

What is mutual exclusion?



When a process is accessing a shared variable, the process is said to be in a CS (critical section).

- No two processes can be in the same CS at the same time. This is called mutual exclusion.

Distributed mutual exclusion

- Assume there is agreement on how a resource is identified.

- Create an algorithm to allow a process to obtain Exclusive access to a resource.

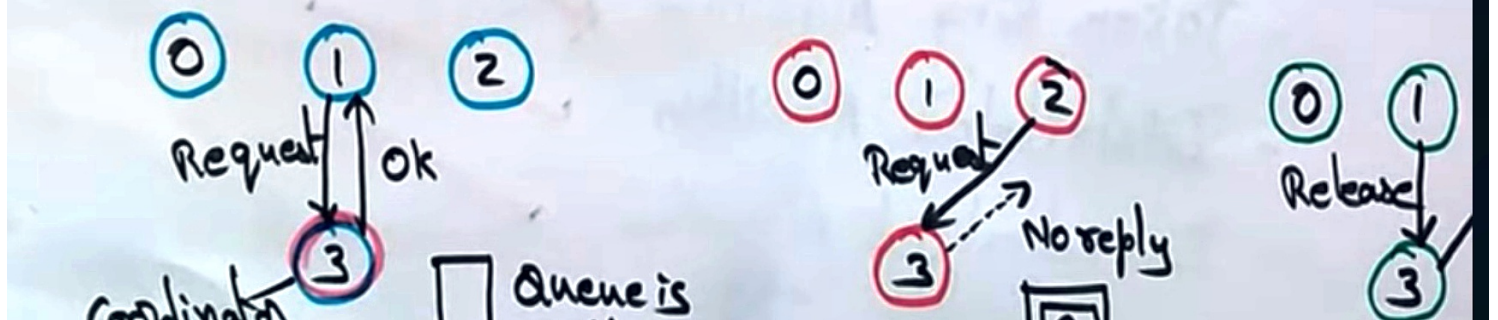
different algorithms based on message passing to implement mutual exclusion in distributed systems are

- Centralized Algorithm
- Token Ring Algorithm
- Distributed Algorithm

Centralized Algorithm

- One process is elected as the coordinator
- When ever a process wants to access a shared resource, it sends request to the coordinator to ask for permission
- Coordinator may queue requests

→ Coordinator may queue requests



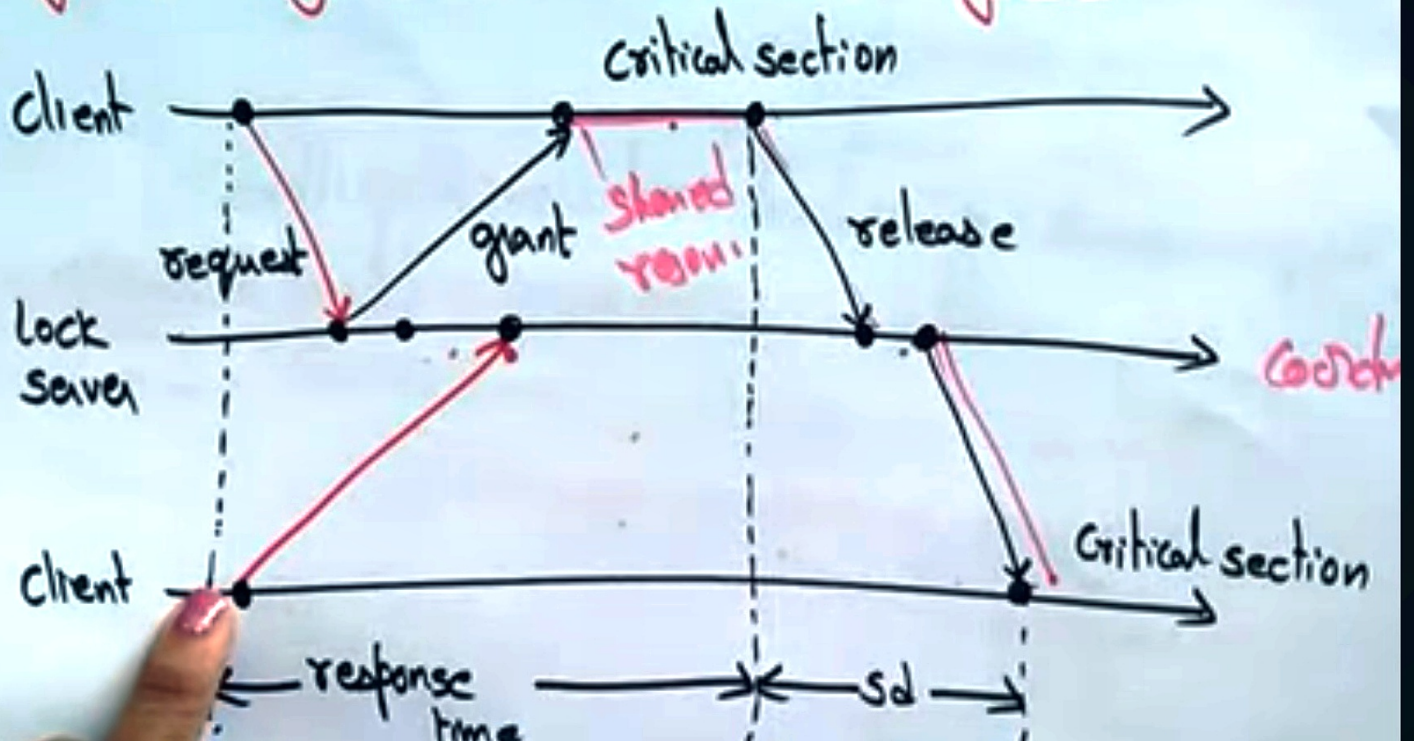
Decentralized

- non token based
- token-based

Requirements of Mutual Exclusion Algorithms

- only one request accesses the CS at a time (primary)
- Freedom from deadlocks
- Freedom from starvation
- Fairness

Performance of a mutual exclusion algorithm



System Throughput S (rate at which the system executes requests for the CS)

$$S = \frac{1}{S_d + E}$$

S_d = synchronization delay

E = average execution time

- low load & high load performance
- best & worst case performance; if fluctuates statistically