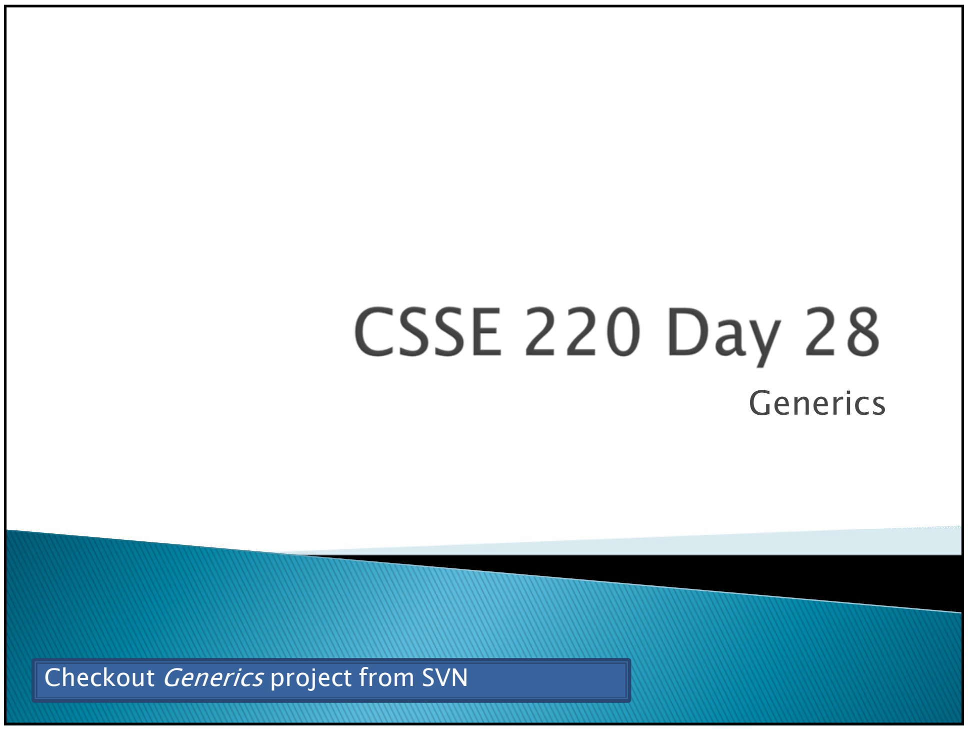


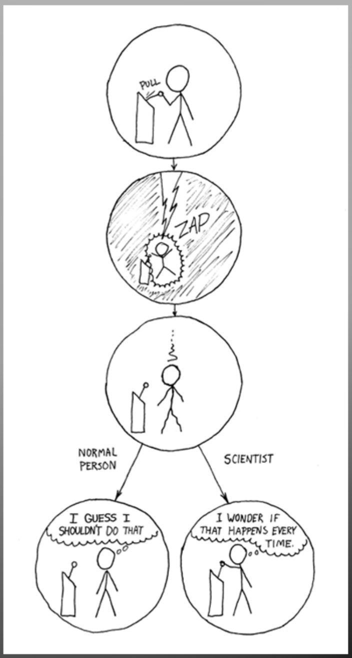
CSSE 220 Day 28

Generics

Checkout *Generics* project from SVN

Questions

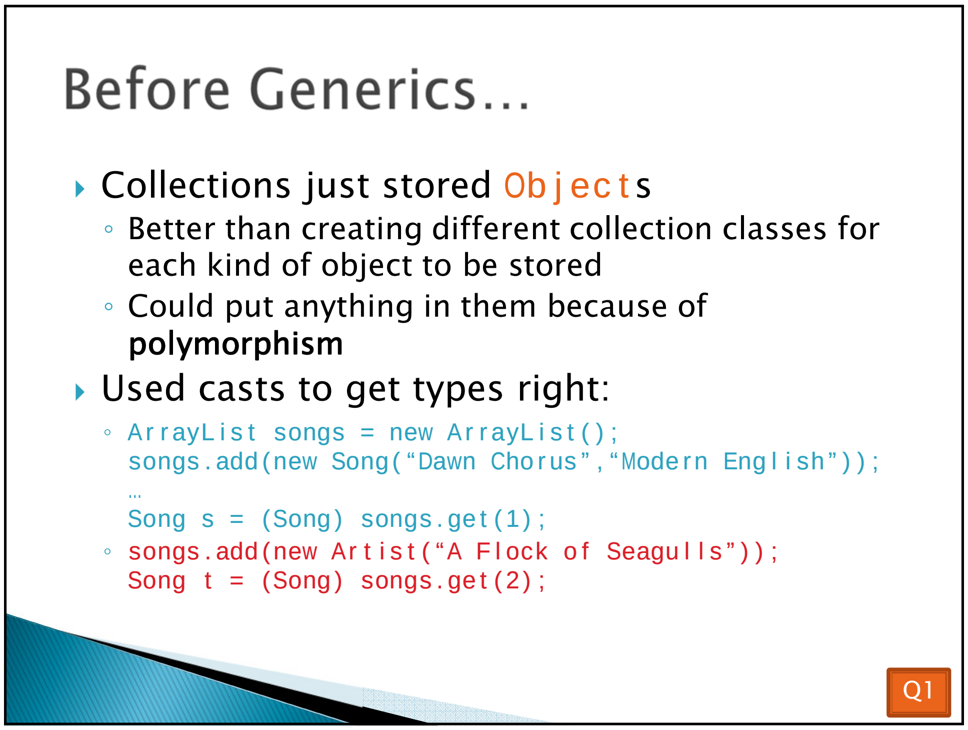
Science!


PULL
ZAP
NORMAL PERSON
SCIENTIST
I GUESS I SHOULDN'T DO THAT
I WONDER IF THAT HAPPENS EVERY TIME.

http://xkcd.com/242/

Generic Types

- Another way to make code more re-useful



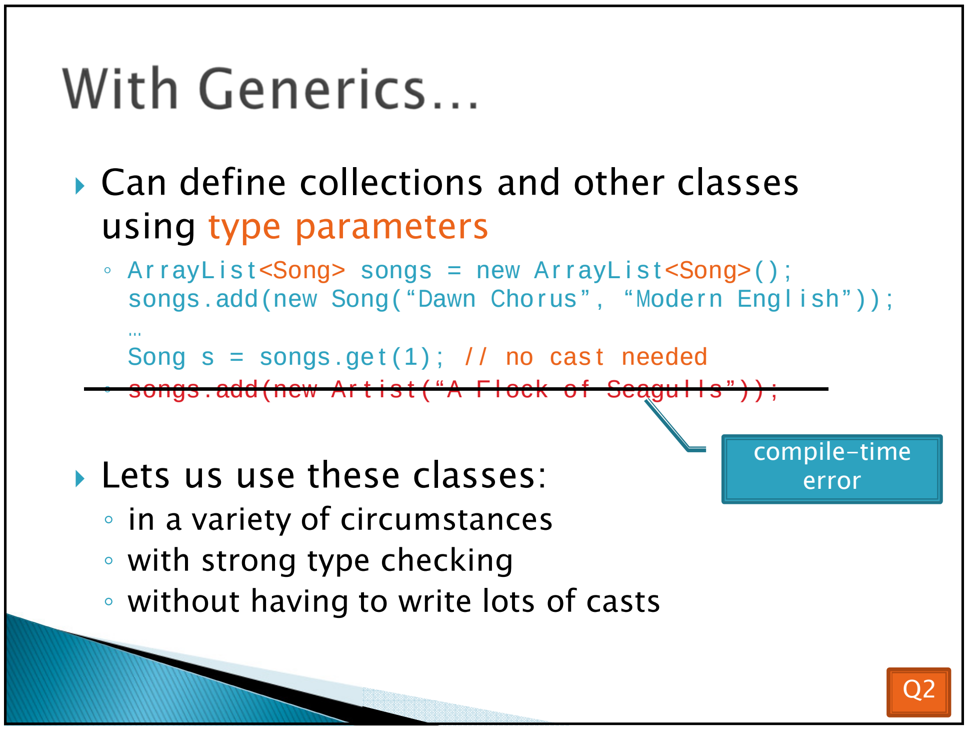
Before Generics…

- Collections just stored Objects
  - Better than creating different collection classes for each kind of object to be stored
  - Could put anything in them because of **polymorphism**
- Used casts to get types right:

  -
    ```
    ArrayList songs = new ArrayList();
    songs.add(new Song(“Dawn Chorus”,“Modern English”));
    …
    Song s = (Song) songs.get(1);
    ```

  -
    ```
    songs.add(new Artist(“A Flock of Seagulls”));
    Song t = (Song) songs.get(2);
    ```

Q1



With Generics…

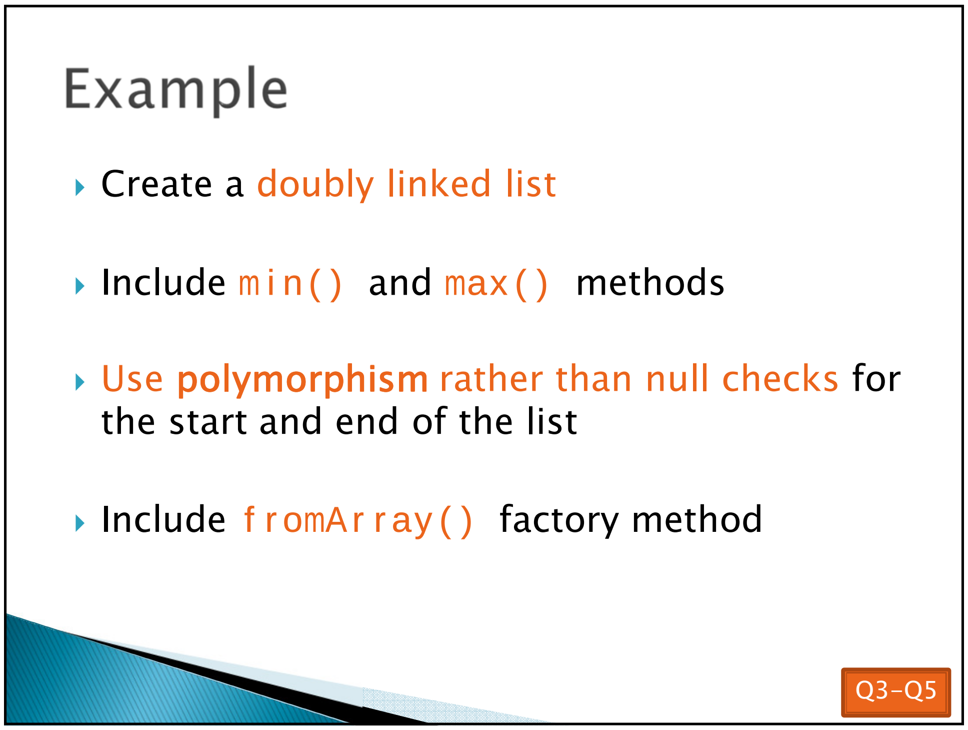
- Can define collections and other classes using type parameters

  -
    ```
    ArrayList<Song> songs = new ArrayList<Song>();
    songs.add(new Song(“Dawn Chorus”, “Modern English”));
    …
    Song s = songs.get(1); // no cast needed
    ```
  - ~~songs.add(new Artist(“A Flock of Seagulls”));~~

compile-time error

- Lets us use these classes:
  - in a variety of circumstances
  - with strong type checking
  - without having to write lots of casts

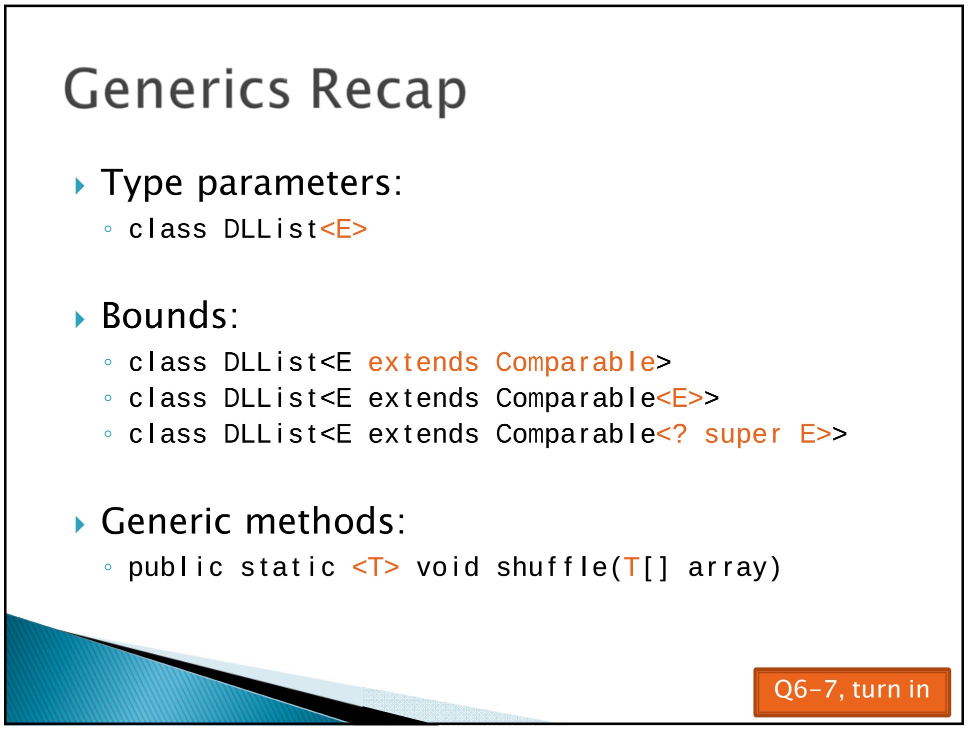
Q2



Example

- Create a doubly linked list
- Include `min()` and `max()` methods
- Use **polymorphism** rather than null checks for the start and end of the list
- Include `fromArray()` factory method

Q3–Q5



Generics Recap

- Type parameters:
  - `class DLList<E>`
- Bounds:
  - `class DLList<E extends Comparable>`
  - `class DLList<E extends Comparable<E>>`
  - `class DLList<E extends Comparable<? super E>>`
- Generic methods:
  - `public static <T> void shuffle(T[] array)`

Q6–7, turn in