COSC 1P03 Lab 2 Jan 22-26, Winter 2024

In this lab we will be considering searching an array in the context of a data processing problem.

Over the Horizon

Over the Horizon Utilities is an electric utility that provides electricity to homeowners. At the end of each month, it does billing for each customer. The amount charged the customer is the consumption (in kilowatt hours (kwh)) times the current rate (\$1.525/kwh). The customer data is maintained as an ASCIIDataFile. For each customer there is an account number (String), customer name (String), a previous meter reading (from the last billing period, double) and a current meter reading (double). The program processes the customer records producing a report (ReportPrinter) listing the relevant customer billing data and the total billed as summary such as shown in Figure 1:

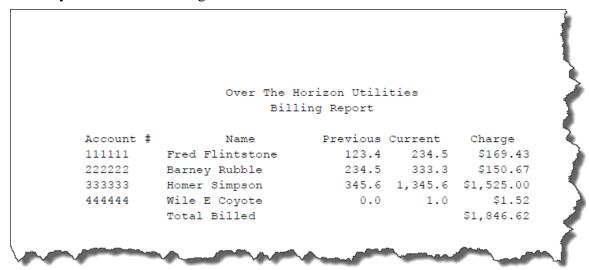


Figure 1 Billing Report

At the end of each billing period and prior to running the billing program, the utility sends meter readers to read the electricity meters. The meter reader has a tablet that runs a program to enter new current meter readings for accounts in the account file. The program presents the form shown in Figure 2.

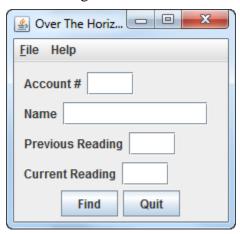


Figure 2 Meter Reading Form

The reader enters the account number for the customer (the number is on the meter) and presses Find. If the account number is found, the account details are displayed (Figure 3) and the reader enters the new current reading and presses Update and the cycle continues until the meter reader presses Quit.

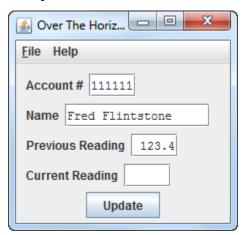


Figure 3 Meter Form with Details

When all the meters have been read, the billing program is run to prepare the billing information for the billing period.

Exercise 1 Account Records

Estimated time: 30 minutes

Download and extract the Lab 2 folder from Brightspace onto your LabExcercise folder (make a folder). It contains a package folder Billing containing the Billing project which has a Billing package inside for this exercise.

As part of the Billing package, write the Account class.

It should provide a constructor:

```
public Account ( ASCIIDataFile from )
```

that reads a line containing the account information (number, name, previous reading, current reading) from a text file.

The class should provide appropriate accessor methods:

```
public String getAcctNum ( )
public String getName ( )
public double getPrevReading ( )
public double getCurrReading ( )
```

and two other methods:

```
public void takeReading ( double reading )
```

that updates the account, setting the *current reading* to the parameter reading leaving the *previous reading* unchanged; and:

```
public double billForUsage ( )
```

that computes the billing amount as the difference between the current and previous meter readings (consumption) times the rate and updates the *previous reading* to be the *current reading* in the account record (after billForUsage previous and current readings are equal).

Finally, it should include a method:

```
public void write ( ASCIIOutputFile to )
```

that writes the account information to an ASCIIOutputFile in the same order that the constructor reads the account information.

A skeleton of the Account class is found in the file Account.java. An implementation of the Billing class is included in the Billing package supplied. Implement and compile your Account class in the Billing package and run it using the supplied data file: accounts1.txt producing a new accounts file newAccounts1.txt and a report report1.pdf. The report should be the same as the example on page 1.

Exercise 2 Update

Estimated time: 45 minutes

As part of the Billing package, write a main class Update, to be run by the meter reader, that performs account update (i.e. meter readings).

The Account objects are stored in the file (ASCIIDataFile) in account number order. Since the reader will not be reading the meters in account number order, the program will have to load all account objects into an array and search the array for the Account with the account number as entered by the meter reader (as in Figure 2). If the account is found, it will present the information from the account with the current reading empty (as in Figure 3).

When the reader presses Update, it will update the Account object by calling the takeReading method.

When the reader presses Quit, the program will write the updated Account objects to a new ASCIIOutputFile.

A skeleton of the Update class is provided as part of the Billing package. The setUpForm and fillForm methods are supplied. Complete the implementation in 2 phases:

Phase 1

Write the method loadAccts which creates the array for the accounts, fills the array with the account objects read from the ASCIIDataFile and counts the number of accounts.

Write the method writeAccts which writes the account objects from the array to the ASCIIOutputFile.

Write an appropriate constructor to use loadAccts and writeAccts to read and write the accounts.

Run the program using accounts2.txt as input and producing accounts3.txt as output. The two files should be identical.

Phase 2

Write the method findAccount that searches the account array for the indicted account number returning a reference to the desired account object or null if there is no such object.

Modify the constructor to load the account array and then, until the user presses Quit, presents the meter reading form with all fields empty (Figure 2). When the user enters an account number and presses Find, it locates account object and displays the account information in the meter reading form (Figure 3). When the user enters the current reading and presses Update, it updates the account object using the takeReading method. When the user presses Quit, it writes the updated account records to the ASCIIOutput file.

Run the program using the file accounts2.txt as input producing the updated accounts file updatedAccounts2.txt. During execution, update the records in arbitrary order (see Figure 1 for values) and then quit. The updatedAccounts2.txt file written should be the same as accounts1.txt.

Run the Billing class to produce the billing report using updatedAccounts2.txt as input and producing newAccounts2.txt as the output file and report2.pdf as the report. The report should be the same as shown in Figure 1 and newAccounts2.txt should be the same as newAccounts1.txt produced in Exercise 1.