Building Java Programs

Chapter 3
Lecture 3-1: Parameters

reading: 3.1

Redundant recipes

- Recipe for baking 20 cookies:
  - Mix the following ingredients in a bowl:
    - 4 cups flour
    - 1 cup butter
    - 1 cup sugar
    - 2 eggs
    - 40 oz. chocolate chips ...
  - Place on sheet and Bake for about 10 minutes.

- Recipe for baking 40 cookies:
  - Mix the following ingredients in a bowl:
    - 8 cups flour
    - 2 cups butter
    - 2 cups sugar
    - 4 eggs
    - 80 oz. chocolate chips ...
  - Place on sheet and Bake for about 10 minutes.
Parameterized recipe

- Recipe for baking 20 cookies:
  - Mix the following ingredients in a bowl:
    - 4 cups flour
    - 1 cup sugar
    - 2 eggs
    - ...

- Recipe for baking N cookies:
  - Mix the following ingredients in a bowl:
    - \(\frac{N}{5}\) cups flour
    - \(\frac{N}{20}\) cups butter
    - \(\frac{N}{20}\) cups sugar
    - \(\frac{N}{10}\) eggs
    - 2N oz. chocolate chips ...
  - Place on sheet and Bake for about 10 minutes.

- parameter: A value that distinguishes similar tasks.

Redundant figures

- Consider the task of printing the following lines/boxes:

```
*************
******
********
******************
*************
*   *
*   *
********
****
*   *
*   *
*****
```
A redundant solution

```java
public class Stars1 {
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        lineOf13();
        lineOf7();
        lineOf35();
        box10x3();
        box5x4();
    }

    public static void lineOf13() {
        for (int i = 1; i <= 13; i++) {
            System.out.print('*');
        }
        System.out.println();
    }

    public static void lineOf7() {
        for (int i = 1; i <= 7; i++) {
            System.out.print('*');
        }
        System.out.println();
    }

    public static void lineOf35() {
        for (int i = 1; i <= 35; i++) {
            System.out.print('*');
        }
        System.out.println();
    }
    ...
}
```

- This code is redundant.
- Would variables help? Would constants help?
- What is a better solution?
  - line - A method to draw a line of any number of stars.
  - box - A method to draw a box of any size.

Parameterization

- **parameter**: A value passed to a method by its caller.

  - Instead of `lineOf7`, `lineOf13`, write `line` to draw any length.
    - When declaring the method, we will state that it requires a parameter for the number of stars.
    - When calling the method, we will specify how many stars to draw.
Declaring a parameter

*Stating that a method requires a parameter in order to run*

```java
public static void <name> (<type> <name>) {
    <statement>(s);
}
```

- **Example:**
  ```java
  public static void sayPassword(int code) {
      System.out.println("The password is: "+ code);
  }
  ```
  When `sayPassword` is called, the caller must specify the integer code to print.

Passing a parameter

*Calling a method and specifying values for its parameters*

```
<name>(<expression>);
```

- **Example:**
  ```java
  public static void main(String[] args) {
      sayPassword(42);
      sayPassword(12345);
  }
  ```
  Output:
  The password is 42
  The password is 12345
Parameters and loops

- A parameter can guide the number of repetitions of a loop.

```java
public static void main(String[] args) {
    chant(3);
}

public static void chant(int times) {
    for (int i = 1; i <= times; i++) {
        System.out.println("Just a salad...");
    }
}

Output:
Just a salad...
Just a salad...
Just a salad...
```

How parameters are passed

- When the method is called:
  - The value is stored into the parameter variable.
  - The method's code executes using that value.

```java
public static void main(String[] args) {
    chant(3);
    chant(7);
}

public static void chant(int times) {
    for (int i = 1; i <= times; i++) {
        System.out.println("Just a salad...");
    }
}
```
Common errors

- If a method accepts a parameter, it is illegal to call it without passing any value for that parameter.
  ```java
  chant();  // ERROR: parameter value required
  ```

- The value passed to a method must be of the correct type.
  ```java
  chant(3.7);  // ERROR: must be of type int
  ```

- Exercise: Change the Stars program to use a parameterized method for drawing lines of stars.

Stars solution

```java
// Prints several lines of stars.
// Uses a parameterized method to remove redundancy.
public class Stars2 {
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        line(13);
        line(7);
        line(35);
    }

    // Prints the given number of stars plus a line break.
    public static void line(int count) {
        for (int i = 1; i <= count; i++) {
            System.out.print("*");
        }
        System.out.println();
    }
}
```
Multiple parameters

- A method can accept multiple parameters. (separate by , )
  - When calling it, you must pass values for each parameter.

- Declaration:
  ```java
  public static void <name>(<type> <name>, ..., <type> <name>) {
      <statement>(s);
  }
  ```

- Call:
  ```java
  <name>(<exp>, <exp>, ..., <exp>);
  ```

Multiple parameters example

```java
public static void main(String[] args) {
    printNumber(4, 9);
    printNumber(17, 6);
    printNumber(8, 0);
    printNumber(0, 8);
}

public static void printNumber(int number, int count) {
    for (int i = 1; i <= count; i++) {
        System.out.print(number);
    }
    System.out.println();
}
```

Output:
```
444444444
171717171717
00000000
```

- Modify the Stars program to draw boxes with parameters.
Stars solution

// Prints several lines and boxes made of stars.
// Third version with multiple parameterized methods.
public class Stars3 {
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        line(13);
        line(7);
        line(35);
        System.out.println();
        box(10, 3);
        box(5, 4);
        box(20, 7);
    }

    // Prints the given number of stars plus a line break.
    public static void line(int count) {
        for (int i = 1; i <= count; i++) {
            System.out.print("*");
        }
        System.out.println();
    }

    // Prints a box of stars of the given size.
    public static void box(int width, int height) {
        line(width);
        for (int line = 1; line <= height - 2; line++) {
            System.out.print("*");
            for (int space = 1; space <= width - 2; space++) {
                System.out.print(" ");
            }
            System.out.println("*");
        }
        line(width);
    }
}

Stars solution, cont'd.

...
Value semantics

- **value semantics**: When primitive variables (int, double) are passed as parameters, their values are copied.
  - Modifying the parameter will not affect the variable passed in.

```java
public static void strange(int x) {
    x = x + 1;
    System.out.println("1. x = " + x);
}

public static void main(String[] args) {
    int x = 23;
    strange(x);
    System.out.println("2. x = " + x);
    ...
}
```

Output:
1. x = 24
2. x = 23

A "Parameter Mystery" problem

```java
public class ParameterMystery {
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        int x = 9;
        int y = 2;
        int z = 5;

        mystery(z, y, x);
        mystery(y, x, z);
    }

    public static void mystery(int x, int z, int y) {
        System.out.println(z + " and " + (y - x));
    }
}
```
Strings

- **string**: A sequence of text characters.
  
  ```java
  String <name> = "<text>";
  String <name> = <expression resulting in String>;
  ```
  
  - Examples:
    ```java
    String name = "Marla Singer";
    int x = 3;
    int y = 5;
    String point = "(" + x + ", " + y + ")";
  ```

Strings as parameters

```java
public class StringParameters {
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        sayHello("Marty");
        String teacher = "Bictolia";
        sayHello(teacher);
    }
    public static void sayHello(String name) {
        System.out.println("Welcome, " + name);
    }
}
```

Output:

```
Welcome, Marty
Welcome, Bictolia
```

- Modify the Stars program to use string parameters. Use a method named `repeat` that prints a string many times.
Stars solution

// Prints several lines and boxes made of stars.
// Fourth version with String parameters.
public class Stars4 {
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        line(13);
        line(7);
        line(35);
        System.out.println();
        box(10, 3);
        box(5, 4);
        box(20, 7);
    }
    // Prints the given number of stars plus a line break.
    public static void line(int count) {
        repeat("*", count);
        System.out.println();
    }
    ...

Stars solution, cont'd.

...  

// Prints a box of stars of the given size.
public static void box(int width, int height) {
    line(width);
    for (int line = 1; line <= height - 2; line++) {
        System.out.print(" ");
        repeat(" ", width - 2);
        System.out.println("*");
    }
    line(width);
}
// Prints the given String the given number of times.
public static void repeat(String s, int times) {
    for (int i = 1; i <= times; i++) {
        System.out.print(s);
    }
}