

# Mutual Exclusion

## Enforcement

only 1 thread in critical section of shared object.

## Availability

if no thread in critical section then any thread can enter.

## Minimal stay

Threads stay in critical section for minimal time

## Consistency

If resource must be protected, then every access to that resource is protected

(cannot have 1 access that is not protected) (remember)

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## Hardware enforced.

what if we disable interrupts?

- guarantees atomic code

### Bad

- cannot have overlapping critical sections
- disables scheduling to other non-related (does not use shared resource) processes
- will not work multiprocessor (can't disable interrupts on 2 cores at a time.
- kills performance on single core

It will work on single core performance.

## Compare & Swap

atomic op, no race possible here

```
1 int cas ( int *word, int notlockedval, int lockedval )
2 {
3     int oldval = *word;
4     if ( oldval == notlockedval ) // if we can
5         *word = lockedval; // then do
6     return oldval;
7 }
```

lets say notlockedval = 0 } if \*word == 0 we can  
lockedval = 1 } lock it otherwise not.

const int NLV = 0;

const int LV = 1;

int word = NLV; // start off unlocked

void withdraw ( int amount ) {

stay in  
loop until  
cas() says  
NLV

```
1 while ( cas ( &word, NLV, LV ) == LV ) {
2     if ( balance > amount ) {
3         cout << "Approved";
4         balance -= amount;
5     }
6     word = NLV;
7 }
```

① 1<sup>st</sup> thrd → word = NLV; line 1 condition false goto 2

② interrupt at 3, 2<sup>nd</sup> thrd calls 1

③ cas returns LV == LV so it busy waits (wasting CPU time)

④ 1<sup>st</sup> thrd swapped back in & finishes, line 6 word = NLV

⑤ 2<sup>nd</sup> thrd line 1, cas returns NLV != LV so it proceeds.



4)

- bad

→ - busy wait (must keep checking until available)  
 { very bad, watch CPU usage spike }

- starvation & deadlock both possible

NO  $\rightarrow$  CAS must be atomic & my CAS is not  
~~this function is part of the part of the HW~~

It has to be part of hardware & atomic

ie (no interrupts)

✓ first

- talk about mutexes, C++ construct for synchronization between threads. (1 at a time)
  - with examples of how to solve withdrawal problem.
- then semaphores, scooped up mutex, can allow more than 1 at a time
  - example
- then how semaphores implemented

Ex (thread based not process based) need shared memory.  
in linux, threads are treated as processes with the same mem space.

#include <mutex>

std::mutex g\_mutex;

void lock(); // if avail will proceed, otherwise locks

void unlock(); // unlocks (once per call);

bool trylock(); // locks if possible or returns false  
// no blocking

- do not call lock multiple times from same thread!  
trylock [if you ~~must~~ must use recursive-mutex]

- unlock mutex when you are done!

solve withdrawal probs

mutex g\_mutex;

void withdraw (int amount) {

g\_mutex.lock();

if (balance > amount) {

cout << "approved";

balance -= amount;

}

g\_mutex.unlock();

}

what happens if you throw an exception & never unlock  
it? (Deadlock) for all other threads Kill & restart.

better solution

how about a class?

.cpp

lockguard::lock\_guard (mutex &amutex) {  
g\_mutex = &amutex; amutex.lock();

lockguard::~lock\_guard () {  
(&amutex).unlock();

}

(auto unlocks when it goes  
out of scope!)

class lock\_guard

{ private:

mutex\* g\_mutex;

public:

lock\_guard (mutex &amutex);

~lock\_guard();



ready in C++!

```
#include <mutex>
mutex gmutex;
lock_guard<std::mutex> lock(gmutex);
```

↑  
when this goes out of scope it unlocks!

Show in withdrawal problem.

Show you do not have to unlock

but what if you want to lock  
across functions

```
int get balance() {
    return balance;
}
```

Show separate function ~~with~~ call in withdraw (so  
its protected) is it OK? No! accessible ~~outside of lock~~ code

```
add balance (int i) {
    balance += i;
}
```

Semaphore init, semwait, semsignal

- ① may be initialized to a nonnegative initial count  
(corresponding to "how many at once")
- ② semwait - decrements count,  
if count becomes negative then process ~~executing~~ is blocked  
otherwise it proceeds [blocking is not busy, wait, give up TS]
- ③ semsignal - increments count  
if count is  $\leq 0$  then a blocked process is unblocked

BTW no out of the box semaphore in C++ 11

Bank ex.

```
semaphore s(1);  
void withdraw (int amount) {  
    semwait(s);  
    if (balance > amount) {  
        cout << "approved";  
        balance -= amount;  
    }  
    semsignal(s);  
}
```

```
Thread T1 (withdraw, 10)  
Thread T2 (withdraw, 10)  
Thread T3 (withdraw, 10)
```

can signal & wait on  
diff threads

good? what if UP > semwait > gi  
↓ down semwait > gi

```
semaphore s = 0;  
s.count = 0;  
int gi = 0;
```

```
UP() {  
    for (int i = 0; i < 10; i++)  
        gi++;  
    semsignal(s);  
}
```

```
down() {  
    for (int i = 0; i < 10; i++)  
        semwait(s);  
    gi--;  
}
```

## Semaphore

```
struct semaphore {  
    int count;  
    queueType queue;  
};
```

// # processes allowed in at a time

remove  
FIFO no starvation strong semaphore  
disorder? starvation possible

```
void semwait (semaphore s)
```

```
    s.count--;
```

```
    if (s.count < 0) {
```

```
        // place this process in s.queue  
        // block it        std::thread::yield
```

```
    }
```

```
}
```

```
void semSignal (semaphore s) {
```

```
    s.count++;
```

```
    if (s.count <= 0) {
```

```
        // remove a process p from s.queue
```

```
        // place process p on ready list
```

```
    }
```

```
}
```