

OBJECT-ORIENTED PROGRAMMING

LAB 9: EXCEPTIONS AND FILE HANDLING

I. Objective

After completing this lab tutorial, you can:

- Understand and implement exception handling in Java programs.
- Understand and implement file handling in Java programs.

II. Motivation

There are three types of errors:

- **Syntax errors** occur when the rule of the language is violated and detected by the compiler.
- **Run-time errors** occur when the computer detects an operation that cannot be carried out (e.g., division by zero, x/y is syntactically correct, but if y is zero at run-time a run-time error will occur).
- **Logic errors** occur when a program does not perform the intended task.

Instead of deciding how to deal with an error, Java provides the exception mechanism:

- Indicate an error (exception event) has occurred.
- Let the user decide how to handle the problem in a separate section of code specific to that purpose.
- Crash the program if the error is not handled.

III. Exception Indication

1. Use built-in exception class

There are many useful predefined exception classes, for example:

- `ArithmeticException`
- `NullPointerException`
- `IndexOutOfBoundsException`
- `IllegalArgumentException`
- `InputMismatchException`

The following Java programs will illustrate the use of *Exception Indication*.

```
import java.util.Scanner;
import java.util.InputMismatchException;

public class SampleException {
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        Scanner sc = new Scanner(System.in);
        boolean isError = false;

        do {
            System.out.println("Enter an integer number");
            try {
                int num = sc.nextInt();
                System.out.println("num = " + num);
                isError = false;
            } catch (InputMismatchException e) {
                System.err.println("Incorrect input");
                sc.nextLine(); // skip newline
                isError = true;
            }
        } while (isError);
    }
}
```

```
public class SampleException {
    public static double factorial(int n) throws IllegalArgumentException {
        if (n < 0) {
            IllegalArgumentException obj = new IllegalArgumentException(n + " is
invalid.");
            throw obj;
        } else {
            double output = 1;
            for (int i = 2; i <= n; i++) {
                output *= i;
            }
            return output;
        }
    }

    public static void main(String[] args) {
        System.out.println("n = 5 --> " + factorial(5));
        System.out.println("n = -1 --> " + factorial(-1));
        /*
        try {
            System.out.println("n = -1 --> " + factorial(-1));
        } catch (IllegalArgumentException err) {
            System.out.println(err);
        }
        */
        System.out.println("n = 6 --> " + factorial(6));
    }
}
```

2. Define new Exception class

New exception classes can be defined by deriving from class Exception. Then it can be used in **throw** statements and **catch** blocks.

```
public class MathException extends Exception {
    public MathException() {
        super();
    }

    public MathException(String s) {
        super(s);
    }
}
```

```
public class SampleException {
    public static double factorial(int n) throws MathException {
        if (n < 0) {
            throw new MathException(n + " is invalid.");
        } else {
            double output = 1;
            for (int i = 2; i <= n; i++) {
                output *= i;
            }
            return output;
        }
    }

    public static void main(String[] args) throws MathException {
        System.out.println("n = 5 --> " + factorial(5));
        System.out.println("n = -1 --> " + factorial(-1));
        /*
        try {
            System.out.println("n = -1 --> " + factorial(-1));
        } catch (MathException err) {
            System.out.println(err);
        }
        */
        System.out.println("n = 6 --> " + factorial(6));
    }
}
```

IV. Java File Handling

File handling is an important part of any application.

Java has several methods for *creating*, *reading*, *updating*, and *deleting* files.

The *File* class from the java.io package, allows us to work with files.

To use the *File* class, create an object of the class, and specify the filename or directory name

```
import java.io.File; // Import the File class

File myObj = new File("filename.txt"); // Specify the filename
```

The File class has many useful methods for creating and getting information about files.

| Method | Type | Description |
|-----------------|---------|---|
| canRead() | boolean | Tests whether the file is readable or not |
| canWrite() | boolean | Tests whether the file is writable or not |
| createNewFile() | boolean | Create an empty file |

| | | |
|-------------------|----------|--|
| delete() | boolean | Deletes a file |
| exists() | boolean | Tests whether the file exists |
| getName() | String | Returns the name of the file |
| getAbsolutePath() | String | Returns the absolute pathname of the file |
| length() | long | Returns the size of the file in bytes |
| list() | String[] | Returns an array of the files in the directory |
| mkdir() | boolean | Creates a directory |

1. Create a File

You can use the `createNewFile()` method, to create a file in Java. This method returns a boolean value: `true` if the file was successfully created, and `false` if the file already exists. Note that the method is enclosed in a `try...catch` block. This is necessary because it throws an `IOException` if an error occurs (if the file cannot be created for some reason):

```
import java.io.File; // Import the File class
import java.io.IOException; // Import the IOException class to handle errors

public class CreateFile {
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        try {
            File myObj = new File("filename.txt");
            if (myObj.createNewFile()) {
                System.out.println("File created: " + myObj.getName());
            } else {
                System.out.println("File already exists.");
            }
        } catch (IOException e) {
            System.out.println("An error occurred.");
            e.printStackTrace();
        }
    }
}
```

Note: To create a file in a specific directory (requires permission), specify the path of the file and use double backslashes to escape the `"\"` character (for Windows). You can just write the path on Mac and Linux, like `/Users/name/filename.txt`.

2. Write to a File

In the following example, we use the `FileWriter` class together with its `write()` method to write some text to the file we created in the example above. Note that when you are done writing to the file, you should close it with the `close()` method:

```
import java.io.FileWriter; // Import the FileWriter class
import java.io.IOException; // Import the IOException class to handle errors

public class WriteToFile {
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        try {
            FileWriter myWriter = new FileWriter("filename.txt");
            myWriter.write("Hello world! Hello TDTU!");
            myWriter.close();
            System.out.println("Successfully wrote to the file.");
        } catch (IOException e) {
            System.out.println("An error occurred.");
            e.printStackTrace();
        }
    }
}
```

Note: Many available classes in the Java API can be used to write files in Java: `FileWriter`, `BufferedWriter`, `FileOutputStream`, etc.

3. Read a File

In the following example, we use the `Scanner` class to read the contents of the text file we created in the example above.

```
import java.io.File; // Import the File class
import java.io.FileNotFoundException; // Import this class to handle errors
import java.util.Scanner; // Import the Scanner class to read text files

public class ReadFile {
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        try {
            File myObj = new File("filename.txt");
            Scanner myReader = new Scanner(myObj);
            while (myReader.hasNextLine()) {
                String data = myReader.nextLine();
                System.out.println(data);
            }
            myReader.close();
        } catch (FileNotFoundException e) {
            System.out.println("An error occurred.");
            e.printStackTrace();
        }
    }
}
```

Note: Many available classes in the Java API can be used to read in Java: **FileReader**, **BufferedReader**, **File**, **Scanner**, **FileInputStream**, etc. Which one to use depends on the Java version you're working with and whether you need to read bytes or characters, the size of the file/lines, etc.

4. Get File Information

To get more information about a file, use any of the File methods:

```
import java.io.File; // Import the File class

public class GetFileInfo {
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        File myObj = new File("filename.txt");
        if (myObj.exists()) {
            System.out.println("File name: " + myObj.getName());
            System.out.println("Absolute path: " + myObj.getAbsolutePath());
            System.out.println("Writeable: " + myObj.canWrite());
            System.out.println("Readable " + myObj.canRead());
            System.out.println("File size in bytes " + myObj.length());
        } else {
            System.out.println("The file does not exist.");
        }
    }
}
```

5. Delete a File

To delete a file in Java, use the delete() method:

```
import java.io.File; // Import the File class

public class DeleteFile {
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        File myObj = new File("filename.txt");
        if (myObj.delete()) {
            System.out.println("Deleted the file: " + myObj.getName());
        } else {
            System.out.println("Failed to delete the file.");
        }
    }
}
```

V. Exercises

1. Create class Calculator has 2 methods below:

- **public double divide(int a, int b)**
- **public int multiply(int a, int b)**

Implement exceptions:

- If parameter $b = 0$, the method throws an exception **ArithmeticException** with the message “divide by zero”.
- If the values of a and b are outside the range $[-1000, 1000]$, the method throws an exception **NumberOutOfRangeException** with the message “Number is outside the computation”. **NumberOutOfRangeException** is a student-defined exception.

2. Write a Java program:

- Read all contents from an **input.txt** file.
- Then uppercase all contents and write the results to the **output.txt** file.

For example:

| input.txt | output.txt |
|---|---|
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3. Write a method **public <E> boolean writeFile(String path, ArrayList<E> lst)** to write the generic **ArrayList** and apply it to write the result of exercise 3 in the Classwork section of Lab 8 to a file with format **sName - sID - gpa** with each line is one **Student** object, instead of print on the command prompt.

4. Write a Java program:

- Get specific files by extensions from a given folder.
- Check if a file or directory specified by pathname exists or not.
- Check if the given pathname is a directory or a file.
- Append text to an existing file.
- Find the longest word in a text file.

5. Write a Java program:

- Read all integers from an *input.txt* file.
- Then calculate the sum of them and write the result to the *output.txt* file.

| input.txt | output.txt |
|-----------------------|------------|
| 0 12 8 4 6 100 1 9 | 140 |