

Lab 8 (version 3)

(with thanks to Dan Leyzberg & Art Simon, and also Dr. Wittman)

Asteroids

You will be reinvigorating the 1979 arcade classic, a timeless tale of triumph and sacrifice, of hatred and love, of space travel wrapped around our screens and our hearts. One solitary ship, an interminable journey, a violent struggle for freedom – these are the elements of our story.

Prologue

First thing, if you've managed to spend your years without ever having played the game you're about to make, I expect you'll Google it and give it a try.

Second, you'll need to get comfortable with the starter code, so have yourself a perusal and come back when you're done.

Did that? I bet you've noticed a few curious things: Yes, *painting* on a *canvas* requires a *brush*. Yes, Java's coordinate system has its origin is at the leftmost, *topmost* point of a window. And, yes, you get a glorious *empty black window* when you run the starter code.

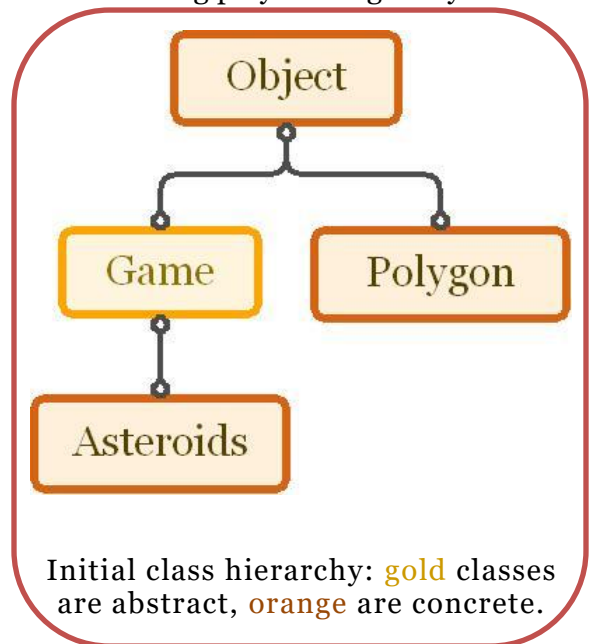
Well, now that you've met the brush and canvas – let's paint! Asteroid will call its

`paintComponent(Graphics brush)` method every thirtieth of a second – that way you can draw

the next frame of the game's animation. Painting is done by calling the `Graphics` methods using the brush like so: `brush.fillPolygon(...)` or `brush.drawString(...)`. (See

`java.awt.Graphics` for details.) As we develop our code, you'll write `paint(Graphics brush)` methods for your own classes; a sensible idea is to call those functions from inside `Asteroids.paintComponent(Graphics brush)`, passing along that same brush!

The following pages represent a sequential design process that also involves some refactoring of code as you go along. You don't need to follow it exactly, the intent is for you to grasp the concepts it focuses on: class identity and inheritance design. As long as you've completed the assignment with all the details and are accountable for your class design, you've done what is asked (see deliverables section at the end). Be inventive, and enjoy!



Characters

First up is the ship. Create a subclass of Polygon called Ship, implementing its constructor and adding the aforementioned `public void paint(Graphics brush)` as a new method that draws the ship's polygon. Now make sure the ship starts at the screen's center. How will the ship know the screen dimensions?

Now we'll get the ship moving. Create another method `public void update()` that increases the ship's `position.x` and call this function in

`Asteroids.paintComponent()`. Now we need the

position values to wrap around when they get out of bounds. After, you'll implement an interface called

`KeyListener` on the Asteroids class that will allow our ship to respond to key presses. It requires you to implement three methods: `KeyPressed(...)`,

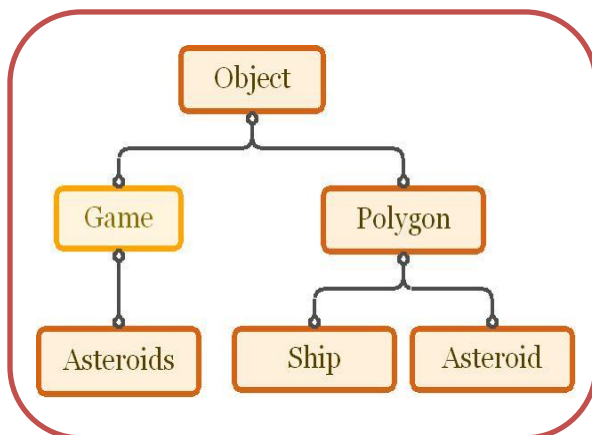
`keyReleased(...)`, `keyTyped(...)`. I suggest leaving `keyTyped(...)` blank. (Experience has shown that

keeping a boolean variable for each button, toggled by

`KeyPressed()` and `keyReleased()` leads to smoother performance than using `keyTyped()`).

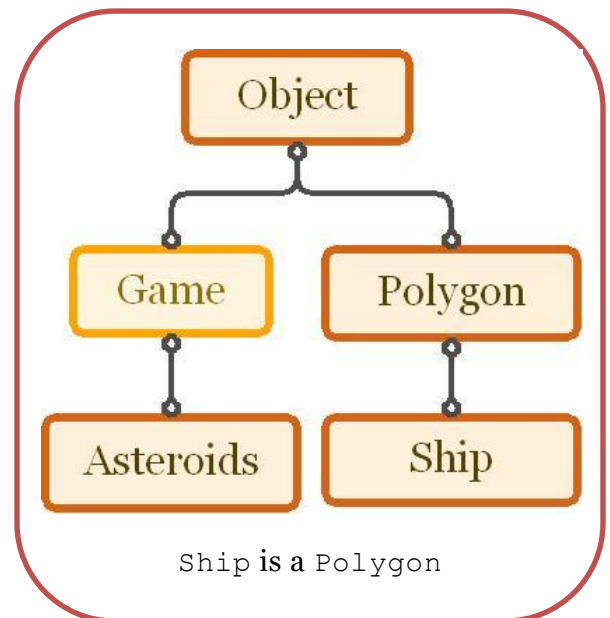
At this point, you've got a linear moving ship class. You press forward, it goes forward. You stop, it stops. What we'll need next is to create the zero-gravity acceleration effect: this will require one new member variable representing an acceleration vector. It is the rate of increase in `x` and in `y` at each time step. It can be enlarged with the following magical math (you're welcome):

```
public void accelerate (double acceleration) {
    velocity.x += acceleration * Math.cos(Math.toRadians(rotation));
    velocity.y += acceleration * Math.sin(Math.toRadians(rotation));
}
```



And now that you've got our protagonist in fighting form, he'll need a worthy opponent. Create an Asteroid class much in the same vein as the Ship. Create an array of Asteroid and paint them all.

One detail remains: collisions. We need a method to determine whether a polygon intersects with another. The test ought to return true if either polygon overlaps the other – and let's put such a boolean method in our Polygon class. You're left to imagine how this might work. (Hint: the answer is **contained** within.)



Setting

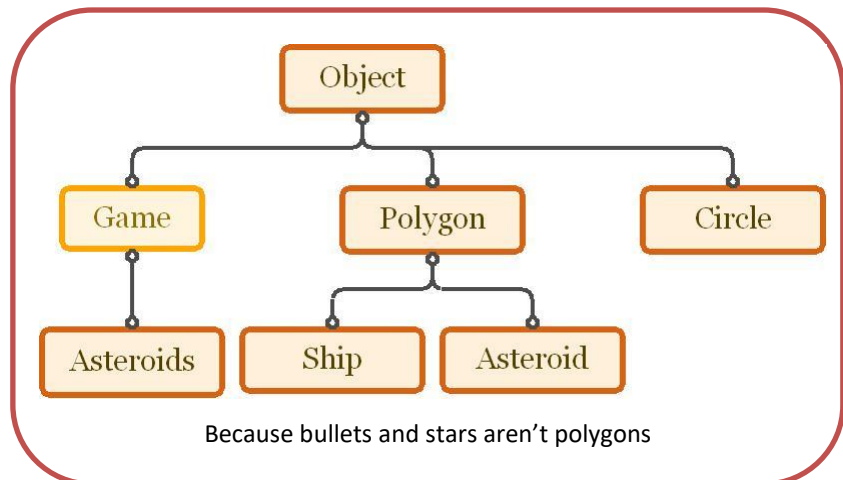
Consider the `Ship` and `Asteroid` classes. How are they similar? What abstractions can be made that apply to both – and more importantly, does that apply to their mutual abstraction:

`Polygon`? Consider any similar methods, loops, and variables; do these properties belong to all polygons? Move as much as makes sense up into the `Polygon` class. At the least, `paint(...)` belongs in `Polygon` not in each and every subclass. (How does adding `paint(...)` and any other methods you're considering adding change the meaning of what `Polygon` represents?)

Remember that solving these design problems has immense impact on future work. You ought to be prepared to defend your decisions: Why do these methods belong here and not there? With which classes do the member variables best fit? What is the identity of the classes you've made? Are they consistent and reasonable real-world-like?

Conflict

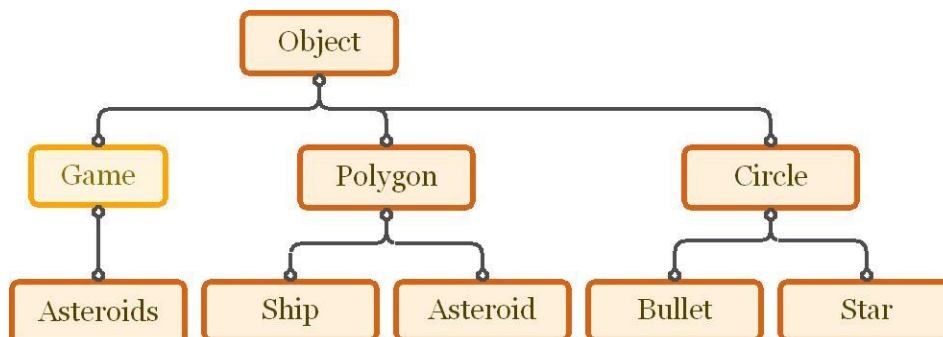
What's left? Oh, our ship has no bullets and our sky is an awfully lonely place. Now, everybody, what do stars and bullets have in common? Neither is a polygon! Both are... both are circles. That means we'll need a `Circle` class, but don't fret because it won't be nearly as hairy nor mathy as `Polygon` even though it will serve a parallel purpose.



We'll need a public boolean `contains(Point)` for intersections, a `paint(Graphics)` and that's it. So that's not bad at all. (Well, except, later on, it might come in handy to have implemented a method that returns a bunch of points lying on the boundary of our circle. Consider that a hint.)

Showdown

Now, much like with `Ship` and `Asteroid` earlier, we will subclass `Circle` to create `Bullet` and `Star`. I'll leave the details to you.

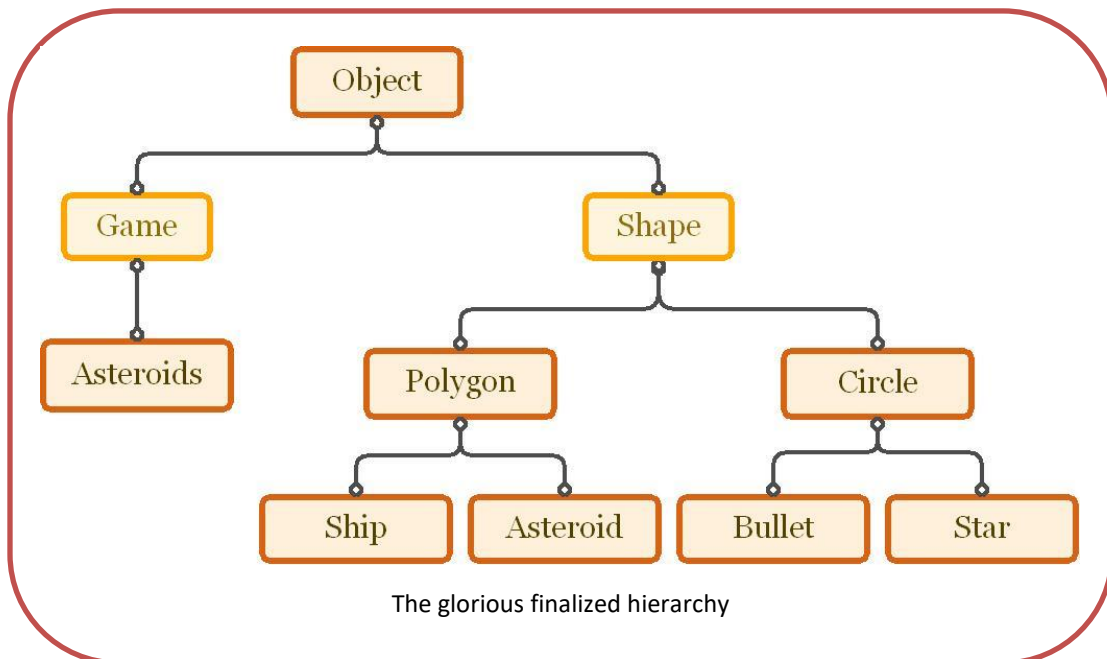


Consider making the stars twinkle or move toward or away from the ship. Consider making bullets that fade away or come in different colors or sizes.

What's left? One major issue: how do we know a bullet has hit something? Our intersection-testing method is only for `Polygons`!

We've hit on something here: we have a generalization. Instead of creating another method to repeat the test with slight variation for each possible shape, let's just talk about shapes in general!

You're about to create a super class for `Polygon` and `Circle`, we'll call it `Shape`. What are shapes? They may `intersect(Shape)s`, they can `fill()`, and they can `outline()`. They should also have three abstract methods that behave differently based on type: `paint()`, `update()`, and `getShape()`. Mixing abstract and implemented types means that there's no such thing in our world as a `Shape` for its own sake, it must be of some specific sort.



Denouement

Now we've got quite a beefy class hierarchy: abstract classes, implemented interfaces, lots of inheritance. This is your last opportunity to see that it all fits. Can you do better? Are the class identities still consistent and sensible?

Conclusion

Now we do the actual game fixins: scores, timers, and controls. Remember you can set the `Game's` `on` member variable to `false`, which makes it stop `paint(...)`ing.

Here you're free to consider all the fun additions you might make: add sound, levels, difficulty, asteroids that explode into smaller asteroids, create explosive animations, use images for backgrounds or each ships. Do anything you like, it's your game!

Deliverable

The following are the minimum requirements for your submission:

- (80%) All classes and interfaces mentioned in the assignment must be completed as specified, except for the fixins and fun additions mentioned in the conclusion section. These are covered in the extra credit detailed below. (See video for further clarification.)
- (20%) All classes and interfaces must be commented with Javadocs style specifications, including the class itself and each method.
- **Extra Credit:** up to 20% extra credit will be awarded for creativity, fun additions, and game fixins.

Zip up your entire project and email it to prof. stucki...

All work must be done individually. Never look at someone else's code. Please refer to the course policies if you have any questions about academic integrity. If you have trouble with the assignment, I am always available for assistance.