Interfaces

Object-Oriented Programming
Outline

- Multi-inheritance
- The Diamond Problem
- Java interface
- Design pattern: Prototype

Readings:
- HFJ: Ch. 8.
- GT: Ch. 8.
Our previous design

- designed for an animal simulation program
- reusable in educational software in zoology

- What about a PetShop program?

- Pet behaviors required:
  - beFriendly()
  - play()

- Where should we add those behaviors to?
Option 1

- Put all the pet method code up

Pros:
- Pet polymorphism
- Code inherited

Cons:
- Hippos as pets?
- Lions and Wolves, too?
- We still have to override pet methods in Cat and Dog

Put beFriendly() and plays() code up here for inheritance
Option 2

- Put all the pet method code up

Pros:
- Pet polymorphism

Cons:
- ALL subclasses are forced to override
- non-pet versions do nothing
- It's wrong to stuff in Animal things that not ALL Animal classes need

Put beFriendly() and plays() here but make them `abstract`
Option 3

- Put the pet methods ONLY in the classes where they belong

Pros:
- No Hippos as pets

Cons:
- No polymorphism for pet methods
- No guarantee for the pet contract

Put the pet methods ONLY in the classes that can be pets
What we really need

- A way to have pet behavior in just the pet classes
- A way to guarantee that all pet classes have all of the same methods defined
  - same name, same parameters, same return types, no missing methods, etc.
- A way to take advantage of polymorphism for pets
  - methods that works on all types of pets,
  - arrays contains all types of pets.
  - …
Multi-inheritance!

Pet: new abstract class with pet methods

Pet

Feline

Cat

Tiger

Hippo

Canine

Dog

Wolf

Cat inherits both Pet AND Animal, thus it gets methods from both.

Dog inherits both Pet AND Animal

non-pet Animals don't have any inherited pet stuff
But... the Deadly Diamond Problem.

ComboDrive c = new ComboDrive();
c.burn();

- Which burn() gets to run?
  - CDBurner.burn() ?
  - DVDBurner.burn() ?
Java interfaces

- Java does not support multiple inheritance
  - The Deadly Diamond Problem
- Java interfaces
  - A special type of class which
    - Defines a set of method prototypes
    - Does not provide the implementation for the prototypes
    - Can also define final constants

```java
public interface Pet {
    public abstract void beFriendly();
    public abstract void play();
}
```
Java interfaces - Example

- To **define** an interface:
  ```java
  public interface Pet {
    public abstract void beFriendly();
    public abstract void play();
  }
  ```
  - **Keyword** `interface` instead of `class`
  - The methods are ALL abstract

- To **implement** an interface:
  ```java
  public class Dog extends Canine implements Pet {
    public void beFriendly() {...}
    public void play() {...}
    public void roam() {...}
    public void eat() {...}
  }
  ```
  - `implements` ALL Pet methods
  - Normal overriding methods
Classes from different inheritance tree can implement the same interface
A class can implement multiple interfaces
Extends and implements

- A class
  - Can “extend” only one class, i.e. ONE superclass
  - Can “implement” MULTIPLE interfaces
Java interfaces

- Lightweight
  - Allow multiple classes to respond to a common set of messages but without the implementation complexity.

- Similar to Subclassing but…
  - Good news
    - Class has only one superclass
    - Can implement multiple interfaces
  - Bad news:
    - Interface only gives the method prototype and not the implementation
interface Action {
    void moveTo(int x, int y);
    void erase();
    void draw();
}

class Circle1 implements Action {
    int x, y, r;
    Circle1(int _x, int _y, int _r) { ... }

    public void erase() {...}
    public void draw() {...}
    public void moveTo(int x1, int y1) {...}
}

class ImageBuffer {
    ...
}

class Animation extends ImageBuffer implements Action {
    ...

    public void erase() {...}
    public void draw() {...}
    public void moveTo() {...}
}
interface CanFight {
    void fight();
}

interface CanSwim {
    void swim();
}

interface CanFly {
    void fly();
}

class ActionCharacter {
    public void fight() {...}
}

class SuperHero extends ActionCharacter implements CanFight, CanSwim, CanFly {
    public void swim() {...}
    public void fly() {...}
}
public class Adventure {
    public static void t(CanFight x) { x.fight(); }
    public static void u(CanSwim x) { x.swim(); }
    public static void v(CanFly x) { x.fly(); }
    public static void w(ActionCharacter x) { x.fight(); }
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        SuperHero h = new SuperHero();
        t(h); // Treat it as a CanFight
        u(h); // Treat it as a CanSwim
        v(h); // Treat it as a CanFly
        w(h); // Treat it as an ActionCharacter
    }
}
Extending an interface with inheritance

```java
interface Monster {
    void menace();
}
interface Lethal {
    void kill();
}
interface Vampire extends Monster, Lethal {
    void drinkBlood();
}

class VeryBadVampire implements Vampire {
    public void menace() {...}
    public void kill() {...}
    public void drinkBlood() {...}
}
```
Conflict (1)

```java
interface I1 { void f(); }
interface I2 { int f(int i); }
interface I3 { int f(); }
class C {
    public int f() { return 1; }
}

class C2 implements I1, I2 {
    public void f() {}
    public int f(int i) { return 1; } // overloaded
}

class C3 extends C implements I2 {
    public int f(int i) { return 1; } // overloaded
}
```
Conflict (2)

interface I1 { void f(); }
interface I2 { int f(int i); }
interface I3 { int f(); }
class C {
    public int f() { return 1; }
}

class C4 extends C implements I3 {
    // Identical, no problem:
    public int f() { return 1; }
}

class C5 extends C implements I1 {...} //error

interface I4 extends I1, I3 {...} //error
Cloning objects

```java
class Animal {
    String name;
    public Animal(String name_) { name = name_; }
    public Animal(Animal b) { name = b.name; }
    public void sayHi() { System.out.println("Uh oh!"); }
}
class Cat extends Animal {
    public Cat(String name_) { super(name_); }
    public Cat(Cat d) { super(d); }
    public void sayHi() { System.out.println("Meow..."ITES); }
}

Cat tom = new Cat("Tom");
Cat c = new Cat(tom); c.sayHi();
Animal a = new Animal(tom); a.sayHi();
```

Meow...
Uh oh!
Cloning objects

Cat tom = new Cat("Tom");
Cat c = new Cat(tom); c.sayHi();
Animal a = new Animal(tom); a.sayHi();

Meow... Uh oh!

Actually, the Animal constructor is called. Not Cat constructor.

- How to clone objects without knowing their actual type?
  - copy constructor? Nope!
  - copy method?
    - write a clone() method
class Animal {
    String name;
    public Animal( String name_) { name = name_; }
    public Animal(Animal b) { name = b.name; }
    public Animal clone() { return new Animal(this); }
    public void sayHi() { System.out.println( "Uh oh!"); }
}
class Cat extends Animal {
    public Cat(String name_) { super(name_); }
    public Cat(Cat d) { super(d); }
    public Cat clone() { return new Cat(this); }
    public void sayHi() { System.out.println( "Meow..."); }
}

Cat tom = new Cat("Tom");
Cat c = tom.clone(); c.sayHi();
Animal a = tom;
Animal b = a.clone(); b.sayHi();

Now we have polymorphism
Design pattern: Prototype

Client
Operation()

Prototype
Clone()

ConcretePrototype1
Clone()
return copy of self

ConcretePrototype2
Clone()
return copy of self