

# Java Basics: The Math Class

# Math functions

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- In high school trigonometry class, you often wrote equations like:

$$\sin(x) / \cos(x)$$

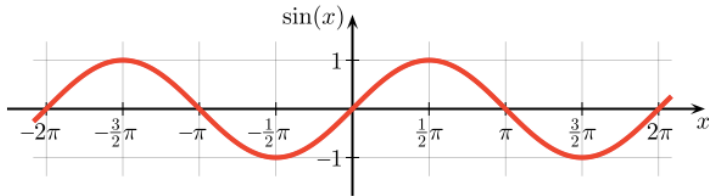
- In computer science, we would often want to save the value of such an expression in a variable:

```
double tangent = sin(x) / cos(x);
```

- In these cases, `sin(x)` is a function which takes a parameter and returns a value that can be used in a larger expression

# The Math Class

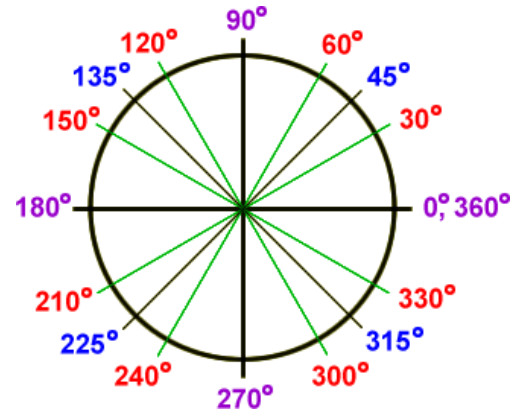
- Java provides many system-supplied functions
- The `Math` class provides many standard mathematical functions



$$|x|$$

exponent  
↓  
base  $\rightarrow 2^4 = 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 2$   
power

$$\sqrt{x}$$



# The Math Class

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- Java provides many system-supplied functions
- The `Math` class provides many standard mathematical functions
  - In Java terminology, we refer to such functions as *methods*
  - All of these methods return values
  - These methods are called by using the class name (`Math`) followed by a dot and the method name:

*Return\_Value* = **Math**.*Method\_Name*(*Parameters*) ;

- The `Math` class is provided automatically (no import needed)

# Calling `Math` methods

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- Most `Math` methods require that you provide parameters
  - These are the values you want the method to operate on
  - The parameters are specified in the parentheses that follow the method name
  - If a method accepts more than one parameter, they are comma separated
  - If a method does not accept any parameters, you still need to use the parentheses – only they will be empty in this case
- Each method produces ("*returns*") a numeric result
  - The result may be used as an expression (printed, stored, etc.)

# Calling Math methods

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- Examples:

```
double squareRoot = Math.sqrt(625.0);  
out.println(squareRoot);           // 25.0
```

```
int absoluteValue = Math.abs(-25);  
out.println(absoluteValue);        // 25
```

```
int a=7, b=4;  
out.println(Math.min(a, b) + 5);    // 9
```

# Java's Math class

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Method name	Description
<code>Math.abs(<i>value</i>)</code>	absolute value
<code>Math.round(<i>value</i>)</code>	nearest whole number
<code>Math.ceil(<i>value</i>)</code>	rounds up
<code>Math.floor(<i>value</i>)</code>	rounds down
<code>Math.log10(<i>value</i>)</code>	logarithm, base 10
<code>Math.max(<i>value1</i>, <i>value2</i>)</code>	larger of two values
<code>Math.min(<i>value1</i>, <i>value2</i>)</code>	smaller of two values

# Java's Math class

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Method name	Description
<code>Math.pow(<i>base</i>, <i>exp</i>)</code>	<i>base</i> to the <i>exp</i> power
<code>Math.sqrt(<i>value</i>)</code>	square root
<code>Math.sin(<i>value</i>)</code> <code>Math.cos(<i>value</i>)</code> <code>Math.tan(<i>value</i>)</code>	sine/cosine/tangent of an angle in radians
<code>Math.toDegrees(<i>value</i>)</code> <code>Math.toRadians(<i>value</i>)</code>	convert between degrees and radians
<code>Math.random()</code>	random double between 0 and 1



# Java's Math class

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Constant	Description
<code>Math.E</code>	2.7182818...
<code>Math.PI</code>	3.1415926...

- Example

```
area = Math.PI * radius * radius;
```

# The Math Class

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- Method `round` returns to the nearest whole number
  - If its argument is of type `double`, it returns a whole number of type `long`
- Method `floor` (`ceil`) returns the largest (smallest) whole number that is less (greater) than or equal to its argument
  - I.e., they always round down (up) rather than to the nearest whole number
  - If the argument is of type `double`, they return a whole number of type `double`

# The Math Class

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- The functions `round`, `floor` or `ceil` always return whole numbers
- But to store a value returned by them in a variable of type `int`, a cast must be used.

```
double val = 8.53;  
int nearest = (int)Math.round(val);    // 9  
int lowerBound = (int)Math.floor(val);  // 8  
int upperBound = (int)Math.ceil(val);   // 9
```