



# EECS 1720

## Building Interactive Systems

Lecture 6 :: Introduction to Exceptions (2)

# Recall: (last lecture)

- Different categories of Exceptions
  - Many classes use Exceptions to indicate unforeseen issues that occur at runtime
  - allows for possibility of recovery in code
- Exceptions are objects that get instantiated & “thrown”
- May be “caught” using try{} / catch {} blocks
  - If code in try{} triggers an exception, code suspended and program re-routed to any catch() blocks immediately following
  - catch offers some alternative code that can be run instead of the statements that triggered the exception
- If not handled, the program typically will crash with some error messages (stack trace + info from exception that occurred)

# Categories of Exceptions (3 basic kinds)

## 1. Checked Exception

An exception that **must be captured** and handled gracefully within the application via the try/catch clause (can anticipate/recover from)

E.g. user supplied filename for reading of nonexistent file:

```
java.io.FileNotFoundException
```

## 2. Error (Unchecked):

External to the application (cannot anticipate or recover from)

E.g. opens file but system malfunction prevents the read operation

```
java.io.IOException
```

## 3. RuntimeException (Unchecked):

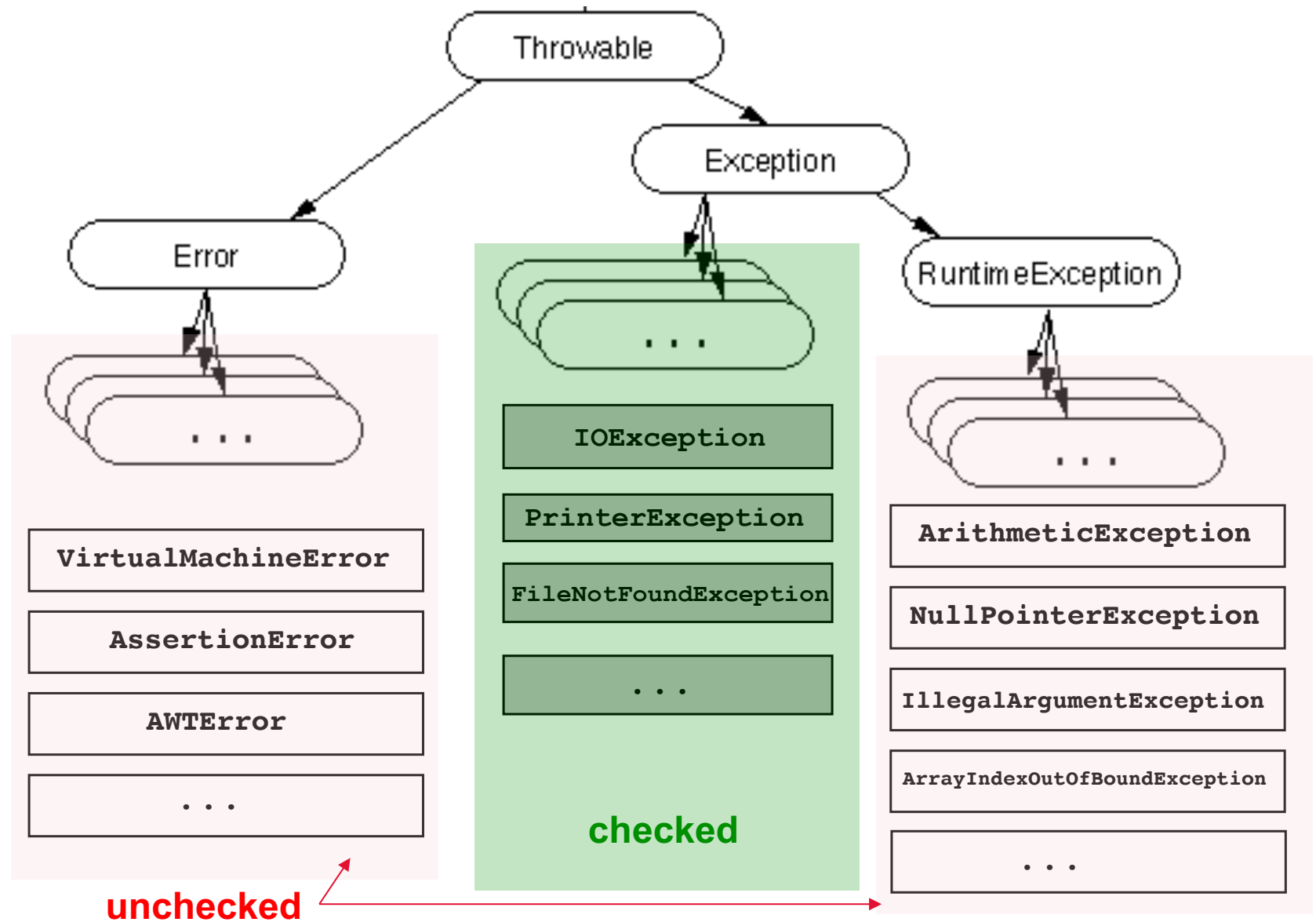
Internal to the application (cannot anticipate or recover from)

**\*MOST COMMONLY\***

i.e. program bugs, logic errors, or improper use of an API

E.g. null as an argument for the constructor of a file object, causes

```
NullPointerException
```



- **Checked Exception:**

- All Exceptions except *Error's* & *RuntimeException's*
- Java ENFORCES these to be handled (at compile time)
  - **try { } catch { }** block around code that may cause exception  
OR
  - Use **throws** in method header (acknowledges that a particular exception may occur anywhere in the method)

- **Unchecked Exception:**

- JAVA compiler does not ENFORCE handling
- *RuntimeException* or *Error* family of objects

# Try-catch is one way to handle expressions

- Must have both if there is a possibility of a checked exception being thrown
- Example: File I/O (input/output)
  - i.e. reading from/ writing to a file
  - reading (can use Scanner)

# Previously.. in processing

- Simple text file read (in one method call):

*colours.txt*

```
black 0 0 0  
white 255 255 255  
  
red 255 0 0  
blue 0 0 255  
  
green 0 255 0  
  
grey 128 128 128  
darkgrey 50 50 50  
lightgrey 200 200 200
```

<EOF>

Can use a method directly:

```
Strings[] lines = loadStrings(filename);
```

filename (e.g. colours.txt) has to exist  
within the sketch folder

# File reading

*myInFile.txt* →

Once upon a time,  
In a galaxy far far away....

< cue ominous music here>

blah blah  
and on and on

< cue gratuitously large space ship>

--

-

<EOF>

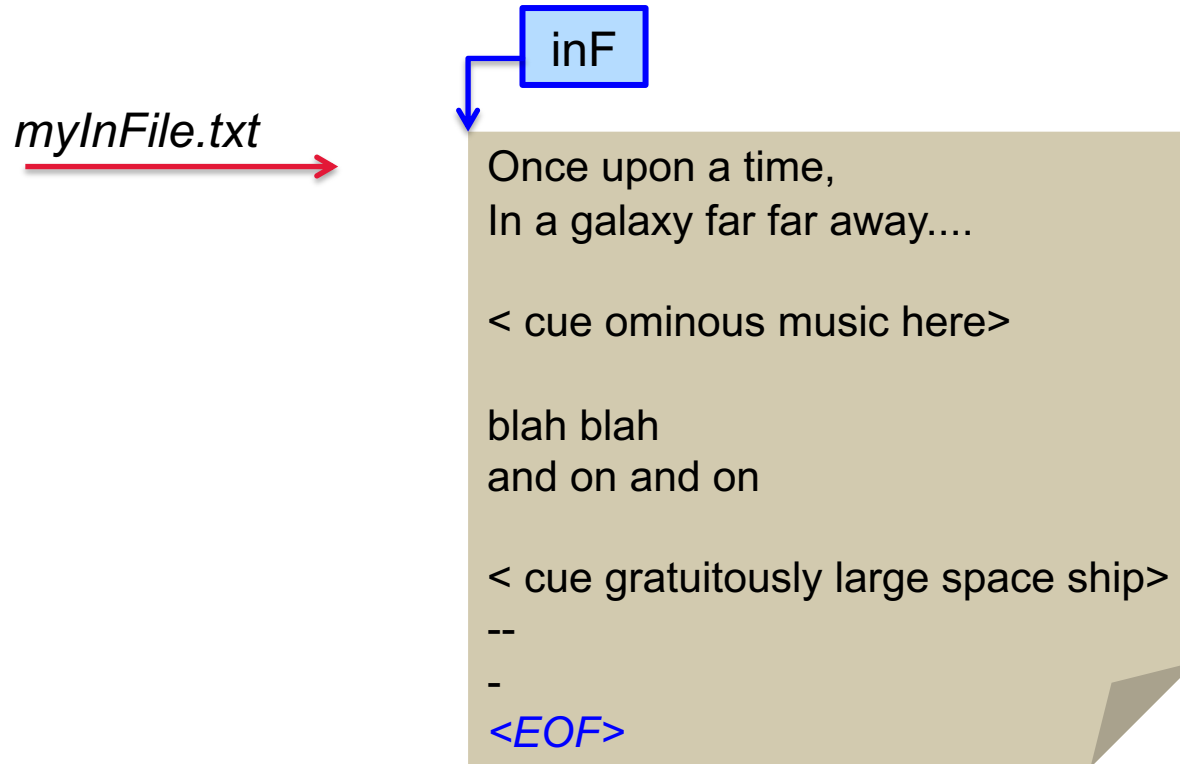
You won't see this special End of File (EOF) character, but it is embedded in the file after the last line of text

Note: A Scanner object “scans” through the source it is connected to: i.e. when something has been read (using a `next()` or `nextInt()`, etc. ) then the scanner moves forward to the next bit of input from that source

A **Scanner** is used together with a **File** object (which establishes a connection to a file)



# File reading

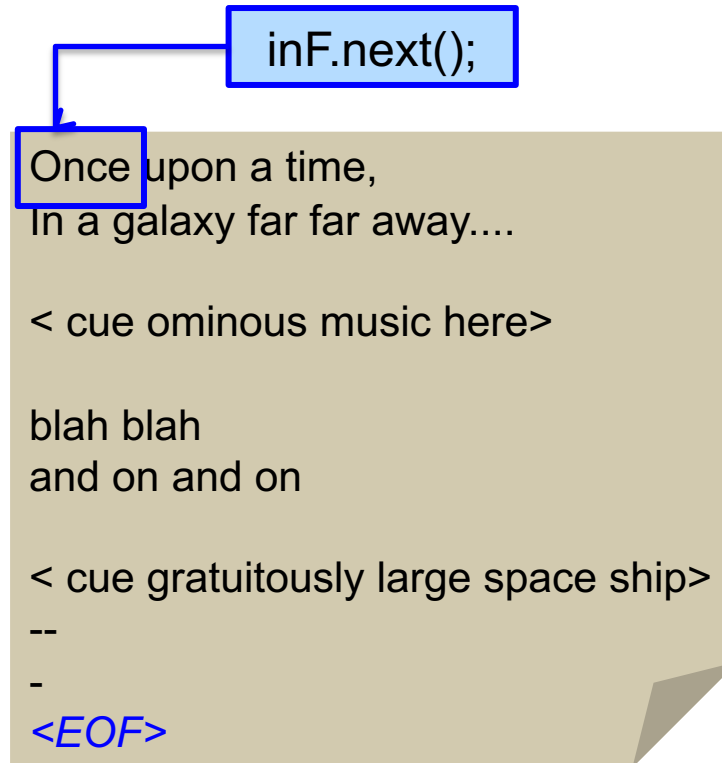


You wont see this special End of File (EOF) character, but it is embedded in the file

```
// assume file is in current directory  
File inFile = new File("./myInFile.txt");  
Scanner inF = new Scanner(inFile);
```

# File reading

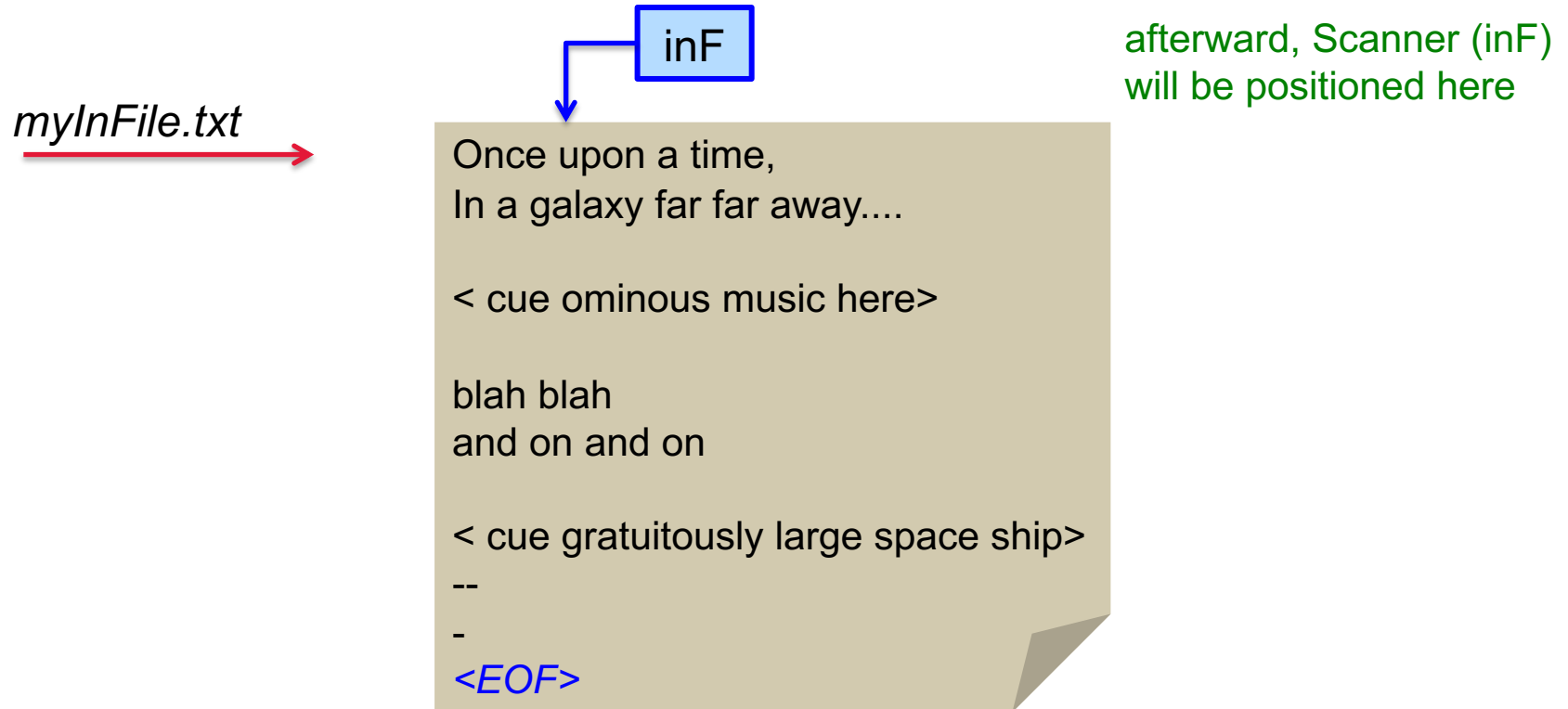
*myInFile.txt* →



will read first String  
(up to next whitespace)

```
// assume file is in current directory  
File inFile = new File("./myInFile.txt");  
Scanner inF = new Scanner(inFile);  
inF.next();
```

# File reading



```
// assume file is in current directory
File inFile = new File("./myInFile.txt");
Scanner inF = new Scanner(inFile);
inF.next();
// after
```

# File reading

*myInFile.txt* →

`inF.nextLine();`

reads String of everything  
upto next “newline” char  
(i.e. \n character)

Once upon a time,  
In a galaxy far far away....

< cue ominous music here>

blah blah  
and on and on

< cue gratuitously large space ship>

--

-

<EOF>

```
// assume file is in current directory
File inFile = new File("./myInFile.txt");
Scanner inF = new Scanner(inFile);
inF.next();
inF.nextLine();
```

# File reading

*myInFile.txt* →

inF

After reading whole line,  
inF now positioned here

Once upon a time,  
In a galaxy far far away....  
  
< cue ominous music here>  
  
blah blah  
and on and on  
  
< cue gratuitously large space ship>  
--  
-  
<EOF>

```
// assume file is in current directory
File inFile = new File("./myInFile.txt");
Scanner inF = new Scanner(inFile);
inF.next();
inF.nextLine();
```

# File reading

*myInFile.txt* →

inF.nextLine();

Once upon a time,  
In a galaxy far far away....

< cue ominous music here>

blah blah  
and on and on

< cue gratuitously large space ship>

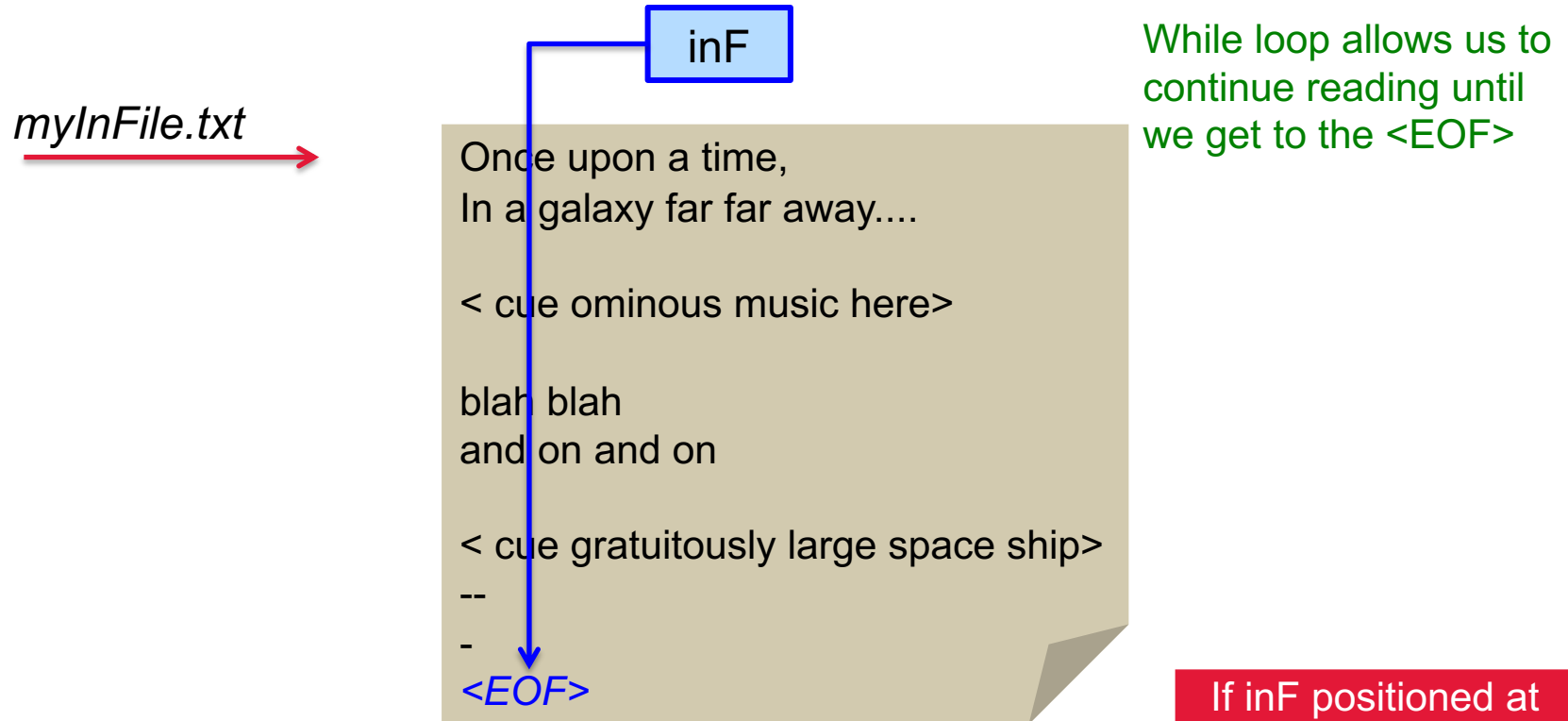
--

-

<EOF>

```
// assume file is in current directory
File inFile = new File("./myInFile.txt");
Scanner inF = new Scanner(inFile);
inF.next();
inF.nextLine();
inF.nextLine();
```

# File reading



```
...  
while (inF.hasNextLine()) {  
    // read next something  
}
```

If *inF* positioned at *<EOF>*, then *hasNextLine()* returns false

# File output

- Similar to console output; instead of

```
PrintStream out = System.out;
```

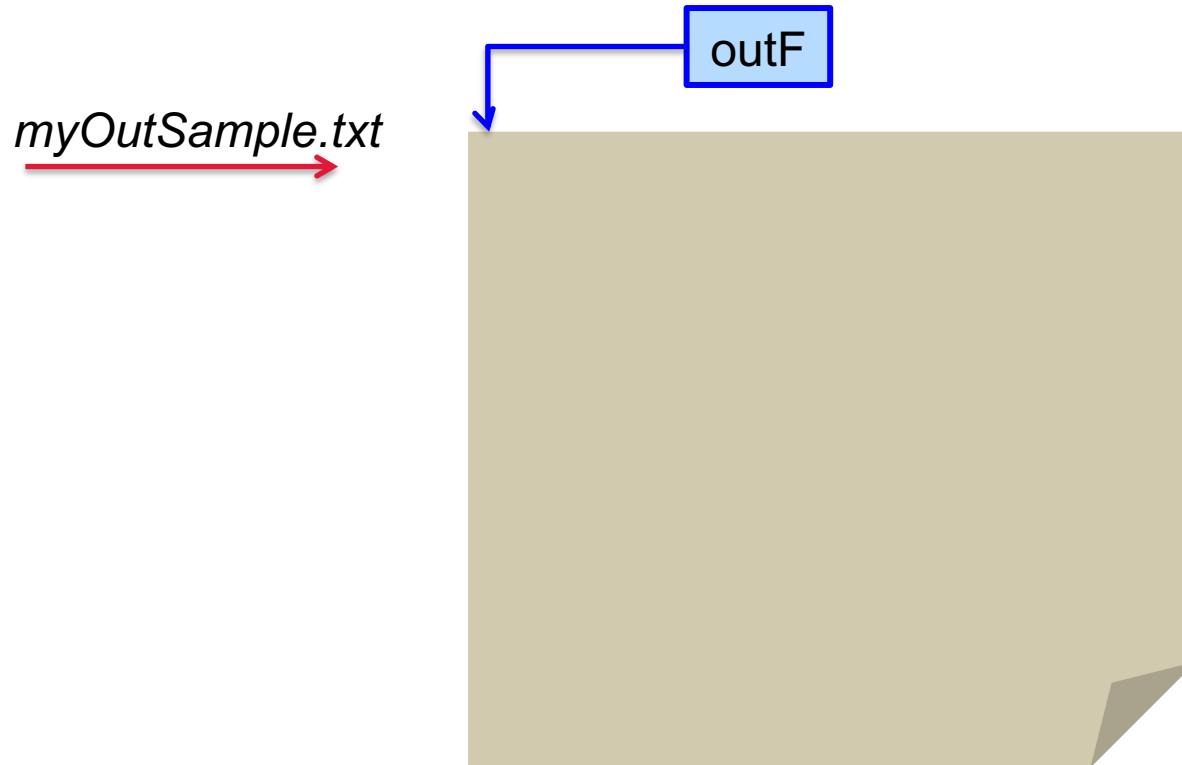
- Use

```
PrintStream outF = new PrintStream(filename);
```

- Then use **print()**, **println()**, or **printf()**, as before
- main method requires throws **IOException**
- Use **close()** when done



# File Writing



```
// assume file is in current directory  
File outFile = new File("./myOutSample.txt");  
PrintStream outF = new PrintStream(outFile);
```

# File Writing

*myOutSample.txt*

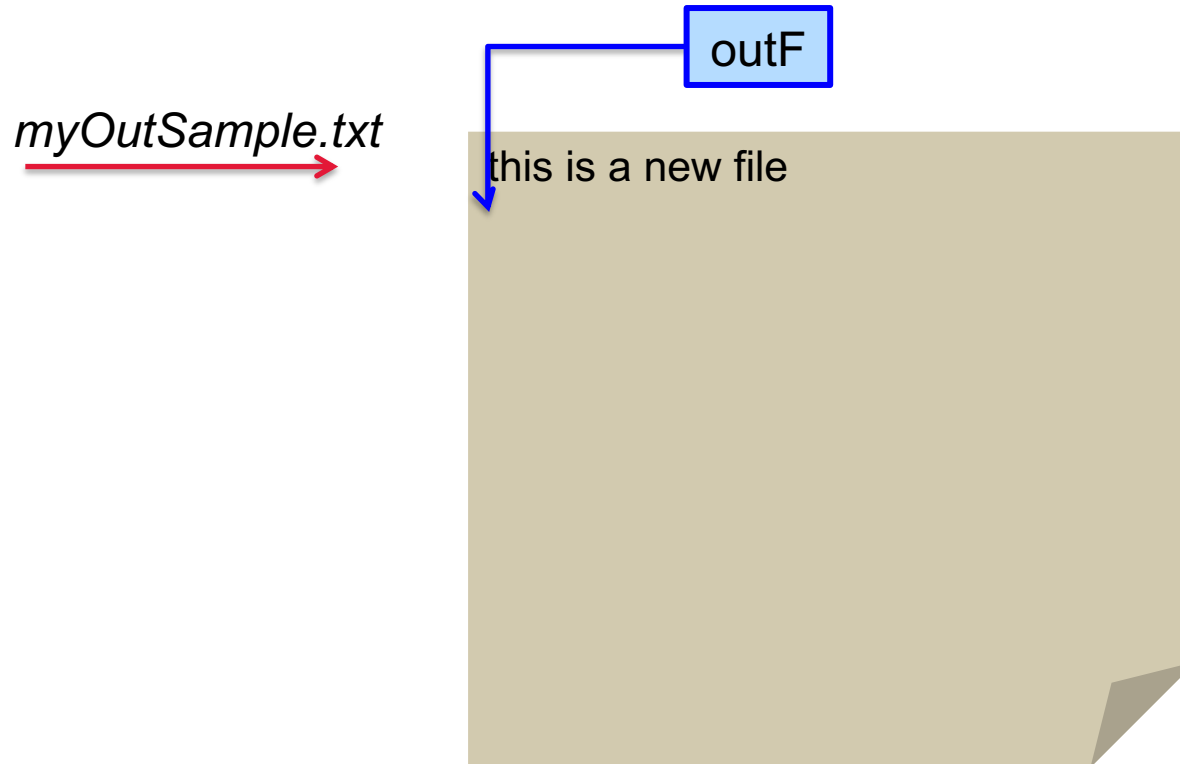
`outF.println("this is a new file");`

this is a new file

implicit '\n' written  
to PrintStream  
(if using `println( )`)

```
// assume file is in current directory
File outFile = new File("./myOutSample.txt");
PrintStream outF = new PrintStream(outFile);
outF.println("this is a new file");
```

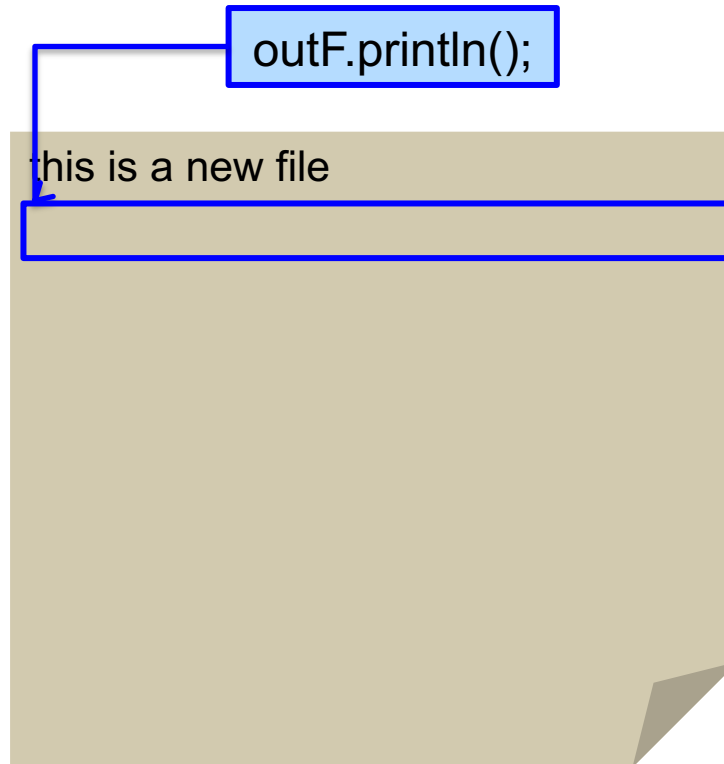
# File Writing



```
// assume file is in current directory
File outFile = new File("./myOutSample.txt");
PrintStream outF = new PrintStream(outFile);
outF.println("this is a new file");
```

# File Writing

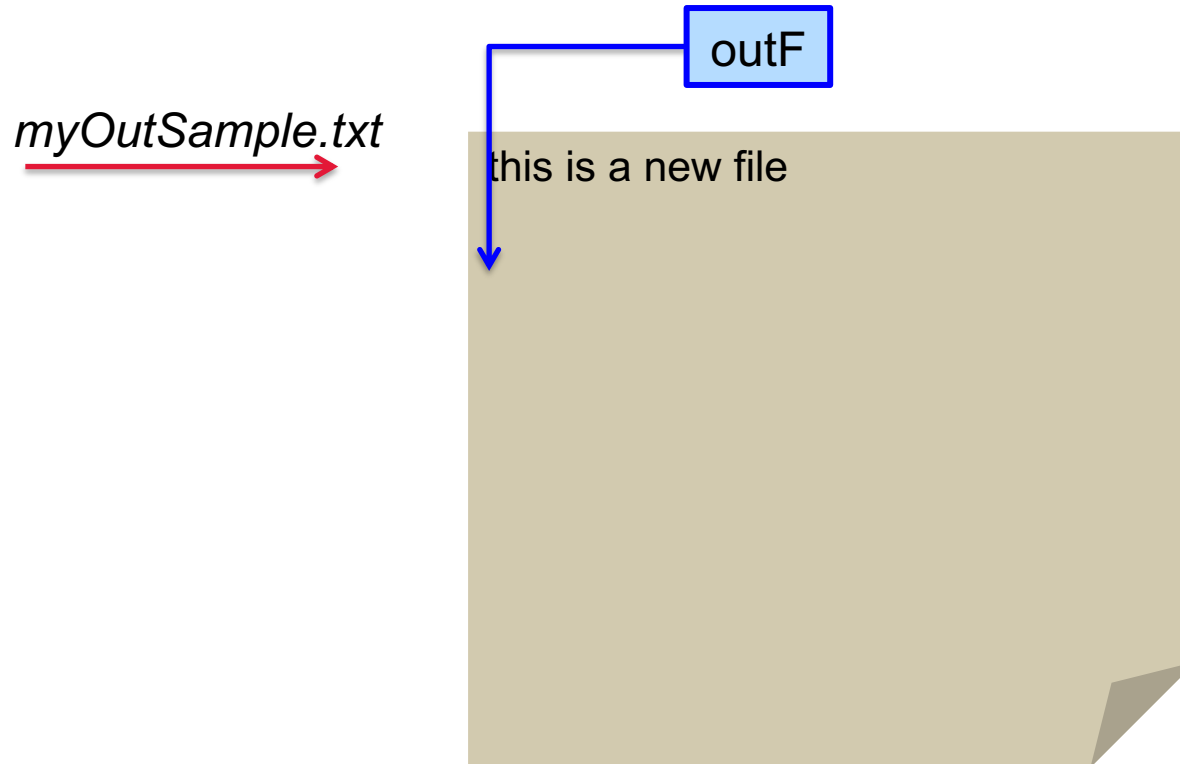
*myOutSample.txt*



implicit '\n' written  
to PrintStream

```
// assume file is in current directory
File outFile = new File("./myOutSample.txt");
PrintStream outF = new PrintStream(outFile);
outF.println("this is a new file");
outF.println();
```

# File Writing



```
// assume file is in current directory
File outFile = new File("./myOutSample.txt");
PrintStream outF = new PrintStream(outFile);
outF.println("this is a new file");
outF.println();
```

# File Writing

myOutSample.txt →

```
outF.printf("some variables: %d, %.2f", 1, 1);
```

this is a new file

some variables: 1 1.00

no '\n' written

```
// assume file is in current directory
File outFile = new File("./myOutSample.txt");
PrintStream outF = new PrintStream(outFile);
outF.println("this is a new file");
outF.println();
outF.printf("some variables: %d, %.2f", 1, 1);
```

# File Writing

myOutSample.txt →

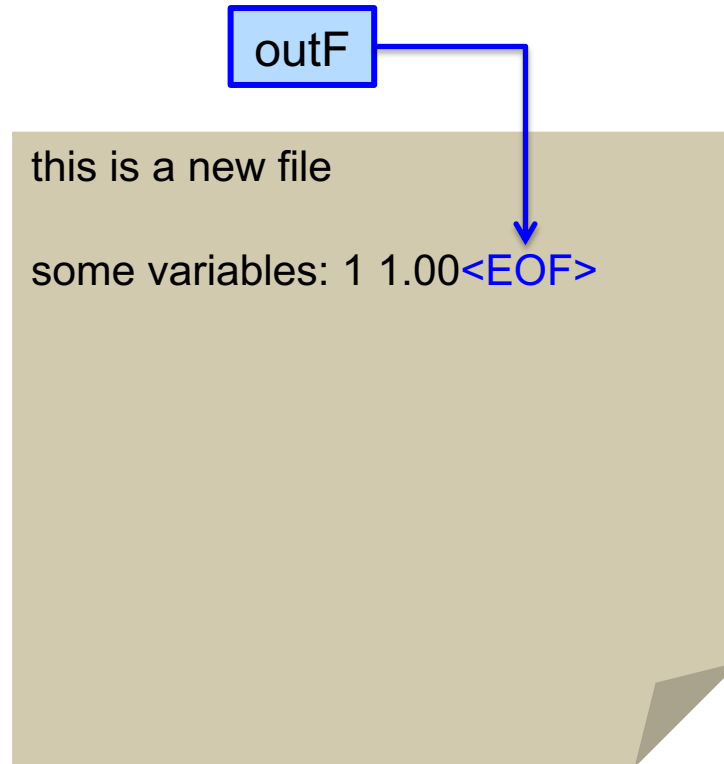
outF

this is a new file  
some variables: 1 1.00

```
// assume file is in current directory
File outFile = new File("./myOutSample.txt");
PrintStream outF = new PrintStream(outFile);
outF.println("this is a new file");
outF.println();
outF.printf("some variables: %d, %.2f", 1, 1);
```

# File Writing

myOutSample.txt →



```
File outFile = new File("./myOutSample.txt");
PrintStream outF = new PrintStream(outFile);
outF.println("this is a new file");
outF.println();
outF.printf("some variables: %d, %.2f", 1, 1);
outF.close();
```



# File Writing

outF

*myOutSample.txt*

this is a new file  
some variables: 1 1.00<EOF>

```
File outFile = new File("./myOutSample.txt");  
PrintStream outF = new PrintStream(outFile);  
outF.println("this is a new file");  
outF.println();  
outF.printf("some variables: %d, %.2f", 1, 1);  
outF.close();
```

# Example 5: reading from a file (exceptions)

```
import java.io.File;
import java.util.Scanner;

public class FileIOError {

    public static void main(String[] args) {

        Scanner in = new Scanner(System.in);
        File inFile = new File("./sample.txt");

        // do an echo of input file (i.e. read all lines and output them to screen)
        Scanner inF = new Scanner(inFile);
        String oneLineText;

        System.out.println("Contents of file:");
        System.out.println("*****");

        while (inF.hasNextLine()) {
            oneLineText = inF.nextLine();
            System.out.println(oneLineText);
        }

        inF.close(); // close the file after reading!!

    }

}
```

# Example 5: where & what exception types can occur?

```
import java.io.File;
import java.util.Scanner;

public class FileIOError {

    public static void main(String[] args) {

        Scanner in = new Scanner(System.in);
        File inFile = new File("./sample.txt");

        // do an echo of input file (i.e. read all lines and output them to screen)
        Scanner inF = new Scanner(inFile);
        String oneLineText;

        System.out.println("Contents of file:");
        System.out.println("*****");

        while (inF.hasNextLine()) {
            oneLineText = inF.nextLine();
            System.out.println(oneLineText);
        }

        inF.close(); // close the file after reading!!

    }
}
```

# wont compile?!

# Example 5: where & what exception types can occur?

```
import java.io.File;  
import java.util.Scanner;
```

```
public class FileIOError {
```

```
    public static void main(String[] args) {
```

```
        Scanner in = new Scanner(System.in);  
        File inFile = new File("./sample.txt");
```

```
        // do an echo of input file (i.e. read all lines and output them to screen)
```

```
        Scanner inF = new Scanner(inFile);
```

```
        String oneLineText;
```

```
        System.out.println("Contents of file:");
```

```
        System.out.println("*****");
```

```
        while (inF.hasNextLine()) {
```

```
            oneLineText = inF.nextLine();
```

```
            System.out.println(oneLineText);
```

```
        }
```

```
        inF.close(); // close the file after reading!!
```

```
    }
```

NullPointerException

FileNotFoundException

IllegalStateException

NoSuchElementException  
/ IllegalStateException

IllegalStateException

```
}
```

# Example 5a: insert try/catch block

```
import java.io.File;
import java.io.FileNotFoundException;
import java.util.Scanner;

public class FileIOErrorHandled1 {

    public static void main(String[] args) {
        try {
            Scanner in = new Scanner(System.in);
            File inFile = new File("./sample.txt");

            // do an echo of input file (i.e. read all lines and output them to screen)
            Scanner inF = new Scanner(inFile);
            String oneLineText;
            System.out.println("Contents of file:");
            System.out.println("*****");

            while (inF.hasNextLine()) {
                oneLineText = inF.nextLine();
                System.out.println(oneLineText);
            }
            inF.close(); // close the file after reading!!
        }
        catch (FileNotFoundException e) {
            // handle it
        }
    }
}
```

# Example 5a: insert try/catch block

```
import java.io.File;
import java.io.FileNotFoundException;
import java.util.NoSuchElementException;
import java.util.Scanner;

public class FileIOErrorHandled1 {

    public static void main(String[] args) {
        try {
            Scanner in = new Scanner(System.in);
            File inFile = new File("./sample.txt");

            // code to read file not shown

            inF.close(); // close the file after reading!!
        }
        catch (FileNotFoundException e) {
            // handle it
        }
        catch (NullPointerException e) {
            // handle it
        }
        catch (NoSuchElementException e) {
            // handle it
        }
    }
}
```

## Example 5b: indicate a method may throw an exception

```
import java.io.File;
import java.util.Scanner;
import java.io.FileNotFoundException;

public class FileIOErrorHandled2 {

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

        Scanner in = new Scanner(System.in);
        File inFile = new File("./sample.txt");

        // do an echo of input file (i.e. read all lines and output them to screen)
        Scanner inF = new Scanner(inFile);
        String oneLineText;
        System.out.println("Contents of file:");
        System.out.println("*****");

        while (inF.hasNextLine()) {
            oneLineText = inF.nextLine();
            System.out.println(oneLineText);
        }

        inF.close(); // close the file after reading!!

    }
}
```

Assumption is that this will be handled higher up the call stack

# Are exceptions always automatically thrown?

- No!
- Exceptions are objects after all ...
  - **Thus, we can instantiate and throw them at will !!**
- Again, to throw an exception:
  - Instantiate and use the “throw” keyword



# RuntimeException

## Constructor Summary

### Constructors

Modifier	Constructor and Description
	<b><code>RuntimeException()</code></b> Constructs a new runtime exception with <code>null</code> as its detail message.
	<b><code>RuntimeException(String message)</code></b> Constructs a new runtime exception with the specified detail message.
	<b><code>RuntimeException(String message, Throwable cause)</code></b> Constructs a new runtime exception with the specified detail message and cause.
protected	<b><code>RuntimeException(String message, Throwable cause, boolean enableSuppression, boolean writableStackTrace)</code></b> Constructs a new runtime exception with the specified detail message, cause, suppression enabled or disabled, and writable stack trace enabled or disabled.
	<b><code>RuntimeException(Throwable cause)</code></b> Constructs a new runtime exception with the specified cause and a detail message of <code>(cause==null ? null : cause.toString())</code> (which typically contains the class and detail message of cause).

## Method Summary

### Methods inherited from class `java.lang.Throwable`

`addSuppressed`, `fillInStackTrace`, `getCause`, `getLocalizedMessage`, `getMessage`, `getStackTrace`, `getSuppressed`, `initCause`, `printStackTrace`, `printStackTrace`, `printStackTrace`, `setStackTrace`, `toString`

### Methods inherited from class `java.lang.Object`

`clone`, `equals`, `finalize`, `getClass`, `hashCode`, `notify`, `notifyAll`, `wait`, `wait`, `wait`

# Example 6a

```
import java.util.Scanner;

public class ThrowAnException1{

    public static void main(String[] args) {

        System.out.println("Here I will create and throw an exception.\n");

        RuntimeException myException = new RuntimeException();

        throw myException;

    }
}
```

# Example 6b

```
import java.util.Scanner;
import java.io.FileNotFoundException;

public class ThrowAnException2{
    public static void main(String[] args) {

        System.out.println("Here I will create and throw an exception.\n");

        FileNotFoundException myFNFE = new FileNotFoundException();

        throw myFNFE;

    }
}
```

# wont compile?!  
=> checked Exception object,  
therefore must be handled

# Example 6c

```
import java.util.Scanner;

public class ThrowAnException3{
    public static void main(String[] args) {

        try {
            System.out.println("Here I will create and throw an
            exception.\n");
            RuntimeException myException = new RuntimeException();
            throw myException;

        }
        catch (RuntimeException e) {
            System.out.println("And here I have caught the exception.\n");
        }

    }
}
```

# Why create our own?

- Perhaps we want to address an unusual condition if it occurs. For example, in the  $(x/y)$  example.
- We consider that  $x$  and  $y$  should never be negative
  - this is an arbitrary reason to throw an exception..
  - Could be handled using validity test
  - but as an example.. Lets create our own Exception if this occurs

# Example 7

lets say we don't want left or right to be negative ??

```
import java.util.Scanner;

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

        System.out.println("Enter a fraction (x/y) ");
        System.out.println("and I will give you the quotient");
        Scanner in = new Scanner(System.in);
        String str = in.nextLine();

        int slash = str.indexOf("/");
        String left = str.substring(0, slash);
        String right = str.substring(slash + 1);

        int numer = Integer.parseInt(left);
        int denom = Integer.parseInt(right);
        if (numer<0 || denom<0 )
            throw new IllegalArgumentException();
        int quotient = numer/denom;
        System.out.println("Quotient = " + quotient);

    }
}
```

# NOTES on throwing a manual Exception

- Remember, if it is a checked Exception (we must handle), if not, then it is not mandatory to handle
- When handling, we have full access to the attributes or methods of the Exception object.
- Note that when instantiating, we can pass a message to the object (accessible later using getMessage() )

# Finally

- Exceptions are a powerful construct which can be employed to great benefit
- Exceptions are part of many client-implementer contracts
  - exceptions are often found within most API's
  - exceptions notify of potential issues, but are left to the person using the class to decide how best to handle them
- Exceptions illustrate a fundamental principle of interactive systems (the throw/catch mechanism is quite similar to the way interruptions/events are handled) → e.g. mouseclicks /keypresses etc
- We will see more use of Exceptions when designing our own classes



# Further Reading

## The Java™ Tutorials, Essential Classes, Lesson: Exceptions

- <https://docs.oracle.com/javase/tutorial/essential/exceptions/index.html>

## Java Programming, Wikibooks, Section “Exceptions”

- [https://en.wikibooks.org/wiki/Java\\_Programming/Exceptions](https://en.wikibooks.org/wiki/Java_Programming/Exceptions)

*\*\* some subtopics in the above will be covered in the next lecture and some later in this course as we learn more about classes*