Implementing Web Intelligence: An Analyzer Framework

NetDB

CS, NTHU,

Fall, 2013

Now you know how a recommendation engine work

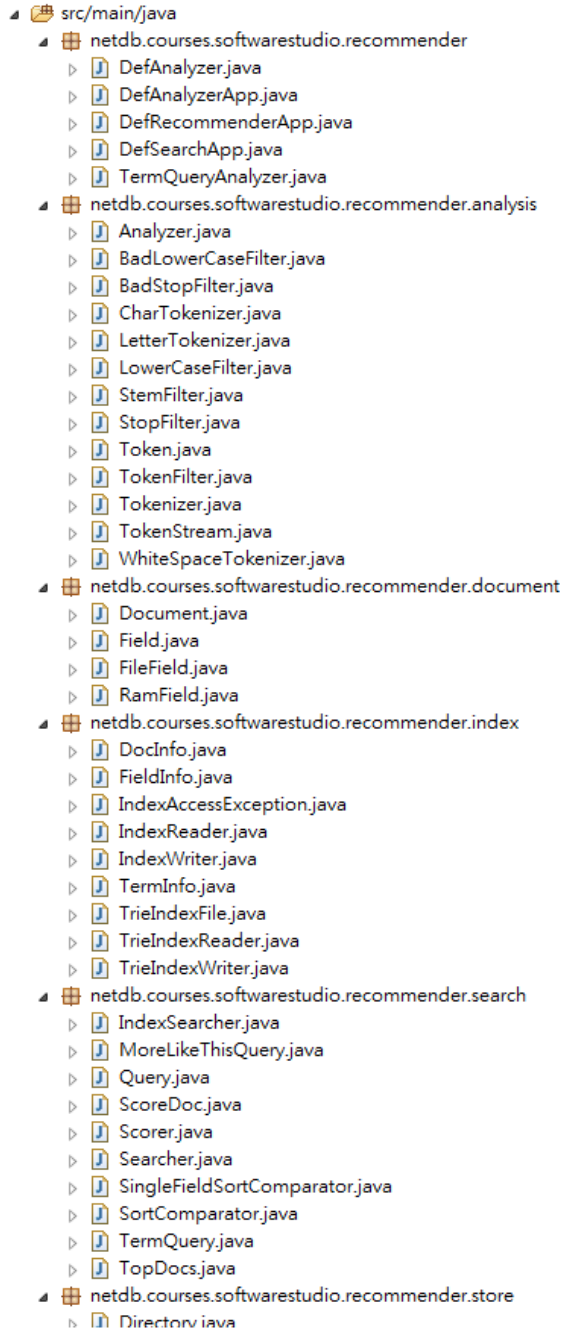
- Strategy
  - User-based
  - Content-based
- How about building up a content-based recommendation engine by yourself!

Our Tiny Recommendation Engine

- To do recommendation, we need to
  1. Analyze(Parse) a set of documents based on "terms"
  2. Store the analyzed statistics about the "terms"
  3. Given a document and an integer *k*, searches and returns the *k* most similar documents in the store
- You can reuse this engine in
  - Your final project
  - Or even future projects

More Detailed Steps

1. Create a **Document** class that is general enough to contain the searchable content
   - E.g., the content of a Definition object, a WiKi page, etc.
2. Implement an **Analyzer** that extracts the "terms" from a Document object (doc for short)
3. An **IndexWriter** that calculates the statistics about the terms/docs (e.g., term frequencies normalized by doc norms) and stores them into an **Index**
   - Basically, an index is a map from the terms to document statistics and IDs
4. An **IndexSearcher** that to find the IDs of the most similar docs to a given doc from index
   - Calculate cosine similarity by looking up the index term-by-term


src/main/java
netdb.courses.softwarestudio.recommender
DefAnalyzer.java
DefAnalyzerApp.java
DefRecommenderApp.java
DefSearchApp.java
TermQueryAnalyzer.java
netdb.courses.softwarestudio.recommender.analysis
Analyzer.java
BadLowerCaseFilter.java
BadStopFilter.java
CharTokenizer.java
LetterTokenizer.java
LowerCaseFilter.java
StemFilter.java
StopFilter.java
Token.java
TokenFilter.java
Tokenizer.java
TokenStream.java
WhiteSpaceTokenizer.java
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Document.java
Field.java
FileField.java
RamField.java
netdb.courses.softwarestudio.recommender.index
DocInfo.java
FieldInfo.java
IndexAccessException.java
IndexReader.java
IndexWriter.java
TermInfo.java
TrieIndexFile.java
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Scorer.java
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SingleFieldSortComparator.java
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TopDocs.java
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Directory.java

Today's Topic

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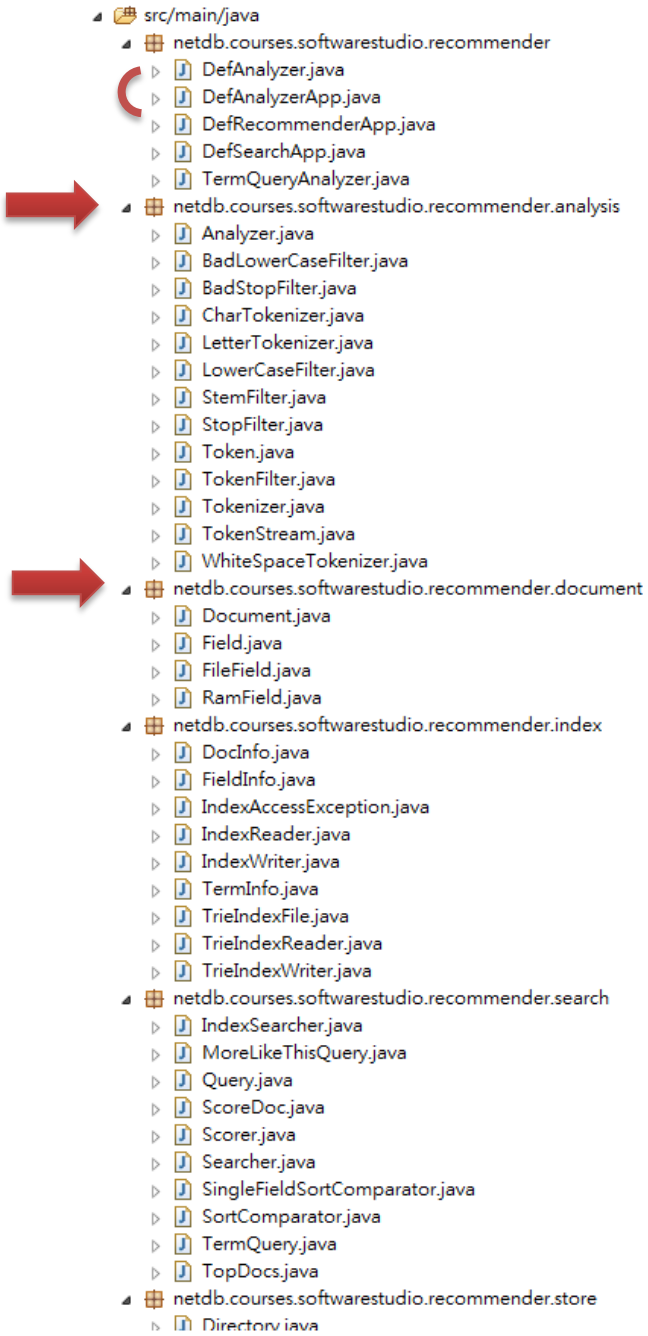
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Code Time

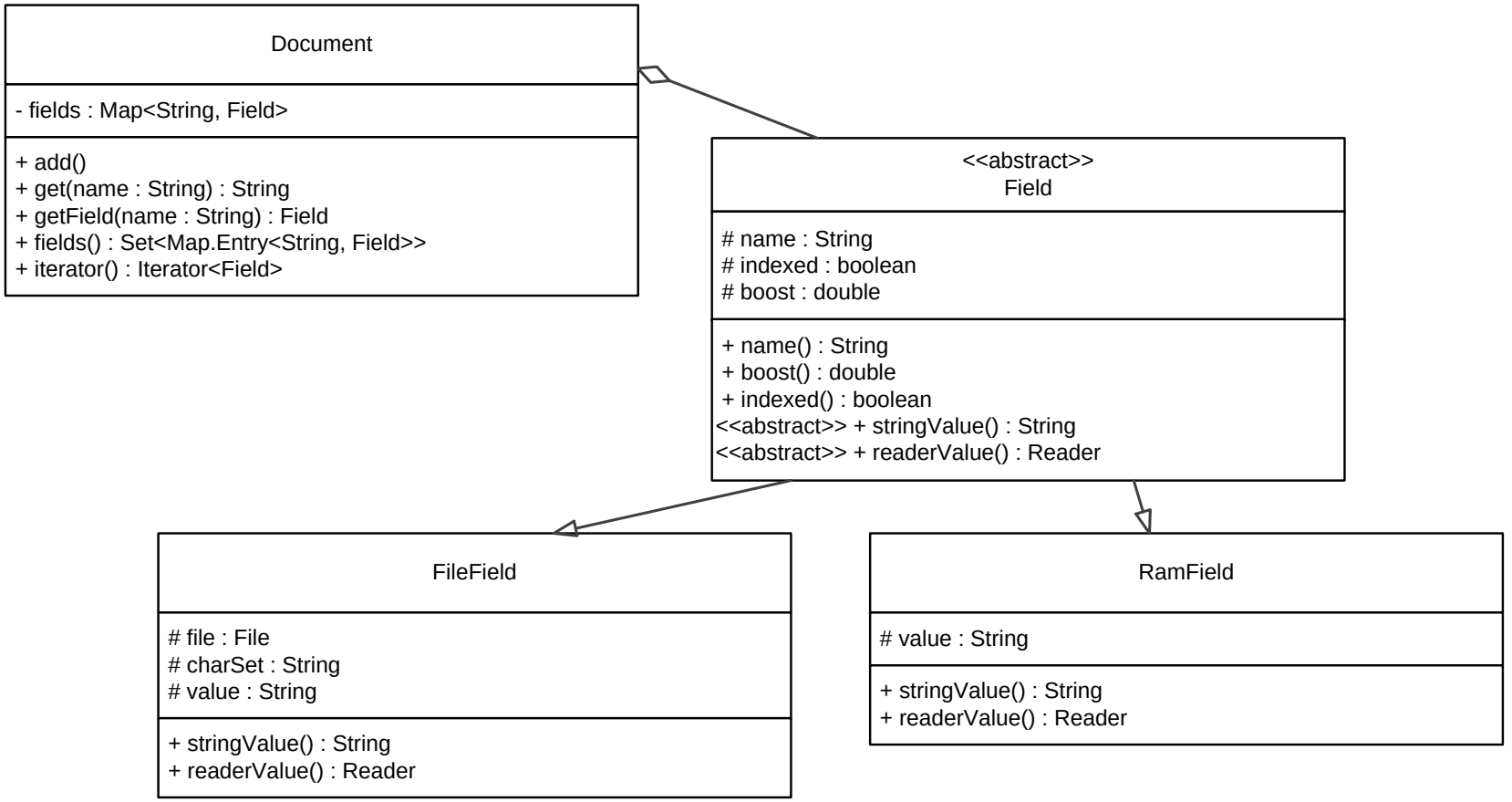
- Checkout the "recommender" project from the repository
- Packages:
  - `document` (for step 1)
  - `analysis` (for step 2)
  - `index` and `store` (for step 3)
  - `search` (for step 4)

Document (1/2)

- A class that general enough to contain the searchable content
- Can we represent a document as a String object?
- Yes, but
  - Sometimes, some fields (e.g., title) of a document is more important than others (e.g., description)
    - We needs a way to boost terms coming from such fields when calculating the cosine similarity
  - You may not be able to load the whole text into memory a time
    - E.g., when text is loaded from a (large) file, or is transmitted from a remote machine

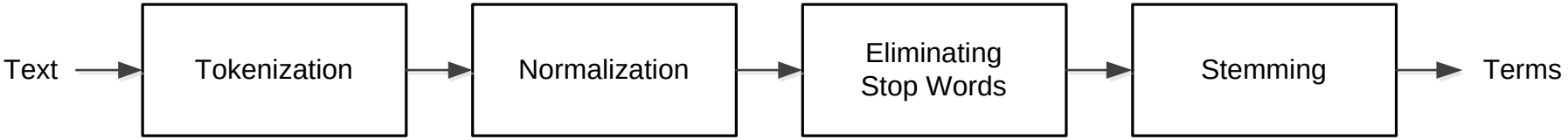
Document (2/2)

- A more rigorous design:



The Text Analyzer Framework

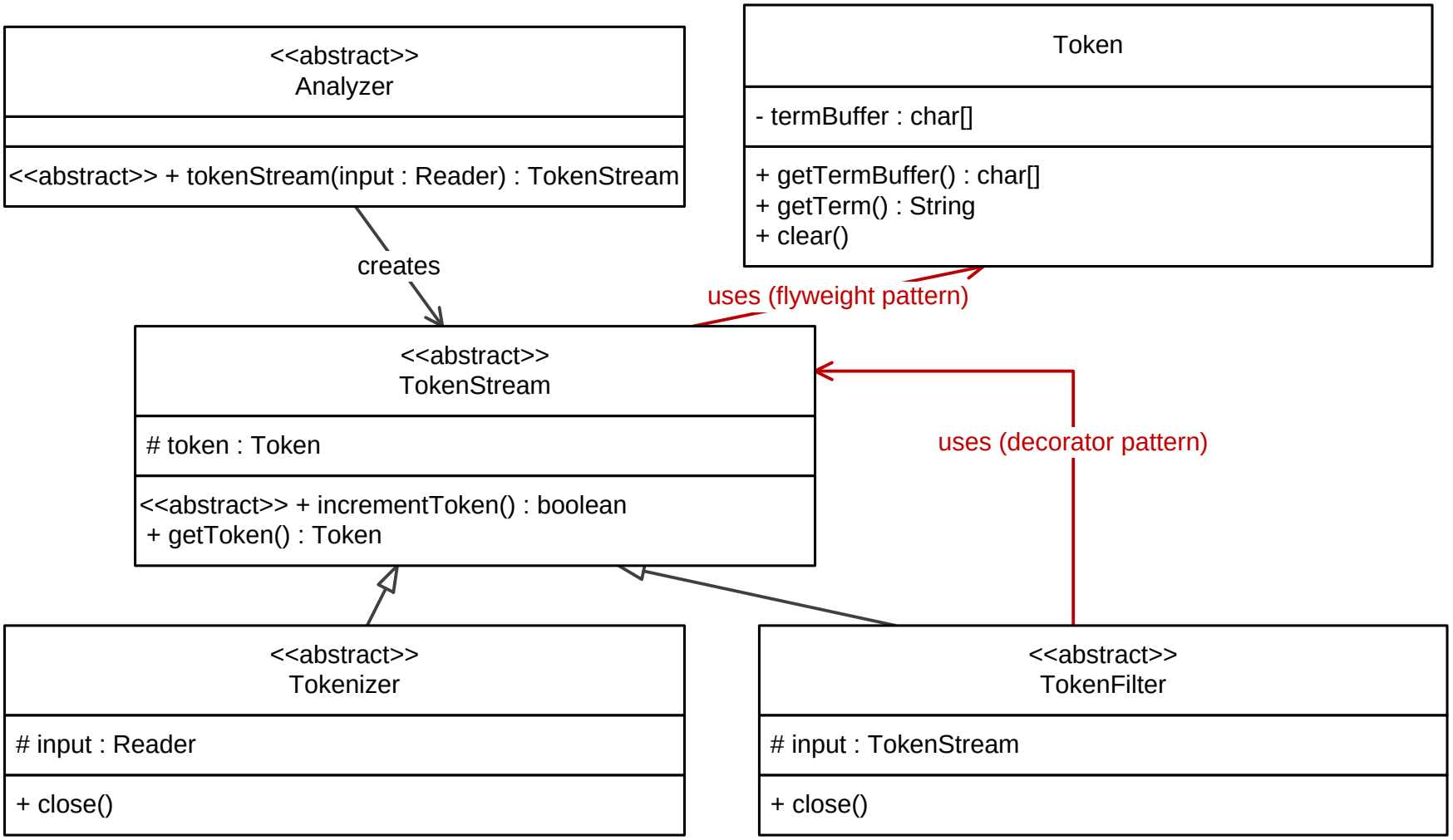
- Input: A text
- Output: terms
- Steps:



Why not String?

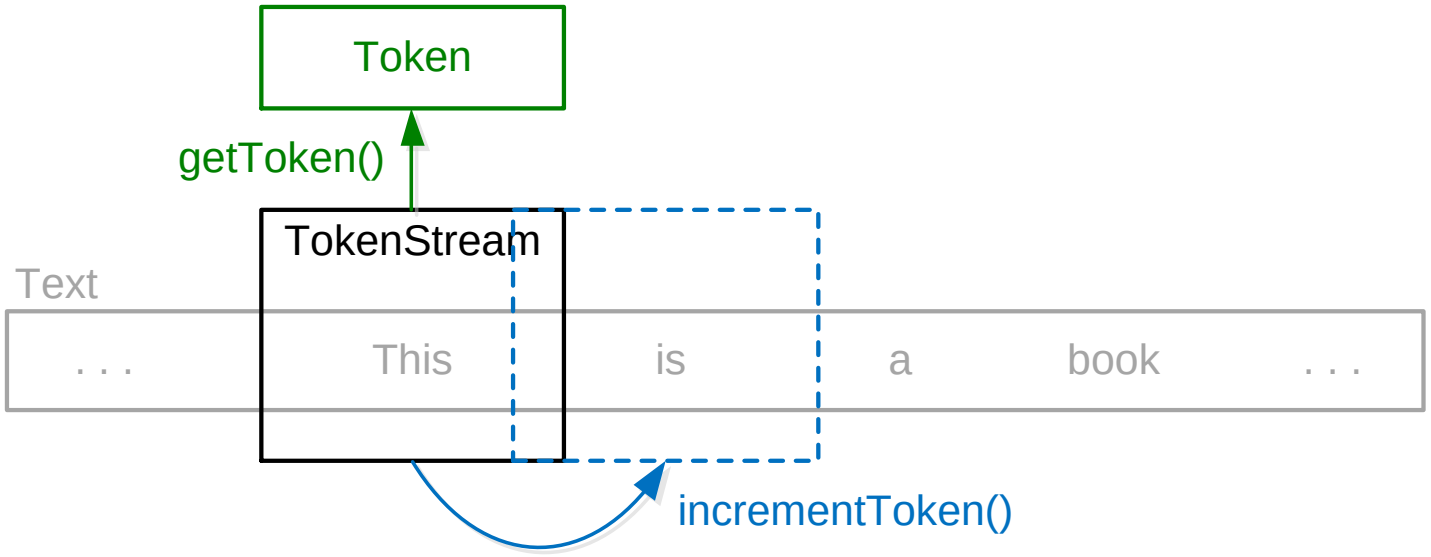
- Recall that String provides a method `split()`?
  - We can break a string `s` in to tokens by `s.split(" ")`
  - More complex split regex can be instructed
- Why do we need to implement an analyzer framework ourselves?
- Again, you may not be able to load the whole text into memory a time
  - E.g., when text is loaded from a (large) file, or is transmitted from a remote machine
- We need a text analyzer framework reads the text (from the beginning to the end) only **once** to parse all the tokens

UML


<<abstract>>
Analyzer
<<abstract>> + tokenStream(input : Reader) : TokenStream
Token
- termBuffer : char[]
+ getTermBuffer() : char[]
+ getTerm() : String
+ clear()
creates
uses (flyweight pattern)
<<abstract>>
TokenStream
token : Token
<<abstract>> + incrementToken() : boolean
+ getToken() : Token
uses (decorator pattern)
<<abstract>>
Tokenizer
input : Reader
+ close()
<<abstract>>
TokenFilter
input : TokenStream
+ close()

Core Classes - TokenStream

- Iterates tokens (likes a java.lang.Iterator)
- Call **incrementToken()** (like next()) to move to the next term
- When **getToken()** is called, returns an Token

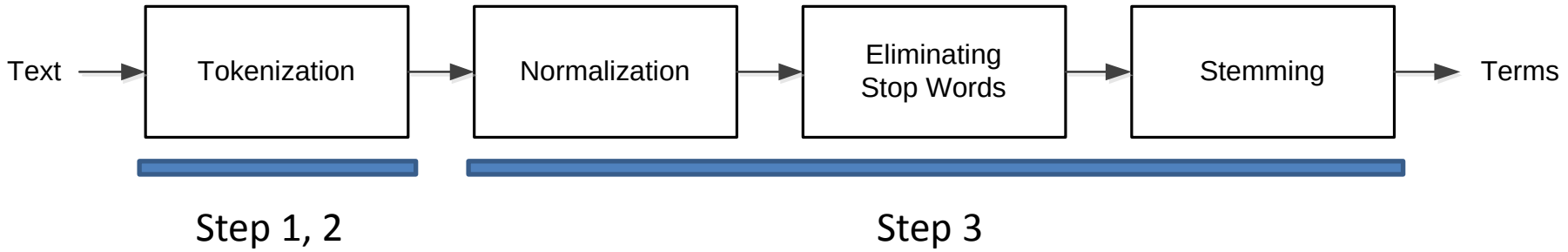


The Flyweight Pattern

- We know that a text can be large
  - There can be many, many tokens
  - This implies that we will create many, many Token instances
- It costs a lot of memory!
- **Flyweight pattern**
  - Prevents excessive object creations by reusing the same "flyweight" objects
- TokenStream **reuses the same Token instance** to carry different terms during the iteration
  - The getToken() always returns the same instance
  - A care must be taken not to create new objects inside this token instance

Core Classes - TokenStream

- Each time when **incrementToken()** is called:
  1. Reads the beginning chars of the (remaining) text
  2. Assembles chars as a term
  3. Post-processes the term (e.g., lowers case, eliminates it if it is a stop word, performs stemming, etc.). If the term is eliminated, repeats steps 1-3; otherwise, stops reading



Core Classes

- Token
  - Carries the current term
- Tokenizer
  - A TokenStream that performs the steps 1 and 2
  - Works at **char** level
- TokenFilter
  - A TokenStream that performs step 3
  - Works at **word** level

We can implement different Tokenizers and TokenFilters

- Tokenizer
  - E.g. WhiteSpaceTokenizer, LetterTokenizer, etc.
- TokenFilter
  - E.g. LowerCaseTokenFilter, StopFilter, StemFilter, etc.
- The Tokenizers and TokenFilters can be combined arbitrarily
- Remember something we have learnt?

The Decorator Pattern

- Accepts a reference to the preceding TokenStream implementation as the constructor of the succeeding class

```
1. public class StopFilter ... {
2.    public StopFilter(TokenStream input, ...) {
3.       this.input = input;
4.       ...
5.    }
6. }
```

- When create the instance, chain the Tokenizers and TokenFilters you want to use in a right order

```
new StemFilter(
       new StopFilter(
       new LowerCaseFilter(
       new LetterTokenizer(input))));
```

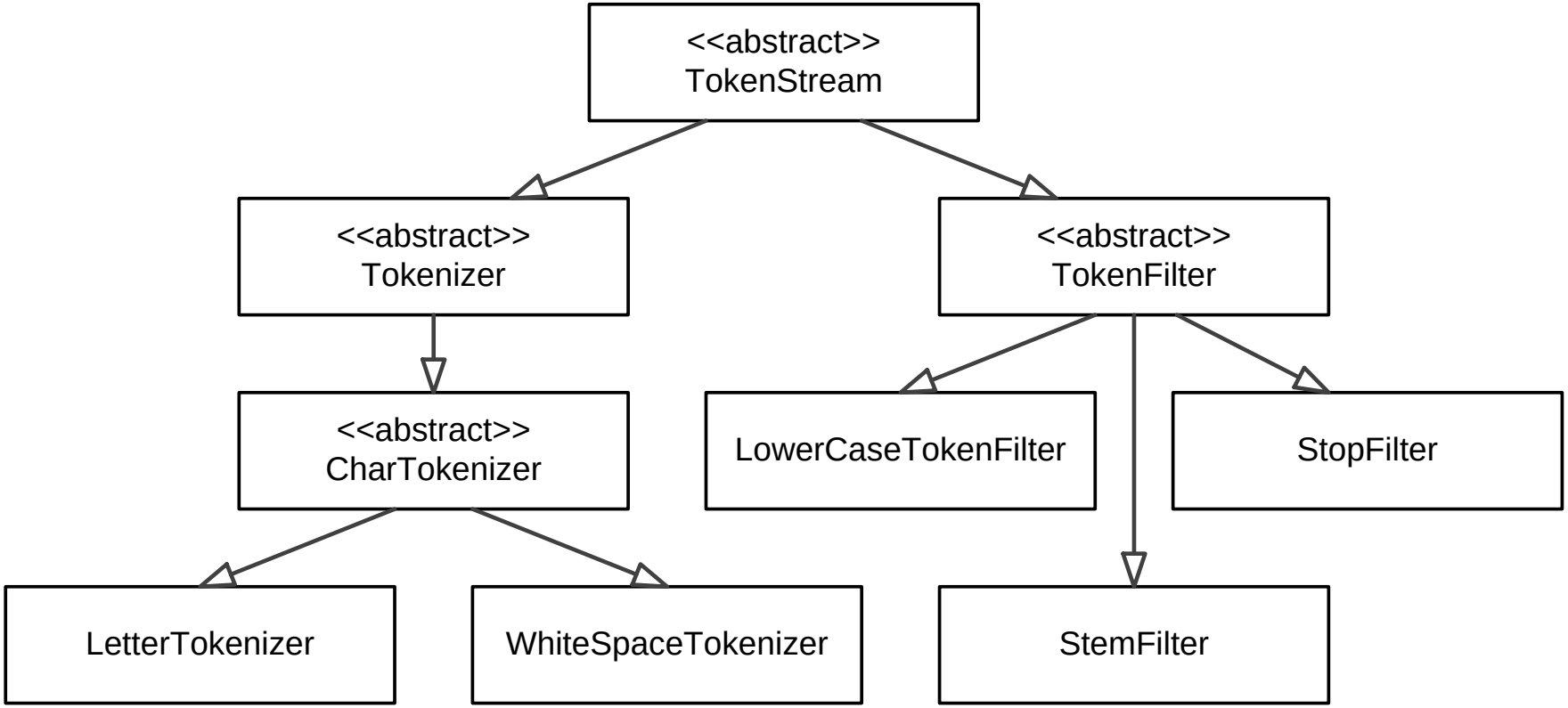
The Decorator Pattern

- When **incrementToken()** is called, every incrementToken() of preceding TokenStream is called. Every TokenStream will complete its mission (e.g. lowercase, remove stop words, etc.) in incrementToken()
- **Decorator pattern**
  - Separates concerns in different TokenStream implementations
  - But **allows dynamic chaining** of these implementations

Core Classes - Analyzer

- Accepts the Reader of a text as input
  - A reader can load only the currently reading characters into memory
- It is the Analyzer that does the decorator chaining
  - You can write a specific Analyzer for specific texts without rewriting the TokenStream implementations
  - Add new TokenStream only when you need a new “step” in the analyzing process
  - When tokenStream() is called, creates an TokenStream instance (so users can use that instance to iterate tokens)
    - The instance can be “combined” from other TokenStream instances (can be of type Tokenizer or TokenFilter)

TokenStream Hierarchy



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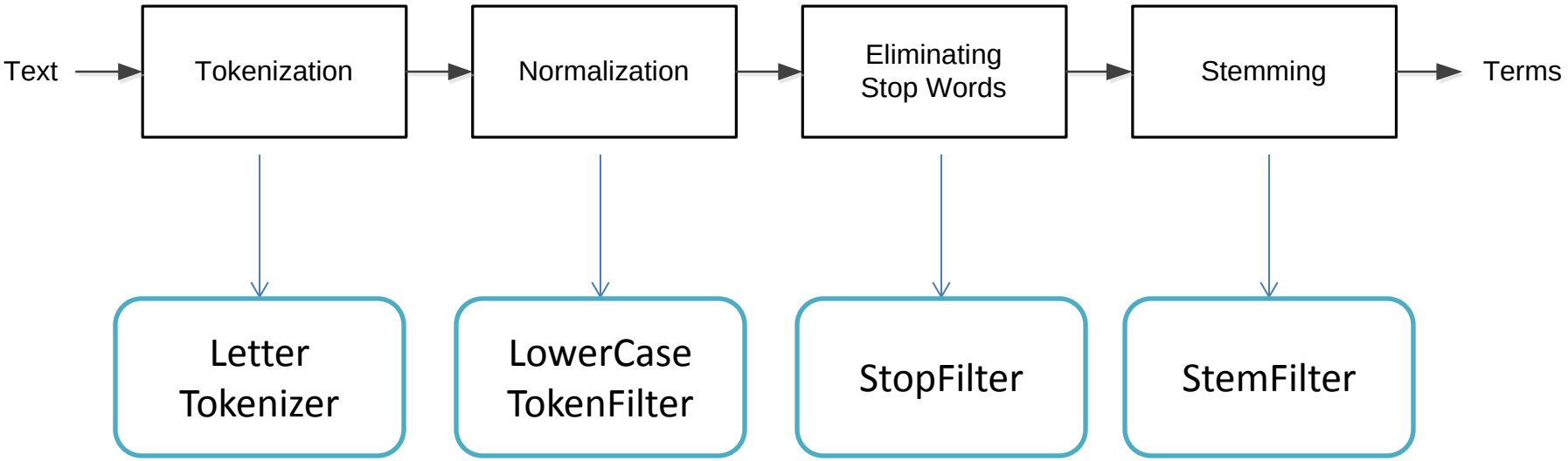

Today's Mission

- We use the flyweight `Token` object to avoid excessive creation of `String` objects
- However, currently, the `BadLowerCaseFilter` and `BadStopFilter` will create a `String` object during each call to the `incrementToken()`
  - Create excessive `String` objects
- TODO:
  - Implement the `LowerCaseFilter` and `StopFilter` that avoid this problem
  - Let `DefAnalyzer` use the `LowerCaseFilter` and `StopFilter`

Hints

- The main method used today is in `DefAnalyzerApp` in recommender package
- In the `LowerCaseFilter`, try get `char[]` from the `Token` object, and make each char lowercase
- In the `StopFilter`, try to use the `CharArraySet.contains()` to determine if the `Token` object contains a stop word