Mutual Exclusion

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Locks in C++

#include <mutex>

```
class Y{
private:
    int some_detail;
    mutable std::mutex m;
    int get_detail() const {
        std::lock_guard<std::mutex> lock_a(m);
        return some_detail;
    }
}
```

Protect with a lock Resource Allocation is Initialization

public:

```
Y(int sd):some_detail(sd){}
friend bool operator==(Y const& lhs, Y const& rhs) {
    if(&lhs==&rhs)
        return true;
    int const lhs_value=lhs.get_detail();
    int const rhs_value=rhs.get_detail();
    return lhs_value==rhs_value;
};
```

C++: RAII

- Programming with locks mistakes:
 - Forgetting to lock
 - Forgetting to unlock
 - Especially if an error is thrown
- Resource Allocation is Initialization
 - Locks are unlocked when the code leaves the scope because the object no longer exists

Locks in Java

• Make sure to unlock by using unlock

```
mutex.lock();
try {
    // ... code goes here ...
} finally {
    // ... restore invariants ...
    mutex.unlock();
}
```

Threads

- A sequence of indivisible events
 - A: $a_1, a_2, ..., a_n, ...$
 - All events are ordered:
 - $a_1 < a_2 < a_3 < \dots < a_n$
- Events of two or more threads are interleaved
 - Some depend on others
- Event Examples:
 - Assign to shared variable; Assign to local variable; Invoke method; Return from method ...

Threads

- Thread state:
 - Program counter
 - Local variables
- System state
 - Object fields (shared variables)
 - Union of thread states

Time

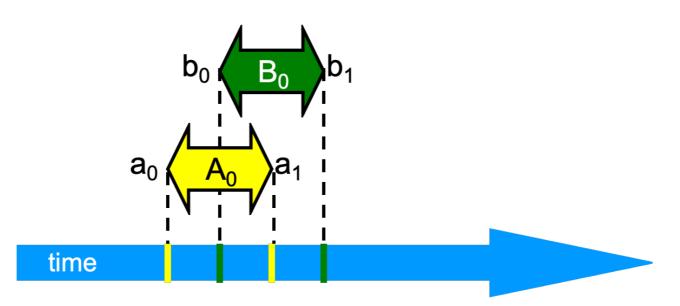
- Time: Shared by threads,
 - but threads do not have a common clock
- Events: Instantaneous
 - Two events never happen at the same time
 - Events in a thread are totally ordered

Intervals

• An interval $A_0 = (a_0, a_1)$ is the time between events a_0 and a_1 $a_0 \bigwedge_{A_0} A_1$

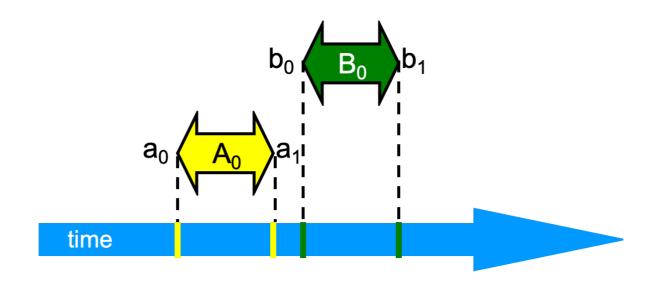


• Intervals might overlap



Intervals

- Intervals might be disjoint
 - In which case we can define a precedence



- Interval A precedes interval B:
 - a.k.a: A happens before B
 - All events in A are before all events in B

Critical Section

- Block of code that can be executed only by one thread
- Mutual exclusion:
 - Let CS_i^k be thread *i*'s k^{th} execution of critical section
 - CS_j^l be thread j's l^{th} execution of the critical section
 - **THEN** either $CS_i^k < CS_j^l$ or $CS_l^j < CS_i^k$

Goals

- Mutual exclusion
 - Either $CS_A^k < CS_B^l$ or $CS_B^l < CS_A^j$
- Freedom from deadlock
 - If some thread attempts to acquire the lock then some thread will acquire the lock
- Freedom from starvation (lockout freedom)
 - Every thread that attempts to acquire the lock eventually succeeds

Mutual Exclusion in Software only

Warning

- These algorithms are not used in practice
 - Efficient locks need hardware support, more than just registers
 - We are using only registers

• In the sixties, several wrong algorithms were published claiming to do mutual exclusion

```
class LockOne implements Lock {
private boolean[] flag = new boolean[2];
public void lock() {
    int i = ThreadID.get();
    int j = i-1;
    flag[i] = true;
    while (flag[j]) {}
}
public void unlock() {
    int i = ThreadID.get();
    flag[i] = false;
}
```

```
class LockOne implements Lock {
private boolean[] flag = new boolean[2];
public void lock() {
    int i = ThreadID.get();
    flag[i] = true;
    while (flag[j]) {}
}
public void unlock() {
    int i = ThreadID.get();
    flag[i] = false;
}
```

public void lock()

flag[i] = true;

while (flag[j]) {}

public void unlock()

flag[i] = false;

{

 Assume that we have both threads 0 and 1 in the critical section

 $1.w_0(flag[0] = 1) < r_0(flag[1] = 0) < CS_0$

 $2.w_1(\mathsf{flag}[1] = 1) < r_1(\mathsf{flag}[0] = 0) < CS_1$

- Since both are still in their critical section, no flag is set to false.
 - Therefore:

3.
$$r_0(\text{flag}[1] = 0) < w_1(\text{flag}[1] = 1)$$

4.
$$r_1(flag[0] = 0) < w_0(flag[0] = 1)$$

- This leads to a vicious cycle
 - $w_0(\text{flag}[0] = 1)$
 - $< r_0(\text{flag}[1] = 0)$ by (1)
 - $< w_1(flag[1] = 1)$ by (3)
 - $< r_1(\text{flag}[0] = 0)$ by (2)
 - $< w_0(\text{flag}[0] = 1)$ by (4)

Lock Algorithms for Two Threads public void lock() { flag[i] = true; while (flag[j]) {}

public void unlock()

flag[i] = false;

}

• Algorithm can easily dead-lock

flag[0]=1
flag[1]=1
;
;
;
;
;
;
.

 A simpler lock algorithm that only works if both threads are active

```
class LockTwo implements Lock {
    private int victim;
    public void lock() {
        int i = ThreadID.get();
        victim = i;
        while (victim==i) {}
    }
    public void unlock() {}
}
```

Prove mutual exclusion

```
public void lock() {
    victim = i;
    while (victim==i) {}
    public void unlock() {}
```

• Thread *i* is in the critical region:

•
$$w_0(v = 0) < r_0(v = 1)$$
 $w_1(v = 1) < r_1(v = 0)$

- Thread *i* is the only one that set *v* to *i* and that only once
 - Assume $w_1(v = 1) < w_0(v = 0)$:
 - Then $r_0(v = 1)$ never happens
 - Assume $w_0(v = 0) < w_1(v = 1)$:
 - Then $r_1(v=0)$ never happens
- Contradiction!

public void lock() {
 victim = i;
 while (victim==i) {}
 public void unlock() {}

- Peterson's algorithm
 - Combines both

```
public void lock() {
  flag[i] = true;
  victim = i;
  while (flag[j] && victim == i) {};
  }
  public void unlock() {
   flag[i] = false;
  }
```

- Peterson's algorithm
 - Combines both

express interest to enter critical section

```
public void lock() {
  flag[i] = true;
  victim = i;
  while (flag[j] && victim == i) {};
  public void unlock() {
   flag[i] = false;
  }
}
```

Defer to other

- Peterson's algorithm
 - Combines both

```
public void lock() {
  flag[i] = true;
  victim = i;
  while (flag[j] && victim == i) {};
  }
public void unlock() {
  flag[i] = false;
  }
```

- Peterson's algorithm
 - Combines both

```
public void lock() {
  flag[i] = true;
  victim = i;
  while (flag[j] && victim == i) {};
  give priority to other
  }
  public void unlock() {
  flag[i] = false;
  }
}
```

- Peterson's algorithm
 - Combines both

```
public void lock() {
  flag[i] = true;
  victim = i;
  while (flag[j] && victim == i) {};
  }
  public void unlock() {
   flag[i] = false;
  }
  no longer interested
}
```

- Mutual exclusion: Assume both 0 and 1 are in the critical section
- Observe

```
• w_1(f[1] = 1) < w_1(v = 1)
```

```
public void lock() {
  flag[i] = true;
  victim = i;
  while (flag[j] && victim == i)
  {};
  }
  public void unlock() {
   flag[i] = false;
  }
}
```

```
• w_0(f[0] = 1) < w_0(v = 0)
```

```
public void lock() {
  flag[i] = true;
  victim = i;
  while (flag[j] && victim == i)
  {};
  }
  public void unlock() {
   flag[i] = false;
  }
```

```
• w_0(v = 0) < r_0(f[1] = 1) < r_0(v = 1)
```

```
public void lock() {
  flag[i] = true;
  victim = i;
  while (flag[j] && victim == i)
  {};
  }
  public void unlock() {
  flag[i] = false;
  }
```

• Assume 0 is the last thread to write to victim:

•
$$w_1(v = 1) < w_0(v = 0)$$

Combine observations:

•
$$w_1(f[1] = 1)$$

•
$$< w_1(v = 1)$$

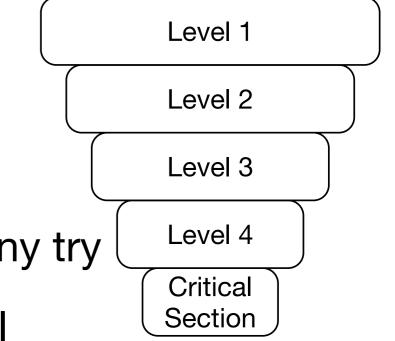
•
$$< w_0(v=0)$$

```
public void lock() {
  flag[i] = true;
  victim = i;
  while (flag[j] && victim == i) {};
}
public void unlock() {
  flag[i] = false;
}
```

- $< r_0(f[1] = 1)$
- < $r_0(v = 1)$
- So thread 0 is still spinning and NOT in the critical section

- Deadlock free:
 - Assume that the two threads are blocked
 - Thread 0 is blocked if
 - $r_0(f[1] = 1) \& \& r_0(v = 0)$
 - Thread 1 is blocked if
 - $r_1(f[0] = 1) \& \& r_1(v = 1)$
- If both flags are asserted then only one is blocked
- If only one flag is asserted, then the other can proceed

- Filter Algorithm
 - n-1 "waiting rooms" called levels
 - At each level:
 - at least one thread enters level
 - at least one thread is blocked is many try
 - Only one thread makes it to the critical section



Filter Lock

- Peterson lock uses a two-element boolean flag array
 - indicates whether a thread is trying to enter the critical section
- Filter lock generalizes with an n element integer level[] array
- Each level has a distinct victim field to filter out one thread
- Initially, a thread is at level 0.
 - Thread A is at level *j* if it has completed the waiting loop with level[A]>=j

Filter Lock

```
class Filter implements Lock {
   int[] level; // level[i] for thread i
   int[] victim; // victim[L] for level L
 public Filter(int n) {
  level = new int[n];
 victim = new int[n];
                                            0
  for (int i = 1; i < n; i++) {
                                                  0 0
                                            0 0
                                                     00
                                                4
      level[i] = 0;
  } }
                                                     1
                                                     4
                                                   2
```

Thread 2 at level 4

n-1

0

n-1

Filter Lock

```
class Filter implements Lock {
```

•••

```
class Filter implements Lock {
```

•••

```
public void lock() {
  for (int L = 1; L < n; L++) {
    level[i] = L;
    victim[L] = i;
    while (( A k != i: level[k] >= L) &&
        victim[L] == i ) {};
    }}
public void unlock() {
    level[i] = 0;
}}
```

```
class Filter implements Lock {
```

•••

```
class Filter implements Lock {
```

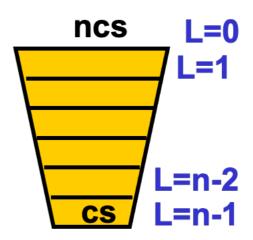
•••

```
public void lock() {
  for (int L = 1; L < n; L++) {
    level[i] = L;
    victim[L] = i;
    while (( 1 k != i: level[k] >= L) &&
        victim[L] == i ) {};
    }}
public void unlock() {
    level[i] = 0;
}}
```

```
class Filter implements Lock {
  •••
                                           Wait as long as someone else
                                           is at same of higher level and I
  public void lock() {
                                             am the designated victim
    for (int L = 1; L < n; L++) {
       level[i] = L;
       victim[L] = i;
       while ((\nexists k != i: level[k] >= L) \&\&
               victim[L] == i ) {};
    } }
  public void unlock() {
    level[i] = 0;
  } }
```

```
class Filter implements Lock {
  • • •
                                                   Thread enters level L
  public void lock() {
                                                   when it completes the
    for (int L = 1; L < n; L++) {
                                                         loop
       level[i] = L;
      victim[L] = i;
       while ((\nexists k != i: level[k] \geq 1) \&\&
               victim[L] == i ) {};
    } }
  public void unlock() {
    level[i] = 0;
  } }
```

- Claim:
 - Start at level *L*=0
 - At most *n*-*L* threads enter level *L*
 - Mutual exclusion at level L = n-1



- Induction hypothesis:
 - No more than n (L 1) threads at level L 1
- Assume all at level L 1 enter level L
- Assume A is the last to write victim[L]
- Want to show: A must have seen B in level[L] and since victim[L] == A could not have entered

• From code:

```
public void lock() {
  for (int L = 1; L < n; L++) {
    level[i] = L;
    victim[L] = i;
    while ((  k != i: level[k] >= L) &&
        victim[L] == i ) {};
    }
}
```

• $w_B(\text{level}[B] = L) < w_B(\text{victim}[L] = B)$

• From code:

• $w_A(\operatorname{victim}[L] = A) < r_A(\operatorname{level}[B]) < r_A(\operatorname{victim}[L])$

- By assumption A is the last to write to victim[L]:
 - $w_B(\text{victim}[L] = B) < w_A(\text{victim}[L] = A)$

- Combining observations:
 - $w_B(\text{level}[B] = L) < w_B(\text{victim}[L] = B)$
 - $w_A(\operatorname{victim}[L] = A) < r_A(\operatorname{level}[B]) < r_A(\operatorname{victim}[L])$
 - $w_B(\operatorname{victim}[L] = B) < w_A(\operatorname{victim}[L] = A)$

- Combining Observations
 - $w_B(\text{level}[B] = L) < w_B(\text{victim}[L] = B)$
 - $< w_A(\text{victim}[L] = A) < r_A(\text{level}[B])$
 - $< r_A(\text{victim}[L])$
- A read level[B]>=L and victim[L]=A, so A could not have entered level L

- Filter is starvation-free
 - Reverse induction on number of levels
 - Base case: level n 1: There is at most one thread, so there can be no starvation
 - Induction step:
 - Assume A is stuck at level *j*.
 - IH: All higher levels have eventually emptied out
 - Once A sets level[A] = j: Any thread reading level[A] is prevented from entering level j.

• All threads stuck at level *j* are in the waiting loop

Values of victim and level fields no longer change

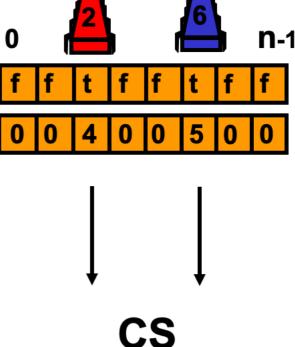
- Argue by induction on the number of threads at level *j*.
 - If A is the only one, then it will enter level j+1
 - Induction step: Assume A and B are stuck at level *j*.
 - A is stuck as long as it reads: victim[j]=A
 - B is stuck as long as it reads: victim[j]=B
 - Since the victim field is no longer written, one of them will enter level *j*+1.
 - This reduces the number of threads stuck by one
 - IH: All these make progress

- Properties:
 - No starvation
 - A fortiori: no deadlocks
 - But threads can be overtaken by others

- Idea:
 - You enter the waiting queue and take a number
 - Wait until all lower numbers have been served
- Use lexicographic ordering on pairs of threads x numbers

- Use a flag and a label array
 - Labels

```
class Bakery implements Lock {
   boolean[] flag;
   Label[] label;
   public Bakery (int n) {
    flag = new boolean[n];
    label = new Label[n];
    for (int i = 0; i < n; i++) {
      flag[i] = false; label[i] = 0;
   }
}</pre>
```



class Bakery implements Lock {

class Bakery implements Lock {

• To unlock, just express that you are no longer interested

```
public void unlock() {
   flag[i] = false;
}
```

- No deadlock
 - There is always one thread with earliest label
 - Ties are impossible

- If $D_A < D_B$ then
 - A's label is smaller
- And:
 - writeA(label[A]) < readB(label[A]) < writeB(label[B]) < readB(flag[A])
- So B sees
 - smaller label for A
- locked out while flag[A] is true

- Mutual Exclusion
 - Suppose A and B are in CS together
 - Suppose A has earlier label
 - When B entered, it must have seen:
 - flag[A]==0 or label(A) > label(B)
 - But labels are strictly increasing so:
 - B must have seen flag[A] == 0

- Mutual Exclusion:
 - Therefore: Labeling_B < r_B(flag[A])
 - $< w_A(flag[A])$
 - < Labeling_A
 - This contradicts the assumption that A has an earlier label

- Why is this not practicable:
 - Labels cannot be guaranteed to be always increasing
 - Threads need to read as many registers as there are potential threads