Chapter 13 Interfaces and Inner Classes

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- An interface is something like an extreme case of an abstract class
 - However, an interface is not a class
 - It is a type that can be satisfied by any class that implements the interface
- The syntax for defining an interface is similar to that of defining a class
 - Except the word interface is used in place of class
- An interface specifies a set of methods that any class that implements the interface must have
 - It contains method headings and constant definitions only
 - It contains no instance variables nor any complete method definitions

- An interface serves a function similar to a base class, though it is not a base class
 - Some languages allow one class to be derived from two or more different base classes
 - This multiple inheritance is not allowed in Java
 - Instead, Java's way of approximating multiple inheritance is through interfaces エルタリンド

- An interface and all of its method headings should be declared public
 - They cannot be given private, protected, or package access
- When a class implements an interface, it must make all the methods in the interface public
- Because an interface is a type, a method may be written with a parameter of an interface type
 - That parameter will accept as an argument any class that implements the interface

The Ordered Interface

Display 13.1 The Ordered Interface

```
Do not forget the semicolons at the end of the method headings.

public boolean precedes (Object other);

/**

For objects of the class of and oc, of. follows (oc) == oc. preceded (of).

/*/

public boolean follows (Object other);

Neither the compiler nor the run-time system will do anything to ensure that this comment is satisfied. It is only advisory to the programmer implementing the interface.
```

- To *implement an interface*, a concrete class must do two things:
 - 1. It must include the phrase

Class + nome + implements Interface Name

at the start of the class definition

- If more than one interface is implemented, each is listed, separated by commas
- 2. The class must implement *all* the method headings listed in the definition(s) of the interface(s)
- Note the use of Object as the parameter type in the following examples

Implementation of an Interface

Display 13.2 Implementation of an Interface

```
public class OrderedHourlyEmployee
 1
               extends HourlyEmployee implements Ordered
                                                      Although getClass works better than
         public boolean precedes(Object other)
                                                      instanceof for defining equals,
                                                      instanceof works better here. However.
              if (other == null)
 6
                                                      either will do for the points being made here.
                  return false;
              else if (!(other instanceof HourlyEmployee))
 8
                  return false:
              else
10
11
12
                  OrderedHourlyEmployee otherOrderedHourlyEmployee =
                                     (OrderedHourlyEmployee)other;
13
                   return (getPay() < otherOrderedHourlyEmployee.getPay());</pre>
14
15
16
         }
```

Implementation of an Interface

Display 13.2 Implementation of an Interface (continued)

```
17
         public boolean follows(Object other)
18
             if (other == null)
19
                 return false:
20
             else if (!(other instanceof OrderedHourlyEmployee))
21
22
                 return false:
             else
23
24
25
                 OrderedHourlyEmployee otherOrderedHourlyEmployee =
                                   (OrderedHourlyEmployee)other;
26
                 return (otherOrderedHourlyEmployee.precedes(this));
27
28
             }
29
         }
30
    }
```

Abstract Classes Implementing Interfaces

- Abstract classes may implement one or more interfaces
 - Any method headings given in the interface that are not given definitions are made into abstract methods
- A concrete class must give definitions for all the method headings given in the abstract class and the interface

An Abstract Class Implementing an Interface

Display 13.3 An Abstract Class Implementing an Interface 💠

```
1
    public abstract class MyAbstractClass implements Ordered
 2
         int number;
         char grade;
 6
         public boolean precedes(Object other)
             if (other == null)
 8
                 return false:
             else if (!(other instanceof HourlyEmployee))
10
                 return false:
11
             else
12
13
                 MyAbstractClass otherOfMyAbstractClass =
14
15
                                                 (MyAbstractClass)other;
16
                 return (this.number < otherOfMyAbstractClass.number);</pre>
17
         }
18
         public abstract boolean follows(Object other);
19
20
```

Derived Interfaces

- Like classes, an interface may be derived from a base interface
 - This is called *extending* the interface
 - The derived interface must include the phrase
 extends BaseInterfaceName
- A concrete class that implements a derived interface must have definitions for any methods in the derived interface as well as any methods in the base interface

Extending an Interface

Display 13.4 Extending an Interface

```
public interface ShowablyOrdered extends Ordered

{
    /**
    Outputs an object of the class that precedes the calling object.

    */
    public void showOneWhoPrecedes();
}
```

Neither the compiler nor the run-time system will do anything to ensure that this comment is satisfied.

A (concrete) class that implements the ShowablyOrdered interface must have a definition for the method showOneWhoPrecedes and also have definitions for the methods precedes and follows given in the Ordered interface.

The Comparable Interface

- Chapter 6 discussed the Selection Sort algorithm, and examined a method for sorting a partially filled array of type double into increasing order
- This code could be modified to sort into decreasing order, or to sort integers or strings instead
 - Each of these methods would be essentially the same, but making each modification would be a nuisance
 - The only difference would be <u>the types of values being sorted</u>, and the <u>definition of the ordering</u>
- Using the Comparable interface could provide a single sorting method that covers all these cases

The Comparable Interface

- The Comparable interface is in the java.lang package, and so is automatically available to any program
- It has only the following method heading that must be implemented:

```
public int compareTo(Object other);
```

 It is the programmer's responsibility to follow the semantics of the Comparable interface when implementing it

The Comparable Interface Semantics

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- The method compareTo must return
 - A negative number if the calling object "comes before" the parameter other
 - A zero if the calling object "equals" the parameter other
 - A positive number if the calling object "comes after" the parameter other
- If the parameter other is not of the same type as the class being defined, then a ClassCastException should be thrown

Using the Comparable Interface

- The following example reworks the SelectionSort class from Chapter 6
- The new version, GeneralizedSelectionSort, includes a method that can sort any partially filled array whose base type implements the Comparable interface
 - It contains appropriate indexOfSmallest and interchange methods as well
- Note: Both the Double and String classes implement the Comparable interface
 - Interfaces apply to classes only
 - A primitive type (e.g., double) cannot implement an interface

GeneralizedSelectionSort class: sort Method

Display 13.5 Sorting Method for Array of Comparable (Part 1 of 2)

```
public class GeneralizedSelectionSort
        /**
         Precondition: numberUsed <= a.length;
                       The first numberUsed indexed variables have values.
         Action: Sorts a so that a[0, a[1], \ldots, a[numberUsed - 1] are in
         increasing order by the compareTo method.
        */
        public static void sort(Comparable[] a, int numberUsed)
 9
10
             int index, indexOfNextSmallest;
11
             for (index = 0; index < numberUsed - 1; index++)</pre>
12
             {//Place the correct value in a[index]:
13
                 indexOfNextSmallest = indexOfSmallest(index, a, numberUsed);
14
                 interchange(index,indexOfNextSmallest, a);
15
                 //a[0], a[1],..., a[index] are correctly ordered and these are
16
                 //the smallest of the original array elements. The remaining
17
                 //positions contain the rest of the original array elements.
18
19
20
         }
```

GeneralizedSelectionSort class: sort Method

Display 13.5 Sorting Method for Array of Comparable (Part 1 of 2) (continued)

```
21
         /**
          Returns the index of the smallest value among
22
23
          a[startIndex], a[startIndex+1], ... a[numberUsed - 1]
24
         */
25
         private static int indexOfSmallest(int startIndex,
26
                                              Comparable[] a, int numberUsed)
27
         {
28
             Comparable min = a[startIndex];
29
             int indexOfMin = startIndex;
30
             int index;
31
             for (index = startIndex + 1; index < numberUsed; index++)</pre>
32
                 if (a[index].compareTo(min) < 0)//if a[index] is less than min
33
                     min = a[index];
34
35
                     indexOfMin = index;
36
                     //min is smallest of a[startIndex] through a[index]
37
38
             return indexOfMin;
39
         }
```

GeneralizedSelectionSort class: interchange Method

Display 13.5 Sorting Method for Array of Comparable (Part 2 of 2)

```
/**
   Precondition: i and j are legal indices for the array a.
   Postcondition: Values of a[i] and a[j] have been interchanged.
*/
private static void interchange(int i, int j, Comparable[] a)
{
    Comparable temp;
    temp = a[i];
    a[i] = a[j];
    a[j] = temp; //original value of a[i]
}
```

Sorting Arrays of Comparable

Display 13.6 Sorting Arrays of Comparable (Part 1 of 2)

```
/**
 1
     Demonstrates sorting arrays for classes that
     implement the Comparable interface.
 4
                                           The classes Double and String do
    public class ComparableDemo
                                           implement the Comparable interface.
 6
 7
         public static void main(String[] args)
 8
             Double[] d = new Double[10];
 9
             for (int i = 0; i < d.length; i++)
10
                 d[i] = new Double(d.length - i);
11
12
             System.out.println("Before sorting:");
             int i;
13
             for (i = 0; i < d.length; i++)
14
15
                 System.out.print(d[i].doubleValue() + ", ");
16
             System.out.println();
17
             GeneralizedSelectionSort.sort(d, d.length);
             System.out.println("After sorting:");
18
             for (i = 0; i < d.length; i++)
19
                 System.out.print(d[i].doubleValue() + ", ");
20
21
             System.out.println();
```

Sorting Arrays of Comparable

Display 13.6 Sorting Arrays of Comparable (Part 2 of 2)

```
22
             String[] a = new String[10];
23
             a[0] = "dog";
24
             a[1] = "cat";
25
             a[2] = "cornish game hen";
             int numberUsed = 3;
26
27
             System.out.println("Before sorting:");
             for (i = 0; i < numberUsed; i++)</pre>
28
29
                 System.out.print(a[i] + ", ");
30
             System.out.println();
31
             GeneralizedSelectionSort.sort(a, numberUsed);
32
```

Sorting Arrays of Comparable

Display 13.6 Sorting Arrays of Comparable (Part 2 of 2) (continued)

SAMPLE DIALOGUE

```
Before Sorting
10.0, 9.0, 8.0, 7.0, 6.0, 5.0, 4.0, 3.0, 2.0, 1.0,
After sorting:
1.0, 2.0, 3.0, 4.0, 5.0, 6.0, 7.0, 8.0, 9.0, 10.0,
Before sorting;
dog, cat, cornish game hen,
After sorting:
cat, cornish game hen, dog,
```

Defined Constants in Interfaces

- An interface can contain defined constants in addition to or instead of method headings
 - Any variables defined in an interface must be public, static, and final
 - Because this is understood, Java allows these modifiers to be omitted
- Any class that implements the interface has access to these defined constants

Pitfall: Inconsistent Interfaces

- In Java, a class can have only one base class
 - This prevents any inconsistencies arising from <u>different</u> definitions having the same method heading নুনুষ্ট্র কাব
- In addition, a class may implement any number of interfaces
 - Since interfaces do not have method bodies, the above problem cannot arise
 - However, there are other types of inconsistencies that can arise

Pitfall: Inconsistent Interfaces

- When a class implements two interfaces:
 - One type of inconsistency will occur if the interfaces have constants with the same name, but with different values
 - Another type of inconsistency will occur if the interfaces contain methods with the same name but different return types
- If a class definition implements two inconsistent interfaces, then that is an error, and the class definition is illegal

Inner Classes

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- Simple Uses of Inner Classes
- Class with an Inner Class
- Static Inner Classes
- Public Inner Classes
- Inner Classes and Inheritance
- Anonymous (Inner) Classes
- (local Inner Classes)

Simple Uses of Inner Classes

- Inner classes are classes defined within other classes
 - The class that includes the inner class is called the outer class
 - There is no particular location where the definition of the inner class (or classes) must be placed within the outer class
 - Placing it first or last, however, will guarantee that it is easy to find

Simple Uses of Inner Classes

- An inner class definition is a member of the outer class in the same way that the instance variables and methods of the outer class are members
 - An inner class is local to the outer class definition
 - The name of an inner class may be reused for something else outside the outer class definition
 - If the inner class is private, then the inner class cannot be accessed by name outside the definition of the outer class

Simple Uses of Inner Classes

- There are two main advantages to inner classes
 - They can make the outer class more self-contained since they are defined inside a class
 - Both of their methods have access to each other's private methods and instance variables
- Using an inner class as a helping class is one of the most useful applications of inner classes
 - If used as a helping class, an inner class should be marked private

Tip: Inner and Outer Classes Have Access to Each Other's Private Members

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- Within the definition of a method of an inner class:
 - It is legal to reference a private instance variable of the outer class
 - It is legal to invoke a private method of the outer class
- Within the definition of a method of the outer class
 - It is legal to reference a private instance variable of the inner class on an object of the inner class
 - It is legal to invoke a (nonstatic) method of the inner class as long as an object of the inner class is used as a calling object
- Within the definition of the inner or outer classes, the modifiers public and private are equivalent

Class with an Inner Class

Display 13.9 Class with an Inner Class (Part 1 of 2)

```
public class BankAccount
 3
         private class Money
                                      The modifier private in this line should
 4
                                                  not be changed to public.
             private long dollars;

    However, the modifiers public and

             private int cents;
                                                  private inside the inner class Money
                                                  can be changed to anything else and it
             public Money(String stringAmount)
 7
                                                  would have no effect on the class
 8
                                                  BankAccount.
 9
                 abortOnNull(stringAmount);
                 int length = stringAmount.length();
10
11
                 dollars = Long.parseLong(
                               stringAmount.substring(0, length - 3));
12
13
                 cents = Integer.parseInt(
14
                               stringAmount.substring(length - 2, length));
                = Private olus sen=
15
16
            public String getAmount()
17
                 if (cents > 9)
18
                     return (dollars + "." + cents);
19
20
                 else
21
                    return (dollars + ".0" + cents);
22
             }
```

Class with an Inner Class

Display 13.9 Class with an Inner Class (Part 1 of 2) (continued)

```
public void addIn(Money secondAmount)
23
24
25
                  abortOnNull(secondAmount);
26
                  int newCents = (cents + secondAmount.cents)%100;
27
                  long carry = (cents + secondAmount.cents)/100;
28
                  cents = newCents;
29
                  dollars = dollars + secondAmount.dollars + carry;
30
31
            private void abortOnNull(Object o)
32
                 if (o == null)
33
34
35
                       System.out.println("Unexpected null argument.");
36
                       System.exit(0);
37
                             The definition of the inner class ends here, but the definition of
38
                             the outer class continues in Part 2 of this display.
39
```

Class with an Inner Class

Display 13.9 Class with an Inner Class (Part 2 of 2)

```
40
          private Money balance;
                                                   To invoke a nonstatic method of the inner class.
                                                   outside of the inner class, you need to create an
          public BankAccount()
                                                  object of the inner class.
41
42
               balance = new Money("9.00");
43
          }
44
                                                             This invocation of the inner class method
          public String getBalance()
45
                                                             getAmount() would be allowed even if
46
                                                             the method getAmount() were marked
47
               return balance.getAmount();
                                                             as private.
48
49
          public void makeDeposit(String depositAmount)
50
               balance.addIn(new Money(depositAmount));
51
52
          }
                                                           Notice that the outer class has access to the
          public void closeAccount()
53
                                                           private instance variables of the inner class.
54
               balance.dollars = 0;
55
               balance.cents = 0;
56
57
58
              This class would normally have more methods, but we have only
              included the methods we need to illustrate the points covered here.
```

The .class File for an Inner Class

- Compiling any class in Java produces a .class file named ClassName.class
- Compiling a class with one (or more) inner classes causes both (or more) classes to be compiled, and produces two (or more) .class files
 - Such as ClassName.class and ClassName\$InnerClassName.class



Static Inner Classes

- A normal inner class has a connection between its objects and the outer class object that created the inner class object
 - This allows an inner class definition to reference an instance variable, or invoke a method of the outer class
- There are certain situations, however, when an inner class must be static
 - If an object of the inner class is created within a static method of the outer class
 - If the inner class must have static members

Static Inner Classes

- Since a static inner class has no connection to an object of the outer class, within an inner class method
 - Instance variables of the outer class cannot be referenced
 - Nonstatic methods of the outer class cannot be invoked
- To invoke a static method or to name a static variable of a static inner class within the outer class, preface each with the name of the inner class and a dot

Public Inner Classes

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- If an inner class is marked public, then it can be used outside of the outer class
- In the case of a nonstatic inner class, it must be created using an object of the outer class

```
BankAccount account = new BankAccount();
BankAccount.Money amount =
   account.new Money("41.99");
```

- Note that the prefix account. must come before
 new
- The new object amount can now invoke methods from the inner class, but only from the inner class



• In the case of a static inner class, the procedure is similar to, but simpler than, that for nonstatic inner classes

Note that all of the following are acceptable

```
innerObject.nonstaticMethod();
innerObject.staticMethod();
OuterClass.InnerClass.staticMethod();
```

Tip: Referring to a Method of the Outer Class

- If a method is invoked in an inner class
 - If the inner class has no such method, then it is assumed to be an invocation of the method of that name in the outer class
 - If both the inner and outer class have a method with the same name, then it is assumed to be an invocation of the method in the inner class
 - If both the inner and outer class have a method with the same name, and the intent is to invoke the method in the outer class, then the following invocation must be used:

OuterClassName.this.methodName()

Inner Classes and Inheritance

- Given an OuterClass that has an InnerClass
 - Any DerivedClass of OuterClass will automatically have InnerClass as an inner class
 - In this case, the <u>DerivedClass</u> cannot override the <u>InnerClass</u>
- An outer class can be a derived class
- An inner class can be a derived class also

- If an object is to be created, but there is no need to name the object's class, then an *anonymous class* definition can be used
 - The class definition is embedded inside the expression with the new operator
- Anonymous classes are sometimes used when they are to be assigned to a variable of another type
 - The other type must be such that an object of the anonymous class is also an object of the other type
 - The other type is usually a Java interface

Display 13.11 Anonymous Classes (Part 1 of 2)

```
This is just a toy example to demonstrate
     public class AnonymousClassDemo
                                                     the Java syntax for anonymous classes.
         public static void main(String[] args)
             NumberCarrier anObject =
                         new NumberCarrier()
 8
                             private int number;
                             public void setNumber(int value)
 9
10
                                 number = value;
11
12
13
                             public int getNumber()
14
15
                                return number;
16
17
                         };
```

Display 13.11 Anonymous Classes (Part 1 of 2)

```
18
             NumberCarrier anotherObject =
19
                        new NumberCarrier()
20
21
                            private int number:
22
                            public void setNumber(int value)
23
24
                                number = 2*value;
25
26
                            public int getNumber()
27
28
                                return number;
29
                            }
30
                        };
             anObject.setNumber(42);
31
32
             anotherObject.setNumber(42);
33
             showNumber(anObject);
34
             showNumber(anotherObject);
35
             System.out.println("End of program.");
36
         }
37
        public static void showNumber(NumberCarrier o)
38
39
             System.out.println(o.getNumber());
40
         }
                                       This is still the file
                                       AnonymousClassDemo.java.
41 }
```

Display 13.11 Anonymous Classes (Part 2 of 2)

SAMPLE DIALOGUE

```
42
84
End of program.
```

```
public interface NumberCarrier

public void setNumber(int value);

public int getNumber();

public int getNumber();

This is the file
NumberCarrier.java.
```