# TCSS 422: OPERATING SYSTEMS

## Introduction to Concurrency, Linux Thread API, Locks, Lock-based data structures

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## OBJECTIVES – 10/26

- Questions from 10/21
- C Tutorial - Pointers, Strings, Exec in C - Due Fri Oct 29
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- Chapter 26: Concurrency: An Introduction
  - Race condition
  - Critical section
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  - pthread_create/_join
  - pthread_mutex_lock/_unlock/_trylock/_timelock
  - pthread_cond_wait/_signal/_broadcast
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  - Sloppy Counter
  - Concurrent Structures: Linked List, Queue, Hash Table



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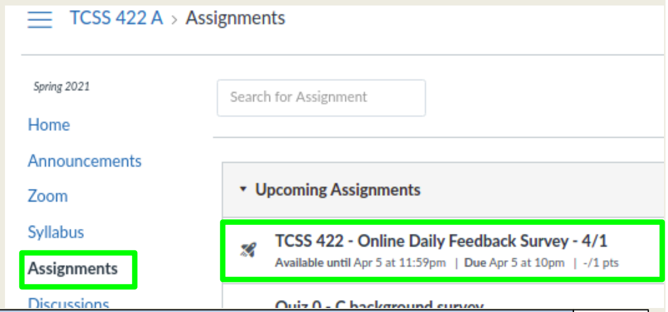
# ONLINE DAILY FEEDBACK SURVEY

- Daily Feedback Quiz in Canvas – Available After Each Class
- Extra credit available for completing surveys ***ON TIME***
- Tuesday surveys: due by ~ Wed @ 11:59p
- Thursday surveys: due ~ Mon @ 11:59p



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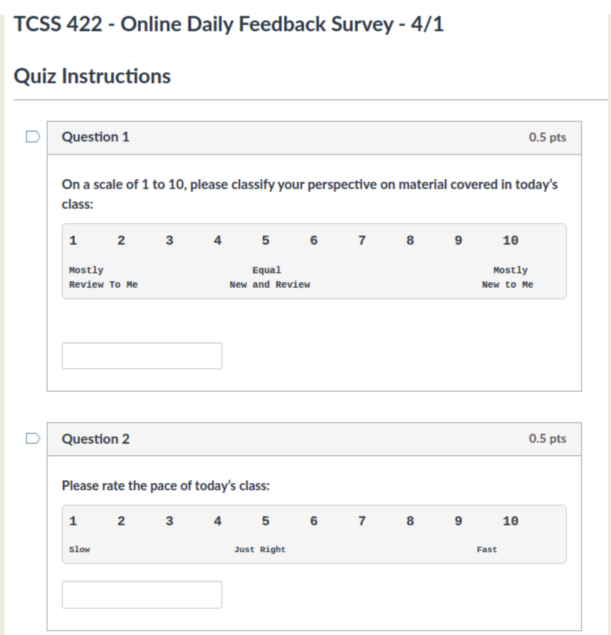




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# MATERIAL / PACE

- Please classify your perspective on material covered in today's class (29 respondents):
- 1-mostly review, 5-equal new/review, 10-mostly new
- **Average – 6.23 (↓ - previous 6.48)**

- Please rate the pace of today's class:
- 1-slow, 5-just right, 10-fast
- **Average – 5.48 (*same* - previous 5.48)**



# FEEDBACK

- Why does the final (value of the) counter fluctuate so much?
  - When two threads count up and each increments the same variable, if the count is low (e.g. < 5000) then each thread is so FAST that it often completes the full count before a ***context switch***
  - For larger counts, the threads will have to ***context switch*** due to the ***OS timer interrupt*** that restricts jobs from running longer than their allowed ***time slice***
  - A ***race condition*** occurs when two threads race to update a shared variable at roughly the same time (* - *introduced today)*
  - The threads "race" to see which thread can write the value last to the shared variable – *this is the winner*
  - For programs to be ***synchronized***, all thread updates (to shared variables) must be SAVED

# FEEDBACK - 2

- ***CFS: is it basically a red black tree, where processes just get queued onto the tree and it runs the left most leaf?***
- The Linux Completely Fair Scheduler (CFS) is more than a data structure
  - The red black tree is how processes are indexed based on `vruntime` so the next process can be rapidly found
- CFS is a multi-queue complete scheduler that models process runtime to provide fairness for all scheduled jobs



# FEEDBACK - 3

- ***We've seen Linux CFS, but what do other OSes use as their CPU scheduler? How are they better/worse than the CFS?***
- All distros of Linux now generally used CFS
- Many other Oses may be closed source, so information regarding their process/thread scheduling may be limited
- **Windows 10**
- Some suggest MLFQ
- ‘Windows uses priority-based preemptive scheduling where the highest-priority thread runs next
- https://www.andrew.cmu.edu/course/14-712-s20/applications/ln/14712-l6.pdf (see slide 5.60)

# FEEDBACK - 4

- MAC OS X CPU Scheduler discussed in 2013 book:
- http://newosxbook.com/MOXiI.pdf (see Chapter 11)



# FEEDBACK - 5

- ***Should we always avoid parallel programming? Or should we avoid parallel programming only in the context of concurrency?***
- You should never avoid parallel programming … = )
- But parallel programming that does not involve sharing memory can be far more painless

## BONUS SESSION – EXAMPLE SCHEDULER PROBLEMS

- Bonus session: Wednesday October 27 starting at 6:30pm
  - Approximately ~1 hour
- Will solve a series of example scheduling problems
  - Focus on: FIFO, SJF, STCF, RR, MLFQ
- Video will be live-streamed and recorded and posted



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# QUIZ 1

- Active reading on Chapter 9 – Proportional Share Schedulers

- Posted in Canvas
- Due Tuesday Nov 2nd at 11:59pm
- Grace period til Thursday Nov 4th at 11:59 ** AM **
- Late submissions til Saturday Nov 6th at 11:59pm

- Link:
- http://faculty.washington.edu/wlloyd/courses/tcss422/TCSS422_s2021_quiz_1.pdf



# QUIZ 2 - CPU SCHEDULING ALGORITHMS

- Quiz posted on Canvas
- Due Thursday Nov 4 @ 11:59p
- Provides CPU scheduling practice problems
  - FIFO, SJF, STCF, RR, MLFQ (Ch. 7 & 8)
- Unlimited attempts allowed
- Multiple choice and fill-in the blank
- Quiz automatically scored by Canvas
  - Please report any grading problems

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# CHAPTER 26 - CONCURRENCY: AN INTRODUCTION



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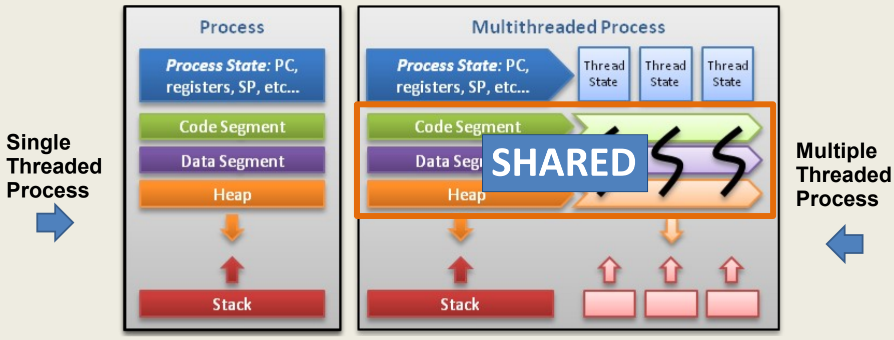
# THREADS




©Alfred Park, http://randu.org/tutorials/threads



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# THREADS - 2

- Enables a single process (program) to have multiple "workers"
  - This is parallel programming…
- Supports independent path(s) of execution within a program *with shared memory …*
- Each thread has its own Thread Control Block (TCB)
  - PC, registers, SP, and stack
- Threads share code segment, memory, and heap are shared
- ***What is an embarrassingly parallel program?***



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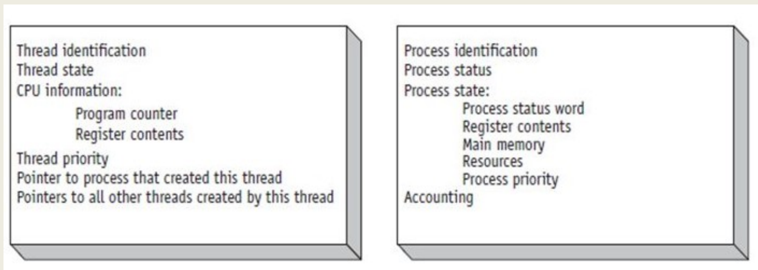
# PROCESS AND THREAD METADATA

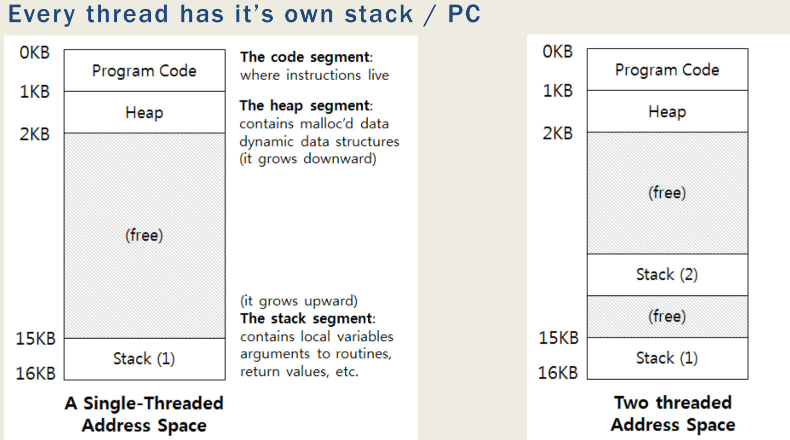
- Thread Control Block vs. Process Control Block






# SHARED ADDRESS SPACE

- Every thread has it's own stack / PC



## THREAD CREATION EXAMPLE

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <assert.h>
#include <pthread.h>

void *mythread(void *arg) {
    printf("%s\n", (char *) arg);
    return NULL;
}

int
main(int argc, char *argv[]) {
    pthread_t p1, p2;
    int rc;
    printf("main: begin\n");
    rc = pthread_create(&p1, NULL, mythread, "A"); assert(rc == 0);
    rc = pthread_create(&p2, NULL, mythread, "B"); assert(rc == 0);
    // join waits for the threads to finish
    rc = pthread_join(p1, NULL); assert(rc == 0);
    rc = pthread_join(p2, NULL); assert(rc == 0);
    printf("main: end\n");
    return 0;
}
```



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## POSSIBLE ORDERINGS OF EVENTS

| int main() | Thread 1 | Thread 2 |
|---|---|---|
| Starts running | | |
| Prints ‘main: begin’ | | |
| Creates Thread 1 | | |
| Creates Thread 2 | | |
| Waits for T1 | | |
| | Runs | |
| | Prints ‘A’ | |
| | Returns | |
| Waits for T2 | | |
| | | Runs |
| | | Prints ‘B’ |
| | | Returns |
| Prints ‘main: end’ | | |



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# POSSIBLE ORDERINGS OF EVENTS - 2

| int main() | Thread 1 | Thread 2 |
|---|---|---|
| Starts running | | |
| Prints 'main: begin' | | |
| Creates Thread 1 | | |
| | Runs | |
| | Prints 'A' | |
| | Returns | |
| Creates Thread 2 | | |
| | | Runs |
| | | Prints 'B' |
| | | Returns |
| Waits for T1 | *Returns immediately* | |
| Waits for T2 | | *Returns immediately* |
| Prints 'main: end' | | |





# POSSIBLE ORDERINGS OF EVENTS - 3

| int main() | Thread 1 | Thread 2 |
|---|---|---|
| Starts running | | |
| Prints 'main: begin' | | |
| Creates Thread 1 | | |
| Creates Thread 2 | | |
| Waits for T1 | | |
| | Runs | |
| | Prints 'A' | |
| | Returns | |
| Waits for T2 | | *Immediately returns* |
| Prints 'main: end' | | |

**What if execution order of events in the program matters?**

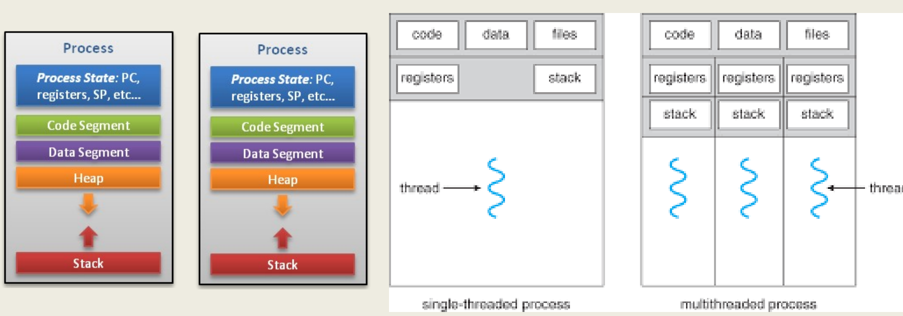
# COUNTER EXAMPLE

- Counter example
- A + B : ordering
- Counter: incrementing global variable by two threads
- ***Is the counter example embarrassingly parallel?***
- ***What does the parallel counter program require?***



# PROCESSES VS. THREADS

- What's the difference between forks and threads?
  - Forks: duplicate a process
  - Think of ***CLONING*** - There will be two identical processes at the end
  - Threads: no duplication of code/heap, lightweight execution threads



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# RACE CONDITION

- What is happening with our counter?
  - When counter=50, consider code: counter = counter + 1
  - If synchronized, counter will = 52

| OS | Thread1 | Thread2 | PC | %eax | counter |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | (after instruction) | | |
| | before critical section | | 100 | 0 | 50 |
| | mov 0x8049a1c, %eax | | 105 | 50 | 50 |
| | add $0x1, %eax | | 108 | 51 | 50 |
| interrupt | | | | | |
| save T1's state | | | | | |
| restore T2's state | | | 100 | 0 | 50 |
| | | mov 0x8049a1c, %eax | 105 | 50 | 50 |
| | | add $0x1, %eax | 108 | 51 | 50 |
| | | mov %eax, 0x8049a1c | 113 | 51 | 51 |
| interrupt | | | | | |
| save T2's state | | | | | |
| restore T1's state | | | 108 | 51 | 50 |
| | mov %eax, 0x8049a1c | | 113 | 51 | 51 |

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# CRITICAL SECTION

- Code that accesses a shared variable must not be ***concurrently*** executed by more than one thread
- Multiple *active* threads inside a ***critical section*** produce a ***race condition***.
- ***Atomic execution*** (*all code executed as a unit*) must be ensured in ***critical*** sections
  - These sections must be ***mutually exclusive***



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# LOCKS

- To demonstrate how critical section(s) can be executed "atomically-*as a unit*" Chapter 27 & beyond introduce locks

```
lock_t mutex;
. . .
lock(&mutex);
balance = balance + 1;
unlock(&mutex);
```

Critical section

- Counter example revisited

| October 26, 2021 | TCSS422: Operating Systems [Fall 2021]<br>School of Engineering and Technology, University of Washington - Tacoma | L8.33 |
|---|---|---|

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# WE WILL RETURN AT 4:53PM

October 26, 2021 TCSS422: Operating Systems [Fall 2021]
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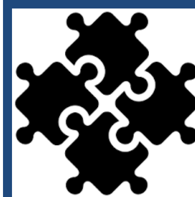
# CHAPTER 27 - LINUX THREAD API





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# THREAD CREATION

- pthread_create

```
#include <pthread.h>

int
pthread_create(      pthread_t*      thread,
               const pthread_attr_t* attr,
                     void*           (*start_routine)(void*),
                     void*           arg);
```

- thread: thread struct
- attr: stack size, scheduling priority… (*optional*)
- start_routine: function pointer to thread routine
- arg: argument to pass to thread routine (*optional*)



# PTHREAD_CREATE – PASS ANY DATA

```
#include <pthread.h>

typedef struct __myarg_t {
        int a;
        int b;
} myarg_t;

void *mythread(void *arg) {
        myarg_t *m = (myarg_t *) arg;
        printf("%d %d\n", m->a, m->b);
        return NULL;
}

int main(int argc, char *argv[]) {
        pthread_t p;
        int rc;

        myarg_t args;
        args.a = 10;
        args.b = 20;
        rc = pthread_create(&p, NULL, mythread, &args);
        …
}
```

# PASSING A SINGLE VALUE

**Using this approach on your Ubuntu VM,
How large (in bytes) can the primitive data type be?**

**How large (in bytes) can the primitive data type be on a 32-bit operating system?**

```
    printf("%d\n", m);
    int rc, m;
    pthread_create(&p, NULL, mythread, (void *) 100);
    pthread_join(p, (void **) &m);
    printf("returned %d\n", m);
    return 0;
}
```



# WAITING FOR THREADS TO FINISH

```
int pthread_join(pthread_t thread, void **value_ptr);
```

- thread: which thread?
- value_ptr: pointer to return value
  type is dynamic / agnostic
- Returned values *must* be on the heap
- Thread stacks destroyed upon thread termination (join)
- Pointers to thread stack memory addresses are invalid
  - May appear as gibberish or lead to crash (seg fault)
- Not all threads join – ***What would be Examples ??***

```
struct myarg {
  int a;
  int b;
};

void *worker(void *arg)
{
  struct myarg *input = (struct myarg *) arg;
  printf("a=%d b=%d\n",input->a, input->b);
  struct myarg output;
  output.a = 1;
  output.b = 2;
  return (void *) &output;
}

int main (int argc, char * argv[])
{
  pthread_t p1;
  struct myarg args;
  struct myarg *ret_args;
  args.a = 10;
  args.b = 20;
  pthread_(
  pthread_j
  printf("(
  return 0;
}
```

## What will this code do?

Data on thread stack

```
$ ./pthread_struct
a=10 b=20
Segmentation fault (core dumped)
```

## How can this code be fixed?



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```
struct myarg {
  int a;
  int b;
};

void *worker(void *arg)
{
  struct myarg *input = (struct myarg *) arg;
  printf("a=%d b=%d\n",input->a, input->b);
  input->a = 1;
  input->b = 2;
  return (void *) &input;
}

int main (int argc, char * argv[])
{
  pthread_t p1;
  struct myarg args;
  struct myarg *ret_args;
  args.a = 10;
  args.b = 20;
  pthread_create(&p1, NULL, worker, &args);
  pthread_join(p1, (void *)&ret_args);
  printf("returned %d %d\n", ret_args->a, ret_args->b);
  return 0;
}
```

## How about this code?

```
$ ./pthread_struct
a=10 b=20
returned 1 2
```



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# ADDING CASTS

- Casting
- Suppresses compiler warnings when passing "typed" data where (void) or (void *) is called for
- Example: uncasted capture in pthread_join

```
pthread_int.c: In function 'main':
pthread_int.c:34:20: warning: passing argument 2 of 'pthread_join'
from incompatible pointer type [-Wincompatible-pointer-types]
   pthread_join(p1, &p1val);
```

- Example: uncasted return

```
In file included from pthread_int.c:3:0:
/usr/include/pthread.h:250:12: note: expected 'void **' but argument
is of type 'int **'
 extern int pthread_join (pthread_t __th, void **__thread_return);
```



# ADDING CASTS - 2

- pthread_join

```
int * p1val;
int * p2val;
pthread_join(p1, (void *)&p1val);
pthread_join(p2, (void *)&p2val);
```

- return from thread function

```
int * counterval = malloc(sizeof(int));
*counterval = counter;
return (void *) counterval;
```

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# LOCKS

- pthread_mutex_t data type
- /usr/include/bits/pthread_types.h

```
// Global Address Space
static volatile int counter = 0;
pthread_mutex_t lock;

void *worker(void *arg)
{
  int i;
  for (i=0;i<10000000;i++)  {
    int rc = pthread_mutex_lock(&lock);
    assert(rc==0);
    counter = counter + 1;
    pthread_mutex_unlock(&lock);
  }
  return NULL;
}
```



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# LOCKS - 2

- Ensure critical sections are executed atomically-*as a unit*
  - Provides implementation of “***Mutual Exclusion***”
- API

```
int pthread_mutex_lock(pthread_mutex_t *mutex);
int pthread_mutex_unlock(pthread_mutex_t *mutex);
```

- Example w/o initialization & error checking

```
pthread_mutex_t lock;
pthread_mutex_lock(&lock);
x = x + 1; // or whatever your critical section is
pthread_mutex_unlock(&lock);
```

  - Blocks forever until lock can be obtained
  - Enters critical section once lock is obtained
  - Releases lock



# LOCK INITIALIZATION

- Assigning the constant

```
pthread_mutex_t lock = PTHREAD_MUTEX_INITIALIZER;
```

- API call:

```
int rc = pthread_mutex_init(&lock, NULL);
assert(rc == 0); // always check success!
```

- Initializes mutex with attributes specified by 2nd argument
- If NULL, then default attributes are used
- Upon initialization, the mutex is initialized and unlocked

# LOCKS - 3

- Error checking wrapper

```
// Use this to keep your code clean but check for failures
// Only use if exiting program is OK upon failure
void Pthread_mutex_lock(pthread_mutex_t *mutex) {
    int rc = pthread_mutex_lock(mutex);
    assert(rc == 0);
}
```

- What if lock can't be obtained?

```
int pthread_mutex_trylock(pthread_mutex_t *mutex);
int pthread_mutex_timelock(pthread_mutex_t *mutex,
                           struct timespec *abs_timeout);
```

- trylock – returns immediately (fails) if lock is unavailable
- timelock – tries to obtain a lock for a specified duration



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# CONDITIONS AND SIGNALS

- Condition variables support "signaling" between threads

```
int pthread_cond_wait(pthread_cond_t *cond,
                      pthread_mutex_t *mutex);
int pthread_cond_signal(pthread_cond_t *cond);
```

- pthread_cont_t datatype
- pthread_cond_wait()
  - Puts thread to "sleep" (waits) (THREAD is BLOCKED)
  - Threads added to >**FIFO queue**<, lock is released
  - Waits ***(listens)*** for a "signal" (NON-BUSY WAITING, no polling)
  - When signal occurs, interrupt fires, wakes up first thread, (THREAD is RUNNING), lock is provided to thread



# CONDITIONS AND SIGNALS - 2

```
int pthread_cond_signal(pthread_cond_t * cond);
int pthread_cond_broadcast(pthread_cond_t * cond);
```

- pthread_cond_signal()
  - Called to send a "signal" to wake-up first thread in **FIFO "wait" queue**
  - The goal is to unblock a thread to respond to the signal
- pthread_cond_broadcast()
  - Unblocks ***all*** threads in **FIFO "wait" queue**, currently blocked on the specified condition variable
  - Broadcast is used when all threads should wake-up for the signal
- Which thread is unblocked first?
  - Determined by OS scheduler (based on priority)
  - Thread(s) awoken based on placement order in **FIFO wait queue**
  - When awoken threads acquire lock as in pthread_mutex_lock()

# CONDITIONS AND SIGNALS - 3

- Wait example:

```
pthread_mutex_t lock = PTHREAD_MUTEX_INITIALIZER;
pthread_cond_t cond = PTHREAD_COND_INITIALIZER;

pthread_mutex_lock(&lock);
while (initialized == 0)
    pthread_cond_wait(&cond, &lock);
// Perform work that requires lock
a = a + b;
pthread_mutex_unlock(&lock);
```

- wait puts thread to sleep, releases lock
- when awoken, lock reacquired (but then released by this code)
- When initialized, another thread signals

```
pthread_mutex_lock(&lock);
initialized = 1;
pthread_cond_signal(&init);
pthread_mutex_unlock(&lock);
```

State variable set, Enables other thread(s) to proceed above.



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# CONDITION AND SIGNALS - 4

```
pthread_mutex_t lock = PTHREAD_MUTEX_INITIALIZER;
pthread_cond_t cond = PTHREAD_COND_INITIALIZER;

pthread_mutex_lock(&lock);
while (initialized == 0)
    pthread_cond_wait(&cond, &lock);
// Perform work that requires lock
a = a + b;
pthread_mutex_unlock(&lock);
```

- Why do we wait inside a while loop?

- The while ensures upon awakening the condition is rechecked
  - A signal is raised, but the pre-conditions required to proceed may have not been met. **MUST CHECK STATE VARIABLE**
  - Without checking the state variable the thread may proceed to execute when it should not. (e.g. too early)



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# PTHREADS LIBRARY

- Compilation:
  gcc requires special option to require programs with pthreads:
  - gcc –pthread pthread.c –o pthread
  - Explicitly links library with compiler flag
  - RECOMMEND: using makefile to provide compiler arguments
- List of pthread manpages
  - man –k pthread



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# SAMPLE MAKEFILE

```
CC=gcc
CFLAGS=-pthread -I. -Wall

binaries=pthread pthread_int pthread_lock_cond pthread_struct

all: $(binaries)

pthread_mult: pthread.c pthread_int.c
    $(CC) $(CFLAGS) $^ -o $@

clean:
    $(RM) -f $(binaries) *.o
```

- Example builds multiple single file programs
  - All target
- pthread_mult
  - Example if multiple source files should produce a single executable
- clean target



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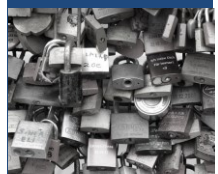
# CHAPTER 28 – LOCKS



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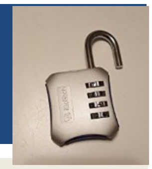
# LOCKS



- Ensure critical section(s) are executed atomically-*as a unit*
  - Only one thread is allowed to execute a critical section at any given time
  - Ensures the code snippets are “mutually exclusive”
- Protect a global counter:

```
balance = balance + 1;
```

- A “critical section”:

```
lock_t mutex; // some globally-allocated lock 'mutex'
…
lock(&mutex);
balance = balance + 1;
unlock(&mutex);
```



# LOCKS - 2

- Lock variables are called “MUTEX”
  - Short for mutual exclusion (that’s what they guarantee)
- Lock variables store the state of the lock
- States
  - **Locked** (acquired or held)
  - **Unlocked** (available or free)
- Only 1 thread can hold a lock

# LOCKS - 3

- `pthread_mutex_lock(&lock)`
  - Try to acquire lock
  - If lock is free, calling thread will acquire the lock
  - Thread with lock enters critical section
    - Thread "owns" the lock
- No other thread can acquire the lock before the owner releases it.



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# LOCKS - 4

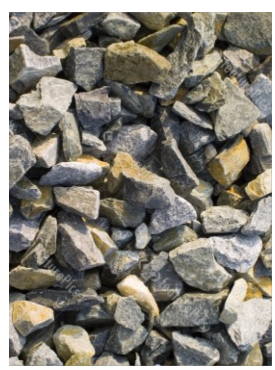
- Program can have many mutex (lock) variables to "serialize" many critical sections
- Locks are also used to protect data structures
  - Prevent multiple threads from changing the same data simultaneously
  - Programmer can make sections of code "granular"
    - ***Fine grained*** – means just one grain of sand at a time through an hour glass
  - Similar to relational database transactions
    - DB transactions prevent multiple users from modifying a table, row, field



# FINE GRAINED?

- ***Is this code a good example of "fine grained parallelism"?***

```
pthread_mutex_lock(&lock);
a = b++;
b = a * c;
*d = a + b +c;
FILE * fp = fopen ("file.txt", "r");
fscanf(fp, "%s %s %s %d", str1, str2, str3, &e);
ListNode *node = mylist->head;
Int i=0
while (node) {
  node->title = str1;
  node->subheading = str2;
  node->desc = str3;
  node->end = *e;
  node = node->next;
  i++
}
e = e - i;
pthread_mutex_unlock(&lock);
```



# FINE GRAINED PARALLELISM

```
pthread_mutex_lock(&lock_a);
pthread_mutex_lock(&lock_b);
a = b++;
pthread_mutex_unlock(&lock_b);
pthread_mutex_unlock(&lock_a);

pthread_mutex_lock(&lock_b);
b = a * c;
pthread_mutex_unlock(&lock_b);

pthread_mutex_lock(&lock_d);
*d = a + b +c;
pthread_mutex_unlock(&lock_d);

FILE * fp = fopen ("file.txt", "r");
pthread_mutex_lock(&lock_e);
fscanf(fp, "%s %s %s %d", str1, str2, str3, &e);
pthread_mutex_unlock(&lock_e);

ListNode *node = mylist->head;
int i=0 . . .
```



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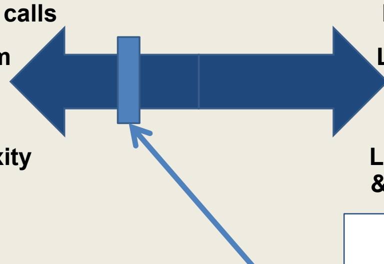
# LOCK GRANULARITY TRADE-OFF SPACE

| FINE-GRAINED | COARSE-GRAINED |
|---|---|
| Many Lock (kernel) calls | Few Lock (kernel) calls |
| More overhead from excessive locking | Low overhead from minimal locking |
| More parallelism | Less parallelism |
| Higher code complexity & debugging | Low code complexity & simpler debugging |



Every program implementation lies someplace along the trade-off space…



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# EVALUATING LOCK IMPLEMENTATIONS


- **Correctness**
  - Does the lock work?
  - Are critical sections mutually exclusive? (atomic-*as a unit*?)
- **Fairness**
  - Do all threads that compete for a lock have a fair chance of acquiring it?
- **Overhead**



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# BUILDING LOCKS

- Locks require hardware support
  - To minimize overhead, ensure fairness and correctness
  - Special "atomic-*as a unit*" instructions to support lock implementation
  - Atomic-*as a unit* exchange instruction
    - `XCHG`
  - Compare and exchange instruction
    - `CMPXCHG`
    - `CMPXCHG8B`
    - `CMPXCHG16B`



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## HISTORICAL IMPLEMENTATION

- To implement mutual exclusion
  - Disable interrupts upon entering critical sections

```
void lock() {
    DisableInterrupts();
}
void unlock() {
    EnableInterrupts();
}
```

- Any thread could disable system-wide interrupt
  - What if lock is never released?
- On a multiprocessor processor each CPU has its own interrupts
  - Do we disable interrupts for all cores simultaneously?
- While interrupts are disabled, they could be lost
  - If not queued…



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# SPIN LOCK IMPLEMENTATION

- Operate without atomic-*as a unit* assembly instructions
- "Do-it-yourself" Locks
- Is this lock implementation: ***(1)Correct? (2)Fair? (3)Performant?***

```
typedef struct __lock_t { int flag; } lock_t;

void init(lock_t *mutex) {
    // 0 → lock is available, 1 → held
    mutex->flag = 0;
}

void lock(lock_t *mutex) {
    while (mutex->flag == 1)  // TEST the flag
        ;  // spin-wait (do nothing)
    mutex->flag = 1;  // now SET it !
}

void unlock(lock_t *mutex) {
    mutex->flag = 0;
}
```



# DIY: CORRECT?

- Correctness requires luck… (e.g. *DIY lock is incorrect*)

| Thread1 | Thread2 |
|---|---|
| call `lock()` | |
| `while (flag == 1)` | |
| interrupt: switch to Thread 2 | |
| | call `lock()` |
| | `while (flag == 1)` |
| | `flag = 1;` |
| | interrupt: switch to Thread 1 |
| `flag = 1;` // set flag to 1 (too!) | |

- Here both threads have "acquired" the lock simultaneously

# DIY: PERFORMANT?

```
void lock(lock_t *mutex)
{
  while (mutex->flag == 1);   // while lock is unavailable, wait…
  mutex->flag = 1;
}
```

- What is wrong with while(<cond>); ?
- Spin-waiting wastes time actively waiting for another thread
- while (1); will "peg" a CPU core at 100%
  - Continuously loops, and evaluates mutex->flag value…
  - Generates heat…



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## TEST-AND-SET INSTRUCTION

- Hardware support required for working locks
- Book presents pseudo code of C implementation
  - TEST-and-SET adds a simple check to the basic spin lock
  - Assumption is this "C code" runs atomically on CPU:

```
int TestAndSet(int *ptr, int new) {
    int old = *ptr;   // fetch old value at ptr
    *ptr = new;       // store 'new' into ptr
    return old;       // return the old value
}
```

- lock() method checks that TestAndSet doesn't return 1
- Comparison is in the caller

- Can implement the C version (non-atomic) and have some success on a single-core VM



## DIY: TEST-AND-SET - 2

- C version: requires preemptive scheduler on single core system
- Lock is never released without a context switch
- single-core VM: occasionally will deadlock, doesn't miscount

```
typedef struct __lock_t {
    int flag;
} lock_t;

void init(lock_t *lock) {
    // 0 indicates that lock is available,
    // 1 that it is held
    lock->flag = 0;
}

void lock(lock_t *lock) {
    while (TestAndSet(&lock->flag, 1) == 1)
        ;          // spin-wait
}

void unlock(lock_t *lock) {
    lock->flag = 0;
}
```

# SPIN LOCK EVALUATION

- **Correctness:**
  - Spin locks with atomic Test-and-Set:
    Critical sections won't be executed simultaneously by (2) threads
- **Fairness:**
  - No fairness guarantee. Once a thread has a lock, nothing forces it to relinquish it…
- **Performance:**
  - Spin locks perform "busy waiting"
  - Spin locks are best for short periods of waiting (< 1 time quantum)
  - Performance is slow when multiple threads share a CPU
    - Especially if "spinning" for long periods



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# COMPARE AND SWAP

- Checks that the lock variable has the expected value FIRST, before changing its value
  - If so, make assignment
  - Return value at location
- Adds a comparison to TestAndSet
  - Textbook presents C pseudo code
  - Assumption is that the compare-and-swap method runs atomically
- Useful for wait-free synchronization
  - Supports implementation of shared data structures which can be updated atomically (*as a unit*) using the HW support CompareAndSwap instruction
  - Shared data structure updates become "wait-free"
  - Upcoming in Chapter 32



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# COMPARE AND SWAP

- Compare and Swap

```
int CompareAndSwap(int *ptr, int expected, int new) {
    int actual = *ptr;
    if (actual == expected)
        *ptr = new;
    return actual;
```

- Spin loc

```
            ; // spin
}
```

**C implementation 1-core VM: Count is correct, no deadlock**

- X86 provides "`cmpxchgl`" compare-and-exchange instruction
  - `cmpxchg8b`
  - `cmpxchg16b`



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**When implementing locks in a high-level language (e.g. C), what is missing that prevents implementation of CORRECT locks?**

Shared state variable

Condition variables

ATOMIC instructions

Fairness

None of the above

Start the presentation to see live content. For screen share software, share the entire screen. Get help at **pollev.com/app**

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## TWO MORE "LOCK BUILDING" CPU INSTRUCTIONS

- Cooperative instructions used together to support synchronization on RISC systems
- No support on x86 processors
  - Supported by RISC: Alpha, PowerPC, ARM
- Load-linked (LL)
  - Loads value into register
  - Same as typical load
  - Used as a mechanism to track competition
- Store-conditional (SC)
  - Performs "mutually exclusive" store
  - Allows only one thread to store value



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# LL/SC LOCK

```
int LoadLinked(int *ptr) {
    return *ptr;
}

int StoreConditional(int *ptr, int value) {
    if (no one has updated *ptr since the LoadLinked to this address) {
            *ptr = value;
            return 1; // success!
    } else {
            return 0; // failed to update
    }
}
```

- LL instruction loads pointer value (ptr)
- SC only stores if the load link pointer has not changed
- Requires HW support
  - C code is psuedo code



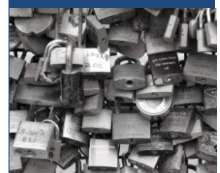
# LL/SC LOCK - 2

```
void lock(lock_t *lock) {
    while (1) {
            while (LoadLinked(&lock->flag) == 1)
                    ; // spin until it's zero
            if (StoreConditional(&lock->flag, 1) == 1)
                    return; // if set-it-to-1 was a success: all done
                            otherwise: try it all over again
    }
}

void unlock(lock_t *lock) {
    lock->flag = 0;
}
```

- Two instruction lock

# CHAPTER 29 – LOCK BASED DATA STRUCTURES





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# LOCK-BASED CONCURRENT DATA STRUCTURES

- Adding locks to data structures make them **thread safe.**
- Considerations:
  - Correctness
  - Performance
  - Lock granularity



# COUNTER STRUCTURE W/O LOCK

- Synchronization weary --- not thread safe

```
typedef struct __counter_t {
        int value;
} counter_t;

void init(counter_t *c) {
        c->value = 0;
}

void increment(counter_t *c) {
        c->value++;
}

void decrement(counter_t *c) {
        c->value--;
}

int get(counter_t *c) {
        return c->value;
}
```

# CONCURRENT COUNTER

```c
typedef struct __counter_t {
        int value;
        pthread_lock_t lock;
} counter_t;

void init(counter_t *c) {
        c->value = 0;
        Pthread_mutex_init(&c->lock, NULL);
}

void increment(counter_t *c) {
        Pthread_mutex_lock(&c->lock);
        c->value++;
        Pthread_mutex_unlock(&c->lock);
}

```

- Add lock to the counter
- Require lock to change data



# CONCURRENT COUNTER - 2

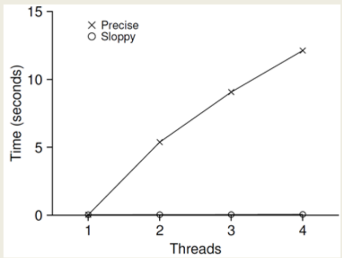
- Decrease counter
- Get value

```c
(Cont.)
void decrement(counter_t *c) {
        Pthread_mutex_lock(&c->lock);
        c->value--;
        Pthread_mutex_unlock(&c->lock);
}

int get(counter_t *c) {
        Pthread_mutex_lock(&c->lock);
        int rc = c->value;
        Pthread_mutex_unlock(&c->lock);
        return rc;
}
```

# CONCURRENT COUNTERS - PERFORMANCE

- iMac: four core Intel 2.7 GHz i5 CPU
- Each thread increments counter 1,000,000 times




Traditional vs. sloppy counter
Sloppy Threshold (S) = 1024

**Synchronized counter scales poorly.**



# PERFECT SCALING

- Achieve (N) performance gain with (N) additional resources

- Throughput:
- Transactions per second (tps)

- 1 core
- N = 100 tps

- 10 cores (x10)
- N = 1000 tps (x10)

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# SLOPPY COUNTER

- Provides single logical shared counter
  - Implemented using local counters for each ~CPU core
    - 4 CPU cores = 4 local counters & 1 global counter
    - Local counters are synchronized via local locks
  - Global counter is updated periodically
    - Global counter has lock to protect global counter value
    - Sloppiness threshold (*S*): Update threshold of global counter with local values
    - Small (*S*): more updates, more overhead
    - Large (*S*): fewer updates, more performant, less synchronized
- Why this implementation? Why do we want counters local to each CPU Core?



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# SLOPPY COUNTER – MAIN POINTS

- Idea of Sloppy Counter is to ***RELAX*** the synchronization requirement for counting
  - Instead of synchronizing global count variable each time: `counter=counter+1`
  - Synchronization occurs only every so often: e.g. *every 1000 counts*
- Relaxing the synchronization requirement ***drastically*** reduces locking API overhead by trading-off split-second accuracy of the counter
- Sloppy counter: trade-off accuracy for speed
  - It's sloppy because it's not so accurate (until the end)



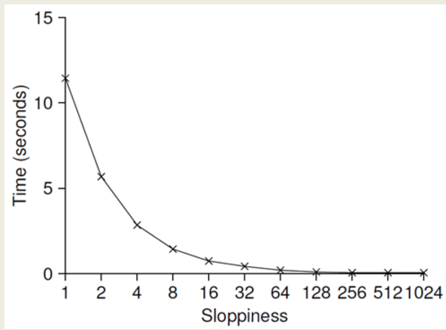
# SLOPPY COUNTER - 2

- Update threshold ($S$) = 5
- Synchronized across four CPU cores
- Threads update local CPU counters

| Time | $L_1$ | $L_2$ | $L_3$ | $L_4$ | G |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| 2 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| 3 | 2 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 0 |
| 4 | 3 | 0 | 3 | 2 | 0 |
| 5 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 0 |
| 6 | 5 → 0 | 1 | 3 | 4 | 5 (from $L_1$) |
| 7 | 0 | 2 | 4 | 5 → 0 | 10 (from $L_4$) |

# THRESHOLD VALUE S

- Consider 4 threads increment a counter 1000000 times each
- Low *S* → What is the consequence?
- High *S* → What is the consequence?

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# SLOPPY COUNTER - EXAMPLE

- Example implementation
- Also with CPU affinity

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# CONCURRENT LINKED LIST - 1

- Simplification - only basic list operations shown
- Structs and initialization:

```
// basic node structure
typedef struct __node_t {
        int key;
        struct __node_t *next;
} node_t;

// basic list structure (one used per list)
typedef struct __list_t {
        node_t *head;
        pthread_mutex_t lock;
} list_t;

void List_Init(list_t *L) {
        L->head = NULL;
        pthread_mutex_init(&L->lock, NULL);
}

(Cont.)
```



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# CONCURRENT LINKED LIST - 2

- Insert – adds item to list
- Everything is critical!
  - There are two unlocks

```
(Cont.)
    int List_Insert(list_t *L, int key) {
        pthread_mutex_lock(&L->lock);
        node_t *new = malloc(sizeof(node_t));
        if (new == NULL) {
            perror("malloc");
            pthread_mutex_unlock(&L->lock);
        return -1; // fail }
        new->key = key;
        new->next = L->head;
        L->head = new;
        pthread_mutex_unlock(&L->lock);
        return 0; // success
    }
(Cont.)
```



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# CONCURRENT LINKED LIST - 3

- Lookup – checks list for existence of item with key
- Once again everything is critical
  - Note - there are also two unlocks

```
(Cont.)

    int List_Lookup(list_t *L, int key) {
        pthread_mutex_lock(&L->lock);
        node_t *curr = L->head;
        while (curr) {
            if (curr->key == key) {
                pthread_mutex_unlock(&L->lock);
                return 0; // success
            }
            curr = curr->next;
        }
        pthread_mutex_unlock(&L->lock);
        return -1; // failure
    }
```



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## CONCURRENT LINKED LIST

- First Implementation:
  - Lock **everything** inside Insert() and Lookup()
  - If malloc() fails lock must be released
    - Research has shown "***exception-based control flow***" to be error prone
    - 40% of Linux OS bugs occur in rarely taken code paths
    - Unlocking in an exception handler is considered a poor coding practice
    - There is nothing specifically wrong with this example however
- Second Implementation …



## CCL – SECOND IMPLEMENTATION

- Init and Insert

```
void List_Init(list_t *L) {
        L->head = NULL;
        pthread_mutex_init(&L->lock, NULL);
}

void List_Insert(list_t *L, int key) {
        // synchronization not needed
        node_t *new = malloc(sizeof(node_t));
        if (new == NULL) {
                perror("malloc");
                return;
        }
        new->key = key;

        // just lock critical section
        pthread_mutex_lock(&L->lock);
        new->next = L->head;
        L->head = new;
        pthread_mutex_unlock(&L->lock);
}
```

# CCL – SECOND IMPLEMENTATION - 2

- Lookup

```
(Cont.)
int List_Lookup(list_t *L, int key) {
        int rv = -1;
        pthread_mutex_lock(&L->lock);
        node_t *curr = L->head;
        while (curr) {
                if (curr->key == key) {
                        rv = 0;
                        break;
                }
                curr = curr->next;
        }
        pthread_mutex_unlock(&L->lock);
        return rv; // now both success and failure
}
```





# CONCURRENT LINKED LIST PERFORMANCE

- Using a single lock for entire list is not very performant
- Users must “wait” in line for a single lock to access/modify any item
- Hand-over-hand-locking (lock coupling)
  - Introduce a lock for each node of a list
  - Traversal involves handing over previous node’s lock, acquiring the next node’s lock…
  - Improves lock granularity
  - Degrades traversal performance

- Consider hybrid approach
  - Fewer locks, but more than 1
  - Best lock-to-node distribution?

## OBJECTIVES – 10/26

- Questions from 10/21
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- Quiz 1 (Due Tue Nov 2) – Quiz 2 (Due Thur Nov 4)
- Chapter 26: Concurrency: An Introduction
  - Race condition
  - Critical section
- Chapter 27: Linux Thread API
  - pthread_create/_join
  - pthread_mutex_lock/_unlock/_trylock/_timelock
  - pthread_cond_wait/_signal/_broadcast
- Chapter 28: Locks
  - Introduction, Lock Granularity
  - Spin Locks, Test and Set, Compare and Swap
- Chapter 29: Lock Based Data Structures
  - Sloppy Counter
  - Concurrent Structures: Linked List, **Queue**, Hash Table



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## MICHAEL AND SCOTT CONCURRENT QUEUES

- Improvement beyond a single master lock for a queue (FIFO)
- Two locks:
  - One for the **head** of the queue
  - One for the **tail**
- Synchronize enqueue and dequeue operations

- Add a dummy node
  - Allocated in the queue initialization routine
  - Supports separation of head and tail operations

- Items can be added and removed by separate threads at the same time



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# CONCURRENT QUEUE

- Remove from queue

```
typedef struct __node_t {
        int value;
        struct __node_t *next;
} node_t;

typedef struct __queue_t {
        node_t *head;
        node_t *tail;
        pthread_mutex_t headLock;
        pthread_mutex_t tailLock;
} queue_t;

void Queue_Init(queue_t *q) {
        node_t *tmp = malloc(sizeof(node_t));
        tmp->next = NULL;
        q->head = q->tail = tmp;
        pthread_mutex_init(&q->headLock, NULL);
        pthread_mutex_init(&q->tailLock, NULL);
}

(Cont.)
```



# CONCURRENT QUEUE - 2

- Add to queue

```
(Cont.)
void Queue_Enqueue(queue_t *q, int value) {
        node_t *tmp = malloc(sizeof(node_t));
        assert(tmp != NULL);

        tmp->value = value;
        tmp->next = NULL;

        pthread_mutex_lock(&q->tailLock);
        q->tail->next = tmp;
        q->tail = tmp;
        pthread_mutex_unlock(&q->tailLock);
}
(Cont.)
```

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  - Sloppy Counter
  - Concurrent Structures: Linked List, Queue, **Hash Table**



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## CONCURRENT HASH TABLE

- Consider a simple hash table
  - Fixed (static) size
  - Hash maps to a bucket
    - Bucket is implemented using a concurrent linked list
    - One lock per hash (bucket)
    - Hash bucket is a linked lists



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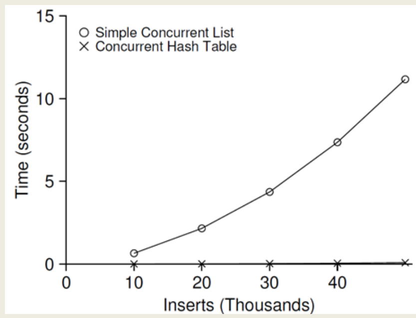
# INSERT PERFORMANCE – CONCURRENT HASH TABLE

- Four threads – 10,000 to 50,000 inserts
  - iMac with four-core Intel 2.7 GHz CPU




**The simple concurrent hash table scales magnificently.**

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# CONCURRENT HASH TABLE

```c
#define BUCKETS (101)

typedef struct __hash_t {
        list_t lists[BUCKETS];
} hash_t;

void Hash_Init(hash_t *H) {
        int i;
        for (i = 0; i < BUCKETS; i++) {
                List_Init(&H->lists[i]);
        }
}

int Hash_Insert(hash_t *H, int key) {
        int bucket = key % BUCKETS;
        return List_Insert(&H->lists[bucket], key);
}

int Hash_Lookup(hash_t *H, int key) {
        int bucket = key % BUCKETS;
        return List_Lookup(&H->lists[bucket], key);
}
```

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## Which is a major advantage of using concurrent data structures in your programs?

- Locks are encapsulated within data structure code ensuring thread safety.
- Lock granularity tradeoff already optimized inside data structurew
- Multiple threads can more easily share data
- All of the above
- None of the above

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## LOCK-FREE DATA STRUCTURES

- Lock-free data structures in Java
- Java.util.concurrent.atomic package
- Classes:
  - AtomicBoolean
  - AtomicInteger
  - AtomicIntegerArray
  - AtomicIntegerFieldUpdater
  - AtomicLong
  - AtomicLongArray
  - AtomicLongFieldUpdater
  - AtomicReference
- See: https://docs.oracle.com/en/java/javase/11/docs/api/java.base/java/util/concurrent/atomic/package-summary.html

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# QUESTIONS

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