





Exceptions

- Exceptions are usually thrown to indicate that something bad has happened
 - · IOException on failure to open or read a file
 - ClassCastException if attempted to cast an object to a type that is not a supertype of the dynamic type of the object
 - NullPointerException if tried to dereference null
 - ArrayIndexOutOfBoundsException if tried to access an array element at index i < 0 or ≥ the length of the array

Handling Exceptions

- Exceptions can be caught by the program using a try/catch block
- catch clauses are called exception handlers

Integer x = null; try {

x = (Integer)y;

- System.out.println(x.intValue());
- } catch (ClassCastException e) {
- System.out.println("y was not an Integer");
- } catch (NullPointerException e) {
 System.out.println("y was null");
- System.out.printin("y was hull"

Defining Your Own Exceptions • An exception is an object (like everything else in Java) • You can define your own exceptions and throw them Class MyOwnException extends Exception {} ... if (input == null) { throw new MyOwnException(); }

The **throws** Clause

• In general, any exception you throw must be either *declared* in the method header or *caught*

void foo(int input) throws MyOwnException {
 if (input == null) {
 throw new MyOwnException();
 }
}

, . . . }

- · Note: throws means "can throw", not "does throw"
- Subtypes of RuntimeException do *not* have to be declared (e.g., NullPointerException, ClassCastException)
 - These represent exceptions that can occur during "normal operation of the Java Virtual Machine"

How Exceptions are Handled

- If the exception is thrown from *inside* a try/catch block with a handler for that exception (or a superclass of the exception), then that handler is executed
 - Otherwise, the method terminates abruptly and control is passed back to the calling method
- If the calling method can handle the exception (i.e., if the call occurred within a try/catch block with a handler for that exception) then that handler is executed
 - Otherwise, the calling method terminates abruptly, etc.
- If *none* of the calling methods handle the exception, the entire program terminates with an error message

Generic Types in Java 5.0

Generic Types in Java 5.0

- When using a collection (e.g., LinkedList, HashSet, HashMap), we generally have a single type T of elements that we store in it (e.g., Integer, String)
- Before 1.5, when extracting an element, had to cast it to T before we could invoke T's methods
- Compiler could not check that the cast was correct at *compiletime*, since it didn't know what T was
- Inconvenient and unsafe, could fail at *runtime*
- Generics in Java 1.5 provide a way to communicate T, the type of elements in a collection, to the compiler
- Compiler can check that you have used the collection consistently
- Result is safer and more-efficient code





Type Casting

- In effect, Java inserts the correct cast automatically, based on the declared type
- In this example, grades.get("John") is automatically cast to Integer

HashMap<String,Integer> grades =
 new HashMap<String,Integer>();
grades.put("John",new Integer(67));
grades.put("Jane",new Integer(72));
grades.put("Fred",new Integer(72));
Integer x = grades.get("John");
System.out.println(x.intValue());



Using Generic Types

- $\bullet {<} T\!\!>\! is read, ``of T"$
 - For example: Stack<Integer> is read, "Stack of Integer"
- The type annotation <T> informs the compiler that all extractions from this collection should be automatically cast to T
- Specify type in declaration, can be checked at compile time can eliminate explicit casts

Advantage of Generics

- Declaring **Collection<String> c** tells us something about the variable c (i.e., c holds only Strings)
 - This is true wherever c is used
 - The compiler checks this and won't compile code that violates this
- Without use of generic types, explicit casting must be used
 - A cast tells us something the programmer *thinks* is true at a single point in the code
 - The Java virtual machine checks whether the programmer is right only at *runtime*

Subtypes

Stack<Integer> is not a subtype of Stack<Object>

```
Stack<Integer> s = new Stack<Integer>();
s.push(new Integer(7));
Stack<Object> t = s; //gives compiler error
t.push("bad idea");
System.out.println(s.pop().intValue());
However, Stack<Integer> is a Subtype of Stack
(for backward compatibility with 1.4.2)
Stack<Integer> s = new Stack<Integer>();
```

```
s.push(new Integer(7));
Stack t = s; //compiler allows this
t.push("bad idea");
System.out.println(s.pop().intValue());
```



Wildcards void printCollection(Collection c) { Iterator i = c.iterator(); plo while (i.hasNext()) { System.out.println(i.next()); }} void printCollection(Collection<Object> c) { bad for (Object e : c) { System.out.println(e); }} void printCollection(Collection<?> c) { poog 33 for (Object e : c) { System.out.println(e);





Some Generic Type Examples

class Simplex<V> extends AbstractSet<V> implements Set<V>

public Simplex (Collection<? extends V> collection)

public static <V> Set<Set<V>> boundary
 (Set<? extends Simplex<V>> simplexSet)

public class Triangulation<V> implements Iterable<Simplex<V>>

public Triangulation (Simplex<V> simplex)

public Iterator<Simplex<V>> iterator ()

For More Info on Generic Types

- See the online Java Tutorial for more information on generic types and generic methods
- The text also has a section (4.7) on this topic