COMP231

Advanced Programming

Chapter 6 Methods

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Opening Problem

Find the sum of integers from 1 to 10, from 20 to 30, and from 35 to 45, respectively.

Problem

```
int sum = 0;
for (int i = 1; i <= 10; i++)
  sum += i;
System.out.println("Sum from 1 to 10 is " + sum);

sum = 0;
for (int i = 20; i <= 30; i++)
  sum += i;
System.out.println("Sum from 20 to 30 is " + sum);

sum = 0;
for (int i = 35; i <= 45; i++)
  sum += i;
System.out.println("Sum from 35 to 45 is " + sum);
```

Problem

```
int sum = 0;
for (int i = 1; i <= 10; i++)
  sum += i;
System.out.println("Sum from 1 to 10 is " + sum);
```

```
sum = 0;
for (int i = 20; i <= 30; i++)
  sum += i;
System.out.println("Sum from 20 to 30 is " + sum);
```

```
sum = 0;
for (int i = 35; i <= 45; i++)
  sum += i;
System.out.println("Sum from 35 to 45 is " + sum);
```

Solution

```java
public static int sum(int i1, int i2) {
  int sum = 0;
  for (int i = i1; i <= i2; i++)
    sum += i;
  return sum;
}
```

```java
public static void main(String[] args) {
  System.out.println("Sum from 1 to 10 is " + sum(1, 10));
  System.out.println("Sum from 20 to 30 is " + sum(20, 30));
  System.out.println("Sum from 35 to 45 is " + sum(35, 45));
}
```

Defining Methods

A method is a collection of statements that are grouped together to perform an operation.

Define a method

```
public static int max(int num1, int num2) {

   int result;

   if (num1 > num2)
     result = num1;
   else
     result = num2;

   return result;
}
```

Invoke a method

```
int z = max(x, y);
```

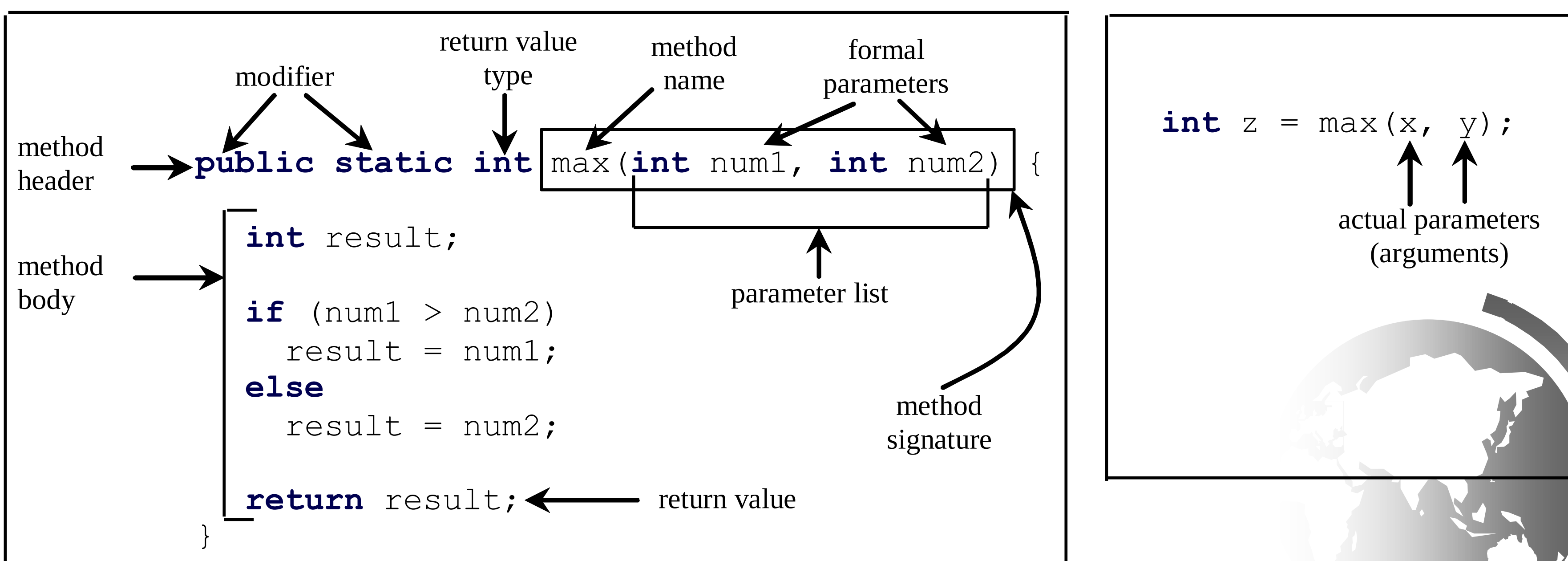
actual parameters
(arguments)

Defining Methods

A method is a collection of statements that are grouped together to perform an operation.

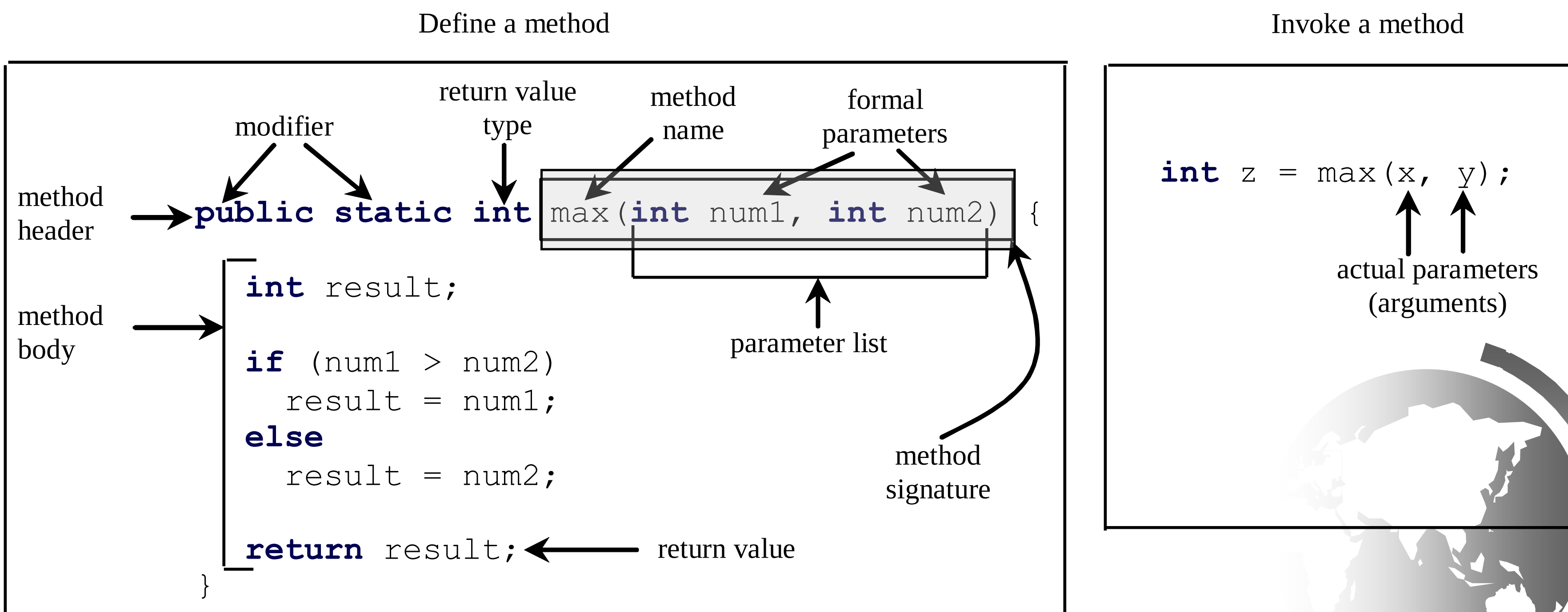
Define a method

Invoke a method



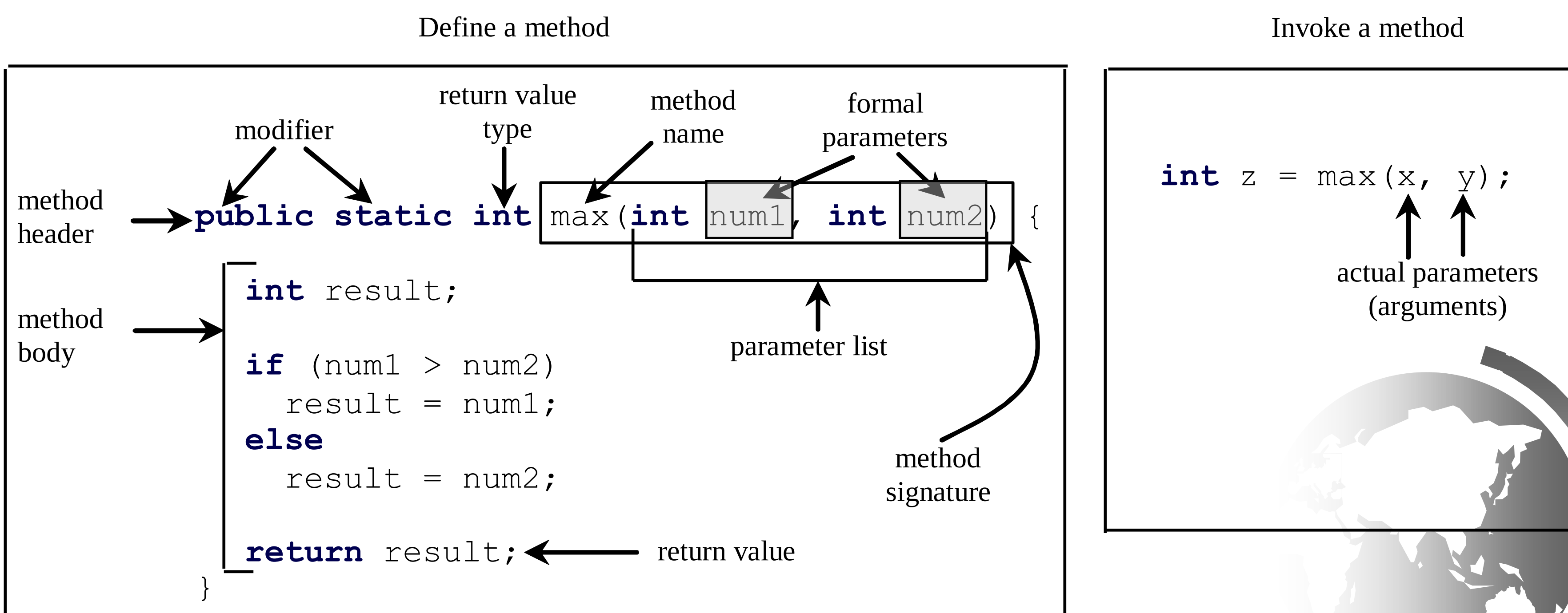
Method Signature

Method signature is the combination of the method name and the parameter list.



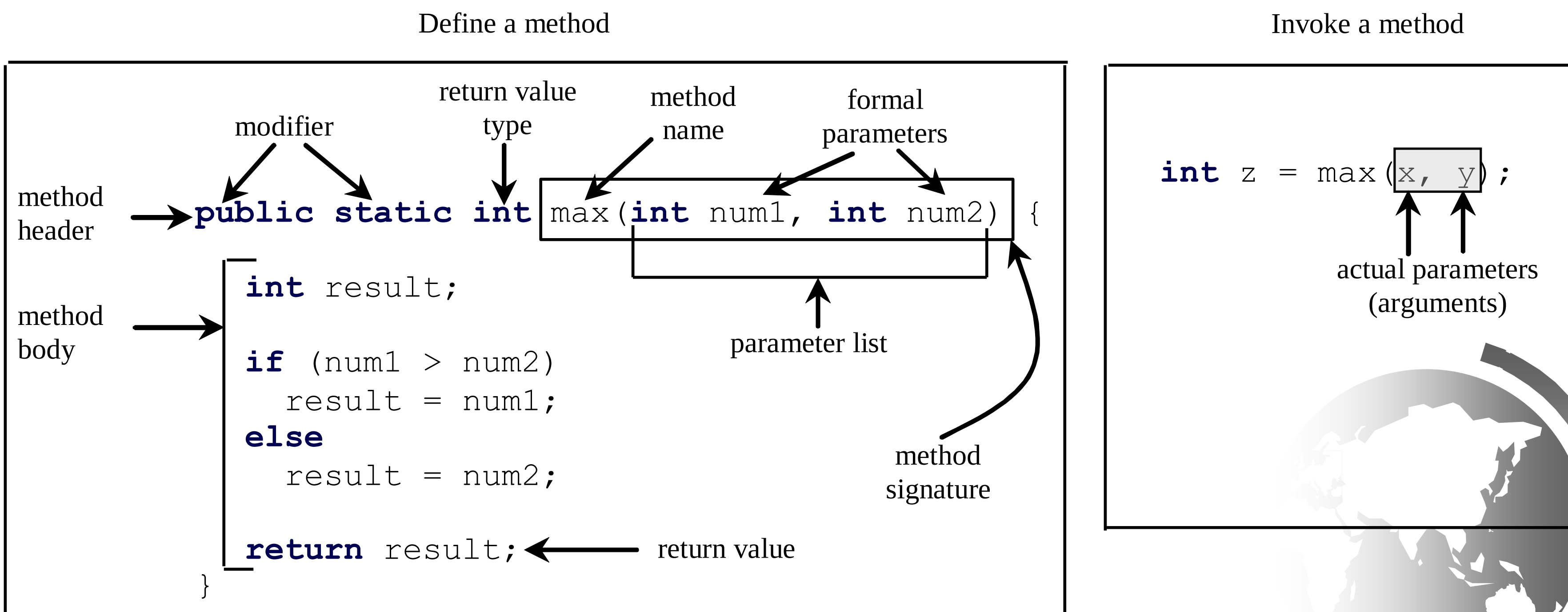
Formal Parameters

The variables defined in the method header are known as *formal parameters.*



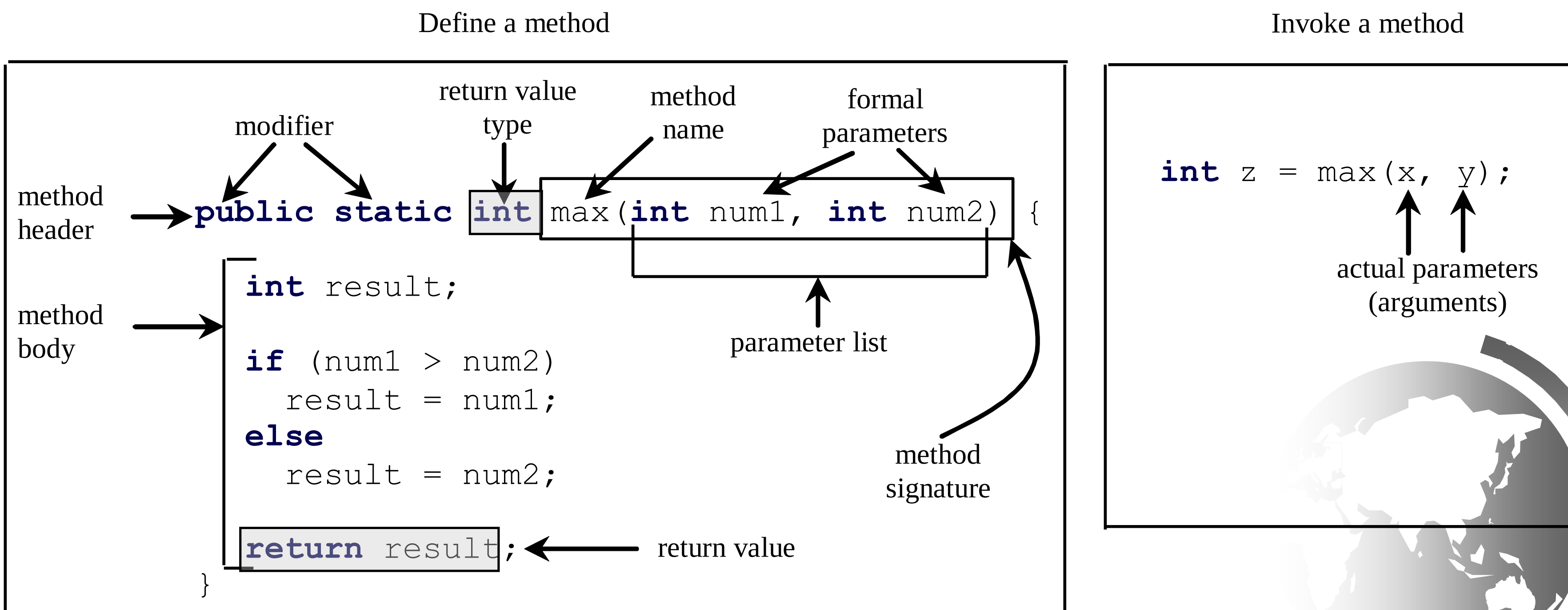
Actual Parameters

When a method is invoked, you pass a value to the parameter. This value is referred to as *actual parameter or argument*.



Return Value Type

A method may return a value. The returnValueType is the data type of the value the method returns. If the method does not return a value, the returnValueType is the keyword void. For example, the returnValueType in the main method is void.



Calling Methods

Testing the `max` method

This program demonstrates calling a method max to return the largest of the `int` values

TestMax

Run

animation

Calling Methods, cont.

pass the value of i

pass the value of j

```
public static void main(String[] args) {
  int i = 5;
  int j = 2;
  int k = max(i, j);

  System.out.println(
   "The maximum between " + i +
   " and " + j + " is " + k);
}
```

```
public static int max(int num1, int num2) {
  int result;

  if (num1 > num2)
    result = num1;
  else
    result = num2;

  return result;
}
```

animation

Trace Method Invocation

return max(i, j) and assign the return value to k

```
public static void main(String[] args) {
  int i = 5;
  int j = 2;
  int k = max(i, j);

  System.out.println(
   "The maximum between " + i +
   " and " + j + " is " + k);
}
```

```
public static int max(int num1, int num2) {
  int result;

  if (num1 > num2)
    result = num1;
  else
    result = num2;

  return result;
}
```

animation

Trace Method Invocation

Execute the print statement

```
public static void main(String[] args) {
  int i = 5;
  int j = 2;
  int k = max(i, j);

  System.out.println(
   "The maximum between " + i +
   " and " + j + " is " + k);
}
```

```
public static int max(int num1, int num2) {
  int result;

  if (num1 > num2)
    result = num1;
  else
    result = num2;

  return result;
}
```

CAUTION

A <u>return</u> statement is required for a value-returning method. The method shown below in (a) is logically correct, but it has a compilation error because the Java compiler thinks it possible that this method does not return any value.

```java
public static int sign(int n) {
  if (n > 0)
    return 1;
  else if (n == 0)
    return 0;
  else if (n < 0)
    return -1;
}
```

(a)

Should be

```java
public static int sign(int n) {
  if (n > 0)
    return 1;
  else if (n == 0)
    return 0;
  else
    return -1;
}
```

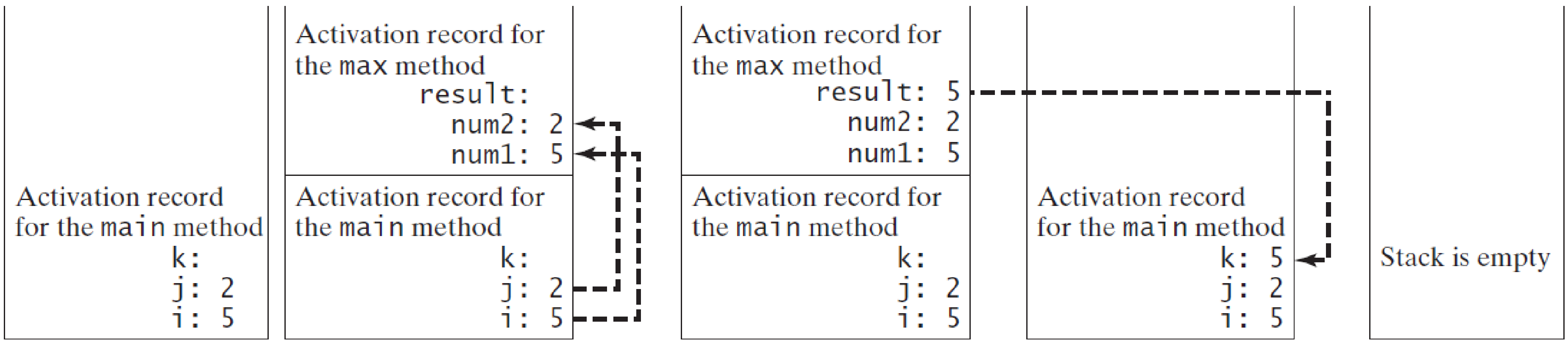
(b)

To fix this problem, delete <u>*if (n < 0)*</u> in (a), so that the compiler will see a <u>return</u> statement to be reached regardless of how the <u>if</u> statement is evaluated.

Reuse Methods from Other Classes

NOTE: One of the benefits of methods is for reuse. The max method can be invoked from any class besides TestMax. If you create a new class Test, you can invoke the max method using ClassName.methodName (e.g., TestMax.max).

Call Stacks



(a) The `main` method is invoked.

(b) The `max` method is invoked.

(c) The `max` method is being executed.

(d) The `max` method is finished and the return value is sent to `k`.

(e) The `main` method is finished.

animation

Trace Call Stack

i is declared and initialized

```
public static void main(String[] args) {
  int i = 5;
  int j = 2;
  int k = max(i, j);

  System.out.println(
   "The maximum between " + i +
   " and " + j + " is " + k);
}
```

```
public static int max(int num1, int num2) {
  int result;

  if (num1 > num2)
    result = num1;
  else
    result = num2;

  return result;
}
```

The main method is invoked.

animation

Trace Call Stack

j is declared and initialized

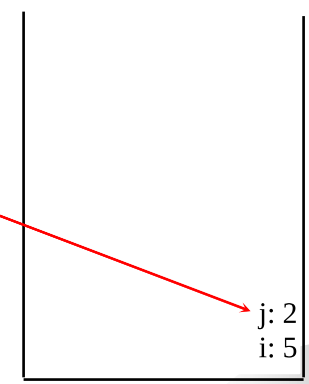
```
public static void main(String[] args) {
  int i = 5;
  int j = 2;
  int k = max(i, j);

  System.out.println(
   "The maximum between " + i +
   " and " + j + " is " + k);
}
```

```
public static int max(int num1, int num2) {
  int result;

  if (num1 > num2)
    result = num1;
  else
    result = num2;

  return result;
}
```



The main method is invoked.

animation

Trace Call Stack

Declare k

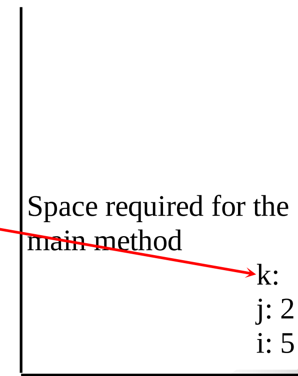
```
public static void main(String[] args) {
  int i = 5;
  int j = 2;
  int k = max(i, j);

  System.out.println(
   "The maximum between " + i +
   " and " + j + " is " + k);
}
```

```
public static int max(int num1, int num2) {
  int result;

  if (num1 > num2)
    result = num1;
  else
    result = num2;

  return result;
}
```



The main method is invoked.

animation

Trace Call Stack

Invoke max(i, j)

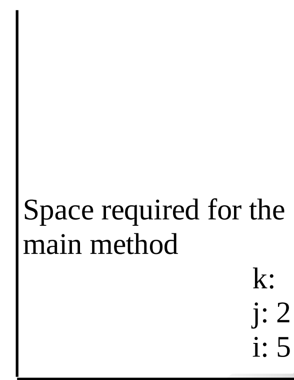
```
public static void main(String[] args) {
  int i = 5;
  int j = 2;
  int k = max(i, j);

  System.out.println(
   "The maximum between " + i +
   " and " + j + " is " + k);
}
```

```
public static int max(int num1, int num2) {
  int result;

  if (num1 > num2)
    result = num1;
  else
    result = num2;

  return result;
}
```



The main method is invoked.

animation

Trace Call Stack

pass the values of i and j to num1 and num2

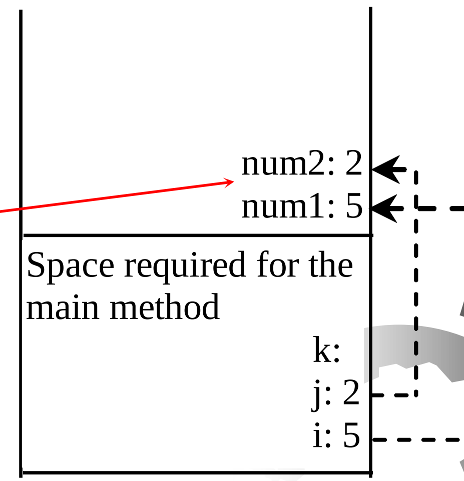
```
public static void main(String[] args) {
  int i = 5;
  int j = 2;
  int k = max(i, j);

  System.out.println(
   "The maximum between " + i +
   " and " + j + " is " + k);
}
```

```
public static int max(int num1, int num2) {
  int result;

  if (num1 > num2)
    result = num1;
  else
    result = num2;

  return result;
}
```



The max method is invoked.

animation

Trace Call Stack

Declare result

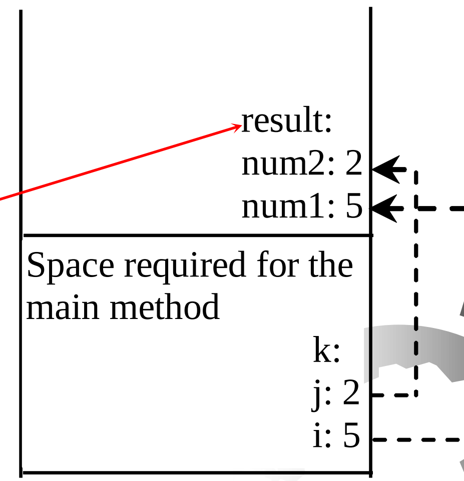
```
public static void main(String[] args) {
  int i = 5;
  int j = 2;
  int k = max(i, j);

  System.out.println(
   "The maximum between " + i +
   " and " + j + " is " + k);
}
```

```
public static int max(int num1, int num2) {
  int result;

  if (num1 > num2)
    result = num1;
  else
    result = num2;

  return result;
}
```



The max method is invoked.

animation

Trace Call Stack

(num1 > num2) is true

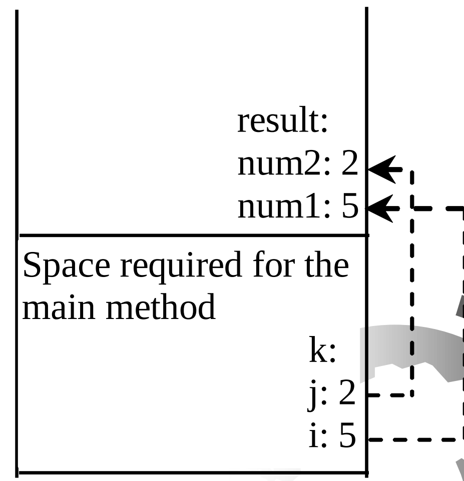
```
public static void main(String[] args) {
  int i = 5;
  int j = 2;
  int k = max(i, j);

  System.out.println(
   "The maximum between " + i +
   " and " + j + " is " + k);
}
```

```
public static int max(int num1, int num2) {
  int result;

  if (num1 > num2)
    result = num1;
  else
    result = num2;

  return result;
}
```



The max method is invoked.

Trace Call Stack

Assign num1 to result

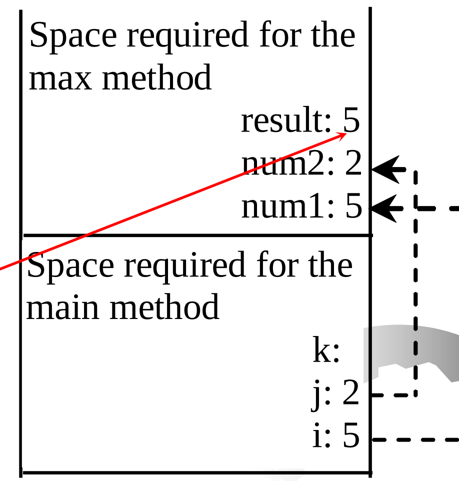
```
public static void main(String[] args) {
  int i = 5;
  int j = 2;
  int k = max(i, j);

  System.out.println(
   "The maximum between " + i +
   " and " + j + " is " + k);
}
```

```
public static int max(int num1, int num2) {
  int result;

  if (num1 > num2)
    result = num1;
  else
    result = num2;

  return result;
}
```



The max method is invoked.

animation

Trace Call Stack

Return result and assign it to k

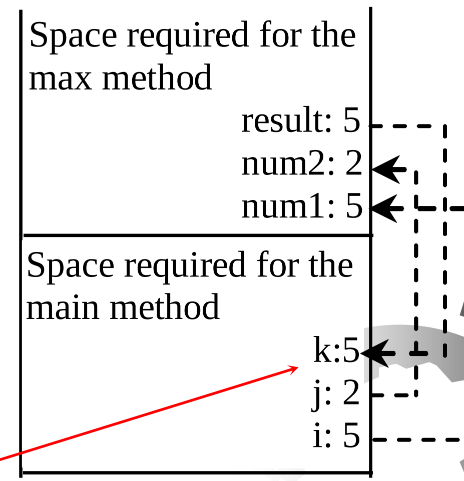
```
public static void main(String[] args) {
  int i = 5;
  int j = 2;
  int k = max(i, j);

  System.out.println(
   "The maximum between " + i +
   " and " + j + " is " + k);
}
```

```
public static int max(int num1, int num2
  int result;

  if (num1 > num2)
    result = num1;
  else
    result = num2;

  return result;
}
```



The max method is invoked.

animation

Trace Call Stack

Execute print statement

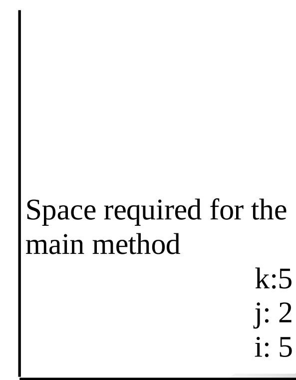
```
public static void main(String[] args) {
  int i = 5;
  int j = 2;
  int k = max(i, j);

  System.out.println(
   "The maximum between " + i +
   " and " + j + " is " + k);
}
```

```
public static int max(int num1, int num2) {
  int result;

  if (num1 > num2)
    result = num1;
  else
    result = num2;

  return result;
}
```



The main method is invoked.

void Method Example

This type of method does not return a value. The method performs some actions.

TestVoidMethod Run

TestReturnGradeMethod Run

Passing Parameters

```
public static void nPrintln(String message, int n) {
  for (int i = 0; i < n; i++)
    System.out.println(message);
}
```

Suppose you invoke the method using

nPrintln(“Welcome to Java”, 5);

What is the output?

Suppose you invoke the method using

nPrintln(“Computer Science”, 15);

What is the output?

Can you invoke the method using

nPrintln(15, “Computer Science”);

Pass by Value

This program demonstrates passing values to the methods.

Increment   Run

Pass by Value

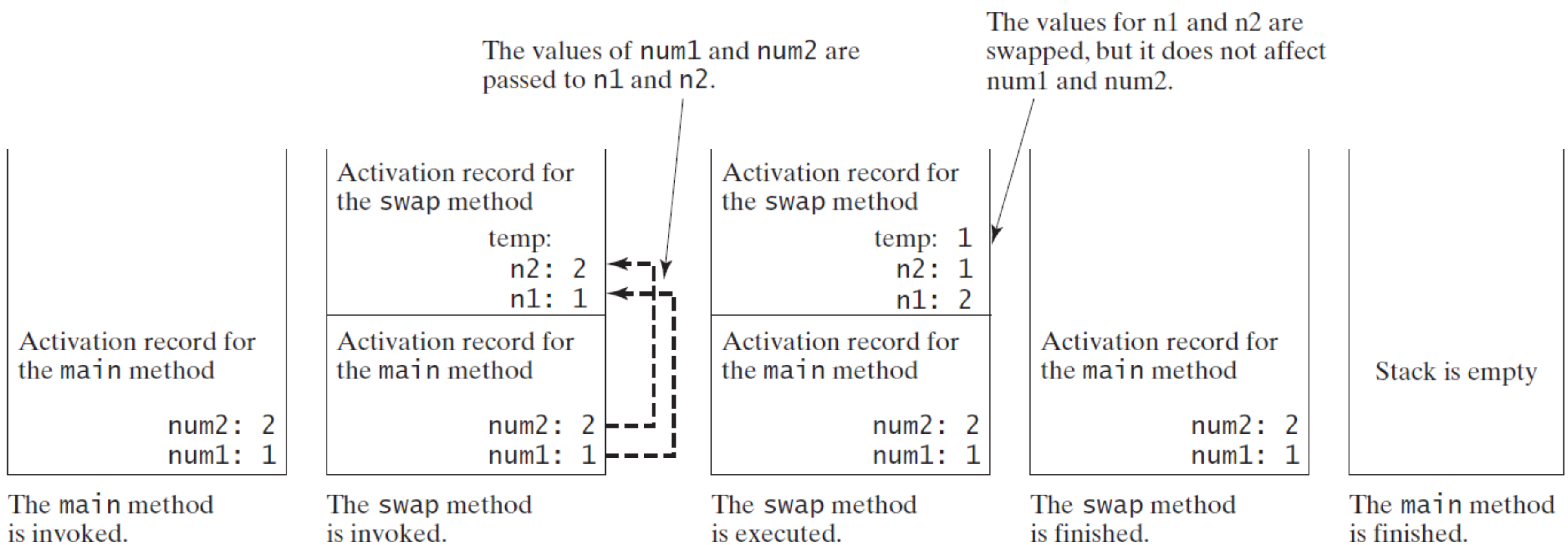
Testing Pass by value

This program demonstrates passing values to the methods.

TestPassByValue

Run

Pass by Value, cont.



Case Study: Converting Hexadecimals to Decimals

Write a method that converts a hexadecimal number into a decimal number.

ABCD =>

A*16^3 + B*16^2 + C*16^1+ D*16^0

= ((A*16 + B)*16 + C)*16+D

= ((10*16 + 11)*16 + 12)*16+13 = ?

Hex2Dec Run

Overloading Methods

Overloading the `max` Method

```
public static double max(double num1, double
  num2) {
  if (num1 > num2)
    return num1;
  else
    return num2;
}
```

TestMethodOverloading   Run

Ambiguous Invocation

Sometimes there may be two or more possible matches for an invocation of a method, but the compiler cannot determine the most specific match. This is referred to as *ambiguous invocation*. Ambiguous invocation is a compile error.

Ambiguous Invocation

```
public class AmbiguousOverloading {
  public static void main(String[] args) {
    System.out.println(max(1, 2));
  }

  public static double max(int num1, double num2) {
    if (num1 > num2)
      return num1;
    else
      return num2;
  }

  public static double max(double num1, int num2) {
    if (num1 > num2)
      return num1;
    else
      return num2;
  }
}
```

Scope of Local Variables

A local variable: a variable defined inside a method.

Scope: the part of the program where the variable can be referenced.

The scope of a local variable starts from its declaration and continues to the end of the block that contains the variable. A local variable must be declared before it can be used.

Scope of Local Variables, cont.

You can declare a local variable with the same name multiple times in different non-nesting blocks in a method, but you cannot declare a local variable twice in nested blocks.

Scope of Local Variables, cont.

A variable declared in the initial action part of a for loop header has its scope in the entire loop. But a variable declared inside a for loop body has its scope limited in the loop body from its declaration and to the end of the block that contains the variable.

```
public static void method1() {
  .
  .
  for (int i = 1; i < 10; i++) {
    .
    .
    int j;
    .
    .
    .
  }
}
```

The scope of i

The scope of j

Scope of Local Variables, cont.

It is fine to declare i in two
non-nesting blocks

```
public static void method1() {
  int x = 1;
  int y = 1;

  for (int i = 1; i < 10; i++) {
    x += i;
  }

  for (int i = 1; i < 10; i++) {
    y += i;
  }
}
```

It is wrong to declare i in
two nesting blocks

```
 public static void method2() {

   int i = 1;
   int sum = 0;

   for (int i = 1; i < 10; i++)
     sum += i;
   }

 }
```

Scope of Local Variables, cont.

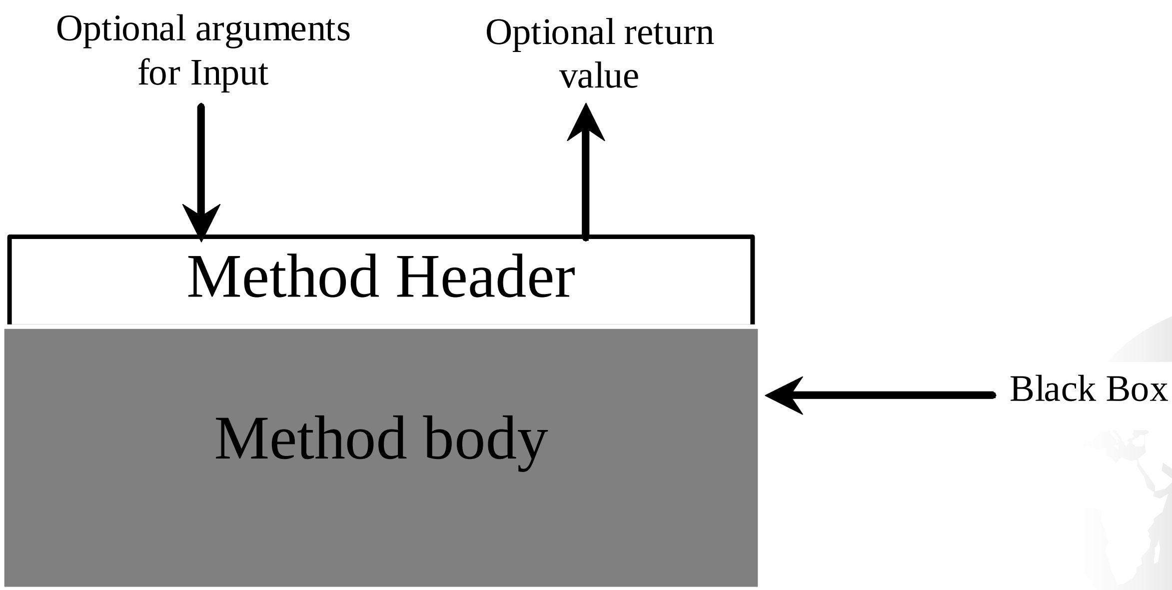
```
// Fine with no errors
public static void correctMethod() {
  int x = 1;
  int y = 1;
  // i is declared
  for (int i = 1; i < 10; i++) {
    x += i;
  }
  // i is declared again
  for (int i = 1; i < 10; i++) {
    y += i;
  }
}
```

Scope of Local Variables, cont.

```
// With errors
public static void incorrectMethod() {
  int x = 1;
  int y = 1;
  for (int i = 1; i < 10; i++) {
    int x = 0;
    x += i;
  }
}
```

Method Abstraction

You can think of the method body as a black box that contains the detailed implementation for the method.



Benefits of Methods

- Write a method once and reuse it anywhere.
- Information hiding. Hide the implementation from the user.
- Reduce complexity.