# POSIX Threads

W4118 Operating Systems I

columbia-os.github.io

#### Processes vs. Threads

- Processes DO NOT share virtual memory address space
- Threads DO share virtual memory address space AND file descriptors
  - but each thread has its own stack

See bank0.c

## Synchronization - POSIX Mutex API

```
#include <pthread.h>
int pthread mutex init(pthread mutex t *restrict mutex,
                       const pthread mutexattr t *restrict attr);
int pthread mutex destroy(pthread mutex t *mutex);
        // Both return: 0 if OK, error number on failure
int pthread mutex lock(pthread mutex t *mutex);
int pthread mutex trylock(pthread mutex t *mutex);
int pthread mutex unlock(pthread mutex t *mutex);
        // All return: 0 if OK, error number on failure
#include <pthread.h>
#include <time.h>
int pthread mutex timedlock (pthread mutex t *restrict mutex,
                            const struct timespec *restrict tsptr);
       // Returns: 0 if OK, error number on failure
```

### Deadlock

#### Deadlock

- Thread tries to lock the same mutex twice
- A thread holds mutex A and tries to lock mutex B, and another thread holds mutex B and tries to lock mutex A

- Strict lock ordering can avoid deadlock
- See APUE Figures 11.11 and 11.12 for an example

#### **Condition Variables**

See condition.c

## More Synchronization Primitives

- Spin locks
- Barriers
- more...