Java Programming

Multithreading

Review of Lecture 10

Scrollable ResultSets:

Statement stmt =
con.createStatement(ResultSet.TYPE
_SCROLL_SENSITIVE,
 ResultSet.CONCUR_READ_ONLY);
ResultSet srs =
stmt.executeQuery("SELECT * FROM
STUDENTS")

- TYPE_FORWARD_ONLY cursor may move only forward.
- TYPE_SCROLL_INSENSITIVE scrollable cursor but generally not sensitive to changes made by others.
- TYPE_SCROLL_SENSITIVE scrollable cursor and generally sensitive to changes made by others.

- CONCUR_READ_ONLY
- CONCUR_UPDATABLE

Navigating through records

- next() moves the cursor to next record in the result set.
- first() Moves the cursor to the first row.
- last() Moves the cursor to the last row.
- previous() Moves the cursor to the previous.
- beforeFirst() Moves the cursor to the beginning just before the first row.
- afterLast() Moves the cursor to the end, just after the last row.
 Java Programming

2

Review of Lecture 10

Absolute and relative methods

```
srs.absolute(4);
int rowNum = srs.getRow(); //
rowNum should be 4
srs.relative(-3);
int rowNum = srs.getRow(); //
rowNum should be 1
srs.relative(2);
int rowNum = srs.getRow(); //
rowNum should be 3
```

Inserting a new row to a ResultSet

```
rs.moveToInsertRow();
rs.updateString(1,"Toronto");
rs.updateString(2,"Centennial");
rs.insertRow();
```

Updating an existing row

```
rs.updateString(1,"HP Campus");
rs.updateString(2,"Centennial
College");
rs.updateRow();
```

Deleting a row

```
rs.deleteRow();
```

Review of Lecture 10

PreparedStatement

```
PreparedStatement pst = c.prepareStatement("Insert into Customers (Name, Address, City, PostalCode) VALUES(?,?,?,?)");
```

The IN arguments, indicated by '?', can be filled by in by **setXXX** methods:

```
pst.setString(1, "John Trevor");
pst.setString(2, "200 Bloor St.
West");
```

```
pst.setString(3, "Toronto");
pst.setString(4, "M4Y 2G2");
int val = pst.executeUpdate();
```

Interface RowSet

```
JdbcRowSet rowSet =
RowSetProvider.newFactory().createJdb
cRowSet());
// specify JdbcRowSet properties
rowSet.setUrl(DATABASE_URL);
rowSet.setUsername(USERNAME);
rowSet.setPassword(PASSWORD);
rowSet.setCommand("SELECT * FROM authors"); // set query
rowSet.execute(); // execute query
```

Handle SQLException

Lesson 11 Objectives

- Threads and the life cycle of a thread
- Thread priorities and thread scheduling
- Creating and executing threads
- Runnable interface
- Synchronization of threads
- Multithreading with GUI
- The fork/join framework

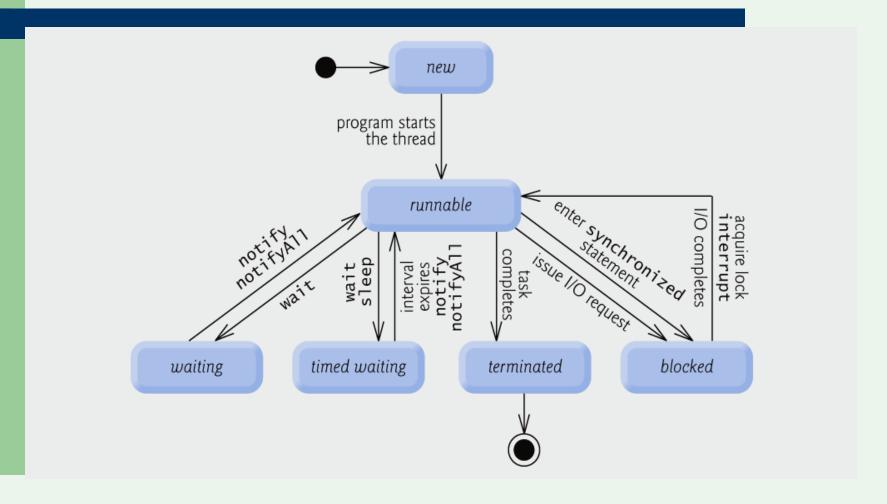
Concurrent execution

- Computers that have multiple processors can truly execute multiple instructions concurrently
- Operating systems on single-processor computers create the illusion of concurrent execution by rapidly switching between activities, but on such computers only a single instruction can execute at once
- Java makes concurrency available to you through the language and APIs
- Multithreading can increase performance on single-processor systems that simulate concurrency—when one thread cannot proceed (because, for example, it is waiting for the result of an I/O operation), another can use the processor.

Application of concurrent programming

- An application of concurrent programming
 - Start playback of an audio clip or a video clip while the clip downloads
 - synchronize (coordinate the actions of) the threads so that the player thread doesn't begin until there is a sufficient amount of the clip in memory to keep the player thread busy
- The Java Virtual Machine (JVM) creates threads to run a program, the JVM also may create threads for performing housekeeping tasks such as garbage collection
- Programming concurrent applications is difficult and errorprone

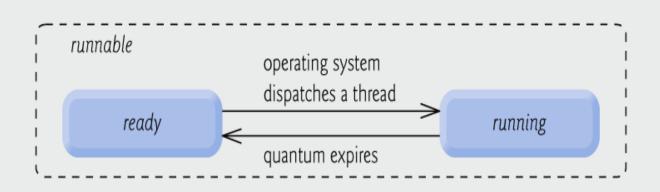
- A thread occupies one of several thread states
- A new thread begins its life cycle in the new state.
- When the program starts the thread it enters the runnable state.
 - considered to be executing its task
- Runnable thread transitions to the waiting state while it waits for another thread to perform a task
 - transitions back to the *runnable* state only when another thread notifies the waiting thread to continue executing
- A runnable thread can enter the timed waiting state for a specified interval of time
 - transitions back to the *runnable* state when that time interval expires or when the event it is waiting for occurs.



- Timed waiting and waiting threads cannot use a processor, even if one is available.
- A runnable thread can transition to the timed waiting state if it provides an optional wait interval when it is waiting for another thread to perform a task.
 - returns to the runnable state when
 - it is notified by another thread, or
 - the timed interval expires
- A thread also enters the timed waiting state when put to sleep.
 - remains in the *timed waiting* state for a designated period of time then returns to the *runnable* state
- A runnable thread transitions to the blocked state when it attempts to perform a task that cannot be completed immediately and it must temporarily wait until that task completes.
 - A blocked thread cannot use a processor, even if one is available
- A runnable thread enters the terminated state (sometimes called the dead state) when it successfully completes its task or otherwise terminates (perhaps due to an error).

- At the operating system level, Java's runnable state typically encompasses two separate states
- Operating system hides these states from the JVM
 - A runnable thread first enters the ready state
 - When thread is dispatched by the OS it enters the *running* state
 - When the thread's quantum expires, the thread returns to the ready state and the operating system dispatches another thread
 - Transitions between the **ready** and **running** states are handled solely by the operating system

Operating system's internal view of Java's *runnable* state



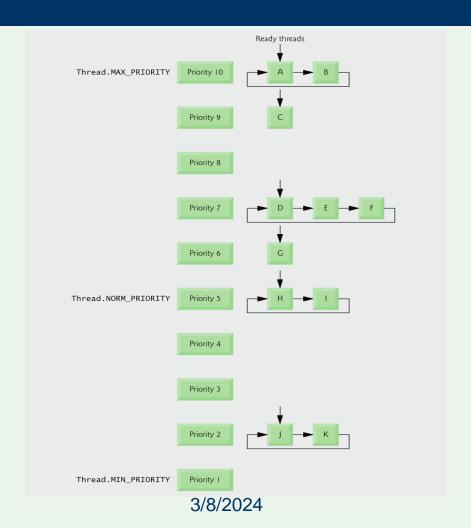
Thread Priorities and Thread Scheduling

- Every Java thread has a thread priority that helps the operating system determine the order in which threads are scheduled
- Priorities range between MIN_PRIORITY (a constant of 1) and MAX_PRIORITY (a constant of 10)
- By default, every thread is given priority NORM_PRIORITY (a constant of 5)
- Each new thread inherits the priority of the thread that created it

Thread Priorities and Thread Scheduling

- Informally, higher-priority threads are more important to a program and should be allocated processor time before lowerpriority threads
 - Does not guarantee the order in which threads execute
- Timeslicing
 - enables threads of equal priority to share a processor
 - when thread's quantum expires, processor is given to the next thread of equal priority, if one is available
- Thread scheduler determines which thread runs next
- Higher-priority threads generally preempt the currently running threads of lower priority
 - known as preemptive scheduling
 - Possible indefinite postponement (starvation)

Thread-priority scheduling



15

Thread-priority scheduling

- Thread scheduling is platform dependent—the behavior of a multithreaded program could vary across different Java implementations
- When designing multithreaded programs consider the threading capabilities of all the platforms on which the programs will execute
- Using priorities other than the default will make your programs' behavior platform specific.
 - If portability is your goal, don't adjust thread priorities.

- Runnable interface (of package java.lang)
- Runnable object represents a "task" that can execute concurrently with other tasks
 - Method run contains the code that defines the task that a Runnable object should perform
 - Method sleep throws a (checked)
 InterruptedException if the sleeping thread's interrupt method is called
- The code in method main executes in the main thread, a thread created by the JVM

```
// PrintTask class sleeps for a random time from 0 to 5 seconds
import java.util.Random;

public class PrintTask implements Runnable
{
    private final int sleepTime; // random sleep time for thread
    private final String taskName; // name of task
    private final static Random generator = new Random();

    public PrintTask( String name )
    {
        taskName = name; // set task name

        // pick random sleep time between 0 and 5 seconds
        sleepTime = generator.nextInt( 5000 ); // milliseconds
} // end PrintTask constructor
```

```
// method run contains the code that a thread will execute
  public void run()
      try // put thread to sleep for sleepTime amount of time
         System.out.printf( "%s going to sleep for %d milliseconds.\n",
            taskName, sleepTime );
         Thread.sleep( sleepTime ); // put thread to sleep
      } // end try
      catch ( InterruptedException exception )
         System.out.printf( "%s %s\n", taskName,
            "terminated prematurely due to interruption" );
      } // end catch
     // print task name
      System.out.printf( "%s done sleeping\n", taskName );
   } // end method run
} // end class PrintTask
```

```
import java.lang.Thread;
public class ThreadCreator
   public static void main( String[] args )
      System.out.println( "Creating threads" );
      // create each thread with a new targeted runnable
      Thread thread1 = new Thread( new PrintTask( "task1" ) );
      Thread thread2 = new Thread( new PrintTask( "task2" ) );
      Thread thread3 = new Thread( new PrintTask( "task3" ) );
      System.out.println( "Threads created, starting tasks." );
      // start threads and place in runnable state
      thread1.start(); // invokes task1's run method
      thread2.start(); // invokes task2's run method
      thread3.start(); // invokes task3's run method
      System.out.println( "Tasks started, main ends.\n" );
   } // end main
} // end class
```

- Recommended that you use the Executor interface to manage the execution of Runnable objects.
- An Executor object creates and manages a thread pool to execute Runnables.
- Executor advantages over creating threads yourself
 - Reuse existing threads to eliminate new thread overhead
 - Improve performance by optimizing the number of threads to ensure that the processor stays busy.
- Executor method execute accepts a Runnable as an argument.
 - Assigns each Runnable it receives to one of the available threads in the thread pool
 - If none available, creates a new thread or waits for a thread to become available.

- Interface ExecutorService
 - package java.util.concurrent
 - extends Executor
 - declares methods for managing the life cycle of an Executor
 - Objects of this type are created using static methods declared in class Executors (of package java.util.concurrent)
- Executors method newCachedThreadPool obtains an ExecutorService that creates new threads as they are needed
- ExecutorService method execute returns immediately from each invocation
- ExecutorService method shutdown notifies the ExecutorService to stop accepting new tasks, but continues executing tasks that have already been submitted

```
// Using an ExecutorService to execute Runnables.
import java.util.concurrent.Executors;
import java.util.concurrent.ExecutorService;

public class TaskExecutor
{
    public static void main( String[] args )
    {
        // create and name each runnable
        PrintTask task1 = new PrintTask( "task1" );
        PrintTask task2 = new PrintTask( "task2" );
        PrintTask task3 = new PrintTask( "task3" );
        System.out.println( "Starting Executor" );
```

```
// create ExecutorService to manage threads
     ExecutorService threadExecutor =
  Executors.newCachedThreadPool();
      // start threads and place in runnable state
      threadExecutor.execute( task1 ); // start task1
      threadExecutor.execute( task2 ); // start task2
      threadExecutor.execute( task3 ); // start task3
      // shut down worker threads when their tasks complete
      threadExecutor.shutdown();
      System.out.println( "Tasks started, main ends.\n" );
   } // end main
} // end class TaskExecutor
```

Multiple Clocks example

- Implements the Runnable interface to create a thread.
- Clock class is a JPanel, therefore cannot extend class Thread.
- Implementing Runnable interface is the only option to create a JPanel thread.
- Creating two threads:

```
Clock clock1 = new Clock(timeZoneToronto,Locale.CANADA);
Clock clock2 = new Clock(timeZoneParis,Locale.ENGLISH);
```

And the threads are started using execute method:

```
threadExecutor.execute( clock1 ); // start clock1
threadExecutor.execute( clock2 ); // start clock2
```

```
Multiple threads
America/New_York: Saturday, November 26, 2016 11:49:28 o'clock AM EST Europe/Paris: Saturday, November 26, 2016 5:49:28 PM CET
```

Thread Synchronization

- Coordinates access to shared data by multiple concurrent threads
 - Indeterminate results may occur unless access to a shared object is managed properly
 - Give only one thread at a time exclusive access to code that manipulates a shared object
 - Other threads wait
 - When the thread with exclusive access to the object finishes manipulating the object, one of the threads that was waiting is allowed to proceed
- Mutual exclusion

Thread Synchronization

- Java provides built-in monitors to implement synchronization
- Every object has a monitor and a monitor lock.
 - Monitor ensures that its object's monitor lock is held by a maximum of only one thread at any time
 - Can be used to enforce mutual exclusion.
- To enforce mutual exclusion
 - thread must acquire the lock before it can proceed with its operation
 - other threads attempting to perform an operation that requires the same lock will be blocked until the first thread releases the lock

Thread Synchronization

- Think of a lock as a token that a thread must acquire before a monitor allows that thread to execute inside of a monitor entry.
- The token is automatically released when the thread exits the monitor, to give another thread an opportunity to get the token and enter the monitor.
- Java associates locks with objects: each object is assigned its own lock, and each lock is assigned to one object.
- A thread acquires an object's lock prior to entering the lockcontrolled monitor entry, which Java represents at the source code level as either a synchronized method or a synchronized statement.

synchronized statement

Enforces mutual exclusion on a block of code
 synchronized (object)
 {
 statements
 } // end synchronized statement
 where object is the object whose monitor lock will be acquired (normally this)

synchronized statement

```
public class SyncStatementExample
  public void method1()
              // some code
              synchronized (this)
                // write to file
              // some other code
  public void method2()
              // some code.
              synchronized (this)
                // read from file
              // some other code
```

- ExecutorService method awaitTermination forces a program to wait for threads to complete execution
 - returns control to its caller either when all tasks executing in the ExecutorService complete or when the specified timeout elapses
 - If all tasks complete before awaitTermination times out, returns true; otherwise returns false

```
// Class that manages an integer array to be shared by
  multiple threads.
import java.util.SecureRandom;
public class SimpleArray // CAUTION: NOT THREAD SAFE!
   private final int array[]; // the shared integer array
   private int writeIndex = 0; // index of next element to be
                               // written
   private final static SecureRandom generator = new
   SecureRandom();
   // construct a SimpleArray of a given size
   public SimpleArray( int size )
      array = new int[ size ];
   } // end constructor
```

```
// add a value to the shared array
public void add( int value )
   int position = writeIndex; // store the write index
   try
      // put thread to sleep for 0-499 milliseconds
      Thread.sleep( generator.nextInt( 500 ) );
   } // end try
   catch ( InterruptedException ex )
      ex.printStackTrace();
   } // end catch
   // put value in the appropriate element
   array[ position ] = value;
   System.out.printf( "%s wrote %2d to element %d.\n",
      Thread.currentThread().getName(), value, position );
   ++writeIndex; // increment index of element to be written next
   System.out.printf( "Next write index: %d\n", writeIndex );
} // end method add
```

```
// used for outputting the contents of the shared
  integer array
  public String toString()
      String arrayString = "\nContents of
  SimpleArray:\n";
      for ( int i = 0; i < array.length; i++ )</pre>
         arrayString += array[ i ] + " ";
      return arrayString;
   } // end method toString
} // end class SimpleArray
```

```
// Adds integers to an array shared with other Runnables
import java.lang.Runnable;
public class ArrayWriter implements Runnable
   private final SimpleArray sharedSimpleArray;
   private final int startValue;
   public ArrayWriter( int value, SimpleArray array )
      startValue = value;
      sharedSimpleArray= array;
   } // end constructor
   public void run()
      for ( int i = startValue; i < startValue + 3; i++ )</pre>
         sharedSimpleArray.add( i ); // add an element to the shared array
      } // end for
   } // end method run
} // end class ArrayWriter
```

```
// Executes two Runnables to add elements to a shared SimpleArray.
import java.util.concurrent.Executors;
import java.util.concurrent.ExecutorService;
import java.util.concurrent.TimeUnit;
public class SharedArrayTest
   public static void main( String[] arg )
      // construct the shared object
      SimpleArray sharedSimpleArray = new SimpleArray( 6 );
      // create two tasks to write to the shared SimpleArray
      ArrayWriter writer1 = new ArrayWriter( 1, sharedSimpleArray );
      ArrayWriter writer2 = new ArrayWriter( 11, sharedSimpleArray );
      // execute the tasks with an ExecutorService
      ExecutorService executor = Executors.newCachedThreadPool();
      executor.execute( writer1 );
      executor.execute( writer2 );
      executor.shutdown();
```

Unsynchronized Data Sharing

```
try
      {
         // wait 1 minute for both writers to finish executing
        boolean tasksEnded = executor.awaitTermination(
            1, TimeUnit.MINUTES );
         if ( tasksEnded )
            System.out.println( sharedSimpleArray ); // print contents
         else
            System.out.println(
               "Timed out while waiting for tasks to finish." );
      } // end try
     catch ( InterruptedException ex )
         System.out.println(
            "Interrupted while wait for tasks to finish." );
      } // end catch
   } // end main
} // end class SharedArrayTest
```

- Simulate atomicity by ensuring that only one thread carries out a set of operations at a time
- Immutable data shared across threads
 - declare the corresponding data fields final to indicate that variables' values will not change after they are initialized
- Place all accesses to mutable data that may be shared by multiple threads inside synchronized statements or synchronized methods that synchronize on the same lock.
- When performing multiple operations on shared data, hold the lock for the entirety of the operation to ensure that the operation is effectively atomic.

synchronized methods

 A synchronized method is equivalent to a synchronized statement that encloses the entire body of a method:

```
public synchronized void incrementCounter()
{
   counter++;
}
```

- When one thread is executing a synchronized method for an object, all other threads that invoke synchronized methods for the same object block (suspend execution) until the first thread is done with the object.
- Constructors cannot be synchronized is a syntax error

```
// Class that manages an integer array to be shared by multiple
// threads with synchronization.
import java.util.SecureRandom;
public class SimpleArray
 private final int array[]; // the shared integer array
 private int writeIndex = 0; // index of next element to be written
 private final static SecureRandom generator = new SecureRandom();
 // construct a SimpleArray of a given size
 public SimpleArray( int size )
   array = new int[ size ];
 } // end constructor
```

```
// add a value to the shared array
  public synchronized void add( int value )
      int position = writeIndex; // store the write index
      try
         // put thread to sleep for 0-499 milliseconds
         Thread.sleep( generator.nextInt( 500 ) );
      } // end try
      catch ( InterruptedException ex )
         ex.printStackTrace();
      } // end catch
      // put value in the appropriate element
      array[ position ] = value;
      System.out.printf( "%s wrote %2d to element %d.\n",
         Thread.currentThread().getName(), value, position );
      ++writeIndex; // increment index of element to be written next
      System.out.printf( "Next write index: %d\n", writeIndex );
   } // end method add
```

```
// used for outputting the contents of the shared
  integer array
  public String toString()
      String arrayString = "\nContents of
  SimpleArray:\n";
      for ( int i = 0; i < array.length; i++ )</pre>
         arrayString += array[ i ] + " ";
      return arrayString;
   } // end method toString
} // end class SimpleArray
```

```
// Adds integers to an array shared with other Runnables
import java.lang.Runnable;
public class ArrayWriter implements Runnable
   private final SimpleArray sharedSimpleArray;
   private final int startValue;
   public ArrayWriter( int value, SimpleArray array )
      startValue = value;
      sharedSimpleArray= array;
   } // end constructor
   public void run()
      for ( int i = startValue; i < startValue + 3; i++ )</pre>
         sharedSimpleArray.add(i); // add an element to the shared array
      } // end for
   } // end method run
} // end class ArrayWriter
```

```
// Executes two Runnables to add elements to a shared SimpleArray.
import java.util.concurrent.Executors;
import java.util.concurrent.ExecutorService;
import java.util.concurrent.TimeUnit;
public class SharedArrayTest
   public static void main( String[] arg )
      // construct the shared object
      SimpleArray sharedSimpleArray = new SimpleArray( 6 );
      // create two tasks to write to the shared SimpleArray
      ArrayWriter writer1 = new ArrayWriter( 1, sharedSimpleArray );
      ArrayWriter writer2 = new ArrayWriter( 11, sharedSimpleArray );
      // execute the tasks with an ExecutorService
      ExecutorService executor = Executors.newCachedThreadPool();
      executor.execute( writer1 );
      executor.execute( writer2 );
      executor.shutdown();
```

```
try
         // wait 1 minute for both writers to finish executing
        boolean tasksEnded = executor.awaitTermination(
            1, TimeUnit.MINUTES );
         if ( tasksEnded )
            System.out.println( sharedSimpleArray ); // print contents
         else
            System.out.println(
               "Timed out while waiting for tasks to finish." );
      } // end try
      catch ( InterruptedException ex )
         System.out.println(
            "Interrupted while wait for tasks to finish." );
      } // end catch
   } // end main
} // end class SharedArrayTest
```

- Keep the duration of synchronized statements as short as possible while maintaining the needed synchronization.
 - This minimizes the wait time for blocked threads.
- Avoid performing I/O, lengthy calculations and operations that do not require synchronization with a lock held
- Always declare data fields that you do not expect to change as final.
 - Primitive variables that are declared as final can safely be shared across threads.
 - An object reference that is declared as final ensures that the object it refers to will be fully constructed and initialized before it is used by the program and prevents the reference from pointing to another object.

Producer/Consumer Relationship: ArrayBlockingQueue

- ArrayBlockingQueue (package java.util.concurrent)
 - Good choice for implementing a shared buffer
 - Implements interface BlockingQueue, which extends interface Queue and declares methods put and take
 - Method put places an element at the end of the BlockingQueue, waiting if the queue is full
 - Method take removes an element from the head of the BlockingQueue, waiting if the queue is empty
 - Stores shared data in an array
 - Array size specified as a constructor argument
 - Array is fixed in size

Producer/Consumer Relationship: ArrayBlockingQueue

Example

Producer/Consumer Relationship with Synchronization

- Can implement a shared using the synchronized keyword and Object methods wait, notify and notifyAll
 - can be used with conditions to make threads wait when they cannot perform their tasks
- A thread that cannot continue with its task until some condition is satisfied can call Object method wait
 - releases the monitor lock on the object
 - thread waits in the waiting state while the other threads try to enter the object's synchronized statement(s) or method(s)
- A thread that completes or satisfies the condition on which another thread may be waiting can call Object method notify
 - allows a waiting thread to transition to the runnable state
 - the thread that was transitioned can attempt to reacquire the monitor lock
- If a thread calls **notifyAll**, all the threads waiting for the monitor lock become eligible to reacquire the lock

Producer/Consumer Relationship with Synchronization

- It is an error if a thread issues a wait, a notify or a notifyAll on an object without having acquired a lock for it.
 - This causes an IllegalMonitorStateException.
- It is a good practice to use notify waiting threads to become runnable.
 - Doing so avoids the possibility that your program would forget about waiting threads, which would otherwise starve

Producer/Consumer Relationship with Synchronization

Example

Multithreading with GUI

- Event dispatch thread handles interactions with the application's GUI components
 - All tasks that interact with an application's GUI are placed in an event queue
 - Executed sequentially by the event dispatch thread
- Swing GUI components are not thread safe
 - Thread safety achieved by ensuring that Swing components are accessed from only the event dispatch thread—known as thread confinement
- Preferable to handle long-running computations in a separate thread, so the event dispatch thread can continue managing other GUI interactions
- Class SwingWorker (in package javax.swing) implements interface Runnable
 - Performs long-running computations in a worker thread
 - Updates Swing components from the event dispatch thread based on the computations' results

Multithreading with GUI

Method	Description
doInBackground	Defines a long computation and is called in a worker thread.
done	Executes on the event dispatch thread when doInBackground returns.
execute	Schedules the Swingworker object to be executed in a worker thread.
get	Waits for the computation to complete, then returns the result of the computation (i.e., the return value of doInBackground).
publish	Sends intermediate results from the doInBackground method to the process method for processing on the event dispatch thread.
process	Receives intermediate results from the publish method and processes these results on the event dispatch thread.
setProgress	Sets the progress property to notify any property change listeners on the event dispatch thread of progress bar updates.

Performing Computations in a Worker Thread

- To use a SwingWorker:
 - Extend SwingWorker
 - Overrides methods dolnBackground and done
 - doInBackground performs the computation and returns the result
 - **done** displays the results in the GUI after doInBackground returns
- SwingWorker is a generic class
 - First type parameter indicates the type returned by dolnBackground
 - Second indicates the type passed between the **publish** and **process** methods to handle intermediate results
- ExecutionException thrown if an exception occurs during the computation

Performing Computations in a Worker Thread

Example

Interface Lock

- Since Java 1.5 it's possible to implement explicit locks more flexibility
- The package java.util.concurrent.locks contains lock classes and interfaces
- As with implicit locks, only one thread can own a Lock object at a time.
 - Other threads that try to acquire it block (or become suspended) until lock becomes available
- Reentrant lock can be reacquired by same thread
 - As many times as desired
 - No other thread may acquire lock until has been released same number of times has been acquired

Interface Lock

```
interface Lock {
    void lock();
    void unlock();
    ...
    //some other stuff
}
```

- Locks allow you to interrupt waiting threads or to specify a timeout for waiting to acquire a lock, which is not possible using the synchronized keyword.
- Also, a Lock is not constrained to be acquired and released in the same block of code, which is the case with the synchronized keyword.

Synchronization Using Locks

```
public class Example extends Thread {
   private static int cnt = 0;
   private Lock lock;
   public Example() {
     lock = new ReentrantLock(); 
   public void run() {
     lock.lock();
     int y = cnt;
     cnt = y + 1;
     lock.unlock();
```

Creating a lock, for protecting the shared state

Acquires the lock; Only succeeds if not held by another thread

Releases the lock

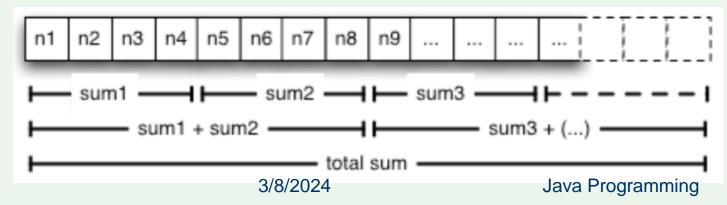
The fork/join framework

- It is an implementation of the ExecutorService interface that helps you take advantage of multiple processors.
- It is designed for work that can be broken into smaller pieces recursively.
- The goal is to use all the available processing power to make your application wicked fast
- Good for parallel programming

The fork/join framework

60

- An example would be calculating the sum of a huge array of integers
- You may split the array into smaller portions where concurrent threads compute partial sums.
- The partial sums can then be added to compute the total sum.
- There will be a clear performance boost on multicore architectures compared to a mono-thread algorithm that would iterate over each integer in the array.



The fork/join framework

- As with any ExecutorService, the fork/join framework distributes tasks to worker threads in a thread pool.
- The fork/join framework is distinct because it uses a work-stealing algorithm.
- Worker threads that run out of things to do can steal tasks from other threads that are still busy

Using the fork/join framework

 The first step is to write some code that performs a segment of the work:

```
if (my portion of the work is small enough)
do the work directly
else
split my work into two pieces
invoke the two pieces and wait for the results
```

- Wrap this code as a ForkJoinTask subclass, typically as one of its more specialized types <u>RecursiveTask</u>(which can return a result) or <u>RecursiveAction</u>.
- After your ForkJoinTask is ready, create one that represents all the work to be done and pass it to the invoke() method of a ForkJoinPool instance.

References

- Textbook
- Java Documentation
 - https://docs.oracle.com/javase/tutorial/essential/co ncurrency/