

COMP 249:

Object Oriented Programming II

Chapter 10
Java I/O



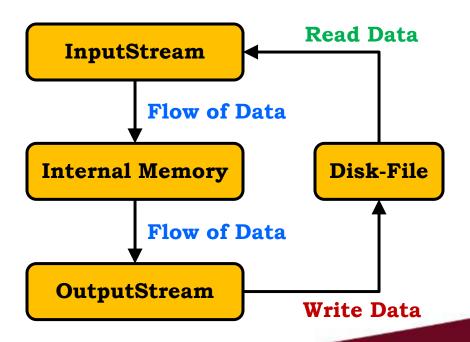
http://odditymall.com/input-output-baby-onsie

Streams

A **stream** is a **sequence of bytes** that flow from a source to a destination

ex: input file, output file, keyboard, screen, ...

The **java.io** package contains <u>many classes</u> that allow us to define various streams





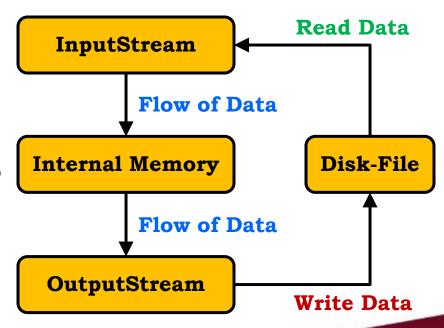
Streams

Input streams flow into your program

- ex: from a keyboard or from a file
 - System.in is an input stream

Output streams flow out of your program

- ex: to a screen or to a file
 - System.out is an output stream





Standard I/O

There are 3 standard I/O streams defined as 3 variables in the **System** class

1. static InputStream

in

- called standard input
- defined by System.in
- usually a keyboard

2. static PrintStream

err

- called standard error
- defined by System.err
- usually, a monitor and in red

3. static PrintStream

out

- called standard output
- defined by System.out
- usually a monitor



RedirectionDemo.java

Can **change** the standard I/O streams

□ System.setIn, System.setOut, System.setErr

ex:



I/O Streams

Input vs Output Streams

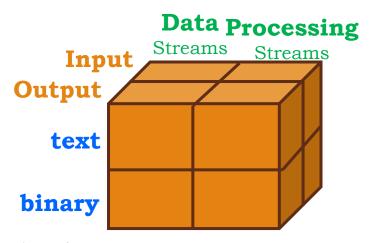
- input: read information
- output: write information

Text vs Binary Files

- text format (characters)
- byte format (binary information)

Data vs Processing Streams

- data stream: acts as either a source or destination
- processing stream: <u>alters</u> or <u>manipulates</u> the basic data in the stream



Text File

Data is represented as a sequence of **characters** (also called ASCII file)

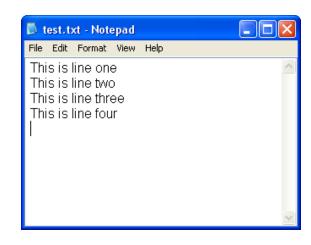
integer 12345 stored as 5 characters (5 bytes)
 '1' '2' '3' '4' '5'

Advantages:

- Human-readable form
- byte format (binary information)

Disadvantages:

- less compact
- less efficient

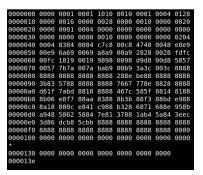


Use classes **Reader** and **Writer** and their subclasses (will look at details in a few slides)

Binary File

Data is represented as a sequence of **bytes**

• *ex:* integer 12345 stored as four bytes (0 0 48 57) (12345 = 48 x 2⁸ + 57)



Advantages:

- more compact and more efficient
- native representation

Disadvantages:

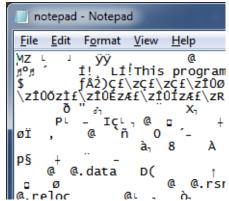
- cannot be read by humans
- data can be stored <u>differently</u> from machine to machine

But: in java, **more portable**

can be read by <u>Java</u> on any machine

Typically used to read and write **sounds** and **images**

Use **InputStream** and **OutputStream** classes and their subclasses (will look at details in a few slides)



Data vs Processing

A <u>data</u> *stream* represents a particular **source** or **destination**

• ex: a string in memory or a file on disk

A <u>processing</u> stream (aka a filtering stream) manipulates the data in the stream

- ex: it may convert the data from one format to another
- ex: it may buffer the stream



Just Checking

The output stream connected to the computer screen is:

- A. System.screen
- B. System.keyboard
- C. System.in
- D. System.out
- E. All of the above



Just Checking

The stream, automatically available to your Java code, is:

- A. System.out
- B. System.in
- C. System.err
- D. All of the above
- E. None of the above



Class Hierarchy for Java.io

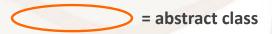
- java.lang.Object
 - java.io.File

binary input streams

- java.io InputStream
 - java.io.FileInputStream
 - java.io.ObjectInputStream
 - java.io.FilterInputStream
 - **...**

binary output streams

- java.io OutputStream
 - java.io.FileOutputStream
 - java.io.ObjectOutputStream
 - java.io.FilterOutputStream
 - -



text input streams

- java.io.Reader
 - java.io.BufferedReader
 - java.io.<u>InputStreamReader</u>
 - java.io.<u>FileReader</u>
 - ...

text output streams

- java.io.Writer
 - java.io.BufferedWriter
 - java.io.<u>OutputStreamWriter</u>
 - java.io.<u>FileWriter</u>
 - java.io.<u>PrintWriter</u> ←
 - **...**

Random Access Files

java.io.<u>RandomAccessFile</u>



PrintWriter Class

- Can write strings, int, floats, Objects, etc. directly to an output file
 - Using print(), println(), printf() methods
 - Same style as System.out.println()
- ☐ Simple and flexible



To write to a file:

1. Construct a **PrintWriter** object



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

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

- If <u>file doesn't exist</u>, an empty file is <u>created</u>
- If <u>file already exists</u>, it is <u>emptied</u> before the new data is written into it



To write to a file:

1. Construct a **PrintWriter** object

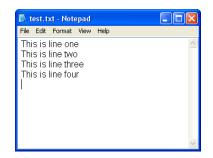


• If you want to <u>append</u> to an existing file:



To write to a file:

2. Use print(), println() or printf() to write into a PrintWriter:



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

3. Close the file when you are done

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

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



Error in the book

Since Java 5, the **PrintWriter** class has a constructor that takes a *file name* as argument.

So instead of (as the book says)



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

You can do (as the slides say)

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



Output Buffering

Many text output streams (Writer class) are **not buffered**

- each write operation causes characters to be
 written immediately to the stream
- very <u>inefficient</u>
- so wrap a <u>BufferedWriter</u> around a Writer object that does not buffer (more efficient)

PrintWriter out = new PrintWriter(new
BufferedWriter(new FileWriter("myFile.out")));



Exceptions

Exceptions when writing to a Text File

- When a text file is opened, a <u>FileNotFoundException</u> can be <u>thrown</u>
 - In this context it means that the file could not be created
 - This type of exception can also be thrown when a program attempts to open a file for reading and there is no such file
- All exceptions from IO are <u>checked</u>
 - So, the file should be opened inside a try block
 - A <u>catch</u> block should catch and handle the possible exception

Example:

<u>TextFileOutputDemo.java</u> with Try/Catch Block

<u>TextFileOutputDemo2.java</u> with no Try/Catch Block but Throws



TextFileOutputDemo.java

```
PrintWriter outputStream = null; //needs to be declared outside of try
try {
       outputStream = new PrintWriter (new BufferedWriter())
                            new PrintWriter("stuff.txt")));
       System.out.println("Writing to file.");
       outputStream.println("The quick brown fox");
       outputStream.println("jumped over the lazy dog.");
catch(FileNotFoundException e) {
       System.out.println("Error opening the file stuff.txt.");
       System.exit(0);
//finally, must be right after catch
finally {
       if (outputStream != null)
              outputStream.close();
//the close() in PrintWriter does not throw any exception...
System.out.println("End of program.");
```

TextFileOutputDemo2.java

```
public static void main(String[] args) throws
                             FileNotFoundException
   PrintWriter outputStream = null;
   outputStream = new PrintWriter (new
      BufferedWriter(new PrintWriter("stuff.txt")));
   System.out.println("Writing to file.");
   outputStream.println("The quick brown fox");
   outputStream.println("jumped over the lazy dog.");
   outputStream.close();
   System.out.println("End of program.");
```



Writing to a Text File

□ When a program is finished writing to a file, it should **always close the stream** connected to that file

outputStreamName.close();

- ☐ This allows the system to release any resources used to connect the stream to the file
- ☐ If the program does not close the file before the program ends, **Java** will **close it automatically**, but it is safest to close it **explicitly**



Writing to a Text File

- Output streams connected to files are usually buffered
 - Rather than physically writing to the file as soon as possible, the data is saved in a temporary location (buffer)
 - When <u>enough data accumulates</u>, or when the method <u>flush</u> is invoked, the buffered data is written to the file <u>all at once</u>
 - This is <u>more efficient</u>, since <u>physical writes</u> to a file can be slow



Writing to a Text File

- ☐ The method **close** invokes the method **flush**, thus ensuring that all the data is written to the file
 - If a program relies on <u>Java</u> to close the file, and the program <u>terminates abnormally</u>, then any output that was <u>buffered may not</u> get written to the file
 - Also, if a program writes to a file and later reopens it to read from the same file, it will have to be closed first anyway
 - The <u>sooner</u> a file is closed after writing to it, the <u>less likely</u> it is that there will be a problem



throw: What happens?

Use Case	Best Way
Console Output	<pre>new PrintWriter(System.out, true); Pass true to enable auto-flushing when calling println(), printf(), or format().</pre>
Writing to a file	<pre>new PrintWriter(new File("file.txt")); Use try-with-resources (try() {}) to ensure the writer is closed automatically.</pre>
Large file writing	<pre>new PrintWriter(new BufferedWriter(new FileWriter("file.txt"))); Wrapping PrintWriter with BufferedWriter improves performance for large files.</pre>
In memory writing	<pre>new PrintWriter(new StringWriter()); Use StringWriter if you want to capture output in-memory instead of writing to a file.</pre>



- □ **Scanner** is not in java.io (where is it?)
- **Scanner** can be used for reading from the keyboard as well as reading from a text file
- □ Same methods for reading from the keyboard
 - nextBoolean(), nextByte(), nextInt(),
 hasNextLine(), nextFloat(), nextDouble(),
 next(), nextLine()...



Display 10.3 Reading Input from a Text File Using Scanner

```
import java.util.Scanner;
    import java.io.FileInputStream;
    import java.io.FileNotFoundException;
 4
 5
    public class TextFileScannerDemo
 6
 7
        public static void main(String[] args)
 8
           System.out.println("I will read three numbers and a line");
 9
           System.out.println("of text from the file morestuff.txt.");
10
11
12
           Scanner inputStream = null;
13
14
           try
15
                inputStream =
16
17
                   new Scanner(new FileInputStream("morestuff.txt"));
18
```

(continued)

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Display 10.3 Reading Input from a Text File Using Scanner

```
19
           catch(FileNotFoundException e)
20
21
               System.out.println("File morestuff.txt was not found");
22
               System.out.println("or could not be opened.");
23
               System.exit(0);
24
           }
25
               int n1 = inputStream.nextInt();
               int n2 = inputStream.nextInt();
26
27
               int n3 = inputStream.nextInt();
28
29
               inputStream.nextLine(); //To go to the next line
30
31
               String line = inputStream.nextLine();
32
```

(continued)



Display 10.3 Reading Input from a Text File Using Scanner

```
System.out.println("The three numbers read from the file are:");
33
                System.out.println(n1 + ", " + n2 + ", and " + n3);
34
35
36
                System.out.println("The line read from the file is:");
                System.out.println(line);
37
38
                inputStream.close( ):
39
40
41
    File morestuff.txt
                                This file could have been made with a
                                text editor or by another Java
    1 2
    3 4
                                program.
```

Display 10.3 Reading Input from a Text File Using Scanner

```
I will read three numbers and a line of text from the file morestuff.txt.
The three numbers read from the file are:
1, 2, and 3
The line read from the file is:
Eat my shorts.
```



Eat my shorts.

Display 10.3 Reading Input from a Text File Using Scanner

SCREEN OUTPUT

```
I will read three numbers and a line of text from the file morestuff.txt. The three numbers read from the file are: 1, 2, and 3
The line read from the file is: Eat my shorts.
```



- ☐ if you try to read beyond the end of a file, a **NoSuchElementException** will be thrown
- can use hasNext... methods to avoid going beyond EOF
 - hasNextLine(), hasNextInt(), ...



Display 10.4 Checking for the End of a Text File with hasNextLine

```
import java.util.Scanner;
import java.io.FileInputStream;
import java.io.FileNotFoundException;
import java.io.PrintWriter;
import java.io.FileOutputStream;

public class HasNextLineDemo
{
   public static void main(String[] args)
}

Scanner inputStream = null;
PrintWriter outputStream = null;
```

(continued)





Checking for the End of a Text File with hasNextLine Display 10.4

```
13
             try
14
15
                inputStream =
16
                   new Scanner(new FileInputStream("original.txt"));
17
                outputStream = new PrintWriter(
18
                                 new FileOutputStream("numbered.txt"));
19
             }
20
             catch(FileNotFoundException e)
21
22
                System.out.println("Problem opening files.");
23
                System.exit(0);
24
25
             String line = null;
26
             int count = 0;
                                                                           (continued)
```



Display 10.4 Checking for the End of a Text File with hasNextLine

```
while (inputStream.hasNextLine( ))
27
28
             {
29
                 line = inputStream.nextLine( );
30
                 count++;
                 outputStream.println(count + " " + line);
31
32
             }
33
             inputStream.close();
34
             outputStream.close( );
35
36
                                                              (continued)
```

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Display 10.4 Checking for the End of a Text File with hasNextLine

File original.txt

Little Miss Muffet
sat on a tuffet
eating her curves away.
Along came a spider
who sat down beside her
and said "Will you marry me?"

File numbered.txt (after the program is run)

- 1 Little Miss Muffet
- 2 sat on a tuffet
- 3 eating her curves away.
- 4 Along came a spider
- 5 who sat down beside her
- 6 and said "Will you marry me?"



Line Numberer

Read all lines of a file and send them to an output file, preceded by line numbers

input file:

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

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!
```



EOF with hasNextInt

Display 10.5 Checking for the End of a Text File with hasNextInt

```
import java.util.Scanner;
    import java.io.FileInputStream;
    import java.io.FileNotFoundException:
    public class HasNextIntDemo
 6
        public static void main(String[] args)
            Scanner inputStream = null;
9
            try
10
11
                inputStream =
12
                   new Scanner(new FileInputStream("data.txt"));
13
14
            catch(FileNotFoundException e)
15
                System.out.println("File data.txt was not found");
16
                System.out.println("or could not be opened.");
17
                System.exit(0);
18
19
```

(continued)

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EOF with hasNextInt

Display 10.5 Checking for the End of a Text File with hasNextInt

```
20
             int next, sum = 0;
21
             while (inputStream.hasNextInt( ))
22
23
                  next = inputStream.nextInt();
24
                  sum = sum + next:
25
             }
26
             inputStream.close();
             System.out.println("The sum of the numbers is " + sum);
27
28
29
    File data.txt
                                     Reading ends when either the end of the file is
                                     reach or a token that is not an int is reached.
                                     So, the 5 is never read.
       4 hi 5
```

SCREEN OUTPUT

The sum of the numbers is 10

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Just Checking

In Java, when you open a text file you should account for a possible:

- A. FileNotFoundException
- B. FileFullException
- C. FileNotReadyException
- D. All of the above
- E. None of the above



Just Checking

The **scanner** class has a series of methods that checks to see if there is any more **well-formed input** of the appropriate type. These methods are called _____ methods:

- A. nextToken
- B. hasNext
- C. getNext
- D. testNext
- E. None of the above



Class Hierarchy for Java.io

- java.lang.Object
 java.io.File ←
 - **binary** input streams
 - java.io.<u>InputStream</u>
 - java.io.FileInputStream
 - java.io.ObjectInputStream
 - java.io.FilterInputStream
 - ...

binary output streams

- java.io.OutputStream
 - java.io.FileOutputStream
 - java.io.ObjectOutputStream
 - java.io.FilterOutputStream
 - ...

text input streams

- java.io.Reader
 - java.io.<u>BufferedReader</u>
 - java.io.<u>InputStreamReader</u>
 - java.io.<u>FileReader</u>
 - ...

text output streams

- java.io.<u>Writer</u>
 - java.io.<u>BufferedWriter</u>
 - java.io.OutputStreamWriter
 - java.io.<u>FileWriter</u>
 - java.io.PrintWriter
 - **-** ...

Random Access Files

java.io.RandomAccessFile



The File Class

- □ not really an I/O stream
- contains methods to check the properties of a file
 - **ex:** check if a file with a specific name exists, if a file can be written into, ...
- constructor takes a <u>filename</u> (or directory name or URL) as argument
- useful methods:

boolean canRead()

boolean createNewFile()

boolean exists()

File[] listFiles()

boolean <u>renameTo(File</u> dest) ...

boolean canWrite()

boolean delete()

boolean <u>isDirectory()</u>

boolean mkdir()

Example: FileInfo.java



The NIO File Class

- Modern file system interface
- ☐ Part of Java NIO (New I/O) package, introduced in Java 7
- ☐ Provides a **more flexible and efficient** way to handle file and directory operations
- ☐ Designed to be **more powerful** than java.io.File, with better performance, especially for larger files or directories
- useful classes:

Path: Represents a file or directory **path**.

Files: Provides static methods for file and directory operations.

FileSystems: Provides access to file system and its properties.

Paths: Utility class to convert between String and Path objects.

Example: FileInfoNIO.java



The NIO File Class

Key Advantages of java.nio.file (NIO) Over java.io.File:

- Path-based API: Path objects provide a more flexible, modern way to handle file paths, without dealing with strings or file separators manually.
- Better performance: NIO supports <u>non-blocking</u> and <u>asynchronous</u> I/O, which provides better performance for <u>large</u> files or directories.
- **More efficient:** It supports <u>memory-mapped files</u> and <u>lazy</u> reading, so you can handle large files more efficiently without reading them all into memory.
- Advanced file operations: NIO includes built-in support for symbolic links, file attributes, and better directory traversal methods (e.g., Files.walk()).
- Cross-platform: NIO <u>abstracts</u> away OS-specific details like path separators, making it easier to write cross-platform code.

Class Hierarchy for Java.io

- java.lang.Object
 - java.io.File

binary input streams

- java.io.<u>InputStream</u>
 - java.io.FileInputStream
 - java.io.ObjectInputStream
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 - ...

binary output streams

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 - ...

text input streams

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 - java.io.<u>BufferedReader</u>
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 - java.io.<u>FileReader</u> ←
 - •

text output streams

- java.io.<u>Writer</u>
 - java.io.BufferedWriter
 - java.io.OutputStreamWriter
 - java.io.<u>FileWriter</u>
 - java.io.PrintWriter
 - **-** ...

Random Access Files

java.io.<u>RandomAccessFile</u>



Reading a Text File

Before Java 5, we used the class **BufferedReader** to read a text file

- only 2 methods to read input: read() and readLine()
- read():
 - ✓ reads a single character,
 - ✓ returns the next character as an **int** or **-1 at EOF**

BufferedReadTest.java



Reading a Text File

- readLine():
 - ✓ reads a <u>line</u> of character and returns a String
 - ✓ returns **null** when it tries to **read beyond the EOF**
- Unlike Scanner, BufferedReader has no methods to read a number from a text file
 - ✓ So ... you read a string, then converted it to a number



Reading a Text File

BufferedReader (Still used, but with modern alternatives)

- BufferedReader is still widely used for large files, where performance is a priority.
- However, in modern code, <u>BufferedReader</u> is often used in combination with other modern classes or APIs (like <u>Files.lines()</u> or <u>Paths</u>).



Class Hierarchy for Java.io

- java.lang.
 Object
 - java.io.File

binary input streams

- java.io.<u>InputStream</u>
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 - java.io.ObjectInputStream
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 - ...

binary output streams

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 - java.io.FilterOutputStream
 - ...

text input streams

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 - java.io.FileReader
 - ...

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- java.io.<u>Writer</u>
 - java.io.<u>BufferedWriter</u>
 - java.io.OutputStreamWriter
 - java.io.<u>FileWriter</u>
 - java.io.PrintWriter
 - **-** ...

Random Access Files

java.io.RandomAccessFile



Binary Files

- **Binary** files store data in the same format used by computer memory to store the values of variables
 - No conversion needs to be performed when a value is stored or retrieved from a binary file
- ☐ Java binary files, unlike other binary language files, are portable
 - A binary file created by a Java program can be moved from one computer to another
 - These files can then be read by a Java program, but only by a Java program



Binary Files

```
notepad - Notepad
File Edit Format View Help
       f! Lf!This program cannot be run in DOS mode.
       få2)Ç£\zÇ£\zÇ£\zÎ0ØzÆ£\zÎ0ÉzÅ£\zÎ0ÏzÚ£\zÇ£]z3£\zÎ0ßzÓ£
\z100z1f\z10Ez4f\z10Iz4f\zRichCf\z
                                             PE dt- *É[]
    PL - IÇL, @ D
@ ñ O
ØΪ
                                                  .text
                           `.rdata
      @.data
                                          A. pdata
                 @ @.rsrc
                            `ñ @
                                   ò
@.reloc
                                @ Bkp[J
                                          BB[J + \lambda]J^a
       ^àГյ¾
                      % [JÉ +à[Jª vß[JÔ Tà[Já ¿à[Jí
              +à[Ja
                                   ,à[J*
                      à[J +à[Jª
       Yà[J₁
              gÞ[J+
ADVAPI32.dll KERNEL32.dll NTDLL.DLL GDI32.dll USER32.dll
msvcrt.dll COMDLG32.dll SHELL32.dll WINSPOOL.DRV ole32.dll
SHLWAPI.dll COMCTL32.dll OLEAUT32.dll VERSION.dll A; Ät, üE
ÿ±¡± ¹♂€ D‰d$OL - <ÑE3AD‰d$(‰D$ ÿ±D´ H<Øë HL$@E3ÉE3A3Òÿ±$´
A;Ä¢"²- f|$HP¢"nE H<;ú I;Ìţ...|E H<±1ð H<úï LD$@Ÿ±x³
A;Äu«HL$@ÿ±∠³ HL$@ÿ±¬³ ë'H<ÄH‰X⊒H‰h∔H‰p↑L‰H WATAUHfì
I<éI<ðD<êL<áfúv~<Å¿
                     ¢"ÚC =è| ¢"¥C ;±%ï ¢"{B L<Æë ÿ±x³ ë H<\$@H<l
;Çu‰éla èl 3Éè> 30;Ãt)H<Âî ŸÜ² H<-î
    H<Øî ÿ¹ı± ë 3Aé[ÿÿÿff; ¢"Z% D<ÆH<ÓH<Íèø, A;Ä¢"üE
ÿ̃⊥į± ¹♂€ D‰d$OL – <ÑEĴAωd$(‰D$ ÿĽD´ H<ØË HL$@E3ÉE3A3ÒÿĽ$´
A;Ä¢"²- f|$HP¢"nE H<;ú I;Ìţ…|E H<±1ð H<úï LD$@ÿ±x³
A;Äu≪HL$@ÿ⊥¿³ HL$@ÿ⊥¬³ ë'H<ÄH‰X¤H‰h∔H‰p↑L‰H WATAUHfi
I<éI<ðD<êL<áfúv~<¿ -∢
                         \phi_{,,a} + C\phi_{,,p} = f e^{j\phi_{,,a}} + C\phi_{,,a} = -c
```



Read/Write Binary Files

- Use the classes ObjectInputStream and ObjectOutputStream
- Can read/write strings, int, floats, Objects, etc. directly to binary files
 - to read: readInt(), readDouble(), readChar(),
 readBoolean() and readUTF() (to read strings)
 - to write: writeInt(), writeDouble(), writeChar(),
 writeBoolean() and writeUTF() (to write strings)





```
ObjectOutputStream outputStream = null;
try {
  outputStream = new ObjectOutputStream(new FileOutputStream("numbers2.dat"));
  int n;
  do {
        n = keyboard.nextInt();
         outputStream.writeInt(n);
  } while (n >= 0);
} // end of try
catch(IOException e) {
  System.out.println("Problem with output to file numbers2.dat.");
}
finally {
  try { if (outputStream != null)
                  outputStream.close( ); }
  catch(IOException e) {
         System.out.println("Can't seem to close the file...");}
} // end of finally
```

BinaryOutputDemo.java



Checking Binary EOF

- □ All **ObjectInputStream** methods that read from a binary file throw an **EOFException** when trying to read beyond the **end of a file**
 - This can be used to <u>end a loop</u> that reads all the data in a file
- □ Note that **different** file-reading methods check for the **end of a file** in **different ways**
 - Testing for the end of a file in the wrong way can cause a program to go into an <u>infinite loop</u> or <u>terminate abnormally</u>



"Like the **Transporter** on **Star Trek**, it's all about taking **something complicated** and turning it into a **flat sequence** of 1s and 0s, then taking that sequence of 1s and 0s (possibly at another **place**, possibly at another **time**) and **reconstructing** the original complicated "**something**."



- Java allows writing the object's <u>current state</u> to disk
- Just values of instance variables, not methods
- ☐ Also called *object streams*
- ☐ Once **serialized**, the objects can be read again into another program
- ☐ Huge advantage over writing an object in text format by hand...
 - you <u>don't have to break up the object</u> yourself into numbers, strings, imbedded objects, ... to read and write it
 - you just read/write an entire object (even an entire array of objects) in one shot

- The idea that an object can "live" beyond execution of the program that created it is called **persistence**
- Once <u>serialized</u>, the objects can be read again into another program
- Objects are saved in **binary** format,
 - so you use the ObjectInputStream /
 ObjectOutputStream classes
 - not the Reader / Writer classes



- It must implement the Serializable interface
 - more on interfaces later...
- ☐ Use the **ObjectOutputStream** and **ObjectInputStream** classes
- Use the methods:
 - writeObject() to serialize an object
 - readObject() to deserialize an object
 - ✓ you need to use a cast to convert an object to the apt type



Example:

To Serialize

☐ To Deserialize

readObject() returns an Object
reference, so you must cast the result

readObject() can throw a (checked)
ClassNotFoundException so you
must catch it or declare it



- ☐ If the class has instance variables that are references to classes (**composition**)
 - these objects will be serialized too
 - so they <u>must</u> also <u>implement</u> the <u>Serializable</u> interface
- Many classes from the Java class library implement
 <u>Serializable</u>, including the *String* class
- ☐ Why don't all classes implement Serializable ????
- An <u>entire array</u> can be <u>serialized</u> (written/read in <u>one operation</u>)

transient ?



Example: Bank Accounts

- Serialization of a Bank object (array of BankAccount objects)
- ☐ If a file with **serialized** data **exists** (in bank.dat), then it is **loaded**
- Otherwise, the program starts with a new Bank object.
- BankAccount objects are added to Bank.
- ☐ Then the **Bank object** is **saved**.



```
import java.io.*;
public class SerialTester {
    public static void main(String[] args) throws IOException,
                                               ClassNotFoundException{
       Bank myBank;
       File f = new File("bank.dat");
       if (f.exists()) {
               ObjectInputStream in = new ObjectInputStream(
                                         new FileInputStream(f));
               myBank = (Bank) in.readObject();
               in.close();
       else {
               myBank = new Bank();
               myBank.addAccount(new BankAccount(1001, 20000));
               myBank.addAccount(new BankAccount(1015, 10000));
```

Serialtester.java



```
// Deposit some money
BankAccount a = myBank.find(1001);
a.deposit(100);
System.out.println(a.getAccountNumber() + ":" + a.getBalance());
a = myBank.find(1015);
System.out.println(a.getAccountNumber() + ":" + a.getBalance());
ObjectOutputStream out = new ObjectOutputStream(
                          new FileOutputStream(f));
out.writeObject(myBank);
out.close();
```

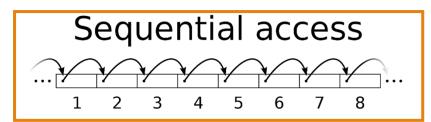
See also: Bank.java

Serialtester.java

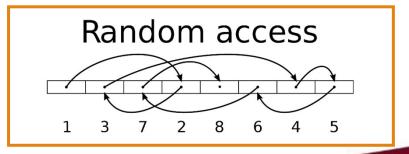


Sequential vs Random

- ☐ Sequential access
 - A file is processed one byte at a time
 - It can be inefficient
- Random access



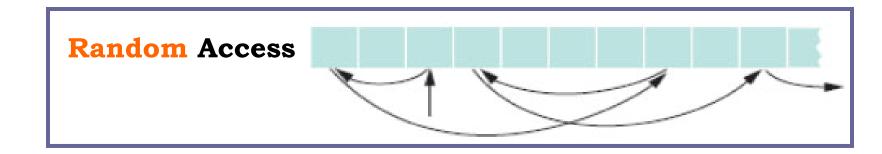
- Allows access at arbitrary locations in the file
- Only binary disk files support random access
 - ✓ **System.in** and **System.out** do not





Random Acces

- ☐ Each file has a special **file pointer** position
 - You can read/write at the position where the pointer is





Class Hierarchy for Java.io

- java.lang.Object
 - java.io.File

binary input streams

- java.io.<u>InputStream</u>
 - java.io.FileInputStream
 - java.io.ObjectInputStream
 - java.io.FilterInputStream
 - ...

binary output streams

- java.io.OutputStream
 - java.io.FileOutputStream
 - java.io.ObjectOutputStream
 - java.io.FilterOutputStream
 - ...

text input streams

- java.io.Reader
 - java.io.BufferedReader
 - java.io.<u>InputStreamReader</u>
 - java.io.FileReader
 - ...

text output streams

- java.io.<u>Writer</u>
 - java.io.<u>BufferedWriter</u>
 - java.io.<u>OutputStreamWriter</u>
 - java.io.<u>FileWriter</u>
 - java.io.PrintWriter
 - **...**

Random Access Files

■ java.io.<u>RandomAccessFile</u> ←



RandomAccesFile Class

- ☐ You can **open a file** either for
 - Reading only ("r")
 - Reading and writing ("rw")

```
RandomAccessFile f = new RandomAcessFile("bank.dat","rw");
```

- ☐ Writes **binary** data
- Read/Write primitives
 - writeDouble()
 - writeInt()
 - writeChar()
 - •

- readDouble()
- readInt()
- readChar()
- •••



RandomAccesFile Class

☐ To move the file pointer to a specific byte

```
f.seek(n);
```

- ☐ Need to know **size of primitives**
- ☐ Other languages (C) requires a **sizeof**() operator
- ☐ Java uses **standardized** sizes

```
Byte.SIZE = 1;
Character.SIZE = 2;
Short.SIZE = 2;
Integer.SIZE = 4;
Long.SIZE = 8;
Float.SIZE = 4;
Double.SIZE = 8;
```

Can use these values to calculate **offsets** into the file



Save a database in a file:

□ ex: age - gender – salary

```
100 43 'M' 19.55
110 83 'F' 85.60
120 25 'M' 143.45
130 37 'M' 29.99
140 11 'F' 5.50
```

access a specific record to change it



```
import java.io.*;
class EmployeeRecord {
    static final int RECORD_SIZE = Integer.SIZE + Byte.SIZE +
                                      Character.SIZE + Double.SIZE;
    static final int ID_OFFSET = 0;
    static final int AGE_OFFSET = Integer.SIZE;
    static final int GENDER_OFFSET = Integer.SIZE + Byte.SIZE;
    static final int SALARY_OFFSET = Integer.SIZE + Byte.SIZE +
                                                      Character.SIZE;
    static int currentID;
    final int ID;
    byte age; char gender; double salary;
public EmployeeRecord(int ID, byte age, char gender, double salary){
```



```
public class RandomAccess {
static int DBSIZE = 10;
  public static void main ( String[] aArguments ) throws IOException
       String dbFile = "db.dat";
       EmployeeRecord[] dataBase = buildDataBase();
       // store the database to disk
       RandomAccessFile rf = new RandomAccessFile(dbFile, "rw");
       for(int i = 0; i < DBSIZE; i++){</pre>
               rf.writeInt(dataBase[i].getID());
               rf.writeByte(dataBase[i].getAge());
               rf.writeChar(dataBase[i].getGender());
               rf.writeDouble(dataBase[i].getSalary());
       rf.close();
```







```
static EmployeeRecord[] buildDataBase(){
    EmployeeRecord[] dataBase = new EmployeeRecord[DBSIZE];

    dataBase[0] = new EmployeeRecord(100, (byte)43, 'M', 19.55);
    dataBase[1] = new EmployeeRecord(110, (byte)83, 'F', 85.60);
    ...
    dataBase[9] = new EmployeeRecord(190, (byte)16, 'M', 13.56);
    return dataBase;
}
```

