

Module #3 - Interfaces, Casting, Contracts

→ Interfaces - Set of methods in a dedicated source file.

→ Classes implement interfaces

→ Interface name must match source filename

→ Semicolon instead of method body

* cast wider var into shorter var type.

byte < short < int < long < float < double

small ← B S I L F D → big

Shallow equality:-

Compares two vars on the stack, not heap.

```
public boolean equals(Star that) {
```

```
    Star that = (Star)x // need casting
```

```
    if (this.masc != that.masc)
```

```
        return false;
```

```
    if (this.age != that.age)
```

```
        return false;
```

```
    } return true;
```

Hashing:- hashCode()

- A fast efficient strategy for locating objects in memory

contract = given any two objects 'x' & 'y' if x.equals(y) is true then x.hashCode() must equal y.hashCode()

HashSet: java.util.HashSet

```
HashSet<Book> books = new HashSet<Book>();
```

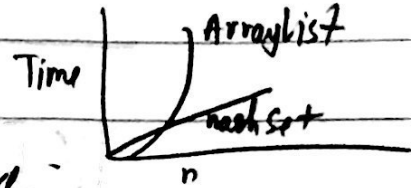
→ methods: add() & contains()

→ enhanced for loop - arbitrary traversing

- `add()` adds specified element to this set if it is not already present.
- `HashSet` needs to implement `hashCode()` & `equals()`.

ArrayList vs. HashSet: —

- `HashSet` automatically checks for prior presence.
- * need to add `hashCode` & respect the contract.
- `HashSet` is the most efficient, easy to use data structure.



- A class is ordered if it implements `Comparable<X>`

```
public int compareTo (Xrc that) { ... }
```

$\leq 0 \Rightarrow$ this is less than that // "this" comes before "that"
 $> 0 \Rightarrow$ this is greater than that // "this" comes after "that"
 $0 \Rightarrow$ this equals that // "this" equals that

best way to implement equals:

```

public boolean equals (Object x) {
    Whatever that = (Whatever) x;
    return this.compareTo(that) == 0;
}
  
```

TreeSets:

- traversal order is determined by `.compareTo()`
- Pass `[ArrayList, HashSet, TreeSet]` as an arg. to ctor of `[ArrayList, HashSet, TreeSet]`