

Inheritance



EECS2030 B: Advanced
Object Oriented Programming
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No Inheritance: ResidentStudent Class



```
class ResidentStudent {
    String name;
    Course[] registeredCourses;
    int numberOfCourses;
    double premiumRate; /* there's a mutator method for this */
    ResidentStudent (String name) {
        this.name = name;
        registeredCourses = new Course[10];
    }
    void register(Course c) {
        registeredCourses[numberOfCourses] = c;
        numberOfCourses ++;
    }
    double getTuition() {
        double tuition = 0;
        for(int i = 0; i < numberOfCourses; i ++ ) {
            tuition += registeredCourses[i].fee;
        }
        return tuition * premiumRate;
    }
} 3 of 92
```

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: NonResidentStudent Class



```
class NonResidentStudent {
    String name;
    Course[] registeredCourses;
    int numberOfCourses;
    double discountRate; /* there's a mutator method for this */
    NonResidentStudent (String name) {
        this.name = name;
        registeredCourses = new Course[10];
    }
    void register(Course c) {
        registeredCourses[numberOfCourses] = c;
        numberOfCourses ++;
    }
    double getTuition() {
        double tuition = 0;
        for(int i = 0; i < numberOfCourses; i ++ ) {
            tuition += registeredCourses[i].fee;
        }
        return tuition * discountRate;
    }
} 4 of 92
```

No Inheritance: Testing Student Classes



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

```
class StudentTester {
    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());
    }
}
```

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No Inheritance: Issues with the Student Classes



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

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No Inheritance: Maintainability of Code (1)



What if the way for registering a course changes?

e.g.,

```
void register(Course c) {
    if (numberOfCourses >= MAX_ALLOWANCE) {
        throw new IllegalArgumentException("Maximum allowance reached.");
    }
    else {
        registeredCourses[numberOfCourses] = c;
        numberOfCourses++;
    }
}
```

We need to change the register method in *both* student classes!

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No Inheritance: Maintainability of Code (2)



What if the way for calculating the base tuition changes?

e.g.,

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

We need to change the getTuition method in *both* student classes.

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No Inheritance: A Collection of Various Kinds of Students

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

```
class StudentManagementSystem {
    ResidentStudent[] rss;
    NonResidentStudent[] nrss;
    int nors; /* number of resident students */
    int nonrs; /* number of non-resident students */
    void addRS (ResidentStudent rs){ rss[nors]=rs; nors++; }
    void addNRS (NonResidentStudent nrs){ nrss[nonrs]=nrs; nonrs++; }
    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); }
    }
}
```

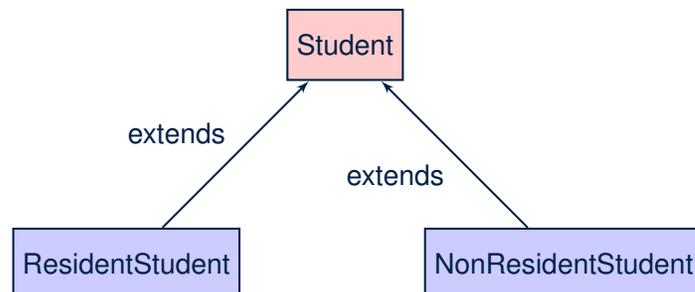
But what if we later on introduce *more kinds of students*?
Very *inconvenient* to handle each list of students *separately*!

a polymorphic collection of students

Inheritance: The Student Parent/Super Class

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

Inheritance Architecture



Inheritance: The Resident Student 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).
```

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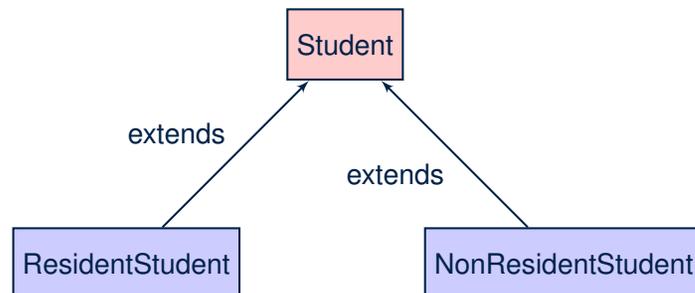
Using Inheritance for Code Reuse

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, registeredCourses, numberOfCourses 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

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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.

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Visualizing Parent/Child Objects (1)

- A child class inherits **all** 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:

```

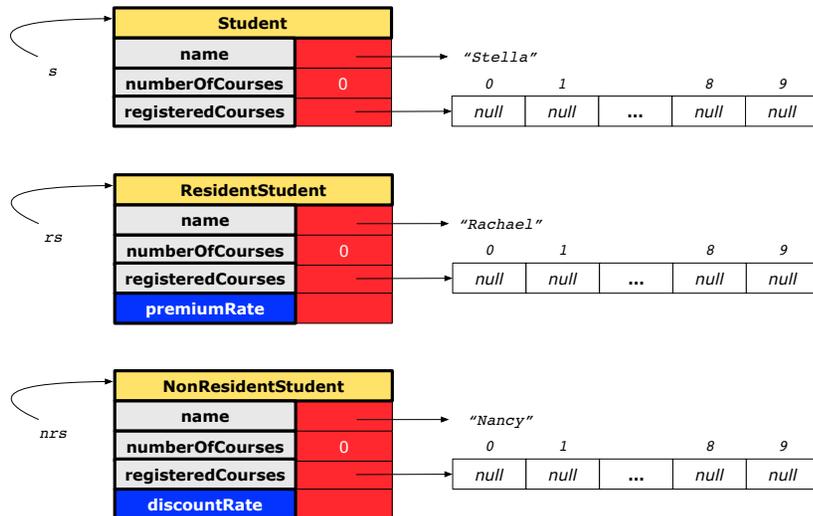
Student s = new Student("Stella");
ResidentStudent rs = new ResidentStudent("Rachael");
NonResidentStudent nrs = new NonResidentStudent("Nancy");

```

- How will these initial objects look like?

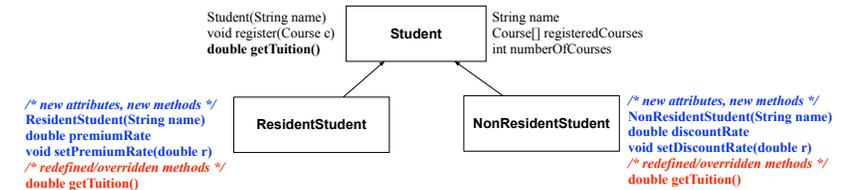
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Visualizing Parent/Child Objects (2)



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Inheritance Architecture: Static Types & Expectations



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

	name	rscs	noc	reg	getT	pr	setPR	dr	setDR
s.			✓					✗	
rs.			✓			✓			✗
nrs.			✓			✗			✓

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Testing the Two Student Sub-Classes

```
class StudentTester {
    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 exactly the same way as before (because we did not modify *method signatures*).
- But now the internal structure of code has been made *maintainable* using *inheritance*.

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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]

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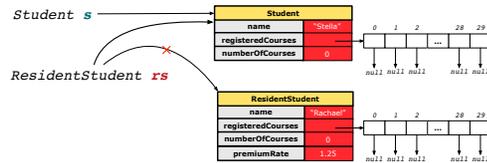
Polymorphism: Intuition (2)

```

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 $\because rs.premiumRate$ is *undefined*!!

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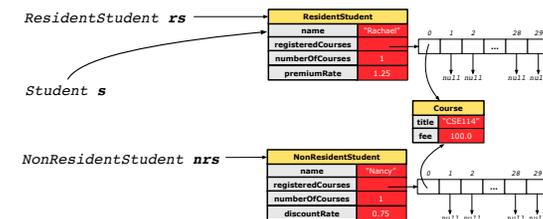
Dynamic Binding: Intuition (1)

```

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()); /* output: 125.0 */
8 s = nrs; System.out.println(s.getTuition()); /* output: 75.0 */

```

After $s = rs$ (L7), s points to a ResidentStudent object.
 \Rightarrow Calling $s.getTuition()$ applies the premiumRate.



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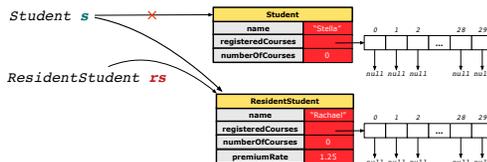
Polymorphism: Intuition (3)

```

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

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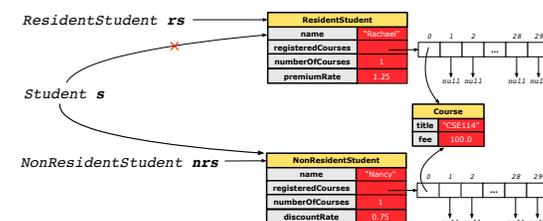
Dynamic Binding: Intuition (2)

```

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()); /* output: 125.0 */
8 s = nrs; System.out.println(s.getTuition()); /* output: 75.0 */

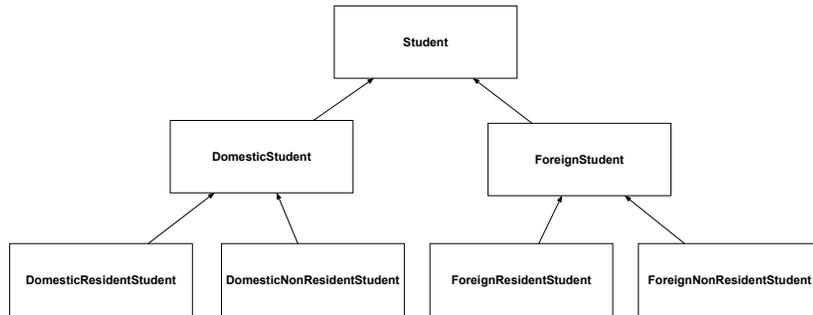
```

After $s = nrs$ (L8), s points to a NonResidentStudent object.
 \Rightarrow Calling $s.getTuition()$ applies the discountRate.



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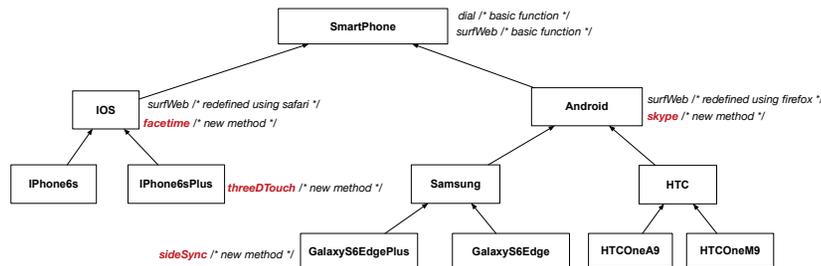
Multi-Level Inheritance Architecture



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*.

Multi-Level Inheritance Hierarchy: Smart Phones



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).
 - When expecting 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 `Student` object, we may substitute it with either a `ResidentStudent` or a `NonResidentStudent` object.
 - **Justification:** A *descendant class* contains **at least as many** methods as defined in its *ancestor classes* (but not vice versa!).

Reference Variable: Static Type

- 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`

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Rules of Substitution

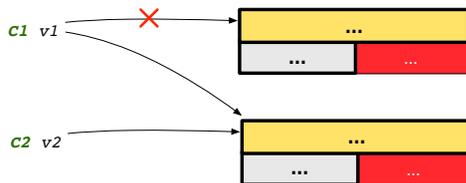
When expecting an object of **static type** A :

- 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 iPhone6s or iPhone6sPlus.
- 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 \therefore 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 an HTC \therefore facetime not supported in Android phone.

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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!**

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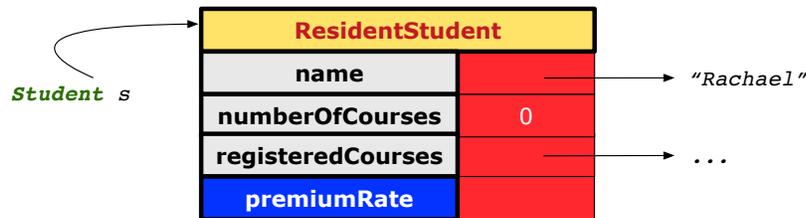
Reference Variable: Dynamic Type

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.

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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*).

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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., `Student jim = new NonResidentStudent(...)` changes the *dynamic type* of *jim* to *NonResidentStudent*.
- e.g., `ResidentStudent jim = new Student(...)` is illegal because *Student* is **not** a **descendant class** of the *static type* of *jim* (i.e., *ResidentStudent*).

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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(...);
```

- `rs = jim` ✗
- `nrs = jim` ✗
- `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*

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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 */
```

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Polymorphism and Dynamic Binding (2.1)



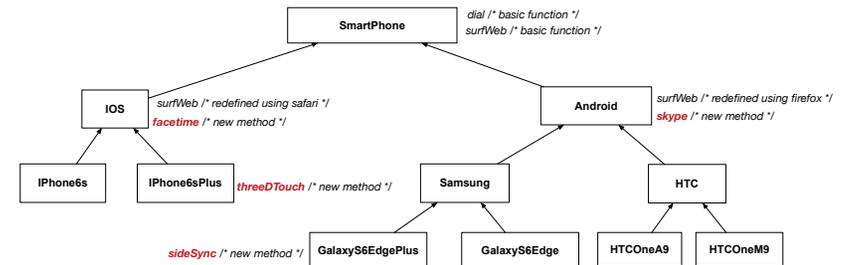
```
class Student {...}
class ResidentStudent extends Student {...}
class NonResidentStudent extends Student {...}
```

```
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 */
    }
}
```

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Polymorphism and Dynamic Binding (3.1)



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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 eeecs2030 = 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 */
    }
}
```

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Polymorphism and Dynamic Binding (3.2)



```
class SmartPhoneTest1 {
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        SmartPhone myPhone;
        IOS ip = new iPhone6sPlus();
        Samsung ss = new GalaxyS6Edge();
        myPhone = ip; /* legal */
        myPhone = ss; /* legal */

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

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Polymorphism and Dynamic Binding (3.3)

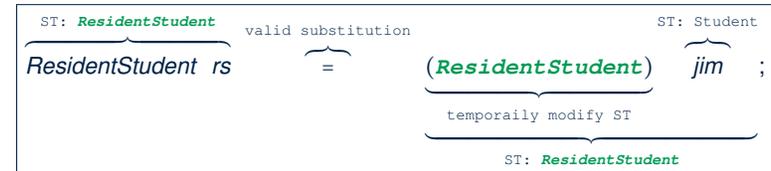


```
class SmartPhoneTest2 {
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        SmartPhone myPhone;
        IOS ip = new iPhone6sPlus();
        myPhone = ip;
        myPhone.surfWeb(); /* version of surfWeb in iPhone6sPlus */

        Samsung ss = new GalaxyS6Edge();
        myPhone = ss;
        myPhone.surfWeb(); /* version of surfWeb in GalaxyS6Edge */
    }
}
```

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Reference Type Casting: Motivation (1.2)



- Variable `rs` is declared of **static type (ST)** `ResidentStudent`.
- Variable `jim` is declared of **ST** `Student`.
- The cast expression `(ResidentStudent) jim` temporarily modifies `jim`'s **ST** to `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`.

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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` on the **RHS of =** temporarily modifies `jim`'s **ST** to `ResidentStudent`.
 - Alias `rs` of **ST** `ResidentStudent` is then created via an assignment.
- dynamic binding**: After the **cast**, **L3** will execute the correct version of `setPremiumRate`.

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Reference Type Casting: Motivation (2.1)



```
1 SmartPhone aPhone = new iPhone6sPlus();
2 IOS forHeeyeon = aPhone;
3 forHeeyeon.facetime();
```

- L1** is **legal**: `iPhone6sPlus` 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., `IOS`).
 - Java compiler is **unable to infer** that `aPhone`'s **dynamic type** in **L2** is `iPhone6sPlus`!
- Force Java compiler to believe so via a **cast** in **L2**:


```
IOS forHeeyeon = (iPhone6sPlus) aPhone;
```

 - The cast `(iPhone6sPlus) aPhone` on the **RHS of =** temporarily modifies `aPhone`'s **ST** to `iPhone6sPlus`.
 - Alias `forHeeyeon` of **ST** `IOS` is then created via an assignment.
- dynamic binding**: After the **cast**, **L3** will execute the correct version of `facetime`.

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Reference Type Casting: Motivation (2.2)



- Variable forHeeyeon is declared of **static type (ST)** IOS.
- Variable aPhone is declared of **ST** SmartPhone.
- The cast expression `(IPhone6sPlus) aPhone` **temporarily** modifies aPhone's **ST** to IPhone6sPlus.
 - ⇒ Such a cast makes the assignment valid.
 - ∴ RHS's **ST** (IPhone6sPlus) is a descendant of LHS's **ST** (IOS).
 - ⇒ The assignment creates an alias forHeeyeon with **ST** IOS.
- No** new object is created.
 - Only an alias forHeeyeon with a different **ST** (IOS) is created.
- After the assignment, aPhone's **ST** *remains* SmartPhone.

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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** **temporarily** changes the **ST** of **v** from ST_v to **C**.
 - ⇒ All methods that are defined in **C** can be called.

```

Android myPhone = new GalaxyS6EdgePlus();
/* 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 × */
GalaxyS6EdgePlus ga = (GalaxyS6EdgePlus) myPhone;
/* Compiles OK ∴ GalaxyS6EdgePlus is a descendant class of Android
 * expectations on ga widened to methods in GalaxyS6EdgePlus
 * ga.dial, ga.surfweb, ga.skype, ga.sideSync ✓ */
  
```

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Type Cast: Named or Anonymous



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

```

SmartPhone aPhone = new IPhone6sPlus();
IOS forHeeyeon = (IPhone6sPlus) aPhone;
forHeeyeon.facetime();
  
```

Anonymous Cast: Use the cast result directly.

```

SmartPhone aPhone = new IPhone6sPlus();
((IPhone6sPlus) aPhone).facetime();
  
```

Common Mistake:

```

1 SmartPhone aPhone = new IPhone6sPlus();
2 (IPhone6sPlus) aPhone.facetime();
  
```

L2 \equiv `(IPhone6sPlus) (aPhone.facetime())`: Call, then cast.

⇒ This does **not** compile ∴ `facetime()` is **not** declared in the **static type** of aPhone (SmartPhone).

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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.

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Reference Type Casting: Danger (2)

```

1 SmartPhone aPhone = new GalaxyS6EdgePlus();
2 iPhone6sPlus forHeeyeon = (iPhone6sPlus) aPhone;
3 forHeeyeon.threeDTouch();

```

- **L1** is *legal*: GalaxyS6EdgePlus 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 (iPhone6sPlus).
- **L3** is *legal* ∴ threeDTouch is in forHeeyeon' **ST** iPhone6sPlus.
- Java compiler is *unable to infer* that aPhone's **dynamic type** in **L2** is actually NonResidentStudent.
- Executing **L2** will result in a **ClassCastException**.
∴ Methods facetime, threeDTouch (expected from an **iPhone6sPlus**) is *undefined* on the **GalaxyS6EdgePlus** object being cast.

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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 iPhone6sPlus ip = (iPhone6sPlus) myPhone;
4 /* Compiles OK ∴ iPhone6sPlus is a descendant class of SmartPhone
5  * can now call methods declared in iPhone6sPlus on ip
6  * ip.dial, ip.surfweb, ip.facetime, ip.threeDTouch ✓ */

```

- Type cast in **L3** is **compilable**.
- Executing **L3** will cause **ClassCastException**.
L3: myPhone's **DT** Samsung cannot meet expectations of the temporary **ST** iPhone6sPlus (e.g., threeDTouch).

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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 GalaxyS6EdgePlus ga = (GalaxyS6EdgePlus) myPhone;
4 /* Compiles OK ∴ GalaxyS6EdgePlus is a descendant class of SmartPhone
5  * can now call methods declared in GalaxyS6EdgePlus 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** GalaxyS6EdgePlus (e.g., sideSync).

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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., GalaxyS6EdgePlus) will cause **ClassCastException**.
- Casting myPhone to a class irrelevant to its **DT Samsung** (e.g., HTCOneA9) will cause **ClassCastException**.

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Required Reading: Static Types, Dynamic Types, Casts



https://www.eecs.yorku.ca/~jackie/teaching/lectures/2018/F/EECS2030/notes/EECS2030_F18_Notes_Static_Types_Cast.pdf

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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

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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 **dynamic type** is 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 **static type** (i.e., ResidentStudent).
- L3 will not be executed at runtime, hence no `ClassCastException`, thanks to the check in L2!

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Reference Type Casting: Runtime Check (2)



```
1 SmartPhone aPhone = new GalaxyS6EdgePlus();  
2 if (aPhone instanceof iPhone6sPlus) {  
3     IOS forHeeyeon = (iPhone6sPlus) aPhone;  
4     forHeeyeon.facetime();  
5 }
```

- L1 is **legal**: GalaxyS6EdgePlus is a descendant class of the static type of aPhone (i.e., SmartPhone).
- L2 checks if aPhone's **dynamic type** is iPhone6sPlus.
FALSE ∴ aPhone's **dynamic type** is GalaxyS6EdgePlus!
- L3 is **legal**: aPhone's cast type (i.e., iPhone6sPlus) 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!

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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 GalaxyS6Edge);
/* false :: Samsung is not a descendant of GalaxyS6Edge */
println(myPhone instanceof IOS);
/* false :: Samsung is not a descendant of IOS */
println(myPhone instanceof iPhone6sPlus);
/* false :: Samsung is not a descendant of iPhone6sPlus */
```

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

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Static Type and Polymorphism (1.1)



```
class SmartPhone {
    void dial() { ... }
}
class IOS extends SmartPhone {
    void facetime() { ... }
}
class iPhone6sPlus extends IOS {
    void threeDTouch() { ... }
}
```

```
1 SmartPhone sp = new iPhone6sPlus(); ✓
2 sp.dial(); ✓
3 sp.facetime(); ✗
4 sp.threeDTouch(); ✗
```

Static type of `sp` is `SmartPhone`

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

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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 GalaxyS6EdgePlus) {
7     GalaxyS6EdgePlus galaxy = (GalaxyS6EdgePlus) myPhone;
8 }
9 if(myPhone instanceof HTC) {
10     HTC htc = (HTC) 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.

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Static Type and Polymorphism (1.2)



```
class SmartPhone {
    void dial() { ... }
}
class IOS extends SmartPhone {
    void facetime() { ... }
}
class iPhone6sPlus extends IOS {
    void threeDTouch() { ... }
}
```

```
1 IOS ip = new iPhone6sPlus(); ✓
2 ip.dial(); ✓
3 ip.facetime(); ✓
4 ip.threeDTouch(); ✗
```

Static type of `ip` is `IOS`

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

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Static Type and Polymorphism (1.3)



```
class SmartPhone {
    void dial() { ... }
}
class IOS extends SmartPhone {
    void facetime() { ... }
}
class iPhone6sPlus extends IOS {
    void threeDTouch() { ... }
}
```

```
1 iPhone6sPlus ip6sp = new iPhone6sPlus(); ✓
2 ip6sp.dial(); ✓
3 ip6sp.facetime(); ✓
4 ip6sp.threeDTouch(); ✓
```

Static type of `ip6sp` is `iPhone6sPlus`

⇒ can call all methods defined in `iPhone6sPlus` on `ip6sp`

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Static Type and 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 eeecs2030 = new Course("EECS2030", 500.0);
Student s = new ResidentStudent("Jim");
s.register(eeecs2030);
if (s instanceof ResidentStudent) {
    ((ResidentStudent) s).setPremiumRate(1.75);
    System.out.println(((ResidentStudent) s).getTuition());
}
```

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Static Type and Polymorphism (1.4)



```
class SmartPhone {
    void dial() { ... }
}
class IOS extends SmartPhone {
    void facetime() { ... }
}
class iPhone6sPlus extends IOS {
    void threeDTouch() { ... }
}
```

```
1 SmartPhone sp = new iPhone6sPlus(); ✓
2 ((iPhone6sPlus) sp).dial(); ✓
3 ((iPhone6sPlus) sp).facetime(); ✓
4 ((iPhone6sPlus) sp).threeDTouch(); ✓
```

L4 is equivalent to the following two lines:

```
iPhone6sPlus ip6sp = ((iPhone6sPlus) sp);
ip6sp.threeDTouch();
```

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Polymorphism: Method Call Arguments (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**.

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Polymorphism: Method Call Arguments (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); ✓
```

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Polymorphism: Method Call Arguments (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 :: (ResidentStudent) is a descendant of s' **ST**.
 - **Valid** call :: 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!
∴ 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.

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Polymorphism: Method Call Arguments (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 :: (ResidentStudent) is a descendant of s' **ST**.
 - **Valid** call :: 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!
∴ 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.

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Polymorphism: Method Call Arguments (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 :: (ResidentStudent) is a descendant of s' **ST**.
 - **Valid** call :: 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!
∴ 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.

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Polymorphism: Method Call Arguments (2.5)



In the StudentManagementSystemTester:

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

Will L4 with a cast compile?

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

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

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 }
```

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 < numberOfStudents; i++) {
            students[i].register(c)
        }
    }
}
```

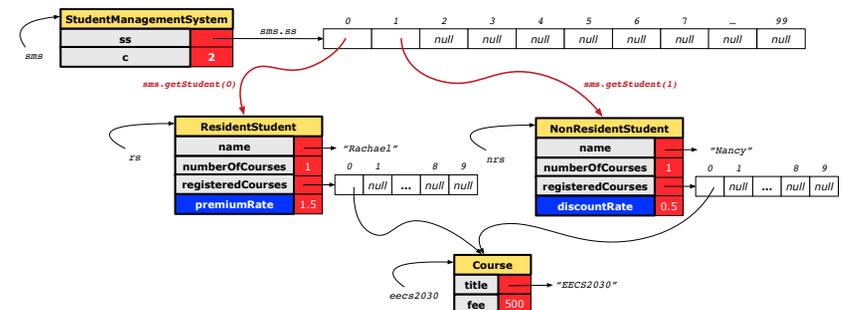
a collection of students without inheritance

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 Values (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 IllegalArgumentException("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).

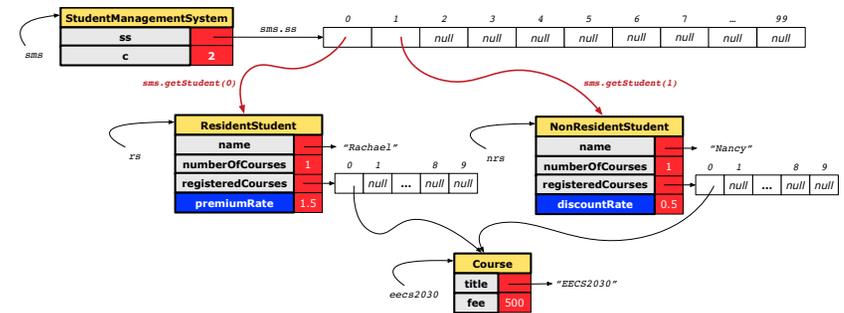
Question: What can be the **dynamic type** of s after L10?

Answer: All descendant classes of Student.

Polymorphism: Return Values (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**



Polymorphism: Return Values (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
    
```

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
<code>x = y</code>	Is <i>y</i> 's ST a descendant of <i>x</i> 's ST ?
<code>x.m(y)</code>	Is method <i>m</i> defined in <i>x</i> 's ST ? Is <i>y</i> 's ST a descendant of <i>m</i> 's parameter's ST ?
<code>z = x.m(y)</code>	Is method <i>m</i> defined in <i>x</i> 's ST ? Is <i>y</i> 's ST a descendant of <i>m</i> 's parameter's ST ? Is ST of <i>m</i> 's return value a descendant of <i>z</i> 's ST ?
<code>(C) y</code>	Is <i>C</i> an ancestor or a descendant of <i>y</i> 's ST ?
<code>x = (C) y</code>	Is <i>C</i> an ancestor or a descendant of <i>y</i> 's ST ? Is <i>C</i> a descendant of <i>x</i> 's ST ?
<code>x.m((C) y)</code>	Is <i>C</i> an ancestor or a descendant of <i>y</i> 's ST ? Is method <i>m</i> defined in <i>x</i> 's ST ? Is <i>C</i> a descendant of <i>m</i> 's parameter's ST ?

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

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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`.

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Overriding and Dynamic Binding (1)



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

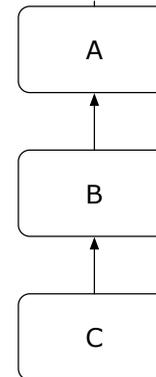
- Every class inherits the **default version** of `equals`
- Say a reference variable *v* has **dynamic type D**:
 - Case 1** *D* **overrides** `equals`
 - $\Rightarrow v.equals(...)$ invokes the **overridden version** in *D*
 - Case 2** *D* does **not override** `equals`
 - Case 2.1** At least one ancestor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

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Overriding and Dynamic Binding (2.1)



```
Object
boolean equals (Object obj) {
    return this == obj;
}
```



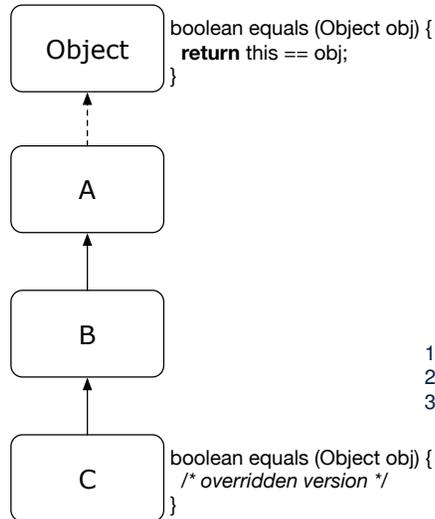
```
class A {
    /*equals not overridden*/
}
class B extends A {
    /*equals not overridden*/
}
class C extends B {
    /*equals not overridden*/
}
```

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

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

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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]

Behaviour of Inherited toString Method (1)



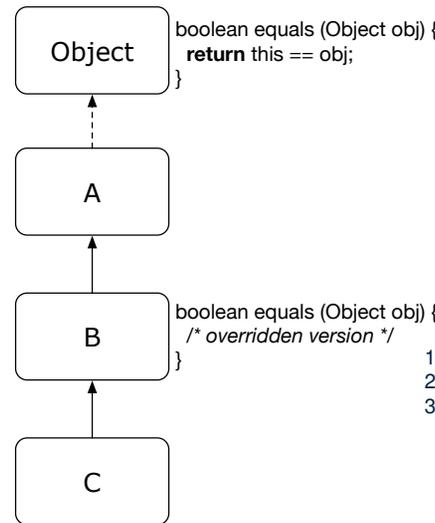
```

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.

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 (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.

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