

# Principles of Operating Systems

CS 446/646

## 2. Processes

a. Process Description & Control

b. Threads

**c. Concurrency**

- ✓ Types of process interaction
- ✓ Race conditions & critical regions
- ✓ Mutual exclusion by busy waiting
- ✓ Mutual exclusion & synchronization
  - mutexes
  - semaphores
  - monitors
  - message passing

**d. Deadlocks**

# 2.c Concurrency

## Types of process interaction

➤ Concurrency refers to any form of interaction among processes or threads

- ✓ concurrency is a fundamental part of O/S design
- ✓ concurrency includes
  - communication among processes/threads
  - sharing of, and competition for system resources
  - cooperative processing of shared data
  - synchronization of process/thread activities
  - organized CPU scheduling
  - solving deadlock and starvation problems

## 2.c Concurrency

### Types of process interaction

#### ➤ Concurrency arises in the same way at different levels of execution streams

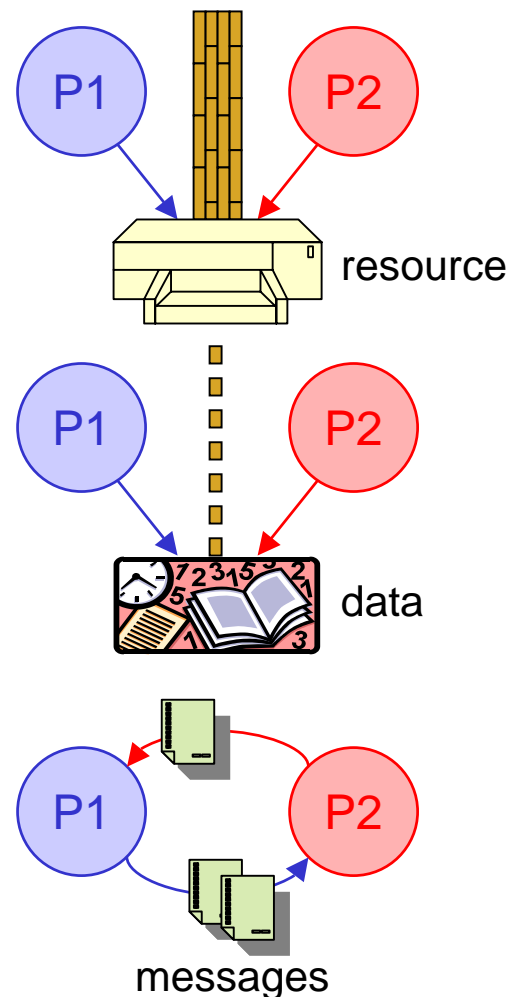
- ✓ **multiprogramming** — interaction between multiple processes running on one CPU (pseudoparallelism)
  - ✓ **multithreading** — interaction between multiple threads running in one process
  - ✓ **multiprocessors** — interaction between multiple CPUs running multiple processes/threads (real parallelism)
  - ✓ **multicomputers** — interaction between multiple computers running a distributed processes/threads
- *the principles of concurrency are basically the same in all of these categories (possible differences will be pointed out)*

## 2.c Concurrency

### Types of process interaction

#### ➤ Whether processes or threads: three basic interactions

- ✓ processes unaware of each other — they must use shared resources independently, without interfering, and leave them intact for the others
- ✓ processes indirectly aware of each other — they work on common data and build some result together via the data ("stigmergy" in biology)
- ✓ processes directly aware of each other — they cooperate by communicating, e.g., exchanging messages

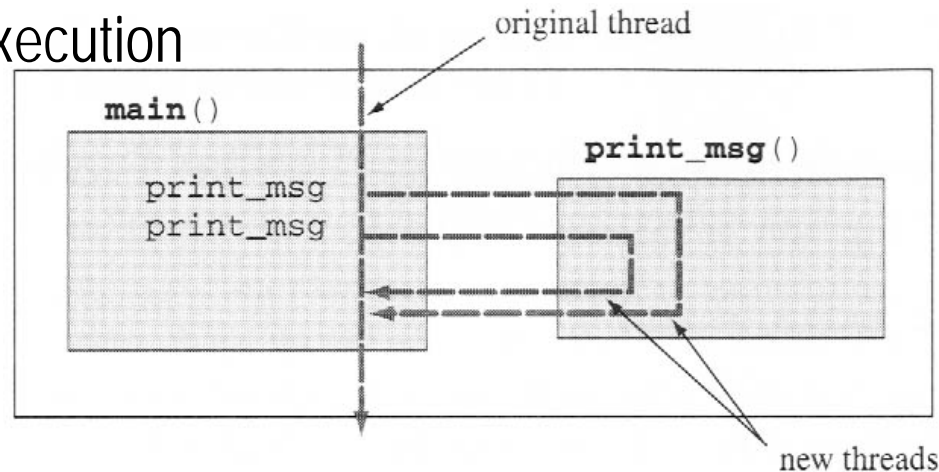


# 2.c Concurrency

## Race conditions & critical regions

### ➤ Inconsequential race condition in the shopping scenario

- ✓ there is a "race condition" if the outcome depends on the order of the execution



Molay, B. (2002) *Understanding Unix/Linux Programming (1st Edition)*.

```
> ./multi_shopping
grabbing the salad...
grabbing the milk...
grabbing the apples...
grabbing the butter...
grabbing the cheese...
>
```

```
> ./multi_shopping
grabbing the milk...
grabbing the butter...
grabbing the salad...
grabbing the cheese...
grabbing the apples...
>
```

### Multithreaded shopping diagram and possible outputs

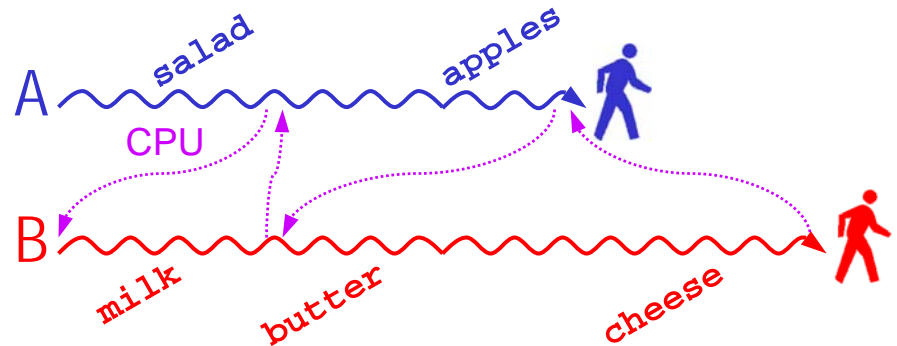
# 2.c Concurrency

## Race conditions & critical regions

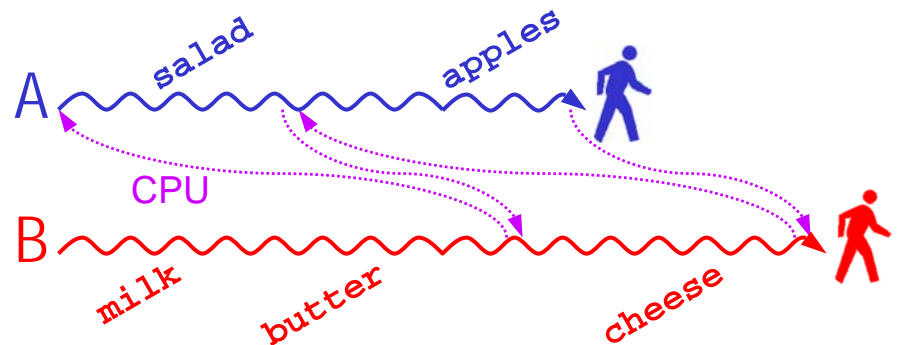
### ➤ Inconsequential race condition in the shopping scenario

- ✓ the outcome depends on the CPU scheduling or “interleaving” of the threads (separately, each thread always does the same thing)

```
> ./multi_shopping
grabbing the salad...
grabbing the milk...
grabbing the apples...
grabbing the butter...
grabbing the cheese...
>
```



```
> ./multi_shopping
grabbing the milk...
grabbing the butter...
grabbing the salad...
grabbing the cheese...
grabbing the apples...
>
```



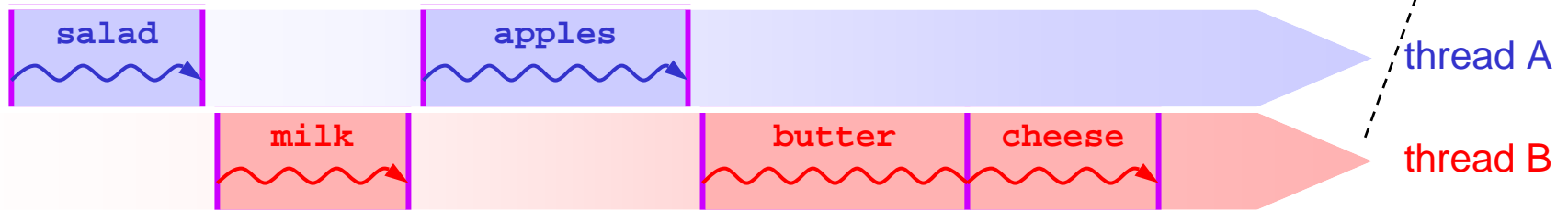
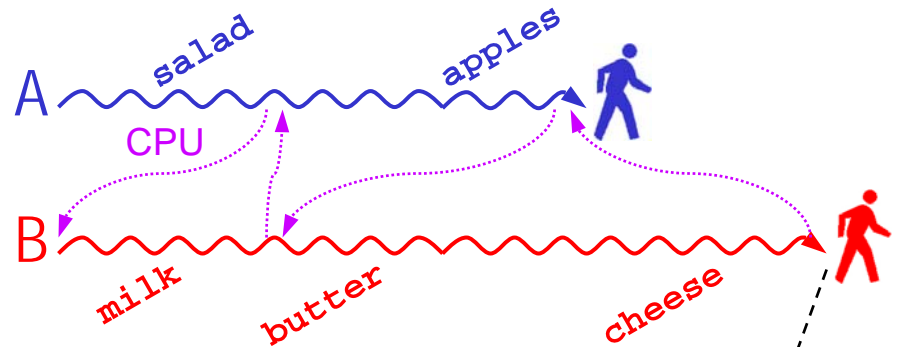
# 2.c Concurrency

## Race conditions & critical regions

### ➤ Inconsequential race condition in the shopping scenario

- ✓ the CPU switches from one process/thread to another, possibly on the basis of a preemptive clock mechanism

```
> ./multi_shopping
grabbing the salad...
grabbing the milk...
grabbing the apples...
grabbing the butter...
grabbing the cheese...
>
```



Thread view expanded in real execution time

# 2.c Concurrency

## Race conditions & critical regions

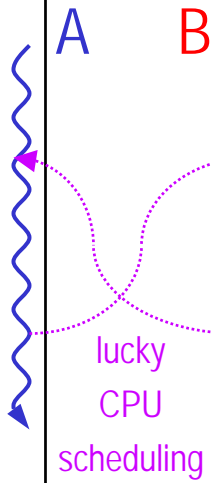
### ➤ Consequential race conditions in I/O & variable sharing

```
char chin, chout;

void echo()
{
  do {
    1 chin = getchar();
    2 chout = chin;
    3 putchar(chout);
  }
  while (...);
}
```

```
char chin, chout;

void echo()
{
  do {
    4 chin = getchar();
    5 chout = chin;
    6 putchar(chout);
  }
  while (...);
}
```



```
> ./echo
Hello world!
Hello world!
```

Single-threaded echo

```
> ./echo
Hello world!
Hello world!
```

Multithreaded echo (lucky)





# 2.c Concurrency

## Race conditions & critical regions

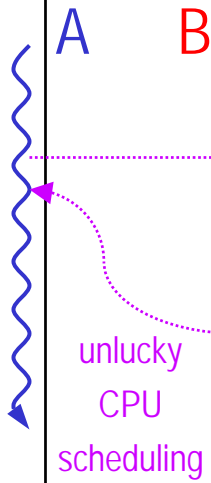
### ➤ Consequential race conditions in I/O & variable sharing

```
char chin, chout;

void echo()
{
  do {
    1 chin = getchar();
    5 chout = chin;
    6 putchar(chout);
  }
  while (...);
}
```

```
char chin, chout;

void echo()
{
  do {
    2 chin = getchar();
    3 chout = chin;
    4 putchar(chout);
  }
  while (...);
}
```



```
> ./echo
Hello world!
Hello world!
```

Single-threaded echo



```
> ./echo
Hello world!
ee...
```

Multithreaded echo (unlucky)

# 2.c Concurrency

## Race conditions & critical regions

### ➤ Consequential race conditions in I/O & variable sharing

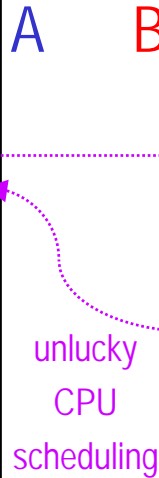
changed to local variables →

```
void echo()
{
  char chin, chout;

  do {
    1 chin = getchar();
    5 chout = chin;
    6 putchar(chout);
  }
  while (...);
}
```

```
void echo()
{
  char chin, chout;

  do {
    2 chin = getchar();
    3 chout = chin;
    4 putchar(chout);
  }
  while (...);
}
```



```
> ./echo
Hello world!
Hello world!
```

Single-threaded echo

```
> ./echo
Hello world!
eH...
```

Multithreaded echo (unlucky)

## 2.c Concurrency

### Race conditions & critical regions

#### ➤ Consequential race conditions in I/O & variable sharing

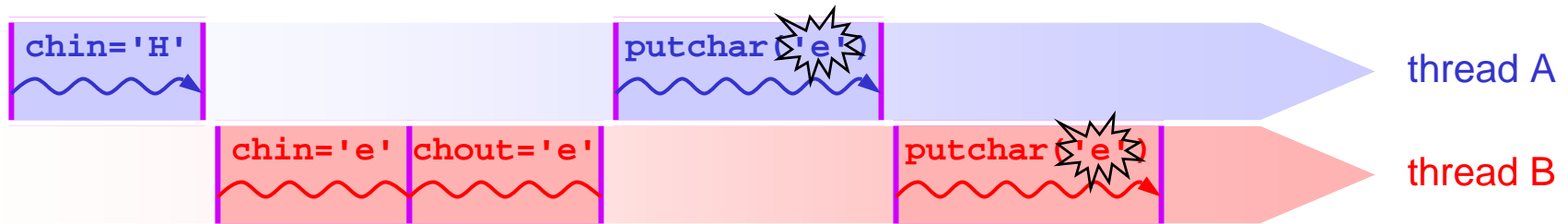
- ✓ note that, in this case, replacing the global variables with local variables did not solve the problem
  - ✓ we actually had two race conditions here:
    - one race condition over assigning values to shared variables
    - another race condition over which thread is going to write to output first; this one persisted even after making the variables local to each thread
- *generally, problematic race conditions may occur whenever resources and/or data are shared (by processes unaware of each other or processes indirectly aware of each other)*

# 2.c Concurrency

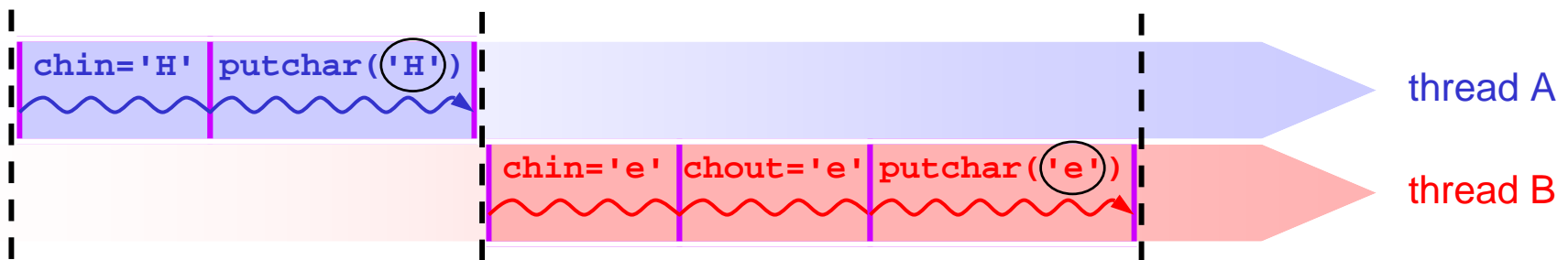
## Race conditions & critical regions

### ➤ How to avoid race conditions?

- ✓ find a way to keep the instructions together
- ✓ this means actually reverting from too much interleaving and going back to “indivisible” blocks of execution!



(a) too much interleaving may create race conditions



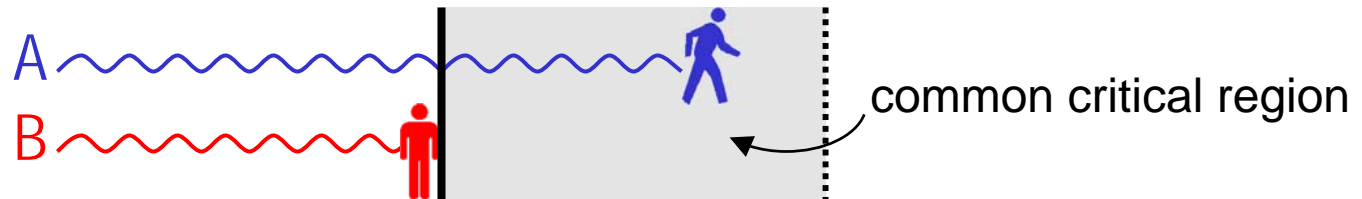
(b) keeping “indivisible” blocks of execution avoids race conditions

## 2.c Concurrency

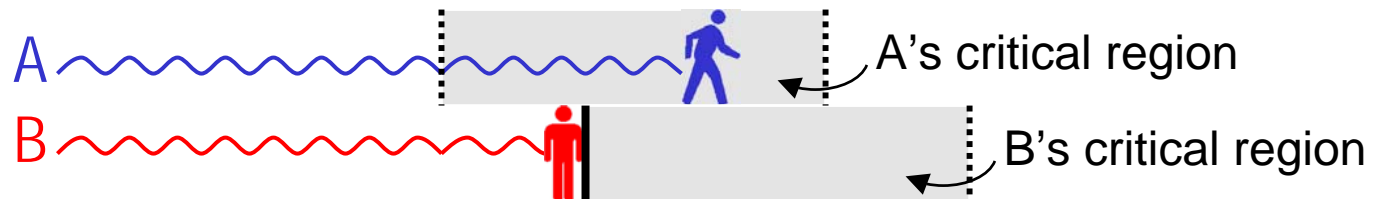
### Race conditions & critical regions

➤ The “indivisible” execution blocks are critical regions

- ✓ a critical region is a section of code that may be executed by only one process or thread at a time



- ✓ although it is not necessarily the same region of memory or section of program in both processes



→ *but physically different or not, what matters is that these regions cannot be interleaved or executed in parallel (pseudo or real)*


# 2.c Concurrency

## Race conditions & critical regions

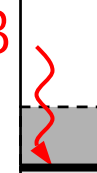
➤ We need mutual exclusion from critical regions

- ✓ critical regions can be protected from concurrent access by padding them with entrance and exit mechanisms (we'll see how later): a thread must try to check in, then it must check out

```
void echo()
{
    char chin, chout;
    do {
        enter critical region?
        chin = getchar();
        chout = chin;
        putchar(chout);
        exit critical region
    }
    while (...);
}
```



```
void echo()
{
    char chin, chout;
    do {
        enter critical region?
        chin = getchar();
        chout = chin;
        putchar(chout);
        exit critical region
    }
    while (...);
}
```



## 2.c Concurrency

### Race conditions & critical regions

#### Chart of mutual exclusion

1. **mutual exclusion inside** — only one process at a time may be allowed in a critical region
2. **no exclusion outside** — a process stalled in a *noncritical* region may not exclude other processes from their critical regions
3. **no indefinite occupation** — a critical region may be only occupied for a finite amount of time

## 2.c Concurrency

### Race conditions & critical regions

#### Chart of mutual exclusion (cont'd)

4. **no indefinite delay when excluded** — a process may be only excluded for a finite amount of time (no deadlock or starvation)
5. **no delay when not excluded** — a critical region free of access may be entered immediately by a process
6. **nondeterministic scheduling** — no assumption should be made about the relative speeds of processes



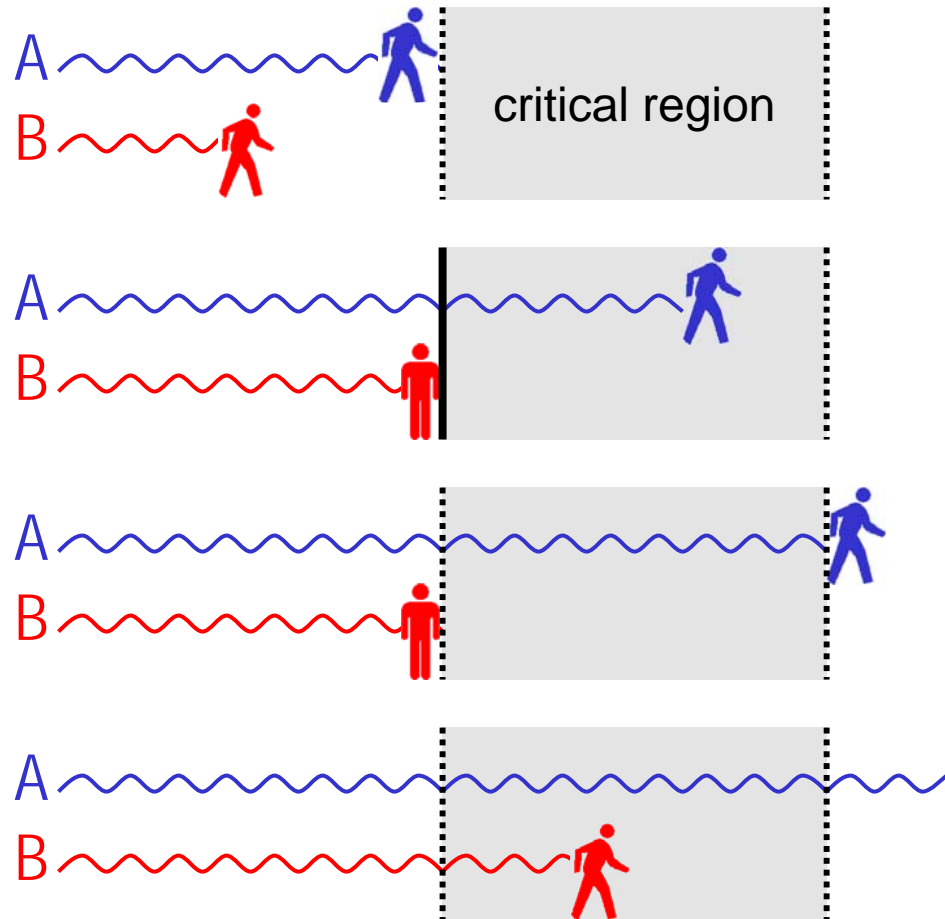
# 2.c Concurrency

## Mutual exclusion by busy waiting

### ➤ Desired effect: mutual exclusion from the critical region

1. thread A reaches the gate to the critical region (CR) before B
2. thread A enters CR first, preventing B from entering (B is waiting or is blocked)
3. thread A exits CR; thread B can now enter
4. thread B enters CR

HOW is this achieved??

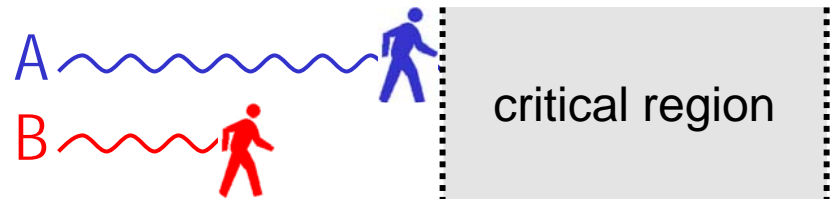


# 2.c Concurrency

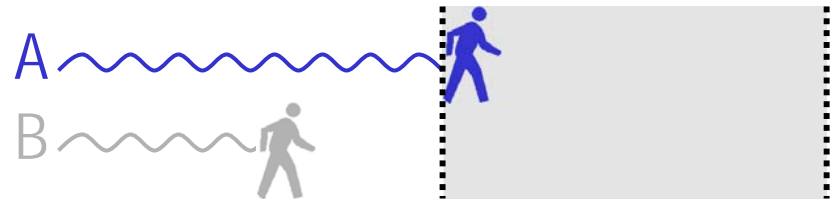
## Mutual exclusion by busy waiting

### ➤ Implementation 0 — disabling hardware interrupts

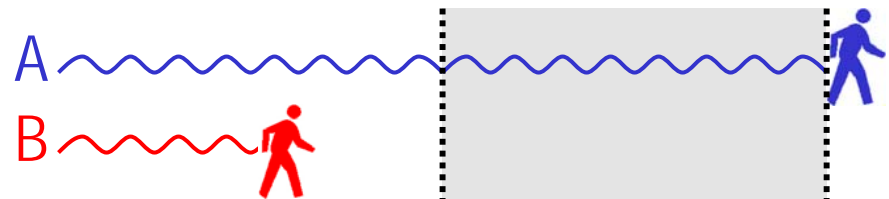
1. thread A reaches the gate to the critical region (CR) before B



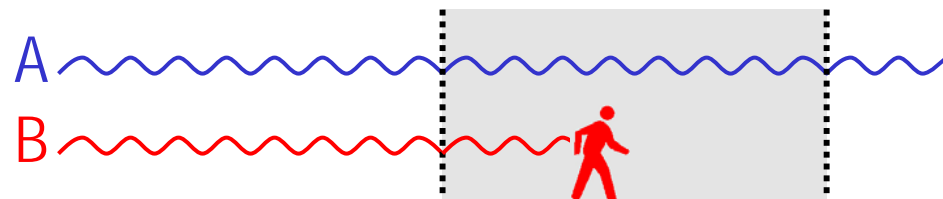
2. as soon as A enters CR, it disables all interrupts, thus B cannot be scheduled



3. as soon as A exits CR, it reenables interrupts; B can be scheduled again



4. thread B enters CR



## 2.c Concurrency

### Mutual exclusion by busy waiting

#### ➤ Implementation 0 — ~~disabling hardware interrupts~~ 🙅

- ✓ it works, but it is foolish
- ✓ what guarantees that the user process is going to ever exit the critical region?
- ✓ meanwhile, the CPU cannot interleave any other task, even unrelated to this race condition
- ✓ the critical region becomes one *physically* indivisible block, not logically
- ✓ also, this is not working in multi-processors

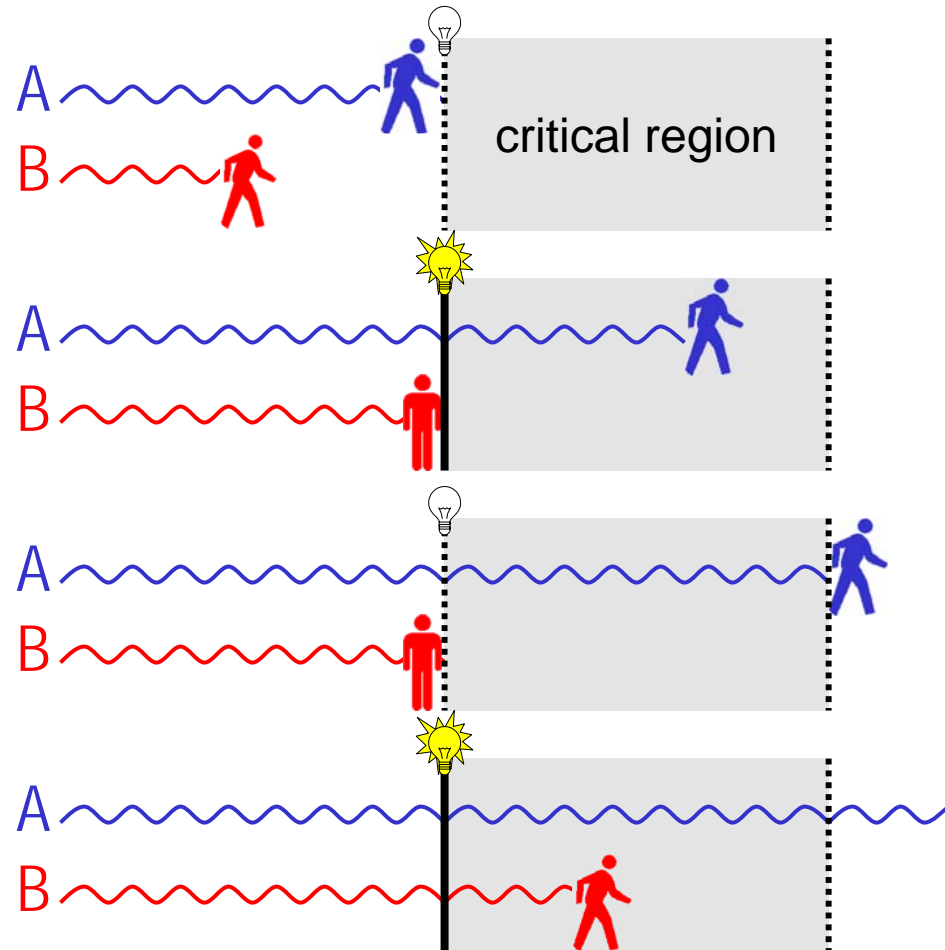
```
void echo()
{
    char chin, chout;
    do {
        disable hardware interrupts
        chin = getchar();
        chout = chin;
        putchar(chout);
        reenable hardware interrupts
    }
    while (...);
}
```

# 2.c Concurrency

## Mutual exclusion by busy waiting

### ➤ Implementation 1 — simple lock variable

1. thread A reaches CR and finds a lock at 0, which means that A can enter
2. thread A sets the lock to 1 and enters CR, which prevents B from entering
3. thread A exits CR and resets lock to 0; thread B can now enter
4. thread B sets the lock to 1 and enters CR



# 2.c Concurrency

## Mutual exclusion by busy waiting

### ➤ Implementation 1 — simple lock variable

- ✓ the “lock” is a shared variable
- ✓ entering the critical region means testing and then setting the lock
- ✓ exiting means resetting the lock

```
while (lock);  
    /* do nothing: loop */  
lock = TRUE;
```

```
lock = FALSE;
```

```
bool lock = FALSE;
```

```
void echo()  
{
```

```
    char chin, chout;
```

```
    do {
```

```
        test lock, then set lock
```

```
        chin = getchar();
```

```
        chout = chin;
```

```
        putchar(chout);
```

```
        reset lock
```

```
    }
```

```
    while (...);
```

```
}
```

# 2.c Concurrency

## Mutual exclusion by busy waiting

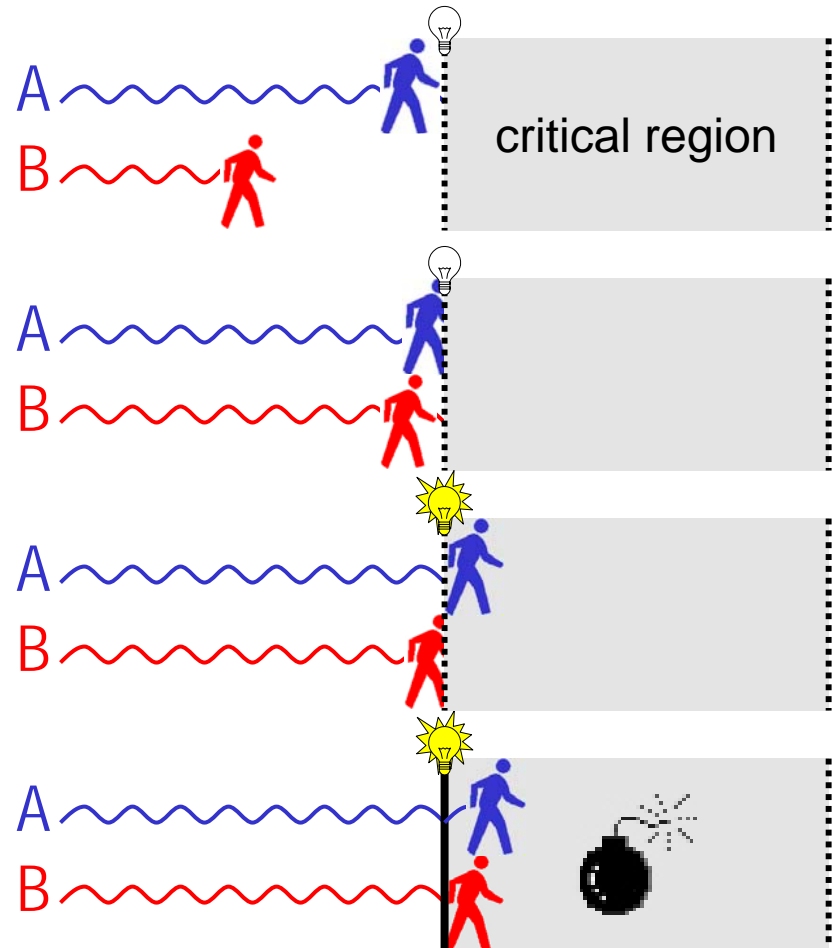
### ➤ Implementation 1 — ~~simple lock variable~~ 🖐️

1. thread A reaches CR and finds a lock at 0, which means that A can enter

1.1 but before A can set the lock to 1, B reaches CR and finds the lock is 0, too

1.2 A sets the lock to 1 and enters CR but cannot prevent the fact that . . .

1.3 . . . B is going to set the lock to 1 and enter CR, too



# 2.c Concurrency

## Mutual exclusion by busy waiting

### ➤ Implementation 1 — ~~simple lock variable~~ 🖱️

- ✓ suffers from the very fatal flaw we want to avoid: a race condition
- ✓ the problem comes from the small gap between testing that the lock is off and setting the lock

```
while (lock); lock = TRUE;
```

- ✓ it may happen that the other thread gets scheduled exactly inbetween these two actions (falls in the gap)
- ✓ so they both find the lock off and then they both set it and enter

```
bool lock = FALSE;

void echo()
{
    char chin, chout;
    do {
        test lock, then set lock
        chin = getchar();
        chout = chin;
        putchar(chout);
        reset lock
    }
    while (...);
}
```

# 2.c Concurrency

## Mutual exclusion by busy waiting

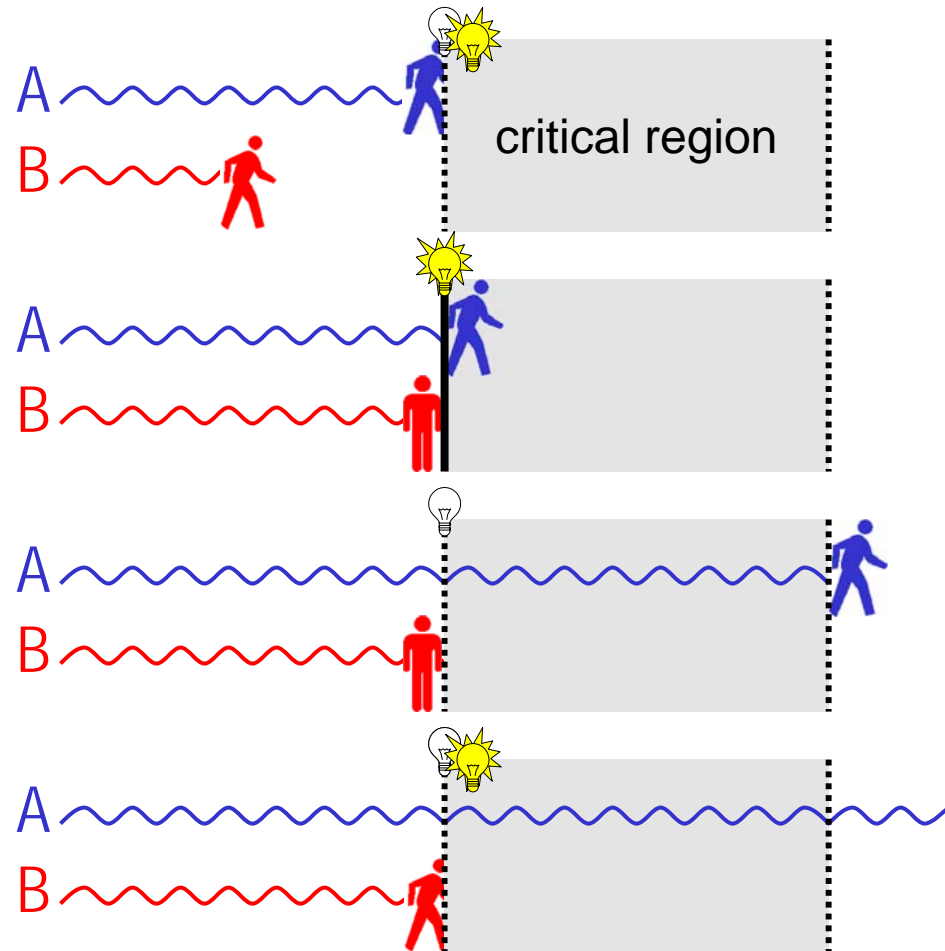
### ➤ Implementation 2 — “indivisible” lock variable

1. thread A reaches CR and finds the lock at 0 and sets it in one shot, then enters

1.1' even if B comes right behind A, it will find that the lock is already at 1

2. thread A exits CR, then resets lock to 0

3. thread B finds the lock at 0 and sets it to 1 in one shot, just before entering CR





# 2.c Concurrency

## Mutual exclusion by busy waiting

### ➤ Implementation 2 — “indivisible” lock variable 👍

- ✓ the indivisibility of the “test-lock-and-set-lock” operation can be implemented with the hardware instruction **TSL**

```
enter_region:  
TSL REGISTER, LOCK | copy lock to register and set lock to 1  
CMP REGISTER, #0  | was lock zero?  
JNE enter_region  | if it was non zero, lock was set, so loop  
RET               | return to caller; critical region entered
```

```
leave_region:  
MOVE LOCK, #0     | store a 0 in lock  
RET               | return to caller
```

```
void echo()  
{  
    char chin, chout;  
    do {  
        test-and-set-lock  
        chin = getchar();  
        chout = chin;  
        putchar(chout);  
        set lock off  
    }  
    while (...);  
}
```

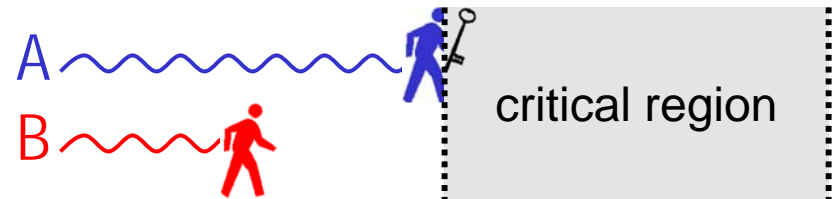
Tanenbaum, A. S. (2001)  
Modern Operating Systems (2nd Edition).

# 2.c Concurrency

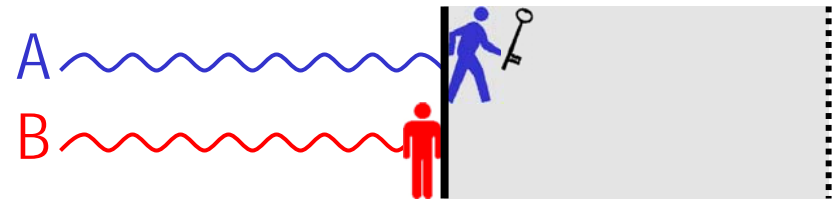
## Mutual exclusion by busy waiting

### ➤ Implementation 2 — “indivisible” lock $\Leftrightarrow$ one key 👍

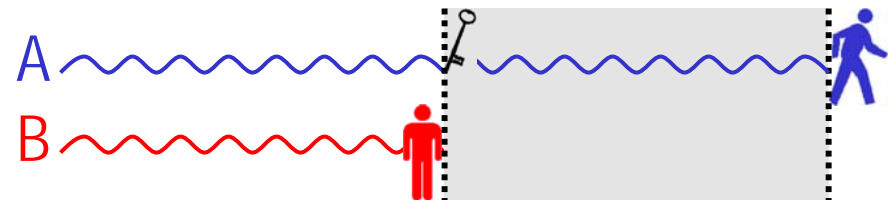
1. thread A reaches CR and finds a key and takes it



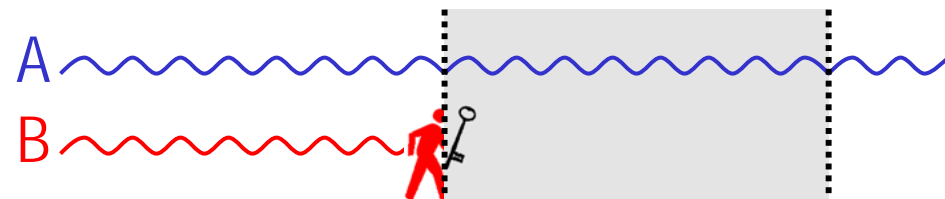
1.1' even if B comes right behind A, it will not find a key



2. thread A exits CR and puts the key back in place



3. thread B finds the key and takes it, just before entering CR



## 2.c Concurrency

### Mutual exclusion by busy waiting

#### ➤ Implementation 2 — “indivisible” lock $\Leftrightarrow$ one key 👍

- ✓ “holding” a unique object, like a key, is an equivalent metaphor for “test-and-set”
- ✓ this is similar to the “speaker’s baton” in some assemblies: only one person can hold it at a time
- ✓ holding is an indivisible action: you see it and grab it in one shot
- ✓ after you are done, you release the object, so another process can hold on to it

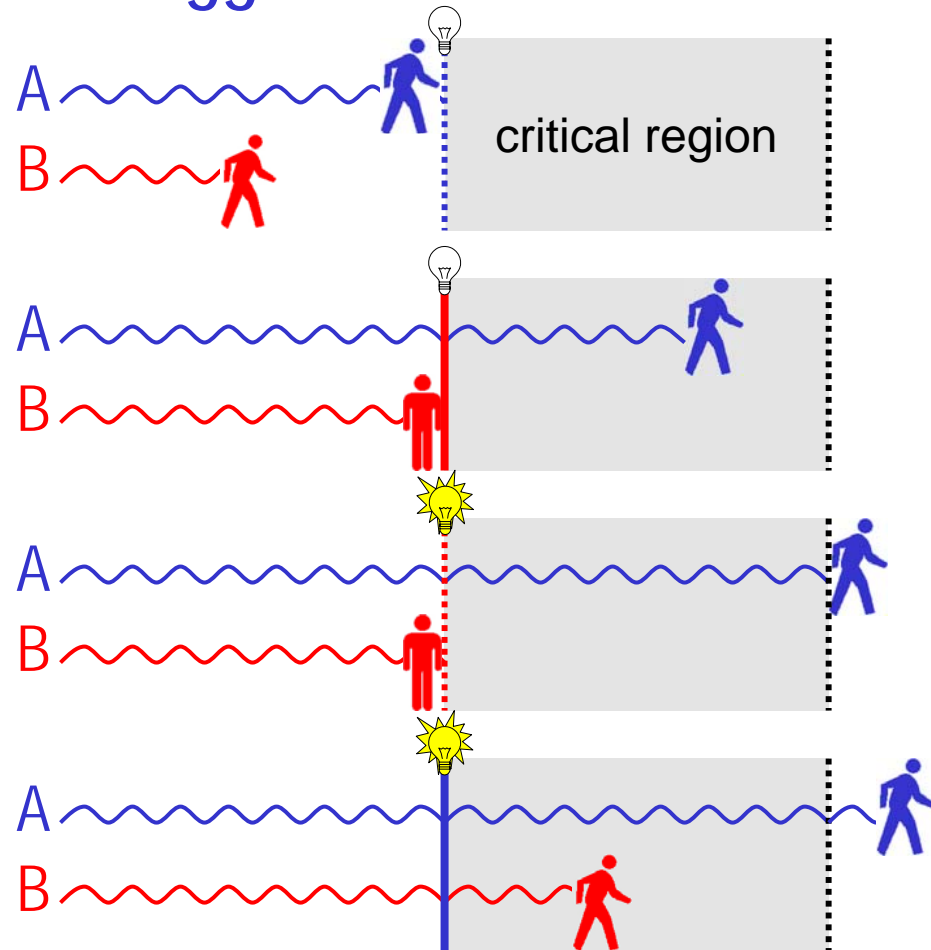
```
void echo()
{
    char chin, chout;
    do {
        take key and run
        chin = getchar();
        chout = chin;
        putchar(chout);
        return key
    }
    while (...);
}
```

# 2.c Concurrency

## Mutual exclusion by busy waiting

### ➤ Implementation 3 — TSL-free toggle for two threads

1. thread A reaches CR, finds a lock at 0, and enters without changing the lock
2. however, the lock has an opposite meaning for B: "off" means do not enter
3. only when A exits CR does it change the lock to 1; thread B can now enter
4. thread B sets the lock to 1 and enters CR: it will reset it to 0 for A after exiting



# 2.c Concurrency

## Mutual exclusion by busy waiting

### ➤ Implementation 3 — TSL-free toggle for two threads

- ✓ the “toggle lock” is a shared variable used for strict alternation
- ✓ here, entering the critical region means only testing the toggle: it must be at 0 for A, and 1 for B
- ✓ exiting means switching the toggle: A sets it to 1, and B to 0

A's code

```
while (toggle);  
/* loop */
```

```
toggle = TRUE;
```

B's code

```
while (!toggle);  
/* loop */
```

```
toggle = FALSE;
```

```
bool toggle = FALSE;
```

```
void echo()  
{
```

```
    char chin, chout;  
    do {
```

```
        test toggle
```

```
        chin = getchar();  
        chout = chin;  
        putchar(chout);
```

```
        switch toggle
```

```
    }  
    while (...);  
}
```

## 2.c Concurrency

### Mutual exclusion by busy waiting

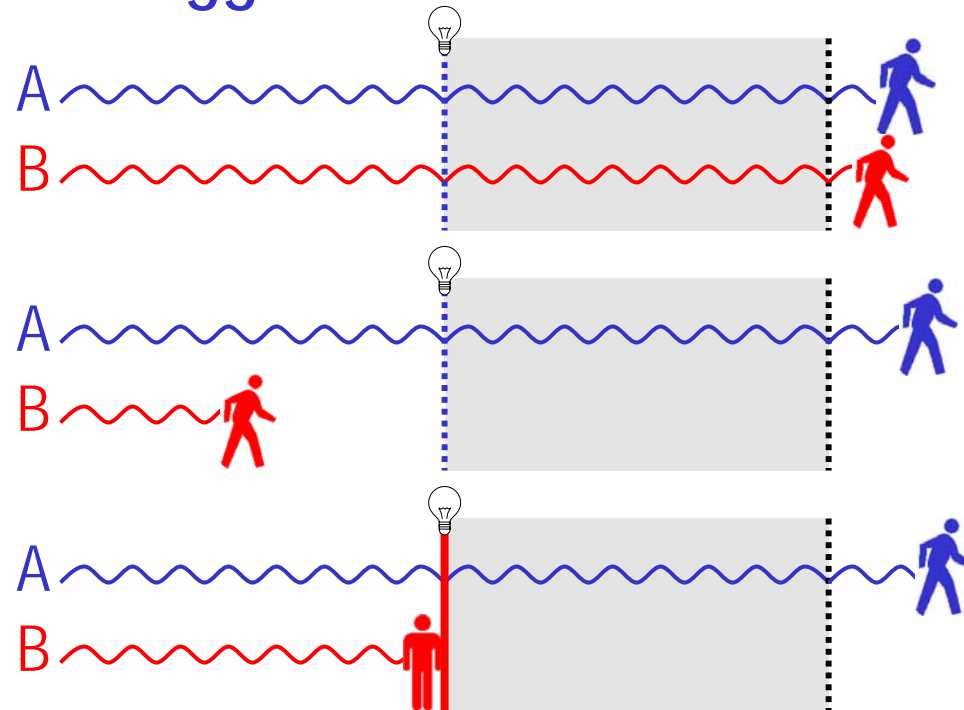
#### ➤ Implementation 3 — ~~TSL-free toggle for two threads~~ 🙄

5. thread B exits CR and switches the lock back to 0 to allow A to enter next

5.1 but scheduling happens to make B faster than A and come back to the gate first

5.2 as long as A is still busy, slow or interrupted in its noncritical region, B is barred access to its CR

→ *this violates item 2. of the chart of mutual exclusion*



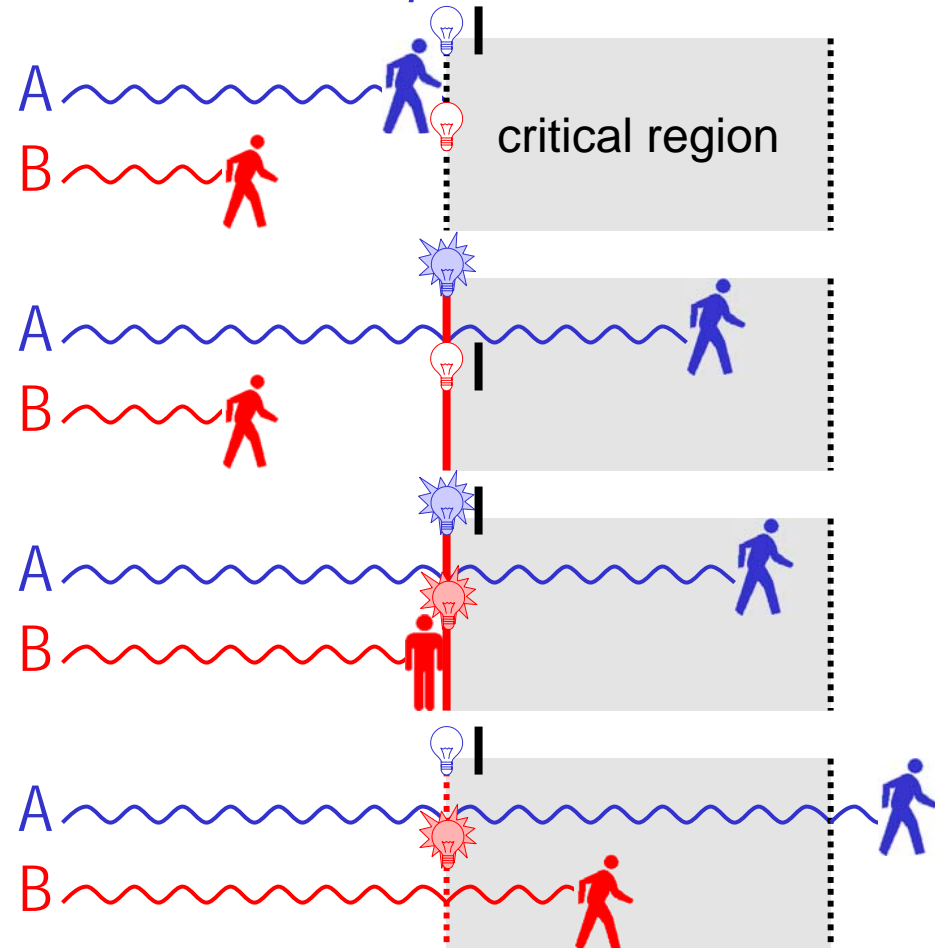
→ *this implementation avoids TSL by splitting test & set and putting them in enter & exit; nice try... but flawed!*

# 2.c Concurrency

## Mutual exclusion by busy waiting

### ➤ Implementation 4 — Peterson's no-TSL, no-alternation

1. A and B each have their own lock; an extra toggle is also masking either lock
2. A arrives first, sets its lock, pushes the mask to the other lock and may enter
3. then, B also sets its lock & pushes the mask, but must wait until A's lock is reset
4. A exits the CR and resets its lock; B may now enter



# 2.c Concurrency

## Mutual exclusion by busy waiting

### ➤ Implementation 4 — Peterson's no-TSL, no-alternation

- ✓ the mask & two locks are shared
- ✓ entering means: setting one's lock, pushing the mask and testing the other's combination
- ✓ exiting means resetting the lock

A's code

```
lock[A] = TRUE;
mask = B;
while (lock[B] &&
      mask == B);
/* loop */
```

B's code

```
lock[B] = TRUE;
mask = A;
while (lock[A] &&
      mask == A);
/* loop */
```

```
lock[A] = FALSE;
```

```
lock[B] = FALSE;
```

```
bool lock[2];
int mask;
int A = 0, B = 1;
void echo()
{
    char chin, chout;
    do {
        set lock, push mask, and test
        chin = getchar();
        chout = chin;
        putchar(chout);
        reset lock
    }
    while (...);
}
```



# 2.c Concurrency

## Mutual exclusion by busy waiting

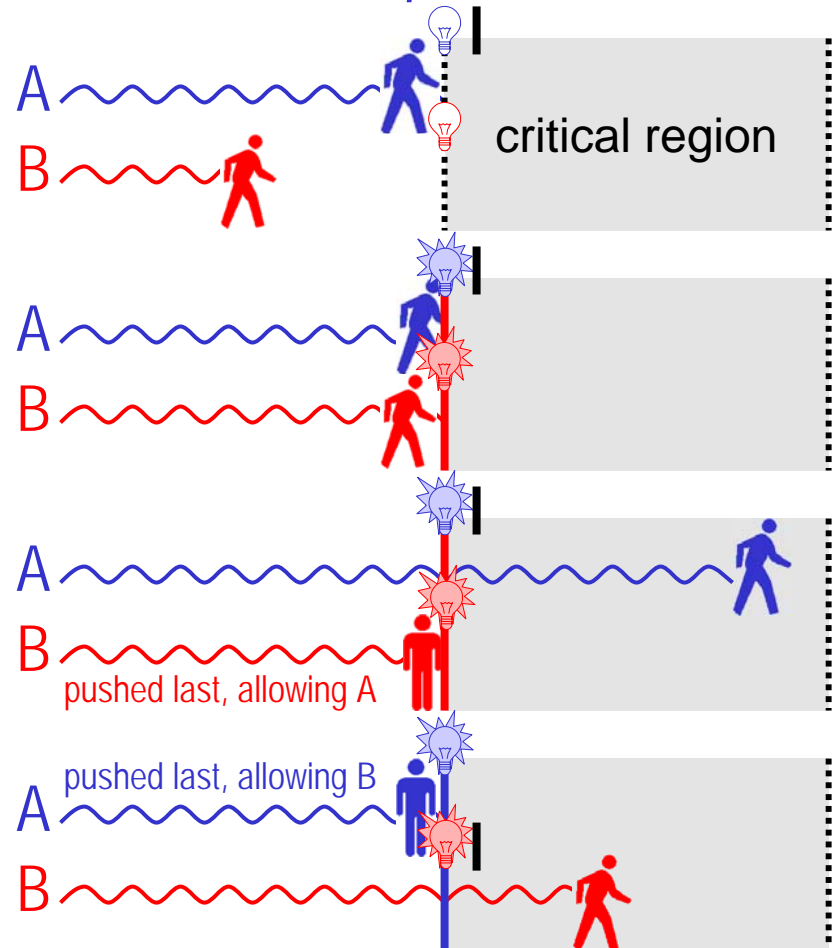
### ➤ Implementation 4 — Peterson's no-TSL, no-alternation 👍

1. A and B each have their own lock; an extra toggle is also masking either lock

2.1 A is interrupted between setting the lock & pushing the mask; B sets its lock

2.2 now, both A and B race to push the mask: whoever does it last will allow the other one inside CR

→ *mutual exclusion holds!!*  
*(no bad race condition)*



# 2.c Concurrency

## Mutual exclusion by busy waiting

### ➤ Summary of these implementations of mutual exclusion

✓ Impl. 0 — disabling hardware interrupts

👎 NO: race condition avoided, but can crash the system!

✓ Impl. 1 — simple lock variable (unprotected)

👎 NO: still suffers from race condition

✓ Impl. 2 — indivisible lock variable (TSL)

👍 YES: works, but requires hardware

*this will be the basis for "mutexes"*

✓ Impl. 3 — TSL-free toggle for two threads

👎 NO: race condition avoided inside, but lockup outside

✓ Impl. 4 — Peterson's no-TSL, no-alternation

👍 YES: works in software, but processing overhead

## 2.c Concurrency

### Mutual exclusion by busy waiting

➤ **Problem: all implementations (1-4) rely on busy waiting**

- ✓ “busy waiting” means that the process/thread continuously executes a tight loop until some condition changes
- ✓ busy waiting is bad:
  - **waste of CPU time** — the busy process is not doing anything useful, yet remains “Ready” instead of “Blocked”
  - **paradox of inversed priority** — by looping indefinitely, a higher-priority process B may starve a lower-priority process A, thus preventing A from exiting CR and . . . liberating B! (B is working against its own interest)

→ *we need for the waiting process to block, not keep idling*

# 2.c Concurrency

## Mutual exclusion & synchronization — mutexes

### ➤ Implementation 2' — indivisible blocking lock = mutex

- ✓ a mutex is a safe lock variable with blocking, instead of tight looping
- ✓ if **TSL** returns 1, then voluntarily yield the CPU to another thread

```
mutex_lock:
  TSL REGISTER,MUTEX | copy mutex to register and set mutex to 1
  CMP REGISTER,#0    | was mutex zero?
  JZE ok              | if it was zero, mutex was unlocked, so return
  CALL thread_yield  | mutex is busy; schedule another thread
  JMP mutex_lock     | try again later
ok: RET              | return to caller; critical region entered
```

```
mutex_unlock:
  MOVE MUTEX,#0      | store a 0 in mutex
  RET                 | return to caller
```

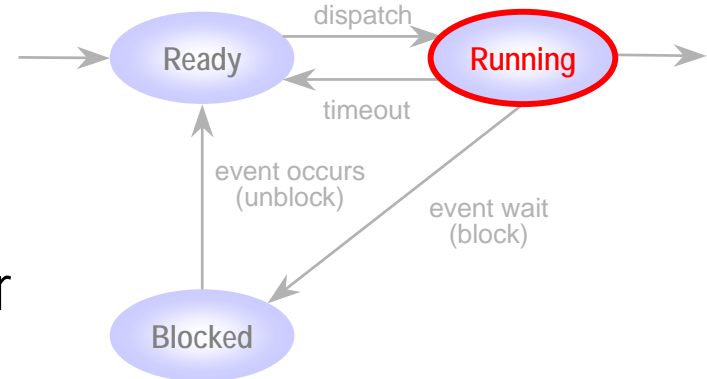
```
void echo()
{
  char chin, chout;
  do {
    test-and-set-lock or BLOCK
    chin = getchar();
    chout = chin;
    putchar(chout);
    set lock off
  }
  while (...);
}
```

## 2.c Concurrency

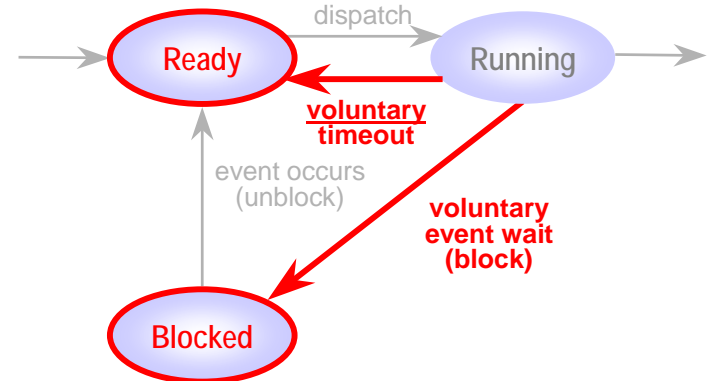
### Mutual exclusion & synchronization — mutexes

#### ➤ Difference between busy waiting and blocked

- ✓ in busy waiting, the PC is always looping (increment & jump back)
- ✓ it can be preemptively interrupted but will loop again tightly whenever rescheduled → *tight polling*



- 
- ✓ when blocked, the process's PC stalls after executing a "yield" call
  - ✓ either the process is only timed out, thus it is "Ready" to loop-and-again → *sparse polling*
  - ✓ or it is truly "Blocked" and put in event queue → *condition waiting*

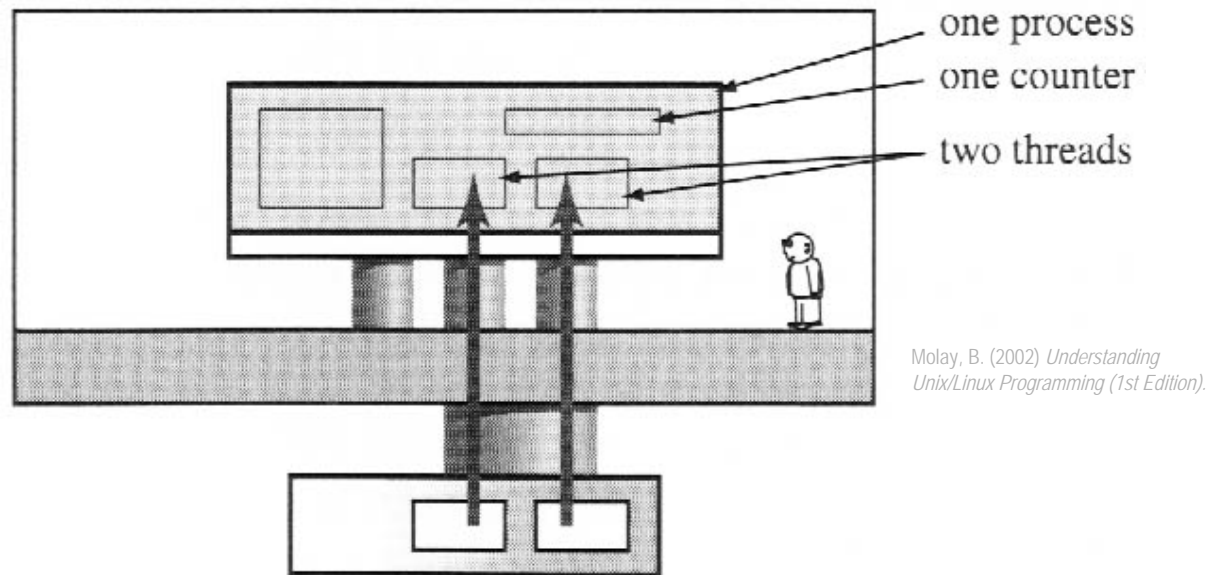


## 2.c Concurrency

### Mutual exclusion & synchronization — mutexes

#### ➤ Illustration of mutex use: shared word counter

- ✓ we want to count the total number of words in 2 files
- ✓ we use 1 global counter variable and 2 threads: each thread reads from a different file and increments the shared counter



A common counter for two threads

# 2.c Concurrency

## Mutual exclusion & synchronization — mutexes

```
int total_words;

void main(...)
{
    ...declare, initialize...
    pthread_create(&th1, NULL, count_words, (void *)filename1);
    pthread_create(&th2, NULL, count_words, (void *)filename2);
    pthread_join(th1, NULL);
    pthread_join(th2, NULL);
    printf("total words = %d", total_words);
}

void *count_words(void *filename)
{
    ...open file...
    while (...get next char...) {
        if (...char is not alphanum & previous char is alphanum...) {
            total_words++;
        }
        .....
    }
}
```

*total\_words = total\_words + 1;  
is not necessarily atomic! (depends on  
machine code and stage of execution)*

Multithreaded shared counter with possible race condition

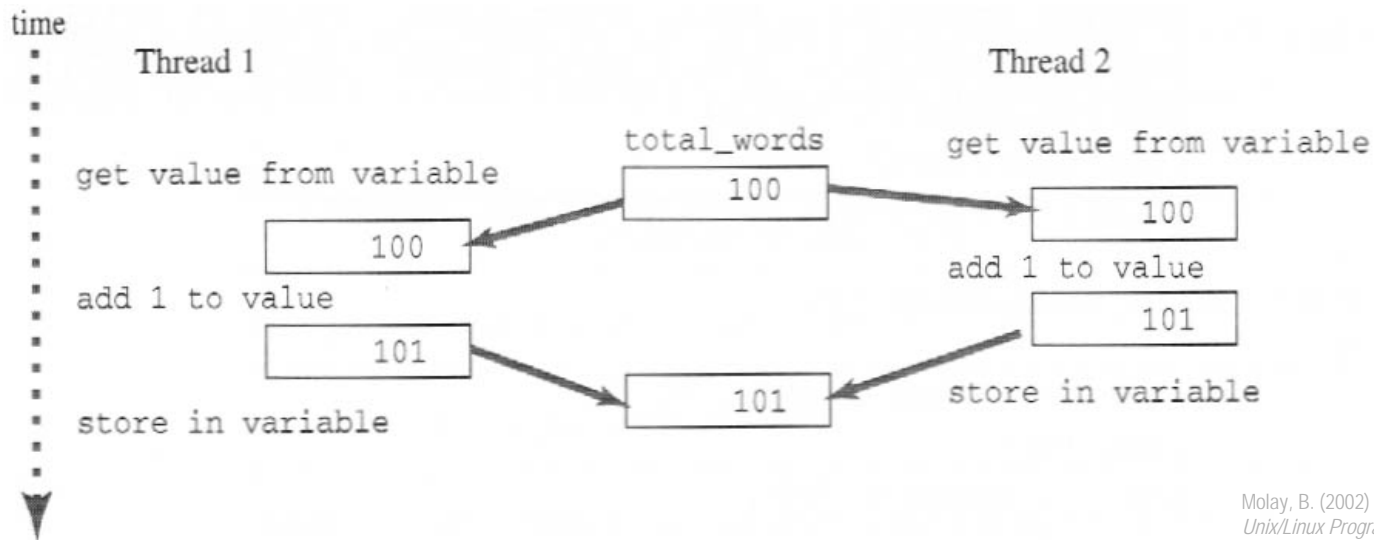
## 2.c Concurrency

### Mutual exclusion & synchronization — mutexes

#### ➤ A race condition can occur when incrementing counter

- ✓ if not atomic, the increment block of thread 1, "get1-add1" may be interleaved with the increment block of thread 2, "get2-add2" to produce "get1-get2-add1-add2" or "get1-get2-add2-add1"

→ *this results in missing one count*



Molay, B. (2002) *Understanding Unix/Linux Programming (1st Edition)*.

Two threads race to increment the counter



# 2.c Concurrency

## Mutual exclusion & synchronization — mutexes

```
int total_words;
pthread_mutex_t counter_lock = PTHREAD_MUTEX_INITIALIZER;

void main(int ac, char *av[])
{
    ...declare, initialize...
    pthread_create(&th1, NULL, count_words, (void *)filename1);
    pthread_create(&th2, NULL, count_words, (void *)filename2);
    pthread_join(th1, NULL);
    pthread_join(th2, NULL);
    printf("total words = %d", total_words);
}

void *count_words(void *filename)
{
    ...open file...
    while (...get next char...) {
        if (...char is not alphanum & previous char is alphanum...) {
            pthread_mutex_lock(&counter_lock);
            total_words++;
            pthread_mutex_unlock(&counter_lock);
        }
        .....
    }
}
```

*protect the critical region  
with mutual exclusion*



Multithreaded shared counter with mutex protection

## 2.c Concurrency

### Mutual exclusion & synchronization — mutexes

#### ➤ System calls for thread exclusion with mutexes

✓ `err = pthread_mutex_lock(pthread_mutex_t *m)`

locks the specified mutex

- if the mutex is unlocked, it becomes locked and owned by the calling thread
- if the mutex is already locked by another thread, the calling thread is blocked until the mutex is unlocked

✓ `err = pthread_mutex_unlock(pthread_mutex_t *m)`

releases the lock on the specified mutex

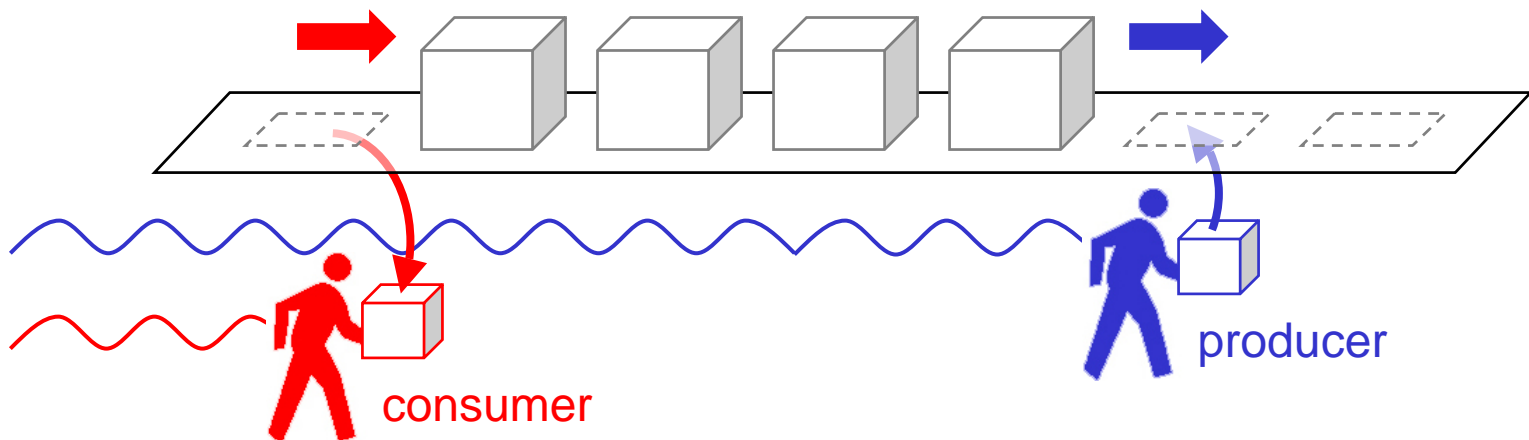
- if there are threads blocked on the specified mutex, one of them will acquire the lock to the mutex

## 2.c Concurrency

### Mutual exclusion & synchronization — mutexes

#### ➤ Real-world mutex use: the producer/consumer problem

- ✓ **producer** — generates data items and places them in a buffer
- ✓ **consumer** — takes the items out of the buffer to use them
- ✓ example 1: a print program produces characters that are consumed by a printer
- ✓ example 2: an assembler produces object modules that are consumed by a loader

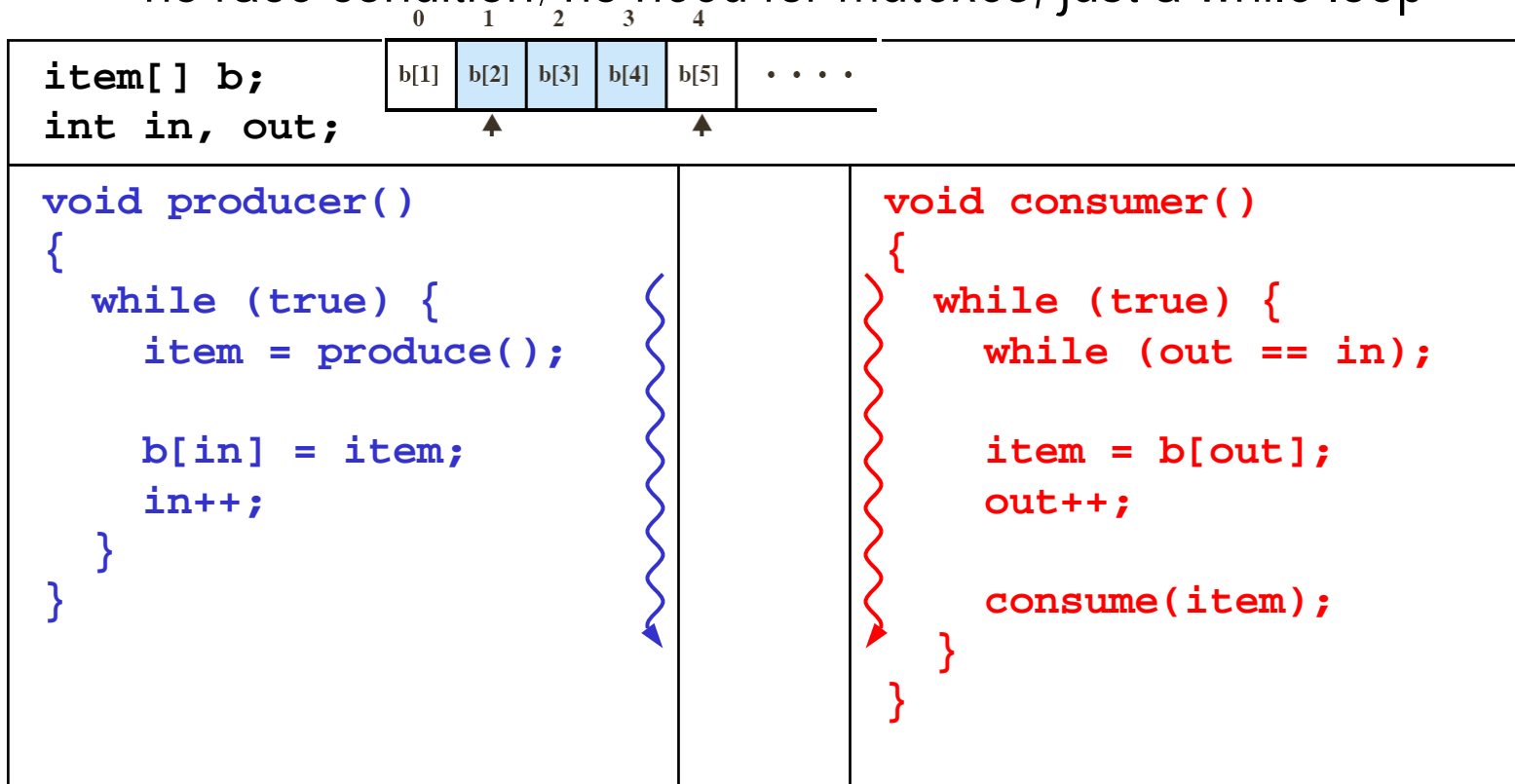


# 2.c Concurrency

## Mutual exclusion & synchronization — mutexes

### ➤ Unbounded buffer, 1 producer, 1 consumer

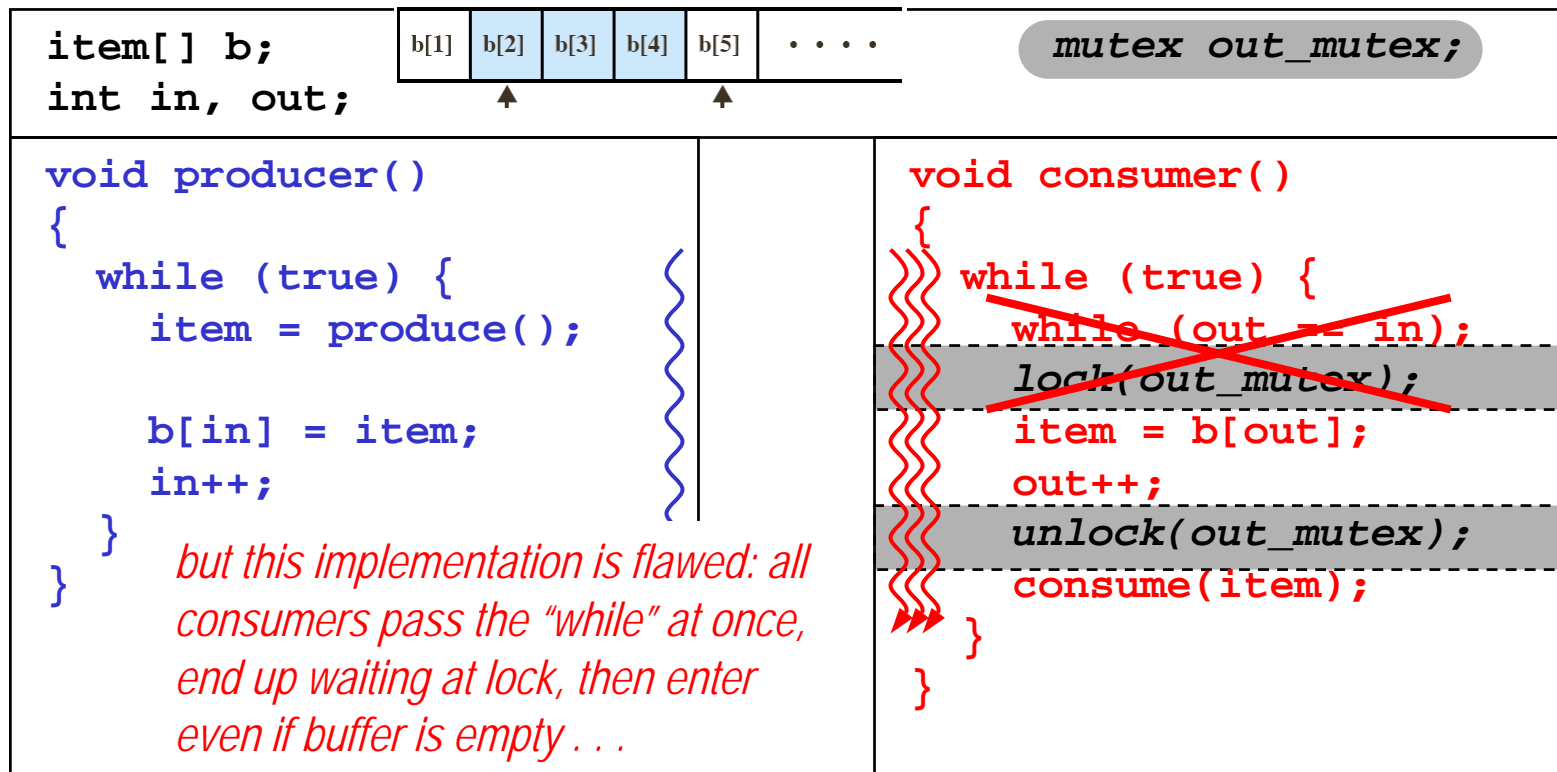
- ✓ **in** modified only by producer and **out** only by consumer
- ✓ no race condition; no need for mutexes, just a while loop



# 2.c Concurrency

## Mutual exclusion & synchronization — mutexes

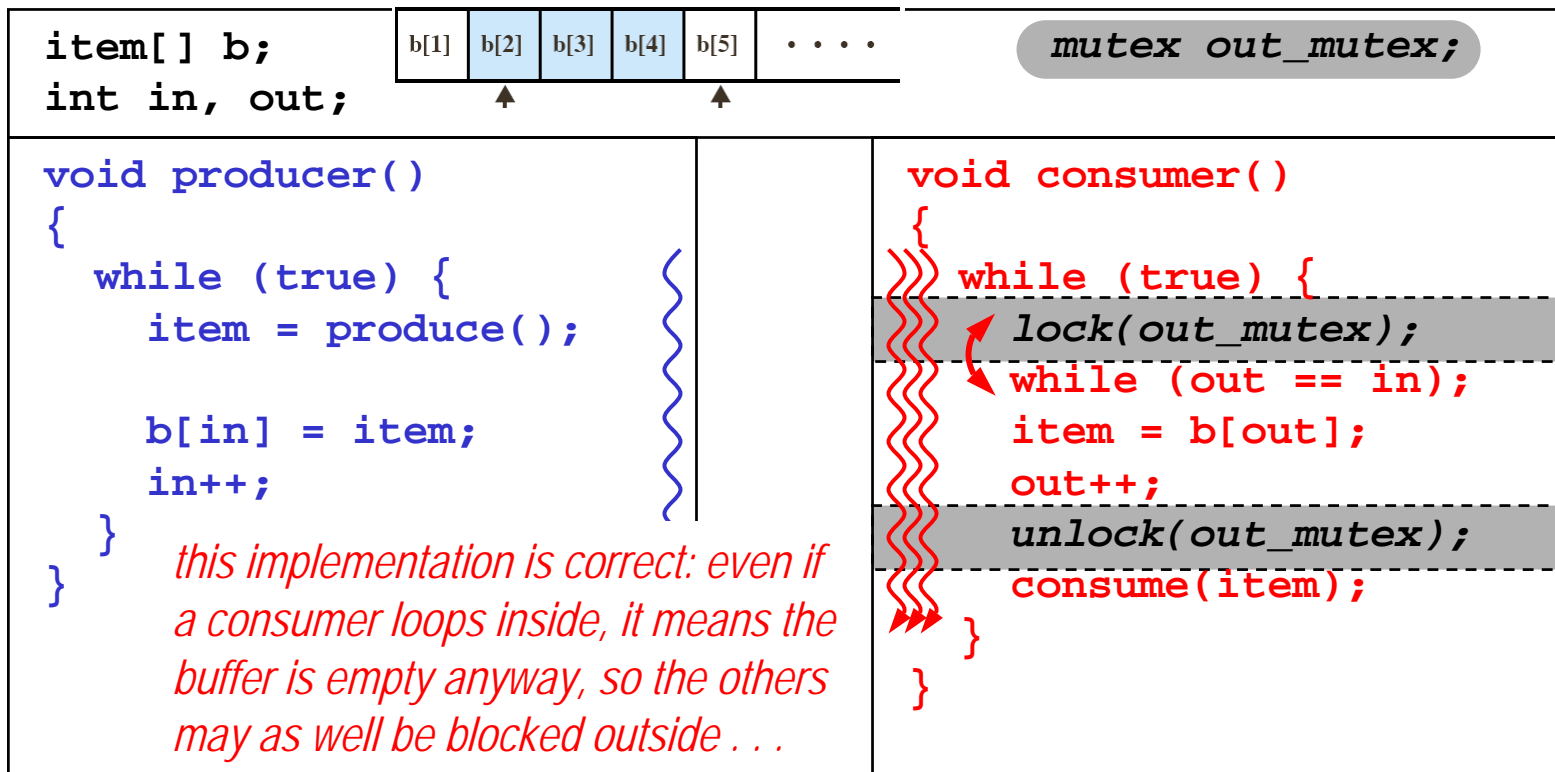
- Unbounded buffer, 1 producer,  $N$  consumers
  - ✓ **out** shared by all consumers → mutex among consumers
  - ✓ producer not concerned: can still add items to buffer at any time



# 2.c Concurrency

## Mutual exclusion & synchronization — mutexes

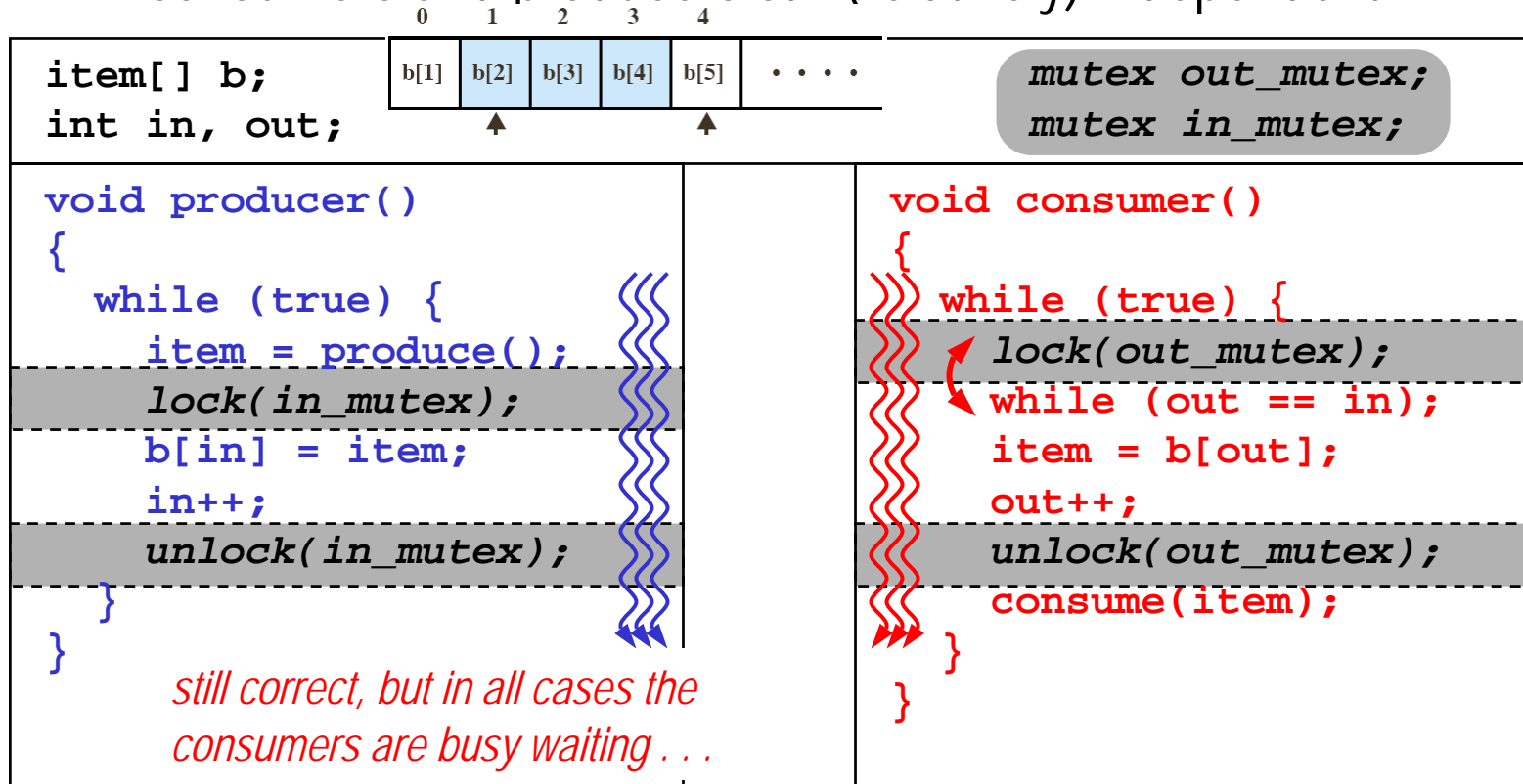
- Unbounded buffer, 1 producer,  $N$  consumers
  - ✓ **out** shared by all consumers → mutex among consumers
  - ✓ producer not concerned: can still add items to buffer at any time



# 2.c Concurrency

## Mutual exclusion & synchronization — mutexes

- Unbounded buffer,  $N$  producers,  $N$  consumers
  - ✓ `in` shared by all producers → other mutex among producers
  - ✓ consumers and producers still (relatively) independent



## 2.c Concurrency

### Mutual exclusion & synchronization — semaphores

#### ➤ Synchronization

- ✓ processes can also **cooperate** by means of simple signals, without defining a “critical region”
- ✓ like mutexes: instead of looping, a process can block in some place until it receives a specific **signal** from the other process

#### ➤ Binary semaphore $\Leftrightarrow$ mutex

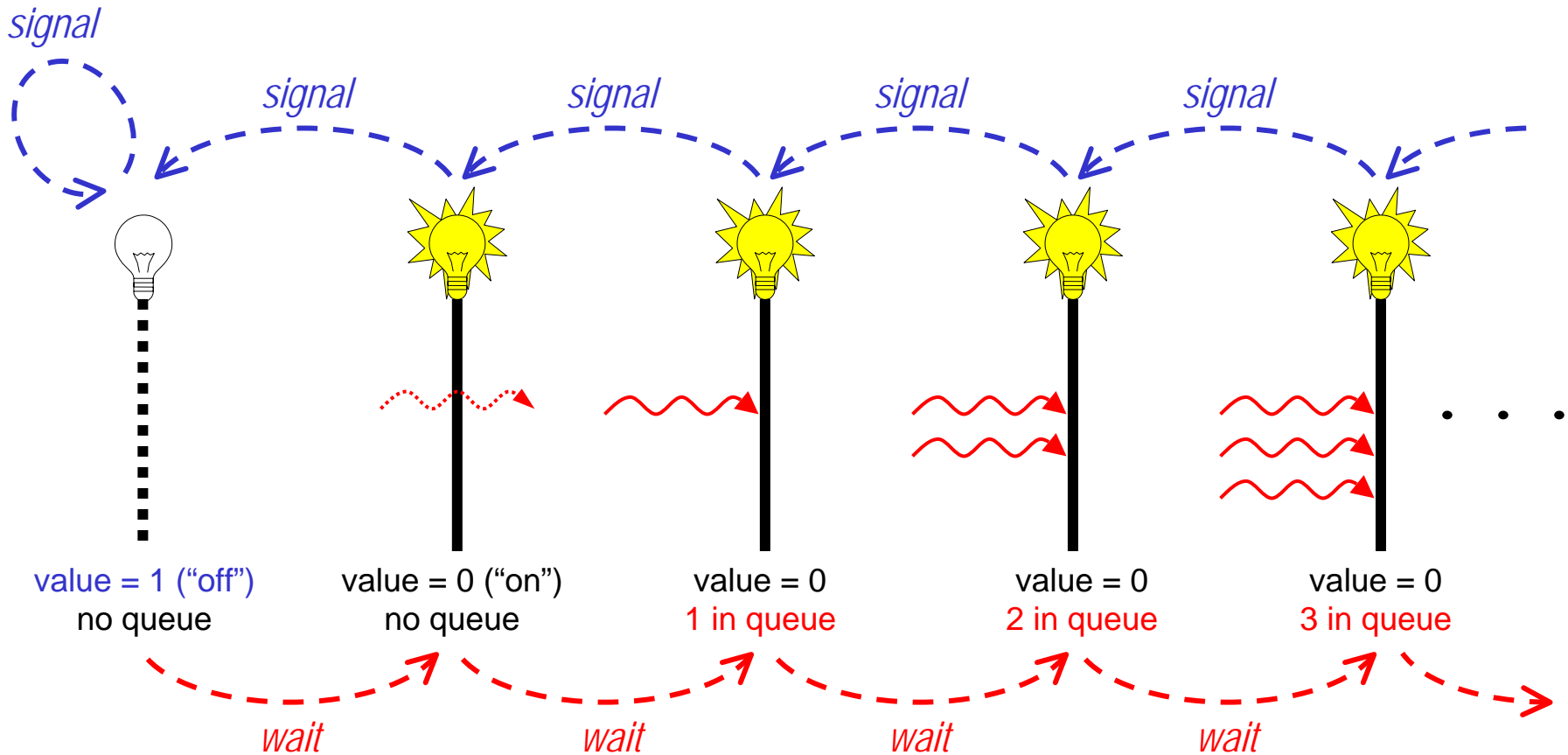
- ✓ a binary semaphore is a variable that has a value 0 or 1
- ✓ a **wait** operation attempts to decrement the semaphore
  - $1 \rightarrow 0$  and goes through;  $0 \rightarrow$  blocks
- ✓ a **signal** operation attempts to increment the semaphore
  - $1 \rightarrow 1$ , no change;  $0 \rightarrow$  unblocks or becomes 1



# 2.c Concurrency

## Mutual exclusion & synchronization — semaphores

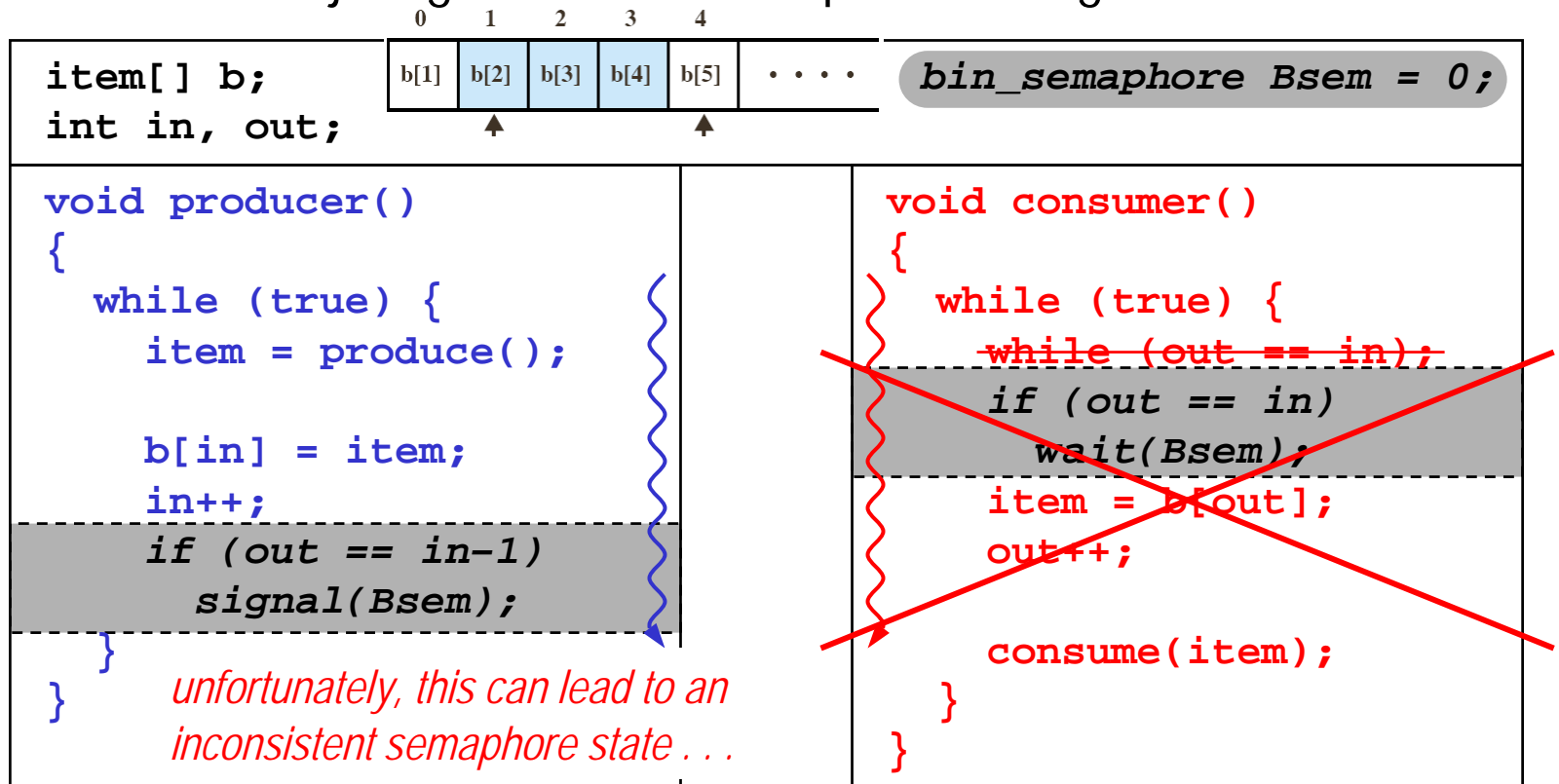
### ➤ Binary semaphore $\Leftrightarrow$ mutex



# 2.c Concurrency

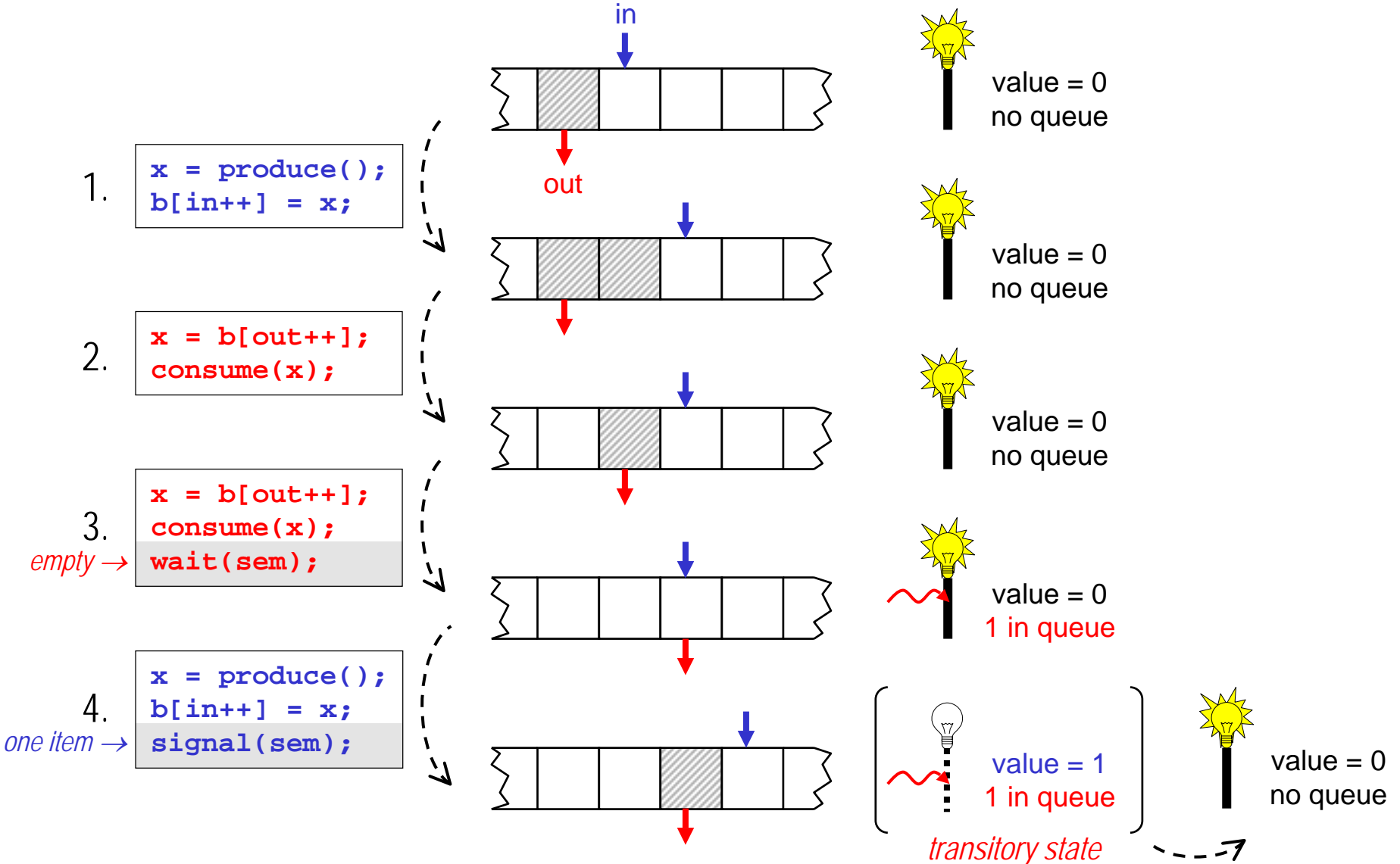
## Mutual exclusion & synchronization — semaphores

- **Unbounded buffer, 1 producer, 1 consumer with sync**
  - ✓ if buffer is empty, the consumer waits on a semaphore
  - ✓ if buffer just got one item, the producer signals to the consumer



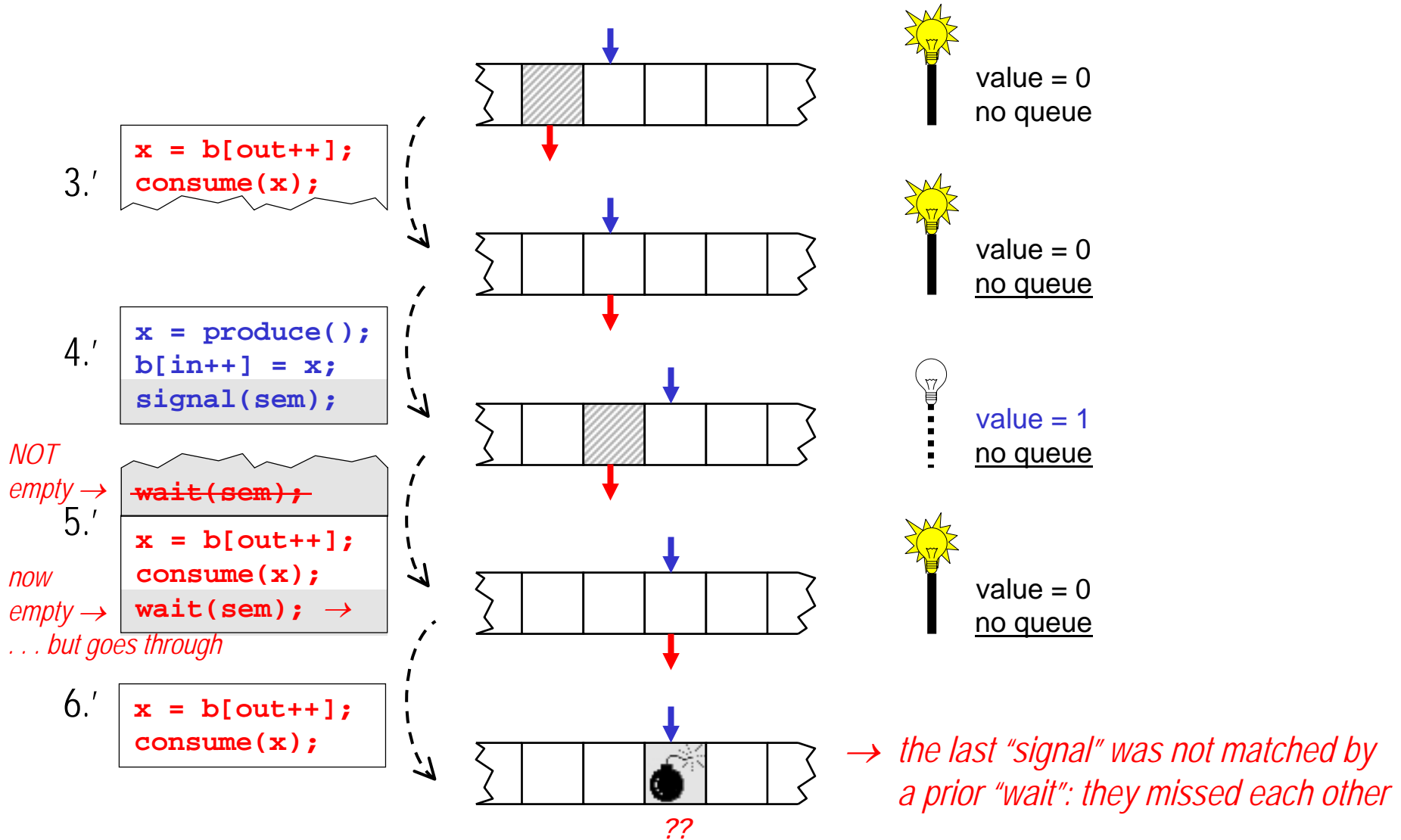
# 2.c Concurrency

## Mutual exclusion & synchronization — semaphores



# 2.c Concurrency

## Mutual exclusion & synchronization — semaphores

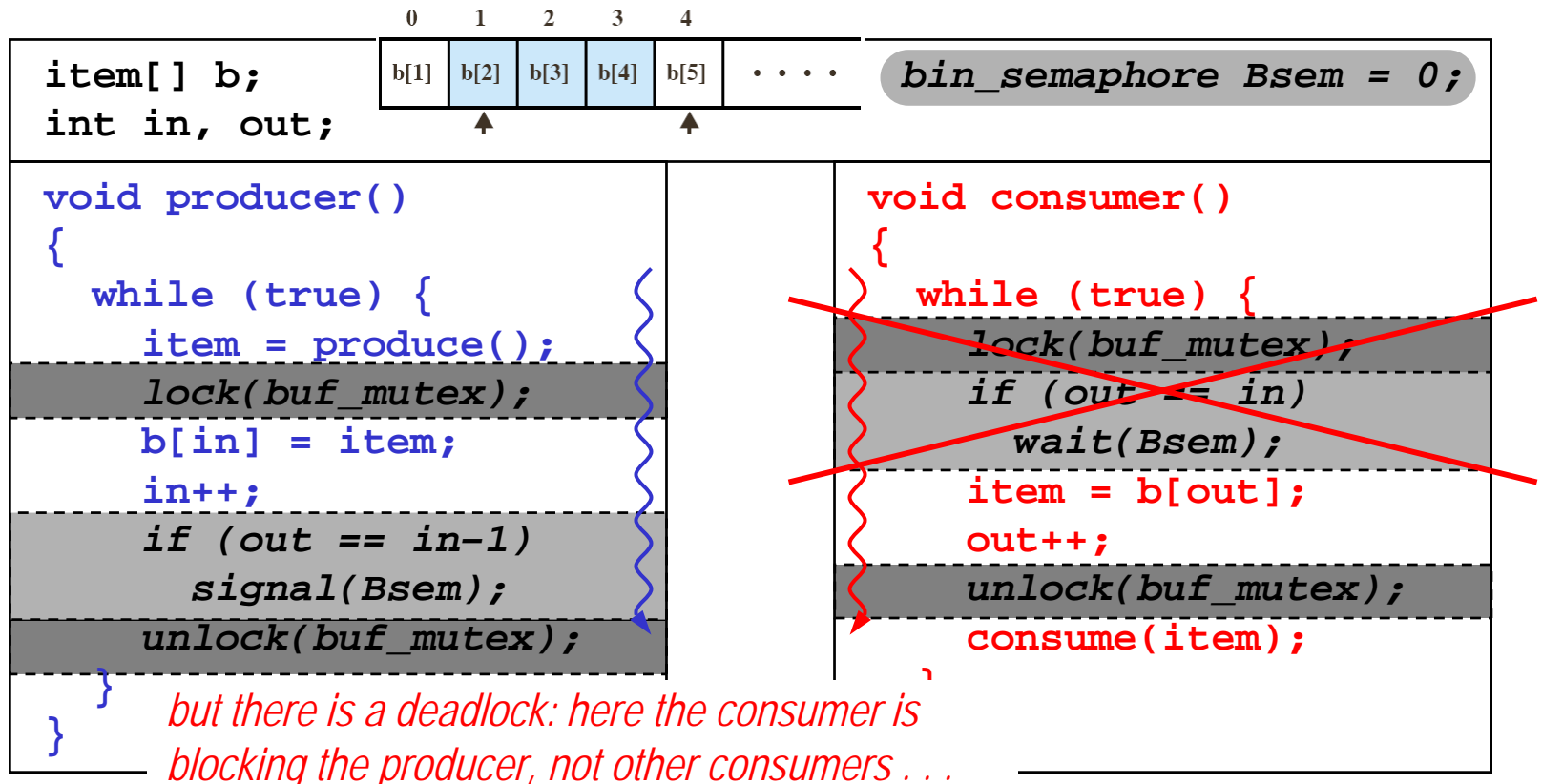


# 2.c Concurrency

## Mutual exclusion & synchronization — semaphores

### ➤ Unbounded buffer, 1 producer, 1 consumer with sync

- ✓ we need to create critical areas to keep “consuming” and “checking the semaphore” together

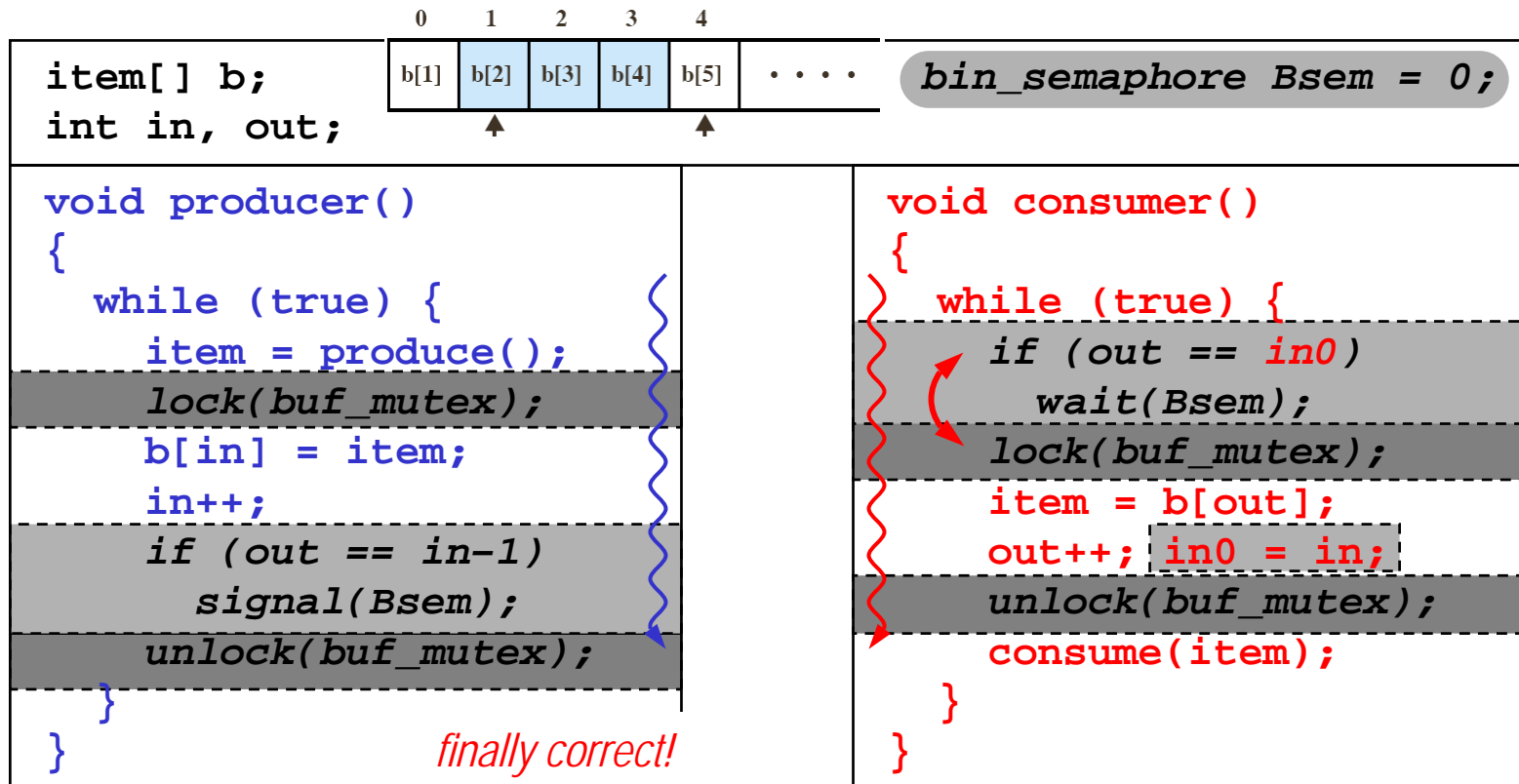


# 2.c Concurrency

## Mutual exclusion & synchronization — semaphores

### ➤ Unbounded buffer, 1 producer, 1 consumer with sync

- ✓ the consumer needs to remember the current state of `in` & `out`, so it can exit the CR before checking the semaphore



## 2.c Concurrency

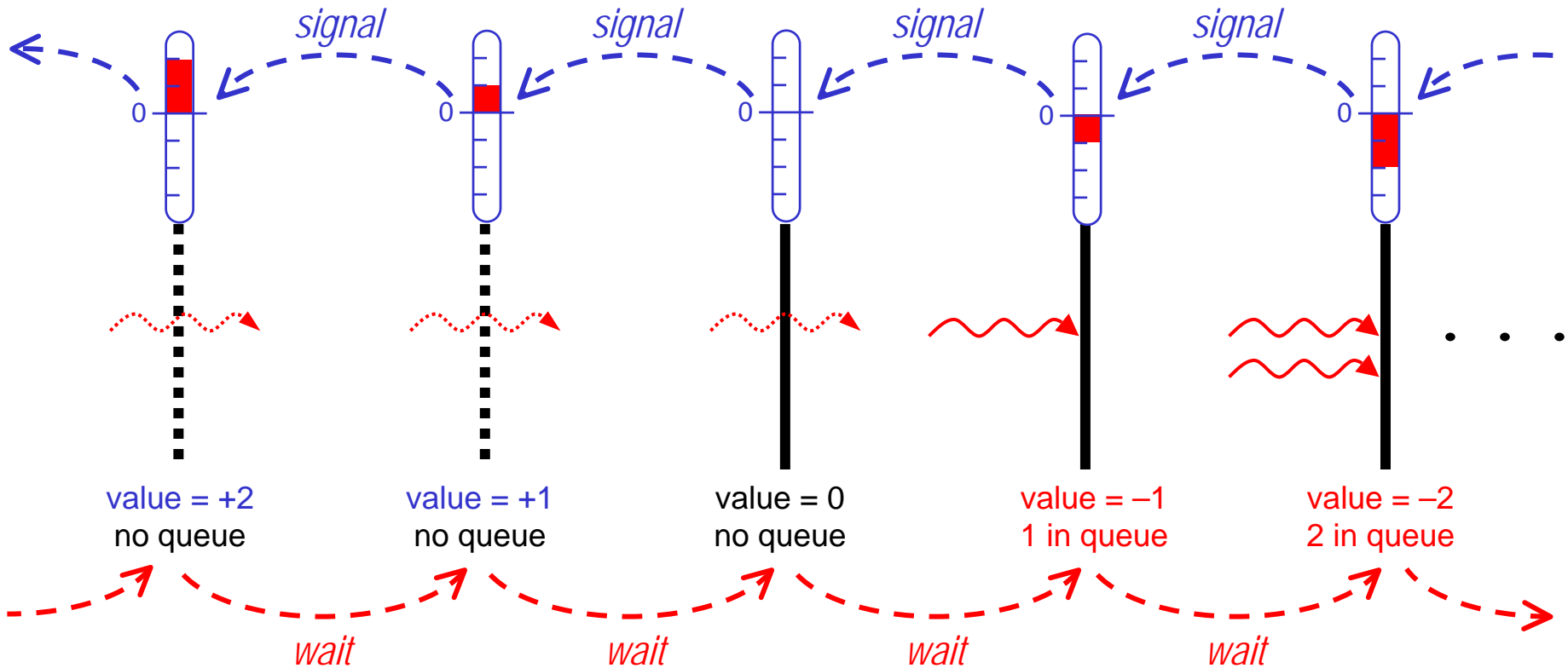
### Mutual exclusion & synchronization — semaphores

- **Semaphores are used for signaling between processes**
  - ✓ semaphores can be used for **mutual exclusion**
  - ✓ binary semaphores are the same as mutexes
  - ✓ integer semaphores can be used to allow more than one process inside a critical region; generally:
    - the positive value of an integer semaphore corresponds to a maximum number of processes allowed concurrently inside a critical region
    - the negative value of an integer semaphore corresponds to the number of processes currently waiting in the queue
  - ✓ binary and integer semaphores can also be used for **synchronization**

# 2.c Concurrency

## Mutual exclusion & synchronization — semaphores

➤ Integer semaphore  $\Leftrightarrow$  "thermometer"

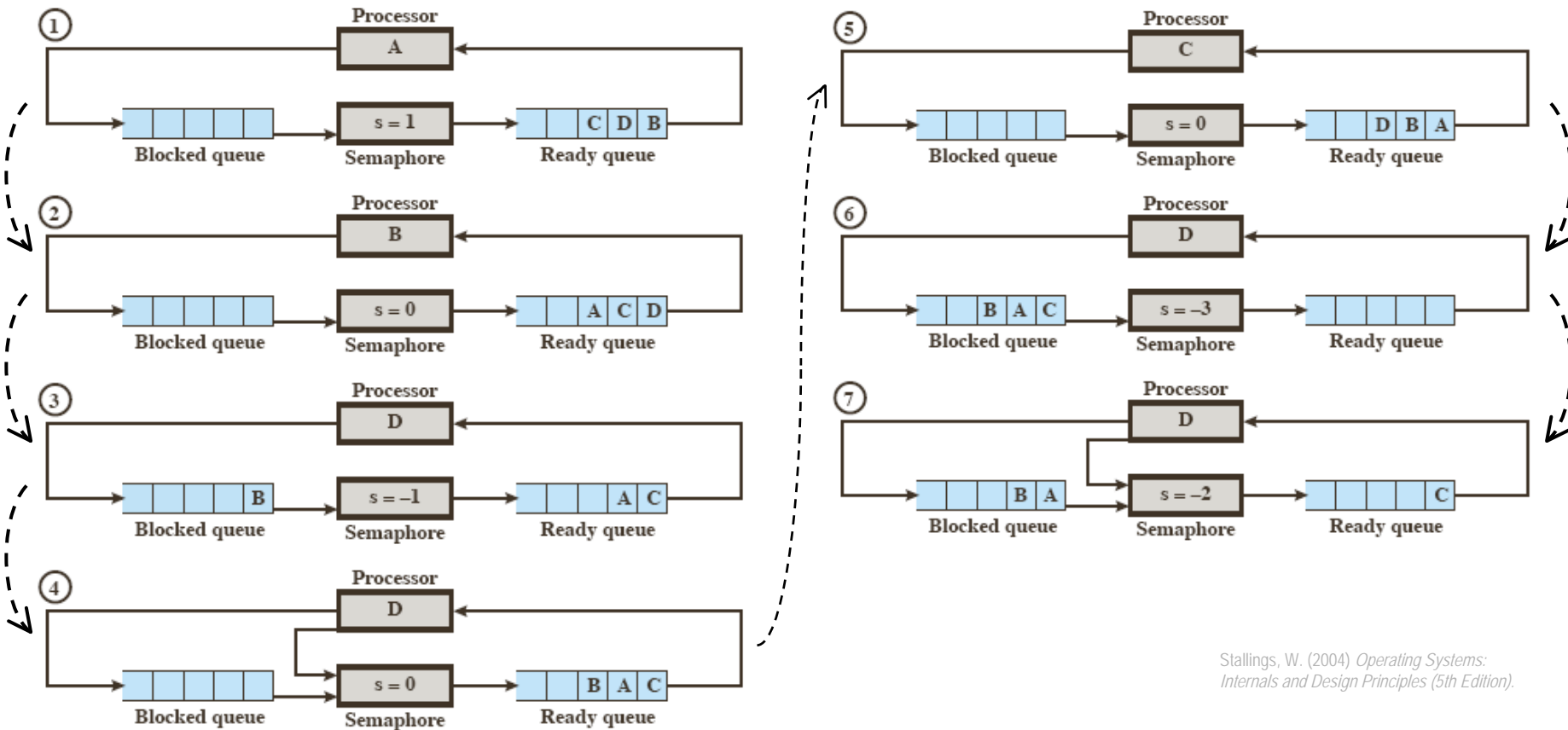




# 2.c Concurrency

## Mutual exclusion & synchronization — semaphores

➤ All semaphores maintain a queue of waiting processes



Stallings, W. (2004) *Operating Systems: Internals and Design Principles (5th Edition)*.

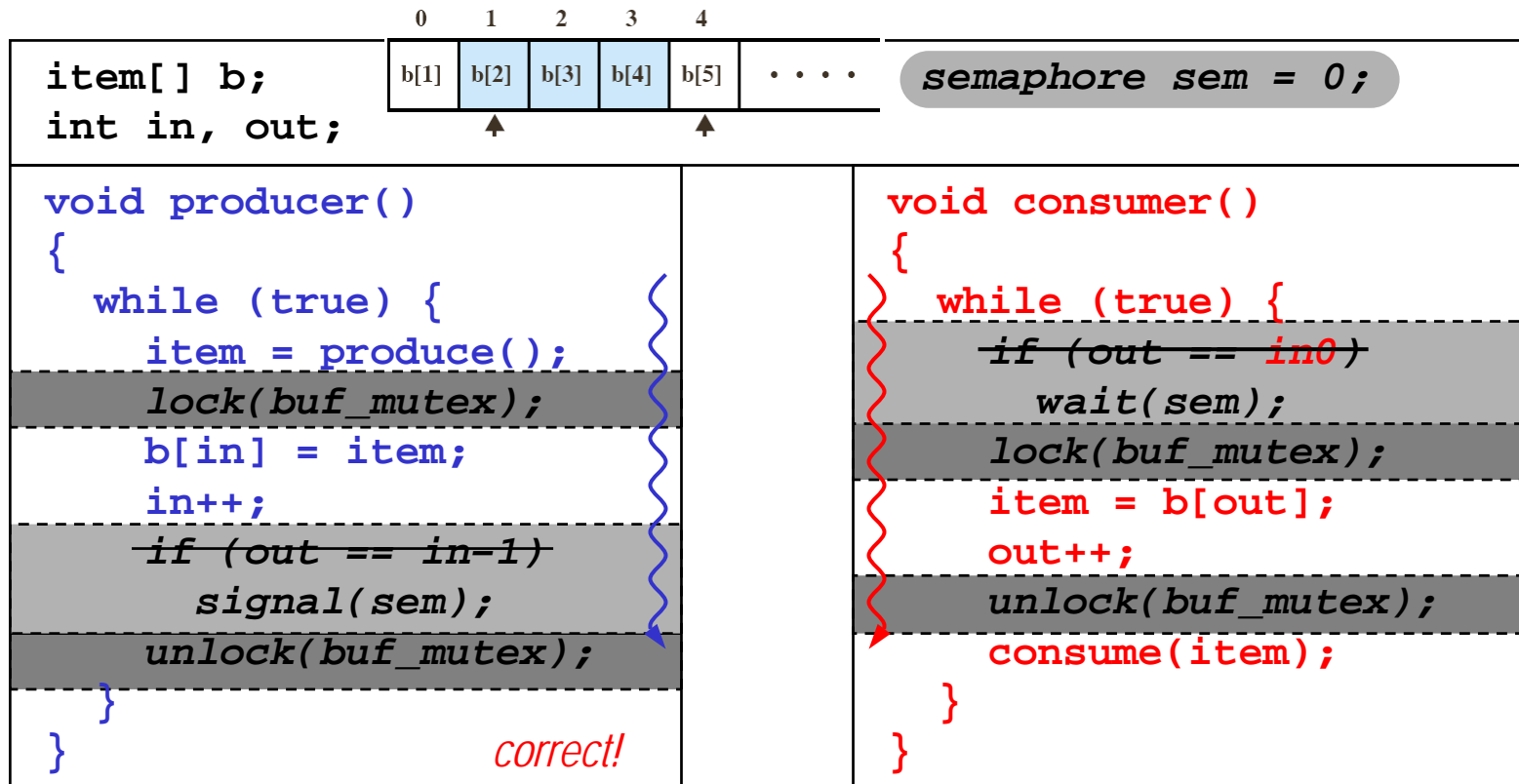
Example of semaphore mechanism

# 2.c Concurrency

## Mutual exclusion & synchronization — semaphores

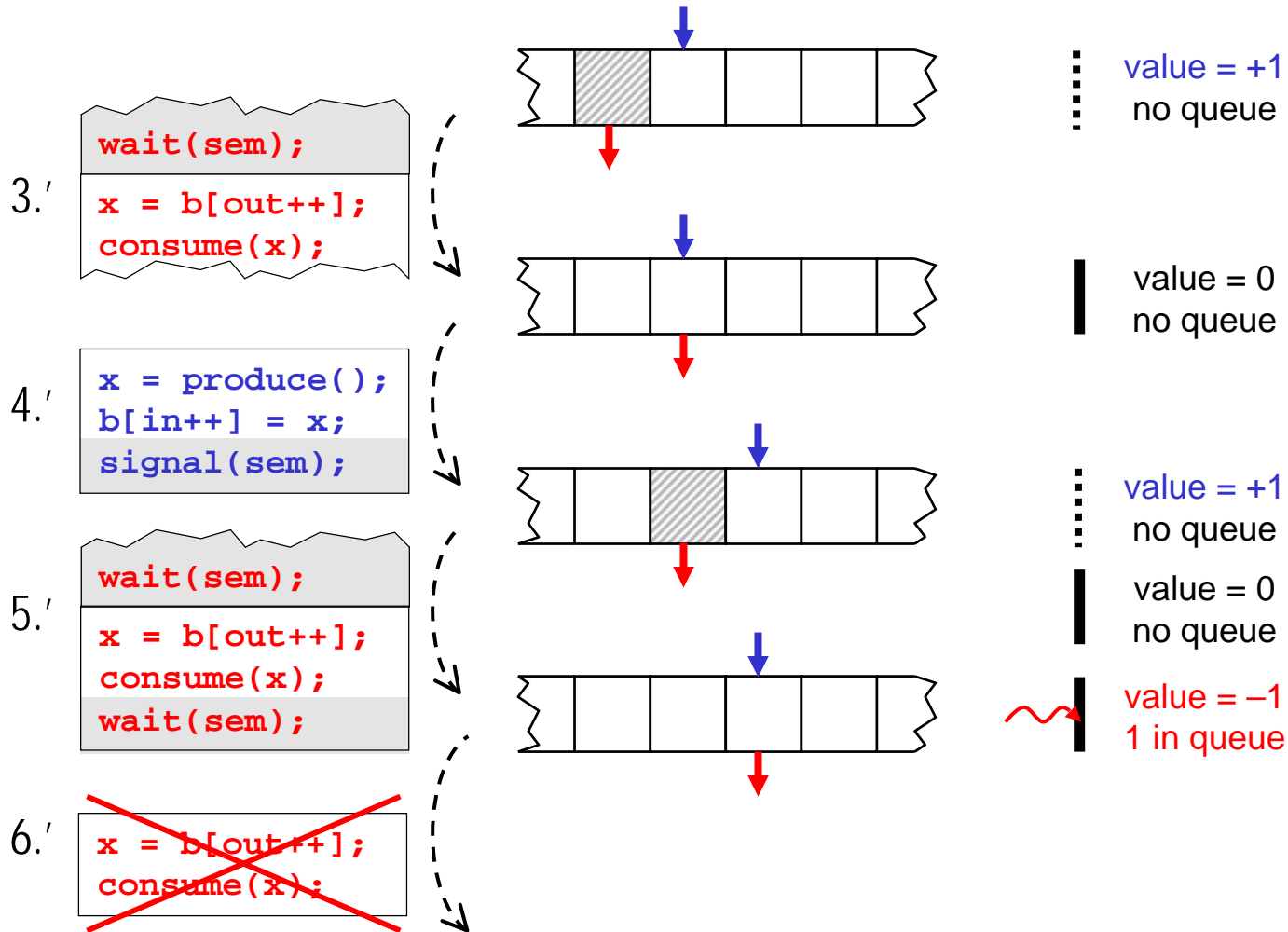
### ➤ Producer/consumer with an integer semaphore

- ✓ no need for a condition: the semaphore itself keeps track of the size of the buffer



# 2.c Concurrency

## Mutual exclusion & synchronization — semaphores



*the consumer is blocked, as it should be; the producer may proceed . . .*

# 2.c Concurrency

## Mutual exclusion & synchronization — semaphores

### ➤ How semaphores may be implemented

```
semWait(s)
{
    while (!testset(s.flag))
        /* do nothing */;
    s.count--;
    if (s.count < 0)
    {
        place this process in s.queue;
        block this process (must also set s.flag to 0)
    }
    s.flag = 0;
}

semSignal(s)
{
    while (!testset(s.flag))
        /* do nothing */;
    s.count++;
    if (s.count <= 0)
    {
        remove a process P from s.queue;
        place process P on ready list
    }
    s.flag = 0;
}
```

```
semWait(s)
{
    inhibit interrupts;
    s.count--;
    if (s.count < 0)
    {
        place this process in s.queue;
        block this process and allow interrupts
    }
    else
        allow interrupts;
}

semSignal(s)
{
    inhibit interrupts;
    s.count++;
    if (s.count <= 0)
    {
        remove a process P from s.queue;
        place process P on ready list
    }
    allow interrupts;
}
```

(a) Testset Instruction

(b) Interrupts

Stallings, W. (2004) *Operating Systems: Internals and Design Principles (5th Edition)*.

### Two possible implementations of semaphores

## 2.c Concurrency

Mutual exclusion & synchronization — semaphores

- Bounded buffer, 1 producer, 1 consumer with sync

## 2.c Concurrency

### Mutual exclusion & synchronization — monitors

- A monitor is a language-level encapsulation construct

## 2.c Concurrency

Mutual exclusion & synchronization — monitors

- **Producer/consumer problem with monitors**

## 2.c Concurrency

Mutual exclusion & synchronization — message passing

- Message passing: senders, receivers and mailboxes



## 2.c Concurrency

Mutual exclusion & synchronization — message passing

- **Producer/consumer problem with message passing**

# Principles of Operating Systems

CS 446/646

## 2. Processes

a. Process Description & Control

b. Threads

**c. Concurrency**

- ✓ Types of process interaction
- ✓ Race conditions & critical regions
- ✓ Mutual exclusion by busy waiting
- ✓ Mutual exclusion & synchronization
  - mutexes
  - semaphores
  - monitors
  - message passing

**d. Deadlocks**

# Principles of Operating Systems

## CS 446/646

### 2. Processes

a. Process Description & Control

b. Threads

c. Concurrency

**d. Deadlocks**

- ✓ Deadlock principles: diagrams and graphs
- ✓ Deadlock prevention: changing the rules
- ✓ Deadlock avoidance: optimizing the allocation
- ✓ Deadlock detection: recovering after the facts

## 2.d Deadlocks

### Deadlock principles: diagrams and graphs

- A deadlock is a permanent blocking of a set of threads
  - ✓ a deadlock can happen while threads/processes are competing for system resources or communicating with each other
  - ✓ there is no universal efficient solution against deadlocks

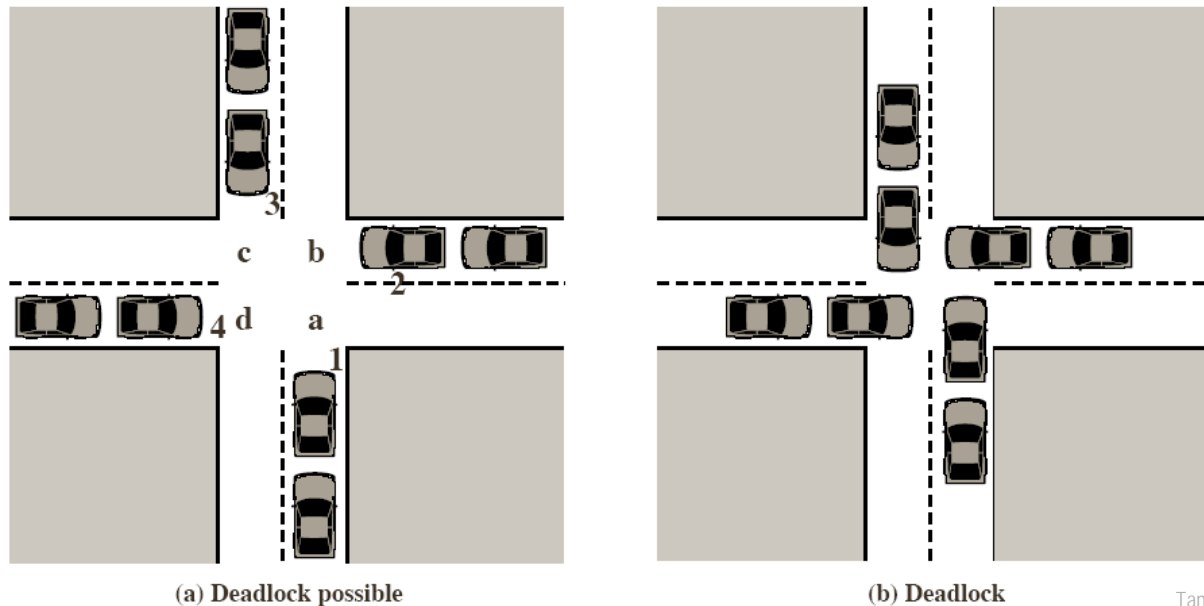


Illustration of a deadlock

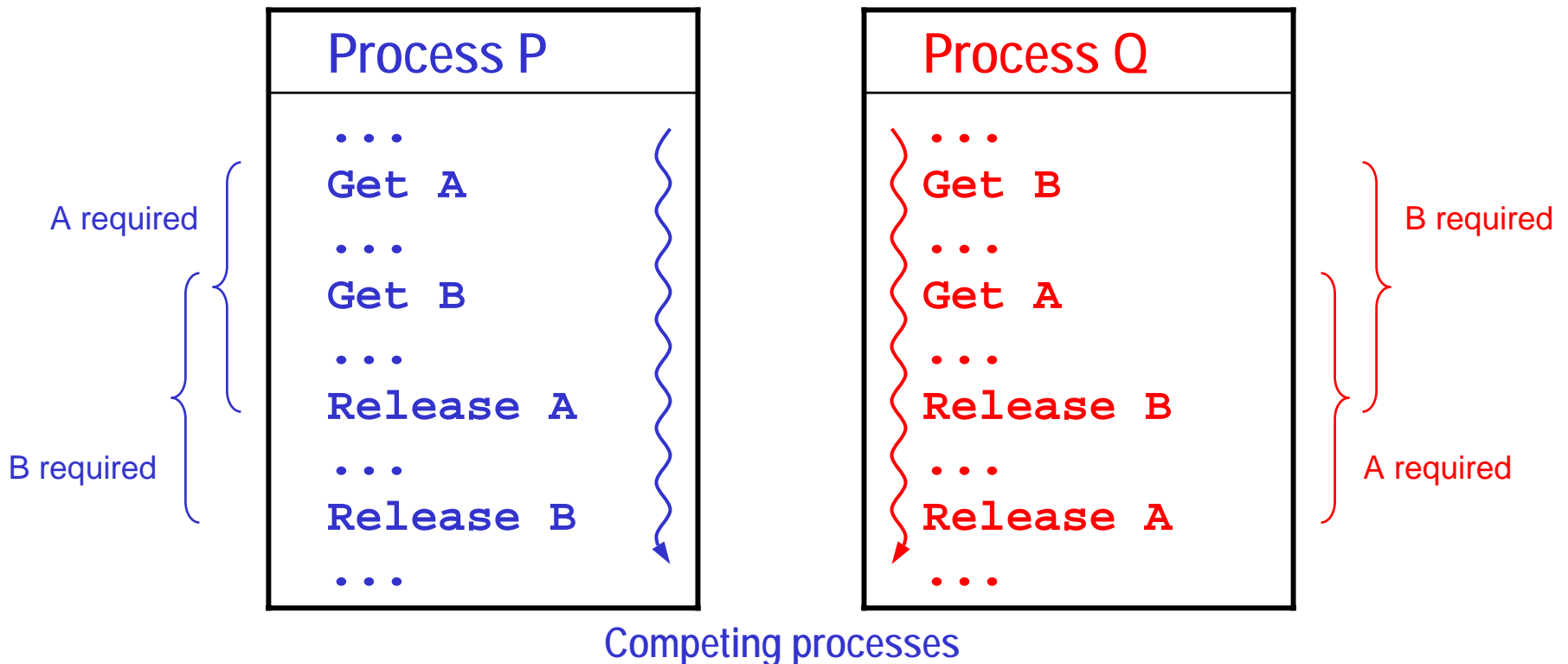
Tanenbaum, A. S. (2001)  
*Modern Operating Systems (2nd Edition)*.

# 2.d Deadlocks

## Deadlock principles: diagrams and graphs

### ➤ Illustration of a deadlock

- ✓ two processes, P and Q, compete for two resources, A and B
- ✓ each process needs exclusive use of each resource

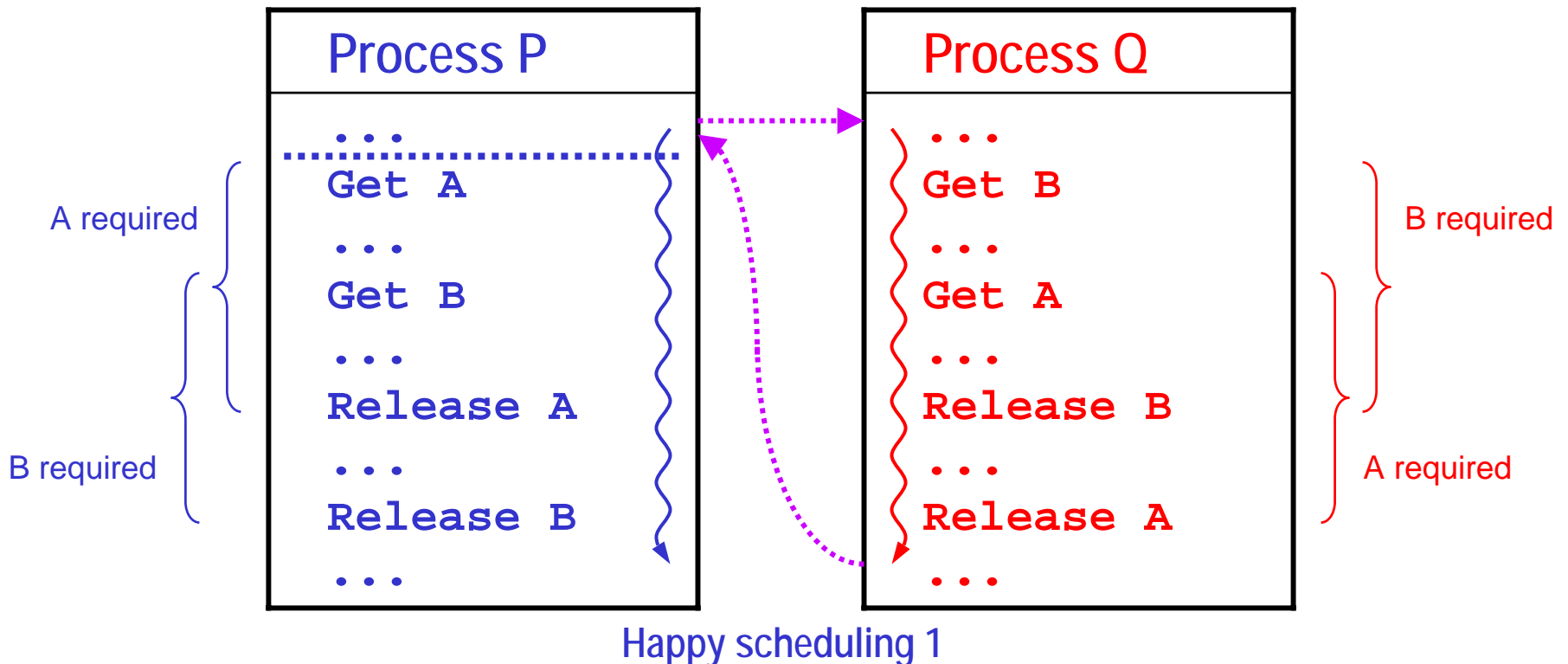


## 2.d Deadlocks

### Deadlock principles: diagrams and graphs

#### ➤ Illustration of a deadlock — scheduling path 1 😊

- ✓ Q executes everything before P can ever get A
- ✓ when P is ready, resources A and B are free and P can proceed

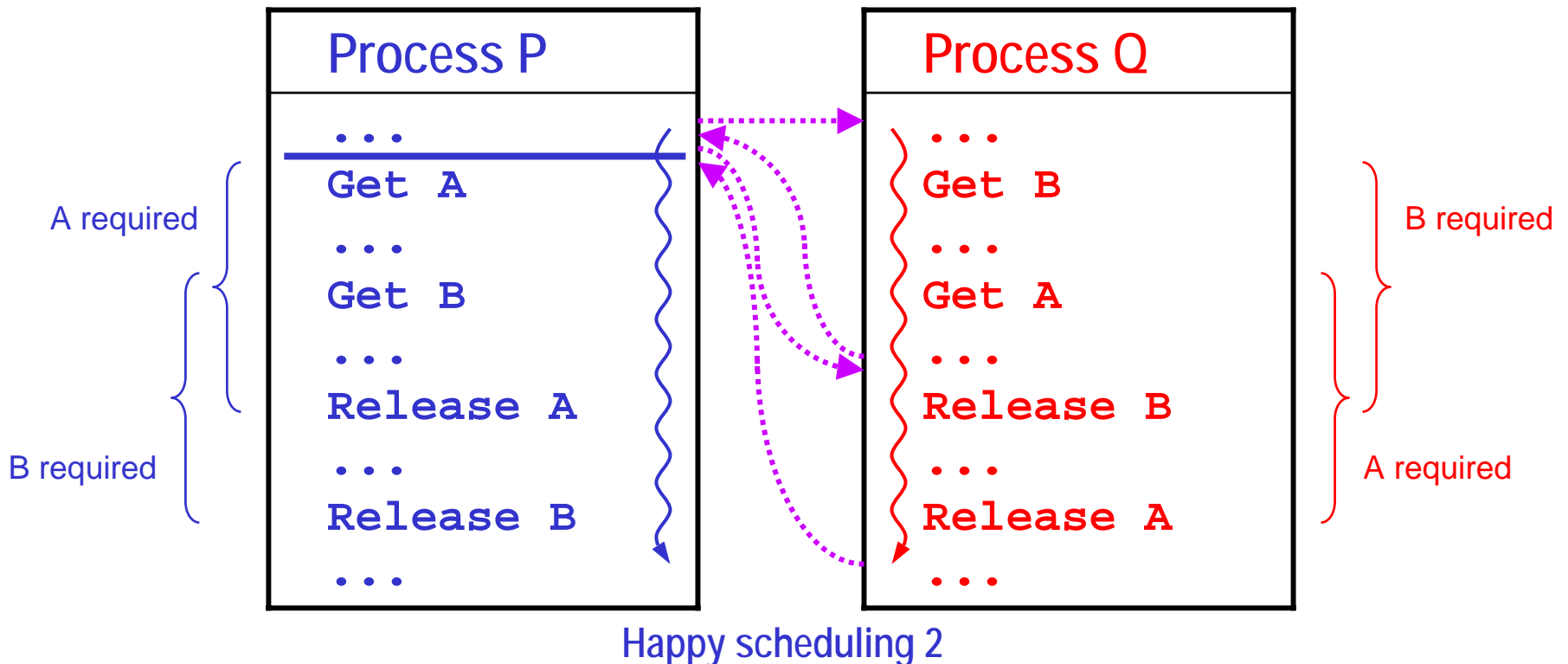


## 2.d Deadlocks

### Deadlock principles: diagrams and graphs

#### ➤ Illustration of a deadlock — scheduling path 2 😊

- ✓ Q gets B and A, then P is scheduled; P wants A but is blocked by A's mutex; so Q resumes and releases B and A; P can now go

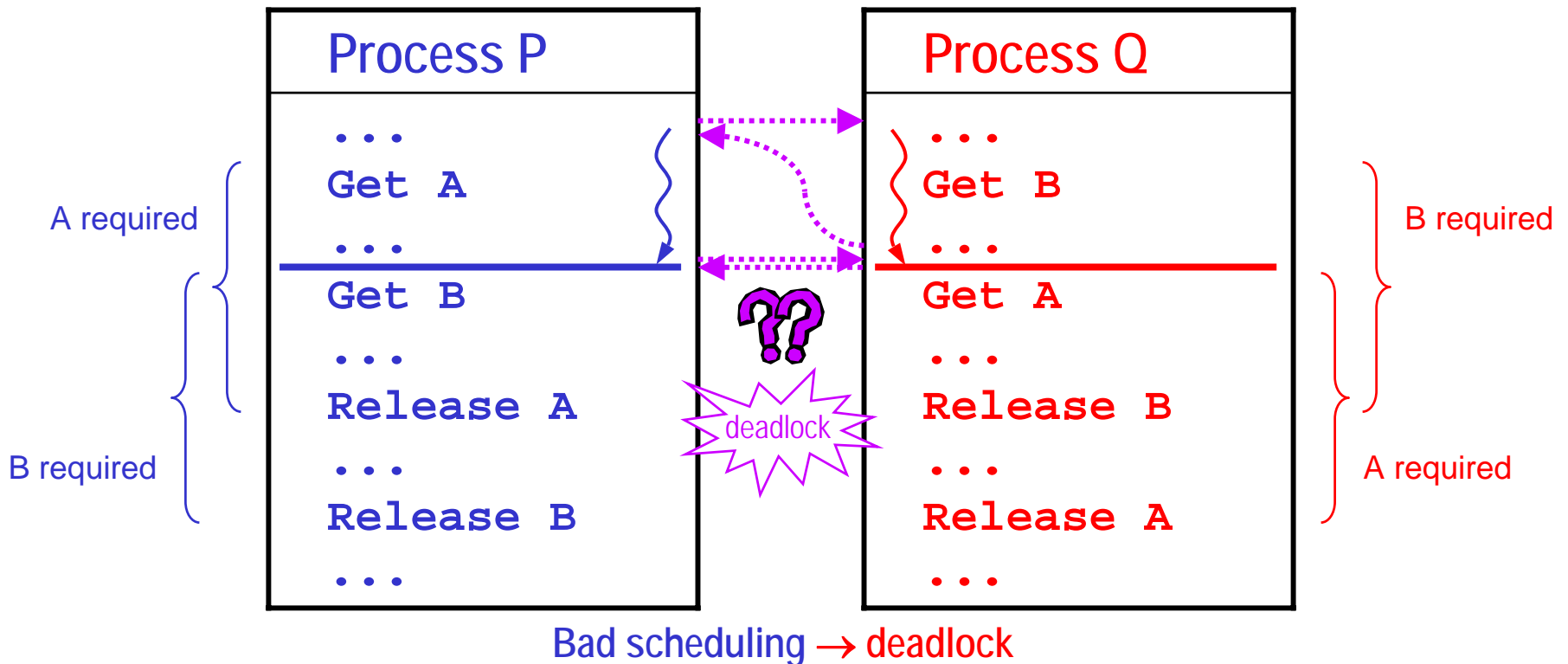


## 2.d Deadlocks

### Deadlock principles: diagrams and graphs

#### ➤ Illustration of a deadlock — scheduling path 3 ☹️

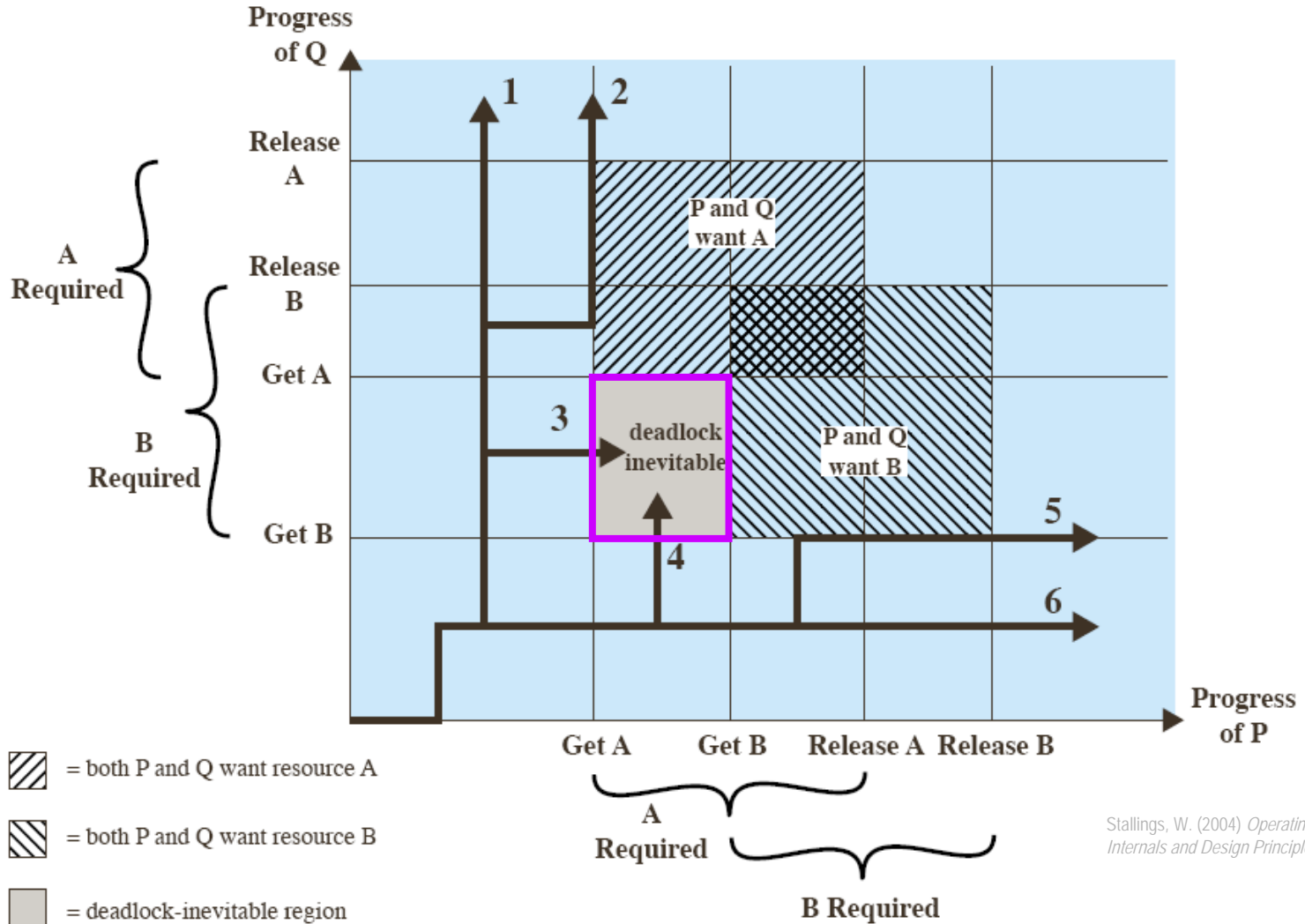
- ✓ Q gets only B, then P is scheduled and gets A; now both P and Q are blocked, each waiting for the other to release a resource





# 2.d Deadlocks

## Deadlock principles: diagrams and graphs



Stallings, W. (2004) *Operating Systems: Internals and Design Principles (5th Edition)*.

Joint progress diagram

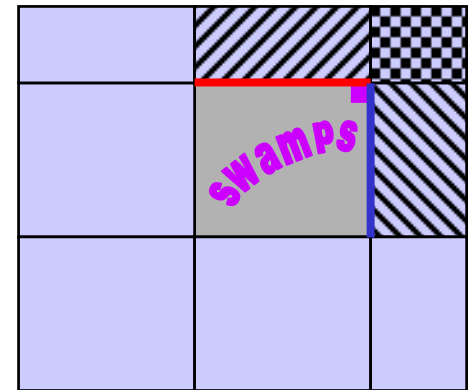
## 2.d Deadlocks

### Deadlock principles: diagrams and graphs

#### ➤ Deadlocks depend on the program and the scheduling

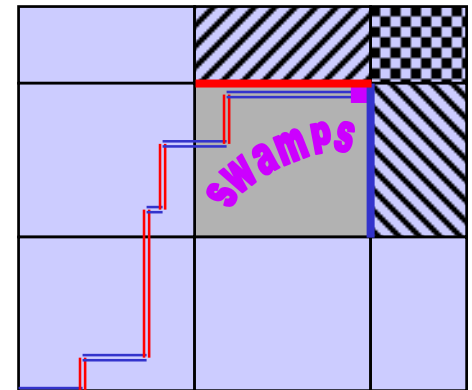
##### ✓ program design

- the order of the statements in the code creates the “landscape” of the joint progress diagram
- this landscape may contain gray “swamp” areas leading to **deadlock**



##### ✓ scheduling condition

- the interleaved dynamics of multiple executions traces a “path” in this landscape
- this path may sink in the swamps

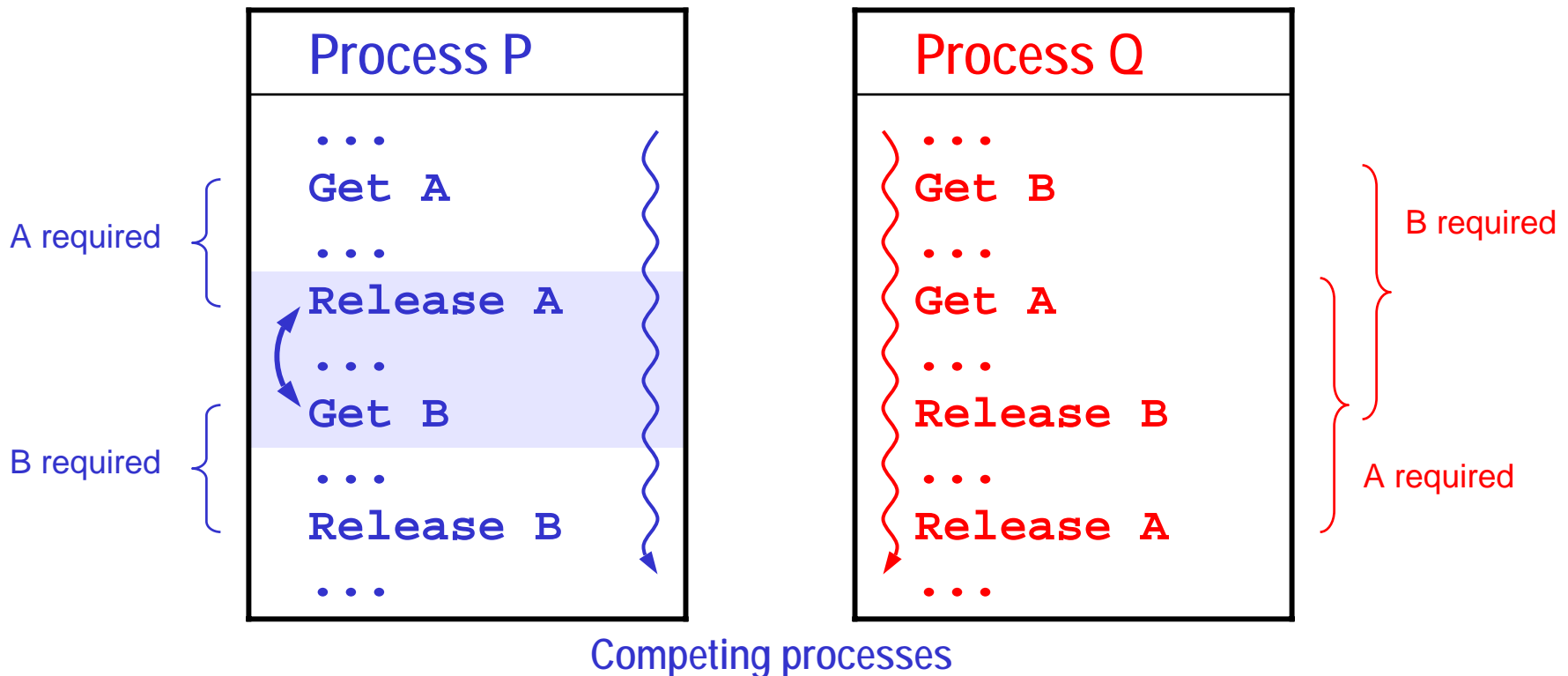


## 2.d Deadlocks

### Deadlock principles: diagrams and graphs

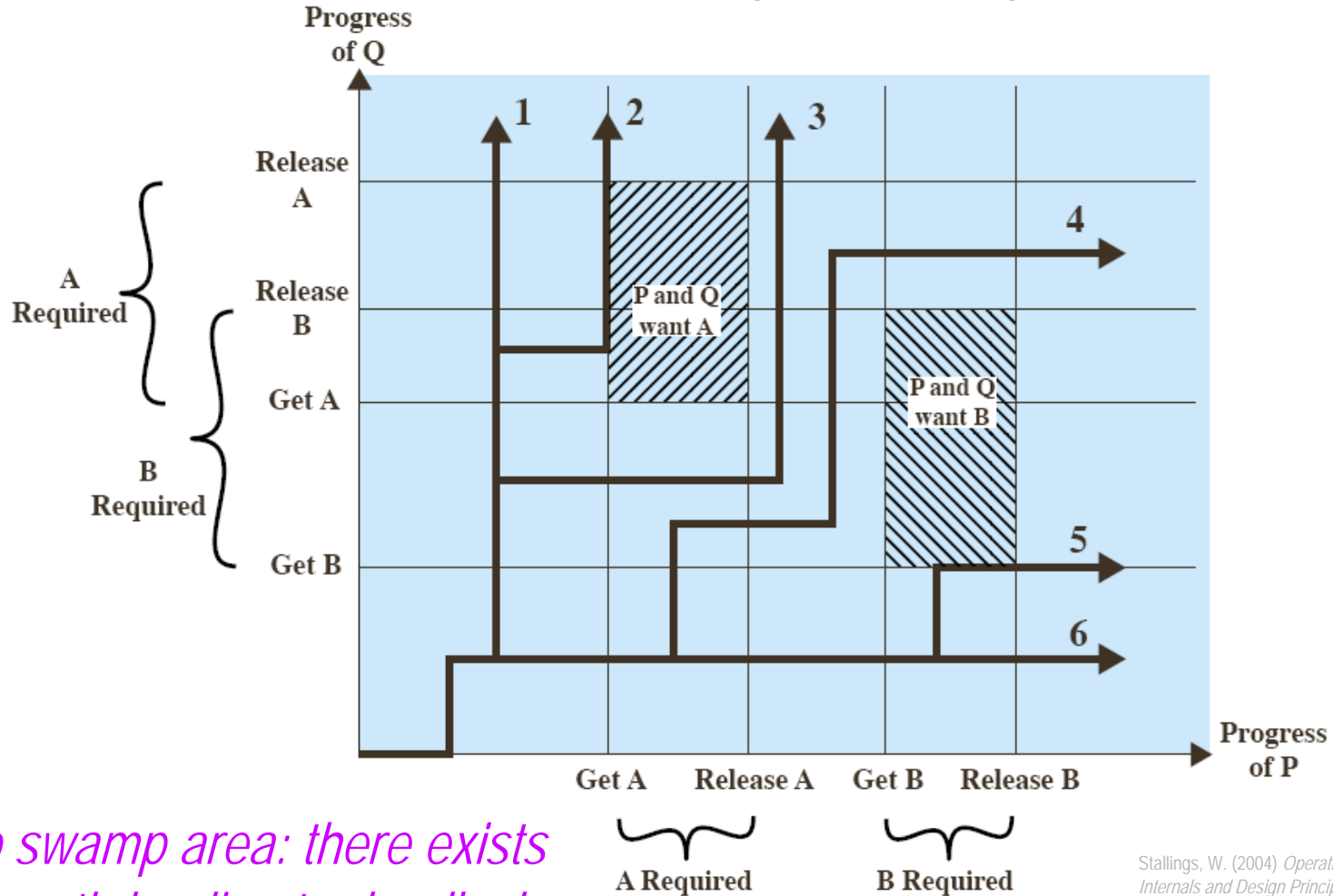
#### ➤ Changing the program changes the landscape

- ✓ here, P releases A before getting B
- ✓ deadlocks between P and Q are not possible anymore



# 2.d Deadlocks

## Deadlock principles: diagrams and graphs



→ *no swamp area: there exists no path leading to deadlock*

Stallings, W. (2004) *Operating Systems: Internals and Design Principles (5th Edition)*.

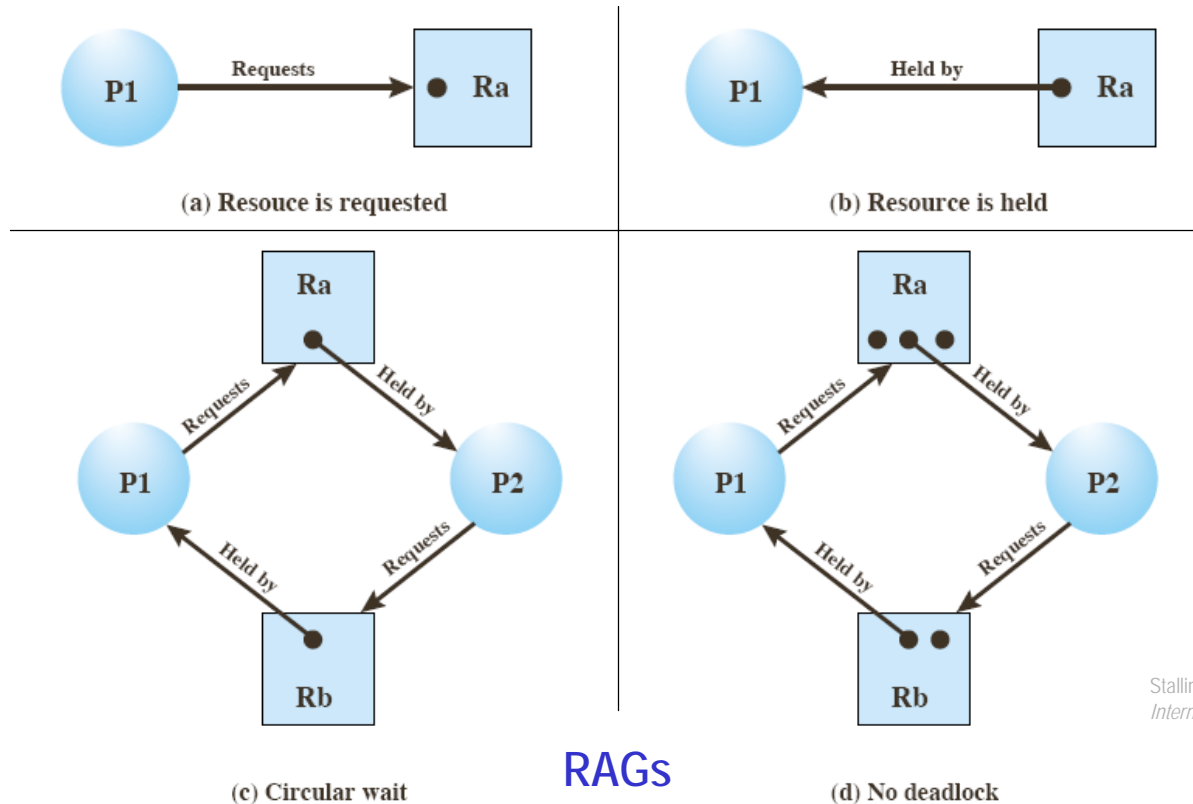
Joint progress diagram

# 2.d Deadlocks

## Deadlock principles: diagrams and graphs

### ➤ Snapshot of concurrency: Resource Allocation Graph

- ✓ a resource allocation graph is a directed graph that depicts a state of the system of resources and processes



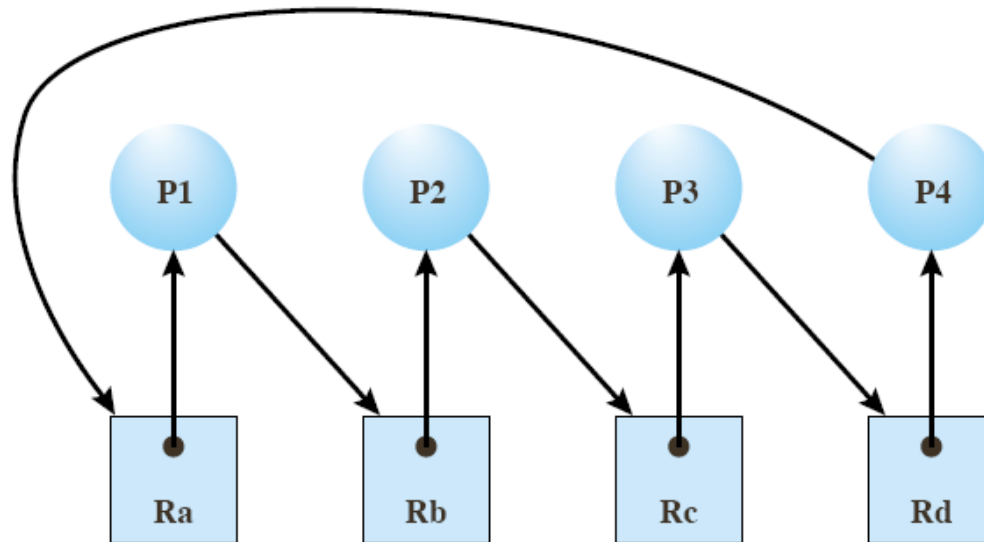
Stallings, W. (2004) *Operating Systems: Internals and Design Principles (5th Edition)*.

# 2.d Deadlocks

## Deadlock principles: diagrams and graphs

### ➤ Resource allocation graphs & deadlocks

- ✓ there is deadlock when a closed chain of processes exists
- ✓ each process holds at least one resource needed by the next process



Stallings, W. (2004) *Operating Systems: Internals and Design Principles (5th Edition)*.

A deadlock's RAG

## 2.d Deadlocks

### Deadlock principles: diagrams and graphs

- **Design conditions for deadlock (create the swamps)**
    1. **mutual exclusion** — the design contains protected critical regions; only one process at a time may use these
    2. **hold & wait** — the design is such that, while inside a critical region, a process may have to wait for another critical region
    3. **no resource preemption** — there must not be any hardware or O/S mechanism forcibly removing a process from its CR
  - + **Scheduling condition for deadlock (go to the swamps)**
    4. **circular wait** — two or more hold-&-wait's are happening in a circle: each process holds a resource needed by the next
- = **Deadlock!**

## 2.d Deadlocks

### Deadlock principles: diagrams and graphs

#### ➤ Three strategies for dealing with deadlocks

- ✓ **deadlock prevention** — changing the rules
  - one or several of the deadlock conditions 1., 2., 3. or 4. are removed *a priori* (design decision)
- ✓ **deadlock avoidance** — optimizing the allocation
  - deadlock conditions 1., 2., 3. are maintained but resource allocation follows extra cautionary rules (runtime decision)
- ✓ **deadlock detection** — recovering after the facts
  - no precautions are taken to avoid deadlocks, but the system cleans them periodically (“deadlock collector”)



## 2.d Deadlocks

### Deadlock prevention: changing the rules

- Remove one of the design or scheduling conditions?
  - ✓ remove "mutual exclusion"?
    - *not possible: must always be supported by the O/S*
  - ✓ remove "hold & wait"?
    - require that a process gets all its resources at one time
    - *inefficient and impractical: defeats interleaving, creates long waits, cannot predict all resource needs*
  - ✓ remove "no preemption" = allow preemption?
    - require that a process releases and requests again → *ok*
  - ✓ remove "circular wait"?
    - ex: impose an ordering of resources → *inefficient, again*

## 2.d Deadlocks

### Deadlock avoidance: optimizing the allocation

#### ➤ Allow all conditions, but allocate wisely

- ✓ given a resource allocation request, a decision is made dynamically whether granting this request can potentially lead to a deadlock or not
  - do not start a process if its demands might lead to deadlock
  - do not grant an incremental resource request to a running process if this allocation might lead to deadlock
- ✓ avoidance strategies requires knowledge of future process request (calculating “chess moves” ahead)

## 2.d Deadlocks

### Deadlock avoidance: optimizing the allocation

- **Resource allocation denial: the “banker's algorithm”**
  - ✓ at any time, the state of the system is the current allocation of multiple resources to multiple processes
    - a safe state is where there is at least one sequence that does not result in deadlock
    - an unsafe state is a state where there is no such sequence
  - ✓ analogy = banker refusing to grant a loan if funds are too low to grant more loans + uncertainty about how long a customer will repay

# 2.d Deadlocks

Deadlock avoidance: optimizing the allocation

## ➤ Resource allocation denial: the “banker's algorithm”

✓ can a process run to completion with the available resources?

	R1	R2	R3
P1	3	2	2
P2	6	1	3
P3	3	1	4
P4	4	2	2

Claim matrix C

	R1	R2	R3
P1	1	0	0
P2	6	1	2
P3	2	1	1
P4	0	0	2

Allocation matrix A

	R1	R2	R3
P1	2	2	2
P2	0	0	1
P3	1	0	3
P4	4	2	0

C - A

R1	R2	R3
9	3	6

Resource vector R

R1	R2	R3
0	1	1

Available vector V

*compare what is still needed with what is left*

(a)

(a) Initial state

	R1	R2	R3
P1	3	2	2
P2	0	0	0
P3	3	1	4
P4	4	2	2

Claim matrix C

	R1	R2	R3
P1	1	0	0
P2	0	0	0
P3	2	1	1
P4	0	0	2

Allocation matrix A

	R1	R2	R3
P1	2	2	2
P2	0	0	0
P3	1	0	3
P4	4	2	0

C - A

(b)

(b) P2 runs to completion

Determination of a safe state

Stallings, W. (2004) *Operating Systems: Internals and Design Principles (5th Edition)*.

# 2.d Deadlocks

## Deadlock avoidance: optimizing the allocation

### ➤ Resource allocation denial: the “banker's algorithm”

✓ idea: refuse to allocate if it may result in deadlock

	R1	R2	R3
P1	0	0	0
P2	0	0	0
P3	3	1	4
P4	4	2	2

Claim matrix C

	R1	R2	R3
P1	0	0	0
P2	0	0	0
P3	2	1	1
P4	0	0	2

Allocation matrix A

	R1	R2	R3
P1	0	0	0
P2	0	0	0
P3	1	0	3
P4	4	2	0

C - A

R1	R2	R3
9	3	6

Resource vector R

R1	R2	R3
7	2	3

Available vector V

Stallings, W. (2004) *Operating Systems: Internals and Design Principles (5th Edition)*.

(c) P1 runs to completion

	R1	R2	R3
P1	0	0	0
P2	0	0	0
P3	0	0	0
P4	4	2	2

Claim matrix C

	R1	R2	R3
P1	0	0	0
P2	0	0	0
P3	0	0	0
P4	0	0	2

Allocation matrix A

	R1	R2	R3
P1	0	0	0
P2	0	0	0
P3	0	0	0
P4	4	2	0

C - A

R1	R2	R3
9	3	6

Resource vector R

R1	R2	R3
9	3	4

Available vector V

(d) P3 runs to completion

all could run to completion:  
→ thus, (a) was a safe state

### Determination of a safe state (cont'd)

# 2.d Deadlocks

Deadlock avoidance: optimizing the allocation

## ➤ Resource allocation denial: the “banker's algorithm”

✓ idea: refuse to allocate if it may result in deadlock

	R1	R2	R3
P1	3	2	2
P2	6	1	3
P3	3	1	4
P4	4	2	2

Claim matrix C

	R1	R2	R3
P1	1	0	0
P2	5	1	1
P3	2	1	1
P4	0	0	2

Allocation matrix A

	R1	R2	R3
P1	2	2	2
P2	1	0	2
P3	1	0	3
P4	4	2	0

C - A

	R1	R2	R3
	9	3	6

Resource vector R

	R1	R2	R3
	1	1	2

Available vector V

Stallings, W. (2004) *Operating Systems: Internals and Design Principles (5th Edition)*.

(a) safe ← (a')

(a) Initial state

	R1	R2	R3
P1	3	2	2
P2	6	1	3
P3	3	1	4
P4	4	2	2

Claim matrix C

	R1	R2	R3
P1	2	0	1
P2	5	1	1
P3	2	1	1
P4	0	0	2

Allocation matrix A

	R1	R2	R3
P1	1	2	1
P2	1	0	2
P3	1	0	3
P4	4	2	0

C - A

(b') unsafe

	R1	R2	R3
	9	3	6

Resource vector R

	R1	R2	R3
	0	1	1

Available vector V

(b) P1 requests one unit each of R1 and R3

Determination of an unsafe state

*potential for deadlock (we don't know how long Ri will be kept) → thus, (b) is an unsafe state: don't allow (b') to*

*happen*

## 2.d Deadlocks

Deadlock detection: recovering after the facts

# Principles of Operating Systems

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## 2. Processes

- a. Process Description & Control
- b. Threads
- c. Concurrency

### **d. Deadlocks**

- ✓ Deadlock principles: diagrams and graphs
- ✓ Deadlock prevention: changing the rules
- ✓ Deadlock avoidance: optimizing the allocation
- ✓ Deadlock detection: recovering after the facts



# Principles of Operating Systems

CS 446/646

## 2. Processes

- a. Process Description & Control
- b. Threads
- c. Concurrency
- d. Deadlocks

# Principles of Operating Systems

CS 446/646

0. Course Presentation
1. Introduction to Operating Systems
2. Processes
- 3. Memory Management**
- 4. CPU Scheduling**
- 5. Input/Output**
- 6. File System**
- 7. Case Studies**