

Nano-coroutines

Curing your memory latency blues.

Negative overhead abstraction. Again?

Microsoft Visual C++ Team Gor Nishanov

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9/27 10:30 – 12:00 // Breckenridge Hall (1st Floor)

Thoughts on a More Powerful and Simpler C++ (5 of N), Herb Sutter

Reminder: A coroutine is a generalization of a function

Coroutines



- Introduced in 1958 by Melvin Conway
- Donald Knuth, 1968: "generalization of subroutine"

	subroutines	coroutines
call	Allocate frame, pass parameters	Allocate frame, pass parameters
return	Free frame, return result	Free frame, return eventual result
suspend	x	yes
resume	x	yes

8.4 Function definitions

[dcl.fct.def]

8.4.4 Coroutines

[dcl.fct.def.coroutine]

Add this subclause to 8.4.

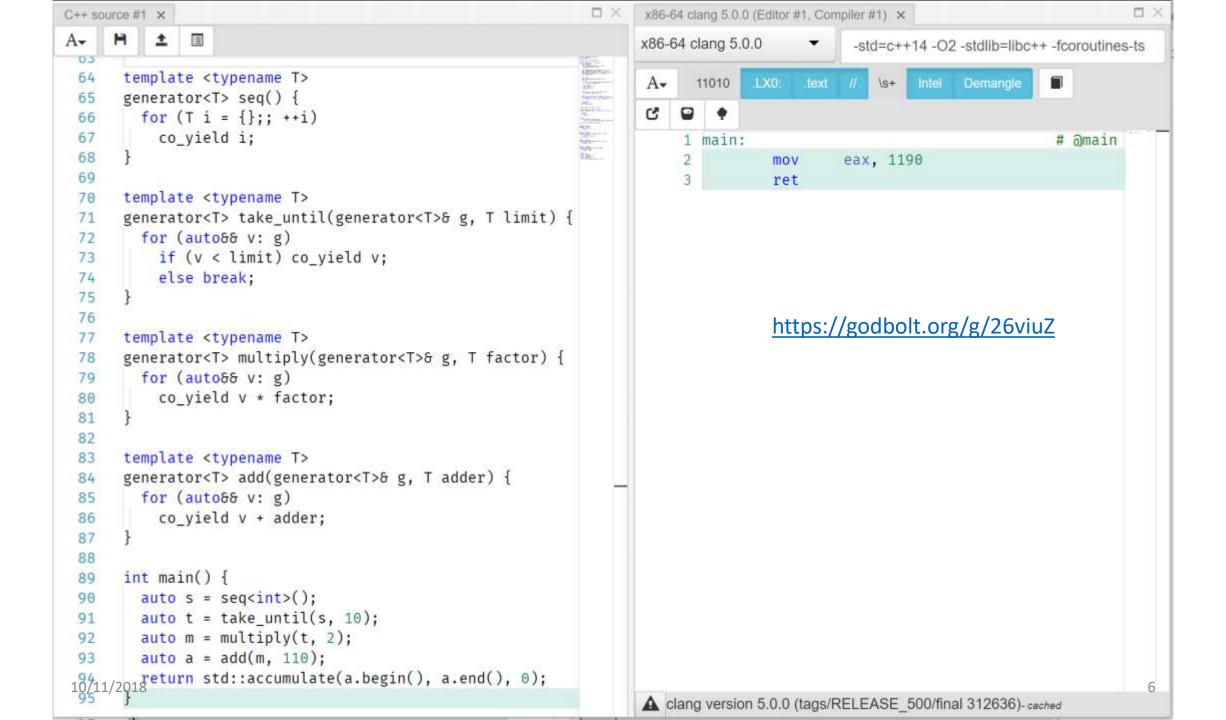
A function is a coroutine if it contains a coroutine-return-statement (6.6.3.1), an await-expression (5.3.8), a yield-expression (5.20), or a range-based for (6.5.4) with co_await.

```
generator<char> hello() {
   for (char ch: "Hello, world\n")
      co_yield ch;
}
int main() {
   for (char ch : hello())
      cout << ch;
}</pre>
```

```
task<void> sleepy() {
   cout << "Going to sleep...\n";
   co_await sleep_for(1ms);
   cout << "Woke up\n";
   co_return 42;
}
int main() {
   cout << sleepy.get();
}</pre>
```

Coroutines Design Principles

- Scalable (to billions of concurrent coroutines)
- **Efficient** (resume and suspend operations comparable in cost to a function call overhead)
- Seamless interaction with existing facilities with no overhead
- **Open** ended coroutine machinery allowing library designers to develop coroutine libraries exposing various high-level semantics, such as generators, goroutines, tasks and more.
- Usable in environments where exception are forbidden or not available



```
void handle write(const std::error code &err) {
struct session {
                                                                                                 if (!err) {
  session(net::io_context &ioc, net::ip::tcp::socket s, size t block size)
                                                                                                   socket_.async_read_some(net::buffer(buf_.data(), block_size_)
        : io context (ioc), socket (std::move(s)), block size (block size),
                                                                                                     make custom alloc handler( allocator ,
          buf (block size), read data length (0)
                                                                                                       [this](auto ec, auto n) { handle read(ec, n); }));
                                                                                                   return;
  {}
                                                                                                 net::post(io context , [this] { destroy(this); });
  void start() {
     std::error code set option err;
     net::ip::tcp::no delay no delay(true);
                                                                                               static void destroy(session *s) { delete s; }
     socket .set option(no delay, set option err);
                                                                                             private:
     if (!set option err) {
                                                                                               net::io context &io context ;
       socket .async read some( net::buffer(buf .data(), block size ),
                                                                                               net::ip::tcp::socket socket;
                                                                                               size t block size ;
          make custom alloc handler( allocator ,
                                                                                               std::vector<char> buf ;
            [this](auto ec, auto n) { handle read(ec, n); }));
                                                                                               size t read data length ;
       return;
                                                                                               handler allocator allocator;
                                                                                                    server(net::io_context &ioc, const net::ip::tcp::endpoint &endpoint,
                                                                                                         size_t block_size)
     net::post(io_context_, [this] { destroy(this); });
                                                                                                       : io_context_(ioc), acceptor_(ioc, endpoint), block_size_(block_size)
                                                                                                      acceptor .listen();
                                                                                                      start_accept();
  void handle read(const std::error code &err, size t length) {
                                                                                                     void start accept()
     if (!err) {
                                                                                                      acceptor_.async_accept(
       read data length = length;
                                                                                                         [this](auto ec, auto s) { handle_accept(ec, std::move(s)); });
       async write(socket , net::buffer(buf .data(), read data length ),
                                                                                                     void handle_accept(std::error_code err, net::ip::tcp::socket s)
          make custom alloc handler( allocator ,
            [this](auto ec, auto) { handle write(ec); }));
                                                                                                       session *new_session = new session(io_context_, std::move(s), block_size_);
                                                                                                       new_session->start();
       return;
                                                                                                      start_accept();
                                                                                                     net::io_context &io_context_;
     net::post(io context , [this] { destroy(this); });
                                                                                                    net::ip::tcp::acceptor acceptor_;
                                                                                                     size t block size ;
         10/11/2018
                                                                CppCon 2018 • Nano-Coroutines
                                                                                                   };
```

Coroutine based server

```
task<void> session(tcp::socket s, size_t block_size)
{
   s.set_option(tcp::no_delay(true));
   std::vector<char> buf(block_size);

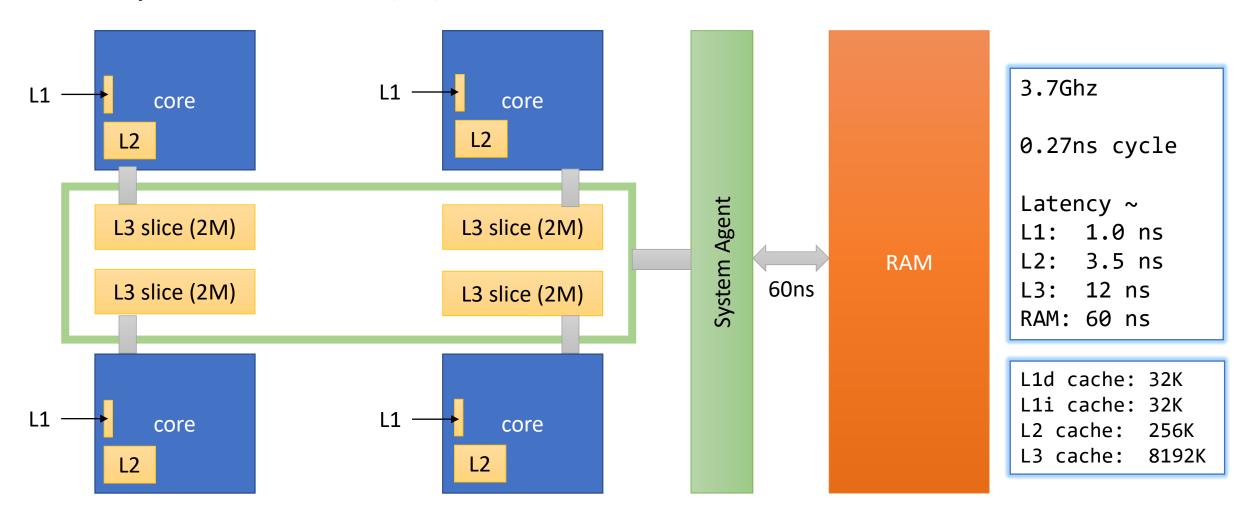
   for(;;) {
      size_t n = co_await async_read_some(s, buffer(buf.data(), block_size));
      n = co_await async_write(s, buffer(buf.data(), n));
   }
}
```

Nano-coroutines?

Coroutines and databases

- Interleaving with Coroutines: A Practical Approach for Robust Index Joins (2017)
 - https://infoscience.epfl.ch/record/231318/files/p230-psaropoulos.pdf
- Exploiting Coroutines to Attack the "Killer Nanoseconds" (2018)
 - http://www.vldb.org/pvldb/vol11/p1702-jonathan.pdf

Skylake Xeon(R) CPU E3-1505M v5



Binary Search

```
template <typename Iterator, typename Value>
bool binary_search(Iterator first, Iterator last, Value val) {
  auto len = last - first;
  while (len > 0) {
    auto half = len / 2;
    auto middle = first + half;
    auto middle_key = *middle;
    if (middle_key < val) {</pre>
     first = middle + 1;
      len = len - half - 1;
    } else
      len = half;
    if (middle_key == val)
      return true;
  return false;
```

Array comfortably fits L1

L1: 32K

Array



4 ns per lookup/log2(array-size) 0.1% L1 cache misses

3.7Ghz

0.27ns cycle

Latency ~

L1: 1.0 ns

L2: 3.5 ns

L3: 12 ns

RAM: 60 ns

L1d cache: 32K L1i cache: 32K L2 cache: 256K L3 cache: 8192K

Array comfortably fits L2



3.7Ghz

0.27ns cycle

Latency ~

L1: 1.0 ns

L2: 3.5 ns

L3: 12 ns

RAM: 60 ns

L1d cache: 32K L1i cache: 32K L2 cache: 256K L3 cache: 8192K

Array

Array comfortably fits L3

L3: 8M

8.3 ns per lookup/log2(array-size)

274% L1 cache misses

3.7Ghz

0.27ns cycle

Latency ~

L1: 1.0 ns

L2: 3.5 ns

L3: 12 ns

RAM: 60 ns

L1d cache: 32K L1i cache: 32K L2 cache: 256K L3 cache: 8192K

Array

Array is way bigger than L3

L3: 8M

Array: 256M



26 ns per lookup/log2(array-size)
60% L3 cache misses

0.21 instructions per cycle

3.7Ghz

0.27ns cycle

Latency ~

L1: 1.0 ns

L2: 3.5 ns

L3: 12 ns

RAM: 60 ns

L1d cache: 32K L1i cache: 32K L2 cache: 256K

L3 cache: 8192K

Database Join

CustomerId	Date	Food
C1	2018/06/01	F1
C1	2018/07/11	F2
C2	2018/08/03	F3
C2	2018/09/01	F4
C3	2018/09/13	F5

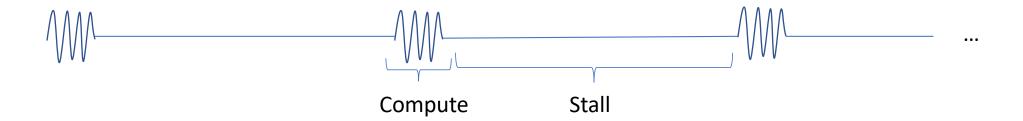
anov
:h

Food Code	Name
F1	Fois Gras
F2	Hamburger
F3	Pirozhki
F4	BBQ Alligator Ribs
F5	Porridge

Name Date **Food** 2018/06/01 Fois Gras Reis 2018/07/11 Hamburger Reis 2018/08/03 Pirozhki Stepanov 2018/09/01 **BBQ** Alligator Ribs Stepanov 2018/09/13 Porridge Smith

JOIN

Very sad core

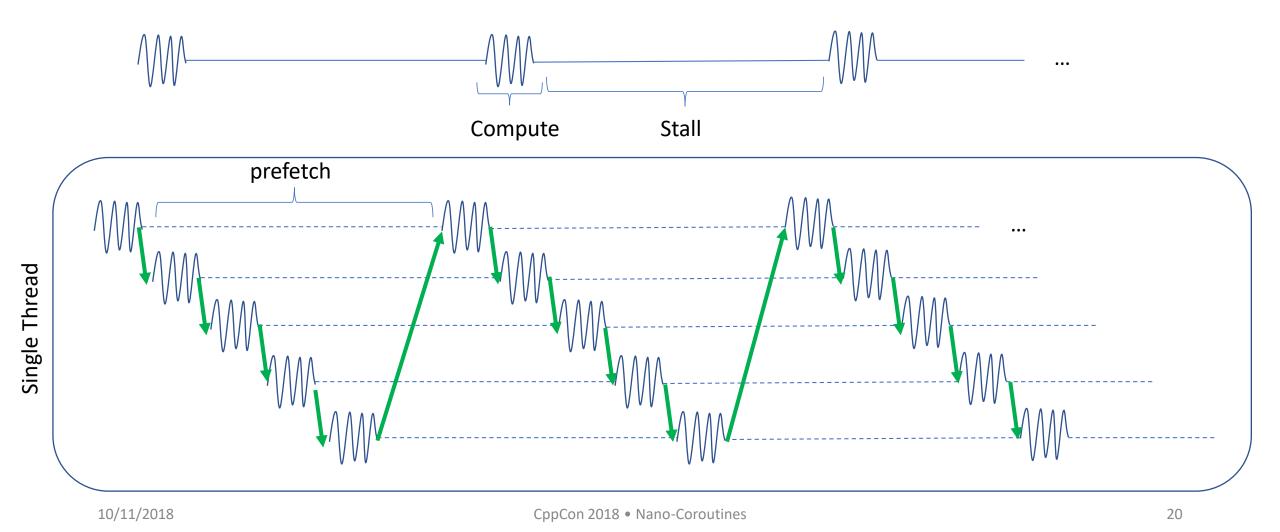


Prefetching

int hint);

```
T0: prefetch data into all levels of the cache hierarchy
T1: prefetch data into level 2 cache or higher
T2: prefetch data into level 3 cache or higher
NTA: prefetch data to the closest cache to CPU minimizing cache
pollution
```

Instruction stream interleaving



Binary Search

```
bool binary_search(int const* first, int const* last, int val) {
  auto len = last - first;
  while (len > 0) {
    auto half = len / 2;
    auto middle = first + half;
    auto middle_key = *middle;
    if (middle_key < val) {</pre>
     first = middle + 1;
      len = len - half - 1;
    } else
      len = half;
    if (middle_key == val)
      return true;
  return false;
```

Binary Search – state extraction

```
auto len = last - first;
while (len > 0) {
  auto half = len / 2;
  auto middle = first + half;
  auto middle_key = *middle;
  if (middle_key < val) {</pre>
   first = middle + 1;
    len = len - half - 1;
  } else
    len = half;
  if (middle_key == val)
    return true;
return false;
```

```
struct frame {
 int const* first;
 int const* last;
 int const* middle;
 size t len;
 size t half;
 int val;
 int state = EMPTY;
 void init(int const* first,
            int const* last, int val);
 bool run();
};
```

Binary Search — init

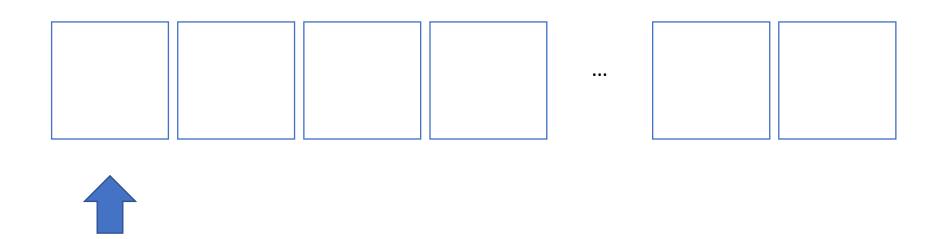
```
auto len = last - first;
while (len > 0) {
  auto half = len / 2;
  auto middle = first + half;
  auto middle_key = *middle;
  if (middle_key < val) {</pre>
   first = middle + 1;
    len = len - half - 1;
 } else
    len = half;
  if (middle_key == val)
    return true;
return false;
```

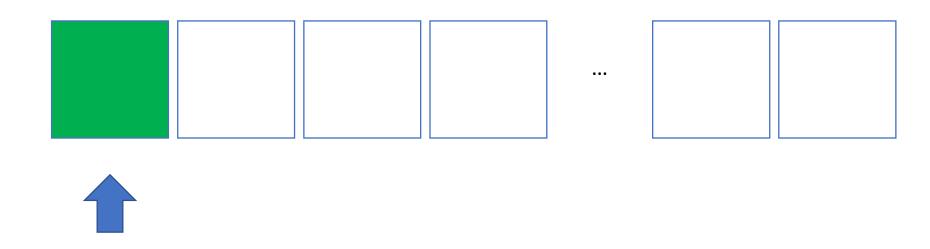
```
void frame::init(int const* first,
                 int const* last, int val)
 this->val = val;
 this->first = first;
 this->last = last;
 this->len = last - first;
 if (len == 0) {
    state = NOT_FOUND;
   return;
 half = len / 2;
 middle = first + half;
  state = KEEP GOING;
 prefetch(*middle);
```

Binary Search – run

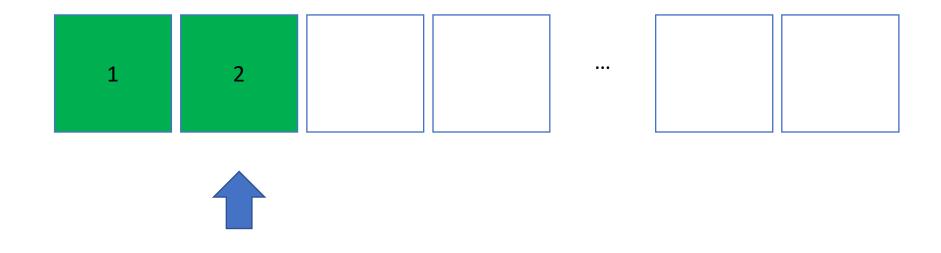
```
auto len = last - first;
while (len > 0) {
  auto half = len / 2;
  auto middle = first + half;
  auto middle_key = *middle;
  if (middle_key < val) {</pre>
   first = middle + 1;
    len = len - half - 1;
 } else
    len = half;
  if (middle_key == val)
    return true;
return false;
```

```
bool frame::run() {
       auto middle key = *middle;
       if (middle_key < val) {</pre>
         first = middle + 1;
         len = len - half - 1;
       } else
         len = half;
       if (middle_key == val) {
         state = FOUND;
         return true;
       if (len > 0) {
         half = len / 2;
         middle = first + half;
         prefetch(*middle);
         return false;
       state = NOT FOUND;
       return true;
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```

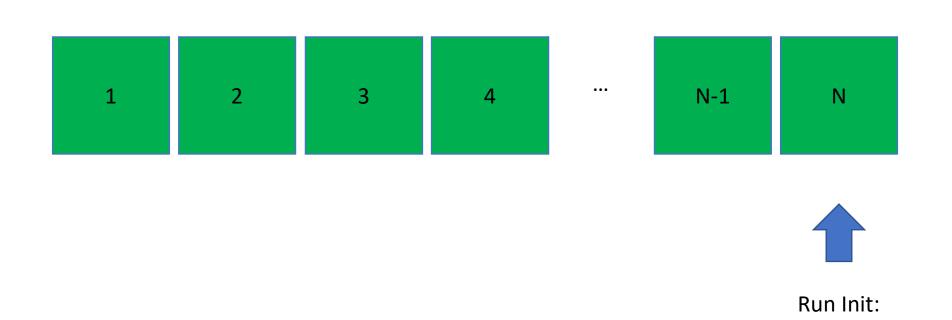




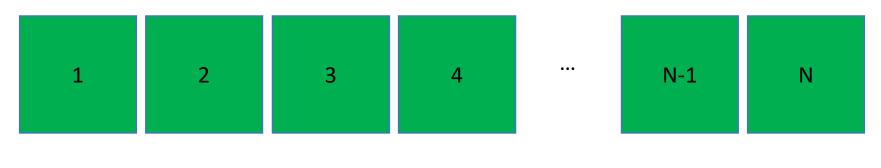
Run Init: Start prefetch for frame 1



Run Init: Start prefetch for frame 2

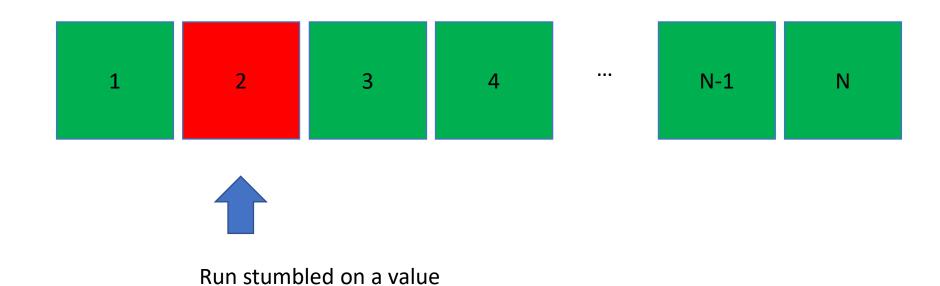


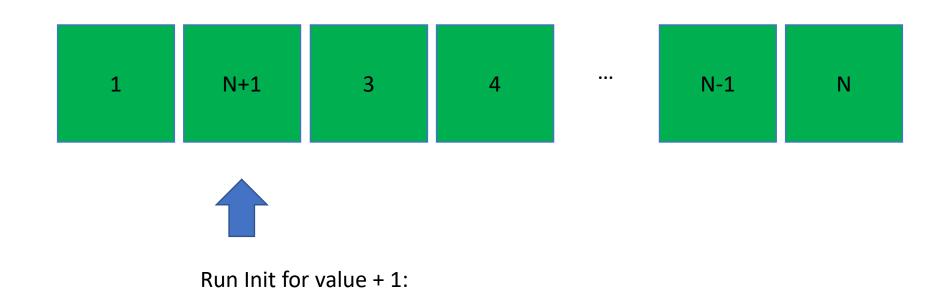
Start prefetch for frame N





Run until we hit next prefetch from frame 1





Start prefetch

Binary Search – orchestrator

```
for (;;) {
std::vector<frame> f(part);
size t N = part - 1;
size t i = N;
long result = 0;
for (auto key: lookups) {
  auto* fr = &f[i];
  if (fr->state != KEEP_RUNNING) {
    fr->init(v.begin(), v.end(), key);
    if (i == 0) i = N; else --i;
  } else {
    for (;;) {
       ... keep running until there is room ...
                                                     do {
... deal with strugglers ...
                                       CppCon 2018 • Nano-¢orbuwhile (moreWork);
```

```
if (fr->run()) {
     // completed
     if (fr->state == FOUND) ...;
     fr->init(v.begin(), v.end(), key);
     if (i == 0) i = N; else --i;
     break;
 if (i == 0) i = N; else --i;
 fr = &f[i];
bool moreWork = false;
 moreWork = false;
 for (auto& fr : f)
   if (fr.state == KEEP RUNNING) {
    moreWork = true;
    if (fr.run() && fr.state == FOUND)
                                           32
```

Array is way bigger than L3

L3: 8M

Array: 256M

26 ns per lookup/log2(array-size)
60% L3 cache misses

0.21 instructions per cycle

Not bad!

Interleaving with 16 streams



10.0 ns per lookup/log2(array-size)3.5% L3 cache misses

0.83 instructions per cycle

3.7Ghz

0.27ns cycle

Latency ~

L1: 1.0 ns

L2: 3.5 ns

L3: 12 ns

RAM: 60 ns

L1d cache: 32K

L1i cache: 32K

L2 cache: 256K

L3 cache: 8192K

Nice! But that is a lot of code!

```
struct frame {
 int const* first;
 int const* last;
 int const* middle;
 size t len;
 size t half;
 int val;
 int state = EMPTY;
 void init(int const* first,
           int const* last, int val);
 void run();
};
void frame::init(int const* first,
                 int const* last, int val)
 this->val = val;
 this->first = first;
 this->last = last;
 this->len = last - first;
  if (len == 0) {
    state = NOT FOUND;
    return;
 half = len / 2;
  middle = first + half;
  state = KEEP GOING;
 prefetch(*middle);
```

```
bool frame::run() {
  auto middle key = *middle;
 if (middle key < val) {</pre>
   first = middle; ++first;
   len = len - half - 1;
 } else
    len = half;
  if (middle key == val) {
    state = FOUND;
    return true;
  if (len > 0) {
   half = len / 2;
    middle = first + half;
   prefetch(*middle);
                              std::vector<frame> f(part);
    return false;
                              size t N = part - 1;
                              size t i = N;
  state = NOT FOUND;
                              long result = 0;
  return true;
                              for (auto key: lookups) {
                                auto* fr = &f[i];
                                if (fr->state != KEEP RUNNING) {
                                  fr->init(v.begin(), v.end(), key);
                                  if (i == 0) i = N; else --i;
                                } else {
                                  for (;;) {
                                     ... keep running until there is room ...
                              ... deal with strugglers ...
```

```
for (;;) {
 if (fr->run()) {
    // completed
    if (fr->state == FOUND) ...;
    fr->init(v.begin(), v.end(), key);
    if (i == 0) i = N; else --i;
     break;
  if (i == 0) i = N; else --i;
  fr = &f[i];
 bool moreWork = false;
 do {
   moreWork = false;
   for (auto& fr : f)
     if (fr.state == KEEP RUNNING) {
       moreWork = true;
       if (fr.run() && fr.state == FOUND)
         ...;
 } while (moreWork);
```



Coroutine based server

```
task<void> session(tcp::socket s, size_t block_size)
{
   s.set_option(tcp::no_delay(true));
   std::vector<char> buf(block_size);

   for(;;) {
      size_t n = co_await async_read_some(s, buffer(buf.data(), block_size));
      n = co_await async_write(s, buffer(buf.data(), n));
   }
}
```

```
template <typename Iterator, typename Value>
bool binary_search(Iterator first, Iterator last, Value val) {
  auto len = last - first;
  while (len > 0) {
    auto half = len / 2;
    auto middle = first + half;
    auto middle_key = *middle;
    if (middle_key < val) {</pre>
     first = middle + 1;
      len = len - half - 1;
    } else
      len = half;
    if (middle_key == val)
      return true;
  return false;
```

```
template <typename Iterator, typename Value, typename Found, typename NotFound>
auto binary search(Iterator first, Iterator last, Value val,
                    Found on_found, NotFound on_not_found) -> void {
  auto len = last - first;
 while (len > 0) {
    auto half = len / 2;
    auto middle = first + half;
    auto middle key = *middle;
    if (middle key < val) {</pre>
     first = middle + 1;
      len = len - half - 1;
    } else
      len = half;
    if (middle key == val)
      return on_found(val, middle);
  return on not found(val);
```

```
template <typename Iterator, typename Value, typename Found, typename NotFound>
auto binary search(Iterator first, Iterator last, Value val,
                    Found on found, NotFound on not found) -> task<void> {
  auto len = last - first;
 while (len > 0) {
    auto half = len / 2;
    auto middle = first + half;
    auto middle key = co await prefetch(*middle);
    if (middle_key < val) {</pre>
     first = middle + 1;
      len = len - half - 1;
    } else
      len = half;
    if (middle key == val)
      co return on_found(val, middle);
 co_return on_not_found(val);
```

Coroutine based server

```
task<void> session(tcp::socket s, size_t block_size)
{
   s.set_option(tcp::no_delay(true));
   std::vector<char> buf(block_size);

   for(;;) {
      size_t n = co_await async_read_some(s, buffer(buf.data(), block_size));
      n = co_await async_write(s, buffer(buf.data(), n));
   }
}
```

Orchestrator

```
void MultiLookup(std::vector<int> const& v,
                 std::vector<int> const& lookups, int concurrency)
  size_t found_count = 0;
  size_t not_found_count = 0;
  throttler t(concurrency);
  for (auto key: lookups)
    t.spawn(BinarySearch(v.begin(), v.end(), key,
                         [&](auto) { ++found_count; },
                         [&](auto) { ++not_found_count; }));
  t.join();
```

Suspend while prefetching (1/3)

```
template <typename T>
auto prefetch(T &value) {
   return prefetch_Awaitable<T>{value};
}
```



co_await prefetch(*middle);

co_await <expr>

Expands into an expression equivalent of

```
auto && tmp = <expr>;
if (! tmp.await_ready()) {
  tmp.await_suspend(<coroutine-handle>);
                                               suspend
                                               resume
return tmp.await_resume();
```

Suspend while prefetching (2/3)

```
template <typename T> struct prefetch_Awaitable {
   T& value;
   prefetch_Awaitable(T& value) : value(value) {}
   bool await_ready() { return false; }
   auto await_suspend(coroutine_handle<> h) {
     mm prefetch(static_cast<char const *>(std::addressof(value)),
                  _MM_HINT_NTA);
     scheduler.push back(h);
   T& await_resume() { return value; }
};
```

Suspend while prefetching (3/3)

```
template <typename T> struct prefetch_Awaitable {
   T& value;
   prefetch_Awaitable(T& value) : value(value) {}
   bool await_ready() { return false; }
   auto await_suspend(coroutine_handle<> h) {
     mm prefetch(static_cast<char const *>(std::addressof(value)),
                  _MM_HINT_NTA);
     scheduler.push back(h);
     return scheduler.pop_front();
   T& await_resume() { return value; }
};
```

Just a queue

```
template <size_t N> struct scheduler_queue {
  size t head = 0;
  size t tail = 0;
  coroutine handle<> arr[N];
 void push_back(coro_handle h) {
    arr[head] = h;
    head = (head + 1) \% N;
  auto pop_front() {
    auto result = arr[tail];
    tail = (tail + 1) \% N;
    return result;
  auto try_pop_front() { return head != tail ? pop_front() : coroutine_handle<>{}; }
 void run() { while (auto h = try_pop_front()) h.resume(); }
};
```

Orchestrator

```
void MultiLookup(std::vector<int> const& v,
                 std::vector<int> const& lookups, int concurrency)
  size_t found_count = 0;
  size_t not_found_count = 0;
  throttler t(concurrency);
  for (auto key: lookups)
    t.spawn(BinarySearch(v.begin(), v.end(), key,
                         [&](auto) { ++found_count; },
                         [&](auto) { ++not_found_count; }));
  t.join();
```

```
template <typename Iterator, typename Value, typename Found, typename NotFound>
auto binary search(Iterator first, Iterator last, Value val,
                    Found on found, NotFound on not found) -> task<void> {
  auto len = last - first;
 while (len > 0) {
    auto half = len / 2;
    auto middle = first + half;
    auto middle key = co await prefetch(*middle);
    if (middle_key < val) {</pre>
     first = middle + 1;
      len = len - half - 1;
    } else
      len = half;
    if (middle key == val)
      co return on_found(val, middle);
 co_return on_not_found(val);
```

```
template <typename Iterator, typename Value, typename Found, typename NotFound>
auto binary search(Iterator first, Iterator last, Value val,
                    Found on found, NotFound on not found) -> root task {
  auto len = last - first;
 while (len > 0) {
    auto half = len / 2;
    auto middle = first + half;
    auto middle key = co await prefetch(*middle);
    if (middle_key < val) {</pre>
     first = middle + 1;
      len = len - half - 1;
    } else
      len = half;
    if (middle key == val)
      co return on_found(val, middle);
 co_return on_not_found(val);
```

Throttler

```
struct throttler {
  size_t limit;
  explicit throttler(size_t limit) : limit(limit) {}
 void spawn(root_task t) {
   if (limit == 0)
       scheduler.pop_front().resume();
   auto h = t.set_owner(this); // tell the task we own it
   scheduler.push_back(h);
    --limit;
 void on_task_done() { ++limit; } // called when root_task completes
 void join() { scheduler.run(); }
 ~throttler() { join(); }
};
```

Tweaks to root task

```
struct root_task {
   struct promise_type {
      throttler *owner = nullptr;
      suspend_never final_suspend() { owner->on_task_done(); return {}; }
   };
  auto set owner(throttler *owner) {
    auto result = h;
    h.promise().owner = owner;
    h = nullptr;
    return result;
  ~root_task() { if (h) h.destroy(); }
private:
  coroutine_handlecoroutine_type> h;
};
```

Using recycling allocator

```
struct root_task {
    struct promise_type {
        throttler *owner = nullptr;
        suspend_never final_suspend() { owner->on_task_done(); return {}; }
        ...
        void *operator new(size_t sz) { return recycle.alloc(sz); }
        void operator delete(void *p, size_t sz) { recycle.free(p, sz); }
    };
    ...
};
```

Array is bigger than L3

L3: 8M

Array: 256M

Naive

26 ns per lookup/log2(array-size) 60% L3 cache misses

0.21 instructions per cycle

Hand-crafted state machine Interleaving with 16 streams



10 ns per lookup/log2(array-size)
3.5% L3 cache misses

0.83 instructions per cycle

Coroutine based
Interleaving with 20 streams



7.56 ns per lookup/log2(array-size)2.56% L3 cache misses

1.46 instructions per cycle

3.7Ghz

0.27ns cycle

Latency ~

L1: 1.0 ns

L2: 3.5 ns

L3: 12 ns

RAM: 60 ns

L1d cache: 32K

L1i cache: 32K L2 cache: 256K

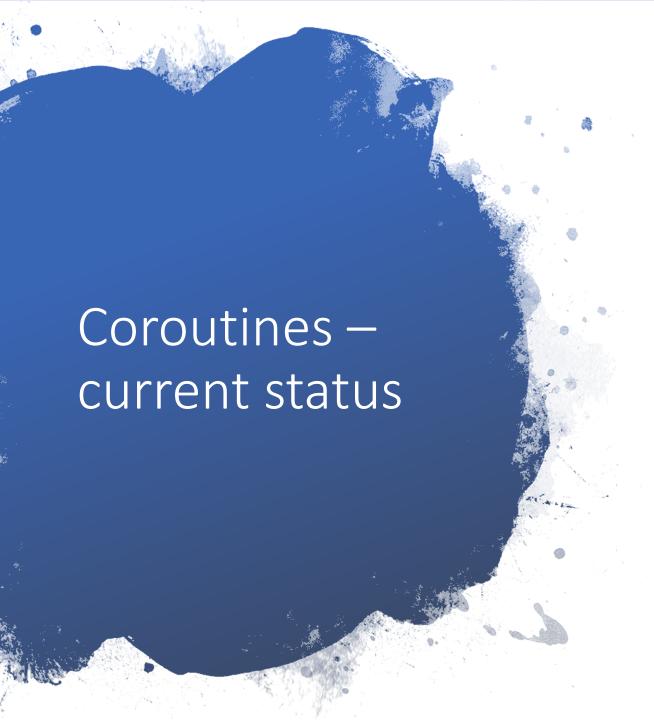
L3 cache: 8192K

Negative overhead abstraction, again??

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- Beats straightforward hand-crafted state machine
- Looks similar to naïve code
- Allows to use prefetching and instruction stream interleaving techniques for more complicated algorithms that is possible by hand



- Proposal is working through C++ standardization committee (C++20?)
- Implementation in
 - VS 2015+,
 - Clang 5.1+
- GCC Implementation is in progress
- No longer naked
 - task<T> type in standardization pipeline
 - generator<T> type proposal coming soon
 - sync_wait, when_all proposals coming soon

Other sessions

Monday, September 24th

- 14:00 15:00
 - **How to Write Well-Behaved Value Wrappers**
 - · by Simon Brand
- 15:15 16:15
 - **How C++ Debuggers Work**
 - · by Simon Brand

Tuesday, September 25th

- 14:00 15:00
 - What Could Possibly Go Wrong?: A Tale of Expectations and Exceptions
 - by Simon Brand and Phil Nash
- 15:15 15:45

Overloading: The Bane of All Higher-Order Functions

• by Simon Brand

Wednesday, September 26th

- 12:30 13:30
 - C++ Community Building Birds of a Feather
 - with Stephan T. Lavavej and others
- 14:00 15:00 Latest and Greatest in the Visual Studio Family for C++ Developers 2018
 - by Marian Luparu and Steve Carroll
- 15:15 15:45

Don't Package Your Libraries, Write Packagable Libraries!

Wednesday, September 26th

- 15:15 15:45
 - What's new in Visual Studio Code for C++ Development
 - · by Rong Lu
- 15:50 16:20

Value Semantics: Fast, Safe, and Correct by Default

- by Nicole Mazzuca
- 16:45 17:45

Memory Latency Troubles You? Nano-coroutines to the Rescue! (Using Coroutines TS, of Course)

- by Gor Nishanov
- 18:45 20:00

Cross-Platform C++ Development is Challenging – let Tools Help!

• by Marc Goodner and Will Buik

Thursday, September 27th

- 9:00 10:00
 - Inside Visual C++'s Parallel Algorithms
 - · by Billy O'Neal
- 15:15 15:45

ConcurrencyCheck – Static Analyzer for Concurrency Issues in Modern C++

- by Anna Gringauze
- 16:45 17:45

Class Template Argument Deduction for Everyone

• by Stephan T. Lavavej

Questions?



Backup

Orchestrator (no root_task)

```
template <typename F>
void spawn(F f) {
  spawn([](F f)->root_task { co_await f(); }(f) );
}
```