

object.unapply - The Magic Behind Scala's Pattern Matching

- **unapply** is tuple-ware (h/t ?name?)
 - `case class Extract(a: String, b: Int)`
 - `def unapply(e: Extract) = Some(Tuple2(e.a, e.b))`
- Pattern Matching Flavours
 1. match case
 - `x match { case Extract(a, _) => a }`
 - Scala does type checking and casting for you.
 2. variable definition
 - `val Extract(a, _) = x`
 - Beware of the `scala.MatchError` `RuntimeException`
 3. case as partial function
 - `list collect { case Extract(a, _) => a }`
 - `MatchError` cannot occur
 4. for *comprehension* expression
 - `for (Extract(a , _) <- ...) yield a`
- I think of `unapply` as turning an object inside-out. With `apply`, one creates an object from parts, whereas with `unapply` you get the parts of which the object was made.
- Matching is a recursive process of:
 1. `unapply`
 2. Is it `equals()`
 3. Rinse / repeat (with type checking and variable binding along the way).