

The background of the slide is a photograph of several small glass bottles filled with red tomato juice, each with a silver metal cap. A light brown paper tag is attached to one of the bottles with a white string. The tag has the words "Tomato Juice" and "99p" handwritten on it in dark ink. The scene is set on a wooden surface, and the background is softly blurred.

# Java Programming 2

## File I/O

Mary Ellen Foster

MaryEllen.Foster@glasgow.ac.uk

# Packages for input and output

Basic input/output handling classes are in the `java.io` package

Advanced features in the `java.nio` package

“New” since Java 1.4 (revised in Java 1.7)

# File I/O with `java.nio` (version 2)

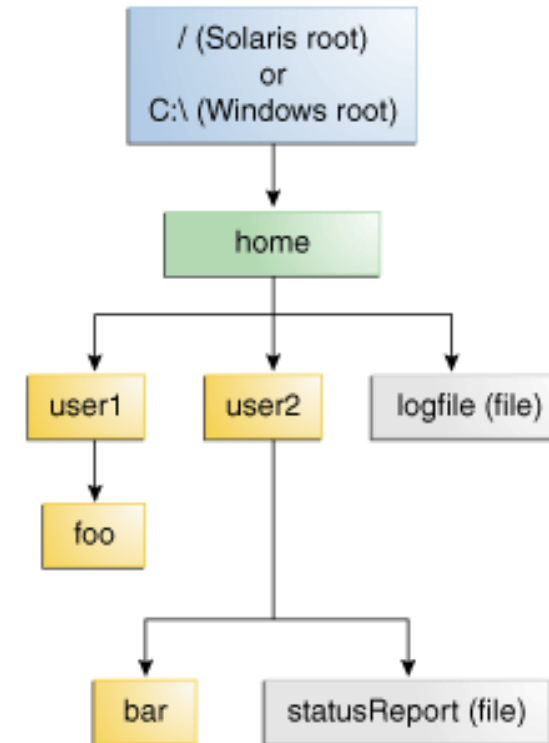
# Basic concept: Path

A ***path*** identifies a file through its location in the file system, beginning from the root node

A ***delimiter*** separates directory names

Windows: “\”

Everything else: “/”



*Java tutorial “File I/O”*

# java.nio.file.Path

Represents a path in the file system:

- File name

- List of directories to reach it

Used to examine, locate, and manipulate files

Corresponds to the underlying file system – not system independent

- C:\Users\mefos\Documents*

- /usr/local/bin/perl*

Corresponding file does not need to exist; you can manipulate a `Path` all you want

- Use methods in `Files` class to deal with actual files

# Relative and absolute paths

Absolute path always contains the root element and the complete directory

`C:\Users\mefos\Documents`

Relative path needs to be combined with another path to access the file

`Lab6\Submission6_1\MyClass.java`

`Path` objects can be absolute or relative, depending if they begin at the root or not

# Operations on Path

Syntactic operations: operate on path itself, don't touch file system

Creating a Path:

```
Paths.get ("c:\\users\\joe\\foo"); // Paths helper class
```

Retrieving information about a Path:

Path stores name elements as a sequence

You can access elements in various ways ...

# Access methods

Method	Return	Notes
<code>p.toString()</code>	<code>c:\users\joe\foo</code>	String representation of path
<code>p.getFileName()</code>	<code>foo</code>	Last element in sequence of names
<code>p.getName(0)</code>	<code>users</code>	Path element closest to root
<code>p.getNameCount()</code>	<code>3</code>	Number of elements in path
<code>p.subpath(0,2)</code>	<code>users\joe</code>	Subsequence of path between beginning and ending index
<code>p.getParent()</code>	<code>\users\joe</code>	Path of parent directory
<code>p.getRoot()</code>	<code>c:\</code>	Root of the path

```
Path p = Paths.get ("c:\\users\\joe\\foo");
```



# Processing Paths

Remove redundancies: use `normalize()`

`c:\users\sally\..\joe\foo` -> `c:\users\joe\foo`

Does not check the file system – just cleans up the path internally

## Converting a Path

`toAbsolutePath()`: prepends current working directory

`toRealPath()`: returns the real path of an existing file

- Converts relative path to absolute path

- Resolves symbolic links (if `true` is passed)

- Removes redundant elements

- Throws an exception if file does not exist (`FileNotFoundException`) or cannot be accessed (`IOException`)

# Other notes on Path

It implements `Comparable<Path>`

Collections of Paths can be sorted

It can be used in iteration:

```
Path myPath = ...;
for (Path name: myPath) {
    System.out.println (name);
}
```

Also: `equals()`, `startsWith()`, `endsWith()`

# java.nio.file.Files

Set of static methods for reading, writing, and manipulating files and directories

Methods work on `Path` instances

Most methods throw an `IOException` on I/O failure

# Checking a file or directory

Verify existence:

```
Files.exists (Path), Files.notExists (Path)
```

Check accessibility:

```
Files.isReadable (Path), Files.isWritable (Path),  
Files.isExecutable (Path)
```

Do two Paths locate the same file?

```
Files.isSameFile (Path, Path)
```

# Deleting, copying, moving

```
Files.delete (Path)
```

```
Files.deleteIfExists (Path)
```

```
// Doesn't throw Exception even if file doesn't exist
```

```
Files.copy (Path, Path)
```

```
Files.move (Path, Path)
```

# Creating files and directories

`Files.createFile (Path)`

Throws Exception if file already exists, or if parent directory does not exist

`Files.createDirectory (Path)`

Throws Exception if file already exists, or if parent directory does not exist

`Files.createDirectories (Path)`

Creates all necessary directories from the top down

# Listing files in a directory

```
Path dir = ...;
DirectoryStream<Path> stream =
    Files.newDirectoryStream (dir);
for (Path file : stream) {
    System.out.println (file.getFileName());
}
```

# Reading from a file

```
// Assuming file contains text content ...  
Path path = // ...  
String content = Files.readString (path);  
// Or if you want it a line at a time  
List<String> content = Files.readAllLines (path);  
// For more control  
BufferedReader br = Files.newBufferedReader (path);
```



# Writing to a file

*// Easiest method assuming text content*

```
Path path = // whatever
```

```
PrintWriter pw = new PrintWriter (Files.newBufferedWriter  
(path));
```

*// Then you can call pw.println()*

# Example code

```
Path p1 = Paths.get ("c:\\Users\\mefos\\Documents\\in.txt");
Path p2 = Paths.get ("c:\\Users\\mefos\\Documents\\out.txt");
try {
    List<String> lines = Files.readAllLines (p1);
    Files.createFile (p2);
    PrintWriter pw = new PrintWriter (Files.newBufferedWriter (p2));
    for (String line : lines) {
        pw.println (line);
    }
    pw.close();
} catch (IOException ex) {
    ex.printStackTrace();
}
```