

Java ReentrantReadWriteLock: Structure & Functionality



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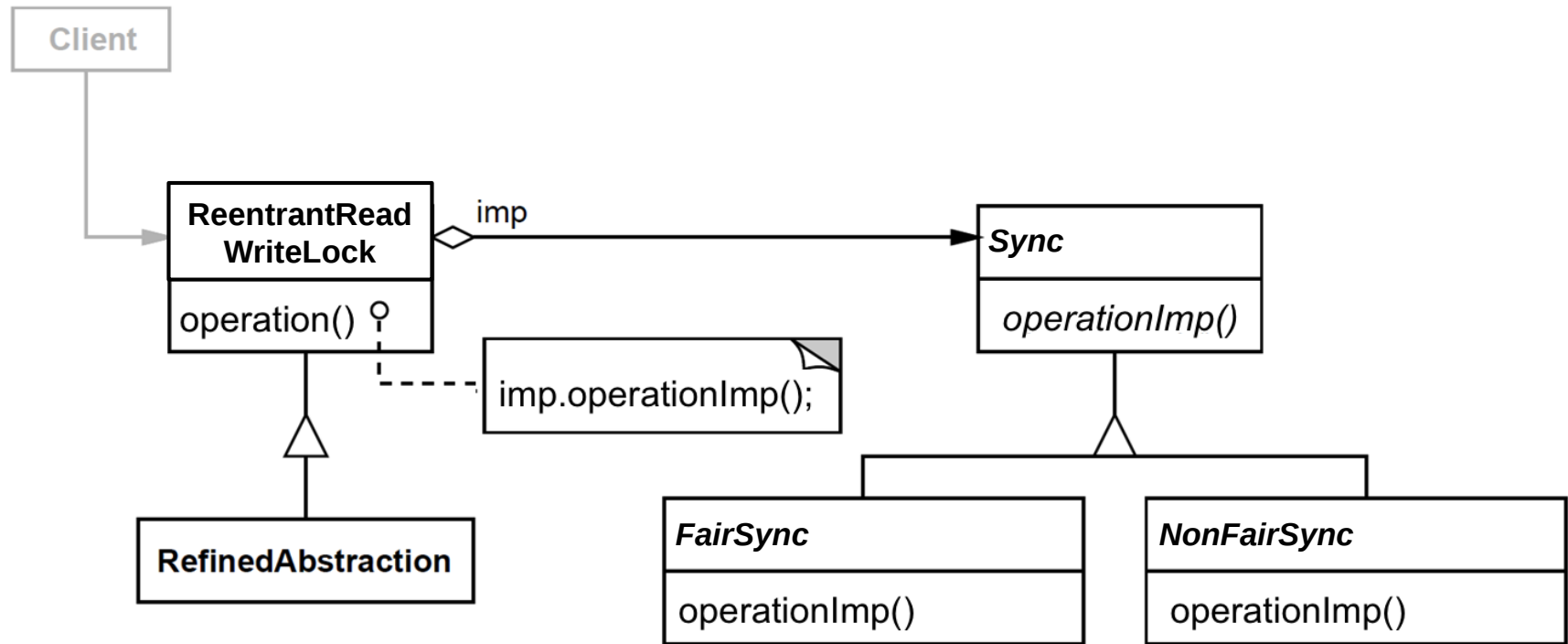
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Learning Objectives in this Part of the Lesson

- Understand the structure & functionality of the Java ReentrantReadWriteLock class



Overview of ReentrantReadWriteLock

Overview of Java ReentrantReadWriteLock

- Provide a Java readers-writer lock implementation

```
public class ReentrantReadWriteLock  
    implements ReadWriteLock ... {
```

Class ReentrantReadWriteLock

java.lang.Object
 java.util.concurrent.locks.ReentrantReadWriteLock

All Implemented Interfaces:

Serializable, ReadWriteLock

```
public class ReentrantReadWriteLock  
    extends Object  
    implements ReadWriteLock, Serializable
```

An implementation of `ReadWriteLock` supporting similar semantics to `ReentrantLock`.

This class has the following properties:

- **Acquisition order**

This class does not impose a reader or writer preference ordering for lock access. However, it does support an optional *fairness* policy.

Non-fair mode (default)

When constructed as non-fair (the default), the order of entry to the read and write lock is unspecified, subject to reentrancy constraints. A nonfair lock that is continuously contended may indefinitely postpone one or more reader or writer threads, but will normally have higher throughput than a fair lock.

See docs.oracle.com/javase/8/docs/api/java/util/concurrent/locks/ReentrantReadWriteLock.html

Overview of Java ReentrantReadWriteLock

- Provide a Java readers-writer lock implementation
- Implements the ReadWriteLock interface

```
public class ReentrantReadWriteLock  
    implements ReadWriteLock ... {
```

Interface ReadWriteLock

All Known Implementing Classes:

ReentrantReadWriteLock

```
public interface ReadWriteLock
```

A `ReadWriteLock` maintains a pair of associated `locks`, one for read-only operations and one for writing. The `read lock` may be held simultaneously by multiple reader threads, so long as there are no writers. The `write lock` is exclusive.

All `ReadWriteLock` implementations must guarantee that the memory synchronization effects of `writeLock` operations (as specified in the `Lock` interface) also hold with respect to the associated `readLock`. That is, a thread successfully acquiring the `read lock` will see all updates made upon previous release of the `write lock`.

A read-write lock allows for a greater level of concurrency in accessing shared data than that permitted by a mutual exclusion lock. It exploits the fact that while only a single thread at a time (a *writer* thread) can modify the shared data, in many cases any number of threads can concurrently read the data (hence *reader* threads). In theory, the increase in concurrency permitted by the use of a read-write lock will lead to performance improvements over the use of a mutual exclusion lock. In practice this increase in concurrency will only be fully realized on a multi-processor, and then only if the access patterns for the shared data are suitable.

See docs.oracle.com/javase/8/docs/api/java/util/concurrent/locks/ReadWriteLock.html

Overview of Java ReentrantReadWriteLock

- Provide a Java readers-writer lock implementation
- Implements the ReadWriteLock interface
- Nested ReadLock & WriteLock classes implement Lock interface

```
public class ReentrantReadWriteLock
    implements ReadWriteLock ... {

    ...
    /** Inner class providing
        readlock */
    ReentrantReadWriteLock.ReadLock
        readerLock;

    /** Inner class providing
        writelock */
    ReentrantReadWriteLock.WriteLock
        writerLock;

    ...
}
```

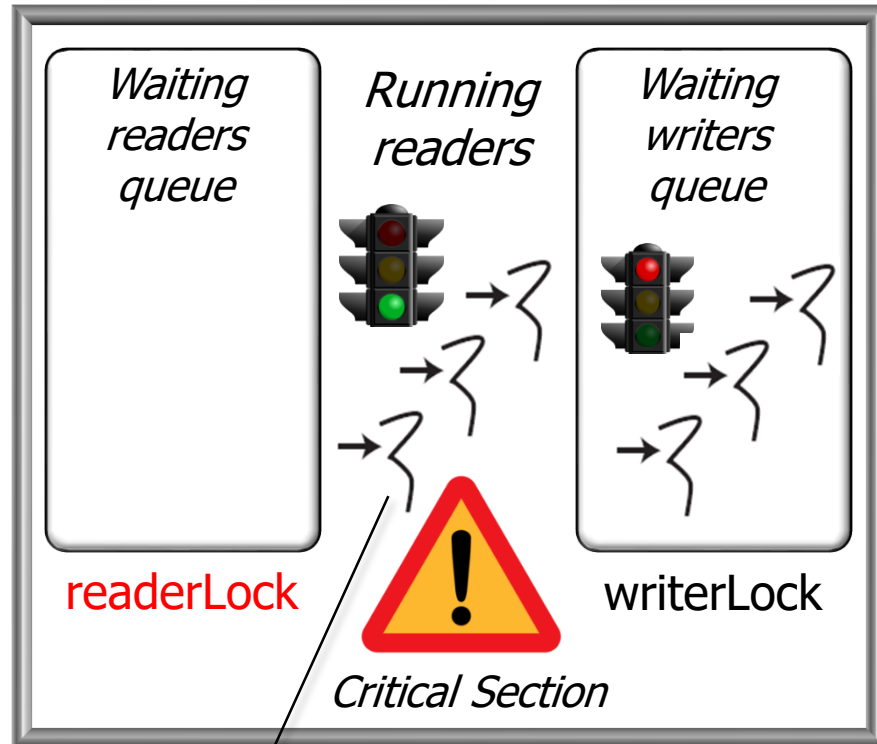
See docs.oracle.com/javase/8/docs/api/java/util/concurrent/locks/Lock.html

Overview of Java ReentrantReadWriteLock

- Implements readers-writer semantics

```
public class ReentrantReadWriteLock  
    implements ReadWriteLock ... {
```

```
...  
/** Inner class providing  
    readlock */  
ReentrantReadWriteLock.ReadLock  
    readerLock;  
  
/** Inner class providing  
    writelock */  
ReentrantReadWriteLock.WriteLock  
    writerLock;  
...
```



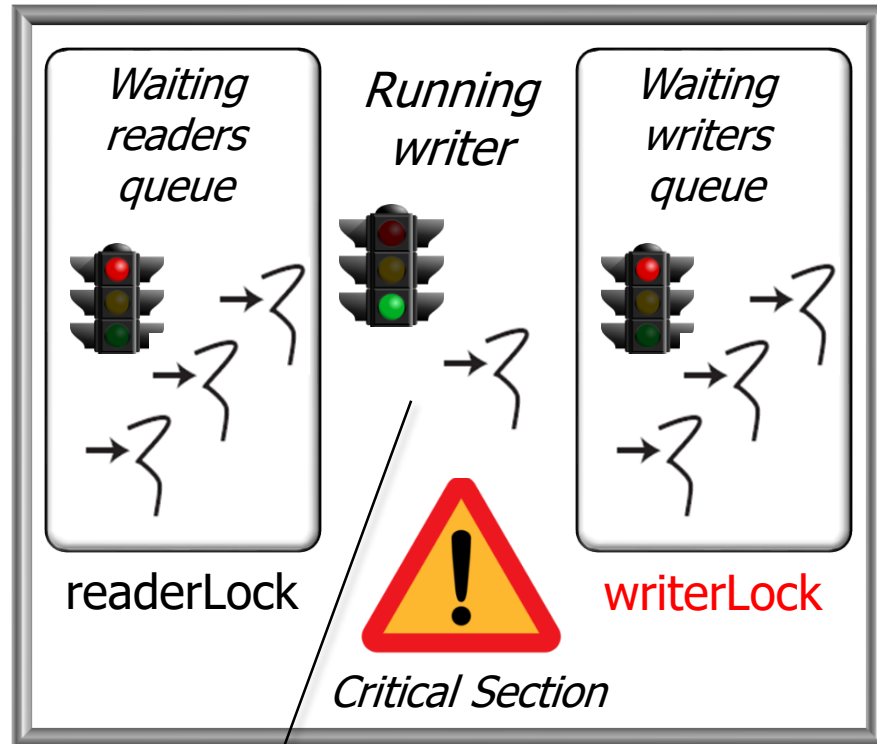
Multiple reader threads can run concurrently within a critical section

Overview of Java ReentrantReadWriteLock

- Implements readers-writer semantics

```
public class ReentrantReadWriteLock  
    implements ReadWriteLock ... {
```

```
...  
/** Inner class providing  
    readlock */  
ReentrantReadWriteLock.ReadLock  
    readerLock;  
  
/** Inner class providing  
    writelock */  
ReentrantReadWriteLock.WriteLock  
    writerLock;  
...
```



Only one writer thread can run at a time within a critical section

Overview of Java ReentrantReadWriteLock

- Implements readers-writer semantics



```
public class ReentrantReadWriteLock
    implements ReadWriteLock ... {

    ...
    /** Inner class providing
        readlock */
    ReentrantReadWriteLock.ReadLock
        readerLock;

    /** Inner class providing
        writelock */
    ReentrantReadWriteLock.WriteLock
        writerLock;

    ...
}
```

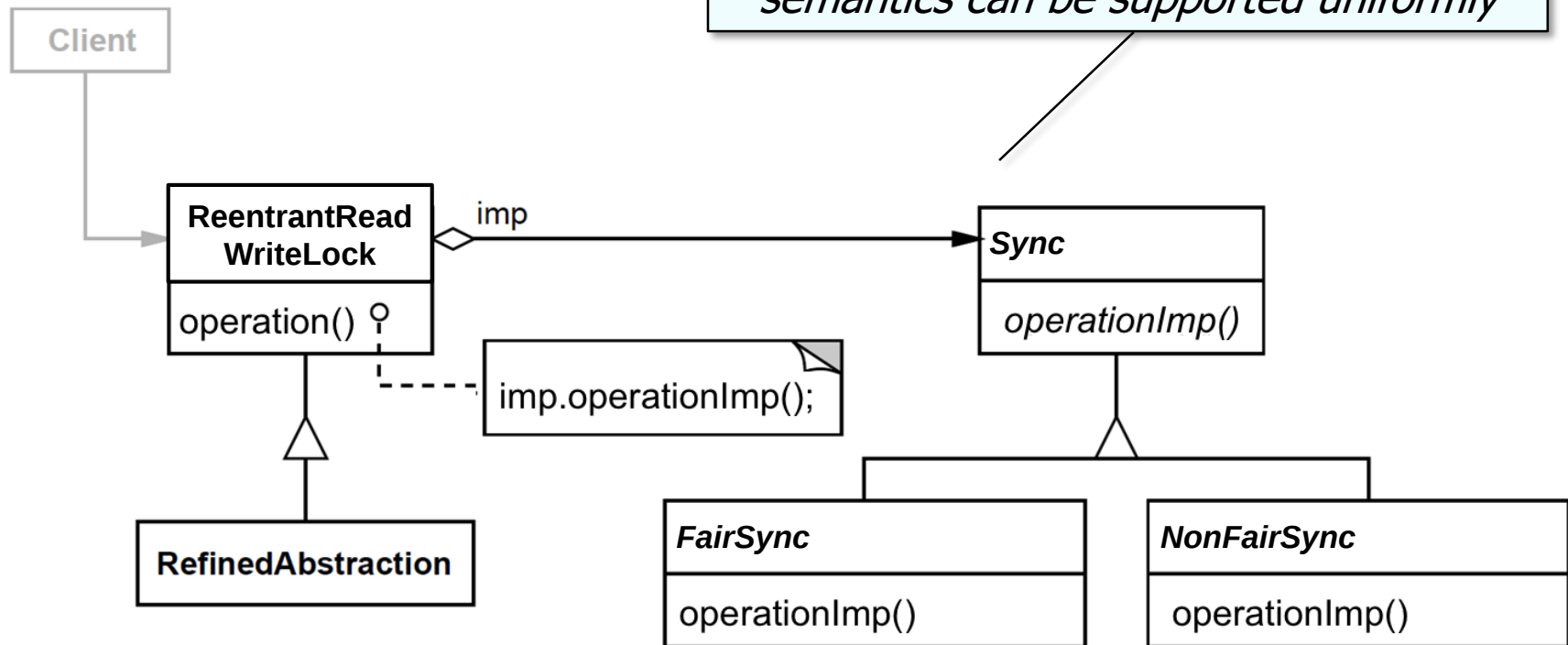
ReentrantReadWriteLock is "pessimistic", i.e., it assumes contention may occur

Overview of Java ReentrantReadWriteLock

- Applies the *Bridge* pattern

```
public class ReentrantReadWriteLock  
    implements ReadWriteLock ... {  
    ...  
}
```

*Decouple interface from implementation
so that fair & non-fair readers-writer
semantics can be supported uniformly*



See en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bridge_pattern

Overview of Java ReentrantReadWriteLock

- Applies the *Bridge* pattern
- Locking handled by Sync implementor hierarchy

```
public class ReentrantReadWriteLock
    implements ReadWriteLock ... {
    ...
    /** Performs sync mechanics */
    final Sync sync;
    ...
}
```

Overview of Java ReentrantReadWriteLock

- Applies the *Bridge* pattern
 - Locking handled by Sync implementor hierarchy
 - Inherits functionality from AbstractQueuedSynchronizer

```
public class ReentrantReadWriteLock
    implements ReadWriteLock ... {
    ...
    /** Performs sync mechanics */
    final Sync sync;

    /** Sync implementation for
        ReentrantReadWriteLock */
    abstract static class Sync extends
        AbstractQueuedSynchronizer
    { ... }
    ...
}
```

See docs.oracle.com/javase/8/docs/api/java/util/concurrent/locks/AbstractQueuedSynchronizer.html

Overview of Java ReentrantReadWriteLock

- Applies the *Bridge* pattern
 - Locking handled by Sync implementor hierarchy
 - Inherits functionality from AbstractQueuedSynchronizer
 - Many Java synchronizers based on FIFO wait queues use this framework

```
public class ReentrantReadWriteLock
    implements ReadWriteLock ... {
    ...
    /** Performs sync mechanics */
    final Sync sync;

    /** Sync implementation for
        ReentrantReadWriteLock */
    abstract static class Sync extends
        AbstractQueuedSynchronizer
        { ... }
    ...
}
```



See gee.cs.oswego.edu/dl/papers/aqs.pdf

Overview of Java ReentrantReadWriteLock

- Applies the *Bridge* pattern
 - Locking handled by Sync implementor hierarchy
 - Inherits functionality from AbstractQueuedSynchronizer
 - Defines NonFairSync & FairSync subclasses with non-FIFO & FIFO semantics

```
public class ReentrantReadWriteLock
    implements ReadWriteLock ... {
    ...
    /** Performs sync mechanics */
    final Sync sync;

    /** Sync implementation for
        ReentrantReadWriteLock */
    abstract static class Sync extends
        AbstractQueuedSynchronizer
    { ... }

    static final class NonFairSync
        extends Sync { ... }

    static final class FairSync
        extends Sync { ... }
```

See <src/share/classes/java/util/concurrent/locks/ReentrantReadWriteLock.java>

Overview of Java ReentrantReadWriteLock

- Applies the *Bridge* pattern
 - Locking handled by Sync implementor hierarchy
- Constructor enables fair vs. non-fair lock acquisition model
 - These models apply the same pattern used by ReentrantLock & Semaphore

```
public class ReentrantReadWriteLock
    implements ReadWriteLock ... {
    ...
    public ReentrantReadWriteLock
        (boolean fair) {
        sync = fair ? new FairSync()
                    : new NonfairSync();
        readerLock =
            new ReadLock(this);
        writerLock =
            new WriteLock(this);
    }
    ...
}
```

See earlier lessons on "*Java ReentrantLock*" & "*Java Semaphore*"

Overview of Java ReentrantReadWriteLock

- Applies the *Bridge* pattern
 - Locking handled by Sync implementor hierarchy
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 - These models apply the same pattern used by ReentrantLock & Semaphore

```
public class ReentrantReadWriteLock
    implements ReadWriteLock ... {
    ...
    public ReentrantReadWriteLock
        (boolean fair) {
        sync = fair ? new FairSync() \
            : new NonfairSync();
        readerLock =
            new ReadLock(this);
        writerLock =
            new WriteLock(this);
    }
    ...
}
```

This param determines whether FairSync or NonfairSync is used

See earlier lessons on "Java Semaphore" & "Java ReentrantLock"

Overview of Java ReentrantReadWriteLock

- Applies the *Bridge* pattern
 - Locking handled by Sync implementor hierarchy
- Constructor enables fair vs. non-fair lock acquisition model
 - These models apply the same pattern used by ReentrantLock & Semaphore

```
public class ReentrantReadWriteLock
    implements ReadWriteLock ... {
    ...
    public ReentrantReadWriteLock
        (boolean fair) {
        sync = fair ? new FairSync()
            : new NonfairSync();
        readerLock =
            new ReadLock(this);
        writerLock =
            new WriteLock(this);
        }
    ...
}
```

*Ensures strict "FIFO" fairness,
at the expense of performance*



Overview of Java ReentrantReadWriteLock

- Applies the *Bridge* pattern
 - Locking handled by Sync implementor hierarchy
- Constructor enables fair vs. non-fair lock acquisition model
 - These models apply the same pattern used by ReentrantLock & Semaphore

```
public class ReentrantReadWriteLock
    implements ReadWriteLock ... {
    ...
    public ReentrantReadWriteLock
        (boolean fair) {
        sync = fair ? new FairSync()
            : new NonfairSync();
        readerLock =
            new ReadLock(this);
        writerLock =
            new WriteLock(this);
    }
    ...
}
```

*Enables faster performance
at the expense of fairness*

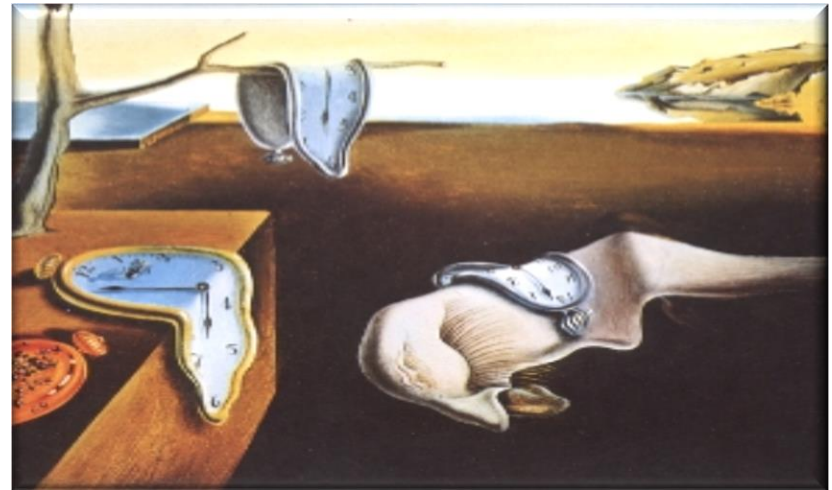


Overview of Java ReentrantReadWriteLock

- Applies the *Bridge* pattern
 - Locking handled by Sync implementor hierarchy
- Constructor enables fair vs. non-fair lock acquisition model
 - These models apply the same pattern used by ReentrantLock & Semaphore

```
public class ReentrantReadWriteLock
    implements ReadWriteLock ... {
    ...
    public ReentrantReadWriteLock
        (boolean fair) {
        sync = fair ? new FairSync()
            : new NonfairSync();
        readerLock =
            new ReadLock(this);
        writerLock =
            new WriteLock(this);
    }
    ...
}
```

FairSync is generally much slower than NonfairSync, so use it accordingly



Overview of Java ReentrantReadWriteLock

- Applies the *Bridge* pattern
 - Locking handled by Sync implementor hierarchy
- Constructor enables fair vs. non-fair lock acquisition model
 - These models apply the same pattern used by ReentrantLock & Semaphore

```
public class ReentrantReadWriteLock
    implements ReadWriteLock ... {
    ...
    public ReentrantReadWriteLock
        (boolean fair) {
        sync = fair ? new FairSync()
                    : new NonfairSync();
        readerLock =
            new ReadLock(this);
        writerLock =
            new WriteLock(this);
    }

    public ReentrantReadWriteLock() {
        sync = new NonfairSync();
    }
    ...
}
```

The default constructor therefore uses the faster non-fair semantics

Overview of Java ReentrantReadWriteLock

- Applies the *Bridge* pattern
 - Locking handled by Sync implementor hierarchy
- Constructor enables fair vs. non-fair lock acquisition model
 - These models apply the same pattern used by ReentrantLock & Semaphore
- Initializes the readerLock & writerLock field

```
public class ReentrantReadWriteLock
    implements ReadWriteLock ... {
    ...
    public ReentrantReadWriteLock
        (boolean fair) {
        sync = fair ? new FairSync()
                   : new NonfairSync();
        readerLock =
            new ReadLock(this);
        writerLock =
            new WriteLock(this);
    }
    ...
}
```

Overview of Java ReentrantReadWriteLock

- Applies the *Bridge* pattern
 - Locking handled by Sync Implementor hierarchy
- Constructor enables fair vs. non-fair lock acquisition model
 - These models apply the same pattern used by ReentrantLock & Semaphore
- Initializes the readerLock & writerLock field
 - WriteLock & ReadLock use “shared” mode of AbstractQueuedSynchronizer

```
public class ReentrantReadWriteLock
    implements ReadWriteLock ... {
    ...
    public ReentrantReadWriteLock
        (boolean fair) {
        sync = fair ? new FairSync()
                    : new NonfairSync();
        readerLock =
            new ReadLock(this);
        writerLock =
            new WriteLock(this);
    }
    ...

    public static class WriteLock
        implements Lock ... { ... }

    public static class ReadLock
        implements Lock ... { ... }
```

Overview of Java ReentrantReadWriteLock

- Applies the *Bridge* pattern
 - Locking handled by Sync Implementor hierarchy
- Constructor enables fair vs. non-fair lock acquisition model
 - These models apply the same pattern used by ReentrantLock & Semaphore
- Initializes the readerLock & writerLock field
 - WriteLock & ReadLock use “shared” mode of AbstractQueuedSynchronizer
 - Also implement the Lock interface w/methods like lock(), tryLock(), & unlock()

```
public class ReentrantReadWriteLock
    implements ReadWriteLock ... {
    ...
    public ReentrantReadWriteLock
        (boolean fair) {
        sync = fair ? new FairSync()
                    : new NonfairSync();
        readerLock =
            new ReadLock(this);
        writerLock =
            new WriteLock(this);
    }
    ...

    public static class WriteLock
        implements Lock ... { ... }

    public static class ReadLock
        implements Lock ... { ... }
```

End of Java ReentrantRead WriteLock: Structure & Functionality