

External vs. Internal Iteration in Java 8

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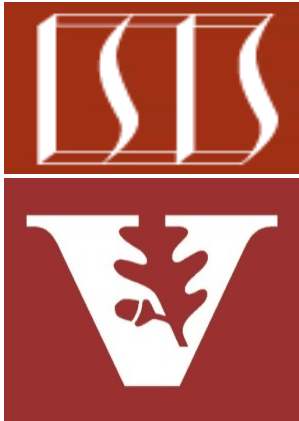
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Learning Objectives in this Lesson

- Recognize the difference between external & internal iteration in Java 8



External Iteration Versus Internal Iteration

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- Programmers are responsible for externally iterating through Java collections



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List<String> namesList =  
    Arrays.asList("Larry",  
                  "Curly",  
                  "Moe");  
  
for (String name : namesList)  
    System.out.println(name);
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    Arrays.asList("Larry",  
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for (Iterator<String> i =  
     namesList.iterator();  
     i.hasNext();)  
    System.out.println(i.next());
```



See docs.oracle.com/javase/8/docs/api/java/util/Iterator.html

External Iteration Versus Internal Iteration

- Java 8 aggregate operations are responsible for internally iterating through Java streams



See docs.oracle.com/javase/tutorial/collections/streams/#differences

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namesList.stream().forEach(  
    (System.out::println);
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See docs.oracle.com/javase/8/docs/api/java/lang/Iterable.html#forEach

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- Internal iteration becomes more useful as the complexity of a stream pipeline increases



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List<URL> urls = Stream
    .of(urlArray)
    .map(s ->
        s.replace("cse.wustl", "dre.vanderbilt"))
    .map(url -> { try { return new URL(url); }
                  catch (Exception ex) { ... } })
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Checked exceptions are awkward!



See slieb.org/blog/throwable-interfaces

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```

rethrowFunction() converts checked exception into runtime exception



External Iteration Versus Internal Iteration

- Advantages of internal iterators over external iterators



See www.javabrahman.com/java-8/java-8-internal-iterators-vs-external-iterators

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- **Improved code readability**

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```

```
List<URL> urls =
    new ArrayList<URL>();
```

```
...
for (String url : urlArray)
    if (url.contains("cse.wustl"))
        urls.add(new URL(url.replace("cse.wustl",
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*Focus on the “what”
rather than the “how”*

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External Iteration Versus Internal Iteration

- Advantages of internal iterators over external iterators

- Improved code readability

- Transparent optimizations

```
List<URL> urls = Stream
    .of(urlArray)
    .parallel()
    .filter(s -> s.contains("cse.wustl"))
    .map(s -> s.replace("cse.wustl",
                        "dre.vanderbilt"))
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List<URL> urls =
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Transparently run the stream in parallel

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- Fewer bugs

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```

*Doesn't split creation from
initialization of collections*

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*Does split creation from
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- **More control over iteration steps**

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    .map(rethrowFunction(URL::new))
    .collect(toList());
```

```
List<URL> urls =
    new ArrayList<URL>();
...
for (String url : urlArray)
    if (!url.contains("cse.wustl"))
        break;
...
```

External Iteration Versus Internal Iteration

- Advantages of external iterators over internal iterators

- More control over iteration steps**

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List<URL> urls = Stream
    .of(urlArray)
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for (String url : urlArray)
    if (!url.contains("cse.wustl"))
        break;
...
```

Exit a loop gracefully at an arbitrary point or handle errors more precisely

External Iteration Versus Internal Iteration

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- More control over iteration steps

- Multiple active iterators

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    .map(rethrowFunction(URL::new))
    .collect(toList());
```

```
for (;;) {
```

```
    Iterator<URL>> iter1 = urls.iterator();
```

```
    Iterator<URL>> iter2 = urls.iterator();
```

*Many iterators can
be active over the
same object*

```
    if (iter1.hasNext()) { URL url = iter1.next(); ... }
```

```
    if (iter2.hasNext()) { URL url = iter2.next(); ... }
```

```
    ...
```

End of External Iteration vs. Internal Iteration