Overview of How Concurrent Programs are Developed in Java (Part 1)

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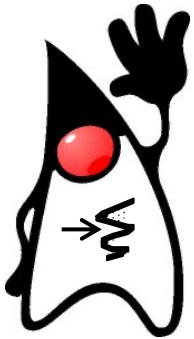
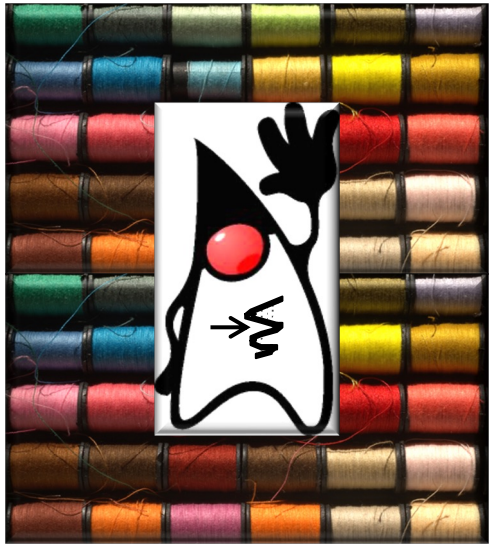
Learning Objectives in this Part of the Lesson

- Understand the meaning of key concurrent programming concepts
- Recognize how Java supports concurrent programming concepts



Learning Objectives in this Part of the Lesson

- Understand the meaning of key concurrent programming concepts
- Recognize how Java supports concurrent programming concepts, e.g.
  - Thread objects



Thread	
currentThread()	Thread
getPriority()	int
interrupt()	void
interrupted()	boolean
isInterrupted()	boolean
join()	void
ofPlatform()	OfPlatform
ofVirtual()	OfVirtual
run()	void
setDaemon(boolean)	void
setPriority(int)	void
sleep(long)	void
start()	void
startVirtualThread(Runnable)	Thread

See docs.oracle.com/javase/8/docs/api/java/lang/Thread.html

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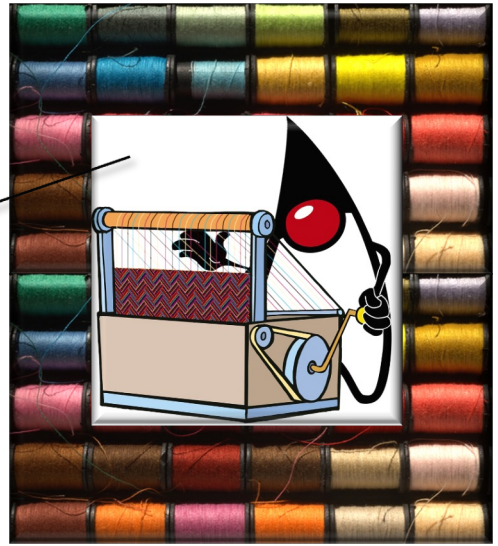

Java threads underwent major changes as part of Project Loom & Java 19+

Thread	
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sleep(long)	void
start()	void
startVirtualThread(Runnable)	Thread

See wiki.openjdk.java.net/display/loom/Main

An Overview of Java Threads

An Overview of Java Threads

- A Java Thread is an object

Class Thread

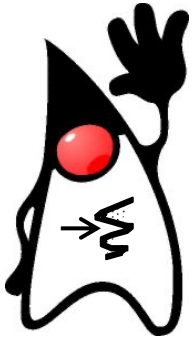
java.lang.Object
    java.lang.Thread

All Implemented Interfaces:

Runnable

Direct Known Subclasses:

ForkJoinWorkerThread



```
public class Thread
extends Object
implements Runnable
```

A *thread* is a thread of execution in a program. The Java Virtual Machine allows an application to have multiple threads of execution running concurrently.

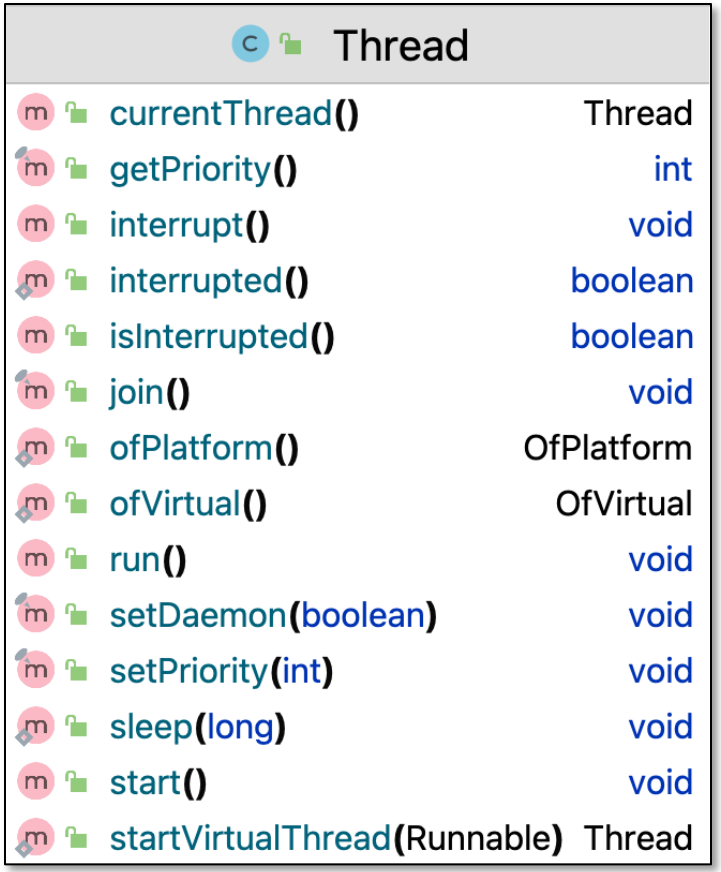
Every thread has a priority. Threads with higher priority are executed in preference to threads with lower priority. Each thread may or may not also be marked as a daemon. When code running in some thread creates a new `Thread` object, the new thread has its priority initially set equal to the priority of the creating thread, and is a daemon thread if and only if the creating thread is a daemon.

See docs.oracle.com/javase/8/docs/api/java/lang/Thread.html

An Overview of Java Threads

- A Java Thread is an object, e.g.
  - It therefore contains methods & (internal) fields

```
public class Thread
        implements Runnable {
    private volatile char name[];
    private int priority;
    private boolean daemon = false;
    private Runnable target;
    ThreadLocal.ThreadLocalMap
        threadLocals = null;
    private long stackSize;
    private long tid;
    ...
```



See blog.jamesdbloom.com/JVMInternals.html

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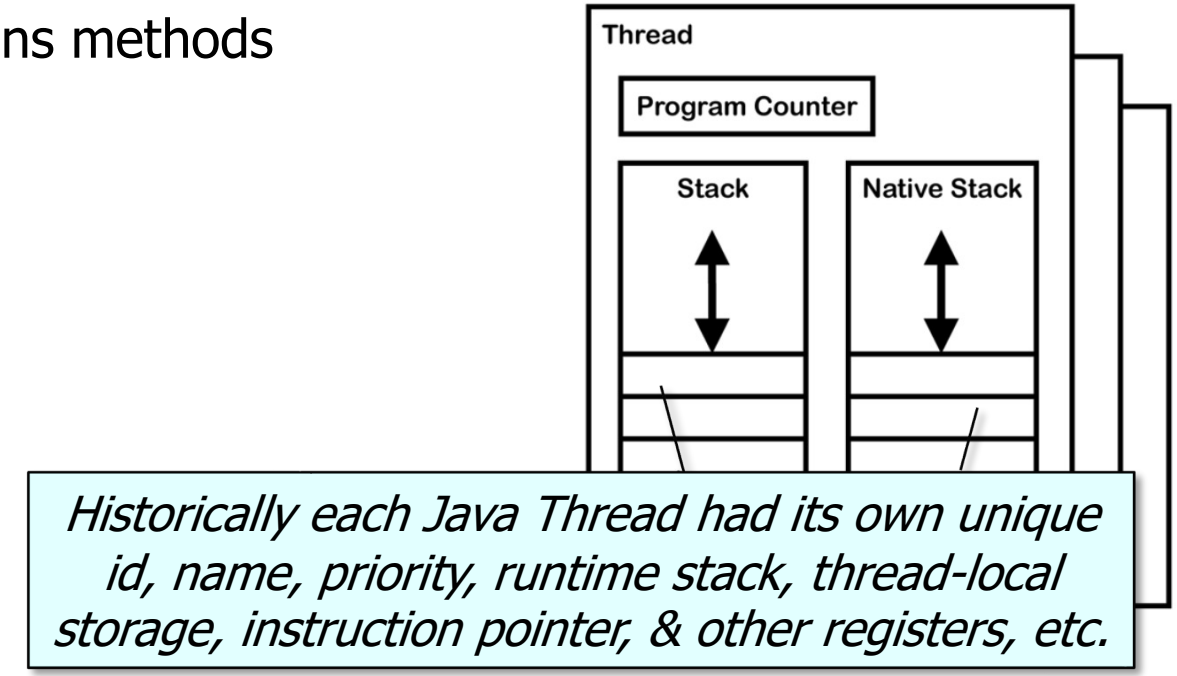

Historically each Java Thread had its own unique id, name, priority, runtime stack, thread-local storage, instruction pointer, & other registers, etc.

See blog.jamesdbloom.com/JVMInternals.html

An Overview of Java Threads

- A Java Thread is an object, e.g.
  - It therefore contains methods & (internal) fields
    - Traditional Java Thread objects are now called "platform threads"

Platform threads

`Thread` supports the creation of *platform threads* that are typically mapped 1:1 to kernel threads scheduled by the operating system. Platform threads will usually have a large stack and other resources that are maintained by the operating system. Platforms threads are suitable for executing all types of tasks but may be a limited resource.

Platform threads are designated *daemon* or *non-daemon* threads. When the Java virtual machine starts up, there is usually one non-daemon thread (the thread that typically calls the application's `main` method). The Java virtual machine terminates when all started non-daemon threads have terminated. Unstarted daemon threads do not prevent the Java virtual machine from terminating. The Java virtual machine can also be terminated by invoking the Runtime.exit(int) method, in which case it will terminate even if there are non-daemon threads still running.

In addition to the daemon status, platform threads have a thread priority and are members of a thread group.

Platform threads get an automatically generated thread name by default.

Virtual threads

`Thread` also supports the creation of *virtual threads*. Virtual threads are typically *user-mode threads* scheduled by the Java virtual machine rather than the operating system. Virtual threads will typically require few resources and a single Java virtual machine may support millions of virtual threads. Virtual threads are suitable for executing tasks that spend most of the time blocked, often waiting for I/O operations to complete. Virtual threads are not intended for long running CPU intensive operations.

Virtual threads typically employ a small set of platform threads are use as *carrier threads*. Locking and I/O operations are the *scheduling points* where a carrier thread is re-scheduled from one virtual thread to another. Code executing in a virtual thread will usually not be aware of the underlying carrier thread, and in particular, the currentThread() method, to obtain a reference to the *current thread*, will return the `Thread` object for the virtual thread, not the underlying carrier thread.

See docs.oracle.com/en/java/javase/20/docs/api/java.base/java/lang/Thread.html

An Overview of Java Threads

- A Java Thread is an object, e.g.
  - It therefore contains methods & (internal) fields
    - Traditional Java Thread objects are now called "platform threads"
    - New "virtual threads" are "lightweight" concurrency objects

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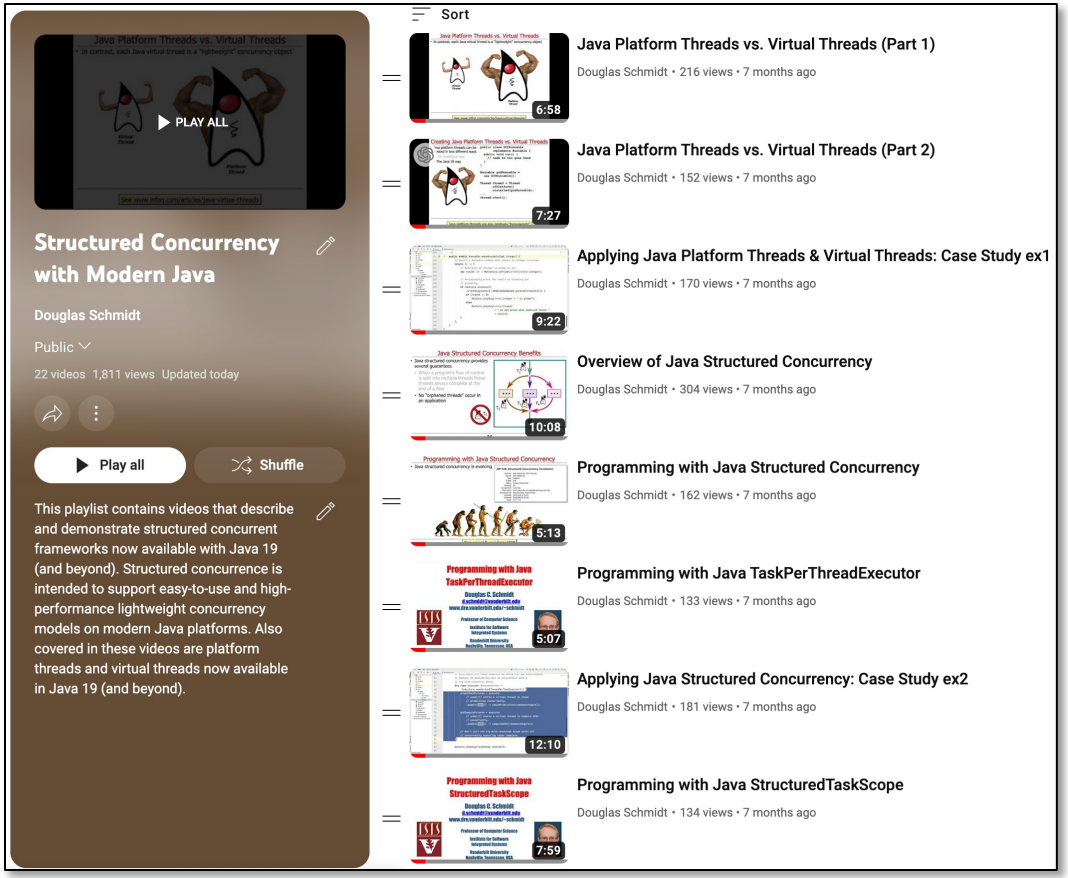
See docs.oracle.com/en/java/javase/20/core/virtual-threads.html

An Overview of Java Threads

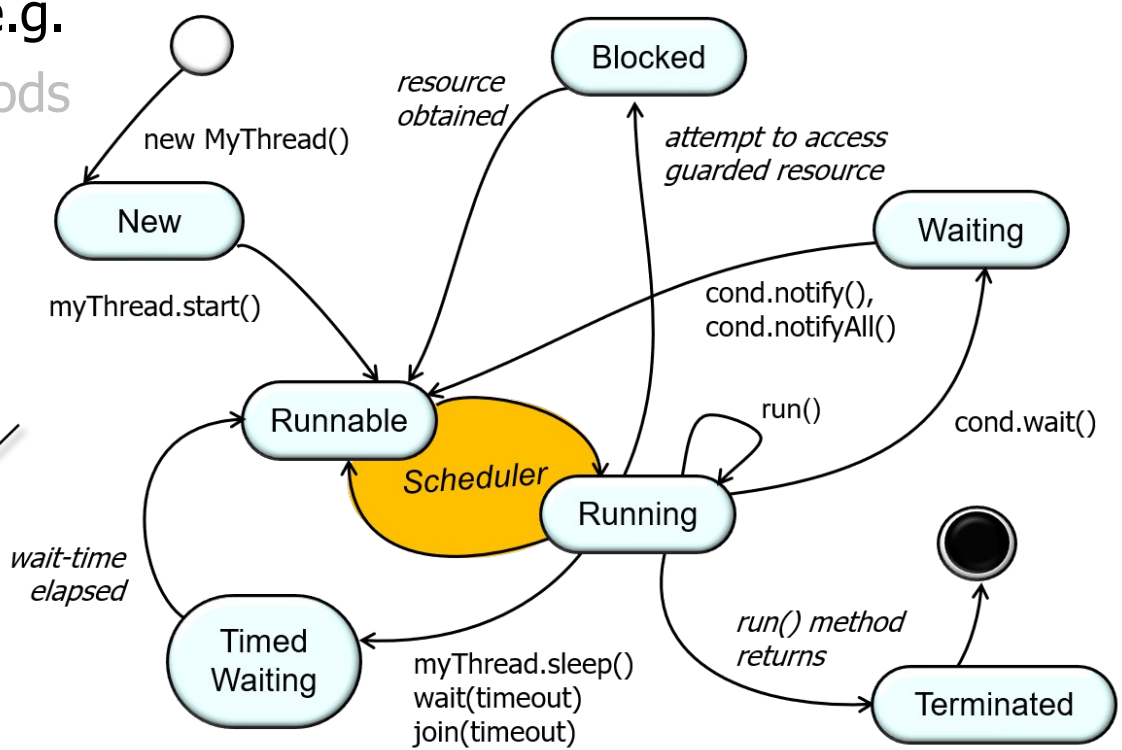
- A Java Thread is an object, e.g.
  - It therefore contains methods & (internal) fields
    - Traditional Java Thread objects are now called "platform threads
    - New "virtual threads" are "lightweight" concurrency objects
    - These topics are covered in detail in a sibling course



See www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLZ9NgFYEMxp6-DE4NiIE2K1RBrfRxK_XC

An Overview of Java Threads

- A Java Thread is an object, e.g.
  - It therefore contains methods & (internal) fields
  - It can also be in one of various "states"



States of traditional Java (platform) threads

See docs.oracle.com/javase/8/docs/api/java/lang/Thread.State.html

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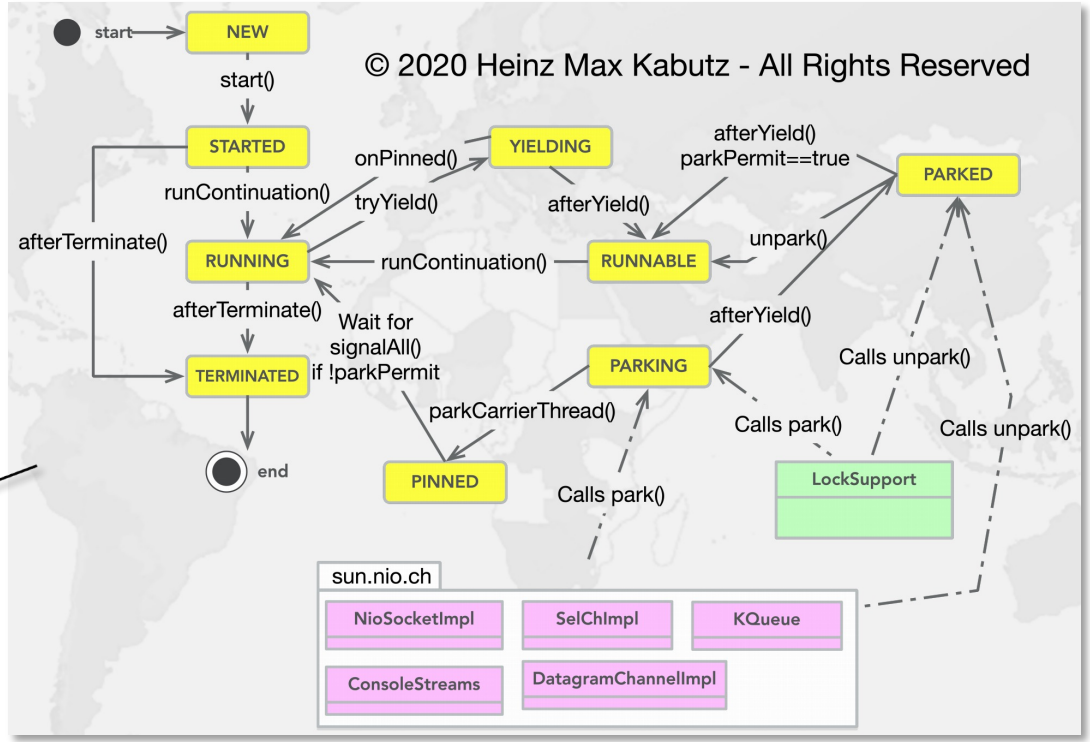
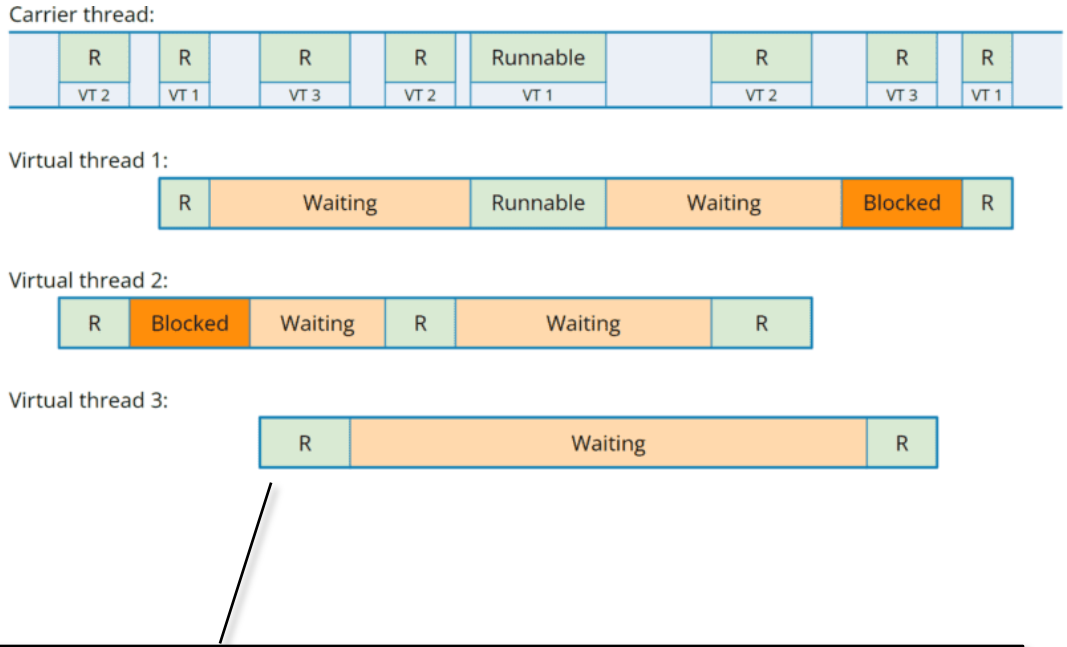


States of modern Java virtual threads

See blog.rockthejvm.com/ultimate-guide-to-java-virtual-threads

An Overview of Java Threads

- A Java Thread is an object, e.g.
  - It therefore contains methods & (internal) fields
  - It can also be in one of various "states"
  - Java virtual threads are multiplexed atop a pool of "carrier" (platform) threads



Blocking operations no longer block the executing thread, which enables the processing of a large # of requests in parallel with a small # of carrier threads

See www.happycoders.eu/java/virtual-threads

End of Overview of How Concurrent Programs are Developed in Java (Part 1)

Discussion Questions

a. Which of the following statements are accurate about Java threads as mentioned in the presentation?

   a. *A Java Thread is an object*

   b. *Modern Java threads are called "platform threads"*

   c. *Java virtual threads are multiplexed atop a pool of "carrier" (platform) threads*

   d. *Java threads have not undergone any major changes since their inception*