

AP Computer Science A
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Unit 8: 2D Arrays
Intro to 2D Arrays
3/6/2023

CollegeBoard Standards

Unit 8 Topic 1

ENDURING UNDERSTANDING

VAR-2

To manage large amounts of data or complex relationships in data, programmers write code that groups the data together into a single data structure without creating individual variables for each value.

LEARNING OBJECTIVE

VAR-2.F

Represent collections of related primitive or object reference data using two-dimensional (2D) array objects.

ESSENTIAL KNOWLEDGE

VAR-2.F.1

2D arrays are stored as arrays of arrays. Therefore, the way 2D arrays are created and indexed is similar to 1D array objects.

X EXCLUSION STATEMENT—(EK VAR-2.F.1):
2D array objects that are not rectangular are outside the scope of the course and AP Exam.

VAR-2.F.2

For the purposes of the exam, when accessing the element at `arr[first][second]`, the first index is used for rows, the second index is used for columns.

VAR-2.F.3

The initializer list used to create and initialize a 2D array consists of initializer lists that represent 1D arrays.

VAR-2.F.4

The square brackets `[row][col]` are used to access and modify an element in a 2D array.

VAR-2.F.5

"Row-major order" refers to an ordering of 2D array elements where traversal occurs across each row, while "column-major order" traversal occurs down each column.

Array Vocabulary REVIEW!

- An **array** is a data structure used to implement a collection (list) of primitive or object reference data.
- An **element** is a single value in the **array**.
- The **index** of an **element** is the position of the element in the **array**.
- In Java, the **first element** of an array is at **index 0**.
- The **length** of an **array** is the number of elements in the array.
 - **length** is a **public final** data member of an array.
 - Because **length** is **public**, we can access it in **any class**!
 - Because **length** is **final**, we **cannot change** an array's **length** after it has been created.
- In Java, the **last element** of an array named **list** is at **index `list.length - 1`**.

Source: AP Classroom 8.1 Video

Do Now! 1D vs. 2D Arrays: Visually

- 1D array of random ints:

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|----|
| 7 | 3 | 8 | 9 | 6 | 10 |
|---|---|---|---|---|----|

- 2D array of random ints:

| | | | | | |
|---|---|----|---|---|----|
| 7 | 3 | 8 | 9 | 6 | 10 |
| 2 | 1 | 15 | 4 | 2 | 0 |
| 9 | 6 | 11 | 5 | 3 | 9 |

Discuss with your neighbor: What are some possible applications of 2D arrays?

Challenge: What about 3D arrays (lists of lists of lists)?!?! :-O

2D Array Applications!



Games!



Lockers



Mail boxes

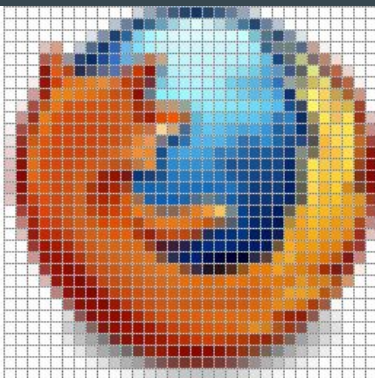


2D Array Applications!

Spreadsheets

| Vengeance Hits Home | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---------------------|------------|-------------|------------|-------------|----------------|-------------|---------|-------------|------------|------|------------|
| | A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H | I | J | K |
| 1 | title | cast | director | tagline | keywords | overview | runtime | genres | userRating | year | revenue |
| 2 | Avatar | Sam Wor | James Car | Enter the | culture class | In the 22nd | 162 | Action Ad | 7.1 | 2009 | 2081505847 |
| 3 | Star Wars | Harrison F. | J.J. Abram | Every gen | android spe | Thirty year | 136 | Action Ad | 7.5 | 2015 | 2068178225 |
| 4 | Titanic | Kate Wins | James Car | Nothing o | shipwreck | 84 years la | 194 | Drama Ro | 7.3 | 1997 | 1845034188 |
| 5 | The Aven | Robert Do | Joss Whe | Some ass | new york s | When an | 143 | Science Fic | 7.3 | 2012 | 1519557910 |
| 6 | Jurassic W | Chris Prat | Colin Trev | The park | monster dr | Twenty-ti | 124 | Action Ad | 6.5 | 2015 | 1513528810 |
| 7 | Furious 7 | Vin Dies | James Wa | Vengeanc | car race spe | Deckard S | 137 | Action Cri | 7.3 | 2015 | 1506249360 |
| 8 | Avengers | Robert Do | Joss Whe | A New Ag | marvel com | When Tor | 141 | Action Ad | 7.4 | 2015 | 1405035767 |
| 9 | Harry Pott | Daniel Ra | David Yate | It all ends | self sacrifice | Harry Ron | 130 | Adventure | 7.7 | 2011 | 1327817822 |
| 10 | Frozen | Kristen Be | Chris Buck | Only the | queen mus | Young pri | 102 | Animation | 7.5 | 2013 | 1274219009 |
| 11 | Iron Man | Robert Do | Shane Bla | Unleash t | terrorist wa | When Tor | 130 | Action Ad | 6.9 | 2013 | 1215439994 |
| 12 | Minions | Sandra Bu | Kyle Balda | Before Gr | assistant af | Minions S | 91 | Family An | 6.5 | 2015 | 1156730962 |
| 13 | Transform | Shia LaBe | Michael B | The invasi | moon spac | Sam Witw | 154 | Action Sci | 6.1 | 2011 | 1123746996 |
| 14 | The Lord | Elijah Wo | Peter Jack | The eye o | elves orcs | Aragorn is | 201 | Adventure | 7.9 | 2003 | 1118888979 |
| 15 | Skyfall | Daniel Cra | Sam Mend | Think on | spy secret | When Bor | 143 | Action Ad | 6.8 | 2012 | 1108561013 |

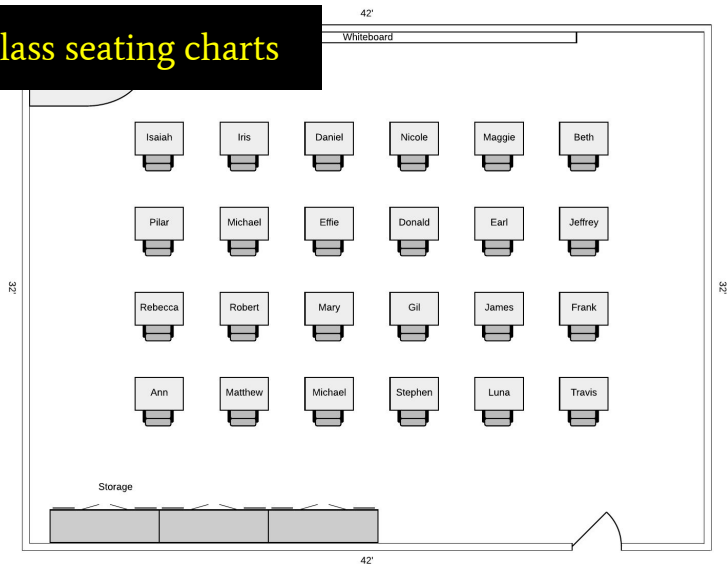
Pixels in an image



Theater seating



Class seating charts



2D Array Creation

- As we learned, a 1D array holds elements that are primitive type or objects, and arrays *themselves* are objects
- A **2D array** is simply a 1D array where each element in the array is *itself* an array; i.e. **a 1D array of 1D arrays!**
- We think of 2D arrays in terms of “rows” and “columns,” just like spreadsheets, and we often *visualize* them as tables:

| | Column 0 | Column 1 | Column 2 | Column 3 |
|-------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Row 0 | 7 | 3 | 8 | 9 |
| Row 1 | 2 | 1 | 15 | 4 |
| Row 2 | 9 | 6 | 11 | 5 |

Interview Time

| | | | |
|---|---|----|---|
| 7 | 3 | 8 | 9 |
| 2 | 1 | 15 | 4 |
| 9 | 6 | 11 | 5 |

As a 2D Array: [[7, 3, 8, 9],
[2, 1, 15, 4],
[9, 6, 11, 5]]

As a 1D Array: [7, 3, 8, 9, 2, 1, 15, 4, 9, 6, 11, 5]

row1 row2 row3

You can represent any 2D array as a 1D array where you determine the rows and columns through your own logic. Why use 2D arrays at all?

2D Array Creation

- Like 1D arrays, 2D arrays hold elements of the same type (primitive or object type)
- Declaring and creating 2D arrays -- like 1D arrays, you must know how many elements you want in your 2D array ahead of time

1. Using the new keyword:

```
int[][] nums = new int[3][4];
```

Creates a 2D array with 3 rows and 4 columns

`int[3][4]`
 ↑ ↑
 Yellow arrow Orange arrow
Rows first, **Columns** second

Remember
RC COLA!



2D Array Creation

Using the new keyword:

```
int[][] nums = new int[3][4];
```

Creates a 2D array with **3 rows** and **4 columns**

Like 1D arrays, if you create a 2D array this way -- with *how many elements* there are, but not *what* those elements are -- then the values default to 0 until they get set:

| | Column 0 | Column 1 | Column 2 | Column 3 |
|-------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Row 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Row 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Row 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

2D Array Creation

2. Like 1D arrays, we can use an “initializer list” to initialize a 2D array if we know what values we want in the 2D array at the time of its creation (it’s actually an “initializer list **of lists**”!)

Example, let’s say we wanted to initialize a 2D array to contain these `ints`:

| | Column 0 | Column 1 | Column 2 | Column 3 |
|-------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Row 0 | 7 | 3 | 8 | 9 |
| Row 1 | 2 | 1 | 15 | 4 |
| Row 2 | 9 | 6 | 11 | 5 |

Like 1D arrays, when you do it this way, you don’t need to give the explicit size of each array, since Java determines it automatically

```
int[][] randNums = {{7, 3, 8, 9}, {2, 1, 15, 4}, {9, 6, 11, 5}};
```

Here you can see that each element of the `randNums` “outer” array is an individual array of `ints` (aka, the “inner” arrays), and that each “inner” array is a “**row**.” The individual elements of the *inner* array rows, when considered together, make up the “**columns**”.

2D Array Creation

When we type up a 2D array using initializer lists in our code, it is common practice to “write it the way we see it!”:

| | Column 0 | Column 1 | Column 2 | Column 3 |
|-------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Row 0 | 7 | 3 | 8 | 9 |
| Row 1 | 2 | 1 | 15 | 4 |
| Row 2 | 9 | 6 | 11 | 5 |

```
int[][] randNums = {{7, 3, 8, 9},  
                    {2, 1, 15, 4},  
                    {9, 6, 11, 5}};
```

This is preferred since it makes clear the “shape” of the data: 3 rows, 4 columns!

2D Array Creation

When we type up a 2D array using initializer lists in our code, it is common practice to “write it the way we see it!”:

| | Column 0 | Column 1 | Column 2 | Column 3 |
|-------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Row 0 | 7 | 3 | 8 | 9 |
| Row 1 | 2 | 1 | 15 | 4 |
| Row 2 | 9 | 6 | 11 | 5 |

```
int[][] randNums = { {7, 3, 8, 9},      Row 0  
                    {2, 1, 15, 4},     Row 1  
                    {9, 6, 11, 5} };   Row 2
```

This is preferred since it makes clear the “shape” of the data: 3 rows, 4 columns!

2D Array Creation

| | Column 0 | Column 1 | Column 2 | Column 3 |
|-------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Row 0 | 7 | 3 | 8 | 9 |
| Row 1 | 2 | 1 | 15 | 4 |
| Row 2 | 9 | 6 | 11 | 5 |

You can also do it this way:

```
int[] row0nums = {7, 3, 8, 9};  
int[] row1nums = {2, 1, 15, 4};  
int[] row2nums = {9, 6, 11, 5};
```

```
int[][] randNums = {row0nums, row1nums, row2nums};
```

2D Array Creation

Because each element of the outer array (i.e. each “inner array” / “sub-array”) is a **row**, we call this organizational structure **row-major order**.

Note that *some* programming languages (not Java!) store each *column* of data as the sub-array elements of the outer array; this is called **column-major order**.

Also, we tend to think about 2D arrays like we think about spreadsheet tables: as **rectangular** in shape, where each “row” has the same length, i.e. the same number of elements in each inner array. Rectangular 2D arrays are the most common to use and see, and the only kind you need to know for this course and the AP Exam; however, it *is* possible in Java to have **jagged** 2D arrays where inner arrays have *different* lengths! (curious how that works? go look it up 🕶)

2D Array Size? Length? What?

Does a 2D array have a `size()`? A `length`? Some other type of dimensions?

| | Column 0 | Column 1 | Column 2 | Column 3 |
|-------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Row 0 | 7 | 3 | 8 | 9 |
| Row 1 | 2 | 1 | 15 | 4 |
| Row 2 | 9 | 6 | 11 | 5 |

```
int[][] randNums = {{7, 3, 8, 9},  
                    {2, 1, 15, 4},  
                    {9, 6, 11, 5}};
```

Remember: A 2D array is simply a 1D array that has 1D array as its elements!

2D Array Size? Length? What?

| | Column 0 | Column 1 | Column 2 | Column 3 |
|-------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Row 0 | 7 | 3 | 8 | 9 |
| Row 1 | 2 | 1 | 15 | 4 |
| Row 2 | 9 | 6 | 11 | 5 |

```
int[][] randNums = {{7, 3, 8, 9},  
                    {2, 1, 15, 4},  
                    {9, 6, 11, 5}};
```

```
System.out.println(randNums.length);
```

```
// prints 3 -- the number of inner array elements (ROWS)
```

randNums has a **length**, just like all other arrays -- *not* `size()`, which is for `ArrayList` -- and just like any other array, its **length** is how many elements it contains! **randNums** contains **3** elements (which just happen to be *other* arrays)

How many elements does each row have (i.e. how many columns)?

| | Column 0 | Column 1 | Column 2 | Column 3 |
|-------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Row 0 | 7 | 3 | 8 | 9 |
| Row 1 | 2 | 1 | 15 | 4 |
| Row 2 | 9 | 6 | 11 | 5 |

```
int[][] randNums = {{7, 3, 8, 9},  
                    {2, 1, 15, 4},  
                    {9, 6, 11, 5}};
```

```
System.out.println(randNums[0].length);
```

```
// prints 4 -- the number of elements in an inner array (COLUMNS) 18
```

We can check the length of *one of the inner arrays* to get the “column count” -- we could use any since we know it’s rectangular and all have the same length, but by convention we use the length of “row 0” to get column count

“Dimensions”

| | Column 0 | Column 1 | Column 2 | Column 3 |
|-------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Row 0 | 7 | 3 | 8 | 9 |
| Row 1 | 2 | 1 | 15 | 4 |
| Row 2 | 9 | 6 | 11 | 5 |

```
int[][] randNums = {{7, 3, 8, 9},  
                    {2, 1, 15, 4},  
                    {9, 6, 11, 5}};
```

We sometimes refer to a 2D array’s “size” by its “dimensions.”

The 2D array above is a “**3 by 4**” array, or “**3 x 4**” (**Row by Column!**)

Quick Check!

```
int[][] ticketInfo = new int[5][3];
```

What will this 2D array “look like” if we printed it using rows and columns?

A.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 0 | 0 | 0 |

B.

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

How many *total* elements in the entire 2D array?

What is `ticketInfo.length`?

What is `ticketInfo[0].length`?

Quick Check!

```
int[][] ticketInfo = new int[5][3];
```

What will this 2D array “look like” if we printed it using rows and columns?

A.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 0 | 0 | 0 |

B.

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

[5][3] → 5 Rows, 3 Columns → RC cola!



How many total elements? $5 \times 3 = 15$

What is `ticketInfo.length`? 5 (has 5 inner arrays, or **rows**)

What is `ticketInfo[0].length`? 3 (each inner array has 5 elements, or **columns**)

Quick Check!

```
String[][] names =  
{ {"Mark", "Abby", "Tom"}, {"Bill", "Jen", "David"} };
```

What will this 2D array “look like” if we printed it using rows and columns?

- A.

| | |
|------|-------|
| Mark | Bill |
| Abby | Jen |
| Tom | David |
- B.

| | | |
|------|------|-------|
| Mark | Abby | Tom |
| Bill | Jen | David |
- C.

| |
|-------------------------------------|
| [Mark, Abby, Tom, Bill, Jen, David] |
|-------------------------------------|

Quick Check!

```
String[][] names =  
{  
    {"Mark", "Abby", "Tom"}, {"Bill", "Jen", "David"}  
};
```

Row 0 Row 1

What will this 2D array “look like” if we printed it using rows and columns?

A.

| | |
|------|-------|
| Mark | Bill |
| Abby | Jen |
| Tom | David |

B.

| | | |
|------|------|-------|
| Mark | Abby | Tom |
| Bill | Jen | David |

 Row 0 Row 1

Java is a **row-major** language, so each inner array of the outer names array represents a ROW

C. [Mark, Abby, Tom, Bill, Jen, David]

Accessing/assigning/updating values

How could we have created this same 2D array using the new keyword?

| | Column 0 | Column 1 | Column 2 |
|-------|----------|----------|----------|
| Row 0 | Mark | Abby | Tom |
| Row 1 | Bill | Jen | David |

```
String[][] names = new String[2][3]; // 2 rows, 3 columns
names[0][0] = "Mark"; // row 0, column 0
names[0][1] = "Abby"; // row 0, column 1
names[0][2] = "Tom"; // row 0, column 2
names[1][0] = "Bill"; // row 1, column 0
names[1][1] = "Jen"; // row 1, column 1
names[1][2] = "David"; // row 1, column 2
```


[row][column]

Don't go out of bounds!

Be careful not to go out of bounds!

```
String[][] names = new String[2][3]; // 2 rows, 3 columns
names[0][0] = "Mark"; // row 0, column 0
names[0][1] = "Abby"; // row 0, column 1
names[0][2] = "Tom"; // row 0, column 2
names[1][0] = "Bill"; // row 1, column 0
names[1][1] = "Jen"; // row 1, column 1
names[1][2] = "David"; // row 1, column 2
names[2][0] = "Joe"; // row 2, column 0
```

```
ArrayIndexOutOfBoundsException: Index 2 out of bounds for length 2
```

```
names[1][3] = "Jill"; // row 1, column 3
```

```
ArrayIndexOutOfBoundsException: Index 3 out of bounds for length 3
```

Quick Check!

Which of the following sets the value for the 3rd row and 2nd column of a 2D array called `nums` ?

A. `nums[3][2] = 5;`

B. `nums[1][2] = 5;`

C. `nums[2][1] = 5;`

D. `nums[2][3] = 5;`

Quick Check!

Which of the following sets the value for the 3rd row and 2nd column of a 2D array called `nums` ?

A. `nums[3][2] = 5;`

B. `nums[1][2] = 5;`

C. `nums[2][1] = 5;`

D. `nums[2][3] = 5;`


[row] [column]

Row first, column second (RC cola!)

The 3rd row would be index 2, and the 2nd column would be index 1 (since arrays are 0 indexed)

2D Array Creation

| | Column 0 | Column 1 | Column 2 | Column 3 |
|-------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Row 0 | 7 | 3 | 8 | 9 |
| Row 1 | 2 | 1 | 15 | 4 |
| Row 2 | 9 | 6 | 11 | 5 |

```
int[] row0nums = {7, 3, 8, 9};  
int[] row1nums = {2, 1, 15, 4};  
int[] row2nums = {9, 6, 11, 5};
```

You can assign entire rows using just the first index:

```
int[][] randNums = new int[3][4];  
randNums[0] = row0nums;  
randNums[1] = row1nums;  
randNums[2] = row2nums;  
randNums[2] = 5; // invalid! expecting an int[], not int
```

2D Array Declaration

- 2D arrays are simply 1D array objects that contain 1D array objects as elements
- So if you just declare a 2D array without initializing it immediately, the default value is `null` (like all objects):

```
int[][] scores;
```

(`scores` has the value `null` until you initialize it -- it does *NOT* default to something like `[0][0]`)

Printing 2D Arrays

So wait, how do you print a 2D array to “show” its rows and columns?

Just like 1D arrays, you can’t simply `println` a 2D array object:

```
int[][] array1 = {{4, 5}, {6, 7}, {8, 9}};  
System.out.println(array1);
```



```
[[I@33c7353a
```



Printing 2D Arrays

Aahhh! Let's iterate over the outer array's elements (each a 1D array of ints, or type `int[]`) and use the `Arrays.toString()` method on each one!

```
int[][] array1 = {{4, 5}, {6, 7}, {8, 9}};  
for (int[] innerArr : array1)  
{  
    System.out.println(Arrays.toString(innerArr));  
}
```



We could *also* use nested for loops to fully traverse every element -- full 2D array traversal is the topic of our next class!

| |
|--------|
| [4, 5] |
| [6, 7] |
| [8, 9] |



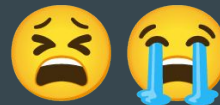
Printing 2D Arrays

Ooooooh! How about the `Arrays.toString()` method if we import `java.util.Arrays`? That worked for 1D arrays!

```
int[][] array1 = {{4, 5}, {6, 7}, {8, 9}};  
System.out.println(Arrays.toString(array1));
```



```
[[I@33c7353a, [I@681a9515, [I@3af49f1c]
```



Although you can discern that the outer array contains 3 inner arrays, i.e. 3 rows!

Don't forget: 2D arrays *are* arrays -- so they are objects!

```
int[][] array1 = {{4, 5}, {6, 7}, {8, 9}}; // 3 rows, 2 col
```

```
int[][] array2 = array1; // setting array2 to reference the  
                           same array1 object -- both  
                           references point to the same  
                           2D array object in memory
```

```
array2[1][0] = 3;           // sets the 6 to a 3
```

```
System.out.println(array1[1][0]); // prints 3!!!
```

Just another type!

```
public class Game
{
    private String[] names;
    private int[][] gameBoard;

    public Game(String[] playerNames, int boardSize)
    {
        names = playerNames;
        gameBoard = new int[boardSize][boardSize];
    }
}
```