Algorithmic Thinking and Structured Programming (in Greenfoot)

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Computational thinking

Working in a structured manner:

- Breaking problems down into subproblems
- Design, solve and test solutions to subproblems
- Combing these (sub)solutions to solve problem
- Analyzing the quality of a solution
- Reflecting about the solution chosen and proces
- Generalizing and re-use of existing solutions

Today's Lesson plan (2)

- 15 min Pre-test: what DID you already know?
- Blocks of theory and exercises
 - Finish assignment 1
 - Begin assignment 2
- 10 min Wrapping up
 - Saving work
 - Handing-in
 - Plenary reflection

Last weeks homework:

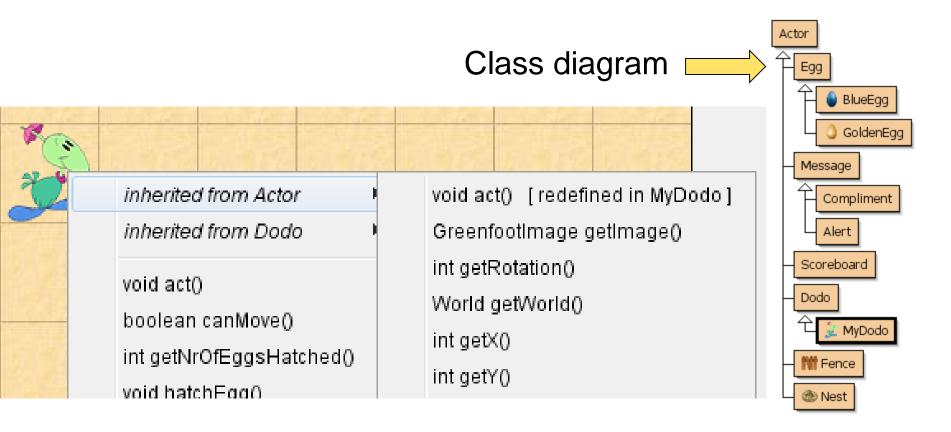
Methods:

- Mutator methods such as void move()
- Accessor methods such as boolean canMove()
- Result types such as int, boolean, void
- Java is an Object Oriented Programming (OOP) language
- □ In OOP, objects (such as MyDodo) have:
 - Methods (what it can do)
 - States (what it knows / is)

Objects and classes

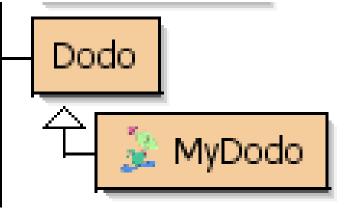
Every object belongs to a class.

- a class provides the blueprint for objects
- Mimi is an instance (or object) of the MyDodo class



Inheritance

- Class diagram
- Mimi is a MyDodo, so:

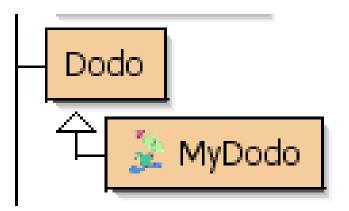


- Mimi can perform MyDodo methods, such as:
 - void move()
- But a MyDodo is a Dodo
 - Mimi can also perform all Dodo methods too!
 - void layEgg()
- MyDodo is a subclass of Dodo
 Dodo is a superclass of MyDodo

Exercise: inheritance

Imagine a new Dodo species: IntelligentDodo

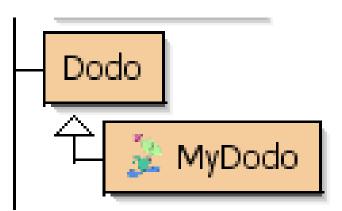
- Sketch the class diagram
- Which is subclass? Which is superclass?



Exercise: inheritance

Imagine a new Dodo species: IntelligentDodo

- What methods does IntelligentDodo get for free from her superclass?
- If we write a new IntelligentDodo method: public void readBook()
 Which class(es) can use that method (more than one answer is possible):
 - a) IntelligentDodo
 - b) MyDodo
 - c) Dodo
 - d) Actor
 - e) Mimi

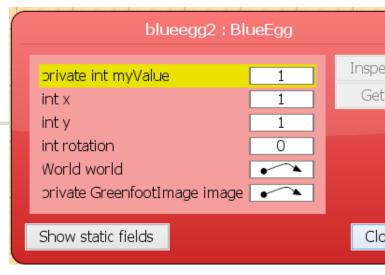


State of an object

Every object has a state: its data

3 Egg objects

- have the same methods (can do the same things)
- but are different objects (or instances)
- Each can have an own state
 - for example: different coordinates



0 or 1 Results

A method can return one result:

- Example: public int getNrOfEggsHatched()
- Returns an int (whole number) as a result
- A method can have NO results
 - public void move()
 - Returns void (nothing) as a result

A method cannot return more than one result

0 or more Parameters

A method can have:

zero parameters:

- Example: public void move()
- Has no parameters

• one parameter:

- Example: public void jump (int distance)
- Has one parameter: distance
- Type of the parameter: int

more than one parameter:

Example:

public void jumpToLocation(int xCoord, int yCoord)

Has two parameters: xCoord and yCoord

Generic methods and parameters

Method with parameters can be used for more things

- jump(1): Mimi jumps 1 place forward
- jump(2): Mimi jumps 2 places forward
- jump(100): Mimi jumps 100 places forward
- Method without parameters can only be used for 1 thing:
 - move(): Mimi moves 1 place forward
- Generic: method with parameters is more generic, because it can be used in more situations.
- □ We LIKE generic methods! They're SMART.

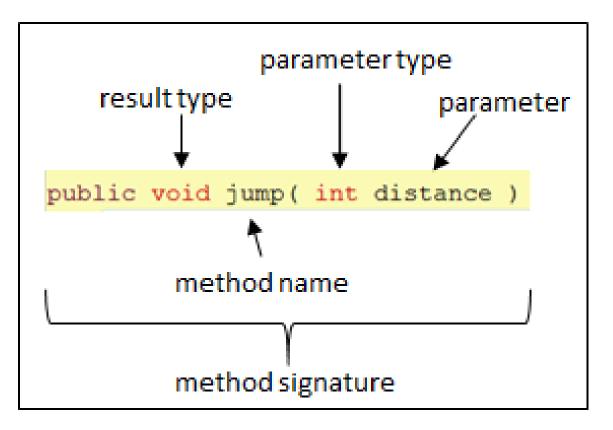


Results and parameters have types

Examples:

Туре	Meaning	Example
int	whole number	2
boolean	'true' or 'false'	true
String	text	"I lost my pen."
List	list	[1,2,3]

Signature



Intermezzo: Assignment

Download and unzip the scenario 2 at http://www.cs.ru.nl/~S.Smetsers/Greenfoot/Dominicus/

Class will continue in 15 minutes

Algorithm

Algorithm: precise set of instructions

- For a certain problem (initial situation)
- Always leads to exact same outcome (final situation)
- Like a recipe, but more precise
- Program code: algorithm written specifically for a computer



"Time flies like an arrow"

What could this mean?

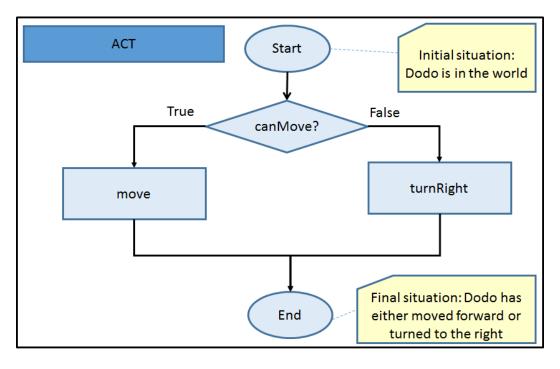
Language ambiguous

"Time flies like an arrow"

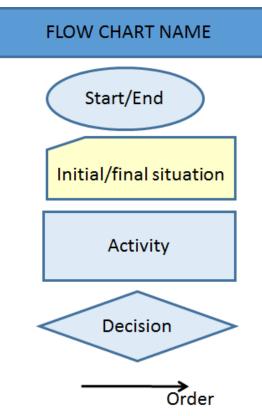
- Time moves fast, like an arrow moves fast
- Measure the speed of flies which resemble arrows
- Measure the speed of flies in the same way you would measure the speed of an arrow
- Insects of a type known as 'time flies' are fond of arrows
- "Flies like an arrow" is the name of an American Indian. Time him

Flowchart: visualize algorithm

Flowchart:

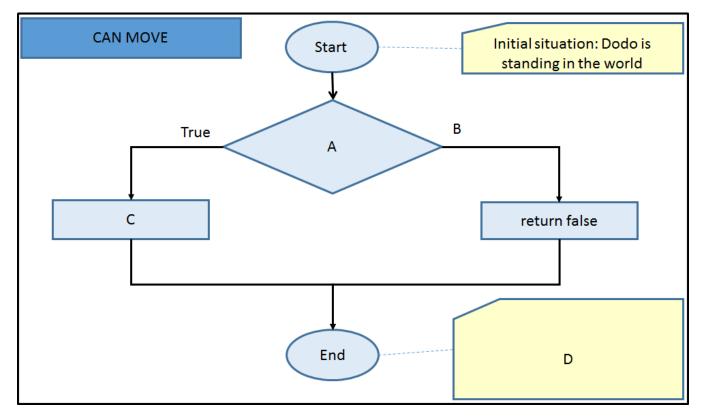


Key:



Exercise: Flowchart

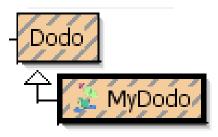
Flowchart visualizing the algorithm boolean canMove():



□ What are A, B, C and D?

Compiling, running & testing code

Need compiling:



Compile:

Fix error messages

Test:

- Right-click on object & choose method to test
- Check if works as expected
 - i.e. Compare initial and final situation with flowchart
- Not OK? Check if code is same as flowchart
- Still not OK? Check if flowchart same as algorithm

Wrapping up

Save your work! Discuss how/when to finish off and who will turn it in.

Homework:

- Download scenario 2 at http://www.cs.ru.nl/~S.Smetsers/Greenfoot/Dominicus/
- Finish Assignment 1:
 - 5.5 until and incl 5.10
 - Diagnostic test 6.1 and check own answers 6.2
- Assignment 2: Until and incl 5.2 (lots of reading)
- Hand via email to sjaaksm@live.com
- □ ALSO: 5.1.2 ex 4 (or photo or scan)