Documenting a method

Javadoc

Documenting

- documenting code was not a new idea when Java was invented
  - however, Java was the first major language to embed documentation in the code and extract the documentation into readable electronic APIs

- the tool that generates API documents from comments embedded in the code is called Javadoc

Documenting

- Javadoc processes *doc comments* that immediately precede a class, attribute, constructor or method declaration
  - doc comments delimited by `/**` and `*/`
  - doc comment written in HTML and made up of two parts
    1. a description
       - first sentence of description gets copied to the summary section
       - only one description block; can use **<p>** to create separate paragraphs
    2. block tags
       - begin with **@** (**@param**, **@return**, **@throws** and many others)
       - **@pre.** is a non-standard (custom tag used in EECS1030) for documenting preconditions

Method documentation example

Eclipse will generate an empty Javadoc comment for you if you right-click on the method header and choose **Source→Generate Element Comment**

```
/**
 * @param min
 * @param max
 * @param value
 * @return
 */
public static boolean isBetween(int min, int max, int value) {
    // implementation not shown
}
```

Method documentation example

The first sentence of the documentation should be short summary of the method; this sentence appears in the method summary section.

```
/**
 * Returns true if value is strictly greater than min and strictly
 * less than max, and false otherwise.
 *
 * @param min
 * @param max
 * @param value
 * @return
 */
public static boolean isBetween(int min, int max, int value) {
    // implementation not shown
}
```

Method documentation example

You should provide a brief description of each parameter.

```
/**
 * Returns true if value is strictly greater than min and strictly
 * less than max, and false otherwise.
 *
 * @param min a minimum value
 * @param max a maximum value
 * @param value a value to check
 * @return
 */
public static boolean isBetween(int min, int max, int value) {
    // implementation not shown
}
```

Method documentation example

Provide a brief description of the return value if the return type is not void. This description often describes a postcondition of the method.

```
/**
 * Returns true if value is strictly greater than min and strictly
 * less than max, and false otherwise.
 *
 * @param min a minimum value
 * @param max a maximum value
 * @param value a value to check
 * @return true if value is strictly greater than min and strictly
 * less than max, and false otherwise
 */
public static boolean isBetween(int min, int max, int value) {
    // implementation not shown
}
```

Method documentation example

- if a method has one or more preconditions, you should use the EECS2030 specific **@pre.** tag to document them

Method documentation example

Describe any preconditions using the EECS2030 specific @pre. tag. You have to manually do this.

```
/**
 * Returns true if value is strictly greater than min and strictly
 * less than max, and false otherwise.
 *
 * @param min a minimum value
 * @param max a maximum value
 * @param value a value to check
 * @return true if value is strictly greater than min and strictly
 * less than max, and false otherwise
 * @pre min is less than or equal to max
 */
public static boolean isBetween(int min, int max, int value) {
    // implementation not shown
}
```

Method documentation example

- if a method throws an exception then you should use the **@throws** tag to document the exception

```
/**
 * Given a list containing exactly 2 integers, returns the smaller of the
 * two integers. The list <code>t</code> is not modified by this method.
 * For example:
 *
 * <pre>
 * t            Test2F.min2(t)
 * --------------------------
 * [-5, 9]      -5
 * [3, 3]        3
 * [12, 6]       6
 * </pre>
 *
 * @pre t is not null
 * @param t a list containing exactly 2 integers
 * @return the minimum of the two values in t
 * @throws IllegalArgumentException if the list does not contain exactly 2
 * integers
 */
public static int min2(List<Integer> t) {
}
```

HTML markup is also allowed

Utility classes

Review: Java Class

- a class is a model of a thing or concept

- in Java, a class is usually a blueprint for creating objects
  - fields (or attributes)
    - the structure of an object; its components and the information (data) contained by the object
  - methods
    - the behaviour of an object; what an object can do

Utility classes

- sometimes, it is useful to create a class called a *utility class* that is not used to create objects
  - such classes have no constructors for a client to use to create objects
- in a utility class, all features are marked as being **`static`**
  - you use the class name to access these features
- examples of utility classes:
  - **`java.lang.Math`**
  - **`java.util.Arrays`**
  - **`java.util.Collections`**

Utility classes

- the purpose of a utility class is to group together related fields and methods where creating an object is not necessary

- **`java.lang.Math`**
  - groups mathematical constants and functions
  - do not need a **`Math`** object to compute the cosine of a number
- **`java.util.Collections`**
  - groups methods that operate on Java collections
  - do not need a **`Collections`** object to sort an existing **`List`**

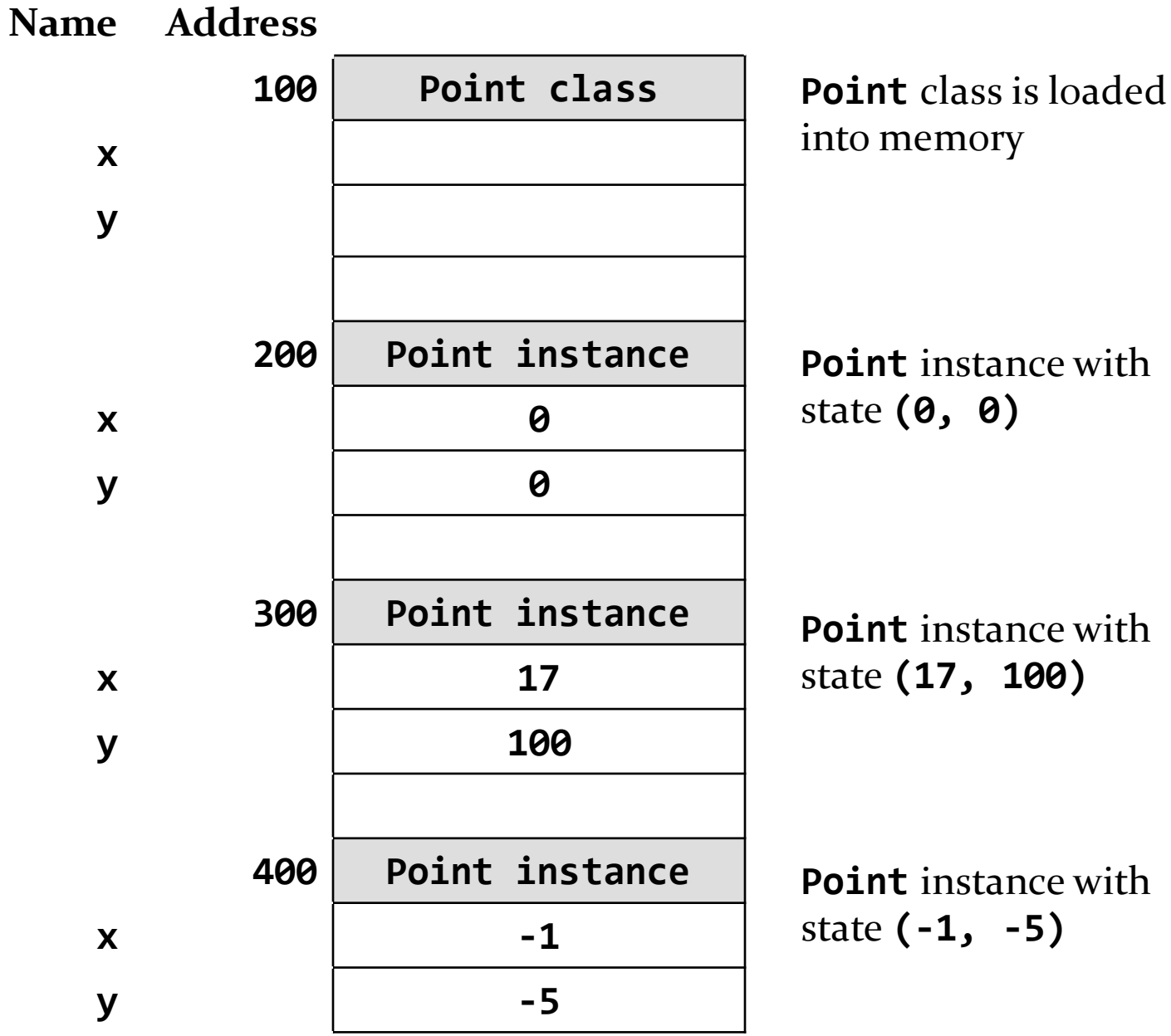
Class versus utility class

- a class is used to create *instances* of objects where each instance has its own *state*
- for example:
  - the class **`java.awt.Point`** is used to create instances that represent a location **`(x, y)`** where **`x`** and **`y`** are integers

```
public static void main(String[] args) {

  Point p = new Point(0, 0);     // point (0, 0)
  Point q = new Point(17, 100);  // point (17, 100)
  Point r = new Point(-1, -5);   // point (-1, -5)
}
```

  - each instance occupies a separate location in memory which we can illustrate in a memory diagram



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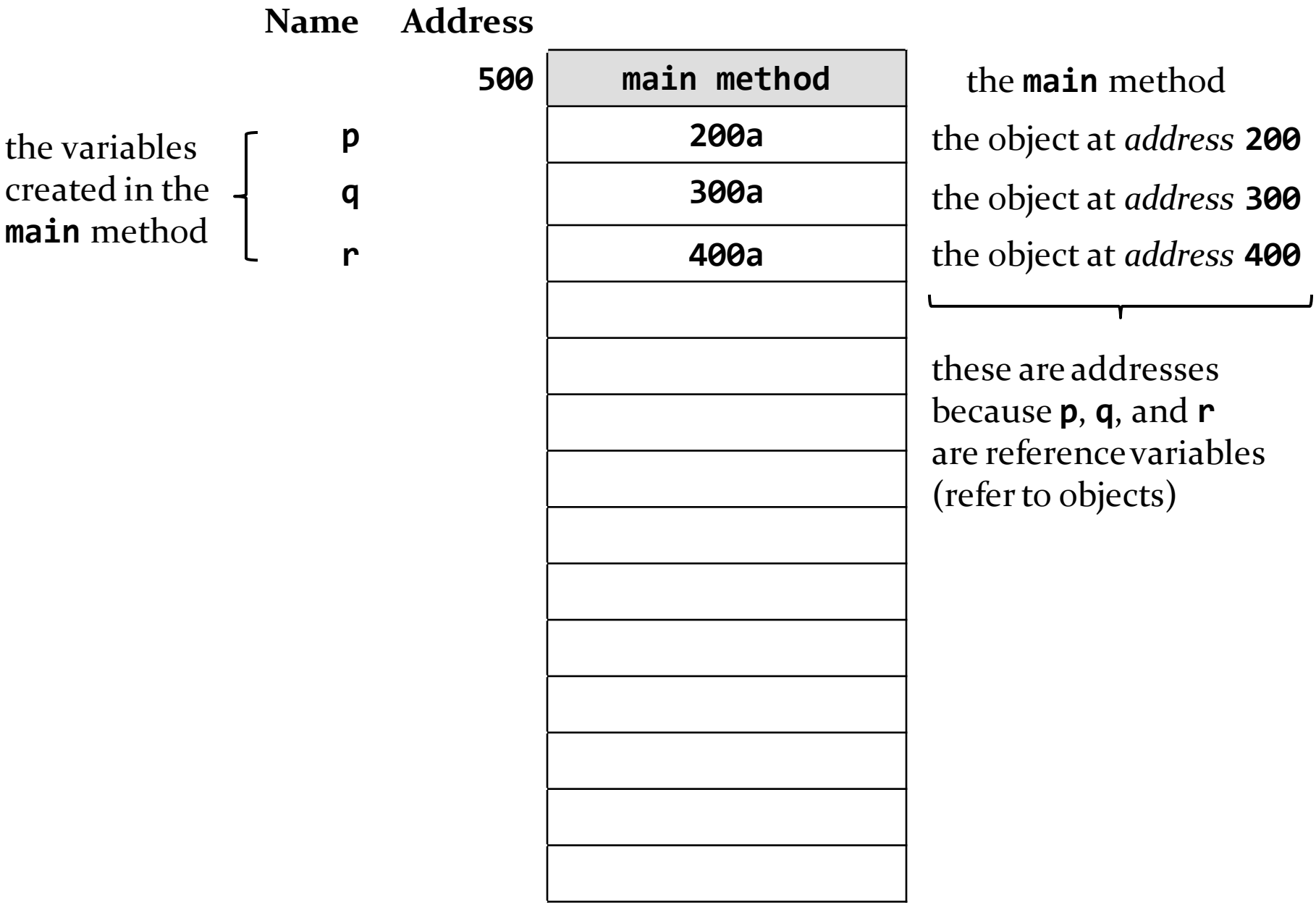
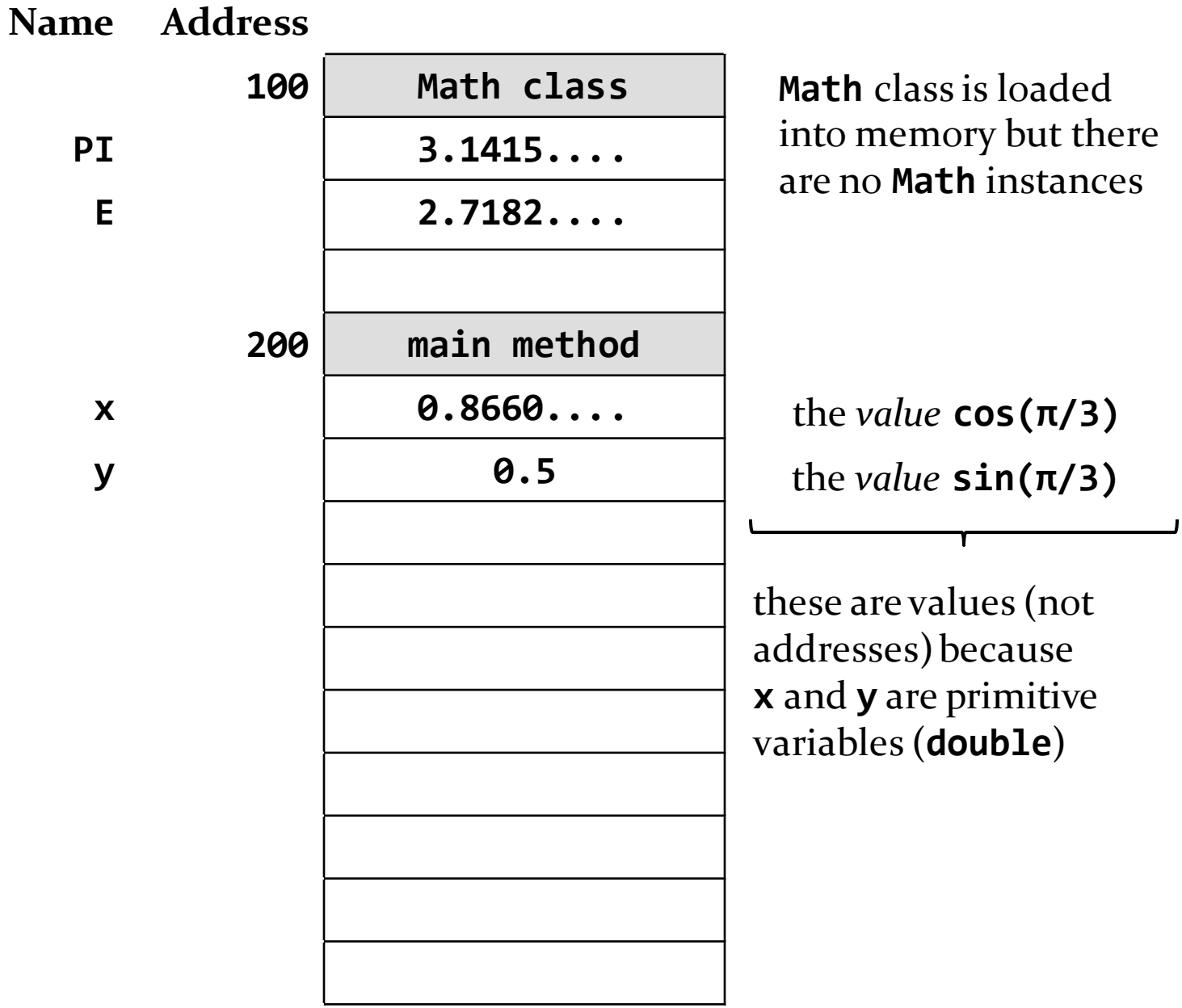

Name
Address
500
main method
the main method
the variables created in the main method
p
200a
the object at address 200
q
300a
the object at address 300
r
400a
the object at address 400
these are addresses because p, q, and r are reference variables (refer to objects)

Class versus utility class

- a utility class is *never* used to create objects
- when you use a utility class only the class itself occupies any memory

```
public static void main(String[] args) {

  double x = Math.cos(Math.PI / 3.0);
  double y = Math.sin(Math.PI / 3.0);

  // notice that we never created a Math object
}
```


Name
Address
100
Math class
PI
3.1415....
E
2.7182....
200
main method
x
0.8660....
y
0.5
Math class is loaded into memory but there are no Math instances
the value cos(π/3)
the value sin(π/3)
these are values (not addresses) because x and y are primitive variables (double)

A simple utility class

- implement a utility class that helps you calculate Einstein's famous mass-energy equivalence equation $E = mc^2$ where
  - m is mass (in kilograms)
  - c is the speed of light (in metres per second)
  - E is energy (in joules)

Start by creating a package, giving the class a name, and creating the class body block.

```
package ca.yorku.eecs.eecs2030;

public class Relativity {









}
```

Add a field that represents the speed of light.

```
package ca.yorku.eecs.eecs2030;

public class Relativity {

  public static final double C = 299792458;




}
```

Add a method to compute $E = mc^2$.

```
package ca.yorku.eecs.eecs2030;

public class Relativity {

  public static final double C = 299792458;

  public static double massEnergy(double mass) {
    double energy = mass * Relativity.C * Relativity.C;
    return energy;
  }

}
```

Add a method to compute $E = mc^2$.

```
package ca.yorku.eecs.eecs2030;

public class Relativity {

  public static final double C = 299792458;

  public static double massEnergy(double mass) {
    double energy = mass * Relativity.C * Relativity.C;
    return energy;
  }

}
```

Here's a program that uses (a client) the **`Relativity`** utility class.

```
package ca.yorku.eecs.eecs2030;

public class OneGram {

  public static void main(String[] args) {
    double mass = 0.001;
    double energy = Relativity.massEnergy(mass);
    System.out.println("1 gram = " + energy + " Joules");
  }

}
```

Fields

```
public static final double C = 299792458;
```

- a field is a member that holds data
- a constant field is usually declared by specifying
  1. modifiers
     1. access modifier — `public`
     2. static modifier — `static`
     3. final modifier — `final`
  2. type — `double`
  3. name — `C`
  4. value — `299792458`

Fields

- field names must be unique in a class
- the scope of a field is the entire class
- [notes] use the term "field" only for **`public`** fields

`public` Fields

- a **`public`** field is visible to all clients

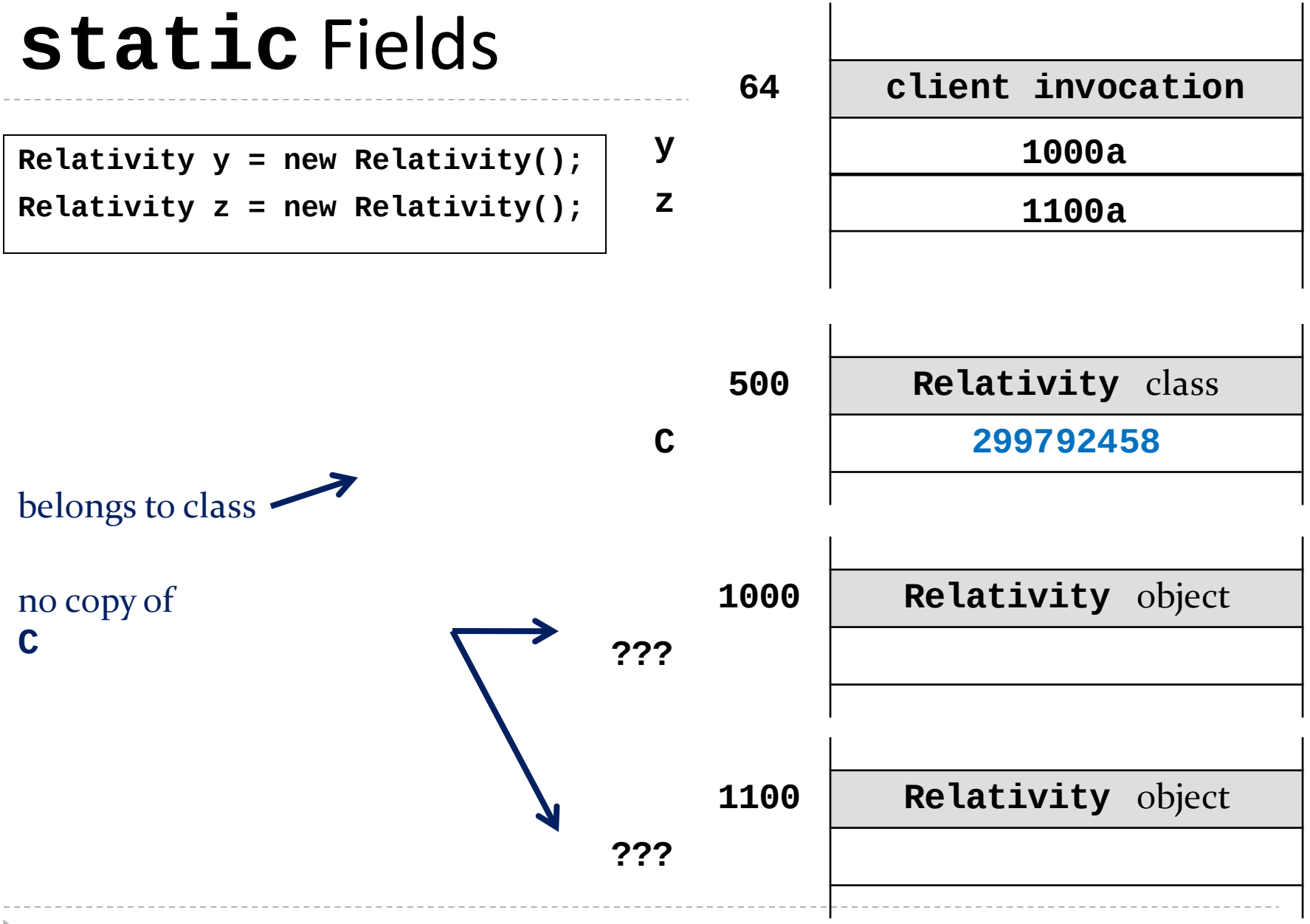
```
// client of Relativity
int speedOfLight = Relativity.C;
```

`static` Fields

- a field that is **`static`** is a per-class member
  - only one copy of the field, and the field is associated with the class
    - every object created from a class declaring a static field shares the same copy of the field
  - textbook uses the term *static variable*
  - also commonly called *class variable*

`static` Fields

```
Relativity y = new Relativity();
Relativity z = new Relativity();
```



`static` Field Client Access

- a client should access a **`public static`** field without using an object reference
  - use the class name followed by a period followed by the attribute name

```
public static void main(String[] args) {
    double sunDistance = 149.6 * 1e9;
    double seconds = sunDistance / Relativity.C;
    System.out.println(
        "time for light to travel from sun to earth " +
        seconds + " seconds");
}
```

```
time for light to travel from sun to earth 499.01188641643546 seconds
```

`static` Attribute Client Access

- it is legal, *but considered bad form*, to access a **`public static`** attribute using an object

```
public static void main(String[] args) {
    double sunDistance = 149.6 * 1e9;
    Relativity y = new Relativity();
    double seconds = sunDistance / y.C;
    System.out.println(
        "time for light to travel from sun to earth " +
        seconds + " seconds");
}
```

```
time for light to travel from sun to earth 499.01188641643546 seconds
```

`final` Fields

- a field that is **`final`** can only be assigned to once
  - **`public static final`** fields are typically assigned when they are declared

```
public static final double C = 299792458;
```

  - **`public static final`** fields are intended to be constant values that are a meaningful part of the abstraction provided by the class

`final` Fields of Primitive Types

- `final` fields of primitive types are constant

```
public class Relativity {
  public static final double C = 299792458;
}
```

```
// client of Relativity
public static void main(String[] args) {

  Relativity.C = 100;  // will not compile;
                       // field C
                       // is final and
                       // previously assigned
}
```

`final` Fields of Immutable Types

- `final` fields of immutable types are constant

```
public class NothingToHide {
  public static final String X = "peek-a-boo";
}
```

```
// client of NothingToHide
public static void main(String[] args) {
  NothingToHide.X = "i-see-you";
                              // will not compile;
                              // field X is final and
                              // previously assigned
}
```

- `String` is immutable
  - it has no methods to change its contents

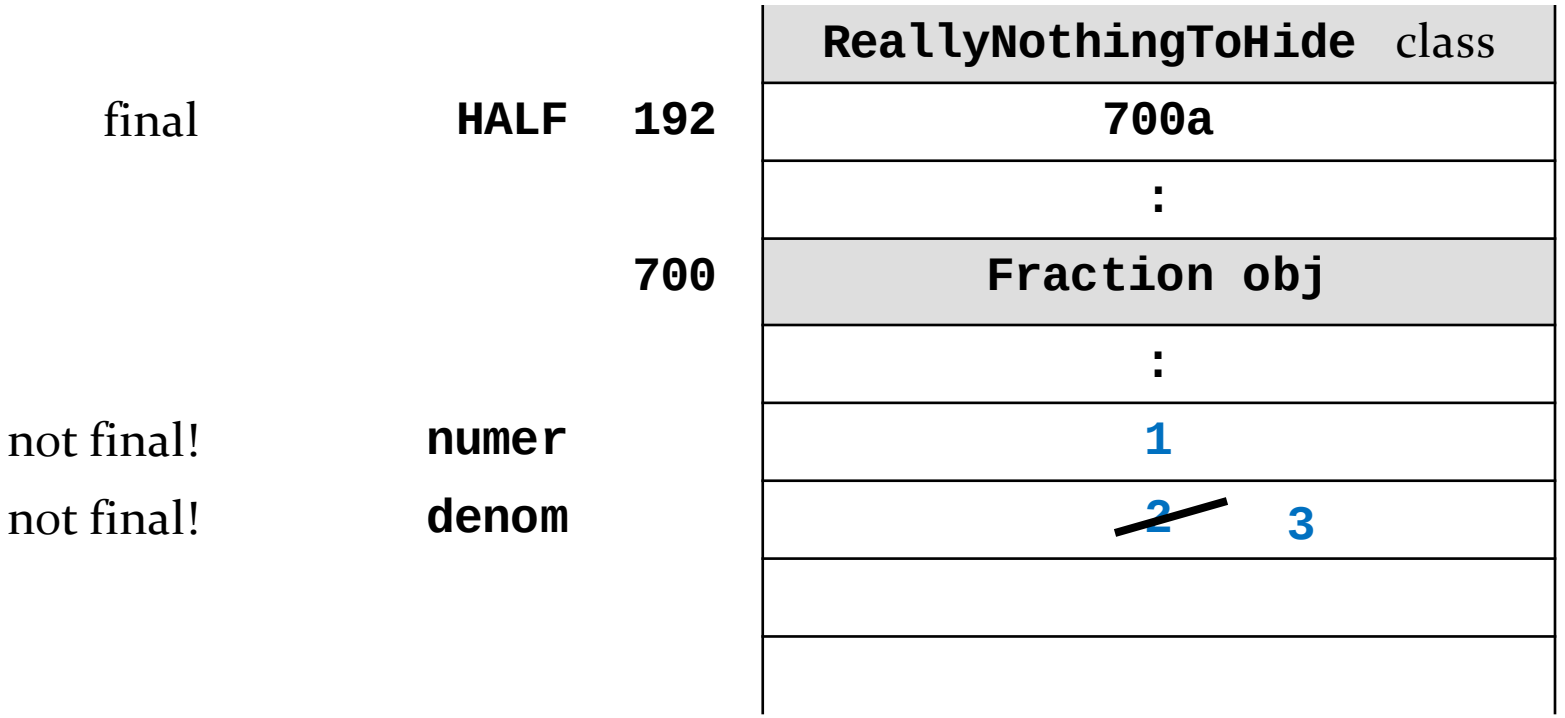
`final` Fields of Mutable Types

- **`final`** fields of mutable types are not logically constant; their state can be changed

```
public class ReallyNothingToHide {
  public static final Fraction HALF =
                                      new Fraction(1, 2);
}
```

```
// client of ReallyNothingToHide
public static void main(String[] args) {
  ReallyNothingToHide.HALF.setDenominator(3);
                                      // works!!
                                      // HALF is now 1/3
}
```

`final` Fields of Mutable Types




```
ReallyNothingToHide.HALF.setDenominator(3);
```

`final` fields

- avoid using mutable types as `public` constants
  - they are not logically constant

`new Relativity` objects

- our **`Relativity`** class does not expose a constructor
  - but

```
Relativity y = new Relativity();
```

    is legal

- if you do not define any constructors, Java will generate a default no-argument constructor for you
  - e.g., we get the **`public`** constructor

```
public Relativity() { }
```

    even though we did not implement it

Preventing instantiation

- in a utility class you can prevent a client from making new instances of your class by declaring a **`private`** constructor

- a **`private`** field, constructor, or method can only be used inside the class that it is declared in

```java
package ca.yorku.eecs.eecs2030;

public class Relativity {

  public static final double C = 299792458;

  private Relativity() {
    // private and empty by design
  }

  public static double massEnergy(double mass) {
    double energy = mass * Relativity.C * Relativity.C;
    return energy;
  }

}
```

Introduction to Testing

Testing

- testing code is a vital part of the development process
- the goal of testing is to find defects in your code
  - Program testing can be a very effective way to show the presence of bugs, but it is hopelessly inadequate for showing their absence.
    —Edsger W. Dijkstra

Testing with a main method

- before Lab 1, if I had asked you to test your worksheet 1 methods you probably would have written a main method

```
public static void main(String[] args) {
    // avg
    int a = 1;
    int b = 1;
    int c = 1;
    System.out.println(
        String.format("average of %d, %d, and %d : ", a, b, c) +
                    Test2E.avg(a, b, c));

    // swap2
    List<Integer> t = new ArrayList<Integer>();
    t.add(3);
    t.add(5);
    String s = t.toString();
    Test2E.swap2(t);
    System.out.println(
        String.format("swap2(%s) : %s", s, t.toString()));
```

```
    // allGreaterThan
    t.clear();
    t.add(4);
    t.add(5);
    t.add(6);
    t.add(7);
    t.add(8);
    System.out.println(
         String.format("allGreaterThan(%s, %s) : %s",
                       t.toString(), 5, Test2E.allGreaterThan(t, 5)));

    // toInt
    t.clear();
    t.add(1);
    t.add(2);
    t.add(3);
    System.out.println(
        String.format("toInt(%s) : %d",
                      t.toString(), Test2E.toInt(t)));
}
```

Testing with a main method

- running the main method results in the following output:

```
average of 1, 1, and 1 : 1.0
swap2([3, 5]) : [5, 3]
allGreaterThan([4, 5, 6, 7, 8], 5) : [6, 7, 8]
toInt([1, 2, 3]) : 123
```

Testing with a main method

- testing using a single main method has some disadvantages:
  - someone has to examine the output to determine if the tests have passed or failed
  - all of the tests are in one method
    - we can't run tests independently from one another
    - there is no easy way to pick which tests we want to run

JUnit

- JUnit is a unit test framework
- "A framework is a semi-complete application. A framework provides a reusable, common structure to share among applications."
  - from the book JUnit in Action

JUnit

- “A unit test examines the behavior of a distinct unit of work. Within a Java application, the “distinct unit of work” is often (but not always) a single method. … A unit of work is a task that isn't directly dependent on the completion of any other task.”
  - from the book JUnit in Action

A JUnit test example

- let's write a test for the worksheet 1 method avg

- we need a class to write the test in
- we need to import the JUnit library
- we need to write a method that implements the test

- happily, eclipse helps you do all of this
  - in the Package Explorer, right click on the class that you want to test and select New > JUnit Test Case

```java
package eecs2030.test2;

import static org.junit.Assert.*;
import org.junit.Test;

public class Test2ETest {

    @Test
    public void test_avg() {
        int a = -99;
        int b = 100;
        int c = -11;
        double expected = -10.0 / 3;
        double actual = Test2E.avg(a, b, c);
        double delta = 1e-9;
        assertEquals(expected, actual, delta);
    }
```

static import: allows you to use static methods from the class org.junit.Assert without specifying the class name

Avoid the widespread use of static imports. Although it is convenient being able to not include the class name in front of the method name, it makes it difficult to tell which class the method comes from*.

*https://docs.oracle.com/javase/8/docs/technotes/guides/language/static-import.html

```java
package eecs2030.test2;

import static org.junit.Assert.*;
import org.junit.Test;

public class Test2ETest {

    @Test
    public void test_avg() {
        int a = -99;
        int b = 100;
        int c = -11;
        double expected = -10.0 / 3;
        double actual = Test2E.avg(a, b, c);
        double delta = 1e-9;
        assertEquals(expected, actual, delta);
    }
```

An annotation; JUnit uses the @Test annotation to determine which methods are unit tests.

```java
package eecs2030.test2;

import static org.junit.Assert.*;
import org.junit.Test;

public class Test2ETest {

    @Test
    public void test_avg() {
        int a = -99;
        int b = 100;
        int c = -11;
        double expected = -10.0 / 3;
        double actual = Test2E.avg(a, b, c);
        double delta = 1e-9;
        assertEquals(expected, actual, delta);
    }
```

A JUnit method that throws an exception if `expected` and `actual` differ by more than `delta`. JUnit handles the exception and reports the test failure to the user.

A JUnit test example

- consider testing `swap2` (a method which does not return a value)

```java
@Test
public void test_swap2() {
    List<Integer> actual = new ArrayList<Integer>();
    actual.add(-99);
    actual.add(88);
    List<Integer> expected = new ArrayList<Integer>();
    expected.add(88);
    expected.add(-99);
    Test2E.swap2(actual);
    assertEquals(expected, actual);
}
```

A JUnit method that throws an exception if `expected` and `actual` are not equal. JUnit handles the exception and reports the test failure to the user.

Creating tests

- based on the previous example, when you write a test in you need to determine:
  - what arguments to pass to the method
  - what the expected return value is when you call the method with your chosen arguments
    - if the method does not return a value then you need to determine what the expected results are of calling the method with your chosen arguments

Creating tests

- for now, we will define a *test case* to be:
  - a specific set of arguments to pass to the method
  - the expected return value (if any) and the expected results when the method is called with the specified arguments

Creating tests

- to write a test for a static method in a utility class you need to consider:
  - the preconditions of the method
  - the postconditions of the method
  - what exceptions the method might throw

Creating tests: Preconditions

- recall that method preconditions often place restrictions on the values that a client can use for arguments to the method

isBetween

```
public static boolean isBetween(int min,
                                int max,
                                int value)
```

Returns true if `value` is strictly greater than `min` and strictly less than `max`, and false otherwise.

Parameters:

`min` - a minimum value

`max` - a maximum value

`value` - a value to check

Returns:

`true if value is strictly greater than min and strictly less than max, and false otherwise`

Precondition:

`min is ~~greater~~ less than or equal to max`

precondition

min2

```
public static int min2(List<Integer> t)
```

Given a list containing exactly 2 integers, returns the smaller of the two integers. The list `t` is not modified by this method. For example:

precondition

```
t             Test2F.min2(t)
---------------------------
[-5, 9]       -5
[3, 3]         3
[12, 6]        6
```

Parameters:

`t - a list containing exactly 2 integers`

Returns:

`the minimum of the two values in t`

Throws:

`IllegalArgumentException - if the list does not contain exactly 2 integers`

Precondition:

`t is not null`

precondition

Creating tests: Preconditions

- the arguments you choose for the test should satisfy the preconditions of the method
  - but see the slides on testing exceptions!

- it doesn't make sense to use arguments that violate the preconditions because the postconditions are not guaranteed if you violate the preconditions

Creating tests: Postconditions

- recall that a postcondition is what the method promises will be true after the method completes running

- a test should confirm that the postconditions are true
- many postconditions require more than one test to verify

isBetween

```
public static boolean isBetween(int min,
                                int max,
                                int value)
```

Returns true if `value` is strictly greater than `min` and strictly less than `max`, and false otherwise.

Parameters:

`min` - a minimum value

`max` - a maximum value

`value` - a value to check

Returns:

`true if value is strictly greater than min and strictly less than max, and false otherwise`

Precondition:

`min is ~~greater~~ less than or equal to max`

postcondition

requires one test to verify a return value of true and a second test to verify a return value for false

min2

```
public static int min2(List<Integer> t)
```

Given a list containing exactly 2 integers, returns the smaller of the two integers. The list `t` is not modified by this method. For example:

postcondition

```
t             Test2F.min2(t)
---------------------------
[-5, 9]       -5
[3, 3]         3
[12, 6]        6
```

Parameters:

`t - a list containing exactly 2 integers`

Returns:

`the minimum of the two values in t`

postcondition

Throws:

`IllegalArgumentException - if the list does not contain exactly 2 integers`

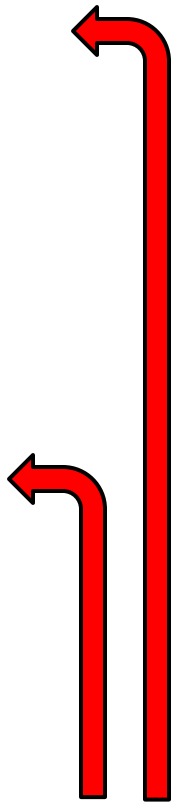
Precondition:

`t is not null`

Creating tests: Exceptions

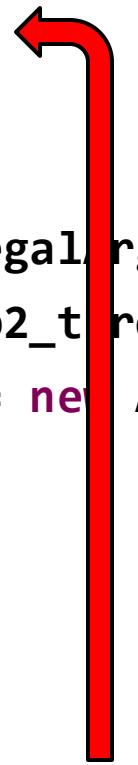
- some methods having preconditions throw an exception if a precondition is violated
- if the API for the method states that an exception is thrown under certain circumstances then you should test those circumstances
  - even if writing such a test requires violating a precondition

```
@Test(expected = IllegalArgumentException.class)
public void test_swap2_throws() {
    List<Integer> t = new ArrayList<Integer>();
    Test2E.swap2(t);
}

@Test(expected = IllegalArgumentException.class)
public void test_swap2_throws2() {
    List<Integer> t = new ArrayList<Integer>();
    t.add(10000);
    Test2E.swap2(t);
}
```



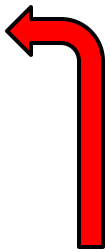
A JUnit test that is expected to result in an `IllegalArgumentException` being thrown. The test fails if an `IllegalArgumentException` is not thrown.

```
@Test(expected = IllegalArgumentException.class)
public void test_swap2_throws() {
    List<Integer> t = new ArrayList<Integer>();
    Test2E.swap2(t);
}

@Test(expected = IllegalArgumentException.class)
public void test_swap2_throws2() {
    List<Integer> t = new ArrayList<Integer>();
    t.add(10000);
    Test2E.swap2(t);
}
```



swap2 should throw an exception because t is empty.

```
@Test(expected = IllegalArgumentException.class)
public void test_swap2_throws() {
    List<Integer> t = new ArrayList<Integer>();
    Test2E.swap2(t);
}

@Test(expected = IllegalArgumentException.class)
public void test_swap2_throws2() {
    List<Integer> t = new ArrayList<Integer>();
    t.add(10000);
    Test2E.swap2(t);
}
```



swap2 should throw an exception because t has only one element.

Choosing test cases

- typically, you use several test cases to test a method
  - the course notes uses the term *test vector* to refer to a collection of test cases
- it is usually impossible or impractical to test all possible sets of arguments
  - how many possible arguments does the worksheet 1 method avg have?

Choosing test cases

- when choosing tests cases, you should consider using
  - arguments that have typical (not unusual) values, and
  - arguments that test boundary cases
    - argument value around the minimum or maximum value allowed by the preconditions
    - argument value around a value where the behavior of the method changes

Example of a boundary case

- consider testing the worksheet 1 method `avg`
- the method has no preconditions
- the boundary values of the arguments `a`, `b`, and `c` are `Integer.MAX_VALUE` and `Integer.MIN_VALUE`

```java
@Test
public void test_avg_boundary() {
    int a = Integer.MAX_VALUE;
    int b = Integer.MAX_VALUE;
    int c = Integer.MAX_VALUE;
    double expected = Integer.MAX_VALUE;
    double actual = Test2E.avg(a, b, c);
    double delta = 1e-9;
    assertEquals(expected, actual, delta);
}
```

Example of a boundary case

- consider testing the method `isBetween`

isBetween

```
public static boolean isBetween(int min,
                                int max,
                                int value)
```

Returns true if `value` is strictly greater than `min` and strictly less than `max`, and false otherwise.

Parameters:

`min` - a minimum value

`max` - a maximum value

`value` - a value to check

Returns:

`true if value is strictly greater than min and strictly less than max, and false otherwise`

Precondition:

`min is ~~greater~~ than or equal to max`

less

Example of a boundary case

- boundary cases:
  - `value == min + 1`
    - expected return value: true
  - `value == min`
    - expected return value: false
  - `value == max`
    - expected return value: false
  - `value == max - 1`
    - expected return value: true
  - `min == max`
    - expected result: no exception thrown
  - `min == max - 1`
    - expected result: `IllegalArgumentException` thrown