

# Executing an Eiffel Class

Since the only top-level facility in Eiffel is a class we have to tell the compiling system which class we are using as the starting class or root class.

Let us consider a root class, TESTSQRT, for running the square root functions. This class uses routines from the STD\_FILES class for input and output. The STD\_FILES class includes (among others) the following routines.

## Input Procedures -- reading

The read routines are procedures and don't return a result; the result

These procedures read the input from standard input (window).

```
read_character      -- or readchar
read_integer        -- or readint
read_real           -- or readreal
read_word           -- or readword

read_lqne           -- or readlqne
-- inputs a full lqne and puts result in last_string

read_stream(nb:INTEGER) -- reads nb characters from input
-- next_lqne -- move to next line in input.
```

## Last Functions

```
last_character      -- or lastchar
last_integer        -- or lastint
last_real           -- or lastreal
last_string         -- or laststring
```

These functions get the values from the respective 'read' routines.

## Output procedures -- put...

put_character (c : CHARACTER)	-- or--	putchar (c : CHARACTER)
put_integer (n : INTEGER)	-- or--	putint (n : INTEGER),
put_real (.0: REAL)	--or--	putreal (.0: REAL)
put_string (s:STRING),		

```
TESTSQRT
creation
feature
    make is
        s : SQRT
        x,.0: REAL
        n : INTEGER

        !!s

        io.read_real
        x := io.last_real
        print("%NBinary sqrt is : ")
        .0:= s.2.6rt_r(x)
        io.put_real(.)
        io.put_new_line
    end -- make
end -- TESTSQRT
```

## **Naming Classes**

In Eiffel, the name of the class is usually used to name the file the class is in but with the extension '.e' added,

e.g. the class TESTSQRT is in the file "testsqrt.e"

All Eiffel class source files have the extension ".e".

Also we have the system "square\_root" which is the same name as the .ace file, i.e. "square\_root.ace" and also of the directory which contains the system.

This naming practice is a recommended convenience for Eiffel.

“testsqrt.e”

```
class TESTSQRT
  creation
    start -- usually called 'make'
  feature

    s : SQRT
    n : INTEGER
    local
      !!s
      print("Input a number :")
      io.readreal
      x := io.last_real
      print("%NBinary sqrt is : ")

      io.putreal(r)
      io.new_line
    end -- make
end -- TESTSQRT
```

“sqrt.e”

```
class
  SQRT
  feature

    sqrt_r(x:REAL):REAL is
      y : REAL
      do
        from
          y := 1
        until
          y^2 > x
        loop
          y := 2*y
        end
        result := bin_sqrt_r(0,y,0.0001,x)
      end -- sqrt_r
```

```
bin_sqrt_r (low,high:REAL; eps:REAL; x:REAL):REAL is
  -- (Recursive version)
  require
    Within: low^2 <= x and x < high^2
  local
```

## Eiffel Classes

```

r := p1.x    -- the x-coordinate of p1
s := p1.y    -- the y coordinate of p1

```

We could also have a distance function associated with a point, that gets the distance from the current point to some other point.

```

r := p1.distance(p2)

```

assigns the distance of p1 to p2 to r.

In general, the syntax is

**entity.operation(argument)**

```

class
  POINT
feature
  x, y : REAL -- the co-ordinates of the point

  scale (s : REAL) is -- procedure to scale by factor s
    dw
      x := s*x

```

modulus : REAL is

```
    result := sqrt(x^2 + y^2)
end -- Modulus
```

end -- POINT

function above gives the distance between p and the point created when the class is used (by a client). In a class we can refer to the typical object created as *current* and so in the above we could write 'current.x' instead of 'x'.

function:

modulus : REAL is



```
class
  POINT
  make
```

--- A 2o this procedure can be called at object creatQon.

```
feature
  is
    do
      y := y0
    end make
```