
The Java Modeling Language – JML

Néstor Cataño

ncatano@puj.edu.co

Faculty of Engineering
Pontificia Universidad Javeriana

Lecture Plan

1. An Introduction to JML
2. JML's Specification Pragmas
3. JML's Advanced Features
4. JML Specification Examples
5. Tool Support for JML

Lecture Plan

1. **An Introduction to JML**
2. JML's Specification Pragmas
3. JML's Advanced Features
4. JML Specification Examples
5. Tool Support for JML

The Java Modeling Language

- **Formal specification language** for Java programs
 - **record** design and implementation decisions
 - **specify** behaviour of classes
- JML specifications describe
 - **interfaces** (names and static information found in Java declarations)
 - **behaviour** (how classes and interfaces act when used)

JML's Goals

- **Easy to understand** for any Java programmer
 - Notation close to Java syntax

JML's Goals

- **Easy to understand** for any Java programmer
 - Notation close to Java syntax
- **Rigorous and formal**
 - A formal semantics for JML exists

JML's Goals

- **Easy to understand** for any Java programmer
 - Notation close to Java syntax
- **Rigorous and formal**
 - A formal semantics for JML exists
- Amenable to **tool support**
 - KRAKATOA, JACK, ESC/JAVA, JML, LOOP

JML's Goals

- **Easy to understand** for any Java programmer
 - Notation close to Java syntax
- **Rigorous and formal**
 - A formal semantics for JML exists
- Amenable to **tool support**
 - KRAKATOA, JACK, ESC/JAVA, JML, LOOP
- **Practical, effective** for detailed designs

JML Notation

- JML specifications
 - Predicates in [First-Order Logic](#)
 - Java [boolean](#) expressions
 - Specification-purpose boolean JML constructs
- Specifications are added between `/*@ . . . @*/` or after `//@` in Java code
 - [preconditions](#)
 - [postconditions](#)
 - [invariants](#)

JML Operators

- Java logical operators (`||`, `&&`, `!`)
- Java **relational** and **bitwise** operators (`<`, `<=`, `...`, `<<`, `>>`)
- Logical **forward** and **reverse** implication (`==>`, `<==`)
- Logical **equivalence** and **non-equivalence** (`<==>`, `<!=>`)
- **Universal** and **existential** quantification (`\forall`, `\exists`)

JML Predicates

- JML predicates are expressed in **first order logic**, constructed using
 - **side-effect-free** Java booleans,
 - extended with a few operators (**\old**, **\result**, **\forall**, **\exists**, **\max**, etc.),
 - and using a few keywords (**requires**, **ensures**, **invariant**, etc.)

JML by Example

```
public class IntMathOps { // 1
// 2
    /*@ public normal_behavior // 3
        @ requires y >= 0; // 4
        @ assignable \nothing; // 5
        @ ensures 0 <= \result && // 6
        @           \result * \result <= y && // 7
        @           y < (\reult + 1) * (\result + 1); // 8
    @*/ // 9
    public static int isqrt(int y) //10
    { //11
        return (int) Math.sqrt(y); //12
    } //13
} //14
```

JML by Example

- **requires**. It is used for specifying **preconditions**.
- **ensures**. It is used for specifying **postconditions**.
- **normal_behavior**. The method terminates **normally**, without **throwing** an exception.
- **exceptional_behavior**. The method **throws** an exception.
- **behavior**. The method **may** terminate **normally** or **abruptly**.

Lightweight Specifications

- They do not use a **behavior** keyword
- They are written in individual lines after **//@**
- They are typical of ESC/JAVA

```
public class IntMathOps3 {  
    //@ requires y >= 0;  
    public static int isqrt(int y)  
    {  
        return (int) Math.sqrt(y);  
    }  
}
```

Lightweight Specifications

- If a **requires** keyword is missed, a **requires true;** specification is assumed
- If a **assignable** keyword is missed, an **assignable \everything;** specification is assumed
- If a **ensures** keyword is missed, an **ensures true;** specification is assumed

JML and Design-by-Contract

- Methods pre- and postconditions define a **contract** between the **method** (the **class**) and the **caller** of the method
- This contract stipulates that
 1. Methods **may assume** preconditions and **must ensure** postconditions
 2. Clients **must ensure** preconditions and **may assume** postconditions

Contracts and Proof Obligations

```
class Decimal {
    int intPart, decPart;
    //@ invariant decPart >= 0;

    /*@ requires m != null;
       @ ensures decPart == m.decPart &&
       @         intPart == \old(intPart);
       @*/
    void setDecimal(Decimal m) {
        decPart = m.decPart;
    }
}
```

Contracts and Proof Obligations

For `method` `setDecimal` :

- If `m != null` and `m.decPart >= 0` then
 - `decPart == m.decPart`, and
 - `intPart == \old(intPart)`

Contracts and Proof Obligations

For **method** `setDecimal` :

- If `m != null` and `m.decPart >= 0` then
 - `decPart == m.decPart`, and
 - `intPart == \old(intPart)`

For the **caller** :

- `o != null` and `o.decPart >= 0` must be true in every place where the method call `setDecimal(o)` is made
- `setDecimal`'s postcondition **may** be assumed in those places

Contracts and Proof Obligations

For `method` `setDecimal` :

- If `m != null` and `m.decPart >= 0` then
 - `decPart == m.decPart`, and
 - `intPart == \old(intPart)`

For the `caller` :

- `o != null` and `o.decPart >= 0` must be true in every place where the method call `setDecimal(o)` is made
- `setDecimal`'s postcondition `may` be assumed in those places

Additionally :

- `decPart >= 0` must be an `invariant` of `Decimal` class

Lecture Plan

1. An Introduction to JML
2. JML's Specification Pragmas
3. JML's Advanced Features
4. JML Specification Examples
5. Tool Support for JML

Lecture Plan

1. An Introduction to JML
2. **JML's Specification Pragmas**
3. JML's Advanced Features
4. JML Specification Examples
5. Tool Support for JML

Java Card's Decimal class

```
public class Decimal extends Object {
    public static final short MAX_DECIMAL_NUMBER = (short) 32767;
    public static final short PRECISION = (short) 1000;
    private short intPart = (short) 0;
    private short decPart = (short) 0;

    public Decimal setValue(Decimal d) throws DecimalException {
        return setValue(d.getIntPart(),d.getDecPart());
    }

    public Decimal setValue(short i, short d) throws DecimalException {
        if(i < 0 || d < 0) decimal_exception.throwIt(DECIMAL_OVERFLOW);
        intPart = i;
        decPart = d;
        return this;
    }
    ...
}
```

`\forall` and `\exists`

```
(\forall int i; a[i] != null);
```

```
(\forall int i; (0 <= i && i < length) ==>  
    src[srcOff + i] == dest[destOff + i]);
```

```
(\exists int i; (0 <= i && i < length) &&  
    (\forall int j; (0 <= j && j < i) ==>  
        src[srcOff+j] == dest[destOff+j]));
```


assert

- **assert P**
 - **P** must hold at certain point in a **method body**
 - **P** is a valid JML first-order logic property

assert

```
if (i <= 0 || j < 0) {  
    ...  
}  
else if (j < 5) {  
    //@ assert i > 0 && 0 < j && j < 5;  
    ...  
}  
else {  
    //@ assert i > 0 && j > 5;  
    ...  
}
```

spec_public

- JML does not allow **private** fields in **public** specifications
- Putting `/*@ spec_public */` before a **private** field declaration causes the field to be included in the **scope** of every specification

spec_public

```
public class Decimal extends Object {
    public static final short MAX_DECIMAL_NUMBER = (short) 32767;
    public static final short PRECISION = (short) 1000;
    /*@ spec_public @*/ private short intPart = (short) 0;
    /*@ spec_public @*/ private short decPart = (short) 0;
    ...
}
```

requires, ensures and normal_behavior

- **requires** R .
 - method precondition R
- **ensures** Q
 - method postcondition Q
 - Q must hold if method terminates **normally**, i.e., without throwing a **`java.lang.Exception`**
- **normal_behavior** (total correctness)
 - If precondition holds in the pre-state then
 - method terminates in a **normal state**, and
 - normal **post-condition** holds in this state

requires, ensures and normal_behavior

```
public class Decimal extends Object {  
  
    /*@ normal_behavior;  
       @ requires i >= 0 && d >= 0;  
       @ ensures intPart == i && decPart == d;  
    @*/  
  
    public Decimal setValue(short i, short d) throws DecimalException {  
        if(i < 0 || d < 0) Exception.throwIt(DECIMAL_OVERFLOW);  
        intPart = i;  
        decPart = d;  
        return this;  
    }  
}
```

signals, exceptional_behavior

- **signals** (**E e**) **R**
 - exceptional postcondition **R**
 - **R** must hold if method throws an exception **e** that is a subclass of **E**
- **exceptional_behavior** (total correctness)
 - If precondition holds in the pre-state then
 - method will always terminate in a exceptional state throwing a **java.lang.Exception**, and
 - the exceptional **post-condition** will hold in that state

signals and exceptional_behavior

```
public class Decimal extends Object {  
  
    /*@ exceptional_behavior;  
       @ requires i < 0 || d < 0;  
       @ signals (DecimalException e) true;  
    @*/  
  
    public Decimal setValue(short i, short d) throws DecimalException {  
        if(i < 0 || d < 0) Exception.throwIt(DECIMAL_OVERFLOW);  
        intPart = i;  
        decPart = d;  
        return this;  
    }  
}
```


assignable



assignable L

- method **may only** modify the set of memory locations denoted by **L**
- any other location **not listed** **may** therefore **not** be modified
- this is true for both **normal** and **exceptional postconditions**

assignable

```
public class Decimal extends Object {  
  
    /*@ normal_behavior;  
       @   requires i>=0 && d>=0;  
       @   assignable intPart, decPart;  
       @   ensures true;  
    @*/  
  
    public Decimal setValue(short i, short d) throws DecimalException {  
        if(i < 0 || d < 0) Exception.throwIt(DECIMAL_OVERFLOW);  
        intPart = i;  
        decPart = d;  
        return this;  
    }  
}
```

model, in, and represents



model fields

- specification purpose fields
- do not exist as program variables
- used to write abstract specifications
- can be mentioned in assignable specifications



in

- declares that an abstract value is related to some others abstract or concrete values
- used in checking assignable specifications

model, in, and represents

- **represents** clauses
 - make the **relation** between abstract and concrete values **explicit**
 - **relation** may be **functional**, **<-**, or **relational** **such_that**

model, in, and represents

```
public class Decimal extends Object {
    ...
    public short intPart = (short) 0; //@ in decimal;
    public short decPart = (short) 0; //@ in decimal;

    /*@ model int decimal;
       @ represents decimal <- intPart * PRECISION + decPart; @*/
    ...
}
```

- **decimal** is a function over **intPart**, **PRECISION** and **decPart**
- If **intPart** or **decPart** is modified, then **decimal** is modified

model, in, and represents

```
public class Decimal extends Object {
    ...
    public short intPart = (short) 0;  //@ in decimal;
    public short decPart = (short) 0;  //@ in decimal;

    /*@ model int decimal;
       @ represents decimal <- intPart * PRECISION + decPart; @*/

    /*@ behavior
       @ requires true;
       @ assignable decimal;
       @ ensures decimal == i * PRECISION + d;
       @ signals (DecimalException e) i<0 || d<0;
       @*/
    public Decimal setValue(short i, short d) throws DecimalException {
        ...
    }
}
```

`\old` and `\fresh`

• `\old(e)`

- value of expression `e` in the pre-state

• `\fresh(x)`

- `x` is not null
- `x` was not allocated in the pre-state

- `\old` and `\fresh` can only be used in **normal** or **exceptional postconditions**

`\old` and `\fresh`

```
/*@ behavior
  @ requires true;
  @ assignable decimal;
  @ ensures decimal == i * PRECISION + d;
  @ signals (DecimalException e) (i<0 || d<0) &&
  @                                     decimal == \old(decimal) &&
  @                                     \fresh(e);
  @*/
public Decimal setValue(short i, short d) throws DecimalException {
    ...
}
```


\result

- represents the **value returned** by a method
- has the same type as the method return type
- can only be used in **normal** or **exceptional postconditions**

\result

```
/*@ normal_behavior
   @ requires true;
   @ ensures \result <==>
   @         (\exists int i; i>=0 && i<MAX_DATA && data[i]==cur);
   @*/
boolean contends(byte cur) {
    boolean resu = false;
    byte i = (byte)0;

    boolean found = false;

    while(i < MAX_DATA && ! resu) {
        if(data[i] == cur) resu = true;
        else i++;
    }
    return resu;
}
```

pure

- methods in JML specifications **must be side-effects free**
 - for instance, **x++**, **y=x+1**, are not allowed in JML specs
- a side-effects free method is called **pure**
- **pure** methods are implicitly **assignable \nothing;**

pure

```
public class Decimal extends Object {  
    //@ assignable \nothing;  
    public short getIntPart(){  
        return intPart;  
    }  
}
```

pure

```
public class Decimal extends Object {  
  
    public /*@ pure @*/ short getIntPart() {  
        return intPart;  
    }  
}
```

invariant

- it must hold in all **visible** state
 - **Beginning** and **end** of any **method invocation**
 - **End** of a **constructor invocation**
- it is implicitly **assumed** at the beginning of a **method declaration**
- it **does not** have to hold **during** the execution of a method, so it can temporally be broken

invariant

```
public class Decimal extends Object {
    public static final short MAX_DECIMAL_NUMBER = (short) 32767;
    public static final short PRECISION = (short) 1000;
    public short intPart = (short) 0;
    public short decPart = (short) 0;

    /*@ invariant 0 <= intPart && intPart <= MAX_DECIMAL_NUMBER &&
       @           0 <= decPart && decPart < PRECISION;
       @*/
    ...
}
```

non_null

- replaces an **invariant** specification about an object being **non-null**
- useful short-hand for many purposes

non_null

```
public class SalerID extends Object implements PartnerID {  
    ...  
    //@ invariant data != null;  
    public byte[] data = new byte[ID_LENGTH];  
    ...  
}
```

non_null

```
public class SalerID extends Object implements PartnerID {  
    ...  
  
    public /*@ non_null */ byte[] data = new byte[ID_LENGTH];  
  
    ...  
}
```

Recapitulation

- `\forall, \exists`
- `assert`
- `requires, ensures, signals`
- `normal_behavior, exceptional_behavior`
- `assignable`
- `model, represents`
- `\old, \fresh`
- `\result`
- `pure`
- `invariant, non_null`

Resources

- JML's Web-site <http://www.jmlspecs.org>
- The JML Tool (G. Leavens et al.)
http://sourceforge.net/project/showfiles.php?group_id=65346
- The ESC/JAVA Tool (K. Leino et al., J. Kiniry et al.)
<http://secure.ucd.ie/products/opensource/ESCJava2/>
- The KRAKATOA Tool (Ch. Paulin et al.) <http://krakatoa.lri.fr/>
- The JACK Tool (J.-L. Lanet et al.)
<http://www-sop.inria.fr/everest/soft/Jack/jack.html>