# Parallelism (PAR) Short tutorial on OpenMP 4.5

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# Part I

# OpenMP Basics



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### Outline

- OpenMP overview
- OpenMP model
- Creating threads and accessing data
- Some API calls
- Thread synchronization
- Memory consistency



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### Outline

- OpenMP overview
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# What is OpenMP?

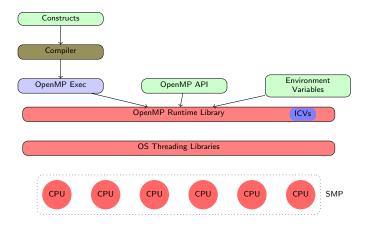
- ▶ It's an API extension to the C, C++ and Fortran languages to write parallel programs for shared memory machines
  - Current version is 4.5 (November 2015)
  - Supported by most compiler vendors and implementors
    - ▶ Intel, IBM, PGI, GCC, LLVM, ...
- Maintained by the Architecture Review Board (ARB), a consortium of industry and academia
- ► This mini-tutorial just covers part of the specification, for the complete reference please consult the documentation online

http://www.openmp.org



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# OpenMP components





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# OpenMP components

#### Constructs

These form the major elements of OpenMP programming

- Create threads and tasks
- Share the work amongst threads and accelerators (not covered in this mini-tutorial)
- Synchronize threads and memory, and wait for termination of tasks

### Library routines

To control and query the parallel execution environment (internal control variables - ICVs)

#### Environment variables

The execution environment can also be set before the program execution is started



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# OpenMP directives syntax

Through a compiler directive:

```
#pragma omp construct [clauses]
```

 OpenMP syntax is ignored if the compiler does not have the appropriate compilation flag activated

#### Structured block

Most directives apply to:

- A block of one or more statements
- One entry point, one exit point (no branching in or out allowed)



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# Headers/Macros

```
C/C++ only
```

- omp.h contains the API prototypes and data types definitions
- ► The \_OPENMP is defined by OpenMP enabled compiler
  - Allows conditional compilation of OpenMP

```
\label{eq:printff} \begin{tabular}{ll} \#ifdef $\_OPENMP$ \\ printff("Parallel_uexecution_uwith_u%d_uthreads\n", \\ omp_get_num_threads()); \\ \#endif \end{tabular}
```



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### Outline

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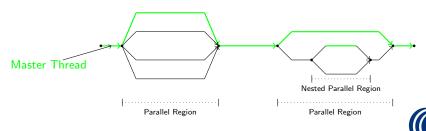


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### Execution model

## Fork-join model

- ► OpenMP uses a fork-join model
  - ► The master thread spawns a team of threads that joins at the end of the parallel region
  - ▶ Threads in the same team can collaborate to do work



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# Memory model

- OpenMP defines a relaxed memory model
  - ▶ Threads can see different values for the same variable
  - ▶ Memory consistency is only guaranteed at specific points
  - Luckily, the default points are usually enough
    - ▶ If not ... there is a mechanism to guarantee it! (described at the end of Part I)
- Variables can be shared or private to each thread



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### Outline

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# The parallel construct

#### Directive

```
#pragma omp parallel [clauses]
    structured block
```

where some of the clauses are:

- ▶ num\_threads(expression)
- ▶ if (expression)
- ► shared(var-list)← Coming shortly!
- ▶ private(*var-list*)←

Colling shortly:

- ▶ firstprivate(var-list)←
- ► reduction(operator:var-list) ← We'll see it later



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# The parallel construct

### Specifying the number of threads

- ► The nthreads-var ICV is used to determine the number of threads to be used for encountered parallel regions
  - ▶ It is a list of positive integer values, its first element specifying the number of processors for the next nesting level
  - ► When a parallel construct is encountered, and the generating task's nthreads-var list contains multiple elements, the generated task(s) inherit the value of nthreads-var as the list obtained by deletion of the first element
  - ▶ If the generating task's nthreads-var list contains a single element, the generated task(s) inherit that list as the value of nthreads-var

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# The parallel construct

### Specifying the number of threads

- ► The nthreads-var list can be defined from the execution command line by setting the OMP\_NUM\_THREADS environment variable
  - ► Example: setenv OMP\_NUM\_THREADS 4,3,2
- ▶ After that, the threads-var list can be modified through:
  - ▶ the omp\_set\_num\_threads API, which sets the value of the first element of the current list
  - ▶ the num\_threads clause, which causes the implementation to ignore the ICV and use the value of the clause for that region.



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### The if clause

### Avoiding parallel regions

- Sometimes we only want to run in parallel under certain conditions
  - ► E.g., enough input data, not running already in parallel, ...
- ► The if clause allows to specify an *expression*. When evaluates to false the parallel construct will only use 1 thread
  - Note that still creates a new team and data environment



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# The parallel construct

```
void main () {
    #pragma omp parallel
    ...
    omp_set_num_threads(2);
    #pragma omp parallel
    ...
    #pragma omp parallel num_threads(random()%4+1) if(0)
    ...
}
```

How many threads are used in each parallel region above?



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#### Shared

When a variable is marked as shared, the variable inside the construct is the same as the one outside the construct

- In a parallel construct this means all threads see the same variable
  - but not necessarily the same value
- Usually need some kind of synchronization to update them correctly
  - OpenMP has consistency points at synchronizations
- ▶ By default, variables are implicitly shared



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#### Private

When a variable is marked as private, the variable inside the construct is a new variable of the same type with an undefined value

- ► In a parallel construct this means all threads have a different variable
- Can be accessed without any kind of synchronization



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### Firstprivate

When a variable is marked as firstprivate, the variable inside the construct is a new variable of the same type but it is initialized to the original variable value

- ► In a parallel construct this means all threads have a different variable with the same initial value
- Can be accessed without any kind of synchronization



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```
int x=1;
#pragma omp parallel XXXXXX num_threads(2)
{
    x++;
    printf("%d\n",x);
}
printf("%d\n",x);
What does appear on the screen if XXXXXX is shared(x),
private(x) or firstprivate(x)?
```



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# Example: computation of PI

```
static long num_steps = 100000;
double step;
void main ()
   int i:
   double x, pi, sum = 0.0;
   step = 1.0/(double) num_steps;
   for (i=1; i \le num\_steps; i++){
      x = (i - 0.5) * step;
      sum = sum + 4.0/(1.0+x*x);
   pi = step * sum;
```



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# Example: computation of PI (not equivalent to sequential!)

```
static long num_steps = 100000;
double step:
#include <omp.h>
#define NUM_THREADS 2
void main ()
   int i. id:
   double \times, pi, sum = 0.0;
   step = 1.0/(double) num_steps;
   omp_set_num_threads(NUM_THREADS);
   #pragma omp parallel private(x, i)
   for (i=1; i \le num\_steps; i++){
      x = (i - 0.5) * step;
      sum = sum + 4.0/(1.0+x*x);
   pi = sum * step;
```



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### Some useful routines

int omp\_get\_num\_threads()

int omp\_get\_thread\_num()

void omp\_set\_num\_threads()

 $int omp\_get\_max\_threads()$ 

double omp\_get\_wtime()

Returns the number of threads in the current team. 1 if outside a parallel region

Returns the id of the thread in the current team. id between 0 and omp\_get\_num\_threads()-1

Sets the number of threads to be used in parallel regions at the next nesting level

Returns the number of threads that could be used in parallel regions at the next nesting level

Returns the number of seconds since an arbitrary point in the past

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# Example: computation of PI (data race!)

```
static long num_steps = 100000;
double step;
#include <omp.h>
#define NUM_THREADS 2
void main ()
   int i, id;
   double \times, pi, sum=0.0;
   step = 1.0/(double) num_steps;
   omp_set_num_threads(NUM_THREADS);
   #pragma omp parallel private(x, i, id)
      id = omp_get_thread_num();
      for (i=id+1; i \le num\_steps; i=i+NUM\_THREADS) {
         x = (i - 0.5) * step;
         sum = sum + 4.0/(1.0+x*x);
   pi = sum * step;
```



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# Example: computation of PI (measuring execution time)

```
static long num_steps = 100000;
double step;
#include <omp.h>
#define NUM_THREADS 2
void main ()
   int i, id;
   double \times, pi, sum=0.0;
   double TimeStart, TimeEnd;
   TimeStart = omp_get_wtime();
   step = 1.0/(double) num_steps;
   omp_set_num_threads(NUM_THREADS);
   #pragma omp parallel private(x, i, id)
   pi = sum * step;
   TimeEnd = omp_get_wtime();
   printf("Wall_clock_time_=_%.20f\n", TimeEnd-TimeStart);
```

BSC

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### Outline

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# Why synchronization?

#### OpenMP is a shared memory model

- ▶ Threads communicate by sharing variables
- Unintended sharing of data causes race conditions (i.e. the execution outcome may change as the threads are scheduled differently)
- Threads need to synchronize to impose some ordering in their sequence of actions

### Some OpenMP synchronization mechanisms:

- ▶ barrier
- ▶ critical
- ▶ atomic
- ▶ Use of locks through API



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### Thread Barrier

#### The barrier construct

## #pragma omp barrier

- Threads cannot proceed past a barrier point until all threads reach the barrier AND all previously generated work is completed
- ▶ Some constructs have an implicit barrier at the end
  - ► E.g., the parallel construct



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### **Barrier**

### Example



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### Exclusive access: critical construct

```
#pragma omp critical [(name)]
    structured block
```

- Provides a region of mutual exclusion where only one thread can be working at any given time
- ▶ By default all critical regions are the same
- Multiple mutual exclusion regions by providing them with a name
  - Only those with the same name synchronize



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# Example: computation of PI

```
void main ()
   int i. id:
   double \times, pi, sum=0.0;
   step = 1.0/(double) num_steps;
   omp_set_num_threads(NUM_THREADS);
   #pragma omp parallel private(x, i, id)
      id = omp_get_thread_num();
      for (i=id+1; i \le num\_steps; i=i+NUM\_THREADS) {
         x = (i - 0.5) * step;
         #pragma omp critical
         sum = sum + 4.0/(1.0+x*x);
   pi = sum * step:
```



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## Critical construct



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### Exclusive access: atomic construct

```
#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
- Other clauses and forms for atomic are allowed in the specification



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# First example: computation of PI

```
void main ()
   int i. id:
   double \times, pi, sum=0.0;
   step = 1.0/(double) num_steps;
   omp_set_num_threads(NUM_THREADS);
   #pragma omp parallel private(x, i, id)
      id = omp_get_thread_num();
      for (i=id+1; i \le num\_steps; i=i+NUM\_THREADS) {
         x = (i - 0.5) * step;
         #pragma omp atomic
         sum = sum + 4.0/(1.0+x*x);
   pi = sum * step:
```



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#### The reduction clause

Reduction is a very common pattern where all threads accumulate values into a single variable

```
reduction(operator:list)
```

- ▶ Valid operators are:  $+,-,*,|,||,\&,\&\&,^n,min, max$
- ► The compiler creates a private copy of each variable in list that is properly initialized to the identity value
- At the end of the region, the compiler ensures that the shared variable is properly (and safely) updated with the partial values of each thread, using the specified operator



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# First example: computation of PI

```
void main ()
   int i. id:
   double x, pi, sum;
   step = 1.0/(double) num_steps;
   omp_set_num_threads(NUM_THREADS);
   #pragma omp parallel private(x, i, id) reduction(+:sum)
      id = omp_get_thread_num();
      for (i=id+1; i \le num\_steps; i=i+NUM\_THREADS) {
         x = (i - 0.5) * step;
         sum = sum + 4.0/(1.0+x*x);
   pi = sum * step;
```



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#### Locks

OpenMP provides lock primitives for low-level synchronization

omp\_init\_lock Initialize the lock omp\_set\_lock Acquires the lock omp\_unset\_lock Releases the lock

omp\_test\_lock Tries to acquire the lock (won't block)

omp\_destroy\_lock Frees lock resources



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#### Locks

## Example



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OpenMP overview OpenMP model Creating threads and accessing data Some API calls Thread synchronization Memory consist

## Outline

- OpenMP overview
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- Memory consistency



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#### The flush construct

#### Relaxed consistency memory model

- ► A thread's temporary view of memory is not required to be consistent with memory at all times
- ► A value written to a variable can remain in the thread's temporary view until it is forced to memory at a later time
- ► Likewise, a read from a variable may retrieve the value from the thread's temporary view, unless it is forced to read from memory



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## The flush construct

```
#pragma omp flush (list)
```

- It enforces consistency between the temporary view and memory for those variables in list
- Synchronization (implicit or explicit) constructs have an associated flush operation



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# Part II

# Loop Parallelism in OpenMP



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#### Outline

• The worksharing concept

Loop worksharing

• The single construct



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#### Outline

• The worksharing concept

Loop worksharing

• The single construct



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## The worksharing concept

Worksharing constructs divide the execution of a code region among the members of a team

- ► Threads cooperate to do some work
- ▶ Better way to split work than using thread-ids
- Lower overhead than using tasks (next section)
  - ▶ But, less flexible

In OpenMP, there are four worksharing constructs:

- ▶ loop worksharing
- ► single ← We'll see it later
- sections
- ► workshare ← Not used much ... we'll skip them



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#### Outline

• The worksharing concept

Loop worksharing

• The single construct



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## Loop parallelism

#### The for construct

```
#pragma omp for [clauses]
   for( init-expr ; test-expr ; inc-expr )
```

#### where some possible clauses are:

- ► private
- ► firstprivate
- reduction
- ▶ schedule(schedule-kind)
- ▶ nowait
- ► collapse(n)
- ▶ ordered(n)



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## The for construct

The iterations of the loop(s) associated to the construct are divided among the threads of the team.

- Loop iterations must be independent
- Loops must follow a form that allows to compute the number of iterations
- ► Valid data types for inductions variables are: integer types, pointers and random access iterators (in C++)
  - ► The induction variable(s) are automatically privatized
- ► The default data-sharing attribute is shared

It can be merged with the parallel construct:

```
#pragma omp parallel for
```



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## First example: computation of PI

```
#include <omp.h>
static long num_steps = 100000;
double step:
#define NUM_THREADS 2
void main ()
   int i, id;
   double x, pi, sum;
   step = 1.0/(double) num_steps;
   omp_set_num_threads(NUM_THREADS);
   #pragma omp parallel for private(x) reduction(+:sum)
   for (i=1; i \le num\_steps; i++) {
         x = (i - 0.5) * step;
         sum = sum + 4.0/(1.0+x*x);
   pi = sum * step;
```



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#### The schedule clause

The schedule clause determines which iterations are executed by each thread.

If no schedule clause is present then is implementation defined

There are several possible options as schedule:

- ▶ static[,chunk]
- ▶ dynamic[,chunk]
- ▶ guided[,chunk]



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#### The schedule clause

#### static

The iteration space is broken in chunks of approximately size  $N/num_threads$ . Then these chunks are assigned to the threads in a Round-Robin fashion

#### static, N (also called interleaved)

The iteration space is broken in chunks of size N. Then these chunks are assigned to the threads in a Round-Robin fashion.

#### Characteristics of static schedules

- Low overhead
- Good locality (usually)
- Can have load imbalance problems



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#### The schedule clause

#### dynamic, N

Threads dynamically grab chunks of N iterations until all iterations have been executed. If no chunk is specified, N=1.

#### guided, N

Variant of dynamic. The size of the chunks decreases as the threads grab iterations, but it is at least of size N. If no chunk is specified, N=1.

#### Characteristics of dynamic schedules

- Higher overhead
- Not very good locality (usually)
- ► Can solve imbalance problems



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#### The nowait clause

When a worksharing has a nowait clause then the implicit barrier at the end of the loop is removed.

This allows to overlap the execution of non-dependent loops/tasks/worksharings

```
#pragma omp for nowait
for ( i = 0; i < n ; i++ )
v[i] = 0;
#pragma omp for
for ( i = 0; i < n ; i++ )
a[i] = 0;</pre>
First and second loop are independent so we can overlap them
```



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#### The nowait clause

Useful to overlap the execution of two (or more) consecutive loops if they have the same static schedule and all have the same number of iterations.

```
#pragma omp for schedule(static,2) nowait
for ( i = 0; i < n ; i++ )
   v[i] = 0;
#pragma omp for schedule(static,2)
for ( i = 0; i < n ; i++ )
   a[i] = v[i]*v[i];</pre>
```



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## The collapse clause

Allows to distribute work from a set of n nested loops.

- Loops must be perfectly nested
- ▶ The nest must traverse a rectangular iteration space

```
#pragma omp for collapse(2)
for ( i = 0; i < N; i++ )
for ( j = 0; j < M; j++ )
foo (i,j);</pre>
i and j loops are folded and iterations distributed among all threads.
Both i and j are privatized
```



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#### The ordered clause and construct

The ordered clause in for work–sharing and ordered construct allow to specify sequential ordering in the execution of a block of statements in a set of n nested loops.

```
\label{eq:pragma_sum} \begin{tabular}{ll} \begin{tabular}{ll} \#pragma & omp & for ordered \\ for ( i = 1; i < N; i++) & \{ & & \\ foo (i); & & \\ \#pragma & omp & ordered \\ printf("Iteration_\%d_\alpha already_\uperboxevecuted_\updragma by_\uperbox\%d_\n", & \\ & & i, & omp_get_thread_num()); & \\ // & end & ordered \\ \end{tabular}
```

- ► All instances of foo can go in parallel, but messages will be printed in order
- The nest must traverse a rectangular iteration space, could b combined with collapse

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## The doacross loop nest

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

```
#pragma omp for ordered(1)
for ( i = 1; i < N; i++ ) {
    A[i] = foo (i);
    #pragma omp ordered depend(sink: i-1)
    B[i] = goo( A[i], B[i-1] );
    #pragma omp ordered depend(source)
    C[i] = too( B[i] );
}</pre>
```



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## The doacross loop nest (cont.)

In previous slide an i-1 to i cross-iteration dependence is defined

- depend(sink:i-1) defines the wait point for the completion
  of computation in iteration i-1
- depend(source) indicates the completion of computation from the current iteration (i)

A more complex doacross pattern:

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

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#### Outline

• The worksharing concept

Loop worksharing

• The single construct



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# Giving work to just one thread

## The single construct

```
#pragma omp single [clauses]
    structured block
```

- where clauses can be:
  - ▶ private
  - ▶ firstprivate
  - ▶ nowait
- Only one thread of the team executes the structured block
- ► There is an implicit barrier at the end



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## Part III

Task Parallelism in OpenMP



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#### Outline

OpenMP tasks

• Task synchronization

Taskloop construct



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#### Outline

OpenMP tasks

• Task synchronization

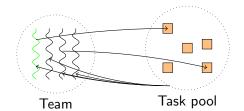
Taskloop construct



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## Task parallelism model

- ► Tasks are work units whose execution may be deferred
  - they can also be executed immediately
- ► Threads of the team cooperate to execute them





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## Creating tasks

#### Implicit and explicit tasks

- ► A parallel region creates tasks
  - One implicit task is created and assigned to each thread in the team of threads
- Each thread that encounters a task construct
  - Packages the code and data
  - Creates a new explicit task



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## Creating (explicit) tasks

#### The task construct

```
#pragma omp task [clauses]
    structured block
```

Where some possible clauses are:

- ▶ shared
- ▶ private
- ▶ firstprivate
  - Values are captured at creation time
- ▶ if(expression)
- ▶ final(expression)
- ► mergeable



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## Example: list traversal



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## Example: list traversal

#### Completing the picture

We need threads to execute the tasks ...

... but not that many! This will generate multiple traversals



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## Example: list traversal

```
Using single ...
```

One thread creates the tasks of the traversal. The rest (and this one once task generation is finished) cooperate to execute them



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# Default task data-sharing attributes

When no data clauses are specified, some rules apply:

- Global variables are shared
- Variables declared in the scope of a task are private
- ► The rest are firstprivate except when a shared attribute can be lexically inherited



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#### Task default data-sharing attributes

In practice...

```
int a;
void foo() {
    int b,c;
    #pragma omp parallel
        #pragma omp parallel private(b)
             int d;
             #pragma omp task
                 int e;
                 a = // shared
                 b = // firstprivate
                 c = // shared
                 d = // firstprivate
                 e = // private
}}}
```



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#### The if clause: immediate task execution

- ▶ If the expression of an if clause evaluates to false
  - ▶ The encountering task is suspended
  - ► The new task is executed immediately
    - with its own data environment
    - ▶ as a different task with respect to synchronization
  - ► The parent task resumes when the new task finishes
  - ► Allows implementations to optimize task creation



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# The final clause: immediate task execution (nested)

- ▶ If the expression of a final clause evaluates to true
  - ▶ The generated task and all of its child tasks will be final
  - ► The execution of a final task is sequentially **included** in the generating task (executed immediately)
- When a mergeable clause is present on a task construct, and the generated task is an included task, the implementation may generate a merged task instead (i.e. no task and context creation for it).



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## Final and mergeable tasks (data race!)

```
int fib(int n) {
  int i, j;

if (n<2)
    return n;
#pragma omp task shared(i) final(n <= THOLD) mergeable
  i=fib(n-1);
#pragma omp task shared(j) final(n <= THOLD) mergeable
  j=fib(n-2);
  ....
  return i+j;
}</pre>
```



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#### Outline

OpenMP tasks

• Task synchronization

Taskloop construct



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#### Task synchronization

There are two types of 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



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#### **Taskwait**

```
#pragma omp taskwait
```



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#### Taskwait for correct Fibonacci parallelization

```
int fib(int n) {
  int i, j;

if (n<2)
    return n;
#pragma omp task shared(i) final(n <= THOLD) mergeable
  i=fib(n-1);
#pragma omp task shared(j) final(n <= THOLD) mergeable
  j=fib(n-2);

#pragma omp taskwait
  return i+j;
}</pre>
```



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## **Taskgroup**

```
#pragma omp taskgroup structured block
```



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# Data sharing inside tasks

In addition one can use critical and atomic to synchronize the access to shared data inside the task

```
void process (Element e)
{
    ...
    #pragma omp atomic
    solutions_found++;
    ...
}
```



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#### Task dependences

Definition of dependences between sibling tasks (i.e. from the same father)

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



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#### 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.



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#### Task dependences

#### Example: wave-front execution



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#### Outline

OpenMP tasks

Task synchronization

Taskloop construct



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## Creating (explicit) tasks from loop iterations

#### The taskloop construct

```
#pragma omp taskloop [clauses]
    for( init-expr ; test-expr ; inc-expr )
```

specifies that the iterations of one or more associated loops will be executed in parallel using OpenMP tasks. Implicit taskgroup synchronization associated with taskloop

Some clauses are used to specify data sharing attributes:

- ▶ shared(list)
- ▶ private(list)
- ► firstprivate(list)



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## Creating (explicit) tasks from loop iterations

Other clauses to control task generation:

- ▶ grainsize(n)
- ▶ num\_tasks(n)
- ► collapse(n)
- ▶ if (expression)
- ▶ final(expression)
- ▶ mergeable

Or to override the implicit taskgroup associated with the taskloop construct:

► nogroup



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#### Taskloop example

```
Granularity: BS iterations per task
void vector_add(int *A, int *B, int *C, int n) {
   #pragma omp taskloop grainsize(BS)
   for (int i=0; i < n; i++)
       \hat{C}[i] = A[i] + B[i];
void main() {
   #pragma omp parallel
   #pragma omp single
   ... vector_add(a, b, c, N); ...
or alternatively
#pragma omp taskloop num_tasks(n/BS)
```



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# Parallelism (PAR) Short tutorial on OpenMP 4.5

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