Deadlocking

QUIC Down Under

Maybe everything is totally independent





But exploiting commonality is a good pattern





Concurrency is tempting but it leads to problems







Simple solution

Block or reject the write of B until A has flow control credit

This ISN'T guaranteeing that A is sent before B

Instead: B is only accepted if A is

No commitment to ordering of delivery

Not for the first send attempt

And especially not receipt at the peer



Intermediaries are awesome

A transport-layer intermediary that is ignorant of the application protocol can create this problem

In the previous example, imagine that A and B arrive from another QUIC peer rather than an application protocol

The intermediary doesn't know that B depends on A

Clearly B can make progress, so it sends B



Options

1. Don't do that

Get acknowledgment at the application layer

... before sending anything that is dependent on that data

2. Eat the memory cost

Give flow control credit even if you can't use something

- 3. Time out, cancel, and retry
- 4. Something, something intermediary



Something, something intermediary

If you terminate the QUIC connection

... then you are responsible

If you declare that you support an ALPN token

... then you support the protocol it identifies

If "hq" compression uses unacknowledged dependencies

... then the entity terminating the connection copes

