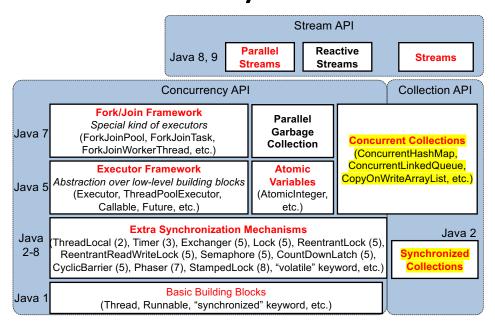
## **Collections and Concurrency**

## **3 Types of Collections in Java**

- Thread-unsafe collections
- Thread-safe collections
  - Synchronized collections
  - Concurrent collections

## **Concurrency API in Java**



## **Thread-unsafe Collections**

- Many collection classes are NOT thread safe.
  - e.g., ArrayList, LinkedList, HashMap, etc.
  - Their public methods never perform thread synchronization (locking).
- Look into Java API documentation to see if a collection is thread-safe or not.

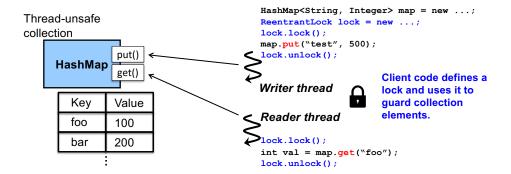
## Java API Doc on ArrayList

- "Note that this implementation is not synchronized. If
  multiple threads access an ArrayList instance concurrently,
  and at least one of the threads modifies the list structurally,
  it must be synchronized externally.
  - (A structural modification is any operation that adds or deletes one or more elements, or explicitly resizes the backing array; merely setting the value of an element is not a structural modification.)..."

- You must do client-side locking for compound operations as well as simple public method calls.
- Example compound operations
  - Iteration (element-traversal)
    - Get all elements one by one
  - Navigation
    - Find/search the next element after a given element
  - Conditional operations (check-then-act)
    - e.g., Check if a наshмар has a key-value pair for the key к, and if not, add the pair (к, v)

### When You Use a Thread-unsafe Collection...

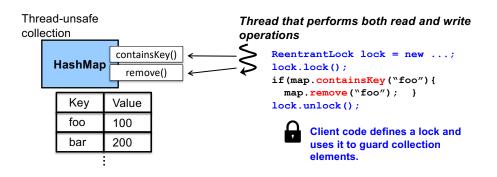
- You must do *client-side locking*; your client code must *externally* perform thread synchronization.
  - to guard collection elements against concurrent accesses.
    - c.f. previous HWs that use thread-unsafe collections such as ArrayList,
       LinkedList and HashMap.



## **Example Compound Operations**

# **Client-side Locking for Compound Operations**

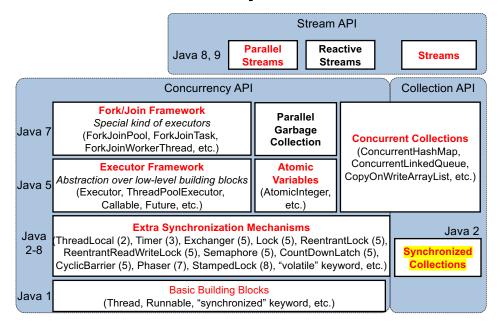
• An example "check-then-act" compound operation



## **3 Types of Collections in Java**

- Thread-unsafe collections
- Thread-safe collections
  - Synchronized collections
  - Concurrent collections

## **Concurrency API in Java**



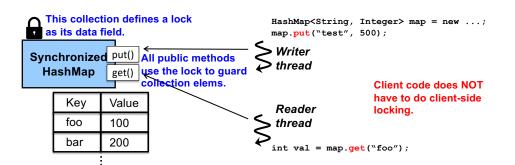
## **Synchronized Collections**

- "Ready-made" thread-safe collections
  - Synchronized classes: vector and Hashtable
    - All public methods perform thread synchronization.
      - Only one thread can access the elements of a collection at a time.
        - » e.g., When a thread is in the middle of executing add() on a vector, no other threads can call get(), size(), etc. on that Vector.
  - Synchronized wrapper classes for thread-unsafe collections
    - Created by java.util.Collections.synchronizedXyz()
      - Factory methods
      - synchronizedList()
      - synchronizedMap()
      - synchronizedSet()

## Vector and Hashtable in **Single Threaded Programs**

- It makes no sense to use these collections in singlethreaded programs in a performance point of view.
  - They perform thread synchronization even when only one thread runs in a program.
    - Unnecessary performance loss
- Use ArrayList and HashMap instead!
  - compatibility.
- They still exist in Java API only for backward

- All public methods are thread-safe in all synchronized collection classes.
- No client-side locking is necessary when client code makes a simple public method call.



## **Synchronized Wrapper Classes**

- List<String> list = Collections.synchronizedList( new ArrayList<String>() );
- list: an instance of a synchronized wrapper class for ArrayList.
  - list.getClass() → java.util.Collections\$SynchronizedRandomAccessList
  - The wrapper class offers "synchronized" (or thread-safe) versions of ArrayList's public methods.
    - add(), get(), remove(), etc.

- Need client-side locking in compound operations on a synchronized collection
  - Iteration (element-traversal)
    - Get all elements one by one
  - Navigation
    - Find/search the next element after a given element
  - Conditional operations (check-then-act)
    - e.g., Check if a наshмар has a key-value pair for the key к, and if not, add the pair (K,V)

## **Potential Problems in Compound Actions**

```
    List<String> list =
        Collections.synchronizedList( new ArrayList<String>());
    Iterator it = list.iterator();
    while(it.hasNext()) // Iteration
    doSomething(it.next());
    if(list.size()>10) // Check-then-act
    doSomething(list);
    Race conditions can occur here.
```

- Race conditions
- ConcurrentModificaionException
  - Raised if a writer thread tries to add/remove elements before a reader thread completes a traversal on the entire set of elements.

- lock is different from the lock that the list owns for thread synch in its public methods.
  - Must make sure to use lock consistently in all client code of list.
- A thread acquires 2 locks.

# **Client-side Locking for Compound Operations**

 synchronized(list): acquires the lock that the list owns/uses for thread synchronization in its public methods.

# Performance Implication on Client-side Locking

```
List<String> list =
    Collections.synchronizedList( new ArrayList<String>());
                                  // acquires the lock that the list owns
  synchronized(list) {
    Iterator it = list.iterator();
    while( it.hasNext() )
                                 // nested locking
        doSomething( it.next() );// nested locking
  ReentrantLock lock = new ReentrantLock();
                                  // acquires lock
   lock.lock();
   Iterator it = list.iterator();
   while( it.hasNext() )
                                 // acquires the lock that the list owns
                                 // acquires the lock that the list owns
    doSomething( it.next() );
  lock.unlock();
```

Performance penalty due to 2 lock acquisitions

```
List<String> list = new ArrayList<String>();
...
ReentrantLock lock = new ReentrantLock();
lock.lock();
Iterator it = list.iterator();
while( it.hasNext() )
    doSomething( it.next() );
lock.unlock();
```

- Performs client-side locking for ArrayList, which is NOT thread-safe.
  - The client code is thread-safe although hasNext() and next() are not.
- More efficient than the previous client code.
  - Only 1 lock acquisition (not 2 acquisitions)
  - Use a read-write lock if you have many "reader" threads.

#### Thread unsafe collections

- Use them consistently.
- Synchronized collections
  - Forget about them.
  - Never use vector and Hashtable in single-threaded programs

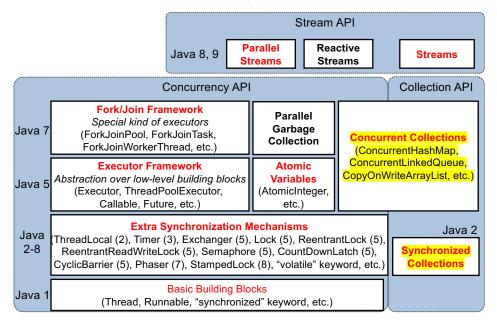
# Summary: Thread-unsafe Collections v.s. Synchronized Collections

- Thread unsafe collections
  - Client code always must perform thread synchronization.
    - For both simple public method calls and compound operations
    - Client-side locking always requires 1 lock acquisition.

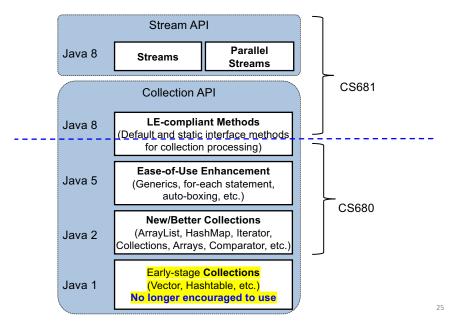
#### Synchronized collections

- Client code does NOT have to perform thread synchronization for simple public method calls.
- However, it needs client-side locking for compound operations.
  - Client-side locking requires 2 lock acquisitions.

## **Concurrency API in Java**



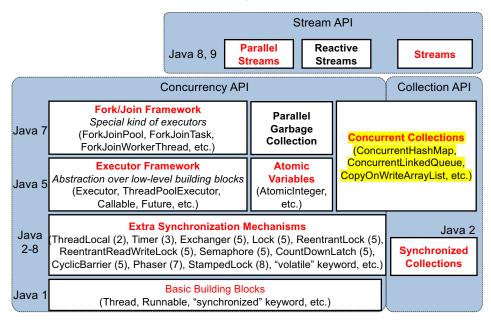
## **Collection API in Java**



## **3 Types of Collections in Java**

- Thread-unsafe collections
- Thread-safe collections
  - Synchronized collections
  - Concurrent collections

## **Concurrency API in Java**



### **Concurrent Collections**

- "Ready-made" thread-safe collections
  - Introduced in Java 5 (2004) and enhanced in subsequent versions
    - Queue
      - ConcurrentLinkedQueue (since Java 5)
      - ConcurrentLinkedDeque (since Java 7)
      - ArrayBlockingQueue (since Java 5)
      - LinkedBlockingQueue (since Java 5)
      - DelayQueue (since Java 5)
      - PriorirtyBlockingQueue (since Java 5)
      - LinkedBlockingDeque (since Java 6)
      - LinkedTransferQueue (since Java 7)
    - Map
      - ConcurrentHashMap (since Java 5)
      - ConcurrentSkipListMap (since Java 6)
    - Set
      - ConcurrentSkipListSet (since Java 6)
  - java.util.concurrent.CopyOnWriteXyz Classes
    - CopyOnWriteArrayList
    - CopyOnWriteArraySet

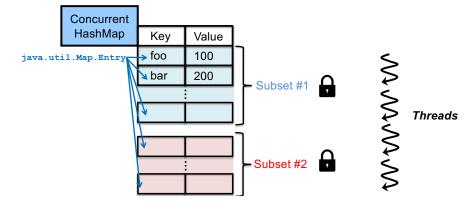
## ConcurrentHashMap

- Indented to replace synchronized collections.
  - e.g., ConcurrentHashMap is indented to replace synchronizedMap.
- Make public methods thread-safe.
  - e.g., get() and put() in ConcurrentHashMap
  - Client code does NOT have to perform thread synchronization for simple public method calls.
- Implement public methods in an efficient manner.
  - e.g., lock stripping
- Provide public thread-safe methods to perform compound operations
  - Client code does not have to do client-side locking.

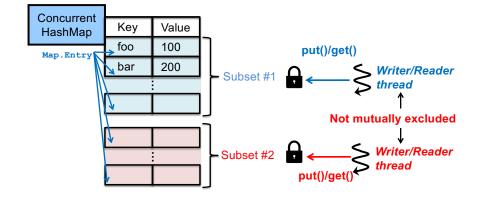
- Provides thread-safe public methods.
  - e.g., get() and put()
  - Client code does NOT have to do client-side locking.
- A replacement for synchronized hash-based мар implementations (e.g., наshtable and synchronized наshмар).
- Implements public methods in an efficient manner.
  - Performs *fine-grained* locking, called lock stripping
    - Compared to *coarse-grained* locking (i.e., lock-per-collection) in synchronized hash-based Map implementations.

## **Lock Stripping**

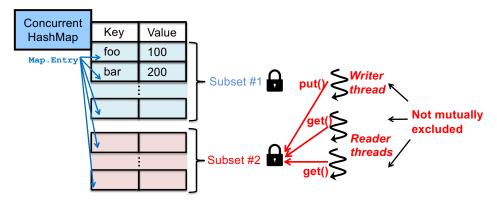
- ConcurrentHashMap uses multiple locks to guard a table (i.e., key-value pairs).
  - 16 locks by default
    - Configurable with the "concurrency Level" parameter in a constructor.
  - Each lock is associated with a subset of the table.



- Threads are not mutually excluded with each other
  - as far as they access different subsets of the table with different locks.

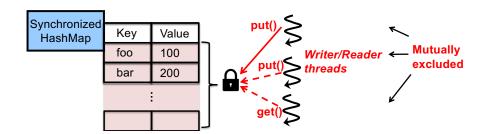


- To access a subset of the table,
  - Reader threads
    - are NOT mutually excluded with each other.
      - c.f. read-write lock
    - are NOT mutually excluded with writer threads.
      - c.f. inner class Node<K, V>

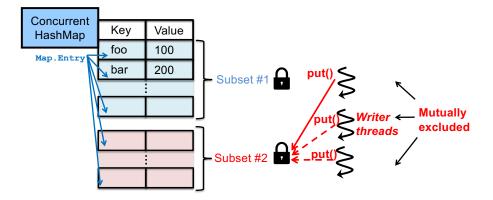


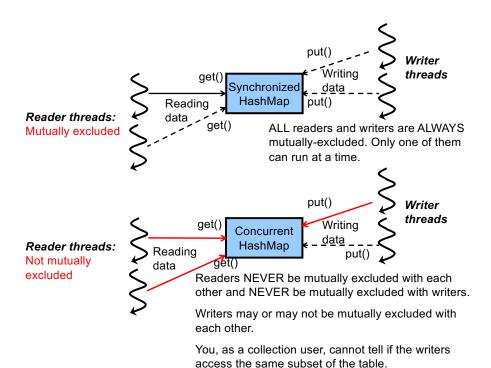
## **Synchronized Hash-based Map Impls**

- A <u>single lock</u> is used to guard the <u>entire</u> table in наshtable and synchronized наshмар
  - No lock stripping.
- All writer/reader threads ARE ALWAYS mutually excluded with each other.
  - A potential performance bottleneck as the number of key-value pairs increases and the number of threads increases.



- To access a subset of the table,
  - Writer threads ARE mutually excluded with each other.

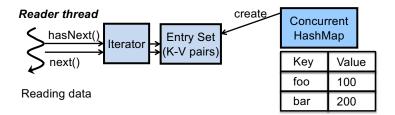




## **Thread-safe Compound Operations**

- Supports thread-safe iteration
  - No client-side locking is necessary.
    - c.f. Thread-unsafe collections and synchronized collections require client-side locking for iteration
      - Because it is a compound operation.

- Iterator it = aConcurrentHashMap.entrySet().iterator();
  while( it.hasNext() )
   doSomething( it.next() );
  - Pros
    - · No client-side locking is necessary.
      - No need to mutually exclude readers.



#### **Concurrent Iterators**

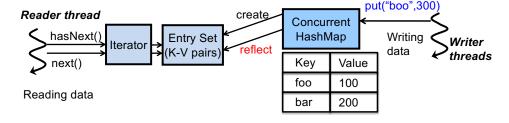
Concurrent iterators are obtained through

```
entrySet(), keySet() and values().
```

- entrySet(): Returns key-value pairs as a Set.
  - Set<Map.Entry<K,V>>
- keySet(): Returns keys as a Set.
  - ConcurrentHashMap.KeySetView<K,V>
- values (): Returns values as a Collection.
  - Collection<V>

```
- Iterator it = aConcurrentHashMap.entrySet().iterator();
while(it.hasNext())
doSomething(it.next());
```

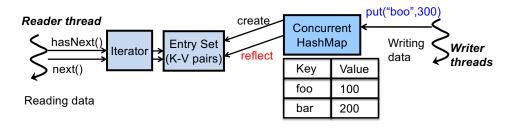
- Iterator it = aConcurrentHashMap.entrySet().iterator();
  while( it.hasNext() )
   doSomething( it.next() );
  - Pros
    - No client-side locking is necessary in client code.
      - No need to mutually exclude readers.
      - No need to mutually exclude readers and writers.
        - » Writers can add/remove elements while readers read elements.
        - » It is guaranteed that writers and readers do not corrupt elements.
    - The iterator "it" is backed by the map, so changes to the map are reflected in the set.



• Iterator it = aConcurrentHashMap.entrySet().iterator();
while( it.hasNext() )
doSomething( it.next() );

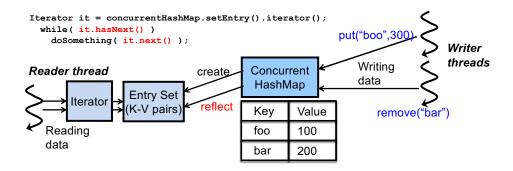
#### – Cons:

- Weak (or best-effort) consistency
  - There is no guarantee about how soon a change (on the hash map) to be reflected into the entry set.
  - The iterator "it" may or may not traverse the most up-to-date keyvalue pairs in the map.



# **Consistency v.s. Performance**

- ConcurrentHashMap trades perfect consistency for performance improvement.
  - If you can live with weak consistency, it's a great collection class for you.
    - Pros: performance improvement
    - Cons:
      - » Iterators may or may not traverse the most up-to-date key-value pairs in the map.
      - » mappingCount() and isEmpty() are not perfectly reliable.
        - The value returned is an estimate; the actual value may differ if there are concurrent insertions or removals.
  - If you cannot, craft your own thread-safe hash map with HashMap and ReentrantLock.
    - concurentHashMap does not implement perfect consistency.



- The iterator "it" may traverse
  - {(foo,100), (bar,200)},
  - {(foo,100), (bar,200), (boo,300)},
  - $-\{(foo,100)\}, or$
  - $-\{(foo,100), (boo,300)\}.$
- It is guaranteed that elements are never get corrupted.
  - Corrupted data like (foo,300) is never put to the map.

- int size()
  - Returns the total number of key-value pairs with int.
    - int: 32-bit signed integer:- 2147483647 to 2,147,483,647
    - What if you need to have more than 2.15 billion pairs?
- long mappingCount() [since Java 8]
  - Returns the total number of key-value pairs with long.
    - Long: 64-bit signed integer: -9223372036854775808 to 9,223,372,036,854,775,807
  - Use this method, rather than size(), when you maintain a huge number of key-value pairs.

### A New Method in Iterator

- java.util.Iterator<E>
  - Used to traverse individual elements in a collection

```
• Iterator it = concurrentHashMap.setEntry().iterator();
   while( it.hasNext() )
    doSomething( it.next() );
```

- forEachRemaining() [since Java 8]
  - Accepts a lambda expression (LE) and applies the LE to each element
    - until all elements have been processed or the action throws an exception.

No client-side locking is required to call forEachRemaining()

## **Other Thread-safe Compound Operations**

- Supports common compound operations in a threadsafe manner
  - put-if-absent: putIfAbsent(key, value)
    - Insert a pair of key and value as a new entry if key is not already associated with a value.
  - Conditional remove: remove (key, value)
    - $\bullet$  Remove the entry for  $\mathtt{key}$  if  $\mathtt{key}$  is associated with  $\mathtt{value}.$
  - Conditional replace: replace(key, value)
    - Replace the entry for key if key is associated with some value.
  - Conditional replace: replace(key, oldValue, newValue)
    - Replace the entry for key with newValue only if key is associated with oldValue.
  - No client-side locking is necessary

## A Specialized Iterator: Spliterator

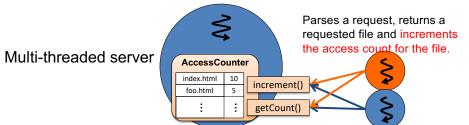
```
• public interface Iterable<T>{
        Iterator<T> iterator();
        Spliterator<T> spliterator();
        ... }
• java.util.Spliterator<E>
        - "Split" + "iterator"
```

 Can split (or subset) the entire set of elements and traverse a subset of the elements.

st1 and st2 cover two different subsets.

#### **Exercise: Concurrent Access Counter**

- AccessCounter
  - c.f. HW 11 (W/ HashMap and ReentrantLock)
  - c.f. HW 13 (W/ HashMap and ReentrantReadWriteLock)
  - Maintains a map that pairs a relative file path and its access count.
  - increment()
    - accepts a file path and increments the file's access count.
  - getCount()
    - accepts a file path and returns the file's access count.



#### • Revise the access counter with ConcurrentHashMap

```
- increment()
```

```
    Integer oldCount = concurrentMap.get(aFilePath);
int newCount = oldCount==null? 1: oldCount+1;
concurrentMap.put(aFileName, newCount);
```

- This client code is NOT thread-safe.
  - because it performs a compound operation.
  - although get() and put() are thread-safe.
  - Need client-side locking with a ReentrantLock
- Alternatively, use putIfAbsent() and AtomicInteger

```
- ConcurrentHashMap<Path, AtomicInteger> map = new ...;
map.putIfAbsent(aFilePath, new AtomicInteger(0));
map.get(aFileName).incrementAndGet();
```

### **Important General-Purpose Functional Interfaces**

	Params	Returns	Example use case	
Function <t,r></t,r>	Т	R	Get the price (R) from a Car object (T) Generate a function (R) from another (T)	
Consumer <t></t>	Т	void	Print out a collection element (T)	
Predicate <t></t>	Т	boolean	Has this car (T) had an accident?	
Supplier <t></t>	NO	Т	A factory method. Create a Car object and return it.	
UnaryOperator <t></t>	Т	Т	Logical NOT (!)	
BinaryOperator <t></t>	T, T	Т	Multiplying two numbers (*)	
BiFunction <u,t></u,t>	U, T	R	Return TRUE (R) if two params (U and T) match.	

# Thread-safe Methods that Accept Lambda Expressions

- compute(K, BiFunction<K,V,V>)
  - Accepts a key (K) and a lambda expression (LE)
  - Applies the LE on a key-value pair that is associated with the supplied key (κ).

- If a key-value pair that is associated with K does not exist, null is passed to the 2nd parameter of the lambda expression.
- computeIfAbsent(K, Function<K,V>)
   map.computeIfAbsent(aFilePath, (Path k)->{return 1;})
- omputeIfPresent(K, BiFunction<K,V,V>)
   map.computeIfPresent(aFilePath, (Path k, int v)->
  {return ++v;})

#### **HW 17**

- Revise your concurrent access counter (HW 11 solution) with ConcurrentHashMap
  - Eliminate client-locking (to guard a hash map) in increment() and getCount()
    - i.e., AccessCounter no longer needs a ReentrantLock data field.
  - Use lambda expressions whenever possible.

## **Bulk Operation Methods**

- Apply a given lambda expression on each key-value pair with multiple threads in a thread-safe manner.
  - forEach: forEach(), forEachEntry(), forEachKey(),
     forEachValue()
  - Search: search(), searchEntries(), searchKeys(),
     searchValues()
  - Reduce:
    - reduce(), reduceToDouble(), reduceToInt(), reduceToLong()
    - reduceEntries(), reduceEntriesToDouble(), reduceEntriesToInt(), reduceEntriesToLong()
    - reduceKeys(), reduceKeysToDouble(), reduceKeysToInt(), reduceKeysToLong()
    - reduceValues(), reduceValuesToDouble(), reduceValuesToInt(), reduceValuesToLong()

## forEach Bulk Operations

- Performs a given lambda expression (LE) on each keyvalue pair.
  - - 1st param: parallelism threshold (500)
    - 2nd param: lambda expression (BiConsumer)
      - Printing out the key-value pairs that have more than 10,000 access count.

- Each bulk operation method receives a "parallelism threshold" as the first parameter and creates extra threads if necessary.
  - Executed with extra threads if the # of key-value pairs >= this threshold.
    - Long.MAX VALUE: Suppress concurrency/parallelism. Use a single thread.
    - 1: Maximize concurrency/parallelism.
- The number of threads to be used:
  - If (# of key-value pairs) < threshold</li>
    - · No extra threads to be used
  - If (# of KV pairs) / threshold >= (# of CPU cores)
    - Use (# of CPU cores)
    - C.f. Runtime.availableProcessors()
  - If (# of KV pairs) / threshold < (# of CPU cores)</li>
    - Use (# of KV pairs) / threshold
      - Rounded to an int number

## search Bulk Operations

- Searches a key-value pair that satisfies a given search criterion (specified as a LE)
  - Returns a non-null result if found. Returns null otherwise.
  - Skips further search when the first search fit is returned.

```
- Path path = map.search(500, (k,v) \rightarrow \{v>10000? v: null\})
```

- Second param: search function (BiFunction)
  - Is there at least one file that has more than 10,000 access count?
- If there exists such a file, path contains a path to that file.
- Only the first search hit is returned.

```
- Integer count = map.searchValues(500, (v)->{v>10000? v: null} )
```

- Second param: search function (Function)
- If there exists such a file, count contains the access count of that file.

## reduce Bulk Operations

Reduces key-value pairs to a single value.

- 2nd param: transformer (BiFunction)
  - Expected to work like a map operation
- 4th param: reducer (BinaryOperator)
- 3rd param: the initial value for accumulated value (max).



## **Notes on Bulk Operations**

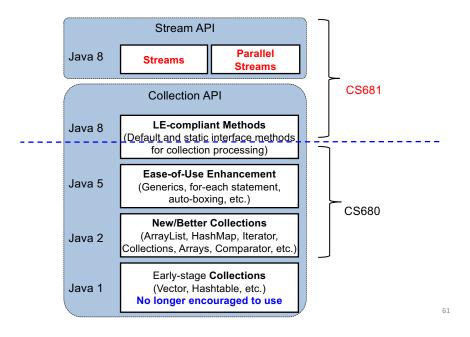
- Bulk operations
  - are thread-safe in that they never corrupt key-value pairs.
  - may not be performed on the most up-to-date key-value pairs (weak consistency)
    - Write threads can modify key-value pairs when read threads are reading key-value pairs.
      - It is guaranteed that readers and writers do not corrupt key-value pairs.
      - c.f. Concurrent iteration

- 4th param: reducer (BinaryOperator)
- 3rd param: the initial value for accumulated value (max).
- Generalized form of reduce operations with the Streams API

```
- T result = aStream.reduce(initValue, (result, element)-> ... );
- T result = initValue;
for(T element: collection) {
    result = accumulate(result, element); }
```

## **Recap: Collection Processing with LEs**

- Java 8 made major improvements to the Collection API by
  - Adding new static and default methods in existing interfaces
    - e.g., Iterable.forEach()

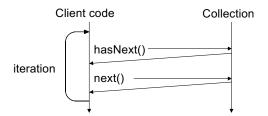


## **Recap: External v.s. Internal Iteration**

• External iteration: Iterate over a collection and performs an operation on each element in turn.

```
- Iterator<ArrayList> iterator = strList.iterator();
while( iterator.hasNext() ) {
   System.out.print(iterator.next()); }
```

- Iteration occurs outside of a collection.
- Need to write a boilerplate code whenever you need to iterate over the collection.



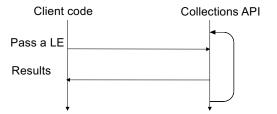
- The loop mixes up what you want to do on a collection and how you do it.
  - May not be that maintainable because "what" is often obscured by "how." ("How" is often emphasized too much than "what.")

```
- Iterator<ArrayList> iterator = strList.iterator();
while( iterator.hasNext() ) {
   System.out.print(iterator.next()); }
```

- Inherently serial
  - Hard to make it concurrent/parallel.

• *Internal* iteration:

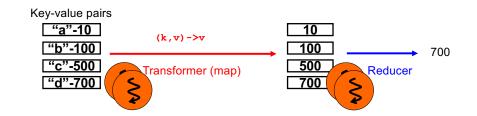
- Does not return an Iterator that externally controls the iteration
- Creates an equivalent object, which works inside of a collection.
  - A collection internally uses the iterator-like object to perform iteration



- Client code simply states "what" you want to do on a collection. "How" is hidden.
  - Collection processing looks more declarative, not procedural.
    - c.f. SQL statements

• concurrentHashMap internally uses threads to perform bulk operations.

• Client code does not have to externally use threads.



## **Benefits of Using Lambda Expressions**

- Can make your code more concise (less repetitive)
- Can enjoy the power of functional programming
  - e.g., higher-order functions
- Can gain a new way to access collections
  - "Internal" iteration as opposed to traditional "external" iteration
    - e.g., Map-Reduce data processing
- Can simplify concurrent programming (multithreading) in Java

## **Recap: Concurrent Collections**

- "Ready-made" thread-safe collections
  - Introduced in Java 5 (2004) and enhanced in subsequent versions
    - Queue
      - ConcurrentLinkedQueue (since Java 5)
      - ConcurrentLinkedDeque (since Java 7)
      - ArrayBlockingQueue (since Java 5)
      - LinkedBlockingQueue (since Java 5)
      - DelayQueue (since Java 5)
      - PriorirtyBlockingQueue (since Java 5)
      - LinkedBlockingDeque (since Java 6)
      - LinkedTransferQueue (since Java 7)
    - Map
      - ConcurrentHashMap (since Java 5)
      - ConcurrentSkipListMap (since Java 6)
    - Set
      - ConcurrentSkipListSet (since Java 6)
  - java.util.concurrent.CopyOnWriteXyz Classes
    - CopyOnWriteArrayList
    - CopyOnWriteArraySet

## **Every Concurrent Collection...**

- Implements its public methods in thread-safe and performance-aware manners, just like ConcurrentHashMap.
  - c.f. lock stripping in ConcurrentHashMap
- Supports thread-safe, weakly-consistent iteration with an iterator and a spliterator(s)
  - just like ConcurrentHashMap
- Provides thread-safe methods for the other types of compound operations
  - i.e. Navigation and check-and-act operations
  - C.f. putIfAbsent(key, value) and compute() in ConcurrentHashMap
- Provides thread-safe methods for bulk operations.

### **Concurrent Hash Set???**

- No concurrent collection class for hash-based sets in Java API
  - No such class like concurrentHashSet.
- You can "emulate" it through ConcurrentHashMap:
  - Set<String> set = ConcurrentHashMap<String, Integer>.newKeyset();
    - Values (Integers) are ignored.
    - set is a hash-based set that contains a series of string data.
    - newKeySet() is a static factory method to generate a ConcurrentHashMap.KeySetView<K, Boolean>
      - ConcurrentHashMap.KeySetView<String, Boolean> in the above example.

## **Some Major Concurrent Collections**

- ConcurrentLinkedQueue
  - Concurrent implementation of Queue
    - · FIFO (First-In-First-Out) queue
- ConcurrentLinkedDeque
  - Concurrent implementation of Deque
    - · LIFO (Last-In-First-Out) queue
- ConcurrentSkipListMap
  - An implementation of concurrentNavigableMap.
  - Map entries are kept sorted according to the natural ordering of their keys or by a custom comparator.
- ConcurrentSkipListSet
  - A concurrent implementation of NavigableSet.
  - Set elements are kept sorted according to the natural ordering or by a custom comparator.

## **Concurrent Array List???**

- No concurrent collection class for lists in Java API
  - No such class like concurrentArrayList.
  - Why? Performance-wise, lists are not that great collections for multi-threaded programs
    - Insertion and removal are expensive for non-tail elements
      - c.f. Slides on List v.s. Queue and ArrayList v.s. LinkedList[0] [1] [2] ... [n-1]
    - Hard to implement index-based random access in a concurrent and efficient manner.
      - e.g., Weakly consistent iteration cannot be more efficient than perfectly consistent iteration, if insertion/removal often occurs for non-tail elements.

- If you need/want to use an ArrayList, you have to craft thread-safe client code for it yourself with client-side locking.
- Try a concurrent Queue class (e.g. concurrentLinkedQueue) Or Set class (e.g. ConcurrentHashMap.KeySetView<K, Boolean>) if you like to take advantages of concurrent collections.
- FYI: CopyOnWriteArrayList
  - Concurrent collection class for ArrayList
  - Thread-safe, but not that efficient in general (to be explained)
    - Can be efficient only in limited use cases



 Thanks to ConcurrentLinkedQueue, all methods of cart do not need thread synchronization to access inCartItems.

```
getSubTotal() {
   float subtotal;
   for(Product item: inCarItems) {
      subtotal += item.getPrice(); }
   return subtotal; }}
// No thread synch!
// Weakly consistent iteration
```

## **Exercise: Online Shopping Cart**



- Can use concurrentLinkedQueue<Product> for inCartItems
  - It is originally typed with LinkedList
- Thanks to concurrentLinkedQueue, all methods of cart do not need thread synchronization to access incartItems.

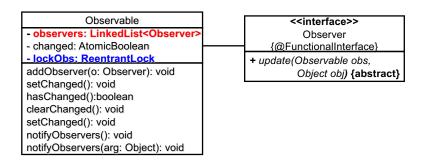


- removeItem() USed an index number for a LinkedList.
  - public void removeItem(int productIndex)
  - Need to change the method signature

```
    public void removeItem(Product item)
public void removeItem(String productId)
```

## **Recap: Concurrent Observer**

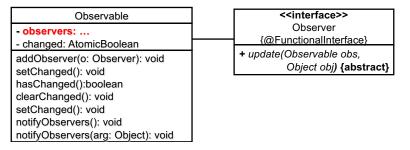
- C.f. HW 16
  - lockObs is used to guard observers (a LinkedList).



# Appendix: Copy-On-Write (COW) Collections

### **HW 18**

- Revise your HW 16 code to replace LinkedList with
  - a concurrent queue, or
    - ConcurrentLinkedQueue
  - a concurrent hash set
    - ConcurrentHashMap.KeySetView<K, Boolean>
  - Make sure that Observable no longer needs a ReentrantLock data field to guard observers.



### **Concurrent Collections**

- "Ready-made" thread-safe collections
  - Introduced in Java 5 (2004) and enhanced in subsequent versions
    - Queue
      - ConcurrentLinkedQueue (since Java 5)
      - ConcurrentLinkedDeque (since Java 7)
      - ArrayBlockingQueue (since Java 5)
      - LinkedBlockingQueue (since Java 5)
      - DelayQueue (since Java 5)
      - PriorittyBlockingQueue (since Java 5)
      - LinkedBlockingDeque (since Java 6)
      - LinkedTransferQueue (since Java 7)
    - Map
      - ConcurrentHashMap (since Java 5)
      - ConcurrentSkipListMap (since Java 6)
    - Set
      - ConcurrentSkipListSet (since Java 6)
  - java.util.concurrent.CopyOnWriteXyz Classes
    - CopyOnWriteArrayList
    - CopyOnWriteArraySet

## **Copy-On-Write (COW) Collections**

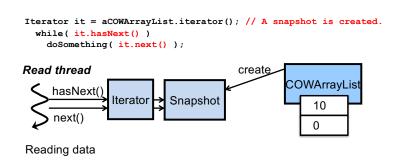
- CopyOnWriteArrayList
- CopyOnWriteArraySet
  - Concurrent replacements of synchronized wrappers for ArrayList and ArraySet.
- Key features
  - Thread-safe public methods
    - No client-side locking is necessary to call them.
  - Read threads are never mutually excluded with each other.
  - Read threads and write threads are never mutually excluded.
  - Write threads are never mutually-excluded.

#### Pros

- No client-side locking is necessary for iteration.
  - Read threads ARE NOT mutually excluded with each other and with writer threads.
    - Each iterator has a thread-specific snapshot of List elements.
    - Different readers get different snapshots and access them concurrently.

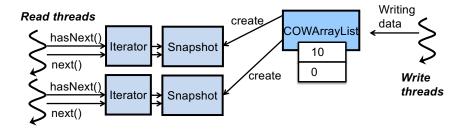
# Snapshot-based Iteration in COW Collections

- Support thread-safe, snapshot-based iteration.
  - A read thread references and operates on a collection snapshot, which is a collection that is up-to-date when an iterator is created.

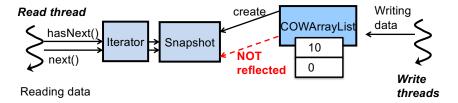


#### Pros

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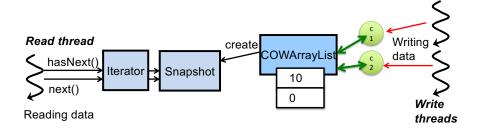


- Cons
  - The snapshot can become outdated.
    - e.g., when a write thread adds/removes collection elements after a snapshot is created.
  - No consistency preserved; Each iterator will NOT reflect additions, removals and other changes to the list after the iterator was created.
    - c.f. weak consistency in concurrentHashMap (and other non-COW concurrent collections)
- Trades consistency for performance



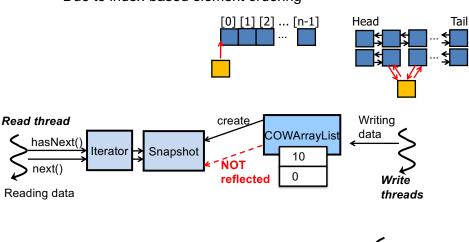
# Copy-On-Write (COW)

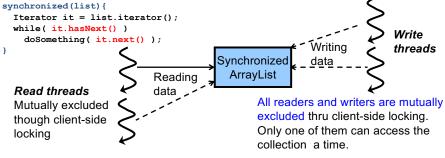
- Making a copy of a collection when a write thread updates the collection's elements
- A write thread
  - Performs add(), remove(), set() and other state-changing (or mutative) methods on a duplicate copy of collection elements.
  - Synchronizes the updated/modified copy with the original element set.
- Write threads ARE NOT mutually excluded with each other and with read threads.

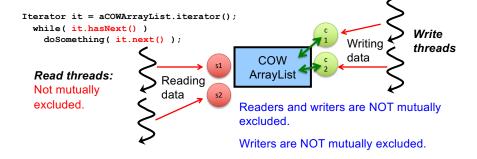


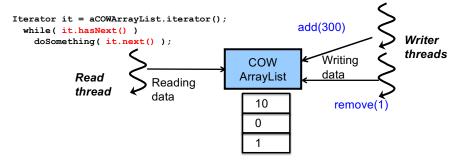
#### Cons

- No consistency preserved. Why?
- State updates (particularly, element insertion and removal) are often expensive for lists.
  - Due to index-based element ordering









- Guaranteed that collection elements are never corrupted.
  - Read thread obtains:
    - (10, 0, 1),
    - (10, 0, 1, 300)
    - (10, 0), or
    - (10, 0, 300)
  - It never obtains corrupted list such as (10, 300).

## When to Use COW Collections?

- Read operations are executed a lot more often than write operations.
- When the # of read threads is a lot greater than the # of write threads.
- When state-changing methods are rarely called.
- When the # of elements is relatively small.

### **Pros and Cons in COW Performance**

- Pros
  - No concerns about data corruption.
  - Improved performance for iteration
- Cons
  - State-changing methods (e.g., add(), remove()) are very slow.
    - Never use COW collections in single-threaded programs.
    - Their overhead grows exponentially as the number of elements increases.

<ul><li>The o</li></ul>	verhead o	f add() [msec]		
» #	f of elems	ArrayList	SyncArrayList	COWArrayList
» 1	000, I	0	0	14
» 5	5,000	0	0	102
» 1	10,000	0	0	409
» 2	20,000	0	0	1,712
» 3	30 000	15	16	4 566

## In Summary...

- Be aware of the characteristics of COW collections.
- Be conservative to use them.