

Application Program Development

APD545

Instructor: Maryam Sepehrinour

Email: Maryam.Sepehrinour@SenecaPolytechnic.ca

Outcomes

Understanding of Threads.

Understanding of Java Threads.

Understanding of Thread Lifecycle.

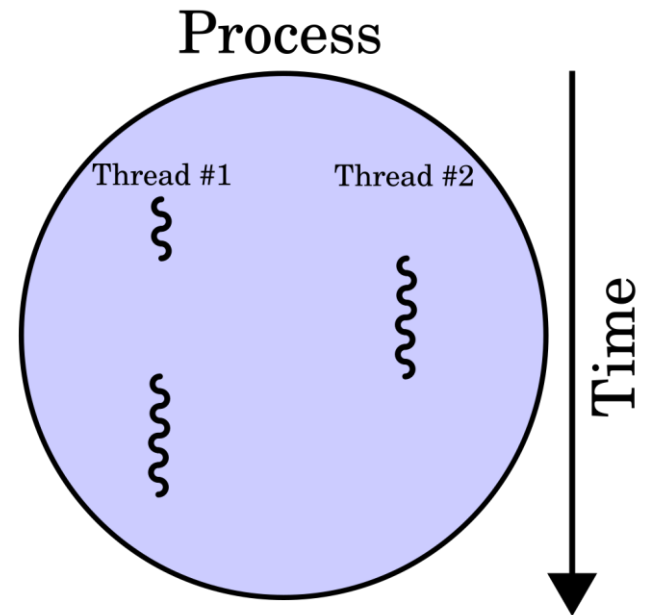
Examples with Java Threads and it's management.

Motivation

- Single-threaded applications can lead to poor responsiveness where lengthy activities must complete before others can begin.
- Performance is poor as the development times goes up with this.
- Poor utilization of CPU resources.
- Maintenance time cost is higher.
- Poor utilization of cache storage by not utilizing the resources properly.

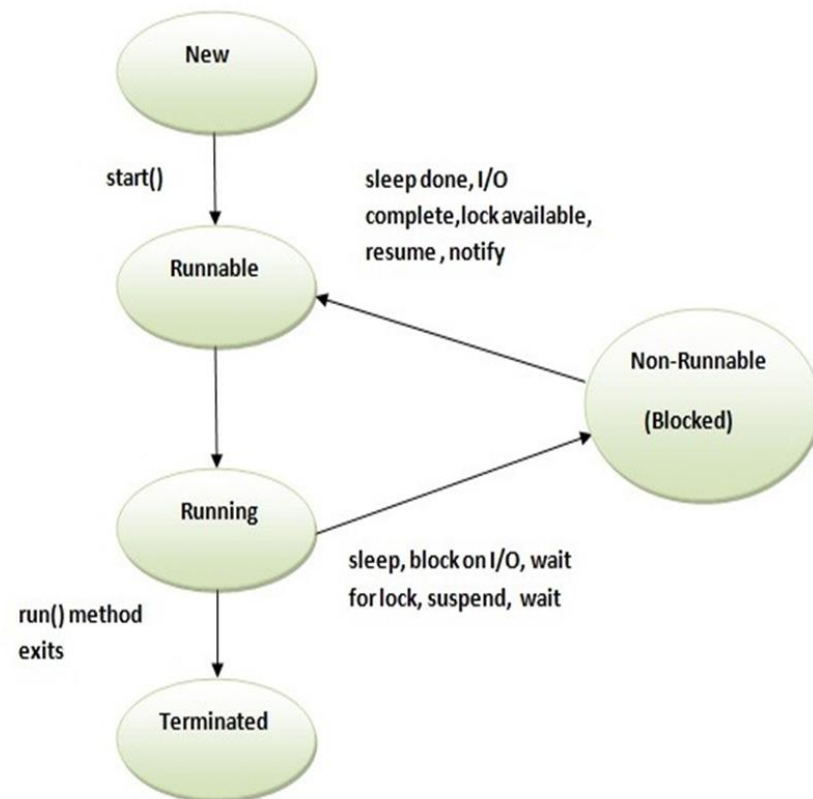
Definitions

- a thread of execution is the smallest sequence of programmed instructions that can be managed independently by a scheduler, which is typically a part of the operating system. In many cases, a thread is a component of a process.
- The multiple threads of a given process may be executed concurrently (via multithreading capabilities), sharing resources such as memory, while different processes do not share these resources.



Threads in Java

- Java provides concurrency available to you via language and API's
- The life cycle of the thread in java is controlled by JVM.
- The java thread states are as follows:
 - New
 - Runnable
 - Running
 - Non-Runnable (Blocked)
 - Terminated



Threads in Java

- New
 - The thread is in new state if you create an instance of Thread class but before the invocation of start() method.
- Runnable
 - The thread is in runnable state after invocation of start() method, but the thread scheduler has not selected it to be the running thread.
- Running
 - The thread is in running state if the thread scheduler has selected it.
- Non-Runnable (Blocked)
 - This is the state when the thread is still alive, but is currently not eligible to run.
- Terminated
 - A thread is in terminated or dead state when its run() method exits.

Defining a Thread

- There are two ways to create a thread:
 - Extend Thread Class:
 - `public class MyThread extends Thread {`
 - `public void run () {`
 - `}`
 - `}`
 - One must override `run()` method.
 - Create a Runnable Object (Implementing the Interface):
 - `public class MyRunnable implements Runnable {`
 - `public void run() {`
 - `}`
 - `}`
 - One must implement `run()` method.

Create an object of your subclass:

```
Runnable r = new MyRunnable();
```

Construct a Thread object from the runnable object:

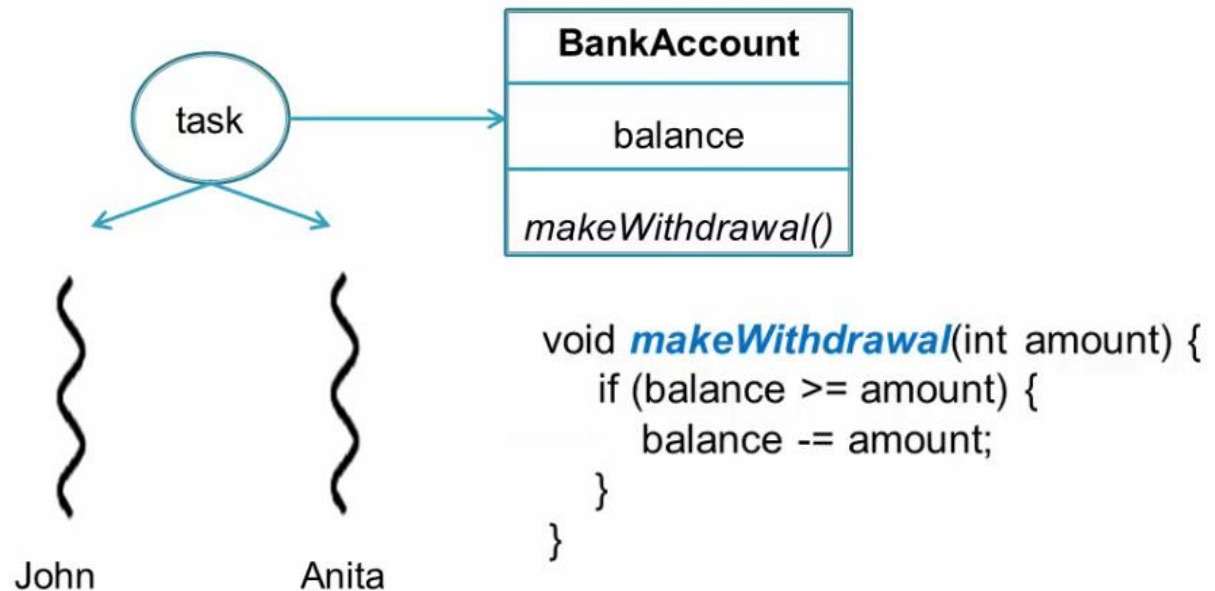
```
Thread t = new Thread(r);
```

Call the start method to start the thread:

```
t.start();
```

Thread Synchronization

- A shared resource may be corrupted if it is accessed simultaneously by multiple threads. For example, two unsynchronized threads accessing the same bank account may cause conflict.



Synchronization Concept

- Synchronization is built around the concept known as the intrinsic lock
- Every object has an intrinsic lock associated with it
- A thread that needs access to an object's fields has to acquire the object's intrinsic lock
- A thread has to release the intrinsic lock when it's done with an object
- A thread is said to own the intrinsic lock since it acquires until it releases the object's intrinsic lock
- Any other thread will block when it attempts to acquire the object's intrinsic lock, if the lock is owned by another thread

Types of Synchronization

- There are two types of synchronization
 - Process Synchronization.
 - Thread Synchronization.
 - Mutual Exclusive (keep threads from interfering with one another while sharing data. This can be done by three ways in java)
 - Synchronized method.
 - Synchronized block.
 - static synchronization.
 - Cooperation (Inter-thread communication in java)

Synchronized method

Locked by thread1

All threads waiting for lock

thread1

thread2

thread3

thread4

thread5

```
public class Test {
    private static final String currentTimeString;
    private static String lastUsedTimeString;

    static {
        currentTimeString = LocalDateTime.now().toString();
        System.out.println("Static block executed at time " + currentTimeString);
    }

    public static synchronized void updateLastUsedTime() {
        lastUsedTimeString = LocalDateTime.now().toString();
        System.out.println("Last used time updated to " + lastUsedTimeString);
    }
}
```

```
public synchronized void meet() {

    String threadName = Thread.currentThread().getName();
    System.out.println(threadName + " meeting started!");
    System.out.println(threadName + " meeting ended!!");
}
```

Fig: Synchronized method

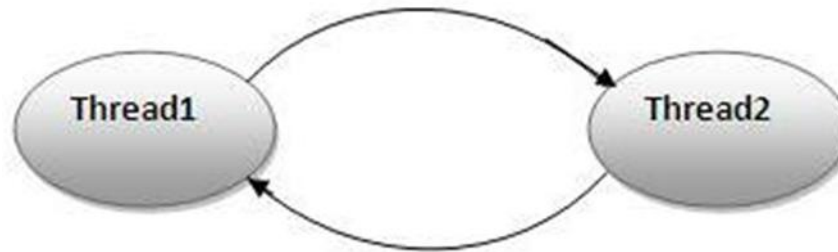
```
1 → private Object assistant = new Object();

    public void meet() {
2 → synchronized (assistant) {
3 →     String threadName = Thread.currentThread().getName();
4 →     System.out.println(threadName + " meeting started!");
        System.out.println(threadName + " meeting ended!!");
    }
}
```

Fig: Synchronized Block

Deadlock

- The threads t1 and t2 are blocked forever, waiting for each other
- this problem is defined as being a deadlock



Inter-Thread Communication

- Threads have to coordinate their actions (they must work together).
- The guarded block is the most common coordination idiom for threads coordination.
- The guarded block uses three methods from Object class:
 - wait()
 - Causes the current thread to wait until another thread invokes the notify() method or the notifyAll() method for this object.
 - notify()
 - Wakes up a single thread
 - notifyAll()
 - Wakes up all threads

```
public synchronized void guardedExamResult() {  
  
    // This guard only loops once for each special event,  
    // which may not be the event we're waiting for.  
  
    while (!examResult) { try {  
        wait();  
    } catch (InterruptedException e) {}  
    }  
  
    System.out.println("Exam Result have been received!");  
}
```

```
public synchronized notifyExamResult() {  
    examResult = true;  
    notifyAll();  
}
```

Important note:

There is a second notification method, **notify**, which wakes up a single thread.

The **notify** method doesn't allow you to specify the thread that is woken up.

Thank you!

