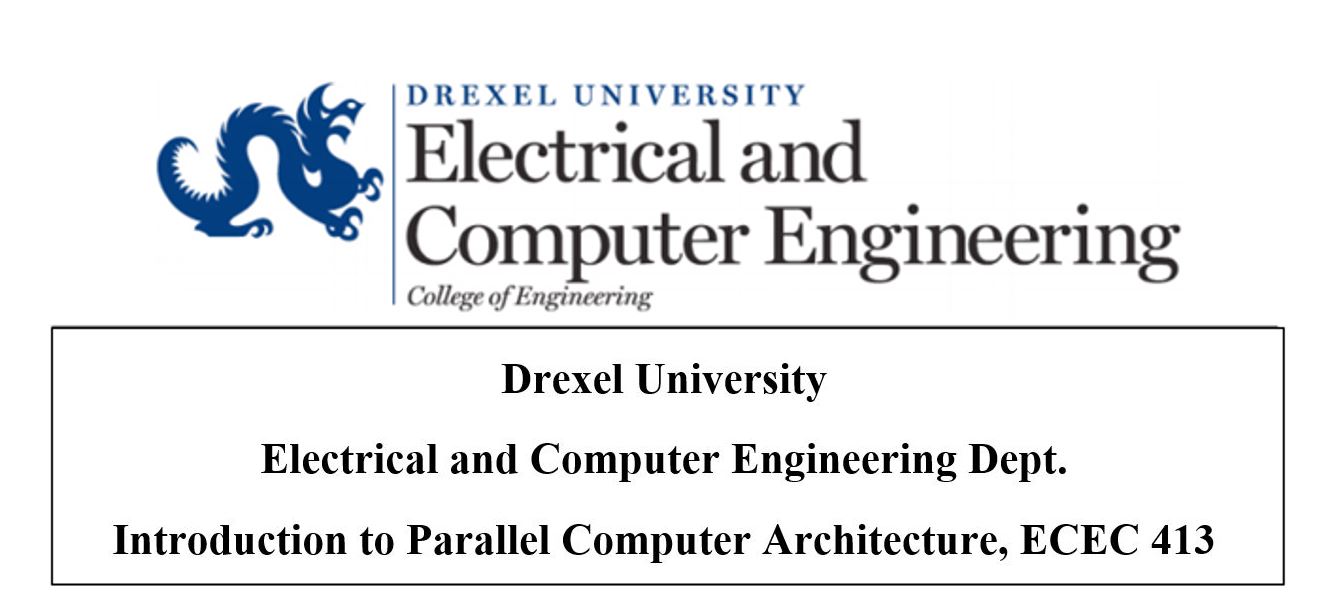
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**Title:** Gaussian Elimination using Pthreads

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**TA:**  Vasil Pano

**Section:** 001

**Date Performed:** 2/7/17

**Date Due:** 2/8/17

**Date Received:** 2/1/17

**Introduction:**The object of this assignment is to take a serial implementation of the Gaussian elimination algorithm and develop a parallel formulation of the gauss\_eliminate C-file using Pthreads. This will be accomplished by modifying the gauss\_eliminate\_using\_pthreads() function. For matrix sizes of 1024 × 1024, 2048 × 2048, and 4096 × 4096, the parallelized code will be compared to the serial implementation and the speed up will be reported when using 2, 4, 8, 16, and 32 threads. (Please see README on how to run program.)

**Graphs and Tables:**

Table : Execution times

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Threads | Matrix Sizes | | |
| 1024 | 2048 | 4096 |
| 1 | 2.73s | 22.29 | 185.52 |
| 2 | 1.51s | 11.08s | 87.88s |
| 4 | 0.90s | 5.90s | 45.86s |
| 8 | 0.74s | 3.64s | 26.50s |
| 16 | 1.00s | 3.87s | 23.73s |
| 32 | 1.57s | 4.64s | 24.71s |

Table : Speed up calculation in reference to serial implementation

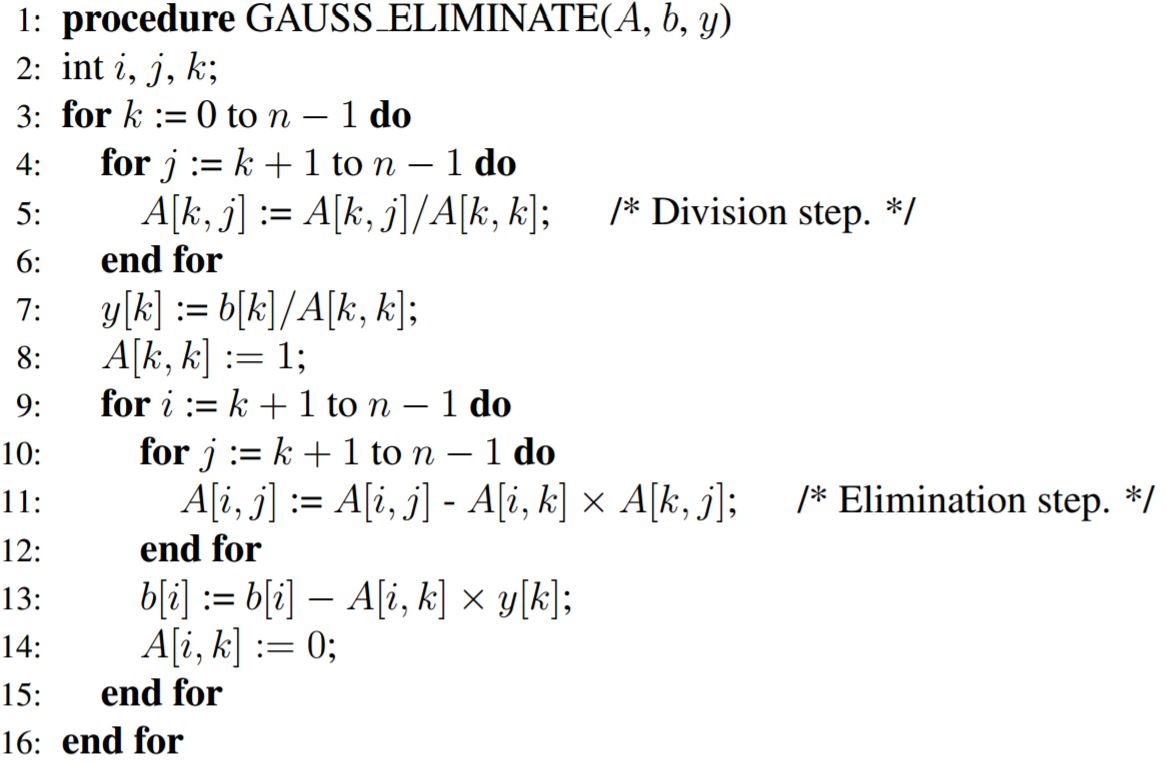
|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Threads | Matrix Sizes | | |
| 1024 | 2048 | 4096 |
| 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 2 | 1.808 | 2.012 | 2.111 |
| 4 | 3.033 | 3.778 | 4.045 |
| 8 | 3.689 | 6.124 | 7.001 |
| 16 | 2.730 | 5.760 | 7.818 |
| 32 | 1.739 | 4.804 | 7.508 |

Figure : Execution time vs thread count for each matrix size

Figure : Speed up plot

**Discussion**:

The Gaussian elimination code to be parallelized is shown below:



To parallelize the implementation above, the Pthread library was used. The for-loops were essentially created in the multi thread implementation as will be shown in the source code. The idea was that for nested for-loops, the inner for-loop would spawn a new thread process. For every parallelization, a set of variables were chosen to be private, which meant that these variable would not communicate with the variables of the same name with other threads, in other words, isolating them. There were variables that were however shared. This depended on the implementation of the pakrallelization. On parallelizing the implementation, there were some severe speed ups.

One thing to note though is that there is a limit as to how many threads can be assigned to the process. Adding too many can actually cause the execution to slow down. There also seems to be a correlation between the size of the data versus the amount of threads used. If there are too many threads for a small dataset, it could actually make execution slower than the serial version. This can be observed in the data gathered and visualized in figure 2.

**Conclusion:**

To conclude, parallelizing processes is beneficial, but there is a limit to the amount of parallelization that can be carried out. The size of the dataset depends greatly on the number of threads that are needed to maximize the performance. There is a fine balance between size of data set and the number of threads used.