Chapter 15 - Collections

Goals

- To learn how to use the collection classes supplied in the Java library
- To use iterators to traverse collections
- To choose appropriate collections for solving programming problems
- To study applications of stacks and queues

- A collection groups together elements and allows them to be retrieved later.
- Java collections framework: a hierarchy of interface types and classes for collecting objects.
 - Each interface type is implemented by one or more classes

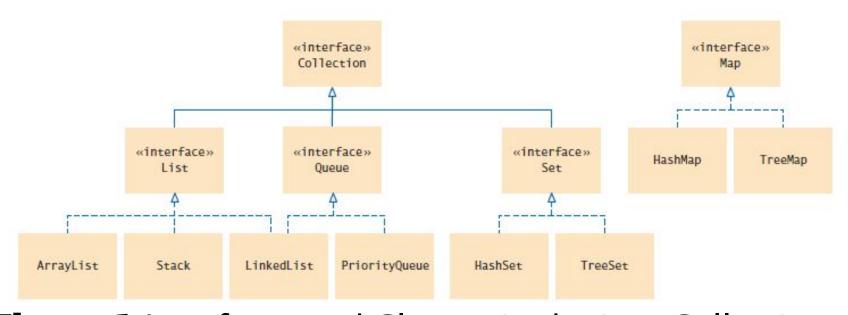
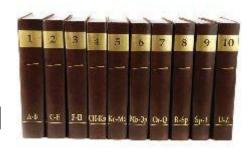


Figure 1 Interfaces and Classes in the Java Collections Framework

- The Collection interface is at the root
 - All Collection classes implement this interface
 - So all have a common set of methods

- List interface
- A list is a collection that remembers the order of its elements.
- Two implementing classes
 - ArrayList
 - LinkedList



Books

- Set interface
- A set is an unordered collection of unique elements.
- Arranges its elements so that finding, adding, and removing elements is more efficient.
- Two mechanisms to do this
 - hash tables
 - binary search trees

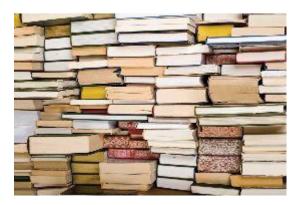


Figure 3 A Set of Books

Difference between HashMap & Hashtable

	HashMap	Hashtable
Synchronized	No	Yes
Thread-Safe	No	Yes
Null Keys and Null values	One null key ,Any null values	Not permit null keys and values
Iterator type	Fail fast iterator	Fail safe iterator
Performance	Fast	Slow in comparison
Superclass and Legacy	AbstractMap , No	Dictionary , Yes

- Stack
 - Remembers the order of elements
 - But you can only add and remove at the top



Figure 4 A Stack of Books

Queue

Add items to one end (the tail) and remove them from the other

end (the head)

A queue of People



- A priority queue
 - · an unordered collection
 - has an efficient operation for removing the element with the highest priority

Map

- Keeps associations between key and value objects.
- Every key in the map has an associated value.
- The map stores the keys, values, and the associations between them.

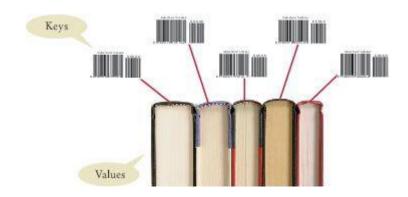


Figure 5 A Map from Bar Codes to Books

 Every class that implements the Collection interface has these methods.

Table 1 The Methods	of the Collection Interface
Collection <string> coll = new ArrayList<string>();</string></string>	The ArrayList class implements the Collection interface.
<pre>coll = new TreeSet<string>();</string></pre>	The TreeSet class (Section 15.3) also implements the Collection interface.
int n - coll.size();	Gets the size of the collection. \boldsymbol{n} is now 0.
<pre>coll.add("Harry"); coll.add("Sally");</pre>	Adds elements to the collection.
String s = coll.toString();	Returns a string with all elements in the collection. s is now [Harry, Sally].
System.out.println(coll);	Invokes the toString method and prints [Harry, Sally].
<pre>coll.remove("Harry"); boolean b = coll.remove("Tom");</pre>	Removes an element from the collection, returning false if the element is not present. b is false.
<pre>b = coll.contains("Sally");</pre>	Checks whether this collection contains a given element. b is now true.
<pre>for (String s : coll) { System.out.println(s); }</pre>	You can use the "for each" loop with any collection. This loop prints the elements on separate lines.
<pre>Iterator<string> iter = coll.iterator();</string></pre>	You use an iterator for visiting the elements in the collection (see Section 15.2.3).

A teacher's gradebook program stores a collection of quizzes. Should it use a list or a set?

Answer: A list is a better choice because the application will want to retain the order in which the quizzes were given.

A student information system stores a collection of student records for a university. Should it use a list or a set?

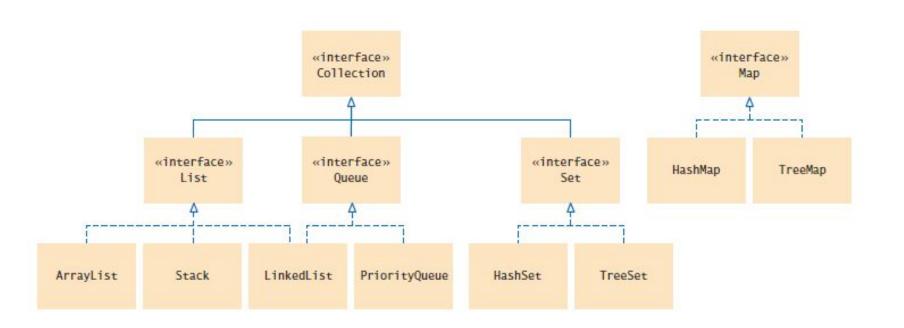
Answer: A set is a better choice. There is no intrinsically useful ordering for the students. For example, the registrar's office has little use for a list of all students by their GPA. By storing them in a set, adding, removing, and finding students can be efficient.

Why is a queue of books a better choice than a stack for organizing your required reading?

Answer: With a stack, you would always read the latest required reading, and you might never get to the oldest readings.

As you can see from Figure 1 below, the Java collections framework does not consider a map a collection. Give a reason for this decision.

 Answer: A collection stores elements, but a map stores <u>associations</u> between elements.



- A data structure used for collecting a sequence of objects:
 - Allows efficient addition and removal of elements in the middle of the sequence.
- A linked list consists of a number of nodes;
 - · Each node has a reference to the next node.
- A node is an object that stores an element and references to the neighboring nodes.
- Each node in a linked list is connected to the neighboring nodes.

- Adding and removing elements in the middle of a linked list is efficient.
- Visiting the elements of a linked list in sequential order is efficient.
- Random access is **not** efficient.



Figure 6 Example of a linked list

- When inserting or removing a node:
 - · Only the neighboring node references need to be updated

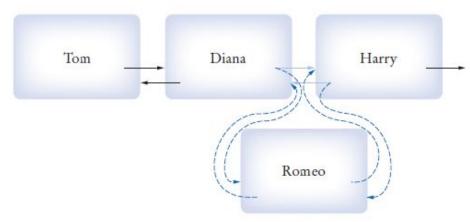


Figure 7 Inserting a Node into a Linked List

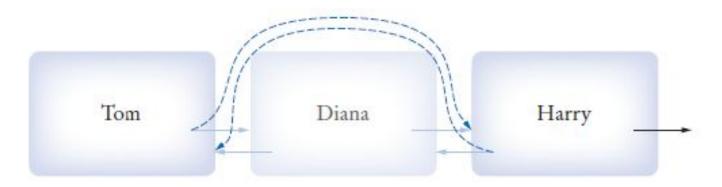


Figure 8 Removing a Node From A Linked List

- Visiting the elements of a linked list in sequential order is efficient.
- Random access is not efficient.
- When to use a linked list:
 - You are concerned about the efficiency of inserting or removing elements
 - You rarely need element access in random order

The LinkedList Class of the Java Collections Framework

- Generic class
 - Specify type of elements in angle brackets: LinkedList<Product>
- Package: java.util
- LinkedList has the methods of the Collection interface.

The LinkedList Class of the Java Collections Framework

Some additional LinkedList methods:

Table 2 Wo	orking with Linked Lists
<pre>LinkedList<string> list = new LinkedList<string>();</string></string></pre>	An empty list.
list.addLast("Harry");	Adds an element to the end of the list. Same as add.
list.addFirst("Sally");	Adds an element to the beginning of the list. 11st is now [Sally, Harry].
list.getFirst();	Gets the element stored at the beginning of the list; here "Sally".
list.getLast();	Gets the element stored at the end of the list; here "Harry".
String removed - list.removeFirst();	Removes the first element of the list and returns it. removed is "Sally" and list is [Harry]. Use removeLast to remove the last element.
ListIterator <string> iter = list.listIterator()</string>	Provides an iterator for visiting all list elements (see Table 3 on page 678).

- Use a list iterator to access elements inside a linked list.
- Encapsulates a position anywhere inside the linked list.
- Think of an iterator as pointing between two elements:
 - Analogy: like the cursor in a word processor points between two characters
- To get a list iterator, use the listIterator method of the LinkedList class.

```
LinkedList<String> employeeNames = . . .;
ListIterator<String> iterator =
employeeNames.listIterator();
```

Also a generic type.

- Initially points before the first element.
- Move the position with next method:

```
if (iterator.hasNext())
{
  iterator.next();
}
```

- The next method returns the element that the iterator is passing.
- The return type of the next method matches the list iterator's type parameter.

To traverse all elements in a linked list of strings:

```
while (iterator.hasNext())
{
   String name = iterator.next();
   Do something with name
}
```

To use the "for each" loop:

```
for (String name : employeeNames)
{
    Do something with name
}
```

- The nodes of the LinkedList class store two links:
 - One to the next element
 - One to the previous one
 - Called a doubly-linked list
- To move the list position backwards, use:
 - hasPrevious
 - previous

- The add method adds an object after the iterator.
 - Then moves the iterator position past the new element. iterator.add("Juliet");

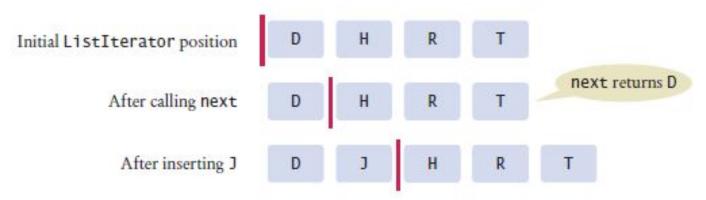


Figure 8 A Conceptual View of the List Iterator

- The remove method:
 - Removes object that was returned by the last call to next or previous
- To remove all names that fulfill a certain condition:

```
while (iterator.hasNext())
{
   String name = iterator.next();
   if (condition is fulfilled for name)
      iterator.remove();
}
```

- Be careful when calling remove:
 - It can be called only once after calling next or previous
 - You cannot call it immediately after a call to add
 - If you call it improperly, it throws an IllegalStateException

- ListIterator interface extends Iterator interface.
- Methods of the Iterator and ListIterator interfaces

Table 3 Metho	ds of the Iterator and ListIterator Interfaces
<pre>String s = iter.next();</pre>	Assume that iter points to the beginning of the list [Sally] before calling next. After the call, s is "Sally" and the iterator points to the end.
<pre>iter.previous(); iter.set("Juliet");</pre>	The set method updates the last element returned by next or previous. The list is now [Juliet].
iter.hasNext()	Returns false because the iterator is at the end of the collection.
<pre>if (iter.hasPrevious()) { s = iter.previous(); }</pre>	hasPrevious returns true because the iterator is not at the beginning of the list. previous and hasPrevious are ListIterator methods.
iter.add("Diana");	Adds an element before the iterator position (ListIterator only). The list is now [Diana, Juliet].
<pre>iter.next(); iter.remove();</pre>	remove removes the last element returned by next or previous. The list is now [Diana].

Sample Program

- ListDemo is a sample program that:
 - Inserts strings into a list
 - Iterates through the list, adding and removing elements
 - Prints the list

section_2/ListDemo.java

```
import java.util.LinkedList;
    import java.util.ListIterator;
 3
    /**
       This program demonstrates the LinkedList class.
    * /
    public class ListDemo
 7
 8
       public static void main(String[] args)
 9
10
11
           LinkedList<String> staff = new LinkedList<String>();
           staff.addLast("Diana");
12
           staff.addLast("Harry");
13
           staff.addLast("Romeo");
14
           staff.addLast("Tom");
15
16
           // I in the comments indicates the iterator position
17
18
19
           ListIterator<String> iterator = staff.listIterator(); // IDHRT
           iterator.next(); // DIHRT
20
           iterator.next(); // DHIRT
21
22
           // Add more elements after second element
23
24
           iterator.add("Juliet"); // DHJRT
25
           iterator.add("Nina"); // DHJN|RT
26
27
           iterator.next(); // DHJNRIT
28
29
30
           // Remove last traversed element
```

31

Continued

section_2/ListDemo.java

```
iterator.remove(); // DHJNIT

// Print all elements

System.out.println(staff);

System.out.println("Expected: [Diana, Harry, Juliet, Nina, Tom]");

System.out.println("Expected: [Diana, Harry, Juliet, Nina, Tom]");
}
```

Program Run:

[Diana Harry Juliet Nina Tom] Expected: [Diana Harry Juliet Nina Tom]

Do linked lists take more storage space than arrays of the same size?

Answer: Yes, for two reasons. A linked list needs to store the neighboring node references, which are not needed in an array. Moreover, there is some overhead for storing an object. In a linked list, each node is a separate object that incurs this overhead, whereas an array is a single object.

Why don't we need iterators with arrays?

Answer: We can simply access each array element with an integer index.

Suppose the list letters contains elements "A", "B", "C", and "D". Draw the contents of the list and the iterator position for the following operations:

```
ListIterator<String> iter = letters.iterator();
iter.next();
iter.next();
iter.next();
iter.next();
iter.add("E");
iter.next();
iter.next();
```

Answer: |ABCD |ABCD |ABCD |ABCD |ACD |ACD |ACED |ACED| |ACEDF

Write a loop that removes all strings with length less than four from a linked list of strings called words.

```
Answer:
   ListIterator<String> iter = words.iterator();
   while (iter.hasNext())
   {
      String str = iter.next();
      if (str.length() < 4) { iter.remove(); }
   }
}</pre>
```

Write a loop that prints every second element of a linked list of strings called words.

```
Answer:
   ListIterator<String> iter = words.iterator();
   while (iter.hasNext())
     System.out.println(iter.next());
     if (iter.hasNext())
       iter.next(); // Skip the next element
```

Sets

- A set organizes its values in an order that is optimized for efficiency.
- May not be the order in which you add elements.
- Inserting and removing elements is more efficient with a set than with a list.

- The Set interface has the same methods as the Collection interface.
- A set does not admit duplicates.
- Two implementing classes
 - HashSet
 - o based on hash table
 - TreeSet
 - o based on binary search tree
- A Set implementation arranges the elements so that it can locate them quickly.

- In a hash table
 - Set elements are grouped into smaller collections of elements that share the same characteristic.
 - Grouped by an integer hash code
 - Computed from the element
- Elements in a hash table must implement the method hashCode. Must have a properly defined equals method.
- You can form hash sets holding objects of type String, Integer, Double, Point, Rectangle, or Color.
 - HashSet<String>, HashSet<Rectangle>, or a HashSet<HashSet<Integer>>

 On this shelf, books of the same color are grouped together. Similarly, in a hash table, objects with the same hash code are placed in the same group



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- In a TreeSet
 - Elements are kept in sorted order



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- Elements are stored in nodes.
- The nodes are arranged in a tree shape,
 - Not in a linear sequence
- You can form tree sets for any class that implements the Comparable interface:
 - Example: String or Integer.

- Use a TreeSet if you want to visit the set's elements in sorted order.
 - Otherwise choose a HashSet
 - o It is a bit more efficient if the hash function is well chosen

Store the reference to a TreeSet or HashSet in a Set<String> variable:

```
Set<String> names = new HashSet<String>();
Or
Set<String> names = new TreeSet<String>();
```

- After constructing the collection object:
 - The implementation no longer matters
 - Only the interface is important

• Adding and removing elements:

```
names.add("Romeo");
names.remove("Juliet");
```

- Sets don't have duplicates.
 - Adding a duplicate is ignored.
- Attempting to remove an element that isn't in the set is ignored.
- The contains method tests whether an element is contained in the set:

```
if (names.contains("Juliet")) . . .
```

The contains method uses the equals method of the element type

- To process all elements in the set, get an iterator.
- A set iterator visits the elements in the order in which the set implementation keeps them.

```
Iterator<String> iter = names.iterator();
while (iter.hasNext())
{
   String name = iter.next();
   Do something with name
}
```

You can also use the "for each" loop

```
for (String name : names)
{
    Do something with name
}
```

- You cannot add an element to a set at an iterator position
 - A set is unordered.
- You can remove an element at an iterator position.
- The Iterator interface as no previous method.

T	able 4 Working with Sets
Set <string> names;</string>	Use the interface type for variable declarations.
names - new HashSet <string>();</string>	Use a TreeSet if you need to visit the elements in sorted order.
names.add("Romeo");	Now names.stze() is 1.
names.add("Fred");	Now names.size() is 2.
names.add("Romeo");	names.size() is still 2. You can't add duplicates.
if (names.contains("Fred"))	The contains method checks whether a value is contained in the set. In this case, the method returns true.
System.out.println(names);	Prints the set in the format [Fred, Romeo]. The elements need not be shown in the order in which they were inserted.
for (String name : names) { }	Use this loop to visit all elements of a set.
names.remove("Romeo");	Now names.size() is 1.
names.remove("Juliet");	It is not an error to remove an element that is not present. The method call has no effect.

SpellCheck Example Program

- Read all the correctly spelled words from a dictionary file
 - Put them in a set
- Reads all words from a document
 - Put them in a second set
- Print all the words in the second set that are not in the dictionary set.
- Potential misspellings

section_3/SpellCheck.java

```
import java.util.HashSet;
    import java.util.Scanner;
    import java.util.Set;
    import java.io.File;
    import java.io.FileNotFoundException;
    /**
 7
       This program checks which words in a file are not present in a dictionary.
 8
    */
 9
    public class SpellCheck
10
11
       public static void main(String[] args)
12
           throws FileNotFoundException
13
14
           // Read the dictionary and the document
15
16
           Set<String> dictionaryWords = readWords("words");
17
           Set<String> documentWords = readWords("alice30.txt");
18
19
20
           // Print all words that are in the document but not the dictionary
21
22
           for (String word : documentWords)
23
              if (!dictionaryWords.contains(word))
24
25
26
                  System.out.println(word);
27
28
29
30
```

Continued

section_3/SpellCheck.java

```
/**
31
            Reads all words from a file.
32
           @param filename the name of the file
33
           @return a set with all lowercased words in the file. Here, a
34
           word is a sequence of upper- and lowercase letters.
35
36
        * /
        public static Set<String> readWords(String filename)
37
            throws FileNotFoundException
38
39
            Set<String> words = new HashSet<String>();
40
            Scanner in = new Scanner(new File(filename));
41
            // Use any characters other than a-z or A-Z as delimiters
42
            in.useDelimiter("[^a-zA-Z]+");
43
           while (in.hasNext())
45
               words.add(in.next().toLowerCase());
           return words;
49
50
```

Program Run:

neighbouring croqueted pennyworth dutchess comfits xii dinn clamour

Arrays and lists remember the order in which you added elements; sets do not. Why would you want to use a set instead of an array or list?

Answer: Adding and removing elements as well as testing for membership is more efficient with sets.

Why are set iterators different from list iterators?

Answer: Sets do not have an ordering, so it doesn't make sense to add an element at a particular iterator position, or to traverse a set backward.

What is wrong with the following test to check whether the Set<String> s contains the elements "Tom", "Diana", and "Harry"?

```
if (s.toString().equals("[Tom, Diana, Harry]")) . . .
```

Answer: You do not know in which order the set keeps the elements.

How can you correctly implement the test of Self Check 12?

```
Answer: Here is one possibility:

if (s.size() == 3 && s.contains("Tom")

&& s.contains("Diana")

&& s.contains("Harry")) . . .
```

Write a loop that prints all elements that are in both

Set<String> s and Set<String> t.

```
Answer:
    for (String str : s)
    {
        if (t.contains(str))
        {
            System.out.println(str);
        }
    }
}
```

Suppose you changed line 40 of the SpellCheck program to use a TreeSet instead of a HashSet. How would the output change?

Answer: The words would be listed in sorted order.

- A map allows you to associate elements from a key set with elements from a value collection.
- Use a map when you want to look up objects by using a key.

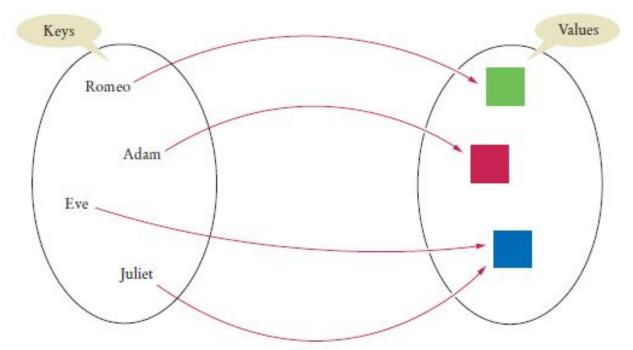


Figure 10 A Map

- Two implementations of the Map interface:
 - HashMap
 - TreeMap
- Store the reference to the map object in a Map reference:

```
Map<String, Color> favoriteColors =
  new HashMap<String, Color>();
```

- Use the put method to add an association: favoriteColors.put("Juliet", Color.RED);
- You can change the value of an existing association by calling put again:

```
favoriteColors.put("Juliet", Color.BLUE);
```

- The get method returns the value associated with a key:
 Color favorite = favorite.get("Juliet");
- If you ask for a key that isn't associated with any values, the get method returns null.
- To remove an association, call the remove method with the key:

```
favoriteColors.remove("Juliet");
```

Working with Maps

Table 5 Wor	king with Maps
Map <string, integer=""> scores;</string,>	Keys are strings, values are Integer wrappers. Use the interface type for variable declarations.
scores - new TreeMap <string, integer="">();</string,>	Use a HashMap if you don't need to visit the keys in sorted order.
scores.put("Harry", 90); scores.put("Sally", 95);	Adds keys and values to the map.
scores.put("Sally", 100);	Modifies the value of an existing key.
<pre>int n = scores.get("Sally"); Integer n2 = scores.get("Diana");</pre>	Gets the value associated with a key, or null if the key is not present. n is 100, n2 is null.
System.out.println(scores);	Prints scores.toString(), a string of the form {Harry-90, Sally-100}
<pre>for (String key : scores.keySet()) { Integer value = scores.get(key); }</pre>	Iterates through all map keys and values.
scores.remove("Sally");	Removes the key and value.

- Sometimes you want to enumerate all keys in a map.
- The keySet method yields the set of keys.
- Ask the key set for an iterator and get all keys.
- For each key, you can find the associated value with the get method.
- To print all key/value pairs in a map m:

```
Set<String> keySet = m.keySet();
for (String key : keySet)
{
   Color value = m.get(key);
   System.out.println(key + "->" + value);
}
```

section_4/MapDemo.java

```
import java.awt.Color;
    import java.util.HashMap;
    import java.util.Map;
    import java.util.Set;
 5
    /**
       This program demonstrates a map that maps names to colors.
 7
    * /
    public class MapDemo
 9
10
       public static void main(String[] args)
11
12
13
          Map<String, Color> favoriteColors = new HashMap<String, Color>();
          favoriteColors.put("Juliet", Color.BLUE);
14
          favoriteColors.put("Romeo", Color.GREEN);
15
16
          favoriteColors.put("Adam", Color.RED);
          favoriteColors.put("Eve", Color.BLUE);
17
18
19
          // Print all keys and values in the map
20
21
          Set<String> keySet = favoriteColors.keySet();
22
          for (String key : keySet)
23
              Color value = favoriteColors.get(key);
24
25
              System.out.println(key + " : " + value);
26
27
28
```

section_4/MapDemo.java

Program Run:

```
Juliet: java.awt.Color[r=0,g=0,b=255]
Adam: java.awt.Color[r=255,g=0,b=0]
Eve: java.awt.Color[r=0,g=0,b=255]
Romeo: java.awt.Color[r=0,g=255,b=0]
```

What is the difference between a set and a map?

Answer: A set stores elements. A map stores associations between keys and values.

Why is the collection of the keys of a map a set and not a list?

Answer: The ordering does not matter, and you cannot have duplicates

Why is the collection of the values of a map not a set?

Answer: Because it might have duplicates.

Suppose you want to track how many times each word occurs in a document. Declare a suitable map variable.

Answer: Map<String, Integer> wordFrequency;

What is a Map<String, HashSet<String>>? Give a possible use for such a structure.

Answer: It associates strings with sets of strings. One application would be a thesaurus that lists synonyms for a given word. For example, the key "improve" might have as its value the set ["ameliorate", "better", "enhance", "enrich", "perfect", "refine"].

Choosing a Collection

- Determine how you access the values.
- Determine the element types or key/value types.
- Determine whether element or key order matters.
- For a collection, determine which operations must be efficient.
- For hash sets and maps, decide whether you need to implement the hashCode and equals methods.
- If you use a tree, decide whether to supply a comparator.

- You may need to implement a hash function for your own classes.
- A hash function: a function that computes an integer value, the hash code, from an object in such a way that different objects are likely to yield different hash codes.
- Object class has a hashCode method
 - you need to override it to use your class in a hash table
- A collision: two or more objects have the same hash code.

 The method used by the String class to compute the hash code.

```
final int HASH_MULTIPLIER = 31;
int h = 0;
for (int i = 0; i < s.length(); i++)
{
    h = HASH_MULTIPLIER * h + s.charAt(i);
}</pre>
```

- This produces different hash codes for "tea" and "eat".



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A good hash function produces different hash values for each object so that they are scattered about in a hash table.

- Override hashCode methods in your own classes by combining the hash codes for the instance variables.
- A hash function for our Country class:

```
public class Country
{
   public int hashCode()
   {
     int h1 = name.hashCode();
     int h2 = new Double(area).hashCode();
     final int HASH_MULTIPLIER = 29;
     int h = HASH_MULTIPLIER * h1 + h2;
     return h;
   }
}
```

 A class's hashCode method must be compatible with its equals method.

Stacks

- A stack lets you insert and remove elements only at one end:
 - Called the top of the stack.
 - Removes items in the opposite order than they were added
 - Last-in, first-out or LIFO order
- Add and remove methods are called push and pop.

Stacks

Example

```
Stack<String> s = new Stack<String>();
s.push("A");
s.push("B");
s.push("C");
while (s.size() > 0)
{
    System.out.print(s.pop() + " "); // Prints C B A
}
```

The last pancake that has been added to this stack will be

the first one that is consumed.



Stacks

- Many applications for stacks in computer science.
- Consider: Undo function of a word processor
 - The issued commands are kept in a stack.
 - When you select "Undo", the last command is popped off the stack and undone



- Run-time stack that a processor or virtual machine:
 - Stores the values of variables in nested methods.
 - When a new method is called, its parameter variables and local variables are pushed onto a stack.
 - When the method exits, they are popped off again.

Stack in the Java Library

Stack class provides push, pop and peek methods.

Table 7 Wor	rking with Stacks
<pre>Stack<integer> s = new Stack<integer>();</integer></integer></pre>	Constructs an empty stack.
<pre>s.push(1); s.push(2); s.push(3);</pre>	Adds to the top of the stack; s is now [1, 2, 3]. (Following the toString method of the Stack class, we show the top of the stack at the end.)
<pre>int top = s.pop();</pre>	Removes the top of the stack; top is set to 3 and s is now [1, 2].
head = s.peek();	Gets the top of the stack without removing it; head is set to 2.

Queue

- A queue
 - Lets you add items to one end of the queue (the tail)
 - Remove items from the other end of the queue (the head)
 - Items are removed in the same order in which they were added
 - First-in, first-out or FIFO order
- To visualize a queue, think of people lining up.



Photodisc/Punchstock.

Typical application: a print queue.

Queue

- The Queue interface in the standard Java library has: an add method to add an element to the tail of the queue,
- A remove method to remove the head of the queue, and
- A peek method to get the head element of the queue without removing it.
- The LinkedList class implements the Queue interface.
 When you need a queue, initialize a Queue variable with a LinkedList object:

```
Queue<String> q = new LinkedList<String>();
q.add("A");
q.add("B");
q.add("C");
while (q.size() > 0) { System.out.print(q.remove() + " "); }
// Prints A B C
```

Queue

Table 8	Working with Queues
<pre>Queue<integer> q = new LinkedList<integer>();</integer></integer></pre>	The LinkedList class implements the Queue interface.
<pre>q.add(1); q.add(2); q.add(3);</pre>	Adds to the tail of the queue; q is now [1, 2, 3].
<pre>int head = q.remove();</pre>	Removes the head of the queue; head is set to 1 and q is [2, 3].
head = q.peek();	Gets the head of the queue without removing it; head is set to 2.

Priority Queue

- A priority queue collects elements, each of which has a priority.
- Example: a collection of work requests, some of which may be more urgent than others.
- Does not maintain a first-in, first-out discipline.
- Elements are retrieved according to their priority.
- Priority 1 denotes the most urgent priority
 - Each removal extracts the minimum element
- When you retrieve an item from a priority queue, you always get the most urgent one.

Priority Queue

 Example: objects of a class WorkOrder into a priority queue.

```
PriorityQueue<WorkOrder> q =
   new PriorityQueue<WorkOrder>();
q.add(new WorkOrder(3, "Shampoo carpets"));
q.add(new WorkOrder(1, "Fix broken sink"));
q.add(new WorkOrder(2, "Order cleaning supplies"));
```

- When calling q.remove() for the first time, the work order with priority 1 is removed.
- Elements should belong to a class that implements the Comparable interface.

Priority Queue

Table 9 Wo	rking with Priority Queues
<pre>PriorityQueue<integer> q = new PriorityQueue<integer>();</integer></integer></pre>	This priority queue holds Integer objects. In practice, you would use objects that describe tasks.
q.add(3); q.add(1); q.add(2);	Adds values to the priority queue.
<pre>int first = q.remove(); int second = q.remove();</pre>	Each call to remove removes the most urgent item: first is set to 1, second to 2.
<pre>int next = q.peek();</pre>	Gets the smallest value in the priority queue without removing it.

Why would you want to declare a variable as Queue<String> q = new LinkedList<String>(); instead of simply declaring it as a linked list?

Answer: This way, we can ensure that only queue operations can be invoked on the q object.

Why wouldn't you want to use an array list for implementing a queue?

Answer: Depending on whether you consider the 0 position the head or the tail of the queue, you would either add or remove elements at that position. Both are inefficient operations because all other elements need to be moved.

What does this code print?

```
Queue<String> q = new LinkedList<String>();
q.add("A");
q.add("B");
q.add("C");
while (q.size() > 0)
{
    System.out.print(q.remove() + " ");
}
```

Answer: A B C

Why wouldn't you want to use a stack to manage print jobs?

Answer: Stacks use a "last-in, first-out" discipline. If you are the first one to submit a print job and lots of people add print jobs before the printer has a chance to deal with your job, they get their printouts first, and you have to wait until all other jobs are completed.

In the sample code for a priority queue, we used a WorkOrder class. Could we have used strings instead?

```
PriorityQueue<String> q = new PriorityQueue<String>();
q.add("3 - Shampoo carpets");
q.add("1 - Fix broken sink");
q.add("2 - Order cleaning supplies");
```

Answer: Yes—the smallest string (in lexicographic ordering) is removed first. In the example, that is the string starting with 1, then the string starting with 2, and so on. However, the scheme breaks down if a priority value exceeds 9. For example, a string "10 - Line up braces" comes before "2 - Order cleaning supplies" in lexicographic order.

Sorting and Searching in the Java Library - Sorting

- You do not need to write sorting and searching algorithms
 - Use methods in the Arrays and Collections classes
- The Arrays class contains static sort methods.
- To sort an array of integers:

```
int[] a = . . . ;
Arrays.sort(a);
```

- That sort method uses the Quicksort algorithm (see Special Topic 14.3).
- To sort an ArrayList, use Collections.sort

```
ArrayList<String> names = . . .;
Collections.sort(names);
```

Uses merge sort algorithm

 A stack can be used to check whether parentheses in an expression are balanced.

When you see an opening parenthesis, push it on the stack.

When you see a closing parenthesis, pop the stack.

If the opening and closing parentheses don't match The parentheses are unbalanced. Exit.

If at the end the stack is empty

The parentheses are balanced.

Else

The parentheses are not balanced.

• Walkthrough of the sample expression:

Stack	Unread expression	Comments
Empty	-{[b*b-(4*a*c)]/(2*a)}	
{	[b*b-(4*a*e)]/(2*a)}	
1}	b*b-(4*a*c)]/(2*a)}	
1]}	4*a*c)]/(2*a)}	
]}]/(2 * a) }	(matches)
{	/(2 * a) }	[matches]
{ (2 * al }	2107
{	}	(matches)
Empty	No more input	{ matches }
		The parentheses are balanced

 Use a stack to evaluate expressions in reverse Polish notation.

Push it on the stack.

Else if you read an operand
Pop two values off the stack.

Combine the values with the operand.
Push the result back onto the stack.

Else if there is no more input
Pop and display the result.

• Walkthrough of evaluating the expression $3.4.5 + \times$:

Stack Unread expression		Comments	
Empty	345+x		
3	45+x	Numbers are pushed on the stack	
34	5+x		
345	+ x		
39	X	Pop 4 and 5, push 4 5 +	
27	No more input	Pop 3 and 9, push 3 9 x	
Empty		Pop and display the result, 27	

section_6_2/Calculator.java

```
import java.util.Scanner;
    import java.util.Stack;
    /**
       This calculator uses the reverse Polish notation.
    */
    public class Calculator
 7
 8
       public static void main(String[] args)
 9
10
11
           Scanner in = new Scanner(System.in);
           Stack<Integer> results = new Stack<Integer>();
12
13
           System.out.println("Enter one number or operator per line, Q to quit. ");
          boolean done = false;
14
          while (!done)
15
16
              String input = in.nextLine();
17
18
19
              // If the command is an operator, pop the arguments and push the result
20
21
              if (input.equals("+"))
22
                 results.push(results.pop() + results.pop());
23
24
              else if (input.equals("-"))
25
26
                 Integer arg2 = results.pop();
27
                 results.push(results.pop() - arg2);
28
                                                                                     Continued
29
```

section_6_2/Calculator.java

```
30
             else if (input.equals("*") | input.equals("x"))
31
32
                 results.push(results.pop() * results.pop());
33
34
             else if (input.equals("/"))
35
36
                 Integer arg2 = results.pop();
                 results.push(results.pop() / arg2);
37
38
39
             else if (input.equals("Q") | input.equals("q"))
40
41
                 done = true;
42
43
              else
44
                 // Not an operator--push the input value
45
46
47
                 results.push(Integer.parseInt(input));
48
49
              System.out.println(results);
50
51
52
```

 Using two stacks, you can evaluate expressions in standard algebraic notation.

• One stack for numbers, one for operators

• Evaluating the top: 3 + 4

	Number stack Empty	Operator stack Empty	Unprocessed input 3 + 4	Comments
0	3		+ 4	
8	3	+	4	
3	4 3	+	No more input	Evaluate the top.
0	7			The result is 7.

- Evaluate 3 x 4 + 5
 - Push until you get to the +

	Number stack Empty	Operator stack Empty	Unprocessed input 3 × 4 + 5	Comments
0	3		× 4 + 5	
2	3	×	4 + 5	
3	4		+ 5	Evaluate × before +.
	3	×		

 x (top of operator stack) has higher precedence than + , so evaluate the top

	Number stack	Operator stack		Comments
0	12	+	5	
6	5 12	+	No more input	Evaluate the top.
6	17			That is the result.

- Evaluate 3 + 4 × 5
 - Add x to the operator stack so we can get the next number

	Number stack Empty	Operator stack Empty	Unprocessed input 3 + 4 × 5	Comments
0	3		+ 4 × 5	
0	3	+	4 + 5	
3	4 3	+	× 5	Don't evaluate + yet.
0	4 3	× +	5	

Keep operators on the stack until they are ready to be evaluated

	Number stack	Operator stack		Comments
6	5 4 3	* +	No more input	Evaluate the top.
6	20	+		Evaluate top again.
0	23			That is the result.

- Evaluating parentheses: $3 \times (4 + 5)$
 - Push (on the stack
 - Keep pushing until we reach the)
 - Evaluate until we find the matching (

	Number stack Empty	Operator stack Empty	Unprocessed input $3 \times (4+5)$	Comments
0	3		× (4 + 5)	
2	3	×	(4 + 5)	
3	3	(×	4 + 5)	Don't evaluate × yet.
0	4 3	(×	+ 5)	
6	4 3	+ (x	5)	
6	5 4 3	+ (×)	Evaluate the top.
7	9	(×	No more input	Pop (.
8	9	×		Evaluate top again.
9	27			That is the result.

```
The algorithm
   If you read a number
     Push it on the number stack.
   Else if you read a (
     Push it on the operator stack.
   Else if you read an operator op
     While the top of the stack has a higher precedence than op
       Evaluate the top.
     Push op on the operator stack.
   Else if you read a )
     While the top of the stack is not a (
       Evaluate the top.
     Pop the (.
   Else if there is no more input
     While the operator stack is not empty
       Evaluate the top.
At the end, the value on the number stack the the value of
  the expression
```

Helper method to evaluate the top:
 Pop two numbers off the number stack.
 Pop an operator off the operator stack.
 Combine the numbers with that operator.
 Push the result on the number stack.

Backtracking

- Use a stack to remember choices you haven't yet made so that you can backtrack to them.
- Escaping a maze
 - You want to escape from a maze
 - You come to an intersection. What should you do?
 - Explore one of the paths
 - But remember the other paths.
 - If your chosen path doesn't work, you can
 - go back and try one of the other choices
- Use a stack to remember the paths that still need to be tried.
- The process of returning to a choice point and trying another choice is called **backtracking**.

Backtracking - Maze Example

- Start, at position (3, 4).
- There are four possible paths. We push them all on a stack.
- We pop off the topmost one, traveling north from (3, 4).
- Following this path leads to position (1, 4).
 - · We now push two choices on the stack, going west or east.
 - Both of them lead to dead ends.
- Now we pop off the path from (3,4) going east.
 - That too is a dead end.
- Next is the path from (3, 4) going south.
- Comes to an intersection at (5, 4).
 - · Both choices are pushed on the stack.
 - They both lead to dead ends.
- Finally, the path from (3, 4) going west leads to an exit.

Backtracking - Maze Example

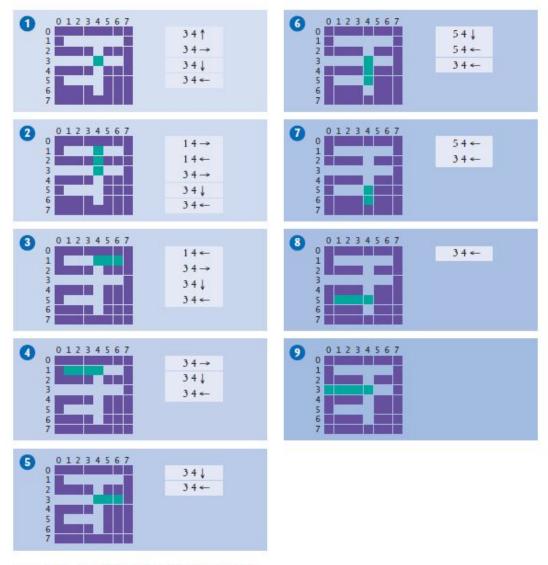


Figure 11 Backtracking Through a Maze

Backtracking - Maze Example

• Algorithm:

Push all paths from the point on which you are standing on a stack.

While the stack is not empty

Pop a path from the stack.

Follow the path until you reach an exit, intersection, or dead end.

If you found an exit

Congratulations!

Else if you found an intersection

Push all paths meeting at the intersection, except the current one, onto the stack.

- This works if there are no cycles in the maze.
 - You never circle back to a previously visited intersection
- You could use a queue instead of a stack.

What is the value of the reverse Polish notation expression $2 \ 3 \ 4 + 5 \times \times$?

Answer: 70

Why does the branch for the subtraction operator in the Calculator program not simply execute

results.push(results.pop() - results.pop());

Answer: It would then subtract the first argument from the second. Consider the input 5 3 –. The stack contains 5 and 3, with the 3 on the top. Then results.pop() - results.pop() computes 3 – 5.

In the evaluation of the expression 3 – 4 + 5 with the algorithm of Section 15.6.3, which operator gets evaluated first?

Answer: The – gets executed first because + doesn't have a higher precedence.

In the algorithm of Section 15.6.3, are the operators on the operator stack always in increasing precedence?

Answer: No, because there may be parentheses on the stack. The parentheses separate groups of operators, each of which is in increasing precedence.

Consider the following simple maze. Assuming that we start at the marked point and push paths in the order West, South, East, North, in which order are the lettered points visited, using the algorithm of Section 15.6.4?



Answer: ABEFGDCKJN