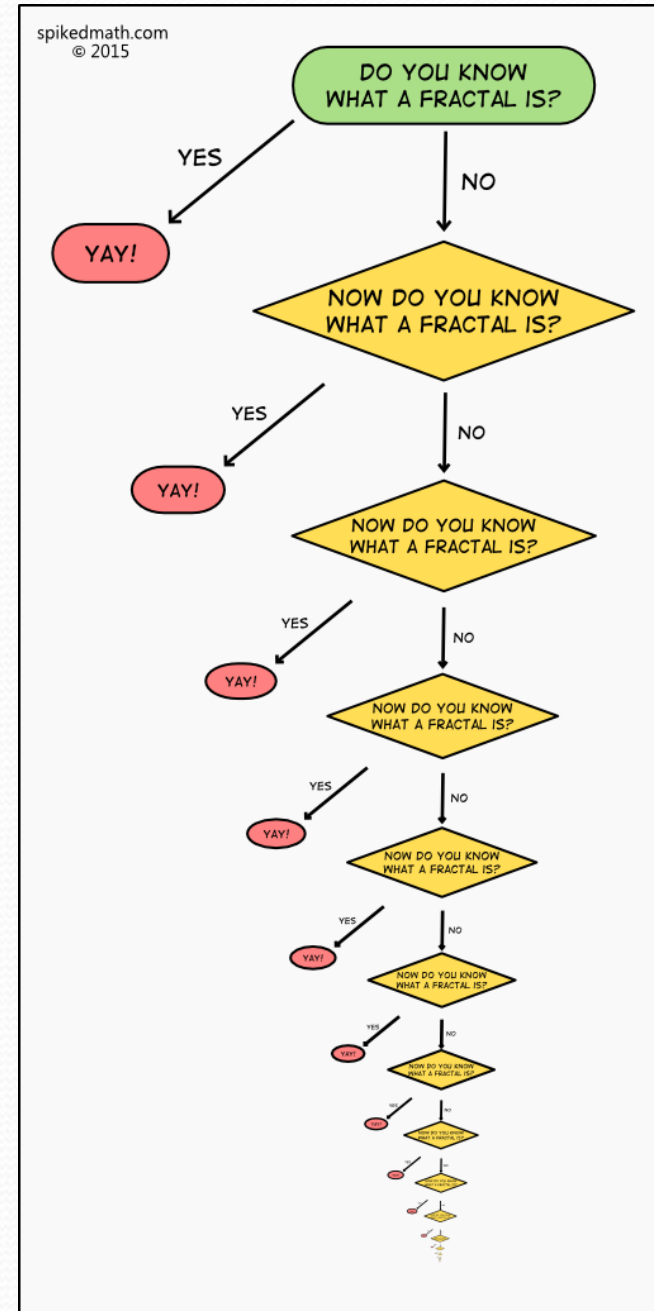


CSE 143

Lecture 13: Interfaces, Comparable
reading: 9.5 - 9.6, 16.4, 10.2

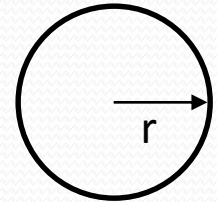


Related classes

Consider classes for shapes with common features:

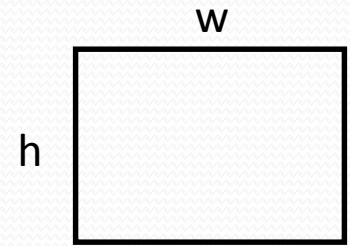
- Circle (defined by radius r):

$$\text{area} = \pi r^2, \quad \text{perimeter} = 2 \pi r$$



- Rectangle (defined by width w and height h):

$$\text{area} = w h, \quad \text{perimeter} = 2w + 2h$$

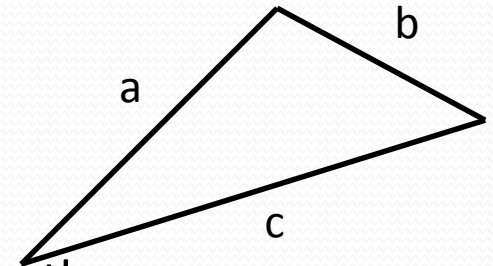


- Triangle (defined by side lengths a , b , and c)

$$\text{area} = \sqrt{s(s-a)(s-b)(s-c)}$$

where $s = \frac{1}{2}(a+b+c)$,

$$\text{perimeter} = a + b + c$$



- Every shape has these, but each computes them differently.

Interfaces (9.5)

- **interface:** A list of methods that a class can promise to implement.
 - Inheritance gives you an is-a relationship *and* code sharing.
 - A `Lawyer` can be treated as an `Employee` and inherits its code.
 - Interfaces give you an is-a relationship *without* code sharing.
 - A `Rectangle` object can be treated as a `Shape` but inherits no code.
 - Analogous to non-programming idea of roles or certifications:
 - "I'm certified as a CPA accountant.
This assures you I know how to do taxes, audits, and consulting."
 - "I'm 'certified' as a `Shape`, because I implement the `Shape` interface.
This assures you I know how to compute my area and perimeter."

Interface syntax

```
public interface name {  
    public type name(type name, ..., type name);  
    public type name(type name, ..., type name);  
    ...  
    public type name(type name, ..., type name);  
}
```

Example:

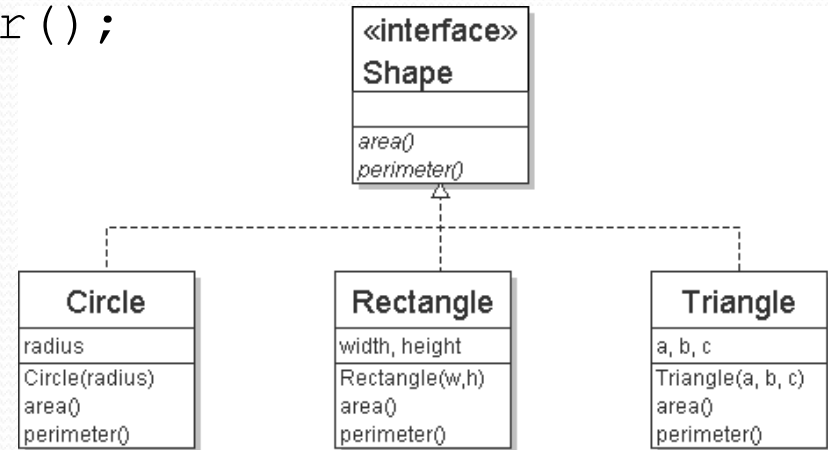
```
public interface Vehicle {  
    public int getSpeed();  
    public void setDirection(int direction);  
}
```

Shape interface

// Describes features common to all shapes.

```
public interface Shape {  
    public double area();  
    public double perimeter();  
}
```

- Saved as Shape.java



- **abstract method:** A header without an implementation.
 - The actual bodies are not specified, because we want to allow each class to implement the behavior in its own way.

Implementing an interface

```
public class name implements interface {  
    ...  
}
```

- A class can declare that it "implements" an interface.
 - The class must contain each method in that interface.

```
public class Bicycle implements Vehicle {  
    ...  
}
```

(Otherwise it will fail to compile.)

```
Banana.java:1: Banana is not abstract and does not  
override abstract method area() in Shape  
public class Banana implements Shape {  
    ^
```

Interfaces + polymorphism

- Interfaces benefit the *client code* author the most.
 - They allow **polymorphism**.
(the same code can work with different types of objects)

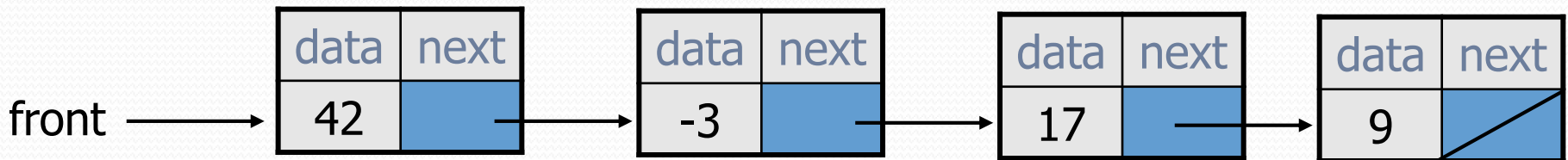
```
public static void printInfo(Shape s) {  
    System.out.println("The shape: " + s);  
    System.out.println("area : " + s.area());  
    System.out.println("perim: " + s.perimeter());  
    System.out.println();  
}  
  
...  
Circle circ = new Circle(12.0);  
Triangle tri = new Triangle(5, 12, 13);  
printInfo(circ);  
printInfo(tri);
```

Linked vs. array lists

- We have implemented two collection classes:
 - `ArrayIntList`

index	0	1	2	3
value	42	-3	17	9

- `LinkedIntList`



- They have similar behavior, implemented in different ways. We should be able to treat them the same way in client code.

An IntList interface

// Represents a list of integers.

```
public interface IntList {
    public void add(int value);
    public void add(int index, int value);
    public int get(int index);
    public int indexOf(int value);
    public boolean isEmpty();
    public void remove(int index);
    public void set(int index, int value);
    public int size();
}
```

```
public class ArrayIntList implements IntList { ...
```

```
public class LinkedIntList implements IntList { ...
```

Client code w/ interface

```
public class ListClient {
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        IntList list1 = new ArrayIntList();
        process(list1);

        IntList list2 = new LinkedIntList();
        process(list2);
    }

    public static void process(IntList list) {
        list.add(18);
        list.add(27);
        list.add(93);
        System.out.println(list);
        list.remove(1);
        System.out.println(list);
    }
}
```

ADTs as interfaces (11.1)

- **abstract data type (ADT):** A specification of a collection of data and the operations that can be performed on it.
 - Describes *what* a collection does, not *how* it does it.
- Java's collection framework uses interfaces to describe ADTs:
 - `Collection`, `Deque`, `List`, `Map`, `Queue`, `Set`
- An ADT can be implemented in multiple ways by classes:
 - `ArrayList` and `LinkedList` implement `List`
 - `HashSet` and `TreeSet` implement `Set`
 - `LinkedList` , `ArrayDeque`, etc. implement `Queue`
 - They messed up on `Stack`; there's no `Stack` interface, just a class.

Using ADT interfaces

When using Java's built-in collection classes:

- It is considered good practice to always declare collection variables using the corresponding ADT interface type:

```
List<String> list = new ArrayList<String>();
```

- Methods that accept a collection as a parameter should also declare the parameter using the ADT interface type:

```
public void stutter(List<String> list) {  
    ...  
}
```

The Comparable Interface

reading: 10.2

Collections class

Method name	Description
<code>binarySearch(list, value)</code>	returns the index of the given value in a sorted list (< 0 if not found)
<code>copy(listTo, listFrom)</code>	copies listFrom 's elements to listTo
<code>emptyList()</code> , <code>emptyMap()</code> , <code>emptySet()</code>	returns a read-only collection of the given type that has no elements
<code>fill(list, value)</code>	sets every element in the list to have the given value
<code>max(collection)</code> , <code>min(collection)</code>	returns largest/smallest element
<code>replaceAll(list, old, new)</code>	replaces an element value with another
<code>reverse(list)</code>	reverses the order of a list's elements
<code>shuffle(list)</code>	arranges elements into a random order
<code>sort(list)</code>	arranges elements into ascending order

Ordering and objects

- Can we `sort` an array of `Strings`?
 - Operators like `<` and `>` do not work with `String` objects.
 - But we do think of strings as having an alphabetical ordering.
- **natural ordering**: Rules governing the relative placement of all values of a given type.
- **comparison function**: Code that, when given two values *A* and *B* of a given type, decides their relative ordering:
 - $A < B$, $A == B$, $A > B$

The compareTo method (10.2)

- The standard way for a Java class to define a comparison function for its objects is to define a `compareTo` method.
 - Example: in the `String` class, there is a method:

```
public int compareTo(String other)
```
- A call of `A.compareTo(B)` will return:
 - a value `< 0` if **A** comes "before" **B** in the ordering,
 - a value `> 0` if **A** comes "after" **B** in the ordering,
 - or `0` if **A** and **B** are considered "equal" in the ordering.

Using compareTo

- compareTo can be used as a test in an if statement.

```
String a = "alice";  
String b = "bob";  
if (a.compareTo(b) < 0) { // true  
    ...  
}
```

Primitives	Objects
if (a < b) { ...	if (a.compareTo(b) < 0) { ...
if (a <= b) { ...	if (a.compareTo(b) <= 0) { ...
if (a == b) { ...	if (a.compareTo(b) == 0) { ...
if (a != b) { ...	if (a.compareTo(b) != 0) { ...
if (a >= b) { ...	if (a.compareTo(b) >= 0) { ...
if (a > b) { ...	if (a.compareTo(b) > 0) { ...

compareTo and collections

- You can use an array or list of strings with Java's included `binarySearch` method because it calls `compareTo` internally.

```
String[] a = {"al", "bob", "cari", "dan", "mike"};  
int index = Arrays.binarySearch(a, "dan"); // 3
```

- Java's `TreeSet/Map` use `compareTo` internally for ordering.
- A call to your `compareTo` method should return:
 - a value `< 0` if this object is "before" the other object,
 - a value `> 0` if this object is "after" the other object,
 - or `0` if this object is "equal" to the other.

Comparable (10.2)

```
public interface Comparable<E> {  
    public int compareTo(E other);  
}
```

- A class can implement the `Comparable` interface to define a natural ordering function for its objects.
- A call to your `compareTo` method should return:
 - a value `< 0` if this object is "before" the other object,
 - a value `> 0` if this object is "after" the other object,
 - or `0` if this object is "equal" to the other.
- If you want multiple orderings, use a `Comparator` instead (see Ch. 13.1)

Comparable template

```
public class name implements Comparable<name> {  
  
    ...  
  
    public int compareTo(name other) {  
        ...  
    }  
}
```

compareTo tricks

- *delegation trick* - If your object's fields are comparable (such as strings), use their `compareTo` results to help you:

```
// sort by employee name, e.g. "Jim" < "Susan"  
public int compareTo(Employee other) {  
    return name.compareTo(other.getName());  
}
```

- *toString trick* - If your object's `toString` representation is related to the ordering, use that to help you:

```
// sort by date, e.g. "09/19" > "04/01"  
public int compareTo(Date other) {  
    return toString().compareTo(other.toString());  
}
```

compareTo tricks

- *subtraction trick* - Subtracting related values produces the right result for what you want compareTo to return:

```
// sort by x and break ties by y
public int compareTo(Point other) {
    if (x != other.x) {
        return x - other.x;    // different x
    } else {
        return y - other.y;    // same x; compare y
    }
}
```

- The idea:

- if $x > other.x$, then $x - other.x > 0$
- if $x < other.x$, then $x - other.x < 0$
- if $x == other.x$, then $x - other.x == 0$

- NOTE: This trick doesn't work for doubles (but see `Math.signum`)