Beginners Book: Java Basics

Lesson 5: Data Types In Java

In Java there are eight primitive data types:

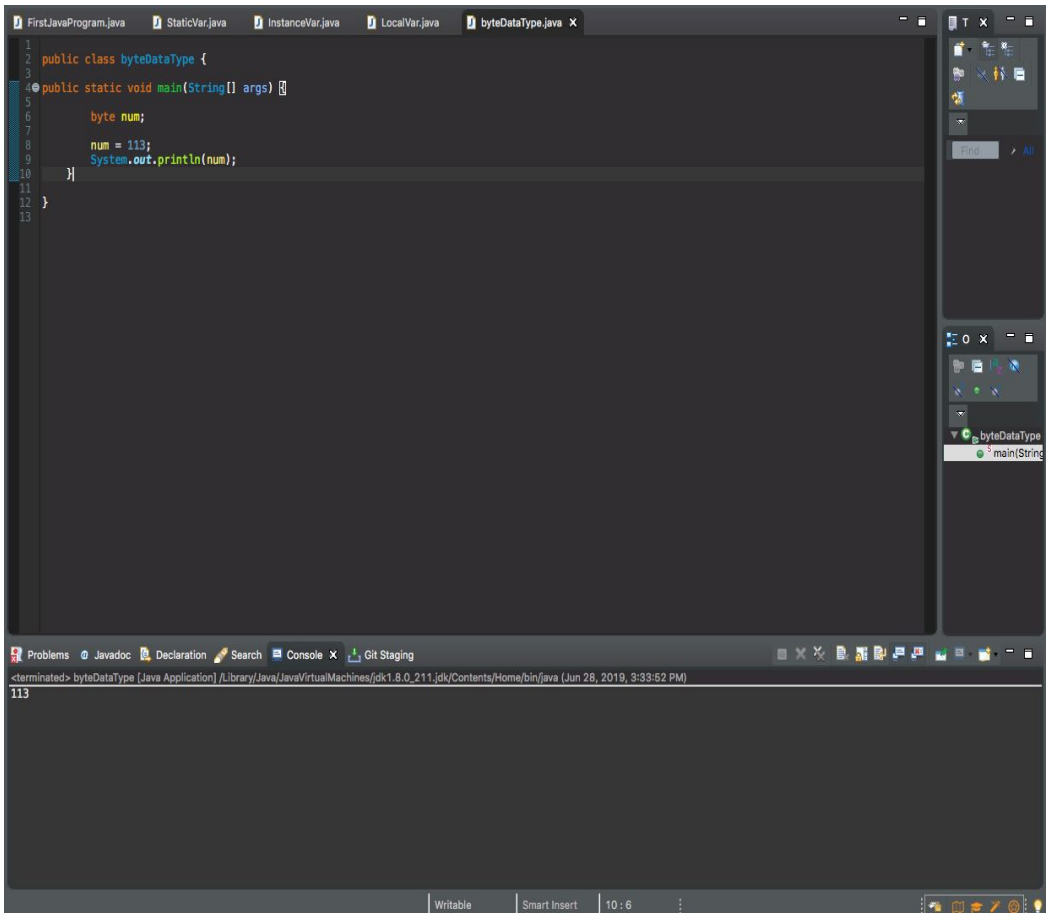
byte:

A byte can hold whole number between -128 and 127. They are mostly used to save memory and when you are certain that the numbers would be in the limit specified by byte data type.

Default Size: 1 byte

Default Value: 0

Example:

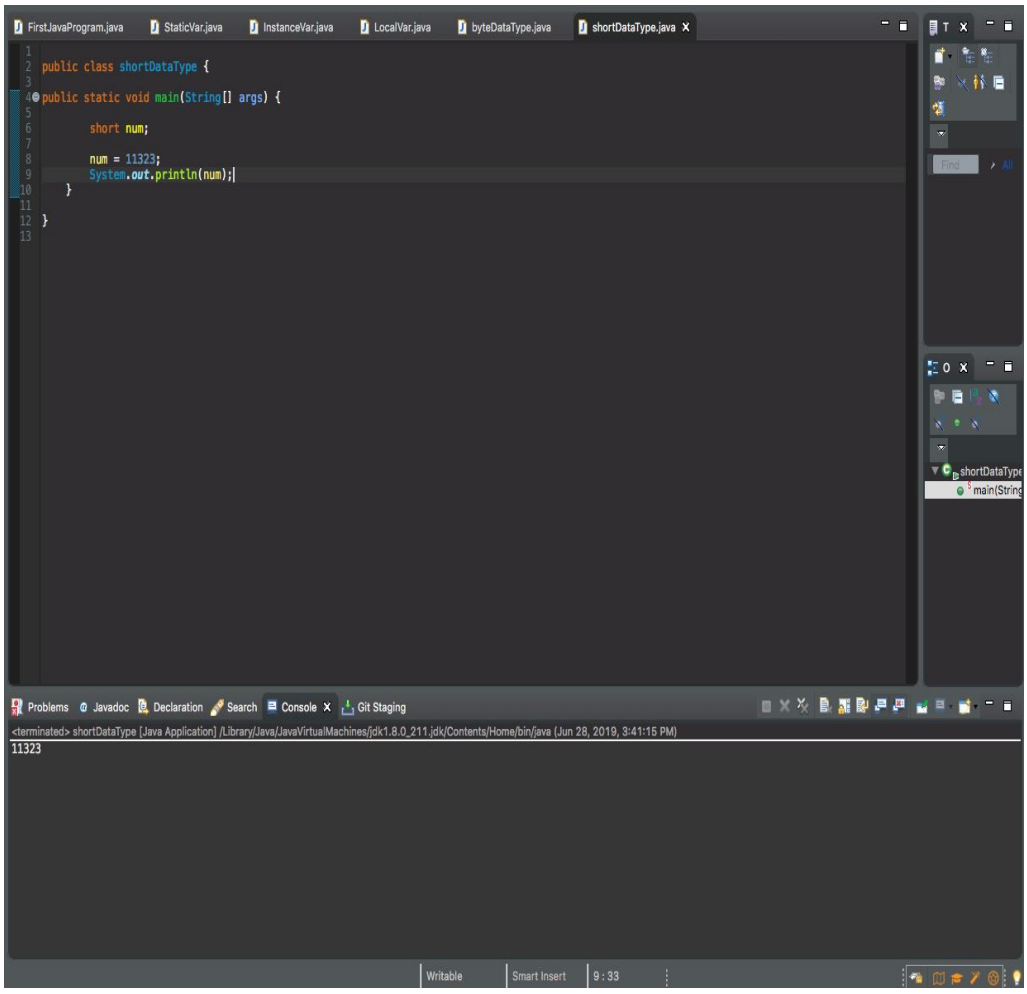


short:

A short is greater in size than byte and less than integer. Its range is -32,768 to 32767.

Default Size: 2 byte

Example:



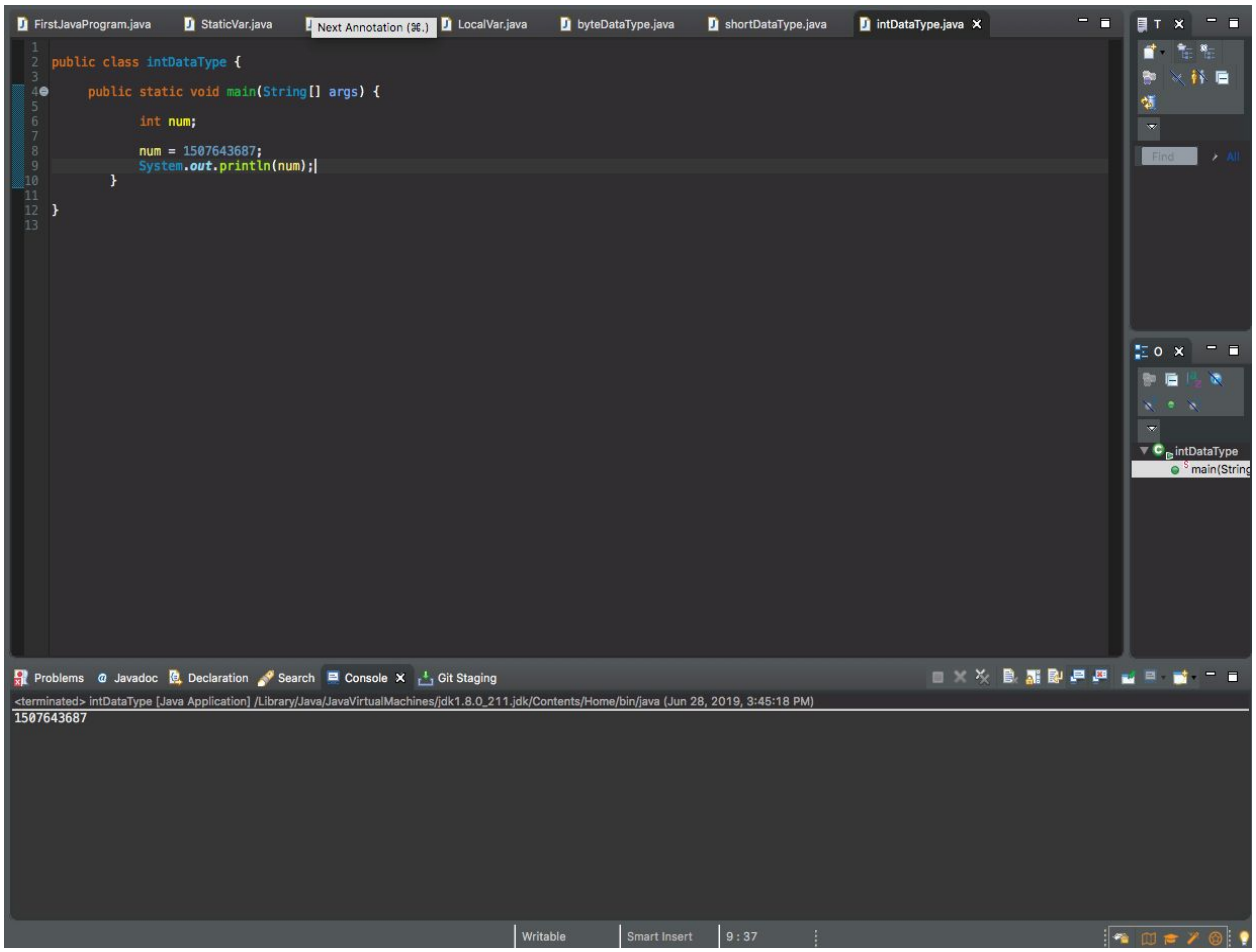
int:

An int is used when short is not large enough to hold the number as it has a wider range: -2,147,483,648 to 2,147,483,647

Default Size: 4 byte

Default Value: 0

Example:



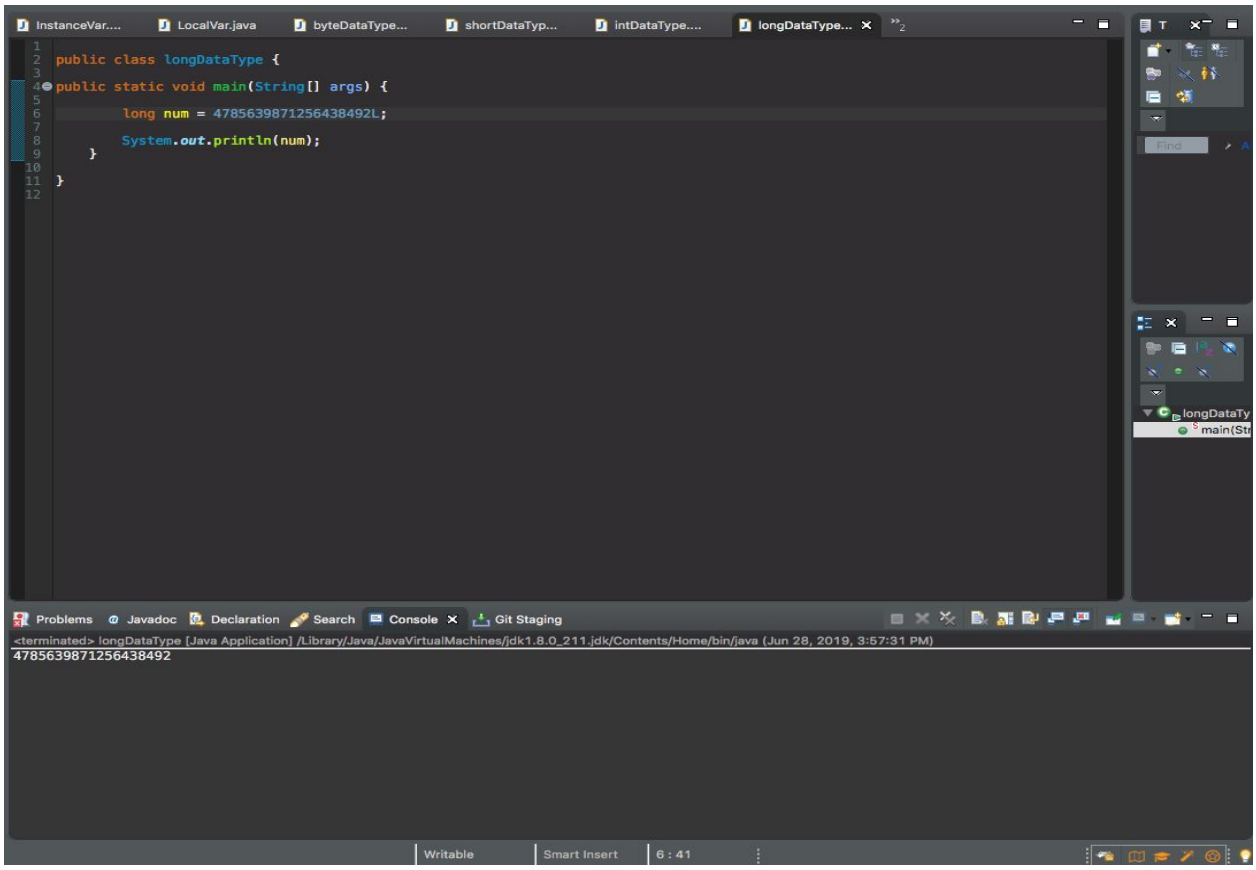
long:

A long is used when int is not large enough to hold the value as it has wider range than int data type, ranging from -9,223,372,036,854,775,808 to 9,223,372,036,854,775,807.

Default Size: 8 byte

Default Value: 0

Example:

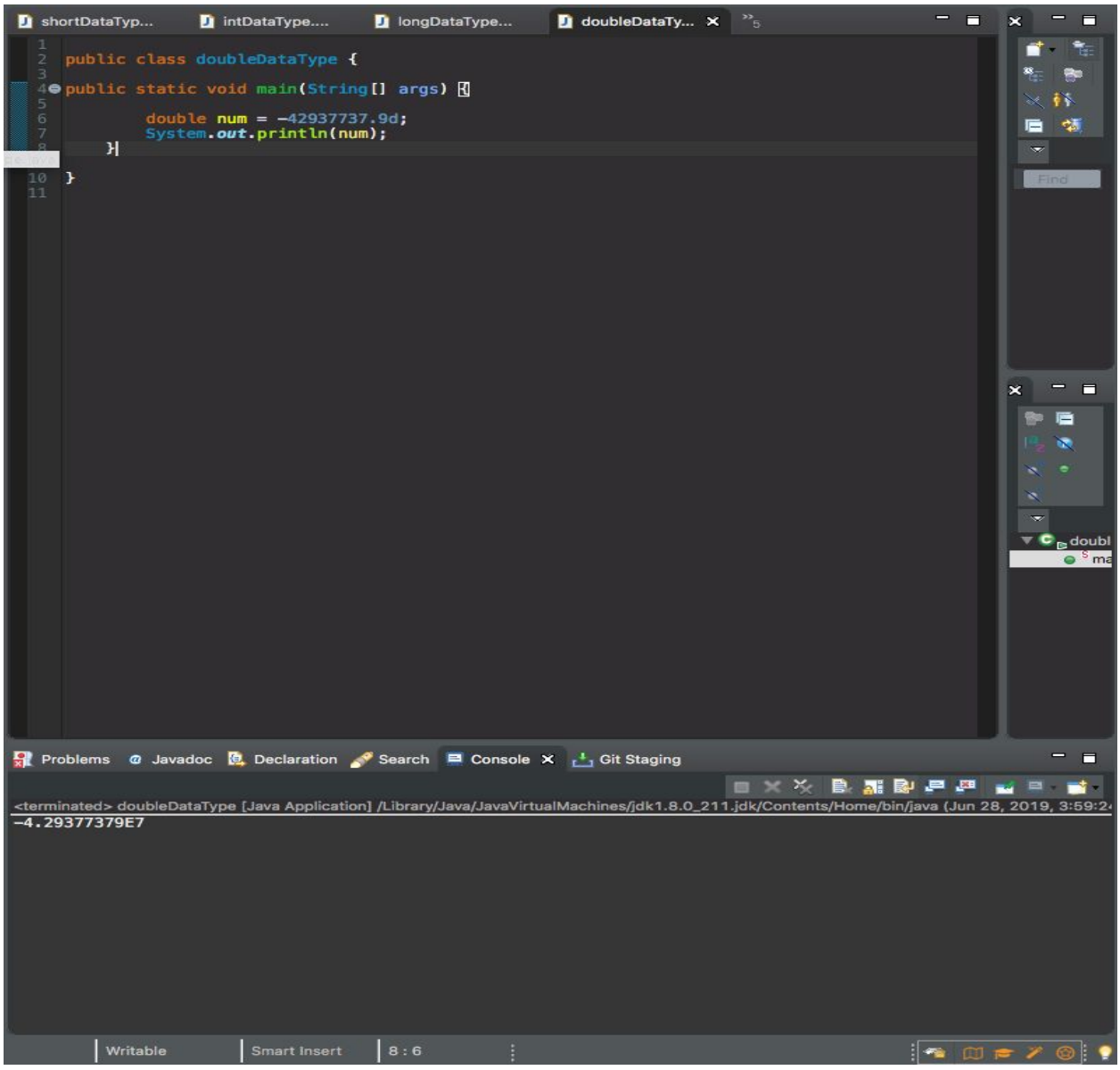


double:

A double is sufficient for holding 15 decimal digits

Default Size: 8 byte

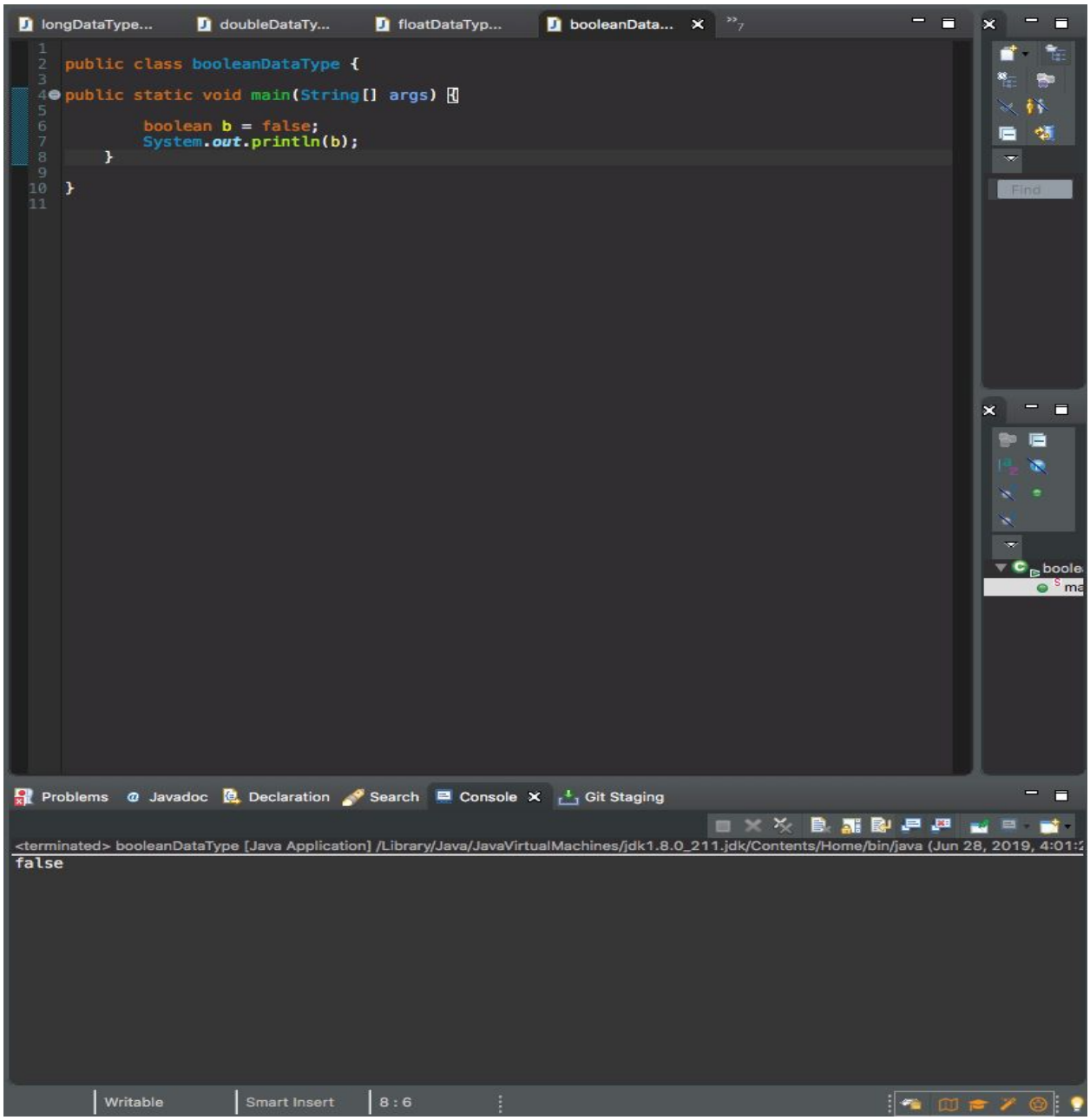
Example:



boolean:

A boolean holds either true or false.

Example:



char:

A char holds characters.

Default Size: 2 byte

Example: