The Jurassic Park Problem

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Note: For the sake of saving time and also simulating that threads are performing some time consuming tasks, I have set the values of λ_p and λ_c as $\lambda_p = 1.0$, $\lambda_c = 2.0$, so that we can get output within a few minutes.

Working of Code:

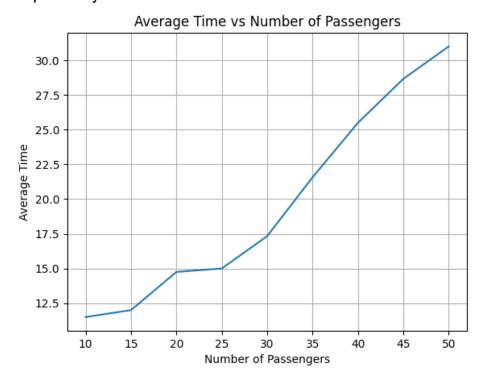
- 1. Let
 - a. The number of passengers = n.
 - b. The number of cars = m.
 - c. Number of ride request by each passenger = k
- A vector car_buffer stores the id of all cars which are available. It is initialized by adding all numbers in [0,m).
 - _mutex is a semaphore to ensure mutual exclusion during access to car buffer.
 - _empty is a semaphore to ensure that a passenger has to wait if no car is available.
- 3. car_sem is an array of semaphores corresponding to each car. Every element of the array is initialized to 0.
- 4. passenger_sem is an array of semaphores corresponding to each passenger. Every element of the array is initialized to 0.
- 5. Then, m threads representing each car and n threads representing each passenger are made.
- 6. Argument of thread functions of both car as well as passenger is their id in 0th index.
- 7. When the passenger enters it's thread function, it sleeps for a while (roam around), then make k requests as follows:
 - a. Waits for a car to be available (using _empty).
 - b. Waits for car_buffer to be available (using _mutex).
 - c. Signals the car thread whose id is the last element of car_buffer (using car_sem) and it removes the last element from car_buffer.

- d. Wait for the ride to finish (using passenger sem).
- e. If the request is not the last request, it sleeps before making the next request.
- f. If the request is the last request, the passenger exits the museum (function returns).
- 8. When the car enters it's thread function, it executes as follows in an infinite loop (which breaks when all request are fulfilled):
 - a. Wait until a thread signals (using car_sem)
 - b. Sleep for random time (riding time).
 - c. When, ride is finished, it signals the passenger who is riding (using passenger sem).
 - d. If all requests are not fulfilled, sleep for random time before accepting the next ride request.
 - Then, it will add its id at the back of car_buffer by grabbing _mutex.
 e. If all requests are fulfilled, it comes out of the loop and the function
 - returns.
- 9. An array passengerInCar of size m is made to keep track of the id of the passenger who is riding in ith car.
- 10. To keep track of the number of requests which are completed, a variable totalRequestsCompleted is used. A semaphore _totalRequest is used to increment totalRequestsCompleted.
- 11. While incrementing totalRequestsCompleted, if a passenger thread finds that all requests are completed (i.e., totalRequestsCompleted == n*k), it will signal all car threads so that the car threads can return from their function.
- 12. To find the average time taken by a passenger, a variable totalPassengerTime is used. It is incremented every time a passenger completes a ride.
- 13. To find the average time taken by a car, a variable totalCarTime is used. It is incremented by each car thread when there are no requests left.

Results:

1. Average time taken by passengers vs number of passengers: When the number of cars and number of requests by each passenger is kept constant, the average time taken by passengers increases. Reason for the same is that when the number of passengers increases, car_buffer becomes empty more frequently. Therefore, passenger threads have to wait longer.

Here is the plot for the same when m and k are fixed to 25 and 5 respectively.



2. Average time taken by cars vs number of cars:

When the number of passengers and number of requests by each passenger is kept constant, the average time taken by car decreases. Reason for the same is that the request of more passengers can be fulfilled at the same time, therefore total rides to be given by one car decreases and function returns in lesser time.

Here is the plot for the same when n and k are fixed to 50 and 3

respectively.

