CS W3134: Data Structures in Java

Lecture #3: Java refresher cont'd
9/14/04
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Administrivia

- Possible Thursday recitation
  - Either before class, or after 5:30?
  - If you can't make either, attend office hours
  - Office hours should be finalized now, although Rachel will need to move hers this week only
- Homework 1 going out on Thursday; I haven't covered enough already (and, I haven't finished writing up the homework)

Agenda

- Finish refresher on Java
- Start list basics

Java refresher

- The "this" keyword
- Primitive vs. reference types, continued
  - int vs. Integer
  - Getter/setter methods
  - Wrapper classes
    - When to use wrapper classes? Both inserting into Collections and using static utility methods
  - Strings are both? "=" and "+" overload

Java refresher (II)

- static, revisited
  - static variables and static methods
  - Why can't main() have instance references?
  - Where does main belong?
  - Code examples of why you would want static
    - Global counter
    - Utility methods (e.g., Math class)
  - Avoid overuse of static (in fact, you won't need it much at all right now…)

Java refresher (III)

- Garbage collection
  - How it works
  - What can you set to null?
- Packages
  - What does it mean to import?
  - java.util.* or java.io.*
- Exceptions
  - Using them with BufferedReader to handle user I/O
- Javadocs, books – can't guarantee board code

Next Time

- Start lists