

The verification algorithm will reject this method, because it can't be sure of a constant stack height. If it permitted this method to execute, the stack would grow by 1 each time. Eventually, the program might overflow the stack. Because you don't want that to happen, the verification algorithm rejects this code.

6.5.4 Example 4: Dealing with Subclasses

One more complication: it isn't necessary for two stack pictures to be identical when two different flows of control come to the same place. Here's a (somewhat contrived) example. The example depends on three classes:

```

abstract class Person {
    abstract void printName();
}

class Programmer extends Person {
    void printName() { /* Implementation goes here */ }
}

class Author extends Person {
    void printName() { /* Implementation goes here */ }
}

```

The code we wish to verify is

```

.method public static print(ZLProgrammer;LAuthor;)V
    iload_0                ; Is the boolean false?
    ifeq false            ; If not,
    true: aload_1          ; then push the programmer
    goto print
    false: aload_2         ; Otherwise, push the author
    print: invokevirtual Person/printName ()V
                        ; Call printName on the Person
                        ; This works whether it's an
                        ; Author or a Programmer,
                        ; since each is a Person

    done: return
.end method

```

This method takes three arguments: a boolean control, a Programmer, and an Author. If the control is true then it prints the name of the Programmer. Otherwise, it prints the name of the Author. The program arrives at print with either