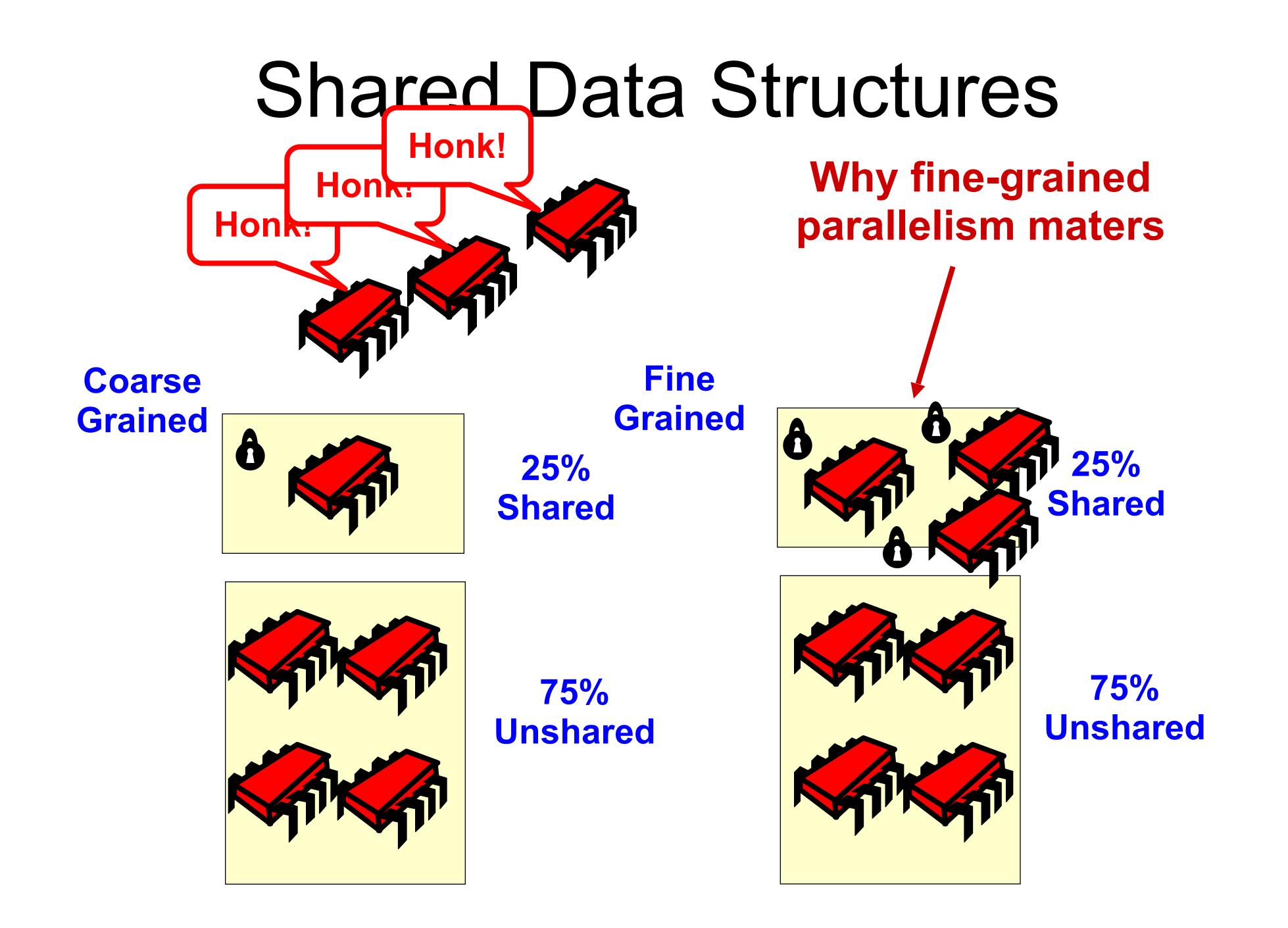
YSC3248: Parallel, Concurrent and Distributed Programming

Mutual Exclusion

Review: Amdahl's Law

Speedup =
$$\frac{1}{1 - p + \frac{p}{n}}$$



Example Synchronization Paradigms

- Mutual exclusion
- Readers-Writers
- Producer-Consumer

Mutual Exclusion (3)



- We will clarify our understanding of mutual exclusion
- We will also see how to reason about various properties in an asynchronous concurrent setting

Mutual Exclusion



In his 1965 paper E. W. Dijkstra wrote:

"Given in this paper is a solution to a problem which, to the knowledge of the author, has been an open question since at least 1962, irrespective of the solvability. [...]

Although the setting of the problem might seem somewhat academic at first, the author trusts that anyone familiar with the logical problems that arise in computer coupling will appreciate the significance of the fact that this problem indeed can be solved."

Mutual Exclusion (1)



- Formal problem definitions
- Solutions for 2 threads
- Solutions for n threads
- Fair solutions
- Inherent costs

Warning

- You will never use these protocols
 - Get over it
- You are advised to understand them
 - The same issues show up everywhere
 - Except hidden and more complex

Why is Concurrent Programming so Hard?

- Try preparing a seven-course banquet
 - By yourself
 - With one friend
 - With twenty-seven friends ...
- Before we can talk about programs
 - Need a language
 - Describing time and concurrency

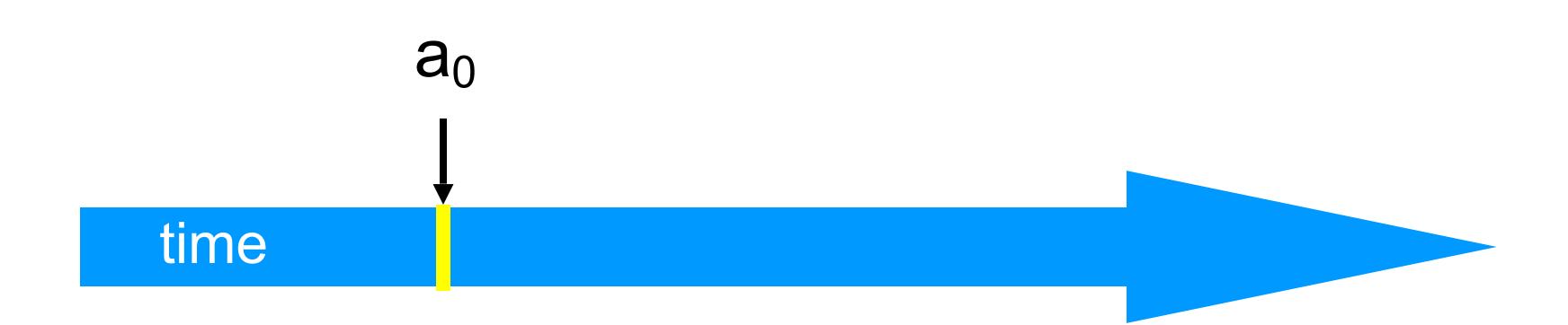
Time

- "Absolute, true and mathematical time, of itself and from its own nature, flows equably without relation to anything external." (Isaac Newton, 1689)
- "Time is what keeps everything from happening at once." (Ray Cummings, 1922)

time

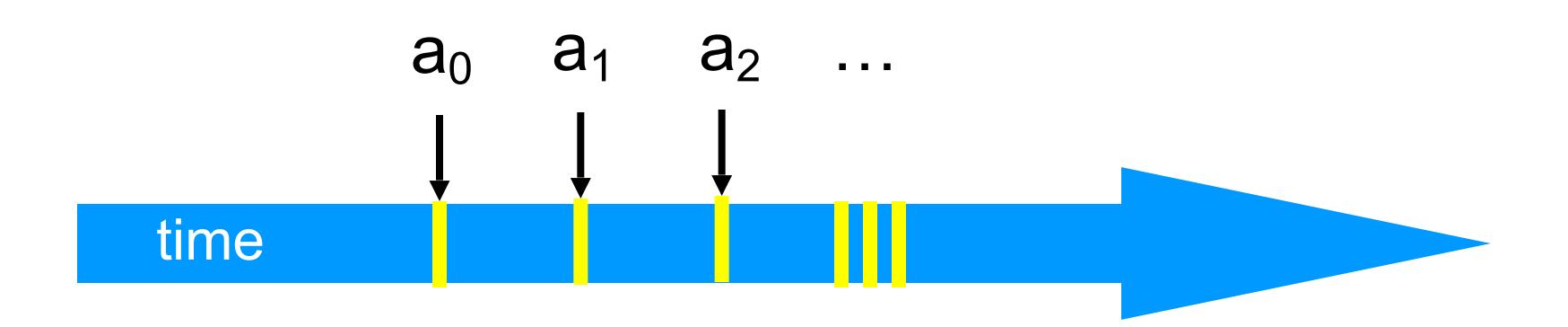
Events

- An event a₀ of thread A is
 - Instantaneous
 - No simultaneous events (break ties)



Threads

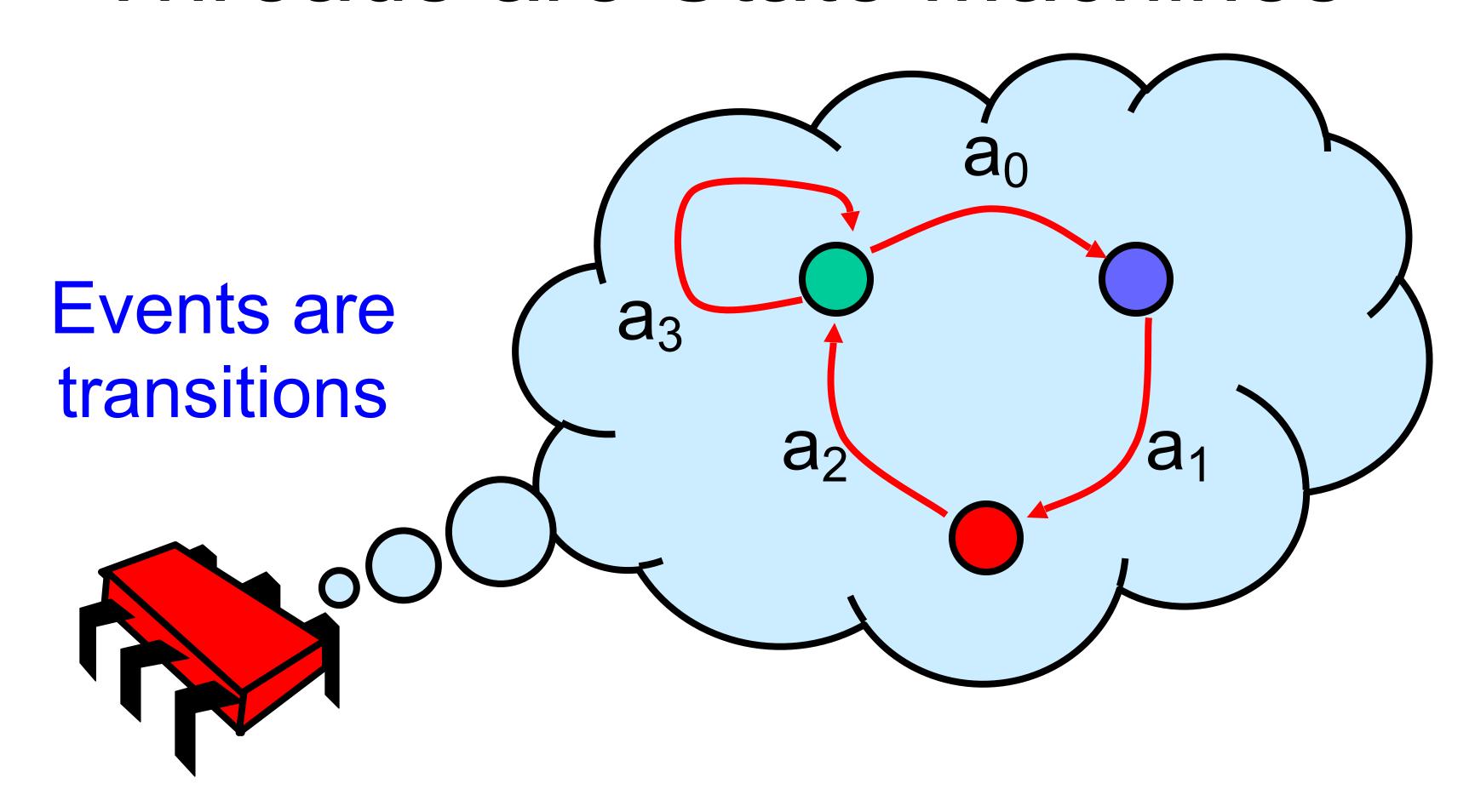
- A thread A is (formally) a sequence a_0, a_1, \ldots of events
 - "Trace" model
 - Notation: a_0 → a_1 indicates order



Example Thread Events

- Assign to shared variable
- Assign to local variable
- Invoke method
- Return from method
- Lots of other things ...

Threads are State Machines



States

- Thread State
 - Program counter
 - Local variables
- System state
 - Object fields (shared variables)
 - Union of thread states

Concurrency

Thread A



Concurrency

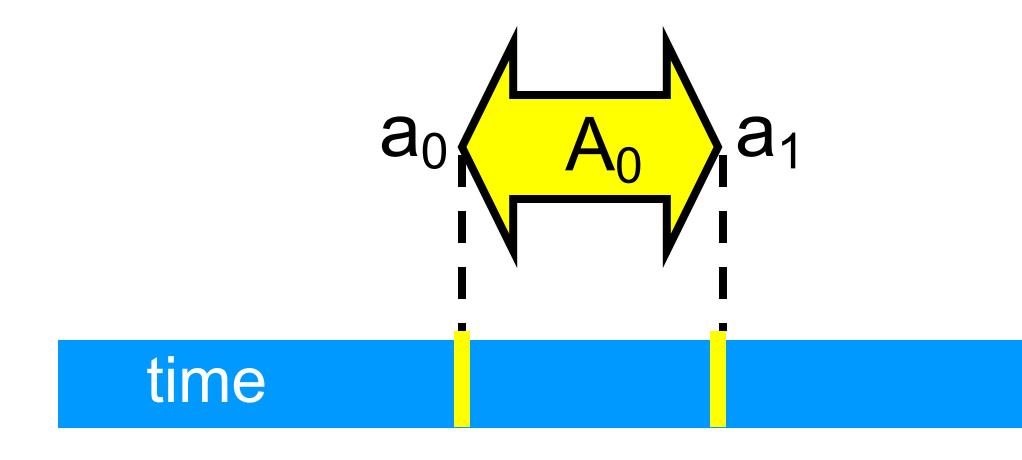
Thread AtimeThread Btime

Interleavings

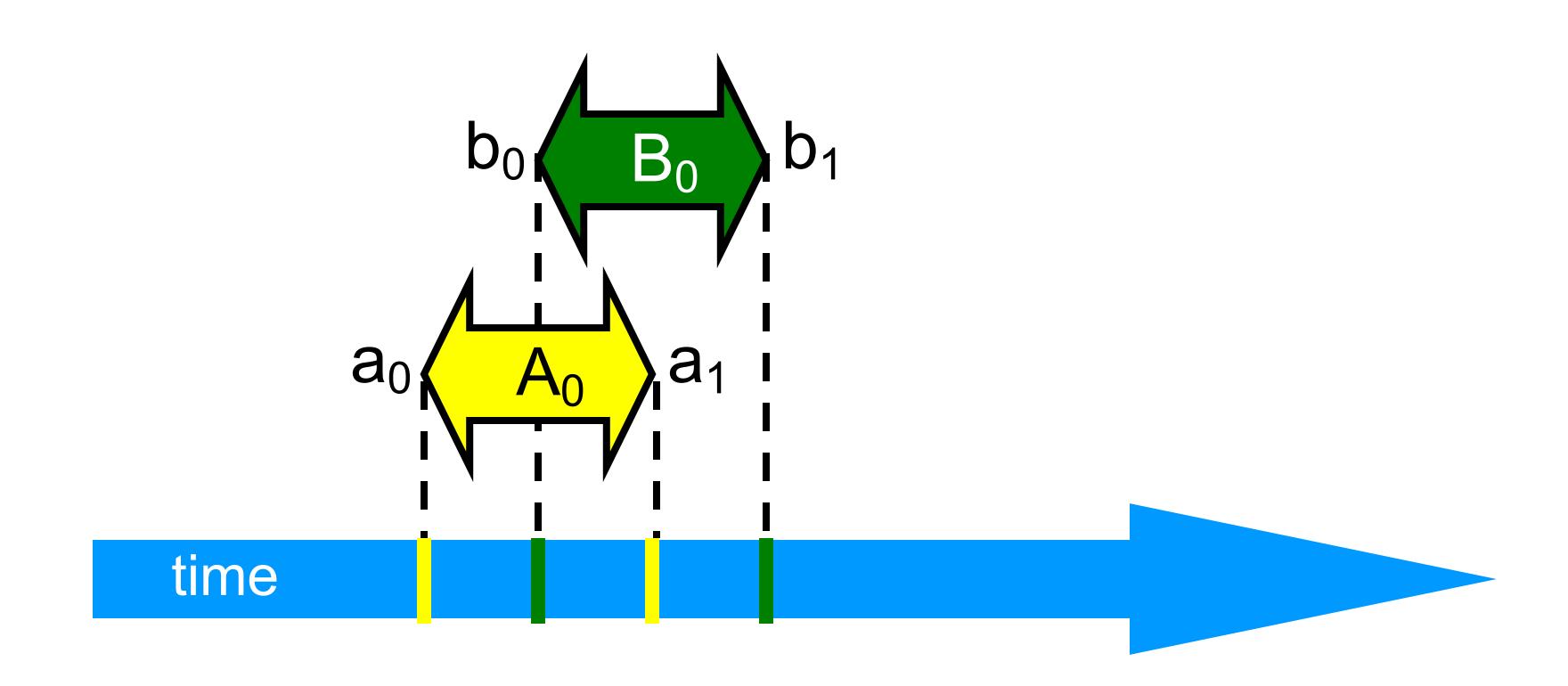
- Events of two or more threads
 - Interleaved
 - Not necessarily independent (why?)

Intervals

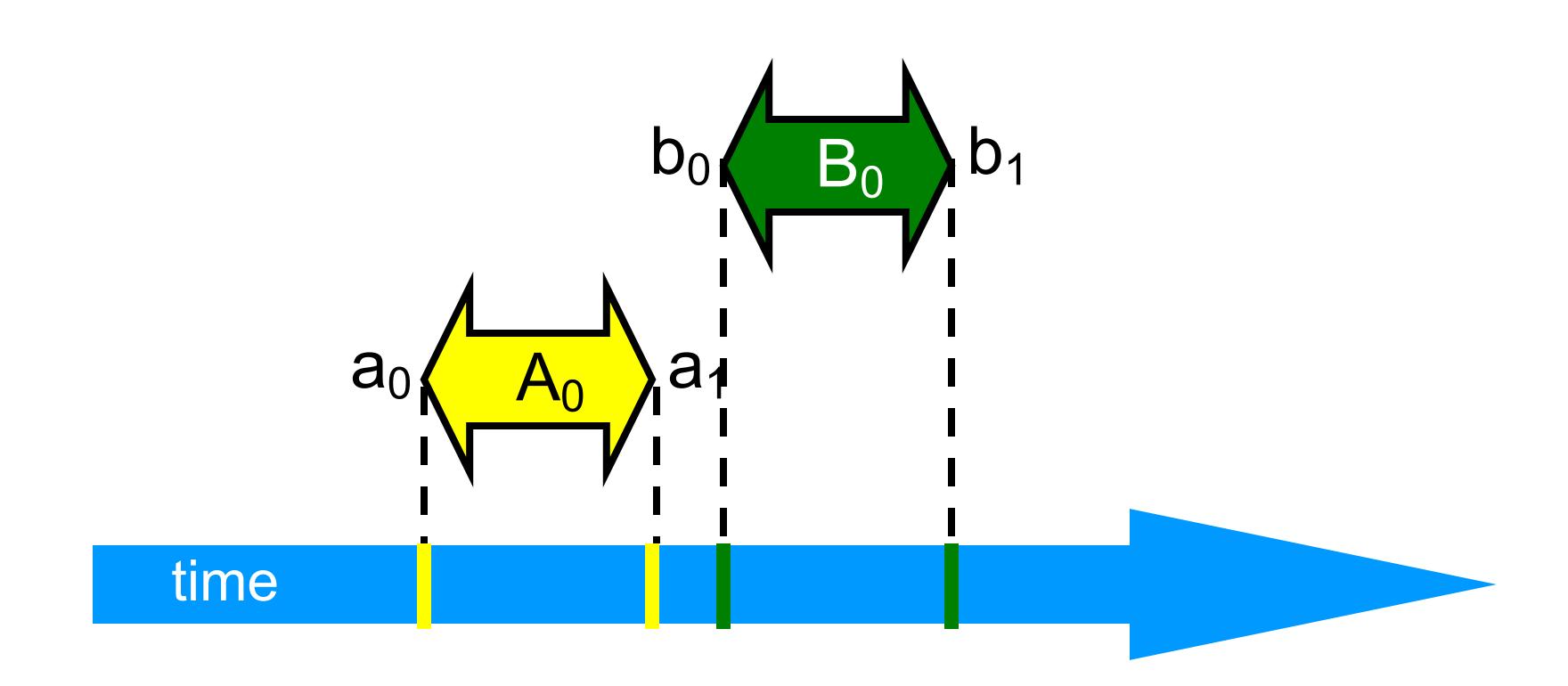
- An interval $A_0 = (a_0, a_1)$ is
 - Time between events a₀ and a₁



Intervals may Overlap

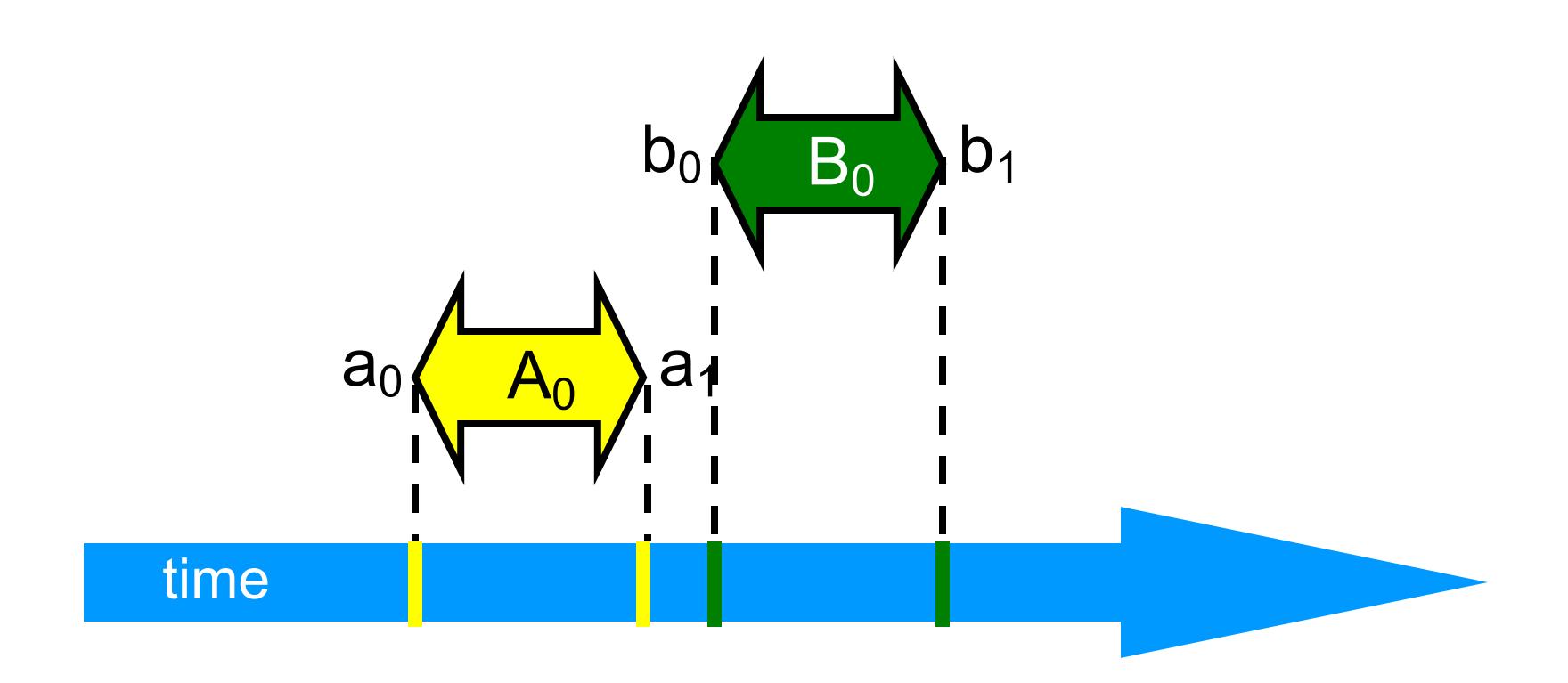


Intervals may be Disjoint

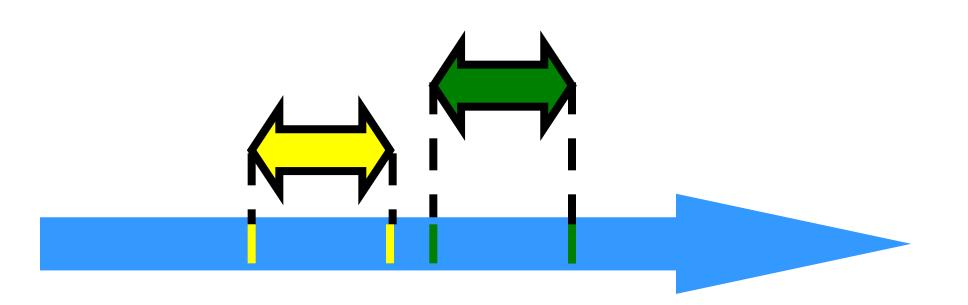


Precedence

Interval A₀ precedes interval B₀

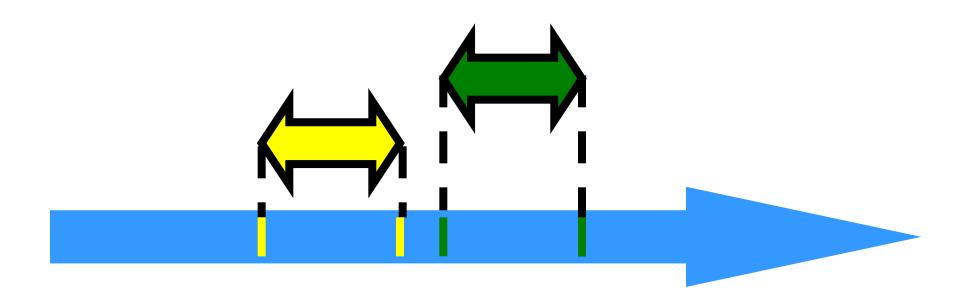


Precedence



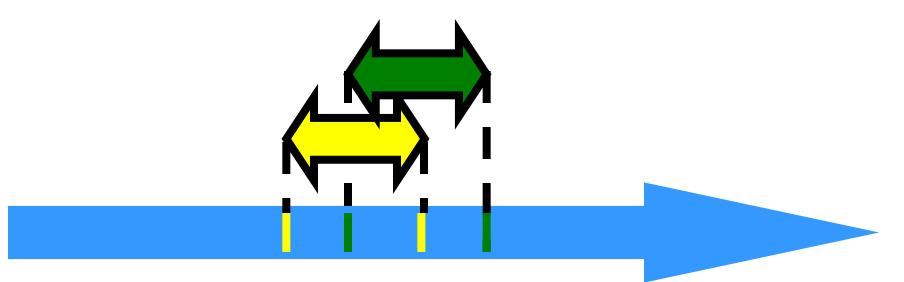
- Notation: $A_0 \rightarrow B_0$
- Formally,
 - End event of A₀ before start event of B₀
 - Also called "happens before" or "precedes"

Precedence Ordering



- Remark: $A_0 \rightarrow B_0$ is just like saying
 - $-1066 AD \rightarrow 1492 AD$
 - Middle Ages → Renaissance,
- Oh wait,
 - what about this week vs this month?

Precedence Ordering



- Never true that A → A
- If A →B then not true that B →A
- If $A \rightarrow B \& B \rightarrow C then A \rightarrow C$
- Funny thing: A →B & B →A might both be false!

Partial Orders

(review)

- Irreflexive:
 - Never true that A → A
- Antisymmetric:
 - If A → B then not true that B → A
- Transitive:
 - If A → B & B → C then A → C

Total Orders

(review)

- Also
 - Irreflexive
 - Antisymmetric
 - Transitive
- Except that for every distinct A, B,
 - Either $A \rightarrow B$ or $B \rightarrow A$

Repeated Events

```
while (mumble) {
  a_0; a_1;
                          k-th occurrence of
                                event a<sub>0</sub>
                       k-th occurrence of
                       interval A_0 = (a_0, a_1)
```

Implementing a Counter

```
class Counter {
 private var count = 0
  def getAndIncrement: Int = {
   val tmp = count
    count = tmp + 1
    tmp
                        Make these steps
                      indivisible using locks
```

Locks (Mutual Exclusion)

```
trait Lock {
  def lock(): Unit
  def unlock(): Unit
}
```

Locks (Mutual Exclusion)

Locks (Mutual Exclusion)

```
class Counter {
 private var count = 0
 private val lock : Lock = ...
  def getAndIncrement: Int = {
    var tmp = 0
    lock.lock()
    try {
      tmp = count
      count = tmp + 1
    } finally {
      lock.unlock()
      tmp
```

```
class Counter {
 private var count = 0
 private val lock : Lock = ...
 def getAndIncrement: Int = {
   var tmp = 0
   lock.lock()
                         acquire Lock
      tmp = count
      count = tmp + 1
    } finally {
     lock.unlock()
      tmp
```

```
class Counter {
 private var count = 0
 private val lock : Lock = ...
  def getAndIncrement: Int = {
   var tmp = 0
    lock.lock()
    try {
      tmp = count
      count = tmp + 1
     finally {
                                 Release lock
      lock.unlock()
                               (no matter what)
      tmp
```

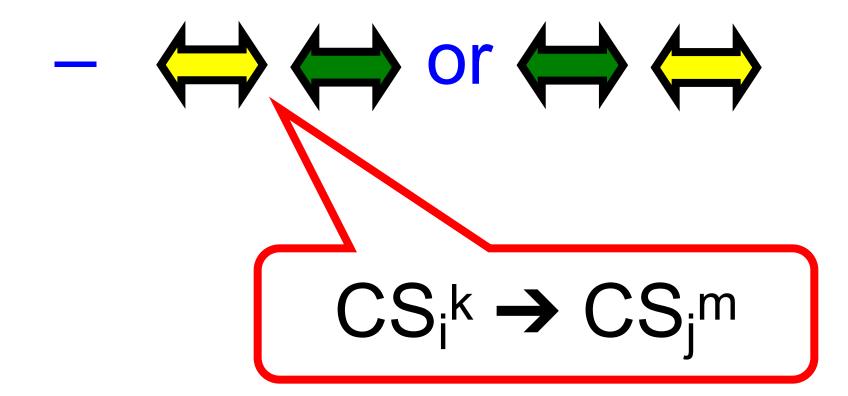
```
class Counter {
 private var count = 0
 private val lock : Lock = ...
  def getAndIncrement: Int = {
    var tmp = 0
    lock.lock()
    try {
      tmp = count
                                     critical section
      count = tmp + 1
     finally {
      lock.unlock()
      tmp
```

Let CS_i^k be thread i's k-th critical section execution

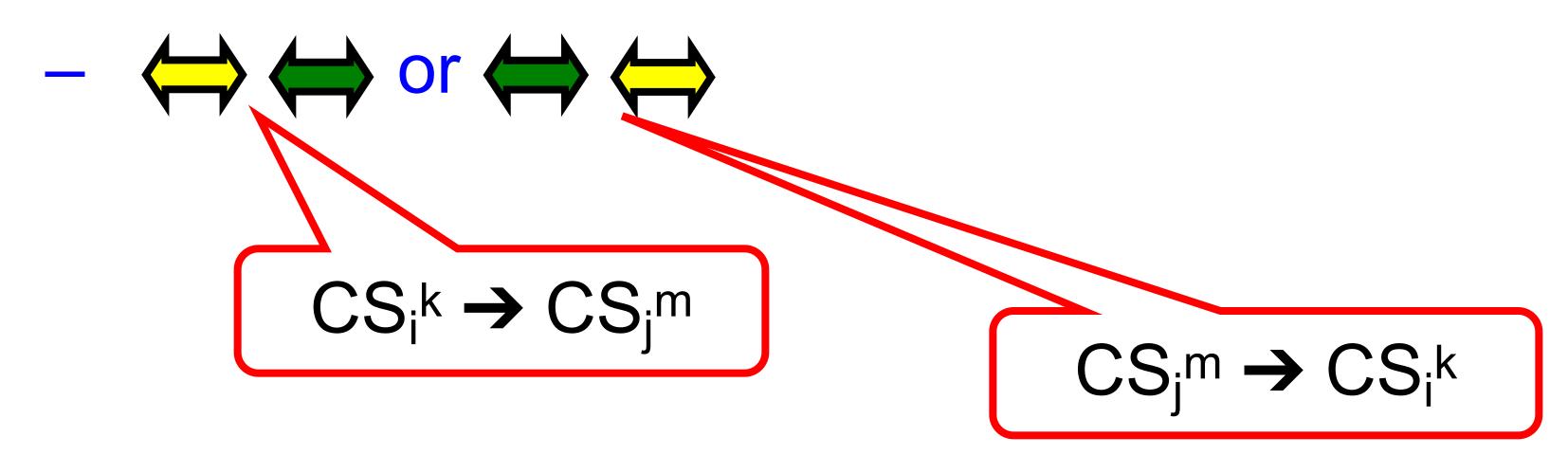
- Let CS_i^k be thread i's k-th critical section execution
- And CS_j^m be thread j's m-th critical section execution

- Let CS_i^k be thread i's k-th critical section execution
- And CS_j^m
 be j's m-th execution
- Then either

- Let CS_i^k be thread i's k-th critical section execution
- And CS_j^m
 be j's m-th execution
- Then either



- Let CS_i^k be thread i's k-th critical section execution
- And $CS_{j}^{m} \Leftrightarrow be j's m-th execution$
- Then either



Deadlock-Free



- If some thread calls lock()
 - And never returns (fails to acquire the lock)
 - Then other threads must complete lock() and unlock() calls infinitely often
- System as a whole makes progress
 - Even if individuals starve

Starvation-Free



- If some thread calls lock()
 - It will eventually return
- Individual threads make progress

Two-Thread vs *n*-Thread Solutions

- 2-thread solutions first
 - Illustrate most basic ideas
 - Fits on one slide
- Then *n*-thread solutions

Two-Thread Conventions

```
class ... extends Lock {
    ...
    // thread-local index, 0 or 1
    def lock(): Unit = {
        val i = ThreadID.get();
        val j = 1 - i;
    ...
    }
}
```

Two-Thread Conventions

```
class ... extends Lock {
    ...
    // thread-local index, 0 or 1
    def lock(): Unit = {
        val i = ThreadID.get();
        val j = 1 - i;
        ...
    }
}
```

Henceforth: i is current thread, j is other thread

```
class LockOne extends Lock {
  private val flag: Array[Boolean] = new Array(2)
  override def lock(): Unit = {
    val i = ThreadID.get
    val j = 1 - i
    flag(i) = true
    while (flag(j)) {} // spin
```

```
class LockOne extends Lock {
 private val flag: Array[Boolean] = new Array(2)
  override def lock(): Unit = {
   val i = ThreadID.get
    val j = 1 - i
                                     Each thread has flag
    flag(i) = true
    while (flag(j)) {} // spin
```

* In JVM reality, using an array this way is not quite right, but we'll gloss over it for now...

```
class LockOne extends Lock {
 private val flag: Array[Boolean] = new Array(2)
  override def lock(): Unit = {
   val i = ThreadID.get
    flag(i) = true
    while (flag(j)) {} // spinSet my flag
```

```
class LockOne extends Lock {
 private val flag: Array[Boolean] = new Array(2)
  override def lock(): Unit = {
   val i = ThreadID.get
    val j = 1 - i
    flag(i) = true
   while (flag(j)) {} // spin
```

Wait for other flag to become false

LockOne Satisfies Mutual Exclusion

- Assume CS_A^j overlaps CS_B^k
- Consider each thread's last
 - (j^{th} and k^{th}) read and write ...
 - in lock() before entering
- Derive a contradiction

From the Code

• write_A(flag[A]=true) \rightarrow read_A(flag[B]==false) \rightarrow CS_A

• write_B(flag[B]=true) \rightarrow read_B(flag[A]==false) \rightarrow CS_B

```
override def lock(): Unit = {
    ...
    flag(i) = true
    while (flag(j)) {} // spin
}
```

From the Assumption

Since A is in the CS it did not see B's flag and vice versa.

read_A(flag[B]==false) →
 write_B(flag[B]=true)

read_B(flag[A]==false) →
 write_A(flag[A]=true)

```
override def lock(): Unit = {
    ...
    flag(i) = true
    while (flag(j)) {} // spin
}
```

Assumptions:

- read_A(flag[B]==false) \rightarrow write_B(flag[B]=true)
- read_B(flag[A]==false) \rightarrow write_A(flag[A]=true)

From the code

- write_A(flag[A]=true) \rightarrow read_A(flag[B]==false)
- write_B(flag[B]=true) \rightarrow read_B(flag[A]==false)

```
override def lock(): Unit = {
    ...
    flag(i) = true
    while (flag(j)) {} // spin
}
```

- Assumptions:
 - read_A(flag[B]==false) → write_B(flag[B]=true)
 - read_B(flag[A]==false) \rightarrow write_A(flag[A]=true)
- From the code
 - write_A mag[A]=true) → read_A(flag[B]==false)
 - write_B(flag[B]=true) \rightarrow read_B(flag[A]==false)

```
override def lock(): Unit = {
    ...
    flag(i) = true
    while (flag(j)) {} // spin
}
```

- Assumptions:
 - read_A(flag[B]==false) → write_B(flag[B]=true)
 - read_B(flag[A]==false) -> write_A(flag[A]=true)
- From the code
 - write_A(flag[A]=true) → read_A(flag[B]==false)
 - write_B(flag[B]=true) → read_B(flag[A]==false)

```
override def lock(): Fnit = {
    ...
    flag(i) = true
    while (flag(j)) {} // spin
}
```

```
    Assumptions:

  - read<sub>A</sub>(flag[B]==false) \rightarrow write<sub>B</sub>(flag[B]=true)
  read<sub>B</sub>(flag[A]==false) → write<sub>A</sub>(flag[A]=true)
  - write<sub>A</sub>(flag[A]=true) \rightarrow read<sub>A</sub>(flag[B]==false)
  - write<sub>B</sub>(flag[B]=true) \rightarrow read<sub>B</sub>(flag[A]==false)
                        override def lock(): Unit = {
```

flag(i) = true

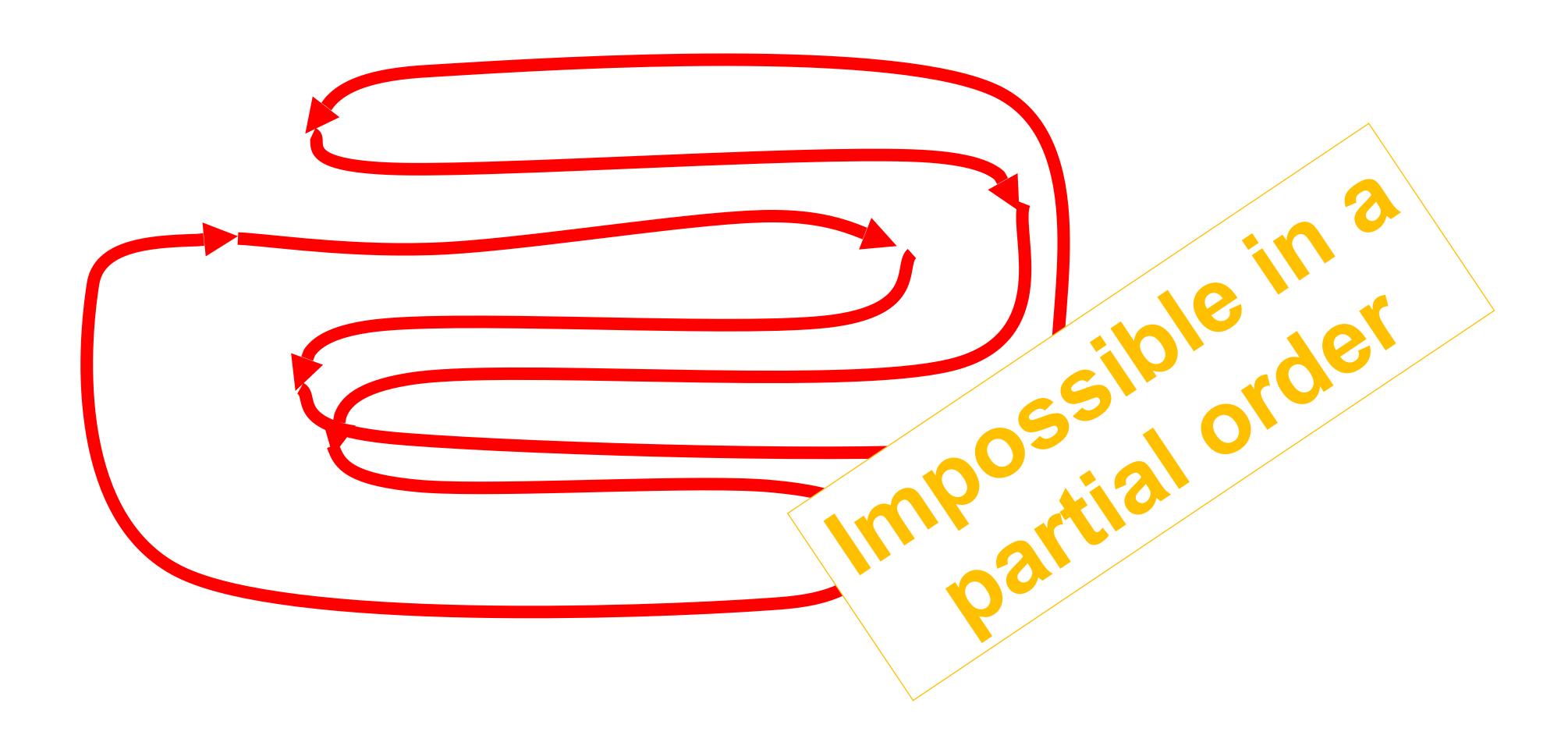
while (flag(j)) {} // spin

```
- read<sub>A</sub>(flag[B]==false) \rightarrow write<sub>B</sub>(flag[B]=true)
- read<sub>B</sub>(flag[A]==false) - write<sub>A</sub>(flag[A]=true)
 From the code ...
- write<sub>A</sub>(flag[A]=true) \rightarrow read<sub>A</sub>(flag[B]==false)
- write<sub>B</sub>(flag[B]=true) \rightarrow read<sub>B</sub>(flag[A]==false)
                     override def lock(): Unit = {
                       flag(i) = true
                       while (flag(j)) {} // spin
```

- Assumptions.
 - read (flag[B]==false) → write (flag[E]=true)
 - read_B(flag[A]==falce) write_A(flag[A]=true)
- From the code
 - write $Mag[A]=true) \rightarrow read_A(flag[B]=false)$
 - $write_B(flag[R]=true) \rightarrow read_B(flag[A]==false)$

```
override def lock(): Unit = {
    ...
    flag(i) = true
    while (flag(j)) {} // spin
}
```

Cycle!



Demo: Testing Locks

Is LockOne Deadlock-free?

Deadlock Freedom

- LockOne Fails deadlock-freedom
 - Concurrent execution can deadlock

```
flag(i) = true flag(j) = true
while (flag(j)){} while (flag(i)){}
```

Sequential executions OK

```
class LockTwo extends Lock {
  private var victim: Int = 0

  override def lock(): Unit = {
    val i = ThreadID.get
    victim = i
    while (victim == i) {}
}
...
```

```
class LockTwo extends Lock {
  private var victim: Int = 0

  override def lock(): Unit = {
    val i = ThreadID.get
    victim = i
    while (victim == i) {}
}

override def unlock(): Unit = {}
```

LockTwo Claims

- Satisfies mutual exclusion
 - If thread i in CS
 - Then victim == j
 - Cannot be both 0 and 1
- Not deadlock free
 - Sequential execution deadlocks
 - Concurrent execution does not

```
def lock() {
   victim = i; // my ThreadID
   while (victim == i) {};
}
```

```
def lock(): Unit = {
  val i = ThreadID.get
 val j = 1 - i
  flag(i) = true
  victim = i
 while (flag(j) && victim == i) {}
def unlock(): Unit = {
  val i = ThreadID.get
  flag(i) = false
```

```
Announce I'm
def lock(): Unit = {
 flag(i) = true
 victim = i
 while (flag(j) && victim == i) {}
def unlock(): Unit = {
 val i = ThreadID.get
 flag(i) = false
```

```
def lock(): Unit = { Announce I'm
 flag(i) = true
                      Defer to other
 victim = i
 while (flag(j) && victim == i) {}
def unlock(): Unit = {
 val i = ThreadID.get
 flag(i) = false
```

```
Announce I'm
def lock(): Unit = {
 val i = ThreadID.get
                        interested
  flag(i) = true
                           Defer to other
  victim = i
 while (flag(j) && victim == i) {}
                               Wait while other
def unlock(): Unit = {
                              interested & I'm the
 val i = ThreadID.get
                                    victim
  flag(i) = false
```

Peterson's Algorithm

```
Announce I'm
def lock(): Unit = {
  val i = ThreadID.get
                        interested
  flag(i)
         = true
                           Defer to other
  victim = i
  while (flag(j) && victim == i) {}
                                Wait while other
def unlock(): Unit = {
                              interested & I'm the
                                    victim
  flag(i) = false
           No longer
           interested
```

(1) write_B(Flag[B]=true) \rightarrow write_B(victim=B)

```
def lock() {
    flag(i) = true
    victim = i
    while (flag(j) && victim == i) {}
}
```

From the Code

Also from the Code

(2) write_A(victim=A) \rightarrow read_A(flag[B]) \rightarrow read_A(victim)

```
def lock() {
    flag(i) = true

    victim = i
    while (flag(j) && victim == i) {}
}
```

Assumption

(3) write_B(victim=B) \rightarrow write_A(victim=A)

W.L.O.G. assume A is the last thread to write victim

```
def lock() {
   flag(i) = true
   victim = i
   while (flag(j) && victim == i) {}
}
```

Combining Observations

- (1) write_B(flag[B]=true) \rightarrow write_B(victim=B)
- (3) write_B(victim=B) \rightarrow write_A(victim=A)
- (2) write_A(victim=A) \rightarrow read_A(flag[B])
 - \rightarrow read_A(victim)

```
def lock() {
   flag(i) = true
   victim = i
   while (flag(j) && victim == i) {}
}
```

Combining Observations

- (1) write_B(flag[B]=true) \rightarrow
- (3) write_B(victim=B) \rightarrow
- (2) write_A(victim=A) \rightarrow read_A(flag[B])
 - \rightarrow read_A(victim)

```
def lock() {
   flag(i) = true
   victim = i
   while (flag(j) && victim == i) {}
}
```

Combining Observations

```
(1) write<sub>B</sub>(flag[B]=true) \rightarrow

(3) write<sub>B</sub>(victim=B) \rightarrow

(2) write<sub>A</sub>(victim=A) \rightarrow read<sub>A</sub>(flag[B])

\rightarrow read<sub>A</sub>(victim)
```

A read flag[B] == true and victim == A, so it could not have entered the CS (QED)

Deadlock Free

```
def lock() {
    ...
    while (flag(j) && victim == i) {};
```

- Thread blocked
 - only at while loop
 - only if other's flag is true
 - only if it is the victim
- Solo: other's flag is false
- Both: one or the other not the victim

Starvation Free

• Thread i blocked only if j repeatedly re-enters so that

```
flag(j) == true and victim == i
```

- When j re-enters
 - it sets victim to j.
 - So i gets in

```
def lock() {
   flag(i) = true
   victim = i
   while (flag(j) && victim == i) {};
}

public void unlock() {
   flag(i) = false
}
```

Demo: Peterson Lock

Bounded Waiting

- Want stronger fairness guarantees
- Thread not "overtaken" too much
- If A starts before B, then A enters before B?
- But what does "start" mean?
- Need to adjust definitions

Bounded Waiting

- Divide lock () method into 2 parts:
 - Doorway interval:
 - Written D_A
 - always finishes in finite steps
 - Waiting interval:
 - Written W_A
 - may take unbounded steps

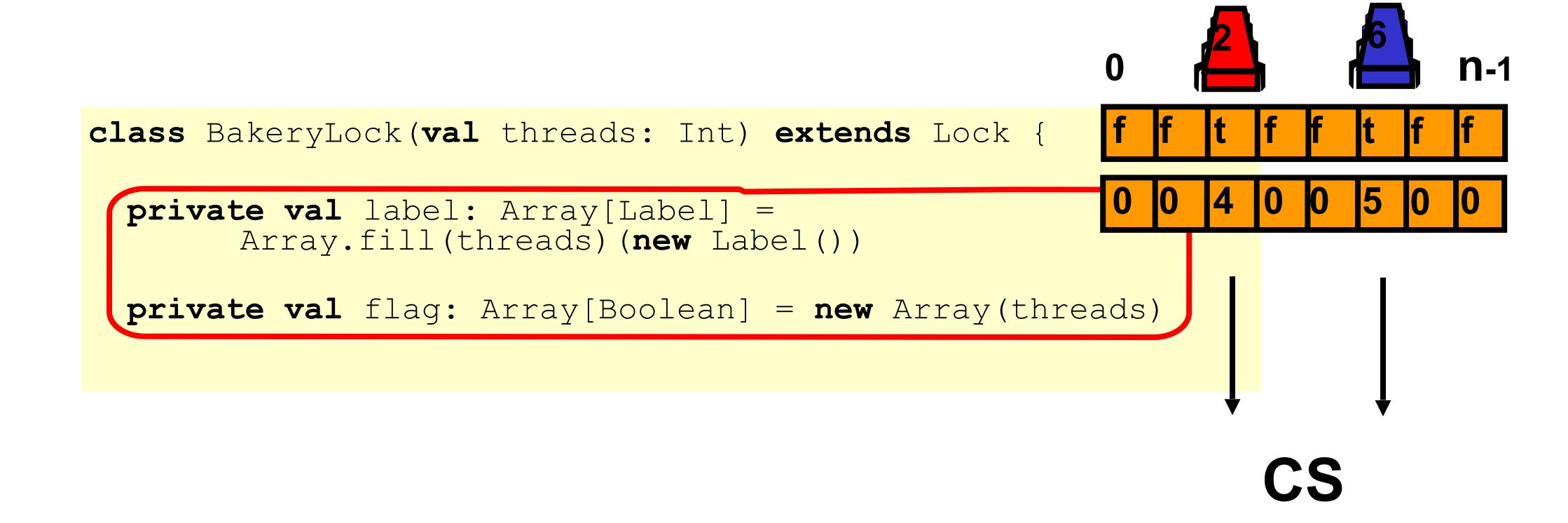
First-Come-First-Served

- For threads A and B:
 - $|f D_A^k \to D_B^j$
 - A's k-th doorway precedes B's j-th doorway
 - Then $CS_A^k \rightarrow CS_B^j$
 - A's k-th critical section precedes B's j-th critical section
 - B cannot overtake A

- Provides First-Come-First-Served for n threads
- How?
 - Take a "number"
 - Wait until lower numbers have been served
- Lexicographic order
 - -(a,i) > (b,j)
 - If a > b, or a = b and i > j

```
class BakeryLock(val threads: Int) extends Lock {
   private val label: Array[Label] =
        Array.fill(threads)(new Label())

   private val flag: Array[Boolean] = new Array(threads)
```



```
class BakeryLock extends Lock {
    ...
    override def lock() {
      flag(i) = true
      label(i) = max(label(0), ..., label(n-1))+1

      while (∃k flag(k)
          && (label(i),i) > (label(k),k)) {}
}
```

```
class BakeryLock extends Lock {
    ...
    override def lock() {
    flag(i) = true
    label(i) = max(label(0), ..., label(n-1))+1

    while (∃k flag(k)
        && (label(i),i) > (label(k),k)) {}
}
```

Take increasing label

```
class BakeryLock extends Lock {
    ...
    override def lock() {
    flag(i) = true
    label(i) = max(label(0), ..., label(n-1))+1

while (∃k flag(k)
    && (label(i),i) > (label(k),k)) {}
}
```

```
class BakeryLock extends Lock {
    ...
    override def lock() {
    flag(i) = true
    label(i) = max(label(0), ..., label(n-1))+1

while (∃k flag(k)
    && (label(i),i) > (label(k),k)) {}
}
```

... whose (label,i) in lexicographic order is lower

```
class BakeryLock extends Lock {
    ...

override def unlock() {
    flag(i) = false;
}
```

```
class BakeryLock extends Lock {
    No longer interested

    override def unlock() {
    flag(i) = false;
    }
}

labels are always increasing
```

No Deadlock

- There is always one thread with earliest label
- Ties are impossible (why?)

First-Come-First-Served

- If $D_A \rightarrow D_B$ then
 - A's label is smaller
- And:
 - write_A(label[A]) →
 - read_B(label[A]) →
 - write_B(label[B]) → read_B(flag[A])
- So B sees
 - smaller label for A
 - locked out while flag[A] is true

- Suppose A and B in CS together
- Suppose A has earlier label
- When B entered, it must have seen
 - flag[A] is false, or
 - label[A] > label[B]

- Labels are strictly increasing so
- B must have seen flag[A] == false

- Labels are strictly increasing so
- B must have seen flag[A] == false
- Labeling_B → read_B(flag[A]) → write_A(flag[A]) → Labeling_A

- Labels are strictly increasing so
- B must have seen flag[A] == false
- Labeling_B \rightarrow read_B(flag[A]) \rightarrow write_A(flag[A]) \rightarrow Labeling_A
- Which contradicts the assumption that A has an earlier label

Any issues with BackeryLock?

Bakery Y232K Bug

```
class BakeryLock extends Lock {
    ...
    override def lock() {
     flag(i) = true
     label(i) = max(label(0), ..., label(n-1))+1

    while (∃k flag(k)
          && (label(i),i) > (label(k),k)) {}
}
```

Bakery Y232K Bug

```
class BakeryLock extends Lock {Mutex breaks if
    ...
    override def lock() {
    flaq(i) = true
    label(i) = max(label(0), ..., label(n-1))+1

    while (∃k flag(k)
        && (label(i),i) > (label(k),k)) {}
}
```

Does Overflow Actually Matter?

- Yes
 - Y2K
 - 18 January 2038 (Unix time trollover)
 - 16-bit counters
- No
 - 64-bit counters
- Maybe
 - 32-bit counters

Deep Philosophical Question

- The Bakery Algorithm is
 - Succinct,
 - Elegant, and
 - Fair.
- Q: So why isn't it practical?
- A: Well, you have to read N distinct variables

Shared Memory

- Shared read/write memory locations called Registers (historical reasons)
- Come in different flavors
 - Multi-Reader-Single-Writer (flag)
 - Multi-Reader-Multi-Writer (victim)
 - Not that interesting: SRMW and SRSW

Theorem

At least N MRSW (multi-reader/single-writer) registers are needed to solve deadlock-free mutual exclusion.

N registers such as flag()...

Real-Life Implementations

Demo

Summary of the last two lectures

- We have seen several impractical examples of implementing *mutual exclusion* algorithms.
- We learned how to reason about their claims: mutual exclusion, deadlock freedom, etc.
- Today we know how to solve the First-Come-First-Served N thread mutual exclusion using 2N RW-Registers

Summary of the last two lectures

- N RW-Registers inefficient
 - Because writes "cover" older writes
- Need stronger hardware operations
 - that do not have the "covering problem"
- In next lectures understand what these operations are...



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