



Einführung in die Programmierung Introduction to Programming

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Exercise Session 5



- Reference types vs. expanded types
- Assignment
- Basic types
- Local variables
- Qualified and unqualified calls
- Entities and variables: summary

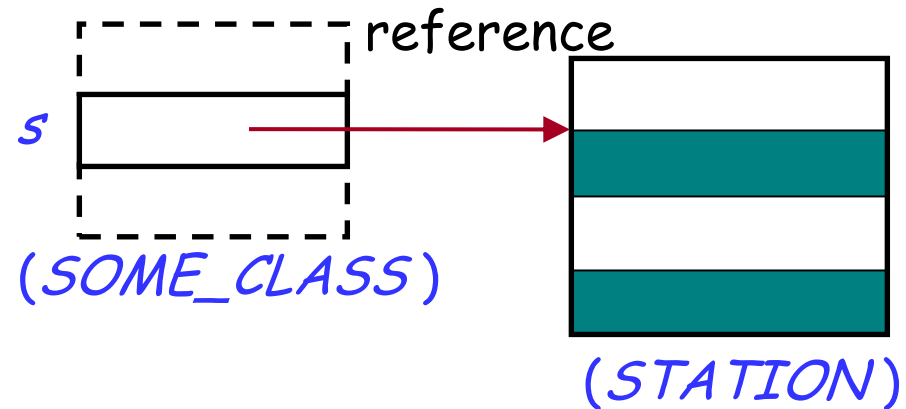
Two kinds of types



Reference types: value of any entity is a reference.

Example:

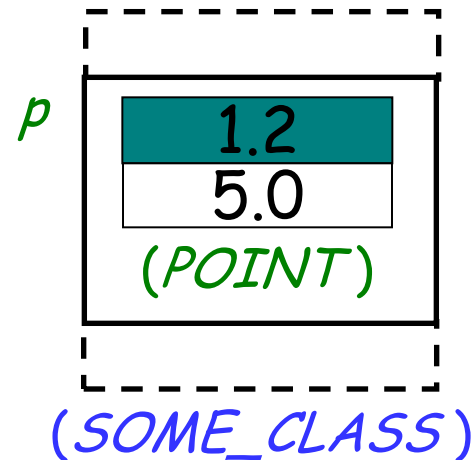
s: STATION



Expanded types: value of an entity is an object.

Example:

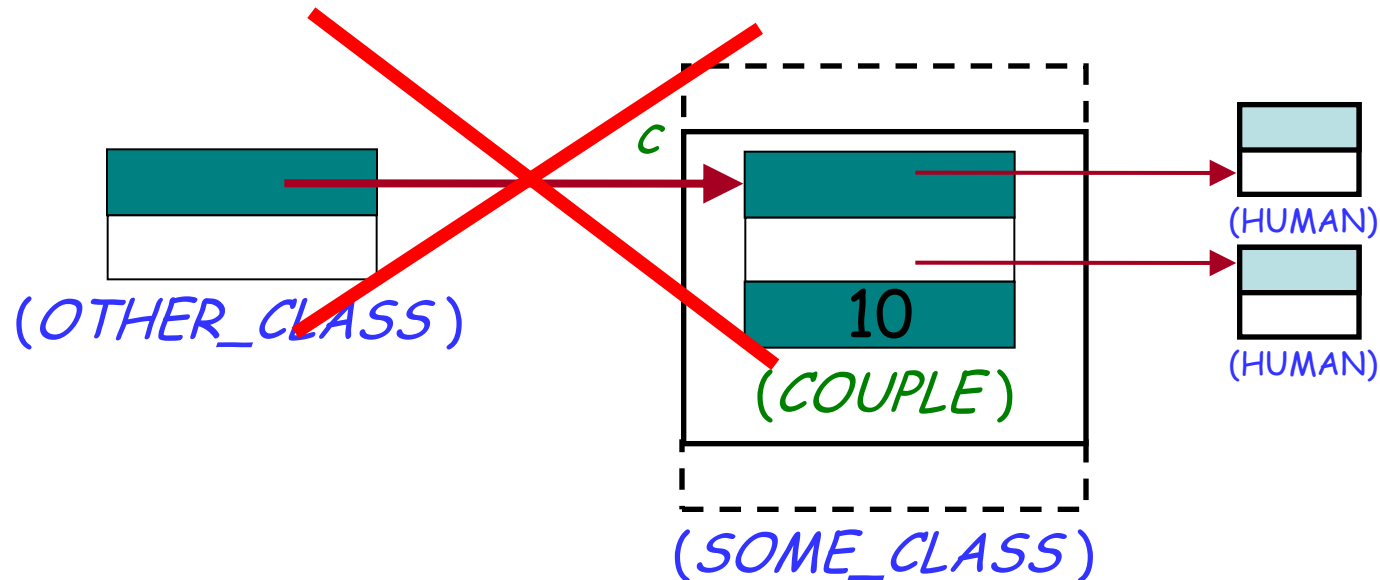
p: POINT



Who can reference what?

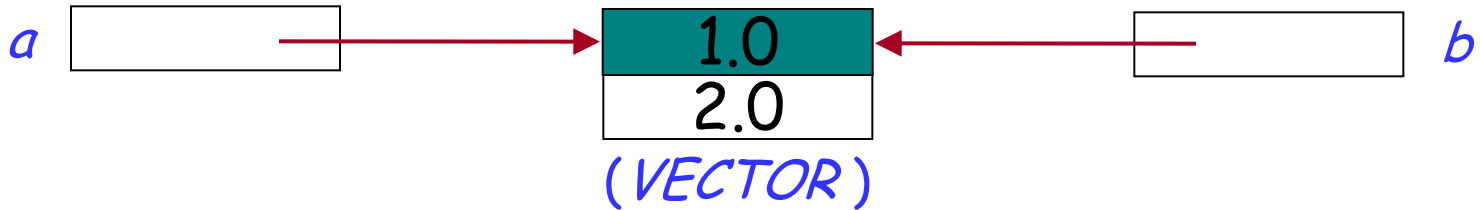


Objects of expanded types can contain references to other objects...



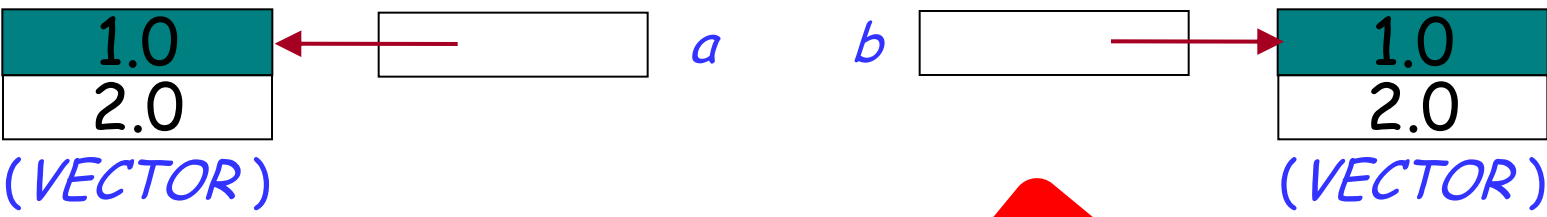
... but they cannot be referenced by other objects!

Reference equality



$a = b?$

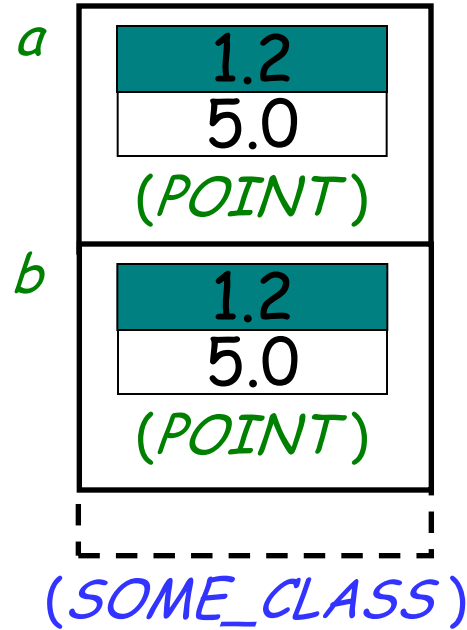
True



$a = b?$

False

Expanded entities equality



$a = b?$

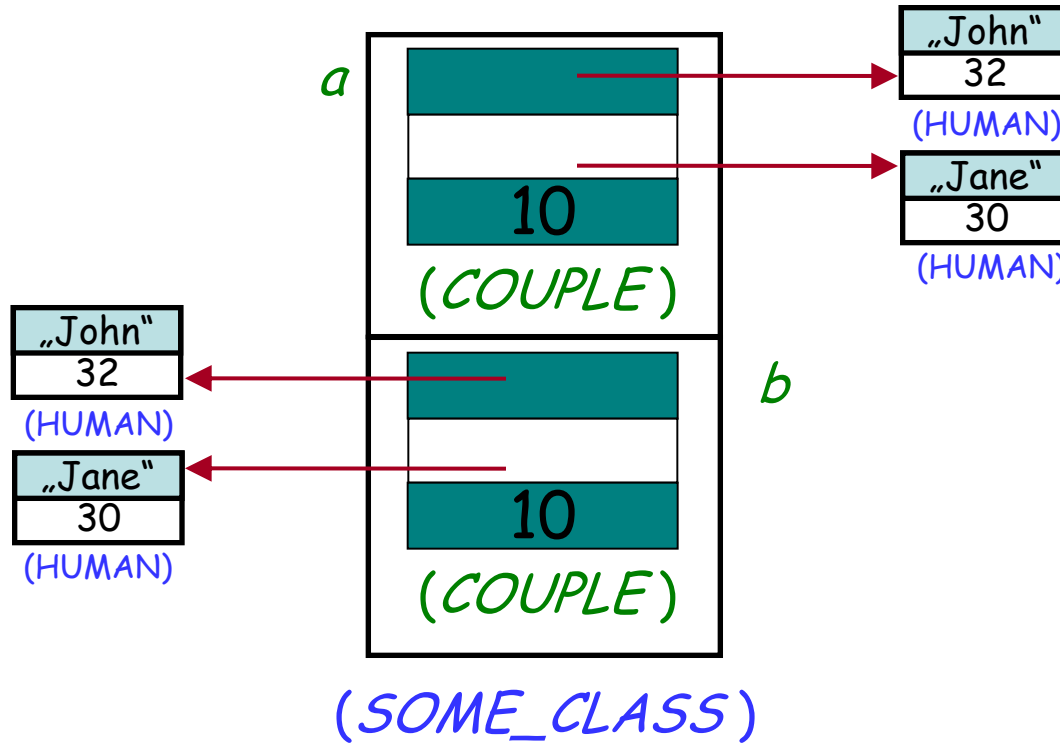
True

Entities of expanded types are compared by value!

Expanded entities equality



Hands-On



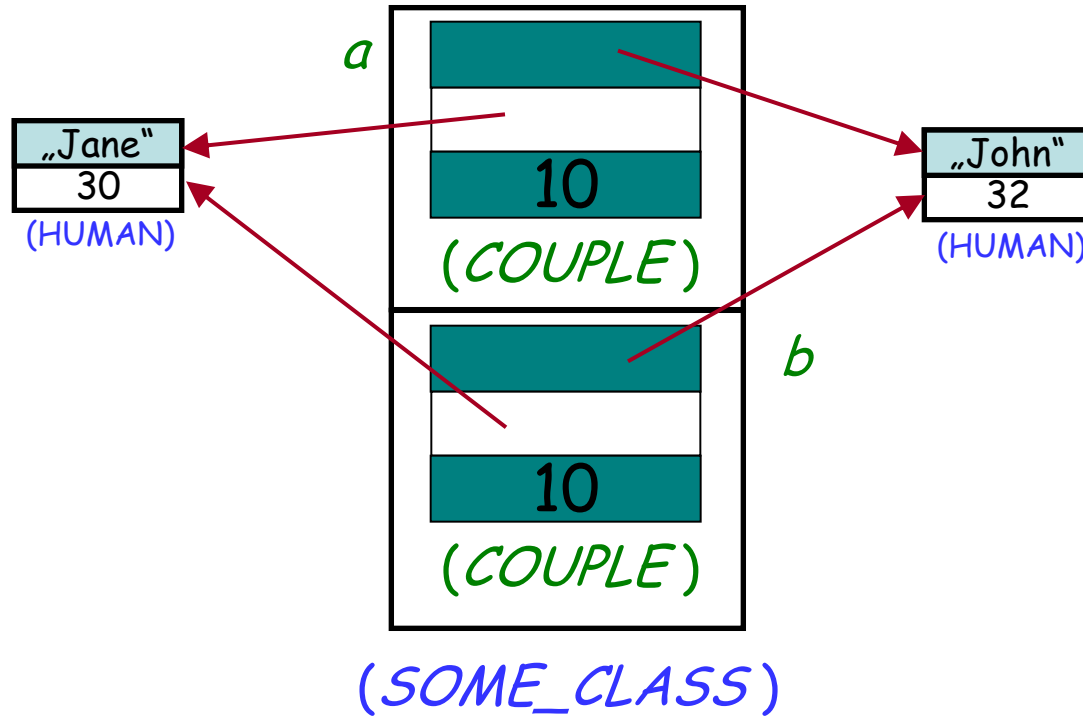
$a = b?$

False

Expanded entities equality



Hands-On



$a = b?$

True

➤ **Assignment** is an instruction (What other instructions do you know?)

➤ **Syntax:**

$$a := b$$

➤ where a is a variable (e.g., attribute) and b is an expression (e.g. argument, query call);

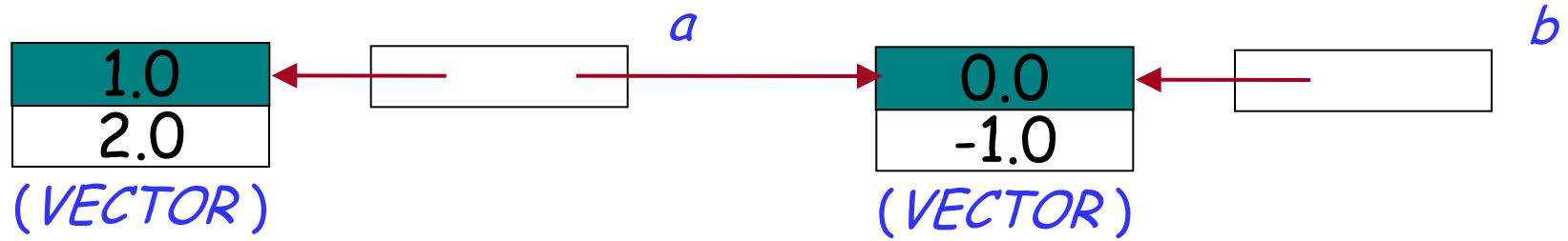
➤ a is called the **target** of the assignment and b - the **source**.

➤ **Semantics:**

➤ after the assignment a equals b ($a = b$);

➤ the value of b is not changed by the assignment.

Reference assignment

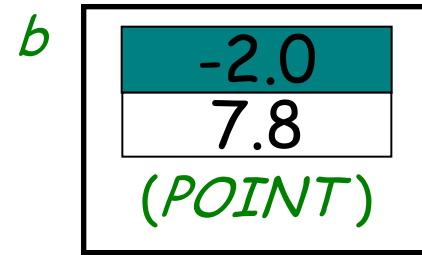
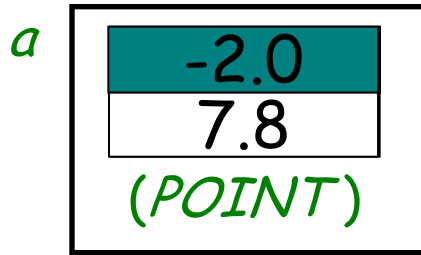


$a := b$

a references the same object as *b*:

$a = b$

Expanded assignment



a := b

The value of *b* is copied to *a*, but again:

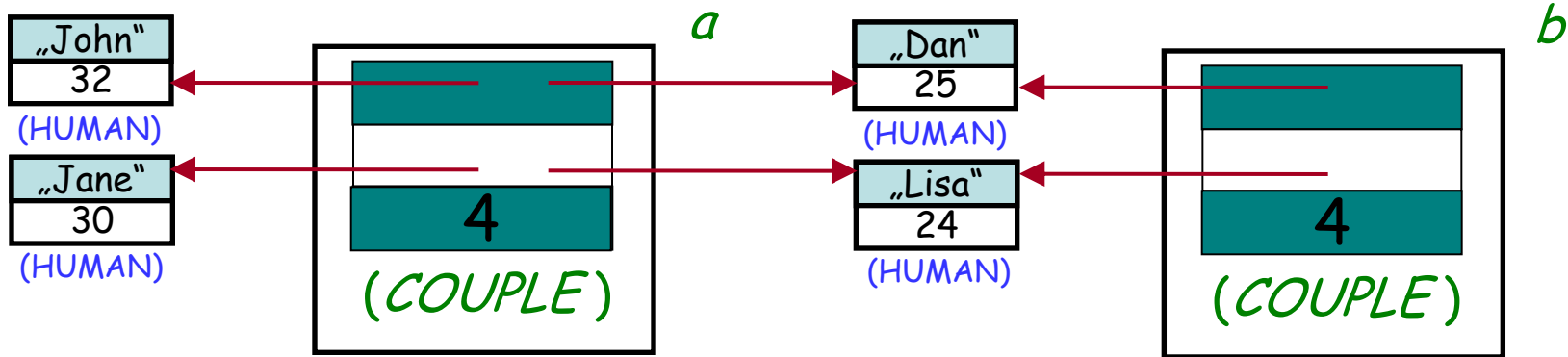
a = b

Assignment



Hands-On

Explain graphically the effect of an assignment:



$a := b$

Here **COUPLE** is an expanded class, **HUMAN** is a reference class

- More general term than assignment
- Includes:
 - Assignment

$a := b$

- Passing arguments to a routine

$f(a: \text{SOME_TYPE})$ is
do ... end

$f(b)$

- Same semantics

Dynamic aliasing

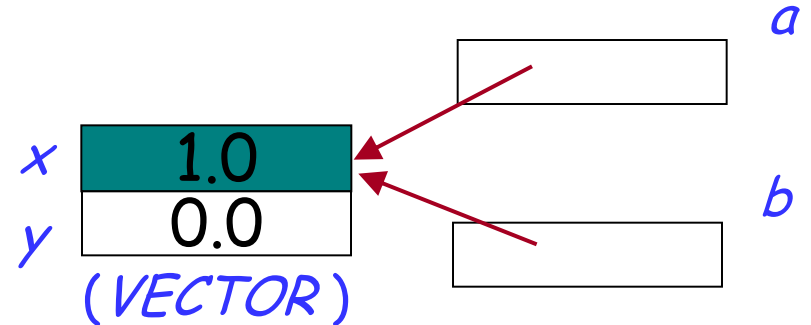


a, b: VECTOR

...

create b.make (1.0, 0.0)

a := b



- now *a* and *b* reference the same object (are two names or aliases of the same object)
- any change to the object attached to *a* will be reflected, when accessing it using *b*
- any change to the object attached to *b* will be reflected, when accessing it using *a*

Dynamic aliasing



Hands-On

What are the values of *a.x*, *a.y*, *b.x* and *b.y* after executing instructions 1-4?

a, b: VECTOR

...

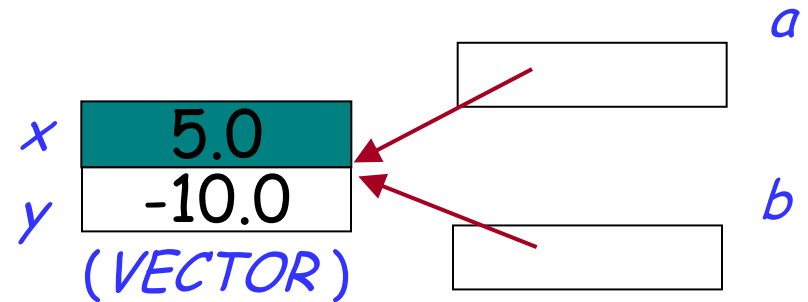
create *a.make* (-1.0, 2.0)

1 create *b.make* (1.0, 0.0)

2 *a := b*

3 *b.set_x*(5.0)

4 *a.set_y*(-10.0)



Where do expanded types come from?



To get an expanded type, declare a class with keyword **expanded**:

expanded class *COUPLE*

feature -- *Access*

man, woman: HUMAN

Reference

years_together: INTEGER

?

end

Now all the entities of type *COUPLE* will automatically become expanded:

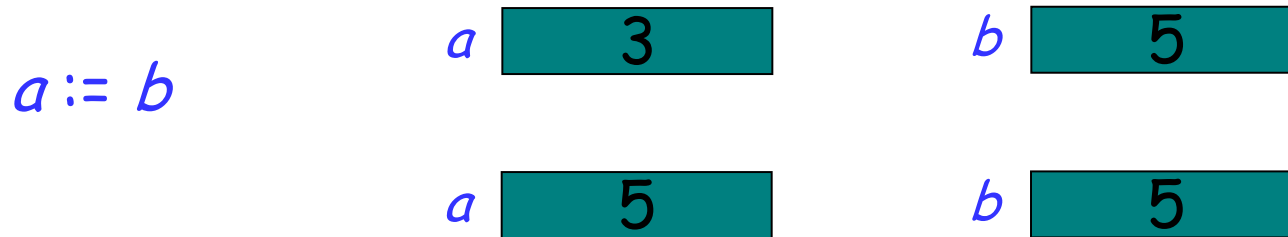
pitt_and_jolie: COUPLE

Expanded

Basic types



- So called basic types (*BOOLEAN, INTEGER, NATURAL, REAL, CHARACTER, STRING*) in Eiffel are classes - just like all other types
- Most of them are expanded...



- ... and immutable (they do not contain commands to change the state of their instances)...

a := a + b instead of *a.add(b)*

Another name for the same feature

Basic types



... their only privilege is to use **manifest constants** to construct their instances:

b: BOOLEAN

x: INTEGER

c: CHARACTER

s: STRING

...

b := True

x := 5 **-- instead of create *x.make_five***

c := 'c'

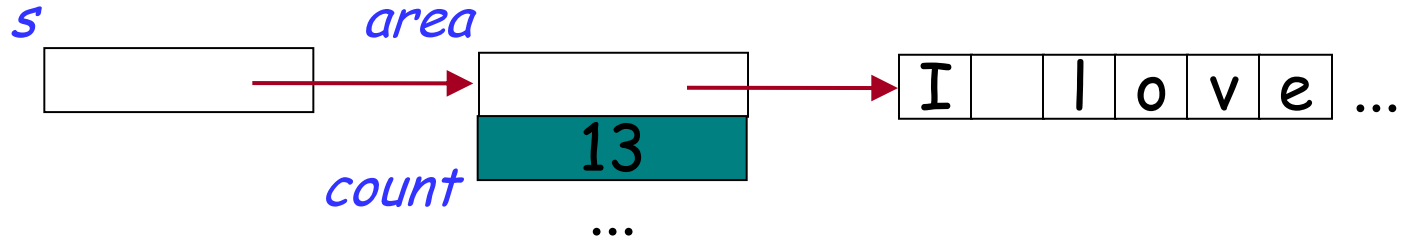
s := "I love Eiffel"

Strings are a bit different



Strings in Eiffel are **not** expanded...

s: *STRING*



... and **not** immutable

s := "I love Eiffel"

s.append(" very much!")

Initialization

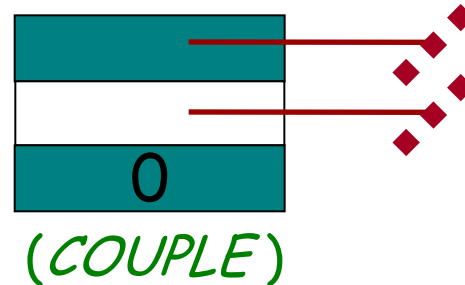


Default value of any **reference** type is **Void**

Default values of **basic expanded** types are:

- **False** for **BOOLEAN**
- 0 for numeric types (**INTEGER, NATURAL, REAL**)
- "null" character (its **code** = 0) for **CHARACTER**

Default value of a **non-basic expanded** type is an object, whose fields have default values of their types



Initialization



Hands-On

What is the default value for the following classes?

expanded class *POINT*
feature *x, y. REAL* end

<i>x</i>	0.0
<i>y</i>	0.0

(*POINT*)

class *VECTOR*
feature *x, y. REAL* end

Void

STRING

Void

Custom initialization for expanded types



- Expanded classes must be creatable in the default way

```
expanded class POINT  
create make  
feature make do x := 5.0; y := 5.0 end  
...  
end
```

Incorrect

- But you can use a trick

```
expanded class POINT  
inherit ANY  
  redefine default_create  
feature  
  default_create  
  do  
    x := 5.0; y := 5.0  
  end  
end  
end
```

Local variables



➤ Some variables are only used by a certain routine (examples from your last assignment?)

➤ Declare them as local:

feature

f (*arg1*: *A*; ...)

require ...

local

x, y: *B*

z: *C*

do ... end

ensure ...

end



Attributes:

- are declared anywhere inside a feature clause, but outside other features
- are visible anywhere inside the class

Formal arguments:

- are declared after the feature name
- are only visible inside the feature body and its contracts

Local variables:

- are declared in a local clause inside the feature declaration
- are only visible inside the feature body

Compilation error? (1)



Hands-On

```
class PERSON
feature
  name: STRING

  set_name(a_name: STRING)
  do
    name := a_name
  end
  exchange_names(other: PERSON)
  local
    s: STRING
  do
    s := other.name
    other.set_name(name)
    set_name(s)
  end
  print_with_semicolon
  do
    create s.make_from_string(name)
    s.append(';')
    print(s)
  end
end
end
```

Error: this variable was not declared

Compilation error? (2)



Hands-On

```
class PERSON
feature
```

```
...      -- name and set_name as before
```

```
exchange_names(other: PERSON)
```

```
  local
```

```
    s: STRING
```

```
  do
```

```
    s := other.name
```

```
    other.set_name(name)
```

```
    set_name(s)
```

```
  end
```

```
print_with_semicolon
```

```
  local
```

```
    s: STRING
```

```
  do
```

```
    create s.make_from_string(name)
```

```
    s.append(';')
```

```
    print(s)
```

```
  end
```

```
end
```

OK: two different local variables in two routines

Compilation error? (3)



Hands-On

```
class PERSON
feature
  ...      -- name and set_name as before

  s: STRING

  exchange_names(other: PERSON)
  do
    s := other.name
    other.set_name(name)
    set_name(s)
  end

  s: STRING

  print_with_semicolon
  do
    create s.make_from_string(name)
    s.append(';')
    print(s)
  end

end
```

Error: an attribute with the same name was already defined

Compilation error? (4)



Hands-On

```
class PERSON
feature
  ...      -- name and set_name as before

  exchange_names(other: PERSON)
  do
    s := other.name
    other.set_name(name)
    set_name(s)
  end

  print_with_semicolon
  do
    create s.make_from_string(name)
    s.append(';')
    print(s)
  end

  s: STRING
end
```

OK: a single attribute
used in both routine



- Which one of the two correct versions (2 and 4) do you like more? Why?
- Describe the conditions under which it is better to use a local variable instead of an attribute and vice versa

Hands-On

- Inside every function you can use the predefined local variable **Result** (you needn't and shouldn't declare it)
- The return value of a function is whatever value the **Result** variable has at the end of the function execution
- At the beginning of routine's body **Result** (as well as regular local variables) is initialized with the default value of its type
- Every regular local variable is declared with some type; and what is the type of **Result**?

It's the function return type!

Compilation error? (5)



Hands-On

```
class PERSON
feature
```

```
...      -- name and set_name as before
exchange_names(other: PERSON)
do
    Result := other.name
    other.set_name(name)
    set_name(Result)
end
```

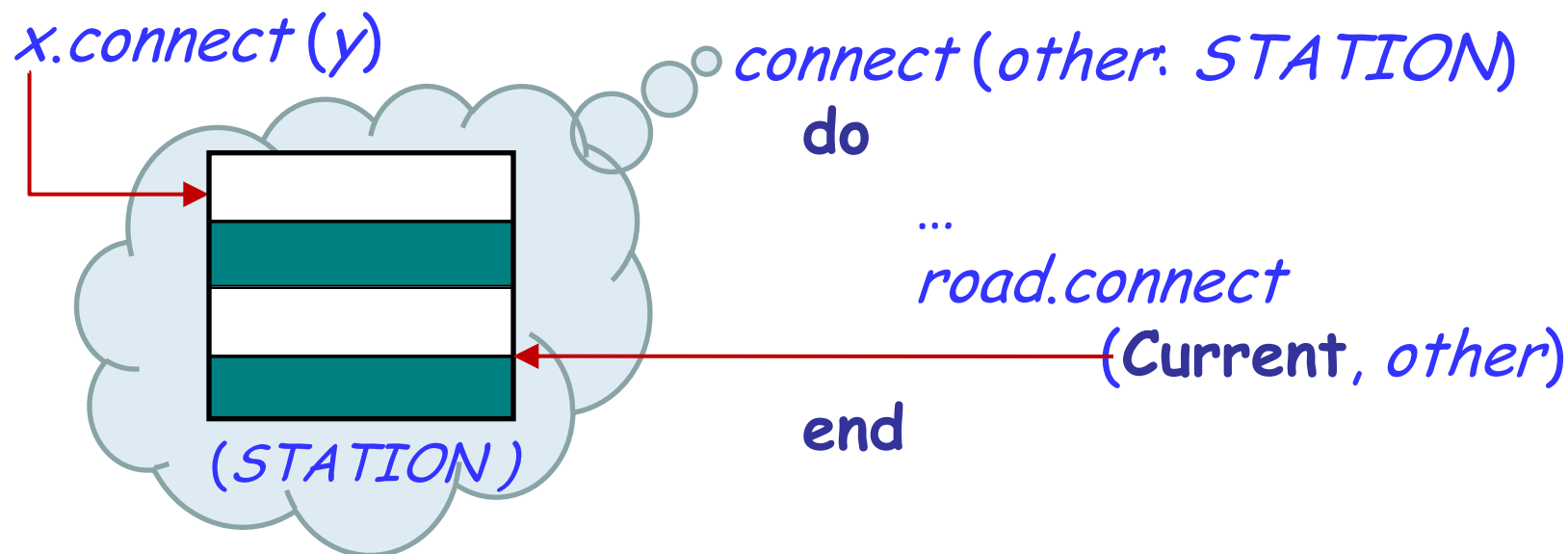
Error: Result can not be used in a procedure

```
name_with_semicolon: STRING
```

```
do
    create Result.make_from_string(name)
    Result.append(';')
    print(Result)
end
```

```
end
```

- In object-oriented computation each routine call is performed on a certain object
- Inside the routine we can access this object using the predefined entity **Current**



- What is the type of **Current**?



- If the target of a feature call is **Current**, it is common to omit it:

$f(a)$

- Such a call is **unqualified**
- Otherwise, if the target of a call is specified explicitly, the call is **qualified**

$x.f(a)$

Qualified or unqualified?



Hands-On

Are the following feature calls qualified or unqualified? What are the targets of these calls?

1) $x.y$

qualified

2) x

unqualified

3) $f(x.a)$

unqualified

4) $x.y.z$

qualified

5) $x(y.f(a.b))$

unqualified

6) $f(x.a).y(b)$

qualified

7) **Current.x**

qualified

Assignment to attributes



- Direct assignment to an attribute is only allowed if an attribute is called in an unqualified way:

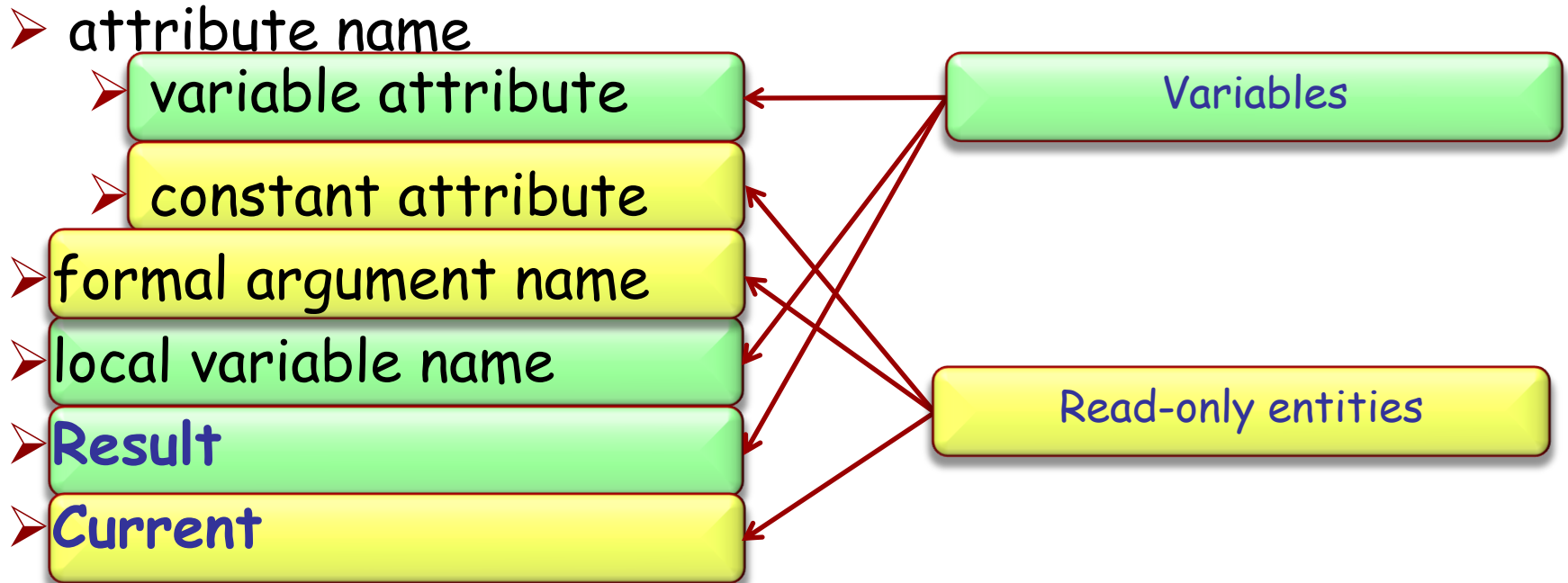
$y := 5$	OK
$x.y := 5$	Error
$\text{Current}.y := 5$	Error

- There are two main reasons for this rule:
 1. A client may not be aware of the restrictions put on the attribute value and interdependencies with other attributes => class invariant violation (Example?)
 2. Guess! (Hint: uniform access principle)

Entity: the final definition

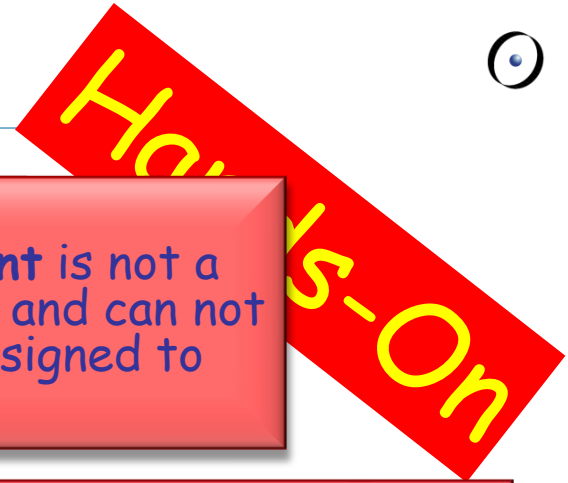


An **entity** in program text is a "name" that *directly* denotes an object. More precisely: it is one of



Only a **variable** can be used in a creation instruction and in the left part of an assignment

Find 5 errors



```
class VECTOR
feature
  x, y: REAL

  copy_from (other: VECTOR)
  do
  end

  copy_to (other: VECTOR)
  do
  end

  reset
  do
  end

end
```

```
Current := other
```

```
create other
other.x := x
other.y := y
```

```
create Current
```

Current is not a variable and can not be assigned to

other is a formal argument (not a variable) and thus can not be used in creation

other.x is a qualified attribute call (not a variable) and thus can not be assigned to

the same reason for *other.y*

Current is not a variable and thus can not be used in creation