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Farinelli and his fellow castrati were fêted all over Europe. Michael Church explores a new exhibition that explains why. Thursday 6 April 2006 00:00. As a counter-tenor who has twice impersonated Farinelli, the most famous castrato of them all, Clapton is in a position to know. And as curator of an exhibition entitled Handel and the Castrati, which has just opened at the Handel House Museum in London, he's determined to bring these monstres sacrés into focus for the first time as people, rather as a historical freak-show. Castration was first recorded in the Chinese imperial court in 1765BC, when the genitals were removed totally. As Hogarth recorded in his Rake's Progress, one society lady memorably sighed "One God, one Farinelli", when that singer wove his spell. One God, so many Farinellis: Mythologising the Star Castrato. Threads By Dr. Yingwu Zhu. Review Multithreading Models Many-to-one One-to-one Many-to-many.