

M250 Overview

M250 Prsntn 2025J Overview

Phil Molyneux

12 October 2025

M250 Overview Tutorial

Agenda

- ▶ Introductions
- ▶ *Adobe Connect* — if you or I get cut off, wait till we reconnect (or send you an email)
- ▶ M250 overview
- ▶ Software resources & learning software packages
- ▶ Data types & variables
- ▶ Some useful Web & other references
- ▶ Time: about 1 hour
- ▶ Do ask questions or raise points.
- ▶ Slides/Notes [M250Tutorial20251012OverviewPrsntn2025J](#)

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Introductions — Phil

- ▶ *Name* Phil Molyneux
- ▶ *Background*
 - ▶ Undergraduate: Physics and Maths (Sussex)
 - ▶ Postgraduate: Physics (Sussex), Operational Research (Brunel), Computer Science (University College, London)
 - ▶ Worked in Operational Research, Business IT, Web technologies, Functional Programming
- ▶ *First programming languages* Fortran, BASIC, Pascal
- ▶ *Favourite Software*
 - ▶ Haskell — pure functional programming language
 - ▶ Text editors TextMate, Sublime Text — previously Emacs
 - ▶ Word processing in L^AT_EX — all these slides and notes
 - ▶ Mac OS X
- ▶ *Learning style* — I read the manual before using the software

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Introductions — You

- ▶ *Name ?*
- ▶ *Favourite software/Programming language ?*
- ▶ *Favourite **text editor** or **integrated development environment (IDE)***
- ▶ **List of text editors, Comparison of text editors and Comparison of integrated development environments**
- ▶ *Other OU courses ?*
- ▶ *Anything else ?*

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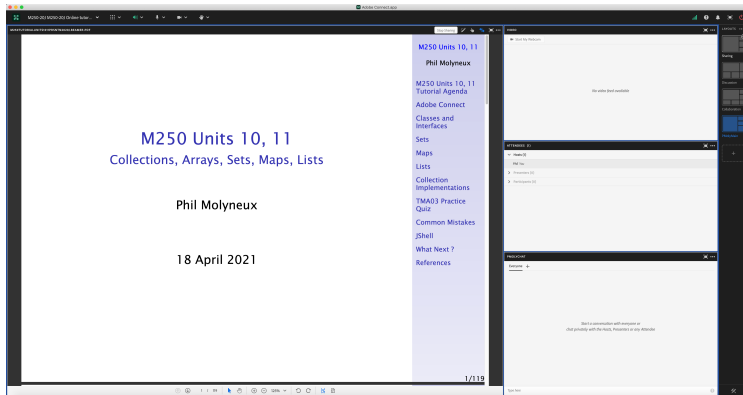
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Interface — Host View



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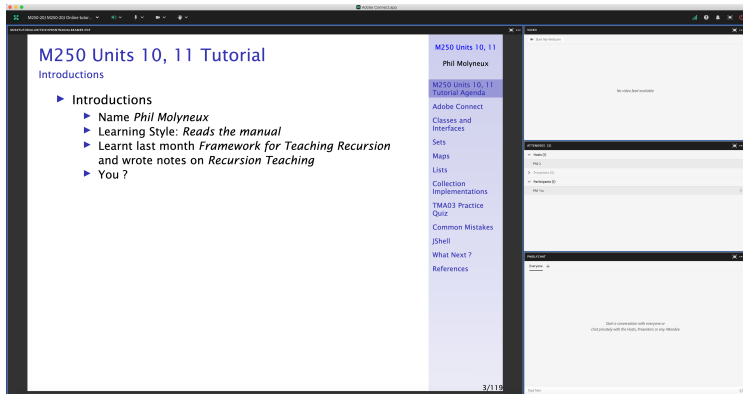
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Interface — Participant View



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Settings

- ▶ **Everybody** Menu bar Meeting Speaker & Microphone Setup
- ▶ Menu bar Microphone Allow Participants to Use Microphone ✓
- ▶ Check Participants see the entire slide **Workaround**
 - ▶ Disable Draw Share pod Menu bar Draw icon
 - ▶ Fit Width Share pod Bottom bar Fit Width icon ✓
- ▶ Meeting Preferences General Host Cursor Show to all attendees
- ▶ Menu bar Video Enable Webcam for Participants ✓
- ▶ Do not *Enable single speaker mode*
- ▶ Cancel hand tool
- ▶ Do not enable green pointer
- ▶ **Recording** Meeting Record Session ✓
- ▶ **Documents** Upload PDF with drag and drop to share pod
- ▶ Delete Meeting Manage Meeting Information Uploaded Content and check filename click on delete

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► Tutor Access

TutorHome > M269 Website > Tutorials

Cluster Tutorials > M269 Online tutorial room

Tutor Groups > M269 Online tutor group room

Module-wide Tutorials > M269 Online module-wide room

► Attendance

TutorHome > Students > View your tutorial timetables

► Beamer Slide Scaling 440% (422 x 563 mm)

► Clear Everyone's Status

Attendee Pod > Menu > Clear Everyone's Status

► Grant Access and send link via email

Meeting > Manage Access & Entry > Invite Participants...

► Presenter Only Area

Meeting > Enable/Disable Presenter Only Area

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Keystroke Shortcuts

- ▶ **Keyboard shortcuts in Adobe Connect**
- ▶ **Toggle Mic**  + **M** (Mac), **Ctrl** + **M** (Win) (On/Disconnect)
- ▶ **Toggle Raise-Hand status**  + **E**
- ▶ **Close dialog box**  (Mac), **Esc** (Win)
- ▶ **End meeting**  + ****

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Adobe Connect Interface

Sharing Screen & Applications

- ▶ **Share My Screen** > **Application tab** > **Terminal** for **Terminal**
- ▶ **Share menu** > **Change View** > **Zoom in** for mismatch of screen size/resolution (Participants)
- ▶ (Presenter) Change to 75% and back to 100% (solves participants with smaller screen image overlap)
- ▶ Leave the application on the original display
- ▶ Beware blue hatched rectangles — from other (hidden) windows or contextual menus
- ▶ Presenter screen pointer affects viewer display — beware of moving the pointer away from the application
- ▶ First time: **System Preferences** > **Security & Privacy** > **Privacy** > **Accessibility**

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Ending a Meeting

- ▶ *Notes for the tutor only*
- ▶ **Student:** Meeting > Exit Adobe Connect
- ▶ **Tutor:**
- ▶ **Recording** Meeting > Stop Recording ✓
- ▶ **Remove Participants** Meeting > End Meeting... ✓
 - ▶ Dialog box allows for message with default message:
 - ▶ *The host has ended this meeting. Thank you for attending.*
- ▶ **Recording availability** *In course Web site for joining the room, click on the eye icon in the list of recordings under your recording* — edit description and name
- ▶ **Meeting Information** Meeting > Manage Meeting Information — can access a range of information in Web page.
- ▶ **Delete File Upload** Meeting > Manage Meeting Information > Uploaded Content tab select file(s) and click Delete
- ▶ **Attendance Report** see course Web site for joining room

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Invite Attendees

- ▶ **Provide Meeting URL** Menu Meeting Manage Access & Entry
Invite Participants...
- ▶ **Allow Access without Dialog** Menu Meeting
Manage Meeting Information provides new browser window with *Meeting Information* Tab bar Edit Information
- ▶ Check *Anyone who has the URL for the meeting can enter the room*
- ▶ Default *Only registered users and accepted guests may enter the room*
- ▶ **Reverts to default next session but URL is fixed**
- ▶ Guests have blue icon top, registered participants have yellow icon top — same icon if URL is open
- ▶ See [Start, attend, and manage Adobe Connect meetings and sessions](#)

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Entering a Room as a Guest (1)

- ▶ Click on the link sent in email from the Host
- ▶ Get the following on a Web page
- ▶ As *Guest* enter your name and click on **Enter Room**



Adobe Connect

M269-21J Online tutorial room
London/SE (1,13) CG [2311] (M269-21J)
(1)

Guest Registered User

Name

Guest Name

By entering a Name & clicking "Enter Room", you agree that you have read and accept the [Terms of Use](#) & [Privacy Policy](#).

Enter Room

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Entering a Room as a Guest (2)

- ▶ See the *Waiting for Entry Access* for *Host* to give permission



Adobe Connect

Waiting for Entry Access

This is a private meeting. Your request to enter has been sent to the host. Please wait for a response.

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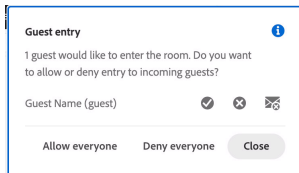
What Next ?

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Entering a Room as a Guest (3)

- *Host* sees the following dialog in *Adobe Connect* and grants access



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- ▶ **Creating new layouts** example *Sharing* layout
 - ▶ **Menu** ▶ **Layouts** ▶ **Create New Layout...** ▶ **Create a New Layout dialog**
▶ **Create a new blank layout** and name it *PMolyMain*
- ▶ New layout has no Pods but does have Layouts Bar open (see Layouts menu)
- ▶ **Pods**
 - ▶ **Menu** ▶ **Pods** ▶ **Share** ▶ **Add New Share** and resize/position — initial name is *Share n* — rename *PMolyShare*
 - ▶ **Rename Pod** **Menu** ▶ **Pods** ▶ **Manage Pods...** ▶ **Manage Pods**
▶ **Select** ▶ **Rename** or **Double-click & rename**
- ▶ Add Video pod and resize/reposition
- ▶ Add Attendance pod and resize/reposition
- ▶ Add Chat pod — rename it *PMolyChat* — and resize/reposition

- ▶ Dimensions of **Sharing** layout (on 27-inch iMac)
 - ▶ Width of Video, Attendees, Chat column 14 cm
 - ▶ Height of Video pod 9 cm
 - ▶ Height of Attendees pod 12 cm
 - ▶ Height of Chat pod 8 cm
- ▶ **Duplicating Layouts** does *not* give new instances of the Pods and is probably not a good idea (apart from local use to avoid delay in reloading Pods)
- ▶ **Auxiliary Layouts** name *PMolyAuxOn*
 - ▶ Create new Share pod
 - ▶ Use existing Chat pod
 - ▶ Use same Video and Attendance pods

Adobe Connect

Chat Pods

- ▶ **Format Chat text**

- ▶  menu icon 

- ▶ Choices: Red, Orange, Green, Brown, Purple, Pink, Blue, Black

- ▶ Note: Color reverts to Black if you switch layouts

- ▶  menu icon 

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Graphics Conversion

PDF to PNG/JPG

- ▶ Conversion of the screen snaps for the installation of Anaconda on 1 May 2020
- ▶ Using GraphicConverter 1.1
- ▶ 
- ▶ Select files to convert and destination folder
- ▶ Click on  or 

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Adobe Connect Recordings

Exporting Recordings

- ▶ **Menu bar** > **Meeting** > **Preferences** > **Video**
- ▶ **Aspect ratio** > **Standard (4:3)** (not Wide screen (16:9) default)
- ▶ **Video quality** > **Full HD** (1080p not High default 480p)
- ▶ **Recording** > **Menu bar** > **Meeting** > **Record Session** ✓
- ▶ **Export Recording**
 - ▶ **Menu bar** > **Meeting** > **Manage Meeting Information**
 - ▶ **New window** > **Recordings** > **check Tutorial** > **Access Type button**
 - ▶ **check Public** > **check Allow viewers to download**
- ▶ **Download Recording**
 - ▶ **New window** > **Recordings** > **check Tutorial** > **Actions** > **Download File**

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Module Aims and Structure

- ▶ **Object-oriented programming**
- ▶ Encapsulation enforces modularity — implementations of objects not available outside some *container*
- ▶ Inheritance encourages reuse of code and organises complexity
- ▶ Polymorphism enables a structured approach to different objects responding differently to the same messages
- ▶ **Java** is a class-based, object-oriented general-purpose programming language with strong type system
- ▶ **Type system** addresses the problem of ensuring that programs have meaning — we shall look at this later but consider
 - $1 + 2$ and $1 + '2'$ are they valid ?
- ▶ We are using Java to illustrate an object-oriented approach to programming
- ▶ We will not have complete coverage of every feature of Java

M250 Overview

Expression Quiz

- Evaluate `1 + 2`

```
jshell> 1 + 2  
$1 ==> 3
```

- Evaluate `1 + '2'`

```
jshell> 1 + '2'  
$2 ==> 51
```

- The evaluations are using **JShell** a Read-Eval-Print Loop (REPL) tool for exploring Java
- What is going on here? A character is a *numeric* type

```
jshell> (int) '2'  
$3 ==> 50  
jshell> (char) 50  
$4 ==> '2'
```

- The above are explicit *type conversions*

M250 Overview

Expression Quiz (2)

- ▶ Beware mixing characters and strings

```
jshell> '1' + '2'  
$5 ==> 99
```

```
jshell> "1" + "2"  
$6 ==> "12"
```

- ▶ The former does implicit type casting to `int`
- ▶ The latter is string concatenation
- ▶ The `(+)` operator is *overloaded*

M250 Overview

Chps 1 to 4

- ▶ Chp 1: Objects and classes
- ▶ Chp 2: Understanding class definitions
- ▶ Chp 3: Object interactions
- ▶ Chp 4: Grouping objects
- ▶ Chp 5: Functional processing of collections

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Chps 6 and 7

- ▶ Chp 6: More sophisticated behaviour
- ▶ Chp 7: Fixed-size collections — arrays
- ▶ Programming outside BlueJ

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Chps 9 to 12, and 14

- ▶ Chp 8: Designing classes and code conventions
- ▶ Chp 9: Well-behaved object and debugging
- ▶ Chp 10: Improving structure with inheritance
- ▶ Chp 11: More about inheritance
- ▶ Chp 12: Further abstraction techniques — Interfaces
- ▶ Chp 14: Handling errors

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- ▶ [Module Guide \(online\)](#)
- ▶ [Software Guide \(online\)](#)
- ▶ [M250 BlueJ Activities](#)
- ▶ [M250 Java Reference](#)
- ▶ [Chapter companions — reading guides](#)
- ▶ [Exam Handbook \(print/online under Assessment\)](#)
- ▶ [Study calendar \(HTML/PDF\)](#)
- ▶ [Programming outside BlueJ \(optional\) \(online\)](#)

M250 Resources

M250 Exam Handbook

M250-21J Object-oriented Java programming



M250 Java Reference

This item contains selected online content. It is for use alongside, not as a replacement for the module website, which is the primary study format and contains activities and resources that cannot be replicated in the printed versions.
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M250 Chapter Companions — Extra Teaching

- ▶ Key areas going beyond the textbook:
- ▶ **Chp 1 Prequel** VMs; Java history; procedural/OO programming
- ▶ **Chp 3** Additional discussion on calling methods and bounding boxes of graphical objects
- ▶ **Chp 6** Iterating over a map; maps with sets as values
- ▶ **Chp 7** Arrays holding references to objects
- ▶ **Programming outside BlueJ** supplement
- ▶ **Chp 8** M250 Code conventions and design
- ▶ **Chp 9** More on static and dynamic code; different kinds of errors, debugging; formatted printing (printf)
- ▶ **Chp 10** Inheritance; constructors; members
- ▶ **Chp 11** More on hash codes, equals, and `Objects.hash` method; `getClass` compared to `instanceof`; immutability of keys
- ▶ **Chp 12** The `Comparable` interface

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M250 Assessment from 2021J

- ▶ 3 TMAs
 - ▶ TMA01 15% Chps 1 to 4
 - ▶ TMA02 15% Chps 6 and 7
 - ▶ TMA03 20% Chps 9 to 12, and 14
 - ▶ Exam 50%
- ▶ Final exam in June
- ▶ To pass, must achieve at least 40% in both OCAS (Overall Continuous Assessment Score) and 30% OES (Overall Examinable Score)

Object Concepts

Sample Code (1)

- ▶ From M250 version to 2020J Unit 2
- ▶ Example code 1

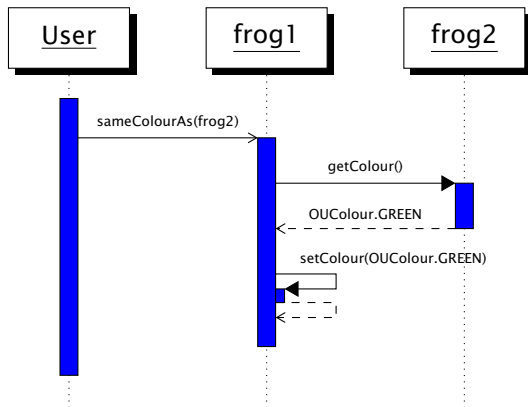
```
public void sameColourAs (Frog aFrog) {  
    this.setColour(aFrog.getColour()) ;  
}
```

```
jshell> frog1.sameColourAs(frog2)
```

- ▶ The **JShell** prompt is just indicative of code usage — usually would be graphical interface here

Unit 2: Object Concepts

Sequence Diagrams



- ▶ The diagrams are similar to the **UML (Unified Modelling Language)** diagrams
- ▶ See also **Unified Modelling Language**
- ▶ See Unit 2 Section 5.3 *Collaborating objects*, page 67

Object Concepts

Sample Code (2)

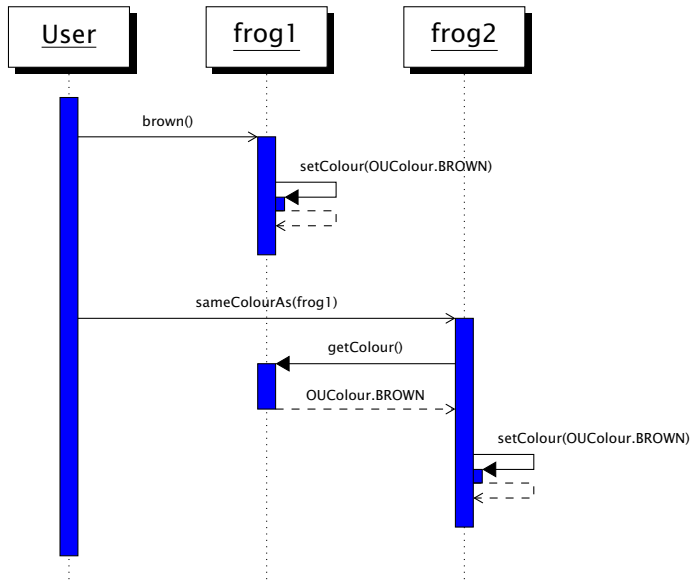
- ▶ From M250 version to 2020J Unit 2
- ▶ Example code (2)

```
public void sameColourAs (Frog aFrog) {  
    this.setColour(aFrog.getColour()) ;  
}  
  
public void brown() {  
    this.setColour(OUColour.BROWN) ;  
}
```

```
jshe11> frog1.brown()  
jshe11> frog2.sameColourAs(frog1)
```

Unit 2: Object Concepts

Sequence Diagrams (2)



Messages and Methods

Computation Model

- ▶ Object-oriented view: programs work using *objects* which communicate by sending *messages*

The diagram shows the expression `objectName.methodName(arg1, arg2, ...)`. Red curly braces and labels are used to identify its components: a brace above `objectName` is labeled "receiver"; a brace above `methodName` is labeled "message"; a brace below `methodName` is labeled "message name"; and a large brace below the entire expression is labeled "message-send".

- ▶ Objects have *state* (implemented by *attributes*) and *behaviour*, its response to messages (implemented by the *protocol*: methods implementing messages)
- ▶ A message must correspond to the signature of one of the methods in the protocol
- ▶ Object terminology is in *M250 Glossary* — this is an object-oriented view of programs
- ▶ Note: the terminology is not standard across all texts — see, for example, [Glossary of Java and Related Terms](#) from Barnes (2000) (author of [BlueJ](#) texts)

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BlueJ

Installing & Using BlueJ — 2020J and before

- ▶ [M250 Website](#) > [Resources](#) > [Software resources](#) and follow the instructions
- ▶ Note: macOS users will have to disable *Gatekeeper* see [Disable Gatekeeper](#) — in Terminal say:

```
sudo spctl --master-disable
```

- ▶ On launch, BlueJ looks for **bluej.defs** for its settings — in macOS this should be at [~/M250/BlueJ/BlueJ.app/Contents/Resources/Java/bluej.defs](#)
- ▶ You can have spaces in file or folder names but that will make life painful, so don't
- ▶ See discussion forums for various problems and how to solve them

BlueJ

Installing & Using BlueJ — 2021J and later

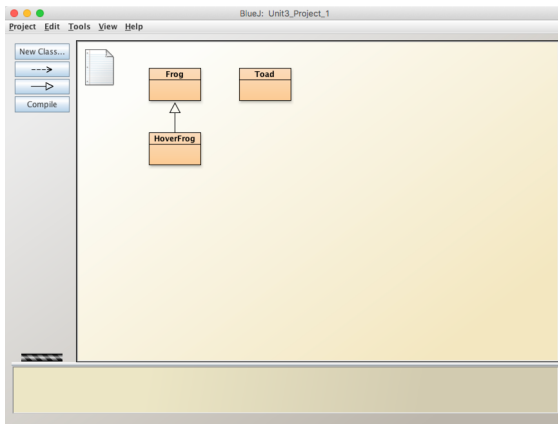
- ▶ [M250 Website](#) > [Resources](#) > [Software resources](#) and follow the instructions
- ▶ Note: macOS users will have to disable *Gatekeeper* see [Disable Gatekeeper](#) — in Terminal say:

```
sudo spctl --master-disable
```

- ▶ Install BlueJ version 4.1.4 from [BlueJ Version History](#) — (27 September 2021) site down!!
- ▶ You can have spaces in file or folder names but that will make life painful, so don't
- ▶ See discussion forums for various problems and how to solve them

BlueJ

BlueJ Interface



- ▶ BlueJ window for Unit 3 Project 1
- ▶ Name the parts ?

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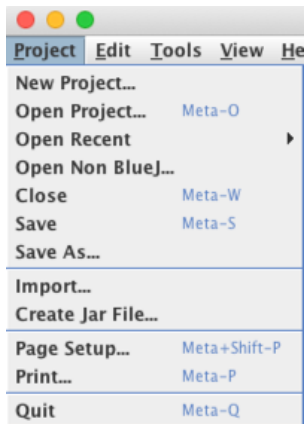
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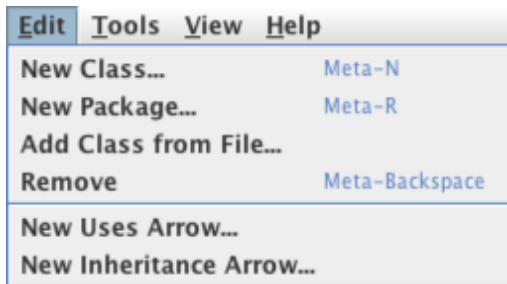
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BlueJ Interface: Project Menu



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BlueJ Interface: Edit Menu



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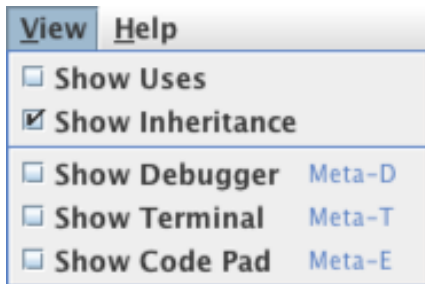
BlueJ Interface: Tools Menu

<u>T</u> ools	<u>V</u> iew	<u>H</u> elp
Compile		Meta-K
Compile Selected		Meta+Shift-K
Rebuild Package		
Reset Java Virtual Machine		Meta+Shift-R
Use Library Class...		Meta-L
Project Documentation		Meta-J
Preferences...		Meta-Comma
OUWorkspace		

- Note the **OUWorkspace**

BlueJ

BlueJ Interface: View Menu



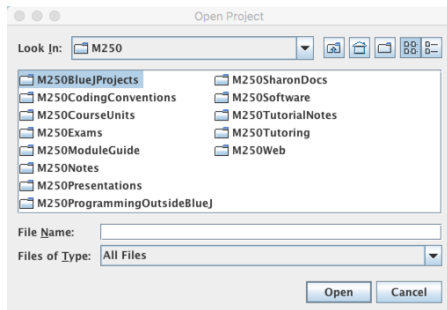
- The **Code Pad** takes part of the **Object Bench**

BlueJ

BlueJ Interface: Help Menu



- ▶ The **OU Class Library** will try to launch a Web browser
- ▶ The documentation is in [oudocs](#) *near* the BlueJ app
- ▶ In Phil's case: (but yours will be somewhere else)
- ▶ `file:///Users/molyneux/MyData/Documents/OU/Courses/Computing/M250/M250Software/M250Working/oudocs/index.html`



- ▶ **Open a project**
- ▶ To navigate into a folder
- ▶ Select **folder** and
- ▶ Double-click (Windows) or Return  or
- ▶ Enter  (Mac)
- ▶ Return  (Mac) means **Open**
- ▶ **New Project**
- ▶ Return  or Enter  (Mac) both mean **Create** (which is wrong)

Learning Software Packages

Key questions

1. Where is the package source ?
2. What version are you using ?
3. What documentation is available ?
4. What are the *names* for the parts of the interface ?
5. How do you leave the package ? How do you enter the package ?
6. Is there any on-line help and, if so, how is it used ?
7. Are there any initialisation files, configuration or preferences and how are they used ?
8. How do you import and export data from the package ?
9. *When all else fails*, how can you obtain advice ?

BlueJ — Exercise

Key Questions (1)

- ▶ Answer the *Key Questions* for BlueJ
- ▶ Where is the package source ?
- ▶ What version are you using ?

BlueJ — Exercise

Key Questions (1a)

- ▶ Where is the package source ?

BlueJ [BlueJ Web site](#)

- ▶ What version are you using ?

4.1.4

- ▶ What version of Java SDK does that use ?

Java 8

BlueJ — Exercise

Key Questions (2)

- ▶ Answer the *Key Questions* for BlueJ
- ▶ What documentation is available ?

BlueJ — Exercise

Key Questions (2a)

- ▶ Answer the *Key Questions* for BlueJ
- ▶ What documentation is available ?
- ▶ What Java documentation is available ?

[Java Documentation](#)

[JDK 17 Documentation](#)

[Java Platform, Standard Edition Documentation](#) — see
the documentation for JDK 8

- ▶ Which was the first version to have JShell ?
Java 9

BlueJ — Exercise

Key Questions (3)

- ▶ Answer the *Key Questions* for BlueJ
- ▶ What are the *names* for the parts of the interface ?

BlueJ — Exercise

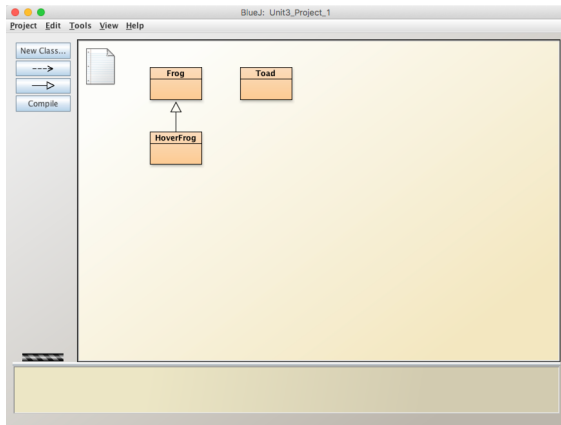
Key Questions (3a)

- ▶ Answer the *Key Questions* for BlueJ
- ▶ What are the *names* for the parts of the interface ?
See diagram in BlueJ documentation
Main window
Object bench
- ▶ Where is the *Code Pad* ?
- ▶ How do you create new objects or inspect existing ones ?
- ▶ How do you execute methods of an object ?
- ▶ How do you edit the source code of a class ?

BlueJ — Exercise

Key Questions (3b)

- ▶ Answer the *Key Questions* for BlueJ
- ▶ What are the *names* for the parts of the interface ?



BlueJ — Exercise

Key Questions (3a)

- ▶ Answer the *Key Questions* for BlueJ
- ▶ What are the *names* for the parts of the interface ?
See diagram in BlueJ documentation
Main window
Object bench
- ▶ Where is the *Code Pad* ?  
- ▶ How do you create new objects or inspect existing ones ? *Right-Click on Class* in main window
- ▶ How do you execute methods of an object ? *Right-Click on Object* in Object bench
- ▶ How do you edit the source code of a class ? *Right-Click on Class* and 

BlueJ — Exercise

Key Questions (4)

- ▶ Answer the *Key Questions* for BlueJ
- ▶ How do you leave the package ? How do you enter the package ?

BlueJ — Exercise

Key Questions (4a)

- ▶ Answer the *Key Questions* for BlueJ
- ▶ How do you leave the package ? How do you enter the package ?
- ▶ **Enter**
- ▶ Load a project  
- ▶ How do you use a project from the command line with JShell ?
- ▶ **Leave**

BlueJ — Exercise

Key Questions (5)

- ▶ Answer the *Key Questions* for BlueJ
- ▶ Is there any on-line help and, if so, how is it used ?

BlueJ — Exercise

Key Questions (5a)

- ▶ Answer the *Key Questions* for BlueJ
- ▶ Is there any on-line help and, if so, how is it used ?

Help > BlueJ Tutorial

Help > BlueJ Web Site

Tools > Project Documentation

Help > Java Class Libraries to view Java API Specification

but you will have to read the documentation

BlueJ — Exercise

Key Questions (6)

- ▶ Answer the *Key Questions* for BlueJ
- ▶ Are there any initialisation files, configuration or preferences and how are they used ?

BlueJ — Exercise

Key Questions (6a)

- ▶ Answer the *Key Questions* for BlueJ
- ▶ Are there any initialisation files, configuration or preferences and how are they used ?

Tools > Preferences...

BlueJ.defs

##	<USER_HOME>/. <code>bluej/bluej.properties</code>	(Unix)
##	C:\Winnt\profiles\ <code><USER_NAME>\Bluej\Bluej.properties</code>	(WinNT)
##	C:\<JDK_HOME>\Bluej\Bluej.properties	(Win9x)

- ▶ Notice [SaaSHub: Is BlueJ down ?](#)

BlueJ — Exercise

Key Questions (7)

- ▶ Answer the *Key Questions* for BlueJ
- ▶ How do you import and export data from the package ?

BlueJ — Exercise

Key Questions (7a)

- ▶ Answer the *Key Questions* for BlueJ
- ▶ How do you import and export data from the package ?
- ▶ **Export**
- ▶ Using code outside BlueJ
- ▶ **Import**
- ▶ Using code developed in another editor or IDE

BlueJ — Exercise

Key Questions (8)

- ▶ Answer the *Key Questions* for BlueJ
- ▶ *When all else fails*, how can you obtain advice ?

BlueJ — Exercise

Key Questions (8a)

- ▶ Answer the *Key Questions* for BlueJ
- ▶ *When all else fails*, how can you obtain advice ?

M250 Forums

BlueJ Web site

[StackOverflow: Questions tagged \[bluej\]](#)

Writing Programs & Thinking

The Steps

1. Invent a *name* for the program (or function)
2. What is the *type* of the function ? What sort of *input* does it take and what sort of *output* does it produce ? In Python a type is implicit; in other languages such as Haskell a type signature can be explicit.
3. Invent *names* for the input(s) to the function (*formal parameters*) — this can involve thinking about possible *patterns* or *data structures*
4. What restrictions are there on the input — state the preconditions.
5. What must be true of the output — state the postconditions.
6. *Think* of the definition of the function body.

Writing Programs & Thinking

The *Think* Step

► How to Think

1. Think of an example or two — what should the program/function do ?
2. Break the inputs into separate cases.
3. Deal with simple cases.
4. Think about the result — try your examples again.

► Thinking Strategies

1. Don't think too much at one go — break the problem down. Top down design, step-wise refinement.
2. What are the inputs — describe all the cases.
3. Investigate choices. What data structures ? What algorithms ?
4. Use common tools — bottom up synthesis.
5. Spot common function application patterns — generalise & then specialise.
6. Look for good *glue* — to combine functions together.

What Next ?

Programming, Debugging, Psychology

Although programming techniques have improved immensely since the early days, the process of finding and correcting errors in programming — known graphically if inelegantly as *debugging* — still remains a most difficult, confused and unsatisfactory operation. The chief impact of this state of affairs is psychological. Although we are happy to pay lip-service to the adage that to err is human, most of us like to make a small private reservation about our own performance on special occasions when we really try. It is somewhat deflating to be shown publicly and incontrovertibly by a machine that even when we do try, we in fact make just as many mistakes as other people. If your pride cannot recover from this blow, you will never make a programmer.

Christopher Strachey, Scientific American 1966 vol 215 (3) September pp112-124

What Next ?

To err is human ?

- ▶ To err is human, to really foul things up requires a computer.
- ▶ Attributed to [Paul R. Ehrlich](#) in [101 Great Programming Quotes](#)
- ▶ Attributed to [Bill Vaughn](#) in [Quote Investigator](#)
- ▶ Derived from [Alexander Pope](#) (1711, [An Essay on Criticism](#))
- ▶ *To Err is Humane; to Forgive, Divine*
- ▶ This also contains
 - A little learning is a dangerous thing;
Drink deep, or taste not the [Pierian Spring](#)*
- ▶ In programming, this means you have to *read the fabulous manual* ([RTFM](#))

What Next ?

Chps 1-4, TMA01

- ▶ Chps 1-3, Data types and expressions; Class definitions
- ▶ Tutorial 10:00 Sunday 9 November 2025 online
- ▶ Chps 4-5, Iteration, collections; Functional Java (optional)
- ▶ Tutorial 10:00 Sunday 16 November 2025 online
- ▶ TMA01 Thursday 11 December 2025

[M250 Overview](#)

[Phil Molyneux](#)

[Agenda](#)

[Adobe Connect](#)

[M250 Overview](#)

[Object-oriented
Programming
Terminology](#)

[Using BlueJ](#)

[Software &
Programming](#)

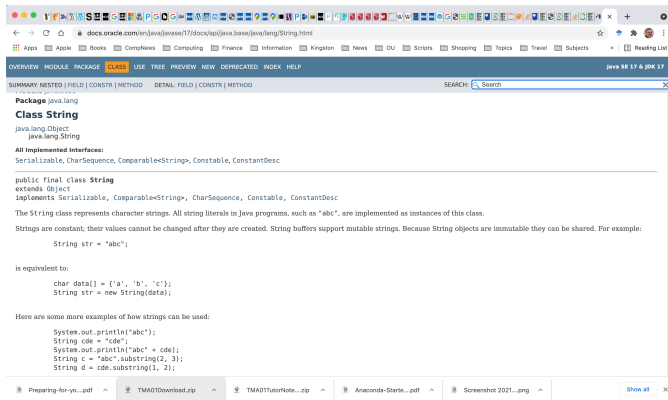
[What Next ?](#)

[References](#)

- ▶ [Java Documentation](#) — BlueJ has JDK 7 embedded, JDK 13 is current (2019)
- ▶ [JDK 13 Documentation](#)
- ▶ [Java Platform API Specification](#)
- ▶ [Java Language Specification](#)
- ▶ [JDK Documentation](#) [API Documentation](#) [java.base](#)
 - ▶ [java.lang](#) — fundamental classes for the Java programming language
 - ▶ [java.util](#) — Collections framework

Java

API Documentation (1)



- ▶ **Strings** are *immutable* objects
- ▶ See **`java.lang.StringBuilder`** for *mutable* strings
- ▶ In a *functional programming approach* everything is immutable — it makes life simpler (but at a cost)

Java

API Documentation (2)

The screenshot shows the Java API documentation for the `String` class. The top navigation bar includes links for OVERVIEW, MODULE, PACKAGE, CLASS (highlighted), USE, TREE, PREVIEW, NEW, DEPRECATED, INDEX, and HELP. The page title is "java SE 17 & JDK 17". Below the navigation bar, there is a search bar and a breadcrumb trail: SUMMARY | NESTED | FIELD | CONSTR | METHOD | METHOD. The main content area is divided into two sections: **equals** and **contentEquals**.

equals

```
public boolean equals(Object anObject)
```

Compares this string to the specified object. The result is true if and only if the argument is not null and is a `String` object that represents the same sequence of characters as this object.

For finer-grained `String` comparison, refer to `Collator`.

Overrides:
`equals` in class `Object`

Parameters:
`anObject` - The object to compare this `String` against

Returns:
true if the given object represents a `String` equivalent to this string, false otherwise

See Also:
`compareTo(String)`, `equalsIgnoreCase(String)`

contentEquals

```
public boolean contentEquals(StringBuffer sb)
```

Compares this string to the specified `StringBuffer`. The result is true if and only if this `String` represents the same sequence of characters as the specified `StringBuffer`. This method synchronizes on the `StringBuffer`.

For finer-grained `String` comparison, refer to `Collator`.

Parameters:
`sb` - The `StringBuffer` to compare this `String` against

- Remember `(==)` tests for *identity* — what does this mean ?

Agenda

Adobe Connect

M250 Overview

Object-oriented
Programming
Terminology

Using BlueJ

Software &
Programming

What Next ?

References

Java Documentation

Books Phil Likes

M250

Books Phil Likes

- ▶ M250 is self contained — you do not need further books — but you might like to know about some:
- ▶ Sestoft (2016) *Java Precisely* — the best short reference
- ▶ Evans, Flanagan (2018) *Java in a Nutshell* — the best longer reference
- ▶ Barnes, Kölling (2016) *Objects First with Java* — the BlueJ book — see www.bluej.org for documentation and tutorial
- ▶ Bloch (2017) *Effective Java* — guide to best practice