

We know that...

Every value has a type

Every function has to specify the type of its arguments

So does that mean...

Every function we ever write has to be rewritten to accommodate different types even if the logic in it is identical?

func (d deck) **shuffle()**

*Can only shuffle a value
of type 'deck'*

func (s []float64) **shuffle()**

*Can only shuffle a value
of type '[]float64'*

func (s []string) **shuffle()**

*Can only shuffle a value
of type '[]string'*

func (s []int) **shuffle()**

*Can only shuffle a value
of type '[]int'*

type englishBot struct

func (englishBot) **getGreeting**() string

return "hello there"

func **printGreeting**(eb englishBot)

fmt.Println(eb.getGreeting())

type spanishBot struct

func (spanishBot) **getGreeting**() string

return "Hola!"

func **printGreeting**(sb spanishBot)

fmt.Println(sb.getGreeting())

type englishBot struct

func (englishBot) **getGreeting**() string

func **printGreeting**(eb englishBot)

*Probably **very different** logic in these functions!*

type spanishBot struct

func (spanishBot) **getGreeting**() string

func **printGreeting**(sb spanishBot)

These will probably have identical logic!

```
type englishBot struct
```

```
func (englishBot) getGreeting() string
```

```
type spanishBot struct
```

```
func (spanishBot) getGreeting() string
```

To whom it may concern...

```
type bot interface
```

Our program has a new type called 'bot'

```
getGreeting() string
```

If you are a type in this program with a function called 'getGreeting' and you return a string then you are now an honorary member of type 'bot'

Now that you're also an honorary member of type 'bot', you can now call this function called 'printGreeting'

```
func printGreeting(b bot)
```

type englishBot struct

func (englishBot) **getGreeting()** string

type spanishBot struct

func (spanishBot) **getGreeting()** string

type bot interface

getGreeting() string

Interface
name

type bot interface {

getGreeting(string, int) (string, error)

}

Function
name

List of
argument
types

List of
return
types

The diagram illustrates the components of a Go interface definition. The code 'type bot interface {' is shown, with 'bot' highlighted in a blue box and an arrow pointing to it from the label 'Interface name'. The function signature 'getGreeting(string, int) (string, error)' is shown on the next line, with 'getGreeting' highlighted in a green box and an arrow pointing to it from the label 'Function name'. The arguments '(string, int)' are highlighted in a red box with an arrow pointing to them from the label 'List of argument types'. The return types '(string, error)' are highlighted in a yellow box with an arrow pointing to them from the label 'List of return types'. The closing brace '}' is shown on the line below.

Concrete Type	Interface Type
<div>map</div> <div>struct</div> <div>int</div> <div>string</div> <div>englishBot</div>	<div>bot</div>

Interfaces are **not** generic types

Other languages have 'generic' types - go (famously) does not.

Interfaces are 'implicit'

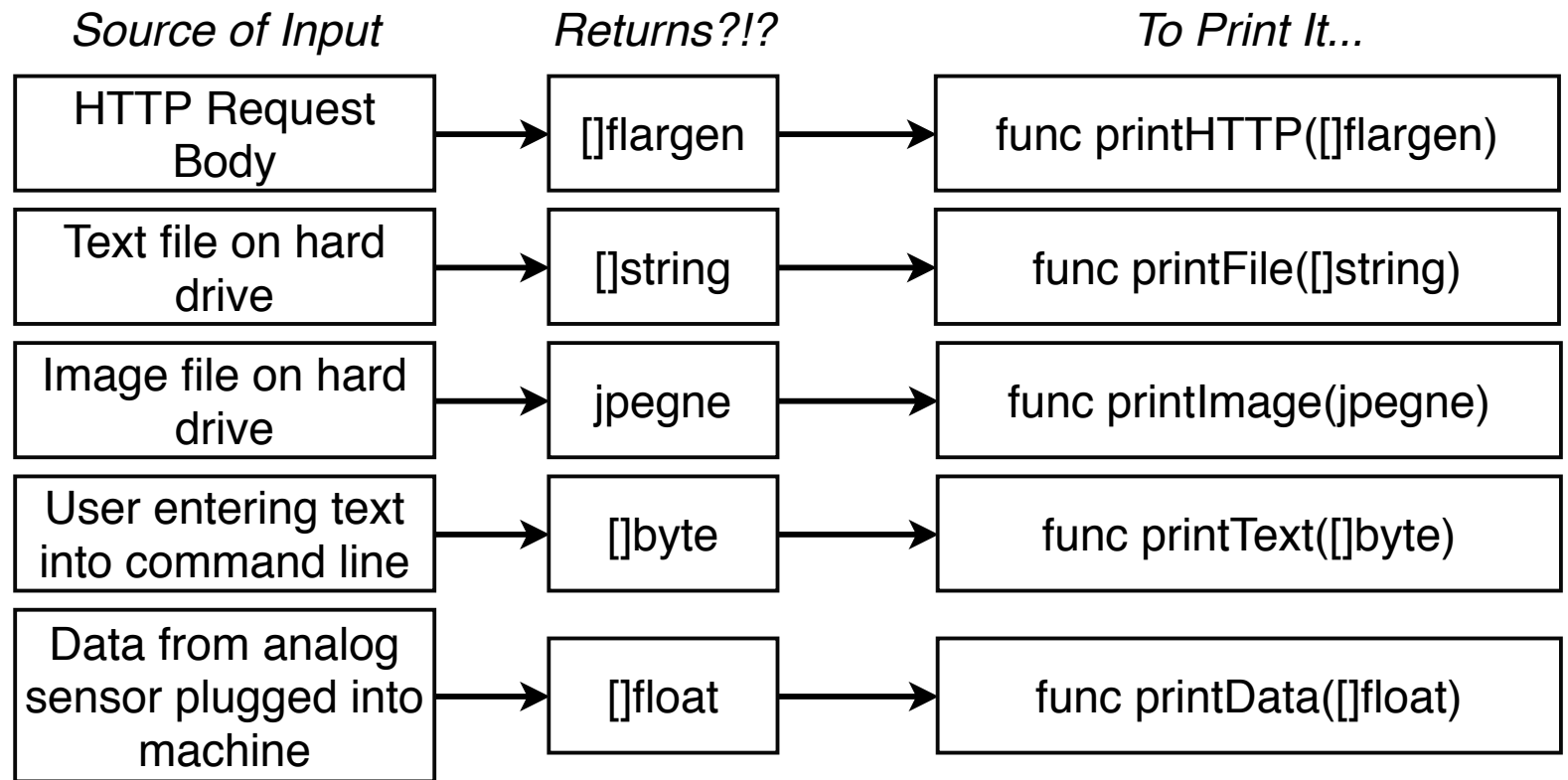
We don't manually have to say that our custom type satisfies some interface.

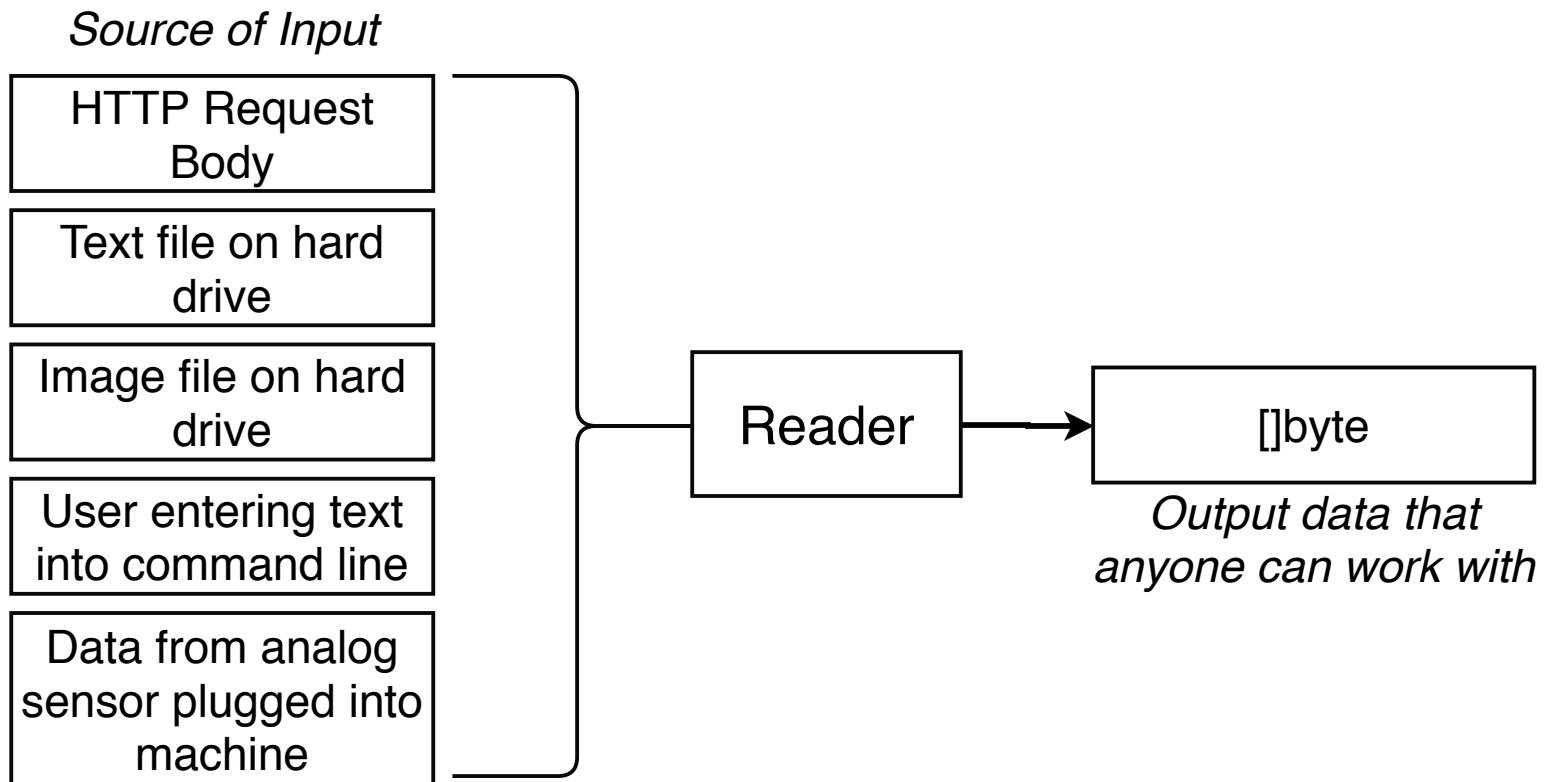
Interfaces are a contract to help us manage types

GARBAGE IN -> GARBAGE OUT. If our custom type's implementation of a function is broken then interfaces won't help us!

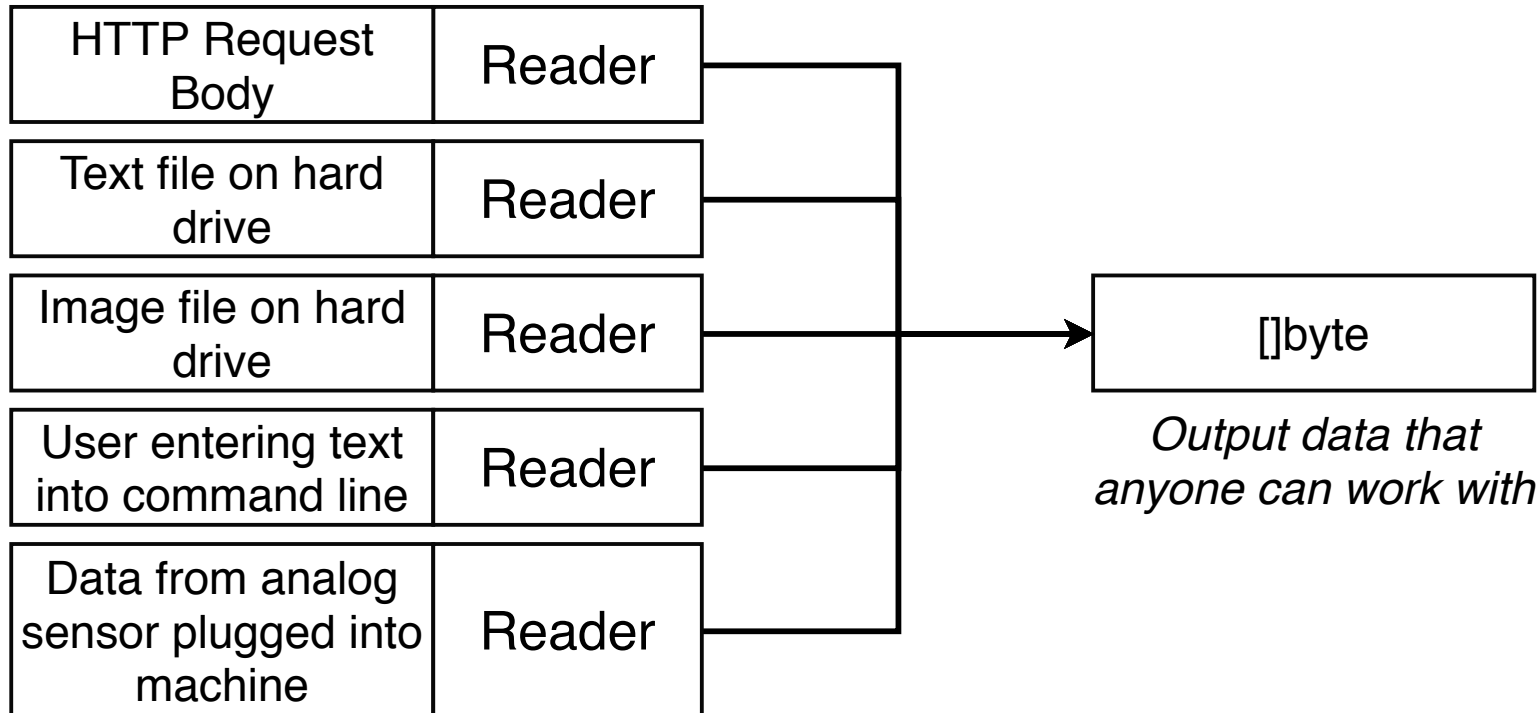
Interfaces are tough. Step #1 is understanding how to read them

Understand how to read interfaces in the standard lib. Writing your own interfaces is tough and requires experience

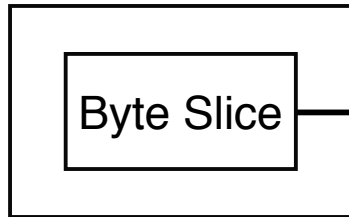




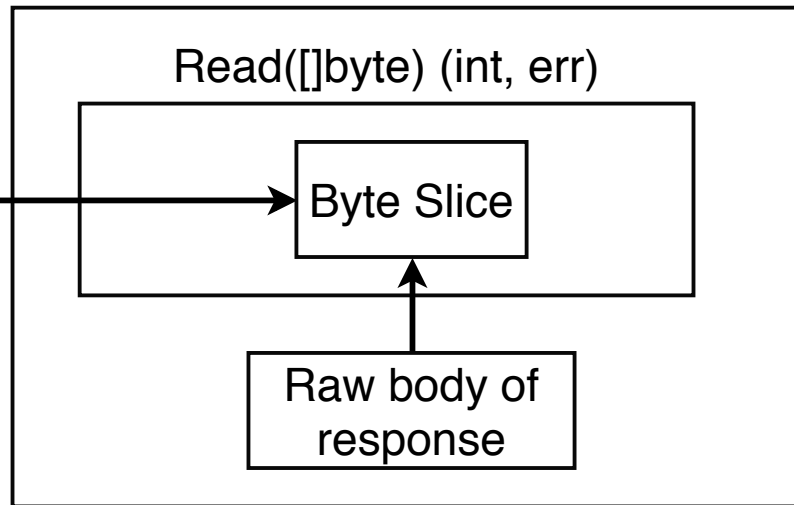
Source of Input



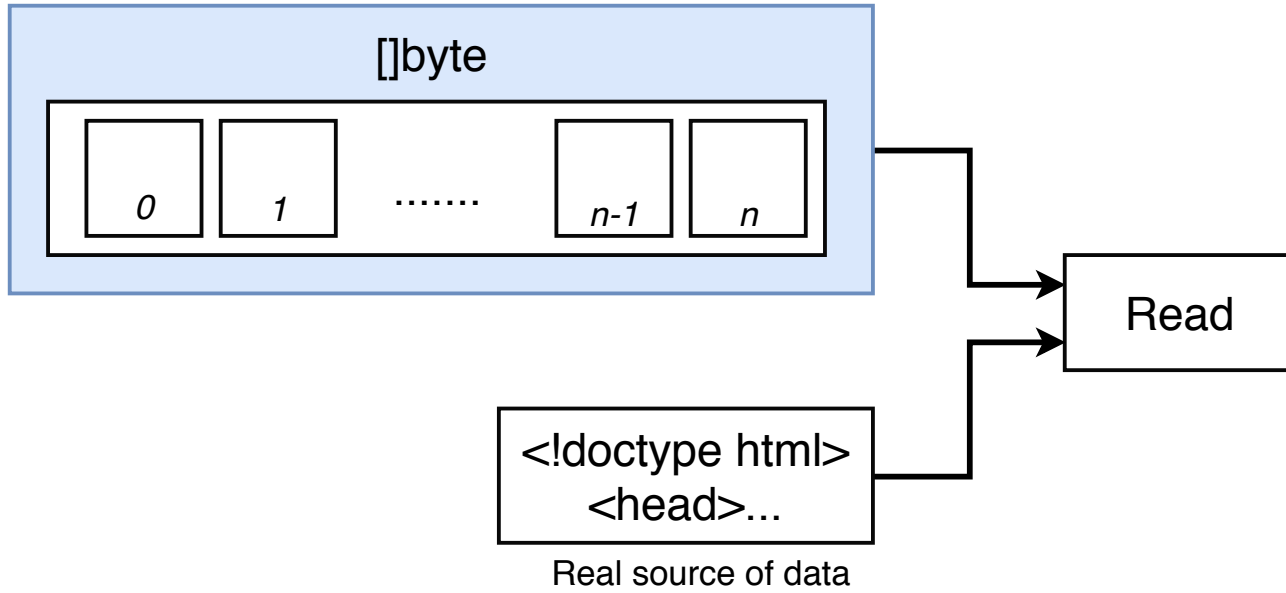
**Thing that wants
to read the body
(something that
wants to see the
Reader interface)**

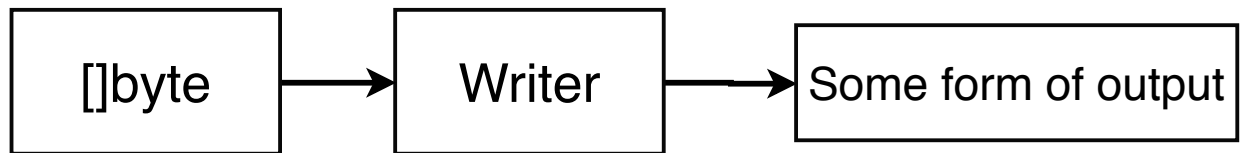
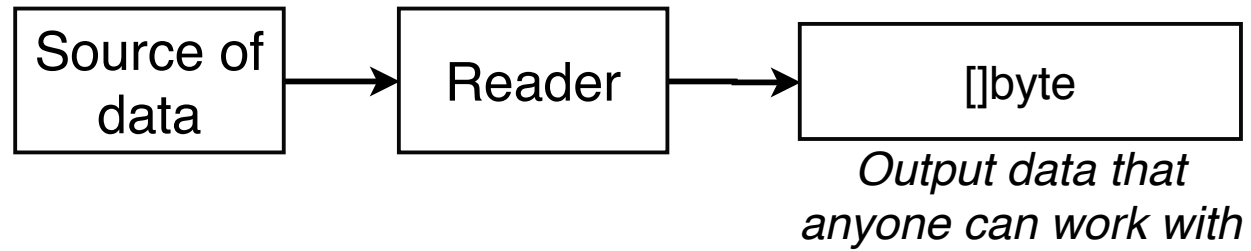


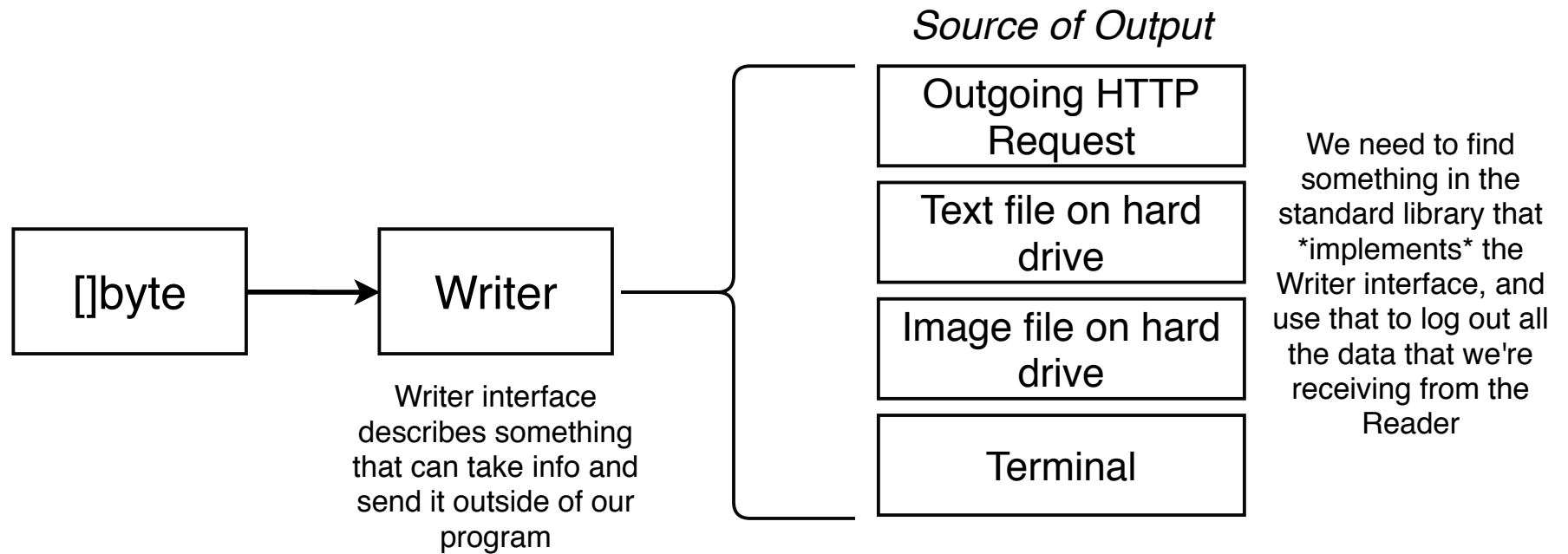
Thing that implements Reader



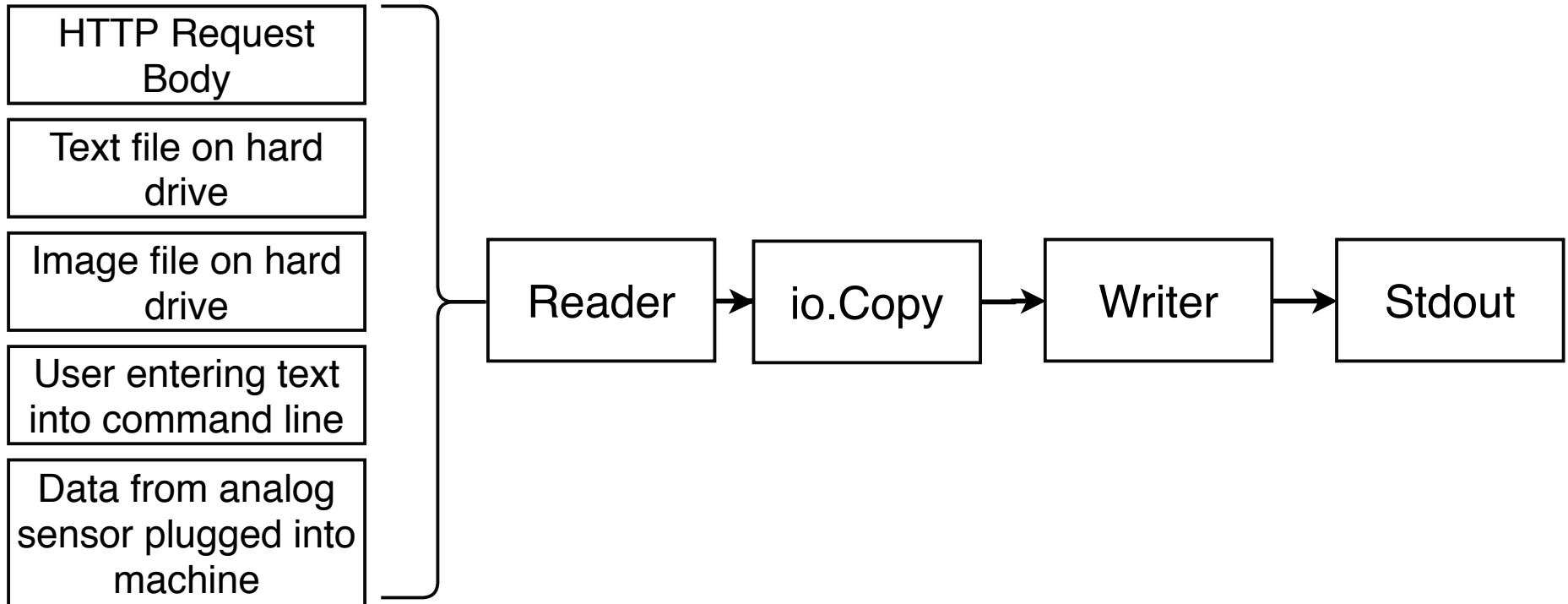
Thing to read data into







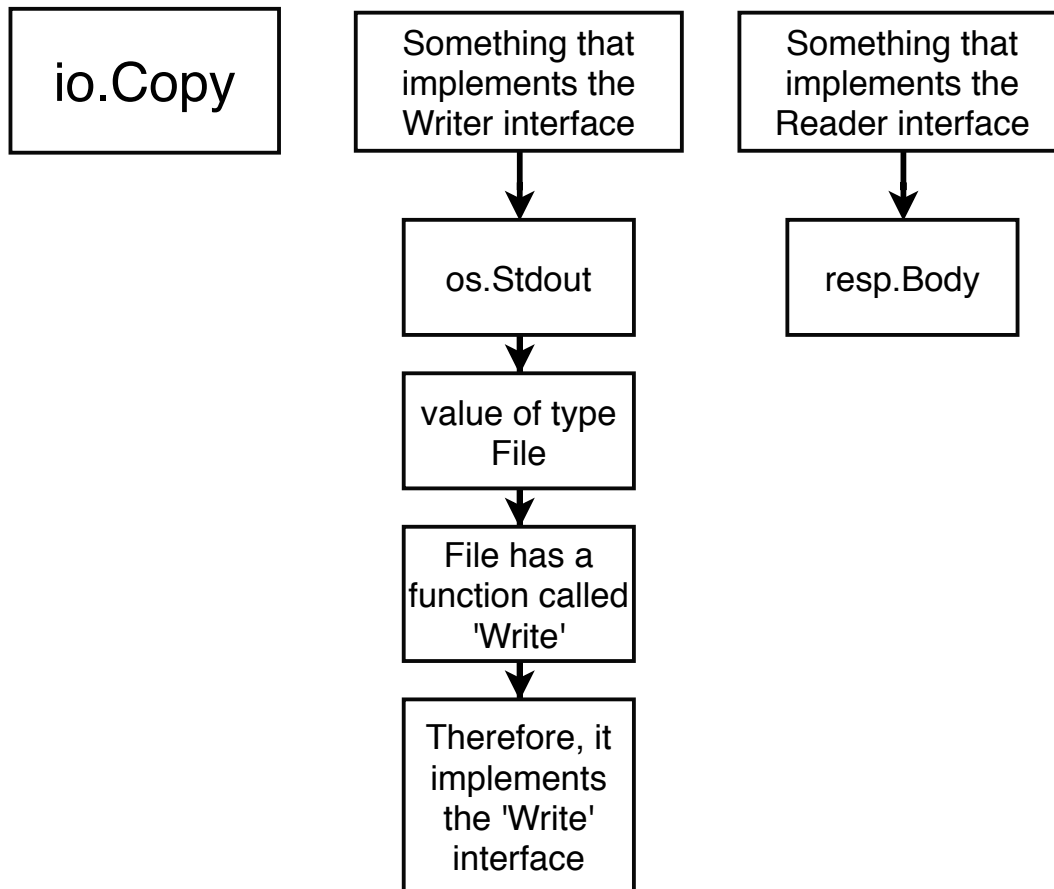
Source of Input



HTTP request to
google.com



Print response to
terminal



Assignment

Write a program that creates two custom struct types called 'triangle' and 'square'

The 'square' type should be a struct with a field called 'sideLength' of type float64

The 'triangle' type should be a struct with a field called 'height' of type float64 and a field of type 'base' of type float64

Both types should have function called 'getArea' that returns the calculated area of the square or triangle

Area of a triangle = $0.5 * \text{base} * \text{height}$.

Area of a square = $\text{sideLength} * \text{sideLength}$

Add a 'shape' interface that defines a function called 'printArea'.

This function should calculate the area of the given shape and print it out to the terminal Design the interface so that the 'printArea' function can be called with either a triangle or a square.

type triangle struct

func (t triangle) **getArea()** float64

type square struct

func (s square) **getArea()** float64

type shape interface { **getArea()** float64 }

func (s shape) printArea()

Hard Mode Assignment

Create a program that reads the contents of a text file then prints its contents to the terminal.

The file to open should be provided as an argument to the program when it is executed at the terminal. For example, `'go run main.go myfile.txt'` should open up the *myfile.txt* file

To read in the arguments provided to a program, you can reference the variable `'os.Args'`, which is a slice of type string

To open a file, check out the documentation for the `'Open'` function in the `'os'` package - <https://golang.org/pkg/os/#Open>

What interfaces does the `'File'` type implement?

If the `'File'` type implements the `'Reader'` interface, you might be able to reuse that `io.Copy` function!