



OOP with Java

22. Collections, `equals`, and `hashCode`

Thomas Weise · 汤卫思

tweise@hfu.edu.cn · <http://iao.hfu.edu.cn>

Hefei University, South Campus 2
Faculty of Computer Science and Technology
Institute of Applied Optimization
230601 Shushan District, Hefei, Anhui, China
Econ. & Tech. Devel. Zone, Jinxiu Dadao 99

合肥学院 南艳湖校区/南2区
计算机科学与技术系
应用优化研究所
中国 安徽省 合肥市 蜀山区 230601
经济技术开发区 锦绣大道99号

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Lists
- 3 Equality vs. Identity
- 4 Maps
- 5 Equality and `hashCode()`
- 6 Sets
- 7 Summary



website

- Java provides a lot of utility classes

- Java provides a lot of utility classes
- The most important ones are probably the collection classes

- Java provides a lot of utility classes
- The most important ones are probably the collection classes
- Collections are objects which can store other objects

- Java provides a lot of utility classes
- The most important ones are probably the collection classes
- Collections are objects which can store other objects
- The most important collection types are lists, maps, and sets

- Java provides a lot of utility classes
- The most important ones are probably the collection classes
- Collections are objects which can store other objects
- The most important collection types are lists, maps, and sets
- You can find their default implementations in package `java.util`

- Arrays in Java have a fixed length

- Arrays in Java have a fixed length
- Lists are a dynamic-length version of arrays

- Arrays in Java have a fixed length
- Lists are a dynamic-length version of arrays
- They offer a lot of advanced functionality

- Arrays in Java have a fixed length
- Lists are a dynamic-length version of arrays
- They offer a lot of advanced functionality: you can
 - get the object at list index `i` via `get(i)`

- Arrays in Java have a fixed length
- Lists are a dynamic-length version of arrays
- They offer a lot of advanced functionality: you can
 - get the object at list index `i` via `get(i)`
 - get store an object `o` at list index `i` via `set(i, o)`

- Arrays in Java have a fixed length
- Lists are a dynamic-length version of arrays
- They offer a lot of advanced functionality: you can
 - get the object at list index `i` via `get(i)`
 - get store an object `o` at list index `i` via `set(i, o)`
 - add an object `o` via `add(o)`

- Arrays in Java have a fixed length
- Lists are a dynamic-length version of arrays
- They offer a lot of advanced functionality: you can
 - get the object at list index `i` via `get(i)`
 - get store an object `o` at list index `i` via `set(i, o)`
 - add an object `o` via `add(o)`
 - insert an object `o` at index `i` via `add(i, o)`

- Arrays in Java have a fixed length
- Lists are a dynamic-length version of arrays
- They offer a lot of advanced functionality: you can
 - get the object at list index `i` via `get(i)`
 - get store an object `o` at list index `i` via `set(i, o)`
 - add an object `o` via `add(o)`
 - insert an object `o` at index `i` via `add(i, o)`
 - deletes then object at index `i` via `remove(i)`

- Arrays in Java have a fixed length
- Lists are a dynamic-length version of arrays
- They offer a lot of advanced functionality: you can
 - get the object at list index `i` via `get(i)`
 - get store an object `o` at list index `i` via `set(i, o)`
 - add an object `o` via `add(o)`
 - insert an object `o` at index `i` via `add(i, o)`
 - deletes then object at index `i` via `remove(i)`
 - add/remove all objects in another collection `c` via `addAll(c)` / `removeAll(c)`

- Arrays in Java have a fixed length
- Lists are a dynamic-length version of arrays
- They offer a lot of advanced functionality: you can
 - get the object at list index `i` via `get(i)`
 - get store an object `o` at list index `i` via `set(i, o)`
 - add an object `o` via `add(o)`
 - insert an object `o` at index `i` via `add(i, o)`
 - deletes then object at index `i` via `remove(i)`
 - add/remove all objects in another collection `c` via `addAll(c)` / `removeAll(c)`
 - iterate over a list `l` in the same read-only fashion as used for arrays via `for(Object e : l){ ... }`

- Arrays in Java have a fixed length
- Lists are a dynamic-length version of arrays
- They offer a lot of advanced functionality: you can
 - get the object at list index `i` via `get(i)`
 - get store an object `o` at list index `i` via `set(i, o)`
 - add an object `o` via `add(o)`
 - insert an object `o` at index `i` via `add(i, o)`
 - deletes then object at index `i` via `remove(i)`
 - add/remove all objects in another collection `c` via `addAll(c)` / `removeAll(c)`
 - iterate over a list `l` in the same read-only fashion as used for arrays via `for(Object e : l){ ... }`
 - ...

- Java provides several different implementations of this functionality

- Java provides several different implementations of this functionality
- `java.util.ArrayList` is the implementation we always use

- Java provides several different implementations of this functionality
- `java.util.ArrayList` is the implementation we always use
- `java.util.Vector` is basically the same, just slower (due to synchronization, which is useless anyway)

- Java provides several different implementations of this functionality
- `java.util.ArrayList` is the implementation we always use
- `java.util.Vector` is basically the same, just slower (due to synchronization, which is useless anyway)
- `java.util.LinkedList` is another slower implementation of the same functionality (yes, someone will say linked lists are efficient for some special cases, blablabla, but even if you have millions of elements, `LinkedList` will just consume more memory and be slower than `ArrayList`)

Listing: Example for using ArrayList

```
import java.util.ArrayList;

/** a test for array list, which allows us to store and manipulate a sequence of objects */
public class ArrayListTest {
    /** The main routine
     * @param args we ignore this parameter */
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        ArrayList<String> list = new ArrayList<>();

        list.add("Hello"); //$NON-NLS-1$
        list.add("World."); //$NON-NLS-1$
        list.add("It's"); //$NON-NLS-1$
        list.add("me."); //$NON-NLS-1$
        System.out.println(list); // [Hello, World., It's, me.]

        int index = list.indexOf("World."); //$NON-NLS-1$
        System.out.println(index); // 1

        list.remove(index);
        System.out.println(list); // [Hello, It's, me.]

        list.add(index, "World!!!"); //$NON-NLS-1$
        System.out.println(list); // [Hello, World!!!, It's, me.]

        for(String string : list) { // fast read-only iteration
            System.out.print(string); // HelloWorld!!!It'sme.
        }
        System.out.println();

        ArrayList<String> list2 = new ArrayList<>();
        list2.addAll(list);
        list2.remove(1);
        System.out.println(list2); // [Hello, It's, me.]

        list.removeAll(list2);
        System.out.println(list); // [World!!!]

        list.addAll(list2);
        list.addAll(list);
        System.out.println(list); // [World!!!, Hello, It's, me., World!!!, Hello, It's, me.]
    }
}
```

- As we know, comparing object variables/expression with `==` only yields `true` if both sides reference the exact same object, i.e., on identity, i.e., if they point to the same memory location

- As we know, comparing object variables/expression with `==` only yields `true` if both sides reference the exact same object, i.e., on identity, i.e., if they point to the same memory location
- Often, you want to compare based on object content, not just by reference, i.e., based on equality

- As we know, comparing object variables/expression with `==` only yields `true` if both sides reference the exact same object, i.e., on identity, i.e., if they point to the same memory location
- Often, you want to compare based on object content, not just by reference, i.e., based on equality
- If you implement a class holding an integer, you want two instances to be considered as equal if they have the same integer value stored in them

- As we know, comparing object variables/expression with `==` only yields `true` if both sides reference the exact same object, i.e., on identity, i.e., if they point to the same memory location
- Often, you want to compare based on object content, not just by reference, i.e., based on equality
- If you implement a class holding an integer, you want two instances to be considered as equal if they have the same integer value stored in them
- Class `Object` provides a method `public boolean equals(Object)` intended for this purpose

- As we know, comparing object variables/expression with `==` only yields `true` if both sides reference the exact same object, i.e., on identity, i.e., if they point to the same memory location
- Often, you want to compare based on object content, not just by reference, i.e., based on equality
- If you implement a class holding an integer, you want two instances to be considered as equal if they have the same integer value stored in them
- Class `Object` provides a method `public boolean equals(Object)` intended for this purpose
- Any subclass can override it to perform a class-specific comparison for equality

- As we know, comparing object variables/expression with `==` only yields `true` if both sides reference the exact same object, i.e., on identity, i.e., if they point to the same memory location
- Often, you want to compare based on object content, not just by reference, i.e., based on equality
- If you implement a class holding an integer, you want two instances to be considered as equal if they have the same integer value stored in them
- Class `Object` provides a method `public boolean equals(Object)` intended for this purpose
- Any subclass can override it to perform a class-specific comparison for equality
- By default, it just does the same as `==` if you do not override it

- As we know, comparing object variables/expression with `==` only yields `true` if both sides reference the exact same object, i.e., on identity, i.e., if they point to the same memory location
- Often, you want to compare based on object content, not just by reference, i.e., based on equality
- If you implement a class holding an integer, you want two instances to be considered as equal if they have the same integer value stored in them
- Class `Object` provides a method `public boolean equals(Object)` intended for this purpose
- Any subclass can override it to perform a class-specific comparison for equality
- By default, it just does the same as `==` if you do not override it
- Java collections use `equals` instead of `==` to compare objects when you search inside them

- As we know, comparing object variables/expression with `==` only yields `true` if both sides reference the exact same object, i.e., on identity, i.e., if they point to the same memory location
- Often, you want to compare based on object content, not just by reference, i.e., based on equality
- If you implement a class holding an integer, you want two instances to be considered as equal if they have the same integer value stored in them
- Class `Object` provides a method `public boolean equals(Object)` intended for this purpose
- Any subclass can override it to perform a class-specific comparison for equality
- By default, it just does the same as `==` if you do not override it
- Java collections use `equals` instead of `==` to compare objects when you search inside them
- `equals` must be implemented in a way so that

```
a.equals(b) == b.equals(a) !
```

Listing: integer holder class without equals override

```
/** a holder class for an integer */
public final class IntHolder {
    /** the integer value */
    private final int value;

    /** create the integer value holder */
    public IntHolder(final int _value) {
        this.value = _value;
    }

    /** get the string representation of this value */
    @Override
    public String toString() {
        return "" + this.value; //$NON-NLS-1$
    }

    /** The main routine
     * @param args we ignore this parameter */
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        IntHolder a = new IntHolder(1);
        IntHolder b = new IntHolder(2);
        IntHolder c = new IntHolder(1);

        System.out.print(a == a); System.out.print('\u'); System.out.println(a.equals(a)); // true true
        System.out.print(a == b); System.out.print('\u'); System.out.println(a.equals(b)); // false false
        System.out.print(a == c); System.out.print('\u'); System.out.println(a.equals(c)); // false false
        System.out.print(b == a); System.out.print('\u'); System.out.println(b.equals(a)); // false false
        System.out.print(b == b); System.out.print('\u'); System.out.println(b.equals(b)); // true true
        System.out.print(b == c); System.out.print('\u'); System.out.println(b.equals(c)); // false false
        System.out.print(c == a); System.out.print('\u'); System.out.println(c.equals(a)); // false false
        System.out.print(c == b); System.out.print('\u'); System.out.println(c.equals(b)); // false false
        System.out.print(c == c); System.out.print('\u'); System.out.println(c.equals(c)); // true true
    }
}
```


Listing: integer holder class with equals override

```
/** a holder class for an integer */
public final class IntHolderWithEquals {
    /** the integer value */
    private final int value;

    /** create the integer value holder */
    public IntHolderWithEquals(final int _value) {
        this.value = _value;
    }

    /** get the string representation of this value */
    @Override
    public String toString() {
        return "" + this.value; //$NON-NLS-1$
    }

    /** override the equals method from Object checking for equality */
    @Override
    public boolean equals(final Object o) {
        return ((o instanceof IntHolderWithEquals) && // check if right class
            (((IntHolderWithEquals)o).value == this.value));
    }

    /** The main routine
     * @param args we ignore this parameter */
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        IntHolderWithEquals a = new IntHolderWithEquals(1);
        IntHolderWithEquals b = new IntHolderWithEquals(2);
        IntHolderWithEquals c = new IntHolderWithEquals(1);

        System.out.print(a == a); System.out.print('\u'); System.out.println(a.equals(a)); // true true
        System.out.print(a == b); System.out.print('\u'); System.out.println(a.equals(b)); // false false
        System.out.print(a == c); System.out.print('\u'); System.out.println(a.equals(c)); // false true
        System.out.print(b == a); System.out.print('\u'); System.out.println(b.equals(a)); // false false
        System.out.print(b == b); System.out.print('\u'); System.out.println(b.equals(b)); // true true
        System.out.print(b == c); System.out.print('\u'); System.out.println(b.equals(c)); // false false
        System.out.print(c == a); System.out.print('\u'); System.out.println(c.equals(a)); // false true
        System.out.print(c == b); System.out.print('\u'); System.out.println(c.equals(b)); // false false
        System.out.print(c == c); System.out.print('\u'); System.out.println(c.equals(c)); // true true
    }
}
```

Listing: integer holder without equals override in list

```
import java.util.ArrayList;

/** a test for search methods in array list */
public class ArrayListWithoutEqualsTest {
    /** The main routine
     * @param args we ignore this parameter */
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        ArrayList<IntHolder> list = new ArrayList<>();

        list.add(new IntHolder(3));
        IntHolder ih4 = new IntHolder(4);
        list.add(ih4);
        list.add(new IntHolder(-1));
        list.add(new IntHolder(3));
        System.out.println(list); // [3, 4, -1, 3]

        System.out.println(list.contains(new IntHolder(3))); // false
        System.out.println(list.contains(new IntHolder(4))); // false
        System.out.println(list.contains(ih4)); // true
        System.out.println(list.contains(new IntHolder(5))); // false

        System.out.println(list.indexOf(new IntHolder(3))); // -1 (not found)
        System.out.println(list.indexOf(new IntHolder(4))); // -1 (not found)
        System.out.println(list.indexOf(ih4)); // 1 (found)
        System.out.println(list.indexOf(new IntHolder(5))); // -1 (not found)

        System.out.println(list.lastIndexOf(new IntHolder(3))); // -1 (not found)
        System.out.println(list.lastIndexOf(new IntHolder(4))); // -1 (not found)
        System.out.println(list.lastIndexOf(ih4)); // 1 (found)
        System.out.println(list.lastIndexOf(new IntHolder(5))); // -1 (not found)
    }
}
```

Listing: integer holder with equals override in list

```
import java.util.ArrayList;

/** a test for search methods in array list */
public class ArrayListWithEqualsTest {
    /** The main routine
     * @param args we ignore this parameter */
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        ArrayList<IntHolderWithEquals> list = new ArrayList<>();

        list.add(new IntHolderWithEquals(3));
        IntHolderWithEquals ih4 = new IntHolderWithEquals(4);
        list.add(ih4);
        list.add(new IntHolderWithEquals(-1));
        list.add(new IntHolderWithEquals(3));
        System.out.println(list); // [3, 4, -1, 3]

        System.out.println(list.contains(new IntHolderWithEquals(3))); // true
        System.out.println(list.contains(new IntHolderWithEquals(4))); // true
        System.out.println(list.contains(ih4)); // true
        System.out.println(list.contains(new IntHolderWithEquals(5))); // false

        System.out.println(list.indexOf(new IntHolderWithEquals(3))); // 0
        System.out.println(list.indexOf(new IntHolderWithEquals(4))); // 1
        System.out.println(list.indexOf(ih4)); // 1 (found)
        System.out.println(list.indexOf(new IntHolderWithEquals(5))); // -1 (not found)

        System.out.println(list.lastIndexOf(new IntHolderWithEquals(3))); // 3
        System.out.println(list.lastIndexOf(new IntHolderWithEquals(4))); // 1
        System.out.println(list.lastIndexOf(ih4)); // 1 (found)
        System.out.println(list.lastIndexOf(new IntHolderWithEquals(5))); // -1 (not found)
    }
}
```

- In Lesson 18: *Visibility, Encapsulation, `final`, and Inner Classes*, we had an example for a data structure storing key-value relationships, i.e., a map

- In Lesson 18: *Visibility, Encapsulation, `final`, and Inner Classes*, we had an example for a data structure storing key-value relationships, i.e., a map
- Java provides utility classes for this purpose, which can store, for each (unique) key, one associated value

- In Lesson 18: *Visibility, Encapsulation, `final`, and Inner Classes*, we had an example for a data structure storing key-value relationships, i.e., a map
- Java provides utility classes for this purpose, which can store, for each (unique) key, one associated value
- There are quite a few implementations of that functionality

- In Lesson 18: *Visibility, Encapsulation, `final`, and Inner Classes*, we had an example for a data structure storing key-value relationships, i.e., a map
- Java provides utility classes for this purpose, which can store, for each (unique) key, one associated value
- There are quite a few implementations of that functionality:
 - `java.util.HashMap` : This is the implementation we will always use

- In Lesson 18: *Visibility, Encapsulation, `final`, and Inner Classes*, we had an example for a data structure storing key-value relationships, i.e., a map
- Java provides utility classes for this purpose, which can store, for each (unique) key, one associated value
- There are quite a few implementations of that functionality:
 - `java.util.HashMap` : This is the implementation we will always use
 - `java.util.Hashtable` : A slower implementation of the same functionality (due to useless synchronization)

- In Lesson 18: *Visibility, Encapsulation, `final`, and Inner Classes*, we had an example for a data structure storing key-value relationships, i.e., a map
- Java provides utility classes for this purpose, which can store, for each (unique) key, one associated value
- There are quite a few implementations of that functionality:
 - `java.util.HashMap` : This is the implementation we will always use
 - `java.util.Hashtable` : A slower implementation of the same functionality (due to useless synchronization)
 - `java.util.Dictionary` : An obsolete implementation of similar functionality (never use this one)

Listing: Example for using HashMap

```
import java.util.HashMap;

/** a test for Hash Map, which relates key objects to value objects, each key must be unique */
public class HashMapTest {
    /** The main routine
     * @param args we ignore this parameter */
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        HashMap<String,String> map = new HashMap<>();

        map.put("Hello", "World!"); //NON-NLS-1$ //NON-NLS-2$
        map.put("It's", "me!"); //NON-NLS-1$ //NON-NLS-2$
        map.put("Professor", "Weise"); //NON-NLS-1$ //NON-NLS-2$
        map.put("Weise", "Thomas"); //NON-NLS-1$ //NON-NLS-2$
        map.put("Teacher", "Weise"); //NON-NLS-1$ //NON-NLS-2$
        System.out.println(map); // {Professor=Weise, Hello=World!, Weise=Thomas, It's=me!, Teacher=Weise}

        map.put("It's", "you, \u0026me!"); //NON-NLS-1$ //NON-NLS-2$
        map.put("Professor", "Jacky\u0026Chan"); //NON-NLS-1$ //NON-NLS-2$
        System.out.println(map); // {Professor=Jacky Chan, Hello=World!, Weise=Thomas, It's=you, not me!, Teacher=Weise}

        System.out.println(map.remove("Professor")); // Jacky Chan //NON-NLS-1$
        System.out.println(map); // {Hello=World!, Weise=Thomas, It's=you, not me!, Teacher=Weise}

        System.out.println(map.entrySet()); // [Hello=World!, Weise=Thomas, It's=you, not me!, Teacher=Weise]
        System.out.println(map.keySet()); // [Hello, Weise, It's, Teacher]
        System.out.println(map.values()); // [World!, Thomas, you, not me!, Weise]

        HashMap<String,String> other = new HashMap<>();
        other.put("Hello", "China"); //NON-NLS-1$ //NON-NLS-2$
        other.put("Country", "China"); //NON-NLS-1$ //NON-NLS-2$
        other.put("Weise", "Teacher"); //NON-NLS-1$ //NON-NLS-2$
        System.out.println(other); // {Hello=China, Weise=Teacher, Country=China}

        map.putAll(other);
        System.out.println(map); // {Hello=China, Weise=Teacher, It's=you, not me!, Teacher=Weise, Country=China}

        for(String key : map.keySet()) {
            System.out.println(map.get(key)); // China \n Teacher \n you, not me! \n Weise \n China
        }
    }
}
```

- Sometimes, you may want to use your class as key type for a map

- Sometimes, you may want to use your class as key type for a map
- This is dangerous

- Sometimes, you may want to use your class as key type for a map
- This is dangerous
- How does a map work?

- Sometimes, you may want to use your class as key type for a map
- This is dangerous
- How does a map work?
 - A `HashMap` in Java tries to provide very fast access

- Sometimes, you may want to use your class as key type for a map
- This is dangerous
- How does a map work?
 - A `HashMap` in Java tries to provide very fast access
 - Therefore, it internally uses an array `table` of entries

- Sometimes, you may want to use your class as key type for a map
- This is dangerous
- How does a map work?
 - A `HashMap` in Java tries to provide very fast access
 - Therefore, it internally uses an array `table` of entries
 - When looking up a key, it first converts it into an `int`

- Sometimes, you may want to use your class as key type for a map
- This is dangerous
- How does a map work?
 - A `HashMap` in Java tries to provide very fast access
 - Therefore, it internally uses an array `table` of entries
 - When looking up a key, it first converts it into an `int`
 - Then wraps this `int` into the range `0 ... table.length-1`

- Sometimes, you may want to use your class as key type for a map
- This is dangerous
- How does a map work?
 - A `HashMap` in Java tries to provide very fast access
 - Therefore, it internally uses an array `table` of entries
 - When looking up a key, it first converts it into an `int`
 - Then wraps this `int` into the range `0 ... table.length-1`
 - This is where a linked list of entries with the keys mapping to the same index is located

- Sometimes, you may want to use your class as key type for a map
- This is dangerous
- How does a map work?
 - A `HashMap` in Java tries to provide very fast access
 - Therefore, it internally uses an array `table` of entries
 - When looking up a key, it first converts it into an `int`
 - Then wraps this `int` into the range `0 ... table.length-1`
 - This is where a linked list of entries with the keys mapping to the same index is located
 - Ideally, the list is either only 1 element long or `null`, so it is immediately clear whether the key is in the map or not

- Sometimes, you may want to use your class as key type for a map
- This is dangerous
- How does a map work?
 - A `HashMap` in Java tries to provide very fast access
 - Therefore, it internally uses an array `table` of entries
 - When looking up a key, it first converts it into an `int`
 - Then wraps this `int` into the range `0 ... table.length-1`
 - This is where a linked list of entries with the keys mapping to the same index is located
 - Ideally, the list is either only 1 element long or `null`, so it is immediately clear whether the key is in the map or not
 - Otherwise, we can find it somewhere in the list (comparing keys via `equals`)

- Sometimes, you may want to use your class as key type for a map
- This is dangerous
- How does a map work?
 - A `HashMap` in Java tries to provide very fast access
 - Therefore, it internally uses an array `table` of entries
 - When looking up a key, it first converts it into an `int`
 - Then wraps this `int` into the range `0 ... table.length-1`
 - This is where a linked list of entries with the keys mapping to the same index is located
 - Ideally, the list is either only 1 element long or `null`, so it is immediately clear whether the key is in the map or not
 - Otherwise, we can find it somewhere in the list (comparing keys via `equals`)
 - If there are too many elements in the map compared to `table.length`, the table is resized

- Sometimes, you may want to use your class as key type for a map
- This is dangerous
- How does a map work?
- What does this mean?

- Sometimes, you may want to use your class as key type for a map
- This is dangerous
- How does a map work?
- What does this mean?
 - Essentially, we need to provide a way for the map to translate our key objects to `int` s

- Sometimes, you may want to use your class as key type for a map
- This is dangerous
- How does a map work?
- What does this mean?
 - Essentially, we need to provide a way for the map to translate our key objects to `int` s
 - This is done via the `public int hashCode()` method of class `Object`

- Sometimes, you may want to use your class as key type for a map
- This is dangerous
- How does a map work?
- What does this mean?
 - Essentially, we need to provide a way for the map to translate our key objects to `int` s
 - This is done via the `public int hashCode()` method of class `Object`
 - Which does, by default, return something like the memory address of the object

- Sometimes, you may want to use your class as key type for a map
- This is dangerous
- How does a map work?
- What does this mean?
 - Essentially, we need to provide a way for the map to translate our key objects to `int` s
 - This is done via the `public int hashCode()` method of class `Object`
 - Which does, by default, return something like the memory address of the object
- So what does this mean?

- Sometimes, you may want to use your class as key type for a map
- This is dangerous
- How does a map work?
- What does this mean?
 - Essentially, we need to provide a way for the map to translate our key objects to `int`s
 - This is done via the `public int hashCode()` method of class `Object`
 - Which does, by default, return something like the memory address of the object
- So what does this mean?
- If we do not override `public int hashCode()` to use our object's data instead of the memory address, `HashMap` will (almost always) be unable to find our keys. . .

- Sometimes, you may want to use your class as key type for a map
- This is dangerous
- How does a map work?
- What does this mean?
 - Essentially, we need to provide a way for the map to translate our key objects to `int`s
 - This is done via the `public int hashCode()` method of class `Object`
 - Which does, by default, return something like the memory address of the object
- So what does this mean?
- If we do not override `public int hashCode()` to use our object's data instead of the memory address, `HashMap` will (almost always) be unable to find our keys. . .
- Of course we also need to override `equals` !

Listing: integer holder class without hashCode override

```

/** a holder class for an integer */
public final class IntHolderWithEqualsWithoutHashCode {
    /** the integer value */
    private final int value;

    /** creates the integer value holder */
    public IntHolderWithEqualsWithoutHashCode(final int _value) {
        this.value = _value;
    }

    /** get the string representation of this value */
    @Override
    public String toString() {
        return "" + this.value; //$NON-NLS-1$
    }

    /** override the equals method from Object checking for equality */
    @Override
    public boolean equals(final Object o) {
        return ((o instanceof IntHolderWithEqualsWithoutHashCode) && // check if right class
            (((IntHolderWithEqualsWithoutHashCode)o).value == this.value));
    }

    /** The main routine
     * @param args we ignore this parameter */
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        IntHolderWithEqualsWithoutHashCode a = new IntHolderWithEqualsWithoutHashCode(1);
        IntHolderWithEqualsWithoutHashCode b = new IntHolderWithEqualsWithoutHashCode(2);
        IntHolderWithEqualsWithoutHashCode c = new IntHolderWithEqualsWithoutHashCode(1);

        System.out.println(a.hashCode()); // this will print
        System.out.println(b.hashCode()); // three entirely different
        System.out.println(c.hashCode()); // numbers

        System.out.print(a == a); System.out.print('u'); System.out.println(a.equals(a)); // true true
        System.out.print(a == b); System.out.print('u'); System.out.println(a.equals(b)); // false false
        System.out.print(a == c); System.out.print('u'); System.out.println(a.equals(c)); // false true
        System.out.print(b == a); System.out.print('u'); System.out.println(b.equals(a)); // false false
        System.out.print(b == b); System.out.print('u'); System.out.println(b.equals(b)); // true true
        System.out.print(b == c); System.out.print('u'); System.out.println(b.equals(c)); // false false
        System.out.print(c == a); System.out.print('u'); System.out.println(c.equals(a)); // false true
        System.out.print(c == b); System.out.print('u'); System.out.println(c.equals(b)); // false false
        System.out.print(c == c); System.out.print('u'); System.out.println(c.equals(c)); // true true
    }
}

```

Listing: integer holder without hashCode override in hash map

```
import java.util.HashMap;

/** a test for Hash Map */
public class HashMapWithoutHashCodeTest {
    /** The main routine
     * @param args we ignore this parameter */
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        HashMap<IntHolderWithEqualsWithoutHashCode, String> map = new HashMap<>();

        map.put(new IntHolderWithEqualsWithoutHashCode(1), "A"); //NON-NLS-1$
        System.out.println(map); // {1=A}
        map.put(new IntHolderWithEqualsWithoutHashCode(2), "B"); //NON-NLS-1$
        System.out.println(map); // {1=A, 2=B}
        map.put(new IntHolderWithEqualsWithoutHashCode(3), "C"); //NON-NLS-1$
        System.out.println(map); // {1=A, 2=B, 3=C}
        map.put(new IntHolderWithEqualsWithoutHashCode(1), "D"); //NON-NLS-1$
        System.out.println(map); // {1=A, 2=B, 1=D, 3=C}
        map.put(new IntHolderWithEqualsWithoutHashCode(3), "E"); //NON-NLS-1$
        System.out.println(map); // {1=A, 2=B, 1=D, 3=C, 3=E}

        System.out.println(map.get(new IntHolderWithEqualsWithoutHashCode(1))); // null <- key lost
        System.out.println(map.get(new IntHolderWithEqualsWithoutHashCode(2))); // null <- key lost
        System.out.println(map.get(new IntHolderWithEqualsWithoutHashCode(3))); // null <- key lost
        System.out.println(map.get(new IntHolderWithEqualsWithoutHashCode(4))); // null <- key does not
            exist
    }
}
```

Listing: integer holder class with hashCode override

```

/** a holder class for an integer */
public final class IntHolderWithEqualsAndHashCode {
    /** the integer value */
    private final int value;

    /** create the integer value holder */
    public IntHolderWithEqualsAndHashCode(final int _value) {
        this.value = _value;
    }

    /** get the string representation of this value */
    @Override
    public String toString() {
        return "" + this.value; //NON-NLS-1$
    }

    /** override the equals method from Object checking for equality */
    @Override
    public boolean equals(final Object o) {
        return ((o instanceof IntHolderWithEqualsAndHashCode) && // check if right class
            (((IntHolderWithEqualsAndHashCode)o).value == this.value));
    }

    /** override the hashCode method from Object to return an integer number representing this instance (luckily, our only instance variable is an int)*/
    @Override
    public int hashCode() { // normally, your class will have more complex member variables, say objects, strings, doubles, etc.
        return this.value; // you would then return some combination of their hashCodes()
    }
    // the hash code of a list, for instance, is something like a special sum of its element's hash codes

    /** The main routine
     * @param args we ignore this parameter */
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        IntHolderWithEqualsAndHashCode a = new IntHolderWithEqualsAndHashCode(1);
        IntHolderWithEqualsAndHashCode b = new IntHolderWithEqualsAndHashCode(2);
        IntHolderWithEqualsAndHashCode c = new IntHolderWithEqualsAndHashCode(1);

        System.out.println(a.hashCode()); // 1 <-- this has changed, we now get the same
        System.out.println(b.hashCode()); // 2 <-- hash codes for the same data
        System.out.println(c.hashCode()); // 1 <-- see?

        System.out.print(a == a); System.out.print('\u'); System.out.println(a.equals(a)); // true true
        System.out.print(a == b); System.out.print('\u'); System.out.println(a.equals(b)); // false false
        System.out.print(a == c); System.out.print('\u'); System.out.println(a.equals(c)); // false true
        System.out.print(b == a); System.out.print('\u'); System.out.println(b.equals(a)); // false false
        System.out.print(b == b); System.out.print('\u'); System.out.println(b.equals(b)); // true true
        System.out.print(b == c); System.out.print('\u'); System.out.println(b.equals(c)); // false false
        System.out.print(c == a); System.out.print('\u'); System.out.println(c.equals(a)); // false true
        System.out.print(c == b); System.out.print('\u'); System.out.println(c.equals(b)); // false false
        System.out.print(c == c); System.out.print('\u'); System.out.println(c.equals(c)); // true true
    }
}

```

Listing: integer holder with hashCode override in hash map

```
import java.util.HashMap;

/** a test for Hash Map */
public class HashMapWithHashCodeTest {
    /** The main routine
     * @param args we ignore this parameter */
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        HashMap<IntHolderWithEqualsAndHashCode, String> map = new HashMap<>();

        map.put(new IntHolderWithEqualsAndHashCode(1), "A"); // $NON-NLS-1$
        System.out.println(map); // {1=A}
        map.put(new IntHolderWithEqualsAndHashCode(2), "B"); // $NON-NLS-1$
        System.out.println(map); // {1=A, 2=B}
        map.put(new IntHolderWithEqualsAndHashCode(3), "C"); // $NON-NLS-1$
        System.out.println(map); // {1=A, 2=B, 3=C}
        map.put(new IntHolderWithEqualsAndHashCode(1), "D"); // $NON-NLS-1$
        System.out.println(map); // {1=D, 2=B, 3=C}
        map.put(new IntHolderWithEqualsAndHashCode(3), "E"); // $NON-NLS-1$
        System.out.println(map); // {1=D, 2=B, 3=E}

        System.out.println(map.get(new IntHolderWithEqualsAndHashCode(1))); // D
        System.out.println(map.get(new IntHolderWithEqualsAndHashCode(2))); // B
        System.out.println(map.get(new IntHolderWithEqualsAndHashCode(3))); // E
        System.out.println(map.get(new IntHolderWithEqualsAndHashCode(4))); // null <- key does not exist
    }
}
```


- There is a very simple and important relationship between `equals` and `hashCode`

- There is a very simple and important relationship between `equals` and `hashCode` :

if `a.equals(b)` **then it must hold that** `a.hashCode()== b.hashCode()`

- There is a very simple and important relationship between `equals` and `hashCode` :

if `a.equals(b)` **then it must hold that** `a.hashCode()== b.hashCode()`

- This means that, whenever we override `equals` , we also need to override `hashCode` and vice versa

- There is a very simple and important relationship between `equals` and `hashCode` :

if `a.equals(b)` **then it must hold that** `a.hashCode()== b.hashCode()`

- This means that, whenever we override `equals` , we also need to override `hashCode` and vice versa
- But remember, this is a one-way relationship

- There is a very simple and important relationship between `equals` and `hashCode` :

if `a.equals(b)` **then it must hold that** `a.hashCode()== b.hashCode()`

- This means that, whenever we override `equals` , we also need to override `hashCode` and vice versa
- But remember, this is a one-way relationship
- If two objects have the same hash code, they do not necessarily need to be equal, i.e., from `a.hashCode()== b.hashCode()` it does not follow that `a.equals(b)`

- A `Set` is a data structure which can either contain or not contain an element

- A `Set` is a data structure which can either contain or not contain an element
- Different from lists, each element can occur at most once

- A `Set` is a data structure which can either contain or not contain an element
- Different from lists, each element can occur at most once
- You can imagine it as a map with object keys and `Boolean` values

- A `Set` is a data structure which can either contain or not contain an element
- Different from lists, each element can occur at most once
- You can imagine it as a map with object keys and `Boolean` values (actually, it is not that far from this in reality)
- Your keys for the set must implement both `equals` and `hashCode`

- A `Set` is a data structure which can either contain or not contain an element
- Different from lists, each element can occur at most once
- You can imagine it as a map with object keys and `Boolean` values (actually, it is not that far from this in reality)
- Your keys for the set must implement both `equals` and `hashCode`
- We will always use the Java utility class `java.util.HashSet` for representing sets

Listing: Example for using HashSet

```
import java.util.HashSet;

/** a test for sets, a set can contain each element exactly once */
public class HashSetTest {
    /** The main routine
     * @param args we ignore this parameter */
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        HashSet<String> set = new HashSet<>();

        System.out.println(set.add("Hello"));      // true //$NON-NLS-1$
        System.out.println(set);                  // [Hello]
        System.out.println(set.add("World!"));    // true //$NON-NLS-1$
        System.out.println(set);                  // [Hello, World!]
        System.out.println(set.add("World!"));    // false //$NON-NLS-1$
        System.out.println(set);                  // [Hello, World!]
        System.out.println(set.add("It's"));      // true //$NON-NLS-1$
        System.out.println(set);                  // [Hello, World!, It's]
        System.out.println(set.add("me!"));      // true //$NON-NLS-1$
        System.out.println(set);                  // [Hello, World!, It's, me!]

        System.out.println(set.contains("It's")); // true //$NON-NLS-1$
        System.out.println(set.remove("It's"));  // true //$NON-NLS-1$
        System.out.println(set);                  // [Hello, World!, me]
        System.out.println(set.contains("It's")); // false //$NON-NLS-1$
        System.out.println(set.remove("It's"));  // false //$NON-NLS-1$
        System.out.println(set);                  // [Hello, World!, me!]
    }
}
```

- We have learned about the basic collections offered by Java
- These include Lists, Maps, and Sets
- Using them properly with our own classes requires us to override the methods `public boolean equals(Object)` and `public int hashCode()` inherited from class `Object`
- We must ensure that `a.equals(b) \implies a.hashCode()== b.hashCode()`
- We noticed that all of Java's collections make heavy use of generics we discussed in Lesson 21: *Generics*

谢谢

Thank you

Thomas Weise [汤卫思]
tweise@hfu.edu.cn
<http://iao.hfu.edu.cn>

Hefei University, South Campus 2
Institute of Applied Optimization
Shushan District, Hefei, Anhui,
China



Caspar David Friedrich, "Der Wanderer über dem Nebelmeer", 1818
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wanderer_above_the_Sea_of_Fog