

Chapter 7: Deadlocks





System Model

- System consists of resources
- Resource types R_1, R_2, \dots, R_m
 - CPU cycles, memory space, I/O devices*
- Each resource type R_i has W_i instances.
- Each process utilizes a resource as follows:
 - **request**
 - **use**
 - **release**





Deadlock Characterization

Deadlock can arise if four conditions hold simultaneously.

- **Mutual exclusion:** only one process at a time can use a resource
- **Hold and wait:** a process holding at least one resource is waiting to acquire additional resources held by other processes
- **No preemption:** a resource can be released only voluntarily by the process holding it, after that process has completed its task
- **Circular wait:** there exists a set $\{P_0, P_1, \dots, P_n\}$ of waiting processes such that P_0 is waiting for a resource that is held by P_1 , P_1 is waiting for a resource that is held by P_2 , ..., P_{n-1} is waiting for a resource that is held by P_n , and P_n is waiting for a resource that is held by P_0 .





Resource-Allocation Graph

A set of vertices V and a set of edges E .

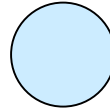
- V is partitioned into two types:
 - $P = \{P_1, P_2, \dots, P_n\}$, the set consisting of all the processes in the system
 - $R = \{R_1, R_2, \dots, R_m\}$, the set consisting of all resource types in the system
- **request edge** – directed edge $P_i \rightarrow R_j$
- **assignment edge** – directed edge $R_j \rightarrow P_i$





Resource-Allocation Graph (Cont.)

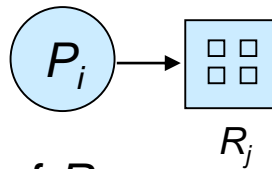
- Process



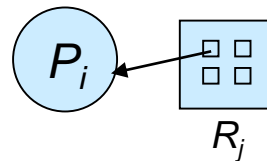
- Resource Type with 4 instances



- P_i requests instance of R_j

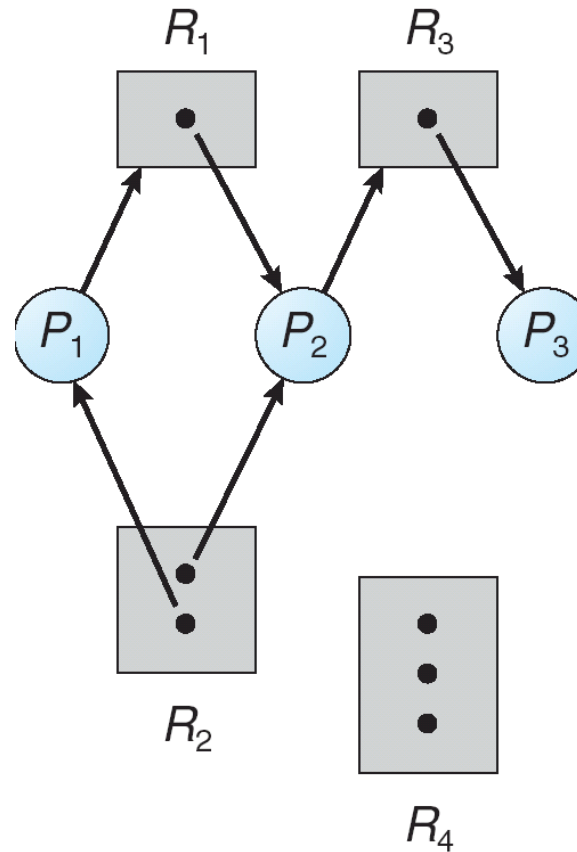


- P_i is holding an instance of R_j



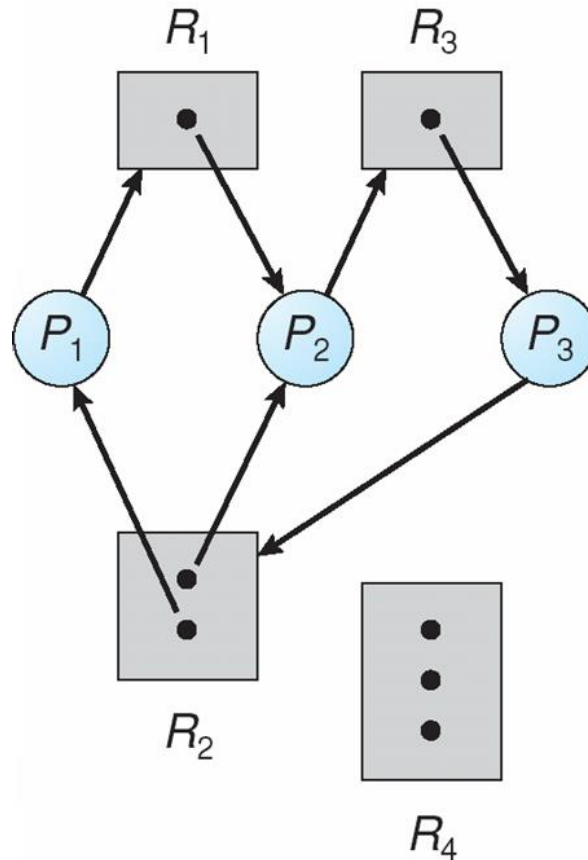


Example of a Resource Allocation Graph



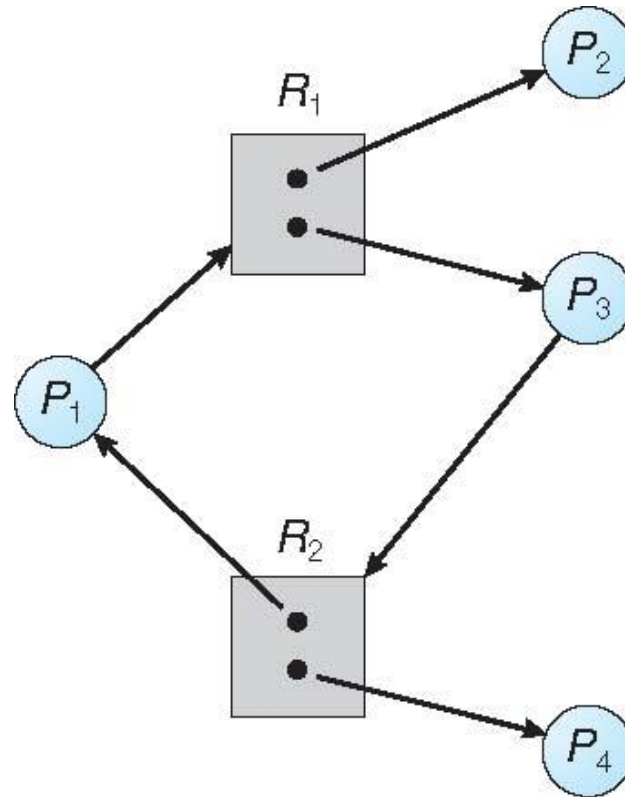


Resource Allocation Graph With A Deadlock





Graph With A Cycle But No Deadlock





Basic Facts

- If graph contains no cycles \Rightarrow no deadlock
- If graph contains a cycle \Rightarrow
 - if only one instance per resource type, then deadlock
 - if several instances per resource type, possibility of deadlock





Methods for Handling Deadlocks

- Ensure that the system will *never* enter a deadlock state:
 - Deadlock prevention
 - Deadlock avoidance





Deadlock Prevention

Restrain the ways request can be made

- **Mutual Exclusion** – not required for sharable resources (e.g., read-only files); must hold for non-sharable resources
- **Hold and Wait** – must guarantee that whenever a process requests a resource, it does not hold any other resources
 - Require process to request and be allocated all its resources before it begins execution, or allow process to request resources only when the process has none allocated to it.
 - Low resource utilization; starvation possible





Deadlock Prevention (Cont.)

■ No Preemption –

- If a process that is holding some resources requests another resource that cannot be immediately allocated to it, then all resources currently being held are released
- Preempted resources are added to the list of resources for which the process is waiting
- Process will be restarted only when it can regain its old resources, as well as the new ones that it is requesting

■ Circular Wait – impose a total ordering of all resource types, and require that each process requests resources in an increasing order of enumeration





Deadlock Avoidance

Requires that the system has some additional ***a priori*** information available

- Simplest and most useful model requires that each process declare the ***maximum number*** of resources of each type that it may need
- The deadlock-avoidance algorithm dynamically examines the resource-allocation state to ensure that there can never be a circular-wait condition
- Resource-allocation *state* is defined by the number of available and allocated resources, and the maximum demands of the processes

