

Experiment Setup

- Number of TAs: 4
- Exam files: “exams/exam_0001.txt” through “exams/exam_0020.txt”
- Rubric file: `rubric.txt`

Observations

1. Execution Order

- TA processes start simultaneously.
- Each TA randomly reviews rubric lines and marks a single question at a time.
- After all questions in an exam are marked, one TA loads the next exam.
- Output shows which TA modified the rubric and which TA marked which question.

2. Deadlock / Livelock

- No deadlocks or livelocks were observed in any run.
- The use of semaphores ensures mutual exclusion, preventing simultaneous conflicting access.
- The random sleeps and single-question marking per iteration ensure smooth progress without starvation.

3. Sample Output Snippet (4 TAs, Exam 1)

Initial exam loaded: exam 1 (student 1)

TA 3 modified rubric line 1
TA 4 modified rubric line 2
TA 2 modified rubric line 2
TA 3 modified rubric line 2
TA 1 modified rubric line 3
TA 4 modified rubric line 3
TA 4 modified rubric line 5
TA 4 marked Question 1 for Student 1
TA 1 marked Question 2 for Student 1
TA 2 marked Question 3 for Student 1
TA 3 marked Question 4 for Student 1
TA 1 modified rubric line 1
TA 2 modified rubric line 1
TA 4 modified rubric line 4
TA 1 marked Question 5 for Student 1
TA 4 modified rubric line 5
TA 4 modified rubric line 1
TA 3 modified rubric line 5

Based on this it is seen that:

- Each TA modifies rubric lines at random
- Each TA marks one question at a time
- The exam_loaded flag ensures only one TA loads the next exam

3. Conclusion

The program correctly implements mutual exclusion and progress. There were no deadlocks or livelocks observed during the execution of the program. The execution order is non-deterministic due to the multiple TA processes and random timings. This demonstrates concurrency and IPC effectively.