



UCT Department of Computer Science Computer Science 1015F

Java Basics



Hussein Suleman <hussein@cs.uct.ac.za> March 2007

Java: the story so far ...

- A variable is a memory location where data can be stored. It usually has a name/identifier and data can be stored in it or retrieved from it.
 - e.g., int i = 12;
- Data types (int, char, etc.) specify what kinds of data can be manipulated.
- Arithmetic expressions are evaluated to numbers.
 - e.g., j = i + 12
- Boolean expressions are evaluated to true or false.
- Strings are sequences of characters.
- Input is done using the Scanner
- Output is done using System.out
- Instruction execution order can be controlled using selection (if, if-else, switch) and iteration (for, while, do-while)





Software Testing

- Test Cases
- Tracing
- Assertions
- Debugging



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Test Cases

- □ Based on Input:
 - Choose one value in each equivalence classes sets of input values that behave similarly.
 - Choose values on either side of and at boundary values – values between equivalence classes.
- Based on Code:
 - Path coverage: choose values that test every possible path through the statements at least once.
 - **Statement coverage**: Choose values that test every possible statement at least once.



Test Cases Example

equivalence classes:

small multiple of 5: 5 small non-multiples of 5: 3 large multiple of 5: 25 large non-multiples of 5: 23

boundary values:

4, 5, 6, 9, 10, 11, 14, 15, 16

statement coverage:

5, 14

path coverage:

5, 7, 13, 20

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Assertions

- In Java a programmer can specify conditions that must always be satisfied at particular points (**invariants**) or the program produces an error. This is an **assertion**.
- Example:

```
assert (input > 0);
```





Tracing

- □ Insert temporary statements into code to output values during calculation.
- Very useful when there is no debugger!
- Example:

```
int x = y*y*2;
int z = x+5;

System.out.println (z);
if (z == 13)
{
    ...
}
```

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Debugging

- **Debugging** is the process of finding **errors** or **bugs** in the code.
- □ A **debugger** is a tool for executing an application where the programmer can carefully control execution and inspect data.
- Features include:
 - step through code one instruction at a time
 - viewing variables
 - insert and remove breakpoints to pause execution



Problem

□ Write a program to calculate the value of Sin(x) for any real value of x. Use the infinite Taylor series approximation:

$$\sin(x) \approx x - \frac{x^3}{3!} + \frac{x^5}{5!} - \frac{x^7}{7!}.$$

■ Extend your program to draw a Sin(x) graph using ASCII art.



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Solution

- □ First calculate Sin(x).
 - Use variables for numerator, denominator, factorial, etc. and loop over terms until the term is very small.
- □ Add a loop over all x values to calculate a list of Sin(x) values.
- Add a loop over all y-axis values to visit each (x,y) pair and check if the graph intersects, i.e., if y = Sin(x) approximately
- □ Add axes if desired.

