

Exceptions

A short excursion

Throwing of Exceptions

How is an Exception thrown?

When should you throw an Exception?

Catching of Exceptions

How does the caller handle an Exception?

What to do when an Exception can not be handled reasonably?

Recap

*Finally an explanation to
NullPointerException,
ArrayIndexOutOfBoundsException!*

Throwing an Exception

Method declares it can throw an
Exception under certain circumstances

```
public void doSomething() throws Exception{  
    if(somethingWentWrong){  
        throw new Exception("Uh-oh");  
    }  
    //normal execution when everything is fine  
}
```

Throwing of the Exception
Method is immediately left

Executed if no Exception
needed to be thrown

Irregular State: Throw Exception

```
public class Rectangle {  
    private int width;  
    private int height;  
  
    public void setHeight(int height) throws Exception{  
        if(height < 0){  
            throw new Exception("height <0 is not allowed");  
        }  
        this.height = height;  
    }  
}
```

Declaration which
Exception can be thrown

Throw Exception

Regular processing

Check for
irregular state

Catching Exceptions

```
try {  
    //call method that could throw an Exception  
} catch (Exception ex) {  
    //try to safe or recover  
}
```

Same Exception-Class as
declared in the method

Instructions for
regular processing

Example

```
public Rectangle createRectangle(){
    int width;
    int height;

    Scanner s = new Scanner(System.in);
    height = s.nextInt();
    width = s.nextInt();
    Rectangle rectangle = new Rectangle();
    try{
        rectangle.setHeight(height);
    }catch(Exception ex){
        //What reasonable thing could we do here
    }
    return rectangle;
}
```

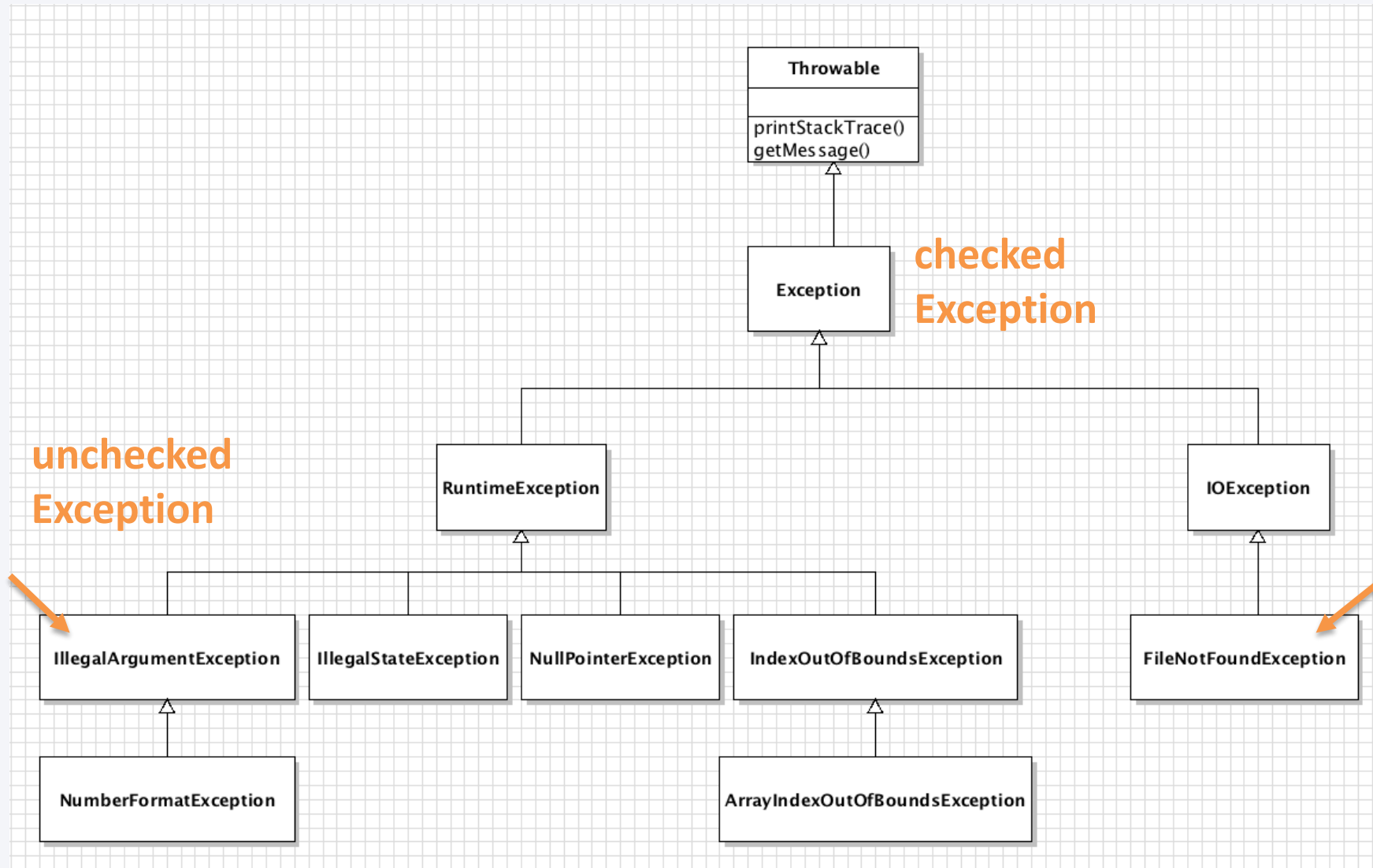
But wait...?

Why did we use so few try-catch-blocks?

We get tons of Exceptions like `NullPointerException` or
`ArrayIndexOutOfBoundsException`

Do not all Exceptions have to be caught in a try-catch-block?

Excerpt of the Exception-Classhierarchy




```
public class FileExceptionExample {  
    ...  
    public void readFile() throws FileNotFoundException{  
        ...  
        throw new FileNotFoundException("no file found");  
        ...  
    }  
  
    public void someMethod(){  
        try{  
            readFile();  
        }catch(FileNotFoundException ex){  
            //do what is possible  
        }  
    }  
  
    public void someOtherMethod() throws FileNotFoundException{  
        readFile();  
    }  
}
```

All thrown exceptions need
to be declared

Catching of declared
Exceptions

Forward a declared
Exception that can not be
handled appropriately

RuntimeExceptions do not
need to be declared



```
public void setSize(int size){  
    if((size <= 8) || (size >= 120)){  
        throw new IllegalArgumentException("Wrong size!");  
    }else{  
        this.size = size;  
    }  
}
```

Checked vs. Unchecked Exceptions

Checked Exceptions (checked by the Compiler)

For foreseeable exceptional situations

Server is not running

File is not available

General: An external resource is not available

Unchecked Exception (Runtime Error)

As a reaction to a coding error

Error with the caller

Illegal parameters

```
throw new IllegalArgumentException();  
throw new ArrayIndexOutOfBoundsException();  
throw new NullPointerException();
```

Error within a method

```
throw new IllegalStateException();
```

Control flow in try-catch-blocks

Try-block is
executed first

```
try{  
1)   int result = calculateSomething();  
2)   int x = result * result;  
    }catch(Exception ex){  
        System.out.println("Error!");  
    }  
3) System.out.println("Done");
```

Then code below the
catch block

CalculateSomething
can throw an Exception

The catch-block is not
executed

If "try" is successful (throws no Exception)

Control flow in try-catch-blocks

calculateSomething
fails. The rest of
the try-block is not
executed

Is executed after
the catch-block

```
try{  
1)   int result = calculateSomething();  
      int x = result * result;  
    }catch(Exception ex){  
2)   System.out.println("Error!");  
    }  
3) System.out.println("Done");
```

CalculateSomething
can throw an Exception

The catch-block is
executed

If "try" fails (throws an Exception)

The finally keyword

```
public void cook(){  
    try{  
        turnOnStove();  
        bakeACake();  
    }catch(Exception ex){  
        System.out.println("Something went wrong!");  
    }finally {  
        turnOffStove();  
    }  
}
```

The code in the finally-block is always executed



Control Flow with Exceptions

Experiment with **ExceptionTest** (on AD)

test = "nein"

test = "ja"

Stepwise Debugging of the class

Exceptions Recap

A method can throw an Exception, if something goes wrong at runtime

A method throws an Exception using the **throw** keyword, followed by a new Exception-Object

Exceptions of the type RuntimeException are **not** checked by the compiler

- Neither do they need to be declared or handled by a try/catch-block

- Are used when programming errors occur

Checked Exceptions are checked by the compiler

- The **Exception** needs to be declared in the method

- The calling code needs to be wrapped in a try/catch-block...

- ... or continue to throw the Exception up the chain

- Checked Exceptions are used when calls to external resources fail

JDK contains loads of different Exceptions

- It is usually not necessary to implement your own RuntimeException-class

- Checked Exceptions are usually application specific subclasses of **Exception**