

Topic 5

Implementing Classes

“And so, from Europe, we get things such ... object-oriented analysis and design (a clever way of breaking up software programming instructions and data into small, reusable objects, based on certain abstraction principles and design hierarchies.)”

*-Michael A. Cusumano,
The Business Of Software*



Definitions

Object Oriented Programming

- ▶ What is object oriented programming?
- ▶ "Object-oriented programming is a method of programming based on a hierarchy of classes, and well-defined and cooperating objects. "
- ▶ What is a class?
- ▶ "A class is a structure that defines the data and the methods to work on that data. When you write programs in the Java language, all program data is wrapped in a class, whether it is a class you write or a class you use from the Java platform API libraries."

– [Sun code camp](#)

Classes Are ...

- ▶ Another, simple definition:
- ▶ A class is a programmer defined data type.
- ▶ A data type is a set of possible values and the operations that can be performed on those values
- ▶ Example:
 - single digit positive base 10 ints
 - 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9
 - operations: add, subtract
 - problems?

Data Types

- ▶ Computer Languages come with built in data types
- ▶ In Java, the primitive data types, native arrays
- ▶ Most computer languages provide a way for the programmer to define their own data types
 - Java comes with a large library of classes
- ▶ So object oriented programming is a way of programming that is dominated by creating new data types to solve a problem.
- ▶ We will look at how to create a new data type

A Very Short and Incomplete History of Object Oriented Programming. (OOP)

OOP is not new.

- ▶ Simula 1 (1962 - 1965) and Simula 67 (1967) Norwegian Computing Center, Oslo, Norway by Ole-Johan Dahl and Kristen Nygaard.



Dahl and Nygaard at the time of Simula's development

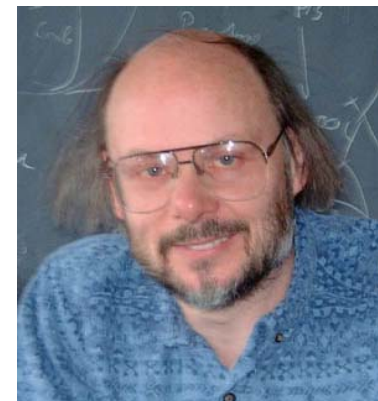
Turing Award Winners - 2001

OOP Languages

- ▶ Smalltalk (1970s), Alan Kay's group at Xerox PARC



- ▶ C++ (early 1980s), Bjarne Stroustrup, Bell Labs



OOP Languages

- ▶ Modula – 3, Oberon, Eiffel, Java, C#, Python
 - many languages have some Object Oriented version or capability
- ▶ One of the dominant styles for implementing complex programs with large numbers of interacting components
 - ... but not the only programming paradigm and there are variations on object oriented programming

Program Design in OOP

- ▶ OOP breaks up problems based on the data types found in the problem
 - as opposed to breaking up the problem based on the algorithms involved
- ▶ Given a problem statement, what *things* appear in the problem?
- ▶ The nouns of the problem are candidate classes.
- ▶ The actions and verbs of the problems are candidate methods of the classes

Short Object Oriented Programming Design Example

Attendance Question 1

The process of taking a large problem and breaking it up into smaller parts is known as:

- A. Functional programming
- B. Object oriented programming
- C. Top down design
- D. Bottom up design
- E. Waterfall method

Individual Class Design

The Steps of Class Design

- ▶ Requirements
 - what is the problem to be solved
 - detailed requirements lead to specifications
- ▶ Nouns may be classes
- ▶ Verbs signal behavior and thus methods (also defines a classes responsibilities)
- ▶ walkthrough scenarios to find nouns and verbs
- ▶ implementing and testing of classes
- ▶ design rather than implementation is normally the hardest part
 - planning for reuse

Class Design

- ▶ Classes should be cohesive.
 - They should be designed to do one thing well.



- ▶ Classes should be loosely coupled.
 - Changing the **internal** implementation details of a class should not affect other classes.
 - loose coupling can also be achieved within a class itself

Encapsulation

- ▶ Also known as separation of concerns and information hiding
- ▶ When creating new data types (classes) the details of the actual data and the way operations work is hidden from the other programmers who will use those new data types
 - So they don't have to worry about them
 - So they can be changed without any ill effects (loose coupling)
- ▶ Encapsulation makes it easier to be able to use something
 - microwave, radio, ipod, the Java String class

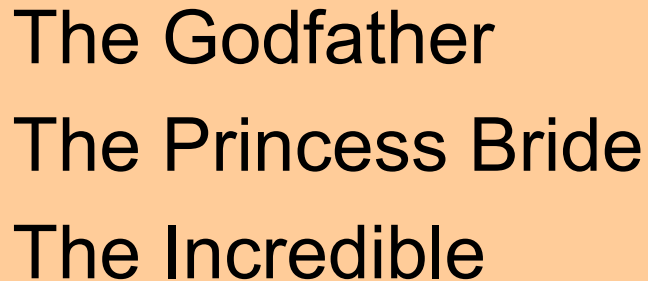
Design to Implementation

- ▶ Design must be implemented using the syntax of the programming language
- ▶ In class example with a list of integers
- ▶ Slides include another example of creating a class to represent a playing die

A List of ints

The Problem with Arrays

- ▶ Suppose I need to store a bunch of film titles from a file



The Godfather
The Princess Bride
The Incredible

```
String[] titles = new String[100];  
// I never know how much  
// space I need!
```

- ▶ I want the array to grow and shrink

Lists

- ▶ I need a list.
- ▶ A list is a collection of items with a definite order.
- ▶ Our example will be a list of integers.
- ▶ Design and then implement to demonstrate the Java syntax for creating a class.

Attendance Question 2

When adding a new element to a list what should be the default location to add?

- A. The beginning
- B. The end
- C. The middle
- D. A random location

IntList Design

- ▶ Create a new, empty IntList

```
new IntList -> []
```

- ▶ The above is not code. It is a notation that shows what the results of operations. [] is an empty list.
- ▶ add to a list.

```
[] .add(1) -> [1]
```

```
[1] .add(5) -> [1, 5]
```

```
[1, 5] .add(4) -> [1, 5, 4]
```

- ▶ elements in a list have a definite order and a position.
 - zero based position or 1 based positioning?

Instance Variables

- ▶ Internal data
 - also called instance variables because every instance (object) of this class has its own copy of these
 - something to store the elements of the list
 - size of internal storage container?
 - if not what else is needed
- ▶ Must be clear on the difference between the internal data of an IntList object and the IntList that is being represented
- ▶ Why make internal data private?

Attendance Question 3

Our `IntList` class will have an instance variable of `ints` (`int[] container`). What should the capacity of this internal array be?

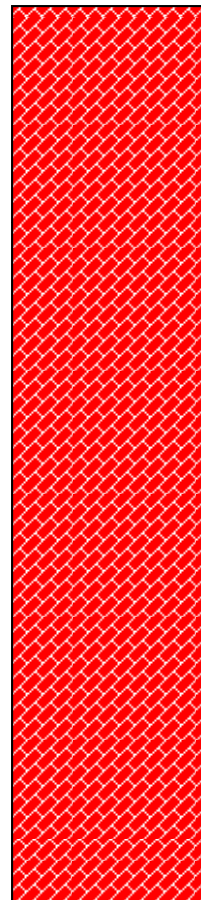
- A. less than or equal to the size of the list
- B. greater than or equal to the size of the list
- C. equal to the size of the list
- D. some fixed amount that never changes
- E. 0

```
IntList aList = new IntList();  
aList.add(42);  
aList.add(12);  
aList.add(37);
```

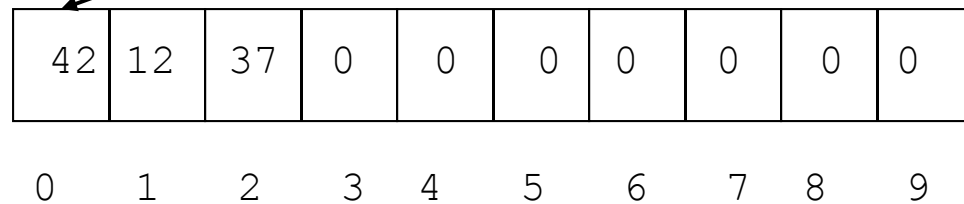
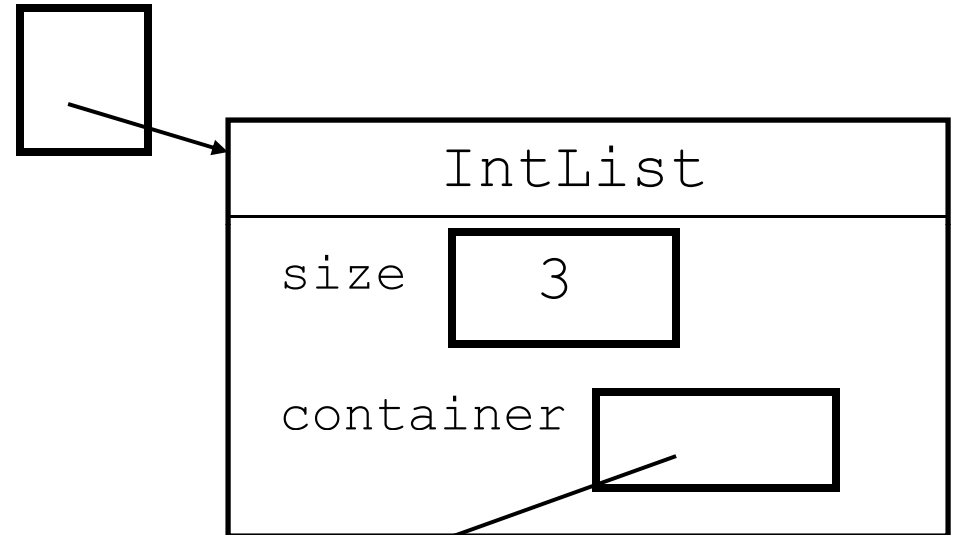
Abstract view of
list of integers

[42, 12, 37]

The wall of
abstraction.



aList



Constructors

- ▶ For initialization of objects
- ▶ IntList constructors
 - default
 - initial capacity?
- ▶ redirecting to another constructor
`this(10);`
- ▶ class constants
 - what `static` means

Default add method

- ▶ where to add?
- ▶ what if not enough space?

```
[ ] .add(3) -> [3]
```

```
[3] .add(5) -> [3, 5]
```

```
[3, 5] .add(3) -> [3, 5, 3]
```

- ▶ **Testing, testing, testing!**
 - a `toString` method would be useful

toString method

- ▶ return a Java String of list
- ▶ empty list -> []
- ▶ one element -> [12]
- ▶ multiple elements -> [12, 0, 5, 4]
- ▶ Beware the performance of `String` concatenation.
- ▶ `StringBuffer` alternative

Attendance Question 4

What is output by the following code?

```
IntList list = new IntList();  
System.out.println( list.size() );
```

A. 10

B. 0

C. -1

D. unknown

E. No output due to runtime error.

get and size methods

▶ get

- access element from list
- preconditions?

`[3, 5, 2].get(0)` returns 3

`[3, 5, 2].get(1)` returns 5

▶ size

- number of elements in the list
- Do not confuse with the capacity of the internal storage container
- The array is not the list!

`[4, 5, 2].size()` returns 3

insert method

- ▶ add at someplace besides the end

`[3, 5].insert(1, 4) -> [3, 4, 5]`

where what

`[3, 4, 5].insert(0, 4) -> [4, 3, 4, 5]`

- ▶ preconditions?
- ▶ overload add?
- ▶ chance for internal loose coupling

Attendance Question 5

What is output by the following code?

```
IntList list = new IntList();  
list.add(3);  
list.insert(0, 4);  
list.insert(1, 1);  
list.add(5);  
list.insert(2, 9);  
System.out.println( list.toString() );
```

- A. [4, 1, 3, 9, 5]
- B. [3, 4, 1, 5, 9]
- C. [4, 1, 9, 3, 5]
- D. [3, 1, 4, 9, 5]
- E. No output due to runtime error.

remove method

- ▶ remove an element from the list based on location

```
[3, 4, 5].remove(0) -> [4, 5]
```

```
[3, 5, 6, 1, 2].remove(2) ->  
[3, 5, 1, 2]
```

- ▶ preconditions?
- ▶ return value?
 - accessor methods, mutator methods, and mutator methods that return a value

Attendance Question 6

What is output by the following code?

```
IntList list = new IntList();  
list.add(12);  
list.add(15);  
list.add(12);  
list.add(17);  
list.remove(1);  
System.out.println( list );
```

- A. [15, 17]
- B. [12, 17]
- C. [12, 0, 12, 17]
- D. [12, 12, 17]
- E. [15, 12, 17]

insertAll method

- ▶ add all elements of one list to another starting at a specified location

```
[5, 3, 7].insertAll(2, [2, 3]) ->  
[5, 3, 2, 3, 7]
```


The parameter `[2, 3]` would be unchanged.

- ▶ Working with other objects of the same type
 - `this`?
 - where is private private?
 - loose coupling vs. performance

Class Design and Implementation – Another Example

This example will not be covered
in class.

The Die Class

- ▶ Consider a class used to model a die
 - ▶ What is the interface? What actions should a die be able to perform?
- 
- ▶ The methods or behaviors can be broken up into constructors, mutators, accessors

The Die Class Interface

- ▶ Constructors (used in creation of objects)
 - default, single int parameter to specify the number of sides, int and boolean to determine if should roll
- ▶ Mutators (change state of objects)
 - roll
- ▶ Accessors (do not change state of objects)
 - getResult, getNumSides, toString
- ▶ Public constants
 - DEFAULT_SIDES

Visibility Modifiers

- ▶ All parts of a *class* have visibility modifiers
 - Java keywords
 - **public**, protected, **private**, (no modifier means package access)
 - do not use these modifiers on local variables (syntax error)
- ▶ **public** means that constructor, method, or field may be accessed outside of the class.
 - part of the interface
 - constructors and methods are generally public
- ▶ **private** means that part of the class is hidden and inaccessible by code outside of the class
 - part of the implementation
 - data fields are generally private

The Die Class Implementation

- ▶ Implementation is made up of constructor code, method code, and private data members of the class.
- ▶ scope of data members / instance variables
 - *private data members may be used in any of the constructors or methods of a class*
- ▶ Implementation is hidden from users of a class and can be changed without changing the interface or affecting clients (other classes that use this class)
 - Example: Previous version of Die class, DieVersion1.java
- ▶ Once Die class completed can be used in anything requiring a Die or situation requiring random numbers between 1 and N
 - DieTester class. What does it do?

DieTester method

```
public static void main(String[] args) {
    final int NUM_ROLLS = 50;
    final int TEN_SIDED = 10;
    Die d1 = new Die();
    Die d2 = new Die();
    Die d3 = new Die(TEN_SIDED);
    final int MAX_ROLL = d1.getNumSides() +
        d2.getNumSides() + d3.getNumSides();

    for(int i = 0; i < NUM_ROLLS; i++)
    {
        d1.roll();
        d2.roll();
        System.out.println("d1: " + d1.getResult()
            + " d2: " + d2.getResult() + " Total: "
            + (d1.getResult() + d2.getResult() ) );
    }
}
```

DieTester continued

```
int total = 0;
int numRolls = 0;
do
{
    d1.roll();
    d2.roll();
    d3.roll();
    total = d1.getResult() + d2.getResult()
           + d3.getResult();
    numRolls++;
}
while(total != MAX_ROLL);

System.out.println("\n\nNumber of rolls to get "
    + MAX_ROLL + " was " + numRolls);
```

Correctness Sidetrack

- ▶ When creating the public interface of a class give careful thought and consideration to the *contract* you are creating between yourself and users (other programmers) of your class
- ▶ Use *preconditions* to state what you assume to be true before a method is called
 - caller of the method is responsible for making sure these are true
- ▶ Use *postconditions* to state what you guarantee to be true after the method is done if the preconditions are met
 - implementer of the method is responsible for making sure these are true

Precondition and Postcondition Example

```
/* pre: numSides > 1
   post: getResult() = 1, getNumSides() = sides
*/
public Die(int numSides)
{  assert (numSides > 1) : "Violation of precondition: Die(int)";
   iMyNumSides = numSides;
   iMyResult = 1;
   assert getResult() == 1 && getNumSides() == numSides;
}
```

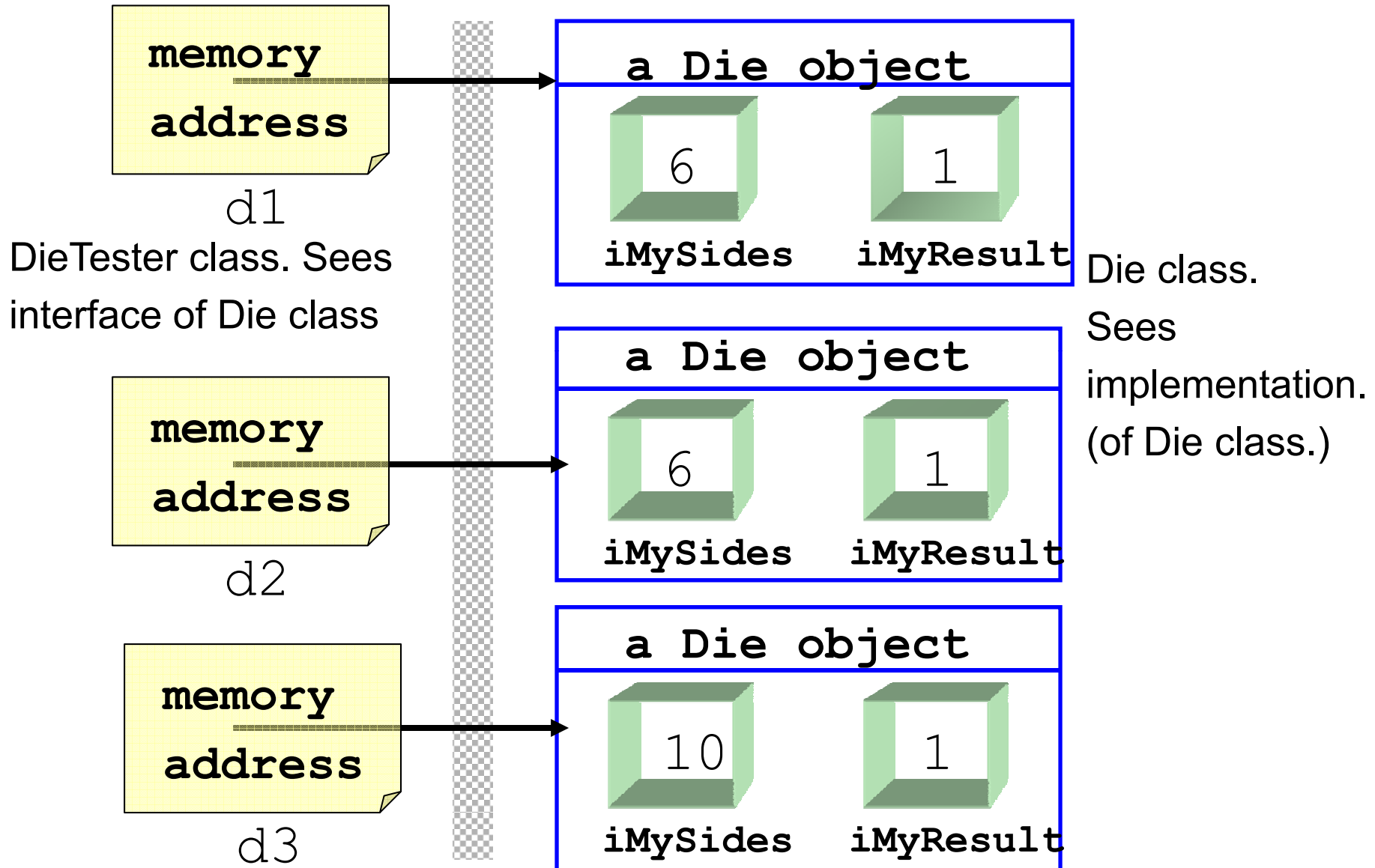
Object Behavior - Instantiation

- ▶ Consider the DieTester class

```
Die d1 = new Die();  
Die d2 = new Die();  
Die d3 = new Die(10);
```

- ▶ When the new operator is invoked control is transferred to the Die class and the specified constructor is executed, based on parameter matching
- ▶ Space(memory) is set aside for the new object's fields
- ▶ The memory address of the new object is passed back and stored in the object variable (pointer)
- ▶ After creating the object, methods may be called on it.

Creating Dice Objects



Objects

- ▶ Every Die object created has its own instance of the variables declared in the class blueprint

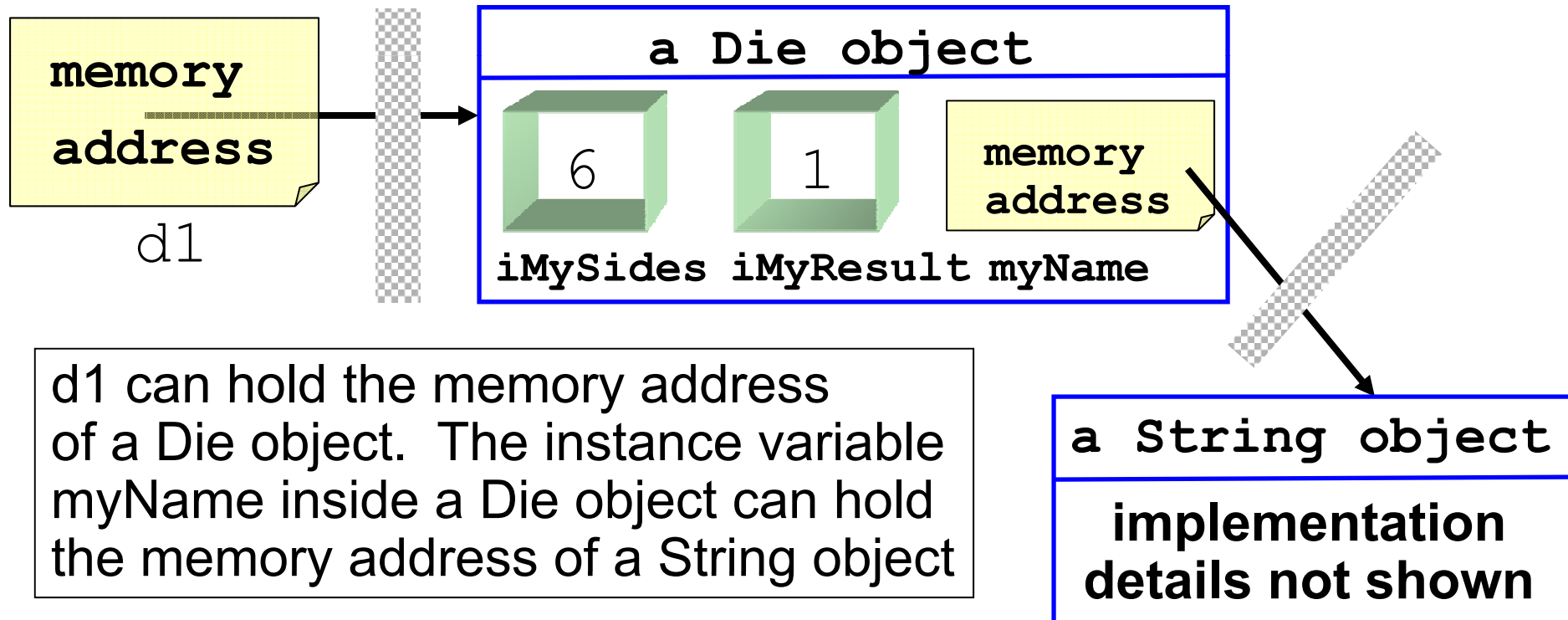
```
private int iMySides;  
private int iMyResult;
```

- ▶ thus the term *instance variable*
- ▶ the instance vars are part of the hidden implementation and may be of *any* data type
 - unless they are public, which is almost always a bad idea if you follow the tenets of information hiding and encapsulation

Complex Objects

- ▶ What if one of the instance variables is itself an object?
- ▶ add to the Die class

```
private String myName;
```



d1 can hold the memory address of a Die object. The instance variable myName inside a Die object can hold the memory address of a String object

The Implicit Parameter

- ▶ Consider this code from the Die class

```
public void roll()  
{  
    iMyResult =  
        ourRandomNumGen.nextInt(iMySides) + 1;  
}
```

- ▶ Taken in isolation this code is rather confusing.
- ▶ what is this iMyResult thing?
 - It's not a parameter or local variable
 - why does it exist?
 - *it belongs to the Die object that called this method*
 - if there are numerous Die objects in existence
 - Which one is used depends on which object called the method.

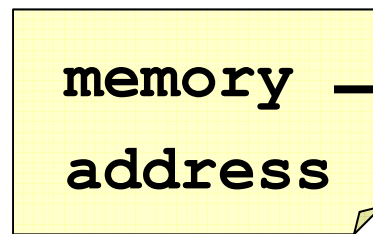
The *this* Keyword

- ▶ When a method is called it may be necessary for the calling object to be able to refer to itself
 - most likely so it can pass itself somewhere as a parameter
- ▶ when an object calls a method an implicit reference is assigned to the calling object
- ▶ the name of this implicit reference is `this`
- ▶ `this` is a reference to the current calling object and may be used as an object variable (may not declare it)

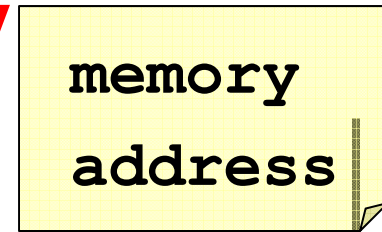
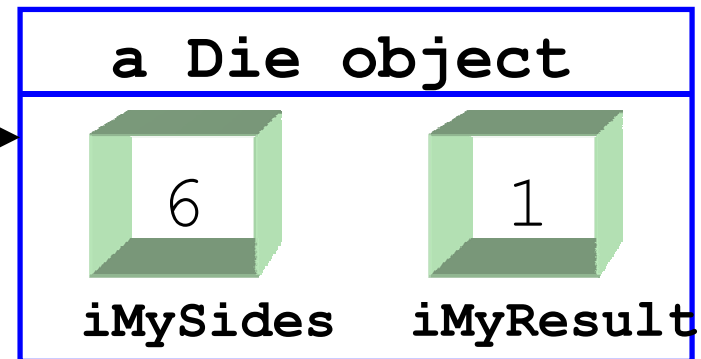
this Visually

```
// in some class other than Die
Die d3 = new Die();
d3.roll();
```

```
// in the Die class
public void roll()
{   iMyResult =
    ourRandomNumGen.nextInt(iMySides) + 1;
    /* OR
    this.iMyResult...
    */
}
```



this



d3

An equals method

- ▶ working with objects of the same type in a class can be confusing
- ▶ write an equals method for the Die class.
assume every Die has a myName instance variable as well as iMyNumber and iMySides

A Possible Equals Method

```
public boolean equals(Object otherObject)
{
    Die other = (Die)otherObject;
    return iMySides == other.iMySides
        && iMyResult == other.iMyResult
        && myName.equals( other.myName );
}
```

- ▶ Declared Type of Parameter is Object not Die
- ▶ override (replace) the equals method instead of overload (present an alternate version)
 - easier to create generic code
- ▶ we will see the equals method is *inherited* from the Object class
- ▶ access to another object's private instance variables?

Another equals Methods

```
public boolean equals(Object otherObject)
{
    Die other = (Die)otherObject;
    return this.iMySides == other.iMySides
        && this.iMyNumber == other.iMyNumber
        && this.myName.equals( other.myName );
}
```

Using the `this` keyword / reference to access the implicit parameters instance variables is unnecessary.

If a method within the same class is called within a method, the original calling object is still the calling object

A "Perfect" Equals Method

► From Cay Horstmann's *Core Java*

```
public boolean equals(Object otherObject)
{
    // check if objects identical
    if( this == otherObject)
        return true;
    // must return false if explicit parameter null
    if(otherObject == null)
        return false;
    // if objects not of same type they cannot be equal
    if(getClass() != otherObject.getClass() )
        return false;
    // we know otherObject is a non null Die
    Die other = (Die)otherObject;
    return iMySides == other.iMySides
        && iMyNumber == other.iMyNumber
        && myName.equals( other.myName );
}
```


the instanceof Operator

- ▶ `instanceof` is a Java keyword.

- ▶ part of a boolean statement

```
public boolean equals(Object otherObj)
{
    if otherObj instanceof Die
    {
        //now go and cast
        // rest of equals method
    }
}
```

- ▶ Should not use `instanceof` in equals methods.
- ▶ `instanceof` has its uses but not in equals because of the contract of the equals method

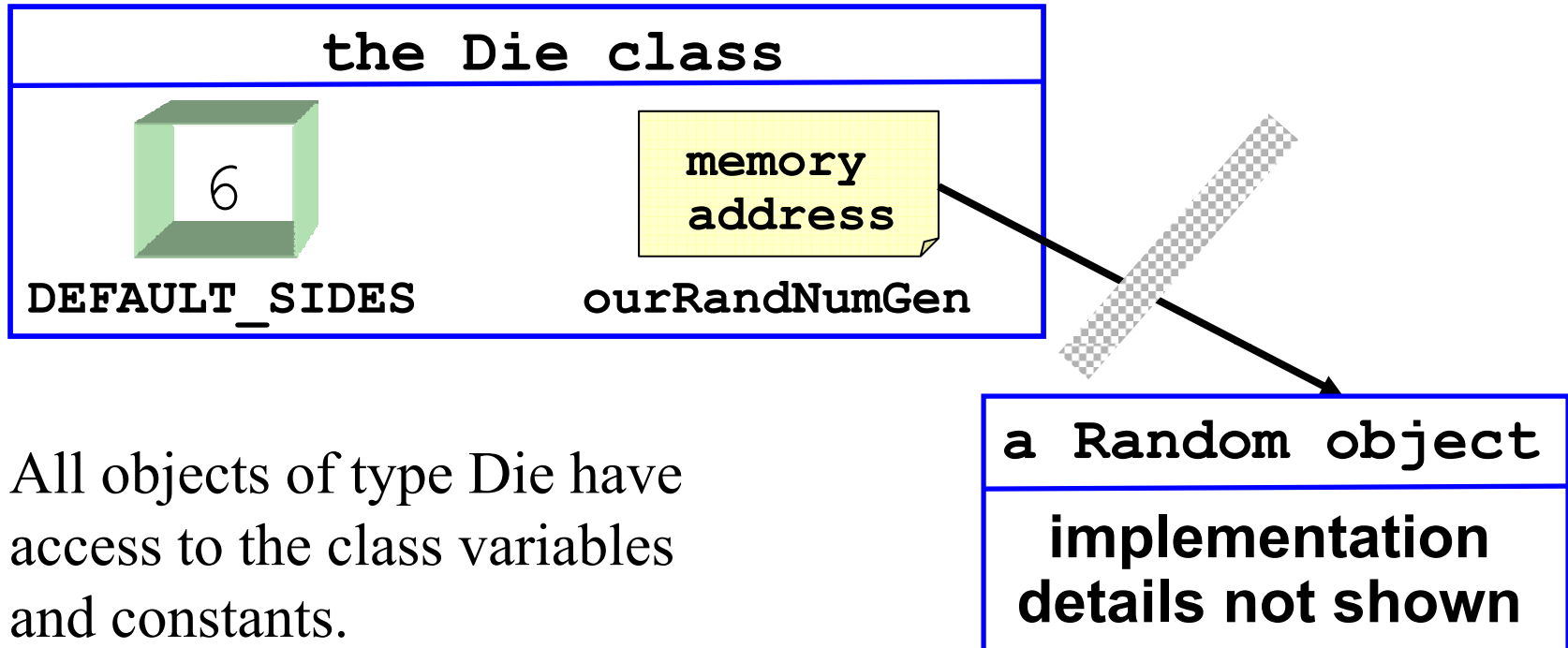
Class Variables and Class Methods

- ▶ Sometimes every object of a class does not need its own copy of a variable or constant
- ▶ The keyword `static` is used to specify class variables, constants, and methods

```
private static Random ourRandNumGen
    = new Random();
public static final int DEFAULT_SIDES = 6;
```

- ▶ The most prevalent use of `static` is for class constants.
 - if the value can't be changed why should every object have a copy of this non changing value

Class Variables and Constants



All objects of type Die have access to the class variables and constants.

A public class variable or constant may be referred to via the class name.

Syntax for Accessing Class Variables

```
public class UseDieStatic
{
    public static void main(String[] args)
    {
        System.out.println( "Die.DEFAULT_SIDES "
            + Die.DEFAULT_SIDES );
        // Any attempt to access Die.ourRandNumGen
        // would generate a syntax error

        Die d1 = new Die(10);

        System.out.println( "Die.DEFAULT_SIDES "
            + Die.DEFAULT_SIDES );
        System.out.println( "d1.DEFAULT_SIDES "
            + d1.DEFAULT_SIDES );

        // regardless of the number of Die objects in
        // existence, there is only one copy of DEFAULT_SIDES
        // in the Die class

    } // end of main method
} // end of UseDieStatic class
```

Static Methods

- ▶ `static` has a somewhat different meaning when used in a method declaration
- ▶ static methods may not manipulate any instance variables
- ▶ in non static methods, some object invokes the method

```
d3.roll();
```
- ▶ the object that makes the method call is an implicit parameter to the method

Static Methods Continued

- ▶ Since there is no implicit object parameter sent to the static method it does not have access to a copy of any objects instance variables
 - unless of course that object is sent as an explicit parameter
- ▶ Static methods are normally utility methods or used to manipulate static variables (class variables)
- ▶ The Math and System classes are nothing but static methods

static and this

- ▶ Why does this work (added to Die class)

```
public class Die
{
    public void outputSelf()
    { System.out.println( this );
    }
}
```

- ▶ but this doesn't?

```
public class StaticThis
{
    public static void main(String[] args)
    { System.out.println( this );
    }
}
```