



OBJECTS AND CLASSES

Recall: Object-Oriented Programming

- Basic idea:
 - The real world is made up of **objects**
 - E.g. People, cars, buildings, politicians, countries, tomatoes
 - These objects have **attributes**
 - E.g. a person has a name, an age, a temperature, a heart rate, etc...
 - E.g. A car has a make, a model, a color, some fuel, etc...
 - These objects each have the ability to perform certain **actions/behaviors**, which may affect themselves and/or other objects
 - E.g. A person can grow, a person can earn money, a person can marry another person, a person can drive a car, a person can eat a tomato etc...
 - E.g. A politician can give a speech, a politician may become the president of a country, a politician may be indicted for corruption etc...
 - In **object-oriented programming**, we consider a program to similarly consist of objects that can act alone or interact with each other

Recall: Objects and Classes

- In object-oriented programming, an **object** represents a real-world object or abstraction
 - E.g. a vehicle, a student, a bank account
- Objects of the same kind are said to belong to the same **class** – they have the same **data type**
- A **class** is a plan or blueprint for creating objects of a particular type. It specifies:
 - *Data or attributes* that objects of the class have
 - Also *methods or actions* that these objects can take

Recall: Objects and Classes

- An object is an instance of a class
- Objects of the same class have the same **attributes** and **behaviors/actions** but are not necessarily identical
 - E.g. All people have a name and an age, but not the **same** name and age. All people can grow and eat
 - We can define a Person class
 - Attributes (data): name, age
 - Behavior/actions (methods): grow, eat
 - We can create some objects or instances of the Person class
 - Person 1: name: Ama, age: 5
 - Person 2: name: Kofi, age: 33
 - Person 3: name: Ebo, age: 12

Java Built-In Classes

- We have already used some pre-defined or built-in classes:

- String class

- Data: A sequence of characters
- Methods: `length()`, `charAt()`, `substring()`, `equals()`, etc...
- Example: creating String objects:

```
String name1 = "Ayorkor";  
String name2 = new String("Joe");
```

- Example: invoking the behaviors/actions (methods) of String objects:

```
int len = name1.length();  
char firstLetter = name1.charAt(0);
```

The keyword `new` is used to create / instantiate objects of a class

- Scanner class

- Data:
- Methods: `next()`, `nextInt()`, `nextDouble()`, etc...
- Example: creating a Scanner object:

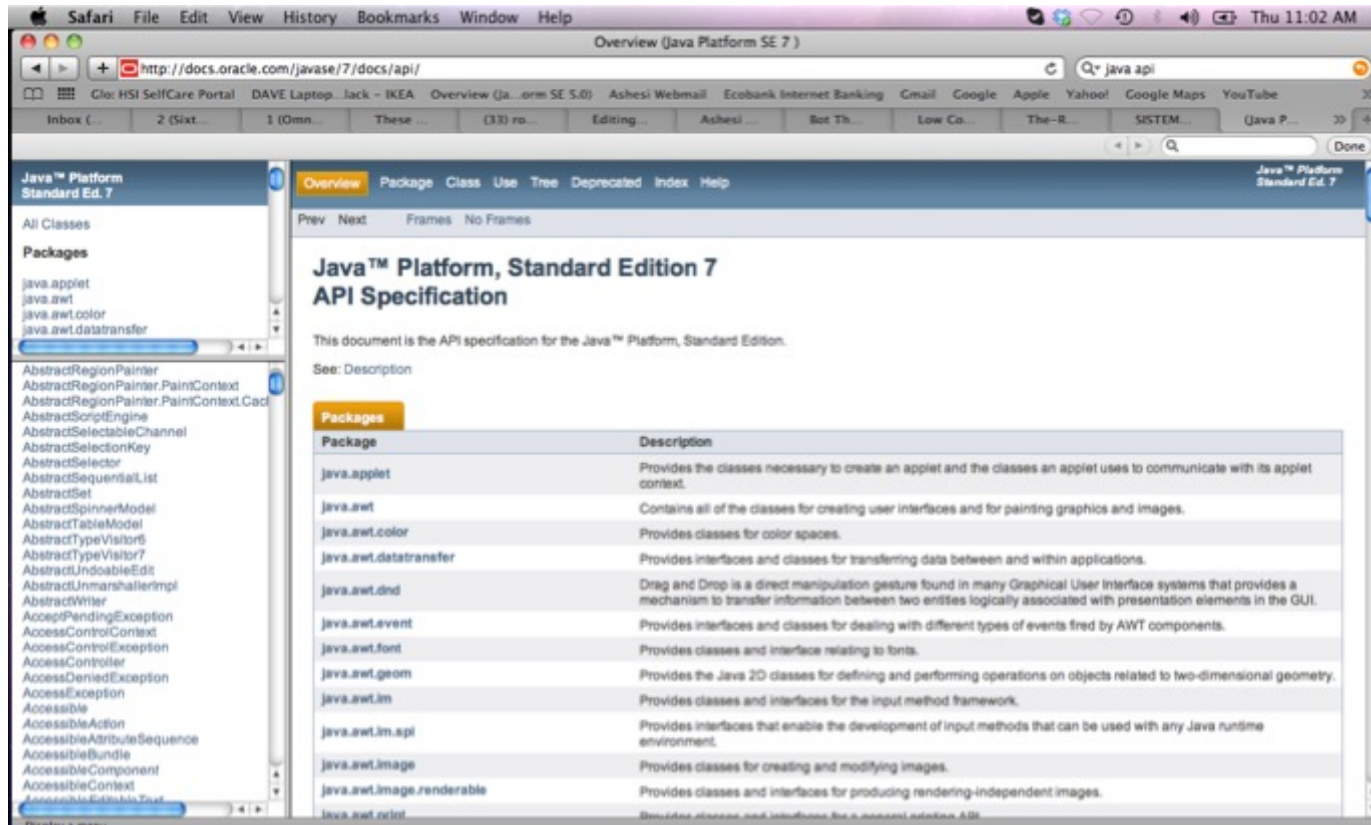
```
Scanner input = new Scanner(System.in);
```

- Example: invoking the behaviors/actions (methods) of a Scanner object:

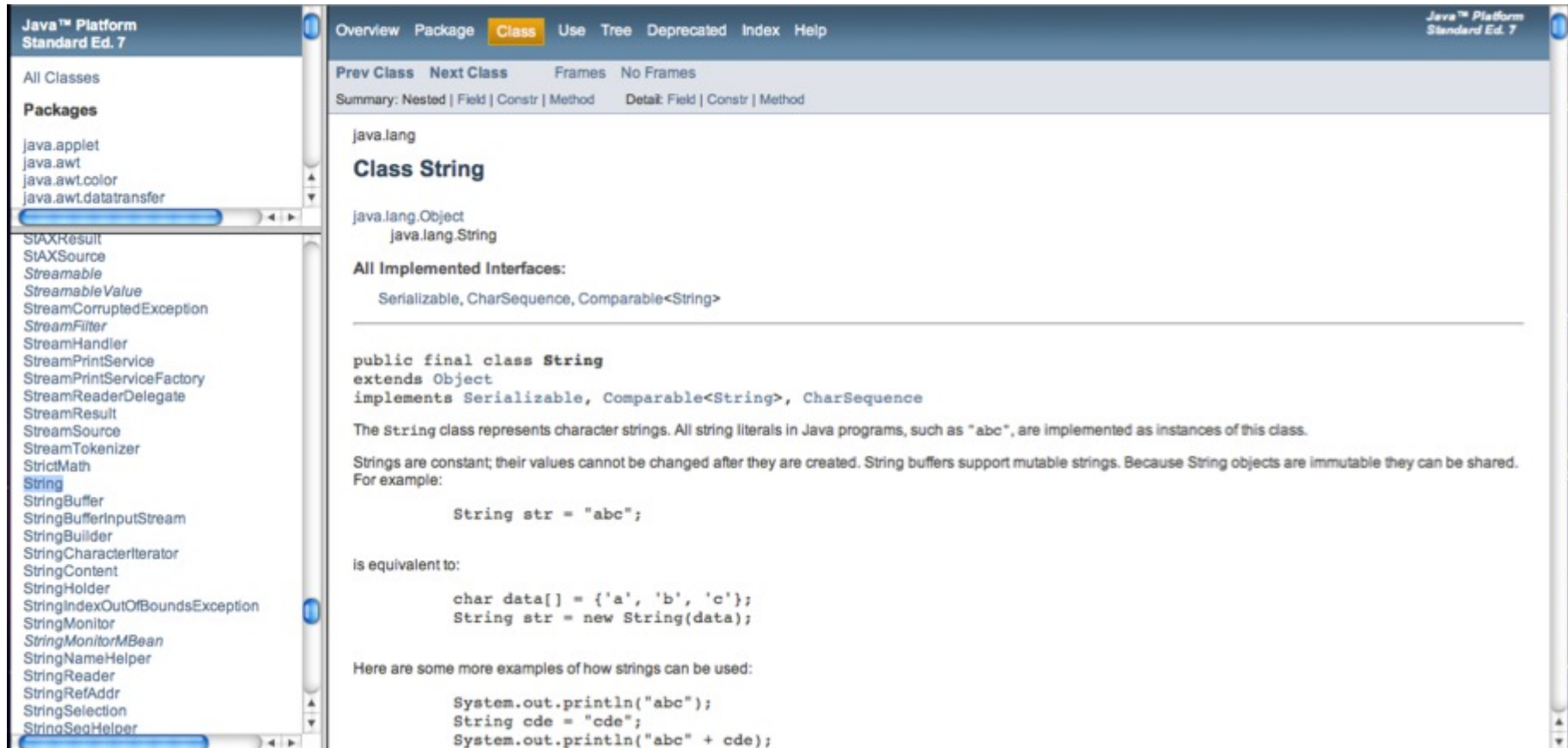
```
double number = input.nextDouble();
```

Java Built-In Classes

- Documentation of all Java built-in classes: Java API Specification:
<http://docs.oracle.com/javase/7/docs/api/>
 - Note: API stands for “Application Programming Interface”



Java API: String class



The screenshot shows the Java Platform Standard Ed. 7 API documentation for the `String` class. The left sidebar lists various packages and classes, with `String` highlighted. The main content area displays the class hierarchy, implemented interfaces, and source code examples.

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Overview Package **Class** Use Tree Deprecated Index Help

Prev Class Next Class Frames No Frames

Summary: Nested | Field | Constr | Method Detail: Field | Constr | Method

java.lang

Class String

java.lang.Object
java.lang.String

All Implemented Interfaces:

Serializable, CharSequence, Comparable<String>

```
public final class String
extends Object
implements Serializable, Comparable<String>, CharSequence
```

The `String` class represents character strings. All string literals in Java programs, such as `"abc"`, are implemented as instances of this class.

Strings are constant; their values cannot be changed after they are created. String buffers support mutable strings. Because `String` objects are immutable they can be shared.

For example:

```
String str = "abc";
```

is equivalent to:

```
char data[] = {'a', 'b', 'c'};
String str = new String(data);
```

Here are some more examples of how strings can be used:

```
System.out.println("abc");
String cde = "cde";
System.out.println("abc" + cde);
```


Java API: String class

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All Classes

Packages

java.applet
java.awt
java.awt.color
java.awt.datatransfer

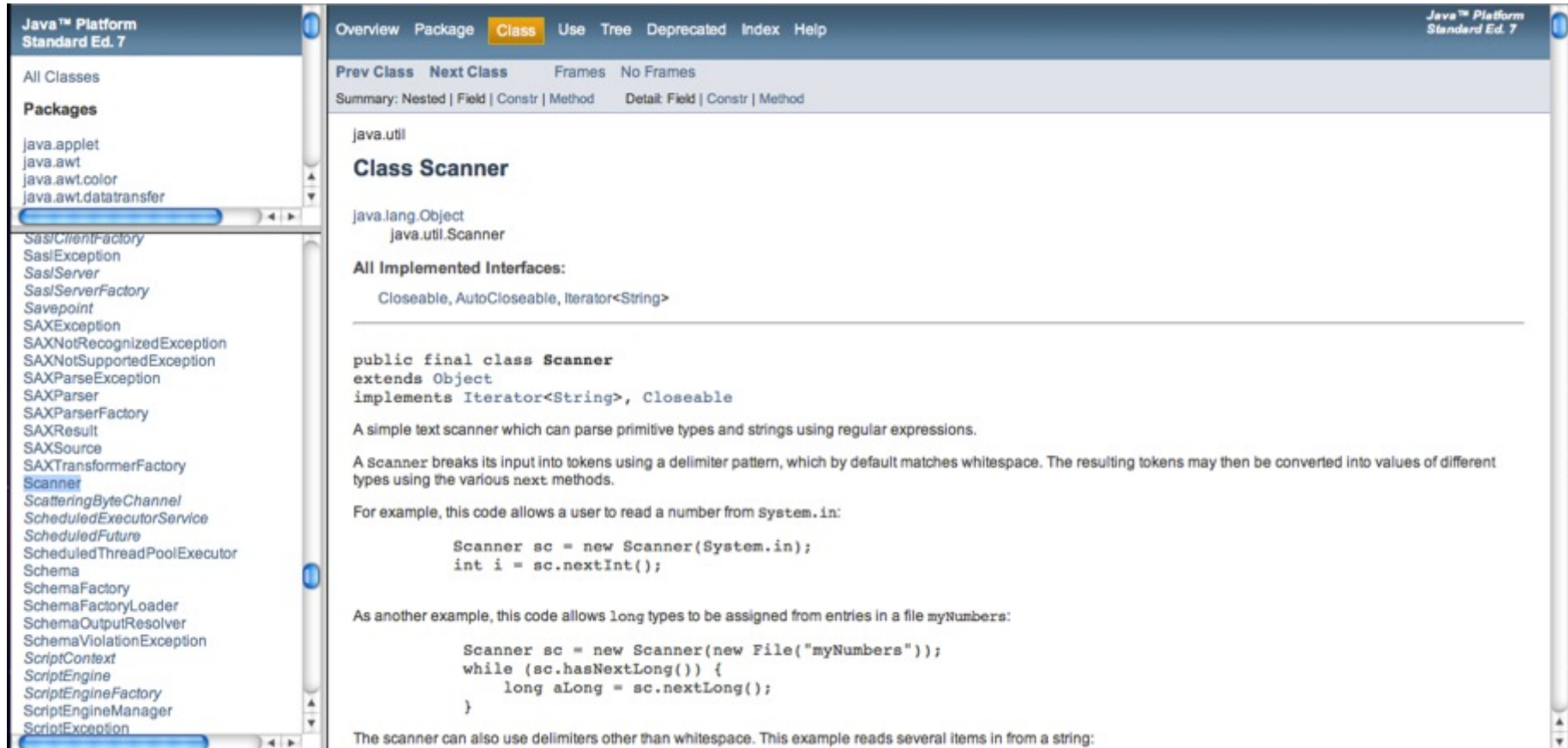
STAXResult
STAXSource
Streamable
Streamable Value
StreamCorruptedException
StreamFilter
StreamHandler
StreamPrintService
StreamPrintServiceFactory
StreamReaderDelegate
StreamResult
StreamSource
StreamTokenizer
StrictMath
String
StringBuffer
StringBufferInputStream
StringBuilder
StringCharacterIterator
StringContent
StringHolder
StringIndexOutOfBoundsException
StringMonitor
StringMonitorMBean
StringNameHelper
StringReader
StringRefAddr
StringSelection
StringSeqHelper

Method Summary

Methods

Modifier and Type	Method and Description
char	charAt (int index) Returns the char value at the specified index.
int	codePointAt (int index) Returns the character (Unicode code point) at the specified index.
int	codePointBefore (int index) Returns the character (Unicode code point) before the specified index.
int	codePointCount (int beginIndex, int endIndex) Returns the number of Unicode code points in the specified text range of this String.
int	compareTo (String anotherString) Compares two strings lexicographically.
int	compareToIgnoreCase (String str) Compares two strings lexicographically, ignoring case differences.
String	concat (String str) Concatenates the specified string to the end of this string.
boolean	contains (CharSequence s) Returns true if and only if this string contains the specified sequence of char values.
boolean	contentEquals (CharSequence cs) Compares this string to the specified CharSequence.
boolean	contentEquals (StringBuffer sb) Compares this string to the specified StringBuffer.
static String	copyValueOf (char[] data) Returns a String that represents the character sequence in the array specified.
static String	copyValueOf (char[] data, int offset, int count) Returns a String that represents the character sequence in the array specified.
boolean	endsWith (String suffix) Tests if this string ends with the specified suffix.
boolean	equals (Object anObject)

Java API: Scanner class



The screenshot shows the Java Platform Standard Ed. 7 API documentation for the `Scanner` class. The left sidebar lists various packages and classes, with `Scanner` selected. The main content area displays the class hierarchy, implemented interfaces, and the class definition.

Overview **Package** **Class** **Use** **Tree** **Deprecated** **Index** **Help**

Prev Class Next Class Frames No Frames

Summary: Nested | Field | Constr | Method Detail: Field | Constr | Method

java.util

Class Scanner

java.lang.Object
java.util.Scanner

All Implemented Interfaces:

Closeable, AutoCloseable, Iterator<String>

```
public final class Scanner
extends Object
implements Iterator<String>, Closeable
```

A simple text scanner which can parse primitive types and strings using regular expressions.

A scanner breaks its input into tokens using a delimiter pattern, which by default matches whitespace. The resulting tokens may then be converted into values of different types using the various next methods.

For example, this code allows a user to read a number from `System.in`:

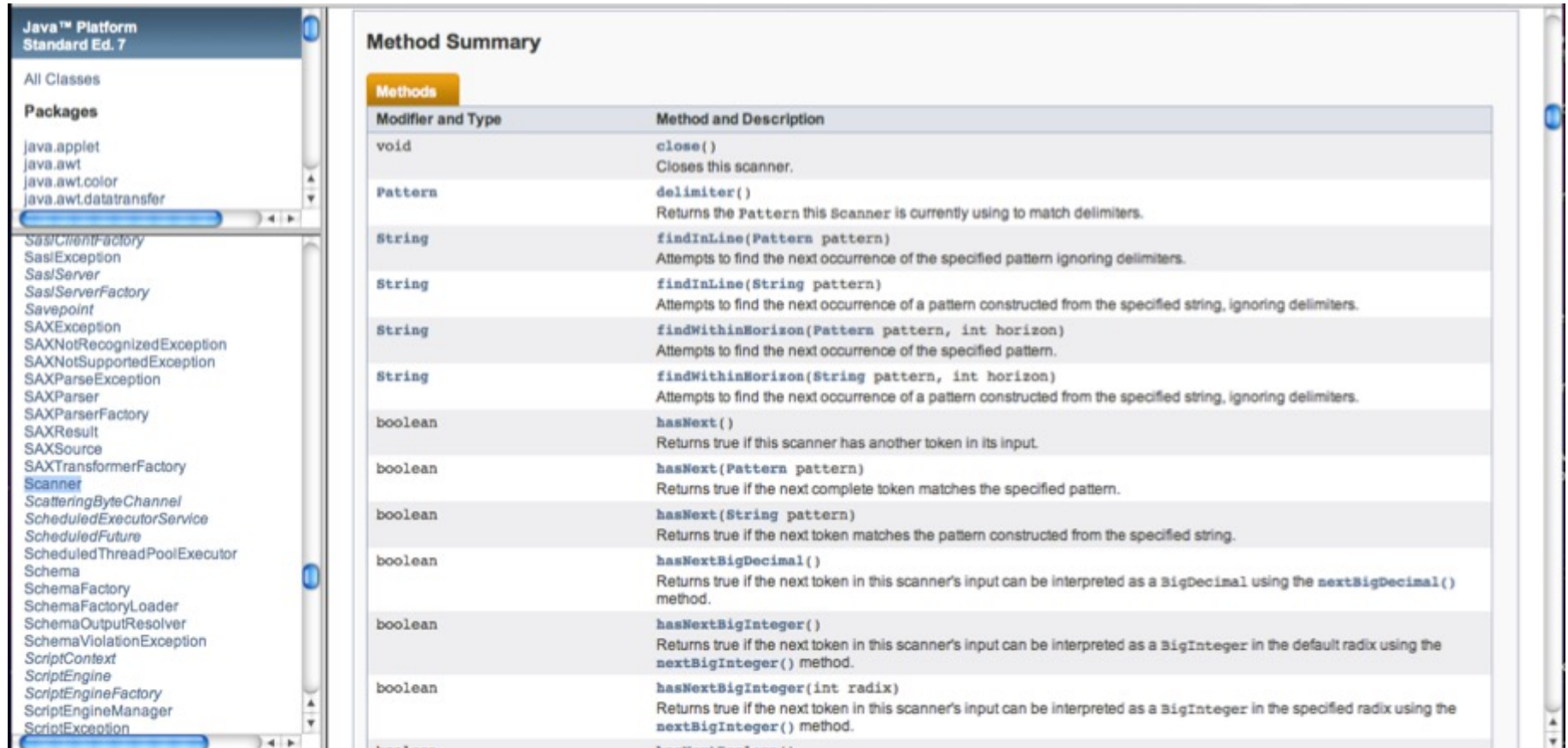
```
Scanner sc = new Scanner(System.in);
int i = sc.nextInt();
```

As another example, this code allows long types to be assigned from entries in a file `myNumbers`:

```
Scanner sc = new Scanner(new File("myNumbers"));
while (sc.hasNextLong()) {
    long aLong = sc.nextLong();
}
```

The scanner can also use delimiters other than whitespace. This example reads several items in from a string:

Java API: Scanner Class



Java™ Platform Standard Ed. 7

Packages

- java.applet
- java.awt
- java.awt.color
- java.awt.datatransfer
- java.io
- java.lang
- java.lang.annotation
- java.lang.invoke
- java.lang.management
- java.lang.module
- java.lang.ref
- java.lang.reflect
- java.lang.runtime
- java.lang.security
- java.lang.string
- java.lang.system
- java.lang.thread
- java.lang.type
- java.lang.util
- java.net
- java.nio
- java.rmi
- java.security
- java.security.cert
- java.security.interfaces
- java.sql
- java.time
- java.time.chronology
- java.time.format
- java.time.temporal
- java.util
- java.util.concurrent
- java.util.concurrent.atomic
- java.util.concurrent.locks
- java.util.logging
- java.util.regex
- java.util.zip

Method Summary

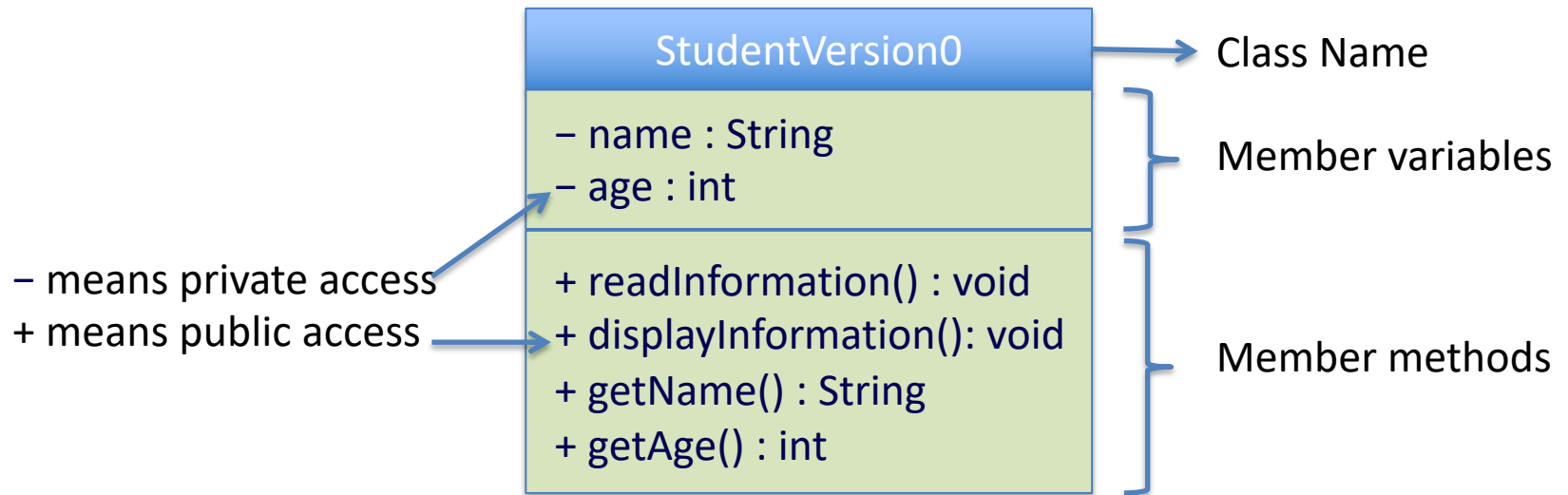
Modifier and Type	Method and Description
void	close() Closes this scanner.
Pattern	delimiter() Returns the Pattern this Scanner is currently using to match delimiters.
String	findInLine(Pattern pattern) Attempts to find the next occurrence of the specified pattern ignoring delimiters.
String	findInLine(String pattern) Attempts to find the next occurrence of a pattern constructed from the specified string, ignoring delimiters.
String	findWithinHorizon(Pattern pattern, int horizon) Attempts to find the next occurrence of the specified pattern.
String	findWithinHorizon(String pattern, int horizon) Attempts to find the next occurrence of a pattern constructed from the specified string, ignoring delimiters.
boolean	hasNext() Returns true if this scanner has another token in its input.
boolean	hasNext(Pattern pattern) Returns true if the next complete token matches the specified pattern.
boolean	hasNext(String pattern) Returns true if the next token matches the pattern constructed from the specified string.
boolean	hasNextBigDecimal() Returns true if the next token in this scanner's input can be interpreted as a BigDecimal using the nextBigDecimal() method.
boolean	hasNextBigInteger() Returns true if the next token in this scanner's input can be interpreted as a BigInteger in the default radix using the nextBigInteger() method.
boolean	hasNextBigInteger(int radix) Returns true if the next token in this scanner's input can be interpreted as a BigInteger in the specified radix using the nextBigInteger() method.
boolean	hasNextBoolean() Returns true if the next token in this scanner's input can be interpreted as a boolean using the nextBoolean() method.

Designing and Implementing Classes

- We can create our own classes!
- We can create a simple class to represent a student.
The code is in **StudentVersion0.java**
 - Member variables:
 - String name, int age
 - Methods:
 - readInformation(), displayInformation(), getName(), getAge()
- A test program (a main method) is in **TestStudentVersion0.java**
- We could also have put the main method in the same class. See **StudentVersion0b.java**

UML Diagrams

- UML Diagrams represent the design of classes
- A UML diagram for our StudentVersion0 class:



- See [StudentVersion0.java](#) for the implementation of the class, and [TestStudentVersion0.java](#) for a test program