Interfaces, Polymorphism

Lecture 29, Fri Mar 26 2010

borrowing from slides by Kurt Eiselt and Paul Carter

http://www.cs.ubc.ca/~tmm/courses/111-10
Midterm 2

- raw scores average: 27/60
- percentage scores scaled average: 66/100
- exams back, solutions not distributed until after correction lab in week 11
News: Reminder

- change for labs
  - week 11 was no lab. now will be optional midterm review/correction
    - a chance to work through your mistakes and get some marks back
    - people with Monday (holiday) labs or conflicts can attend another lab and/or work on their own. anyone bring in corrected midterm at beginning of the week 12 lab if not finished working through during week 11 lab
Reading

■ Weeklies due today for this week

■ Next week:
  ■ 8.1-.9 (3rd ed)
  ■ 9.1-9.9 (2nd ed)
Recap: Method Overloading

- Can have multiple methods of the same name
- Distinguishes between them with signature
  - Method name, parameter types and order
- Cannot have two methods with the same signature
- Return type is not part of the signature

- Any method can be overloaded
  - Constructors are very common case
Recap: Interfaces

- **Interface** is collection of constants and abstract methods
  - different meaning than set of public methods that are documented, as in API
  - to implement interface must provide definitions for all its methods
- **Abstract methods** have no implementation or body
  - method header followed by semicolon
  - specifies how to communicate with method, not what it does
Recap: Interface Example

```java
public interface VendingMachine
{
    public void vendItem();
    public int getItemsRemaining();
    public int getItemsSold();
    public double getCashReceived();
    public void loadItems(int n);
}
```

```java
public class CokeMachine2005 implements VendingMachine
{
```
Recap: Interface Syntax

- Use reserved word `interface` instead of `class` in header
  - no need to use reserved word `abstract` in method headers, is automatic with interfaces

- Use reserved word `implements` followed by interface name in class header
Recap: Polymorphism

- **Polymorphism**: behavior varies depending on actual type of object
  - variables can be declared with interface as type, can invoke interface methods on them
  - cannot construct interface
    - can only construct objects of some particular class that implements interface
- Polymorphism determined at runtime
  - vs. method overloading, determined at compilation
Recap: Polymorphism Example

```java
public class SimCoke2005 {
    public static void main (String[] args) {
        VendingMachine foo1 = new CokeMachine2005();
        VendingMachine foo2 = new FrenchFryMachine2005();

        foo1.vendItem();
        foo2.vendItem();
    }
}
```

Adding another CokeMachine to your empire
Adding another FrenchFryMachine to your empire
Have a Coke
9 cans remaining
Have a nice hot cup of french fries
9 cups of french fries remaining
Polymorphism

- reference to interface type can reference instance of any class implementing that interface
  - static type: type that variable declared to be
    - determines which members of class can be invoked
  - dynamic type: type that variable actually references
    - determines which version of method is called
Interfaces as Contract

- Can write code that works on anything that fulfills contract
  - even classes that don’t exist yet!
- Example: Comparable
  - useful if you need to sort items
  - `compareTo(object)`
    - returns `int < 0` if this object less than parameter
    - returns `0` if same
    - returns `int > 0` if this object greater than parameter
Comparable

- sort method that works on array of objects of any type that implements Comparable
  - type guaranteed to have compareTo method

- we need to sort
  - Bunny
  - Giraffe
  - String
  - ...

Selection Sort For Int Primitives

// selection sort
public class SortTest1
{
    public static void main(String[] args)
    {
        int[] numbers = {16, 3, 19, 8, 12};
        int min, temp;
        // select location of next sorted value
        for (int i = 0; i < numbers.length - 1; i++)
        {
            min = i;
            // find the smallest value in the remainder of
            // the array to be sorted
            for (int j = i + 1; j < numbers.length; j++)
            {
                if (numbers[j] < numbers[min])
                {
                    min = j;
                }
            }
            // swap two values in the array
            temp = numbers[i];
            numbers[i] = numbers[min];
            numbers[min] = temp;
        }
        System.out.println("Printing sorted result");
        for (int i = 0; i < numbers.length; i++)
        {
            System.out.println(numbers[i]);
        }
    }
}
Wrappers

- Many classes implement Comparable interface
  - Byte, Character, Double, Float, Integer, Long, Short, String
  - each implements own version of compareTo

- Wrapper classes
  - wraps up (encapsulates) primitive type
  - Double: object wrapping primitive double
    - No: sort( double[] myData );
    - Yes: sort( Double[] myData );
Multiple Interfaces

- Classes can implement more than one interface at once
  - Contract to implement all abstract methods defined in every interface it implements

```java
public class MyClass implements Interface1, Interface2, Interface3 {
    
    }
```