

-----  
PL2 Class Script  
-----

- Thread management; its importance and how it works in Linux
  - heap
- System calls to manage threads
  - pthread\_create() - creates a new thread
    - arguments can be passed to the threads
  - pthread\_self() - returns ID of the calling thread
  - pthread\_exit() - terminates the calling thread
  - pthread\_join() - waits for a specific thread and blocks the thread that calls this function
    - any thread can wait for any thread

- Example Code

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <pthread.h>

#define NR_THREADS 5

void* thread_function(void *arg)
{
    printf("running thread: %lu\n", pthread_self());
    pthread_exit((void*)NULL);
}

int main()
{
    pthread_t threads[NR_THREADS];
    int i;

    for(i = 0; i < NR_THREADS; i++)
        pthread_create(&threads[i], NULL, thread_function, NULL);

    printf("All threads were created\n");

    for(i=0;i<NR_THREADS;i++)
        pthread_join(threads[i], NULL);

    printf("All threads finished\n");
}
```

- Compile

```
$ gcc -o output_file input_file -lpthread
```

- Passing arguments to threads

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <pthread.h>
#include <string.h>

#define NR_THREADS 5

void* thread_function(void *arg)
{
    char* received_arg = (char *) arg;

    printf("running thread: %lu received: %s\n", pthread_self(), received_arg);
    pthread_exit((void*)NULL);
}
```

```

int main()
{
    pthread_t threads[NR_THREADS];
    int i;

    char str[8] = "";

    for(i = 0; i < NR_THREADS; i++) {
        snprintf(str, sizeof(str), "MESCC_%d", i);
        pthread_create(&threads[i], NULL, thread_function, (void *) &str);
    }

    printf("All threads were created\n");

    for(i=0;i<NR_THREADS;i++)
        pthread_join(threads[i], NULL);

    printf("All threads finished\n");
}

/* NOTE: Do you notice anything strange with the above code? If so, what? */

```

#### ----- Exercises -----

1. Develop a program that:

- creates two arrays, one with 1000 positions and another with 10 positions;
- creates 10 threads with the responsibility of finding the local maximum in 1/10 of the largest array and store it in the smallest array;
- the main thread should wait for all the threads to terminate and find the maximum value in the array and print it on the screen.

2. Develop a program that does the same as the program developed in 1. but

- passes 1/10 of the array as a parameter to the respective thread, and
- returns the maximum value to the main thread using pthread\_exit().

3. Develop a program that multiplies two matrices, considering the following assumptions:

- The size of each matrix is 16x16;
- create two threads to fill the two matrices with random integers;
- create eight threads to perform the multiplication of the matrices;
- the main thread must wait for all threads to terminate and print the resulting matrix on the terminal.

4. Develop a program that performs the following actions:

- creates an array of 100 clients;
- each client is identified by its own number, name and current balance (values are randomly generated);
- creates three threads where:
  - one of the threads verifies if any of the clients has a negative balance and signal each of these;
  - another thread prints the information of the clients with negative balance using the information from the previous thread;
  - another thread computes the average balance of all clients.
- If the average balance is negative, then another thread must be created to eliminate the negative values;
- If the average balance is positive, then the main thread should print a statement of conformity and exit.