EECS 2030: Lab 0

(1 % of the final grade, may be done in groups of up to three students)

Motivation

This lab will allow you to practice using an Eclipse IDE, and review some basic Java features.

Part 1: Getting Started

Prerequisites: JDK and Eclipse

Developing Java applications requires a Java Development Kit (JDK). In this course we will also use Eclipse – an integrated development environment. Note that some JDK must be installed *before* one can install and use Eclipse. Please follow the installation instructions online[1]. As a backup, you may also use the EECS lab remote access (the link is posted on the course page).

Java: Command-Line

One way to compile and run Java code is to use a command line. For that, one writes the Java code using any plain-text editor (preferably an editor capable of at least highlighting the language's syntax, such as Visual Studio Code, Atom, Notepad++, then compiles and runs the application that was compiled to byte-codes.

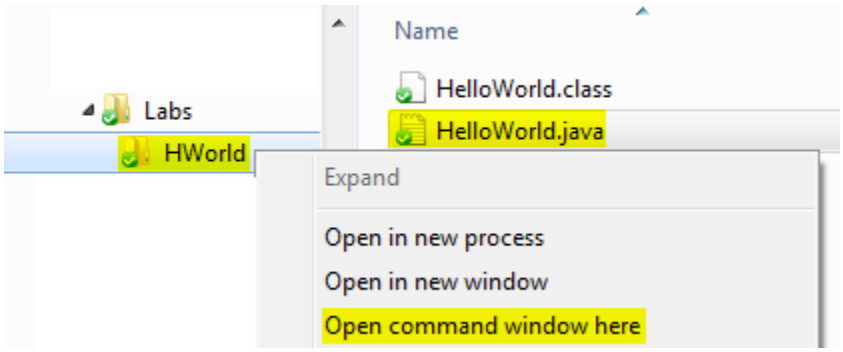
Let's assume the following content is saved to a file called *HelloWorld.java*:

HelloWorld.java

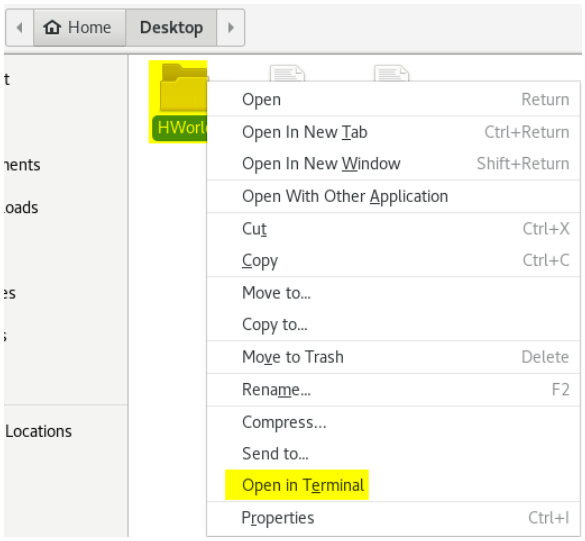
```
1  public class HelloWorld{
2      public static void main (String [] args){
3          System.out.println("Hello World");
4      }
5  }
```

In order to open the command line tool in the location where the file had been saved (and not have to use a *cd* command), in Windows, one can right-click on the directory containing the file while holding the Shift key:

[1] https://wiki.eclipse.org/Eclipse/Installation



Similar context-menu choices exist for other operating systems, e.g., in Linux (CentOS):



Then, the following commands compile and run the code (the full path is greyed out):

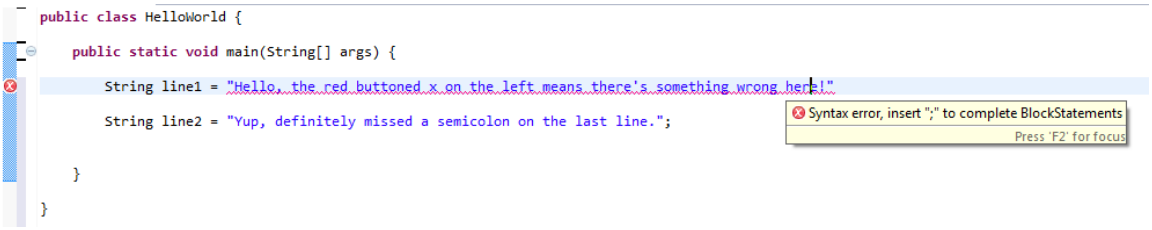
```
                                HWorld>javac HelloWorld.java

                                HWorld>java HelloWorld
Hello World

                                HWorld>
```

In case there are compilation or runtime errors, various error messages will be printed. Try introducing errors and see what kind of messages you receive.

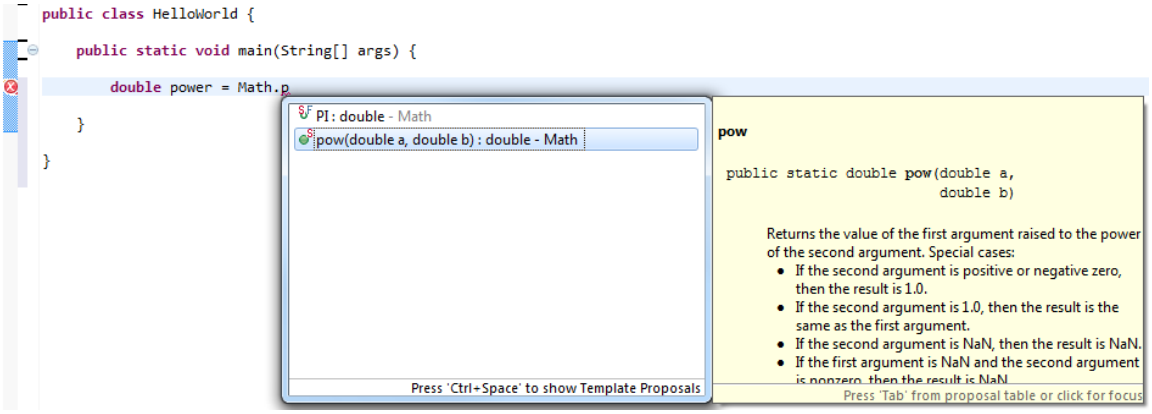
Java: Eclipse

Eclipse is an IDE (an Integrated Development Environment), meaning that it is a program *made* to provide you with all the tools you need to code, wrapped up in a nice user interface. Here are some of the top reasons for using an IDE:

Spot compiler errors quickly - if you've made some small mistake like forgetting a semicolon, or spelling a variable type wrong, the IDE will spot it quickly and let you know:

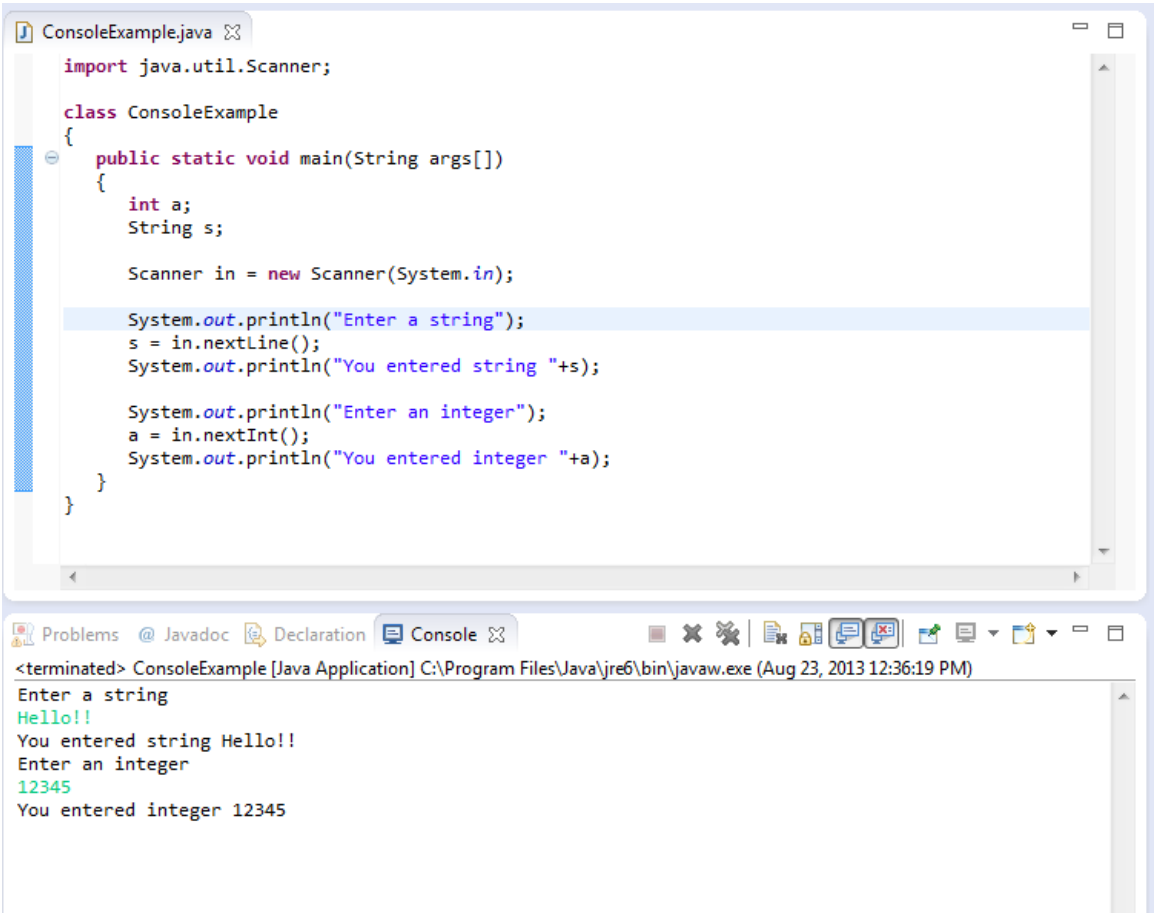


Autocomplete/Content Assist - this feature will save you time and effort by suggesting methods (and their parameters) and types. See below for an example:



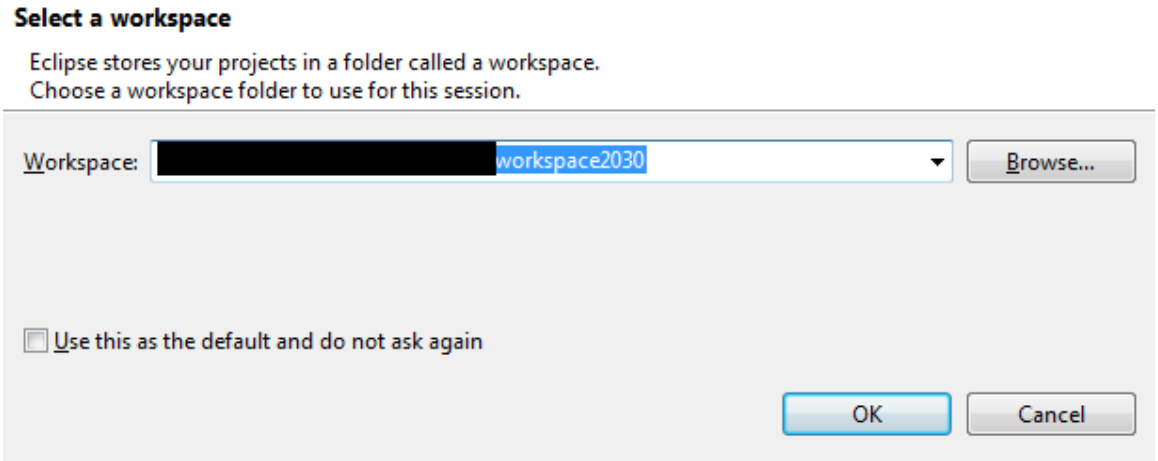
Debug Mode - allows you to watch your variables and source code at any point in your program so you can find out exactly where your program is going wrong.

Built in console and compiler access - saves you the time from going back and forth from editor to console and vice versa.



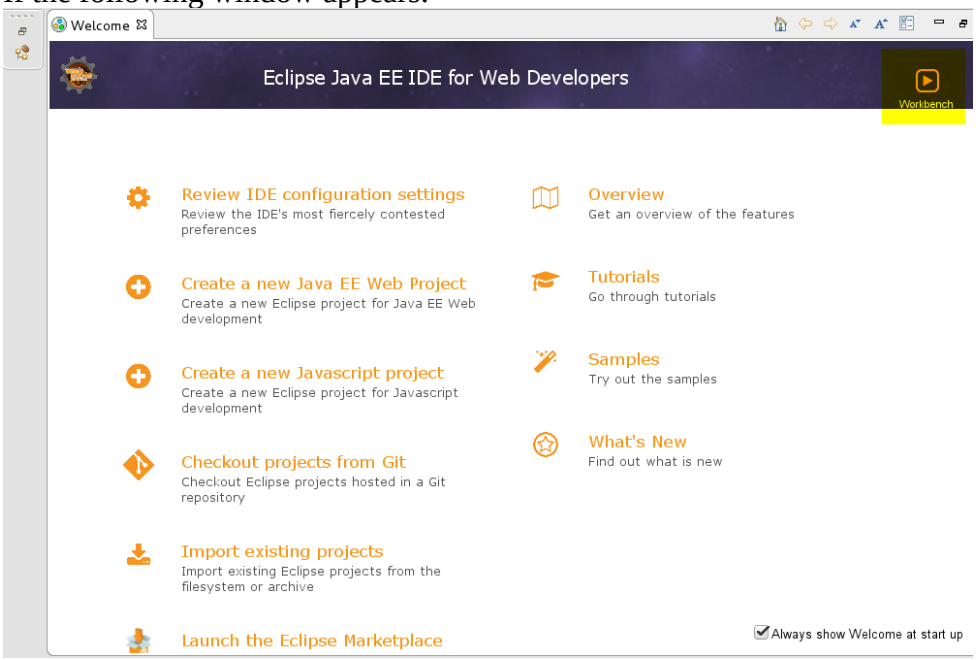
A sample program in Eclipse:

- Start Eclipse
  The following window appears (with some variations)



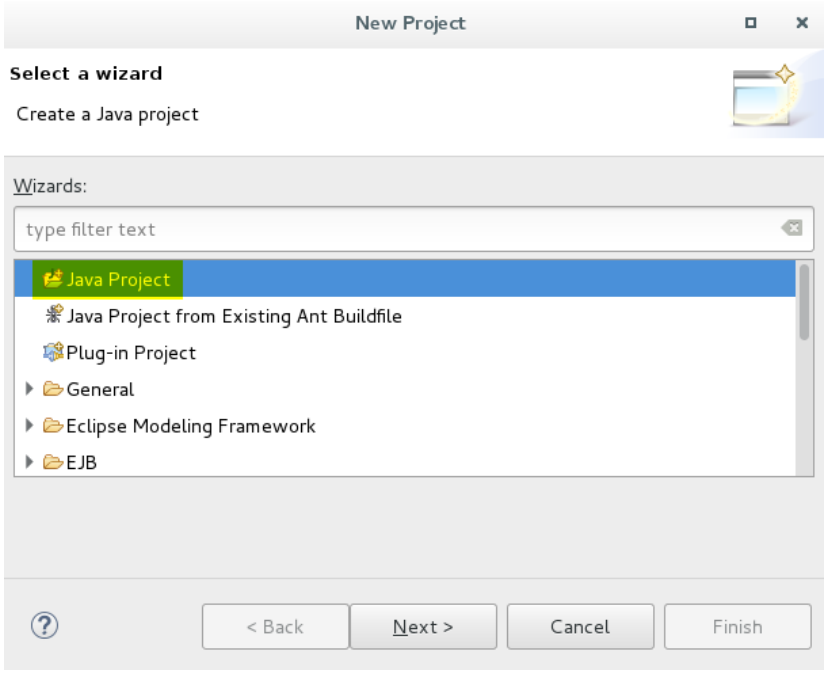
  you will be asked to select a workspace. This is important! This is the root directory to which all of your programs will be saved to, so make sure you know where it is. One may click *Browse...* and create a directory called **eecs2030, workspace2030** –use any directory name that you like (including the default one **workspace**); try to avoid spaces in the directory names.

- If the following window appears:

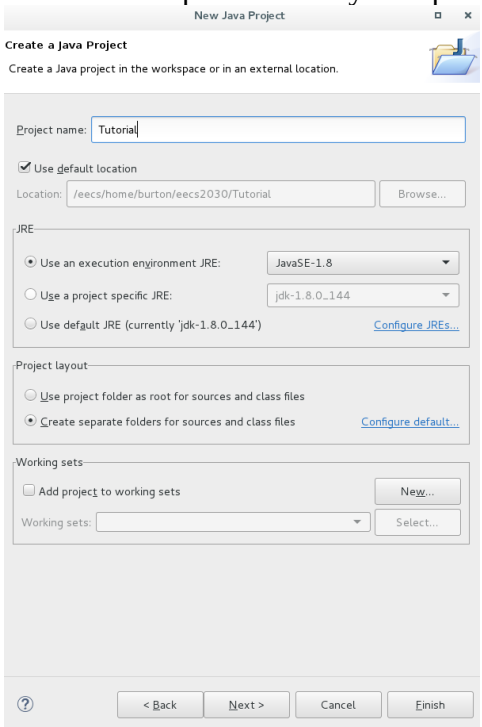


  click on the orange **Workbench** button found near the top right corner.

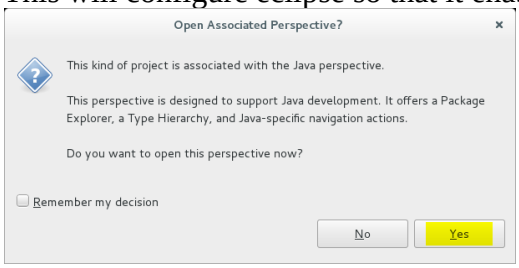
- create a Java Project. You can do this by doing: *File -> New... -> Project...*. The project wizard looks like this - click on *Java Project*.



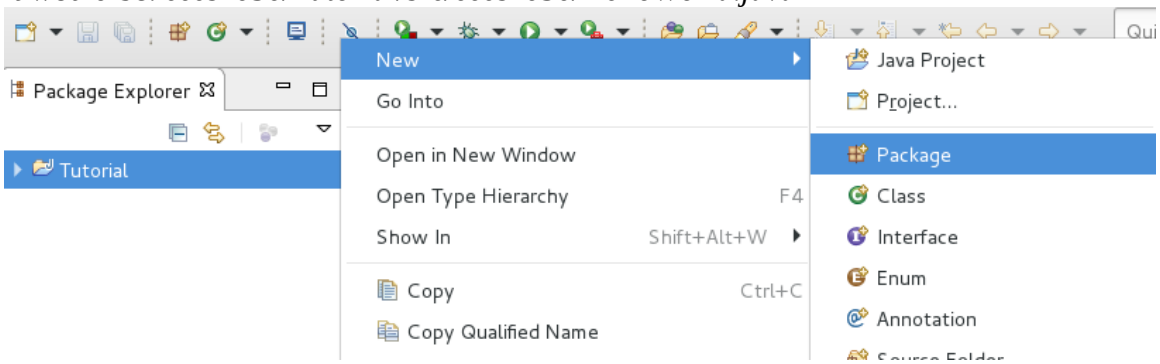
- Now, you will see a window like the one shown. Give your project a name, e.g., 'Tutorial'. You can name your project whatever you like, but ***avoid using spaces in the project name*** because this complicates navigating the directory structure of your project. Note that doing this now creates a directory in your previously created workspace directory. Keep the default settings and click finish.



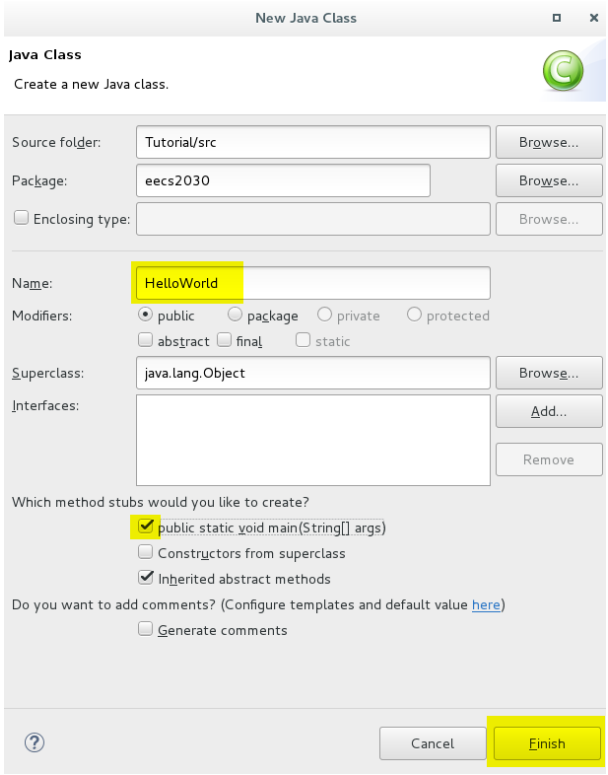
- If you see a popup window like the one showed here. Click *Yes* if that is the case. This will configure eclipse so that it enables Java specific features.



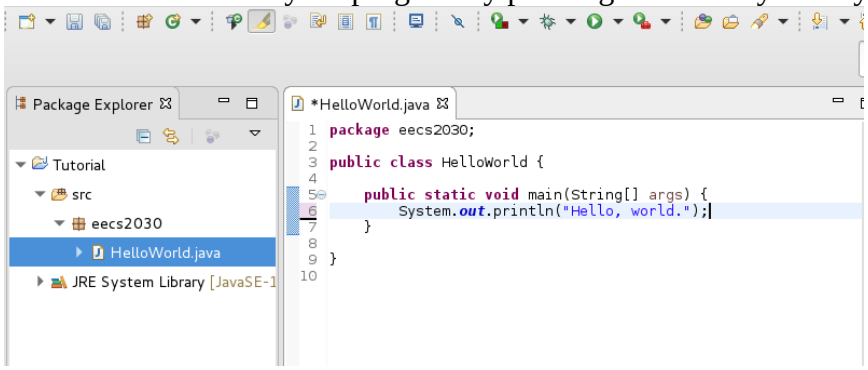
- create a package. To do this, right-click the new project you just created that will now appear in the *Package Explorer* on the left side, and then click *New -> Package*. Name it **eecs2030**. Now if you look in the Package Explorer, our **eecs2030** package is under *Tutorial -> src -> eecs2030*. *src* is the source folder. Hence, when it comes time to submit your files and you want to locate your source file, it will be in *workspace->Project->src->package->file*. So in our case, it would be: *eecs2030/Tutorial/src/eecs2030/HelloWorld.java*



- create a HelloWorld.java. You can do this by right-clicking the package, then clicking *New*, and then *Class*. Enter the name of your class, in this case **HelloWorld**, and check the *public static void main(String[] args)* box - this will create the main method in your class for you. Our simple program does not inherit from any other program, so the other two boxes don't really matter.



- Add **System.out.print("Hello, world.");** into the main body in the TODO section and then save your program by pressing *Ctrl+s* on your keyboard.



- Now you can run your program by either clicking the green run button on the toolbar, or by right-clicking your package in the package explorer and selecting *Run As...->Java Application* (find a keyboard shortcut for doing it quickly!). Note that the output appears in the console window at the bottom.

- Submit that **HelloWorld.java** file via Moodle and continue with Part 2.