When to Use Java Parallel Streams

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Learning Objectives in this Lesson

• Know when to use parallel streams
Parallelism is Not a Panacea
Parallelism is Not a Panacea

- A parallel program *always* does more work than a non-parallel program
Parallelism is Not a Panacea

- A parallel program *always* does more work than a non-parallel program, e.g.

  1. It needs to partition the overall task into sub-tasks

```plaintext
DataSource
  split
  DataSource1
    split
    DataSource1.1
    DataSource1.2
  split
  DataSource2
    split
    DataSource2.1
    DataSource2.2
```

- Example: Cutting a pizza into slices.
Parallelism is Not a Panacea

- A parallel program \textit{always} does more work than a non-parallel program, e.g.

1. It needs to partition the overall task into sub-tasks

2. It needs to process all the sub-tasks

This step is typically \textit{all} that a sequential program does!
Parallelism is Not a Panacea

- A parallel program *always* does more work than a non-parallel program, e.g.

1. It needs to partition the overall task into sub-tasks
2. It needs to process all the sub-tasks
3. It needs to combine the sub-task results
Parallelism is Not a Panacea

- A parallel program *always* does more work than a non-parallel program, e.g.

  1. It needs to partition the overall task into sub-tasks
  2. It needs to process all the sub-tasks
  3. It needs to combine the sub-task results

A sequential program needn’t do steps 1 & 3.
Parallelism is Not a Panacea

- Java parallel streams are thus useful in some (but not all) conditions.

See gee.cs.oswego.edu/dl/html/StreamParallelGuidance.html
When to Use Java Parallel Streams
When to Use Java Parallel Streams

• Java parallel streams are most useful under certain conditions

No object is so beautiful that, under certain conditions, it will not look ugly.

Oscar Wilde
When to Use Java Parallel Streams

- Java parallel streams are most useful under certain conditions, e.g.
  - When behaviors have certain characteristics
When to Use Java Parallel Streams

Java parallel streams are most useful under certain conditions, e.g.

- When behaviors have certain characteristics
  - Independent

“Embarrassingly parallel” tasks have little/no dependency or need for communication between tasks or for sharing results between them.

See en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Embarrassingly_parallel
When to Use Java Parallel Streams

- Java parallel streams are most useful under certain conditions, e.g.

  - When behaviors have certain characteristics
    - Independent
      - e.g., searching for phrases in a list of input strings

![Diagram showing Java parallel stream example]

```java
collect(toList())
```
When to Use Java Parallel Streams

Java parallel streams are most useful under certain conditions, e.g.

- When behaviors have certain characteristics
- Independent
  - e.g., searching for phrases in a list of input strings
When to Use Java Parallel Streams

- Java parallel streams are most useful under certain conditions, e.g.
  - When behaviors have certain characteristics
  - Independent
    - e.g., searching for phrases in a list of input strings

**Parallel streams can:**
- **search each phrase in parallel**
- **search each input string in parallel**
- **search chunks of each input string in parallel**
When to Use Java Parallel Streams

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Java parallel streams are most useful under certain conditions, e.g.

- When behaviors have certain characteristics
  - Independent
    - e.g., searching for phrases in a list of input strings

Parallel streams can:
- search chunks of phrases in parallel
- search chunks of input in parallel
- search chunks of each input string in parallel

SearchWithParallelSpliterator is the most aggressive parallelism strategy!
When to Use Java Parallel Streams

Java parallel streams are most useful under certain conditions, e.g.

- When behaviors have certain characteristics
  - Independent
- Computationally expensive
  - e.g., when behavior(s) applied to each element take a “long-time” to run

When to Use Java Parallel Streams

Java parallel streams are most useful under certain conditions, e.g.

- When behaviors have certain characteristics
  - Independent
  - Computationally expensive
  - Applied to many elements of data sources

When to Use Java Parallel Streams

- Java parallel streams are most useful under certain conditions, e.g.
  - When behaviors have certain characteristics
    - Independent
    - Computationally expensive
  - Applied to many elements of data sources
    - Where these sources can be split efficiently/evenly
When to Use Java Parallel Streams

- Java parallel streams are most useful under certain conditions, e.g.
  - When behaviors have certain characteristics
    - Independent
  - Computationally expensive
  - Applied to many elements of data sources

The “NQ” model:

- N is the # of data elements to process per thread
- Q quantifies how CPU-intensive the processing is

See on-sw-integration.epischel.de/2016/08/05/parallel-stream-processing-with-java-8-stream-api
When to Use Java Parallel Streams

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*See* [github.com/douglascraigschmidt/LiveLessons/blob/master/SearchStreamGang](https://github.com/douglascraigschmidt/LiveLessons/blob/master/SearchStreamGang)

*e.g., searching for phrases that match in works of Shakespeare*
When to Use Java Parallel Streams

• Java parallel streams are most useful under certain conditions, e.g.
  • When behaviors have certain characteristics
  • If there are multiple cores

See blog.oio.de/2016/01/22/parallel-stream-processing-in-java-8-performance-of-sequential-vs-parallel-stream-processing
When to Use Java Parallel Streams

- Under the right conditions Java parallel streams can scale up nicely on multi-core & many-core processors

See www.infoq.com/presentations/parallel-java-se-8
End of When to Use Parallel Streams