# 1.00 Lecture 9

Methods and Objects Access

Reading for next time: Big Java: sections 8.6, 8.7

# Passing arguments

// Recall this example from Lecture 6

```
public class TripleTest {
   public static void main(String[] args) {
      double z=5.0;
      System.out.println("z main 1: "+z);
      triple(z);
      System.out.println("z main 2: "+z);
   }
   public static void triple(double z) {
      System.out.println("z 1: "+z);
      z *= 3;
      System.out.println("z 2: "+z);
   }
}
// What is the output, and why?
```

## **Passing object arguments**

```
public class Number {
    private double base;
    public Number(double n) {
        base= n;
    }
    public double getBase() {
        return base;
    }
    public void setBase(double b) {
        base= b;
    }
    public String toString() {
        return (" "+ base);
    }
}
```











## Method Calls With Objects

- When passing object references as arguments to a method:
  - The method makes its own copy of the references
  - It makes changes to the objects through its local copies of the references
  - No changes can be made to the references (arguments)
    - The method can change the reference to point to another object or set it to null locally, but it won't change the values in the calling program.
  - Results are returned through the return value, which may be an object
- When passing built-in data types as arguments to a method:
  - The method makes its own copy of the built-in variables
  - It makes changes to its local copies only
  - No changes can be made to the arguments
  - Results are returned through the return value



# public class City { private string name; private weather cityweather; public City(string n, weather c) { name= n; cityweather= c; } public string getName() { return name; } public weather getweather() { return cityweather; } }



## Exercise

- Compile and run WeatherTest
- What is the output?
- Assume you wanted to change (correct) only the Boston weather. Change class WeatherTest to do this













### Data members and methods have 4 access modifiers:

- Private: Access only to own class methods
  - Data fields should be private
    - Users of an object should use its methods, not its data members
  - Objects of same class can access each others' private variables
- Public: Access to all methods in all classes
  - · Methods should be public
  - They are the primary way that objects are used in Java programs
- Package: Access to methods of classes in same <u>package</u>
  - A package is a group of classes with same first line, e.g.: package water;
  - Objects in same package can access each others' package variables
  - No 'package' keyword; it's the default with no keyword
- Protected: Used with inheritance (covered later)



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# **Class Mountain**

// In default package

```
public class Mountain {
  String name;
                              // Package access
  private double elevation;
  public Mountain(String n, double e) {
       name= n;
       elevation= e;
  }
   public boolean isTallerThan(Mountain m) {
       if (elevation > m.elevation)
               return true;
       else
               return false;
  }
       // Or return (elevation > m.elevation)
}
```









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