Concurrent programming

Foundations of Shared Memory

Companion slides for
The Art of Multiprocessor Programming
by Maurice Herlihy, Nir Shavit, Victor Luchangco,
and Michael Spear

Modified by Piotr Witkowski

Last Lecture

- Defined concurrent objects using linearizability and sequential consistency
- Fact: implemented linearizable objects (Two thread FIFO Queue) in read-write memory without mutual exclusion
- Fact: hardware does not provide linearizable read-write memory

Fundamentals

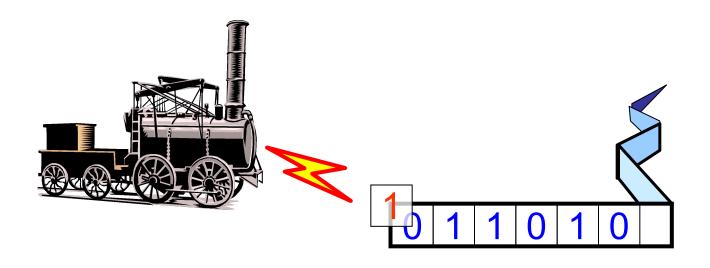
- What is the weakest form of communication that supports mutual exclusion?
- What is the weakest shared object that allows shared-memory computation?

Alan Turing



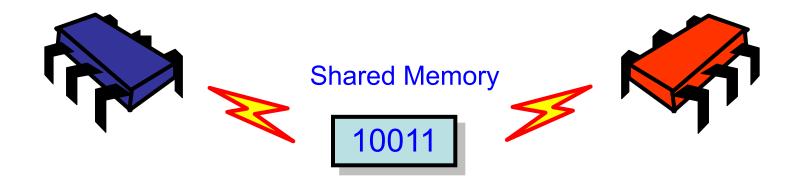
- Showed what is and is not computable on a sequential machine.
- Still best model there is.

Turing Computability



- Mathematical model of computation
- What is (and is not) computable
- Efficiency (mostly) irrelevant

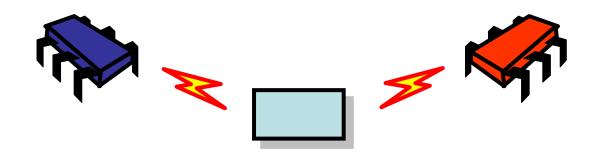
Shared-Memory Computability?



- Mathematical model of concurrent computation
- What is (and is not) concurrently computable
- Efficiency (mostly) irrelevant

Foundations of Shared Memory

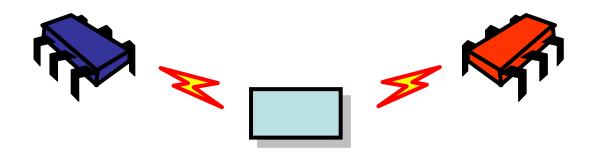
To understand modern multiprocessors we need to ask some basic questions ...



Foundations of Shared Memory

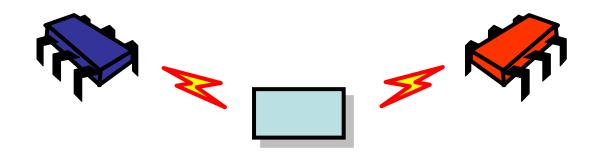
To understand medern

What is the weakest useful form of shared memory?

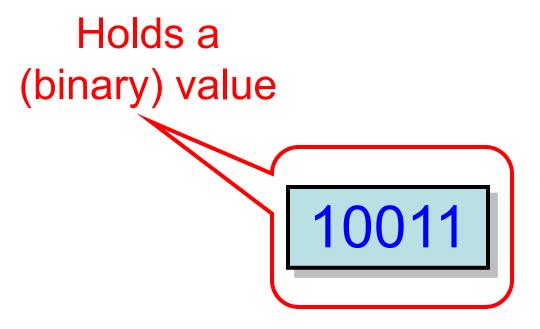


Foundations of Shared Memory

What is the weak at useful form of What can it do?

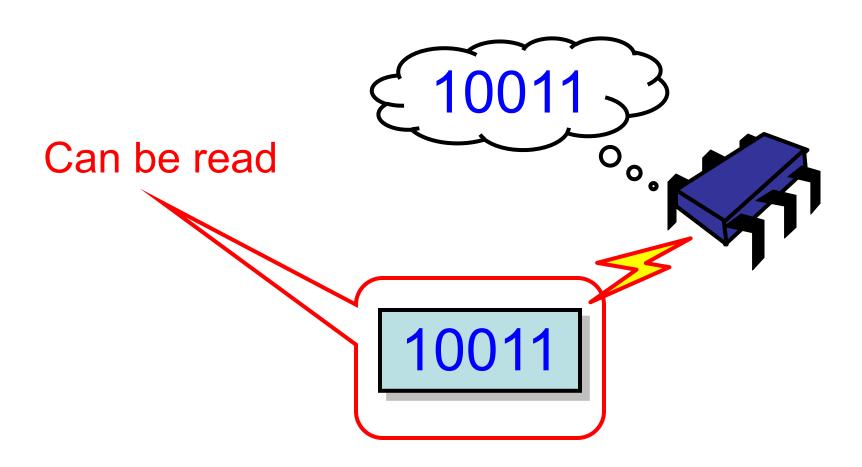


Register*

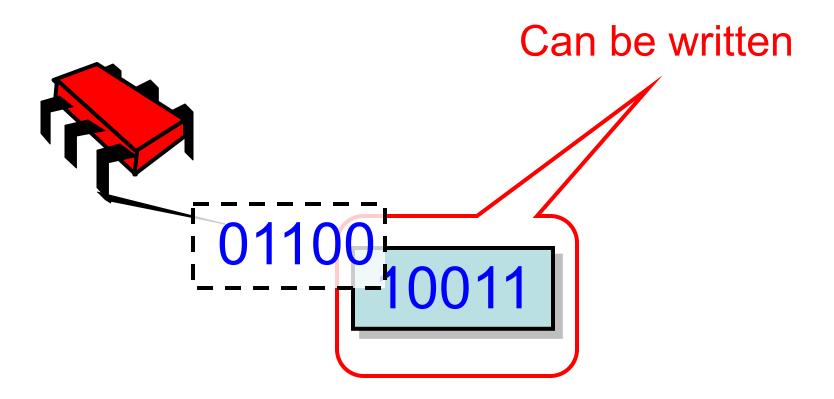


* A memory location: name is historical

Register



Register



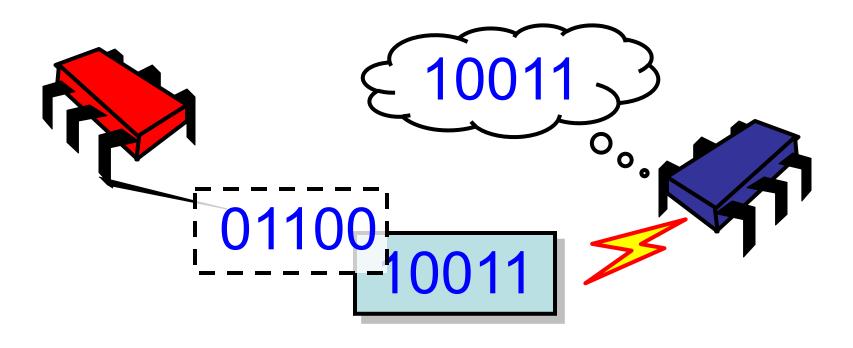
Registers

```
public interface Register<T> {
   public T read();
   public void write(T v);
}
```

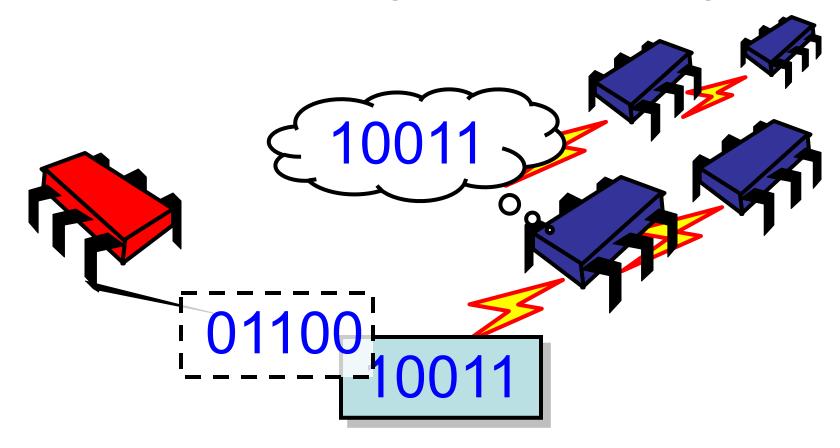
Registers

```
public interface Register<T> {
  public T read();
  public void write
             Type of register
    (usually Boolean or m-bit Integer)
```

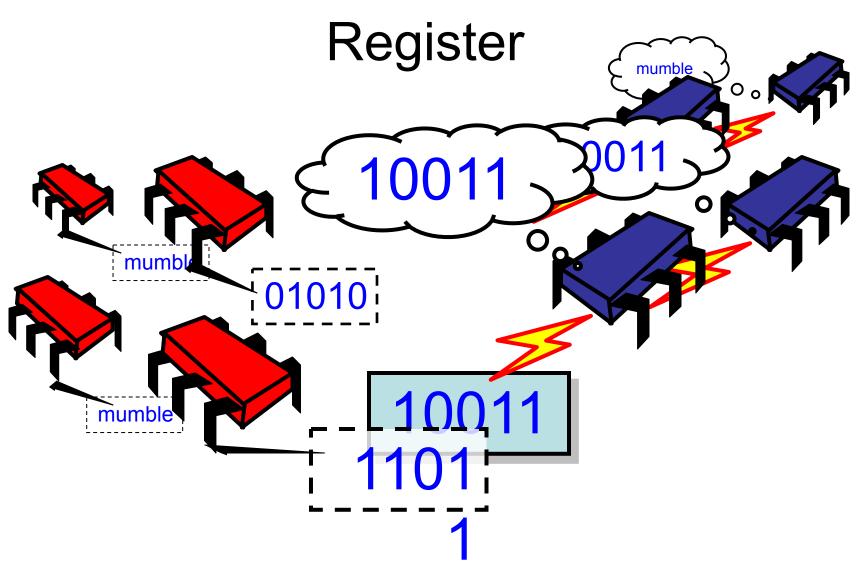
Single-Reader/Single-Writer Register



Multi-Reader/Single-Writer Register



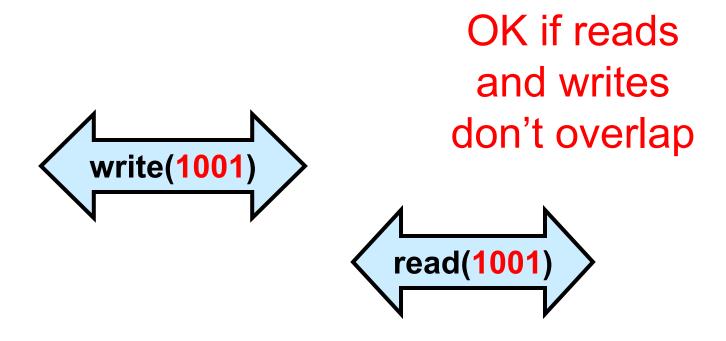
Multi-Reader/Multi-Writer



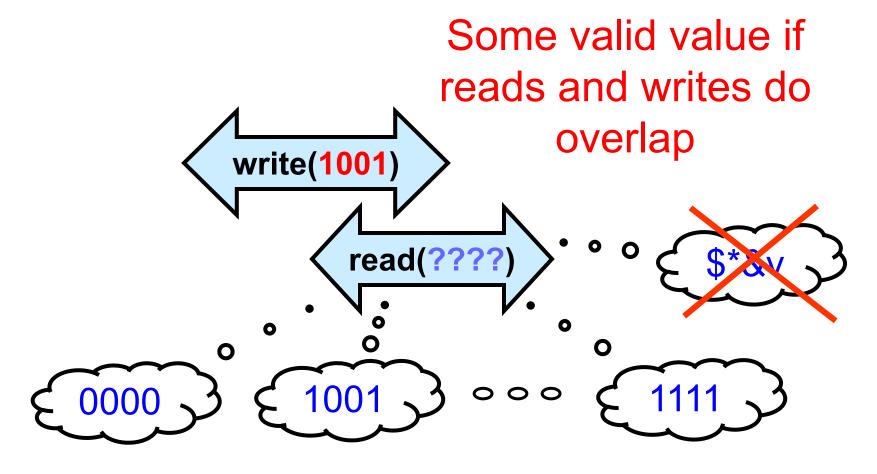
Jargon Watch

- SRSW
 - Single-reader single-writer
- MRSW
 - Multi-reader single-writer
- MRMW
 - Multi-reader multi-writer

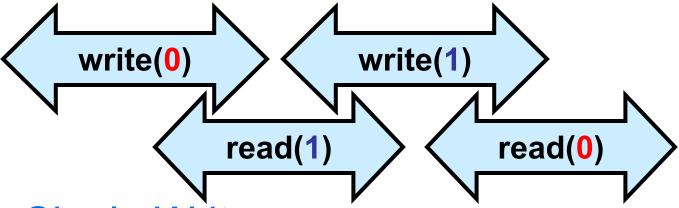
Safe Register



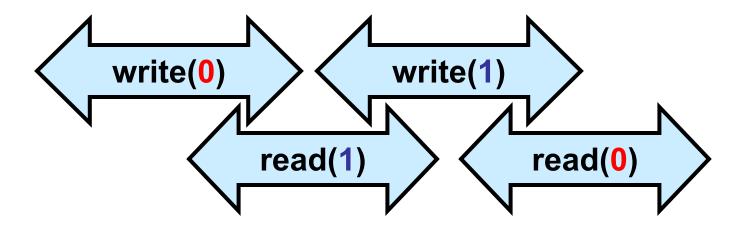
Safe Register

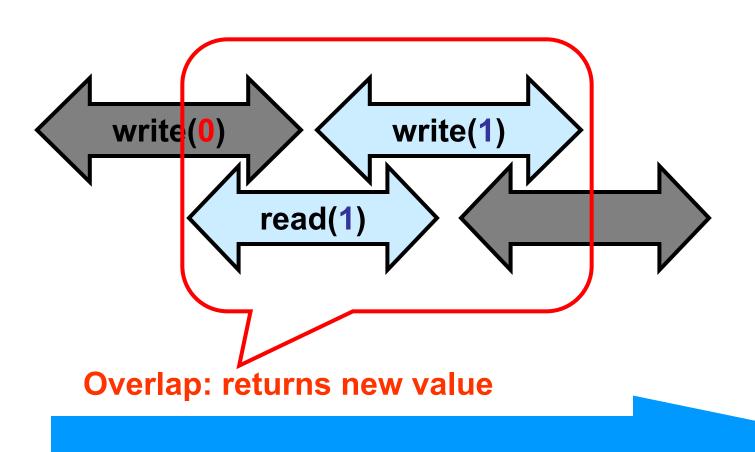


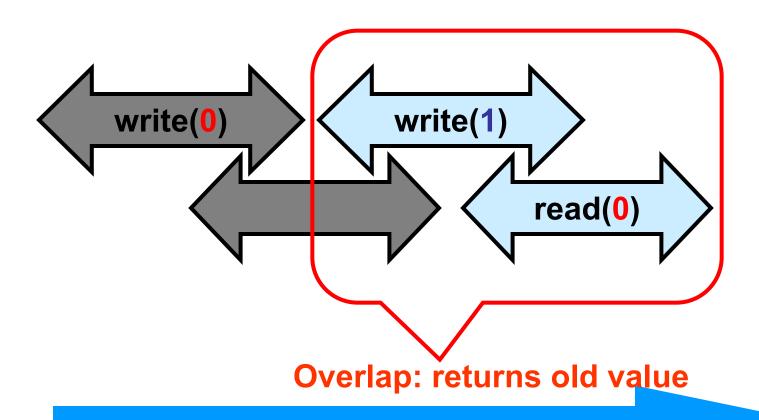
Regular Register

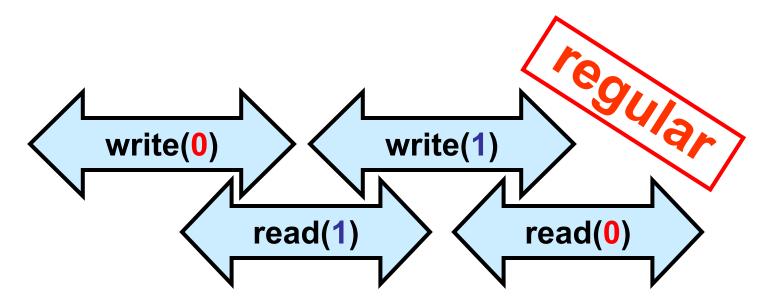


- Single Writer
- Readers return:
 - Old value if no overlap (safe)
 - Old or one of new values if overlap

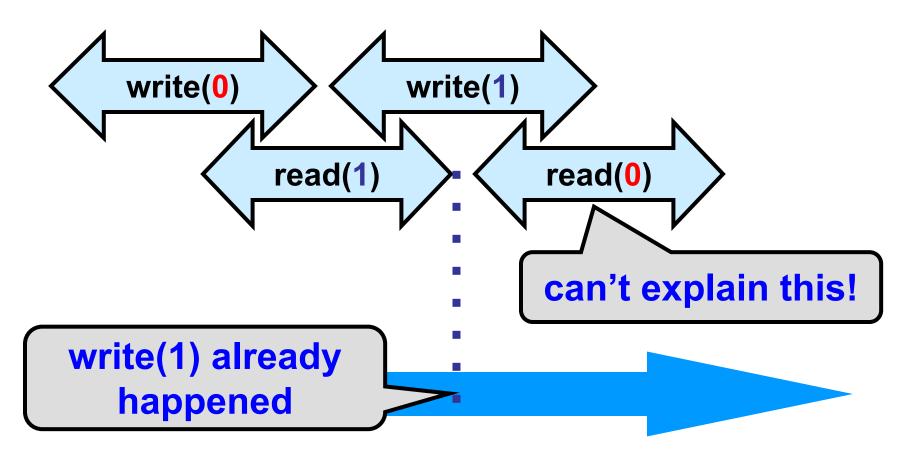




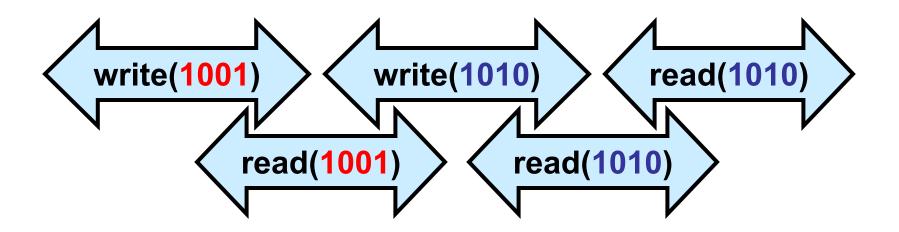




Regular ≠ Linearizable

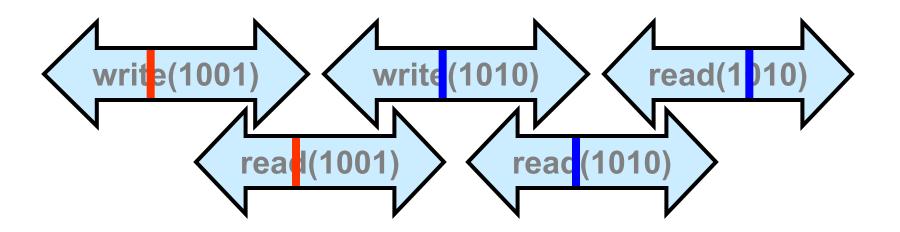


Atomic Register

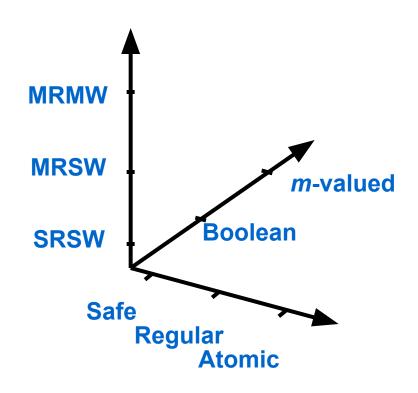


Linearizable to sequential safe register

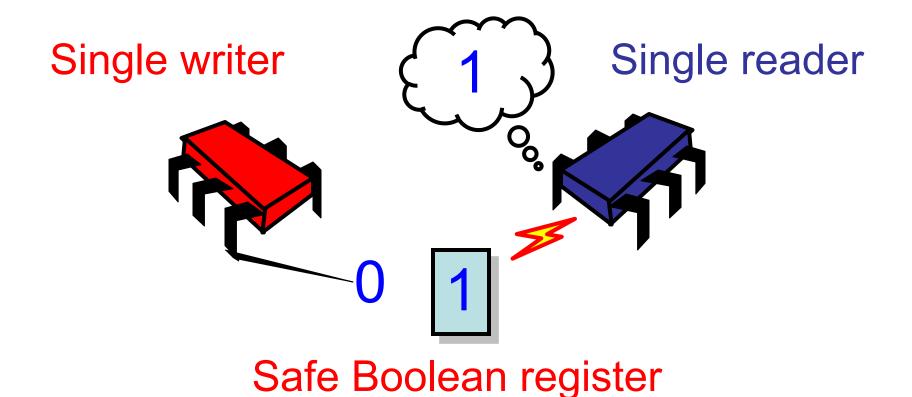
Atomic Register



Register Space



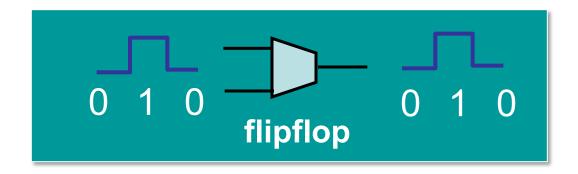
Weakest Register



Weakest Register

Single writer

Single reader



Get correct reading if not during state transition

Results

From SRSW safe Boolean register
 All the other registers
 Mutual exclusion
 But not everything!
 Consensus hierarchy

The really cool stuff ...

Locking within Registers

- Not interesting to rely on mutual exclusion in register constructions
- We want registers to implement mutual exclusion!
- It's cheating to use mutual exclusion to implement itself!

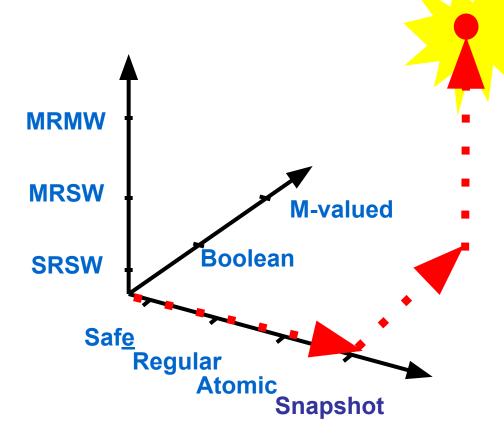
Definition

An object implementation is wait-free if every method call completes in a finite number of steps

No mutual exclusion

- Thread could halt in critical section
- Build mutual exclusion from registers

From Safe SRSW Boolean to Atomic Snapshots



Art of Mul**8**processor Programming

Road Map

- SRSW safe Boolean
- MRSW safe Boolean
- MRSW regular Boolean
- MRSW regular
- MRSW atomic
- MRMW atomic
- Atomic snapshot

Road Map

SRSW safe Boolean



- MRSW safe Boolean
- MRSW regular Boolean
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- Atomic snapshot

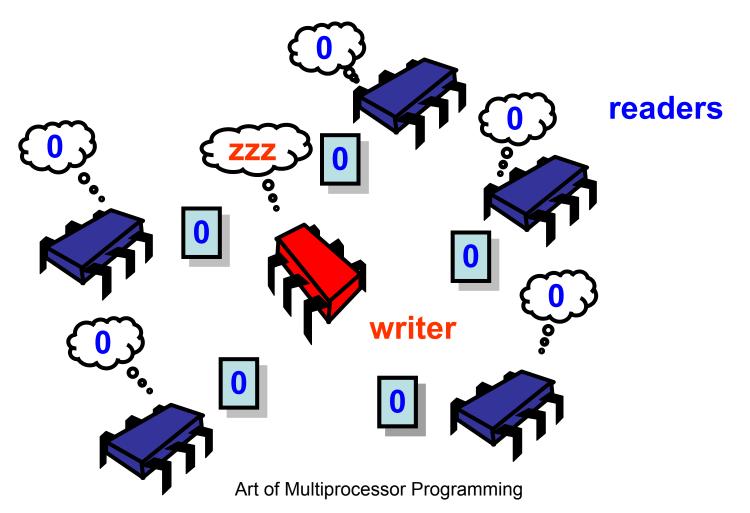
```
public class SafeBoolMRSWRegister
implements Register<Boolean> {
  public boolean read() { ... }
  public void write(boolean x) { ... }
}
```

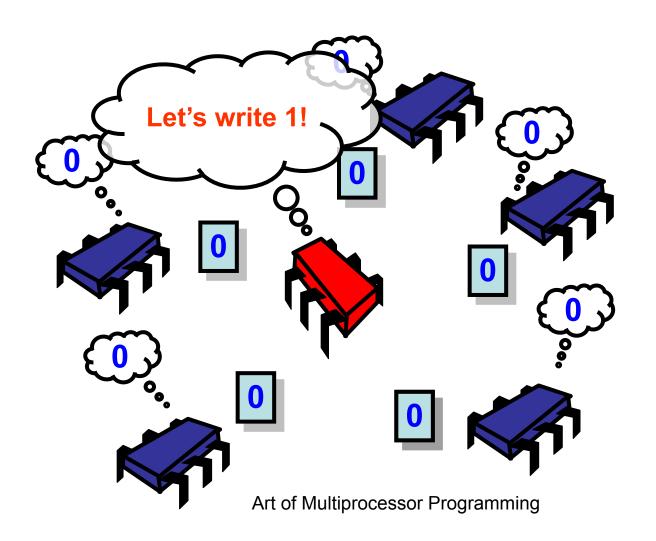
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public class SafeBoolMRSWRegister
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  public boolean read() { ... }
  public void write(boolean x) { ... }
}
```

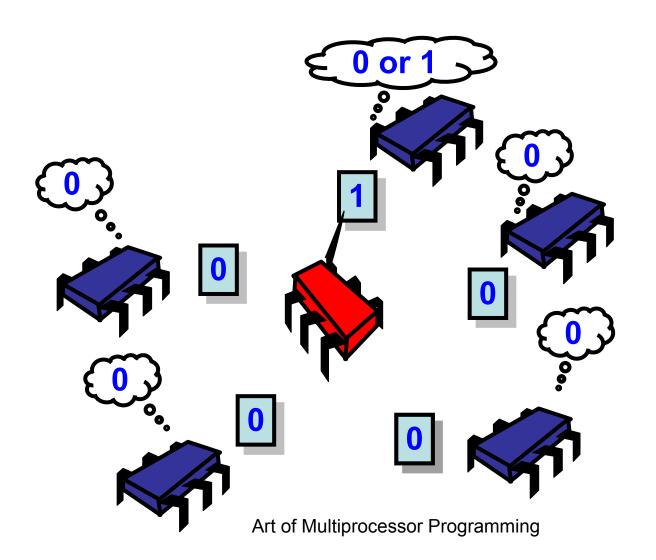
property

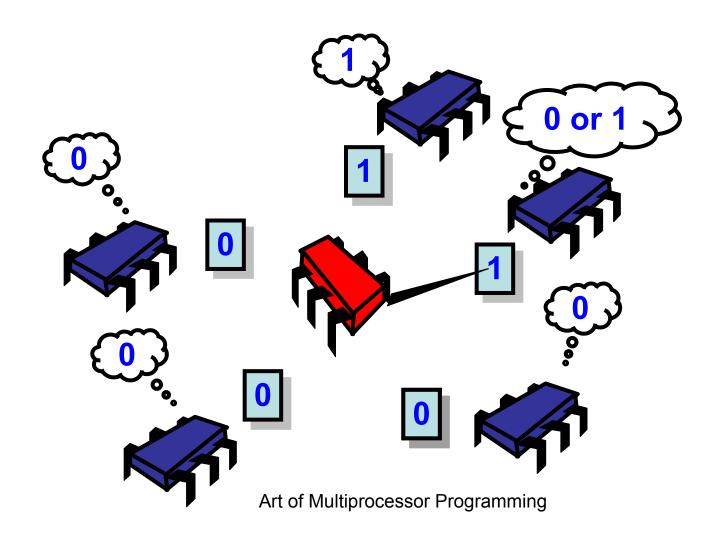
```
public class SafeBoolMRSWRegister
 implements Register < Boolean > {
  public boolean read() { ... }
  public yoid write(boolean x) { ... }
property
```

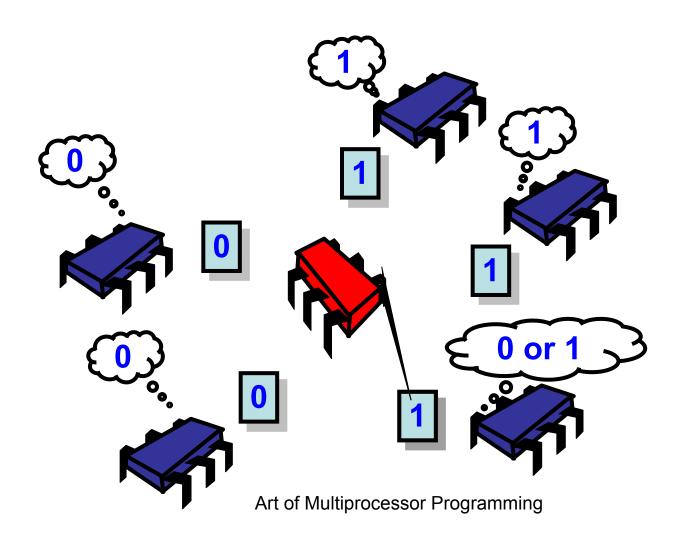
```
public class SafeBoolMRSWRegister
 implements Register < Boolean > {
  public boolean read()
  public yoid write(boolean x) { ... }
                  how many readers &
property
                        writers?
```

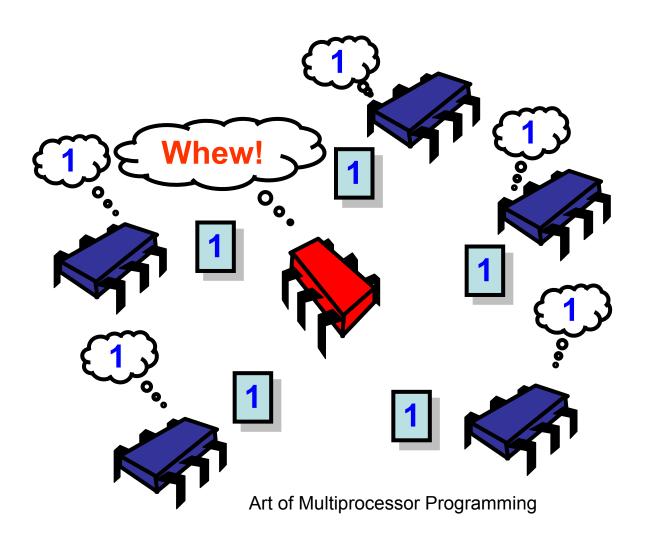












```
public class SafeBoolMRSWRegister
 implements Register<Boolean> {
 private SafeBoolSRSWRegister[] r =
   new SafeBoolSRSWRegister[N];
  public void write(boolean x) {
   for (int j = 0; j < N; j++)
    r[j].write(x);
  public boolean read() {
   int i = ThreadID.get();
   return r[i].read();
  }}
```

```
public class SafeBoolMRSWRegister
 implements BooleanRegister {
private SafeBoolSRSWRegister[] r =
  new SafeBoolSRSWRegister[N];
 public void write(boolean x) {
   for (int j = 0; j < N; j++)
    r[j].write(x);
 public boolean read() {
   int i = ThreadID.get();
   return r[i].read();
                       Each thread has own
  } }
                        safe SRSW register
```

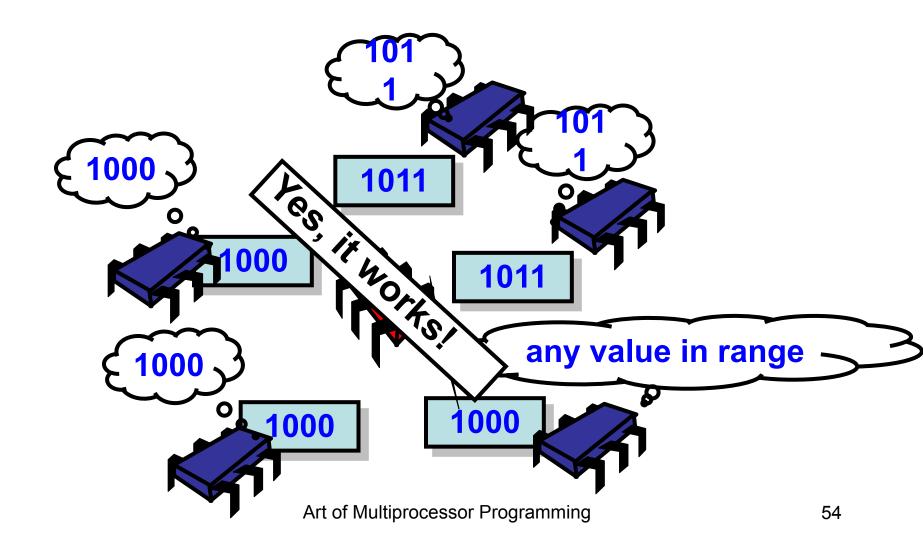
```
public class SafeBoolMRSWRegister
 implements BooleanRegister {
private SafeBoolSRSWRegister[] r =
   new SafeBoolSRSWRegister[N];
  public void write(boolean x) {
   for (int j = 0; j < N; j++)
    r[j].write(x);
  public boolean read() {
   int i = ThreadID.get();
   return r[i].read();
                            write method
  } }
```

```
public class SafeBoolMRSWRegister
 implements BooleanRegister {
private SafeBoolSRSWRegister[] r =
   new SafeBoolSRSWRegister[N];
  public void write(boolean x)
   for (int j = 0; j < N; j++)
    r[j].write(x);
  public boolean read()
                                   Write each
   int i = ThreadID.get();
                               thread's register
   return r[i].read();
                                 one at a time
  } }
```

```
public class SafeBoolMRSWRegister
 implements BooleanRegister {
private SafeBoolSRSWRegister[] r =
   new SafeBoolSRSWRegister[N];
 public void write(boolean x) {
   for (int j = 0; j < N; j++)
    r[j].write(x);
                                 read method
  public boolean read() {
   int i = ThreadID.get();
   return r[i].read();
```

```
public class SafeBoolMRSWRegister
 implements BooleanRegister {
private SafeBoolSRSWRegister[] r =
   new SafeBoolSRSWRegister[N];
 public void write(boolean x) {
   for (int j = 0; j < N; j++)
    r[j].write(x);
  public boolean read() {
   int i = ThreadID.get();
                                   Read my own
   return r[i].read();
                                       register
```

Safe Multi-Valued MRSW from Safe Multi-Valued SRSW?



Road Map

- SRSW safe Boolean
- MRSW safe Boolean



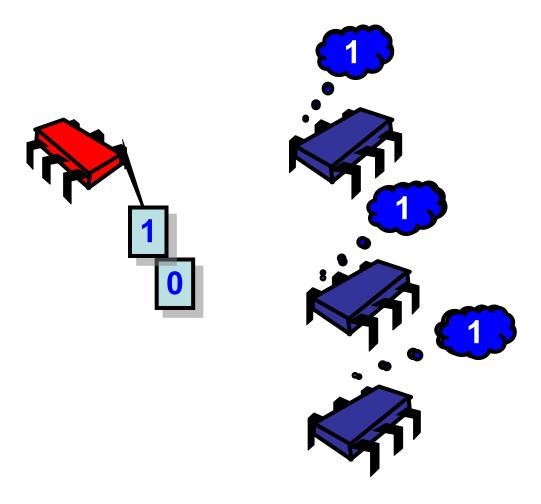
- MRSW regular Boolean
- MRSW regular
- MRSW atomic
- MRMW atomic
- Atomic snapshot

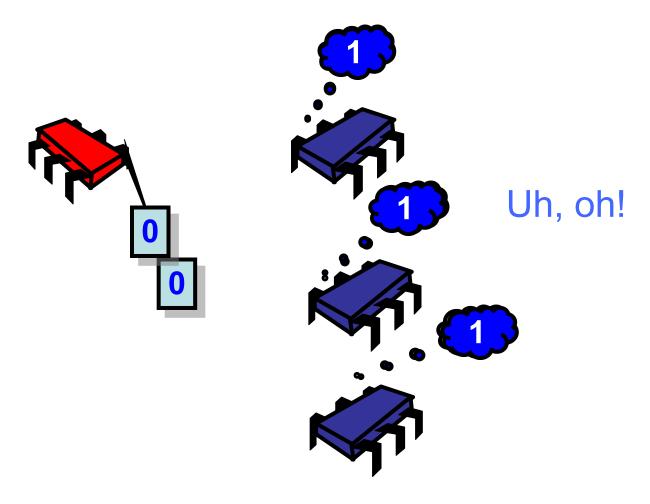
Questions?

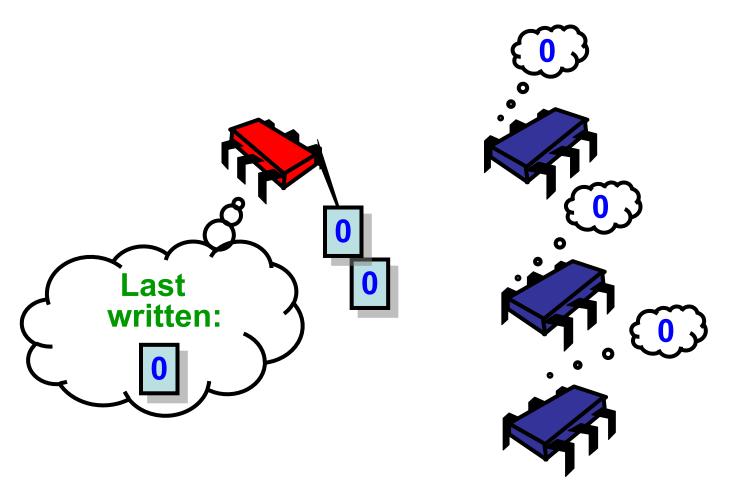
Road Map

- SRSW safe Boolean
- MRSW safe Boolean
- MRSW regular Boolean
- Next

- MRSW regular
- MRSW atomic
- MRMW atomic
- Atomic snapshot







```
public class RegBoolMRSWRegister
 implements Register<Boolean> {
  private boolean old;
  private SafeBoolMRSWRegister value;
  public void write(boolean x) {
   if (old != x) {
    value.write(x);
    old = x;
   }}
  public boolean read() {
   return value.read();
  } }
```

```
public class RegBoolMRSWRegister
 implements Register<Boolean> {
 threadLocal boolean old;
 private SafeBoolMRSWRagister value;
  public void write(boolean x) {
   if (old != x) {
    value.write(x);
    old = x;
                   Last bit this thread wrote
   }}
                            (made-up syntax)
  public boolean read() {
   return value.read();
  } }
```

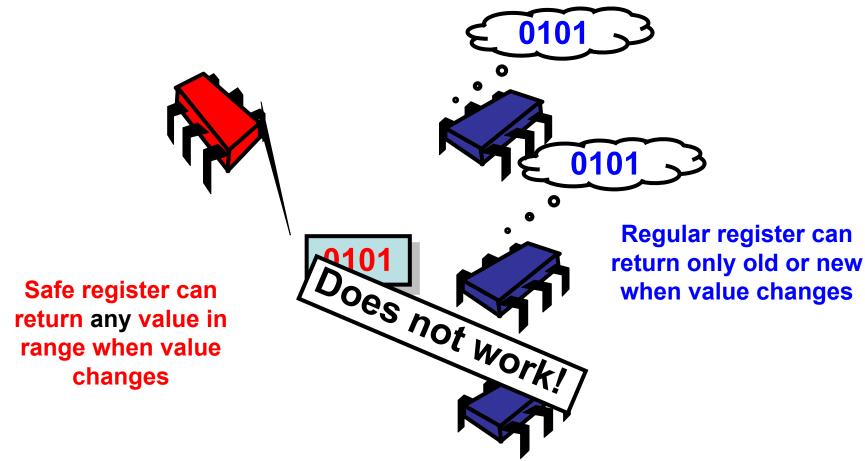
```
public class RegBoolMRSWRegister
 implements Register<Boolean> {
  threadLocal boolean old;
 private SafeBoolMRSWRegister value;
  public void write(boolean x)
   if (old != x) {
    value.write(x);
    old = x;
   }}
  public boolean read() {
   return value.read();
                          Actùal value
  } }
```

```
public class RegBoolMRSWRegister
 implements Register<Boolean> {
  threadLocal boolean old;
 private SafeBoolMRSWRegister value;
 public void write(boolean x) {
  if (old != x)
   value.write(x
    old = x;
                        Is new value different
   }}
 public boolean read(from last value | wrote?
   return value.read();
  } }
```

```
public class RegBoolMRSWRegister
 implements Register<Boolean> {
  threadLocal boolean old;
 private SafeBoolMRSWRegister value;
 public void write(boolean x) {
   if (old != x) {
    value.write(x);
    old = x;
 public boolean read
                             If so, change it
   return value.read();
  } }
                           (otherwise don't!)
```

```
public class RegBoolMRSWRegister
 implements Register<Boolean>{
  threadLocal boolean old;
 private SafeBoolMRSWRegister value;
 public void write(boolean x) {
   if (old != x) { Overlap? What overlap?
   value.write(x);
                       No problem
    old = x;
                       either Boolean value works
 public boolean read() {
   return value.read();
```

Regular Multi-Valued MRSW from Safe Multi-Valued MRSW?



Road Map

- SRSW safe Boolean
- MRSW safe Boolean
- MRSW regular Boolean



- MRSW regular
- MRSW atomic
- MRMW atomic
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Questions?

Road Map

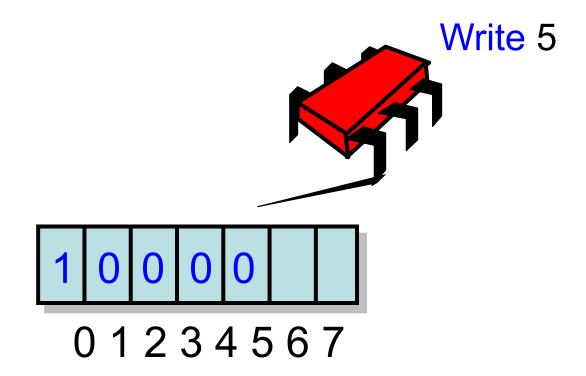
- SRSW safe Boolean
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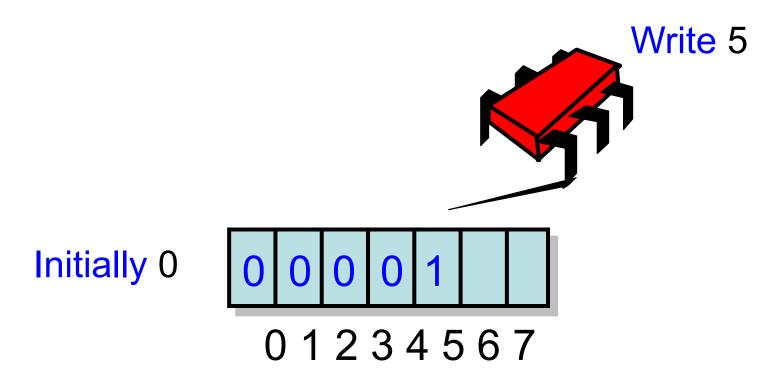
Representing m Values

Unary representation: bit[i] means value i 01234567 **Initially**

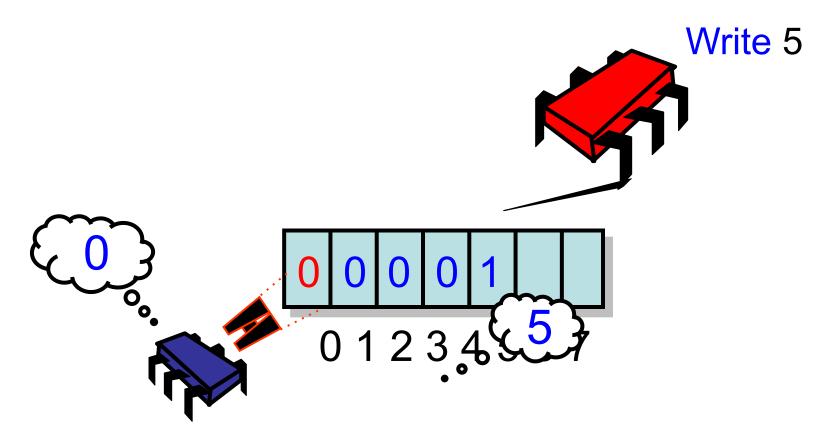
Writing *m*-Valued Register



Writing *m*-Valued Register



Writing *m*-Valued Register



```
public class RegMRSWRegister implements Register{
  RegBoolMRSWRegister[M] bit;
  public void write(int x) {
    this.bit[x].write(true);
    for (int i=x-1; i>=0; i--)
      this.bit[i].write(false);
  public int read() {
    for (int i=0; i < M; i++)
      if (this.bit[i].read())
        return i;
   }}
```

```
public class RegMRSWRegister implements Register{
  RegBoolMRSWRegister[M] bit;
 public void write(int x)
   bit[x].write(true);
    for (int i=x-1; i>=0; i--
     bit[i].write(false);
                       Unary representation:
                        bit[i] means value i
  public int read() {
    for (int i=0; i < M; i++)
      if (bit[i].read())
        return i;
   } }
```

```
public class RegMRSWRegisterimplements Register {
  RegBoolMRSWRegister[m] bit;
  public void write(int x) {
    bit[x].write(true);
    for (int i=x 1; ix=0; i--)
      bit[i].write(false)
                             set bit x
  public int read() {
    for (int i=0; i < M; i++)
      if (bit[i].read())
        return i;
   }}
```

```
public class RegMRSWRegisterimplements Register {
  RegBoolMRSWRegister[m] bit;
  public void write(int x) {
    bit[x].write(true):
    for (int i=x-1; i>=0; i--)
      bit[i].write(false);
                                  Clear bits
  public int read() {
    for (int i=0; i < M; i++)
                                 from higher
      if (bit[i].read())
                                   to lower
        return i;
   } }
```

```
public class RegMRSWRegisterimplements Register {
  RegBoolMRSWRegister[m] bit;
  public void write(int x) {
                               Scan from lower
    bit[x].write(true);
    for (int i=x-1; i>=0; i--)
                               to higher & return
      bit[i].write(false);
                                   first bit set
  public int read()
    for (int i=0; i < M; i++)
      if (bit[i].read())
        return i;
```

Road Map

- SRSW safe Boolean
- MRSW safe Boolean
- MRSW regular Boolean
- MRSW regular
- MRSW atomic
- MRMW atomic
- Atomic snapshot





Road Map

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- MRSW regular



- MRSW atomic
- MRMW atomic
- Atomic snapshot

Road Map (Slight Detour)

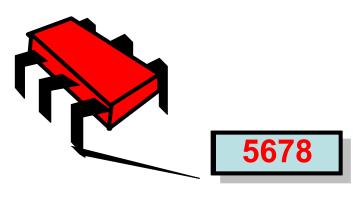
- SRSW safe Boolean
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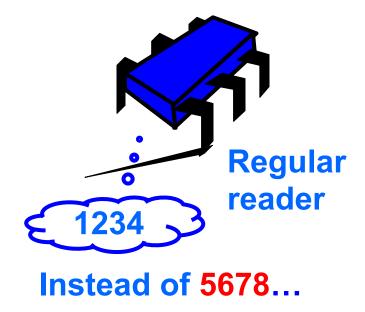
- MRMW atomic
- Atomic snapshot

SRSW Atomic From SRSW Regular

Regular writer

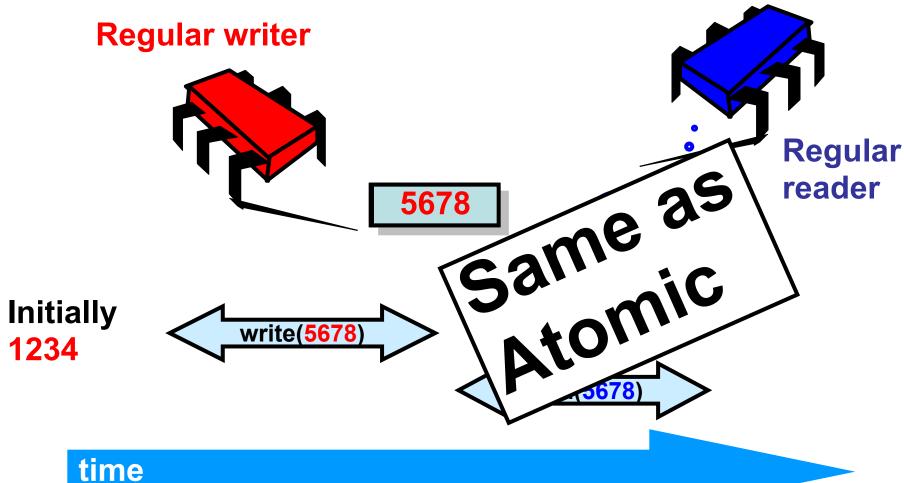


Concurrent Reading

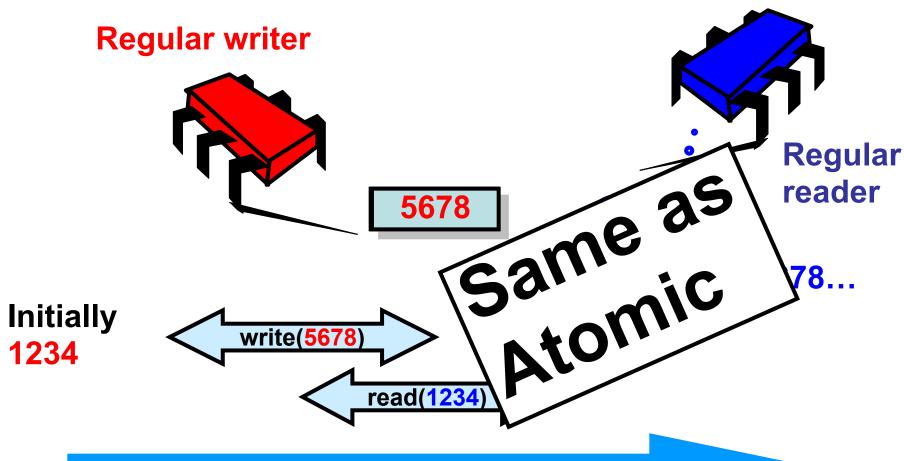


When is this a problem?

SRSW Atomic From SRSW Regular

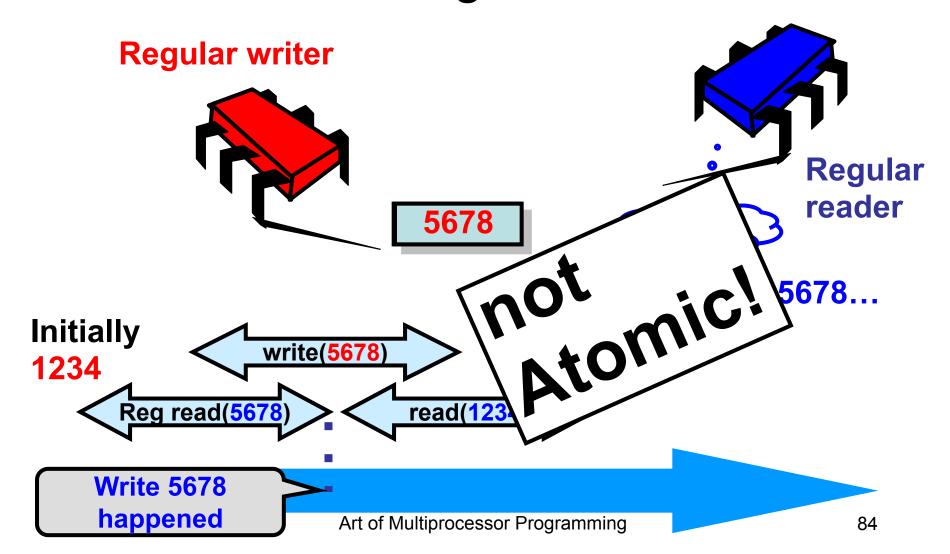


SRSW Atomic From SRSW Regular

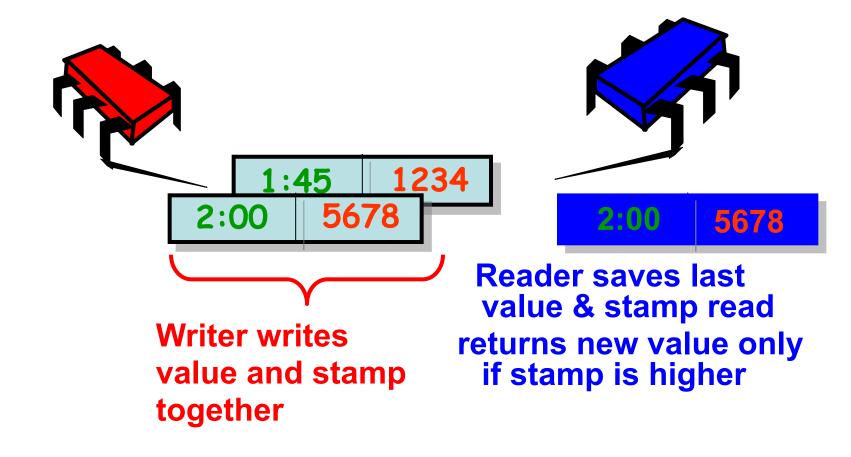


time

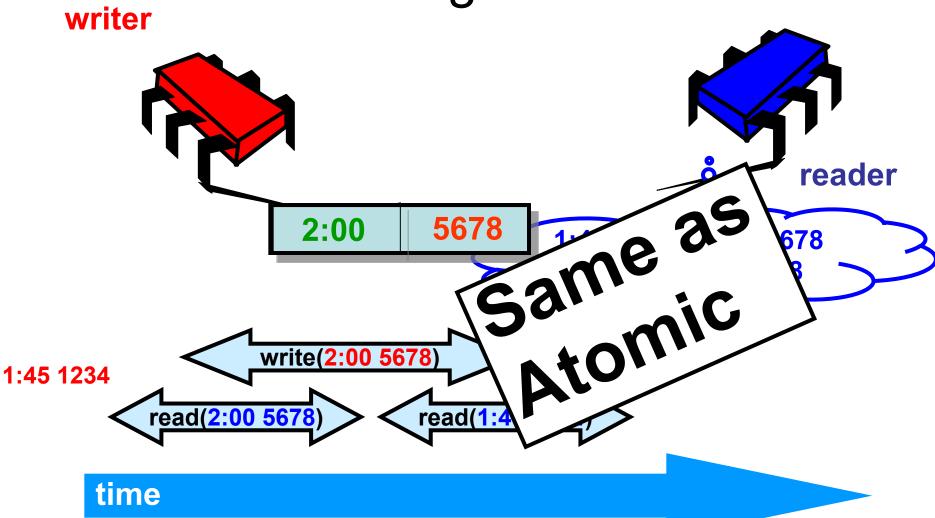
SRSW Atomic From SRSW Regular



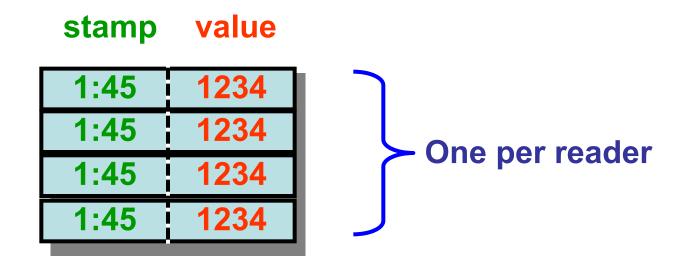
Timestamped Values



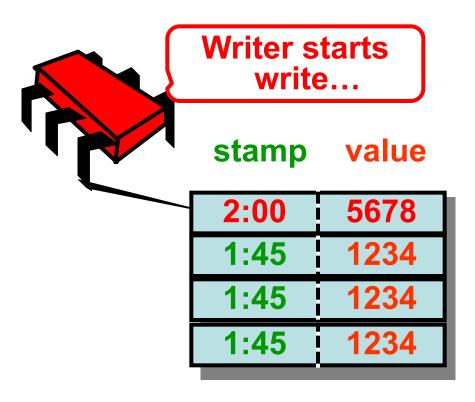
SRSW Atomic From SRSW Regular



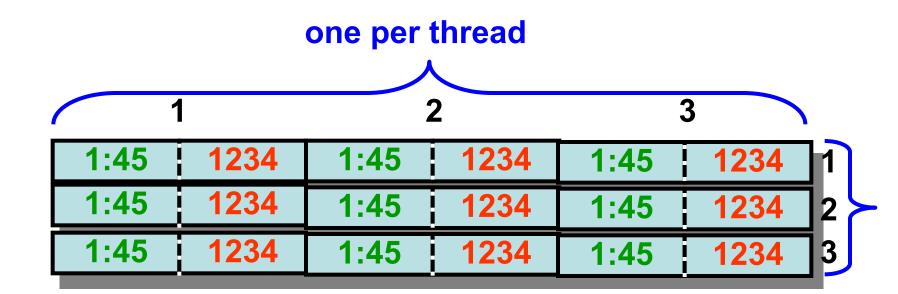
Atomic Single-Reader to Atomic Multi-Reader



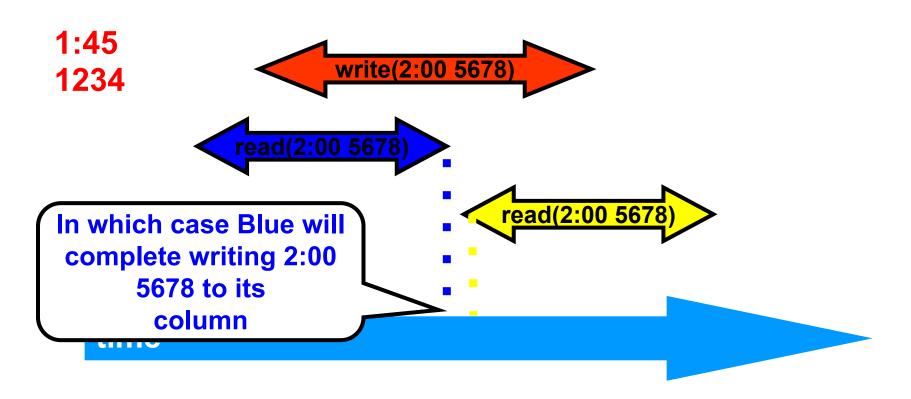
Another Scenario



Multi-Reader Redux



Bad Case Only When Readers Don't Overlap



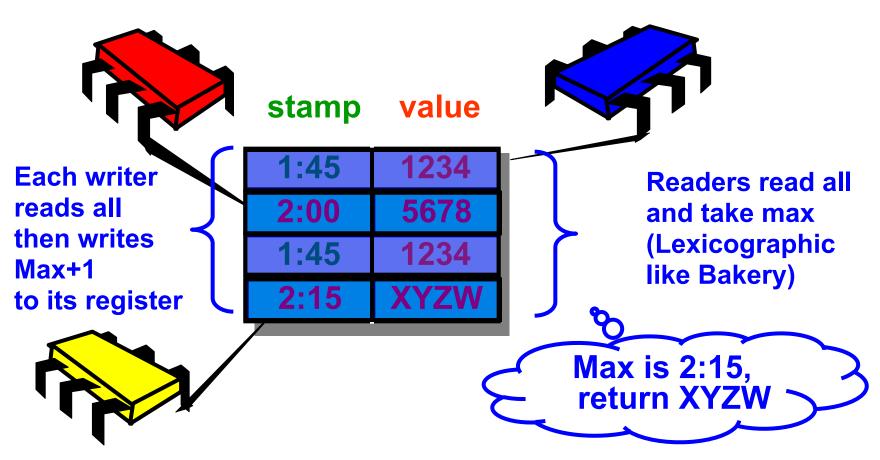
Road Map

- SRSW safe Boolean
- MRSW safe Boolean
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- MRSW regular
- MRSW atomic
- MRMW atomic

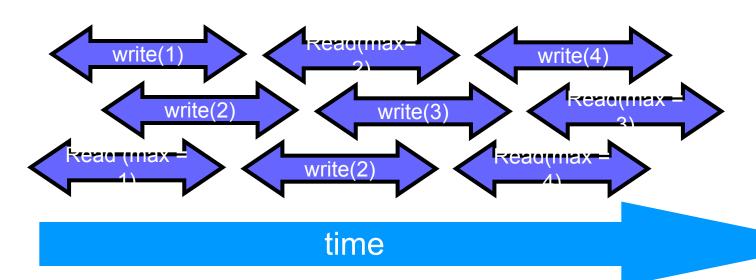


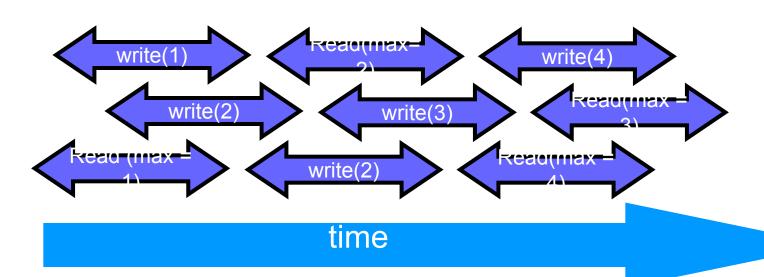
Atomic snapshot

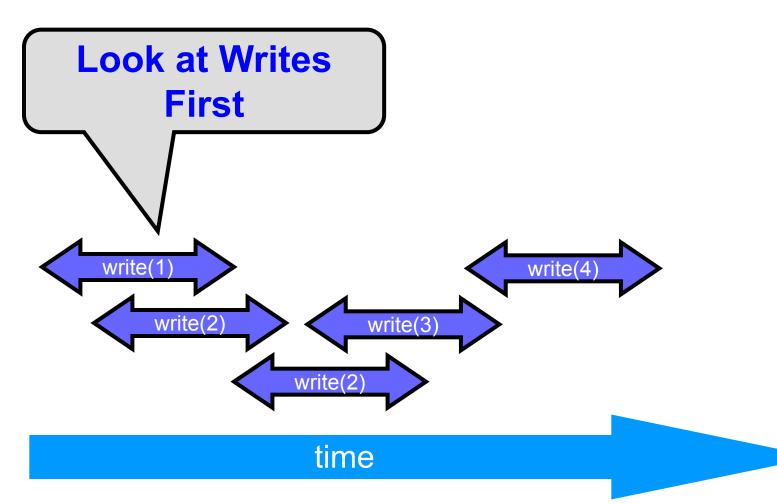
Multi-Writer Atomic From Multi-Reader Atomic

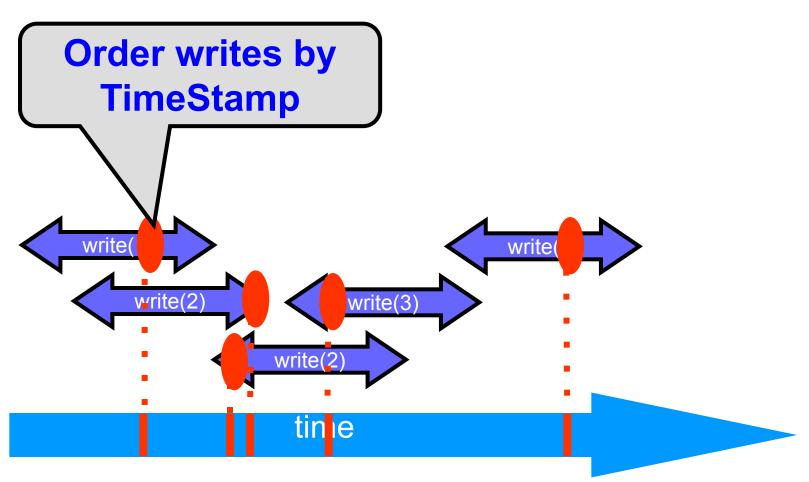


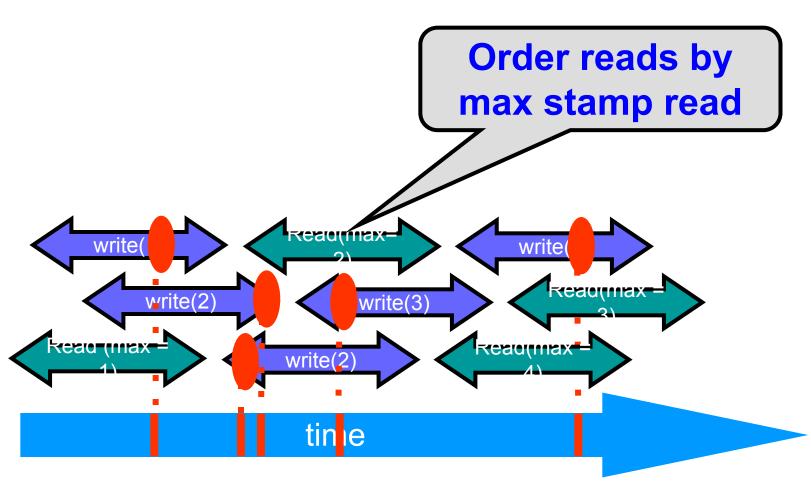
Atomic Execution Means it is Linearizable

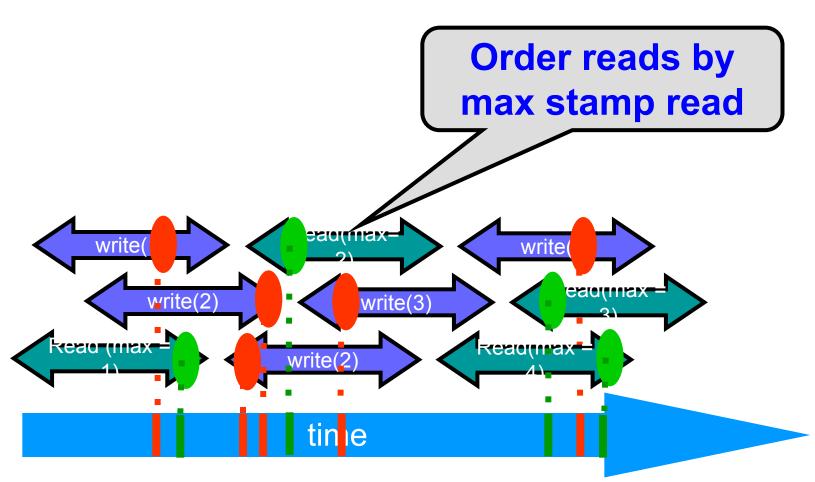




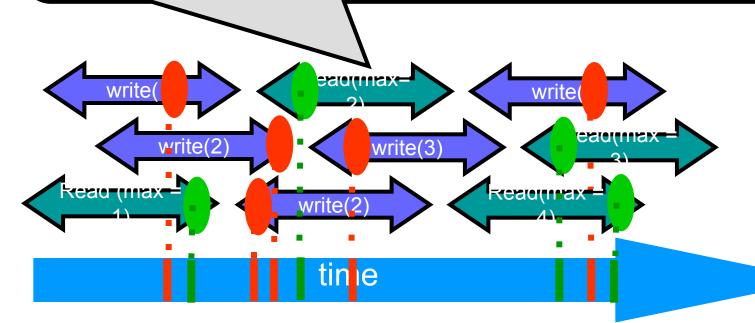








The linearization point depends on the execution (not a line in the code)!



Road Map

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- MRSW atomic
- MRMW atomic



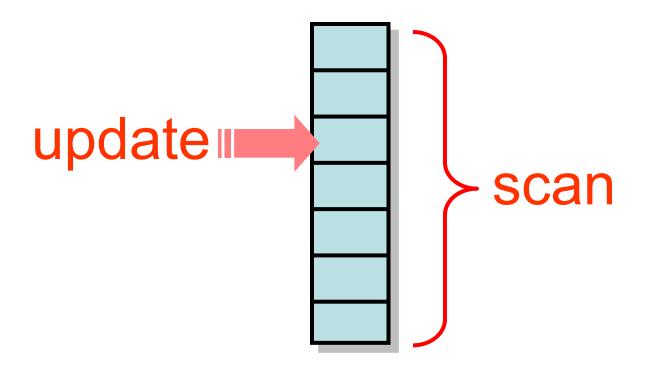


Road Map

- SRSW safe Boolean
- MRSW safe Boolean
- MRSW regular Boolean
- MRSW regular
- MRSW atomic
- MRMW atomic
- Atomic snapshot



Atomic Snapshot



Atomic Snapshot

- Array of SWMR atomic registers
- Take instantaneous snapshot of all
- Generalizes to MRMW registers ...

Snapshot Interface

```
public interface Snapshot {
  public int update(int v);
  public int[] scan();
}
```

Snapshot Interface

Thread i writes v to its register

```
public interface Snapshot {
   public int update(int v);
   public int[] scan();
}
```

Snapshot Interface

Instantaneous snapshot of all theads' registers

```
public interface Snapshot {
   public int update(int v);
   public int[] scan();
}
```

Atomic Snapshot

- Collect
 - Read values one at a time
- Problem
 - Incompatible concurrent collects
 - Result not linearizable

Clean Collects

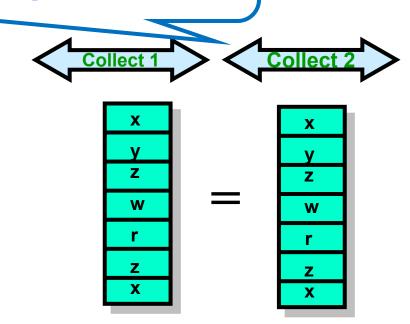
- Clean Collect
 - Collect during which nothing changed
 - Can we make it happen?
 - Can we detect it?

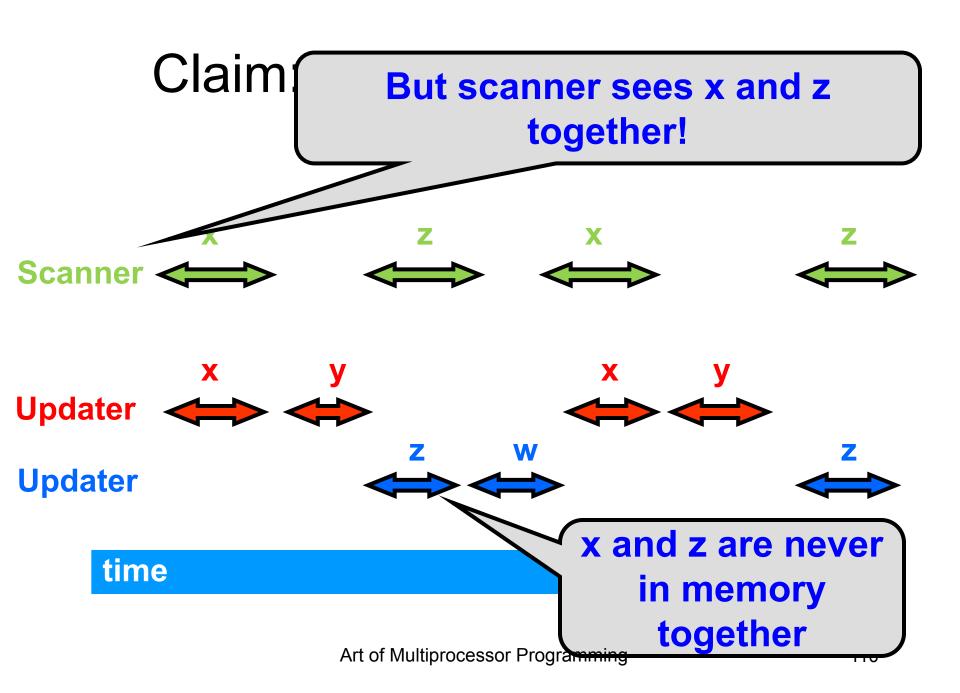
Simple Snapshot

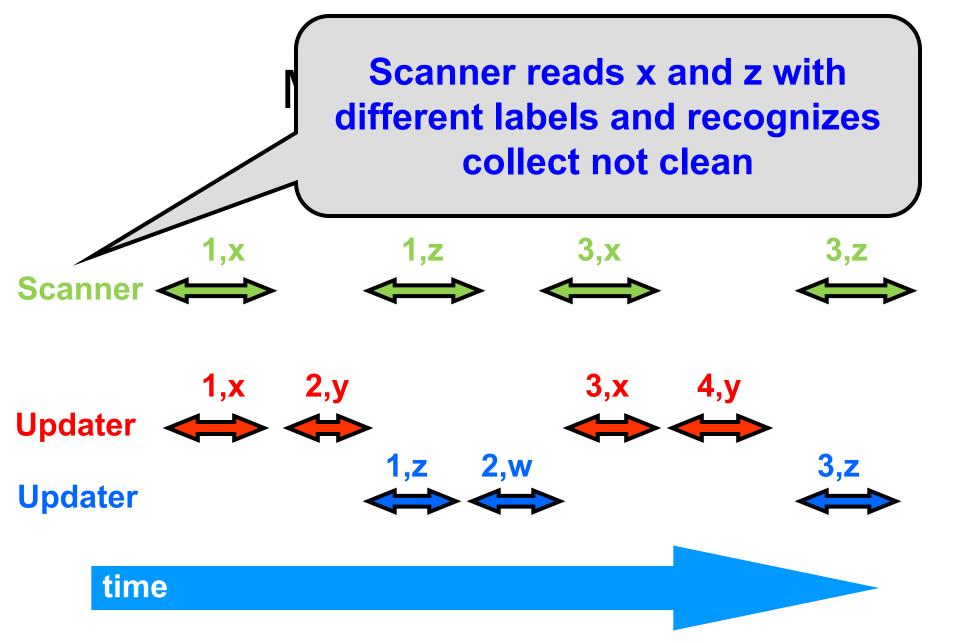
Put increasing labels on each entry

Problem: Scanner might not be collecting a snapshot!

- We're done
- Otherwise,
 - Try again

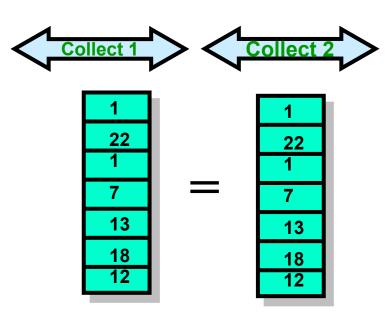






Simple Snapshot

- Collect twice
- If both agree,
 - We're done
- Otherwise,
 - Try again



Simple Snapshot: Update

```
public class SimpleSnapshot implements Snapshot {
  private AtomicMRSWRegister[] register;
  public void update(int value) {
    int i = Thread.myIndex();
      LabeledValue oldValue = register[i].read();
    LabeledValue newValue =
     new LabeledValue(oldValue.label+1, value);
    register[i].write(newValue);
```

Simple Snapshot: Update

```
public class SimpleSnapshot implements Snapshot {
 private AtomicMRSWRegister[] register;
 public void update(int value) {
    int i = Thread.myIndex();
   LabeledValue oldValue = register[i].read();
   LabeledValue =
    new LabeledValue(oldValue.label+1, value);
    register[i].write(newValue);
```

One single-writer register per thread

Simple Snapshot: Update

```
public class SimpleSnapshot implements Snapshot {
 private AtomicMRSWRegister[] register;
  public void update(int value) {
    int i = Thread.myIndex();
    LabeledValue oldValue = register[i].read();
    LabeledValue newValue =
     new LabeledValue(oldValue.label+1, value);
    register[i].write(newValue);
```

Write each time with higher label

Simple Snapshot: Collect

```
private LabeledValue[] collect() {
  LabeledValue[] copy =
   new LabeledValue[n];
  for (int j = 0; j < n; j++)
   copy[j] = this.register[j].read();
  return copy;
}</pre>
```

Simple Snapshot

```
private LabeledValue[] collect() {
  LabeledValue[] copy =
    new LabeledValue[n];

for (int j = 0; j < n; j++)
  copy[j] = this.register[j].read();
  return copy;
}</pre>
```

Just read each register into array

```
public int[] scan() {
 LabeledValue[] oldCopy, newCopy;
 oldCopy = collect();
 collect: while (true) {
  newCopy = collect();
  if (!equals(oldCopy, newCopy)) {
      oldCopy = newCopy;
      continue collect;
  return getValues(newCopy);
} }
```

```
public int[] scan() {
                                    <del>Collect</del> once
 LabeledValue[] oldCopy
 oldCopy = collect();
 collect: while (true) {
  newCopy = collect();
  if (!equals(oldCopy, newCopy)) {
      oldCopy = newCopy;
      continue collect;
  return getValues(newCopy);
}}
```

```
public int[] scan() {
                                  Collect once
 LabeledValue[] oldCopy, newCopy
 oldCopy = collect();
 collect: while
                                 Collect twice
  newCopy = collect();
  if (!equals(oldCopy, newCopy)) {
      oldCopy = newCopy;
      continue collect;
  return getValues(newCopy);
}}
```

```
public int[] scan() {
                                 Collect once
 LabeledValue[] oldCopy, newCop
 oldCopy = collect();
 collect: while
                                 Collect twice
  newCopy = collect();
     (!equals(oldCopy, newCopy)
      oldCopy = newCopy;
      continue collect;
                                On mismatch,
  return getValues(newCopy);
                                   try again
} }
```

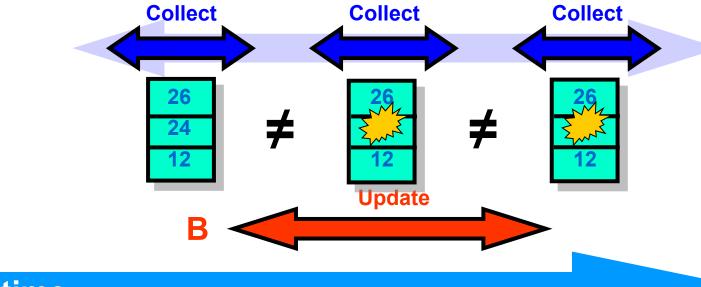
```
public int[] scan() {
                                 Collect once
LabeledValue[] oldCopy, newCop
 oldCopy = collect();
 collect: while
                                 Collect twice
  newCopy = collect();
 if (!equals(oldCopy, newCopy)) {
   oldCopy = newCopy;
                           On match, return
   continue collect;
                                  values
  return getValues (newCopy);
```

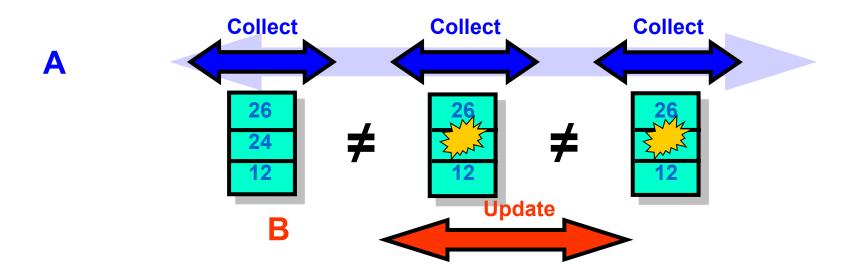
Simple Snapshot

- Linearizable
- Update is wait-free
 - No unbounded loops
- But Scan can starve
 - If interrupted by concurrent update

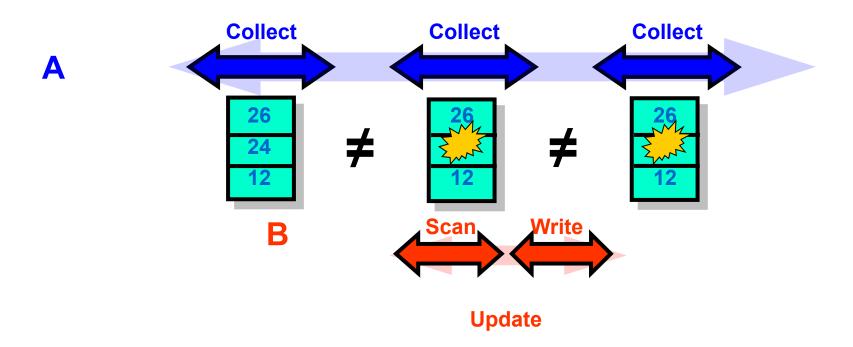
- Add a scan before every update
- Write resulting snapshot together with update value
- If scan is continuously interrupted by updates, scan can take the update's snapshot

If A's scan observes that B moved **twice**, then B completed an update while A's scan was in progress



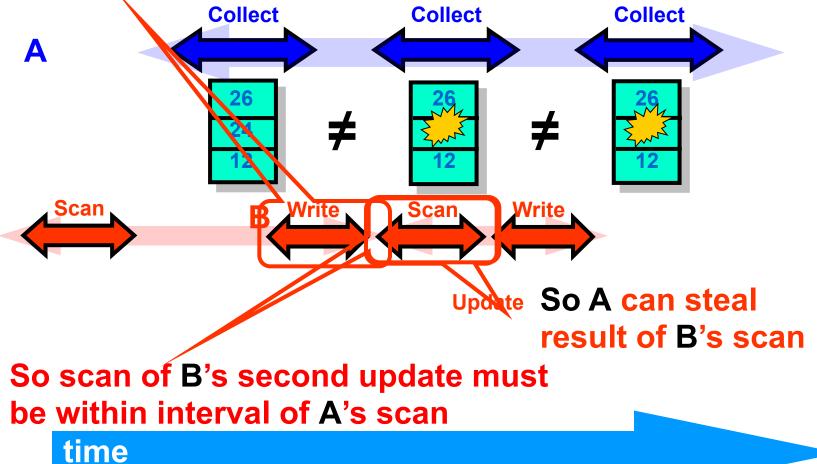


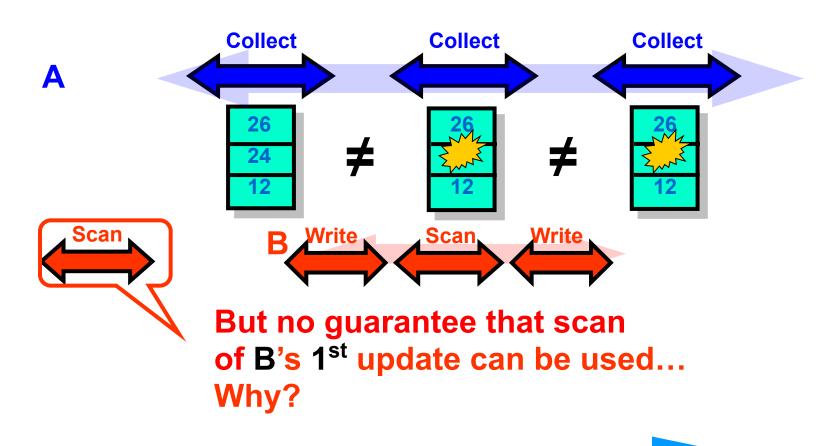
time



time

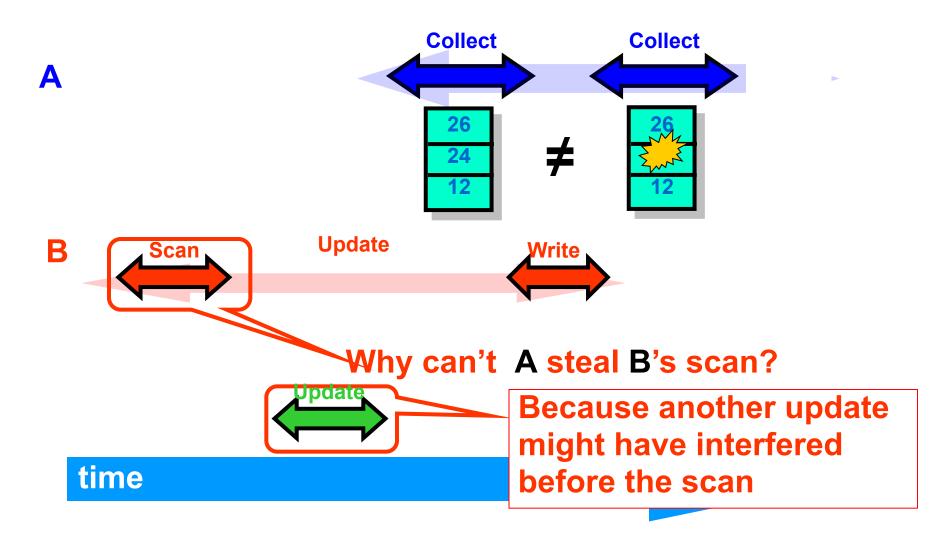
B's 1st update must have written during 1st collect



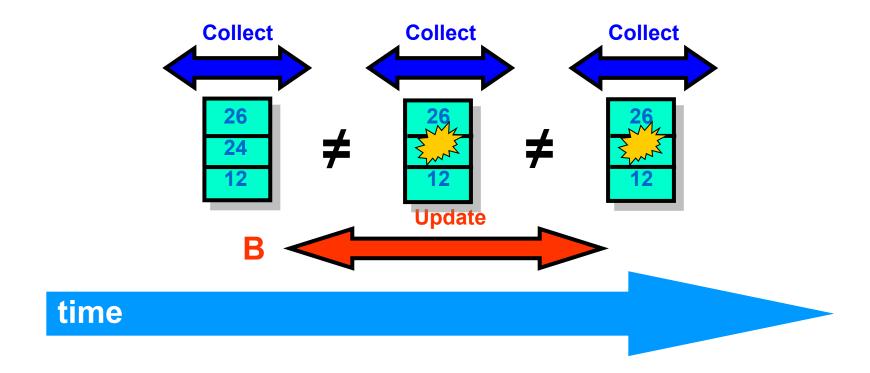


time

Once is not Enough

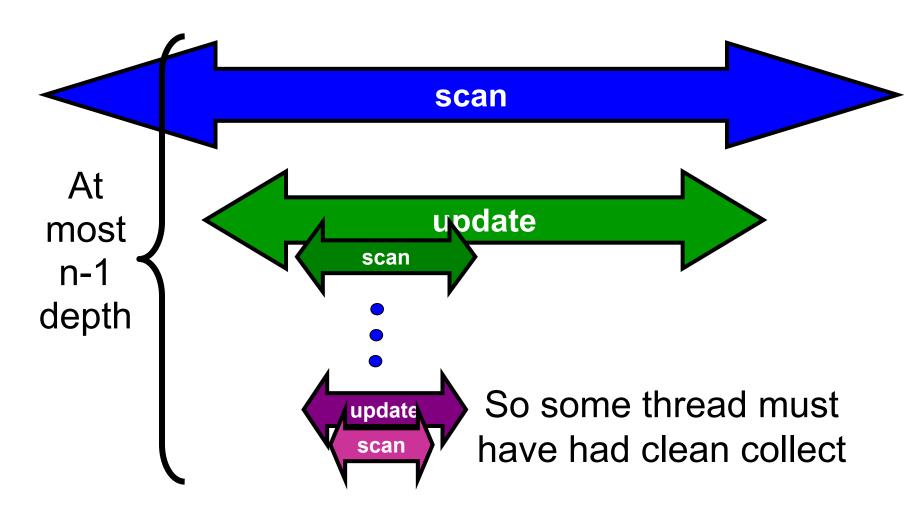


Someone Must Move Twice



If we collect *n* times...some thread must move twice (pigeonhole principle)

Scan is Wait-free

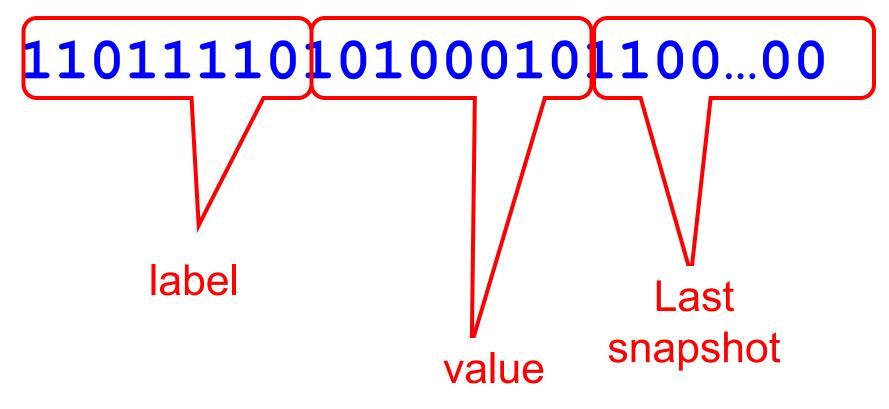


```
public class SnapValue {
  public int label;
  public int value;
  public int[] snap;
}
```

```
public class SnapValue {
  public int label;
  public int value;
  public int[] snap;
}
Counter incremented
with each snapshot
```

```
public class SnapValue {
  public int label;
  public int value;
  public int[] snap;
}
```

```
public class SnapValue {
  public int label;
  public int value;
  public int[] snap;
}
most recent snapshot
```



Wait-free Update

```
public void update(int value) {
 int i = Thread.myIndex();
 int[] snap = this.scan();
 SnapValue oldValue = r[i].read();
 SnapValue newValue =
  new SnapValue(oldValue.label+1,
                value, snap);
 r[i].write(newValue);
```

```
public void update(int value) {
 int i = Thread.myIndex(): Take scan
int[] snap = this.scan();
 SnapValue oldValue = r[i].read();
 SnapValue newValue =
  new SnapValue(oldValue.label+1,
                value, snap);
 r[i].write(newValue);
```

```
public void update(int value) {
                             Take scan
 int i = Thread.myIndex();
 int[] snap = this.scan();
 SnapValue oldValue = r[i].read();
 SnapValue newValue =
  new SnapValue(oldValue.label+1,
                value, snap);
 r[i].write(newValue);
                 Label value with scan
```

```
public int[] scan() {
  SnapValue[] oldCopy, newCopy;
 boolean[] moved = new boolean[n];
 oldCopy = collect();
  collect: while (true) {
 newCopy = collect();
 for (int j = 0; j < n; j++) {
     if (oldCopy[j].label != newCopy[j].label) {
  }}
 return getValues(newCopy);
}}}
```

```
public int[] scan() {
 SnapValue[] oldCopy, newCopy;
 boolean[] moved = new boolean[n];
 oldCopy = collect()
 collect: while (true)
 newCopy = collect();
 for (int j = 0; j < n; j+1
     if (oldCopy[j].label != newCopy[j].label) {
                  Keep track of who moved
 }}
 return getValues(newCopy);
} } }
```

```
public int[] scan() {
 SnapValue[] oldCopy, newCopy;
 boolean[] moved = new boolean[n];
 oldCopy = collect();
 collect: while (true) {
 newCopy = collect();
 for (int j = 0, j < 1; j++) {
     if (oldCopy[j] label != newCopy[j].label) {
 }}
 return getValues (newCopy);
} } }
                Repeated double collect
```

```
public int[] scan() {
 SnapValue[] oldCopy, newCopy;
 boolean[] moved = new boolean[n];
 oldCopy = collect();
 collect: while (true) {
 newCopy = collect();
 for (int j = 0; j < n; j++) {
     if (oldCopy[j].label != newCopy[j].label)
} } }
            If mismatch detected...
```

Mismatch Detected

```
if (oldCopy[j].label != newCopy[j].label) {
   if (moved[j]) {// second move
    return newCopy[j].snap;
   } else {
   moved[j] = true;
    oldCopy = newCopy;
    continue collect;
  }}}
  return getValues(newCopy);
}}}
```

Mismatch Detected

```
if (oldCopy[j].label != newCopy[j].label) {
   if (moved[j]) {
   return newCopy[j].snap;
   } else {
   moved[j] = true;
    oldCopy = newCopy;
   continue collect; If thread moved twice,
 } } }
                         just steal its second
  return getValues (newCopy);
                               snapshot
} } }
```

Mismatch Detected

```
if (oldCopy[j].label != newCopy[j].label) {
   if (moved[j]) {// second move
    return newCopy[j].snap;
   } else {
   moved[j] = true;
                               Remember that
   oldCopy = newCopy;
                                thread moved
    continue collect;
  return getValues (newCopy);
} } }
```

Observations

- Uses unbounded counters
 - can be replaced with 2 bits
- Assumes SWMR registers
 - for labels
 - can be extended to MRMW

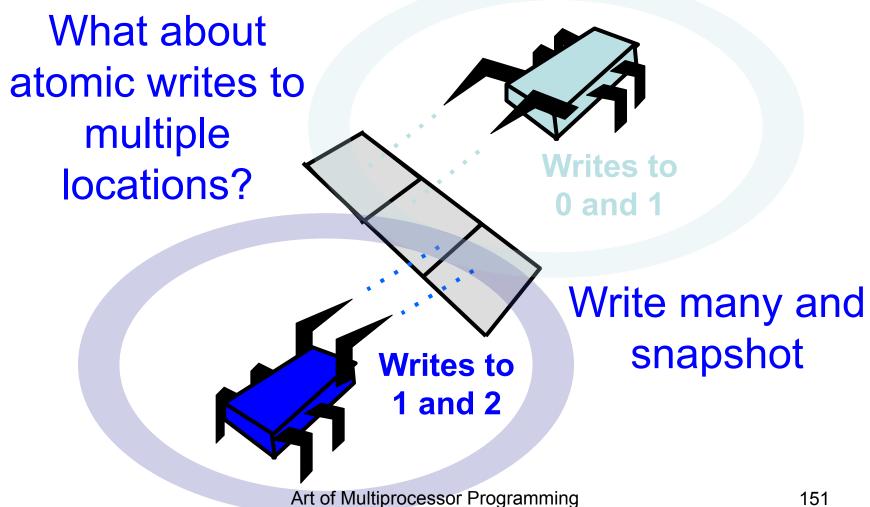
Summary

- We saw we could implement MRMW multi valued snapshot objects
- From SRSW binary safe registers (simple flipflops)
- But what is the next step to attempt with read-write registers?

Grand Challenge

- Snapshot means
 - Write any one array element
 - Read multiple array elements

Grand Challenge





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