

## 4. SOME TECHNIQUES IN CLASS BUILDING



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## Goals

- Understand notions, roles and techniques for overloading methods and overloading constructors
- Object member, class member
- How to pass arguments of functions

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## Outline

1. Method overloading
2. Class members and constant members
3. Passing arguments to methods

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## Method recalls

- Each method has its own signature
- A method signature is composed of:
  - Method's name
  - Number of arguments and their types

```
public void credit(double amount) {  
    ...  
}
```

Diagram illustrating the components of a method signature:

- method name**: credit
- argument type**: double
- signature**: credit(double amount)

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## 1.1. Method overloading

- **Method Overloading:** Methods in a class might have the **same name** but **different signatures**:
  - **Numbers of arguments** are different
  - If the numbers of arguments are the same, **types of arguments** must be **different**
- **Advantages:**
  - The same name describes the **same task**
  - Is easier for developers because they don't have to remember **too many method names**. They remember only one with the appropriate arguments.



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## Method overloading – Example 1

- Method `println()` in `System.out.println()` has 10 declarations with different arguments: `boolean`, `char[]`, `char`, `double`, `float`, `int`, `long`, `Object`, `String`, and one without argument.
- Do not need to use different names (for example `"printString"` or `"printDouble"`) for each data type to be displayed.



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## Method overloading – Example 2

```
class MyDate {
    int year, month, day;
    public boolean setMonth(int m) { ...}
    public boolean setMonth(String s) { ...}
}

public class Test{
    public static void main(String args[]){
        MyDate d = new MyDate();
        d.setMonth(9);
        d.setMonth("September");
    }
}
```



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## Method overloading – More info.

- Methods are considered as **overloading** only if they belong to the **same class**
- Only apply this technique on methods describing the **same kind of task**; do not abuse
- When compiling, compilers rely on number or types of arguments to decide which **appropriate method** to call.
  - If there is no method or more than one method to call, an error will be reported.



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## Discussion

- Given the following method:  

```
public double test(String a, int b)
```
- Select overloading methods of the given method from the list below:
  - `void test(String b, int a)`
  - `public double test(String a)`
  - `private int test(int b, String a)`
  - `private int test(String a, int b)`
  - `double test(double a, int b)`
  - `double test(int b)`
  - `public double test(String a, long b)`



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## Discussion

```
void prt(String s) { System.out.println(s); }
void f1(char x) { prt("f1(char)"); }
void f1(byte x) { prt("f1(byte)"); }
void f1(short x) { prt("f1(short)"); }
void f1(int x) { prt("f1(int)"); }
void f1(long x) { prt("f1(long)"); }
void f1(float x) { prt("f1(float)"); }
void f1(double x) { prt("f1(double)"); }
```

- What will happens if we do as follows:
  - `f1(5);`
  - `char x='a'; f1(x);`
  - `byte y=0; f1(y);`
  - `float z = 0; f1(z);...`



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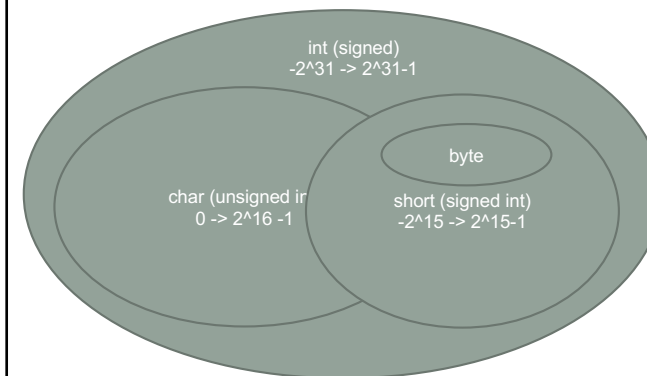
## Discussion

```
void prt(String s) { System.out.println(s); }
void f2(short x) { prt("f2(short)"); } => 2 b
void f2(int x) { prt("f2(int)"); } => 4 b
void f2(long x) { prt("f2(long)"); } => 8 b
void f2(float x) { prt("f2(float)"); }
```

- What will happen if we do as follows:
  - `f2(5);`
  - `char x='a'; f2(x); => 2 b`
  - `byte y=0; f2(y);`
  - `float z = 0; f2(z);`
- What will happen if we call `f2(5.5)`?



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## Example

```
class MyClass {
    public void myMethod(int a, long b) {
    }
    public void myMethod(long a, int b) { // overloading
    }
}

public class Test {
    public static void main(String args[]) {
        MyClass m = new MyClass();
        m.myMethod(); // error as there are no matched methods
        m.myMethod(9, 10); // error as two methods are matched
    }
}
```

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## 1.2. Constructor overloading

- In different contexts => create objects in different ways
- Any number of constructors with different parameters (following constructor overloading principles)
- Constructors are commonly overloaded to allow for different ways of initializing instances

```
BankAccount new_account =
    new BankAccount();

BankAccount known_account =
    new BankAccount(account_number);

BankAccount named_account =
    new BankAccount("My Checking Account");
```

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## Example

```
public class BankAccount{
    private String owner;
    private double balance;
    public BankAccount(){owner = "noname";}
    public BankAccount(String o, double b){
        owner = o; balance = b;
    }
}

public class Test{
    public static void main(String args[]){
        BankAccount acc1 = new BankAccount();
        BankAccount acc2 = new BankAccount("Thuy", 100);
    }
}
```

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## this keyword

- "this" refers to the **current object**, it is used **inside the class** of the object that it refers to.
- It uses attributes or methods of object through "." operator, for example:

```
public class BankAccount{
    private String owner;
    public void setOwner(String owner){
        this.owner = owner;
    }
    public BankAccount() { this.setOwner("noname"); }
    ...
}
```

- Call another constructor of the class:

```
• this(parameters); //first statement in another constructor
```

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## this keyword

In a constructor, the keyword `this` is used to refer to other constructors in the same class

```
...
public BankAccount(String name) {
    super();
    owner = name;
}

public BankAccount() {
    this("TestName");
}

public BankAccount(String name, double initialBalance) {
    this(name);
    setBalance(initialBalance);
}
...
```

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### • Example

```
public class Ship {
    private double x=0.0, y=0.0;
    private double speed=1.0, direction=0.0;
    public String name;

    public Ship(String name) {
        this.name = name;
    }
    public Ship(String name, double x, double y) {
        this(name); this.x = x; this.y = y;
    }
    public Ship(String name, double x, double y,
        double speed, double direction) {
        this(name, x, y);
        this.speed = speed;
        this.direction = direction;
    }
}
//to be continued...
```

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```
//(cont.)
private double degreeToRadian(double degrees) {
    return(degrees * Math.PI / 180.0);
}
public void move() {
    move(1);
}
public void move(int steps) {
    double angle = degreesToRadians(direction);
    x = x + (double)steps*speed*Math.cos(angle);
    y = y + (double)steps*speed*Math.sin(angle);
}
public void printLocation() {
    System.out.println(name + " is at ("
        + x + ", " + y + ").");
}
} //end of Ship class
```

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## Outline

1. Method overloading
- ➔ 2. Class members and constant members
3. Passing arguments to methods

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## 2.1. Constant members

- An attribute/method that can not change its values/content during the usage.

- Declaration syntax:

```
access_modifier final data_type
    CONSTANT_VARIABLE = value;
```

- For example:

```
final double PI = 3.141592653589793;
public final int VAL_THREE = 39;
private final int[] A = { 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 };
```



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## 2.1. Constant members (2)

- Typically, constants associated with a class are declared as **static final** fields for easy access
- A common convention is to use only uppercase letters in their names

```
public class MyDate {
    public static final long SECONDS_PER_YEAR =
        31536000;
    ...
}
...
long years = MyDate.getMillisSinceEpoch() /
    (1000*MyDate.SECONDS_PER_YEAR);
```

javax.swing  
Class JOptionPane

**ERROR\_MESSAGE**

public static final int ERROR\_MESSAGE



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## 2.2. Class members

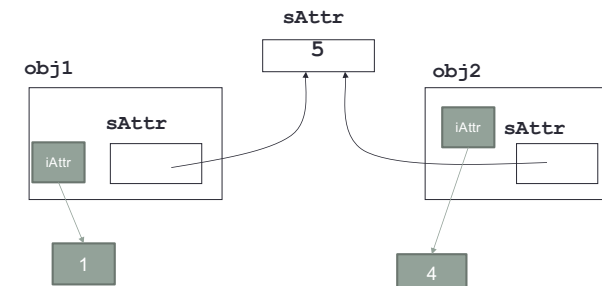
- Members may belong to either of the following:
  - The whole class (class variables and methods, indicated by the keyword **static** in Java)
  - Individual objects (instance variables and methods)
- Static attributes and methods belong to the class
  - Changing a value in one object of that class changes the value for all of the objects
- Static methods and fields can be accessed without instantiating the class
  - Static methods and fields are declared using the static keyword



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## Static parts: are shared between all objects

- sAttr: static (class scope)
- iAttr: instance (object/instance scope)



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## Instance member vs. Class member

### Instance member

- Attributes/methods can only be accessed via objects
- Each object has its own copy of an object's attribute
- Values of an attribute of different objects are different.

### Class member

- Attributes/methods can be accessed through class
- All objects have the same copy of class attributes
- Values of a class attribute of different objects are the same.

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## Static members in Java

- Regular members are members of objects
- Class members are declared as **static**
- Syntax for declaring static member:

**access\_modifier static data\_type varName;**

- Example:

```
public class MyDate {
    public static long getMillisSinceEpoch() {
        ...
    }
    ...
    long millis = MyDate.getMillisSinceEpoch();
}

MyDate date1 = new MyDate();
date1.getMillisSinceEpoch();
```

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## Example: Class JOptionPane in javax.swing

- Attributes

### Field Summary

static int	CANCEL_OPTION	Return value from class method if CANCEL is chosen.
static int	CLOSED_OPTION	Return value from class method if user closes window.
static int	DEFAULT_OPTION	Type used for showConfirmDialog.
static int	ERROR_MESSAGE	Used for error messages.
static int	WARNING_MESSAGE	Used for warning messages.
static int	YES_NO_CANCEL_OPTION	Type used for showConfirmDialog.
static int	YES_NO_OPTION	Type used for showConfirmDialog.
static int	YES_OPTION	Return value from class method if YES is chosen.

- Methods:

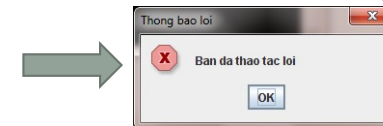
static void	showMessageDialog(Component parentComponent, Object message)	Brings up an information-message dialog titled "Message".
static void	showMessageDialog(Component parentComponent, Object message, String title, int messageType)	Brings up a dialog that displays a message using a default icon determined by the messageType parameter.
static void	showMessageDialog(Component parentComponent, Object message, String title, int messageType, Object icon)	Brings up a dialog displaying a message, specifying all parameters.

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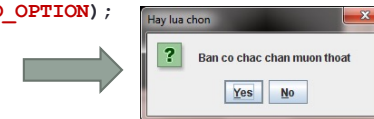
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## Example – using static attributes and methods in class JOptionPane

**JOptionPane.showMessageDialog**(null, "Ban da thao tac loi", "Thong bao loi", **JOptionPane.ERROR\_MESSAGE**);



**JOptionPane.showConfirmDialog**(null, "Ban co chac chan muon thoat?", "Hay lua chon", **JOptionPane.YES\_NO\_OPTION**);



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## Example – using static attributes and methods in class JOptionPane (2)

```
Object[] options = { "OK", "CANCEL" };
JOptionPane.showOptionDialog(null, "Nhan OK de tiep tuc",
    "Canh bao", JOptionPane.DEFAULT_OPTION,
    JOptionPane.WARNING_MESSAGE, null, options, options[0]);
```



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## Static member (2)

- Modifying value of a **static** member in an object will modify the value of this member in all other objects of the class.
- **Static** methods can access only **static** attributes and can call **static** methods in the same class.

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## Example 1

```
class TestStatic{
    public static int iStatic;
    public int iNonStatic;
}

public class TestS {
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        TestStatic obj1 = new TestStatic();
        obj1.iStatic = 10; obj1.iNonStatic = 11;
        System.out.println(obj1.iStatic+", "+obj1.iNonStatic);
        TestStatic obj2 = new TestStatic();
        System.out.println(obj2.iStatic+", "+obj2.iNonStatic);
        obj2.iStatic = 12;
        System.out.println(obj1.iStatic+", "+obj1.iNonStatic);
    }
}
```

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## Example 2

```
public class Demo {
    int i = 0;
    void increase(){ i++; }
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        increase();
        System.out.println("Gia tri cua i la" + i);
    }
}
```

non-static method increase() cannot be referenced from a static context  
non-static variable i cannot be referenced from a static context

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## Java static methods – Example

```
class MyUtils {  
    . . .  
  
    public static double mean(int[] p) {  
        int sum = 0;  
        for (int i=0; i<p.length; i++) {  
            sum += p[i];  
        }  
        return ((double)sum) / p.length;  
    }  
    . . .  
}  
...  
  
// Calling a static method from outside of a class  
double avgAtt = MyUtils.mean(attendance);
```



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## When static?



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## Outline

1. Method overloading
2. Class members and constant members
- ➔ 3. Passing arguments to methods



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## 3. Arguments passing to methods

- We can use any data types for arguments for methods or constructors
  - Primitive data types
  - References: array and object
- Example:

```
public Polygon polygonFrom(Point[] corners){  
    // method body goes here  
}
```



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### 3.1. Passing by values

- C++
  - Passing values, pointers
- Java
  - Passing values



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### Java: Pass-by-value for all types of data

- Java passes all arguments to a method in form of pass-by-value: Passing value/copy of the real argument
    - For arguments of value-based data types (primitive data types): passing value/copy of primitive data type argument
    - For argument of reference-based data types (array and object): passing value/copy of original reference.
- Modifying formal arguments does not effect the real arguments



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### Discussion:

- What will happen if:
  - We modify the internal state of object parameters inside a method?
  - We modify the reference to an object?



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### a. With value-based data type

- Primitive values can not be changed when being passed as a parameter

```
public void method1(){
    int a = 0;
    System.out.println(a); // outputs 0
    method2(a);
    System.out.println(a); // outputs 0
}

void method2(int a){
    a = a + 1;
}
```

- Is this swap method correct?

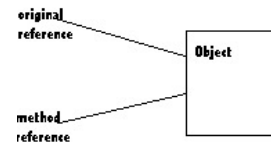
```
public void swap(int var1, int var2) {
    int temp = var1;
    var1 = var2;
    var2 = temp;
}
```



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## b. With reference-based data type

- Pass the references by value, not the original reference or the object



- After being passed to a method, a object has at least two references



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## Passing parameters

```

public class ParameterModifier {
    public void changeValues (int f1, Num f2, Num f3){
        System.out.println ("Before changing the values:");
        System.out.println ("f1\tf2\tf3");
        System.out.println (f1 + "\t" + f2 + "\t" + f3 + "\n");

        f1 = 999;
        f2.setValue(888);
        f3 = new Num(777);

        System.out.println ("After changing the values:");
        System.out.println ("f1\tf2\tf3");
        System.out.println (f1 + "\t" + f2 + "\t" + f3 + "\n");
    }
}
  
```



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## Passing parameters

```

public class ParameterTester {
    public static void main (String[] args){
        ParameterModifier modifier = new ParameterModifier();

        int a1 = 111;
        Num a2 = new Num (222);
        Num a3 = new Num (333);

        System.out.println ("Before calling changeValues");
        System.out.println ("a1\ta2\ta3");
        System.out.println (a1 + "\t" + a2 + "\t" + a3 + "\n");

        modifier.changeValues (a1, a2, a3);

        System.out.println ("After calling changeValues");
        System.out.println ("a1\ta2\ta3");
        System.out.println (a1 + "\t" + a2 + "\t" + a3 + "\n");
    }
}
  
```

Before calling changeValues:  
a1 a2 a3  
111 222 333

Before changing the values:  
f1 f2 f3  
111 222 333

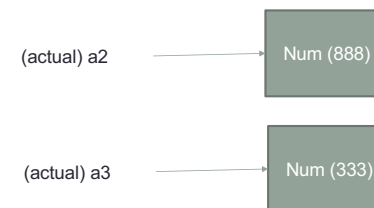
After changing the values:  
f1 f2 f3  
999 888 777

After calling changeValues:  
a1 a2 a3  
111 222 333



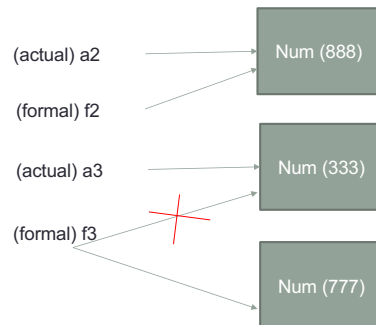
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## Inside the method changeValues()



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## Inside the method changeValues()



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## For example

```
public class Point {
    private double x;
    private double y;
    public Point() { }
    public Point(double x, double y) {
        this.x = x; this.y = y;
    }
    public void setX(double x) { this.x = x; }
    public void setY(double y) { this.y = y; }
    public void printPoint() {
        System.out.println("X: " + x + " Y: " + y);
    }
}
```

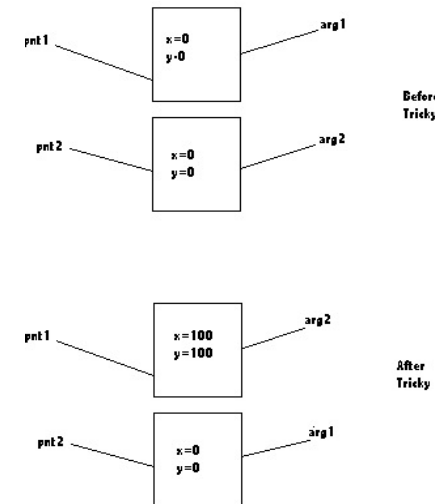
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```
public class Test {
    public static void tricky(Point arg1, Point arg2) {
        arg1.setX(100); arg1.setY(100);
        Point temp = arg1;
        arg1 = arg2; arg2 = temp;
    }
    public static void main(String [] args) {
        Point pnt1 = new Point(0,0);
        Point pnt2 = new Point(0,0);
        pnt1.printPoint(); pnt2.printPoint();
        System.out.println(); tricky(pnt1, pnt2);
        pnt1.printPoint(); pnt2.printPoint();
    }
}
```

The diagram shows the output of the Test class. A green arrow points from the 'main' method's final print statements to a black box containing the following text:
   
X: 0.0 Y: 0.0
   
X: 0.0 Y: 0.0
   
X: 100.0 Y: 100.0
   
X: 0.0 Y: 0.0
   
Press any key to continue . . .

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- Only the method references are swap, not the original references



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### Example

```
public class Test {
    public static void change(Student std){
        std.setYear(2000);
    }
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        Student std = new Student("Nam", 1990);
        System.out.println(std.getYear());
        change(std);
        System.out.println(std.getYear());
    }
}
```



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### Example

```
public class Test {
    public static void change(Student std){
        std = new Student("Hung", 1995);
    }
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        Student std = new Student("Nam", 1990);
        System.out.println(std.getYear());
        change(std);
        System.out.println(std.getYear());
    }
}
```



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### 3.2. Passing arbitrary number of parameters

- Known as **varargs**. Syntax
  - Method\_Name (Data\_Type... params)**
- Example 1:
  - Operation:
 

```
public PrintStream printf(String format,
                           Object... args)
```
  - Usage
    - `System.out.printf ("%s: %d, %s\n", name, idnum, address);`
    - `System.out.printf ("%s: %d, %s, %s, %s\n", name, idnum, address, phone, email);`



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### Example 2

```
public Polygon polygonFrom(Point... corners) {
    int numberOfSides = corners.length;
    double squareOfSide1, lengthOfSide1;
    squareOfSide1 = (corners[1].x - corners[0].x)
        * (corners[1].x - corners[0].x)
        + (corners[1].y - corners[0].y)
        * (corners[1].y - corners[0].y);
    lengthOfSide1 = Math.sqrt(squareOfSide1);
    //create & return a polygon connecting the Points
}
```

- Notes
  - corners** is like an array
  - The params passed to method can be an array or a series of params



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### Example 3

```
public class Test {  
    public static int plus(int... arr) {  
        int result = 0;  
        for (int i : arr) {  
            result += i;  
        }  
        return result;  
    }  
  
    public static void main(String[] args) {  
        System.out.println(plus(1, 2, 3, 4, 5));  
    }  
}
```

