

Reference Guide for Stack Tracing Java

February 20, 2024

FYI

- Only a single color is required for memory diagrams, different colors are used (and order written into code) for greater clarity in this document

1 Basic variables

```
public static void main(String[] args) {  
    int anInt = 10;  
    double aDouble = 5.8;  
    boolean aBoolean = true;  
    String aString = "6.3";  
    anInt=20;  
}
```

- variable changes result in previous values being crossed out and new ones written in so that progression can be seen

Stack		Heap	IO
Name	Value	<div>CREATE HEAP OBJECT</div>	<div>CREATE IO LINE</div>
Global Variables			
main <div>🔄 ⬅️ ✕</div>			
<div>✕</div> anInt	<div>10</div> 20 <div>➖</div>		
<div>✕</div> aFloat	5.8 <div>➖</div>		
<div>✕</div> aBoolean	true <div>➖</div>		
<div>+</div> <div>□</div> <div>✕</div> aString	"6.3" <div>➖</div>		
<div>CREATE GLOBAL VARIABLE</div>			
<div>CREATE STACK FRAME</div>			

2 Function calls

2.1 Return value

```
public static double multiplyByTwo(double input){  
    double x=input*2;  
    return x;  
}
```

```
public static void main(String[] args) {  
    double x=7.0;  
    double result=multiplyByTwo(x);  
    result=multiplyByTwo(result);  
    System.out.println(result);  
    int y=3;  
}
```

- each function call is put in its own stack frame
- variables created after the function call appear further down the stack
- in/out stands for input/output and is where any command line user input or outputs in terms of print statements appear

Stack			Heap	IO
Name		Value	<div>CREATE HEAP OBJECT</div>	<div>28.0 <div>✖</div></div> <div>CREATE IO LINE</div>
Global Variables				
main <div>🔄 ⬅️ ✕</div>				
<div>✖</div> x	7.0	<div>—</div>		
<div>✖</div> result	14.0 28.0	<div>—</div>		
<div>+</div> <div>📦</div> <div>✖</div> y	3	<div>—</div>		
multiplyByTwo <div>🔄 🔍 ✕</div>				
<div>✖</div> This stack frame has been crossed out Hover to view				
<div>+</div> <div>📦</div> <div>✖</div> x	14.0	<div>—</div>		
multiplyByTwo <div>🔄 🔍 ✕</div>				
<div>✖</div> This stack frame has been crossed out Hover to view				
<div>+</div> <div>📦</div> <div>✖</div> x	28.0	<div>—</div>		

2.2 No return value















```
public static void printValue(int n): {  
    int temp=n+2  
    System.out.println("temp == " + temp)  
}  
  
public static void main(String[] args) {  
    printValue(4)  
}
```

Stack		Heap	IO
Name	Value	<div>CREATE HEAP OBJECT</div>	
Global Variables			
main	<div>+</div>		temp == 6
printValue	<div>This stack frame has been crossed out Hover to view temp 6</div>		<div>CREATE IO LINE</div>

3 For loops

3.1 basic

```
public static void main(String[] args) {  
    int x=4;  
    for (int i=1;i<5;i++){  
        System.out.println("i == "+i);  
    }  
}
```

Stack		Heap	IO
Name	Value	<div>CREATE HEAP OBJECT</div>	i == 1 
Global Variables			i == 2 
main <div>  </div>			i == 3 
<div>  </div> x 4 <div></div>			i == 4 
<div> </div> i 1 2 3 4 5 <div></div>			

3.2 scoped variable

```
public static void main(String[] args) {  
    int x=4;  
    for (int i=1;i<5;i++){  
        int temp=i+2;  
    }  
}
```

- scoped variables within the loop are crossed out after the loop completes

Stack		Heap	IO
Name	Value	<div>CREATE HEAP OBJECT</div>	<div>CREATE IO LINE</div>
Global Variables			
main <div>🔄 ⬅️ ✕</div>			
<div>+ □ ✕</div> x	4 <div>−</div>		
<div>✕</div> i	1 2 3 4 5 <div>−</div>		
<div>+ ✕</div> temp	3 4 5 6 <div>−</div>		

4 ArrayLists

```
public static void main(String[] args) {
    ArrayList<Integer> arr1=new ArrayList<>();
    for (int x=0;x<4;x++){
        arr1.add(x);
    }
    System.out.println(arr1);
    ArrayList<Integer> arr2=arr1;
    System.out.println(arr2);
}
```

- note that the assignment statement for arr2 assigns the memory address and does not do a deep copy
 - this point is emphasized for newer programmers
- memory addresses all start with 0x to indicate that they are hexadecimal numbers.
 - heap addresses are typically given 3 digit numbers
 - numbers are typically written in decimal as it is easier for students to grasp at first (as they are not familiar with hexadecimal, this detail will be corrected in later courses)
 - numbers are randomly generated and just must agree on the stack and heap

Stack		Heap		IO
Name	Value			
Global Variables		ArrayList <div>No parent</div> <div></div>		[0, 1, 2, 3] <div></div>
main <div></div> <div></div> <div></div>				[0, 1, 2, 3] <div></div>
<div></div> arr1	<div>0x002</div> <div></div>			<div>CREATE IO LINE</div>
<div></div> <div></div> <div></div> x	<div>0</div> <div>1</div> <div>2</div> <div>3</div> <div>4</div> <div></div>			
<div></div> <div></div> <div></div> arr2	<div>0x002</div> <div></div>			
CREATE GLOBAL VARIABLE		0x002		

4.1 Passed to functions

```

public static int sum(ArrayList<Integer> arrIn){
    int out=0;
    for (int x=0;x<arrIn.size();x++){
        out+=arrIn.get(x);
    }
    return out;
}

public static void main(String[] args) {
    ArrayList<Integer> arr1=new ArrayList<>();
    for (int x=0;x<4;x++){
        arr1.add(x);
    }
    System.out.println(arr1);
    ArrayList<Integer> arr2=arr1;
    System.out.println(arr2);
    int total=sum(arr1);
    System.out.println("total: "+total);
}

```

- when passing variables to functions as arguments the value on the stack associated with the variable name is the argument to the function that sets the parameter
- the dashed lines around index indicate that it is a scoped variable that only exists while the loop exists

Stack		Heap		IO
Name	Value			
Global Variables		ArrayList <div>No parent</div>		[0, 1, 2, 3]
main				[0, 1, 2, 3]
arr1	0x002			total: 6
x	0 1 2 3 4			
arr2	0x002			
total	6			
sum				
arrIn	0x002			
This stack frame has been crossed out				
ou	3 6			
x	0 1 2 3 4			
		0x002		
		CREATE HEAP OBJECT		

5 HashMaps

- HashMaps are like dictionaries in python
- we loop through them in a manner more similar to loops in python
- ```

public static void main(String[] args) {
 HashMap<String,Integer> bills=new HashMap<>();

 bills.put(" Allen ",17);
 bills.put(" Diggs ",14);

 for (String keys : bills.keySet()){
 System.out.println(keys);
 }
}

```

| Stack                                        |                                                | Heap                                            |  | IO                        |
|----------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|--|---------------------------|
| Name                                         | Value                                          |                                                 |  |                           |
| Global Variables                             |                                                | HashMap <div>No parent</div> <div>×</div>       |  | Allen <div>×</div>        |
| main <div>↻</div> <div>←</div> <div>×</div>  |                                                |                                                 |  | Diggs <div>×</div>        |
| <div>+</div> <div>□</div> <div>×</div> bills | <div>0x002</div> <div>−</div>                  |                                                 |  | <div>CREATE IO LINE</div> |
| <div>+</div> <div>×</div> keys               | <div>Allen</div> <div>Diggs</div> <div>−</div> |                                                 |  |                           |
|                                              |                                                |                                                 |  |                           |
|                                              |                                                | 0x002                                           |  |                           |
|                                              |                                                | <div>×</div> Allen 17 <div>−</div>              |  |                           |
|                                              |                                                | <div>+</div> <div>×</div> Diggs 14 <div>−</div> |  |                           |

- note that the loop still has scoped variables like the previous for loop




































## 6 Recursion

### 6.1 standard recursion

```
public static int computeGeometricSum(int n){
 if (n>0){
 int result=computeGeometricSum(n-1);
 result+=n;
 return result;
 } else {
 return 0;
 }
}

public static void main(String[] args) {
 int result=computeGeometricSum(3);
}
```

- each new call of cGS is performed in a new color
  - returned values are kept in the color of the method that returns it

| Stack                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                         | Heap                          | IO                        |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Name                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Value                                                                                   | <div>CREATE HEAP OBJECT</div> | <div>CREATE IO LINE</div> |
| Global Variables                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                         |                               |                           |
| main                   |                                                                                         |                               |                           |
|    result              | 6    |                               |                           |
| computeGeometricSum    |                                                                                         |                               |                           |
|  This stack frame has been crossed out<br>Hover to view                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                         |                               |                           |
|    result              | 3 6  |                               |                           |
| computeGeometricSum    |                                                                                         |                               |                           |
|  This stack frame has been crossed out<br>Hover to view                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                         |                               |                           |
|    result              | 4 3  |                               |                           |
| computeGeometricSum    |                                                                                         |                               |                           |
|  This stack frame has been crossed out<br>Hover to view                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                         |                               |                           |
|    result              | 0 1  |                               |                           |
| computeGeometricSum    |                                                                                         |                               |                           |
|  This stack frame has been crossed out<br>Hover to view                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                         |                               |                           |

### 6.2 Tail recursion

```
public static int computeGeometricSumTail(int n,int total){
 if (n>0){
 return computeGeometricSumTail(n-1,total+n);
 }
}
```



```

 } else {
 return total;
 }
}
public static int cGSTHelper(int n){
 return computeGeometricSumTail(n,0);
}

public static void main(String[] args) {
 int result=cGSTHelper(3);
}

```

- each new call of cGST is performed in a new color
  - returned values are kept in the color of the method that returns it
- Note that the returns go to the previous functions return and not a variable
  - this is why the memory of a stack frame can be released before the following recursive function call finishes

| Stack                                                                            |                      | Heap                          | IO                        |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Name                                                                             | Value                | <div>CREATE HEAP OBJECT</div> | <div>CREATE IO LINE</div> |
| Global Variables                                                                 |                      |                               |                           |
| main <div>🔄 ⬅️ ✕</div>                                                           |                      |                               |                           |
| <div>+ 🗑️ ➡️</div> result                                                        | value-1 <div>⊖</div> |                               |                           |
| cGSTHelper <div>🔄 🔍 ✕</div>                                                      |                      |                               |                           |
| <div>✕</div> This stack frame has been crossed out<br>Hover to view <div>⊖</div> |                      |                               |                           |
| computeGeometricSum <div>🔄 🔍 ✕</div>                                             |                      |                               |                           |
| <div>✕</div> This stack frame has been crossed out<br>Hover to view <div>⊖</div> |                      |                               |                           |
| <div>+ 🗑️ ✕</div> total                                                          | 0 <div>⊖</div>       |                               |                           |
| computeGeometricSum <div>🔄 🔍 ✕</div>                                             |                      |                               |                           |
| <div>✕</div> This stack frame has been crossed out<br>Hover to view <div>⊖</div> |                      |                               |                           |
| <div>+ 🗑️ ✕</div> total                                                          | 3 <div>⊖</div>       |                               |                           |
| computeGeometricSum <div>🔄 🔍 ✕</div>                                             |                      |                               |                           |
| <div>✕</div> This stack frame has been crossed out<br>Hover to view <div>⊖</div> |                      |                               |                           |
| <div>+ 🗑️ ✕</div> total                                                          | 5 <div>⊖</div>       |                               |                           |
| computeGeometricSum <div>🔄 🔍 ✕</div>                                             |                      |                               |                           |
| <div>✕</div> This stack frame has been crossed out<br>Hover to view <div>⊖</div> |                      |                               |                           |
| <div>+ 🗑️ ✕</div> total                                                          | 6 <div>⊖</div>       |                               |                           |

## 7 Classes

```
public class Player {
 private double xLoc;
 private double yLoc;
 private int maxHP;
 private int HP;
 private int damageDealt;

 public Player(double xLoc, double yLoc, int maxHP){
 this.xLoc=xLoc;
 this.yLoc=yLoc;
 this.maxHP=maxHP;
 this.HP=maxHP;
 this.damageDealt=4;
 }
 public int getHP(){
 return this.HP;
 }
 public void takeDamage(int damage){
 this.HP-=damage;
 }
 public void attack(Player otherPlayer){
 otherPlayer.takeDamage(this.damageDealt);
 }
 public void move(double dx, double dy){
 this.xLoc+=dx;
 this.yLoc+=dy;
 }

 public static void main(String[] args) {
 Player player1=new Player(0.0, 0.0, 10);
 Player player2=new Player(7.0, -4.0, 10);
 player2.move(-6.5, 3.4);
 player2.attack(player1);
 }
}
```

### Stack

| Name                                  | Value |
|---------------------------------------|-------|
| <b>Global Variables</b>               |       |
| main                                  |       |
| player1                               | 0x002 |
| player2                               | 0x003 |
| Player                                |       |
| this                                  | 0x002 |
| This stack frame has been crossed out |       |
| yLoc                                  | 0.0   |
| maxHP                                 | 10    |
| Player                                |       |
| this                                  | 0x003 |
| This stack frame has been crossed out |       |
| yLoc                                  | -4.0  |
| maxHP                                 | 10    |
| move                                  |       |
| this                                  | 0x003 |
| This stack frame has been crossed out |       |
| dy                                    | 3.4   |
| attack                                |       |
| This stack frame has been crossed out |       |
| otherPlayer                           | 0x002 |
| takeDamage                            |       |
| This stack frame has been crossed out |       |
| damage                                | 4     |

### Heap

Player Player

| Name        | Value |
|-------------|-------|
| xLoc        | 0.0   |
| yLoc        | 0.0   |
| maxHP       | 10    |
| HP          | 6     |
| damageDealt | 4     |

0x002

Player Player

| Name        | Value |
|-------------|-------|
| xLoc        | .5    |
| yLoc        | -.6   |
| maxHP       | 10    |
| HP          | 10    |
| damageDealt | 4     |

0x003

CREATE HEAP OBJECT

### IO

CREATE IO LINE

## 8 Inheritance

```
public class GameItem {
 private double xLoc;
 private double yLoc;

 public GameItem(double xLoc, double yLoc){
 this.xLoc=xLoc;
 this.yLoc=yLoc;
 }
 public void move(double dx, double dy){
 this.xLoc+=dx;
 this.yLoc+=dy;
 }
}

• public class Teleporter extends GameItem{
 private double dx;
 private double dy;

 public Teleporter(double xLoc, double yLoc, double dx, double dy){
 super(xLoc, yLoc);
 this.dx=dx;
 this.dy=dy;
 }

 public static void main(String[] args) {
 Teleporter t=new Teleporter(2,2,3,3);
 t.move(2,3);
 }
}
```

| Stack                                 |            | Heap                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |   | IO                        |      |  |       |  |  |      |   |   |  |      |   |   |  |    |   |  |  |    |   |
|---------------------------------------|------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|---------------------------|------|--|-------|--|--|------|---|---|--|------|---|---|--|----|---|--|--|----|---|
| Name                                  | Value      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |   |                           |      |  |       |  |  |      |   |   |  |      |   |   |  |    |   |  |  |    |   |
| Global Variables                      |            | Teleporter <input type="text" value="Teleporter"/>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |   | <div>CREATE IO LINE</div> |      |  |       |  |  |      |   |   |  |      |   |   |  |    |   |  |  |    |   |
| main                                  |            | <table><thead><tr><th colspan="2">Name</th><th colspan="2">Value</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td></td><td>xLoc</td><td>2</td><td>4 </td></tr><tr><td></td><td>yLoc</td><td>2</td><td>5 </td></tr><tr><td></td><td>dx</td><td>3</td><td></td></tr><tr><td> </td><td>dy</td><td>3</td><td></td></tr></tbody></table> |   |                           | Name |  | Value |  |  | xLoc | 2 | 4 |  | yLoc | 2 | 5 |  | dx | 3 |  |  | dy | 3 |
| Name                                  |            | Value                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |   |                           |      |  |       |  |  |      |   |   |  |      |   |   |  |    |   |  |  |    |   |
|                                       | xLoc       | 2                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 4 |                           |      |  |       |  |  |      |   |   |  |      |   |   |  |    |   |  |  |    |   |
|                                       | yLoc       | 2                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 5 |                           |      |  |       |  |  |      |   |   |  |      |   |   |  |    |   |  |  |    |   |
|                                       | dx         | 3                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |   |                           |      |  |       |  |  |      |   |   |  |      |   |   |  |    |   |  |  |    |   |
|                                       | dy         | 3                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |   |                           |      |  |       |  |  |      |   |   |  |      |   |   |  |    |   |  |  |    |   |
|                                       | t 0x002    | 0x002                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |   |                           |      |  |       |  |  |      |   |   |  |      |   |   |  |    |   |  |  |    |   |
| teleporter                            |            | <div>CREATE HEAP OBJECT</div>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |   |                           |      |  |       |  |  |      |   |   |  |      |   |   |  |    |   |  |  |    |   |
|                                       | this 0x002 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |   |                           |      |  |       |  |  |      |   |   |  |      |   |   |  |    |   |  |  |    |   |
| This stack frame has been crossed out |            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |   |                           |      |  |       |  |  |      |   |   |  |      |   |   |  |    |   |  |  |    |   |
|                                       | xLoc 2     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |   |                           |      |  |       |  |  |      |   |   |  |      |   |   |  |    |   |  |  |    |   |
| Hover to view                         |            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |   |                           |      |  |       |  |  |      |   |   |  |      |   |   |  |    |   |  |  |    |   |
|                                       | yLoc 2     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |   |                           |      |  |       |  |  |      |   |   |  |      |   |   |  |    |   |  |  |    |   |
|                                       | dx 3       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |   |                           |      |  |       |  |  |      |   |   |  |      |   |   |  |    |   |  |  |    |   |
|                                       | dy 3       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |   |                           |      |  |       |  |  |      |   |   |  |      |   |   |  |    |   |  |  |    |   |
| GameItem                              |            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |   |                           |      |  |       |  |  |      |   |   |  |      |   |   |  |    |   |  |  |    |   |
|                                       | this 0x002 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |   |                           |      |  |       |  |  |      |   |   |  |      |   |   |  |    |   |  |  |    |   |
| This stack frame has been crossed out |            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |   |                           |      |  |       |  |  |      |   |   |  |      |   |   |  |    |   |  |  |    |   |
|                                       | xLoc 2     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |   |                           |      |  |       |  |  |      |   |   |  |      |   |   |  |    |   |  |  |    |   |
|                                       | yLoc 2     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |   |                           |      |  |       |  |  |      |   |   |  |      |   |   |  |    |   |  |  |    |   |
| move                                  |            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |   |                           |      |  |       |  |  |      |   |   |  |      |   |   |  |    |   |  |  |    |   |
|                                       | this 0x002 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |   |                           |      |  |       |  |  |      |   |   |  |      |   |   |  |    |   |  |  |    |   |
| This stack frame has been crossed out |            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |   |                           |      |  |       |  |  |      |   |   |  |      |   |   |  |    |   |  |  |    |   |
|                                       | dx 2       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |   |                           |      |  |       |  |  |      |   |   |  |      |   |   |  |    |   |  |  |    |   |
|                                       | dy 3       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |   |                           |      |  |       |  |  |      |   |   |  |      |   |   |  |    |   |  |  |    |   |

## 9 Polymorphism

```
public class A {
 protected int a;

 public A(int a){
 this.a=a;
 }
}

public class B extends A{
 private int b;

 public B (int b){
 super(b);
 this.b=b*2;
 }
}

public class C extends A{
 private int c;

 public C(int a,int c){
 super(a);
 this.c=c;
 }
}

public class RunABC {
 public static void main(String[] args) {
 A a=new A(1);
 A b=new B(2);
 A c=new C(3,4);
 }
}
```

- Note that polymorphism looks no different than regular inheritance tracing because we do not include data type in our memory diagram

| Stack                                                                                                      |                      | Heap                      | IO |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|----|
| Name                                                                                                       | Value                |                           |    |
| Global Variables                                                                                           |                      | <div>CREATE IO LINE</div> |    |
| main                                                                                                       |                      |                           |    |
| <div><div>X</div><div></div><div></div></div>                                                              | a 0x002 <div>-</div> |                           |    |
| <div><div>X</div><div></div><div></div></div>                                                              | b 0x003 <div>-</div> |                           |    |
| <div><div>+</div><div></div><div>X</div></div>                                                             | c 0x004 <div>-</div> |                           |    |
| A                                                                                                          |                      |                           |    |
| <div>This stack frame has been crossed out</div> <div>Hover to view</div>                                  |                      |                           |    |
| B                                                                                                          |                      |                           |    |
| <div>This stack frame has been crossed out</div> <div>Hover to view</div>                                  |                      |                           |    |
| A                                                                                                          |                      |                           |    |
| <div>This stack frame has been crossed out</div> <div>Hover to view</div>                                  |                      |                           |    |
| C                                                                                                          |                      |                           |    |
| <div>this</div> <div>0x004</div> <div>This stack frame has been crossed out</div> <div>Hover to view</div> |                      |                           |    |
| A                                                                                                          |                      |                           |    |
| <div>This stack frame has been crossed out</div> <div>Hover to view</div>                                  |                      |                           |    |

| Heap                                           |                  |
|------------------------------------------------|------------------|
| Name                                           | Value            |
| <div><div>+</div><div>X</div><div></div></div> | a 1 <div>-</div> |
| 0x002                                          |                  |
| B                                              |                  |
| <div><div>X</div><div></div><div></div></div>  | a 2 <div>-</div> |
| <div><div>+</div><div>X</div><div></div></div> | b 4 <div>-</div> |
| 0x003                                          |                  |
| C                                              |                  |
| <div><div>X</div><div></div><div></div></div>  | a 3 <div>-</div> |
| <div><div>+</div><div>X</div><div></div></div> | c 4 <div>-</div> |
| 0x004                                          |                  |
| <div>CREATE HEAP OBJECT</div>                  |                  |