

2-Dimensional Arrays



Review

When we have a lot of data that is the same data type, we can use arrays! For example, instead of this:

```
int a = 3;  
int b = 7;  
int c = 4;  
int d = 8;  
int e = -1
```

We can do this:

```
int[] nums = {3, 7, 4, 8, -1};
```

Instead of having lots of **identifiers**¹, we only need **one identifier** to access the data. This makes processing the data easier.

Problem

But what about the following situation?

Drivers for a racing team complete test circuits.

They complete **3 test circuits every day** from Monday to Friday.

¹ An identifier is just a variable name, or the name of a function

The team monitors how many times a driver **uses the in-car radio** during each test to report a problem. This data is stored and analysed as follows:

```
int[] mon = {3,6,4};
```

```
int[] tues = {2,9,1};
```

```
int[] wed = {2,0,3};
```

```
int[] thu = {7,5,0};
```

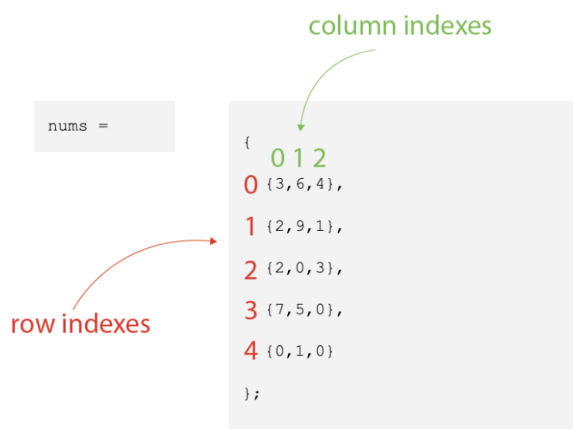
```
int[] fri = {0,1,0};
```

We need 5 arrays! 5 different **identifiers**. If we need to calculate the **total** number of radio calls, it is going to be tricky!

When we have multiple arrays containing the same data type, one strategy is to create a **2-dimensional array** - an array of arrays!

```
int[][] nums = {  
    {3, 6, 4},  
    {2, 9, 1},  
    {2, 0, 3},  
    {7, 5, 0},  
    {0, 1, 0}  
}
```

Once populated, we could imagine it to look like this.



There are 5 **rows** and 3 **columns**.
At `nums[0][0]`, the value 3 is stored.

Write down the values stored at the following locations in the array `nums`:

location	value
<code>nums[0][0]</code>	
<code>nums[3][2]</code>	
<code>nums[4][1]</code>	

Nested For Loop

Let's process the 2-dimensional array `nums` and display every value:

Java

```
for(int i = 0; i<5; i++){  
    for(int j = 0; j<3; j++){  
        System.out.print(nums[i][j] + " ");  
    }  
    System.out.println(); //next row,new line  
}
```

The **outer** loop visits each row.

The **inner** loop visits each column in the current row being processed.

Coding Task 1

Implement the nested loop above inside the **displayRadioCalls** function in the **starter code** and see if it works as expected.

Coding Task 2

The main function is being redesigned as follows:

```
Java
public static void main(String[] args){

    int[][] nums = getRadioData();
    displayRadioCalls(nums);

}

public static int[][] getRadioDat(){

    int[][] samples = new int[5][3]; //declare and initialise array size

    //code to populate samples not shown

    return samples;

}
```

The **getRadioData** function will populate a 5x3 2-dimensional array with values between 0 and 7 inclusive. It will **return** a reference to this array.

Implement the **getRadioData** function and rewrite the **main** function (see above) so that the program works as expected.

Coding Task 3

Design a new function **getRowTotal** that takes an integer representing a row as a parameter, and **returns** the total of numbers at that row index.

Its **signature** is:

```
Java
public int getRowTotal(int[][] radioCalls, int index){
    //to be implemented
}

//test with
public static void main(String[] args){
    int[][] nums = getRadioData();
    System.out.println(getRowTotal(3));
}
```

Coding Task 4

A function **getMaxIndex** processes a 2D array. It **returns** the **index** of the **row** with the highest total.

For example, in the sample 2D array above it will return 0 because row 0 has the highest total.

Its signature is:

```
Java
public static int getMaxIndex(int[][] radioCalls){
    //to be implemented
}
```

Call the function **getRowTotal** (Task 3) in your solution