

Testing concurrent algorithms with *lincheck*

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Writing concurrent code is pain

Writing concurrent code is pain

... testing it is not much easier!

var i = 0 i.inc() i.inc()

We do not expect this!

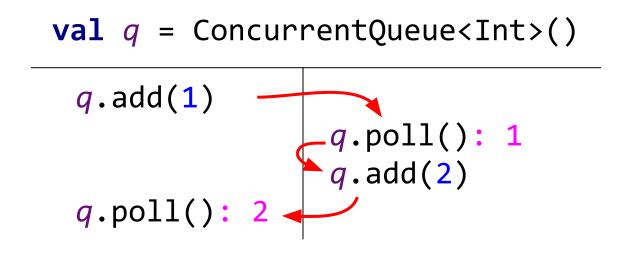
Execution *is linearizable* ⇔ ∃ equivalent *sequential* execution wrt *happens-before* order (a bit more complicated)

Execution *is linearizable* ⇔ ∃ equivalent *sequential* execution wrt *happens-before* order (a bit more complicated)

```
val q = ConcurrentQueue<Int>()

q.add(1)          q.poll(): 1
q.poll(): 2          q.add(2)
```

Execution *is linearizable* ⇔ ∃ equivalent *sequential* execution wrt *happens-before* order (a bit more complicated)



This counter is not linearizable











```
class ConcurrentQueueTest {
    val q = ConcurrentQueue<Int>()
Initial state
```

```
class ConcurrentQueueTest {
  val q = ConcurrentQueue<Int>()
   @Operation fun add(x: Int) = q.add(x)
   @Operation fun poll() = q.poll()
                                            Operations on
                                           the data structure
```

```
class ConcurrentQueueTest {
  val q = ConcurrentQueue<Int>()
  @Test fun runTest() = LinChecker.check(this::class)
```

```
class ConcurrentQueueTest {
                                       The Magic
  val q = ConcurrentQueue<Int>()
                                         Button
  @Operation fun add(x: Int) = q.add(x)
  @Operation fun poll() = q.poll()
  @Test fun runTest() = LinChecker.check(this::class)
```

Lincheck Overview

Lincheck = Linearizability Checker (supports not only linearizability)
https://github.com/Kotlin/kotlinx-lincheck

Lincheck Overview

Lincheck = Linearizability Checker (supports not only linearizability)
https://github.com/Kotlin/kotlinx-lincheck

- 1. Generates a random scenario
- 2. Executes it a lot of times
- 3. Verifies the results

Invalid Execution Example

```
Init part:
[poll(): null, add(9)]
Parallel part:
| poll(): null | add(4)
add(3) add(6)
| poll(): 4  | poll(): 3 |
Post part:
[add(1)]
```

Invalid Execution Example

```
How to understand
Init part:
                          the error cause?
[poll(): null, add(9)]
Parallel part:
 poll(): null | add(4)
 add(3) | add(6)
 poll(): 4 | poll(): 3 |
Post part:
[add(1)]
```

Failed Scenario Minimization

Lincheck tries to remove actors iteratively
see Options.minimizeFailedScenario(..)

How to generate scenarios?

```
class MySuperFastQueueTest {
   val q = MySuperFastQueue<Int>()

   @Operation fun add(x: Int) =
        q.add(x)

   @Operation fun poll() =
        q.poll()
}
```

```
class MySuperFastQueueTest {
   val q = MySuperFastQueue<Int>()

    @Operation fun add(x: Int) =
        q.add(x)

    @Operation fun poll() =
        q.poll()
}
```

```
@StressCTest(actorsBefore = 2,
              threads = 2, actorsPerThread = 3,
              actorsAfter = 1)
class MySuperFastQueueTest {
   val q = MySuperFastQueue<Int>()
   @Operation fun add(x: Int) =
       \mathbf{q}.add(\mathbf{x})
   @Operation fun poll() =
       q.poll()
```

```
@StressCTest(actorsBefore = 2,
             threads = 2, actorsPerThread = 3,
             actorsAfter = 1
class MySuperFastQueueTest {
   val q = MySuperFastQueue<Int>()
   @Operation fun add(x: Int) =
       q.add(x)
   @Operation fun poll() = q.poll()
   @Test fun test() =
       LinChecker.check(this::class)
```

```
class MySuperFastQueueTest {
  val q = MySuperFastQueue<Int>()
  @Operation fun add(x: Int) =
       q.add(x)
  @Operation fun poll() = q.poll()
  @Test fun test() = StressOptions()
       .actorsBefore(2)
       .threads(2).actorsPerThread(3)
       .actorsAfter(1)
       .check(this::class)
```

Parameters Generation

```
We use parameter
class MySuperFastQueueTest {
                                                 generators!
  val q = MySuperFastQueue<Int>()
  @Operation fun add(@Param(gen = IntGen::class,
                             conf = "-10:10") x: Int) = q.add(x)
  @Operation fun poll() = q.poll()
  @Test fun test() = ...
```

Parameters Generation

```
Let's add one more
class MySuperFastQueueTest {
                                                    add-like method
  val q = MySuperFastQueue<Int>()
                         add(@Param(gen = IntGen::class,
  @Operation fun
                             conf = "-10:10") x: Int) = q.add(x)
  @Operation fun addIfEmpty(@Param(gen = IntGen::class,
                             conf = "-10:10") x: Int) = q.addIfEmpty(x)
  @Operation fun poll() = q.poll()
  @Test fun test() = ...
```

Parameters Generation

```
@Param(name = "elem", gen = IntGen::class, conf = "-10:10")
class MySuperFastQueueTest {
   val q = MySuperFastQueue<Int>()
   @Operation fun add(@Param(name="elem") x: Int) = q.add(x)
   @Operation fun addIfEmpty(@Param(name="elem") x: Int) =
                  q.addIfEmpty(x)
                                                 We can share the
   @Operation fun poll() = q.poll()
                                                   configuration!
  @Test fun test() = ...
```

Custom Parameter Generators

```
class RandomIntParameterGenerator(ignoredConf: String)
    : ParameterGenerator<Int>
{
    override fun generate() = Random.nextInt()
}
```

It is very simple to write your own ones!

Custom Parameter Generators

```
class RandomIntParameterGenerator(ignoredConf: String)
    : ParameterGenerator<Int>
{
    override fun generate() = Random.nextInt()
}
```

Be careful, the running code can be loaded by another ClassLoader!

It is very simple to write your own ones!

```
class MySuperFastQueueTest {
    val q = TaskQueue<Int>()

    @Operation fun add(x: Int) = q.addIfNotClosed(x)
    @Operation fun poll() = q.poll()
    @Operation fun close() = q.close()

@Test fun test() = ...
}
```

```
What if we can invoke "close" only
class MySuperFastQueueTest {
                                      once by the queue contract?
  val q = TaskQueue<Int>()
  @Operation fun add(x: Int) = q.addIfNotClosed(x)
  @Operation fun poll() = q.poll()
  @Operation fun close() = q.close()
  @Test fun test() = ...
```

```
What if we can invoke "close" only
class MySuperFastQueueTest {
                                      once by the queue contract?
  val q = TaskQueue<Int>()
  @Operation fun add(x: Int) = q.addIfNotClosed(x)
  @Operation fun poll() = q.poll()
  @Operation(runOnce = true) fun close() = q.close()
  @Test fun test() = ...
```

```
class MySuperFastQueueTest {
   val q = SingleConsumerTaskQueue<Int>()

@Operation fun add(x: Int) = q.add(x)
   @Operation fun poll() = q.poll()

@Test fun test() = ...
}
```

SC queue with two concurrent consumers is incorrect, what a surprise!

```
class MySuperFastQueueTest {
  val q = SingleConsumerTaskQueue<Int>()
  @Operation fun add(x: Int) = q.add(x)
  @Operation fun poll() = q.poll()
  @Test fun test() = ...
                                       Parallel part:
```

```
@OpGroupConfig(name = "consumers", nonParallel = true)
class MySuperFastQueueTest {
   val q = SingleConsumerTaskQueue<Int>()

   @Operation fun add(x: Int) = q.add(x)
   @Operation(group = "consumers") fun poll() = q.poll()

   @Test fun test() = ...
}
```

```
@OpGroupConfig(name = "consumers", nonParallel = true)
class MySuperFastQueueTest {
   val q = SingleConsumerTaskQueue<Int>()
   @Operation fun add(x: Int) = q.add(x)
   @Operation(group = "consumers") fun poll() = q.poll()
   @Operation(group = "consumers") fun poll(timeout: Long) = ...
  @Test fun test() = ...
```

Number of Scenarios to Generate

```
@StressCTest(iterations = 100500)
class MySuperFastQueueTest {
   @Test fun test() =
       LinChecker.check(this::class)
                            class MySuperFastQueueTest {
                               @Test fun test() = StressOptions()
                                    .iterations(100500)
                                    .check(this::class)
```

Custom Scenarios

```
val s = scenario {
  initial {
    actor(MyQueueTest::add, 1)
  parallel
    thread {
      actor(MyQueueTest::add, 2)
      actor(MyQueueTest::add, 3)
    thread {
      actor(MyQueueTest::poll)
      actor(MyQueueTest::poll)
```

Custom Scenarios

```
val s = scenario {
  initial {
    actor(MyQueueTest::add, 1)
  parallel
    thread {
      actor(MyQueueTest::add, 2)
      actor(MyQueueTest::add, 3)
    thread {
      actor(MyQueueTest::poll)
      actor(MyQueueTest::poll)
```

```
class MyQueueTest {
    ...
    @Test fun test() = StressOptions()
    .addCustomScenario(s)
    .check(this::class)
}
```

Custom Scenarios

```
val s = scenario {
  initial {
    actor(MyQueueTest::add, 1)
  parallel
    thread {
      actor(MyQueueTest::add, 2)
      actor(MyQueueTest::add, 3)
    thread {
      actor(MyQueueTest::poll)
      actor(MyQueueTest::poll)
```

Be careful, the running code can be loaded by another ClassLoader!

```
class MyQueueTest {
    ...
    @Test fun test() = StressOptions()
    .addCustomScenario(s)
    .check(this::class)
}
```

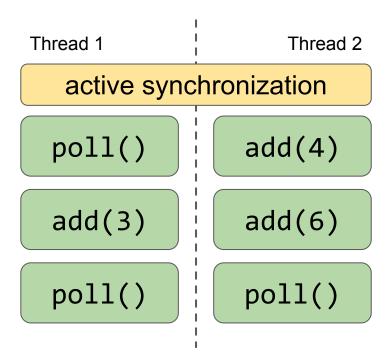
How to run scenarios?

```
Init part:
[poll(), add(9)]
Parallel part:
                             Sequential
  poll() | add(4)
                               parts
  add(3) | add(6)
  poll() | poll()
Post part:
[add(1)]
```

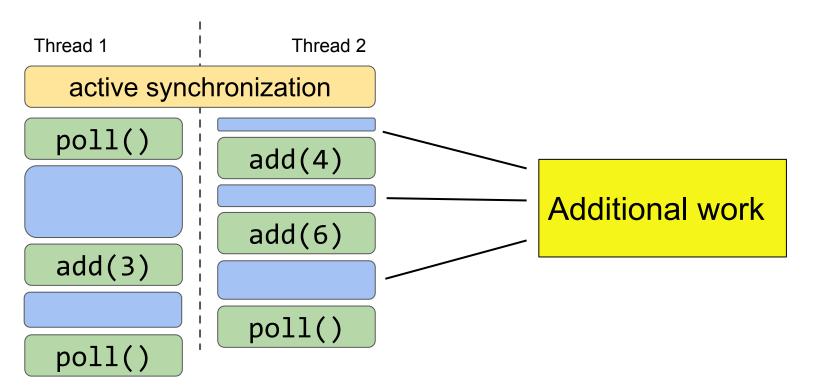
```
Init part:
[poll(), add(9)]
Parallel part:
  poll() | add(4) |
  add(3) | add(6)
poll() | poll()
Post part:
[add(1)]
```

How to run the parallel part?

Stress Testing



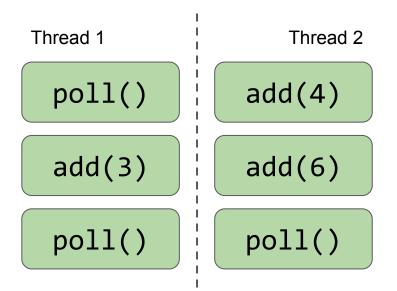
Stress Testing



Stress Testing

```
Thread 1
                     Thread 2
  active synchronization
 poll()
                 add(4)
                 add(6)
 add(3)
                 poll()
 poll()
```

```
class MySuperFastQueueTest {
    ...
    @Test fun test() = StressOptions()
        .invocationsPerIteration(100500)
        .check(this::class)
}
```



- Sequential Consistency (no races)
- Bounded by number of interleavings
- Increases the number of context switches
- Brute forces interleavings evenly

```
class Counter {
    @Volatile
    private var value = 0

fun getAndInc(): Int {
    val cur = value // line 28
    value = cur + 1 // line 29
    return cur
  }

fun get() = value
}
```

```
class Counter {
    @Volatile
    private var value = 0

    fun getAndInc(): Int {
        val cur = value // line 28
        value = cur + 1 // line 29
        return cur
    }

    fun get() = value
}
```

```
java.lang.AssertionError: Invalid interleaving found:
= Invalid execution results: =
Parallel part:
 getAndInc(): 0 | getAndInc(): 0 |
Parallel part execution trace:
                    getAndInc(): 0
                         Counter.getAndInc(CounterTest.kt:28)
                         SWITCH
  getAndInc(): 0
  SWITCH
                         Counter.getAndInc(CounterTest.kt:29)
                         RESULT: 0
                         FINISH
```

How to check results?

Results Verification

Simplest solution:

- 1. Generate all possible sequential histories and produce all possible results *in advance*
- 2. On each invocation: check whether the current results are among the generated ones

Results Verification

Simplest solution:

- Generate all possible sequential histories and produce all possible results in advance
- 2. On each invocation: check whether the current results are among the generated ones

2 threads x 15 operations ⇒ OutOfMemoryError

Results Verification

Simplest solution:

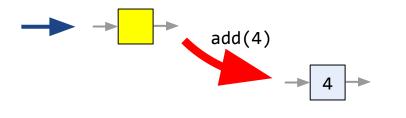
- 1. Generate all possible sequential histories and produce all possible results *in advance*
- 2. On each invocation: check whether the current results are among the generated ones

Smarter solution: State Machine (LTS)



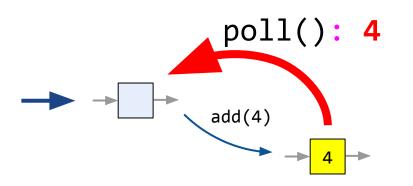
```
val q = MSQueue<Int>()
```

```
q.add(4)
q.poll(): 4
q.poll(): 9
q.add(9)
```



```
val q = MSQueue<Int>()

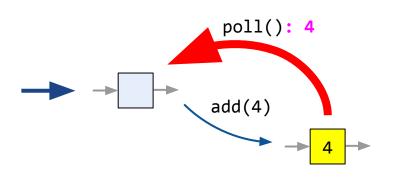
q.add(4)
q.poll(): 4
q.poll(): 9
q.add(9)
```



```
val q = MSQueue<Int>()

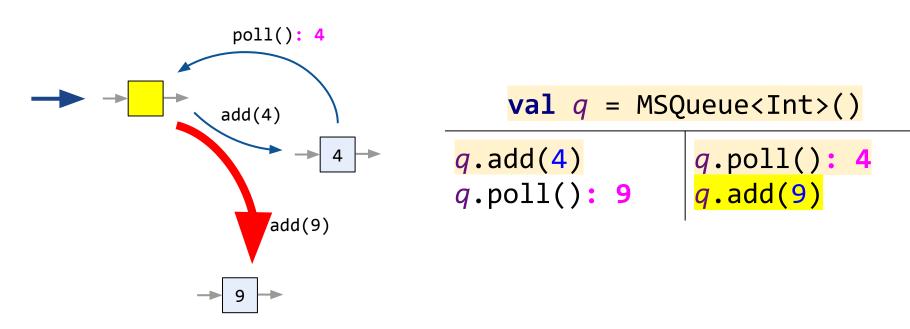
q.add(4)
q.poll(): 9
q.add(9)
```

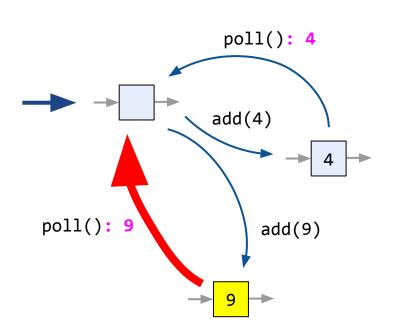
Result is different



```
val q = MSQueue<Int>()

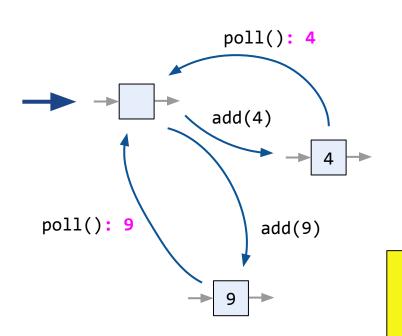
q.add(4)
q.poll(): 4
q.poll(): 9
q.add(9)
```





```
val q = MSQueue<Int>()

q.add(4)
q.poll(): 4
q.poll(): 9
q.add(9)
```



```
val q = MSQueue<Int>()

q.add(4)
q.poll(): 4
q.add(9)
```

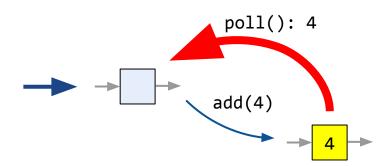
A path is found ⇒ correct

Lazy LTS Creation

- We build LTS lazilly, like on the previous slides
- We use sequential implementation

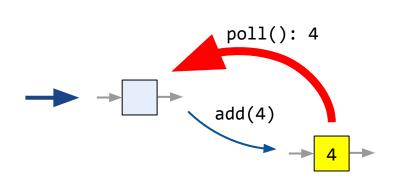
Lazy LTS Creation

- We build LTS lazilly, like on the previous slides
- We use sequential implementation



Lazy LTS Creation

- We build LTS lazilly, like on the previous slides
- We use sequential implementation
- Equivalence via equals/hashcode implementations



Sequential Specification

```
class MySuperFastQueueTest {
  val q = MySuperFastQueue<Int>()
   @Operation fun add(x: Int) = q.add(x)
  @Operation fun poll() = q.poll()
  @Test fun test() = StressOptions()
      .sequentialSpecification(SequentialQueue::class.java)
      .check(this::class)
                                          class SequentialQueue : VerifierState() {
                                             val q = ArrayDeque<Int>()
                                             fun add(x: Int) { q.add(x) }
                                             fun poll() = q.poll()
                                             @Override fun generateState() = q
```

What if my data structure is blocking by design?

send waits for receive and vice versa

```
Client 1
    val task = Task(...)
                                   Worker
    tasks.send(task)
                                       while(true) {
                                         val task = tasks.receive()
                                         processTask(task)
Client 2
    val task = Task(...)
    tasks.send(task)
```

```
Have to wait for send
Client 1
    val task = Task(...)
                                   Worker
    tasks.send(task)
                                       while(true) {
                                          val task = tasks.receive()
                                          processTask(task)
Client 2
    val task = Task(...)
    tasks.send(task)
```

```
Client 1
    val task = Task(...)
                                   Worker
    tasks.send(task)
                                       while(true) {
                                         val task = tasks.receive()
                                         processTask(task)
Client 2
    val task = Task(...)
    tasks.send(task)
```

```
Client 1
    val task = Task(...)
                                   Worker
    tasks.send(task)
                                       while(true) {
                                         val task = tasks.receive()
                                         processTask(task)
Client 2
    val task = Task(...)
    tasks.send(task)
```

```
Rendezvous!
Client 1
    val task = Task(...)
tasks.send(task)
                                      Worker
                                           while(true) {
                                             val task = tasks.receive()
                                             processTask(task)
Client 2
    val task = Task(...)
    tasks.send(task)
```

Client 1

```
val task = Task(...)

z tasks.send(task)
```

Client 2

```
val task = Task(...)
tasks.send(task)
```

Worker

```
while(true) {
1  val task = tasks.receive()
3  processTask(task)
}
```

Client 1

```
val task = Task(...)

2 tasks.send(task)
```

Client 2

```
val task = Task(...)
```

4 tasks.send(task)

Worker

```
while(true) {
    val task = tasks.receive()
    processTask(task)
    }
```

Have to wait for receive

Client 1

```
val task = Task(...)

z tasks.send(task)
```

Client 2

```
val task = Task(...)

tasks.send(task)
```

Worker

```
while(true) {
1  val task = tasks.receive()
3  processTask(task)
}
```

Client 1

```
val task = Task(...)

2 tasks.send(task)
```

Client 2

```
val task = Task(...)
```

4 tasks.send(task)

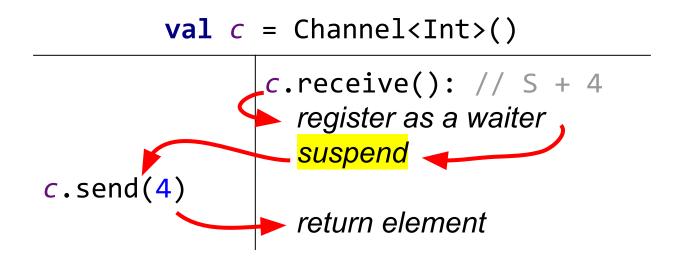
Worker

```
while(true) {
    val task = tasks.receive()
```

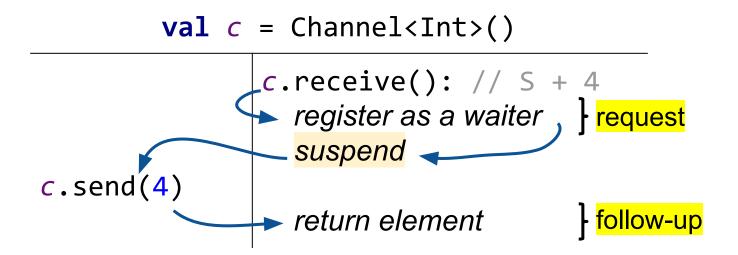
processTask(task)
}

Rendezvous!

Non-linearizable because of suspension



Dual Data Structures*



^{* &}quot;Nonblocking Concurrent Data Structures with Condition Synchronization" by Scherer, W.N. and Scott, M.L.

Rendezvous Channel Test Example

Rendezvous Channel Test Example

```
class RendezvousChannelTest: LinCheckState() {
   val c = Channel()

    @Operation suspend fun send(x: Int) = c.send(x)
    @Operation suspend fun receive(): Int = c.receive()

   override fun generateState() = Unit _________ Why "Unit"?
```

State Equivalence

- 1. List of suspended operations
- 2. Set of resumed operations
- 3. Externally observable state

State Equivalence

Maintained by *lincheck*

- 1. List of suspended operations /
- 2. Set of resumed operations
- 3. Externally observable state

Specified via equals/hashcode

Rendezvous Channel Test Example

Suspended and resumed operations define the channel state

```
Client 1
    val task = Task(...)
                                    Worker
    tasks.send(task)
                                         while(true) {
                                           val task = tasks.receive()
                                           processTask(task)
Client 2
    val task = Task(...)
                                           One element can be sent
    tasks.send(task)
                                              without suspension
                  val tasks = Channel<Task>(capacity = 1)
```

```
Client 1
    val task = Task(...)
                                   Worker
    tasks.send(task)
                                       while(true) {
                                         val task = tasks.receive()
                                         processTask(task)
                    Does not suspend!
Client 2
    val task = Task(...)
    tasks.send(task)
```

Client 1

```
val task = Task(...)

1 tasks.send(task)
```

Worker

```
while(true) {
  val task = tasks.receive()
  processTask(task)
```

Client 2

```
val task = Task(...)

tasks.send(task)
```

The buffer is full, suspends

Client 1

```
val task = Task(...)

1 tasks.send(task)
```

Client 2

```
val task = Task(...)
```

tasks.send(task)

Worker

```
while(true) {
    val task = tasks.receive()
    processTask(task)
}
```

Receives the buffered element, resumes the 2nd client, and moves its task to the buffer

```
val tasks = Channel<Task>(capacity = 1)
```

Client 1

```
val task = Task(...)

1 tasks.send(task)
```

Client 2

```
val task = Task(...)
```

(2) tasks.send(task)

Worker

```
while(true) {

val task = tasks.receive()

processTask(task)
}
```

Retrieves the 2nd task, no waiters to resume

```
val tasks = Channel<Task>(capacity = 1)
```

Buffered Channel Test Example

```
class BufferedChannelTest: LinCheckState() {
   val c = Channel()

    @Operation suspend fun send(x: Int) = c.send(x)
    @Operation suspend fun receive(): Int = c.receive()

   override fun generateState() = bufferedElements(c)
}
```

Buffered Channel Test Example

```
class BufferedChannelTest: LinCheckState() {
   val c = Channel()

    @Operation suspend fun send(x: Int) = c.send(x)
    @Operation suspend fun receive(): Int = c.receive()

   override fun generateState() = bufferedElements(c)
}
```

Externally observable state = buffered elements + waiting senders elements (optionally)



Are all "correct" data structures linearizable?

Sequential consistency Quiescent consistency **Quasi-linearizability** Quantitative relaxation Local linearizability

Sequential consistency

Quiescent consistency

Quasi-lineari: We actually test for it

Quantitative relaxation

Sequential consistency Quiescent consistency

Quasi-li We support this formalism, and use it in Kotlin Coroutines*

Quantitative relaxation

¹⁰⁵

Sequential CODecided to remove these contracts from lincheck*

Quasi-linearizability Quantitative relaxation

^{*} Got best decision award:)

Sequential consistency Quiescent consistency Quasi-linearizabil Not supported

Quantitative

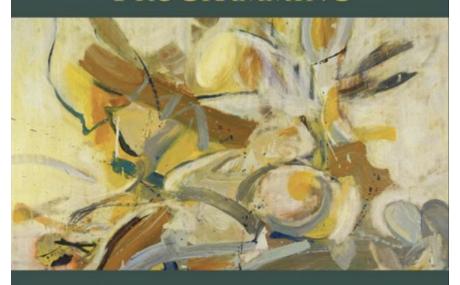
Not supported Never have Never will

Summary

- It is easy to check concurrent data structures with lincheck
- We support various popular contracts
 - single reader/writer, dual data structures
 - serializability, quiescent consistency
- We use *lincheck* in Kotlin Coroutines to test our algorithms and student assignments

REVISED FIRST EDITION

THE ART of MULTIPROCESSOR PROGRAMMING





Useful Materials

Hydra Conference

hydraconf.com

Summer Schools in SPb (2017 & 2019)

neerc.ifmo.ru/sptcc sptdc.ru

Homework Assignments @ITMO (Koval & Elizarov)

github.com/ITMO-MPP

Main Research Conferences

PPoPP. Principles and *Practice* of Parallel Programming

PODC. Symposium on *Principles* of Distributed Computing

SPAA. Symposium on *Parallelism* in Algorithms and Architectures

Others: DISC, OPODIS, Euro-Par, IPDPS, PACT, ...

Questions?

https://github.com/Kotlin/kotlinx-lincheck

Sequential model

sequential specification on operations

Concurrent model



Linearizability (usually)

Custom Scenario Generators

```
class MyScenarioGenerator(testCfg: CTestConfiguration, testStr: CTestStructure)
    : ExecutionGenerator (testCfg, testStructure)
  override fun nextExecution() = ExecutionScenario(
      emptyList(), // init part
      listOf(
           ListOf( Actor(method = MyQueueTest::add.javaMethod!!,
                         arguments = listOf(1), handledExceptions = emptyList()) ),
           ListOf( Actor(method = MyQueueTest::poll.javaMethod!!,
                         arguments = emptyList(), handledExceptions = emptyList())
      emptyList() // post part
```

Custom Scenario Generators

```
class MyScenarioGenerator(testCfg: CTestConfiguration, testStr: CTestStructure)
    : ExecutionGenerator(testCfg, testStructure)
  override fun nextExecution() = ...
class MyQueueTest {
  @Test fun test() = StressOptions()
      .executionGenerator(MyScenarioGenerator::class.java)
      .check(this::class)
```

Custom Scenario Generators

```
class MyScenarioGenerator(testCfg: CTestConfiguration, testStr: CTestStructure)
    : ExecutionGenerator (testCfg, testStructure)
  override fun nextExecution() = ...
                                           Be careful, the running code can
                                         be loaded by another ClassLoader!
class MyQueueTest {
  @Test fun test() = StressOptions()
      .executionGenerator(MyScenarioGenerator::class.java)
      .check(this::class)
```

Can suspending operations be cancellable?

TODO: Cancellation support