Multithreading in Java

Multithreading in Java is a process of executing multiple threads simultaneously.

A thread is a lightweight sub-process, the smallest unit of processing. Multiprocessing and multithreading, both are used to achieve multitasking.

However, we use multithreading than multiprocessing because threads use a shared memory area. They don't allocate separate memory area so saves memory, and context-switching between the threads takes less time than process.

Java Multithreading is mostly used in games, animation, etc.

Advantages of Java Multithreading

1) It **doesn't block the user** because threads are independent and you can perform multiple operations at the same time.

2) You **can perform many operations together, so it saves time**.

3) Threads are **independent**, so it doesn't affect other threads if an exception occurs in a single thread.

Multitasking

Multitasking is a process of executing multiple tasks simultaneously. We use multitasking to utilize the CPU. Multitasking can be achieved in two ways:

- Process-based Multitasking (Multiprocessing)
- Thread-based Multitasking (Multithreading)

1) Process-based Multitasking (Multiprocessing)

- Each process has an address in memory. In other words, each process allocates a separate memory area.
- A process is heavyweight.
- Cost of communication between the process is high.
- Switching from one process to another requires some time for saving and loading registers, memory maps, updating lists, etc.

2) Thread-based Multitasking (Multithreading)

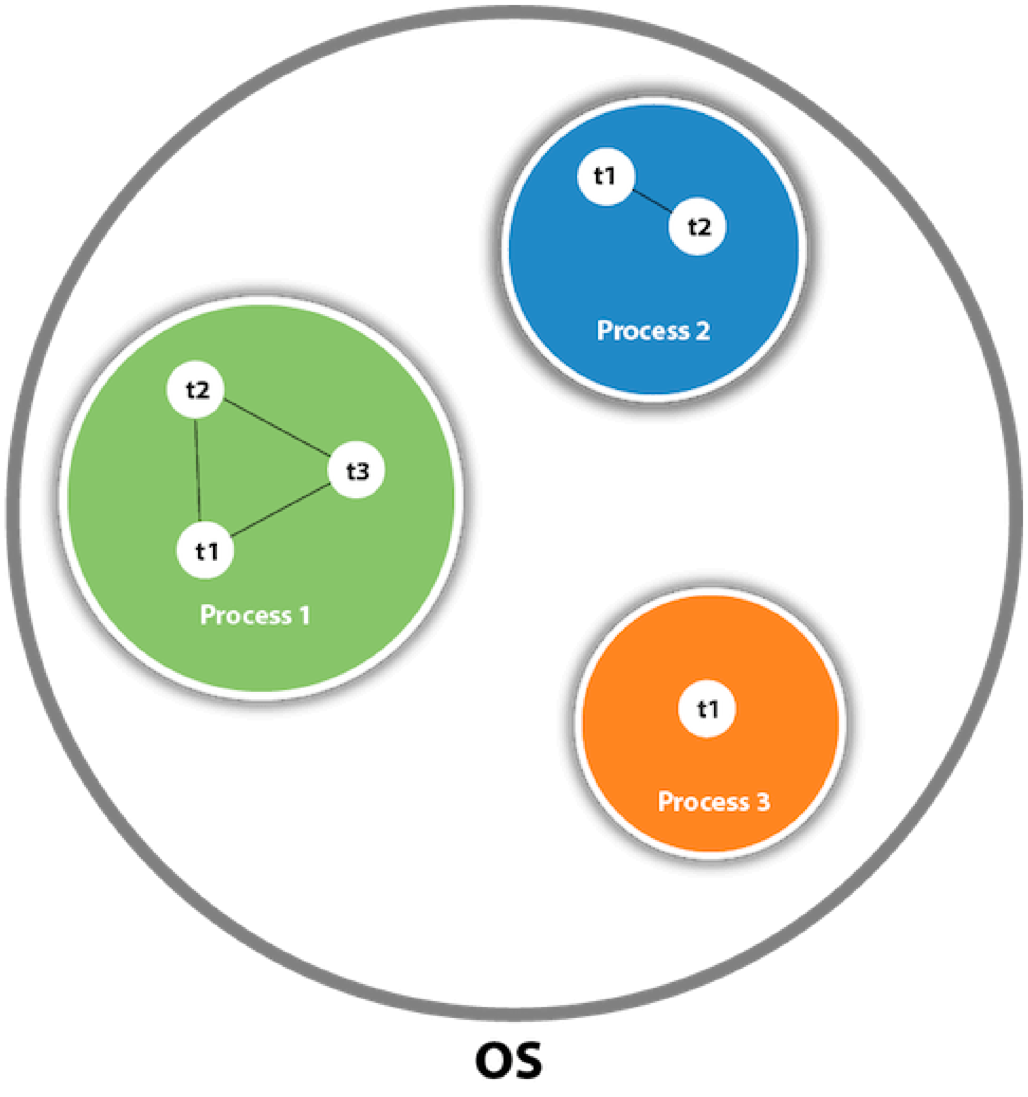
- Threads share the same address space.
- A thread is lightweight.
- Cost of communication between the thread is low.

Note: At least one process is required for each thread.

What is Thread in java

A thread is a lightweight subprocess, the smallest unit of processing. It is a separate path of execution.

Threads are independent. If there occurs exception in one thread, it doesn't affect other threads. It uses a shared memory area.



As shown in the above figure, a thread is executed inside the process. There is context-switching between the threads. There can be multiple processes inside the OS, and one process can have multiple threads.

Note: At a time one thread is executed only.

Java Thread class

Java provides **Thread class** to achieve thread programming. Thread class provides constructors and methods to create and perform operations on a thread. Thread class extends Object class and implements Runnable interface.

Java Thread Methods

S.N.	Modifier and Type	Method	Description
1)	void	start()	It is used to start the execution of the thread.
2)	void	run()	It is used to do an action for a thread.
3)	static void	sleep()	It sleeps a thread for the specified amount of time.
4)	static Thread	currentThread()	It returns a reference to the currently executing thread object.
5)	void	join()	It waits for a thread to die.
6)	int	getPriority()	It returns the priority of the thread.
7)	void	setPriority()	It changes the priority of the thread.

8)	String	getName()	It returns the name of the thread.
9)	void	setName()	It changes the name of the thread.
10)	long	getId()	It returns the id of the thread.
11)	boolean	isAlive()	It tests if the thread is alive.
12)	static void	yield()	It causes the currently executing thread object to pause and allow other threads to execute temporarily.
13)	void	suspend()	It is used to suspend the thread.
14)	void	resume()	It is used to resume the suspended thread.
15)	void	stop()	It is used to stop the thread.

16)	void	destroy()	It is used to destroy the thread group and all of its subgroups.
17)	boolean	isDaemon()	It tests if the thread is a daemon thread.
18)	void	setDaemon()	It marks the thread as daemon or user thread.
19)	void	interrupt()	It interrupts the thread.
20)	boolean	isinterrupted()	It tests whether the thread has been interrupted.
21)	static boolean	interrupted()	It tests whether the current thread has been interrupted.
22)	static int	activeCount()	It returns the number of active threads in the current thread's thread group.

23)	void	checkAccess()	It determines if the currently running thread has permission to modify the thread.
24)	static boolean	holdLock()	It returns true if and only if the current thread holds the monitor lock on the specified object.
25)	static void	dumpStack()	It is used to print a stack trace of the current thread to the standard error stream.
26)	StackTraceElement[]	getStackTrace()	It returns an array of stack trace elements representing the stack dump of the thread.

27)	static int	enumerate()	It is used to copy every active thread's thread group and its subgroup into the specified array.
28)	Thread.State	getState()	It is used to return the state of the thread.
29)	ThreadGroup	getThreadGroup()	It is used to return the thread group to which this thread belongs
30)	String	toString()	It is used to return a string representation of this thread, including the thread's name, priority, and thread group.
31)	void	notify()	It is used to give the notification for only one thread which is waiting for a particular object.

32)	void	notifyAll()	It is used to give the notification to all waiting threads of a particular object.
33)	void	setContextClassLoader()	It sets the context ClassLoader for the Thread.
34)	ClassLoader	getContextClassLoader()	It returns the context ClassLoader for the thread.
35)	static Thread.UncaughtExceptionHandler	getDefaultUncaughtExceptionHandler()	It returns the default handler invoked when a thread abruptly terminates due to an uncaught exception.
36)	static void	setDefaultUncaughtExceptionHandler()	It sets the default handler invoked when a thread abruptly terminates due to an uncaught exception.

Do You Know

- How to perform two tasks by two threads?
- How to perform multithreading by anonymous class?
- What is the Thread Scheduler and what is the difference between preemptive scheduling and time slicing?
- What happens if we start a thread twice?
- What happens if we call the run() method instead of start() method?
- What is the purpose of join method?
- Why JVM terminates the daemon thread if no user threads are remaining?
- What is the shutdown hook?
- What is garbage collection?
- What is the purpose of finalize() method?
- What does the gc() method?
- What is synchronization and why use synchronization?
- What is the difference between synchronized method and synchronized block?
- What are the two ways to perform static synchronization?
- What is deadlock and when it can occur?
- What is interthread-communication or cooperation?

What will we learn in Multithreading

- Multithreading
- Life Cycle of a Thread
- Two ways to create a Thread
- How to perform multiple tasks by multiple threads
- Thread Scheduler
- Sleeping a thread
- Can we start a thread twice?
- What happens if we call the run() method instead of start() method?
- Joining a thread
- Naming a thread
- Priority of a thread

- Daemon Thread
- ShutdownHook
- Garbage collection
- Synchronization with synchronized method
- Synchronized block
- Static synchronization
- Deadlock
- Inter-thread communication

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