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Program Structures & Algorithms

Fall 2021

Assignment No. 1

◉ **Task**

Question:

Imagine a drunken man who, starting out leaning against a lamp post in the middle of an open space, takes a series of steps of the same length: 1 meter. The direction of these steps is randomly chosen from North, South, East or West. After n steps, how far (d), generally speaking, is the man from the lamp post?

Procedure:

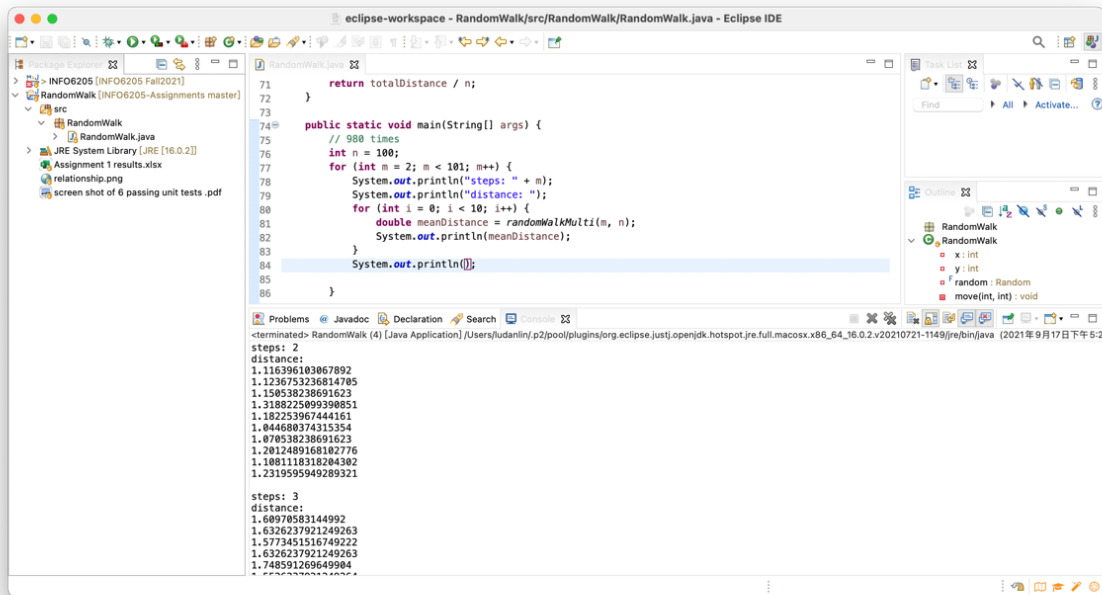
1. Implement all blank methods in RandomWalk.java
2. Pass all the unit tests
3. Draw conclusion on the relationship between the number of steps (n) and the distance from the origin (d)
4. Prove the conclusion with graphs

◉ **Relationship Conclusion: $d = \sqrt{n}$ or $n = d^2$**

◉ **Evidence to support the conclusion:**

1. Output

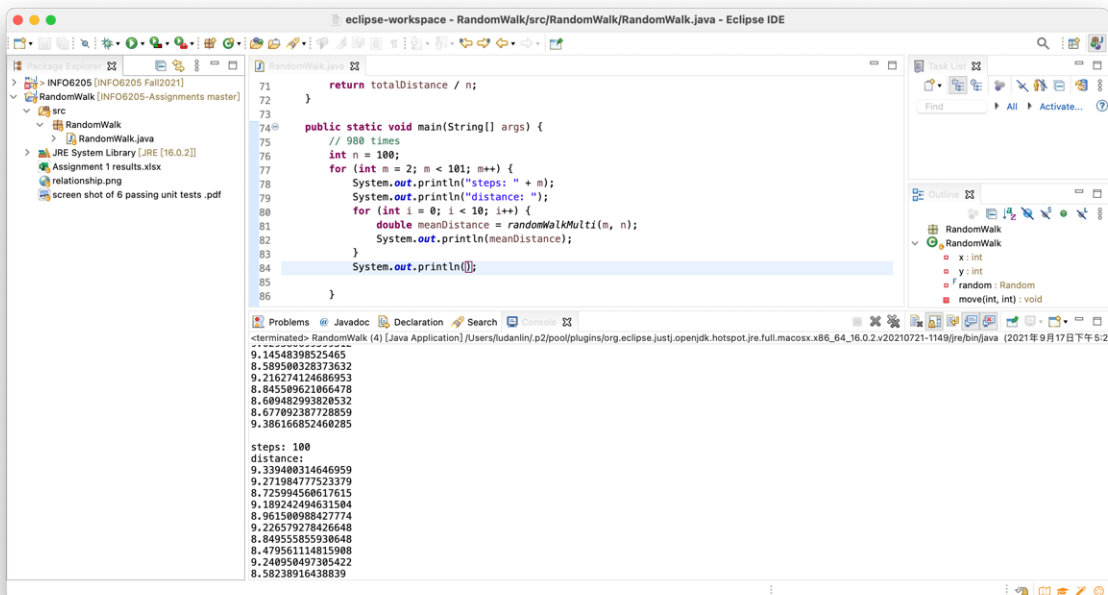
As there are total 990 numbers for distance, I just give two snapshots here, which are the beginning and the ending of the results.



```
71         return totalDistance / n;
72     }
73
74     public static void main(String[] args) {
75         // 980 times
76         int n = 100;
77         for (int m = 2; m < 101; m++) {
78             System.out.println("steps: " + m);
79             System.out.println("distance: ");
80             for (int i = 0; i < 10; i++) {
81                 double meanDistance = randomWalkMulti(m, n);
82                 System.out.println(meanDistance);
83             }
84             System.out.println();
85         }
86     }
```

steps: 2
distance:
1.116396183067892
1.1236753236814705
1.150538238691623
1.318825899398851
1.182253967444161
1.044680374315354
1.078538238691623
1.2012489168182776
1.1081118318204302
1.2319595949289321

steps: 3
distance:
1.60978583144992
1.6336237921249263
1.5773451516749222
1.6326237921249263
1.748591269649984

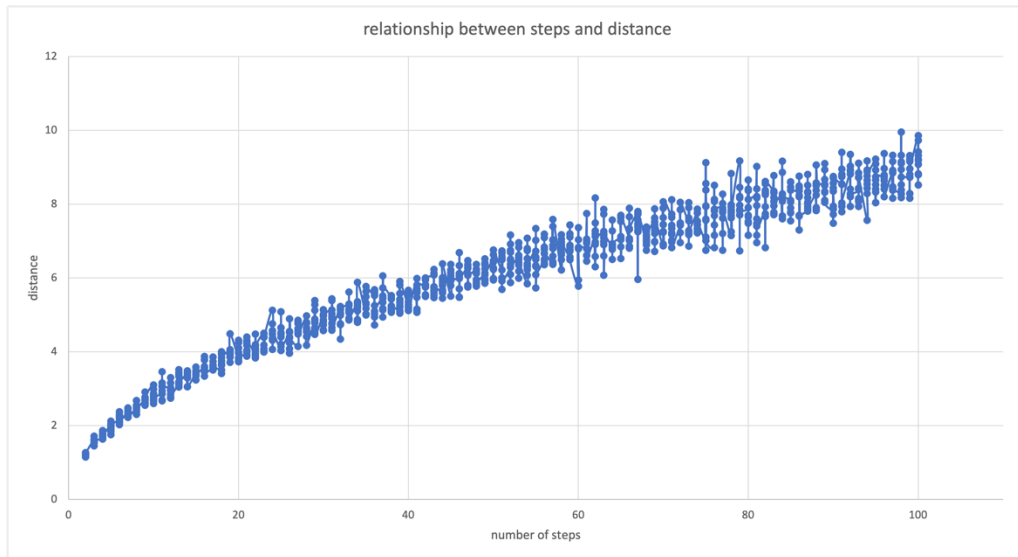


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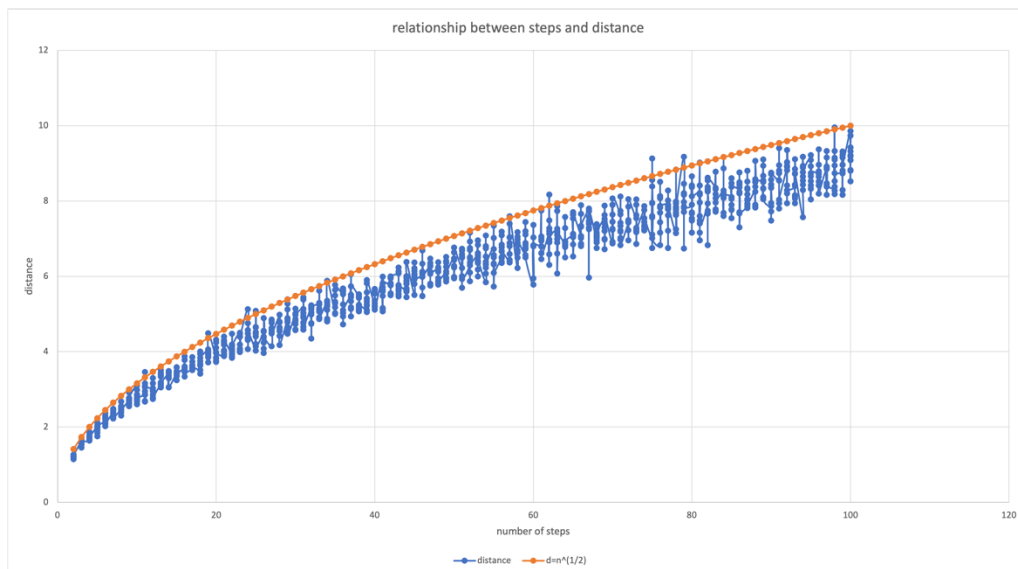
steps: 100
distance:
9.339480314646959
9.27198477523379
8.725994568617615
9.189242494631584
8.96158088427774
9.226579278426648
8.84955585930648
8.47956114815980
9.240950497305422
8.58238916438839

2. Graphical Representation

The dot graph observed:



And then I plot the line of $d = \sqrt{n}$ (orange line) with the observed points:



I find that the orange line can describe the blue points observed, meaning that the relationship between d and n is $d = \sqrt{n}$.

◦ Unit tests result:

All 6 unit tests are pass and none of code is modified:

