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Sentinel Values

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Software Development (CS2500)

Lecture 11: Iteration (Continued)

M. R. C. van Dongen

October 16, 2013

#### Sentinel Values

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References

- Some programs must deal with variable numbers of input.
  - For example, the bank accounts of a bank.
  - $\hfill \square$  You don't know how many accounts there are in advance.
  - You must process them all.
- ☐ The program must have some way to stop.
- ☐ You could use the number of bank accounts as inputs.
  - This is a bit inconvenient.
- Most such programs stop when they read a special input value.
  - Programs dealing with files use a special end of file (EOF) value.
  - Programs dealing with numbers could use "disallowed" numbers.
  - $\blacksquare$  E.g. -1 if the program deals with non-negative numbers.
- □ Such values are called sentinels.

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References

```
Java
public static void main( String[] args ) {
    final Scanner scanner = new Scanner( System.in );
    double sum = 0.0:
    double next = readNextSalary( scanner );
    while (next != -1.0) {
        sum += next;
        next = readNextSalary( scanner );
    System.err.println( "Total salary is " + sum ):
private static double readNextSalary( final Scanner scanner ) {
    System.err.print( "Enter salaries, -1 to finish: " );
    return scanner.nextDouble();
```

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References

- Java has two more loop-related statements.
  - break Jumps out of the loop. continue Jumps to the end of the current loop.
- They are perfectly valid Java.
- However, we will not use them for cs2500.
  - Leads to spaghetti code.
  - ☐ Makes reasoning about program flow more difficult.
  - Makes if difficult to write proper invariants.
  - Avoiding the statements is a good mental exercise.
  - You will find better, cleaner, more elegant algorithms.
- ☐ If you use them, you will lose marks.

Simulations

For Friday

Acknowledgements

References

```
Java
```

```
final Scanner scanner = new Scanner( System.in );
int numbersRead = 0:
int total = 0;
while (scanner.hasNextInt()) {
    total += scanner.nextInt();
    numbersRead++:
final String average;
if (numbersRead != 0) {
    average = Double.toString( total/(double)numbersRead );
} else {
    average = "undefined";
System.err.println( "Total: " + total );
System.err.println( "#Iterations: " + numbersRead );
System.err.println( "Average: " + average );
```

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References

About this Document

```
final Scanner scanner = new Scanner( System.in );
int numbersRead = 0:
int total = 0;
while (scanner.hasNextInt()) {
    total += scanner.nextInt();
    numbersRead++:
final String average;
if (numbersRead != 0) {
    average = Double.toString( total/(double) numbersRead );
} else {
    average = "undefined";
System.err.println( "Total: " + total );
System.err.println( "#Iterations: " + numbersRead );
System.err.println( "Average: " + average );
```

# Computing the Maximum

We Assume there is Some Input

### Java

```
final Scanner scanner = new Scanner( System.in );
int currentMax = Integer.MIN_VALUE;

do {
    final int next = scanner.nextInt( );
    currentMax = currentMax < next ? next : currentMax;
} while (scanner.hasNextInt( ));

System.err.println( "Maximum: " + currentMax );</pre>
```

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References

# Computing the Maximum

We Assume there is Some Input

### Java

```
final Scanner scanner = new Scanner( System.in );
int currentMax = Integer.MIN_VALUE;

do {
    final int next = scanner.nextInt( );
    currentMax = currentMax < next ? next : currentMax;
} while (scanner.hasNextInt( ));

System.err.println( "Maximum: " + currentMax );</pre>
```

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References

# Computing the Maximum

We Assume there is Some Input

### Java

```
final Scanner scanner = new Scanner( System.in );
int currentMax = Integer.MIN_VALUE;

do {
    final int next = scanner.nextInt();
    currentMax = Integer.max( next, currentMax );
} while (scanner.hasNextInt());

System.err.println( "Maximum: " + currentMax );
```

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References

About this Document

```
private static final int BASE = 10:
public static String toString( final int value ) {
    String absStringValue = "":
    final boolean negative = value < 0;
    int residue = value:
    while ((residue <= -BASE) || (BASE <= residue)) {
        // strip off last digit.
        final int lastDigit = residue % BASE;
        // add last digit.
        absStringValue = makeDecimalString( lastDigit ) + absStringValue:
        // get rid of last digit.
        residue = residue / BASE:
    // add remaining digit.
    absStringValue = makeDecimalString( residue ) + absStringValue;
    // add sign if needed.
    return (negative ? "-" : "") + absStringValue:
```

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        final int lastDigit = residue % BASE;
        // add last digit.
        absStringValue = makeDecimalString( lastDigit ) + absStringValue;
        // get rid of last digit.
        residue = residue / BASE:
    // add remaining digit.
    absStringValue = makeDecimalString( residue ) + absStringValue;
    // add sign if needed.
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        // strip off last digit.
        final int lastDigit = residue % BASE;
        // add last digit.
        absStringValue = makeDecimalString( lastDigit ) + absStringValue:
        // get rid of last digit.
        residue = residue / BASE;
    // add remaining digit.
    absStringValue = makeDecimalString( residue ) + absStringValue;
    // add sign if needed.
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        // add last digit.
        absStringValue = makeDecimalString( lastDigit ) + absStringValue:
        // get rid of last digit.
        residue = residue / BASE:
    // add remaining digit.
    absStringValue = makeDecimalString( residue ) + absStringValue;
    // add sign if needed.
    return (negative ? "-" : "") + absStringValue:
```

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About this Document

```
private static String makeDecimalString( final int digit ) {
   final char character = (char)(Math.abs( digit ) + (int)'0');
   final char[] characterArray = { character };
   return new String( characterArray );
}
```

### **Number Conversion**

### Java

```
private static String makeDecimalString( final int digit ) {
    final char character = (char)(Math.abs( digit ) + (int)'0');
    final char[] characterArray = { character };
    return new String( characterArray );
}
```

```
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```

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Sentinel Values

break and continue

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### **Number Conversion**

### Java

```
private static String makeDecimalString( final int digit ) {
    final char character = (char)(Math.abs( digit ) + (int)'0');
    final char[] characterArray = { character };
    return new String( characterArray );
}
```

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References

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private static String makeDecimalString( final int digit ) {
   final char character = (char)(Math.abs( digit ) + (int)'0');
   final char[] characterArray = { character };
   return new String( characterArray );
}
```

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References

### Java

```
private static String makeDecimalString( final int digit ) {
   final char character = (char)(Math.abs( digit ) + (int)'0');
   final char[] characterArray = { character };
   return new String( characterArray );
}
```

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- □ Printing columns of the rows in a spreadsheet.
- $\square$  Colouring pixels at x- and y-coordinates of a picture.
- ...

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### **Unix Session**

\$

### 4□ > 4ⓓ > 4≧ > 4≧ > ½ 990

#### ivested Loop

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### **Unix Session**

\$ java PowerTable

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### **Unix Session**

\$ java PowerTable Enter maximum power:

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### **Unix Session**

\$ java PowerTable
Enter maximum power: 4

#### ivested Loop

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### **Unix Session**

\$ java PowerTable
Enter maximum power: 4
Enter last integer:

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### **Unix Session**

\$ java PowerTable Enter maximum power: 4 Enter last integer: 6

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```
Unix Session
$ java PowerTable
Enter maximum power: 4
Enter last integer: 6
   Х
         Х
              Х
                16
           27 81
        16 64 256
```

36

25 125 625

216

1296

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References

About this Document

```
public static void main( String[] args ) {
    final Scanner scanner = new Scanner( System.in );
    System.err.print( "Enter maximum power: " );
    final int maxPower = scanner.nextInt( );
    System.err.print( "Enter last integer: " );
    final int lastInteger = scanner.nextInt( );

    printColumnHeadings( maxPower );
    printRows( lastInteger, maxPower );
}
```

Common Algorithms

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References

```
public static void main( String[] args ) {
    final Scanner scanner = new Scanner( System.in );
    System.err.print( "Enter maximum power: " );
    final int maxPower = scanner.nextInt( );
    System.err.print( "Enter last integer: " );
    final int lastInteger = scanner.nextInt( );

    printColumnHeadings( maxPower );
    printRows( lastInteger, maxPower );
```

Simulations

For Friday

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References

```
Java
private static void printColumnHeadings( final int maxPower ) {
    for (int power = 1; power <= maxPower; power++) {
        System.err.print( String.format( " %4d", power ) );
    System.err.println();
   for (int power = 1; power <= maxPower; power++) {</pre>
        System.err.print( String.format( " %4s ", "x" ) );
    System.err.println();
    for (int power = 1; power <= maxPower; power++) {
        System.err.print( "----" ):
    System.err.println();
```

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```
Java
private static final void printRows( final int maxRow,
                                     final int maxPower ) {
    for (int row = 1; row <= maxRow; row++) {
        for (int power = 1; power <= maxPower; power++) {
            final int rowPower = computePower( row, power );
```

System.err.println();

System.err.print( String.format( " %4d ", rowPower ) );

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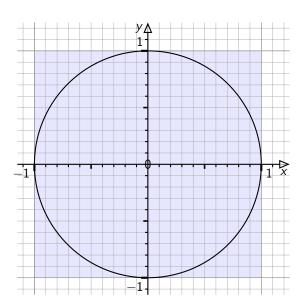
References

About this Document

### Java

```
private static int computePower( final int number, final int power ) {
  int result = 1;
  for (int product = 1; product <= power; product++) {
     result = result * number;
  }
  return result;
}</pre>
```

### Monte Carlo Integration



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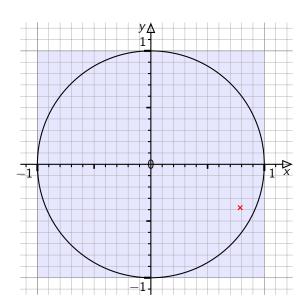
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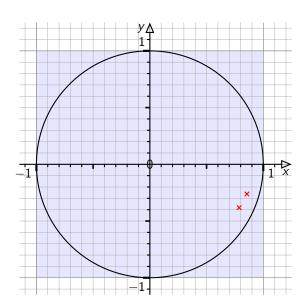
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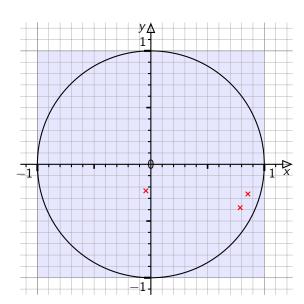
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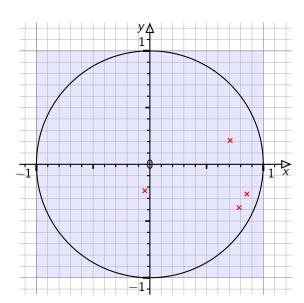
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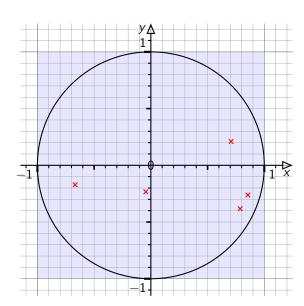
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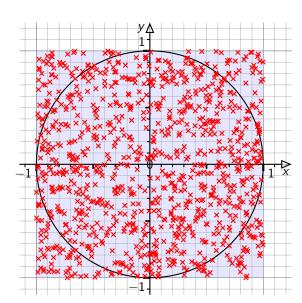
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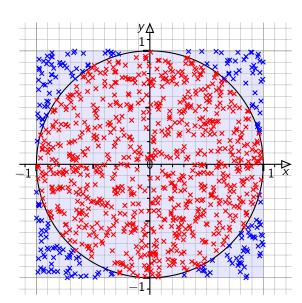
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About this Document

```
Java
import java.util.Random:
public class MonteCarlo {
    // Total number of random points.
    private static final int TOTAL SAMPLES = 1000000:
    // Radius of base circle.
    private static final double RADIUS = 1.0:
    // Total area of extended square.
    private static final double TOTAL_AREA = 4.0 * RADIUS;
    public static void main( String[] args ) {
        final Random rand = new Random();
        // Initialise number of random points inside circle.
        int hits = 0;
        for (int sample = TOTAL SAMPLES: sample-- != 0: ) {
            // Generate next random point.
            final double x = 2.0 * RADIUS * (rand.nextDouble() - 0.5);
            final double v = 2.0 * RADIUS * (rand.nextDouble() - 0.5):
            // Increment hits if point is inside circle.
            hits += x*x + y*y <= RADIUS * RADIUS ? 1 : 0;
        // Compute approximation of area of circle.
        final double ratio = (double)hits / TOTAL SAMPLES:
        final double approximation = TOTAL AREA * ratio:
        System.out.println( "PI = " + Math.PI );
```

System.out.println( "PI ~ " + approximation );

**Implementation** 

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References

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```
Java
```

**Implementation** 

```
import java.util.Random:
public class MonteCarlo {
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import java.util.Random:
public class MonteCarlo {
    // Total number of random points.
    private static final int TOTAL SAMPLES = 1000000:
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        final Random rand = new Random();
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            final double x = 2.0 * RADIUS * (rand.nextDouble() - 0.5);
            final double v = 2.0 * RADIUS * (rand.nextDouble() - 0.5):
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        System.out.println( "PI ~ " + approximation );
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## For Friday

- Implement the integer to string conversion method.
  - You should be able to do this from scratch.
- Study Sections 5.5, and 5.7–5.9.

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About this Document

■ This lecture corresponds to [*Big Java, Early Objects*, Sections 5.5, 5.7–5.9].

# **Bibliography**

Horstfmann, Cay S. Big Java, Early Objects. International Student Version. Wiley. ISBN: 978-1-118-31877-5.

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### About this Document

- This document was created with pdflatex.
- The LATEX document class is beamer.

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