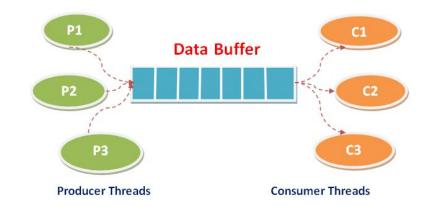


Lecture 6:

Inter-process Communication and Synchronization: Part 2: Classical Synchronization Problems







Outline

- Classical Synchronization Problems
 - Producer-Consumer Problem
 - Dining Philosophers Problem
- A Formal Model of Deadlock
 - Resource Allocation Graphs (RAG)



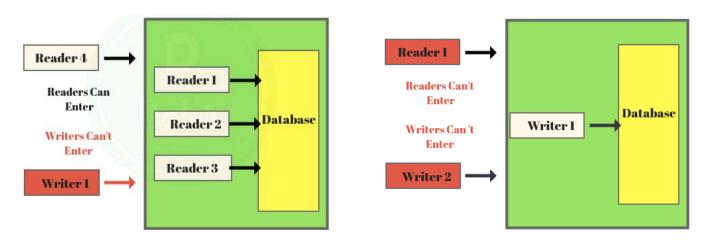
Classical Synchronization Problems

- Producer-Consumer Problem
 - also known as the bounded-buffer problem
- Dining Philosophers Problem
 - allocation of limited resources to a group of processes in a deadlock-free and starvation-free manner
- Readers and Writers Problem (Not discussed)
 - Database: multiple threads read/update
- Sleeping Barber Problem (Not discussed)



Readers Writers Problem

- Any number of readers can <u>read</u> from the shared resource <u>simultaneously</u>, but only <u>one writer</u> can write to the shared resource.
- When a writer is writing data to the resource, no other process can access the resource.
- A writer cannot write to the resource if there are <u>non zero</u> <u>number of readers</u> accessing the resource at that time.

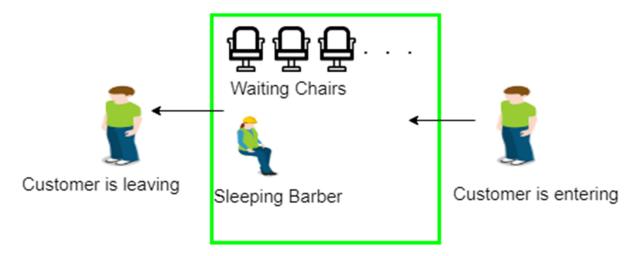


https://prepinsta.com/operating-systems/readers-writers-problem/https://course.ccs.neu.edu/cs3650sp20/Labs/7/reader_writer.chttps://shivammitra.com/reader-writer-problem-in-c/#



Sleeping Barber problem

- Barber shop with one barber, one barber chair and N chairs to wait in.
- When no customers the barber goes to sleep in <u>barber</u> <u>chair</u> and must be woken when a customer comes in.
- When barber is cutting hair new customers take empty seats to wait, or leave if no vacancy.



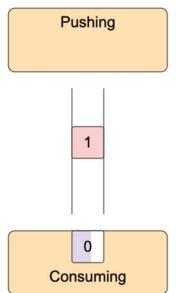
https://github.com/tonyjmartinez/Sleeping-Barber/blob/master/mybarber.c https://learningcomputersciencemadeeasy.wordpress.com/2017/04/08/sleeping-barber-problem-code-in-c/



Producer-Consumer Problems (bounded-buffer problem)

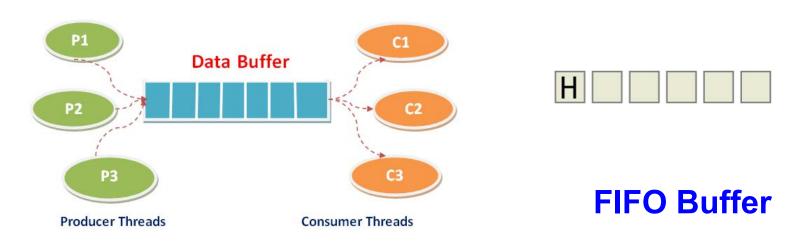
The problem is to make sure that the <u>producer</u> won't try to add data into the buffer if it's full and that the <u>consumer</u> won't try to remove data from an <u>empty buffer</u>.

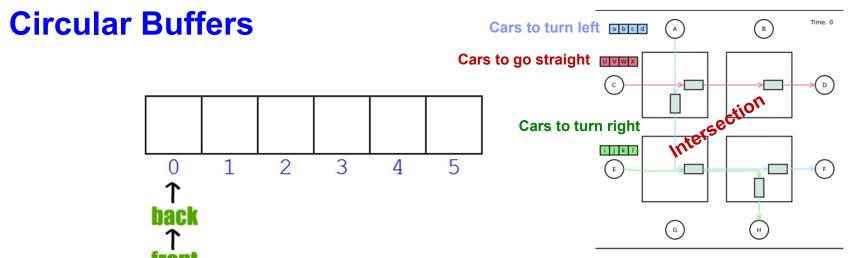
- Use pthread_mutex_lock() and pthread_mutex_unlock() to enforce mutual exclusion for the critical sections modifying the queue.
- Use two counting semaphores "full" and "empty" to keep track of the current number of full and empty buffers respectively.



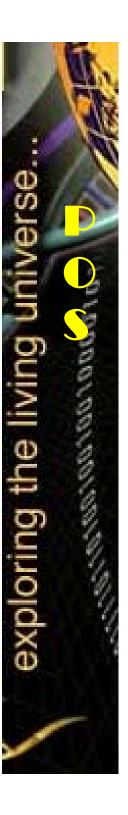


Producer-Consumer Problems (bounded-buffer problem)





Traffic control



Bounded-Buffer Problemusing Counting Semaphores

Producer: keep moving items to the buffer.

Consumer: keep removing items from the buffer.

Buffer: N entries.

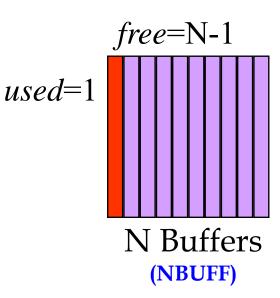
Because the buffer has a maximum size, this problem is often called the bounded buffer problem.

Our assumption: you can put an item in any empty slot, or remove item from any slot.)



Bounded-Buffer Problem (with one producer + one consumer)

- Binary semaphore:
 - mutex -- for mutual exclusion.
 - Initially mutex = 1
- Counting semaphores:
 - free -- no. of empty buffers.
 - Initially, free = N
 - **used** --- no. of used buffers.
 - Initially, used = 0



/* initialize semaphores in a *Pthreads* program*/

```
/* initialize three semaphores */
sem_init (&shared.mutex, 0, 1);
sem_init (&shared.nempty, 0, NBUFF);
sem_init (&shared.nstored, 0, 0);
```



Bounded-Buffer Problem (code analysis)

```
Code for producer
repeat
   Produce an item in nextp;
   P(free); /* synchronization */
   P(mutex)
   Add nextp to buffer;
   V(<u>mutex</u>);
```

V(*used*);

until false;

```
Code for consumer
repeat
   P(<u>used</u>); /* synchronization
   P(mutex)
   Remove one item from
      buffer to nextc;
   V(<u>mutex</u>);
   V(free);
   consume the item in nextc;
until false;
```



Bounded-Buffer Problem (code analysis)

Code for producer Code for consumer repeat repeat P(used); /* synchronization Produce an item in nextp; P(free); /* synchronization Remove one item from buffer to nextc; P(mutex) Add nextp to buffe ; V(free); **Critical** section V(mutex); consume the item in nextc; V(used);

until false;

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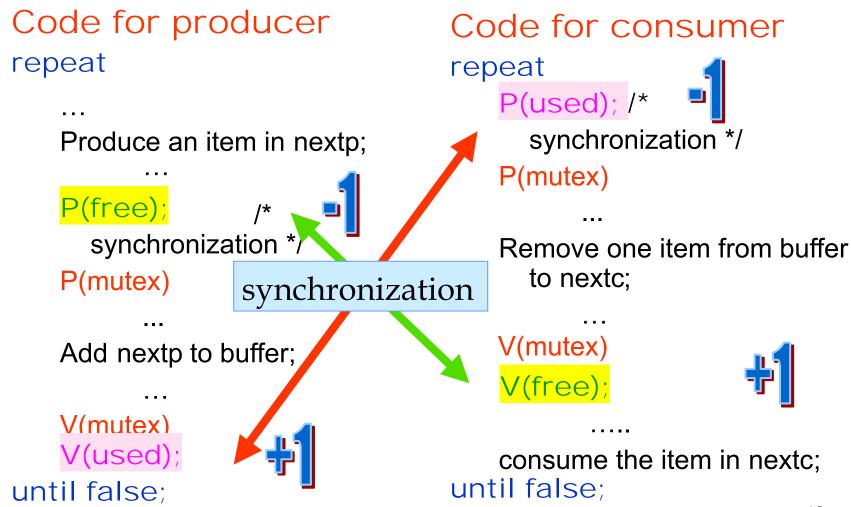
until false;



Bounded-Buffer Problem

(code analysis)

Initially, free = 4, used = 0





Bounded-Buffer Problem

(when to stop producer?)

Code for producer If $free=0 \rightarrow$ "no more repeat empty space" in buffer Then wait!! Produce an item in nextp: P(free); /* synchronization */ P(mutex) In V(used), used=used+1; Add nextp to buffer; Wakeup one "consumer" process who was blocked V(mutex); because Buffer is empty (i.e., V(used); C more produced used=0until false; who is wanting for it 13



The bounded buffer problem: single CPU A buffer with 4 entries (free=4, used=0 initially)

Consumer thread action	Producer thread action	Free	Used
Thread starts	Thread inactive (not scheduled)	4	0
P(Used) blocks. Suspended.		4	0
wait in semaphore queue (Used)	P(Free) flows through	3	0
wait in semaphore queue (Used)	Item Added. V(Used)	3	>1
Consumer wakes up → Ready queue	P(Free) flows through	2	1
ready queue (not running)	Item Added. V(Used)	2	>>2
ready queue (not running)	P(Free) flows through	>1	2
ready queue (not running)	Item Added. V(Used)	1	>3
ready queue (not running) tin	P(Free) flows through	>0	3
ready queue (not running)	Item Added. V(Used)	,70	>4
ready queue (not running)	P(Free) blocks. Suspended	0	4
Context switch→ P(Used) completes	wait in semaphore queue (Free)	0	3
Item Removed. V(Free)	wait in semaphore queue (Free)	1	3
P(Used) flows through	➤ Producer wakes up → Ready queue	1	2
Item Removed. V(Free)	ready queue (not running)	2	2
P(Used) flows through	ready queue (not running)	2	1
Item Removed. V(Free)	ready queue (not running)	3	1
P(Used) flows through	ready queue (not running)	3	0
Item Removed. V(Free)	ready queue (not running)	4	0
P(Used) blocks. Suspended	ready queue (not running)	4	0

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Producer-consumer in pthreads and semaphore

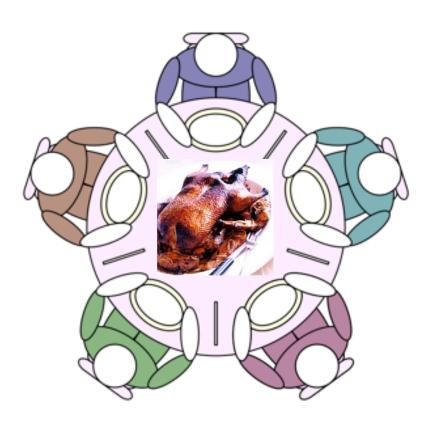
```
/* main.c */
                                                             /* Producer Thread */
                                         Producer
    #include <stdlib.h>
                                                            void *producer(void *param) {
                                                                                                                          Full=3
    #include <stdio.h>
                                                               buffer item item;
    #include <pthread.h>
                                                                                                                          Empty=2
   #include <semaphore.h>
                                                               while(TRUE) {
    #include "buffer.h"
                                                                   /* sleep for a random period of time */
                                                                   int rNum = rand() / RAND DIVISOR;
    #define RAND DIVISOR 100000000
                                                                 sleep(rNum);
    #define TRUE 1
                                                                   /* generate a random number */
    /* The mutex lock */
                                                                  item = rand();
                                    Mutex
   pthread mutex t mutex;
                                                   Blocked if empty=0
                                                                   /* acquire the empty lock */
    /* the semaphores */
                                                                  sem_wait(&empty);
                                                                                                      empty
                                    Semaphores
    sem_t full, empty;
                                                                   /* acquire the mutex lock *
                                                                  pthread mutex lock(&mutex);
                                                                                                                  Consumer
   /* the buffer */
                                      buffer
   buffer item buffer[BUFFER SIZE];
                                                                  if(insert item(item)) {
                                                                     fprintf(stderr,
                                                                                       /* Consumer Thread */
    /* buffer counter */
                                          Use mutex lock to
                                                                                       void *consumer(void *param) {
    int counter;
                                                                   else {
                                                                                          buffer item item;
                                      protect critical section
                                                                      printf("producer
   pthread_t tid;
                        //Thread ID
                                                                                          while(TRUE) {
    pthread_attr_t attr; //Set of thread attributes
                                                                   /* release the mute
                                                                                             /* sleep for a random period of time */
                                                                  pthread mutex unlock
                                                                                            int rNum = rand() / RAND_DIVISOR;
   void *producer(void *param); /* the producer thread */
                                                                   /* signal full🎉/
                                                                                             sleep(rNum);
   void *consumer(void *param); /* the consumer thread */
                                                                  sem_post(&full);
                                                                                                abuire the full lock
   void initializeData() {
                                                                                             sem wait(&full);
                                                                                             /* aquire the mutex lock
       /* Create the mutex lock */
                                                                                            pthread mutex lock(&mutex);
       pthread_mutex_init(&mutex, NULL);
                                                                                             if(remove_item(&item)) {
                                                                                                fprintf(stderr, "Consumer report error c
       /* Create the full semaphore and initialize to 0 */
                                                                     Use mutex lock to
       sem init(&full, 0, 0);
                                                                                            else {
                                                                 protect critical section
                                                                                                printf("consumer consumed %d\n", item);
       /* Create the empty semaphore and initialize to BUFFER_SIZE */
       sem init(&empty, 0, BUFFER_SIZE);
                                                                                              (* release the mutex lock */
                                           Semaphore initialization
                                                                                         pthread_mutex_unlock(&mutex);
       /* Get the default attributes */
                                                                                             /∜ signal emptv */
       pthread attr init(&attr);
                                                                                             sem post(&emptv)
                                                                                                                       empty
       /* init buffer */
       counter = 0;
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```

```
czhong@workbench:~/snippets$ gcc T4-pcp-2.c -o pcp -pthread
                  yczhong@workbench:~/snippets$ ./pcp
                                                                                       /* COMP3230 Sample Code: producer-consumer
                  Producer 1: Insert Item 1804289383 at 0
                                                                                          problem using mutex and counting semaphore
                  Producer 2: Insert Item 846930886 at 1
                  Producer 3: Insert Item 1681692777 at 2
                                                                                         with BufferSize=5, 5 producer, 5 consumers
                  Consumer 4: Remove Item 1804289383 from 0
                                                                                          File name: T4-pcp-2.c */
                  Producer 5: Insert Item 1957747793 at 3
                  Producer 1: Insert Item 424238335 at 4
                  Consumer 3: Remove Item 846930886 from 1
                  Producer 4: Insert Item 1714636915 at 0
                                                                                                                           #define MaxItems 5 // Max
                                                           void *producer(void *pno)
                  Consumer 1: Remove Item 1681692777 from 2
                                                                                                                           #define BufferSize 5 // S
                  Consumer 2: Remove Item 1957747793 from 3
                  Producer 3: Insert Item 1649760492 at 1
                                                                int item;
                  Consumer 5: Remove Item 424238335 from 4
                                                                for(int i = 0; i < MaxItems; i++) {
                                                                                                                            sem t empty;
                  Consumer 4: Remove Item 1714636915 from 0
                                                                    item = rand(); // Produce an random item
                  Producer 5: Insert Item 596516649 at 2
                                                                                                                           sem t full;
                  Producer 2: Insert Item 719885386 at 3
                                                                    sem wait(&empty);
                                                                                                                           int in = 0:
                  Consumer 3: Remove Item 1649760492 from 1
                                                                     pthread mutex lock(&mutex);
                                                                                                                           int out = 0;
                  Consumer 2: Remove Item 596516649 from 2
                                                                    buffer[in] = item;
                  Producer 1: Insert Item 1189641421 at 4
                                                                                                                           int buffer[BufferSize];
                  Producer 4: Insert Item 1025202362 at 0
                                                                    printf("Producer %d: Insert Item %d at %d
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                                                                                                                           pthread mutex t mutex;
                  Consumer 1: Remove Item 719885386 from 3
                                                                    in = (in+1)%BufferSize;
                  Producer 3: Insert Item 1350490027 at 1
                                                                    pthread mutex unlock(&mutex);
                  Producer 2: Insert Item 1102520059 at 2
                  Consumer 3: Remove Item 1189641421 from 4
                                                                    sem post(&full);
                                                                                                          void *consumer(void *cno)
                  Consumer 4: Remove Item 1025202362 from 0
                  Producer 5: Insert Item 783368690 at 3
                  Producer 5: Insert Item 304089172 at 4
                                                                                                               for(int i = 0; i < MaxItems; i++) {
                  Consumer 3: Remove Item 1350490027 from 1
                                                                                                                   sem wait(&full);
                  Producer 1: Insert Item 2044897763 at 0
                                                                                                                    pthread mutex lock(&mutex);
                  Consumer 5: Remove Item 1102520059 from 2
                                                                                                                    int item = buffer[out];
                  Consumer 4: Remove Item 783368690 from 3
                                                                      int main()
                                                                                                                    printf("Consumer %d: Remove Item %d from
                  Producer 2: Insert Item 1540383426 at 1
                  Producer 4: Insert Item 1967513926 at 2
                                                                                                                    out = (out+1)%BufferSize;
                  Producer 3: Insert Item 1365180540 at 3
                                                                        pthread_t pro[5],con[5];
                                                                                                                   pthread mutex unlock(&mutex);
                  Consumer 5: Remove Item 304089172 from 4
                                                                        pthread_mutex_init(&mutex, NULl
                                                                                                                    sem post(&empty);
                  Consumer 4: Remove Item 2044897763 from 0
                                                                        sem_init(&empty,0,BufferSize);
                  Producer 5: Insert Item 1303455736 at 4
                                                                        sem_init(&full,0,0);
                  Producer 1: Insert Item 35005211 at 0
                  Consumer 5: Remove Item 1540383426 from 1
                  Consumer 5: Remove Item 1967513926 from 2
                                                                        int a[5] = {1,2,3,4,5}; //Just used for numbering the producer and consumer
                  Producer 2: Insert Item 521595368 at 1
                                                                        for(int i = 0; i < 5; i++) { pthread_create(&pro[i], NULL, (void *)producer, (void *)&a[i]); }
                  Consumer 2: Remove Item 1365180540 from 3
                                                                        for(int i = 0; i < 5; i++) { pthread_create(&con[i], NULL, (void *)consumer, (void *)&a[i]); }
                  Consumer 1: Remove Item 1303455736 from 4
                                                                        for(int i = 0; i < 5; i++) {pthread join(pro[i], NULL); }
                  Producer 4: Insert Item 294702567 at 2
                                                                        for(int i = 0; i < 5; i++) {pthread join(con[i], NULL); }
                  Producer 4: Insert Item 336465782 at 3
                  Consumer 1: Remove Item 35005211 from 0
                                                                        pthread_mutex_destroy(&mutex);
                  Consumer 2: Remove Item 521595368 from 1
                                                                        sem destroy(&empty);
                  Producer 3: Insert Item 1726956429 at 4
                                                                        sem destroy(&full);
                  Consumer 1: Remove Item 294702567 from 2
                                                                                                        You can try this on workbench
                                                                        return 0;
                  Consumer 3: Remove Item 336465782 from 3
                  Consumer 2: Remove Item 1726956429 from 4
                   czhong@workbench:~/snippets$
```



Dining Philosophers Problem

5 philosophers seated around a circular table. There is one chopstick between each philosopher. A philosopher can eat if he can pickup the two chopsticks adjacent to him. The major issues are *deadlock* and *starvation*

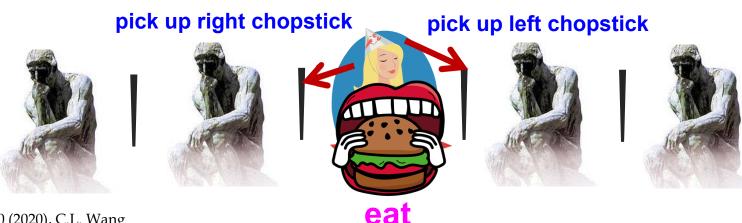


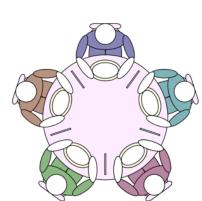
- 1. Philosophers sit around a circular table.
- 2. Each philosopher spends his life alternatively thinking and eating.
- 3. Only able to eat when he holds both the left and right chopsticks.



Solution 1

- Each philosopher performs repeatedly;
 - Think;
 - pick up one (right) chopstick;
 - pick up another (left);
 - eat;
 - put down one (right);
 - putdown another (left);
- Rule: when a philosopher cannot pick up a chopstick, he/she must wait until the chopstick becomes available.







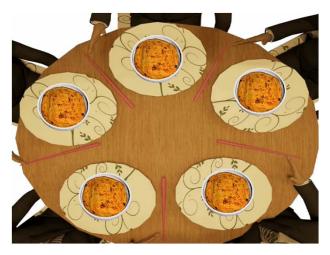
Problem: Deadlock

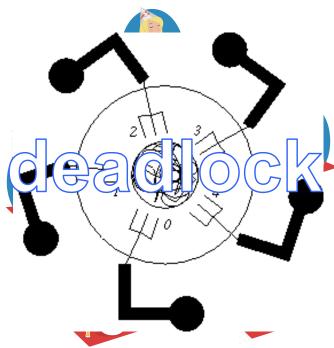
Each philosopher performs repeatedly;



- pick up one (right) chopstick;
- pick up another (left);
- eat;
- put down one (right);
- putdown another (left);

Problem: When every philosopher picks up one (left) chopstick at the same time, the deadlock occurs.





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Solution 2

Each philosopher performs repeatedly;

```
think;
                                             sem trywait()
try: pick up the left chopstick;
    if the right chopstick is available
    then pick up the right;
    else put down the left chopstick;
          wait for some time;
                                           Fine, I am not hungry
          go to try;
                                           (I will drop my left chopstick)
    end if;
                       Sorry, I hold it
                                                    (3) Drop
eat;
                                   I hold it
put down left;
put down right;
                                       Right
```

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Left



sem_trywait in Tutorial 4

(resolve deadlock, but how about starvation?)

```
sem trywait returns 0 if the
while(isFull == 0)
                                                           semaphore value is
        sem wait(&left chopstick sem);
                                                           currently positive → pick
        printf("Philosopher(%d) picks up left chopstick\")
                                                           up right chopstick → start
        fflush(stdout);
        if(sem_trywait(&right_chopstick_sem) == 0)
                                                           eating!
                 t = time(NULL);
                printf("Philosopher(%d) picks up right chopstick\n", tid);
                 fflush(stdout);
                printf("\tPhilosopher(%d): eating... \n", tid);
                 fflush(stdout);
                                                        sem trywait returns immediately
                sleep(rand() % 15); // randomly slee
                                                        without blocking if unsuccessful
                printf("\tPhilosopher(%d): Yummy yum
                                                        (right chopstick has been taken) →
                 fflush(stdout);
                                                        put down left chopstick (by
                isFull = 1:
                                                        sem post())
                sem post(&right chopstick sem);
                printf("Philosopher(%d) puts down right chopstick\n", tid);
                fflush(stdout);
        sem post(&left chopstick sem);
        printf("Philosopher(%d) puts down left chopstick\n", tid);
        fflush(stdout);
```



Solution 2 Problem: Starvation

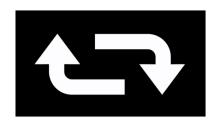
With little of bad luck, all philosophers could start simultaneously:

- 1. picking up their left chopstick;
- 2. seeing right chopstick is not available;
- 3. <u>putting down</u> their left chopstick;
- 4. waiting for the same amount of time;
- 5. picking up their left chopstick simultaneously;

.

Repeat above steps forever ...

(All threads are still busily running but make no progress!)















Solution 3

Each philosopher performs repeatedly:

think;

Atomic operation

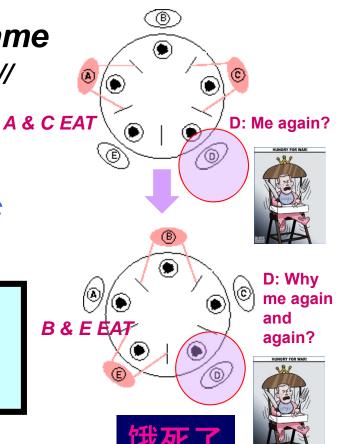
B & E EAT

pick up both chopsticks at the same time; // make it an Atomic operation //

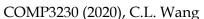
eat;

put down both chopsticks at the same time; // make it an Atomic operation //

Still Problem: Philosophers B & E, and A & C can alternate in a way that starves out philosopher D.

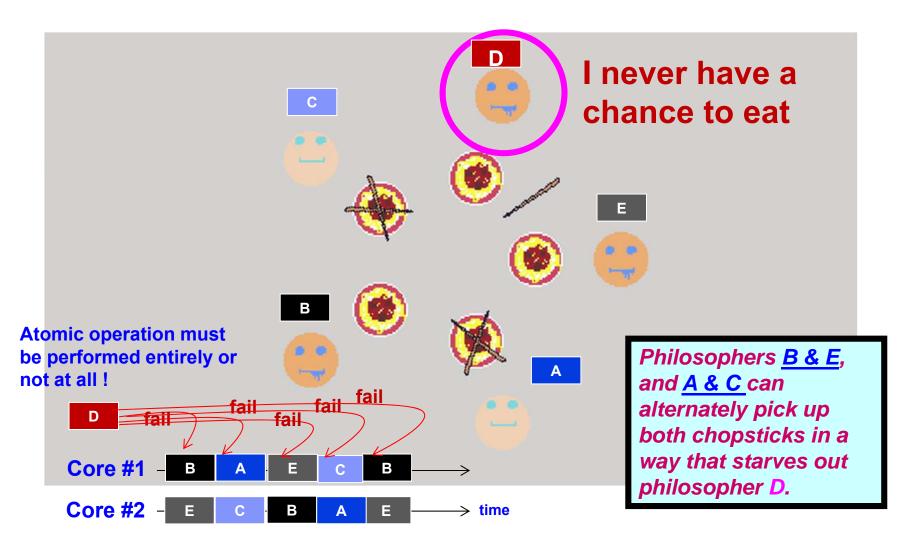






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Solution 3: Starvation (animation)





Starvation # Deadlock

- Starvation, also called Indefinitely postponed.
 - A situation in which a runnable process is overlooked indefinitely by the scheduler; although it is able to proceed, it is <u>never chosen</u>. This happens when shared resources are made unavailable for long periods by "greedy" threads (e.g., A+C and B+E).



Example: Philosophers B & E, and A & C can alternate in a way that starves out philosopher D (i.e., D is Indefinitely postponed).

Priority 4

Priority 3

Priority 2

Priority 1

Starved

Hunable processes

(Highest priority)

(Lowest priority)



Deadlock vs. Starvation

- Deadlock refers to the situation when threads/processes are stuck in circular waiting for the resources.
- Starvation occurs when a thread/process waits for a resource indefinitely.
 - E.g., due to the CPU scheduling algorithms (low priority processes not being scheduled to run) or your
 S.L implementation (e.g., using last-in-first-out)

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Deadlock implies starvation but starvation does not imply deadlock.



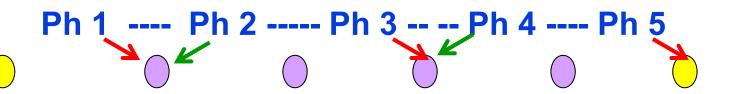
Solution 4: Break circular waiting by restricting resource access

Each odd-numbered ph performs repeatedly:

```
think;
pick up the left
pick up the right;
eat
put down the left
put down the right;
```

Each even-numbered ph performs repeatedly:

```
think;
pick up the right
pick up the left;
eat
put down the right
put down the left;
```

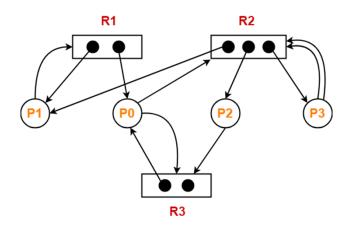


OK. No deadlock, No starvation



A Formal Model of Deadlock

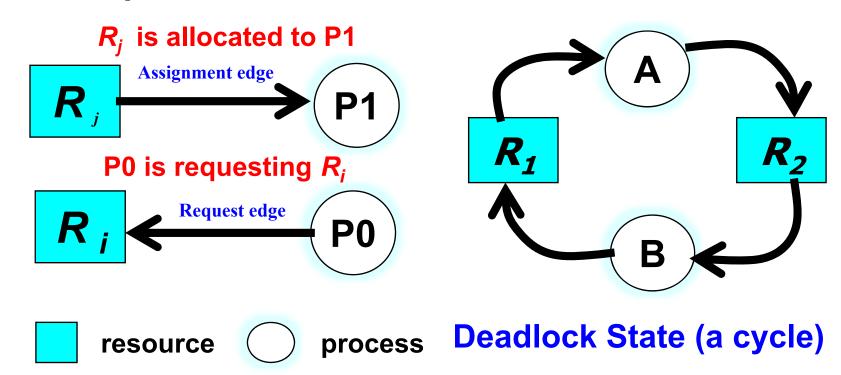
Resource Allocation Graphs (RAG)





Resource Allocation Graphs (RAG)

To represent resource allocation states



Deadlock description in terms of resource allocation graph (V, E), with V partitioned into two types of vertices:

 $P = P_1, P_2, P_3, ... P_n$ - set of active processes, and $R = R_1, R_2, ... R_m$ - set of all resource types.

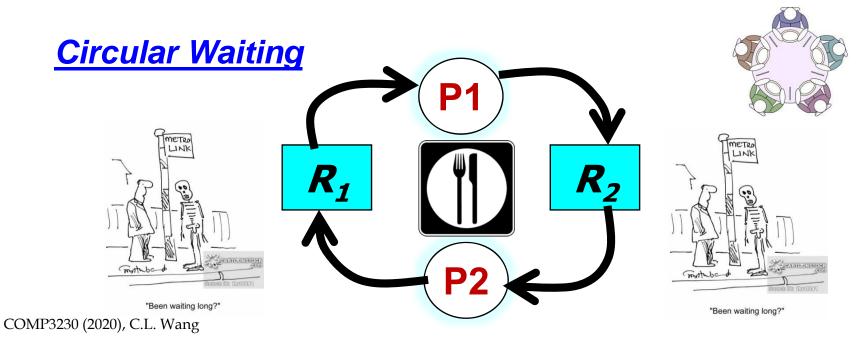
A directed edge $P_i \rightarrow R_i$ is called request edge.

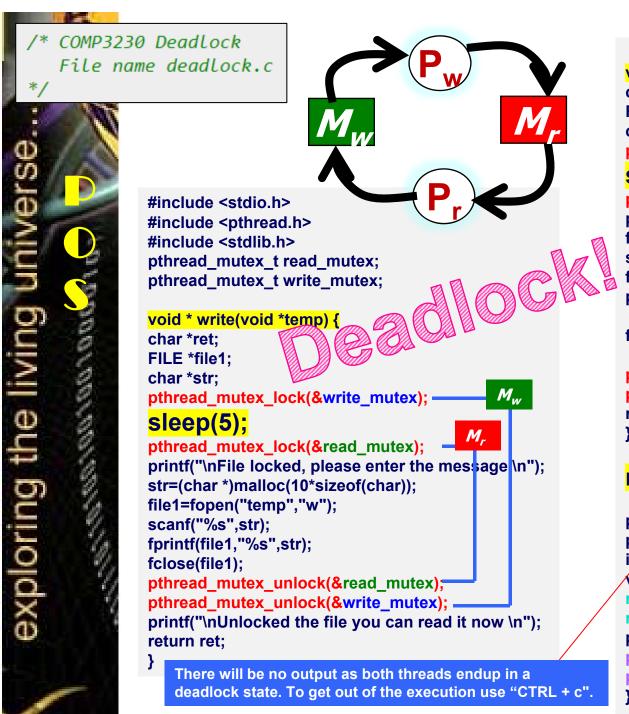
A directed edge $R_i \rightarrow P_i$ is called assignment edge.



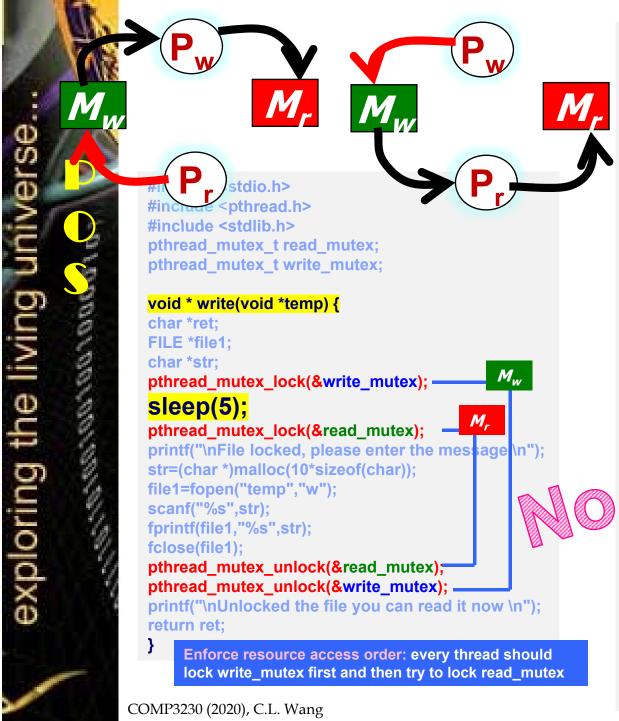
Deadlock Detection in RAG

- A situation in which two or more processes are unable to proceed because <u>each is waiting for</u> <u>one of the others</u> to do something. An example:
 - Process P1 requires additional resource R2 and is in possession of resource R1,
 - P2 requires additional resource R1 and is in possession of R2; neither process can continue





```
void * read(void *temp) {
char *ret:
FILE *file1;
char *str;
pthread mutex lock(&read mutex);
sleep(5):
pthread mutex lock(&write mutex);
                                           M_{w}
printf("\n Opening file \n");
file1=fopen("temp","r");
str=(char *)malloc(10*sizeof(char));
fscanf(file1,"%s",str);
printf("\n Message from file is %s \n",str);
fclose(file1);
pthread_mutex_unlock(&write_mutex);
pthread mutex unlock(&read mutex);
return ret;
main()
pthread t thread id, thread id1;
pthread attr t attr;
int ret;
void *res:
ret=pthread create(&thread id,NULL,&write,NULL);
ret=pthread create(&thread id1,NULL,&read,NULL);
printf("\n Created thread");
pthread join(thread id,&res);
pthread join(thread id1,&res);
```



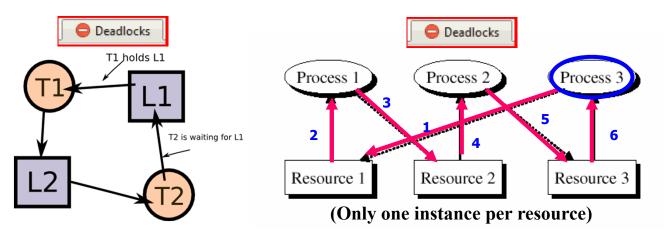
```
void * read(void *temp) {
char *ret:
FILE *file1;
char *str;
pthread_mutex_lock(&write_mutex);
sleep(5);
pthread mutex lock(&read mutex);
printf("\n Opening file \n");
file1=fopen("temp","r");
str=(char *)malloc(10*sizeof(char));
fscanf(file1,"%s",str);
printf("\n Message from file is %s \n",str);
fclose(file1);
pthread_mutex_unlock(&read_mutex);
pthread mutex unlock(&write mutex);
return ret;
main()
            read id,thread id1;
ptlifead attr t attr;
int ret:
void *res;
                    &thread id, NULL, & write, NULL);
ret=pthread creat
ret=pthread_create(&thread_id1,NULL.&read.NULL);
printf(Enforce Access Order
pthread join(thread id,&res);
pthread ioin(thread id1,&res);
```

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RAG and Deadlock

If each resource type has exactly one instance, a cycle in a RAG, if and only if deadlock occurs.

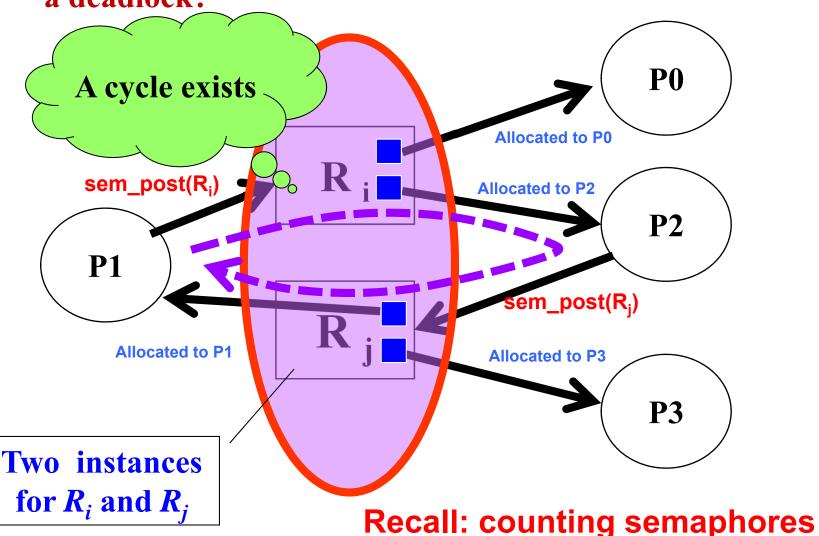


- If each resource type has multiple instances:
 - A cycle in RAG is a necessary, but not sufficient, condition for deadlock, i.e.:
 - If a deadlock occurs, you must find a cycle in a RAG.
 - If a cycle found in a RAG, there is not necessary a deadlock!!



Resource with multiple instance

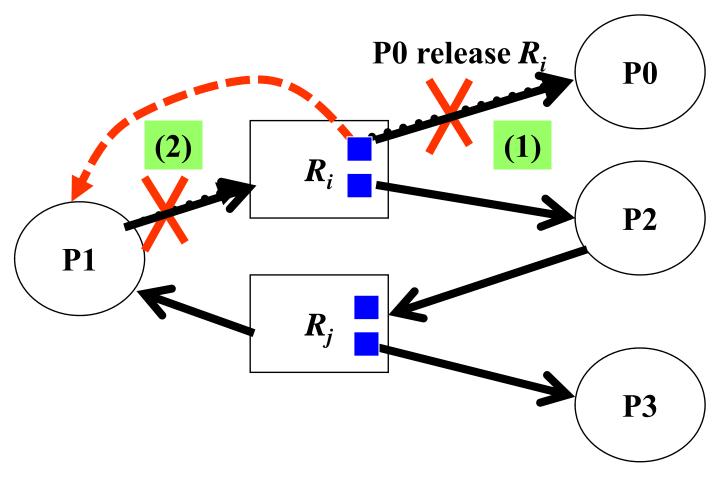
• Example: a Cycle found in a RAG, but is there a deadlock?





Why no deadlock?

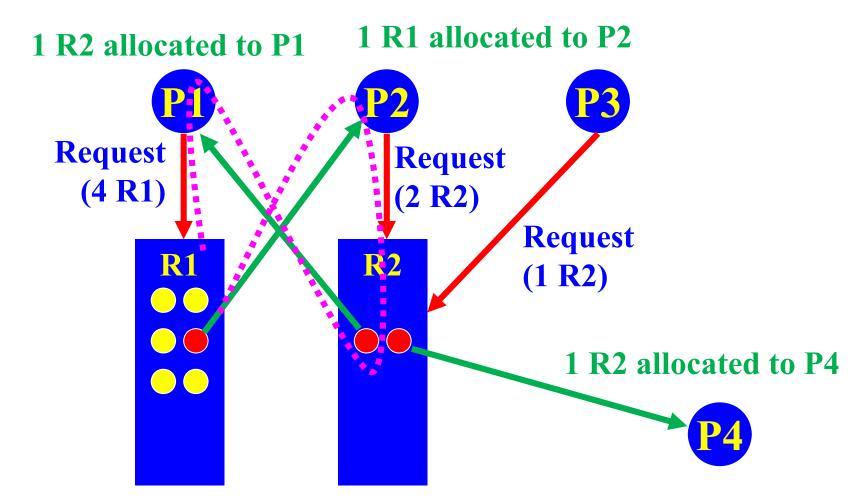
Why there is no deadlock?



P0 releases one R_i , then the released R_i instance can be assigned to P1 P3 eventually finished and R_j can be assigned to P1 \rightarrow P1 can complete



If the graph is "reducible" > System not deadlocked

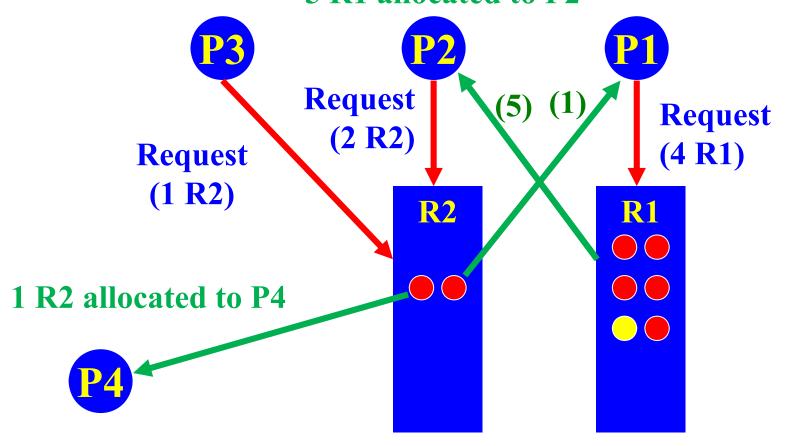


Can you find a cycle above? YES. But is it a deadlock?



Not reducible → system deadlocked

5 R1 allocated to P2 1 R2 allocated to P1



Can you find a cycle above? Try it yourself!



Reference (YouTube)

- Pthreads: Introduction
 - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ynCc-v0K-do
 - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GXXE42bkqQk&list=RDCMUCM nSzocL2Z5hhOJgILQF9oA&index=2
- Mutex Synchronization in Linux with Pthreads
 - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GXXE42bkqQk
- Bounded Buffer Demonstration
 - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RWyv14K1DpE
 - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NuvAjMk9bZ8
- Dining philosopher problem
 - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c99S9vkuN24
 - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0b0tEmRQJx0
 - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wD9nM7loabA
 - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rCiQc3ife90



Pthreads Sample Programs

- A simple pthreads program
 - http://gauss.ececs.uc.edu/Courses/c4029/code/pthreads/01-thread.c
- Multithreading in C
 - http://www.geeksforgeeks.org/multithreading-c-2/
- Multithreading in C, POSIX style
 - http://softpixel.com/~cwright/programming/threads/threads.c.php
- pthread_mutex_lock:
 - http://www.cs.kent.edu/~ruttan/sysprog/lectures/multi-thread/multithread.html#thread mutex whatis
- Pthreads and Semaphores
 - http://condor.depaul.edu/glancast/374class/docs/pthreads.html
- Implementing Semaphores Using pthreads
 - http://www.cs.ucsb.edu/~rich/class/cs170/notes/Semaphores/



Past Exam Questions

- (X) All the shared variables modified within a critical section are not readable by other threads until the thread leaves the critical section.
- (X) Semaphores (sem_wait/post()) are mechanisms provided by OS kernels, while pthread_mutex_lock/unlock() are library functions built on top of sem_wait() and sem_post().
- (X) An atomic instruction, such as testAndSet, can ensure mutual exclusion by itself alone, which are more powerful than those pure software-based solutions.
- (O) Critical section is <u>a piece of code</u> that only one thread can execute at a time, otherwise a race condition could happen.
- (X) An example of critical section is the code segment executed within the test_and_set operation.
- (O) A race condition is a situation in which more than one process or thread access a shared resource concurrently, and the result depends on the order of execution. (Sure, this is the definition)
- () A good solution to the critical section problem must satisfy three conditions: mutual exclusion, progress and bounded waiting.

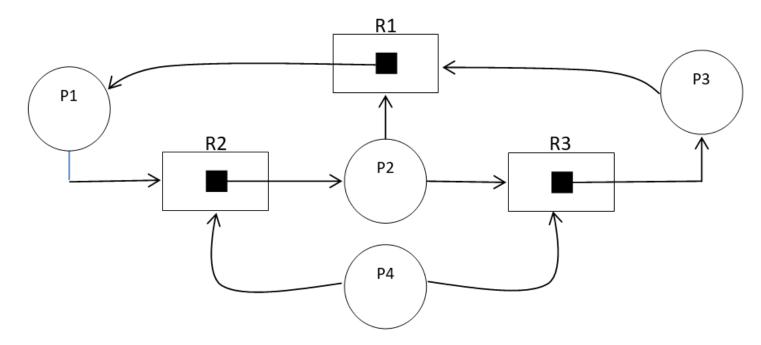
- 6. () Which of the following statements is **INCORRECT**? (2)
 - (1) A binary semaphore is equivalent to a lock.
 - (2) A semaphore implementation must use busy waiting (i.e. spinlock).
 - (3) A counting semaphore is initialized to an integer value k > 1.
 - (4) When a semaphore is probed, the testing and decrementing operations must be done atomically.
 - (5) None of the above (i.e., (1)-(4) are all incorrect).
- 7. () One solution to the Dining Philosophers problem which avoids deadlock is: (4)
 - (1) Non-preemptive scheduling.
 - (2) Ensuring that all philosophers pick up their left fork before they pick up their right fork.
 - (3) Ensuring that all philosophers pick up their right fork before they pick up their left fork.
 - (4) Ensuring that odd philosophers pick up their left fork before they pick up their right fork and even philosophers pick up their right fork before they pick up their left fork.
 - (5) None of the above (i.e., (1)-(4) are all incorrect.)



Past Exam Questions

Problem 4. Deadlock (10%)

- (a) Given the following resource allocation diagram. Is it in a deadlocked state? (2%)
- (b) If one more instance of resource **R1** is added, will it be in a deadlocked state? Explain why? (4%) [Note: You need to show the graph reduction steps to justify your answer.]
- (c) What if the newly added instance is **R3**? Is it in a deadlocked state? Explain why? (4%)



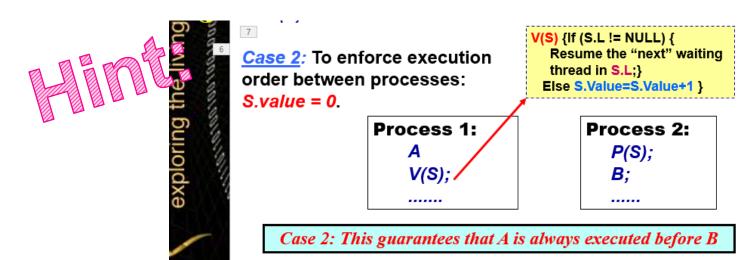


Problem 3. Process Synchronization (10%)

There are four processes (A, B, C, and D) running in a system. Process A should finish before process B starts, and process B should finish before either of processes C or D start. The $\underline{P()}$ and $\underline{V()}$ operations are given below. Show how these processes can use $\underline{\mathbf{TWO}}$ semaphores to provide the necessary synchronization. Note that you are required to set the initial values of the two semaphores.

```
P(S) { S.value--;
    if (S.value<0) {
        add this process to the waiting queue
        Sleep(); }}

V(S) { S.value++;
    if (S.value <= 0) {
        remove a process P from the waiting queue;
        Wakeup (P); }}</pre>
```





Self-test Questions

- Can a thread acquire more than one lock (Mutex)?
 - Yes, it is possible that a thread is in need of more than one resource, hence the locks. If any lock is not available the thread will wait (block) on the lock.
- Is it necessary that a thread must block always when resource is not available?
 - Not necessary. If the design is sure 'what has to be done when resource is not available', the thread can take up that work (a different code branch). To support application requirements the OS provides non-blocking API.
 - For example POSIX pthread_mutex_trylock() API. When mutex is not available the function returns immediately whereas the API pthread_mutex_lock() blocks the thread till resource is available.



Extra Slides



Linux: Counting Semaphores (kernel code)

A counting semaphore may be acquired 'n' times before sleeping.

```
struct semaphore {
    raw_spinlock_t lock;
    unsigned int count;
    struct list_head wait_list;
};
```

```
void down(struct semaphore *sem)
{
    unsigned long flags;

    raw_spin_lock_irqsave(&sem->lock, flags);
    if (likely(sem->count > 0))
        sem->count--;
    else
        __down(sem);
    raw_spin_unlock_irqrestore(&sem->lock, flags);
}
```

```
void up(struct semaphore *sem)
{
    unsigned long flags;

    raw_spin_lock_irqsave(&sem->lock, flags);
    if (likely(list_empty(&sem->wait_list)))
        sem->count++;
    else
        __up(sem);
    raw_spin_unlock_irqrestore(&sem->lock, flags);
}
```

down - acquire the semaphore. <u>Use</u> of this function is deprecated, use down_interruptible() or down_killable() instead

up - release the semaphore (Note: up() may be called from any context and even by tasks which have never called down().)

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Source code: https://elixir.bootlin.com/linux/v4.3/source/kernel/locking/semaphore.c

Counting Semaphores implementation in Linux

```
void down(struct semaphore *sem)
                                   acquire the
                                                     A counting semaphore may be
        unsigned long flags;
                                   semaphore
                                                     acquired 'n' times before
        raw spin lock irqsave(&sem->lock, flags);
                                                     sleeping. The count variable
        if (likely(sem->count > 0))
                                                     represents how many more tasks
                sem->count--;
                                                     can acquire this semaphore
        else'
                 down(sem);
       raw spin unlock irgrestore(&sem->lock, flags);
                              int down trylock(struct semaphore *sem)
EXPORT SYMBOL(down);
                                      unsigned long flags;
                                                              disables interrupts
                                       int count;
 try to acquire the
                                       raw_spin_lock_irqsave(&sem->lock, flags);
                                       count = sem->count - 1;
        semaphore,
                          Critica
                                       if (likely(count >= 0))
   without waiting
                          section
                                               sem->count = count;
                                      raw spin unlock irgrestore(&sem->lock, flags);
                                      return (count < 0);
                                                              enables interrupts
                              EXPORT_SYMBOL(down_trylock);
 COMP3230 (2020), C.L. Wang
```



Linux: Counting Semaphores

```
int down_interruptible(struct semaphore *sem)
{
    unsigned long flags;
    int result = 0;

    raw_spin_lock_irqsave(&sem->lock, flags);
    if (likely(sem->count > 0))
        sem->count--;
    else
        result = __down_interruptible(sem);
    raw_spin_unlock_irqrestore(&sem->lock, flags);

    return result;
}
```

down_interruptible - acquire the semaphore unless interrupted

```
int down_killable(struct semaphore *sem)
{
    unsigned long flags;
    int result = 0;

    raw_spin_lock_irqsave(&sem->lock, flags);
    if (likely(sem->count > 0))
        sem->count--;
    else
        result = __down_killable(sem);
    raw_spin_unlock_irqrestore(&sem->lock, flags);
    return result;
}
```

down_killable - acquire the semaphore unless killed COMP3230 (2020), C.L. Wang

```
int down_trylock(struct semaphore *sem)
{
    unsigned long flags;
    int count;

    raw_spin_lock_irqsave(&sem->lock, flags);
    count = sem->count - 1;
    if (likely(count >= 0))
        sem->count = count;
    raw_spin_unlock_irqrestore(&sem->lock, flags);
    return (count < 0);
}</pre>
```

down_trylock - try to acquire the semaphore, without waiting

```
int down_timeout(struct semaphore *sem, long timeout)
{
    unsigned long flags;
    int result = 0;

    raw_spin_lock_irqsave(&sem->lock, flags);
    if (likely(sem->count > 0))
        sem->count--;
    else
        result = __down_timeout(sem, timeout);
    raw_spin_unlock_irqrestore(&sem->lock, flags);

return result;
}
```

down_timeout - acquire the semaphore within a specified time



futex() system call futex - fast user-space locking

The futex() system call provides a method for waiting until a certain condition becomes true. Using futex, the majority of the synchronization operations are performed in user space. No context switching into the kernel.

```
int sem_wait(sem_t *sem)
{

unsigned value = 1;

while (!atomic_compare_exchange_....(&sem->value, &value, value - 1,...))

if (value == 0) { // Note: value ← sem_value (check if sem_value =0)

futex_wait(&sem->value, 0, NULL);

value = 1; }

return thrd_success; }

If sem_value (=1), not locked, sem_value ←

(value-1=0), return true. Otherwise, value ←

sem_value, return false (keep looping)

if (value == 0) { // Note: value ← sem_value (check if sem_value =0)

futex_wait(&sem->value, 0, NULL);

value = 1; }

return thrd_success; }
```

calling process to sleep

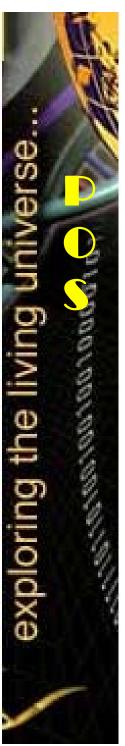
until the mutex is released.

```
void sem_post(sem_t *sem)
{
    atomic_fetch_add_explicit(&sem->value, 1, ....);
    futex_signal(&sem->value);
    return thrd_success;
}
```



Futex operations: FUTEX_WAIT

- int futex (int * uaddr, int futex_op, int val, const struct timespec * timeout, int * uaddr2, int val3);
- futex_op = FUTEX_WAIT :
 - tests if the value at the futex word pointed to by the address *uaddr* still contains the expected value *val*, and if so, then **sleeps** (hang the process on the wait queue corresponding to uaddr).
 - The load of the value of the futex word is an atomic memory access
 - If the timeout is not NULL, the structure it points to specifies a timeout for the wait.



Futex operations: FUTEX_WAKE

- futex(uaddr, FUTEX_WAKE, val, 0, 0, 0);
 - The arguments timeout, uaddr2, and val3 are ignored.
- This operation wakes at most val of the waiters that are waiting (e.g., inside FUTEX_WAIT) on the futex word at the address uaddr.
- Most commonly, val is specified as either 1 (wake up a single waiter) or INT_MAX (wake up all waiters).