

About super

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Super well which one...

Java is confusing at wish:

- super in accessing super same named superclass fields (Duh! Ugly)
 - Syntactically: super.x
- super in method to invoke overridden super method (super is the receiver see Lecture)
 - Syntactically: super.method();
- super in constructor
 - Syntactically: super(x)
 - first line represents the superclass and looks for constructor function based on argument
 - in any for the other line, represents the newly created object but changes lookup and in plain method.
- static <T> void copy(List<? super T> dest, List<? extends T> src)
 - to say any super type of T.
 - so readable



Super : accessing super same named superclass fields

```
class Vehicle {
      int maxSpeed = 120:
    class Car extends Vehicle {
      int maxSpeed = 180;
      void display() {
        System.out.println("Maximum Speed: " + super.maxSpeed);
    class Test {
      public static void main(String[] args) {
        Car small = new Car();
        small.display();
Extra
```

super in constructors

 means look in superclass and invoke the constructor with the same signature as the super call

```
public Meal {
    public Meal(String flavour) {
        this.flavour = flavour;
    }
}
```

```
public Crisps(String flavour, int quantity) {
    super(flavour); // pass flavour to the super class constructor
    this.quantity = quantity;
}
```



super in constructor: II

```
public Meal {
    public void setFlavour(String flavour) {
        this.flavour = flavour;
    }
```

```
public Crisps(String flavour, int quantity) {
    this.quantity = quantity;
    super.setFlavour(flavour);
}
```

Clearly not good style. But super here is not the superclass but the instance.



Subclass may want to access hidden superclass

```
public class Box extends Rectangle {
...
public double getArea() {
   return (super.getArea() + height * length + width * height) * 2;
}
```

super.getArea() executes the method rectangle.getArea on the box instance



Conclusion

Be precise :)



A course by Stéphane Ducasse http://stephane.ducasse.free.fr

Reusing some parts of the Pharo Mooc by

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