

Casting objects

You know about casts like:

```
(int) (5.0 / 7.5)
```

```
(double) 6
```

```
double d= 5; // automatic cast
```

You can also use casts with class types:

```
Animal pet1= new Cat(5);
```

```
Cat pet2= (Cat) pet1;
```

A class cast doesn't change the object. It just changes the perspective: how it is viewed!

Explicit casts: unary prefix operators

Object-casting rule: At runtime, an object can be cast to the name of any partition that occurs within it —and to nothing else. a0 can be cast to Object, Animal, Cat.

An attempt to cast it to anything else causes an exception

```
(Cat) c
```

```
(Object) c
```

```
(Cat) (Animal) (Cat) (Object) c
```

These casts don't take any time. The object does not change. It's a change of perception.

Implicit upward cast

```
public class Animal {
    /** = "this Animal is older than h" */
    public boolean isOlder(Animal h) {
        return age > h.age;
    }
}
```

```
Cat pet1= new Cat(5);
```

```
Dog pet2= new Dog(6);
```

```
if (pet2.isOlder(pet1)) {...}
```

```
// pet1 is cast up to class Animal and stored in h
```

Components used from h

```
public class Animal {
    /** = "this is older than h" */
    public boolean isOlder(Animal h) {
        return age > h.age;
    }
}
```

h.toString() OK —it's in class Object partition

h.isOlder(...) OK —it's in Animal partition

h.purr() ILLEGAL —not in Animal partition or Object partition

Which toString() gets called? See slide 18.

11 Compile-time reference rule

12 Compile-time reference rule (v1) see JavaHyperText

From a variable of type C, you can reference only methods/fields that are available in class C.

```
Animal pet1= new Animal(5);
```

```
pet1.purr();
```

obviously illegal

The compiler will give you an error.

Checking the legality of `pet1.purr(...)`:

Since pet1 is an Animal, purr must be declared in Animal or one of its superclasses.

From an Animal variable, can use only methods available in class Animal

Compile-time reference rule (v2) see JavaHyperText

From a variable of type **C**, you can reference only methods/fields that are available in class **C**.

```
Animal pet1= new Cat(5);
pet1.purr();
```

still illegal!
The compiler still gives you an error.

Checking the legality of `pet1.purr(...)`:
Since `pet1` is an `Animal`, `purr` must be declared in `Animal` or one of its superclasses.

From an `Animal` variable, can use only methods available in class `Animal`

Why would we ever do this?

- Why would a variable of type `Animal` ever not have just an `Animal` in it?
- This is one of the beautiful things about OO programming!
 - We want to use an `Animal` method (seen)
 - We want to keep a list of all our pets
 - Create an array of type `Animal`!

`Animal[] v= new Animal[3];`

declaration of array `v` Create array of 3 elements Assign value of new-exp to `v`

Assign and refer to elements as usual:

```
v[0]= new Animal(...);
...
a= v[0].getAge();
```

Sometimes use horizontal picture of an array:

Consequences of a class type

```
Animal[] v;           // declaration of v
v= new Animal[3];    // initialization of v
v[0]= new Cat(5);    // initialization of 1st elem
v[2]= new Dog(6);
```

The type of `v` is `Animal[]`
The type of each `v[k]` is `Animal`
The type is part of the syntax/grammar of the language. Known at compile time.

A variable's type:

- Restricts what values it can contain.
- Determines which methods are legal to call on it.

Compile-time reference rule, revisited

```
Animal[] v;           // declaration of v
v= new Animal[3];    // initialization of v
Cat pet1= new Cat(5); // initialization of pet1
v[0]= pet1;          // initialization of 1st elem
v[0].purr();         // should this be allowed?
                    // will it compile?
```

Checking the legality of `v[0].purr(...)`:
Since `v[0]` is an `Animal`, `purr` must be declared in `Animal` or one of its superclasses.

From an `Animal` variable, can use only methods available in class `Animal`

Bottom-up / Overriding rule revisited

```
Animal[] v= new Animal[3];
v[0]= new Cat(5);
v[2]= new Dog(6);
v[0].toString();
v[2].toString();
```

Which `toString()` gets called?

Bottom-up / Overriding rule says function `toString` in `Cat` partition

19 Equals

Example: Point Class

```
public class Point {
    public int x;
    public int y;

    public Point(int x, int y) {
        this.x= x;
        this.y= y;
    }
}
```

How Object defines equals(x)

```
public boolean equals(Object x) {
    return this == x;
}
```

```
Point p1= new Point(5,4);
Point p2= p1;

if (p1 == p2) {...} // true?
if (p1.equals(p2)) {...} // true?

Point p3= new Point(5,4);

if (p1 == p3) {...} // true?
if (p1.equals(p3)) {...} // true?
```

Using the Point class as defined in previous slide.

Can define equals for your own class!

Can I define it any way I like?
<https://docs.oracle.com/javase/8/docs/api/java/lang/Object.html#equals-java.lang.Object->

Java spec says:

- Reflexive
- Symmetric
- Transitive

(click on the link to see what these are)

How do we define equality for a Point?

```
/** return "obj is a Point and
    obj and this have the same x and y fields" */
@Override
public boolean equals(Object obj) { // why Object?
    // how can we access the x y fields
    // if this is an Object?
}
```

Use operator instanceof

```
ob instanceof C

true iff ob has a partition named C

h instanceof Object true
h instanceof Animal true
h instanceof Cat true
h instanceof JFrame false
```

How do we define equality for a Point?

```

25
/** return "obj is a Point and
    obj and this have the same x and y fields" */
@Override
public boolean equals(Object obj) {
    if (!(obj instanceof Point))
        return false;
    Point p= (Point)obj;
    return (x == p.x && y == p.y);
}

```

Opinions about casting

```

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Use of instanceof and down-casts can indicate bad design

DONT:
if (x instanceof C1)
    do thing with (C1) x
else if (x instanceof C2)
    do thing with (C2) x
else if (x instanceof C3)
    do thing with (C3) x

DO:
x.do()
... where do is overridden in the
classes C1, C2, C3

But how do I implement equals() ?
That requires casting!

```

Equals in Animal

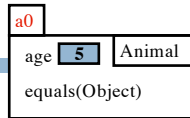
```

27
public class Animal {
    private int age;
    /** return true iff this and obj are of the same class
        * and their age fields have same values */
    public boolean equals(Object obj) {

        // how to check that objects are of the
        // same class??

    }
}

```



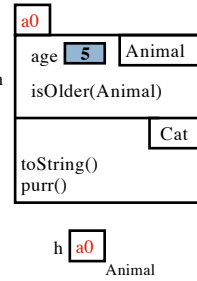
Use function getClass

```

28
h.getClass()

Let Cat be the lowest partition of object h
Then h.getClass() == Cat.class
h.getClass() != Animal.class

```

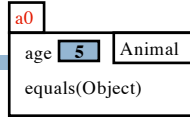


Equals in Animal

```

29
public class Animal {
    private int age;
    /** return true iff this and obj are of the same class
        * and their age fields have same values */
    public boolean equals(Object obj) {
        if (obj == null || getClass() != obj.getClass())
            return false;
        Animal an= (Animal) obj; // cast obj to Animal!!!!
        return age == an.age; // downcast needed to reference age
    }
}

```



Equals in Cat

```

30
public class Animal {
    private int age;
    /** return true iff this and ob are of
        * same class and their age fields
        * have same values */
    public boolean equals(Object ob) {...}
}

public class Cat extends Animal {
    private boolean likesPeople;
    /** return true iff this and ob are of same class
        * and age and likesPeople fields have same values*/
    public boolean equals(Object obj) {
        if (!super.equals(obj)) return false;
        Cat c1= (Cat) obj; // downcast is necessary!
        return likesPeople == c1.likesPeople;
    }
}

```

