

Advanced Aspects of Object-Oriented Programming (SS 2015)

Practice Sheet 2

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(before the lecture as PDF via E-Mail)

Exercise 1 JavaScript – Dynamic Typing

The following programs do all run and produce a result of the expected type. Only the result is not what we expect. Find the errors in the programs and explain, how a static type system could have helped in avoiding the errors.

```
a) function sort3(a, b, c) {
    if(a > b > c) { return [a, b, c];
    } else if(a > c > b) { return [a, c, b];
    } else if(c > a > b) { return [c, a, b];
    } else if(c > b > a) { return [c, b, a];
    } else if(b > c > a) { return [b, c, a];
    } else if(b > a > c) { return [b, a, c];
    } else { throw 'Some numbers are equal';
    }
}

//example usage
console.log(sort3(1, 2, 3));
```

The program should sort three different numbers by their value. If the parameters include at least one duplicate number, the program should terminate with an exception.

The program often throws the error when there are no duplicate numbers and for some inputs the list is not sorted correctly.

```
b) function parseArray(a) {
    return a.map(parseInt);
}

function sumValues(a) {
    var res = 0;
    for(var i=0; i<a.length; i++) {
        res += a[i];
    }
    return res;
}

console.log(sumValues(parseArray(["1", "2", "3"])));
```

The program should take an array (think of it as a list) of Strings and output the sum of the integer-values of these Strings. The method `map` of an array applies a function to every element of an array and returns the result as a new array. The function `parseInt` parses its parameter as a string and returns the integer result.

The program often gives the wrong result (as in the example) in form of `NaN`, which stands for "not a number", a special constant of type number.

```
c) function sum(a) {
    var res = 0;
    for(var i=0; i<a.length; i++) {
        res += a[i];
    }
    return res;
}

console.log(sum([1, 2, 3] + [4, 5, 6]) - 1);
```

The program should concatenate the two arrays, sum the numbers up and print this result minus 1.

The program gives as result `NaN` again, even though all the elements of the array are of type number.

Exercise 2 Required and Provided Interfaces

Download the source for the class `ObjectOutputStream` from the website of the lecture.

- Which different *provided interfaces* does the class have? Give examples for each of them.
- What is the *required interface* of an `ObjectOutputStream`-object?

Exercise 3 Prototype-based Inheritance

Inheritance is not only possible in class-based languages such as Java. It can also be simulated in prototype-based languages such as JavaScript.

Consider the following example program:

```
1 function A(vara, varb)
2 {
3     this.vara = vara;
4     this.varb = varb;
5 }
6
7 A.prototype.set = function(v)
8 {
9     this.vara=v;
10 }
11
12 A.prototype.hello=function()
13 {
14     console.log("Hello_World!");
15 }
16
17 function B(vara, varb, varc)
18 {
19     A.call(this, vara, varb);
20     this.varc = varc;
21 }
22
23 B.prototype = Object.create(A.prototype);
24
25 B.prototype.set=function(v)
26 {
27     if (v != "") {
28         this.vara=v;
29     }
30 }
31
32 B.prototype.get=function()
33 {
34     return this.vara;
35 }
36
37 var v1 = new A("test", 4);
38 var v2 = new B("test2", 5, v1);
39 v2.set("output_please");
40 console.log(v2.get());
41
42 v2.hello();
43
44
45 var v3 = new B("something", 42, v1);
46
47 v3.get=function()
48 {
49     return "Result:_ " + B.prototype.get.call(this);
50 }
51 console.log(v3.get());
52
53
54
55 B.prototype.some_function=function()
56 {
57     console.log("Some_function_called.");
58 }
59 v2.some_function();
```

- Implement the example in Java.
- The change made in lines 55-59 is not possible in Java. Why?

Exercise 4 Introspection and Reflection

With the techniques of introspection and reflection, it is possible to extend Java programs with plugins.

Our convention is that the class that implements the plugin is named like the plugin itself. Plugins implement the following Java interface:

```
import java.util.List;

interface IPlugin {
    List<String> getMethodNames();
}
```

The method `getMethodNames` returns the names of the methods the plugin implements. In our reduced example, the methods have the following signature: `Object <methodname>(Object o)`.

A sample plugin is given on the lecture homepage. The plugin is named `HelloPlugin` and can be downloaded as `HelloPlugin.jar`.

The `PluginLoader` can assume that the plugin jar files are in the classpath.

Your task is to implement the class `PluginLoader`.

- a) Implement a method `IPlugin load(String clazz)` that loads the plugin with the given name. Please also check that the loaded class really implements the needed interface.
- b) Implement a method `Object call(IPlugin plugin, String method, Object param)` which calls the given method with the given parameter on the given plugin.
- c) Call the first method of the `HelloPlugin` with your name as a parameter and print the result to console.