

Intermediate Java

Course Overview



The Intermediate Java course examines common language features and APIs required to develop complex stand-alone Java applications. The course builds on the Introduction to Java course and examines topics such as lambda expressions, streams, generic programming, and new features in Java 8.

Part the First



- Structure of Enterprise Applications.
- We are going to concentrate on Java that you would use on the back end, in your business layer Service objects.
- After a brief discussion, you will do a quick lab to create some baseline code that you will work with for the rest of the class.
- Post lab discussion will lead us into discussions of what to look for when trying to designing software for change.
- Design patterns will appear as if by magic dependency injection, Factory, Builder, Strategy etc.
- We will start to see glimmers of Functional programming techniques and get introduced to Lambdas



- Layered Architectures. e.g.
 - Presentation Layer
 - Controllers
 - Business Layer
 - Services
 - Integration Layer
 - To access outside resources
 - DAOs
 - Repositories
 - Web clients

Lab



- Setting up a baseline. You are going to write a simple application with just two are three moving parts. Instructions are in the JavaLabPrequel.pdf document.
- We will have an extensive post lab discussion about your solutions and look at different implementation choices that we can make.



- The only sure thing you know about your application is that it will have to change for various reasons:
 - You got it wrong
 - The requirements were wrong or incomplete
 - The world changed around you has changed
- So you need to design for change. And you want to make sure your design allows you to change and/or replace individual elements of the various moving parts
 - Maybe a controller needs to use a different service.
 - Or a service needs use a different repository



- Your design should allow for flexible ways of wiring up your objects.
 - Dependency injection / IOC
- It also very useful if you have some knowledge of how other people have addressed the same issues that you may be facing. In other words, **Design Patterns**. Which are simply codifications of solutions that people have found useful for addressing specific concerns.



- Different types of design patterns.
 - Structural ways of composing objects and classes.
 - Adapter adapts one interface to a different one.
 - Facade acts as a single interface to a subsystem.
 - Creational ways of creating objects.
 - Factory
 - Builder
 - Behavioral ways of getting objects to talk to each other.
 - Strategy
 - Observer
 - We will encounter a few of these in the code.

What is Functional?



- Functional programming can mean many things. We are going to stick to the basics.
- Fundamental to the idea of functional programming is the ability to be able to create references to objects that encapsulate "functions".
- You can think of such references as pointers to executable code which can be passed in to other functions or returned as results.
- In many Functional languages, functions are a type in the language, just like int and char and MyClass.
- Java does not have a real function type. It fakes it with the notion of a functional interface.

Functional Interfaces



- A new name for an old thing.
- A Functional Interface is an interface with just one abstract method.
- Default and Static methods do not count. We will talk about those later in the course.
- You can use the @FunctionalInterface annotation on your own interfaces to assert that they obey that rule
 - This is **not** necessary for it to work correctly as a functional interface.
 - But it does make the compiler enforce the rule. Like @Overrides
 - And it also works as documentation.
 - A "Good habit". Again, just like @Overrides.

Functional Interfaces



- We are talking about them here because they are fundamental to how Java "fakes" the notion of a Function type.
- In Java, objects that represent Functions are always an implementation of a Functional interface.
- This does imply that we have always had the ability to pass functions around in Java. Any object that implements an interface with one abstract method is a "function" in Java.
- The rub, prior to Java 8 was that the syntax to do this was clunky.
- Two features of Java 8 come to the rescue
 - Lambdas
 - Method References

Lambdas



- A simplified syntax for implementing Functional Interfaces.
- Removes syntactic noise.
- Along with greatly enhanced type inference capabilities in the compiler, we now have a much more convenient way to create function objects to pass around in our code.

```
Predicate < String > pred1 = new Predicate < > () {
    @Override
    public boolean test(String s) {
       return s.length() > 5;
    }
};

//vs
Predicate < String > pred2 = s -> s.length() > 5;
```

Basic Lambda Syntax



- (Arg1, Arg2, ...) → code for the implementaion
- Let's implement a Function<String, Integer> to return the length of the argument.
 - Function takes one argument of type String
 - It needs to return something of type Integer

 Further variations and cleanups are possible, shown on the next page

Basic Lambda Syntax



```
@FunctionalInterface
interface MyInterface {
   public String doWork(String str, int num);
class YYY {
     public void fun() {
        //For just a single statement, no curly braces required,
        //return statement NOT allowed. The result of the expression
        //is the return value.
        MyInterface mi = (String s, int i) -> s.length() > i ? "Yes" : "No";
        //Arguments types can often be inferred by the compiler
        MyInterface mi2 = (s, i) \rightarrow s.length() > i ? "Yes" : "No";
        //For single argument functions, you can leave out the parentheses
        //around the argument.
        Consumer<String> cons = s -> System.out.println(s);
        //The above can be written like this. Lot's of inferencing
        //and compiler help going on here.
        Consumer<String> cons2 = System.out::println;
        //For elaborate work, use curly braces, and a return
        //is REQUIRED (for non void functions)
        MyInterface mi3 = (s, i) \rightarrow \{
          //other work
           return s.length() > i ? "Yes" : "No";
        };
Copyright © 2020 The Third Lane LLC
```

Method References



- Very cool new feature in Java 8.
- Allow you to create references that point at methods.
- So you can create references to existing methods that satisfy the signature of a Functional Interface without having to actually implement the interface.

```
public void foo() {
    Predicate < String > pred2 = s -> {
        //lot's of code here
        return s.length() > 5;
    };

//vs
    Predicate < String > pred3 = this::doAComplicatedTest;
}

//Existing method
public boolean doAComplicatedTest(String s) {
    //lot's of code here
    return s.length() > 5;
}
```

java.util.function



- New package in Java 8
- Has a bucket full of new Functional Interfaces which are generally useful in many situations.
- You can create your own Functional Interfaces, but chances are that you may find one in java.util.function that will fit your needs.
 - Good practice to use official interfaces when possible
 - But there is no extra magic in the official interfaces, so if none of those shoes fit, then go ahead and make your own.

java.util.function



- Some Interfaces that will become your friends
 - Predicate<T> perform some test on the argument of type T and return true or false
 - Function<T, R> take in an argument of type T, perform an operation on it, and return some (possible different) type R
 - Consumer<T> take in an argument of type T and return void. i.e., consume the argument
 - Supplier<T> take no arguments and return something of type T
- There are also two argument variations of some of the above.
- And interfaces dealing with primitive types, to avoid the expense of auto boxing.

Functions as arguments



- Remember that when we talk about Functions in general, we are not talking about the java.util.function.Function interface, but rather about objects that implement any Functional Interface
- To pass a function into a method or return it as a result, the corresponding type has to be a Functional Interface.

```
public void doit() {
   List<Integer> input = List.of(1, 20, 50, 33, 60404);
   List<Integer> result = filter(input, s -> s > 26);
}

public List<Integer> filter(List<Integer> input, Predicate<Integer> pred) {
   List<Integer> result = new ArrayList<>();
   for(Integer s : input) {
      if(pred.test(s)) {
        result.add(s);
      }
   }
   return result;
}
```

Default Interface methods



- Java 8 allows you to create default methods in an Interface.
- Useful and necessary when you want to add methods to an intervace
- A method declared as default has to have an implementation defined in the interface.
- A class implementing the interface can choose to use the default implementation, or override it in the standard way.
- If an actual implementation is found, it is always wins.
- In case of ambiguity, e.g. implementing two interfaces with the same default method, the implementing class has to override the method.
- Interfaces still cannot have an state, i.e. **no** variables

Default Interface methods



- Below is the new **forEach** method defined in the java.util.Iterable interface.
- It takes a Consumer as an argument and calls it's accept method for each element in the Iterable.
- So a forEach method is now available for all Iterable classes.

```
default void forEach(Consumer<? super T> action) {
   Objects.requireNonNull(action);
   for (T t : this) {
      action.accept(t);
   }
   Our consumer
}

//call forEach
List<String> ls = ...
ls.forEach(s → System.out.println(s))
```

Static methods and properties



- Java 8 also allows static methods in an interface
- They work exactly the same as static methods in a class.
- Since Java 9 you can also have **private** methods in an interface. These are mostly useful as helpers for default methods.

Lab



• Lambda Labs

Part the Second



- Review of Day 1
- We continue our journey into Functional programming.
- We get introduced to the Stream API and spend a good amount of time exploring it's various features, including:
 - Intermediate and Terminal Operations
 - reducing computations to results.
 - Streams of primitives
 - Optional

More Part the Second



- At some point we will swing to talking about Generics in Java.
- Why? How? Pitfalls.
- Wildcards (? super T) and (? extends T)
- Co/Contra variance
- Creating Generic classes and Methods

Lambda issues



- All local variables used inside a Lambda have to be effectively final.
 - Declare them as final
 - Or not, you still can't change them.
- Lamdbas can only throw those checked exceptions (if any) that are declared in the functional interface they implement.
- Any local variables visible to the code in a Lambda when it is declared get "baked" into the code, and will be available to the code later when that Lambda is run even if the local variables no longer exist at that point.
 - This is know as a closure



- You often need to iterate through a collection of objects and perform some operations on it's elements to produce a final result.
- The Stream API address this need by allowing you to convert some source of data into a stream of elements that flow through a pipeline of operations to produce the final result.
- You can think of it as another way to do a for loop, where the library controls the actual loop, and you tell it what you want done with each element.
- This approach often makes it much easier to chain operations together to compose a processing pipeline.
- And it makes it much easier to parallelize certain types of workloads



- A Stream pipeline has 3 parts
 - A source of some sort, often a collection, but streams can be created in various ways.
 - Zero or more intermediate operations.
 - One terminal operation at the end of the pipeline.
- The terminal operation is required. No data flows down the stream until a terminal operation is attached to it.
- A Stream can be used only once. To run the same pipeline again, you have to create a new Stream.



An Example:

Required terminal operation.



- Each element in the Stream flows all the way from the source to the terminal operation, or gets thrown away along the way.
- If the intermediate operations are stateless, such as filter or map on the previous page, then no temporary collections need to be created in processing the pipeline.
- In the previous example, when the filter operation finds an element less than or equal to 25, it throws it away and goes back to ask the source for the next element.
- Only elements that pass the filter make it to the next operation in the pipeline.



- Intermediate operations all return a Stream type an easy way to identify them in documentation.
- Some common intermediate operations

```
filter(Predicate<T>)
                                     Removes non-matching elements
map(Function<T, R>)
                                     Produces a stream of transformed elements
flatMap(Function<T, Stream<R>)
                                     Flattens a stream of streams into one stream
limit(long)
                                     Truncates the stream's length
peek(Consumer<T>)
                                     Calls Consumer for each element
skip(long)
                                     Removes elements from start of stream
sorted
                                     Orders elements in the stream. Stateful
distinct
                                     Removes duplicate elements. Stateful
```



- Terminal operations sit at the end of the Stream, and specify what kind of result to produce. These operations do not return Streams
- A common name for the act of creating the final result is know as reduction.
- The Streams API has two main ways to do a reduction
 - Mutable Reduction using the collect method
 - Immutable Reduction using the reduce method
- Mutable reductions are often used to produce a collection result. The thing that is being mutated is the result collection.
- Conversely, immutable reductions are used to create a single result like a sum or an average.



Some common terminal operations

allMatch(Predicate) Returns whether all elements of this stream match the provided

predicate.

anyMatch(Predicate) Returns whether any elements of this stream match the provided

predicate.

collect Performs a mutable reduction operation on the elements of this

stream.

count Returns the count of elements in this stream.

findFirst Returns an Optional describing the first element of this stream, or

an empty Optional if the stream is empty.

forEach (Consumer) Performs an action for each element of this stream.

reduce Performs an immutable reduction on the elements of the Stream.

toArray() Collect the elements into an array

Streams Collectors



- Collectors are used to do mutable collections.
- Several predefined collector available through the Collectors class.
- If you need to further process collected elements you can add additional **downstream** collectors.

Streams Collectors



Some common predefined collectors:

counting

groupingBy

joining

maxBy(Comparator)

minBy(Comparator)

partitioningBy(Predicate<T>)

toList

toMap

toSet

toCollection(Supplier<C>)

Counts the elements in the stream

Various forms of classification operations

Concatenates CharSequence elements to String

Find the "maximum" element

Find the "minumim" element

Partition into two groups based on the test

Collect the elements into a List

Map elements into key+value in a Map

Collect elements into a set

Collect to supplied Collection

Optional<T>



- Some terminal operations return an Optional type
 - findFirst, or findAny for example.
- These are operations which might or might not have a result to return.
- In Java you might return a null to indicate no value.
- In Streams (and many other APIs like it) you prefer to return an object that either has a value or is empty.
- You can then further process the result using methods in the Optional to:
 - Get the value if it exists or else return a default object.
 - Get the value if it exists or else return a null.
 - Get the value if it exists or else throw an Exception.

Lab



• Streams labs

Generics



- In the language since Java 5
- Used to provide the compiler with extra information to perform type checks at compile time.
- Implemented in Java using a mechanism know as type erasure.
 - Compile time type information does not make it to the class file
 - For example List<String> becomes a standard old pre Java 5 List when it gets compiled
- Very important to always use a type argument then using Generic types.
 - Never ignore the "raw type" warning from the compiler

Generics



- Terminology
 - public class MyClass<T> {...}
 - T is a type parameter
 - MyClass<String> mc = ...
 - String is the type argument
- Parameter in the declaration, argument at the point of use where an actual type is associated with the parameter.

Generics – Raw types



"Raw type" warning

```
public void fun() {
  List<String> goodReference = new ArrayList<>();
  goodReference.add("one");
  //Istr.add(1); //Compiler error when using Generic reference
  //Using a Generic type in it's
  // Raw form, i.e. without the type argument.
  //This will compile but the compiler will
  // shriek out a warning about Raw Types.
  // Bad Bad Bad, DON'T do this
  List badReference = goodReference;
  badReference.add(1); //No compile error
  //ClassCastException here if you use the raw reference
  for(String s : goodReference) {
    System.out.println(s);
```

Custom Generic Types



- Most often you will be using Generic Types supplied to you by a library
 - List<String> Is
- You can create your own Generic Types if the need arises.

Custom Generic Types



An Example

```
Type parameter specified as \mathbf{T} in the declaration
public interface BaseDAO<T>{
                                                           T used in the declaration as a place holder
     void update(T updateObject);
     void delete(T oldObject);
                                                              Actual type argument specified when
     T create(T newObject);
                                                              using the Generic type. The compiler uses
     T get(int id);
                                                              the argument to make sure you are using the
                                                              type consistently.
     List < T > getAll();
public class InMemoryStudentDAO implements BaseDAO<Student>{
     public void update(Student updateObject) {
           if(students.containsKey(updateObject.getId())) {
                students.put(updateObject.getId(), updateObject);
     }
     public void delete(Student student) {
           students.remove(student.getId());
```

Custom Generic Methods



- All methods in a Generic Type that use the type parameters are, by definition, generic methods.
- But you can also create methods which have their own type parameters.
- These can be in a Generic Type, but maybe introduce type parameters that are different from, or in addition to, the parameters of the enclosing class.
- Or they can be methods in a non Generic Type.

Custom Generic Methods



Declaration of parameter **T.**Without this, the compiler would see the symbol **T** as a syntax error

```
public <T> void add(List<T> input, T[] arr) {
   for (T t : arr) {
      input.add(t);
   }
}
Use of parameter T as a placeholder for type.
```



- Using simple type parameters like T or R can often be restrictive, specially when creating generic methods.
- The compiler is very strict when it comes to comparing types, and often will not allow you to do things which should be permissable.
- Generic wild cards to the rescue.



- List<? extends Number> is a list which will have at least Numbers in it, i.e. a List of Number or any sub type of Number.
 - You use this when you want to take elements out of the list and do Number types of things with them. The compiler guarantees that the elements are at least of type Number.
 - The list is being used as a Producer of elements



- List<? super Integer> is list of either Integer or some super type of Integer.
 - In other words, the List is a list of some type into which you can add Integers.
 - You use this when you want to add things into a List and you want to ensure that the List will be of a type into which you can add the type of thing you are dealing with (in this case Integer).
 - The List in this case is being used as a consumer of elements.



- One way to figure out whether you should use extends or super is to reason it out based on what you are trying to do.
- But, as a memory aid, there is PECS courtesy of Josh Bloch
- Producer Extends, Consumer Super



Producer Extends

- A Producer is something which provides you with objects that you want to perform an operation on.
- You perform operations on specific types, e.g.
 Number.doubleValue()
- The <? extends Number> ensures that you are going to get at least a Number
- In exchange you give up the ability to assign values to the object in question.



Consumer Super

- A Consumer is something that will be accepting objects of some type
- You have to ensure that it's type is wide enough to accept the type in question
- Which, by definition, means either that type or any of it's super types
- The <? super Number> ensures that you are going to get a object to which you can assign a Number.
- But now you loose the ability to assume anything about the actual type of object. You can assign to it, but not perform any operations on it (except for Object operations).

Co/Contra Variance



- Inheritance relationships in Java determine what objects are assignable to a particular.
 - You can assign to a reference either it's own type, or any of it's sub types

```
integer it = 10;
Number n = it;
```

Java arrays have the same property

```
integer [] itarr = new Integer[10];
Number [] narr = itarr;
```

- Integer [] is a sub type of Number []
- We say that arrays are Covariant, because the type relationship between them varies in the same direction as the underlying types (Number and Integer in this case)

Co/Contra Variance



Generic types in Java are invariant

```
List<Integer> lint = new ArrayList<>();
List<Number> lnumBad = lint; //will NOT compile
```

- List<Integer> is not a subtype of List<Number>
- The extends wild card makes generic types
 Covariant

List<? extends Number> InumOkay = lint;

- List<Integer> is a subtype of List<? extends
 Number>
- You loose the ability to add things to InumOkay

Co/Contra Variance



Going the other way, super makes types Contravariant

```
List<Number> boringNum = new ArrayList<>();
List<? super Number> ISuper = lint; // Will NOT compile
List<? super Number> ISuper = boringNum;
//A plain old List<Object>
List<Object> lobj = new ArrayList<>();
ISuper = lobj;
```

- In the last assignment, a List<Object> is being assigned to List<? super Number>
- So the List<Object> is a sub type of List<? super Number>
- The type relationship between the Lists varies contrary to their underlying types - Contravariance
- You loose the ability to assume anything about type of elements in ISuper.

Lab



Generics Labs

Part the Third



- Review of Day 2.
- We start the day talking about Reflection and Annotations
 - Why? How?
 - Creating custom Annotations.
 - Make Annotations and Reflection play with each other.

More Part the Third



 We end the course with a discussion of concurrency in Java.

- Our emphasis will be on becoming familiar with the common ways that code designed for single threaded environments can break in the presence of concurrency.
- Along the way we will explore coding techniques and Java library classes that can help with writing thread safe code.

Reflection and Annotations



- Two different things that play well together.
- The Reflection API allows you work with objects and classes that you did not know about at compile time.
 - Many of our bread and butter frameworks would be impossible without it.
 - Unit testing frameworks
 - Spring
 - Web servers
 - Validation frameworks
- Annotations give you the ability to provide metadata in your code that tools like compilers or frameworks (or your own code) can use to figure out what you want them to do. Often using Reflection.

Reflection



- API to invoke operations on objects and classes that are unknown at compile time.
- Class object For every class the JVM loads, it creates a corresponding object of type Class. This is the magic object we need if we are going to use reflection.
- Several ways to get a reference to it. For example, for a class called ttl.domain.MyClass
 - Class.forName("ttl.domain.MyClass")
 - MyClass.class
 - new MyClass().getClass()

Reflection



- Class objects can give you references to other useful objects
 - Method objects which you can use to invoke methods
 - Constructor objects to create new objects reflectively
 - Field objects to interact with fields
- setAccessible() mechanism to allow you to access private fields of classes
- Several code examples in ttl.larku.reflect

Annotations



- In the language since Java 5
- Think of them as "sticky notes".
- Annotations have no executable semantics on their own.
- Used to provide metadata that other tools can use as instructions.
- Often read and acted upon using Reflection.

Defining an Annotation



```
Available at runtime to
MetaAnnotations
                                    be processed reflectively
 @Retention(value=RetentionPolicy.RUNTIME)
 @Target({ElementType.FIELD})
                                                              Applicable to fields
 public @interface MyLength {
                                                               Annotation name
    int min();
    int max() default Integer.MAX VALUE;
                                       default value makes
Parameters
                                       parameter optional
 @MyLength(min = 4)
                                                         Usage
 private String modelName;
```

Annotations



 Examples of using Annotations and reflection in ttl.larku.reflect

Lab



Reflection Lab

Concurrency



- Difference between Concurrency and Parallelism
 - You design for Concurrency.
 - Parallelism is about deciding if and how to partition a problem into sub units which can actually run at the same time.
- A concurrent program is one which uses more than one stream of execution (Thread) to accomplish a task.
- Such programs have be designed to be thread safe.
- Even if they only have access to just one CPU.
- Thread safe design is all about correctly and efficiently controlling access to shared resources.

Threads



- Some reasons to create new streams of execution
 - processing multiple requests "at the same time".
 - processing a task faster by breaking it down into sub tasks to exploit parallelism.
- To create a new stream of execution we need
 - A Thread object JDK class which knows how to create the stream
 - A Runnable object with the code we want to run in the new thread
 - There is also a Callable<T> interface we will see in a while.
 - Code examples in the ThreadDemos project.

Thread Pools



- You usually don't want to create threads on an ad hoc basis.
 - They are expensive to create.
 - Unbounded thread creation could lead to OutOfMemory errors
 - They don't run on air. If you have 16 processors, having 10000 threads might not buy you much.
- Thread pools are the much preferred way of managing and dealing with threads.

Thread Pools



- The JDK has two interfaces to interact with thread pools:
 - java.util.concurrent.ExecutorService to interact with thread pools
 - java.util.concurrent.ScheduledExecutorService to interact with a thread pool that can schedule tasks after a delay, and/or periodically.
- java.util.concurrent.Executors is a factory class to produce various types of thread pools
- If you need full control over your thread pools then the java.util.concurrent.ThreadPoolExecutor class is the one to look at

Thread Pools



- Some Executors methods for creating thread pools:
 - newFixedThreadPool(int n) create a thread pool with a fixed size of n threads. Appropriate for CPU bound tasks.
 - newCachedThreadPool create a thread pool that reuses existing threads if available, or creates new threads to run tasks. If a thread is idle for 60 seconds, then it is discarded from the pool
 - For more control over idle time, and other properties like high and low water marks, check out ThreadPoolExecutor.
 - newSingleThreadExecutor surprisingly useful.
 - newScheduledThreadPoll to schedule tasks.

ThreadFactory



- Several methods of the Executors factory class support an argument of type ThreadFactory.
- Simple Functional Interface to allow customizing the threads used by a thread pool.
- For example, use it to set the thread names.

Lab



Simple Thread Lab

Thread Safety



- Making sure that threads access shared resources in a safe way.
 - variables
 - database connections
 - socket connections
 - etc. etc. etc.
- Since *shared* resources are the issue, a great way to ensure thread safety is to never share resources.
- But that is not always possible, so we need to be aware of and code against the various dangers that lurk.
- Some are obvious, some more subtle.
- Errors can show up in strange and non deterministic ways.

Thread Safety



- Atomicity
 - Race conditions
 - synchronized
 - Atomic variables
- Visibility
 - volatile

Lab



Race Condition Lab

Concurrent Collections



- Collections.synchronizedXXX() methods.
- CopyOnWriteArrayList
 - Not synchronized, but creates a new copy of the underlying array on each write. Useful for mostly read only lists.
- java.util.concurrent package has concurrent collections that are not simple synchronized wrappers.

Concurrent Collections



- BlockingQueue/Deque for producer/consumer scenarios.
 - LinkedBlockingQueue
 - LinkedBlockingDeque
 - ArrayBlockingQueue
 - SynchronousQueue
 - No internal capacity

Concurrent Collections



- ConcurrentMap/ConcurrentNavigableMap
 - Atomic operations without synchronization
 - Check then act operations
 - putlfAbsent
 - computeIfPresent/computeIfAbsent
- Two implementations
 - ConcurrentHashMap
 - ConcurrentSkipListMap

Part the Last



- Wrap up, last thoughts and comments.
- Please remember to do the evaluations.
- Thank you all, hope you learned some new things and had fun doing it.