



# Compilers

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## Java Threads

- Java has concurrency built in through *threads*
  - Each thread has its own program counter & stack
- Thread objects have class **Thread**
  - **Start** and **stop** methods
- Synchronization obtains a lock on the object:  
**synchronized (x) { e }**
- In synchronized methods, **this** is locked

```
class Simple {  
    int a = 1, b = 2;  
    void to() { a = 3; b = 4; }  
    void fro() {println("a= " + a + ", b=" + b); }  
}
```

Two threads call `to()` and `fro()`. What is printed?

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Two threads call `to()` and `fro()`. What is printed?

- Even without synchronization, a variable should only hold values written by some thread
  - Writes of values are atomic
  - Violated for doubles, though
- Java concurrency semantics are difficult to understand in detail, particularly as to how they might be implemented on certain machines