is the source of events(ex. My data has changed)
- 2. One or more observer objects want to know when an event occurs

Solution

- 1. Define an observer interface type. Observer classes must implement this interface type
- 2. The subject maintains a collection of observer objects
- 3. The subject class supplies methods for attaching observers
- 4. Whenever an event occurs, the subject notifies all observers.

Fact: ex. All user interface elements: buttons, menus etc.



Name in Design Pattern	Actual Name
Subject	JButton
0bserver	ActionListener
ConcreteObserver	The class that implements the ActionListener interface type
attach()	addActionListener
notify()	actionPerformed

SINGLETON PATTERN

- A singleton class has exactly one instance
- A singleton class is a class that has a single object
 - The object is a global facility for all clients
- Ex. A program for various classes that need to generate random numbers
- Computer-generated random numbers should really be called pseudo-random numbers
 - you need to start with a SEED value and transform it to obtain the first value of the sequence. Then you apply the transformations again for the next value etc.
- Lets design a class SingleRandom that provides a single random number generator
- Make a constructor private to make sure that the class has a single instance
- Class constructs the instance and returns it in the static getInstance method

```
Public class SingleRandom{
    private SingleRandom(){generator = new Random()}
   public void setSeed(int seed){generator.setSeed(seed);}
   Public int nextInt(){return generator.nextInt();}
   public static SingleRandom getInstance(){return instance;}
   private Random generator;
   private static SingleRandom instance = new SingleRandom();
}
```

- Static field instance stores a reference to the unique SingleRandom object.
 - A static field is a global variable
- Clients have only ONE WAY to obtain a SingleRandom object: call static getInstance method

Int randomNumber = SingleRandom.getInstance().nextInt();

 The static instance field is initialized with the singleton object before the first call to the getInstance method occurs.

Context

- 1. All clients need to access a single shared instance of a class
- 2. You want to ensure that no additional instances can be created accidentally

Solution

- Define a class with a private constructor
- 2. The class constructs a single instance of itself
- 3. Supply a static method that returns a reference to the single instance

- Uncommon; only applies to classes that are guaranteed to have a unique instance.
- · Ex. Main method

MVC

Observer pattern (5.3)

Strategy pattern

Template method pattern

Chapter 9

Chapter 10

- Visitor
- Factory method pattern

Example using multiple data patterns

- Implement invoice composed of line items
- · Line items has a (1) description and (2) price

```
Class interface LineItems{
    String toString(); //@return description
    double getPrince(); //@return price

    There are different kinds of line items - ex. Product

// a product with price and description
Public class Product implements LineItems{
    public Product(double price, String description){//constructor
        this.price = price;
        this.description = description;
    }
    public double getPrice(){return price;}
    public String toString(){return
                                                                 «interface»
description;}
                                                                 Lineltem
    private double price;
    private String description;
                                                                            Bundle
                                                       Product
}
                                                                           getPrice()

    Now consider something more complex; what if we sell
```

- bundles of related items
 - Add a bundle to invoice
 - o so a bundle contains line items and is a line item
 - Composite pattern
- Composite pattern teaches us that the Bundle class should implement the LineItem interface type
- When implementing a LineItem method, the bundle class should apply the method to the individual items and combine the result.

Calls getPrice()

for each line item and adds the result

• Ex. How getPrice method of Bundle class adds the prices of the items in the bundle

```
Bundle Class
Import java.util.*
//a bundle of items that is also a line item
Public class Bundle implements LineItem{
    public Bundle(){ items = new ArrayList<LineItem>();}
    public void add(LineItem item){items.add(item);}
    public double getPrince(){
        double price =0;
        for(LineItem item: items)
            price += item.getPrice();
        return price;
    }
    public String toString(){
        String description = "Bundle Items: ";
        for(int i=0; i< items.size(); i++){</pre>
            if(i>0) description += ", ";
            description += items.get(i).toString();
    return description;
    private ArrayList<ListItems> items;
}
```

```
    We can use decorators to implement discounts to a bundle

                                                                        «interface»

    Ex. getPrice method of DiscountedItem class calls the

                                                                        LineItem
  getPrice method of the discounted item and then applies
 the discount
                                                                                  Discounted
                                                              Product
DiscountedItem.java
//a decorator for an item that applies
                                                                                             Calls getPrice()
//a discount
                                                                                             applies the discoun
Public class DiscountedItem implements
LineItem{
    public DiscountedItem(LineItem item, double Discount){
         this.item = item;
         this.Discount = Discount;
    public String toString(){
         return item.toString + "Discount: "+ Discount;
    public getPrice(){
         return item.getPrice() * Discount;
    private LineItem item;
    private double Discount;

    Invoice class. Invoice holds a collection of line items

Public class Invoice{
    public void addItem(LineItem item){items.add(item);}
    private ArrayList<LineItem> items;
}

    Clients of Invoice class may need to know the line items inside an invoice

    But we dont want to reveal the structure of Invoice class

Public interface Iterator<E>{
    boolean hasNext();
    E next();
                                                                                       «interface»
    void remove();
                                                                                        Iterator

    Remove is an optional operation

    But need to use bc interface implementation

Public Iterator<LineItem> getItems(){
    return new
         Iterator<LineItem>(){
                                                                 Invoice
                                                                                       (anonymous
              public boolean hasNext(){
                                                                                        class)
                  return current < items.size();</pre>
              public LineItem next(){
                  LineItem r = items.get(current);
                  current++;
                  return r;
              public void remove(){
                  throw new UnsupportedOperationException();
             }private int current=0;
         };
```

Full code of class Invoice in 10.8

Layout Managers and the Strategy Pattern

Build user interfaces from individual user interface components: buttons, text fields etc.

You place components in containers

When you add components to container, need to determine:

- 1. Size of component
- 2. Where to put it

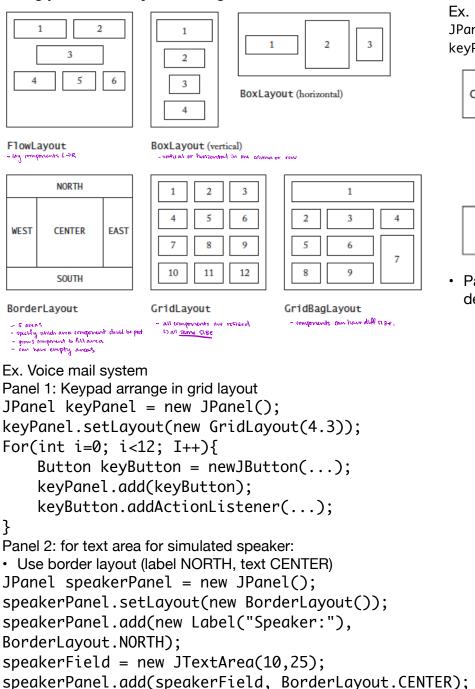
A layout manager arranges the components in a container

It looks at the sizes of the components and computes their positions

Using predefined layout managers

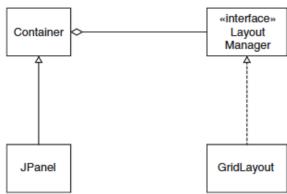
Microphone panel and button

Pa. 186

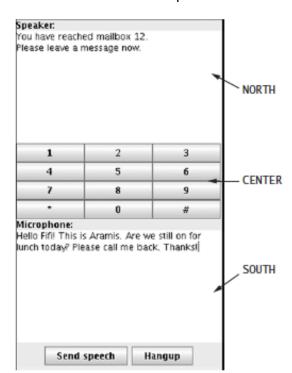


Botton inside a separate panel and add to South go Microphone

Ex. JPanel keyPanel = new KPanel(); keyPanel.setLayout(new GridLayout(4.3));



 Panel is just a container visit visible decorations that can hold components



```
public void actionPerformed(ActionEvent event)
Ch5/mailgui/Telephone.java
                                                                        48
    import java.awt.*;
                                                                        49
                                                                                           connect.record(microphoneField.getText());
                                                                        50
                                                                                           microphoneField.setText("");
    import java.awt.event.*;
                                                                        51
    import javax.swing.*;
                                                                                    53
  5
                                                                                 JButton hangupButton = new JButton("Hangup");
  6
       Presents a phone GUI for the voice mail system.
                                                                                  hangupButton.addActionListener(new
  7
                                                                                    ActionListener()
  8
    public class Telephone
  9
    {
                                                                        58
                                                                                        public void actionPerformed(ActionEvent event)
 10
                                                                        59
           Constructs a telephone with a speaker, keypad,
 11
                                                                        60
                                                                                           connect.hangup();
 12
           and microphone.
 13
                                                                        62
                                                                                    });
 14
       public Telephone()
                                                                        63
 15
                                                                        64
                                                                                 JPanel buttonPanel = new JPanel();
                                                                        65
                                                                                 buttonPanel.add(speechButton);
 16
           JPanel speakerPanel = new JPanel();
                                                                                 buttonPanel.add(hangupButton);
 17
           speakerPanel.setLayout(new BorderLayout());
 18
           speakerPanel.add(new JLabel("Speaker:"),
                                                                        68
                                                                                 JPanel microphonePanel = new JPanel();
 19
                 BorderLayout.NORTH);
                                                                        69
                                                                                 microphonePanel.setLayout(new BorderLayout());
 20
           speakerField = new JTextArea(10, 25);
                                                                        70
                                                                                 microphonePanel.add(new JLabel("Microphone:"),
 21
           speakerPanel.add(speakerField,
                                                                                       BorderLayout.NORTH);
 22
                 BorderLayout.CENTER);
                                                                        72
                                                                                 microphonePanel.add(microphoneField, BorderLayout.CENTER);
 23
           String keyLabels = "123456789*0#";
                                                                        73
                                                                                 microphonePanel.add(buttonPanel, BorderLayout.SOUTH);
 24
           JPanel keyPanel = new JPanel();
                                                                        74
 25
           keyPanel.setLayout(new GridLayout(4, 3));
                                                                        75
                                                                                 JFrame frame = new JFrame();
 26
           for (int i = 0; i < keyLabels.length(); i++)
                                                                        76
                                                                                 frame.setDefaultCloseOperation(JFrame.EXIT_ON_CLOSE);
 27
                                                                                 frame.add(speakerPanel, BorderLayout.NORTH);
 28
              final String label = keyLabels.substring(i, i + 1);
                                                                                 frame.add(keyPanel, BorderLayout.CENTER);
 29
              JButton keyButton = new JButton(label);
                                                                                 frame.add(microphonePanel, BorderLayout.SOUTH);
 30
                                                                        80
              keyPanel.add(keyButton);
 31
              keyButton.addActionListener(new
                                                                        81
                                                                                 frame.pack();
                                                                                 frame.setVisible(true);
 32
                 ActionListener()
                                                                        82
                                                                        83
                                                                              }
 33
 34
                     public void actionPerformed(ActionEvent event)
                                                                        85
 35
                                                                        86
                                                                                 Give instructions to the mail system user.
 36
                        connect.dial(label);
                                                                        87
 37
                                                                        88
                                                                              public void speak(String output)
 38
                 });
                                                                        89
 39
           }
                                                                        90
                                                                                 speakerField.setText(output):
 40
                                                                        91
                                                                              }
 41
           final JTextArea microphoneField = new JTextArea(10,25);
                                                                        92
 42
                                                                        03
                                                                               public void run(Connection c)
 43
           JButton speechButton = new JButton("Send speech");
                                                                        94
                                                                              {
 44
           speechButton.addActionListener(new
                                                                        95
                                                                                 connect = c:
 45
              ActionListener()
                                                                        96
                                                                        97
 46
                                                                        98
                                                                               private JTextArea speakerField;
                                                                        99
                                                                              private Connection connect;
Implementing a Custom Layout Manager
```

A layout manager must support the LayoutManager interface type:

```
public interface LayoutManager
  Dimension minimumLayoutSize(Container parent);
  Dimension preferredLayoutSize(Container parent);
  void layoutContainer(Container parent);
  void addLayoutComponent(String name, Component comp);
  void removeLayoutComponent(Component comp);
}
```

minimumLayoutSize and preferredLayoutSize methods determine the minimum and preferred size of the container when the components are laid out layoutContainer method lays out the components in the container

 Setting position and size for each component Last 2 methods can be do-nothing methods

To write a layout manager, start out with preferredLayoutSize method

- Compute preferred width and height by combining W and L of each component within container
- Calculate width: widest component on the left and widest component on the right; add them together with gap
- Calculate height: add heights of all rows

When container is ready to lay out its contents, call layoutContainer method

 Computes the positions of each component and then calls setBounds to put component in correct location ex. Strategy: Class formLayout implement LayoutManager Code on pg.191

STRATEGY PATTERN

Strategy pattern teaches how to supply variants to an algorithm

To produce a particular layout, make an object of the layout manager class and give it to the container

When container needs to execute the layout algorithm, it calls the appropriate methods of the layout manager object.

- Strategy pattern applies whenever u want to allow a client to supply an algorithm
- The many objects of strategy interface type, can have different algorithms

Context

1. A class (context class) can benefit from different variants of an algorithm

		Concrete Strategy
esign Pattern	Actual Name	
	Container	
	LayoutManager	

Context

Name in D

Context

«interface»

Strategy

doWork()

Strategy ConcreteStrategy A layout manager such as BorderLayout 2. Clients of the context class sometimes want to supply custom doWork() A method of the LayoutManager interface type versions of the algorithm such as layoutContainer

Solution

- 1. Define an interface type that is an abstraction for the algorithm. We'll call this interface type the strategy
- 2. Concrete strategy classes implement the strategy interface type. Each strategy class implements a version of the algorithm
- 3. The client supplies a concrete strategy object to the context class
- 4. Whenever the algorithm needs to be executed, the context class calls the appropriate methods of the strategy object.
- Ex. Comparator and country method
- Pass Comparator object to Collections.sort method to specify how elements are compared.
- Comparator object encapsulates then comparison algorithm
- By varying the comparator, you can sort based on different criteria

Name in Design Pattern	Actual Name
Context	Collections
Strategy Comparator ConcreteStrategy A class that implements the Comparator interface	

Comparator comp = new CountryComparatorByName(); Collections.sort(countries, comp);

Class can benefit from multiple algorithms that implement a similar activity

TEMPLATE METHOD PATTERN

- Not only based on common methods but common steps within a method
 - Cant be done with Interface
- Suppose we're drawing shapes...selected shapes need to be drawn in a specific way to they can be visually distinguished.
 - Bad solution: where each shape class have to provide a separate mechanism to draw the decoration.

Below method supplied in SelectableShape class:

```
public void drawSelection(Graphics2D g2)

    Abstract SelectableShape class doesn't need to know how subclass

{
                                              will draw and translate
   translate(1, 1);
   draw(g2);
   translate(1, 1);
   draw(g2);
                                           <- Template Pattern Example
   translate(-2, -2);
}
```

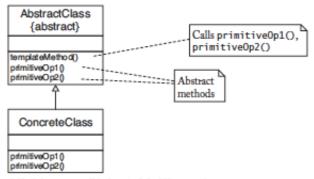
- Superclass defines a method that calls <u>primitive operations</u> that a subclass needs to supply.
- · Each subclass can supply the primitive operations as is most appropriate for it
- Template method contains info on how to combine primitive operations into complex operations

Context

- 1. An algorithm is applicable for multiple types
- 2. Algorithm can be broken down into **primitive operations**. The primitive operations can be different for each type
- 3. The order of the primitive operations int he algorithm doesn't depend on the type.

Solution

- Define an abstract superclass that has a method for the algorithm and abstract methods for the primitive operations
- 2. Implement the algorithm to call the primitive operations in the appropriate order.
- 3. Do not define the primitive operations in the superclass or define them to have appropriate default behaviour
- 4. Each subclass defines the primitive operations but not the algorithm



```
primitiveOp1(), primitiveOp2()
                                 translate(), draw()
              Ch6/scene2/HouseShape.java
               1 import java.awt.*;
               2 import java.awt.geom.*;
               3
               4
               5
                    A house shape.
               6 */
               7
                 public class HouseShape extends SelectableShape
           structs a house shape.
           am x the left of the bounding rectangle
          am v the top of the bounding rectangle
          ram width the width of the bounding rectangle
           HouseShape(int x, int y, int width)
          S.X = X;
          i.y = y;
          .width = width;
           void draw(Graphics2D g2)
          tangle2D.Double base
             = new Rectangle2D.Double(x, y + width, width, width);
          The left bottom of the roof
          nt2D.Double r1
             = new Point2D.Double(x, y + width);
       // The top of the roof
       Point2D.Double r2
             = new Point2D.Double(x + width / 2, y);
       // The right bottom of the roof
       Point2D.Double r3
             = new Point2D.Double(x + width, y + width);
       Line2D.Double roofLeft
             = new Line2D.Double(r1, r2);
       Line2D.Double roofRight
             = new Line2D.Double(r2, r3);
       g2.draw(base);
       g2.draw(roofLeft);
       g2.draw(roofRight);
    public boolean contains(Point2D p)
       return x <= p.getX() && p.getX() <= x + width
             && y <= p.getY() && p.getY() <= y + 2 * width;
    public void translate(int dx, int dy)
       x += dx;
       y += dy;
    private int x;
   private int y;
```

Actual Name

CarShape, HouseShape

SelectableShape

drawSelection()

Ch6/scene2/SelectableShape.java

```
import java.awt.*;
   import java.awt.geom.*;
 3
 4
      A shape that manages its selection state.
  */
 6
 7
   public abstract class SelectableShape implements SceneShape
 8
   {
 9
       public void setSelected(boolean b)
10
      {
          selected = b;
11
12
13
14
      public boolean isSelected()
15
16
          return selected:
17
      }
18
19
      public void drawSelection(Graphics2D g2)
20
          translate(1, 1);
21
22
          draw(g2);
23
          translate(1, 1);
24
          draw(g2);
25
          translate(-2, -2);
26
27
28
      private boolean selected;
29 }
```

```
JU
```

31

32

33

34

35

36 37

38 39

40

41 42

43

44

45

46 47

48 49

50

51

52 53

54 55

56

57 58 59

60

61

62 }

}

}

private int width;

Name in Design Pattern

AbstractClass

ConcreteClass

templateMethod()

THREADS

- = program units that can be executed in parallel
- How to start new threats
- How to coordinate threads; synchronizing

Ex. Run multiple programs at the same time.

- Your OS actually goes back and forth between processes, not run this simultaneously
- If you have multiple CPUs, then can run in parallel (one process per processor)
- The java virtual machine executes each thread for a short amount of time and switches to another thread.

Difference between processes and threads

- OS isolates each process from each other
 - Cant overwrite another process' memory
 - So switching between processes is SLOW
- Threads run within one process
 - Fast switching but share memory

Steps to run a thread:

- Define a class that implements the Runnable interface type. That interface type has a **single** method called run.
- public interface Runnable void run();

«interface»

Runnable

Greeting

Producer

- 2. Place the code for the task into the run method of the class
- Create an object for the class
- Construct a Thread object and supply the Runnable object in the constructor.
- 5. Call the start method of the Thread object to start the thread
- Start method of Thread object starts a new thread the executes the run method of its Runnable

```
<= Ex. Run 2 threads
for (int i = 1; i <= REPETITIONS; i++)
                                             in parallel, each print
  System.out.println(i + ": " + greeting);
                                             ten greetings. Each
  Thread.sleep(DELAY);
                                             thread executes this
```

loop

- After printing, each thread sleep for a while, lets other thread run
- Sleeping might be risky, sleep too long = no long useful
- Thread is terminated when you interrupt it:

InterruptedException, catch in run method

```
GreetingProducer.java
public class GreetingProducer implement Runnable{
    // @param aGreeting: the greeting to display
    public GreetingProducer(String aGreeting){
        aGreeting = greeting;
    public void run(){
        try{
            for(int I=1; I<= REPETITIONS; I++){</pre>
                System.out.println(I + ": " + greeting);
                Thread.sleep(DELAY);
        catch(InterruptedException exception){}
    private String greeting;
    private static final int REPETITION;
    private static final int DELAY;
The above is not a thread...its just a class with run method
```

defined....

Create thread to run thread

```
Runnable r = new GreetingProducer("Hello, World!");
Thread t = new Thread(r);
T.start
```

public class MyRunnable implements Runnable public void run() do work catch (InterruptedException exception) clean up, if necessary }

Thread

<u>main</u> thread «create» t1: Thread «create t2: Thread Start method creates a new thread in virtual machine

- · Thread calls the run method of Runnable object
- Thread terminate = run method terminates

Run two threads in parallel = make and start 2 thread objects

```
Public class ThreadTester{
    public static void main(String[] arg){
        Runnable r1 = new GreetingProducer("Hello, World!");
        Runnable r2 = new GreetingProducer("Bye");
        Thread t1 = new Thread(r1);
        Thread t2 = new Thread(r2);
        t1.start();t2.start();
    }
}
```

- Main method runs in its own thread: MAIN THREAD
 - Main terminates when start t2

Scheduling Threads

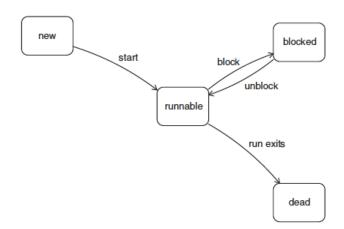
- 1: Hello, World!
 1: Goodbye, World!
 2: Hello, World!
 2: Goodbye, World!
- 3: Hello, World!
 3: Goodbye, World!
- 4: Hello, World!
- 4: Goodbye, World!
- 5: Hello, World!
- 5: Goodbye, World!
- 6: Hello, World!
- 6: Goodbye, World!
- 7: Hello, World!
- 7: Goodbye, World!
- 8: Goodbye, World!
- 8: Hello, World!
 9: Goodbye, World!
- 9: Hello, World!
- 10: Goodbye, World!
- 10: Hello, World!

<= ex. Output of tester program

- · See that 7-8, the threads didn't alternate
- · Thread scheduler does not guarantee order
- · So there will ALWAYS be variations, especially calling OS services (input/output)

Algorithm that scheduler uses to pick nest thread

- · Each thread has:
 - o A thread state
 - A priority
- Thread state is one of the following:
 - New (before start is called)
 - o Runnable
 - o Blocked
 - Dead (after the run method exists)
- There is no separate state to indicate whether a runnable thread is actually running



Reasons thread can enter blocked state

- Sleeping
- · Waiting for input/output
- Waiting to acquire a lock
- · Waiting for a condition

Thread will remain in blocked until event is over

Scheduler will activate a new thread when one of the 3 events occurs:

- · A thread has completed its time slice
- · A thread has blocked itself
- A thread with a higher priority has become runnable

Terminating Threads

- · Thread terminate when the run method of its Runnable returns
- · How to terminate a running method
 - Ex. Have multiple threads to find a solution to a problem.
 First thread to solve, terminate all the others.
 - o DONT STOP WITH stop, dangerous bc resources are shared
 - o Instead, thread should terminate itself
 - Use interrupt method: t.interrupt();
 - Does not terminate, just flags
 - Run method should check if there are any interruption...cover run with a try block

```
public void run()
{
    try
    {
       while (more work to do)
      {
            do work
            Thread.sleep(DELAY);
      }
    }
    catch (InterruptedException exception)
    {
       }
      clean up
}
```

- The run code on the right works because the sleep method checked the interrupted flag
 - If the flag is set, sleep clears it and throws InterruptedException

Check interrupted flag manually: if(Thread.currentThread().isInterrupted())...

Thread Synchronization

Corrupting a Shared Data Structure

- · Threads can share access to same object
- Ex. (PRODUCER)Two threads each inserts 100 strings into queue, (CONSUMER) third string removes ALL strings Cho/queue1/ThreadTester.java

```
This program runs two threads in parallel.
 3
    */
    public class ThreadTester
 5
    {
 6
        public static void main(String[] args)
 8
            BoundedQueue<String> queue = new BoundedQueue<String>(10);
 9
            queue.setDebug(true);
10
            final int GREETING_COUNT = 100;
11
            Runnable run1 = new Producer("Hello, World!",
12
                   queue, GREETING_COUNT);
13
            Runnable run2 = new Producer("Goodbye, World!",
                   queue, GREETING_COUNT);
15
            Runnable run3 = new Consumer(queue, 2 * GREETING_COUNT);
16
17
            Thread thread1 = new Thread(run1);
18
            Thread thread2 = new Thread(run2);
                                                                              Chg/queue1/Consumer.java
19
            Thread thread3 = new Thread(run3);
20
                                                                                     An action that repeatedly removes a greeting from a queue.
21
            thread1.start();
                                                                               3
            thread2.start();
                                                                                  public class Consumer implements Runnable
23
                                                                               5
            thread3.start();
                                                                               6
24
                                                                                        Constructs the consumer object.
25 }
                                                                               8
                                                                                        @param aQueue the queue from which to retrieve greetings
Ch9/queue1/Producer.java
                                                                                        @param count the number of greetings to consume
                                                                              10
                                                                              11
                                                                                     public Consumer(BoundedQueue<String> aQueue, int count)
      An action that repeatedly inserts a greeting into a queue.
                                                                              12
3 */
                                                                              13
                                                                                        queue = aQueue;
  public class Producer implements Runnable
5 {
                                                                               14
                                                                                        greetingCount = count;
                                                                              15
6
                                                                              16
         Constructs the producer object.
                                                                                    public void run()
                                                                              17
         @param aGreeting the greeting to insert into a queue
                                                                              18
         @param aQueue the queue into which to insert greetings
                                                                              19
10
         @param count the number of greetings to produce
                                                                              20
11
                                                                              21
                                                                                           int i = 1;
     public Producer(String aGreeting, BoundedQueue<String> aQueue,
13
                                                                              22
                                                                                           while (i <= greetingCount)
           int count)
                                                                               23
15
         greeting = aGreeting;
                                                                                              if (!queue.isEmpty())
16
         queue = aQueue;
                                                                              25
17
         greetingCount = count;
                                                                              26
                                                                                                 String greeting = queue.remove();
18
                                                                              27
                                                                                                 System.out.println(greeting);
19
                                                                              28
      public void run()
                                                                              29
21
                                                                                              Thread.sleep((int) (Math.random() * DELAY));
         try
                                                                              31
                                                                                           }
23
                                                                              32
           int i = 1;
                                                                              33
                                                                                        catch (InterruptedException exception)
           while (i <= greetingCount)
                                                                              34
                                                                              35
              if (!queue.isFull())
                                                                              36
                                                                              37
29
                 queue.add(i + ": " + greeting);
                                                                                     private BoundedQueue<String> queue;
                                                                                     private int greetingCount;
                                                                              40
              Thread.sleep((int) (Math.random() * DELAY));
                                                                                     private static final int DELAY = 10;
33
           }
                                                                              41
                                                                              42 }
         catch (InterruptedException exception)
37
38
39
40
      private String greeting;
41
      private BoundedQueue<String> queue;
      private int greetingCount;
43
44
      private static final int DELAY = 10;
45
```

```
Chg/queue1/BoundedQueue.java
       A first-in, first-out bounded collection of objects.
3 */
4 public class BoundedQueue<E>
6
         Constructs an empty queue.
8
         @param capacity the maximum capacity of the queue
10
     public BoundedQueue(int capacity)
11
         elements = new Object[capacity];
        head = 0;
13
14
        tail = 0;
15
        size = 0;
     }
16
17
18
19
         Removes the object at the head.
20
         @return the object that has been removed from the queue
21
         @precondition !isEmpty()
22
23
      public E remove()
24
25
          if (debug) System.out.print("removeFirst");
26
          E r = (E) elements[head];
27
          if (debug) System.out.print(".");
28
          head++:
29
          if (debug) System.out.print(".");
30
          size--;
31
          if (head == elements.length)
32
33
             if (debug) System.out.print(".");
34
             head = 0;
35
36
          if (debug)
37
             System.out.println("head=" + head + ",tail=" + tail
                   + ",size=" + size);
38
39
          return r;
40
41
42
43
           Appends an object at the tail.
           @param newValue the object to be appended
44
                                                                                                    1: Hello, World!
45
           @precondition !isFull();
                                                                                                    1: Goodbye, World!
46
                                                                                                    2: Hello, World!
47
       public void add(E newValue)
                                                                                                    3: Hello, World!
48
49
          if (debug) System.out.print("add");
50
          elements[tail] = newValue;
                                                                                                    99: Goodbye, World!
51
          if (debug) System.out.print(".");
                                                                                                    100: Goodbye, World!
52
          tail++;
53
          if (debug) System.out.print(".");
54
                                                                                                >> expected output
          size++;
55
          if (tail == elements.length)
56
57
             if (debug) System.out.print(".");
58
             tail = 0;
59
          if (debug)
60
61
             System.out.println("head=" + head + ",tail=" + tail
62
                   + ",size=" + size);
63
       }
65
       public boolean isFull()
66
67
          return size == elements.length;
68
70
       public boolean isEmpty()
          return size == 0;
73
                                                                      Object[] elements;
74
                                                                      int head:
75
       public void setDebug(boolean newValue)
                                                                      int tail;
76
                                                                      int size;
          debug = newValue;
                                                                      boolean debug;
78
       }
```

Race Conditions

When you run the program several time, consumer thread gets stuck and won't complete

- It cant retrieve them all
- Complete but print same greeting repeatedly
- · To fix race condition, ensure that only one thread manipulates the queue whenever

Locks

A thread can acquire a lock to solve above prob. When another thread tries to acquire the same lock, it is blocked. When the first thread releases the lock, the other threads are unblocked.

Two kinds of locks:

- Objects of the ReentrantLock class or another class that implements the Lock interface type in the java.util.concurrent.locks package.
- Locks that are built into every Java object

```
aLock = new ReentrantLock();
aLock.lock();
try
{
   protected code
finally
{
   aLock.unlock();
```

Remove should also be locked >> If one thread calls a method, other threads shouldn't run same method on the same object

The consequences of this scenario are unfortunate. Step 2 overwrites the object that the

Here is one of many scenarios that demonstrates how a problem can occur.

following statement:

executes the statements

tai1++:

elements[tail] = newValue;

elements[tail] = newValue;

3. The first thread executes the statement

first thread stored in the queue. Step 3 increments the tail counter past a storage location without filling it. When its value is removed later, some random value will be returned (see Figure 4).

The first thread calls the add method of the BoundedQueue class and executes the

2. The second thread calls the add method on the same BoundedQueue object and

- Finally clause ensure the the lock is unlocked even when an exception is thrown in the protected code
- Assume body of add method is protected by a lock...the error is resolved:
 - 1. The first thread calls the add method and acquires the lock. The thread executes the following statement:

```
elements[tail] = newValue;
```

- 2. The second thread also calls the add method on the same queue object and wants to acquire the same lock. But it can't—the first thread still owns the lock. Therefore, the second thread is blocked and cannot proceed.
- The first thread executes the statement

```
tai1++:
```

- The first thread completes the add method and returns. It releases the lock.
- The lock release unblocks the second thread. It is again runnable.
- The second thread proceeds, now successfully acquiring the lock.

Each queue need separate lock obj Threes can operate on diff BoundedQueue objects

Avoiding Deadlocks

- Locks for add and remove methods are not enough to solve problem
- Consider action of the producer:

```
if (!queue.isFull())
   queue.add(i + ": " + greeting);
}
public void add(E newValue)
   queueLock.lock();
   try
      while (queue is full)
         wait for more space
   finally
      queueLock.unlock();
```

Suppose producer thread queue is not full but time slice has elapsed Another thread gains control and fill queue

The first thread is reactivated and proceeds where it left off

Adds msg to full queue >> queue is corrupted

Test should be moved inside the add method

Then it'll all test for sufficient space.

<< new add method

But how can you wait for more space?

- Cant call sleep inside try block.
- If sleep after locking queueLock, no other thread can remove elements be that code block is protected by the same lock.
- The consumer will call remove, but it'll be blocked until add exits
- But the add method doesn't exit until it has space available....deadlock

RESOLVE DEADLOCKS: Condition INTERFACE

- Each lock has 1 or more Condition objects.
- Create like this:

private Lock queueLock = new ReentrantLock(); private Condition spaceAvailableCondition = queueLock.newCondition(); private Condition valueAvailableCondition = queueLock.newCondition();

Therefore for our example, we track 2 conditions:

- 1. space is available for insertion
- 2. Values are available for removal

```
Calling await on a condition object temp releases a lock and blocks current thread.
Ex. Modified add method
public void add(E newValue)
                                               Current thread is blocked until another thread calls signalAll or
                                               signal on the condition object for which the thread is waiting
   while (size == elements.length)
                                               public E remove()
      spaceAvailableCondition.await();
                                                   E r = elements[head];
                                                   spaceAvailableCondition.signalAll(); // Unblock waiting threads
The valueAvailableCondition is maintained in the same way. The remove method starts
with the loop
   while (size == 0)
      valueAvailableCondition.await();
After the add method has added an element to the queue, it calls
   valueAvailableCondition.signalAll();
Note that the test for a condition must be contained in a while loop, not an if statement:
   while (not ok to proceed)
      aCondition.await();
The condition must be retested after the thread returns from the call to await.
                                                                   26
                                                                             queueLock.lock();
                                                                   27
Chg/queue2/BoundedQueue.java
                                                                             try
                                                                   28
   import java.util.concurrent.locks.*;
                                                                   29
                                                                                while (size == 0)
                                                                   30
                                                                                   valueAvailableCondition.await();
3
                                                                   31
                                                                                E r = (E) elements[head];
        A first-in, first-out bounded collection of objects.
                                                                   32
                                                                                head++:
 5 */
                                                                   33
                                                                                size--:
   public class BoundedQueue<E>
 6
                                                                   34
                                                                                if (head == elements.length)
 7
                                                                   35
                                                                                   head = 0:
   ł
 8
                                                                   36
                                                                                spaceAvailableCondition.signalAll();
                                                                   37
 Q
          Constructs an empty queue.
                                                                                return r:
                                                                   38
10
          @param capacity the maximum capacity of the queue
                                                                   39
                                                                             finally
11
                                                                   40
12
      public BoundedQueue(int capacity)
                                                                             {
                                                                   41
                                                                                queueLock.unlock();
13
                                                                   42
                                                                             }
14
          elements = new Object[capacity];
                                                                   43
                                                                          }
15
          head = 0;
16
          tail = 0;
                                                                   45
17
          size = 0;
                                                                   46
                                                                             Appends an object at the tail.
18
      }
                                                                             @param newValue the object to be appended
                                                                   47
19
                                                                   48
20
                                                                   49
                                                                          public void add(E newValue) throws InterruptedException
21
          Removes the object at the head.
                                                                   50
22
          @return the object that has been removed from the queue
                                                                   51
                                                                             queueLock.lock();
23
                                                                   52
                                                                             try
      public E remove() throws InterruptedException
                                                                   53
                                                                   54
                                                                                while (size == elements.length)
                                                                   55
                                                                                   spaceAvailableCondition.await();
                                                                   56
                                                                                elements[tail] = newValue;
                                                                   57
                                                                                tai1++:
                                                                   58
                                                                                size++;
                                                                   59
                                                                                if (tail == elements.length)
                                                                   60
                                                                                   tail = 0;
                                                                                valueAvailableCondition.signalAll();
                                                                   61
                                                                   62
                                                                   63
                                                                             finally
                                                                   64
                                                                             {
                                                                   65
                                                                                queueLock.unlock();
                                                                   66
                                                                             }
                                                                   67
                                                                          }
                                                                   68
                                                                   69
                                                                          private Object[] elements;
                                                                          private int head;
                                                                   71
                                                                          private int tail;
                                                                         private int size;
```

73

75

77

private Lock queueLock = new ReentrantLock();

When the call anIcon.getIconWidth() is executed, the Java interpreter first looks up the actual type of the object, then it locates the getIconWidth method of that type, and finally invokes that method. For example, suppose you pass a MarsIcon to the show-MessageDialog method:

```
JOptionPane.showMessageDialog(. . ., new MarsIcon(50));
```

Then the getIconWidth method of the MarsIcon class is invoked. But if you supply an ImageIcon, then the getIconWidth method of the ImageIcon class is called. These two methods have nothing in common beyond their name and return type. The MarsIcon version simply returns the size instance field, whereas the ImageIcon version returns the width of the bitmap image.

Polymorphism refers to the ability to select different methods according to the actual type of an object.

The ability to select the appropriate method for a particular object is called *polymorphism*. (The term "polymorphic" literally means "having multiple shapes".)

An important use of polymorphism is to promote *loose coupling*. Have another look at Figure 4. As you can see, the JOptionPane class uses the

Icon interface, but it is decoupled from the ImageIcon class. Thus, the JOptionPane class need not know anything about image processing. It is only concerned with those aspects of images that are captured in the Icon interface type.

Another important use of polymorphism is *extensibility*. By using the Icon interface type, the designers of the JOptionPane class don't lock you into the use of bitmap icons. You can supply icons of your own design.

The Comparable Interface Type

The Collections.sort method can sort objects of any class that implements the Comparable interface type.

For another useful example of code reuse, we turn to the Collections class in the Java library. This class has a static sort method that can sort an array list:

```
Collections.sort(list);
```

The objects in the array list can belong to any class that implements the Comparable interface type. That type has a single method:

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

This interface is a generic type, similar to the ArrayList class. We will discuss generic types in greater detail in Chapter 7, but you can use the Comparable type without knowing how to implement generic types. Simply remember to supply a type parameter, such as Comparable<String>. The type parameter specifies the parameter type of the compareTo method. For example, the Comparable<Country> interface defines a compareTo(Country other) method.

The call

```
object1.compareTo(object2)
```

is expected to return a negative number if object1 should come before object2, zero if the objects are equal, and a positive number otherwise.

Why does the sort method require that the objects that it sorts implement the Comparable interface type? The reason is simple. Every sorting algorithm compares objects in various positions in the collection and rearranges them if they are out of order. The code for the sort method contains statements such as the following:

```
if (object1.compareTo(object2) > 0)
  rearrange object1 and object2;
```

For example, the String class implements the Comparable<String> interface type. Therefore, you can use the Collections.sort method to sort a list of strings:

```
ArrayList<String> countries = new ArrayList<String>();
countries.add("Uruguay");
countries.add("Thailand");
countries.add("Belgium");
Collections.sort(countries); // Now the array list is sorted
```

If you design a class whose objects need to be compared to each other, your class should implement the Comparable interface type.

If you have an array list of objects of your own class, then you need to make sure your class implements the Comparable interface type. Otherwise, the sort method will throw an exception.

For example, here is a class Country that implements the Comparable<Country> interface type. The compareTo method compares two countries by area. The test program demonstrates sorting by area.



Ch4/sort1/Country.java

```
2
       A country with a name and area.
   public class Country implements Comparable<Country>
 5
   {
 6
          Constructs a country.
 8
          @param aName the name of the country
 9
          @param anArea the area of the country
10
11
       public Country(String aName, double anArea)
12
13
          name = aName;
14
          area = anArea;
15
       }
16
       /**
17
18
          Gets the name of the country.
19
          @return the name
20
21
       public String getName()
22
```

CHAPTER 4

```
23
          return name;
24
       }
25
26
       /**
27
          Gets the area of the country.
28
          @return the area
29
30
       public double getArea()
31
32
          return area;
33
       }
34
35
       /**
36
          Compares two countries by area.
37
          @param otherObject the other country
38
          @return a negative number if this country has a smaller
39
          area than otherCountry, 0 if the areas are the same,
40
          a positive number otherwise
41
42
       public int compareTo(Country other)
43
44
          if (area < other.area) return -1;
45
          if (area > other.area) return 1;
46
          return 0;
47
       }
48
49
       private String name;
```



50

51 }

Ch4/sort1/CountrySortTester.java

private double area;

```
1 import java.util.*;
3 public class CountrySortTester
5
      public static void main(String[] args)
6
 7
         ArrayList<Country> countries = new ArrayList<Country>();
 8
         countries.add(new Country("Uruguay", 176220));
9
         countries.add(new Country("Thailand", 514000));
         countries.add(new Country("Belgium", 30510));
10
11
12
         Collections.sort(countries);
13
         // Now the array list is sorted by area
14
         for (Country c : countries)
15
            System.out.println(c.getName() + " " + c.getArea());
16
      }
17 }
```

The Comparator Interface Type

Now suppose you want to sort an array of countries by the country name instead of the area. It's not practical to redefine the compareTo method every time you want to change the sort order. Instead, there is a second sort method that is more flexible. You can use *any* sort order by supplying an object that implements the Comparator interface type. The Comparator <T> interface type requires one method

```
int compare(T first, T second)
```

that returns a negative number, zero, or a positive number depending on whether first is less than, equal to, or greater than second in the particular sort order.

Similar to the Comparable interface type, the Comparator interface type is also generic. The type parameter specifies the type of the compare method parameters. For example, to compare Country objects, you would use an object of a class that implements the Comparator<Country> interface type.

You can sort a collection in any sort order by supplying an object of a class that implements the Comparator interface type. Note the method is called compare, not compareTo—it compares two explicit parameters rather than comparing the implicit parameter to the explicit parameter.

If comp is an object of a class that implements the Comparator interface type, then

```
Collections.sort(list, comp)
```

sorts the objects in list according to the sort order that comp defines. Now list can contain any objects—they don't have to belong to classes that implement any particular interface type. For example, to sort the countries by name, define a class CountryComparator-ByName whose compare method compares two Country objects.

```
public class CountryComparatorByName implements Comparator<Country>
{
   public int compare(Country country1, Country country2)
   {
      return country1.getName().compareTo(country2.getName());
   }
}
```

Now make an object of this class and pass it to the sort method:

```
Comparator<Country> comp = new CountryComparatorByName();
Collections.sort(countries, comp);
```

An object such as comp is often called a *function object* because its sole purpose is to execute the comparison function.

The CountryComparatorByName class has no state—all objects of this class behave in exactly the same way. However, it is easy to see that some state might be useful. Here is a comparator class that can sort in either ascending or descending order.

```
public class CountryComparator implements Comparator<Country>
{
    public CountryComparator(boolean ascending)
    {
```

```
if (ascending) direction = 1; else direction = -1;
}

public int compare(Country country1, Country country2)
{
    return direction * country1.getName().compareTo(country2.getName());
}

private int direction;
}
```

Then an object

Comparator<Country> reverseComp = new CountryComparator(false); can be used to sort an array of Country objects from Z to A.

4.5 Anonymous Classes

Consider again the call to the sort method of the preceding section:

```
Comparator<Country> comp = new CountryComparatorByName();
Collections.sort(countries, comp);
```

There is actually no need to explicitly name the comp object. You can pass an *anonymous object* to the sort method since you only need it once.

Collections.sort(countries, new CountryComparatorByName());

An anonymous object is an object that is not stored in a variable.

After the call to sort, the comparator object is no longer needed. Thus, there is no reason to store it in the comp variable.

Is it good style to use anonymous objects? It depends. Sometimes, the variable name gives useful information to the reader. But in our situa-

tion, the variable comp did not make the code clearer. If you look at your own programs, you will find that you often use anonymous values of type int or String. For example, which of these two styles do you prefer?

```
countryNames.add("Uruguay");
or
String countryName1 = "Uruguay";
countryNames.add(countryName1);
```

Most programmers prefer the shorter style, particularly if they have to type the code themselves.

An anonymous class is a class without a name. When defining an anonymous class, you must also construct an object of that class.

An anonymous object is handy if you only need an object once. The same situation can arise with classes. Chances are good that you only need the CountryComparatorByName class once as well—it is a "throwaway" class that fulfills a very specialized purpose.

If you only need a class once, you can make the class anonymous by defining it inside a method and using it to make a single object.

```
Comparator<Country> comp = new
  Comparator<Country>() // Make object of anonymous class
  {
    public int compare(Country country1, Country country2)
        {
        return country1.getName().compareTo(country2.getName());
      }
    };
```

The new expression:

- Defines a class with no name that implements the Comparator<Country> interface type.
- Has only one method, compare.
- Constructs one object of the class.



NOTE An anonymous class is a special case of an *inner class*. An inner class is a class that is defined inside another class.



TIP Most programmers find it easier to learn about anonymous classes by rewriting the code and explicitly introducing a class name. For example:

```
class MyComparator implements Comparator<Country> // Give a name to the class
{
   public int compare(Country country1, Country country2)
   {
      return country1.getName().compareTo(country2.getName());
   }
}
Comparator<Country> comp = new MyComparator();
```

After you have gained experience with anonymous classes, they will become quite natural, and you will find that you no longer need to rewrite the code.

Anonymous classes are very useful because they relieve you from the drudgery of having to name and document classes that are merely of a technical nature. Unfortunately, the syntax is rather cryptic. You have to look closely at the call new to find out that it constructs an object of an anonymous class.

The opening brace after the constructor parameter

```
new Comparator<Country>() { . . . }
```

shows that a new class is being defined.

Of course, in this situation, you know that new Comparator<Country>() couldn't have been a regular constructor call—Comparator<Country> is an interface type and you can't construct instances of an interface type.

Note the semicolon after the closing brace of the anonymous class definition. It is part of the statement

```
Comparator<Country> comp = an object;
```



TIP To make anonymous classes easier to read, you should start the anonymous class definition on a new line, like this:

```
Comparator<Country> comp = new // Break line here
  Comparator<Country>() // Indent one tab stop
  {
     . . .
};
```

The line break after the new keyword tips you off that something special is going to happen. Furthermore, the interface type name lines up nicely with the braces surrounding the definitions of the features of the anonymous class.



NOTE Anonymous classes look tricky when first encountered. However, they are a programming idiom that has become extremely popular with professional Java programmers. You will encounter anonymous classes frequently when looking at professional Java code, and it is important that you spend time mastering the idiom. Fortunately, with a little practice, it quickly becomes second nature to most programmers.

In our first example, we made a single short-lived object of the anonymous class, making it truly into a "throwaway" class. But it is easy to create multiple objects of the anonymous class, simply by putting the construction inside a method. For example, the Country class can have a static method that returns a comparator object that compares countries by name:

You can now sort an array list of countries like this:

```
Collections.sort(countries, Country.comparatorByName());
```

Actually, for a class that doesn't have one natural ordering, this is a very nice setup, much better than implementing the Comparable interface type. Rather than defining a compareTo method that sorts rather arbitrarily by area or name, the Country class can define two methods that return Comparator objects.