Building Java Programs

Chapters 3-4: Using Objects

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Chapter outline

objects

- Point objects
- String objects

value vs. reference semantics

comparing objects

Using objects

reading: 3.3

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Objects and classes

object: An entity that contains data and behavior.

- Variables inside the object store its data.
- Methods inside the object implement its behavior.
- class: A program, or a type of objects.
 - Classes' names are uppercase (e.g. Point, Color).

Examples:

- Scanner objects read data from the keyboard and other sources.
- DrawingPanel objects represent graphical windows.
 - What data and behavior do these objects have?

Constructing objects

Constructing (creating) objects, general syntax:

<type> <name> = new <type> (<parameters>);

• Examples:

Scanner console = new Scanner(System.in);
DrawingPanel window = new DrawingPanel(300, 200);
Color orange = new Color(255, 128, 0);
Point p = new Point(7, -4);

Calling methods of objects

Objects have methods that your program can call.

- The methods often relate to the data inside the object.
- Calling an object's method, general syntax: *<object>* . *<method name>* (*<parameters>*)
 - Examples:

```
Scanner console = new Scanner(System.in);
int age = console.nextInt();
```

```
Point p1 = new Point(3, 4);
Point p2 = new Point(0, 0);
System.out.println(p1.distance(p2)); // 5.0
```

Point objects

Java has a class of objects named Point.

- They store two values, an (x, y) pair, in a single variable.
- They have useful methods we can call in our programs.
- To use Point, you must write: import java.awt.*;

Two ways to construct a Point object:

```
Point <name> = new Point(<x>, <y>);
Point <name> = new Point(); // the origin (0, 0)
```

Examples:

Point p1 = new Point(5, -2);
Point p2 = new Point();

Point data and methods

Data stored in each Point object:

Field name	Description
х	the point's x-coordinate
У	the point's y-coordinate

Methods of each Point object:

Method name	Description
distance(p)	how far away the point is from point p
setLocation($\boldsymbol{X}, \boldsymbol{Y}$)	sets the point's x and y to the given values
translate(dx , dy)	adjusts the point's x and y by the given amounts

Point objects can also be printed using println statements:

Point p = new Point(5, -2);
System.out.println(p); // java.awt.Point[x=5,y=-2]

Point example

 Write a program that computes a right triangle's perimeter, given two of its side lengths a and b. (It's the sum of sides a+b+c)

```
import java.awt.*; // for Point
import java.util.*; // for Scanner
```

```
public class TrianglePerimeter {
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        Scanner console = new Scanner(System.in);
        System.out.print("side a? ");
        int a = console.nextInt();
        System.out.print("side b? ");
        int b = console.nextInt();
        // finish me
    }
}
Example Output:
side a? <u>12</u>
```

side b? <u>5</u> perimeter is 30.0



(a, b)

Point example answer

Computing a right triangle's perimeter (sum of sides a+b+c):



Value and reference semantics

reading: 3.3, 4.3

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Swapping primitive values

Consider the following code to swap two int variables:

```
public static void main(String[] args) {
    int a = 7;
    int b = 35;
    // swap a with b (incorrectly)
    a = b;
    b = a;
    System.out.println(a + " " + b);
}
```

What is wrong with this code? What is its output?

The red code should be replaced with:

```
int temp = a;
a = b;
b = temp;
```

A swap method?

We might want to make swapping into a method.

Does the following swap method work? Why or why not?

```
public static void main(String[] args) {
    int a = 7;
    int b = 35;
    // swap a with b
    swap(a, b);
    System.out.println(a + " " + b);
}
public static void swap(int a, int b) {
    int temp = a;
    a = b;
    b = temp;
}
```

Value semantics

- value semantics: Behavior where variables are copied when assigned to each other or passed as parameters.
 - When one primitive variable is assigned to another, its value is copied.
 - Modifying the value of one variable does not affect others.



Reference semantics

- reference semantics: Behavior where multiple variables can refer to a common value (object).
 - Variables that store objects are called reference variables.
 - Reference variables store the address of an object in memory.

Point p1 = new Point(3, 8);

- Why is it done this way?
 - efficiency. Copying large objects would slow down the program.
 - sharing. It's useful to share an object's data between methods.

Multiple references

If one reference variable is assigned to another, the object is *not* copied. The variables share the object.

Calling a method on either variable will modify the same object.



Objects as parameters

When an object is passed as a parameter, it is not copied. The same object is shared with the parameter.



This is useful because we can pass an object to a method, let the method change its data, and we will also see that change.

String objects

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String objects

string: An object storing a sequence of text characters.

Unlike most other objects, a String is not created with new.

```
String <name> = "<text>";
String <name> = <expression>;
```

```
• Examples:

String name = "Marla Singer";

int x = 3, y = 5;

String point = "(" + x + ", " + y + ")";
```

Indexes

The characters are numbered with 0-based indexes:

String name = "P. Diddy";



The individual characters are values of type char (seen later)

String methods

Useful methods of each String object:

Method name	Description
indexOf(str)	index where the start of the given string appears in this string (-1 if it is not there)
length()	number of characters in this string
<pre>substring(index1, index2) or</pre>	the characters in this string from <i>index1</i> (inclusive) to <i>index2</i> (<u>exclusive</u>);
substring(index1)	if index2 omitted, grabs till end of string
toLowerCase()	a new string with all lowercase letters
toUpperCase()	a new string with all uppercase letters

These methods are called using the dot notation:

String example = "speak friend and enter";
System.out.println(example.length());

String method examples

```
// index 012345678901
String s1 = "Stuart Reges";
String s2 = "Marty Stepp";
System.out.println(s1.length()); // 12
System.out.println(s1.indexOf("e")); // 8
System.out.println(s1.substring(7, 10)); // Reg
String s3 = s2.substring(3, 8);
System.out.println(s3.toLowerCase()); // ty st
```

Given the following string:

```
// 0123456789012345678901
String book = "Building Java Programs";
```

- How would you extract the word "Java" ?
- Change book to store "BUILDING JAVA PROGRAMS".
- How would you extract the first word from any general string?

String condition methods

These String methods can be used as if conditions:

Method	Description
equals(str)	whether two strings contain exactly the same characters
equalsIgnoreCase(str)	whether two strings contain the same characters, ignoring upper vs. lower case
startsWith(str)	whether one string contains the other's characters at its start
endsWith(str)	whether one string contains the other's characters at its end

```
String name = console.next();
if (name.startsWith("Dr.")) {
    System.out.println("Is he single?");
} else if (name.equalsIgnoreCase("LUMBERG")) {
    System.out.println("I need your TPS reports.");
}
```

Strings question

Write a program that compares two words typed by the user to see whether they *rhyme* (end with the same last two letters) and/or *alliterate* (begin with the same letter).

```
Example logs of execution:
(run #1)
Type two words: <u>car STAR</u>
They rhyme!
```

```
(run #2)
Type two words: bare bear
They alliterate!
```

```
(run #3)
Type two words: sell shell
They alliterate!
They rhyme!
```

Strings answer

```
// Determines whether two words rhyme and/or alliterate.
import java.util.*;
public class Rhyme {
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        Scanner console = new Scanner(System.in);
        System.out.print("Type two words: ");
        String word1 = console.next().toLowerCase();
        String word2 = console.next().toLowerCase();
```

```
// check whether they end with the same two letters
if (word2.length() >= 2 &&
    word1.endsWith(word2.substring(word2.length() - 2))) {
    System.out.println("They rhyme!");
```

```
// check whether they alliterate
if (word1.startsWith(word2.substring(0, 1)) {
    System.out.println("They alliterate!");
```

Modifying Strings

Methods like substring, toLowerCase, toUpperCase, etc. actually create and return a new string:

```
String s = "lil bow wow";
s.toUpperCase();
System.out.println(s); // lil bow wow
```

To modify the variable, you must reassign it:

```
String s = "lil bow wow";
s = s.toUpperCase();
System.out.println(s); // LIL BOW WOW
```

Comparing objects

Relational operators such as < and == fail on objects.</p>

- The == operator on Strings often evaluates to false even when two Strings have the same letters.
- Example (*bad code*):

```
Scanner console = new Scanner(System.in);
System.out.print("What is your name? ");
String name = console.next();
if (name == "Barney") {
    System.out.println("I love you, you love me,");
    System.out.println("We're a happy family!");
}
```

This code will compile, but it will never print the song.

The equals method

Objects (e.g. String, Point, Color) should be compared using a method named equals.

```
Example:
```

```
Scanner console = new Scanner(System.in);
System.out.print("What is your name? ");
String name = console.next();
if (name.equals("Barney")) {
   System.out.println("I love you, you love me,");
   System.out.println("We're a happy family!");
}
```

== vs. equals

- = = compares whether two variables refer to the same object.
- equals compares whether two objects have the same state.
 - Given the following code:

```
Point p1 = new Point(3, 8);
Point p2 = new Point(3, 8);
Point p3 = p2;
```

Which tests are true?

```
p1 == p2
p1 == p3
p2 == p3
p1.equals(p2)
p1.equals(p3)
p2.equals(p3)
```

