

Review of “Race Conditions”
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(Obligatory Exercise #2)

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Conclusion

Pass

Feedback

The case chosen does, albeit indirectly, include an electronic id solution. Since it is imperative that the id of participants in money transfers is assured, I would qualify it as such. Two possible race conditions are presented which are very similar. They are indeed race conditions, since the outcome of the operation depends on the order of execution and the possible outcomes violate the security goal of integrity of system critical data.

There are multiple countermeasures presented which include the bare minimum and a more robust solution which does combat starvation.

The overall impression is one of a solid work, although I find it a little to generic. The case is, quite literally, the text-book example of a race condition. Then again did the work remind me that this example is not solely a race condition but also a security flaw.