Immutable objects

Vector 2D v = new Vector 2D(1' Vebor2) v2 = V;



Cloning I

Sometimes we really do want to copy an object



- Java calls this *cloning*
- We need special support for it

Cloning II

- Every class in Java ultimately inherits from the Object class
 - The Object class contains a clone() method
 - So just call this to clone an object, right?
 - Wrong!

Surprisingly, the problem is defining what copy actually means

Cloning III

public class MyClass {
 private float price = 77;
}



Shallow and Deep Copies





Java Cloning

- So do you want shallow or deep?
 - The default implementation of clone() performs a shallow copy
 - But Java developers were worried that this might not be appropriate: they decided they wanted to know for <u>sure</u> that we'd thought about whether this was appropriate
- Java has a Cloneable interface
 - If you call clone on anything that doesn't extend this interface, it fails

Cloning 1. implement interface Cloneable 2. make clone() public (optional) (technically optional but do it) 3, super. clone() « 4. Add rearsive clone - shallow clone calls d _ Deep clone

Clone Example I

```
public class Velocity {
 public float vx;
 public float vy;
 public Velocity(float x, float y) {
    vx = x;
    vy=y;
 }
};
public class Vehicle {
 private int age;
 private Velocity vel;
 public Vehicle(int a, float vx, float vy) {
    age=a;
    vel = new Velocity(vx,vy);
 }
};
```

Clone Example II

```
public class Vehicle implements Cloneable {
    private int age;
    private Velocity vel;
    public Vehicle(int a, float vx, float vy) {
        age=a;
        vel = new Velocity(vx,vy);
    }
    public Object clone() {
        return super.clone();
    }
};
```

Clone Example III

```
public class Velocity implement Cloneable {
    ....
    public Object clone() {
        return super.clone();
    }
};
```

```
public class Vehicle implements Cloneable {
  private int age;
  private Velocity v;
  public Student(int a, float vx, float vy) {
     age=a;
     vel = new Velocity(vx,vy);
  }
```

```
public Object clone() {
    Vehicle cloned = (Vehicle) super.clone();
    cloned.vel = (Velocity)vel.clone();
    return cloned;
}
```

};

Marker Interfaces

- If you look at what's in the Cloneable interface, you'll find it's empty!! What's going on?
- Well, the clone() method is already inherited from Object so it doesn't need to specify it
- This is an example of a Marker Interface
 - A marker interface is an empty interface that is used to label classes
 - This approach is found occasionally in the Java libraries

The Java Class Libraries

Java Class Library

- Java the platform contains around 4,000 classes/interfaces
 - Data Structures
 - Networking, Files
 - Graphical User Interfaces
 - Security and Encryption
 - Image Processing
 - Multimedia authoring/playback
 - And more...
- All neatly(ish) arranged into packages (see API docs)

Java's Collections Framework



- Important chunk of the class library
- A collection is some sort of grouping of things (objects)
- Usually when we have some grouping we want to go through it ("*iterate* over it")
- The Collections framework has two main interfaces: Iterable and Collections. They define a set of operations that all classes in the Collections framework support
- add(Object o), clear(), isEmpty(), etc.

Major Collections Interfaces I

<<interface>> Set

- Like a mathematical set in DM 1
- A collection of elements with no duplicates
- Various concrete classes like TreeSet (which keeps the set elements sorted)
- <<interface>> List
 - An ordered collection of elements that may contain duplicates
 - ArrayList, Vector, LinkedList, etc.
- <<interface>> Queue
 - An ordered collection of elements that may contain duplicates and supports removal of elements from the head of the queue
 - PriorityQueue, LinkedLlst, etc.





B

Major Collections Interfaces II

<<interface>> Map

- Like relations in DM 1, or dictionaries in ML
- Maps key objects to value objects
- Keys must be unique
- Values can be duplicated and (sometimes) null.

