

ESC/Java2 Warnings

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Types of ESC/Java2 warnings

ESC/Java2 warnings fall into various categories:

- warnings about possible **runtime exceptions**: (Cast, Null, NegSize, IndexTooBig, IndexNegative, ZeroDiv, ArrayStore)
 - These are the most common runtime exceptions caused by coding problems (that is, not by explicitly throwing an exception)
 - They do not include nearly all of the possible runtime exceptions
 - Most of the others are explicitly thrown by various library methods

Cast Warning

The Cast warning occurs when ESC/Java2 cannot verify that a `ClassCastException` will not be thrown:

```
public class CastWarning {  
    public void m(Object o) {  
        String s = (String)o;  
    }  
}
```

results in

```
CastWarning.java:3: Warning: Possible type cast error (Cast)  
    String s = (String)o;  
                ^
```

But this is OK:

```
public class CastWarningOK {  
    public void m(Object o) {  
        if (o instanceof String) { String s = (String)o; }  
    }  
}
```

So is this:

```
public class CastWarningOK2 {  
    //@ requires o instanceof String;  
    public void m(Object o) {  
        String s = (String)o;  
    }  
}
```

Null Warning

The Null warning occurs when ESC/Java2 cannot verify that a `NullPointerException` will not be thrown:

```
public class NullWarning {  
    public void m(Object o) {  
        int i = o.hashCode();  
    }  
}
```

results in

```
-----  
NullWarning.java:3: Warning: Possible null dereference (Null)  
    int i = o.hashCode();  
                ^  
-----
```

But this is OK:

```
public class NullWarningOK {  
    public void m(/*@ non_null */ Object o) {  
        int i = o.hashCode();  
    }  
}
```

ArrayStore Warning

The ArrayStore warning occurs when ESC/Java2 cannot verify that the assignment of an object to an array element will not result in an ArrayStoreException:

```
public class ArrayStoreWarning {  
    public void m(Object o) {  
        Object[] s = new String[10];  
        s[0] = o;  
    }  
}
```

results in

```
ArrayStoreWarning.java:4: Warning: Type of right-hand side possibly not  
a subtype of array element type (ArrayStore)
```

```
    s[0] = o;  
        ^
```

But this is OK:

```
public class ArrayStoreWarningOK {  
    public void m(Object o) {  
        Object[] s = new String[10];  
        if (o instanceof String) s[0] = o;  
    }  
}
```

ZeroDiv, index Warnings

- **ZeroDiv** - issued when a denominator (integer division) may be 0
- **NegSize** - issued when the array size in an array allocation expression may be negative
- **IndexNegative** - issued when an array index may be negative
- **IndexTooBig** - issued when an array index may be greater than or equal to the array length

```
public class Index {  
    void m() {  
        int i = 0;  
        int j = 8/i; // Causes a ZeroDiv warning  
        Object[] oo = new Object[i-1]; // NegSize warning  
        oo = new Object[10];  
        i = oo[-1].hashCode(); // IndexNegative warning  
        i = oo[20].hashCode(); // IndexTooBig warning  
    }  
}
```

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- warnings about possible runtime exceptions: (Cast, Null, NegSize, IndexTooBig, IndexNegative, ZeroDiv, ArrayStore)
- warnings about possible method **specification violations**: (Precondition, Postcondition, Modifies)
 - These are all caused by violations of explicit user-written method specifications

Pre, Post warnings

These warnings occur in response to user-written preconditions (requires), postconditions (ensures, signals), or assert statements.

```
public class PrePost {
    //@ requires i >= 0;
    //@ ensures \result == i;
    public int m(int i);

    //@ ensures \result > 0;
    public int mm() {
        int j = m(-1); // Pre warning - argument must be >= 0
    }

    //@ ensures \result > 0;
    public int mmm() {
        int j = m(0);
        return j;
    } // Post warning - result is 0 and should be > 0
}
```

Frame conditions

- To reason (modularly) about a call of a method, one must know what that method might modify: this is specified by

- **assignable** clauses

```
//@ assignable x, o.x, this.*, o.*, a[*], a[3], a[4..5];
```

- **modifies** clauses (a synonym)
- **pure** modifier

```
//@ pure  
public int getX() { return x; }
```

- Assignable clauses state what fields may be assigned within a method - this is the set of what might be modified
- The default assignable clause is **assignable \everything;** (but it is better to be explicit because **\everything;** is not fully implemented and ESC/Java2 can reason better with more explicit frame conditions)
- A **pure** method is **assignable \nothing;**

Frame conditions

- A **Modifies** warning indicates an attempt to assign to an object field that is not in a modifies clause
- Note: Some violations of modifies clauses can be detected at typecheck time.
- Note also: Handling of frame conditions is an active area of research.

Modifies warnings

For example, in

```
public class ModifiesWarning {
    int i;

    //@ assignable i;
    void m(/*@ non_null */ ModifiesWarning o) {
        i = 1;
        o.i = 2; // Modifies warning
    }
}
```

we don't know if `o` equals `this`; since only `this.i` may be assigned, ESC/Java2 produces

ModifiesWarning.java:7: Warning: Possible violation of modifies clause (Mo

```
    o.i = 2; // Modifies warning
    ^
```

Associated declaration is "ModifiesWarning.java", line 4, col 6:

```
    //@ assignable i;
    ^
```

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- warnings about possible specification violations: (Precondition, Postcondition, Modifies)
- **non null** violations (NonNull, NonNullInit)
 - These warnings relate to explicit **non_null** field or parameter specifications

NonnullInit warning

Class fields declared `non_null` must be initialized to values that are not null in each constructor, else a NonNullInit warning is produced.

```
public class NonNullInit {  
    /*@ non_null */ Object o;  
  
    public NonNullInit() { }  
}
```

produces

```
NonnullInit.java:4: Warning: Field declared non_null possibly  
not initialized (NonnullInit)
```

```
    public NonNullInit() { }  
                        ^
```

Associated declaration is "NonnullInit.java", line 2, col 6:

```
    /*@ non_null */ Object o;  
    ^
```

NonNull warning

A NonNull warning is produced whenever an assignment is made to a field or variable that has been declared `non_null` but ESC/Java2 cannot determine that the right-hand-side value is not null.

```
public class NonNull {  
    /*@ non_null */ Object o;  
  
    public void m(Object oo) { o = oo; } // NonNull warning  
}
```

produces

```
NonNull.java:4: Warning: Possible assignment of null to variable  
declared non_null (NonNull)
```

```
    public void m(Object oo) { o = oo; } // NonNull warning  
                                ^
```

Associated declaration is "NonNull.java", line 2, col 6:

```
    /*@ non_null */ Object o;  
    ^
```

But this is OK

```
public class NonNull {  
    /*@ non_null */ Object o;  
    public void m(/*@ non_null */ Object oo) { o = oo; }  
}
```

So is this

```
public class NonNull {  
    /*@ non_null */ Object o;  
    public void m(Object oo) {  
        if (oo != null) o = oo;  
    }  
}
```

So is this

```
public class NonNull {  
    /*@ non_null */ Object o;  
    public void m() {  
        o = new Object();  
    }  
}
```

nonnull can be applied to

- a field
- a formal parameter
- a return value
- a local variable
- ghost and model variables

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- non null violations (NonNull, NonNullInit)
- **loop** and **flow** specifications (Assert, Reachable, LoopInv, DecreasesBound)
 - **These are caused by violations of specifications in a routine body**

Body assertions

- **Assert**: warning occurs when an **assert** annotation may not be satisfied
- **Reachable**: not in JML, only in ESC/Java2; occurs with the **//@ unreachable**; annotation, which is equivalent to **//@ assert false**;

Example:

```
public class AssertWarning {
    //@ requires i >= 0;
    public void m(int i) {
        //@ assert i >= 0; // OK
        --i;
        //@ assert i >= 0; // FAILS
    }
    public void n(int i) {
        switch (i) {
            case 0,1,2: break;
            default:    //@ unreachable; // FAILS
        }
    }
}
```

Loop assertions

- A **loop_invariant** assertion just before a loop asserts a predicate that is true prior to each iteration and at the termination of the loop (or a **LoopInv** warning is issued).
- A **decreases** assertion just before a loop asserts a (int) quantity that is non-negative and decreases with each iteration (or a **DecreasesBound** warning is issued).
- **Caution: Loops are checked by unrolling a few times.**

Example:

```
public class LoopInvWarning {  
    public int max(/*@ non_null */ int[] a) {  
        int m=Integer.MAX_VALUE;  
        //@ loop_invariant (\forall int j; 0<=j && j<i; a[j] <= m);  
        //@ decreases a.length - i - 1;  
        for (int i=0; i<a.length; ++i) {  
            if (m < a[i]) m = a[i];  
        }  
        return m;  
    }  
}
```

In the scope of the loop variable



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- loop and flow specifications (Assert, Reachable, LoopInv, DecreasesBound)
- **warnings about possible class specification violations: (Invariant, Constraint, Initially)**

class invariant warnings

Invariant and constraint clauses generate additional postconditions for every method. If they do not hold, appropriate warnings are generated:

```
public class Invariant {  
    public int i,j;  
    //@ invariant i > 0;  
    //@ constraint j > \old(j);  
  
    public void m() {  
        i = -1; // will provoke an Invariant error  
        j = j-1; // will provoke a Constraint error  
    }  
}
```

An initially clause is a postcondition for every constructor:

```
public class Initially {  
  
    public int i; //@ initially i == 1;  
  
    public Initially() { } // does not set i - Initially warning  
}
```

produces

Initially.java:5: Warning: Possible violation of initially condition
at constructor exit (Initially)

```
    public Initially() { } // does not set i - Initially warning  
                        ^
```

Associated declaration is "Initially.java", line 3, col 20:

```
    public int i; //@ initially i == 1;  
                ^  
-----
```

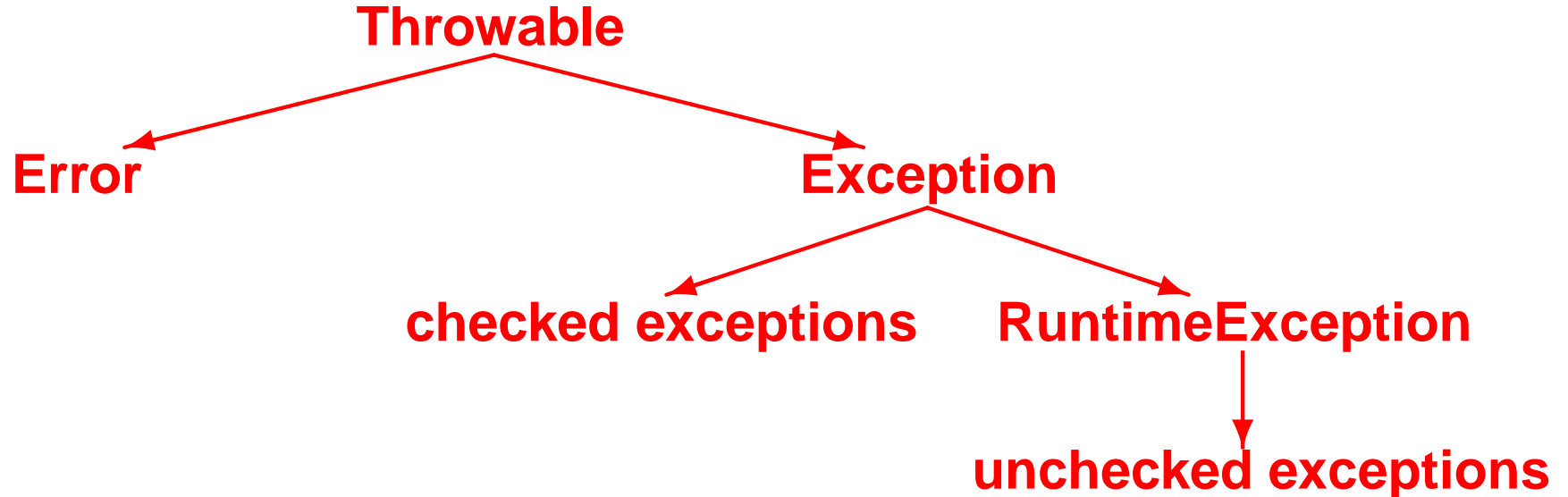
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- loop and flow specifications (Assert, Reachable, LoopInv, DecreasesBound)
- warnings about possible class specification violations: (Invariant, Constraint, Initially)
- **exception problems (Exception)**
 - **These warnings are caused by undeclared exceptions**

Exceptions - Errors

- Java **Errors** (e.g. `OutOfMemoryError`) can be thrown at any time
 - No declarations are needed in throws clauses
 - No semantics are implied by JML
 - No checking is performed by ESC/Java2



Checked Exceptions

- Java **checked** exceptions (e.g. `FileNotFoundException`) are Exceptions that are not `RuntimeException`s:
 - Declarations of exceptions mentioned in the body are required in throws clauses
 - ESC/Java2 checks during typechecking that throws declarations are correct (as a Java compiler does)
 - Typically specified in signals clauses in JML
 - ESC/Java2 checks via reasoning that signals conditions hold
 - Default specification is that *declared* exceptions may occur: `signals (Exception) true`;
 - ESC/Java2 presumes that checked exceptions not declared in a throws clause will not occur.

Unchecked Exceptions

- Java **unchecked** exceptions (e.g. `NoSuchElementException`) are `RuntimeException`s:
 - Java does not require these to be declared in throws clauses
 - ESC/Java2 is stricter than Java - it will issue an Exception warning if an unchecked exception might be *explicitly* thrown but is not declared in a throws declaration
 - Caution: currently ESC/Java2 will assume that an undeclared unchecked exception will not be thrown, even if it is specified in a signals clause -
 Declare all unchecked exceptions that might be thrown!
 (e.g. especially when there is no implementation to check).

So this

Exception warning

```
public class Ex {  
    public void m(Object o) {  
        if (!(o instanceof String)) throw new ClassCastException();  
    }  
}
```

produces

```
Ex.java:4: Warning: Possible unexpected exception (Exception)  
    }  
    ^
```

Execution trace information:

Executed then branch in "Ex.java", line 3, col 32.

Executed throw in "Ex.java", line 3, col 32.

Turn off this warning by

- declaring the exception in a throws clause
- using **//@ nowarn Exception;** on the offending line
- using a **-nowarn Exception** command-line option

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- loop and flow specifications (Assert, Reachable, LoopInv, DecreasesBound)
- warnings about possible class specification violations: (Invariant, Constraint, Initially)
- exception problems (Exception)
- **multithreading** (Race, RaceAllNull, Deadlock)
 - These warnings are caused by potential problems with monitors
 - Multithreading problems caused by the absence of any synchronization are not detected.

Race conditions

- Java defines monitors associated with any object and allows critical sections to be guarded by synchronization statements.
- ESC/Java permits fields to be declared as **monitored** by one or more objects.
- To read a monitored field, at least one monitor must be held (or a Race warning is issued).
- To write a monitored field, all non-null monitors must be held (or a Race warning is issued).
- To write a monitored field, at least one of its monitors must be non-null (or a RaceAllNull warning is issued).

Race warnings

For example,

```
public class RaceWarning {
    //@ monitored
    int i;

    void m() {
        i = 0; // should have a synchronization guard
    }
}
```

produces

```
RaceWarning.java:6: Warning: Possible race condition (Race)
```

```
    i = 0; // should have a synchronization guard
    ^
```

```
Associated declaration is "RaceWarning.java", line 2, col 6:
```

```
    //@ monitored
    ^
```

- Deadlocks occur when each thread of a group of threads needs monitors held by another thread in the group.
- One way to avoid this is to always acquire monitors in a specific order.
- This requires
 - the user state a (partial) order for monitors (typically using an axiom)
 - that it be clear before acquiring a monitor that the thread does not hold any 'larger' monitors (typically a precondition)
- Checking for Deadlock warnings is off by default but can be turned on with **-warn Deadlock**.

Deadlock warnings

For example:

```
public class DeadlockWarning {
    /*@ non_null */ final static Object o = new Object();
    /*@ non_null */ final static Object oo = new Object();

    //@ axiom o < oo;

    //@ requires \max(\lockset) < o;
    public void m() {
        synchronized(o) { synchronized(oo) { }}
    }

    //@ requires \max(\lockset) < o;
    public void mm() {
        synchronized(oo) { synchronized(o) { }} // Deadlock warning
    }
}
```


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- non null violations (NonNull, NonNullInit)
- loop and flow specifications (Assert, Reachable, LoopInv, DecreasesBound)
- warnings about possible class specification violations: (Invariant, Constraint, Initially)
- exception problems (Exception)
- multithreading (Race, RaceAllNull, Deadlock)
- **a few others (OwnerNull, Uninit, Unreadable, Writable)**

Other warnings

- **Uninit**: used with the **uninitialized** annotation
- **OwnerNull**: see the ESC/Java User Manual for a description
- **Unreadable**: occurs with the **readable_if** annotation on shared variables. [JML's change of syntax from **readable_if** to **readable** is not complete in ESC/Java2.]
- **Writable**: occurs with the **writable_if** annotation on shared variables. [JML's change of syntax from **writable_if** to **writable** is not complete in ESC/Java2.]

For complicated bodies, the warning messages give some information about which if-then-else branches caused the warning:

```
public class Trace {  
    //@ ensures \result > 0;  
    int m(int i) {  
        if (i == 0) return 1;  
        if (i == 2) return 0;  
        return 4;  
    }  
}
```

produces

```
Trace.java:8: Warning: Postcondition possibly not established (Post)  
    }  
    ^
```

Associated declaration is "Trace.java", line 2, col 6:

```
    //@ ensures \result > 0;  
    ^
```

Execution trace information:

Executed else branch in "Trace.java", line 4, col 4.

Executed then branch in "Trace.java", line 5, col 16.

Executed return in "Trace.java", line 5, col 16.

Counterexamples

- Sometimes when a specification is found to be invalid, ESC/Java2 will produce a *counterexample context*.
- A full context will be produced with the **-counterexample** option
- These are difficult to read, but can give information about the reason for failure.
- They state formulae that the prover believes to be true; if there is something you think should not be true, that is a hint about the problem.
- Note also: Typically only one warning will be issued in a given run.