

# Using OpenMP from C++

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OpenMP has the opportunity to exploit features of modern C++ that are not present in C. In this course we will explore:

- range-based iteration,
- differences in treatment between vectors and arrays, and various sophisticated reduction schemes.

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## Basic stuff

# 1. Output streams in parallel

The use of `cout` may give jumbled output:  
lines can break at each `<<`.

Use `stringstream` to form a single stream to output.

```
1 // hello.cxx
2 #pragma omp parallel
3 {
4     int t = omp_get_thread_num();
5     stringstream proctext;
6     proctext << "Hello world from " << t << endl;
7     cerr << proctext.str();
8 }
```

## 2. Parallel regions in lambdas

OpenMP parallel regions can be in functions, including lambda expressions.

```
1  const int s = [] () {  
2      int s;  
3      # pragma omp parallel  
4      # pragma omp master  
5      s = 2 * omp_get_num_threads();  
6      return s; }();
```

(‘Immediately Invoked Function Expression’)

### 3. Dynamic scope for class methods

Dynamic scope holds for class methods as for any other function:

Code:	Output:
<pre>// nested.cxx class c { public:     void f() {         cout             &lt;&lt; omp_get_num_threads()             &lt;&lt; '\n';     }; };  int main() {     c my_object; #pragma omp parallel     my_object.f(); }</pre>	<pre>1  executing: OMP_MAX_ACTIVE_LEVELS=2            ↪OMP_PROC_BIND=true            ↪OMP_NUM_THREADS=2 ./nested 2  2 3  2</pre>

## 4. Privatizing class members

Class members can only be privatized from (non-static) class methods:

```
1      class foo {  
2          private:  
3              int x;  
4          public:  
5              void f() {  
6  #pragma omp parallel private x  
7      g()  
8          }  
9      }  
10
```

So *f* can not be *static*, and

```
1      class foo { public: int x; }  
2      foo x;  
3      #pragma omp parallel private thing.x // NOPE  
4
```

## 5. Vectors are copied, unlike arrays, 1

C arrays: private pointer, but shared array:

**Code:**

```
// alloc.c
int *array =
    (int*) malloc(nthreads*sizeof(int));
for (int i=0; i<nthreads; i++)
    array[i] = 0;

#pragma omp parallel firstprivate(array)
{
    int t = omp_get_thread_num();
    array += t;
    array[0] = t;
}
// ... print the array
```

**Output:**

```
1  Array result:
2  0:0, 1:1, 2:2, 3:3,
```



## 6. Vectors are copied, unlike arrays, 2

C++ vectors: copy constructor also copies data:

**Code:**

```
1 // alloc.cxx
2 vector<int> array(nthreads);
3
4 #pragma omp parallel firstprivate(array)
5 {
6     int t = omp_get_thread_num();
7     array[t] = t+1;
8 }
9 // ... print the array
```

**Output:**

```
1 Array result:
2 0:0, 1:0, 2:0, 3:0,
```

---

## Parallel loops

## 7. Range syntax

Parallel loops in C++ can use range-based syntax as of OpenMP-5.0:

```
1  // vecdata.cxx
2  #pragma omp parallel for
3      for ( auto& elt : values ) {
4      elt = 5.f;
5      }
6      float sum{0.f};
7  #pragma omp parallel for reduction(+:sum)
8      for ( auto elt : values ) {
9      sum += elt;
10     }
```

Tests not reported here show exactly the same speedup as the C code.

## 8. C++ ranges header

The C++20 ranges library is also supported:

```
1  // range.cxx
2  # pragma omp parallel for reduction(+:count)
3      for ( auto e : data )
4          count += e;
5  # pragma omp parallel for reduction(+:count)
6      for ( auto e : data
7          | std::ranges::views::drop(1) )
8          count += e;
9  # pragma omp parallel for reduction(+:count)
10     for ( auto e : data
11         | std::ranges::views::transform
12           ( []( auto e ) { return 2*e; } ) )
13         count += e;
```

## 9. C++ ranges speedup

```
1  ==== Run range on 1 threads ====
2  Executing: OMP_PROC_BIND=true OMP_NUM_THREADS=1 ./range
3  sum of vector: 50000005000000 in 6.441
4  sum w/ drop 1: 50000004999999 in 6.584
5  sum times 2   : 100000010000000 in 6.896
6  ==== Run range on 2 threads ====
7  Executing: OMP_PROC_BIND=true OMP_NUM_THREADS=2 ./range
8  sum of vector: 50000005000000 in 3.351
9  sum w/ drop 1: 50000004999999 in 3.052
10 sum times 2   : 100000010000000 in 3.205
11 ==== Run range on 8 threads ====
12 Executing: OMP_PROC_BIND=true OMP_NUM_THREADS=8 ./range
13 sum of vector: 50000005000000 in 2.843
14 sum w/ drop 1: 50000004999999 in 1.607
15 sum times 2   : 100000010000000 in 1.438
16 ==== Run range on 40 threads ====
17 Executing: OMP_PROC_BIND=true OMP_NUM_THREADS=40 ./range
18 sum of vector: 50000005000000 in 2.366
19 sum w/ drop 1: 50000004999999 in 0.316
20 sum times 2   : 100000010000000 in 0.308
21  scaling results in: range-scaling-ls6.out
```

## 10. Custom iterators, 0

Recall that

Short hand:

```
1  vector<float> v;  
2  for ( auto e : v )  
3      ... e ...
```

for:

```
1  for ( vector<float>::iterator  
2      e=v.begin();  
3      e!=v.end(); e++ )  
4      ... *e ...
```

If we want

```
1  for ( auto e : my_object )  
2      ... e ...
```

we need an iterator class with methods such as *begin*, *end*, *\** and *++*.

## 11. Custom iterators, 1

OpenMP can parallelize any range-based loop with a random-access iterator.

Class:

```
1 // iterator.cxx
2 class NewVector {
3 protected:
4     int *storage;
5     int s;
6 public:
7     // iterator stuff
8     class iter;
9     iter begin();
10    iter end();
11 };
```

Main:

```
1 NewVector v(s);
2 #pragma omp parallel for
3 for ( auto e : v )
4     cout << e << " ";
```

## 12. Custom iterators, 2

Required iterator methods:

```
1 NewVector::iter& operator++();
2 int& operator*();
3 bool operator==( const NewVector::iter &other ) const;
4 bool operator!=( const NewVector::iter &other ) const;
5 // needed to OpenMP
6 int operator-( const NewVector::iter& other ) const;
7 NewVector::iter& operator+=( int add );
```



## 13. Custom iterators, exercise

Write the missing iterator methods.

Here's something to get you started.

```
1  class NewVector::iter {
2  private: int *searcher;
3  };
4  NewVector::iter::iter( int *searcher )
5      : searcher(searcher) {};
6  NewVector::iter NewVector::begin() {
7      return NewVector::iter(storage); };
8  NewVector::iter NewVector::end()   {
9      return NewVector::iter(storage+NewVector::s); };
```

## 14. Custom iterators, solution

```
1  NewVector::iter& NewVector::iter::operator++() {
2      searcher++; return *this; };
3  int& NewVector::iter::operator*() {
4      return *searcher; };
5  bool NewVector::iter::operator==( const NewVector::iter &other ) const {
6      return searcher==other.searcher; };
7  bool NewVector::iter::operator!=( const NewVector::iter &other ) const {
8      return searcher!=other.searcher; };
9  // needed to OpenMP
10 int NewVector::iter::operator-( const NewVector::iter& other ) const {
11     return searcher-other.searcher; };
12 NewVector::iter& NewVector::iter::operator+=( int add ) {
13     searcher += add; return *this; };
```

## 15. OpenMP vs standard parallelism

Application: prime number marking (load unbalanced)

```
1  #pragma omp parallel for schedule(guided,8)
2  for (int i=0; i<nsize; i++) {
3      results[i] = one_if_prime( number(i) );
4  }
```

```
1  // primepolicy.cxx
2  transform( std::execution::par,
3             numbers.begin(), numbers.end(),
4             results.begin(),
5             [] (int n) -> int {
6                 return one_if_prime(n); }
7             );
```

Standard parallelism uses Thread Building Blocks (TBB) as backend

## 16. Timing

```
1  OMP: Time:      8591 msec (threads= 5)
2  TBB: Time:      8335 msec
3  OMP: Time:      4298 msec (threads=10)
4  TBB: Time:      4160 msec
5  OMP: Time:      2150 msec (threads=20)
6  TBB: Time:      2082 msec
7  OMP: Time:      1078 msec (threads=40)
8  TBB: Time:      1138 msec
9  OMP: Time:       771 msec (threads=56)
10 TBB: Time:       885 msec
```

TBB slightly better on one socket, worse on two.

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# Reductions

## 17. Reductions on vectors

Use the `data` method to extract the array on which to reduce. Also, the `reduction` clause wants a variable, not an expression, for the array, so you need an extra pointer:

```
1 // reductarray.cxx
2 vector<int> data(nthreads,0);
3 int *datadata = data.data();
4 #pragma omp parallel for schedule(static,1) \
5     reduction(+:datadata[:nthreads])
6 for (int it=0; it<nthreads; it++) {
7     for (int i=0; i<nthreads; i++)
8         datadata[i]++;
9 }
```

## 18. Reduction on class objects

Reduction can be applied to any class for which the reduction operator is defined as `operator+` or whichever operator the case may be.

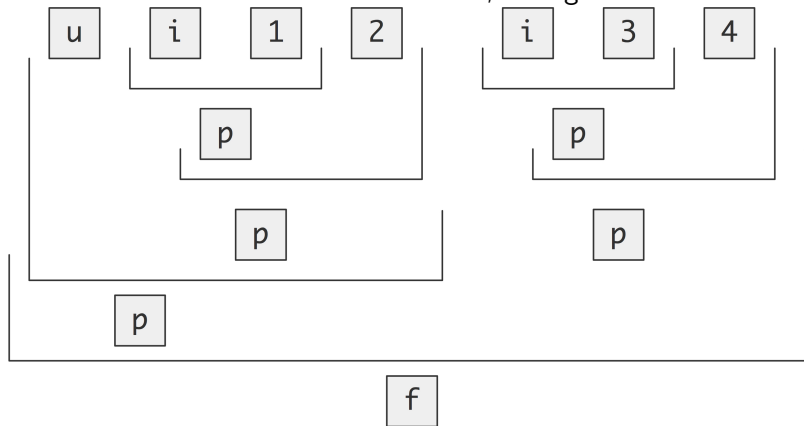
```
1 // reductcomplex.cxx
2 class Thing {
3 private:
4     float x;
5 public:
6     Thing() : Thing( 0.f ) {};
7     Thing( float x ) : x(x) {};
8     Thing operator+( const Thing&
9         ↪other ) {
10         return Thing( x + other.x );
11     };
12 };
```

```
1 vector< Thing >
2     ↪things(500,Thing(1.f) );
3 Thing result(0.f);
4 #pragma omp parallel for reduction
5     ↪+:result )
6 for ( const auto& t : things )
7     result = result + t;
```

A default constructor is required for the internally used init value; see figure 2

## 19. Reduction illustrated

Reduction of four items on two threads, taking into account initial values.





## 20. User-defined reductions, syntax

```
1      #pragma omp declare reduction  
2      ( identifier : typelist : combiner )  
3      [initializer(initializer-expression)]
```

4

## 21. Reduction over iterators

Support for *C++ iterators*

```
1  #pragma omp declare reduction (merge : std::vector<int>  
2      : omp_out.insert(omp_out.end(), omp_in.begin(), omp_in.end()))
```

## 22. Lambda expressions in declared reductions

You can use lambda expressions in the explicit expression:

```
1 // reductexpr.cxx
2 #pragma omp declare reduction\
3   (minabs : int : \
4     omp_out = \
5       [] (int x,int y) -> int { \
6         return abs(x) > abs(y) ? abs(y) : abs(x); } \
7       (omp_in,omp_out) ) \
8   initializer (omp_priv=limit::max())
```

You can not assign the lambda expression to a variable and use that, because `omp_in/out` are the only variables allowed in the explicit expression.

## 23. Example category: histograms

```
1     for ( auto e : some_range )
2         histogram[ value(e) ]++;
3
```

Collisions are possible, but unlikely, so critical section is very inefficient

## 24. Histogram: intended main program

```
1  using CharCounter = bincounter<char>;
2  #pragma omp declare reduction\
3  (      \
4          +:CharCounter:omp_out += omp_in \
5          ) \
6  initializer( omp_priv = CharCounter{} )
7
8  string text{"the quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog"};
9  CharCounter charcount;
10 #pragma omp parallel for reduction(+ : charcount)
11 for ( int i=0; i<text.size(); i++ )
12     charcount.inc( text[i] );
```

Q: why does the *inc* not have to be atomic?

## 25. Histogram: reduction operator

```
1  // mapreduce.cxx
2  template<typename key>
3  class bincounter : public map<key,int> {
4  public:
5      // merge this with other map
6      void operator+=( const bincounter<key>& other ) {
7          for ( auto [k,v] : other )
8              if ( map<key,int>::contains(k) ) // c++20
9                  this->at(k) += v;
10             else
11                 this->insert( {k,v} );
12     };
13     // insert one char in this map
14     void inc(char k) {
15         if ( map<key,int>::contains(k) )
16             this->at(k) += 1;
17         else
18             this->insert( {k,1} );
19     };
20 };
```

## 26. Example category: list filtering

The sequential code is as follows:

```
1  vector<int> data(100);  
2  // fill the data  
3  vector<int> filtered;  
4  for ( auto e : data ) {  
5      if ( f(e) )  
6          filtered.push_back(e);  
7  }
```

## 27. List filtering, solution 1

Let each thread have a local array, and then to concatenate these:

```
1  #pragma omp parallel
2  {
3      vector<int> local;
4      # pragma omp for
5      for ( auto e : data )
6          if ( f(e) ) local.push_back(e);
7      filtered += local;
8  }
```

where we have used an append operation on vectors:

```
1  // filterreduct.cxx
2  template<typename T>
3  vector<T>& operator+=( vector<T>& me, const vector<T>& other ) {
4      me.insert( me.end(), other.begin(), other.end() );
5      return me;
6  };
```



## 28. List filtering, not quite solution 2

We could use the plus-is operation to declare a reduction:

```
1  #pragma omp declare reduction\  
2      ( \\  
3          +:vector<int>:omp_out += omp_in \  
4          ) \  
5      initializer( omp_priv = vector<int>{} )
```

Problem: OpenMP reductions can not be declared non-commutative, so the contributions from the threads may not appear in order.

**Code:**

```
#pragma omp parallel \  
    reduction(+ : filtered)  
{  
    vector<int> local;  
#    pragma omp for  
    for ( auto e : data )  
        if ( f(e) )  
            local.push_back(e);  
    filtered += local;  
}
```

**Output:**

```
1  Mod 5: 80 85 90 95 100  
      ↪10 15 20 25 30  
      ↪40 45 50 55 60  
      ↪70 75
```

## 29. List filtering, task-based solution

With a task it becomes possible to have a spin-wait loop:

**Code:**

```
// filtertask.cxx
# pragma omp task \
    shared(filtered,ithread)
{
// wait your turn
    while (threadnum>ithread) {
# pragma omp taskyield
    }
// merge
    filtered += local;
    ithread++;
}
```

**Output:**

```
1  Mod 5: 5 10 15 20 25 30
      ↪35 40 45 50 55
      ↪65 70 75 80 85
      ↪95 100
```

## 30. Templated reductions

You can reduce with a templated function if you put both the declaration and reduction in the same templated function:

```
1  template<typename T>
2  T generic_reduction( vector<T> tdata ) {
3  #pragma omp declare reduction                                     \
4      (rwzt:T:omp_out=reduce_without_zero<T>(omp_out,omp_in))    \
5      initializer(omp_priv=-1.f)
6
7      T tmin = -1;
8  #pragma omp parallel for reduction(rwzt:tmin)
9      for (int id=0; id<tdata.size(); id++)
10         tmin = reduce_without_zero<T>(tmin,tdata[id]);
11  return tmin;
12 };
```

which is then called with specific data:

```
1  auto tmin = generic_reduction<float>(fdata);
```

---

**More topics**

## 31. Threadprivate random number generators

The new C++ `random` header has a threadsafe generator, by virtue of the statement in the standard that no STL object can rely on global state. The L value idiom can not be made threadsafe because of the initialization:

```
1 static random_device rd;  
2 static mt19937 rng(rd);
```

However, the following works:

```
1 // privaterandom.cxx  
2 static random_device rd;  
3 static mt19937 rng;  
4 #pragma omp threadprivate(rd)  
5 #pragma omp threadprivate(rng)  
6  
7 int main() {  
8  
9     #pragma omp parallel  
10         rng = mt19937(rd());
```

You can then use the generator safely and independently:

```
1 #pragma omp parallel
```

## 32. Uninitialized containers

Multi-socket systems:

parallel initialization instantiates pages on sockets:  
'first touch'

```
1      double *x = (double*)malloc( N*sizeof(double));
2      #pragma omp parallel for
3      for (int i=0; i<N; i++)
4          x[i] = f(i);
5
```

This does not work with

```
1      std::vector<double> x(N);
2      #pragma omp parallel for
3      for (int i=0; i<N; i++)
4          x[i] = f(i);
5
```

because of value initialization in the `vector` container.

## 33. Uninitialized containers, 2

Trick to create a vector of uninitialized data:

```
1 // heatalloc.cxx
2 template<typename T>
3 struct uninitialized {
4     uninitialized() {};
5     T val;
6     constexpr operator T() const {return val;};
7     T operator=( const T&& v ) { val = v; return val; };
8 };
```

so that we can create vectors that behave normally:

```
1 vector<uninitialized<double>> x(N),y(N);
2
3 #pragma omp parallel for
4 for (int i=0; i<N; i++)
5     y[i] = x[i] = 0.;
6 x[0] = 0; x[N-1] = 1.;
```

## 34. Atomic updates

Pragma `atomic` only works for simple cases. Can you atomically do more complicated updates?

- Make an object that has data plus a lock;
- Disable copy and copy-assignment operators;
- Destructor does `omp_destroy_lock`;
- Overload arithmetic operator.



## 35. Atomic updates: class with OMP lock

```
1  // lockobject.cxx
2  class atomic_int {
3  private:
4      omp_lock_t the_lock;
5      int _value{0};
6  public:
7      atomic_int() {
8          omp_init_lock(&the_lock);
9      };
10     atomic_int( const atomic_int& )
11         = delete;
12     atomic_int& operator=( const atomic_int& )
13         = delete;
14     ~atomic_int() {
15         omp_destroy_lock(&the_lock);
16     };
```

## 36. Atomic updates: atomic ops

```
1  int operator +=( int i ) {  
2  // atomic increment  
3      omp_set_lock(&the_lock);  
4      _value += i; int rv = _value;  
5      omp_unset_lock(&the_lock);  
6      return rv;  
7  };
```

## 37. Atomic updates: usage

```
1  atomic_int my_object;
2  vector<std::thread> threads;
3  for (int ithread=0; ithread<NTHREADS; ithread++) {
4      threads.push_back
5          ( std::thread(
6              [=,&my_object] () {
7                  for (int iop=0; iop<nops; iop++)
8                      my_object += 1; } ) );
9  }
10 for ( auto &t : threads )
11     t.join();
```

## 38. Atomic updates, comparison to native

Timing comparison on simplest case:

Object with built-in lock:

```
1  atomic_int my_object;
2  vector<std::thread> threads;
3  for (int ithread=0; ithread<NTHREADS;
      ↪ ithread++) {
4      threads.push_back
5      ( std::thread(
6          [=,&my_object] () {
7              for (int iop=0; iop<nops; iop++)
8                  my_object += 1; } ) );
9  }
10 for ( auto &t : threads )
11     t.join();
```

Native C++ atomics:

```
1  std::atomic<int> my_object{0};
2  #pragma omp parallel for
3  for ( size_t update=0;
4        update<NTHREADS*nops;
5        update++) {
6      my_object += 1;
7  }
8  result = my_object;
```

Native solution is 10x faster.

## 39. False sharing prevention

```
1      #include <new>
2
3      #ifdef __cpp_lib_hardware_interference_size
4      const int spread = std::hardware_destructive_interference_size
5                          / sizeof(datatype);
6      #else
7      const int spread = 8;
8      #endif
9
10     vector<datatype> k(nthreads*spread);
11     #pragma omp parallel for schedule( static, 1 )
12     for ( datatype i = 0; i < N; i++ ) {
13         k[ (i%nthreads) * spread ] += 2;
14     }
```

## 40. Beware vector-of-bool!

Does not compile:

```
1 // boolrange.cxx
2 vector<bool> bits(1000000);
3 for ( auto& b : bits )
4     b = true;
```

More subtle:

**Code:**

```
// booliter.cxx
vector<bool> bits(3000000);
#pragma omp parallel for schedule(static,4)
for ( int i=0; i<bits.size(); i++ )
    bits[i] = ( i%3==0 );
```

**Output:**

```
1 #threads=1; should be
   ↪million: 100000
2 #threads=2; should be
   ↪million: 100000
3 #threads=3; should be
   ↪million: 999964
4 #threads=4; should be
   ↪million: 999659
```

Different `bits[i]` are falsely shared.

## 41. CMake

```
1  cmake_minimum_required( VERSION 3.12 )
2  project( ${PROJECT_NAME} VERSION 1.0 )
3
4  find_package(OpenMP)
5  if(OpenMP_CXX_FOUND)
6  else()
7      message( FATAL_ERROR "Could not find OpenMP for CXX" )
8  endif()
9
10 add_executable( ${PROJECT_NAME} ${PROJECT_NAME}.cxx )
11 target_link_libraries( ${PROJECT_NAME} PUBLIC OpenMP::OpenMP_CXX)
12
13 install( TARGETS ${PROJECT_NAME} DESTINATION . )
```