Inheritance

Extending Classes



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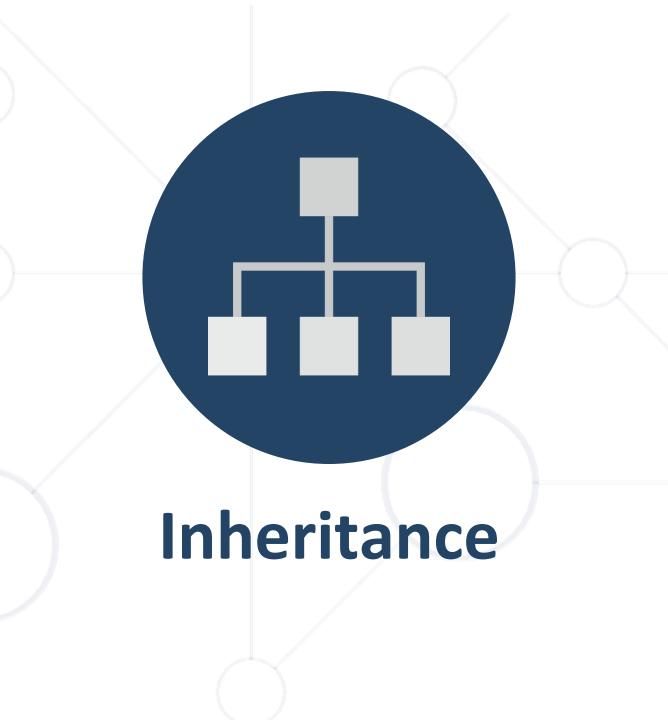
Channel for Communication

Table of Contents



- 1. Inheritance
- 2. Class Hierarchies
- 3. Inheritance in Java
- 4. Accessing Members of the Base Class
- 5. Types of Class Reuse
 - Extension, Composition, Delegation
- 6. When to Use Inheritance

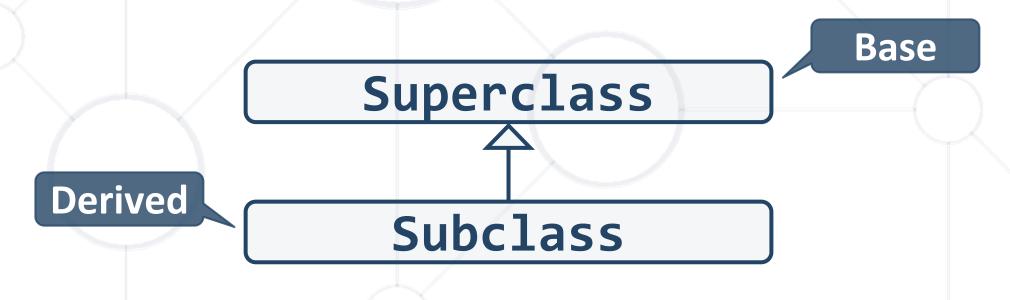




Inheritance

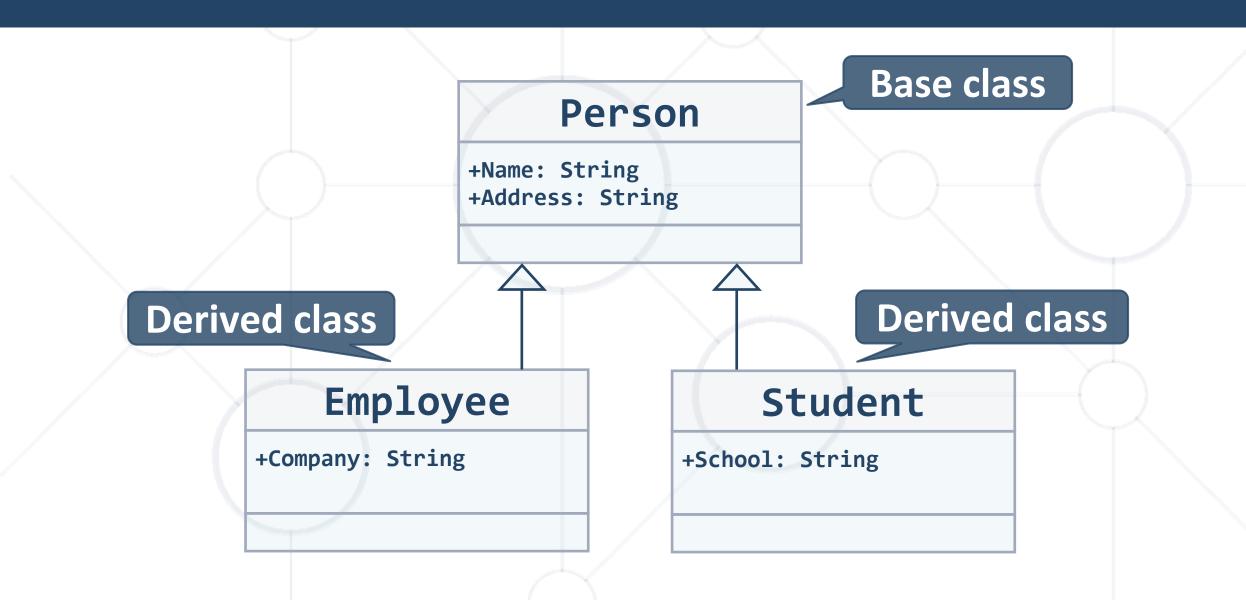


- Superclass Parent class, Base Class
 - The class gives its members to its child class
- Subclass Child class, Derived Class
 - The class taking members from its base class



Inheritance – Example

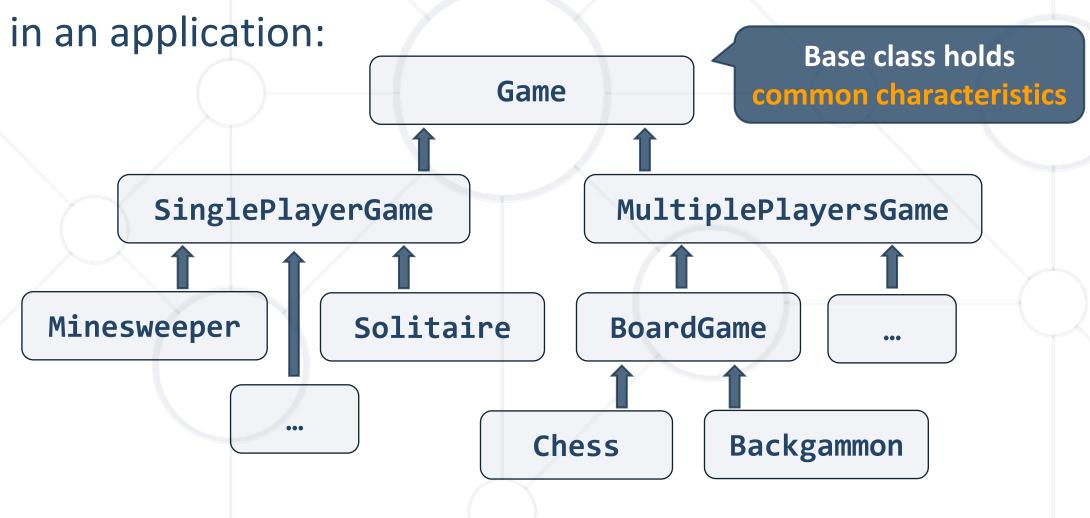




Class Hierarchies

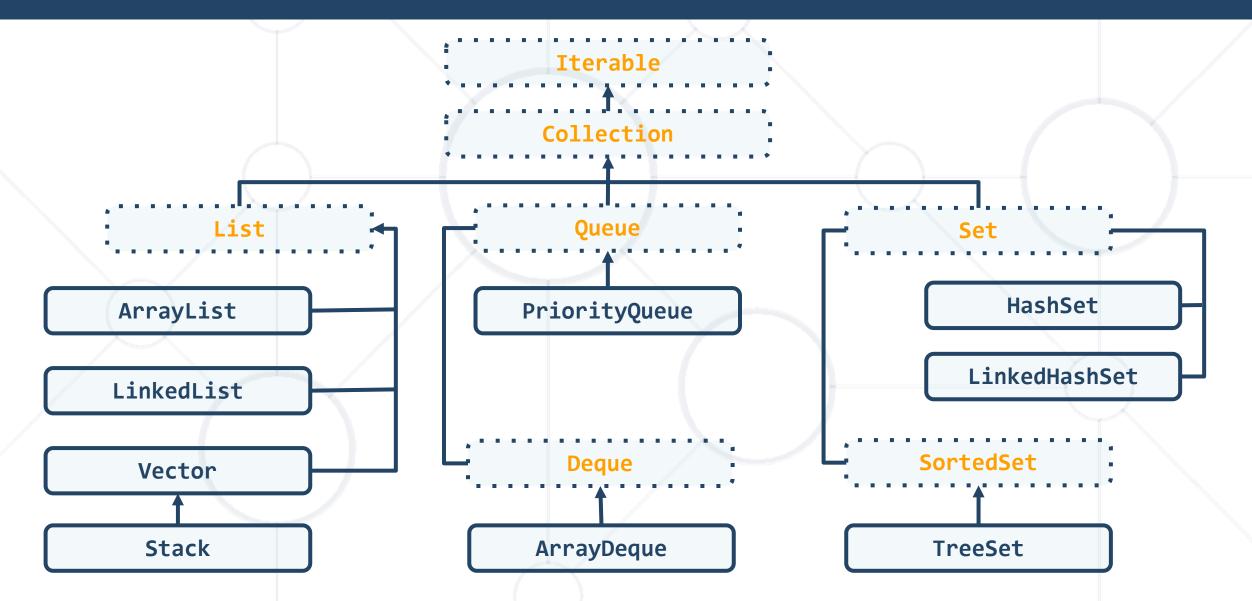


An Inheritance leads to hierarchies of classes and/or interfaces



Class Hierarchies – Java Collection

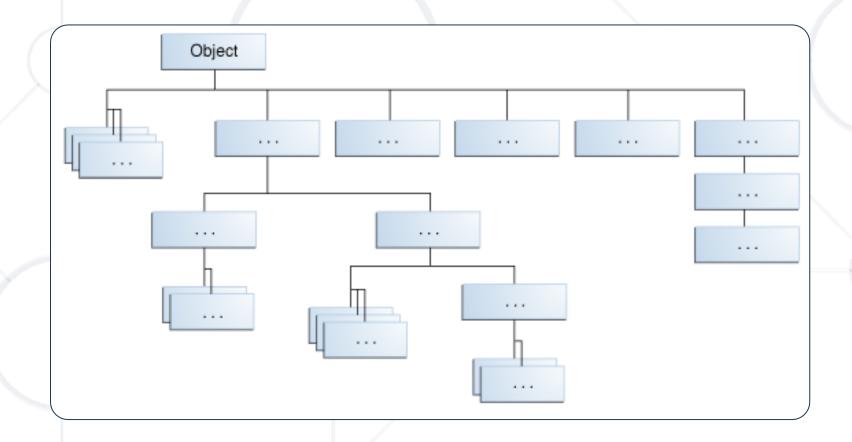




Java Platform Class Hierarchy



The Object is at the root of Java Class Hierarchy

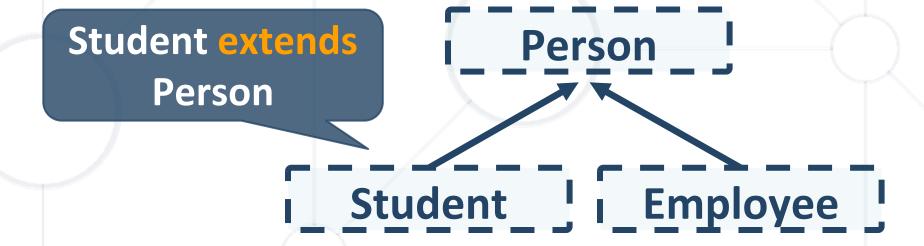


Inheritance in Java



Java supports inheritance through extends keyword

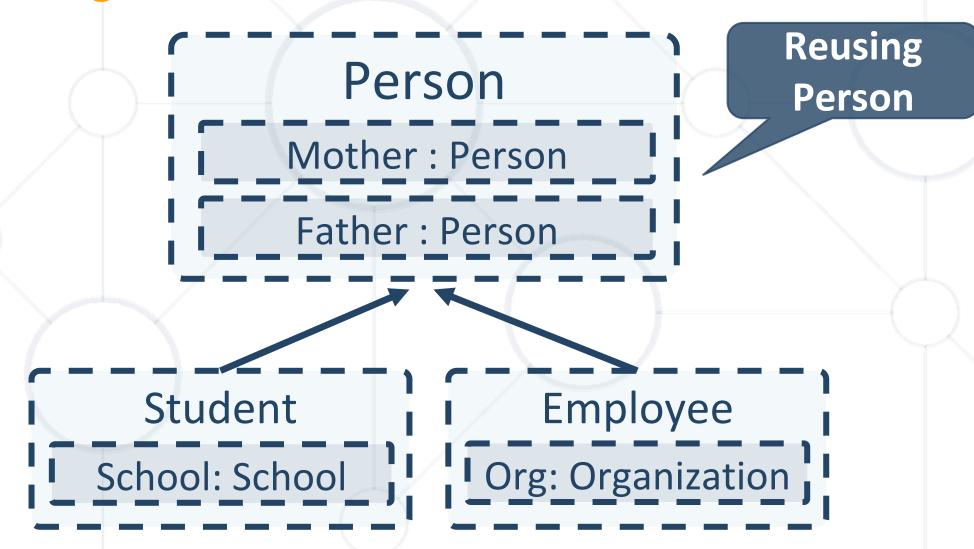
```
class Person { ... }
class Student extends Person { ... }
class Employee extends Person { ... }
```



Inheritance – Derived Class



Class taking all members from another class



Using Inherited Members



You can access inherited members

```
class Person { public void sleep() { ... } }
class Student extends Person { ... }
class Employee extends Person { ... }
```

```
Student student = new Student();
student.sleep();
Employee employee = new Employee();
employee.sleep();
```

Reusing Constructors



- Constructors are not inherited
- Constructors can be reused by the child classes

```
class Student extends Person {
  private School school;
  public Student(String name, School school) {
    super(name);
                             Constructor call
    this.school = school;
                              should be first
```

Thinking about Inheritance – Extends



A derived class instance contains an instance of its base class

```
Person
                                     Employee
     (Base Class)
                              (Derived Class)
     +sleep():void
                                 +work():void
Student (Derived Class)
     +study():void
```

Inheritance



Inheritance has a transitive relation

```
class Person { ... }
class Student extends Person { ... }
class CollegeStudent extends Student { ... }
          Person
                      Student
                             CollegeStudent
```

Access to Base Class Members

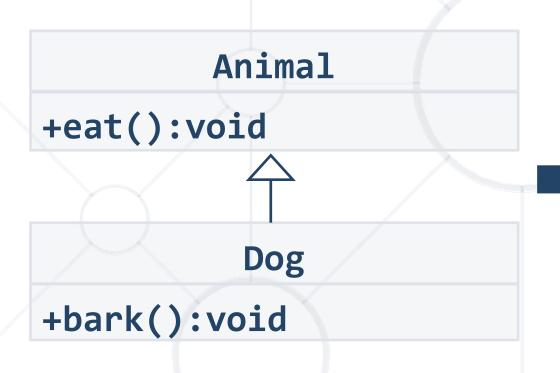


Use the super keyword

```
class Person { ... }
class Employee extends Person {
  public void fire(String reasons) {
    System.out.println(
        super.name +
        " got fired because " + reasons);
```

Problem: Single Inheritance





```
public static void main(String[] args) {
    Dog dog = new Dog();
    dog.eat();
    dog.bark();
}
```

```
Run Main (2)

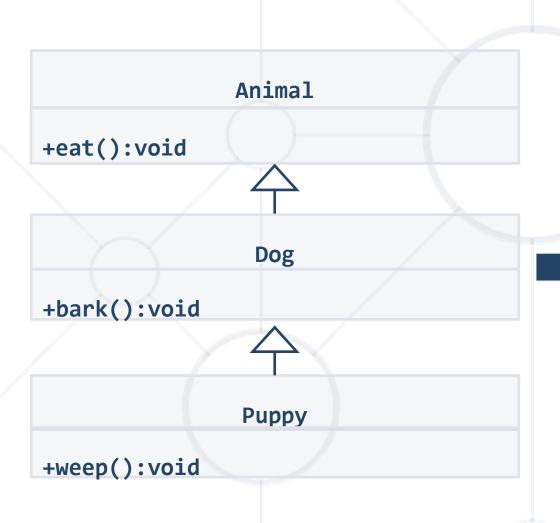
**C:\Program Files\Java\jdk1.8.0_91\bin\java" ...

eating...

barking...
```

Problem: Multiple Inheritance





```
Puppy puppy = new Puppy();
puppy.eat();
puppy.bark();
puppy.weep();
```

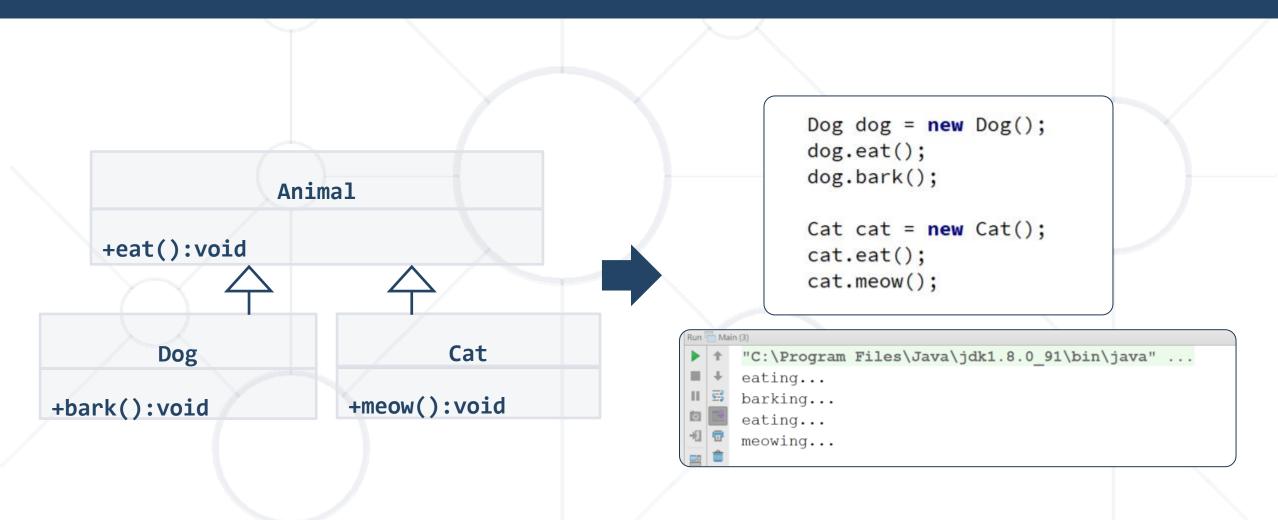
"C:\Program Files\Java\jdk1.8.0 91\bin\java" ..

eating...

barking...
weeping...

Problem: Hierarchical Inheritance







Inheritance and Access Modifiers



- Derived classes can access all public and protected members
- Derived classes can access default members if in same package
- Private fields aren't inherited in subclasses (can't be accessed)

Shadowing Variables



Derived classes can hide superclass variables

```
class Person { protected int weight; }
class Patient extends Person {
  protected float weight;
                             hides int weight
  public void method() {
    double weight = 0.5d;
          hides both
```

Shadowing Variables – Access



Use super and this to specify member access

```
class Person { protected int weight; }
class Patient extends Person {
  protected float weight;
  public void method() {
                             Local variable
    double weight = 0.5d;
    this.weight = 0.6f; <
                          Instance member
    super.weight = 1;
          Base class member
```

Overriding Derived Methods



A child class can redefine existing methods

```
public class Person {
                             Method in base class must not be final
  public void sleep() {
     System.out.println("Person sleeping"); }
public class Student extends Person {
                                           Signature and return
  @Override
                                            type should match
  public void sleep(){
     System.out.println("Student sleeping"); }
```

Final Methods



final – defines a method that can't be overridden

```
public class Animal {
  public final void eat() { ... }
}
```

```
public class Dog extends Animal {
    @Override
    public void eat() {} // Error...
}
```

Final Classes



Inheriting from final classes is forbidden

```
public final class Animal {
    ...
}
```

```
public class Dog extends Animal { } // Error...
public class MyString extends String { } // Error...
public class MyMath extends Math { } // Error...
```

Inheritance Benefits – Abstraction



One approach for providing an abstraction

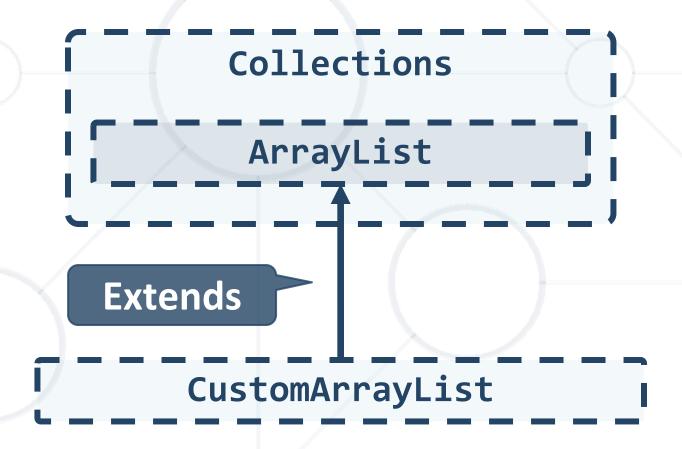
Focus on common properties

```
properties
Person person = new Person();
Student student = new Student();
List<Person> people = new ArrayList();
people.add(person);
people.add(student);
                                  Person (Base Class)
                                Student (Derived Class)
```

Inheritance Benefits – Extension



We can extend a class that we can't otherwise change



Problem: Random Array List



- Create an array list that has
 - All functionality of an ArrayList
 - Function that returns and removes a random element



Solution: Random Array List



```
public class RandomArrayList extends ArrayList {
  private Random rnd; // Initialize this...
  public Object getRandomElement() {
    int index = this.rnd.nextInt(super.size());
    Object element = super.get(index);
    super.remove(index);
    return element;
```



Types of Class Reuse

Extension



- Duplicate code is error prone
- Reuse classes through the extension
- Sometimes the only way



Composition



Using classes to define classes

```
class Laptop {
   Monitor monitor;
   Touchpad touchpad;
   Keyboard keyboard;
...
   Reusing classes
```



Delegation



```
class Laptop {
 Monitor monitor;
 void incrBrightness() {
    monitor.brighten();
 void decrBrightness() {
    monitor.dim();
```



Problem: Stack of Strings



Create a simple Stack class which can store only strings

StackOfStrings -data: List<String> +push(String) :void +pop(): String +peek(): String +isEmpty(): boolean

```
StackOfStrings

ArrayList
```

```
StackOfStrings sos = new StackOfStrings();
sos.push("one");
System.out.println(sos.pop());
System.out.println(sos.isEmpty());
System.out.println(sos.peek());
```

Solution: Stack of Strings



```
public class StackOfStrings {
  private List<String> container;
  // TODO: Create a constructor
  public void push(String item) { this.container.add(item); }
  public String pop() {
   // TODO: Validate if list is not empty
    return this.container.remove(this.container.size() - 1);
```

When to Use Inheritance



- Classes share IS-A relationship Too simplistic
- Derived class IS-A-SUBSTITUTE for the base class
- Share the same role
- The derived class is the same as the base class but adds a little bit more functionality

Summary



- Inheritance is a powerful tool for code reuse
- Subclass inherits members from Superclass
- Subclass can override methods
- Look for classes with the same role
- Look for IS-A and IS-A-SUBSTITUTE for relationship
- Consider Composition and Delegation instead





Questions?

















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