



Today: Threads

thread: independent execution flow w/in process

each execution can agree where global variables are / update complex data structures together

process's stack segment divided into miniature substacks

run in same virtual address space

data integrity issues!

race conditions

int main (\rightarrow) {

cout << "Introverts example." << endl;

thread introverts[6]; //unhandled thread at this pt

for (thread & t: introverts)

t = thread(recharge); //constructor takes name of fn to run in thread

for (thread t: introverts)

t.join(); //blocking method like waitpid - halts until this thread is ready to "join back" w/ main execution thread

return 0;

}

//continued parallelism via threading directive

static void recharge() {

cout << "I'm recharging." << endl;

not multi-thread safe! doesn't acquire a lock on printing to terminal

thread greeters[6];

for (size_t i=0; i<6; i++) {

greeters[i] = thread(greet, i+1); //2nd arg to thread constructor!

}

static void greet(size_t id) {

for (size_t i=0; i<10; i++) {

cout << oslock << "Greeter # " << id << " says hello!" <<

endl << osunlock;

bc cout and '<<'
operator not thread safe

airline tickets example

size_t numTickets = 250; is the database - where workers consult whether there are tickets left to sell

agents[i] = thread(agent, 101+i, ref(numTickets));

have to be explicit that it's passed by reference in thread constructor

In code from slides:

while (numTickets > 0) {

handleCall();

numTickets--;

separation between these 2 lines (checking & decrementing) is not thread safe - can sell "ghost tickets"

a "critical region" in multithreading parlance

C++ statements aren't inherently atomic - result in multiple assembly code instructions

assembly code instructions are atomic