



31-Java 8: Stream

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Learning Objectives

- | Describe what a stream is.
- | Create various types of stream.
- | Understand the differences between intermediate and terminal operations.
- | List the common intermediate and terminal operations.
- | Perform multiple operations on a stream to return a value or a collection.
- | Use the *Collectors* class to construct various types of collection.

Overview

What is a *Stream*?

- Introduced in **Java 8**, the `java.util.stream` package contains classes for processing sequences of elements.
- A *stream* is a sequence of data. In Java, it is represented in the type of `Stream<T>`.
- A *stream pipeline* is the operations that run on a stream to produce a result. **Streams can be chained together to perform complex operations.**
- As an **alternative to loops**, *streams* are commonly used to operate on the contents of a collection or array.
- Many **stream** methods use **lambda expressions** to perform operations on objects in a stream.

Creating a Stream

- Streams can be **finite** or *infinite*.
- Streams can be created from different element sources, e.g. a collection or array, with the help of:
 - `empty()`
 - `stream()`
 - `of()`
 - `generate()`
 - `iterate()`

```
1 // Stream.empty() creates an empty stream.
2 Stream<String> empty = Stream.empty();
3 // Stream.of() can create a stream with a single element
4 Stream<Integer> singleElement = Stream.of(1);
5 // Stream.of() also accepts varargs
6 Stream<Integer> multipleElements = Stream.of(1, 2, 3);
7
8 // Convert a list into a stream
9 List<String> list = Arrays.asList("a", "b", "c");
10 Stream<String> fromList = list.stream();
11
12 // Create an infinite stream of random numbers
13 Stream<Double> randoms = Stream.generate(Math::random);
14 // Create an infinite stream of odd numbers starting from 1
15 Stream<Integer> oddNumbers = Stream.iterate(1, n -> n + 2);
16
17 // Use limit() to limit the number of elements to produce in a stream
```

```

18 Stream<Double> randoms = Stream.generate(Math::random).limit(10);
19 Stream<Integer> oddNumbers = Stream.iterate(1, n -> n + 2).limit(10);
20
21 // Streams are not executed until the terminal operation is called on them
22 oddNumbers.forEach(System.out::println);

```

Intermediate Operations vs Terminal Operations

- There are three parts to a **stream pipeline**:
 - Source**: Where the stream comes from.
 - Intermediate operations**: **Transforms the stream into another one**. There can be as few or as many intermediate operations as you'd like. Since streams use lazy evaluation, the **intermediate operations do not run until the terminal operation runs**.
 - Terminal operation**: Actually **produces a result**. Since streams can be used only once, the stream is no longer valid after a terminal operation completes.

Quick Example

```

1 List<String> names = Arrays.asList("Peter", "Paul", "Mary", "Peter");
2 long count = names.stream()
3     .distinct() // intermediate operation, return Stream<String>
4     .count(); // terminal operation, return non-Stream
5 System.out.println(count); // prints 3

```

- The `distinct()` method represents an intermediate operation, which creates a new stream of unique elements of the previous stream. And the `count()` method is a terminal operation, which returns the stream's size.

More Examples

```

1 List<String> names = Arrays.asList("Peter", "Carl", "Benny", "Alex");
2
3 // filtering
4 List<String> filteredNames = names.stream()
5     .filter(name -> name.contains("A")) // intermediate operation
6     .collect(Collectors.toList()); // terminal operation
7 System.out.println(filteredNames); // [Alex]
8

```

```

9 // mapping
10 List<String> mappedNames = names.stream()
11     .map(name -> name.toUpperCase()) // intermediate operation
12     .collect(Collectors.toList()); // terminal operation
13 System.out.println(mappedNames); // [PETER, CARL, BENNY, ALEX]
14
15 // sorting
16 List<String> sortedNames = names.stream()
17     .sorted() // intermediate operation, natural order
18     .collect(Collectors.toList()); // terminal operation
19 System.out.println(sortedNames); // [Alex, Benny, Carl, Peter]
20
21 // What is the sorting approach if it is not a String ArrayList? Try it out.
22 // Do you remember Comparable & Comparator?
23
24 // matching
25 boolean hasAlex = names.stream()
26     .anyMatch(name -> name.contains("Alex")); // terminal operation
27 System.out.println(hasAlex); // true
28
29 // generating a sequence of numbers from 1 to 10
30 List<Integer> numbers = Stream.iterate(1, n -> n + 1) // intermediate
    operation
31     .limit(10) // intermediate operation
32     .collect(Collectors.toList()); // terminal operation
33 System.out.println(numbers); // [1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10]
34
35 // reducing - adding numbers in a list with initial value of 0
36 Integer reduced = numbers.stream()
37     .reduce(0, (a, b) -> a + b); // terminal operation
38 System.out.println(reduced); // 55
39
40 // finding the maximum element which returns an optional
41 List<Integer> numbers = Arrays.asList(9992, 2121, 2184, 5539, 3120);
42 Optional<Integer> opt = numbers.stream()
43     .max((o1, o2) -> o1.compareTo(o2)); // terminal operation
44 opt.ifPresent(System.out::println); // 9992

```

Working with *Maps*

- It is common to use *Streams* to work with collections such as *Maps*.
- The *Collectors* class provides various *static helper methods* to construct *Maps* such as:
 - *toMap()*

- `groupingBy()` [Nice to have]
- `partitioningBy()` [Nice to have]

Examples

```
1 Stream<String> animals = Stream.of("lions", "tigers", "bears");
2 Map<String, Integer> map = animals.collect(
3     Collectors.toMap(s -> s, String::length));
4 System.out.println(map); // {lions=5, bears=5, tigers=6}
5
6 List<Employee> employees = .....
7 // Group employees by department
8 // Employees: [department, name]
9 // 1, John
10 // 1, Mary
11 // 2, Jason
12 // 3, Eric
13 // 3, Oscar
14 // Result: Map<Department, List<Employee>>
15 // Entry 1: 1, [{1, John}, {1, Mary}]
16 // Entry 2: 2, [{2, Jason}]
17 // Entry 3: 3, [{3, Eric}, {3, Oscar}]
18 Map<Department, List<Employee>> byDept = employees.stream()
19     .collect(Collectors.groupingBy(e ->
20         e.getDepartment()));
21 // Compute sum of salaries by department
22 // Employees: [department, name, salary]
23 // 1, John, 10000
24 // 1, Mary, 20000
25 // 2, Jason, 15000
26 // 3, Eric, 23000
27 // 3, Oscar, 30000
28 // Result: Map<Department, Integer>
29 // Entry 1: 1, 30000
30 // Entry 2: 2, 15000
31 // Entry 3: 3, 53000
32 Map<Department, Integer> totalByDept = employees.stream()
33     .collect(Collectors.groupingBy(Employee::getDepartment,
34         Collectors.summingInt(Employee::getSalary)));
35
36 // Partition students into passing and failing
37 // students: [id, name, grade]
```

```

38 // 1, John, 40
39 // 2, Mary, 30
40 // 3, Oscar, 80
41 // PASS_THRESHOLD = 50
42 // Result: Map<Boolean, List<Student>>
43 // Entry 1: true, [{3, "Oscar", 80}]
44 // Entry 2: false, [{1, "John", 40}, {2, "Mary", 30}]
45 Map<Boolean, List<Student>> passingFailing = students.stream()
46                                     .collect(Collectors.partitioningBy(s ->
47                                     s.getGrade() >= PASS_THRESHOLD));
48 // .collect(Collectors.partitioningBy(...)) return Map<Boolean, List<Student>>

```

Reading Examples

Since `map` is a lazy operation, the following code will print nothing. This `Stream` is missing a terminal operation which would execute it, which would invoke the intermediate operations.

```

1 Stream.of(1, 2, 3).map(i -> {
2     System.out.println(i);
3     return i;
4 });
5 // Print nothing, due to no terminal operation
6 // intermediate operation is lazy operation
7
8 list.stream().filter(a -> a > 20 && a < 7);
9 // Return a Stream
10 // No element from the list has been filtered as no terminal operation here.

```

- To determine the result of `count()`, the `map()` is irrelevant. Thus, this code will still print nothing. But since `count()` is a terminal operation, the stream is processed and `count` gets the value `3` assigned.

```

1 long streamCount = Stream.of(1, 2, 3) //
2 .map(i -> {
3     System.out.println(i);
4     return i;
5 }).count();
6 // streamCount = 3

```

Questions

- List the common intermediate and terminal operations.
- Perform various operations on streams to return a value or a collection.
- Look up Java documentation to find the right helper methods to construct maps based on the requirements.