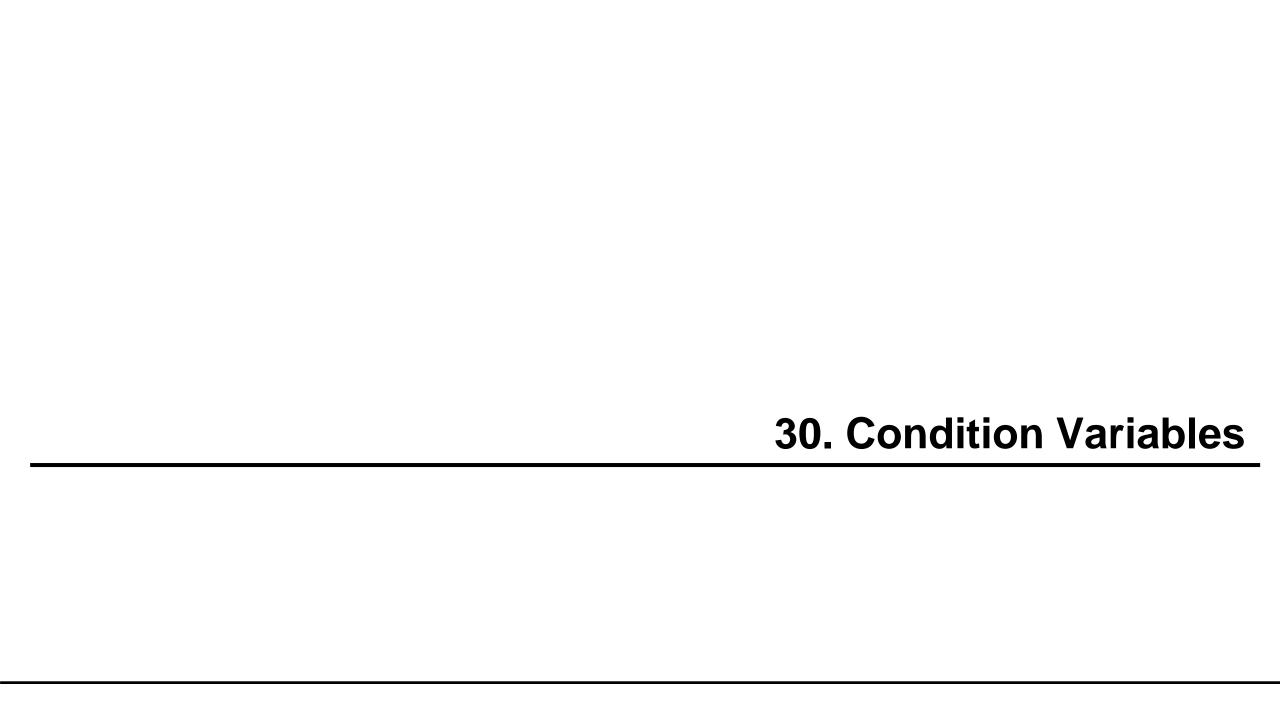
Operating Systems

Condition Variable and Semaphore (Chapter 30 ~ 31)

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Condition Variables

- There are many cases where a thread wishes to <u>check</u> whether a <u>condition</u> is true before continuing its execution.
- Example:
 - A parent thread might wish to check whether a child thread has completed.
 - This is often called a join().

Condition Variables

A Parent Waiting For Its Child

```
void *child(void *arg) {
                                             XXX how to indicate we are done?
            printf("child\n");
            return NULL;
        int main(int argc, char *argv[]) {
            printf("parent: begin\n");
            pthread t c;
            Pthread create(&c, NULL, child, NULL); // create child
10
11
12
            printf("parent: end\n");
                                                    XXX how to wait for child?
13
            return 0;
14
```

What we would like to see here is:

```
parent: begin
child
parent: end
```

Parent waiting fore child: Spin-based Approach

```
volatile int done = 0;
        void *child(void *arg) {
             printf("child\n");
             done = 1;
             return NULL;
         int main(int argc, char *argv[]) {
             printf("parent: begin\n");
            pthread t c;
             Pthread create (&c, NULL, child, NULL); // create child
13
             while (done == 0)
14
             printf("parent: end\n");
                                                        spin
16
             return 0:
17
```

This is hugely <u>inefficient</u> as the parent spins and wastes CPU time.

How to wait for a condition

- Condition variable
 - Queue of threads
 - Waiting on the condition
 - An explicit queue that threads can put themselves on when some state of execution is not as desired.
 - Signaling on the condition
 - Some other thread, when it changes it state, can wake one of those waiting threads and allow them to continue.

Definition and Routines

Declare condition variable

```
pthread cond t c;
```

Proper initialization is required.

```
Three variables for CV:
condition variable c
state variable m
lock I;
```

- Operation (the POSIX calls)
 - The wait() call takes a <u>mutex</u> as a parameter.
 - The wait() call release the lock and put the calling thread to sleep.
 - When the thread wakes up, it must re-acquire the lock.

Parent waiting for Child: Use a condition variable

```
int done = 0;
        pthread mutex t m = PTHREAD MUTEX INITIALIZER;
                                                                    //3 variables
        pthread cond t c = PTHREAD COND INITIALIZER;
        void thr exit() {
                 Pthread mutex lock(&m);
                                                        //State variable
                 done = 1:
                 Pthread cond signal(&c);
                 Pthread mutex unlock(&m);
                                                     //Signaling...
10
11
12
        void *child(void *arg) {
13
                 printf("child\n");
14
                 thr exit();
15
                 return NULL;
16
17
18
        void thr join() {
19
                 Pthread mutex lock(&m);
                                                               //State variable
20
                 while (done == 0)
21
                         Pthread cond wait(&c, &m);
                                                              //Waiting...
22
                 Pthread mutex unlock(&m);
23
24
```

Parent waiting for Child: Use a condition variable

```
(cont.)
        int main(int argc, char *argv[]) {
26
                printf("parent: begin\n");
                                                               //Thread creation
27
                pthread t p;
                Pthread create(&p, NULL, child, NULL);
                thr join();
30
                printf("parent: end\n");
31
                return 0;
                                                         can be implemented
                                              //Join()
32
                                                         like this
```

Parent waiting for Child: Use a condition variable

Parent:

- Creates the child thread and continues running itself.
- Calls into thr join() to wait for the child thread to complete.
 - Acquires the lock.
 - Checks if the child is done.
 - Puts itself to sleep by calling wait().
 - Releases the lock.

Child:

- Prints the message "child".
- Calls thr_exit() to wake up the parent thread.
 - Acquire the lock.
 - Sets the state variable done.
 - Signals the parent thus waking it.
 - Release the lock

The importance of the state variable done

```
1     void thr_exit() {
2         Pthread_mutex_lock(&m);
3          Pthread_cond_signal(&c);
4          Pthread_mutex_unlock(&m);
5     }
6     
7     void thr_join() {
8          Pthread_mutex_lock(&m);
9          Pthread_cond_wait(&c, &m);
10          Pthread_mutex_unlock(&m);
11     }

//Execute first
//Execute first
//Execute first
//Then, waits for the child
```

thr exit() and thr join() without variable done

- Imagine the case where the child runs immediately.
 - The child will signal, but there is no thread asleep on the condition.
 - When the parent runs, it will call wait and be stuck.
 - No thread will ever wake it.

Another poor implementation

- The parent calls thr join().
 - The parent checks the value of done.
 - It will see that it is 0 and try to go to sleep.
 - Just before it calls wait to go to sleep, the parent is interrupted and the child runs.
- The child changes the state variable done to 1 and signals.
 - But no thread is waiting and thus no thread is woken.
 - When the parent runs again, it sleeps forever.

The Producer / Consumer Problem

Producer

- Produce data items
- Wish to place data items in a buffer

Consumer

- Get data items from the buffer and then consume them in some way
- Example: Multi-threaded web server
 - A producer puts HTTP requests in to a work queue
 - Consumer threads take requests out of this queue and process them

Bounded buffer

- A bounded buffer is used when you <u>pipe the output</u> of one program into another.
 - Example: grep foo file.txt | wc -1
 - The grep process is the producer.
 - The wc process is the consumer.
 - Between them is an in-kernel <u>bounded buffer</u>.
 - Bounded buffer is Shared resource → Synchronized access is required.

The Put and Get Routines (Version 1)

- Only put data into the buffer when count is zero.
 - i.e., when the buffer is *empty*.
- Only get data from the buffer when count is one.
 - i.e., when the buffer is *full*.

Producer/Consumer Threads (Version 1)

- Producer puts an integer into the shared buffer loops number of times.
- Consumer gets the data out of that shared buffer.

Producer/Consumer: Single CV and If Statement

A single condition variable cond and associated lock mutex

```
cond t cond;
        mutex t mutex;
                                                        //Wait until the buffer
        void *producer(void *arg) {
                                                                  is empty
             int i;
            for (i = 0; i < loops; i++)</pre>
                 Pthread mutex lock(&mutex);
                                                              // p1
                 if (count == 1)
                     Pthread cond wait(&cond, &mutex);
                                                                 6q
                 put(i);
                                                              // p4
                 Pthread cond signal (&cond);
                                                                 р5
                 Pthread matex_unlock(&mutex);
                                                              // p6
14
15
```

//Signals to the consumer

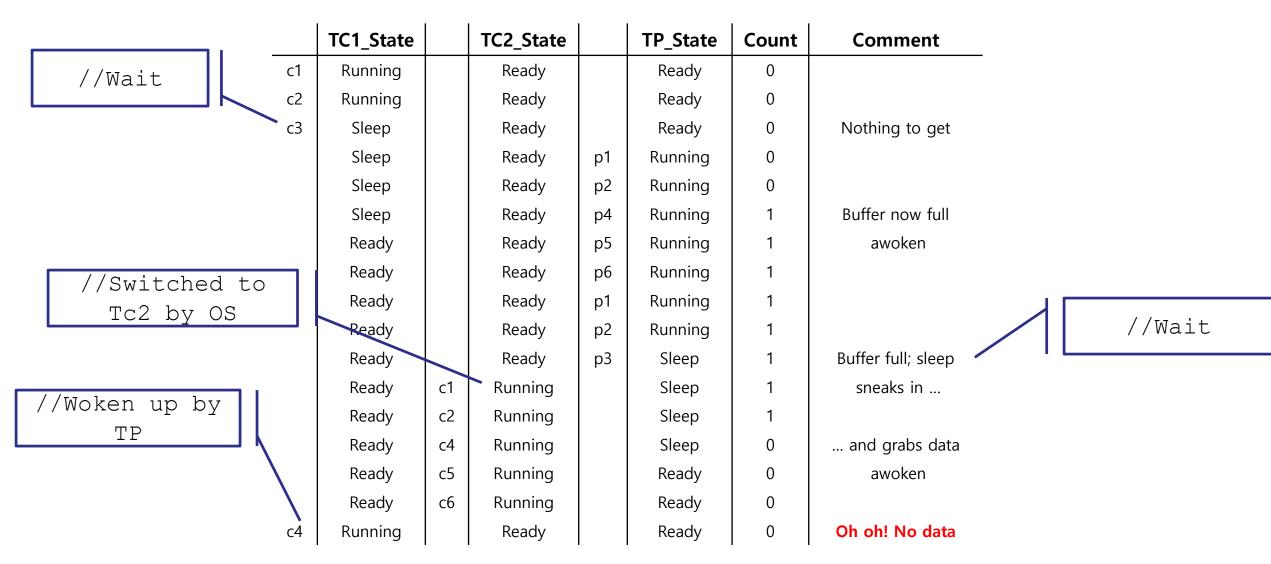
Producer/Consumer: Single CV and If Statement

```
16
        void *consumer(void *arg) {
             int i;
18
             for (i = 0; i < loops; i++) {</pre>
                                                                  //Wait until the buffer
19
                 Pthread mutex lock(&mutex);
                                                                          is filled
                 if (count == 0)
20
21
                    Pthread cond wait (&cond, &mutex);
                                                              // c3
22
                 int tmp = get();
                                                                c4
23
                 Pthread cond signal (&cond);
24
                 Pthread mutex unlock (&mutex);
                                                              // c6
                 printf("%d\n", tmp);
26
2.7
                                                                  //Signals to the producer
```

- p1-p3: A producer waits for the buffer to be empty.
- c1-c3: A consumer waits for the buffer to be full.
- With just a single producer and a single consumer, the code works.

If we have more than one of producer and consumer?

Thread Trace: Broken Solution (Version 1)



Thread Trace: Broken Solution (Version 1)

- The problem arises for a simple reason:
 - After the producer woke T_{c1} , but before T_{c1} ever ran, the state of the bounded buffer *changed by* T_{c2} .
 - There is no guarantee that when the woken thread runs, the state will still be as desired → Mesa semantics.
 - Virtually every system ever built employs Mesa semantics.
 - Hoare semantics provides a stronger guarantee that the woken thread will run immediately upon being woken.

Producer/Consumer: Single CV and While

- Consumer T_{c1} wakes up and re-checks the state of the shared variable.
 - If the buffer is empty, the consumer simply goes back to sleep.

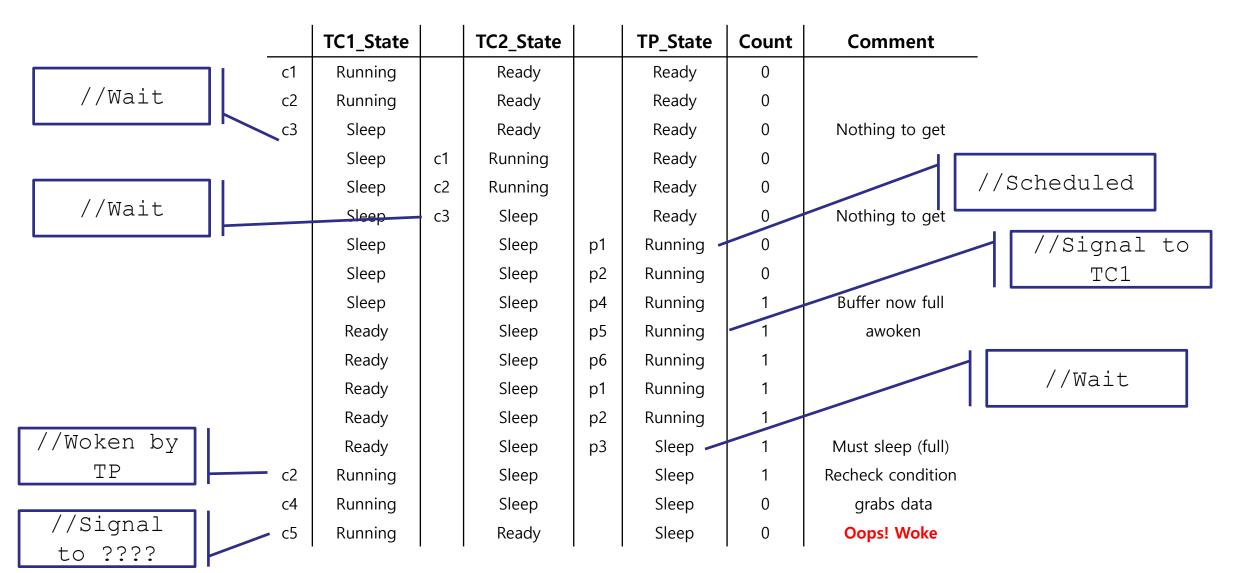
```
cond t cond;
        mutex t mutex;
        void *producer(void *arg) {
             int i;
                                                       //Check the buffer again
             for (i = 0; i < loops; i++)</pre>
                 Pthread_mutex_lock(&mutex)
                                                               // p1
                 while (count == 1)
                                                               // p2
                                                               // p3
                     Pthread cond wait (&cond, &mutex);
                 put(i);
11
                 Pthread cond signal (&cond);
                                                               // p5
                 Pthread mutex unlock(&mutex);
                                                               // p6
14
15
```

Producer/Consumer: Single CV and While

```
(Cont.)
        void *consumer(void *arg) {
             int i;
                                                     //Check the buffer again
             for (i = 0; i < loops; i++)</pre>
                 Pthread mutex lock(&mutex)
                 while (count == 0)
20
                                                                  c2
                     Pthread cond wait (&cond, &mutex);
                                                                  с3
                 int tmp = get();
                                                               // c4
23
                 Pthread cond signal (&cond);
                 Pthread mutex unlock(&mutex);
                                                               // c6
                 printf("%d\n", tmp);
26
27
```

- A simple rule to remember with condition variables is to always use while loops.
- However, this code still has a bug (next page).

Thread Trace: Broken Solution (Version 2)



Thread Trace: Broken Solution (Version 2) (Cont.)

	State		State	State	Count	Comment	
				 		(cont.)	
с6	Running		Ready	Sleep	0		
c1	Running		Ready	Sleep	0		
c2	Running		Ready	Sleep	0		//Woken by TC1
c3	Sleep		Ready	Sleep	0	Nothing to get	
	Sleep	c2	Running -	Sleep	0		
	Sleep	с3	Sleep	Sleep	0	Everyone asleep	

A consumer should not wake other consumers, only producers, and vice-versa.

The Single Buffer Producer/Consumer Solution

- Use two condition variables and while
 - Producer threads wait on the condition empty, and signals fill.
 - Consumer threads wait on fill and signal empty.

```
cond t empty, fill;
        mutex t mutex;
        void *producer(void *arg) {
            int i;
            for (i = 0; i < loops; i++) {
                Pthread mutex lock(&mutex);
                while (count == 1)
                                                                         //Wait for empty buffer
                    Pthread cond wait (&empty, &mutex)
10
                put(i);
11
                Pthread cond signal(&fill);
12
                Pthread mutex unlock(&mutex);
                                                                     //Signal to consumers
13
14
15
```

The single Buffer Producer/Consumer Solution

```
(Cont.)
16
        void *consumer(void *arg) {
            int i;
            for (i = 0; i < loops; i++) {</pre>
18
19
                 Pthread mutex lock(&mutex);
                                                                     //Wait for full buffer
                while (count == 0)
2.0
                     Pthread cond wait(&fill, &mutex);
                 int tmp = get();
2.3
                 Pthread cond signal (&empty);
                 Pthread mutex unlock(&mutex);
24
                 printf("%d\n", tmp);
26
                                                                    //Signal to the producer
```

The Final Producer/Consumer Solution

- More concurrency and efficiency

 Add more buffer slots.
 - Allow concurrent production or consuming to take place.
 - Reduce context switches.

```
int buffer[MAX];
         int fill = 0;
        int use = 0;
        int count = 0;
        void put(int value) {
             buffer[fill] = value;
             fill = (fill + 1) % MAX;
             count++;
10
         int get() {
13
             int tmp = buffer[use];
14
             use = (use + 1) % MAX;
             count--;
16
             return tmp;
17
```

The Final Put and Get Routines

The Final Producer/Consumer Solution (Cont.)

```
cond t empty, fill;
         mutex t mutex;
        void *producer(void *arg) {
             int i;
             for (i = 0; i < loops; i++) {</pre>
                 Pthread mutex lock(&mutex);
                                                               // p1
                 while (count == MAX)
                                                               // p2
                     Pthread cond wait(&empty, &mutex);
                                                               // p3
                 put(i);
                                                               // p4
                 Pthread cond signal(&fill);
                                                               // p5
                 Pthread mutex unlock(&mutex);
                                                               // p6
14
15
```

The Final Producer/Consumer Solution (Cont.)

The Final Working Solution (Cont.)

- p2: A producer only sleeps if all buffers are currently filled.
- c2: A consumer only sleeps if all buffers are currently empty.

Covering Conditions

- Assume there are zero bytes free
 - Thread T_a calls allocate (100).
 - Thread T_b calls allocate (10).
 - Both T_a and T_b wait on the condition and go to sleep.
 - Thread T_c calls free (50).

Which waiting thread should be woken up?

Covering Conditions (Cont.)

```
// how many bytes of the heap are free?
        int bytesLeft = MAX HEAP SIZE;
        // need lock and condition too
        cond t c;
        mutex t m;
        void *
        allocate(int size) {
                                                      //Condition re-check
10
            Pthread mutex lock(&m);
            while (bytesLeft < size)</pre>
12
                Pthread cond wait(&c, &m);
13
           void *ptr = ...;
                                              get mem from heap
14
            bytesLeft -= size;
15
            Pthread mutex unlock(&m);
                                                        //Need to wake up the
16
            return ptr;
                                                             other thread?
17
18
19
        void free(void *ptr, int size) {
20
            Pthread mutex lock(&m);
21
            bytesLeft += size;
            Pthread cond signal(&c); // whom to signal??
23
            Pthread mutex unlock(&m);
24
```

Covering Conditions (Cont.)

- Solution (Suggested by Lampson and Redell)
 - Replace pthread_cond_signal() with
 pthread_cond_broadcast()
 pthread cond broadcast()
 - Wake up all waiting threads.
 - Cost: too many threads might be woken.
 - Threads that shouldn't be awake will simply wake up, re-check the condition, and then go back to sleep.

31. Semaphore

Semaphore: A definition

- An object with an integer value
 - We can manipulate with two routines; sem_wait() and sem post().
 - Initialization

```
1 #include <semaphore.h>
2 sem_t s;
3 sem_init(&s, 0, 1); // initialize s to the value 1
```

- Declare a semaphore s and initialize it to the value 1
- The second argument, 0, indicates that the semaphore is **shared** between threads in the same process.

Semaphore: Interact with semaphore

- If the value of the semaphore is one or higher when called sem_wait(), return right away.
- If the value of the semaphore < 0, it will cause the caller to suspend execution waiting for a subsequent post.
- When negative, the value of the semaphore is equal to the number of waiting threads.

Semaphore: Interact with semaphore (Cont.)

```
• sem_post()

1 int sem_post(sem_t *s) {
2 increment the value of semaphore s by one
3 if there are one or more threads waiting, wake one
4 }
```

- Simply **increments** the value of the semaphore.
- If there is a thread waiting to be woken, wakes one of them up.

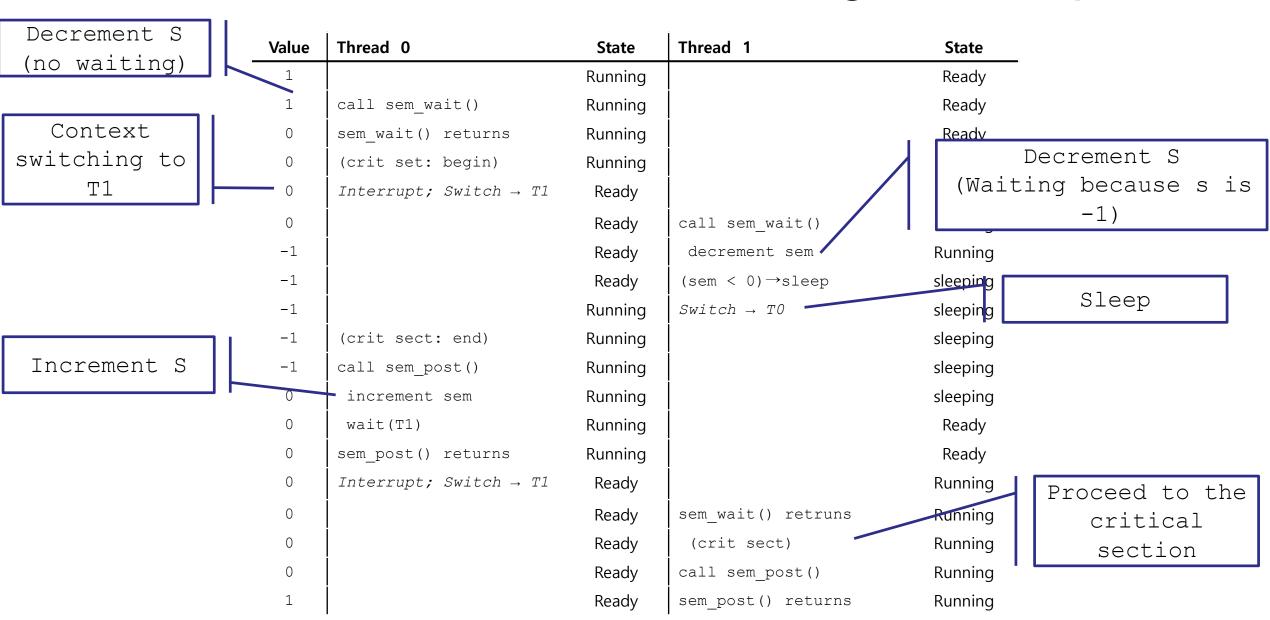
Binary Semaphores (Locks)

- What should x be?
 - The initial value should be 1.

```
1   sem_t m;
2   sem_init(&m, 0, X); // initialize semaphore to X; what should X be?
3
4   sem_wait(&m);
5   //critical section here
6   sem_post(&m);
```

Value of Semaphore	Thread 0	Thread 1
1		
1	<pre>call sema_wait()</pre>	
0	<pre>sem_wait() returns</pre>	
0	(crit sect)	
0	<pre>call sem_post()</pre>	
1	sem_post() returns	

Thread Trace: Two Threads Using A Semaphore



Semaphores as Condition Variables

```
sem t s;
    void *
    child(void *arg) {
        printf("child\n");
        sem post(&s); // signal here: child is done
        return NULL:
10
     int
     main(int argc, char *argv[])
11
        sem init(&s, 0, X), // what should X be?
12
13
        printf("parent: begin\n");
14
        pthread t c;
        pthread create(c, NULL, child, NULL);
16
        sem wait(&s); // wait here for child
        printf("parent: end\n");
17
18
        return 0:
19
```

Semaphore variable must be 0

parent: begin
child
parent: end

The execution result

A Parent Waiting For Its Child

– What should x be?

The value of semaphore should be set to is 0.

Thread Trace: Parent Waiting For Child (Case 1)

• The parent call sem_wait() before the child has called sem_post().

Value	Parent	State	Child	State
0	Create(Child)	Running	(Child exists; is runnable)	Ready
0	call sem_wait()	Running		Ready
-1	decrement sem	Running		Ready
-1	(sem < 0)→sleep	sleeping		Ready
-1	Switch→Child	sleeping	child runs	Running
-1		sleeping	call sem_post()	Running
0		sleeping	increment sem	Running
0		Ready	wake(Parent)	Running
0		Ready	sem_post() returns	Running
0		Ready	Interrupt; Switch→Parent	Ready
0	sem_wait() retruns	Running		Ready

Thread Trace: Parent Waiting For Child (Case 2)

The child runs to completion before the parent call sem_wait().

Value	Parent	State	Child	State
0	Create(Child)	Running	(Child exists; is runnable)	Ready
0	Interrupt; switch→Child	Ready	child runs	Running
0		Ready	call sem_post()	Running
1		Ready	increment sem	Running
1		Ready	wake (nobody)	Running
1		Ready	sem_post() returns	Running
1	parent runs	Running	Interrupt; Switch→Parent	Ready
1	call sem_wait()	Running		Ready
0	decrement sem	Running		Ready
0	(sem<0)→awake	Running		Ready
0	sem_wait() retruns	Running		Ready

The Producer/Consumer Problem

- Producer: put() interface
 - Wait for a buffer to become *empty* in order to put data into it.
- Consumer: get() interface
 - Wait for a buffer to become filled before using it.

The Producer/Consumer Problem

```
sem t empty;
    sem t full;
    void *producer(void *arg) {
        int i;
        for (i = 0; i < loops; i++) {</pre>
                sem wait(&empty);
                                  // line P1
                put(i);
9
                sem post(&full);
                                        // line P3
10
11
12
13
    void *consumer(void *arg) {
        int i, tmp = 0;
14
        while (tmp != -1) {
16
                sem wait(&full);
                                 // line C1
17
              tmp = qet();
                                        // line C2
18
              sem post(&empty);
                                        // line C3
19
                printf("%d\n", tmp);
20
21
```

First Attempt: Adding the Full and Empty Conditions

The Producer/Consumer Problem

First Attempt: Adding the Full and Empty Conditions (Cont.)

- Imagine that MAX is greater than 1.
 - If there are multiple producers, race condition can happen at line f1.
 - It means that the old data there is overwritten.
- We've forgotten here is mutual exclusion.
 - The filling of a buffer and incrementing of the index into the buffer is a critical section.

A Solution: Adding Mutual Exclusion

```
sem t empty;
    sem t full;
    sem t mutex;
                                                                Mutex using semaphore
   void *producer(void *arg) {
        int i;
        for (i = 0; i < loops; i++)</pre>
                 sem wait(&mutex);
                                            // line p0 (NEW LINE)
                 sem wait(&empty);
                                            // line p1
                 put(i);
                                            // line p2
                 sem post(&full);
                                            // line p3
                 sem post(&mutex);
                                           // line p4 (NEW LINE)
13
14
15
```

A Solution: Adding Mutual Exclusion

```
void *consumer(void *arg) {
                                                              Mutex using semaphore
        int i;
        for (i = 0; i < loops; i++)</pre>
                 sem wait(&mutex);
                                           // line c0 (NEW LINE)
20
                 sem wait(&full);
                                          // line c1
                 int tmp = get();
                                          // line c2
22
                 sem post(&empty);
                                          // line c3
23
                 sem post(&mutex);
                                          // line c4 (NEW LINE)
24
                printf("%d\n", tmp);
25
26
```

A Solution: Adding Mutual Exclusion (Cont.)

- Imagine two thread: one producer and one consumer.
 - The consumer acquire the mutex (line c0).
 - The consumer calls sem_wait() on the full semaphore (line c1).
 - The consumer is blocked and yield the CPU.
 - The consumer still holds the mutex!
 - The producer calls sem_wait() on the binary mutex semaphore (line p0).
 - The producer is now stuck waiting too.
 - → a classic deadlock.

A Working Solution

```
sem t empty;
    sem t full;
                                                                          Change the order
    sem t mutex;
    void *producer(void *arg) {
         int i;
         for (i = 0; i < loops; i++) {</pre>
                  sem wait(&empty);
                                                line p1
                  sem wait(&mutex);
                                             // line p1.5 (MOVED MUTEX HERE...)
                  put(i);
10
                                             // line p2
11
                  sem post(&mutex);
                                             // line p2.5 (... AND HERE)
12
                  sem post(&full);
                                             // line p3
13
14
15
```

Adding Mutual Exclusion (Correctly)

A Working Solution

```
void *consumer(void *arg) {
16
17
        int i;
                                                                       Change the order
18
        for (i = 0; i < loops; i++) {</pre>
19
                 sem wait(&full);
                                               line c1
20
                 sem wait(&mutex);
                                            // line c1.5 (MOVED MUTEX HERE...)
21
                 int tmp = get();
                                           // line c2
22
                 sem post(&mutex);
                                           // line c2.5 (... AND HERE)
23
                 sem post(&empty);
                                    // line c3
24
                 printf("%d\n", tmp);
25
26
27
    int main(int argc, char *argv[]) {
29
        // ...
30
        sem init(&empty, 0, MAX); // MAX buffers
        sem init(&full, 0, 0); // To check if the buffer is full
31
32
        sem init(&mutex, 0, 1); // mutex=1 because it is a lock
33
        // ...
34
35
```

Reader-Writer Locks

 Imagine a number of concurrent list operations, including inserts and simple lookups.

- insert:

- Change the state of the list
- A traditional <u>critical section</u> makes sense.

– lookup:

- Simply read the data structure.
- As long as we can guarantee that no insert is on-going, we can allow many lookups to proceed concurrently.

This special type of lock is known as a reader-write lock.

A Reader-Writer Locks

- Only a single writer can acquire the lock.
- Once a reader has acquired a read lock,
 - More readers will be allowed to acquire the read lock too.
 - A writer will have to wait until all readers are finished.

```
1. void rwlock_init(rwlock_t *rw) {
2.    rw->readers = 0;
3.    sem_init(&rw->lock, 0, 1);
4.    sem_init(&rw->writelock, 0, 1);
5. }
```

A Reader-Writer Locks

```
1. void rwlock acquire readlock(rwlock t *rw) {
                                                                Allow write lock only
2.
        sem wait(&rw->lock);
                                                                    for the reader
      rw->readers++;
  if (rw->readers == 1)
                sem wait(&rw->writelock); // first reader acquires writelock
6.
        sem post(&rw->lock); ____
                                                             If there are multiple
                                                              readers, immediately
                                                                      returns
    void rwlock release readlock(rwlock t *rw) {
        sem wait(&rw->lock);
       rw->readers--;
     if (rw->readers == 0)
                sem post(&rw->writelock); // last reader releases writelock
6.
        sem post(&rw->lock);
```

A Reader-Writer Locks (Cont.)

```
1. void rwlock_acquire_writelock(rwlock_t *rw) {
2.     sem_wait(&rw->writelock);
3. }
```

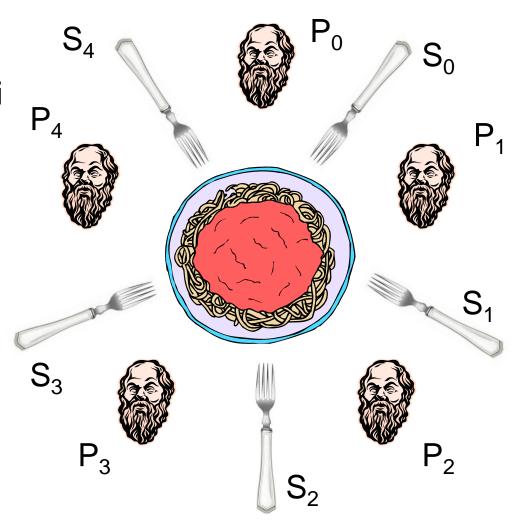
```
1. void rwlock_release_writelock(rwlock_t *rw) {
2.    sem_post(&rw->writelock);
3. }
```

A Reader-Writer Locks (Cont.)

- The reader-writer locks have fairness problem.
 - It would be relatively easy for reader to starve writer.
 - To avoid this, <u>prevent</u> readers from entering the lock once a writer is waiting

Dining Philosophers (Dijkstra)

- A classic
- 5 Philosophers, 1 bowl of spaghetti
- Philosophers (threads) think & eat ad infinitum
 - Need left & right fork to eat (!?)
- Want solution that prevents starvation & does not delay hungry philosophers unnecessarily



The Dining Philosophers (Cont.)

- Key challenge
 - There is no deadlock.
 - No philosopher starves and never gets to eat.
 - Concurrency is high.

```
while (1) {
         think();
         getforks();
         eat();
         putforks();
}
```

Basic loop of each philosopher

```
// helper functions
int left(int p) { return p; }

int right(int p) {
    return (p + 1) % 5;
}
```

Helper functions (Downey's solutions)

- Philosopher p wishes to refer to the for on their left → call left(p).
- Philosopher p wishes to refer to the for on their right → call right (p).

The Dining Philosophers (Cont.)

We need some semaphore, one for each fork: sem t

forks[5].

```
void getforks() {
sem_wait(forks[left(p)]);
sem_wait(forks[right(p)]);

void putforks() {
sem_post(forks[left(p)]);
sem_post(forks[right(p)]);
sem_post(forks[right(p)]);
}
```

The getforks() and putforks() Routines (Broken Solution)

- Deadlock occur!
 - If each philosopher happens to grab the fork on their left before any philosopher can grab the fork on their right.
 - Each will be stuck holding one fork and waiting for another, forever.

A Solution: Breaking The Dependency

Change how forks are acquired.

Let's assume that philosopher 4 acquire the forks in a different

order.

```
1  void getforks() {
2    if (p == 4) {
3         sem_wait(forks[right(p)]);
4         sem_wait(forks[left(p)]);
5    } else {
6         sem_wait(forks[left(p)]);
7         sem_wait(forks[right(p)]);
8    }
9  }
```

• There is no situation where each philosopher grabs one fork and is stuck waiting for another. **The cycle of waiting is broken**.