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Questions

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immutable shapes

3/3 points (graded)

Let's define an interface for rectangles:

```
/** An immutable rectangle. */
public interface ImmutableRectangle {
    /** @return the width of this rectangle */
    public int getWidth();
    /** @return the height of this rectangle */
    public int getHeight();
}
```

It follows that every square is a rectangle:

```
/** An immutable square. */
public class ImmutableSquare {
    private final int side;
    /** Make a new side x side square. */
    public ImmutableSquare(int side) { this.side = side; }
    /** @return the width of this square */
    public int getWidth() { return side; }
    /** @return the height of this square */
    public int getHeight() { return side; }
}
```

Does `ImmutableSquare.getWidth()` satisfy the spec of `ImmutableRectangle.getWidth()` ?

Yes   Answer: Yes

Does `ImmutableSquare.getHeight()` satisfy the spec of `ImmutableRectangle.getHeight()` ?

Yes   Answer: Yes


Does the whole `ImmutableSquare` spec satisfy the `ImmutableRectangle` spec?

Yes   Answer: Yes

Explanation

`ImmutableSquare` is a subtype of `ImmutableRectangle` and it implements the interface appropriately.

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mutable shapes

4/4 points (graded)

Now let's consider a mutable rectangle:

```
/** An mutable rectangle. */  
public interface MutableRectangle {  
    // ... same methods as above ...  
    /** Set this rectangle's dimensions to width x height. */  
    public void setSize(int width, int height);  
}
```

Surely every square is still a rectangle?

```
/** A mutable square. */  
public class MutableSquare {  
    private final int side;  
    // ... same constructor and methods as above ...  
    // TODO implement setSize(..)  
}
```

For each possible `MutableSquare.setSize(..)` implementation below, is it a valid implementation?

1.

```
/** Set this square's dimensions to width x height.  
 * Requires width = height. */  
public void setSize(int width, int height) { ... }
```

No -- stronger precondition ✓ Answer: No -- stronger precondition

2.

```
/** Set this square's dimensions to width x height.  
 * @throw BadSizeException if width != height */  
public void setSize(int width, int height) throws BadSizeException { ... }
```

Specifications are incomparable ✓ Answer: Specifications are incomparable

3.

```
/** If width = height, set this square's dimensions to width x height.  
 * Otherwise, new dimensions are unspecified. */  
public void setSize(int width, int height) { ... }
```

No -- weaker postcondition ✓ Answer: No -- weaker postcondition

4.

```
/** Set this square's dimensions to side x side. */  
public void setSize(int side) { ... }
```

Specifications are incomparable ✓ Answer: Specifications are incomparable

Explanation

In #1, the stronger requirement `width = height` violates the contract defined by `MutableRectangle.setSize(..)`.

In #2, the postcondition requires different behavior, incompatible with the original spec, when `width != height`. If `BadSizeException` is a checked exception, this error is caught statically by the compiler.

In #3, the spec doesn't impose a precondition, but instead provides a weaker postcondition.

In #4, instead of implementing the `setSize` method from `MutableRectangle`, this *overloads* that name with another, different method. If `MutableSquare` doesn't also implement the required 2-int-argument `setSize`, that's a static error.

Indeed, there is no correct way for `MutableSquare` to implement `MutableRectangle.setSize(..)` and **mutable square is not a subtype of mutable rectangle**.

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