

A large, two-story, light-colored building with a red-tiled roof and a central tower, surrounded by green grass and trees under a clear blue sky.

MAHARISHI UNIVERSITY of MANAGEMENT

Engaging the Managing Intelligence of Nature

Computer Science Department

**CS401 Modern Programming
Practices (MPP)
Professor Paul Corazza**



© 2015 Maharishi University of Management, Fairfield, Iowa

All rights reserved. No part of this slide presentation may be reproduced or utilized in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying or recording, or by any information storage and retrieval system, without permission in writing from Maharishi University of Management.

Lecture 8: Functional Programming in Java 8

Commanding All the Laws of Nature from the Source

Wholeness Statement

The declarative style of functional programming makes it possible to write methods (and programs) just by declaring *what* is needed, without specifying the details of *how* to achieve the goal. Including support for functional programming in Java makes it possible to write parts of Java programs more concisely, in a more readable way, in a more threadsafe way, in a more parallelizable way, and in a more maintainable way, than ever before.

Maharishi's Science of Consciousness: Just as a king can simply *declare* what he wants – a banquet, a conference, a meeting of all ministers – without having to specify the details about how to organize such events, so likewise can one who is awake to the home of all the laws of nature, the “king” among laws of nature, command those laws and thereby fulfill any intention. The royal road to success in life is to bring awareness to the home of all the laws of nature, through the process of transcending, and live life established in this field.

Outline


1. **Features and Benefits of Functional Programming**
2. Functional Aspects of Java and Functional Interfaces
3. Lambda Expressions
4. Parameters and Free Variables
5. A Sample Application of Lambdas
6. Naming Lambda Expressions
7. Syntax Shortcuts and Method Expressions
8. Restricted Use of Free Variables

Features of Functional Programming

1. Programs are declarative (“what”) rather than imperative (“how”). Makes code more *self-documenting* – the sequence of function calls mirrors precisely the requirements
2. Functions have *referential transparency* – two calls to the same method are guaranteed to return the same result

```
int x = 0;  
int mutate() {  
    ++x;  
    return x;  
}
```

← *lacks referential
transparency;
produces a side effect*

- 
3. Functions do not cause a change of state; in an OO language, this means that functions do not change the state of their enclosing object (by modifying instance variables). In general, functions do not have *side effects*; they compute what they are asked to compute and return a value, without modifying their environment (modifying the environment is a *side effect*). [See example, previous slide]
 4. Functions are *first-class citizens*. This means in particular that it is possible to use functions in the same way objects are used in an OO language: They can be passed as arguments to other functions and can be the return value of a function.

The Functional Style of Programming (continued)

Demos show examples of adopting a Functional Programming style within Java SE 7.
See `lesson8.lecture.functionalprogramming`.

These are not true functional programming examples because they rely on simpler methods that are not purely functional. But these examples illustrate the functional style at the top level. In Java SE 8, these techniques are supported in a truly functional way.

Demo Code:

- `FactorialImperative`, `FactorialFunctional`
- `MapImperative`, `MapFunctional`
- `LackReferentialTransparency`

Benefits of the Functional Style

- Programs are more compact, easier to write, and easier to read/understand
- Programs are thread-safe
- Easier to demonstrate correctness of functional programs
- Easier to test; less likely that a test of a subroutine will fail tomorrow if it passed today since there are no side effects

Outline

1. Features and Benefits of Functional Programming
2. **Functional Aspects of Java and Functional Interfaces**
3. Lambda Expressions
4. Parameters and Free Variables
5. A Sample Application of Lambdas
6. Naming Lambda Expressions
7. Syntax Shortcuts and Method Expressions
8. Restricted Use of Free Variables

Functional Programming in Java

- Java designers – in agreement with many experts – decided it was time to incorporate the many benefits of the functional style of programming into Java
- Java *will remain an OO language*, with all the benefits of OO for building and maintaining large-scale applications
- For specialized needs – for instance, to extract data from a large collection using SQL-like queries – a functional approach would be more efficient, easier to read, and less error-prone
- Another potential benefit: Significant increase in performance because of automatic support for parallelizing code.

How Java SE 7 Approximates “Functions As First-Class Citizens”

- Problem: Sort a list of Employee objects.

```
class Employee {  
    String name;  
    int salary;  
    public Employee(String n, int s) {  
        this.name = n;  
        this.salary = s;  
    }  
}
```

- To sort, we need a criterion for comparing two Employee objects. We can define a function `compare` that tells us how to do this:

```
int compare(Employee e1, Employee e2) {  
    return e1.name.compareTo(e2.name);  
}
```


How Java SE 7 Approximates “Functions As First-Class Citizens”

- Problem: Sort a list of Employee objects.

```
class Employee {  
    String name;  
    int salary;  
    public Employee(String n, int s) {  
        this.name = n;  
        this.salary = s;  
    }  
}
```

- To sort, we need a criterion for comparing two Employee objects. We can define a function `compare` that tells us how to do this:

```
int compare(Employee e1, Employee e2) {  
    return e1.name.compareTo(e2.name);  
}
```

- Natural thing to try to do:

```
Collections.sort(list, compare)
```

How Java SE 7 Approximates “Functions As First-Class Citizens”

- Problem: Sort a list of Employee objects.

```
class Employee {  
    String name;  
    int salary;  
    public Employee(String n, int s) {  
        this.name = n;  
        this.salary = s;  
    }  
}
```

- To sort, we need a criterion for comparing two Employee objects. We can define a function `compare` that tells us how to do this:

```
int compare(Employee e1, Employee e2) {  
    return e1.name.compareTo(e2.name);  
}
```

- Natural thing to try to do:

```
Collections.sort(list, compare)
```

BUT, *functions are not first-class citizens in Java*, so this cannot be done.

How Java SE 7 Approximates “Functions As First-Class Citizens”

- The Java solution is to wrap a function or method in an object that implements a simple interface, whose only method is the method we wish to use. (A precise statement about this will be given in an upcoming slide.)
- In this example, the `Comparator` interface can be used as a way to represent the compare function.

```
interface Comparator<T> {  
    int compare(T o1, T o2);  
}
```

How Java SE 7 Approximates “Functions As First-Class Citizens”

- The `Comparator` interface is a *declarative wrapper* for the function `compare`.
- We can use the `compare` function to specify how `Employees` should be compared.
- An instance of this `Comparator` represents the “compare” function as an object.
- Though we can't pass the “compare” function as an argument, we can pass the `Comparator` object:

```
interface Comparator<T> {  
    int compare(T o1, T o2);  
}
```

```
public class EmployeeNameComparator  
    implements Comparator<Employee> {  
    @Override  
    public int compare(Employee e1, Employee e2) {  
        return e1.name.compareTo(e2.name);  
    }  
}
```

```
Comparator nameCompare =  
    new EmployeeNameComparator();
```

```
Collections.sort(list, nameCompare);
```


Functional Interfaces and Functors

- A `Comparator` is called a *functional interface* because it has just one (abstract) method* (for a precise statement see next slide).
- A class that implements it will contain just one function that implements an abstract method; it will be an object that acts like a function.
- An implementation of a functional interface is called a *functor*. Example:

```
public class EmployeeNameComparator implements Comparator<Employee> {  
    @Override  
    public int compare(Employee e1, Employee e2) {  
        return e1.name.compareTo(e2.name);  
    }  
}
```

(continued)

Important Observation: The essential feature of the class `EmployeeNameComparator` is that it represents functional behavior: It associates to each pair $(e1, e2)$ of `Employees` an integer (indicating an ordering for $(e1, e2)$).

$$(e1, e2) \mapsto \text{val where } \text{val} = \begin{cases} > 0 & \text{if } e1.name > e2.name \\ < 0 & \text{if } e1.name < e2.name \\ 0 & \text{if } e1.name \text{ equal to } e2.name \end{cases}$$

**NOTE:* In reality, `Comparator` declares *two* abstract methods: `compare` and `equals`. However, `equals` already has an implementation in the `Object` class. The precise rule to determine whether an interface is a *functional* interface is that it must have exactly one abstract method, not counting any methods from `Object` that have been re-declared. See

<https://docs.oracle.com/javase/8/docs/api/java/lang/FunctionalInterface.html>

See the following for an example showing that many other methods can be present

<https://docs.oracle.com/javase/8/docs/api/>

Further Refinement of the Comparator Example

The implementation of the `Comparator` interface shown in the earlier slide has a limitation:

If the comparison of `Employee` objects requires information stored elsewhere in the class in private variables, we will not be able to implement the `compare` method successfully since it will not have access to those variables.

Note: The difficulty is not apparent in the example but if we change the requirements slightly, this limitation does become apparent (next slide).

The Need for Closures

Example: If we want to have the choice of sorting by name or by salary, we will need two different Comparators.

```
public class EmployeeSalaryComparator implements
    Comparator<Employee> {
    @Override
    public int compare(Employee e1, Employee e2) {
        if(e1.salary == e2.salary) return 0;
        else if(e1.salary < e2.salary) return -1;
        else return 1;
    }
}
```

```
public class EmployeeNameComparator implements
    Comparator<Employee> {
    @Override
    public int compare(Employee e1, Employee e2) {
        return e1.name.compareTo(e2.name);
    }
}
```



```

public class EmployeeInfo {
    static enum SortMethod {BYNAME, BYSALARY};
    private SortMethod method;

    public EmployeeInfo(SortMethod method) {
        this.method = method;
    }
    //Comparators are unaware of the value in method
    public void sort(List<Employee> emps) {
        if(method == SortMethod.BYNAME) {
            Collections.sort(emps, new EmployeeNameComparator());
        }
        else if(method == SortMethod.BYSALARY) {
            Collections.sort(emps, new EmployeeSalaryComparator());
        }
    }
}

```

Exercise 8.1. Think of a different way to implement the sort method so that only one type of Comparator is used. How can you define a Comparator so that it will be aware of the value stored in the method variable?

Creating a Comparator *Closure*

- A *closure* is a functor embedded inside another class, that is capable of remembering the state of its enclosing object. In Java 7, instances of member, local, and anonymous inner classes are (essentially) closures, since they have full access to their enclosing object's state.

- Implementing an `EmployeeComparator` using a local inner class allows us to use just one `Comparator`, embedded in the sort method itself:

```
public class EmployeeInfo {
    static enum SortMethod {BYNAME, BYSALARY};
    public void sort(List<Employee> emps, final SortMethod method) {
        class EmployeeComparator implements Comparator<Employee> {
            @Override //Comparator is now aware of sort method
            public int compare(Employee e1, Employee e2) {
                if(method == SortMethod.BYNAME) {
                    return e1.name.compareTo(e2.name);
                } else {
                    if(e1.salary == e2.salary) return 0;
                    else if(e1.salary < e2.salary) return -1;
                    else return 1;
                }
            }
        }
        Collections.sort(emps, new EmployeeComparator());
    }
}
```

- NOTE: In Java 7 and before, the method argument

`SortMethod method`

must be declared final since it is referenced in the method body. In Java 8, this is no longer necessary but still the argument may not be modified in the method body.

- *Historical Note:* The “originator” of the Java language – James Gosling – hoped to include real closures in Java from the beginning; inner classes were introduced as an approximation to closures. A quote from Gosling:

Closures were left out of Java initially more because of time pressures than anything else. In the early days of Java the lack of closures was pretty painful, and so inner classes were born: an uncomfortable compromise that attempted to avoid a number of hard issues. But as is normal in so many design issues, the simplifications didn't really solve any problems, they just moved them.

Another Functional Interface: Consumer

```
public interface Consumer<T> {  
    public void accept(T t);  
}
```

The Consumer interface, like Comparator, has just one abstract method, so it is also a functional interface.

```
Consumer<String> consumer = new Consumer<String>() {  
    @Override  
    public void accept(String s) {  
        System.out.println(s);  
    }  
};  
System.out.println("-----using new forEach method-----");  
l.forEach(consumer);
```

This is another example of a closure, though in this case, the accept method does not make special use of the state of its environment.

Another Functional Interface: EventHandler<T>

```
public interface EventHandler<T extends Event> {  
    public void handle(T evt); //typically, T is ActionEvent  
}
```

Recall from Lesson 6:

```
Button btn = new Button();  
btn.setText("Say 'Hello'");  
btn.setOnAction(new EventHandler<ActionEvent>() {  
    @Override  
    public void handle(ActionEvent event) {  
        System.out.println("Hello " + (username != null ? username : "World") + "!");  
    }  
});
```

This anonymous inner class is also a closure, and `username` is a variable that is part of the state of the environment.

Outline

1. Features and Benefits of Functional Programming
2. Functional Aspects of Java and Functional Interfaces
3. **Lambda Expressions**
4. Parameters and Free Variables
5. A Sample Application of Lambdas
6. Naming Lambda Expressions
7. Syntax Shortcuts and Method Expressions
8. Restricted Use of Free Variables

Lambda Expressions

- Lambda Expressions are syntax shortcuts for closures.
- Lambdas upgrade the status of (many) functions to first-class citizens.

History of Lambda Notation

Lambda notation was an invention of the mathematician A. Church in his analysis of the concept of “computable function,” long before computers had come into existence (in the 1930s).

Several equivalent ways of specifying a (mathematical) function:

$f(x, y) = 2x - y$	// this version gives the function a name – namely ‘f’
$(x, y) \mapsto 2x - y$	// in mathematics, this is called “maps to” notation
$\lambda xy. 2x - y$	// Church’s lambda notation
$(x, y) \rightarrow 2 * x - y$	// Java SE 8 lambda notation

NOTE: In Church’s lambda notation, the function’s arguments are specified to the left of the dot, and output value to the right.

Anatomy of a Lambda Expression

A Java lambda expression has three parts:

parameters [zero or more]

->

code block [if more than one statement, enclosed in curly braces { . . . }]
[may contain *free variables*; values for these supplied
by local or instance variables]

Using a Lambda Expression for a Consumer

Recall the `Consumer` interface is used with the `forEach` method of `Iterable`

```
public interface Consumer<T> {  
    public void accept(T t);  
}
```

```
Consumer<String> consumer = new Consumer<String>() {  
    @Override  
    public void accept(String s) {  
        System.out.println(s);  
    }  
};  
System.out.println("-----using new forEach method-----");  
l.forEach(consumer);
```

can be rewritten as

```
System.out.println("-----using new forEachMethod-----");  
l.forEach(s -> System.out.println(s));
```

NOTE: We are just passing the `accept` method of an anonymously defined `Consumer` to the `forEach` method.

Example: the Function $(x,y) \rightarrow 2 * x - y$

Java SE 8 offers new functional interfaces to support many of the lambda expressions that could arise (though not all).

The `BiFunction<S, T, R>` interface has as its unique abstract method `apply()`, which returns the result of applying a function to its first two arguments (of type `S`, `T`) to produce a result (of type `R`).

```
public interface BiFunction<S, T, R> {  
    R apply(S s, T t);  
}
```


This code uses lambda notation to express functional behavior.

```
public static void main(String[] args) {  
    BiFunction<Integer, Integer, Integer> f =  
        (x,y) -> 2 * x - y;  
    System.out.println(f.apply(2, 3));    //output: 1  
}
```

Without lambdas (Java 7 – style):

```
public static void main(String[] args) {  
    class MyBiFunction implements  
        BiFunction<Integer, Integer, Integer> {  
        public Integer apply(Integer x, Integer y) {  
            return 2 * x - y;  
        }  
    }  
    MyBiFunction f = new MyBiFunction();  
    System.out.println(f.apply(2, 3)); // output 1  
}
```

Another Closure/Lambda Example:

```
public class EmployeeInfo {
    static enum SortMethod {BYNAME, BYSALARY};
    private SortMethod sortMethod = SortMethod.BYNAME;
    public void sort(List<Employee> emps, final SortMethod method) {
        class EmployeeComparator implements Comparator<Employee> {
            @Override
            public int compare(Employee e1, Employee e2) {
                if(method == sortMethod) {
                    return e1.name.compareTo(e2.name);
                } else {
                    throw new IllegalArgumentException("Cannot compare");
                }
            }
        }
        Collections.sort(emps, new EmployeeComparator());
    }
}
```

//Using lambdas:

```
public class EmployeeInfo {
    static enum SortMethod {BYNAME, BYSALARY};
    private SortMethod sortMethod = SortMethod.BYNAME;
    public void sort(List<Employee> emps, SortMethod method) {
        Collections.sort(emps, (e1,e2) ->
        {
            if(method == sortMethod) {
                return e1.name.compareTo(e2.name);
            } else {
                throw new IllegalArgumentException("Cannot compare");
            }
        });
    }
}
```


Outline

1. Features and Benefits of Functional Programming
2. Functional Aspects of Java and Functional Interfaces
3. Lambda Expressions
4. **Parameters and Free Variables**
5. A Sample Application of Lambdas
6. Naming Lambda Expressions
7. Syntax Shortcuts and Method Expressions
8. Restricted Use of Free Variables

Parameters and Free Variables

- *Parameters* are the arguments that are passed as arguments in the lambda expression: In $(x, y) \rightarrow x * y$, the variables x, y are parameters
- *Free variables* are variables that are *not* parameters and *not* defined inside the block of code on the right hand side of the lambda expression

```
//parameters e1, e2; free variables sortMethod and method
Comparator c =(Employee e1, Employee e2) -> {
    if (sortMethod.equals(method)) {
        return e1.name.compareTo(e2.name);
    } else {
        throw new IllegalArgumentException("can't sort");
    }
}
```


(continued)

- In order for a lambda expression to be evaluated, values for the free variables need to be supplied (either as arguments in the method in which the lambda expression appears or in the enclosing class).
- Values that are supplied to the free variables are said to be *captured by the lambda expression*

More Examples

```
//handle method in EventHandler:  
// parameter evt, free vbles out and username  
(ActionEvent evt) -> System.out.println(  
    "Hello " + (username != null ? username : "World") + "!" );
```

Note: `out` is a variable in the `System` class, which is a reference to standard output (typically, the console)

The value of `out` is supplied from outside the expression, so is also a free variable

Creating Your Own Functional Interface:

Demo: `lesson8.lecture.lambdaexamples.trifunction`

```
@FunctionalInterface
public interface TriFunction<S,T,U,R> {
    R apply(S s, T t, U u);
}

public static void main(String[] args) {
    TriFunction<Integer, Integer, Integer, Integer> f =
        (x, y, z) -> x + y + z;
    System.out.println(f.apply(2, 3, 4)); //output: 9
}
```

Notes:

- The `@FunctionalInterface` annotation is checked by the compiler – if the interface does not contain exactly one abstract method, there is a compiler error.
- Not required, but strongly recommended, to enable compile-time checking.

Exercise 8.2

1. Is this a functional interface?
Explain.

```
public interface Example1 {  
    String toString();  
}
```

2. Does the following code compile?
Explain

```
@FunctionalInterface  
public interface Example2 {  
    String toString();  
    void act();  
}
```

3. Define your own functional interface that could be used as a wrapper for a function that takes zero arguments and returns an integer. Then use it to define an object that produces random numbers. In a main method test your code; then try to represent your functional interface with a lambda

```
@FunctionalInterface  
interface MyIface {  
  
    }  
class MyRandGen implements MyIface {  
    ...  
    public static void main(String[] args) {  
        MyIface mrg = new MyRandGen();  
        System.out.println(mrg.produce());  
    }  
}
```


Exercise 8.2 Solution

1. Is this a functional interface?

Explain.

```
public interface Example1 {  
    String toString();  
}
```

No – we don't count methods that override methods from Object

2. Does the following code compile?
Explain

```
@FunctionalInterface  
public interface Example2 {  
    String toString();  
    void act();  
}
```

Yes, there is just one abstract method not counting methods from Object

3. Define your own functional interface that could be used as a wrapper for a function that takes zero arguments and returns an integer. Then use it to define an object that produces random numbers. In a main method test your code; then try to represent your functional interface with a lambda

```
public interface MyIface {  
    int produce();  
}
```

```
public class MyRandGen implements MyIface {  
    public int produce() {  
        Random r = new Random();  
        return r.nextInt();  
    }  
}
```

Main Point 1

In Java, before Java SE 8, functions were not first-class citizens, which made the functional style difficult to implement. Prior to Java SE 8, Java approximated a function with a functional interface; when implemented as an inner class, objects of this type were close approximations to functions. In Java SE 8, these inner class approximations can be replaced by lambda expressions, which capture their essential functional nature: *Arguments mapped to outputs*. With lambda expressions, it is now possible to reap many of the benefits of the functional style while maintaining the OO essence of the Java language as a whole.

The “purification” process that made it possible to transform “noisy” one-method inner classes into simple functional expressions (lambdas) is like the purification process that permits a noisy nervous system to have a chance to operate smoothly and at a higher level. This is one of the powerful benefits of the transcending process.

Outline

1. Features and Benefits of Functional Programming
2. Functional Aspects of Java and Functional Interfaces
3. Lambda Expressions
4. Parameters and Free Variables
5. **A Sample Application of Lambdas**
6. Naming Lambda Expressions
7. Syntax Shortcuts and Method Expressions
8. Restricted Use of Free Variables

A Sample Application of Lambdas

Task: Extract from a list of names (Strings) a sublist containing those names that begin with a specified character, and transform all letters in such names to uppercase.

Imperative Style (Java 7)

```
public List<String> findStartsWithLetterToUpper(  
    List<String> list, char c) {  
    List<String> startsWithLetter = new ArrayList<String>();  
    for(String name : list) {  
        if(name.startsWith("" + c)) {  
            startsWithLetter.add(name.toUpperCase());  
        }  
    }  
    return startsWithLetter;  
}
```


A Sample Application of Lambdas (cont.)

Using Lambdas and Streams (Java 8)

(Note: Streams will be discussed fully in Lesson 9)

```
public List<String> findStartsWithLetter(List<String> list, String letter) {  
    return list.stream() // convert list to stream  
        .filter(name -> name.startsWith(letter)) // returns filtered  
                                                    // stream  
        .map(name -> name.toUpperCase()) // maps each string to upper  
                                           // case string  
        .collect(Collectors.toList()); // organizes into a list  
}
```

```
// parallel processing  
public List<String> findStartsWithLetter(List<String> list, String letter) {  
    return list.parallelStream() // convert list to stream  
        .filter(name -> name.startsWith(letter)) // returns filtered  
                                                    // stream  
        .map(name -> name.toUpperCase()) // maps each string to upper  
                                           // case string  
        .collect(Collectors.toList()); // organizes into a list  
}
```

Outline

1. Features and Benefits of Functional Programming
2. Functional Aspects of Java and Functional Interfaces
3. Lambda Expressions
4. Parameters and Free Variables
5. A Sample Application of Lambdas
6. **Naming Lambda Expressions**
7. Syntax Shortcuts and Method Expressions
8. Restricted Use of Free Variables

Naming Lambda Expressions

1. We want to be able to reuse lambda expressions rather than rewriting the entire expression each time. To do so, we need to give it a name and a type.
2. Every object in Java has a type; the same is true of lambda expressions.

The type of a lambda expression is any functional interface for which the lambda expression is an implementation!

Naming Lambda Expressions (cont.)

Example: Consider this lambda expression:

```
(Employee e1, Employee e2) ->  
    e1.getName().compareTo(e2.getName());
```

What functional interface has been implemented here?

Analysis. The lambda accepts two parameters – e1 and e2 – and has a return value of type Integer. We must find (or create) a functional interface whose encapsulated function has these characteristics.

How to Search. The new functional interfaces in Java 8 are contained in the package `java.util.function`. We can look at the JDK API docs at <https://docs.oracle.com/javase/8/docs/api/java/util/function/package-summary.html> to locate a matching interface.

Naming Lambdas (continued)

Interface Summary

Interface	Description
BiConsumer <T,U>	Represents an operation that accepts two input arguments and returns no result.
BiFunction <T,U,R>	Represents a function that accepts two arguments and produces a result.
BinaryOperator <T>	Represents an operation upon two operands of the same type, producing a result of the same type as the operands.
BiPredicate <T,U>	Represents a predicate (boolean-valued function) of two arguments.
BooleanSupplier	Represents a supplier of boolean-valued results.
Consumer <T>	Represents an operation that accepts a single input argument and returns no result.

Naming Lambdas (continued)

Interface Summary

Interface	Description
BiConsumer <T,U>	Represents an operation that accepts two input arguments and returns no result.
BiFunction <T,U,R>	Represents a function that accepts two arguments and produces a result.
BinaryOperator <T>	Represents an operation upon two operands of the same type, producing a result of the same type as the operands.
BiPredicate <T,U>	Represents a predicate (boolean-valued function) of two arguments.
BooleanSupplier	Represents a supplier of boolean-valued results.
Consumer <T>	Represents an operation that accepts a single input argument and returns no result.

First Candidate

```
BiFunction<Employee, Employee, Integer> lambda  
    = (Employee e1, Employee e2) -> e1.getName().compareTo(e2.getName());
```


Naming Lambdas (continued)

- *Another Possibility.* Recall that a Comparator accepts two arguments and returns an integer – positive integer means “greater than”, negative integer means “less than”.

Second Candidate

```
Comparator<Employee> lambda  
    = (Employee e1, Employee e2) -> e1.getName().compareTo(e2.getName());
```

- The Second Candidate is also correct. The lambda can be typed in either way.

Naming Lambdas (continued)

Question: Which of the two candidates should be used?

Answer: It depends on how you intend to use the lambda. In this case, it is likely that the lambda is designed as a `Comparator` for sorting. Only the `Comparator` type can be used for this purpose

```
Comparator<Employee> lambda1  
    = (e1, e2) -> e1.getName().compareTo(e2.getName());  
BiFunction<Employee, Employee, Integer> lambda2  
    = (e1, e2) -> e1.getName().compareTo(e2.getName());
```

```
public List<Employee> sort(List<Employee> list) {  
    Collections.sort(list, lambda1);  
    return list;  
}
```

This code works

```
public List<Employee> sort2(List<Employee> list) {  
    Collections.sort(list, lambda2);  
    return list;  
}
```

This code does *not* work

Naming Lambdas (Continued)

- [Optional] NOTE: Although every lambda is a realization of a functional interface, the way in which the Java compiler translates a lambda into a realization of such an interface is *not* obvious. Historically, the possibility of simply translating the lambda into an anonymous inner class was considered by the Java engineers, but was rejected for a number of reasons. One reason is performance – inner classes have to be loaded separately by the class loader. Another is that tying lambdas to such an implementation would limit the possibility for evolution of new features of lambdas in future releases. You can verify that lambdas and anonymous inner classes are fundamentally different (even though very similar) by considering how the implicit object reference ‘this’ is interpreted by each type: In an anonymous inner class, ‘this’ refers to the inner class; in a lambda, ‘this’ refers to the surrounding class. See <http://www.infoq.com/articles/Java-8-Lambdas-A-Peek-Under-the-Hood>

Outline

1. Features and Benefits of Functional Programming
2. Functional Aspects of Java and Functional Interfaces
3. Lambda Expressions
4. Parameters and Free Variables
5. A Sample Application of Lambdas
6. Naming Lambda Expressions
7. **Syntax Shortcuts and Method Expressions**
8. Restricted Use of Free Variables

Syntax Shortcuts via Target Typing

1. If parameter types can be inferred, they can be omitted

```
Comparator<Employee> empNameComp = (e1, e2) -> {  
    if (method == SortMethod.BYNAME) {  
        return e1.name.compareTo(e2.name);  
    } else {  
        if (e1.salary == e2.salary) return 0;  
        else if (e1.salary < e2.salary) return -1;  
        else return 1;  
    }  
}
```

//sort expects a Comparator; since types in emps list are Employee, infer type Comparator<Employee>

```
Collections.sort(emps, (e1, e2) -> {  
    if (method == SortMethod.BYNAME) {  
        return e1.name.compareTo(e2.name);  
    } else {  
        if (e1.salary == e2.salary) return 0;  
        else if (e1.salary < e2.salary) return -1;  
        else return 1;  
    }  
});
```

See DEMO: [lesson8.lecture.lambdaexamples.comparator3](#)

Syntax Shortcuts via Target Typing (cont.)

2. If a lambda expression has a single parameter with an inferred type, the parentheses around the parameter can be omitted.

```
Consumer consumer = str -> {    //instead of (str)
    System.out.println(str);
};
```

```
EventHandler<ActionEvent> handler = evt -> {
    System.out.println("Hello World");
};
```


Syntax Shortcuts via Target Typing(cont.)

3. *Method References.* (See Lesson 9 for a fourth type of method reference – *constructor reference*)

A. Type: *object::instanceMethod*. Given an object *ob* and an instance method *meth()* in *ob*, the lambda expression

`x -> ob.meth(x)`

can be written as

`ob::meth`

Example (see SimpleButton demo in lesson8.lecture.methodreferences.objinstance.print)

Rewrite

```
button.setOnAction(evt -> p.print(evt));
```

as

```
button.setOnAction(p::print);
```

Another Example: The ‘this’ implicit object can be captured in a method reference in the same way: For instance the method reference `this::equals` is equivalent to the lambda expression `x -> this.equals(x)`.

Syntax Shortcuts via Target Typing(cont.)

- B. Type: *Class::staticMethod*. Given a class `ClassName` and one of its static methods `meth()`, the lambda expression

```
x -> ClassName.meth(x)
```

//or `(x, y) -> ClassName.meth(x, y)` if `meth` accepts two arguments
can be rewritten as

```
ClassName::meth
```

Example

(see `MethodRefMath` demo in `lesson8.lecture.methodreferences.classmethod.math`)

Rewrite

```
BiFunction<Integer, Integer, Double> f  
    = (x, y) -> Math.pow(x, y);
```

as

```
BiFunction<Integer, Integer, Double> f = Math::pow;
```


Syntax Shortcuts via Target Typing(cont.)

- C. Type: *Class::instanceMethod*. Given a class *ClassName* and one of its instance methods *meth()*, the lambda expression

$$(x, y) \rightarrow x.meth(y)$$

can be rewritten as

$$ClassName::meth$$

Example:

$$(str1, str2) \rightarrow str1.compareToIgnoreCase(str2)$$

can be written as

$$String::compareToIgnoreCase$$

Outline

1. Features and Benefits of Functional Programming
2. Functional Aspects of Java and Functional Interfaces
3. Lambda Expressions
4. Parameters and Free Variables
5. A Sample Application of Lambdas
6. Naming Lambda Expressions
7. Syntax Shortcuts and Method Expressions
8. **Restricted Use of Free Variables**

Restricted Use of Free Variables: The View from Java SE 7

```
public class EmployeeInfo {
    static enum SortMethod {BYNAME, BYSALARY};
    private boolean ignoreCase = true;
    public void setIgnoreCase(boolean b) {
        ignoreCase = b;
    }
    public void sort(List<Employee> emps, final SortMethod method) {
        class EmployeeComparator implements Comparator<Employee> {
            @Override
            public int compare(Employee e1, Employee e2) {
                //local variable method must be final
                if(method == SortMethod.BYNAME) {
                    //instance vble ignoreCase does not need to be final
                    if(ignoreCase) return e1.name.compareToIgnoreCase(e2.name);
                    else return e1.name.compareTo(e2.name);
                } else {
                    if(e1.salary == e2.salary) return 0;
                    else if(e1.salary < e2.salary) return -1;
                    else return 1;
                }
            }
        }
        Collections.sort(emps, new EmployeeComparator());
    }
}
```

- Local and anonymous inner classes have access to instance variables of the enclosing class; they may also use local variables only if they are *final*.
- *Best Practice*: Never modify instance variables from a method of a local inner class (for example, because of thread safety)

Restricted Use of Free Variables: The View from Java SE 8

```
public class EmployeeInfo {
    static enum SortMethod {BYNAME, BYSALARY};
    private boolean ignoreCase = true;
    public void setIgnoreCase(boolean b) {
        ignoreCase = b;
    }
    public void sort(List<Employee> emps, SortMethod method) {
        Collections.sort(emps, (e1,e2) ->
        {
            //local variable method must be effectively final,
            //but not necessarily final
            if(method == SortMethod.BYNAME) {
                //instance vble ignoreCase does not need to be effectively final
                //but should not be modified either
                if(ignoreCase) return e1.name.compareToIgnoreCase(e2.name);
                else return e1.name.compareTo(e2.name);
            } else {
                if(e1.salary == e2.salary) return 0;
                else if(e1.salary < e2.salary) return -1;
                else return 1;
            }
        });
    }
}
```

Demo: (lesson8.lecture.closures.java8)

- Lambda expressions have access to instance variables of the enclosing class; they may also use local variables only if they are *effectively final* – this means that the value of the variable never changes (this is compiler-checked). This is now also the rule for local and anonymous inner classes.
- *Best Practice*: Never modify instance variables inside a lambda expression (for example, for thread safety)

Exercise 8.3

Lambda and Method Reference Exercises (see PDF in package lesson8.exercise_3)

Assign each lambda expressions to a variable of the appropriate type and then express as a method reference. Indicate which type of method reference you are using.

```
Example: (String x) -> x.toUpperCase()
```

```
Function<String, String> toUpper1 = (String x) -> x.toUpperCase();  
Function<String, String> toUpper2 = String::toUpperCase;  
    Method reference type: Class::instanceMethod
```

Connecting the Parts of Knowledge With the Wholeness of Knowledge

Declarative programming and command of all the laws of nature

1. In Java SE 7, the only first-class citizens are objects, created from classes. The valuable techniques of functional programming and a declarative style can be approximated using functional interfaces.
 2. In Java SE 8, functions – in the form of lambda expressions – have become first-class citizens, and can be passed as arguments and occur as return values. In this new version, the advantage of functional programming with its declarative style is now supported in the language
-
3. **Transcendental Consciousness:** TC, which can be experienced in the stillness of one's awareness through transcending, is where the laws of nature begin to operate – it is the *home of all the laws of nature*
 4. **Impulses Within the Transcendental Field:** As TC becomes more familiar, more and more, intentions and desires reach fulfillment effortlessly, because of the hidden support of the laws of nature.
 5. **Wholeness moving within Itself:** In Unity Consciousness, one finally recognizes the universe in oneself – that all of life is simply the impulse of one's own consciousness. In that state, one effortlessly commands the laws of nature for all good in the universe.