

# CS/ENGRD 2110

## SPRING 2016

Lecture 7: Interfaces and Abstract Classes  
<http://courses.cs.cornell.edu/cs2110>

# Announcements

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- Attendance for this week's recitation is mandatory!
- A2 is due Wednesday
- Get started on A3 – do one method a day

# Overview

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- Big Demo!
- Interfaces
- Abstract Classes
- Normal Classes vs. Abstract Classes vs. Interfaces

# Interfaces

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Interfaces cannot  
be **newed**!

New keyword

```
/** A mutable collection of E values */  
public interface Collection<E> {  
    /** Return true if this collection contains elem*/  
    boolean contains(Object elem);  
  
    /** Ensure that this contains elem.  
     * Return true if the collection is changed by this. */  
    boolean add(E elem);  
    ...  
}
```

Always public

No fields!  
No constructors!

No  
implementations!!!

# Implementing Interfaces

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Classes *implement* interfaces

```
/** A range of integers that always includes 0 */  
public class IntRange implements Collection<Integer> {  
    private int min = 0; // Represents the range min..max  
    private int max = 0; // min <= max  
    /** Return true if elem is an integer in the range. */  
    public boolean contains(Object elem) {...}  
    /** Minimally extend the range to include elem.  
     * Return true if the range had to be extended. */  
    public boolean add(Integer elem) {...}  
}
```

Provides  
implementations  
for interface  
methods

# Using Interfaces

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```
/** Returns whether the collection contains every  
 * integer between and including min and max.  
 * Precondition: ints is not null */
```

```
public static boolean containsRange(  
Collection<Integer> ints,  
int min, int max) {  
    for (int i = min; i <= max; i++)  
        if (!ints.contains(i))  
            return false;  
    return true;  
}
```

Interfaces  
are types

Works on any Collection!!!  
This includes your own  
DLinkedList from A3!

Because ints has type `Collection<Integer>`,  
you can use any method declared in the  
`Collection<Integer>` interface.

# Extending Interfaces

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Interfaces *extend* other interfaces

```
/** A mutable indexed list of E values */  
public interface List<E> extends Collection<E> {  
    int size(); // return size of the list  
    E get(int index); // return elem at index  
    E set(int index, E elem); // change elem at index  
    boolean add(int index, E elem); // insert elem at index  
    E remove(int index); // remove and return elem at index  
    ...  
}
```

Implicitly includes all  
methods in Collection<E>

# Abstract Classes

Outdated use of abstract classes!  
- see next slide on defaults

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Abstract classes  
cannot be newed

Indicates that  
subclasses are  
responsible for  
providing the  
implementation

Only abstract  
classes can have  
abstract methods

```
/** Provides default implementations for list methods */  
public abstract class AbstractList<E> implements List<E> {  
    public abstract int size();  
    public abstract E get(int index);  
    public abstract E set(int index, E elem);  
    public abstract boolean add(int index, E elem);  
    public abstract E remove(int index);  
    public boolean add(E elem) { return add(size(), elem); }  
    public boolean contains(E elem) {  
        for (int i = 0; i < size(); i++)  
            if (!Objects.equals(elem, get(i)))  
                return false;  
        return true;  
    }  
    ...  
}
```



# Defaults in Java 8

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Indicates that the interface is providing a *default* implementation for this method

```
/** Provides default implementations for list methods */  
public interface List<E> extends Collection<E> {  
    int size();  
    E get(int index);  
    E set(int index, E elem);  
    boolean add(int index, E elem);  
    E remove(int index);  
    default boolean add(E elem) { return add(size(), elem); }  
    default boolean contains(E elem) {  
        for (int i = 0; i < size(); i++)  
            if (!Objects.equals(elem, get(i)))  
                return false;  
        return true;  
    }  
    ...  
}
```

# Abstract Classes Revisited

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```
public abstract class IntExpression {  
    private Integer value = null;  
    public int evaluate() {  
        if (value == null) value = eval();  
        return value.intValue();  
    }  
    protected abstract int eval();  
}  
public class Zero extends IntExpression {  
    protected int eval() { return 0; }  
}  
public class Sum extends IntExpression {  
    protected IntExpression left, right;  
    public Sum(...) {...}  
    protected int eval() { return left.eval() + right.eval(); }  
}
```


Abstract class provides  
common fields and  
functionality

Abstract class leaves critical  
methods abstract for  
subclasses to implement

Subclasses provide  
case-dependent  
implementations

# Comparison

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Normal Classes	Abstract Classes	Interfaces	Features
✓	✓	✓	can be used as types and in casts
✓	⊘	⊘	can be <b>newed</b>
✓	✓	⊘	have constructors
✓	✓	⊘	can have fields
✓	✓	✓ 	can provide method implementations
✓	✓	⊘	can have non-public methods
⊘	✓	✓	can have abstract methods
⊘	⊘	✓	can be inherited multiply