



Polymorphism

OOP Principles

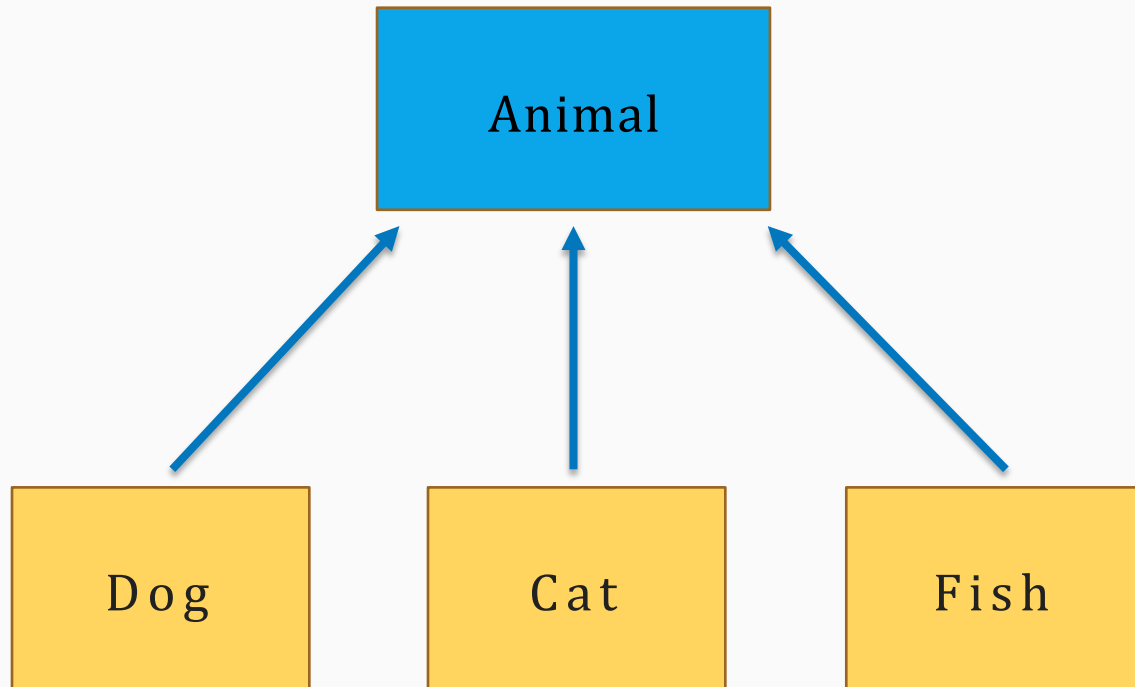
- There are 4 Object Oriented Programming (OOP) principles:
 - Encapsulation
 - Inheritance
 - Abstraction
 - Polymorphism

Poly + Morphism (Many Forms)

- Ability of the objects to take on many forms
- Occurs when reference type is parent class/interface and object type is child

```
Animal animal1 = new Dog();  
Animal animal2 = new Cat();  
Animal animal3 = new Bird();  
Flyable animal4 = new Eagle();
```

Polymorphism



Reference Type Object Type

```
Animal animal1 = new Dog();
```

```
Animal animal2 = new Cat();
```

```
Animal animal3 = new Fish();
```

Calling method in polymorphism

- Only the methods in **reference type** can be called
- When we call a method, it will call **overridden** version from a child class
- If method is not overridden, it will call parent/super class version

```
Animal animal1 = new Dog();  
animal1.bark(); //Compile Error
```

```
Animal animal1 = new Dog();  
animal1.eat();
```

instanceof keyword

- **Instanceof** keyword can be used to check if the object is certain class. (Returns boolean)

```
Animal animal = new Dog();  
  
if( animal instanceof Cat ){  
    System.out.println("It is Cat");  
}else{  
    System.out.println("It is not Cat");  
}
```

Polymorphism Rules

- Reference type can be parent **class** or **interface**
- Object type can be any **extending** or **implementing** child class
- Reference type decides what is accessible
- Object type decides which implementation of the method to be executed when the method is called

Reference Type Castings

- Casting one reference type to another
- There must be **IS A** (inheritance) relation between the object type and reference type we are casting it to, otherwise `ClassCastException` will be thrown
- There are two types of reference type castings: **upcasting** and **downcasting**

Upcasting

- Casting the smaller reference type (**sub type**) to larger reference type (**super type**)
- Upcasting is done **implicitly** and cast operator is **not required** to be given explicitly
- Allows us to achieve polymorphism without any explicit action

```
Animal animal1 = new Cat(); //upcasting
```

```
Dog dog = new Dog();  
Animal animal2 = dog; //upcasting
```

```
Phone phone1 = new IPhone(); //upcasting
```

```
Samsung samsung = new Samsung();  
Phone phone2 = samsung; //upcasting
```

Downcasting

- Casting the larger reference type (**super type**) to smaller reference type (**sub type**)
- Downcasting is done **explicitly** and cast operator is **required** to be given explicitly
- Allows us to access the features of the objects type that are not in reference type

```
Animal animal = new Dog();  
  
Dog dog = (Dog)animal; //downcasting  
dog.bark();
```

OR

```
Animal animal = new Dog();  
  
( (dog)animal ).bark(); //downcasting
```