

... continued

This lesson continues the discussion on working with Fibers.

Passing and Returning from Fibers

We can pass and return values from fibers. Consider the snippet below:

```
fib = Fiber.new do |firstMsg|
  start = 0
  puts firstMsg

  while true do
    newMsg = Fiber.yield start
    puts newMsg
    start += 1
  end
end

10.times do |i|
  puts fib.resume("hello #{i}")
  sleep(1)
end
```



The interesting line in the above snippet is:

```
newMsg = Fiber.yield start
```

The above statement can be conceptually broken down as the ordered sequence of the following operations:

1. Returns the **start** variable's value to the invoker of the fiber.

2. Relinquishes control to the invoker of the fiber.

3. Assigns the argument passed in by the invoker in the next `resume()` call to the variable `newMsg`.

Generating Infinite Lists/Sequences

One trivial application of fibers is to generate infinite lists or sequences. Consider the below snippet, that returns odd numbers on every `resume()`

```
fib = Fiber.new do
  odd = 1

  while true
    Fiber.yield odd
    odd += 2
  end
end

# print the first odd numbers.
10.times do
  puts fib.resume()
end
```



Transfer

A fiber can also transfer control to another fiber by invoking the `transfer()` method on the desired fiber object. For instance:

```
require 'fiber'

fib1 = fib2 = nil

fib2 = Fiber.new do |arg|
  while true
    puts "Control transferred to fiber2"
    Fiber.yield arg
  end
end

fib1 = Fiber.new do
```



```

while true
  puts "Control transferred to fiber1"
  fib2.transfer(10)
end

puts "Control in main thread"
puts "Received #{fib1.resume()} in main thread"
puts "Control back in main thread"

```



Running the above snippet you can see that we resume **fib1** in the main thread. The **fib1** fiber invokes the **transfer()** method on the **fib2** object and the control is passed to **fib2**. The **transfer()** method acts similar to the **resume()** method, in that, we can pass arguments to the target fiber. The **transfer()** either resumes the fiber for the first time or from the point it last suspended control. The main thread receives an integer 10 which is yielded from **fib2**. Note that invoking **Fiber.yield** returns control back to the main thread and not to **fib1**. What if we want to resume **fib1** a second time? Let's see below:

```

require 'fiber'

fib1 = fib2 = nil

fib2 = Fiber.new do |arg|
  while true
    puts "Control transferred to fiber2"
    Fiber.yield arg
  end
end

fib1 = Fiber.new do

  while true
    puts "Control transferred to fiber1"
    fib2.transfer(10)
  end
end

puts "Control in main thread"
puts "Received #{fib1.resume()}"
puts "Control back in main thread"

# Attempt to resume fib1 a second time
fib1.resume()

```





The widget throws a "double resume" error. The official documentation states that we can't resume a fiber **A** that transferred control to another fiber **B** before the control is transferred back to fiber **A**. However, if we try to do that as follows, we still get an error.

```
require 'fiber'

fib1 = fib2 = nil

fib2 = Fiber.new do
  while true
    puts "Control transferred to fiber2"
    # transfer controll back to fib1
    fib1.transfer()
  end
end

fib1 = Fiber.new do

  while true
    puts "Control transferred to fiber1"
    fib2.transfer()
    Fiber.yield
  end
end

puts "Control in main thread"
fib1.resume()
puts "Control back in main thread"

# Attempt to resume fib1 a second time
fib1.resume()
```



This functionality has been broken since MRI 2.0 and is a known bug being tracked [here](#).