

Inheritance

- What is inheritance?
- “**Is-a**” vs. “**Has-a**” relationship
- Programming example
“CircleBug”



Inheritance

A class (**child** class)

– **inherits** the functionality of another class (**parent** class), and then

– **adds** new functionality of its own.

- **Java supports single inheritance.**
- **Inheritance** is a requirement of all object-oriented systems.



Why inheritance?

- Inheritance is a technique for **reuse**.
- If a new class has a lot in common with a class that already exists, you can reuse parts of the existing class in the new class.
- The **child class** is defined by **extending** the **parent class**.
- The new **"child"** class has all characteristics of its **"parent"** plus any it adds itself.

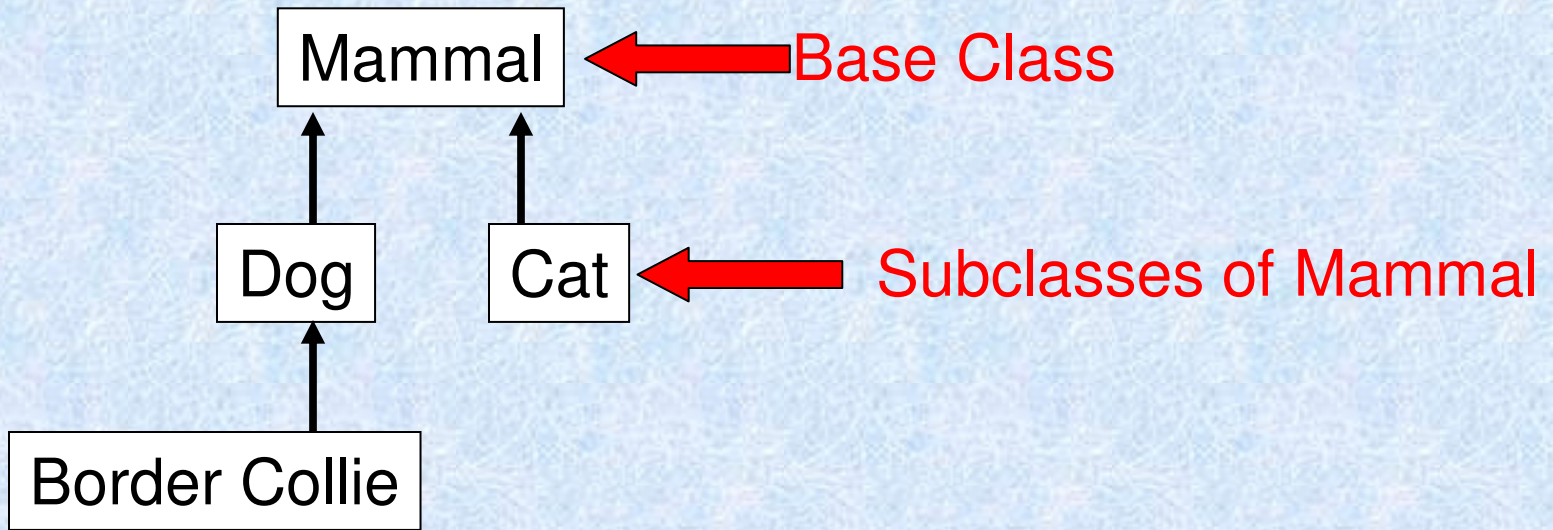


Inheritance (an **is-a** relationship)

- Inheritance is a parent-child relationship between classes.
- The **parent** class is also called a **base class** or a **superclass**.
- The **child** class is also called a **derived class** or **subclass**.



Example: Inheritance Diagram



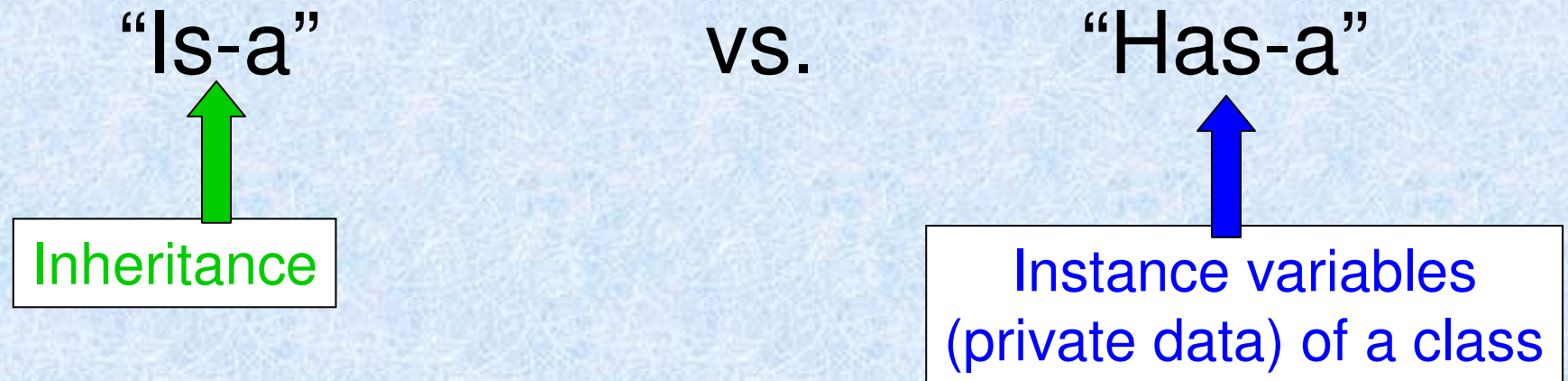
Example: In an OOP traffic simulation, you may have the following classes:

Make an inheritance diagram for the classes at the left.

- Vehicle
- Car
- Truck
- Sedan
- Coupe
- PickupTruck
- SUV
- Minivan
- Motorcycle
- Bicycle



Important Concept in OOP!!!

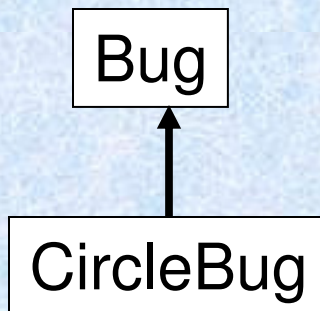


Example: The CircleBug

A **CircleBug** will inherit most of the qualities of a **Bug**. The only difference is how this bug moves.

A **CircleBug** acts identical to the **BoxBug**, except that in the **act** method, the **turn** method is called once instead of twice. How is the behavior different than a **BoxBug**? Should it be called a **CircleBug**?

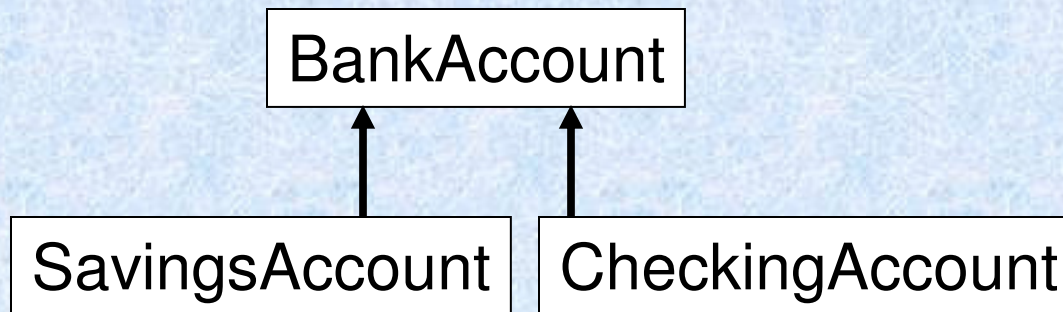
Inheritance Diagram



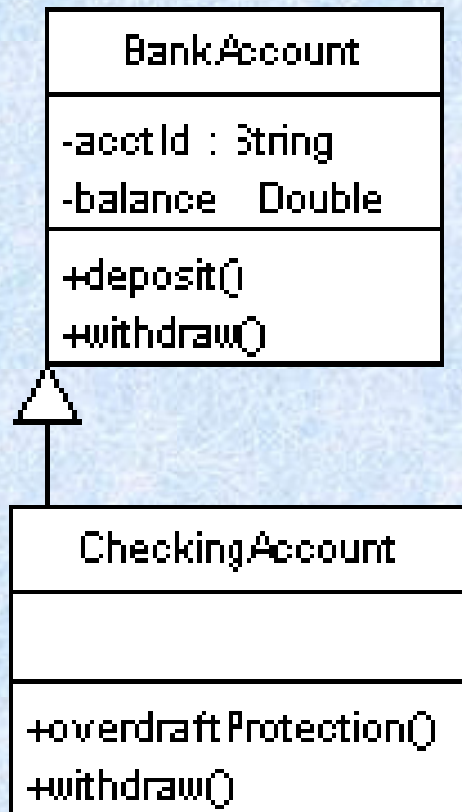
Example: Create a checking account class.

A checking account has all of the qualities of a **BankAccount**, but is assessed a fee of \$2.00 for each transaction in excess of 3 transactions per month.

Inheritance Diagram



Example - BankAccount



```
CheckingAccount cAcct =  
new CheckingAccount ();
```

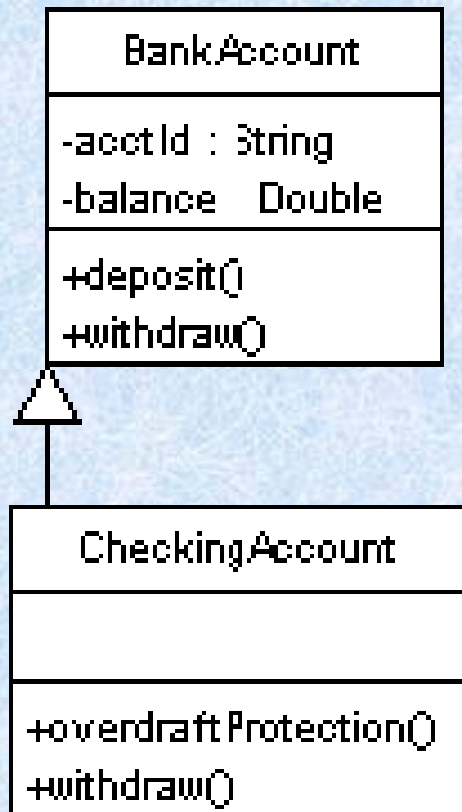
```
BankAccount myAcct;
```

```
myAcct = cAcct;
```

Is this ok???



Example - BankAccount



```
CheckingAccount cAcct;  
  
cAcct = new BankAccount ();
```

How about this???

