

# Semaphore

# Semaphore

- A semaphore is fundamentally an integer whose value is never allowed to fall below 0.
- There are two operations on a semaphore: `wait` and `post`. The `post` operation increment the semaphore by 1, and
- the `wait` operations does the following:
  - ✓ If the semaphore has a value  $> 0$ , the semaphore is decremented by 1.
  - ✓ If the semaphore has value 0, the caller will be blocked (busy-waiting or more likely on a queue) until the semaphore has a value larger than 0, and then it is decremented by 1.
- We declare a semaphore as:

```
sem_t sem;  
#include<semaphore.h>
```

# Semaphore

```
int sem_init(sem_t * sem, int pshared, unsigned int value);
```

```
#include <semaphore.h>
```

- This initializes the semaphore `*sem`. The initial value of the semaphore will be `value`.
- If the `pshared` argument has a `non-zero` value, then the semaphore is shared between processes.
- If the `pshared` argument is `zero`, then the semaphore is shared between threads of the process
- On success, the return value is `0`, and on failure, the return value is `-1`.
- An attempt to initialize a semaphore that has already been initialized results in undefined behavior.

# Semaphore

```
int sem_wait(sem_t *sem);
```

```
int sem_trywait(sem_t *sem);
```

- The `sem_wait()` function locks the semaphore only if the semaphore is currently **not locked** and its value is **non-zero**.
- If the semaphore value is currently **zero**, then the calling thread will not return from the call to `sem_wait()` until it either locks the semaphore or the call is interrupted by a signal.
- The `sem_trywait()` function locks the semaphore referenced by `sem` only if the semaphore is currently **not locked**; that is, if the semaphore value is currently positive. Otherwise, it does not lock the semaphore.
- On success, the return value is 0, and on failure, the return value is -1.

# Semaphore

```
int sem_post(sem_t *sem);
```

- The `sem_post()` function unlocks the semaphore and the semaphore value is simply incremented.
- If successful, the `sem_post()` function returns `zero`; otherwise the function returns `-1`.

# Semaphore

```
int sem_destroy(sem_t *sem);
```

- The `sem_destroy()` function is used to destroy semaphore indicated by `sem`.
- It is safe to destroy an initialised semaphore upon which no threads are currently blocked. The effect of destroying a semaphore upon which other threads are currently blocked is undefined.
- Upon successful completion, a value of `zero` is returned. Otherwise, a value of `-1` is returned.

# Semaphore

```
int sem_getvalue(sem_t *sem, int *sval);
```

- The `sem_getvalue()` function updates the location referenced by the `sval` argument to have the value of the semaphore referenced by `sem` without affecting the state of the semaphore.
- Upon successful completion, the function returns a value of `zero`. Otherwise, the function returns a value of `-1`.

# Example: Thread printing its name

```
#include <pthread.h>
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <unistd.h>
#include <string.h>
#include <semaphore.h>
#define THREAD_NUM 4
sem_t semaphore;
void* routine(void* args) {
    sem_wait(&semaphore);
    sleep(1);
    printf("Thread %d\n", (int)args);
    sem_post(&semaphore);
    free(args);
}
```

```
int main(int argc, char *argv[]) {
    pthread_t th[THREAD_NUM];
    sem_init(&semaphore, 0, 4);
    int i;
    for (i = 0; i < THREAD_NUM; i++) {
        int* a = malloc(sizeof(int));
        *a = i;
        if(pthread_create(&th[i], NULL, &routine, a) != 0)
        {
            perror("Failed to create thread");
        }
    }
    for (i = 0; i < THREAD_NUM; i++) {
        if (pthread_join(th[i], NULL) != 0) {
            perror("Failed to join thread");
        }
    }
    sem_destroy(&semaphore);
    return 0;
}
```



# Example: Semaphores for ordering

```
#include <pthread.h>
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <unistd.h>
#include <semaphore.h>

sem_t s;
void * child (void *arg)
{
    printf("child\n");
    sem_post(&s); // signal here: child is done
    return NULL;
}
```

```
int main(int argc, char *argv[]) {
    sem_init(&s, 0,x); // what should X be?
    printf("parent: begin\n");
    pthread_t c;
    Pthread_create(&c, NULL, child, NULL);
    sem_wait (&s); // wait here for
    child
    printf("parent: end\n");
    return 0;
}
```

# Example: Producer-Consumer

```
#include <pthread.h>
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <unistd.h>
#include <semaphore.h>

sem_t empty;
sem_t full;
sem_t mutex;
void* producer (void *arg)
{
    int i;
    for (i=0; i < loops; i++) {
        sem_wait (& empty);
        sem_wait (&mutex);
        put (i);
        sem_post (&mutex);
        sem_post (&full);
    }
}
```

```
Void* consumer (void *arg)
{
    int i;
    for (i=0; i < loops; i++) {
        sem_wait (&full);
        sem_wait(&mutex);
        int tmp get ();
        sem_post(&mutex);
        sem_post(& empty);
        printf("%d\n", tmp);
    }
}
```

# Producer-Consumer:

```
#define THREAD_NUM 8
sem_t semEmpty;
sem_t semFull;
pthread_mutex_t mutexBuffer;
int buffer[10];
int count = 0;
void* producer(void* args) {
    while (1) {
        // Produce
        int x = rand() % 100;
        sleep(1);
        // Add to the buffer
        sem_wait(&semEmpty);
        pthread_mutex_lock(&mutexBuffer);
        buffer[count] = x;
        count++;
        pthread_mutex_unlock(&mutexBuffer);
        sem_post(&semFull);
    }
}
```

```
void* consumer(void* args) {
    while (1) {
        int y;
        // Remove from the buffer
        sem_wait(&semFull);
        pthread_mutex_lock(&mutexBuffer);
        y = buffer[count - 1];
        count--;
        pthread_mutex_unlock(&mutexBuffer);
        sem_post(&semEmpty);

        // Consume
        printf("Got %d\n", y);
        sleep(1);
    }
}

int main(int argc, char* argv[]) {
    srand(time(NULL));
    pthread_t th[THREAD_NUM];
    pthread_mutex_init(&mutexBuffer, NULL);
    sem_init(&semEmpty, 0, 10);
    sem_init(&semFull, 0, 0);
    int i;
    for (i = 0; i < THREAD_NUM; i++) {
        if (i > 0) {
            if (pthread_create(&th[i], NULL, &producer, NULL) != 0) {
                perror("Failed to create thread");
            }
        } else {
            if (pthread_create(&th[i], NULL, &consumer, NULL) != 0) {
                perror("Failed to create thread");
            }
        }
    }
    for (i = 0; i < THREAD_NUM; i++) {
        if (pthread_join(th[i], NULL) != 0) {
            perror("Failed to join thread");
        }
    }
    sem_destroy(&semEmpty);
    sem_destroy(&semFull);
    pthread_mutex_destroy(&mutexBuffer);
    return 0;
}
```

# Dining philosophers problem:

```
#define N          5
#define LEFT      (i+N-1)%N
#define RIGHT     (i+1)%N
#define THINKING  0
#define HUNGRY    1
#define EATING    2
```

```
typedef int semaphore;
int state[N];
semaphore mutex = 1;
semaphore s[N];
```

```
void philosopher(int i)
{
    while (TRUE) {
        think( );
        take_forks(i);
        eat( );
        put_forks(i);
    }
}
```

```
/* number of philosophers */
/* number of i's left neighbor */
/* number of i's right neighbor */
/* philosopher is thinking */
/* philosopher is trying to get forks */
/* philosopher is eating */

/* semaphores are a special kind of int */
/* array to keep track of everyone's state */
/* mutual exclusion for critical regions */
/* one semaphore per philosopher */

/* i: philosopher number, from 0 to N-1 */

/* repeat forever */
/* philosopher is thinking */
/* acquire two forks or block */
/* yum-yum, spaghetti */
/* put both forks back on table */
```

# Dining philosophers problem:

```
void take_forks(int i)
{
    down(&mutex);
    state[i] = HUNGRY;
    test(i);
    up(&mutex);
    down(&s[i]);
}
```

```
void put_forks(i)
{
    down(&mutex);
    state[i] = THINKING;
    test(LEFT);
    test(RIGHT);
    up(&mutex);
}
```

```
void test(i) /* i: philosopher number, from 0 to N-1 */
{
    if (state[i] == HUNGRY && state[LEFT] != EATING && state[RIGHT] != EATING) {
        state[i] = EATING;
        up(&s[i]);
    }
}
```

/\* i: philosopher number, from 0 to N-1 \*/

```
/* enter critical region */
/* record fact that philosopher i is hungry */
/* try to acquire 2 forks */
/* exit critical region */
/* block if forks were not acquired */
```

/\* i: philosopher number, from 0 to N-1 \*/

```
/* enter critical region */
/* philosopher has finished eating */
/* see if left neighbor can now eat */
/* see if right neighbor can now eat */
/* exit critical region */
```