## Topic 22

## Two Dimensional Arrays

## "Computer Science is a science of abstraction

 -creating the right model for a problem and devising the appropriate mechanizable techniques to solve it."-Alfred Aho and Jeffery Ullman


Based on slides for Building Java Programs by Reges/Stepp, found at

http://faculty.washington.edu/stepp/book/

## 2D Arrays in Java

- Arrays with multiple dimensions may be declared and used
int[][] mat = new int[3][4];
' the number of pairs of square brackets indicates the dimension of the array.
- by convention, in a 2D array the first number indicates the row and the second the column


## Two Dimensional Arrays

|  | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

row
This is our abstract picture of the 2D array and treating it this way is fine.
mat[2][1] = 12;

## What is What?

int[][] mat = new int[10][12];
// mat is a reference to the whole ed array
// mat [0] or mat [r] are references to a single row
// mat [0][1] or mat [r][c] are references to // single elements
// no way to refer to a single column

## 2D Array Problems

- Write a method to mind the max value in a 2d array of ints
- Write a method to print out the elements of a 2d array of ints in row order.
- row 0 , then row 1 , then row 2 ...
- Write a method to print out the elements of a 2d array of ints in column order
- column 0 , then column 1 , then column 2 ...


## Use of Two Dimensional Arrays

- 2D arrays are often used when I need a table of data or want to represent things that have 2 dimensions.
- For instance an area of a simulation


## Example of using a 2D array

Conway's game of life

- a cellular automaton designed by John Conway, a mathematician
- not really a game
- a simulation
- takes place on a 2d grid
- each element of the grid is occupied or empty

* indicates occupied, . indicates empty


* indicates occupied, . indicates empty



## Rules of the Game

- If a cell is occupied in this generation. - it survives if it has 2 or 3 neighbors in this generation
- it dies if it has 0 or 1 neighbors in this generation
- it dies if it has 4 or more neighbors in this generation
- If a cell is unoccupied in this generation. - there is a birth if it has exactly 3 neighboring cells that are occupied in this generation
- Neighboring cells are up, down, left, right, and diagonal. In general a cell has 8 neighboring cells


## Simulation

## ' www.ibiblio.org/lifepatterns/

## Problem

## - Implement a program to run the game automatically.

