**COMP 3500: Homework 1**

Points Possible: 100

Submission via Canvas

**There should be no collaboration among students.** A student shouldn’t share any project code with any other student. Collaborations among students in any form will be treated as a serious violation of the University's academic integrity code.

**Goals:**

* To learn multiple processes.
* To understand critical sections.
* To learn the concepts of semaphores and monitors.

**Questions:**

1. [60 points] Consider the following program:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| P1: { | P2: { |
| shared int x; | shared int x; |
| x = 10; | x = 10; |
| while (1) { | while ( 1 ) { |
| x = x - 1; | x = x - 1; |
| x = x + 1; | x = x + 1; |
| if (x != 10) | if (x!=10) |
| printf(“x is %d”,x) | printf(“x is %d”,x) |
| } | } |
| } | } |

Note that the scheduler in a uniprocessor system would implement pseudo parallel execution of these two concurrent processes by interleaving their instructions, without restriction on the order of the interleaving.

* 1. [25 points] Show a sequence (i.e., trace the sequence of interleavings of statements) such that the statement “x is 10” is printed.  
     **x = 10;  
     x = 10;**

**P1. x = x – 1 // x = 9**

**P2. x = x - 1 // x = 8**

**P1. x = x + 1 // x = 9**

**P1. if(x != 10) // True**

**P2. x = x + 1 // x = 10**

**P1. Printf(“x is %d”,x) // Prints “x is 10”**

* 1. [35 points] Show a sequence such that the statement “x is 8” is printed.

*// This was a question on the 2020 New Mexico Ph.D. Qualifiers Exam for CS.*

You should remember that the increment/decrements at the source language level are not done atomically, that is, the assembly language code:

LD R0,X /\* load R0 from memory location x \*/

INCR R0 /\* increment R0 \*/

STO R0,X /\* store the incremented value back in X \*/

**x = 10;  
x = 10;  
P1. x = x – 1 // x = 9**

**P2. LD R0, x // 9 is loaded from memory into R0  
P2. DEC R0, x //R0 is now decremented to 8**

**P1. x = x + 1 // x = 10**

**P2. STO R0, x // x is stored into R0 as 8**

**P1. if(x != 10) // True**

**P1. Printf(“x is %d”,x) // Prints “x is 8”**

1. [10 points] What is the difference between binary and general semaphores?

**A binary semaphore is used when there is need to control access to a single source. The binary semaphore can only be one of two values, 1 or 0 (available, unavailable). A general semaphore, or “general semaphore” is used to control access to multiple resources and may be set to any non-negative integer.**

1. [10 points] What is a monitor?

**A monitor is an abstract data type, containing shared data and procures (like P1, P2). The monitor was created as a synchronization construct to solve timing errors caused my semaphores. Within a monitor, only one process my execute at a time while the other processes basically “queue up” and wait for shared resources to become available.**

1. [20 points] What operations can be performed on a semaphore?

**Two atomic operations can be performed on a semaphore, which are wait() and signal() or P() and V(), respectively. // Initialize() may be another operation.**

**In these operations, wait() will check for availability of a shared resource, while signal() acts like a counter, signaling the return of a shared resource.**

**Submission:**

* + - A heading at the top of your file contains your name and your Auburn UserIDs. • Submit your solution as a single PDF file named as “hw1.pdf” through Canvas
    - File formats other than PDF will not be accepted by Canvas.

**Late Submission Penalty:**

* + - Ten percent (10%) penalty per day for late submission. For example, an assignment submitted after the deadline but up to 1 day (24 hours) late can achieve a maximum of 90% of points allocated for the assignment. An assignment submitted after the deadline but up to 2 days (48 hours) late can achieve a maximum of 80% of points allocated for the assignment.
    - Assignment submitted more than 3 days (72 hours) after the deadline will not be graded.

**Rebuttal period:**

* + - You will be given a period of one week (i.e., 7 days) to read and respond to the comments and grades of your homework or project assignment. The TA may use this opportunity to address any concern and question you have. The TA also may ask for additional information from you regarding your homework or project.