

## Administrivia

- Please make sure you have obtained a Unix account.
- Lab #1 is due Wednesday (end of Wednesday at midnight). Usually, labs are due Friday midnight of the week they occur. It is especially important to set up your central repository.
- If you decide not to take this course after all, please tell CalCentral ASAP, so that we can adjust the waiting list accordingly.
- HW #0 will be up this evening, due next Friday at midnight. While you get credit for any submission, we *strongly* suggest that you give the problems a serious try.
- We *strongly discourage* taking this course P/NP (or S/U).

# Lecture #2: Let's Write a Program: Prime Numbers

**Problem:** want java Primes  $U$  to print prime numbers through  $U$ .

You type: java Primes 101

It types: 2 3 5 7 11 13 17 19 23 29  
31 37 41 43 47 53 59 61 67 71  
73 79 83 89 97 101

**Definition:** A **prime** number is an integer greater than 1 that has no divisors smaller than itself other than 1.

(Alternatively:  $p > 1$  is prime iff  $\gcd(p, x) = 1$  for all  $0 < x < p$ .)

**Useful Facts:**

- $k \leq \sqrt{N}$  iff  $N/k \geq \sqrt{N}$ , for  $N, k > 0$ .
- If  $k$  divides  $N$  then  $N/k$  divides  $N$ .

**So:** Try all potential divisors up to and including the square root.

# Plan

```
public class Primes {  
    /** Print all primes up to ARGS[0] (interpreted as an  
     * integer), 10 to a line. */  
    public static void main(String[] args) {  
        printPrimes(Integer.parseInt(args[0]));  
    }  
  
    /** Print all primes up to and including LIMIT, 10 to  
     * a line. */  
    private static void printPrimes(int limit) {  
        /*{ For every integer, x, between 2 and LIMIT, print it if  
           isPrime(x), 10 to a line. }*/  
    }  
  
    /** True iff X is prime */  
    private static boolean isPrime(int x) {  
        return /*( X is prime );*/;  
    }  
}
```

# Testing for Primes

```
private static boolean isPrime(int x) {  
    if (x <= 1)  
        return false;  
    else  
        return !isDivisible(x, 2); // "!" means "not"  
}  
  
/** True iff X is divisible by any positive number >=K and < X,  
 * given K > 1. */  
private static boolean isDivisible(int x, int k) {  
    if (k >= x)           // a "guard"  
        return false;  
    else if (x % k == 0)   // "%" means "remainder"  
        return true;  
    else // if (k < x && x % k != 0)  
        return isDivisible(x, k+1);  
}
```

# Thinking Recursively

Understand and check `isDivisible(13,2)` by *tracing one level*.

```
/** True iff X is divisible by
 * some number >=K and < X,
 * given K > 1. */
private static boolean isDivisible...
if (k >= x)
    return false;
else if (x % k == 0)
    return true;
else
    return isDivisible(x, k+1);
}
```

Lesson: Comments aid understanding.  
Make them *count!*

- Call assigns  $x=13, k=2$
- Body has form 'if ( $k \geq x$ )  $S_1$  else  $S_2$ '.
- Since  $2 < 13$ , we evaluate the first else.
- Check if  $13 \bmod 2 = 0$ ; it's not.
- Left with `isDivisible(13,3)`.
- Rather than tracing it, instead *use the comment*:
- Since 13 is *not* divisible by any integer in the range 3..12 (and  $3 > 1$ ), `isDivisible(13,3)` must be *false*, and we're done!
- Sounds like that last step begs the question. Why doesn't it?

# Iteration

- `isDivisible` is *tail recursive*, and so creates an *iterative process*.
- Traditional “Algol family” production languages have special syntax for iteration. Four equivalent versions of `isDivisible`:

```
if (k >= x)
    return false;
else if (x % k == 0)
    return true;
else
    return isDivisible(x, [k+1]);
```

```
while ([k < x]) { // !(k >= x)
    if (x % k == 0)
        return true;
    k = [k+1];
    // or k += 1, or (yuch) k++
}
return false;
```

---

```
int k1 = k;
while ([k1 < x]) {
    if (x % k1 == 0)
        return true;
    k1 += 1;
}
return false;
```

```
for (int k1 = k; [k1 < x]; [k1 += 1]) {
    if (x % k1 == 0)
        return true;
}
return false;
```

# Using Facts about Primes

- We haven't used the Useful Facts from an earlier slide. Only have to check for divisors up to the square root.
- So, reimplement the iterative version of `isDivisible`:

```
/** True iff X is divisible by some number >=K and < X,
 * given that K > 1, and that X is not divisible by
 * any number >1 and <K. */
private static boolean isDivisible(int x, int k) {
    int limit = (int) Math.round(Math.sqrt(x));
    for (int k1 = k; k1 <= limit; k1 += 1) {
        if (x % k1 == 0)
            return true;
    }
    return false;
}
```

- Why the additional (blue) condition in the comment?

## Cautionary Aside: Floating Point

- In the last slide, we had

```
int limit = (int) Math.round(Math.sqrt(x));  
for (int k1 = k; k1 <= limit; k1 += 1) {  
    ...
```

intending that this would check all values of  $k_1$  up to and including the square root of  $x$ .

- Since floating-point operations yield *approximations* to the corresponding mathematical operations, you might ask the following about `(int) Math.round(Math.sqrt(x))`:
  - Is it always at least  $\lfloor \sqrt{x} \rfloor$ ? ( $\lfloor z \rfloor$  means “the largest integer  $\leq z$ .”)  
If not, we might miss testing  $\sqrt{x}$  when  $x$  is a perfect square.
- As it happens, the answer is “yes” for IEEE floating-point square roots.
- Just an example of the sort of detail that must be checked in edge cases.

## Final Task: printPrimes (Simplified)

```
/** Print all primes up to and including LIMIT. */  
private static void printPrimes(int limit) {  
  
}
```

# Simplified printPrimes Solution

```
/** Print all primes up to and including LIMIT. */
private static void printPrimes(int limit) {
    for (int p = 2; p <= limit; p += 1) {
        if (isPrime(p)) {
            System.out.print(p + " ");
        }
    }
    System.out.println();
}
```

## printPrimes (full version)

```
/** Print all primes up to and including LIMIT, 10 to
 * a line. */
private static void printPrimes(int limit) {
    int np;
    np = 0;
    for (int p = 2; p <= limit; p += 1) {
        if (isPrime(p)) {
            System.out.print(p + " ");
            np += 1;
            if (np % 10 == 0)
                System.out.println();
        }
    }
    if (np % 10 != 0)
        System.out.println();
}
```