

COMP 110-003

Introduction to Programming

More Classes, Information Hiding and Encapsulation

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Class

- Class: a definition of a kind of object
- Object: an instance of a class
 - Contains instance variables (data) and methods
- Methods
 - Methods that return a value
 - Methods that return nothing



Defining a Class

```
public class Student {  
    public String name;  
    public int classYear;  
    public double GPA;  
    public String major;  
  
    // ...  
  
    public String getMajor() {  
        return major;  
    }  
  
    public void increaseYear() {  
        classYear++;  
    }  
}
```

Class name

Data
(or attributes, or
instance variables)

Methods



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Using a Class

```
public class Student {  
    public String name;  
    public int classYear;  
    public double GPA;  
    public String major;  
  
    // ...  
  
    public String getMajor() {  
        return major;  
    }  
  
    public void increaseYear() {  
        classYear++;  
    }  
}
```

```
public class StudentTest {  
    public static void main(String[] args) {  
        Student jack = new Student();  
        jack.name = "Jack Smith";  
        jack.major = "Computer Science";  
        jack.classYear = 1;  
        jack.GPA = 3.5;  
  
        String m = jack.getMajor();  
        System.out.println("Jack's major is " + m);  
  
        jack.increaseYear();  
  
        System.out.println("Jack's class year is now  
" + jack.classYear);  
    }  
}
```



Instance Variable and Local Variable

- Instance variables
 - Declared in a class
 - Confined to the class
 - Can be used anywhere in the class that declares the variable, including inside the class' methods
- Local variables
 - Declared in a method
 - Confined to the method
 - Can only be used inside the method that declares the variable



Local Variable Example

```
public class Student
{
    public String name;
    public int classYear;
    // ...

    public void printInfo()
    {
        String info = name + ": " + classYear;
        System.out.println(info);
    }

    public void increaseYear()
    {
        classYear++;
    }

    public void decreaseYear()
    {
        classYear--;
    }
}
```

- *classYear* and *name* are instance variables
- can be used in any method in this class

- *info* is a local variable declared inside method *printInfo()*
- can only be used inside method *printInfo()*



Local Variable Example

```
public class Student
{
    public String name;
    public int classYear;
    // ...

    public void printInfo()
    {
        String info = name + ": " + classYear;
        System.out.println(info);
    }

    public void increaseYear()
    {
        classYear++;
        info = "My info string"; // ERROR!!!
    }

    public void decreaseYear()
    {
        classYear--;
    }
}
```

The compiler will not recognize the variable *info* inside of method *increaseYear()*



Local Variable Example

```
public class Student
{
    public String name;
    public int classYear;
    // ...

    public void printInfo()
    {
        String info = name + ": " + classYear;
        System.out.println(info);
    }

    public void increaseYear()
    {
        classYear++;
        String info = "My info string"; // OK
    }

    public void decreaseYear()
    {
        classYear--;
    }
}
```

Variable *info* in *increaseYear* method
not affected by variable *info* in
printInfo method in class *Student*



Local Variable Rule

- Usually, a variable is only accessible in its surrounding brackets

```
public class Variable {  
    String a = "a";  
  
    public void f() {  
        String b = "b";  
        if (a.equals("b")) {  
            String c = "c";  
        }  
    }  
}
```



Methods with Parameters

- Compute the square of this number
 - 5
 - 10
 - 7
- I could give you any number, and you could tell me the square of it
- We can do the same thing with methods



Methods with Parameters

- Parameters are used to hold the value that you pass to the method
- Parameters can be used as (local) variables inside the method

```
public int square(int number)
{
    return number * number;
}
```

Parameters go inside
the parentheses of
method header



Calling a Method with Parameters

```
public class Student
{
    public String name;
    public int classYear;
    // ...
    public void setName(String studentName)
    {
        name = studentName;
    }
    public void setClassYear(int year)
    {
        classYear = year;
    }
}
```



Calling a Method with Parameters

```
public static void main(String[] args)
{
    Student jack = new Student();
    jack.setName("Jack Smith");
    jack.setClassYear(3);
}
```

Parameters/
Arguments



Methods with Multiple Parameters

- Multiple parameters separated by commas

```
public double getTotal(double price, double tax)
{
    return price + price * tax;
}
```

- When calling a method, the order, type, and number of arguments must match parameters specified in method heading



Methods with Multiple Parameters

```
public class SalesComputer
{
    public double getTotal(double price, double tax)
    {
        return price + price * tax;
    }
}

// ...

SalesComputer sc = new SalesComputer();
double total = sc.getTotal("19.99", Color.RED);
double total = sc.getTotal(19.99);
double total = sc.getTotal(19.99, 0.065);
int price = 50;
total = sc.getTotal(price, 0.065);
```

Automatic typecasting



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Calling Methods from Methods

- A method body can call another method
 - Done the same way:
`receiving_object.method();`
- If calling a method in the same class, do not need `receiving_object`:
 - `method();`
- Alternatively, use the `this` keyword (can be omitted)
 - `this.method();`



Calling Methods from Methods

```
public class Student
{
    public String name;
    public int classYear;
    public void setName(String studentName)
    {
        name = studentName;
    }
    public void setClassYear(int year)
    {
        classYear = year;
    }
    public void setNameAndYear(String studentName, int year){
        this.name = studentName; // or this.setName(studentName);
        this.classYear = year; // or this.setClassYear(year);
    }
}
```



public/private Modifier

- `public void setMajor()`
- `public int classYear;`
- **public**: there is no restriction on how you can use the method or instance variable



public/private Modifier

- `private void setMajor()`
- `private int classYear;`
- **private**: can not directly use the method or instance variable's name outside the class



public/private Modifier

```
public class Student
{
    public int classYear;
    private String major;
}

public class StudentTest{
    public static void main(String[] args){
        Student jack = new Student();
        jack.classYear = 1;
        jack.major = "Computer Science"; // ERROR!!!
    }
}
```

OK, *classYear* is public

Error!!! *major* is private



More about private

- Hides instance variables and methods inside the class/object. The **private** variables and methods are still there, holding data for the object.
- Invisible to external users of the class
 - Users cannot access **private** class members directly
- **Information hiding**



Example: Rectangle

```
public class Rectangle
{
    public int width;
    public int height;
    public int area;

    public void setDimensions(
        int newWidth,
        int newHeight){
        width = newWidth;
        height = newHeight;
        area = width * height;
    }

    public int getArea(){
        return area;
    }
}
```

```
Rectangle box = new Rectangle();
box.setDimensions(10, 5);
System.out.println(box.getArea());
```

// Output: 50

```
box.width = 6;
System.out.println("The rectangle
    with edges " + box.width + "
    and " + box.height + " has area
    size " + box.getArea());
```

// Output: The rectangle with
edges 6 and 5 has area size 50

// Wrong answer!



Accessors and Mutators

- How do you access **private** instance variables?
- Accessor methods (a.k.a. get methods, **getters**)
 - Allow you to look at data in private instance variables
- Mutator methods (a.k.a. set methods, **setters**)
 - Allow you to change data in private instance variables



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Example: Student

```
public class Student
{
    private String name;
    private int age;

    public void setName(String studentName) {
        name = studentName;
    }
    public void setAge(int studentAge) {
        age = studentAge;
    }
    public String getName() {
        return name;
    }
    public int getAge() {
        return age;
    }
}
```

Mutators

Accessors



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Example: Student

```
public class Student
{
    private String name;
    private int age;

    public void setName(String studentName) {
        name = studentName;
    }
    public void setAge(int studentAge) {
        if (studentAge > 0)
            age = studentAge;
        else System.out.println("The input for age should be positive")
    }
    public String getName() {
        return name;
    }
    public int getAge() {
        return age;
    }
}
```

Mutators

Accessors



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Private Methods

- Why make methods **private**?
- Helper methods that will only be used from inside a class should be **private**
 - External users have no need to call these methods
- **Encapsulation**



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Private Methods

```
public class RightTriangle {  
    private double side_a;  
    private double side_b;  
  
    private double square(double d) {  
        // some calculation  
    } // don't want others to use - rounded for rounded output  
  
    private double sqrt(double d) {  
        // some complicated calculation  
    } // don't want others to use - optimized for triangle only  
  
    public double getSideC() {  
        return this.sqrt(this.square(side_a) + this.square(side_b));  
    }  
}
```



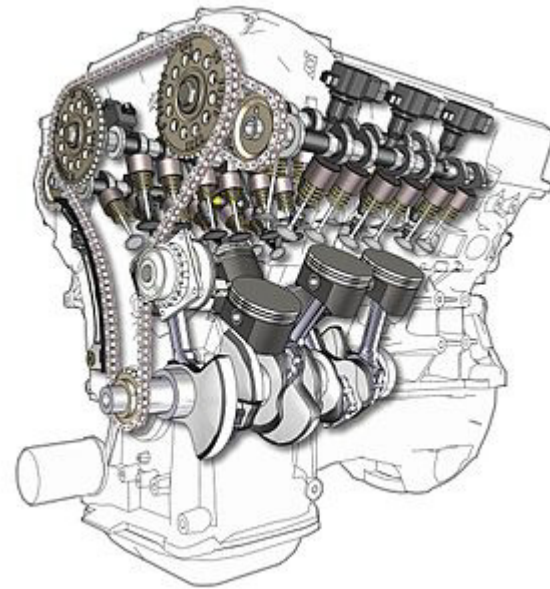
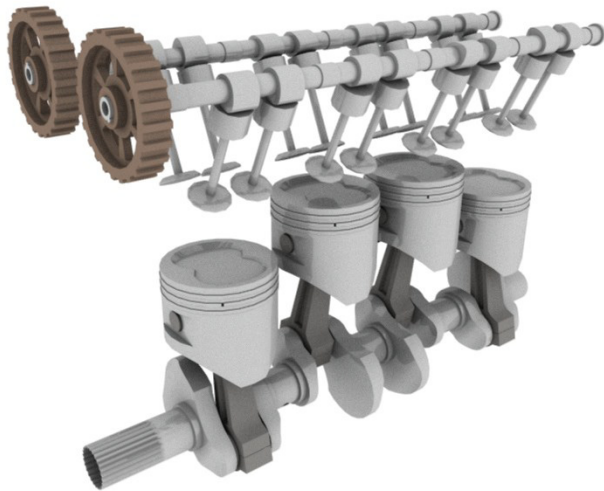
Example: Driving a Car

- Accelerate with the accelerator pedal
- Decelerate with the brake pedal
- Steer with the steering wheel
- Does not matter if:
 - You have a 4-cylinder engine or a 6-cylinder engine
 - Especially, you don't have to control how many valves shall be on at each second in order to drive a car
- You still drive the same way



Encapsulation

- The *interface* is the same
- The underlying *implementation* may be different



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Encapsulation in Classes

- A *class interface* tells programmers all they need to know to use the class in a program
- The *implementation* of a class consists of the private elements of the class definition
 - **private** instance variables and constants
 - **private** methods
 - bodies of **public** methods



Example: Two Rectangle Classes

```
public class Rectangle
{
    private int width;
    private int height;
    private int area;

    public void setDimensions(
        int newWidth,
        int newHeight)
    {
        width = newWidth;
        height = newHeight;
        area = width * height;
    }

    public int getArea()
    {
        return area;
    }
}
```

```
public class Rectangle
{
    private int width;
    private int height;

    public void setDimensions(
        int newWidth,
        int newHeight)
    {
        width = newWidth;
        height = newHeight;
    }

    public int getArea()
    {
        return width * height;
    }
}
```



Well Encapsulation

- Imagine a wall between (other) programmers and (your) implementation
 - It's called interface

Implementation:

Private instance variables
Private constants
Private Methods
Bodies of all methods
Method definitions

Interface:

Comments
Headings of public methods
Public defined constants

Programmer



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Guidelines When You Define a Class

- Comments before class definition (this is your header)
- Instance variables are *private*
- Provide *public* accessor and mutator methods
- Comments before methods
- Make helping methods *private*
- */* */* for user-interface comments and *//* for implementation comments



Initialization of Instance Variables

- You can declare default values for instance variables

```
public class Rectangle
{
    public int width = 1;
    public int height = 1;
    public int area = 1;
    public void setDimensions(
        int newWidth,
        int newHeight){
        width = newWidth;
        height = newHeight;
        area = width * height;
    }
    public int getArea(){
        return area;
    }
}
```

```
Rectangle box = new Rectangle();
System.out.println(box.getArea());
```

// Output: 1



Select Proper Instance Variables

```
public class Rectangle
{
    private int width;
    private int height;
    private int area;
    public void setDimensions(
        int newWidth,
        int newHeight){
        width = newWidth;
        height = newHeight;
        area = width * height;
    }
    public void setWidth(
        int newWidth){
        width = newWidth;
        area = width * height;
    }
    public void setHeight(
        int newHeight){
        height = newHeight;
        area = width * height;
    }
    public int getArea(){
        return area;
    }
}
```

```
public class Rectangle
{
    private int width;
    private int height;
    public void setDimensions(
        int newWidth,
        int newHeight){
        width = newWidth;
        height = newHeight;
    }
    public void setWidth(
        int newWidth){
        width = newWidth;
    }
    public void setHeight(
        int newHeight){
        height = newHeight;
    }
    public int getArea(){
        return width * height;
        // MUCH SHORTER AND LESS
        // POSSIBILITY OF MAKING MISTAKES
    }
}
```

