



Structured Concurrency in Java

The what and the why

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Project Loom

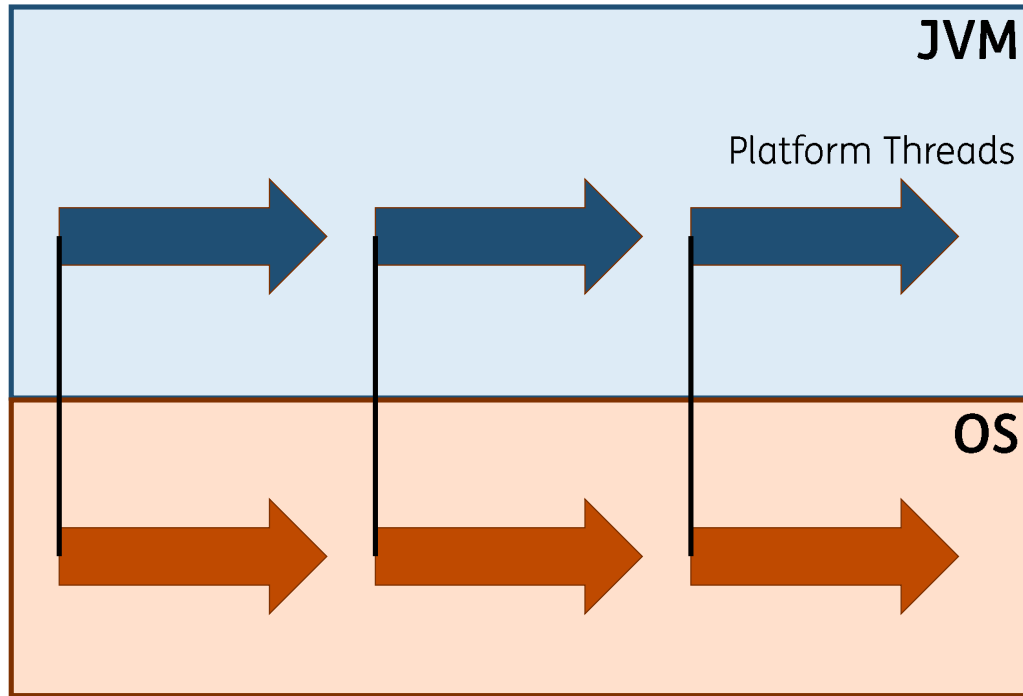
Purpose:

- Supporting easy-to-use, high-throughput lightweight concurrency and new programming models for it

Features:

- Virtual Threads: It will be finalized in Java 21 [JEP - 444](#)
- Structured Concurrency: Preview – [JEP - 453](#)
- Scoped Values: Preview – [JEP - 446](#)

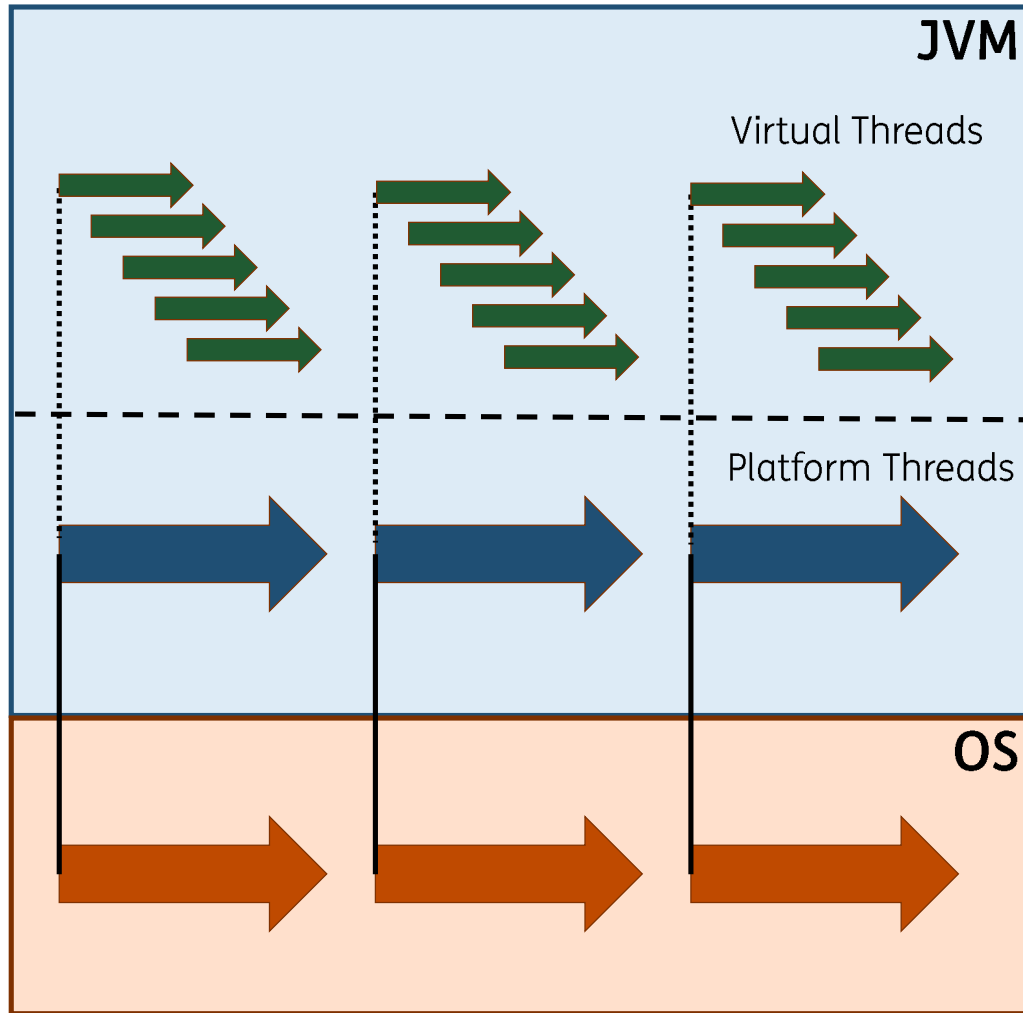
(Platform) Threads



Platform Threads:

- Abstraction over OS threads
- Limited scalability (when using thread-per-request model)
- Need for pooling

Virtual Threads



Virtual Threads:

- Lightweight user threads
- Highly scalable
- No need for pooling

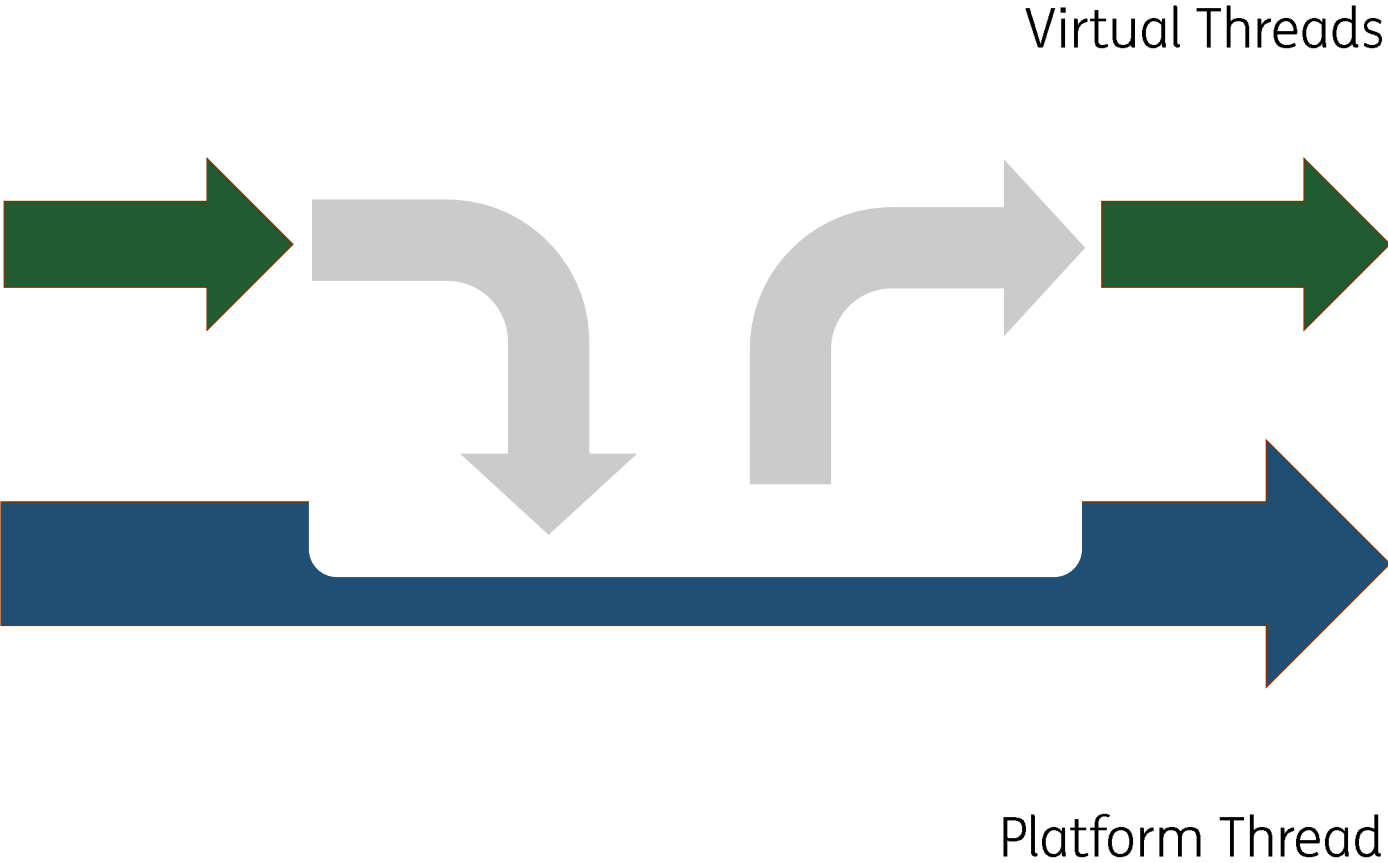
Demo

How to create virtual threads?

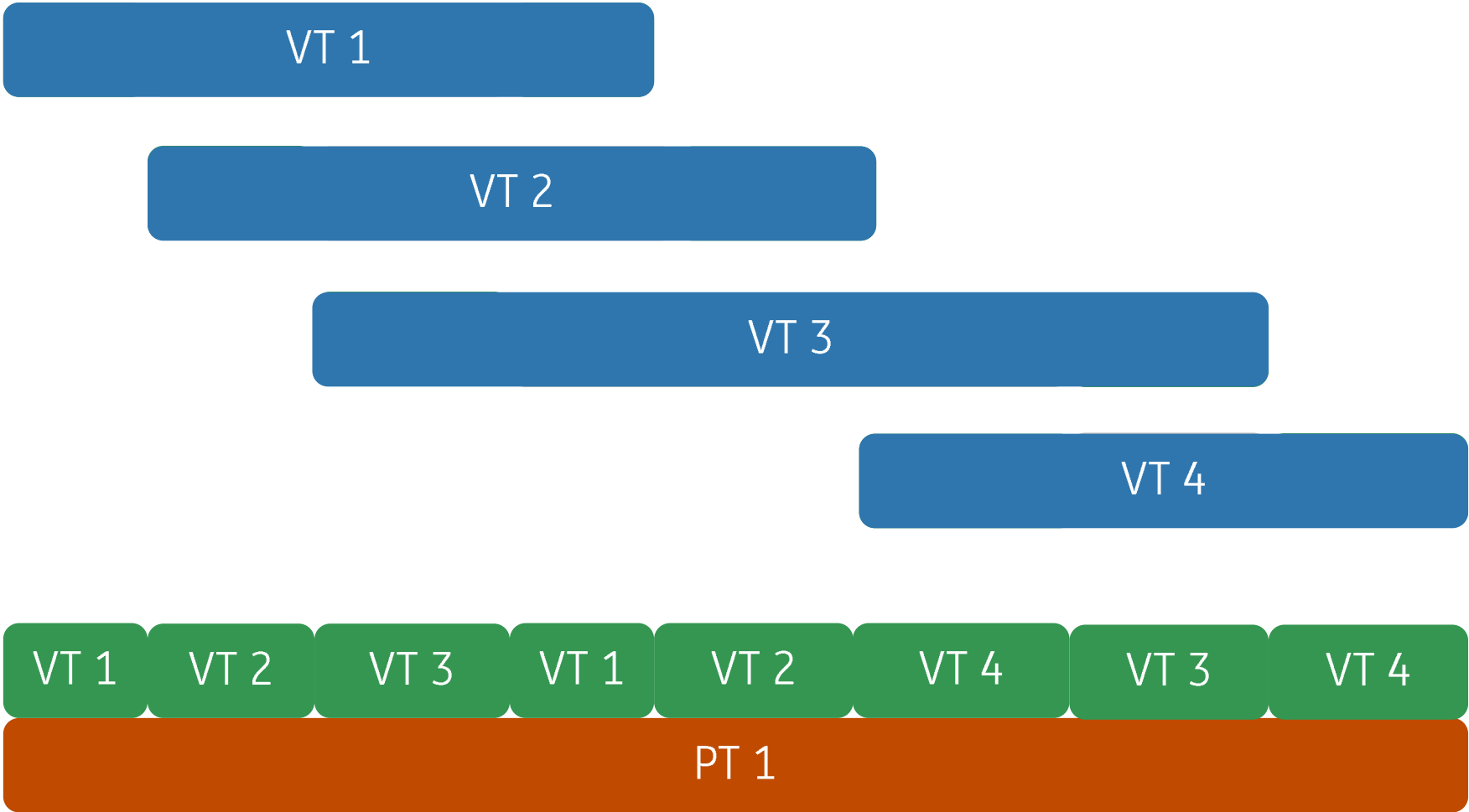


do your thing

Virtual Thread Scheduler



Virtual Threads continued...



Use virtual threads to model (business) tasks.

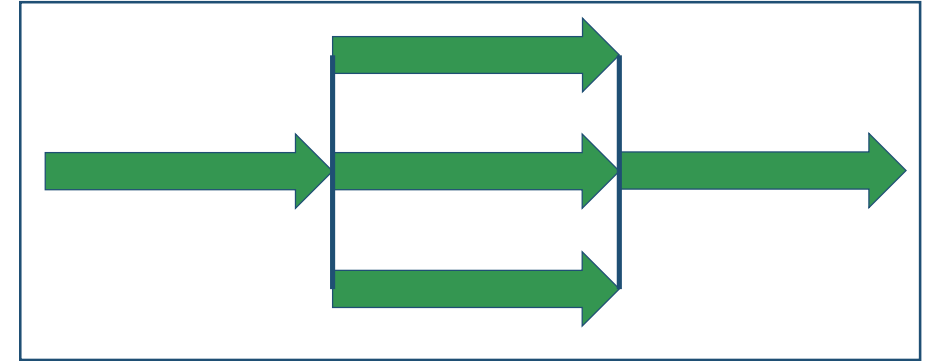
Virtual threads enable Structured Concurrency

Programs → Structured Programming
Concurrent programs → Structured Concurrency

Structured Concurrency: Continued

Principle:

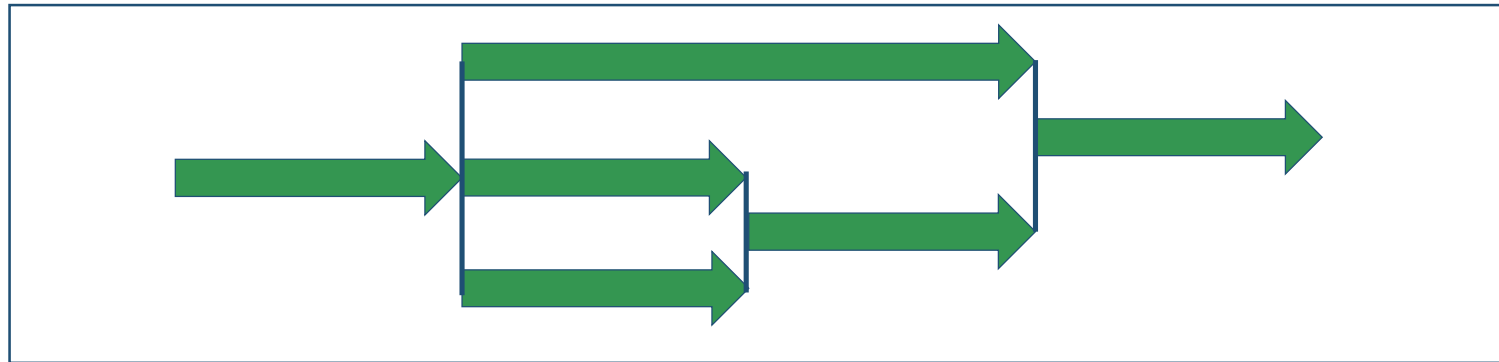
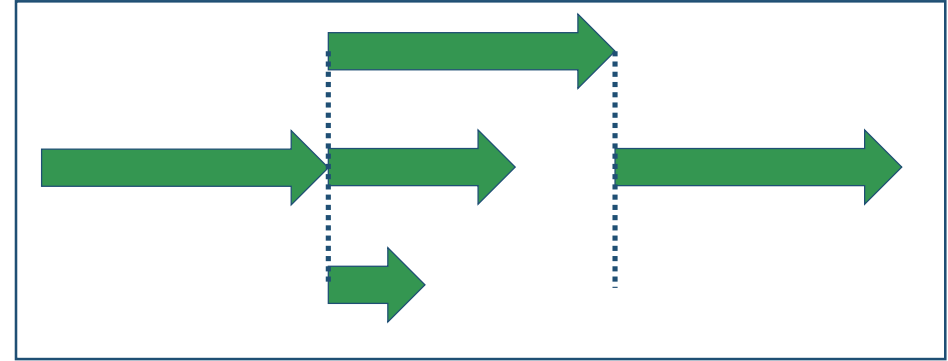
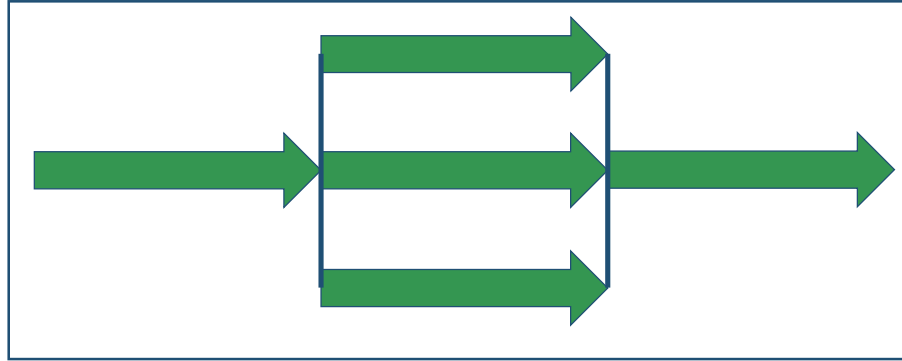
- When flow of execution splits into multiple concurrent flows, they rejoin in the same code block



Benefits:

- Error handling with short-circuiting
- Cancellation propagation
- Clarity
- Observability

Structured Concurrency: Examples



All these can be modelled using `StructuredTaskScope`.

CompletableFuture

- Provides API for asynchronous processing
- Chain multiple stages to create pipeline
- Callbacks

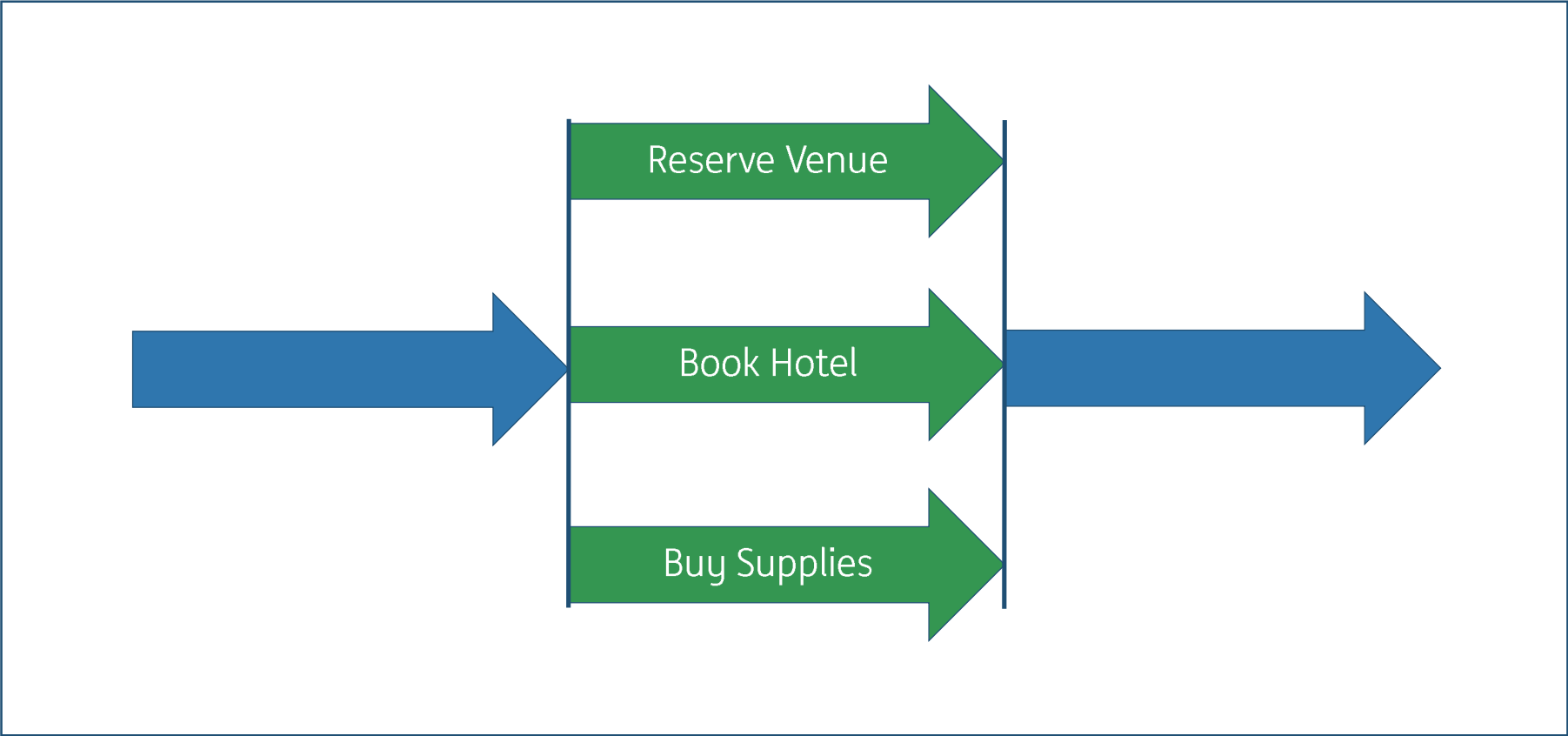
Demo

CompletableFuture API vs Structured Concurrency API

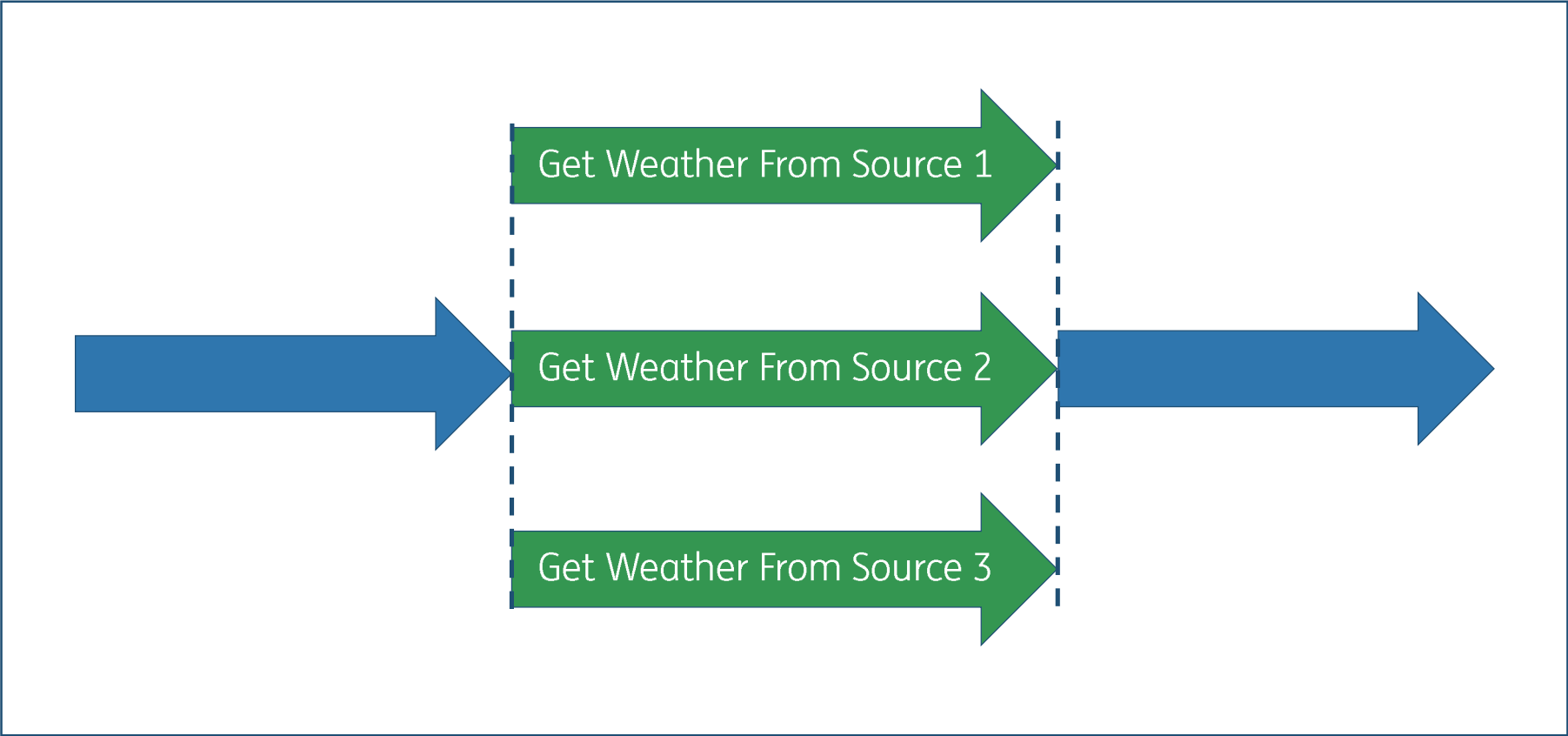


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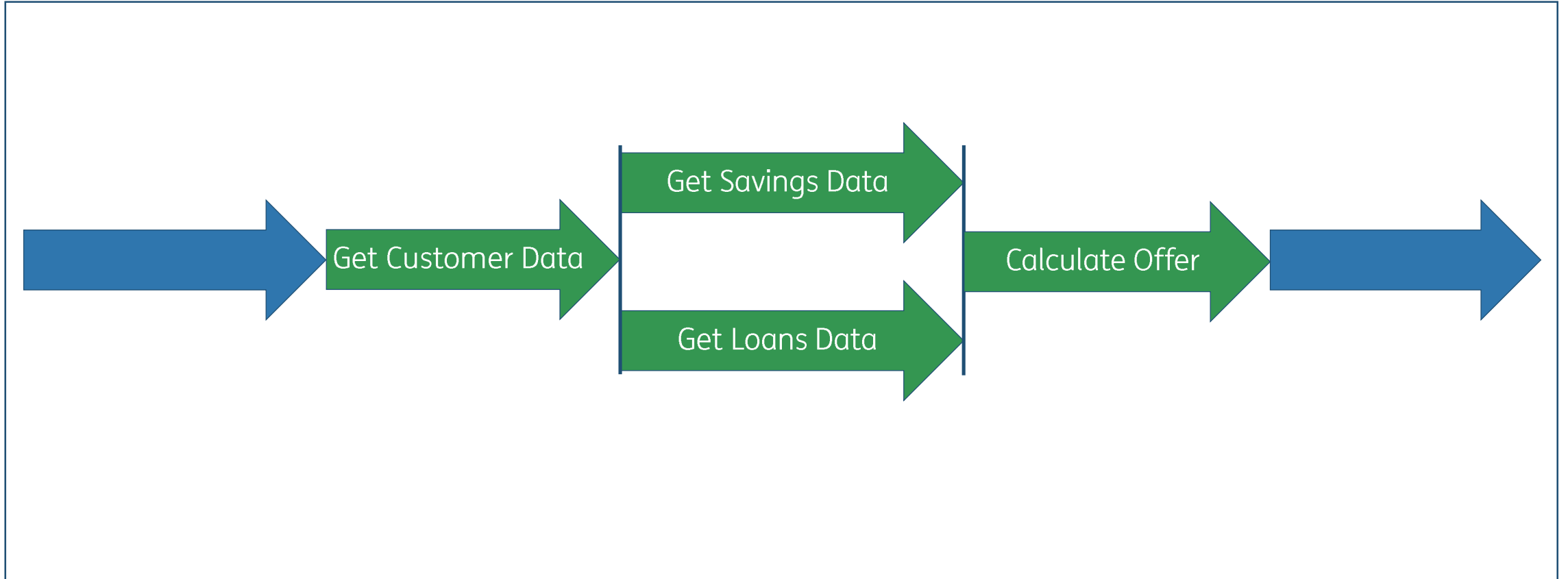
Use case 1: Event Management



Use case 2: Weather Service



Use case 3: Banking Portal



Shutdown policies

- ShutdownOnFailure
 - Stops when one of the tasks “fail”
 - Cancels other tasks
 - Useful when you want that all tasks must complete successfully
- ShutdownOnSuccess
 - Stops when one of the tasks “succeed”
 - Cancels other tasks
 - Useful when you want any one of the tasks to complete successfully
- Custom
 - Extend StructuredTaskScope
 - Override handleComplete()
 - Useful when you want custom logic/ some tasks to complete successfully

Be aware of Pinning!

- When virtual thread is executing a synchronized code-block or method, it gets pinned
- Problem if you're doing long-running/ blocking operations inside synchronized
- Identify cases with JFR (JDK Flight Recorder)
- Use re-entrant lock

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Questions and Feedback



Contact points:

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