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29 * file:
30 *
31 * Written by Doug Lea with assistance from members of JCP JSR-166
32 * Expert Group and released to the public domain, as explained at
33 * http://creativecommons.org/publicdomain/zero/1.0/
34 */
35
36 package java.util;
37
38 /**
39  * A collection designed for holding elements prior to processing.
40  * Besides basic {@link java.util.Collection Collection} operations,
41  * queues provide additional insertion, extraction, and inspection
42  * operations. Each of these methods exists in two forms: one throws
43  * an exception if the operation fails, the other returns a special
44  * value (either {@code null} or {@code false}, depending on the
45  * operation). The latter form of the insert operation is designed
46  * specifically for use with capacity-restricted {@code Queue}
47  * implementations; in most implementations, insert operations cannot
48  * fail.
49  *
50  * <table BORDER CELLPADDING=3 CELLSPACING=1>
51  * <caption>Summary of Queue methods</caption>
52  * <tr>
53  *   <td></td>
54  *   <td ALIGN=CENTER><em>Throws exception</em></td>
55  *   <td ALIGN=CENTER><em>Returns special value</em></td>
56  * </tr>
57  * <tr>
58  *   <td><b>Insert</b></td>
59  *   <td>{@link Queue#add add(e)}</td>
60  *   <td>{@link Queue#offer offer(e)}</td>
61  * </tr>
62  * <tr>
63  *   <td><b>Remove</b></td>
64  *   <td>{@link Queue#remove remove()}</td>
65  *   <td>{@link Queue#poll poll()}</td>
66  * </tr>
67  * <tr>

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68 * <td><b>Examine</b></td>
69 * <td>{@link Queue#element element()}</td>
70 * <td>{@link Queue#peek peek()}</td>
71 * </tr>
72 * </table>
73 *
74 * <p>Queues typically, but do not necessarily, order elements in a
75 * FIFO (first-in-first-out) manner. Among the exceptions are
76 * priority queues, which order elements according to a supplied
77 * comparator, or the elements' natural ordering, and LIFO queues (or
78 * stacks) which order the elements LIFO (last-in-first-out).
79 * Whatever the ordering used, the <em>head</em> of the queue is that
80 * element which would be removed by a call to {@link #remove() } or
81 * {@link #poll()}. In a FIFO queue, all new elements are inserted at
82 * the <em>tail</em> of the queue. Other kinds of queues may use
83 * different placement rules. Every {@code Queue} implementation
84 * must specify its ordering properties.
85 *
86 * <p>The {@link #offer offer} method inserts an element if possible,
87 * otherwise returning {@code false}. This differs from the {@link
88 * java.util.Collection#add Collection.add} method, which can fail to
89 * add an element only by throwing an unchecked exception. The
90 * {@code offer} method is designed for use when failure is a normal,
91 * rather than exceptional occurrence, for example, in fixed-capacity
92 * (or &quot;bounded&quot;) queues.
93 *
94 * <p>The {@link #remove()} and {@link #poll()} methods remove and
95 * return the head of the queue.
96 * Exactly which element is removed from the queue is a
97 * function of the queue's ordering policy, which differs from
98 * implementation to implementation. The {@code remove()} and
99 * {@code poll()} methods differ only in their behavior when the
100 * queue is empty: the {@code remove()} method throws an exception,
101 * while the {@code poll()} method returns {@code null}.
102 *
103 * <p>The {@link #element()} and {@link #peek()} methods return, but do
104 * not remove, the head of the queue.
105 *
106 * <p>The {@code Queue} interface does not define the <i>blocking queue
107 * methods</i>, which are common in concurrent programming. These methods,
108 * which wait for elements to appear or for space to become available, are
109 * defined in the {@link java.util.concurrent.BlockingQueue} interface, which
110 * extends this interface.
111 *
112 * <p>{@code Queue} implementations generally do not allow insertion
113 * of {@code null} elements, although some implementations, such as
114 * {@link LinkedList}, do not prohibit insertion of {@code null}.
115 * Even in the implementations that permit it, {@code null} should
116 * not be inserted into a {@code Queue}, as {@code null} is also
117 * used as a special return value by the {@code poll} method to
118 * indicate that the queue contains no elements.
119 *
120 * <p>{@code Queue} implementations generally do not define
121 * element-based versions of methods {@code equals} and
122 * {@code hashCode} but instead inherit the identity based versions
123 * from class {@code Object}, because element-based equality is not
124 * always well-defined for queues with the same elements but different
125 * ordering properties.
126 *
127 *
128 * <p>This interface is a member of the
129 * <a href="{@docRoot}/../technotes/guides/collections/index.html">
130 * Java Collections Framework</a>.
131 *
132 * @see java.util.Collection
133 * @see LinkedList
134 * @see PriorityQueue

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135 * @see java.util.concurrent.LinkedBlockingQueue
136 * @see java.util.concurrent.BlockingQueue
137 * @see java.util.concurrent.ArrayBlockingQueue
138 * @see java.util.concurrent.LinkedBlockingQueue
139 * @see java.util.concurrent.PriorityBlockingQueue
140 * @since 1.5
141 * @author Doug Lea
142 * @param <E> the type of elements held in this collection
143 */
144 public interface Queue<E> extends Collection<E> {
145     /**
146      * Inserts the specified element into this queue if it is possible to do so
147      * immediately without violating capacity restrictions, returning
148      * {@code true} upon success and throwing an {@code IllegalStateException}
149      * if no space is currently available.
150      *
151      * @param e the element to add
152      * @return {@code true} (as specified by {@link Collection#add})
153      * @throws IllegalStateException if the element cannot be added at this
154      *         time due to capacity restrictions
155      * @throws ClassCastException if the class of the specified element
156      *         prevents it from being added to this queue
157      * @throws NullPointerException if the specified element is null and
158      *         this queue does not permit null elements
159      * @throws IllegalArgumentException if some property of this element
160      *         prevents it from being added to this queue
161      */
162     boolean add(E e);
163
164     /**
165      * Inserts the specified element into this queue if it is possible to do
166      * so immediately without violating capacity restrictions.
167      * When using a capacity-restricted queue, this method is generally
168      * preferable to {@link #add}, which can fail to insert an element only
169      * by throwing an exception.
170      *
171      * @param e the element to add
172      * @return {@code true} if the element was added to this queue, else
173      *         {@code false}
174      * @throws ClassCastException if the class of the specified element
175      *         prevents it from being added to this queue
176      * @throws NullPointerException if the specified element is null and
177      *         this queue does not permit null elements
178      * @throws IllegalArgumentException if some property of this element
179      *         prevents it from being added to this queue
180      */
181     boolean offer(E e);
182
183     /**
184      * Retrieves and removes the head of this queue. This method differs
185      * from {@link #poll poll} only in that it throws an exception if this
186      * queue is empty.
187      *
188      * @return the head of this queue
189      * @throws NoSuchElementException if this queue is empty
190      */
191     E remove();
192
193     /**
194      * Retrieves and removes the head of this queue,
195      * or returns {@code null} if this queue is empty.
196      *
197      * @return the head of this queue, or {@code null} if this queue is empty
198      */
199     E poll();
200
201     /**

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202     * Retrieves, but does not remove, the head of this queue. This method
203     * differs from {@link #peek peek} only in that it throws an exception
204     * if this queue is empty.
205     *
206     * @return the head of this queue
207     * @throws NoSuchElementException if this queue is empty
208     */
209     E element();
210
211     /**
212     * Retrieves, but does not remove, the head of this queue,
213     * or returns {@code null} if this queue is empty.
214     *
215     * @return the head of this queue, or {@code null} if this queue is empty
216     */
217     E peek();
218 }
219
```