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Lab 4- Multiprocessing
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CIS 41B
Test with Processes - uses Pooling to access APIs and get the data to run
the Weather App
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import tkinter as tk
import requests
import json
import tkinter.messagebox as tkmb
import tkinter.filedialog
import os
import multiprocessing as mp
import time
zip codes = [92093, 90013, 95192, 94132, 94720, 95064, 95819, 92697,
93940, 94544] # global var for cities
GLOBAL: Data Population from URLs - Has to be global b/c you can't pickle
tkinter objects
Returns tuple of information (city, temperature, description)
def getdata(url, city, temps, descrp):
    page = requests.get(url)
    data = page.json()
    city.append(data['name'])
    temps.append(data['main']['temp'])
    descrp perCity= set()
    for i in range(len(data['weather'])):
        descrp perCity.add(data['weather'][i]['description'])
        descrp.append(descrp perCity)
    return city, temps, descrp
class mainWin(tk.Tk):
    def init (self):
        super().__init__()
        self. cities = []
        self. temps = []
        self. descriptions = []
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tk.Button(self, text = "Choose a city", command =
self. getInformation).grid(row= 0, padx=8)
        # Listbox & Scrollbar
        S = tk.Scrollbar(self)
        self. LB = tk.Listbox(self, width = 75, yscrollcommand=S.set)
        S.config(command = self. LB.yview)
        self. LB.grid(row = 1, column = 0)
        S.grid(row = 1, column = 1, columnspan= 2, sticky = 'ns')
        # Part 3
        self.update()
                                                             # widgets
appear even though data is still loading
        ### Web Access & Data Pop ###
        appid = '6a2f36aefde82926cc37558161b2d56a'
                                                             # unique key
        urls = ['http://api.openweathermap.org/data/2.5/weather?zip='+
str(i)+',us&units=imperial&APPID='+ appid for i in zip codes]
            # makes a list of URLs for each zip code for pool to access
        # PROCESS/ POOL APP
        pool = mp.Pool(processes = 10)  # creates pool for processes -
allows 10 for 10 zip codes
        start = time.time()
                                   #START Timer
        results = [pool.apply async(getdata, args=(x, self. cities,
self. temps, self. descriptions)) for x in urls]
                             # don't allow any more process to be added
        pool.close()
                             # wait for all processes in the pool to be
       pool.join()
done
       print('Processing - total elapsed time:', time.time()-start,'s')
#END timer
        output = [r.get() for r in results]
        # Takes output and populations instance variables for use in
mainWin and dialogBox
        for info in output:
            self. cities.append(info[0][0])
            self. temps.append(info[1][0])
            self. descriptions.append(info[2][0])
        self. totalInfo= dict(zip(self. cities,
zip(self. temps, self. descriptions)))
                                       #dictionary with city as key
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Creates dialog box with city options and displays information in

WIDGETS

listbox

self.title("Welcome to the Weather App")

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def getInformation(self):
        dialog = dialogBox(self, self. cities)
        self.wait window(dialog)
        choice = dialog.getUserChoice()
        choice city = sorted(self. cities)[choice]
        choice temp = self. totalInfo[sorted(self. cities)[choice]][0]
        choice des = self. totalInfo[sorted(self. cities)[choice]][1]
        lb display= [choice city,':',choice temp,'degrees, ',",".join(i
for i in choice des)]
        if choice != -1: self. LB.insert(tk.END, ' '.join(str(i) for i in
lb display))
        if self. LB.size() != 0: self.protocol("WM DELETE WINDOW",
self. saveFile)
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    If User X out of app, user will be prompted to save file with user-
defined directory.
    def saveFile(self):
        filename = 'weather.txt'
        choice = tkmb.askokcancel('Save', 'Save your search in a directory
of your choice?', parent = self)
        if choice == True:
            choice p = tk.filedialog.askdirectory(initialdir =".")
            confirm = tkmb.showinfo('Save', 'File '+ filename +' will be
saved in\n' + choice p, parent=self)
            if confirm == True:
                text = list(self. LB.get(0,tk.END))
                fout = open(os.path.join(choice p, filename), 'a')
                for i in text:
                    fout.write(i+'\n')
                fout.close()
        else:
            self.destroy()
Displays Cities for User to choose and get information: temp and
description
1 1 1
class dialogBox(tk.Toplevel):
    Creates dialogBox object and uses self. cities to generate radio
buttons for cities
    def __init__(self, master, cities):
        super(). init (master)
        self.transient(master)
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self.grab set()
        self.focus set()
        self.protocol("WM DELETE WINDOW", self. close)
        self. cities = cities # From list of cities found in main win
        self. controlVar = tk.IntVar()
        self. controlVar.set(0)
        for i, city in enumerate(sorted(self. cities)):
            tk.Radiobutton(self, text=city, variable=self. controlVar,
value=i).grid(row=i, column=0, padx=8, sticky = 'w')
        okBT = tk.Button(self, text = "OK", command =
self.destroy).grid(column = 0)
    . . .
    Returns users choice to use in mainWin
    def getUserChoice(self):
        return self. controlVar.get()
    If user closes dialog box, choice set to -1 and mainWin won't make a
choice
    . . .
    def close(self) :
        self. controlVar.set(-1)
        self.destroy()
Main - allows other mains to run if they exist
if __name__ == '__main__':
    app = mainWin()
    app.mainloop()
===ANALYSIS===
Method 1 (no threads, process) ==> Elapsed time: 0.5267143249511719 s
Method 2 ==> Processing - total elapsed time: 4.804997444152832 s
Method 3 ==> Threading - total elapsed time: 3.2654874324798584 s
I found that the multiprocessing took the longest. Multithreading took
about 3.27 s to fetch the data while multiprocessing
took about 4.80 s. Running the program without either multithreading or
multiprocessing took about 0.52 s to fetch the data.
Because of these results and according to how I wrote my program, it was
most efficient to run without the threads and processes.
However, if there was a lot more data to fetch from the API, then this
method will not be the quickest. Between threading and
processing, threading with a GUI app will be the better option because it
doesn't require making a global function like processing did.
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Note: Sometimes accessing API took longer than others, but generally method 1 was quickest and method 2 was longest.

Method 1:

- + Pros: No extra code required
- Cons: Not efficient with large sets of data, will take longer to fetch and process

Method 2 w/ Pooling:

- Cons: If processes are running on different processors, it takes longer to communicate.

Cannot integrate with tkinter, have to get getdata a GLOBAL function => added on time to go out of class

Method 3:

- + Pros: Makes GUI app more responsive, works better with tkinter Runs quicker b/c different tasks are running independently
- Cons: Speed is only improved if some tasks take a long time

 Not true parallel processing, bc of GIL (one thread at a time)

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