

# CIS 351-Data Structure-Method Overloading

## Jan 28, 2020

**Dr. Farzana Rahman**

Syracuse University



# Quiz 1: What Will Be Printed?

```
public class MethodDemo {  
  
    public static void main(String[] args) {  
        int a;  
        int b;  
        int c;  
  
        a = 2;  
        b = 3;  
        c = methodOne(b, a);  
        System.out.println(a + " " + b + " " + c);  
    }  
  
    public static int methodOne(int a, int b) {  
        int result;  
  
        result = a * 2 + b;  
        a = 6;  
        return result;  
    }  
}
```

# Passing argument

- A method can be written to accept argument:

```
System.out.println(str);
```



Argument

- General format of method declaration:

```
return-value-type  method-name(  parameter1, ..., parameterN  )  
{  
    declarations and statements  
}
```



Parameter variable

- Multiple argument passing is allowed in java
- How to pass argument: 

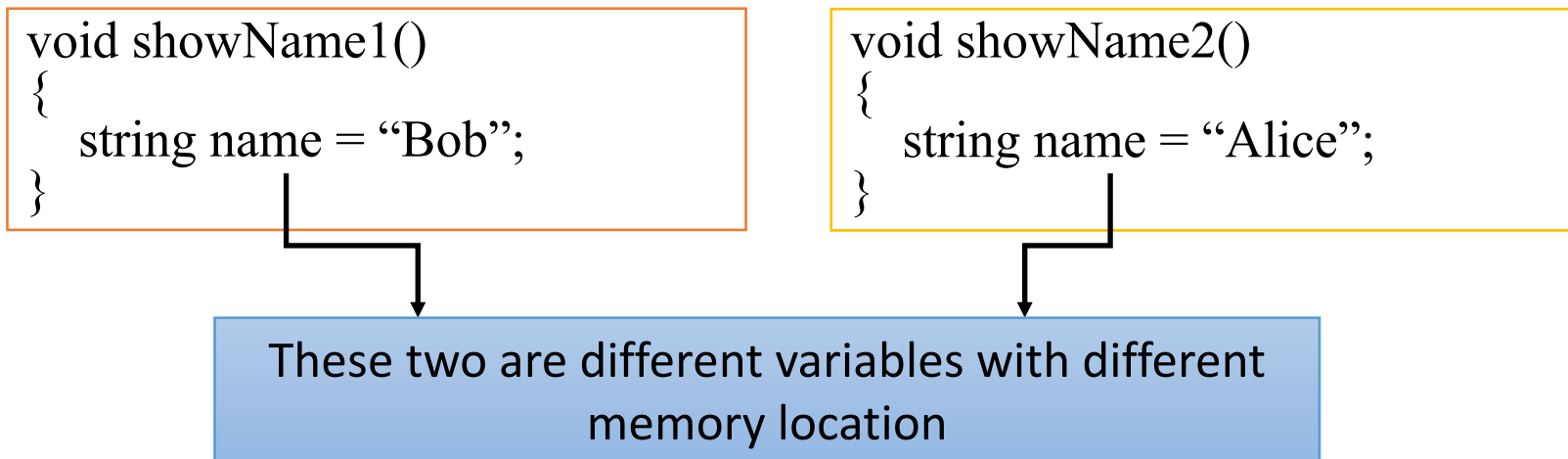
```
String str = "Hello";  
System.out.println(str);
```
- Be sure that argument's data type is compatible with parameter variable type.
- Java does widening conversion if argument type ranked lower than parameter type.

# Two Types of Parameter Passing

- In java, all argument of **primitive data types** are passed by value.
  - In this case, modification of the *formal argument* has **no** effect on the *actual argument*, - it is **call by value**
- If we pass any **object** as an argument, the **memory address** held by that object variable is passed
  - In this case, modification of the *formal argument* can change the value of the *actual argument*, - it is **call by reference**
  - **The pointer to the object is passed, not the object itself**
- However, String object is immutable in java- they do not change.

# Scoping Rule

- A local variable is declared inside a method and it is **not accessible** to statements outside the method
- Different methods can have local variables of the same name, since methods cannot see each other's local variable



- A method's local variable exists only during the **execution** of the method. This is known as the lifetime of the *variable*.

# Returning value from a method

- A method may send a value back to the statements that called the method – are called value returning method

```
int num;  
num = keyboard.nextInt();
```

- Defining a value returning method

```
public int calculateMin(int num1, int num2)  
{  
    .....  
    int minimum_value= /*calculate the minimum*/  
    return minimum_value;  
}
```

- How to call this method

```
int n1 = 10;  
int n2 = 100;  
int MinValue = calculateMin(n1, n2);
```

- It can be either a primitive data type variable
- It can be an object too

# Method Overloading in JAVA

- It turns out that Java allows a programmer to write two or more methods with the same name in the same class
- This is called method overloading
- The only requirement is that each method declaration has to be different from the others by the parameter type, position, or number

# Method Overloading (cont.)

- When the Java compiler tries to decipher overloaded methods it looks at the **method signature**
  - which is the combination of the **method name** and the **number** and **types** of its **parameters**



# Example (method overloading)

```
Public void calcArea(int x, int y)
{
}
}
```

```
Public void calcArea(double r)
{
}
}
```

```
Public void calcArea(int x, int y, double r)
{
}
}
```

# Example (method overloading)

**Circle c = new Circle();**

**c.calArea(3,3);** →

```
Public void calcArea(int x, int y)
{
}

```

**c.calArea(5.3);**

```
Public void calcArea(double r)
{
}

```

**c.calArea(3, 3, 5.3);**

```
Public void calcArea(int x, int y, double r)
{
}

```

# The Keyword this

- Use this to **refer** to the **current** object.
- Use this to invoke other **constructors** of the **object**.