

Java Phaser: Example Application



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

**Institute for Software
Integrated Systems
Vanderbilt University
Nashville, Tennessee, USA**



Learning Objectives in this Part of the Lesson

- Understand the structure & functionality of the Java Phaser barrier synchronizer
- Recognize the key methods in the Java Phaser
- Know how to program with Java Phaser in practice

```
void runTasks(List<MyTask> tasks) {  
    Phaser phaser = new Phaser(1);  
  
    tasks.forEach(task -> {  
        phaser.register();  
  
        new Thread(() -> {  
            phaser.arriveAndAwaitAdvance();  
            task.run();  
        }).start();  
    });  
  
    phaser.arriveAndDeregister();  
}
```

This program is based on examples in the Java documentation available at docs.oracle.com/javase/8/docs/api/java/util/concurrent/Phaser.html

Test Driver Program Walkthrough

Test Driver Program Walkthrough

- Main entry point into the test program

```
static void main(String[] argv) {  
  
    List<MyTask> tasks = IntStream  
  
        .rangeClosed(1, sNUMBER_OF_TASKS)  
  
        .mapToObj(MyTask::new)  
  
        .collect(toList());  
  
  
    runTasks(tasks);  
  
  
    startTasks(tasks, sITERATIONS);  
}
```

Test Driver Program Walkthrough

- Main entry point into the test program

```
static void main(String[] argv) {  
  
    List<MyTask> tasks = IntStream  
        .rangeClosed(1, sNUMBER_OF_TASKS)  
  
        .mapToObj(MyTask::new)  
  
        .collect(toList());  
  
    runTasks(tasks);  
  
    startTasks(tasks, sITERATIONS);  
}
```

Create a list of MyTask objects



However, the details of what MyTask does are not important for our discussion

Test Driver Program Walkthrough

- Main entry point into the test program

```
static void main(String[] argv) {
```

```
    List<MyTask> tasks = IntStream
```

```
        .rangeClosed(1, sNUMBER_OF_TASKS)
```

```
        .mapToObj(MyTask::new)
```

```
        .collect(toList());
```

```
    runTasks(tasks);
```

```
    startTasks(tasks, sITERATIONS);
```

```
}
```

Create a stream from 1
to sNUMBER_OF_TASKS



Test Driver Program Walkthrough

- Main entry point into the test program

```
static void main(String[] argv) {
```

```
    List<MyTask> tasks = IntStream
```

```
        .rangeClosed(1, sNUMBER_OF_TASKS)
```

```
        .mapToObj(MyTask::new) ←
```

Create a new MyTask object
for each number in the stream

```
        .collect(toList());
```

```
    runTasks(tasks);
```

```
    startTasks(tasks, sITERATIONS);
```

```
}
```

Test Driver Program Walkthrough

- Main entry point into the test program

```
static void main(String[] argv) {  
  
    List<MyTask> tasks = IntStream  
  
        .rangeClosed(1, sNUMBER_OF_TASKS)  
  
        .mapToObj(MyTask::new)  
  
        .collect(toList()); ← Convert the stream into  
                           a list of MyTask objects  
  
    runTasks(tasks);  
  
    startTasks(tasks, sITERATIONS);  
}
```

Test Driver Program Walkthrough

- Main entry point into the test program

```
static void main(String[] argv) {  
  
    List<MyTask> tasks = IntStream  
  
        .rangeClosed(1, sNUMBER_OF_TASKS)  
  
        .mapToObj(MyTask::new)  
  
        .collect(toList());  
  
    runTasks(tasks); ←  
    startTasks(tasks, sITERATIONS);  
}
```

Run the test showcasing a one-shot Phaser that runs a list of tasks that all start at the same time

This method illustrates the use of a Phaser as an “entry barrier”

Test Driver Program Walkthrough

- Main entry point into the test program

```
static void main(String[] argv) {  
  
    List<MyTask> tasks = IntStream  
  
        .rangeClosed(1, sNUMBER_OF_TASKS)  
  
        .mapToObj(MyTask::new)  
  
        .collect(toList());  
  
    runTasks(tasks);  
  
    startTasks(tasks, sITERATIONS); ← J  
}
```

Run the test that showcases a cyclic Phaser that repeatedly performs actions for a given # of iterations

This method illustrates the use of a Phaser as a “cyclic exit barrier”

Applying a One-shot Phaser with Java

Applying a One-shot Phaser with Java

- A one-shot Phaser that starts running a list of tasks simultaneously

```
void runTasks(List<MyTask> tasks) {  
    Phaser phaser = new Phaser(1);  
  
    tasks.forEach(task -> {  
        phaser.register();  
  
        new Thread(() -> {  
            phaser.arriveAndAwaitAdvance();  
            task.run();  
        }).start();  
    });  
  
    phaser.arriveAndDeregister();  
}
```

Applying a One-shot Phaser with Java

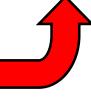
- A one-shot Phaser that starts running a list of tasks simultaneously

```
void runTasks(List<MyTask> tasks) {  
    Phaser phaser = new Phaser(1);  
    tasks.forEach(task -> {  
        phaser.register();  
  
        new Thread(() -> {  
            phaser.arriveAndAwaitAdvance();  
            task.run();  
        }).start();  
    });  
  
    phaser.arriveAndDeregister();  
}
```

 Create a new phaser with a “parties” value of 1 to implicitly register itself

Applying a One-shot Phaser with Java

- A one-shot Phaser that starts running a list of tasks simultaneously

```
void runTasks(List<MyTask> tasks) {  
    Phaser phaser = new Phaser(1);  
  
    tasks.forEach(task -> {  
        phaser.register();  
        Iterate thru  
all the tasks   
        new Thread(() -> {  
            phaser.arriveAndAwaitAdvance();  
            task.run();  
        }).start();  
    });  
  
    phaser.arriveAndDeregister();  
}
```

Applying a One-shot Phaser with Java

- A one-shot Phaser that starts running a list of tasks simultaneously

```
void runTasks(List<MyTask> tasks) {  
    Phaser phaser = new Phaser(1);  
  
    tasks.forEach(task -> {  
        phaser.register(); ← Inform phaser there's  
a new party to add  
        new Thread(() -> {  
            phaser.arriveAndAwaitAdvance();  
            task.run();  
        }).start();  
    });  
  
    phaser.arriveAndDeregister();  
}
```

Applying a One-shot Phaser with Java

- A one-shot Phaser that starts running a list of tasks simultaneously

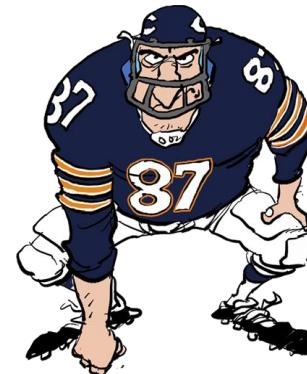
```
void runTasks(List<MyTask> tasks) {  
    Phaser phaser = new Phaser(1);  
  
    tasks.forEach(task -> {  
        phaser.register();  
  
        new Thread(() -> {  
            Create/start a new worker  
            thread that runs the task  once other threads arrive  
            phaser.arriveAndAwaitAdvance();  
            task.run();  
        }).start();  
    });  
  
    phaser.arriveAndDeregister();  
}
```

Applying a One-shot Phaser with Java

- A one-shot Phaser that starts running a list of tasks simultaneously

```
void runTasks(List<MyTask> tasks) {  
    Phaser phaser = new Phaser(1);  
  
    tasks.forEach(task -> {  
        phaser.register();  
  
        new Thread(() -> {  
            phaser.arriveAndAwaitAdvance();  
            task.run();  
        }).start();  
    });  
  
    phaser.arriveAndDeregister();  
}
```

Block until all worker threads have started



Applying a One-shot Phaser with Java

- A one-shot Phaser that starts running a list of tasks simultaneously

```
void runTasks(List<MyTask> tasks) {  
    Phaser phaser = new Phaser(1);  
  
    tasks.forEach(task -> {  
        phaser.register();  
  
        new Thread(() -> {  
            phaser.arriveAndAwaitAdvance();  
            task.run();  
        }).start();  
    });  
  
    phaser.arriveAndDeregister();  
}
```

Block until all worker threads have started



This code is using the phaser as a one-shot “entry barrier”

Applying a One-shot Phaser with Java

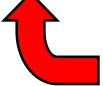
- A one-shot Phaser that starts running a list of tasks simultaneously

```
void runTasks(List<MyTask> tasks) {  
    Phaser phaser = new Phaser(1);  
  
    tasks.forEach(task -> {  
        phaser.register();  
  
        new Thread(() -> {  
            phaser.arriveAndAwaitAdvance();  
            Run the task → task.run();  
            }).start();  
    });  
  
    phaser.arriveAndDeregister();  
}
```

Applying a One-shot Phaser with Java

- A one-shot Phaser that starts running a list of tasks simultaneously

```
void runTasks(List<MyTask> tasks) {  
    Phaser phaser = new Phaser(1);  
  
    tasks.forEach(task -> {  
        phaser.register();  
  
        new Thread(() -> {  
            phaser.arriveAndAwaitAdvance();  
            task.run();  
        }).start();  
    });  
  
    phaser.arriveAndDeregister();  
}
```

 Allow thread calling runTasks() to continue & deregister itself so worker threads can start running their tasks

Applying a Cyclic Phaser with Java

Applying Cyclic Phaser with Java

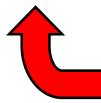
- A cyclic Phaser that repeatedly performs actions for a given # of iterations

```
void startTasks(List<MyTask> tasks, int iterations) {  
    Phaser phaser = new Phaser() {  
        protected boolean onAdvance(int phase, int regParties)  
        { return phase >= iterations || regParties == 0; }  
    };  
  
    phaser.register();  
  
    tasks.forEach(task -> {  
        phaser.register();  
        new Thread(() -> {  
            do { task.run(); phaser.arriveAndAwaitAdvance();  
            } while (!phaser.isTerminated());  
        }).start();  
    });  
  
    phaser.arriveAndDeregister();  
}
```

Applying Cyclic Phaser with Java

- A cyclic Phaser that repeatedly performs actions for a given # of iterations

```
void startTasks(List<MyTask> tasks, int iterations) {  
    Phaser phaser = new Phaser() {  
        protected boolean onAdvance(int phase, int regParties)  
        { return phase >= iterations || regParties == 0; }  
    };  
  
    phaser.register();  
  
    tasks.forEach(task -> {  
        phaser.register();  
        new Thread(() -> {  
            do { task.run(); phaser.arriveAndAwaitAdvance();  
            } while (!phaser.isTerminated());  
        }).start();  
    });  
  
    phaser.arriveAndDeregister();  
}
```

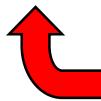


Create a new phaser that iterates a given # of times

Applying Cyclic Phaser with Java

- A cyclic Phaser that repeatedly performs actions for a given # of iterations

```
void startTasks(List<MyTask> tasks, int iterations) {  
    Phaser phaser = new Phaser() {  
        protected boolean onAdvance(int phase, int regParties)  
        { return phase >= iterations || regParties == 0; }  
    };  
  
    phaser.register();  
  
    tasks.forEach(task -> {  
        phaser.register();  
        new Thread(() -> {  
            do { task.run(); phaser.arriveAndAwaitAdvance();  
            } while (!phaser.isTerminated());  
        }).start();  
    });  
  
    phaser.arriveAndDeregister();  
}
```

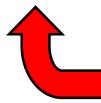


This hook method determines when to terminate the phaser

Applying Cyclic Phaser with Java

- A cyclic Phaser that repeatedly performs actions for a given # of iterations

```
void startTasks(List<MyTask> tasks, int iterations) {  
    Phaser phaser = new Phaser() {  
        protected boolean onAdvance(int phase, int regParties)  
        { return phase >= iterations || regParties == 0; }  
    };  
  
    phaser.register();  
  
    tasks.forEach(task -> {  
        phaser.register();  
        new Thread(() -> {  
            do { task.run(); phaser.arriveAndAwaitAdvance();  
            } while (!phaser.isTerminated());  
        }).start();  
    });  
  
    phaser.arriveAndDeregister();  
}
```



This phaser terminates when
all iterations have completed

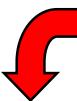
Applying Cyclic Phaser with Java

- A cyclic Phaser that repeatedly performs actions for a given # of iterations

```
void startTasks(List<MyTask> tasks, int iterations) {  
    Phaser phaser = new Phaser() {  
        protected boolean onAdvance(int phase, int regParties)  
        { return phase >= iterations || regParties == 0; }  
    };  
  
    phaser.register(); ← Register to defer worker threads advancing  
    tasks.forEach(task -> {  
        phaser.register();  
        new Thread(() -> {  
            do { task.run(); phaser.arriveAndAwaitAdvance();  
            } while (!phaser.isTerminated());  
        }).start();  
    });  
  
    phaser.arriveAndDeregister();  
}
```

Applying Cyclic Phaser with Java

- A cyclic Phaser that repeatedly performs actions for a given # of iterations

```
void startTasks(List<MyTask> tasks, int iterations) {  
    Phaser phaser = new Phaser() {  
        protected boolean onAdvance(int phase, int regParties)  
        { return phase >= iterations || regParties == 0; }  
    };  
  
    phaser.register();  Iterate thru all the tasks  
    tasks.forEach(task -> {  
        phaser.register();  
        new Thread(() -> {  
            do { task.run(); phaser.arriveAndAwaitAdvance();  
            } while (!phaser.isTerminated());  
        }).start();  
    });  
  
    phaser.arriveAndDeregister();  
}
```

Applying Cyclic Phaser with Java

- A cyclic Phaser that repeatedly performs actions for a given # of iterations

```
void startTasks(List<MyTask> tasks, int iterations) {  
    Phaser phaser = new Phaser() {  
        protected boolean onAdvance(int phase, int regParties)  
        { return phase >= iterations || regParties == 0; }  
    };  
  
    phaser.register();  
  
    tasks.forEach(task -> {  
        phaser.register(); ← Inform phaser there's  
        new Thread(() -> {  
            do { task.run(); phaser.arriveAndAwaitAdvance();  
            } while (!phaser.isTerminated());  
        }).start();  
    });  
  
    phaser.arriveAndDeregister();  
}
```

Applying Cyclic Phaser with Java

- A cyclic Phaser that repeatedly performs actions for a given # of iterations

```
void startTasks(List<MyTask> tasks, int iterations) {  
    Phaser phaser = new Phaser() {  
        protected boolean onAdvance(int phase, int regParties)  
        { return phase >= iterations || regParties == 0; }  
    };  
  
    phaser.register();  
  
    tasks.forEach(task -> {  
        phaser.register();  
        new Thread(() -> {  
            do { task.run(); phaser.arriveAndAwaitAdvance();  
            } while (!phaser.isTerminated());  
        }).start();  
    });  
  
    phaser.arriveAndDeregister();  
}
```

Create/start a new worker
thread & run the task

Applying Cyclic Phaser with Java

- A cyclic Phaser that repeatedly performs actions for a given # of iterations

```
void startTasks(List<MyTask> tasks, int iterations) {  
    Phaser phaser = new Phaser() {  
        protected boolean onAdvance(int phase, int regParties)  
        { return phase >= iterations || regParties == 0; }  
    };  
  
    phaser.register();  
  
    tasks.forEach(task -> {  
        phaser.register();  
        new Thread(() -> {  
            do { task.run(); phaser.arriveAndAwaitAdvance();  
            } while (!phaser.isTerminated());  
        }).start();  
    });  
  
    phaser.arriveAndDeregister();  
}
```



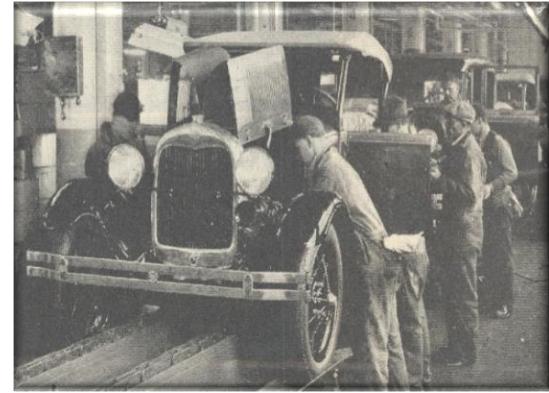
**Block until all other tasks/
threads complete this phase**



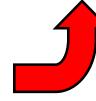
Applying Cyclic Phaser with Java

- A cyclic Phaser that repeatedly performs actions for a given # of iterations

```
void startTasks(List<MyTask> tasks, int iterations) {  
    Phaser phaser = new Phaser() {  
        protected boolean onAdvance(int phase, int regParties)  
        { return phase >= iterations || regParties == 0; }  
    };  
  
    phaser.register();  
  
    tasks.forEach(task -> {  
        phaser.register();  
        new Thread(() -> {  
            do { task.run(); phaser.arriveAndAwaitAdvance();  
            } while (!phaser.isTerminated());  
        }).start();  
    });  
  
    phaser.arriveAndDeregister();  
}
```



**Block until all other tasks/
threads complete this phase**



This code is using the phaser as a “cyclic exit barrier”

Applying Cyclic Phaser with Java

- A cyclic Phaser that repeatedly performs actions for a given # of iterations

```
void startTasks(List<MyTask> tasks, int iterations) {  
    Phaser phaser = new Phaser() {  
        protected boolean onAdvance(int phase, int regParties)  
        { return phase >= iterations || regParties == 0; }  
    };  
  
    phaser.register();  
  
    tasks.forEach(task -> {  
        phaser.register();  
        new Thread(() -> {  
            do { task.run(); phaser.arriveAndAwaitAdvance();  
            } while (!phaser.isTerminated());  
        }).start();  
    });  
  
    phaser.arriveAndDeregister();  
}
```

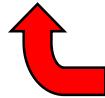
The last thread to arrive at the end of a phase triggers the invocation of the `onAdvance()` hook method



Applying Cyclic Phaser with Java

- A cyclic Phaser that repeatedly performs actions for a given # of iterations

```
void startTasks(List<MyTask> tasks, int iterations) {  
    Phaser phaser = new Phaser() {  
        protected boolean onAdvance(int phase, int regParties)  
        { return phase >= iterations || regParties == 0; }  
    };  
  
    phaser.register();  
  
    tasks.forEach(task -> {  
        phaser.register();  
        new Thread(() -> {  
            do { task.run(); phaser.arriveAndAwaitAdvance();  
            } while (!phaser.isTerminated());  
        }).start();  
    });  
  
    phaser.arriveAndDeregister();  
}
```

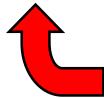


The phaser is terminated when the phase # is \geq the iterations param

Applying Cyclic Phaser with Java

- A cyclic Phaser that repeatedly performs actions for a given # of iterations

```
void startTasks(List<MyTask> tasks, int iterations) {  
    Phaser phaser = new Phaser() {  
        protected boolean onAdvance(int phase, int regParties)  
        { return phase >= iterations || regParties == 0; }  
    };  
  
    phaser.register();  
  
    tasks.forEach(task -> {  
        phaser.register();  
        new Thread(() -> {  
            do { task.run(); phaser.arriveAndAwaitAdvance();  
            } while (!phaser.isTerminated());  
        }).start();  
    });  
    phaser.arriveAndDeregister();  
}
```



Loop until phaser is terminated by onAdvance()

Applying Cyclic Phaser with Java

- A cyclic Phaser that repeatedly performs actions for a given # of iterations

```
void startTasks(List<MyTask> tasks, int iterations) {  
    Phaser phaser = new Phaser() {  
        protected boolean onAdvance(int phase, int regParties)  
        { return phase >= iterations || regParties == 0; }  
    };  
  
    phaser.register();  
  
    tasks.forEach(task -> {  
        phaser.register();  
        new Thread(() -> {  
            do { task.run(); phaser.arriveAndAwaitAdvance();  
            } while (!phaser.isTerminated());  
        }).start();  
    });  
    phaser.arriveAndDeregister();  
}
```

Deregister itself (allowing
tasks to advance to next
phase) & don't wait

End of Java Phaser: Example Application