CSCI 5451: Introduction to Parallel Computing

Lecture 7: Threads to OpenMP



Announcements (9/24)

- HW1 released this Sunday
- ☐ HW Schedule for semester released later today
- Project Schedule released later today



Lecture Overview

- Recap
- Threads
 - Background
 - Pi Computation Example
 - Threading in Detail
- OpenMP
 - Basics
 - Variable Scoping
 - Other Clauses & Functions
 - OpenMP Pi Program



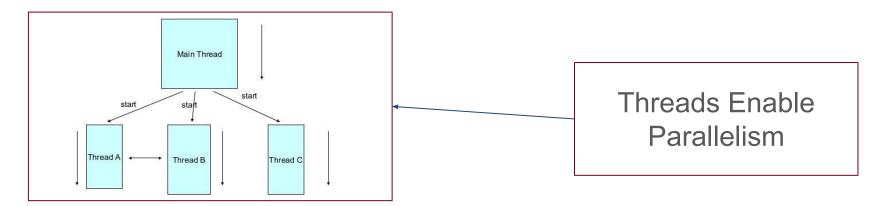
Recap (Threads)



Threads as Shared Memory Processes

CPU CPU CPU CPU CPU CAche Cache Main Memory

Source: Kaminsky/Parallel Java





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Creating a Thread (API)

- We create a thread using pthread_create
- The arguments for this function are
 - o *thread_handle* → Pointer to thread being created
 - attribute → sets thread attributes such as stack size, priority, etc. Typically, you can just use NULL for default settings
 - thread_function → The function we want each thread to run. Its signature should be (void *) thread_function(void *)
 - arg → A pointer to the argument passed to thread_function (more complex arguments are typically wrapped in a struct)
- The function returns 0 if the thread completes successfully, otherwise an error code (nonzero)

```
#include <pthread.h>
int
pthread_create (
    pthread_t     *thread_handle,
    const pthread_attr_t     *attribute,
    void * (*thread_function)(void *),
    void *arg);
```



Exiting a Thread (API)

- We exit from a thread with pthread_exit
- The arguments for this function are
 - retval → A pointer to the value we want to return to the callee thread
- No return value

#include <pthread.h>
void pthread_exit(void *retval);



Waiting for Threads to Complete (API)

- We wait for threads on the main thread using pthread_join
- The arguments for this function are
 - thread → The thread we are waiting on to complete
 - o ptr → The value returned by the thread upon exiting
- Returns 0 when there is no error code, a nonzero value otherwise

```
int
pthread_join (
    pthread_t thread,
    void **ptr);
```

Simple Example

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <pthread.h>
#include <stdint.h> // for intptr_t
void* worker(void* arg) {
  int error_code = 42; // nonzero value
   pthread exit((void*)(intptr t)error code);
int main() {
   pthread t thread;
  void* retval;
   pthread_create(&thread, NULL, worker, NULL);
   pthread_join(thread, &retval);
  int result = (int)(intptr_t)retval; // retrieve the integer
   printf("Thread returned: %d\n", result); // prints 42
  return 0;
```

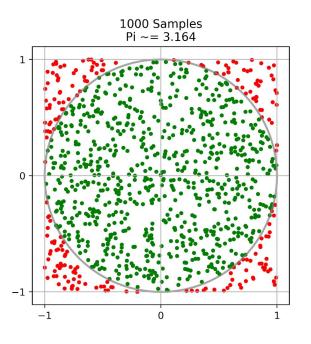


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- We randomly sample x, y points in [-1,1]x[-1,1] (in the program on the next page, we use [0,1]x[0,1], but the principle is the same)
- If a point is less than a distance of 1 from [0,0], then we call it a hit (green),
- If it is greater than a distance of 1 from [0,0] we call it a miss (red)
- Pi is then approximately equal to hits/(hits+misses)





```
#include <pthread.h>
    #include <stdlib.h>
    #define MAX THREADS 512
    void *compute pi (void *);
    int total hits, total misses, hits[MAX THREADS],
         sample points, sample points per thread, num threads;
9
   main() {
11
        int i;
12
        pthread t p threads[MAX THREADS];
13
        pthread attr t attr;
14
        double computed pi;
15
        double time start, time end;
16
        struct timeval tv;
17
        struct timezone tz;
18
19
        pthread attr init (&attr);
20
         pthread attr setscope (&attr, PTHREAD SCOPE SYSTEM);
        printf("Enter number of sample points: ");
21
22
        scanf("%d", &sample points);
23
        printf("Enter number of threads: ");
```

```
scanf ("%d", &num threads);
2.5
26
        gettimeofday(&tv, &tz);
27
        time start = (double)tv.tv sec +
                      (double) tv.tv usec / 1000000.0;
29
30
        total hits = 0;
         sample points per thread = sample points / num threads;
        for (i=0; i< num threads; i++) {
            hits[i] = i;
34
             pthread create(&p threads[i], &attr, compute pi,
35
                 (void *) &hits[i]);
36
37
        for (i=0; i< num threads; i++) {
38
             pthread join(p threads[i], NULL);
39
             total hits += hits[i];
40
41
        computed pi = 4.0*(double) total hits /
42
             ((double) (sample points));
43
        gettimeofday(&tv, &tz);
        time end = (double)tv.tv sec +
                    (double) tv.tv usec / 1000000.0;
46
         printf("Computed PI = %lf\n", computed pi);
        printf(" %lf\n", time end - time start);
49
50
51 void *compute pi (void *s) {
        int seed, i, *hit pointer;
        double rand no x, rand no y;
53
54
        int local hits;
55
56
        hit pointer = (int *) s;
        seed = *hit pointer;
        local hits = 0;
        for (i = 0; i < sample points per thread; i++) {
60
             rand no x = (double) (rand r(&seed)) / (double) ((2 << 14) -1);
61
             rand no y = (double) (rand r(&seed))/(double)((2<<14)-1);
            if (((rand no x - 0.5) * (rand no x - 0.5) +
                 (rand no y - 0.5) * (rand no y - 0.5)) < 0.25)
                local hits ++;
65
            seed *= i;
66
67
        *hit pointer = local hits;
68
        pthread exit(0);
69 }
```



```
#include <pthread.h>
    #include <stdlib.h>
    #define MAX THREADS 512
    void *compute pi (void *);
    int total hits, total misses, hits[MAX THREADS],
         sample points, sample points per thread, num threads;
   main() {
11
        int i;
12
        pthread t p threads[MAX THREADS];
        pthread attr t attr;
13
        double computed pi;
15
        double time start, time end;
        struct timeval tv:
16
        struct timezone tz;
        pthread attr init (&attr);
         pthread attr setscope (&attr, PTHREAD SCOPE SYSTEM);
        printf("Enter number of sample points: ");
22
        scanf("%d", &sample points);
23
        printf("Enter number of threads: ");
```

In this example, an attributes object is created that enables threads to compete with all other threads in the system. Helpful for ensuring each CPU core is used. Is the default on most Linux/Unix systems.



We create *num_threads* threads, pass in the attribute variable, a reference to the *compute_pi* function, and the location of the *hits* array we want this thread to update

```
scanf ("%d", &num threads);
2.5
        gettimeofday(&tv, &tz);
        time start = (double)tv.tv sec +
                       (double) tv.tv usec / 1000000.0;
29
30
         sample points per thread = sample points / num threads
        for (i=0; i< num threads; i++) {
            hits[i] = i;
34
             pthread create(&p threads[i], &attr, compute pi,
35
                 (void *) &hits[i]);
36
37
        for (1=0; 1< num threads; 1++) {
             pthread join(p threads[i], NULL);
39
             total hits += hits[i];
        computed pi = 4.0*(double) total hits /
             ((double) (sample points));
        gettimeofday(&tv, &tz);
        time end = (double)tv.tv sec +
                    (double) tv.tv usec / 1000000.0;
         printf("Computed PI = %lf\n", computed pi);
        printf(" %lf\n", time end - time start);
49
50
   void *compute pi (void *s) {
        int seed, i, *hit pointer;
        double rand no x, rand no y;
        int local hits;
        hit pointer = (int *) s;
        seed = *hit pointer;
        local hits = 0;
        for (i = 0; i < sample points per thread; i++) {
             rand no x = (double) (rand r(&seed)) / (double) ((2 << 14) -1);
              rand no y = (double) (rand r(&seed)) / (double) ((2 << 14) -1);
             if (((rand no x - 0.5) * (rand no x - 0.5) +
                 (rand no y - 0.5) * (rand no y - 0.5)) < 0.25)
                 local hits ++;
            seed *= i;
        *hit pointer = local hits;
        pthread exit(0);
69
```



Each thread samples

sample_points_per_thread,

determining the total number of

local_hits.

Crucially, this is done in parallel.

```
scanf ("%d", &num threads);
2.5
         gettimeofday(&tv, &tz);
         time start = (double)tv.tv sec +
                       (double) tv.tv usec / 1000000.0;
        total hits = 0;
         sample points per thread = sample points / num threads;
         for (i=0; i< num threads; i++) {
            hits[i] = i;
             pthread create(&p threads[i], &attr, compute pi,
35
                 (void *) &hits[i]);
        for (i=0; i< num threads; i++) {
             pthread join(p threads[i], NULL);
             total hits += hits[i];
         computed pi = 4.0*(double) total hits /
             ((double) (sample points));
         gettimeofday(&tv, &tz);
         time end = (double)tv.tv sec +
                    (double) tv.tv usec / 1000000.0;
         printf("Computed PI = %lf\n", computed pi);
         printf(" %lf\n", time end - time start);
49
50
    void *compute pi (void *s)
        int seed, i, *hit pointer;
53
         double rand no x, rand no y;
54
         int local hits;
56
        hit pointer = (int *) s;
        seed = *hit pointer;
        local hits = 0;
        for (i = 0; i < sample points per thread; i++) {
60
              rand no x = (double) (rand r(&seed)) / (double) ((2 << 14) -1);
61
              rand no y = (double) (rand r(&seed)) / (double) ((2<<14)-1);
62
             if (((rand no x - 0.5) * (rand no x - 0.5) +
63
                  (rand no y - 0.5) * (rand no y - 0.5)) < 0.25)
64
                 local hits ++;
65
            seed *= i;
66
67
         *hit pointer = local hits;
68
         pthread exit(0);
```

69

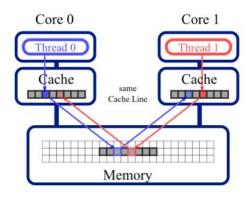


Why are we not updating the hit_pointer directly (i.e. why do we create a local local_hits variable)?

```
scanf ("%d", &num threads);
2.5
        gettimeofday(&tv, &tz);
        time start = (double)tv.tv sec +
                       (double) tv.tv usec / 1000000.0;
29
        total hits = 0;
         sample points per thread = sample points / num threads;
        for (i=0; i< num threads; i++) {
            hits[i] = i;
             pthread create(&p threads[i], &attr, compute pi,
35
                 (void *) &hits[i]);
36
        for (i=0; i< num threads; i++) {
             pthread join(p threads[i], NULL);
39
             total hits += hits[i];
        computed pi = 4.0*(double) total hits /
             ((double) (sample points));
        gettimeofday(&tv, &tz);
        time end = (double)tv.tv sec +
                    (double) tv.tv usec / 1000000.0;
         printf("Computed PI = %lf\n", computed pi);
        printf(" %lf\n", time end - time start);
49
50
    void *compute pi (void *s)
        int seed, i, *hit pointer;
53
        double rand no x, rand no y;
54
        int local hits;
55
56
        hit pointer = (int *) s;
        seed = *hit pointer;
        local hits = 0;
        for (i = 0; i < sample points per thread; i++) {
60
              rand no x = (double) (rand r(&seed))/(double)((2<<14)-1);
61
              rand no y = (double) (rand r(&seed)) / (double) ((2<<14)-1);
62
             if (((rand no x - 0.5) * (rand no x - 0.5) +
63
                 (rand no y - 0.5) * (rand no y - 0.5)) < 0.25)
64
                local hits ++;
65
            seed *= i;
66
67
        *hit pointer = local hits;
68
        pthread exit(0);
69
```



False Sharing



```
scanf ("%d", &num threads);
2.5
26
        gettimeofday(&tv, &tz);
27
        time start = (double)tv.tv sec +
                       (double) tv.tv usec / 1000000.0;
29
30
        total hits = 0;
         sample points per thread = sample points / num threads;
        for (i=0; i< num threads; i++) {
            hits[i] = i;
34
             pthread create(&p threads[i], &attr, compute pi,
35
                 (void *) &hits[i]);
36
37
        for (i=0; i< num threads; i++) {
38
             pthread join(p threads[i], NULL);
39
             total hits += hits[i];
40
41
        computed pi = 4.0* (double) total hits /
             ((double) (sample points));
43
        gettimeofday(&tv, &tz);
        time end = (double)tv.tv sec +
                    (double) tv.tv usec / 1000000.0;
         printf("Computed PI = %lf\n", computed pi);
        printf(" %lf\n", time end - time start);
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    void *compute pi (void *s) {
        int seed, i, *hit pointer;
53
        double rand no x, rand no y;
54
        int local hits;
55
56
        hit pointer = (int *) s;
        seed = *hit pointer;
58
        local hits = 0;
59
        for (i = 0; i < sample points per thread; i++) {
60
              rand no x = (double) (rand r(&seed)) / (double) ((2 << 14) -1);
61
              rand no y = (double) (rand r(&seed)) / (double) ((2 << 14) -1);
62
             if (((rand no x - 0.5) * (rand no x - 0.5) +
63
                 (rand no y - 0.5) * (rand no y - 0.5)) < 0.25)
64
                 local hits ++;
65
            seed *= i;
66
67
        *hit pointer = local hits;
68
        pthread exit(0);
69
```



We make sure to set the hit_pointer to the local_hits computed on this thread.

```
scanf ("%d", &num threads);
2.5
         gettimeofday(&tv, &tz);
         time start = (double)tv.tv sec +
                       (double) tv.tv usec / 1000000.0;
29
        total hits = 0;
         sample points per thread = sample points / num threads;
         for (i=0; i< num threads; i++) {
            hits[i] = i;
             pthread create(&p threads[i], &attr, compute pi,
35
                 (void *) &hits[i]);
36
        for (i=0; i< num threads; i++) {
             pthread join(p threads[i], NULL);
39
             total hits += hits[i];
40
         computed pi = 4.0*(double) total hits /
             ((double) (sample points));
         gettimeofday(&tv, &tz);
         time end = (double)tv.tv sec +
                    (double) tv.tv usec / 1000000.0;
         printf("Computed PI = %lf\n", computed pi);
         printf(" %lf\n", time end - time start);
49
50
51 void *compute pi (void *s) {
         int seed, i, *hit pointer;
         double rand no x, rand no y;
        int local hits;
        hit pointer = (int *) s;
         seed = *hit pointer;
        local hits = 0;
         for (i = 0; i < sample points per thread; i++) {
             rand no x = (double) (rand r(&seed)) / (double) ((2 << 14) -1);
              rand no y = (double) (rand r(&seed)) / (double) ((2 << 14) -1);
             if (((rand no x - 0.5) * (rand no x - 0.5) +
                 (rand no y - 0.5) * (rand no y - 0.5)) < 0.25)
                 local hits ++;
            seed *= i;
66
67
         *hit pointer = local hits;
68
         pthread exit(0);
69
```



The main thread waits for all of the threads to complete. Once they are complete, the *total_hits* variable accumulates the value in each thread.

```
scanf ("%d", &num threads);
2.5
         gettimeofday(&tv, &tz);
         time start = (double)tv.tv sec +
                       (double) tv.tv usec / 1000000.0;
29
        total hits = 0;
         sample points per thread = sample points / num threads;
         for (i=0; i< num threads; i++) {
            hits[i] = i;
34
             pthread create(&p threads[i], &attr, compute pi,
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                 (void *) &hits[i]);
36
37
         for (i=0; i< num threads; i++) {
38
             pthread join(p threads[i], NULL);
39
             total hits += hits[i];
40
41
42
             ((double) (sample points));
43
         gettimeofday(&tv, &tz);
         time end = (double)tv.tv sec +
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         printf("Computed PI = %lf\n", computed pi);
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         int seed, i, *hit pointer;
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        int local hits;
        hit pointer = (int *) s;
         seed = *hit pointer;
        local hits = 0;
         for (i = 0; i < sample points per thread; i++) {
             rand no x = (double) (rand r(&seed)) / (double) ((2 << 14) -1);
              rand no y = (double) (rand r(&seed)) / (double) ((2 << 14) -1);
             if (((rand no x - 0.5) * (rand no x - 0.5) +
                 (rand no y - 0.5) * (rand no y - 0.5)) < 0.25)
                 local hits ++;
            seed *= i;
         *hit pointer = local hits;
         pthread exit(0);
69
```



Once all other threads have completed execution, the main thread has the complete number of hits (total_hits) and can finish the estimation of pi.

```
scanf ("%d", &num threads);
2.5
         gettimeofday(&tv, &tz);
         time start = (double)tv.tv sec +
                       (double) tv.tv usec / 1000000.0;
29
        total hits = 0;
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         for (i=0; i< num threads; i++) {
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                 (void *) &hits[i]);
        for (i=0; i< num threads; i++) {
             pthread join(p threads[i], NULL);
             total hits += hits[i];
39
41
         computed pi = 4.0*(double) total hits /
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50
    void *compute pi (void *s) {
         int seed, i, *hit pointer;
         double rand no x, rand no y;
        int local hits;
        hit pointer = (int *) s;
         seed = *hit pointer;
        local hits = 0;
        for (i = 0; i < sample points per thread; i++) {
             rand no x = (double) (rand r(&seed)) / (double) ((2 << 14) -1);
              rand no y = (double) (rand r(&seed)) / (double) ((2 << 14) -1);
             if (((rand no x - 0.5) * (rand no x - 0.5) +
                 (rand no y - 0.5) * (rand no y - 0.5)) < 0.25)
                 local hits ++;
            seed *= i;
         *hit pointer = local hits;
         pthread exit(0);
69
```



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Race Conditions in Threads

- Sometimes concurrent threads may issue updates to the same variable
- In general, if the outcome of a multithreaded program depends on the order of execution of the threads, then we say the program has a race condition

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <pthread.h>
int counter = 0; // shared global variable
void* increment(void* arg) {
  for (int i = 0; i < 100000; i++) {
     counter++; // <-- race condition occurs here
  return NULL:
int main() {
  pthread t t1, t2;
  // create two threads that increment the same counter
  pthread create(&t1, NULL, increment, NULL);
  pthread create(&t2, NULL, increment, NULL);
  // wait for both threads to finish
  pthread join(t1, NULL);
  pthread join(t2, NULL);
  printf("Final counter value: %d\n", counter);
  return 0;
```



Race Conditions in Threads

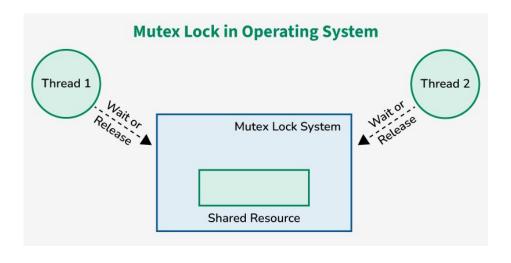
How do we resolve this?

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <pthread.h>
int counter = 0; // shared global variable
void* increment(void* arg) {
  for (int i = 0; i < 100000; i++) {
     counter++; // <-- race condition occurs here
  return NULL:
int main() {
  pthread t t1, t2;
  // create two threads that increment the same counter
  pthread create(&t1, NULL, increment, NULL);
   pthread create(&t2, NULL, increment, NULL);
  // wait for both threads to finish
  pthread_join(t1, NULL);
   pthread join(t2, NULL);
  printf("Final counter value: %d\n", counter);
  return 0;
```



Race Conditions in Threads

How do we resolve this?



```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <pthread.h>
int counter = 0; // shared global variable
void* increment(void* arg) {
  for (int i = 0; i < 100000; i++) {
     counter++: // <-- race condition occurs here
  return NULL:
int main() {
  pthread t t1, t2;
  // create two threads that increment the same counter
  pthread create(&t1, NULL, increment, NULL);
  pthread create(&t2, NULL, increment, NULL);
  // wait for both threads to finish
  pthread_join(t1, NULL);
  pthread join(t2, NULL);
  printf("Final counter value: %d\n", counter);
  return 0;
```



Mutex APIs

- For all four functions below:
 - Returns 0 if successful, nonzero for error code
 - Pointer to the lock (*mutex_lock) for intended use as first argument
- int pthread_mutex_lock(pthread_mutex_t *mutex_lock)
 - Locks thread. If the lock is already held by another thread, then this call blocks.
- Int pthread_mutex_unlock(pthread_mutex_t *mutex_lock)
 - Unlocks thread. Allows other threads to lock the thread after waiting.
- Int pthread_mutex_init(pthread_mutex_t *mutex_lock, const pthread_mutexattr_t *lock_attr)
 - Initializes the lock to unlocked state
 - Allows attributes to alter the default state of the lock
- Int pthread_mutex_destroy(pthread_mutex_t *mutex_lock)
 - Destroys the given mutex lock and clears up memory usage by the lock



We alter the earlier example to use mutexes and resolve the race condition

```
#include <stdio h>
#include <pthread.h>
int counter = 0:
                          // shared global variable
pthread mutex t counter mutex; // mutex to protect counter
void* increment(void* arg) {
  for (int i = 0; i < 100000; i++) {
     pthread mutex lock(&counter mutex); // lock before accessing counter
     counter++:
     pthread mutex unlock(&counter mutex); // unlock after updating
  return NULL;
int main() {
  pthread tt1, t2;
  // initialize the mutex
  pthread mutex init(&counter mutex, NULL);
  // create two threads
  pthread_create(&t1, NULL, increment, NULL);
  pthread create(&t2, NULL, increment, NULL);
  // wait for both threads to finish
  pthread_join(t1, NULL);
  pthread_join(t2, NULL);
  printf("Final counter value: %d\n", counter); // should always be 200000
  // destroy the mutex
  pthread_mutex_destroy(&counter_mutex);
  return 0:
```



Is this a good way to parallelize this program with mutexes?

```
#include <stdio h>
#include <pthread.h>
int counter = 0:
                          // shared global variable
pthread mutex t counter mutex; // mutex to protect counter
void* increment(void* arg) {
  for (int i = 0; i < 100000; i++) {
     pthread mutex lock(&counter mutex); // lock before accessing counter
     counter++:
     pthread mutex unlock(&counter mutex); // unlock after updating
  return NULL;
int main() {
  pthread tt1, t2;
  // initialize the mutex
  pthread mutex init(&counter mutex, NULL);
  // create two threads
  pthread_create(&t1, NULL, increment, NULL);
  pthread create(&t2, NULL, increment, NULL);
  // wait for both threads to finish
  pthread_join(t1, NULL);
  pthread_join(t2, NULL);
  printf("Final counter value: %d\n". counter): // should always be 200000
  // destroy the mutex
  pthread_mutex_destroy(&counter_mutex);
  return 0:
```



Is this a good way to parallelize this program with mutexes?

No - the serial portion of the program is too large as every iteration of counter++ will be run serially.

```
#include <stdio h>
#include <pthread.h>
int counter = 0:
                          // shared global variable
pthread mutex t counter mutex; // mutex to protect counter
void* increment(void* arg) {
  for (int i = 0; i < 100000; i++) {
     pthread mutex lock(&counter mutex); // lock before accessing counter
     counter++:
     pthread mutex unlock(&counter mutex); // unlock after updating
  return NULL;
int main() {
  pthread tt1, t2;
  // initialize the mutex
  pthread mutex init(&counter mutex, NULL);
  // create two threads
  pthread create(&t1, NULL, increment, NULL);
  pthread_create(&t2, NULL, increment, NULL):
  // wait for both threads to finish
  pthread_join(t1, NULL);
  pthread_join(t2, NULL);
  printf("Final counter value: %d\n". counter): // should always be 200000
  // destroy the mutex
  pthread_mutex_destroy(&counter_mutex);
  return 0:
```



Better Counter Program

Perform updates on a local counter first, then sum together into global counter

```
// We ignore headers for visualization purposes
int counter = 0:
                         // shared global variable
pthread mutex t counter mutex; // mutex to protect counter
#define INCREMENTS 100000
void* increment(void* arg) {
  int local counter = 0;
  for (int i = 0; i < INCREMENTS; i++) {
    local counter++;
  pthread mutex lock(&counter mutex);
  counter += local counter;
  pthread mutex unlock(&counter mutex);
  return NULL:
int main() {
  pthread t t1, t2;
  pthread mutex init(&counter mutex, NULL);
  pthread create(&t1, NULL, increment, NULL);
  pthread create(&t2, NULL, increment, NULL);
  pthread join(t1, NULL);
  pthread join(t2, NULL);
  pthread mutex destroy(&counter mutex);
  return 0:
```



Lecture Overview

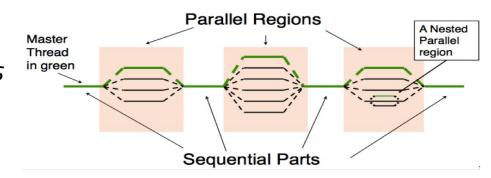
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 - Background
 - Pi Computation Example
 - Threading in Detail
- OpenMP
 - o **Basics**
 - Variable Scoping
 - Other Clauses & Functions
 - OpenMP Pi Program



OpenMP

- Builds on pthreads library
- Makes use of the fork-join model (image at right)
- Uses compiler directives to map from higher level directives + clauses to lower-level pthreads function calls
- Allows fine-grain control over scheduling, variable scoping & synchronization via simple clauses

Fork-Join





- The OpenMP library allows control via
 - Directives
 - Clauses
 - Functions
 - Environment Variables
- We will discuss each in turn



- The OpenMP library allows control via
 - Directives
 - Clauses
 - Functions
 - Environment Variables
- We will discuss each in turn

High level compiler directives used for determining parallel execution, defining work sharing & setting synchronization points



- The OpenMP library allows control via
 - Directives
 - Clauses
 - Functions
 - Environment Variables
- We will discuss each in turn

#pragma omp directive
where directive is replaced with one
of the below examples (to be covered
in the following slides/lectures)

Example Directives

- parallel
- for
- sections
- critical
- atomic
- barrier
- ...



- The OpenMP library allows control via
 - Directives
 - Clauses
 - Functions
 - Environment Variables
- We will discuss each in turn

Clauses modify and define the function of the directive. More than one can be used at a time

#pragma omp directive [clause list]

Example Clauses

- if
- num threads
- private
- firstprivate
- shared
- default
- ..



- The OpenMP library allows control via
 - Directives
 - Clauses
 - Functions
 - Environment Variables
- We will discuss each in turn

OpenMP provides a number of functions which can be used as any other normal C functions

Example functions

- omp_get_num_threads()
- omp_get_thread_num()
- ...



Directives, Clauses, Functions, Environment Variables

- The OpenMP library allows control via
 - Directives
 - Clauses
 - Functions
 - Environment Variables
- We will discuss each in turn

OpenMP uses a set of environment variables that can be set outside of the program and influence program execution

Example Environment Variables

- OMP_NUM_THREADS
- OMP DYNAMIC
- OMP_NESTED
- OMP_SCHEDULE



Parallel directive

- The first directive we discuss, and the most important, is the *parallel* directive
- All OpenMP programs are serial outside of *parallel* blocks
- On entering the block, a number of threads is created
- Each thread executed structured block
- The thread that first encounters the parallel directive is called the 'main' thread and is assigned thread id 0 in that thread group

```
#pragma omp parallel [clause list]
{
    /* structured block */
}
```

Mapping From OpenMP to pthreads

What we program

```
int main() {
    // serial segment

    #pragma omp parallel
    {
        // parallel segment
    }
}
```



Mapping From OpenMP to pthreads

What the program is translated to

What we program

```
int main() {
    // serial segment

#pragma omp parallel
    {
        // parallel segment
    }
}
```

```
#define NUM THREADS 16
void* parallel_segment(void* arg) {
  // parallel segment
int main() {
  // serial segment
  pthread_t threads[NUM_THREADS];
  for (int i = 0; i < NUM THREADS; i++) {
    pthread create(&threads[i], NULL, parallel_segment, NULL);
  for (int i = 0; i < NUM THREADS; i++) {
    pthread join(threads[i], NULL);
```



Mapping From OpenMP to pthreads

What the program is translated to

Where does this definition come from?
We discuss in later slides/lectures.

```
#define NUM THREADS 16
void* parallel_segment(void* arg) {
  // parallel segment
int main() {
  // serial segment
  pthread_t threads[NUM_THREADS];
  for (int i = 0; i < NUM THREADS; i++) {
     pthread create(&threads[i], NULL, parallel_segment, NULL);
  for (int i = 0; i < NUM THREADS; i++) {
     pthread join(threads[i], NULL);
```



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- Allows control over Data which variables should be shared, private, equivalent, etc.
- Multiple variables can be scoped at the same time with

#pragma omp directive scope(a, b, c, ...)

- Clauses to Control Scope
 - private
 - shared
 - firstprivate
 - lastprivate [Covered in later lecture]
 - threadprivate [Covered in later lecture]



- Allows control over Data which variables should be shared, private, equivalent, etc.
- Multiple variables can be scoped at the same time with

#pragma omp directive scope(a, b, c, ...)

- Clauses to Control Scope
 - o private
 - shared
 - firstprivate
 - lastprivate [Covered in later lecture]
 - threadprivate [Covered in later lecture]

For now we assume this is parallel, but we will see other examples of different directives in the next lectures

scope in this context is one of the options below (private, shared, etc.)



- Allows control over Data which variables should be shared, private, equivalent, etc.
- Multiple variables can be scoped at the same time with

#pragma omp directive scope(a, b, c, ...)

- Clauses to Control Scope
 - o private
 - shared
 - firstprivate
 - lastprivate [Covered in later lecture]
 - o threadprivate [Covered in later lecture]

- Each thread gets its own uninitialized copy of the variable.
- The original value (from before entering the parallel region) is **not copied in**.
- The private copy is created when the thread enters the parallel region and destroyed when it exits.
- When the region ends, the private value is lost; the original variable outside the region is unchanged.



- Allows control over Data which variables should be shared, private, equivalent, etc.
- Multiple variables can be scoped at the same time with

#pragma omp directive scope(a, b, c, ...)

- Clauses to Control Scope
 - o private
 - shared
 - firstprivate
 - lastprivate [Covered in later lecture]
 - threadprivate [Covered in later lecture]

```
What we program
      #pragma omp parallel private(a)
What the program is
    translated to
#define N 8
void* f(void* arg){
      int a:
      //parallel block
int main(){
  int a=9:
  pthread t t[N];
  for(int i=0;i<N;i++) pthread create(&t[i],0,f,0);
```

for(int i=0;i<N;i++) pthread join(t[i],0);



- Allows control over Data which variables should be shared, private, equivalent, etc.
- Multiple variables can be scoped at the same time with

#pragma omp directive scope(a, b, c, ...)

- Clauses to Control Scope
 - o private
 - o shared
 - firstprivate
 - lastprivate [Covered in later lecture]
 - threadprivate [Covered in later lecture]

- All threads share the same instance of the variable.
- Modifications by one thread are visible to all others.
- Requires synchronization (locks, atomics, reductions, etc.) if multiple threads write to it.



- Allows control over Data which variables should be shared, private, equivalent, etc.
- Multiple variables can be scoped at the same time with

#pragma omp directive scope(a, b, c, ...)

- Clauses to Control Scope
 - o private
 - o shared
 - o firstprivate
 - lastprivate [Covered in later lecture]
 - threadprivate [Covered in later lecture]

What we program #pragma omp parallel shared(a) What the program is translated to #define N 8 void* f(void* arg){ $int^* a = (int^*)arg;$ //parallel block - must be synchronized int main(){ int a=9: pthread t t[N]; for(int i=0;i<N;i++) pthread create(&t[i],0,f,&a); for(int i=0;i<N;i++) pthread join(t[i],0);

- Allows control over Data which variables should be shared, private, equivalent, etc.
- Multiple variables can be scoped at the same time with

#pragma omp directive scope(a, b, c, ...)

- Clauses to Control Scope
 - private
 - o shared
 - firstprivate
 - lastprivate [Covered in later lecture]
 - threadprivate [Covered in later lecture]

- Like private, each thread gets its own copy.
- But the value of the variable before the region is copied in.
- Each thread's private copy starts with the same initial value (copied from the "master" thread's variable at entry).



- Allows control over Data which variables should be shared, private, equivalent, etc.
- Multiple variables can be scoped at the same time with

#pragma omp directive scope(a, b, c, ...)

- Clauses to Control Scope
 - o private
 - shared
 - firstprivate
 - lastprivate [Covered in later lecture]
 - threadprivate [Covered in later lecture]

What we program #pragma omp parallel firstprivate(a) What the program is translated to #define N 8 void* f(void* arg){ int a = *(int*)arg;//parallel block int main(){ int a=9: pthread t t[N]; for(int i=0;i<N;i++) pthread create(&t[i],0,f,&a); for(int i=0;i<N;i++) pthread join(t[i],0);



- We can set the default behavior for variables
- Options
 - o shared, private, firstprivate
 - o none
- External Variables
- Locally Declared Variables
- Referenced Data Structures



- We can set the default behavior for variables
- Options
 - o shared, private, firstprivate
 - o none
- External Variables
- Locally Declared Variables
- Referenced Data Structures

All variables used within the *parallel* block, but declared outside of the block, use the chosen option

Example:

The following sets integers **a**,**b** to be private

```
int a, b;
#pragma omp parallel default (private)
{
    // a, b used somewhere here
}
```



- We can set the default behavior for variables
- Options
 - shared, private, firstprivate
 - o none
- External Variables
- Locally Declared Variables
- Referenced Data Structures

All variables used within the *parallel* block, but declared outside of the block, must be explicitly specified, or the program will throw an error

Example:

The following sets integers **a,b** to be private

```
int a, b;
#pragma omp parallel default (none) private (a, b)
{
  // a, b used somewhere here
}
```



- We can set the default behavior for variables
- Options
 - shared, private, firstprivate
 - o none
- External Variables
- Locally Declared Variables
- Referenced Data Structures

If variables are declared outside of the scope of the *parallel* block, they do not need to have their scope declared before entering

Example:

The following ignores **a**, **b** as they are not used in the block.

```
int a, b;
#pragma omp parallel
{
  // a, b are not used here
}
```



- We can set the default behavior for variables
- Options
 - shared, private, firstprivate
 - o none
- External Variables
- Locally Declared Variables
- Referenced Data Structures

If variables are declared inside the *parallel* block, then we do not need to declare their scopes with a clause

Example:

The following ignores **a**, **b** for scoping clauses as they are declared inside of the **parallel block**

```
#pragma omp parallel
{
  int a, b;
  // a, b are used here
}
```



- We can set the default behavior for variables
- Options
 - o shared, private, firstprivate
 - o none
- External Variables
- Locally Declared Variables
- Referenced Data Structures

Pointers to structs & arrays will not scope recursively. In other words, the elements in a struct, or the items in an array will not inherit the scope of the pointer when used in an OpenMP clause

Example:

The following example shows how declaring a pointer to an int array will not make private each entry in *a.

```
int *a;
// prepare 'a' as a vector of ints
#pragma omp parallel private (a)
{
    // The pointer may be updated in each thread
    // but each entry in a* is shared
}
```



Caveat: Statically declared arrays will be copied.

- We can set the default behavior for variables
- Options
 - o shared, private, firstprivate
 - o none
- External Variables
- Locally Declared Variables
- Referenced Data Structures

Pointers to structs & arrays will not scope recursively. In other words, the elements in a struct, or the items in an array will not inherit the scope of the pointer when used in an OpenMP clause

Example:

The following example shows how declaring a pointer to an int array will not make private each entry in *a.

```
int *a;
// prepare 'a' as a vector of ints
#pragma omp parallel private (a)
{
    // The pointer may be updated in each thread
    // but each entry in a* is shared
}
```



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In addition to variable scoping clauses, there are a number of other clauses

- ☐ if
- num_threads
- reduction
- [More discussed in later lectures]



In addition to variable scoping clauses, there are a number of other clauses

- □ if
- num_threads
- reduction
- [More discussed in later lectures]

- The if clause determines at runtime whether a parallel region executes in parallel or serial.
- Syntax: #pragma omp parallel if(condition) → if condition is true, parallel threads are spawned; if false, the region runs with only the master thread.
- Useful for small workloads where parallel overhead would outweigh benefits.



In addition to variable scoping clauses, there are a number of other clauses

- ☐ if
- num_threads
- reduction
- [More discussed in later lectures]

What we program

```
#pragma omp parallel if (is_parallel == 1)
```

What the program is translated to

```
#define N 8
void* f(void* arg){
  // parallel block
  return NULL:
int main(){
   int is parallel;
   // is_parallel is set dynamically during execution
   pthread tt[N];
   if(is_parallel){
     for(int i=0;i<N;i++) pthread_create(&t[i],0,f,0);</pre>
     for(int i=0;i<N;i++) pthread join(t[i],0);
  } else {
     f(0); // serial execution
```



In addition to variable scoping clauses, there are a number of other clauses

- 🔲 if
- num_threads
- reduction
- [More discussed in later lectures]

- The num_threads clause explicitly sets the number of threads for a parallel region.
- Syntax: #pragma omp parallel num_threads(n) → spawns exactly n threads for that region (if system resources allow).
- There are multiple ways the number of threads can be set (we reserve other methods to future lectures)



In addition to variable scoping clauses, there are a number of other clauses

```
□ if
```

- num_threads
- reduction
- [More discussed in later lectures]

What we program

```
#pragma omp parallel num threads (42)
 What the program is
     translated to
#define N 42
void* f(void* arg){
  // parallel block
  return NULL:
int main(){
  pthread t t[N];
  for(int i=0;i<N;i++) pthread_create(&t[i],0,f,0);</pre>
  for(int i=0;i<N;i++) pthread join(t[i],0);
```



In addition to variable scoping clauses, there are a number of other clauses

- num_threads
- □ reduction
- [More discussed in later lectures]

- The reduction clause combines a private copy of a variable from each thread into a single result at the end of a parallel region. All local copies are combined using some operator (+, -, etc.).
- Syntax: #pragma omp parallel for reduction(+:sum) → each thread has its own sum, which are combined using the + operator after the loop.
- Supports common operators like +, *, -, &,
 |, and user-defined functions. User defined functions should be symmetric functions
 (i.e. f(x, y) = f(y, x)).
- Local copies are combined in a tree-like, recursive pattern when there are a large number of threads in order to increase parallelism.
- All copies of the variable to be reduced will be private on each thread



In addition to variable scoping clauses, there are a number of other clauses

- num_threads
- □ reduction
- [More discussed in later lectures]

Example in the final slide

- The reduction clause combines a private copy of a variable from each thread into a single result at the end of a parallel region. All local copies are combined using some operator (+, -, etc.).
- Syntax: #pragma omp parallel for reduction(+:sum) → each thread has its own sum, which are combined using the + operator after the loop.
- Supports common operators like +, *, -, &,
 |, and user-defined functions. User defined functions should be symmetric functions
 (i.e. f(x, y) = f(y, x)).
- Local copies are combined in a tree-like, recursive pattern when there are a large number of threads in order to increase parallelism.



Functions

- omp_get_num_threads()
 - o Returns the **number of threads currently in the team** executing a parallel region
 - o Only valid **inside a parallel region**; outside it, it returns 1.
- omp_get_thread_num()
 - o Returns the **ID of the calling thread** within the current team
 - o Thread IDs range from 0 to num_threads 1
- [More discussed in later lectures]



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```
An OpenMP version of a threaded program to compute PI.
3
         #pragma omp parallel default(private) shared (npoints) \
6
                                reduction(+: sum) num threads(8)
           num threads = omp get num threads();
           sample points per thread = npoints / num threads;
10
           sum = 0;
11
           for (i = 0; i < sample points per thread; i++) {
              rand no x = (double) (rand_r(\&seed)) / (double) ((2 << 14) -1);
12
              rand no y = (double) (rand r(\&seed)) / (double) ((2 << 14) -1);
13
             if (((rand no x - 0.5) * (rand no x - 0.5) +
14
                  (rand no y - 0.5) * (rand no y - 0.5)) < 0.25)
15
16
                 sum ++;
17
18
```



Let's walk through each clause/directive in detail

```
An OpenMP version of a threaded program to compute PI.
         #pragma omp parallel default(private) shared (npoints) \
                               reduction(+: sum) num threads(8)
           num threads = omp get num threads();
           sample_points_per_thread = npoints / num_threads;
           sum = 0;
10
11
           for (i = 0; i < sample points per thread; i++) {
12
              rand no x = (double) (rand r(\&seed)) / (double) ((2 << 14) -1);
              rand no y = (double) (rand r(\&seed)) / (double) ((2 << 14) -1);
13
             if (((rand no x - 0.5) * (rand no x - 0.5) +
14
                  (rand no y - 0.5) * (rand no y - 0.5)) < 0.25)
15
16
                 sum ++;
17
18
```



Is this a directive or clause? Why is it needed?

```
An OpenMP version of a threaded program to compute PI.
         #pragma omp parallel default(private) shared (npoints) \
                               reduction(+: sum) num threads(8)
           num threads = omp get num threads();
           sample points per thread = npoints / num threads;
10
           sum = 0;
11
           for (i = 0; i < sample points per thread; i++) {
              rand no x = (double) (rand_r(\&seed)) / (double) ((2 << 14) -1);
12
              rand no y = (double) (rand r(\&seed)) / (double) ((2 << 14) -1);
13
             if (((rand no x - 0.5) * (rand no x - 0.5) +
14
                  (rand no y - 0.5) * (rand no y - 0.5)) < 0.25)
15
16
                 sum ++;
17
18
```



This *directive* is needed to enable parallel execution

```
An OpenMP version of a threaded program to compute PI.
         #pragma omp parallel default(private) shared (npoints) \
                                reduction(+: sum) num threads(8)
           num threads = omp get num threads();
           sample points per thread = npoints / num threads;
10
           sum = 0;
11
           for (i = 0; i < sample points per thread; i++) {
12
              rand no x = (double) (rand r(\&seed)) / (double) ((2 << 14) -1);
              rand no y = (double) (rand r(\&seed)) / (double) ((2 << 14) -1);
13
             if (((rand no x - 0.5) * (rand no x - 0.5) +
14
                  (rand no y - 0.5) * (rand no y - 0.5)) < 0.25)
15
16
                 sum ++;
17
18
```



These scoping clauses will determine how variables are copied/shared between threads. Which variables in the below program are impacted by these two statements? What impact does this statement have on those variables?

```
An OpenMP version of a threaded program to compute PI.
         #pragma omp parallel default(private) shared (npoints)
6
                                reduction(+: sum) num threads(8)
           num threads = omp get num threads();
           sample points per thread = npoints / num threads;
10
           sum = 0:
11
           for (i = 0; i < sample points per thread; i++) {
12
              rand no x = (double) (rand r(\&seed)) / (double) ((2 << 14) -1);
13
              rand no y = (double) (rand r(\&seed)) / (double) ((2 << 14) -1);
14
             if (((rand no x - 0.5) * (rand no x - 0.5) +
                  (rand no y - 0.5) * (rand no y - 0.5)) < 0.25)
15
16
                 sum ++;
17
18
```



i, num_threads,
sample_points_per_thread,
sum, rand_no_x, rand_no y
are all private (although
technically, the reduction(+:
 sum) clause overrides.

n_points is shared

```
An OpenMP version of a threaded program to compute PI.
         #pragma omp parallel default(private) shared (npoints)
                                reduction(+: sum) num threads(8)
           num threads = omp get num threads();
           sample points per thread = npoints / num threads;
10
           sum = 0:
11
           for (i = 0; i < sample points per thread; i++) {
12
              rand no x = (double) (rand r(\&seed)) / (double) ((2 << 14) -1);
13
              rand no y = (double) (rand r(\&seed)) / (double) ((2 << 14) -1);
14
             if (((rand no x - 0.5) * (rand no x - 0.5) +
15
                  (rand no y - 0.5) * (rand no y - 0.5)) < 0.25)
16
                 sum ++;
17
18
```



What does this clause do in the program?

```
An OpenMP version of a threaded program to compute PI.
         #pragma omp parallel_default(private)_shared (npoints) \
                                reduction (+: sum) num threads (8)
           num threads = omp get num threads();
           sample points per thread = npoints / num threads;
10
           sum = 0;
11
           for (i = 0; i < sample points per thread; i++) {
12
              rand no x = (double) (rand r(\&seed)) / (double) ((2 << 14) -1);
              rand_no_y = (double) (rand_r(\&seed)) / (double) ((2 << 14) -1);
13
             if (((rand no x - 0.5) * (rand no x - 0.5) +
14
15
                  (rand no y - 0.5) * (rand no y - 0.5)) < 0.25)
16
                 sum ++;
17
18
```



Declares sum as private to each variable during block execution. Sums ('+') each local copy of **sum** into the final summation. Results in a full **sum** stored on the master thread at the end of program execution.

```
An OpenMP version of a threaded program to compute PI.
         #pragma omp parallel_default(private)_shared (npoints) \
6
                                reduction (+: sum) num threads (8)
           num threads = omp get num threads();
           sample points per thread = npoints / num threads;
10
           sum = 0:
11
           for (i = 0; i < sample points per thread; i++) {
              rand no x = (double) (rand r(\&seed)) / (double) ((2 << 14) -1);
12
13
              rand no y = (double) (rand r(\&seed)) / (double) ((2 << 14) -1);
14
             if (((rand no x - 0.5) * (rand no x - 0.5) +
                  (rand no y - 0.5) * (rand no y - 0.5)) < 0.25)
15
16
                 sum ++;
17
18
```



And this clause?

```
An OpenMP version of a threaded program to compute PI.
         #pragma omp parallel default(private) shared (npoints) \
                               reduction(+: sum) num threads(8)
           num threads = omp get num threads();
           sample points per thread = npoints / num threads;
10
           sum = 0;
11
           for (i = 0; i < sample points per thread; i++) {
12
              rand no x = (double) (rand r(\&seed)) / (double) ((2 << 14) -1);
              rand no y = (double) (rand r(\&seed)) / (double) ((2 << 14) -1);
13
             if (((rand no x - 0.5) * (rand no x - 0.5) +
14
                  (rand no y - 0.5) * (rand no y - 0.5)) < 0.25)
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                 sum ++;
17
18
```



Parallelizes the block with a number of threads equal to 8.

```
An OpenMP version of a threaded program to compute PI.
         #pragma omp parallel default(private) shared (npoints) \
                                reduction(+: sum) num threads(8)
           num threads = omp get num threads();
           sample points per thread = npoints / num threads;
10
           sum = 0;
11
           for (i = 0; i < sample points per thread; i++) {
12
              rand no x = (double) (rand r(\&seed)) / (double) ((2 << 14) -1);
              rand no y = (double) (rand r(\&seed)) / (double) ((2 << 14) -1);
13
             if (((rand no x - 0.5) * (rand no x - 0.5) +
14
15
                  (rand no y - 0.5) * (rand no y - 0.5)) < 0.25)
16
                 sum ++;
17
18
```

