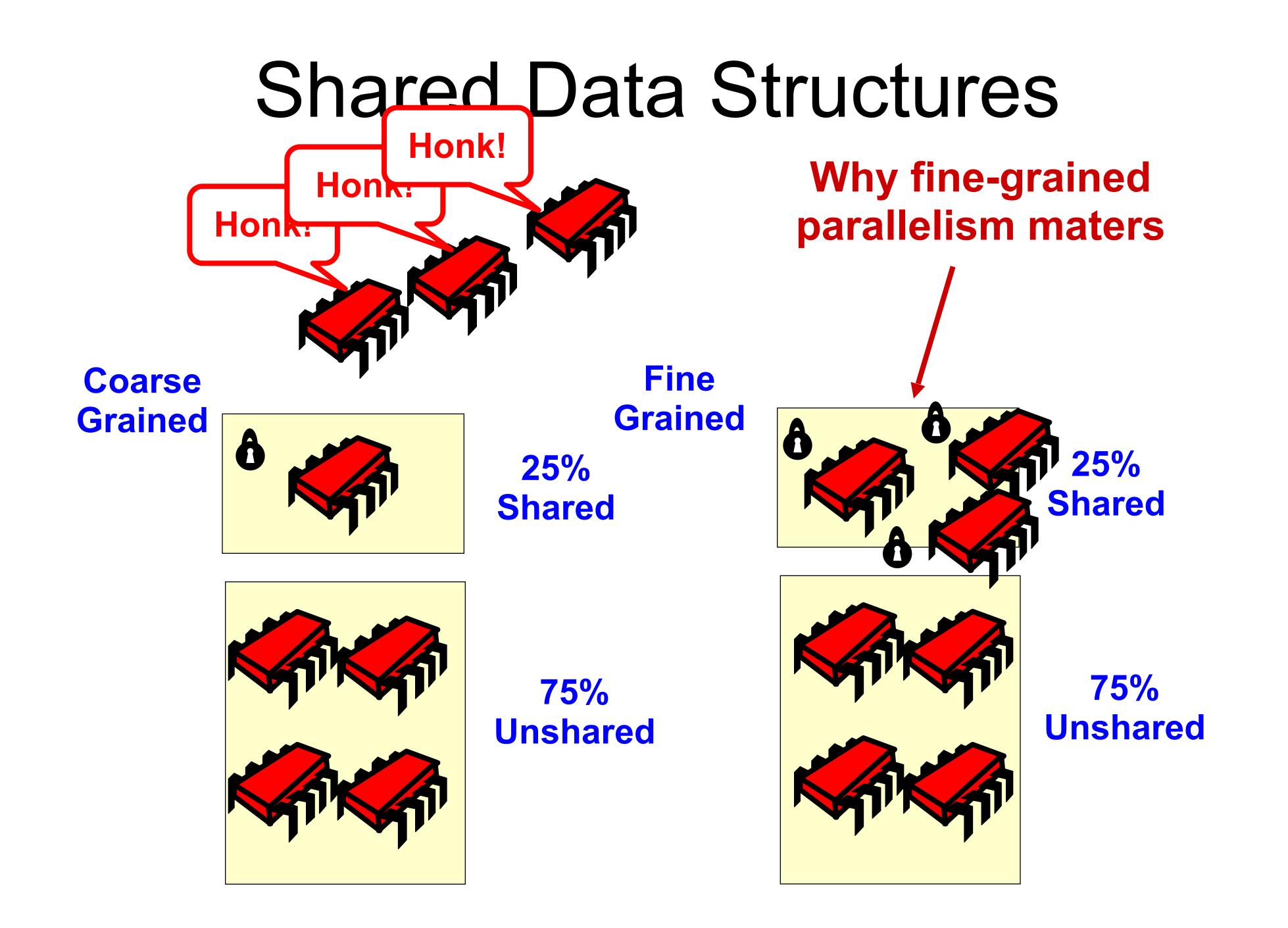
# YSC4231: Parallel, Concurrent and Distributed Programming

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

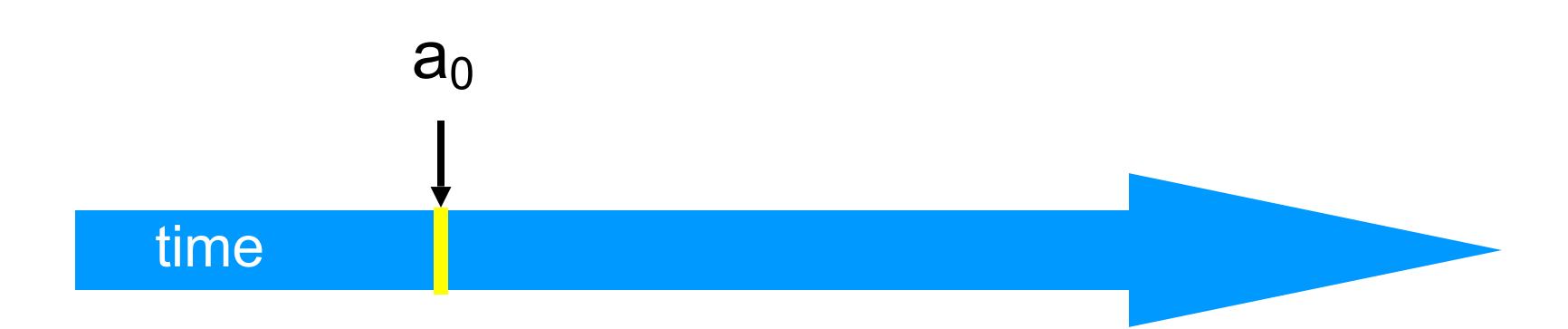
#### Time

- "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

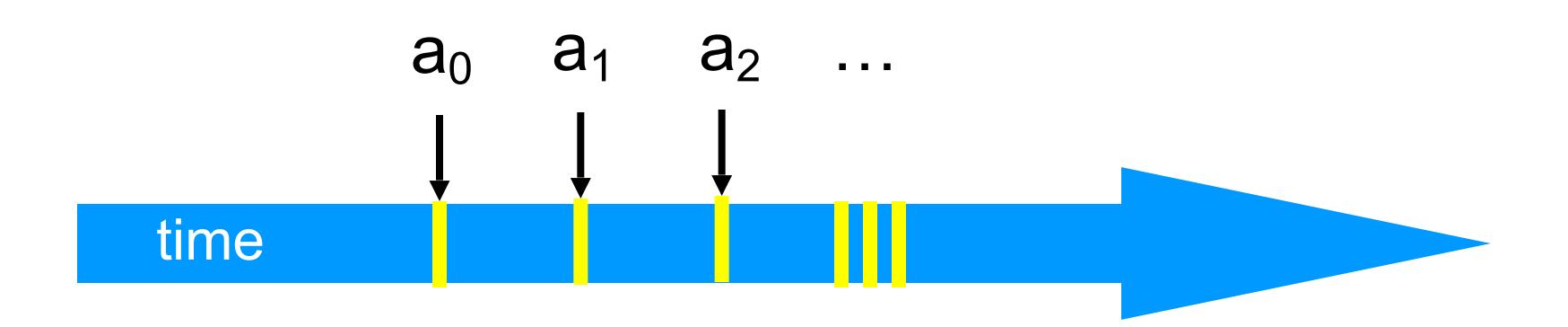
#### Events

- An event a<sub>0</sub> of thread A is
  - Instantaneous
  - No simultaneous events (break ties)



#### Threads

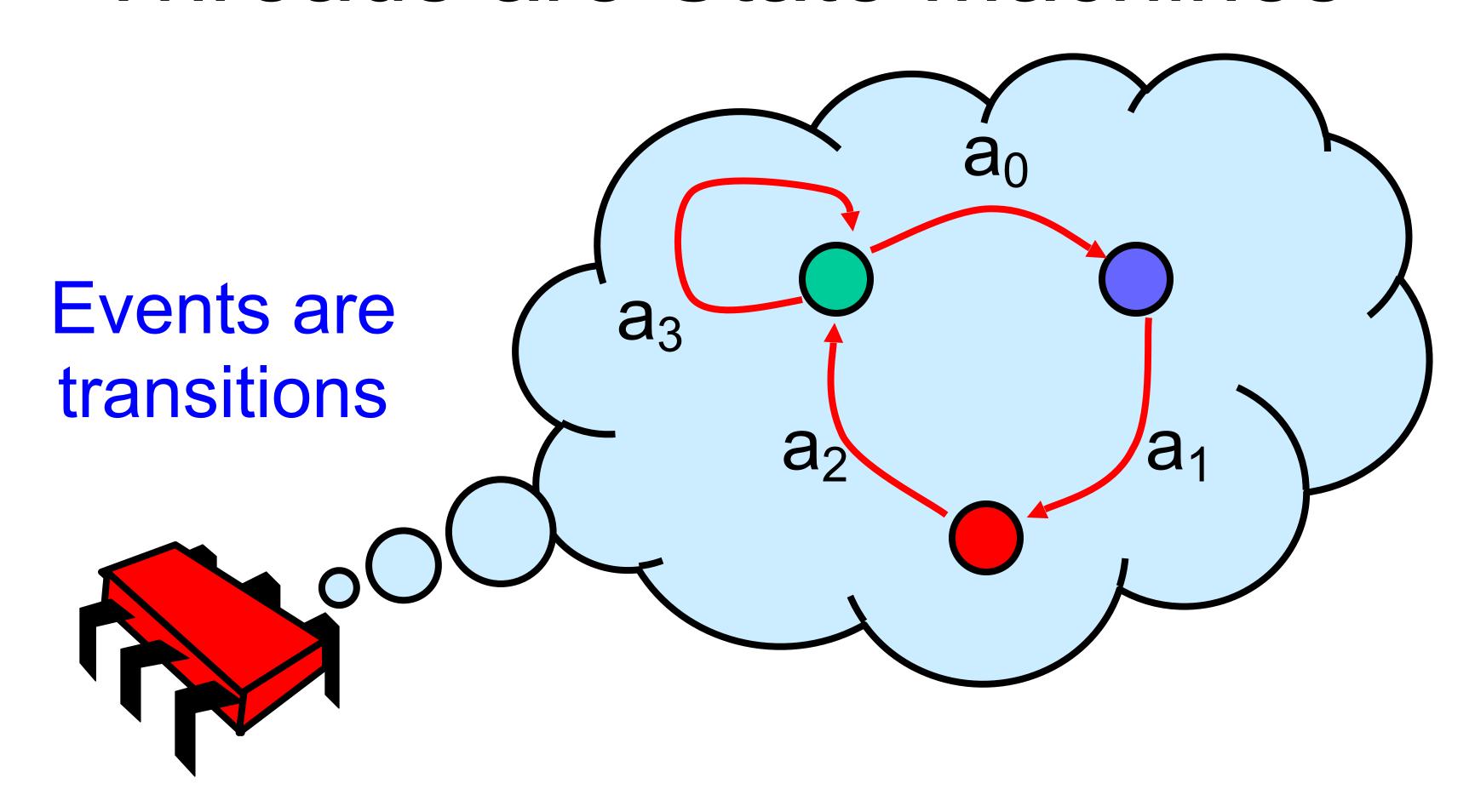
- A thread A is (formally) a sequence  $a_0, a_1, \ldots$  of events
  - "Trace" model
  - Notation:  $a_0$  →  $a_1$  indicates order



#### 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

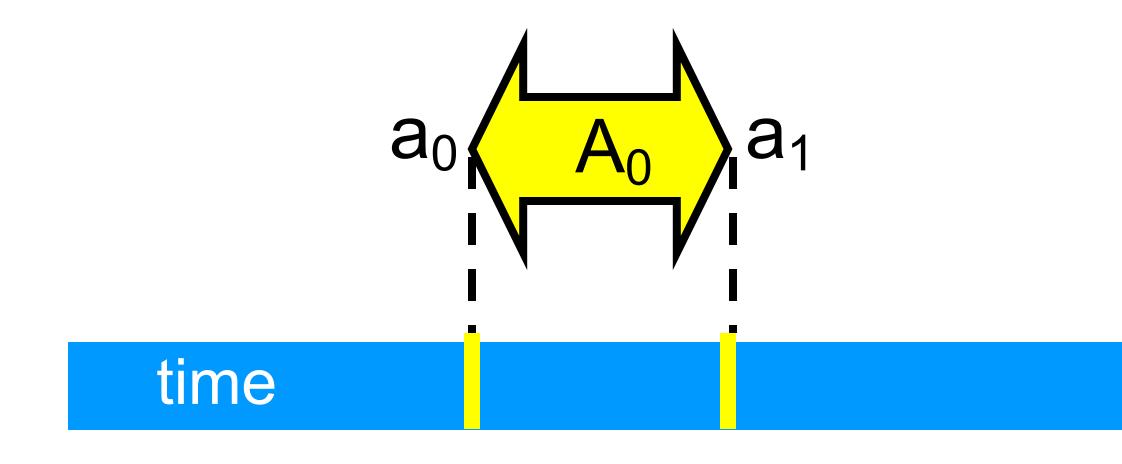
Thread AtimeThread Btime

#### Interleavings

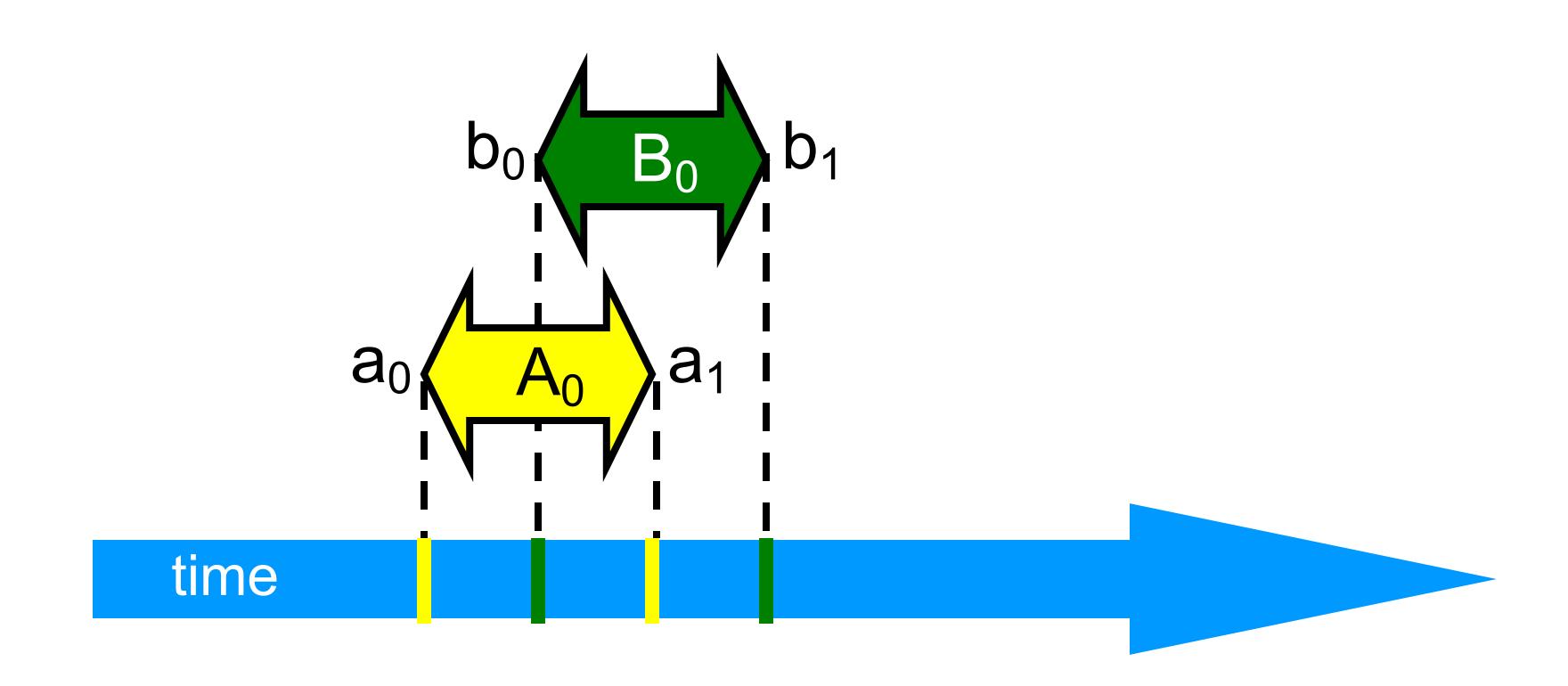
- Events of two or more threads
  - Interleaved
  - Not necessarily independent (why?)

#### Intervals

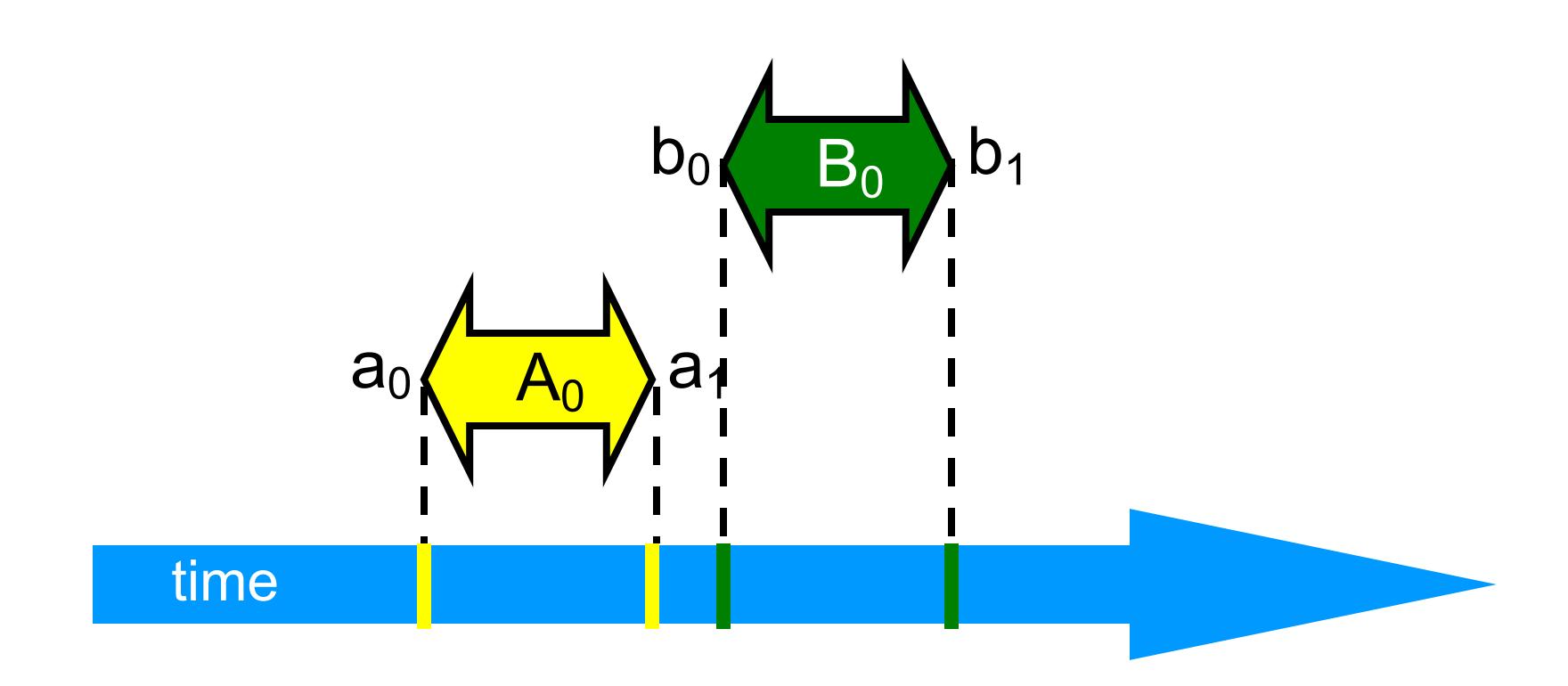
- An interval  $A_0 = (a_0, a_1)$  is
  - Time between events a<sub>0</sub> and a<sub>1</sub>



## Intervals may Overlap

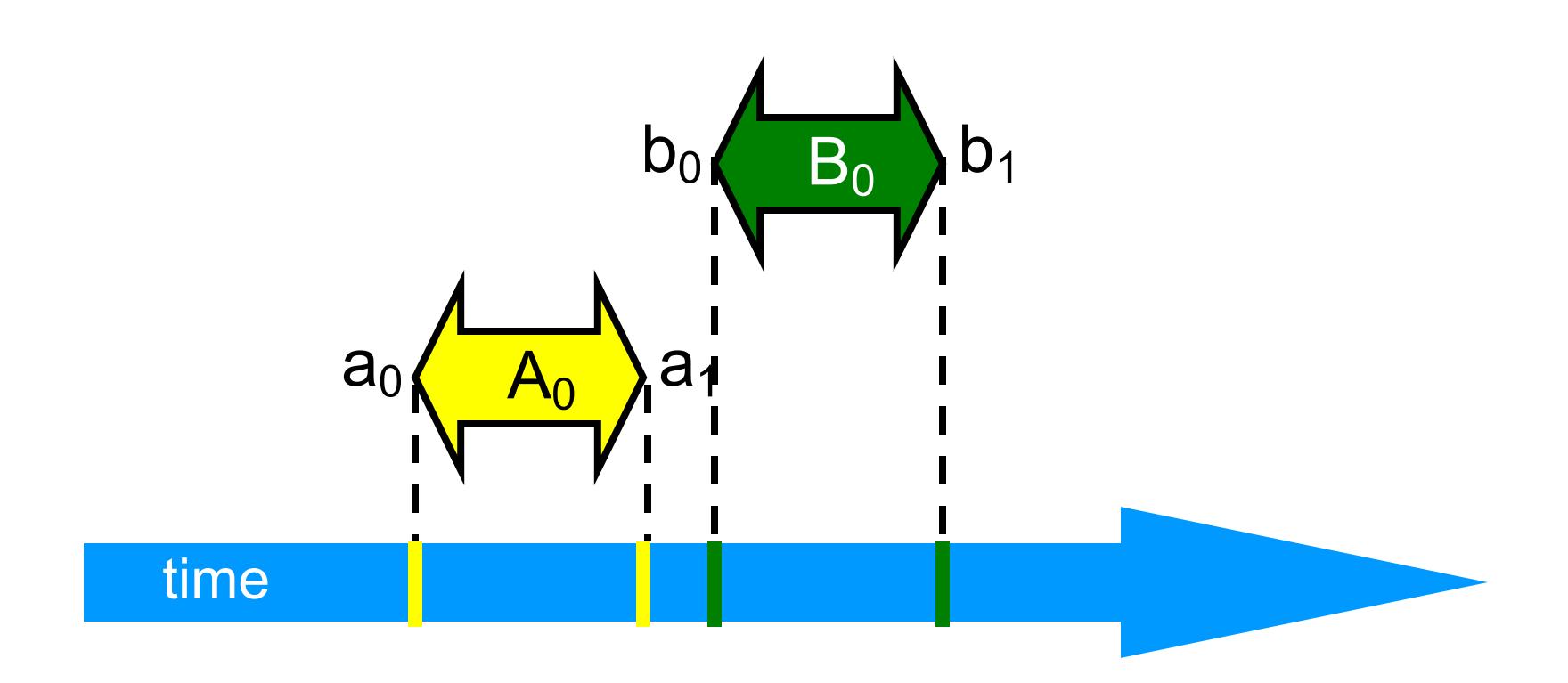


## Intervals may be Disjoint

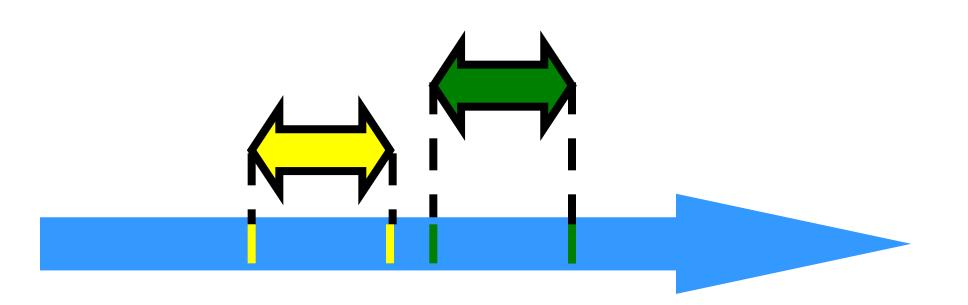


#### Precedence

Interval A<sub>0</sub> precedes interval B<sub>0</sub>

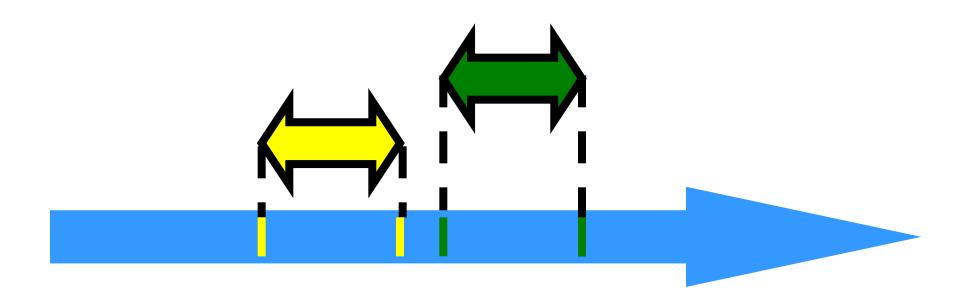


#### Precedence



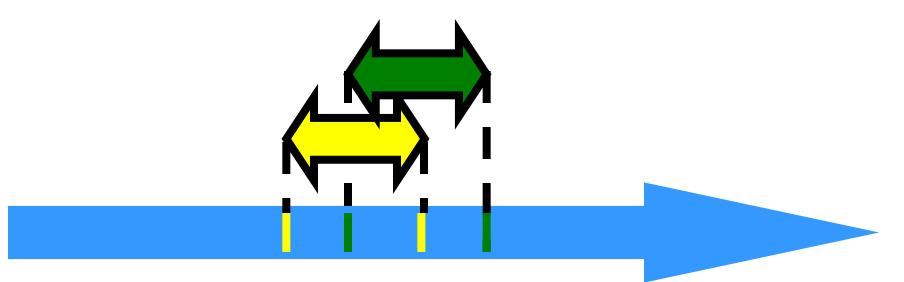
- Notation:  $A_0 \rightarrow B_0$
- Formally,
  - End event of A<sub>0</sub> before start event of B<sub>0</sub>
  - Also called "happens before" or "precedes"

#### 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
```

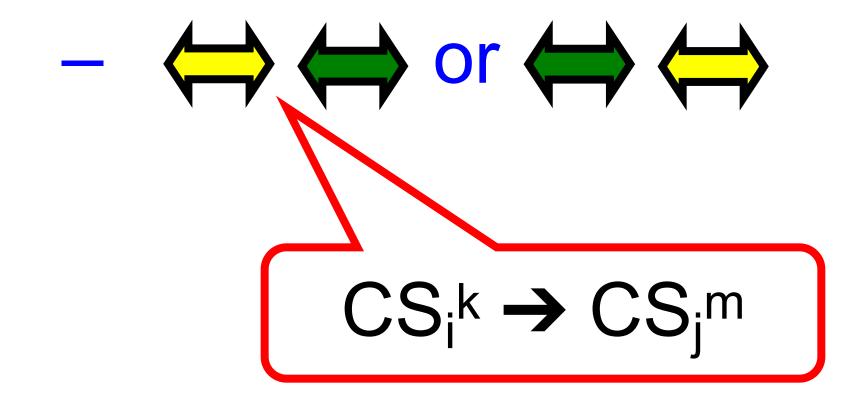
```
class Counter {
 private var count = 0
 private val lock : Lock = ...
  def getAndIncrement: Int = {
    var tmp = 0
    lock.lock()
    try {
      tmp = count
                                     critical section
      count = tmp + 1
     finally {
      lock.unlock()
      tmp
```

Let CS<sub>i</sub><sup>k</sup> be thread i's k-th critical section execution

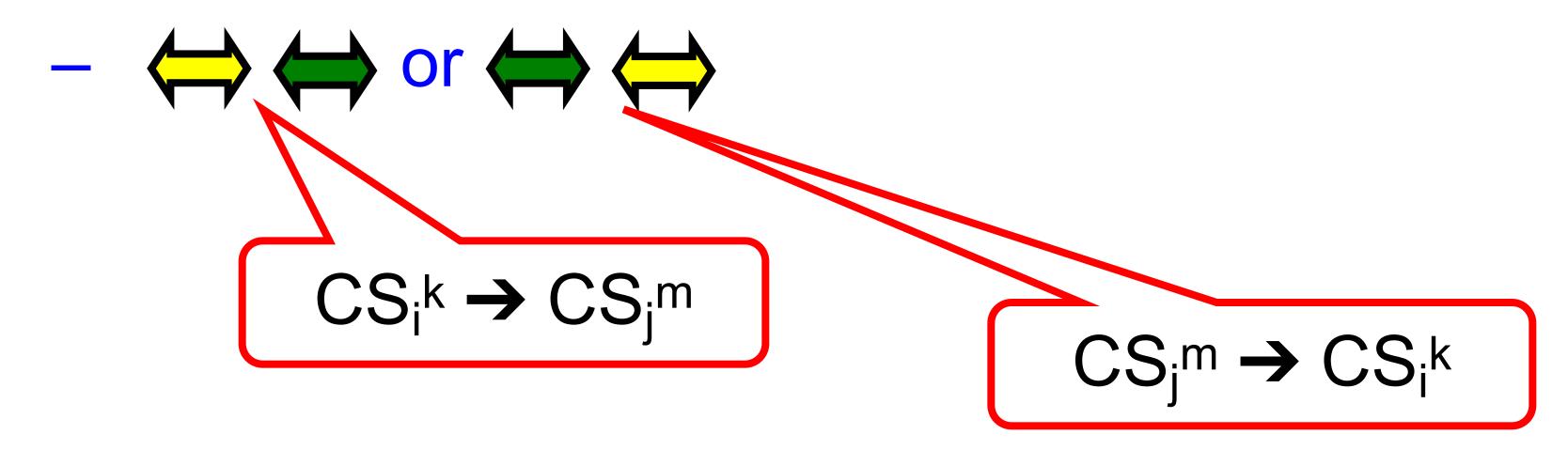
- Let CS<sub>i</sub><sup>k</sup> be thread i's k-th critical section execution
- And CS<sub>j</sub><sup>m</sup> be thread j's m-th critical section execution

- Let CS<sub>i</sub><sup>k</sup> be thread i's k-th critical section execution
- And CS<sub>i</sub><sup>m</sup>
   be j's m-th execution
- Then either

- Let CS<sub>i</sub><sup>k</sup> be thread i's k-th critical section execution
- And CS<sub>j</sub><sup>m</sup>
   be j's m-th execution
- Then either



- Let CS<sub>i</sub><sup>k</sup> 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<sub>A</sub><sup>j</sup> overlaps CS<sub>B</sub><sup>k</sup>
- Consider each thread's last
  - ( $j^{th}$  and  $k^{th}$ ) read and write ...
  - in lock() before entering
- Derive a contradiction

#### From the Code

• write<sub>A</sub>(flag[A]=true)  $\rightarrow$  read<sub>A</sub>(flag[B]==false)  $\rightarrow$  CS<sub>A</sub>

• write<sub>B</sub>(flag[B]=true)  $\rightarrow$  read<sub>B</sub>(flag[A]==false)  $\rightarrow$  CS<sub>B</sub>

```
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<sub>A</sub>(flag[B]==false) →
 write<sub>B</sub>(flag[B]=true)

read<sub>B</sub>(flag[A]==false) →
 write<sub>A</sub>(flag[A]=true)

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

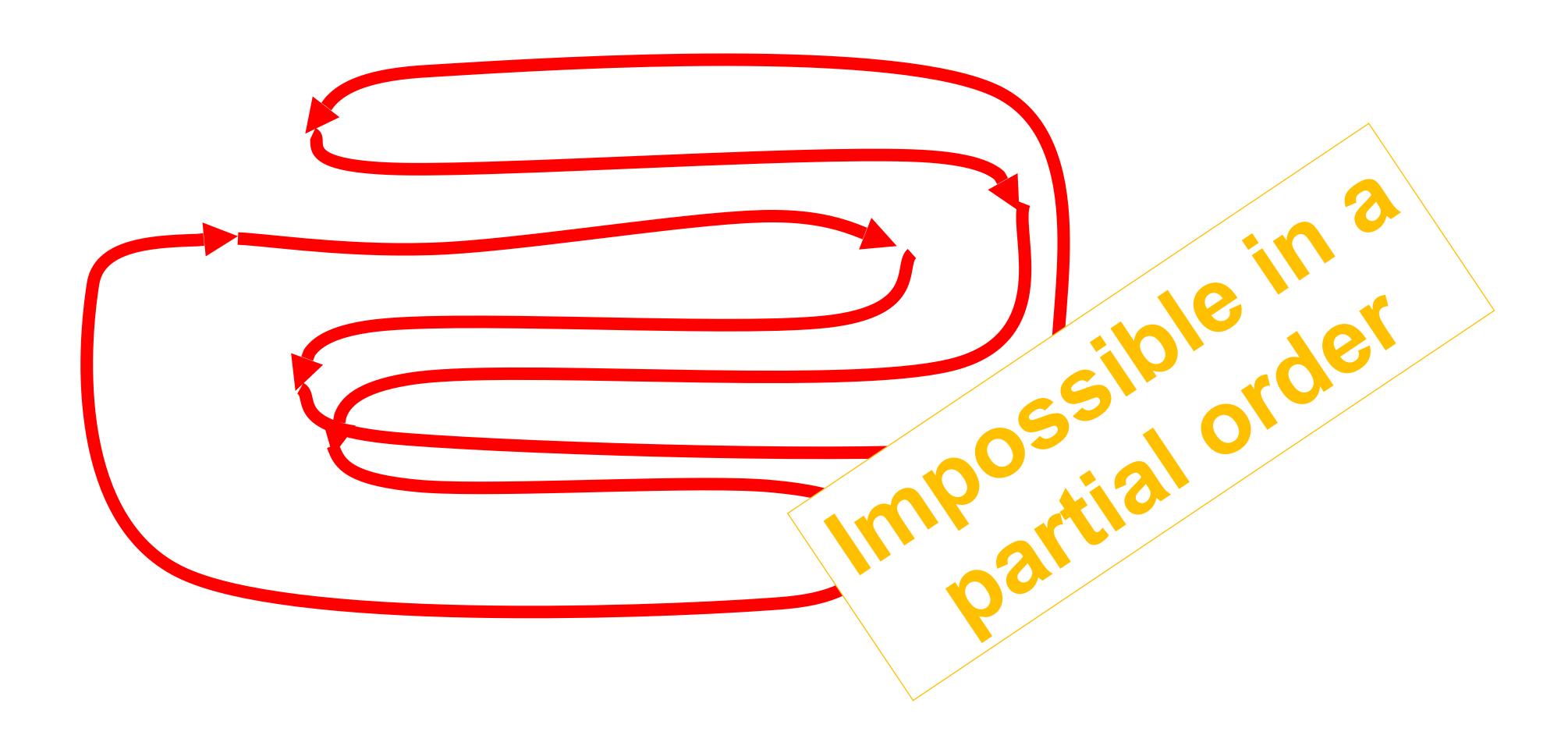
while (flag(j)) {} // spin

```
- 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<sub>B</sub>(flag[A]==falce) write<sub>A</sub>(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<sub>B</sub>(Flag[B]=true) $\rightarrow$ write<sub>B</sub>(victim=B)

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

From the Code

#### Also from the Code

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

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

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

#### Assumption

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

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

#### Combining Observations

```
(1) write<sub>B</sub>(flag[B]=true) \rightarrow (3) \text{ write}_{B}(\text{victim}=B) \rightarrow
(2) write<sub>A</sub>(victim=A) \rightarrow read<sub>A</sub>(flag[B])
\rightarrow \text{ read}_{A}(\text{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<sub>A</sub>
    - always finishes in finite steps
  - Waiting interval:
    - Written W<sub>A</sub>
    - may take unbounded steps

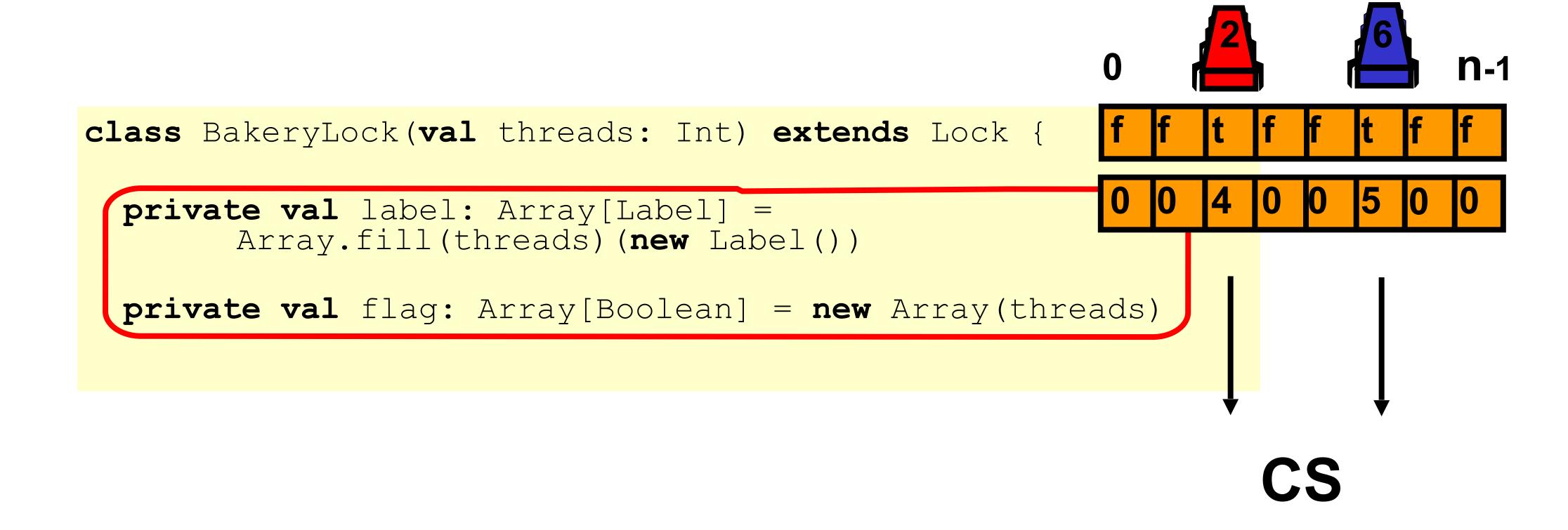
#### First-Come-First-Served

- 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<sub>A</sub>(label[A]) →
  - read<sub>B</sub>(label[A]) →
  - write<sub>B</sub>(label[B]) → read<sub>B</sub>(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<sub>B</sub> → read<sub>B</sub>(flag[A]) → write<sub>A</sub>(flag[A]) → Labeling<sub>A</sub>

- Labels are strictly increasing so
- B must have seen flag[A] == false
- Labeling<sub>B</sub>  $\rightarrow$  read<sub>B</sub>(flag[A])  $\rightarrow$  write<sub>A</sub>(flag[A])  $\rightarrow$  Labeling<sub>A</sub>
- 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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