

CSI62
Operating Systems and
Systems Programming
Lecture 8

Locks, Semaphores, Monitors

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Review: Too Much Milk Solution #3

- Here is a possible two-note solution:

<u>Thread A</u>	<u>Thread B</u>
leave note A;	leave note B;
while (note B) {\\X	if (noNote A) {\\Y
do nothing;	if (noMilk) {
}	buy milk;
if (noMilk) {	}
buy milk;	}
}	remove note B;
remove note A;	

- Does this work? **Yes**. Both can guarantee that:
 - It is safe to buy, or
 - Other will buy, ok to quit
- At **X**:
 - If no note B, safe for A to buy,
 - Otherwise wait to find out what will happen
- At **Y**:
 - If no note A, safe for B to buy
 - Otherwise, A is either buying or waiting for B to quit

Case I

- “leave note A” happens before “if (noNote A)”

```
leave note A;  
while (note B) {\X  
    do nothing;  
};
```

*happened
before*

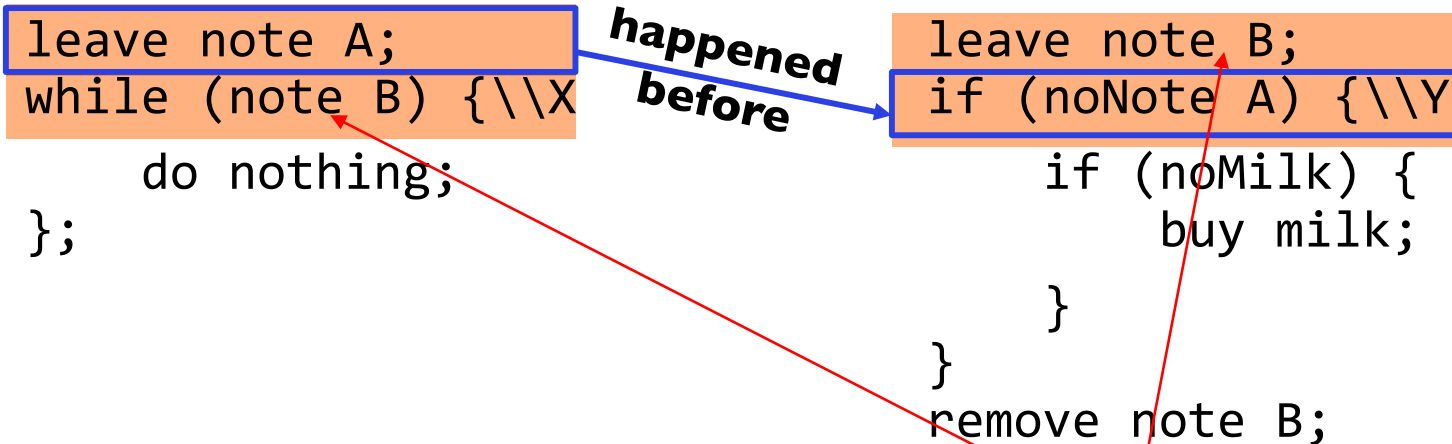
```
leave note B;  
if (noNote A) {\Y  
    if (noMilk) {  
        buy milk;  
    }  
}  
remove note B;
```

```
if (noMilk) {  
    buy milk;}  
}  
remove note A;
```

B will not buy milk!

Case I

- “leave note A” happens before “if (noNote A)”



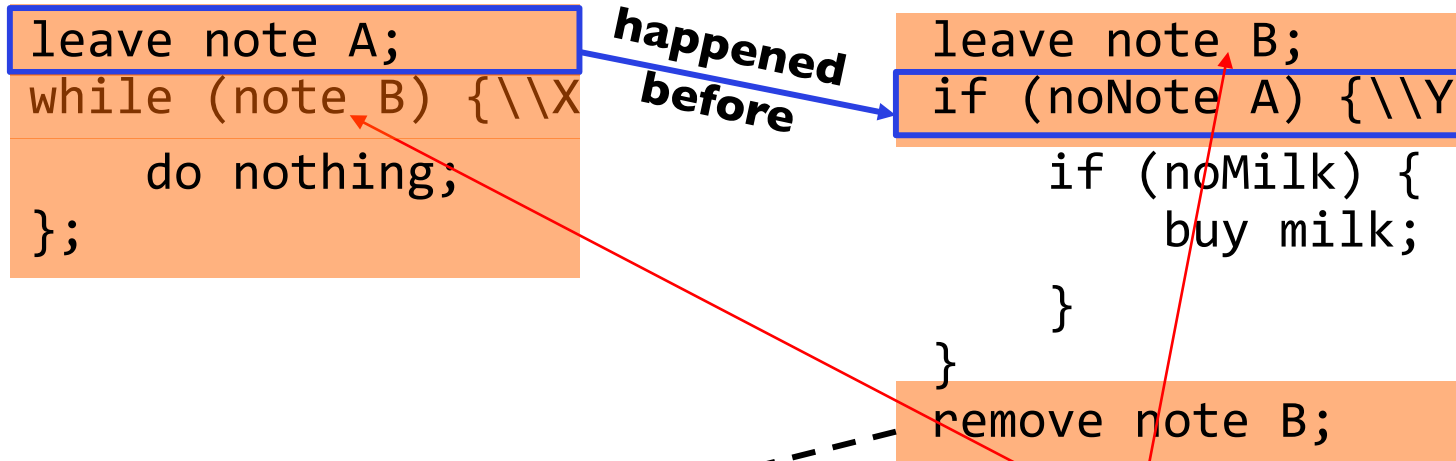
```
if (noMilk) {
    buy milk;}
}
remove note A;
```

if “while (note B)” happens **before** “leave note B”

- A goes ahead and buys milk

Case I

- “leave note A” happens before “if (noNote A)”



```
if (noMilk) {
    buy milk;}
}
remove note A;
```

if “while (note B)” happens **after** “leave note B”

- A waits until “remove note B”,
- Then, A goes ahead and buys milk

Case 2

- “if (noNote A)” happens before “leave note A”

```
leave note A;  
while (note B) {\X  
    do nothing;  
};
```

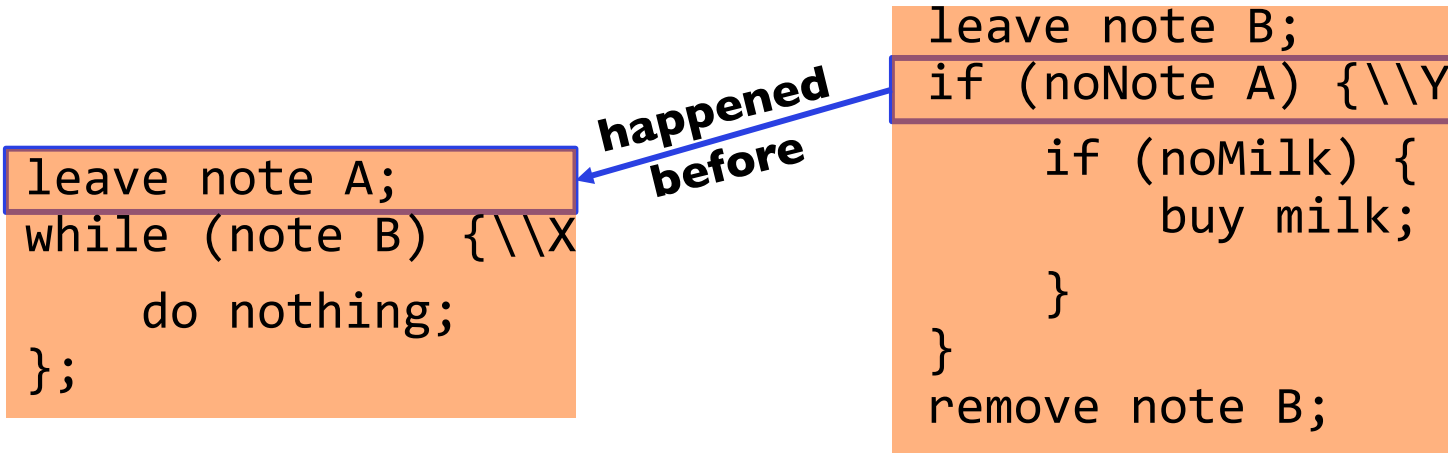
**happened
before**

```
leave note B;  
if (noNote A) {\Y  
    if (noMilk) {  
        buy milk;  
    }  
}  
remove note B;
```

```
if (noMilk) {  
    buy milk;}  
}  
remove note A;
```

Case 2

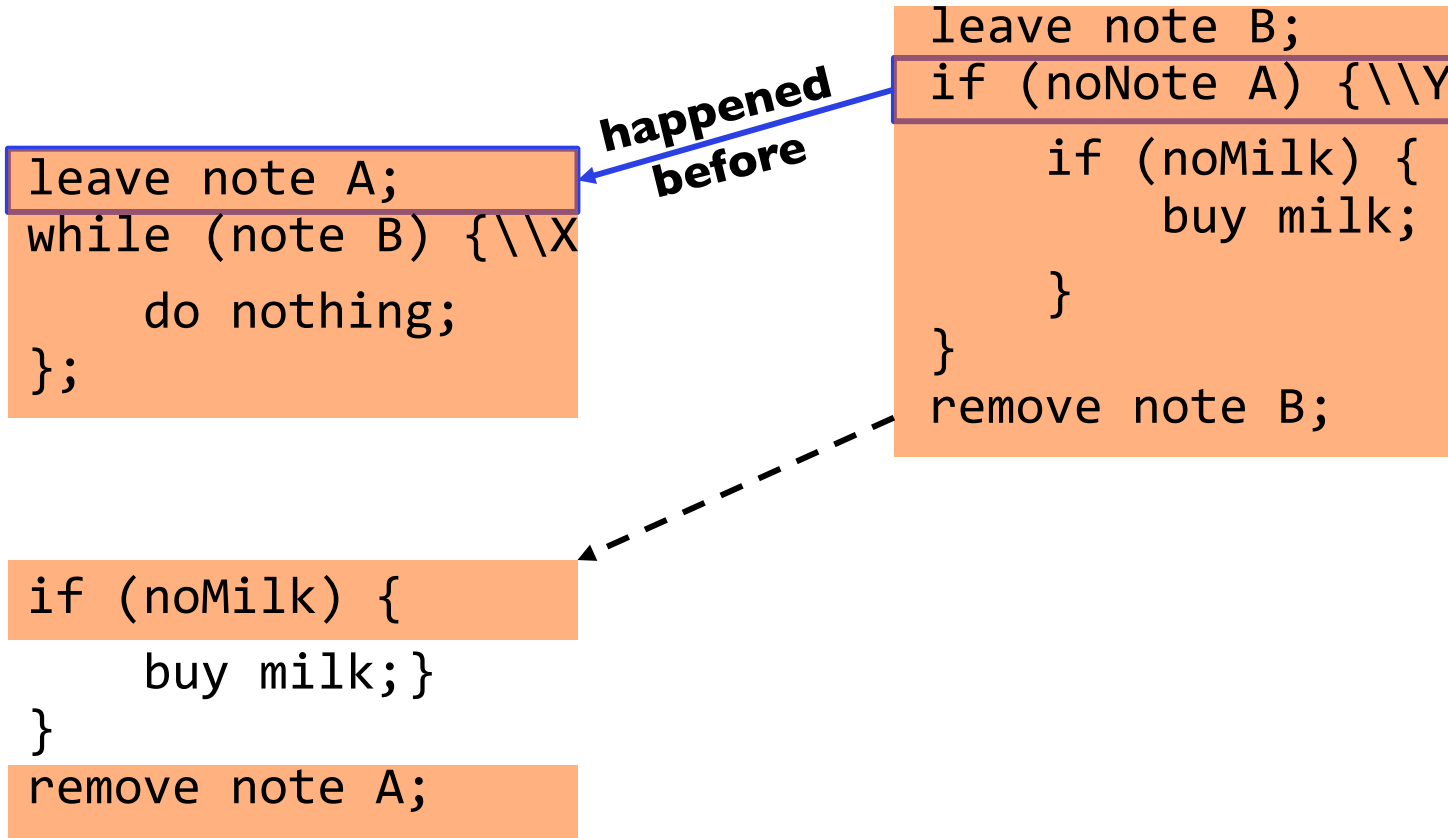
- “if (noNote A)” happens before “leave note A”



```
if (noMilk) {
    buy milk;}
}
remove note A;
```

Case 2

- “if (noNote A)” happens before “leave note A”



Review: Solution #3 discussion

- Our solution protects a single “Critical-Section” piece of code for each thread:

```
if (noMilk) {  
    buy milk;  
}
```

- Solution #3 works, but it's really unsatisfactory
 - Really complex – even for this simple an example
 - » Hard to convince yourself that this really works
 - A's code is different from B's – what if lots of threads?
 - » Code would have to be slightly different for each thread
 - While A is waiting, it is consuming CPU time
 - » This is called “busy-waiting”
- There's a better way
 - Have hardware provide higher-level primitives than atomic load & store
 - Build even higher-level programming abstractions on this hardware support

Too Much Milk: Solution #4

- Suppose we have some sort of implementation of a lock
 - **lock.Acquire()** – wait until lock is free, then grab
 - **lock.Release()** – Unlock, waking up anyone waiting
 - These must be atomic operations – if two threads are waiting for the lock and both see it's free, only one succeeds to grab the lock
- Then, our milk problem is easy:

```
    milklock.Acquire();
    if (nomilk)
        buy milk;
    milklock.Release();
```
- Once again, section of code between **Acquire()** and **Release()** called a “**Critical Section**”
- Of course, you can make this even simpler: suppose you are out of ice cream instead of milk
 - Skip the test since you always need more ice cream ;-)

Where are we going with synchronization?

Programs	Shared Programs
Higher-level API	Locks Semaphores Monitors Send/Receive
Hardware	Load/Store Disable Ints Test&Set Compare&Swap

- We are going to implement various higher-level synchronization primitives using atomic operations
 - Everything is pretty painful if only atomic primitives are load and store
 - Need to provide primitives useful at user-level

Goals for Today

- Explore several implementations of locks
- Continue with Synchronization Abstractions
 - Semaphores, Monitors, and Condition variables
- Very Quick Introduction to scheduling

How to Implement Locks?



- **Lock**: prevents someone from doing something
 - Lock before entering critical section and before accessing shared data
 - Unlock when leaving, after accessing shared data
 - Wait if locked
 - » Important idea: all synchronization involves waiting
 - » Should sleep if waiting for a long time
- Atomic Load/Store: get solution like Milk #3
 - Pretty complex and error prone
- Hardware Lock instruction
 - Is this a good idea?
 - What about putting a task to sleep?
 - » How do you handle the interface between the hardware and scheduler?
 - Complexity?
 - » Done in the Intel 432 – each feature makes HW more complex and slow

Naïve use of Interrupt Enable/Disable

How can we build multi-instruction atomic operations?

- Recall: dispatcher gets control in two ways.
 - Internal: Thread does something to relinquish the CPU
 - External: Interrupts cause dispatcher to take CPU
- On a uniprocessor, can avoid context-switching by:
 - Avoiding internal events (although virtual memory tricky)
 - Preventing external events by disabling interrupts

Consequently, naïve Implementation of locks:

```
LockAcquire { disable Ints; }  
LockRelease { enable Ints; }
```

Naïve use of Interrupt Enable/Disable: Problems

Can't let user do this! Consider following:

```
LockAcquire();  
While(TRUE) {;
```

Real-Time system—no guarantees on timing!

- Critical Sections might be arbitrarily long

What happens with I/O or other important events?

- “Reactor about to meltdown. Help?”



Better Implementation of Locks by Disabling Interrupts

Key idea: maintain a lock variable and impose mutual exclusion only during operations on that variable

```
int value = FREE;
```



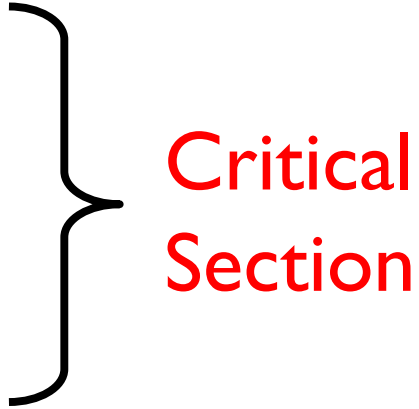
```
Acquire() {  
    disable interrupts;  
    if (value == BUSY) {  
        put thread on wait queue;  
        Go to sleep();  
        // Enable interrupts?  
    } else {  
        value = BUSY;  
    }  
    enable interrupts;  
}
```

```
Release() {  
    disable interrupts;  
    if (anyone on wait queue) {  
        take thread off wait queue  
        Place on ready queue;  
    } else {  
        value = FREE;  
    }  
    enable interrupts;  
}
```


New Lock Implementation: Discussion

- Why do we need to disable interrupts at all?
 - Avoid interruption between checking and setting lock value
 - Otherwise two threads could think that they both have lock

```
Acquire() {  
    disable interrupts;  
    if (value == BUSY) {  
        put thread on wait queue;  
        Go to sleep();  
        // Enable interrupts?  
    } else {  
        value = BUSY;  
    }  
    enable interrupts;  
}
```



**Critical
Section**

- Note: unlike previous solution, the critical section (inside **Acquire()**) is very short
 - User of lock can take as long as they like in their own critical section: doesn't impact global machine behavior
 - Critical interrupts taken in time!


Interrupt Re-enable in Going to Sleep

- What about re-enabling ints when going to sleep?

```
Acquire() {
    disable interrupts;
    if (value == BUSY) {
        put thread on wait queue;
        Go to sleep();
    } else {
        value = BUSY;
    }
    enable interrupts;
}
```

Interrupt Re-enable in Going to Sleep

- What about re-enabling ints when going to sleep?


Enable Position 

```
Acquire() {  
    disable interrupts;  
    if (value == BUSY) {  
        put thread on wait queue;  
        Go to sleep();  
    } else {  
        value = BUSY;  
    }  
    enable interrupts;  
}
```

- Before Putting thread on the wait queue?

Interrupt Re-enable in Going to Sleep

- What about re-enabling ints when going to sleep?

Enable Position 


```
Acquire() {  
    disable interrupts;  
    if (value == BUSY) {  
        put thread on wait queue;  
        Go to sleep();  
    } else {  
        value = BUSY;  
    }  
    enable interrupts;  
}
```

- Before Putting thread on the wait queue?
 - Release can check the queue and not wake up thread

Interrupt Re-enable in Going to Sleep

- What about re-enabling ints when going to sleep?

```
Acquire() {  
    disable interrupts;  
    if (value == BUSY) {  
        put thread on wait queue;  
        Go to sleep();  
    } else {  
        value = BUSY;  
    }  
    enable interrupts;  
}
```


Enable Position 

- Before Putting thread on the wait queue?
 - Release can check the queue and not wake up thread
- After putting the thread on the wait queue

Interrupt Re-enable in Going to Sleep

- What about re-enabling ints when going to sleep?

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Acquire() {  
    disable interrupts;  
    if (value == BUSY) {  
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        Go to sleep();  
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        value = BUSY;  
    }  
    enable interrupts;  
}
```


Enable Position 

- Before Putting thread on the wait queue?
 - Release can check the queue and not wake up thread
- After putting the thread on the wait queue
 - Release puts the thread on the ready queue, but the thread still thinks it needs to go to sleep
 - Misses wakeup and still holds lock (deadlock!)

Interrupt Re-enable in Going to Sleep

- What about re-enabling ints when going to sleep?

```
Acquire() {  
    disable interrupts;  
    if (value == BUSY) {  
        put thread on wait queue;  
        Go to sleep();  
    } else {  
        value = BUSY;  
    }  
    enable interrupts;  
}
```


Enable Position 

- Before Putting thread on the wait queue?
 - Release can check the queue and not wake up thread
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 - Release puts the thread on the ready queue, but the thread still thinks it needs to go to sleep
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Interrupt Re-enable in Going to Sleep

- What about re-enabling ints when going to sleep?

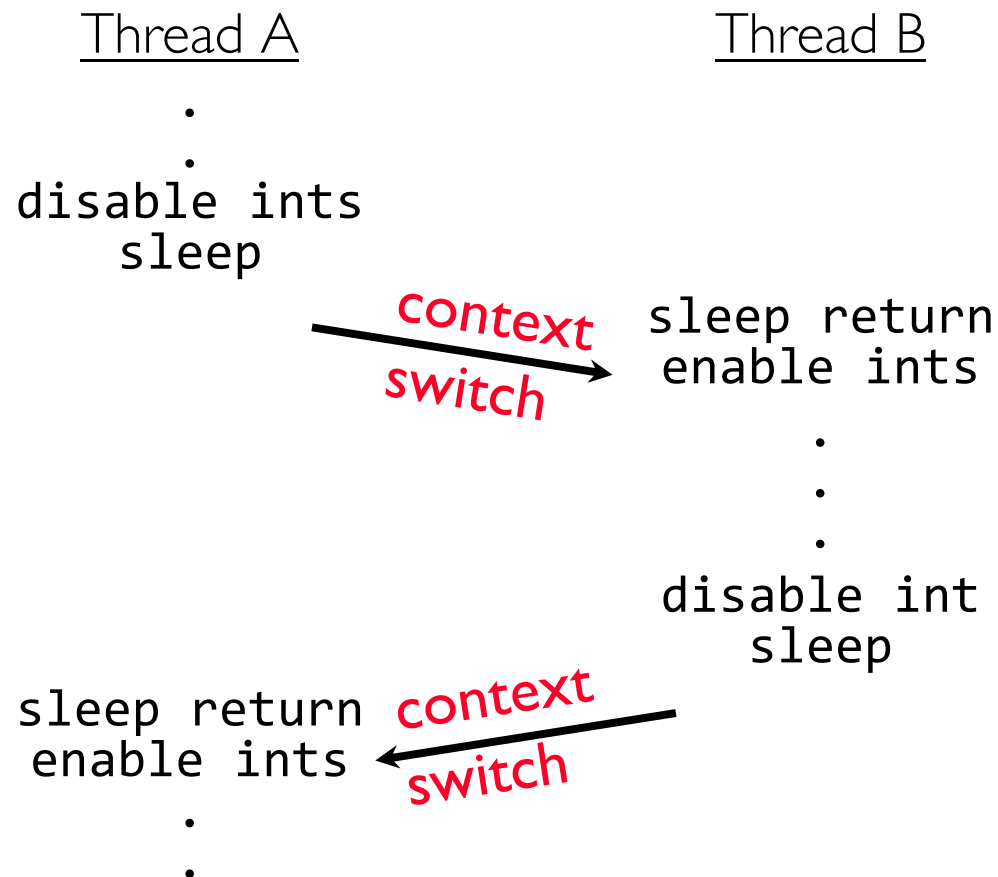
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Acquire() {  
    disable interrupts;  
    if (value == BUSY) {  
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        Go to sleep();  
    } else {  
        value = BUSY;  
    }  
    enable interrupts;  
}
```

Enable Position 

- Before Putting thread on the wait queue?
 - Release can check the queue and not wake up thread
- After putting the thread on the wait queue
 - Release puts the thread on the ready queue, but the thread still thinks it needs to go to sleep
 - Misses wakeup and still holds lock (deadlock!)
- Want to put it after **sleep()**. But – how?

How to Re-enable After Sleep()? ---

- In scheduler, since interrupts are disabled when you call sleep:
 - Responsibility of the next thread to re-enable ints
 - When the sleeping thread wakes up, returns to acquire and re-enables interrupts



Atomic Read-Modify-Write Instructions

- Problems with previous solution:
 - Can't give lock implementation to users
 - Doesn't work well on multiprocessor
 - » Disabling interrupts on all processors requires messages and would be very time consuming
- Alternative: **atomic instruction sequences**
 - These instructions read a value and write a new value atomically
 - Hardware is responsible for implementing this correctly
 - » on both uniprocessors (not too hard)
 - » and multiprocessors (requires help from cache coherence protocol)
 - Unlike disabling interrupts, can be used on both uniprocessors and multiprocessors

Examples of Read-Modify-Write

- ```
test&set (&address) { /* most architectures */
 result = M[address]; /* return result from "address" and
 M[address] = 1; /* set value at "address" to 1 */
 return result;
}
```
- ```
swap (&address, register) { /* x86 */
    temp = M[address];      /* swap register's value to
    M[address] = register;  /* value at "address" */
    register = temp;
}
```
- ```
compare&swap (&address, reg1, reg2) { /* 68000 */
 if (reg1 == M[address]) {
 M[address] = reg2;
 return success;
 } else {
 return failure;
 }
}
```

# Implementing Locks with test&set

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- Another flawed, but simple solution:

```
int value = 0; // Free
Acquire() {
 while (test&set(value)); // while busy
}
Release() {
 value = 0;
}
```

- Simple explanation:
  - If lock is free, test&set reads 0 and sets value=1, so lock is now busy  
It returns 0 so while exits
  - If lock is busy, test&set reads 1 and sets value=1 (no change)  
It returns 1, so while loop continues
  - When we set value = 0, someone else can get lock
- **Busy-Waiting**: thread consumes cycles while waiting

# Problem: Busy-Waiting for Lock

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- Positives for this solution
  - Machine can receive interrupts
  - User code can use this lock
  - Works on a multiprocessor
- Negatives
  - This is very inefficient as thread will consume cycles waiting
  - Waiting thread may take cycles away from thread holding lock (no one wins!)
  - **Priority Inversion**: If busy-waiting thread has higher priority than thread holding lock  $\Rightarrow$  no progress!
- Priority Inversion problem with original Martian rover
- For semaphores and monitors, waiting thread may wait for an arbitrary long time!
  - Thus even if busy-waiting was OK for locks, definitely not ok for other primitives
  - Homework/exam solutions should avoid busy-waiting!



# Better Locks using test&set

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- Can we build test&set locks without busy-waiting?
  - Can't entirely, but can minimize!
  - Idea: only busy-wait to atomically check lock value

```
int guard = 0;
int value = FREE;
```



```
Acquire() {
 // Short busy-wait time
 while (test&set(guard));
 if (value == BUSY) {
 put thread on wait queue;
 go to sleep() & guard = 0;
 } else {
 value = BUSY;
 guard = 0;
 }
}
```

```
Release() {
 // Short busy-wait time
 while (test&set(guard));
 if anyone on wait queue {
 take thread off wait queue
 Place on ready queue;
 } else {
 value = FREE;
 }
 guard = 0;
}
```

- Note: sleep has to be sure to reset the guard variable
  - Why can't we do it just before or just after the sleep?

# Locks using Interrupts vs. test&set

---

Compare to “disable interrupt” solution

```
int value = FREE;
```



```
Acquire() {
 disable interrupts;
 if (value == BUSY) {
 put thread on wait queue;
 Go to sleep();
 // Enable interrupts?
 } else {
 value = BUSY;
 }
 enable interrupts;
}
```

```
Release() {
 disable interrupts;
 if (anyone on wait queue) {
 take thread off wait queue
 Place on ready queue;
 } else {
 value = FREE;
 }
 enable interrupts;
}
```

Basically replace

- **disable interrupts** → **while (test&set(guard));**
- **enable interrupts** → **guard = 0;**

# Administrivia

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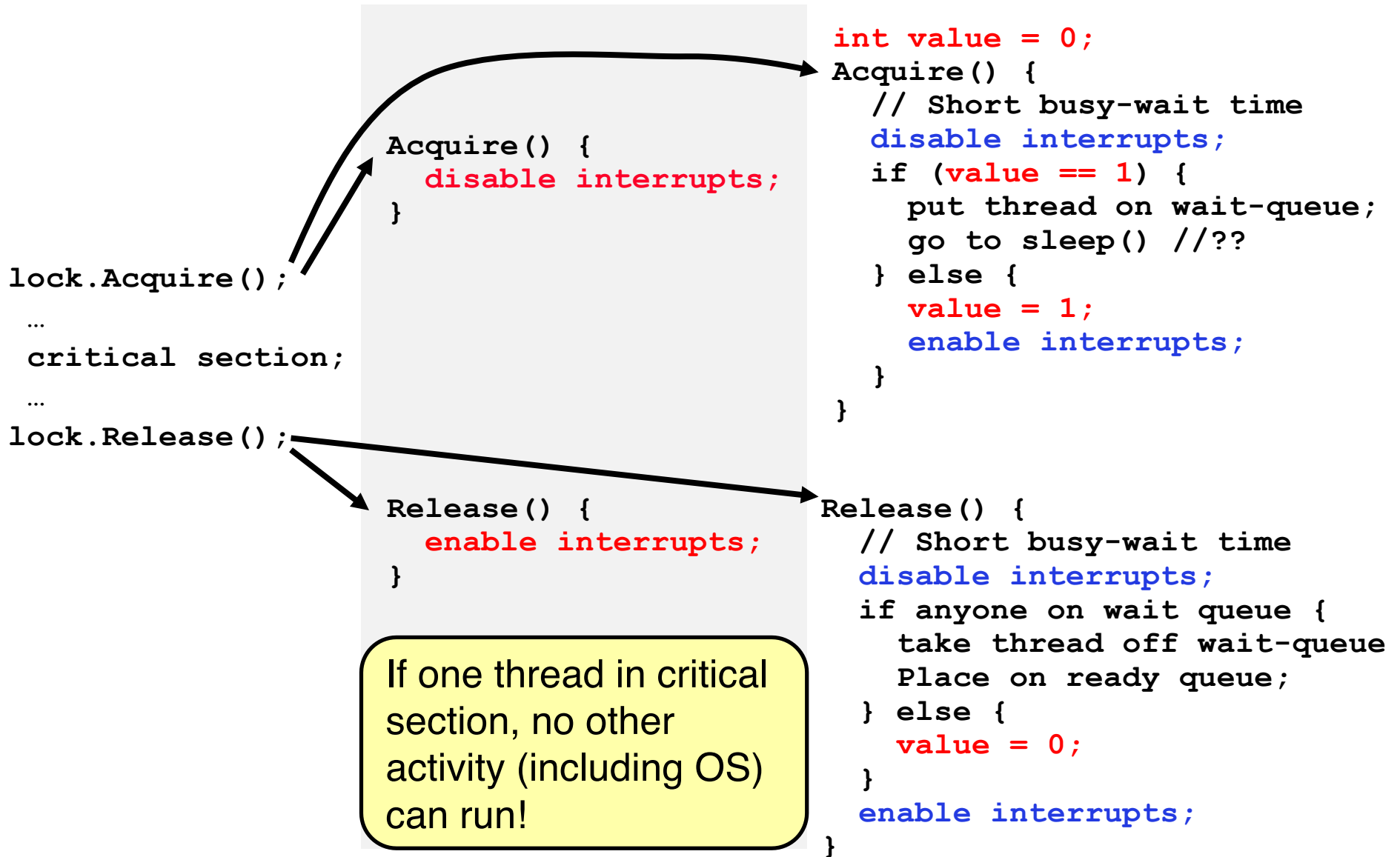
- Midterm Monday 10/1 5:00-6:30PM
- Project I Design Document due today
- Project I Design reviews upcoming
  - High-level discussion of your approach
    - » What will you modify?
    - » What algorithm will you use?
    - » How will things be linked together, etc.
    - » Do not need final design (complete with all semicolons!)
  - You *will* be asked about testing
    - » Understand testing framework
    - » Are there things you are doing that are not tested by tests we give you?
- *Do your own work!*
  - Please do not try to find solutions from previous terms
  - We will be on the look out for anyone doing this...today



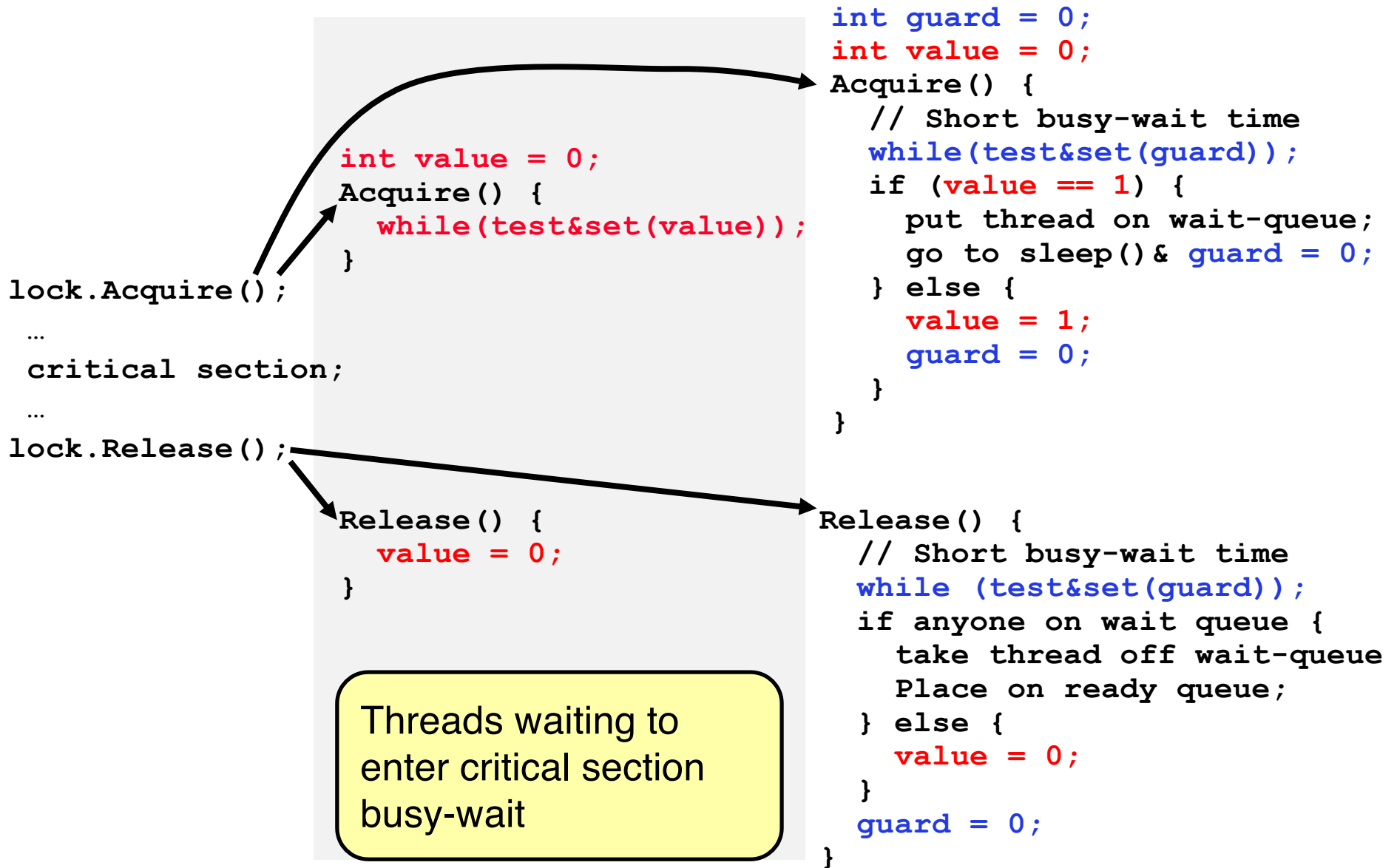
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**BREAK**

# Recap: Locks using interrupts



# Recap: Locks using test & wait



# Higher-level Primitives than Locks

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- Goal of last couple of lectures:
  - What is right abstraction for synchronizing threads that share memory?
  - Want as high a level primitive as possible
- Good primitives and practices important!
  - Since execution is not entirely sequential, really hard to find bugs, since they happen rarely
  - UNIX is pretty stable now, but up until about mid-80s (10 years after started), systems running UNIX would crash every week or so – concurrency bugs
- Synchronization is a way of coordinating multiple concurrent activities that are using shared state
  - This lecture and the next presents a some ways of structuring sharing

# Semaphores

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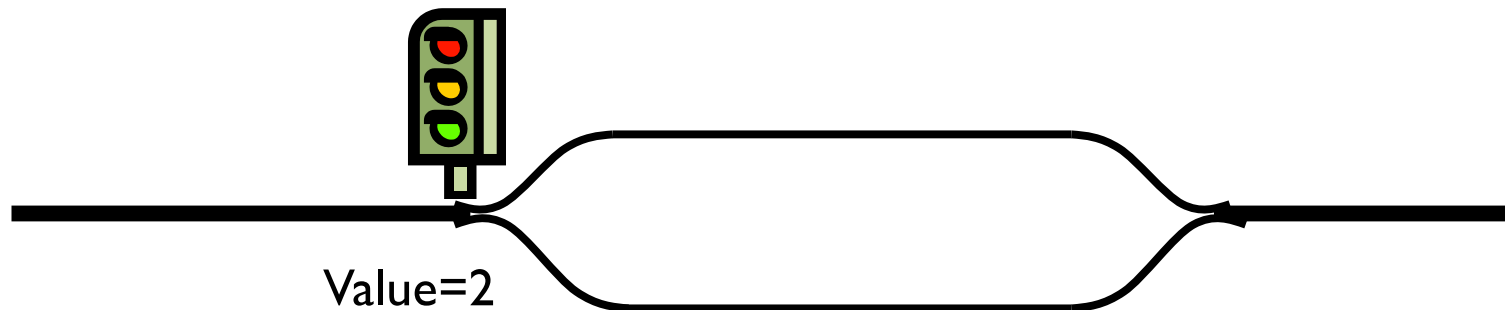


- Semaphores are a kind of generalized lock
  - First defined by Dijkstra in late 60s
  - Main synchronization primitive used in original UNIX
- Definition: a Semaphore has a non-negative integer value and supports the following two operations:
  - $P()$ : an atomic operation that waits for semaphore to become positive, then decrements it by 1
    - » Think of this as the `wait()` operation
  - $V()$ : an atomic operation that increments the semaphore by 1, waking up a waiting  $P$ , if any
    - » Think of this as the `signal()` operation
  - Note that  $P()$  stands for “*proberen*” (to test) and  $V()$  stands for “*verhogen*” (to increment) in Dutch

# Semaphores Like Integers Except

---

- Semaphores are like integers, except
  - No negative values
  - Only operations allowed are P and V – can't read or write value, except to set it initially
  - Operations must be atomic
    - » Two P's together can't decrement value below zero
    - » Similarly, thread going to sleep in P won't miss wakeup from V – even if they both happen at same time
- Semaphore from railway analogy
  - Here is a semaphore initialized to 2 for resource control:



# Two Uses of Semaphores

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Mutual Exclusion (initial value = 1)

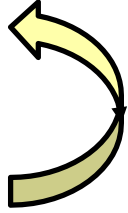
- Also called “Binary Semaphore”.
- Can be used for mutual exclusion:

```
semaphore.P();
// Critical section goes here
semaphore.V();
```

Scheduling Constraints (initial value = 0)

- Allow thread 1 to wait for a signal from thread 2, i.e., thread 2 **schedules** thread 1 when a given **event** occurs
- Example: suppose you had to implement ThreadJoin which must wait for thread to terminate:

```
Initial value of semaphore = 0
ThreadJoin {
 semaphore.P();
}
ThreadFinish {
 semaphore.V();
}
```



# Producer-Consumer with a Bounded Buffer



- Problem Definition
  - Producer puts things into a shared buffer
  - Consumer takes them out
  - Need synchronization to coordinate producer/consumer
- Don't want producer and consumer to have to work in lockstep, so put a fixed-size buffer between them
  - Need to synchronize access to this buffer
  - Producer needs to wait if buffer is full
  - Consumer needs to wait if buffer is empty
- Example 1: GCC compiler
  - `cpp | cc1 | cc2 | as | ld`
- Example 2: Coke machine
  - Producer can put limited number of Cokes in machine
  - Consumer can't take Cokes out if machine is empty





# Correctness constraints for solution

---

- Correctness Constraints:
  - Consumer must wait for producer to fill buffers, if none full (scheduling constraint)
  - Producer must wait for consumer to empty buffers, if all full (scheduling constraint)
  - Only one thread can manipulate buffer queue at a time (mutual exclusion)
- Remember why we need mutual exclusion
  - Because computers are stupid
  - Imagine if in real life: the delivery person is filling the machine and somebody comes up and tries to stick their money into the machine
- General rule of thumb:  
**Use a separate semaphore for each constraint**
  - Semaphore fullBuffers; // consumer's constraint
  - Semaphore emptyBuffers; // producer's constraint
  - Semaphore mutex; // mutual exclusion

# Full Solution to Bounded Buffer

```
Semaphore fullSlots = 0; // Initially, no coke
Semaphore emptySlots = bufSize;
// Initially, num empty slots
Semaphore mutex = 1; // No one using machine
```

```
Producer(item) {
 emptySlots.P(); // Wait until space
 mutex.P(); // Wait until machine free
 Enqueue(item);
 mutex.V();
 fullSlots.V(); // Tell consumers there is
 // more coke
}
```

```
Consumer() {
 fullSlots.P(); // Check if there's a coke
 mutex.P(); // Wait until machine free
 item = Dequeue();
 mutex.V();
 emptySlots.V(); // tell producer need more
 return item;
}
```



# Discussion about Solution

---

Why asymmetry?

Decrease # of  
empty slots

Increase # of  
occupied slots

- Producer does: `emptySlots.P()`, `fullSlots.V()`
- Consumer does: `fullSlots.P()`, `emptySlots.V()`

Decrease # of  
occupied slots

Increase # of  
empty slots

## Discussion about Solution (cont'd)

---

Is order of P's important?

Is order of V's important?

What if we have 2 producers or 2 consumers?

```
Producer(item) {
 mutex.P();
 emptySlots.P();
 Enqueue(item);
 mutex.V();
 fullSlots.V();
}

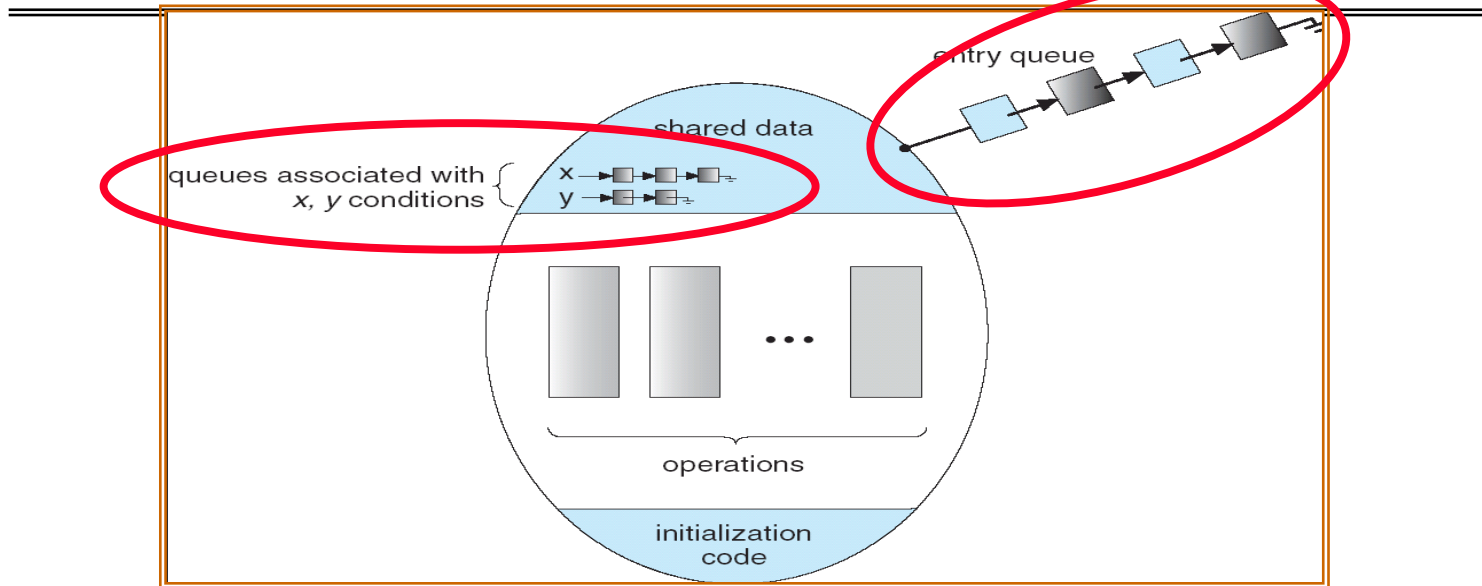
Consumer() {
 fullSlots.P();
 mutex.P();
 item = Dequeue();
 mutex.V();
 emptySlots.V();
 return item;
}
```

# Motivation for Monitors and Condition Variables

---

- Semaphores are a huge step up; just think of trying to do the bounded buffer with only loads and stores
  - Problem is that semaphores are dual purpose:
    - » They are used for both mutex and scheduling constraints
    - » Example: the fact that flipping of P's in bounded buffer gives deadlock is not immediately obvious. How do you prove correctness to someone?
- Cleaner idea: Use *locks* for mutual exclusion and *condition variables* for scheduling constraints
- Definition: **Monitor**: a **lock** and zero or more **condition variables** for managing concurrent access to shared data
  - Some languages like Java provide this natively
  - Most others use actual locks and condition variables

# Monitor with Condition Variables



- **Lock**: the lock provides mutual exclusion to shared data
  - Always acquire before accessing shared data structure
  - Always release after finishing with shared data
  - Lock initially free
- **Condition Variable**: a queue of threads waiting for something *inside* a critical section
  - Key idea: make it possible to go to sleep inside critical section by atomically releasing lock at time we go to sleep
  - Contrast to semaphores: Can't wait inside critical section

# Simple Monitor Example (version 1)

---

- Here is an (infinite) synchronized queue

```
Lock lock;
Queue queue;
```

```
AddToQueue(item) {
 lock.Acquire(); // Lock shared data
 queue.enqueue(item); // Add item
 lock.Release(); // Release Lock
}

RemoveFromQueue() {
 lock.Acquire(); // Lock shared data
 item = queue.dequeue(); // Get next item or null
 lock.Release(); // Release Lock
 return(item); // Might return null
}
```

- Not very interesting use of “Monitor”
  - It only uses a lock with no condition variables
  - Cannot put consumer to sleep if no work!

# Condition Variables

---

- How do we change the RemoveFromQueue() routine to wait until something is on the queue?
  - Could do this by keeping a count of the number of things on the queue (with semaphores), but error prone
- **Condition Variable**: a queue of threads waiting for something *inside* a critical section
  - Key idea: allow sleeping inside critical section by atomically releasing lock at time we go to sleep
  - Contrast to semaphores: Can't wait inside critical section
- Operations:
  - **Wait(&lock)**: Atomically release lock and go to sleep. Re-acquire lock later, before returning.
  - **Signal()**: Wake up one waiter, if any
  - **Broadcast()**: Wake up all waiters
- Rule: Must hold lock when doing condition variable ops!
  - In Birrell paper, he says can perform signal() outside of lock – IGNORE HIM (this is only an optimization)



# Complete Monitor Example (with condition variable)

---

- Here is an (infinite) synchronized queue

```
Lock lock;
Condition dataready;
Queue queue;

AddToQueue(item) {
 lock.Acquire(); // Get Lock
 queue.enqueue(item); // Add item
 dataready.signal(); // Signal any waiters
 lock.Release(); // Release Lock
}

RemoveFromQueue() {
 lock.Acquire(); // Get Lock
 while (queue.isEmpty()) {
 dataready.wait(&lock); // If nothing, sleep
 }
 item = queue.dequeue(); // Get next item
 lock.Release(); // Release Lock
 return(item);
}
```

# Summary (1/2)

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- Important concept: **Atomic Operations**
  - An operation that runs to completion or not at all
  - These are the primitives on which to construct various synchronization primitives
- Talked about hardware atomicity primitives:
  - Disabling of Interrupts, test&set, swap, compare&swap, conditional
- Showed several constructions of Locks
  - Must be very careful not to waste/tie up machine resources
    - » Shouldn't disable interrupts for long
    - » Shouldn't spin wait for long
  - Key idea: Separate lock variable, use hardware mechanisms to protect modifications of that variable

## Summary (2/2)

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- **Semaphores**: Like integers with restricted interface
  - Two operations:
    - » **P()**: Wait if zero; decrement when becomes non-zero
    - » **V()**: Increment and wake a sleeping task (if exists)
    - » Can initialize value to any non-negative value
  - Use separate semaphore for each constraint
  
- **Monitors**: A lock plus one or more condition variables
  - Always acquire lock before accessing shared data
  - Use condition variables to wait inside critical section
    - » Three Operations: **Wait()**, **Signal()**, and **Broadcast()**