Documentation & Javadoc

Automated Documentation Generation

Java API

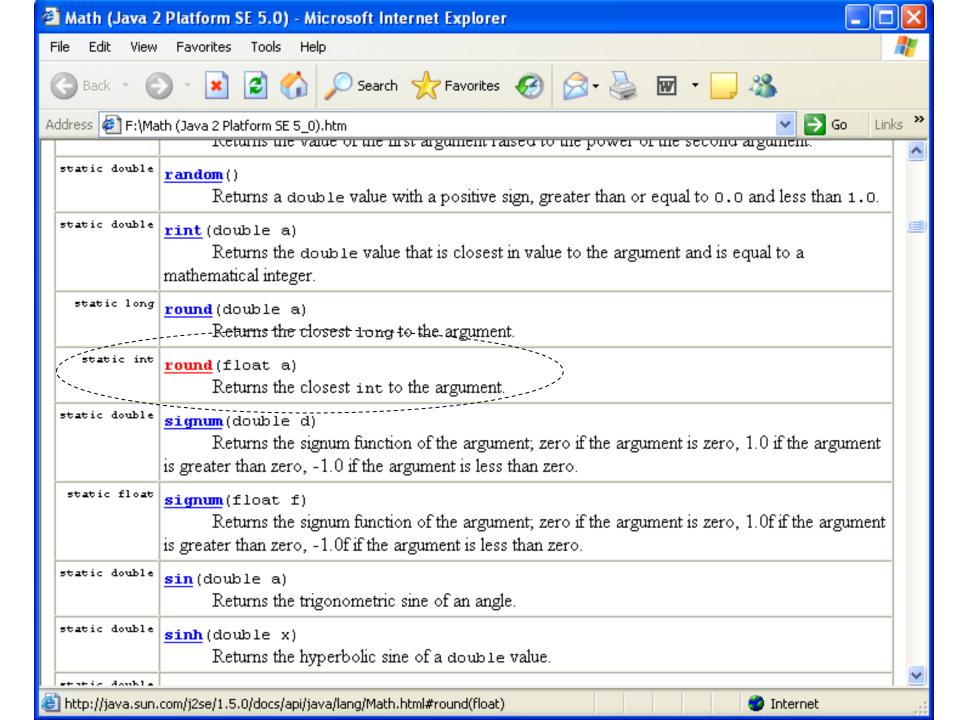
- Check out the Java API
 - Application Program Interface

http://docs.oracle.com/javase/8/docs/api/

Its like an instruction manual for different Java commands

Returns the arc cosine of a value; the returned angle is in the range 0.0 through pi.

static double agin (double a)



Self Documenting

- Programs should be self documenting
- Self documenting requires two things
- 1. Use meaningful names for variables, classes etc
 - Indentation
 - Classes begin with a capital letter and identifier names begin with a small letter.
- 2. Include comments where appropriate

Javadoc

- Programs are generally built using some preexisting code
 - after all, why re-invent the wheel?
- Its important to describe your code for future users and for your future self

 Javadoc helps you to document your code properly and professionally

Javadoc on the command line

Future: Download the files from Day12 "Examples of Object Oriented inheritance" and store them in a directory on the **x**: **drive**. Then go to this directory in a DOS command shell and type the command:

javadoc -d mydocuments TwoDShape.java

This command will create java documentation for the TwoDShape class in a newly created directory **mydocuments**.

Next open up the **index.html** file in the **mydocuments** directory in a browser to view the documentation.

JavaDoc Comments

 Comments should be included before the start of every class

 Comments should be included before the start of every method

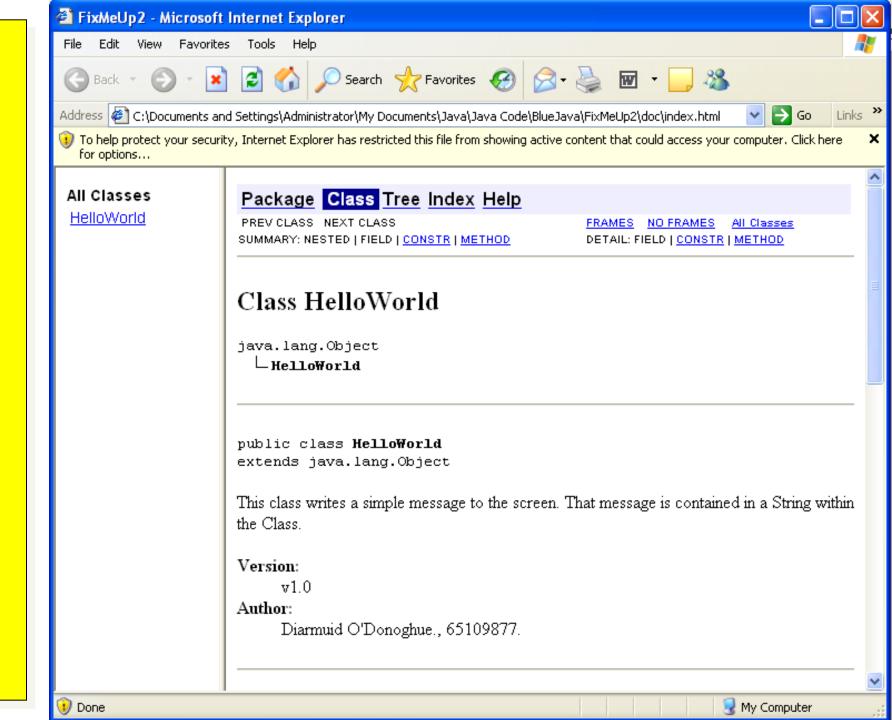
BlueJ and Javadoc

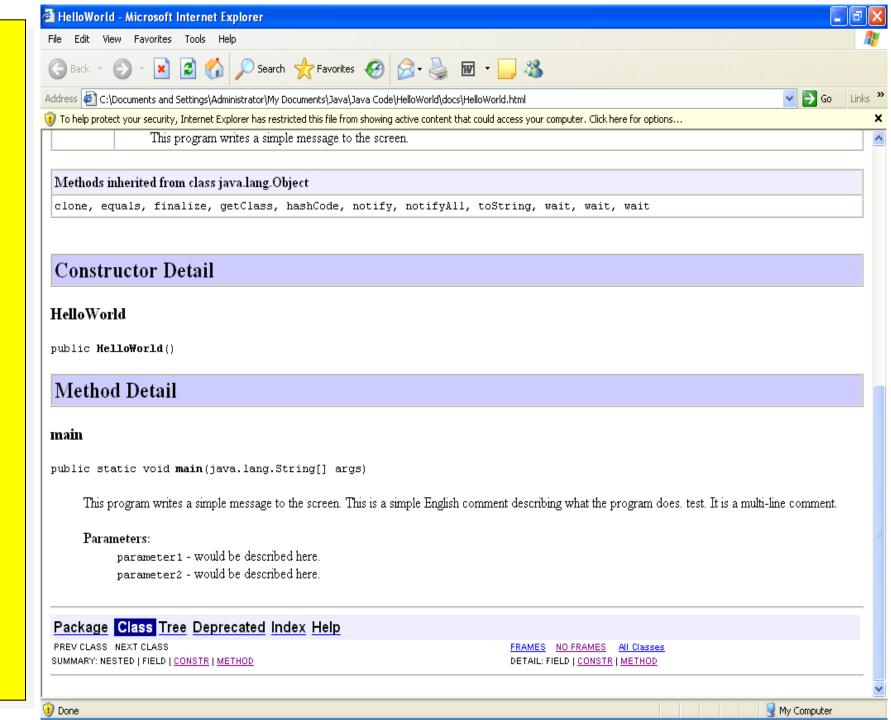
- All Java programs can be documented using Javadoc
 - Tools/Project Documentation
- A new directory (/docs) is added inside your current project

 Browse the documentation with a web-browser (double-click index.html)

Documentation Example

```
/** This class writes a simple message to the screen.
 program does. That message is contained within the
  class.
  Oparam no parameters for this class.
  @return nothing returned by this program.
  @version v1.0
  @author Diarmuid O'Donoghue.
  @author 65109877. */
public class HelloWorld
    public static void main(String[] args)
        System.out.println("Diarmuid really"
                                     + " is great");
           // not very exciting I know
```





3 types of Comments

There are 3 types of comments in Java

```
    // for a few in-line words
    /* */ for a paragraph
    /** */ used with Javadoc
```

- Comments are ignored by the compiler
- Comments are very useful to people who read, use and update your code

// comment

- Typically occurs on same line as a piece of code
- Comment finishes at the end of the line
- Useful to programmer who is looking at the lowest level of detail in the code
- int radius; // in inches
 prc = (pra/2) * 0.85 + (prb/2)
 * 0.85 + 0.15; // the PageRank formula

/* */ Comments

The comment can extend over any number of lines

Useful to programmers

 Can be used to explain the purpose of a couple of lines of code

Ignored by Javadoc

/** */ Comments

- Used by Javadoc to automatically generate html
- Use one for each class and each method
- Place comment immediately above the relevant item

```
/** This is a simple class, that prints
    a message to the screen. */
public class HelloWorld
{
...
```

@param

- Explicitly identify parameters within the documentation
- 1 line given to each parameter
- Located within /** */

```
/** General method description ....
   @param deposit amount deposited by
   customer
*/
```

@return

- Explicitly identify the retun value within the documentation
- 1 line given to each parameter
- Described within /** */

```
/**
   @param deposit amount deposited by customer
   @return newBalance new balance held by customer
*/
```

@author

- Identifies the author of a piece of code
- Use a separate line for each author

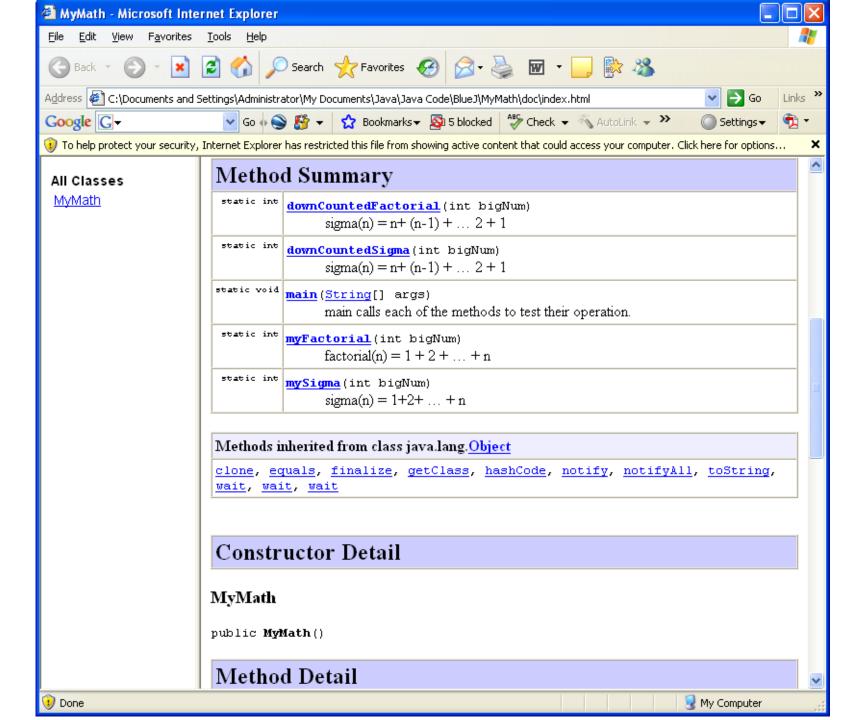
- Other Javadoc tags include:
- @version
- @see
- @deprecated
- @throws

/** */ in Course Work

- Include your name and ID as JavaDoc comments when submitting assignments
- As well as a description of your assignment

```
/**
 * This class is used for assignment 3.
 * @author Diarmuid O'Donoghue
 * @date 10 November 2005
 * @author 1st year CSSE
 * @author 65123456
 */
public class DODAssignment3
{
   public static void main (String[] args)
...
```





Exercise

Provide java documentation for the Circle
 Class and also for the application class you
 wrote to create an instance of the Circle Class.

 (Part of Lab 1 for Day 11) Provide java documentation for the Rectangle Class and also for the application class you wrote to create an instance of the Rectangle Class.

Conclusion

JavaDoc Standard for documentation

 Javadoc comments allow English communication between collaborators

Professional looking documentation