Enumerated Types

CSE 160, Computer Science Honors A
Stony Brook University
http://www.cs.stonybrook.edu/~cse160
Enumerated Types

- An enumerated type defines a list of enumerated values
  - Each value is an identifier

```java
enum MyFavoriteColor {RED, BLUE, GREEN, YELLOW};
```

- A value of an enumerated type is like a constant and so, by convention, is spelled with all uppercase letters
- Also, by convention, an enumerated type is named like a class with first letter of each word capitalized

- Once a type is defined, you can declare a variable of that type:

```java
MyFavoriteColor color;
```

- The variable `color` can hold one of the values defined in the enumerated type `MyFavoriteColor` or `null`, but nothing else

- Using enumerated values (e.g., `Color.BLUE`, `Day.MONDAY`) rather than literal integer values (e.g., `0`, `1`, and so on) can make program easier to read and maintain
Enumerated Types

- The enumerated values can be accessed using the syntax `EnumeratedTypeName.valueName`
- For example, the following statement assigns enumerated value `BLUE` to variable `color`:
  ```java
  color = MyFavoriteColor.BLUE;
  ```
- An enumerated type is treated as a special class, so an enumerated type variable is therefore a reference variable.
  - An enumerated type is a subtype of the `Object` class (inherits all the methods in the `Object` class) and the `Comparable` interface (has the `compareTo` method in the `Comparable` interface).
Enumerated Types

- The following methods are defined for any enumerated object:

  ```java
  public String name();
  ```
  - Returns a name of the value for the object

  ```java
  public int ordinal();
  ```
  - Returns the ordinal value associated with the enumerated value
  - The first value in an enumerated type has an ordinal value of 0, the second has an ordinal value of 1, the third one 3, and so on
public class EnumeratedTypeDemo {
    static enum Day {SUNDAY, MONDAY, TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY, FRIDAY, SATURDAY};

    public static void main(String[] args) {
        Day day1 = Day.FRIDAY;
        Day day2 = Day.THURSDAY;

        System.out.println("day1's name is " + day1.name());
        System.out.println("day2's name is " + day2.name());

        System.out.println("day1's ordinal is " + day1.ordinal());
        System.out.println("day2's ordinal is " + day2.ordinal());

        System.out.println("day1.equals(day2) returns " +
                          day1.equals(day2));
        System.out.println("day1.toString() returns " +
                          day1.toString());
        System.out.println("day1.compareTo(day2) returns " +
                          day1.compareTo(day2));
    }
}
enum Day {SUNDAY, MONDAY, TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY, FRIDAY, SATURDAY};

class EnumeratedTypeDemo {
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        Day day1 = Day.FRIDAY;
        Day day2 = Day.THURSDAY;

        System.out.println("day1's name is " + day1.name());
        System.out.println("day2's name is " + day2.name());

        System.out.println("day1's ordinal is " + day1.ordinal());
        System.out.println("day2's ordinal is " + day2.ordinal());

        System.out.println("day1.equals(day2) returns " +
                           day1.equals(day2));
        System.out.println("day1.toString() returns " +
                           day1.toString());
        System.out.println("day1.compareTo(day2) returns " +
                           day1.compareTo(day2));
    }
}

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day1's name is FRIDAY
day2's name is THURSDAY
day1's ordinal is 5
day2's ordinal is 4
day1.equals(day2) returns false
day1.toString() returns FRIDAY
day1.compareTo(day2) returns 1
Enumerated Types

- An enumerated type can be defined inside a class or standalone.
- After the first program is compiled, a class named `EnumeratedTypeDemo$Day.class` is created.
  - When an enumerated type is declared inside a class, the type must be declared as a `static` member of the class and cannot be declared inside a method.
  - `static` may be omitted.
- In the latter case, the type is treated as a standalone class, so after the program is compiled, a class named `Day.class` is created.
Using if or switch Statements with an Enumerated Variable

- Often your program needs to perform a specific action depending on the value.
  - For example, if the value is `Day.MONDAY`, play soccer; if the value is `Day.TUESDAY`, take piano lesson, and so on.

```java
if (day.equals(Day.MONDAY)) {
    // process Monday
} else if (day.equals(Day.TUESDAY)) {
    // process Tuesday
} else
    ...
```
Using if or switch Statements with an Enumerated Variable

```java
switch (day) {
    case MONDAY:
        // process Monday
        break;
    case TUESDAY:
        // process Tuesday
        break;
    ...
}
```

- In the switch statement, the case label is an unqualified enumerated value (e.g., `MONDAY`, but not `Day.MONDAY`).
Processing Enumerated Values Using a Foreach Loop

- Each enumerated type has a static method `values()` that returns all enumerated values for the type in an array:

```java
Day[] days = Day.values();
for (int i = 0; i < days.length; i++)
    System.out.println(days[i]);
// is equivalent with:
for (Day day: days)
    System.out.println(day);
```
Enumerated Types with Data Fields, Constructors, and Methods

```java
class TrafficLight {
    private String description;
    private TrafficLight(String description) {
        this.description = description;
    }
    public String getDescription() {
        return description;
    }
}
```

• The constructor is invoked whenever an enumerated value is accessed
  • The enumerated value’s argument is passed to the constructor, which is then assigned to `description`
public class TestTrafficLight {
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        TrafficLight light = TrafficLight.RED;
        System.out.println(light.getDescription());
    }
}

• An enumerated value TrafficLight.RED is assigned to variable light
• Accessing TrafficLight.RED causes the JVM to invoke the constructor with argument “please stop”