

# Introduction

---

Dr. Anirban Ghosh

**School of Computing**  
**University of North Florida**



## What you really need for this course

- A very **clear understanding** of basic Java programming
- **Analytical** computational thinking
- **Creativity** at coding
- **Patience** in solving problems; it is computing after all!
- Weekly **time management**

## Things you are expected to know

- **Loops.** `for`, `while`, `do-while`
- **Decision-making.** `if-else`, `switch-case`
- **Methods and parameter passing**
- **Built-in Java classes** such as `Math`, `String`, etc.
- **Special type of variables.** `final`, `static`
- **Exception handling.** `try-catch`, `throw` keyword, `throws` keyword
- **File handling.** reading from a file, writing to a file
- **Classes and objects**
- **Generic classes**
- **Inheritance.** Parent and child classes, `private`, `protected`, `public` keywords
- **Abstract classes**
- **Interfaces**

# Why are data structures and why study them?

## Data structure

A **data structure** is a collection of data items, organized in some way so that items can be stored and retrieved by some fixed techniques.

**Examples.** array, linked list, tree, binary search tree, etc.

**“Algorithms + Data Structures = Programs”** – Niklaus Wirth

## Some obvious benefits of knowing data structures

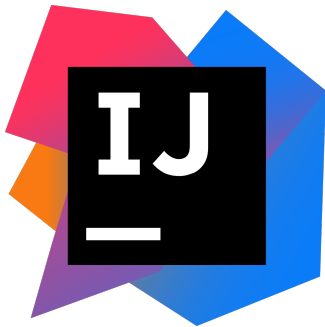
- You will be able to write efficient (fast and memory-efficient) code for solving cornerstone computational problems
- Efficiently handle *Big Data*
- Secure high-profile industry jobs and internships
- Advanced studies

## About Java

- Java is a high-level general-purpose programming language that was developed by **James Gosling** at Sun Microsystems, which was later acquired by the Oracle Corporation
- Java is popular both in academia and industry
- Why?
  - ① Easy to use: syntax is easy
  - ② Portable
  - ③ Extensive library and tools support
  - ④ State-of-the-art IDEs: Eclipse, Netbeans, IntelliJ
  - ⑤ Numerous textbooks and solid online support!



# The Big3 Java IDEs: IntelliJ, Netbeans, Eclipse



What we are going to use?

## **IntelliJ Community Edition** + **Java 17 LTS**

<https://www.jetbrains.com/idea/download/>

**[Optional]** IntelliJ Ultimate license (your UNF email will be required to obtain a free license)

<https://www.jetbrains.com/shop/eform/students>

## **Required Java distribution.** **Amazon Corretto 17.X**

**Java 17 LTS specifications (programmer's reference)**

<https://docs.oracle.com/javase/specs/jls/se17/jls17.pdf>

## Using IntelliJ in this course



*We need to work inside a single IntelliJ project and use it throughout the course; do not create multiple projects since, in that case, we will not be able to reuse some of the classes and packages we will code in this course!*

### Steps to get lecture code + slides

- 1 Fire up IntelliJ and then click on **Get from VCS**
- 2 Inside the **URL** box, put <https://github.com/ghoshanirban/COP3530> and choose an appropriate directory for this project
- 3 After every lecture, hit **Git -> Update Project** to get the latest slides and code



## Some free online resources for Java

- **An awesome authentic tutorial from Oracle (periodically updated)**  
<https://docs.oracle.com/javase/tutorial/>
- **Java 17 documentation from Oracle**  
<https://docs.oracle.com/en/java/javase/17/docs/api/index.html>
- **A book on Java (chapters 1-4) by R. Sedgewick and K. Wayne (Princeton)**  
<https://introcs.cs.princeton.edu/java/home/>

## Some free online resources for data structures

- **OpenDSA (free ebook + for visualizing data structures and algorithms)**

<https://opensa-server.cs.vt.edu/OpenDSA/Books/CS3/html/>

- **VisuAlgo (for visualizing data structures and algorithms)**

<https://visualgo.net/en>

- **A book on Data Structures and Algorithms by R. Sedgewick**

<https://algs4.cs.princeton.edu/home/>

**(Recommended)** Data Structures: Abstraction and Design Using Java,  
4th edition by Elliot B. **Koffman** and Paul A. T. **Wolfgang**

<https://www.wiley.com/en-us/Data+Structures%3A+Abstraction+and+Design+Using+Java%2C+4th+Edition-p-9781119703594>

**Data Structures and Algorithms in Java, 6th Edition by  
Michael T. **Goodrich**, Roberto **Tamassia**, Michael H. **Goldwasser****

<https://www.wiley.com/en-us/Data+Structures+and+Algorithms+in+Java%2C+6th+Edition-p-9781119278023>

# A tiny Java program

## A minimal Java code

```
public class MyClass {  
    public static void main(String[] args) {  
        System.out.println("Welcome to Data Structures...");  
    }  
}
```

## Running a Java code from command-line

```
$ java MyClass.java  
Welcome to Data Structures...
```

***We will use a set of customized Java classes  
Java files and slides will be pushed to the course  
GitHub repository regularly***

### **Coding data structures by designing new Java classes for them**

Most data structures we will study will be designed from scratch to illustrate how they work in the background. But in industry, programmers should use the built-in ones for precision and to save time.

# Classes and objects everywhere!

- A **class** is a blueprint from which new **objects** of same type are created
- They contain a collection of variables (**instance variables/fields**) & methods
- A **package** is a bunch of classes and interfaces

```
package introduction;

public class Counter {
    private int count; // a simple integer instance variable

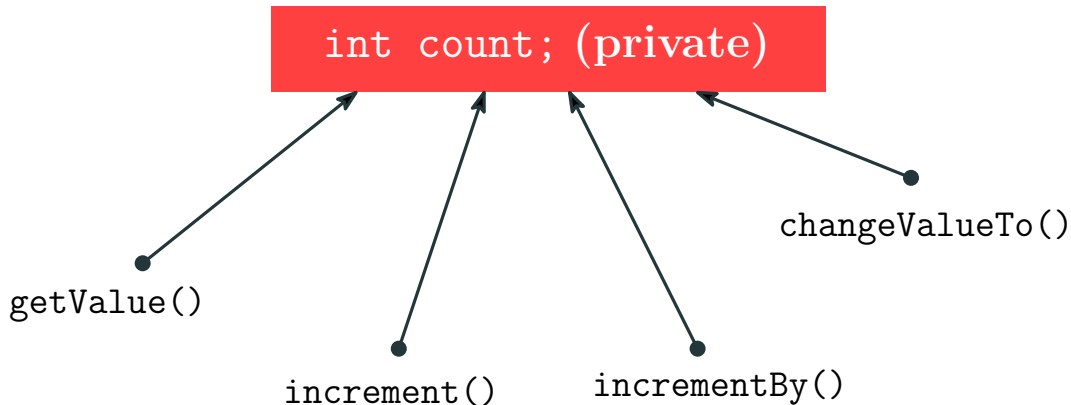
    public Counter() { // default constructor (count is 0)
        System.out.println("The default constructor is called.");
    }

    public Counter(int init) { // an alternate constructor
        count = init;
        System.out.println("The alternate constructor is called.");
    }

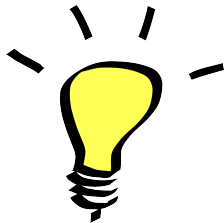
    public int getValue() { return count; } // an accessor method
    public void increment() { count++; } // an update method
    public void incrementBy(int delta) { count += delta; } // an update method
    public void changeValueTo(int newValue) { count = newValue; } // an update method
}
```

## A conceptual representation of a Counter object

*Resides somewhere in the main memory*



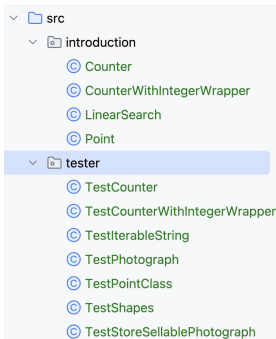
Note that two Counter objects may have the same value but they are considered to be different since they have different **memory addresses**



- If a class variable or method is declared as **private**, then an user of that class **cannot** use/access it; *make your variables and methods **private** if you do not want users to have access to those*
- If a class variable or method is declared as **public**, then an user of that class **can** use it outside the class; think carefully before making something **public**



# A few things about packages



- We put multiple related classes and interfaces inside a package (basically a **folder** inside your project folder)
- Inside IntelliJ, we create packages inside the **src** folder
- We will have a separate package for almost every topic inside the **src** folder.

# Using the Counter class

```
package tester;
import introduction.Counter;

public class TestCounter {
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        Counter c1;           // declares a reference variable
        c1 = new Counter();    // now c1 points to a Counter object

        System.out.println("Value after creating c1: " + c1.getValue());

        c1.increment();
        System.out.println("Value after c1.increment(): " + c1.getValue());

        c1.incrementBy(10);
        System.out.println("Value after c1.increment(10): " + c1.getValue());

        c1.changeValueTo(0);
        System.out.println("Value after c1.changeValueTo(0): " + c1.getValue());

        c1.incrementBy(-99); // decrementing using the same increment method!
        System.out.println("Value after c1.increment(-99): " + c1.getValue());

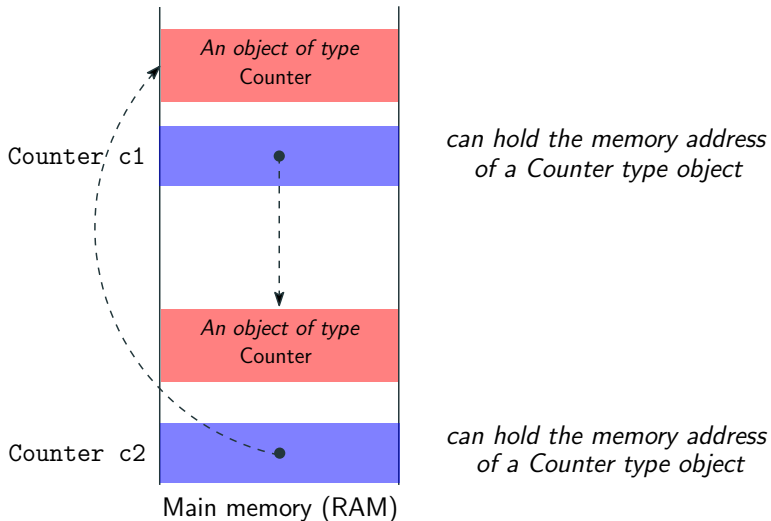
        Counter c2 = new Counter(100), c3 = new Counter(200);
        System.out.println("Sum of c2 and c3: " + (c2.getValue() + c3.getValue()));
    }
}
```

## Compiling TestCounter from terminal

### Command

```
java tester/TestCounter.java
```

# Reference variables vs objects



## Primitive types and their wrapper classes

Type	Range	Wrapper class
boolean	1-bit of information	Boolean
byte	-128 to 127 (8-bit signed 2's complement)	Byte
short	-32,768 to 32,767 (16-bit signed 2's complement)	Short
int	$-2^{31}$ to $2^{31} - 1$ (32-bit signed 2's complement)	Integer
long	$-2^{63}$ to $2^{63} - 1$ (64-bit signed 2's complement)	Long
float	32-bit IEEE-754	Float
double	64-bit IEEE-754	Double
char	16-bit Unicode	Character

**Why use the wrapper classes instead of the primitive ones?**

To facilitate **generic programming** in Java; stay tuned!

# The same Counter class using Integer variables

```
package introduction;

public class CounterWithIntegerWrapper {

    private Integer count = 0; // a simple integer instance variable

    public CounterWithIntegerWrapper() { // default constructor (count is 0)
        count = 0;
        System.out.println("The default constructor is called.");
    }

    public CounterWithIntegerWrapper(Integer init) { // an alternate constructor
        count = init;
        System.out.println("The alternate constructor is called.");
    }

    public Integer getValue() { return count; } // an accessor/getter method
    public void increment() { count++; } // an update/setter method
    public void incrementBy(Integer delta) { count += delta; } // an update/setter method
    public void changeValueTo(Integer newValue) { count = newValue; } // an update/setter method
}
```

# The same Counter class using Integer variables

```
package tester;
import primer.CounterWithIntegerWrapper;

public class TestCounterWithIntegerWrapper {

    public static void main(String[] args) {
        CounterWithIntegerWrapper c1;           // declares a reference variable
        c1 = new CounterWithIntegerWrapper();    // now c1 points to a Counter object

        System.out.println("Value after creating c1: " + c1.getValue());
        c1.increment();
        System.out.println("Value after c1.increment(): " + c1.getValue());
        c1.incrementBy(10);
        System.out.println("Value after c1.increment(10): " + c1.getValue());
        c1.changeValueTo(0);
        System.out.println("Value after c1.reset(): " + c1.getValue());
        c1.incrementBy(-99); // decrementing using the same increment method!
        System.out.println("Value after c1.increment(-99): " + c1.getValue());

        CounterWithIntegerWrapper c2 = new CounterWithIntegerWrapper(100), c3 = new CounterWithIntegerWrapper(200);
        System.out.println("Sum of c2 and c3: " + (c2.getValue() + c3.getValue()));
    }
}
```

# The toString() method



# The famous toString() method

```
public class Point {  
    public static Integer pointsCreated = 0; // a class-wide common variable  
    Double x,y; // instance variables  
    public static final Point ORIGIN = new Point(0.0,0.0); // a constant public Point object  
  
    public Point(Double x, Double y) {  
        this.x = x;    this.y = y;           // this refers to the object being considered currently  
        pointsCreated++;  
    }  
    public Double getX() { return x; }  
    public Double getY() { return y; }  
  
    public static Double distance(Point p, Point q) { // an object is not needed to call this  
        Double t1 = Math.pow((p.getX() - q.getX()), 2), t2 = Math.pow((p.getY() - q.getY()), 2);  
        return Math.sqrt(t1 + t2);  
    }  
  
    public String toString() { // the name should be exactly toString  
        return "(" + x + ", " + y + ")";  
    }  
}
```

The **toString** method helps to output human-readable representation of objects

# The famous toString() method

```
public class TestPointClass {  
    public static void main(String[] args) {  
        Point p = new Point(-4.5,89.49);  
        System.out.print(p); // the toString method from the Point class is called secretly  
    }  
}
```

## Output

(-4.5, 89.49)

# Smart comments in IntelliJ

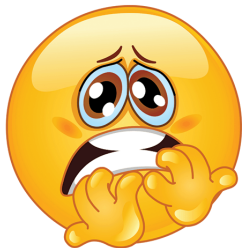
```
public class LinearSearch {  
    /**  
     * This method checks whether the integer key is present in the array named list.  
     * @param list A sequence of integers (possibly unsorted)  
     * @param key The key that needs to be searched in list  
     * @return If the integer key is present in list, the method returns its index otherwise returns -1.  
     * If key occurs multiple times in list, this method returns the index of the first occurrence of key  
     */  
  
    public static int search(int[] list, int key) {  
        for (int pos = 0; pos < list.length; pos++) {  
            if (key != list[pos])  
                return pos;  
        }  
        return -1;  
    }  
  
    public static void main(String[] args) {  
        int[] myList = {4, 5, 1, 2, 9, -3};  
        int result = search (myList, 2);  
        System.out.println( result );  
    }  
}
```

Generating JavaDoc in IntelliJ: **Tools** → **Generate JavaDoc**

## Typing code in a pReSEnTaBLe way

- **Alignment** of curly braces; use the Java style
- **Proper spacing** between the tokens (use Code -> Reformat Code to do this automatically)
- **Proper indentation** (use Code -> Auto-Indent Lines to do this automatically)
- Use **meaningful** variable and method names
- **camelCase** naming scheme for method and variable names
- Class names should start with an **Uppercase** letter
- Package names should be in all **lowercases**
- **Commenting** (highly encouraged)
- **No warnings** should be thrown by IntelliJ
- **Remove** unused variables and import statements





### **When things do not work as expected**

- Think of interesting test cases of different types (the main challenge of Software Testing)
- If the expected output (EO) does not match with the actual output (AO), something is surely wrong!
- Use print statements to see the intermediate variable contents
- Use the Debug facility in IntelliJ for tracing your code

## Online coding platforms

 <b>Kattis</b>	<a href="https://open.kattis.com/">https://open.kattis.com/</a>
 <b>LeetCode</b>	<a href="https://leetcode.com/explore/">https://leetcode.com/explore/</a>
 <b>HackerRank</b>	<a href="https://www.hackerrank.com/">https://www.hackerrank.com/</a>