Building Java Programs

Chapter 6 Lecture 6-2: Line-Based File Input

reading: 6.3 - 6.5

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Recall: Gas prices question

- Write a program that reads a file gasprices.txt
 - Format: Belgium \$/gal US \$/gal date

3.81	3/21/11
3.84	3/28/11
3.92	4/4/11
4.03	4/11/11
	3.84 3.92

 The program should print the average gas price over all data in the file for both countries:

```
Belgium: 3.44 $/gal
USA: 1.37 $/gal
```

Hours question

• Given a file hours.txt with the following contents:

123 Ben 12.5 8.1 7.6 3.2 456 Greg 4.0 11.6 6.5 2.7 12 789 Victoria 8.0 8.0 8.0 8.0 7.5

• Consider the task of computing hours worked by each person:

Ben (ID#123) worked 31.4 hours (7.85 hours/day)
Greg (ID#456) worked 36.8 hours (7.36 hours/day)
Victoria (ID#789) worked 39.5 hours (7.90 hours/day)



Hours answer (flawed)

```
// This solution does not work!
import java.io.*;
                                 // for File
import java.util.*;
                                 // for Scanner
public class HoursWorked {
    public static void main(String[] args)
            throws FileNotFoundException {
        Scanner input = new Scanner(new File("hours.txt"));
        while (input.hasNext()) {
            // process one person
            int id = input.nextInt();
            String name = input.next();
            double totalHours = 0.0;
            int days = 0;
            while (input.hasNextDouble()) {
                totalHours += input.nextDouble();
                days++;
            System.out.println(name + " (ID#" + id +
                    ") worked " + totalHours + " hours (" +
                    (totalHours / days) + " hours/day)");
```

Flawed output

```
Ben (ID#123) worked 487.4 hours (97.48 hours/day)
Exception in thread "main"
java.util.InputMismatchException
    at java.util.Scanner.throwFor(Scanner.java:840)
    at java.util.Scanner.next(Scanner.java:1461)
    at java.util.Scanner.nextInt(Scanner.java:2091)
    at HoursWorked.main(HoursBad.java:9)
```

- The inner while loop is grabbing the next person's ID.
- We want to process the tokens, but we also care about the line breaks (they mark the end of a person's data).
- A better solution is a hybrid approach:
 - First, break the overall input into lines.
 - Then break each line into tokens.

Line-based Scanner methods

Method	Description	
nextLine()	returns next entire line of input (from cursor to n)	
hasNextLine()	returns true if there are any more lines of input to read (always true for console input)	

```
Scanner input = new Scanner(new File("<filename>"));
while (input.hasNextLine()) {
    String line = input.nextLine();
    cprocess this line>;
}
```

Consuming lines of input

23 3.14 John Smith "Hello" world 45.2 19

The Scanner reads the lines as follows:
 23\t3.14 John Smith\t"Hello" world\n\t\t45.2 19\n

- String line = input.nextLine();
 <u>23\t3.14 John Smith\t"Hello" world</u>\n\t\t45.2 19\n
 ^
- String line2 = input.nextLine();
 23\t3.14 John Smith\t"Hello" world\n\t\t45.2 19\n
- Each \n character is consumed but not returned.

Scanners on Strings

• A Scanner can tokenize the contents of a String:

Scanner <name> = new Scanner(<String>);

• Example:

```
String text = "15 3.2 hello 9 27.5";
Scanner scan = new Scanner(text);
```

Mixing lines and tokens

Input file input.txt:	Output to console:
The quick brown fox jumps over	Line has 6 words
the lazy dog.	Line has 3 words

```
// Counts the words on each line of a file
Scanner input = new Scanner(new File("input.txt"));
while (input.hasNextLine()) {
   String line = input.nextLine();
   Scanner lineScan = new Scanner(line);
   // process the contents of this line
   int count = 0;
   while (lineScan.hasNext()) {
     String word = lineScan.next();
     count++;
   }
   System.out.println("Line has " + count + " words");
```

Hours question

• Fix the Hours program to read the input file properly:

123 Ben 12.5 8.1 7.6 3.2 456 Greg 4.0 11.6 6.5 2.7 12 789 Victoria 8.0 8.0 8.0 8.0 7.5

• Recall, it should produce the following output:

Ben (ID#123) worked 31.4 hours (7.85 hours/day)
Greg (ID#456) worked 36.8 hours (7.36 hours/day)
Victoria (ID#789) worked 39.5 hours (7.90 hours/day)

Hours answer, corrected

```
// Processes an employee input file and outputs each employee's hours.
import java.io.*; // for File
import java.util.*; // for Scanner
```

```
public class Hours {
    public static void main(String[] args) throws FileNotFoundException {
        Scanner input = new Scanner(new File("hours.txt"));
       while (input.hasNextLine()) {
            String line = input.nextLine();
           processEmployee(line);
    public static void processEmployee(String line) {
        Scanner lineScan = new Scanner(line);
        int id = lineScan.nextInt(); // e.g. 456
        String name = lineScan.next(); // e.g. "Greg"
        double sum = 0.0;
        int count = 0;
        while (lineScan.hasNextDouble()) {
            sum = sum + lineScan.nextDouble();
            count++;
        }
        double average = sum / count;
        System.out.println(name + " (ID#" + id + ") worked " +
            sum + " hours (" + average + " hours/day)");
```

File output

reading: 6.4 - 6.5

Output to files

- PrintStream: An object in the java.io package that lets you print output to a destination such as a file.
 - Any methods you have used on System.out (such as print, println) will work on a PrintStream.

• Syntax:

PrintStream <name> = new PrintStream(new File("<filename>"));

Example:

PrintStream output = new PrintStream(new File("out.txt"));
output.println("Hello, file!");
output.println("This is a second line of output.");

Details about PrintStream

PrintStream <name> = new PrintStream(new File("<filename>"));

- If the given file does not exist, it is created.
- If the given file already exists, it is overwritten.
- The output you print appears in a file, not on the console. You will have to open the file with an editor to see it.
- Do not open the same file for both reading (Scanner) and writing (PrintStream) at the same time.
 - You will overwrite your input file with an empty file (0 bytes).

System.out and PrintStream

• The console output object, System.out, is a PrintStream.

PrintStream out1 = System.out; PrintStream out2 = new PrintStream(new File("data.txt")); out1.println("Hello, console!"); // goes to console out2.println("Hello, file!"); // goes to file

• A reference to it can be stored in a PrintStream variable.

- Printing to that variable causes console output to appear.
- You can pass System.out to a method as a PrintStream.
 - Allows a method to send output to the console or a file.

PrintStream question

- Modify our previous Hours program to use a PrintStream to send its output to the file hours_out.txt.
 - The program will produce no console output.
 - But the file hours_out.txt will be created with the text:

Ben (ID#123) worked 31.4 hours (7.85 hours/day)
Greg (ID#456) worked 36.8 hours (7.36 hours/day)
Victoria (ID#789) worked 39.5 hours (7.9 hours/day)

PrintStream answer

```
// Processes an employee input file and outputs each employee's hours.
import java.io.*; // for File
import java.util.*; // for Scanner
```

```
public class Hours2 {
    public static void main(String[] args) throws FileNotFoundException {
        Scanner input = new Scanner(new File("hours.txt"));
        PrintStream out = new PrintStream(new File("hours out.txt"));
        while (input.hasNextLine()) {
            String line = input.nextLine();
           processEmployee(out, line);
    public static void processEmployee (PrintStream out, String line) {
        Scanner lineScan = new Scanner(line);
        int id = lineScan.nextInt(); // e.g. 456
        String name = lineScan.next(); // e.g. "Greg"
        double sum = 0.0;
        int count = 0;
        while (lineScan.hasNextDouble()) {
            sum = sum + lineScan.nextDouble();
            count++;
        }
        double average = sum / count;
        out.println(name + " (ID#" + id + ") worked " +
                    sum + " hours (" + average + " hours/dav)");
```

Prompting for a file name

- We can ask the user to tell us the file to read.
 - The filename might have spaces; use nextLine(), not next()

```
// prompt for input file name
Scanner console = new Scanner(System.in);
System.out.print("Type a file name to use: ");
String filename = console.nextLine();
Scanner input = new Scanner(new File(filename));
```

• Files have an exists method to test for file-not-found:

```
File file = new File("hours.txt");
```

```
if (!file.exists()) {
    // try a second input file as a backup
    System.out.print("hours file not found!");
    file = new File("hours2.txt");
}
```