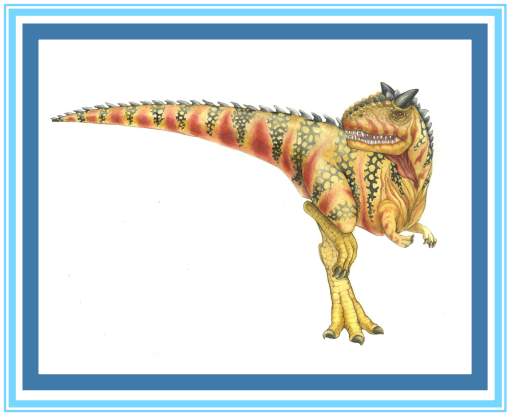
Chapter 7: Deadlocks



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The Deadlock Problem

- A set of blocked processes each holding a resource and waiting to acquire a resource held by another process in the set

- Example
  - System has 2 disk drives
  - P_1 and P_2 each hold one disk drive and each needs another one

System Model

- Resource types R_1, R_2, . . ., R_m

  CPU cycles, memory space, I/O devices

- Each resource type R_i has W_i instances.

- Each process utilizes a resource as follows:
  - **request**
  - **use**
  - **release**

Deadlock Characterization

Deadlock can arise if four conditions hold simultaneously.

- **Mutual exclusion:** only one process at a time can use a resource
- **Hold and wait:** a process holding at least one resource is waiting to acquire additional resources held by other processes
- **No preemption:** a resource can be released only voluntarily by the process holding it, after that process has completed its task
- **Circular wait:** there exists a set $\{P_0, P_1, \ldots, P_n\}$ of waiting processes such that P_0 is waiting for a resource that is held by P_1, P_1 is waiting for a resource that is held by P_2, …, P_{n-1} is waiting for a resource that is held by P_n, and P_n is waiting for a resource that is held by P_0.

Resource-Allocation Graph

A set of vertices V and a set of edges E.

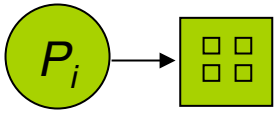
- V is partitioned into two types:
  - $P = \{P_1, P_2, \ldots, P_n\}$, the set consisting of all the processes in the system
  - $R = \{R_1, R_2, \ldots, R_m\}$, the set consisting of all resource types in the system
- **request edge** – directed edge $P_i \rightarrow R_j$
- **assignment edge** – directed edge $R_j \rightarrow P_i$

Resource-Allocation Graph (Cont.)

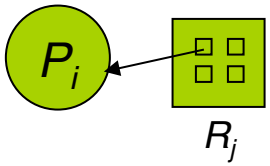
- Process

- Resource Type with 4 instances

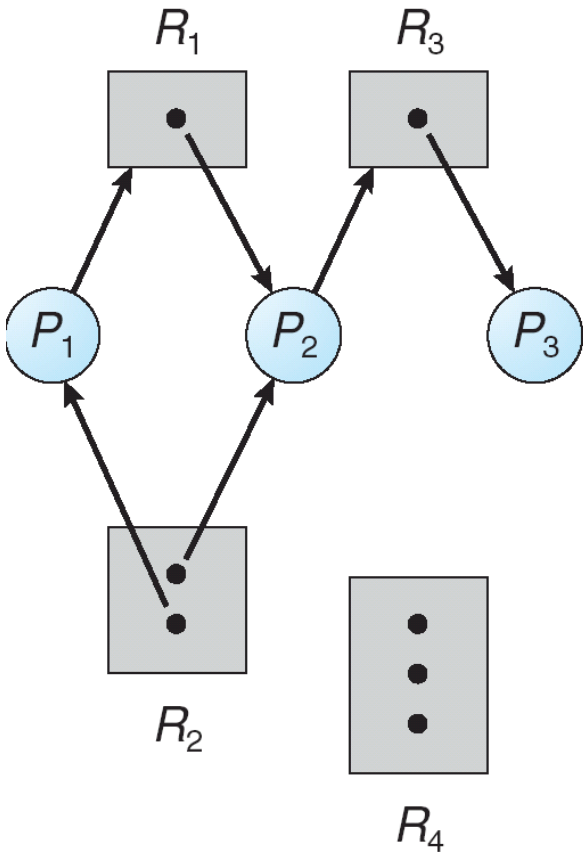
- P_i requests instance of R_j



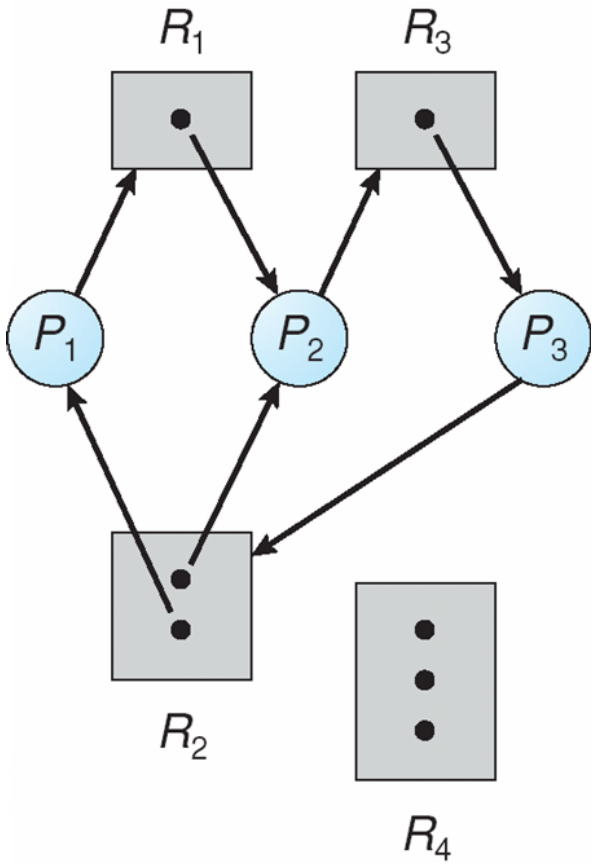
- P_i is holding an instance of R_j



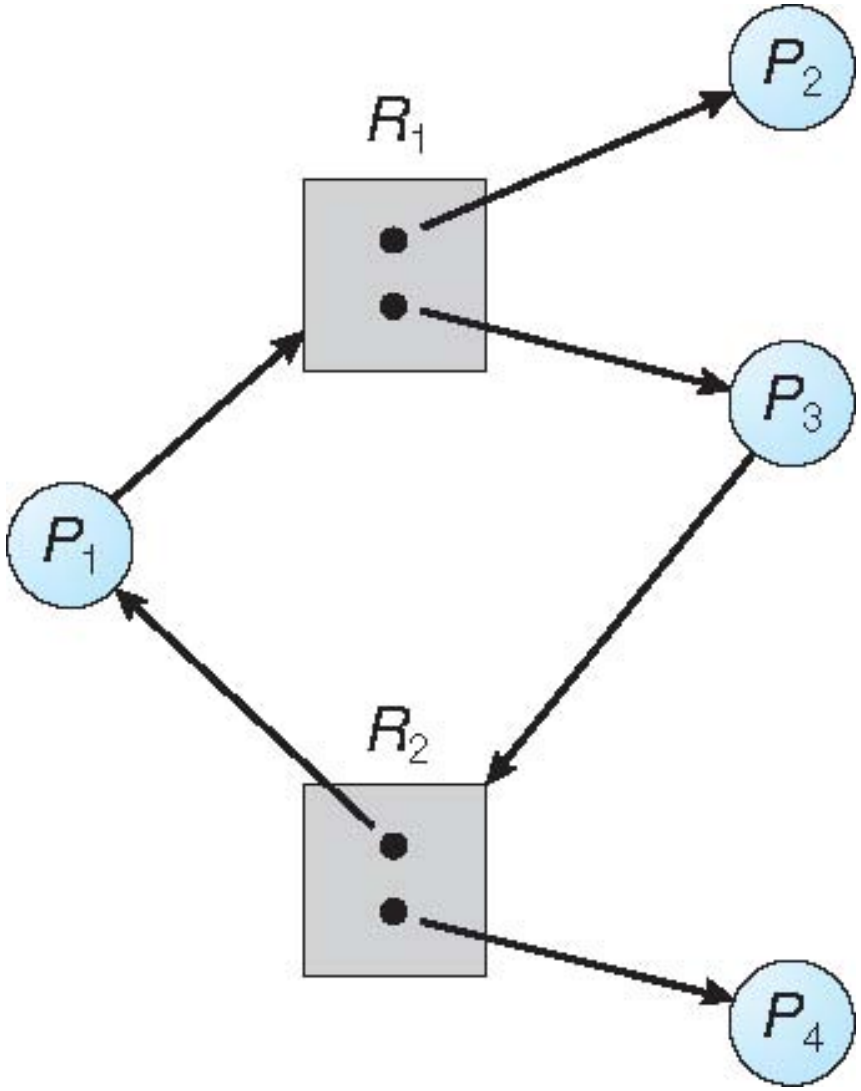
Example of a Resource Allocation Graph



Resource Allocation Graph With A Deadlock



Graph With A Cycle But No Deadlock



Basic Facts

- If graph contains no cycles ⇒ no deadlock
- If graph contains a cycle ⇒
  - if only one instance per resource type, then deadlock
  - if several instances per resource type, possibility of deadlock

Dealing with Deadlock

- Three general approaches exist for dealing with deadlock.
  - Prevent deadlock
  - Avoid deadlock
  - Detect Deadlock

Deadlock Prevention

Idea: invalidate one of the four conditions for deadlock

1. Mutual exclusion condition
2. Hold-and-wait condition
3. No preemption condition
4. Circular wait condition

Attacking the Mutual Exclusion Condition

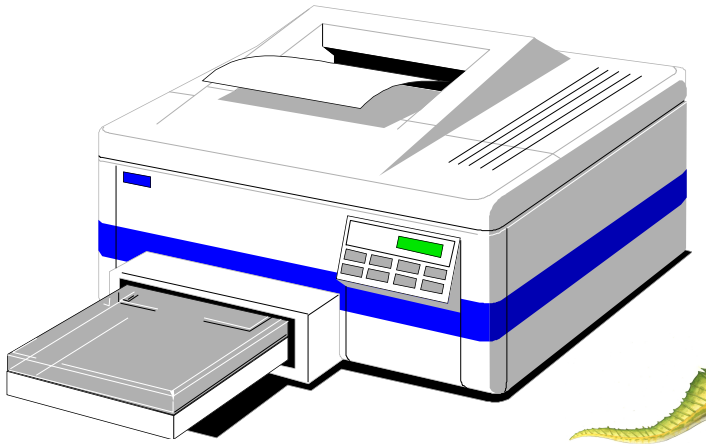
- Some devices (such as printer) can be spooled
  - only the printer daemon uses printer resource
  - thus deadlock for printer eliminated
- Not all devices can be spooled
- Principle:
  - avoid assigning resource when not absolutely necessary
  - as few processes as possible actually claim the resource

Attacking the Hold and Wait Condition

- Require processes to request resources before starting
  - a process never has to wait for what it needs
- Problems
  - may not know required resources at start of run
  - may wait for long to acquire all resources
  - ties up resources other processes could be using
- Variation: before requesting a new resource,
  - process must give up all resources
  - then request all immediately needed

Attacking the No Preemption Condition

- In general this is not a viable option
- Consider a process given the printer
  - halfway through its job
  - now forcibly take away printer
  - !!??



Attacking the Circular Wait Condition

- Every resource has a unique number
- A process must request resources in increasing number order

Deadlock Avoidance

Deadlock Avoidance

- A decision is made dynamically whether the current resource allocation request will, if granted, potentially lead to a deadlock
- Requires knowledge of future process requests

Two Approaches to Deadlock Avoidance

- Process Initiation Denial
  - Do not start a process if its demands might lead to deadlock
- Resource Allocation Denial
  - Do not grant an incremental resource request to a process if this allocation might lead to deadlock

Process Initiation Denial

- A process is only started if the maximum claim of all current processes plus those of the new process can be met.
- Not optimal:
  - Assumes the worst: that all processes will make their maximum claims together.

Resource Allocation Denial

- Referred to as the Banker's algorithm
  - A strategy of resource allocation denial
- Consider a system with fixed number of resources
  - ***State*** of the system is the current allocation of resources to process
  - ***Safe state*** is where there is at least one sequence that does not result in deadlock
  - ***Unsafe state*** is a state that is not safe

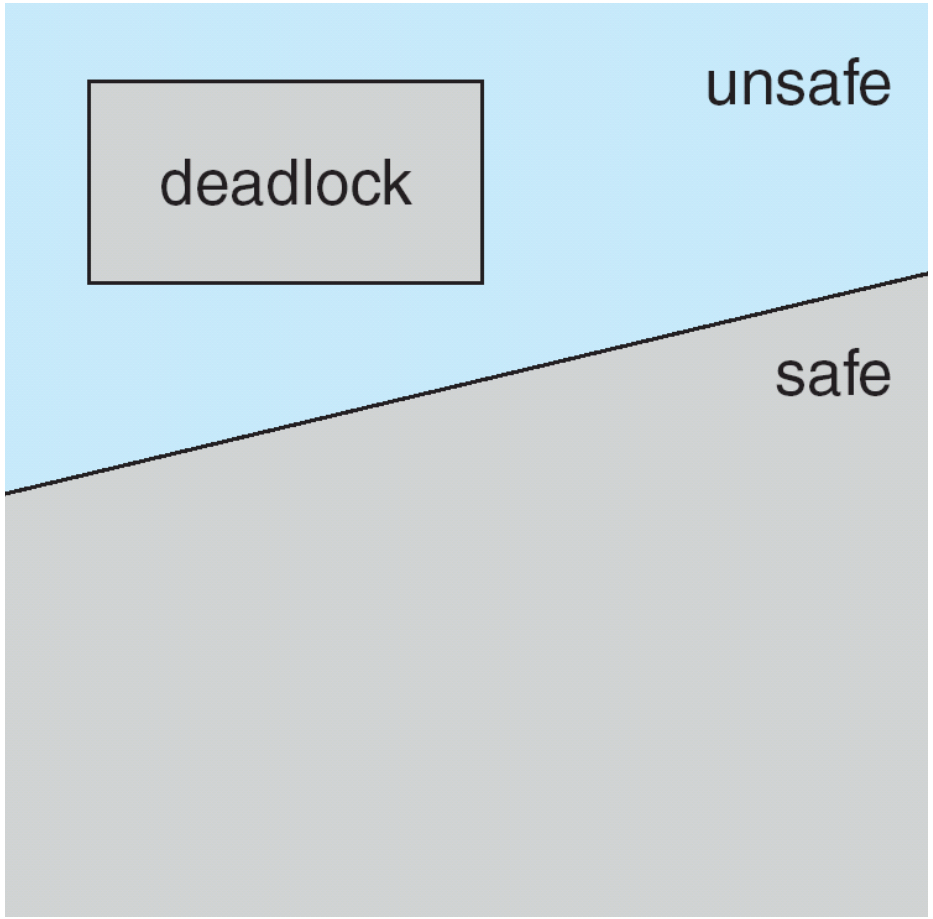
Safe State

- When a process requests an available resource, system must decide if immediate allocation leaves the system in a safe state
- System is in **safe state** if there exists a sequence $<P_1, P_2, \ldots, P_n>$ of ALL the processes in the systems such that for each P_i, the resources that P_i can still request can be satisfied by currently available resources + resources held by all the P_j, with $j < I$
- That is:
  - If P_i resource needs are not immediately available, then P_i can wait until all P_j have finished
  - When P_j is finished, P_i can obtain needed resources, execute, return allocated resources, and terminate
  - When P_i terminates, P_{i+1} can obtain its needed resources, and so on

Basic Facts

- If a system is in safe state ⇒ no deadlocks
- If a system is in unsafe state ⇒ possibility of deadlock
- Avoidance ⇒ ensure that a system will never enter an unsafe state.

Safe, Unsafe, Deadlock State



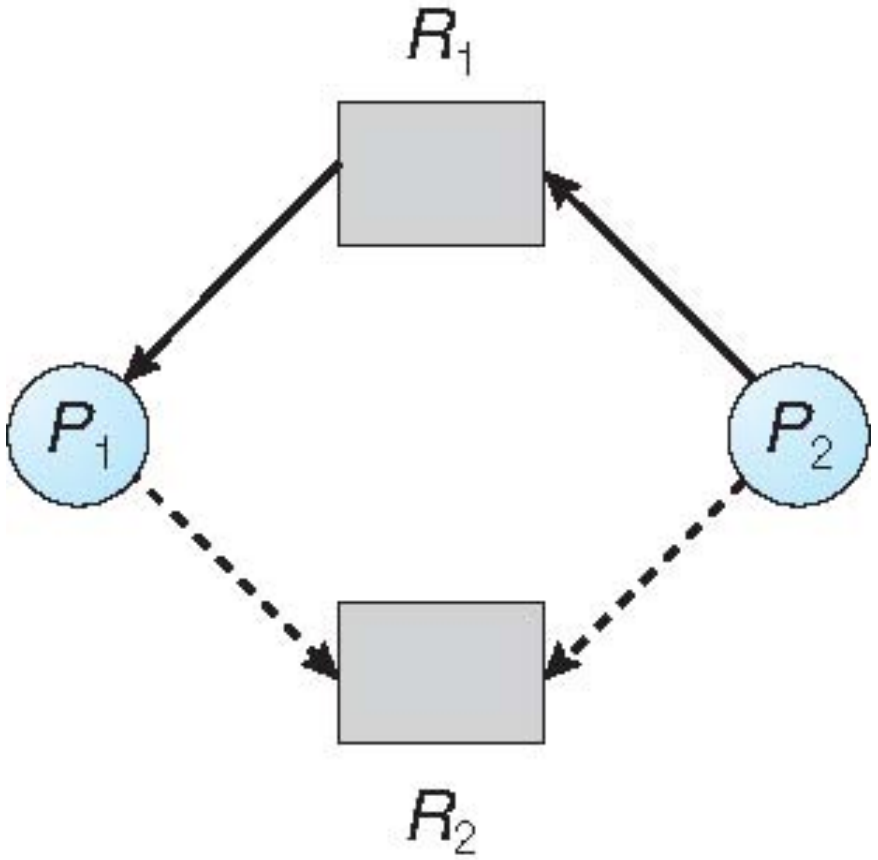
Avoidance algorithms

- Single instance of a resource type
  - Use a resource-allocation graph
- Multiple instances of a resource type
  - Use the banker's algorithm

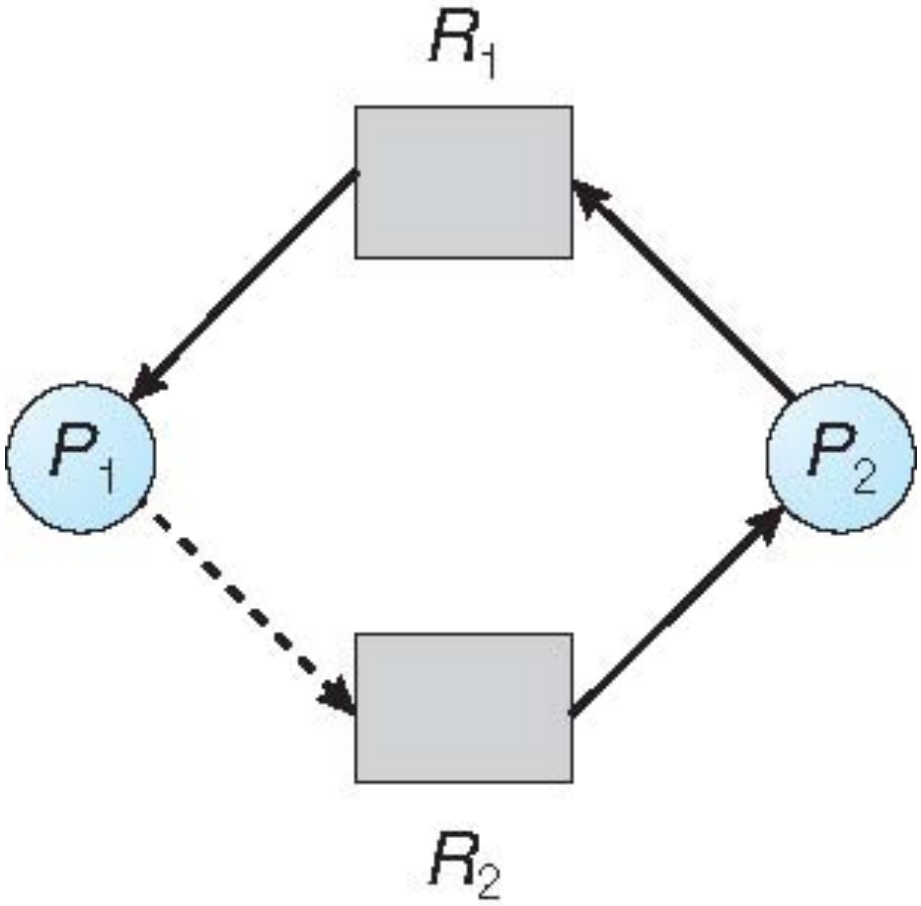
Resource-Allocation Graph Scheme

- **Claim edge** $P_i \rightarrow R_j$ indicated that process P_j may request resource R_j; represented by a dashed line
- Claim edge converts to request edge when a process requests a resource
- Request edge converted to an assignment edge when the resource is allocated to the process
- When a resource is released by a process, assignment edge reconverts to a claim edge
- Resources must be claimed *a priori* in the system

Resource-Allocation Graph



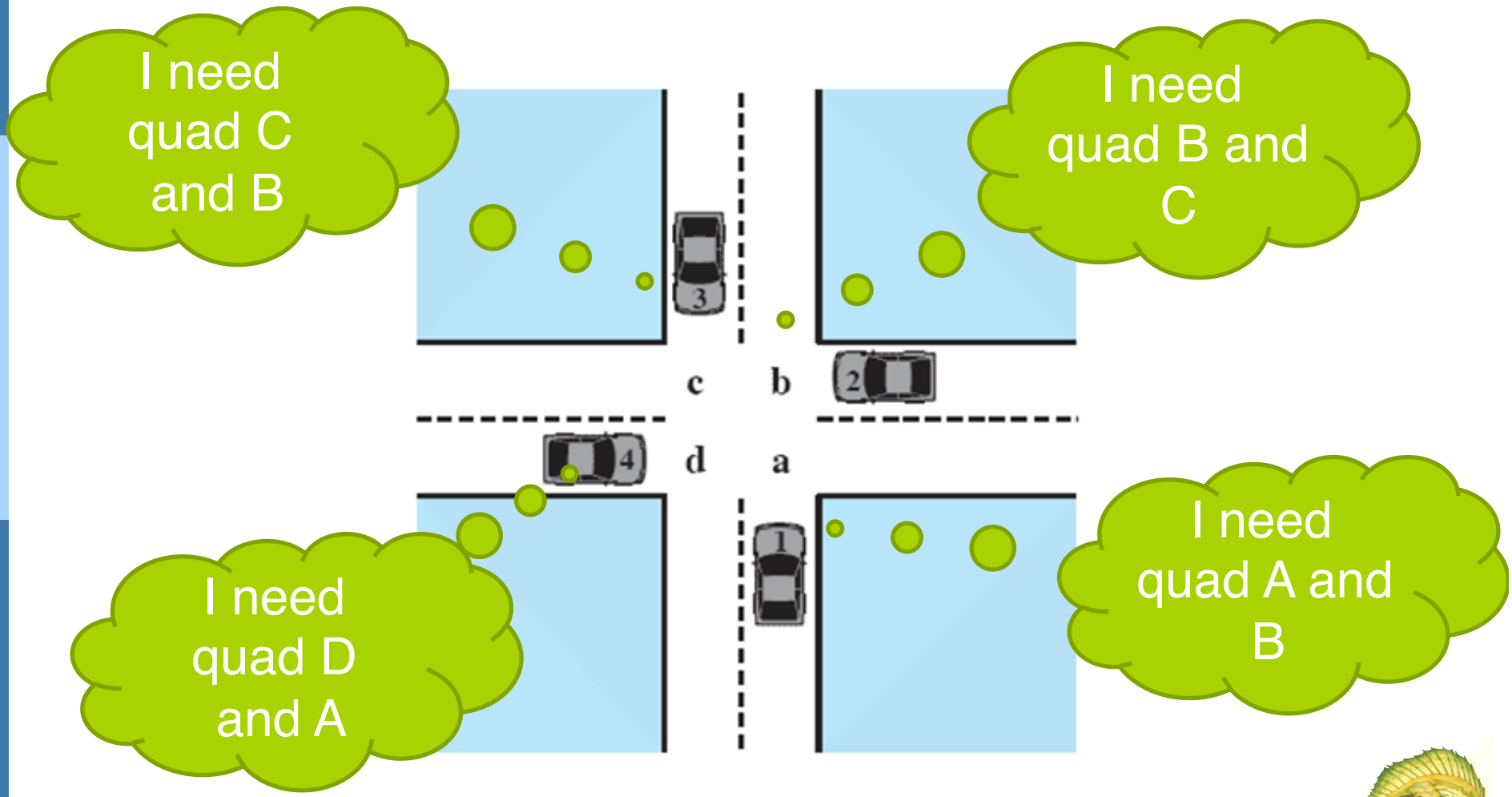
Unsafe State In Resource-Allocation Graph



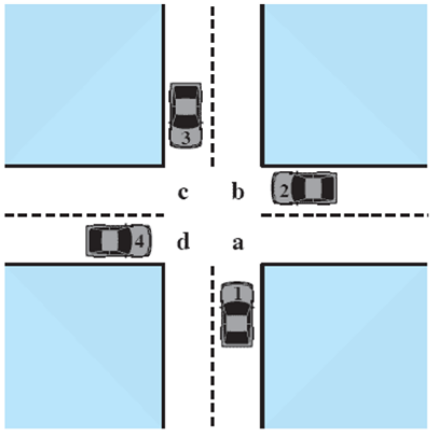
Resource-Allocation Graph Algorithm

- Suppose that process P_i requests a resource R_j
- The request can be granted only if converting the request edge to an assignment edge does not result in the formation of a cycle in the resource allocation graph

Potential Deadlock

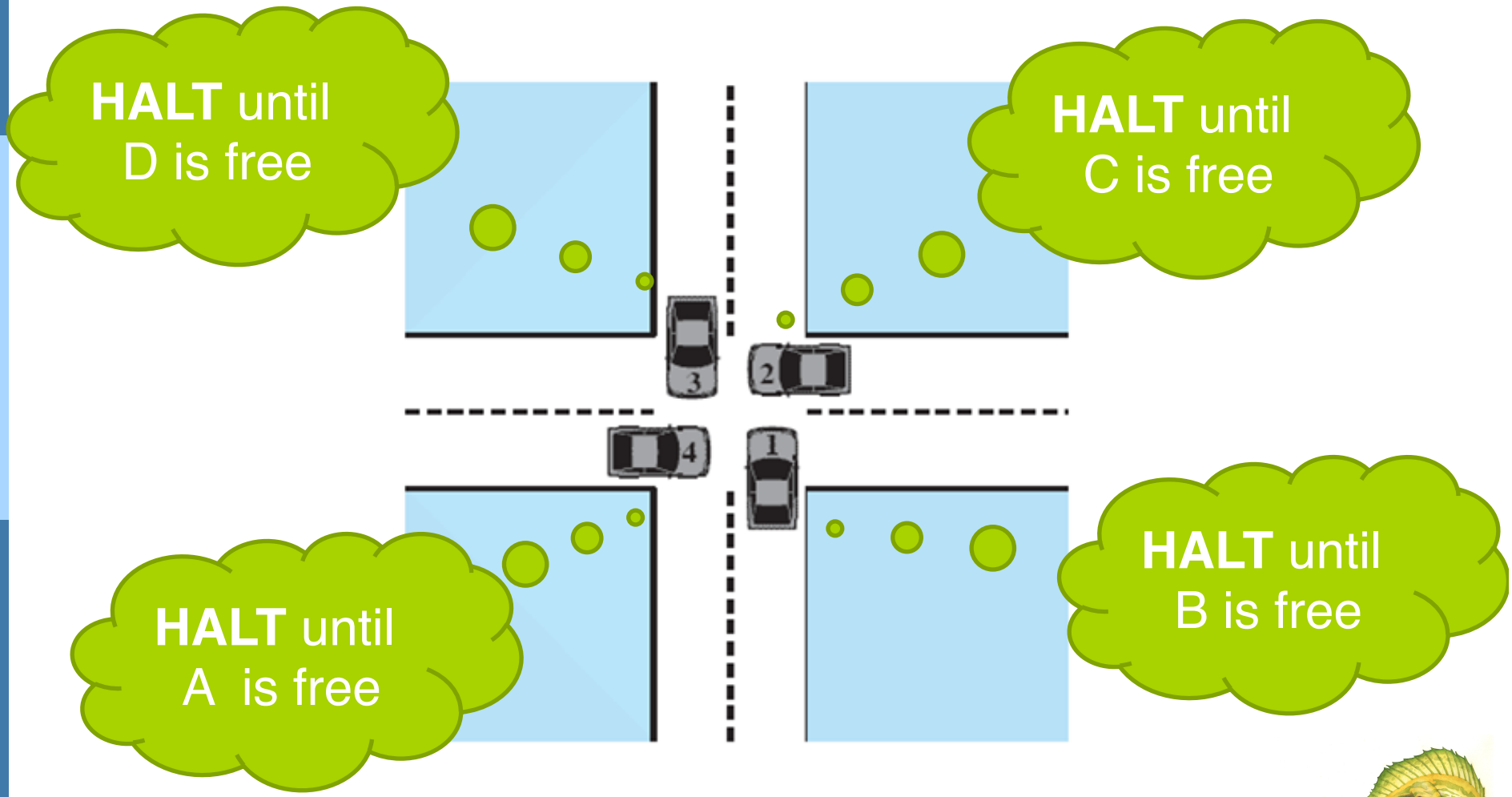


Resource Allocation Diagram

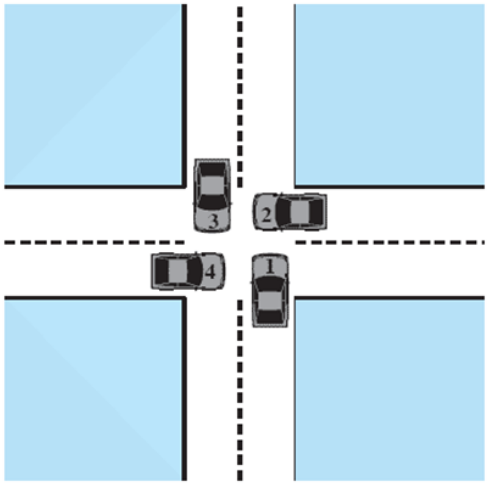


Resource Allocation Diagram

Actual Deadlock



Cars in Intersection, again



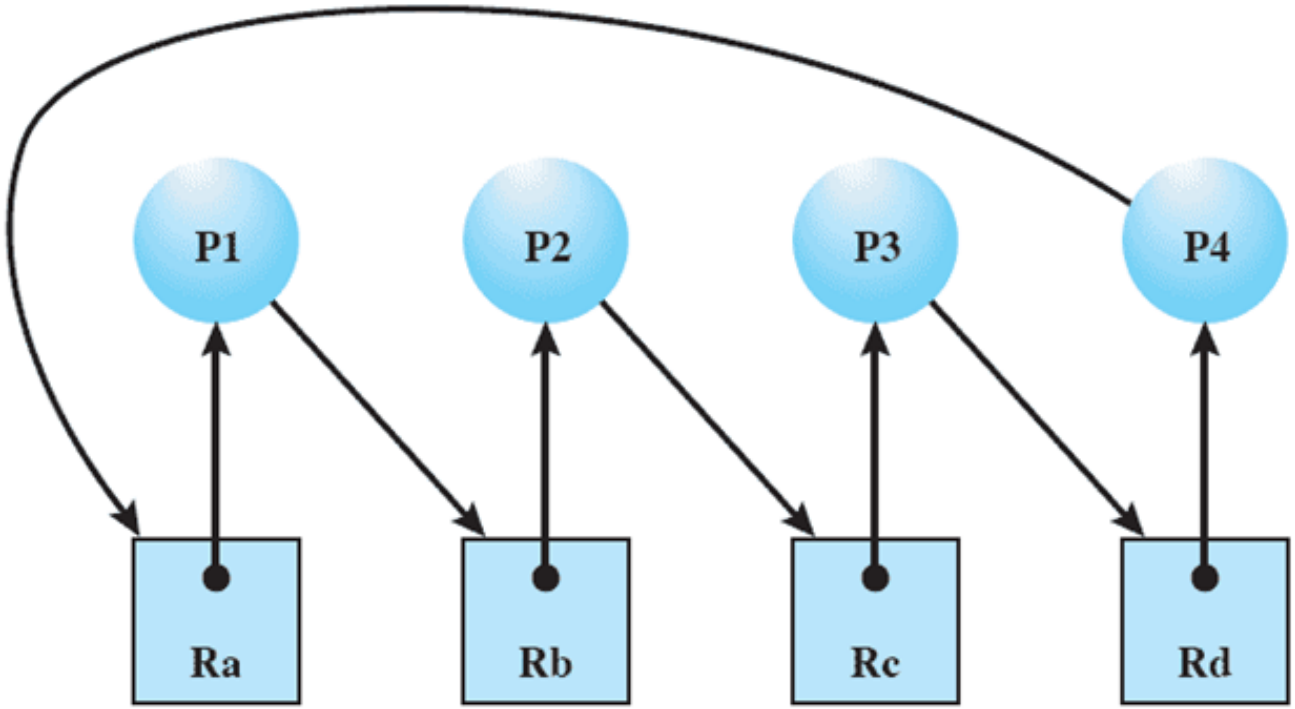


Figure 6.6 Resource Allocation Graph for Figure 6.1b

Banker's Algorithm

- Multiple instances
- Each process must a priori claim maximum use
- When a process requests a resource it may have to wait
- When a process gets all its resources it must return them in a finite amount of time

Data Structures for the Banker's Algorithm

Let n = number of processes, and m = number of resources types.

- **Available**: Vector of length m. If available [j] = k, there are k instances of resource type R_j available
- **Max**: n x m matrix. If Max [i,j] = k, then process P_i may request at most k instances of resource type R_j
- **Allocation**: n x m matrix. If Allocation[i,j] = k then P_i is currently allocated k instances of R_j
- **Need**: n x m matrix. If $Need$[i,j] = k, then P_i may need k more instances of R_j to complete its task

$$Need\ [i,j] = Max[i,j] - Allocation\ [i,j]$$

Safety Algorithm

1. Let *Work* and *Finish* be vectors of length *m* and *n*, respectively. Initialize:

   Work = *Available*

   Finish [*i*] = *false* for *i* = 0, 1, …, *n*- 1

2. Find an *i* such that both:

   (a) *Finish* [*i*] = *false*

   (b) $Need_i \leq Work$

   If no such *i* exists, go to step 4

3. $Work = Work + Allocation_i$
   Finish[*i*] = *true*
   go to step 2

4. If *Finish* [*i*] == true for all *i*, then the system is in a safe state

Resource-Request Algorithm for Process P_i

Request = request vector for process P_i. If $Request_i[j] = k$ then process P_i wants k instances of resource type R_j

1. If $Request_i \leq Need_i$ go to step 2. Otherwise, raise error condition, since process has exceeded its maximum claim
2. If $Request_i \leq Available$, go to step 3. Otherwise P_i must wait, since resources are not available
3. Pretend to allocate requested resources to P_i by modifying the state as follows:

$$Available = Available - Request;$$

$$Allocation_i = Allocation_i + Request_i;$$

$$Need_i = Need_i - Request_i;$$

- *If safe ⇒ the resources are allocated to Pi*
- *If unsafe ⇒ Pi must wait, and the old resource-allocation state is restored*

Example of Banker's Algorithm

- 5 processes P_0 through P_4;

  3 resource types:

  A (10 instances), B (5instances), and C (7 instances)

Snapshot at time T_0:

	Allocation	*Max*	*Available*
	A B C	*A B C*	*A B C*
P_0	0 1 0	7 5 3	3 3 2
P_1	2 0 0	3 2 2	
P_2	3 0 2	9 0 2	
P_3	2 1 1	2 2 2	
P_4	0 0 2	4 3 3	

Example (Cont.)

- The content of the matrix *Need* is defined to be *Max* – *Allocation*

	Need
	A B C
P_0	7 4 3
P_1	1 2 2
P_2	6 0 0
P_3	0 1 1
P_4	4 3 1

- The system is in a safe state since the sequence $< P_1, P_3, P_4, P_2, P_0>$ satisfies safety criteria

Example: P_1 Request (1,0,2)

- Check that Request ≤ Available (that is, (1,0,2) ≤ (3,3,2) ⇒ true

	Allocation	*Need*	*Available*
	A B C	*A B C*	*A B C*
P_0	0 1 0	7 4 3	2 3 0
P_1	3 0 2	0 2 0	
P_2	3 0 2	6 0 0	
P_3	2 1 1	0 1 1	
P_4	0 0 2	4 3 1	

- Executing safety algorithm shows that sequence < P_1, P_3, P_4, P_0, P_2> satisfies safety requirement
- Can request for (3,3,0) by P_4 be granted?
- Can request for (0,2,0) by P_0 be granted?