# **Best Practices**

# 1. StringBuilder

- **Use when:** You need to perform many string manipulations (e.g., concatenation, insertion) inside a loop or in a performance-sensitive scenario.
- Best Practices:
  - Preferred over String for mutable strings in performance-critical code.
  - Use its append() method instead of concatenation using + for efficiency.
  - Initialize with a reasonable capacity to avoid resizing when the size is known in advance.

## 2. StringBuffer

- **Use when:** Thread-safety is required while manipulating strings in multi-threaded environments.
- Best Practices:
  - Use StringBuffer for thread-safe string manipulation when synchronization is necessary.
  - Avoid using StringBuffer in single-threaded environments if performance is a concern, as it's slower than StringBuilder.

#### 3. FileReader

- Use when: You need to read character files (text files) efficiently.
- Best Practices:
  - Always wrap FileReader with a BufferedReader for better performance when reading lines.
  - Handle IOExceptions properly.
  - Use FileReader for small files; for larger files, consider using streams like FileInputStream.

# 4. InputStreamReader

- **Use when:** You need to convert byte streams into character streams (e.g., reading from non-text files or working with encodings).
- Best Practices:
  - Wrap InputStreamReader with BufferedReader to enhance performance.
  - Always specify the correct charset to avoid encoding issues, especially for non-ASCII text.
  - o Always close the reader using **try-with-resources** to avoid resource leakage.

## 5. Linear Search

- **Use when:** Data is unsorted or small-sized, or when simplicity is preferred over performance.
- Best Practices:
  - Return early: If the element is found, return immediately to avoid unnecessary checks.
  - Avoid using linear search on large data sets; consider binary search or hash-based approaches if performance is critical.

# 6. Binary Search

- Use when: Data is already sorted, and you need an efficient search method.
- Best Practices:
  - Ensure the list is **sorted** before using binary search.
  - Use recursive or iterative approaches as needed (iterative is generally preferred for better performance).
  - Always check for index bounds to avoid ArrayIndexOutOfBoundsException.
  - o Implement binary search carefully, ensuring the middle index calculation avoids overflow: mid = low + (high - low) / 2 instead of mid = (low + high) / 2.

# **Problem Statements**

## StringBuilder Problem 1: Reverse a String Using StringBuilder

#### **Problem:**

Write a program that uses **StringBuilder** to reverse a given string. For example, if the input is "hello", the output should be "olleh".

- 1. Create a new StringBuilder object.
- Append the string to the StringBuilder.
- 3. Use the reverse() method of StringBuilder to reverse the string.
- 4. Convert the StringBuilder back to a string and return it.

```
import java.util.*;

public class ReverseString {

   public static String reverse(String str) {
       StringBuilder sb = new StringBuilder(str);
       sb.reverse();

       return sb.toString();
   }

   public static void main(String[] args) {
       Scanner sc = new Scanner(System.in);

       System.out.println("Enter the string to reverse:");
       String str = sc.next();

       System.out.println("Reversed String: " + reverse(str));
       sc.close();
   }
}
```

# StringBuilder Problem 2: Remove Duplicates from a String Using StringBuilder

#### **Problem:**

Write a program that uses **StringBuilder** to remove all duplicate characters from a given string while maintaining the original order.

- 1. Initialize an empty StringBuilder and a HashSet to keep track of characters.
- 2. Iterate over each character in the string:
  - If the character is not in the HashSet, append it to the StringBuilder and add it to the HashSet.
- 3. Return the StringBuilder as a string without duplicates.

```
import java.util.*;
public class RemoveDuplicateCharacter {
    public static String removeDuplicate(String str) {
        HashSet<Character> set = new HashSet<>();
        StringBuilder newStr = new StringBuilder();
        for (int i = 0; i < str.length(); i++) {</pre>
            char ch = str.charAt(i);
            if (!set.contains(ch)) {
                newStr.append(ch);
                set.add(ch);
        }
        return newStr.toString();
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        Scanner sc = new Scanner(System.in);
        System.out.println("Enter a string to remove duplicate characters:");
        String str = sc.next();
        System.out.println("Modified String: " + removeDuplicate(str));
        sc.close();
    }}
```

# StringBuffer Problem 1: Concatenate Strings Efficiently Using StringBuffer

#### **Problem:**

You are given an array of strings. Write a program that uses **StringBuffer** to concatenate all the strings in the array efficiently.

- 1. Create a new StringBuffer object.
- 2. Iterate through each string in the array and append it to the StringBuffer.
- 3. Return the concatenated string after the loop finishes.
- 4. Using StringBuffer ensures efficient string concatenation due to its mutable nature.

```
import java.util.*;
public class ConcatString{
    public static String concat(String arr[]) {
        StringBuffer sb = new StringBuffer();
        for (int i = 0; i < arr.length; i++) {</pre>
            if (i != 0) {
                sb.append(" ");
            sb.append(arr[i]);
        }
        return sb.toString();
   }
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        Scanner sc = new Scanner(System.in);
        System.out.println("Enter the size of array of strings:");
        int n = sc.nextInt();
        String arr[] = new String[n];
        System.out.println("Enter strings:");
        for (int i = 0; i < n; i++) {
            arr[i] = sc.next();
        }
```

```
System.out.println("String formed concatenating all strings: " +
concat(arr));

sc.close();
}
```

# StringBuffer Problem 2: Compare StringBuffer with StringBuilder for String Concatenation

#### Problem:

Write a program that compares the performance of **StringBuffer** and **StringBuilder** for concatenating strings. For large datasets (e.g., concatenating 1 million strings), compare the execution time of both classes.

- 1. Initialize two StringBuffer and StringBuilder objects.
- 2. Perform string concatenation in both objects, appending 1 million strings (e.g., "hello").
- Measure the time taken to complete the concatenation using System.nanoTime() for both StringBuffer and StringBuilder.
- 4. Output the time taken by both classes for comparison.

```
public class CompareBufferBuilder {
   public static void main(String[] args) {
      String dummyData = "HelloWorld!";

      // for StringBuilder
      StringBuilder sb = new StringBuilder();

      long startTime = System.nanoTime();

      for (int i = 0; i < 1000000; i++) {
            sb.append(dummyData);
      }

      long endTime = System.nanoTime();</pre>
```

```
System.out.println("StringBuilder : " + ((endTime - startTime) /
1_000_000) + " ms");

// for StringBuffer
StringBuffer sbf = new StringBuffer();

startTime = System.nanoTime();

for (int i = 0; i < 1000000; i++) {
    sbf.append(dummyData);
    }

endTime = System.nanoTime();

System.out.println("StringBuffer : " + ((endTime - startTime) /
1_000_000) + " ms");
    }
}</pre>
```

## FileReader Problem 1: Read a File Line by Line Using FileReader

Write a program that uses **FileReader** to read a text file line by line and print each line to the console.

- 1. Create a FileReader object to read from the file.
- 2. Wrap the FileReader in a BufferedReader to read lines efficiently.
- 3. Use a loop to read each line using the readLine() method and print it to the console.
- Close the file after reading all the lines.

```
import java.io.*;
public class ReadFile {
   public static void read(String path) {
       try{
            FileReader fr = new FileReader(path);
            BufferedReader br = new BufferedReader(fr);
            String line = br.readLine();
           while (line != null) {
                System.out.println(line);
                line = br.readLine();
            }
            fr.close();
            br.close();
        } catch (Exception e) {
            e.printStackTrace();
   public static void main(String[] args) {
       String path = "text.txt";
       read(path);
```

# FileReader Problem 2: Count the Occurrence of a Word in a File Using FileReader

#### Problem:

Write a program that uses **FileReader** and **BufferedReader** to read a file and count how many times a specific word appears in the file.

- 1. Create a FileReader to read from the file and wrap it in a BufferedReader.
- 2. Initialize a counter variable to keep track of word occurrences.
- 3. For each line in the file, split it into words and check if the target word exists.
- 4. Increment the counter each time the word is found.
- 5 Print the final count

```
import java.util.*;
import java.io.*;
public class CountWords {
    public static void count(String path, String word) {
        try{
            FileReader fr = new FileReader(path);
            BufferedReader br = new BufferedReader(fr);
            int freq = 0;
            String line = br.readLine();
            while (line != null) {
                System.out.println(line);
                String arr[] = line.split(" ");
                for (int i = 0; i < arr.length; i++) {</pre>
                    if (arr[i].equals(word)) {
                        freq++;
                line = br.readLine();
            }
            System.out.println("Frequency of " + word + " in " + path + " is "
+ freq);
            fr.close();
            br.close();
```

```
} catch (Exception e) {
        e.printStackTrace();
}

public static void main(String[] args) {
        Scanner sc = new Scanner(System.in);

        System.out.println("Enter the file name you want to read:");
        String path = sc.next();

        System.out.println("Enter a word you want to find the count of:");
        String word = sc.next();

        count(path, word);

        sc.close();
}
```

# InputStreamReader Problem 1: Convert Byte Stream to Character Stream Using InputStreamReader

#### **Problem:**

Write a program that uses **InputStreamReader** to read binary data from a file and print it as characters. The file contains data encoded in a specific charset (e.g., UTF-8).

- 1. Create a FileInputStream object to read the binary data from the file.
- 2. Wrap the FileInputStream in an InputStreamReader to convert the byte stream into a character stream.
- 3. Use a BufferedReader to read characters efficiently from the InputStreamReader.
- 4. Read the file line by line and print the characters to the console.
- 5. Handle any encoding exceptions as needed.

```
import java.io.*;
import java.util.*;
public class ReadFile {
   public static void read(String path) {
        try (FileInputStream fis = new FileInputStream(path);
                InputStreamReader isr = new InputStreamReader(fis, "UTF-8");
                BufferedReader br = new BufferedReader(isr)) {
            String line;
            while ((line = br.readLine()) != null) {
                System.out.println(line);
            }
        } catch (FileNotFoundException e) {
            System.err.println("File not found: " + e.getMessage());
        } catch (IOException e) {
            System.err.println("Error reading the file: " + e.getMessage());
        }
   public static void main(String[] args) {
       Scanner sc = new Scanner(System.in);
       System.out.println("Enter file path to read the file:");
       String path = sc.next();
       read(path);
       sc.close();
```

# InputStreamReader Problem 2: Read User Input and Write to File Using InputStreamReader

#### Problem:

Write a program that uses **InputStreamReader** to read user input from the console and write the input to a file. Each input should be written as a new line in the file.

- 1. Create an InputStreamReader to read from System.in (the console).
- 2. Wrap the InputStreamReader in a BufferedReader for efficient reading.
- 3. Create a FileWriter to write to the file.
- 4. Read user input using readLine() and write the input to the file.
- 5. Repeat the process until the user enters "exit" to stop inputting.
- 6. Close the file after the input is finished.

```
import java.io.*;
public class InputStreamReaderCode {
   public static void main(String[] args) {
       String filePath = "output.txt";
       try {
            // Create InputStreamReader to read from System.in
            InputStreamReader isr = new InputStreamReader(System.in);
            BufferedReader br = new BufferedReader(isr);
            // Create FileWriter to write to the file
            FileWriter fw = new FileWriter(filePath);
            System.out.println("Enter text (type 'exit' to stop):");
            String input;
            while (true) {
                input = br.readLine();
                if ("exit".equalsIgnoreCase(input)) {
                    break;
                fw.write(input + "\n");
            }
            br.close();
```

```
fw.close();

    System.out.println("Input saved to " + filePath);
} catch (IOException e) {
    System.err.println("Error: " + e.getMessage());
}

}
```

# Challenge Problem: Compare StringBuilder, StringBuffer, FileReader, and InputStreamReader

#### Problem:

Write a program that:

- 1. Uses **StringBuilder** and **StringBuffer** to concatenate a list of strings 1,000,000 times.
- 2. Uses **FileReader** and **InputStreamReader** to read a large file (e.g., 100MB) and print the number of words in the file.

- 1. StringBuilder and StringBuffer:
  - Create a list of strings (e.g., "hello").
  - Concatenate the strings 1,000,000 times using both StringBuilder and StringBuffer.
  - Measure and compare the time taken for each.
- 2. FileReader and InputStreamReader:
  - Read a large text file (100MB) using FileReader and InputStreamReader.
  - Count the number of words by splitting the text on whitespace characters.
  - Print the word count and compare the time taken for reading the file.

```
import java.io.*;
import java.util.StringTokenizer;

public class StringBuilderStringBufferFileReaderInputStreamReader {
    // StringBuilder vs StringBuffer
    public static void StringBuilderVsStringBuffer() {
        String text = "DummyText";
    }
}
```

```
// for StringBuilder
       long startTime = System.nanoTime();
       StringBuilder sb = new StringBuilder();
        for (int i = 0; i < 1000000; i++) {
            sb.append(text);
        long endTime = System.nanoTime();
        System.out.println("StringBuilder Time: " + ((endTime -
startTime)/100000) + " ms");
        startTime = System.nanoTime();
       StringBuffer sbf = new StringBuffer();
       for (int i = 0; i < 1000000; i++) {
            sbf.append(text);
        endTime = System.nanoTime();
       System.out.println("StringBuffer Time: " + ((endTime -
startTime)/100000) + " ms");
   }
   public static void readFileWithFileReader(String filePath) {
        long startTime = System.nanoTime();
       int wordCount = 0;
       try {
            FileReader fr = new FileReader(filePath);
            BufferedReader br = new BufferedReader(fr);
            String line;
            while ((line = br.readLine()) != null) {
                wordCount += new StringTokenizer(line).countTokens();
            }
            br.close();
        } catch (IOException e) {
            e.printStackTrace();
        }
        long endTime = System.nanoTime();
       System.out.println("FileReader - Word Count: " + wordCount + ", Time: "
+ ((endTime - startTime)/100000) + " ms");
```

```
public static void readFileWithInputStreamReader(String filePath) {
       long startTime = System.nanoTime();
        int wordCount = 0;
       try {
            InputStreamReader isr = new InputStreamReader(new
FileInputStream(filePath));
            BufferedReader br = new BufferedReader(isr);
            String line;
            while ((line = br.readLine()) != null) {
                wordCount += new StringTokenizer(line).countTokens();
            br.close();
        } catch (IOException e) {
            e.printStackTrace();
        }
       long endTime = System.nanoTime();
       System.out.println("InputStreamReader - Word Count: " + wordCount + ",
Time: " + ((endTime - startTime)/100000) + " ms");
   public static void main(String[] args) {
       StringBuilderVsStringBuffer();
       String filePath = "large_file.txt"; //100mb
       readFileWithFileReader(filePath);
       readFileWithInputStreamReader(filePath);
   }
}
```

## **Linear Search Problem 1: Search for the First Negative Number**

#### **Problem:**

You are given an integer array. Write a program that performs **Linear Search** to find the **first negative number** in the array. If a negative number is found, return its index. If no negative number is found, return -1.

- 1. Iterate through the array from the start.
- Check if the current element is negative.
- 3. If a negative number is found, return its index.
- 4. If the loop completes without finding a negative number, return -1.

```
import java.util.*;
public class FirstNegativeNumber {
    public static int findIdx(int arr[]) {
        for (int i = 0; i < arr.length; i++) {</pre>
            if (arr[i] < 0) {</pre>
                return i;
            }
        }
        return -1;
   }
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        Scanner sc = new Scanner(System.in);
        System.out.println("Enter the size of array:");
        int n = sc.nextInt();
        int arr[] = new int[n];
        System.out.println("Enter integer elements:");
        for (int i = 0; i < arr.length; i++) {</pre>
            arr[i] = sc.nextInt();
        }
        int idx = findIdx(arr);
        if (idx == -1) {
            System.out.println("No negative integer found!");
        } else {
```

```
System.out.println("First negative integer found at index " + idx);
}
sc.close();
}
```

## Linear Search Problem 2: Search for a Specific Word in a List of Sentences

## Problem:

You are given an array of sentences (strings). Write a program that performs **Linear Search** to find the **first sentence** containing a specific word. If the word is found, return the sentence. If no sentence contains the word, return "Not Found".

- 1. Iterate through the list of sentences.
- 2. For each sentence, check if it contains the specific word.
- 3. If the word is found, return the current sentence.
- 4. If no sentence contains the word, return "Not Found".

```
public static void main(String[] args) {
        Scanner sc = new Scanner(System.in);
        System.out.println("Enter the size of array:");
        int n = sc.nextInt();
        String arr[] = new String[n];
        System.out.println("Enter " + n + " sentences:");
        sc.nextLine();
        for (int i = 0; i < arr.length; i++) {</pre>
            arr[i] = sc.nextLine();
       System.out.println("Enter a word to find first sentence containing
it:");
       String word = sc.next();
        String sentence = findSentence(arr, word);
        if (sentence == null) {
            System.out.println("No sentence found containing \"" + word+ "\"");
        } else {
            System.out.println("Sentence found: " + sentence);
        sc.close();
```

## Binary Search Problem 1: Find the Rotation Point in a Rotated Sorted Array

#### **Problem:**

You are given a **rotated sorted array**. Write a program that performs **Binary Search** to find the **index of the smallest element** in the array (the rotation point).

- 1. Initialize left as 0 and right as n 1.
- 2. Perform a binary search:
  - o Find the middle element mid = (left + right) / 2.
  - If arr[mid] > arr[right], then the smallest element is in the right half, so update left = mid + 1.
  - If arr[mid] < arr[right], the smallest element is in the left half, so update right = mid.
- 3. Continue until left equals right, and then return arr[left] (the rotation point).

```
public class RotatedSortedArray {
    public static int findSmallestIdx(int arr[]) {
        int low = 0;
        int high = arr.length - 1;
        int mid = (low + high) / 2;
        while (low < high) {</pre>
            mid = (low + high) / 2;
            if (arr[mid] < arr[high]) {</pre>
                high = mid;
            } else {
                low = mid + 1;
        }
        return low;
    }
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        int arr[] = { 4, 5, 6, 7, 1, 3 }; //dummy array
        System.out.println(findSmallestIdx(arr));
   }
```

## Binary Search Problem 2: Find the Peak Element in an Array

#### **Problem:**

A peak element is an element that is **greater than its neighbors**. Write a program that performs **Binary Search** to find a peak element in an array. If there are multiple peak elements, return any one of them.

- 1. Initialize left as 0 and right as n 1.
- 2. Perform a binary search:
  - Find the middle element mid = (left + right) / 2.
  - If arr[mid] > arr[mid 1] and arr[mid] > arr[mid + 1], arr[mid] is a peak element.
  - If arr[mid] < arr[mid 1], then search the left half, updating right = mid 1.</p>
  - o If arr[mid] < arr[mid + 1], then search the right half, updating left =
     mid + 1.</pre>
- 3. Continue until a peak element is found.

```
public class FindPeakElement {
    public static int findPeakIdx(int arr[]) {
        int left = 0;
        int right = arr.length - 1;
        while (left < right) {</pre>
            int mid = (left + right) / 2;
            if (arr[mid] > arr[mid + 1] && arr[mid] > arr[mid - 1]) {
                 return mid;
            if (arr[mid] < arr[mid - 1]) {</pre>
                 right = mid - 1;
            if (arr[mid] < arr[mid + 1]) {</pre>
                left = mid + 1;
            }
        }
        return -1;
    }
```

```
public static void main(String[] args) {
    int arr[] = { 1, 2, 3, 2, 1 }; //dummy

    System.out.println(findPeakIdx(arr));
}
}
```

## **Binary Search Problem 3: Search for a Target Value in a 2D Sorted Matrix**

#### Problem:

You are given a 2D matrix where each row is sorted in ascending order, and the first element of each row is greater than the last element of the previous row. Write a program that performs **Binary Search** to find a target value in the matrix. If the value is found, return true. Otherwise, return false.

- 1. Treat the matrix as a **1D array** (flattened version).
- 2. Initialize left as 0 and right as rows \* columns 1.
- 3. Perform binary search:
  - o Find the middle element index mid = (left + right) / 2.
  - Convert mid to row and column indices using row = mid / numColumns and
     col = mid % numColumns.
  - Compare the middle element with the target:
    - If it matches, return true.
    - If the target is smaller, search the left half by updating right = mid 1
    - If the target is larger, search the right half by updating left = mid + 1.
- 4. If the element is not found, return false.

```
public class SearchIn2DMatrix {
    public static boolean searchMatrix(int[][] matrix, int target) {
        if (matrix == null || matrix.length == 0 || matrix[0].length == 0)
            return false;
        int rows = matrix.length;
        int cols = matrix[0].length;
        int left = 0;
        int right = rows * cols - 1;
        while (left <= right) {</pre>
            int mid = left + (right - left) / 2;
            int row = mid / cols, col = mid % cols;
            if (matrix[row][col] == target)
                return true;
            else if (matrix[row][col] < target)</pre>
                left = mid + 1;
            else
                right = mid - 1;
        }
        return false;
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        int[][] matrix = {
                { 1, 3, 5 },
                { 7, 10, 11 },
                { 12, 14, 18 }
        };
        int target = 14;
        System.out.println(searchMatrix(matrix, target));
   }
}
```

# Binary Search Problem 4: Find the First and Last Occurrence of an Element in a Sorted Array

#### Problem:

Given a **sorted array** and a target element, write a program that uses **Binary Search** to find the **first and last occurrence** of the target element in the array. If the element is not found, return -1.

- 1. Use binary search to find the **first occurrence**:
  - Perform a regular binary search, but if the target is found, continue searching on the left side (right = mid - 1) to find the first occurrence.
- 2. Use binary search to find the **last occurrence**:
  - Similar to finding the first occurrence, but once the target is found, continue searching on the right side (left = mid + 1) to find the last occurrence.
- 3. Return the indices of the first and last occurrence. If not found, return -1.

```
public class FirstAndLastOccurrence {
    public static int findFirstOcc(int[] nums, int target) {
        int left = 0;
        int right = nums.length - 1;
        int first = -1;
        while (left <= right) {</pre>
            int mid = left + (right - left) / 2;
            if (nums[mid] == target) {
                first = mid;
                right = mid - 1;
            } else if (nums[mid] < target)</pre>
                left = mid + 1;
            else
                right = mid - 1;
        }
        return first;
    }
    public static int findLastOcc(int[] nums, int target) {
        int left = 0;
        int right = nums.length - 1;
        int last = -1;
```

```
while (left <= right) {</pre>
            int mid = left + (right - left) / 2;
            if (nums[mid] == target) {
                last = mid;
                left = mid + 1;
            } else if (nums[mid] < target)</pre>
                left = mid + 1;
            else
                right = mid - 1;
       }
       return last;
   }
   public static int[] searchRange(int[] nums, int target) {
       return new int[] { findFirstOcc(nums, target), findLastOcc(nums,
target) };
   }
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        int[] nums = { 1, 2, 2, 2, 3, 4, 5 };
        int target = 2;
        int[] ans = searchRange(nums, target);
       System.out.println("First occurrence: " + ans[0] + ", Last occurrence:
 + ans[1]);
   }
```

## **Challenge Problem (for both Linear and Binary Search)**

#### Problem:

You are given a list of integers. Write a program that uses **Linear Search** to find the **first** missing positive integer in the list and **Binary Search** to find the **index of a given target** number.

- 1. Linear Search for the first missing positive integer:
  - Iterate through the list and mark each number in the list as visited (you can use negative marking or a separate array).
  - Traverse the array again to find the first positive integer that is not marked.
- 2. Binary Search for the target index:
  - After sorting the array, perform binary search to find the index of the given target number.
  - Return the index if found, otherwise return -1.

```
import java.util.*;
public class LinearBinary {
    public static int findFirstMissingPositive(int[] nums) {
        int n = nums.length;
        for (int i = 0; i < n; i++) {
            while (nums[i] > 0 \&\& nums[i] <= n \&\& nums[nums[i] - 1] != nums[i])
{
                int temp = nums[i];
                nums[i] = nums[temp - 1];
                nums[temp - 1] = temp;
            }
        for (int i = 0; i < n; i++) {
            if (nums[i] != i + 1) return i + 1;
        return n + 1;
    public static int binarySearch(int[] nums, int target) {
        Arrays.sort(nums);
        int left = 0, right = nums.length - 1;
        while (left <= right) {</pre>
            int mid = left + (right - left) / 2;
            if (nums[mid] == target) return mid;
```

```
else if (nums[mid] < target) left = mid + 1;
    else right = mid - 1;
}

return -1;
}

public static void main(String[] args) {
    int[] nums = {3, 4, -1, 1};
    System.out.println("First Missing Positive: " +
findFirstMissingPositive(nums));

    int[] sortedArray = {1, 2, 3, 4, 5};
    int target = 3;
    System.out.println("Index of target: " + binarySearch(sortedArray, target));
    }
}</pre>
```