

# 05 Type Systems

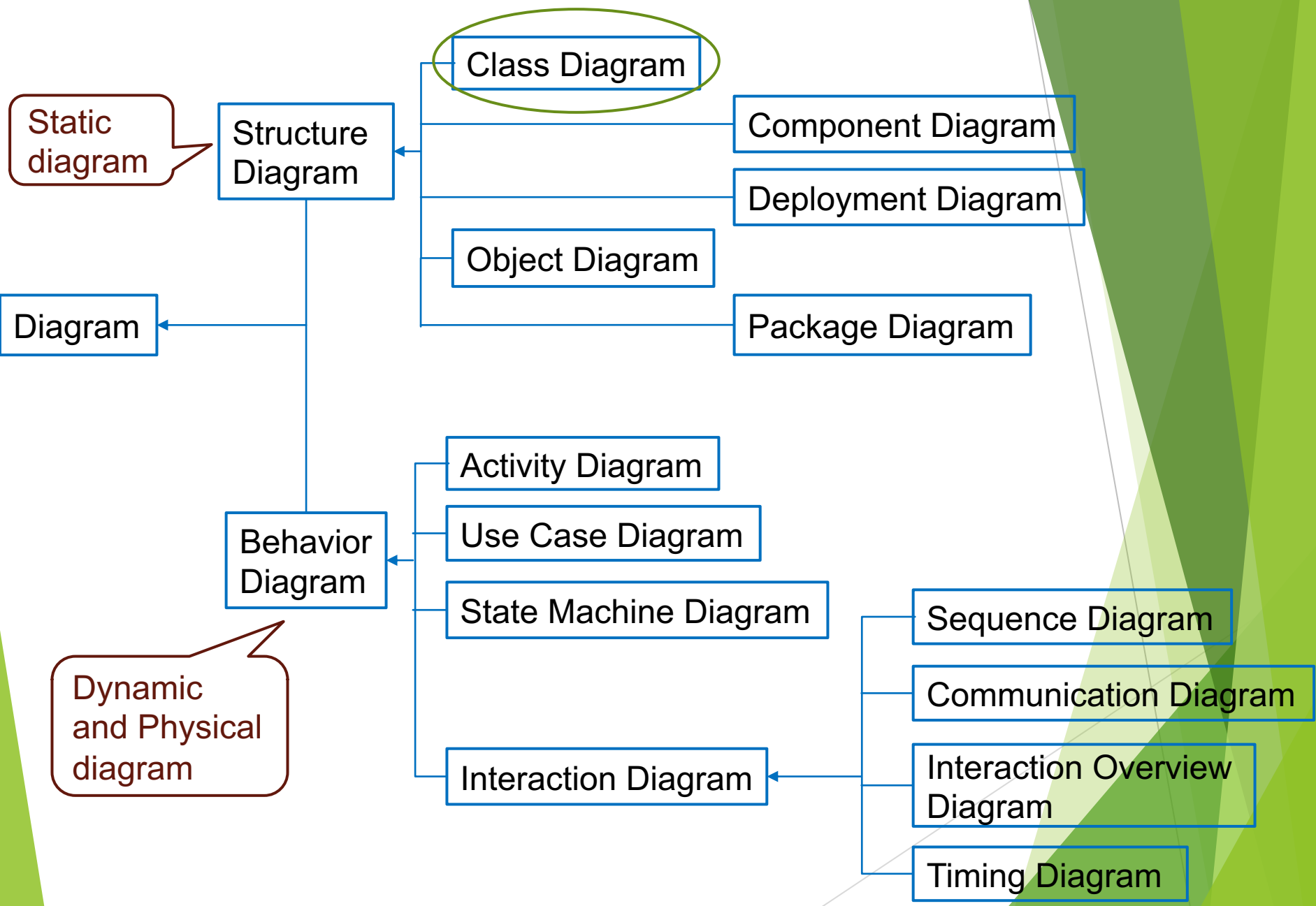
*Introduction to OOA OOD and UML*

*2022 Spring*

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# Outline

- The Definition of Type Systems
- Static and Dynamic Type Systems
- Polymorphism
- Type Casting
- Summary and Class Vacabularies
- Exercise 05

# What Is a Type System?

- A **type system** is a set of rules that assign a **property** (called **type**) to various constructs in a computer program, which consist of *variables*, *expressions*, *functions* and *modules*.
- The main purpose of a **type system** is to reduce possibilities for bugs in computer programs by defining interfaces among different parts of a computer program and checking that parts have been connected in a consistent way.
- An example of a **type system** in use is declaring that a variable will always hold a value of a particular type

```
int i;  
Car bmw;  
i = 2; // assign a value  
double d = 1.0; // declare and assign
```

# Advantages of Type Systems

- **Type system** rules avoid us misusing values (**primitives** and **objects**).
  - This is done by forcing us to declare how we intend to use a value before we actually use it – this allows **compilers** and **run-time systems** to spot potential abuses before they happen
- A **type system** can ensure that we provide some documentation of the code
- A **type system** can also improve **run-time** performance
  - The **compiler** and **run-time system** have more information about what the code intends to do (**compiler**) or what it actually is doing (**run-time system**)

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# Static Type Systems

- A programming language is said to use “static typing” when **type checking (type system)** is performed during compile-time (done by the compiler)
  - In **static typing**, **types** are associated with **variables**, not **values**
  - **Static typing** allows many **type errors** to be caught early in the **development cycle**
  - **Static typing** eliminates the need to repeat **type checks** every time the program is executed
  - Compiled code is more efficient , compact and faster
- Languages: C, C++, C#, Java, ...

# Static Typing - Examples

```
float f;  
double d;  
d = 1.0; // assign a value  
f = 1.0; // possible
```

And

```
float f;  
double d;  
d = 1.0; // assign a value  
f = 1.0f; // preferable
```

```
public void addEmployee(Employee anEmployee){  
    ...  
    pay = anEmployee.getPayrollNumber();  
    ...  
}
```

The type of the parameter is “Employee” and the type of returned value is “void”

```
aPayroll.addEmployee(new Banana());
```

“Wrong parameter usage” was reported by compiler, resulting a compiler error



# Dynamic Type Systems

- A programming language is said to use “**dynamically typed (dynamic)**” when the majority of its **type checking (type system)** is performed at run-time (done by the run-time system)
  - In **dynamic typing**, **types** are associated with **values**, not **variables**
  - There is no needs to declare **type** in advance
  - **Dynamic typing** is more flexible: type is generated based on run-time data
  - However, **dynamic typing** might have more run-time errors, and more testing needs to be done
- Languages: Python, JavaScript, ...

# Comparison Between Java and Python

- In static typing, once a variable is set to a type, it can not be changed later, for example:

```
// the variable "str" statically typed as a "string"  
String str = "Hello";  
  
// an error would be thrown since "str" is supposed to be a  
"string" only  
str = 5;
```

- In dynamic typing, after a variable is set to a type, it can be changed later, for example:

```
# the variable "str" is linked to a "string" value  
str = "Hello";  
  
# now "str" is linked to an integer value  
str = 5;
```

# Outline

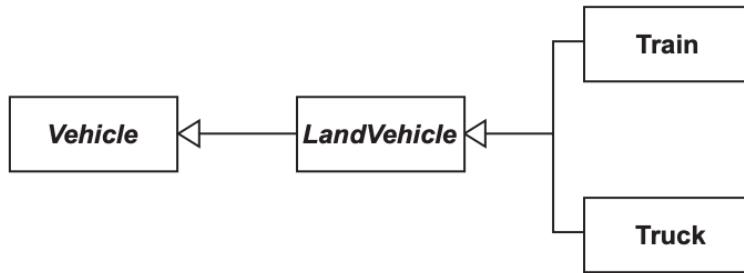
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# Polymorphic Variables (1)

- **Polymorphic** means “**having many shapes**”:
  - A **polymorphic variable** refers to different types of value at different times
  - A **polymorphic message** has more than one method associated with it.
- The **polymorphism of variables** is controlled by **inheritance**
  - Polymorphism allows us to attach a variable to a subclass object. But we can't go the other way round.

# Polymorphic Variables (2)

## ➤ Assignment (1)



Truck  
inheritance



Truck t;  
t = new Truck();



LandVehicle lv;  
lv = new Train();



lv = new Truck();

1. Class "Orange ()" is not in our inheritance.
2. Class "Vehicle ()" is upper level of our inheritance.

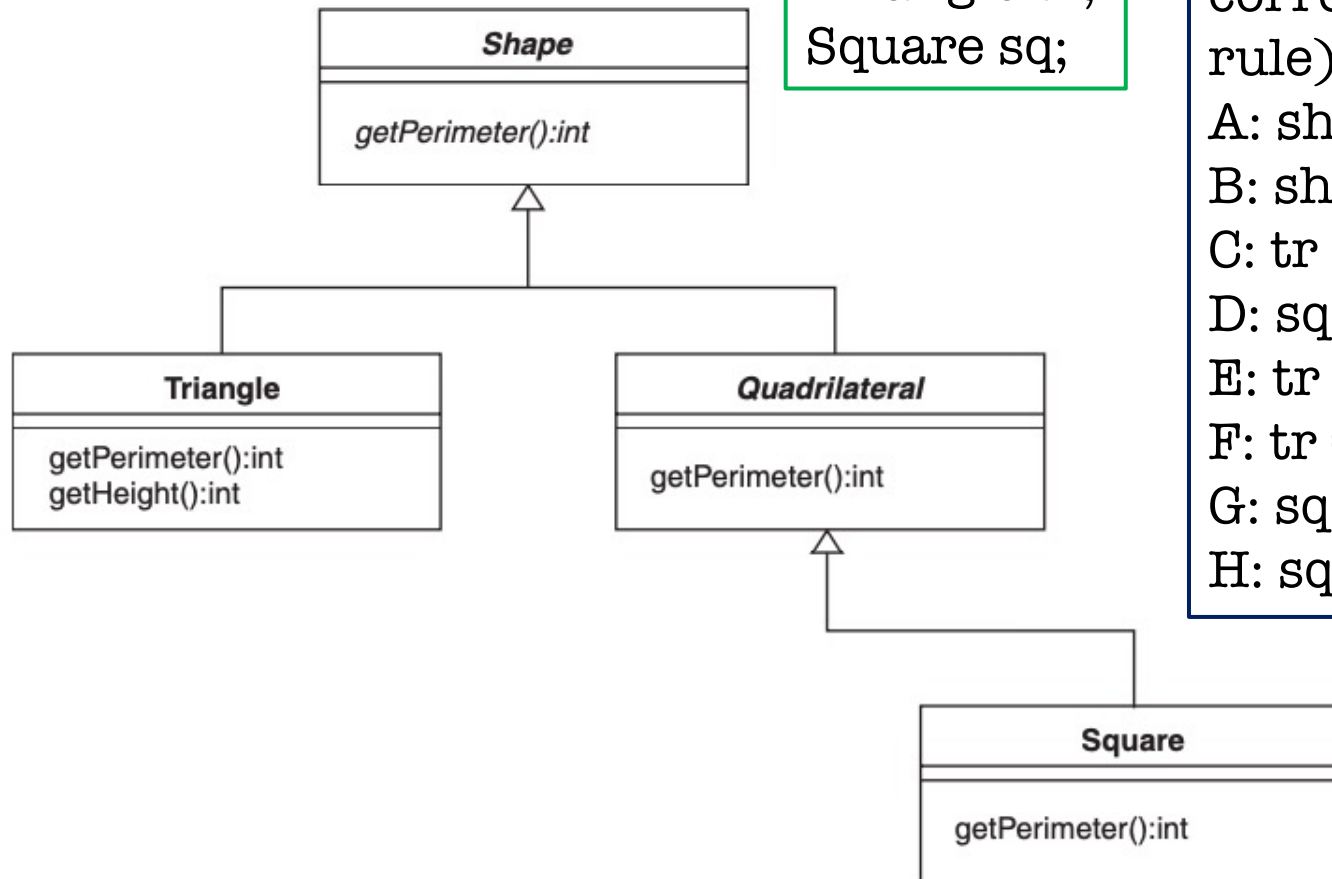
lv = new Orange(); ❌

lv = new Vehicle(); ❌

"lv" is a polymorphic variable/reference

# Polymorphic Variables (3)

## ➤ Assignment (2)



Shape sh;  
Triangle tr;  
Square sq;

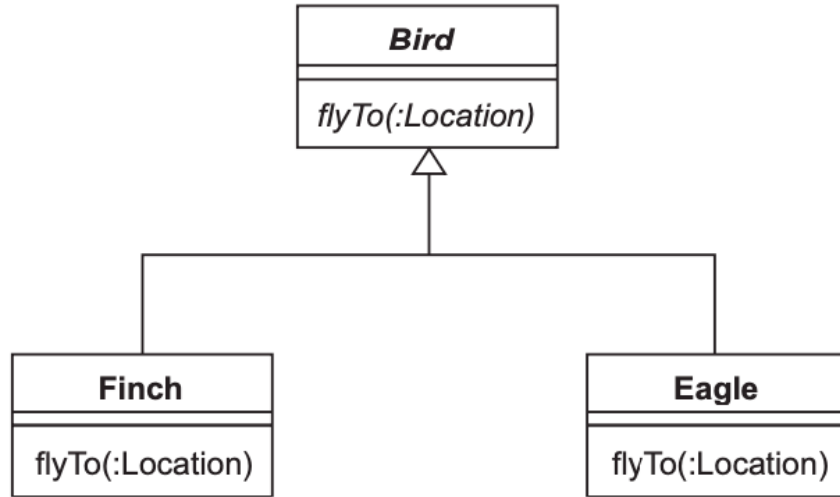
Which assignments are correct ? (use “kind of” rule)

- A: sh = new Triangle();
- B: sh = new Square();
- C: tr = new shape();
- D: sq = new shape();
- E: tr = new Triangle();
- F: tr = new Square();
- G: sq = new Square();
- H: sq = new Triangle();

# Polymorphic Messages (1)

- A **polymorphic message** has more than one method associated with it
- Any message, in a pure OO language, can have more than one method associated with it. This happens:
  - Either because the methods appear independently on more than one class
  - Or because a method is redefined by subclasses
- The **polymorphism of messages** is controlled by **inheritance** too

# Polymorphic Messages (2)



Polymorphic  
animal messages

```
Bird b;  
b = new Finch();  
b.flyTo (someLocation);  
b = new Eagle();  
b.flyTo(someLocation);
```

There is only one bird. “b” is a reference pointing to the bird. “flyTo” is a polymorphic message

```
Cat tiddles, tom;  
tiddles = new Cat(“Hfrrr”);  
tom = tiddles;
```

There is only one cat. “tiddles” and “tom” are two references both pointing to the cat.

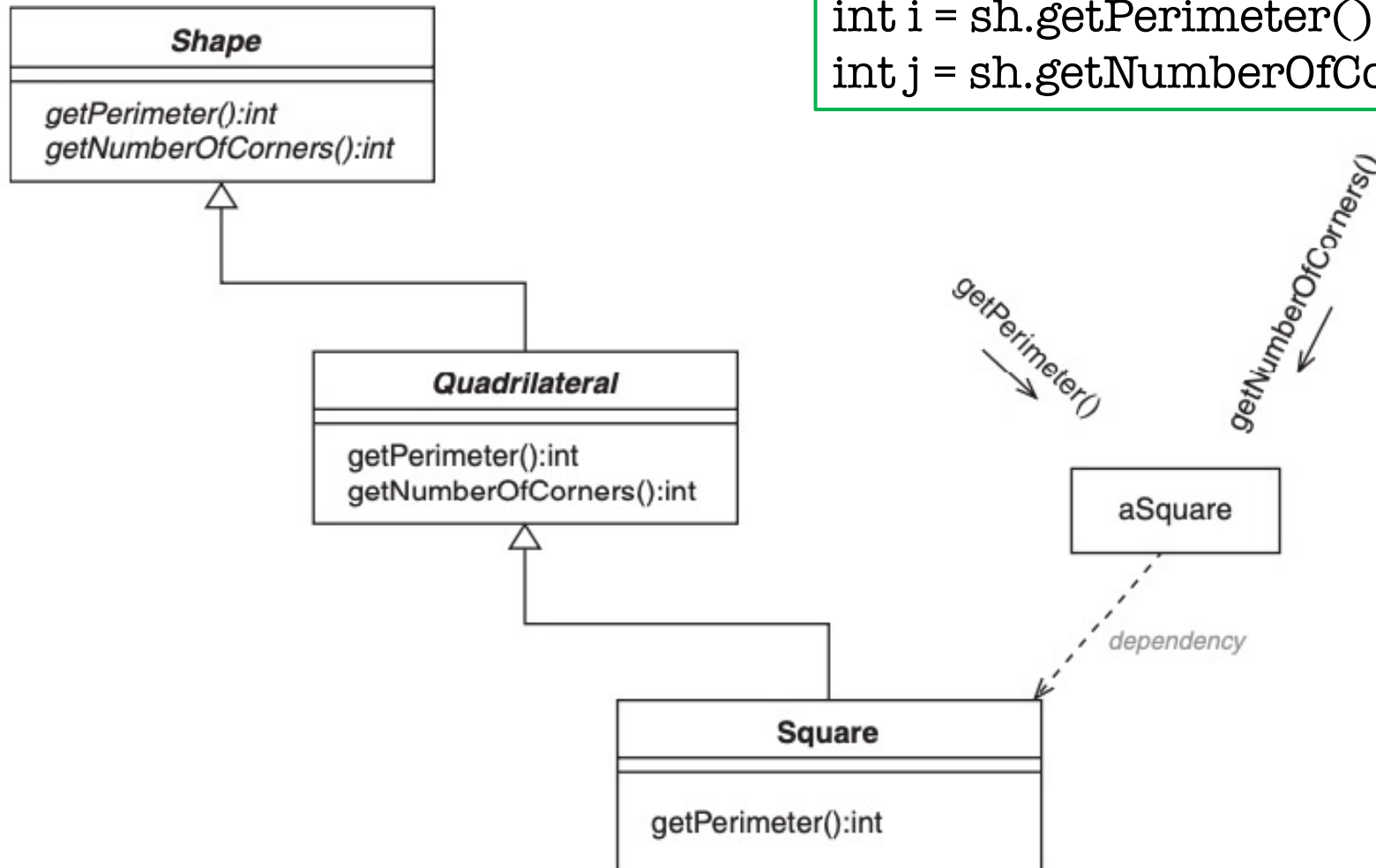


# Dynamic Binding (1)

- **Dynamic binding** means attaching a message to method at run-time
  - **Dynamic binding** is the way that OO languages cope with **polymorphic variables** and **redefined methods**
  - **Dynamic binding** is related with **polymorphism** and **inheritance**
- Other definitions and related terms
  - **Dynamic binding** is also known as **dynamic dispatch**, **late binding** or **run-time binding**
  - **Dynamic binding** is the process of linking **procedure call** to a **specific sequence of code (method)** at **run-time**. It means that the code to be executed for a specific **procedure call** is not known until **run-time**

# Dynamic Binding (2)

```
Shape sh = new Square();  
int i = sh.getPerimeter();  
int j = sh.getNumberOfCorners();
```



# Polymorphism Guideline

- Always program using as high a level of abstraction as you can
  - Always declare the type of your **fields**, **local variables** and **method parameters** to be the highest class possible in the **inheritance hierarchy**, then let **polymorphism** do the rest
- These rules are useful for code re-usability

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- Converting a value from one type to another is called **casting**
  - In a **statically typed** language, when we pass a value from one context to another, we need to be sure that the new context is compatible with the old one

- There are three situations in which a value changes context:

- Expression evaluation

2+4

integer adds integer:  
no **casting** needs

3.14+2

real number adds integer: it will produce a real number. Compiler will convert the integer into a real number automatically

If the **casting** is done without special programming and ambiguity, it is call **implicit casting**

“The date is” + aData

String adds object: it will produce a string. Compiler will translate the “aData” into a String by sending it the toString message.

- Assignment

```
Person p = new Person()
```

no **casting** needs

```
Person p = new Employee()
```

**Person** pointers are not represented differently from **Employee** pointers. But in order to make sure the conversion is safe:  
**Person needs to be a direct or indirect superclass of Employee**

- Parameter pass

```
aUniversity.enrollPerson (new Employee())
```

The parameter is  
declared to be **Person**

```
aLiquid.setBoilingPoint(100)
```

The parameter is  
declared to be **float**

# Explicit Casting (1)

- An **implicit cast** is possible if the new context is “**wider**” than the old context
  - “**wider**” means the new context can accommodate all possible values of the old context
  - For object values, “**wider**” means the new context is a direct or indirect subclass of the old context
- If the **casting** is done with special programming and ambiguity, it is call **explicit casting**
  - **Explicit casting** is also known as **dynamic casting** or **down casting**
  - **Explicit cast** allows the programmer to move from one context to a compatible, but “**narrower**”, context
  - If **implicit cast** exists in one direction, we can force an **explicit cast** in the other direction
  - For object values, **implicit cast** depends on compiler realization

# Explicit Casting (2)

```
int i = (int) 3.75;
```

There is an **implicit cast** in the other direction, so it is possible to do an **explicit cast** in the direction: **the fractional part of the real number (3.75) will be sheared off**

```
Person p = new Person();  
Employee e = new Employee ();  
p = (Person) e;
```



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# Class Vocabularies

Type Systems, Static Typing, Dynamic Typing, Polymorphism, Casting

## Summary

- Type systems, which stop us misusing values by forcing us to declare how we intend to use a value.
  - ✓ A static type system detects abuses at compile time while a dynamic type system waits until run time
- Polymorphism, which enables a variable to hold different types of value and a message to be associated with more than one method.
- Casting between object types: with implicit casting, the compiler can automatically convert between types of variable; with explicit casting, the programmer must specify

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# Exercise 05

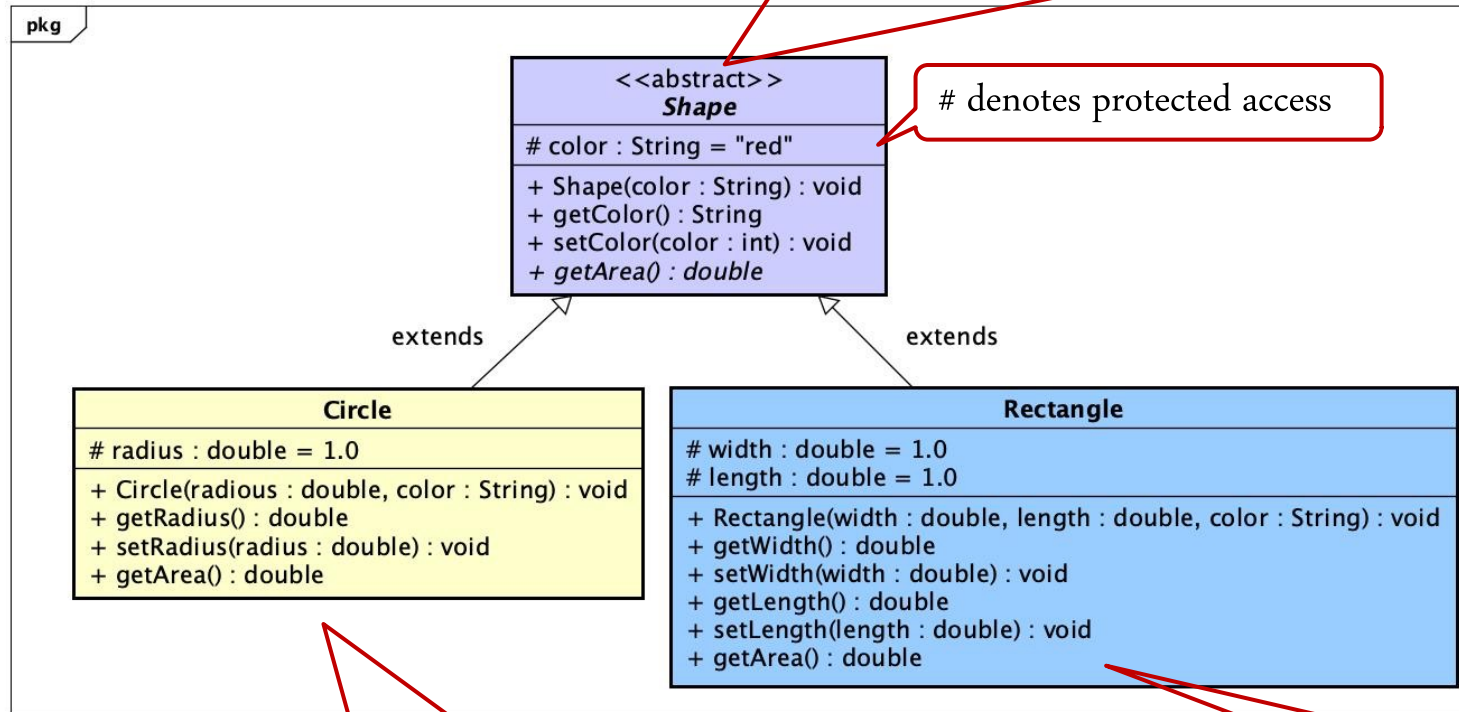
- Deadline: **2021/05/19 (Thur.) 9:00**
- Please submit your answer file to “Exercise 05” under “Assignments” tab in Manaba +R
- Please put all of the answers in one “.pdf” file. The file name will be “**UML\_Ex05\_Your name.pdf**”
- The maximum points for “Exercise 05” will be **5p**
- If you put a wrong file name or wrong file format, your assignment will not be evaluated. Please be careful!

# Tasks

- **Task:** Please draw a class diagram (with Astah UML) based on the following instructions and Example #01 (shown below), then export your diagram as a PNG/JEPG image and insert the diagram image in your report

- **Example #01**

“Shape” is an abstract class containing 1 abstract method: “getArea()”, where its concrete subclasses (“Circle” and “Rectangle”) **must provide** its implementation



# denotes protected access

“Circle” implements the abstract method “getArea()”

“Rectangle” implements the abstract method “getArea()”

# Tasks

## ➤ Requirements:

- ✓ Please add a class “Square” in the Example #01. Think about the inheritance between the whole and the “Square” class.
- ✓ Please also design the “Square” class including fields and methods. Be careful, each designed field and method should have its own visibility, type return value type and parameters (if the parameters are necessary).
- ✓ Write a small documents to explain your design of the “Square” class. In the explanations, please include at least one polymorphic variable and message of the whole inheritance in the Example #01. If you don’t know how to explain a polymorphic variable and a message, please refer the slides from #12 to #16.