

Introduction to Programming

with Java, for Beginners

Intro OOP with Java

Object-Oriented Programming (OOP) Model

- Design problems/programs such that they correspond to real world *entities*
 - a.k.a *Object*
 - Something that has real existence
 - Examples: person, dog, car, student, bank account

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Object Characteristics

- A Object has
 - *Data/State*: information about that object
 - *Behaviors*: describe how the object behaves

Student
name: Tux
address: Helsinki
major: CSE
courseList: CSE380, CSE331, CSE320



Student
Object

Data/State: name, address, major, courseList

Behavior: change address, change major, add/drop a course

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OOP in Java

- A Java program is a **collection** of objects
 - Objects model the parts of a problem
- **Class** in Java for OOP model
 - Is an abstract description of **objects**
 - Describe common features to all objects
 - Templates for creating objects
 - Hence we say that object is an instance of a class
 - Each object has its own unique data

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Anatomy of Class in OOP

- Classes contain
 - Data Fields that hold the data for each object
 - Data is stored in variables
 - Non-static Methods that describe the actions/behaviors the object can perform
 - Constructor(s) to initialize object with some information

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OOP Class Structure

```
class Classname {  
  
    //Data Fields: data for each object  
    ...  
  
    //Constructor: create a new object of this class  
    ..  
  
    //Methods: describe the behaviors the object can perform  
  
    ..  
}
```

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Data Fields

- Classes describe the data held by each of its objects
 - Also known as *instance* variables


```
class Student {
```

```
    String name;  
    int age;
```

```
    ...rest of the class...
```

```
}
```

Data usually goes first in a class



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Data Fields contd..

- We can also declare and initialize data fields
 - String name = "unknown";
- However we cannot do:
String name;
name = "unknown"; //compiler error

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Constructor

- Is piece of code (special method) that is executed when an object is created
- Most often used to initialize an object's data field's
 - Can initialize data to set value or taken external values
- If you don't write a constructor
 - Java defines one for you (behind the scenes) i.e. *default* constructor
 - The data (if any) will initialize to the default value for that type
 - E.g. for type int, the default value is zero

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Constructor: Initialize Data Example

Example 1:

```
class Student {
    String name;
    int age;
    //constructor with parameters
    Student(String Name, int Age) {
        name = Name;
        age = Age;
    }
    ...
    //rest of the class
}
```

Example 2:

```
class Student {
    String name;
    int age;
    //constructor without parameters
    Student() {
        name = "Unknown";
        age = 17;
    }
    ...
    //rest of the class
}
```

- Important: Constructor name is same as *ClassName*
- A class can have more than one constructor

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Creating Objects

- Class is just an abstract description
- In order to use objects we need to create them
- When we create objects, memory is allocated to hold object's data/state
 - This memory is called *heap*
 - Each object gets unique chunk memory to store its data/state
 - Unlike the stack (where method input variables or local variables are place), data on heap is not discarded until forced

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Creating Objects

- Create object with keyword *new* and call to the *constructor*

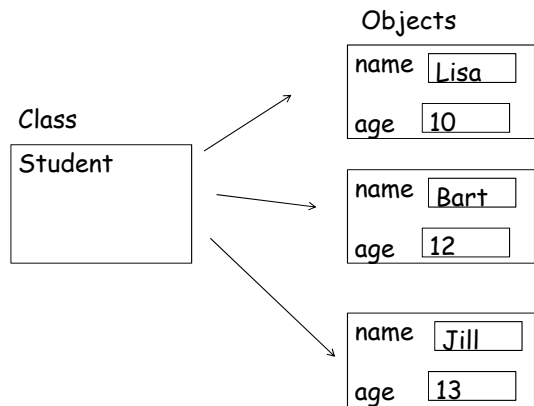
```
new Student();           new Student("Lisa", 5);
  ↑                       ↑
make a new object       make a new object
```

- The keyword *new* allocates space for the object in computers heap memory
- Constructor initializes the data of the object

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Object is instance of Class



Referring to the object

- To refer (or access) object's data in memory after it has been created we probably need to access it again
- **Declare** a variable of appropriate *type* to refer to the object
 - The *type* of the variable is the *class* that describes that object
- E.g. Student object we need a variable of *type Student*
Student s1;
- Then we do:
s1 = new Student();
- We can also do this in one statement:
 - Student s1 = new Student();

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Methods

- A class may contain *methods* that describe the behavior of objects
- Two kinds of Methods
 - **Query Methods**: ask an object about its state
 - What's your name? Age? Amount in Bank Account?
 - **Command Methods**: change an object's state
 - Withdraw \$100 from my bank account
⇒ my bank balance changes

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Example of Methods

Methods usually go after the data & constructor (style rule)
class Student {

```
...  
void setStudentAge(int StuAge){  
    age = StuAge;  
}  
  
int getStudentAge(){  
    return age;  
}  
}
```

Note: Methods have access to instance variables defined within class (outside of any method)

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Sending messages to objects

- We don't perform operations on objects, we "talk" to them
 - This is called **sending a message** to the object
- A message looks like this:
objectName.method(extra information)
 - The **object** is the thing we are talking to
 - The **method** is a name of the action we want the object to take
 - The **extra information** is anything required by the method in order to do its job
 - E.g. s.getAge() or s.setAge(20)

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Temporary /Local vs. Instance Variables

- **Temporary/local** variables are known
 - From the point of declaration until the end curly brace of the block in which they are declared
 - Cannot use modifier private or public with these
- In contrast, **instance** variables are
 - Declared outside of any method
 - Known to all methods in the class in which they are declared
 - Can use modifier private or public with these
 - More on this later

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OOP Recap

- **Class**: a template for creating objects
 - Variables – data
 - Methods – behavior
 - Constructor – initialize data
- An object is an **instance** of a **class**
 - Student s = new Student("Lisa",10); -> s is an object of class Student
- A Java program is collection of co-operating objects
 - E.g. Lord of the Rings Simulation
 - One Human class, multiple Human objects
 - One Elf class, multiple Elf objects
 - One Orc class, multiple Orc objects
 - One weapon class, multiple weapon

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