By: Microsoft AI

ABAP: Don't do concurrent changes to the same object

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Some objects in ABAP supports doing concurrent changes in different transports, e.g. MSAG and CLAS, but don't, just don't 🤯 Even if its not ABAP, don't do it. And don't do retrofit its a rabbit hole.

Discovering

Sometimes it can be difficult to discover, if starting to change CL_CLASS in transport1, and doing a different change in transport2, then it might auto suggest transport1, leading to bad contents in transports.

abaplint.app automatically discovers when multiple pull requests change the same files,
example https://github.com/abap2xlsx/abap2xlsx/pull/1343/checks?check_run_id=57621316160

5 observations

No	Description	File
1	Parallel change in `zcl_excel_common.clas.abap` , pull request #1340	
2	Parallel change in `zcl_excel_common.clas.abap` , pull request #1321	
3	Parallel change in `zcl_excel_common.clas.abap` , pull request #1298	
4	Parallel change in `zcl_excel_common.clas.abap` , pull request #1248	
5	Parallel change in `zcl_excel_common.clas.abap` , pull request #1193	

Base: `1c2150b` , Head: `081368c`

Example

When its discovered, the team has multiple options.

Planning

Either finish change1 before change2 is started, or choose to group the two changes together. However, if change velocity is low, then a merge can result in getting nowhere, so I recommend doing one thing at a time, start with the most important, priorities might also be different when change1 is finished.

Shipping

If the team ships to production fast, then it lowers risk of concurrent changes, work on designing and building processes that help shipping faster, instead of tackling transport or merge conflicts.

God Classes

If a **class contains too much responsibility**, then spend time to refactor it, separating it into multiple classes with distinct responsibilities. If the team is afraid of refactoring, it is an indication of missing tests or missing understanding of the process, or slow shipping of changes to production.

Godspeed 🤓

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