# Polymorphism

- The fourth pillar of OOP -

### Polymorphism – An Introduction

- The ability for objects of different classes related by inheritance to respond differently to the same message.
- Polymorphism is implemented in C++ via inheritance and virtual functions.
- This is also called as dynamic polymorphism. i.e. when a request is made through a base class pointer to use a virtual function, C++ chooses the correct overridden function in the appropriate derived class associated with the object
- Other types of polymorphism are obtained through function or operator overloading are called static polymorphism.
- This powerful feature of C++ helps in reducing complexity of the system.

## Static Binding

- When the information is known to the compiler at the compiled time and therefore, compiler is able to select appropriate function for a particular call at the compile time itself, this is called early binding or static binding.
- Static binding is the compile-time determination of which function to call for a particular object based on the type of the formal parameter

### Pointer to Objects

```
class A
    int x;
    public:
    void get()
     cout << "Enter the
value of x::";
       cin>>x;
    void show()
       cout<<x;
```

```
int main()
 A *ptr,obj;
 ptr=&obj;
 ptr->get();
 ptr->show();
 return 0;
```

# Example (Pointer to Derived Class)

```
class A{
  public:
    int b;
    void show(){
    cout<<"b="<<br/>b<<endl; }
};
class B: public A{
  public:
   int d;
   void show(){
    cout << "b=" << b << endl;
    cout<<"d="<<d<<endl; }
};
```

```
int main(){
 A *bptr, base;
 bptr=&base;
 bptr->b=100;
 bptr->show();
 B derived:
 bptr=&derived;
 bptr->b=200;
 bptr->d=300;
 bptr show();
 B *dptr;
 dptr=&derived;
 dptr->d=300;
 dptr->show();
```

## Dynamic Binding

- This is the run-time determination of which function to call for a particular object of a derived class based on the type of the argument
- Declaring a member function to be virtual instructs the compiler to generate code that guarantees dynamic binding
- Dynamic binding requires pass-by-reference

# Virtual function

- If a function is declared as "virtual" in the base class then the implementation will not be decided at compile time but at the run time.
- Keyword virtual instructs the compiler to use late binding and delay the object interpretation
- Once a function is declared virtual, it remains virtual all the way down the inheritance hierarchy from that point, even if it is not declared virtual explicitly when a derived class overrides it
- But for the program clarity declare these functions as virtual explicitly at every level of hierarchy

# Example-Dynamic Binding.

```
class Window{
  public:
   vpipuareste Ofeate(){
cout << "Base Window" << endl;
};
class CommandButton: public
   Window{
 public:
  void Create(){
     cout << "Derived Command
                  Button "«endl;
};
```

```
void main()
{
    Window *x, w;
    x = &w;
    x->Create();

    CommandButton cb;
    x=&cb;
    y->Create();
}
```

OUTPUT

Base Window

Derived/Command Button

# Polymorphism

- When you use virtual functions, compiler store additional information about the types of object available and created
- Polymorphism is supported at this additional overhead
- Important:
  - virtual functions work only with pointers/references
  - Not with objects even if the function is virtual
  - If a class declares any virtual methods, the destructor of the class should be declared as virtual as well. Why??

## Pure Virtual Functions

- It is a virtual function having no body syntax: virtual void show()=0;
- But this function can't be removed from the body. (compiler error)
- It is because the base class pointer is allowed to refer the base class members only.
- Pure virtual functions may be inherited/ overridden in derived classes.

# Abstract Class

- A class never used for instantiation is called an abstract class.
- The sole purpose of an abstract class is to provide an appropriate base class for derivation of sub classes.
- A class will be treated as an abstract base class if at least one member function of the class is purely virtual
- Attempting to instantiate an object of an abstract is a syntax error

# Abstract Class contd...

- If a class is derived from a class with a pure virtual function and if no definition for that function is supplied in the derived class also then ...
  - That virtual function also remains purely virtual in the derived class.
  - The consequence is that the derived class again becomes an abstract class
  - i.e. It is not possible now to instantiate the derived class also!!!

# Example of pure virtual Functions...

```
class Car
{
    public:
    virtual void brake()=0;
    virtual void steering()=0;
    virtual void regNo()=0;
};
```

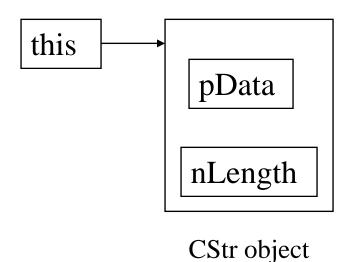
```
class Santro: public Car
   int regn_no;
    public:
   Santro(int reg)
       regn_no=reg;
void brake()
       cout << "AIR BRAKE" << endl;
 void steering()
       cout << "POWER STEERING" << endl;
void regNo()
       cout << "REGISTRATION:::\t" << regn_no << endl;
```

```
class Hyundai: public Car
    int regn_no;
    public:
     Hyundai(int reg)
       regn_no=reg;
    void regNo()
       cout << "REGISTRATION::: " << regn_no << endl;
    void brake()
       cout << "NORMAL BRAKE" << endl;
    void steering()
       cout << "ORDINARY STEERING" << endl;
};
```

```
int main()
  Car *ptr;
  Santro s(121);
  Hyundai h(234);
  ptr=&s;
  ptr->regNo();
  ptr->brake();
  ptr->steering();
  cout << endl;
  ptr=&h;
  ptr->regNo();
  ptr->brake();
  ptr->steering();
  return 0;
```

## "this" pointer

- Within a member function, the this keyword is a pointer to the current object, i.e. the object through which the function was called
- C++ passes a <u>hidden</u> this pointer whenever a member function is called
- Within a member function definition, there is an implicit use of this
  pointer for references to data members



(\*this)

Data member reference	Equivalent to
pData	this->pData
nLength	this->nLength

### "this" Pointer

- Every object has access to its own address through a pointer called 'this'
- The this pointer is passed as an implicit first argument on every non-static member function call for an object.
- The this pointer is implicitly used to refer both the data and function members of an object
- It can also be used explicitly;

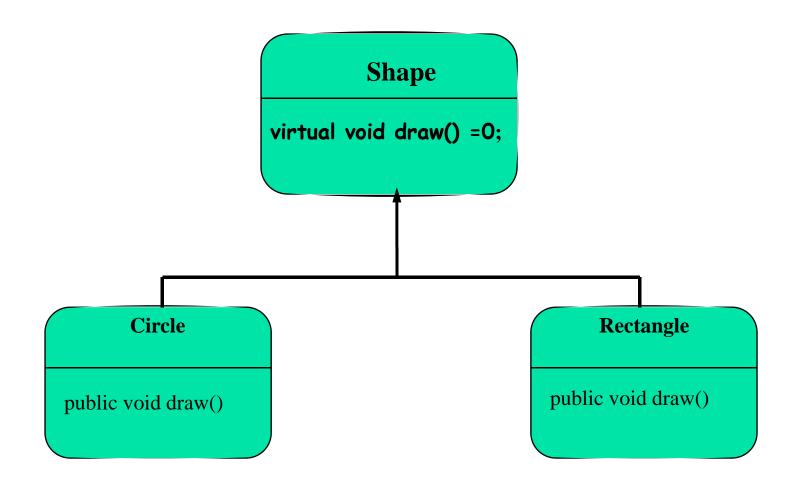
Example: (\*this).x=5; or this->x=5;

#### EXAMPLE OF this POINTER

```
class A
    int i;
    float f;
    public:
    A(int i, float f)
       this->i=i;
       this->f=f;
```

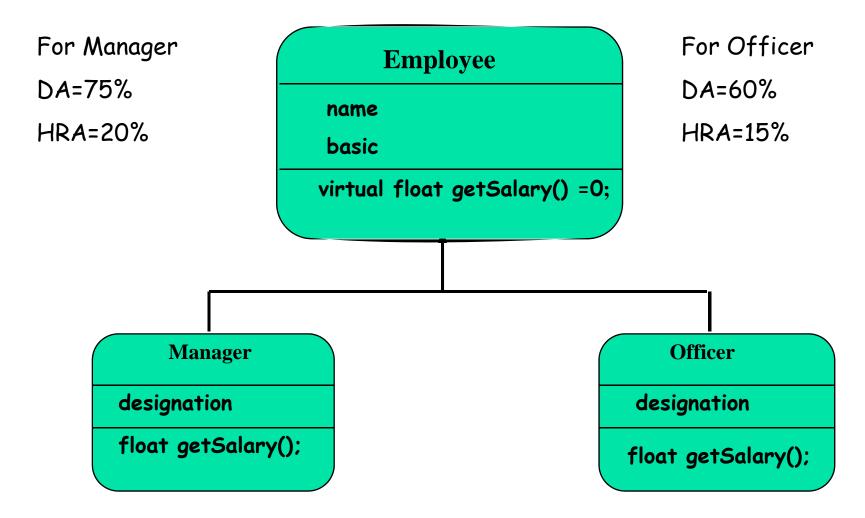
```
void set()
     cout << "Value of i: " << i << endl;
     cout<<"Value of f:"<<f;
};
int main()
   A obj(10,20);
  obj.set();
```

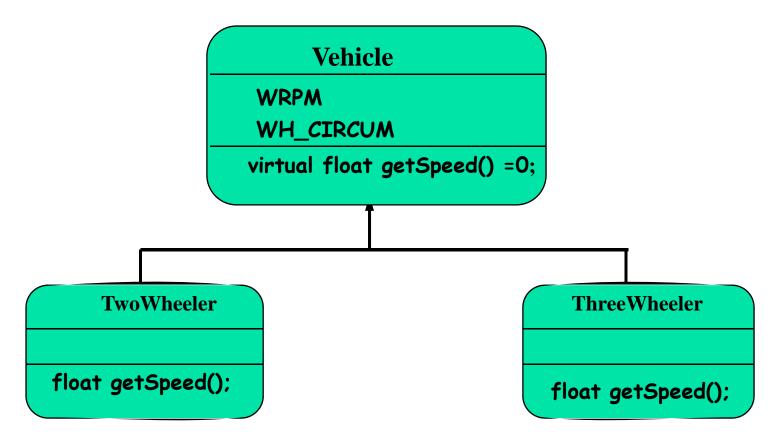
## **Example**



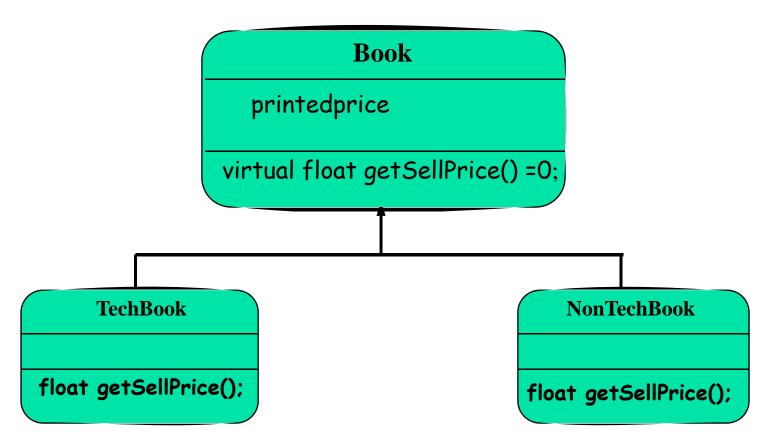
## Example- contd..

```
class Circle: public Shape {
  public:
  void draw(){ //Override Shape::draw()
   cout << "I am a Circle" << endl;</pre>
class Rectangle: public Shape {
  public:
  void draw(){ // Override Shape::draw()
   cout << "I am a Rectangle" << endl;</pre>
```





WRPM- Wheel rotation per minute, WH\_CIRCUM- Wheel circumference



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- Use base pointer to call the overridden functions of derived class
- Handle Exception for each assignments