Subject: Re: Subject : locks, semaphores, and such
Posted by Ken Mankoff on Mon, 28 Jan 2002 17:17:17 GMT
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On Mon, 28 Jan 2002, Paul van Delst wrote:

> Ken Mankoff wrote:
>> I need to create a unique directory to do some work in. This is a
>> web-based IDL script (through ION), and multiple people may access the
>> site at the same second. Each user gets their images generated in a
>> uniquely named directory, which is then deleted 5 minutes later...

[snip]

> I had a similar problem a while back related to running batch jobs
> via unix shell scripts, but I think my problem was much simpler
> than yours and my solution is probably also too simple an approach
> (don't know nuthin' 'bout semaphores and such...) But anyway....
>
> I create a time_date string and prefix that with the username (or
> some other user specific ID). This prevents users from running
> into each other. To prevent the user from running into him/herself
> (if a single user is running multiple jobs) I suffix the
> user_time_date string with increasing integers (up to some
> predefined max value.), e.g. if directory "user_time_date" exists,
> I check for "user_time_date_2". If that exists I increment the
> suffixed integer and loop. etc. etc. So far it's worked fine -
> I've initiated 10's of 1000's of jobs (some simultaneously but
> doing the job submission through multiple windows; other not
> necessarily simultaneously since it takes some time to process the
> inputs, but over about a minute or so) and haven't yet had a
> collision. (Fingers crossed)

Actually, you gave me a very good solution. I will append the users IP address to the directory. That way, I only have to worry about users from the same IP accessing the page in the same second. This is much less likely. Also, rather than use SYSTIME(1) to get the seconds, I will use a millisecond timestamp.

Thanks,
Ken Mankoff

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Kenneth Mankoff
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