## Parallelism and Concurrency (PACO)

Parallel programming principles: Task decomposition

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## Objective: problem decomposition

- From a specification that solves the original problem, find a decomposition of the problem
  - Identify pieces of work (tasks) that can be done concurrently
  - Identify data structures (input, output and/or intermediate) or parts of them that can be managed concurrently
  - ... ensuring that the same result is produced
    - Identify dependencies that impose ordering constraints (synchronizations) and data sharing



## Objective: problem decomposition

- Having in mind two productivity goals:
  - Performance: maximize concurrency and reduce overheads (maximize potential speedup)
  - Programmability: readability and portability, target architecture independency
- Two usual approaches to problem decomposition
  - Task decomposition (Chapter 3)
  - Data decomposition (Chapter 5)

Either way, you'll look at both tasks and data; difference is in which you look at first, and then the other follows

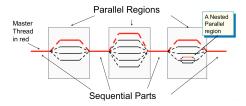
# Identifying tasks in your sequential program (patterns)

- ► Linear task decomposition
  - ► Task = code block or procedure invocation
- ▶ (Linear) Iterative task decomposition
  - Tasks = body of iterative constructs, such as loops (countable or uncountable)
  - Examples: Pi computation, Mandelbrot and heat diffusion equation in lab sessions, vector and matrix operations, ...
- Recursive task decompostition
  - Tasks = recursive procedure invocations, for example in divide-and-conquer problems
  - Examples: Fibonacci, multisort in lab session, branch and bound problems, ...



## Task creation in OpenMP (summary)

#pragma omp parallel: One implicit task is created for each thread in the team (and immediately executed)



- ▶ #pragma omp task: One **explicit** task is created, packaging code and data for (possible) deferred execution
  - ► Tasks executed by threads in the parallel region



### Outline

### Implicit tasks

Explicit tasks: task generation and execution

Explicit tasks: task generation control

Data sharing constraints

Task ordering constraints

### Example 1: iterative sum of two vectors

Simple example to show how to use implicit and explicit tasks to express the available parallelism: all iterations of the loop are independent

## Implicit tasks: how to share work? (1)

(Linear) iterative task decomposition using:

▶ Manual work distribution, one possibility could be:

Each implicit task executes a subset of iterations from the loop that is determined by the thread identifier executing the implicit task (omp\_get\_thread\_num()) and the total number of implicit tasks (or equivalently, number of threads in the team omp\_get\_num\_threads()).



# Implicit tasks: how to share work? (2)

(Linear) iterative task decomposition using:

for work—sharing construct

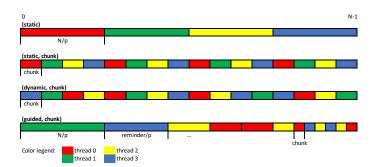
```
void vector_add(int *A, int *B, int *C, int n) {
    #pragma omp for schedule(static)
    for (int i=0; i< n; i++)
        C[i] = A[i] + B[i];
}

void main() {
    ....
    #pragma omp parallel
    vector_add(a, b, c, N);
    ....
}</pre>
```

Each implicit task executes chunks of iterations, depending on what is specified in the schedule clause. Implicit barrier at the end of each work—sharing (nowait clause to skip it).

## Schedule clause in for work—sharing (summary)

Different options to assign chunks of iterations to each implicit task through the schedule clause



# Implicit tasks: how to share work? (3)

#### Work-sharing in nested loops with collapse clause

```
#pragma omp for collapse(2) schedule(static, 2)
for ( i=0; i<N; i++ )
    for ( j=0; j<N; j++ )
        A[i][j] = B[i][j] + C[i][j]</pre>
```

- Useful when there is insufficient work in one loop
- It is only possible to collapse perfectly nested loops (i.e. no code in between loops, no triangular loops, ...).
- $\blacktriangleright$  Iterations are scheduled as if their execution is linearized, in this example for N=4

```
(i, j) (0, 0) (0, 1) (0, 2) (0, 3) (1, 0) (1, 1) (1, 2) (1, 3) (2, 0) (2, 1) (2, 2) (2, 3) (3, 0) (3, 1) (3, 2) (3, 3) thread 0 thread 1 thread 2 thread 3 thread 0 thread 1 thread 2 thread 3
```



### Outline

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### Explicit tasks: linear task decomposition

E.g. a task is a sequence of instructions, as for example in sum of two vectors artificially divided in two parts:

```
void vector_add(int *A, int *B, int *C, int n) {
    #pragma omp task
    for (int i=0; i< n/2; i++)
        C[i] = A[i] + B[i];

    #pragma omp task
    for (int i=n/2; i< n; i++)
        C[i] = A[i] + B[i];
}

void main() {
    ...
    #pragma omp parallel
    #pragma omp parallel
    #pragma omp single
    vector_add(a, b, c, N);
    ...
}</pre>
```

One task generator (use of single work-sharing).



## Explicit tasks: (linear) iterative task decomposition (1)

But more naturally, a task can be a single loop iteration:

Each explicit task executes a single iteration of the i loop, large task creation overhead, very fine granularity!

# Explicit tasks: (linear) iterative task decomposition (2)

#### Chunk of loop iterations, requires loop transformation:

Outer loop jumps over chunks of BS iterations, inner loop traverses each chunk



# Explicit tasks: (linear) iterative task decomposition (3)

OpenMP provides an alternative construct to specify tasks out of loop iterations:

- ▶ grainsize(m): each task executes  $[min(m,n) ... 2 \times m]$  consecutive iterations, being n the total number of iterations
- ightharpoonup num\_tasks(m): creates as many tasks as min(m,n)

# Explicit tasks: (linear) iterative task decomposition (4)

List of elements, traversed using an uncountable (while) loop

```
int main() {
    struct node *p;

    p = init_list(n);
    ...

#pragma omp parallel
#pragma omp single
while (p != NULL) {
        #pragma omp task firstprivate(p)
        process.work(p);
        p = p->next;
    }
    ...
}
```

Need to capture the value of p at task creation time to allow its (possibly) deferred execution (firstprivate clause).

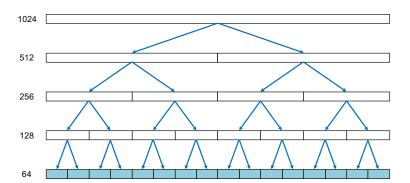
### Example 2: recursive sum of two vectors

"Divide-and-conquer" strategy: recursively divide the problem into smaller sub-problems

```
#define N 1024
#define MIN SIZE 64
void vector_add(int *A. int *B. int *C. int n) {
  for (int i=0; i< n; i++) C[i] = A[i] + B[i];
void rec_vector_add(int *A, int *B, int *C, int n) {
  if (n>MIN_SIZE) {
      int n2 = n / 2:
      rec_vector_add(A, B, C, n2):
      rec_vector_add(A+n2, B+n2, C+n2, n-n2);
   else vector_add(A, B, C, n):
void main() {
  rec_vector_add(a, b, c, N);
```

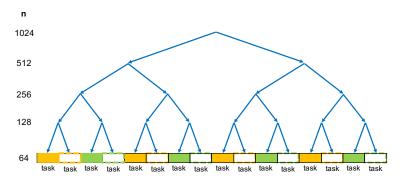
## Example 2: recursive sum of two vectors

N=1024, MIN\_SIZE=64



### Explicit tasks: recursive task decomposition strategies

**Leaf strategy**: a task corresponds with each invocation of vector\_add once the recursive invocations stop



Sequential generation of tasks



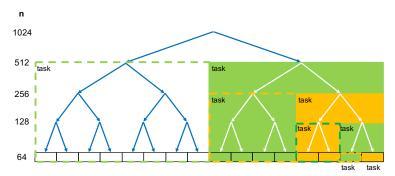
### Implementing the decomposition strategies

### Leaf parallelization

```
#define N 1024
#define MIN SIZE 64
void rec_vector_add(int *A, int *B, int *C, int n) {
  if (n>MIN SIZE) {
       int n2 = n / 2;
      rec_vector_add(A, B, C, n2);
      rec vector add(A+n2, B+n2, C+n2, n-n2);
  else
       #pragma omp task
       vector_add(A, B, C, n);
7
void main() {
  #pragma omp parallel
  #pragma omp single
  rec_vector_add(a, b, c, N);
```

### Explicit tasks: recursive task decomposition strategies

**Tree strategy**: a task corresponds with each invocation of rec vector add



- Parallel generation of tasks
- ▶ Granularity: some tasks simply generate new tasks



## Implementing the decomposition strategies (cont.)

### Tree parallelization

```
#define N 1024
#define MIN SIZE 64
void rec vector add(int *A. int *B. int *C. int n) {
  if (n>MIN SIZE) {
       int n2 = n / 2;
       #pragma omp task
       rec vector add(A, B, C, n2):
       #pragma omp task
      rec_vector_add(A+n2, B+n2, C+n2, n-n2);
   else vector_add(A, B, C, n);
7
void main() {
  #pragma omp parallel
  #pragma omp single
  rec_vector_add(a, b, c, N);
```

### How would you address the N-queens problem?

```
char *a;
                            // Solution being explored
int sol count = 0:
                             // Total number of solutions found
                             // hoard size
int size = 8:
void nqueens(int n. int i. char *a) {
    if (i == n) sol count += 1:
     // try each possible position for queen <j>
     for ( int i=0 : i < n : i++ ) {
              a[i] = (char) i;
             if (ok(j + 1, a)) nqueens(n, j + 1, a);
}
int main() {
     a = alloca(size * sizeof(char));
    nqueens(size, 0, a);
```

## How would you address the N-queens problem? (cont.)

```
void nqueens(int n, int j, char *a) {
     if (i == n)
          #pragma omp atomic
          sol count += 1:
     // try each possible position for queen <j>
     for ( int i=0 ; i < n ; i++ ) {
          // allocate a temporary array and copy <a> into it
          char * b = alloca((j + 1) * sizeof(char));
          memcpy(b, a, j * sizeof(char));
          b[i] = (char) i:
          if (ok(j + 1, b))
               #pragma omp task
               nqueens(n, i + 1, b):
     #pragma omp taskwait
7
int main() {
     a = alloca(size * sizeof(char));
     #pragma omp parallel
     #pragma omp single
     nqueens(size, 0, a);
}
```

A new board for each task is needed, why?



### Outline

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Explicit tasks: task generation and execution

Explicit tasks: task generation control

Data sharing constraints

Task ordering constraints

## Task generation control

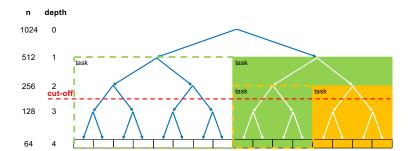
Excessive task generation may not be necessary (i.e. cause excessive overhead)

- In iterative taskloop decompositions one can easily control task granularity (either using grainsize or num\_tasks).
- ▶ In recursive task decompositions one needs to stop task generation ... cut-off control
  - after certain number of recursive calls (static control)
  - when the size of the vector is too small (static control)
  - when the number of generated tasks is too much (dynamic control)
  - **.**...



### Cut-off control

### Tree parallelization with depth recursion control





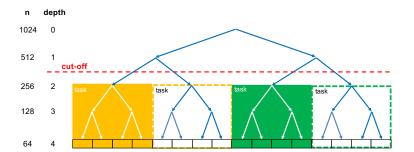
## Cut-off control (cont.)

#### Tree parallelization with depth recursion control

```
#define CUTOFF 3
void rec vector add(int *A. int *B. int *C. int n. int depth) {
    if (n>MIN_SIZE) {
        int n2 = n / 2:
       if (depth < CUTOFF) {
            #pragma omp task
            rec_vector_add(A, B, C, n2, depth+1);
            #pragma omp task
            rec_vector_add(A+n2, B+n2, C+n2, n-n2, depth+1);
       else {
            rec_vector_add(A, B, C, n2, depth+1);
            rec_vector_add(A+n2, B+n2, C+n2, n-n2, depth+1);
    } else vector add(A, B, C, n):
}
void main() {
   #pragma omp parallel
   #pragma omp single
   rec_vector_add(a, b, c, N, 0);
```

### Cut-off control

### Leaf parallelization with depth recursion control



## Cut-off control (cont.)

#### Leaf parallelization with depth recursion control

```
#define CUTOFF 2
void rec_vector_add(int *A, int *B, int *C, int n, int depth) {
    if (n>MIN_SIZE) {
        int n2 = n / 2:
        if (depth == CUTOFF) {
            #pragma omp task
            rec_vector_add(A, B, C, n2, depth+1);
            #pragma omp task
            rec_vector_add(A+n2, B+n2, C+n2, n-n2, depth+1);
        else {
            rec_vector_add(A, B, C, n2, depth+1);
            rec_vector_add(A+n2, B+n2, C+n2, n-n2, depth+1);
    7
   else
        if (depth <= CUTOFF)
            #pragma omp task
            vector_add(A, B, C, n);
        else
            vector add(A, B, C, n):
. . .
```

## OpenMP support for cut-off

- ▶ final clause: If the expression of a final clause evaluates to *true* the generated task and **all of its descendent tasks** will be final. The execution of a final task is sequentially **included** in the generating task (but the task is still generated)
- omp\_in\_final() intrinsic function: it returns true when executed in a final task region; otherwise, it returns false.

## Very simple example with cut-off (rewritten)

#### Making use of omp\_in\_final:

```
#define MIN SIZE 64
#define CUTOFF 3
void rec vector add(int *A. int *B. int *C. int n. int depth) {
    if (n>MIN SIZE) {
        int n2 = n / 2;
        if (!omp_in_final()) {
            #pragma omp task final(depth >= CUTOFF)
            rec_vector_add(A, B, C, n2, depth+1);
            #pragma omp task final(depth >= CUTOFF)
            rec_vector_add(A+n2, B+n2, C+n2, n-n2, depth+1);
       else {
            rec_vector_add(A, B, C, n2, depth+1);
            rec_vector_add(A+n2, B+n2, C+n2, n-n2, depth+1);
   else vector add(A, B, C, n):
```

# OpenMP support for cut-off (cont.)

- mergeable clause: when a mergeable clause is present on a task construct, and the generated task is an undeferred task or an included task, then the compiler may choose to generate a merged task instead. If a merged task is generated, then the behavior is as though there was no task directive at all
  - Not implemented in all compilers, so the optimization needs to be implemented by the programmer using the omp\_in\_final instrinsic

# Very simple example with cut-off (rewritten once more)

```
#define MIN_SIZE 64
#define CUTOFF 3

void rec_vector_add(int *A, int *B, int *C, int n, int depth) {
    if (n>MIN_SIZE) {
        int n2 = n / 2;
        #pragma omp task final(depth >= CUTOFF) mergeable
        rec_vector_add(A, B, C, n2, depth+1);
        #pragma omp task final(depth >= CUTOFF) mergeable
        rec_vector_add(A+n2, B+n2, C+n2, n-n2, depth+1);
    }
    else vector_add(A, B, C, n);
}
```

## Adding cut-off to N-queens (recursion level)

```
void nqueens(int n, int j, char *a) {
     if (j == n)
          #pragma omp atomic
          sol count += 1:
     // try each possible position for queen <j>
     if (!omp in final()) {
         for ( int i=0 ; i < n ; i++ ) {
              // allocate a temporary array and copy <a> into it
              char * b = alloca((j + 1) * sizeof(char));
              memcpy(b, a, j * sizeof(char));
              b[i] = (char) i;
              if (ok(i + 1, b))
                   #pragma omp task final(j>CUT_OFF)
                   nqueens(n, j + 1, b);
         #pragma omp taskwait
     } else {
         for ( int i=0 ; i < n ; i++ ) {
              a[i] = (char) i:
              if (ok(j + 1, a)) nqueens(n, j + 1, a);
        }
     }
}
```

### Outline

Implicit tasks

Explicit tasks: task generation and execution

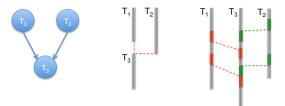
Explicit tasks: task generation control

Data sharing constraints

Task ordering constraints

# Dependences

- Constraints in the parallel execution of tasks
  - ► Task ordering constraints: they force the execution of (groups of) tasks in a required order
  - Data sharing constraints: they force the access to data to fulfil certain properties (write-after-read, exclusive, commutative, ...)



# Dependences (cont.)

- ▶ If no constraints are defined during the parallel execution of the tasks, the algorithm is called "embarrassingly" parallel. There are still challenges in this case:
  - Load balancing: how to distribute the work to perform so the load is evenly balanced among tasks (e.g. pi computation vs. Mandelbrot set)
  - ▶ Data locality: how to assign work to tasks so that data resides in the memory hierarchy levels close to the processor

## Protecting task interactions

Identify the sequence of statements in a task that may conflict with a sequence of statements in another task, creating a possible data race

 Conflict exists if both sequences access the same data and at least one of them modifies the data

#### Two mechanisms:

- Atomic accesses: mechanism to guarantee atomicity in load/store instructions
- ► Mutual exclusion: mechanism to ensure that only one task at a time executes the code within a critical section



#### Task interactions: atomic access to variables

```
#pragma omp atomic [update | read | write]
    expression
```

- Ensures that a specific storage location is accessed atomically, avoiding the possibility of multiple, simultaneous reading and writing threads
  - Atomic updates: x += 1, x = x foo(), x[index[i]]++
  - Atomic reads: value = \*p
  - Atomic writes: \*p = value
- Only protects the read/operation/write
- Usually more efficient than a critical construct



## Example 3: iterative dot product

We need to protect each update of the shared variable result. Too much data sharing overhead per task!

# Example 4: recursive dot product

```
#define N 1024
#define MIN_SIZE 64
int result = 0:
void dot_product(int *A, int *B, int n) {
  for (int i=0: i< n: i++)
       #pragma omp atomic
       result += A[i] * B[i];
void rec_dot_product(int *A, int *B, int n) {
   if (n>MIN SIZE) {
       int n2 = n / 2:
       #pragma omp task // firstprivate(n, n2) by default
       rec_dot_product(A, B, n2):
       #pragma omp task // firstprivate(n, n2) by default
       rec_dot_product(A+n2, B+n2, n-n2);
   else dot_product(A, B, n);
void main() {
  #pragma omp parallel
  #pragma omp single
  rec_dot_product(a, b, N);
```

# Example 4: recursive dot product (cont.)

Each individual update of the shared variable result causes too much overhead, how to reduce it?

```
int result = 0;

void dot_product(int *A, int *B, int n) {
   int tmp = 0;
   for (int i=0; i< n; i++)
       tmp += A[i] * B[i];

   #pragma omp atomic
   result += tmp;
}</pre>
```

#### Task interactions: mutual exclusion

In OpenMP there exist two alternatives for mutual exclusion: critical and low-level synchronisation functions (locks)

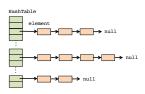
Also, two options for mutual exclusion using critical regions:

- critical pragma: a thread waits at the beginning of a critical region until no other thread is executing a critical region (anywhere in the program)
- critical(name) pragma: the name allows the programmer to differentiate disjoint sets of critical sections (name is a label, not a program variable)



### Example 5: inserting elements in hash table

Hash table defined as a collection of linked lists



```
#define SIZE_TABLE 1048576
typedef struct {
   int data;
   element * next;
   element;
   element * HashTable[SIZE_TABLE];

for (i = 0; i < elements; i++) {
   index * hash function(element[i]);
   insert element (element[i], index);
}</pre>
```

 Updates to the list in any particular slot must be protected to prevent a race condition

```
#pragma omp parallel for private (index)
for (i = 0; i < elements; i++) {
   index = hash_function (element[i]);
   #pragma omp critical // atomic not possible here
   insert_element (element[i], index);
}</pre>
```

#### Task interactions: mutual exclusion

Low-level synchronization functions using *locks*: special variables that live in memory with two basic operations:

- Acquire: while a thread has the lock, nobody else gets it; this allows the thread to do its work in private, not bothered by other threads
- Release: allow other threads to acquire the lock and do their work (one at a time) in private
- Type definition and instrinsics:

```
void omp_init_lock(omp_lock_t *lock)
void omp_destroy_lock(omp_lock_t *lock)

void omp_set_lock(omp_lock_t *lock)
void omp_unset_lock(omp_lock_t *lock)
int omp_test_lock(omp_lock_t *lock)
```



# Example 5: inserting elements in hash table (cont.)

Associate a lock variable with each slot in the hash table, protecting the chain of elements in an slot

```
omp.lock.t hash.lock[HASH.TABLE.SIZE];
for (i = 0; i < HASH.TABLE.SIZE; i++)
    omp.init.lock(&hash.lock[i]);

#pragma omp parallel for private (index)
for (i = 0; i < elements; i++) {
    index = hash_function (element[i]);
    omp.set.lock (&hash.lock[index]);
    insert.element (element[i], index);
    omp.unset.lock (&hash_lock[index]);
}

for (i = 0; i < HASH.TABLE.SIZE; i++)
    omp.destroy_lock(&hash.lock[i]);</pre>
```

Threads may be inserting elements into the hash table in parallel, as long as these elements hash to different slots

# Reducing task interactions

Task interactions introduce overheads. How can one reduce them?

Separable dependencies (reductions): the dependencies between tasks can be managed by replicating key data structures and locally working with these local structures. When appropriate, locally replicated data structures are combined into the final global result (task interaction)

```
double max_val=0.0;

#pragma omp parallel for reduction(max : max_val)
for( i = 0; i < N; i++) {
   if(vector[i] > max_val)
        max_val = vector[i];
}
```

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Task ordering constraints

# Task ordering constraints

- ► Two possible sources of constraints:
  - Control flow constraints: the creation of a task depends on the outcome (decision) of one or more previous tasks
  - Data flow constraints: the execution of a task can not start until one or more previous tasks have computed/used some data
    - ▶ read—after—write, write—after—read and write—after—write
- Task ordering constraints are easily imposed by sequentially composing tasks and/or using global synchronizations.

# Task synchronization in OpenMP (summary)

- ► Thread barriers: wait for all threads to finish previous work (#pragma omp barrier and all implicit barriers at the end of work—sharing constructs)
- Task barriers:
  - taskwait: Suspends the current task waiting on the completion of child tasks of the current task. The taskwait construct is a stand-alone directive.
  - taskgroup: Suspends the current task at the end of structured block waiting on completion of child tasks of the current task and their descendent tasks.
- ► Task dependences



### taskwait vs. taskgroup

### Example 4 revisited: recursive dot product

```
#define N 1024
#define MIN SIZE 64
int dot_product(int *A, int *B, int n) {
  int tmp = 0:
  for (int i=0; i< n; i++) tmp += A[i] * B[i];
  return(tmp);
int rec_dot_product(int *A, int *B, int n) {
  int tmp = 0:
  if (n>MIN_SIZE) {
       int n2 = n / 2;
       tmp += rec_dot_product(A, B, n2);
       tmp += rec_dot_product(A+n2, B+n2, n-n2);
  else tmp = dot_product(A, B, n);
  return(tmp):
void main() {
  result = rec_dot_product(a, b, N):
   . . .
```

# Example 4 revisited: recursive dot product (cont.)

```
#define N 1024
#define MIN_SIZE 64
int rec_dot_product(int *A, int *B, int n) {
   int tmp1 = 0, tmp2 = 0;
   if (n>MIN SIZE) {
       int n2 = n / 2:
       #pragma omp task shared(tmp1) // firstprivate(n, n2) by default
       tmp1 = rec_dot_product(A, B, n2);
       #pragma omp task shared(tmp2) // firstprivate(n, n2) by default
       tmp2 = rec_dot_product(A+n2, B+n2, n-n2);
       #pragma omp taskwait
   else tmp1 = dot_product(A, B, n);
  return(tmp1+tmp2);
void main() {
   #pragma omp parallel
   #pragma omp single
   result = rec_dot_product(a, b, N);
```

 taskwait guarantees that both instances of rec\_dot\_product finish before returning the result



# Task dependences

 OpenMP allows the specification of dependences (through argument directionality) between sibling tasks (i.e. from the same parent task)

Task dependences are derived from the dependence type (in, out or inout) and its items in var\_list. This list may include array sections

# Task dependences

- ▶ The in dependence-type: the generated task will be a dependent task of all previously generated sibling tasks that reference at least one of the list items in an out or inout dependence-type list
- ▶ The out and inout dependence-types: the generated task will be a dependent task of all previously generated sibling tasks that reference at least one of the list items in an in, out, or inout dependence-type list.

## Example 6: wavefront execution with task dependences

- Function foo(i, j) processes block(i, j)
- Wave-front execution: the execution of foo(i,j) depends on foo(i-1, j) and foo(i, j-1)

# Ordered execution of for work-sharing construct

A **doacross** loop is a loop nest where cross-iteration dependences exist

- ► The ordered(n) clause with an integer argument n is used to define the number of loops within the doacross nest
- depend clauses on ordered constructs within an ordered loop describe the dependences of the doacross loops
  - depend(sink:expr) defines the wait point for the completion
    of computation in a previous iteration defined by expr
  - depend(source) indicates the completion of computation from the current iteration

## The doacross loop nest: first example

- ▶ In this example an i-1 to i cross-iteration dependence is defined, but only for the statement computing B.
- ► The computation of A and C can go in parallel across multiple iterations.

# The doacross loop nest: wavefront example revisited

- ► Function foo(i, j) processes block(i, j)
- ► Wave-front execution: the execution of foo(i,j) depends on foo(i-1, j) and foo(i, j-1)

### The doacross loop nest: last example

```
#pragma omp for collapse(2) ordered(2)
for (i = 1; i < N-1; i++) {
    for (j = 1; j < M-1; j++) {
        A[i][j] = foo(i, j);
        #pragma omp ordered depend(source)
        B[i][j] = alpha * A[i][j];
        #pragma omp ordered depend(sink: i-1,j) depend(sink: i,j-1)
        C[i][j] = 0.2 * (A[i-1][j] + A[i+1][j] + A[i][j-1] + A[i][j+1]);
    }
}</pre>
```

- ▶ In this example the i and j loops are the associated loops for the collapsed loop as well as for the doacross loop nest.
- ▶ Note that in this case the dependence source directive is placed before the corresponding sink directive.

# Parallelism and Concurrency (PACO)

Parallel programming principles: Task decomposition

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