Step by Step Guidance to setup a Java 6 compliant environment for the ODM V8.5+ Rule Designer
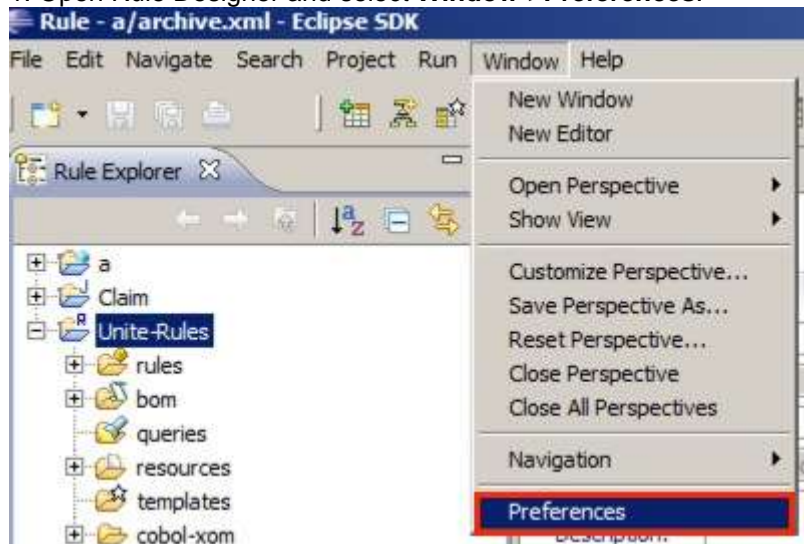
Effective with Version 8.5, the default Java environment for the IBM Operational Decision Manager, IBM Operational Decision Manager for z/OS and IBM Business Rules for z/OS Rule Designers became Java 7. While this is satisfactory for a wide variety of decision management execution environments, there are situations where a Java 6 environment is required. One example is using the zRule Execution Server in a CICS V4.2 environment.

Both Java 6 and Java 7 are supported environments on all platforms for the ODM and Business Rules Rule products.
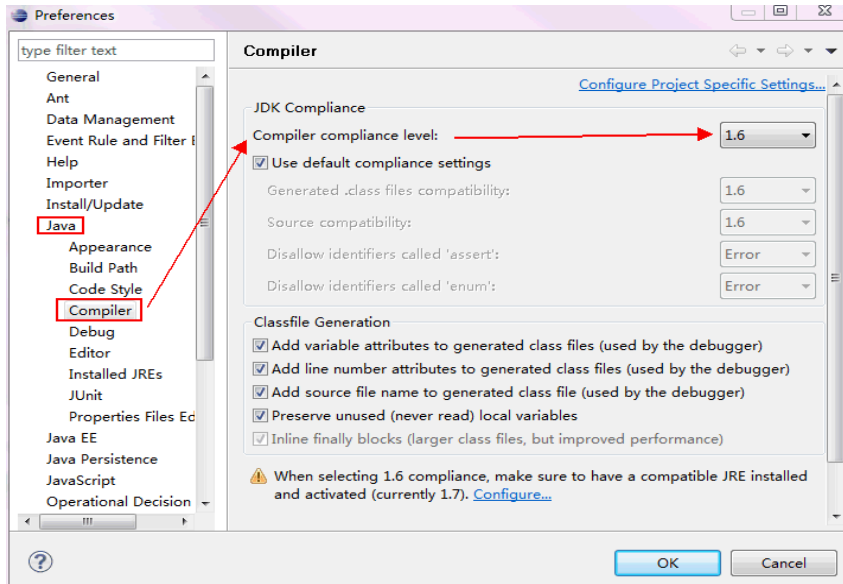
This document has been provided to guide clients changing their Rule Designer Java environment from Java 7 to Java 6 to build rules for execution in zRules Execution Server in a CICS V4.2 environment.

Change the Java compiler compliance level to 1.6 in Rule Designer

1. Open Rule Designer and select **Window->Preferences**:

2. Expand the plus next to **Java** and click **Complier,** change **Compiler compliance level** from **1.7** to **1.6**

3. Click **OK** and the workspace will be rebuilt with the new Java compliance settings.
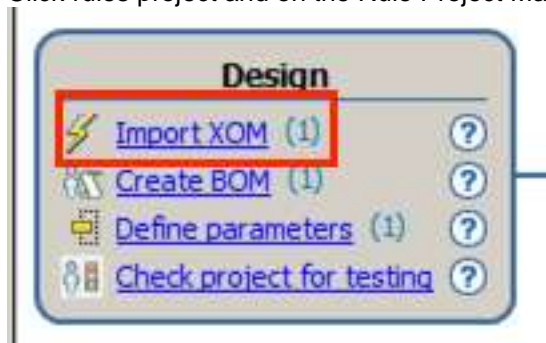
If you are developing a new rule project, the Java environment set-up work is done and you can start your rule project development for use in a CICS V4.2 server.

Migrate an existing rule project to be compatible with zRules execution server on CICS 4.2 which requires Java6

If you already developed a rule project using the default Java compliance level 1.7 in Rule Designer, you would encounter a "Java bad version" issue at runtime when invoking rules in a zRules execution server on CICS 4.2.
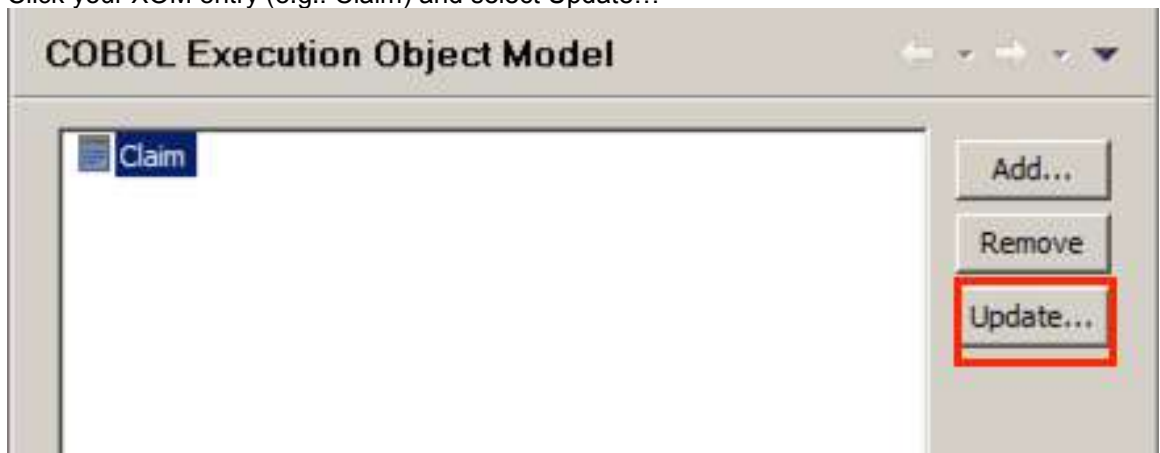
To resolve issue, you can follow these migration steps:
1. Change the Java compiler compliance level to 1.6 as described in previous section.
2. Do a COBOL XOM update (or a COBOL Enabled BOM update) to make sure the generated Java XOM and marshaller are built at a Java 1.6 compliance level. To do this, one can do the following:
   a) Click rules project and on the Rule Project Map, click Import XOM

b) Click COBOL (or PL/I) execution object model, then press OK.

c) Click your XOM entry (e.g.: Claim) and select Update…

d) Run through the wizard and it will rebuild the Java XOM and the marshaller at a Java 6 compliance level.
3. Re-deploy your Rule App with the updated rule project to a zRules Execution Server on a CICS 4.2 server.
4. Run your CICS transaction to trigger rule invocation with updated ruleset.

With above four steps, you should be able to resolve the "Java bad version" issue caused by a Java version mismatch between the default Java7 environment in the ODM V8.5 Rule Designer and zRules Execution Server on CICS 4.2 which requires Java 6.