301AA - Advanced Programming

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AP-21: Lambdas and Streams in Java 8
Java 8: language extensions

Java 8 is the biggest change to Java since the inception of the language. Main new features:

• **Lambda expressions**
  – Method references
  – Default methods in interfaces
  – Improved type inference

• **Stream API**

A big challenge was to introduce lambdas without requiring recompilation of existing binaries
Benefits of Lambdas in Java 8

• Enabling functional programming
  – Being able to pass behaviors as well as data to functions
  – Introduction of lazy evaluation with stream processing

• Writing cleaner and more compact code

• Facilitating parallel programming

• Developing more generic, flexible and reusable APIs
Lambda expression syntax:
Print a list of integers with a lambda

List<Integer> intSeq = Arrays.asList(1,2,3);
intSeq.forEach( x -> System.out.println(x));

• x -> System.out.println(x)
is a lambda expression that defines an anonymous function (method)
with one parameter named x of type Integer

// equivalent syntax
intSeq.forEach((Integer x) -> System.out.println(x));

intSeq.forEach(x -> {System.out.println(x);});

intSeq.forEach(System.out::println); //method reference

• Type of parameter inferred by the compiler if missing
Multiline lambda, local variables, no new scope

List<Integer> intSeq = Arrays.asList(1,2,3);
// multiline: curly brackets necessary
intSeq.forEach(x -> {
    x += 2;
    System.out.println(x);
});

// local variable declaration
intSeq.forEach(x -> {
    int y = x + 2;
    System.out.println(y);
});

// no new scope!!!
int x = 0;
intSeq.forEach(x -> { //error: x already defined
    System.out.println(x + 2);
});
Local and Static Variable Capture

- **Local variables** used inside the body of a lambda must be final or effectively final.

```java
public class LVCEExample {    // local variable capture
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        List<Integer> intSeq = Arrays.asList(1,2,3);

        int var = 10;           // must be [effectively] final
        intSeq.forEach(x -> System.out.println(x + var));
        // var = 3; // uncommenting this line it does not compile
    }
}

public class SVCExample {    // static variable capture
    private static int var = 10;
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        List<Integer> intSeq = Arrays.asList(1,2,3);

        intSeq.forEach(x -> System.out.println(x + var));
        var = 3;               // it compiles
    }
}
```
Implementation of Java 8 Lambdas

• The Java 8 compiler first converts a lambda expression into a function, compiling its code
• Then it generates code to call the compiled function where needed
• For example, \( x \rightarrow \text{System.out.println}(x) \) could be converted into a generated static function

```java
public static void genName(Integer x) {
    System.out.println(x);
}
```
• But what type should be generated for this function? How should it be called? What class should it go in?
Functional Interfaces

• Design decision: Java 8 lambdas are instances of functional interfaces.

• A functional interface is a Java interface with exactly one abstract method. E.g.,

```java
public interface Comparator<T> {
    //java.util
    int compare(T o1, T o2);
}

public interface Runnable {
    //java.lang
    void run();
}

public interface Consumer<T>{
    //java.util.function
    void accept(T t)
}

public interface Callable<V> {
    //java.util.concurrent
    V call() throws Exception;
}
```
Functional interfaces and lambdas

• Functional Interfaces can be used as *target type* of lambda expressions, i.e.
  – As type of variable to which the lambda is assigned
  – As type of formal parameter to which the lambda is passed
• The compiler uses type inference based on *target type*
• Arguments and result types of the lambda must match those of the unique abstract method of the functional interface
• The lambda is invoked by calling the only abstract method of the functional interface
• Lambdas can be interpreted as *instances of anonymous inner classes* implementing the functional interface
Expanding a lambda

```java
public interface Consumer<T> {
    //java.util.function
    void accept(T t);
} //functional interface

List<Integer> intSeq = Arrays.asList(1, 2, 3);
intSeq.forEach(x -> System.out.println(x));

// List<T> extends Iterable<T>
interface Iterable<T> {
    //java.lang
    default void forEach(Consumer<? super T> action)
    for (T t : this)
        action.accept(t);
}

List<Integer> intSeq = Arrays.asList(1, 2, 3);
for (Integer t: intSeq)
    System.out.println(t);
```
public class Calculator1 { // Pre Java 8
    interface IntegerMath { // (inner) functional interface
        int operation(int a, int b);
    }
    public int operateBinary(int a, int b, IntegerMath op) {
        return op.operation(a, b);
    } // parameter type is functional interface
    // inner class implementing the interface
    static class IntMath$Add implements IntegerMath{
        public int operation(int a, int b){
            return a + b;
        }
    }
    public static void main(String... args) {
        Calculator1 myApp = new Calculator1();
        System.out.println("40 + 2 = " +
            myApp.operateBinary(40, 2, new IntMath$Add()));
        // anonymous inner class implementing the interface
        IntegerMath subtraction = new IntegerMath(){
            public int operation(int a, int b){
                return a - b;
            }
        };
        System.out.println("20 - 10 = " +
            myApp.operateBinary(20, 10, subtraction));
    }
... to lambda expressions

```java
public class Calculator {

    interface IntegerMath { // (inner) functional interface
        int operation(int a, int b);
    }

    public int operateBinary(int a, int b, IntegerMath op) {
        return op.operation(a, b);
    }  // parameter type is functional interface

    public static void main(String... args) {
        Calculator myApp = new Calculator();
        // lambda assigned to functional interface variables
        IntegerMath addition = (a, b) -> a + b;
        System.out.println("40 + 2 = ");
        myApp.operateBinary(40, 2, addition);
        // lambda passed to functional interface formal parameter
        System.out.println("20 - 10 = ");
        myApp.operateBinary(20, 10, (a, b) -> a - b);
    }
}
```
public class ThreadTest {// using functional interface Runnable
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        Runnable r1 = new Runnable() { // anonymous inner class
            @Override
            public void run() {
                System.out.println("Old Java Way");
            }
        };
        Runnable r2 = () -> {
            System.out.println("New Java Way");
        };
        new Thread(r1).start();
        new Thread(r2).start();
    }
}

// constructor of class Thread
public Thread(Runnable target)
Other examples of lambdas: Listener

```java
JButton button = new JButton("Click Me!");

// pre Java 8
button.addActionListener(new ActionListener()
    
    { public void actionPerformed(ActionEvent evt) 
        
         System.out.println("Handled by anonymous class listener");
    
    });

// Java 8
button.addActionListener(
    
    e -> System.out.println("Handled by Lambda listener");

```
New Functional Interfaces in package java.util.function

```java
public interface Consumer<T> {
    void accept(T t);
}
public interface Supplier<T> {
    T get();
}
public interface Predicate<T> {
    boolean test(T t);
}
public interface Function <T,R> {
    R apply(T t);
}
```
Other examples of lambdas

```java
List<Integer> intSeq = new ArrayList<>(Arrays.asList(1,2,3));

// sort list in descending order using Comparator<Integer>
intSeq.sort((x,z) -> z - x);  // lambda with two arguments
intSeq.forEach(System.out::println);

// remove odd numbers using a Predicate<Integer>
intSeq.removeIf(x -> x%2 == 1);
intSeq.forEach(System.out::println);  // prints only '2'
```

// default method of Interface List<E>
default void sort(Comparator<? super E> c)
// default method of Interface Collection<E>
default boolean removeIf(Predicate<? super E> filter)
// default method of Interface Iterable<T>
default void forEach(Consumer<? super T> action)
Default Methods

Problem: Adding new abstract methods to an interface breaks existing implementations of the interface
Java 8 allows interface to include
• Abstract (instance) methods, as usual
• Static methods
• Default methods, defined in terms of other possibly abstract methods
Java 8 uses lambda expressions and default methods in conjunction with the Java collections framework to achieve backward compatibility with existing published interfaces
Method References

- Method references can be used to pass an existing function in places where a lambda is expected.
- The signature of the referenced method needs to match the signature of the functional interface method.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Method Reference Type</th>
<th>Syntax</th>
<th>Example</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>static</td>
<td>ClassName::StaticMethodName</td>
<td>String::valueOf</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>constructor</td>
<td>ClassName::new</td>
<td>ArrayList::new</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>specific object instance</td>
<td>objectReference::MethodName</td>
<td>x::toString</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>arbitrary object of a given type</td>
<td>ClassName::InstanceMethodName</td>
<td>Object::toString</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
From Lambdas to Bytecode

• Lambdas can, in principle, be compiled as instances of anonymous inner classes
• Neither JLS 8 nor JVMS 8 prescribe a specific compilation strategy for lambdas
• The strategy is left to the designer of the compiler, which can exploit this freedom on behalf of efficiency
• For a discussion about the possible compilation strategies and the choice of using `invokedynamic` to defer the choice to runtime, see From Lambdas to Bytecode by Brian Goetz
From Lambdas to Bytecode
Brian Goetz