# CS341 #14 Working With threads and locks

## 1. Would you expect the following to work on your 64 bit VM? (How about a 32bit machine?)

```
01 int bad = (int) "Hello";
02 puts( (char*) bad);
```

### 2. Which of the following calls will block?

```
pthread_mutex_init
pthread_mutex_lock
pthread_mutex_unlock
pthread_mutex_destroy
```

2b. You call to *pthread\_mutex\_X* (what is X?) blocks. When will it return i.e. when will it unblock?

2c. Why might pthread\_mutex\_X not block?

3. Where are the *critical sections* in the following two code examples? Fix any errors you notice.

Modify the code to be thread safe

```
link t* head;
02
03
   void list prepend(int v) {
      link t* link = malloc( sizeof(link t*));
0.4
      link -> value = v;
05
      link -> next = head;
06
      head = link;
07
08
    }
09
10
    int list remove front() {
       link t* link = head;
11
       int v = link ->value;
12
13
       head = link->next;
       free(link);
14
15
       return v;
16
```

4. Meanwhile the code continued... (check for errors)

```
size t capacity = 64;
02 size t size = 0;
   char** data = malloc(capacity);
0.3
   void push(char*value) {
04
      if(size == capacity) {
0.5
        capacity *= 2;
06
        realloc(data, capacity);
07
0.8
09
      data[size++] = value;
10 }
11
   char* pop() {
       char* result = data[--size];
12
13
       return result;
14 }
```

5. Lock Contention and likelihood of discovering race conditions
A thread at a random time executes for 1ms code inside an
unprotected critical section with 1s total running time. If there are
now 2 threads that run for 1second each, estimate the probability of
both threads in the critical section at the same time.

## 6. Remember me? Notice any mistakes? What will happen exactly?

```
01
    pthread t tid1, tid2;
   pthread mutex t m;
02
03
   void* myfunc2(void*param) {
0.4
     int* counter = (int*) param;
05
     for(int i=0; i < 1000000; i++) {
06
       pthread mutex lock( &m );
0.7
0.8
       (*counter) += 1;
09
10
     return NULL;
11
12
    int main() {
13
     int count =0;
14
     pthread create(&tid1, 0, myfunc2, & count);
15
     pthread create(&tid2, 0, myfunc2, & count);
     pthread join(tid1,NULL);
16
17
     pthread join(tid2,NULL);
     printf("%d\n", count );
18
19
```

## 7. Case study1: Critical Sections and functions that are not thread safe

```
static FILE* file;
01
02
03
    void logerror(int errnum, char*mesg) {
04
      char* error = strerror(errnum);
      if(!file) {
05
        file = fopen("errorlog.txt", "a+");
06
07
      fprintf(file,"%s:%s", mesg, error);
08
      fflush(file)
09
10
```

8. Meet your next *Synchronization Primitive*: What is a *Counting Semaphore*?

#### 9. Case study2: Parallelize *AngraveCoin* miner for fun and profit!

```
void search(long start, long end) {
  printf("Searching from 0x%lx to 0x%lx\n", start , end);
  for(long i = start; i < end; i++) {
    char message[100];
    sprintf(message, "AngraveCoin:%lx", i);
    unsigned char *hash; // 256 bit result ( = 32 bytes )
    hash = SHA256(message, strlen(message), NULL);
    int iscoin; // first three bytes must be zero
    iscoin = (hash[0] == 0) && (hash[1] == 0) && (hash[2] == 0);
    if(iscoin)
        printf("%lx %02x %02x %02x '%s'\n",
                i, hash[0], hash[1], hash[2] , message);
 printf("Finished %lx to %lx\n", start, end);
// I want to speed up search of 2^{33} possible coins
long array[] = \{0L, 1L << 25, 1L << 27, 1L << 33\};
int main() {
 search(array[0], array[1]);
 search(array[1], array[2]);
 search(array[2], array[3]);
 return 0;
```