# To throw or not to throw

That is the question

### Introduction

```
@PostMapping
fun doSomeMagic(@RequestBody magicInput: MagicInput): ResponseEntity<Unit>
{
    return try {
        magicService.doMagic(magicInput.data())
        ResponseEntity.status(HttpStatus.CREATED).build()
    } catch (ex: ValidationException) {
        ResponseEntity.ok().build()
    }
}
```

## Exceptions - basics.

#### Classification of exceptions:

- checked checked at compile time
- unchecked checked at runtime
- errors critical situations from which there is no way out, for example, out of memory.

## Exceptions - java vs kotlin

#### Java:

```
public void someMethod() throws IOException{...}
```

#### Kotlin

```
@Throws(IOException::class
fun create() {...}
```

### Exceptions - java vs kotlin

- 1. Kotlin does not have checked exceptions.
- 2. All exceptions in Kotlin are unchecked.
- 3. Error (OutOfMemoryError) occurs in both Kotlin and Java.

It is possible to call a Java method that throws a checked exception from Kotlin code without the need to handle the exception.

To make Java aware of a checked exception thrown by Kotlin code, it is necessary to add the @Throws annotation with information about the exception.

### Is it an real exception or just a quick way out?

What is an exceptional situation and what is just a "clever" way to jump out of the code?

- external service is not working
- incorrect SQL query
- data does not exist in the database but it should
- data exists in the database, but should it?
- data validation error
- all kinds of business errors

### Bad habits

- We learned to throw unchecked exceptions because it's easy.
  - We don't always remember to handle them.
  - Sometimes the exception will just fly up to the client.
- We create many specific exceptions instead of one generic exception.
- We swallow the message contained in the exception (empty catch block or just empty log message).

### Is there a different way?

Is throwing an exception the only way to tell the calling method that something went wrong?

- Java has proposed the vavr library to us, which provides the Either class and the Try class.
- In Kotlin, a lazy approach with nullable types can be used to avoid throwing exceptions.
- Although this approach may lack detailed information about what went wrong.
- The syntax of the language also allows us to quick implement a wrapper class similar to Either.

### Is there a different way?

#### Sealed class/interface

```
sealed interface ProcessResult
data class SuccessProcessing<T>(val input: T) : ProcessResult
data class SkipProcessing(val message: String) : ProcessResult
```

### Is there a different way?

#### Sealed class/interface

```
sealed class Outcome<out T : Any> {
    data class Success<out T : Any>(val value: T) : Outcome<T>()
    data class Error(val message: String) : Outcome<Nothing>()
}
```

### Kotlin and sealed classes/interfaces

#### Pattern matching

```
fun extract(input: String): Outcome<String>
when (val result = extract(input)) {
   is Outcome.Error -> SkipProcessing(result.message)
   is Outcome.Success -> processSecondStep(result.value, input)
}
```

```
fun doMagic(input: String) {
   val data = getData(input)
   validateData(input, data)
   saveData(input)
private fun getData(input: String): String {
   if (input.length < 3) throw ValidationException("")</pre>
   return input.uppercase()
private fun validateData(input: String, data:String) {
     if (input.length < 4) throw ValidationException("")</pre>
private fun saveData(input: String)
```

```
private fun getData(input: String): String {
   if (input.length < 3) throw ValidationException("")
   return input.uppercase()
}

private fun getDataWithWrapper (input: String): Outcome<String> {
   return if (input.length < 3) Outcome.Error("Less than 3")
   else Outcome.Success(input.uppercase())
}</pre>
```

```
private fun validateDataWithWrapper (input: String): Outcome<Unit> {
    return if (input.length < 4) Outcome.Error("less than 4")
    else Outcome.Success(Unit)
}

private fun saveDataWithWrapper (input: String): ProcessResult {
    return if (input.length < 5) SkipProcessing("less than 5") else {
        //more processing
        SuccessProcessing("")
    }
}</pre>
```

```
fun processInputWithWrapper (input: String): ProcessResult {
   return when (val result = getDataWithWrapper(input)) {
      is Outcome.Error -> SkipProcessing( result.message)
      is Outcome.Success -> processFetchedData( result.value)
   }
}

private fun processFetchedData(input: String): ProcessResult {
   return when (val result = validateDataWithWrapper(input)) {
      is Outcome.Error -> SkipProcessing( result.message)
      is Outcome.Success -> saveDataWithWrapper(input)
   }
}
```

```
@PostMapping
fun doSomeMagic(@RequestBody magicInput: MagicInput): ResponseEntity<Unit>
{
    return try {
        magicService.doMagic(magicInput)
        ResponseEntity.status(HttpStatus.CREATED).build()
    } catch (ex: ValidationException) {
        ResponseEntity.ok().build()
    }
}
```

## Benchmarks

Benchmark	Mode Cnt	Score Error	Units
ControllerBench.doNotThrowException	thrpt 5	6,101 ± 0,181	ops/ms
ControllerBench.doThrowException	thrpt 5	0,167 ± 0,003	ops/ms
ControllerBench.doThrowExceptionWithStack	thrpt 5	0,030 ± 0,001	ops/ms
ControllerBench.doNotThrowException	avgt 5	0,182 ± 0,004	ms/op
ControllerBench.doThrowException	avgt 5	6,027 ± 0,214	ms/op
ControllerBench.doThrowExceptionWithStack	avgt 5	33,239 ± 0,121	ms/op

## The world of functional programming.

- 1. When programming functionally, we try to avoid exceptions at all costs.
- 2. Exceptions in functional code can lead to unpredictable behavior.
- 3. Functional programming languages have a number of classes dedicated to handling exceptions.

### The world of functional programming.

#### Scala:

Option - is used to model an object that may not have a value (instead of null).

Try - similar to Option but used for defensive programming when we anticipate that an exception may occur.

Either - used in cases when we want to receive a value or information about why we did not receive the value. Either never returns both.

## The world of functional programming - Option

#### Scala:

```
val name: Option[String] = None

val name2: Option[String] = Some("Value")

val name3: Option[String] = Option(null)
```

## The world of functional programming - Option

#### Pattern matching

#### Scala:

```
val opt = Option(null)
opt match {
  case None => println("Missing value")
  case Some(x) => println(s"Value is: ${x}")
}
```

### The world of functional programming - Option

Kotlin approach - nullable type

Kotlin:

```
val data: Int? = try (10/0) catch(e:RuntimeException) { null }
when (data) {
   null -> println("Missing value. Reason: unknown")
   else -> println("Value is: $data")
}
```

#### Scala:

```
val tr: Try[Int] = Try(1 / 0)
tr match {
  case Failure(exception) => println(s"Invalid value:
  {exception.getMessage} ")
  case Success(value) => println(s"Value is: ${value}")
}
```

Kotlin does not have an equivalent of the Try class, but we can use the language syntax to build a similar solution

#### Kotlin:

```
val throwFunction: Result<Int> = runCatching { 1 / 0 }

throwFunction
   .fold(
      onSuccess = { println("Result: $it") },
      onFailure = { println("Invalid value: ${it.message}") }
)
```

#### Scala:

```
val l = Left("Invalid data")
val r = Right(1)

val data: Either[String, Int] = try Right(1 / 0) catch {
  case e: ArithmeticException => Left("Divide by zero")
}

data match {
  case Left(value) => println(s"Error occurred: $value")
  case Right(value) => println(s"Result is: $value")
}
```

#### Scala: for comprehensions (imperative look)

```
val first = Right(2)
val second = Right(2)
val third = Left("Wrong value"): Left[String, Int]

val result: Either[String, Int] = for {
    x <- first
    y <- second
    z <- third
} yield x + y + z

result match {
    case Left(value) => println(s"Something went wrong: $value")
    case Right(value) => println(s"Result is $value")
}
```

Kotlin doesn't have a built-in Either type, but its syntax allows us to implement such a class very easily.

#### Sealed class/interface

```
sealed class EitherK<out A, out B> {
   data class Left<out A>(val value: A) : EitherK<A, Nothing>()
   data class Right<out B>(val value: B) : EitherK<Nothing, B>()
}
```

What we had at the beginning:

```
fun doMagic (input: String) {
   val data = getData(input)
   validateData(input, data)
   saveData(input)
}
```

First refactor with sealed classes/interfaces:

```
return when (val result = getDataWithWrapper(input)) {
       is Outcome.Error -> SkipProcessingfesult.message)
       is Outcome.Success -> processFetchedDataresult.value)
private fun processFetchedData(input: String): ProcessResult {
   return when (val result = validateDataWithWrapper(input)) {
       is Outcome.Error -> SkipProcessingfesult.message)
       is Outcome.Success -> saveData(input)
private fun saveData(input: String): ProcessResult {
   return if (input.length < 5) SkipProcessing("less than 5") else {</pre>
       SuccessProcessing("")
```

### Can we refactor it once again?

```
fun processInput(input: String): EitherK<MyError, String> {
   return when (val result = getDataWithWrapper(input)) {
       is EitherK.Right -> processFetchedData(result.value)
private fun processFetchedData(input: String): EitherK MyError, String>{
   return when (val result = validateDataWithWrapper(input)) {
       is EitherK.Right -> saveData(input)
private fun saveData(input: String): EitherK<MyError, String</pre>
   return if (input.length < 5) EitherK.Left(MyError('less than 5"))</pre>
```

Wait... nothing has changed

### Monads - oh no...

```
inline fun <A, B, C> EitherK<A, B>.map(fn: (B) -> C) = when (this) {
   is EitherK.Left -> this
   is EitherK.Right -> EitherK.Right(fn( this.value))
}

inline fun <A, B, C> EitherK<A, B>.flatMap(fn: (B) -> EitherK<A, C>) = when
(this) {
   is EitherK.Left -> this
   is EitherK.Right -> fn( this.value)
}
```

### arrow-kt to the rescue

```
fun processInput (input: String): Either< MyError, String> {
   return getData(input).flatMap { data ->
       validateData(data).flatMap { ->
           saveData(data)
fun getData(input: String): Either<MyError , String> = TODO()
fun validateData (data: String): Either< MyError, Unit> = TODO()
fun saveData (data: String): Either< MyError, String> = TODO()
https://old.arrow-kt.io/docs/patterns/error handling/
```

### arrow-kt to the rescue

```
fun processInput (input: String): Either<MyError , String> {
    return either {
       val data = getData(input).bind()
       validateData(data).bind()
       saveData(data).bind()
    }
}
```

https://old.arrow-kt.io/docs/patterns/error\_handling/

### arrow-kt - builders

```
private suspend fun getData(input: String): Either<MyError, String> = either {
   ensure(input.length > 3) { MyError("input is less than 3") }
   input.uppercase()
private suspend fun validateData (input: String, data: String) = either {
   ensure(input.length > 4) { MyError("input is less than 4") }
   ensure(data.length > 4) { MyError("input is less than 4") }
private suspend fun saveData(input: String) =
  if (input.length <= 5) {</pre>
      MyError("input is less or equal 5").left()
      input. right()
```

### arrow-kt - builders

```
suspend fun main() {
    when (val result = doSomeValidation("input")) {
        is Either.Left -> println("Some error: ${result.value.message}")
        is Either.Right -> println("Valid result: ${result.value}")
    }
}

private suspend fun doSomeValidation(input: String): Either<MyError, String> = either {
    val data = getData(input).bind()
    validateData(input, data).bind()
    saveData(data).bind()
}
```

### arrow-kt - validation

```
data class Person(val name: String, val age: Int)
fun validateName (name: String): Either<String, String> {
   return either {
       name.uppercase()
fun validateAge (age: Int): Either<String, Int> {
   return either {
       ensure (age > 18) { "Smaller than 18" }
       age
```

### arrow-kt - validation

```
fun validate(name: String, age: Int): Either<Nel<String>, Person> = either {
       { validateName(name).bind() },
       { validateAge(age).bind() }
   ) { name, age ->
       Person (name, age)
val result = validationSerivice .validate("jo", 12)
result.fold(
   { println("Error: $it") },
   { println("Success: $it") })
```

## arrow-kt - a little piece of magic

```
parseNumber(it)
fun parseWithEither(listOf: List<String>): Either<List<MyError>, List<Int>>> {
  return listOf.mapOrAccumulate {
      parseNumber(it)
  } catch (ex: NumberFormatException) {
      raise(MyError("Not a number"))
```