Diagnosing Java Code: The Impostor Type bug pattern

Address	{value_address}
Contact Person	{value_contact_person}
Mobile Number	{value_mobile_number}
Email	{value_email}

When special tags in fields are used to distinguish between types of objects, errors are possible in which a tag mislabels the associated data -- a bug pattern known as the Impostor Type. This article examines the symptoms and causes of this bug, defines ways to prevent this error from occurring, and discusses a tempting hybrid implementation that does not use impostor types but, in the end, turns out to have many of the same weaknesses. Article includes code snipets.

For more details, please visit http://scripts.goclixy.com/diagnosing-java-code-the-impostor-type-bug-pattern-13680