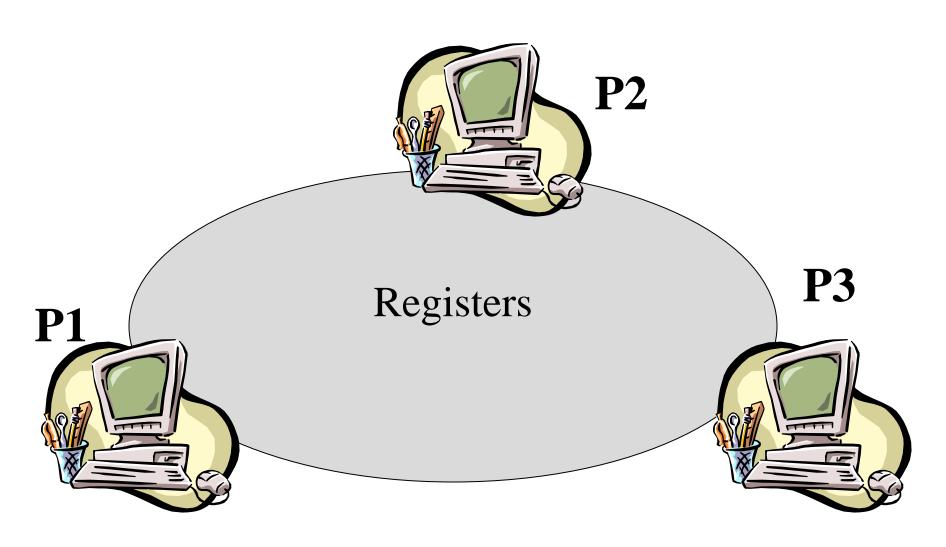
- Shared Memory -

R. Guerraoui Distributed Programming Laboratory Ipdwww.epfl.ch





The application model



Register (assumptions)

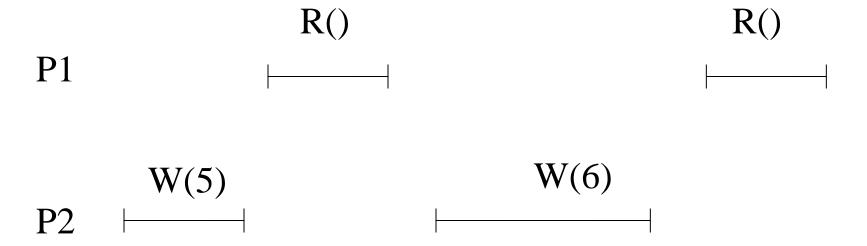
- For presentation simplicity, we assume registers of *integers*
- We also assume that the initial value of a register is 0 and this value is initialized (written()) by some process before the register is used
- We assume that every value written is uniquely identified (this can be ensured by associating a process id and a timestamp with the value)

Register: specification

Assume a register that is local to a process, i.e., accessed only by one process:

In this case, the value returned by a Read() is the last value written

Sequential execution



Sequential execution

P1 R() -> 5 R() -> 6 W(5) W(6)

Concurrent execution

P1
$$R_1() \rightarrow ?$$
 $R_2() \rightarrow ?$ $R_3() \rightarrow ?$ $W(5)$ $W(6)$

Execution with failures

P1 W(5) W(6) W(6)

Regular register

- It assumes only one writer;
- It provides strong guarantees when there is no concurrent or failed operations (invoked by processes that fail in the middle)
- When some operations are concurrent, or some operation fails, the register provides *minimal* guarantees

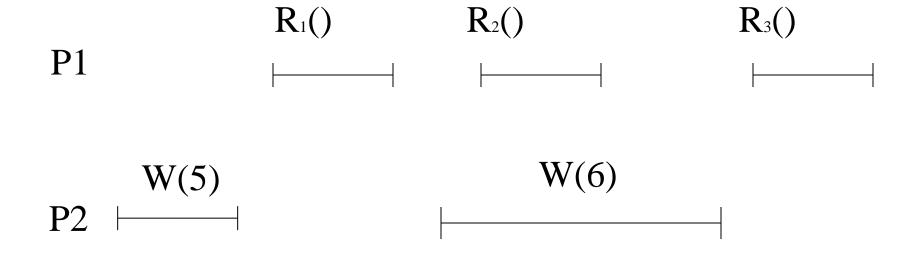
Regular register

• Read() returns:

✓ the last value written if there is no concurrent
or failed operations

✓ and otherwise the last value written or *any* value concurrently written, i.e., the input parameter of some *Write()*

Execution



$$R_1() -> 5$$
 $R_2() -> 0$ $R_3() -> 25$ $W(5)$ $W(6)$ $P2$ $W(6)$

$$R_1() -> 5$$
 $R_2() -> 6$ $R_3() -> 5$ $W(5)$ $W(6)$

P1
$$R() \rightarrow 5$$

$$W(5)$$

$$W(6)$$

$$W(6)$$

P1
$$R() \rightarrow 6$$

$$W(5)$$

$$W(6)$$

$$W(6)$$

Correctness

Results 1: non-regular register (safe)

Results 2; 3; 4: regular register