

Moore's Law & Amdahl's Law

Race Conditions

Protecting Code

Deadlock

Building a Thread Pool

Threading a Shared Scan

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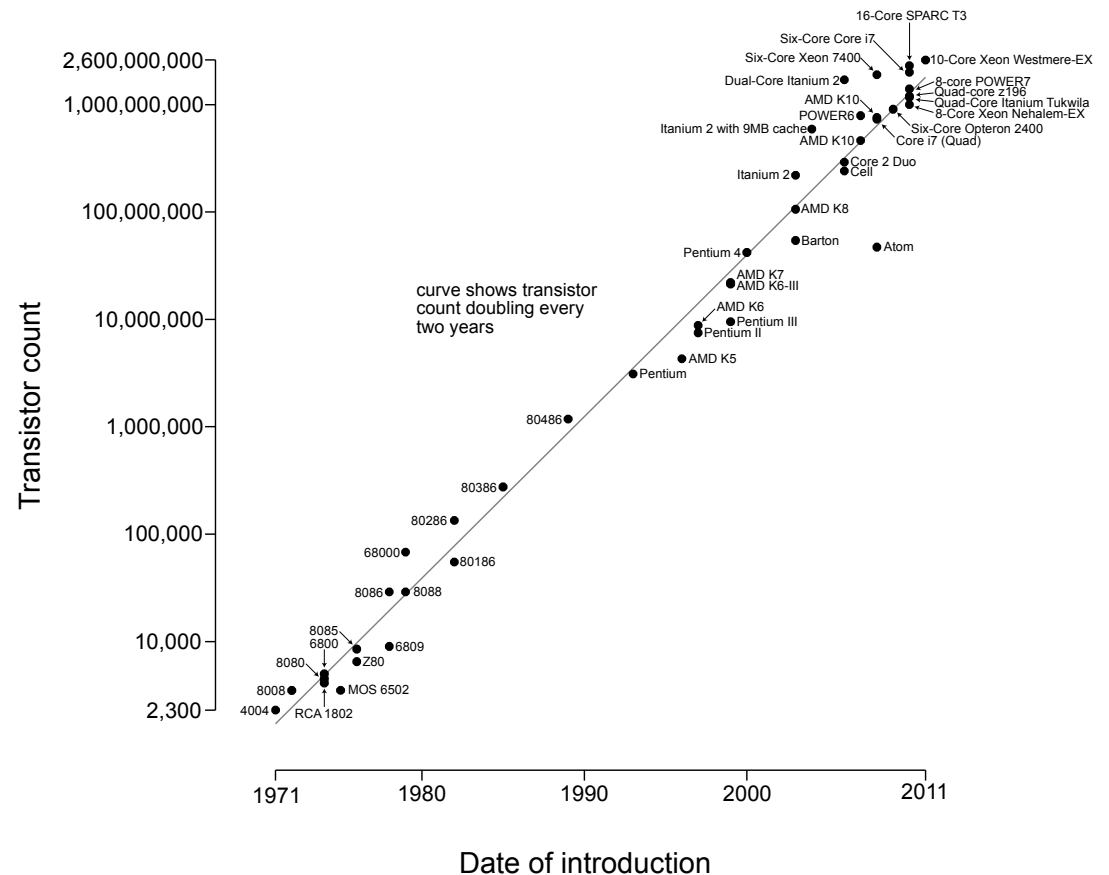
Threading a Shared Scan

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Moore's Law

The number of transistors in a dense integrated circuit doubles approximately every two years.

Microprocessor Transistor Counts 1971-2011 & Moore's Law



Amdahl's Law

The formula used to calculate the theoretical maximum speed-up for a given workload.

$$S_{latency}(s) = \frac{1}{(1-p) + \frac{p}{s}}$$

$$S_{latency}(4) = \frac{1}{(1-0.75) + \frac{0.75}{4}} \approx 2.28$$

Race Conditions

Thread 1

```
if (x == 0)  
  ++x;
```

Thread 2

```
if (x == 0)  
  ++x;
```

Time



Race Conditions

Thread 1

Read X

Increment X

Time



Thread 2

Read X

(Nothing else to be done.)

Race Conditions

Thread 1

Read X

Increment X

Thread 2

Read X

Increment X

Time



Mutex → mutual exclusion

Atomic Operation

Compare-and-swap (x86 CMPXCHG)

A pthreads mutex Snippet

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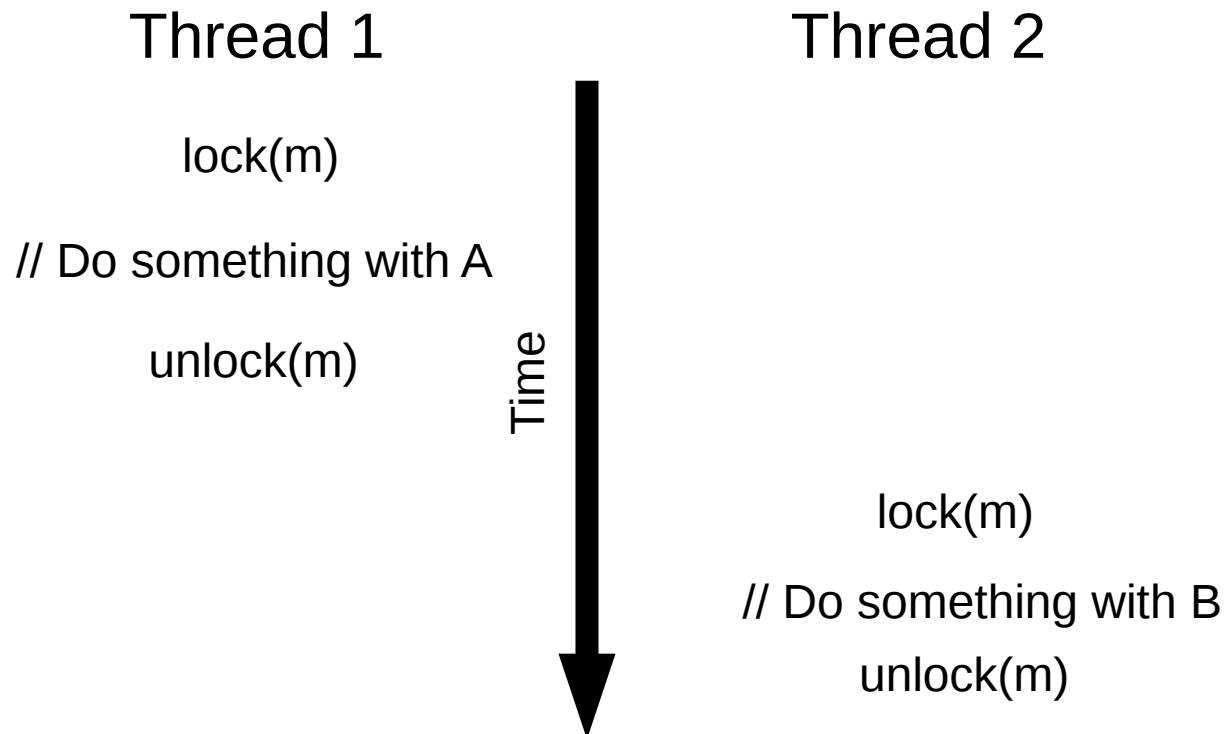
```
#include <pthread.h>
...
pthread_mutex_t m;

pthread_mutex_init(&m, NULL);
...

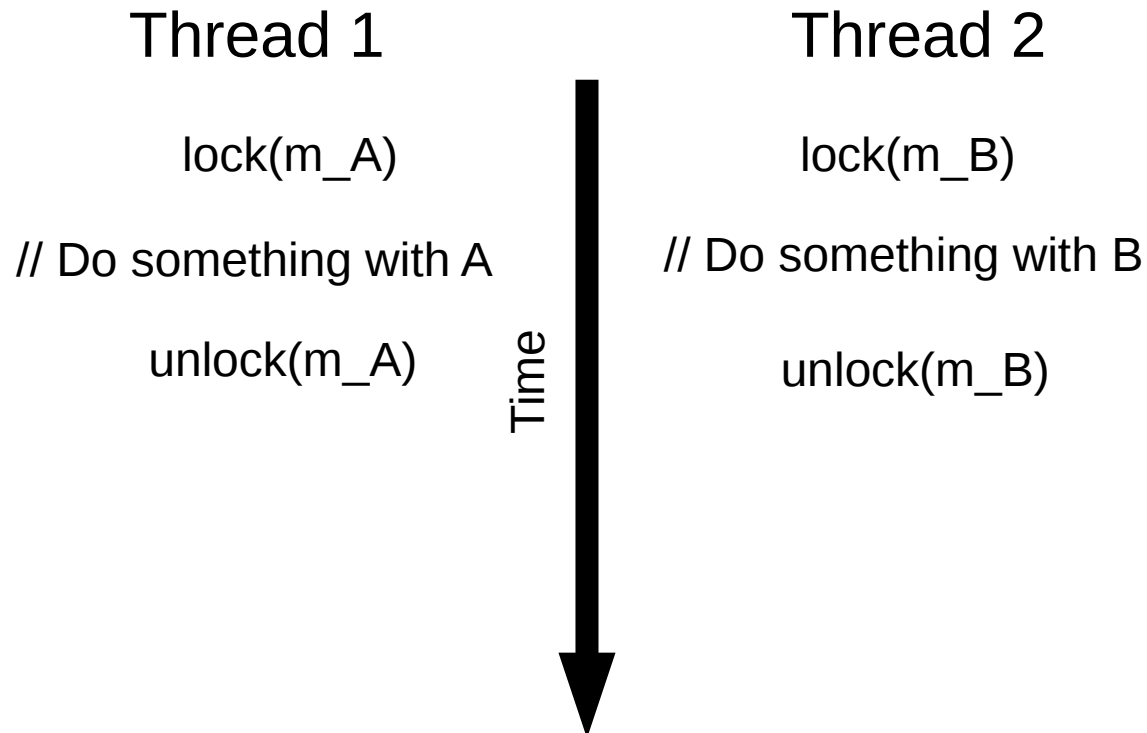
pthread_mutex_lock(&m);
printf("We got the lock!");
... // Other critical code
pthread_mutex_unlock(&m);

if (pthread_mutex_trylock(&m)) {
    printf("We got the lock!");
    pthread_mutex_unlock(&m);
} else {
    printf("Already locked...");
}
```

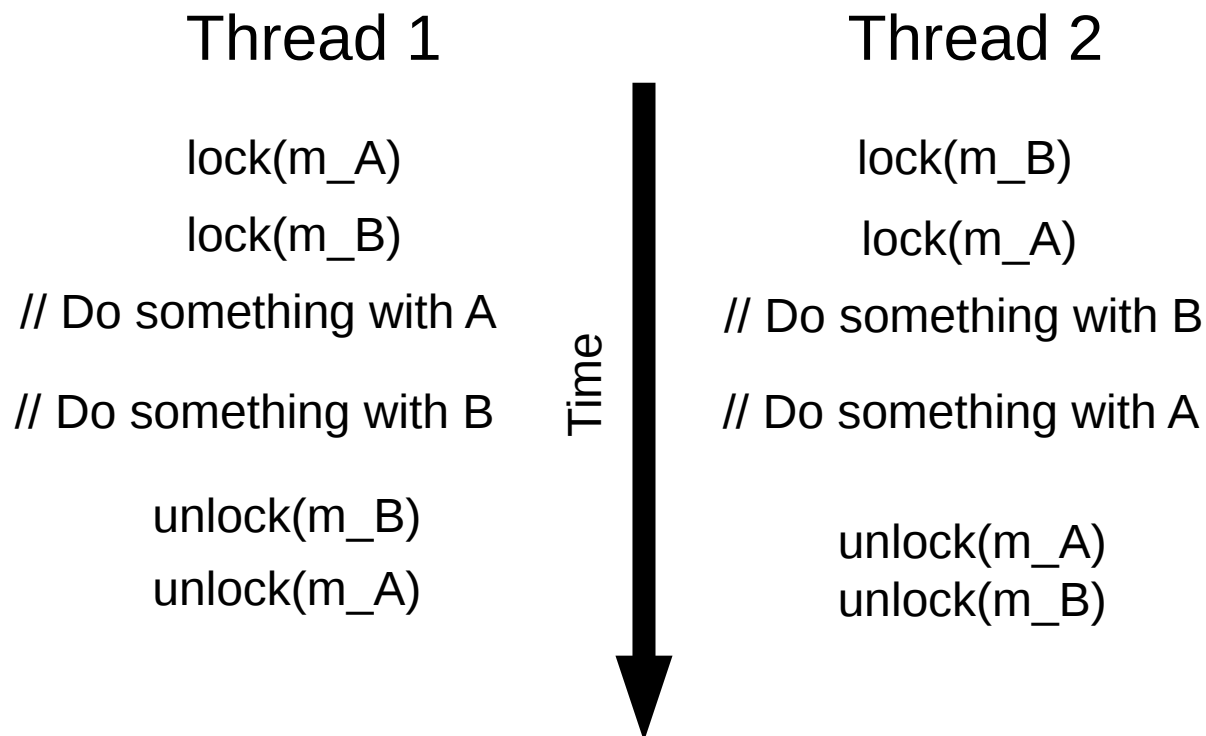
Deadlock



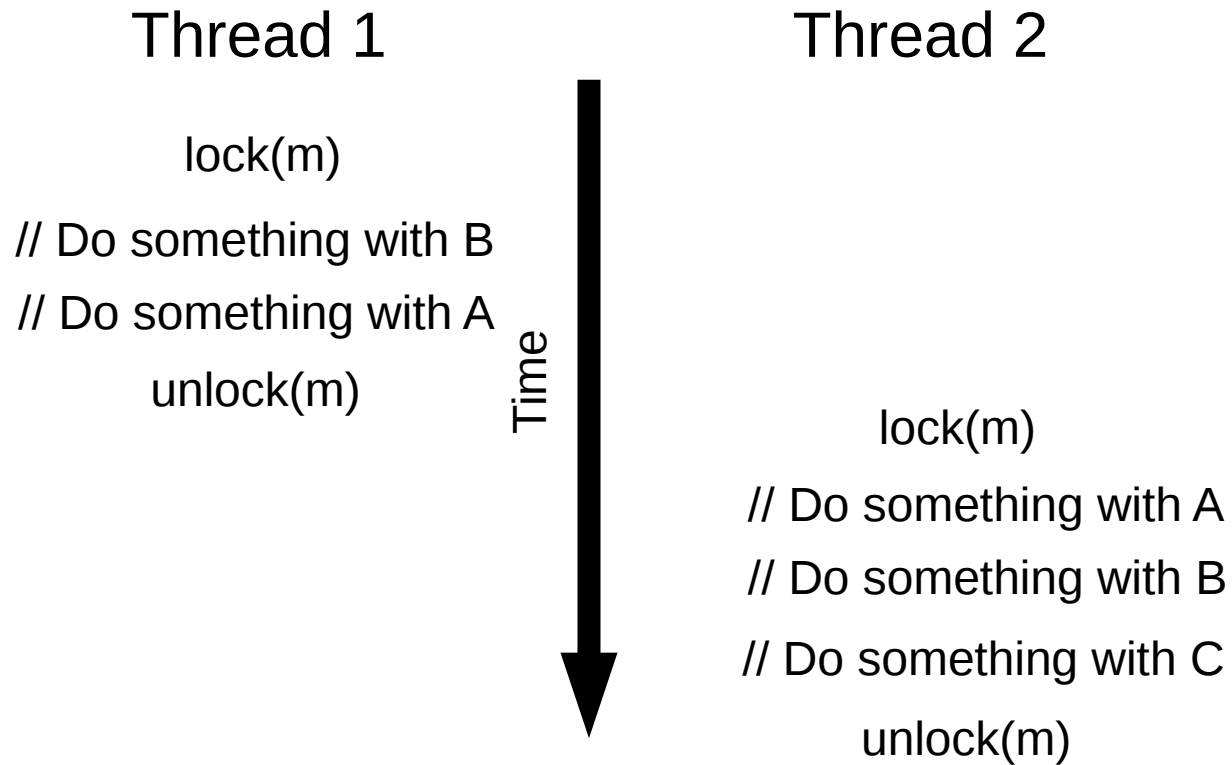
Deadlock



Deadlock



Deadlock



Implementing a Thread Pool

`pthread_t`

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

`pthread_cond_t`

```
pthread_cond_init(pthread_cond_t*, pthread_condattr_t*);  
pthread_cond_wait(pthread_cond_t*, pthread_mutex_t)  
pthread_cond_signal(pthread_cond_t*)
```

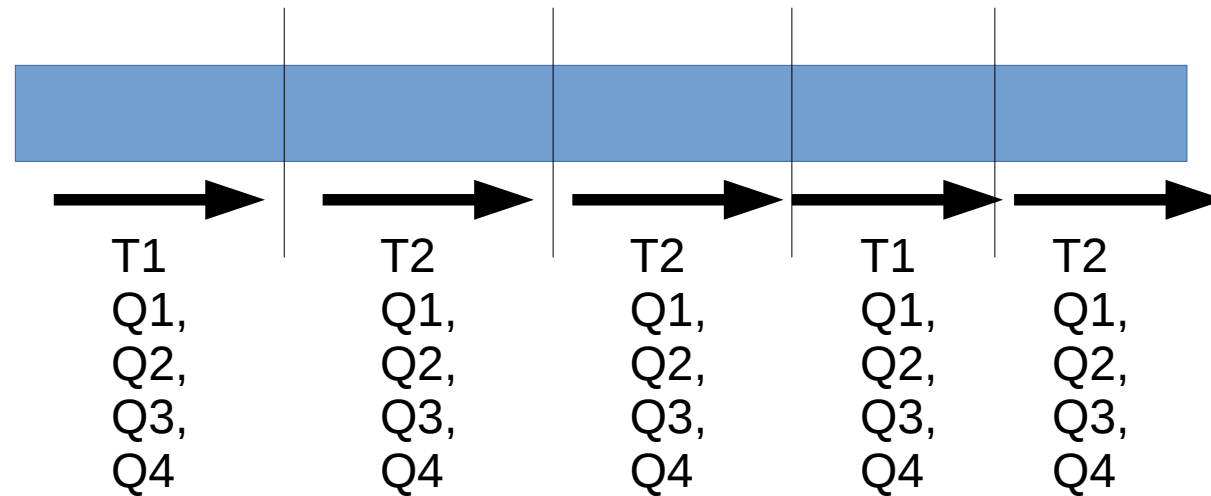
Link with `-lpthread`

Implementing a Thread Pool

```
// Worker thread waits for work
pthread_mutex_lock(m);
while ([queue_is_empty])
    pthread_cond_wait(cv, m);
// Do critical something
pthread_mutex_unlock(m);

// Producer thread adds work and signals
pthread_mutex_lock(m);
// Add some work to a shared struct
pthread_cond_signal(cv); // wake up a thread
pthread_mutex_unlock(m);
```

Threading a Shared Scan



Threading a Shared Scan

