Arrays A Collection of Data for Simple Access

Alwin Tareen

The Array Data Structure

What is a data structure?

- A data structure is a collection of data elements that are combined together under one name.
- Data structures are used for storing and organizing data so that it can be used efficiently.

What is an array?

- An array is a data structure that stores a collection of individual values that are of the same data type.
- ▶ For example, an array can contain ints, doubles, etc.

Declaring and Defining an Array Declaring an array

To declare an array variable, you must include square brackets [] between the data type and the variable name.

int[] tests;

Defining an array

To create the array itself, we must specify its data type, and the quantity of elements that it can contain.

tests = new int[10];

 This statement creates an array that will store 10 values of type int.

Declaring and Defining an Array

Using a single statement

 The declaring and initializing of an array can occur in a single statement. Arrays are usually constructed in this manner.

int[] nums = new int[5];

- Note that in the above code statement:
 - An array variable named nums is declared.
 - ▶ An array object of size 5 is defined, of data type int.

Accessing the Elements of an Array

- To access the individual elements of an array, you must use the array variable's name followed by the number of the element, enclosed in square brackets.
- This number is referred to as the **index**.
- ▶ The following code places elements into indexes 0 and 1.

nums[0] = 5; nums[1] = 38;

▶ The following code reads from indexes 0 and 1.

```
System.out.println(nums[0]);
System.out.println(nums[1]);
```

Initializer Lists

A programmer's shortcut

An initializer list allows you to declare an array, and assign values to each of its elements, in a single statement.

double[] scores = {93.7, 86.2, 91.5, 98.3};

This creates an array of size 4, and assigns each of the elements the following values:

element	93.7	86.2	91.5	98.3
index	0	1	2	3

Index Out of Bounds Exception

 If you attempt to index an element of an array that does not exist, Java will return an IndexOutOfBounds exception.

int[] points = new int[3]; points[5] = 99; // IndexOutOfBounds exception

- This usually occurs when you attempt to access an element that is located beyond the size of the array.
- This is a very common error in Java programming, and you must avoid it as much as possible.

Looping through an Array(Traversing)

- Suppose we want to create an integer array of size 20 called nums, and fill each element of the array with a random number in the range of 0 to 99.
- It would be inefficient to assign the random values to each element of the array in the following manner:

nums[0] = (int) (Math.random() * 100);

A much better approach would be to use a for loop to iterate through all the elements of the array.

Looping through an Array(Traversing)

We can also use a for loop to view the contents of an array:

```
for (int i = 0; i < 20; i++)
{
    System.out.println(nums[i]);
}</pre>
```

A concise way of displaying arrays is to use the Arrays class. It is contained in the library java.util.

```
import java.util.*;
String result = Arrays.toString(nums);
System.out.println(result);
```

Determining the Quantity of Elements

Using the data member: length

- Java allows you to determine the quantity of elements in an array using length, a data member of the array object.
- ▶ In the following code statement, samples.length is 50.

double[] samples = new double[50];

Determining the Average

 The following Java program calculates the average from a group of random numbers. Note the use of length.

```
double total = 0.0;
double[] samples = new double[50];
for (int i = 0; i < samples.length; i++)</pre>
{
   samples[i] = Math.random() * 100;
   total += samples[i];
}
double average = total/samples.length;
System.out.println("Average = " + average);
```

Appropriate Use of length/length()

$\texttt{String} \rightarrow \texttt{length}()$

The String class has a method named length() that returns the quantity of characters in that String.

$\textsf{Array} \to \texttt{length}$

 On the other hand, an array has a variable named length that contains the quantity of elements in that array.

```
String method
```

int qty = word.length();

Array variable

int qty = nums.length;

Two-Dimensional Arrays The concept of a 2-D array

- ▶ Suppose I declare an array of size 5, named table.
- Instead of filling the array with integers or Strings, I place an array in each cell.
- In this case, I have created an array of arrays, also known as a two-dimensional array.



Initializing a 2-D array

In Java, two-dimensional arrays are defined using the following notation:

int[][] table = new int[5][5];

- Note the double square brackets. This indicates the dimension, which in this case is 2.
- Symbolically, it is easier to think of a 2-dimensional array as a grid, with rows and columns.
 - ▶ The first 5 declares the number of rows.
 - The second 5 declares the number of columns.

A grid representation of a 2-D array



- Location [1] [3] would be 2 rows down and 4 columns across. Remember that rows and columns start with 0.
- Similarly, location [4] [2] would be 5 rows down and 3 rows across.

Determining the number of rows and columns

- The number of rows in a 2-D array is found in: [table.length]
- The number of columns in a 2-D array is found in: table[0].length

Additional details

- All the elements of a 2-dimensional array must be of the same data type(int, double, etc.).
- The first index of an array initialization statement always represents the row, and the second index represents the column.
- All 2-dimensional arrays in the AP exam are guaranteed to be square or rectangular(no ragged edge arrays).

 The following code indicates how a 2-dimensional array assigns values to its elements.

```
int[][] matrix = new int[5][5];
matrix[0][2] = 10;
matrix[1][4] = 20;
matrix[3][0] = 30;
```



Initializer lists

- A 2-dimensional array can be established with an initializer list.
- The number of inner lists determines the number of rows, and the size of each inner list determines the number of columns in that particular row.

int[][]	matrix =	{{0, 1,	2, 3, 4}	// row 0
		{10, 11	, 12, 13	14}, // row 1
		{20, 21	, 22, 23	24}, // row 2
		{30, 31	, 32, 33,	34}}; // row 3

Two-Dimensional Arrays Displaying a 2-D array

- Generally, you would use two for loops to display a 2-dimensional array.
- A better way is to use the Arrays class from the java.util library.

```
import java.util.*;
String display = "";
for (int row = 0; row < table.length; row++)
{
    display += Arrays.toString(table[row]) + "\n";
}
System.out.println(display);
```

Looping Through a 2-D Array(Traversing)

- The easiest way to manipulate a 2-dimensional array is to use nested for loops.
- The following code sums all of the numbers in the 2-dimensional array called nums.
- The outer loop iterates 4 times, and moves down the rows.
- Each time through the outer loop, the inner loop iterates 5 times and moves across the columns of the current row.

```
for (int row = 0; row < 4; row++)
{
    for (int col = 0; col < 5; col++)
    {
        total += nums[row][col];
    }
}</pre>
```

Looping Through a 2-D Array(Traversing)

- In the previous case, we used a limit of 4 for the number of rows, and a limit of 5 for the number of columns.
- However, there are cases in which we won't know the quantity of rows and columns in the 2-D array.
- Therefore, it is much more practical to use the length variable instead of literal numbers.
- Recall that nums.length is the number of rows, and nums[0].length is the number of columns.

```
for (int row = 0; row < nums.length; row++)
{
    for (int col = 0; col < nums[0].length; col++)
    {
        total += nums[row][col];
    }
}</pre>
```

Arrays: End of Notes