

CS100J Classes, stepwise refinement 14 Feb 2007

Miscellaneous points about classes.
More on stepwise refinement.

Prelim 7:30-9:00 Thursday, 21 Sept., Olin 155

Review session: 1:00-3:00, Sunday, 17 Sept., Philips 101

Research on spelling

According to a research at Cambridge University, it doesn't matter in what order the letters in a word are, the only important thing is that the first and last letter be at the right place. The rest can be a total mess and you can still read it without problem. This is because the human mind does not read every letter by itself, but the word as a whole.

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Content of this lecture

This lecture contains some final miscellaneous points to round out your knowledge of classes and subclasses. There are a few more things to learn after this, but we will handle them much later.

- Inheriting fields and methods and overriding methods. Sec. 4.1 and 4.1.1: pp. 142–145
- Purpose of **super** and **this**. Sec. 4.1.1, pp. 144–145.
- More than one constructor in a class; another use of **this**. Sec. 3.1.3, pp. 110–112.
- Constructors in a subclass — calling a constructor of the super-class. Sec. 4.1.3, pp. 147–148.

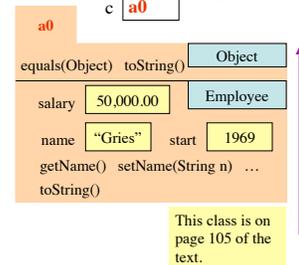
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Employee c = new Employee("Gries", 1969, 50000);
c.toString(); Sec. 4.1, page 142

Which method toString() is called?

Overriding rule or bottom-up rule:

To find out which is used, start at the bottom of the class and search upward until a matching one is found.



This class is on page 105 of the text.

Terminology. Employee inherits methods and fields from Object. Employee overrides function toString.

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Purpose of super and this Sec. 4.1, pages 144-145

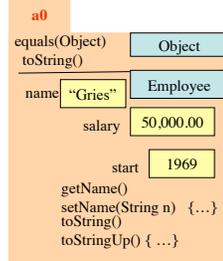
this refers to the name of the object in which it appears. **super** is similar but refers only to components in the partitions above.

```
/** = String representation of this Employee */
public String toString() {
    return this.getName() + ", year " +
           getStart() + ", salary " + salary;
}
```

ok, but unnecessary

```
/** = toString value from superclass */
public String toStringUp() {
    return super.toString();
}
```

necessary



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A second constructor in Employee Sec. 3.1.3, page 110

Provide flexibility, ease of use, to user

```
/** Constructor: a person with name n, year hired d, salary s */
public Employee(String n, int d, double s) {
    name = n; start = d; salary = s;
} // First constructor
```

```
/** Constructor: a person with name n, year hired d, salary 50,000 */
public Employee(String n, int d) {
    name = n; start = d; salary = 50000;
} // Second constructor; salary is always 50,000
```

```
/** Constructor: a person with name n, year hired d, salary 50,000 */
public Employee(String n, int d) {
    this(n, d, 50000);
} // Another version of second constructor; calls first constructor
```

Here, **this** refers to the other constructor. You HAVE to do it this way

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```

public class Executive extends Employee {
    private double bonus;
    /** Constructor: name n, year hired
        d, salary 50,000, bonus b */
    public Executive(String n, int d, double b) {
        super(n, d);
        bonus = b;
    }
}

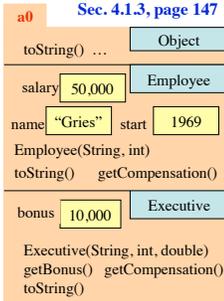
```

The first (and only the first) statement in a constructor has to be a call to a constructor of the superclass. If you don't put one in, then this one is automatically used:

`super();`

Principle: Fill in superclass fields first.

Calling a superclass constructor from the subclass constructor
 Sec. 4.1.3, page 147



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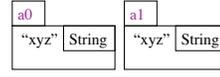
More about equals

To test whether two String values contain the same string, use function equals.

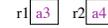


s1.equals(s2) is true.

s1 == s2 asks whether a0 == a1, which is false



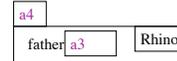
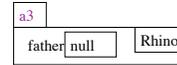
To test whether two Rhinos are the same Rhino, use ==.



To test whether r2's father is r1,

use r2.father == r1

a3 == a3



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Anglicizing an Integer

anglicize("1") is "one"
 anglicize("15") is "fifteen"
 anglicize("123") is "one hundred twenty three"
 anglicize("10570") is "ten thousand five hundred seventy"

/** = the anglicization of n.

Precondition: 0 <= n < 1,000,000 */

```

public static String anglicize(int n) {

```

```

}

```

We develop this algorithm step by step, using principles and strategies embodied in "stepwise refinement" or "top-down programming." READ Sec. 2.5 and Plive p. 2-5.

Important is how we intersperse programming and testing.

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