

Synchronization (I)

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Outline

- Background
- Critical section
- Synchronization hardware
- Semaphores

Background

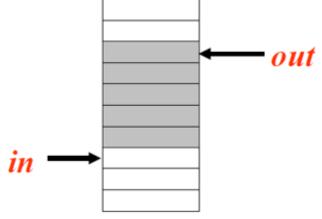
Background

Concurrent access to shared data may result in data inconsistency

 Maintaining data consistency requires mechanism to ensure the orderly execution of cooperating processes

Consumer & Producer Problem

- Determine whether buffer is empty or full
 - Use in, out position
 - Buffer as a circular array with size B
 - Next free: in
 - First available: out
 - Empty: *in = out*
 - Full: (in + 1) % B = out



- The solution allows at most (B 1) item in the buffer
 - · Otherwise, cannot tell the buffer is empty or full

Consumer & Producer Problem (cont.)

- Determine whether buffer is empty or full
 - Use count value

```
/* Producer */
                                           /* Consumer */
while (true) {
                                           while (true) {
                                                while (counter == 0);
    // produce an item in next produced.
    while (counter == BUFFER_SIZE);
                                                    // do nothing.
         // do nothing.
                                                next_consumed = buffer[out];
                                                out = (out + 1) % BUFFER_SIZE;
    buffer[in] = next_produced;
    in = (in + 1) \% BUFFER\_SIZE;
                                                counter-:
                                                // consume the item in next consumed.
    counter++;
```

Concurrent Operations on Counter

 The statement "counter++" may be implemented in machine language as

```
move ax, counter add ax, 1 move counter, ax
```

The statement "counter-" may be implemented as

```
move bx, counter sub bx, 1 move counter, bx
```

Instruction Interleaving

 Assume counter is initially 5. One interleaving of statement is

producer: move ax, counter

$$\rightarrow$$
 ax = 5

producer: add ax, 1

 \rightarrow ax = 6

context switch

consumer: move bx, counter

$$\rightarrow$$
 bx = 5

consumer: sub bx, 1

$$\rightarrow$$
 bx = 4

context switch

producer: move counter, ax

→ counter = 6

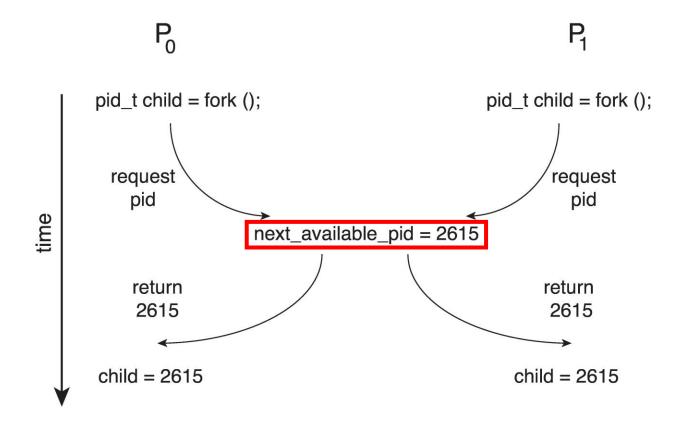
context switch

consumer: move counter, bx

 \rightarrow counter = 4

Another Example

An example in the kernel



Race Condition

- The situation where several processes access and manipulate shared data concurrently.
- The final value of the shared data depends upon which process finishes last
- To prevent race condition, concurrent processes must be synchronized
 - On a single-processor machine, we could disable interrupt or use non-preemptive CPU scheduling
 - But how about on multi-processor machines and preemptive scheduling?
- We need a mechanism to solve the synchronization issue, commonly described as critical section problem

Critical Section

The Critical-Section Problem

Purpose

A protocol for processes to cooperate

Problem description

- N processes are competing to use some shared data
- Each process has a code segment, called critical section, in which the shared data is accessed
- Ensure that when one process is executing in its critical section, no other process is allowed to execute in its critical section
 - → mutually exclusive!

The Critical-Section Problem (cont.)

- General code section structure
 - Only one process can be in a critical section

Critical-Section Requirements

Mutual exclusion

 If a process P is executing in its critical section (CS), no other processes can be executing in their CS

Progress

 If no process is executing in its CS and there exist some processes that wish to enter their CS, there processes cannot be postponed indefinitely

Bounded Waiting

- A bound must exist on the number of times that other processes are allowed to enter their CS after a process has made a request to enter its CS
- How to design entry and exit section to satisfy the above requirement?

CS Solutions and Synchronization Tools

- Software solution
- Synchronization hardware
- Semaphore
- Monitor

Algorithm for Two Processes

- Only 2 processes P₀ and P₁
- Shared variables
 - int *turn*; // initially *turn* = 0
 - $turn == i \rightarrow P_i$ can enter its critical section

```
/* Process 1 */
/* Process 0 */
                                         do {
do {
    while (turn != 0); —
                                         — while (turn != 1);
                         entry section
       critical section
                                                critical section
                           exit section
                                            turn = 0;
    turn = 1;
                                                remainder section
      remainder section
} while (1);
                                         } while (1);
```

mutual exclusion? Y

progress? N

bounded-wait? Y

Peterson's Solution for Two Processes

Shared variables

```
• int turn; // initially turn = 0
• turn == i \rightarrow P_i can enter its critical section

    boolean flag[2]; // initially flag[0] = flag[1] = false

    flag[i] == true → P<sub>i</sub> is ready to enter its critical section

 /* Process i */
  do {
      flag[i] = true;
      turn = j;
                                           entry section
       while (flag[j] && turn == j);
         critical section
       flag[i] = false;
                                             exit section
         remainder section
  } while (1);
```

Proof of Peterson's Solution

Mutual exclusion

- If P_0 in CS \rightarrow flag[1] == false || turn == 0
- If P_1 in CS \rightarrow flag[0] == false || turn == 1
- Assume both processes in CS → flag[0] == flag[1] == true
 - \rightarrow turn == 0 for P_0 to enter, turn == 1 for P_1 to enter
 - \rightarrow turn will be either 0 or 1, so P_0 , P_1 cannot in CS at the same time

Proof of Peterson's Solution

- Progress (e.g., P₀ withes to enter its CS)
 - (1) If P_1 is not ready \rightarrow flag[1] = false \rightarrow P_0 can enter
 - (2) If both are ready → flag[0] == flag[1] == true
 → If turn == 0 then P₀ enters, otherwise P₁ enters
 - Either cases, some waiting process can enter CS

```
/* Process 0 */
do {
    flag[0] = true;
    turn = 1;
    while (flag[1] && turn == 1),
        critical section
    flag[0] = false;
    remainder section
} while (1);
```

```
/* Process 1 */
do {
    flag[1] = true;
    turn = 0;
    while (flag[0] && turn == 0),
        critical section

(1) flag[1] = false;
    remainder section
} while (1);
```

Proof of Peterson's Solution

- Bounded waiting (e.g., P₀ withes to enter its CS)
 - (1) Once P_1 exits CS \rightarrow flag[1] == false \rightarrow P_0 can enter
 - (2) If P₁ exits CS and reset flag[1] = true
 turn == 0 (overwrite P₀ setting) → P₀ can enter
 - P₀ won't wait infinitely

```
/* Process 0 */
do {
    flag[0] = true;
    turn = 1;
    while (flag[1] && turn == 1),
        critical section
    flag[0] = false;
    remainder section
} while (1);
```

- Peterson's solution is not guaranteed to work on modern architectures
 - To improve performance, processors and/or compilers may reorder operations that have no dependencies

 For single-threaded process this is OK as the result will always be the same

 For multi-threaded process the reordering may produce inconsistent or unexpected results

- Example:
 - Two threads share the data:

```
bool flag = true;
int x = 0;
```

Thread1 performs

```
while (!flag);
print x;
```

Thread2 performs

```
x = 100;
flag = true;
```

• Expected output will be 100

- Example (cont.):
 - Because the variables *flag* and *x* are independent of each other, the instructions:

```
x = 100; flag = true;
```

for Thread2 may be reordered

If this occurs, the output may be 0!

```
/* Process 1 */
/* Process 0 */
do {
                                           do {
    flag[0] = true;
    turn = 1;
                                               turn = 0:
     while (flag[1] && turn == 1);
                                               while (flag[0] && turn == 0);
       critical section
                                                  critical section
                                               flag[1] = false;
    flag[0] = false;
       remainder section
                                                  remainder section
} while (1);
                                           } while (1);
```

The variables *flag[]* and *turn* are independent, so they might be reordered

```
/* Process 0 */
                                               /* Process 1 */
do {
                                               do {
     turn = 1;
                                                    turn = 0;
     flag[0] = true;
                                                    flag[1] = true;
     while (flag[1] && turn == 1);
                                                    while (flag[0] && turn == 0);
        critical section
                                                       critical section
     flag[0] = false;
                                                    flag[1] = false;
        remainder section
                                                       remainder section
                                               } while (1);
} while (1);
     process _0 \longrightarrow | turn = 1 |
                                                   flag[0] = true -
                    → turn = 0 , flag[1] = true
                                                          CS
                                     time
```

Both processes will enter their CS!
We can use **Memory Barrier** to ensure the correctness

Memory Barrier

- When a memory barrier instruction is performed, the system ensures that all loads and stores are completed before any subsequent loads or stores operations are performed
- Recall previous example:

```
/* Thread 1 */
while (! flag); load x = 100; store print x = 100; flag = true;
```

Memory Barrier (cont.)

- When a memory barrier instruction is performed, the system ensures that all loads and stores are completed before any subsequent loads or stores operations are performed
- Modification:

```
/* Thread 1 *//* Thread 2 */while (! flag);x = 100;memory_barrier();memory_barrier();print xflag = true;
```

For Thread 1, we are guaranteed that the value of *flag* is loaded before the value of *x*

Memory Barrier (cont.)

- When a memory barrier instruction is performed, the system ensures that all loads and stores are completed before any subsequent load or store operations are performed
- Modification:

```
/* Thread 1 *//* Thread 2 */while (! flag);x = 100;memory_barrier();memory_barrier();print xflag = true;
```

For Thread 2, we are guaranteed that the assignment to *x* occurs before the assignment to *flag*

Producer & Consumer Problem

```
/* Producer process 0 */
                                      /* Consumer process 0 */
while (true) {
                                      while (true) {
     entry section
                                           entry section
    nextItem = getItem();
                                           while (counter == 0);
    while (counter == BUFFER_SIZE);
                                          item = buffer[out];
                                          out = (out + 1) % BUFFER_SIZE;
    buffer[in] = nextItem;
    in = (in + 1) % BUFFER_SIZE;
                                          counter--;
                                          computing();
    counter++:
    computing();
                                           exit section
     exit section
```

Incorrect. Deadlock if consumer enters the CS first

Producer & Consumer Problem (cont.)

```
/* Producer process 0 */
                                      /* Consumer process 0 */
while (true) {
                                      while (true) {
                                           while (counter == 0);
    nextItem = getItem();
                                           item = buffer[out];
    while (counter == BUFFER_SIZE);
    buffer[in] = nextItem;
                                           out = (out + 1) % BUFFER_SIZE;
    in = (in + 1) \% BUFFER\_SIZE;
                                           entry section
     entry section
                                           counter--;
                                           computing();
    counter++;
    computing();
                                           exit section
     exit section
```

Correct but poor performance

Producer & Consumer Problem (cont.)

```
/* Producer process 0 */
                                      /* Consumer process 0 */
while (true) {
                                      while (true) {
    nextItem = getItem();
                                           while (counter == 0);
                                          item = buffer[out];
    while (counter == BUFFER_SIZE);
    buffer[in] = nextItem;
                                          out = (out + 1) % BUFFER_SIZE;
    in = (in + 1) % BUFFER_SIZE;
                                           entry section
     entry section
                                          counter--;
    counter++;
                                           exit section
     exit section
                                          computing();
    computing();
```

Correct and maximize concurrent performance

Bakery Algorithm (n processes)

- Before entering its CS, each process receives a number
 (#)
- Holder of the smallest # enters CS
- The numbering scheme always generates # in non-decreasing order; i.e., 1, 2, 3, 3, 4, 5, 5, 5 ...
- If processes P_i and P_j receive the same #, if i < j, then P_i is served first
- Notation:
 - (a, b) < (c, d) if
 - a < c or
 - a == c && b < d

Bakery Algorithm (n processes) (cont.)

```
// Process i:
            do {
                 choosing[i] = true;
get ticket
                 num[i] = max (num[0], num[1], ...num[n-1]) + 1;
                 choosing[i] = false;
                 for (j = 0; j < n; j++) {
                     while (choosing[i]);
FCFS
                     while ((num[j] != 0) && ((num[j], j) < (num[i], i)));
                 critical section
release ticket
                 num[i] = 0;
                 remainder section
```

Bounded waiting because processes enter CS on a first come, first served basis

Bakery Algorithm (n processes) (cont.)

- Why cannot compare when num is being modified?
- Without locking
 - Let 5 be the current maximum number
 - If P_1 and P_4 take number together, but P_4 finishes before P_1
 - $P_1 = 0$, $P_4 = 6 \rightarrow P_4$ will enter the CS
 - After P_1 takes the number
 - $P_1 = P_4 = 6 \rightarrow P_1$ will enter the CS as well!
- With locking
 - P_4 will have to wait until P_1 finish taking the number
 - Both $P_1 \& P_4$ will have the new number "6" before comparison

Pthread Lock/Mutex Routines

- To use mutex, it must be declared as of type pthread_mutex_t and initialized with pthread_mutex_init()
- A mutex is destroyed with pthread_mutex_destroy()
- A critical section can then be protected using pthread_mutex_lock() and pthread_mutex_unlock()

```
#include "pthread.h"

pthread_mutex mutex;

pthread_mutex_init(&mutex, NULL);

pthread_mutex_lock(&mutex);

critical section

pthread_mutex_unlock(&mutex);

pthread_mutex_unlock(&mutex);

pthread_mutex_destroy(&mutex);
```

Condition Variables

- Condition variables (CV) represent some condition that a thread can
 - Wait on, until the condition occurs; or
 - Notify other waiting threads that the condition has occurred
- Three operations on condition variables
 - wait() block until another thread calls signal() or broadcast()
 on the CV
 - pthread_cond_wait(&theCV, &someLock)
 - signal() wake up one thread waiting on the CV pthread_cond_signal(&theCV)
 - broadcast() wake up all threads waiting on the CV pthread_cond_broadcast(&theCV)

Condition Variables (cont.)

- Example
 - A thread is designed to take action when x == 0
 - Another thread is responsible for decrementing the counter

```
pthread_cont_t
                      cond;
       pthread_cond_init(cond, NULL);
       pthread_mutex_t mutex;
       pthread_mutex_init(mutex, NULL);
action() {
                                          counter() {
    pthread_mutex_lock(&mutex);
                                               pthread_mutex_lock(&mutex);
    if (x != 0)
                                              X--;
        pthread_cond_wait(cond, mutex);
                                              if (x == 0)
    pthread_mutex_unlock(&mutex);
                                                   pthread_cond_signal(cond);
    take_action();
                                               pthread_mutex_unlock(&mutex);
```

Lock mutex

```
action() {
    pthread_mutex_lock(&mutex);
    if (x != 0)
        pthread_cond_wait(cond, mutex);
    pthread_mutex_unlock(&mutex);
    take_action();
}

counter() {
    pthread_mutex_lock(&mutex);
    if (x == 0)
        pthread_cond_signal(cond);
    pthread_mutex_unlock(&mutex);
    pthread_mutex_unlock(&mutex);
}
```

Lock mutex

Wait()

 Put the thread into sleep and releases the lock

Lock mutex

```
action() {
    pthread_mutex_lock(&mutex);
    if (x != 0)
        pthread_cond_wait(cond, mutex);
    pthread_mutex_unlock(&mutex);
    take_action();
}

counter() {
    pthread_mutex_lock(&mutex);
    if (x == 0)
    pthread_cond_signal(cond);
    pthread_mutex_unlock(&mutex);
}

pthread_mutex_unlock(&mutex);
}
```

Lock mutex

Wait()

- Put the thread into sleep and releases the lock
- Waked up, but the thread is locked

Lock mutex Signal()

```
action() {
    pthread_mutex_lock(&mutex);
    if (x != 0)
        pthread_cond_wait(cond, mutex);
    pthread_mutex_unlock(&mutex);
    take_action();
}

counter() {
    pthread_mutex_lock(&mutex);
    if (x == 0)
        pthread_cond_signal(cond);
    pthread_mutex_unlock(&mutex);
    }

pthread_mutex_unlock(&mutex);
}
```

Lock mutex

Wait()

- Put the thread into sleep and releases the lock
- Waked up, but the thread is locked
- Re-acquire lock and resume execution

Lock mutex
Signal()
Release the lock

```
action() {
    pthread_mutex_lock(&mutex);
    if (x != 0)
        pthread_cond_wait(cond, mutex);
    pthread_mutex_unlock(&mutex);
    take_action();
}

counter() {
    pthread_mutex_lock(&mutex);
    if (x == 0)
    pthread_cond_signal(cond);
    pthread_mutex_unlock(&mutex);
    pthread_mutex_unlock(&mutex);
}
```

Lock mutex

Wait()

- Put the thread into sleep and releases the lock
- Waked up, but the thread is locked
- Re-acquire lock and resume execution

Release the lock

Lock mutex
Signal()
Release the lock

ThreadPool Implementation

Task structure

```
typedef struct {
    void (*function)(void *);
    void *argument;
} threadpool_task_t;
```

Allocate thread and task queue

ThreadPool structure

```
struct threadpool_t {
    pthread_mutex t lock;
    pthread_cond_t notify;
    pthread t *threads;
    threadpool task t *queue;
    int thread count;
    int queue_size;
    int head;
    int tail;
    int count;
    int shutdown;
    int started;
```

```
/* Allocate thread and task queue */
pool->threads = (pthread_t *) malloc(sizeof(pthread_t) * thread_count);
pool->queue = (threadpool_task_t *) malloc(sizeof(threadpool_task_t) * queue_size);
```

ThreadPool Implementation (cont.)

```
static void *threadpool thread(void *threadpool)
{
    threadpool t *pool = (threadpool t *)threadpool;
    threadpool task t task;
    for(;;) {
         /* Lock must be taken to wait on conditional variable */
         pthread mutex lock(&(pool->lock));
         /* Wait on condition variable, check for spurious wakeups.
           When returning from pthread cond wait(), we own the lock. */
        while((pool->count == 0) && (!pool->shutdown)) {
             pthread cond wait(&(pool->notify), &(pool->lock));
```

ThreadPool Implementation (cont.)

```
/* Grab our task */
task.function = pool->queue[pool->head].function;
task.argument = pool->queue[pool->head].argument;
pool->head += 1;
pool->head = (pool->head == pool->queue size) ? 0 : pool->head;
pool->count -= 1;
/* Unlock */
pthread_mutex_unlock(&(pool->lock));
/* Get to work */
(*(task.function))(task.argument);
```

Synchronization Hardware

Hardware Support

- The CS problem occurs because the modification of a shared variable may be interrupted
- If disable interrupts when in CS
 - Not feasible in multiprocessor machine
 - Clock interrupts cannot fire in any machine
- HW support solution: atomic instructions
 - atomic: as one uninterruptible unit
 - Example: TestAndSet(var) and Swap(a, b)

Atomic TestAndSet()

```
bool TestAndSet (bool &lock) {
                                        execute atomically:
    bool value = lock;
                                        return the value of "lock" and
    lock = true;
    return value;
                                        set "lock" to true
shared data: bool lock; // initially lock = false
//P_0
                                          //P_1
do {
                                          do {
    while (TestAndSet (lock));
                                               while (TestAndSet (lock))
    critical section
                                               critical section
    lock = false;
                                              lock = false;
    remainder section
                                              remainder section
} while (1);
                                          } while (1);
```

mutual exclusion? Y

progress? Y

bounded-wait? N

Atomic Swap()

Enter CS if lock == false

```
shared data: bool lock; // initially lock = false
//P_0
                                            //P_1
do {
                                            do {
    key0 = true;
                                                key1 = true;
    while (key0 == true)
                                                 while (key1 == true)
         Swap(lock, key0);
                                                     Swap(lock, key1);
    critical section
                                                 critical section
    lock = false;
                                                lock = false;
    remainder section
                                                 remainder section
} while (1);
                                            } while (1);
```

mutual exclusion? Y progress? Y bounded-wait? N

Atomic CompareAndSwap()

```
bool CompareAndSwap (int &value, int expected, int new_value) {
    int temp = value;
    if (value == expected)
        value = new_value;
    return temp;
shared data: int lock; // initially lock = 0
//P_0
do {
    while (CompareAndSwap (lock, 0, 1) != 0);
    critical section
    lock = 0;
    remainder section
} while (1);
                                                  bounded-wait? N
mutual exclusion? Y
                            progress? Y
```

Atomic Variables

- Atomic variable is another tool that provides atomic (uniterruptible) updates on basic data types such as integers and Booleans
- Usually built with atomic instructions such as CompareAndSwap
- Example:
 - Let **sequence** be an atomic variable
 - Let increment() be an operation for incrementing the atomic variable sequence
 - The command increment(&sequence) ensures sequence is incremented without interruption

Atomic Variables (cont.)

 The increment() function can be implemented as follows bool increment (atomic_int &v) { int temp; do { temp = v; while (temp != (CompareAndSwap (v, temp, temp+1)); 5 bool CompareAndSwap (int &value, int expected, int new_value) { int temp = value; 5 if (value == expected) value = new_value; return temp;

Atomic Variables (cont.)

 The increment() function can be implemented as follows bool increment (atomic_int &v) { int temp; do { temp = v; v is modified } while (temp != (CompareAndSwap (v, temp, temp+1)); bool CompareAndSwap (int &value, int expected, int new_value) { int temp = value; 5 if (value == expected) value = new_value; return temp;

Atomic Variables (cont.)

 The increment() function can be implemented as follows

```
bool increment (atomic_int &v) {
            int temp;
             do {
                 temp = v;
v is modified }
             while (temp != (CompareAndSwap (v, temp, temp+1));
        bool CompareAndSwap (int &value, int expected, int new_value) {
            int temp = value;
             if (value == expected)
                 value = new_value;
            return temp;
```

Semaphores

Semaphores

- A tool to generalize the synchronization problem
- More specifically
 - A record of how many units of a particular resource is available
 - If # record = 1 → binary semaphore, mutex lock
 - If # record > 1 → counting semaphore
 - Accessed only through 2 atomic operations: wait & signal
- Spinlock implementation
 - Semaphore S is an integer variable

```
wait (S) {

while (S <= 0);

S--;

busy waiting

signal (S) {

S++;

}
```

POSIX Semaphore

- Semaphore is part of POSIX standard BUT it is not belonged to pthread
 - It can be used with or without thread
- POSIX Semaphore routines

```
#include <semaphore.h>
sem_t sem;
sem_init(&sem);
sem_wait(&sem);
critical section
sem_signal(&sem);
sem_destroy(&sem);
```

n-Process CS Problem Revisit

 Shared data: semaphore mutex; // initially mutex = 1 • Process P_i: do { wait(mutex); // pthread_mutex_lock(&mutex) critical section signal(mutex); // pthread_mutex_unlock(&mutex) remainder section } while (1); progress? Y

bounded-wait? depends on the implementation of wait()

Semaphores with Non-busy Waiting

- Semaphore is a data structure with queue
- wait() and signal()

} semaphore;

- Use system calls: block() and wakeup()
- Must be executed atomically

```
void wait (semaphore S) {
    S.value--; // subtract first
    if (S.value < 0) {
        add this process to S.L;
        sleep();
    }
}</pre>
void signal (semaphore S) {
    S.value++;
    if (S.value <= 0) {
        remove this process from S.L;
        wakeup(P);
    }
}
```

How to Ensure Atomic Wait & Signal Ops?

- Hardware support
 - TestAndSet
 - Swap
- Software solution
 - Peterson's solution
 - Bakery algorithm

Semaphore with Critical Section

```
void wait (semaphore S) {
     entry section
    S.value--;
    if (S.value < 0) {
         add this process to S.L;
         exit section
        sleep();
    } else {
         exit section
```

```
void signal (semaphore S) {
    entry section
    S.value++;
    if (S.value <= 0) {
        remove this process from S.L;
        exit section
        wakeup(P);
    } else {
        exit section
```

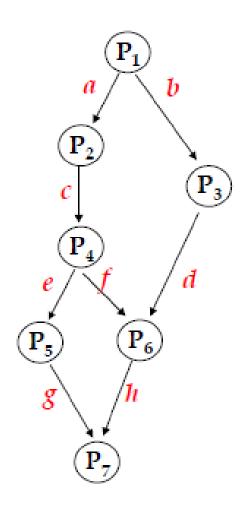
Cooperation Synchronization

- P1 executes S1; P2 executes S2
 - S2 will be executed only after ...

```
    Implementation
        Shared variable:
        semaphore sync; // initially sync = 0
```

A More Complicated Example

- Initially, all semaphores are 0
- Begin
 - P1: S1; signal(a); signal(b);
 - P2: wait(a); S2; signal(c);
 - P3: wait(b); S3; signal(d);
 - P4: wait(c); S4; signal(e); signal(f);
 - P5: wait(e); S5; signal(g);
 - P6: wait(f); wait(d); S6; signal(h);
 - P7: wait(g); wait(h); S7;
- End



Deadlocks and Starvation

Deadlock

 Two processes are waiting indefinitely for each other to release resources

Starvation

Some processes (threads) wait infinitely

```
P_0 P_1 wait(S); wait(Q); wait(Q); wait(Q); in the signal of the si
```