

CS112

Objects and Classes (Part 1)

Lecture 02

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College of Computer Science and Engineering



What do we mean by OO programming?

- Object-oriented programming (OOP) involves programming **using objects**
- An *object* represents an entity in the real world that can be distinctly identified
 - For example, a student, a desk, a circle, a button, and even a loan can all be viewed as objects.
- An object has:
 1. A unique identity
 2. A state which consists of a set of *data fields* (known as **properties**) with their current values
 3. Set of behaviors (known as **methods**)

Classes

- Classes are constructs that define objects of the same type
- A Java class uses variables to define data fields and methods to define behaviors
- A class provides a special type of methods, known as constructors
 - Constructors are invoked to construct objects from the class

Example – Circle class

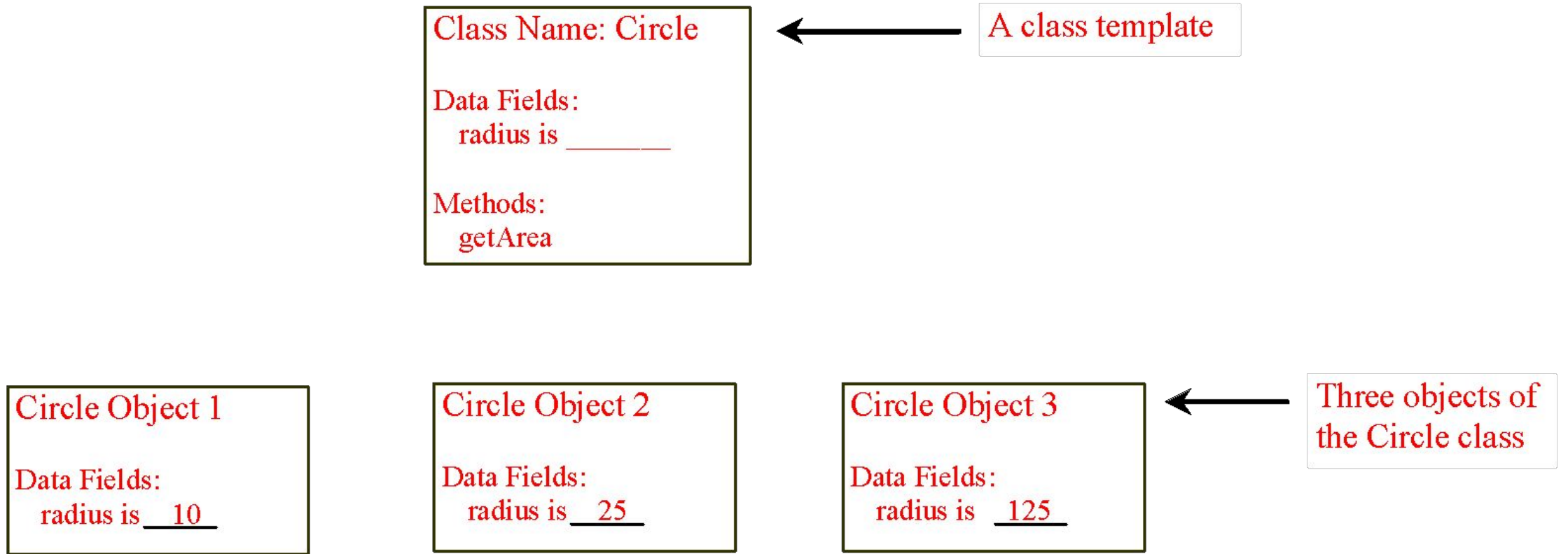
```
class Circle {  
    /** The radius of this circle */  
    double radius = 1.0;  
  
    /** Construct a circle object */  
    Circle() {  
    }  
  
    /** Construct a circle object */  
    Circle(double newRadius) {  
        radius = newRadius;  
    }  
  
    /** Return the area of this circle */  
    double getArea() {  
        return radius * radius * 3.14159;  
    }  
}
```

Data field

Constructors

Method

Example – Objects from Circle class



Example – UML Diagram

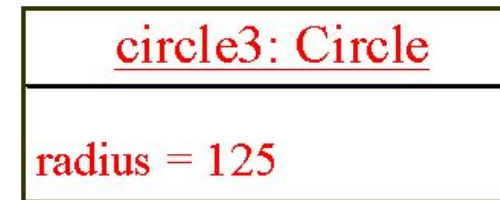
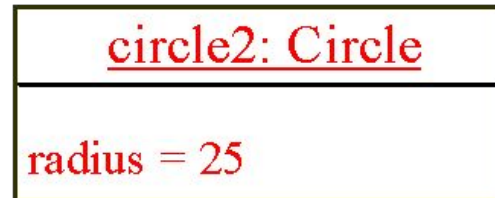
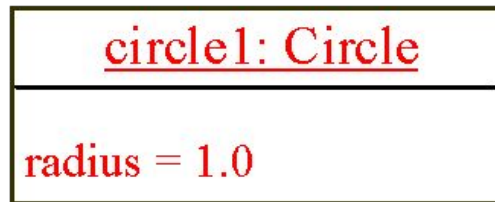
UML Class Diagram



Class name

Data fields

Constructors and methods



UML notation for objects

Constructors (1)

- Constructors are a special kind of methods that are invoked to construct objects

```
Circle() {  
}
```

```
Circle(double newRadius) {  
    radius = newRadius;  
}
```

Constructors (2)

- A constructor with no parameters is referred to as a *no-arg constructor*
- Constructors must have the same name as the class itself
- Constructors **do not have a return type—not even void**
- Constructors are invoked using the new operator when an object is created
- Constructors play the role of initializing objects

Creating Objects Using Constructors

```
new ClassName () ;
```

Example:

```
new Circle () ;
```

```
new Circle (5.0) ;
```

Default Constructor

- A class may be defined without constructors □ **A default constructor is defined automatically**
- In this case, a no-arg constructor with an empty body is implicitly defined in the class
 - This constructor, called a *default constructor*, is provided automatically *only if no constructors are explicitly defined in the class*

Declaring Objects Reference Variables

- To reference an object, assign the object to a reference variable
- To declare a reference variable, use the syntax:

```
ClassName objectRefVar;
```

Example:

```
Circle myCircle;
```

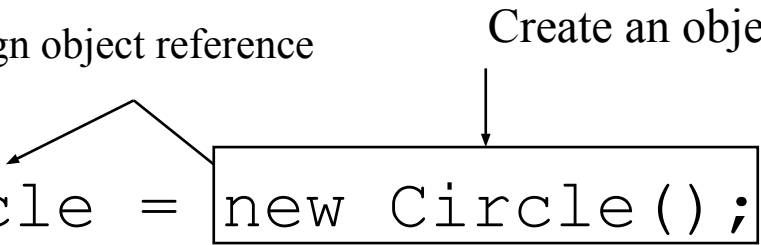
Declaring/Creating Objects in a Single Step

```
ClassName objectRefVar = new ClassName();
```

Example:

Assign object reference Create an object

```
Circle myCircle = new Circle();
```



Accessing Object's Members

- Referencing the object's data:

`objectRefVar.data`

e.g., `myCircle.radius`

- Invoking the object's method:

`objectRefVar.methodName (arguments)`

e.g., `myCircle.getArea()`

Trace Code – Circle class example (1)

```
Circle myCircle = new Circle(5.0);
```

```
Circle yourCircle = new Circle();
```

```
yourCircle.radius = 100;
```

Declare myCircle

myCircle

no value

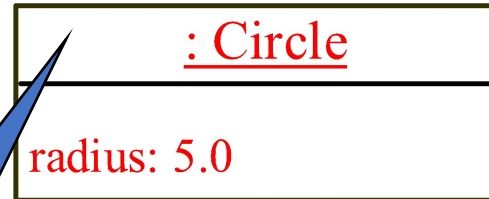
Trace Code – Circle class example (2)

```
Circle myCircle = new Circle(5.0);
```

myCircle no value

```
Circle yourCircle = new Circle();
```

```
yourCircle.radius = 100;
```



Create a circle

Trace Code – Circle class example (3)

```
Circle myCircle = new Circle(5.0);
```

```
Circle yourCircle = new Circle();
```

```
yourCircle.radius = 100;
```

Assign object reference
to myCircle

myCircle

reference value

: Circle

radius: 5.0

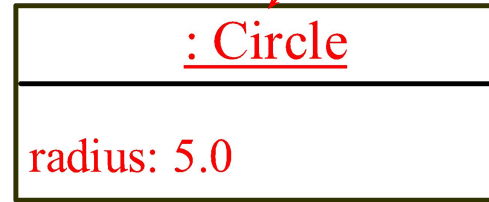
Trace Code – Circle class example (4)

```
Circle myCircle = new Circle(5.0);
```

```
Circle yourCircle = new Circle();
```

```
yourCircle.radius = 100;
```

myCircle reference value



yourCircle no value

Declare yourCircle

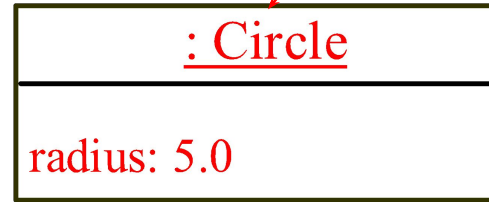
Trace Code – Circle class example (5)

```
Circle myCircle = new Circle(5.0);
```

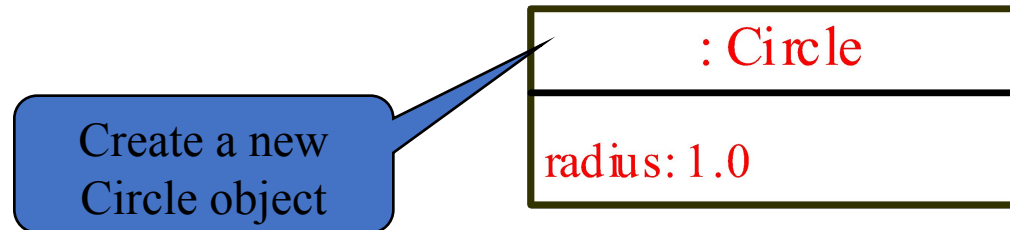
```
Circle yourCircle = new Circle();
```

```
yourCircle.radius = 100;
```

myCircle reference value



yourCircle no value



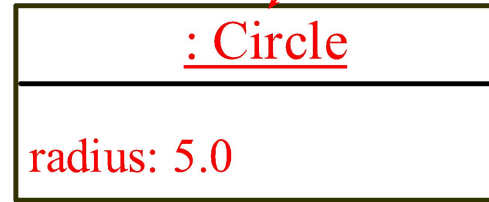
Trace Code – Circle class example (6)

```
Circle myCircle = new Circle(5.0);
```

```
Circle yourCircle = new Circle();
```

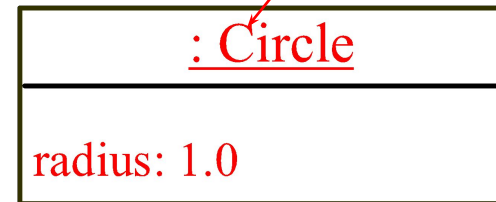
```
yourCircle.radius = 100;
```

myCircle reference value



yourCircle reference value

Assign object reference
to yourCircle



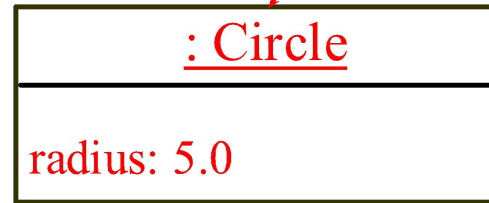
Trace Code – Circle class example (7)

```
Circle myCircle = new Circle(5.0);
```

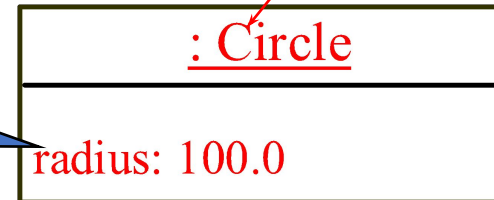
```
Circle yourCircle = new Circle();
```

```
yourCircle.radius = 100;
```

myCircle reference value



yourCircle reference value



Change radius in
yourCircle

Reference Data Fields

- The data fields can be of reference types
- For example, the following Student class contains a data field *name* of the String type

```
public class Student {  
    String name; // name has default value null  
    int age; // age has default value 0  
    boolean isScienceMajor; // isScienceMajor has default value false  
    char gender; // c has default value '\u0000'  
}
```

The null Value

- If a data field of a reference type does not reference any object, the data field holds a special literal value, null

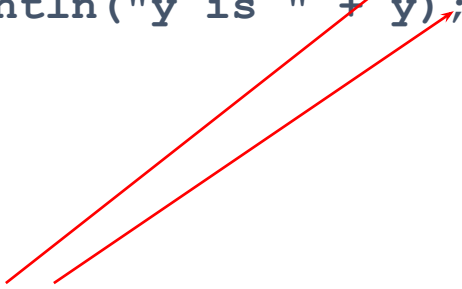
Default Value for a Data Field (1)

- The default value of a data field is:
 - null for a reference type
 - 0 for a numeric type
 - false for a boolean type
 - '\u0000' for a char type.

Default Value for a Data Field (2)

- Java assigns no default value to a local variable inside a method.

```
public class Test {  
    public static void main(String[] args) {  
        int x; // x has no default value  
        String y; // y has no default value  
        System.out.println("x is " + x);  
        System.out.println("y is " + y);  
    }  
}
```



Compile error: variable not initialized

Exercise

- Write a program that contains two classes a Main class and a Student class:
 - The Student class has three data fields which are: name, GPA, and SID. It has a constructor that takes SID as a parameter.
 - The Main class is used to declare objects from the Student class.
 - The Main method should take student's data from the console, store them in an object of type Student then display student's data in the console.