Object-Oriented Programming I

Java Variables and Types

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This material is based on material provided by Ben Bederson, Bonnie Dorr, Fawzi Emad, David Mount, Jan Plane
**Variables**

- **What is a variable?**
  - The name of some *location of memory* used to hold a data value
  - *Different types* of data require *different amounts* of memory. The compiler’s job is to reserve sufficient memory
  - Variables need to be declared once
  - Variables are *assigned* values, and these values may be changed later
  - Each variable has a type, and *operations can only be performed between compatible types*

- **Example**
  ```
  int width = 3;
  int height = 4;
  int area = width * height;
  width = 6;
  area = width * height;
  ```
Variable Names

• **Valid Variable Names:** These rules apply to all Java names, or identifiers, including methods and class names
  • **Starts with:** a letter (a-z or A-Z), dollar sign ($), or underscore (_)
  • **Followed by:** zero or more letters, dollar signs, underscores, or digits (0-9).
  • Uppercase and lowercase are different (total ≠ Total ≠ TOTAL)
  • Cannot be any of the **reserved names.** These are special names (keywords) reserved for the compiler. Examples:

    class, float, int, if, then, else, do, public, private, void, ...
Good Variable Names

• **Choosing Good Names** ➔ Not all valid variable names are good variable names
• Some guidelines:
  • Do not use ‘$’ (it is reserved for special system names.)
  • Avoid names that are identical other than differences in case (total, Total, and TOTAL).
  • Use meaningful names, but avoid excessive length
    • `crltm` ➔ Too short
    • `theCurrentItemBeingProcessed` ➔ Too long
    • `currentItem` ➔ Just right
• **Camel case** capitalization style
• In Java we use camel case
  • Variables and methods start with lower case
  • `dataList2 myFavoriteMartian showMeTheMoney`
  • Classes start with uppercase
    • `String JOptionPane MyFavoriteClass`
Valid/Invalid Identifiers

Valid:

- $$\_$ _$
- R2D2
- INT okay. “int” is reserved, but case is different here
- _dogma_95_
- riteOnThru
- SchultzieVonWienerschnitzelIII

Invalid:

- 30DayAbs starts with a digit
- 2 starts with a digit
- pork&beans ‘&’ is illegal
- private reserved name
- C-3PO ‘-’ is illegal
Java’s basic data types:

- **Integer Types:**
  - ```byte``` 1 byte  Range: -128 to +127
  - ```short``` 2 bytes  Range: roughly -32 thousand to +32 thousand
  - ```int``` 4 bytes  Range: roughly -2 billion to +2 billion
  - ```long``` 8 bytes  Range: Huge!

- **Floating-Point Types** (for real numbers)
  - ```float``` 4 bytes Roughly 7 digits of precision
  - ```double``` 8 bytes Roughly 15 digits of precision

- **Other types:**
  - ```boolean``` 1 byte  {true, false} (Used in logic expressions and conditions)
  - ```char``` 2 bytes A single (Unicode) character

String is not a primitive data type (they are objects)
Numeric Constants (Literals)

- **Specifying constants**: (also called **literals**) for primitive data types.
  - **Integer Types**:
    - `byte`
    - `short` { optional sign and digits (0-9): 12 -1 +234 0 1234567 }
    - `int`
    - `long` Same as above, but followed by ‘L’ or ‘l’: -1394382953L

- **Floating-Point Types**:
  - `double` Two allowable forms:
    - **Decimal notation**: 3.14159 -234.421 0.0042 -43.0
    - **Scientific notation**: (use E or e for base 10 exponent)
      - `3.145E5 = 3.145 \times 10^5 = 314500.0`
      - `1834.23e-6 = 1834.23 \times 10^{-6} = 0.00183423`
  - `float` Same as double, but followed by ‘f’ or ‘F’: 3.14159F -43.2f

**Note**: By default, integer constants are `int`, unless ‘L’/‘l’ is used to indicate they are `long`. Floating constants are `double`, unless ‘F’/‘f’ is used to indicate they are `float`. Avoid this lowercase L. It looks too much like the digit ‘1’.
Character and String Constants

- **char constants**: Single character enclosed in single quotes (‘…’) including:
  - **punctuation symbols**: ‘*’, ‘#’, ‘@’, ‘$’ (except single quote and backslash ‘\’)
  - **escape sequences**: (see below)
- **String constants**: Zero or more characters enclosed in double quotes (“…”)
  - (same as above, but may not include a double quote or backslash)
- **Escape sequences**: Allows us to include single/double quotes and other special characters:
  - \” double quote
  - \n new-line character (start a new line)
  - \’ single quote
  - \t tab character
  - \\ backslash
- **Examples**:
  - `char x = '\''` → (x contains a single quote)
  - ""Hi there!"" → "Hi there!"
  - "C:\\WINDOWS" → C:\WINDOWS
  - `System.out.println( "Line 1\nLine 2" )` prints
    
    Line 1
    Line 2
Data Types and Variables

- **Java ➔ Strongly-type language**
- **Strong Type Checking ➔** Java checks that all expressions involve **compatible** types
  - `int x, y;` // x and y are integer variables
  - `double d;` // d is a double variable
  - `String s;` // s is a string variable
  - `boolean b;` // b is a boolean variable
  - `char c;` // c is a character variable

- `x = 7;` // legal (assigns the value 7 to x)
- `b = true;` // legal (assigns the value true to b)
- `c = ‘#’;` // legal (assigns character # to c)
- `s = “cat” + “bert”;` // legal (assigns the value “catbert” to s)
- `d = x – 3;` // legal (assigns the integer value 7 – 3 = 4 to double d)

- `b = 5;` // illegal! (cannot assign int to boolean)
- `y = x + b;` // illegal! (cannot add int and boolean)
- `c = x;` // illegal! (cannot assign int to char)
Numeric Operators

• **Arithmetic Operators:**
  - Unary negation: \(-x\)
  - Multiplication/Division: \(x \cdot y \quad x/y\)
    - Division between integer types **truncates** to integer: \(23/4 \rightarrow 5\)
    - \(x \% y\) returns the **remainder** of \(x\) divided by \(y\): \(23\%4 \rightarrow 3\)
    - Division with real types yields a real result: \(23.0/4.0 \rightarrow 5.75\)
  - Addition/Subtraction: \(x+y \quad x-y\)

• **Comparison Operators:**
  - Equality/Inequality: \(x == y \quad x != y\)
  - Less than/Greater than: \(x < y \quad x > y\)
  - Less than or equal/Greater than or equal: \(x <= y \quad x >= y\)

• These comparison operators return a **boolean** value: **true** or **false**.
Common String Operators

• **String Concatenation**: The ‘+’ operator ***concatenates*** (joins) two strings.
  - “von” + “Wienerschnitzel” → “vonWienerschnitzel”

• When a string is concatenated with another type, the other type is first evaluated and **converted** into its string representation
  
  \[(8\times4) + \text{“degrees”} \rightarrow \text{“32degrees”}\]
  
  \[(1 + 2) + \text{“5”} \rightarrow \text{“35”}\]

• **String Comparison**: Strings should not be compared using the above operators (==, <=, <, etc). Let s and t be strings.
  - `s.equals(t)` → returns true if s equals t
  - `s.length()` → returns length
  - `s.compareTo(t)` → compares strings **lexicographically** (dictionary order)
    - result < 0 if s is less than t
    - result == 0 if s is equal to t
    - result > 0 if s is greater than t

Note: Concatenation does not add any space
Examples

• Let’s take a look at some examples
• See code distribution