Unit 5, Part 2

# Inheritance and Polymorphism

Computer Science S-111
Harvard University

David G. Sullivan, Ph.D.

## A Class for Modeling an Automobile

```
public class Automobile {
     private String make;
     private String model;
private int year;
private int mileage;
     private String plateNumber;
private int numSeats;
private boolean isSUV;
     public Automobile(String make, String model, int year,
  int numSeats, boolean isSUV) {
    this.make_= make;_
           this.model = model;
           if (year < 1900) {
                throw new IllegalArgumentException();
           this year = year;
           this.numSeats = numSeats;
           this.isSUV = isSUV;
           this.mileage = 0;
           this.plateNumber = "unknown";
     }
     public Automobile(String make, String model, int year) {
   this(make, model, year, 5, false);
                                                                     // continued...
```

## A Class for Modeling an Automobile (cont.)

```
public String getMake() {
    return this.make;
}

public String getModel() {
    return this.model;
}

public int getYear() {
    return this.year;
}

public int getMileage() {
    return this.mileage;
}

public String getPlateNumber() {
    return this.plateNumber;
}

public int getNumSeats() {
    return this.numSeats;
}

public boolean isSUV() {
    return this.isSUV;
}

// continued...
```

# A Class for Modeling an Automobile (cont.)

```
public void setMileage(int newMileage) {
    if (newMileage < this.mileage) {
        throw new IllegalArgumentException();
    }
    this.mileage = newMileage;
}

public void setPlateNumber(String plate) {
    this.plateNumber = plate;
}

public String toString() {
    String str = this.make + " " + this.model;
    str += "( " + this.numSeats + " seats)";
    return str;
}</pre>
```

There are no mutators for the other fields. Why not?

}

## Modeling a Related Class

- What if we now want to write a class to represent a taxi?
- The Taxi class will have the same fields and methods as the Automobile class.
- It will also have its own fields and methods:

taxiID getID, setID

fareTotal getFareTotal, addFare

numFares getNumFares, getAverageFare

resetFareInfo

- We may also want the Taxi versions of some of the Automobile methods to behave differently. Examples:
  - we may want the toString method to include values from different fields
  - we may want the getNumSeats method to return only the number of seats available for passengers

### Inheritance

- To avoid redefining all of the Automobile fields and methods, we specify that the Taxi class extends the Automobile class: public class Taxi extends Automobile {
- The Taxi class will inherit the fields and methods of the Automobile class.
  - · it doesn't have to redefine them

## A Class for Modeling a Taxi

```
public class Taxi extends Automobile {
    // We don't need to include the fields
    // from Automobile!
    private String taxiID;
    private double fareTotal;
    private int numFares;
    // constructor goes here...

// We don't need to include the methods
// from Automobile!

public String getID() {
    return this.taxiID;
}

public void addFare(double fare) {
    if (fare < 0) {
        throw new IllegalArgumentException();
    }
    this.fareTotal += fare;
    this.numFares++;
}
...</pre>
```

# **Using Inherited Methods**

- Because Taxi extends Automobile, we can invoke a method defined in the Automobile class on a Taxi object.
  - · example:

```
Taxi t = new Taxi(...);
t.setMileage(25000);
```

- This works even though there is no setMileage method defined in the Taxi class!
  - Taxi inherits it from Automobile

## Overriding an Inherited Method

- A subclass can override an inherited method, replacing it with its own version.
- To override a method, the new method must have the same:
  - return type
  - name
  - · number and types of parameters
- Example: our Taxi class can define its own toString method:

```
public String toString() {
    return "Taxi (id = " + this.taxiID + ")";
}
```

• it overrides the toString method inherited from Automobile

## Rethinking Our Design

- What if we also want to be able to capture information about other types of vehicles?
  - · motorcycles
  - trucks
- The classes for these other vehicles should not inherit from Automobile. Why not?
- Solution: define a Vehicle class
  - · fields and methods common to all vehicles are defined there
  - leave automobile-specific state and behavior in Automobile
    - everything else is inherited from Vehicle
  - define Motorcycle and Truck classes that also inherit from Vehicle

## A Class for Modeling a Vehicle

```
public class Vehicle {
   private String make;
   private String model;
    private int year;
     private int mileage;
    private String plateNumber;
private int numWheels; // this was not in Automobile
     public Vehicle(String make, String model, int year,
       int numWheels) {
         this.make = make;
         this.model = model;
         if (year < 1900) {
             throw new IllegalArgumentException();
         this.year = year;
         this.numWheels = numWheels;
         this.mileage = 0;
         this.plateNumber = "unknown";
     }
     public String getMake() {
         return this.make:
     // etc.
```

## Revised Automobile Class

```
public class Automobile extends Vehicle {
    // make, model, etc. are now inherited from Vehicle

    // The following are specific to automobiles,
    // so we leave them here.
    private int numSeats;
    private boolean isSUV;

    // constructor goes here...

// getMake(), etc. are now inherited from Vehicle

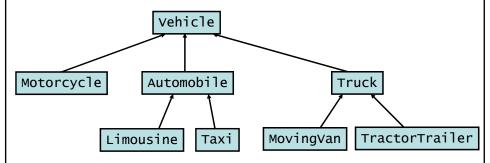
// The following are specific to automobiles,
    // so we leave them here.
    public int getNumSeats() {
        return this.numSeats;
    }

    public boolean isSUV() {
        return this.isSUV;
    }

...
}
```

## Inheritance Hierarchy

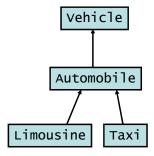
• Inheritance leads classes to be organized in a hierarchy:



- · A class in Java inherits directly from at most one class.
- However, a class can inherit indirectly from a class higher up in the hierarchy.
  - example: Taxi inherits indirectly from Vehicle

# Terminology

- When class C extends class D (directly or indirectly):
  - · class D is known as a superclass or base class of C
    - super comes *above* it in the hierarchy
  - · class C is known as a subclass or derived class of D
    - sub comes *below* it in the hierarchy
- · Examples:
  - Automobile is a superclass of Taxi and Limosine
  - Taxi is a subclass of Automobile and Vehicle



## Deciding Where to Define a Method

- Assume we only care about the number of axles in truck vehicles.
- Thus, we define the getNumAxles method in the Truck class, rather than in the Vehicle class.

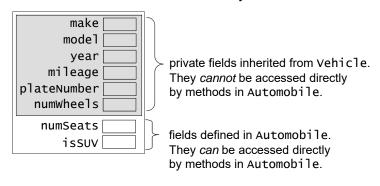
```
public int getNumAxles() {
    return this.getNumWheels() / 2;
}
```

- it will be inherited by subclasses of Truck
- it won't be available to non-truck subclasses of vehicle
- We override this method in the TractorTrailer class, because tractor trailers have four wheels on all but the front axle:

```
public int getNumAxles() {
   int numBackWheels = this.getNumWheels() - 2;
   return 1 + numBackWheels/4;
}
```

# What is Accessible From a Superclass?

- A subclass has direct access to the public fields and methods of a superclass.
- A subclass does <u>not</u> have direct access to the *private* fields and methods of a superclass.
- Example: we can think of an Automobile object as follows:



## What is Accessible From a Superclass? (cont.)

 Example: now that make and model are defined in Vehicle, we're no longer able to access them directly in the Automobile version of toString:

won't compile

```
public String toString() {
    String str = this.make + " " + this.model;
    str += " ( " + this.numSeats + " seats)";
    return str;
}
```

 Instead, we need to make method calls to access the inherited fields:

```
public String toString() {
    String str = this.getMake() + " " +
        this.getModel();
    str += " ( " + this.numSeats + " seats)";
    return str;
}
```

# What is Accessible From a Superclass? (cont.)

Faulty approach: redefine the inherited fields in the subclass

```
public class Vehicle {
    private String make;
    private String model;
    ...
}

public class Automobile extends Vehicle {
    private String make; // NOT a good idea!
    private String model;
    ...
}
```

• You should NOT do this!

## Writing a Constructor for a Subclass

Another example of illegally accessing inherited private fields:

```
public Automobile(String make, String model, int year,
  int numSeats, boolean isSUV) {
    this.make = make;
    this.model = model;
    ...
}
```

 To initialize inherited fields, a constructor should invoke a constructor from the superclass.

```
public Automobile(String make, String model, int year,
  int numSeats, boolean isSUV) {
    super(make, model, year, 4); // 4 is for numWheels
    this.numSeats = numSeats;
    this.isSUV = isSUV;
}
```

- use the keyword super followed by appropriate parameters for the superclass constructor
- · must be done as the very first line of the constructor

# Writing a Constructor for a Subclass (cont.)

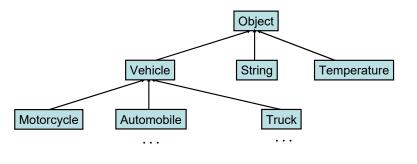
- If a subclass constructor doesn't explicitly invoke a superclass constructor, the compiler tries to insert a call to the superclass constructor with no parameters.
- If there isn't such a constructor, we get a compile-time error.
  - example: this constructor won't compile:

```
public Taxi(String make, String model, int year, String ID)
{
    this.taxiID = ID;
}
```

- the compiler attempts to insert the following call: super();
- there isn't an Automobile constructor with no parameters

# The Object Class

- If a class doesn't explicitly extend another class, it implicitly extends a special class called Object.
- Thus, the Object class is at the top of the class hierarchy.
  - · all classes are subclasses of this class
  - the default toString and equals methods are defined in this class



## Inheritance in the Java API

### java.awt

## Class Rectangle

java.lang.Object

Ljava.awt.geom.RectangularShape Ljava.awt.geom.Rectangle2D

∟java.awt.Rectangle

All Implemented Interfaces:

Shape, Serializable, Cloneable

Direct Known Subclasses:

<u>DefaultCaret</u>

## More Examples of Method Overriding

- Vehicle inherits the fields and methods of Object.
- The inherited toString method isn't very helpful.
- We define a vehicle version that overrides the inherited one:

```
public String toString() {      // Vehicle version
      String str = this.make + " " + this.model;
      return str;
}
```

 When toString is invoked on a Vehicle object, the Vehicle version is executed:

```
Vehicle v = new Vehicle("Radio Flyer",
   "Classic Tricycle", 2002, 3);
System.out.println(v);
```

outputs: Radio Flyer Classic Tricycle

## More Examples of Method Overriding (cont.)

- The Automobile class inherits the Vehicle version of toString.
- If we didn't define a toString() method in Automobile, the inherited version would be used.
- The Automobile version overrides the Vehicle version so that the number of seats can be included in the string:

```
public String toString() {
    String str = this.getMake() + " " +
        this.getModel();
    str += " ( " + this.numSeats + " seats)";
    return str;
}
```

## Invoking an Overriden Method

- When a subclass overrides an inherited method, we can invoke the inherited version by using the keyword super.
- Example: the Automobile version of toString() begins with the same fields as the Vehicle version:

```
public String toString() {
    String str = this.getMake() + " " +
        this.getModel();
    str += " ( " + this.numSeats + " seats)";
    return str;
}
```

instead of calling the accessor methods, we can do this:

```
public String toString() {
    String str = super.toString();
    str += " ( " + this.numSeats + " seats)";
    return str;
}
```

## Another Example of Inheritance

- A square is a special type of rectangle.
  - but the width and height must be the same
- Assume that we also want Square objects to have a field for the unit of measurement (e.g., "cm").
- Square objects should mostly behave like Rectangle objects:

```
Rectangle r = new Rectangle(20, 30);
int area1 = r.area();
Square sq = new Square(40, "cm");
int area2 = sq.area();
```

· But there may be differences as well:

```
System.out.println(r); \Rightarrow output:

20 \times 30

System.out.println(sq); \Rightarrow output:

square with 40-cm sides
```

# Another Example of Inheritance (cont.) public class Rectangle { private int width; private int height; ... public Rectangle(int initWidth, int initHeight) { ... } public int getWidth() { ... } public class Square extends Rectangle { private String unit; // inherits other fields public Square(int side, String unit) { super(side, side); this.unit = unit; } public String toString() { // overrides String s = "square with "; s += this.getWidth() + "-"; s += this.unit + " sides";

return s;

} // inherits other methods

# Another Example of Inheritance (cont.) public class Rectangle { private int width; private int height; ... public Rectangle(int initwidth, int initHeight) { ... } public int getwidth() { ... } public class Square extends Rectangle { private String unit; // inherits other fields public Square(int side, String unit) { super(side, side); this.unit = unit; } public String toString() { // overrides String s = "square with "; s += this.getwidth() + "-"; s += this.unit + " sides"; return s; } // inherits other methods }

## Another Example of Method Overriding

• The Rectangle class has the following mutator method:

```
public void setwidth(int w) {
   if (w <= 0) {
      throw new IllegalArgumentException();
   }
   this.width = w;
}</pre>
```

• The Square class inherits it. Why should we override it?

## Which of these works?

```
A. // Square version, which overrides
    // the version inherited from Rectangle
    public void setwidth(int w) {
        this.width = w;
        this.height = w;
    }

B. // Square version, which overrides
    // the version inherited from Rectangle
    public void setwidth(int w) {
```

**C.** either version would work

this.setWidth(w);
this.setHeight(w);

D. neither version would work

## Accessing Methods from the Superclass

 The solution: use super to access the inherited version of the method – the one we are overriding:

```
// Square version
public void setWidth(int w) {
    super.setWidth(w); // call the Rectangle version
    super.setHeight(w);
}
```

- Only use super if you want to call a method from the superclass that has been overridden.
- If the method has *not* been overridden, use this as usual.

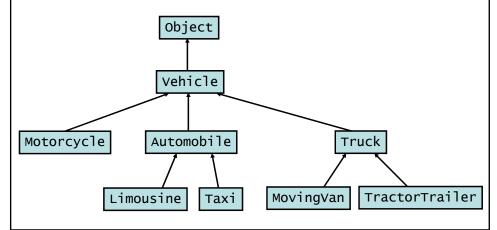
# Accessing Methods from the Superclass

• We need to override all of the inherited mutators:

```
// Square versions
public void setWidth(int w) {
    super.setWidth(w);
    super.setHeight(w);
}
public void setHeight(int h) {
    super.setWidth(h);
    super.setHeight(h);
}
public void grow(int dw, int dh) {
    if (dw != dh) {
        throw new IllegalArgumentException();
    super.setWidth(this.getWidth() + dw);
    super.setHeight(this.getHeight() + dh);
}
                         getWidth() and getHeight()
                         are not overridden, so we use this.
```

## is-a Relationships

- We use inheritance to capture *is-a* relationships.
  - an automobile is a vehicle
  - a taxi is an automobile
  - a tractor trailer is a truck



# has-a Relationships

- Another type of relationship is a has-a relationship.
  - · one type of object "owns" another type of object
  - · example: a driver has a vehicle
- Inheritance should <u>not</u> be used to capture has-a relationships.
  - it does <u>not</u> make sense to make the <u>Driver</u> class a subclass of <u>Vehicle</u>
- Instead, we give the "owner" object a field that refers to the "owned" object:

```
public class Driver {
   String name;
   String ID;
   Vehicle v;
```

## Polymorphism

· We've been using reference variables like this:

```
Automobile a = new Automobile("Ford", "Model T", ...);
```

- variable a is declared to be of type Automobile
- it holds a reference to an Automobile object
- In addition, a reference variable of type T can hold a reference to an object from a subclass of T:

```
Automobile a = new Taxi("Ford", "Tempo", ...);
```

- this works because Taxi is a subclass of Automobile
- · a taxi is an automobile!
- The name for this feature of Java is polymorphism.
  - · from the Greek for "many forms"
  - the same code can be used with objects of different types!

## Polymorphism and Collections of Objects

- Polymorphism is useful when we have a collection of objects of different but related types.
- Example:
  - let's say that a company has a collection of vehicles of different types
  - we can store all of them in an array of type Vehicle:

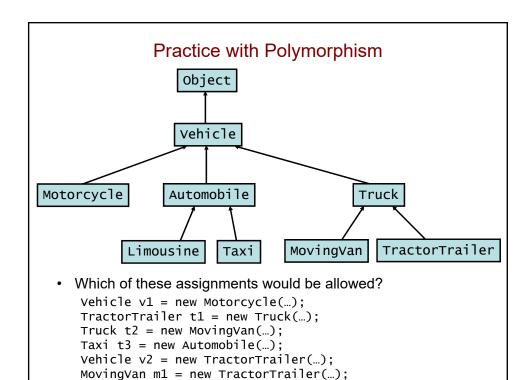
```
Vehicle[] fleet = new Vehicle[5];
fleet[0] = new Automobile("Honda", "Civic", ...);
fleet[1] = new Motorcycle("Harley", ...);
fleet[2] = new TractorTrailer("Mack", ...);
fleet[3] = new Taxi("Ford", ...);
fleet[4] = new Truck("Dodge", ...);
```

## Processing a Collection of Objects

 We can determine the average age of the vehicles in the company's fleet by doing the following:

```
int totalAge = 0;
for (int i = 0; i < fleet.length; i++) {
    int age = CURRENT_YEAR - fleet[i].getYear();
    totalAge += age;
}
double averageAge = (double)totalAge / fleet.length;</pre>
```

- We can invoke getYear() on each object in the array, regardless of its type.
  - their classes are all subclasses of Vehicle
  - thus, they must all have a getYear() method



## Declared Type vs. Actual Type

- · An object's declared type may not match its actual type:
  - · declared type: type specified when declaring a variable
  - actual type: type specified when creating an object
- Recall this client code:

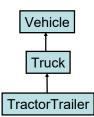
```
Vehicle[] fleet = new Vehicle[5];
fleet[0] = new Automobile("Honda", "Civic", 2005);
fleet[1] = new Motorcycle("Harley", ...);
fleet[2] = new TractorTrailer("Mack", ...);
```

Here are the types:

<u>object</u>	declared type	actual type
fleet[0]	Vehicle	Automobile
fleet[1]	vehicle	Motorcycle
fleet[2]	Vehicle	TractorTrailer

## Determining if a Method Call is Valid

- The compiler uses the declared type of an object to determine if a method call is valid.
  - starts at the declared type, and goes up the inheritance hierarchy as needed looking for a version of the method
  - if it can't find a version, the method call will not compile



Example: the following would not work:

```
Vehicle[] fleet = new Vehicle[5];
...
fleet[2] = new TractorTrailer("Mack",...);
...
System.out.println(fleet[2].getNumAxles());
```

- the declared type of fleet[2] is vehicle
- there's no getNumAxles() method defined in or inherited by Vehicle

## Determining if a Method Call is Valid (cont.)

• In such cases, we can use casting to create a reference with the necessary declared type:

```
Vehicle[] fleet = new Vehicle[5];
...
fleet[2] = new TractorTrailer("Mack", ...);
...
TractorTrailer t = (TractorTrailer)fleet[2];
```

• The following will work:

```
System.out.println(t.getNumAxles());
```

- the declared type of t is TractorTrailer
- there is a getNumAxles() method defined in TractorTrailer, so the compiler is happy

## **Determining Which Method to Execute**

 Truck also has a getNumAxles method, so this would be another way to handle the previous problem:

```
Vehicle[] fleet = new Vehicle[5];
...
fleet[2] = new TractorTrailer("Mack", ...);
...
Truck t2 = (Truck)fleet[2];
System.out.println(t2.getNumAxles());
```

- The object represented by t2 has:
  - a declared type of \_\_\_\_\_
  - an actual type of \_\_\_\_\_\_
- Both Truck and TractorTrailer have a getNumAxles. Which version will be executed?
- More generally, how does the interpreter decide which version of a method should be used?

## **Dynamic Binding**

- At runtime, the Java interpreter selects the version of a method that is appropriate to the *actual* type of the object.
  - starts at the actual type, and goes up the inheritance hierarchy as needed until it finds a version of the method
  - known as dynamic binding
- · Given the code from the previous slide

```
Vehicle[] fleet = new Vehicle[5]
...
fleet[2] = new TractorTrailer("Mack", ...);
...
Truck t2 = (Truck)fleet[2];
System.out.println(t2.getNumAxles());
```

the TractorTrailer version of getNumAxles would be run

 TractorTrailer is the actual type of t2, and that class has its own version of getNumAxles

## Dynamic Binding (cont.)

Another example:

```
public static void printFleet(Vehicle[] fleet) {
    for (int i = 0; i < fleet.length; i++) {
        System.out.println(fleet[i]);
    }
}</pre>
```

- the toString() method is implicitly invoked on each element of the array when we go to print it.
- the appropriate version is selected by dynamic binding
- note: the selection must happen at runtime, because the actual types of the objects may not be known when the code is compiled

## Dynamic Binding (cont.)

· Recall our initialization of the array:

```
Vehicle[] fleet = new Vehicle[5];
fleet[0] = new Automobile("Honda", "Civic", ...);
fleet[1] = new Motorcycle("Harley", ...);
fleet[2] = new TractorTrailer("Mack", ...);
...
```

- System.out.println(fleet[0]); will invoke the Automobile version of the toString() method.
- Motorcycle does not define its own toString() method, so System.out.println(fleet[1]); will invoke the Vehicle version of toString(), which is inherited by Motorcycle.
- TractorTrailer does not define its own toString() but Truck does, so System.out.println(fleet[2]); will invoke the Truck version of toString(), which is inherited by TractorTrailer.

## Dynamic Binding (cont.)

- Dynamic binding also applies to method calls on the called object that occur within other methods.
- Example: the Truck class has the following toString method:

```
public String toString() {
   String str = this.getMake() + " " +
        this.getModel();
   str = str + ", capacity = " + this.capacity;
   str = str + ", " + this.getNumAxles() + " axles";
   return str;
}
```

- The TractorTrailer class inherits it and does *not* override it.
- When toString is called on a TractorTrailer object:
  - this Truck version of toString() will run
  - the TractorTrailer version of getNumAxles()
     will run when the code above is executed

## The Power of Polymorphism

Recall our printFleet method:

```
public static void printFleet(Vehicle[] fleet) {
    for (int i = 0; i < fleet.length; i++) {
        System.out.println(fleet[i]);
    }
}</pre>
```

- polymorphism allows this method to use a single println statement to print the appropriate info. for any kind of vehicle.
- Without polymorphism, we would need a large if-else-if:

```
if (fleet[i] is an Automobile) {
   print the appropriate info for Automobiles
} else if (fleet[i] is a Truck) {
   print the appropriate info for Trucks
} else if ...
```

 Polymorphism allows us to easily write code that works for more than one type of object.

## Polymorphism and the Object Class

- The Object class is a superclass of every other class.
- Thus, we can use an Object variable to store a reference to any object.

```
Object o1 = "Hello World";
Object o2 = new Temperature(20, 'C');
Object o3 = new Taxi("Ford", "Tempo", 2000, "T253");
```

## Summary and Extra Practice

- · To determine if a method call is valid:
  - start at the declared type
  - go up the hierarchy as needed to see if you can find the specified method in the declared type *or* a superclass
  - if you don't find it, the method call is not valid
- Given the following:

```
TractorTrailer t1 = new TractorTrailer(...);
 Vehicle v = new Truck(...);
                                              Vehicle
 MovingVan m = new MovingVan(...);
                                               getMake
 Truck t2 = new TractorTrailer(...);
Which of the following are valid?
                                               Truck
                                             getNumAxles
 v.getNumAxles()
 m.getNumAxles()
 t1.getMake()
                                      MovingVan
                                                  TractorTrailer
 t1.isSleeper()
                                                     getNumAxles
                                                     isSleeper
 t2.isSleeper()
```

# Summary and Extra Practice (cont.)

- To determine which version of a method will run (dynamic binding):
  - start at the actual type
  - go up the hierarchy as needed until you find the method
  - the first version you encounter is the one that will run
- Given the following:

```
TractorTrailer t1 = new TractorTrailer(...);
 Vehicle v = new Truck(...);
 MovingVan m = new MovingVan(...);
 Truck t2 = new TractorTrailer(...);
                                              Vehicle
                                               qetMake
Which version of the method will run?
                                               Truck
 m.getNumAxles()
 t1.getNumAxles()
                                             getNumAxles
 t2.getNumAxles()
 v.getMake()
                                      Moving∨an
                                                  TractorTrailer
 t2.getMake()
                                                     getNumAxles
                                                     isSleeper
```

# More Practice public class E extends G { public void method2() { System.out.print("E 2 "); this.method1(); } public void method3() { System.out.print("E 3 "); this.method1(); } } public class F extends G { public void method2() { System.out.print("F 2 "); } } public class G { public void method1() { System.out.print("G 1 "); } public void method2() { System.out.print("G 2 "); } } public class H extends E { public void method1() { System.out.print("H 1 "); } }

## More Practice (cont.)

· Which of these would compile and which would not?

```
E e1 = new E();

E e2 = new H();

E e3 = new G();

E e4 = new F();

G g1 = new H();

G g2 = new F();

H h1 = new H();
```

• To answer these questions, draw the inheritance hierarchy:

```
Here are the classes again...

public class E extends G {
    public void method2() {
        System.out.print("E 2 ");
        this.method1();
    }
    public void method3() {
        System.out.print("E 3 ");
        this.method1();
    }
}

public class F extends G {
    public void method2() {
        System.out.print("F 2 ");
    }
}

public class G {
    public void method1() {
        System.out.print("G 1 ");
    }
    public void method2() {
        System.out.print("G 2 ");
    }
}

public class H extends E {
    public void method1() {
        System.out.print("H 1 ");
    }
}
```

## More Practice (cont.) E e1 = new E(); G g1 = new H(); G g2 = new F(); Which of the following would compile and which would not? For the ones that would compile, what is the output? e1.method1(); G e1.method2(); method1 e1.method3(); method2 g1.method1(); F Ε g1.method2(); method2 method2 method3 g1.method3(); g2.method1(); Η method1 g2.method2(); g2.method3();