

1. Consider the following operations on two shared variables x and y. Two processes work on them.

```
shared int x = 10000;  
shared int y = 5000;
```

P1

```
y -= 1000  
x += 2000  
y -= 2000
```

P2

```
y += 4000
```

What are the possible values of x and y after P1 and P2 complete?

x = 12000 always.
y can be 6000, 7000, 8000 or 9000

2. Let x and y be shared int variables. We want to increment x atomically by y . We make the following implementation based on the hardware-level compare-and-swap instruction. Will it always work correctly?

```
increment ( shared int *x, shared int y )
{
    int temp;

    do {
        temp = *x;
    } while (compare_and_swap(x, temp, temp + y) != temp);
}
```

No. Since y is a shared variable, it may change after a process reads it but before it is able to call `compare_and_swap` with `temp + y` as the third argument.

What is the solution? A lock is a possibility.

3. [Parallel-sum problem]

Let A be an array of size $n = 2^t$ and one-based indexing. Assume that there are n processors, and that the i -th processor updates the value of $A[i]$ using the following algorithm. The final sum is computed in $A[n]$.

```
for  $j = 1, 2, \dots, t$ , do:
    for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ , do:
        if  $(i \% 2^j == 0)$ , then  $A[i] += A[i - 2^{j-1}]$ ;
```

Explain the need for synchronization for this problem. Use semaphores to synchronize.

```
shared int  $A[n]$ ;
semaphore  $s[n] = \{1, 1, \dots, 1\}$ ;

for  $j = 1, 2, \dots, t$ , do:
    for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ , do:
        if  $(i \% 2^j == 0)$ , then:
            wait( $s[i]$ );
             $A[i] = A[i] + A[i - 2^{j-1}]$ ;
            if  $(i + 2^j < n)$  signal( $s[i + 2^j]$ );
```

This solution sends some redundant (although harmless) signals in the last line. To avoid these, you can add another condition $((i + 2^j) \% 2^{j+1} == 0)$.

4. [*Designated-reader and writer problem*]

Consider the reader-writer problem with designated readers (that is, each item is meant for a specific reader). There are n reader processes, where n is known beforehand. There are one or more writer processes. Items are stored in a buffer of unlimited capacity. Every item is written by a writer, and is designated for a particular reader. Solve this problem so that no process makes any busy wait.

```
semaphore rw_mutex = 1;
semaphore r_mutex[n] = {0, 0, . . . , 0};

reader (i)
{
    wait(r_mutex[i]);
    while (true) {
        wait(rw_mutex);
        Read and remove one item from buffer, that is meant for the i-th reader;
        signal(rw_mutex);
        wait(r_mutex[i]);
    }
}

writer ()
{
    while (true) {
        Generate item for reader  $i$ ;
        wait(rw_mutex);
        Write (item,  $i$ ) to buffer;
        signal(rw_mutex);
        signal(r_mutex[i]);
    }
}
```

5. [Starvation-free reader-writer problem]

Implement under the assumption that the semaphore queues are FIFO queues.

```
shared int read_count = 0;
semaphore rw_mutex = 1;
semaphore r_mutex = 1;
semaphore q_mutex = 1;

reader ()
{
    wait(q_mutex);
    wait(r_mutex);
    ++read_count;
    if (read_count == 1) wait(rw_mutex);
    signal(q_mutex);
    signal(r_mutex);

    read();

    wait(r_mutex);
    --read_count;
    if (read_count == 0) signal(rw_mutex);
    signal(r_mutex);
}

writer ()
{
    wait(q_mutex);
    wait(rw_mutex);
    signal(q_mutex);

    write();

    signal(rw_mutex);
}
```

6. [Sleeping barber problem]

```
shared light_in_the_waiting_room = green;
shared chairs_in_the_waiting_room = all_empty;

barber ()
{
    while (true) {
        inspect the waiting room;
        if (there are no customers), then
            set the status light of waiting room to green (available);
            sleep until woken up by a customer;
        set the status light of waiting room to red (busy);
        serve the next customer;
    }
}

customer ()
{
    enter the waiting room;
    if the status light is red {
        if all of the n chairs in the waiting room are occupied, then leave;
        occupy an empty chair in the waiting room;
        sleep until woken up by the barber;
    }
    enter barber's room;
    wake up the barber if sleeping;
    have hair-cut and leave;
}
```

(a) Where are race conditions possible?

- (i) For occupying empty chairs
- (ii) Barber sleeping. Two (or more) new customers come at the same time. Both see the status light green and enter barber's room.
- (iii) Barber finishes a hair-cut, inspects the waiting room, finds nobody. Barber is preempted. A new customer comes, sees the red light, and sleeps. Barber is rescheduled, sets the status light to green, and sleeps.

(b) Solve using semaphores.

```
shared int no_of_empty_chairs = n;

semaphore barber_mtx = 0;      /* Barber waits on the mutex */
semaphore customer_mtx = 0;    /* Customers wait on this mutex */
semaphore chair_mtx = 1;      /* Mutex to protect no_of_empty_chairs */

barber ()
{
    while (true) {
        wait(barber_mtx);
        wait(chair_mtx);
        ++no_of_empty_chairs;
        signal(customer_mtx);
        signal(chair_mtx);

        hair_cut();
    }
}

customer ()
{
    wait(chair_mtx);
    if (no_of_empty_chairs == 0) {
        signal(chair_mtx);
    } else {
        --no_of_empty_chairs;
        signal(barber_mtx);
        signal(chair_mtx);
        wait(customer_mtx);

        have_hair_cut();
    }
}
```