ICOM 4015: Advanced Programming

Lecture 10

Reading: Chapter Eleven: Input/Output and Exception Handling



Chapter 11 – Input/Output and Exception Handling

Chapter Goals

- To be able to read and write text files
- To learn how to throw exceptions
- To be able to design your own exception classes
- To understand the difference between checked and unchecked exceptions
- To know when and where to catch an exception

Reading Text Files

- Simplest way to read text: Use Scanner class
- To read from a disk file, construct a FileReader
- Then, use the FileReader to construct a Scanner object

FileReader reader = new FileReader("input.txt");
Scanner in = new Scanner(reader);

- Use the Scanner methods to read data from file
 - next, nextLine, nextInt, and nextDouble

Writing Text Files

• To write to a file, construct a PrintWriter object:

```
PrintWriter out = new PrintWriter("output.txt");
```

- If file already exists, it is emptied before the new data are written into it
- If file doesn't exist, an empty file is created
- Use print and println to write into a PrintWriter:

```
out.println(29.95);
out.println(new Rectangle(5, 10, 15, 25));
out.println("Hello, World!");
```

• You must close a file when you are done processing it:

```
out.close();
```

Otherwise, not all of the output may be written to the disk file

FileNotFoundException

- When the input or output file doesn't exist, a FileNotFoundException can occur
- To handle the exception, label the main method like this:

public static void main(String[] args) throws
 FileNotFoundException

A Sample Program

- Reads all lines of a file and sends them to the output file, preceded by line numbers
- Sample input file:

Mary had a little lamb Whose fleece was white as snow. And everywhere that Mary went, The lamb was sure to go!

• Program produces the output file:

/* 1 */ Mary had a little lamb
/* 2 */ Whose fleece was white as snow.
/* 3 */ And everywhere that Mary went,
/* 4 */ The lamb was sure to go!

Program can be used for numbering Java source files

ch11/lines/LineNumberer.java

String inputFileName = console.next();

String outputFileName = console.next();

System.out.print("Output file: ");

```
import java.io.File;
import java.io.FileNotFoundException;
import java.io.PrintWriter;
import java.util.Scanner;
/**
   This program applies line numbers to a file.
*/
public class LineNumberer
{
   public static void main(String[] args) throws FileNotFoundException
   {
      // Prompt for the input and output file names
      Scanner console = new Scanner(System.in);
      System.out.print("Input file: ");
```

Continued

ch11/fileio/LineNumberer.java (cont.)

// Construct the Scanner and PrintWriter objects for reading and writing

```
File inputFile = new File(inputFileName);
Scanner in = new Scanner(inputFile);
PrintWriter out = new PrintWriter(outputFileName);
int lineNumber = 1;
```

// Read the input and write the output

}

}

```
while (in.hasNextLine())
{
    String line = in.nextLine();
    out.println("/* " + lineNumber + " */ " + line);
    lineNumber++;
}
in.close();
out.close();
```

What happens when you supply the same name for the input and output files to the LineNumberer program?

Answer: When the PrintWriter object is created, the output file is emptied. Sadly, that is the same file as the input file. The input file is now empty and the while loop exits immediately.

What happens when you supply the name of a nonexistent input file to the LineNumberer program?

Answer: The program catches a FileNotFoundException, prints an error message, and terminates.

File Dialog Boxes

🗖 Open		×
Look <u>I</u> n: 📑 api	-	A C 00 0-
📑 index-files	🗋 allclasses-noframe.htr	nl 🗋 overview-summa
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🗂 org	🗋 help-doc.html	🗋 serialized-form.h
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4	III	•
File Name:		
Files of <u>Type</u> : All Files		•
		Open Cancel

A JFileChooser Dialog Box

File Dialog Boxes

```
JFileChooser chooser = new JFileChooser();
FileReader in = null;
if (chooser.showOpenDialog(null) ==
        JFileChooser.APPROVE_OPTION)
{
    File selectedFile = chooser.getSelectedFile();
    reader = new FileReader(selectedFile);
    ...
```

Reading Text Input: Reading Words

• The next method reads a word at a time:

```
while (in.hasNext())
{
    String input = in.next();
    System.out.println(input);
}
```

• With our sample input, the output is:

```
Mary
had
a
little
lamb
```

• A word is any sequence of characters that is not white space

Reading Text Input: Reading Words

- To specify a pattern for word boundaries, call Scanner.useDelimiter
- Example: discard anything that isn't a letter:

```
Scanner in = new Scanner(. . .);
in.useDelimiter("[^A-Za-z]+");
...
```

 The notation used for describing the character pattern is called a regular expression

• The nextLine method reads a line of input and consumes the newline character at the end of the line:

String line = in.nextLine();

 Example: process a file with population data from the <u>CIA Fact Book</u> with lines like this:

China 1330044605 India 1147995898 United States 303824646

• First read each input line into a string

• Then use the isDigit and isWhitespace methods to find out where the name ends and the number starts. E.g. locate the first digit:

```
int i = 0;
while (!Character.isDigit(line.charAt(i))) { i++; }
```

• Then extract the country name and population:

```
String countryName = line.substring(0, i);
String population = line.substring(i);
```

• Use the trim method to remove spaces at the end of the country name:



• To convert the population string to a number, first trim it, then call the Integer.parseInt method:

```
int populationValue =
    Integer.parseInt(population.trim());
```

• Occasionally easier to construct a new Scanner object to read the characters from a string:

```
Scanner lineScanner = new Scanner(line);
```

• Then you can use lineScanner like any other Scanner object, reading words and numbers:

```
String countryName = lineScanner.next();
while (!lineScanner.hasNextInt())
{
    countryName = countryName + " " +
    lineScanner.next();
}
int populationValue = lineScanner.nextInt();
```

Reading Text Input: Reading Numbers

 nextInt and nextDouble methods consume white space and the next number:

```
double value = in.nextDouble();
```

• If there is no number in the input, then a InputMismatchException occurs; e.g.

21st century

• To avoid exceptions, use the hasNextDouble and hasNextInt methods to screen the input:

```
if (in.hasNextDouble())
{
    double value = in.nextDouble();
    ...
}
```

Reading Text Input: Reading Numbers

- nextInt and nextDouble methods do not consume the white space that follows a number
- Example: file contains student IDs and names in this format:

```
1729
Harry Morgan
1730
Diana Lin
```

• Read the file with these instructions:

```
while (in.hasNextInt())
{
    int studentID = in.nextInt();
    String name = in.nextLine();
    Process the student ID and name
}
```

Reading Text Input: Reading Numbers

Initially, the input contains



• After the first call to nextInt, the input contains



• The call to nextLine reads an empty string! The remedy is to add a call to nextLine after reading the ID:

```
int studentID = in.nextInt();
in.nextLine(); // Consume the newline
String name = in.nextLine();
```

Reading Text Input: Reading Characters

• To read one character at a time, set the delimiter pattern to the empty string:

```
Scanner in = new Scanner(. . .);
in.useDelimiter("");
```

- Now each call to next returns a string consisting of a single character
- To process the characters:

```
while (in.hasNext())
{
    char ch = in.next().charAt(0);
    Process ch
}
```

Suppose the input contains the characters 6,995.0. What is the value of number and input after these statements?

```
int number = in.nextInt();
String input = in.next();
```

Answer: number is 6, input is ", 995.0".

Suppose the input contains the characters 6,995.00 12. What is the value of price and quantity after these statements?

```
double price = in.nextDouble();
int quantity = in.nextInt();
```

Answer: price is set to 6 because the comma is not considered a part of a floating-point number in Java. Then the call to nextInt causes an exception, and quantity is not set.

Your input file contains a sequence of numbers, but sometimes a value is not available and marked as N/A. How can you read the numbers and skip over the markers?

Answer: Read them as strings, and convert those strings to numbers that are not equal to N/A:

```
String input = in.next();
if (!input.equals("N/A"))
{
    double value = Double.parseDouble(input);
    Process value
}
```

Throwing Exceptions

- Throw an exception object to signal an exceptional condition
- Example: IllegalArgumentException: Illegal parameter value:

IllegalArgumentException exception
 = new IllegalArgumentException("Amount exceeds
 balance");
throw exception;

• No need to store exception object in a variable:

```
throw new IllegalArgumentException("Amount exceeds
    balance");
```

- When an exception is thrown, method terminates immediately
 - Execution continues with an exception handler

Example

```
public class BankAccount
ł
   public void withdraw (double amount)
   ł
      if (amount > balance)
         IllegalArgumentException exception
            = new IllegalArgumentException("Amount
            exceeds balance");
         throw exception;
      }
      balance = balance - amount;
```

Hierarchy of Exception Classes



Figure 1 The Hierarchy of Exception Classes

Syntax 11.1 Throwing an Exception



How should you modify the deposit method to ensure that the balance is never negative?

Answer: Throw an exception if the amount being deposited is less than zero.

Suppose you construct a new bank account object with a zero balance and then call withdraw(10). What is the value of balance afterwards?

Answer: The balance is still zero because the last statement of the withdraw method was never executed.

Checked and Unchecked Exceptions

- Two types of exceptions:
 - Checked
 - The compiler checks that you don't ignore them
 - Due to external circumstances that the programmer cannot prevent
 - *Majority occur when dealing with input and output*
 - o For example, IOException
 - Unchecked
 - o Extend the class RuntimeException or Error
 - o They are the programmer's fault
 - Examples of runtime exceptions:

NumberFormatException IllegalArgumentException NullPointerException

• Example of error:

OutOfMemoryError

Checked and Unchecked Exceptions

- Categories aren't perfect:
 - Scanner.nextInt throws unchecked InputMismatchException
 - Programmer cannot prevent users from entering incorrect input
 - This choice makes the class easy to use for beginning programmers
- Deal with checked exceptions principally when programming with files and streams
- For example, use a Scanner to read a file:

```
String filename = ...;
FileReader reader = new FileReader(filename);
Scanner in = new Scanner(reader);
```

• But, FileReader constructor can throw a FileNotFoundE`xception

Checked and Unchecked Exceptions

- Two choices:
 - 1. Handle the exception
 - 2. Tell compiler that you want method to be terminated when the exception occurs
 - Use throws specifier so method can throw a checked exception

```
public void read(String filename) throws
   FileNotFoundException
{
   FileReader reader = new FileReader(filename);
   Scanner in = new Scanner(reader);
   ...
}
```

• For multiple exceptions:

Checked and Unchecked Exceptions (cont.)

- Keep in mind inheritance hierarchy: If method can throw an IOException and FileNotFoundException, only use IOException
- Better to declare exception than to handle it incompetently
Syntax 11.2 throws Clause



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Suppose a method calls the Scanner constructor, which can throw a FileNotFoundException, and the nextInt method of the Scanner class, which can cause a NoSuchElementException Or InputMismatchException. Which exceptions should be included in the throws clause?

Answer: You must include the FileNotFoundException and you may include the NoSuchElementException if you consider it important for documentation purposes.

InputMismatchException is a subclass of
NoSuchElementException. It is your choice whether to include
it.

Why is a NullPointerException not a checked exception?

Answer: Because programmers should simply check for null pointers instead of trying to handle a NullPointerException.

Catching Exceptions

- Install an exception handler with try/catch statement
- try block contains statements that may cause an exception
- catch clause contains handler for an exception type

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Catching Exceptions

• Example:

```
try
   String filename = ...;
   FileReader reader = new FileReader(filename);
   Scanner in = new Scanner(reader);
   String input = in.next();
   int value = Integer.parseInt(input);
   • • •
catch (IOException exception)
   exception.printStackTrace();
catch (NumberFormatException exception)
 System.out.println("Input was not a number");
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```

Catching Exceptions

- Statements in try block are executed
- If no exceptions occur, catch clauses are skipped
- If exception of matching type occurs, execution jumps to catch clause
- If exception of another type occurs, it is thrown until it is caught by another ${\tt try}$ block
- catch (IOException exception) block
 - *exception* contains reference to the exception object that was thrown
 - *catch* clause can analyze object to find out more details
 - *exception.printStackTrace()*: Printout of chain of method calls that lead to exception

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Syntax 11.3 Catching Exceptions



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Suppose the file with the given file name exists and has no contents. Trace the flow of execution in the try block in this section.

Answer: The FileReader constructor succeeds, and in is constructed. Then the call in.next() throws a NoSuchElementException, and the try block is aborted. None of the catch clauses match, so none are executed. If none of the enclosing method calls catch the exception, the program terminates.

Is there a difference between catching checked and unchecked exceptions?

Answer: No — you catch both exception types in the same way, as you can see from the above code example. Recall that IOException is a checked exception and NumberFormatException is an unchecked exception.

The finally Clause

- Exception terminates current method
- Danger: Can skip over essential code
- Example:

```
reader = new FileReader(filename);
Scanner in = new Scanner(reader);
readData(in);
reader.close(); // May never get here
```

- Must execute reader.close() even if exception happens
- Use finally clause for code that must be executed "no matter what"

The finally Clause

```
FileReader reader = new FileReader(filename);
try
{
    Scanner in = new Scanner(reader);
    readData(in);
}
finally
{
    reader.close();
    // if an exception occurs, finally clause
    // is also executed before exception
    // is passed to its handler
```

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The finally Clause

- Executed when try block is exited in any of three ways:
 - 1. After last statement of try block
 - 2. After last statement of catch clause, if this try block caught an exception
 - 3. When an exception was thrown in try block and not caught
- Recommendation: Don't mix catch and finally clauses in same try block

Syntax 11.4 finally Clause



Suppose the file with the given name does not exist. Trace the flow of execution of the code segment in this section.

Answer: The PrintWriter constructor throws an exception. The assignment to out and the try block are skipped. The finally clause is not executed. This is the correct behavior because out has not been initialized.

Why was the out variable declared outside the try block?

Answer: If it had been declared inside the try block, its scope would only have extended to the end of the try block, and the finally clause could not have closed it.

Designing Your Own Exception Types

• You can design your own exception types — subclasses of Exception Or RuntimeException

```
    if (amount > balance)
```

```
throw new InsufficientFundsException(
    "withdrawal of " + amount + " exceeds balance of "
    + balance);
```

- }
- Make it an unchecked exception programmer could have avoided it by calling getBalance first
- Extend RuntimeException or one of its subclasses
- Supply two constructors
 - 1. Default constructor
 - 2. A constructor that accepts a message string describing reason for exception

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Designing Your Own Exception Types

```
public class InsufficientFundsException
    extends RuntimeException
{
    public InsufficientFundsException() {}
    public InsufficientFundsException(String message)
    {
        super(message);
    }
}
```

What is the purpose of the call super (message) in the second InsufficientFundsException constructor?

Answer: To pass the exception message string to the RuntimeException superclass.

Suppose you read bank account data from a file. Contrary to your expectation, the next input value is not of type double. You decide to implement a BadDataException. Which exception class should you extend?

Answer: Because file corruption is beyond the control of the programmer, this should be a checked exception, so it would be wrong to extend RuntimeException or IllegalArgumentException. Because the error is related to input, IOException would be a good choice.

Case Study: A Complete Example

- Program
 - Asks user for name of file
 - · File expected to contain data values
 - First line of file contains total number of values
 - Remaining lines contain the data
 - Typical input file:

```
3
1.45
-2.1
0.05
```

Case Study: A Complete Example

- What can go wrong?
 - File might not exist
 - File might have data in wrong format
- Who can detect the faults?
 - FileReader constructor will throw an exception when file does not exist
 - Methods that process input need to throw exception if they find error in data format
- What exceptions can be thrown?
 - FileNotFoundException can be thrown by FileReader constructor
 - *IOException* **can be thrown by** *close* **method of** *FileReader*
 - BadDataException, a custom checked exception class

Case Study: A Complete Example

- Who can remedy the faults that the exceptions report?
 - Only the main method of DataSetTester program interacts with user
 - Catches exceptions
 - Prints appropriate error messages
 - Gives user another chance to enter a correct file

ch11/data/DataAnalyzer.java

```
import java.io.FileNotFoundException;
import java.io.IOException;
import java.util.Scanner;
/**
   This program reads a file containing numbers and analyzes its contents.
   If the file doesn't exist or contains strings that are not numbers, an
   error message is displayed.
*/
public class DataAnalyzer
{
   public static void main(String[] args)
  {
       Scanner in = new Scanner(System.in);
       DataSetReader reader = new DataSetReader();
      boolean done = false;
       while (!done)
       {
```

Continued

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ch11/data/DataAnalyzer.java (cont.)

}

```
try
   System.out.println("Please enter the file name: ");
   String filename = in.next();
   double[] data = reader.readFile(filename);
   double sum = 0;
   for (double d : data) sum = sum + d;
   System.out.println("The sum is " + sum);
  done = true;
catch (FileNotFoundException exception)
   System.out.println("File not found.");
catch (BadDataException exception)
   System.out.println("Bad data: " + exception.getMessage());
catch (IOException exception)
  exception.printStackTrace();
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```

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The readFile Method of the DataSetReader Class

- Constructs Scanner object
- Calls readData method
- Completely unconcerned with any exceptions

The readFile Method of the DataSetReader Class

 If there is a problem with input file, it simply passes the exception to caller:

```
public double[] readFile(String filename)
       throws IOException, BadDataException
       // FileNotFoundException is an IOException
   FileReader reader = new FileReader(filename);
   try
       Scanner in = new Scanner(reader);
       readData(in);
   finally
       reader.close();
   return data;
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```

The readData Method of the DataSetReader Class

- Reads the number of values
- Constructs an array
- Calls readValue for each data value:

```
private void readData(Scanner in) throws BadDataException
{
    if (!in.hasNextInt())
        throw new BadDataException("Length expected");
    int numberOfValues = in.nextInt();
    data = new double[numberOfValues];
```

```
for (int i = 0; i < numberOfValues; i++)
readValue(in, i);</pre>
```

```
if (in.hasNext())
   throw new BadDataException("End of file expected");
```

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The readData Method of the DataSetReader Class

- Checks for two potential errors
 - 1. File might not start with an integer
 - 2. File might have additional data after reading all values
- Makes no attempt to catch any exceptions

The readValue Method of the DataSetReader Class

```
private void readValue(Scanner in, int i) throws
BadDataException
```

```
{
    if (!in.hasNextDouble())
      throw new BadDataException("Data value expected");
    data[i] = in.nextDouble();
}
```

Animation 11.1: Exception Handling

```
21
       {
22
          FileReader reader = new FileReader(filename);
23
          try
24
          ł
25
             Scanner in = new Scanner(reader);
             readData(in);
26
27
          }
          finally
28
29
          ł
             reader.close();
30
31
          }
32
          return data;
33
       }
34
       /**
35
36
          Reads all data.
37
          @param in the scanner that scans the data
38
       */
```

This animation walks through an exception handling scenario with the DataAnalyzer class from Chapter 11. You will learn about throwing exceptions, catching exceptions, and the finally clause.

11-01 Exception Handling

Scenario

- 1. DataSetTester.main calls DataSetReader.readFile
- 2. readFile calls readData
- 3. readData calls readValue
- 4. readValue doesn't find expected value and throws BadDataException
- 5. readValue has no handler for exception and terminates
- 6. readData has no handler for exception and terminates
- 7. readFile has no handler for exception and terminates after executing finally clause
- 8. DataSetTester.main has handler for BadDataException; handler prints a message, and user is given another chance to enter file name Big Java by Cay Horstmann

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ch11/data/DataSetReader.java

```
import java.io.File;
import java.io.IOException;
import java.util.Scanner;
/**
    Reads a data set from a file. The file must have the format
    numberOfValues
    value1
    value2
    ...
*/
public class DataSetReader
{
    private double[] data;
```

Continued

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ch11/data/DataSetReader.java (cont.)

```
/**
   Reads a data set.
   Oparam filename the name of the file holding the data
   @return the data in the file
*/
public double[] readFile(String filename) throws IOException
{
   File inFile = new File(filename);
   Scanner in = new Scanner(inFile);
   try
   {
      readData(in);
      return data;
   }
   finally
   {
       in.close();
   }
}
```

Continued

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ch11/data/DataSetReader.java (cont.)

```
/**
   Reads all data
   Oparam in the scanner that scans the data
*/
private void readData(Scanner in) throws BadDataException
{
   if (!in.hasNextInt())
      throw new BadDataException("Length expected");
   int numberOfValues = in.nextInt();
   data = new double[numberOfValues];
   for (int i = 0; i < numberOfValues; i++)</pre>
      readValue(in, i);
   if (in.hasNext())
      throw new BadDataException("End of file expected");
}
```

Continued

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ch11/data/DataSetReader.java (cont.)

}

```
/**
   Reads one data value.
   @param in the scanner that scans the data
   @param i the position of the value to read
*/
private void readValue(Scanner in, int i) throws BadDataException
{
   if (!in.hasNextDouble())
     throw new BadDataException("Data value expected");
   data[i] = in.nextDouble();
}
```

ch11/data/BadDataException.java

```
import java.io.IOException;
/**
   This class reports bad input data.
*/
public class BadDataException extends IOException
{
    public BadDataException() {}
    public BadDataException(String message)
    {
        super(message);
    }
}
```

Why doesn't the DataSetReader.readFile method catch any exceptions?

Answer: It would not be able to do much with them. The DataSetReader class is a reusable class that may be used for systems with different languages and different user interfaces. Thus, it cannot engage in a dialog with the program user.

Suppose the user specifies a file that exists and is empty. Trace the flow of execution.

Answer: DataSetAnalyzer.main calls DataSetReader.readFile, which calls readData. The call in.hasNextInt() returns false, and readData throws a BadDataException. The readFile method doesn't catch it, so it propagates back to main, where it is caught.