

17.4 Filtering

[This section demonstrates how streams can be used to simplify programming tasks that you learned in [Chapter 5, Control Statements: Part 2; Logical Operators.](#)]

Another common intermediate stream operation is *filtering* elements to select those that match a condition—known as a *predicate*. For example, the following code selects the even integers in the range 1–10, multiplies each by 3 and sums the results:

```
int total = 0;

for (int x = 1; x <= 10; x++) {
    if (x % 2 == 0) { // if x is even
        total += x * 3;
    }
}
```

[Figure 17.7](#) reimplements this loop using streams.

```
1 // Fig. 17.7: StreamFilterMapReduce.java
2 // Triple the even ints from 2 through 10 then s
3 import java.util.stream.IntStream;
4
5 public class StreamFilterMapReduce {
6     public static void main(String[] args) {
7         // sum the triples of the even integers fr
```

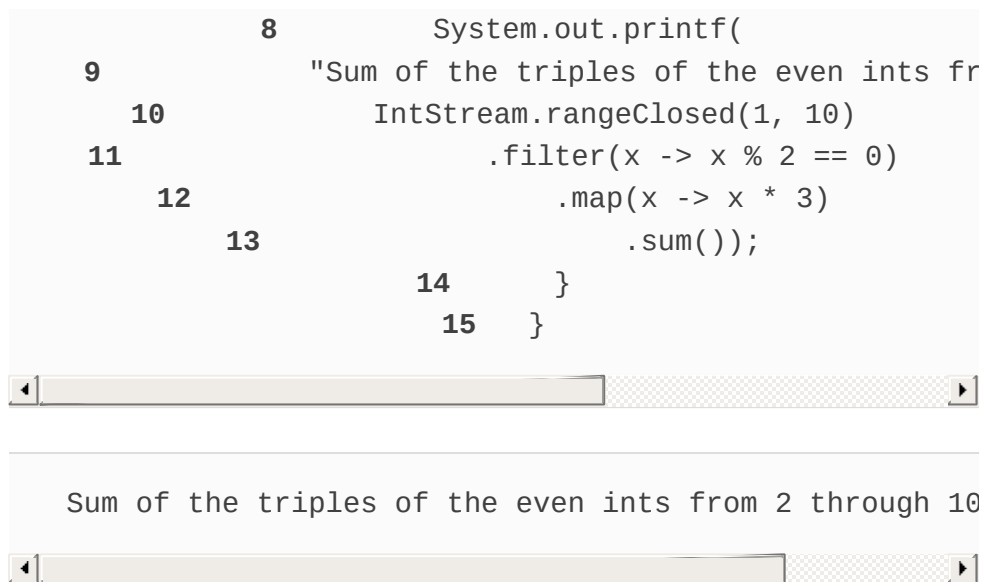


Fig. 17.7

Triple the even `ints` from 2 through 10 then sum them with `IntStream`.

The stream pipeline in lines 10–13 performs four chained method calls:

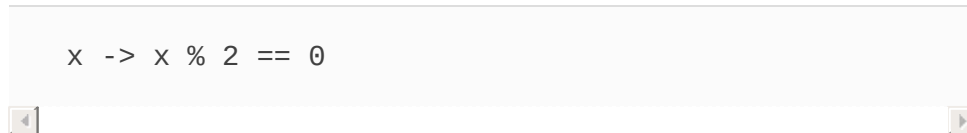
- Line 10 creates the data source—an `IntStream` for the closed range 1 through 10.
- Line 11, which we'll discuss in detail momentarily, filters the stream's elements by selecting only the elements that are divisible by 2 (that is, the even integers), producing a stream of the even integers from 2, 4, 6, 8 and 10.
- Line 12 maps each element (`x`) in the stream to that element times 3, producing a stream of the even integers from 6, 12, 18, 24 and 30.
- Line 13 reduces the stream to the sum of its elements (90).

The new feature here is the filtering operation in line 11.

`IntStream` method `filter` receives as its argument a method that takes one parameter and returns a `boolean` result. If the result is `true` for a given element, that element is included in the resulting stream.

The lambda in line 11:

```
x -> x % 2 == 0
```



determines whether its `int` argument is divisible by 2 (that is, the remainder after dividing by 2 is 0) and, if so, returns `true`; otherwise, the lambda returns `false`. For each element in the stream, `filter` calls the method that it receives as an argument, passing to the method the current stream element. If the method's return value is `true`, the corresponding element becomes part of the intermediate stream that `filter` returns.

Line 11 creates an intermediate stream representing only the elements that are divisible by 2. Next, line 12 uses `map` to create an intermediate stream representing the even integers (2, 4, 6, 8 and 10) that are multiplied by 3 (6, 12, 18, 24 and 30). Line 13 initiates the stream processing with a call to the *terminal* operation `sum`. At this point, the combined processing steps are applied to each element, then `sum` returns the total of the elements that remain in the stream. We discuss this further in the next section.



Error-Prevention Tip

17.1

*The order of the operations in a stream pipeline matters. For example, **filtering** the even numbers from 1–10 yields 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, then **mapping** them to twice their values yields 4, 8, 12, 16 and 20. On the other hand, **mapping** the numbers from 1–10 to twice their values yields 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18 and 20, then **filtering** the even numbers gives all of those values, because they're all even before the **filter** operation is performed.*

The stream pipeline shown in this example could have been implemented by using only **map** and **sum**. Exercise 17.18 asks you to eliminate the **filter** operation.