

Parallel Programming and Multithreading in C#



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Using the Task from the Task Parallel Library

```
Task.Run(() => {  
    // This code will execute on a different context  
});
```



The Task from the Task Parallel Library

Only executes on one thread

```
Task.Run(() => {  
});
```



Break down a large **problem**
and **compute** each
piece **independently**



Task Parallel Library

```
await Task.Run(() => {  
    // I'm an asynchronous operation that is awaited  
});
```

```
Parallel.Invoke(  
    () => { /* Parallel Thread 1 */ },  
    () => { /* Parallel Thread 2 */ },  
    () => { /* Parallel Thread 3 */ },  
    () => { /* Parallel Thread 4 */ },  
);
```



Running Work on Another Thread

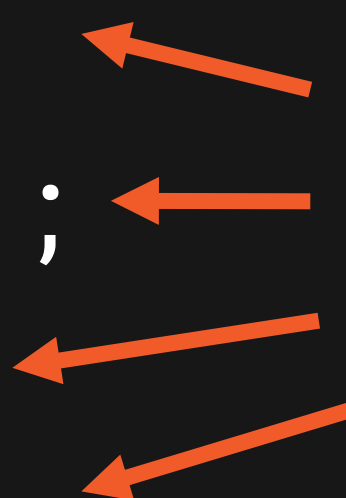
```
Task.Run(() => {  
    var msft    = Calculate("MSFT");  
    var googl   = Calculate("GOOGL");  
    var ps      = Calculate("PS");  
    var amaz   = Calculate("AMAZ");  
  
    return new [] { msft, googl, ps, amaz };  
});
```



Running Work on Another Thread

```
Task.Run(() => {  
    var msft    = Calculate("MSFT");  
    var googl   = Calculate("GOOGL");  
    var ps      = Calculate("PS");  
    var amaz   = Calculate("AMAZ");  
  
    return new [] { msft, googl, ps, amaz };  
});
```

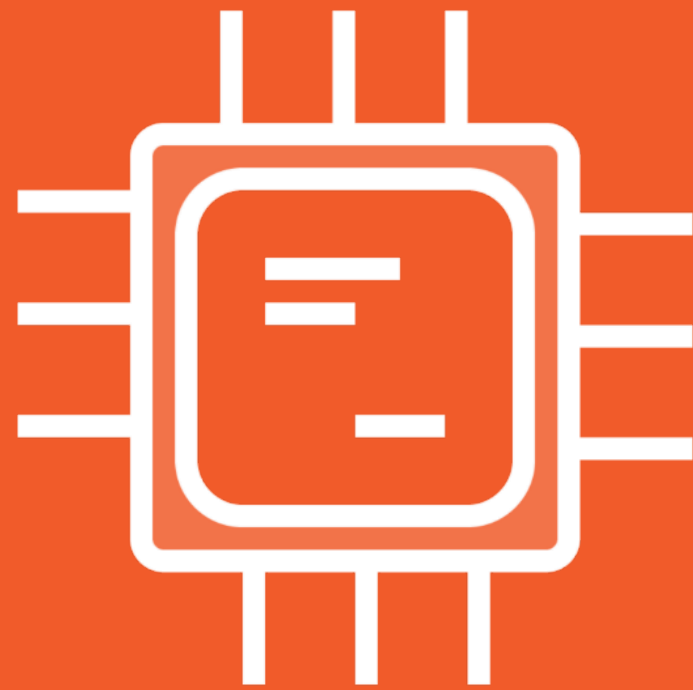
Goal is to run
these on 4
different threads



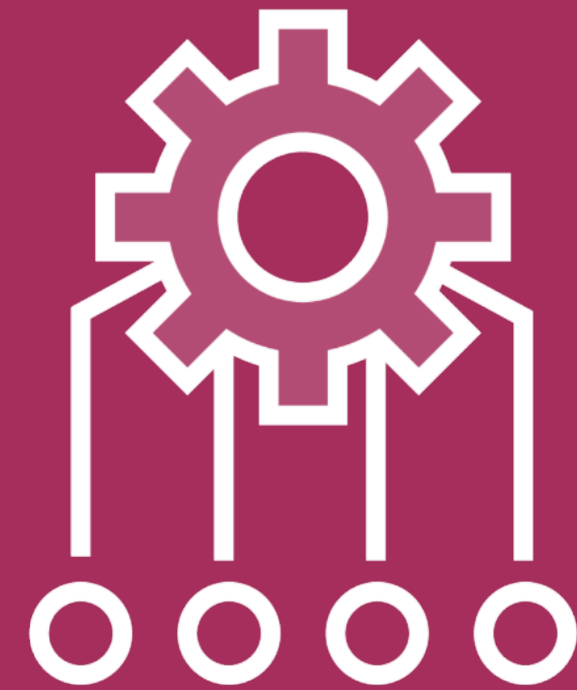
Get **help from** the
framework to **optimize** the
parallel operation



Parallel Programming in .NET



Thread



Task Parallel Library

Task Parallel Library
and its **Task** should be the
preferred way to introduce
parallel programming



```
Task.Run(() => {  
});
```

No need to care about lower-level threads

Work may be scheduled on a new, or reused thread.

Parallel Programming with Task Parallel Library

```
Parallel.Invoke(  
    () => {},  
    () => {},  
    () => {}  
);
```



Parallel Programming with Task Parallel Library

```
Parallel.Invoke(  
    () => {},  
    () => {},  
    () => {}  
);
```

```
Parallel.For(0, 10, (index) => {});
```



Parallel Programming with Task Parallel Library

```
Parallel.Invoke(  
    () => {},  
    () => {},  
    () => {}  
);
```

```
Parallel.For(0, 10, (index) => {});
```

```
Parallel.ForEach(source, (element) => {});
```



Task Parallel Library
provides a way to write
Parallel LINQ (PLINQ)



Parallel (Extensions)

Built on-top of the Task in the Task Parallel Library



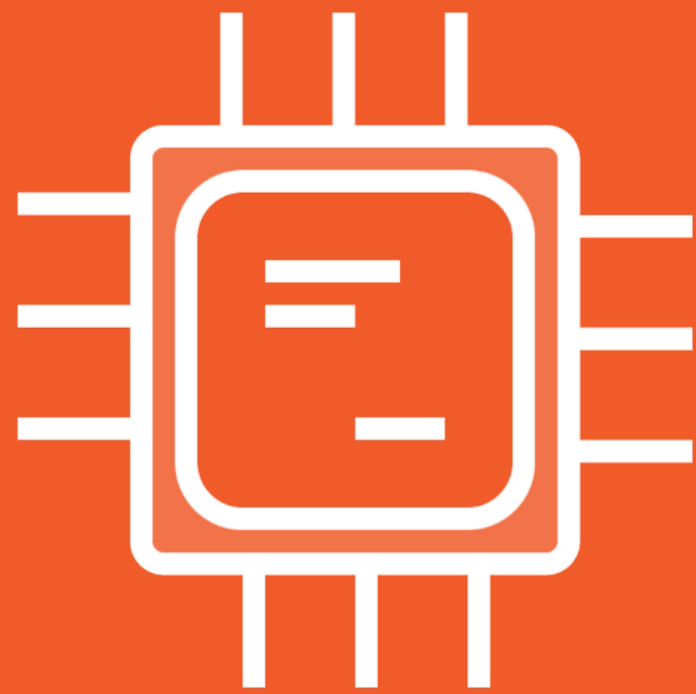
A Problem to Solve in Parallel



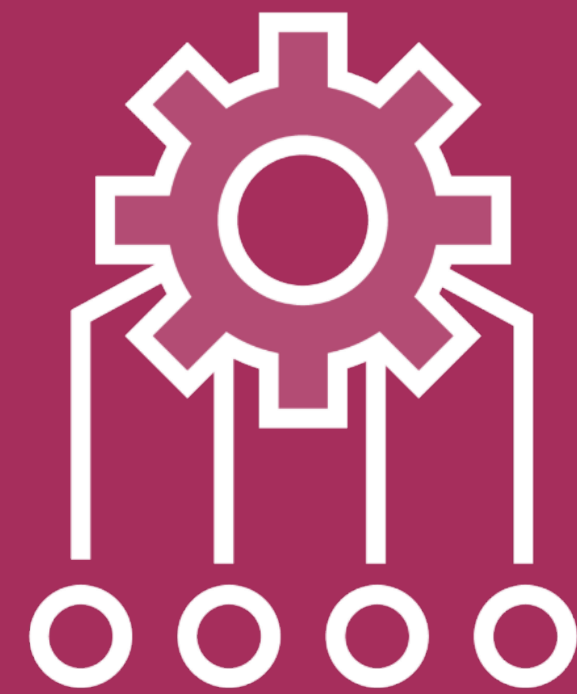
Parallel will **ensure** that **work**
is **distributed efficiently** on
the system that **runs** the
application



When to Use Parallel Programming



CPU bound operations



Independent chunks of data



Use the Parallel Methods

```
Task.Run(() => { });
```

```
Task.Run(() => { });
```

```
Task.Run(() => { });
```

```
Task.Run(() => { });
```

```
Parallel.For(0, 4, (i) => {});
```



Automatically distribute the work



There's **no guarantee** that the
operations will **run** in **parallel**



Your First Parallel Operation



The Parallel Methods Blocks the Calling Thread

`Parallel.Invoke(...);`

`Parallel.For(...);`

`Parallel.ForEach(...);`

Block the calling thread until all the parallel operations completed



Deadlocking with the Parallel Class

```
Parallel.For(0, 4, (index) => {
```

```
    Dispatcher.Invoke(() => {  
        // Run on the UI Thread  
    });
```

```
});
```

This causes a deadlock!



By default calling these
Parallel methods will
consume as much computer
power as possible



Parallel Invoke

```
Parallel.Invoke(
```

```
    () => { /* Parallel Thread 1 */ },
```

```
    () => { /* Parallel Thread 2 */ },
```

```
    () => { /* Parallel Thread 3 */ },
```

```
    () => { /* Parallel Thread 4 */ }
```

```
);
```



Parallel Invoke with Max Degree of Parallelism

```
Parallel.Invoke(  
    new ParallelOptions { MaxDegreeOfParallelism = 2  
}  
  
    () => { /* Parallel Thread 1 */ },  
    () => { /* Parallel Thread 2 */ },  
  
    () => { /* Parallel Thread 1 */ },  
    () => { /* Parallel Thread 2 */ }  
);
```



Misusing **Parallel** in **ASP.NET**
can cause **bad performance**
for **all users!**



Next: Using Parallel and Asynchronous Principles Together



Using Parallel and Asynchronous Principles Together



Task Parallel Library

```
await Task.Run(() => {  
    // I'm an asynchronous operation that is awaited  
});
```

```
Parallel.Invoke(  
    () => { /* Parallel Thread 1 */ },  
    () => { /* Parallel Thread 2 */ },  
    () => { /* Parallel Thread 3 */ },  
    () => { /* Parallel Thread 4 */ },  
);
```



Don't reinvent this,
use the **Task Parallel**
Library!



Next: Handling Exceptions



Handling Exceptions



Handling Exceptions

`Parallel.Invoke(...);`

`Parallel.For(...);`

`Parallel.ForEach(...);`

**Automatically validates the
parallel operations.**



This Will Throw an Aggregate Exception

```
Parallel.Invoke(  
    () => { throw new Exception("1"); },  
    () => { throw new Exception("2"); },  
    () => { throw new Exception("3"); },  
    () => { throw new Exception("4"); },  
);
```



**Not yet executed parallel
operations will not be
cancelled** just because one
operation fails



Next: Processing a Collection of Data in Parallel



Processing a Collection of Data in Parallel



Normal Foreach vs Parallel.ForEach

```
foreach(var element in source)
{
    // Execute sequentially
}
```

```
Parallel.ForEach(source, (element) => {
    // Execute in parallel
});
```



Normal Foreach vs Parallel.ForEach

```
foreach(var element in source)
{
    // Execute sequentially
}
```

```
Parallel.ForEach(source, (element) => {
    // Execute in parallel
});
```

**Automatically distributed
work that runs in parallel**



The **performance benefits**
will be **more obvious** with
larger collections to
process



Break **won't** automatically
stop
running operations



Example: ParallelLoopState.Break()

```
Parallel.For(0, 100, (i, state) => {
```

```
    if(i == 50)
```

```
    {
```

```
        state.Break();
```

```
    }
```

```
});
```

Scheduled iterations for indices lower than 50 will still start!

Only operations for indices over 50 won't be scheduled to start



Normal For vs Parallel.For

```
for(int i = 0; i < 10; i++)  
{  
    // Execute sequentially  
}
```

```
Parallel.For(0, 10, (i) => {  
    // Execute in parallel  
});
```

**Automatically distributed
work that runs in parallel**



Example: Parallel.For

```
Parallel.For(0, 10, (i, state) => {  
  
});
```



Example: Parallel.For

Inclusive



```
Parallel.For(0, 10, (i, state) => {
```



Exclusive

```
});
```



Creating Parallel Operations

```
Parallel.Invoke(...);
```

```
Parallel.For(...);
```

```
Parallel.ForEach(...);
```



Parallel.ForEach

```
Parallel.ForEach(source, (element) => {  
    // Execute in parallel  
});
```

**Automatically distributed
work that runs in parallel**



The Parallel Methods Blocks the Calling Thread

`Parallel.Invoke(...);`

`Parallel.For(...);`

`Parallel.ForEach(...);`

Block the calling thread until all the parallel operations completed



Parallel + Asynchronous

```
await Task.Run(() => { Parallel.Invoke(...); });
```

```
await Task.Run(() => { Parallel.For(...); });
```

```
await Task.Run(() => { Parallel.ForEach(...); });
```



Summary



Implications of parallelism

Difference and similarities between parallel and asynchronous programming

Builds on-top of the Task in the Task Parallel Library

Works in any C# and .NET application

Every problem and machine won't benefit from parallelism

Break down a problem in small pieces and solve them independently

Use thread-safe collections like `ConcurrentBag<T>`

