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CS/ENGRD 2110 SPRING 2014

Lecture 4: The class hierarchy; static components
<http://courses.cs.cornell.edu/cs2110>

References to text and JavaSummary.pptx

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- A bit about testing and test cases
- Class Object, **superest** class of them all.
Text: C.23 slide 30
- Function toString() C.24 slide 31-33
- Overriding a method C15–C16 slide 31-32
- Static components (methods and fields) B.27 slide 21, 45
- Java application: a program with a class that declares a method with this signature:
public static void toString(String[])

Homework

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1. Read the text, Appendix A.1–A.3
2. Read the text, about the if-statement: A.38–A.40
3. Visit course website, click on **Resources** and then on Code Style **Guidelines**. Study
 - 2. **Format Conventions**
 - 4.5 **About then-part and else-part of if-statement**

Specifications of boolean functions

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```

/** Return true if this Bee is male and false if not. */
public boolean isMale()
    Says same thing. Shorter, no case analysis. Think of it as
    return value of sentence "this Bee is male"
/** Return "this Bee is male". */
public boolean isMale()
    Do you say, "it returns absolute value of -20? Of course not. Mathematicians say simply "that's the absolute value of 60"
abs(-20)
    /** = "this Bee is male". */
    Read as: the call isMale() equals the value of the sentence "this Bee is male".
    
```

What is "the name of" the object?

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The name of the object below is **Bee@aa11bb24**

It contains a pointer to the object –i.e. its address in memory, and you can call it a pointer if you wish. But it contains more than that.

Variable **b**, declared as **Bee b**; contains not the object but the name of the object (or a pointer to the object).

The diagram shows a variable `b` of type `Bee` containing the memory address `Bee@aa11bb24`. This address points to a `Bee` object. The object's fields are: `name` is `"Mumsie"`, `mom` is `null`, `pop` is `null`, and `children` is `1`.

A bit about testing

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Test case: Set of input values, together with the expected output.

Develop test cases for a method from its specification --- even before you write the methods body.

```

/** = number of vowels in word w.
Precondition: w contains at least one letter and nothing but letters*/
public int numberOfVowels(String w) {
    ...
}
    
```

How many vowels in each of these words?
 creek
 syzygy

Developing test cases first, in "critique" mode, can prevent wasted work and errors.

Test cases for number of children

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If l0 gets a mom, say j0, the mom's number of children must increase. You should test this.

Class W (for Worker)

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```

/** Constructor: worker with last name n, SSN s, boss b (null if none).
    Prec: n not null, s in 0..999999999 with no leading zeros.*/
public W(String n, int s, W b)

/** = worker's last name */
public String getLname()

/** = last 4 SSN digits */
public String getSsn()

/** = worker's boss (null if none) */
public W getBoss()

/** Set boss to b */
public void setBoss(W b)

Contains other methods!
    
```

Class Object: the superest class of them all

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Java: Every class that does not extend another extends class Object. That is,

```
public class W {...}
```

is equivalent to

```
public class W extends Object {...}
```

We often leave off the top partition to reduce clutter; we know that it is always there

Method toString

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toString() in Object returns the name of the object: W@af

Java Convention: Define toString() in any class to return a representation of an object, giving info about the values in its fields.

New definition of toString() overrides the definition in partition Object

In appropriate places, the expression c automatically does c.toString()

c.toString() calls this method

Method toString

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toString() in Object returns the name of the object: W@af

```

public class W {
...
/** Return a representation of this object */
public String toString() {
return "Worker " + lname + " " +
    "Soc sec: ..." + getSsn() + "." +
    (boss == null ? "" : "Boss " + boss.lname + " ");
}
c.toString() calls this method
    
```

Another example of toString()

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```

/** An instance represents a point (x, y) in the plane */
public class Point {
private int x; // x-coordinate
private int y; // y-coordinate
...
/** = repr. of this point in form "(x,y)" */
public String toString() {
return "(" + x + "," + y + ")";
}
}
    
```

Function toString should give the values in the fields in a format that makes sense for the class.

Intro to static components

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```

/** = "this object is c's boss".
Pre: c is not null. */
public boolean isBoss(W c) {
    return this == c.boss;
}
    
```

x.isBoss(y) is false
y.isBoss(x) is true

Spec: return the value of that true-false sentence. True if this object is c's boss, false otherwise

keyword **this** evaluates to the name of the object in which it appears

Intro to static components

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```

/** = "b is c's boss".
Pre: b and c are not null. */
public boolean isBoss(W b, W c) {
    return b == c.getBoss();
}
    
```

Body doesn't refer to any field or method in the object. Why put method in object?

```

/** = "this object is c's boss".
Pre: c is not null. */
public boolean isBoss(W c) {
    return this == c.boss;
}
    
```

Intro to static components

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```

/** = "b is c's boss".
Pre: b and c are not null. */
public static boolean isBoss(W b, W c) {
    return b == c.getBoss();
}
    
```

static: there is only one copy of the method. It is not in each object

Box for **W** (objects, static components)

~~x.isBoss(x, y)~~
~~y.isBoss(x, y)~~

Preferred: W.isBoss(x, y)

Java application

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Java application: bunch of classes with at least one class that has this procedure:

```

public static void main(String[] args) {
    ...
}
    
```

Type **String[]**: array of elements of type **String**. We will discuss later

Convention: if method **main** doesn't use parameter **args**, then call it with argument **null**

Running the application consists of calling method **main**

One use of static variable: maintain info about all objects

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```

public class W {
    private static int numObjects;
    ...
    /** Constructor: */
    public W(...) {
        ...
        numObjects = numObjects + 1;
    }
}
    
```

To have **numObjects** contain the number of Objects of class **W** that have been created, simply increment it in constructors

Box for **W**