

# EE445M/ECE380L.12

## Embedded and Real-Time Systems/ Real-Time Operating Systems

### Lecture 5: Semaphores, Deadlocks, Debugging, Testing

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## Graduate Projects Ideas

1. Extend the OS with more features (do this if two students in group)
  - Efficient with 20 to 50 threads
  - Multiple cores (real-time scheduling algorithms & implementation)
  - Multiple Mailboxes, FIFOs
  - Multiple periodic/edge-triggered interrupts
  - Path expressions, bankers algorithm,
  - Semaphores with timeout, priority inheritance/ceiling (algorithms & implementation)Due end of Feb
2. Make your Lab3 OS portable and port to another platform
  - First implement Lab3 on another architecture (each student does their own)
  - Rewrite OS into two parts: common OS.c (maximize), separate CPU.c per architecture (minimize)
3. Design and test a DMA-based eDisk driver for the LaunchPad board (one-person project)
  - Compare and contrast your Lab5 to FAT
4. Design and test a DMA-based camera driver for the LaunchPad board
  - See LM3S811 example [http://www.ece.utexas.edu/~valvano/arm/Camera\\_811.zip](http://www.ece.utexas.edu/~valvano/arm/Camera_811.zip) (one person project)
  - Implement object/lane detection/recognition and lane keeping (self-driving car) (two or more students)
5. Write your own memory management
  - Heap, malloc and free (one-person project)
  - Use of Memory Protection Unit (MPU) on LaunchPad
  - Virtual memory, paging on a different platform (two or more students)
6. Networking, Internet-of-Things (IoT)
  - Port a lightweight TCP/IP stack onto board (e.g. lwIP using external WiFi module via UART)
  - Robots communicate with each other/base station, control robot remotely (vehicle-to-vehicle / vehicle-to-)
7. Use of Launchpad/OS in other applications
  - Energy harvesting OS with checkpointing for frequent power loss
  - OS safety/security mechanisms

Level of complexity depends on size of group

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# Semaphores

Edsger Dijkstra,  
UT Austin CS 1984-2000

- $P()$  or *wait()*
  - Dutch word *proberen*, to test
  - *probeer te verlagen*, try to decrease
  - **OS\_WAIT      OSSemPend**
- $V()$  or *signal()*
  - Dutch word *verhogen*, to increase
  - **OS\_SIGNAL    OSSemPost**

Reference Book, Chapter 4

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## Semaphore Meaning

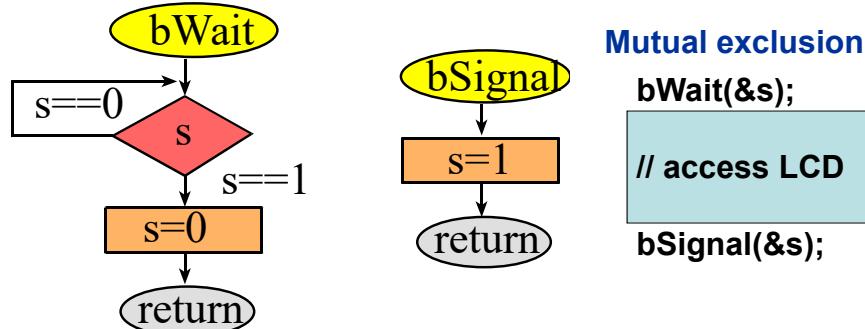
- Counting semaphore
  - Number of elements stored in FIFO
  - Space left in the FIFO
  - Number of printers available
- Binary semaphore (= mutex = flag)
  - Free (1), busy (0)
  - Event occurred (1), not occurred (0)

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## Spin-Lock Binary Semaphore



How do we use this to solve critical sections?

Why is this a good solution for critical sections?

**Mutual exclusion**

```

bWait(&s);
// access LCD
bSignal(&s);

```

What does the semaphore mean?

What would be a better name for s?

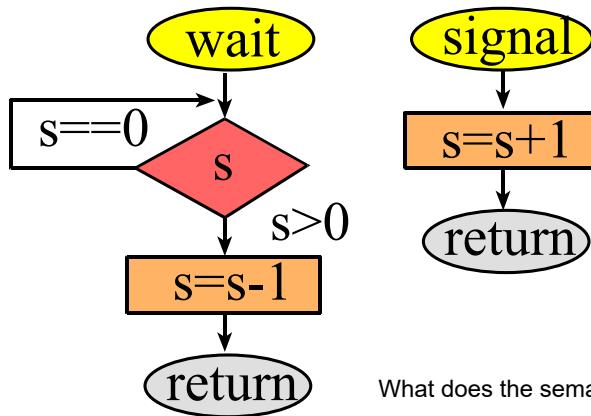
What about atomic?

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## Spin-Lock Counting Semaphore



What does the semaphore mean?

What about atomic?

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# Spin-Lock Semaphores

```

OS_Wait ;R0 points to counter
    LDREX   R1, [R0] ; counter
    SUBS   R1, #1      ; counter -1,
    ITT    PL          ; ok if >= 0
    STREXP L R2,R1,[R0] ; try update
    CMPPL  R2, #0      ; succeed?
    BNE    OS_Wait    ; no, try again
    BX     LR

OS_Signal ; R0 points to counter
    LDREX   R1, [R0] ; counter
    ADD    R1, #1      ; counter + 1
    STREX  R2,R1,[R0] ; try update
    CMP    R2, #0      ; succeed?
    BNE    OS_Signal  ; no, try again
    BX     LR

void OS_Wait(long *s) {
    DisableInterrupts();
    while((*s) <= 0){
        EnableInterrupts();
        DisableInterrupts();
    }
    (*s) = (*s) - 1;
    EnableInterrupts();
}

void OS_Signal(long *s) {
    long status;
    status = StartCritical();
    (*s) = (*s) + 1;
    EndCritical(status);
}

```

## LDREX STREX

Cortex-M3/M4F Instruction Set, pg. 50

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# Mailbox

### MailBox\_Send(...)

- **bWait(&BoxFree)**
- Put data into Mailbox
- **bSignal(&DataValid)**

### MailBox\_Recv(...)

- **bWait(&DataValid)**
- Retrieve data from Mailbox
- **bSignal(&BoxFree)**

Consumer

**Send**

**Recv**

Display



What do the semaphores mean?

What are the initial values?

What if we remove **bWait(&BoxFree)** and **bSignal(&BoxFree)**?

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## FIFO, Queue, or Pipe

### FIFO\_Put

**Wait(&DataRoomLeft)**  
**Disable Interrupts**  
**Enter data into Fifo**  
**Enable Interrupts**  
**Signal(&DataAvailable)**

### FIFO\_Get

**Wait(&DataAvailable)**  
**Disable Interrupts**  
**Remove data from Fifo**  
**Enable Interrupts**  
**Signal(&DataRoomLeft)**

---

### FIFO\_Put

**Wait(&DataRoomLeft)**  
**bWait(&Mutex)**  
**Enter data into Fifo**  
**bSignal(&Mutex)**  
**Signal(&DataAvailable)**

### FIFO\_Get

**Wait(&DataAvailable)**  
**bWait(&Mutex)**  
**Remove data from Fifo**  
**bSignal(&Mutex)**  
**Signal(&DataRoomLeft)**

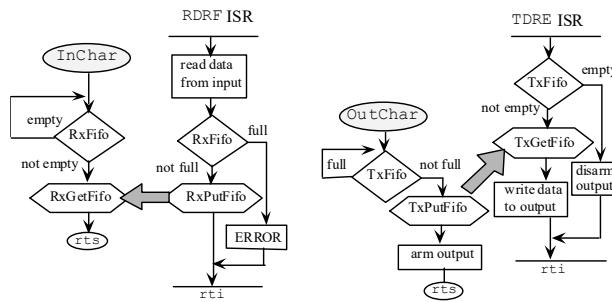
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What do the semaphores mean?  
 What if the FIFO never fills?

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## No Background Wait

- Redo Mailbox if **Send** in background
- Redo Fifo if **Put** in background (RX)
- Redo Fifo if **Get** in background (TX)



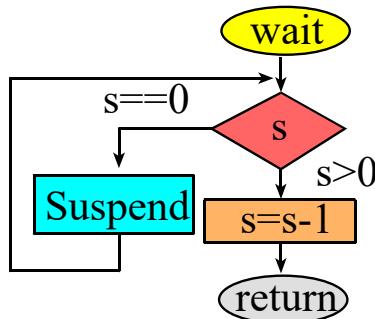
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## Cooperative Spin-Lock

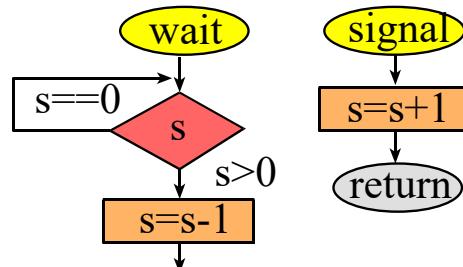
### Cooperative spin-lock



*Could be implemented with  
a catch and throw*

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### Regular spin-lock



Why would you want a timeout error?  
How would you implement timeout?

```

if(OS_Wait(&free,T100ms)){
    // use it
    OS_Signal(&free);
} else {
    // error
}
  
```

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## Cooperative Semaphores

```

void OS_Wait(long *s){
    DisableInterrupts();
    while((*s) <= 0){
        EnableInterrupts();
        OS_Suspend(); ← Let other thread run
        DisableInterrupts();
    }
    (*s) = (*s) - 1;
    EnableInterrupts();
}

void OS_Signal(long *s){
    long status;
    status = StartCritical();
    (*s) = (*s) + 1;
    EndCritical(status);
}
  
```

*Do an experiment of Lab 2 with  
and without cooperation*

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## Blocking Semaphore (Lab 3)

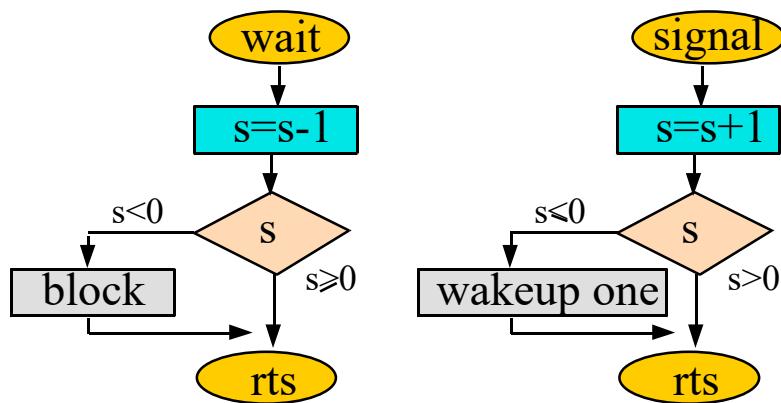
- Recapture time lost in the spin-lock
  - No spin operation, wakeup only on signal
  - Eliminate wasted time running threads that are not doing work (e.g., waiting)
- Implement **bounded waiting**
  - Once thread calls **Wait** and is not serviced,
  - There are a finite number of threads that will go ahead

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## Blocking Semaphore



What does the semaphore mean?  
What about atomic?

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## Blocking Semaphore (V1)

- All threads exist on circular TCB list (active and blocked)
  - Each semaphore simply has a **Value**
  - No blocked threads if semaphore **Value  $\geq 0$** 
    - e.g., if **Value** is -2, then two threads are blocked
  - No information about which thread has waited longest
  - Add to TCB, a **BlockPt**, of type **Sema4Type**
    - initially, this pointer is **null**
    - **null** means this thread is active and ready to run
    - If blocked, this pointer contains the semaphore address
- New Scheduler
  - Find the next active thread from the TCB list
  - Only run threads with **BlockPt** equal to **null**

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## Blocking Semaphore (V1)

**OS\_Wait(Sema4Type \*semaPt)**

- 1) Disable interrupts, **I=1**
- 2) Decrement the semaphore counter, **S=S-1**  

$$(\text{semaPt} \rightarrow \text{Value})--;$$
- 3) If the **Value<0** then this thread will be blocked  
 specify this thread is blocked to this semaphore  

$$\text{RunPt} \rightarrow \text{BlockPt} = \text{semaPt};$$
  

$$\text{suspend thread};$$
- 4) Enable interrupts, **I=0**

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## Blocking Semaphore (V1)

**OS\_Signal(Sema4Type \*semaPt)**

- 1) Save I bit, then disable interrupts
- 2) Increment the semaphore Value,  $S=S+1$   

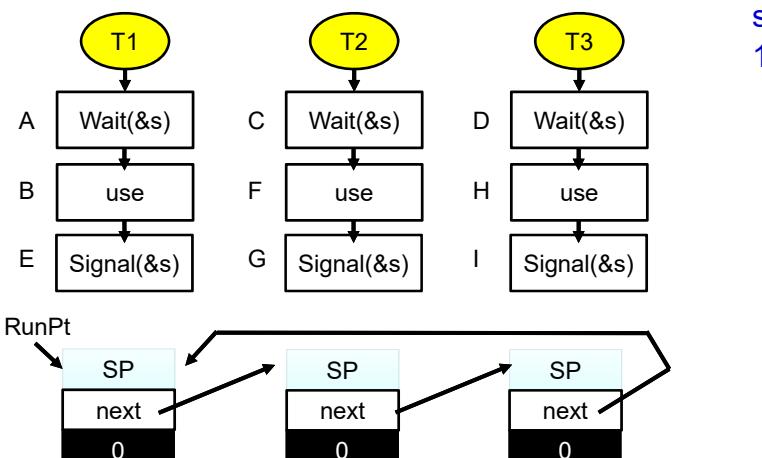
$$(\text{semaPt}->\text{Value})++;$$
- 3) If  $\text{value} \leq 0$  then
  - wake up one thread from the TCB linked list  
 (no bounded waiting)
  - search TCBs for thread with  $\text{BlockPt} == \text{semaPt}$
  - set the  $\text{BlockPt}$  of this TCB to null
  - do not suspend the thread that called `os_Signal`
- 4) Restore I bit

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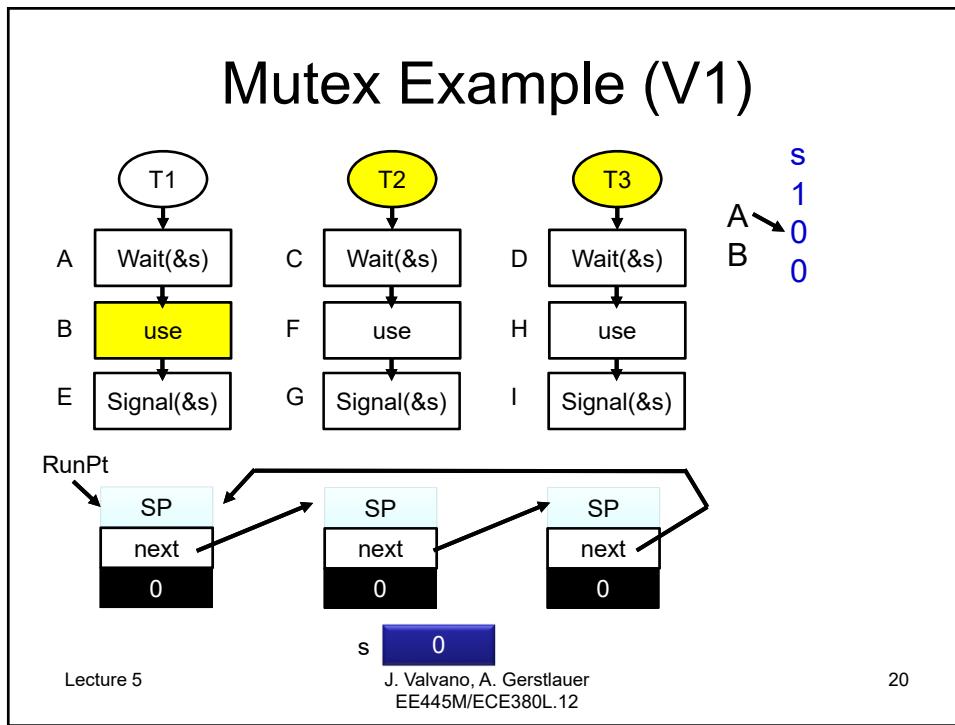
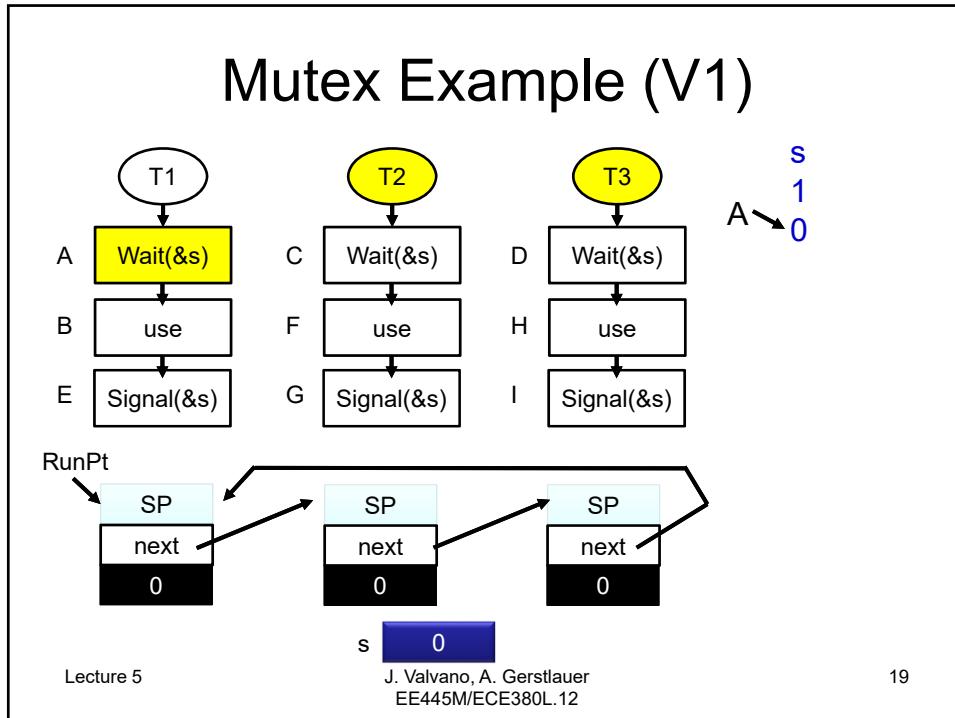
## Mutex Example (V1)

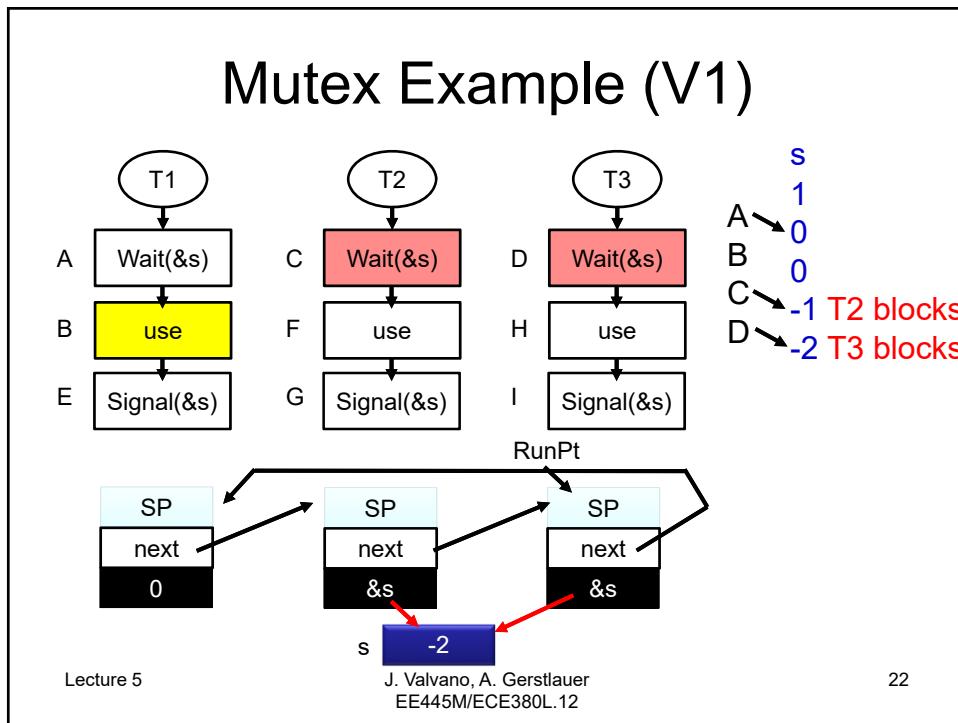
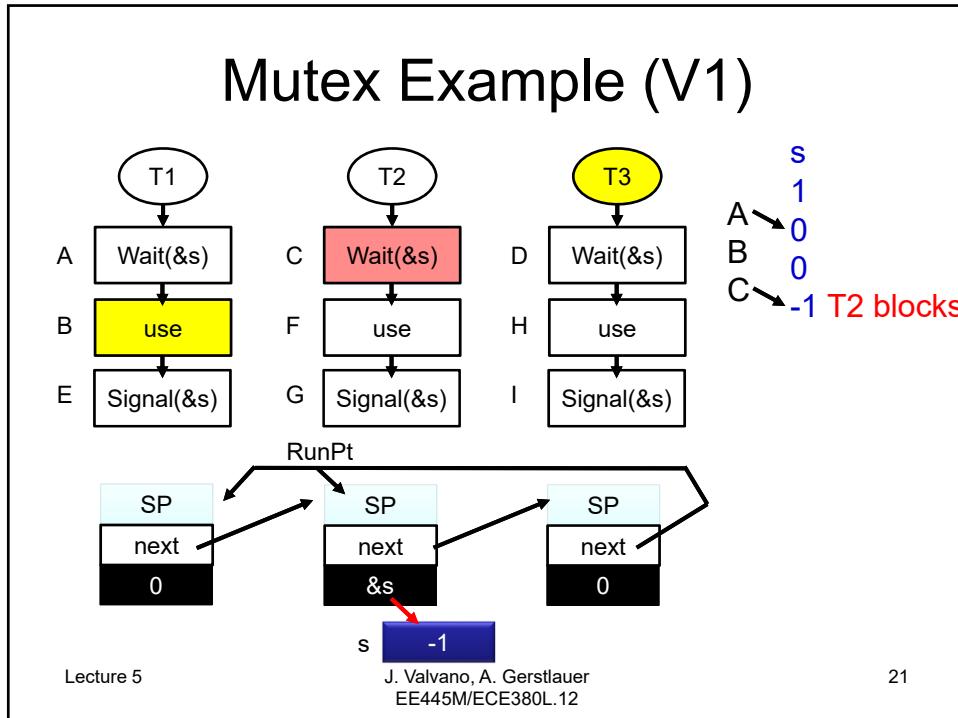


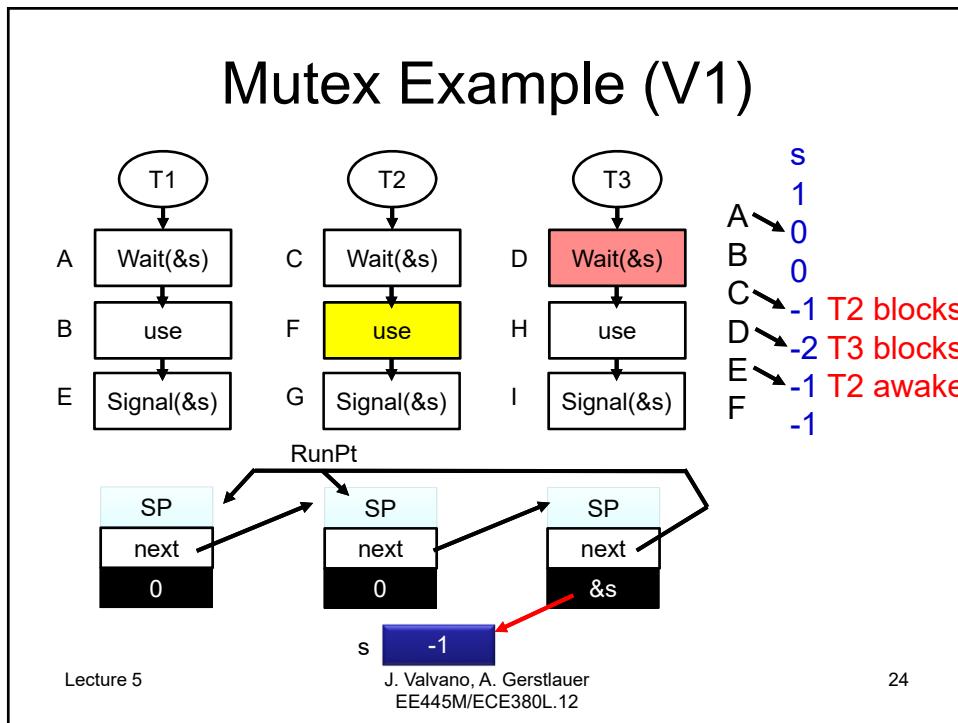
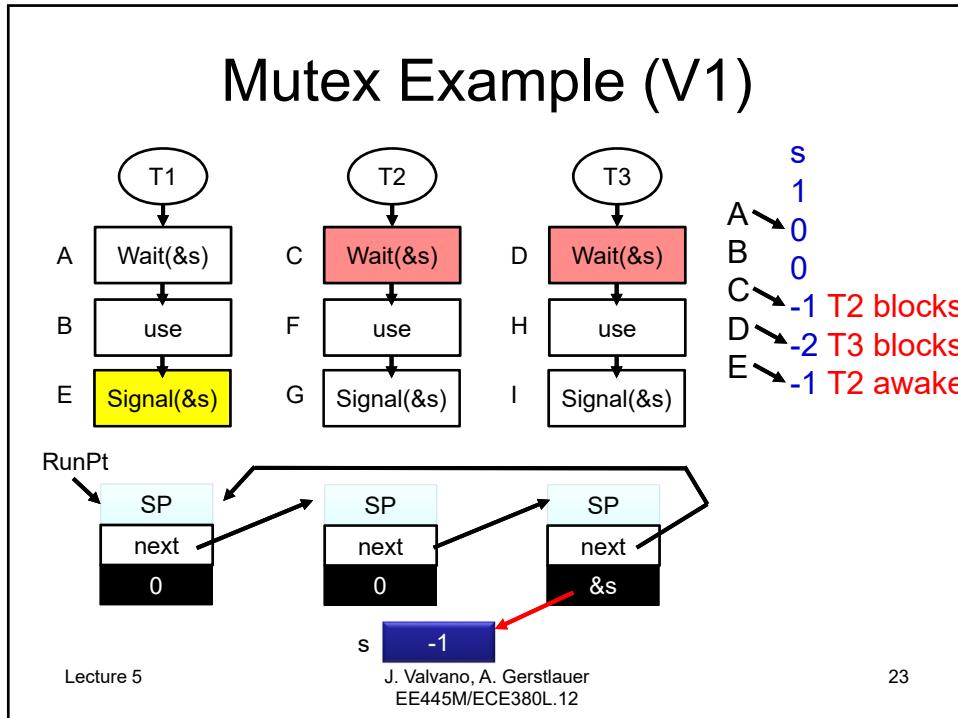
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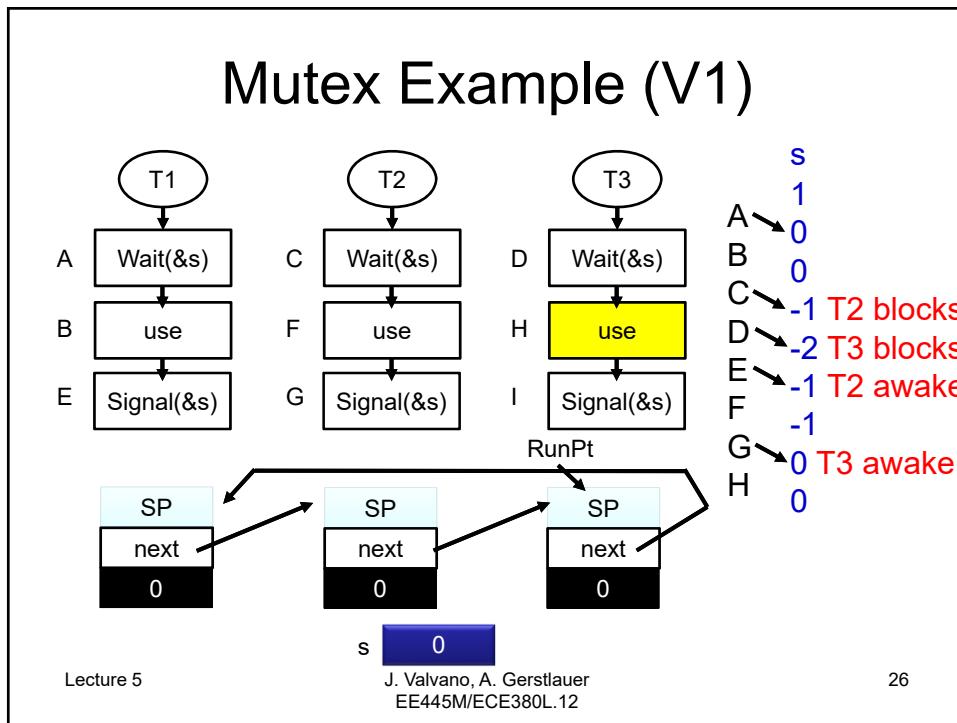
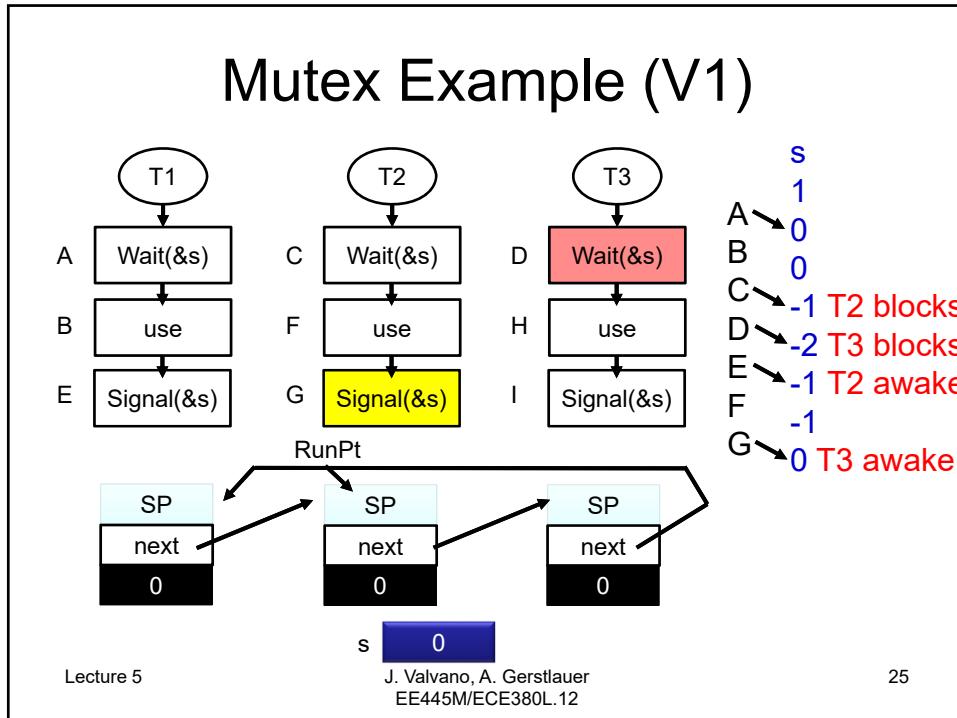
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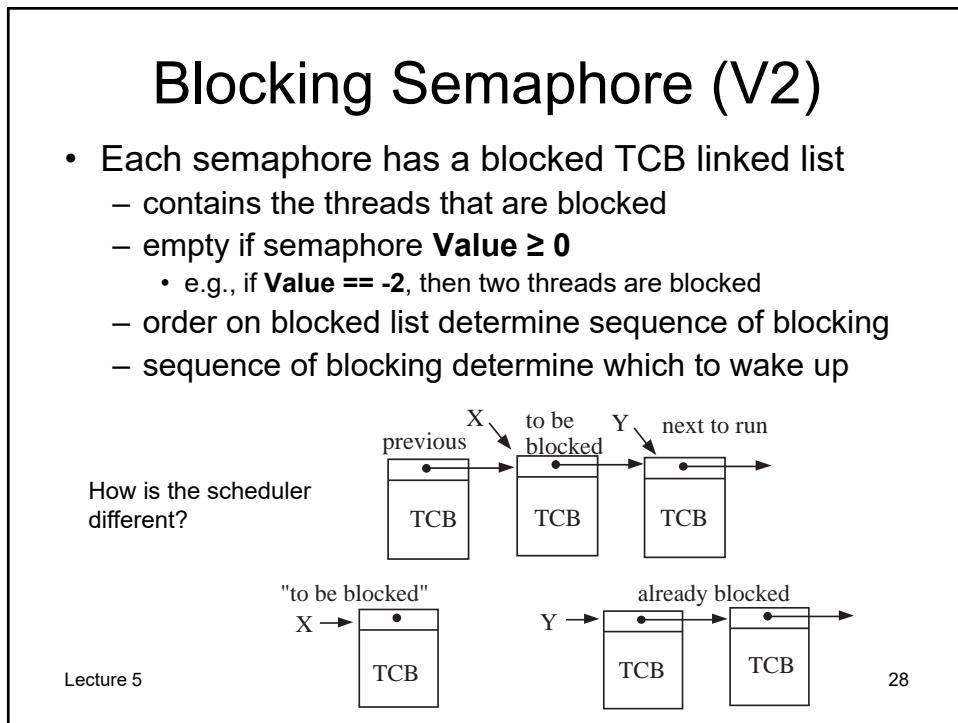
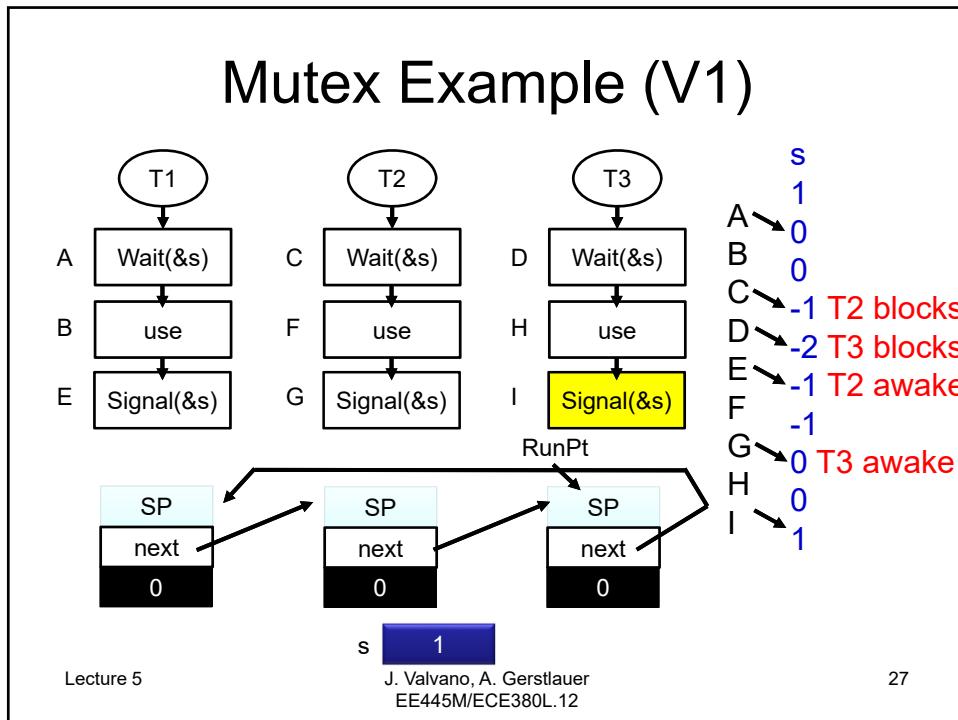
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## Blocking Semaphore (V2)

**OS\_Wait(Sema4Type \*semaPt)**

- 1) Save the I bit and disable interrupts
- 2) Decrement the semaphore counter,  $S=S-1$   
$$(\text{semaPt}->\text{Value})--;$$
- 3) If the value  $< 0$  then this thread will be blocked  
set the status of this thread to blocked,  
specify this thread blocked on this semaphore,  
suspend thread
- 4) Restore the I bit

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## Blocking Semaphore (V2)

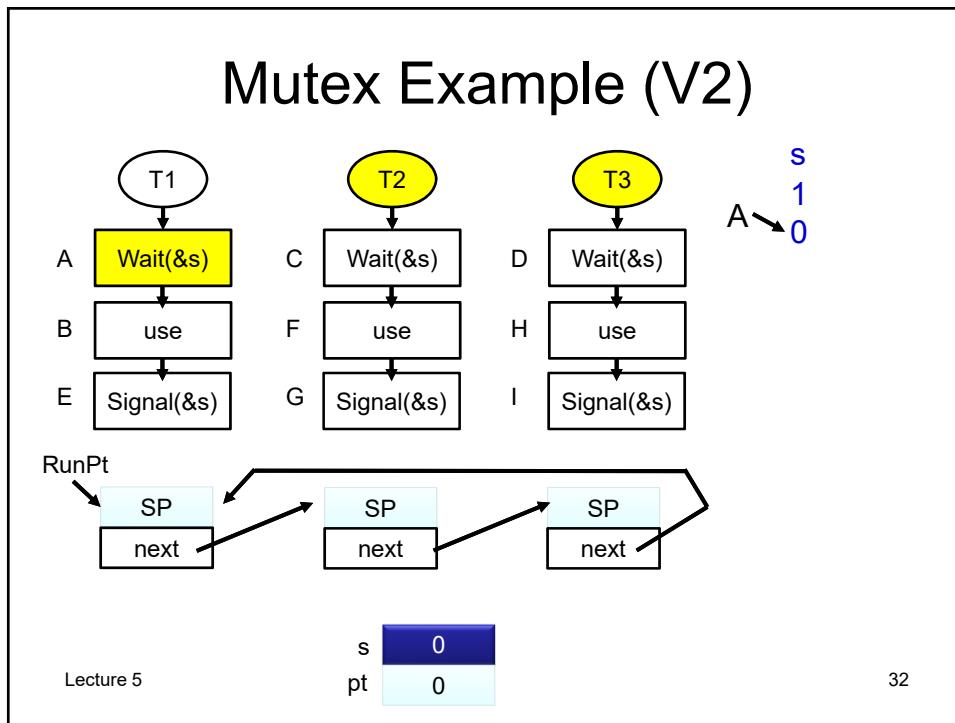
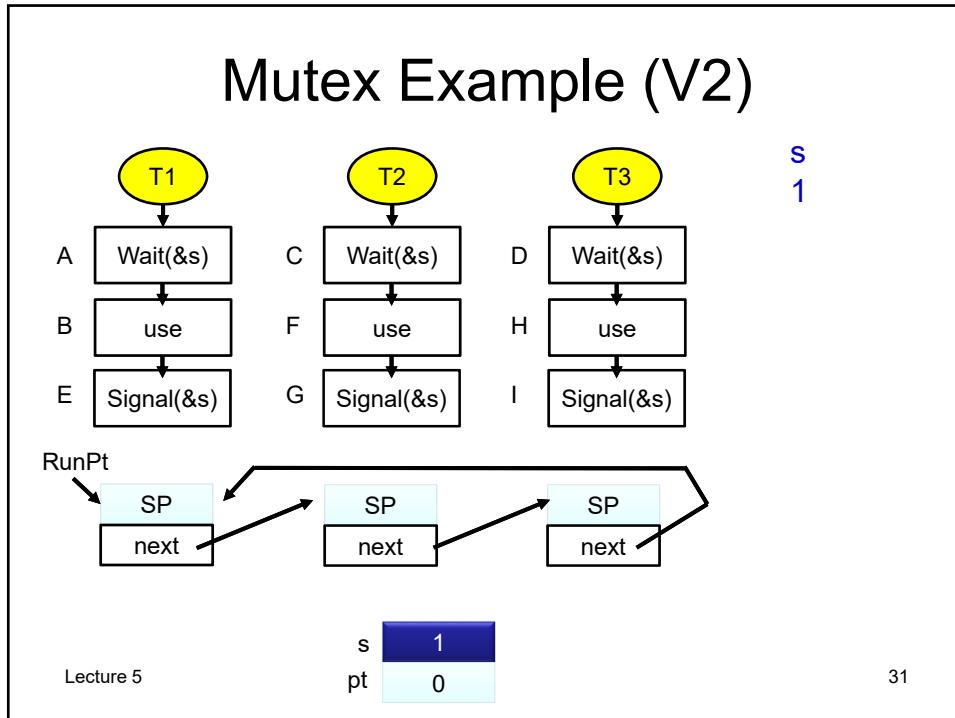
**OS\_Signal (Sema4Type \*semaPt)**

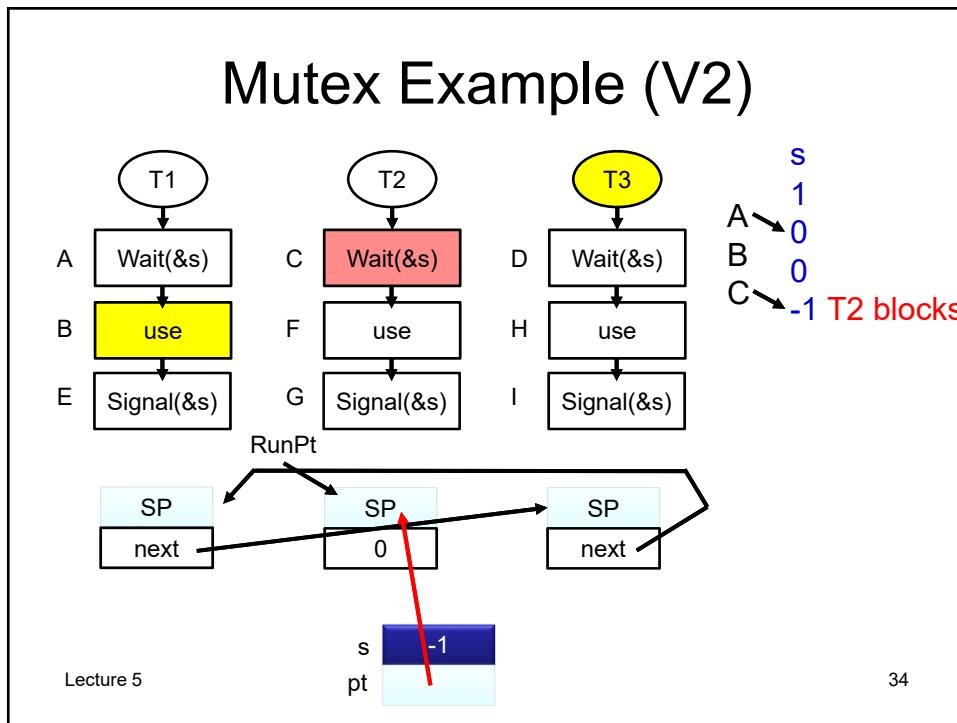
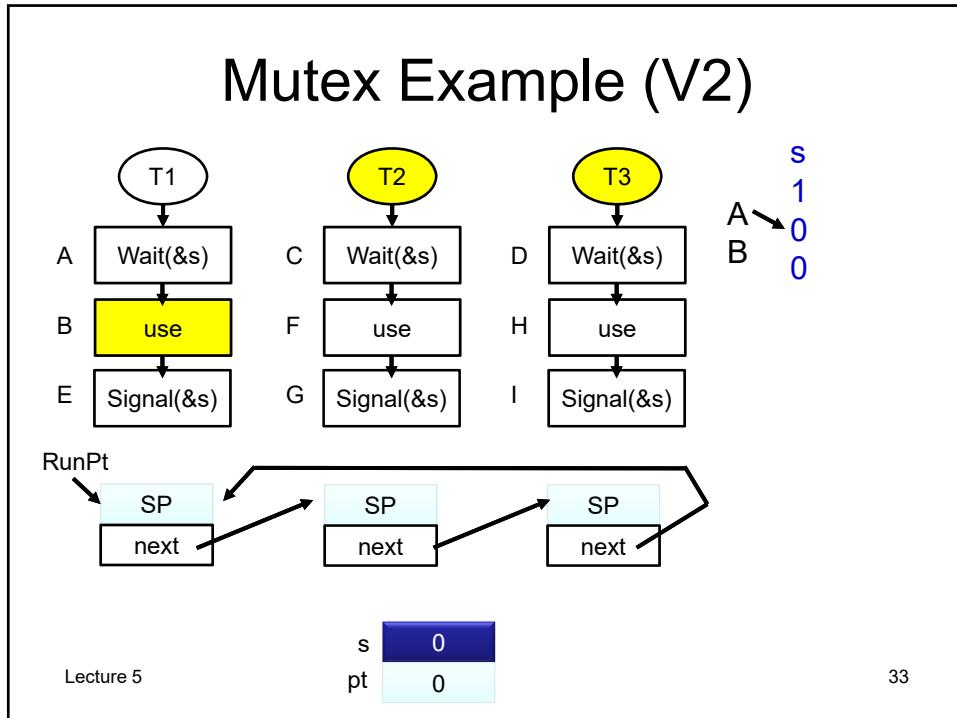
- 1) Save I bit, then disable interrupts
- 2) Increment the semaphore counter,  $S=S+1$   
$$(\text{semaPt}->\text{Value})++;$$
- 3) If the value  $\leq 0$  then  
Wake up one thread from the TCB linked list  
Bounded waiting -> the one waiting the longest  
Priority -> the one with highest priority  
Move TCB of the “wakeup” thread  
from the blocked list to the active list  
**What to do with the thread that called OS\_Signal?**  
Round robin -> do not suspend  
Priority -> suspend if wakeup thread is higher priority
- 4) Restore I bit

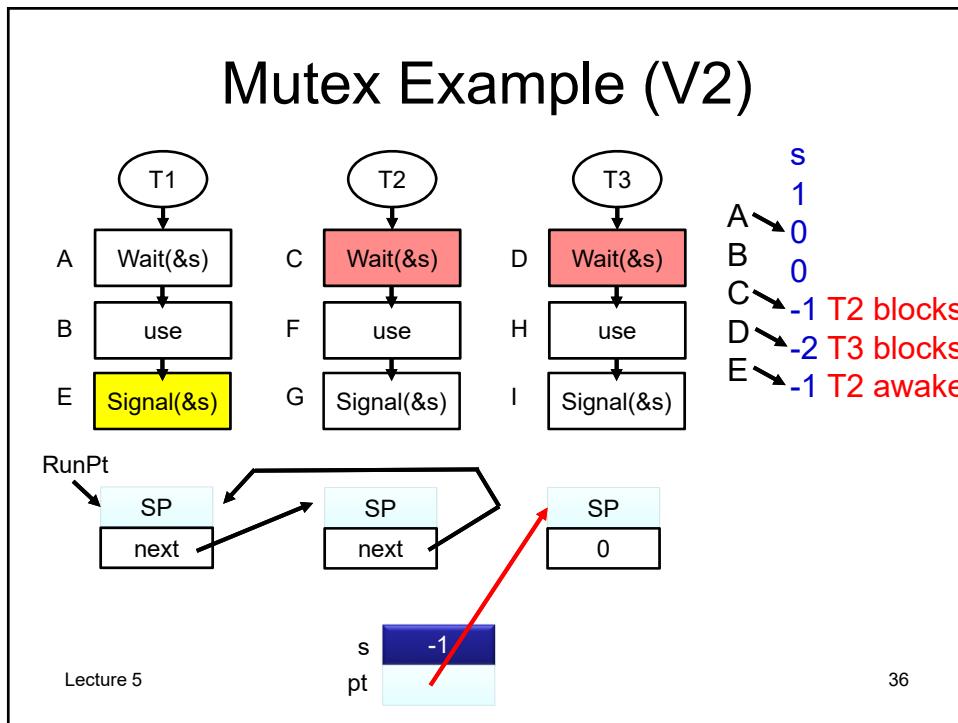
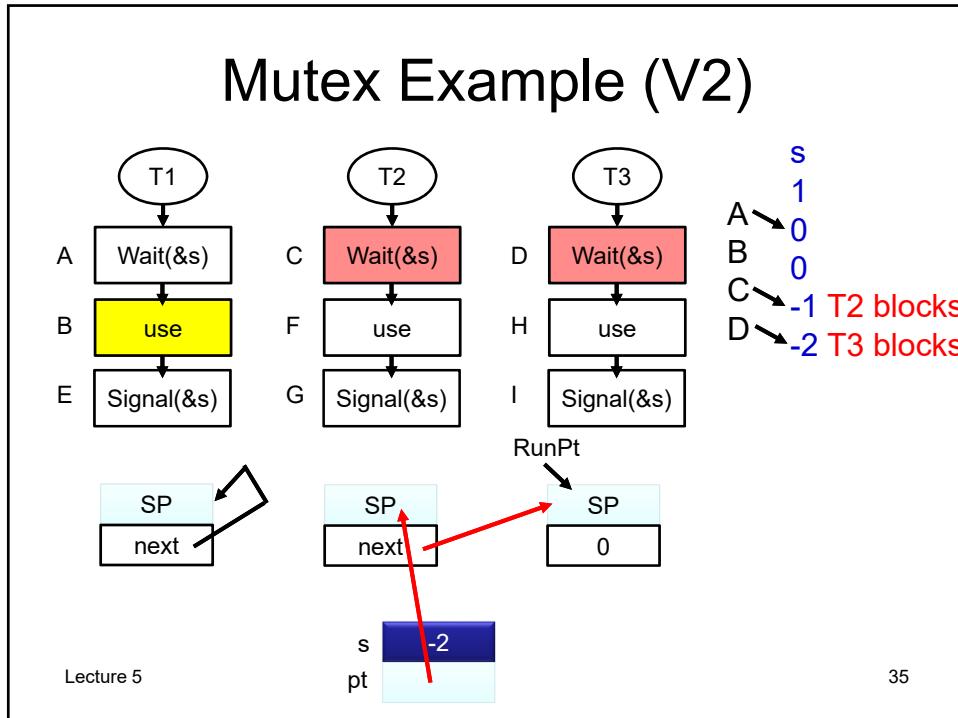
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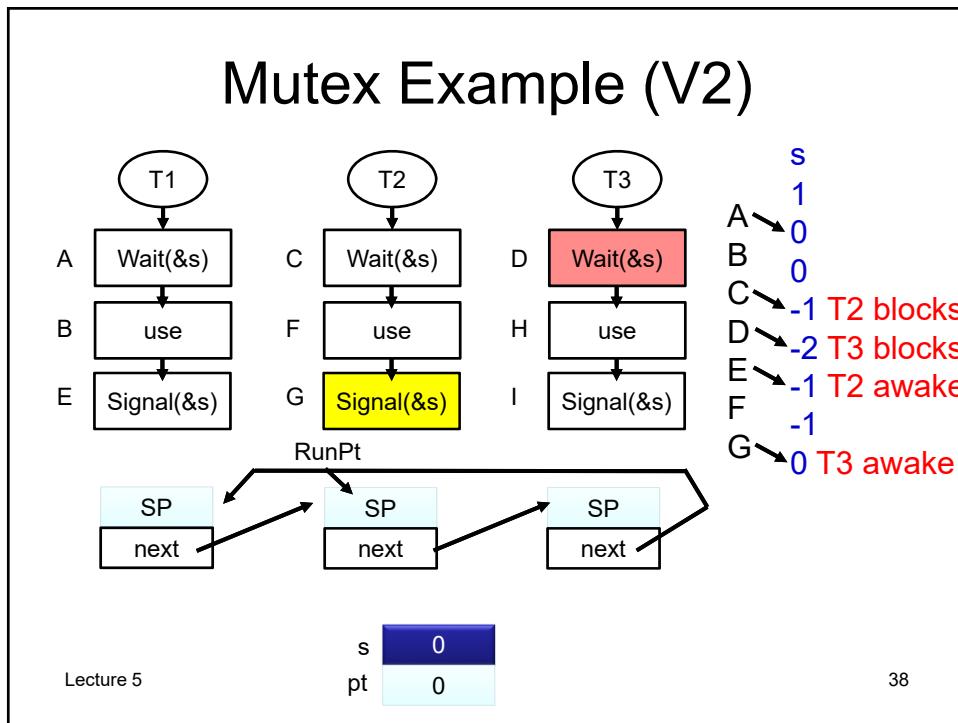
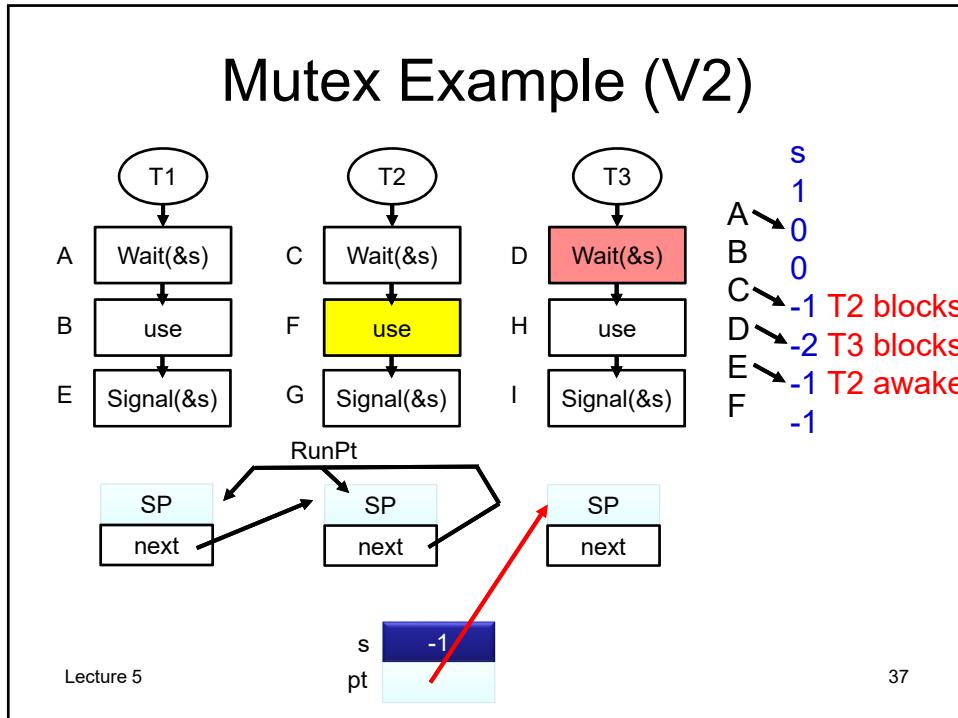
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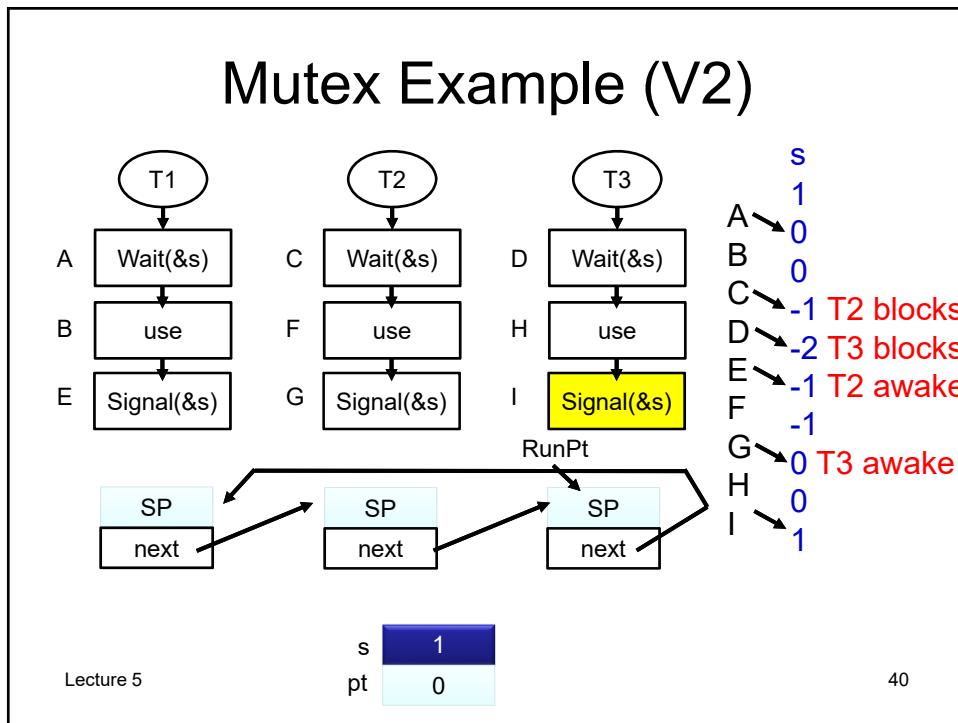
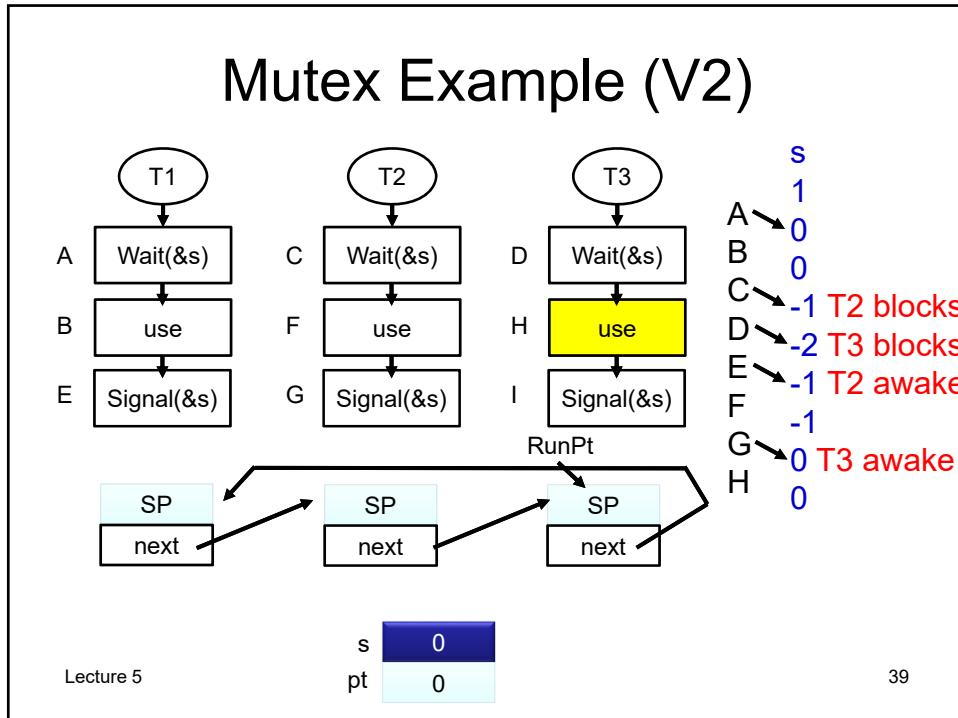
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## Semaphore Applications

- Sequential execution
  - **Run-A** then **Run-B** then **Run-C**
- Rendezvous
- Event trigger
  - **Event-A** and **Event-B**
  - **Event-A** or **Event-B**
- Fork and join
- Readers-Writers Problem

Look at old exams

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## Readers-Writers Problem

### Reader Threads

1) Execute **ROpen(file)**

2) Read information from **file**

3) Execute **RClose(file)**

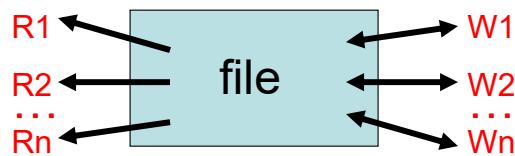
### Writer Threads

1) Execute **WOpen(file)**

2) Read information from **file**

3) Write information to **file**

4) Execute **WClose(file)**



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## Readers-Writers Problem

**ReadCount=0:** number of Readers that are open  
**mutex=1:** semaphore controlling access to **ReadCount**  
**wrt=1:** semaphore is true if a writer is allowed access

<b>ROpen</b> <b>wait(&amp;mutex);</b> <b>ReadCount++;</b> <b>if(ReadCount==1) wait(&amp;wrt)</b> <b>signal(&amp;mutex);</b>	<b>WOpen</b> <b>wait(&amp;wrt);</b>
<b>RClose</b> <b>wait(&amp;mutex);</b> <b>ReadCount--;</b> <b>if(ReadCount==0) signal(&amp;wrt)</b> <b>signal(&amp;mutex);</b>	<b>WClose</b> <b>signal(&amp;wrt);</b>

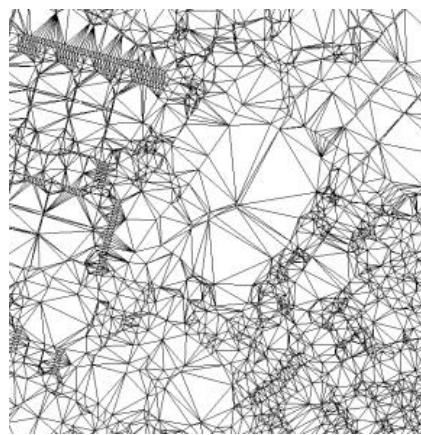
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## Deadlock

- Conditions
  - Mutual exclusion
  - Hold and wait
  - No preemption of resources
  - Circular waiting



Where is the deadlock?

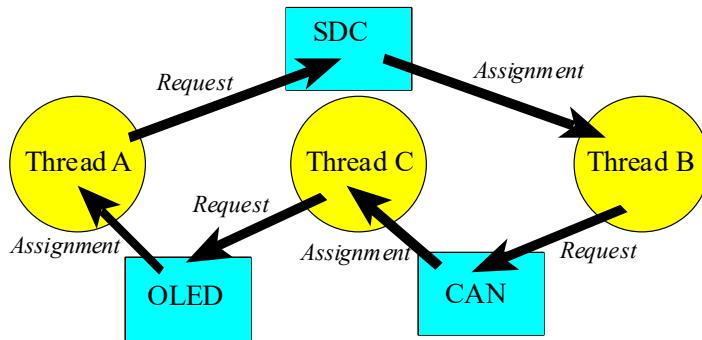
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## Resource Allocation Graph

<b>Thread A</b>	<b>Thread B</b>	<b>Thread C</b>
wait(&bOLED); //1	wait(&bSDC); //2	wait(&bCAN); //3
wait(&bSDC); //4	wait(&bCAN); //5	wait(&bOLED); //6
use OLED and SDC	use CAN and SDC	use CAN and OLED
signal(&bSDC);	signal(&bSDC);	signal(&bOLED);
signal(&bOLED);		signal(&bCAN);



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## Deadlock Prevention

- No mutual exclusion
- No hold and wait
  - Ask for all at same time
  - Release all, then ask again for all
- No circular waiting
  - Number all resources
  - Ask for resources in a specific order

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## Prevention

- No hold and wait

Thread A wait(&bOLED,&bSDC); use OLED and SDC signal(&bOLED,&bSDC);	Thread B wait(&bSDC,&bCAN); use CAN and SDC signal(&bSDC,&bCAN);	Thread C wait(&bCAN,&bOLED); use CAN and OLED signal(&bCAN,&bOLED);
--	---	--

- No circular wait

Thread A wait(&bOLED); wait(&bSDC); use OLED and SDC signal(&bSDC); signal(&bOLED);	Thread B wait(&bSDC); wait(&bCAN); use CAN and SDC signal(&bCAN); signal(&bSDC);	Thread C wait(&bOLED); wait(&bCAN); use CAN and OLED signal(&bOLED); signal(&bCAN);
--	---	--

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## Deadlock Avoidance

- Is there a safe sequence?
- Tell OS current and future needs
  - Request a resource
  - Specify future requests while holding
  - Yes, if there is one safe sequence
- OS can say no, even if available
  - Google search on Banker's Algorithm

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## Deadlock Detection

- Add timeouts to semaphore waits
- Detect cycles in resource allocation graph
- Kill threads and recover resources
  - Abort them all, and restart
  - Abort them one at a time until it runs

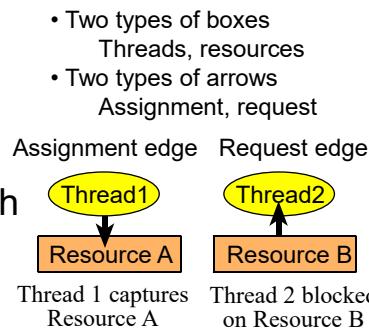
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## Advanced Topics (Grad Students)

- Bounded waiting
- Time-out
- Deadlock avoidance
  - Banker's algorithm
- Deadlock detection
  - Wait-for-graph
  - Resource allocation graph



Two names for the same thing

Works for single instance resources

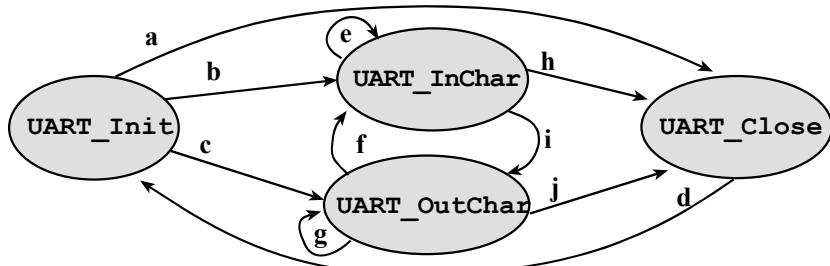
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## Path Expressions (1)

- Specify and enforce correct calling order
  - A group of related functions/tasks (task graph)
  - E.g. I/O, initialize before use



Book Section 5.7

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## Path Expressions (2)

```

int State=3; // start in the Closed state
int const Path[4][4]={ /* Init InChar OutChar Close */
/*          column 0       1       2       3   */
/* Init   row 0*/ { 0 , 1 , 1 , 1 },
/* InChar row 1*/ { 0 , 1 , 1 , 1 },
/* OutChar row 2*/ { 0 , 1 , 1 , 1 },
/* Close  row 3*/ { 1 , 0 , 0 , 0 }};
void UART_Init(void){
    if(Path[State][0]==0) OS_Kill(); // kill if illegal
    State = 0; // perform valid Init
    // xxxx regular stuff xxxx
}
char UART_InChar(void){
    if(Path[State][1]==0) OS_Kill(); // kill if illegal
    State = 1; // perform valid InChar
    // xxxx regular stuff xxxx
}
  
```

Each arrow is  
a '1' in matrix

Final exam 2004, Q9

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## Testing (1)

- How long do you test?
  - $n$  = number of times T1 interrupts T2
  - $m$  = total number of assembly instructions in T2
  - Run test until  $n$  greatly exceeds  $m$
- Think of this corresponding probability question
  - $m$  different cards in a deck
  - Select one card at random, with replacement
  - What is the probability after  $n$  selections (with replacement) that a particular card was never selected?
  - Similarly, what is the probability that all cards were selected at least once?

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## Testing (2)

Entered 486,736,253 times

```
Rx_Fifo_Get
0 24996444 0x000009B4 4601 MOV r1,r0 ;int RxFifo_Get(rxDataType *datapt){
1 47909851 0x000009B6 481D LDR r0,[pc,#116] ; if(RxPutPt == RxGetPt ){
2 12498221 0x000009B8 6800 LDR r0,[r0,#0x00]
3 71517599 0x000009BA 4A1B LDR r2,[pc,#108]
4 14581259 0x000009BC 6812 LDR r2,[r2,#0x00]
5 11109532 0x000009BE 4290 CMP r0,r2
6 10415182 0x000009C0 D101 BNE 0x000009C6
7 12498220 0x000009C2 2000 MOVS r0,#0x00 ; return(RXFIFOFAIL);
8 4860416 0x000009C4 4770 BX lr ; }
9 694345 0x000009C6 4818 LDR r0,[pc,#96] ; *datapt = *(RxGetPt++);
10 4860416 0x000009C8 6800 LDR r0,[r0,#0x00]
11 1388690 0x000009CA 7800 LDRB r0,[r0,#0x00]
12 694345 0x000009CC 7008 STRB r0,[r1,#0x00]
13 4166071 0x000009CE 4816 LDR r0,[pc,#88]
14 1388690 0x000009D0 6800 LDR r0,[r0,#0x00]
15 2777381 0x000009D2 1C40 ADDS r0,r0,#1
16 1388691 0x000009D4 4A14 LDR r2,[pc,#80]
17 0 0x000009D6 6010 STR r0,[r2,#0x00] FIFO_4C123
18 1388692 0x000009D8 4610 MOV r0,r2
19 1388690 0x000009DA 6802 LDR r2,[r0,#0x00]
20 2777380 0x000009DC 4811 LDR r0,[pc,#68]
21 1388690 0x000009DE 4282 CMP r2,r0 ; if(RxGetPt==&RxFifo[RXFIFOSIZE]
22 0 0x000009E0 D102 BNE 0x000009EA
23 0 0x000009E2 3820 SUBS r0,r0,#0x20 ; RxGetPt = &RxFifo[0];
24 1388691 0x000009E4 4A10 LDR r2,[pc,#64]
25 1388690 0x000009E6 6010 STR r0,[r2,#0x00]
26 2083035 0x000009E8 2001 MOVS r0,#0x01
27 0 0x000009EA E7EA B 0x000009C4 ; return(RXFIFOSUCCESS);}
```

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## Performance Measures

- Maximum time running with  $I=1$
- Percentage of time it runs with  $I=1$
- Latency  $t_{action} - t_{trigger}$
- Time jitter  $\delta t$  on periodic tasks
 
$$T_i - \delta t < t_n - t_{n-1} < T_i + \delta t \quad \text{for all } n$$
- CPU utilization
  - Percentage time running idle task
- Context switch overhead
  - Time to switch tasks

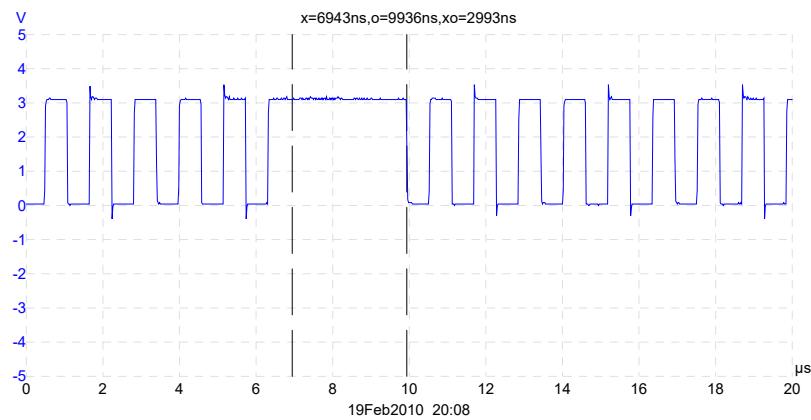
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## Context Switch Time

- Just like the Lab 1 measurement



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## Running with I = 1

```
#define OSCRITICAL_ENTER() { sr = StartCritical(); }
#define OSCRITICAL_EXIT() { EndCritical(sr); }
```

- Record time  $t_1$  when I=1

```
#define OSCRITICAL_ENTER() {sr = StartCritical(); t1=OS_Time();}
```

- Record time  $t_2$  when I=0 again
- Measure difference

```
#define OSCRITICAL_EXIT() {dt=OS_TimeDifference(OS_Time(),t1);
EndCritical(sr);}
```

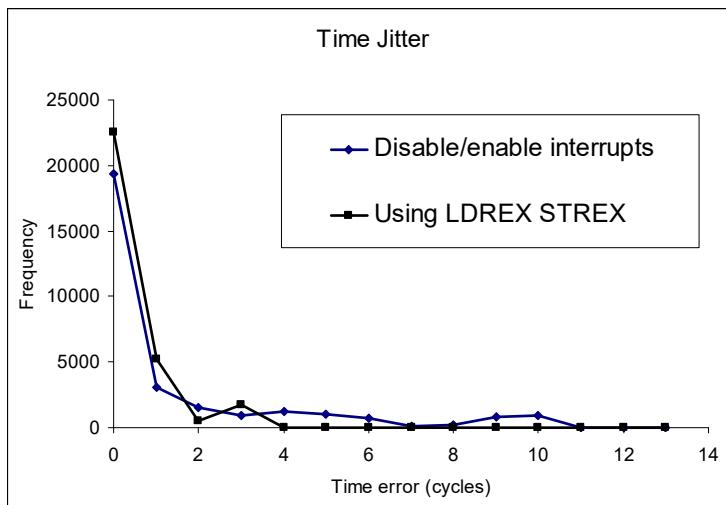
- Record maximum and total

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## Time Jitter



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## Semaphore Drawbacks

- Shared global variables
  - Can be accessed from anywhere
- No connection between the semaphore and the data being controlled by the semaphore
  - Used both for critical sections (mutual exclusion) and coordination (scheduling)
- No control or guarantee of proper usage

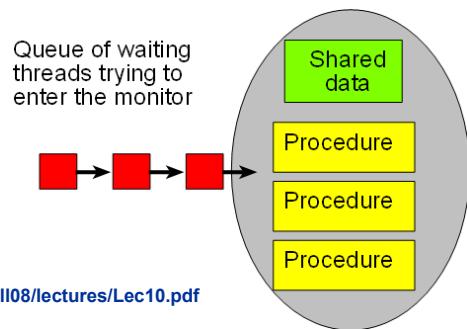
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## Monitors

- Proper use is enforced
- Synchronization attached to the data
- Removes hold and wait
- Threads enter
  - One active at a time



<http://lass.cs.umass.edu/~shenoy/courses/fall08/lectures/Lec10.pdf>

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# Monitors

- Lock
  - Only one thread active at a time
  - Must have lock to access condition variables
- One or more condition variables
  - If cannot complete, leave data consistent
  - Threads can sleep inside by releasing lock
  - Wait (acquire or sleep)
  - Signal (if any waiting, wakeup else NOP)
  - Broadcast

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# FIFO Monitor

**Put(item):**

- 1) lock->Acquire();
- 2) put item on queue;
- 3) conditionVar->Signal();
- 4) lock->Release();

**Get():**

- 1) lock->Acquire();
- 2) while queue is empty  
    conditionVar->Wait(lock);
- 3) remove item from queue;
- 4) lock->Release();
- 5) return item;

<http://lass.cs.umass.edu/~shenoy/courses/fall08/lectures/Lec10.pdf>

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## Hoare vs. Mesa Monitor

- Signal() switches immediately vs. later

**Hoare wait:**

```
if(FIFO empty)
    wait(condition)
```

**Mesa wait:**

```
while(FIFO empty)
    wait(condition)
```

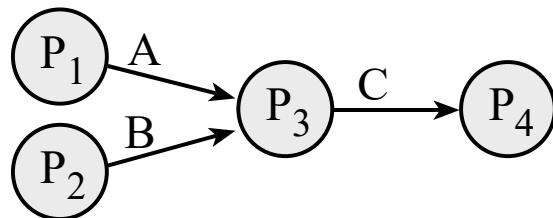
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## Kahn Process Network (KPN)

- Parallel programming model
  - Blocking read
  - Non-blocking writes (never full)
  - Tokens are data (no time stamp)



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## Kahn Process Network (KPN)

- Deterministic
  - Same inputs result in same outputs
  - Independent of scheduler
- Non-blocking writes (never full)
- Monotonic
  - Needs only partial inputs to proceed
  - Works in continuous time

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## Kahn Process Network (KPN)

```
void Process3(void){  
    long inA, inB, out;  
    while(1){  
        while(AFifo_Get(&inA)){};  
        while(BFifo_Get(&inB)){};  
        out = compute(inA,inB);  
        CFifo_Put(out);  
    }  
}
```

```
void Process3(void){  
    long inA, inB, out;  
    while(1){  
        if(AFifo_Size()==0){  
            while(BFifo_Get(&inB)){};  
            while(AFifo_Get(&inA)){};  
        } else{  
            while(AFifo_Get(&inA)){};  
            while(BFifo_Get(&inB)){};  
        }  
        out = compute(inA,inB);  
        CFifo_Put(out);  
    }  
}
```

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## Kahn Process Network (KPN)

- Strictly bounded?
  - Prove it never fills (undecidable!)
  - Dependent on scheduler
- Termination
  - All processes blocked on input
- Scheduler
  - Needs only partial inputs to proceed
  - Works in real time

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## KPN Boundedness

- Try to find a mathematical proof
- Experimentally adjust FIFO size
  - Needs a realistic test environment
  - Profile/histogram DataAvailable for each FIFO
  - Leave the profile in delivered machine
- Dynamically adjust size with malloc/free
- Use blocking write (not a KPN anymore)
- Discard the data

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## Summary

- Use the logic analyzer
  - Visualize what is running
- Learn how to use the debugger
  - Breakpoint inside ISR
    - Does not seem to single step into ISR
- What to do after a thread calls Kill?