Fundamental Components of the Java Collections Framework

1. Containers:

- Java offers containers like Lists (ArrayList, LinkedList), Sets (HashSet, TreeSet), Maps (HashMap, TreeMap), and others.
- These are akin to STL's vectors, lists, maps, and sets. They are used for efficient data storage and manipulation.

2. Algorithms:

- Java provides a range of algorithms, particularly through the Collections and Arrays classes.
- These include sorting (Collections.sort()), searching (Collections.binarySearch()), and shuffling (Collections.shuffle()), similar to STL's algorithms.
- Examples:

```
// Java program to demonstrate working of Collections.
// binarySearch()
import java.util.ArrayList;
import java.util.Collections;
import java.util.List;

public class GFG {
    public static void main(String[] args)
    {
        List<Integer> al = new ArrayList<Integer>();
        al.add(2);
        al.add(3);
        al.add(3);
        al.add(3);
        al.add(3);
        al.add(20);

        // 10 is present at index 3.
        int index = Collections.binarySearch(al, 10);
        System.out.println(index);

        // 13 is not present. 13 would have been inserted
        // at position 4. So the function returns (-4-1)
        // which is -5.
        index = Collections.binarySearch(al, 13);
        System.out.println(index);
    }
}

Output
```

3. Iterators:

- Java's iterators, like the Iterator and ListIterator, are used to traverse through collections.
- They are specifically designed to work with Java's collection types.

4. Function Objects:

- Java utilizes functional interfaces, especially with the advent of lambdas in Java 8, to pass behaviour to algorithms.
- These are similar to C++'s functions but leverage Java's lambda expressions and method references.

Arrays vs. ArrayLists in Java

| Aspect | Arrays | ArrayLists |
|---------------------|--|--|
| Size Flexibility | Fixed size; the size is determined at the time of creation and cannot change. | Dynamic size; ArrayLists can grow and shrink at runtime as needed. |
| Initialization | Can be initialized with a fixed set of elements or predefined size. | Supports dynamic initialization; elements can be added or removed dynamically. |
| Functions | Limited built-in functionality; requires manual effort for resizing and advanced operations. | Extensive built-in functions for adding, removing, searching, and resizing, among others. |

1.Pair in Java

- In Java, while there isn't a direct built-in equivalent to C++'s std::pairin the standard Java libraries up until Java 7, the concept of pairing two values together is often implemented using classes from the standard library itself.
- An alternative to using the Pair is the SimpleEntry class from the java.util.AbstractMap package, available as part of Java's standard library.

AbstractMap.SimpleEntry Class - Introduction

- The SimpleEntry class functions similarly to the std::pair in C++.
- It typically stores two objects or values together, such as a key and a value in a map.
- This class is handy in scenarios where you need to return two values from a method or when you want to maintain a relationship between two related objects without creating a separate class

Key Features and Methods of AbstractMap.SimpleEntry

• Creation:

- To create an instance of SimpleEntry, you use its constructor, passing the two values you want to pair.
- o Syntax,

AbstractMap.SimpleEntry<KeyType, ValueType> variableName = new AbstractMap.SimpleEntry<>(key, value);

Accessing Values:

- o **getKey()**: Returns the first element of the entry, typically used as the key.
- getValue(): Returns the second element of the entry, typically used as the value.

• Equality Check:

o **equals()**: Compares two SimpleEntry objects based on the values they store.

• String Representation:

toString(): Returns a string representation of the entry.

Hash Code:

 hashCode(): Generates a hash code for the entry, useful in collections that use hashing (like HashMap, HashSet).

Example:

```
import java.util.AbstractMap.SimpleEntry;
public class Main {
  public static void main(String[] args) {
    SimpleEntry<Integer, String> entry = new SimpleEntry<>(1, "One");
    // Accessing the values
    Integer key = entry.getKey();
    String value = entry.getValue();
    // Printing the values
    System.out.println("Key: " + key + ", Value: " + value); // key -> 1 and value -> "One"
    // Equality Check
    SimpleEntry<Integer, String> entry2 = new SimpleEntry<>(1, "One");
    System.out.println("Is entry equal to entry2? " + entry.equals(entry2)); // Two entries are equals
-> true
    // String Representation
    System.out.println("String representation: " + entry.toString()); // String -> "1=One"
    // Hash Code
    System.out.println("Hash code: " + entry.hashCode()); // Hash Code of entry is 79431
  }
}
```

Explanation:

• Creating a SimpleEntry:

o A SimpleEntry is instantiated with two values: an integer 1 and a string "One". The integer acts as a key, and the string is the value.

Accessing the Values:

• The getKey() method retrieves the key (1 in this case), and getValue() retrieves the associated value ("One").

Checking Equality:

Another SimpleEntry object is created and compared to the first.
 The equals() method checks if both entries have the same key and value.

• String Representation:

 The toString() method provides a string representation of the entry, typically displaying its contents.

Hash Code:

 The hashCode() method generates a hash code for the entry, which is useful for hashing algorithms in data structures like HashMap.

2.ArrayList in Java

- ArrayLists are part of the Java Collections Framework and provide a way to use dynamically sized arrays.
- Unlike regular arrays, they offer more flexibility and a variety of useful built-in methods.

Key Features and Methods of ArrayList

1. Creation:

- ArrayLists can be created and initialized in various ways.
- Syntax: ArrayList<Type> arrayListName = new ArrayList<>();

2. Adding Elements:

- add(element): Adds an element to the ArrayList.
- add(index, element): Inserts an element at the specified index.

3. Accessing Elements:

• **get(index)**: Returns the element at the specified index.

4. Modifying Elements:

- set(index, element)
- 5. **Size and Capacity:**: Updates the element at the specified index.
 - size(): Returns the number of elements in the ArrayList.

6. Removing Elements:

- remove(index): Removes the element at the specified index.
- **remove(Object)**: Removes the first occurrence of the specified element.

7. Other Useful Methods:

- clear(): Removes all elements from the ArrayList.
- **isEmpty()**: Returns trueif the ArrayList is empty.

Example:

```
import java.util.ArrayList;
public class Main {
  public static void main(String[] args) {
    // Creating an ArrayList
    ArrayList<Integer> list = new ArrayList<>();
    // Adding elements
    list.add(10);
    list.add(20);
    list.add(30);
    // Accessing elements
    System.out.println("Element at index 1: " + list.get(1)); // 20
    // Modifying elements
    list.set(1, 25);
    // Iterating over ArrayList
    System.out.println("Elements in list:");
    for (int elem : list) {
       System.out.println(elem);
    }
    // Size of ArrayList
    System.out.println("Size of list: " + list.size());
    // Removing elements
    list.remove(Integer.valueOf(10));
    list.remove(0); // Removes element at index 0
    // Check if ArrayList is empty
    System.out.println("Is list empty? " + list.isEmpty());
    // Clearing the ArrayList
    list.clear();
  }
}
```

- In this example, an ArrayList of integers is created, and elements are added, accessed, modified, and removed.
- The ArrayList class offers a variety of methods for managing a dynamic array, making it a versatile data structure in Java.

3. ArrayList of SimpleEntry(Pair) in Java

- It's important to note that AbstractMap.SimpleEntry can be used in Java to create a pair of two values.
- You can use Java's ArrayList to create a dynamic list of these entries.

Example:

```
import java.util.AbstractMap.SimpleEntry;
import java.util.ArrayList;
public class Main {
  public static void main(String[] args) {
    // Creating an ArrayList of SimpleEntries
    ArrayList<SimpleEntry<Integer, String>> listOfEntries = new ArrayList<>();
    // Adding entries to the ArrayList
    listOfEntries.add(new SimpleEntry<>(1, "One"));
    listOfEntries.add(new SimpleEntry<>(2, "Two"));
    listOfEntries.add(new SimpleEntry<>(3, "Three"));
    // Iterating over the ArrayList and accessing elements of the SimpleEntry
    for (SimpleEntry<Integer, String> entry : listOfEntries) {
      Integer key = entry.getKey(); // First element of the entry
      String value = entry.getValue(); // Second element of the entry
      System.out.println("Key: " + key + ", Value: " + value);
    }
  }
}
```

In this example:

- An ArrayList of SimpleEntry<Integer, String>is created.
- Entries are added to the list using listOfEntries.add(new SimpleEntry<>(key, value));
- The list is iterated, and the key and value of each entry are accessed using entry.getKey() and entry.getValue().

This approach is analogous to having a vector of pairs in C++ and is useful in scenarios where you need to maintain a list of related value pairs, such as key-value pairs.

Note:

Using AbstractMap.SimpleEntry requires no additional dependencies since it's part of the standard Java library, making it a convenient choice for projects where minimal external dependencies are desired.