

# Java Executor : Implementation Choices

**Douglas C. Schmidt**

**[d.schmidt@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:d.schmidt@vanderbilt.edu)**

**[www.dre.vanderbilt.edu/~schmidt](http://www.dre.vanderbilt.edu/~schmidt)**



**Professor of Computer Science**

**Institute for Software  
Integrated Systems**

**Vanderbilt University  
Nashville, Tennessee, USA**



# Learning Objectives in this Part of the Lesson

- Recognize the single simple feature provided by the Java Executor interface
- Understand various implementation choices for the Executor interface

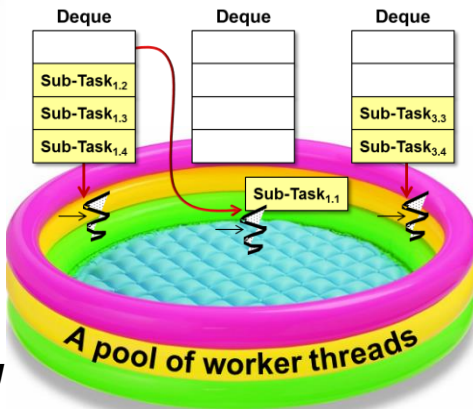
**Fixed-sized  
Thread Pool**



**Cached  
Thread Pool**



**Work-stealing  
Thread Pool**



**A Custom  
Thread Pool**



---

# Implementation Choices for the Java Executor Interface

# Overview of the Java Executor Interface

- The Executor interface can be implemented via different types of thread pooling mechanisms

<<Java Interface>>

**Executor**

● execute(Runnable):void

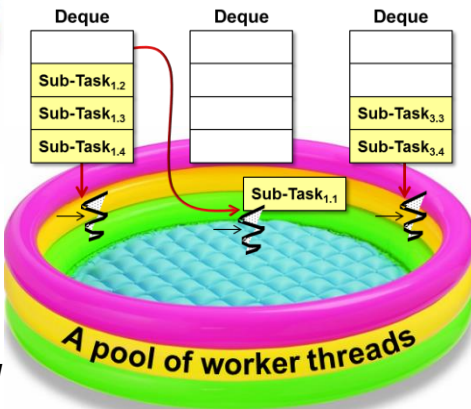
*Fixed-sized  
Thread Pool*



*Cached  
Thread Pool*



*Work-stealing  
Thread Pool*



*A Custom  
Thread Pool*



# Overview of the Java Executor Interface

- Executor configuration is often performed just once to select the “execution policy” for tasks passed to it

<<Java Interface>>

**Executor**

● execute(Runnable):void

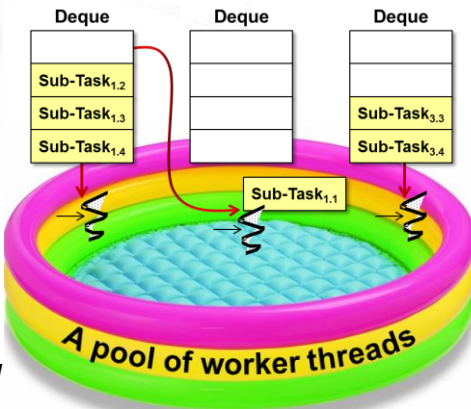
*Fixed-sized  
Thread Pool*



*Cached  
Thread Pool*



*Work-stealing  
Thread Pool*



*A Custom  
Thread Pool*



# Overview of the Java Executor Interface

- The “execution policy” for a group of tasks defines several properties



# Overview of the Java Executor Interface

- The “execution policy” for a group of tasks defines several properties, e.g.
  - In which thread will a task be executed
    - e.g., a existing thread in the pool, a new thread created/added to the pool, etc.

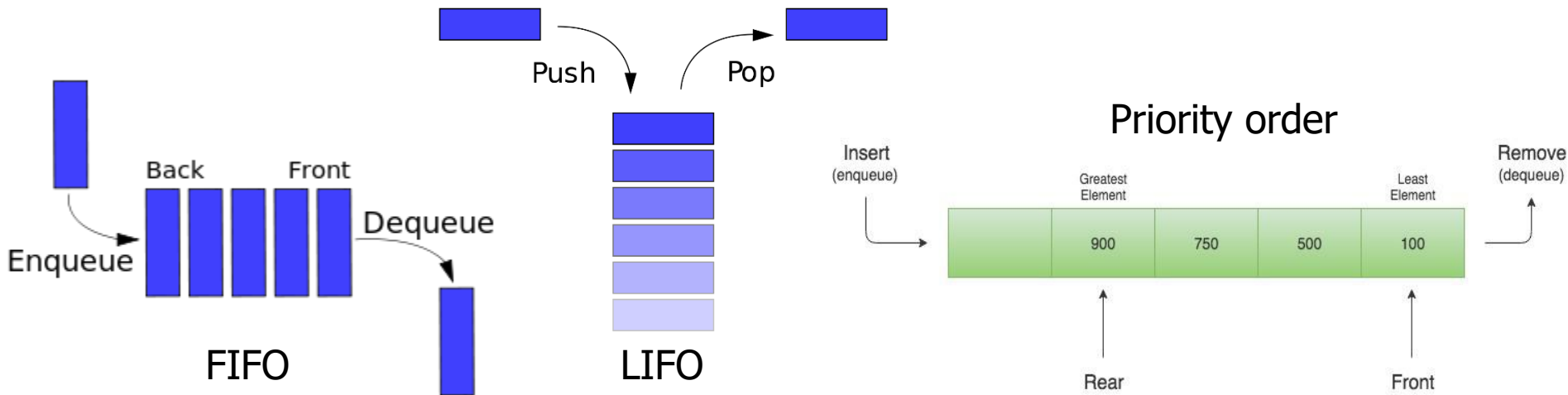


There's even a single threaded implementation of Executor!



# Overview of the Java Executor Interface

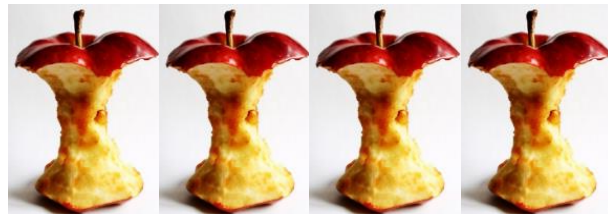
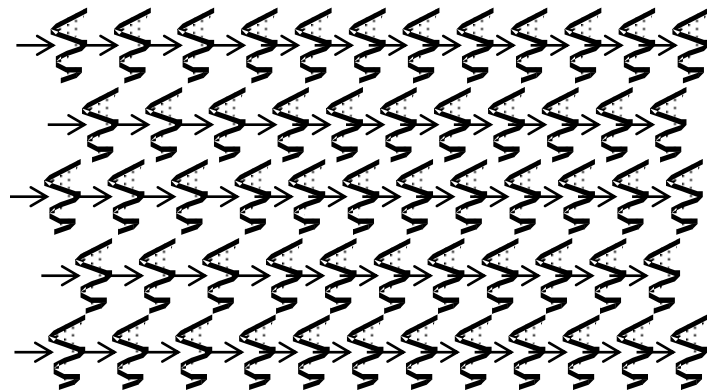
- The “execution policy” for a group of tasks defines several properties, e.g.
  - In which thread will a task be executed
  - In which order will tasks be executed
    - e.g., FIFO, LIFO, priority order, etc.





# Overview of the Java Executor Interface

- The “execution policy” for a group of tasks defines several properties, e.g.
  - In which thread will a task be executed
  - In which order will tasks be executed
  - How many tasks can run concurrently
    - e.g., is the maximum # of tasks limited by the # of CPU cores or by some other factor?



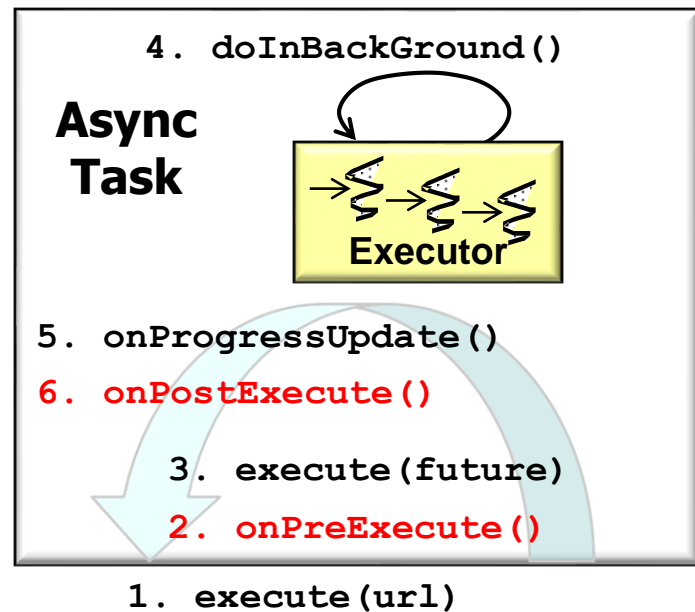
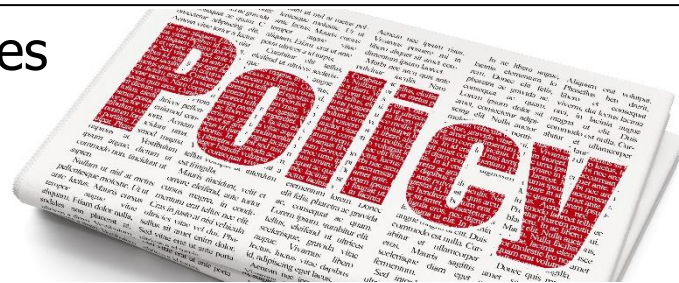
# Overview of the Java Executor Interface

- The “execution policy” for a group of tasks defines several properties, e.g.
  - In which thread will a task be executed
  - In which order will tasks be executed
  - How many tasks can run concurrently
  - If not all tasks can be executed due to system overload which task(s) should be rejected & how should an app be notified
    - e.g., should execute() fail silently vs. throw RejectedExecutionException



# Overview of the Java Executor Interface

- The “execution policy” for a group of tasks defines several properties, e.g.
  - In which thread will a task be executed
  - In which order will tasks be executed
  - How many tasks can run concurrently
  - If not all tasks can be executed due to system overload which task(s) should be rejected & how should an app be notified
- What actions (if any) should be performed before and/or after executing a task
  - e.g., Android AsyncTask’s `onPreExecute()` & `onPostExecute()` hook methods



See [developer.android.com/reference/android/os/AsyncTask](https://developer.android.com/reference/android/os/AsyncTask)

---

# End of Java Executor: Implementation Choices