

# CS 113 – Computer Science I

## Lecture 08 – Recursion, Strings, Arrays

Thursday 09/28/2023

# Announcements

- HW02:
  - Due tonight
- HW03 – releasing tonight
  - Due Monday 10/02
- **Read & Follow Instructions**
  - Don't just skim the labs & homework

# Agenda

## Recursion

# Comparing strings

- In Java, you cannot directly compare strings using `==`
- Instead, use **`compareTo`**
  - Javadocs: <https://docs.oracle.com/javase/7/docs/api/java/lang/String.html>

## compareTo

```
public int compareTo(String anotherString)
```

Compares two strings lexicographically. The comparison is based on the Unicode value of each character in the strings. The character sequence represented by this `String` object is compared lexicographically to the character sequence represented by the argument string. The result is a negative integer if this `String` object lexicographically precedes the argument string. The result is a positive integer if this `String` object lexicographically follows the argument string. The result is zero if the strings are equal; `compareTo` returns 0 exactly when the `equals(Object)` method would return `true`.

This is the definition of lexicographic ordering. If two strings are different, then either they have different characters at some index that is a valid index for both strings, or their lengths are different, or both. If they have different characters at one or more index positions, let  $k$  be the smallest such index; then the string whose character at position  $k$  has the smaller value, as determined by using the `<` operator, lexicographically precedes the other string. In this case, `compareTo` returns the difference of the two character values at position  $k$  in the two string -- that is, the value:

$$\text{this.charAt}(k) - \text{anotherString.charAt}(k)$$

If there is no index position at which they differ, then the shorter string lexicographically precedes the longer string. In this case, `compareTo` returns the difference of the lengths of the strings -- that is, the value:

$$\text{this.length}() - \text{anotherString.length}()$$

### Specified by:

`compareTo` in interface `Comparable<String>`

### Parameters:

`anotherString` - the `String` to be compared.

### Returns:

the value 0 if the argument string is equal to this string; a value less than 0 if this string is lexicographically less than the string argument; and a value greater than 0 if this string is lexicographically greater than the string argument.

```
public int compareTo(String anotherString)
```

## Parameters:

`anotherString` - the `String` to be compared.

## Returns:

- the value 0 if the argument string is equal to this string;
- a value less than 0 if this string is lexicographically less than the string argument;
- and a value greater than 0 if this string is lexicographically greater than the string argument.

# Comparing strings

- In Java, you cannot directly compare strings: use **compareTo**

```
String a = "apple";  
String b = "banana";  
if (a.compareTo(b) == 0) {  
    System.out.println("a and b match!");  
}  
if (a.compareTo(b) != 0) {  
    System.out.println("a and b DO NOT match!");  
}
```

# Lexicographic Values/Order

- Strings are **ordered lexicographically**
  - Generally, the same order as alphabetical order, with some caveats
  - The characters of a string each correspond to a number



# ASCII

Dec	Hx	Oct	Char	Dec	Hx	Oct	Html	Chr	Dec	Hx	Oct	Html	Chr	Dec	Hx	Oct	Html	Chr
0	0	000	<b>NUL</b> (null)	32	20	040	&#32;	<b>Space</b>	64	40	100	&#64;	<b>@</b>	96	60	140	&#96;	<b>`</b>
1	1	001	<b>SOH</b> (start of heading)	33	21	041	&#33;	<b>!</b>	65	41	101	&#65;	<b>A</b>	97	61	141	&#97;	<b>a</b>
2	2	002	<b>STX</b> (start of text)	34	22	042	&#34;	<b>"</b>	66	42	102	&#66;	<b>B</b>	98	62	142	&#98;	<b>b</b>
3	3	003	<b>ETX</b> (end of text)	35	23	043	&#35;	<b>#</b>	67	43	103	&#67;	<b>C</b>	99	63	143	&#99;	<b>c</b>
4	4	004	<b>EOT</b> (end of transmission)	36	24	044	&#36;	<b>\$</b>	68	44	104	&#68;	<b>D</b>	100	64	144	&#100;	<b>d</b>
5	5	005	<b>ENQ</b> (enquiry)	37	25	045	&#37;	<b>%</b>	69	45	105	&#69;	<b>E</b>	101	65	145	&#101;	<b>e</b>
6	6	006	<b>ACK</b> (acknowledge)	38	26	046	&#38;	<b>&amp;</b>	70	46	106	&#70;	<b>F</b>	102	66	146	&#102;	<b>f</b>
7	7	007	<b>BEL</b> (bell)	39	27	047	&#39;	<b>'</b>	71	47	107	&#71;	<b>G</b>	103	67	147	&#103;	<b>g</b>
8	8	010	<b>BS</b> (backspace)	40	28	050	&#40;	<b>(</b>	72	48	110	&#72;	<b>H</b>	104	68	150	&#104;	<b>h</b>
9	9	011	<b>TAB</b> (horizontal tab)	41	29	051	&#41;	<b>)</b>	73	49	111	&#73;	<b>I</b>	105	69	151	&#105;	<b>i</b>
10	A	012	<b>LF</b> (NL line feed, new line)	42	2A	052	&#42;	<b>*</b>	74	4A	112	&#74;	<b>J</b>	106	6A	152	&#106;	<b>j</b>
11	B	013	<b>VT</b> (vertical tab)	43	2B	053	&#43;	<b>+</b>	75	4B	113	&#75;	<b>K</b>	107	6B	153	&#107;	<b>k</b>
12	C	014	<b>FF</b> (NP form feed, new page)	44	2C	054	&#44;	<b>,</b>	76	4C	114	&#76;	<b>L</b>	108	6C	154	&#108;	<b>l</b>
13	D	015	<b>CR</b> (carriage return)	45	2D	055	&#45;	<b>-</b>	77	4D	115	&#77;	<b>M</b>	109	6D	155	&#109;	<b>m</b>
14	E	016	<b>SO</b> (shift out)	46	2E	056	&#46;	<b>.</b>	78	4E	116	&#78;	<b>N</b>	110	6E	156	&#110;	<b>n</b>
15	F	017	<b>SI</b> (shift in)	47	2F	057	&#47;	<b>/</b>	79	4F	117	&#79;	<b>O</b>	111	6F	157	&#111;	<b>o</b>
16	10	020	<b>DLE</b> (data link escape)	48	30	060	&#48;	<b>0</b>	80	50	120	&#80;	<b>P</b>	112	70	160	&#112;	<b>p</b>
17	11	021	<b>DC1</b> (device control 1)	49	31	061	&#49;	<b>1</b>	81	51	121	&#81;	<b>Q</b>	113	71	161	&#113;	<b>q</b>
18	12	022	<b>DC2</b> (device control 2)	50	32	062	&#50;	<b>2</b>	82	52	122	&#82;	<b>R</b>	114	72	162	&#114;	<b>r</b>
19	13	023	<b>DC3</b> (device control 3)	51	33	063	&#51;	<b>3</b>	83	53	123	&#83;	<b>S</b>	115	73	163	&#115;	<b>s</b>
20	14	024	<b>DC4</b> (device control 4)	52	34	064	&#52;	<b>4</b>	84	54	124	&#84;	<b>T</b>	116	74	164	&#116;	<b>t</b>
21	15	025	<b>NAK</b> (negative acknowledge)	53	35	065	&#53;	<b>5</b>	85	55	125	&#85;	<b>U</b>	117	75	165	&#117;	<b>u</b>
22	16	026	<b>SYN</b> (synchronous idle)	54	36	066	&#54;	<b>6</b>	86	56	126	&#86;	<b>V</b>	118	76	166	&#118;	<b>v</b>
23	17	027	<b>ETB</b> (end of trans. block)	55	37	067	&#55;	<b>7</b>	87	57	127	&#87;	<b>W</b>	119	77	167	&#119;	<b>w</b>
24	18	030	<b>CAN</b> (cancel)	56	38	070	&#56;	<b>8</b>	88	58	130	&#88;	<b>X</b>	120	78	170	&#120;	<b>x</b>
25	19	031	<b>EM</b> (end of medium)	57	39	071	&#57;	<b>9</b>	89	59	131	&#89;	<b>Y</b>	121	79	171	&#121;	<b>y</b>
26	1A	032	<b>SUB</b> (substitute)	58	3A	072	&#58;	<b>:</b>	90	5A	132	&#90;	<b>Z</b>	122	7A	172	&#122;	<b>z</b>
27	1B	033	<b>ESC</b> (escape)	59	3B	073	&#59;	<b>;</b>	91	5B	133	&#91;	<b>[</b>	123	7B	173	&#123;	<b>{</b>
28	1C	034	<b>FS</b> (file separator)	60	3C	074	&#60;	<b>&lt;</b>	92	5C	134	&#92;	<b>\</b>	124	7C	174	&#124;	<b> </b>
29	1D	035	<b>GS</b> (group separator)	61	3D	075	&#61;	<b>=</b>	93	5D	135	&#93;	<b>]</b>	125	7D	175	&#125;	<b>}</b>
30	1E	036	<b>RS</b> (record separator)	62	3E	076	&#62;	<b>&gt;</b>	94	5E	136	&#94;	<b>^</b>	126	7E	176	&#126;	<b>~</b>
31	1F	037	<b>US</b> (unit separator)	63	3F	077	&#63;	<b>?</b>	95	5F	137	&#95;	<b>_</b>	127	7F	177	&#127;	<b>DEL</b>

Source: [www.LookupTables.com](http://www.LookupTables.com)

# StringCompare.java

```
String first = "a";
String second = "A";
int asciia = (int) first.charAt(0);
int asciib = (int) second.charAt(0);
System.out.println("ASCII Code for "+first+" is " + asciia);
System.out.println("ASCII Code for "+second+" is " + asciib);

if (first.compareTo(second) == 0) {
    System.out.println(first+" is equal to "+second);
}
else if (first.compareTo(second) < 0) {
    System.out.println(first+" is less than "+second);
}
else if (first.compareTo(second) > 0) {
    System.out.println(first+" is greater than "+second);
}
```

```
$ java StringCompare
ASCII Code for a is 97
ASCII Code for A is 65
a is greater than A
```

# Exercise: IsPrimary

Write a program that asks the user for a color and prints whether the color is primary or not.

- The primary colors are “red”, “green”, “blue”
- All other inputs are non-primary

```
$ java IsPrimary
Enter a color: green
green is not primary

$ java IsPrimary
Enter a color: blue
blue is primary
```

# Top down design

1. Identify features of the program
  1. List them out!
2. Identify verbs and nouns in feature list
  1. Verbs: functions
  2. Nouns: objects/variables
3. Sketch major steps – how features should fit together
  1. Algorithm!
4. Write program skeleton
  1. Include method **stubs** (placeholders for our functions)
  2. method **stub**: empty function with parameters and return type
5. Implement and test method stubs one at a time

# Smart way to wash dishes

Punt the problem to someone else

But we want to wash one dish so we can say we washed a dish

# Recursion

a function that calls itself



“Simple” way to solve “similar” problems

# Creating a recursive algorithms

**Rule** that “does work” then “calls itself” on a smaller version of the problem

**Base case** that handles the smallest problem  
Prevents “infinite recursion”

# Recursion Example – Contains letter

Write a method called “containsLetter” that determines if a String contains a given character

Question: What are the parameters?

1. The String to be looking in
2. The character to look for

Question: What is the return type?



# Recursion Example – Contains letter

How can we break this problem down into smaller problems?

```
contains("l", "apple") =  
    contains("l", "a") OR  
    contains("l", "p") OR  
    contains("l", "p") OR  
    contains("l", "l") OR  
    contains("l", "e") OR
```

# Recursion Visualization – Contains letter

```
contains("l", "apple") =  
    contains("l", "apple")  
        contains("l", "pple")  
            contains("l", "ple")  
                contains("l", "le")  
                    return true
```

# Recursion Example – IndexOf letter

Write a method called IndexOf.

Arguments: String (haystack), Character (needle)

Return: the index of the character in the String, if the character isn't there, return:

-1.

# Recursion Example – printVowels

Write a recursive function that prints just the vowels in a String

# Recursion limitations

- Limited number of times we can recurse
  - Stackoverflow – too many frames
- Potentially memory inefficient
  - If we copy data in subproblems – we'll worry about this in a few weeks
- Performance: might duplicate unnecessary work
  - We'll define performance later in the semester

# Style

- How we format our programs is **very** important
  - Like rules of etiquette around eating and keep a clean appearance
  - Like punctuation rules, it helps make text more readable
- Variable names should be descriptive
- Indentation is **very** important
  - Every statement inside a pair of braces must be indented
- Braces should be placed consistently

# Arrays

# Strings revisited



# Arrays

# Arrays

Idea: Store multiple values into a single variable

Values are sequential

Analogous to a list

# Arrays

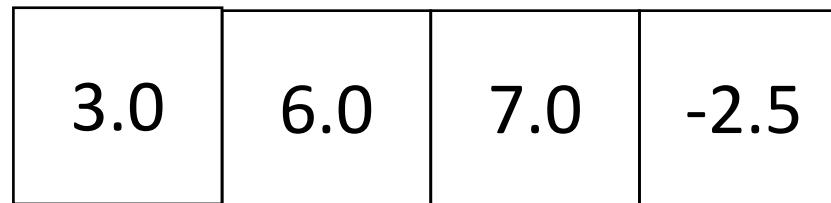
```
double val = 3.0;
```

val



```
double[] vals = {3.0, 6.0, 7.0, -2.5};
```

vals



# Arrays

## Three ways to initialize an array

1. With an initial value

```
int[] numbers = {1, 2, 5};
```

2. With allocated space, but uninitialized

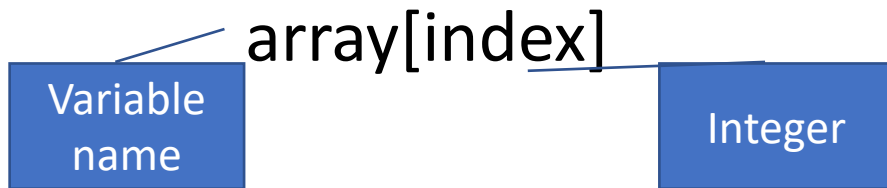
```
int[] numbers = new int[3];
```

3. With an empty array reference

```
int[] numbers = null;
```

# Array Indexing

Access individual elements of an array with indexing



We use *zero*-based indexing

first element is **0**

last element is **length-1**

Accessing indices out of range results in a **runtime error!**

# Exercise: print backwards

Write a program, `Backwards.java`, that asks the user for 3 integers and then prints the list of numbers in reverse order

# Strings

Strings are implemented as *arrays of characters*

Get the length of a string with `length()`

```
String greeting = "hola";
```

```
int len = greeting.length(); // what is the length?
```

```
char c = greeting[2]; // what character is in index 2?
```

**char:** New built-in type, denoted with single quote, e.g. `'a'` or `'{'`

# Strings as an array of characters

String str = "hello world"

- How many characters in this String?

10

- How do we access the first character?

str.charAt(0)

- How do access the 5<sup>th</sup> character?

str.charAt(4)



# Exercise: GetCharacters.java

Write a program, GetCharacters.java, that asks the user for a word and then prints the first, last and middle character.

```
Enter a word: hola!  
FirstIndex: 0 FirstCharacter: h  
MiddleIndex: 2 MiddleCharacter: l  
LastIndex: 5 LastCharacter: !
```

# Command line arguments

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

Command line arguments are an *array of String*

Exercise: Write a program called `commandLineArgs.java` that

- 1) prints out 3 command line arguments that are passed in.
- 2) Compute the sum of three command line arguments (assuming they are integers)

# Recursion Example – printList

Write a recursive function that prints the contents of an array