

Lab 1 – Threads and Sockets

1. Simple Threads

- a) Write a class called Counter that extends Thread. The Counter should count from 10 to 500.
- b) Write a class called **SleepyCounter** that implements the **Runnable** interface. The class should behave like **Counter**, except that after each output it should sleep for **0.05** seconds. [**Hint**: Remember that **Thread.sleep()** can throw an **InterruptedException** that must be handled.]
- C) Write a class called CounterApp with a main() method, create one Counter thread and one SleepyCounter thread, and start both of them. Run the program several times and observe its output.

d) Questions:

- What does this (i.e. the outputs observed) tell you about thread scheduling?
- What advantage does implementing Runnable have over extending Thread?
- What are *runnable* and *running*? Are they the same? Explain.

2. Synchronization

- **a)** Read the examples Buffer.java, Producer.java, and Consumer.java from the course lecture notes. Make sure you fully understand these programs¹.
- **b)** Modify the **Buffer** class, using an integer array instead of the character array to represent **Buffer**.
- C) Modify the Producer class and the Consumer class to reflect the change above. The Producer class should send integers 0 to 50 to the Buffer. The Consumer class should receive the 50 integers from the Buffer and output them to the console. [Note: You can use System.out.println().]
- **d)** Write a class called BufferApp with a main() method, create a Buffer with size **50**, create one Producer thread and one Consumer thread and start both of them. Run the program.

¹ They were covered in the "Threads" course topic.

e) Questions:

- What is the purpose of the wait() and notify() methods?
- When should you *synchronize* all methods in a class? What might be a disadvantage of doing this?
- There is also another problem that can occur with multi-threaded applications. What is it called? How can you fix that problem?

3. Sockets

- a) Read the MyServer.java and MyClient.java files from the course lecture notes. Make sure you fully understand the socket programs. Based on this example, write a Client-Server socket program: the Client should send the integers from 97 to 122 to the Server, the Server then convert the integers to ASCII characters (a-z) and return them to the Client. The Client then displays the returned characters to the console. Please write the Server program and the Client program according to the specification in parts b) and c) below.
- **b)** Write the *Server* class, which is called **ASCIIServer**. The class uses the IP address **127.0.0.1** and port number **8080**. This class should receive integers from the *Client*, convert the integers to characters and send the characters back to the *Client*, until it receives the integer **-1**, to indicate the end of the sending information.
- C) Write the Client class, which is called ASCIIClient. The class should send integers from 97 to 122 to the Server, and then send -1, to indicate the end of the sending information. The Client should then receive the response from the Server and display the received characters to the console.
- **d)** Test your programs in the same machine. Start the *Server* program, and then start the *Client* program. The output should be similar to the screen shots in **Figure 1**.

e) Questions:

- How can you modify the Server program to accept multiple Clients?
- If possible, test the programs in two machines, one for the *Server* program, and one for the *Client* program. What changes do you need to make in the source code?
- What is a Socket?
- What is a host machine?

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Command Prompt
C:\demo>java ASCIIServer
Server Started: ServerSocket[addr=0.0.0.0/0.0.0.0,port=0,localport=8080]
Connection accepted: Socket[addr=/127.0.0.1,port=64266,localport=8080]
Received: 97 Sent: a
Received: 98 Sent: b
                                                                                         _ 0 X
                            Command Prompt
Received: 99 Sent: c
Received: 100 Sent: d
                            c:\demo>java ASCIIClient
Received: 101 Sent: e
                            addr = localhost/127.0.0.1
Received: 102 Sent: f
                            socket = Socket[addr=localhost/127.0.0.1,port=8080,localport=64266]
Received: 103 Sent: g
                            Sent: 97 Received: a
Received: 104 Sent: h
                            Sent: 98 Received: b
Received: 105 Sent:
                            Sent: 99 Received: c
Received: 106 Sent:
                            Sent: 100 Received: d
Received: 107 Sent: k
                            Sent: 101
                                      Received: e
Received: 108 Sent: l
                            Sent: 102
                                      Received:
Received: 109 Sent: m
                            Sent: 103
                                      Received:
Received: 110 Sent: n
                            Sent: 104
                                      Received:
Received: 111 Sent: o
Received: 112 Sent: p
                            Sent: 105
                                      Received:
Received: 113 Sent: q
                            Sent: 106
                                      Received:
Received: 114 Sent: r
                            Sent: 107
                                      Received:
Received: 115 Sent: s
                            Sent: 108
                                      Received:
Received: 116 Sent: t
                            Sent: 109 Received: m
Received: 117 Sent: u
                            Sent: 110 Received: n
Received: 118 Sent: v
                            Sent: 111 Received: o
Received: 119 Sent: w
                            Sent: 112 Received: p
Received: 120 Sent: x
Received: 121 Sent: y
                            Sent: 113 Received: q
                            Sent: 114 Received: r
Received: 122 Sent: z
                            Sent: 115 Received: s
Received: -1
                            Sent: 116 Received: t
closing...
                            Sent: 117
                                      Received: u
                            Sent: 118 Received: v
C:\demo>_
                            Sent: 119 Received: w
              Ш
                            Sent: 120 Received: x
                            Sent: 121 Received: y
                            Sent: 122 Received: z
                            closing...
                            c:\demo>_
                                         Ш
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Figure 1

END of Lab 1: "Threads and Sockets"