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AMATH 483/583 High Performance Scientific Computing

Lecture 10: Processes, Threads, Concurrency, Parallelism

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Overview

- Multiple cores
- Concurrency
- Processes
- Threads
- Parallelization strategies
- Correctness

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Supercomputers (HPC)



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Schematically



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Parallelism and HPC so far



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General Performance Principles



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Flynn's Taxonomy (Aside)

Anyone in HPC must know Flynn's taxonomy

• Classic classification of parallel architectures (Michael Flynn, 1966)



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SIMD and MIMD



A More Refined (Programmer-Oriented) Taxonomy

- Three major modes: SIMD, Shared Memory, Distributed Memory
- Different programming approaches are generally associated with different modes of parallelism (threads for shared, MPI for distributed)
- A modern supercomputer will have all three major modes present







Multicore Architecture

Multicore for HPC

- How do multicore chips operate (how does the hardware work)?
- How do they get high performance?
- How does the software exploit the hardware (how do we write our software to exploit the hardware)?
- What are the abstractions that we need to use to reason about multicore systems?
- What are the programming abstractions and mechanisms?
- Terminology: Program, process, thread
- More terminology: Parallel, concurrent, asynchronous

- You are the TA for CSE 142 and have to grade 22 exams
- The exam has 8 questions on it
- It takes 3 minutes to grade one question
- How long will it take you to grade all of the exams?

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- You are the TA for CSE 142 and have to grade 22 exams
- The exam has 8 questions on it
- It takes 3 minutes to grade one question
- You ask 21 friends who agree to help you
- How long will it take the 22 of you to grade all of the exams?
- Describe your approach
- List your assumptions

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- You are the TA for CSE 142 and have to grade 1012 exams (1012 = 46 * 22)
- The exam has 8 questions on it
- It takes 3 minutes to grade one question
- You ask 21 friends who agree to help you
- How long will it take the 22 of you to grade all of the exams?
- Describe your approach
- Describe another approach
- List your assumptions

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- You are the TA for CSE 142 and have to grade 8 exams
- The exam has 22 questions on it
- It takes 3 minutes to grade one question
- You ask 21 friends who agree to help you
- How long will it take the 22 of you to grade all of the exams?
- Describe your approach

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- You are the TA for CSE 142 and have to grade 368 exams (368 = 46 * 8)
- The exam has 22 questions on it
- It takes 3 minutes to grade one question
- You ask 21 friends who agree to help you
- How long will it take the 22 of you to grade all of the exams?

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• What if you had 368 friends? 368*22?

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Compare And Contrast

- Time for everyone grades one exam
- Time for everyone grades one question
- How (why) did you use the approaches you did?

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How Do We Run Many Programs at the Same Time?

How Do We Run Many Programs at the Same Time?

A Word About Operating Systems

• An operating system is *a program* that provides a standard interface between the resources of a computer and the users of the computer

Processes and Threads

- A process is an abstraction for a collection of resources to represent a (running) program
 - CPU
 - Memory
 - Address space
- A thread is an abstraction of execution (using the resources within a process)
 - Can share an address space

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How Do We Run Many Programs & totheusamtly?me?

The Operating System Can Run When...

- The process whose instructions are being executed by the CPU (the running process) requests a service from the OS (makes a system call)
- In response to a hardware interrupt
- It does not spontaneously run
- It is not somehow running in the background
- Again, when the CPU is executing instructions for one program, it is not executing instructions for another program
- The only way anything happens on the computer is if the CPU executes instructions that make it happen

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s/ums3 hreads pices 1.93, 1.88, 1.87 Ou usage: 3.45% user, 3.6% wy gions: 1555% total, 7876% cesident, 141M private, 362 280 wize, 627M framework %ize, 7134482(64) wwplns. 57076856/1520 read, 3626296/7920 writen.	558/gkl/amath-583/dectures/L8 — lums658@WE31821 — top — 148×64 s, 92.84% idle SharedLibs: 252M resident, 48M data, 64M linked Øy shared. PhysMem: 160 used (2161M wired), 236M unused. , 74484796(8) swapouts. Networks: packets: 41299644/296 in, 41	06:16:00 it. 044343/266 out.	VM: 43 Disks:	28G vsize, 62 57070556/152	7M fra 4G rea	amework vs ad, 360259	size, 2 949/792	713448 2G wr:	832(64) itten.) swapir	ns, I	
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Context Switch

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man fork()

#include <unistd.h>
pid_t fork();

The child process has a unique id

Upon successful completion, fork() returns a value of 0 to the child process and the returns the process ID of the child process to the parent process

• • • lums658@WE31821 - /Users/lums658/git/amath-583/lectures/L8 --- lums658@WE31821 --- less < man fork --- 135×52 FORK(2) BSD System Calls Manual FORK(2) NAME fork -- create a new process SYNOPSIS #include <unistd.h> pid_t fork(void); DESCRIPTION fork() causes creation of a new process. The new process (child process) is an exact copy of the calling process (parent process) except for the following: The child process has a unique process ID. The child process has a different parent process ID (i.e., the process ID of the parent process). The child process has its own copy of the parent's descriptors. These descriptors reference the same underlying objects, so that, for instance, file pointers in file objects are shared between the child and the parent, so that an lseek(2) on a descriptor in the child process can affect a subsequent read or write by the parent. This descriptor copying is also used by the shell to establish standard input and output for newly created processes as well as to set up pipes. • The child processes resource utilizations are set to 0; see setrlimit(2). RN VALUES Upon successful completion, fork() returns a value of 0 to the child process and returns the process ID of the child process to the parent process. Otherwise, a value of -1 is returned to the parent process, no child process is created, and the global variable errno is set to indicate the error. fork() will fail and no child process will be created if: [EAGAIN] The system-imposed limit on the total number of processes under execution would be exceeded. This limit is configuration-dependent. [EAGAIN] The system-imposed limit MAXUPRC ((sys/param.h)) on the total number of processes under execution by a single user would be exceeded. [ENOMEM] There is insufficient swap space for the new process. CY SYNOPSIS #include <sys/types.h> #include <unistd.h> The include file <svs/tvpes.h> is necessarv.

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Example Revisited



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Process creation in UNIX (fork / exec pattern)



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How Do We Run Multiple Programs Concurrently?









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Timothy Mattson, Beverly Sanders, and Berna Massingill. 2004. Patterns for Parallel Programming(First ed.). Addison-Wesley Professional.

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Stay Tuned

- C++ threads
- C++ async()
- C++ atomics

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Parallel Computing with Processes



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Parallel Computing with Processes



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Parallel Computing with One Process



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Parallel Computing with One Process





Parallel Computing with One Process




Parallel Computing with One Process





Parallel Computing with One Process



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Use Same Function in Both Cases



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Use Same Function in Both Cases



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Running Things "At the Same Time"

- Historically, threads evolved as a concurrency mechanism, not parallelism
- Enabled OS and processes to do multiple things "at the same time"
- Can be used for performance if threads are executed in parallel

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Running Things "At the Same Time" in C++



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Multithreading

```
void sayHello(int tnum) {
   cout << "Hello World. I am thread " << tnum << endl;
}
int main() {
   std::thread tid[16];
   for (int i = 0; i < 16; ++i)
     tid[i] = thread (sayHello, i);
   for (int i = 0; i < 16; ++i)
     tid[i].join();
   return 0;
}</pre>
```

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Multithreading

```
void sayHello(int tnum) {
   cout << "Hello World. I am thread " << tnum << endl;
}
int main() {
   std::thread tid[16];
   for (int i = 0; i < 16; ++i)
     tid[i] = thread (sayHello, i);
   for (int i = 0; i < 16; ++i)
     tid[i].join();
return 0;
}
Concurrency?</pre>
```

\$./a.out

Hello World. I am thread 02Hello World. I am thread Hello World. I am thread 13Hello World. I am thread 5Hello World. I am thread Hello World. I am thread 6Hello World. I am thread 47Hello World. I am thread 8

Program

output

910

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15

111213

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Parallelism?



Why the Jumbled Output

```
void sayHello(int tnum) {
   cout << "Hello World. I am thread " << tnum << endl;
}
int main() {
   std::thread tid[16];
   for (int i = 0; i < 16; ++i)
     tid[i] = thread (sayHello, i);
   for (int i = 0; i < 16; ++i)
     tid[i].join();
   return 0;
}</pre>
```

\$./a.out

Hello World. I am thread 02Hello World. I am thread Hello World. I am thread 13Hello World. I am thread 5Hello World. I am thread Hello World. I am thread 6Hello World. I am thread 47Hello World. I am thread 8









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Another Example

```
int value = 0;
int main() {
  std::thread tid[16];
  for (int i = 0; i < 16; ++i)
    tid[i] = thread (sayHello, i);
  for (int i = 0; i < 16; ++i)
    tid[i].join();
  cout << "Final value is " << value << endl;</pre>
  return 0;
}
```

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Example

./a.outHello World. I am thread Hello World. I am thread 5302Hello World. I am thread Hello World. I am thread 64Hello World. I am thread Hello World. I am thread 1Hello World. I am thread 789Value is Value is Value is Hello World. I am thread Value is 1011Value is Value is 1213Value is 14Value is Value is Value is 000150Value is Value is 00Value is Value is 0Value is 000Value is 00000

Final value is 1 Not Good! Race condition

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Yet Another Example (Sequential, Synchronous)

```
int bank_balance = 300;
void withdraw(const string& msg, int amount) {
    int bal = bank_balance;
    string out_string = msg + " withdraws " + to_string(amount) + "\n";
    cout << out_string;
    bank_balance = bal - amount;
}
int main() {
    cout << "Starting balance is " << bank_balance << endl;
    withdraw("Bonnie", 100);
    withdraw("Clyde", 100);
    cout << "Final bank balance is " << bank_balance << endl;
    return 0;
}
```

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Yet Another Example (Concurrent)

```
int bank_balance = 300;
void withdraw(const string& msg, int amount) {
  int bal = bank_balance;
  string out_string = msg + " withdraws " + to_string(amount) + "\n";
  cout << out_string;</pre>
  bank_balance = bal - amount;
}
int main() {
  cout << "Starting balance is " << bank_balance << endl;</pre>
  thread bonnie(withdraw, "Bonnie", 100);
  thread clyde(withdraw, "Clyde", 100);
  bonnie.join();
  clyde.join();
  cout << "Final bank balance is " << bank_balance << endl;</pre>
  return 0;
}
```

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Review

- Process is an abstraction for resource allocation
- Thread is an abstraction for execution
- Concurrency vs Parallelism vs Distributed
- C++ threading library

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Example

Find the value of π •





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Discretization











Finding Concurrency







Finding Concurrency









Sequential Implementation (Two Nested Loops)



Threads vs Tasks



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Results Correct \$./thrpi pi is approximately 3.14159 Correct \$./thrpi Exactly same pi is approximately 3.14159 program! Incorrect! What happened?

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Bonnie and Clyde Use ATMs



```
int bank_balance = 300;
```

```
void withdraw(const string& msg, int amount) {
    int bal = bank_balance;
    string out_string = msg + " withdraws " + to_string(amount) + "\n";
    cout << out_string;
    bank_balance = bal - amount;
}</pre>
```

```
int main() {
   cout << "Starting balance is " << bank_balance << endl;</pre>
```

thread bonnie(withdraw, "Bonnie", 100); thread clyde(withdraw, "Clyde", 100);

```
bonnie.join();
clyde.join();
```

cout << "Final bank balance is " << bank_balance << endl;</pre>

```
return 0;
```

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Withdraw Function



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Making Concurrent Withdrawals



Bonnie and Clyde Use ATMs



\$./a.out
Starting balance is 300
Bonnie withdraws 100
Clyde withdraws 100

Is this correct?

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What Happened: Race Condition

- Final answer depends on instructions from different threads are interleaved with each other
- Often occurs with shared writing of shared data
- Often due to read then update shared data
- What was true at the read is not true at the update

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Critical Section Problem



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The Critical-Section Problem

- n processes all competing to use some shared data
- Each process has a code segment, called critical section, in which the shared data is accessed.
- Problem ensure that when one process is executing in its critical section, no other process is allowed to execute in its critical section.
- What do we mean by "execute in its critical section"?

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Solution to Critical-Section Problem

- Mutual Exclusion If process Pi is executing in its critical section, then no other processes can be executing in their critical sections
- Progress If no process is executing in its critical section and there
 exist some processes that wish to enter their critical section, then the
 selection of the processes that will enter the critical section next
 cannot be postponed indefinitely
- Bounded Waiting A bound must exist on the number of times that other processes are allowed to enter their critical sections after a process has made a request to enter its critical section and before that request is granted
 - Assume that each process executes at a nonzero speed
 - No assumption concerning relative speed of the N processes



Critical Section Problem





Critical Section Problem



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Aside

```
bool lock = false;
int bank_balance = 300;
void withdraw(const string& msg, int amount) {
    string out_string = msg + " withdraws " + to_string(amount) + "\n";
    cout << out_string;
    bank_balance -= amount;
}
Still a race
```



Aside



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Critical Section Problem

	<pre>bool lock = false;</pre>
	<pre>int bank_balance = 300;</pre>
Critical	<pre>void withdraw(const string& msg, int amount) {</pre>
section	<pre>string out_string = msg + " withdraws " + to_string(amount) + "\n"; cout << out_string;</pre>
	<pre>bank_balance = bank_balance - amount; }</pre>

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Synchronization Hardware

- Many systems provide hardware support for critical section code
- Uniprocessors could disable interrupts
 - Currently running code would execute without preemption
 - Generally too inefficient on multiprocessor systems
 - Operating systems using this not broadly scalable
- Modern machines provide special *atomic* hardware instructions
 - Atomic = non-interruptable
 - Either test memory word and set value
 - Or swap contents of two memory words

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Test and Set



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Compare And Swap



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Correct Withdraw







Parallel Speedup, Parallel Efficiency



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Name This Famous Person



"Validity of the single processor approach to achieving large-scale computing capabilities," AFIPS Conference Proceedings (30): 483–485, 1967.

Gene Amdahl (1922-2015)

Amdahl's Law

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Limits to Parallelism (Amdahl's Law)





There are no Limits (Gustafson's Law)

- Doing the same problem faster and faster is not how we use parallel computers
- Rather, we solve bigger and more difficult problems
- I.e., the amount of parallelizable work grows



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Two Types of Scaling






