

Fundamentos de programação

Tratamento de exceções

Edson Moreno

edson.moreno@pucrs.br

<http://www.inf.pucrs.br/~emoreno>



Exception Handling

- ❑ There are two aspects to dealing with run-time program errors:

1) Detecting Errors

This is the easy part. You can ‘throw’ an exception

Use the throw statement to signal an exception

```
if (amount > balance)
{
    // Now what?
}
```

2) Handling Errors

This is more complex. You need to ‘catch’ each possible exception and react to it appropriately

- ❑ Handling recoverable errors can be done:
 - Simply: exit the program
 - User-friendly: Ask the user to correct the error



Throwing an Exception

- ❑ When you throw an exception, you are throwing an object of an exception class
 - Choose wisely!
 - You can also pass a descriptive String to most exception objects

A new exception object is constructed, then thrown.

```
if (amount > balance)
{
    throw new IllegalArgumentException("Amount exceeds balance");
}
balance = balance - amount;
```

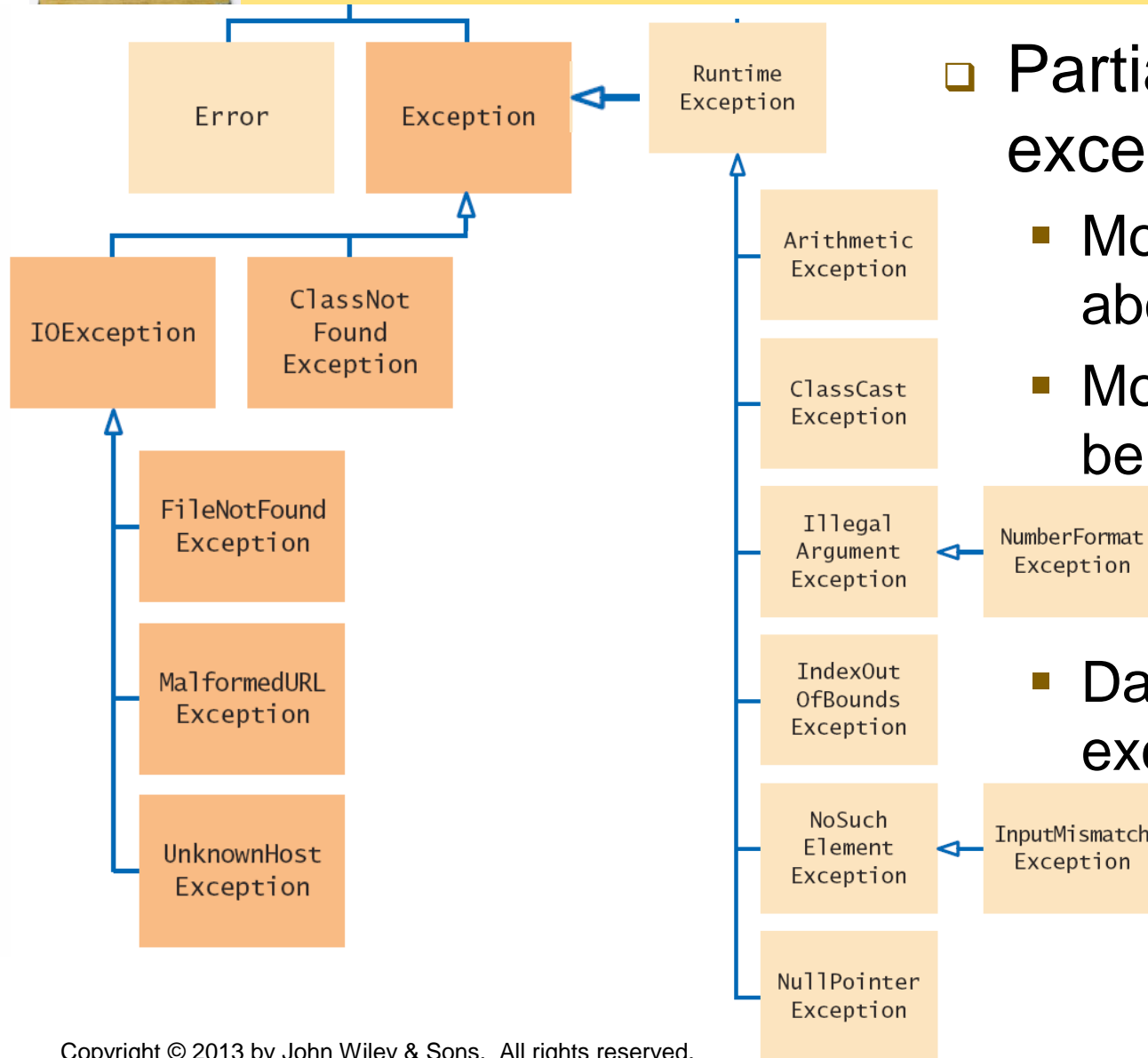
Most exception objects can be constructed with an error message.

This line is not executed when the exception is thrown.

When you throw an exception, the normal control flow is terminated.



Exception Classes



Partial hierarchy of exception classes

- More general are above
- More specific are below

- Darker are Checked exceptions



Catching Exceptions

- ❑ Exceptions that are thrown must be ‘caught’ somewhere in your program

```
try
{
    String filename = . . . ;
    Scanner in = new Scanner(new File(filename));
    String input = in.next();
    int value = Integer.parseInt(input);
    . . .
}
catch (IOException exception)
{
    exception.printStackTrace();
}
catch (NumberFormatException exception)
{
    System.out.println("Input was not a number");
}
```

Surround method calls that can throw exceptions with a ‘try block’.

FileNotFoundException

NoSuchElementException

NumberFormatException

Write ‘catch blocks’ for each possible exception.

It is customary to name the exception parameter either ‘e’ or ‘exception’ in the catch block.



Catching Exceptions

- When an exception is detected, execution ‘jumps’ immediately to the first matching **catch** block
 - IOException matches both FileNotFoundException and NoSuchElementException is not caught

FileNotFoundException

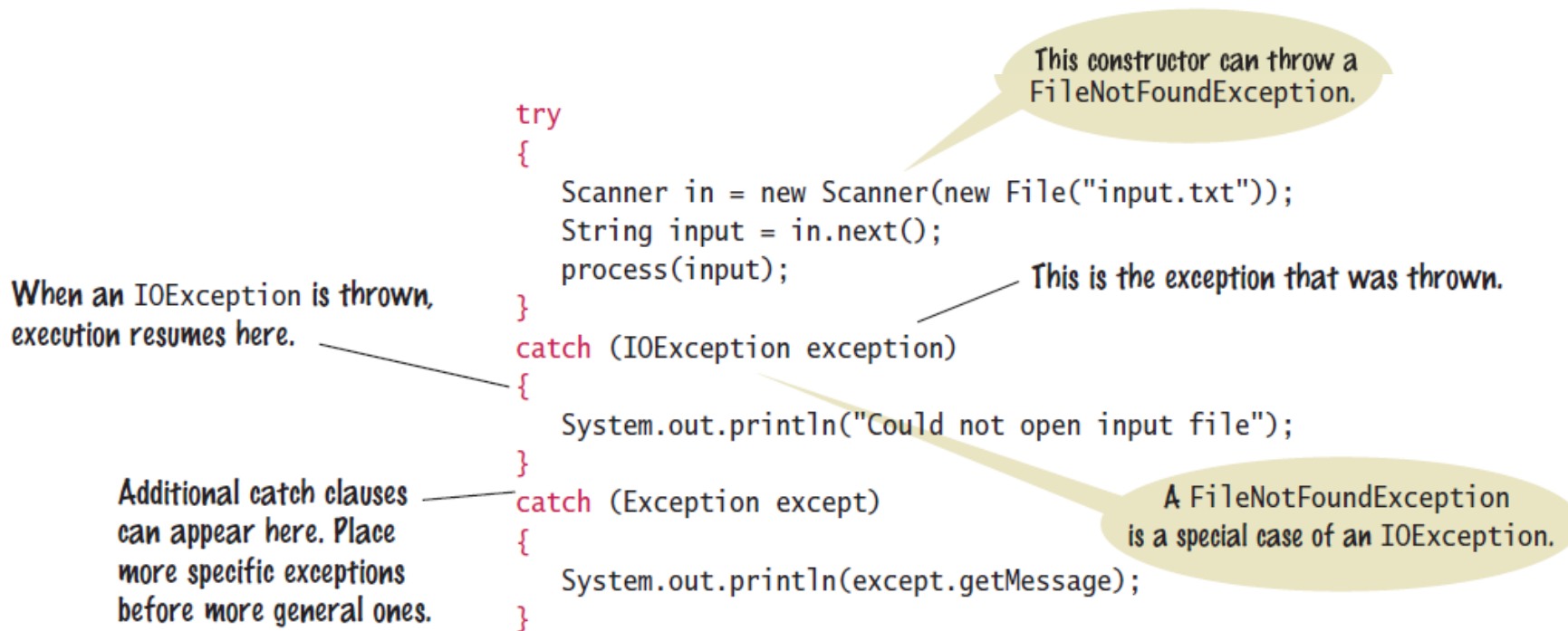
NoSuchElementException

NumberFormatException

```
try
{
    String filename = . . . ;
    Scanner in = new Scanner(new File(filename));
    String input = in.next();
    int value = Integer.parseInt(input);
    . . .
}
catch (IOException exception)
{
    exception.printStackTrace();
}
catch (NumberFormatException exception)
{
    System.out.println("Input was not a number");
}
```



Catching Exceptions



❑ Some exception handling options:

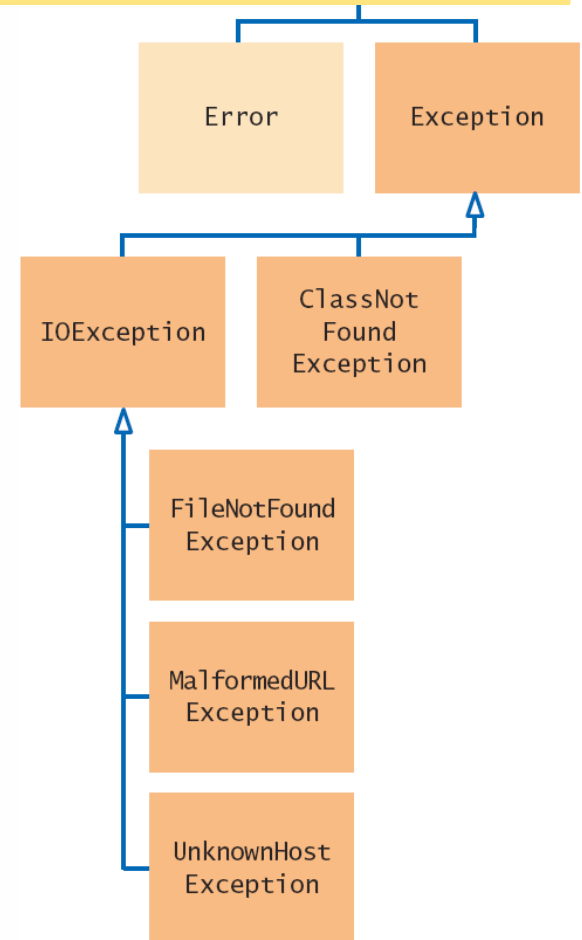
- Simply inform the user what is wrong
- Give the user another chance to correct an input error
- Print a 'stack trace' showing the list of methods called

```
exception.printStackTrace();
```



Checked Exceptions

- ❑ Throw/catch applies to three types of exceptions:
 - **Error:** Internal Errors
 - not considered here
 - **Unchecked:** RunTime Exceptions
 - Caused by the programmer
 - Compiler **does not check** how you handle them
 - **Checked:** All other exceptions
 - Not the programmer's fault
 - Compiler **checks** to make sure you handle these
 - Shown darker in Exception Classes



Checked exceptions are due to circumstances that the programmer cannot prevent.



The throws Clause

- ❑ Methods that use other methods that may throw exceptions must be declared as such
 - Declare all **checked** exceptions a method throws
 - You may also list **unchecked** exceptions

```
public static String readData(String filename)  
    throws FileNotFoundException, NumberFormatException
```

You **must** specify all checked exceptions that this method may throw.

You may also list unchecked exceptions.



The throws Clause (continued)

- If a method handles a checked exception internally, it will no longer throw the exception.
 - The method does not need to declare it in the throws clause
- Declaring exceptions in the **throws** clause ‘passes the buck’ to the calling method to handle it or pass it along.



The `finally` clause

- ❑ `finally` is an optional clause in a `try/catch` block
 - Used when you need to take some action in a method whether an exception is thrown or not.
 - The finally block is executed in both cases
 - Example: Close a file in a method in all cases

```
public void printOutput(String filename) throws IOException
{
    PrintWriter out = new PrintWriter(filename);
    try
    {
        writeData(out);    // Method may throw an I/O Exception
    }
    finally
    {
        out.close();
    }
}
```

Once a try block is entered, the statements in a `finally` clause are guaranteed to be executed, whether or not an exception is thrown.



The `finally` Clause

- ❑ Code in the `finally` block is always executed once the try block has been entered

This variable must be declared outside the try block so that the finally clause can access it.

This code may throw exceptions.

```
PrintWriter out = new PrintWriter(filename);
```

```
try
```

```
{
```

```
    writeData(out);
```

```
}
```

```
finally
```

```
{
```

```
    out.close();
```

```
}
```

This code is always executed, even if an exception occurs.



Programming Tip 7.1



❑ Throw Early

- When a method detects a problem that it cannot solve, it is better to throw an exception rather than try to come up with an imperfect fix.

❑ Catch Late

- On the other hand, a method should only catch an exception if it can really remedy the situation.
- Otherwise, the best remedy is simply to have the exception propagate to its caller, allowing it to be caught by a competent handler.



Programming Tip 7.2

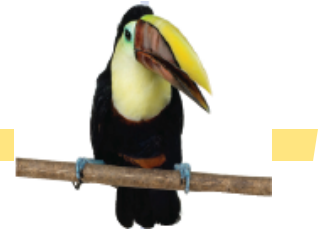


❑ Do Not Hide Exceptions

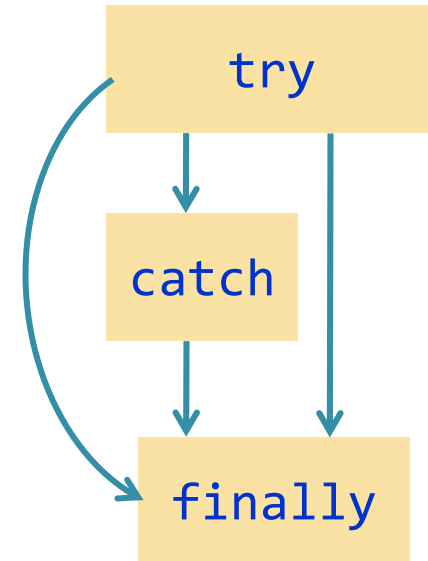
- When you call a method that throws a checked exception and you haven't specified a handler, the compiler complains.
- It is tempting to write a 'do-nothing' catch block to 'hide' the compiler and come back to the code later. **Bad Idea!**
 - Exceptions were designed to transmit problem reports to a competent handler.
 - Installing an incompetent handler simply hides an error condition that could be serious..



Programming Tip 7.3



- ❑ Do not use `catch` and `finally` in the same `try` block
 - The `finally` clause is executed whenever the try block is exited in any of three ways:
 1. After completing the last statement of the `try` block
 2. After completing the last statement of a `catch` clause, if this try block caught an exception
 3. When an exception was thrown in the `try` block and not caught



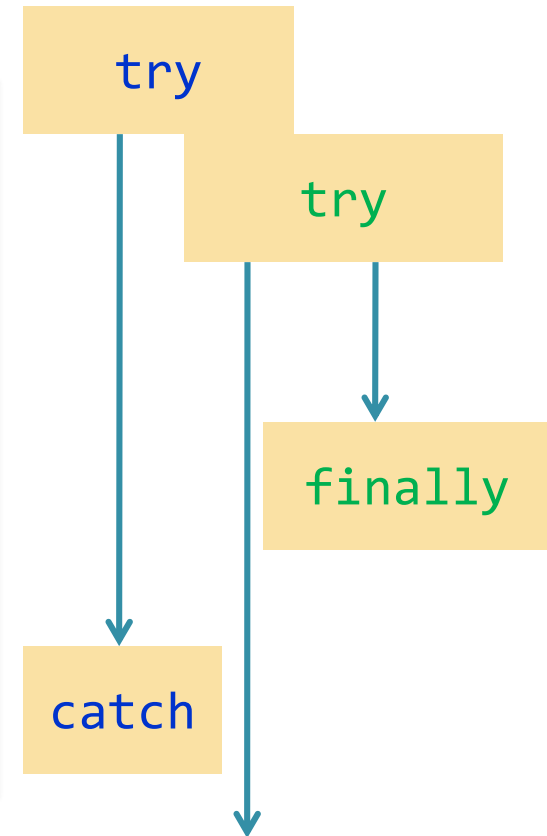


Programming Tip 7.3



- It is better to use two (nested) try clauses to control the flow

```
try
{
    PrintWriter out = new PrintWriter(filename);
    try
    {        // Write output    }
    finally
    { out.close(); } // Close resources
}
catch (IOException exception)
{
    // Handle exception
}
```





Handling Input Errors

□ File Reading Application Example

■ Goal: Read a file of data values

- First line is the count of values
- Remaining lines have values

```
3  
1.45  
-2.1  
0.05
```

■ Risks:

- The file may not exist
 - Scanner constructor will throw an exception
 - FileNotFoundException
- The file may have data in the wrong format
 - Doesn't start with a count
 - » NoSuchElementException
 - Too many items (count is too low)
 - » IOException



Handling Input Errors: main

□ Outline for method with all exception handling

```
boolean done = false;
while (!done)
{
    try
    {
        // Prompt user for file name
        double[] data = readFile(filename);    // May throw exceptions
        // Process data
        done = true;
    }
    catch (FileNotFoundException exception)
    {
        System.out.println("File not found."); }
    catch (NoSuchElementException exception)
    {
        System.out.println("File contents invalid."); }
    catch (IOException exception)
    {
        exception.printStackTrace(); }
}
```



Handling Input Errors: readFile

- Calls the Scanner constructor
- No exception handling (no catch clauses)
- **finally** clause closes file in all cases (exception or not)
- throws **IOException** (back to main)

```
public static double[] readFile(String filename) throws IOException
{
    File inFile = new File(filename);
    Scanner in = new Scanner(inFile);
    try
    {
        return readData(in);    // May throw exceptions
    }
    finally
    {
        in.close();
    }
}
```



Handling Input Errors: readData

- No exception handling (no try or catch clauses)
- **throw** creates an **IOException** object and exits
- unchecked **NoSuchElementException** can occur

```
public static double[] readData(Scanner in) throws IOException
{
    int numberOfValues = in.nextInt();    // NoSuchElementException
    double[] data = new double[numberOfValues];
    for (int i = 0; i < numberOfValues; i++)
    {
        data[i] = in.nextDouble();        // NoSuchElementException
    }
    if (in.hasNext())
    {
        throw new IOException("End of file expected");
    }
    return data;
}
```



Exercício

- ❑ Crie um programa, o qual deverá ter um método chamado `getInt`. O método deve solicitar que o usuário entre com um valor inteiro. Capture este valor, e caso ele não seja um valor inteiro (e.g. `string/double`), lance uma exceção do tipo `IllegalArgumentException`; Caso o valor esteja ok, retorne o valor inteiro.



Exercício

- ❑ Modifique o programa anterior de tal forma que o método `getInt` lance uma exceção do tipo `IOException` ao invés de `IllegalArgumentException`. Modifique o corpo principal do programa (i.e. a `main`) de tal forma que ela capture a exceção e imprima a exceção `IOException`.