



# Part II

Agenda

- Deep dive into coroutines
- Coroutine Cancellation
- Coroutine Exception Handling
- Structured Concurrency

# Main Building Blocks of Coroutines

- CoroutineScope
- What's the difference?
- CoroutineContext
  - Job
  - Coroutine Dispatchers
  - CoroutineName
  - CoroutineExceptionHandler
- CoroutineBuilder

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#### Coroutines ...

- A **coroutine** is an instance of a *suspendable* computation.
  - Computations can be suspended without blocking the thread at suspending points, and can later be resumed.
- Empowered Runnable
  - A coroutine can be introduced as a sequence of well managed sub-tasks, each
    of which can be suspended and resumed.



#### Coroutines ...

- To some extent, coroutines can be thought of as light-weight threads;
  - Executed within threads
  - Can switch contexts

How many threads we can have?

100 ⊕ 1000 ⊕ 10 000 ⊕ 100 000 ⊕

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#### Threads vs. Coroutines

```
fun main() {
    repeat(200_000) {
        thread {
            println("Hello thread $it")
        }
    }
}
```

Supposed to crash, but ...



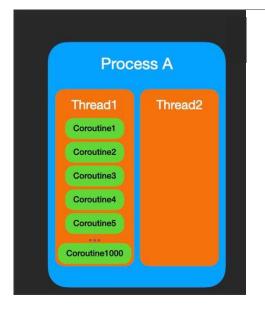
136615 ms

```
fun main() = runBlocking{
   repeat(200_000) {
      launch {
        println("Hello coroutine $it")
      }
   }
}
```

It is not just Ok, but it also very convenient to create coroutines as you need them, since they are so cheap.

437 ms

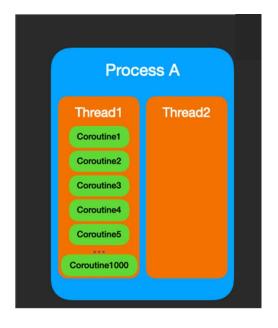
### Coroutines ...



You can execute many coroutines in a single thread.

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### Coroutines ...



A coroutine can switch between threads.

A coroutine can suspend from one thread and resume from another thread.

#### Coroutines in details

- Based on the abstraction of Continuation Passing Style (CPS)
- Actually, it is a sequence of *callbacks* behind the scenes.
- In kotlin, coroutine suspension/resume is implemented as a state machine.









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# Continuation Passing Style (CPS)

```
fun add(a: Int, b: Int): Int = a + b
fun mult(a: Int, b: Int): Int = a * b
fun <R> addCPS(a: Int, b: Int, cont: (Int) -> R): R {
    return cont(add(a, b))
fun <R> multCPS(a: Int, b: Int, cont: (Int) -> R): R {
   return cont(mult(a, b))
// (3 + 4) * (5 + 6)
                                        fun doWorkCPS(): Int =
fun doWork(): Int {
                                            addCPS(3, 4) \{ step1 ->
    // label1
                                               addCPS(5, 6) { step2 ->
   val step1 = add(3, 4)
    // label2
                                                   multCPS(step1, step2) { step3 ->
   val step2 = add(5, 6)
                                                       step3
    // label3
   val step3 = mult(step1, step2)
                                               }
    return step3
}
```

# Continuation Passing Style (CPS)

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    // label1
                                             addCPS(3, 4) { step1 ->
    val step1 = add(3, 4)
                                                 addCPS(5, 6) \{ step2 \rightarrow
    // label2
                                                     multCPS(step1, step2) { step3 ->
    val step2 = add(5, 6)
                                                         step3
    // label3
    val step3 = mult(step1, step2)
    return step3
}
                                                                                     11
```

# Continuation Passing Style (CPS)

```
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                                                    multCPS(step1, step2) { step3 ->
    val step2 = add(5, 6)
                                                        step3
    // label3
    val step3 = mult(step1, step2)
                                                }
    return step3
                                            }
}
```

# Continuation Passing Style (CPS)

```
fun add(a: Int, b: Int): Int = a + b
fun mult(a: Int, b: Int): Int = a * b
fun <R> addCPS(a: Int, b: Int, cont: (Int) -> R): R {
    return cont(add(a, b))
fun <R> multCPS(a: Int, b: Int, cont: (Int) -> R): R {
    return cont(mult(a, b))
// (3 + 4) * (5 + 6)
                                        fun doWorkCPS(): Int =
fun doWork(): Int {
                                            addCPS(3, 4) { step1 ->
    // label1
    val step1 = add(3, 4)
                                                addCPS(5, 6)  { step2 ->
    // label2
                                                    multCPS(step1, step2) { step3 ->
    val step2 = add(5, 6)
                                                        step3
    // label3
                                                    }
    val step3 = mult(step1, step2)
                                                }
    return step3
                                            }
}
                                                                                    13
```

#### Continuation

The Kotlin compiler converts the suspend function to an optimized version of **callbacks** using a **Finite State Machine**.

```
suspend fun createPost(token: Token, item: Item): Post { ... }
 Java/JVM
   Object createPost(Token token, Item item, Continuation<Post> cont) { ... }
                                                             Continuation is a generic
               interface Continuation<in T> {
                                                                callback interface
                    val context: CoroutineContext
                    fun resumeWith(result: Result<T>)
                                                                The way suspend
               }
                                                             functions communicate
                                                                with each other
inline fun <T> Continuation<T>.resume(value: T): Unit =
   resumeWith(Result.success(value))
inline fun <T> Continuation<T>.resumeWithException(exception: Throwable): Unit =
   resumeWith(Result.failure(exception))
```

# Convert to CPS Style

```
suspend fun postItem(item: Item) {
  val token = requestToken()
  val post = createPost(token, item)
  showPost(post)
}
```

```
fun postItem(item: Item) { _ ->
    requestToken { token ->
        createPost(token, item) { post ->
        showPost(post)
    }
}
```

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#### **CPS Transform**

 The compiler replaces the <u>suspend</u> modifier with the extra parameter <u>completion</u> (of type <u>Continuation</u>) that will be used to communicate the result of the suspend function to the coroutine that called it.

```
fun postItem(item: Item, completion: Continuation<Unit>): Any {
suspension
points
val token = requestToken()
val post = createPost(token, item)
completion.resume(showPost(post))
Unit | COROUTINE_SUSPENDED
```

#### **CPS Transform**

• Every *suspension point* will be represented as a *state* in the finite state machine. These states are represented with *labels* by the compiler.

```
fun postItem(item: Item, completion: Continuation<Any?>) {
    // Label 0 -> first execution
    val token = requestToken()
    // Label 1 -> resumes from requestToken
    val post = createPost(token, item)
    // Label 2 -> resumes from createPost
    completion.resume(showPost(post))
}
```

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#### **CPS Transform**

The compiler will use the same Continuation object in the function to share information between states.

#### **CPS Transform**

The compiler will create a private class that

- 1) holds the required data and
- 2) calls the postItem recursively to resume execution.

```
fun postItem(item: Item?, completion: Continuation<Any?>) {
   class PostItemStateMachine(
        completion: Continuation<Any?> // callback to the fun that called postItem
    ): CoroutineImpl(completion) {
        // Local variables of the suspend function
        var token: Token? = null
        var post: Post? = null
        // Common objects for all CoroutineImpls
        var result: Any? = null
        var label: Int = 0
        // this function calls the `postItem` again to trigger the
        // state machine (label will be already in the next state)
        override fun invokeSuspend(result: Any?) {
            this.result = result // result of the previous state's computation
            postItem(null, this)
        }
   }
}
```

```
Check if
fun postItem(item: Item?, completion: Continuation<Any?>) {
                                                                     1) it's the first time called or
                                                                     2) resumed from a previous state.
    val continuation = completion as? PostItemStateMachine
                                      ?: PostIemStateMachine(completion)
    when(continuation.label) {
         0 -> {
             throwOnFailure(continuation.result) // Checks for failures
             // next time this coroutine is called, it should go to state 1
             continuation.label = 1
             // The continuation object is passed to requestToken to resume // this state machine's execution when it finishes
             requestToken(continuation)
         1 -> {
             throwOnFailure(continuation.result)
             // Gets the result of the previous state
             continuation.token = continuation.result as Token
             continuation.label = 2
             createPost(continuation.token, item, continuation)
         }
             ... // leaving out the last state on purpose
    }
}
```

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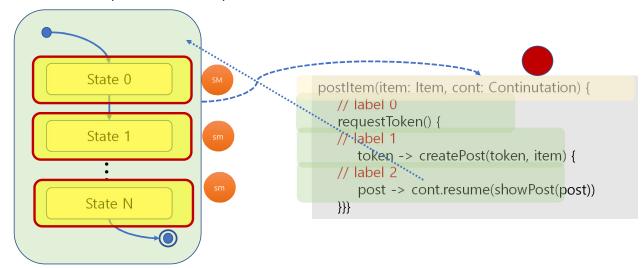
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The last state is different since it has to resume the execution of the function that called this one, it calls resume on the cont variable stored (at construction time) in PostItemStateMachine:

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# **How Suspending Functions Evaluated?**

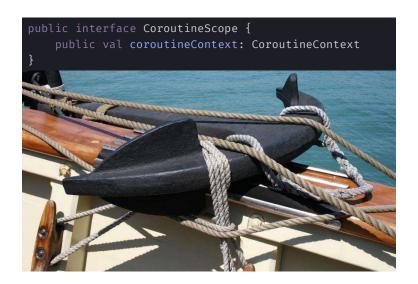
State Machine (= Continuation)



## CoroutineContext vs. CoroutineScope

https://elizarov.medium.com/coroutine-context-and-scope-c8b255d59055

- Different uses of physically near-identical things are usually accompanied by giving those things different names to emphasize the intended purpose.
- Depending on the use, seamen have a dozen or more words for a rope though it might materially be the same thing. (Wikipedia on Hindley-Milner type system)



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#### CoroutineContext

- Every coroutine has a coroutine context which is immutable.
  - CoroutineContext can be inherited from parent to child.
- Accessible via coroutineContext property:

```
fun main() = runBlocking {
    println(Thread.currentThread().name)
    println("$coroutineContext")
    println("${coroutineContext[Job]}")
    println("${coroutineContext[ContinuationInterceptor]}")
}
```

main

[BlockingCoroutine{Active}@335eadca, BlockingEventLoop@210366b4] BlockingCoroutine{Active}@335eadca BlockingEventLoop@210366b4

#### Elements of CoroutineContext

- The CoroutineContext is an indexed set of elements (set + map) that define the behavior of a coroutine:
  - Job: controls the lifecycle of the coroutine.
  - CoroutineDispatcher: dispatches work to the appropriate thread.
  - CoroutineName: name of the coroutine, useful for debugging.
  - CoroutineExceptionHandler: handles uncaught exceptions.
- Each Element is a singleton context by itself.
- Each Element can be combined with plus('+') operator.

```
launch(Dispachers.IO + CoroutineName("test")) {
   ...
}
```

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### Job

- A coroutine itself is represented by a Job.
- Responsible for coroutine's lifecycle, cancellation, and parent-child relations. A current job can be retrieved from a current coroutine's context:

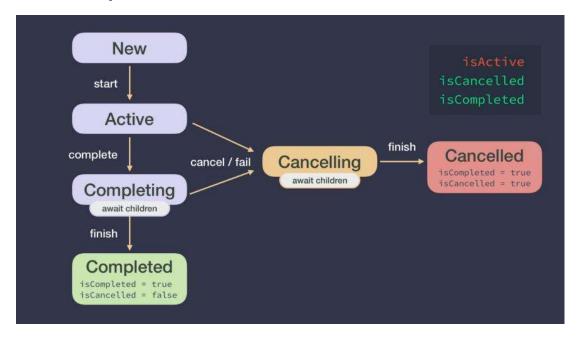
```
Println("My job is: ${coroutineContext[Job]}")
```

- Coroutine builders (launch or async) returns a Job instance that uniquely identifies the coroutine.
- You can also pass a Job to a CoroutineScope to keep a handle on its lifecycle. Otherwise, default Job created.

```
val scope = CoroutineScope(Job())
```

SupervisorJob is a special kind of Job (later!)

# Job lifecycle



**isCompleted isCancelled** State **isActive** New (optional initial state) false false false Active (default initial state) true false false Completing (transient state) true false false Cancelling (transient state) false false true Cancelled (final state) false true true Completed (final state) false false true

# CoroutineScope

• Every coroutine must be created inside the **coroutine scope** to control lifecycle.

```
interface CoroutineScope {
    // The context of this scope.
    public val coroutineContext: CoroutineContext
}
```

- A CoroutineScope keeps track of any coroutine created using launch or async.
- Coroutines can be canceled by calling scope.cancel() at any time.
- Predefined scopes in Android: viewModelScope and lifecycleScope

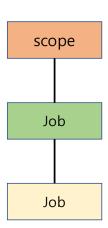
```
val scope = CoroutineScope(Job() + Dispatchers.Main)
val job = scope.launch {
    // new coroutine
}
```

```
CoroutineScope
Keep track of coroutines
Ability to cancel ongoing work
Notified when a failure happens
```

# Task Hierarchy

• Since a CoroutineScope can create coroutines and you can create more coroutines inside a coroutine, an implicit task hierarchy is created.

```
val scope = CoroutineScope(Job() + Dispatchers.Main)
val job = scope.launch {
    // New coroutine with CoroutineScope as a parent
    val result = async {
        // New coroutine that has the coroutine
        // started by launch as a parent
    }.await()
}
```



#### What's the CoroutineContext of a new coroutine?

- Whenever a new coroutine is created using launch or async, a new instance of Job will be created, allowing us to control its lifecycle.
- The rest of the elements will be *inherited from* the CoroutineContext of its parent.

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# Watch out quiz! Who's my parent?

Given the following code snippet, can you identify what kind of Job "child 1" has as a parent?

Job or SupervisorJob?

```
val scope = CoroutineScope(Job())
scope.launch(SupervisorJob()) {
    // coroutine -> can suspend

launch {
    // Child 1
}

launch {
    // Child 2
}

Job
```

# Watch out quiz! Who's my parent?



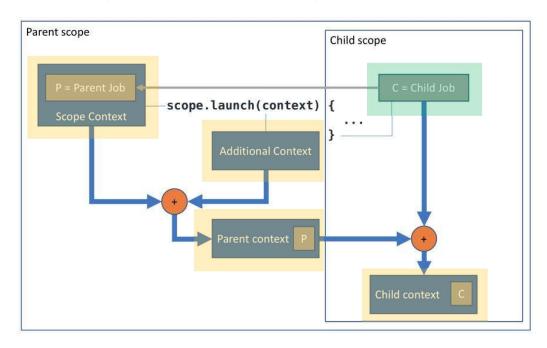
Given the following snippet of code, can you identify what kind of Job "child 1" has as a parent?

Job or SupervisorJob?

```
val scope = CoroutineScope(Job())
scope.launch(SupervisorJob()) {
    // coroutine -> can suspend
    launch {
        // Child 1
    launch {
        // Child 2
}
```

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# Parent Scope vs Child Scope



# Parent CoroutineContext explained

• Child's parent CoroutineContext can be different from that of the parent:

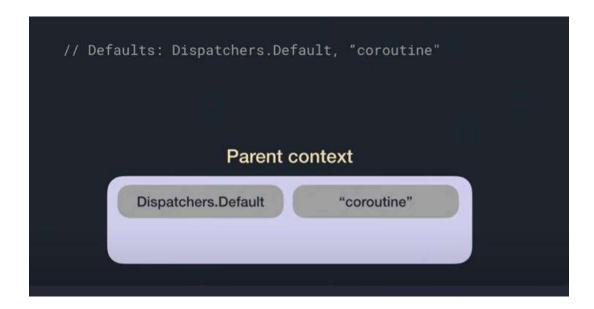
```
Parent context = Defaults + inherited CoroutineContext + arguments
```

#### Where:

- Some elements have default values: Dispatchers.Default is the default of CoroutineDispatcher and "coroutine" the default of CoroutineName.
- The inherited coroutineContext is the CoroutineContext of the CoroutineScope or coroutine that created it.
- Arguments passed in the coroutine builder will take precedence over those elements in the inherited context.

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### CoroutineContext of the Parent



### CoroutineContext of the Parent

```
// Defaults: Dispatchers.Default, "coroutine"

val scope = CoroutineScope(
    Job() + Dispatchers.Main + coroutineExceptionHandler
)

Parent context

Dispatchers.Main "coroutine"

Job coroutineExceptionHandler
```

Every coroutine started by this CoroutineScope will have at least those elements in the CoroutineContext. CoroutineName is gray because it comes from the default values.

Parent context

Job coroutineExceptionHandler

val job = scope.launch(Dispatchers.IO) {

// CoroutineContext?

New coroutine context = parent CoroutineContext + Job()

}

```
Parent context

Job (coroutine)

Job = scope.launch(Dispatchers.IO) {

Coroutine context

Job (coroutine)

Coroutine context

Job (coroutine)

Coroutine (coroutine)

Coroutine (coroutine)

Coroutine)
```

```
Parent context

Job (coroutine Exception Handler)

val job = scope.launch(Dispatchers.IO) {

Coroutine context

Job (coroutine) (coroutine
```

The Job in the CoroutineContext and in the parent context will never be the same instance as a new coroutine always get a new instance of a Job

# Dispatchers

- Dispatchers.Default
  - CPU-intensive computation
- Dispatchers.Main
- Exception in thread "DefaultDispatcher-worker-3" java.lang.lllegalStateException: Module with the Main dispatcher is missing. Add dependency providing the Main dispatcher, e.g. 'kotlinx-coroutines-android'
- Need to include dependencies like Android, Swing, JavaFX, etc.
- · Dispatchers.IO

- UI events

- Network IO, Disk IO, etc.
- Dispatchers.Unconfined
  - Not recommended

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# **Coroutine Scope Builders**

- CoroutineScope (already covered)
- MainScope
- GlobalScope
- viewModelScope/lifecycleScope in Android (will talk later!)
- coroutineScope/supervisorScope (will talk in coroutine scope functions)

## MainScope

• Creates the main CoroutineScope for UI components.

```
public fun MainScope(): CoroutineScope =
    ContextScope(SupervisorJob() + Dispatchers.Main)

class MyActivity : AppCompatActivity() {
    private val scope = MainScope() + CoroutineName("MyActivity")

    override fun onDestroy() {
        super.onDestroy()
        scope.cancel()
    }

    kotlinx-coroutines-android — for Android Main thread dispatcher
    kotlinx-coroutines-javafx — for JavaFx Application thread dispatcher
    kotlinx-coroutines-swing — for Swing EDT dispatcher
```

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# GlobalScope

```
public object GlobalScope : CoroutineScope {
    // Returns [EmptyCoroutineContext].
    override val coroutineContext: CoroutineContext
        get() = EmptyCoroutineContext
}
```

- Not associated with any Job and launches top-level coroutines.
- Makes the coroutine lifecycle bound to the lifecycle of the **application**.
- An option when you don't care about coroutine results, posting to the UI thread or about the job completion.
- Use when you don't want to bind the jobs to the lifecycle of a certain object instance, like Activity, Fragment, ViewModel etc. in Android.

But, lose all the benefits you get from structural concurrency

# Coroutine Builders (Revisited)

- launchasyncCoroutine scope extension functions
- runBlocking regular functions
- runBlockingTest regular functions (later!)
- withContext suspending function

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# **Coroutine Scope Functions**

Functions that create a scope and behave similar to coroutineScope:

- coroutineScope
- supervisorScope is like coroutineScope using SupervisorJob instead of Job.
- withContext is coroutineScope that can modify coroutine context.
- withTimeout/withTimeoutOrNull is coroutineScope with a timeout.

# Motivation for coroutineScope

• Imagine that in a suspending function you need to concurrently get data from two (or more) endpoints.

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# Approach 1: Sequential

• The first approach is calling suspending functions from a suspending function. The problem with this solution is that it is <u>not</u> concurrent.

```
// Data loaded sequentially, not simultaneously
suspend fun getUserProfile(): UserProfileData {
   val user = getUserData()
   val notifications = getNotifications()

return UserProfileData(
   user = user,
   notifications = notifications,
)
}
```

# Approach 2: Concurrent, but not good idea

• To make two suspending calls concurrently, the easiest way is by wrapping them with async. But, using GlobalScope is not a good idea.

```
// DON'T DO THAT
suspend fun getUserProfile1(): UserProfileData {
    val user = GlobalScope.async { getUserData() }
    val notifications = GlobalScope.async {
        getNotifications()
    }

    return UserProfileData(
        user = user.await(),
        notifications = notifications.await(),
    )
}
```

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# Why not a good idea to use GlobalScope?

If we call async on a GlobalScope, we will have no relationship to the parent coroutine. It means:

- it <u>cannot be canceled</u> even if the parent canceled.
- it is <u>not inheriting scope from any parent</u> (it will always run on the default dispatcher, and will not respect any context from the parent).

The most important consequences are:

- potential memory leaks and unnecessary calculations,
- the tools for unit testing coroutines will not work here, and so testing this function is very hard.

#### Other Solutions?

 Passing scope as an argument, (or make as an extension function on CoroutineScope). Now, cancellation and proper unit testing are now possible.

```
suspend fun getUserProfile(scope: CoroutineScope): UserProfileData {
    val user = scope.async { getUserData() }
    val notifications = scope.async { getNotifications() }

    return UserProfileData(
        user = user.await(),
        notifications = notifications.await(),
    )
}

// DON'T DO THAT
suspend fun CoroutineScope.getUserProfile(): UserProfileData {
    ...
}

Potentially ambiguous cotoutineContext!
```

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# But, can be tricky and potentially dangerous

- Good!
  - If there would be an exception in one async, the whole scope would be shut down (unless using SupervisorJob).
- Problematic
  - Requires passing the scope from function to function.
  - Any function that has access to the scope could easily abuse this access and for instance, cancel this scope with the cancel method.
  - Parent coroutine that called getUserProfile cancels for no good reason.

```
data class Tweet(val text: String)
suspend fun getUserName(): String { delay(500); return "geremy" }
suspend fun getFollowersNumber(): Int = throw Error("Service exception")
suspend fun getTweets(): List<Tweet> { delay(500); listOf(Tweet("Hello, world")) }
suspend fun getUserDetails(scope: CoroutineScope): Details {
    val userName = scope.async { getUserName() }
    val followersNumber = scope.async { getFollowersNumber() }
    return Details(userName.await(), followersNumber.await())
}
fun main() = runBlocking {
    val details = try {
        getUserDetails()
                                                    We would like to see at least tweets,
    } catch (e: Error) {
                                                    even if we have a problem calculating
        null
                                                    user details.
    println("User: $details")
    val tweets = async { getTweets() }
println("Tweets: ${tweets.await()}")
```

data class Details(val name: String, val followers: Int)

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## coroutineScope

}

```
suspend fun <R> coroutineScope(
    block: suspend CoroutineScope.() -> R
): R
```

- coroutineScope is a suspending function that starts a (sub) scope.
- Unlike async or launch, it does **not** really create new coroutines. The code block is *called in-place*.
- It inherits its coroutineContext from the outer scope, but overrides the context's Job.
- The produced scope respects parental responsibilities:
  - inherits a context from its parent,
  - awaits for all children before it can finish itself,
  - cancels all its children, when the parent is canceled.
- An exception in coroutineScope or any of its children cancels other children and <u>rethrows</u> it.
- Designed for parallel decomposition of work.

```
fun main() = runBlocking {
   val a = coroutineScope {
      delay(1000)
      10
   }
   println("a is calculated")
   val b = coroutineScope {
      delay(1000)
      20
   }
   println(a) // 10
   println(b) // 20
}
// (1 sec)
// a is calculated
// (1 sec)
// 10
// 20
```

#### **Final Solution**

• This all makes coroutineScope a perfect candidate for most cases when we just need to start a few concurrent calls in a suspending function.

• coroutineScope is nowadays often used to wrap suspending main body. Think of it as the modern replacement for the runBlocking function.

```
suspend fun main(): Unit = coroutineScope { ... }
```

```
data class Details(val name: String, val followers: Int)
   data class Tweet(val text: String)
   class ApiException(val code: Int, message: String) : Throwable(message)
   suspend fun getUserName(): String { delay(500); return "paula abdul" }
suspend fun getFollowersNumber(): Int = throw ApiException(500, "Service unavailable")
   suspend fun getTweets(): List<Tweet> { delay(500); return listOf(Tweet("Hello, world")) }
   suspend fun getUserDetails(): Details = coroutineScope {
        val userName = async { getUserName() }
        val followersNumber = async { getFollowersNumber() }
        Details(userName.await(), followersNumber.await())
    fun main() = runBlocking {
        val details = try {
            getUserDetails()
        } catch (e: ApiException) {
            null
        println("User: $details")
        val tweets = async { getTweets() }
println("Tweets: ${tweets.await()}")
 ' User: null
// Tweets: [Tweet(text=Hello, world)]
```

# Proper Example of Parallel Decomposition

```
suspend fun loadAndCombine(
    name1: String, name2: String, scope: CoroutineScope): Image {
    val deferred1 = scope.async { loadImage(name1) }
    val deferred2 = scope.async { loadImage(name2) }
    return combineImages(deferred1.await(), deferred2.await())
    }
}

Better

suspend fun loadAndCombine(name1: String, name2: String): Image {
    coroutineScope {
    val deferred1 = async { loadImage(name1) }
    val deferred2 = async { loadImage(name2) }
    return combineImages(deferred1.await(), deferred2.await())
    }
}
```

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## supervisorScope

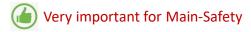
- The function supervisorScope also behaves a lot like coroutineScope.
- The difference is that it overrides context's Job with SupervisorJob, so it is not canceled when a child raises an exception.
- supervisorScope is mainly used in functions that start multiple independent tasks.

# Pro Tip: if you want parallel decomposition, then use a coroutineScope or, possibly a supervisorScope block

• coroutineScope/supervisorScope is a suspendable function and it won't complete until all the coroutines it launched complete.

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#### withContext



```
public suspend fun <T> withContext(
    context: CoroutineContext, // caller's coroutineContext + context
    block: suspend CoroutineScope.() -> T
): T { ... }
```

- Calls the suspending lambda with a given coroutine context, suspends until it completes, and returns the result.
- The resulting context for the block is derived by merging:
  - Caller's coroutineContext + the specified context.
- Often used to set a different coroutine dispatcher.
- if a new dispatcher specified, *shift* execution of the block *into the different thread*, and *back to the original dispatcher* when it completes.
- Note that the result of withContext invocation is dispatched into the original context.

### **Suspending Convention:**

## suspending functions do not block the caller thread

• To implement this convention, use withContext function.

```
suspend fun findBigPrime(): BigInteger =
    withContext(Dispatchers.Default) {
        BigInteger.probablePrime(4096, Random())
    }

suspend fun BufferedReader.readMessage(): Message? =
    withContext(Dispatchers.IO) {
        readLine()?.parseMessage()
    }
}
```

 Now you can call these suspending functions from the coroutine launched in the main thread of your UI application without blocking its main thread!

Main Safety

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Roman Elizarov

Project Lead for the Kotlin Programming Language @JetBrains "Once you've isolated and encapsulated blocking code used by your application into suspending functions, you can call them at will from anywhere without having to double-check whether they are blocking or not."

"You should always use with Context() inside a suspend function when you need main-safety, such as when reading from or writing to disk, performing network operations, or running CPU-intensive operations."

#### withTimeout and withTimeoutOrNull

- withTimeout sets time limit for its body execution. If it takes too long, it cancels this body, and throws TimeoutCancellationException.
- withTimeoutOrNull just cancels its body and returns null instead of throwing an exception in case of exceeded timeout.
- Both are useful for testing.

```
suspend fun main(): Unit = coroutineScope {
    launch {
        launch { // cancelled by its parent
            delay(2000)
            println("Will not be printed")
        }
        withTimeout(1000) { // cancel launch
            delay(1500)
        }
    }
    launch {
        delay(2000)
        println("Done")
    }
}
// (2 sec)
// Done
```

```
class User()
suspend fun fetchUser(): User {
   while (true) { yield() } // Run forever
}
suspend fun getUserOrNull(): User? =
   withTimeoutOrNull(1000) {
      fetchUser()
   }
suspend fun main(): Unit = coroutineScope {
   val user = getUserOrNull()
      println("User: $user")
}
// (1 sec)
// User: null
```

### Coroutine Scope Functions vs. Coroutine Builders

#### **Coroutine Builders** (except runBlocking)

- launch, async, produce
- Extension functions on CoroutineScope
- Take coroutine context from CoroutineScope receiver
- Starts another coroutine
- Exception propagates to parent Job

#### **Coroutine Scope Functions**

- coroutineScope, supervisorScope, withContext, withTimeout
- suspending functions
- Take coroutine context from suspending function continuation
- Runs on parent coroutine in-place
- Exception rethrows except supervisorScope

#### When to or NOT to mark a function as suspend

# Mark it whenever it calls other suspending function

# Do not mark it when it doesn't call suspending functions

```
fun onButtonClicked() {
    scope.launch() {
        loadData()
    }
}
```

Don't mark a function suspend unless you're forced to.

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# Suspension Points: Exactly When?

- A *suspension point* is a point where the execution of the coroutine may be suspended.
- Syntactically, a suspension point is an invocation of suspending function, <u>but</u> the actual suspension happens when the suspending function invokes the following standard library primitive.

```
suspend fun <T> suspendCoroutine(
   block: (Continuation<T>) -> Unit
): T
```

#### suspendCoroutine or supendCancellableCoroutine

.

# Coroutines in Android

Comprehensive

**Desired Solution** 

Simplified

#### 2018 Solution Alternatives

#### LiveData

- Observable data holder
- Love it, but want a complete solution

#### RxJava

- Observable + Schedulers + Observer
- Powerful, highly adopted but often misused and perceived as an overkill solution to concurrency

#### Coroutines

- Suspendable computations
- Seems like the best solution, but here is a need for maturation of the extensions and developers feel that a steep learning curve awaits ...

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Robust

# Posting to the UI thread (Non-Main-Safety)

• Using Dispatchers. Main as the context, you can post to the main thread in **Android**, **Swing** and **JavaFx** applications.

```
suspend fun loadData() {
   val data = apiService.networkRequest()
   withContext(Dispatchers.Main) {
      show(data)
   }
}
```



Exception in thread "DefaultDispatcher-worker-3" java.lang.lllegalStateException: **Module with the Main dispatcher is missing**. Add dependency providing the Main dispatcher, e.g. 'kotlinx-coroutines-android'

# Posting to the UI thread (Main-Safety)

```
// Main safety
suspend fun loadData() {
   val data = withContext(Dispatchers.IO) {
      apiService.networkRequest()
   }
   show(data)
}
```

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### Autocancellation with lifecycleScope and viewModelScope

The two extension CoroutineScope properties *automatically* cancel the coroutine on the lifecycle's destroy event using built-in cancelation mechanism:

- viewModelScope
- lifecycleScope

# viewModelScope

- An extension property of the ViewModel class.
- This scope is bound to Dispatchers.Main.immediate and will automatically be cancelled when the ViewModel is cleared.

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# viewModelScope

# lifecycleScope

- An extension property of the LifecycleOwner instance and it's bounded to the Lifecycle of the Activity or Fragment.
- Bound to Dispatchers.Main.immediate and will automatically be cancelled when the LifeCycle is destroyed.
- You can access the CoroutineScope of the Lifecycle either via lifecycle.coroutineScope or lifecycleOwner.lifecycleScope properties.

```
public val LifecycleOwner.lifecycleScope: LifecycleCoroutineScope
    get() = lifecycle.coroutineScope

dependencies {
   implementation "androidx.lifecycle:lifecycle-runtime-ktx:$version
}
```

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# lifecycleScope

#### Associating coroutine launch time with Lifecycle state

- LifecycleCoroutineScope.launchWhenCreated()
  - It launches when the Lifecycle is at least in the Lifecycle. State. CREATED state.
- LifecycleCoroutineScope.launchWhenStarted()
  - It launches when the Lifecycle is at least in the Lifecycle. State. STARTED state.
- LifecycleCoroutineScope.launchWhenResumed()
  - It launches when the Lifecycle is at least in the Lifecycle.State.RESUMED state.

```
class MainActivity : AppCompatActivity() {
    override fun onCreate(savedInstanceState: Bundle?) {
        lifecycleScope.launchWhenResumed {
            doSomeLongRunningJob()
          }
    }
}
```

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#### LiveData Exercise

```
interface ApiService {
    /**
    * Get all articles
    */
    suspend fun getArticles(): Resource<List<Article>>

    /**
    * Get the most recommended (i.e., top-ranked) article
    */
    suspend fun getTopArticle(): Resource<Article>

    /**
    * Get all the articles written by the author of the current top-ranked article
    */
    fun getArticlesByAuthorId(id: String): LiveData<Resource<List<Article>>>
}
```

#### LiveData in ViewModel

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### liveData Builder



- Runs a coroutine when observed
- Automatically cancelled if no active observers within timeout
- No scope needed!!
- Emit values (emit()) or streams (emitSource())

# Creating LiveData emitting values (1)

```
val recipe = MutableLiveData<Resource<Recipe>>().apply {
    viewModelScope.launch {
        this@apply.value = Resource.Loading
        this@apply.value = longRunningTask()
    }
}
```

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# Creating LiveData emitting values (2)

```
// a LiveData that fetches a `User` object based on a `userId`
// and refreshes it every 30 seconds as long as it is observed
val userId: LiveData<String> = MutableLiveData<>()
val user: LiveData<User> = userId.switchMap { id ->
    liveData {
        while(true) {
            // note that `while(true)` is fine because the `delay(30_000)`
            // below will cooperate in cancellation if LiveData is not
            // actively observed anymore
        val user = api.fetch(id) // errors are ignored for brevity
        emit(user)
        delay(30_000)
      }
}
}
```

## Creating LiveData that changes emitting source

```
// a LiveData that immediately receives a LiveData<User> from the
// database and yields it as a source but also tries to back-fill
// the database from the server
val user = liveData {
    val fromDb: LiveData<User> = roomDatabase.loadUser(id)
    emitSource(fromDb)
    val updated = api.fetch(id) // errors are ignored for brevity

// Since we are using Room here, updating the database will
// update the `fromDb` LiveData that was obtained above.
roomDatabase.insert(updated)
}
```

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# Coroutines are good for ...

There are two types of tasks that coroutines are a great solution for:

- 1. One shot requests are requests that are run each time they are called: they always complete after the result is ready.
  - Use suspending functions
- 2. Streaming requests are requests that continue to observe changes and report them to caller: they don't complete when the first result is ready.
  - Use **Kotlin Flow** (This topic will be covered in Flow Course)

## The one shot request pattern

https://medium.com/androiddevelopers/coroutines-on-android-part-iii-real-work-2ba8a2ec2f45

Sean McQuillan

Add coroutines to the ViewModel, Repository, and Room, and each layer has a different responsibility.

- ViewModel starts a coroutine on the main thread it completes when it has a result.
- Repository exposes regular suspend functions and ensures they are mainsafe.
- The database and network expose regular suspend functions and ensures they are *main-safe*.

**Note**: Room uses its own dispatcher to run queries on a background thread. Your code should **not** use withContext(Dispatchers.IO) to call suspending room queries. It will complicate the code and make queries run slower. Likewise, Retrofit is also *main-safe* and run on a custom dispatcher.

0.1

# The one shot request pattern (Cont'd)

- suspendCoroutine/suspendCancellableCoroutine
  - A typical use of this function is to suspend a coroutine while waiting for a result from a single-shot callback API and to return the result to the caller.
- runCatching
- When starting a new coroutine in response to a UI event, consider what happens if the user starts another before this one completes.