

System and device programming

25 June 2015

Examination Time: 1h 45min. Evaluation. 18 marks.

Textbooks and/or course material allowed.

The final mark is the sum of the 1st and the 2nd parts

Write a concurrent C program `concurrent_file_processing.c` in the Unix environment which takes from the command line an argument `n`, which must be an even integer, and generates `n` `A_threads` and `n` `B_threads`.

These threads perform the same task, but belong to two different types.

The synchronization among the threads follows these specifications:

- The main thread generates all the other threads, then it terminates.
- All the threads run concurrently, and are not cyclic.
- Then `A_threads` are created with an associated identifier (0 to `n-1`).
- Then `B_threads` are created with an associated identifier (0 to `n-1`).
- Each thread sleeps a random number of seconds (max 3), then it is supposed to process a file identified by the thread identifier, but in our case it does nothing.
- When a pair of threads of type A has processed their “files”, one of them (the last) must concatenate the two files. In our case it simply prints for example:

A4 cats: A4 A8
- When a pair of threads of type B has processed their “files”, one of them (the last) must concatenate the two file, in our case it simply prints for example:

B5 cats B5 B0
- When a pair of `A_threads` and a pair of `B_threads` have completed their concatenate operation, one of them (the last) must combine the four file. In our case it simply prints for example:

A1 merges A1 A4 B3 B4

This is an example of output for the command `concurrent_file_processing 12`

```

A9 cats    A9 A4
>B3 cats   B3 B1
           B3 merges   B3 B1 A4 A9

A2 cats    A2 A10
B7 cats    B7 B6
           B7 merges   B7 B6 A2 A10

B9 cats    B9 B8
A5 cats    A5 A3
           A5 merges   A5 A3 B8 B9

A7 cats    A7 A6
All . cats All A8
BO cats    BO B11
           BO merges   BO B11 A6 A7

B4 cats    B4 B2
           B4 merges   B4 B2 ` ` All

BIO cats   i BIO B5
AO cats    AO A1
           AO merges   AO A1 B5 BIO

```

Hint: Use an array of counters with one counter per each `A_thread`.
 Use an array of counters with one counter per each `B_thread`.
 Manage these counters to get your solution.