多线程 Multithreading

现代C++基础 Modern C++ Basics

Jiaming Liang, undergraduate from Peking University

Synchronization utilities

High-level Abstraction of Asynchronous Operation

Multithreading

Multithreading

- Thread
 - Abstract thread model
 - thread
 - jthread
 - Miscellaneous topics

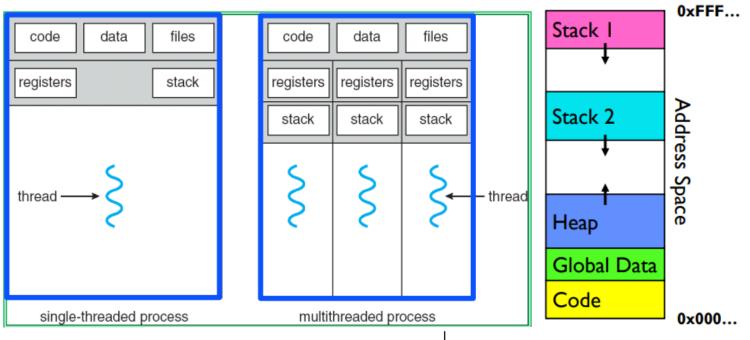
Thread model

- We first briefly review what thread is...
- We've learnt in ICS that each program is a process;
 - It has independent address space, and possibly other status like file descriptors (depend on OS).
 - Good isolation, good protection, really limited ability to access memory of another process.
- Threads: less protection, better data sharing!
 - They still partially keep their own set of resources (like registers)...
 - But lie in the same virtual address space, so easy to access memory of other threads!
 - Usually, OS will schedule threads instead of processes;
 - So to some extent, we can say threads are the smallest units to utilize multicore parallelism.

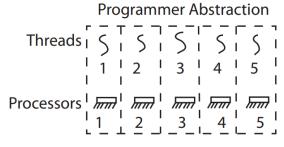
BTW: C++ standard in fact doesn't have a concept of "process", since all things it regulates happen in a single program; you need OS-dependent APIs to manipulate processes, like fork/exec in Linux, or external libraries like Boost.Process.

Thread model

In a nutshell:



Roughly speaking, if there are two physical cores, there are actually only two threads executing simultaneously; but OS gives an illusion that more than two threads run concurrently by scheduling.



Physical Reality

Physical Reality

Physical Reality

Physical Reality

Physical Reality

Show that the second sec

Credit: Prof. Jin Xin @ PKU OS.

We only give a very rough understanding of thread; you need to learn it comprehensively in OS course.

Thread model

- Scheduling is in fact pausing a running thread, then running a ready thread.
 - And scheduling algorithms determine which to pause and which to run.
 - Registers will be saved and restored during context switch.
- Threads compete with each other for executing themselves!
 - Thus, you may think statements may execute in any order, which leads to data race and synchronization problems.^[1]
- Threads need to be joined or detached after creation; the former will wait until the thread function exits, and the latter will make it execute separately and freely.

[1]: We'll give a rigorous definition for data races in *Advanced Concurrency*.

Multithreading

- Thread
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- We've learnt in ICS how to use pthread in POSIX system.
 - pthread_create/join/..., like this:
 - Obscure C interface...
 - The thread function should be void* func(void*);
 - 2. Parameters are packed in a void* to be passed in.
 - You need to unpack it inside the thread function, like (int) here.
 - 3. Return value is accepted by void*.
 - Here we pthread_join(..., NULL), i.e. not need return value.
 - If you need it, unpack again...
 - Very strange... can we improve it in C++?

```
// create the function to be executed as a thread
void *thread(void *ptr)
    int type = (int) ptr;
   fprintf(stderr,"Thread - %d\n",type);
    return ptr;
int main(int argc, char **argv)
    // create the thread objs
   pthread t thread1, thread2;
   int thr = 1;
    int thr2 = 2:
   // start the threads
   pthread create(&thread1, NULL, thread, (void *) thr)
   pthread create(&thread2, NULL, thread, (void *) thr2)
   // wait for threads to finish
   pthread join(thread1,NULL);
   pthread join(thread2,NULL);
   return 0;
```

- Of course! We may code like:
- Very intuitive, very simple, by std::thread defined in <thread>.
 - 1. It isn't limited to a function, but can use any functor.
 - It's equivalent to call std::invoke, so you can also pass into pointer to member function with this, like { &SomeClass::MemberFunc, this, params... };
 - Functor will be copied; you can explicitly std::move(functor) to make it a std::ref to make it a std::referous
 - 2. You can call .detach() to detach the thread.
 - After join/detach, the underlying thread is not associated with std::thread object. Unless you move a new object to it, this std::thread object is in an empty state (just like default-constructed/moved).
 - 3. Return value of func will be omitted; it should be passed by ref. param.

```
void func(int num)
{
    std::println("Thread info: {}", num);
}
int main()
{
    std::thread t{ func, 1 };
    t.join();
}
```

- And some other APIs:
 - 1. Move ctor, move assignment, and swappable (by .swap() or std::swap).
 - 2. .joinable() -> bool: whether the thread is in an empty state.
 - E.g. before calling .join()/.detach(), it returns true; afterwards false.
 - 3. Dtor: std::terminate if .joinable(), otherwise do nothing;
 - That is, every running std::thread must call .join()/.detach() before destruction.
 - 4. .get_id(): get thread id;
 - Class std::thread::id instead of simply an integer.
 - Restricted integer: only comparable, hashable and printable (by << since C++11 or std::formatter since C++23).
 - Particularly, it only supports fill-align-width format.
 - std::thread in empty state will get default-constructed id.

- Note: parameters are decay-copied to the thread functions.
 - And since C++23 it can be explained by auto(...) + materialization, i.e. generate a prvalue that is materialized in the current thread.
 - So auto will decay type, e.g. Object& -> Object.
 - When forwarded type is Object&, then copy;
 - When Object&&, then move;
- Let's break it down step by step...

```
void func(Object object)
{
    std::cout << "Thread id: " << std::this_thread::get_id() << "\n";
}
int main()
{
    std::cout << "Main id: " << std::this_thread::get_id() << "\n";
    std::thread t{ func, Object{} };
    t.join();
}</pre>
```

```
std::thread t{ func, Object{} };
```

```
template< class F, class... Args >
explicit thread( F&& f, Args&&... args );
```

- 1. Parameters are passed into ctor of std::thread.
 - Encountering reference, prvalue Object{} is materialized and thus constructed as arg0.
- 2. arg0 is then decay-copied.
 - Here it's prvalue Object{ std:: move(arg0) }, and materialized (and thus move-constructed).

- 3. Then thread executes std::invoke;
 - Materialized parameters are passed to new thread.
- 4. And finally arg1 is forwarded to parameters of func.
 - And thus move-constructed as object.

```
1) Invoke the Callable object [f] with the parameters [args] as by 
 INVOKE(std::forward<F>(f), std::forward<Args>(args)...)
```

template< class F, class... Args >

invoke(F&& f, Args&&... args)

std::invoke_result_t<F, Args...>

```
void func(Object object)
{
    std::cout << "Thread id: " << std::this_thread::get_id() << "\n";
}</pre>
```

You'll implement std::thread yourself in our homework to know how these really happen.

• The first three steps happen at the current thread, and the final step happens at the new thread.

Main id: 21244

- So the output is like:
 - Any exception thrown in step 1 & 2 can then be caught in old thread.

Main id: 21244
Construct at 21244
Move at 21244
Destruct at 21244
Move at 8504
Thread id: 8504
Destruct at 8504
Destruct at 8504

Step 1 Step 2; new thread executes Step 3. Param of thread ctor destructed. Step 4

Param of func destructed. Materialized temporary destructed.

- Exercise: is this piece of code right?
 - No, since we forward materialized temporary to func, i.e. func(std::move(...));
 - And you cannot bind rvalue to Ivalue reference...
 - Even if you use const int&, it in fact refers to a temporary, not the parameter you passed to thread ctor.

```
#include <thread>
#include <iostream>

void func(int& type) {
    type = 2;
}

int main()

{
    int type = 1;
    std::thread t{ func, type };
    t.join();
    return 0;
}
```

- Reason: decay-copy instead of reference is safer.
 - We've learnt in ICS that you may pass a pointer to another thread, so that another thread can access memory of current thread.

t.join();

C:\WINDOWS\system32

std::cout << type; 2请按任意键继续. . .

- If the referred object goes out of its lifetime, you're accessing invalid memory!
- Simultaneous access in different threads may lead to data races too.
- You need to use std::(c)ref() explicitly to pass the (const) reference.
 - You've seen similar way in std::bind_xx, which also warns you about lifetime problem.

```
native_handle_type native_handle();
(since C++11)
(not always present)
```

Returns the implementation defined underlying thread handle.

- Note 1: APIs provided in std::thread are high-level; sometimes you may want fine-grained control.
 - For example, you may want to change the priority of some threads.
 - It's platform-dependent, so C++ provides a .native_handle() for it.
 - The return type is platform-dependent (e.g. pthread_t in POSIX system).
- Note 2: static constexpr std::thread::hardware_concurrency() can be used to check number of real parallel threads.
 - Roughly speaking, how many physical cores.
 - This is only a hint to the possible maximum parallelism; you need profiling to get the best thread number for your program's performance.
 - When the system cannot give a hint, return 0.

- Note 3: some rare but possible exceptions, listed here.
 - All exceptions are std::system_error with some error code.
 - Ctor: *Throws*: system_error if unable to start the new thread.

Error conditions: i.e. error code

- resource_unavailable_try_again the system lacked the necessary resources to create another thread, or the system-imposed limit on the number of threads in a process would be exceeded.
- .join()/.detach():

Error conditions:

- resource_deadlock_would_occur if deadlock is detected or get_id() == this_thread::get_id(). A thread waiting for itself; .detach() doesn't have this case.
- no_such_process if the thread is not valid.
- invalid_argument if the thread is not joinable.

- Note 4: namespace std::this_thread has many methods for the current thread.
 - get_id(): get id of current thread.
 - sleep_for()/sleep_until(): pause the current thread.
 - yield(): request scheduling.
 - We've said that threads compete with each other; OS will schedule a thread when it has executing for a period of time.
 - That is, a thread will execute eagerly, and OS forces it to pause.
 - yield means the thread gives up execution right voluntarily, and OS reschedules it.
 - However, OS may still choose the original thread to run, if the priority of this thread is high enough so that scheduling algorithms still choose it.
 - i.e. pause the thread, save its state, and reload the same state, and continue to run.

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jthread

- C++ encourages RAII, which means dtor will release resource acquired by ctor.
 - But std::thread seems to violate it, because if you forget to join/detach a thread, then the whole program is terminated.
 - std::jthread in <thread> since C++20 is used to solve that; it will
 automatically join the thread if its joinable() is still true in dtor.
 - It has all APIs of std::thread, i.e. you can use join/detach/swap/move/ native_handle/joinable/get_id/hardware_concurrency.
 - But move will try to join thread it holds, and then move another to *this.
 - Self-move will also join itself!
- In C++11, some argue that termination is better than silent wait, which makes it not default behavior for std::thread.

From the start (pre-C++11), many (incl. me) had wanted **thread** to have what is now **jthread**'s behavior, but people grounded in traditional operating systems threads insisted that terminating a program was far preferable to a deadlock. In 2012 and 2013, Herb Sutter proposed a joining

jthread

- Besides, std::jthread also adds stop token handling.
 - Also sometimes called *cooperative cancellation*.
- We know that threads compete and execute eagerly.
 - You can seldom force a thread to do something, but request it to do.
 - For stopping a thread, you may set some shared data, and the thread checks it periodically; when check succeeds, it **returns voluntarily**.
 - Note that you can NOT kill a thread (though you can kill a process), since data dependence in threads is too common.
 - For example, what if a thread is still holding a lock, but it's forced to exit? Then the waiting thread will go into deadlock!
 - All in all, you can hardly ever guarantee a thread to be in a consistent state when you kill it; that's why we need stop token as a hint.

- So the requester holds a stop source, and the thread holds a stop token that associates with the stop source.
 - To prevent use-after-free, they share an underlying stop state with reference counts;
 - The state records related information and will be freed when counts goes to 0.
 - The stop source can only request once, which sets some flag in state;
 - Future requests have no actual effects.
 - · And the stop token can check regularly whether the flag is set.
- So the state should expose interface below:
 - Setter: request_stop(), set the flag;
 - Getter: stop_requested(), check whether the flag is set;
 - Share/Detach: increment/decrement reference count.

 And accordingly, std::stop_source and std::stop_token in <stop_token> wrap and expose them in a thread-safe way.

```
std::stop_source:
Setter: .request_stop();
Getter: .stop_requested();
Share & Detach:
Default ctor: create a stop_source with newly created state.
Copy ctor & assignment: share the current state with others;
Move ctor & assignment: transfer the ownership;
Dtor: detach.
```

.get_token() -> std::stop_token: get a stop token that shares the same state.

- std::stop token:
 - No setter;
 - Getter: .stop requested();
 - Share & Detach:
 - Copy ctor & assignment: share the current state with others;
 - Move ctor & assignment: transfer the ownership;
 - Dtor: detach.
- For example:

```
void func(std::stop_token token, int& cnt)
{
    while (!token.stop_requested())
    {
        cnt++;
    }
}
```

```
int main()
{
   int cnt = 0;
   using namespace std::literals; // To use literal suffix 'ms'.

   std::stop_source source;
   std::thread t{ func, source.get_token(), std::ref(cnt) };
   std::this_thread::sleep_for(1ms);
   source.request_stop();
   t.join();

   return 0;
}
```

- They can also attach to an empty state, then every operation does nothing.
 - std::stop_token: default construct it;
 - std::stop source: add a placeholder tag:

```
explicit stop_source( std::nostopstate_t nss ) noexcept; (2) std::stop_source source{ std::nostopstate }
```

- Since default ctor will create a new state.
- When they're e.g. moved-from, then the state will be empty too.
- To check whether the current state is empty, you can use method .stop_possible(); it returns false when empty.
 - And .stop_requested() also returns false when empty.
- Particularly, when only stop tokens associate with a state that hasn't been requested (i.e. no stop source, so no possible request), token.stop possible() also returns false.

• To conclude:

std::stop_token

Member functions

(constructor)	(public member function)
(destructor)	destructs the stop_token object (public member function)
operator=	assigns the stop_token object (public member function)
Modifiers	
swap	swaps two stop_token objects (public member function)
Observers	
stop_requested	checks whether the associated stop-state has been requested to stop (public member function)
stop_possible checks whether associated stop-state can be requested to stop (public member function)	

Non-member functions

operator== (C++20)	compares two std::stop_token objects (function)
<pre>swap(std::stop_token) (C++20)</pre>	specializes the std::swap algorithm (function)

std::stop_source

Member functions

ODOFATOR=	assigns the stop_source object (public member function)
Idestructori	destructs the stop_source object (public member function)
(CONSTRUCTOR)	constructs new stop_source object (public member function)

request_stop	makes a stop request for the associated stop-state, if any (public member function)
swap	swaps two stop_source objects (public member function)

Observers

get_token	returns a stop_token for the associated stop-state (public member function)
stop_requested	checks whether the associated stop-state has been requested to stop (public member function)
stop_possible	checks whether associated stop-state can be requested to stop (public member function)

Non-member functions

operator== (C++20)	<pre>compares two std::stop_source objects (function)</pre>
<pre>swap(std::stop_source) (C++20)</pre>	specializes the std::swap algorithm (function)

- So how does std::jthread cooperate with stop token?
- 1. It contains a default-constructed std::stop_source directly.
 - .get_stop_source() to get a copy;
 - .get_stop_token() to get a token associated with underlying source;
 - Equivalent to underlying_source.get_token().
 - And .request_stop(), equivalent to underlying_source.request_stop().
- 2. In dtor of std::jthread, if the source hasn't issued a request,
 call .request_stop();
 - RAII to some extent.
- 3. When possible, it will pass get_token() to its functor.

The new thread of execution starts executing:

if the expression above is well-formed, otherwise starts executing:

For example:

get_stop_token() is
provided automatically.

This may be omitted since dtor of std::jthread will automatically .request_stop().

Another example:

t2 doesn't use its own .get_token() in functor; the functor shares the same state with t.

```
using namespace std::literals;
std::jthread t{ [](std::stop token token) {
    while (!token.stop requested())
        std::cout << "PKU No.1!\n";
std::jthread t2{ [](std::stop token token) {
    while (!token.stop_requested())
        std::cout << "THU No.2!\n";
}, t.get_stop_token() };
std::this_thread::sleep_for(1s);
t.request_stop();
```

Question: can we omit t.request_stop() here?

No! Since t2 is destructed first, so t2.join() is before t.request_stop() in dtor of t.

Thus infinite loop in t2...

The new thread of execution starts executing:

if the expression above is well-formed, otherwise starts executing:

- Finally, stop request can be associated with callbacks.
 - By std::stop_callback with std::stop_token:
 - Ctor registers callback on the state;

```
template< class C >
explicit stop_callback( const std::stop_token& st, C&& cb ) noexcept(/*see below*/);
```

- Dtor deregisters the callback.
- For example:

```
using namespace std::literals;
                                             PKU No.1!
                                             PKU No.1!
std::jthread t{ [](std::stop_token_token) {
                                             PKU No.1!
    while (!token.stop requested())
                                             PKU No.1!
                                             PKU No.1!
                                             PKU No.1!
        std::cout << "PKU No.1!\n";
                                             PKU No.1!
                                             PKU No.1!
                                             PKU No.1!
                                             PKU No.1!
                                             PKU No.1!
                                             PKU No.1!
std::stop callback callback{
    t.get_stop_token(),
                                             PKU No.1!
                                             PKU No.11
     PKU No.1!
                                             PKU No.1!
                                             PKU No.1!
                                             PKU No.1!
std::this thread::sleep for(1s);
t.request stop();
```

- Note 1: it's quite like doing callback in a thread-safe way.
 - Callbacks will be executed exactly once for multiple requests;
 - Register and deregister are thread-safe; Deregister in a thread will wait for invocation in another thread if they happen in parallel.
- Note 2: the thread that first calls .request_stop() will execute all callbacks;
 - If there are multiple callbacks, the execution order is not regulated.
- Note 3: when request has been issued before registering...
 - i.e. in ctor of std::stop_callback, token.stop_requested() == true;
 - Then callback will be executed immediately in ctor in the current thread.
- Note 4: callback is not allowed to throw; std::terminate() if
 exception is thrown out of callback (treated as if noexcept).

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Exception in threads

- We know that if we don't catch an exception in a single-threaded program, then std::terminate.
- Generally speaking, any thread that doesn't catch its exception when exiting will lead to std::terminate.
- So code right doesn't work:

```
void func()
{
    throw std::runtime_error{ "Not implemented" };
}
int main()
{
    try {
        std::thread t{ func }; // std::terminate!
        t.join();
    }
    catch (const std::runtime_error& err)
    {
        // ...
}
```

Exception in threads

- So how can we pass the exception out of the thread?
- By std::exception_ptr defined in <exception>!
 - Roughly speaking, it's a shared pointer to exception.
 - Only when all pointers to the exception object destruct will the object destruct.
 - The actual type is implementation-defined... using exception_ptr = /*unspecified*/ (since C++11)
 - It's regulated to expose these interfaces:
 - Default construct: as if it's a nullptr;
 - std::make_exception_ptr(Exception): make a pointer that copies Exception;
 - And can be converted to bool, like a pointer.
 - std::current_exception(): used in catch block, as if make_exception_ptr to the current caught exception;
 - std::rethrow_exception(std::exception_ptr): rethrow the exception object.

Exception in threads

For example:

Pass exception out of thread by parameter.

```
void Watch()
/oid THUStudent() {
   throw std::runtime_error("THU is not best!"); {
                                                                                             Continue to throw
                                                    std::exception_ptr ptr;
   std::cout << "THU is best.\n";
                                                     // join immediately.
                                                                                             the exception in
                                                     {std::jthread _{ Work, std::ref(ptr) };
                                                                                             the main thread.
                                                    if (ptr)
void PKUStudent() {
                                                        std::rethrow_exception(ptr);
   std::cout << "PKU is best.\n";
                                                    std::cout << "All students over.\n";
    Work (std::exception_ptr& ptr)
                                                 int main(
   try {
       PKUStudent();
                                                        Watch();
       THUStudent();
                                                    catch (const std::runtime_error& error)
   catch (const std::runtime_error&) {
                                                        std::cout << error.what();
       ptr = std::current_exception();
                                                                       PKU is best.
   return;
                                                                       THU is not best!
```

Static block variable

- Previously we may use static variables in function to share it across calls.
 - But is it safe to use in multiple threads?
- Yes and no...
 - Yes: only one thread will execute initialization and other threads will wait (since C++11).
 - No: to modify it across multiple threads, you still need lock.

```
void Foo(int id) {
    // Thread-safe: initialization will be executed exactly once.
    static std::map<int, int> lookupTable{};
    // Not thread-safe, need lock protection.
    lookupTable.emplace(1, 2);
}
```

 More generally, if we want to execute some segment of code only once across all threads...

- 1. Tricks by static variable:
 - This trick is often used in single-thread program too...

```
[[maybe_unused]] static int _ = []() {
    HostUtils::CheckOptixError(optixInit());
    return 0;
}();
```

2. By std::call_once and std::once_flag defined in <mutex>:

```
std::once_flag flag1;

void simple_do_once()
{
    std::call_once(flag1, []() { std::cout << "Simple example: called once\n"; });
}
int main()
{
    std::jthread st1{ simple_do_once }, st2{ simple_do_once },
    st3{ simple_do_once }, st4{ simple_do_once };
    Simple example: called once</pre>
```

```
Defined in header <mutex>
template < class Callable, class... Args >
void call_once( std::once_flag& flag, Callable&& f, Args&&... args );
```

- std::once_flag only has a default ctor, meaning "not already called".
- And std::call_once will set the flag; exactly one thread will execute the callable and others will wait until it has completed.
- What's the difference?
- 1. std::call_once is slightly more flexible and intuitive;
 - But return value is ignored.
- 2. Static variable trick may have slightly better performance.
 - See stackoverflow for details.
- 3. Recursive initialization for static variable is UB;
 - While std::call_once will lead to deadlock.

```
int Foo(int a, int b)
{
    static int m = Foo(a + 1, b + 1);
    return m + 1;
}
```

- Sometimes we only want to share variables in calls of the current thread;
 - E.g. each thread has its own "static block variable".
- We can use thread_local to specify thread storage duration!

This static can be omitted; thread_local block variables imply static if not specified. See C++ Standard.

```
void Foo(int id) {
    // Each thread has its own loopupTable.
    thread_local static std::map<int, int> lookupTable{};
    lookupTable.emplace(1, 2);
    lookupTable.find(id);
}

thread_local int m = 0; // external local
```

 Of course, you can use in "global" variables...

```
thread_local int m = 0; // external linkage
static thread_local int n = 0; // internal linkage
class A
{
    static thread_local int k;
};
thread_local int A::k = 0; Note that it's not allowed to write static here.
```

 thread_local global variables are created after a thread starts, and destructed when it exits.

- Final word: if an exception throws out of:
 - Initialization of static block variables;
 - Function of std::call_once;
- Then it's seen as execution failure, and it will be initialized / executed again the next time.
 - So pay attention if there are other side effects that cannot be executed twice.