

**Allocation of Limited Resources:**

Consider a small school using special pencils during tests. Students use those pencils on special forms, which are then processed by a mark sense exam scoring machine. The school has 100 pencils, housed in principal's office.

Every time a teacher wants to conduct a test, he obtains the necessary number of pencils, which are to be returned after the test. Everything goes smoothly as long as the principal has sufficient number of pencils on hand.

However, a teacher attempting to "break the bank" must be put on hold until other teacher(s) return their pencils. Given that pencils wear out and some get stolen, some teachers do not return all pencils they were allocated.

New pencils are occasionally added to the inventory.

**1<sup>st</sup> attempt at resource allocation:**

```
package Resource_Allocation_1st_Attempt is

  protected type Manager (Initial_Inventory : Positive) is
    entry Take (Number_Required : in Positive);
    -- Make a request for resources.
    -- The caller is blocked
    -- until the amount requested is available

    procedure Replace (Number_Returned : in Positive);
    -- Return resources so some other task may use them.
  private
    Inventory : Natural := Initial_Inventory;
  end Manager;

end Resource_Allocation_1st_Attempt;
```

**Implementation: Trivially easy, eh?**

```
package body Resource_Allocation_1st_Attempt is

  protected body Manager is

    entry Take (Number_Required : in Positive)
              when Number_Required >= Inventory is
    begin
      Inventory := Inventory - Number_Required;
    end Take;

    procedure Replace (Number_Returned : in Positive) is
    begin
      Inventory := Inventory + Number_Returned;
    end Replace;

  end Manager;

end Resource_Allocation_1st_Attempt;
```

**Not really. Compiler complains**

```
    entry Take (Number_Required : in Positive)
              when Number_Required >= Inventory is

*** ERROR** "Number_Required" is undefined
```

We may not use entry call parameters in barrier evaluations. Those values are known only when the entry is accepted.

**Correct solution:**

```
package Resource_Allocation is

  protected type Manager (Initial_Inventory : Positive) is

    entry Take (Number_Required : in Positive);
    -- Make a request for resources.
    -- The caller is blocked
    -- until the amount requested is available

    procedure Replace (Number_Returned : in Positive);
    -- Return resources so some other task may use them.

  private
    Inventory          : Natural := Initial_Inventory;
    Tasks_Waiting      : Natural;
    Resource_Released  : Boolean := False;
    entry Wait (Number_Required : in Positive);
  end Manager;

end Resource_Allocation;
```

**Correct implementation is trickier:**

```
package body Resource_Allocation is

  protected body Manager is

    entry Take (Number_Required : in Positive)
      when Inventory > 0 is
    begin
      if Number_Required <= Inventory then
        Inventory := Inventory - Number_Required;
      else
        requeue Wait;
      end if;
    end Take;

    procedure Replace (Number_Returned : in Positive) is
    begin
      Inventory := Inventory + Number_Returned;
      Tasks_Waiting := Wait'Count;
      if Tasks_Waiting > 0 then
        Resource_Released := True;
      end if;
    end Replace;

    entry Wait (Number_Required : in Positive)
      when Resource_Released is
    begin
      -- Decrement number of tasks waiting
      Tasks_Waiting := Tasks_Waiting - 1;
      -- Am I the last task to be checked?
      if Tasks_Waiting = 0 then
        -- Close the barrier
        Resource_Released := False;
      end if;
      -- Are there enough resources for my request
      if Number_Required <= Inventory then
        Inventory := Inventory - Number_Required;
      else -- Get back in line and wait for resources
        requeue Wait;
      end if;
    end Wait;

end;
```

```
    end Manager;  
end Resource_Allocation;
```

**Demo:**

```
with Resource_Allocation;
with Ada.Numerics.Discrete_Random;
with Ada.Numerics.Float_Random;
with Protected_Output;
procedure Resource_Allocation_Demo is

    subtype Request_Range is Integer range 1 .. 8;

    package Random_Num is new Ada.Numerics.Discrete_Random
    (Request_Range);

    -- The resource manager
    Manager : Resource_Allocation.Manager (Initial_Inventory
=> 10);

-----
protected Random_Request is
    procedure Get (Number : out Request_Range);
    -- Returns a random request number
private
    First_Call    : Boolean := True;
    My_Generator  : Random_Num.Generator;
end Random_Request;

protected body Random_Request is
    procedure Get (Number : out Request_Range) is
    begin
        if First_Call then
            -- On the first call, reset the generator
            Random_Num.Reset (My_Generator);
            First_Call := False;
        end if;

        -- Get a random float value
        -- and convert it to a duration
        Number := Random_Num.Random (My_Generator);
    end Get;
end Random_Request;

-----
```

```

protected Random_Duration is
  procedure Get (Item : out Duration);
  -- Returns a random duration value between 0.0 and 2.0
seconds
private
  First_Call    : Boolean := True;
  My_Generator  : Ada.Numerics.Float_Random.Generator;
end Random_Duration;

protected body Random_Duration is
  procedure Get (Item : out Duration) is
  begin
    if First_Call then
      -- On the first call, reset the generator
      Ada.Numerics.Float_Random.Reset (My_Generator);
      First_Call := False;
    end if;
    -- Get a random float value
    -- and convert it to a duration
    Item := 2 * Duration
(Ada.Numerics.Float_Random.Random (My_Generator));
  end Get;
end Random_Duration;

-----

task type Requester (ID : Positive);
task body Requester is
  My_Request : Request_Range;
  My_Delay   : Duration;
begin
  loop
    -- Request a random number of resources
    Random_Request.Get (My_Request);
    -- Get the resources
    Manager.Take (My_Request);
    Protected_Output.Put_Line
      ("Task" & Positive'Image (ID) & " got "
      & Integer'Image (My_Request));
    Random_Duration.Get (My_Delay);
    delay My_Delay;
    -- Replace the resources
    Manager.Replace (My_Request);
  end loop;
end Requester;

```

```
        Random_Duration.Get (My_Delay);
        delay My_Delay;
    end loop;
end Requester;

-- A number of requester tasks
R1 : Requester (1);
R2 : Requester (2);
R3 : Requester (3);
R4 : Requester (4);

begin
    null;
end Resource_Allocation_Demo;
```