

## 2D Arrays

- ▶ Arrays can have two dimensions, useful for 2D data such as spreadsheets, images, tables, etc
- ▶ Here is a  $3 \times 3$  array

```
// allocate and initialize array
int [][] a = {{2, 7, 6},
              {9, 5, 1},
              {4, 3, 8}};

// print array
for (int i = 0; i < a.length; i++) {
    for (int j = 0; j < a[i].length; j++)
        print(a[i][j]+"  ");
    println();
}
```

## 2D Arrays

- ▶ Technically, a 2D array is an array of arrays
- ▶ The first index of the array can be thought of as the row
- ▶ The second index of the array can be thought of as the column
- ▶ `a.length` is the number of rows  
(`a` is a 1D array of rows or type `int[][]`)
- ▶ `a[0].length` is the number of columns in row 0  
(`a[0]` is a 1D array)
- ▶ The array is stored row by row

## Allocating Arrays

- ▶ A 2D array can be allocated as follows

```
int [][] a;           // a is an array
a = new int[7][];    // a has 7 rows
for (int i = 0; i < a.length; i++)
    a[i] = new int[12];
// each row has 12 elements
```

- ▶ the above array is  $7 \times 12$  and contains 84 elements
- ▶ A 2D array can be also be allocated as follows

```
int [][] a = new int[7][12]; // a has 7
    rows and 12 columns
```

## Ragged Arrays

- ▶ Not all rows in the array need to have the same number of elements
- ▶ Such an array is called a ragged array

```
// allocate and initialize array
int [][] a = {{1}, {1, 1}, {1, 2, 1},
             {1, 3, 3, 1}, {1, 4, 6, 4, 1}},
             {1, 5, 10, 10, 5, 1};

// print array
for (int i = 0; i < a.length; i++) {
    for (int j = 0; j < a[i].length; j++)
        print(a[i][j]+"  ");
    println();
}
```

- ▶ It is usually best to use the known size of the array as given by the `.length` value

## Multidimensional Arrays

- ▶ Why stop at two dimensions?
- ▶ Arrays can have any number of dimensions!
- ▶ Here is an example of a 4D array

```
int [][][][] a = new int [10][10][10][10];
for (int i0 = 0; i0 < a.length; i0++)
  for (int i1 = 0; i1 < a[i0].length; i1++)
    for (int i2 = 0; i2 < a[i1].length; i2++)
      for (int i3 = 0; i3 < a[i2].length; i3++)
        a[i0][i1][i2][i3] = i1 + i2 + i3 + i4;
```

- ▶ Note this array requires  $10 \cdot 10 \cdot 10 \cdot 10 = 10^4$  elements!
- ▶ To process this array we use four nested loops
  - ▶ Outermost loop corresponds to leftmost index
  - ▶ Innermost loop corresponds to rightmost index