

Session 2: Syntax, Variables, Operators, Functions

Softwaretechnologie: Java I

Nils Reiter

`nils.reiter@uni-koeln.de`

October 19, 2022

```
1 public class Demo {
2
3     public static void main(String[] args) {
4
5         System.out.println("Welcome to the University of Cologne!");
6
7     }
8
9 }
```

Java Syntax

- ▶ Identifiers: Names of things
 - ▶ Case-sensitive
 - ▶ Only letters, underscore and digits, but it can't start with a digit
 - ▶ We will define identifiers ourselves
- ▶ Code blocks: Curly braces `{ ... }`
- ▶ Literals: Values that we write into the code
- ▶ `System.out.println("Welcome ...")`
 - ▶ Three identifiers, joined with a period
 - ▶ Round braces
 - ▶ A literal value
 - ➔ A function call with a single argument
- ▶ Semicolon `;`: Ends a statement/command

Java Syntax

- ▶ Identifiers: Names of things
 - ▶ Case-sensitive
 - ▶ Only letters, underscore and digits, but it can't start with a digit
 - ▶ We will define identifiers ourselves
- ▶ Code blocks: Curly braces `{ ... }`
- ▶ Literals: Values that we write into the code
- ▶ `System.out.println("Welcome ...")`
 - ▶ Three identifiers, joined with a period
 - ▶ Round braces
 - ▶ A literal value
 - ➔ A function call with a single argument
- ▶ Semicolon `;`: Ends a statement/command

- ▶ Types of statements
 - ▶ Function call

Formatting

▶ Java does not care about indentation or line breaks

▶ This:

```
1 public class Demo { public static void main(String[] args) { System.out.println("Welc
```

is a perfectly fine Java program

Formatting

- ▶ Java does not care about indentation or line breaks

- ▶ This:

```
1 public class Demo { public static void main(String[] args) { System.out.println("Welc
```

is a perfectly fine Java program

- ▶ Human programmers care about indentation and line breaks
- ▶ Programming: Dealing with complexity
 - ▶ Sensible formatting is one aspect

Formatting

- ▶ Java does not care about indentation or line breaks

- ▶ This:

```
1 public class Demo { public static void main(String[] args) { System.out.println("Welc
```

is a perfectly fine Java program

- ▶ Human programmers care about indentation and line breaks
- ▶ Programming: Dealing with complexity
 - ▶ Sensible formatting is one aspect
- ➔ Format your code such that it reflects the logic of the code

Variables

- ▶ Placeholders for values
- ▶ Identifier as name, but unique
- ▶ Can change over time
- ▶ Are typed: They can only hold values of one type
- ▶ Variables need to be declared before they can be used

```
1 String s; // Declaration of a variable
2 s = "Welcome ..."; // Assignment of a
3                 // value to the variable
4 System.out.println(s);
```


Variables

- ▶ Placeholders for values
- ▶ Identifier as name, but unique
- ▶ Can change over time
- ▶ Are typed: They can only hold values of one type
- ▶ Variables need to be declared before they can be used

```
1 String s; // Declaration of a variable
2 s = "Welcome ..."; // Assignment of a
3           // value to the variable
4 System.out.println(s);
```

- ▶ Types of statement(s)
 - ▶ Function call
 - ▶ Declaration
 - ▶ Assignment

Variables

- ▶ Placeholders for values
- ▶ Identifier as name, but unique
- ▶ Can change over time
- ▶ Are typed: They can only hold values of one type
- ▶ Variables need to be declared before they can be used

```
1 String s; // Declaration of a variable
2 s = "Welcome ..."; // Assignment of a
3                 // value to the variable
4 System.out.println(s);
```

```
1 String s = "Welcome ..."; // Declaration
2                               // + Assignment
3 System.out.println(s);
```

- ▶ Types of statement(s)
 - ▶ Function call
 - ▶ Declaration
 - ▶ Assignment

Variables

- ▶ Placeholders for values
- ▶ Identifier as name, but unique
- ▶ Can change over time
- ▶ Are typed: They can only hold values of one type
- ▶ Variables need to be declared before they can be used

```
1 String s; // Declaration of a variable
2 s = "Welcome ..."; // Assignment of a
3                 // value to the variable
4 System.out.println(s);
```

```
1 String s = "Welcome ..."; // Declaration
2                               // + Assignment
3 System.out.println(s);
```

- ▶ Types of statement(s)
 - ▶ Function call
 - ▶ Declaration
 - ▶ Assignment
 - ▶ Declaration+Assignment

Assignment Statements

- ▶ Assign some value to some variable
- ▶ Value can be specified literally
 - ▶ E.g. `String s = "Welcome ...";`

Assignment Statements

- ▶ Assign some value to some variable
- ▶ Value can be specified literally
 - ▶ E.g. `String s = "Welcome ...";`
- ▶ Value can be computed
 - ▶ E.g. `int i = 5 + 5;`
 - ▶ Variable `i` contains the (int) value 10
 - ▶ (Int)eger: Natural numbers from -2147483648 to 2147483647

Assignment Statements

- ▶ Assign some value to some variable
- ▶ Value can be specified literally
 - ▶ E.g. `String s = "Welcome ...";`
- ▶ Value can be computed
 - ▶ E.g. `int i = 5 + 5;`
 - ▶ Variable `i` contains the (int) value 10
 - ▶ (Int)eger: Natural numbers from -2147483648 to 2147483647
- ▶ Right side of an assignment is an *expression*

Assignment Statements

- ▶ Assign some value to some variable
- ▶ Value can be specified literally
 - ▶ E.g. `String s = "Welcome ...";`
- ▶ Value can be computed
 - ▶ E.g. `int i = 5 + 5;`
 - ▶ Variable `i` contains the (int) value 10
 - ▶ (Int)eger: Natural numbers from -2147483648 to 2147483647
- ▶ Right side of an assignment is an *expression*

- ▶ Expressions can be
 - ▶ Literal values
 - ▶ Literal values with operators

Assignment Statements

- ▶ Assign some value to some variable
- ▶ Value can be specified literally
 - ▶ E.g. `String s = "Welcome ...";`
- ▶ Value can be computed
 - ▶ E.g. `int i = 5 + 5;`
 - ▶ Variable `i` contains the (int) value 10
 - ▶ (Int)eger: Natural numbers from -2147483648 to 2147483647
- ▶ Right side of an assignment is an *expression*
 - ▶ $\text{EXPRESSION} := \text{EXPRESSION} \underbrace{\text{OPERATOR EXPRESSION}}_{\text{optional}}$

- ▶ Expressions can be
 - ▶ Literal values
 - ▶ Literal values with operators

More about Expressions

Expressions

- ▶ can be variables `int j = 5 + i;`

- ▶ Expressions can be
 - ▶ Literal values
 - ▶ Literal values with operators
 - ▶ Variables

More about Expressions

Expressions

- ▶ can be variables `int j = 5 + i;`
- ▶ can be nested `int j = 5 * 5 + i;`
 - ▶ Mathematical operator precedence (“Punkt vor Strich”)

- ▶ Expressions can be
 - ▶ Literal values
 - ▶ Literal values with operators
 - ▶ Variables

More about Expressions

Expressions

- ▶ can be variables `int j = 5 + i;`
- ▶ can be nested `int j = 5 * 5 + i;`
 - ▶ Mathematical operator precedence (“Punkt vor Strich”)
- ▶ can be grouped to influence preference `int j = 5 * (5 + i);`
 - ▶ Our own operator precedence according to parentheses

- ▶ Expressions can be
 - ▶ Literal values
 - ▶ Literal values with operators
 - ▶ Variables

More about Expressions

Expressions

- ▶ can be variables `int j = 5 + i;`
- ▶ can be nested `int j = 5 * 5 + i;`
 - ▶ Mathematical operator precedence (“Punkt vor Strich”)
- ▶ can be grouped to influence preference `int j = 5 * (5 + i);`
 - ▶ Our own operator precedence according to parentheses

- ▶ Expressions can be
 - ▶ Literal values
 - ▶ Literal values with operators
 - ▶ Variables

Expressions can be executed and yield a (single, clearly defined) value

demo

More int-Operators

<code>+</code>	Addition	<code>5 + 5 //10</code>
<code>-</code>	Subtraction	<code>5 - 5 //0</code>
<code>*</code>	Multiplication	<code>5 * 5 //25</code>

<code>/</code>	Integer Division	<code>5 / 5 //1</code>
		<code>5 / 4 //1</code>
		<code>4 / 5 //0</code>
<code>%</code>	Modulo	<code>5 % 5 //0</code>
		<code>5 % 4 //1</code>
		<code>4 % 5 //4</code>

More int-Operators

<code>+</code>	Addition	<code>5 + 5 //10</code>
<code>-</code>	Subtraction	<code>5 - 5 //0</code>
<code>*</code>	Multiplication	<code>5 * 5 //25</code>

<code>/</code>	Integer Division	<code>5 / 5 //1</code>
		<code>5 / 4 //1</code>
		<code>4 / 5 //0</code>
<code>%</code>	Modulo	<code>5 % 5 //0</code>
		<code>5 % 4 //1</code>
		<code>4 % 5 //4</code>

All these operators operate on two `int`-values and yield an `int`-value

Comparison Operators

Symbol	Description	Example
<	less than	<code>3 < 5 //true</code>
>	greater than	<code>3 > 5 //false</code>
==	equal	<code>3 == 5 //false</code>

Comparison Operators

Symbol	Description	Example
<	less than	<code>3 < 5 //true</code>
>	greater than	<code>3 > 5 //false</code>
==	equal	<code>3 == 5 //false</code>

▶ Important difference

- ▶ `==`: Comparison operator
- ▶ `=`: Assignment operator

Comparison Operators

Symbol	Description	Example
<	less than	<code>3 < 5 //true</code>
>	greater than	<code>3 > 5 //false</code>
==	equal	<code>3 == 5 //false</code>

- ▶ Important difference
 - ▶ `==`: Comparison operator
 - ▶ `=`: Assignment operator
- ▶ New type: `boolean`
 - ▶ Only two possible values: `true` or `false`

Comparison Operators

Symbol	Description	Example
<	less than	<code>3 < 5 //true</code>
>	greater than	<code>3 > 5 //false</code>
==	equal	<code>3 == 5 //false</code>

- ▶ Important difference
 - ▶ `==`: Comparison operator
 - ▶ `=`: Assignment operator
- ▶ New type: `boolean`
 - ▶ Only two possible values: `true` or `false`

More operators

Variables and Scope

- ▶ Most variables have limited validity: Their scope
- ▶ Code blocks define scope boundaries
- ▶ Scope is nested: We can access upwards, but not downwards

Variables and Scope

- ▶ Most variables have limited validity: Their scope
- ▶ Code blocks define scope boundaries
- ▶ Scope is nested: We can access upwards, but not downwards

```
1 public class Scope {  
2  
3     public static void main(String[] args) {  
4         int a = 5;  
5         int b = 17;  
6     }  
7 }
```

Functions and Methods

- ▶ For the time being, we will use the terms function and method interchangeably
- ▶ Purpose: Code structuring
- ▶ Functions: A named code block to be defined once and called multiple times

Functions and Methods

- ▶ For the time being, we will use the terms function and method interchangeably
- ▶ Purpose: Code structuring
- ▶ Functions: A named code block to be defined once and called multiple times
- ▶ Function call: `FUNCTION_NAME (ARGUMENTS);`
 - ▶ E.g. `System.out.println("Welcome ...");`
- ▶ Function definition: `RETURN_TYPE FUNCTION_NAME (ARGUMENTS) CODE_BLOCK`

```
1 void myFunction(String s) {  
2     // some code  
3 }
```

demo

Return and Return Types

- ▶ Much like expressions, functions yield a value when executed
- ▶ The type needs to be known beforehand

`static int bla() { ... }`: This function returns an int value

`static boolean bla() { ... }`: This function returns a boolean value

`static String bla() { ... }`: This function returns a String value

- ▶ Functions without return value are specified to return `void`

`static void bla() { ... }`

Return and Return Types

- ▶ Much like expressions, functions yield a value when executed
- ▶ The type needs to be known beforehand

`static int bla() { ... }`: This function returns an int value

`static boolean bla() { ... }`: This function returns a boolean value

`static String bla() { ... }`: This function returns a String value

- ▶ Functions without return value are specified to return `void`

`static void bla() { ... }`

- ▶ Within the function body

- ▶ `return`-statement ends function, returns value

`return 5;`

Function Calls in Expressions and Statements

- ▶ Function calls can be used in expressions

```
1 int x = myFunction(17) + 2345 - myOtherFunction("Hello", true);
```

Function Calls in Expressions and Statements

- ▶ Function calls can be used in expressions

```
1 int x = myFunction(17) + 2345 - myOtherFunction("Hello", true);
```

- ▶ Expressions with a semicolon are statements

```
1 myFunction(15);  
2 5 + 17 / 123;  
3 System.out.println("Welcome ...");
```

▶ Types of statement(s)

- ▶ Expression + ;
 - ▶ Function call
 - ▶ Assignment
 - ▶ ...
- ▶ Declaration
- ▶ Decl. + Expression + ;

Arguments in Functions

- ▶ Functions can take arguments

```
static void myFunction(int x, String s, boolean b) { ... }
```

- ▶ Arguments are declared within the function (= in the scope of the function)

Arguments in Functions

- ▶ Functions can take arguments

```
static void myFunction(int x, String s, boolean b) { ... }
```

- ▶ Arguments are declared within the function (= in the scope of the function)
- ▶ Argument values must be passed in the defined order when calling the function

```
myFunction(7, "Hello", true);
```

Arguments in Functions

- ▶ Functions can take arguments

```
static void myFunction(int x, String s, boolean b) { ... }
```

- ▶ Arguments are declared within the function (= in the scope of the function)
- ▶ Argument values must be passed in the defined order when calling the function

```
myFunction(7, "Hello", true);
```

- ▶ Argument values can also be specified as expressions

```
myFunction(7 + 45, s, i < 5);
```

Section 1

Exercise

Exercise 02

- ▶ Fill in operators such that the expected result is computed
- ▶ Write functions
 - ▶ to calculate x^3
 - ▶ to compare a String and an int value