

1) (3 points) Repeat assignment 4.b, except that now you shall use a bounded buffer of length BUF\_LEN (i.e. when you allocate a shared memory, it should have a size of BUF\_LEN for the array). Define that length in a macro (with a value of 10), but make sure I can change that value if I wish to.

```
#define BUF_LEN 10
```

2) (4 points) Repeat assignment 4.b, except that now the two processes shall communicate using ordinary pipes.

3) (8 points)

Write a program that uses a multi-threaded (for speedup) Monte-Carlo simulation to estimate the probability of two students in our class having the same birthday.

Your program's main routine shall create 4 worker threads in order to speedup the computation (you may name the common routine "void\* WorkerThread(void\* pvar)" and **use a shared variable (an integer) as well as synchronization primitives (e.g. a semaphore)**).

Each thread shall perform a number of trials/experiments NUM\_TRIALS=100,000 (defined as a macro), in which it creates a list of n random numbers, passed to your program as a parameter (in our case test with n=23 and n=49), each has a value between 0 and 364 representing each person's birthday within the year. If (at least) two of them coincide, the thread increments a **shared** variable nhits by 1 (for each trial). The shared variable holds the total number of times the experiments/trials succeeded (i.e. 2 or more students had a matching birthday).

Use 4 threads, thus the total number of trials is 4\*NUM\_TRIALS. When all threads complete, we shall calculate and output the probability as:

```
nhits / (4*NUM_TRIALS)
```

For a class of 49 students, we expect the number to be about 97%, for 23 students, it should be about 50% ([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Birthday\\_problem](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Birthday_problem)).

### Some useful notes:

- Each thread may seed the random number and use its own state so it won't match the other thread's state, and thus each thread may have a different sequence of random numbers, for example:

```
unsigned int rand_state = (unsigned int) time(NULL) + pthread_self();
```
- You need to use rand\_r() to generate the random numbers and not rand(), for example:

```
rand_r(&rand_state)
```
- Note that you will need to use the -pthread option with gcc in order to link the pthread library.