last time

multi-threaded processes

pthread_create: create new thread

pthread_join: collect thread return value, wait for thread

passing values to threads

plan on threading topics

locks: avoiding conflicts between threads (beyond join)

interlude: deadlock

coordinating threads more than locks

a threading race

```
#include <pthread.h>
#include <stdio.h>
void *print_message(void *ignored_argument) {
    printf("In the thread\n"); return NULL;
}
int main() {
    printf("About to start thread\n");
    pthread_t the_thread;
    pthread_create(&the_thread, NULL, print_message, NULL);
    printf("Done starting thread\n");
    return 0;
}
```

My machine: outputs `In the thread` about 4% of the time.

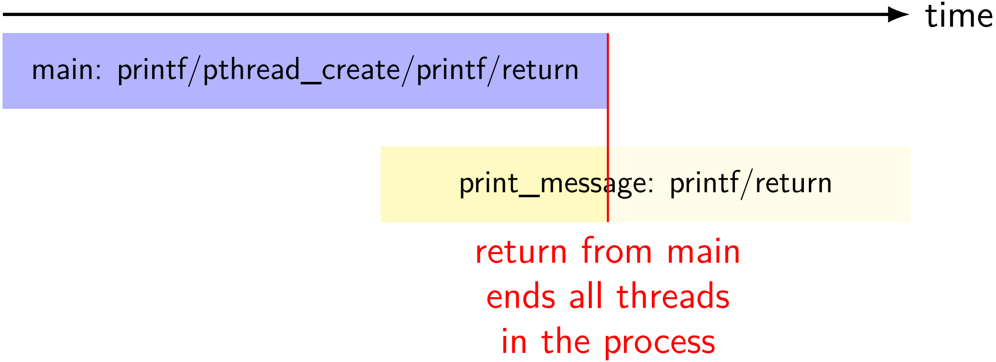
What happened?

a race

returning from main exits the entire process (all its threads)

same as calling exit; not like other threads

race: main's return 0 or print_message's printf first?



the correctness problem

two threads?

introduces *non-determinism*

which one runs first?

allows for “race condition” bugs

…to be avoided with synchronization constructs

example application: ATM server

commands: withdraw, deposit

one correctness goal: don't lose money

ATM server

(pseudocode)

```
ServerLoop() {
    while (true) {
        ReceiveRequest(&operation, &accountNumber, &amount);
        if (operation == DEPOSIT) {
            Deposit(accountNumber, amount);
        } else ...
    }
}
Deposit(accountNumber, amount) {
    account = GetAccount(accountNumber);
    account->balance += amount;
    SaveAccountUpdates(account);
}
```

a threaded server?

```
Deposit(accountNumber, amount) {
    account = GetAccount(accountId);
    account->balance += amount;
    SaveAccountUpdates(account);
}
```

maybe GetAccount/SaveAccountUpdates can be slow?

- read/write disk sometimes? contact another server sometimes?

maybe lots of requests to process?

- maybe real logic has more checks than Deposit()
- ...

all reasons to handle multiple requests at once

→ many threads all running the server loop

multiple threads

```
main() {
    for (int i = 0; i < NumberOfThreads; ++i) {
        pthread_create(&server_loop_threads[i], NULL,
                       ServerLoop, NULL);
    }
    ...
}

ServerLoop() {
    while (true) {
        ReceiveRequest(&operation, &accountNumber, &amount);
        if (operation == DEPOSIT) {
            Deposit(accountNumber, amount);
        } else ...
    }
}
```

the lost write

`account->balance += amount;` (in two threads, same account)

Thread A	Thread B
`mov account->balance, %rax`	
`add amount, %rax`	
context switch	
	`mov account->balance, %rax`
	`add amount, %rax`
context switch	
`mov %rax, account->balance`	
context switch	
	`mov %rax, account->balance`

the lost write

`account->balance += amount;` (in two threads, same account)

Thread A	Thread B
`mov account->balance, %rax`	
`add amount, %rax`	
context switch	
	`mov account->balance, %rax`
	`add amount, %rax`
context switch	
`mov %rax, account->balance`	
context switch	
	`mov %rax, account->balance`

lost write to balance

"winner" of the race

the lost write

`account->balance += amount;` (in two threads, same account)

Thread A		Thread B
`mov account->balance, %rax`		
`add amount, %rax`		
	context switch	
		`mov account->balance, %rax`
		`add amount, %rax`
	context switch	
`mov %rax, account->balance`		
	context switch	
		`mov %rax, account->balance`

lost write to balance

"winner" of the race

lost track of thread A's money

thinking about race conditions (1)

what are the possible values of x? (initially $x = y = 0$)

Thread A	**Thread B**
$x \leftarrow 1$	$y \leftarrow 2$

thinking about race conditions (2)

possible values of x? (initially $x = y = 0$)

Thread A	Thread B
$x \leftarrow y + 1$	$y \leftarrow 2$
	$y \leftarrow y \times 2$

thinking about race conditions (2)

possible values of x? (initially $x = y = 0$)

Thread A	Thread B
$x \leftarrow y + 1$	$y \leftarrow 2$
	$y \leftarrow y \times 2$

thinking about race conditions (3)

what are the possible values of x?

(initially $x = y = 0$)

Thread A	**Thread B**
$x \leftarrow 1$	$x \leftarrow 2$

thinking about race conditions (2)

possible values of x? (initially $x = y = 0$)

Thread A	Thread B
$x \leftarrow y + 1$	$y \leftarrow 2$
	$y \leftarrow y \times 2$

atomic operation

atomic operation = operation that runs to completion or not at all

we will use these to let threads work together

most machines: loading/storing (aligned) words is atomic

- so can't get 3 from $x \leftarrow 1$ and $x \leftarrow 2$ running in parallel
- aligned $\approx$ address of word is multiple of word size (typically done by compilers)

but some instructions are not atomic; examples:

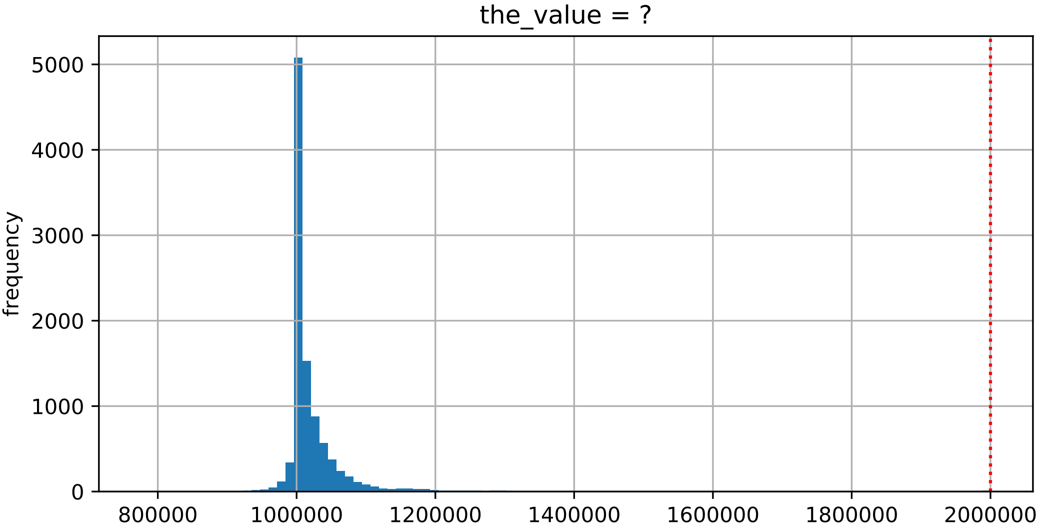
- x86: integer add constant to memory location
- many CPUs: loading/storing values that cross cache blocks
    - e.g. if cache blocks `0x40` bytes, load/store 4 byte from addr. `0x3E` is not atomic

lost adds (program)

```
.global update_loop
update_loop:
    addl $1, the_value // the_value (global variable) += 1
    dec %rdi           // argument 1 -= 1
    jg update_loop     // if argument 1 >= 0 repeat
    ret
```

```
int the_value;
extern void *update_loop(void *);
int main(void) {
    the_value = 0;
    pthread_t A, B;
    pthread_create(&A, NULL, update_loop, (void*) 1000000);
    pthread_create(&B, NULL, update_loop, (void*) 1000000);
    pthread_join(A, NULL);
    pthread_join(B, NULL);
    // expected result: 1000000 + 1000000 = 2000000
    printf("the_value = %d\n", the_value);
}
```

lost adds (results)



but how?

probably not possible on single core

- exceptions can't occur in the middle of `add` instruction

…but 'add to memory' implemented with multiple steps

- still needs to load, add, store internally
- can be interleaved with what other cores do

but how?

probably not possible on single core

- exceptions can't occur in the middle of `add` instruction

...but 'add to memory' implemented with multiple steps

- still needs to load, add, store internally
- can be interleaved with what other cores do

(and actually it's more complicated than that — we'll talk later)

so, what is actually atomic

for now we'll assume: load/stores of 'words'

(64-bit machine = 64-bits words)

in general: processor designer will tell you

their job to design caches, etc. to work as documented

atomic read-modfiy-write

really hard to build locks for atomic load store

and normal load/stores aren't even atomic...

...so processors provide read/modify/write operations

one instruction that
atomically
reads *and* modifies *and* writes back a value

used by OS to implement higher-level synchronization tools

x86 atomic exchange

```
lock xchg (%ecx), %eax
```

atomic exchange

temp ← M[ECX]

M[ECX] ← EAX

EAX ← temp

…without being interrupted by other processors, etc.

implementing atomic exchange

make sure other processors don't have cache block

- probably need to be able to do this to keep caches in sync

do read+modify+write operation

some definitions

mutual exclusion: ensuring only one thread does a particular thing at a time

- like checking for and, if needed, buying milk

some definitions

mutual exclusion: ensuring only one thread does a particular thing at a time

- like checking for and, if needed, buying milk

critical section: code that exactly one thread can execute at a time

- result of critical section

some definitions

mutual exclusion: ensuring only one thread does a particular thing at a time

- like checking for and, if needed, buying milk

critical section: code that exactly one thread can execute at a time

- result of critical section

lock: object only one thread can hold at a time

- interface for creating critical sections

lock analogy

agreement: only change account balances while wearing this hat

normally hat kept on table

put on hat when editing balance

hopefully, only one person (= thread) can wear hat a time

need to wait for them to remove hat to put it on

lock analogy

agreement: only change account balances while wearing this hat

normally hat kept on table

put on hat when editing balance

hopefully, only one person (= thread) can wear hat a time

need to wait for them to remove hat to put it on

"lock (or acquire) the lock" = get and put on hat

"unlock (or release) the lock" = put hat back on table

the lock primitive

locks: an object with (at least) two operations:

- *acquire* or *lock* — wait until lock is free, then "grab" it
- *release* or *unlock* — let others use lock, wakeup waiters

typical usage: everyone acquires lock before using shared resource

- forget to acquire lock? weird things happen

```
Lock(account_lock);
balance += ...;
Unlock(account_lock);
```

pthread mutex

```
#include <pthread.h>

pthread_mutex_t account_lock;
pthread_mutex_init(&account_lock, NULL);
    // or: pthread_mutex_t account_lock =
    //                 PTHREAD_MUTEX_INITIALIZER;
...
pthread_mutex_lock(&account_lock);
balance += ...;
pthread_mutex_unlock(&account_lock;
```

exercise

```
pthread_mutex_t lock1 = PTHREAD_MUTEX_INITIALIZER;
pthread_mutex_t lock2 = PTHREAD_MUTEX_INITIALIZER;
string one = "init one", two = "init two";
void ThreadA() {
    pthread_mutex_lock(&lock1);
    one = "one in ThreadA";  // (A1)
    pthread_mutex_unlock(&lock1);
    pthread_mutex_lock(&lock2);
    two = "two in ThreadA";  // (A2)
    pthread_mutex_unlock(&lock2);
}
void ThreadB() {
    pthread_mutex_lock(&lock1);
    one = "one in ThreadB";  // (B1)
    pthread_mutex_lock(&lock2);
    two = "two in ThreadB";  // (B2)
    pthread_mutex_unlock(&lock2);
    pthread_mutex_unlock(&lock1);
}
```

possible values of one/two after A+B run?

exercise (alternate 1)

```
pthread_mutex_t lock1 = PTHREAD_MUTEX_INITIALIZER;
pthread_mutex_t lock2 = PTHREAD_MUTEX_INITIALIZER;
string one = "init one", two = "init two";
void ThreadA() {
    pthread_mutex_lock(&lock2);
    two = "two in ThreadA";   // (A2)
    pthread_mutex_unlock(&lock2);
    pthread_mutex_lock(&lock1);
    one = "one in ThreadA";   // (A1)
    pthread_mutex_unlock(&lock1);
}
void ThreadB() {
    pthread_mutex_lock(&lock1);
    one = "one in ThreadB";   // (B1)
    pthread_mutex_lock(&lock2);
    two = "two in ThreadB";   // (B2)
    pthread_mutex_unlock(&lock2);
    pthread_mutex_unlock(&lock1);
}
```

possible values of one/two after A+B run?

exercise (alternate 2)

```
pthread_mutex_t lock1 = PTHREAD_MUTEX_INITIALIZER;
pthread_mutex_t lock2 = PTHREAD_MUTEX_INITIALIZER;
string one = "init one", two = "init two";
void ThreadA() {
    pthread_mutex_lock(&lock2);
    two = "two in ThreadA";  // (A2)
    pthread_mutex_unlock(&lock2);
    pthread_mutex_lock(&lock1);
    one = "one in ThreadA";  // (A1)
    pthread_mutex_unlock(&lock1);
}
void ThreadB() {
    pthread_mutex_lock(&lock1);
    one = "one in ThreadB";  // (B1)
    pthread_mutex_unlock(&lock1);
    pthread_mutex_lock(&lock2);
    two = "two in ThreadB";  // (B2)
    pthread_mutex_unlock(&lock2);
}
```

possible values of one/two after A+B run?

POSIX mutex restrictions

pthread_mutex rule: unlock from same thread you lock in

implementation I gave before — not a problem

...but there other ways to implement mutexes

e.g. might involve comparing with “holding” thread ID

are locks enough?

do we need more than locks?

example 1: pipes?

pipes: one thread reads while other writes

want write to complete immediately if buffer space

want read operation to *wait* for write operation

not functionality provided by mutexes/barriers

barriers

compute minimum of 100M element array with 2 processors

algorithm:

compute minimum of 50M of the elements on each CPU

- one thread for each CPU

wait for all computations to finish

take minimum of all the minimums

barriers

compute minimum of 100M element array with 2 processors

algorithm:

compute minimum of 50M of the elements on each CPU

- one thread for each CPU

wait for all computations to finish

take minimum of all the minimums

barriers API

barrier.Initialize(NumberOfThreads)

barrier.Wait() — return after all threads have waited

idea: multiple threads perform computations in parallel

threads wait for all other threads to call Wait()

barrier: waiting for finish

```
barrier.Initialize(2);
```

Thread 0

```
partial_mins[0] =
    /* min of first
       50M elems */;

barrier.Wait();


total_min = min(
    partial_mins[0],
    partial_mins[1]
);
```

Thread 1

```
partial_mins[1] =
    /* min of last
       50M elems */
barrier.Wait();
```

barriers: reuse

Thread 0

```
results[0][0] = getInitial(0);
barrier.Wait();

results[1][0] =
    computeFrom(
        results[0][0],
        results[0][1]
    );
barrier.Wait();

results[2][0] =
    computeFrom(
        results[1][0],
        results[1][1]
    );
```

Thread 1

```
results[0][1] = getInitial(1);
barrier.Wait();

results[1][1] =
    computeFrom(
        results[0][0],
        results[0][1]
    );
barrier.Wait();

results[2][1] =
    computeFrom(
        results[1][0],
        results[1][1]
    );
```

barriers: reuse

Thread 0

```
results[0][0] = getInitial(0);
barrier.Wait();

results[1][0] =
    computeFrom(
        results[0][0],
        results[0][1]
    );
barrier.Wait();

results[2][0] =
    computeFrom(
        results[1][0],
        results[1][1]
    );
```

Thread 1

```
results[0][1] = getInitial(1);
barrier.Wait();

results[1][1] =
    computeFrom(
        results[0][0],
        results[0][1]
    );
barrier.Wait();

results[2][1] =
    computeFrom(
        results[1][0],
        results[1][1]
    );
```

barriers: reuse

Thread 0

```
results[0][0] = getInitial(0);
barrier.Wait();

results[1][0] =
    computeFrom(
        results[0][0],
        results[0][1]
    );
barrier.Wait();

results[2][0] =
    computeFrom(
        results[1][0],
        results[1][1]
    );
```

Thread 1

```
results[0][1] = getInitial(1);
barrier.Wait();

results[1][1] =
    computeFrom(
        results[0][0],
        results[0][1]
    );
barrier.Wait();

results[2][1] =
    computeFrom(
        results[1][0],
        results[1][1]
    );
```

pthread barriers

```
pthread_barrier_t barrier;
pthread_barrier_init(
    &barrier,
    NULL /* attributes */,
    numberOfThreads
);
...
...
pthread_barrier_wait(&barrier);
```

life homework (pseudocode)

```
for (int time = 0; time < MAX_ITERATIONS; ++time) {
    for (int y = 0; y < size; ++y) {
        for (int x = 0; x < size; ++x) {
            to_grid(x, y) = computeValue(from_grid, x, y);
        }
    }
    swap(from_grid, to_grid);
}
```

life homework

compute grid of values for time t from grid for time $t-1$

- compute new value at i, j based on surrounding values

parallel version: produce parts of grid in different threads

use barriers to finish time t before going to time $t+1$

preview: general sync

lots of coordinating threads beyond locks/barriers

will talk about two general tools later:

- monitors/condition variables
- semaphores

big added feature: wait for arbitrary thing to happen

a bad idea

one bad idea to wait for an event:

```
bool happened = false;
void WaitForEvent() {
    do {} while (!happened);
}

void EventHappened() {
    happened = true;
}
```

wastes processor time

and also doesn't work!

compilers move loads/stores (1)

```
void WaitForOther() {
    do {} while (!other_ready);
}
```

```
WaitForOther:
  movl other_ready, %eax  // eax <- other_ready
.L2:
  testl %eax, %eax
  je .L2                    // while (eax == 0) repeat
  ...
```

compilers move loads/stores (1)

```
void WaitForOther() {
    do {} while (!other_ready);
}
```

```
WaitForOther:
  movl other_ready, %eax  // eax <- other_ready
.L2:
  testl %eax, %eax
  je .L2                   // while (eax == 0) repeat
  ...
```

compilers move loads/stores (2)

```
void WaitForOther() {
    is_waiting = 1;
    do {} while (!other_ready);
    is_waiting = 0;
}
```

```
WaitForOther:
  // compiler optimization: don't set is_waiting to 1,
  // (why? it will be set to 0 anyway)
  movl other_ready, %eax  // eax <- other_ready
.L2:
  testl %eax, %eax
  je .L2                          // while (eax == 0) repeat
  ...
  movl $0, is_waiting  // is_waiting <- 0
```

compilers move loads/stores (2)

```
void WaitForOther() {
    is_waiting = 1;
    do {} while (!other_ready);
    is_waiting = 0;
}
```

```
WaitForOther:
  // compiler optimization: don't set is_waiting to 1,
  // (why? it will be set to 0 anyway)
  movl other_ready, %eax  // eax <- other_ready
.L2:
  testl %eax, %eax
  je .L2                        // while (eax == 0) repeat
  ...
  movl $0, is_waiting  // is_waiting <- 0
```

compilers move loads/stores (2)

```
void WaitForOther() {
    is_waiting = 1;
    do {} while (!other_ready);
    is_waiting = 0;
}
```

```
WaitForOther:
  // compiler optimization: don't set is_waiting to 1,
  // (why? it will be set to 0 anyway)
  movl other_ready, %eax  // eax <- other_ready
.L2:
  testl %eax, %eax
  je .L2                          // while (eax == 0) repeat
  ...
  movl $0, is_waiting  // is_waiting <- 0
```

a simple race

```
thread_A:
    movl $1, x   /* x <- 1 */
    movl y, %eax /* return y */
    ret
```

```
thread_B:
    movl $1, y   /* y <- 1 */
    movl x, %eax /* return x */
    ret
```

```
x = y = 0;
pthread_create(&A, NULL, thread_A, NULL);
pthread_create(&B, NULL, thread_B, NULL);
pthread_join(A, &A_result); pthread_join(B, &B_result);
printf("A:%d B:%d\n", (int) A_result, (int) B_result);
```

a simple race

```
thread_A:
    movl $1, x   /* x <- 1 */
    movl y, %eax /* return y */
    ret
```

```
thread_B:
    movl $1, y   /* y <- 1 */
    movl x, %eax /* return x */
    ret
```

```
x = y = 0;
pthread_create(&A, NULL, thread_A, NULL);
pthread_create(&B, NULL, thread_B, NULL);
pthread_join(A, &A_result); pthread_join(B, &B_result);
printf("A:%d B:%d\n", (int) A_result, (int) B_result);
```

if loads/stores atomic, then possible results:

- A:1 B:1 — both moves into x and y, then both moves into eax execute
- A:0 B:1 — thread A executes before thread B
- A:1 B:0 — thread B executes before thread A

a simple race: results

```
thread_A:                           thread_B:
    movl $1, x   /* x <- 1 */           movl $1, y   /* y <- 1 */
    movl y, %eax /* return y */         movl x, %eax /* return x */
    ret                                 ret
```

```
x = y = 0;
pthread_create(&A, NULL, thread_A, NULL);
pthread_create(&B, NULL, thread_B, NULL);
pthread_join(A, &A_result); pthread_join(B, &B_result);
printf("A:%d B:%d\n", (int) A_result, (int) B_result);
```

my desktop, 100M trials:

frequency	result	
99 823 739	A:0 B:1	(‘A executes before B’)
171 161	A:1 B:0	(‘B executes before A’)
4 706	A:1 B:1	(‘execute moves into x+y first’)
394	A:0 B:0	???

a simple race: results

```
thread_A:
    movl $1, x    /* x <- 1 */
    movl y, %eax  /* return y */
    ret
```

```
thread_B:
    movl $1, y    /* y <- 1 */
    movl x, %eax  /* return x */
    ret
```

```
x = y = 0;
pthread_create(&A, NULL, thread_A, NULL);
pthread_create(&B, NULL, thread_B, NULL);
pthread_join(A, &A_result); pthread_join(B, &B_result);
printf("A:%d B:%d\n", (int) A_result, (int) B_result);
```

my desktop, 100M trials:

frequency	result	
99 823 739	A:0 B:1	('A executes before B')
171 161	A:1 B:0	('B executes before A')
4 706	A:1 B:1	('execute moves into x+y first')
394	A:0 B:0	???

why reorder here?

```
thread_A:
    movl $1, x   /* x <- 1 */
    movl y, %eax /* return y */
    ret
```

```
thread_B:
    movl $1, y   /* y <- 1 */
    movl x, %eax /* return x */
    ret
```

thread A: faster to load y right now!

…rather than wait for write of x to finish

why load/store reordering?

fast processor designs can execute instructions out of order

goal: do something instead of waiting for slow memory accesses, etc.

more on this later in the semester

pthreads and reordering

many pthreads functions prevent reordering

- everything before function call actually happens before

includes preventing some optimizations

- e.g. keeping global variable in register for too long

pthread_mutex_lock/unlock, pthread_create, pthread_join, …

- basically: if pthreads is waiting for/starting something, no weird ordering

implementation part 1: prevent compiler reordering

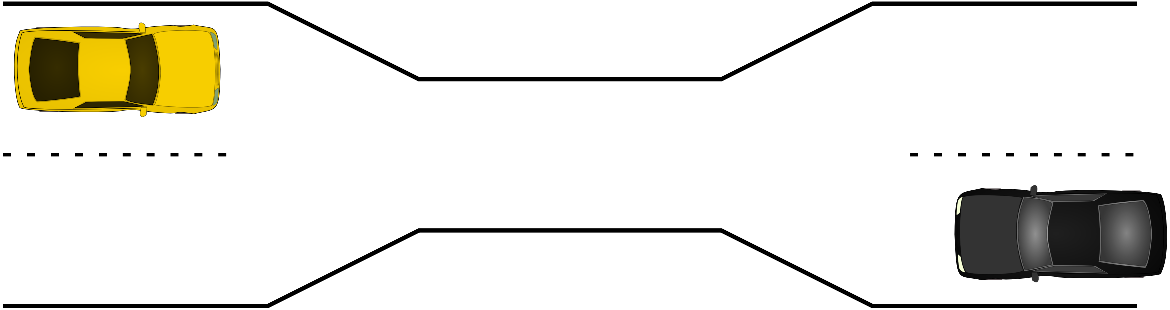
implementation part 2: use special instructions

- example: x86 `mfence` instruction

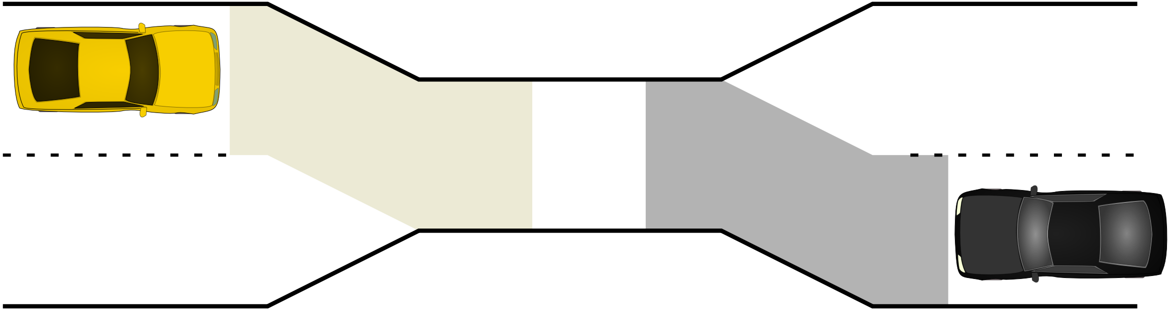
interlude: deadlock

using multiple locks is tricky...

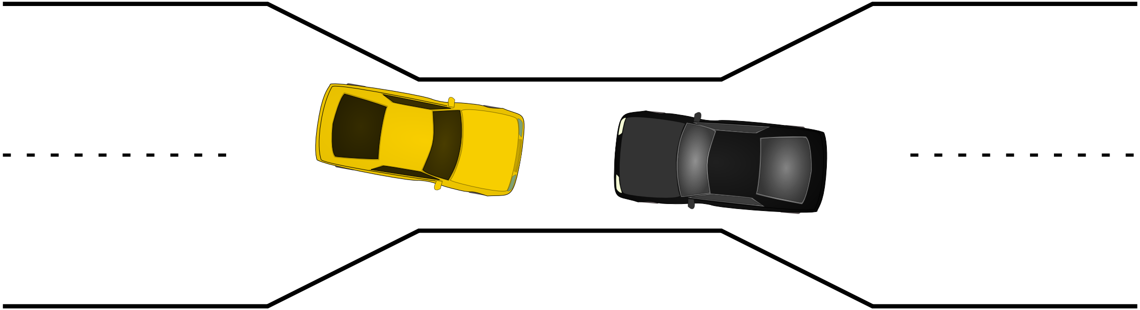
the one-way bridge



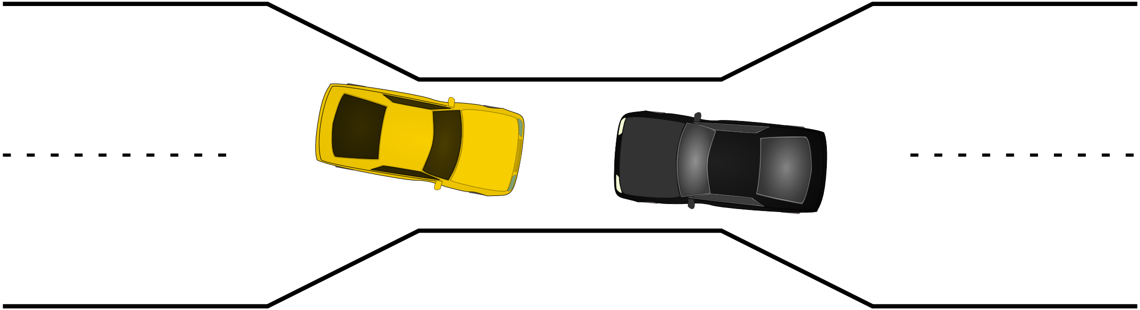
the one-way bridge



the one-way bridge



the one-way bridge



moving two files

```
struct Dir {
  mutex_t lock; map<string, DirEntry> entries;
};
void MoveFile(Dir *from_dir, Dir *to_dir, string filename) {
  mutex_lock(&from_dir->lock);
  mutex_lock(&to_dir->lock);

  to_dir->entries[filename] = from_dir->entries[filename];
  from_dir->entries.erase(filename);

  mutex_unlock(&to_dir->lock);
  mutex_unlock(&from_dir->lock);
}
```

Thread 1: `MoveFile(A, B, "foo")`

Thread 2: `MoveFile(B, A, "bar")`

moving two files: lucky timeline (1)

Thread 1 `MoveFile(A, B, "foo")`	Thread 2 `MoveFile(B, A, "bar")`
`lock(&A->lock);`	
`lock(&B->lock);`	
(do move)	
`unlock(&B->lock);`	
`unlock(&A->lock);`	
	`lock(&B->lock);`
	`lock(&A->lock);`
	(do move)
	`unlock(&B->lock);`
	`unlock(&A->lock);`

moving two files: lucky timeline (2)

Thread 1	Thread 2
`MoveFile(A, B, "foo")`	`MoveFile(B, A, "bar")`
`lock(&A->lock);`	
`lock(&B->lock);`	
	`lock(&B->lock…`
(do move)	(waiting for B lock)
`unlock(&B->lock);`	
	`lock(&B->lock);`
	`lock(&A->lock…`
`unlock(&A->lock);`	
	`lock(&A->lock);`
	(do move)
	`unlock(&A->lock);`
	`unlock(&B->lock);`

moving two files: unlucky timeline

Thread 1	Thread 2
`MoveFile(A, B, "foo")`	`MoveFile(B, A, "bar")`
`lock(&A->lock);`	
	`lock(&B->lock);`

moving two files: unlucky timeline

Thread 1 `MoveFile(A, B, "foo")`	Thread 2 `MoveFile(B, A, "bar")`
`lock(&A->lock);`	
	`lock(&B->lock);`
`lock(&B->lock`… stalled	
(waiting for lock on B)	`lock(&A->lock`… stalled
(waiting for lock on B)	(waiting for lock on A)

moving two files: unlucky timeline

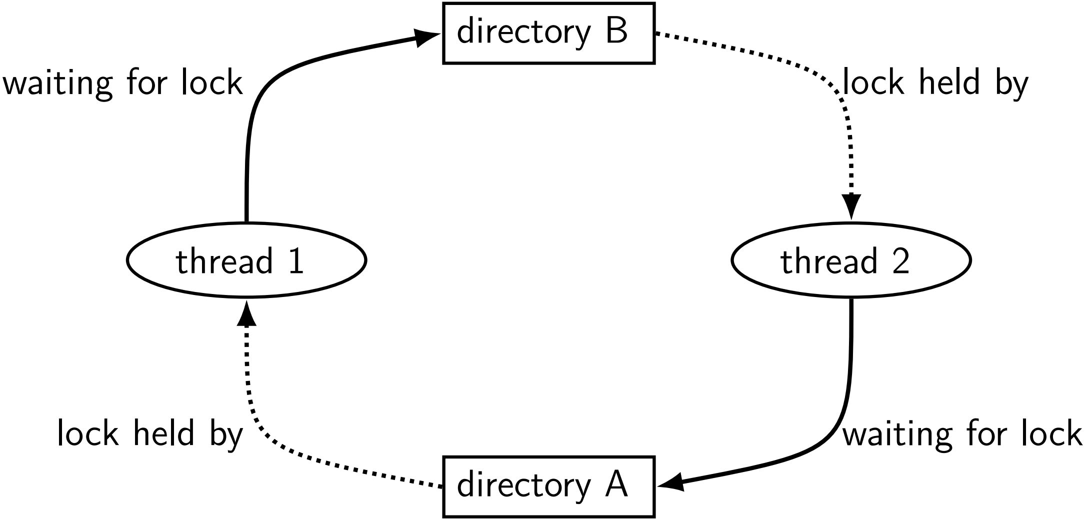
Thread 1 `MoveFile(A, B, "foo")`	Thread 2 `MoveFile(B, A, "bar")`
`lock(&A->lock);`	
	`lock(&B->lock);`
`lock(&B->lock…` stalled	
(waiting for lock on B)	`lock(&A->lock…` stalled
(waiting for lock on B)	(waiting for lock on A)
~~(do move)~~ unreachable	~~(do move)~~ unreachable
~~`unlock(&B->lock);`~~ unreachable	~~`unlock(&A->lock);`~~ unreachable
~~`unlock(&A->lock);`~~ unreachable	~~`unlock(&B->lock);`~~ unreachable

moving two files: unlucky timeline

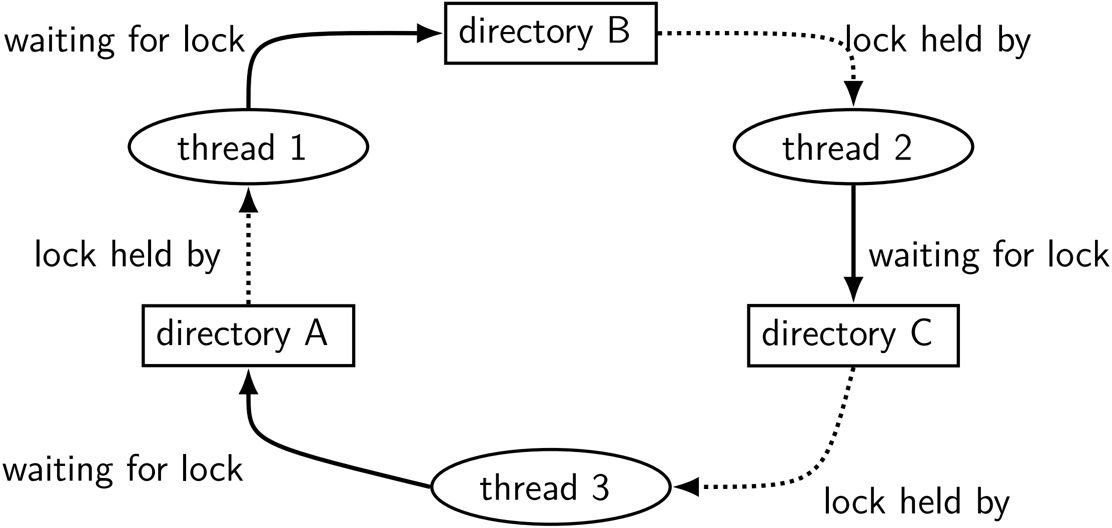
Thread 1	Thread 2
`MoveFile(A, B, "foo")`	`MoveFile(B, A, "bar")`
`lock(&A->lock);`	
	`lock(&B->lock);`
`lock(&B->lock…` stalled	
(waiting for lock on B)	`lock(&A->lock…` stalled
(waiting for lock on B)	(waiting for lock on A)
~~(do move)~~ unreachable	~~(do move)~~ unreachable
~~`unlock(&B->lock);`~~ unreachable	~~`unlock(&A->lock);`~~ unreachable
~~`unlock(&A->lock);`~~ unreachable	~~`unlock(&B->lock);`~~ unreachable

Thread 1 holds A lock, waiting for Thread 2 to release B lock
Thread 2 holds B lock, waiting for Thread 1 to release A lock

moving two files: dependencies



moving three files: dependencies



moving three files: unlucky timeline

Thread 1	Thread 2	Thread 3
`MoveFile(A, B, "foo")`	`MoveFile(B, C, "bar")`	`MoveFile(C, A, "quux")`
`lock(&A->lock);`		
	`lock(&B->lock);`	
		`lock(&C->lock);`
`lock(&B->lock…` stalled		
	`lock(&C->lock…` stalled	
		`lock(&A->lock…` stalled

deadlock with free space

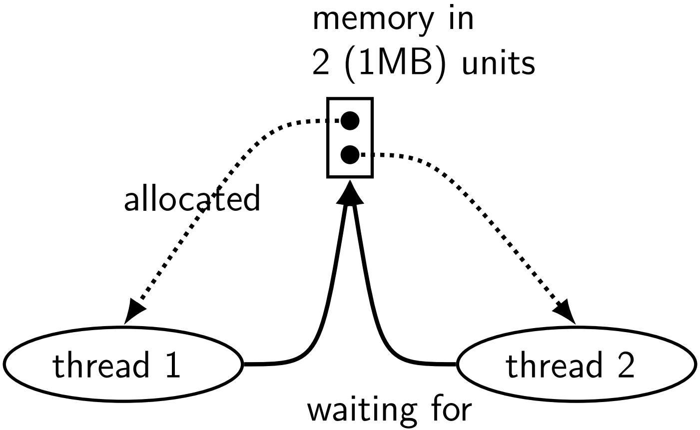
Thread 1	Thread 2
`AllocateOrWaitFor(1 MB)`	`AllocateOrWaitFor(1 MB)`
`AllocateOrWaitFor(1 MB)`	`AllocateOrWaitFor(1 MB)`
`(do calculation)`	`(do calculation)`
`Free(1 MB)`	`Free(1 MB)`
`Free(1 MB)`	`Free(1 MB)`

2 MB of space — deadlock possible with unlucky order

deadlock with free space (unlucky case)

Thread 1	Thread 2
`AllocateOrWaitFor(1 MB)`	
	`AllocateOrWaitFor(1 MB)`
`AllocateOrWaitFor(1 MB`... stalled	
	`AllocateOrWaitFor(1 MB`... stalled

free space: dependency graph



deadlock with free space (lucky case)

Thread 1	Thread 2
`AllocateOrWaitFor(1 MB)`	
`AllocateOrWaitFor(1 MB)`	
`(do calculation)`	
`Free(1 MB);`	
`Free(1 MB);`	
	`AllocateOrWaitFor(1 MB)`
	`AllocateOrWaitFor(1 MB)`
	`(do calculation)`
	`Free(1 MB);`
	`Free(1 MB);`

deadlock

deadlock — circular waiting for resources

resource = something needed by a thread to do work

- locks
- CPU time
- disk space
- memory
- ...

often non-deterministic in practice

most common example: when acquiring multiple locks

deadlock

deadlock — circular waiting for resources

resource = something needed by a thread to do work

- locks
- CPU time
- disk space
- memory
- ...

often non-deterministic in practice

most common example: when acquiring multiple locks

deadlock versus starvation

starvation: one+ unlucky (no progress), one+ lucky (yes progress)

- example: low priority threads versus high-priority threads

deadlock: no one involved in deadlock makes progress

deadlock versus starvation

starvation: one+ unlucky (no progress), one+ lucky (yes progress)

- example: low priority threads versus high-priority threads

deadlock: no one involved in deadlock makes progress

starvation: once starvation happens, taking turns will resolve

- low priority thread just needed a chance...

deadlock: once it happens, taking turns won't fix

deadlock requirements

mutual exclusion

one thread at a time can use a resource

hold and wait

thread holding a resources waits to acquire *another* resource

no preemption of resources

resources are only released voluntarily

thread trying to acquire resources can't 'steal'

circular wait

there exists a set $\{T_1, \ldots, T_n\}$ of waiting threads such that

T_1 is waiting for a resource held by T_2

T_2 is waiting for a resource held by T_3

...

T_n is waiting for a resource held by T_1

how is deadlock possible?

Given list: A, B, C, D, E

```
RemoveNode(LinkedListNode *node) {
    pthread_mutex_lock(&node->lock);
    pthread_mutex_lock(&node->prev->lock);
    pthread_mutex_lock(&node->next->lock);
    node->next->prev = node->prev;
    node->prev->next = node->next;
    pthread_mutex_unlock(&node->next->lock);
    pthread_mutex_unlock(&node->prev->lock);
    pthread_mutex_unlock(&node->lock);
}
```

Which of these (all run in parallel) can deadlock?

A. RemoveNode(B) and RemoveNode(C)
B. RemoveNode(B) and RemoveNode(D)
C. RemoveNode(B) and RemoveNode(C) and RemoveNode(D)
D. A and C
E. B and C
F. all of the above
G. none of the above

deadlock prevention techniques

infinite resources or at least enough that never run out	no *mutual exclusion*
no shared resources	no *mutual exclusion*
no waiting "busy signal" — abort and (maybe) retry revoke/preempt resources	no *hold and wait*/ *preemption*
acquire resources in **consistent order**	no *circular wait*
request **all resources at once**	no *hold and wait*

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deadlock prevention techniques

infinite resources

or at least enough that never run out

no *mutual exclusion*

exclusion

memory allocation: malloc() fails rather than waiting (no deadlock)
locks: `pthread_mutex_trylock` fails rather than waiting
...

no waiting

"busy signal" — abort and (maybe) retry

revoke/preempt resources

no *hold and wait*/ *preemption*

acquire resources in **consistent order**

no *circular wait*

request **all resources at once**

no *hold and wait*

deadlock prevention techniques

infinite resources — no *mutual exclusion*

or at least enough that never run out

no shared resources — no *mutual exclusion*

requires some way to undo partial changes to avoid errors
common approach for databases
…

no waiti

"busy signal" — abort and (maybe) retry — no hold and wait/ *preemption*

revoke/preempt resources

acquire resources in **consistent order** — no *circular wait*

request **all resources at once** — no *hold and wait*

deadlock prevention techniques

infinite resources — no *mutual exclusion*

or at least enough that never run out

no shared resources — no *mutual exclusion*

no waiting — no *hold and wait*/ *preemption*

"busy signal" — abort and (maybe) retry

revoke/preempt resources

acquire resources in **consistent order** — no *circular wait*

request **all resources at once** — no *hold and wait*

acquiring locks in consistent order (1)

```
MoveFile(Dir* from_dir, Dir* to_dir, string filename) {
  if (from_dir->path < to_dir->path) {
    lock(&from_dir->lock);
    lock(&to_dir->lock);
  } else {
    lock(&to_dir->lock);
    lock(&from_dir->lock);
  }
  ...
}
```

acquiring locks in consistent order (1)

```
MoveFile(Dir* from_dir, Dir* to_dir, string filename) {
  if (from_dir->path < to_dir->path) {
    lock(&from_dir->lock);
    lock(&to_dir->lock);
  } else {
    lock(&to_dir->lock);
    lock(&from_dir->lock);
  }
  ...
}
```

any ordering will do
e.g. compare pointers

acquiring locks in consistent order (2)

often by convention, e.g. Linux kernel comments:

```
/*
 * ...
 * Lock order:
 *       contex.ldt_usr_sem
 *         mmap_sem
 *           context.lock
 */
```

```
/*
 * ...
 * Lock order:
 *   1. slab_mutex (Global Mutex)
 *   2. node->list_lock
 *   3. slab_lock(page) (Only on some arches and for debugging)
 * ...
 */
```

deadlock prevention techniques

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deadlock detection

why? debugging or fix deadlock by aborting operations

idea: search for cyclic dependencies

detecting deadlocks on locks

let's say I want to detect deadlocks that only involve mutexes

- goal: help programmers debug deadlocks

…by modifying my threading library:

```
struct Thread {
    ... /* stuff for implementing thread */
    /* what extra fields go here? */


};

struct Mutex {
    ... /* stuff for implementing mutex */
    /* what extra fields go here? */


};
```

deadlock detection

why? debugging or fix deadlock by aborting operations

idea: search for cyclic dependencies

need:

- list of all contended resources
- what thread is waiting for what?
- what thread 'owns' what?

aside: divisible resources

deadlock is possible with divislbe resources like memory,...

example: suppose 6MB of RAM for threads total:

- thread 1 has 2MB allocated, waiting for 2MB
- thread 2 has 2MB allocated, waiting for 2MB
- thread 3 has 1MB allocated, waiting for keypress

cycle: thread 1 waiting on memory owned by thread 2?

not a deadlock — thread 3 can still finish

- and after it does, thread 1 or 2 can finish

aside: divisible resources

deadlock is possible with divislbe resources like memory,…

example: suppose 6MB of RAM for threads total:

- thread 1 has 2MB allocated, waiting for 2MB
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- thread 3 has 1MB allocated, waiting for keypress

cycle: thread 1 waiting on memory owned by thread 2?

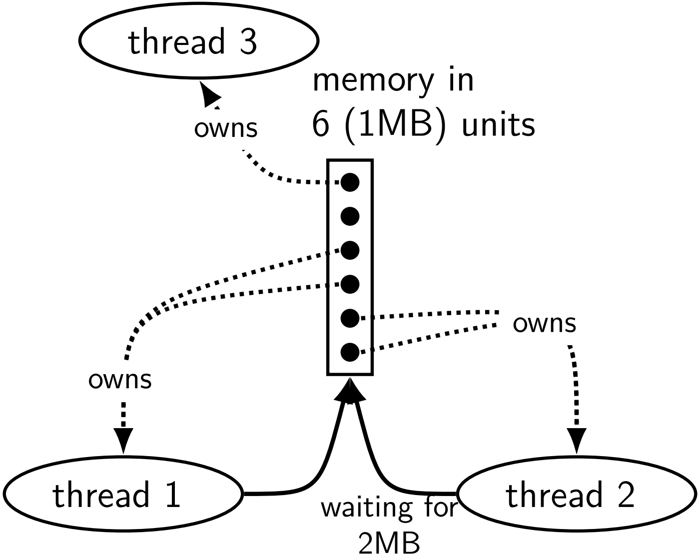
not a deadlock — thread 3 can still finish

- and after it does, thread 1 or 2 can finish

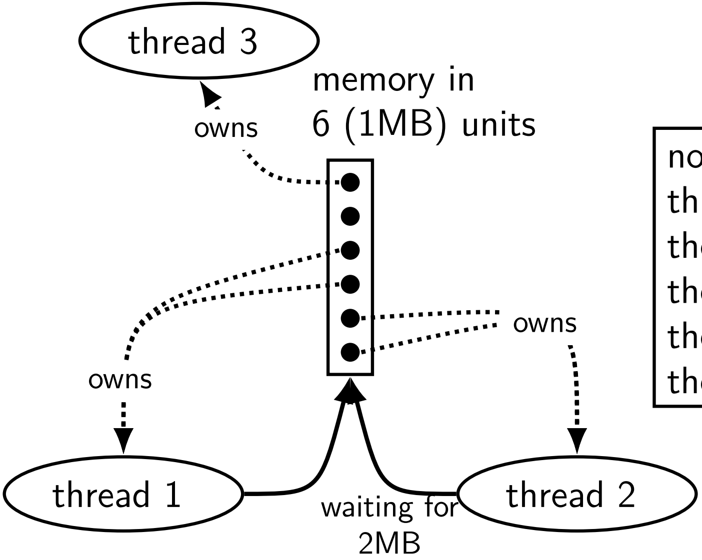
…but would be deadlock

- …if thread 3 waiting lock held by thread 1
- …with 5MB of RAM

divisible resources: not deadlock

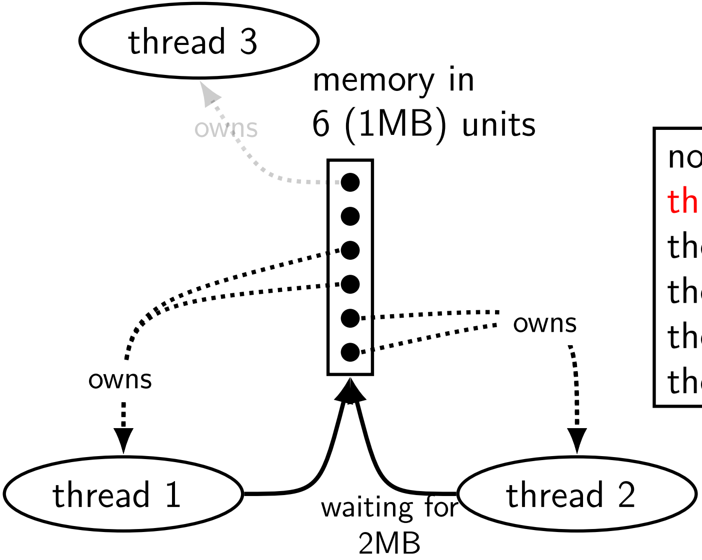


divisible resources: not deadlock



not deadlock:
thread 3 finishes
then thread 1 can get memory
then thread 1 finishes
then thread 2 can get resources
then thread 2 can finish

divisible resources: not deadlock



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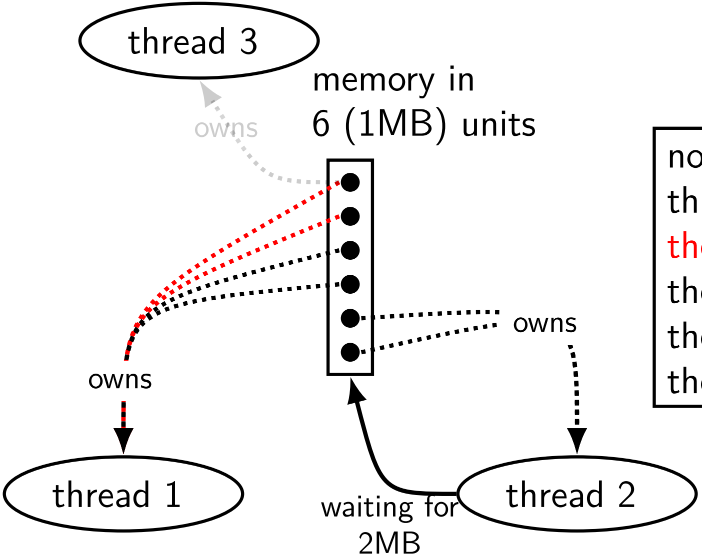
divisible resources: not deadlock



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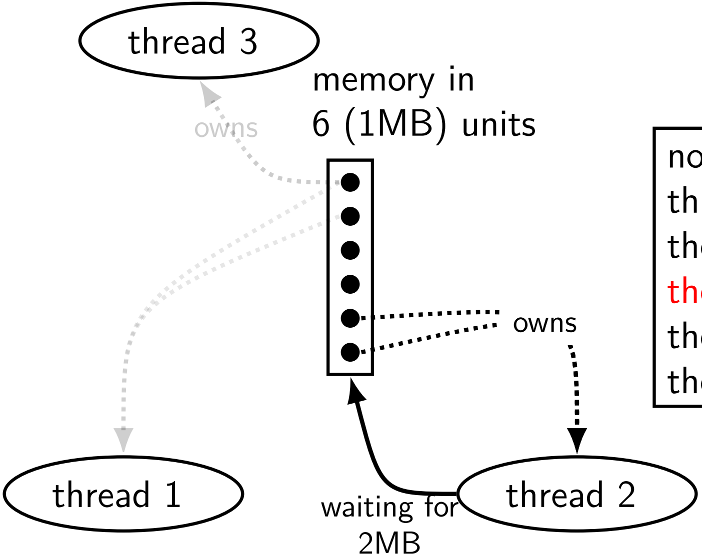
divisible resources: not deadlock



not deadlock:
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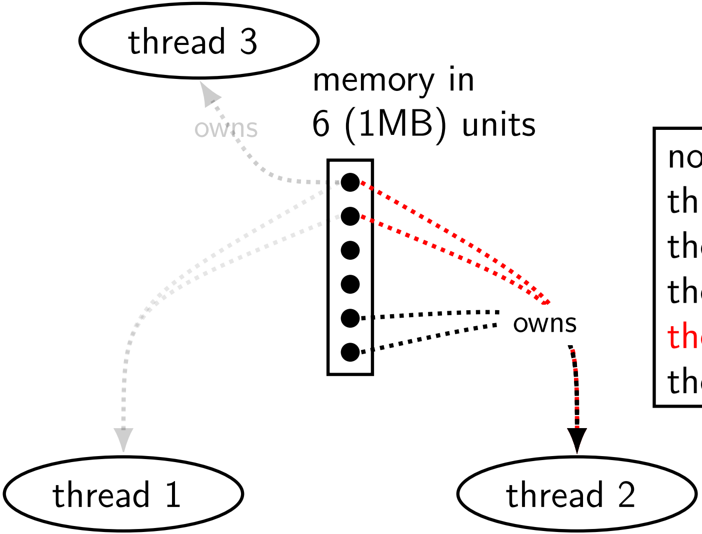
divisible resources: not deadlock



not deadlock:
thread 3 finishes
then thread 1 can get memory
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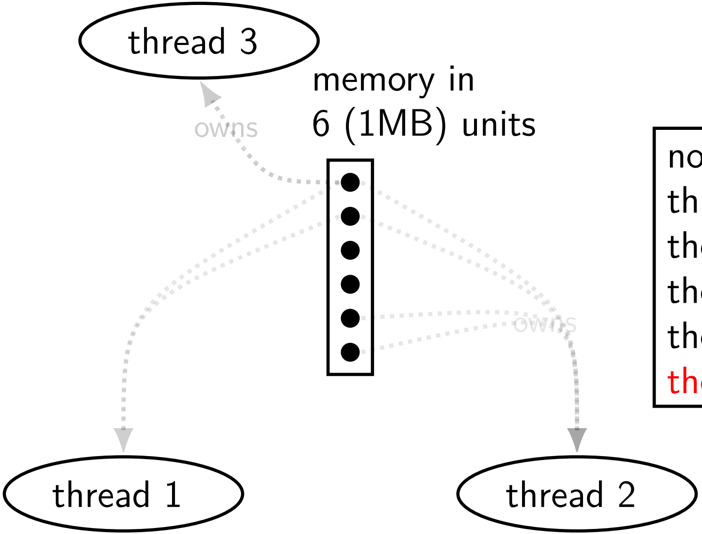
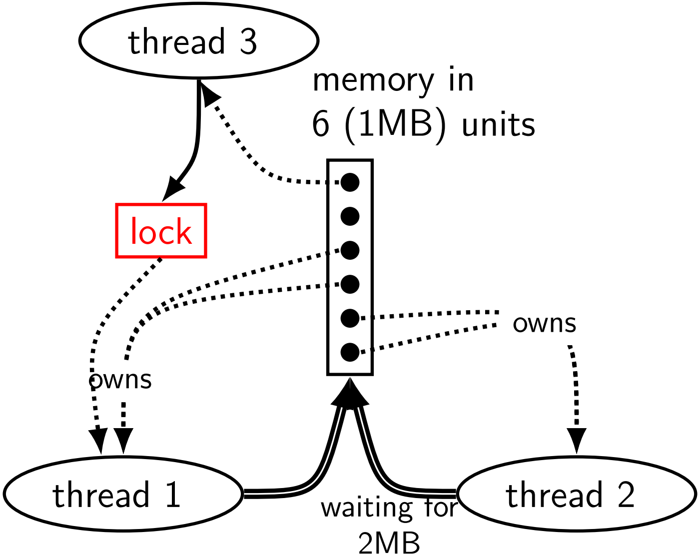
then thread 2 can get resources
then thread 2 can finish

divisible resources: not deadlock

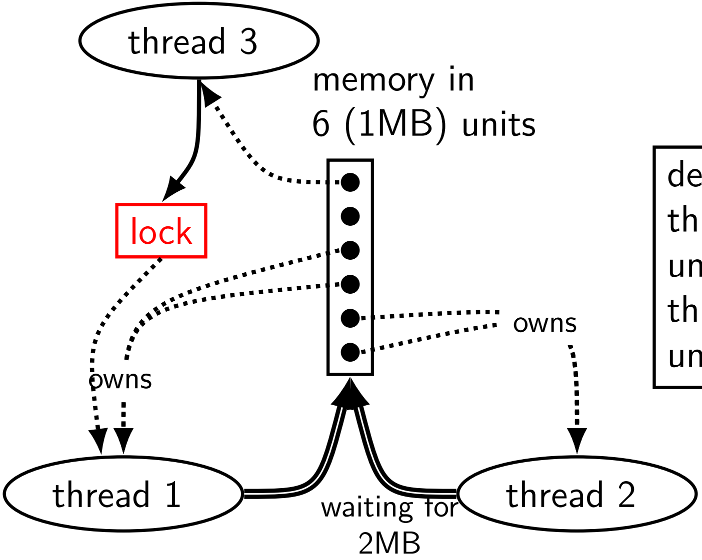


not deadlock:
thread 3 finishes
then thread 1 can get memory
then thread 1 finishes
then thread 2 can get resources
then thread 2 can finish

divisible resources: is deadlock

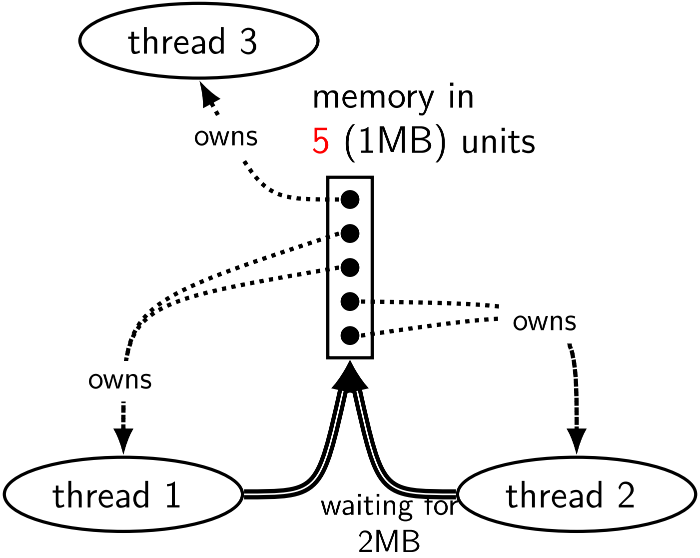


divisible resources: is deadlock

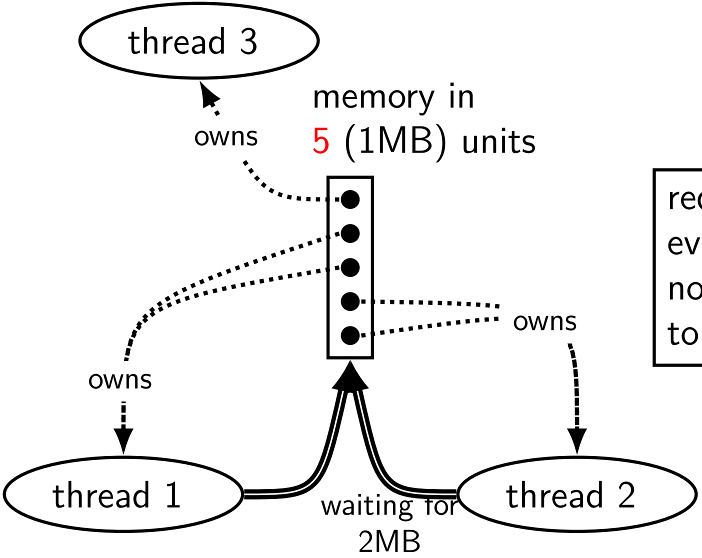


deadlock:
thread 3 can't finish
until thread 1 releases lock, but
thread 1 can't finish
until thread 3 releases memory

divisible resources: is deadlock

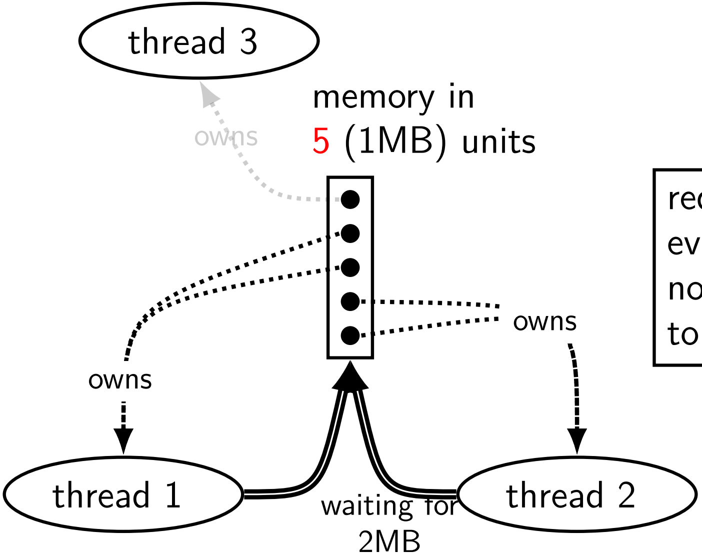


divisible resources: is deadlock



reducing memory: deadlock:
even after thread 3 finishes
no way for thread 1+2
to get what they want

divisible resources: is deadlock



reducing memory: deadlock:
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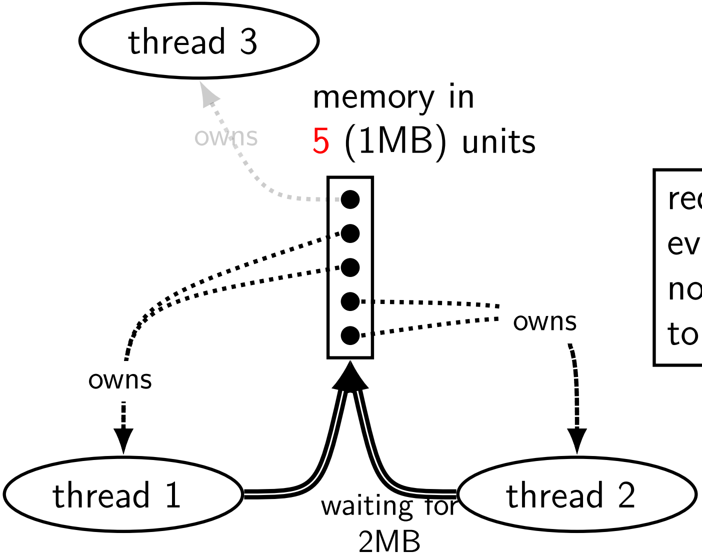

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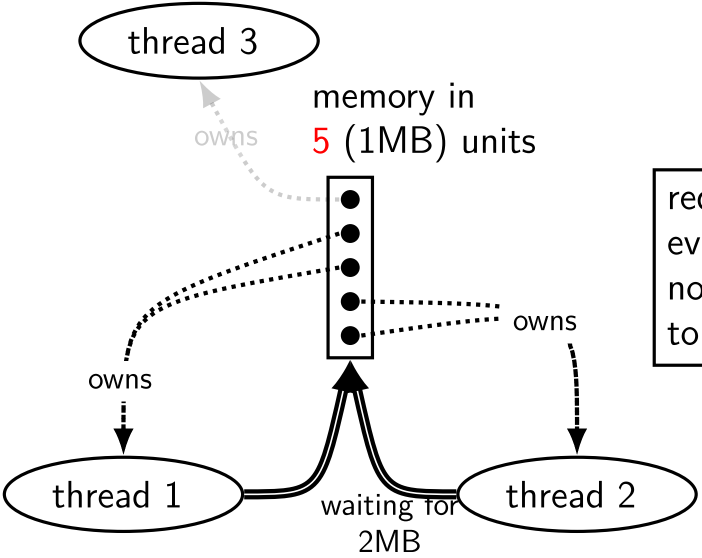

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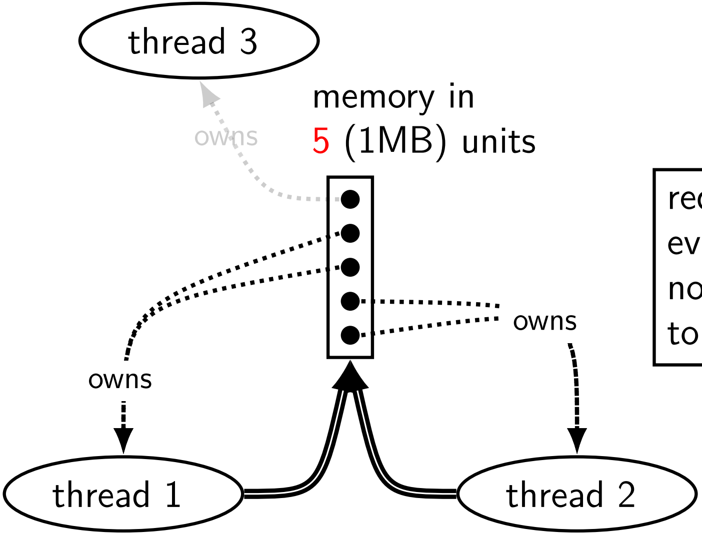

reducing memory: deadlock:
even after thread 3 finishes
no way for thread 1+2
to get what they want

deadlock detection with divisibe resources

can't rely on cycles in graphs in this case

alternate algorithm exists

- similar technique to how we showed no deadlock

high-level intuition: simulate what could happen

- find threads that could finish based on resources available now

full details: look up Baker's algorithm

stealing locks???

how do we make stealing locks possible

unclean: just kill the thread

- problem: inconsistent state?

clean: have code to undo partial oepration

- some databases do this

won't go into detail in this class

revokable locks?

```
try {
    AcquireLock();
    use shared data
} catch (LockRevokedException le) {
    undo operation hopefully?
} finally {
    ReleaseLock();
}
```

deadlock prevention techniques

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no shared resources	no *mutual exclusion*
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abort and retry limits?

abort-and-retry

how many times will you retry?

moving two files: abort-and-retry

```
struct Dir {
  mutex_t lock; map<string, DirEntry> entries;
};
void MoveFile(Dir *from_dir, Dir *to_dir, string filename) {
  while (true) {
    mutex_lock(&from_dir->lock);
    if (mutex_trylock(&to_dir->lock) == LOCKED) break;
    mutex_unlock(&from_dir->lock);
  }

  to_dir->entries[filename] = from_dir->entries[filename];
  from_dir->entries.erase(filename);

  mutex_unlock(&to_dir->lock);
  mutex_unlock(&from_dir->lock);
}
```

Thread 1: `MoveFile(A, B, "foo")`

Thread 2: `MoveFile(B, A, "bar")`

moving two files: lots of bad luck?

Thread 1 MoveFile(A, B, "foo")	Thread 2 MoveFile(B, A, "bar")
lock(&A->lock) → LOCKED	
	lock(&B->lock) → LOCKED
trylock(&B->lock) → FAILED	
	trylock(&A->lock) → FAILED
unlock(&A->lock)	
	unlock(&B->lock)
lock(&A->lock) → LOCKED	
	lock(&B->lock) → LOCKED
trylock(&B->lock) → FAILED	
	trylock(&A->lock) → FAILED
unlock(&A->lock)	
	unlock(&B->lock)

livelock

livelock: keep aborting and retrying without end

like deadlock — no one's making progress

- potentially forever

unlike deadlock — threads are not waiting

preventing livelock

make schedule random — e.g. random waiting after abort

make threads run one-at-a-time if lots of aborting

other ideas?

backup slides