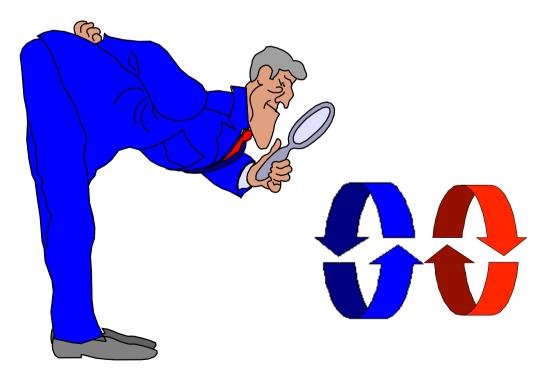
# Safety & Liveness Properties



Concurrency: safety & liveness properties

#### safety & liveness properties

Concepts: properties: true for every possible execution

safety: nothing bad happens

liveness: something good eventually happens

Models: safety: no reachable ERROR/STOP state

progress: an action is eventually executed

fair choice and action priority

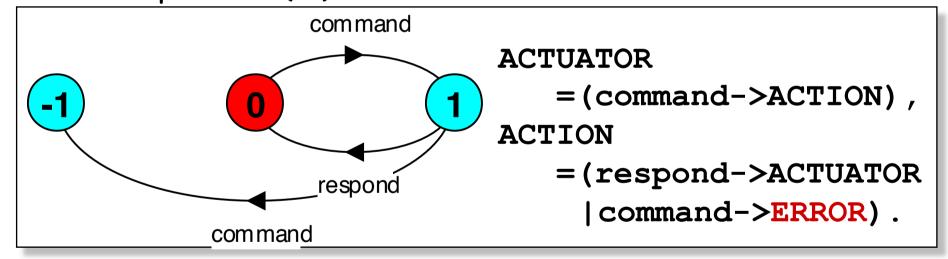
Practice: threads and monitors

Aim: property satisfaction.

#### 7.1 Safety

### A safety property asserts that nothing bad happens.

- ♦ STOP or deadlocked state (no outgoing transitions)
- ♦ ERROR process (-1) to detect erroneous behaviour



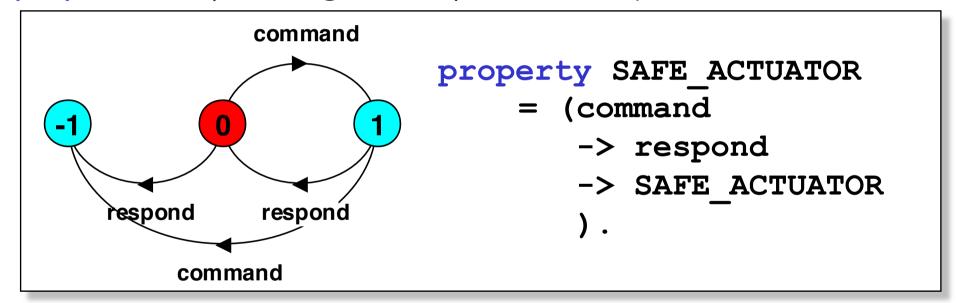
• analysis using LTSA: (shortest trace)

Concurrency: safety & liveness properties

Trace to ERROR: command command

#### Safety - property specification

- **ERROR** conditions state what is **not** required (cf. exceptions).
- in complex systems, it is usually better to specify safety properties by stating directly what is required.



♦ analysis using *LTSA* as before.

#### **Safety properties**

Property that it is polite to knock before entering a room.

Traces: knock > enter



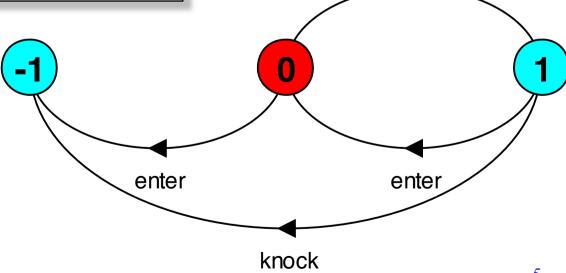
enter



knock→knock

knock

In all states, all the actions in the alphabet of a property are eligible choices.



#### **Safety properties**

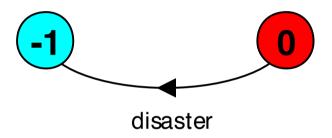
Safety property P defines a deterministic process that asserts that any trace including actions in the alphabet of P, is accepted by P.

Thus, if P is composed with S, then traces of actions in the alphabet of  $S \cap alphabet of P must also be$ valid traces of P, otherwise ERROR is reachable.

Transparency of safety properties: Since all actions in the alphabet of a property are eligible choices, composing a property with a set of processes does not affect their correct behavior. However, if a behavior can occur which violates the safety property, then ERROR is reachable. Properties must be deterministic to be transparent.

#### **Safety properties**

♦ How can we specify that some action, disaster, never occurs?



```
property CALM = STOP + {disaster}.
```

A safety property must be specified so as to include all the acceptable, valid behaviors in its alphabet.

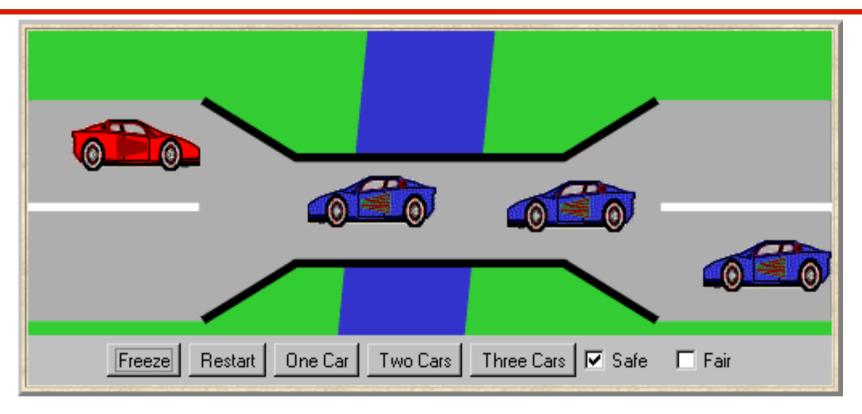
#### Safety - mutual exclusion

How do we check that this does indeed ensure mutual exclusion in the critical section?

Check safety using LTSA.

What happens if semaphore is initialized to 2?

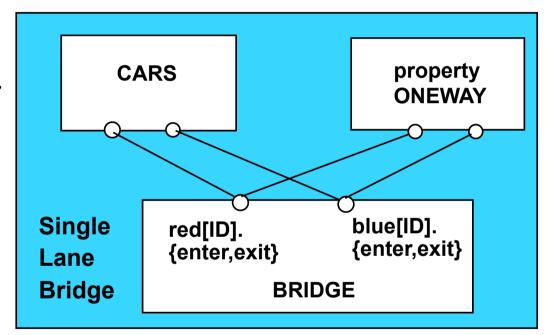
#### 7.2 Single Lane Bridge problem



A bridge over a river is only wide enough to permit a single lane of traffic. Consequently, cars can only move concurrently if they are moving in the same direction. A safety violation occurs if two cars moving in different directions enter the bridge at the same time.

#### Single Lane Bridge - model

- Events or actions of interest?
  enter and exit
- Identify processes.cars and bridge
- Identify properties.oneway
- ◆Define each process and interactions (structure).

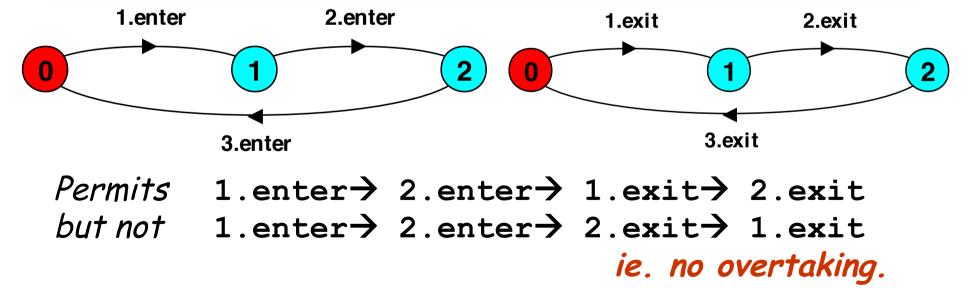


#### Single Lane Bridge - CARS model

To model the fact that cars cannot pass each other on the bridge, we model a CONVOY of cars in the same direction. We will have a red and a blue convoy of up to N cars for each direction:

```
||CARS = (red:CONVOY || blue:CONVOY).
```

#### Single Lane Bridge - CONVOY model



#### Single Lane Bridge - BRIDGE model

Cars can move concurrently on the bridge only if in the same direction. The bridge maintains counts of blue and red cars on the bridge. Red cars are only allowed to enter when the blue count is zero and vice-versa.

car counts to be decremented. LTSA maps these undefined states to ERROR.

#### Single Lane Bridge - safety property ONEWAY

We now specify a **safety** property to check that cars do not collide! While red cars are on the bridge only red cars can enter; similarly for blue cars. When the bridge is empty, either a red or a blue car may enter.

```
property ONEWAY = (red[ID].enter -> RED[1]
                   |blue.[ID].enter -> BLUE[1]
RED[i:ID] = (red[ID].enter -> RED[i+1]
             |when(i==1)red[ID].exit -> ONEWAY
             |when(i>1) red[ID].exit -> RED[i-1]
                       //i is a count of red cars on the bridge
BLUE[i:ID] = (blue[ID].enter-> BLUE[i+1]
             |when(i==1)blue[ID].exit -> ONEWAY
             |when(i>1)blue[ID].exit -> BLUE[i-1]
                       //i is a count of blue cars on the bridge
```

#### Single Lane Bridge - model analysis

||SingleLaneBridge = (CARS|| BRIDGE||ONEWAY).

Is the safety property ONEWAY violated?

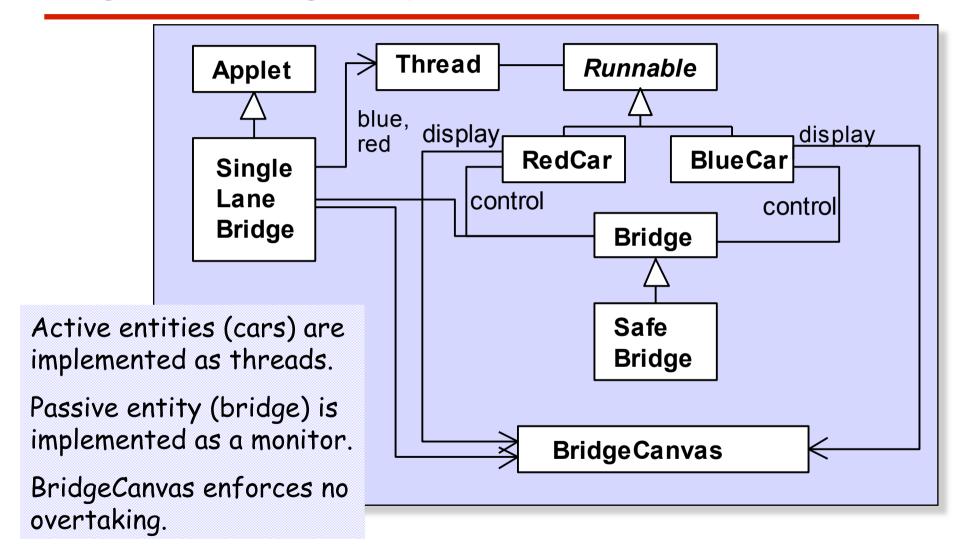
No deadlocks/errors

||SingleLaneBridge = (CARS||ONEWAY).

Without the BRIDGE contraints, is the safety property
ONEWAY violated?

```
Trace to property violation in ONEWAY:
red.1.enter
blue.1.enter
```

#### Single Lane Bridge - implementation in Java



#### Single Lane Bridge - Bridge Canvas

An instance of BridgeCanvas class is created by SingleLaneBridge applet - ref is passed to each newly created RedCar and BlueCar object.

```
class BridgeCanvas extends Canvas {
  public void init(int ncars) {...} //set number of cars
  //move red car with the identity i a step
  //returns true for the period on bridge, from just before until just after
  public boolean moveRed(int i)
           throws InterruptedException {...}
  //move blue car with the identity i a step
  //returns true for the period on bridge, from just before until just after
  public boolean moveBlue(int i)
           throws InterruptedException{...}
  public synchronized void freeze() {...}//freeze display
  public synchronized void thaw() {...} //unfreeze display
```

#### Single Lane Bridge - RedCar

```
class RedCar implements Runnable {
  BridgeCanvas display; Bridge control; int id;
  RedCar(Bridge b, BridgeCanvas d, int id) {
    display = d; this.id = id; control = b;
  public void run() {
    try {
      while(true) {
        while (!display.moveRed(id));  // not on bridge
        control.redEnter();  // request access to bridge
        while (display.moveRed(id)); // move over bridge
        control.redExit();  // release access to bridge
    } catch (InterruptedException e) {}
```

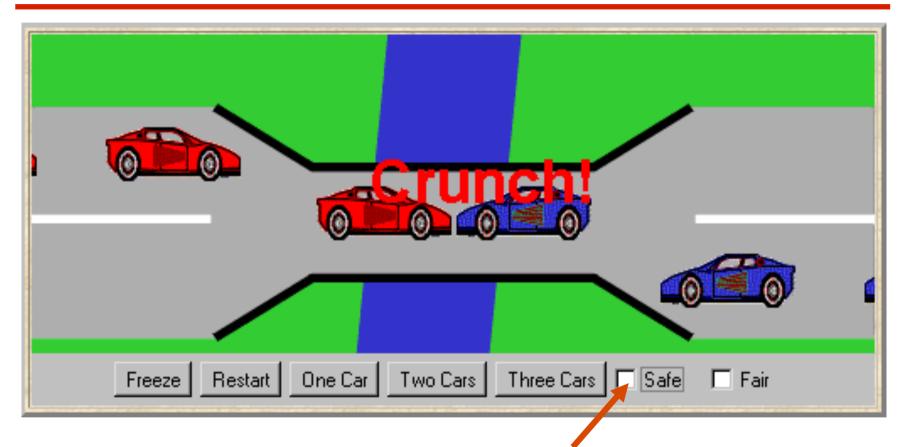
#### Single Lane Bridge - class Bridge

```
class Bridge {
   synchronized void redEnter()
      throws InterruptedException {}
   synchronized void redExit() {}
   synchronized void blueEnter()
      throws InterruptedException {}
   synchronized void blueExit() {}
}
```

Class **Bridge** provides a null implementation of the access methods i.e. no constraints on the access to the bridge.

Result....?

#### **Single Lane Bridge**



To ensure safety, the "safe" check box must be chosen in order to select the SafeBridge implementation.

#### Single Lane Bridge - SafeBridge

```
class SafeBridge extends Bridge {
  private int nred = 0; //number of red cars on bridge
  private int nblue = 0; //number of blue cars on bridge
  // Monitor Invariant:
                     nred≥0 and nblue≥0 and
                   not (nred>0 and nblue>0)
 synchronized void redEnter()
      throws InterruptedException {
    while (nblue>0) wait();
                                            This is a direct
    ++nred;
                                            translation from
                                            the BRIDGE
 synchronized void redExit() {
                                            model.
     --nred;
     if (nred==0) notifyAll();
```

#### Single Lane Bridge - SafeBridge

```
synchronized void blueEnter()
    throws InterruptedException {
    while (nred>0) wait();
    ++nblue;
}
synchronized void blueExit() {
    --nblue;
    if (nblue==0) notifyAll();
}
```

To avoid unnecessary thread switches, we use *conditional notification* to wake up waiting threads only when the number of cars on the bridge is zero i.e. when the last car leaves the bridge.

But does every car eventually get an opportunity to cross the bridge? This is a liveness property.

#### 7.3 Liveness

A safety property asserts that nothing bad happens.

A liveness property asserts that something good eventually happens.

Single Lane Bridge: Does every car eventually get an opportunity to cross the bridge?

ie. make PROGRESS?

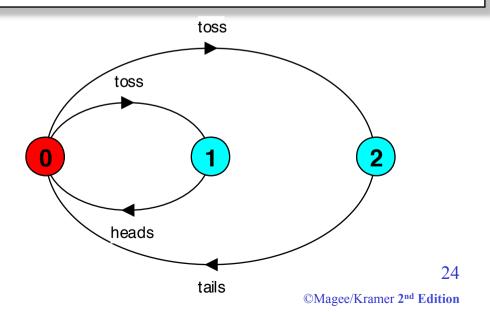
A progress property asserts that it is always the case that an action is eventually executed. Progress is the opposite of starvation, the name given to a concurrent programming situation in which an action is never executed.

#### **Progress properties - fair choice**

Fair Choice: If a choice over a set of transitions is executed infinitely often, then every transition in the set will be executed infinitely often.

If a coin were tossed an infinite number of times, we would expect that heads would be chosen infinitely often and that tails would be chosen infinitely often.

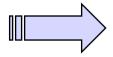
This requires Fair Choice!



Concurrency: safety & liveness properties

#### **Progress properties**

progress  $P = \{a1, a2...an\}$  defines a progress property P which asserts that in an infinite execution of a target system, at least one of the actions a1, a2..an will be executed infinitely often.



COIN system: progress HEADS = {heads}



progress TAILS = {tails}



LTSA check progress:

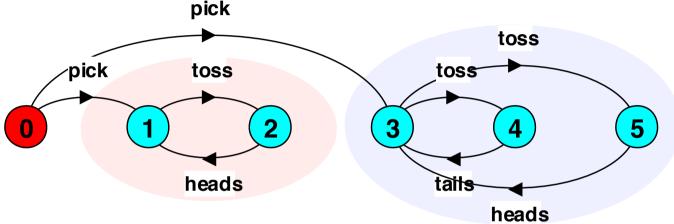
No progress violations detected.

#### **Progress properties**

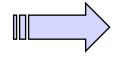
Suppose that there were two possible coins that could be picked up:

pick

a trick coin and a regular coin.....



```
TWOCOIN = (pick->COIN|pick->TRICK),
TRICK = (toss->heads->TRICK),
COIN = (toss->heads->COIN|toss->tails->COIN).
```



TWOCOIN:

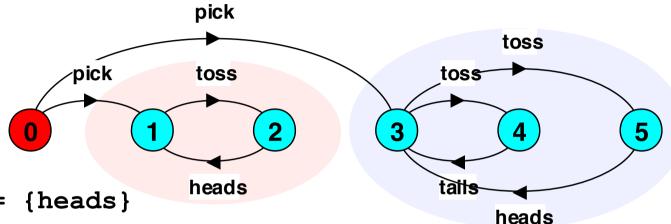
progress HEADS = {heads}



progress TAILS = {tails}



#### **Progress properties**



progress HEADS = {heads}

progress TAILS = {tails}

LTSA check progress

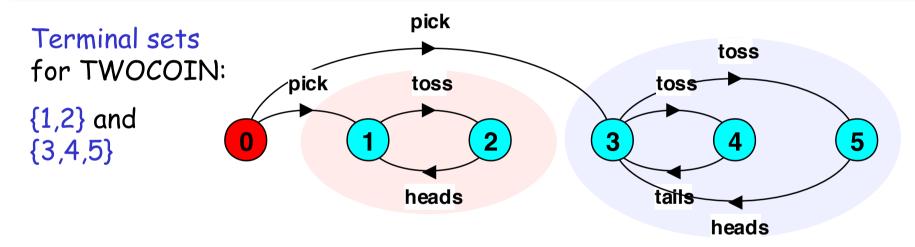
Progress violation: TAILS
Path to terminal set of states:
 pick
Actions in terminal set:
{toss, heads}

progress HEADSorTails = {heads,tails}



#### **Progress analysis**

A terminal set of states is one in which every state is reachable from every other state in the set via one or more transitions, and there is no transition from within the set to any state outside the set.



Given fair choice, each terminal set represents an execution in which each action used in a transition in the set is executed infinitely often.

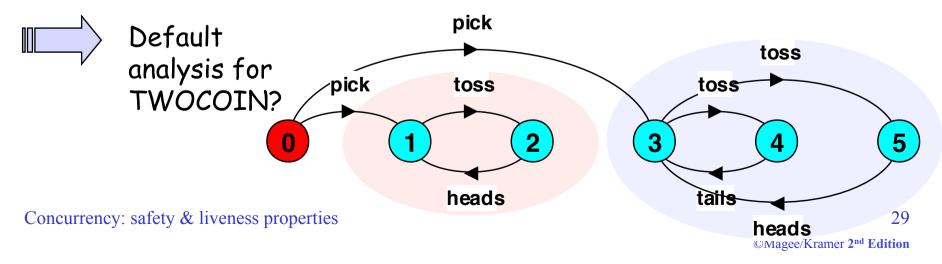
Since there is no transition out of a terminal set, any action that is not used in the set cannot occur infinitely often in all executions of the system - and hence represents a potential progress violation!

#### **Progress analysis**

A progress property is violated if analysis finds a terminal set of states in which none of the progress set actions appear.

progress TAILS = {tails} in {1,2}

**Default:** given fair choice, for *every* action in the alphabet of the target system, that action will be executed infinitely often. This is equivalent to specifying a separate progress property for every action.



#### **Progress analysis**

Default analysis for TWOCOIN: separate progress property for every action.

and

pick
toss
toss
heads

```
Progress violation for actions:
{pick}
Path to terminal set of states:
   pick
```

```
Actions in terminal set:

Progress violation for actions:

{pick, tails}

Path to terminal set of states:

pick
```

Actions in terminal set:

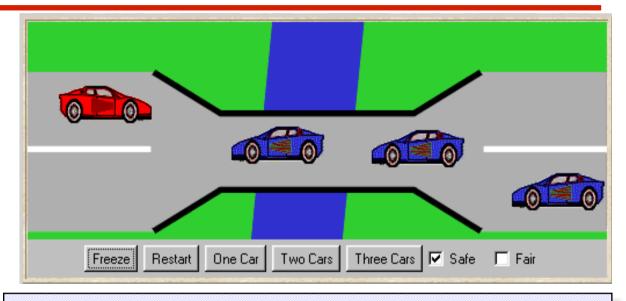
If the default holds, then every other progress property holds i.e. every action is executed infinitely often and system consists of a single terminal set of states.

#### **Progress - single lane bridge**

The Single Lane
Bridge implementation
can permit progress
violations.

However, if default progress analysis is applied to the model then no violations are detected!

Why not?



progress BLUECROSS = {blue[ID].enter}
progress REDCROSS = {red[ID].enter}
No progress violations detected.

Fair choice means that eventually every possible execution occurs, including those in which cars do not starve. To detect progress problems we must check under adverse conditions. We superimpose some scheduling policy for actions, which models the situation in which the bridge is congested.

#### **Progress - action priority**

# Action priority expressions describe scheduling properties:

High
Priority
("<<")

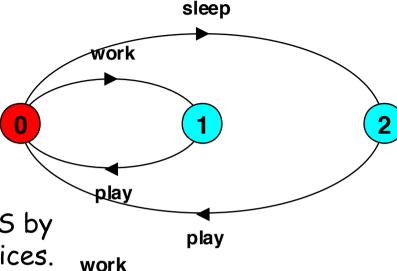
||C = (P||Q) <<{a1,...,an} specifies a composition in which the actions a1,...,an have higher priority than any other action in the alphabet of P||Q including the silent action tau. In any choice in this system which has one or more of the actions a1,...,an labeling a transition, the transitions labeled with lower priority actions are discarded.

Low Priority (">>")

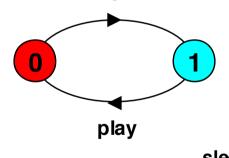
||C = (P||Q)>>{a1,...,an} specifies a composition in which the actions a1,...,an have lower priority than any other action in the alphabet of P||Q including the silent action tau. In any choice in this system which has one or more transitions not labeled by a1,...,an, the transitions labeled by a1,...,an are discarded.

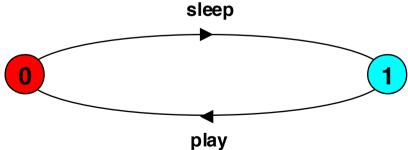
Concurrency: safety &

### **Progress - action priority**



Action priority simplifies the resulting LTS by discarding lower priority actions from choices.





#### 7.4 Congested single lane bridge

```
progress BLUECROSS = {blue[ID].enter}
progress REDCROSS = {red[ID].enter}
```

BLUECROSS - eventually one of the blue cars will be able to enter

**REDCROSS** - eventually one of the red cars will be able to enter

# Congestion using action priority?

Could give red cars priority over blue (or vice versa)? In practice neither has priority over the other.

Instead we merely encourage congestion by lowering the priority of the exit actions of both cars from the bridge.

```
||CongestedBridge = (SingleLaneBridge)
>>{red[ID].exit,blue[ID].exit}.
```



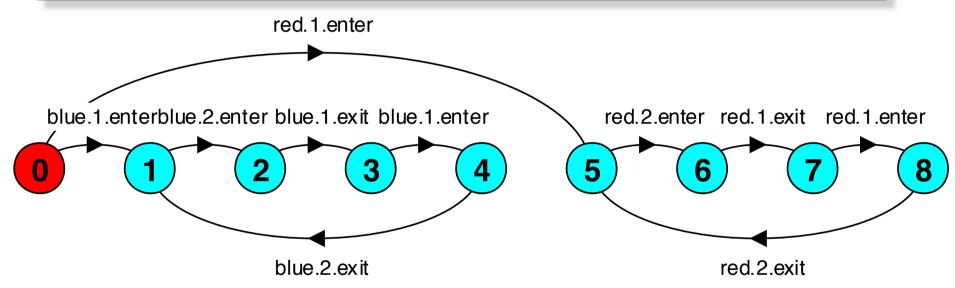
# Progress Analysis? LTS?

#### congested single lane bridge model

```
Progress violation: BLUECROSS
Path to terminal set of states:
     red.1.enter
     red.2.enter
Actions in terminal set:
{red.1.enter, red.1.exit, red.2.enter, red
2.exit, red.3.enter, red.3.exit}
Progress violation: REDCROSS
Path to terminal set of states:
     blue.1.enter
     blue.2.enter
Actions in terminal set:
{blue.1.enter, blue.1.exit, blue.2.enter,
blue.2.exit, blue.3.enter, blue.3.exit}
```

This corresponds with the observation that, with *more than* one car, it is possible that whichever color car enters the bridge first will continuously occupy the bridge preventing the other color from ever crossing.

#### congested single lane bridge model



Will the results be the same if we model congestion by giving car entry to the bridge high priority?

Can congestion occur if there is only one car moving in each direction?

# Progress - revised single lane bridge model

The bridge needs to know whether or not cars are waiting to cross.

# Modify CAR:

```
CAR = (request->enter->exit->CAR).
```

# Modify BRIDGE:

Red cars are only allowed to enter the bridge if there are no blue cars on the bridge and there are no blue cars waiting to enter the bridge.

Blue cars are only allowed to enter the bridge if there are no red cars on the bridge and there are no red cars waiting to enter the bridge.

## Progress - revised single lane bridge model

```
/* nr- number of red cars on the bridge wr - number of red cars waiting to enter
  nb-number of blue cars on the bridge wb - number of blue cars waiting to enter
*/
BRIDGE = BRIDGE[0][0][0],
BRIDGE[nr:T][nb:T][wr:T][wb:T] =
  (red[ID].request -> BRIDGE[nr][nb][wr+1][wb]
  | when (nb==0 \&\& wb==0)
     red[ID].enter -> BRIDGE[nr+1][nb][wr-1][wb]
  |red[ID].exit -> BRIDGE[nr-1][nb][wr][wb]
  |blue[ID].request -> BRIDGE[nr][nb][wr][wb+1]
  |when (nr==0 && wr==0)
     blue[ID].enter -> BRIDGE[nr][nb+1][wr][wb-1]
  |blue[ID].exit -> BRIDGE[nr][nb-1][wr][wb]
```

## Progress - analysis of revised single lane bridge model

```
Trace to DEADLOCK:
    red.1.request
    red.2.request
    red.3.request
    blue.1.request
    blue.2.request
    blue.3.request
```

The trace is the scenario in which there are cars waiting at both ends, and consequently, the bridge does not allow either red or blue cars to enter.

#### Solution?

Introduce some asymmetry in the problem (cf. Dining philosophers).

This takes the form of a boolean variable (bt) which breaks the deadlock by indicating whether it is the turn of blue cars or red cars to enter the bridge.

Arbitrarily set bt to true initially giving blue initial precedence.

# **Progress - 2 nd revision of single lane bridge model**

```
const True = 1
                                         → Analysis?
const False = 0
range B = False..True
/* bt - true indicates blue turn, false indicates red turn */
BRIDGE = BRIDGE[0][0][0][0][True],
BRIDGE[nr:T][nb:T][wr:T][wb:T][bt:B] =
  (red[ID].request -> BRIDGE[nr][nb][wr+1][wb][bt]
  | when (nb==0 \&\& (wb==0 | | !bt))
     red[ID].enter -> BRIDGE[nr+1][nb][wr-1][wb][bt]
  |red[ID].exit -> BRIDGE[nr-1][nb][wr][wb][True]
  |blue[ID].request -> BRIDGE[nr][nb][wr][wb+1][bt]
  | when (nr==0 \&\& (wr==0 | |bt))
     blue[ID].enter -> BRIDGE[nr][nb+1][wr][wb-1][bt]
  |blue[ID].exit -> BRIDGE[nr][nb-1][wr][wb][False]
```

#### Revised single lane bridge implementation - FairBridge

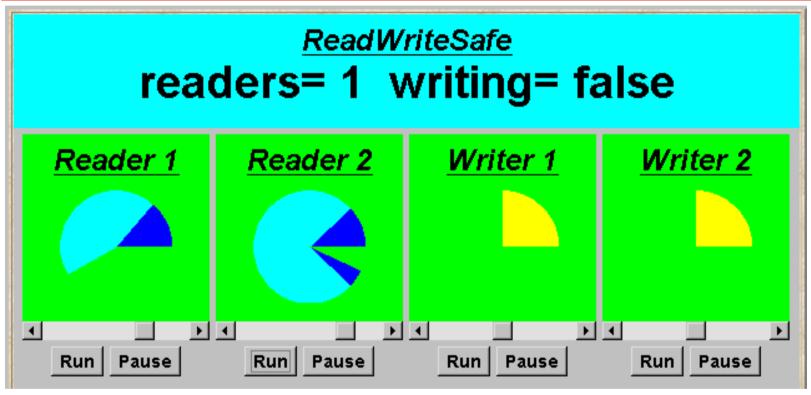
```
class FairBridge extends Bridge {
  private int nred = 0; //count of red cars on the bridge
  private int nblue = 0; //count of blue cars on the bridge
  private int waitblue = 0; //count of waiting blue cars
  private int waitred = 0;  //count of waiting red cars
  private boolean blueturn = true;
  synchronized void redEnter()
      throws InterruptedException {
    ++waitred:
    while (nblue>0||(waitblue>0 && blueturn)) wait();
    --waitred:
    ++nred;
                                                This is a direct
                                                translation from
  synchronized void redExit(){
                                                the model.
    --nred:
    blueturn = true;
    if (nred==0) notifyAll();
```

## Revised single lane bridge implementation - FairBridge

```
synchronized void blueEnter() {
    throws InterruptedException {
  ++waitblue:
  while (nred>0||(waitred>0 && !blueturn)) wait();
  --waitblue:
  ++nblue:
                                              The "fair" check
                                             box must be
synchronized void blueExit() {
                                             chosen in order to
  --nblue;
                                             select the
  blueturn = false;
                                             FairBridge
  if (nblue==0) notifyAll();
                                              implementation.
```

Note that we did not need to introduce a new request monitor method. The existing enter methods can be modified to increment a wait count before testing whether or not the caller can access the bridge.

#### 7.5 Readers and Writers



A shared database is accessed by two kinds of processes. Readers execute transactions that examine the database while Writers both examine and update the database. A Writer must have exclusive access to the database; any number of Readers may concurrently access it.

Light blue

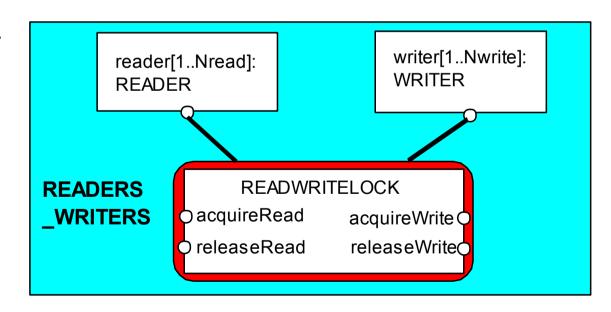
indicates

database

access.

#### readers/writers model

- Events or actions of interest?
   acquireRead, releaseRead, acquireWrite, releaseWrite
- ◆ Identify processes.
  Readers, Writers & the RW\_Lock
- ◆ Identify properties.RW\_SafeRW\_Progress
- Define each process and interactions (structure).



#### readers/writers model - READER & WRITER

```
set Actions =
  {acquireRead, releaseRead, acquireWrite, releaseWrite}

READER = (acquireRead->examine->releaseRead->READER)
  + Actions
  \ {examine}.

WRITER = (acquireWrite->modify->releaseWrite->WRITER)
  + Actions
  \ {modify}.
```

Alphabet extension is used to ensure that the other access actions cannot occur freely for any prefixed instance of the process (as before).

Action hiding is used as actions examine and modify are not relevant for access synchronisation.

### readers/writers model - RW LOCK

```
The lock
const False = 0 const True = 1
                                     maintains a
range Bool = False..True
const Nread = 2  // Maximum readers
                                     count of the
const Nwrite= 2 // Maximum writers
                                     number of
                                     readers, and
                                     a Boolean for
RW LOCK = RW[0][False],
RW[readers:0..Nread][writing:Bool] =
                                     the writers.
    (when (!writing)
        acquireRead -> RW[readers+1][writing]
    |when (readers==0 && !writing)
        acquireWrite -> RW[readers][True]
```

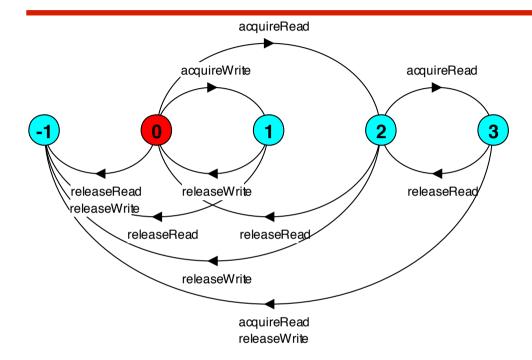
#### readers/writers model - safety

We can check that RW\_LOCK satisfies the safety property.....

```
||READWRITELOCK = (RW_LOCK || SAFE_RW).
```



#### readers/writers model



An ERROR occurs if a reader or writer is badly behaved (release before acquire or more than two readers).

We can now compose the READWRITELOCK with READER and WRITER processes according to our structure.

## readers/writers - progress

```
progress WRITE = {writer[1..Nwrite].acquireWrite}
progress READ = {reader[1..Nread].acquireRead}
```

WRITE - eventually one of the writers will acquireWrite

**READ** - eventually one of the readers will acquireRead

# Adverse conditions using action priority?

we lower the priority of the release actions for both readers and writers.

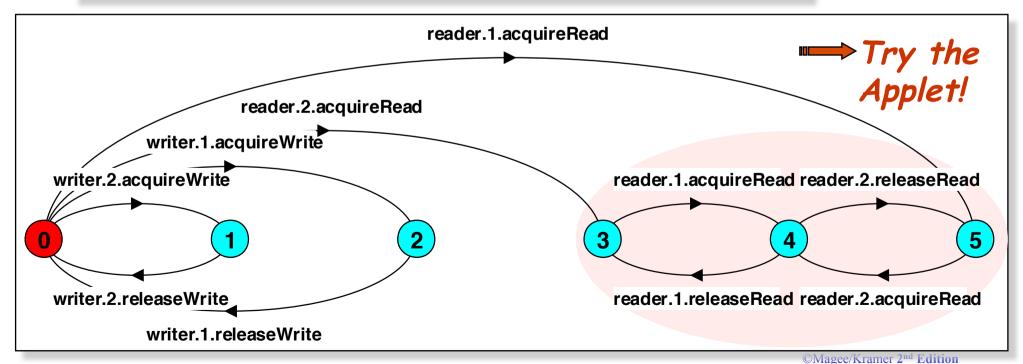
```
| | RW_PROGRESS = READERS_WRITERS
| >>{reader[1..Nread].releaseRead,
| writer[1..Nwrite].releaseWrite}.
```

# Progress Analysis? LTS?

### readers/writers model - progress

```
Progress violation: WRITE
Path to terminal set of states:
    reader.1.acquireRead
Actions in terminal set:
{reader.1.acquireRead, reader.1.releaseRead, reader.2.acquireRead, reader.2.releaseRead}
```

# Writer starvation: The number of readers never drops to zero.



#### readers/writers implementation - monitor interface

We concentrate on the monitor implementation:

```
interface ReadWrite {
    public void acquireRead()
        throws InterruptedException;
    public void releaseRead();
    public void acquireWrite()
        throws InterruptedException;
    public void releaseWrite();
}
```

We define an interface that identifies the monitor methods that must be implemented, and develop a number of alternative implementations of this interface.

Firstly, the safe READWRITELOCK.

#### readers/writers implementation - ReadWriteSafe

```
class ReadWriteSafe implements ReadWrite {
 private int readers =0;
  private boolean writing = false;
  public synchronized void acquireRead()
             throws InterruptedException {
    while (writing) wait();
    ++readers;
  public synchronized void releaseRead() {
    --readers;
    if (readers==0) notify();
```

Unblock a single writer when no more readers.

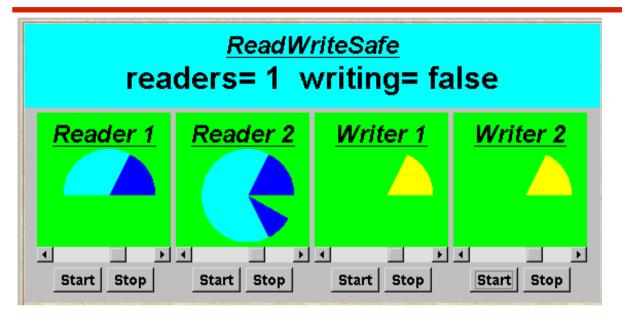
#### readers/writers implementation - ReadWriteSafe

#### Unblock all readers

However, this monitor implementation suffers from the WRITE progress problem: possible writer starvation if the number of readers never drops to zero.

Solution?

#### readers/writers - writer priority



## Strategy:

Block readers if there is a writer waiting.

#### readers/writers model - writer priority

Safety and Progress Analysis?

#### readers/writers model - writer priority

#### property RW\_SAFE:

```
No deadlocks/errors
```

#### progress READ and WRITE:

```
Progress violation: READ

Path to terminal set of states:
    writer.1.requestWrite
    writer.2.requestWrite

Actions in terminal set:
{writer.1.requestWrite, writer.1.acquireWrite, writer.1.releaseWrite, writer.2.requestWrite, writer.2.acquireWrite, writer.2.releaseWrite}

Reader starvation:
if always a writer
waiting.
```

In practice, this may be satisfactory as is usually more read access than write, and readers generally want the most up to date information.

Concurrency: safety & liveness properties

#### readers/writers implementation - ReadWritePriority

```
class ReadWritePriority implements ReadWrite{
  private int readers =0;
  private boolean writing = false;
  private int waitingW = 0; // no of waiting Writers.
  public synchronized void acquireRead()
             throws InterruptedException {
    while (writing || waitingW>0) wait();
     ++readers;
  public synchronized void releaseRead() {
    --readers;
    if (readers==0) notifyAll();
```

May also be readers waiting

#### readers/writers implementation - ReadWritePriority

```
synchronized public void acquireWrite()
               throws InterruptedException {
    ++waitingW;
    while (readers>0 || writing) wait();
    --waitingW;
    writing = true;
  synchronized public void releaseWrite() {
    writing = false;
   notifyAll();
```

Both READ and WRITE progress properties can be satisfied by introducing a turn variable as in the Single Lane Bridge.

## **Summary**

- ◆ Concepts
  - properties: true for every possible execution
  - safety: nothing bad happens
  - liveness: something good eventually happens
- ◆ Models
  - safety: no reachable ERROR/STOP state

compose safety properties at appropriate stages

• progress: an action is eventually executed

fair choice and action priority

apply progress check on the final target system model

- ◆ Practice
  - threads and monitors

Aim: property satisfaction