Inheritance

Object Relationships
supreme - superclass Object
Extending a class
Methods in subclass
Using this reference
Accessing superclass Instance variables
Using protected access
Subclass construction
Multiple constructors
Method overloading

Account ▸ SAccount

In your last assignment you added new functionality and instance variables to Account class to create a more specialised SAccount class.

- withdraw() method was changed

- a new method addInterest(double rate) was added.

- a new instance variable minAmount was added

- constructor was changed to take an additional argument

- no change in methods such as deposit() and getBalance()

Could have used inheritance!

Subclass (specialised) superclass

```
class SAccount extends Account
{
      new and redefined methods
      new instance variables;
}
```

- **Add a new method addInterest(double rate)**
- **Redefine withdraw()**
- **add Instance variable minAmount**
- **write the constructor**

Whenever I change superclass implementation it will be reflected in the subclasses. No worries !!!

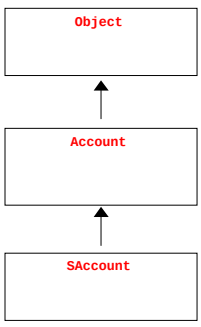
The supreme superclass Object

Every class (even one that does not use extends) is a subclass of Object.

Why ?

Object class has a small number of methods that are useful for all classes.

- **equals()**
- **toString()**
- **clone()**



Object Oriented Relationships

Two commonly used clauses in class relationship

- **is-a** ← Inheritance relationship
- **has-a** ← Composition relationship

A home is a house that has a family and a pet.

If House, Family and Pet are existing classes then in java we write

```
public class Home extends House
{
     Family inhabitants;
     Pet thePet;
}
```


Guess the relationship between the classes

a) `Manager` **and** `Employee`

b) `Project` **and** `Manager`

c) `Person` **and** `Student`

d) `Book` **and** `Author`

How would you write them in Java ?

A Re-look at Account class

public class Account {

public Account(…
public double getBalance(..
public String getID()..
public String getName()..
public void deposit(…
public void withdraw(…
public void print(…
public void transfer(…

private String accID;

private double balance;

private String name;

Well Encapsulated

Note transfer uses other operations of the class - need not check again.

```
public boolean transfer(Account account,
                                double amount) {
   if (withdraw(amount)) {
      account.deposit(balance);
      return true;
   }
   else return false;
}

void print()   {
  System.out.println("\nAccount ID = " + accID);
  System.out.println("Name = " + name);
  System.out.println("Balance = "+balance);
}
```

Extending the Account class

```
class SAccount extends Account
{
   public SAccount(String accountID,String
      accountName,double amount,double minAmount){
      super(accountID, accountName, amount);
      this.minAmount = minAmount;
   }

   public SAccount(String accountID,
      String accountName, double amount)   {
      this(accountID,accountName,amount,0.0);
   }

   public double getMinAmount() {
         return minAmount;
   }
```

Two constructors

Accessor for subclass instance variable

4/10/01

```
   public void addInterest(double rate)   {
      deposit(getBalance() * rate/100);
   }

   void print()   {
      super.print();
      System.out.println("Min. Amount = " + minAmount);
   }

   public boolean withdraw(double amount) {
      if (getBalance() >= amount + minAmount)   {
            super.withdraw(amount);
            return true;
      }
      else return false;
   }

   private double minAmount;
}
```

New method

Overridden print()
calling superclass print()

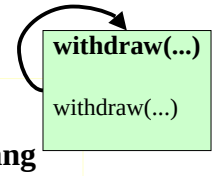
Overridden withdraw()
calling superclass withdraw()

subclass instance variable

Asking for trouble …

What if I leave out super in super.withdraw(amount) ?

```
public boolean withdraw(double amount) {
      if (getBalance() >= amount + minAmount)   {
            super.withdraw(amount);
            return true;
      }
      else return false;
}
```



Result is a recursive call!

An infinite loop … cause program to hang

Which method is called ?

SAccount sAcc1 = new SAccount("s12345","Graham",1000,800);

sAcc1.deposit(100); ← **Not overridden. Superclass method called**

sAcc1.withdraw(500); ← **Overridden. Subclass method called**

sAcc1.addInterest(0.5); ← **New method. Subclass method called**

Using the this reference

this refers to methods and instance variables of current object.

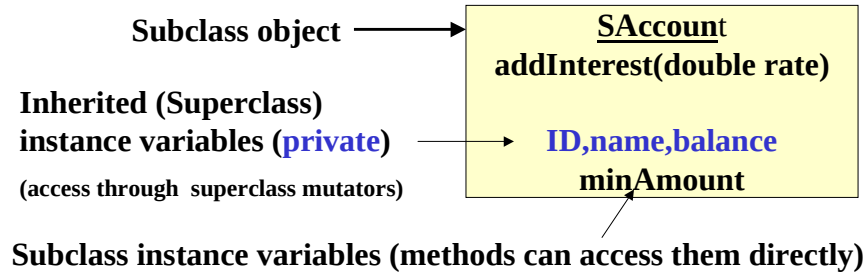
```
class SAccount extends Account
{
 public SAccount(String accountID, String
  accountName, double amount, double minAmount){
    super(accountID,accountName,amount);
    this.minAmount = minAmount;
 }
  . . .
 private double minAmount;
}
```

minAmount of current object (explicit)

Same name ?

Instance variable of superclasses

- **Instance variables are automatically inherited by subclasses.**
- **But if they are private they cannot be accessed directly.**
- **Hence only way to change them is through superclass mutators.**



What's wrong with SAccount withdraw() below ?

```
class SAccount extends Account
{
   public boolean withdraw(double amount) {
      if (balance >= amount + minAmount)
      {
            balance -= amount;
            return true;
      }
      else return false;
  }

  private double minAmount;
}
```

balance is a private instance variable of superclass Account !!!

Protected Access

- **protected alternative to `private` and `public`**
- **If an instance variable is declared protected it can be accessed by methods of that *class*, its *subclasses* and all *other classes* within the same *package* (or *directory*).**
- **However, it cannot be accessed by other class users.**
- **Next Sample code illustrates the difference between the different *access specifiers*.**

```
class A {
        …
        private int x;
        protected int y;
        public int z;
        void increment1() {
           x++;        // valid
           y++;        // valid
           z++;        // valid
        }
}
class B extends A {
        void increment2() {
                x++;        // invalid
                y++;        // valid
                z++;        // valid
        }
}
class SomeOtherClass {  // not in same package
        void increment3() {
                …
                A a = new A(…);
                a.x++; // invalid
                a.y++;          // invalid
                a.z++;          // valid
        }
}
```

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To use protected or not ?

Many programmers use the `protected` feature as it strikes a balance between *absolute protection* and *no protection* at all.

However, they break the *encapsulation rule* as the designer of the *superclass* has no control over the authors of the *subclass*.

Furthermore, classes with protected data are hard to modify as someone may have written a subclass based on it and may have accessed the protected data directly.

Quiz The `Date` class designed by *programmer A* was used by *programmer B* in class `Meeting`. Now B claims A's Date class has bugs. Comment.

```
class Date {   // Designed by programmer A
  Date(int d, int m, int y) {
    day = d;  month = m; year = y;
  }
  // advances d days taking care of month and year
  void advance(int d) {
    // ...
  }
  void print() {
          System.out.println(" "+day +"/"+month+"/"+year);
  }
  protected int day;
  protected int month;
  protected int year;
}
```



```
public class Meeting  { // designed by programmer B
   Meeting(String c, String t, Date d, String v)     {
              chairman = c; title = t;  date = d; venue = v;
   }
  void postpone(int days) {
              date.day += days;
  }
  void print() {
          System.out.print(title+" "+chairman+ " "+venue);
          date.print();
  }
  public static void main(String arg[]) {
              Date d = new Date(28,8,2001);
              Meeting meet=new Meeting("Tom","AGM",d,"9.8");
              meet.postpone(7);
              meet.print();
  }
  private String title;
  private String chairman;
  private String venue;
  private Date date;
}
```

Composition Relationship

Subclass Construction

whenever a subclass object is constructed, the *superclass constructor* must be called.

syntax used: keyword `super` followed by construction parameters if any

must be the first statement in the method

If we omit this statement compiler looks for a *subclass* constructor with no arguments – *default constructor*.

```
public SAccount(String accountID, String
 accountName,double amount,double minAmount){
      super(accountID,accountName,amount);
         this.minAmount = minAmount;
}
```


Multiple Constructors

Suppose we have a Fraction class with two instance variables numerator and denominator. Naturally the constructor will take two arguments to set these instance variables.

To create a Fraction 3/4 we can call new Fraction(3,4)

How about creating 3 (same as 3/1) ? New Fraction(3,1)

But the designers of Fraction class may provide another constructor which takes only one argument the value for numerator making it convenient for users - new Fraction(3)

```
public Fraction (int num, int den) {
    numerator = num;
    denominator = den
```

```
public Fraction (int num {
    numerator = num;
    denominator = 1
```

SAccount Multiple Constructors

SAccount = new SAccount("s1234","Sam", 120, 100);
SAccount = new SAccount("s1235","Tom", 3500, 0);
SAccount = new SAccount("s1236","Tom", 4200, 0);
SAccount = new SAccount("s1237","Tom", 3800, 0);

Most accounts have minimum amount set to 0.

Why not provide a constructor which will set it to 0 if no value is passed for min Amount ?

We can provide an additional constructor that will use the services of the first one with value for minAmount set to 0.

```
// note only 3 arguments are passed
public SAccount(String accountID,
      String accountName, double amount){
   this(accountID,accountName,amount,0.0);
}
```

Calls the existing SAccount constructor with 4 arguments.

Method Overloading

- **To attract wealthy customers new CEO of Bank XYZ starts giving new saving account holders *stepwise interest rates.***
- **one rate for the first $2,000 and another rate for amounts in excess of $2,000.**
- **This would mean we would need another method that takes the two different rates as arguments.**
- **SAccount oldFellow = new SAccount(……..);**
- **SAccount newFellow = new SAccount(……..);**
- **oldFellow.addInterest(1.1);**
- **newFellow.addInterest(1.1, 1.2);**

```
void addInterest(double rate) {
   …
void addInterest(double r1, double r2) {
   …
```