Session 6: Arrays and Strings

Softwaretechnologie: Java I

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Section 1

Exercise 5

Today

- New things
  - Arrays to store collections/sequences of things
  - Strings to store sequences of characters
- New concepts
  - Arrays and strings are reference types
  - First signs of object orientation

Section 2

Arrays

Introduction

- So far: Single variables store single values
  - `int i = 5; //one int value in one int variable`

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- Number of values is fixed
- All values are of the same type

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Array

- Stores a collection of values
- Number of values is fixed
- All values are of the same type
- Syntax: square brackets `[]`
  - `int[] arr = new int[5]; //five int values`

Using Arrays

- Array components are enumerated (0-base)

```
arr[0] //the first component of arr
arr[2] //the last component of arr, if arr has 3 components
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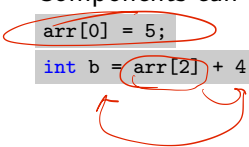
```

- Components can be used in expressions, similar to variable names

```
arr[0] = 5;
int b = arr[2] + 4;
```



Array Length

- The number of components of an array is fixed at run-time

```
1 int a = 5;
2 a = a + (int) Math.random();
3 int[] arr = new int[a];
```

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- There is no way to increase the length
  - ...except to create a new array and copy items from the old to the new
- Because the length is important, there is a way to access it: `arr.length`

demo

Array as a Type

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```
1 public static void main(String[] args) {
2   // ...
3 }
```

args.length

- As `main` is a function, `args` is an argument of type `String[]`
  - ➜ A collection of character sequences

Array Creation

- With `new`
  - `int[] a = new int[5];`
  - Filled with `0`
- As literal
  - `int[] a = new int[] {1, 2, 3};`
    - In this case, the type can be inferred, so we can skip `new int[3]` : `int[] a = {1, 2, 3};`
  - `someFunction(new int[] {1,2,3})` – literal array as argument

demo

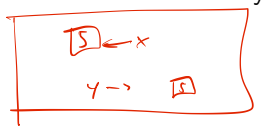
Primitive Data Types and Objects

- Two kinds of types
  - Primitive data types: Built into the language
    - Type names are reserved keywords in Java
    - Convention: Lower cased
  - Non-primitive data types ("reference types"): Established in the library
    - Type names are defined by library authors
    - Convention: Upper cased
    - Reference types can also be defined by us
      (in the form of classes, to be discussed later)

Array is a Reference Type

```
1 // Primitive type
2 int x = 5;
3 int y = x;
4 y = y + 2; // y now contains 7,
5            // x still 5
6
7 // Reference type
8 int[] a = {1,2,3};
9 int[] b = a;
10 a[0] = 0; // a and b are identical
```

- Primitive types: Values (of memory regions) are passed
- Reference types: References (to memory regions) are passed
  - If you change a reference type within a function, it's changed outside of the function
- Everything from now on is a reference type



Comparing Reference Types

```
1 int[] a = {1,2,3};
2 int[] b = {1,2,3};
3
4 if (a == b) {
5   System.out.println("Arrays are equal");
6 } else {
7   System.out.println("Arrays are not equal");
8 }
```

- Which output do we get?

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- If reference types are compared with `==` & co., we compare the memory location
  - Not the content
- To compare the content: `Arrays.equals(a1, a2)`

javadoc

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- If reference types are compared with `==` & co., we compare the memory location
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- To compare the content: `Arrays.equals(a1, a2)` javadoc
  - ⚠ Using some functions requires importing them first
    - Eclipse suggestions are mostly correct, more on this next week

demo

Array Copying

```
1 // Reference type
2 int[] a = {1,2,3};
3 int[] b = a; // does not create a copy of a
4 b[0] = 0;
5
6 int[] c = a.clone(); // creates a copy
7 c[2] = 10; // no change in a
```

- Copying an array: `someArray.clone()`
  - This is a method (note the parentheses)

. length

Methods and Fields

- `length` is stored with an array
  - Calling `someArray.length` does not execute code, it's just a variable access
- `clone()` is a function associated with this array
  - Calling `someArray.clone()` runs this function in the context of this array
  - Method: A function with benefits

Methods and Fields

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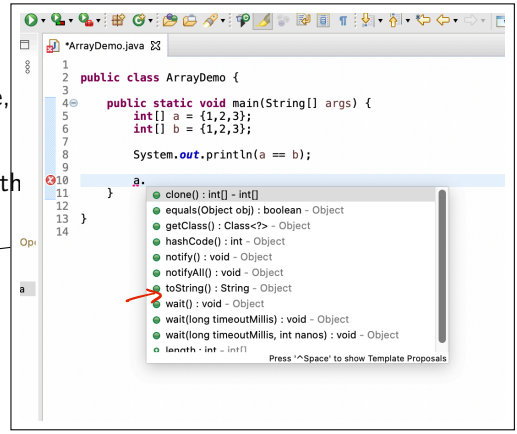
  - Method: A function with benefits
- Other methods are displayed by Eclipse



Array Patterns

Frequently used pattern:

```
1 for (int i = 0; i < array.length; i++) {
2   // access each array element with array[i]
3 }
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Two-dimensional array:

```
1 int[][] matrix = new int[17][25];
2 int[0][0] = 15;
3 for (int i = 0; i < matrix.length; i++) {
4   for (int j = 0; j < matrix[i].length; j++) {
5     // cells can be accessed with matrix[i][j]
6   }
7 }
```

Section 3

Strings

Introduction

- Represents character sequences
- A reference type
- Internally: An array of `char`-values (mostly)

```
1 String s = "Hi there!"; // String literal with double quotes
```

String Operations

Several regular operators have been re-defined for strings

- Concatenation

```
1 String s1 = "Hi";
2 String s2 = "there";
3 String s = s1 + s2; // s now contains "Hithere"
```

  - `+` is the only regular operator you can use with strings

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  - `+` is the only regular operator you can use with strings
- Length: `s.length() //returns 7 (as an int)`
- Convert case
  - `s2.toLowerCase(); //returns "hi"`
  - `s2.toUpperCase(); //returns "HI"`

Strings and Other Types

- All primitive types can be converted into a string
  - `System.out.println()` does this, as we have seen
- Conversion done implicitly:

```
1 int i = 2022;
2 String s = "Hallo";
3 System.out.println(s + i); // implicit conversion of i,
4                            // then concatenation
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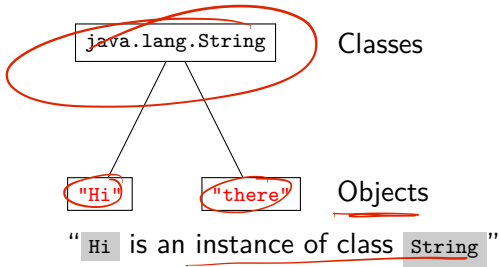
4                            // then concatenation
```

- Explicit conversion
  - Many functions `String.valueOf(ARG)`
  - Take all primitive types as arguments

The class String

- `java.lang.String`: Our first class
- Classes and Objects:
  Object-oriented programming



More on classes and objects: Next week(s)

`main` Function

```
1 public class MyProgram
2   public static void main(String[] args) {
3     // do stuff
4   }
5 }
```

- Entry point for every Java program
- A regular function, with arguments

How to set the arguments?

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How to set the arguments?

- Command line: `java MyProgram ARG1 ARG2 ...`
  - ARG1 and ARG2 are available as arguments in `main`

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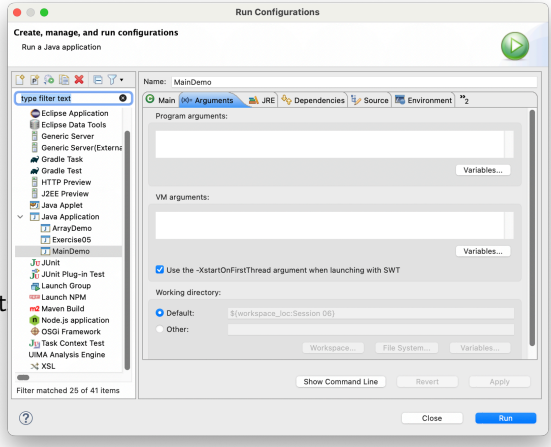
  - ARG1 and ARG2 are available as argument
- Eclipse: Run → Run Configurations



demo

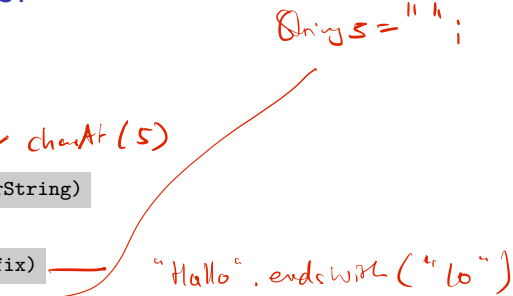
What can we do with Strings?

…and how do we find out?

- Javadoc

java.lang.String

- `char charAt(int index);`
- `int compareTo(String anotherString)`
- `String concat(String str)`
- `boolean endsWith(String suffix)`
- `boolean isEmpty()`
- `String substring(int beginIndex, int endIndex)`
- …



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  - `String substring(int beginIndex, int endIndex)`
  - ...
- How to use them? `INSTANCE.METHOD(ARGUMENTS)`
  - Eclipse suggests possible methods/fields in a small window
  - Methods are associated with the specific instance before the `.`

Section 4

Exercise