Douglas C. Schmidt <u>d.schmidt@vanderbilt.edu</u> www.dre.vanderbilt.edu/~schmidt

Professor of Computer Science

Institute for Software Integrated Systems

Vanderbilt University Nashville, Tennessee, USA





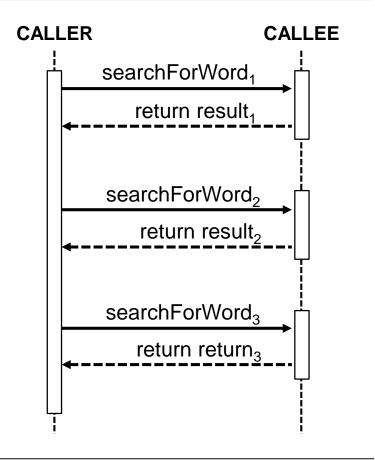
Learning Objectives in this Lesson

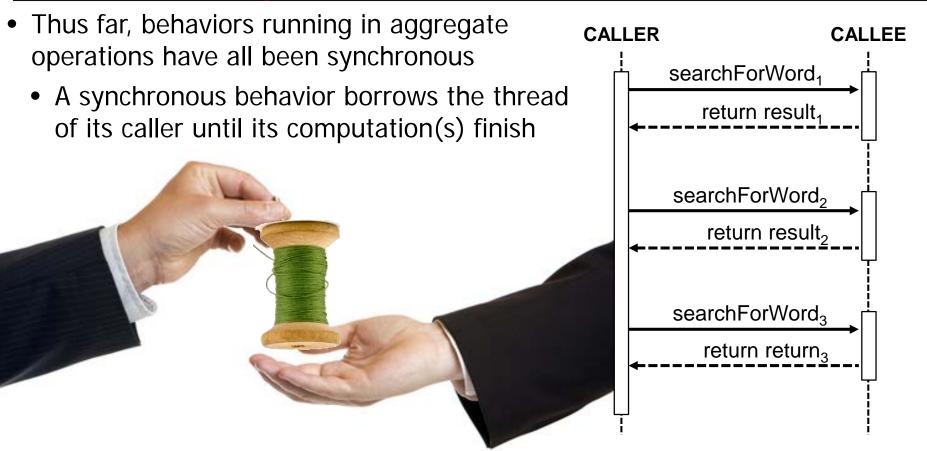
Motivate the need for Java 8 completable futures



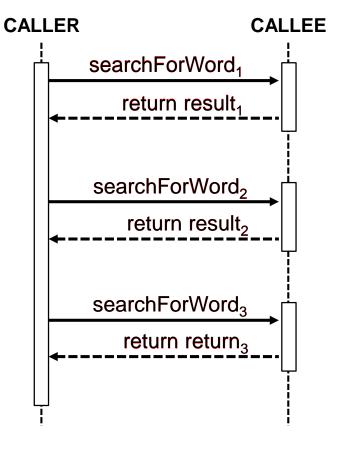
- cancel(boolean):boolean
- isCancelled():boolean
- isDone():boolean
- get()
- get(long,TimeUnit)

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 - A synchronous behavior borrows the thread of its caller until its computation(s) finish

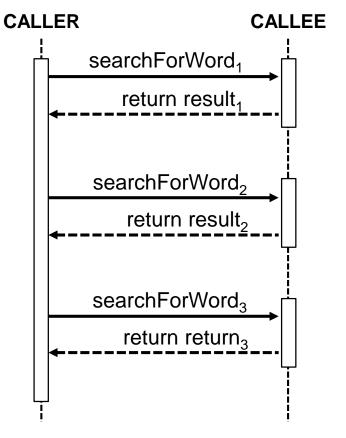


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 - Pros: "Intuitive" since they map cleanly onto conventional two-way method patterns

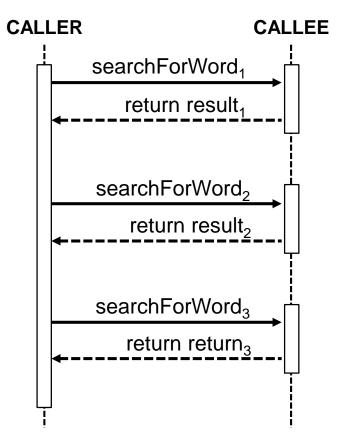




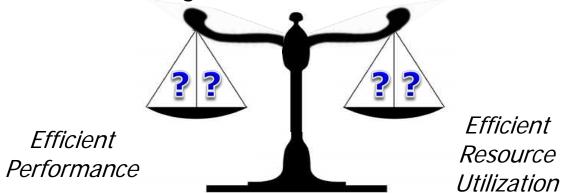
See www.iro.umontreal.ca/~keller/Layla/remote.pdf

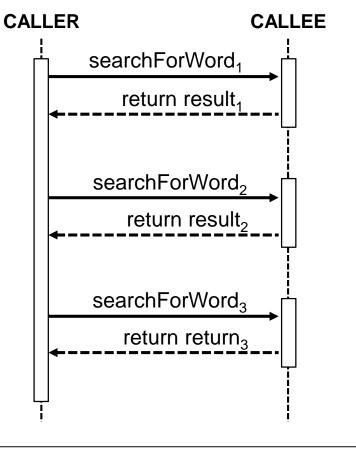
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 - Cons:
 - May not leverage all the parallelism available in multi-core systems



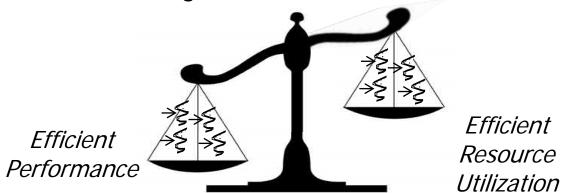


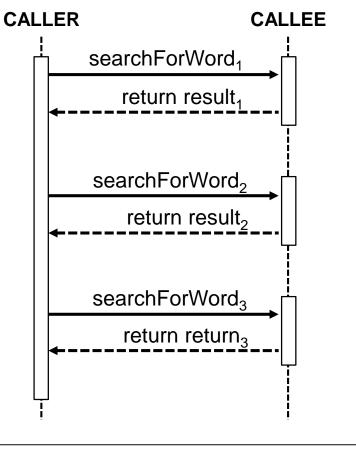
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 - Selecting number of threads is hard



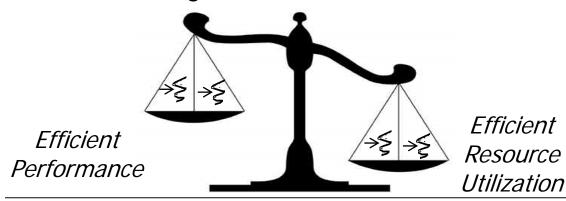


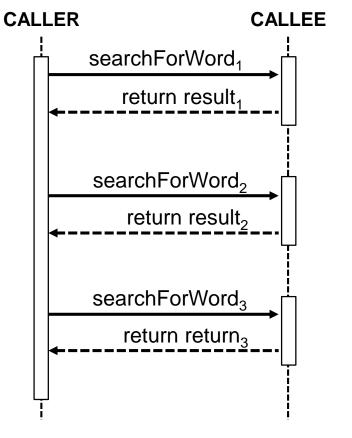
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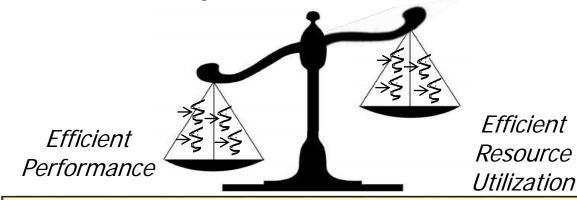
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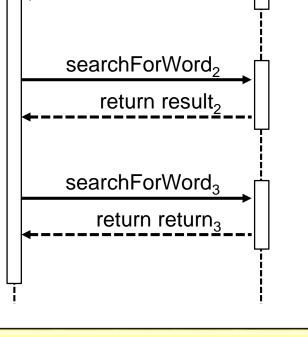




CALLER

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searchForWord₁

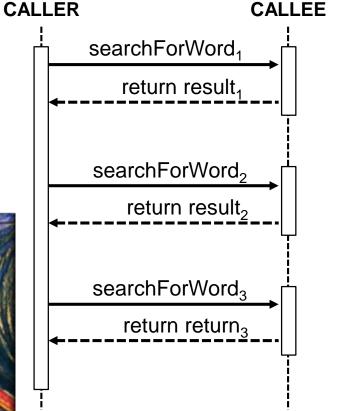
return result₁

CALLEE

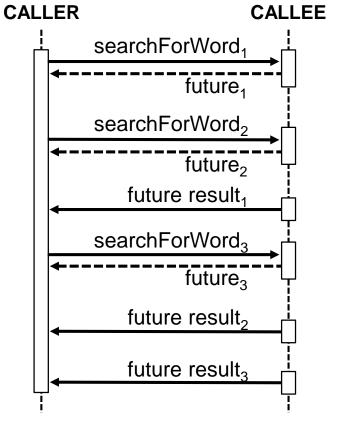
Particularly tricky for I/O-bound programs that need more threads to run efficiently

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 - Synchronous calls may need to (dynamically) change the size of the common fork-join pool

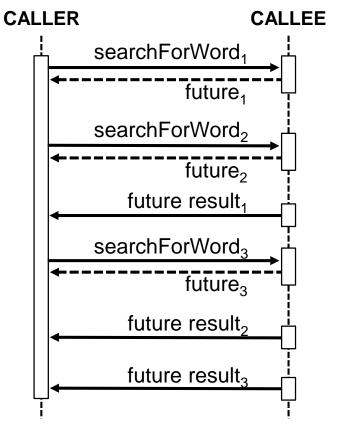




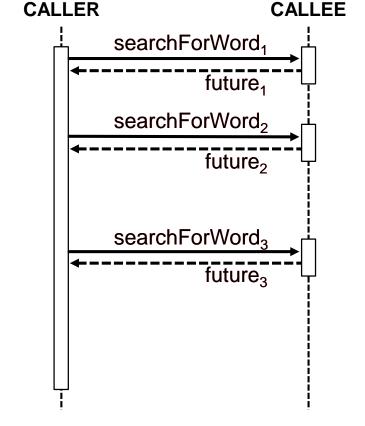
Another approach uses asynchronous calls
 & Java futures



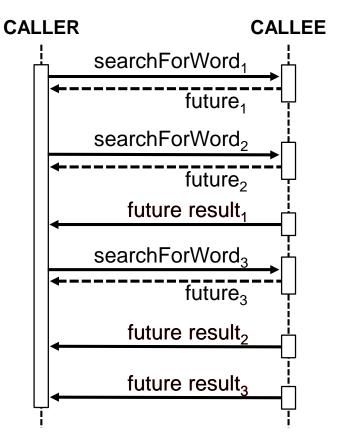
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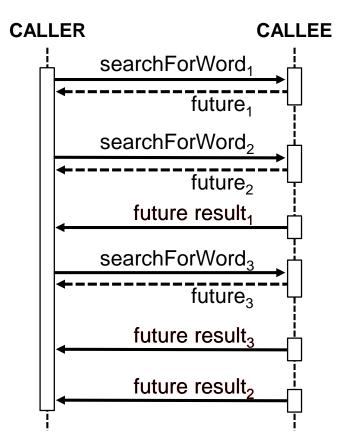
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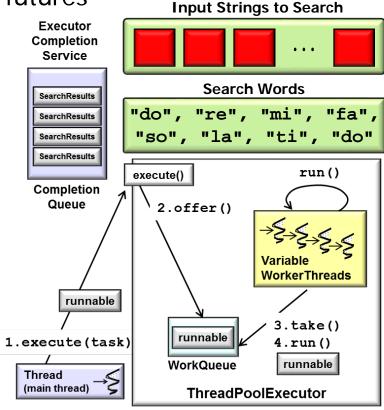
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 - Asynchronous calls return a future immediately & continue running the computation in the background
 - When the computation completes the future is triggered & the caller can get the result
 - Results can occur in a different order than the original calls were made



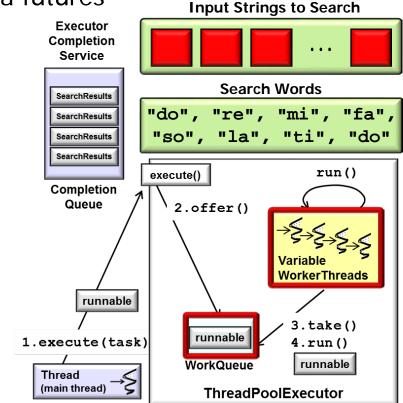
Pros & cons of asynchronous calls with Java futures



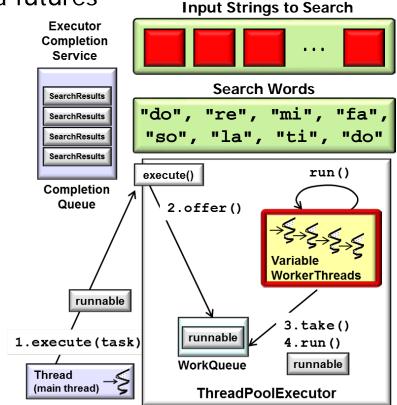
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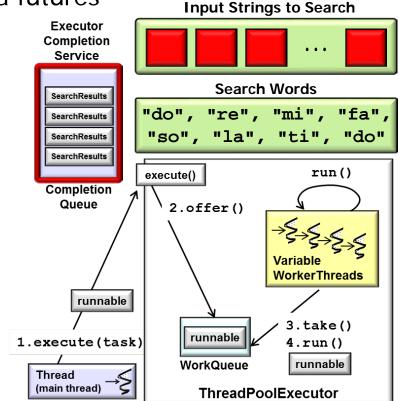
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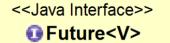
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 - Array of futures can be triggered to get the results



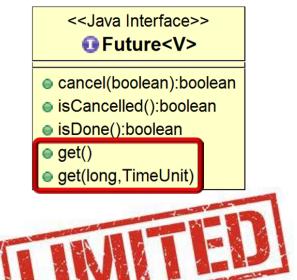
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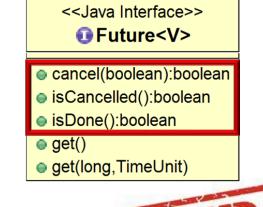
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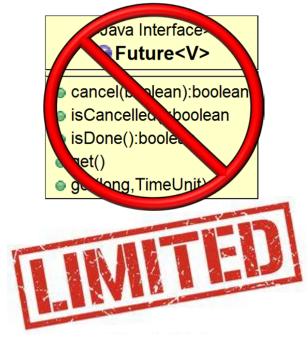


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Java 8 completable futures are designed to overcome these limitations with futures

End of Motivating the Need for Java 8 Completable Futures