



Object Oriented Programming with Java

(Subject Code: BCS-403)

Unit 2

Lecture 17

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- Byte Streams and Character Streams
- Reading and Writing File in Java

Byte Streams and Character Streams

In Java the streams are used for input and output operations by allowing data to be read from or written to a source or destination.

Java offers two types of streams:

- character streams
- byte streams.

Character Streams

- Character streams are designed to address character based records, which includes textual records inclusive of letters, digits, symbols, and other characters.
- These streams are represented by way of training that quit with the phrase "Reader" or "Writer" of their names, inclusive of FileReader, BufferedReader, FileWriter, and BufferedWriter.
- Character streams offer a convenient manner to read and write textual content-primarily based information due to the fact they mechanically manage character encoding and decoding.

Byte Streams

- Byte streams are designed to deal with raw binary data, which includes all kinds of data, including characters, pictures, audio, and video.
- These streams are represented through classes that cease with the word "InputStream" or "OutputStream" of their names, along with FileInputStream, BufferedInputStream, FileOutputStream and BufferedOutputStream.
- Byte streams offer a low-stage interface for studying and writing character bytes or blocks of bytes.

- They are normally used for coping with non-textual statistics, studying and writing files of their binary form, and running with network sockets.

Difference between Character Stream and Byte Stream in Java



| Aspect | Character Streams | Byte Streams |
|-----------------------|--|--|
| Data Handling | Handle character-based data | Handle raw binary data |
| Representation | Classes end with "Reader" or "Writer" | Classes end with "InputStream" or "OutputStream" |
| Suitable for | Textual data, strings, human-readable info | Non-textual data, binary files, multimedia |
| Character Encoding | Automatic encoding and decoding | No encoding or decoding |
| Text vs non-Text data | Text-based data, strings | Binary data, images, audio, video |

| | | |
|-------------------------|--|---|
| Performance | Additional conversion may impact performance | Efficient for handling large binary data |
| Handle Large Text Files | May impact performance due to encoding | Efficient, no encoding overhead |
| String Operations | Convenient methods for string operations | Not specifically designed for string operations |
| Convenience Methods | Higher-level abstractions for text data | Low-level interface for byte data |
| Reading Line by Line | Convenient methods for reading lines | Byte-oriented, no built-in line-reading methods |
| File Handling | Read/write text files | Read/write binary files |

Java I/O

- **Java I/O** (Input and Output) is used to process the input and produce the output based on the input.
- Java uses the concept of stream to make I/O operation fast. The `java.io` package contains all the classes required for input and output operations.

Stream

- A stream is a sequence of data. In Java a stream is composed of bytes. It's called a stream because it's like a stream of water that continues to flow.

In java, 3 streams are created for us automatically.

All these streams are attached with console.

1) System.out: standard output stream

2) System.in: standard input stream

3) System.err: standard error stream

Code to print **output and error** message to the console.

```
System.out.println("simple message");
```

```
System.err.println("error message");
```

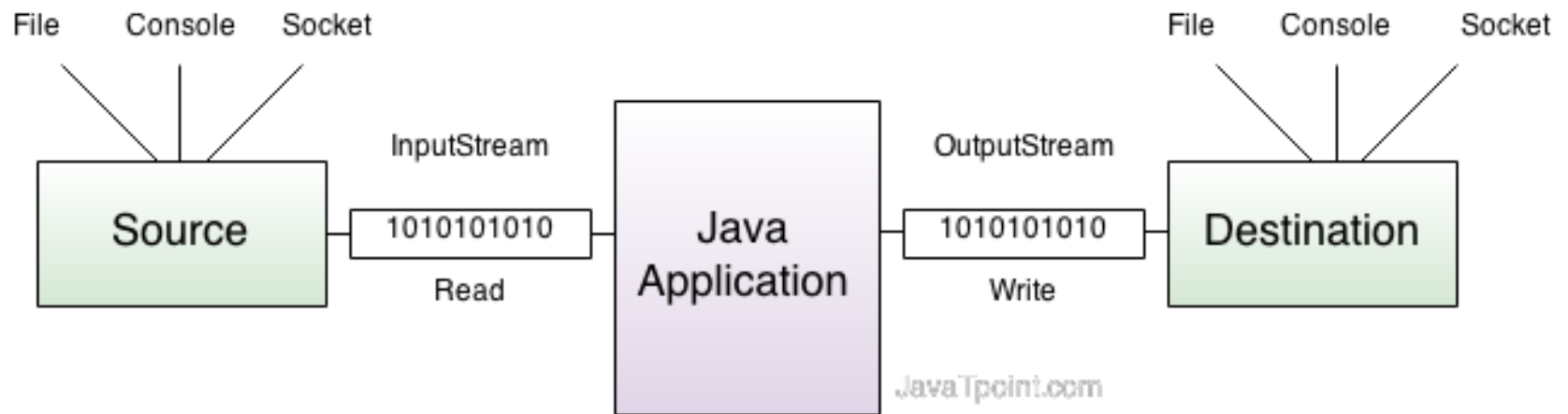
OutputStream

Java application uses an output stream to write data to a destination, it may be a file, an array, peripheral device or socket.

InputStream

Java application uses an input stream to read data from a source, it may be a file, an array, peripheral device or socket.

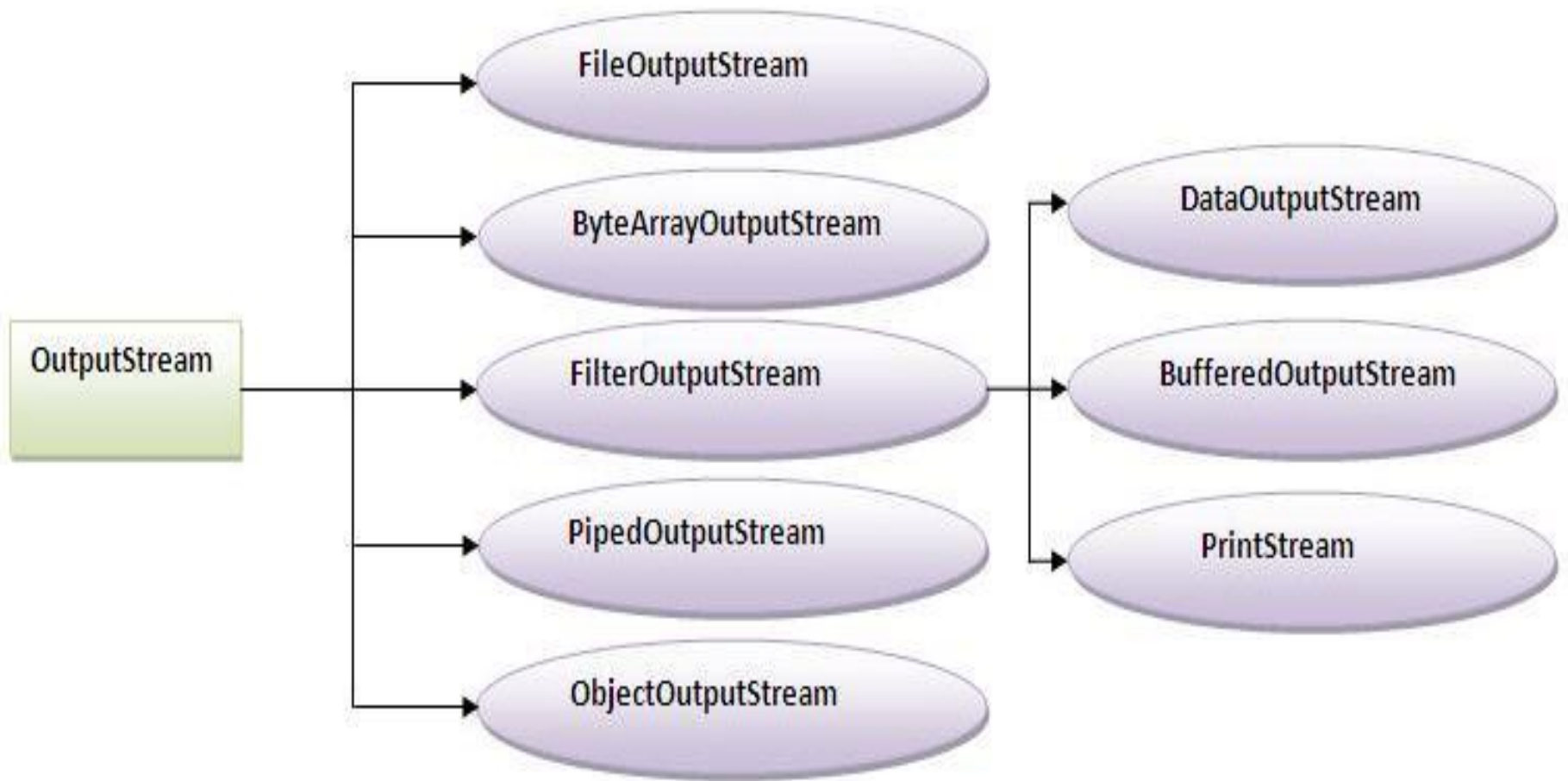
Working of Java OutputStream and InputStream



OutputStream class

- OutputStream class is an abstract class. It is the super class of all classes representing an output stream of bytes. An output stream accepts output bytes and sends them to some sink.

| Method | Description |
|--|---|
| 1) <code>public void write(int)throws IOException:</code> | Is used to write a byte to the current output stream. |
| 2) <code>public void write(byte[])throws IOException:</code> | Is used to write an array of byte to the current output stream. |
| 3) <code>public void flush()throws IOException:</code> | Flushes the current output stream. |
| 4) <code>public void close()throws IOException:</code> | Is used to close the current output stream. |

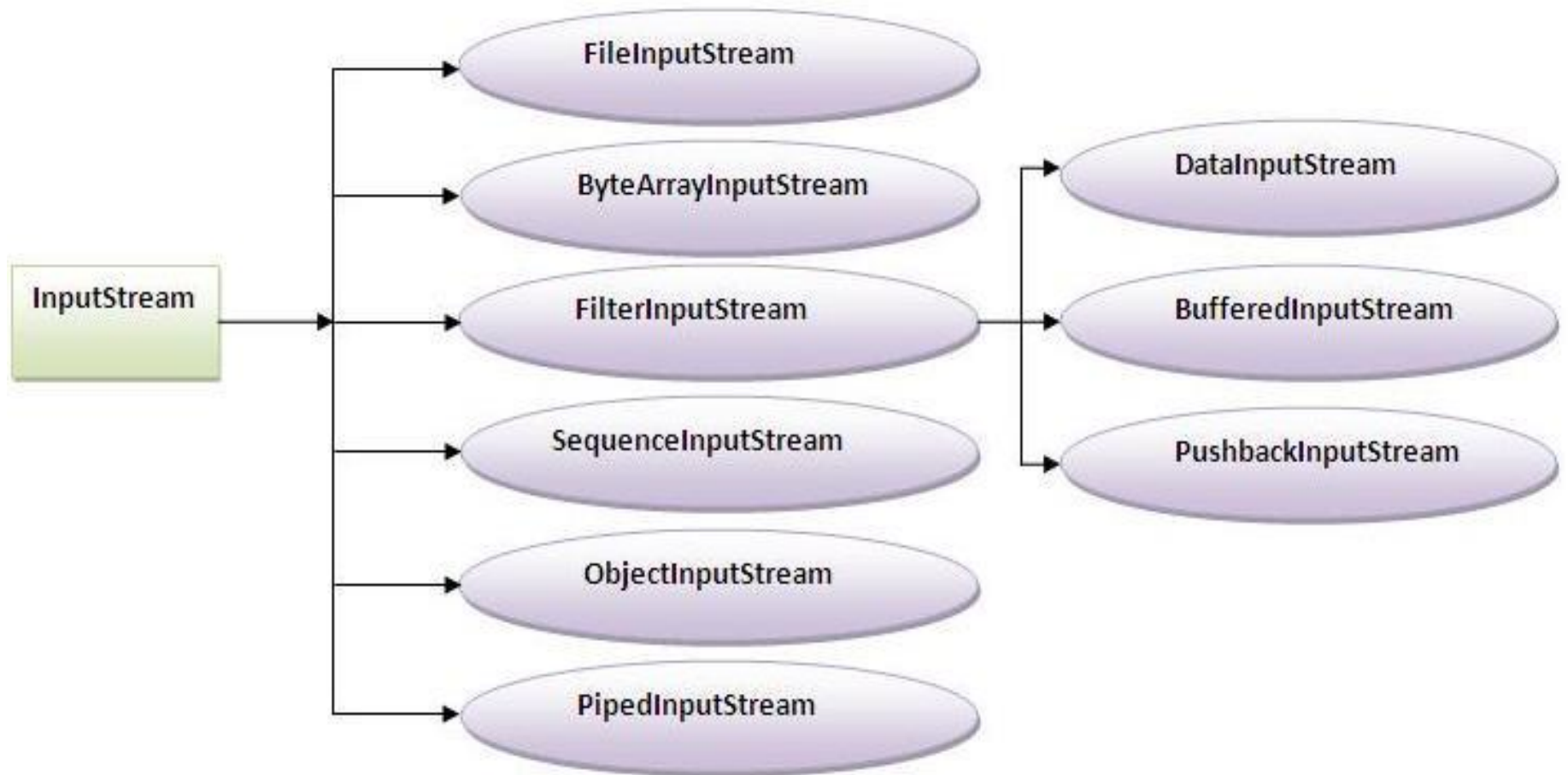


InputStream class

- InputStream class is an abstract class. It is the super class of all classes representing an input stream of bytes.

Commonly used methods of InputStream class

| Method | Description |
|---|--|
| 1) <code>public abstract int read()throws IOException:</code> | Reads the next byte of data from the input stream. It returns -1 at the end of file. |
| 2) <code>public int available()throws IOException:</code> | Returns an estimate of the number of bytes that can be read from the current input stream. |
| 3) <code>public void close()throws IOException:</code> | Is used to close the current input stream. |



FileInputStream and FileOutputStream (File Handling)

In Java, **FileInputStream** and **FileOutputStream** classes are used to read and write data in file. In another words, they are used for file handling in java.

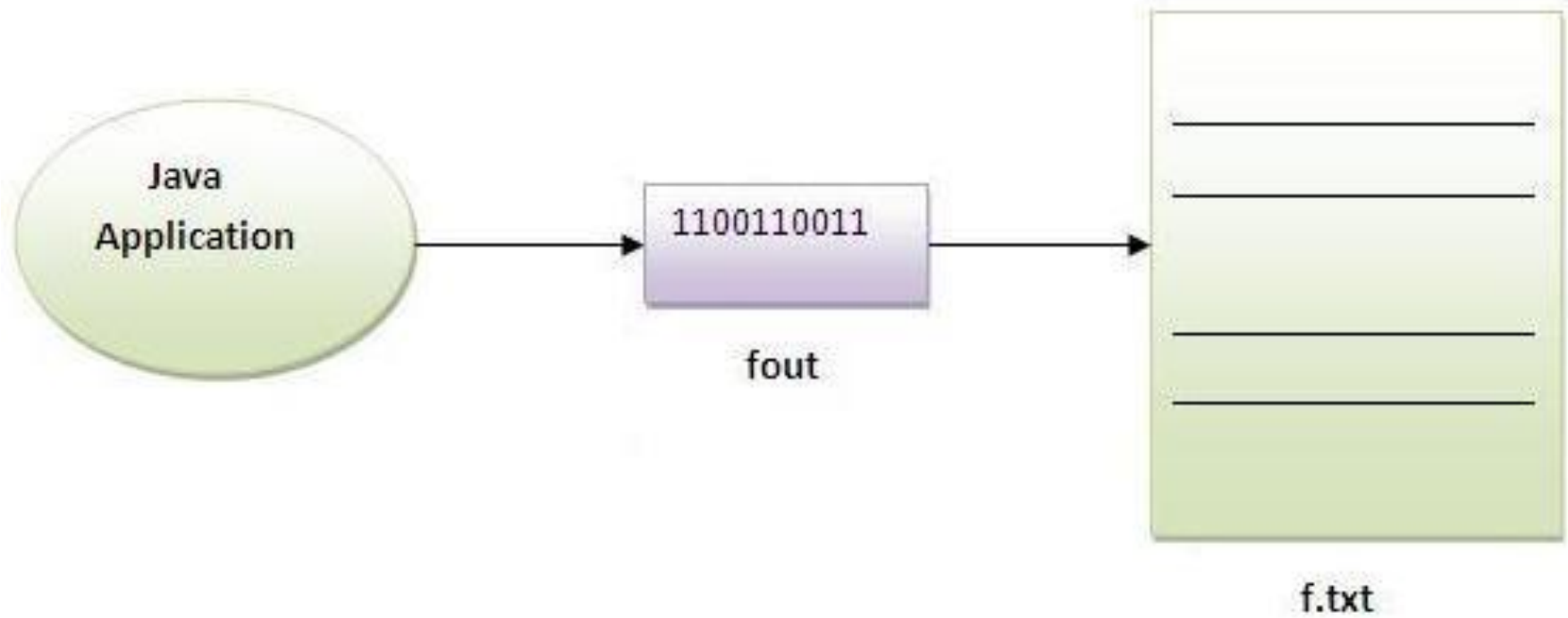
Java FileOutputStream class

Java **FileOutputStream** is an output stream for writing data to a file.

If you have to write primitive values then use **FileOutputStream**. Instead, for character-oriented data, prefer **FileWriter**. But you can write byte-oriented as well as character-oriented data.

```
import java.io.*;
class Test{
    public static void main(String args[]){
        try{
            FileOutputStream fout=new FileOutputStream("abc.txt");
            String s="Sachin Tendulkar is my favourite player";
            byte b[]=s.getBytes();//converting string into byte array
            fout.write(b);
            fout.close();
            System.out.println("success...");
        }catch(Exception e){system.out.println(e);}
    }
}
```

Output:success...

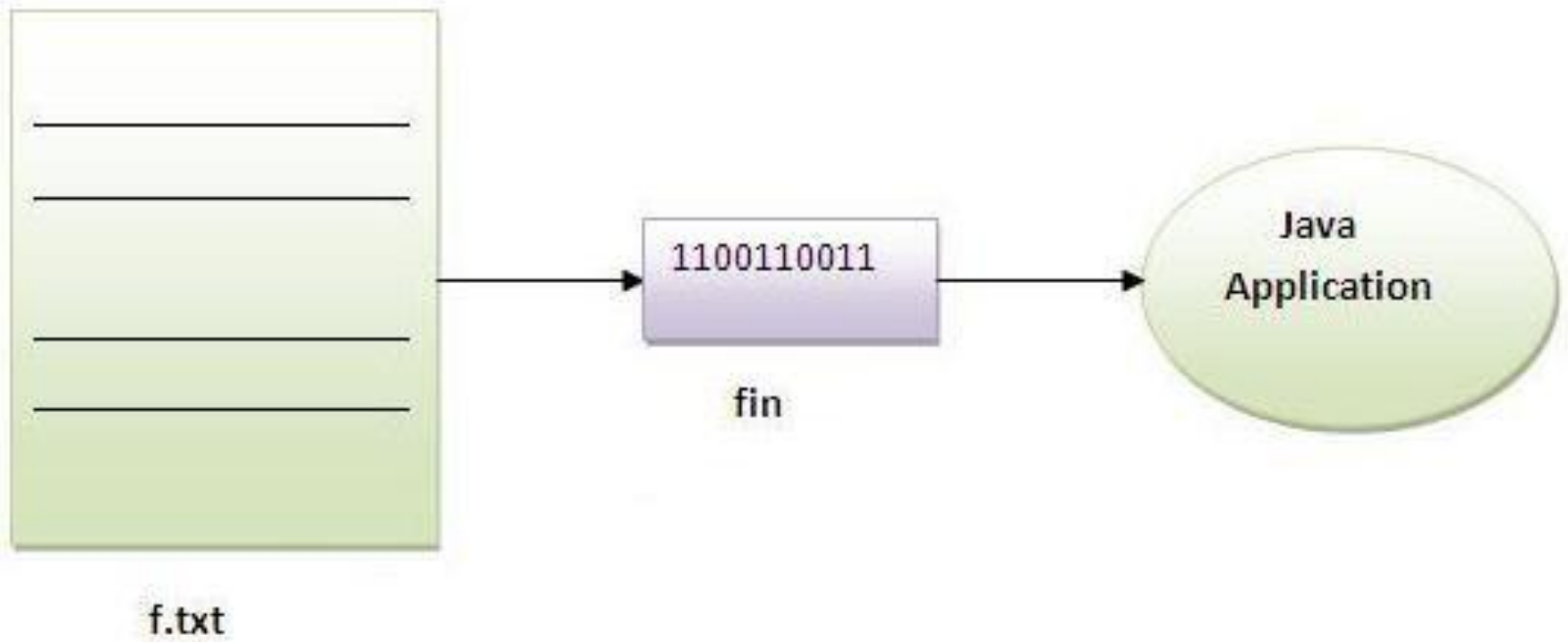


Java FileInputStream class

Java FileInputStream class obtains input bytes from a file. It is used for reading streams of raw bytes such as image data. For reading streams of characters, consider using FileReader. It should be used to read byte-oriented data for example to read image, audio, video etc.

```
import java.io.*;
class SimpleRead{
    public static void main(String args[]){
        try{
            FileInputStream fin=new FileInputStream("abc.txt");
            int i=0;
            while((i=fin.read())!=-1){
                System.out.println((char)i);
            }
            fin.close();
        }catch(Exception e){system.out.println(e);}
    } }
```

Output:Sachin is my favourite player.



Reading the data of current java file and writing it into another file

```
import java.io.*;
class C{
public static void main(String args[])throws Exception{
FileInputStream fin=new FileInputStream("C.java");
FileOutputStream fout=new FileOutputStream("M.java");
int i=0;
while((i=fin.read())!=-1){
fout.write((byte)i);
}
fin.close();
}
}
```

We can read the data of any file using the FileInputStream class whether it is java file, image file, video file etc