Async & Await Advanced Topics



Filip Ekberg
Principal Consultant & CEO

@fekberg fekberg.com

Asynchronous Streams & Disposables

Asynchronous streams requires at least C# 8.0 and .NET Core 3.0



IAsyncEnumerable<T>

"Exposes an **enumerator** that **provides asynchronous iteration** over values of a specified type."



Asynchronous Stream

Producing a Stream

Consuming a Stream

```
await foreach(var word in Get())
{
}
```

Consuming an Asynchronous Stream

```
await foreach(var price in GetAllStockPrices())
{
    // Consume the price as soon as it's returned
    // by the stream

    // Each item is retrieved asynchronously!
}
```



Allowing you to asynchronously retrieve each item



Producing an Asynchronous Stream

```
public async IAsyncEnumerable<StockPrice> GetAllStockPrices()
       yield return StockPrice.FromCSV(line);
```



Producing an Asynchronous Stream

```
public async IAsyncEnumerable<StockPrice> GetAllStockPrices()
   using var stream = new StreamReader(...);
   await stream.ReadLineAsync();
  while(await stream.ReadLineAsync() is string line)
       yield return StockPrice.FromCSV(line);
```



Producing an Asynchronous Stream

```
public async IAsyncEnumerable<StockPrice> GetAllStockPrices()
   using var stream = new StreamReader(...);
   await stream.ReadLineAsync();
   while(await stream.ReadLineAsync() is string line)
       yield return StockPrice.FromCSV(line);
                 The object is returned to the foreach
                   loop as soon as it's parsed!
```



Clean up resources asynchronously by implementing the interface IAsyncDisposable

```
public class Service : IAsyncDisposable
{
    public async ValueTask DisposeAsync()
    {
        await Task.Delay(500);
    }
}
```



```
public class Service : IAsyncDisposable
    public async ValueTask DisposeAsync()
        await Task.Delay(500);
public class Consumer
    public async Task Run()
        await using var service = new Service();
```



```
await using var service = new Service();
// Use service
// service is asynchronously disposed at the end of the method
```



The Implications of Async and Await

The State Machine

Keeping track of tasks

Executes the continuation

Provides the continuation with a result

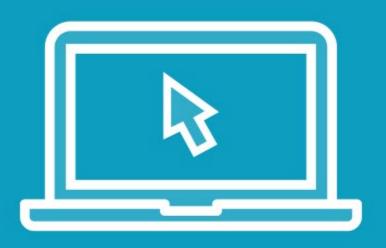
Handles context switching

Report errors

Don't underestimate the code generated by the compiler!



Demo



Demo: Reducing the amount of state machines

Reduce the Amount of State Machines

With the same method signatures

Generates a lot of state machines

```
public async Task<string> Run()
    return await Compute();
public async Task<string> Compute()
    return await Load();
public async Task<string> Load()
    return await Task.Run(() => ...);
```

No state machines

```
public Task<string> Run()
    return Compute();
public Task<string> Compute()
    return Load();
public Task<string> Load()
    return Task.Run(() => ...);
```

Next: Deadlocking



Deadlocking

A deadlock may occur if two threads depend on each other and one is blocked



The state machine runs on the same thread (UI) that we are blocking!



Deadlock

```
var task = Task.Run(() => {
    Dispatcher.Invoke(() => { });
    Needs to invoke the UI thread before the task can be marked as completed

task.Wait();
```

Blocks the UI thread



The **state machine** runs on the calling thread



Deadlock

```
var task = Task.Run(() => {
    Dispatcher.Invoke(() => { });
});
task.Wait();
Don't use Wait()!
```



Asynchronous Streams & Disposables

Streams

```
async IAsyncEnumerable<StockPrice> Get()
{
    while(...)
    {
       yield return item;
    }
}
```

Disposables

```
class Service : IAsyncDisposable
    public async ValueTask DisposeAsync()
        await Task.Delay(500);
class Consumer
    public async Task Run()
        await using var service
                        = new Service();
```