PC



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PRESENTS



The Dining Philosopher Problem

(A JAVA TECHNOLOGY PRODUCT)

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The Dining Philosopher Problem

The dining philosopher problem is considered a classic synchronization problem as it is an example of large class of concurrency-control problem. It is a simple representation of the need to allocate several resources among several processes in a deadlock-free and starvation-free manner. In 1965, Edsger Dijkstra set an examination question on a synchronization problem where five computers competed for access to five shared tape drive peripherals. Soon afterwards the problem was retold by Tony Hoare as the dining philosophers problem.

The program illustrates five philosophers who share a circular table and in the center of the table is a bowl of rice, and the table is laid with five chopsticks. When a philosopher thinks, he does not interact with his colleagues. So, if a philosopher gets hungry, he tries to pick up the two chopsticks that are closest to him. When a hungry philosopher has both his chopsticks at the same time, he eats without releasing his chopsticks. However, a situation of deadlock may occurs if all five philosophers become hungry simultaneously and grabs his left chopstick. When each philosopher tries to grab his right chopstick, he will be delayed forever.

Several possible remedies to the problem have been demonstrated that ensures freedom from deadlock.



Programmed in JAVA NetBeans IDE 6.9.1 Java SE Development Kit 6

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