CS100M

Introduction to Computer Programming

Spring 2004 Types

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Motivation

- Problem solving
 - non-OOP
 - OOP
- Redunancy?
 - related classes that repeat code
 - want to avoid copying code
- Inheritance and subtyping to the rescue!

Announcements

- GDIAC (The Game Design Initiative at Cornell)
- Open House:
 - Wed, May 12
 - 3:30-6:30
 - Upson 315, 319
 - Course info? CIS 300
- Final exam info
 - see Final Exam link on course website
 - early review: see leftover questions (arrays, inheritance, sorting, lists) on old Prelim3s
 - I'll also post more questions (1 or more old finals)

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Type Taxonomy

- Thing
 - Place
 - ?
 - ?
 - Creature
 - ?
 - ?
- Ideas:
 - looking for classifications of classes
 - identify "higher" classifications of "lower" classes
 - high:
 - more general
 - can be expressed in many ways
 - low
 - more specific, additional features not seen in general
 - cannot be used to classify other classes so easily

Why is this cool?

Inheritance

• Terms:

inheritance: code "copied" from one class to another
 extensibility: extend behavior of a class to another
 code reuse: copy code from one class to another
 subtyping: generalize notion of types

(things can be other things)

- more terms coming...

• Picture: conceptual

classes&code

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Super/Sub Types

- Classifiction of type:
 - Supertype, superclass, base class
 - Subtype, subclass, derived class
- Relationship:
 - supertype variable can get value of that type or a subtype
 eg) Animal x = new Platypus();
 - need syntax to tell Java that Animal and Platypus are related
 - subtype variable get supertype value? need syntax (cast!)
- Three mechanisms for relating types in Java:
 - primitives—promotion for some!
 - inheritance—extending a class
 - interface—specifying the type, methods, constants for a class, but not the bodies of the methods

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Primitives

- Not really part of inheritance, but helps
- Compare doubles, ints, and chars
 - what's the supermost supertype?
 - what's the submost subtype?
 - what's the visualization?
- Relating supertypes and subtypes:
 - double can get int?
 - what happens to the **int** value?
- How to go in reverse?
 - can an **int** get a double?
 - what's the mechanism?
- Why does all of this work?
 - examples of the types are related (built-in)!

Example

```
public class Primitives {
  public static void main(String[] args) {
    double d;
    int i;

    d = 7.2; // ok? why?
    d = 7; // ok? why?

    i = 7; // ok?
    d = i; // ok?
    // System.out.println(d); // output?

    // i = d; // is this is bad ... why?
  }
}
```

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Inheritance: Intro

- OOP rem:
 - you define the types!
 - collect data and ops in one place (the class, also the type)
- To relate types:
 - find the nouns that will become classes
 - see if the classes are related somehow
 - connect the classes with new syntax and rules
- Syntax glimpse:

```
class Coin { } // most general
class Penny extends Coin { } // specific
class Dime extends Coin { }
class CanadianPenny extends Penny { }
```

- So... class Sub extends Super { }
- "Mostest generalest" class of all time?
- There's much more to come next lecture...

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Inheritance Continued

- Upcasting:
 - supertype variable can store subtype reference
 - why? more general thing can be represented as more specific thing
 - eg: Human can be a Man, Human can be a Woman
 - eg: Coin can be a Penny, Coin can be a Dime
- Code:

```
class Human {}
class Woman extends Human {}
class Man extends Human {}
Human h1 = new Human(); // OK
Human h2 = new Man(); // OK
Human h3 = new Woman(); // OK
```

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Upcasting

• Upcasting Syntax:

```
Supertype var = new Subtype(...)
```

- Type on LHS:
 - variable is supertype
 - ref must be that supertype
- Type of object:
 - object still has its own type and knows its own type
 - useful for accessing methods!
- Type of RHS:
 - promotion: Java checks if object type extends the LHS supertype
 - if so, Java declares the value of the whole RHS as the supertype, which means the LHS matches the type
 - object's known type is NOT changed

Demo of Upcasting

```
class Human {}
class Woman extends Human {}
class Man extends Human {}
class Human {}
class Woman extends Human {}
class Woman extends Human {}
class Man extends Human {}
public class UpCast {
   public static void main(String[] args) {
     Human h1 = new Human(); // OK
     Human h2 = new Man(); // OK
     Human h3 = new Woman(); // OK
     System.out.println(h2);
     System.out.println(new Woman() instanceof Human);
     System.out.println(h3 instanceof Human);
}
```

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Downcasting

- Can't always make a specific thing into a general thing
 - which of these is OK?
 - A Dog is a Creature. A Creature is a Dog.
 - maybe the Creature in question happens to be a Dog.
 - need to provide more information assist!
- Syntax:

```
Sub var = (Sub) new Super(...)
- how to remember? int i = (int) 7.7
```

- downcasting is not always legal
- Pattern
 - upcasting is always legal for inheritance relationship
 - so, can use superclass variables to store "very sub" subclass objects, which can be used in "mid sub" refs
 - see next page...

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Downcast Example

```
public class DownCast {
   public static void main(String[] args) {
     Coin c = new SteelPenny();
     Penny p = (Penny) c;
     System.out.println(p);
   }
}
class Coin { }
class Penny extends Coin {}
class SteelPenny extends Penny { }
```

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More to Inheritance

- Still need to explain
 - how to automatically copy code
 - how to use privacy modifiers
 - how to override methods
 - how to chain constructors
 - design issues
 - all next lectures
- Back to types...
 - can you extend more than one class to share types?
 - sorry, *no* multiple inheritance (so, example above is bad!)
 - there's a workaround...

Interfaces

- *Interface*: many uses and meanings
 - "sparse class" (constants, method headers)
 - specification to be implemented by a class
 - definition of a type (don't have to worry about class)
- Syntax:

```
interface ISomething {
   constants
   methodheaders
}
class C implements I1, I2, ... { ... }
```

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Interface Example

```
public class Interfaces {
  public static void main(String[] args) {
    Coin[] c = {new Penny(), new Dime(), new Dime() };
    int pocket = 0;
    for (int i=0; i<c.length; i++)
       pocket += c[i].getValue();
    System.out.println(pocket);
  }
}
interface Coin {
  public int getValue();
}
class Penny implements Coin {
  public int getValue() { return 1; }
}
class Dime implements Coin {
  public int getValue() { return 10; }
}</pre>
```

Why Useful?

- Some rules for class:
 - class that implements an interface must define all the methods of the interface
 - why useful for developers? keeps consistent methods!
- Treating interface as a type

```
IName var = new something()
```

- the object must implement the interface
- if you say **var.method(...)**, the method header must be in the interface and implemented in the class
- Some interfaces are built-in:
 - java.lang: Comparable defines a compareTo method (see OOP lecture)
 - java.util: Collection has many data structure methods