

* Semaphores

✓ Def Semaphore is an integer variable that solves the critical section problem. After initialization, it can be accessed by two atomic operations

1) wait(s)

{

while (s <= 0); // trap
s = s - 1;

}

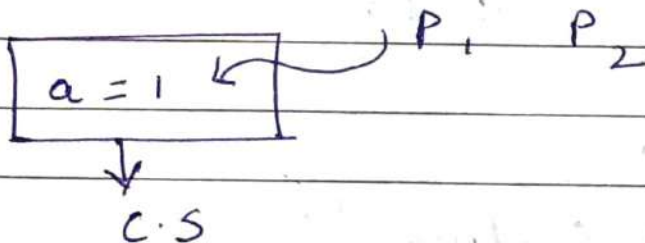
2) Signal(s)

{

s = s + 1;

}

Solves critical section problem.



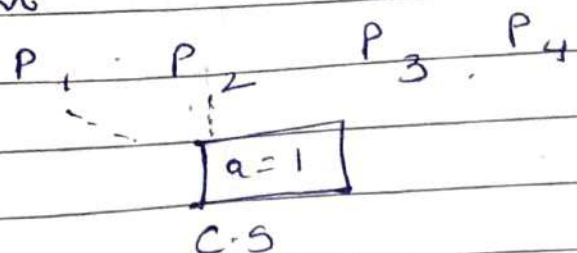
P_1 is accessing critical section. Until P_1 is executing in critical section, P_2 cannot enter.

3 criteria to be satisfied.

1) Mutual Exclusion

2) Progress

3) Bounded wait.



int S; \rightarrow Semaphore
S = 1;

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S = 1

wait (S)

{

while (S <= 0); // trap

S = S - 1;

}

signal (S)

{

S = S + 1;

}

Solution of Critical Section problem using Semaphores

\rightarrow Let $P_1, P_2, P_3, P_4 \dots P_n$ are the processes that wants to go to the critical section.

do

S = 10

{

wait (S); ✓

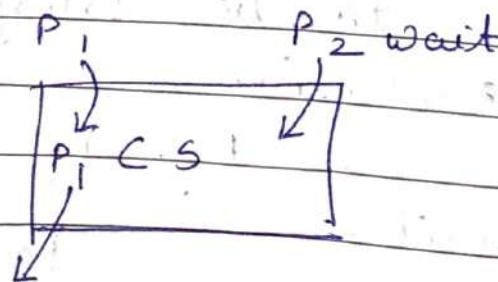
// critical Section (P₁)

Signal (S);

// remainder Section

}

while (T)



Types of Semaphore

- 1) Binary Semaphore (1 & 0)
- 2) Counting Semaphore (~~(-∞ to ∞)~~)

Binary Semaphore - The value of a binary semaphore can range only between 0 & 1.

On some systems, binary semaphores are known as mutex locks, as they are locks that provide mutual exclusion.

Counting Semaphore -

Its value can range over an unrestricted domain. It is used to control access to a resource that has multiple instances.

$S = 2 \neq 0, P_1 \rightarrow R_1, P_2 \rightarrow R_2, P_3 \rightarrow \text{wait}$

wait(s)

{

while ($S \leq 0$); // no-op

$S = S - 1;$

}

signal(s)

{

$S = S + 1;$

}

Processes P_1, P_2, P_3

Resource (R) has 2 instances R_1, R_2

i.e. Resource can be used by

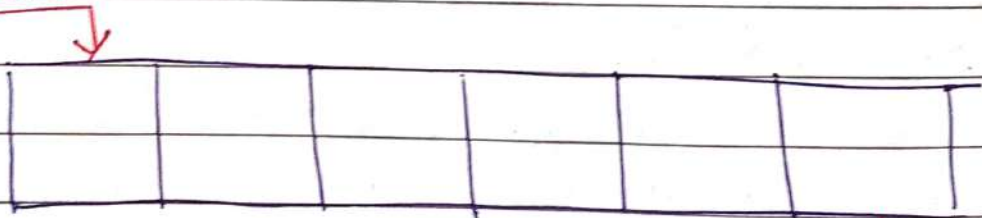
2 processes at the same time.

Set $S = 2$ (no. of resource instances)

* Producer Consumer Problem (Bounded Buffer Problem)

- The Producer Consumer problem is one of the classic problems of synchronization.
- There is a buffer of n slots & each slot is capable of storing one unit of data.
- There are two processes running, namely, Producer & Consumer, which are operating on the buffer.

Producer



Buffer of n slots

Consumer

There is a buffer of n slots. Producer will insert data into ^{an empty slot in} the buffer & consumer will consume / remove data from buffer a filled slot in the buffer.

Problems to take care of :-

- 1) The Producer must not insert data when the buffer is full.
- 2) The consumer must not remove data when the buffer is empty.
- 3) The Producer & consumer should not insert & remove data simultaneously.

Solution to the Producer consumer problem using Semaphores.

We will make use of 3 Semaphores.

- 1) m(mutex), a binary semaphore which is used to acquire & release the lock.
- 2) empty, a counting semaphore whose initial value is the number of slots in the buffer, since, initially all slots are empty.
- 3) full, a counting semaphore whose initial value is 0.

Producer

```
do {  
    wait(empty); // wait until  
                  empty > 0 & then  
                  decrement 'empty'  
  
    wait(mutex); // acquire lock  
    /* add data to buffer */  
  
    signal(mutex); // release lock  
    signal(full); // increment  
                  'full'  
} while(TRUE)
```

Consumer

```
do {  
    wait(full); // wait until full > 0  
                & then decrement  
                'full'  
  
    wait(mutex); // acquire lock  
    /* remove data from buffer */  
  
    signal(mutex); // release lock  
  
    signal(empty); // increment 'empty'  
} while(TRUE)
```