

CS5323 – Operating Systems II
Programming Assignment 1
Due: March 27, 2022, 11:59 p.m.
Submission: via Canvas

Implement a solution via semaphores and threads to the n reader 1 writer problem. Fairness always matters. You will accept the number of readers from the command line. In no case will more than 14 readers be used and always at least 1 reader will be used. Each reader must access a shared counter value 250000000 times in the critical section. Note, it does not update anything, just “reads”. For convenience code is below that will do this in the function `relaxandspendtime`.

A reader reads just one time and a writer writes just one time. Each reader needs to print its name when done. The writer will update the value 25000 times and print done. The writer will also set a shared flag, `in-cs`, when it enters the critical section and reset it just before it leaves the critical section. The reader must, upon entering the critical section, check this flag and write an error message if the flag is set.

You can help us out for testing by using a version of the following code to give the writer a chance to run while readers are also running. So, start it in the midst of the readers.

```
k = (int) (numOfReaders/2);
for(i = 0; i < k; i++)
{
    pthread_create(&readers[i], &attr[0], reader_thread, (void*)
i);
}
/* Create the writer thread */
pthread_create(&writer[0], &attr[0], writer_thread, NULL);
for(i = k ; i < numOfReaders ; i++)
{
    pthread_create(&readers[i], &attr[0], reader_thread, (void*)
i);
}
void relaxandspendtime()
{
    int i;
    for(i = 0; i < 250000000; i++) i=i;
}
```

Deliverables:

1. A short report briefly explaining your solution for the reader-writer problem such as how mutual exclusion is satisfied. Also, include details on your algorithm's ability to handle fairness i.e., the writer is not kept waiting (possibly indefinitely), readers do not starve, etc.
2. Your code file.

3. A README file describing how to compile and run your program. Any requirements that we need to be aware of.

Make sure your name is in the code in the comments! Again, note this is an individual project and must be your own code. If you use any other code, it must be acknowledged in the comments.