

- A Brief Side Trip: Enumeration types.
- *DSIJ*, Chapter 10, *HfJ*, pp. 489-516.
  - Threads
  - Communication between threads
  - Synchronization
  - Mailboxes

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- Problem: Need a type to represent something that has a few, named, discrete values.
- In the purest form, the only necessary operations are == and !=; the only property of a value of the type is that it differs from all others.
- In older versions of Java, used named integer constants:

```
interface Pieces {
    int BLACK_PIECE = 0, // Fields in interfaces
    are static final.
    BLACK_KING = 1,
    WHITE_PIECE = 2,
    WHITE_KING = 3,
    EMPTY = 4;
}
```

- C and C++ provide *enumeration types* as a shorthand, with syntax like this:

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accidents can happen.

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or C or C++, but with more guarantees:

```
public enum Piece {
    BLACK_PIECE, BLACK_KING, WHITE_PIECE, WHITE_KING,
    EMPTY
}
```

- Defines `Piece` as a new reference type, a special kind of class type.
- The names `BLACK_PIECE`, etc., are static, final *enumeration constants* (or *enumerals*) of type `Piece`.
- They are automatically initialized, and are the only values of the enumeration type that exist (illegal to use `new` to create an enum value.)
- Can safely use `==`, and also switch statements:

```
boolean isKing(Piece p) {
    switch (p) {
```

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```
}
```

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- Enumerals like `BLACK_PIECE` are static members of a class, not classes.
- Therefore, unlike C or C++, their declarations are not automatically visible outside the enumeration class definition.
- So, in other classes, must write `Piece.BLACK_PIECE`, which can get annoying.
- However, with version 1.5, Java has *static imports*: to import all static definitions of class `checkers.Piece` (including enumerals), you write

```
import static checkers.Piece.*;
```

among the import clauses.

- Alas, *cannot* use this for enum classes in the anonymous package.

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starts significant: `ordinal()` gives the position (numbering from 0) of an enumeration value. Thus, `Piece.BLACK_KING.ordinal()` is 1.

- The array `Piece.values()` gives all the possible values of the type. Thus, you can write:

```
for (Piece p : Piece.values())
    System.out.printf("Piece value %d is %s\n",
        p.ordinal(), p);
```

- The static function `Piece.valueOf` converts a `String` into a value of type `Piece`. So `Piece.valueOf("EMPTY") == EMPTY`.

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extra fields, methods, and constructors you want.

- Constructors are used only in creating enumeration constants. The constructor arguments follow the constant name:

```
enum Piece {
    BLACK_PIECE(BLACK, false, "b"), BLACK_KING(BLACK,
true, "B"),
    WHITE_PIECE(WHITE, false, "w"), WHITE_KING(WHITE,
true, "W"),
    EMPTY(null, false, " ");

    private final Side color;
    private final boolean isKing;
    private final String textName;

    Piece(Side color, boolean isKing, String textName)
    {
        this.color = color; this.isKing = isKing;
        this.textName = textName;
    }
}
```

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```
}
```

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quence of instructions.

- Each such sequence is called a *thread* (for "thread of control") in Java.
- Java supports programs containing *multiple* threads, which (conceptually) run concurrently.
- Actually, on a uniprocessor, only one thread at a time actually runs, while others wait, but this is largely invisible.
- To allow program access to threads, Java provides the type `Thread` in `java.lang`. Each `Thread` contains information about, and controls, one thread.
- Simultaneous access to data from two threads can cause chaos, so are also constructs for controlled communication, allowing threads to *lock* objects, to *wait* to be notified of events, and to *interrupt* other threads.

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besides the main program, others clean up garbage objects, receive signals, update the display, other stuff.

- When programs deal with asynchronous events, is sometimes convenient to organize into sub-programs, one for each independent, related sequence of events.
- Threads allow us to insulate one such sub-program from another.
- GUIs often organized like this: application is doing some computation or I/O, another thread waits for mouse clicks (like 'Stop'), another pays attention to updating the screen as needed.
- Large servers like search engines may be organized this way, with one thread per request.

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ing gum :

```
class Chewer1 implements Runnable {
    public void run()
    { while (true)
      ChewGum(); }
}
class Walker1 implements Runnable {
    public void run()
    { while (true)
      Walk(); }
}
```

```
// Walk and chew
gum
Thread chomp
    = new Thread(new
Chewer1());
Thread clomp
    = new Thread(new
Walker1());
chomp.start();
clomp.start();
```

- Concise Alternative (uses fact that Thread implements Runnable):

```
ChewGum(); }
}
class Walker2 extends
Thread {
    public void run()
    { while (true)
      Walk(); }
}
```

```
Chewer2(),
    clomp = new
Walker2();
chomp.start();
clomp.start();
```

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must wait for the other to be ready.

- Likewise, if two threads use the same data structure, generally only one should modify it at a time; other must wait.
- E.g., what would happen if two threads simultaneously inserted an item into a linked list at the same point in the list?
- A: Both could conceivably execute

```
p.next = new ListCell(x, p.next);
```

with the same values of p and p.next; one insertion is lost.

- Can arrange for only one thread at a time to execute a method on a particular object with either of the following equivalent definitions:

```
body of f
}
}
```

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must wait for the slower.

- Obvious approaches for sending data from thread to thread don't work:

```
class DataExchanger {
    Object value = null;
    Object receive() {
        Object r; r = null;
        while (r == null)
            { r = value; }
        value = null;
        return r;
    }
    void deposit(Object data) {
        while (value != null) { }
        value = data;
    }
}
```

```
DataExchanger exchanger
    = new DataExchanger();
-----
// thread1 sends to thread2 with
exchanger.deposit("Hello!");
-----
// thread2 receives from thread1 with
msg = (String) exchanger.receive();
```

- BAD: One thread can monopolize machine while waiting; two threads executing deposit

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(not using processor) until notified by `notifyAll`,  
unlocking the Object while it waits.

- Example, `ucb.util.mailbox` has something like this (simplified):

```
interface Mailbox {
    void deposit(Object msg) throws InterruptedException;
    Object receive() throws InterruptedException;
}

class QueuedMailbox implements Mailbox {
    private List<Object> queue = new LinkedList<Object>();

    public synchronized void deposit(Object msg)
    {
        queue.add(msg);
        this.notifyAll(); // Wake any waiting receivers
    }

    public synchronized Object receive() throws
    InterruptedException {
```

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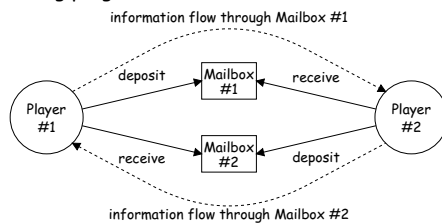
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until CS61B2.

- Mailboxes are higher-level, and allow the following program structure:



- Where each Player is a thread that looks like this:

```
while (! gameOver()) {
    if (myMove())
        outBox.deposit(computeMyMove(lastMove));
    else
        lastMove = inBox.receive();
}
```

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but mechanism is very flexible.

- E.g., suppose you want to think during opponent's move:

```
while (!gameOver()) {
    if (myMove())
        outBox.deposit(computeMyMove(lastMove));
    else {
        do {
            thinkAheadALittle();
            lastMove = inBox.receiveIfPossible();
        } while (lastMove == null);
    }
}
```

- `receiveIfPossible` (written `receive(0)` in our actual package) doesn't wait; returns null if no message yet, perhaps like this:

```
public synchronized Object receiveIfPossible()
    throws InterruptedException {
    if (queue.isEmpty())
        return null;
    return queue.remove(0);
}
```

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that explicitly hands off control to other coroutines so that only one executes at a time, like Python generators. Can get similar effect with threads and mailboxes.

- Example: recursive inorder tree iterator:

```
Mailbox r) {
    this.root = T;
    this.dest = r;
}
public void run() {
    traverse(root);
    r.deposit(End
marker);
}
void traverse(Tree t)
{
    if (t == null)
        return;
    traverse(t.left);
    r.deposit(t.label);
    traverse(t.right);
}
}

void treeProcessor(Tree T) {
    Mailbox m = new
    QueuedMailbox();
    new TreeIterator(T,
    m).start();
    while (true) {
        Object x = m.receive();
        if (x is end marker)
            break;
        do something with x;
    }
}
```

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that does nothing but wait for *events* like mouse clicks, pressed keys, mouse movement, etc.

- You can designate an object of your choice as a *listener*; which means that Java's event thread calls a method of that object whenever an event occurs.
- As a result, your program can do work while the GUI continues to respond to buttons, menus, etc.
- Another special thread does all the drawing. You don't have to be aware when this takes place; just ask that the thread wake up whenever you change something.

```
by mouse: */
class Lines extends JComponent implements MouseListener
{
    private List<Point> lines = new ArrayList<Point>();

    Lines() { // Main thread calls this to create
one
        setPreferredSize(new Dimension(400, 400));
        addMouseListener(this);
    }

    public synchronized void paintComponent(Graphics
g) { // Paint thread
        g.setColor(Color.white); g.fillRect(0, 0,
400, 400);
        int x, y; x = y = 200;
        Color c = Color.black;
        for (Point p : lines)
            g.setColor(c); c = chooseNextColor(c);
            g.drawLine(x, y, p.x, p.y); x = p.x; y =
p.y;
        }
    }
}
```

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```
...
}
```

normal flow of control of a program.

- In many systems, interrupts can be totally *asynchronous*, occurring at arbitrary points in a program, the Java developers considered this unwise; arranged that interrupts would occur only at controlled points.
- In Java programs, one thread can interrupt another to inform it that something unusual needs attention:

```
otherThread.interrupt();
```

- But `otherThread` does not receive the interrupt until it waits: methods `wait`, `sleep` (wait for a period of time), `join` (wait for thread to terminate), and `mailbox deposit` and `receive`.
- Interrupt causes these methods to throw `InterruptedException`, so typical use is like this:

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program to refer to objects in another program.

- We use it to allow mailboxes in one program be received from or deposited into in another.
- To use this, you define an *interface* to the remote object:

```
import java.rmi.*;
interface Mailbox extends Remote {
    void deposit(Object msg)
        throws InterruptedException, RemoteException;
    Object receive()
        throws InterruptedException, RemoteException;
    ...
}
```

- On machine that actually will contain the object, you define

```
class QueuedMailbox ... implements Mailbox {
```

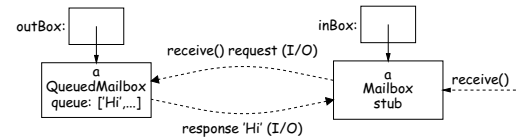
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```
Mailbox outBox = new QueuedMailbox();
Mailbox inBox = get outBox from machine #1
```



- Because Mailbox is an interface, hides fact that on Machine #2 doesn't actually have direct access to it.
- Requests for method calls are relayed by I/O to machine that has real object.
- Any argument or return type OK if it also implements Remote or can be *serialized*—turned into stream of bytes and back, as can primitive types and String.

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