

# Aggregation and Composition

[notes Chapter 4]

# Aggregation and Composition

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- ▶ the terms aggregation and composition are used to describe a relationship between objects
- ▶ both terms describe the *has-a* relationship
  - ▶ the university has-a collection of departments
  - ▶ each department has-a collection of professors

# Aggregation and Composition

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- ▶ composition implies ownership
  - ▶ if the university disappears then all of its departments disappear
  - ▶ a university is a *composition* of departments
  
- ▶ aggregation does not imply ownership
  - ▶ if a department disappears then the professors do not disappear
  - ▶ a department is an *aggregation* of professors

# Triangle Aggregation

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- ▶ if a client gets a reference to one of the triangle's points, then the client can change the position of the point *without asking the triangle*

```
pointB = new Point(0.0, 1.0, -3.0);
tri = new Triangle(new Point(-1.0, -1.0, -3.0),
                  pointB,
                  new Point(2.0, 0.0, -3.0));
```

client and triangle  
share a reference to  
**pointB**

```
// Draw triangle
gl.glBegin(GL2.GL_TRIANGLES);
gl.glColor3f(0.0f, 1.0f, 1.0f); // set the color
gl.glVertex3d(tri.getA().getX(),
              tri.getA().getY(),
              tri.getA().getZ());
gl.glVertex3d(tri.getB().getX(),
              tri.getB().getY(),
              tri.getB().getZ());
gl.glVertex3d(tri.getC().getX(),
              tri.getC().getY(),
              tri.getC().getZ());

gl.glEnd();
```

draw the triangle  
by asking **tri** for  
the coordinates  
of each of its points

```
// the client moves a point without help from the triangle
delta += 0.05f;
pointB.setY(1.0 + Math.sin(delta));
```

client uses **pointB**  
to change the point  
coordinates

# Composition

# Composition

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- ▶ recall that an object of type **X** that is composed of an object of type **Y** means
  - ▶ **X** has-a **Y** object *and*
  - ▶ **X** owns the **Y** object
- ▶ in other words

the **X** object, and only the **X** object, is responsible for its **Y** object

# Composition

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the **X** object, and only the **X** object, is responsible for its **Y** object

- ▶ this means that the **X** object will generally not share references to its **Y** object with clients
  - ▶ constructors will create new **Y** objects
  - ▶ accessors will return references to new **Y** objects
  - ▶ mutators will store references to new **Y** objects
- ▶ the “new **Y** objects” are called *defensive copies*



# Composition & the Default Constructor

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the **X** object, and only the **X** object, is responsible for its **Y** object

- ▶ if a default constructor is defined it must create a suitable **Y** object

```
public X()  
{  
    // create a suitable Y; for example  
    this.y = new Y( /* suitable arguments */ );  
}
```

defensive copy

# Test Your Knowledge

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1. Re-implement `Triangle` so that it is a composition of 3 points. Start by adding a default constructor to `Triangle` that creates 3 new `Point` objects with suitable values.

# Composition & Copy Constructor

---

the **X** object, and only the **X** object, is responsible for its **Y** object

- ▶ if a copy constructor is defined it must create a new **Y** that is a deep copy of the other **X** object's **Y** object

```
public X(X other)
{
    // create a new Y that is a copy of other.y
    this.y = new Y(other.getY());
}
```

defensive copy

# Composition & Copy Constructor

---

- ▶ what happens if the **X** copy constructor does not make a deep copy of the other **X** object's **Y** object?

```
// don't do this
public X(X other)
{
    this.y = other.y;
}
```

- ▶ every **X** object created with the copy constructor ends up sharing its **Y** object
  - ▶ if one **X** modifies its **Y** object, all **X** objects will end up with a modified **Y** object
  - ▶ this is called a privacy leak

# Test Your Knowledge

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1. Suppose  $\mathbf{Y}$  is an immutable type. Does the  $\mathbf{x}$  copy constructor need to create a new  $\mathbf{Y}$ ? Why or why not?
2. Implement the **Triangle** copy constructor.

3. Suppose you have a **Triangle** copy constructor and **main** method like so:

```
public Triangle(Triangle t)
{  this.pA = t.pA;  this.pB = t.pB;  this.pC = t.pC;  }

public static void main(String[] args) {
    Triangle t1 = new Triangle();
    Triangle t2 = new Triangle(t1);
    t1.getA().set( -100.0, -100.0, 5.0 );
    System.out.println( t2.getA() );
}
```

What does the program print? How many **Point** objects are there in memory? How many **Point** objects should be in memory?

# Composition & Other Constructors

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the **X** object, and only the **X** object, is responsible for its **Y** object

- ▶ a constructor that has a **Y** parameter must first deep copy and then validate the **Y** object

```
public X(Y y)
{
    // create a copy of y
    Y copyY = new Y(y); } defensive copy
    // validate; will throw an exception if copyY is invalid
    this.checkY(copyY);
    this.y = copyY;
}
```

# Composition and Other Constructors

---

- ▶ why is the deep copy required?

the **X** object, and only the **X** object, is responsible for its **Y** object

- ▶ if the constructor does this

```
// don't do this for composition
public X(Y y) {
    this.y = y;
}
```

then the client and the **X** object will share the same **Y** object

- ▶ this is called a privacy leak



# Test Your Knowledge

---

1. Suppose **Y** is an immutable type. Does the **X** constructor need to copy the other **X** object's **Y** object? Why or why not?
2. Implement the following **Triangle** constructor:

```
/**  
 * Create a Triangle from 3 points  
 * @param p1 The first point.  
 * @param p2 The second point.  
 * @param p3 The third point.  
 * @throws IllegalArgumentException if the 3 points are  
 *         not unique  
 */
```

Triangle has a class  
invariant: the 3 points  
of a Triangle are unique

# Composition and Accessors

---

the **X** object, and only the **X** object, is responsible for its **Y** object

- ▶ never return a reference to an attribute; always return a deep copy

```
public Y getY()  
{  
    return new Y(this.y);  
}
```

} defensive copy

# Composition and Accessors

---

- ▶ why is the deep copy required?

the **X** object, and only the **X** object, is responsible for its **Y** object

- ▶ if the accessor does this

```
// don't do this for composition
public Y getY() {
    return this.y;
}
```

then the client and the **X** object will share the same **Y** object

- ▶ this is called a privacy leak

# Test Your Knowledge

---

1. Suppose **Y** is an immutable type. Does the **x** accessor need to copy it's **Y** object before returning it? Why or why not?

2. Implement the following 3 **Triangle** accessors:

```
/**  
 * Get the first/second/third point of the triangle.  
 * @return The first/second/third point of the triangle  
 */
```

# Test Your Knowledge

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3. Given your **Triangle** accessors from question 2, can you write an improved **Triangle** copy constructor that does not make copies of the point attributes?

# Composition and Mutators

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the **X** object, and only the **X** object, is responsible for its **Y** object

- ▶ if **X** has a method that sets its **Y** object to a client-provided **Y** object then the method must make a deep copy of the client-provided **Y** object and validate it

```
public void setY(Y y)
{
    Y copyY = new Y(y); } defensive copy
    // validate; will throw an exception if copyY is invalid
    this.checkY(copyY);
    this.y = copyY;
}
```

# Composition and Mutators

---

- ▶ why is the deep copy required?

the **X** object, and only the **X** object, is responsible for its **Y** object

- ▶ if the mutator does this

```
// don't do this for composition
public void setY(Y y) {
    this.y = y;
}
```

then the client and the **X** object will share the same **Y** object

- ▶ this is called a privacy leak

# Test Your Knowledge

---

1. Suppose **Y** is an immutable type. Does the **x** mutator need to copy the **Y** object? Why or why not? Does it need to validate the **Y** object?
2. Implement the following 3 **Triangle** mutators:

```
/**  
 * Set the first/second/third point of the triangle.  
 * @param p The desired first/second/third point of  
 *           the triangle.  
 * @return true if the point could be set;  
 *           false otherwise  
 */
```

Triangle has a class  
invariant: the 3 points  
of a Triangle are unique



# Price of Defensive Copying

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- ▶ defensive copies are often required, but the price of defensive copying is time and memory needed to create and garbage collect lots of objects

# Period Class

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- ▶ adapted from Effective Java by Joshua Bloch
  - ▶ available online at <http://www.informit.com/articles/article.aspx?p=31551&seqNum=2>
- ▶ we want to implement a class that represents a period of time
  - ▶ a period has a start time and an end time
    - ▶ end time is always after the start time

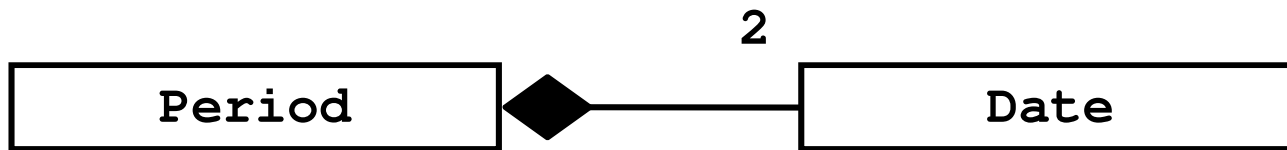
# Period Class

---

- ▶ we want to implement a class that represents a period of time
  - ▶ has-a **Date** representing the start of the time period
  - ▶ has-a **Date** representing the end of the time period
  - ▶ class invariant: start of time period is always prior to the end of the time period
  
- ▶ class invariant
  - ▶ some property of the state of the object that is established by a constructor and maintained between calls to public methods

# Period Class

---



Period is a composition  
of two Date objects

```
public final class Period {
    private Date start;
    private Date end;

    /**
     * @param start beginning of the period.
     * @param end end of the period; must not precede start.
     * @throws IllegalArgumentException if start is after end.
     * @throws NullPointerException if start or end is null
     */
    public Period(Date start, Date end) {
        if (start.compareTo(end) > 0) {
            throw new IllegalArgumentException("start after end");
        }
        this.start = start;
        this.end = end;
    }
}
```

# Test Your Knowledge

---

1. Is **Date** mutable or immutable?
2. Is **Period** implementing aggregation or composition?
3. Add 1 more line of client code to the following that shows how the client can break the class invariant:

```
Date start = new Date();  
Date end = new Date( start.getTime() + 10000 );  
Period p = new Period( start, end );
```

4. Fix the constructor.

```
/**
 * @return the start Date of the period
 */
public Date getStart()
{
    return this.start;
}
```

```
/**
 * @return the end Date of the period
 */
public Date getEnd()
{
    return this.end;
}
```

# Test Your Knowledge

---

1. Add 1 more line of client code to the following that shows how the client can break the class invariant using either of the **start** or **end** methods

```
Date start = new Date();  
Date end = new Date( start.getTime() + 10000 );  
Period p = new Period( start, end );
```



```
/**
 * Creates a time period by copying another time period.
 * @param other the time period to copy
 */
public Period( Period other )
{
    this.start = other.start;
    this.end = other.end;
}
```

# Test Your Knowledge

---

1. What does the following program print?

```
Date start = new Date();
Date end = new Date( start.getTime() + 10000 );
Period p1 = new Period( start, end );
Period p2 = new Period( p1 );
System.out.println( p1.getStart() == p2.getStart() );
System.out.println( p1.getEnd() == p2.getEnd() );
```

2. Fix the copy constructor.

**Date** does not provide a copy constructor. To copy a **Date** object **d**:

```
Date d = new Date();
Date dCopy = new Date( d.getTime() );
```

```
/**
 * Sets the start time of the period.
 * @param newStart the new starting time of the period
 * @return true if the new starting time is earlier than
 *         the current end time; false otherwise
 */
public boolean setStart(Date newStart)
{
    boolean ok = false;
    if ( newStart.compareTo(this.end) < 0 )
    {
        this.start = newStart;
        ok = true;
    }
    return ok;
}
```

# Test Your Knowledge

---

1. Add 1 more line of client code to the following that shows how the client can break the class invariant

```
Date start = new Date();  
Date end = new Date( start.getTime() + 10000 );  
Period p = new Period( start, end );  
p.setStart( start );
```

2. Fix the accessors and **setStart**.

# Privacy Leaks

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- ▶ a privacy leak occurs when a class exposes a reference to a non-public field (that is not a primitive or immutable)
- ▶ given a class **X** that is a composition of a **Y**

```
public class X {  
    private Y y;  
    // ...  
}
```

these are all examples of privacy leaks

```
public X(Y y) {  
    this.y = y;  
}
```

```
public X(X other) {  
    this.y = other.y;  
}
```

```
public Y getY() {  
    return this.y;  
}
```

```
public void setY(Y y) {  
    this.y = y;  
}
```

# Consequences of Privacy Leaks

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- ▶ a privacy leak allows some other object to control the state of the object that leaked the field
  - ▶ the object state can become inconsistent
    - ▶ example: if a **CreditCard** exposes a reference to its expiry **Date** then a client could set the expiry date to before the issue date

# Consequences of Privacy Leaks

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- ▶ a privacy leak allows some other object to control the state of the object that leaked the field
  - ▶ it becomes impossible to guarantee class invariants
    - ▶ example: if a **Period** exposes a reference to one of its **Date** objects then the end of the period could be set to before the start of the period

# Consequences of Privacy Leaks

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- ▶ a privacy leak allows some other object to control the state of the object that leaked the field
  - ▶ composition becomes broken because the object no longer owns its attribute
    - ▶ when an object “dies” its parts may not die with it



# Recipe for Immutability

---

▶ the recipe for immutability in Java is described by Joshua Bloch in the book *Effective Java*\*

1. Do not provide any methods that can alter the state of the object
2. Prevent the class from being extended revisit when we talk about inheritance
3. Make all fields **final**
4. Make all fields **private**
5. Prevent clients from obtaining a reference to any mutable fields revisit when we talk about composition

# Immutability and Composition

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- ▶ why is Item 5 of the Recipe for Immutability needed?

# Collections as Attributes

Still Aggregation and Composition

# Motivation

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- ▶ often you will want to implement a class that has-a collection as an attribute
  - ▶ a university has-a collection of faculties and each faculty has-a collection of schools and departments
  - ▶ a molecule has-a collection of atoms
  - ▶ a person has-a collection of acquaintances
  - ▶ from the notes, a student has-a collection of GPAs and has-a collection of courses
  - ▶ a polygonal model has-a collection of triangles\*

\*polygons, actually, but triangles are easier to work with

# What Does a Collection Hold?

- ▶ a collection holds references to instances
  - ▶ it does not hold the instances

```
ArrayList<Date> dates =  
    new ArrayList<Date>();
```

```
Date d1 = new Date();  
Date d2 = new Date();  
Date d3 = new Date();
```

```
dates.add(d1);  
dates.add(d2);  
dates.add(d3);
```

100  
dates  
d1  
d2  
d3

200

client invocation
200
500
600
700
...
ArrayList object
500
600
700

# Test Your Knowledge

---

1. What does the following print?

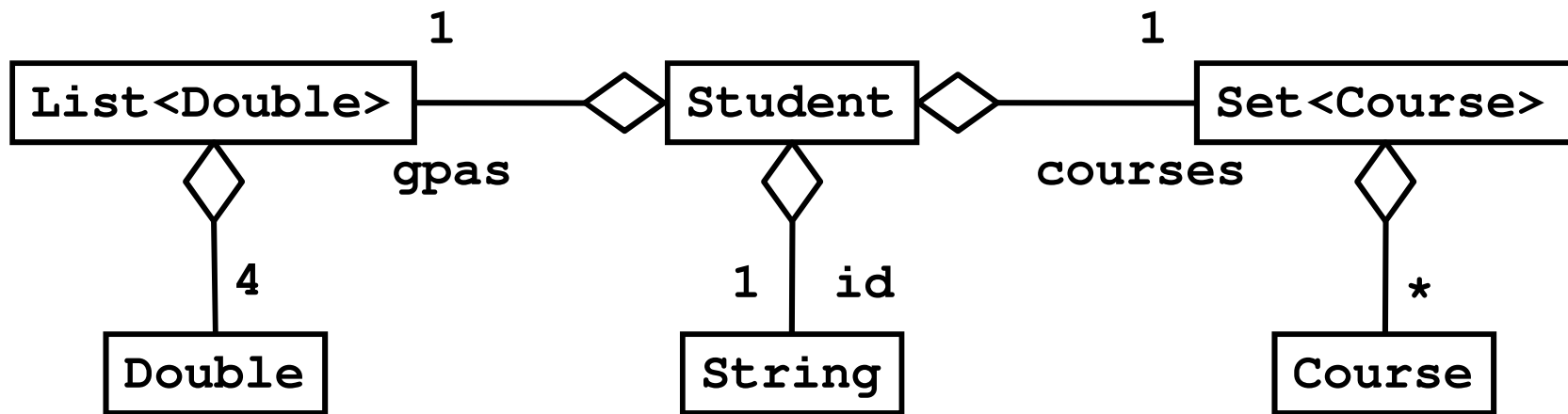
```
ArrayList<Point> pts = new ArrayList<Point>();  
Point p = new Point(0., 0., 0.);  
pts.add(p);  
p.setX( 10.0 );  
System.out.println(p);  
System.out.println(pts.get(0));
```

2. Is an **ArrayList<X>** an aggregation of **X** or a composition of **X**?

# Student Class (from notes)

---

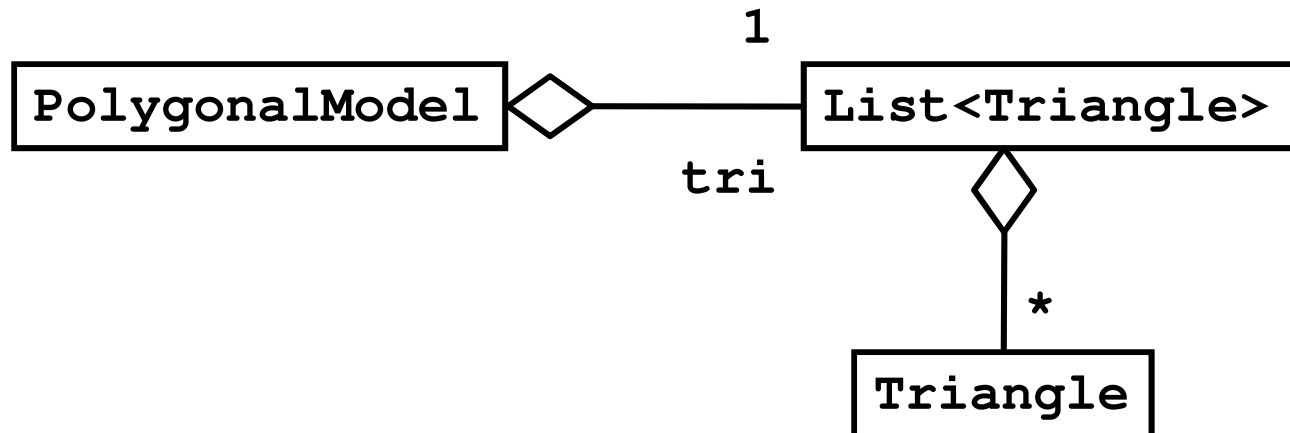
- ▶ a Student has-a string id
- ▶ a Student has-a collection of yearly GPAs
- ▶ a Student has-a collection of courses



# PolygonalModel Class

---

- ▶ a polygonal model has-a **List** of **Triangles**
  - ▶ aggregation
- ▶ implements **Iterable<Triangle>**
  - ▶ allows clients to access each **Triangle** sequentially
- ▶ class invariant
  - ▶ **List** never null





# Iterable Interface

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- ▶ implementing this interface allows an object to be the target of the "foreach" statement
- ▶ must provide the following method

```
Iterator<T> iterator()
```

Returns an iterator over a set of elements of type T.

# PolygonalModel

---

```
class PolygonalModel implements Iterable<Triangle>
{
    private List<Triangle> tri;

    public PolygonalModel()
    {
        this.tri = new ArrayList<Triangle>();
    }

    public Iterator<Triangle> iterator()
    {
        return this.tri.iterator();
    }
}
```

# PolygonalModel

---

```
public void clear()
{
    // removes all Triangles
    this.tri.clear();
}

public int size()
{
    // returns the number of Triangles
    return this.tri.size();
}
```

# Collections as Attributes

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- ▶ when using a collection as an attribute of a class **X** you need to decide on ownership issues
  - ▶ does **X** own or share its collection?
  - ▶ if **X** owns the collection, does **X** own the objects held in the collection?

# **X** Shares its Collection with other **X**s

---

- ▶ if **X** shares its collection with other **X** instances, then the copy constructor does not need to create a new collection
  - ▶ the copy constructor can simply assign its collection
  - ▶ [notes 4.3.3] refer to this as aliasing

# PolygonalModel Copy Constructor 1

---

```
public PolygonalModel(PolygonalModel p)
{
    // implements aliasing (sharing) with other
    // PolygonalModel instances
    this.setTriangles( p.getTriangles() );
}
```

```
private List<Triangle> getTriangles()
{ return this.tri; }
```

```
private void setTriangles(List<Triangle> tri)
{ this.tri = tri; }
```

alias: no new **List**  
created

# Test Your Knowledge

---

1. Suppose you have a **PolygonalModel** **p1** that has 100 **Triangles**. What does the following code print?

```
PolygonalModel p2 = new PolygonalModel(p1);  
p2.clear();  
System.out.println( p2.size() );  
System.out.println( p1.size() );
```

# X Owns its Collection: Shallow Copy

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- ▶ if **x** owns its collection but not the objects in the collection then the copy constructor can perform a shallow copy of the collection
- ▶ a shallow copy of a collection means
  - ▶ **x** creates a new collection
  - ▶ the references in the collection are aliases for references in the other collection



# X Owns its Collection: Shallow Copy

---

- ▶ the hard way to perform a shallow copy

```
// assume there is an ArrayList<Date> dates
ArrayList<Date> sCopy = new ArrayList<Date> ();
for(Date d : dates)
{
    sCopy.add(d);
}
```

**add** does not create  
new objects

shallow copy: new **List**  
created but elements  
are all aliases

# X Owns its Collection: Shallow Copy

---

- ▶ the easy way to perform a shallow copy

```
// assume there is an ArrayList<Date> dates  
ArrayList<Date> sCopy = new ArrayList<Date>(dates);
```

# X Owns its Collection: Deep Copy

---

- ▶ if **x** owns its collection and the objects in the collection then the copy constructor must perform a deep copy of the collection
- ▶ a deep copy of a collection means
  - ▶ **x** creates a new collection
  - ▶ the references in the collection are references to new objects (that are copies of the objects in other collection)

# X Owns its Collection: Deep Copy

---

- ▶ how to perform a deep copy

```
// assume there is an ArrayList<Date> dates
ArrayList<Date> dCopy = new ArrayList<Date>();
for(Date d : dates)
{
    dCopy.add(new Date(d.getTime()));
}
```

constructor invocation  
creates a new object

deep copy: new **List**  
created and new  
elements created

# Inheritance

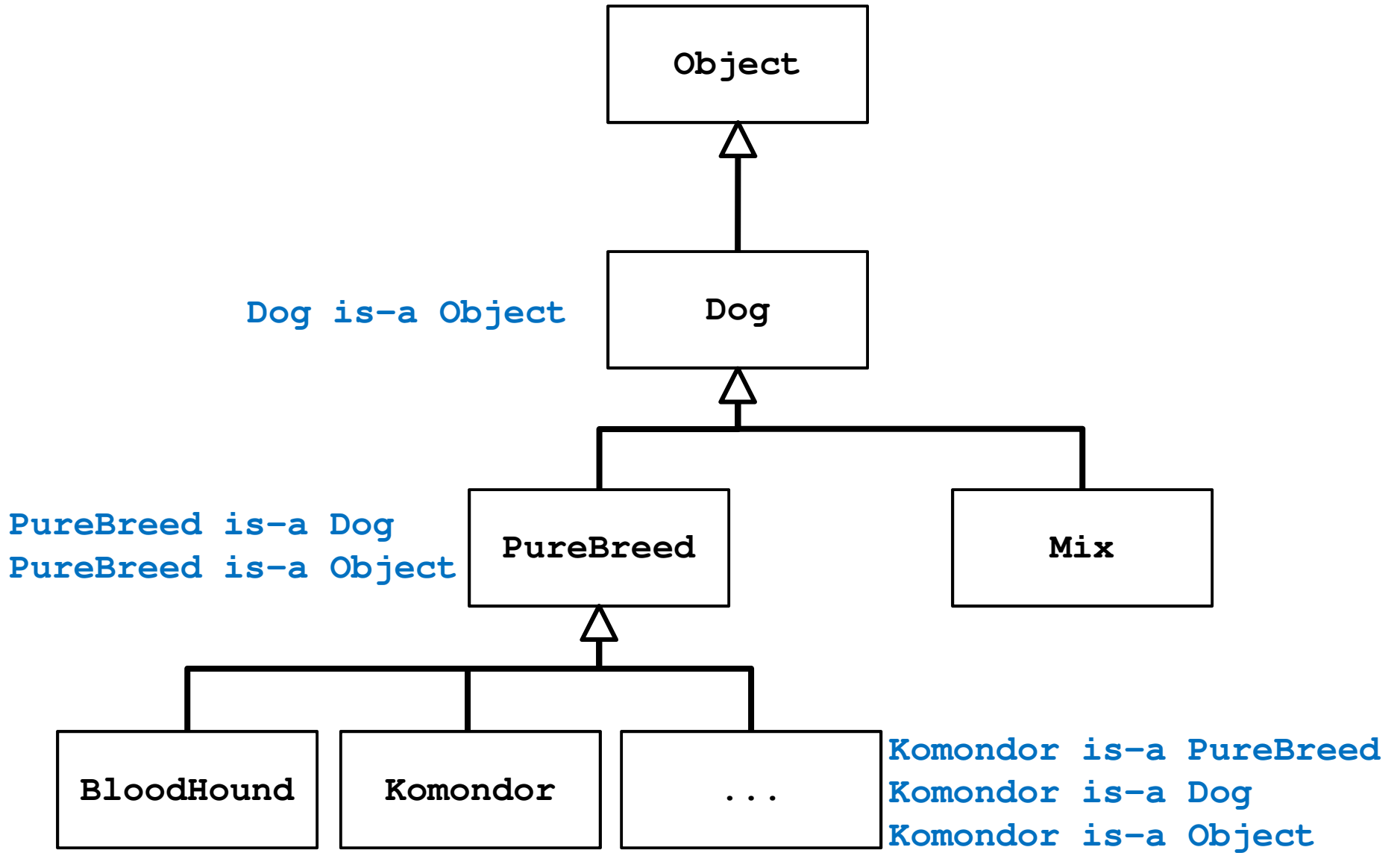
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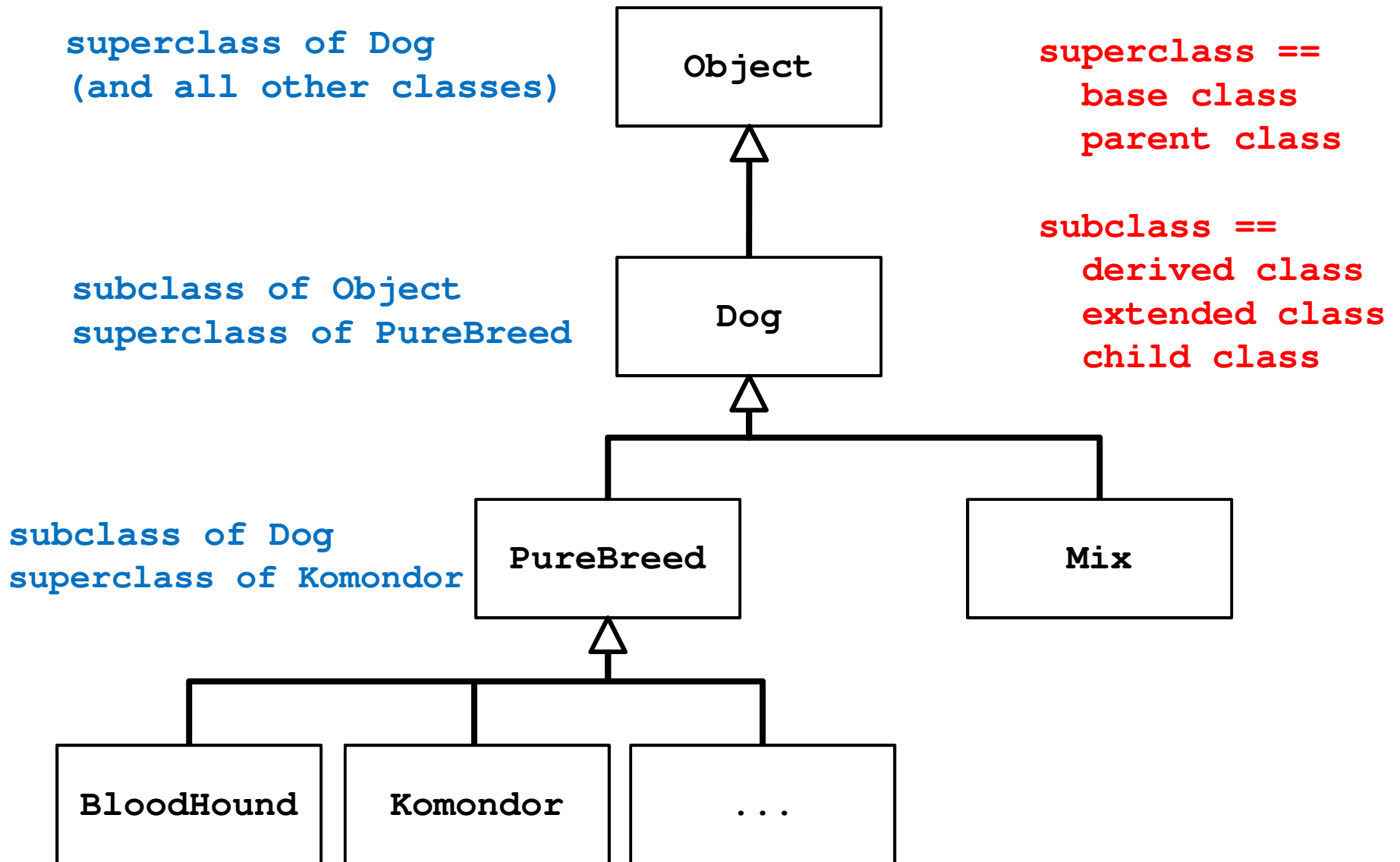
# Inheritance

---

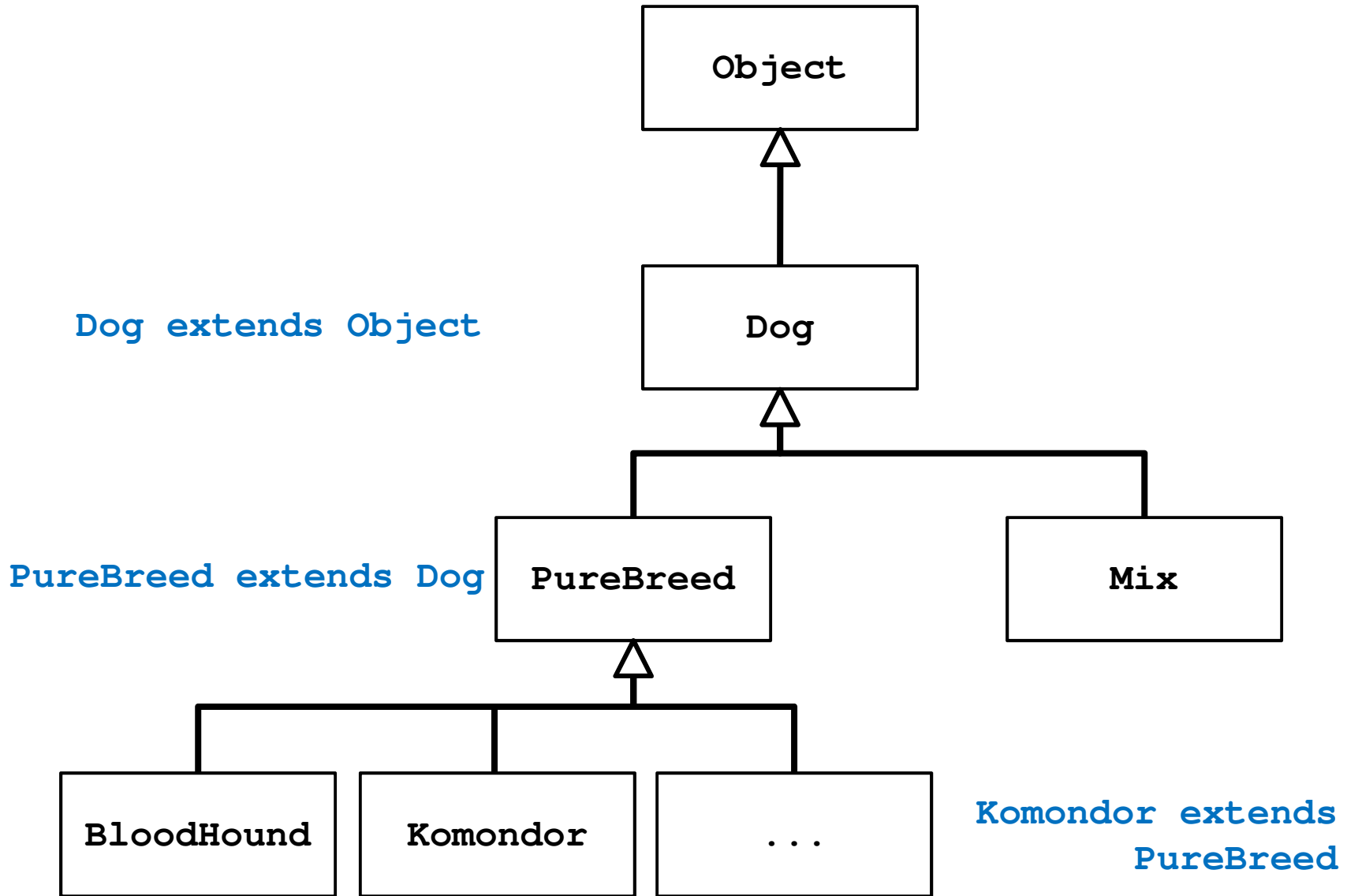
- ▶ you know a lot about an object by knowing its class
  - ▶ for example what is a Komondor?











# Some Definitions

---

- ▶ we say that a subclass is derived from its superclass
- ▶ with the exception of **Object**, every class in Java has one and only one superclass
  - ▶ Java only supports *single inheritance*
- ▶ a class **X** can be derived from a class that is derived from a class, and so on, all the way back to **Object**
  - ▶ **X** is said to be descended from all of the classes in the inheritance chain going back to **Object**
  - ▶ all of the classes **X** is derived from are called ancestors of **X**

# Why Inheritance?

---

- ▶ a subclass inherits all of the non-private members (attributes and methods *but not constructors*) from its superclass
  - ▶ if there is an existing class that provides some of the functionality you need you can derive a new class from the existing class
  - ▶ the new class has direct access to the **public** and **protected** attributes and methods without having to re-declare or re-implement them
  - ▶ the new class can introduce new fields and methods
  - ▶ the new class can re-define (override) its superclass methods

# Is-A

---

- ▶ inheritance models the is-a relationship between classes
- ▶ from a Java point of view, is-a means you can use a derived class instance in place of an ancestor class instance

```
public someMethod(Dog dog)
{ // does something with dog }

// client code of someMethod

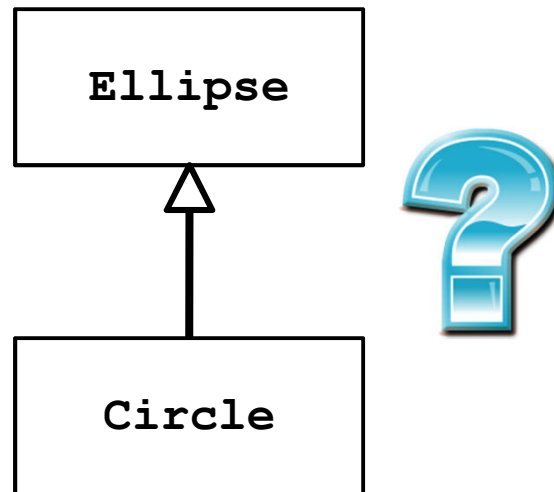
Komondor shaggy = new Komondor();
someMethod( shaggy );

Mix mutt = new Mix ();
someMethod( mutt );
```

# Is-A Pitfalls

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- ▶ is-a has nothing to do with the real world
- ▶ is-a has everything to do with how the implementer has modelled the inheritance hierarchy
- ▶ the classic example:
  - ▶ **Circle** is-a **Ellipse**?



# Circle is-a Ellipse?

---

- ▶ if **Ellipse** can do something that **Circle** cannot, then **Circle** is-a **Ellipse** is false
- ▶ remember: is-a means you can substitute a derived class instance for one of its ancestor instances
  - ▶ if **Circle** cannot do something that **Ellipse** can do then you cannot (safely) substitute a **Circle** instance for an **Ellipse** instance

---

```
// method in Ellipse
/*
 * Change the width and height of the ellipse.
 * @param width The desired width.
 * @param height The desired height.
 * @pre. width > 0 && height > 0
 */
public void setSize(double width, double height)
{
    this.width = width;
    this.height = height;
}
```

- 
- ▶ there is no good way for **Circle** to support **setSize** (assuming that the attributes **width** and **height** are always the same for a **Circle**) because clients expect **setSize** to set both the width and height
  - ▶ can't **Circle** override **setSize** so that it throws an exception if **width != height**?
    - ▶ no; this will surprise clients because **Ellipse setSize** does not throw an exception if **width != height**
  - ▶ can't **Circle** override **setSize** so that it sets **width == height**?
    - ▶ no; this will surprise clients because **Ellipse setSize** says that the **width** and **height** can be different



- 
- ▶ But I have a Ph.D. in Mathematics, and I'm *sure* a Circle is a kind of an Ellipse! Does this mean Marshall Cline is stupid? Or that C++ is stupid? Or that OO is stupid? [C++ FAQs <http://www.parashift.com/c++-faq-lite/proper-inheritance.html#faq-21.8> ]
  - ▶ Actually, it doesn't mean any of these things. But I'll tell you what it does mean — you may not like what I'm about to say: it means your intuitive notion of "kind of" is leading you to make bad inheritance decisions. Your tummy is lying to you about what good inheritance really means — stop believing those lies.

- 
- ▶ what if there is no **setSize** method?
    - ▶ if a **Circle** can do everything an **Ellipse** can do then **Circle** can extend **Ellipse**

# Implementing Inheritance

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- ▶ suppose you want to implement an inheritance hierarchy that represents breeds of dogs for the purpose of helping people decide what kind of dog would be appropriate for them
- ▶ many possible fields:
  - ▶ appearance, size, energy, grooming requirements, amount of exercise needed, protectiveness, compatibility with children, etc.
  - ▶ we will assume two fields measured on a 10 point scale
    - ▶ size from 1 (small) to 10 (giant)
    - ▶ energy from 1 (lazy) to 10 (high energy)

# Dog

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```
public class Dog extends Object
{
    private int size;
    private int energy;

    // creates an "average" dog
    Dog()
    { this(5, 5); }

    Dog(int size, int energy)
    { this.setSize(size); this.setEnergy(energy); }
```

---

```
public int getSize()  
{ return this.size; }
```

```
public int getEnergy()  
{ return this.energy; }
```

```
public final void setSize(int size)  
{ this.size = size; }
```

```
public final void setEnergy(int energy)  
{ this.energy = energy; }  
}
```

why final? stay tuned...

# What is a Subclass?

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- ▶ a subclass looks like a new class that has the same API as its superclass with perhaps some additional methods and fields
- ▶ inheritance does more than copy the API of the superclass
  - ▶ the derived class contains a subobject of the parent class
  - ▶ the superclass subobject needs to be constructed (just like a regular object)
    - ▶ the mechanism to perform the construction of the superclass subobject is to call the superclass constructor

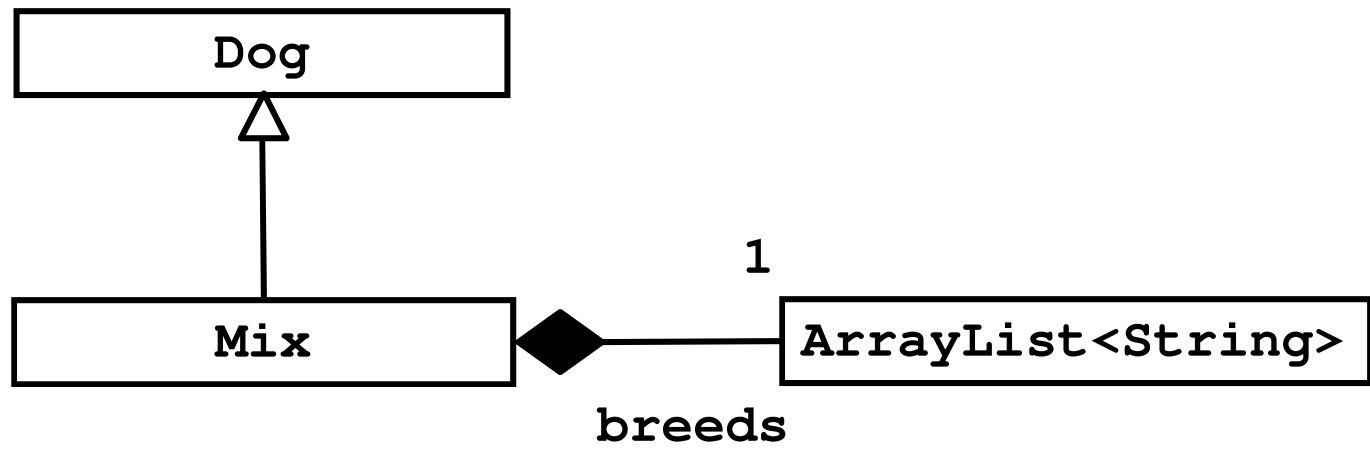
# Constructors of Subclasses

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1. the first line in the body of every constructor **must** be a call to another constructor
  - ▶ if it is not then Java will insert a call to the superclass default constructor
    - ▶ if the superclass default constructor does not exist or is private then a compilation error occurs
2. a call to another constructor can only occur on the first line in the body of a constructor
3. the superclass constructor must be called during construction of the derived class

# Mix UML Diagram

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# Mix (version 1)

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```
public final class Mix extends Dog
{ // no declaration of size or energy; inherited from Dog
  private ArrayList<String> breeds;

  public Mix ()
  { // call to a Dog constructor
    super();
    this.breeds = new ArrayList<String>();
  }

  public Mix(int size, int energy)
  { // call to a Dog constructor
    super(size, energy);
    this.breeds = new ArrayList<String>();
  }
}
```

---

```
public Mix(int size, int energy,  
           ArrayList<String> breeds)  
{ // call to a Dog constructor  
  super(size, energy);  
  this.breeds = new ArrayList<String>(breeds);  
}
```

# Mix (version 2)

---

```
public final class Mix extends Dog
{ // no declaration of size or energy; inherited from Dog
  private ArrayList<String> breeds;

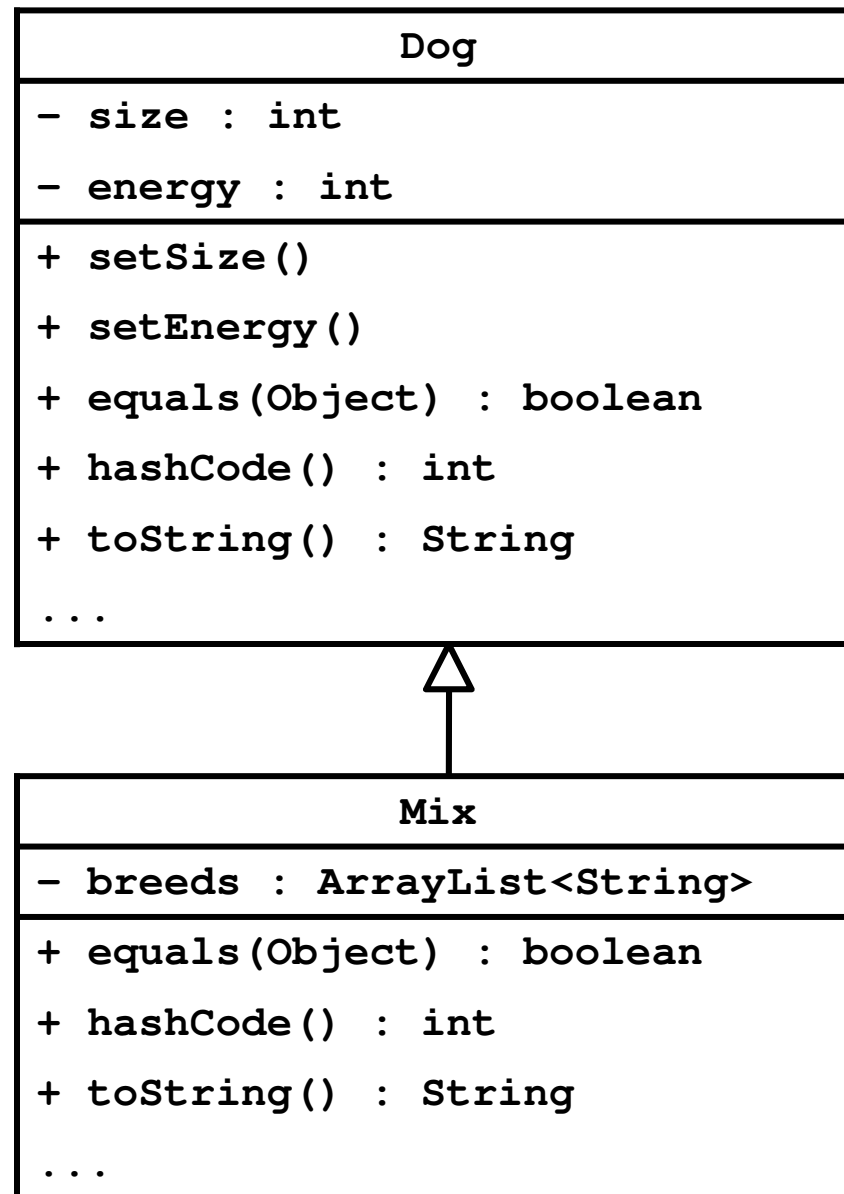
  public Mix ()
  { // call to a Mix constructor
    this(5, 5);
  }

  public Mix(int size, int energy)
  { // call to a Mix constructor
    this(size, energy, new ArrayList<String>());
  }
}
```

---

```
public Mix(int size, int energy,  
           ArrayList<String> breeds)  
{ // call to a Dog constructor  
  super(size, energy);  
  this.breeds = new ArrayList<String>(breeds);  
}
```

- 
- ▶ why is the constructor call to the superclass needed?
    - ▶ because **Mix** is-a **Dog** and the **Dog** part of **Mix** needs to be constructed



```
Mix mutt = new Mix(1, 10);
```

1. **Mix** constructor starts running
  - creates new **Dog** subobject by invoking the **Dog** constructor
    2. **Dog** constructor starts running
      - creates new **Object** subobject by (silently) invoking the **Object** constructor
        3. **Object** constructor runs
          - sets **size** and **energy**
  - creates a new empty **ArrayList** and assigns it to **breeds**



# Invoking the Superclass Ctor

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- ▶ why is the constructor call to the superclass needed?
  - ▶ because **Mix** is-a **Dog** and the **Dog** part of **Mix** needs to be constructed
    - ▶ similarly, the **Object** part of **Dog** needs to be constructed



# Invoking the Superclass Ctor

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- ▶ a derived class can only call its own constructors or the constructors of its immediate superclass
  - ▶ **Mix** can call **Mix** constructors or **Dog** constructors
  - ▶ **Mix** cannot call the **Object** constructor
    - ▶ **Object** is not the immediate superclass of **Mix**
  - ▶ **Mix** cannot call **PureBreed** constructors
    - ▶ cannot call constructors across the inheritance hierarchy
  - ▶ **PureBreed** cannot call **Komondor** constructors
    - ▶ cannot call subclass constructors

# Constructors & Overridable Methods

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- ▶ if a class is intended to be extended then its constructor must not call an overridable method
  - ▶ Java does not enforce this guideline
- ▶ why?
  - ▶ recall that a derived class object has inside of it an object of the superclass
  - ▶ the superclass object is always constructed first, then the subclass constructor completes construction of the subclass object
  - ▶ the superclass constructor will call the overridden version of the method (the subclass version) even though the subclass object has not yet been constructed

# Superclass Ctor & Overridable Method

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```
public class SuperDuper
{
    public SuperDuper()
    {
        // call to an over-ridable method; bad
        this.overrideMe();
    }

    public void overrideMe()
    {
        System.out.println("SuperDuper overrideMe");
    }
}
```

# Subclass Overrides Method

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```
public class SubbyDubby extends SuperDuper {
    private final Date date;

    public SubbyDubby()
    { super(); this.date = new Date(); }

    @Override public void overrideMe()
    { System.out.print("SubbyDubby overrideMe : ");
      System.out.println( this.date ); }

    public static void main(String[] args)
    { SubbyDubby sub = new SubbyDubby();
      sub.overrideMe(); }
}
```

- 
- ▶ the programmer's intent was probably to have the program print:

```
SuperDuper overrideMe
```

```
SubbyDubby overrideMe : <the date>
```

or, if the call to the overridden method was intentional

```
SubbyDubby overrideMe : <the date>
```

```
SubbyDubby overrideMe : <the date>
```

- ▶ but the program prints:

```
SubbyDubby overrideMe : null
```

```
SubbyDubby overrideMe : <the date>
```

final attribute in  
two different states!

# What's Going On?

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1. **new SubbyDubby ()** calls the **SubbyDubby** constructor
2. the **SubbyDubby** constructor calls the **SuperDuper** constructor
3. the **SuperDuper** constructor calls the method **overrideMe** which is overridden by **SubbyDubby**
4. the **SubbyDubby** version of **overrideMe** prints the **SubbyDubby date** attribute which has not yet been assigned to by the **SubbyDubby** constructor (so **date** is null)
5. the **SubbyDubby** constructor assigns **date**
6. **SubbyDubby overrideMe** is called by the client

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- ▶ remember to make sure that your base class constructors only call **final** methods or **private** methods
    - ▶ if a base class constructor calls an overridden method, the method will run in an unconstructed derived class

# Other Methods

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- ▶ methods in a subclass will often need or want to call methods in the immediate superclass
  - ▶ a new method in the subclass can call any **public** or **protected** method in the superclass without using any special syntax
- ▶ a subclass can override a **public** or **protected** method in the superclass by declaring a method that has the same signature as the one in the superclass
  - ▶ a subclass method that overrides a superclass method can call the overridden superclass method using the **super** keyword



# Dog equals

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- ▶ we will assume that two **Dogs** are equal if their size and energy are the same

```
@Override public boolean equals(Object obj)
{
    boolean eq = false;
    if(obj != null && this.getClass() == obj.getClass())
    {
        Dog other = (Dog) obj;
        eq = this.getSize() == other.getSize() &&
            this.getEnergy() == other.getEnergy();
    }
    return eq;
}
```

# Mix equals (version 1)

---

- ▶ two Mix instances are equal if their Dog subobjects are equal and they have the same breeds

```
@Override public boolean equals(Object obj)
{ // the hard way
  boolean eq = false;
  if(obj != null && this.getClass() == obj.getClass()) {
    Mix other = (Mix) obj;
    eq = this.getSize() == other.getSize() &&
        this.getEnergy() == other.getEnergy() &&
        this.breeds.size() == other.breeds.size() &&
        this.breeds.containsAll(other.breeds);
  }
  return eq;
}
```

subclass can call  
public method of  
the superclass

# Mix equals (version 2)

---

- ▶ two Mix instances are equal if their Dog subobjects are equal and they have the same breeds
  - ▶ Dog equals already tests if two Dog instances are equal
  - ▶ Mix equals can call Dog equals to test if the Dog subobjects are equal, and then test if the breeds are equal
- ▶ also notice that Dog equals already checks that the Object argument is not null and that the classes are the same
  - ▶ Mix equals does not have to do these checks again

---

```
@Override public boolean equals(Object obj)
{
    boolean eq = false;
    if (super.equals(obj))
    { // the Dog subobjects are equal
        Mix other = (Mix) obj;
        eq = this.breeds.size() == other.breeds.size() &&
            this.breeds.containsAll(other.breeds);
    }
    return eq;
}
```

# Dog toString

---

```
@Override public String toString()
{
    String s = "size " + this.getSize() +
               "energy " + this.getEnergy();
    return s;
}
```

# Mix toString

---

```
@Override public String toString()  
{  
    StringBuffer b = new StringBuffer();  
    b.append(super.toString());  
    for(String s : this.breeds)  
        b.append(" " + s);  
    b.append(" mix");  
    return b.toString();  
}
```

# Dog hashCode

---

```
// similar to code generated by Eclipse
@Override public int hashCode()
{
    final int prime = 31;
    int result = 1;
    result = prime * result + this.getEnergy();
    result = prime * result + this.getSize();
    return result;
}
```

# Mix hashCode

---

```
// similar to code generated by Eclipse
@Override public int hashCode()
{
    final int prime = 31;
    int result = super.hashCode();
    result = prime * result + this.breeds.hashCode();
    return result;
}
```



# Mix Memory Diagram

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- inherited from superclass
- private in superclass
- not accessible by name to Mix

500	<b>Mix object</b>
<i>size</i>	5
<i>energy</i>	5
<b>breeds</b>	1750