

CS162  
Operating Systems and  
Systems Programming  
Lecture 8

Concurrency

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<https://cs162.org/>

# Higher-level Primitives than Locks

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Goal of last couple of lectures:

- What is right abstraction for synchronizing threads that share memory?
- Want as high a level primitive as possible

Synchronization is a way of coordinating multiple concurrent activities that are using shared state

- This lecture and the next presents some ways of structuring sharing

# Recall: Atomic Read-Write

---

- ```
test&set (&address) {  
    result = M[address];  
    M[address] = 1;  
    return result;  
}
```

```
/* most architectures */  
// return result from "address" and  
// set value at "address" to 1
```
- ```
compare&swap (&address, reg1, reg2) { /* x86 (returns old value), 68000  
*/  
    if (reg1 == M[address]) {  
        M[address] = reg2;  
        return success;  
    } else {  
        return failure;  
    }  
}
```

```
// If memory still == reg1,  
// then put reg2 => memory  
  
// Otherwise do not change memory
```

# Recall: futex - Fast Userspace Mutex

---

```
#include <linux/futex.h>
#include <sys/time.h>

int futex(int *uaddr, int futex_op, int val,
          const struct timespec *timeout );
```

Interface to the kernel sleep() functionality!

- Let thread put themselves to sleep – conditionally!

futex is not exposed in libc; it is used within the implementation of pthreads

- Can be used to implement locks, semaphores, monitors, etc...

# Recall: How to use a futex

---

```
bool maybe = false;
int mylock = 0; // Interface:
acquire(&mylock, &maybe_waiters);
//
release(&mylock, &maybe_waiters);

acquire(int *thelock, bool *maybe) {
    while (test&set(thelock)) {
        // Sleep, since lock busy!
        *maybe = true;
        futex(thelock, FUTEX_WAIT, 1);

        // Make sure other sleepers not stuck
        *maybe = true;
    }
}
```

This is syscall-free in the uncontended case

```
release(int *thelock, bool *maybe) {
    thelock = 0;
    if (*maybe) {
        *maybe = false;
        // Try to wake up someone
        futex(&thelock, FUTEX_WAKE, 1);
    }
}
```

Temporarily falls back to syscalls if multiple waiters, or concurrent acquire/release

# Semaphores

---

Semaphores are a type of generalized lock

First defined by Dijkstra in late 60s

Main synchronization primitive used in original UNIX

# Semaphores

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A Semaphore has a **non-negative integer value** and supports the following operations:

- Set value when you initialize
- **Down()** or **P()**: an atomic operation that waits for semaphore to become positive, then decrements it by 1
  - » Think of this as the wait() operation
- **Up()** or **V()**: an atomic operation that increments the semaphore by 1, waking up a waiting P, if any
  - » Think of this as the signal() operation

# Semaphores Like Integers Except...

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Semaphores are like integers, except:

- No negative values
- Only operations allowed are P and V – can't read or write value, except initially
  - Operations must be atomic
    - » Two P's together can't decrement value below zero
    - » Thread going to sleep in P won't miss wakeup from V – even if both happen at same time



# Two Uses of Semaphores

---

Mutual Exclusion (initial value = 1)

Also called “Binary Semaphore” or “mutex”.

Can be used for mutual exclusion, just like a lock:

```
        semaP(&mysem);  
// Critical section goes here  
        semaV(&mysem);
```

# Two Uses of Semaphores

---

Scheduling Constraints (initial value = 0)

- Allow thread 1 to wait for a signal from thread 2
- thread 2 **schedules** thread 1 when a given **event** occurs

Example: suppose you had to implement ThreadJoin which must wait for thread to terminate:

**Initial value of semaphore = 0**

```
ThreadJoin {  
    semaP(&mysem);  
}  
ThreadFinish {  
    semaV(&mysem);  
}
```



## Bounded Buffer: Correctness constraints for solution

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### Correctness Constraints:

- Consumer must wait for producer to fill buffers, if none full (scheduling constraint)
- Producer must wait for consumer to empty buffers, if all full (scheduling constraint)
- Only one thread can manipulate buffer queue at a time (mutual exclusion)

# Bounded Buffer: Correctness constraints for solution

---

General rule of thumb:

Use a separate semaphore for each constraint

- Semaphore fullBuffers; // consumer's constraint
- Semaphore emptyBuffers; // producer's constraint
- Semaphore mutex; // mutual exclusion

# Let's drink coke!

---

```
Semaphore fullSlots = 0;           // Initially, no coke
Semaphore emptySlots = bufSize;    // Initially, num empty slots
Semaphore mutex = 1;               // No one using machine

Producer(item) {
    semaP(&emptySlots);             // Wait until space
}

Consumer() {
    semaP(&fullSlots);              // Check if there's a coke
}

}
```



# Let's drink coke!

```
Semaphore fullSlots = 0;           // Initially, no coke
Semaphore emptySlots = bufSize;    // Initially, num empty slots
Semaphore mutex = 1;               // No one using machine

Producer(item) {
    semaP(&emptySlots);             // Wait until space
    Enqueue(item);
}

Consumer() {
    semaP(&fullSlots);              // Check if there's a coke
    item = Dequeue();
}

}
```



# Let's drink coke!

```
Semaphore fullSlots = 0;           // Initially, no coke
Semaphore emptySlots = bufSize;    // Initially, num empty slots
Semaphore mutex = 1;               // No one using machine

Producer(item) {
    semaP(&emptySlots);             // Wait until space
    Enqueue(item);
    semaV(&fullSlots);              // Tell consumers there is
                                   // more coke
}

Consumer() {
    semaP(&fullSlots);              // Check if there's a coke
    item = Dequeue();
    semaV(&emptySlots);             // tell producer need more
    return item;
}
```



# Let's drink coke!

```
Semaphore fullSlots = 0;           // Initially, no coke
Semaphore emptySlots = bufSize;    // Initially, num empty slots
Semaphore mutex = 1;               // No one using machine

Producer(item) {
    semaP(&emptySlots);             // Wait until space
    semaP(&mutex);
    Enqueue(item);
    semaV(&mutex);
    semaV(&fullSlots);             // Tell consumers there is more coke
}

Consumer() {
    semaP(&fullSlots);              // Check if there's a coke
    semaV(&mutex);
    item = Dequeue();
    semaV(&mutex);
    semaV(&emptySlots);             // tell producer need more
    return item;
}
```





# Let's drink coke!



```
Semaphore fullSlots = 0;    // Initially, no coke
Semaphore emptySlots = bufSize;
                          // Initially, num empty slots
Semaphore mutex = 1;       // No one using machine
```

```
Producer(item) {
    semaP(&emptySlots);    // Wait until space
    semaP(&mutex);          // Wait until machine free
    Enqueue(item);
    semaV(&mutex);
    semaV(&fullSlots);     // Tell consumers there
                          // more coke
}
```

```
Consumer() {
    semaP(&fullSlots);     // Check if there's a
    semaP(&mutex);          // Wait until machine free
    item = Dequeue();
    semaV(&mutex);
    semaV(&emptySlots);    // tell producer need more
    return item;
}
```

Critical sections  
using mutex  
protect integrity of  
the queue

fullSlots signals coke

emptySlots  
signals space

# Discussion about Solution

---

Why asymmetry?

- Producer does: **semaP(&emptyBuffer),  
semaV(&fullBuffer)**
- Consumer does: **semaP(&fullBuffer),  
semaV(&emptyBuffer)**

Does order matter? What if we decrement mutex before full/emptyBuffer?

# Semaphores are good but...

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Semaphores are a huge step up; just think of trying to do the bounded buffer with only loads and stores or even with locks!

Problem is that semaphores are dual purpose:

- They are used for both mutex and scheduling constraints
- Example: the fact that flipping of P's in bounded buffer gives deadlock is not immediately obvious. How do you prove correctness to someone?

# Monitors are better!

---

Use *locks* for mutual exclusion and *condition variables* for scheduling constraints

**Monitor:** a **lock** and zero or more **condition variables** for managing concurrent access to shared data

- A monitor is a paradigm for concurrent programming
- Some languages like Java provide this natively
  - Most others use actual locks and condition variables

# Condition Variables

---

A queue of threads waiting for something (a condition) *inside* a critical section

Key idea: allow sleeping inside critical section by atomically releasing lock at time we go to sleep

Contrast to semaphores: Can't wait inside critical section

# Condition Variables

---

Operations:

- `Wait(&lock)`: Atomically release lock and go to sleep.  
Re-acquire lock later, before returning.
- `Signal()`: Wake up one waiter, if any
- `Broadcast()`: Wake up all waiters

Rule: Must hold lock when doing condition variable ops!

# Monitor with Condition Variables

---

**Lock:** the lock provides mutual exclusion to shared data

- Always acquire before accessing shared data structure
- Always release after finishing with shared data
- Lock initially free

**Condition Variable:** a queue of threads waiting for something *inside* a critical section

- Key idea: make it possible to go to sleep inside critical section by atomically releasing lock at time we go to sleep

## Infinite Synchronized Buffer (with condition variable)

---

```
lock buf_lock;    // Initially unlocked  
condition buf_CV; // Initially empty  
queue queue;      // Actual queue!
```



# Infinite Synchronized Buffer (with condition variable)

---

```
lock buf_lock;      // Initially unlocked
condition buf_CV;   // Initially empty
queue queue;        // Actual queue!
```

```
waiters
Producer(item) {
    acquire(&buf_lock);      // Get Lock
    enqueue(&queue, item);   // Add item
    cond_signal(&buf_CV);    // Signal any
    release(&buf_lock);      // Release Lock
}
```

# Infinite Synchronized Buffer (with condition variable)

---

```
lock buf_lock;    // Initially unlocked
condition buf_CV; // Initially empty
queue queue;      // Actual queue!

Producer(item) {
    acquire(&buf_lock);    // Get Lock
    enqueue(&queue, item); // Add item
    cond_signal(&buf_CV);  // Signal any
waiters
    release(&buf_lock);    // Release Lock
}

Consumer() {
    acquire(&buf_lock);    // Get Lock
    if (isEmpty(&queue)) {
        cond_wait(&buf_CV, &buf_lock); // If
empty, sleep
    }
    item = dequeue(&queue); // Get next item
    release(&buf_lock);    // Release Lock
    return(item);
}
```

# Infinite Synchronized Buffer (with condition variable)

---

```
lock buf_lock;    // Initially unlocked
condition buf_CV; // Initially empty
queue queue;      // Actual queue!

Producer(item) {
    acquire(&buf_lock);    // Get Lock
    enqueue(&queue, item); // Add item
    cond_signal(&buf_CV);  // Signal any
waiters
    release(&buf_lock);    // Release Lock
}

Consumer() {
    acquire(&buf_lock);    // Get Lock
    while (isEmpty(&queue)) {
        cond_wait(&buf_CV, &buf_lock); // If
empty, sleep
    }
    item = dequeue(&queue); // Get next item
    release(&buf_lock);    // Release Lock
    return(item);
}
```

# Mesa vs. Hoare monitors

---

Need to be careful about precise definition of signal and wait.

```
while (isEmpty(&queue)) {  
    cond_wait(&buf_CV,&buf_lock); // If nothing, sleep  
}  
item = dequeue(&queue); // Get next item
```

Why didn't we do this?

```
if (isEmpty(&queue)) {  
    cond_wait(&buf_CV,&buf_lock); // If nothing, sleep  
}  
item = dequeue(&queue); // Get next item
```

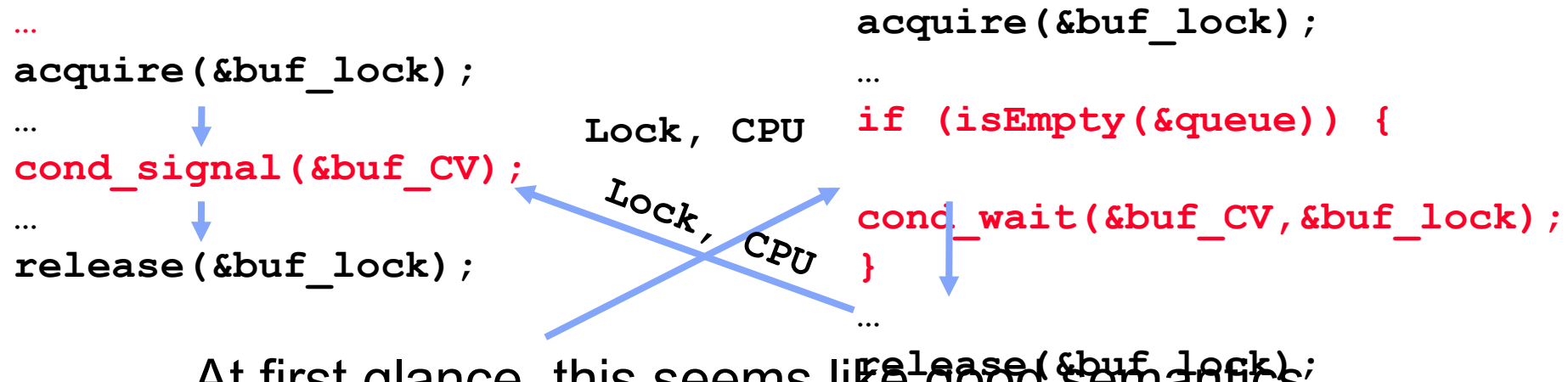
Answer: depends on the type of scheduling

- Mesa-style: Named after Xerox-Park Mesa Operating System
  - » Most OSes use Mesa Scheduling!
- Hoare-style: Named after British logician Tony Hoare

# Hoare monitors

Signaler gives up lock, CPU to waiter; waiter runs immediately

Then, Waiter gives up lock, processor back to signaler when it exits critical section or if it waits again

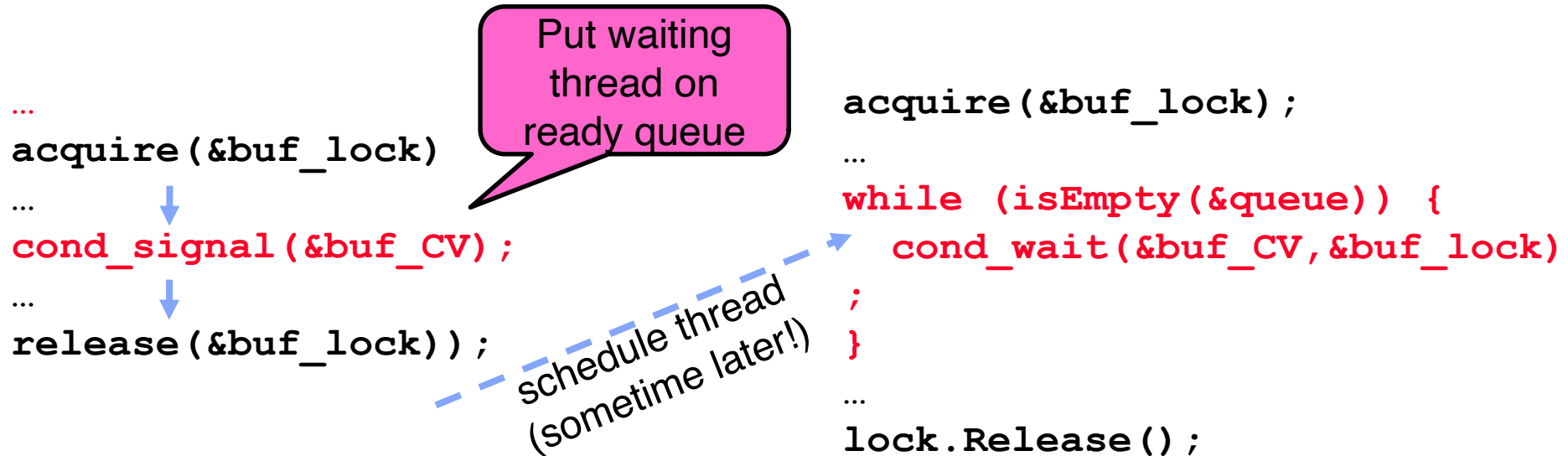


At first glance, this seems like good semantics

Waiter gets to run immediately, condition is still correct!

# Mesa monitors

Signaler keeps lock and processor  
Waiter placed on ready queue with no special priority



- Practically, need to check condition again after wait
- By the time the waiter gets scheduled, condition may be false again
    - so, just check again with the “while” loop

# Bounded Buffer – Attempt 4

---

```
lock buf_lock = <initially unlocked>  
condition isEmpty = <initially empty>  
condition isNotFull = <initially empty>
```

# Bounded Buffer – Attempt 4

---

```
lock buf_lock = <initially unlocked>
condition isEmpty = <initially empty>
condition isNotFull = <initially empty>

Producer(item) {
    acquire(&buf_lock);
    while (buffer full) { cond_wait(&isNotFull,
&buf_lock); }
    enqueue(item);
    cond_signal(&isEmpty);
    release(&buf_lock);
}

Consumer() {
    acquire(buf_lock);
    while (buffer empty) { cond_wait(&isEmpty,
&buf_lock); }
    item = dequeue();
    cond_signal(&isNotFull);
    release(buf_lock);
    return item
}
```



# Again: Why the while Loop?

---

## MESA semantics

For most operating systems, when a thread is woken up by `signal()`, it is simply put on the ready queue

It may or may not reacquire the lock immediately!

- Another thread could be scheduled first and "sneak in" to empty the queue
- Need a loop to re-check condition on wakeup

Is this busy waiting?

# Basic Structure of *Mesa* Monitor Program

---

Monitors represent the synchronization logic of the program

- Wait if necessary
- Signal when change something so any waiting threads can proceed

```
lock
while (need to wait) {
    condvar.wait();
}
unlock
```

do something so no need to wait

```
lock

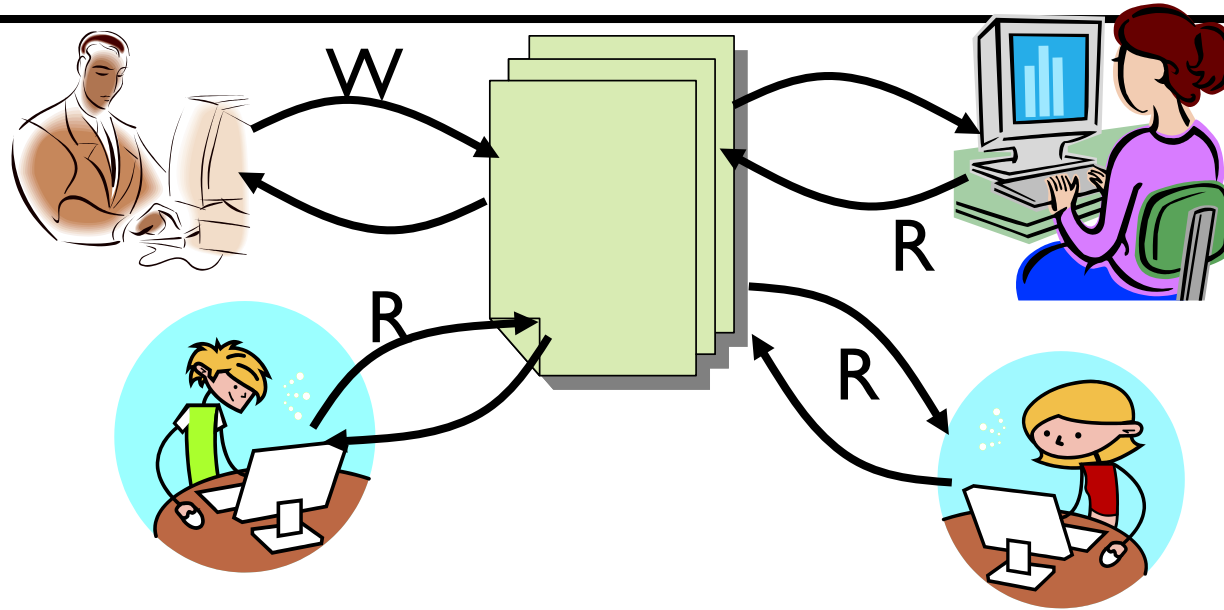
condvar.signal();

unlock
```

} Check and/or update  
state variables  
Wait if necessary

} Check and/or update  
state variables

# Readers/Writers Problem



Motivation: Consider a shared database

- Two classes of users:
  - » Readers – never modify database
  - » Writers – read and modify database
- Is using a single lock on the whole database sufficient?
  - » Like to have many readers at the same time
  - » Only one writer at a time

# Basic Readers/Writers Solution

---

Correctness Constraints:

- Readers can access database when no writers
- Writers can access database when no readers or writers
- Only one thread manipulates state variables at a time

Basic structure of a solution:

– **Reader()**

Wait until no writers

Access data base

Check out – wake up a waiting writer

– **Writer()**

Wait until no active readers or writers

Access database

Check out – wake up waiting readers or writer

# Basic Readers/Writers Solution

---

State variables (Protected by a lock called “lock”):

- » int AR: Number of active readers; initially = 0
- » int WR: Number of waiting readers; initially = 0
- » int AW: Number of active writers; initially = 0
- » int WW: Number of waiting writers; initially = 0
- » Condition okToRead = NIL
- » Condition okToWrite = NIL

# Code for a Reader

---

```
Reader() {
    // First check self into system
    acquire(&lock);
    while ((AW + WW) > 0) { // Is it safe to read?
        WR++; // No. Writers exist
        cond_wait(&okToRead, &lock); // Sleep on cond
var
        WR--; // No longer waiting
    }
    AR++; // Now we are active!
    release(&lock);
    // Perform actual read-only access
    AccessDatabase(ReadOnly);
    // Now, check out of system
    acquire(&lock);
    AR--; // No longer active
    if (AR == 0 && WW > 0) // No other active readers
        cond_signal(&okToWrite); // Wake up one writer
    release(&lock);
}
```

# Code for a Writer

---

```
Writer() {
    // First check self into system
    acquire(&lock);
    while ((AW + AR) > 0) { // Is it safe to write?
        WW++; // No. Active users exist
        cond_wait(&okToWrite, &lock); // Sleep on
cond var
        WW--; // No longer waiting
    }
    AW++; // Now we are active!
    release(&lock);
    // Perform actual read/write access
    AccessDatabase(ReadWrite);
    // Now, check out of system
    acquire(&lock);
    AW--; // No longer active
    if (WW > 0) { // Give priority to writers
        cond_signal(&okToWrite); // Wake up one writer
    } else if (WR > 0) { // Otherwise, wake reader
        cond_broadcast(&okToRead); // Wake all
readers
    }
    release(&lock);
}
```

# Simulation of Readers/Writers Solution

---

Use an example to simulate the solution

Consider the following sequence of operators:

– R1, R2, W1, R3

Initially:  $AR = 0$ ,  $WR = 0$ ,  $AW = 0$ ,  $WW = 0$



# Simulation of Readers/Writers Solution

---

R1 comes along (no waiting threads)

$AR = 0, WR = 0, AW = 0, WW = 0$

```
Reader() {  
    acquire(&lock)  
    while ((AW + WW) > 0) { // Is it safe to read?  
        WR++; // No. Writers exist  
        cond_wait(&okToRead, &lock); // Sleep on cond  
var  
        WR--; // No longer waiting  
    }  
    AR++; // Now we are active!  
    release(&lock);  
  
    AccessDBase(ReadOnly);  
  
    acquire(&lock);  
    AR--;  
    if (AR == 0 && WW > 0)  
        cond_signal(&okToWrite);  
    release(&lock);  
}
```

# Simulation of Readers/Writers Solution

---

R1 comes along (no waiting threads)

$AR = 0, WR = 0, AW = 0, WW = 0$

```
Reader() {
    acquire(&lock);
    while ((AW + WW) > 0) { // Is it safe to read?
        WR++; // No. Writers exist
        cond_wait(&okToRead, &lock); // Sleep on cond
var
        WR--; // No longer waiting
    }
    AR++; // Now we are active!
    release(&lock);

    AccessDBase(ReadOnly);

    acquire(&lock);
    AR--;
    if (AR == 0 && WW > 0)
        cond_signal(&okToWrite);
    release(&lock);
}
```

# Simulation of Readers/Writers Solution

---

R1 comes along (no waiting threads)

AR = 1, WR = 0, AW = 0, WW = 0

```
Reader() {
    acquire(&lock);
    while ((AW + WW) > 0) { // Is it safe to read?
        WR++; // No. Writers exist
        cond_wait(&okToRead, &lock); // Sleep on cond
var
        WR--; // No longer waiting
    }
    AR++; // Now we are active!
    release(&lock);

    AccessDBase(ReadOnly);

    acquire(&lock);
    AR--;
    if (AR == 0 && WW > 0)
        cond_signal(&okToWrite);
    release(&lock);
}
```

# Simulation of Readers/Writers Solution

---

R1 comes along (no waiting threads)

AR = 1, WR = 0, AW = 0, WW = 0

```
Reader() {
    acquire(&lock);
    while ((AW + WW) > 0) { // Is it safe to read?
        WR++; // No. Writers exist
        cond_wait(&okToRead, &lock); // Sleep on cond
var
        WR--; // No longer waiting
    }
    AR++; // Now we are active!
    release(&lock);

    AccessDBase(ReadOnly);

    acquire(&lock);
    AR--;
    if (AR == 0 && WW > 0)
        cond_signal(&okToWrite);
    release(&löck);
}
```

# Simulation of Readers/Writers Solution

---

R1 accessing dbase (no other threads)

AR = 1, WR = 0, AW = 0, WW = 0

```
Reader() {
    acquire(&lock);
    while ((AW + WW) > 0) { // Is it safe to read?
        WR++; // No. Writers exist
        cond_wait(&okToRead, &lock); // Sleep on cond
var
        WR--; // No longer waiting
    }
    AR++; // Now we are active!
    release(&lock);
    AccessDBase(ReadOnly);

    acquire(&lock);
    AR--;
    if (AR == 0 && WW > 0)
        cond_signal(&okToWrite);
    release(&löck);
}
```

# Simulation of Readers/Writers Solution

---

R2 comes along (R1 accessing dbase)

$AR = 1, WR = 0, AW = 0, WW = 0$

```
Reader() {  
    acquire(&lock);  
    while ((AW + WW) > 0) { // Is it safe to read?  
        WR++; // No. Writers exist  
        cond_wait(&okToRead, &lock); // Sleep on cond  
var  
        WR--; // No longer waiting  
    }  
    AR++; // Now we are active!  
    release(&lock);  
  
    AccessDBase(ReadOnly);  
  
    acquire(&lock);  
    AR--;  
    if (AR == 0 && WW > 0)  
        cond_signal(&okToWrite);  
    release(&lock);  
}
```

# Simulation of Readers/Writers Solution

---

R2 comes along (R1 accessing dbase)

AR = 1, WR = 0, AW = 0, WW = 0

```
Reader() {
    acquire(&lock);
    while ((AW + WW) > 0) { // Is it safe to read?
        WR++; // No. Writers exist
        cond_wait(&okToRead, &lock); // Sleep on cond
var
        WR--; // No longer waiting
    }
    AR++; // Now we are active!
    release(&lock);

    AccessDBase(ReadOnly);

    acquire(&lock);
    AR--;
    if (AR == 0 && WW > 0)
        cond_signal(&okToWrite);
    release(&löck);
}
```

# Simulation of Readers/Writers Solution

---

R2 comes along (R1 accessing dbase)

AR = 2, WR = 0, AW = 0, WW = 0

```
Reader() {
    acquire(&lock);
    while ((AW + WW) > 0) { // Is it safe to read?
        WR++; // No. Writers exist
        cond_wait(&okToRead, &lock); // Sleep on cond
var
        WR--; // No longer waiting
    }
    AR++; // Now we are active!
    release(&lock);

    AccessDBase(ReadOnly);

    acquire(&lock);
    AR--;
    if (AR == 0 && WW > 0)
        cond_signal(&okToWrite);
    release(&lock);
}
```



# Simulation of Readers/Writers Solution

---

R2 comes along (R1 accessing dbase)

AR = 2, WR = 0, AW = 0, WW = 0

```
Reader() {
    acquire(&lock);
    while ((AW + WW) > 0) { // Is it safe to read?
        WR++; // No. Writers exist
        cond_wait(&okToRead, &lock); // Sleep on cond
var
        WR--; // No longer waiting
    }
    AR++; // Now we are active!
    release(&lock);

    AccessDBase(ReadOnly);

    acquire(&lock);
    AR--;
    if (AR == 0 && WW > 0)
        cond_signal(&okToWrite);
    release(&löck);
}
```

# Simulation of Readers/Writers Solution

---

R1 and R2 accessing dbase

AR = 2, WR = 0, AW = 0, WW = 0

```
Reader() {
    acquire(&lock);
    while ((AW + WW) > 0) { // Is it safe to read?
        WR++; // No. Writers exist
        cond_wait(&okToRead, &lock); // Sleep on cond
var
        WR--; // No longer waiting
    }
    AR++; // Now we are active!
    release(&lock);
    AccessDBase(ReadOnly);

    acquire(&lock);
    AR--;
```

Assume readers take a while to access database  
Situation: Locks released, only AR is non-zero

# Simulation of Readers/Writers Solution

---

W1 comes along (R1 and R2 are still accessing dbase)

$AR = 2, WR = 0, AW = 0, WW = 0$

```
Writer() {
    acquire(&lock);
    while ((AW + AR) > 0) { // Is it safe to
write?
        WW++; // No. Active users exist
        cond_wait(&okToWrite, &lock); // Sleep on
cond var
        WW--; // No longer waiting
    }
    AW++;
    release(&lock);

    AccessDBase(ReadWrite);

    acquire(&lock);
    AW--;
    if (WW > 0) {
        cond_signal(&okToWrite);
    } else if (WR > 0) {
        cond_broadcast(&okToRead);
    }
    release(&lock);
}
```

# Simulation of Readers/Writers Solution

---

W1 comes along (R1 and R2 are still accessing dbase)

$AR = 2, WR = 0, AW = 0, WW = 0$

```
Writer() {
    acquire(&lock);
    while ((AW + AR) > 0) { // Is it safe to
write?
        WW++; // No. Active users exist
        cond_wait(&okToWrite, &lock); // Sleep on
cond var
        WW--; // No longer waiting
    }
    AW++;
    release(&lock);

    AccessDBase(ReadWrite);

    acquire(&lock);
    AW--;
    if (WW > 0) {
        cond_signal(&okToWrite);
    } else if (WR > 0) {
        cond_broadcast(&okToRead);
    }
    release(&lock);
}
```

# Simulation of Readers/Writers Solution

- W1 comes along (R1 and R2 are still accessing dbase)
- $AR = 2$ ,  $WR = 0$ ,  $AW = 0$ ,  $WW = 1$

```
Writer() {
    acquire(&lock);
    while ((AW + AR) > 0) { // Is it safe to
write?
        WW++; // No. Active users exist
        cond_wait(&okToWrite, &lock); // Sleep on
cond var
        WW--; // No longer waiting
    }
    AW++;
    release(&lock);

    AccessDBase(ReadWrite);

    acquire(&lock);
    AW--;
    if (WW > 0) {
        cond_signal(&okToWrite);
    } else if (WR > 0) {
        cond_broadcast(&okToRead);
    }
    release(&lock);
}
```

# Simulation of Readers/Writers Solution

---

R3 comes along (R1 and R2 accessing dbase, W1 waiting)

$AR = 2, WR = 0, AW = 0, WW = 1$

```
Reader() {  
    acquire(&lock);  
    while ((AW + WW) > 0) { // Is it safe to read?  
        WR++; // No. Writers exist  
        cond_wait(&okToRead, &lock); // Sleep on cond  
var  
        WR--; // No longer waiting  
    }  
    AR++; // Now we are active!  
    release(&lock);  
  
    AccessDBase(ReadOnly);  
  
    acquire(&lock);  
    AR--;  
    if (AR == 0 && WW > 0)  
        cond_signal(&okToWrite);  
    release(&löck);  
}
```

# Simulation of Readers/Writers Solution

---

R3 comes along (R1 and R2 accessing dbase, W1 waiting)

$AR = 2$ ,  $WR = 0$ ,  $AW = 0$ ,  $WW = 1$

```
Reader() {
    acquire(&lock);
    while ((AW + WW) > 0) { // Is it safe to read?
        WR++; // No. Writers exist
        cond_wait(&okToRead, &lock); // Sleep on cond
var
        WR--; // No longer waiting
    }
    AR++; // Now we are active!
    release(&lock);

    AccessDBase(ReadOnly);

    acquire(&lock);
    AR--;
    if (AR == 0 && WW > 0)
        cond_signal(&okToWrite);
    release(&lock);
}
```

# Simulation of Readers/Writers Solution

---

R3 comes along (R1 and R2 accessing dbase, W1 waiting)

AR = 2, WR = 1, AW = 0, WW = 1

```
Reader() {
    acquire(&lock);
    while ((AW + WW) > 0) { // Is it safe to read?
        WR++; // No! Writers exist
        cond_wait(&okToRead, &lock); // Sleep on cond
var
        WR--; // No longer waiting
    }
    AR++; // Now we are active!
    lock.release();

    AccessDBase(ReadOnly);

    acquire(&lock);
    AR--;
    if (AR == 0 && WW > 0)
        cond_signal(&okToWrite);
    release(&löck);
}
```



# Simulation of Readers/Writers Solution

---

R3 comes along (R1, R2 accessing dbase, W1 waiting)

AR = 2, WR = 1, AW = 0, WW = 1

```
Reader() {
    acquire(&lock);
    while ((AW + WW) > 0) { // Is it safe to read?
        WR++; // No. Writers exist
        cond wait(&okToRead, &lock); // Sleep on cond
var
        WR--; // No longer waiting
    }
    AR++; // Now we are active!
    release(&lock);

    AccessDBase(ReadOnly);

    acquire(&lock);
    AR--;
    if (AR == 0 && WW > 0)
        cond signal(&okToWrite);
    release(&löck);
}
```

# Simulation of Readers/Writers Solution

---

R1 and R2 accessing dbase, W1 and R3 waiting

$AR = 2, WR = 1, AW = 0, WW = 1$

```
Reader() {
    acquire(&lock);
    while ((AW + WW) > 0) { // Is it safe to read?
        WR++; // No. Writers exist
        cond_wait(&okToRead, &lock); // Sleep on cond
var
        WR--; // No longer waiting
    }
    AR++; // Now we are active!
    release(&lock);

    AccessDBase(ReadOnly);

    acquire(&lock);
    AR--;
```

Status:

- R1 and R2 still reading
- W1 and R3 waiting on okToWrite and okToRead, respectively

# Simulation of Readers/Writers Solution

---

R2 finishes (R1 accessing dbase, W1 and R3 waiting)

$AR = 2$ ,  $WR = 1$ ,  $AW = 0$ ,  $WW = 1$

```
Reader() {
    acquire(&lock);
    while ((AW + WW) > 0) { // Is it safe to read?
        WR++; // No. Writers exist
        cond_wait(&okToRead, &lock); // Sleep on cond
var
        WR--; // No longer waiting
    }
    AR++; // Now we are active!
    release(&lock);

    AccessDBase(ReadOnly);

    acquire(&lock);
    AR--;
    if (AR == 0 && WW > 0)
        cond_signal(&okToWrite);
    release(&lock);
}
```

# Simulation of Readers/Writers Solution

---

R2 finishes (R1 accessing dbase, W1 and R3 waiting)

AR = 1, WR = 1, AW = 0, WW = 1

```
Reader() {
    acquire(&lock);
    while ((AW + WW) > 0) { // Is it safe to read?
        WR++; // No. Writers exist
        cond_wait(&okToRead, &lock); // Sleep on cond
var
        WR--; // No longer waiting
    }
    AR++; // Now we are active!
    release(&lock);

    AccessDBase(ReadOnly);

    acquire(&lock);
    AR--;
    if (AR == 0 && WW > 0)
        cond_signal(&okToWrite);
    release(&lock);
}
```

# Simulation of Readers/Writers Solution

---

R2 finishes (R1 accessing dbase, W1 and R3 waiting)

AR = 1, WR = 1, AW = 0, WW = 1

```
Reader() {
    acquire(&lock);
    while ((AW + WW) > 0) { // Is it safe to read?
        WR++; // No. Writers exist
        cond_wait(&okToRead, &lock); // Sleep on cond
var
        WR--; // No longer waiting
    }
    AR++; // Now we are active!
    release(&lock);

    AccessDBase(ReadOnly);

    acquire(&lock);
    AR--;
    if (AR == 0 && WW > 0)
        cond_signal(&okToWrite);
    release(&lock);
}
```

# Simulation of Readers/Writers Solution

---

R2 finishes (R1 accessing dbase, W1 and R3 waiting)

$AR = 1, WR = 1, AW = 0, WW = 1$

```
Reader() {
    acquire(&lock);
    while ((AW + WW) > 0) { // Is it safe to read?
        WR++; // No. Writers exist
        cond_wait(&okToRead, &lock); // Sleep on cond
var
        WR--; // No longer waiting
    }
    AR++; // Now we are active!
    release(&lock);

    AccessDBase(ReadOnly);

    acquire(&lock);
    AR--;
    if (AR == 0 && WW > 0)
        cond_signal(&okToWrite);
    release(&lock);
}
```

# Simulation of Readers/Writers Solution

---

R1 finishes (W1 and R3 waiting)

AR = 1, WR = 1, AW = 0, WW = 1

```
Reader() {
    acquire(&lock);
    while ((AW + WW) > 0) { // Is it safe to read?
        WR++; // No. Writers exist
        cond_wait(&okToRead, &lock); // Sleep on cond
var
        WR--; // No longer waiting
    }
    AR++; // Now we are active!
    release(&lock);

    AccessDBase(ReadOnly);

    acquire(&lock);
    AR--;
    if (AR == 0 && WW > 0)
        cond_signal(&okToWrite);
    release(&lock);
}
```

# Simulation of Readers/Writers Solution

---

R1 finishes (W1, R3 waiting)

AR = 0, WR = 1, AW = 0, WW = 1

```
Reader() {
    acquire(&lock);
    while ((AW + WW) > 0) { // Is it safe to read?
        WR++; // No. Writers exist
        cond_wait(&okToRead, &lock); // Sleep on cond
var
        WR--; // No longer waiting
    }
    AR++; // Now we are active!
    release(&lock);

    AccessDBase(ReadOnly);

    acquire(&lock);
    AR--;
    if (AR == 0 && WW > 0)
        cond_signal(&okToWrite);
    release(&lock);
}
```



# Simulation of Readers/Writers Solution

---

R1 finishes (W1, R3 waiting)

AR = 0, WR = 1, AW = 0, WW = 1

```
Reader() {
    acquire(&lock);
    while ((AW + WW) > 0) { // Is it safe to read?
        WR++; // No. Writers exist
        cond_wait(&okToRead, &lock); // Sleep on cond
var
        WR--; // No longer waiting
    }
    AR++; // Now we are active!
    release(&lock);

    AccessDBase(ReadOnly);

    acquire(&lock);
    AR--;
    if (AR == 0 && WW > 0)
        cond_signal(&okToWrite);
    release(&lock);
}
```

# Simulation of Readers/Writers Solution

---

R1 signals a writer (W1 and R3 waiting)

$AR = 0$ ,  $WR = 1$ ,  $AW = 0$ ,  $WW = 1$

```
Reader() {
    acquire(&lock);
    while ((AW + WW) > 0) { // Is it safe to read?
        WR++; // No. Writers exist
        cond_wait(&okToRead, &lock); // Sleep on cond
var
        WR--; // No longer waiting
    }
    AR++; // Now we are active!
    release(&lock);

    AccessDBase(ReadOnly);

    acquire(&lock);
    AR--;
    if (AR == 0 && WW > 0)
        cond_signal(&okToWrite);
    release(&lock);
}
```

# Simulation of Readers/Writers Solution

---

W1 gets signal (R3 still waiting)

AR = 0, WR = 1, AW = 0, WW = 1

```
Writer() {
    acquire(&lock);
    while ((AW + AR) > 0) { // Is it safe to
write?
        WW++; // No. Active users exist
        cond_wait(&okToWrite, &lock); // Sleep on
cond var
        WW--; // No longer waiting
    }
    AW++;
    release(&lock);

    AccessDBase(ReadWrite);

    acquire(&lock);
    AW--;
    if (WW > 0) {
        cond_signal(&okToWrite);
    } else if (WR > 0) {
        cond_broadcast(&okToRead);
    }
    release(&lock);
}
```

# Simulation of Readers/Writers Solution

---

W1 gets signal (R3 still waiting)

AR = 0, WR = 1, AW = 0, WW = 0

```
Writer() {
    acquire(&lock);
    while ((AW + AR) > 0) { // Is it safe to
write?
        WW++; // No Active users exist
        cond_wait(&okToWrite, &lock); // Sleep on
cond var
        WW--; // No longer waiting
    }
    AW++;
    release(&lock);

    AccessDBase(ReadWrite);

    acquire(&lock);
    AW--;
    if (WW > 0) {
        cond_signal(&okToWrite);
    } else if (WR > 0) {
        cond_broadcast(&okToRead);
    }
    release(&lock);
}
```

# Simulation of Readers/Writers Solution

---

W1 gets signal (R3 still waiting)

AR = 0, WR = 1, AW = 1, WW = 0

```
Writer() {
    acquire(&lock);
    while ((AW + AR) > 0) { // Is it safe to
write?
        WW++; // No. Active users exist
        cond_wait(&okToWrite, &lock); // Sleep on
cond var
        WW--; // No longer waiting
    }
    AW++;
    release(&lock);

    AccessDBase(ReadWrite);

    acquire(&lock);
    AW--;
    if (WW > 0) {
        cond_signal(&okToWrite);
    } else if (WR > 0) {
        cond_broadcast(&okToRead);
    }
    release(&lock);
}
```

# Simulation of Readers/Writers Solution

---

W1 accessing dbase (R3 still waiting)

AR = 0, WR = 1, AW = 1, WW = 0

```
Writer() {
    acquire(&lock);
    while ((AW + AR) > 0) {    // Is it safe to
write?
        WW++;    // No. Active users exist
        cond_wait(&okToWrite, &lock);    // Sleep on
cond var
        WW--;    // No longer waiting
    }
    AW++;
    release(&lock);
    AccessDBase(ReadWrite);

    acquire(&lock);
    AW--;
    if (WW > 0) {
        cond_signal(&okToWrite);
    } else if (WR > 0) {
        cond_broadcast(&okToRead);
    }
    release(&lock);
}
```

# Simulation of Readers/Writers Solution

---

W1 finishes (R3 still waiting)

AR = 0, WR = 1, AW = 1, WW = 0

```
Writer() {
    acquire(&lock);
    while ((AW + AR) > 0) { // Is it safe to
write?
        WW++; // No. Active users exist
        cond_wait(&okToWrite, &lock); // Sleep on
cond var
        WW--; // No longer waiting
    }
    AW++;
    release(&lock);

    AccessDBase(ReadWrite);
    acquire(&lock);
    AW--;
    if (WW > 0) {
        cond_signal(&okToWrite);
    } else if (WR > 0) {
        cond_broadcast(&okToRead);
    }
    release(&lock);
}
```

# Simulation of Readers/Writers Solution

---

W1 finishes (R3 still waiting)

AR = 0, WR = 1, AW = 0, WW = 0

```
Writer() {
    acquire(&lock);
    while ((AW + AR) > 0) { // Is it safe to
write?
        WW++; // No. Active users exist
        cond_wait(&okToWrite, &lock); // Sleep on
cond var
        WW--; // No longer waiting
    }
    AW++;
    release(&lock);

    AccessDBase(ReadWrite);

    acquire(&lock);
    AW--;
    if (WW > 0) {
        cond_signal(&okToWrite);
    } else if (WR > 0) {
        cond_broadcast(&okToRead);
    }
    release(&lock);
}
```



# Simulation of Readers/Writers Solution

---

W1 finishes (R3 still waiting)

AR = 0, WR = 1, AW = 0, WW = 0

```
Writer() {
    acquire(&lock);
    while ((AW + AR) > 0) {    // Is it safe to
write?                          WW++; // No. Active users exist
                                cond_wait(&okToWrite, &lock); // Sleep on
cond var                        WW--; // No longer waiting
    }
    AW++;
    release(&lock);

    AccessDBase(ReadWrite);

    acquire(&lock);
    AW--;
    if (WW > 0) {
        cond_signal(&okToWrite);
    } else if (WR > 0) {
        cond_broadcast(&okToRead);
    }
    release(&lock);
}
```

# Simulation of Readers/Writers Solution

---

W1 signaling readers (R3 still waiting)

AR = 0, WR = 1, AW = 0, WW = 0

```
Writer() {
    acquire(&lock);
    while ((AW + AR) > 0) { // Is it safe to
write?
        WW++; // No. Active users exist
        cond_wait(&okToWrite, &lock); // Sleep on
cond var
        WW--; // No longer waiting
    }
    AW++;
    release(&lock);

    AccessDBase(ReadWrite);

    acquire(&lock);
    AW--;
    if (WW > 0) {
        cond_signal(&okToWrite);
    } else if (WR > 0) {
        cond_broadcast(&okToRead);
    }
    release(&lock);
}
```

# Simulation of Readers/Writers Solution

---

R3 gets signal (no waiting threads)

$AR = 0$ ,  $WR = 1$ ,  $AW = 0$ ,  $WW = 0$

```
Reader() {
    acquire(&lock);
    while ((AW + WW) > 0) { // Is it safe to read?
        WR++; // No. Writers exist
        cond_wait(&okToRead, &lock); // Sleep on cond
var
        WR--; // No longer waiting
    }
    AR++; // Now we are active!
    release(&lock);

    AccessDBase(ReadOnly);

    acquire(&lock);
    AR--;
    if (AR == 0 && WW > 0)
        cond_signal(&okToWrite);
    release(&lock);
}
```

# Simulation of Readers/Writers Solution

---

R3 gets signal (no waiting threads)

AR = 0, WR = 0, AW = 0, WW = 0

```
Reader() {
    acquire(&lock);
    while ((AW + WW) > 0) { // Is it safe to read?
        WR++; // No. Writers exist
        cond_wait(&okToRead, &lock); // Sleep on cond
var
        WR--; // No longer waiting
    }
    AR++; // Now we are active!
    release(&lock);

    AccessDBase(ReadOnly);

    acquire(&lock);
    AR--;
    if (AR == 0 && WW > 0)
        cond_signal(&okToWrite);
    release(&lock);
}
```

# Simulation of Readers/Writers Solution

---

R3 accessing dbase (no waiting threads)

AR = 1, WR = 0, AW = 0, WW = 0

```
Reader() {
    acquire(&lock);
    while ((AW + WW) > 0) { // Is it safe to read?
        WR++; // No. Writers exist
        cond_wait(&okToRead, &lock); // Sleep on cond
var
        WR--; // No longer waiting
    }
    AR++; // Now we are active!
    release(&lock);
    AccessDBase(ReadOnly);

    acquire(&lock);
    AR--;
    if (AR == 0 && WW > 0)
        cond_signal(&okToWrite);
    release(&löck);
}
```

# Simulation of Readers/Writers Solution

---

R3 finishes (no waiting threads)

AR = 1, WR = 0, AW = 0, WW = 0

```
Reader() {
    acquire(&lock);
    while ((AW + WW) > 0) { // Is it safe to read?
        WR++; // No. Writers exist
        cond_wait(&okToRead, &lock); // Sleep on cond
var
        WR--; // No longer waiting
    }
    AR++; // Now we are active!
    release(&lock);

    AccessDBase(ReadOnly);

    acquire(&lock);
    AR--;
    if (AR == 0 && WW > 0)
        cond_signal(&okToWrite);
    release(&lock);
}
```

# Simulation of Readers/Writers Solution

---

R3 finishes (no waiting threads)

AR = 0, WR = 0, AW = 0, WW = 0

```
Reader() {
    acquire(&lock);
    while ((AW + WW) > 0) { // Is it safe to read?
        WR++; // No. Writers exist
        cond_wait(&okToRead, &lock); // Sleep on cond
var
        WR--; // No longer waiting
    }
    AR++; // Now we are active!
    release(&lock);

    AccessDbase(ReadOnly);

    acquire(&lock);
    AR--;
    if (AR == 0 && WW > 0)
        cond_signal(&okToWrite);
    release(&lock);
}
```

# Questions

---

Can readers starve? Consider Reader() entry code:

```
while ((AW + WW) > 0) { // Is it safe to read?
    WR++; // No. Writers exist
    cond_wait(&okToRead, &lock); // Sleep on
cond var
    WR--; // No longer waiting
}
AR++; // Now we are active!
```

What if we erase the condition check in Reader exit?

```
AR--; // No longer active
if (AR == 0 && WW > 0) // No other active
readers
    cond_signal(&okToWrite); // Wake up one
writer
```



# Questions

---

Further, what if we turn the `signal()` into `broadcast()`

```
AR--; // No longer active  
cond_broadcast(&okToWrite); // Wake up sleepers
```

Finally, what if we use only one condition variable (call it “`okContinue`”) instead of two separate ones?

- Both readers and writers sleep on this variable
- Must use `broadcast()` instead of `signal()`

# Code for a Reader

---

```
Reader() {
    // First check self into system
    acquire(&lock);
    while ((AW + WW) > 0) { // Is it safe to read?
        WR++; // No. Writers exist
        cond_wait(&okToRead, &lock); // Sleep on cond
var
        WR--; // No longer waiting
    }
    AR++; // Now we are active!
    release(&lock);
    // Perform actual read-only access
    AccessDatabase(ReadOnly);
    // Now, check out of system
    acquire(&lock);
    AR--; // No longer active
    if (AR == 0 && WW > 0) // No other active readers
        cond_signal(&okToWrite); // Wake up one writer
    release(&lock);
}
```

# Code for a Writer

---

```
Writer() {
    // First check self into system
    acquire(&lock);
    while ((AW + AR) > 0) { // Is it safe to write?
        WW++; // No. Active users exist
        cond_wait(&okToWrite, &lock); // Sleep on
cond var
        WW--; // No longer waiting
    }
    AW++; // Now we are active!
    release(&lock);
    // Perform actual read/write access
    AccessDatabase(ReadWrite);
    // Now, check out of system
    acquire(&lock);
    AW--; // No longer active
    if (WW > 0) { // Give priority to writers
        cond_signal(&okToWrite); // Wake up one writer
    } else if (WR > 0) { // Otherwise, wake reader
        cond_broadcast(&okToRead); // Wake all
readers
    }
    release(&lock);
}
```

# Mesa Monitor Conclusion

---

Monitors represent the synchronization logic of the program

- Wait if necessary
- Signal when change something so any waiting threads can proceed

```
lock
while (need to wait) {
    condvar.wait();
}
unlock
```

do something so no need to wait

```
lock

condvar.signal();

unlock
```

} Check and/or update  
state variables  
Wait if necessary

} Check and/or update  
state variables

# C-Language Support for Synchronization

---

C language: Pretty straightforward synchronization

Just make sure you know *all* the code paths out of a critical section

```
int Rtn() {  
    acquire(&lock);  
    ...  
    if (exception) {  
        release(&lock);  
        return errReturnCode;  
    }  
    ...  
    release(&lock);  
    return OK;  
}
```

# Concurrency and Synchronization in C

---

Harder with more locks

```
void Rtn() {  
    lock1.acquire();  
    ...  
    if (error) {  
        lock1.release();  
        return;  
    }  
    ...  
    lock2.acquire();  
    ...  
    if (error) {  
        lock2.release();  
        lock1.release();  
        return;  
    }  
    ...  
    lock2.release();  
    lock1.release();  
}
```

# C++ Language Support for Synchronization

---

Languages with exceptions like C++

- Languages that support exceptions are problematic (easy to make a non-local exit without releasing lock)

```
void Rtn() {  
    lock.acquire();  
    ...  
    DoFoo();  
    ...  
    lock.release();  
}  
void DoFoo() {  
    ...  
    if (exception) throw errException;  
    ...  
}
```

- Notice that an exception in DoFoo() will exit without releasing the lock!

# C++ Language Support for Synchronization (con't)

---

Must catch all exceptions in critical sections

- Catch exceptions, release lock, and re-throw exception:

```
void Rtn() {  
    lock.acquire();  
    try {  
        ...  
        DoFoo();  
        ...  
    } catch (...) {           // catch exception  
        lock.release();      // release lock  
        throw;               // re-throw the  
exception  
    }  
    lock.release();  
}  
void DoFoo() {  
    ...  
    if (exception) throw errException;  
    ...  
}
```



## Much better: C++ Lock Guards

---

```
#include <mutex>
int global_i = 0;
std::mutex global_mutex;

void safe_increment() {
    std::lock_guard<std::mutex> lock(global_mutex);
    ...
    global_i++;
    // Mutex released when 'lock' goes out of scope
}
```

# Python with Keyword

---

More versatile than we show here (can be used to close files, database connections, etc.)

```
lock = threading.Lock()
...
with lock: # Automatically calls acquire()
    some_var += 1
...
# release() called however we leave block
```

# Java synchronized Keyword

---

Every Java object has an associated lock:

- Lock is acquired on entry and released on exit from a **synchronized** method
- Lock is properly released if exception occurs inside a **synchronized** method
  - Mutex execution of synchronized methods (beware deadlock)

```
class Account {  
    private int balance;  
  
    // object constructor  
    public Account (int initialBalance) {  
        balance = initialBalance;  
    }  
    public synchronized int getBalance() {  
        return balance;  
    }  
    public synchronized void deposit(int amount) {  
        balance += amount;  
    }  
}
```

# Java Support for Monitors

---

Along with a lock, every object has a single condition variable associated with it

To wait inside a synchronized method:

- void wait();
- void wait(long timeout);

To signal while in a synchronized method:

- void notify();
- void notifyAll();

# Where are we going with synchronization?

---

Programs	Shared Programs
Higher-level API	Locks   Semaphores   Monitors   Send/Receive
Hardware	Load/Store   Disable Ints   Test&Set   Compare&Swap

Implement various higher-level synchronization primitives using atomic operations