# Learning to Love the Lambda in the Stream

Introduction to Java 8 Lambda and Functional Interfaces

# Speaker Introduction

- Richard Roda
- ► Sr. Technical Lead at Perspecta
- Over 15 years of Java development experience
- Oracle Certified Professional Java 8
- ► Linked In: <a href="https://www.linkedin.com/in/richardroda">https://www.linkedin.com/in/richardroda</a>
- ► Twitter: @Richard\_Roda
- ► These slides (pdf): <a href="https://tinyurl.com/love-lambda">https://tinyurl.com/love-lambda</a>

# What is a Lambda Expression?

- In Java, it is an unnamed function that is bound to an interface as an object.
- Similar to a closure: class members, *effectively final* arguments and local variables are available to it.
- Lambdas may only exist when assigned to a Functional Interface, including being passed in as a parameter or returned as a result.
- An *effectively final* local variable or argument is either declared final, or is not changed such that if the final declaration were added, the code remains valid.

## Lambda Examples

Example 1a

```
Predicate < Integer > is Five = n -> n == 5;
System.out.println(isFive.test(4)); // false
Example 1b
Predicate<Integer> mkTestFunc(int value)
   { return n -> n == value; }
Predicate<Integer> isFour = mkTestFunc(4);
System.out.println(isFour.test(4)); // true
► Lamdba expressions must be assigned to a functional interface
\triangleright (n -> n == 5).test(4); // Does not compile
var unknownType = n -> n == 5; // Does not compile
```

## Lambda Syntax

- A lambda expression may take one of the following forms:
  - ► [Argument List] -> statement
  - [Argument List] -> {statements; return; }
- Argument List may take one of the following forms:
  - **)** -> ...
  - i -> ...
  - ▶ (i) -> ...
  - ► (Integer i) -> ...
  - ▶ (i,j...) -> ...
  - ▶ (Integer i, String j...) -> ...
- When using the {statements; return; } form, the return is optional for a void return value. When using a single statement, the result of the statement is implicitly returned.

# Functional Interface (FI) in Java 8

- "A functional interface is any interface that contains only one abstract method." — <u>Oracle Java Tutorial</u>
- ▶ The sole abstract method is referred to as the *functional method*
- Example 2- Valid Functional Interface

```
@FunctionalInterface // Optional
public interface Example2 {
    int myMethod(); // Functional Method
    boolean equals(Object other); // In Object
    int hashCode(); // In Object
    default int myMethod2() {return myMethod();}
    static int myMethod3() {return 0;}
}
```

# Binding Lambda to Example 2 FI vs Anonymous Inner class

- ▶ Both of these implement myMethod defined in Example2.
- Since there is exactly one abstract functional method, method types and return values are inferred from the FI.

```
public class Example3 {
    static public void main(String[] args) {
        Example2 lambda = () \rightarrow 3; // 8 chars
        Example2 innerClass = new Example2() {
            @Override public int myMethod() {
                return 3;
        }; // 5 lines of code, 65 chars
        System.out.println(lambda.myMethod()); // 3
        System.out.println(innerClass.myMethod()); // 3
```

# Key Functional Interfaces

Used by Streams

#### **Functional Interface Conventions**

- ▶ The abstract method is called the *functional method*
- ► The following conventions apply for type variables used by Java 8 FIs:
- ► T First argument
- ▶ U Second argument
- R Return Value
- ▶ Any of the above are omitted if not used.
- ▶ If an FI lacks an argument, T is used for the return value instead of R.
- Many FIs that take one argument have a corresponding two argument version prefixed with "Bi".

#### Predicate<T>

- ► Accepts an argument, returns a boolean.
- Commonly used to select matching elements, or filter for matching elements.
- ► Functional method: boolean test(T t)
- ▶ 2 argument FI: BiPredicate<T,U>
- ► Related Primitive Fls: DoublePredicate, IntPredicate, LongPredicate

#### Consumer<T>

- ► Accepts an argument. Returns no value (void).
- Commonly used to perform an operation, such as printing.
- Collections and Streams have this method to apply an action to each of their elements:

```
void forEach (Consumer<? super T> action)
```

- ► Functional Method: void accept (T t)
- ▶ 2 Argument FI: BiConsumer<T,U>
- Related Primitive Fls: DoubleConsumer, IntConsumer, and LongConsumer

# Supplier<T>

- ► Accepts no arguments, returns a result
- Commonly used to provide an initial value to an algorithm.
- Useful for implementing the Factory pattern.
- Functional Method: T get()
- ► Related Primitive Fis: DoubleSupplier, IntSupplier, LongSupplier

# Function<T,R>

- ► Accepts an argument, returns a result.
- Commonly used to compute a result, or to map one value to another value.
- ► Functional Method: R apply (T t)
- ▶ 2 Argument FI: BiFunction<T,U,R>
- ► Related Primitive Fls: [Double,Int,Long]Function, [Double,Int,Long]To[Double,Int,Long]Function, To [Double,Int,Long]Function, To[Double,Int,Long]BiFunction

# UnaryOperator<T>

- Accepts an argument, returns the same type of result as its argument.
- Used to compute a result or map a value to the same type as the input.
- ► Functional Method: T apply (T t)
- ▶ 2 Argument FI: BinaryOperator<T>
- Primitive Fls:
   [Double,Int,Long]UnaryOperator,
   [Double,Int,Long]BinaryOperator
- UnaryOperator<T> extends Function<T, T>
- ▶ BinaryOperator<T> extends BiFunction<T,T,T>

# Comparator<T>

- ► Accepts two arguments, and returns an integer.
- Used to compare objects, and to impose a total ordering on a collection of objects.
- ▶ Functional Method: int compare (T o1, T o2)
  - ▶ When o1 < o2, returns <= -1</p>
  - $\blacktriangleright$  When o1 = o2, returns 0
  - ▶ When o1 > o2, returns >= 1
- ► Even though Comparator has been around since the early days, it is a functional interface that is used by the stream framework for sorting data.

# Optional<T> Class

- ► Container class returned by various stream methods.
- ► Represents a value that may or may not exist. Used instead of returning a null value.
- isPresent returns true when a value exists, ifPresent executes a Consumer<T> when a value exists, and get () obtains the value, throwing NoSuchElement if it does not exist.
- Dptional<Integer> found = Stream.of(1,2).max((a,b) -> a b);
  System.out.print("Found: " + found.isPresent() + ", value = ");
  found.ifPresent(System.out::println); // Found: true, value = 2
- Doptional<Object> notFound = Stream.of().max((a,b) -> 0);
  System.out.print("Found: " + notFound.isPresent());
  notFound.ifPresent(System.out::println); // Found: false

# Method Reference

Shorthand for lambdas that invoke a single method

#### Method Reference

- Shorthand for a Lambda that only calls a method
- Types of References
  - ▶ Static method, such as String::valueOf
  - ▶ Method on an instance, such as System.out::println
  - ► Constructor reference, such as StringBuilder::new
  - ▶ Instance method, such as String::toUpperCase
- Once familiar with syntax, these can often be read and understood faster.
- ► A method reference may always be transformed into a lambda, but a lambda may not always be transformed into a method reference.

#### Static Method Reference

Example:

```
Function<char[],String> valueOf = String::valueOf;
// valueOf = s -> String.valueOf(s);
String value = valueOf.apply(new char[]
{'H','e','l','l','o'});
System.out.println(value); // Hello
```

Arguments are bound in declaration order.

#### Method Reference on an Instance

#### Example:

```
Consumer<Object> printer = System.out::print;
// printer = i -> System.out.print(i);
Arrays.asList(1,2,3,4).forEach(printer); // 1234
```

- The same rules that apply for binding lambda variables also apply when binding to a method on an instance:
- class members, effectively final arguments and local variables may be used as a method reference on an instance.
- Arguments are bound in declaration order.

#### Constructor Method Reference

#### Example:

```
Supplier<StringBuilder> supplier = StringBuilder::new;
// supplier = () -> new StringBuilder();
StringBuilder sb = supplier.get().append("Hi!");
System.out.println(sb); // Hi!
```

- Creates a new instance of the class, and returns it as the result.
- Must be bound to a functional interface with a non-void return type.
- Supplier is canonically used for a constructor method reference.
- ▶ Function and BiFunction may be used for constructors with arguments.

#### Instance Method Reference

#### Example:

```
UnaryOperator<String> toUpper = String::toUpperCase;
// toUpper = s -> s.toUpperCase();
System.out.println(toUpper.apply("abc")); // ABC
```

- ► The first argument of the lambda becomes the instance the method reference operates on.
- The remaining arguments are bound in the order they occur.
- ► The first argument rule has significance when choosing the order of arguments for the "Bi" family of Functional Interfaces.

# Streams

Not to be confused with IO Streams

#### What is a Java Stream?

- Abstraction for computation of elements.
- A computation structure, not a data structure.
- A stream consists of
  - 1. A data source, such as a collection, file, stream builder, or computation. May be infinite, such as the set of numbers starting at 0. A data source is *lazy*.
  - 2. Zero or more intermediate operations.
    - Accepts a stream and returns a another stream with the operation appended to it.
    - Lazy: Only executed when a terminal operation processed the stream.

#### 3. A terminal operation

- Returns a result, such as a number or a collection.
- ▶ Eager: It requests the elements from the final stream, which has the effect of pulling elements from the data source and applying the intermediate operations to them. A stream is a passive description of a computation until a terminal operation is applied.
- Closes the stream. Any further operations are invalid and result in an IllegalStateException.

# Streams are Like Factory Conveyor Belts

- ▶ The data source is the raw material to be processed.
- ► Adding the intermediate operations is like getting the workers into place.
- Like a conveyor belt takes the result of the previous worker's changes to the next worker, a Stream takes the result of the previous intermediate operation as the input to the next intermediate operation or terminal operation.
- A conveyor belt doesn't start until all the workers are in place and ready. Likewise a stream doesn't start until all the intermediate operations and the terminal operation have been defined.
- Defining the terminal operation starts the processing. Once the conveyor belt is running, it can't be changed.

#### Reduction - Add a Collection of Numbers

- ▶ Given Collection<Integer> numbers that has integers from 1 to 1000, add the collection.
- For Loop

```
int total = 0;
for(Integer number : numbers) {total += number;}
return total; // 500500

> Stream reduction (using a BinaryOperator<Integer>)
return numbers.stream().reduce(0, (i,sum) -> i+sum); // 500500
```

# Breaking Down the Stream

- All streams have a data source, zero or more intermediate operations, and a terminal operation.
- numbers collection is the data source.
- reduce is a terminal reduction on the stream.
- A reduction processes all of the values in a given stream to a single value.
- ▶ Integer reduction examples: sum, average, median, min, and max.
- ► The first argument to reduce is the identity property. For addition and counting, it is 0. For a multiplication it is 1, for strings it is "" (empty string).
- ► The lambda is a BinaryOperator<Integer> that is given a running total and the current element. They are processed by adding them together.

#### **Primitive Streams**

- IntStream, LongStream, and DoubleStream
- Offers a performance benefit over the generic stream by avoiding boxing of primitive computations.
- Offers additional methods, such as sum(), min(), max(), average(), and summaryStatistics().
- Can replace a traditional for loop

```
IntStream.range(0, 10).forEach(System.out::println); // Print 0-9
```

- ▶ Use mapToInt, mapToLong, mapToDouble, and mapToObj to convert an existing stream to an IntStream, LongStream, DoubleStream, and Stream<T> respectively.
- Use the boxed () method to convert a primitive stream to its equivalent object stream by boxing the primitive values as follows:
  - ▶ IntStream to Stream<Integer>
  - LongStream to Stream<Long>
  - DoubleStream to Stream<Double>

# Intermediate Operations

These Create a New Stream with the Operation Appended to It

# Map

- ▶ Not to be confused with java.util.Map.
- Apply a computation on stream elements.
- May be used to change the element type of a stream by returning values of a different type.

```
Stream<Character> s = IntStream.range(65, 75)
   .mapToObj(i->(char)i); // Stream<Character>
s.forEach(System.out::print); // ABCDEFGHIJ

Change values, but keep data type (int).
IntStream.range(0, 10).map(i -> i*10)
   .forEach(System.out::println); // 0, 10 ... 90
```

#### Filter

The filter intermediate operation creates a new stream with the contents of the previous stream where the Predicate<T> or primitive predicate is true.

```
IntSummaryStatistics summaryStatistics =
IntStream.range(0, 1000) // Data Source
.filter(i -> i %4 == 0) // Intermediate Operation
.summaryStatistics(); // Terminal Operation
System.out.println(summaryStatistics);
/* count=250, sum=124500, min=0,
average=498.000000, max=996 */
```

# Limit and Skip - Infinite Streams

- Limit intermediate operation limits the values produced by a stream. An infinite stream becomes a finite stream.
- Skip intermediate operation skips the specified elements
- Order of these operations matters
  - ▶ Skip before limit Skipped items not counted against limit
  - ► Skip after limit Skipped items counted against limit
- IntStream.iterate(0, i -> i+1).skip(4).limit(6)
  .forEach(System.out::print); // 456789
- IntStream.iterate(0, i -> i+1).limit(6).skip(4)
  .forEach(System.out::print); // 45
- IntStream.iterate uses an initial value with an IntUnaryOperator to create an infinite stream.

# Terminal Operations

Let's Get This Party Started. Let's Get This Stream Processing

### **Terminal Operations**

- count A reduction that returns the number of elements in the stream. Never use on an infinite stream.
- reduce Perform a reduction of the stream using a BinaryOperator to accumulate the elements. Never use on an infinite stream.
- anyMatch Returns true and stops processing if any element matches the supplied Predicate, false otherwise. Empty Stream is false.
- allMatch Returns false and stops processing if any element does not match the supplied Predicate, true otherwise. Empty Stream is true
- noneMatch Returns false and stops processing if any element matches the supplied Predicate. Empty Stream is true.
- For Each A void operation that presents each element to a Consumer for processing.
- A reduction is an operation that computes a single value by processing all the values on the stream. Never use on an infinite stream.

### Terminal Operations that return Optional<T>

- ► These terminal operations return an Optional<T> because the value does not exist in an empty stream.
- findFirst produces the first element in a stream. Because this implies ordering of the elements, any parallel stream is transformed into a sequential stream to guarantee element encounter order
- findAny produces any element on the stream. It does not impose any overhead on parallel stream, but may produce differing values on invocation of the same stream.
- min produces the minimum element
- max produces the maximum element.

# Collector (Terminal Operation)

A Mutable Reduction That Creates an Object to Process All Stream Elements

Never Use on an Infinite Stream

#### **Collections Collectors**

- ▶ These collectors take the elements and add them to a collection.
- ► There are toList(), toSet(), and toCollection() collectors.

```
List<Integer> ints = IntStream.of(1,2,2,3,4,5).boxed()
.collect(Collectors.toList()); System.out.println(ints);
// [1, 2, 2, 3, 4, 5]
▶ Set<Integer> intSet = IntStream.of (1,2,2,3,4,5).boxed()
.collect(Collectors.toSet()); System.out.println(intSet);
// [1, 2, 3, 4, 5]
// Custom collection type with a sort applied to it.
LinkedHashSet<Integer> sortedSet = IntStream.of(1,2,2,3,4,5)
.boxed().sorted(Comparator.reverseOrder())
.collect(Collectors.toCollection(LinkedHashSet::new));
System.out.println(sortedSet);
// [5, 4, 3, 2, 1]
```

#### **Partition Collector**

- ► The Partition collector uses a Predicate<T> to create a map with the keys false and true.
- ▶ Both the **false** and **true** key and value always exist in the map even if the corresponding value is not present. In such a case, the value will be an empty collection, an empty optional, or a sum or count of 0.
- ▶ Use the predicate in the previous example to create a map with elements divisible by 4 and not divisible by 4.

```
Map<Boolean,Integer> summap =
IntStream.range(0, 1000).boxed()
.collect(partitioningBy(i -> i%4==0, summingInt(i -> i)));
System.out.println(summap); // {false=375000, true=124500}
```

The summingInt collector is an example of a downstream collector. In this case, it accepts the values of the partitioning by collector and produces a sum reduction of the values.

## **Grouping By Collector**

For the next example, consider the following stream producing function

```
static Stream<String> aboutJack() {
return Stream.of("All", "work", "and", "no", "play", "makes",
"jack", "a", "dull", "boy", "but", "all", "play", "and", "no",
"work" , "makes", "jack", "a", "fool"); }
Group each word by starting letter, in alphabetical order
aboutJack().sorted().collect(
   Collectors.groupingBy(s -> s.charAt(0),
   TreeMap::new, Collectors.toCollection(TreeSet::new)));
/* A=[All], a=[a, all, and], b=[boy, but], d=[dull],
f=[fool], j=[jack], m=[makes], n=[no], p=[play], w=[work] */
```

#### **Grouping By Concurrent**

Streams may be processed in parallel by using the parallel method using concurrent collectors and data structures.

## Joining Collector

A process where a stream of CharSequence is concatenated together to form a string. Recall the aboutJack stream:

```
static Stream<String> aboutJack() { return Stream.of(
"All","work","and","no","play","makes","jack","a","dull",
"boy","but","all","play","and","no","work","makes",
"jack","a","fool"); }

> Join this into words separated with a space:
aboutJack().collect(Collectors.joining(" "));
/* All work and no play makes jack a dull boy but all play and no work makes jack a fool */
```

## AutoClosable Lambdas

Use try-with-resources with any class, and catch the close exception

#### AutoClosable is a Functional Interface

```
public interface AutoCloseable {
    void close() throws Exception;
}
```

- ► This interface is a functional interface (FI) because it has exactly one abstract method.
- ► The Functional Method is: void close().
- ► The missing @FunctionalInterface annotation is unnecessary.

## Use try-with-resources with any class Example: Close a Context

- ▶ In Java 7, try-with-resources was added to the language.
- Unfortunately, not every class that could benefit from it implemented it.
- Using Lambdas, anything can leverage try-with-resources.

```
public void useContext(Context ctx) throws Exception {
    try(AutoCloseable it = ctx::close) {
        doSomethingWithContext(ctx);
    }
}
```

# Issues with the AutoClosable Functional Interface (FI)

- ► The close method throws Exception.
- The thrown Exception will either need to be caught or processed.
- ► This may result in the code being littered with catch statements.

## Fixing the AutoClosable FI

▶ If we wrote our own Closable interface: public interface NamingClosable extends AutoCloseable { @Override public void close() throws NamingException; Then we can write public void useContext (Context ctx) throws NamingException try(NamingClosable it = ctx::close) { doSomethingWithContext(ctx);

#### Parameterizing AutoClosable Exceptions

- ▶ Using generics, it is possible to parameterize the checked exceptions that a sub-interface of AutoClosable may throw.
- ► This example demonstrates how to parameterize a single checked exception.

```
public interface CloseIt1<E extends Exception>
    extends AutoCloseable {
        default void close() throws E { closeIt(); }
        void closeIt() throws E;
}
```

► The default close () method is necessary because applying the generic to an abstract close () method results in a compiler error when used in a try-with-resources statement.

#### Using the Parameterized FI

Using CloseIt1 from the previous slide:

```
public void useContext(Context ctx) throws NamingException
{
    try(CloseIt1<NamingException> it = ctx::close) {
        doSomethingWithContext(ctx);
    }
}
```

► The close method of the Context is bound to the CloseIt1 resource. The try-with-resources feature of Java does the heavy lifting of the resource exception processing.

#### **Decorator Pattern**

- ▶ One of the core patterns introduced in the Design Patterns, Elements of Reusable Object Oriented Software by Gamma, Helm, Johnson, and Vlissides.
- Pattern allows behavior to be added to an object dynamically, by decorating it, or wrapping it with another object of the same abstract type (such as an interface).
- ► This pattern may be leveraged to add capabilities to AutoClosables, such as exception handling.
- ► Since AutoClosable is a Functional Interface, the decorator may be expressed as a lambda.
- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Decorator\_pattern

#### Decorating the Close Lambda

- Consider the following code
  - ► Assume NotClosedException is an unchecked exception with an accessable constructor that takes a Throwable.

```
public interface CloseIt0 extends AutoCloseable {
   public void close() throws NotClosedException;
   public static CloseItO wrapAllException (AutoCloseable
   autoCloseable) {
      // Decorating with a lambda that wraps all Exceptions
      return () -> { try { autoCloseable.close(); }
      catch (Exception ex) { throw new NotClosedException(ex);}
      };
```

## Catching the Decorated Close Exception

This close lambda is decorated to wrap any exceptions that occur within a NotClosedException. If no exception occurs within the body, this wrapped exception will be caught and processed by the catch clause. Otherwise, it will be a suppressed exception.

```
public void useContext(Context ctx) throws NamingException {
    try(CloseIt0 it = CloseIt0.wrapAllException(ctx::close)) {
        doSomethingWithContext(ctx);
    } catch (NotClosedException ex) {
        logger.log(Level.WARNING, ex.getCause().getMessage()
        , ex.getCause());
    }
}
```

## The CloseIt Project

- ► Provides generic functional interfaces extending
  AutoCloseable to use as the target of try-withresources lambdas. Supports 0-5 checked exceptions.
- Makes it easy to use try-with-resources for any object that needs cleanup. May replace the try-finally construct.
- Provides these decorators for handling close exceptions
  - ▶ Ignore Pretend the exception never happened. Discard it.
  - Consume Do something, such as log the exception, then discard.
  - ▶ Hide Hide a checked exception from the compiler and throw it.
  - Wrap Wrap the exception within another exception of a different type. This a form of the Adapter design pattern. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Adapter\_pattern.

#### Questions

- Oracle's Lambda Quick Start Tutorial:
  <a href="http://www.oracle.com/webfolder/technetwork/tutorials/">http://www.oracle.com/webfolder/technetwork/tutorials/</a>
  <a href="http://www.oracle.com/webfolder/technetwork/tutorials/">http://www.oracle.com/webfolder/technetwork/tutorials/</a>
  <a href="http://www.oracle.com/webfolder/technetwork/tutorials/">http://www.oracle.com/webfolder/technetwork/tutorials/</a>
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- ► These slides (pdf): <a href="https://tinyurl.com/love-lambda">https://tinyurl.com/love-lambda</a>
- CloseIt: <a href="https://github.com/RichardRoda/closeit">https://github.com/RichardRoda/closeit</a> com.github.richardroda.util:closeit:1.4
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