Classes

Class – prototype, that defines data and the methods that work on that data.

1. Defining a Class

[attributes] [modifiers] class <class_name> [:<base_class_name>]

// class body
}[;]

2. Class Members

- <u>field</u> (member variable) holds a value; modifiers: static, readonly, and const
- <u>method</u> (member function) code that acts on the object's data (field values)
- property (smart field) method that looks like a field to the class's clients
- <u>constant</u> field with a value that can't be changed
- <u>indexer</u> (smart array) member that enables to work with a class that's logically an array of data, as though the class itself were an aray
- <u>event</u> causes some peace of code to run when something is happen
- <u>operator</u> standard mathematical operator to a class via operator overloading

3. Access Modifiers		
public	The member is accessible from outside the class's definition and hierarchy of derived classes.	
protected	The member isn't visible outside the class and can be accessed by derived classes only.	
private	The member can't be accessed outside the scope of the defining class and its derived classes (by default).	
internal	The member is visible only within the current compilation unit.	

- 4. Method Main the application's entry point; must be defined as static.
- command-line arguments a string array type as its only arguments
- return value terminates the execution of the method
 - usually doesn't return a value void;
 - a value of type int shows an error level to the calling application to indicate user-defined success or failure (for console applications)
- multiple Main methods
 /main:<class_name> switch with the C# compiler
 specifies which class's Main method to use.

5. Constructors

- are called when ever an instance of the class is created with new
- have the same names as a class name
- initialize objects
- don't return values

<class> <object> = new <class> (constructor arguments)

- new creates a new instance of a class:
- on the heap reference types
- on the stack value types

6. Static Members and Instance Members

6.1. <u>Instance Member</u> – a copy of that member is made for every instance of the class (by default)

6.2. Static Member (static)

- · only one copy of the member exists
- a static member is created when the application containing the class is loaded
- exists throughout the life of the application
- the member is accessible even before the class has been instantiated

7. Constructor Initializers

All constructors first invoke the base class's constructor. The constructor initializers specify which class and which constructor is called.

base (...) – calls the current class's base class constructor

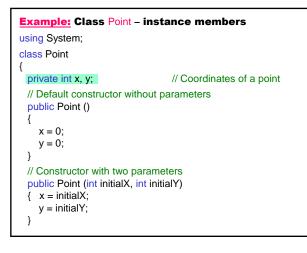
this (...) - calls another constructor defined within the class itself

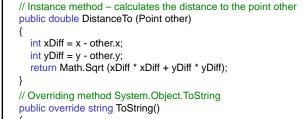
- 8. Constant
 - field that remain constant for the life of the application
 - defined with the const keyword
 - the constant value is set at compile time
 - by default is a static

9. Read-Only Fields

readonly – constant field that value is set in the constructor at $\underline{run\ time}$

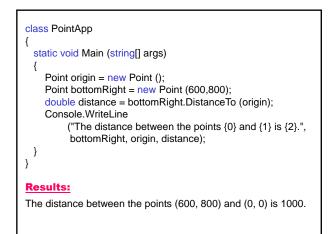
static readonly – constant field that value is set in the static constructor that by default is public

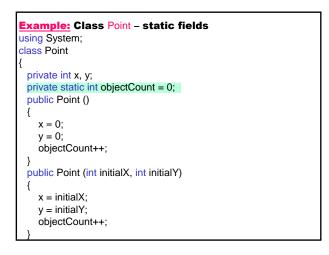




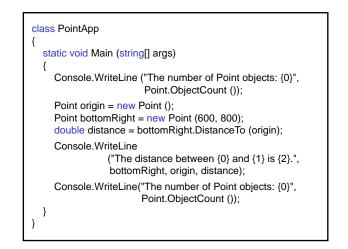
return "("+x+", "+y+")";

} }





public double DistanceTo (Point other)	
<pre>int xDiff = x - other.x; int yDiff = y - other.y; return Math.Sqrt (xDiff * xDiff + yDiff * y)</pre>	Diff);
<pre>} public override string ToString ()</pre>	
{	
return "("+x+", "+y+")";	
<pre>} public static int ObjectCount ()</pre>	
{ return objectCount;	
}	



Results:

The number of Point objects: 0 The distance between (600, 800) and (0, 0) is 1000. The number of Point objects: 2

Example:

Application that keeps a track of the current workstation's IP address (the workstation obtains its IP address dynamically):

- with readonly field
- with static readonly field

Class System.Net.IPAddress – provides an Internet Protocol (IP) address.

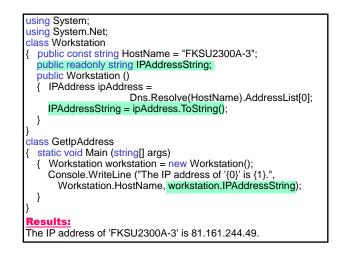
Class System.Net.Dns – provides simple domain name system (DNS) resolution functionality.

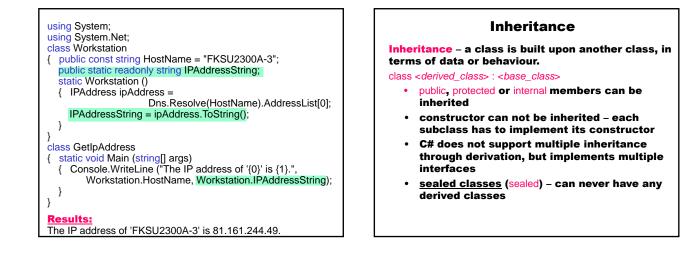
Method Dns.Resolve - queries a DNS server for the IP address associated with a host name or IP address.

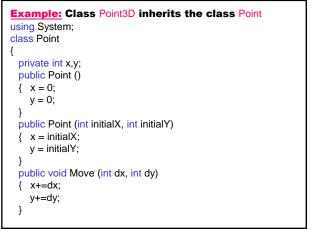
public static IPHostEntry Resolve (string hostName);

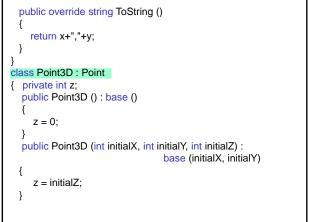
IPHostEntry provides a container class for Internet host address information. When hostName is a DNSstyle host name associated with multiple IP addresses, only the first IP address that resolves to that host name is returned.

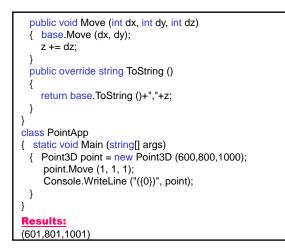
Property IPHostEntry.AddressList – gets/sets a list of IP addresses that are associated with a host.

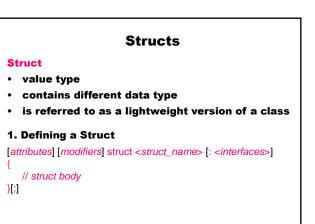












2. Struct Members

- constructors
- constants
- fields
- methods
- properties
- indexers
- operators
- nested types

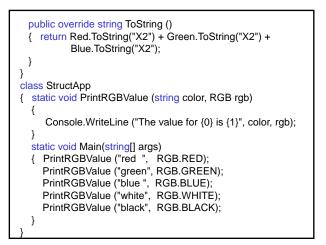
3. Limitations

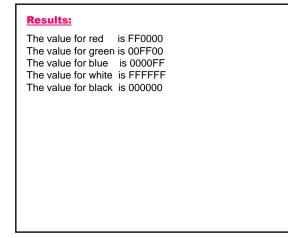
- no default constructor
- defined as sealed it can't serve as a base class
- implicitly derived from System.ValueType the ultimate base class of all value types

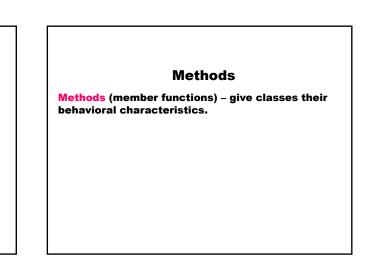
4. Usage

- contain very small data
- contain few or even no methods to access or modify the contained data

Example: Define the standard RGB struct with static fields to hold the red, green, and blue values. using System; struct RGB { public static readonly RGB RED = new RGB (255,0,0); public static readonly RGB GREEN= new RGB (0,255,0); public static readonly RGB BLUE = new RGB (0,0,255); public static readonly RGB WHITE = new RGB (255,255,255); public static readonly RGB BLACK = new RGB (0,0,0); public int Red; public int Green; public int Blue; public RGB (int red, int green, int blue) Red = red; Green = green; Blue = blue;







Method Parameters

Value and Reference Parameters

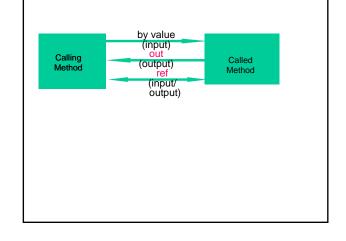
- 1. Value-type method parameters passing by value
- · a copy of the value is passed to the method
- if the called method makes changes to the data through the value-type incoming parameters the changes don't affect the variables passed down from the calling method
- 2. Reference-type method parameters passing by reference
- a copy of the reference (another reference to the same data) is passed to the method
- if the called method makes changes to the data through the reference, the changes are made to the original data and the changes will be available to the calling method when the called method returns

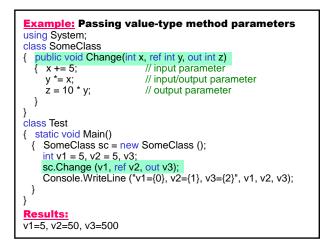
3. Returning More than a Single Value

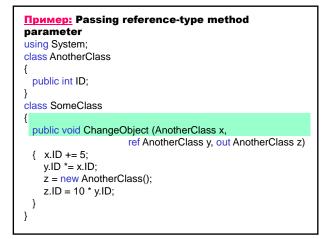
- **3.1 ref Method Parameters**
 - ref parameters point to the same memory as the variables in the calling code
 - if the called method modifies the values the calling code's variables are modified (pointers in C++)
 - limitation ref parameters have to be initialized before calling the method

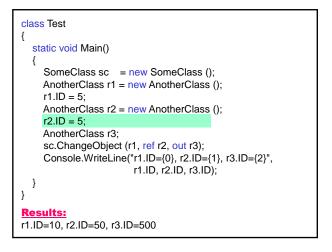
3.2 out Method Parameters

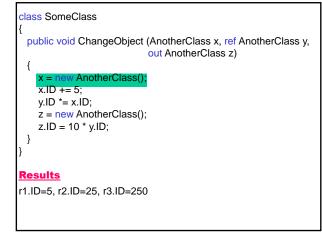
- out parameters don't require the calling code to initialized the passed arguments first
- must be modified in the called method

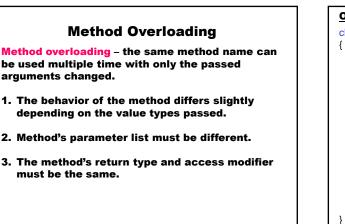












Overloading Constructors class Point private int x = 0; private int y = 0;// The constructor Point (int x, int y) is implicitly compiled // as though it were written public Point (int x, int y) : this (). // this () resolves to a call to public Point (). public Point (int x, int y) { this.x = x; this.y = y; } public Point () { x = 0; y = 0;} }

<u>Constructor Initializer list</u> – explicitly call one constructor from another:

public Point () : this (0, 0)

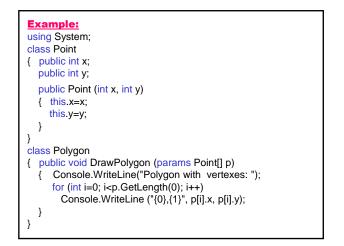
{ . }

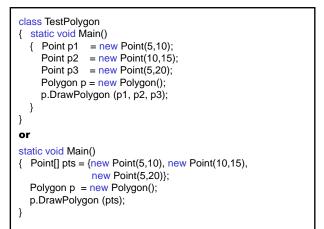
Inheritance and Overloading The derived class can use overloaded method (as in Java).

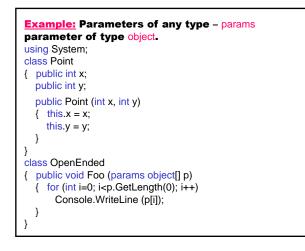
Variable Method Parameters

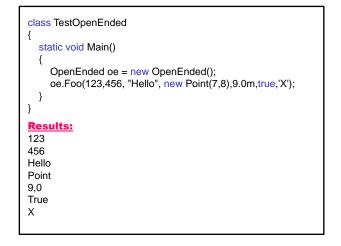
The number of method arguments are known at run time.

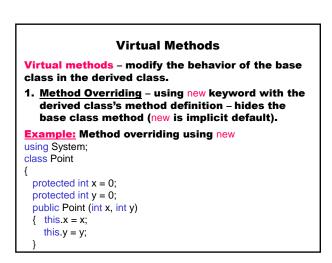
The variable number of method parameters is specified by using the params keyword and by specifying an array in the method's argument list.

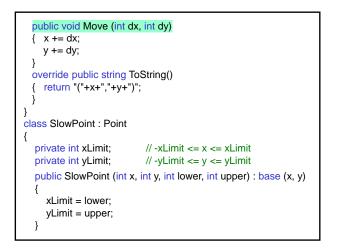




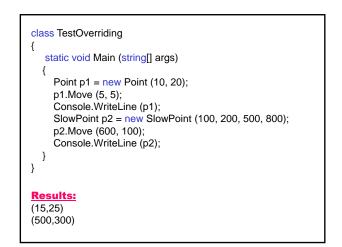








```
new public void Move (int dx, int dy)
 {
    x += dx;
    y += dy;
    x = Limit (x, xLimit);
    y = Limit (y, yLimit);
 }
 private int Limit (int d, int l)
 {
     // If the coordinate of the point d is greater than the upper
     // limit I, it becomes equal to the upper limit; if it is less than
     // the lower limit -I than it becomes equal to the lower limit
     // -1.
     return d > l ? l : d < -l ? -l : d;
 }
}
```



- 2. <u>Polymorphism</u> (many forms) define a method multiple times throughout the class hierarchy so that the runtime calls the appropriate version of the method for the specific object being used
- override a method in the class hierarchy using:
 - virtual keyword in the base class and
 - override keyword in the derived class
- declare an object from the <u>base</u> class
- runtime calls the appropriate method for the specific object

Example: Method overriding without polymorphism – using new (early binding)

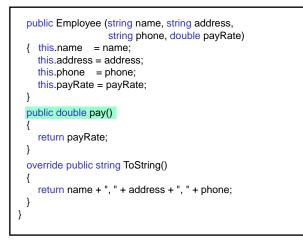
using System; class Employee

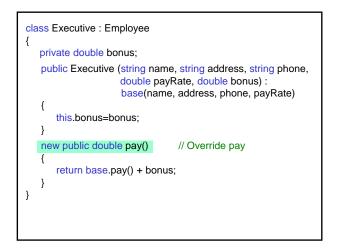
{

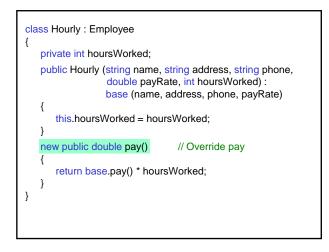
private string name; private string address; private string phone; private double payRate;

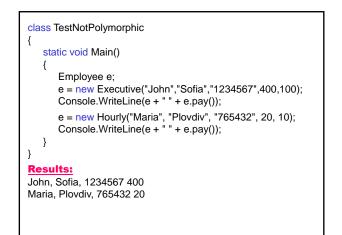
// Employee

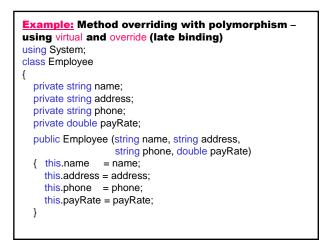
// Name // Address // Telephone number // Pay rate

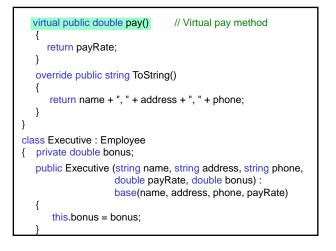


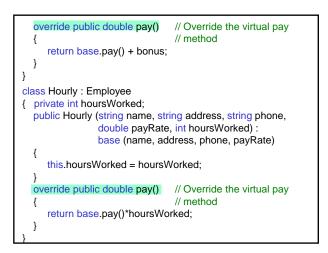


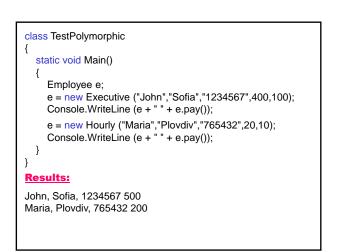






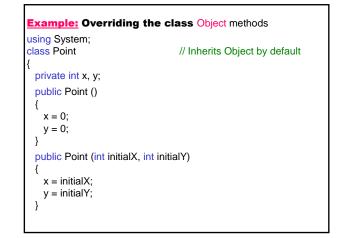




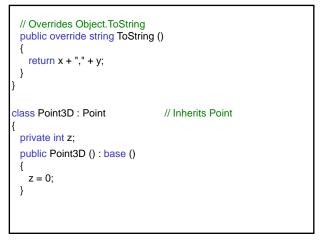


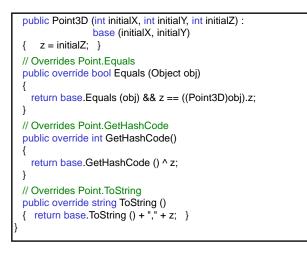
Rules:

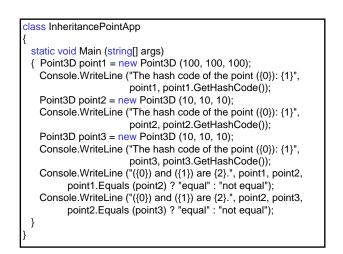
- override method and virtual method must have the same access modifier (protected, public, internal)
- 2. virtual member can not be declared as private (can not be overridden); can be declared as protected (but not be used out of the class hierarchy).



```
// Overrides Object.Equals
public override bool Equals (Object obj)
{
    // Checks for null and compares the types at run time
    if (obj == null || GetType () != obj.GetType ())
        return false;
    Point p = (Point)obj;
    return (x == p.x) && (y == p.y);
}
// Overrides Object.GetHashCode
public override int GetHashCode ()
{
    // Generates a hash code using an XOR (exclusive OR)
    // operation
    return x ^ y;
}
```







Results:

The hash code of the point (100,100,100): 100 The hash code of the point (10,10,10): 10 The hash code of the point (10,10,10): 10 (100,100,100) and (10,10,10) are not equal. (10,10,10) and (10,10,10) are equal.

Static Methods

Static method

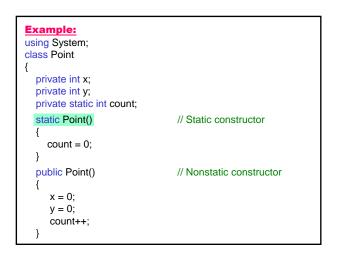
- exists in a class as a whole, rather than in a specific instance of the class
- defines using the static keyword
- cannot be referenced through an instance; instead, it is referenced through the type name:

class.method

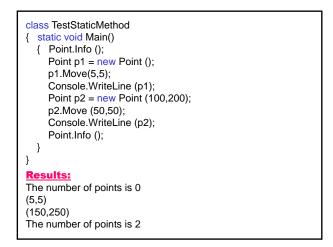
- **1. Access to Class members**
 - can access any static member within the class
 - can't access an instance member

2. Static Constructor

- a class can have only one static constructor
- can't take parameters
- can't access instance members (including the this pointer)
- is executed before the first instance of a class is created
- public and private modifiers are not allowed
- can provide a nonstatic constructor with the same signature as the static constructor (the static constructor is called first)
- is executed before any static member (either data or function) of the class is accessed



{ this.x = x; this.y =y; count++;	// Constructor with two parameters		
}			
public void Move (int dx, int dy)			
$\{ x += dx; \}$			
y += dy;			
}			
override public string ToString()			
{			
return "(" + x + "," + y +	-")":		
}			
public static void Info()	// Static method		
{			
Console.WriteLine("The number of points is " + count);			
}			
}			



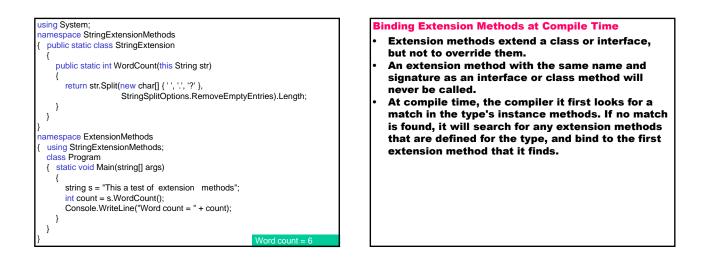
Extension Methods

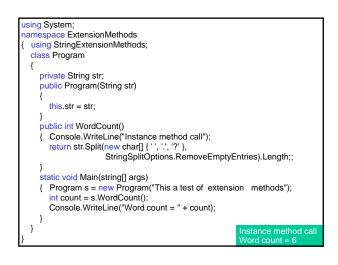
Extension method

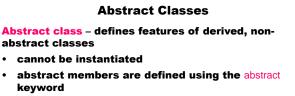
- add methods to existing types without creating a new derived type, or recompiling
- special kind of static method
- called by using instance method syntax

Defining and calling the extension method

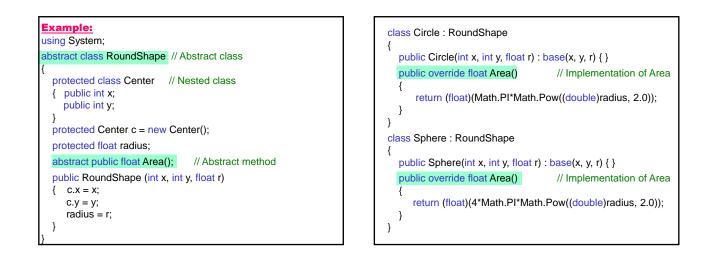
- 1. Define a static class to contain the extension method. The class must be visible to client code.
- 2. Implement the extension method as a static method with at least the same visibility as the containing class.
- The first parameter of the method specifies the type that the method operates on; it must be preceded with the this modifier.
- 4. In the calling code, add a using directive to specify the namespace that contains the extension method class.
- 5. Call the methods as if they were instance methods on the type. The first parameter is not specified by calling code because it represents the type on which the operator is being applied. You only have to provide arguments for parameters 2 through *n*.

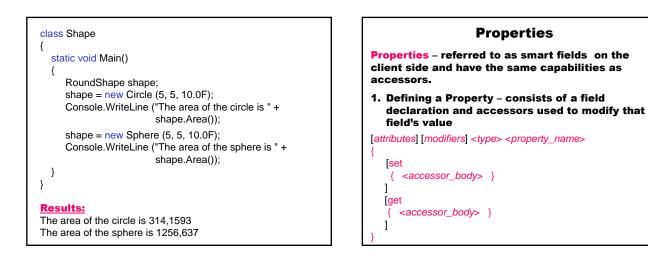




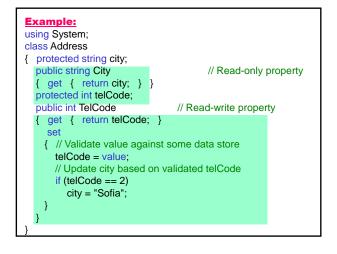


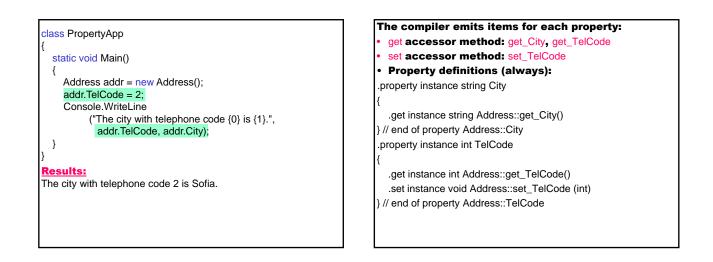
- abstract methods have no implementation and the derived classes must implement all abstract methods using override modifier
- provide a common definition of a base class that multiple derived classes can share

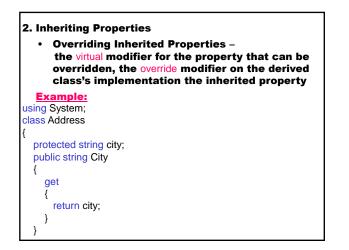




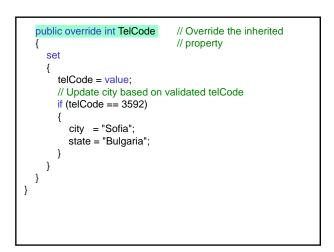
- · must have one of set or get method
- <u>read-write property</u> both <u>set</u> and <u>get</u> methods are defined
- <u>read-only property</u> only get method is defined
- write-only property only set method is defined
- can't be used as parameters to methods (they are not fields)
- can be defined with the static modifier, but can't be combined with the virtual, abstract, override, because they are used only for instance members
- afford advantage over using accessors



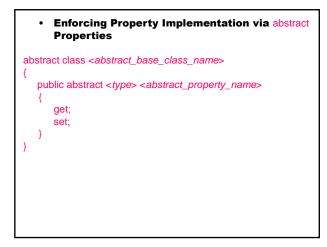


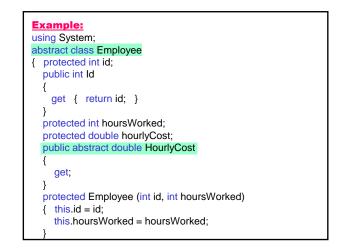


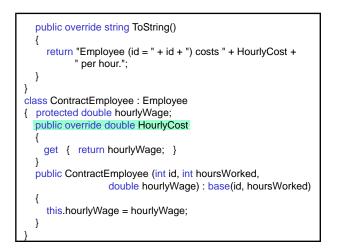


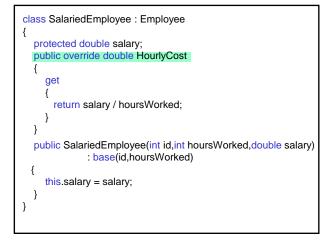


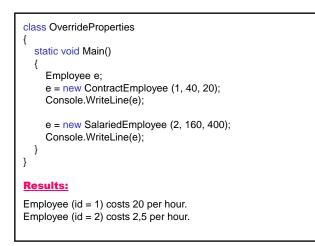














- provide high level of abstraction the client doesn't need to know if an accessor exists for the member being accessed
- provide a generic means of accessing class members by using the standard syntax

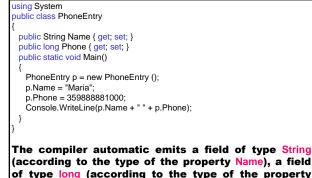
object.field

 guarantee the additional processing of a particular field that is modified or accessed

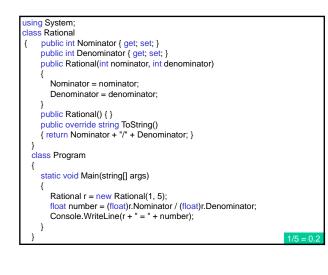
4. Auto-Implemented Properties

In C# 3.0 and later, auto-implemented properties make property-declaration more concise when no additional logic is required in the property accessors. They also enable client code to create objects.

The compiler creates a private, anonymous backing field that can only be accessed through the property's get and set accessors.



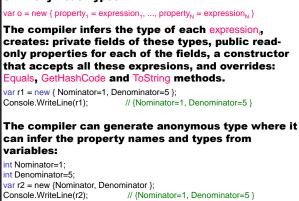
of type long (according to the type of the property Phone) and methods get_Name, set_Name, get_Phone and set_Phone, that get/set the field values.





6. Anonymous Types

Console.WriteLine(r1.Equals(r2));

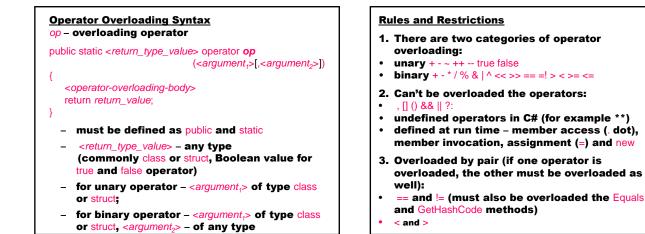


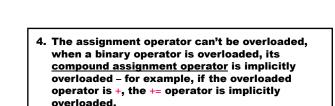
// True

Operator Overloading

Operator overloading

- allows to be redefined existing operators so that one or both of the operands are of a class or struct type
- · another means of calling a method
- aids abstraction one of the most important aspects of object-oriented programming

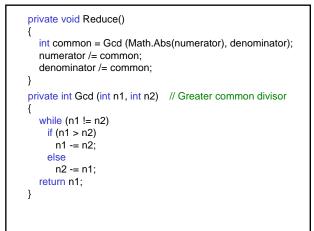


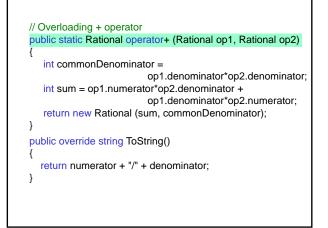


Example: Operator + overloading in the Rational class using System; class Rational { private int numerator; private int denominator; public Rational (int numer, int denom) {

numerator = numer; denominator = denom; Reduce();

}





// Override explicit convertion from Rational to float
public static explicit operator float(Rational op)
{
 return (float)op.numerator / op.denominator;
}
// Override implicit convertion from Rational to double
public static implicit operator double(Rational op)
{
 return (double)op.numerator / op.denominator;
}

class TestRational
{
 static void Main()
 {
 Rational x, y, z;
 x = new Rational (1, 4); y = new Rational (1, 3);
 z = x + y;
 Console.WriteLine (x + "+" + y + "=" + z);
 Console.Write (z);
 z += y;
 Console.WriteLine ("+=" + y + "=" + z);
 float f = (float)z; Console.WriteLine(f);
 double r = z; Console.WriteLine(r);
 }
}
Results:
1/4+1/3=7/12
7/12+=1/3=11/12
0.583333
0.5833333333333333