

Wednesday March 13
Lecture 18

- Lab 6

- Lab Test 3

~ Guide

~ Practice Test

- Tutorial Videos

```
1 Person alan = new Person("Alan");
2 Person mark = new Person("Mark");
3 Person tom = new Person("Tom");
4 Person jim = new Person("Jim");
5 Person[] persons1 = {alan, mark, tom};
6 Person[] persons2 = new Person[persons1.length];
7 for(int i = 0; i < persons1.length; i++) {
8     persons2[i] = persons1[i];
9 }
10 persons1[0].setAge(70);
11 System.out.println(jim.age);
12 System.out.println(alan.age);
13 persons1[0] = jim;
14 persons1[0].setAge(75);
15 System.out.println(jim.age);
16 System.out.println(alan.age);
17 System.out.println(persons2[0].age);
```

alan.age == 0

0
1
2

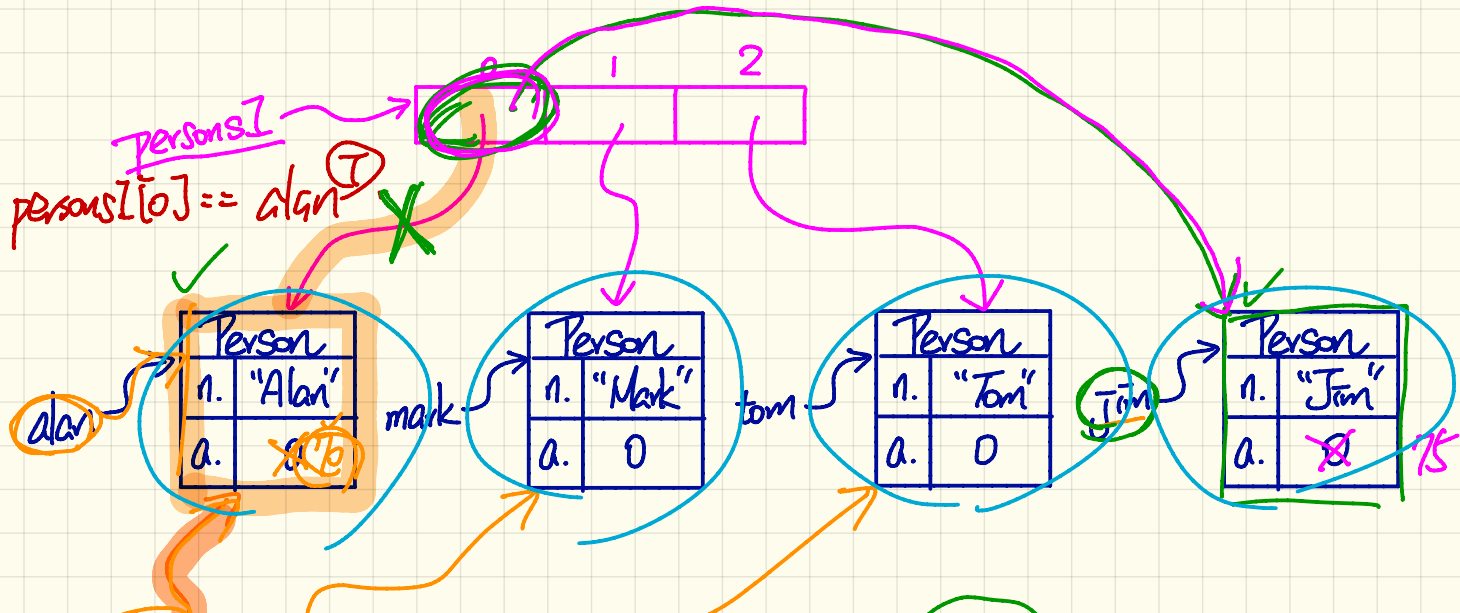
class Person
String name
int age



5

7
8

}



```

13 persons1[0] = jim;
14 persons1[0].setAge(75);
15 System.out.println(jim.age); 75
16 System.out.println(alan.age); 70
17 System.out.println(persons2[0].age) 70

```

Person[] persons;

↳ as if:

Person persons[0]

Person persons[1]

⋮

Person persons[persons.length - 1]



int
boolean
char
double
String

Person
Point

ConsoleBoard

int
double } all lower cases
↳ primitive type

String
Scanner
Person } capitalized
↳ Reference Type

String s1 = null;

store null address
to begin with.

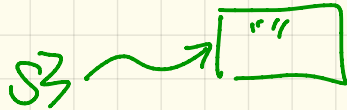
String s2;

store default value null

String s3 = "";

empty string.

""
""



\rightarrow `int[] ia1;` \rightarrow store default value null / pointing where in memory -
 \rightarrow `int[] ia2 = null;` \rightarrow store null
 \rightarrow `int[] ia3 = new int[0];`

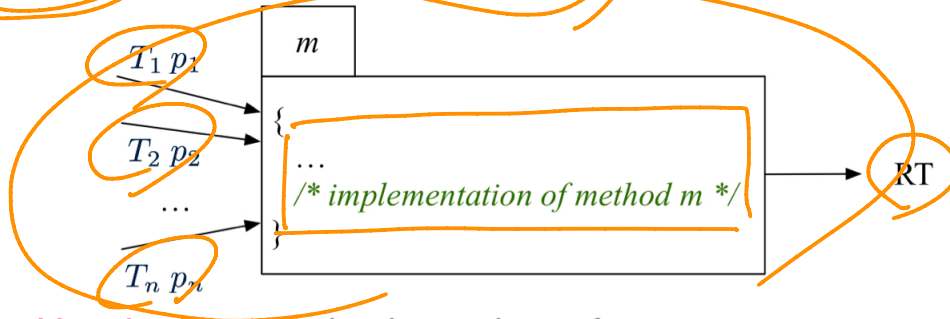
\downarrow
 address of beginning of element of array.

① `println(ia2.length);` \rightarrow NPE. (c.o.)
 ② `println(ia3.length);` \rightarrow 0.

\rightarrow `ia3`

What is a method?

- A **method** is a **named** block of code, **reusable** via its name.



- The **Header** of a method consists of:
 - Return type [RT (which can be void)]
 - Name of method [m]
 - Zero or more **parameter names** [p_1, p_2, \dots, p_n]
 - The corresponding **parameter types** [T_1, T_2, \dots, T_n]
- A call to method m has the form: $m(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n)$
Types of **argument values** a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n must match the the corresponding parameter types T_1, T_2, \dots, T_n .

Parameters vs. Arguments

```
class Point {  
    Point(double x, double y) {...}  
  
    double getDistanceFrom(Point other) {...}  
  
    void move(char direction, double units) {...}  
}
```

Class/Template
Definition
→ name of param.

parameters

argument

double getDist(
Point p1, Point p2)
other1 other2

Method
Usages

```
class PointTester {  
    static void main(String[] args) {  
        Point p1 = new Point(2.5, -3.6);  
        Point p2 = new Point(-4.8, 5.9);  
        → double dist1 = p1.getDistanceFrom(p2);  
        → double dist2 = p2.getDistanceFrom(p1);  
        p1.move('R', 7.6);  
    }  
}
```

argument

argument

Kinds of Methods

1. Constructor

- Same name as the class. No return type. *Initializes* attributes.
- Called with the **new** keyword.
- e.g., `Person jim = new Person(50, "British");`

`void Person(...)` X

2. Mutator

- *Changes* (re-assigns) attributes
- void return type
- Cannot be used when a value is expected X
- e.g., `double h = jim.setHeight(78.5)` is illegal!

`Person jim = Person(...)` X

3. Accessor

- *Uses* attributes for computations (without changing their values)
- Any return type other than void
- An explicit *return statement* (typically at the end of the method) returns the computation result to where the method is being used.
- e.g., `double bmi = jim.getBMI();`
- e.g., `println(pl.getDistanceFromOrigin());`

Use of Accessors vs. Mutators

Computes but not useful

```
→ class Person {  
    void setWeight(double weight) { (...)}  
    double getBMI() { (...)}  
}
```

- Calls to **mutator methods** *cannot* be used as values.

◦ e.g., `System.out.println(jim.setWeight(78.5));` ×

◦ e.g., `double w = jim.setWeight(78.5);` ×

→ e.g., `jim.setWeight(78.5);` ✓

- Calls to **accessor methods** *should* be used as values.

◦ e.g., `jim.getBMI();`

return double ✓ but wasted

→ e.g., `System.out.println(jim.getBMI());` ✓

→ e.g., `double w = jim.getBMI();` ✓

double

×



Method Parameters

- **Principle 1:** A **constructor** needs an **input parameter** for every **attribute** that you wish to initialize.

e.g., `Person(double w, double h)` vs.

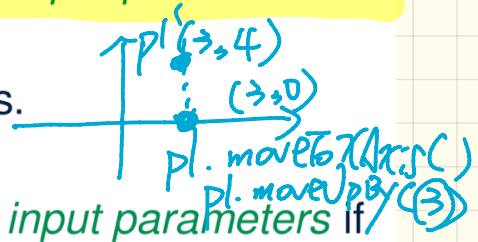
`Person(String fName, String lName)`

init. w. bad h.
init. f. l.

- **Principle 2:** A **mutator** method needs an **input parameter** for every attribute that you wish to modify.

e.g., In `Point`, `void moveToXAxis()` vs.

`void moveUpBy(double unit)`



- **Principle 3:** An **accessor method** needs **input parameters** if the attributes alone are not sufficient for the intended computation to complete.

e.g., In `Point`, `double getDistFromOrigin()` vs.

`double getDistFrom(Point other)`