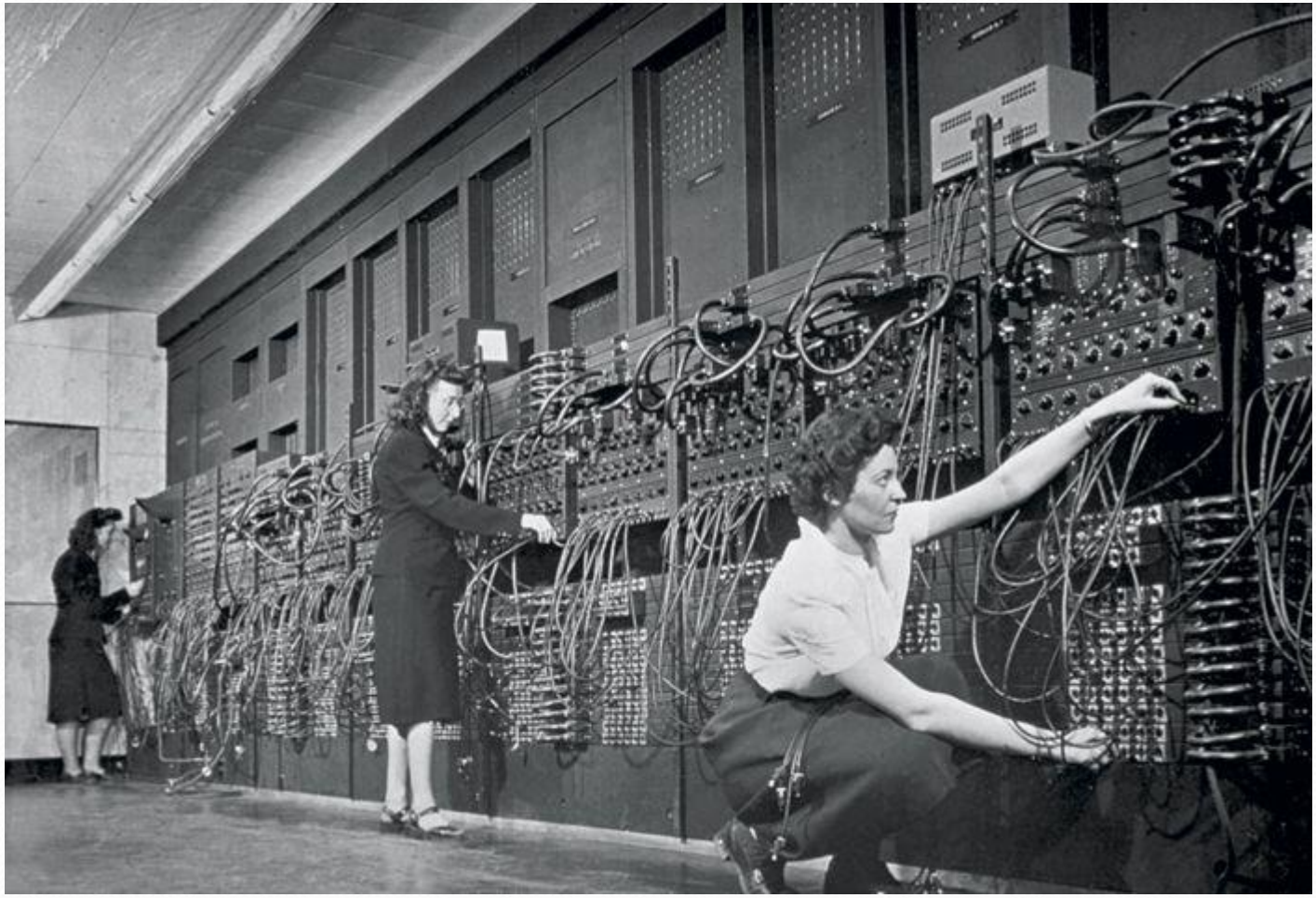
Building Java Programs

Chapter 9
Lecture 19: Inheritance, Polymorphism;

reading: 9.2

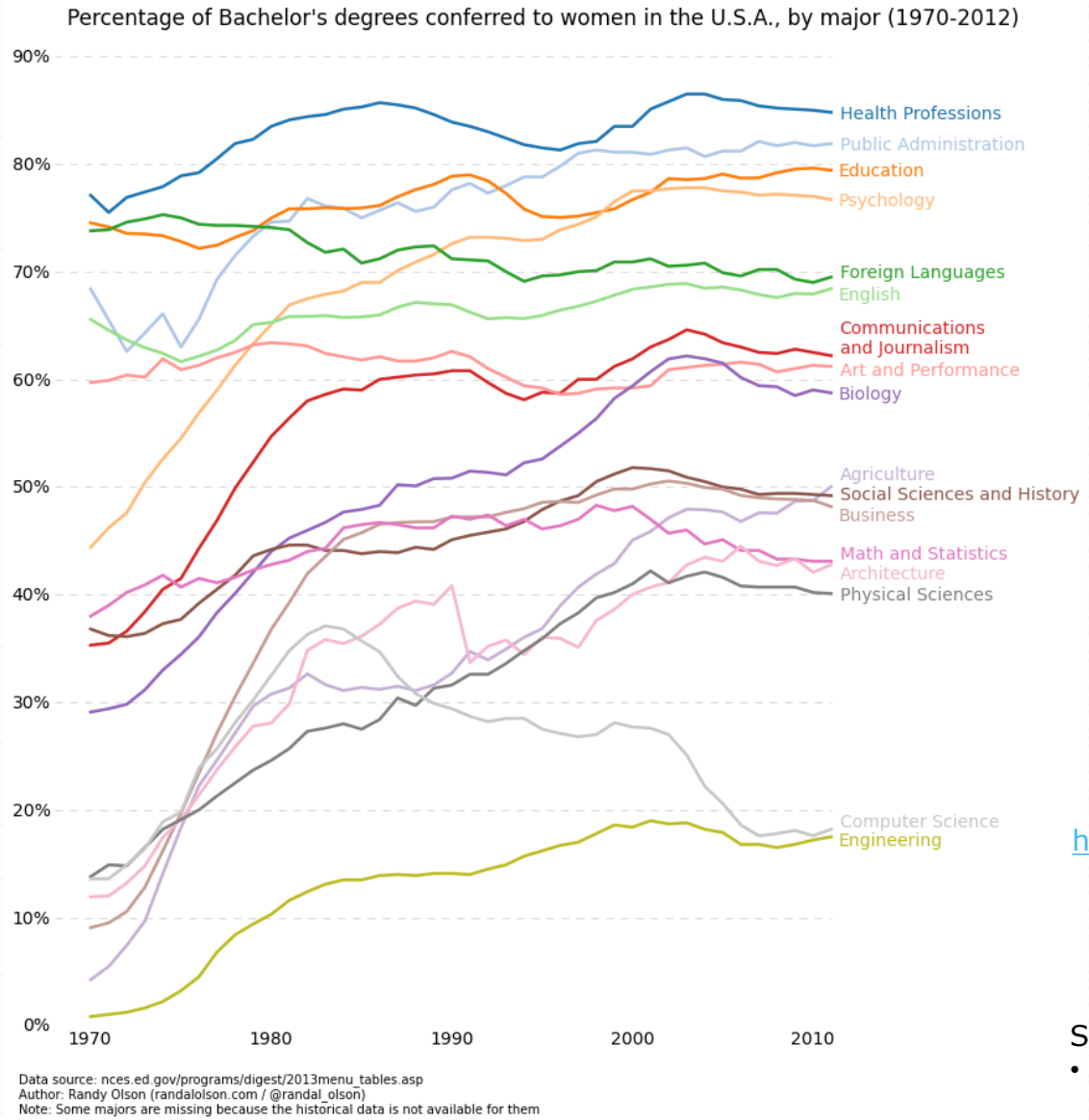
ENIAC



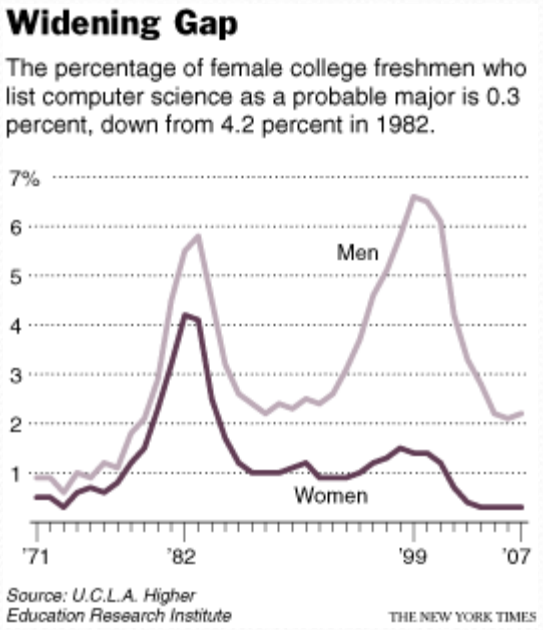
Jean Jennings, Marlyn Wescoff, and Ruth Lichterman
1946

http://fortune.com/2014/09/18/walter-isaacson-the-women-of-eniac/

Women in Computer Science



http://www.randalolson.com/2014/06/14/percentage-of-bachelors-degrees-conferred-to-women-by-major-1970-2012/



http://www.nytimes.com/2008/11/16/business/16digi.html

See also:

- http://www.npr.org/sections/money/2014/10/21/357629765/when-women-stopped-coding/
- http://www.polygon.com/features/2013/12/2/5143856/no-girls-allowed

Inheritance / Polymorphism

reading: 9.2

The software crisis

- **software engineering**: The practice of developing, designing, documenting, testing large computer programs.

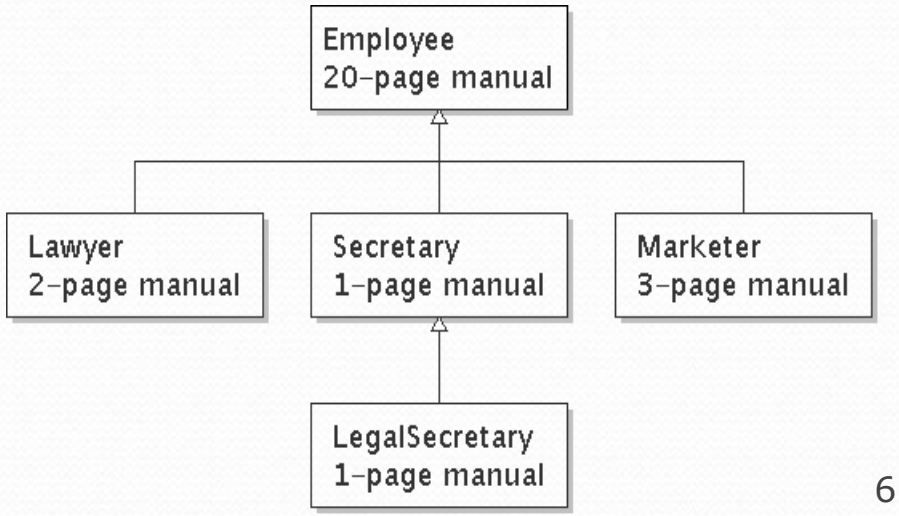
- Large-scale projects face many issues
  - programmers working together
  - getting code finished on time
  - avoiding redundant code
  - finding and fixing bugs
  - maintaining, reusing existing code

- **code reuse**: The practice of writing program code once and using it in many contexts.

Law firm employee analogy

- common rules: hours, vacation, benefits, regulations ...
  - all employees attend a common orientation to learn general company rules
  - each employee receives a 20-page manual of common rules

- each subdivision also has specific rules:
  - employee receives a smaller (1-3 page) manual of these rules
  - smaller manual adds some new rules and also changes some rules from the large manual



Separating behavior

- Why not just have a 22 page Lawyer manual, a 21-page Secretary manual, a 23-page Marketer manual, etc.?

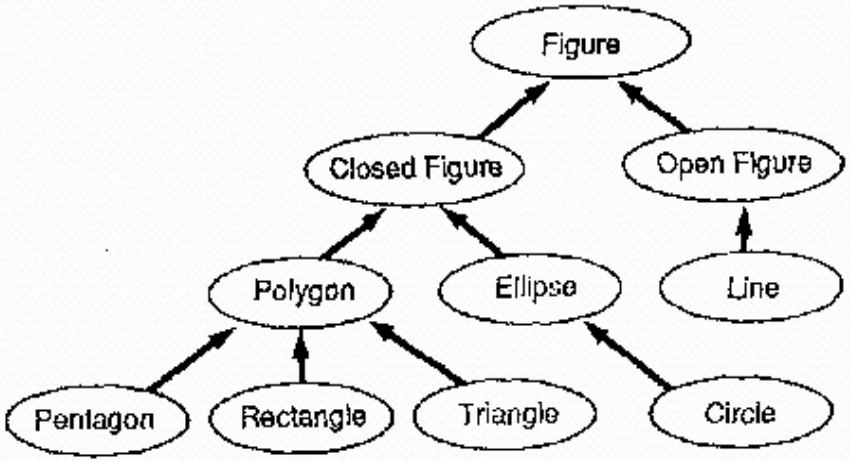
- Some advantages of the separate manuals:
  - maintenance: Only one update if a common rule changes.
  - locality: Quick discovery of all rules specific to lawyers.

- Some key ideas from this example:
  - General rules are useful (the 20-page manual).
  - Specific rules that may override general ones are also useful.

Is-a relationships, hierarchies

- **is-a relationship**: A hierarchical connection where one category can be treated as a specialized version of another.
  - every marketer *is an* employee
  - every legal secretary *is a* secretary

- **inheritance hierarchy**: A set of classes connected by is-a relationships that can share common code.



Employee regulations

- Consider the following employee regulations:
  - Employees work 40 hours / week.
  - Employees make $40,000 per year, except legal secretaries who make $5,000 extra per year ($45,000 total), and marketers who make $10,000 extra per year ($50,000 total).
  - Employees have 2 weeks of paid vacation leave per year, except lawyers who get an extra week (a total of 3).
  - Employees should use a yellow form to apply for leave, except for lawyers who use a pink form.

- Each type of employee has some unique behavior:
  - Lawyers know how to sue.
  - Marketers know how to advertise.
  - Secretaries know how to take dictation.
  - Legal secretaries know how to prepare legal documents.

An `Employee` class

```
// A class to represent employees in general (20-page manual).
public class Employee {
    public int getHours() {
        return 40;              // works 40 hours / week
    }

    public double getSalary() {
        return 40000.0;         // $40,000.00 / year
    }

    public int getVacationDays() {
        return 10;              // 2 weeks' paid vacation
    }

    public String getVacationForm() {
        return "yellow";        // use the yellow form
    }
}
```

- Exercise: Implement class `Secretary`, based on the previous employee regulations. (Secretaries can take dictation.)

Redundant `Secretary` class

```
// A redundant class to represent secretaries.
public class Secretary {
    public int getHours() {
        return 40;              // works 40 hours / week
    }

    public double getSalary() {
        return 40000.0;         // $40,000.00 / year
    }

    public int getVacationDays() {
        return 10;              // 2 weeks' paid vacation
    }

    public String getVacationForm() {
        return "yellow";        // use the yellow form
    }

    public void takeDictation(String text) {
        System.out.println("Taking dictation of text: " + text);
    }
}
```

Desire for code-sharing

- `takeDictation` is the only unique behavior in `Secretary`.

- We'd like to be able to say:

```
// A class to represent secretaries.
public class Secretary {
    copy all the contents from the Employee class;

    public void takeDictation(String text) {
        System.out.println("Taking dictation of text: " + text);
    }
}
```

Inheritance

- **inheritance**: A way to form new classes based on existing classes, taking on their attributes/behavior.
  - a way to group related classes
  - a way to share code between two or more classes

- One class can *extend* another, absorbing its data/behavior.
  - **superclass**: The parent class that is being extended.
  - **subclass**: The child class that extends the superclass and inherits its behavior.
    - Subclass gets a copy of every field and method from superclass

Inheritance syntax

```
public class name extends superclass {
```

- Example:

```
public class Secretary extends Employee {
    ...
}
```

- By extending `Employee`, each `Secretary` object now:
  - receives a `getHours`, `getSalary`, `getVacationDays`, and `getVacationForm` method automatically
  - can be treated as an `Employee` by client code (seen later)

Improved `Secretary` code

```
// A class to represent secretaries.
public class Secretary extends Employee {
    public void takeDictation(String text) {
        System.out.println("Taking dictation of text: " + text);
    }
}
```

- Now we only write the parts unique to each type.
  - `Secretary` inherits `getHours`, `getSalary`, `getVacationDays`, and `getVacationForm` methods from `Employee`.
  - `Secretary` adds the `takeDictation` method.

Implementing `Lawyer`

- Consider the following lawyer regulations:
  - Lawyers who get an extra week of paid vacation (a total of 3).
  - Lawyers use a pink form when applying for vacation leave.
  - Lawyers have some unique behavior: they know how to sue.

- Problem: We want lawyers to inherit *most* behavior from employee, but we want to replace parts with new behavior.

Overriding methods

- **override**: To write a new version of a method in a subclass that replaces the superclass's version.
  - No special syntax required to override a superclass method. Just write a new version of it in the subclass.

```
public class Lawyer extends Employee {
    // overrides getVacationForm method in Employee class
    public String getVacationForm() {
        return "pink";
    }
    ...
}
```

  - Exercise: Complete the `Lawyer` class.
    - (3 weeks vacation, pink vacation form, can sue)

Lawyer class

```
// A class to represent lawyers.
public class Lawyer extends Employee {
    // overrides getVacationForm from Employee class
    public String getVacationForm() {
        return "pink";
    }

    // overrides getVacationDays from Employee class
    public int getVacationDays() {
        return 15;              // 3 weeks vacation
    }

    public void sue() {
        System.out.println("I'll see you in court!");
    }
}
```

- Exercise: Complete the `Marketer` class. Marketers make $10,000 extra ($50,000 total) and know how to advertise.

Marketer class

```
// A class to represent marketers.
public class Marketer extends Employee {
    public void advertise() {
        System.out.println("Act now while supplies last!");
    }

    public double getSalary() {
        return 50000.0;      // $50,000.00 / year
    }
}
```

Levels of inheritance

- Multiple levels of inheritance in a hierarchy are allowed.
  - Example: A legal secretary is the same as a regular secretary but makes more money ($45,000) and can file legal briefs.

```
public class LegalSecretary extends Secretary {
    ...
}
```

  - Exercise: Complete the `LegalSecretary` class.

LegalSecretary class

```
// A class to represent legal secretaries.
public class LegalSecretary extends Secretary {
    public void fileLegalBriefs() {
        System.out.println("I could file all day!");
    }

    public double getSalary() {
        return 45000.0;       // $45,000.00 / year
    }
}
```

Interacting with the Superclass (`super`)

reading: 9.2

Changes to common behavior

- Imagine a company-wide change affecting all employees.

  Example: Everyone is given a $10,000 raise due to inflation.
  - The base employee salary is now $50,000.
  - Legal secretaries now make $55,000.
  - Marketers now make $60,000.

- We must modify our code to reflect this policy change.

Modifying the superclass

```
// A class to represent employees in general (20-page manual).
public class Employee {
    public int getHours() {
        return 40;              // works 40 hours / week
    }

    public double getSalary() {
        return 50000.0;         // $50,000.00 / year
    }

    ...
}
```

- Are we finished?

- The `Employee` subclasses are still incorrect.
  - They have overridden `getSalary` to return other values.

An unsatisfactory solution

```
public class LegalSecretary extends Secretary {
    public double getSalary() {
        return 55000.0;
    }
    ...
}

public class Marketer extends Employee {
    public double getSalary() {
        return 60000.0;
    }
    ...
}
```

- Problem: The subclasses' salaries are based on the Employee salary, but the `getSalary` code does not reflect this.

Calling overridden methods

- Subclasses can call overridden methods with `super`

  `super.`**`method`**`(`**`parameters`**`)`

  - Example:

```
public class LegalSecretary extends Secretary {
    public double getSalary() {
        double baseSalary = super.getSalary();
        return baseSalary + 5000.0;
    }
    ...
}
```

Inheritance and constructors

- Imagine that we want to give employees more vacation days the longer they've been with the company.
  - For each year worked, we'll award 2 additional vacation days.
  - When an Employee object is constructed, we'll pass in the number of years the person has been with the company.
  - This will require us to modify our `Employee` class and add some new state and behavior.
  - Exercise: Make necessary modifications to the `Employee` class.

Modified `Employee` class

```
public class Employee {
    private int years;

    public Employee(int initialYears) {
        years = initialYears;
    }

    public int getHours() {
        return 40;
    }

    public double getSalary() {
        return 50000.0;
    }

    public int getVacationDays() {
        return 10 + 2 * years;
    }

    public String getVacationForm() {
        return "yellow";
    }
}
```

Problem with constructors

- Now that we've added the constructor to the `Employee` class, our subclasses do not compile. The error:

```
Lawyer.java:2: cannot find symbol
symbol  : constructor Employee()
location: class Employee
public class Lawyer extends Employee {
       ^
```

  - The short explanation: Once we write a constructor (that requires parameters) in the superclass, we must now write constructors for our employee subclasses as well.

  - The long explanation: (next slide)

The detailed explanation

- Constructors are not inherited.
  - Subclasses don't inherit the `Employee(int)` constructor.
  - Subclasses receive a default constructor that contains:

```
public Lawyer() {
    super();          // calls Employee() constructor
}
```

- But our `Employee(int)` replaces the default `Employee()`.
  - The subclasses' default constructors are now trying to call a non-existent default `Employee` constructor.

Calling superclass constructor

```
super(parameters);
```

- Example:

```
public class Lawyer extends Employee {
    public Lawyer(int years) {
        super(years);  // calls Employee constructor
    }
    ...
}
```

- The `super` call must be the first statement in the constructor.

- Exercise: Make a similar modification to the `Marketer` class.

Modified `Marketer` class

```
// A class to represent marketers.
public class Marketer extends Employee {
    public Marketer(int years) {
        super(years);
    }

    public void advertise() {
        System.out.println("Act now while supplies last!");
    }

    public double getSalary() {
        return super.getSalary() + 10000.0;
    }
}
```

- Exercise: Modify the `Secretary` subclass.
  - Secretaries' years of employment are not tracked.
  - They do not earn extra vacation for years worked.

Modified `Secretary` class

```
// A class to represent secretaries.
public class Secretary extends Employee {
    public Secretary() {
        super(0);
    }

    public void takeDictation(String text) {
        System.out.println("Taking dictation of text: " + text);
    }
}
```

- Since `Secretary` doesn't require any parameters to its constructor, `LegalSecretary` compiles without a constructor.
  - Its default constructor calls the `Secretary()` constructor.

Inheritance and fields

- Try to give lawyers $5000 for each year at the company:

```
public class Lawyer extends Employee {
    ...
    public double getSalary() {
        return super.getSalary() + 5000 * years;
    }
    ...
}
```

- Does not work; the error is the following:

```
Lawyer.java:7: years has private access in Employee
        return super.getSalary() + 5000 * years;
                                          ^
```

- Private fields cannot be directly accessed from subclasses.
  - One reason: So that subclassing can't break encapsulation.
  - How can we get around this limitation?

Improved `Employee` code

Add an accessor for any field needed by the subclass.

```
public class Employee {
    private int years;

    public Employee(int initialYears) {
        years = initialYears;
    }

    public int getYears() {
        return years;
    }
    ...
}

public class Lawyer extends Employee {
    public Lawyer(int years) {
        super(years);
    }

    public double getSalary() {
        return super.getSalary() + 5000 * getYears();
    }
    ...
}
```

Revisiting `Secretary`

- The `Secretary` class currently has a poor solution.
  - We set all Secretaries to 0 years because they do not get a vacation bonus for their service.
  - If we call `getYears` on a `Secretary` object, we'll always get 0.
  - This isn't a good solution; what if we wanted to give some other reward to *all* employees based on years of service?

- Redesign our `Employee` class to allow for a better solution.

Improved `Employee` code

- Let's separate the standard 10 vacation days from those that are awarded based on seniority.

```
public class Employee {
    private int years;

    public Employee(int initialYears) {
        years = initialYears;
    }

    public int getVacationDays() {
        return 10 + getSeniorityBonus();
    }

    // vacation days given for each year in the company
    public int getSeniorityBonus() {
        return 2 * years;
    }
    ...
}
```

- How does this help us improve the `Secretary`?

Improved `Secretary` code

- `Secretary` can selectively override `getSeniorityBonus`; when `getVacationDays` runs, it will use the new version.
  - Choosing a method at runtime is called *dynamic binding*.

```
public class Secretary extends Employee {
    public Secretary(int years) {
        super(years);
    }

    // Secretaries don't get a bonus for their years of service.
    public int getSeniorityBonus() {
        return 0;
    }

    public void takeDictation(String text) {
        System.out.println("Taking dictation of text: " + text);
    }
}
```

Polymorphism

- **polymorphism**: Ability for the same code to be used with different types of objects and behave differently with each.
  - `System.out.println` can print any type of object.
    - Each one displays in its own way on the console.
  - `CritterMain` can interact with any type of critter.
    - Each one moves, fights, etc. in its own way.

Coding with polymorphism

- A variable of type *T* can hold an object of any subclass of *T*.

```
Employee ed = new Lawyer();
```

  - You can call any methods from the `Employee` class on `ed`.

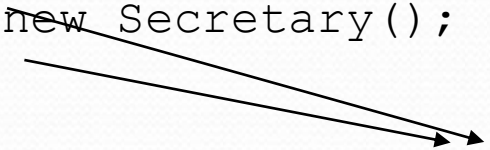
- When a method is called on `ed`, it behaves as a `Lawyer`.

```
System.out.println(ed.getSalary());          // 50000.0
System.out.println(ed.getVacationForm());    // pink
```

Polymorphism and parameters

- You can pass any subtype of a parameter's type.

```
public class EmployeeMain {
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        Lawyer lisa = new Lawyer();
        Secretary steve = new Secretary();
        printInfo(lisa);
        printInfo(steve);
    }

    public static void printInfo(Employee empl) {
        System.out.println("salary: " + empl.getSalary());
        System.out.println("v.days: " + empl.getVacationDays());
        System.out.println("v.form: " + empl.getVacationForm());
        System.out.println();
    }
}
```



OUTPUT:

```
salary: 50000.0
v.days: 15
v.form: pink
```

```
salary: 50000.0
v.days: 10
v.form: yellow
```

Polymorphism and arrays

- Arrays of superclass types can store any subtype as elements.

```
public class EmployeeMain2 {
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        Employee[] e = { new Lawyer(),   new Secretary(),
                         new Marketer(), new LegalSecretary() };

        for (int i = 0; i < e.length; i++) {
            System.out.println("salary: " + e[i].getSalary());
            System.out.println("v.days: " +
  e[i].getVacationDays());
            System.out.println();
        }
    }
}
```

Output:

```
salary: 50000.0
v.days: 15

salary: 50000.0
v.days: 10

salary: 60000.0
v.days: 10

salary: 55000.0
v.days: 10
```

A polymorphism problem

- Suppose that the following four classes have been declared:

```
public class Foo {
    public void method1() {
        System.out.println("foo 1");
    }

    public void method2() {
        System.out.println("foo 2");
    }

    public String toString() {
        return "foo";
    }
}

public class Bar extends Foo {
    public void method2() {
        System.out.println("bar 2");
    }
}
```

A polymorphism problem

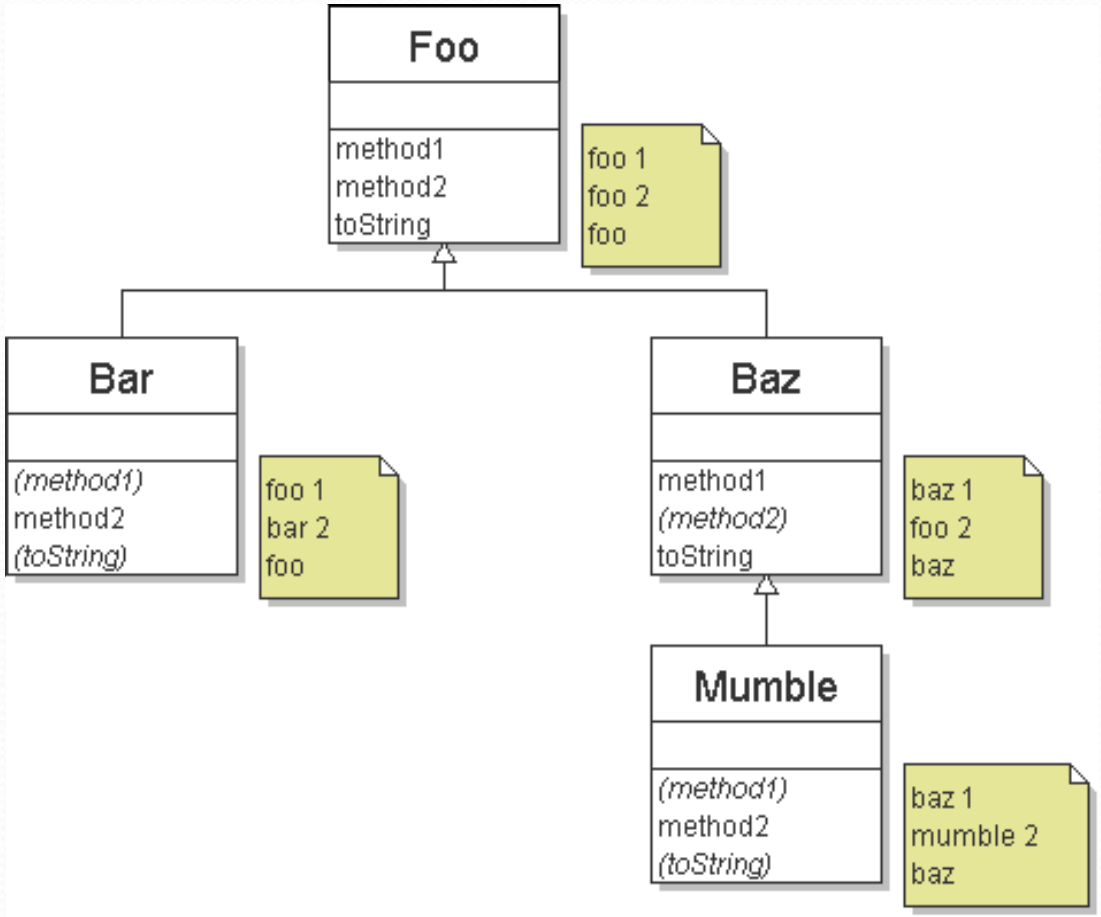
```
public class Baz extends Foo {
    public void method1() {
        System.out.println("baz 1");
    }

    public String toString() {
        return "baz";
    }
}

public class Mumble extends Baz {
    public void method2() {
        System.out.println("mumble 2");
    }
}
```

- What would be the output of the following client code?

```
Foo[] pity = {new Baz(), new Bar(), new Mumble(), new Foo()};
for (int i = 0; i < pity.length; i++) {
    System.out.println(pity[i]);
    pity[i].method1();
    pity[i].method2();
    System.out.println();
}
```

Diagramming the classes

- Add classes from top (superclass) to bottom (subclass).
- Include all inherited methods.



Finding output with tables

method	Foo	Bar	Baz	Mumble
method1	foo 1	*foo 1*	baz 1	*baz 1*
method2	foo 2	bar 2	*foo 2*	mumble 2
toString	foo	*foo*	baz	*baz*

Polymorphism answer

```
Foo[] pity = {new Baz(), new Bar(), new Mumble(), new Foo()};
for (int i = 0; i < pity.length; i++) {
    System.out.println(pity[i]);
    pity[i].method1();
    pity[i].method2();
    System.out.println();
}
```

- Output:

```
baz
baz 1
foo 2

foo
foo 1
bar 2

baz
baz 1
mumble 2

foo
foo 1
foo 2
```

Another problem

- The order of the classes is jumbled up.
- The methods sometimes call other methods (tricky!).

```
public class Lamb extends Ham {
    public void b() {
        System.out.print("Lamb b   ");
    }
}

public class Ham {
    public void a() {
        System.out.print("Ham a   ");
        b();
    }

    public void b() {
        System.out.print("Ham b   ");
    }

    public String toString() {
        return "Ham";
    }
}
```

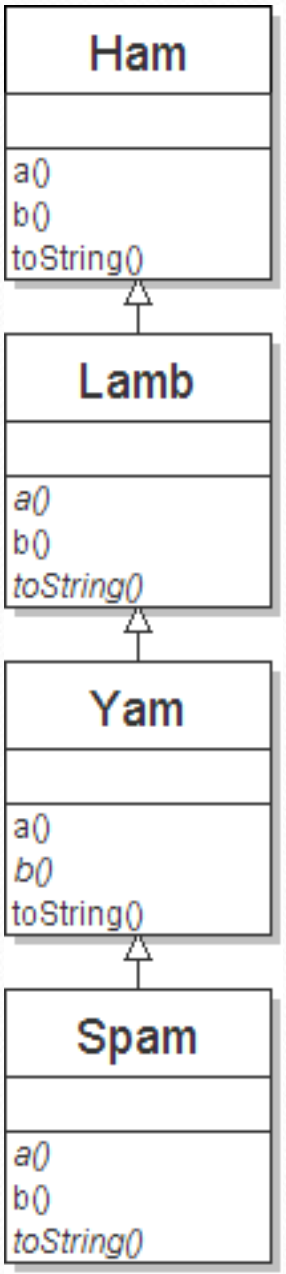
Another problem 2

```
public class Spam extends Yam {
    public void b() {
        System.out.print("Spam b   ");
    }
}
public class Yam extends Lamb {
    public void a() {
        System.out.print("Yam a   ");
        super.a();
    }
    public String toString() {
        return "Yam";
    }
}
```

- What would be the output of the following client code?

```
Ham[] food = {new Lamb(), new Ham(), new Spam(), new Yam()};
for (int i = 0; i < food.length; i++) {
    System.out.println(food[i]);
    food[i].a();
    System.out.println();     // to end the line of output
    food[i].b();
    System.out.println();     // to end the line of output
    System.out.println();
}
```

Class diagram



Polymorphism at work

- `Lamb` inherits `Ham`'s `a`. `a` calls `b`. But `Lamb` overrides `b`...

```
public class Ham {
    public void a() {
        System.out.print("Ham a   ");
        b();
    }

    public void b() {
        System.out.print("Ham b   ");
    }

    public String toString() {
        return "Ham";
    }
}

public class Lamb extends Ham {
    public void b() {
        System.out.print("Lamb b   ");
    }
}
```

- `Lamb`'s output from `a`:

```
Ham a   Lamb b
```

The table

method	Ham	Lamb	Yam	Spam
a	Ham a **b()**	*Ham a* ***b()***	Yam a Ham a **b()**	*Yam a* *Ham a* ***b()***
b	Ham b	Lamb b	Lamb b	Spam b
toString	Ham	*Ham*	Yam	*Yam*

The answer

```
Ham[] food = {new Lamb(), new Ham(), new Spam(), new Yam()};
for (int i = 0; i < food.length; i++) {
    System.out.println(food[i]);
    food[i].a();
    food[i].b();
    System.out.println();
}
```

- Output:

```
Ham
Ham a   Lamb b
Lamb b

Ham
Ham a   Ham b
Ham b

Yam
Yam a   Ham a   Spam b
Spam b

Yam
Yam a   Ham a   Lamb b
Lamb b
```

Casting references

- A variable can only call that type's methods, not a subtype's.

```
Employee ed = new Lawyer();
int hours = ed.getHours();  // ok; this is in Employee
ed.sue();                   // compiler error
```

  - The compiler's reasoning is, variable `ed` could store any kind of employee, and not all kinds know how to `sue` .

- To use `Lawyer` methods on `ed`, we can type-cast it.

```
Lawyer theRealEd = (Lawyer) ed;
theRealEd.sue();                    // ok

((Lawyer) ed).sue();                // shorter version
```

More about casting

- The code crashes if you cast an object too far down the tree.

```
Employee eric = new Secretary();
((Secretary) eric).takeDictation("hi");      // ok
((LegalSecretary) eric).fileLegalBriefs();   // exception
//      (Secretary object doesn't know how to file briefs)
```

- You can cast only up and down the tree, not sideways.

```
Lawyer linda = new Lawyer();
((Secretary) linda).takeDictation("hi");     // error
```

- Casting doesn't actually change the object's behavior.
  It just gets the code to compile/run.

```
((Employee) linda).getVacationForm()     // pink (Lawyer's)
```