



BITS Pilani
Pilani Campus

CS F213 - Object Oriented Programming

Amitesh Singh Rajput

Object Class

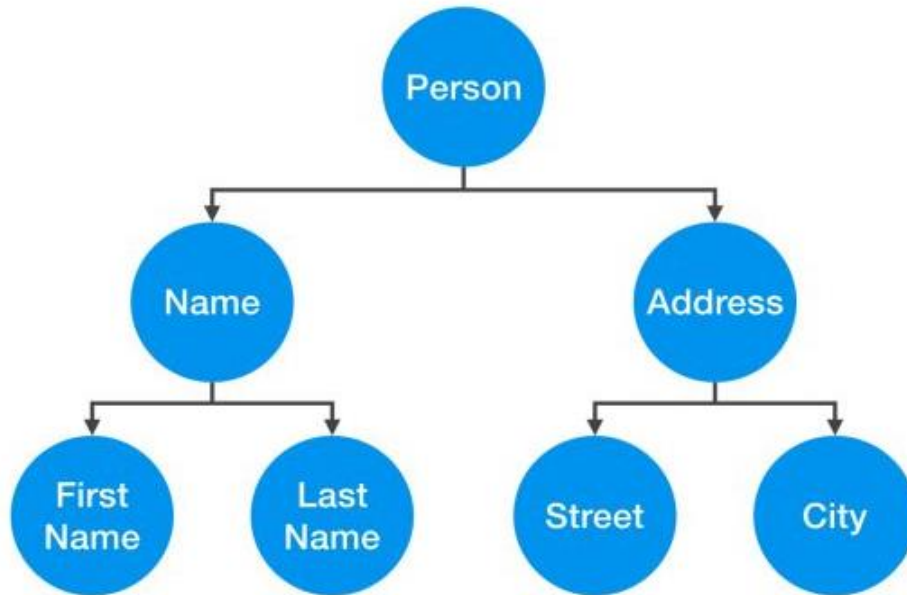


- Every class in Java is directly or indirectly derived from Object class.
 - If a class extends another class it is indirectly derived
- Methods of the Object class are available to all Java classes.
- It is present in java.lang package.
- Object class is the root of inheritance hierarchy.

Methods in Object Class

Method	Description
<code>String toString()</code>	Returns a string representation of the object
<code>boolean equals(Object other)</code>	Compares the object with another object
<code>int hashCode()</code>	Returns a hash code
<code>Object clone()</code>	Returns a copy of the object

Objects – An Example



Person is made up of Name and Address objects which in turn are made up of other objects:

- FirstName
- LastName
- Street and
- City

Copying Objects



- When we use assignment operator it will create a copy of reference variable and not the object.

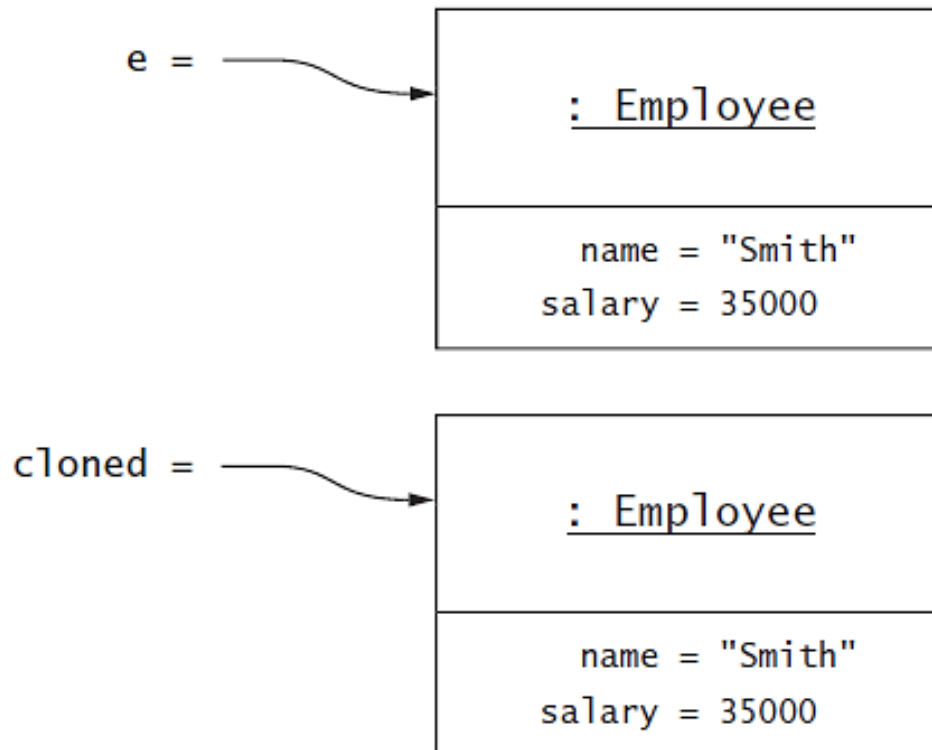


- Cloning** refers to creation of exact copy of an object.
- It creates a new instance of the class of current object and initializes all its fields with exactly same contents.

Object cloning



- A deep copy or clone of an object is an object with distinct identity and equal contents.



Object cloning



- A clone method is expected to fulfill these three conditions:
 1. `x.clone() != x`
 2. `x.clone().equals(x)` return true
 3. `x.clone().getClass() == x.getClass()`

Clone Requirements



Any class willing to be cloned must

1. Declare the clone() method to be public
2. Implement Cloneable interface

```
class Account implements Cloneable{  
    public Object clone(){  
        try{  
            super.clone()  
        }  
        catch(CloneNotSupportedException e){ .. }  
    }  
}
```

When the Object class finds that the object to be cloned isn't an instance of a class that implements Cloneable, it throws a CloneNotSupportedException.

Example Code



```
public class CloneClassA implements Cloneable{

    @Override
    public CloneClassA clone() throws CloneNotSupportedException{
        Object o1 = super.clone();
        return (CloneClassA) o1;
    }
}
```

Example Code



```
public class CloneClassB extends CloneClassA{
    @Override
    public CloneClassB clone() throws CloneNotSupportedException{
        Object o2 = super.clone();
        return (CloneClassB) o2;
    }

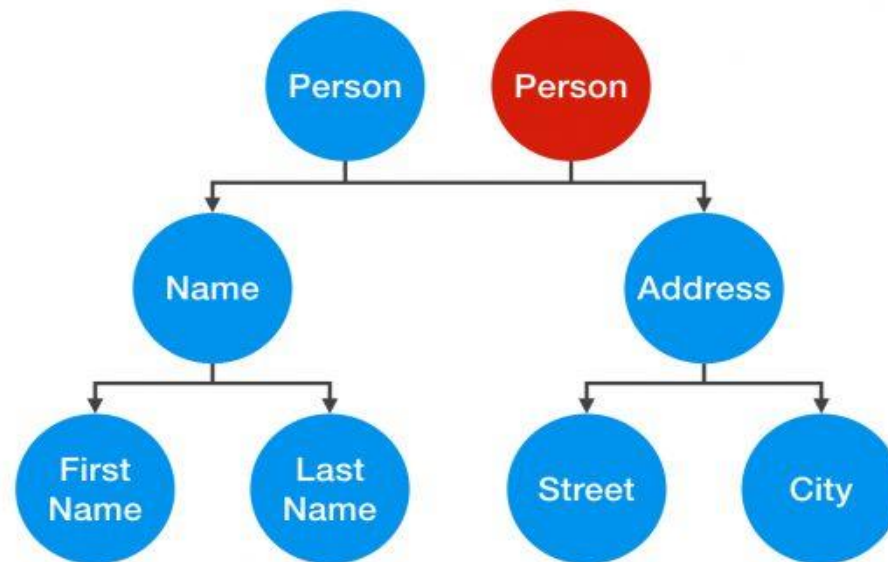
    public static void main(String args[]) throws
    CloneNotSupportedException{
        CloneClassB b = new CloneClassB();
        CloneClassB cloned_b = b.clone();
        System.out.println("b: " + b.hashCode());
        System.out.println("b_cloned: " + cloned_b.hashCode()); }
}
```

<pre>b: 483422889 b_cloned: 1209271652</pre>
--

Shallow Copy



- It copies the main object but doesn't copy the inner objects.
- Inner objects are still shared between the original and its copy.



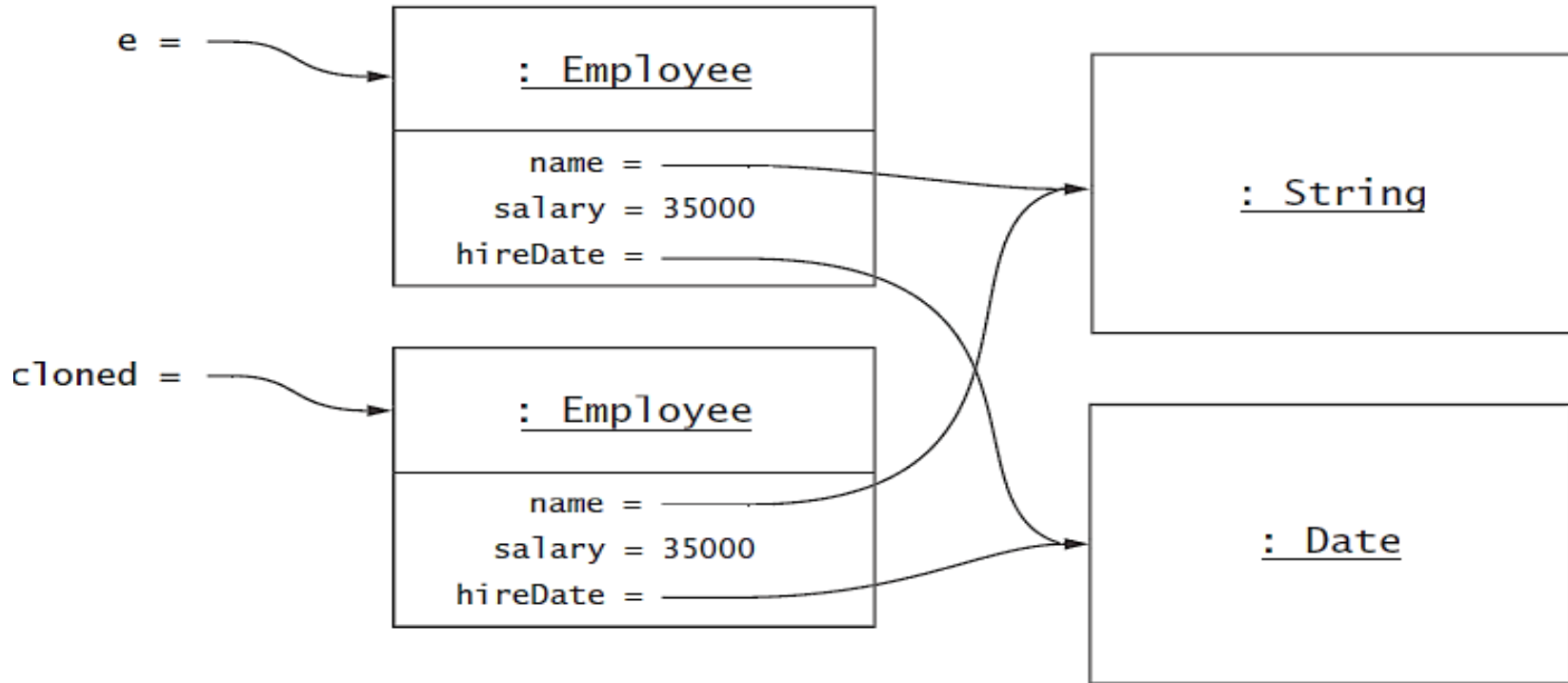
Shallow Copy - Example



```
public class Employee implements Cloneable{  
    public Employee clone(){  
        try{  
            return (Employee) super.clone();  
        }  
        catch (CloneNotSupportedException e){  
            return null;  
        }  
    }  
    . . .  
}
```

- The Object.clone method makes a **shallow copy**. It makes a new object of the same type as the original and copies the values of all fields.
- If the fields are object references, the original and the clone can share common sub objects.

Shallow Copy - Example

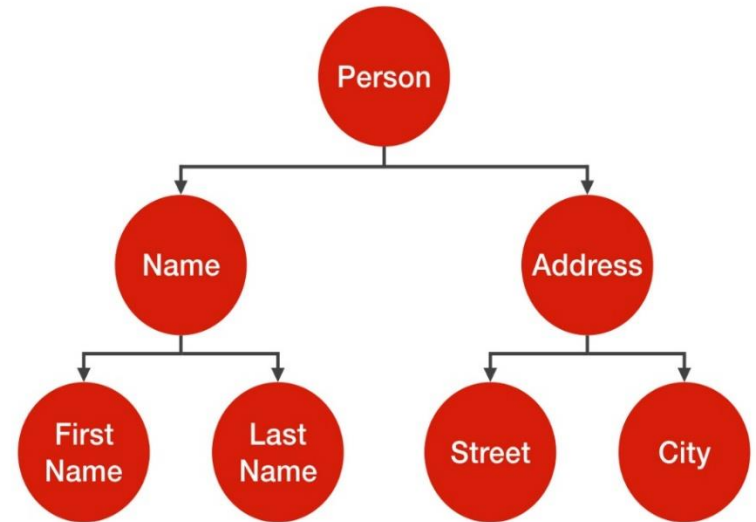
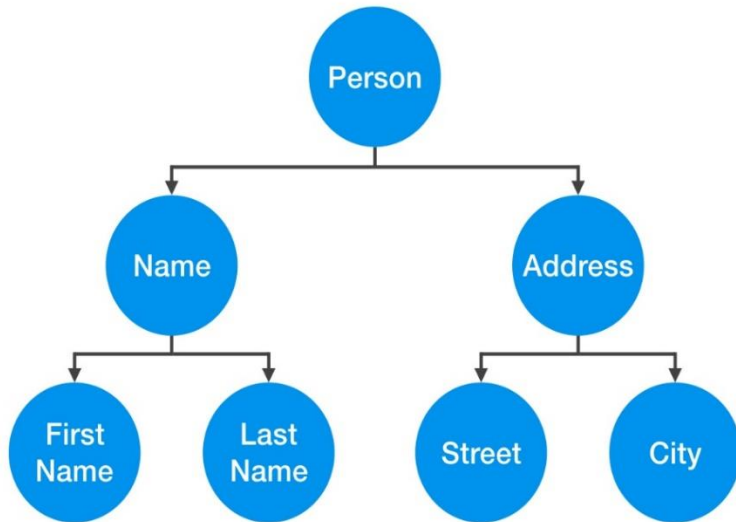


- Sharing of the String object is not a problem as strings are immutable.
- But, sharing a Date is only reasonable if we know that none of the Employee methods mutates it. Otherwise, it too should be cloned.

Deep Copy



- It is a fully independent copy of an object and it copies the entire object structure



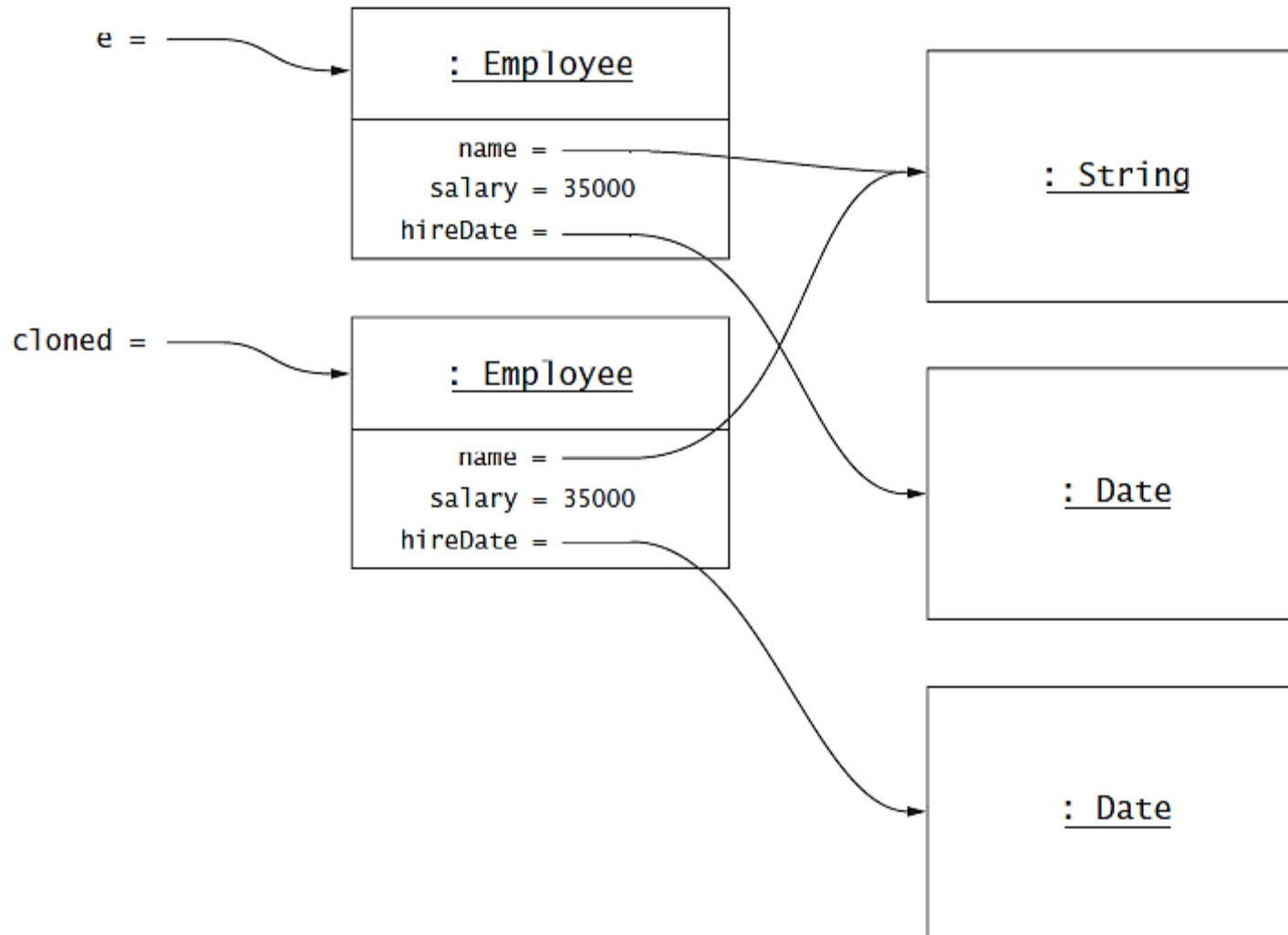
Deep Copy - Example



```
public class Employee implements Cloneable{

    public Employee clone(){
        try{
            Employee cloned = (Employee) super.clone();
            cloned.hireDate = (Date) hireDate.clone();
            return cloned;
        }
        catch (CloneNotSupportedException e){
            return null;
        }
    }
    . . .
}
```

Deep Copy - Example



Java Garbage Collection



- Garbage means unreferenced objects.
- Garbage collection is the process of reclaiming the runtime unused memory automatically.
- Advantage:
 - Memory efficient because it removes unreferenced objects from heap.
 - Automatically done by garbage collector.

When an Object becomes eligible for Garbage Collection?



- If the object is **not used** by any program, thread, its reference is null.
- If two objects having reference (**cyclic reference**) of each other and does not have any live reference.
- There are some other cases when an object become eligible for garbage collection:
 - If the reference of that object is **explicitly set to null**.
 - The object also becomes eligible if it is created inside a block and the reference goes **out of the scope** once control exit from the block.

Object Unreferencing



- Nulling the reference
 - `Test t = new Test();`
 - `t = null;`
- Assigning a reference to another
 - `Test t1 = new Test();`
 - `Test t2 = new Test();`
 - `t1 = t2;`
 - Now the first object reference by **t1** is available for garbage collection
- By anonymous object
 - `new Test();`

- **finalize()**

- This method is called before garbage collection when an object has no more references.
- It could be overridden to dispose system resources, perform clean up and minimize memory leaks.
- finalize() method is called just once on an object.
- protected void finalize().

- **gc()**

- It is used to invoke the garbage collector to perform clean up.
- It is found in System and Runtime classes.
- public static void gc().

Java Runtime class



- It is used to interact with the Java runtime environment.
- It provides methods to **execute a process, invoke GC, get total and free memory**, etc.
- Only one instance of the `java.lang.Runtime` class is available for one Java application.

Java Runtime class - Example



public long freeMemory(): Returns the amount of free memory in the JVM.

```
public class Abc{  
    public static void main(String[] args){  
        System.out.println(""+Runtime.getRuntime().freeMemory());  
    }  
}
```

266421656

Java Runtime class - Example



public long totalMemory(): Returns the amount of total memory in the JVM.

```
public class Abc{  
    public static void main(String[] args){  
        System.out.println(""+Runtime.getRuntime().totalMemory());  
    }  
}
```

268435456

Java Runtime class - Example



Checking the amount of used memory and converting it to MB.

```
public class Abc{  
    public static void main(String[] args){  
        System.out.println(""+Runtime.getRuntime().freeMemory());  
        System.out.println(""+Runtime.getRuntime().totalMemory());  
        long b = Runtime.getRuntime().totalMemory()-  
                  Runtime.getRuntime().freeMemory();  
        System.out.println(""+b/(1024*1024));  
    }  
}
```




BITS Pilani
Pilani Campus



Thank You!