

Course Topics: Advanced SE

- Language/library enhancements in Java 7 and 8
 - File handling with NIO, try-with-resources statement, etc.
 - Functional programming with lambda expressions
- Concurrent programming
 - Java threads
 - Threading data structures, libraries and frameworks
 - Concurrent object-oriented design patterns
- Network programming
 - Socket programming with TCP/IP
 - I/O techniques
- Middleware and clouds
 - REST
 - MapReduce

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Welcome to CS681!

Tue Thu 5:30pm to 6:45

Healey H04-0031

Course Work

- Lectures
 - Sometimes a quiz at the beginning of a lecture
- Homework
 - Reading
 - Programming exercises (umasscs681@gmail.com)
 - Individual project
- Send your questions to jxs@cs.umb.edu

Grading

- Grading factors
 - Homework (65-70%)
 - Project deliverables (25%)
 - Quiz (5-10%)
- No textbooks
 - It might be helpful to have books on Java 8 and Java threading
 - Java API documentation
- No exams

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Language/Library Enhancements in Java 7

- File handling
 - `Path`, `Paths` and `Files` in the NIO (New I/O) API
- *Try-with-resources* statement and `AutoCloseable`
- Null checking with `java.util.Objects`
- Type inference with the diamond (`<>`) operator.

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Elementary Basics in Java Versioning

- Java 7 ~ JDK 1.7
- Java 8 ~ JDK 1.8
 - More precisely, JDK 1.7 and 1.8 implement Java 7's and 8's language specifications, respectively.
 - > `java -version`
`java version "1.8.0_xx"`
`Java (TM) SE Runtime Environment (build 1.8.0_xx)`
`Java HotSpot (TM) 64-Bit Server VM (build....)`
 - Download and set up JDK 1.8 in your machine.

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(1) Dealing with File/Directory Paths in NIO

- `java.nio.Paths`
 - A utility class (i.e., a set of static methods) to create a path in the file system.
 - Path: A sequence of directories
 - Optionally with a file name in the end.
 - A path can be *absolute* or *relative*.
 - `Path absolute = Paths.get("/Users/jxs/temp/test.txt");`
 - `Path relative = Paths.get("temp/test.txt");`
- `java.nio.Path`
 - Represents a path in the file system.
 - Given a path, `resolve` (or determine) another path.
 - `Path absolute = Paths.get("/Users/jxs/");`
`Path another = absolute.resolve("temp/test.txt");`
 - `Path relative = Paths.get("src");`
`Path another = relative.resolveSibling("bin");`

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Just in Case: Passing Variable # of Parameters to a Method

- `Paths.get()` can receive a variable number of parameter values (1 to many values)
 - C.f. Java API documentation
 - `Paths.get(String first, String... more)`
 - `Paths.get("temp/test.txt");` // relative path
 - `Paths.get("temp", "test.txt");` // relative path
 - `Paths.get("/", "Users", "jxs");` // absolute path
 - `String... More` → Can receive zero to many String values.
- Introduced in Java 5 (JDK 1.5)

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- A method handles parameter values with an array.

```
- class Foo{  
    public void varParamMethod(String... strings){  
        for(int i = 0; i < strings.length; i++){  
            System.out.println(strings[i]); } } }  
- Foo foo = new Foo();  
foo.varParamMethod("U", "M", "B");  
  
• String... Strings is a syntactic sugar for String[] strings.
```

- A Java compiler transforms the above code to:

```
- class Foo{  
    public void varParamMethod(String[] strings){  
        for(int i = 0; i < strings.length; i++){  
            System.out.println(strings[i]); } } }  
- Foo foo = new Foo();  
String[] strs = {"U", "M", "B"};  
foo.varParamMethod(strs);
```

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Reading and Writing into a File w/ NIO

- `java.nio.file.Files`
 - A utility class (i.e., a set of static methods) to process a file/directory.
 - Reading a byte sequence and a char sequence from a file
 - `Path path = Paths.get("/Users/jxs/temp/test.txt");
byte[] bytes = Files.readAllBytes(path);
String content = new String(bytes);`
 - `List<String> lines = Files.readAllLines(path);
for(String line: lines){
 System.out.println(line); }`
 - Writing into a file
 - `Files.write(path, bytes);
Files.write(path, content.getBytes());
Files.write(path, bytes, StandardOpenOption.CREATE_NEW);
Files.write(path, lines);
Files.write(path, lines, StandardOpenOption.APPEND);`
 - `StandardOpenOption: APPEND, CREATE, CREATE_NEW, etc.`

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NIO (java.nio) v.s. Traditional I/O (java.io)

- NIO provides simpler APIs.
 - Client code can be more concise and easier to understand.

- NIO:

```
- Path path = Paths.get("/Users/jxs/temp/test.txt");  
byte[] bytes = Files.readAllBytes(path);  
String content = new String(bytes);
```

- java.io:

```
- File file = ...;  
FileInputStream fis = new FileInputStream(file);  
int len = (int)file.length();  
byte[] bytes = new byte[len];  
fis.read(bytes);  
fis.close();  
String content = new String(bytes);
```

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NIO (java.nio) v.s. Traditional I/O (java.io)

- NIO:

```
- Path path = Paths.get("/Users/jxs/temp/test.txt");
List<String> lines = Files.readAllLines(path);
```

- java.io:

```
- int ch=-1, i=0;
ArrayList<String> contents = new ArrayList<String>();
StringBuffer strBuff = new StringBuffer();
File file = ...;
InputStreamReader reader = new InputStreamReader(
    new FileInputStream(file));
while( (ch=reader.read()) != -1 ){
    if( (char)ch == '\n' ){ //**line break detection
        contents.add(i, strBuff.toString());
        strBuff.delete(0, strBuff.length());
        i++;
        continue;
    }
    strBuff.append((char)ch);
}
reader.close();
```

** The perfect (platform independent) detection of a line break should be more complex.
Unix: '\n', Mac: '\r', Windows: '\r\n' c.f. BufferedReader.read()¹³

NIO (java.nio) v.s. Traditional I/O (java.io)

- NIO:

```
- Path path = Paths.get("/Users/jxs/temp/test.txt");
List<String> lines = Files.readAllLines(path);
```

- java.io (a bit simplified version):

```
- int ch=-1, i=0;
ArrayList<String> contents = new ArrayList<String>();
StringBuffer strBuff = new StringBuffer();
File file = ...;
FileReader reader = new FileReader(file); //***
while( (ch=reader.read()) != -1 ){
    if( (char)ch == '\n' ){ //** Line break detection
        contents.add(i, strBuff.toString());
        strBuff.delete(0, strBuff.length());
        i++;
        continue;
    }
    strBuff.append((char)ch);
}
reader.close();
```

*** FileReader: A convenience class for reading character files.
C.f. CS680 lecture note¹⁴

Files in Java NIO

- readAllBytes(), readAllLines()
 - Read the whole data from a file without buffering.
- write()
 - Write a set of data to a file without buffering.
- When using a large file, it makes sense to use **BufferedReader** and **BufferedWriter** with **Files**.

```
- Path path = Paths.get("/Users/jxs/temp/test.txt");
BufferedReader reader = Files.newBufferedReader(path);
while( (line=reader.readLine()) != null ){
    // do something
}
reader.close();

- BufferedWriter writer = Files.newBufferedWriter(path);
writer.write(...);
writer.close();
```

Just in case: Buffering

- At the lowest level, read/write operations read/write data byte by byte, or char by char.
 - File access occurs byte by byte, or char by char.
- Inefficient if you read/write a lot of data.
- Buffering allows read/write operations to read/write data in a coarse-grained manner.
 - Chunk by chunk, not byte by byte or char by char
 - Chunk = a set of bytes or a set of chars
 - The size of a chunk: 512 bytes by default, but configurable

Never Forget to Call close()

- Input and output streams can be obtained from `Files`.

- ```
Path path = Paths.get("/Users/jxs/temp/test.txt");
InputStream is = Files.newInputStream(path);
 • is contains an instance of ChannelInputStream, which is a
 subclass of InputStream.
 • Make sure to call is.close() in the end.
```

- Can decorate the input/output stream with filters.

- ```
ZipInputStream zis = new ZipInputStream(
    Files.newInputStream(path) );
    • Make sure to call zis.close() in the end.
```

- Need to call `close()` on each input/output stream (or its filer) in the end.

- Must-do: Follow the *Before/After* design pattern.

- In Java, use a *try-catch-finally* or *try-finally* statement.

```
» openFile();
try{
    doSomethingWithFile();
}catch(...){
    // Exception handling
}finally{
    closeFile();
}
```

- Note: No need to call `close()` when using `readAllBytes()`, `readAllLines()` and `write()` of `Files`.

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(2) Try-with-resources Statement

- Allows you to skip calling `close()` explicitly in the `finally` block.

- *Try-finally*

- ```
openFile();
try{
 doSomethingWithFile();
}catch(...){
 // Exception handling
}finally{
 closeFile();
}
```

- *Try-with-resources*

- ```
try ( openFile() ){
    doSomethingWithFile();
}
```

- `close()` is automatically called on a resource used for reading or writing to a file, when existing a try block.

- ```
try(BufferedReader reader =
 Files.newBufferedReader(Paths.get("test.txt")) {
 while((line=reader.readLine()) != null){
 // do something
 }
}
```

- No explicit call of `close()` on `reader` in the finally block. `reader` is expected to implement the `AutoCloseable` interface.

- ```
try( BufferedReader reader = Files.newBufferedReader(...);
    PrintWriter writer = new PrintWriter(...) ) {
    while( (line=reader.readLine()) != null ){
        // do something
        writer.println(...); }
}
```

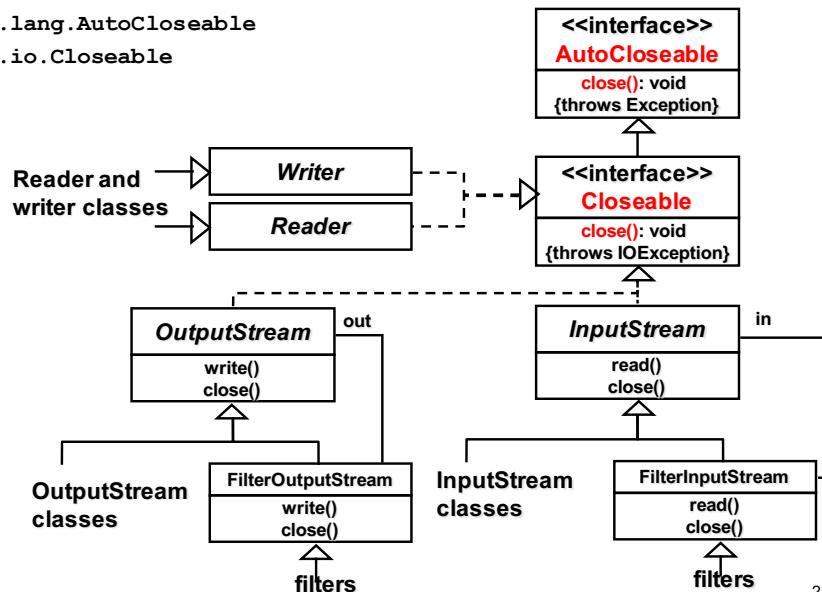
- Can specify multiple resources in a try block. `close()` is called on all of them. They all need to implement `AutoCloseable`.

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AutoCloseable Interface

- `java.lang.AutoCloseable`
- `java.io.Closeable`



- Recap: No need to call `close()` when using `readAllBytes()`, `readAllLines()` and `write()` Of `Files`.
- Those methods use the try-with-resources statement to read and write to a file.

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Try-with-resources-Catch-Finally

- Catch and finally blocks can be attached to a try-with-resources statement.

```
• try( BufferedReader reader =
    Files.newBufferedReader( Paths.get("test.txt") ) ){
    while( (line=reader.readLine()) != null ){
        // do something. This part may throw an exception.
    }catch(...){
        //This block runs if the try block throws an exception.
    }finally{
        ...
        //No need to do reader.close() here.
    }
```

- The catch and finally blocks run (if necessary) AFTER `close()` is called on `reader`.

(3) Null Checking with Objects

- `java.util.Objects`, extending `java.lang.Object`
 - A utility class (i.e., a set of static methods) for the instances of `java.lang.Object` and its subclasses.
 - `class Foo{
 private String str;
 public Foo()(String str){
 this.str = Objects.requireNonNull(str);
 }
}`
 - `requireNonNull()` throws a `NullPointerException` if `str==null`. Otherwise, it simply returns `str`.
 - `class Foo{
 private String str;
 public Foo()(String str){
 this.str = Objects.requireNonNull(
 str, "str must be non-null!!!!");
 }
}`
 - `requireNonNull()` can accept an error message, which is to be contained in a `NullPointerException`.

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(4) Type Inference

- Traditional null checking

```
- if(str == null)  
    throw new NullPointerException();  
this.str = str;
```

- With `Objects.requireNonNull()`

```
- this.str = Objects.requireNonNull(str);
```

- Can eliminate an explicit conditional statement and make code simpler.

- Can be used to define a variable with generics.

- Before Java 7:

```
- ArrayList<String> list = new ArrayList<String>();
```

- Since Java 7:

```
- ArrayList<String> list = new ArrayList<>();
```

- No need to repeat “ArrayList<String>”
- Code looks less redundant/dumb.
- <>: Diamond operator

```
- HashMap<String, ArrayList<Foo>> map = new HashMap<>();
```

- This looks like a simple coding trick, but it was an important step for further type inference mechanisms introduced in Java 8.

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Language/Library Enhancements in Java 8

Notable Enhancements in Java 8

- Lambda expressions
 - Allow you to do *functional programming* in Java
- Static and default methods in interfaces

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Lambda Expressions in Java

- Lambda expression
 - A block of code (or a function) that you can pass to a method.
 - Before Java 8, methods can receive primitive values and objects only.
 - `public void example(int i, String s, ArrayList<...> list)`
 - Methods receive nothing else.

```
- foo.example( [if(Math.random()>0.5){  
    System.out.println(...);}  
else{  
    System.out.println(...);}] )
```

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- No need to specify the name of a function.
 - Lambda expression ~ anonymous function/method that is not bound to a class/interface
 - No need to explicitly specify the return value's type.
 - It is automatically inferred.
 - Single-expression code block
 - Does not use the “return” keyword.
 - Multi-expression code block
 - Surrounds expressions with { and }.
 - Needs to use the “return” keyword.
 - Every conditional branch must return a value.
 - `() -> {
 if(Math.random() > 0.5) return true;
 // else return false; ← A compilation error occurs here if this line is commented out.
}`

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How to Define a Lambda Expression?

- A lambda expression consists of
 - A code block
 - A set of parameters to be passed to the code block
 - `(String str) -> str.toUpperCase()`
 - `(StringBuffer first, StringBuffer second)
-> first.append(second)`
 - `(int first, int second)
-> second - first`
 - `(double threshold) -> {
 if(Math.random() > threshold) return true;
 else return false;
}`
 - `() -> {
 if(Math.random() > 0.5) return true;
 else return false;
}`

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How to Pass a Lambda Expression?

- A method can receive a lambda expression(s).
 - `foo.example(int first, int second) -> second-first)`
 - The method receives a lambda expression as a parameter.
 - What is the type of that parameter?
 - *Functional interface!*

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Functional Interface

- A special type of interface
 - An interface that has a single abstract (or empty) method.
- An example functional interface: `java.util.Comparator`
 - Defines `compare()`, which is the only abstract/empty method.
 - A new annotation is available:
 - `@FunctionalInterface`
 - All functional interfaces in Java API have this annotation.
 - » The API documentation says “This is a functional interface and can therefore be used as the assignment target for a lambda expression...”
 - `Collections.sort(List, Comparator<T>)`
 - The second parameter can accept a lambda expression.
 - `Collections.sort(aList,`
`(Integer first, Integer second)->`
`second.intValue()-first.intValue()) ;`

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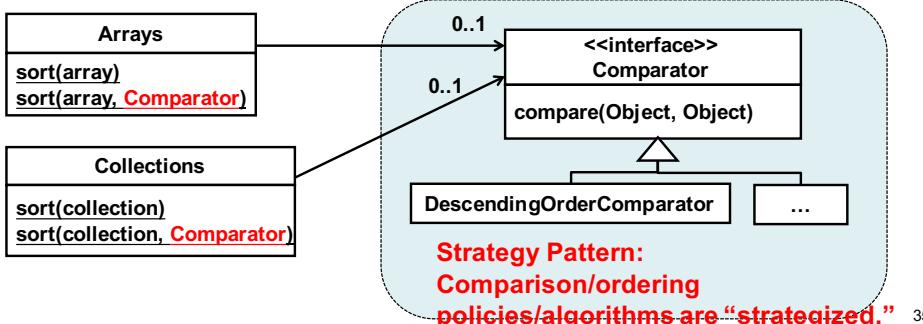
Recap: Comparators

- Sorting collection elements:
 - ```
ArrayList<Integer> years2 = new ArrayList<Integer>();
years2.add(new Integer(2010));
years2.add(new Integer(2000));
years2.add(new Integer(1997));
years2.add(new Integer(2006));
Collections.sort(years2);
for(Integer y: years2)
 System.out.println(y);
```
  - `java.util.Collections`: a utility class (i.e., a set of static methods) to process collections and collection elements
  - `sort()` orders array elements in an ascending order.
    - 1997 -> 2000 -> 2006 -> 2010

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# Comparison/Ordering Policies

- What if you want to sort array/collection elements in a descending order or any specialized (user-defined) order?
  - `Arrays.sort()` and `Collections.sort()` implement ascending ordering only.
    - They do not implement any other policies.
- Define a custom comparator by implementing `java.util.Comparator`



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- `Arrays.sort()` and `Collections.sort()` are defined to sort array/collection elements from “smaller” to “bigger” elements.
  - By default, “smaller” elements mean the elements that have lower numbers.
- A descending ordering can be implemented by treating “smaller” elements as the elements that have higher numbers.
- `compare()` in comparator classes can define (or re-define) what “small” means and what’s “big” means.
  - Returns a negative integer, zero, or a positive integer as the first argument is “smaller” than, “equal to,” or “bigger” than the second.
- ```
public class DescendingOrderComparator implements Comparator{
    public int compare(Object o1, Object o2){
        return ((Integer)o2).intValue() - ((Integer) o1).intValue();
    }
}
```

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Sorting Collection Elements with a Custom Comparator

```
- ArrayList<Integer> years = new ArrayList<Integer>();
years.add(new Integer(2010)); years.add(new Integer(2000));
years.add(new Integer(1997)); years.add(new Integer(2006));
Collections.sort(years);
for(Integer y: years)
    System.out.println(y);
Collections.sort(years, new DescendingOrderComparator());
for(Integer y: years)
    System.out.println(y);
```

- 1997 -> 2000 -> 2006 -> 2010
- 2010 -> 2006 -> 2000 -> 1997

```
• public class DescendingOrderComparator implements Comparator{
    public int compare(Object o1, Object o2){
        return ((Integer)o2.intValue() - ((Integer) o1).intValue());
    }
}
```

- A more type-safe option is available/recommended:

```
• public class DescendingOrderComparator<Integer>{
    implements Comparator<Integer>{
        public int compare(Integer o1, Integer o2){
            return o2.intValue() - o1.intValue();
        }
    }
}
```

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Okay, so What's the Point?

- Without a lambda expression

```
- public class DescendingOrderComparator<Integer>{
    implements Comparator<Integer>{
        public int compare(Integer o1, Integer o2) {
            return o2.intValue() - o1.intValue();
        }
    }
}
Collections.sort(years, new DescendingOrderComparator());
```

- With a lambda expression

```
- Collections.sort(years, (Integer o1, Integer o2) ->
    o2.intValue() - o1.intValue());
```

- Code gets more concise (shorter and simpler).

- The lambda expression defines DescendingOrderComparator's compare() in a concise way.
- More readable and less ugly than the code based on an anonymous class.

- The LE version is a *syntactic sugar* for the non-LE version.
 - Your compiler does program transformation at compilation time.

FYI: Anonymous Class

- The most expressive (default) version

```
- public class DescendingOrderComparator<Integer>{
    implements Comparator<Integer>{
        public int compare(Integer o1, Integer o2) {
            return o2.intValue() - o1.intValue();
        }
    }
}
Collections.sort(years, new DescendingOrderComparator());
```

- With an anonymous class

```
- Collections.sort(years,
    new Comparator<Integer>() {
        @Override
        public int compare(Integer o1, Integer o2) {
            return o2.intValue() - o1.intValue();
        }
    });
}
```

- With a lambda expression

```
- Collections.sort(years, (Integer o1, Integer o2) ->
    o2.intValue() - o1.intValue());
```

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How Do You Know Where You can Use a Lambda Expression?

- You are trying to use `Collections.sort(List, Comparator<T>)`
- Check out `Comparator` in the API doc.
- Notice `Comparator` is a functional interface.
 - `@FunctionalInterface`
`public interface Comparator<T>`
 - The API doc says "This is a functional interface and can therefore be used as the assignment target for a lambda expression..."
 - This means you can pass a lambda expression to `sort()`.
- Find out which method is the only abstract/empty (i.e., non-static, non-default) method.
 - `public int compare(T o1, T o2)`
- Define a lambda expression to represent the method body of `compare()` and pass it to `sort()`.
 - `Collections.sort(aList,`
`(Integer first, Integer second)->`
`second.intValue() - first.intValue())`

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Assignment of a LE to a Functional Interface

- `Comparator` is a functional interface.
 - `@FunctionalInterface`
`public interface Comparator<T>`
 - The API doc says "This is a functional interface and can therefore be used as the assignment target for a lambda expression..."
- A lambda expression can be assigned to a functional interface.
 - `Comparator<Integer> comparator =`
`(o1, o2)-> o2.intValue() - o1.intValue();`
`Collections.sort(years, comparator);`
- Parameter types can be omitted thru type inference.
 - `Comparator<Integer> comparator =`
`(o1, o2)-> o2.intValue() - o1.intValue()`
 - C.f. Type inference with the diamond operator (introduced in Java 7).

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What does Collections.sort() do?

- class Collections
 static ... sort(List<T> list, Comparator<T> c){
 for each pair (o1 and o2) of elements in list{
 int result = c.compare(o1, o2);
 if(result < 0){
 ...
 } else if(result > 0){
 ...
 } else if(result==0){
 ...
 } } }
- C.f. Run this two-line code.
 - `Comparator<Integer> comparator =`
`(Integer o1, Integer o2)-> o2.intValue() - o1.intValue();`
`comparator.compare(1, 10);`
 - `compare()` returns 9 (10 - 1).

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Some Notes

- A lambda expression can be assigned to a functional interface.
 - `public interface Comparator<T>{`
`public int compare(T o1, T o2)`
 }
`Comparator<Integer> comparator =`
`(Integer o1, Integer o2)-> o2.intValue() - o1.intValue()`
 - `Collections.sort(years, comparator);`
- It cannot be assigned to `Object`.
 - `Object comparator =`
`(Integer o1, Integer o2)-> o2.intValue() - o1.intValue()`

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- Without a lambda expression

```
- public class DescendingOrderComparator<Integer>{
    implements Comparator<Integer>{
        public int compare(Integer o1, Integer o2) {
            return o2.intValue() - o1.intValue();
        }
    }
    Collections.sort(years, new DescendingOrderComparator());
}
```

- With a lambda expression

```
- Collections.sort(years, (Integer o1, Integer o2) ->
    o2.intValue() - o1.intValue());
```

- A type mismatch results in a compilation error.

```
- Collections.sort(years, (Integer o1, Integer o2) ->
    o2.floatValue() - o1.floatValue());
```

- The return value type must be int, not float.

- compare() is expected to return an int value.

- A lambda expression cannot throw an exception

- if its corresponding functional interface does not specify that for the abstract/empty method.

- Not good (fails compilation)

```
- public interface Comparator<T>{
    public int compare(T o1, T o2)
}
- Collections.sort(years, (Integer o1, Integer o2) ->{
    if(...) throw new XYZException;
    else return ... );
```

- Good

```
- public interface Comparator<T>{
    public int compare(T o1, T o2) throws XYZException
}
- Collections.sort(years, (Integer o1, Integer o2) ->{
    if(...) throw new XYZException;
    else return ... );
```

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LEs make Your Code Concise, but...

- You still need to clearly understand

- the Strategy design pattern
 - Comparator and its implementation classes
 - What compare() is meant to do
 - How Collection.sort() calls compare().

- Using or not using LEs just impact how to *express* your code.

- This does not impact how to *design* your code.

A Benefit of Using Lambda Expressions

- Your code gets more concise.

- This may or may not mean “easier to understand” depending on how much you are used to lambda expressions.

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