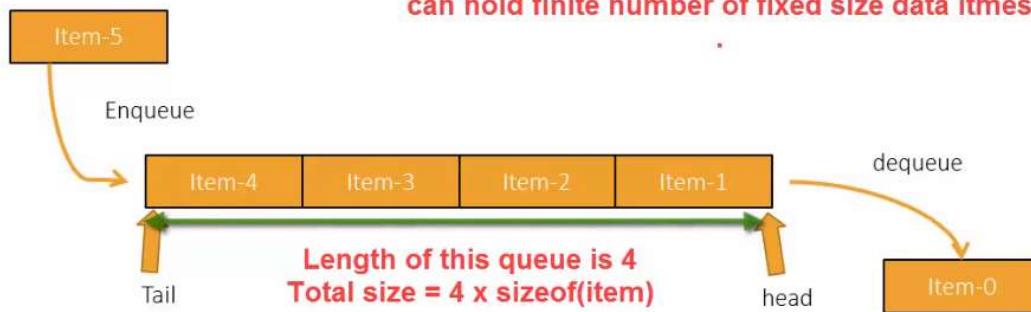


Free RTOS Part II

1

So ,what are queues ?

A Queue is nothing but a data structure which can hold finite number of fixed size data items

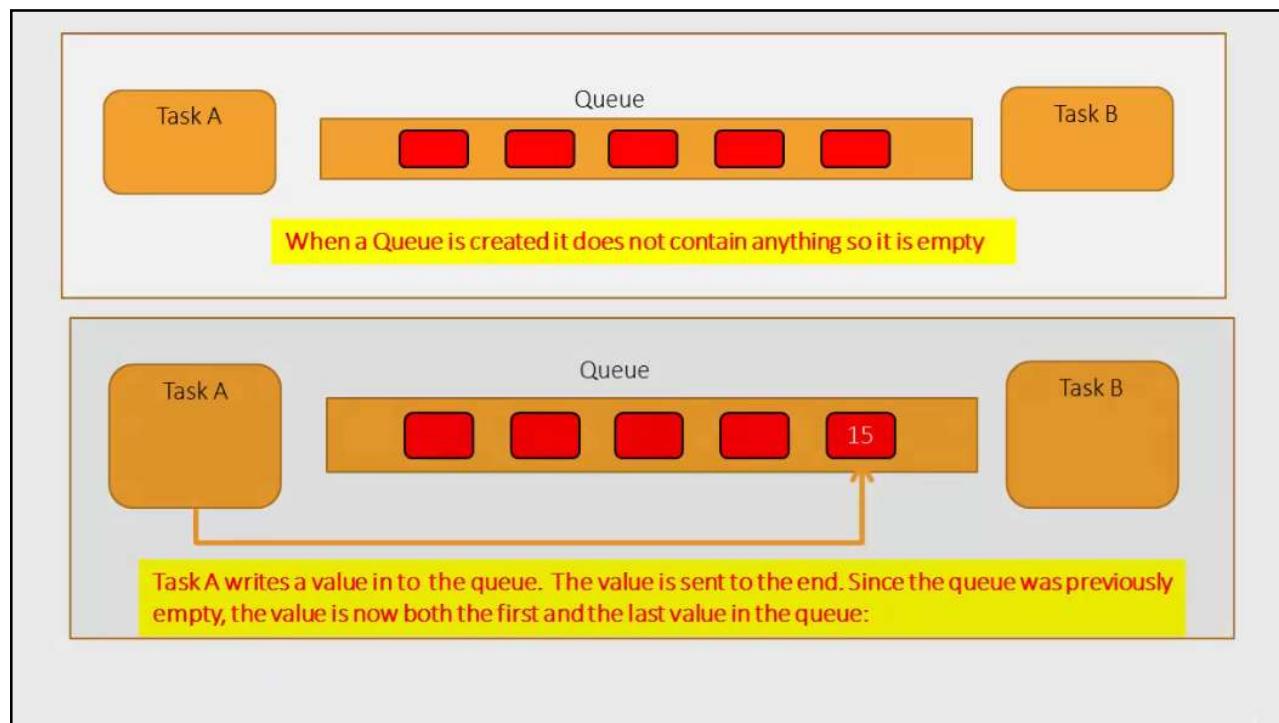


2

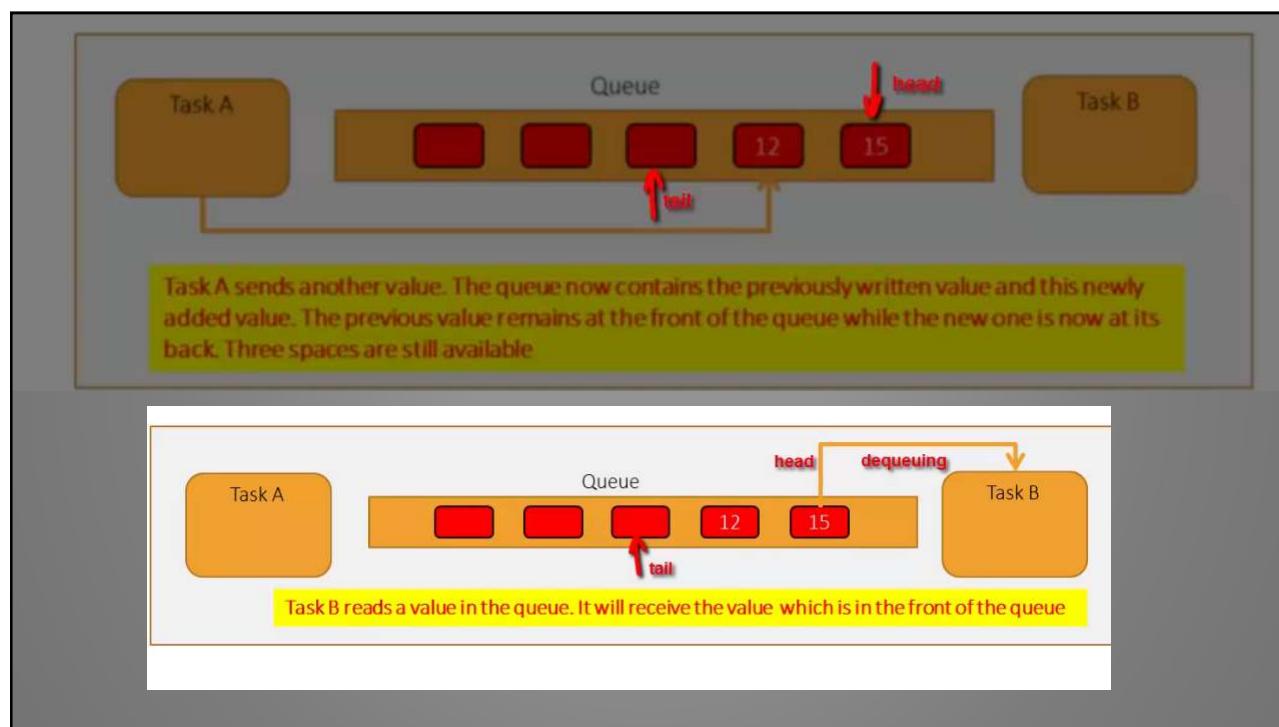
So ,what are queues ?



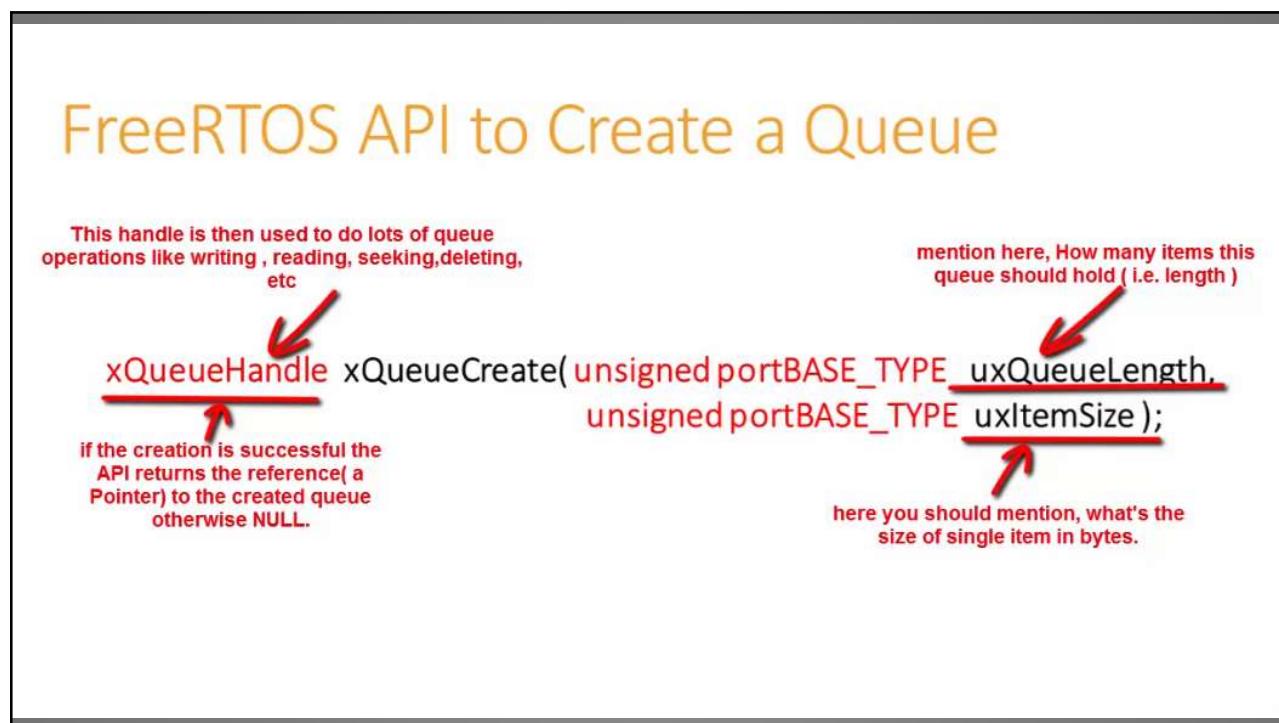
3



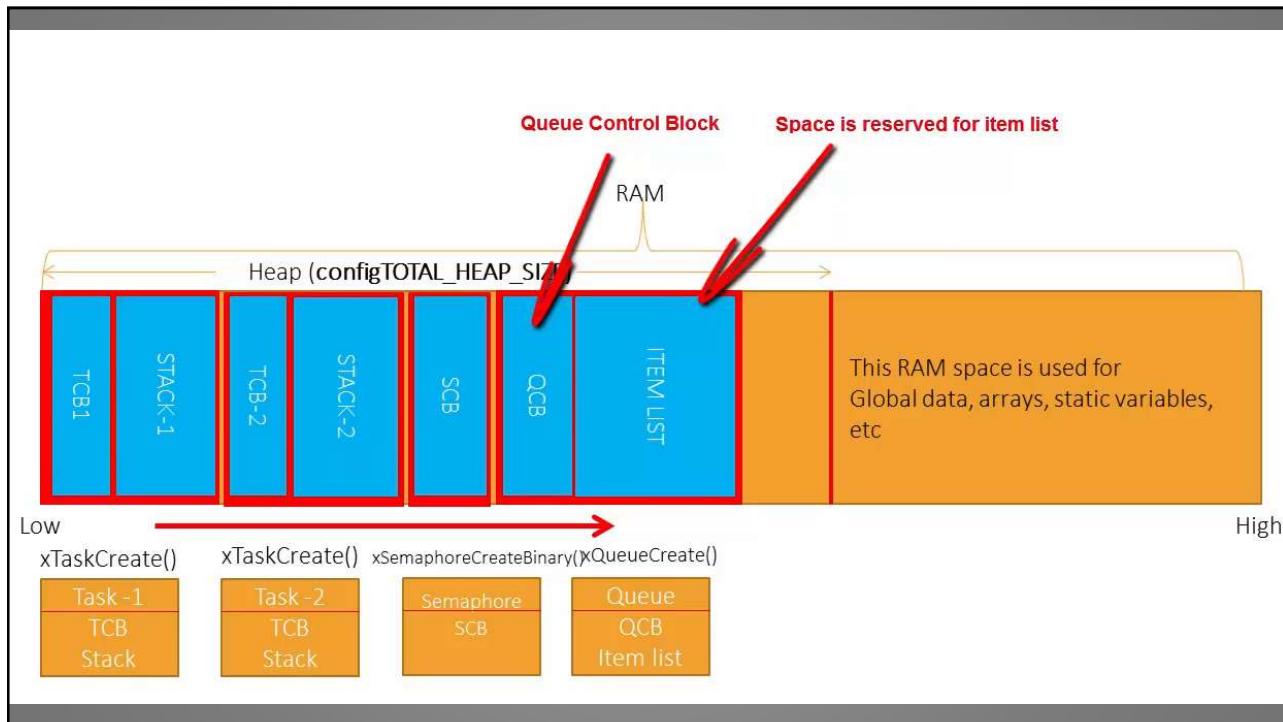
4



5



6



7

```

struct AMessage
{
    char ucMessageID;
    char ucData[ 20 ];
};

void vATask( void *pvParameters )
{
    QueueHandle_t xQueue1, xQueue2;           10 chunks      4 bytes
                                                /* Create a queue capable of containing 10 unsigned long values.
                                                xQueue1 = xQueueCreate( 10, sizeof( unsigned long ) );
                                                Total Size = 40 bytes
                                                */
    if( xQueue1 == NULL )
    {
        /* Queue was not created and must not be used. */
    }

    /* Create a queue capable of containing 10 pointers to AMessage
       structures. These are to be queued by pointers as they are
       relatively large structures. */
    xQueue2 = xQueueCreate( 10, sizeof( struct AMessage * ) );

    if( xQueue2 == NULL )
    {
        /* Queue was not created and must not be used. */
    }
    /* ... Rest of task code. */
}

```

- **xQueue1** ഒരു QCB ആണ്
LISTS പൂർണ്ണമായി pointer ശേഖ്യമാക്കിയാണ്
സൂചിപ്പിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ട്
- memory മല്ലെലാറ്റിക്ക്
NULL return ചെയ്യുന്നതിലാണ് സൂചിപ്പിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ട്

8

```

struct AMessage
{
    char ucMessageID;
    char ucData[ 20 ];
};

/* Create a queue capable of containing 10 pointers to AMessage
   structures. These are to be queued by pointers as they are
   relatively large structures. */
xQueue2 = xQueueCreate( 10, sizeof( struct AMessage * ) );

if( xQueue2 == NULL )
{
    /* Queue was not created and must not be used. */
}

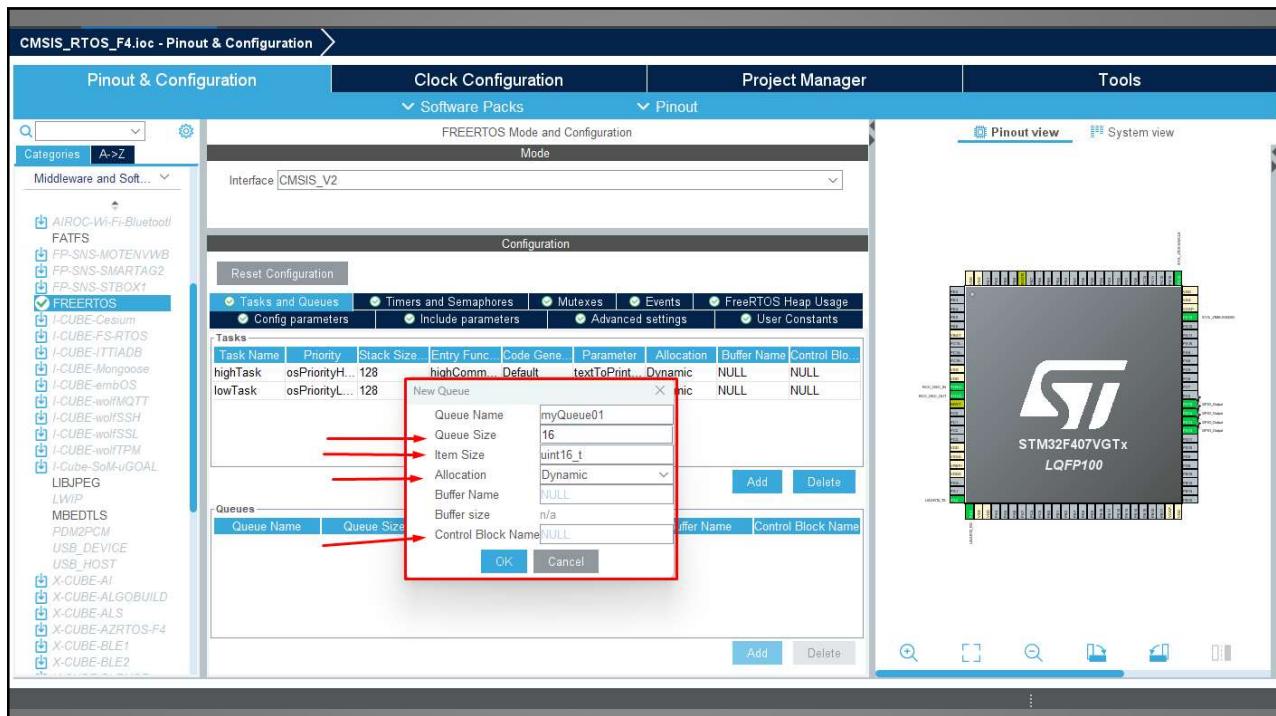
/* ... Rest of task code. */

```

Here, this queue will hold 10 different struct pointers instead of struct itself.

- ACB အတွက်လည်း heap ထဲက size အနေဖြင့်ယူသုံးလေးတာကိုသတိပြုရန်
- AMessage Structure အသုံးပြုပါး Queue တစ်ခုဆောက်မှုပါ။
- ပုံမှန် Structure တစ်ခုလုံးရဲ့ size က 21 bytes ဖြစ်မယ်။ Queue ဆောက်ထားတာက 10 chunks ဆိုရင် = 210 bytes ဖြစ်ပါတယ်။
- Space ကများလွန်းတဲ့အတွက် Amessage Structure ကို pointer အေနနဲ့
ပြန်သုံးလိုက်ခြင်းဖြစ် Struct ရဲ့ size က 4 bytes နဲ့ 10 chunks ဆိုရင် 40 bytes
ပဲပြန်ရမှုပါ။

9



10

xQueueSendToFront()

Q handle which we got from Q create API

```
portBASE_TYPE xQueueSendToFront( xQueueHandle xQueue,
                                  const void * pvItemToQueue,
                                  portTickType xTicksToWait );
```

mention the address of the
data item which you want
to send to Q

Number of ticks the task who calls this
api must wait if the Q is full .

mention zero here if your
task doesn't want to wait
if the Q is full .

if you use the macro port_MAX_DELAY,
then your task will wait until the Q
becomes free for atleast one item. If Q
never becomes free then you task will
wait forever.

11

```
unsigned long ulVar = 10UL;

void vATask( void *pvParameters )
{
    QueueHandle_t xQueue1, xQueue2;
    struct AMessage *pxMessage;

    /* Create a queue capable of containing 10 unsigned long values. */
    xQueue1 = xQueueCreate( 10, sizeof( unsigned long ) );

    /* Create a queue capable of containing 10 pointers to AMessage
       structures. These should be passed by pointer as they contain a lot of
       data. */
    xQueue2 = xQueueCreate( 10, sizeof( struct AMessage * ) );

    /* ... */

    if( xQueue1 != 0 )
    {
        /* Send an unsigned long. Wait for 10 ticks for space to become
           available if necessary. */
        if( xQueueSendToFront( xQueue1,
                               ( void * ) &ulVar,
                               ( TickType_t ) 10 ) != pdPASS )
        {
            /* Failed to post the message, even after 10 ticks. */
        }
    }
}
```

12

xQueueSendToBack()

```
portBASE_TYPE xQueueSendToBack( xQueueHandle xQueue,
                                const void * pvItemToQueue,
                                portTickType xTicksToWait );
```

This API will post the data item to the back(tail) of the Q

13

xQueueReceive()

This API will Read a data item from the Q. The data item which is being read will be removed from the Q.

```
portBASE_TYPE xQueueReceive(xQueueHandle xQueue,
                            const void * pvBuffer, ✓
                            portTickType xTicksToWait );
```

the pointer which you supply here
will hold the data item which is
being read.

returns TRUE if read is successfull
returns QUEUE_EMPTY if Q is Empty even after
xTicksToWait

If the Q is empty, then mention here
for how many number of ticks your
task wishes to block or wait !

14

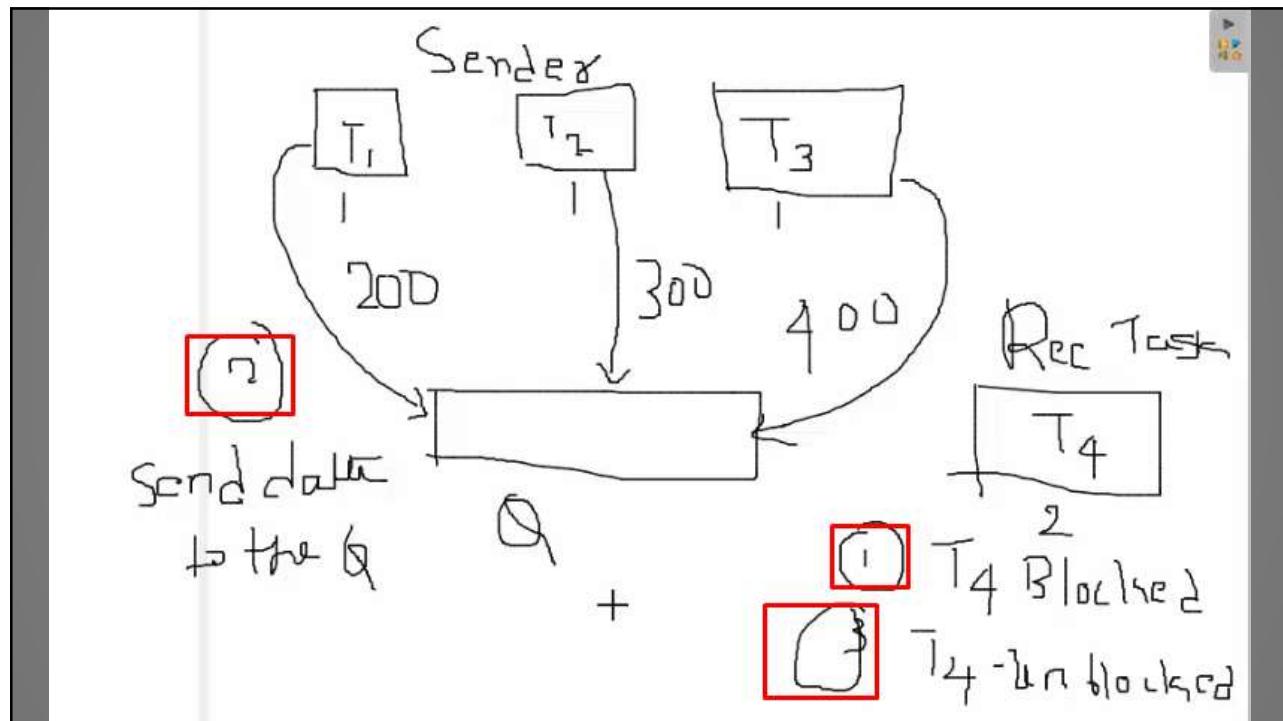
xQueuePeek()

In this case, the data item being read
is not removed from the Queue

```
portBASE_TYPE xQueuePeek(xQueueHandle xQueue,
                           const void *pvBuffer,
                           portTickType xTicksToWait );
```

Receive වෙ Queue එක data තුළ ඇත්තුවායාමයි
Peek වෙ Queue එක data තුළ ඇත්තුවායාමයි copy ගැනීමයි

15



16

```

/* USER CODE END Header_StartTask01 */
void SenderStartFunc(void *argument)
{
    long sendVal;
    osStatus_t xStatus;

    sendVal = (long) argument;
    printf("Started put to Queue..\n");
    for(;;)
    {
        xStatus = osMessageQueuePut(myQueue01Handle, &sendVal, 0, 0);
        if (xStatus != osOK){
            printf(" Couldn't send to queue01.\r\n");
        }
        taskYIELD(); //same as portYIELD() in CMSIS-API
        BLUE_LED_TOGGLE();
        //osDelay(1);
    }
}

void readQueueInit(void *argument)
{
    /* USER CODE BEGIN readQueueInit */
    long recVal;
    osStatus_t xStatus;
    const portTicktype xTicksToWait = 100/portTICK_RATE_MS; //100 ms
    /* Infinite loop */
    for(;;)
    {
        printf("About to read value from Queue 01 \n");
        xStatus = osMessageQueueGet(myQueue01Handle, &recVal, NULL, xTicksToWait);
        if (xStatus == osOK){
            printf ("Received Value : %ld \n", recVal);
            GREEN_LED_TOGGLE();
        }
        else {
            printf ("Not Received ! \n");
            RED_LED_ON();
        }
        //osDelay(1);
    }
    /* USER CODE END readQueueInit */
}

```

osMessageQueuePut()

osMessageQueueGet()

17

The screenshot shows a development environment with multiple tabs open. The main code editor shows the `main.c` file with definitions for three tasks: `myTask01`, `myTask02`, and `myTask03`. The `myTask01` section includes code for `osMessageQueuePut` and `osMessageQueueGet`. The `myTask02` and `myTask03` sections include code for `taskYIELD` and `osDelay`.

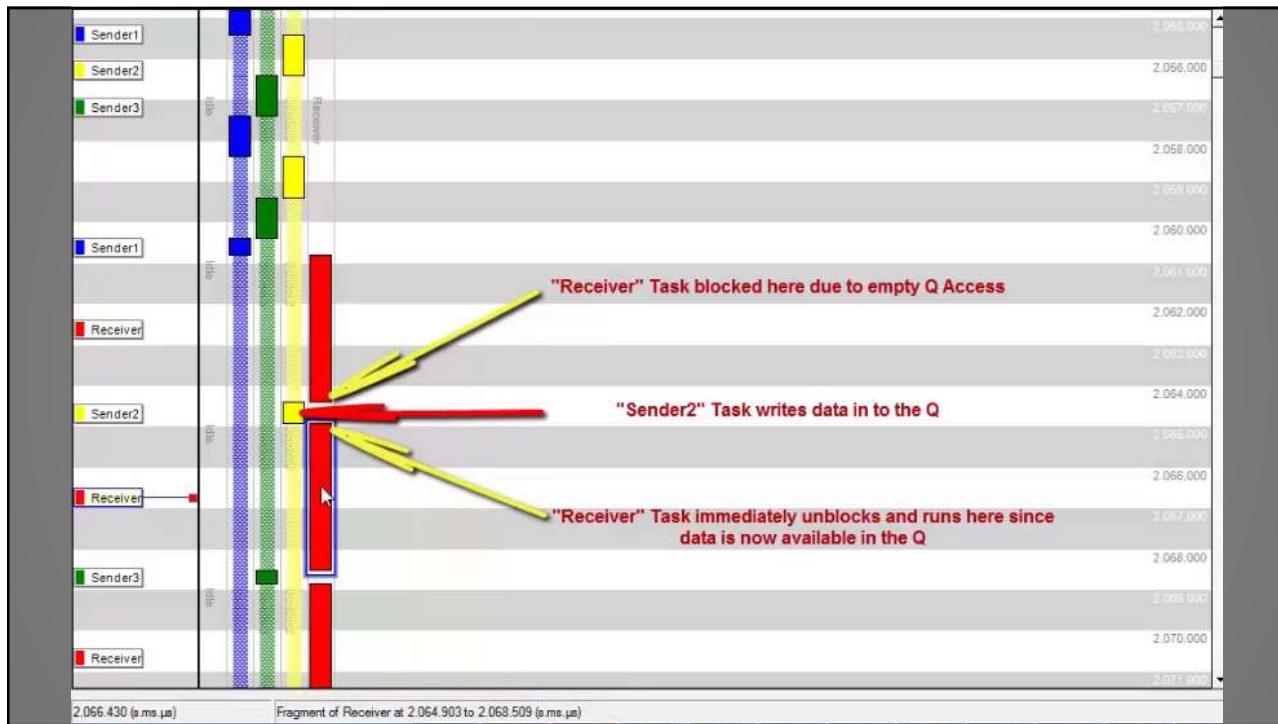
The `SWV ITM Data` window displays the message `osKernel Initialized....`. The `Console` window shows the following output:

```

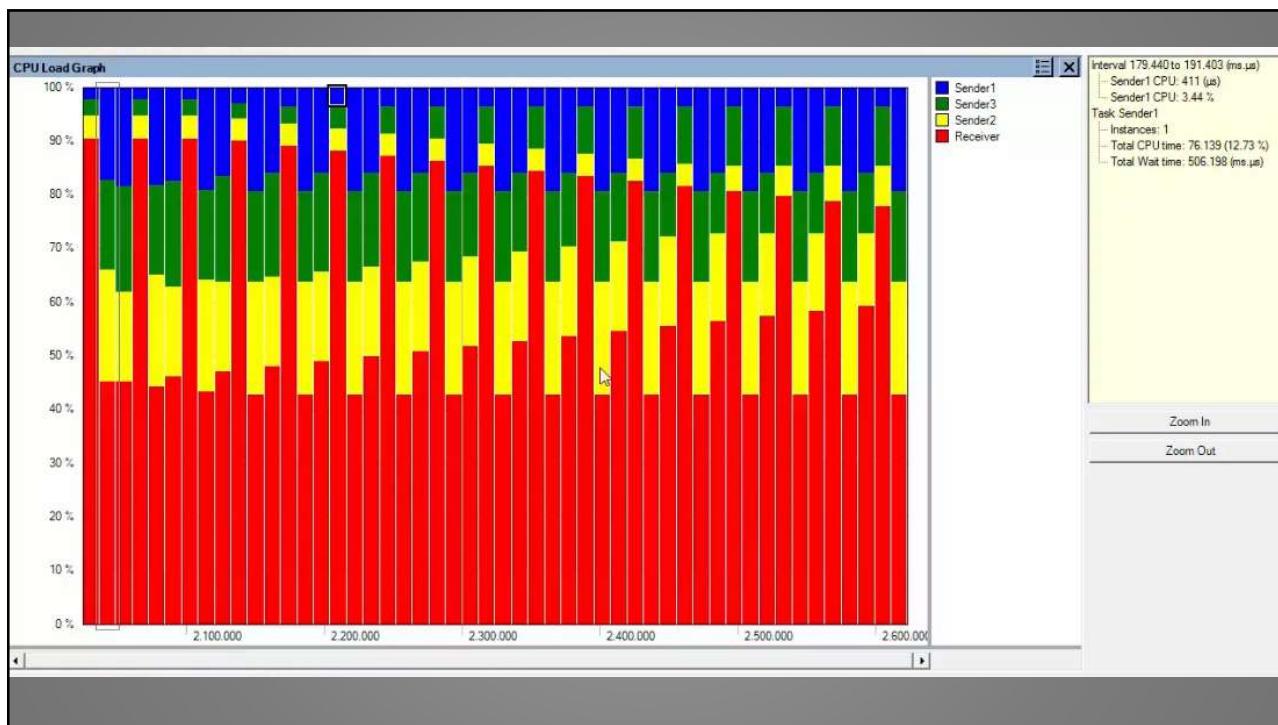
osKernel Initialized....
About to read value from Queue 01
Started put to Queue..
Received Value : 200
About to read value from Queue 01
Started put to Queue..
Received Value : 300
About to read value from Queue 01
Started put to Queue..
Received Value : 400
About to read value from Queue 01
Received Value : 200
About to read value from Queue 01
Received Value : 300
About to read value from Queue 01
Received Value : 400
About to read value from Queue 01
Received Value : 200
About to read value from Queue 01
Received Value : 300
About to read value from Queue 01

```

18

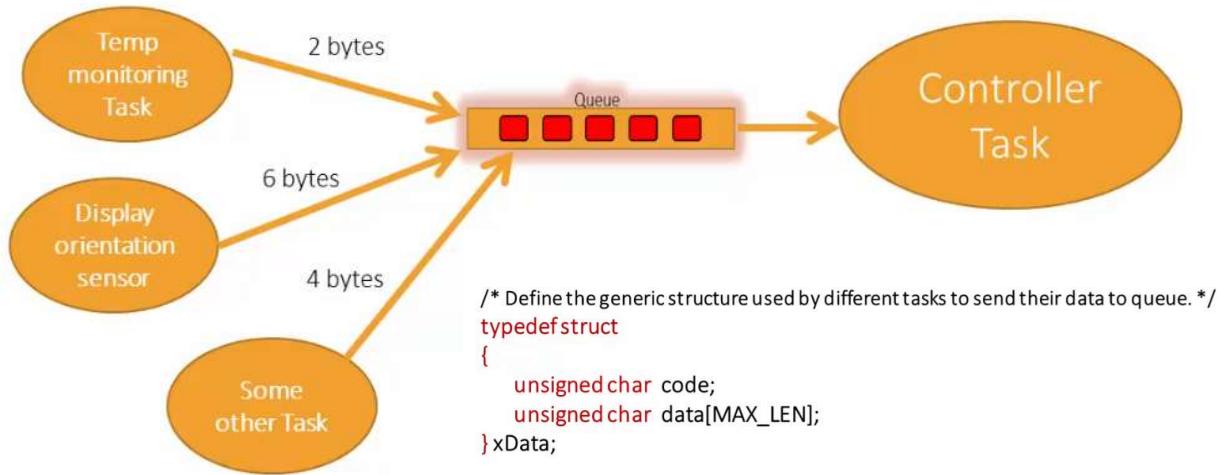


19



20

Scenario of Task receiving data from multiple sources on a single queue



21

Structure နှင့် Pointer သုံးပြီး စမ်းသပ်ရန် ကျွန်ုရီ

22

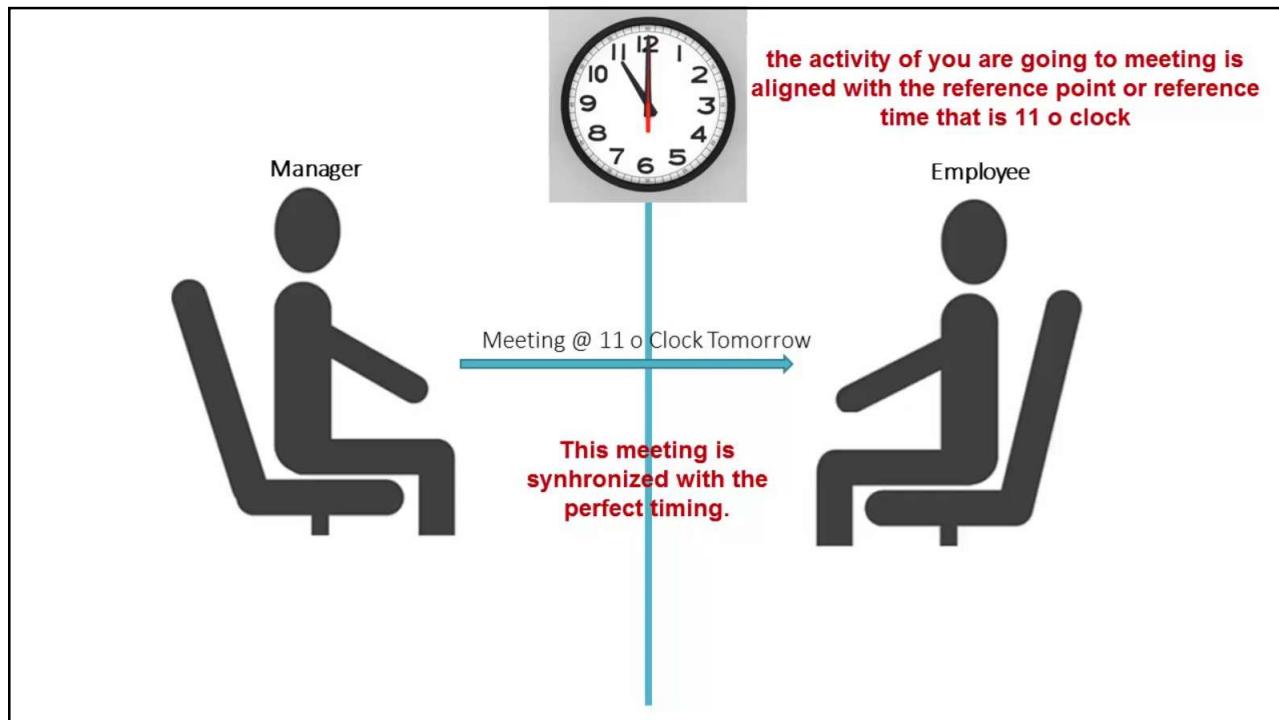
Synchronization in Computing

23

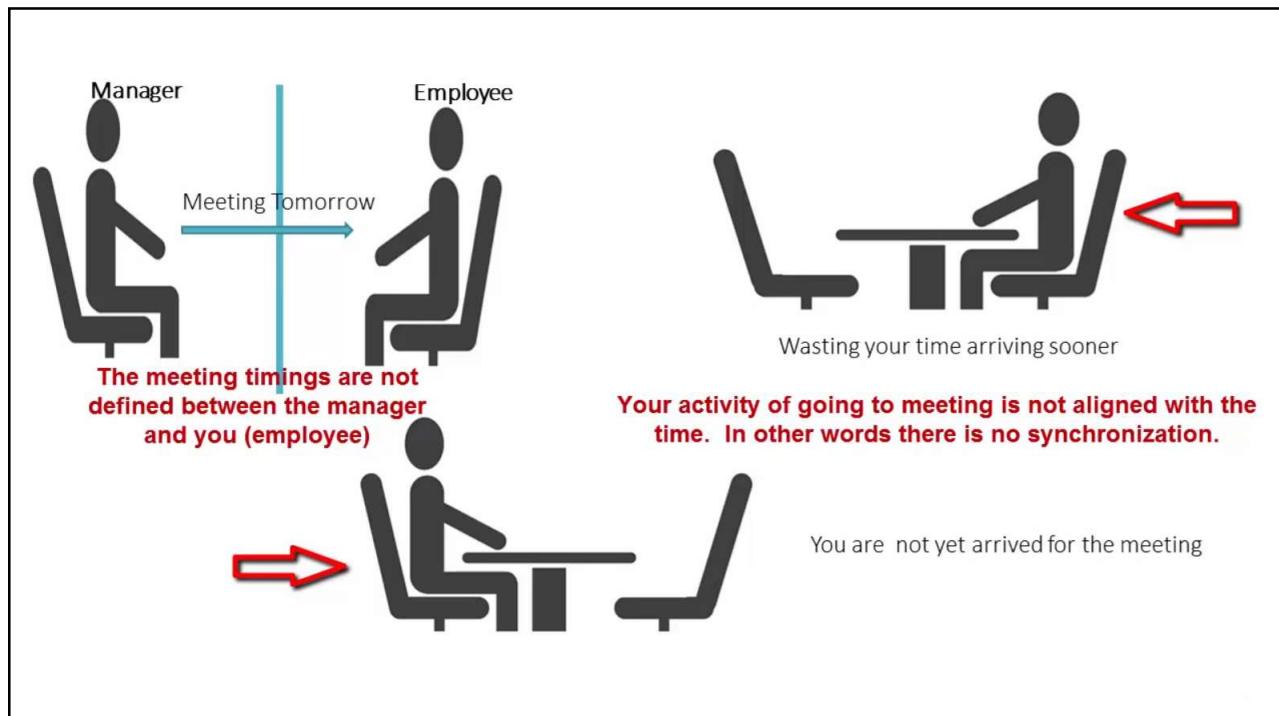
A semaphore is a kernel object or you can say kernel service, that one or more threads of execution can acquire or release for the purpose of *synchronization* or *mutual exclusion*.

Before understanding semaphore, let's first explore what is synchronization and mutual exclusion.

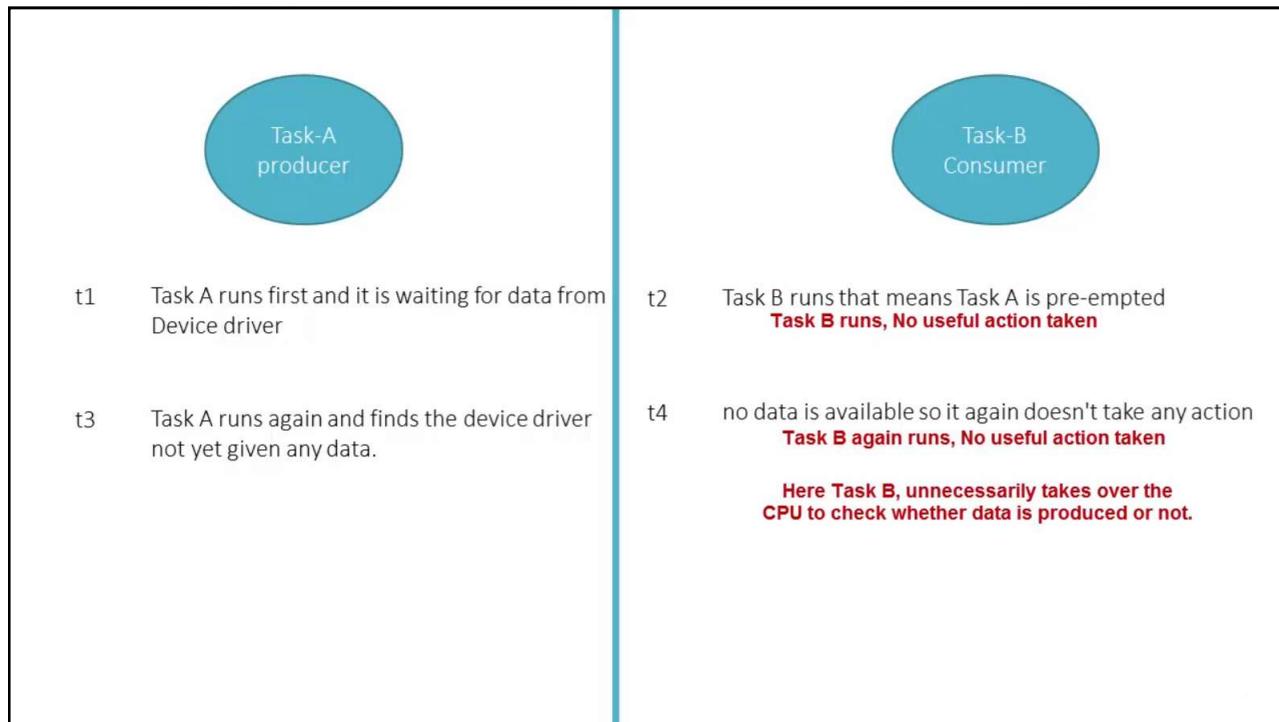
24



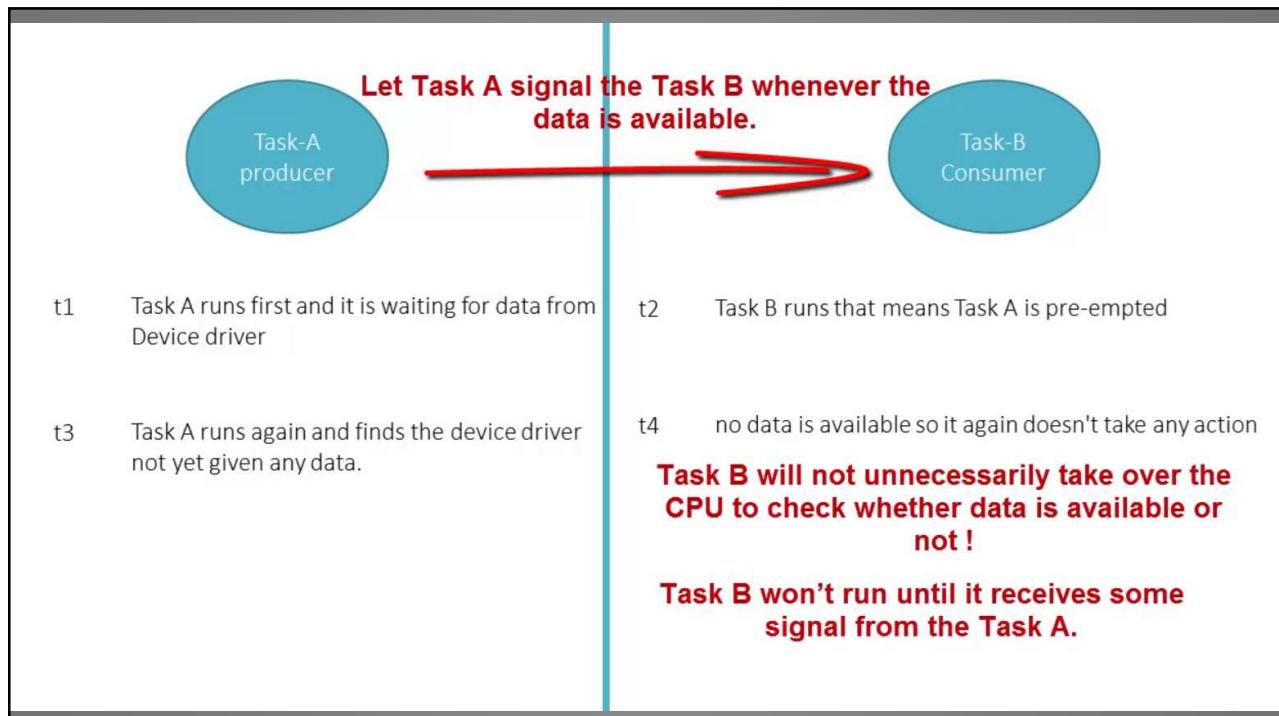
25



26



27



28

Kernel Objects which can be used for Synchronization

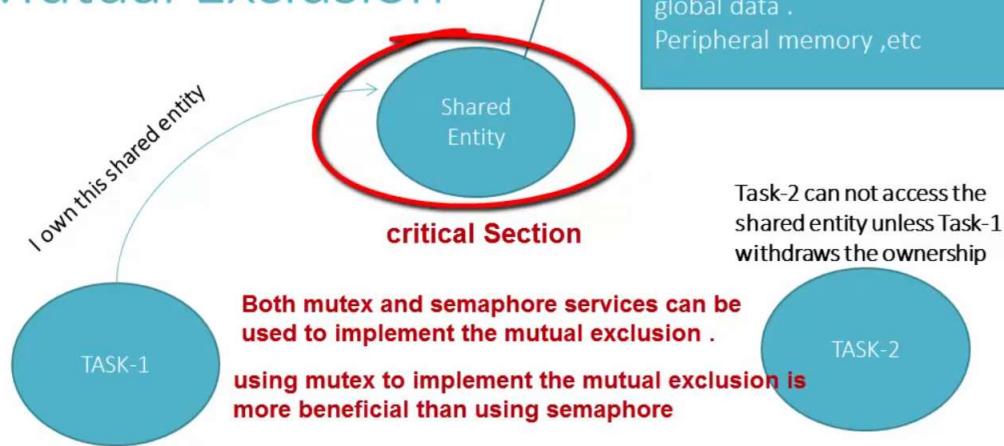
- Events (or Event Flags)
- Semaphores (Counting and binary)
- Queues and Message Queues
- Pipes
- Mailboxes
- Signals (UNIX like signals)
- Mutex

In this section, let's explore how we can implement synchronization using semaphore.

FreeRTOS Supports
Semaphores, Queues and
Mutex

29

Mutual Exclusion



30

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Concluding points

Synchronization is nothing but aligning number of Tasks to achieve a desired behaviour.

Where as mutual exclusion is avoiding a task to execute the critical section which is already owned by another task for execution.

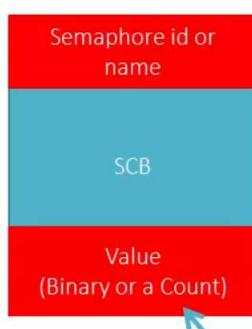
Typically Semaphores are used to implement the synchronization between tasks and between tasks and interrupts.

Mutex are the best choice to implement the mutual exclusion. That is protecting access of a shared item.

Semaphores also can be used to implement the mutual exclusion but it will introduce some serious design issues which we will see later.

31

Creating a Semaphore



This value Determines how many semaphore tokens are available.



Keys or tokens

If a task can acquire the key(semaphore), then only it can carry out the intended operation.

Task-Waiting-List



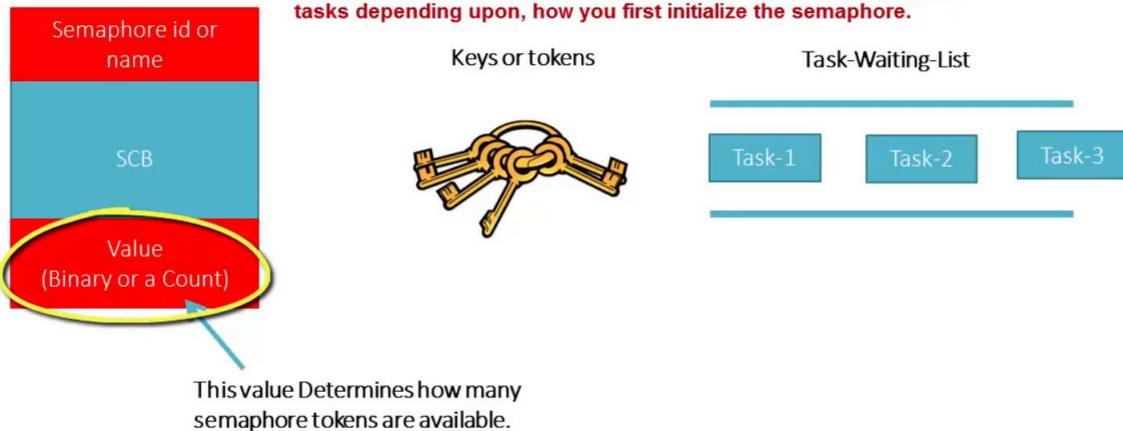
If a task fails to get the key, then that task will be blocked and kernel will put that task in to task waiting list.

That means tasks state will be changed from "Running" to "Blocked"!

32

Creating a Semaphore

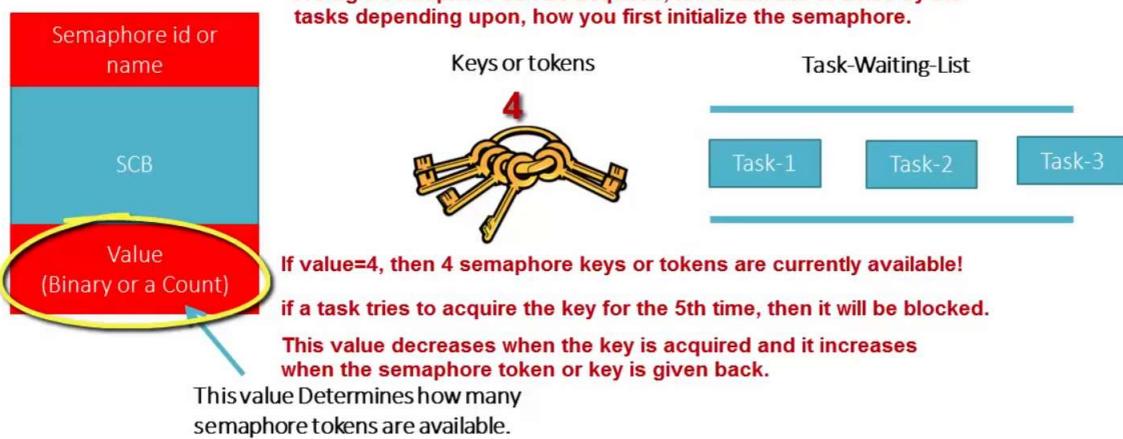
A single semaphore can be acquired, finite number of times by the tasks depending upon, how you first initialize the semaphore.



33

Creating a Semaphore

A single semaphore can be acquired, finite number of times by the tasks depending upon, how you first initialize the semaphore.



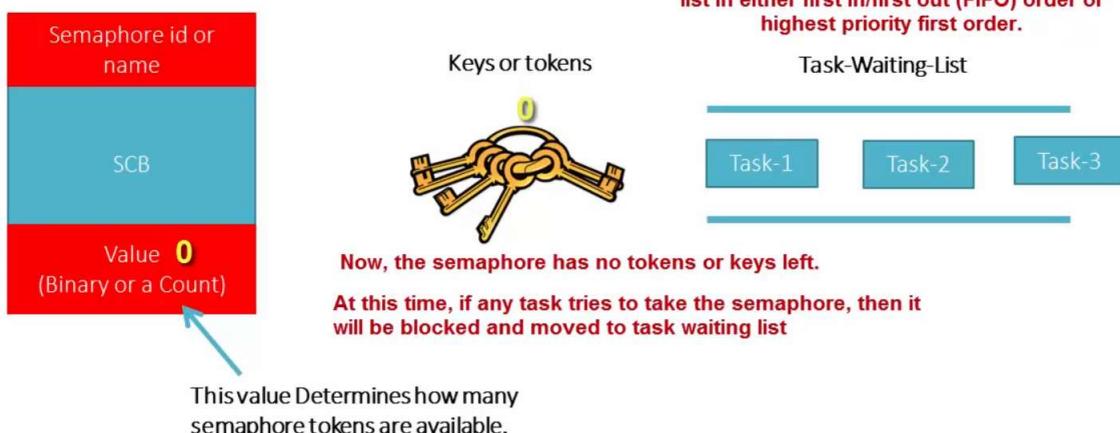
34

Creating a Semaphore



35

Creating a Semaphore



36

Two Types of Semaphore

- Binary
- Counting

37

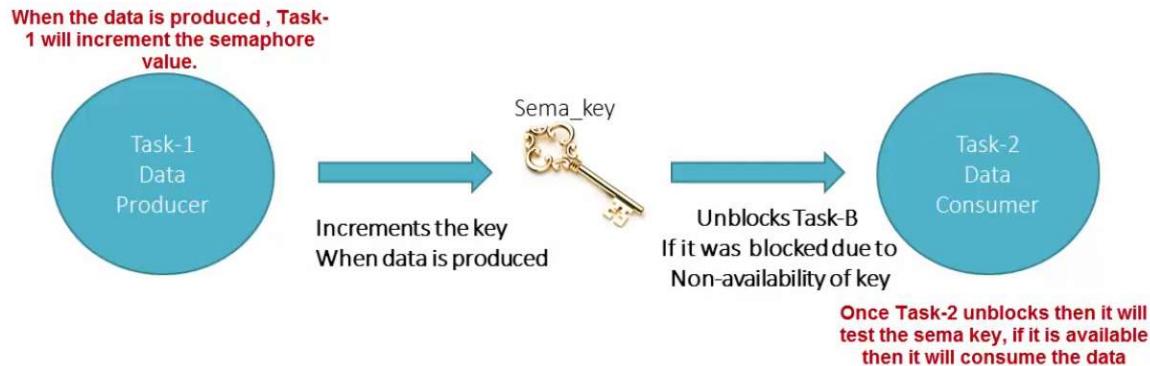
The main use of binary semaphore or counting semaphore is synchronization. The synchronization can be between tasks or between a task and an interrupt.

Lets first see how binary semaphore can be used for synchronization between 2 tasks.

38

19

Binary sema to Synchronize between Tasks



39

```

void task1_running(void)
{
    if( TRUE == produce_some_data() )
    {
        /* This is a signalling for the task2 to wake up if it is blocked due to non availability of key */
        sema_give(&sema_key); // 'GIVE' operation will increment the semaphore value by 1
    }
}

void task2_running(void)
{
    /* if sema_key is unavailable then task2 will be blocked. */
    /* if sema_key is available, then task2 will take it and sema_key becomes unavailable again */
    while( sema_take(&sema_key) )
    {
        //Task will come here only when the sem_take operation is successful.
        /* lets consume the data */
        /* since the sem_key value is zero at this point, the next time when task-2 tries to
        take, it will be blocked. */
    }
}
  
```

once task-1 gives the sema_key,
this task will be unblocked.

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Implementation

- Button Press
- Long Press, Short Press, Toggle
- Estimate time between press and release for user btn on stmxxx.
- Interrupt occurs whenever pressing the user btn.
- Interrupt handler give sema key and call helper_task().
- Calculate relative (or) absolute time in the helper_task() and print it out SWD Console.

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Synchronization between Interrupt & Task

The Binary semaphore is very handy and well suited to achieve the synchronization between an interrupt handler execution and the task handler execution.

42

```

void interrupt_handler(void)
{
    do_important_work(); /* this is very short code */
    xSemaphoreGiveFromISR(&sem); /* Give means release the key */

} /* exit from the interrupt */

/* I am helper task for the interrupt ! I do time consuming work on behalf of interrupt handler*/
void helper_task(void)
{
    /* if taking a key is un-successful then this task will be blocked until key is available */
    while (xSemaphoreTake(&sem)) // GET means, trying to take the key
    {
        // it will come here, only if taking a key is successful .
        /* Do time consuming work of the ISR */
    }
}

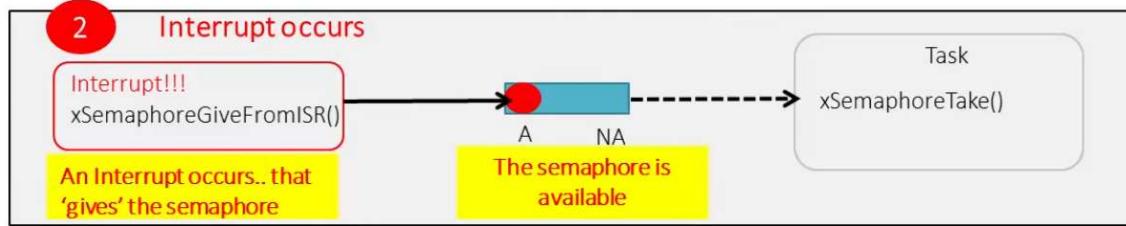
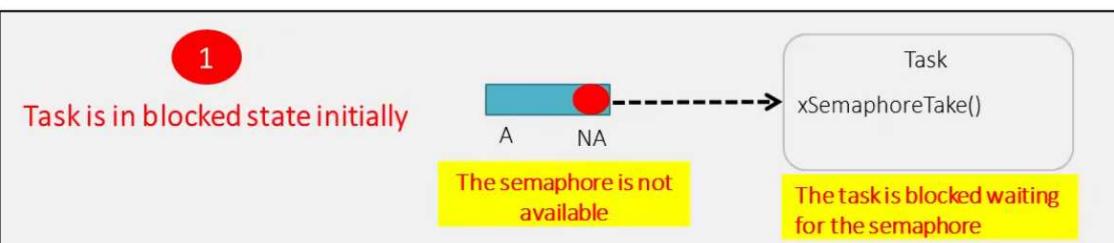
```

This interrupt handler does only minimal essential work and offloads other work to its helper task below. This interrupt handler signals its helper task using a semaphore.

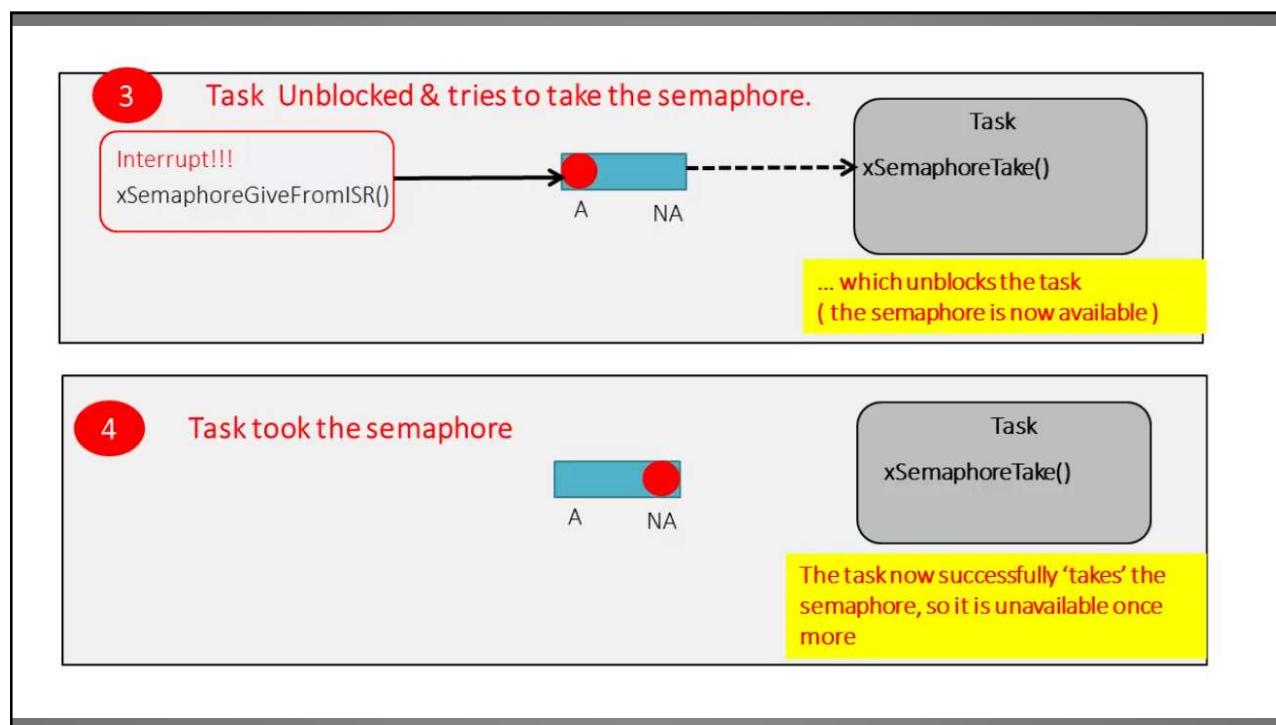
Once this interrupt handler gives the semaphore back, the helper task will get unblocked and starts executing from the point where it was last blocked.

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Synchronization between an Interrupt and a Task using Binary semaphore



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45

Interrupt Priority \searrow Task Priority \searrow

- Higher-priority tasks preempt lower-priority tasks:
If a higher-priority task becomes ready, the currently running lower-priority task is suspended, and the higher-priority task is executed.
- Round-robin scheduling: If two or more tasks have the same priority, the system can execute them in a round-robin fashion, where each task gets a time slice.
- Idle task: There is always an idle task with the lowest priority that runs when no other tasks are ready.

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NVIC Priorities (Nested Vectored Interrupt Controller)

- Lower priority numbers represent higher priority levels
an interrupt with priority 0 is the highest, and one with priority 255 is the lowest, depending on the microcontroller's configuration.
- Nested interrupts (high priority နဲ့ interrupt ဝင်လာရင် ၏ lower priority နဲ့ handle လုပ်နေတဲ့ handler သည် interrupt အလုပ်ခံရမည်။
- NVIC supports preemption priorities and sub-priorities.
- Preemption priorities define which interrupt can preempt others
- sub-priorities determine the order of execution when two interrupts of the same preemption priority occur simultaneously.

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Interrupt Priority Grouping in NVIC

- Interrupts can preempt tasks
- Task scheduling resumes after the interrupt service handler
- If a task is critical and should not be interrupted
- Priority grouping is configured using the `NVIC_SetPriorityGrouping()` function, which decides the balance between preemption and sub-priority bits.

48

Event Latching

- အကယ်၍ interrupt က helper_task အလုပ်လုပ်နေတဲ့အခါးနှင့် interrupt ၁၀ ခုဆက်တိုက်ဝင်လာမယ်ဆိုရင်
ပြဿနာတက်ပါမယ်။ high frequency interrupt တွေဝင်လာတဲ့အခါးနှင့် Binary Semaphore ကိုအသုံးပြုထားမယ်ဆိုရင် Event Latch ဖြစ်ကို ဖြစ်ပါမယ်။
- ရှင်းပြချက်၊ interrupt ဝင်တဲ့အခါးတိုင်း interrupt handler က semaphore key ကို helper_Task ကို Give လုပ်နေမှာဖြစ်တယ်။
- အေးအခါး ၁၀ ကြိမ်ဆက်တိုက်ဝင်တဲ့အခါးမှာ interrupt handler က semaphore key ကို Give လုပ်နေမှာဖြစ်တယ်။ ဒါမယ့်သုံးထားတာက Binary ဖြစ်တဲ့အတွက် ပေးစရာမရှိတော့ပါဘူး။ အေးအတွက် interrupt တစ်ခုကိုပဲ အလုပ်လုပ်ပေးပြီးကျွန်တဲ့ ၉ ခုက missed ဖြစ်မှပါ။

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```

void interrupt_handler(void)
{
    /*  

    * This interrupt handler is triggered by a high frequency interrupt and takes a  

    * Binary Semaphore. It releases the semaphore key.  

    * This is done to prevent the interrupt from blocking the system.  

    */
    do_important_work(); /* this is very short code */
    xSemaphoreGiveFromISR(&sem); /* Give means release the key */

}/* exit from the interrupt */

/* I am helper task for the interrupt ! I do time consuming work on behalf of interrupt handler*/
void helper_task(void)
{
    /* if taking a key is un-successful then this task will be blocked until key is available */
    while (xSemaphoreTake(&sem)) // GET means, trying to take the key
    {
        // it will come here, only if taking a key is successful .
        /* Do time consuming work of the ISR */
    }
}

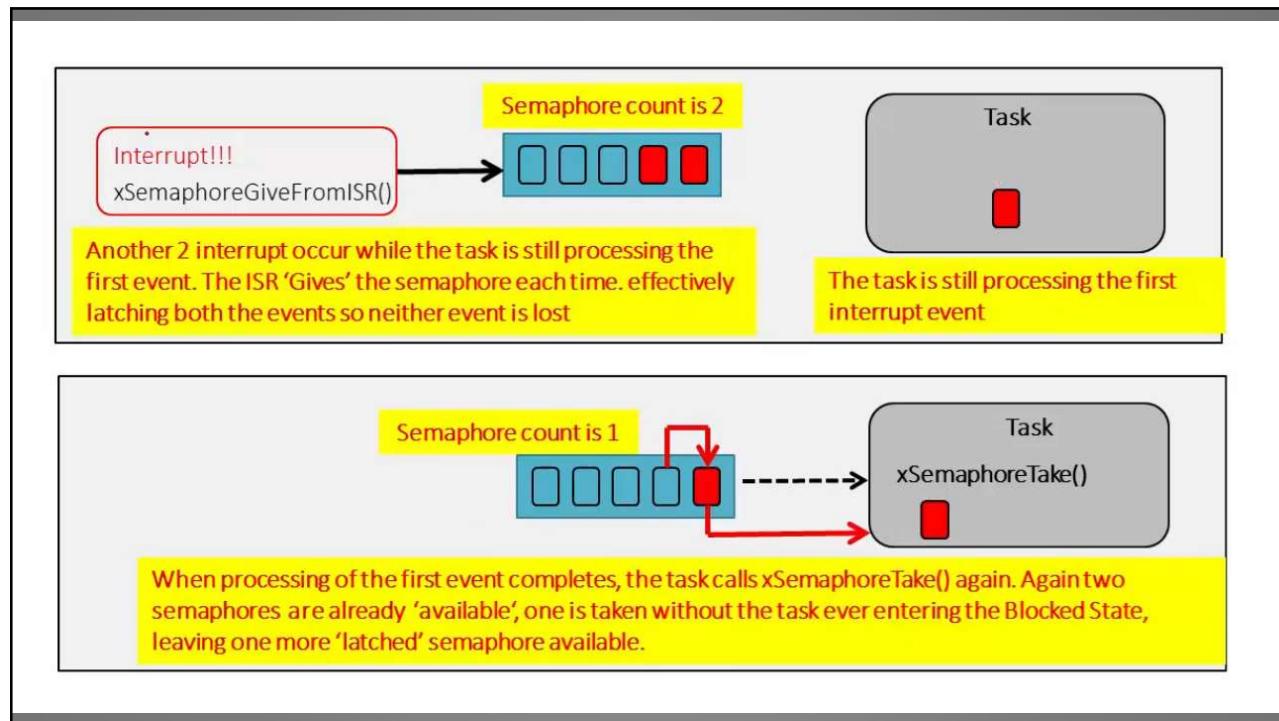
```

50

Concluding Points on Latching Events

1. When the interrupts/events happen relatively slow, the binary semaphore can latch at most only one event
2. If multiple interrupts/events trigger back to back, then the binary semaphore will not be able to latch all the events. So some events will be lost.
3. How to solve the above issue ? Welcome to the world of "Counting Semaphore"

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Watch Dog Timer (WDT)

- Timer that runs independent of CPU that can be used to trigger an interrupt or reset the MCU
- What would you use it for?
 - Perform a task at a regular interval
 - Wake up from sleep at a timed interval
 - Reset the MCU if it is stuck in a bad state
- There is an AVR Library for it “#include <avr/wdt.h>”
..... but it isn’t really complete :-/

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Operation of Watch Dog Timer (WDT)

- WDT is started with a timeout period.
- If the system operates correctly, it refreshes the WDT regularly (often from a high-priority task or the main loop).
- If the system hangs (e.g., due to an infinite loop or deadlock), the WDT is not refreshed and expires, triggering a system reset.
- The Watchdog Timer is a **hardware peripheral** on the microcontroller. It operates independently of the RTOS and does not require any task management.
- Ensures system reliability. If the system hangs (e.g., if a critical task is stuck or the CPU gets trapped in the idle thread), the WDT will reset the system to recover from the error.

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Mutual Exclusion using Binary Semaphore

Access to a resource that is shared either between tasks or between tasks and interrupts needs to be serialized using some techniques to ensure data consistency.

Usually a common code block which deals with global array, variable or memory address, has the possibility to get corrupted, when many tasks or interrupts are racing around it

55

Mutual Exclusion by Binary semaphore

```
#define UART_DR      *((unsigned long *) (0x40000000) )
/* This is a common function which write to UART DR */
int UART_Write(uint32_t len, uint8_t *buffer)
{
    for(uint32_t i=0; i < len ; i++)
    {
        get_lock(); 
        /* if Data Register is empty write it */
        while(! is_DR_empty());
        UART_DR = buffer[i];
        release_lock();
    }
}
```

before accessing the critical section get
the lock/key first.

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2 ways we can Implement the mutual exclusion in FreeRTOS

1. Using Binary semaphore APIs
2. Using Mutex APIs

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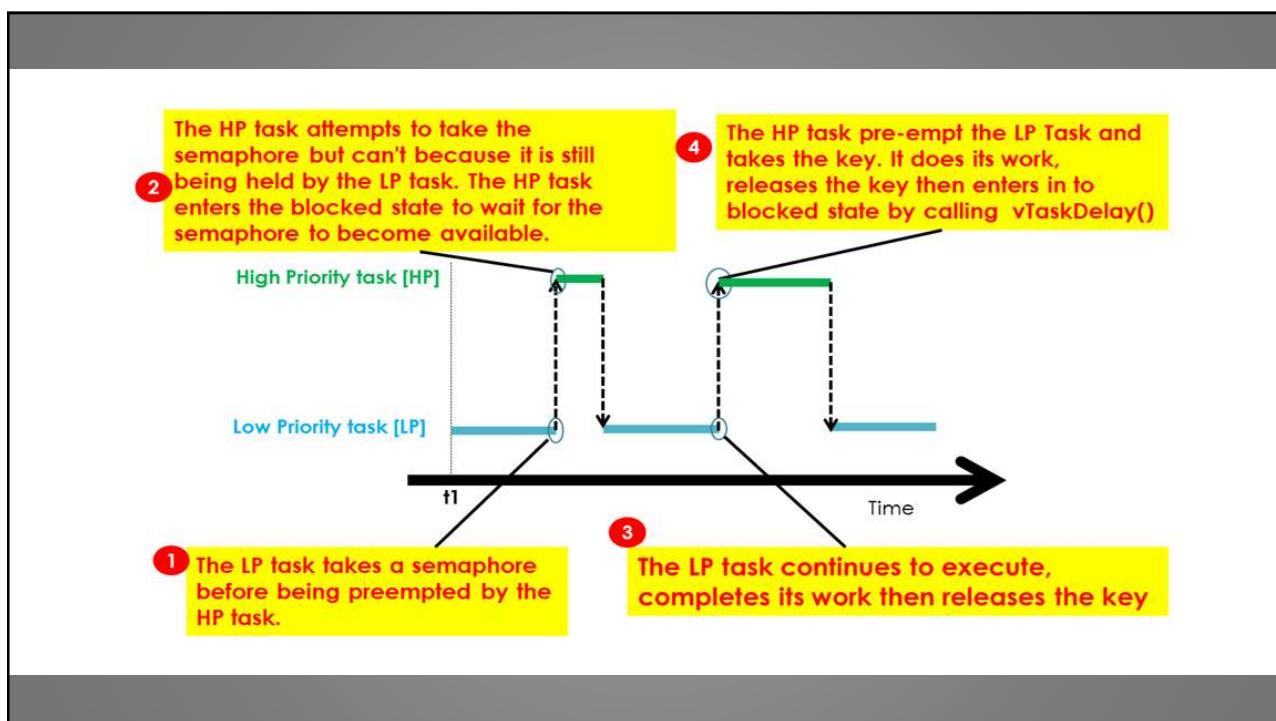
```
#define UART_DR      *((unsigned long *) (0x40000000) )
/* This is a common function which write to UART DR */
int UART_Write(uint32_t len , uint8_t *buffer)
{
    for(uint32_t i=0;i< len ; i++)
    {
        sema_take_key( bin_sema );
        /* if Data Register is empty write it */
        while(! is_DR_empty() );
        UART_DR = buffer[i]; //Critical section
        sema_give_key( bin_sema );
    }
}

binary semaphore ကို အသုံးပြုထားထောက်စွာအတွက် key ကို တော်းဆုံးရန်
အမြတ် Task က waiting lists ထဲမှာ blocked state နဲ့ ဆင်ရောက်ခြင်း Mutual Exclusion
ပြင်ပါသည်။
```



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Why people say do not use binary semaphore for mutual exclusion. ??

- carefully look at this timing diagram, there is a chance for priority inversion!
- Task-2 which is higher priority task gets blocked due to non-availability of semaphore and it is waiting for Task-1 to release the semaphore. Right?
- by this design, you made a higher priority task dependent on the lower Priority task. That is a bad.

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Why people say do not use binary semaphore for mutual exclusion. ??

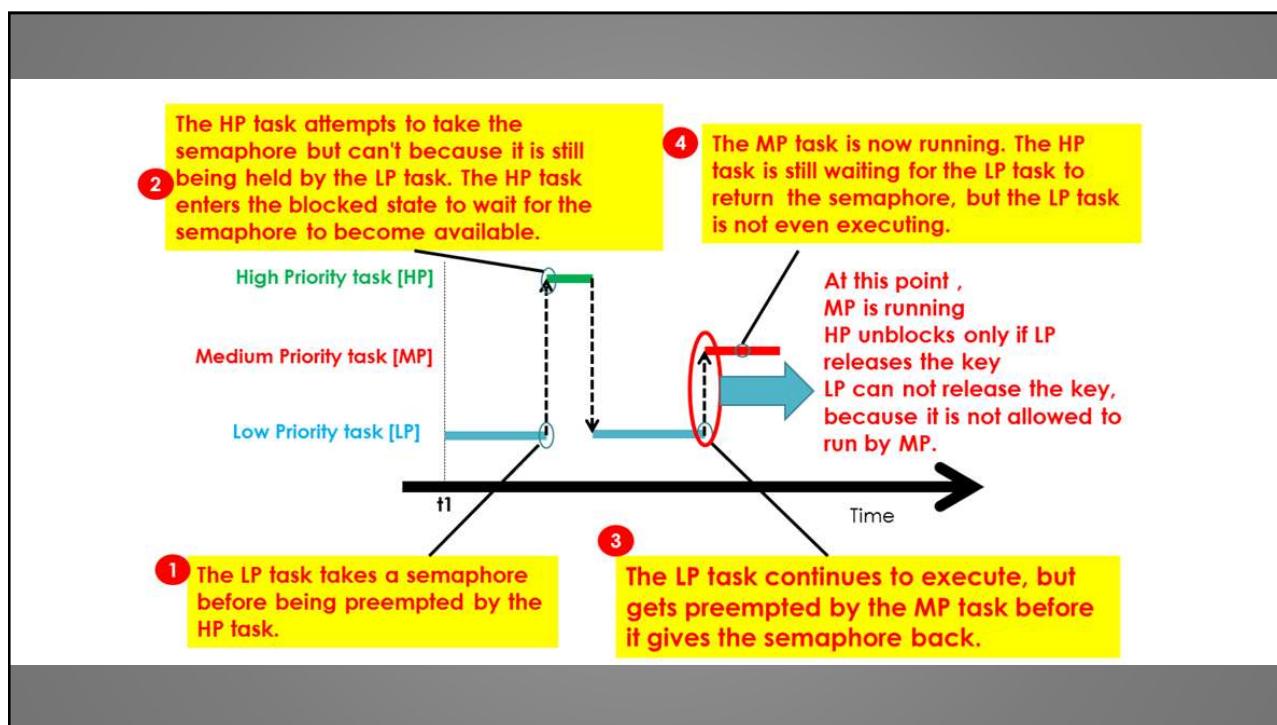
- The low priority task should never decide when the higher priority task must run.
- It's like you made a king dependent on a servant to take some action.
- So until lower priority task releases the semaphore, the higher priority task never runs. Isn't it?
- (Remember this is like your car and ambulance scenario i showed in the very first section of the course. You are blocking the way of ambulance.)

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Why people say do not use binary semaphore for mutual exclusion. ??

- And lower priority task will release the semaphore only when it gets allowed to run isn't it ?
- So, what if there is another medium task appears and it occupies the processor which will not allow lower Priority task to run?

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ခန်းချုပ်

- higher priority task is blocked and waiting for semaphore to get released by lower priority task.
- But lower priority task is not allowed to run by the medium priority task until it finishes and exits.
- As a result your lower Priority task may be delayed indefinitely and the higher priority task will remain in blocked state for indefinite time. This is exactly the scenario of Priority inversion.
- until medium task appears everything is OK,

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Are there any ways to solve or reduce the priority inversion problem ?

- Don't use binary semaphore for mutual exclusion when your system has many tasks of different Priorities.
- Use MUTEX instead.
- MUTEX has inbuilt intelligence to minimize the priority inversion effect and this is the biggest difference between MUTEX and Binary semaphore.

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MUTEX reduces the priority inversion effect. But how?

- In RTOS systems like FreeRTOS or CMSIS-RTOS, the **Mutex** often implements **Priority Inheritance** to mitigate the priority inversion problem.
- How **Priority Inheritance** works?

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Priority Inheritance works

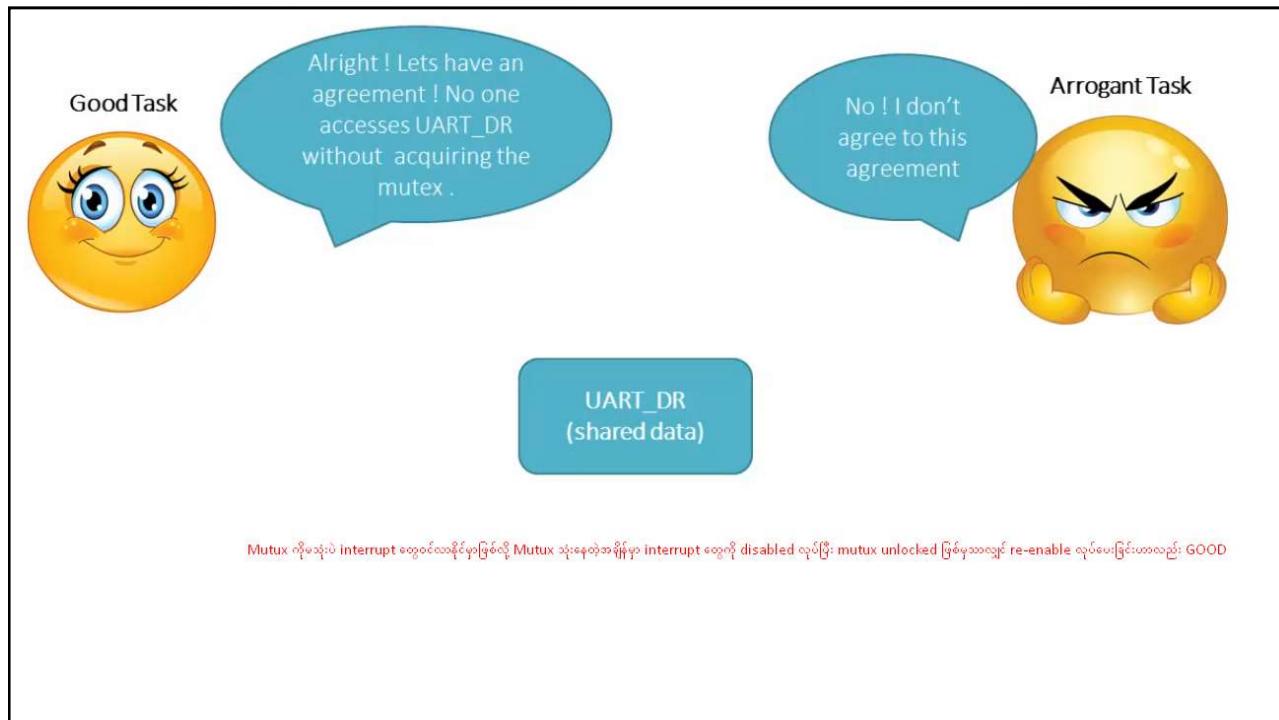
- When a higher-priority task (Task H) tries to acquire a Mutex that is held by a lower-priority task (Task L), **Priority Inheritance** temporarily raises the priority of Task L to that of Task H.
- This prevents an intermediate-priority task (Task M) from preempting Task L.
- Task L continues executing at the boosted priority until it releases the Mutex. Once the Mutex is released, Task L's priority returns to its original lower level.

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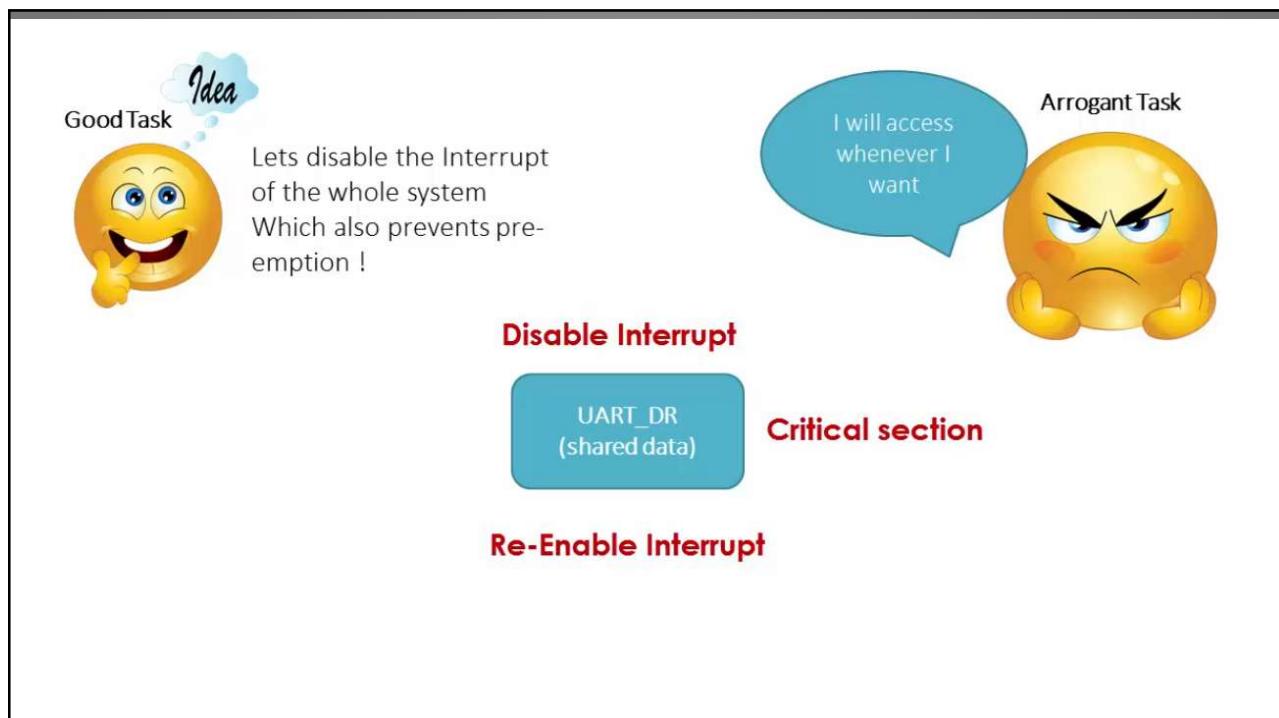
Ways to protect the Critical Section

1. Binary semaphore
2. Mutex
3. Crude way (disabling interrupts of the system, either globally, or up to a specific interrupt priority level)

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The screenshot shows the FreeRTOS website's API reference page for the `taskENTER_CRITICAL()` and `taskEXIT_CRITICAL()` functions. The left sidebar contains navigation links for Home, FreeRTOS, API Reference, and specific RTOS Kernel Control functions like `taskYIELD()`, `taskENTER_CRITICAL()`, and `taskEXIT_CRITICAL()`. The main content area has a red box highlighting the function names and their purpose: "[RTOS Kernel Control]". Below this, a code snippet from `task.h` shows the prototypes: `void taskENTER_CRITICAL(void);` and `void taskEXIT_CRITICAL(void);`. A note in a red box states: "Critical sections are entered by calling taskENTER_CRITICAL(), and subsequently exited by calling taskEXIT_CRITICAL()." Further down, another note says: "The taskENTER_CRITICAL() and taskEXIT_CRITICAL() macros provide a basic critical section implementation that works by simply disabling interrupts, either globally, or up to a specific interrupt priority level. See the vTaskSuspendAll() RTOS API function for information on creating a critical section without disabling interrupts." At the bottom, it says: "If the FreeRTOS port being used does not make use of the".

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- အား macro တွေဟာ Critical Session နဲ့ interrupt တွေကိုပိတ်နိုင်ဖို့ RTOS System တော်တော်များများက API ထုတ်ပေးထားတာဖြစ်တယ်။
- ဒါမယ့် သုံးမယ်ဆွင်ရင် ကိုယ်သုံးတဲ့ Micro-Controller နဲ့ သေချာတိုက်ဆိုင် စစ်ဆေးပါးမှ သုံးရမှာပါ။
- Architecture Dependent ဖြစ်ပါတယ်။

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