

# Inheritance



EECS2030 B & E: Advanced  
Object Oriented Programming  
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# Learning Outcomes

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This module is designed to help you learn about:

- Alternative designs to **inheritance**
- Using **inheritance** for code reuse
- **Static Types**, Expectations, **Dynamic Types**
- **Polymorphism**  
(variable assignments, method arguments & return values)
- **Dynamic Binding**
- **Type Casting**

# Why Inheritance: A Motivating Example

**Problem:** A student management system stores data about students. There are two kinds of university students: resident students and non-resident students. Both kinds of students have a name and a list of registered courses. Both kinds of students are restricted to register for no more than 10 courses. When calculating the tuition for a student, a base amount is first determined from the list of courses they are currently registered (each course has an associated fee). For a non-resident student, there is a discount rate applied to the base amount to waive the fee for on-campus accommodation. For a resident student, there is a premium rate applied to the base amount to account for the fee for on-campus accommodation and meals.

**Tasks:** Write Java classes that satisfy the above problem statement. At runtime, each type of student must be able to register a course and calculate their tuition fee.

# Why Inheritance: A Motivating Example

**Problem:** A *student management system* stores data about students. There are two kinds of university students: *resident* students and *non-resident* students. Both kinds of students have a *name* and a list of *registered courses*. Both kinds of students are restricted to *register* for no more than 10 courses. When *calculating the tuition* for a student, a base amount is first determined from the list of courses they are currently registered (each course has an associated fee). For a non-resident student, there is a *discount rate* applied to the base amount to waive the fee for on-campus accommodation. For a resident student, there is a *premium rate* applied to the base amount to account for the fee for on-campus accommodation and meals.

**Tasks:** Write Java classes that satisfy the above problem statement. At runtime, each type of student must be able to register a course and calculate their tuition fee.

# No Inheritance: ResidentStudent Class

```
public class ResidentStudent {
    private String name;
    private Course[] courses; private int noc;
    private double premiumRate; /* assume a mutator for this */
    public ResidentStudent (String name) {
        this.name = name;
        this.courses = new Course[10];
    }
    public void register(Course c) {
        this.courses[this.noc] = c;
        this.noc ++;
    }
    public double getTuition() {
        double tuition = 0;
        for(int i = 0; i < this.noc; i ++) {
            tuition += this.courses[i].fee;
        }
        return tuition * this.premiumRate;
    }
}
```

# No Inheritance: NonResidentStudent Class

```
public class NonResidentStudent {
    private String name;
    private Course[] courses; private int noc;
    private double discountRate; /* assume a mutator for this */
    public NonResidentStudent (String name) {
        this.name = name;
        this.courses = new Course[10];
    }
    public void register(Course c) {
        this.courses[this.noc] = c;
        this.noc ++;
    }
    public double getTuition() {
        double tuition = 0;
        for(int i = 0; i < this.noc; i ++) {
            tuition += this.courses[i].fee;
        }
        return tuition * this.discountRate;
    }
}
```

# No Inheritance: Testing Student Classes

```
public class Course {  
    private String title; private double fee;  
    public Course(String title, double fee) {  
        this.title = title; this.fee = fee;  
    }  
}
```

```
public class StudentTester {  
    public static void main(String[] args) {  
        Course c1 = new Course("EECS2030", 500.00); /* title and fee */  
        Course c2 = new Course("EECS3311", 500.00); /* title and fee */  
        ResidentStudent jim = new ResidentStudent("J. Davis");  
        jim.setPremiumRate(1.25);  
        jim.register(c1); jim.register(c2);  
        NonResidentStudent jeremy = new NonResidentStudent("J. Gibbons");  
        jeremy.setDiscountRate(0.75);  
        jeremy.register(c1); jeremy.register(c2);  
        System.out.println("Jim pays " + jim.getTuition());  
        System.out.println("Jeremy pays " + jeremy.getTuition());  
    }  
}
```

# No Inheritance: Issues with the Student Classes

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- Implementations for the two student classes seem to work. But can you see any potential problems with it?

**Hint.** Maintenance of code

- The code of the two student classes share a lot in common.
  - *Duplicates of code make it hard to maintain your software!*
  - This means that when there is a change of policy on the common part, we need modify *more than one places*.
  - This violates the so-called *single-choice design principle*.



# No Inheritance: Maintainability of Code (1)

What if the way for registering a course changes?

e.g.,

```
public void register(Course c) throws TooManyCoursesException {
    if (this.noc >= MAX_ALLOWANCE) {
        throw new TooManyCoursesException("Too many courses");
    }
    else {
        this.courses[this.noc] = c;
        this.noc ++;
    }
}
```

Changes needed for `register` method in **both** student classes!

## No Inheritance: Maintainability of Code (2)

What if the way for calculating the base tuition changes?

e.g.,

```
public double getTuition() {
    double tuition = 0;
    for(int i = 0; i < this.noc; i++) {
        tuition += this.courses[i].fee;
    }
    /* ... can be premiumRate or discountRate */
    return tuition * inflationRate * ...;
}
```

Changes needed for `getTuition` method in **both** student classes!

# No Inheritance: A Collection of Various Kinds of Students

How can we define a class `StudentManagementSystem` that contains a list of *resident* and *non-resident* students?

```
public class StudentManagementSystem {
    private ResidentStudent[] rss;
    private NonResidentStudent[] nrss;
    private int nors; /* number of resident students */
    private int nonrs; /* number of non-resident students */
    public void addRS(ResidentStudent rs){ rss[nors]=rs; nors++; }
    public void addNRS(NonResidentStudent nrs){ nrss[nonrs]=nrs;nonrs++; }
    public void registerAll(Course c) {
        for(int i = 0; i < nors; i ++){ rss[i].register(c); }
        for(int i = 0; i < nonrs; i ++){ nrss[i].register(c); }
    }
}
```

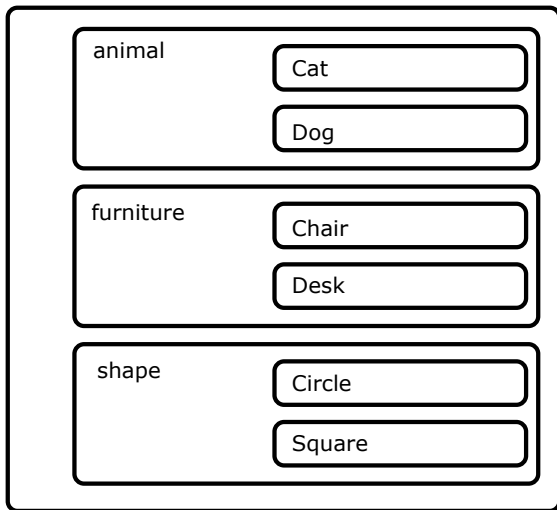
But what if we later on introduce *more kinds of students*?

Very *inconvenient* to handle each list of students *separately*!

a polymorphic collection of students

# Visibility: Project, Packages, Classes

CollectionOfStuffs

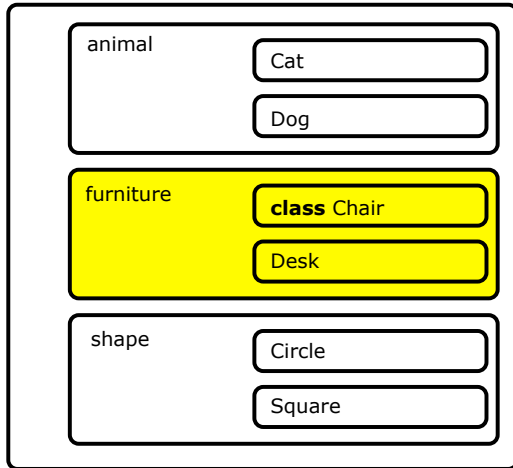


# Visibility of Classes

- Only one modifier for declaring visibility of classes: **public**.
- Use of **private** is forbidden for declaring a class.  
e.g., `private class Chair` is **not** allowed!!
- **Visibility** of a class may be declared using a modifier, indicating that it is accessible:
  1. Across classes within its residing package [ no modifier ]  
e.g., Declare `class Chair { ... }`
  2. Across packages [ **public** ]  
e.g., Declare `public class Chair { ... }`
- Consider class `Chair` which resides in:
  - package `furniture`
  - project `CollectionOfStuffs`

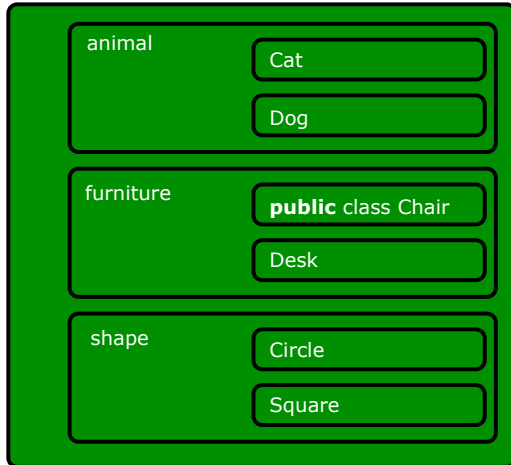
# Visibility of Classes: Across All Classes Within the Resident Package (no modifier)

CollectionOfStuffs



# Visibility of Classes: Across All Classes Within the Resident Package (no modifier)

CollectionOfStuffs



# Visibility of Attributes/Methods: Using Modifiers to Define Scopes

- Two modifiers for declaring visibility of attributes/methods: **public** and **private**
- **Visibility** of an attribute or a method may be declared using a modifier, indicating that it is accessible:

1. Within its residing class (**most** restrictive) [ **private** ]

e.g., Declare attribute `private int i;`

e.g., Declare method `private void m() {};`

2. Across classes within its residing package [ no modifier ]

e.g., Declare attribute `int i;`

e.g., Declare method `void m() {};`

3. Across packages (**least** restrictive) [ **public** ]

e.g., Declare attribute `public int i;`

e.g., Declare method `public void m() {};`

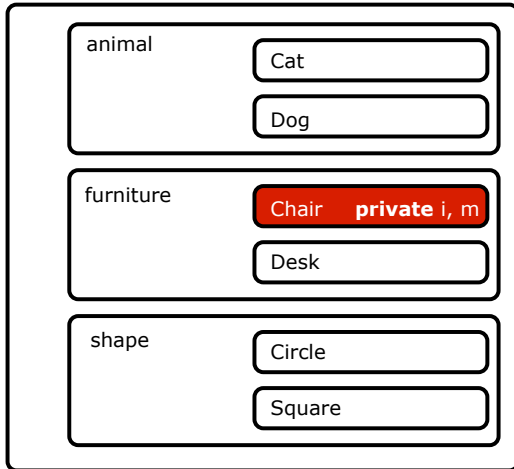
- Consider attributes `i` and `m` residing in:

Class `Chair`; Package `furniture`; Project `CollectionOfStuffs`.



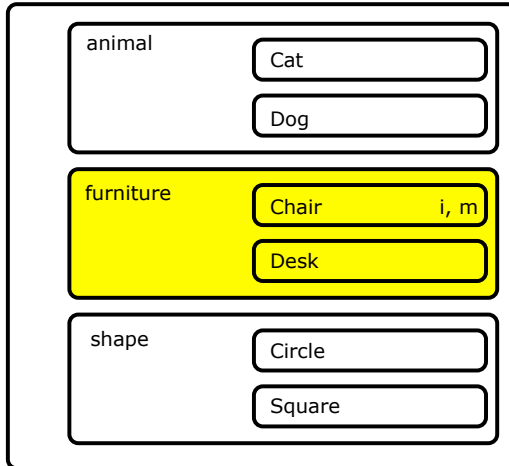
# Visibility of Attr./Meth.: Across All Methods Within the Resident Class (*private*)

CollectionOfStuffs



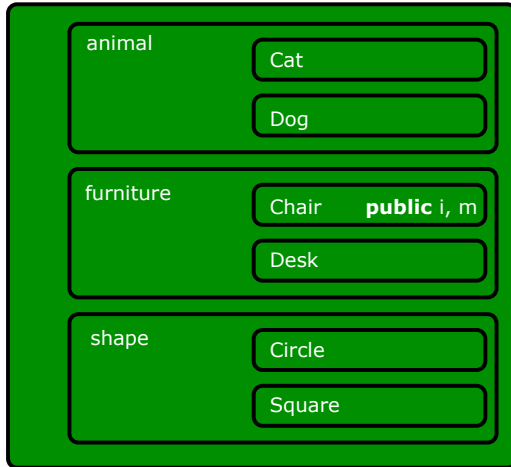
# Visibility of Attr./Meth.: Across All Classes Within the Resident Package (no modifier)

CollectionOfStuffs



# Visibility of Attr./Meth.: Across All Packages Within the Resident Project (`public`)

CollectionOfStuffs



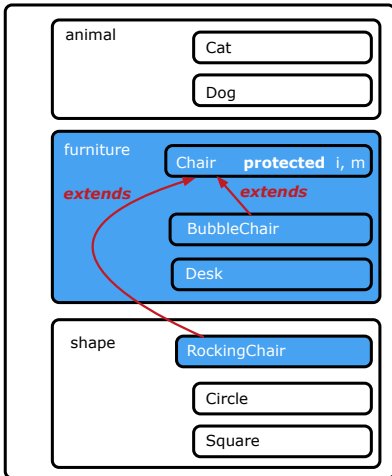
# Use of the `protected` Modifier

- *private* attributes are not inherited to subclasses.
- package-level attributes (i.e., with **no modifier**) and project-level attributes (i.e., *public*) are inherited.
- What if we want attributes to be:
  - *visible* to sub-classes outside the current package, but still
  - *invisible* to other non-sub-classes outside the current package?

Use *protected*!

# Visibility of Attr./Meth.: Across All Methods Same Package and Sub-Classes (protected)

CollectionOfStuffs



# Visibility of Attributes/Methods

modifier \ scope	CLASS	PACKAGE	SUBCLASS (same pkg)	SUBCLASS (different pkg)	NON-SUBCLASS (across Project)
<b>public</b>	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
<b>protected</b>	Green	Green	Green	Green	Red
no modifier	Green	Green	Green	Red	Red
<b>private</b>	Green	Red	Red	Red	Red

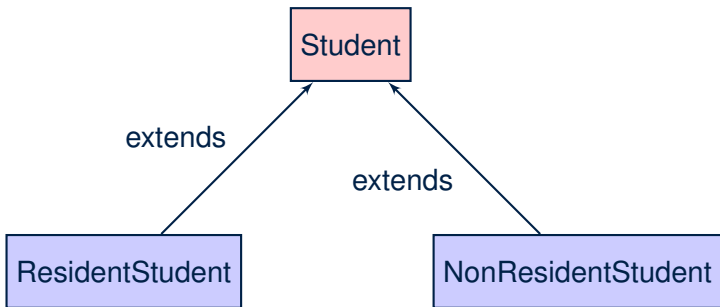
For the rest of this lecture, for simplicity, we assume that:

*All relevant parent/child classes are in the same package .*

⇒ Attributes with **no modifiers** (*package*-level visibility) suffice.

⇒ Methods with **no modifiers** (*package*-level visibility) suffice.

# Inheritance Architecture



# Inheritance: The Student Parent/Super Class

```
class Student {
    String name;
    Course[] courses; int noc;
    Student (String name) {
        this.name = name;
        this.courses = new Course[10];
    }
    void register(Course c) {
        this.courses[this.noc] = c;
        this.noc ++;
    }
    double getTuition() {
        double tuition = 0;
        for(int i = 0; i < this.noc; i ++) {
            tuition += this.courses[i].fee;
        }
        return tuition; /* base amount only */
    }
}
```



# Inheritance:

## The ResidentStudent Child/Sub Class

```
1 class ResidentStudent extends Student {
2     double premiumRate; /* there's a mutator method for this */
3     ResidentStudent (String name) { super (name); }
4     /* register method is inherited */
5     double getTuition() {
6         double base = super.getTuition();
7         return base * premiumRate;
8     }
9 }
```

- L1 declares that ResidentStudent inherits all attributes and methods (except constructors) from Student.
- There is no need to repeat the register method
- Use of *super* in L4 is as if calling Student (name)
- Use of *super* in L8 returns what getTuition() in Student returns.
- Use *super* to refer to attributes/methods defined in the super class:

`super.name`, `super.register(c)`.

# Inheritance:

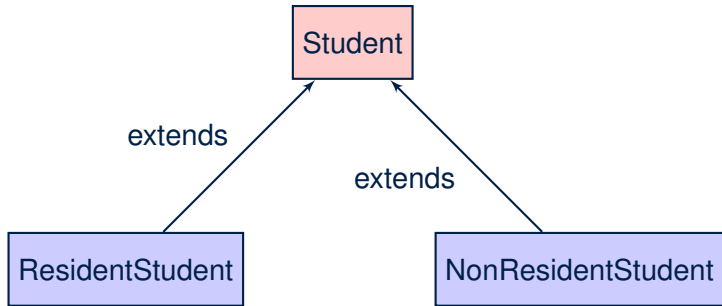
## The NonResidentStudent Child/Sub Class

```
1 class NonResidentStudent extends Student {
2     double discountRate; /* there's a mutator method for this */
3     NonResidentStudent (String name) { super (name); }
4     /* register method is inherited */
5     double getTuition() {
6         double base = super.getTuition();
7         return base * discountRate;
8     }
9 }
```

- L1 declares that NonResidentStudent inherits all attributes and methods (except constructors) from Student.
- There is no need to repeat the register method
- Use of *super* in L4 is as if calling Student (name)
- Use of *super* in L8 returns what getTuition() in Student returns.
- Use *super* to refer to attributes/methods defined in the super class:

`super.name`, `super.register(c)`.

# Inheritance Architecture Revisited



- The class that defines the common attributes and methods is called the **parent** or **super** class.
- Each “extended” class is called a **child** or **sub** class.

# Using Inheritance for Code Reuse

**Inheritance** in Java allows you to:

- Define **common attributes and methods** in a separate class.  
e.g., the `Student` class
- Define an “extended” version of the class which:
  - **inherits** definitions of all attributes and methods  
e.g., `name`, `courses`, `noc`  
e.g., `register`  
e.g., base amount calculation in `getTuition`  
***This means code reuse and elimination of code duplicates!***
  - **defines new** attributes and methods if necessary  
e.g., `setPremiumRate` for `ResidentStudent`  
e.g., `setDiscountRate` for `NonResidentStudent`
  - **redefines/overrides** methods if necessary  
e.g., compounded tuition for `ResidentStudent`  
e.g., discounted tuition for `NonResidentStudent`

# Visualizing Parent/Child Objects (1)

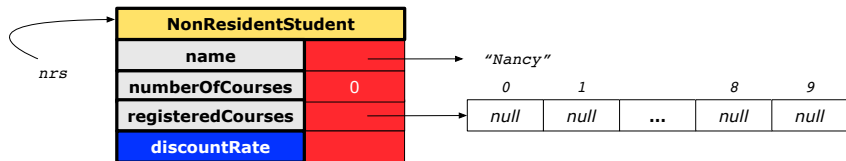
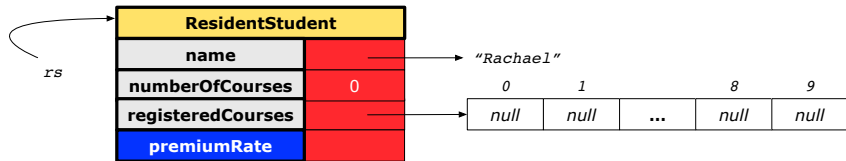
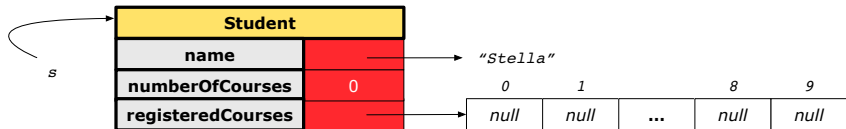
- A child class inherits **all** non-private attributes from its parent class.  
⇒ A child instance has **at least as many** attributes as an instance of its parent class.

Consider the following instantiations:

```
Student s = new Student("Stella");  
ResidentStudent rs = new ResidentStudent("Rachael");  
NonResidentStudent nrs = new NonResidentStudent("Nancy");
```

- How will these initial objects look like?

## Visualizing Parent/Child Objects (2)

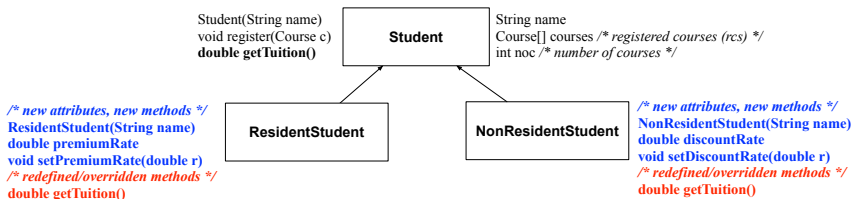


# Testing the Two Student Sub-Classes

```
public class StudentTester {
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        Course c1 = new Course("EECS2030", 500.00); /* title and fee */
        Course c2 = new Course("EECS3311", 500.00); /* title and fee */
        ResidentStudent jim = new ResidentStudent("J. Davis");
        jim.setPremiumRate(1.25);
        jim.register(c1); jim.register(c2);
        NonResidentStudent jeremy = new NonResidentStudent("J. Gibbons");
        jeremy.setDiscountRate(0.75);
        jeremy.register(c1); jeremy.register(c2);
        System.out.println("Jim pays " + jim.getTuition());
        System.out.println("Jeremy pays " + jeremy.getTuition());
    }
}
```

- The software can be used in the exact same way as before (because we did not modify **method headers**).
- But now the internal structure of code has been made **maintainable** using **inheritance**.

# Inheritance Architecture: Static Types & Expectations



```

Student s = new Student("Stella");
ResidentStudent rs = new ResidentStudent("Rachael");
NonResidentStudent nrs = new NonResidentStudent("Nancy");
  
```

	name	rcs	noc	reg	getT	pr	setPR	dr	setDR
s.			✓					×	
rs.			✓				✓		×
nrs.			✓				×		✓



# Polymorphism: Intuition (1)

```
1 Student s = new Student("Stella");
2 ResidentStudent rs = new ResidentStudent("Rachael");
3 rs.setPremiumRate(1.25);
4 s = rs; /* Is this valid? */
5 rs = s; /* Is this valid? */
```

- Which one of **L4** and **L5** is *valid*? Which one is *invalid*?

- **Hints:**

- **L1:** What *kind* of address can *s* store? [ Student ]  
∴ The context object *s* is *expected* to be used as:
  - *s*.register(eecs2030) and *s*.getTuition()
- **L2:** What *kind* of address can *rs* store? [ ResidentStudent ]  
∴ The context object *rs* is *expected* to be used as:
  - *rs*.register(eecs2030) and *rs*.getTuition()
  - *rs.setPremiumRate(1.50)* [increase premium rate]

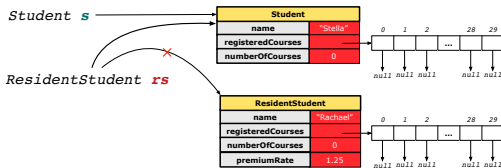
## Polymorphism: Intuition (2)

```

1 Student s = new Student("Stella");
2 ResidentStudent rs = new ResidentStudent("Rachael");
3 rs.setPremiumRate(1.25);
4 s = rs; /* Is this valid? */
5 rs = s; /* Is this valid? */

```

- rs = s (L5)** should be *invalid*:



- Since `rs` is declared of type `ResidentStudent`, a subsequent call `rs.setPremiumRate(1.50)` can be expected.
- `rs` is now pointing to a `Student` object.
- Then, what would happen to `rs.setPremiumRate(1.50)`?

**CRASH**

`:: rs.premiumRate` is *undefined*!!

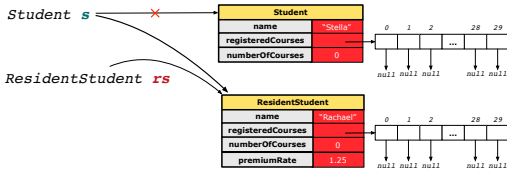
# Polymorphism: Intuition (3)

```

1 Student s = new Student("Stella");
2 ResidentStudent rs = new ResidentStudent("Rachael");
3 rs.setPremiumRate(1.25);
4 s = rs; /* Is this valid? */
5 rs = s; /* Is this valid? */

```

- $s = rs$  (L4) should be *valid*:



- Since  $s$  is declared of type `Student`, a subsequent call  $s.setPremiumRate(1.50)$  is *never* expected.
- $s$  is now pointing to a `ResidentStudent` object.
- Then, what would happen to  $s.getTuition()$ ?

OK

$\therefore s.premiumRate$  is *never directly used*!!

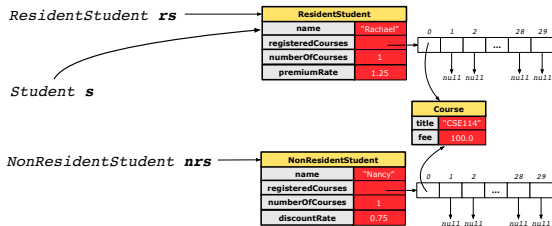
# Dynamic Binding: Intuition (1)

```

1 Course eecs2030 = new Course("EECS2030", 100.0);
2 Student s;
3 ResidentStudent rs = new ResidentStudent("Rachael");
4 NonResidentStudent nrs = new NonResidentStudent("Nancy");
5 rs.setPremiumRate(1.25); rs.register(eecs2030);
6 nrs.setDiscountRate(0.75); nrs.register(eecs2030);
7 s = rs; System.out.println(s.getTuition()); /* 125.0 */
8 s = nrs; System.out.println(s.getTuition()); /* 75.0 */

```

After `s = rs` (L7), `s` points to a ResidentStudent object.  
 ⇒ Calling `s.getTuition()` applies the premiumRate.



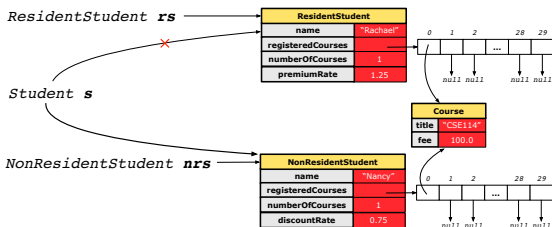
# Dynamic Binding: Intuition (2)

```

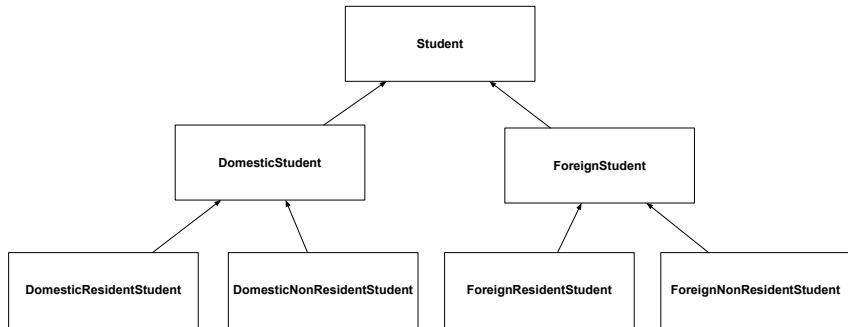
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2 Student s;
3 ResidentStudent rs = new ResidentStudent("Rachael");
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5 rs.setPremiumRate(1.25); rs.register(eecs2030);
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```

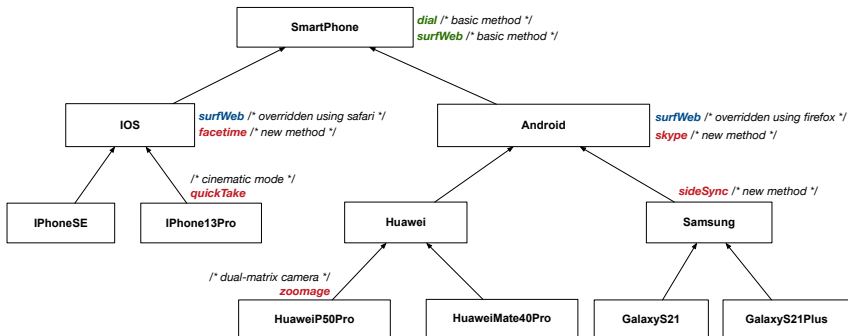
After `s = nrs` (L8), `s` points to a `NonResidentStudent` object.  
 ⇒ Calling `s.getTuition()` applies the `discountRate`.



# Multi-Level Inheritance Architecture



# Multi-Level Inheritance Hierarchy: Smart Phones



# Inheritance Forms a Type Hierarchy

- A (data) **type** denotes a set of related *runtime values*.
  - Every **class** can be used as a type: the set of runtime **objects**.
- Use of **inheritance** creates a **hierarchy** of classes:
  - (Implicit) Root of the hierarchy is `Object`.
  - Each `extends` declaration corresponds to an upward arrow.
  - The `extends` relationship is **transitive**: when A extends B and B extends C, we say A *indirectly* extends C.  
e.g., Every class implicitly `extends` the `Object` class.
- **Ancestor** vs. **Descendant** classes:
  - The **ancestor classes** of a class A are: A itself and all classes that A directly, or indirectly, extends.
    - A inherits all code (attributes and methods) from its **ancestor classes**.  
∴ A's instances have a **wider range of expected usages** (i.e., attributes and methods) than instances of its **ancestor** classes.
  - The **descendant classes** of a class A are: A itself and all classes that directly, or indirectly, extends A.
    - Code defined in A is inherited to all its **descendant classes**.



# Inheritance Accumulates Code for Reuse

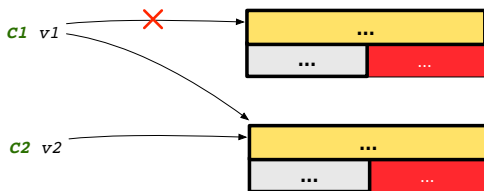
- The **lower** a class is in the type hierarchy, the **more code** it accumulates from its **ancestor classes**:
  - A **descendant class** inherits all code from its **ancestor classes**.
  - A **descendant class** may also:
    - Declare new attributes
    - Define new methods
    - **Redefine / Override** inherited methods
- Consequently:
  - When being used as **context objects**, instances of a class' **descendant classes** have a **wider range of expected usages** (i.e., attributes and methods).
  - Given a **reference variable**, expected to store the address of an object of a particular class, we may **substitute** it with (**re-assign** it to) an object of any of its **descendant classes**.
  - e.g., When expecting a `SmartPhone` object, we may substitute it with either a `IPhone13Pro` or a `Samsung` object.
  - **Justification:** A **descendant class** contains **at least as many** methods as defined in its **ancestor classes** (but not vice versa!).

# Static Types Determine Expectations

- A reference variable's **static type** is what we declare it to be.
  - `Student jim` declares jim's ST as Student.
  - `SmartPhone myPhone` declares myPhone's ST as SmartPhone.
  - The **static type** of a reference variable **never changes**.
- For a reference variable  $v$ , its **static type**  $C$  defines the **expected usages of  $v$  as a context object**.
- A method call  $v.m(\dots)$  is **compilable** if  $m$  is defined in  $C$ .
  - e.g., After declaring `Student jim`, we
    - **may** call `register` and `getTuition` on `jim`
    - **may not** call `setPremiumRate` (specific to a resident student) or `setDiscountRate` (specific to a non-resident student) on `jim`
  - e.g., After declaring `SmartPhone myPhone`, we
    - **may** call `dial` and `surfWeb` on `myPhone`
    - **may not** call `facetime` (specific to an IOS phone) or `skype` (specific to an Android phone) on `myPhone`

# Substitutions via Assignments

- By declaring  $C1$   $v1$ , **reference variable**  $v1$  will store the **address** of an object “of class  $C1$ ” at runtime.
- By declaring  $C2$   $v2$ , **reference variable**  $v2$  will store the **address** of an object “of class  $C2$ ” at runtime.
- Assignment  $v1 = v2$  **copies address** stored in  $v2$  into  $v1$ .
  - $v1$  will instead point to wherever  $v2$  is pointing to. [ **object alias** ]



- In such assignment  $v1 = v2$ , we say that we **substitute** an object of (**static**) type  $C1$  by an object of (**static**) type  $C2$ .
- Substitutions** are subject to **rules**!

# Rules of Substitution

When expecting an object of **static type**  $A$ :

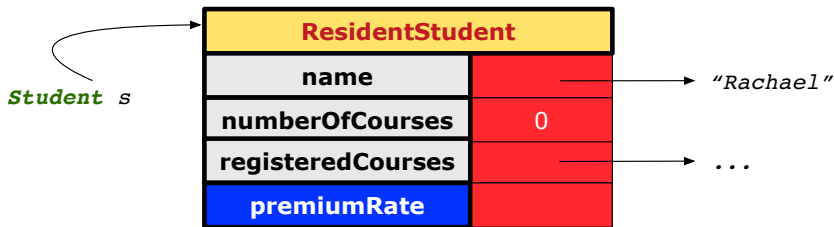
- It is **safe** to **substitute** it with an object whose **static type** is any of the **descendant class** of  $A$  (including  $A$ ).
  - $\therefore$  Each **descendant class** of  $A$ , being the new substitute, is guaranteed to contain all (non-private) attributes/methods defined in  $A$ .
  - e.g., When expecting an IOS phone, you **can** substitute it with either an iPhoneSE or iPhone13Pro.
- It is **unsafe** to **substitute** it with an object whose **static type** is any of the **ancestor classes of  $A$ 's parent** (excluding  $A$ ).
  - $\therefore$  Class  $A$  may have defined new methods that do not exist in any of its **parent's ancestor classes**.
  - e.g., When expecting IOS phone, **unsafe** to substitute it with a SmartPhone `∴ facetime not supported in Android phone`.
- It is also **unsafe** to **substitute** it with an object whose **static type** is neither an ancestor nor a descendant of  $A$ .
  - e.g., When expecting IOS phone, **unsafe** to substitute it with a HuaweiP50Pro `∴ facetime not supported in Android phone`.

# Reference Variable: Dynamic Type

A *reference variable*'s *dynamic type* is the type of object that it is currently pointing to at runtime.

- The *dynamic type* of a reference variable *may change* whenever we *re-assign* that variable to a different object.
- There are two ways to re-assigning a reference variable.

# Visualizing Static Type vs. Dynamic Type



- Each segmented box denotes a *runtime* object.
- Arrow denotes a variable (e.g., `s`) storing the object's address. Usually, when the context is clear, we leave the variable's *static type* implicit (`Student`).
- Title of box indicates type of runtime object, which denotes the *dynamic type* of the variable (`ResidentStudent`).

# Reference Variable: Changing Dynamic Type (1)

Re-assigning a reference variable to a newly-created object:

- **Substitution Principle**: the new object's class must be a **descendant class** of the reference variable's **static type**.
- e.g., `Student jim = new ResidentStudent (...)` changes the **dynamic type** of jim to ResidentStudent.
- e.g., `jim = new NonResidentStudent (...)` changes the **dynamic type** of jim to NonResidentStudent.
- e.g., `ResidentStudent jeremy = new Student (...)` is illegal because Student is **not** a **descendant class** of the **static type** of jeremy (i.e., ResidentStudent).

## Reference Variable: Changing Dynamic Type (2)

Re-assigning a reference variable `v` to an existing object that is referenced by another variable `other` (i.e., `v = other`):

- **Substitution Principle**: the static type of `other` must be a **descendant class** of `v`'s **static type**.
- e.g., Say we declare

```
Student jim = new Student(...);
ResidentStudent rs = new ResidentStudent(...);
NonResidentStudent nrs = new NonResidentStudent(...);
```

- `jim = rs` ✓  
changes the **dynamic type** of `jim` to the dynamic type of `rs`
- `jim = nrs` ✓  
changes the **dynamic type** of `jim` to the dynamic type of `nrs`
- `rs = jim` ✗
- `nrs = jim` ✗



# Polymorphism and Dynamic Binding (1)

- **Polymorphism**: An object variable may have “**multiple possible shapes**” (i.e., allowable **dynamic types**).
  - Consequently, there are **multiple possible versions** of each method that may be called.
    - e.g., A **Student** variable may have the **dynamic type** of **Student**, **ResidentStudent**, or **NonResidentStudent**,
    - This means that there are three possible versions of the `getTuition()` that may be called.
- **Dynamic binding**: When a method `m` is called on an object variable, the version of `m` corresponding to its “**current shape**” (i.e., one defined in the **dynamic type** of `m`) will be called.

```
Student jim = new ResidentStudent(...);  
jim.getTuition(); /* version in ResidentStudent */  
jim = new NonResidentStudent(...);  
jim.getTuition(); /* version in NonResidentStudent */
```

# Polymorphism and Dynamic Binding (2.1)

```
class Student {...}
class ResidentStudent extends Student {...}
class NonResidentStudent extends Student {...}
```

```
class StudentTester1 {
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        Student jim = new Student("J. Davis");
        ResidentStudent rs = new ResidentStudent("J. Davis");
        jim = rs; /* legal */
        rs = jim; /* illegal */

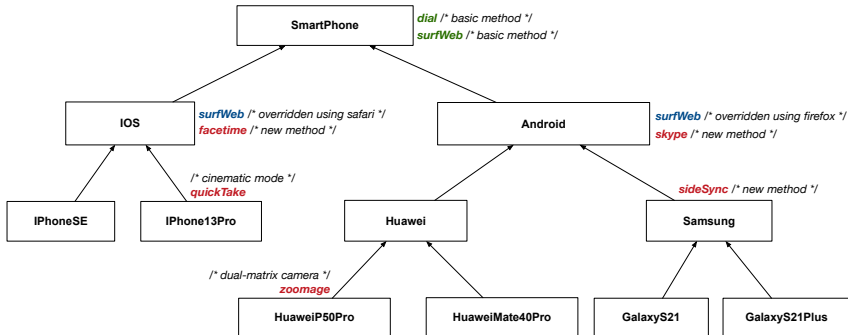
        NonResidentStudent nrs = new NonResidentStudent("J. Davis");
        jim = nrs; /* legal */
        nrs = jim; /* illegal */
    }
}
```

## Polymorphism and Dynamic Binding (2.2)

```
class Student {...}
class ResidentStudent extends Student {...}
class NonResidentStudent extends Student {...}
```

```
class StudentTester2 {
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        Course eecs2030 = new Course("EECS2030", 500.0);
        Student jim = new Student("J. Davis");
        ResidentStudent rs = new ResidentStudent("J. Davis");
        rs.setPremiumRate(1.5);
        jim = rs;
        System.out.println(jim.getTuition()); /* 750.0 */
        NonResidentStudent nrs = new NonResidentStudent("J. Davis");
        nrs.setDiscountRate(0.5);
        jim = nrs;
        System.out.println(jim.getTuition()); /* 250.0 */
    }
}
```

# Polymorphism and Dynamic Binding (3.1)



## Polymorphism and Dynamic Binding (3.2)

```
class SmartPhoneTest1 {
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        SmartPhone myPhone;
        IOS ip = new iPhoneSE();
        Samsung ss = new GalaxyS21Plus();
        myPhone = ip; /* legal */
        myPhone = ss; /* legal */

        IOS presentForHeeyeon;
        presentForHeeyeon = ip; /* legal */
        presentForHeeyeon = ss; /* illegal */
    }
}
```

# Polymorphism and Dynamic Binding (3.3)

```
class SmartPhoneTest2 {
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        SmartPhone myPhone;
        IOS ip = new iPhone13Pro();
        myPhone = ip;
        myPhone.surfWeb (); /* version of surfWeb in iPhone13Pro */

        Samsung ss = new GalaxyS21();
        myPhone = ss;
        myPhone.surfWeb (); /* version of surfWeb in GalaxyS21 */
    }
}
```

# Reference Type Casting: Motivation (1.1)

```
1 Student jim = new ResidentStudent("J. Davis");  
2 ResidentStudent rs = jim;  
3 rs.setPremiumRate(1.5);
```

- **L1** is *legal*: ResidentStudent is a **descendant class** of the *static type* of jim (i.e., Student).
- **L2** is *illegal*: jim's *ST* (i.e., Student) is **not** a descendant class of rs's *ST* (i.e., ResidentStudent).

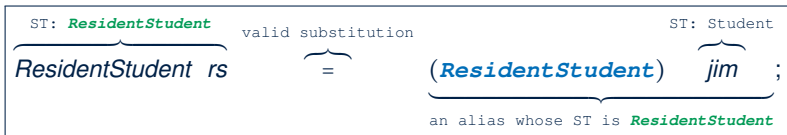
Java compiler is *unable to infer* that jim's *dynamic type* in **L2** is ResidentStudent!

- Force the Java compiler to believe so via a cast in **L2**:

```
ResidentStudent rs = (ResidentStudent) jim;
```

- The cast (**ResidentStudent**) jim creates for jim **a temporary alias** whose *ST* corresponds to the *cast type* (**ResidentStudent**).
- Alias rs of *ST* ResidentStudent is then created via an assignment.  
**Note.** jim's *ST* always remains Student.
- **dynamic binding**: After the **cast**, **L3** will execute the correct version of setPremiumRate (∴ *DT* of rs is **ResidentStudent**).

# Reference Type Casting: Motivation (1.2)



- Variable *rs* is declared of **static type (ST)** *ResidentStudent*.
- Variable *jim* is declared of **ST** *Student*.
- The cast `(ResidentStudent) jim` creates for *jim* a **temporary alias**, whose **ST** corresponds to the **cast type** (*ResidentStudent*).
  - ⇒ Such a cast makes the assignment valid.
  - ∴ RHS's **ST** (*ResidentStudent*) is a descendant of LHS's **ST** (*ResidentStudent*).
  - ⇒ The assignment creates an alias *rs* with **ST** *ResidentStudent*.
- **No** new object is created.
  - Only an **alias** *rs* with a different **ST** (*ResidentStudent*) is created.
- After the assignment, *jim*'s **ST** remains *Student*.



# Reference Type Casting: Motivation (2.1)

```

1 SmartPhone aPhone = new iPhone13Pro();
2 iPhone13Pro forHeeyeon = aPhone;
3 forHeeyeon.facetime(1.5);

```

- **L1** is *legal*: iPhone13Pro is a **descendant class** of the *static type* of aPhone (i.e., SmartPhone).
- **L2** is *illegal*: aPhone's **ST** (i.e., SmartPhone) is **not** a descendant class of forHeeyeon's **ST** (i.e., iPhone13Pro).

Java compiler is *unable to infer* that aPhone's *dynamic type* in L2 is iPhone13Pro!

- Force the Java compiler to believe so via a cast in **L2**:

```

iPhone13Pro forHeeyeon = (iPhone13Pro) aPhone;

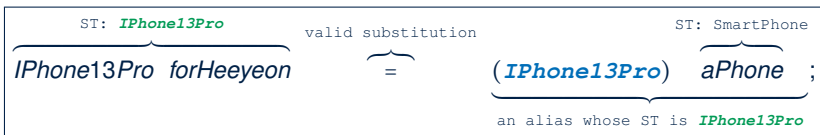
```

- The cast `(iPhone13Pro) aPhone` creates for aPhone **a temporary alias** whose **ST** corresponds to the *cast type* (`iPhone13Pro`).
- Alias forHeeyeon of **ST iPhone13Pro** is then created via an assignment.

**Note.** aPhone's **ST** always remains SmartPhone.

- *dynamic binding*: After the **cast**, **L3** will execute the correct version of `facetime` ( $\therefore$  **DT** of forHeeyeon is `iPhone13Pro`).

## Reference Type Casting: Motivation (2.2)



- Variable *forHeeyeon* is declared of **static type (ST)** *iPhone13Pro*.
- Variable *aPhone* is declared of **ST** *SmartPhone*.
- The cast `(iPhone13Pro) aPhone` creates for *aPhone* a **temporary alias**, whose **ST** corresponds to the **cast type** (*iPhone13Pro*).
  - ⇒ Such a cast makes the assignment valid.
  - ∴ RHS's **ST** (*iPhone13Pro*) is a descendant of LHS's **ST** (*iPhone13Pro*).
  - ⇒ The assignment creates an alias *forHeeyeon* with **ST** *iPhone13Pro*.
- **No** new object is created.
  - Only an **alias** *forHeeyeon* with a different **ST** (*iPhone13Pro*) is created.
- After the assignment, *aPhone*'s **ST** remains *SmartPhone*.

# Type Cast: Named or Anonymous

**Named Cast:** Use intermediate variable to store the cast result.

```
SmartPhone aPhone = new iPhone13Pro();  
IOS forHeeyeon = (iPhone13Pro) aPhone;  
forHeeyeon.facetime();
```

**Anonymous Cast:** Use the cast result directly.

```
SmartPhone aPhone = new iPhone13Pro();  
((iPhone13Pro) aPhone).facetime();
```

## Common Mistake:

```
1 SmartPhone aPhone = new iPhone13Pro();  
2 (iPhone13Pro) aPhone.facetime();
```

**L2**  $\equiv$  `(iPhone13Pro) (aPhone.facetime())`: Call, then cast.  
 $\Rightarrow$  This does **not** compile  $\because$  `facetime()` is **not** declared in the *static type* of `aPhone` (`SmartPhone`).

# Notes on Type Cast (1)

- Given variable  $v$  of **static type**  $ST_v$ , it is **compilable** to cast  $v$  to  $C$ , as long as  $C$  is an **ancestor** or **descendant** of  $ST_v$ .
- Without cast, we can **only** call methods defined in  $ST_v$  on  $v$ .
- Casting  $v$  to  $C$  creates for  $v$  an alias with **ST**  $C$ .  
 ⇒ All methods that are defined in  $C$  can be called.

```

Android myPhone = new GalaxyS21Plus();
/* can call methods declared in Android on myPhone
 * dial, surfweb, skype ✓ sideSync × */
SmartPhone sp = (SmartPhone) myPhone;
/* Compiles OK ∴ SmartPhone is an ancestor class of Android
 * expectations on sp narrowed to methods in SmartPhone
 * sp.dial, sp.surfweb ✓ sp.skype, sp.sideSync × */
GalaxyS21Plus ga = (GalaxyS21Plus) myPhone;
/* Compiles OK ∴ GalaxyS21Plus is a descendant class of Android
 * expectations on ga widened to methods in GalaxyS21Plus
 * ga.dial, ga.surfweb, ga.skype, ga.sideSync ✓ */
  
```

# Reference Type Casting: Danger (1)

```
1 Student jim = new NonResidentStudent("J. Davis");  
2 ResidentStudent rs = (ResidentStudent) jim;  
3 rs.setPremiumRate(1.5);
```

- **L1** is *legal*: NonResidentStudent is a descendant of the static type of jim (Student).
- **L2** is *legal* (where the cast type is ResidentStudent):
  - cast type is descendant of jim's ST (Student).
  - cast type is descendant of rs's ST (ResidentStudent).
- **L3** is *legal* ∴ setPremiumRate is in rs' **ST** ResidentStudent.
- Java compiler is *unable to infer* that jim's **dynamic type** in **L2** is actually NonResidentStudent.
- Executing **L2** will result in a **ClassCastException**.  
∴ Attribute premiumRate (expected from a **ResidentStudent**) is *undefined* on the **NonResidentStudent** object being cast.

## Reference Type Casting: Danger (2)

```

1 SmartPhone aPhone = new GalaxyS21Plus();
2 iPhone13Pro forHeeyeon = (iPhone13Pro) aPhone;
3 forHeeyeon.quickTake();

```

- **L1** is *legal*: GalaxyS21Plus is a **descendant** of the static type of aPhone (SmartPhone).
- **L2** is *legal* (where the cast type is iPhone6sPlus):
  - cast type is **descendant** of aPhone's ST (SmartPhone).
  - cast type is **descendant** of forHeeyeon's ST (iPhone13Pro).
- **L3** is *legal* ∴ quickTake is in forHeeyeon' **ST** iPhone13Pro.
- Java compiler is *unable to infer* that aPhone's **dynamic type** in **L2** is actually GalaxyS21Plus.
- Executing **L2** will result in a **ClassCastException**.
  - ∴ Methods facetime, quickTake (expected from an **iPhone13Pro**) is *undefined* on the **GalaxyS21Plus** object being cast.

## Notes on Type Cast (2.1)

Given a variable  $v$  of static type  $ST_v$  and dynamic type  $DT_v$ :

- `(C) v` is **compilable** if  $C$  is  $ST_v$ 's **ancestor** or **descendant**.
- Casting  $v$  to  $C$ 's **ancestor/descendant** **narrows/widens** expectations.
- However, being **compilable** does not guarantee **runtime-error-free!**

```

1 SmartPhone myPhone = new Samsung();
2 /* ST of myPhone is SmartPhone; DT of myPhone is Samsung */
3 GalaxyS21Plus ga = (GalaxyS21Plus) myPhone;
4 /* Compiles OK ∴ GalaxyS21Plus is a descendant class of SmartPhone
5 * can now call methods declared in GalaxyS21Plus on ga
6 * ga.dial, ga.surfweb, ga.skype, ga.sideSync ✓ */

```

- Type cast in **L3** is **compilable**.
- Executing **L3** will cause **ClassCastException**.

**L3:** myPhone's **DT** Samsung cannot meet expectations of the temporary **ST** GalaxyS21Plus (e.g., sideSync).

## Notes on Type Cast (2.2)

Given a variable  $v$  of static type  $ST_v$  and dynamic type  $DT_v$ :

- `(C) v` is **compilable** if  $C$  is  $ST_v$ 's **ancestor** or **descendant**.
- Casting  $v$  to  $C$ 's **ancestor/descendant** **narrows/widens** expectations.
- However, being **compilable** does not guarantee **runtime-error-free!**

```

1 SmartPhone myPhone = new Samsung();
2 /* ST of myPhone is SmartPhone; DT of myPhone is Samsung */
3 iPhone13Pro ip = (iPhone13Pro) myPhone;
4 /* Compiles OK ∴ iPhone13Pro is a descendant class of SmartPhone
5  * can now call methods declared in iPhone13Pro on ip
6  * ip.dial, ip.surfweb, ip.facetime, ip.quickTake ✓ */

```

- Type cast in **L3** is **compilable**.
- Executing **L3** will cause **ClassCastException**.

**L3:** myPhone's **DT** Samsung cannot meet expectations of the temporary **ST** iPhone13Pro (e.g., quickTake).



## Notes on Type Cast (2.3)

A cast  $(C) \ v$  is *compilable* and *runtime-error-free* if  $C$  is located along the **ancestor path** of  $DT_v$ .

e.g., Given `Android myPhone = new Samsung();`

- Cast `myPhone` to a class along the **ancestor path** of its *DT Samsung*.
- Casting `myPhone` to a class with more expectations than its *DT Samsung* (e.g., `GalaxyS21Plus`) will cause `ClassCastException`.
- Casting `myPhone` to a class irrelevant to its *DT Samsung* (e.g., `HuaweiMate40Pro`) will cause `ClassCastException`.

# Required Reading:

## Static Types, Dynamic Types, Casts

---

[https://www.eecs.yorku.ca/~jackie/teaching/lectures/2021/F/EECS2030/notes/EECS2030\\_F21\\_Notes\\_Static\\_Types\\_Cast.pdf](https://www.eecs.yorku.ca/~jackie/teaching/lectures/2021/F/EECS2030/notes/EECS2030_F21_Notes_Static_Types_Cast.pdf)

# Compilable Cast vs. Exception-Free Cast

```
class A { }  
class B extends A { }  
class C extends B { }  
class D extends A { }
```

```
1 B b = new C();  
2 D d = (D) b;
```

- After **L1**:
  - **ST** of b is B
  - **DT** of b is C
- Does **L2** compile? [ No ]  
∴ cast type D is neither an ancestor nor a descendant of b's **ST** B
- Would `D d = (D) ((A) b)` fix **L2**? [ YES ]  
∴ cast type D is an ancestor of b's cast, temporary **ST** A
- `ClassCastException` when executing this fixed **L2**? [ YES ]  
∴ cast type D is not an ancestor of b's **DT** C

# Reference Type Casting: Runtime Check (1)

```
1 Student jim = new NonResidentStudent("J. Davis");
2 if (jim instanceof ResidentStudent) {
3     ResidentStudent rs = (ResidentStudent) jim;
4     rs.setPremiumRate(1.5);
5 }
```

- **L1** is *legal*: NonResidentStudent is a **descendant class** of the *static type* of jim (i.e., Student).
- **L2** checks if jim's **DT** is a descendant of ResidentStudent.  
*FALSE* ∴ jim's *dynamic type* is NonResidentStudent!
- **L3** is *legal*: jim's cast type (i.e., ResidentStudent) is a **descendant class** of rs's **ST** (i.e., ResidentStudent).
- **L3** will not be executed at runtime, hence no ClassCastException, thanks to the check in **L2**!

## Reference Type Casting: Runtime Check (2)

```
1 SmartPhone aPhone = new GalaxyS21Plus();
2 if (aPhone instanceof iPhone13Pro) {
3     IOS forHeeyeon = (iPhone13Pro) aPhone;
4     forHeeyeon.facetime();
5 }
```

- **L1** is *legal*: GalaxyS21Plus is a **descendant class** of the static type of aPhone (i.e., SmartPhone).
- **L2** checks if aPhone's **DT** is a descendant of iPhone13Pro.  
**FALSE** ∴ aPhone's **dynamic type** is GalaxyS21Plus!
- **L3** is *legal*: aPhone's cast type (i.e., iPhone13Pro) is a **descendant class** of forHeeyeon's **static type** (i.e., IOS).
- **L3** will not be executed at runtime, hence no `ClassCastException`, thanks to the check in **L2**!

## Notes on the instanceof Operator (1)

Given a reference variable  $v$  and a class  $C$ , you write

```
v instanceof C
```

to check if the **dynamic type** of  $v$ , at the moment of being checked, is a **descendant class** of  $C$  (so that `(C) v` is **safe**).

```
SmartPhone myPhone = new Samsung();
println(myPhone instanceof Android);
/* true :: Samsung is a descendant of Android */
println(myPhone instanceof Samsung);
/* true :: Samsung is a descendant of Samsung */
println(myPhone instanceof GalaxyS21);
/* false :: Samsung is not a descendant of GalaxyS21 */
println(myPhone instanceof IOS);
/* false :: Samsung is not a descendant of IOS */
println(myPhone instanceof iPhone13Pro);
/* false :: Samsung is not a descendant of iPhone13Pro */
```

⇒ **Samsung** is the most specific type which myPhone can be safely cast to.

## Notes on the instanceof Operator (2)

Given a reference variable  $v$  and a class  $C$ ,

`v instanceof C` checks if the **dynamic type** of  $v$ , at the moment of being checked, is a descendant class of  $C$ .

```

1 SmartPhone myPhone = new Samsung();
2 /* ST of myPhone is SmartPhone; DT of myPhone is Samsung */
3 if(myPhone instanceof Samsung) {
4     Samsung samsung = (Samsung) myPhone;
5 }
6 if(myPhone instanceof GalaxyS21Plus) {
7     GalaxyS21Plus galaxy = (GalaxyS21Plus) myPhone;
8 }
9 if(myPhone instanceof HuaweiMate40Pro) {
10    Huawei hw = (HuaweiMate40Pro) myPhone;
11 }
    
```

- **L3** evaluates to *true*. [safe to cast]
- **L6** and **L9** evaluate to *false*. [unsafe to cast]

This prevents **L7** and **L10**, causing `ClassCastException` if executed, from being executed.

# Static Types, Casts, Polymorphism (1.1)

```
class SmartPhone {  
    void dial() { ... }  
}  
class IOS extends SmartPhone {  
    void facetime() { ... }  
}  
class iPhone13Pro extends IOS {  
    void quickTake() { ... }  
}
```

```
1 SmartPhone sp = new iPhone13Pro();    ✓  
2 sp.dial();    ✓  
3 sp.facetime();    ✗  
4 sp.quickTake();    ✗
```

**Static type** of *sp* is SmartPhone

⇒ can only call methods defined in SmartPhone on *sp*



# Static Types, Casts, Polymorphism (1.2)

```
class SmartPhone {  
    void dial() { ... }  
}  
class IOS extends SmartPhone {  
    void facetime() { ... }  
}  
class iPhone13Pro extends IOS {  
    void quickTake() { ... }  
}
```

```
1 IOS ip = new iPhone13Pro();    ✓  
2 ip.dial();                    ✓  
3 ip.facetime();               ✓  
4 ip.quickTake();             ✗
```

**Static type** of *ip* is IOS

⇒ can only call methods defined in IOS on *ip*

# Static Types, Casts, Polymorphism (1.3)

```
class SmartPhone {  
    void dial() { ... }  
}  
class IOS extends SmartPhone {  
    void facetime() { ... }  
}  
class iPhone13Pro extends IOS {  
    void quickTake() { ... }  
}
```

```
1 iPhone13Pro ip6sp = new iPhone13Pro();    ✓  
2 ip6sp.dial();    ✓  
3 ip6sp.facetime();    ✓  
4 ip6sp.quickTake();    ✓
```

**Static type** of *ip6sp* is iPhone13Pro

⇒ can call all methods defined in iPhone13Pro on *ip6sp*

# Static Types, Casts, Polymorphism (1.4)

```
class SmartPhone {  
    void dial() { ... }  
}  
class IOS extends SmartPhone {  
    void facetime() { ... }  
}  
class iPhone13Pro extends IOS {  
    void quickTake() { ... }  
}
```

```
1 SmartPhone sp = new iPhone13Pro();    ✓  
2 ( iPhone13Pro ) sp.dial();           ✓  
3 ( iPhone13Pro ) sp.facetime();      ✓  
4 ( iPhone13Pro ) sp.quickTake();    ✓
```

**L4** is equivalent to the following two lines:

```
iPhone13Pro ip6sp = (iPhone13Pro) sp;  
ip6sp.quickTake();
```

## Static Types, Casts, Polymorphism (2)

Given a reference variable declaration

```
C v;
```

- **Static type** of reference variable  $v$  is class  $C$
- A method call `v.m` is valid if  $m$  is a method **defined** in class  **$C$** .
- Despite the **dynamic type** of  $v$ , you are only allowed to call methods that are defined in the **static type**  $C$  on  $v$ .
- If you are certain that  $v$ 's **dynamic type** can be expected **more** than its **static type**, then you may use an `instanceof` check and a cast.

```
Course eecs2030 = new Course("EECS2030", 500.0);
Student s = new ResidentStudent("Jim");
s.register(eecs2030);
if(s instanceof ResidentStudent) {
    ((ResidentStudent) s).setPremiumRate(1.75);
    System.out.println(((ResidentStudent) s).getTuition());
}
```

# Polymorphism: Method Parameters (1)

```
1 class StudentManagementSystem {  
2     Student [] ss; /* ss[i] has static type Student */ int c;  
3     void addRS(ResidentStudent rs) { ss[c] = rs; c++; }  
4     void addNRS(NonResidentStudent nrs) { ss[c] = nrs; c++; }  
5     void addStudent(Student s) { ss[c] = s; c++; } }
```

- **L3:** `ss[c] = rs` is valid. ∴ RHS's ST `ResidentStudent` is a *descendant class* of LHS's ST `Student`.
- Say we have a `StudentManagementSystem` object `sms`:
  - `sms.addRS(o)` attempts the following assignment (recall call by value), which replaces parameter `rs` by a copy of argument `o`:

```
rs = o;
```
  - Whether this argument passing is valid depends on `o`'s *static type*.
- In the signature of a method `m`, if the type of a parameter is class `C`, then we may call method `m` by passing objects whose *static types* are `C`'s *descendants*.

# Polymorphism: Method Parameters (2.1)

In the StudentManagementSystemTester:

```
Student s1 = new Student();  
Student s2 = new ResidentStudent();  
Student s3 = new NonResidentStudent();  
ResidentStudent rs = new ResidentStudent();  
NonResidentStudent nrs = new NonResidentStudent();  
StudentManagementSystem sms = new StudentManagementSystem();  
sms.addRS(s1);    ×  
sms.addRS(s2);    ×  
sms.addRS(s3);    ×  
sms.addRS(rs);    ✓  
sms.addRS(nrs);   ×  
sms.addStudent(s1); ✓  
sms.addStudent(s2); ✓  
sms.addStudent(s3); ✓  
sms.addStudent(rs); ✓  
sms.addStudent(nrs); ✓
```

## Polymorphism: Method Parameters (2.2)

In the StudentManagementSystemTester:

```
1 Student s = new Student("Stella");
2 /* s' ST: Student; s' DT: Student */
3 StudentManagementSystem sms = new StudentManagementSystem();
4 sms.addRS(s); ✗
```

- o **L4 compiles** with a cast: `sms.addRS((ResidentStudent) s)`
  - **Valid** cast  $\therefore$  (ResidentStudent) is a descendant of s' **ST**.
  - **Valid** call  $\therefore$  s' temporary **ST** (ResidentStudent) is now a descendant class of addRS's parameter rs' **ST** (ResidentStudent).
- o But, there will be a **ClassCastException** at runtime!  
 $\therefore$  s' **DT** (Student) is **not a descendant** of ResidentStudent.
- o We should have written:

```
if(s instanceof ResidentStudent) {
    sms.addRS((ResidentStudent) s);
}
```

The **instanceof** expression will evaluate to **false**, meaning it is **unsafe** to cast, thus preventing ClassCastException.

## Polymorphism: Method Parameters (2.3)

In the StudentManagementSystemTester:

```
1 Student s = new NonResidentStudent("Nancy");
2 /* s' ST: Student; s' DT: NonResidentStudent */
3 StudentManagementSystem sms = new StudentManagementSystem();
4 sms.addRS(s); ✗
```

- o **L4 compiles** with a cast: `sms.addRS((ResidentStudent) s)`
  - **Valid** cast  $\therefore$  (ResidentStudent) is a descendant of s' **ST**.
  - **Valid** call  $\therefore$  s' temporary **ST** (ResidentStudent) is now a descendant class of addRS's parameter rs' **ST** (ResidentStudent).
- o But, there will be a **ClassCastException** at runtime!  
 $\therefore$  s' **DT** (NonResidentStudent) **not descendant** of ResidentStudent.
- o We should have written:

```
if(s instanceof ResidentStudent) {
    sms.addRS((ResidentStudent) s);
}
```

The **instanceof** expression will evaluate to **false**, meaning it is **unsafe** to cast, thus preventing ClassCastException.



## Polymorphism: Method Parameters (2.4)

In the StudentManagementSystemTester:

```
1 Student s = new ResidentStudent("Rachael");
2 /* s' ST: Student; s' DT: ResidentStudent */
3 StudentManagementSystem sms = new StudentManagementSystem();
4 sms.addRS(s); ×
```

- o **L4 compiles** with a cast: `sms.addRS((ResidentStudent) s)`
  - **Valid** cast  $\therefore$  (ResidentStudent) is a descendant of s' **ST**.
  - **Valid** call  $\therefore$  s' temporary **ST** (ResidentStudent) is now a descendant class of addRS's parameter rs' **ST** (ResidentStudent).
- o And, there will be **no** **ClassCastException** at runtime!  
 $\therefore$  s' **DT** (ResidentStudent) is descendant of ResidentStudent.
- o We should have written:

```
if(s instanceof ResidentStudent) {
    sms.addRS((ResidentStudent) s);
}
```

The **instanceof** expression will evaluate to **true**, meaning it is **safe** to cast.

# Polymorphism: Method Parameters (2.5)

In the StudentManagementSystemTester:

```
1 NonResidentStudent nrs = new NonResidentStudent();
2 /* ST: NonResidentStudent; DT: NonResidentStudent */
3 StudentManagementSystem sms = new StudentManagementSystem();
4 sms.addRS(nrs); ×
```

Will L4 with a cast compile?

```
sms.addRS ( (ResidentStudent) nrs)
```

**NO** ∴ (ResidentStudent) is **not** a descendant of nrs's **ST** (NonResidentStudent).

# Why Inheritance: A Polymorphic Collection of Students

How do you define a class `StudentManagementSystem` that contains a list of *resident* and *non-resident* students?

```
class StudentManagementSystem {
    Student[] students;
    int numOfStudents;

    void addStudent(Student s) {
        students[numOfStudents] = s;
        numOfStudents ++;
    }

    void registerAll (Course c) {
        for(int i = 0; i < numofStudents; i ++ ) {
            students[i].register(c)
        }
    }
}
```

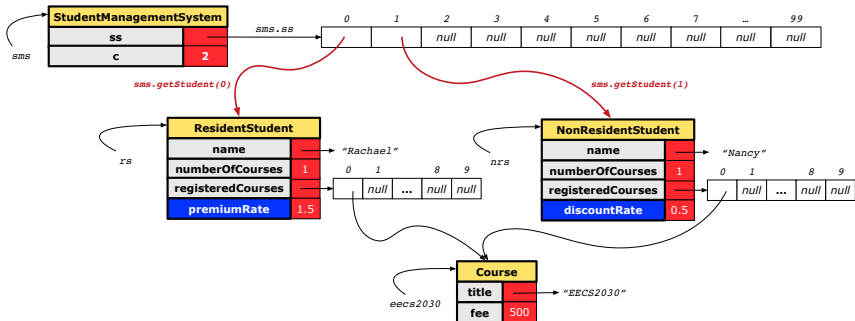
# Polymorphism and Dynamic Binding: A Polymorphic Collection of Students (1)

```
1 ResidentStudent rs = new ResidentStudent("Rachael");
2 rs.setPremiumRate(1.5);
3 NonResidentStudent nrs = new NonResidentStudent("Nancy");
4 nrs.setDiscountRate(0.5);
5 StudentManagementSystem sms = new StudentManagementSystem();
6 sms.addStudent(rs); /* polymorphism */
7 sms.addStudent(nrs); /* polymorphism */
8 Course eeecs2030 = new Course("EECS2030", 500.0);
9 sms.registerAll(eeecs2030);
10 for(int i = 0; i < sms.numberOfStudents; i++) {
11     /* Dynamic Binding:
12     * Right version of getTuition will be called */
13     System.out.println(sms.students[i].getTuition());
14 }
```

# Polymorphism and Dynamic Binding: A Polymorphic Collection of Students (2)

At runtime, attribute `sms.ss` is a **polymorphic** array:

- **Static type** of each item is as declared: **Student**
- **Dynamic type** of each item is a descendant of **Student**:  
**ResidentStudent, NonResidentStudent**



# Polymorphism: Return Types (1)

```
1  class StudentManagementSystem {
2      Student[] ss; int c;
3      void addStudent(Student s) { ss[c] = s; c++; }
4      Student getStudent(int i) {
5          Student s = null;
6          if(i < 0 || i >= c) {
7              throw new InvalidStudentIndexException("Invalid index.");
8          }
9          else {
10             s = ss[i];
11         }
12         return s;
13     } }
```

**L4:** Student is **static type** of getStudent's return value.

**L10:** ss[i]'s ST (Student) is **descendant** of s' ST (Student).

**Question:** What can be the **dynamic type** of s after L10?

**Answer:** All descendant classes of Student.

## Polymorphism: Return Types (2)

```

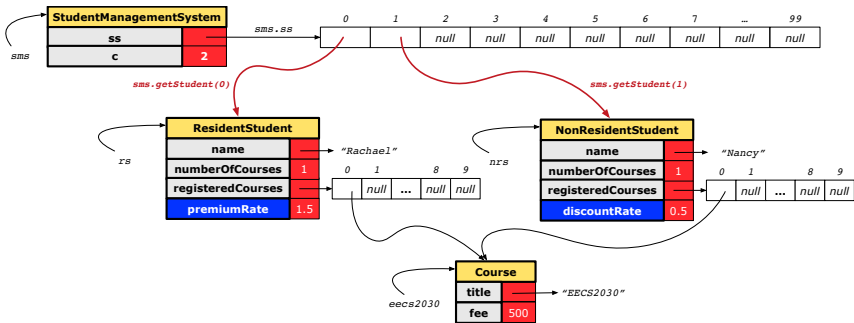
1 Course eecs2030 = new Course("EECS2030", 500);
2 ResidentStudent rs = new ResidentStudent("Rachael");
3 rs.setPremiumRate(1.5); rs.register(eecs2030);
4 NonResidentStudent nrs = new NonResidentStudent("Nancy");
5 nrs.setDiscountRate(0.5); nrs.register(eecs2030);
6 StudentManagementSystem sms = new StudentManagementSystem();
7 sms.addStudent(rs); sms.addStudent(nrs);
8 Student s = sms.getStudent(0); /* dynamic type of s? */
           static return type: Student
9 print(s instanceof Student && s instanceof ResidentStudent); /*true*/
10 print(s instanceof NonResidentStudent); /* false */
11 print(s.getTuition()); /*Version in ResidentStudent called:750*/
12 ResidentStudent rs2 = sms.getStudent(0); x
13 s = sms.getStudent(1); /* dynamic type of s? */
           static return type: Student
14 print(s instanceof Student && s instanceof NonResidentStudent); /*true*/
15 print(s instanceof ResidentStudent); /* false */
16 print(s.getTuition()); /*Version in NonResidentStudent called:250*/
17 NonResidentStudent nrs2 = sms.getStudent(1); x

```

## Polymorphism: Return Types (3)

At runtime, attribute `sms.ss` is a **polymorphic** array:

- **Static type** of each item is as declared: **Student**
- **Dynamic type** of each item is a descendant of **Student**: **ResidentStudent**, **NonResidentStudent**





# Static Type vs. Dynamic Type: When to consider which?

---

- *Whether or not Java code compiles* depends only on the **static types** of relevant variables.
  - ∴ Inferring the **dynamic type** statically is an **undecidable** problem that is inherently impossible to solve.
- *The behaviour of Java code being executed at runtime* (e.g., which version of method is called due to dynamic binding, whether or not a `ClassCastException` will occur, etc.) depends on the **dynamic types** of relevant variables.
  - ⇒ Best practice is to visualize how objects are created (by drawing boxes) and variables are re-assigned (by drawing arrows).

# Summary: Type Checking Rules

CODE	CONDITION TO BE TYPE CORRECT
$x = y$	Is $y$ 's <b>ST</b> a <b>descendant</b> of $x$ 's <b>ST</b> ?
$x.m(y)$	Is method $m$ defined in $x$ 's <b>ST</b> ? Is $y$ 's <b>ST</b> a <b>descendant</b> of $m$ 's parameter's <b>ST</b> ?
$z = x.m(y)$	Is method $m$ defined in $x$ 's <b>ST</b> ? Is $y$ 's <b>ST</b> a <b>descendant</b> of $m$ 's parameter's <b>ST</b> ? Is <b>ST</b> of $m$ 's return value a <b>descendant</b> of $z$ 's <b>ST</b> ?
$(C) y$	Is $C$ an <b>ancestor</b> or a <b>descendant</b> of $y$ 's <b>ST</b> ?
$x = (C) y$	Is $C$ an <b>ancestor</b> or a <b>descendant</b> of $y$ 's <b>ST</b> ? Is $C$ a <b>descendant</b> of $x$ 's <b>ST</b> ?
$x.m((C) y)$	Is $C$ an <b>ancestor</b> or a <b>descendant</b> of $y$ 's <b>ST</b> ? Is method $m$ defined in $x$ 's <b>ST</b> ? Is $C$ a <b>descendant</b> of $m$ 's parameter's <b>ST</b> ?

Even if  $(C) y$  compiles OK, there will be a runtime `ClassCastException` if  $C$  is not an **ancestor** of  $y$ 's **DT**!

# Root of the Java Class Hierarchy

- Implicitly:
  - Every class is a *child/sub* class of the `Object` class.
  - The `Object` class is the *parent/super* class of every class.
- There are two useful *accessor methods* that every class *inherits* from the `Object` class:
  - `boolean equals(Object other)`  
Indicates whether some other object is “equal to” this one.
    - The default definition inherited from `Object`:

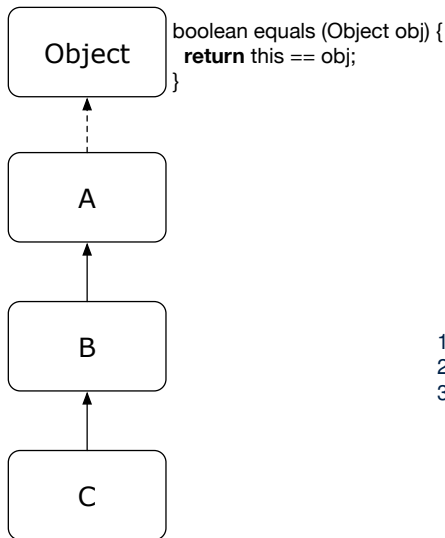
```
boolean equals(Object other) {  
    return (this == other);  
}
```
  - `String toString()`  
Returns a string representation of the object.
- Very often when you define new classes, you want to *redefine / override* the inherited definitions of `equals` and `toString`.

# Overriding and Dynamic Binding (1)

Object is the common parent/super class of every class.

- Every class inherits the **default version** of `equals`
- Say a reference variable `v` has **dynamic type** `D`:
  - **Case 1** `D` **overrides** `equals`  
⇒ `v.equals(...)` invokes the **overridden version** in `D`
  - **Case 2** `D` does **not override** `equals`
    - Case 2.1** At least one ancestor classes of `D` **override** `equals`  
⇒ `v.equals(...)` invokes the **overridden version** in the **closest ancestor class**
    - Case 2.2** No ancestor classes of `D` **override** `equals`  
⇒ `v.equals(...)` invokes **default version** inherited from `Object`.
- Same principle applies to the `toString` method, and all overridden methods in general.

# Overriding and Dynamic Binding (2.1)

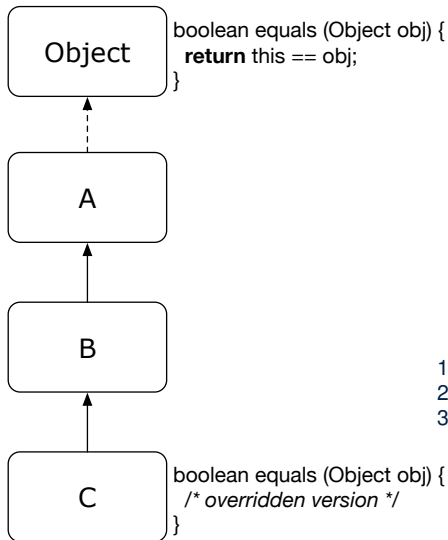


```
class A {  
    /*equals not overridden*/  
}  
class B extends A {  
    /*equals not overridden*/  
}  
class C extends B {  
    /*equals not overridden*/  
}
```

```
1 Object c1 = new C();  
2 Object c2 = new C();  
3 println(c1.equals(c2));
```

**L3** calls which version of  
equals?      [Object]

# Overriding and Dynamic Binding (2.2)



```

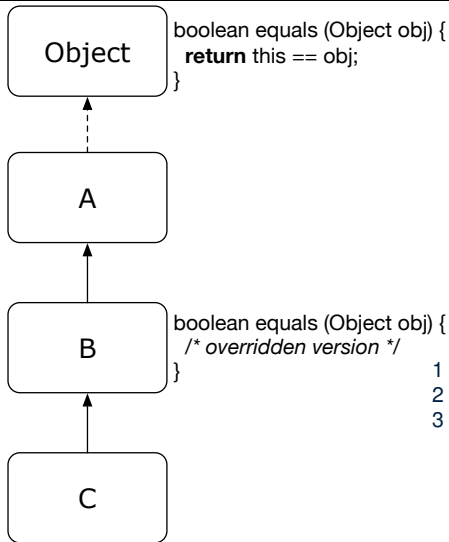
class A {
    /*equals not overridden*/
}
class B extends A {
    /*equals not overridden*/
}
class C extends B {
    boolean equals (Object obj) {
        /* overridden version */
    }
}
  
```

```

1 Object c1 = new C();
2 Object c2 = new C();
3 println(c1.equals(c2));
  
```

**L3** calls which version of equals? [C]

# Overriding and Dynamic Binding (2.3)



```
class A {  
    /*equals not overridden*/  
}  
class B extends A {  
    boolean equals (Object obj) {  
        /* overridden version */  
    }  
}  
class C extends B {  
    /*equals not overridden*/  
}
```

```
1 Object c1 = new C();  
2 Object c2 = new C();  
3 println(c1.equals(c2));
```

**L3** calls which version of equals? [ B ]

# Behaviour of Inherited toString Method (1)

```
Point p1 = new Point(2, 4);  
System.out.println(p1);
```

```
Point@677327b6
```

- Implicitly, the toString method is called inside the println method.
- By default, the address stored in p1 gets printed.
- We need to **redefine** / **override** the toString method, inherited from the Object class, in the Point class.



## Behaviour of Inherited toString Method (2)

```
class Point {  
    double x;  
    double y;  
    public String toString() {  
        return "(" + this.x + ", " + this.y + ")";  
    }  
}
```

After redefining/overriding the toString method:

```
Point p1 = new Point(2, 4);  
System.out.println(p1);
```

(2, 4)

## Behaviour of Inherited `toString` Method (3)



**Exercise:** Override the `equals` and `toString` methods for the `ResidentStudent` and `NonResidentStudent` classes.

## Beyond this lecture...

---

- Implement the *inheritance hierarchy* of **Students** and reproduce all lecture examples.
- Implement the *inheritance hierarchy* of **Smart Phones** and reproduce all lecture examples.

**Hints.** Pay attention to:

- *Valid? Compiles?*
- *ClassCastException?*
- Study the `ExampleTypeCasts` example: draw the *inheritance hierarchy* and experiment with the various substitutions and casts.

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## Learning Outcomes

**Why Inheritance: A Motivating Example**

**Why Inheritance: A Motivating Example**

**No Inheritance: ResidentStudent Class**

**No Inheritance: NonResidentClass**

**No Inheritance: Testing Student Classes**

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**Visibility of Classes: Across All Classes**

**Within the Resident Package (no modifier)**

**Visibility of Classes: Across All Classes**

**Within the Resident Package (no modifier)**

**Visibility of Attributes/Methods:**

**Using Modifiers to Define Scopes**

**Visibility of Attr./Meth.: Across All Methods**

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Required Reading:

Static Types, Dynamic Types, Casts

Compilable Cast vs. Exception-Free Cast

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**Beyond this lecture...**