

Section 8: Concurrency

0. You are designing a new social-networking site to take over the world. To handle all the volume you expect, you want to support multiple threads with a fine-grained locking strategy in which each user's profile is protected with a different lock. At the core of your system is this simple class definition:

```
class UserProfile {
    static int id_counter;
    int id; // unique for each account
    int[] friends = new int[9999]; // horrible style
    int numFriends;
    Image[] embarrassingPhotos = new Image[9999];
    UserProfile() { // constructor for new profiles
        id = id_counter++;
        numFriends = 0;
    }
    synchronized void makeFriends(UserProfile newFriend) {
        synchronized(newFriend) {
            if(numFriends == friends.length
                || newFriend.numFriends == newFriend.friends.length)
                throw new TooManyFriendsException();
            friends[numFriends++] = newFriend.id;
            newFriend.friends[newFriend.numFriends++] = id;
        }
    }
    synchronized void removeFriend(UserProfile frenemy) {
        ...
    }
}
```

- (a) The constructor has a concurrency error. What is it and how would you fix it? A short English answer is enough – no code or details required.
- (b) The `makeFriends` method has a concurrency error. What is it and how would you fix it? A short English answer is enough – no code or details required.

1) Concurrency: The `BubbleTea` class manages a bubble tea order assembled by multiple workers. Multiple threads could be accessing the same `BubbleTea` object. Assume the `Stack` objects ARE THREAD-SAFE, have enough space, and operations on them will not throw an exception.

```
public class BubbleTea {
    private Stack<String> drink = new Stack<String>();
    private Stack<String> toppings = new Stack<String>();
    private final int maxDrinkAmount = 8;

    // Checks if drink has capacity
    public boolean hasCapacity() {

        return drink.size() < maxDrinkAmount;

    }

    // Adds liquid to drink
    public void addLiquid(String liquid) {

        if (hasCapacity()) {

            if (liquid.equals("Milk")) {

                while (hasCapacity()) {

                    drink.push("Milk");

                }

            } else {

                drink.push(liquid);

            }

        }

    }

    // Adds newTop to list of toppings to add to drink
    public void addTopping(String newTop) {

        if (newTop.equals("Boba") || newTop.equals("Tapioca")) {

            toppings.push("Bubbles");

        } else {

            toppings.push(newTop);

        }

    }

}
```

1) (Continued)

a) Does the `BubbleTea` class above have (circle all that apply):

a race condition, potential for deadlock, a data race, none of these

If there are any problems, give an example of when those problems could occur. Be specific!

b) Suppose we made the `addTopping` method **synchronized**, and changed nothing else in the code. Does this modified `BubbleTea` class above have (circle all that apply):

a race condition, potential for deadlock, a data race, none of these

If there are any **FIXED** problems, describe why they are **FIXED**. If there are any **NEW** problems, give an example of when those problems could occur. Be specific!

2) **Concurrency:** The `PhoneMonitor` class tries to help manage how much you use your cell phone each day. Multiple threads can access the same `PhoneMonitor` object. Remember that `synchronized` gives you reentrancy.

```
1
2 public class PhoneMonitor {
3     private int numMinutes = 0;
4     private int numAccesses = 0;
5     private int maxMinutes = 200;
6     private int maxAccesses = 10;
7     private boolean phoneOn = true;
8     private Object accessesLock = new Object();
9     private Object minutesLock = new Object();
10
11    public void accessPhone(int minutes) {
12
13        if (phoneOn) {
14
15            synchronized (accessesLock) {
16
17                synchronized (minutesLock) {
18
19                    numAccesses++;
20                    numMinutes += minutes;
21                    checkLimits();
22                }
23            }
24        }
25    }
26
27    private void checkLimits() {
28
29        synchronized (minutesLock) {
30
31            synchronized (accessesLock) {
32
33                if ( (numAccesses >= maxAccesses) ||
34                    (numMinutes >= maxMinutes) ) {
35                    phoneOn = false;
36                }
37            }
38        }
39    }
40 }
```

a) Does the `PhoneMonitor` class as shown above have (circle **all** that apply):

a race condition, potential for deadlock, a data race, none of these

Justify your answer. Refer to line numbers in your explanation. **Be specific!**

2) (Continued)

b) Suppose we made the `checkLimits` method **public**, and changed nothing else in the code. Does this modified `PhoneMonitor` class have (circle **all** that apply):

a race condition, potential for deadlock, a data race, none of these

If there are any **FIXED** problems, describe why they are **FIXED**. If there are any **NEW** problems, give an example of when those problems could occur. Refer to line numbers in your explanation. Be specific!