



UC Leuven
Limburg

MOVING MINDS

Enum

Task

Imagine you have to write a class Date...

▶ How to save the month?



Instance variable

```
public class Date {  
    ...  
    private int month = 1;  
    ...  
}
```



Task

Imagine you have to write a class `Date`...

- ▶ How to save the month?
- ▶ `toString()` has to show: “21 JULI 2010”

toString()

```
public class Date {  
    ...  
    private int month = 1;  
    ...  
    public String toString(){  
        String monthString = " ";  
        switch(month){  
            case 1: monthString = "JANUARY"; break;  
            case 2: monthString = "FEBRUARY"; break;  
            case 3: monthString = "MARCH"; break;  
            ...  
        }  
        return getDay() + " " + monthString + " " + getYear();  
    }  
}
```

Task

Imagine you have to write a class Date...

- ▶ How to save the month?
- ▶ toString() has to show: “21 JULI 2010”
- ▶ Date has to be valid



Validation

```
public class Date {  
    ...  
    private int month = 1;  
    ...  
  
    public boolean isValidDate()  
    {  
        if((month == 1 && 31 < day) || (month == 2 && 29 < day) ||  
            (month == 3 && 31 < day) || (month == 4 && 30 < day) ||  
            (month == 5 && 31 < day) || (month == 6 && 30 < day) ||  
            (month == 7 && 31 < day) || (month == 8 && 31 < day) ||  
            (month == 9 && 30 < day) || (month == 10 && 31 < day) ||  
            (month == 11 && 30 < day) || (month == 12 && 31 < day) && ...)  
        {  
            return false;  
        }  
    }  
}
```

Alternatives?



Enum

- Special kind of class
- **enum** instead of **class**
- Fixed set of objects
- months
- wind directions
- days of the week
- ...

```
public enum Day {  
    MONDAY,  
    TUESDAY,  
    WEDNESDAY,  
    THURSDAY,  
    FRIDAY,  
    SATURDAY,  
    SUNDAY;  
}
```

```
public enum WindDirection {  
    NORTH,  
    EAST,  
    SOUTH,  
    WEST;  
}
```

```
public enum Month {  
    JANUARY,  
    FEBRUARY,  
    MARCH,  
    APRIL,  
    MAY,  
    JUNE,  
    JULY,  
    AUGUST,  
    SEPTEMBER,  
    OCTOBER,  
    NOVEMBER,  
    DECEMBER;  
}
```

enum

list of values

separated by a ,

; at the end

Instance variable revisited


```
public class Date {  
    ...  
    private Month month = Month.JANUARY;  
    ...  
}
```

toString() revisited

```
public class Date {  
    ...  
    private Month month = Month.JANUARY;  
    ...  
  
    public String toString(){  
        return day + " " + month.toString() + " " + year;  
    }  
}
```

Validation revisited

```
public class Date {  
    ...  
    private Month month = Month.JANUARY;  
    ...  
  
    public boolean isValidDate()  
    {  
        if((month == 1 && 31 < day) || (month == 2 && 29 < day) ||  
            (month == 3 && 31 < day) || (month == 4 && 30 < day) ||  
            (month == 5 && 31 < day) || (month == 6 && 30 < day) ||  
            (month == 7 && 31 < day) || (month == 8 && 31 < day) ||  
            (month == 9 && 30 < day) || (month == 10 && 31 < day) ||  
            (month == 11 && 30 < day) || (month == 12 && 31 < day) && ...)  
        {  
            return false;  
        }  
    }  
}
```



Month revisited

```
public enum Month {  
    JANUARY (31),  
    FEBRUARY (29),  
    MARCH (31),  
    APRIL (30),  
    MAY (31),  
    JUNE (30),  
    JULY (31),  
    AUGUST (31),  
    SEPTEMBER (30),  
    OCTOBER (31),  
    NOVEMBER (30),  
    DECEMBER (31);  
}
```

extra instance variable

never called

```
private int nbrOfDays;
```

constructor

```
private Month(int nbrOfDays){  
    this.nbrOfDays = nbrOfDays;  
}
```

```
public int getNbrOfDays(){  
    return nbrOfDays;  
}
```

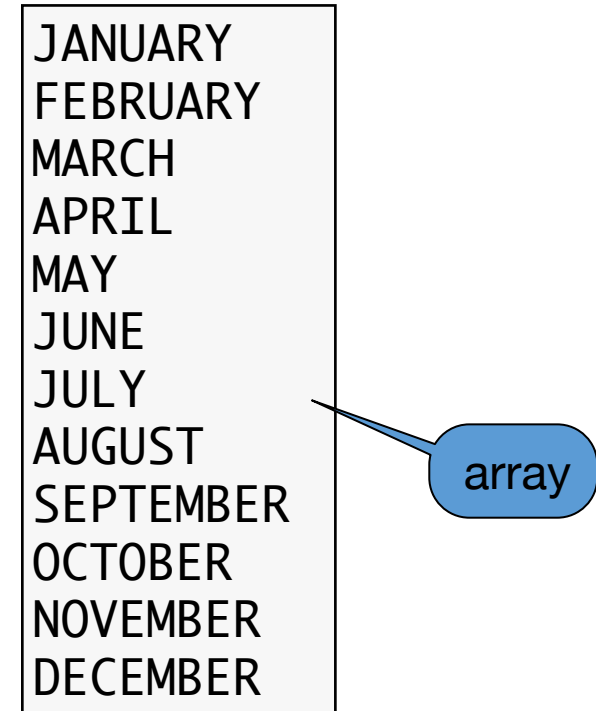
getter

Validation revisited

```
public class Date {  
    ...  
    private Month month = Month.JANUARY;  
    ...  
  
    public boolean isValidDate()  
    {  
        if(day > month.getNbrOfDays() || ...)  
        {  
            return false;  
        }  
    }  
}
```

values()

```
...  
public void printMonths(){  
    for(Month m : Month.values()){  
        System.out.println(m);  
    }  
}
```



valueOf()

- String → enum

```
String monthAsString = "September";  
String monthAsUppercaseString = monthAsString.toUpperCase();  
Month monthAsEnum = Month.valueOf(monthAsUppercaseString);
```


?

- See also: *Example use of enum in Java*