Division of Continuing Education

Module 4: Threads in Go

Topic 3.2: Deadlock

Synchronization Dependencies

• Synchronization causes the execution of different goroutines to depend on each other

```
G1 G2

ch <- 1 x := <- ch

mut.Unlock() mut.Lock()
```

G2 cannot continue until G1 does something



Deadlock

- Circular dependencies cause all involved goroutines to block
 - G1 waits for G2
 - G2 waits for G1
- Can be caused by waiting on channels



Deadlock Example

- Read from first channel
 - Wait for write onto first channel
- Write to second channel
 - Wait for read from second channel



Deadlock Example cont.

```
func main() {
   ch1 := make(chan int)
   ch2 := make(chan int)
  wg.Add(2)
   go dostuff(ch1, ch2)
   go dostuff(ch2, ch1)
  wg.Wait()
```

- dostuff() argument order is swapped
- Each goroutine blocked on channel read



Deadlock Detection

 Golang runtime automatically detects when all goroutines are deadlocked

```
fatal error: all goroutines are asleep - deadlock!
goroutine 1 [semacquire]:
sync.runtime_Semacquire(0x173e2c, 0x1042ff98)
...
```

 Cannot detect when a subset of goroutines are deadlocked

