Pointers & Debugging

Mentoring 2: September 4, 2017

Debugging

```
1.1 For each scenario below, describe what you think caused each error.
```

```
(a) Exception in thread "main" java.lang.ArrayIndexOutOfBoundsException: 55
            at Sum.sum(Test.java:15)
            at Sum.main(Test.java:28)
   where line 15 of Sum is:
   total += nums[i];
   i was incremented beyond the length of the array (i \ge nums.length).
(b) Exception in thread "main" java.lang.NullPointerException
```

```
at IntNode.traverse(IntNode.java:25)
at IntNode.main(IntNode.java:63)
```

where line 25 of IntNode is:

```
nextNode = currNode.next;
```

Forgot to add a null check: currNode might be null.

(c) Test.java:67: error: non-static variable name cannot be referenced from a static context

```
System.out.println(name);
```

name, an instance variable (non-static), was referenced from a static method.

2 Arrays

Arrays are ordered sequences of fixed length. Unlike Python lists, the length must be known when creating an array.

```
int[] a = new int[3];
```

It is possible to initialize and fill an array in a single expression.

```
int[] b = new int[]{1, 2, 3};
```

Java can infer the type of the array from its context, yielding this shorthand.

```
int[] c = {1, 2, 3};
```

Uninitialized values have a default value like 0, false, or null.

```
String[] c = new String[1];
c[0] == null;
```

2.1 Provide a descriptive name for each of the following methods. Assume that values contains at least one element.

```
(a) public static boolean _____(int[] values) {
            int k = 0;
           while (k < values.length - 1) {</pre>
                if (values[k] > values[k + 1]) {
                    return false;
                }
               k = k + 1;
           }
           return true;
        }
        isIncreasing
    (b) public static void _____(int[] values) {
           int k = 0;
           while (k < values.length / 2) {</pre>
                int temp = values[k];
                values[k] = values[values.length - 1 - k];
                values[values.length - 1 - k] = temp;
                k = k + 1;
           }
        }
       reverse
2.2 Implement squareSum, which takes an int[] and of values and returns the
   sum of all the squared values.
   public class Arrays {
       public static int squareSum(int[] values) {
           int sum = 0;
           for (int i = 0; i < values.length; i += 1) {
               values[i] *= values[i];
               sum += values[i];
           return sum;
       }
   }
```

2.3 Implement squareSum *using recursion*. Assume the input array of values is non-empty.

```
public class Arrays {
    public static int squareSumRecursive(int[] values, int index) {
        values[index] *= values[index];
        if (index >= values.length - 1) {
            return values[index];
        }
        return values[index] + squareSumRecursive(values, index + 1);
    }
}
```

3 Mystery

3.1 Define skip, which takes in an IntList and destructively removes every other node starting from the second node. Do not use recursion.

```
public class IntList {
    public int first;
    public IntList rest;
    public IntList(int first, IntList rest) {
        this.first = first;
        this.rest = rest;
    }
    public static void skip(IntList L) {
        while (L != null && L.rest != null) {
            L.rest = L.rest.rest;
            L = L.rest;
        }
    }
}
```

3.2 What does mystery do? Draw the box-and-pointer diagram!

```
public class IntList {
    public int first;
    public IntList rest;
    public IntList(int first, IntList rest) {
        this.first = first;
        this.rest = rest;
    }
    public static IntList mystery(IntList L) {
        if (L == null || L.rest == null) {
            return L;
        } else {
            IntList x = mystery(L.rest);
            L.rest.rest = L;
            L.rest = null;
            return x;
        }
    }
    public String toString() {
        String result = "";
        IntList p = this;
        while (p != null) {
            result = result + p.first + " ";
            p = p.tail;
        }
        return result;
    }
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        IntList x = new IntList(2, new IntList(3, new IntList(4, new IntList(5, null))));
        System.out.println(x);
        IntList y = mystery(x);
        System.out.println(x);
        System.out.println(y);
    }
}
```

mystery reverses the IntList in-place and returns the front of the reversed list.