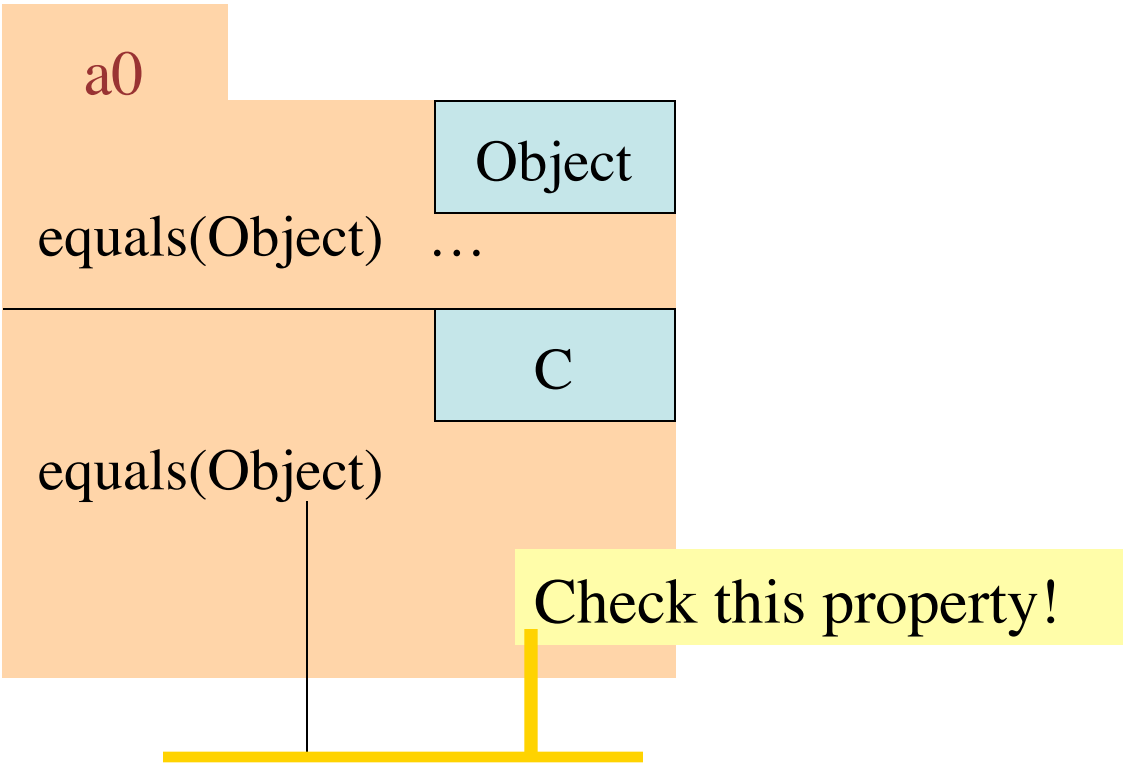
Overriding function equals



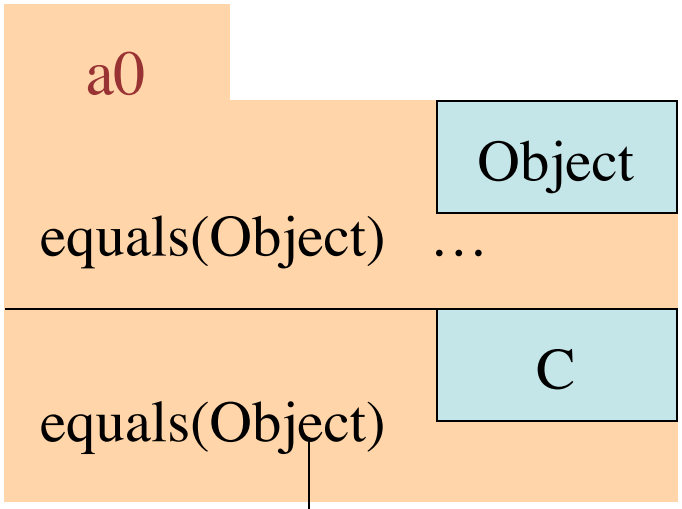
/** = "Object ob has class C & equals this object */
public boolean equals(Object ob)

type must be Object.

c1 a0

c1.equals(**new** Integer(5)) is **false**

Overriding function equals



You get to decide what equals means

/** = "Object ob has class C & equals this object */
public boolean equals(Object ob)

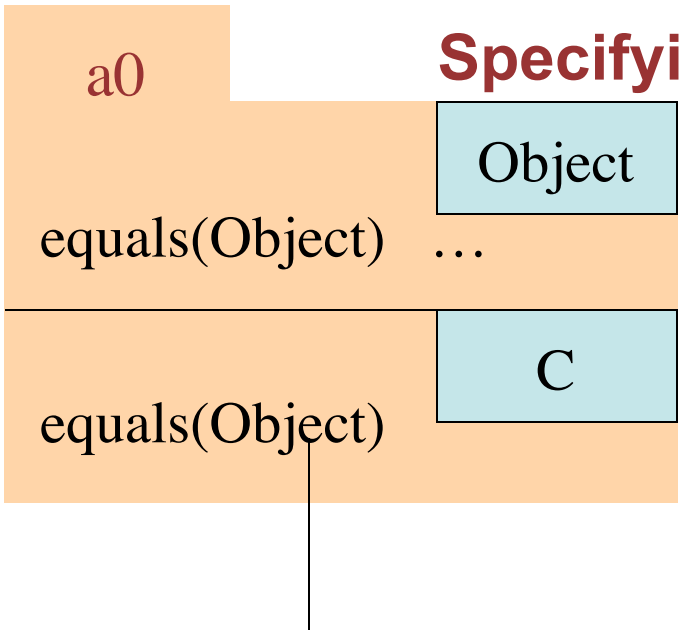
But it should be an equality relation!
For c1, c2, c3 not null and of the same class

Reflexive: c1.equals(c1) is true.

Symmetric: c1.equals(c2) and
c2.equals(c1) yield same value.

Transitive: If c1.equals(c2) and
c2.equals(c3) are true,
then so is c1.equals(c3).

Specifying equals



/** = "Object ob has class C & equals this object */
public boolean equals(Object ob)

Make specification *abstract*:

in terms of the meaning of the class, not always in terms of fields, which the user may not know about.

Example: String equality:

/** = "ob is a String and contains the same sequence of characters as this String". */
public boolean equals(Object ob)