

Announcements for This Lecture

Readings

- pp. 175–181
- Sections 2.5, 3.1.2-3.1.3
- (optional) PLive p. 2-5



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Strings & Refinement

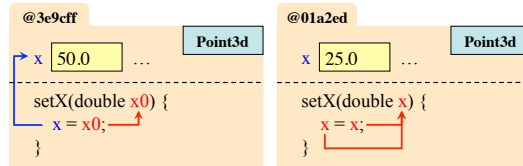
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Assignments

- Assignment 1 due tonight
 - Before Midnight!!!
 - Will have get by class Thu
 - Revise if you are told
- New Assignment Posted
 - No code; written only
 - Meant to do while you revise
 - Due in class next week
- Will go to 2-week assignment schedule after Assignment 3

Inside-Out Rule (See p. 83)

- Parameter `x0` is found in the frame for the method call. Exists temporarily
- Parameter `x` “blocks” (or **shadows**) the reference to the field `x`.



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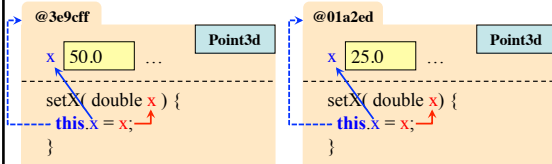
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A Solution: `this`

`this` is a built-in “variable” that gives an object name

- In object (folder) `@3e9cff`, `this` refers to `@3e9cff`
- In object (folder) `@01a2ed`, `this` refers to `@01a2ed`



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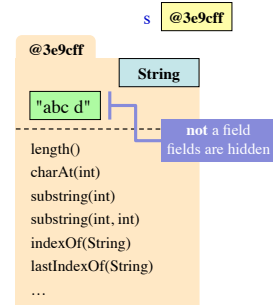
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String is a Class; Quoted Text is an Object

- String `s = "abc d"`;
- Indexed characters:
01234
abc d

- `s.length()` is 5
- `s.charAt(2)` is 'c'
- `s.substring(2)` is "c d"
- `s.substring(1,3)` is "bc"



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String Has a Lot of Useful Methods

- String `s = "abc d"`;
- Indexed characters:
01234
abc d

- `s.substring(2,4)` is "c " (**NOT** "c d")
- `s.substring(2)` is "c d"
- "bcd".trim() is "bcd"
(trim beginning and ending blanks)
- `s.indexOf("bc")` is 1
(index or position of first occurrence of in "bc" or -1 if none)

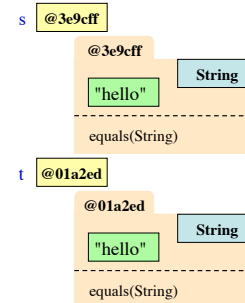
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String Variables Hold Folder Names

- Create two Strings
 - String `s = "hello"`;
 - String `t = "hello"`;
- Do not use `==` to test equality of `s` and `t`
 - `s == t` tests if same object
 - Not useful for Strings
- Use `equals()` instead
 - `s.equals(t)` tests if they have the same text



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Algorithms: Heart of Computer Science

- **Algorithm:** A step-by-step procedure for how to do something (usually a calculation).
- **Implementation:** How to write an algorithm in a specific programming language
- Good programmers know how to separate the two
 - Work out algorithm on paper or in head
 - Once done, implement it in the language
 - Limits errors to **syntax errors** (easy to find), not **conceptual errors** (much, much harder to find)
- Key to designing algorithms: **stepwise refinement**

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Stepwise Refinement: Basic Principles

- **Write Specifications First**
Write a method specification before writing its body
- **Take Small Steps**
Do a little at a time; follow the **Mañana Principle**
- **Compile Often**
This can catch syntax errors
- **Separate Concerns**
Focus on one step at a time
- **Intersperse Programming and Testing**
When you finish a step, test it immediately

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Mañana Principle

- If not in current step, delay to “tomorrow”
 - Use **comments** to write steps in English
 - Add “**stubs**” to ensure the program compiles (e.g. empty definitions or bogus return statements)
 - Slowly replace stubs/comments with real code
- Only create new local variables if you have to
- Sometimes results in creation of more methods
 - Replace the step with a method call
 - But leave the **method definition** empty for now
 - This is called **top-down design**

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Example: Reordering a String

- `lastNameFirst("Walker White")` is "White, Walker"

```
/** Yields: copy of s but in the form <last-name>, <first-name>
 * Precondition: s is in the form <first-name> <last-name>
 * with one blank between the two names */
public static String lastNameFirst(String s) {
    // Find the first name
    // Find the last name
    // Put them together with a comma
    return ""; // Stub return
}
```

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Example: Reordering a String

- `lastNameFirst("Walker White")` is "White, Walker"

```
/** Yields: copy of s but in the form <last-name>, <first-name>
 * Precondition: s is in the form <first-name> <last-name>
 * with one blank between the two names */
public static String lastNameFirst(String s) {
    int endOfFirst = s.indexOf(" ");
    String firstName = s.substring(0,endOfFirst);
    // Find the last name
    // Put them together with a comma
    return firstName; // Stub return (which you can test!)
}
```

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Refinement: Creating Helper Methods

Do This Sparingly

- If you might use this step in **another method later**
- If implementation is rather long and complicated

```
public static String
lastNameFirst(String s) {
    String firstName = firstName(s);
    // Find the last name
    // Put together with comma
    return firstName; // Stub
}
```

```
/**
 * Yields: first name in s
 * Precondition: s is in the form
 * <first-name> <last-name>
 * with one blank between names
 */
public static String
firstName(String s) {
    int end = s.indexOf(" ")
    return s.substring(0,end);
}
```

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