Process Synchronization (5)

Dr. Jun Zheng

CSE325 Principles of Operating Systems

10/7/2019

Dining-Philosophers Problem Algorithm (Cont.)

- Deadlock handling
  - Allow at most 4 philosophers to be sitting simultaneously at the table.
  - Allow a philosopher to pick up the chopsticks only if both are available (picking must be done in a critical section).
  - Use an asymmetric solution -- an odd-numbered philosopher picks up first the left chopstick and then the right chopstick. Even-numbered philosopher picks up first the right chopstick and then the left chopstick.

Problems with Semaphores

- Incorrect use of semaphore operations:
  - signal (mutex) .... wait (mutex)
  - wait (mutex) ... wait (mutex)
  - Omitting of wait (mutex) or signal (mutex) (or both)
- Deadlock and starvation are possible.

Monitors

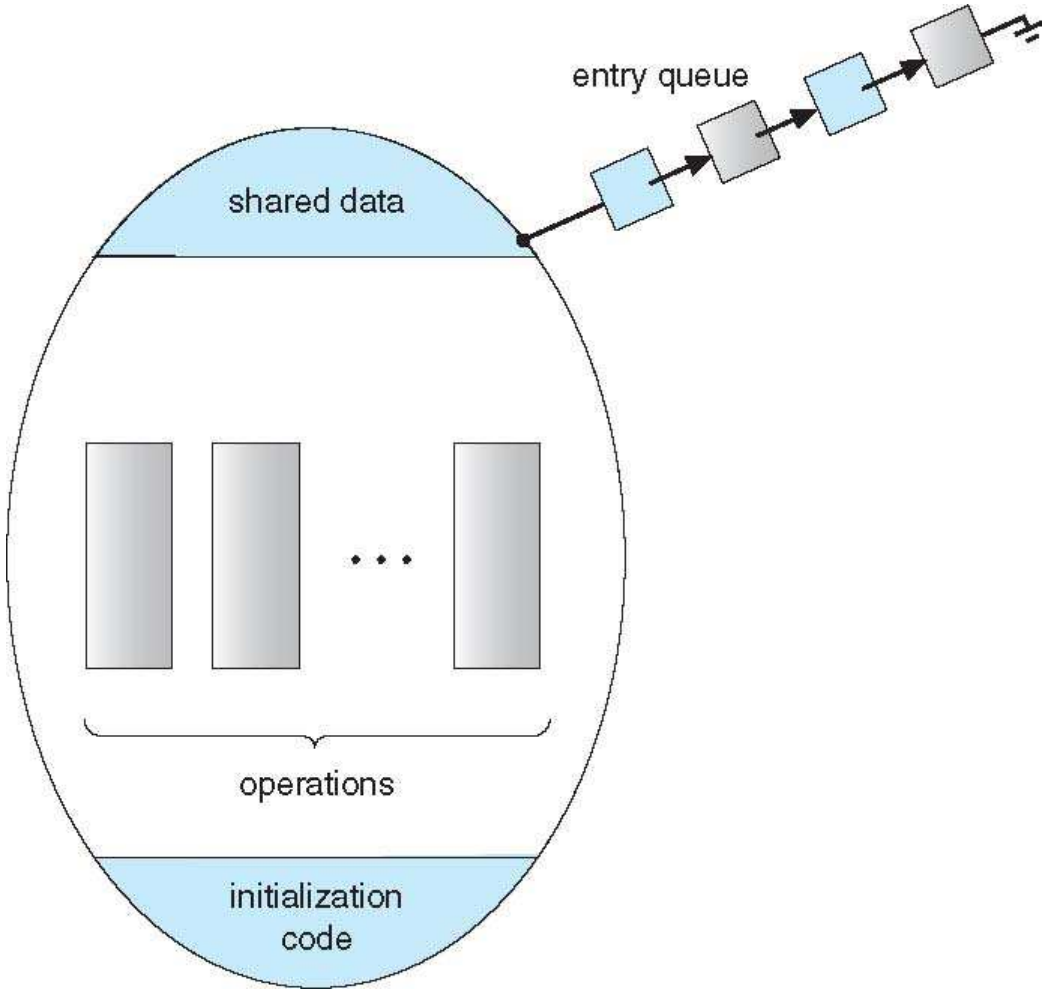
- A high-level abstraction that provides a convenient and effective mechanism for process synchronization
- *Abstract data type*, internal variables only accessible by code within the procedure
- Only one process may be active within the monitor at a time

```
monitor monitor-name
{
   // shared variable declarations
   procedure P1 (…) { …. }

   procedure Pn (…) {……}

 Initialization code (…) { … }
   }
}
```

Schematic View of a Monitor



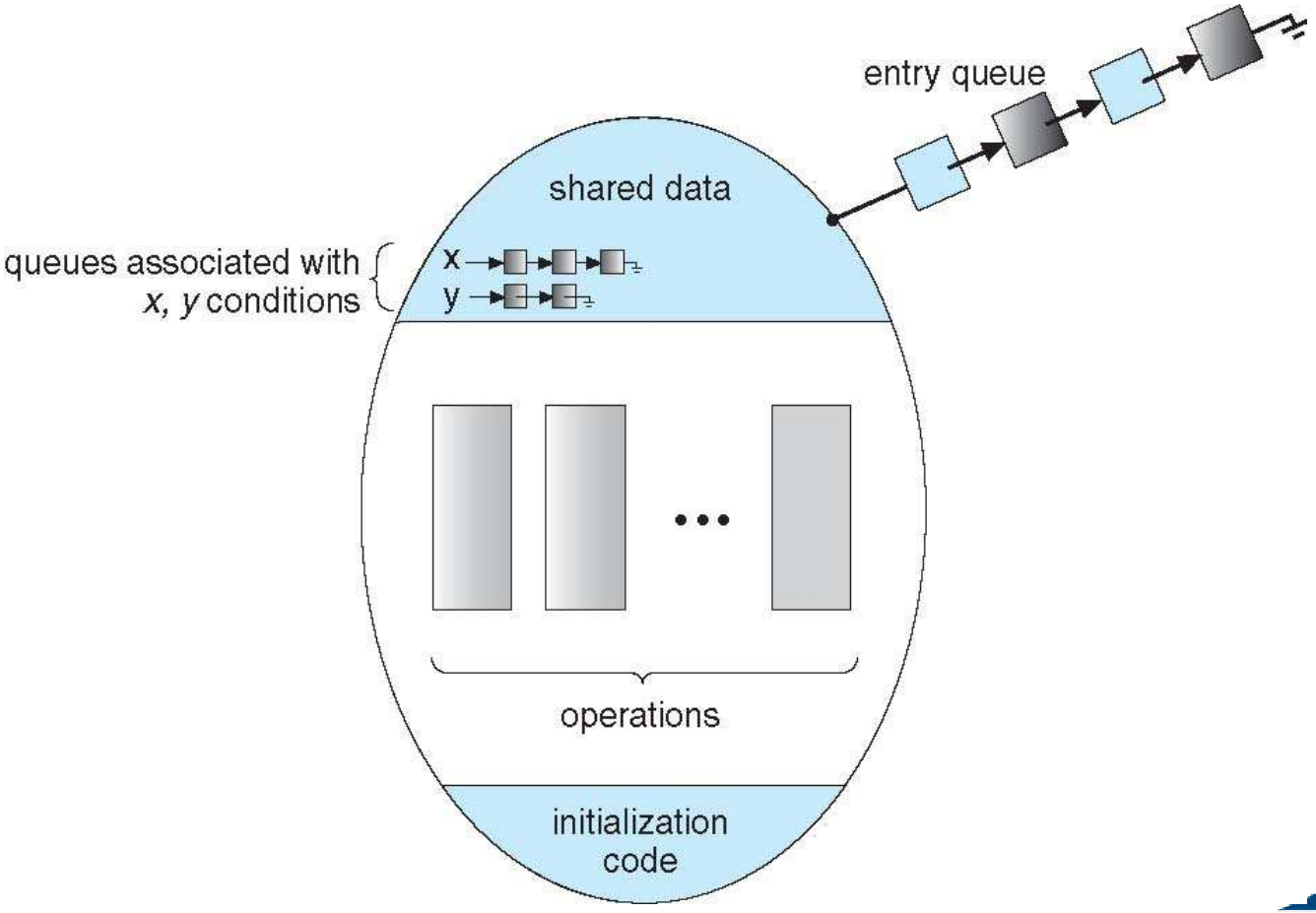
But not powerful enough to model some synchronization schemes

Condition Variables

`condition x;`

- Two operations are allowed on a condition variable:
  - **`x.wait()`** – a process that invokes the operation is suspended until **`x.signal()`**
  - **`x.signal()`** – resumes one of processes (if any) that invoked **`x.wait()`**
    - If no **`x.wait()`** on the variable, then it has no effect on the variable

Monitor with Condition Variables



Condition Variables Choices

- If process P invokes **`x.signal(),`** and process Q is suspended in **`x.wait()`**, what should happen next?
  - Both Q and P cannot execute in parallel. If Q is resumed, then P must wait
- Options include
  - **Signal and wait** – P waits until Q either leaves the monitor or it waits for another condition
  - **Signal and continue** – Q waits until P either leaves the monitor or it waits for another condition
  - Both have pros and cons – language implementer can decide
  - Monitors implemented in Concurrent Pascal compromise
    - P executing signal immediately leaves the monitor, Q is resumed
  - Implemented in other languages including Mesa, C#, Java

Monitor Solution to Dining Philosophers

```
monitor DiningPhilosophers
{
   enum { THINKING; HUNGRY, EATING) state [5] ;
   condition self [5];

   void pickup (int i) {
          state[i] = HUNGRY;
          test(i);
          if (state[i] != EATING) self[i].wait;
   }

   void putdown (int i) {
          state[i] = THINKING;
          // test left and right neighbors
          test((i + 4) % 5);
          test((i + 1) % 5);
   }
```

Solution to Dining Philosophers (Cont.)

```
    void test (int i) {
         if ((state[(i + 4) % 5] != EATING) &&
            (state[i] == HUNGRY) &&
            (state[(i + 1) % 5] != EATING)) {
                 state[i] = EATING ;
                 self[i].signal () ;
            }
    }

    initialization_code() {
         for (int i = 0; i < 5; i++)
           state[i] = THINKING;
     }
}
```

Solution to Dining Philosophers (Cont.)

- Each philosopher *i* invokes the operations **`pickup()`** and **`putdown()`** in the following sequence:

```
DiningPhilosophers.pickup(i);

    EAT

DiningPhilosophers.putdown(i);
```

- No deadlock, but starvation is possible

Resuming Processes within a Monitor

- If several processes queued on condition x, and x.signal() executed, which should be resumed?
- FCFS frequently not adequate
- **conditional-wait** construct of the form x.wait(c)
  - Where c is **priority number**
  - Process with lowest number (highest priority) is scheduled next