



TECH
ELEVATOR

Java

Inheritance & Polymorphism

Module 1 - Week 6

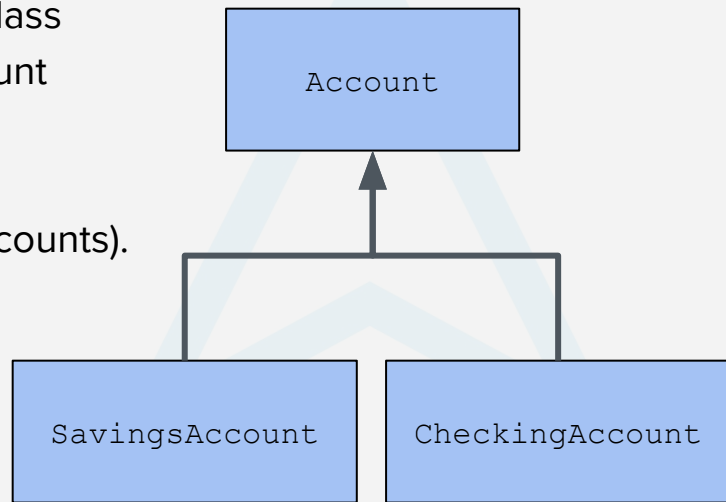
- **What are the 3 (or 4?) pillars of Object Oriented Programming.**
- **What are some advantages of using Object Oriented Programming?**
- **What is Encapsulation?**
- **What is Polymorphism?**

- **Extra practice:** I added coding katas to your student code repos.
- **Week 7:** there are going to be two units in the LMS next week, but only one (Unit Testing) has exercises. The unit on Exception Handling only has a tutorial, but no exercises.



Week	Topics
Week 0	Welcome, Intro to Tools
Week 1	Variables and Data Types, Logical Branching
Week 2	Loops and Arrays, Command-Line Programs, Intro to Objects
Week 3	Collections
Week 4	Mid-Module Project
Week 5	Classes and Encapsulation
Week 6	Inheritance, Polymorphism
Week 7	Unit Testing, Exceptions and Error Handling
Week 8	File I/O Reading and Writing
Week 9	End-of-module project
Week 10	Assessment

- **Inheritance:** the practice of creating a hierarchy for classes in which descendants obtain the attributes and behaviors from other classes
- Can be described as:
 - Parent / Child relationship
 - Superclass / Subclass relationship
 - Base / Derived relationship
- Derived classes are specializations of a base class
 - A savings account **is a** type of bank account
 - A reserve auction **is a** type of auction
- Referred to as an **“is-a” relationship**
- Goes **one way** (not all accounts are savings accounts).

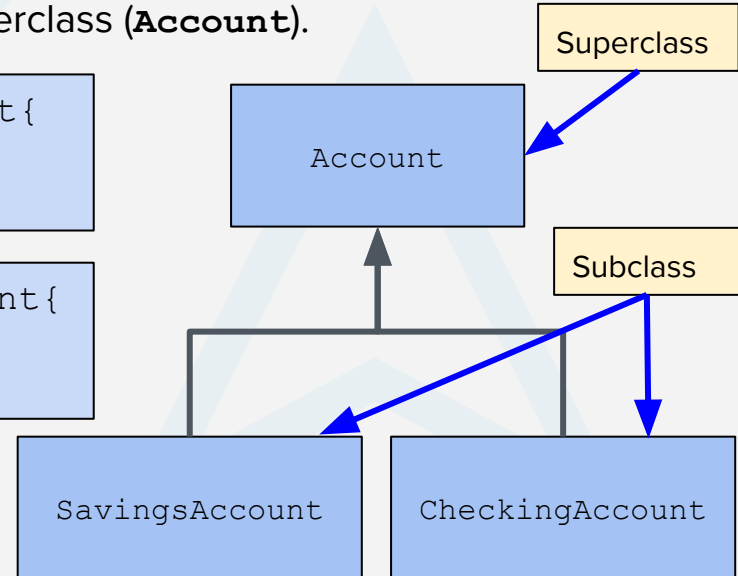


- Java provides powerful tools that enable developers to model these parent-child relationships.
- A class can be designated as a child of a parent class and inherit from that class using the **extends** keyword.
- Once extended, the subclasses (**SavingsAccount** & **CheckingAccount**) will inherit all non-private properties and methods from the superclass (**Account**).

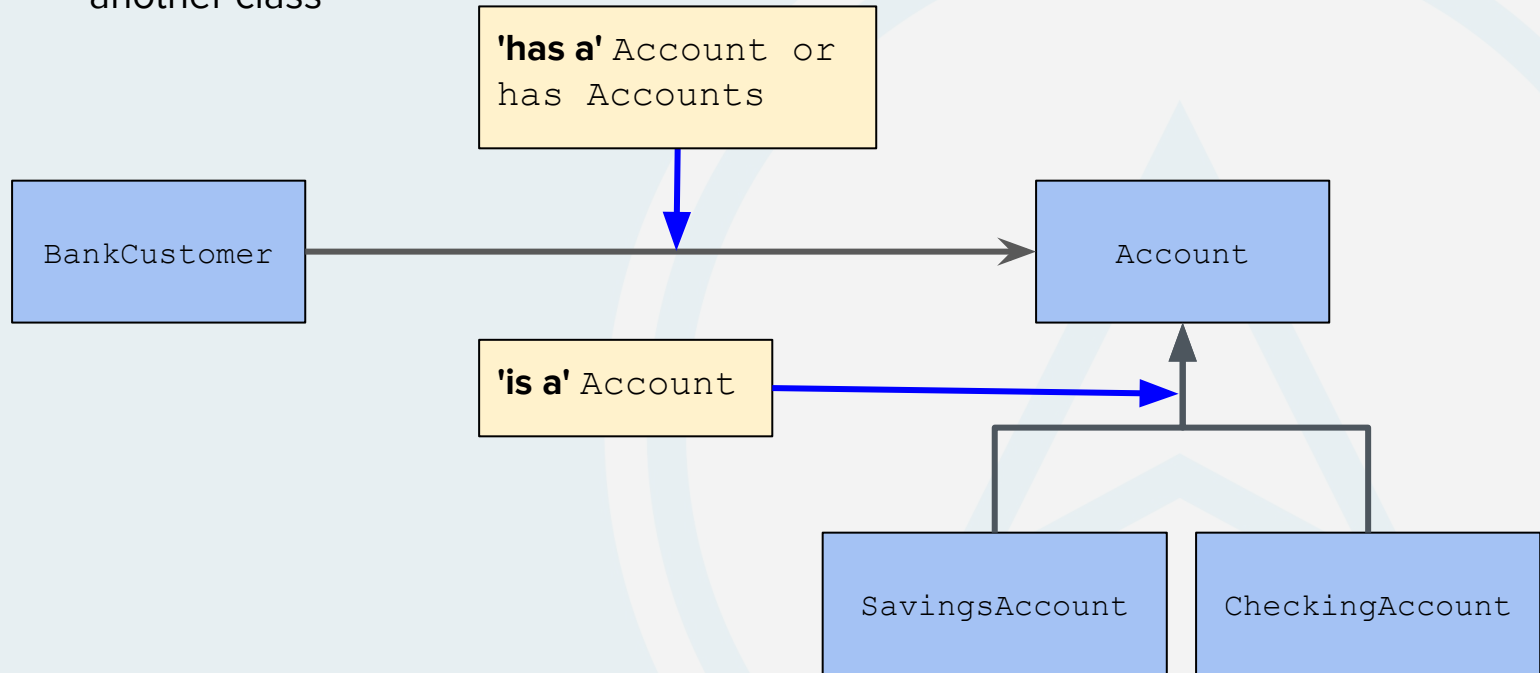
```
public class SavingsAccount extends Account{  
    // code here...  
}
```

```
public class CheckingAccount extends Account{  
    // code here...  
}
```

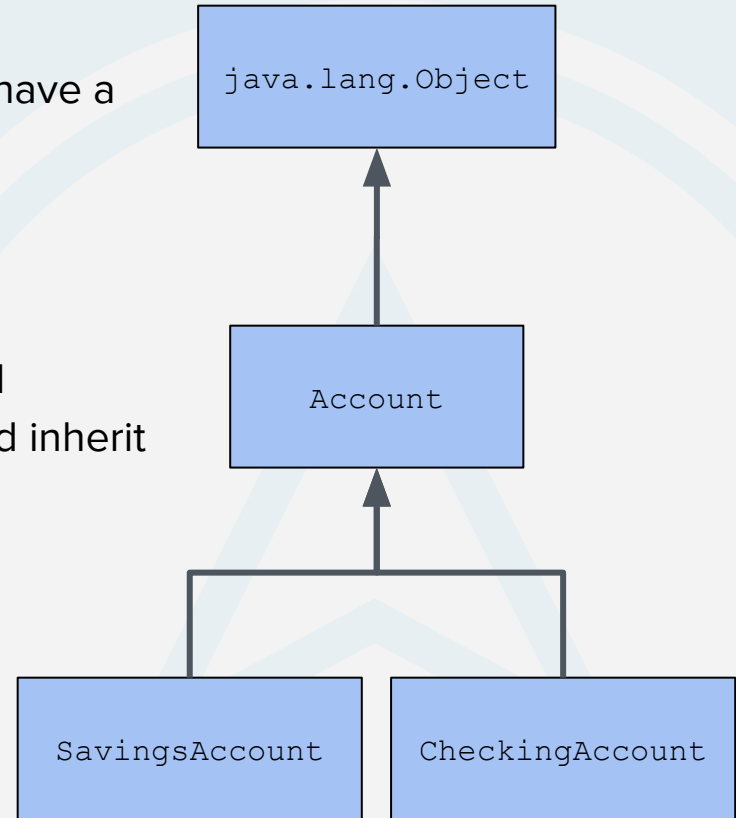
'is a' Account



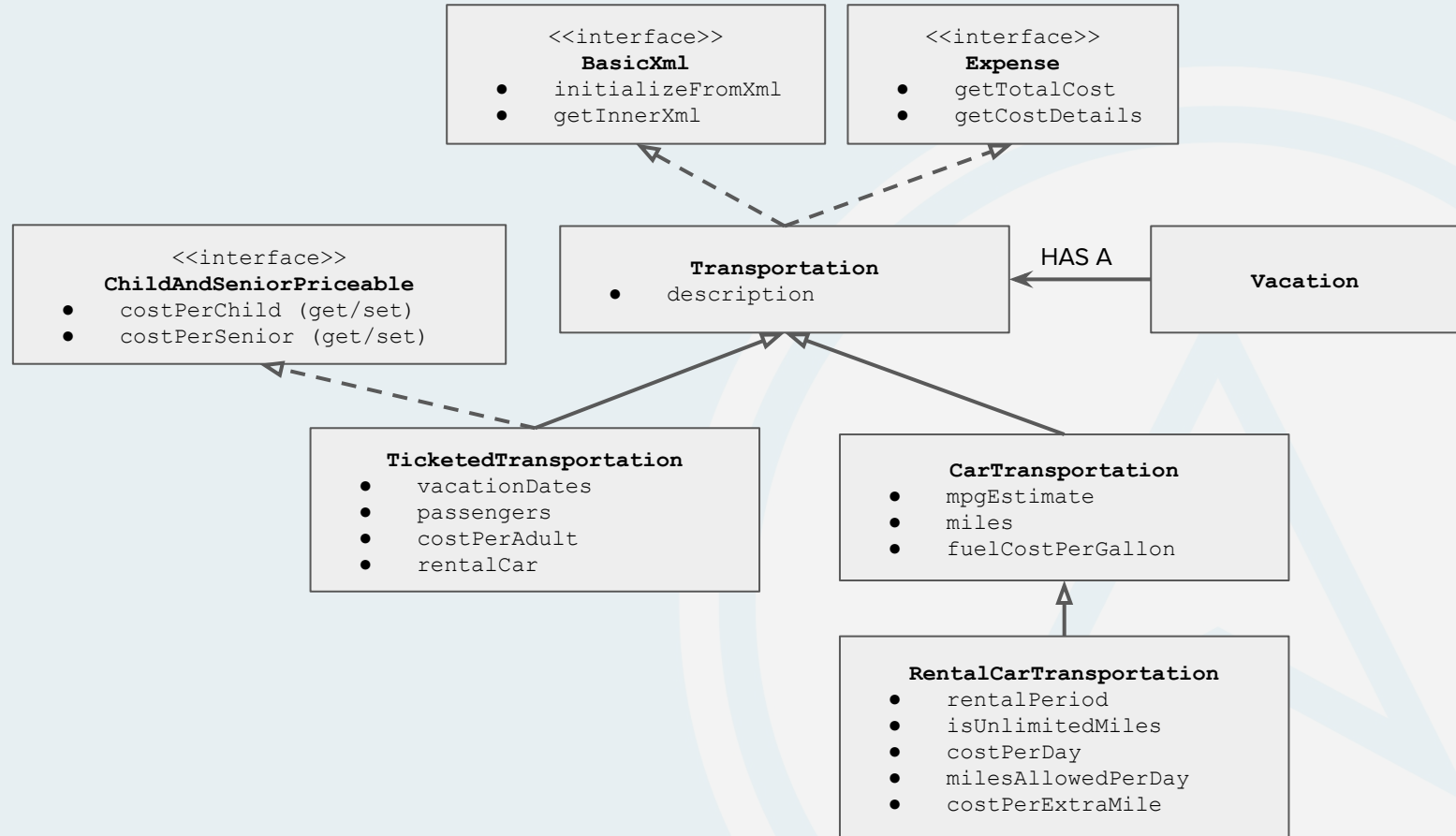
- **Is-a** relationship depends on inheritance.
- **Has-a** relationship is also known as composition.
 - an instance of one class has a reference to an instance of (or collection of) another class



- In Java, all objects (reference types) are subclasses of the class `java.lang.Object`.
- **Object** is the only class in Java that does not have a superclass.
- The only things in the language that are not descendants of `java.lang.Object` are the primitives: long, int, double, boolean, etc.
- Even if no superclass is specified, all classes still implicitly extend from `java.lang.Object`, and inherit a set of common methods, such as:
 - `toString()`
 - `equals()`
 - `hashCode()`



Transportation Hierarchy



- A subclass can override a method from the superclass by redefining the method.
- When a method is called on an instance of a subclass, the subclass version of the method will be called if defined, otherwise the superclass method will be.
- The method signature must match the signature being overridden exactly.
- Java provides the **@Override** annotation to note that a method overrides a super method.
- If you use the **@Override** annotation on a method you intend to override, you will get a compiler error if your signature does not match the signature of any signatures in the superclass. This is very useful to ensure your method WILL actually override as intended.
- If a subclass overrides a superclass method, that class can always call the superclass method by using the **super** prefix to access the super version of the method.

```
public class Account{  
    public int withdraw(int amount){  
        // code here...  
    }  
}
```

```
public class SavingsAccount extends Account{  
    @Override  
    public int withdraw(int amount){  
        // code here...  
    }  
}
```

We can override the methods that we inherit from `java.lang.Object`

```
CheckingAccount account = new CheckingAccount("Tom", "123456", 1000000);  
System.out.println(account);
```

```
com.techelevator.CheckingAccount@57829d67
```

```
public class CheckingAccount extends Account{  
    @Override  
    public String toString() {  
        return "BankAccount{accountHolderName='" + getAccountHolderName() +  
            '\'' + ", accountNumber='" + getAccountNumber() + '\'' +  
            ", balance=" + getBalance() + '}';  
    }  
    ...  
}
```

```
BankAccount{accountHolderName='Tom', accountNumber='123456',  
balance=1000000}
```

- A subclass constructor must call a superclass constructor if the superclass does not expose the default no-arg constructor.
- A subclass constructor calls its superclass constructor using the **super** keyword..
- Constructors are not inherited and must always be invoked using **super**.

```
public class Vehicle{  
    private int wheels;  
    public Vehicle(int wheels) {  
        this.wheels = wheels;  
    }  
}
```

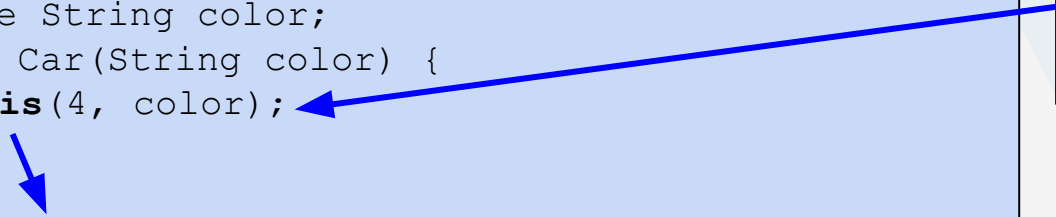
The Car
constructor must
call a Vehicle
constructor.

```
public class Car extends Vehicle{  
    private String color;  
    public Car(int wheels, String color) {  
        super(wheels);  
        this.color = color;  
    }  
}
```

Overloading Constructors

- Classes can contain more than one constructor, each taking a different number or data types of arguments.
- We are overloading the constructor (just like we can overload any other method)
- Classes can chain constructors by using **this** to call another overloaded constructor:

```
public class Car extends Vehicle{  
    private String color;  
    public Car(String color) {  
        this(4, color);  
    }  
  
    public Car(int wheels, String color) {  
        super(wheels);  
        this.color = color;  
    }  
}
```



**One Car
constructor can
chain to another
Car constructor.**

Define what overriding means in the context of inheritance - Objective 2

Some common difficulties with overriding in the context of inheritance...

- not understanding the value of the **@Override** annotation
- confusing **overriding** and **overloading**
- using **super** to call the method you're overriding

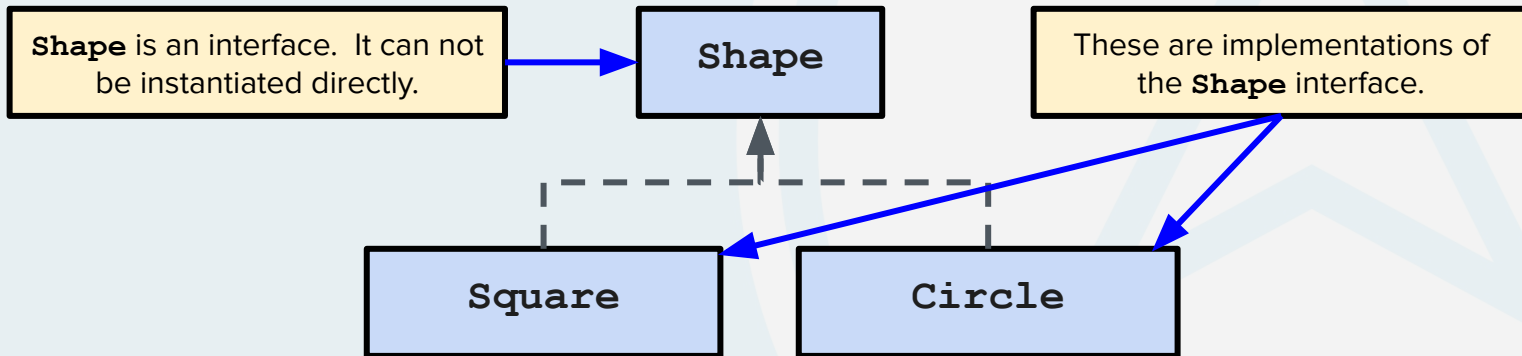
- **Polymorphism** is the ability of an object to take on many forms. The most common use of polymorphism is when a parent class reference is used to refer to a child class object.
- **Polymorphism using inheritance** is the concept that any object which is a subclass can be treated as the superclass type.

```
List<Account> accounts= new ArrayList<>();

accounts.add(new SavingsAccount(1000));
accounts.add(new CheckingAccount(2000));

...
for ( Account account: accounts) {
    BigDecimal balance = account. getBalance();
    ...
    account. withdraw(new BigDecimal(20.00));
}
```

- An **interface** specifies behavior (methods) without implementation (body).
- Creates a data type that can be used to declare variables but can't be instantiated directly.
- An interface is a **contract** that defines which methods a user of the interface can expect.
- Keyword: **implements**
- A class may implement more than one interface.
- An interface can be implemented by multiple concrete classes. These concrete classes provide different implementations of the abstract methods defined by the interface.
- If class `Square` implements the interface `Shape`, then `Square` "**is-a**" `Shape`.




```
public interface Shape{  
    void draw();  
    double getArea();  
}
```

No access modifier specified (all interface methods are **public**).

Ends with semicolon because there is no code. Interface is a contract, not implementation.

The class implements the interface.

The class provides implementations for the interface methods.

```
public class Square implements Shape {  
  
    private final double length;  
  
    public Square(double length) {  
        this.length = length;  
    }  
  
    @Override  
    public void draw() {  
        // draw code here...  
    }  
  
    @Override  
    public double getArea() {  
        return length * length;  
    }  
}
```

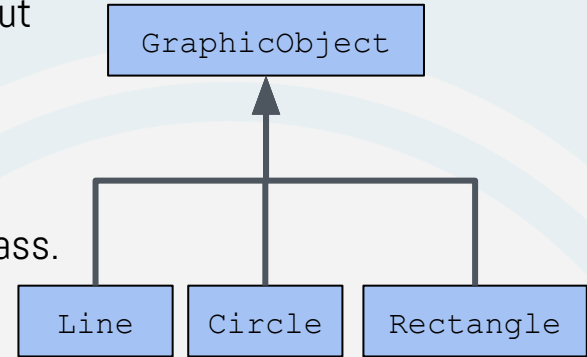
- Polymorphism can also be implemented using **interfaces**.
- An interface creates a data type to which the object can be cast. This allows objects with the same interfaces to be grouped generically, while still providing their specific response when a method is invoked.

```
List<Shape> shapes = new ArrayList<>();

shapes.add( new Square(9.2) );
shapes.add( new Rectangle(10.0,8.1) );
shapes.add( new Circle(7.6) );

for (Shape shape: shapes) {
    System.out.println(shape. getArea() );
}
```

- Abstract classes can not have objects created from them, but they can provide logic and structure to their subclasses.
- Abstract methods are methods with no logic that must be implemented by concrete subclasses.
- If a class has an abstract method, it must be an abstract class.
- If a class does not implement an abstract method from its parent, it must also be an abstract class



```
abstract class GraphicObject {
    private int x, y;
    ...
    void moveTo(int newX, int newY)
{
    x = newX; y = newY;
}
abstract void draw();
abstract void resize();
}
```

```
class Circle extends GraphicObject {
    void draw() {
        // draw code here...
    }

    void resize() {
        // resize code here...
    }
}
```

Interface:

- An interface is a reference type in Java that defines a contract for its implementing classes.
- It contains abstract method signatures, which means the methods declared in the interface have no implementation and are meant to be implemented by the classes that implement the interface.
- Interfaces support multiple inheritance, as a class can implement multiple interfaces.
- Interfaces are used to achieve abstraction, decoupling, and provide a way to enforce a specific set of behaviors on implementing classes.

Abstract Class:

- An abstract class is a class that cannot be instantiated, meaning you cannot create objects directly from an abstract class.
- It can have both abstract and non-abstract methods.
- Abstract methods in an abstract class also have no implementation and must be implemented by its concrete subclasses.
- Abstract classes support single inheritance, meaning a class can extend only one abstract class.
- Abstract classes are used to provide a base or common functionality for multiple related classes, and they may also include some default implementations for methods.

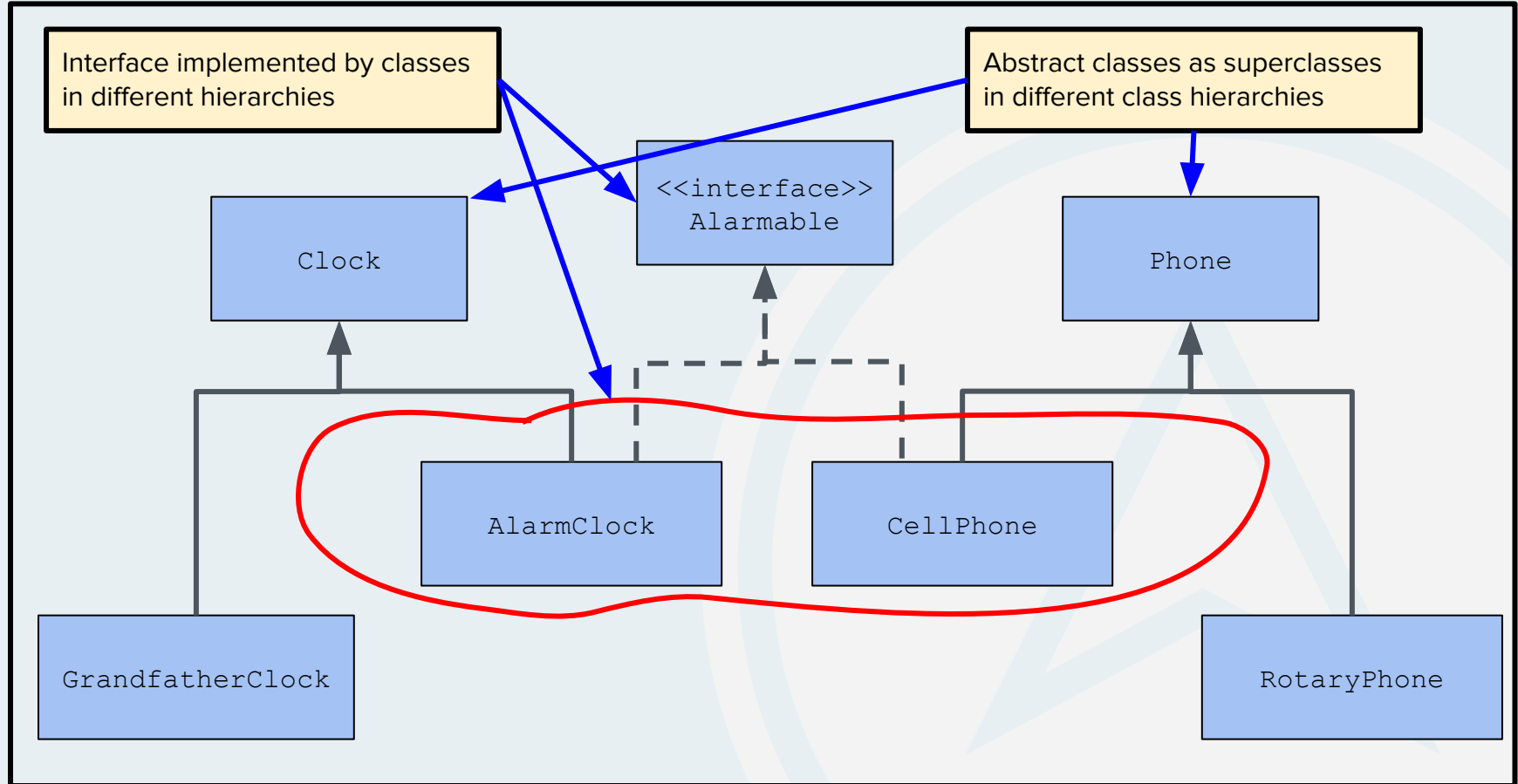
When to use an Interface:

- When you want to define a contract that enforces specific behaviors on implementing classes. For example, defining a `Runnable` interface to indicate that classes can be executed in a separate thread.
- When you need to support multiple inheritance, as a class can implement multiple interfaces, allowing for more flexibility in class design.
- When you want to create a loosely coupled design, enabling different implementations for the same behavior, such as using different implementations of a `DataSource` interface for various database types.

When to use an Abstract Class:

- When you want to provide a common base with some default functionality that multiple related classes can inherit and build upon.
- When you need to define fields or non-static methods that can be shared among the subclasses.
- When you want to have the flexibility of adding abstract and non-abstract methods in the same class.

Interface vs Abstract Class



Use polymorphism through interfaces using IS-A relationships - Objective 3

Some common difficulties with polymorphism and interfaces...

- confusion about when to use an **interface vs. inheritance**
- mistakenly putting code in interfaces