

CS 3650 – Computer Systems  
Spring 2024  
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Lecture 14, Thur Feb 22 2024

Previously ...

protecting data with mutexes

```
struct my_obj {
```

```
    ~ stuff ~
```

```
    mutex m;
```

```
}
```

```
func1 (my_obj *o) {
```

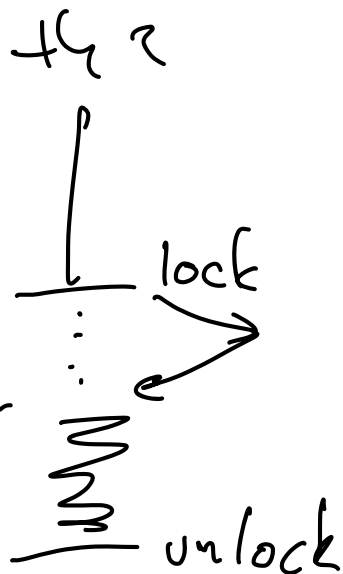
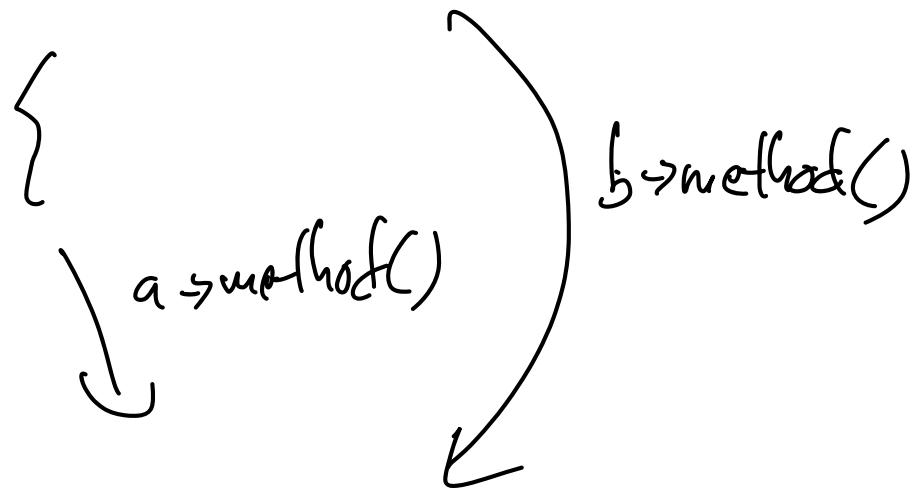
```
    pthread_mutex_lock(&o->m)
```

```
    ~
```

```
    pthread_mutex_unlock(&o->m)
```

```
}
```

th1 th2



locking for:

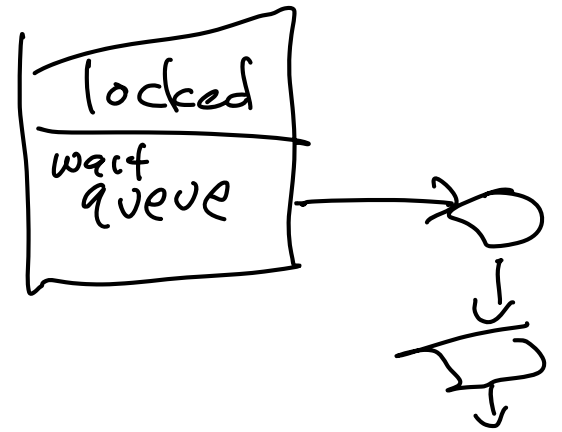
write (don't  
stamp on  
other threads)

read (don't read  
garbage)

# Thread Scheduling

current → 

active →  →  → 



wait list



How to implement mutex safely?

- no interrupts: no problems (1 CPU)
- 1 CPU + interrupts: disable them
- > 1 CPU: later in lecture

# Deadlock

A locked:

Y

th 1

|

lock A →

}

lock B →

unlock B

unlock A

th 2

}

lock B ←

}

lock A →

unlock A

unlock B

B locked:

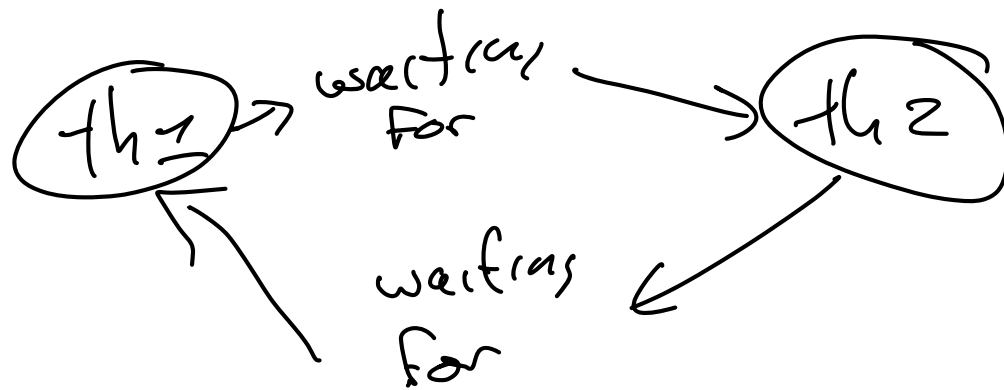
N

Y

# Deadlock conditions

- 1) mutual exclusion
- 2) "hold and wait"
- 3) circular wait

mutex  
definition



holds  
A

lock A ↓ holding A

lock B → wait

unlock A

# How to avoid deadlock

1) lock ordering

~  
~  
~  
~  
~

~  
lock A  
~  
B  
~  
C  
~  
-

{  
A  
~  
B  
~  
C  
~

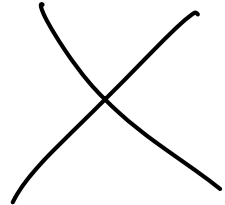
{  
lock A  
~  
lock B  
~

{  
lock B  
~  
lock A  
~

⇒ "lock ranking"

forget to  
unlock ←

if you go into  
infinite loop holding  
lock :



# lock best practices

```
lock {
  // do stuff
}
unlock
```

not

```
lock
if a
  // unlock
else
  // tricky things
  opt 1: unlock
  opt 2: unlock
  opt 3: return
```

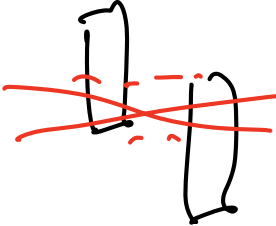
```
mutex m;
C++:
{
  std::unique_lock lk(m)
  //
  return
}
// ← unlocks when out of scope
```



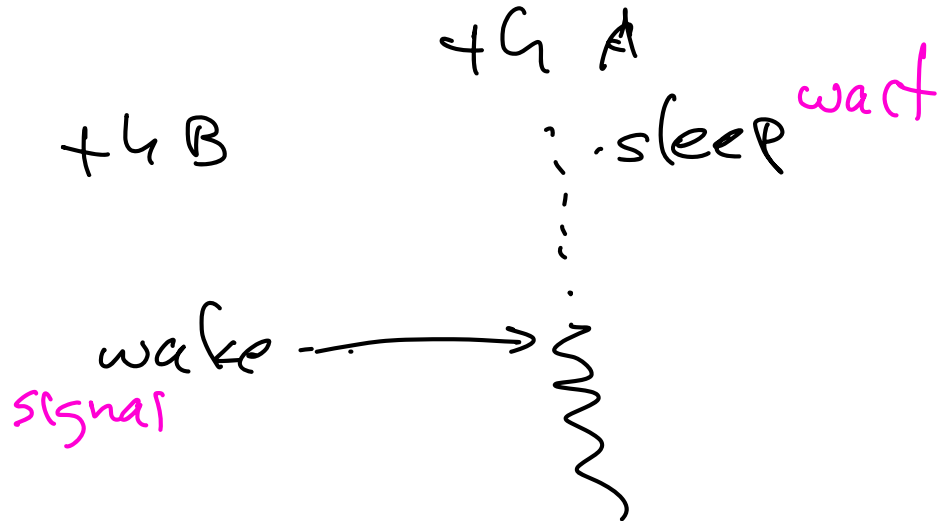


# Synchronization - monitors & condition variables

---

~~~~ ← locks prevent things from happening at once. That's all (any other time is OK)

synchronization



# Monitor

type of user-defined class

1) mutual exclusion - implicit mutex for all methods

2) "condition variables"

← special fields

think of as wait queues

≡ mutex m

real\_method I:

lock

call your\_method I

unlock

not a real variable -  
has no value

not tied to specific condition

CV: wait  
signal

various names: wait / await / signal / notify      down  
up

wouldn't it be nice if...  
wait-until (boolean expression)

predicate - queue not empty  
associate C with it - C

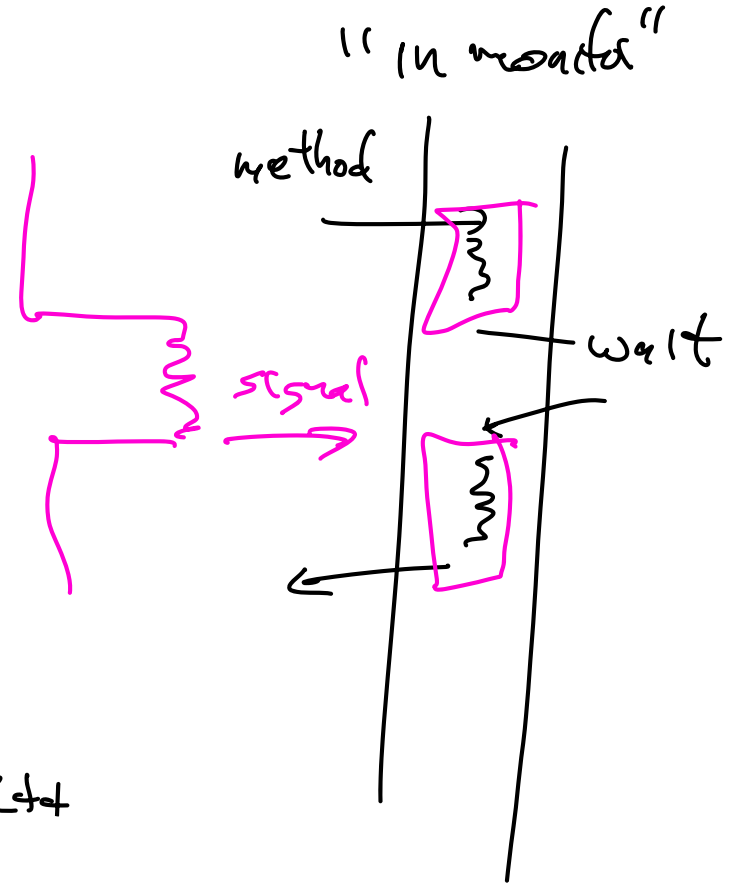
while predicate not true  
wait(C)

~~lock(u)~~  
Σ  
(make predicate true)  
signal(C)  
Σ  
~~unlock(u)~~

possible spurious wakeups

POSIX Thread monitor:

```
Σ mutex m  
  condition C  
  method Σ  
    lock(m)  
    while ! predicate  
      wait(&m, &C)  
    :  
    unlock(m)
```



python, java... concurrentutils, ... C++

cond var = (create from mutex m)

signal(c)