

## Aggregation (Weak Reference) :

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Aggregation in Java is another form of association between classes that represents a "HAS-A" relationship, but with a weaker bond compared to composition.

In aggregation, one class contains an object of another class, but the contained object can exist independently of the container. If the container object is destroyed, the contained object can still exist.

```
package com.ravi.aggregation;

public class College
{
    private String collegeName;
    private String collegeLocation;

    public College(String collegeName, String collegeLocation)
    {
        super();
        this.collegeName = collegeName;
        this.collegeLocation = collegeLocation;
    }

    @Override
    public String toString()
    {
        return "College [collegeName=" + collegeName + ", collegeLocation=" + collegeLocation
+ "]";
    }
}

package com.ravi.aggregation;

public class Student
{
    private int studentId;
    private String studentName;
    private College college; // HAS- A relation

    public Student(int studentId, String studentName, College college)
    {
        super();
        this.studentId = studentId;
        this.studentName = studentName;
        this.college = college;
    }

    @Override
    public String toString()
    {
        return "Student [studentId=" + studentId + ", studentName=" + studentName + ", college=" + college + "]";
    }
}

package com.ravi.aggregation;

public class AggregationDemo {

    public static void main(String[] args)
    {
        College c1 = new College("VIT", "Vellore");
        c1 = new College("NIT", "Hyderabad");
        Student s1 = new Student(101, "Scott", c1);
        System.out.println(s1);

        Student s2 = new Student(102, "Smith", c1);
        System.out.println(s2);
    }
}
```

How System.out.println() statement works internally ?

\* System is a predefined final class available in java.lang.package. It contains private constructor.

```
public final class System
{
    public static final java.io.PrintStream out; //HAS-A relation

    private System()
    {
    }

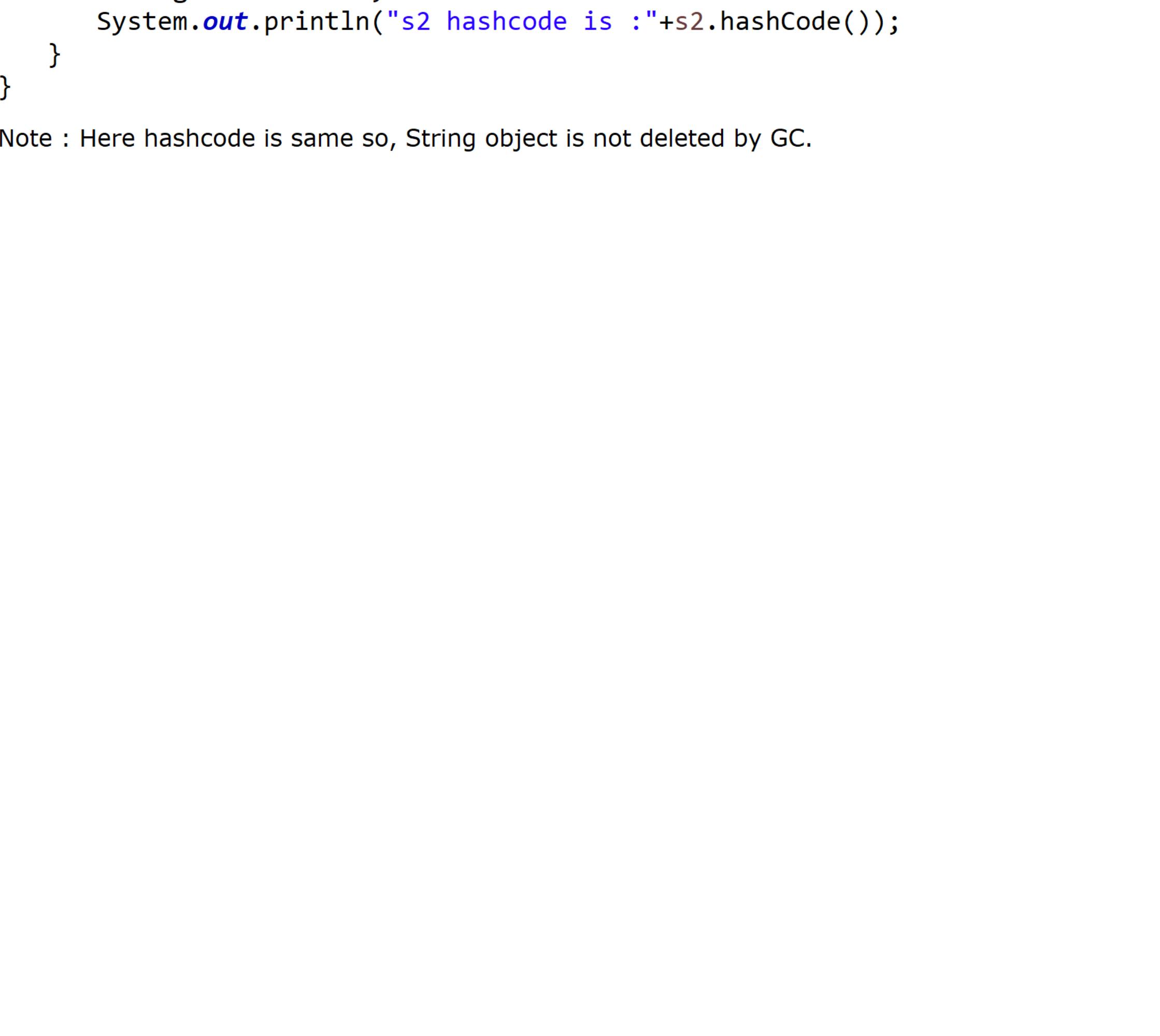
    static
    {
        out = new PrintStream(); //PrintStream object is created inside static block
    }

    System.out.println();
}
```



\* Whenever we create a String object by using **String literal** then the String object will be created in a very special memory area called **SCP** (String Constant Pool) area.

\* Actually to place the String object inside the SCP area, JVM internally call a method called **intern()** method.



The following are the reason so, java made String Object as a immutable Object :

- 1) In SCP Area, String objects are referred by multiple reference variables so, if any of the reference variable will modify the String Object value then it would be very difficult for the another reference variables pointing to same String object to get the original value.
- 2) While working with HashMap object in collection framework, the key of HashMap should be immutable type. To support this concept of HashMap, **String and Wrapper classes are immutable**
- 3) Whenever we perform any operation on the existing String object in the SCP Area then a new String object will be created (due to immutability). It will enhance the reusability of String which are already available in the SCP Area.

WAP in Java that describes String objects created by using String literals are not eligible for Garbage Collector.

```
package com.ravi.String_handling;

public class StringGC
{
    public static void main(String[] args) throws Exception
    {
        String s1 = "Java";
        System.out.println("s1 Hashcode is :" + s1.hashCode());

        s1 = null;

        System.gc(); //calling Garbage Collector Explicitly

        //Put the main method into 3 second sleeping mode
        Thread.sleep(5000);
        System.out.println("Main wake up after 5 sec");

        String s2 = "Java";
        System.out.println("s2 hashcode is :" + s2.hashCode());
    }
}
```

Note : Here hashCode is same so, String object is not deleted by GC.