



Input & Output Classes

Java's Hierarchy of Input/Output Classes
and Their Purpose

Introduction

- These slides introduce several input and output classes for special purposes, such as reading or writing a file.
- Some of these slides use the concept of **inheritance**.

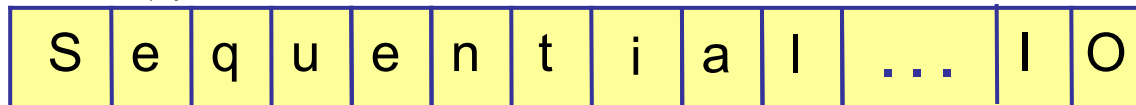
.

Types of Input/Output

	Data in text format (data as characters)	Data in binary format
Sequential Access	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ write to terminal■ text, html files■ printf(), format()	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ not human readable■ efficient for space and computer read■ image, MP3, Word
Random Access		

Sequential Access

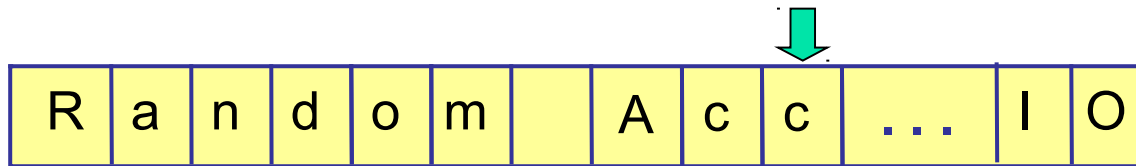
- Read/write everything starting from the beginning.
- Sequential:
 - Cannot "back up" and reread or rewrite something.
 - Cannot "jump" to arbitrary location in stream.
- InputStream and OutputStream use sequential I/O.
- InputStream has a **skip(n)**, but it is still sequential.



```
int a = instream.read( ); // read a = 'S'
byte [ ] b = new byte[10];
int count = instream.read( b ); // read next 10 bytes
```

Random Access

- Can move to any location using **seek ()** method.
- Can move forward and backward.
- Only makes sense for files.



```
File file = new File( "c:/data/myfile.txt" );  
RandomAccessFile rand =  
    new RandomAccessFile(file, "r");  
rand.seek( 9L ); // goto byte 9  
int b = rand.read( );
```

Basic Input Classes

`InputStream`

read input as **bytes**

`Reader`

read input as **characters**

`InputStreamReader`

`BufferedReader`

read entire lines as **Strings**

InputStream

Reads input as bytes -- one byte at a time.

If no more data, read() returns -1.

```
buffer = new StringBuffer( );  
while ( true ) {  
    int c = inputStream.read( );  
    if ( c < 0 ) break; // end of input  
    buffer.append( (char)c );  
}
```

Do & test programming Idiom

This kind of code is common in C.

```
buffer = new StringBuffer( );  
int c = 0;  
while ( (c=inputStream.read( )) >=0 ) {  
    buffer.append( (char)c );  
}
```


InputStream with array of byte

It can be more efficient to read many bytes at one time.

```
byte [] buff = new byte[80];  
while ( true ) {  
    int count = inputStream.read( buff );  
    if ( count <= 0 ) break; // end  
    // process buff  
}
```

InputStream with array error

read() may not fill the entire buffer (buff)!

Always check **count** of bytes read -- do not assume that `count == buff.length` !

```
byte [] buff = new byte[80];  
count = inputStream.read(buff);  
  
// ERROR! buff may contain junk  
String data = new String(buff);
```

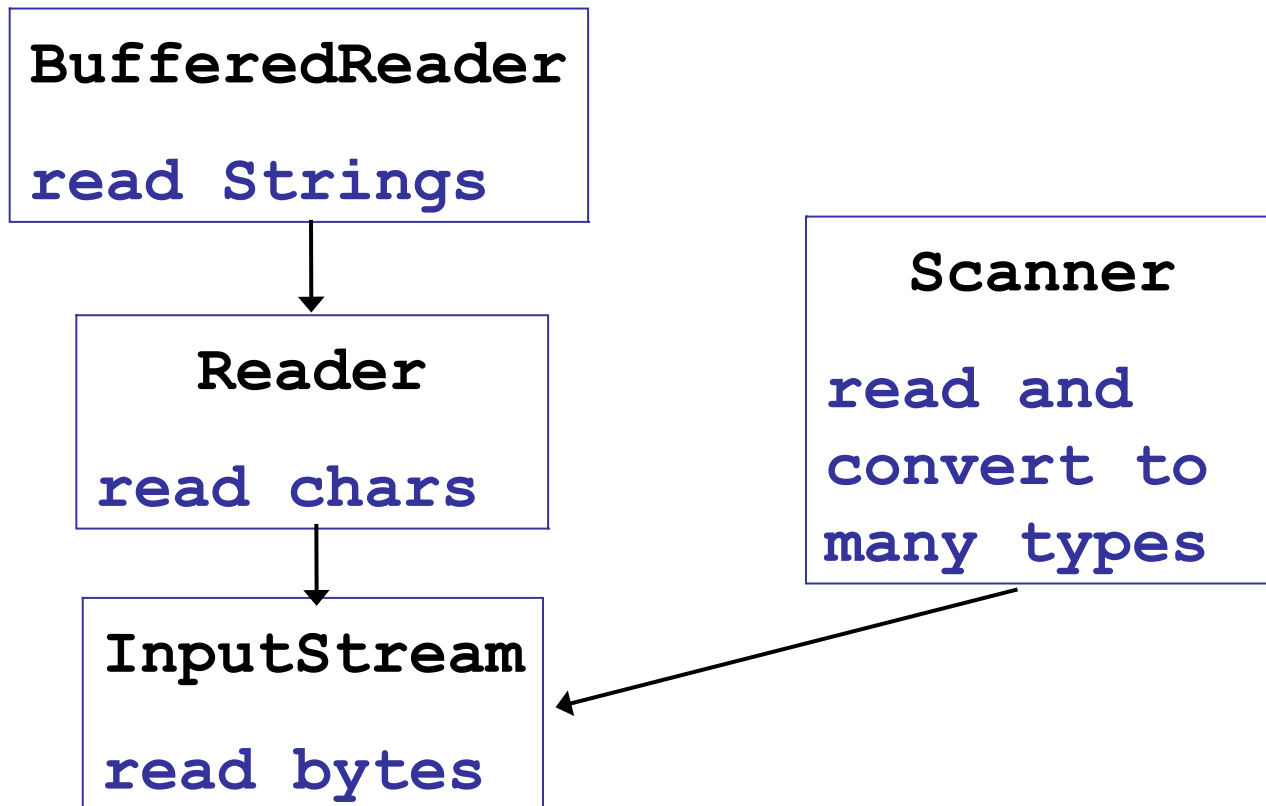
FileInputStream

- An InputStream connected to a file.
- Has many constructors.
- Works just like InputStream!

```
FileInputStream inputStream =  
    new FileInputStream("c:/test.dat");  
  
while ( true ) {  
    int c = inputStream.read( );  
    if ( c < 0 ) break; // end of input  
    buffer.append( (char)c );  
}  
inputStream.close( );
```

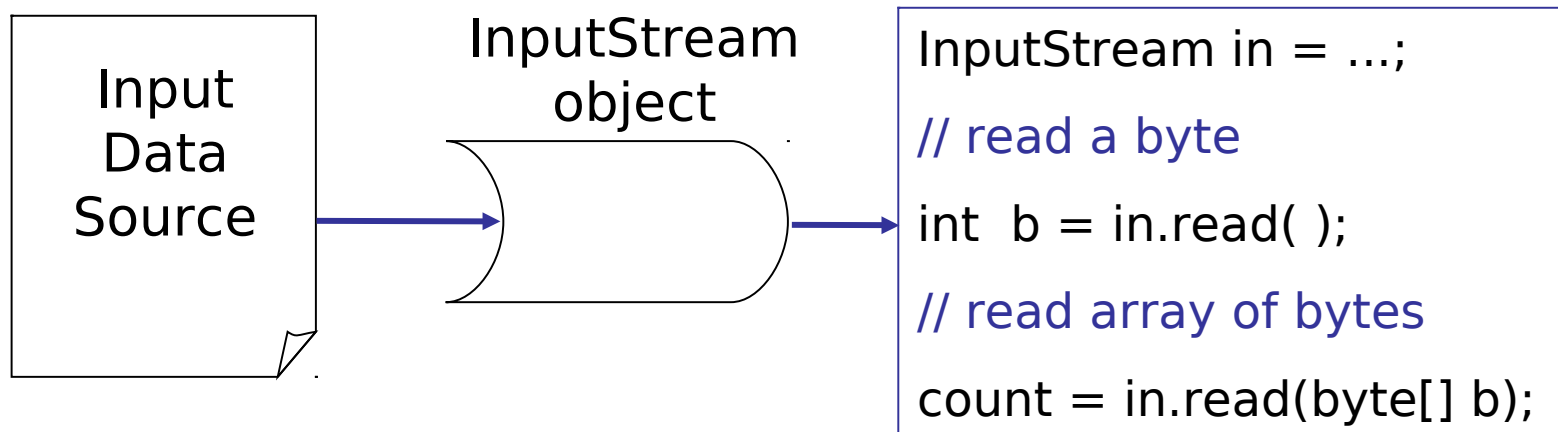
Input Classes Hierarchy

- Each layer "adapts" a lower layer to provide a different interface. They are **adaptors**.



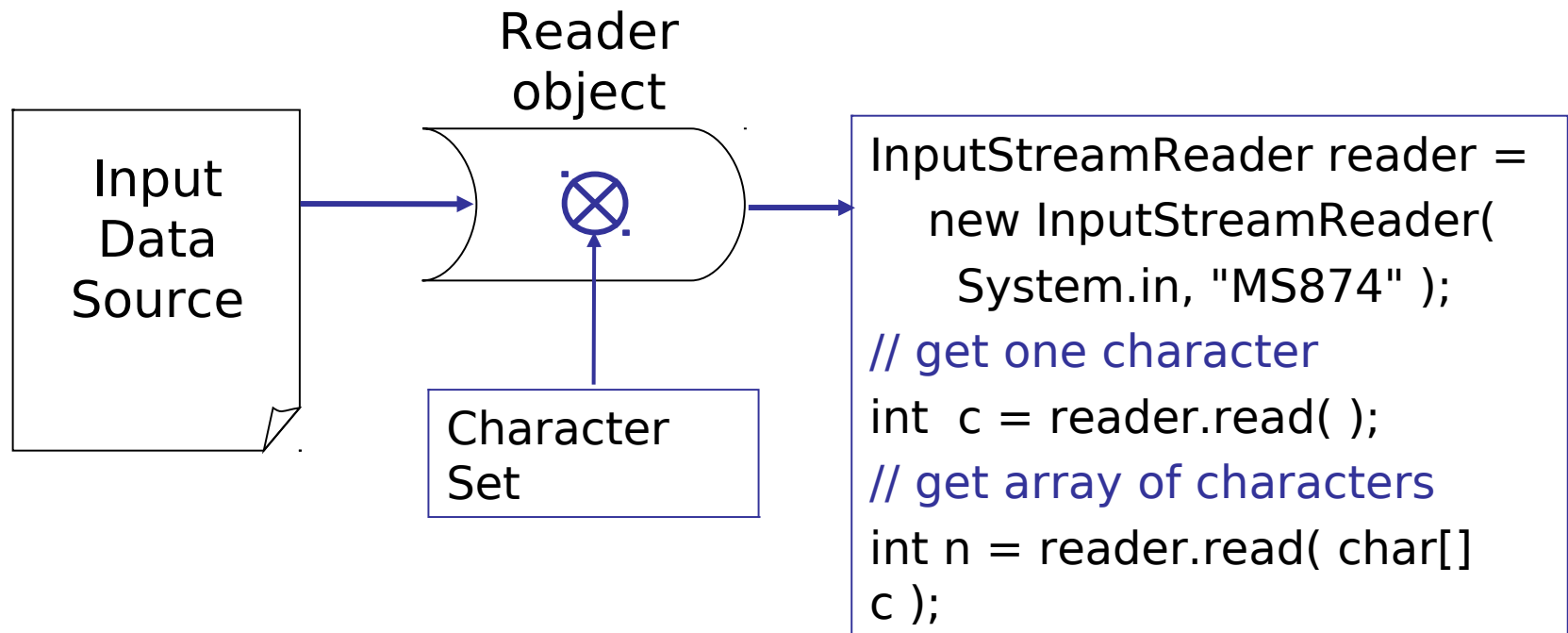
InputStream

- InputStream reads **bytes** and returns them.
- **No interpretation** of character sets.
- OK for raw data.
- **Not good** for character data using character set.



Reader

- Reader: reads bytes and converts to chars.
- Interprets bytes according to **Character Set Encoding**.
- Can handle any language... if you know the charset.



InputStreamReader class

InputStreamReader is a kind of Reader.

It converts bytes into characters.

```
InputStream in = new FileInputStream( "test" );
InputStreamReader reader =
    new InputStreamReader(in);
// read a character
char b = (char) reader.read( );
// read several characters
char [ ] buff = new char[100];
int nchars = reader.read( buff, 0, 100);
// close the input stream
reader.close( );
```

Shortcut: FileReader

Open a file and create `InputStreamReader` for it.
So you don't need to create 2 objects.

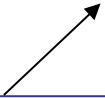
```
InputStreamReader reader  
    = new FileReader("filename");  
// read a character  
char b = (char) reader.read( );
```


Character Sets

Java API docs list names of character sets.

InputStreamReader reader

= new InputStreamReader(inputStream, "charset");



Charset Name	Description
ASCII	ASCII 7-bit encoding
ISO8859_1	ISO 8859-1 Latin alphabet No. 1
Cp874	IBM (DOS) Thai encoding
MS874	MS Windows Thai encoding
TIS620	TIS-620, Thai encoding
UTF-8	8-bit UTF encoding
UTF-16	16-bit UTF encoding

BufferedReader class

BufferedReader reads input as Strings.

It uses a Reader to read characters

```
BufferedReader breader = new BufferedReader(  
    new InputStreamReader( System.in ) );  
// read a line  
String s = breader.readLine( );
```

BufferedReader methods:

int read() - read next char

int read(char[], start, count) - read chars into array

String readLine() - return a string containing rest of the line

close() - close the reader

BufferedReader for File Input

To read from a file, create a `BufferedReader` around a `FileReader`. The `ready()` method returns true if (a) input buffer contains data (e.g. reading from `System.in` or a pipe) or (b) underlying data source is not empty (reading from file).

```
String filename = "mydata.txt";
BufferedReader br = new BufferedReader(
    new FileReader( filename ) );
// read some lines
while( br.ready( ) )
{
    String s = br.readLine( );
    // do something with the string
}
br.close( );
```

Input Streams and Readers

Java has a Reader class corresponding to common InputStream classes.

InputStream

InputStream

LineNumberInputStream

FilterInputStream

FileInputStream

PipedInputStream

Reader

InputStreamReader

LineNumberReader

FilterReader

FileReader

PipedReader

Reading Binary Data

DataInputStream

use readChar() method
of DataInputStream to
interpret data as characters

InputStream Hierarchy

Java provides a *hierarchy* of classes for processing input from different sources and types.

Java Input Stream Class Hierarachy

InputStream

 ByteArrayInputStream

 FileInputStream

 PipedInputStream

 ObjectInputStream

 SequenceInputStream

 FilterInputStream

 DataInputStream (binary input)

 BufferedInputStream

 LineNumberInputStream

 PushbackInputStream

These are
"wrappers"
for another
input stream.

How to Read without Blocking

InputStream has an `available()` method that returns the number of bytes waiting to be read.

Use this to read without blocking.

Reader classes have a `ready()` method.

```
InputStream in = System.in;  // or whatever

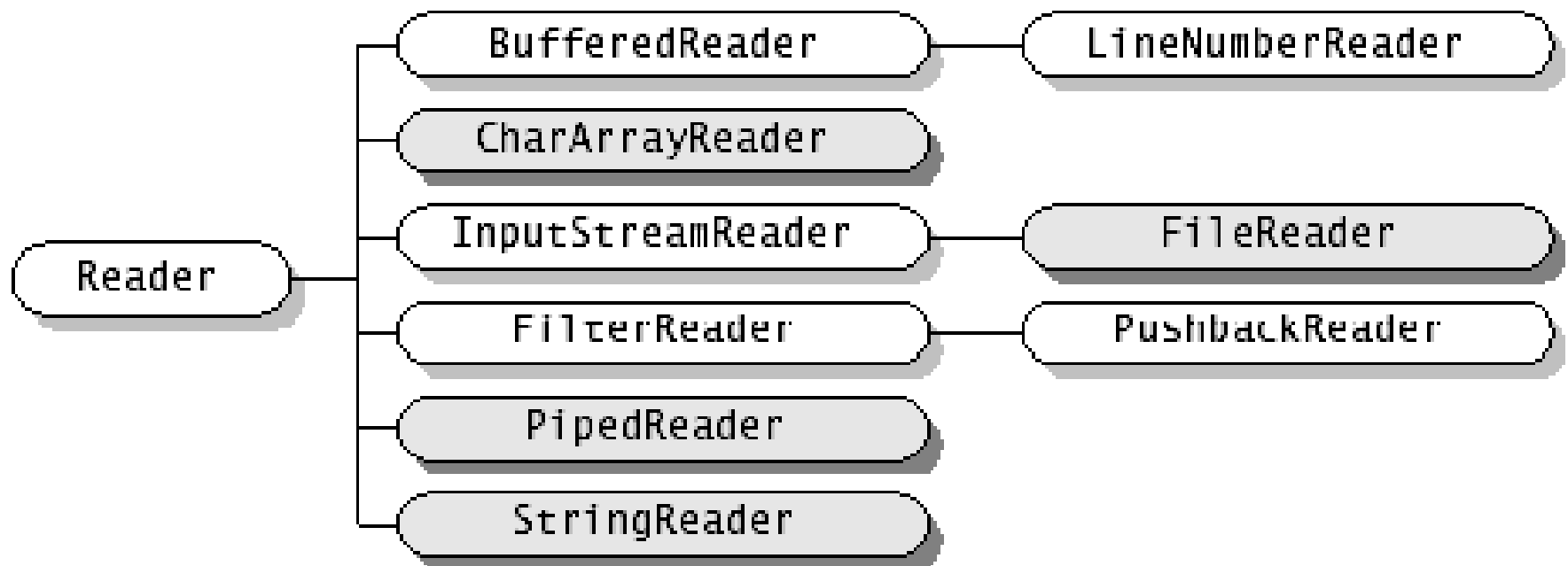
// read whatever bytes are available
int size = in.available();
if ( size > 0 ) {
    byte [ ] b = new byte[size];
    in.read( b ); // this should not block
}
```

BufferedReader and End-of-Data

The `readLine()` method returns `null` if the end of input stream is encountered. You can use this to read all data from a file.

```
String filename = "mydata.txt";
BufferedReader bin = new BufferedReader(
    new FileReader( filename ) );
// read all data
String s;
while( ( s = bin.readLine() ) != null )
{
    // process data in String s
    System.out.println( s.toUpperCase() );
}
file.close( );
```

Reader Class Hierarchy



Reading Binary Data

Examples:

- MP3 file, image file

Advantages:

- space efficient, can read quickly (little conversion)

```
InputStream instr = new FileInputStream( "mydata" );
DataInputStream data = new DataInputStream( instr );

try {
    int n = data.readInt( );           // 4 bytes
    double x = data.readDouble( );    // 8 bytes
    char c = data.readChar( );         // 2 bytes
} catch ( IOException e ) { ... }
```

End-of-File for DataInputStream

- Throws EOFException if end of input encountered while reading.

```
InputStream fin = new FileInputStream( "mydata" );
DataInputStream data = new DataInputStream( fin );

double sum = 0;
while( true ) {
    try {
        double x = data.readDouble( ); // 8 bytes
        sum += x;
    } catch ( IOException e ) { ... }
    catch ( EOFException e ) { break; } // EOF
}
data.close( );
```

Scanner

`java.util.Scanner` is newer than the other classes.

`Scanner` "wraps" an `InputStream` or a `String` and provides parsing and data conversion.

```
// scanner wraps an InputStream
InputStream in = new FileInputStream(...);
Scanner scanner = new Scanner( in );

// scanner to parse a String
String s = "Peanuts 10.0 Baht";
Scanner scan = new Scanner( s );
```

Reading with Scanner

Can test for presence of data.

Convert next token into any primitive or get entire line as String.

```
Scanner scanner = new Scanner("3 dogs .5");  
if ( scanner.hasNextInt() )  
    n = scanner.nextInt();  
if ( scanner.hasNext() )  
    word = scanner.next();  
if ( scanner.hasNextDouble() )  
    x = scanner.nextDouble();  
// read and discard rest of this line  
scanner.nextLine();
```

Parsing with Scanner

Can change separator character.

Can search using regular expressions.

```
Scanner scanner = new Scanner("aa,bb,999");  
scanner.useDelimiter(",");  
String word = scanner.next(); // = "aa"  
String w = scanner.findInLine("\\d\\d\\d");  
// w is "999"  
\\d is a regular expression for a digit 0-9
```

Output Classes

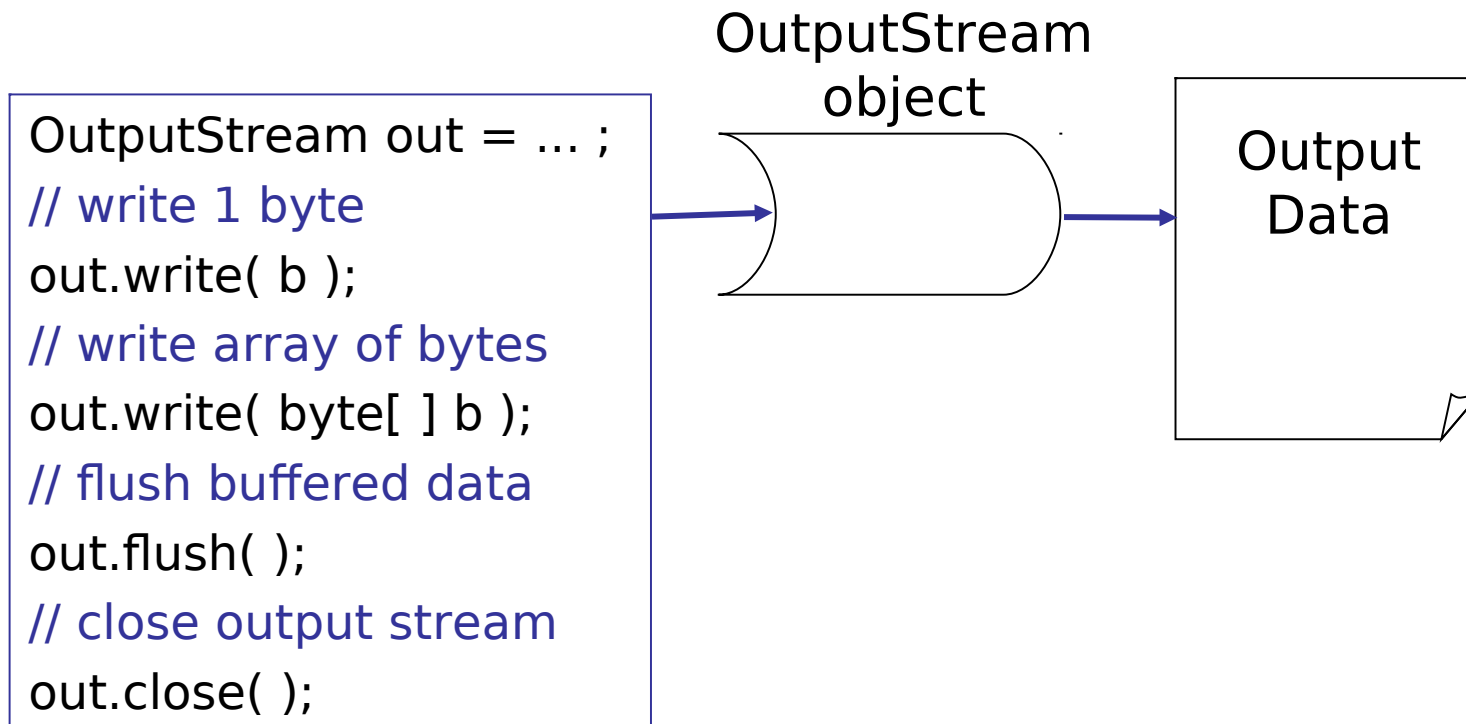
Three layers, just like Input hierarchy

- **OutputStream**: outputs bytes (low level)
- **Writer**: outputs characters (convert to bytes)
- **BufferedWriter**: outputs strings and lines. buffers data

Formatter: utility for creating formatted output. Can be used as a pre-filter for an output stream or output to any *Appendable* object.

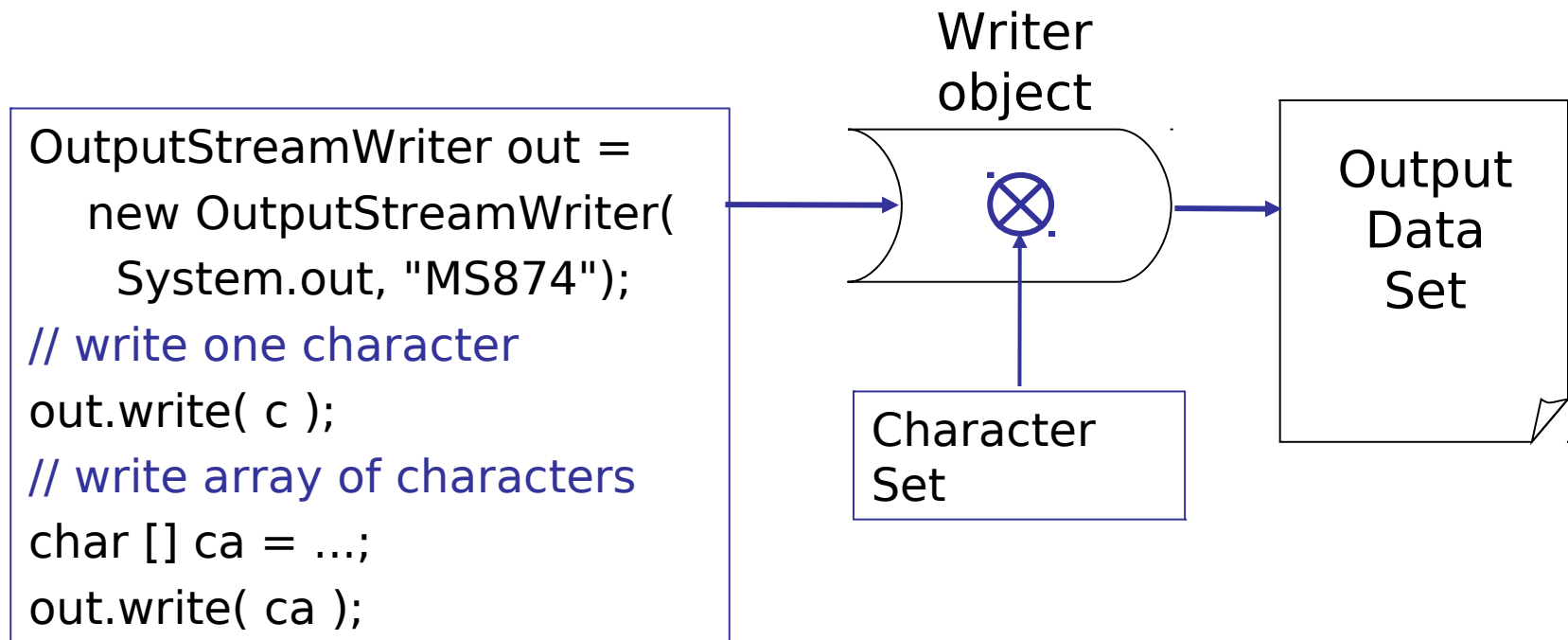
OutputStream

- OutputStream writes bytes to some output sink.
- No interpretation of character sets.
- Works OK for text in system's default character set.



Writer

- Writer converts UNICODE characters to bytes.
- Interprets chars according to character set encoding.
- Can handle any language (if you know the charset).



Output Streams and Writers

Java has several classes derived from `OutputStream` and `Writer`. Each class handles a particular output sink.

OutputStream

`OutputStream`

`FilterOutputStream`

`FileOutputStream`

`PipedOutputStream`

Writer

`OutputStreamWriter`

`FilterWriter`

`FileReader`

`PipedWriter`

`StringWriter`

Writing Binary Data

`DataOutputStream`

use `writeChar()` or
`writeChars()` methods to
output UNICODE characters

Handling Exceptions

The Java input and output methods will throw an `IOException` if there is an error in any input/output operation such `read()`, `write()`, or `print()`. Your program must deal with this exception in one of two ways:

1. Throw the exception..

```
public void myMethod throws IOException( ) {  
    // read and process the input  
}
```

2. Catch the exception and take some action. This is illustrated on the next slide.

Catching an Exception

```
BufferedReader myfile;
try {
    myfile = new BufferedReader(
        new FileReader( filename ) );
} catch (IOException e) {
    System.out.println(
        "Couldn't open file" + filename);
    return;
}
// read a line from file
try {
    String s = myfile.readLine( );
    // do something with string
} catch (IOException e) {
    System.out.println("Exception " + e
        + " while reading file.");
}
```

Using Files

The `FileInputStream`, `FileOutputStream`, `FileReader`, and `FileWriter` classes operate on `File` objects.

Create a `File` object by specifying the filename (and optional path):

```
File file1 = new File("input.txt"); // in "current" directory
File file2 = new File("/temp/input.txt"); // in temp dir
File file3 = new File("\\temp\\input.txt"); // same thing
File file4 = new File("/temp", "input.txt"); // same thing
File dir = new File("/temp"); // open directory as file
```

These commands **do not create a file** in the computer's **file system**. They only create a `File` object in Java.

Testing Files

The File class has methods to:

- test file existence and permissions
- create a file, delete a file
- get file properties, such as path

```
File file = new File( "/temp/input.txt" ); // file object

if ( file.exists( ) && file.canRead( ) ) // OK to read
    FileInputStream fin = new FileInputStream(file);

if ( ! file.exists( ) ) file.createNewFile( ); // create a file!
if ( file.canWrite( ) ) // OK to write
    FileOutputStream fout = new FileOutputStream(file);
```

More File Operations

File objects can tell you their size, location (path), modification time, etc. See the Java API for File.

```
File file = new File("/temp/something.txt"); // file object
```

```
if ( file.isFile() ) {  
    /* this is an ordinary file */  
    long length = file.length( );  
    long date = file.lastModified( );  
}
```

```
if ( file.isDirectory() ) {  
    /* this is a directory */  
    File files [] = file.listFiles(); // read directory  
}
```

File Copy Example

Copy a file. Realistically, you should test file existence and permissions, catch IOException, etc.

```
File infile = new File("/temp/old.txt");
File outfile = new File("/temp/new.txt");
if ( outfile.exists( ) ) outfile.delete( );
outfile.createNewFile( );

FileReader fin = new FileReader( infile );
FileWriter fout = new FileWriter( outfile );
// reading char at a time is very inefficient
int c;
while ( (c = fin.read()) >= 0 ) fout.write(c);
fin.close();
fout.flush();
fout.close();
```

Pipes

Reading and writing pipes: one method writes data into the pipe, another method reads data from the pipe.

Very useful for multi-threaded applications.

```
PipedOutputStream pout = new PipedOutputStream();  
PipedInputStream pin = new PipedInputStream(pout);
```



```
PipedOutputStream pout = new PipedOutputStream();  
PipedInputStream pin = new PipedInputStream( pout );  
PrintStream out = new PrintStream( pout );  
BufferedInputStream in = new BufferedInputStream( pin );  
out.println("data into the pipe"); // write to the pipe  
String s = in.readLine(); // read from the pipe
```


RandomAccessFile

- Random Access I/O means you can move around in the file, reading/writing at any place you want.
- For output, you can even write *beyond* the end of file.
- Use **seek ()** to move current position.

```
RandomAccessFile ra = new RandomAccessFile("name", "rw");  
ra.seek( 100000L ); // go to byte #100000  
byte [ ] b = new byte[1000];  
// all "read" methods are binary, like DataInputStream  
ra.readFully( b ); // read 1000 bytes  
ra.seek( 200000L ); // go to byte #200000  
ra.write( b );
```

More Information

In the **Sun Java Tutorials** (online)

I/O: Reading and Writing

<http://java.sun.com/docs/books/tutorial/essential/io/>

Handling Errors with Exceptions

<http://java.sun.com/docs/books/tutorial/essential/exceptions/>