

Synchronization

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Learning Outcomes

- ♦ Data Race, Mutual Exclusion, Deadlocks
- ♦ Atomics, Locks, Barriers
- ♦ Reduction
- ♦ Prefix Sum
- ♦ Concurrent List Insertion
- ♦ CPU-GPU Synchronization

Data Race

- A data race occurs if **all** of the following hold:
 1. Multiple threads
 2. Common memory location
 3. At least one write *RW, WR, WW*
 4. Concurrent execution
- Ways to remove data race:
 1. Execute sequentially
 2. Privatization / Data replication
 3. Separating reads and writes by a barrier
 4. Mutual exclusion

does not guarantee if outputs

Classwork

If initially flag == 0, then S2 executes before S1.
If initially flag == 1, then S2 executes and after that S1 may execute or T1 may hang.

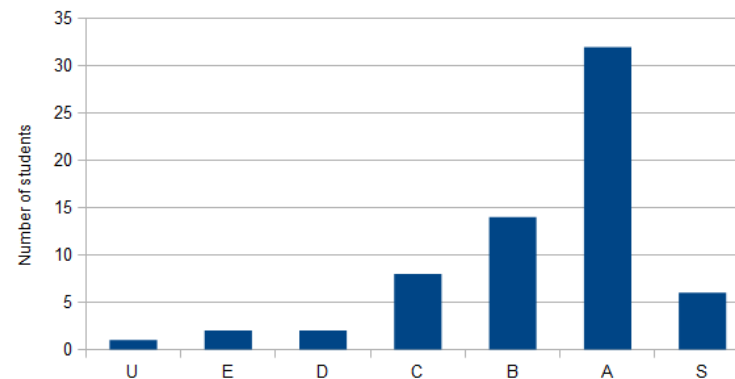
- Is there a data race in this code?
- What does the code ensure?
- Can mutual exclusion be generalized for N threads?

T1	T2
<pre>flag = 1; while (flag) ; S1;</pre>	<pre>while (!flag) ; S2; flag = 0;</pre>

volatile:
caching

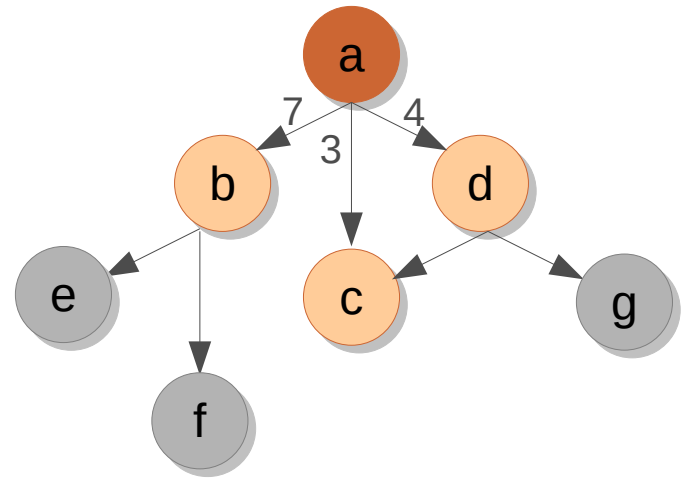
Classwork: Grading

- Given roll numbers and marks of 80 students in GPU Programming, assign grades.
 - S = 90, A = 80, B = 70, ..., E = 40, and U.
 - No W grades (for this classwork).
 - Use input arrays and output arrays.
- Compute the histogram.
 - Count the number of students with a grade.



Let's Compute the Shortest Paths

- You are given an input graph of India, and you want to compute the shortest path from Nagpur to every other city.
- Assume that you are given a GPU graph library and the associated routines.



```
__global__ void dsssp(Graph g, unsigned *dist) {  
    unsigned id = ...  
    for each n in g.allneighbors(id) { // pseudo-code.  
        unsigned altdist = dist[id] + weight(id, n);  
        if (altdist < dist[n]) {  
            dist[n] = altdist;  
        }  
    }  
}
```

What is the error in this code?

Synchronization

- **Control + data flow**
- Atomics
- Barriers
- ...

Classwork: Implement mutual exclusion for two threads.

Classwork: Can we allow either **S1** or **S2** to happen first?

Initially, flag == false.

```
while (!flag) ;  
S1;
```

```
S2;  
flag = true;
```

Synchronization

- **Control + data flow**
- Atomics
- Barriers
- ...

Classwork: Implement mutual exclusion for two threads.

Classwork: Can we allow either **S1** or **S2** to happen first?

Initially, flag could be true or false.

```
while (!flag) ;  
S1;  
flag = false;
```

```
while (flag) ;  
S2;  
flag = true;
```

It helps to abstract this out into an API.

Assumptions:

- Reading of and writing to flag is atomic (seemingly one step).
- Both the threads execute their codes.
- flag is volatile.

Mutual Exclusion: 2 threads

- Let's implement **lock()** and **unlock()** methods.
- The methods should be the same for both the threads (can have threadid == 0, etc.).
- Should use only control + data flow.

Mutual Exclusion: 2 threads

v1

- Thread ids are 0 and 1.
- Primitive type assignments are atomic.

lock:

```
me = tid;
other = 1 - me;
flag[me] = true;
while (flag[other])
    ;
```

unlock():

```
flag[tid] = false;
```

- Mutual exclusion is guaranteed (if volatile).
- May lead to deadlock.
- If one thread runs before the other, all goes well.

Mutual Exclusion: 2 threads

v2

- Thread ids are 0 and 1.
- **victim** needs to be **volatile**.

```
volatile int victim;  
lock:  
    me = tid;  
    victim = me;  
    while (victim == me)  
        ;  
unlock():  
    victim = me;
```

- Mutual exclusion is guaranteed.
- May lead to starvation.
- If threads repeatedly take locks, all goes well.

Peterson's Lock

v3

```
volatile bool flag[2];  
volatile int victim;
```

lock:

```
    me = tid;  
    other = 1 - me;  
    flag[me] = true;  
    victim = me;  
    while (flag[other] &&  
           victim == me)  
        ;
```

```
unlock():  
    flag[tid] = false;
```

Initially false

*vic = 0
f₀ = true
v = 1
f₁ = true*

- Mutual exclusion is guaranteed.
- Does not lead to deadlock.
- The algorithm is starvation-free.
- **flag** indicates if a thread is interested.
- **victim** = me is *pehle aap*.

What about N threads?

Peterson's Lock

```
volatile bool flag[2];
volatile int victim;
lock:
    me = tid;
    other = 1 - me;
    flag[me] = true;
    victim = me;
    while (flag[other] &&
           victim == me)
        ;
unlock():
    flag[tid] = false;
```

```
flag[me] = true;
victim = me;
while (flag[other] &&
       victim == me)
```



```
victim = me;
flag[me] = true;
while (flag[other] &&
       victim == me)
```

```
victim = me;
flag[me] = true;
while (victim == me &&
       flag[other])
```

```
flag[me] = true;
victim = me;
while (victim == me &&
       flag[other])
```

Peterson's Lock

Time ↓	Thread 0	Thread 1
		victim = 1
	victim = 0	
	flag[0] = true	
	while (flag[1] ...	
	... enters CS	
		flag[1] = true
		while (flag[0] &&
		victim == 1)
		... enters CS

```
flag[me] = true;
victim = me;
while (flag[other] &&
      victim == me)
```



```
victim = me;
flag[me] = true;
while (flag[other] &&
      victim == me)
```



```
victim = me;
flag[me] = true;
while (victim == me &&
      flag[other])
```



```
flag[me] = true;
victim = me;
while (victim == me &&
      flag[other])
```



Bakery Algorithm

- Devised by Lamport
- Works with N threads.
- Maintains FCFS using ever-increasing numbers.

```
bool flag[N]; // false
```

```
int label[N]; // 0
```

lock:

```
me = tid;
```

```
flag[me] = true;
```

```
label[me] = 1 + max(label);
```

```
while ( $\exists k \neq me: \text{flag}[k] \ \&\&$ 
```

```
    ( $\text{label}[k], k) < (\text{label}[me], me)$ )
```

```
;
```

- The code works in absence of caches.
- In presence of caches, mutual exclusion is not guaranteed.
- There are variants to address the issue.

```
flag[tid] = false;
```

max is not atomic.

Bakery Algorithm: GPU?

- Across warps is similar to CPU.
- What happens within warp-threads?
- Threads get the same label, $<$ prioritizes.

```
bool flag[N]; // false
```

```
int label[N]; // 0
```

lock:

```
me = tid;
```

```
flag[me] = true;
```

```
label[me] = 1 + max(label);
```

```
while ( $\exists k \neq me: \text{flag}[k] \ \&\&$ 
```

```
    ( $\text{label}[k], k) < (\text{label}[me], me)$ )
```

```
;
```

unlock():

```
flag[tid] = false;
```

max is not atomic.

Bakery Algorithm: GPU?

- Across warps is similar to CPU.
- What happens within warp-threads?
- Threads get the same label, $<$ prioritizes.
- On GPUs, locks are usually prohibited.
- High spinning cost at large scale.
- But locks are feasible!
- Locks can also be implemented using atomics.

Synchronization

- Control + data flow
- **Atomics**
- Barriers
- ...

atomics

- Atomics are primitive operations whose effects are visible either none or fully (never partially).
- Need hardware support.
- Several variants: `atomicCAS`^{warp}, `atomicMin`, `atomicAdd`, ...
- Work with both global and shared memory.

boz of warp
execution.
atomics are used

Ponder:

atomics

o/p: 1

*if atom
then o/p: 2.*

```
__global__ void dkernel(int *x) {  
    ++x[0];  
}
```

...

```
dkernel<<<2, 1>>>(x);
```

After dkernel completes,
what is the value of x[0]?

1 or 2

**Classwork: What if the kernel
configuration is <<<1, 2>>>?**

++x[0] is equivalent
to:

Load x[0], R1
Increment R1
Store R1, x[0]

Time
↓

Load x[0], R1
Increment R1

Store R1, x[0]

Load x[0], R2
Increment R2
Store R2, x[0]

Final value stored in x[0] could be 1 (rather than 2).

What if x[0] is split into multiple instructions? What if there are more threads?

Atomics in ATMs

Twins at ATMs

Twin withdraws 1000 rupees.

System executes the steps:

- Check if balance is ≥ 1000 .
- If yes, reduce balance by 1000 and give cash to the user.
- Otherwise, issue error.

Twins may be able to
get 2000 rupees!
The balance can be negative!

Time
↓

Load x[0], R1

Increment R1

Store R1, x[0]

Load x[0], R2

Increment R2

Store R2, x[0]

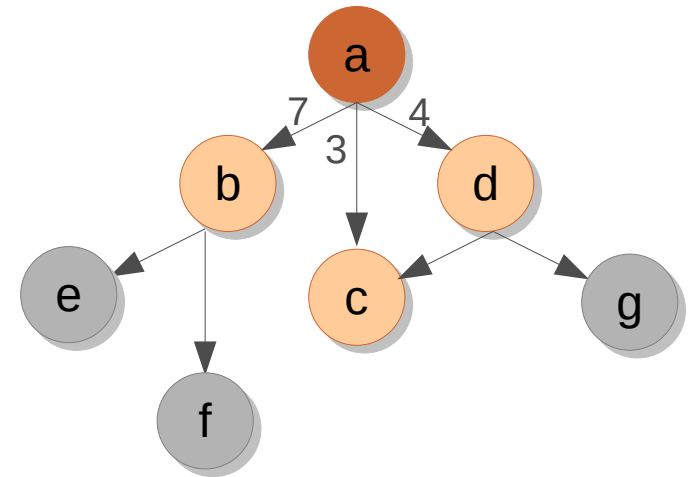
atomics

```
__global__ void dkernel(int *x) {  
    ++x[0];  
}  
...  
dkernel<<<2, 1>>>(x);
```

- Ensure all-or-none behavior.
 - e.g., `atomicInc(&x[0], ...);`
- `dkernel<<<K1, K2>>>` would ensure `x[0]` to be incremented by exactly `K2` – irrespective of the thread execution order.
 - When would this effect be visible?

Let's Compute the Shortest Paths

- You are given an input graph of India, and you want to compute the shortest path from Nagpur to every other city.
- Assume that you are given a GPU graph library and the associated routines.



```
__global__ void dsssp(Graph g, unsigned *dist) {  
    unsigned id = ...  
    for each n in g.allneighbors(id) { // pseudo-code.  
        unsigned altdist = dist[id] + weight(id, n);  
        if (altdist < dist[n]) {  
            dist[n] = altdist; atomicMin(&dist[n], altdist);  
        }  
    }  
}
```

AtomicCAS

- Syntax: `oldval = atomicCAS(&var, x, y);`
- **Typical usecases:**
 - *Locks*: critical section processing
 - *Single*: Only one arbitrary thread executes the block.
 - Other atomic *variants*

Classwork: Implement *lock* with *atomicCAS*.

Lock using atomicCAS

Does this work?

```
atomicCAS(&lockvar, 0, 1);
```

Does not ensure mutual exclusion.

Then how about

```
if (atomicCAS(&lockvar, 0, 1) == 0)  
    // critical section
```

Does not block other threads.

Make the above code blocking.

```
do {  
    old = atomicCAS(&lockvar, 0, 1);  
} while (old != 0);
```

Correct code?

Lock using atomicCAS

- The code works on CPU.
- It also works on GPU across warps.
- But it hangs for threads belonging to the same warp.
 - When one warp-thread acquires the lock, it waits for other warp-threads to reach the instruction just after the do-while.
 - Other warp-threads await this successful thread in the do-while.

```
do {  
    old = atomicCAS(&lockvar, 0, 1);  
} while (old != 0);
```

Correct code?

Lock using atomicCAS

```
do {  
    old = atomicCAS(&lockvar, 0, 1);  
} while (old != 0);  
  
// critical section  
  
lockvar = 0;    // unlock
```

On CPU

```
do {  
    old = atomicCAS(&lockvar, 0, 1);  
    if (old == 0) {  
        // critical section  
        lockvar = 0;    // unlock  
    }  
} while (old != 0);
```

On GPU

Classwork: Implement *single* with *atomicCAS*.

Single using atomicCAS

```
if (atomicCAS(&lockvar, 0, 1) == 0)
```

```
    // single section
```

Important not to set lockvar to 0 at the end of the single section.

What is the output?

```
#include <stdio.h>
```

```
#include <cuda.h>
```

```
__global__ void k1(int *gg) {  
    int old = atomicCAS(gg, 0, threadIdx.x + 1);  
    if (old == 0) {  
        printf("Thread %d succeeded 1.\n", threadIdx.x);  
    }  
    old = atomicCAS(gg, 0, threadIdx.x + 1);  
    if (old == 0) {  
        printf("Thread %d succeeded 2.\n", threadIdx.x);  
    }  
    old = atomicCAS(gg, threadIdx.x, -1);  
    if (old == threadIdx.x) {  
        printf("Thread %d succeeded 3.\n", threadIdx.x);  
    }  
}  
  
int main() {  
    int *gg;  
    cudaMalloc(&gg, sizeof(int));  
    cudaMemset(&gg, 0, sizeof(int));  
    k1<<<2, 32>>>(gg);  
    cudaDeviceSynchronize();  
  
    return 0;  
}
```

- Some thread out of 64 updates gg to its threadid+1.
- Warp threads do not execute atomics together! That is also done sequentially.
- Irrespective of which thread executes the first atomicCAS, no thread would see gg to be 0. Hence second printf is not executed at all.
- If gg was updated by some thread 0..30, then the corresponding thread with id 1..31 from either of the blocks would update gg to -1, and execute the third printf.
- Otherwise, no one would update gg to -1, and no one would execute the third printf.
- On most executions, you would see the output to be that thread 0 would execute the first printf, and thread 1 would execute the third printf.

Classwork

- Each thread adds elements to a worklist.
 - e.g., next set of nodes to be processed in SSSP.
 - worklist is implemented as an array.
- Initially, assume that each thread adds exactly K elements.
- Later, relax the constraint.

atomic-worklist.cu

Convolution Filter

- Each output cell contains weighted sum of input data element and its neighbors. The weights are specified as a filter (array).
- The idea can be applied in multiple dimensions.
- We will work with 1D convolution and odd filter size.

convolution.cu

Implement convolution.

input	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
filter		3	4	5	4	3		
filter output		6	12	20	20	18		
output	1	2	3	76	5	6	7	8

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
		3	4	5	4	3	
		9	16	25	24	21	
22	38	57	76	95	114	106	86

Synchronization

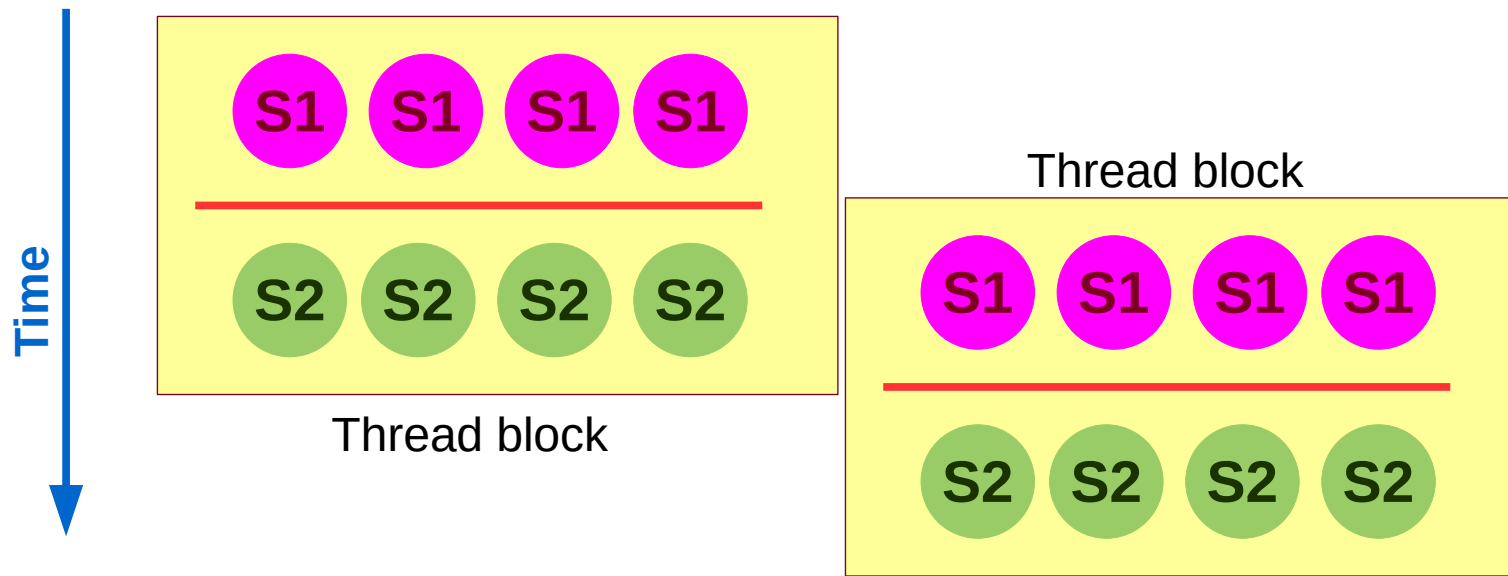
- Control + data flow
- Atomics
- Barriers
- ...

Barriers

- A barrier is a program point where all threads need to reach before any thread can proceed.
- End of kernel is an implicit barrier for all GPU threads (**global barrier**).
- ~~There is no explicit global barrier supported in CUDA.~~ **grid.sync()** is now supported (from CUDA 9).
- Threads in a thread-block can synchronize using **__syncthreads()**.
- How about barrier within warp-threads?

Barriers

```
__global__ void dkernel(unsigned *vector, unsigned vectorsize) {  
    unsigned id = blockIdx.x * blockDim.x + threadIdx.x;  
    vector[id] = id; S1  
    __syncthreads();  
    if (id < vectorsize - 1 && vector[id + 1] != id + 1) S2  
        printf("syncthreads does not work.\n");  
}
```



Barriers

- `__syncthreads()` is not only about control synchronization, it also has data synchronization mechanism.
- It performs a **memory fence** operation.
 - A memory fence ensures that the writes from a thread are made visible to other threads.
 - `__syncthreads()` executes a fence for all the block-threads.
- There is a separate `__threadfence_block()` instruction also. Then, there is `__threadfence()`.
- *[In general]* A fence does not ensure that other thread will read the updated value.
 - This can happen due to caching.
 - The other thread needs to use `volatile` data.
- *[In CUDA]* a fence applies to both read and write.

Classwork

- Write a CUDA kernel to find **maximum** over a set of elements, and then let thread 0 print the value in the same kernel.
- Each thread is given `work[id]` amount of work. Find average work per thread and if a thread's work is above $\text{average} + K$, push extra work to a worklist.
 - This is useful for **load-balancing**.
 - Also called **work-donation**.

Taxonomy of Synchronization Primitives

Primitive	Control-sync	Data-sync
<code>__syncthreads</code>	Block	Block
<code>atomic</code>	--	Block for shared All for global
<code>__threadfence_block</code>	--	block
<code>__threadfence</code>	--	All
Global barrier	All	All
while loop	Customizable	– (but not useful without data-synchronization)
<code>volatile</code>	--	All

Reductions

- Converting a set of values to few values (typically 1)
- Computation must be *reducible*.
 - Must satisfy **associativity** property $(a.(b.c) = (a.b).c)$.
 - Min, Max, Sum, XOR, ...
- Can be often implemented using atomics
 - `atomicAdd(&sum, a[i]);`
 - `atomicMin(&min, a[i]);`
 - But adds sequentiality.
- Reductions allow improving parallelism.
 - Different from reductions in OpenMP and MPI.

Reductions

- Converting a set of values to few values (typically 1)
- Computation must be *reducible*.
 - Must satisfy **associativity** property $(a.(b.c) = (a.b).c)$.
 - Min, Max, Sum, XOR, ...
- Complexity measures

<div>log(n) steps</div>	<div>Input:</div>	4	3	9	3	5	7	3	2	n numbers	
		<hr/>									
		7		12			12		5	barrier	
		<hr/>									
			19					17			
	<hr/>										
	<div>Output:</div>	<hr/>									
		<hr/>									
		36									
		<hr/>									

Classwork: Write the reduction code.

Reductions

```
for (int off = n/2; off; off /= 2) {
    if (threadIdx.x < off) {
        a[threadIdx.x] += a[threadIdx.x + off];
    }
    __syncthreads();
}
```

String concatenation
Matrix multiplication

log(n) steps	Input:	4	3	9	3	5	7	3	2	n numbers
		7		12			12		5	
				19					17	barrier
	Output:					36				

$(ABC) = A(BC)$

Reductions

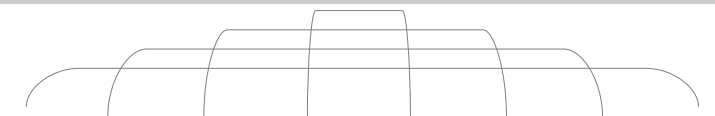
n must be a power of 2

```
for (int off = n/2; off; off /= 2) {  
    if (threadIdx.x < off) {  
        a[threadIdx.x] += a[threadIdx.x + off];  
    }  
    __syncthreads();  
}
```

log(n) steps	Input:	4	3	9	3	5	7	3	2	n numbers
		9	10	12	5	5	7	3	2	n/2 threads
		21	15	12	5	5	7	3	2	...
	Output:	36	17	12	5	5	7	3	2	1 thread

Reductions

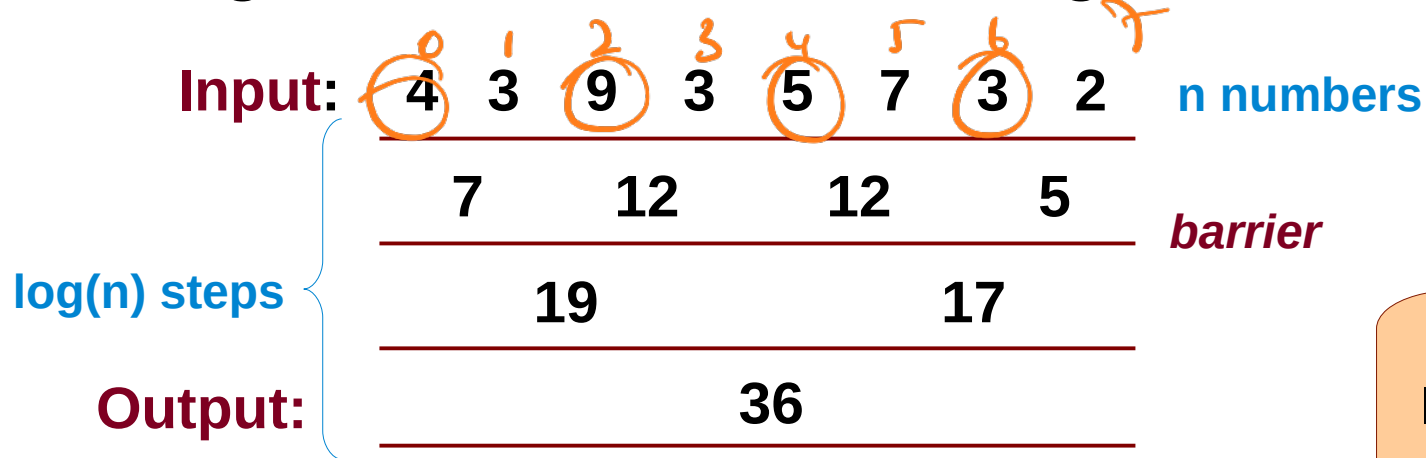
```
for (int off = n/2; off; off /= 2) {  
    if (threadIdx.x < off) {  
        a[threadIdx.x] += a[threadIdx.x + off];  
    }  
    __syncthreads();  
}
```

Write the reduction as: 
4 3 9 3 5 7 3 2

```
for (int off = n/2; off; off /= 2) {  
    if (threadIdx.x < off) {  
        a[threadIdx.x] += a[2 * off - threadIdx.x - 1];  
    }  
    __syncthreads();  
}
```

Reductions

- Let's go back to our first diagram.



Implement this.

- This can be implemented as



Reductions

- A challenge in the implementation is:
 - $a[1]$ is read by thread 0 and written by thread 1.
 - This is a data-race.
 - Can be resolved by separating R and W.
 - This requires another barrier and a temporary.

Homework: Try this out.

log(n) steps {	Input:	4	3	9	3	5	7	3	2	n numbers
		7	12	12	5	5	7	3	2	n/2 threads
		19	17	12	5	5	7	3	2	...
	Output:	36	17	12	5	5	7	3	2	1 thread

Classwork

- Assuming each $a[i]$ is a character, find a concatenated string using reduction.
- String concatenation cannot be done using $a[i]$ and $a[i + n/2]$, but computing sum was possible; why?
- What other operations can be cast as reductions?

Prefix Sum

- Imagine threads wanting to push work-items to a central worklist.
- Each thread pushes different number of work-items.
- This can be computed using atomics or prefix sum (also called as *scan*).

Input: 4 3 9 3 5 7 3 2

Output: 4 7 16 19 24 31 34 36

OR

Output: 0 4 7 16 19 24 31 34

Classwork: Write the prefix-sum code.

Prefix Sum

```
for (int off = n/2; off; off /= 2) {  
    if (threadIdx.x < off) {  
        a[threadIdx.x] += a[threadIdx.x + off];  
    }  
    __syncthreads();  
}
```



This is reduction.

Number of threads
should be initially O(n).

```
for (int off = n; off; off /= 2) {  
    if (threadIdx.x < off) {  
        a[threadIdx.x] += a[threadIdx.x + off];  
    }  
    __syncthreads();  
}
```



Array index
is incorrect.

Input: 4 3 9 3 5 7 3 2

Output: 4 7 16 19 24 31 34 36

OR

Output: 0 4 7 16 19 24 31 34

Prefix Sum

```
for (int off = n/2; off; off /= 2) {  
    if (threadIdx.x < off) {  
        a[threadIdx.x] += a[threadIdx.x + (n - off)];  
    }  
    __syncthreads();  
}
```

v3

Smaller indices are
written to
more frequently.

```
for (int off = 0; off < n; off *= 2) {  
    if (threadIdx.x > off) {  
        a[threadIdx.x] += a[threadIdx.x - off];  
    }  
    __syncthreads();  
}
```

v4

Infinite loop?

Input: 4 3 9 3 5 7 3 2

Output: 4 7 16 19 24 31 34 36

OR

Output: 0 4 7 16 19 24 31 34

Prefix Sum

x_0	x_1	x_2	x_3	x_4	x_5	x_6	x_7
-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------

$\Sigma(x_0 \dots x_0)$	$\Sigma(x_0 \dots x_1)$	$\Sigma(x_0 \dots x_2)$	$\Sigma(x_0 \dots x_3)$	$\Sigma(x_0 \dots x_4)$	$\Sigma(x_0 \dots x_5)$	$\Sigma(x_0 \dots x_6)$	$\Sigma(x_0 \dots x_7)$
-------------------------	-------------------------	-------------------------	-------------------------	-------------------------	-------------------------	-------------------------	-------------------------

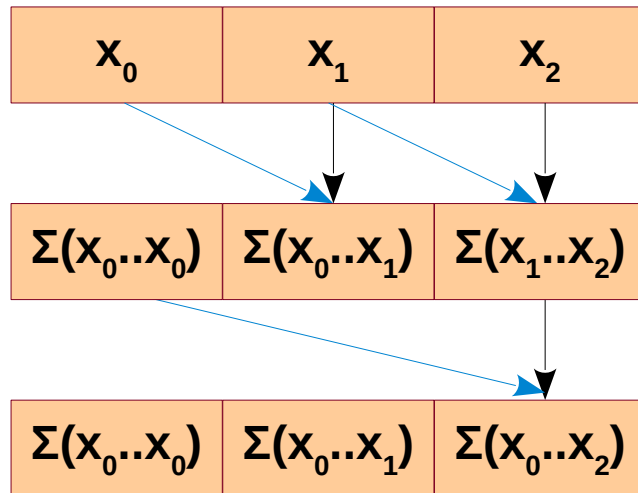
Input: 4 3 9 3 5 7 3 2

Output: 4 7 16 19 24 31 34 36

OR

Output: 0 4 7 16 19 24 31 34

Prefix Sum



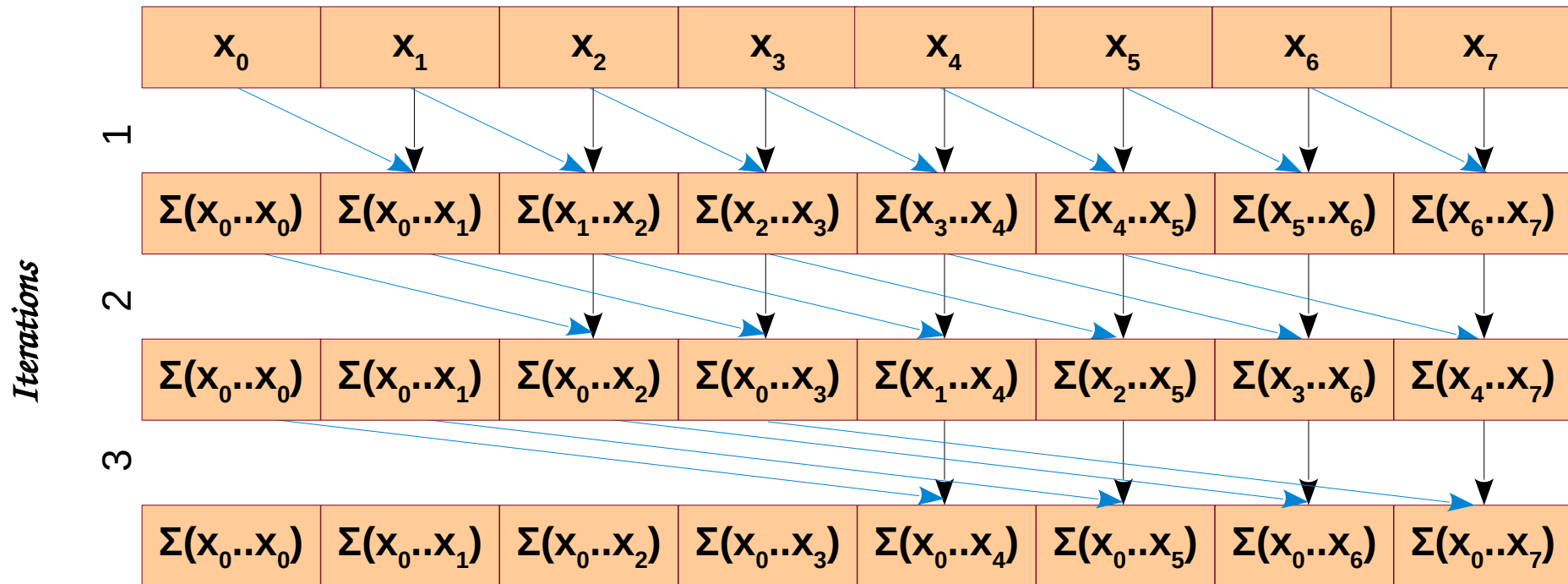
Input: 4 3 9 3 5 7 3 2

Output: 4 7 16 19 24 31 34 36

OR

Output: 0 4 7 16 19 24 31 34

Prefix Sum



Input: 4 3 9 3 5 7 3 2

Output: 4 7 16 19 24 31 34 36

OR

Output: 0 4 7 16 19 24 31 34

Prefix Sum

```
for (int off = 1; off < n; off *= 2) {  
    if (threadIdx.x > off) {  
        a[threadIdx.x] += a[threadIdx.x - off];  
    }  
    __syncthreads();  
}
```

Datarace

v5

```
for (int off = 1; off < n; off *= 2) {  
    if (threadIdx.x > off) {  
        tmp = a[threadIdx.x - off];  
        __syncthreads();  
        a[threadIdx.x] += tmp;  
    }  
    __syncthreads();  
}
```

Separating
R and W
in time

v6

Prefix Sum

```
for (int off = 1; off < n; off *= 2) {  
    if (threadIdx.x >= off) {  
        tmp = a[threadIdx.x - off];  
    }  
    __syncthreads();  
  
    if (threadIdx.x >= off) {  
        a[threadIdx.x] += tmp;  
    }  
    __syncthreads();  
}
```



Can this be done with single syncthreads()?

Prefix Sum with One Barrier

```
for (int off = 1; off < n; off *= 2) {  
    if (tid >= off) {  
        int val = tid % (2 * off);  
        if (val >= off)  
            a[tid] += a[tid - val + off - 1];  
    }  
    __syncthreads();  
}
```

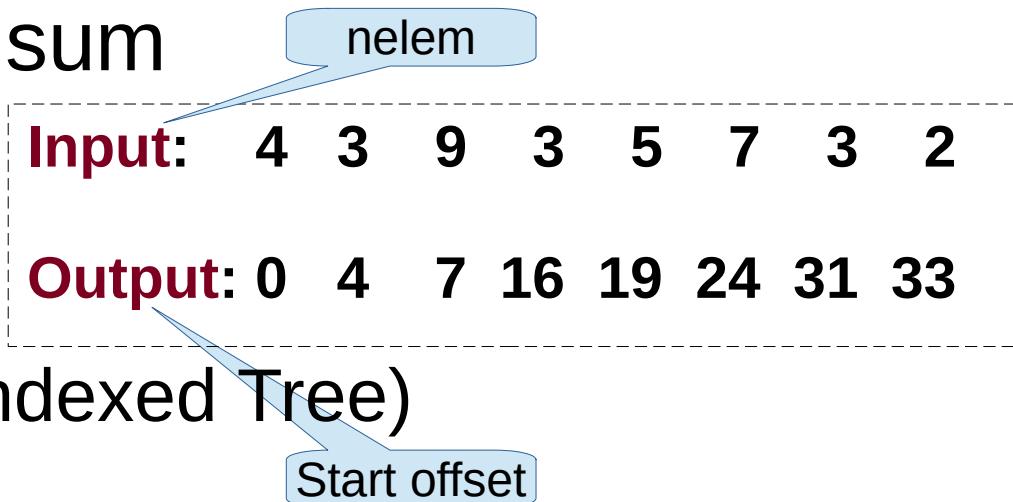
by Surya

```
__global__ void prefixSum(int *a){  
    int tid = threadIdx.x;    int tmpId = tid;    int idx = 0;  
    if (tid < N) {  
        for (int off = 1; off < N; off *= 2) {  
            int bit = tmpId & 1;  
            tmpId = tmpId >> 1;  
            if (bit){  
                int step = tid / off;  
                a[tid] += a[step * off + ((1<<idx) & (1<<idx + 1)) - 1];  
            }  
            idx += 1;  
            __syncthreads();  
        }  
    }  
}
```

by Prasanna

Application of Prefix Sum

- Assuming that you have the prefix sum kernel, insert elements into the worklist.
 - Each thread inserts `nelem[tid]` many elements.
 - The order of elements is not important.
 - You are forbidden to use atomics.
- Computing cumulative sum
 - Histogramming
 - Area under the curve
 - Fenwick Tree (Binary Indexed Tree)

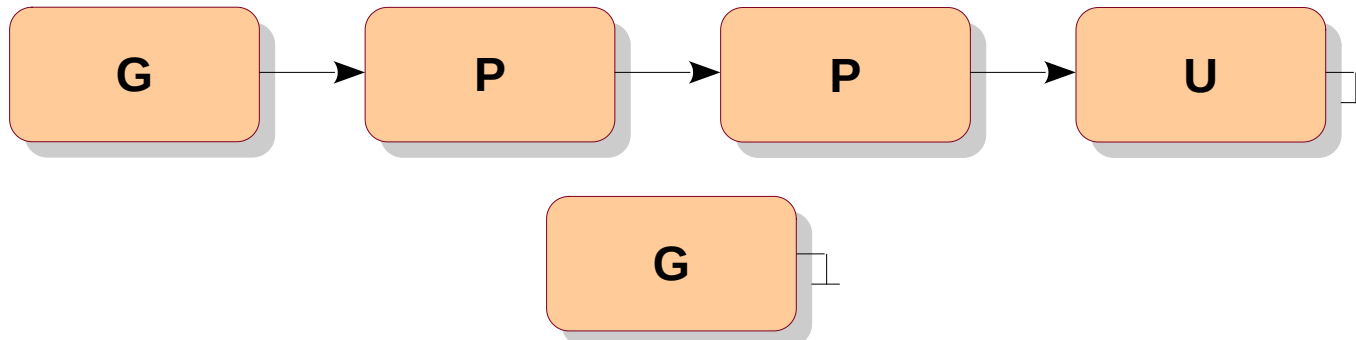


Global Barrier

- Barrier across all the GPU threads.
- Useful to store transient data, partial computations, shared memory usage, etc.
- Can be readily implemented using atomics.
- Can use hierarchical synchronization for efficiency.
 - `__syncthreads()` within each thread block.
 - Representative from each block then synchronizes using atomics.

Concurrent Data Structures

- Array
 - atomics for index update
 - prefix sum for coarse insertion
- Singly linked list
 - insertion
 - deletion [marking, actual removal]



Concurrent Data Structures

Type definition

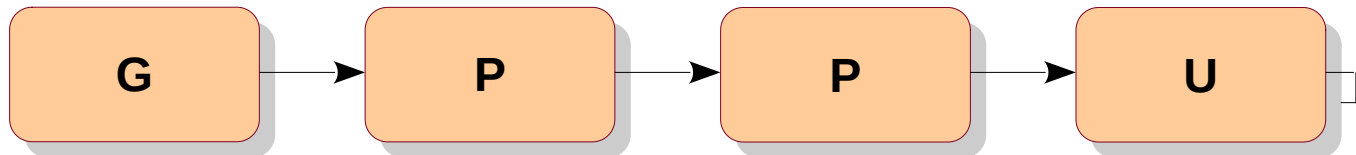
```
struct node {  
    char item;  
    struct node *next;  
};
```

Sequential insert

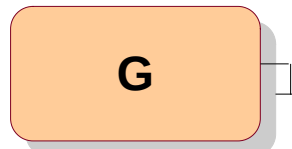
```
G->next = P2;  
P1->next = G;
```

- In the concurrent setting, the exact order of insertions is not expected.
- Elements can be inserted in any order.
- So, w.l.o.g. we assume elements being added at the head.

head



Classwork: Write the code to insert G2 at head.

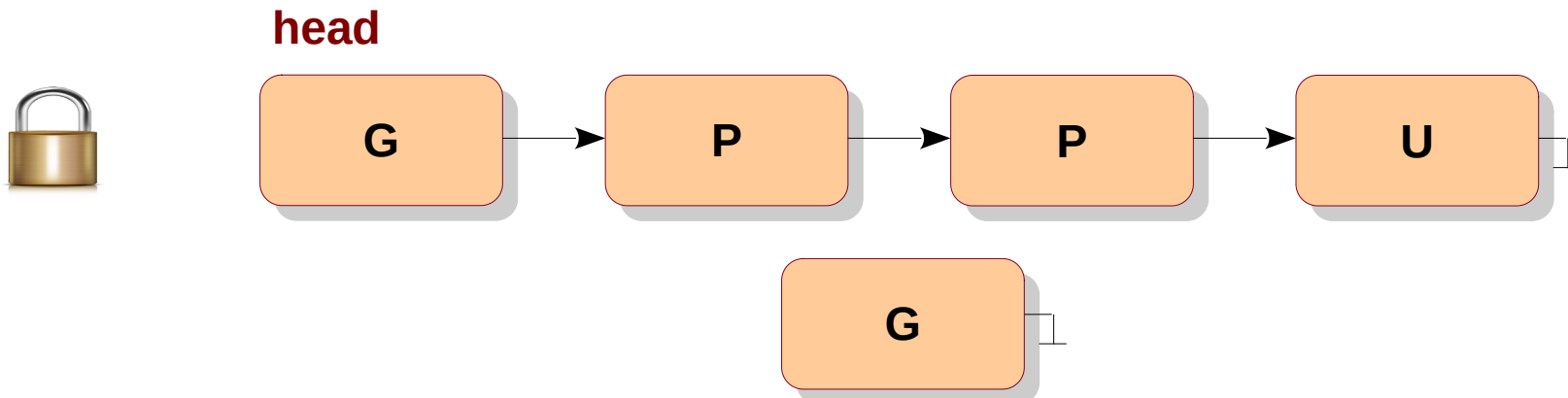


```
G2->next = head;  
head = G2;
```

Concurrent Linked List

Solution 1: Keep a lock with the list.

- Coarse-grained synchronization
- Low concurrency / sequential access
- Easy to implement
- Easy to argue about correctness



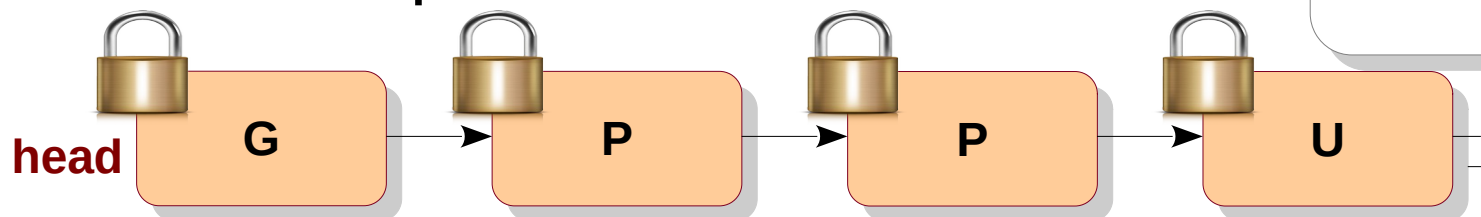
Concurrent Linked List

Solution 2: Keep a lock with each node.

- Fine-grained synchronization
- Better concurrency
- Moderately difficult to implement, need to finalize the supported operations
- Difficult to argue about correctness when multiple nodes are involved

Classwork: Implement `insert()`.

Classwork: Check if two concurrent inserts work.



Concurrent Linked List

```
void insert(Node *naya) {  
    head → lock();  
    naya → next = head;  
    head = naya;  
    head → unlock();  
}
```

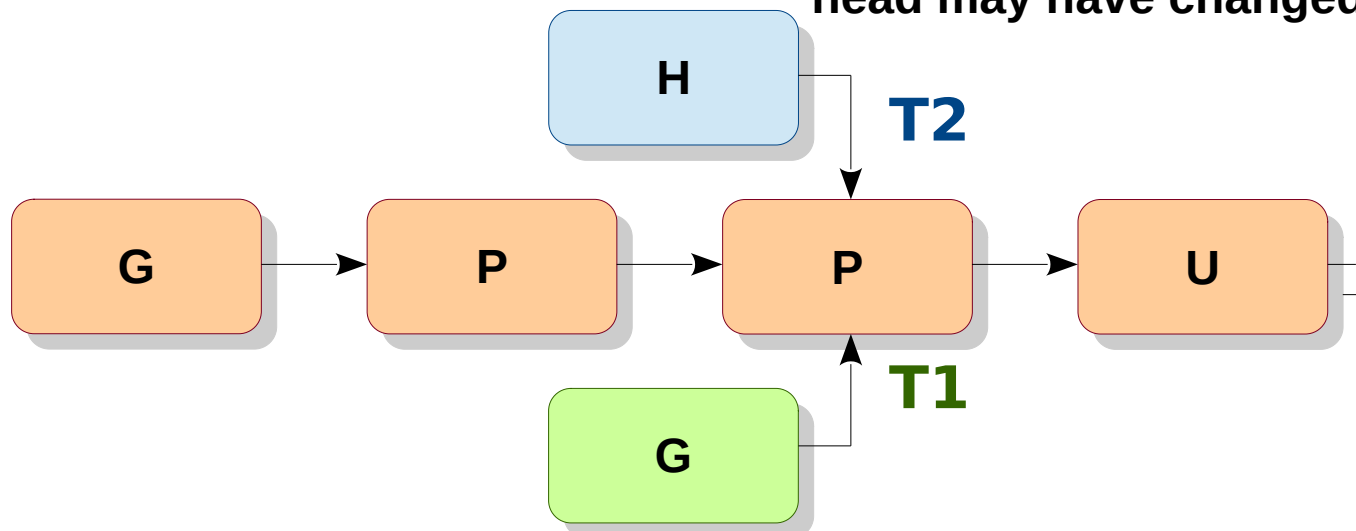
Danger

head changes.

```
void insert(Node *naya) {  
    ptr = head;  
    ptr → lock();  
    naya → next = head;  
    head = naya;  
    ptr → unlock();  
}
```

Danger

By the time, ptr → lock happens,
head may have changed!



Concurrent Linked List

```
void insert(Node *naya) {  
    head → lock();  
    ptr = head;  
    naya → next = head;  
    head = naya;  
    ptr → unlock();  
}
```

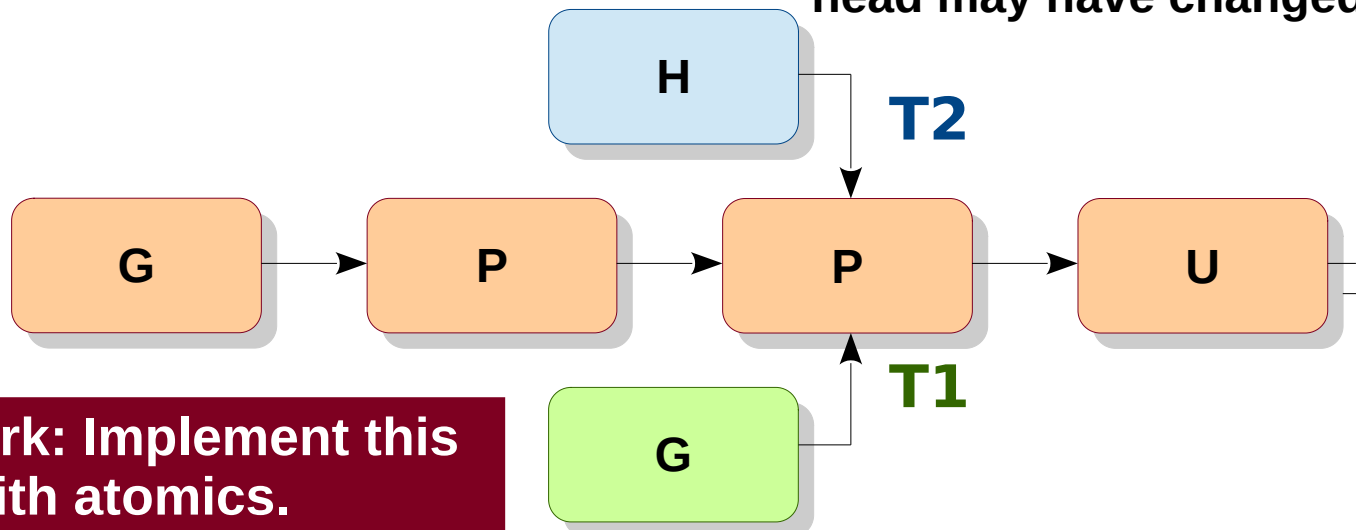


Lock head first, then copy.

```
void insert(Node *naya) {  
    ptr = head;  
    ptr → lock();  
    naya → next = head;  
    head = naya;  
    ptr → unlock();  
}
```

Danger

By the time, ptr → lock happens, head may have changed!



Classwork: Implement this with atomics.

head → lock
ptr = head

Concurrent Linked List

```
void insert(Node *naya) {  
    head → lock();  
    ptr = head;  
    naya → next = head;  
    head = naya;  
    ptr → unlock();  
}
```

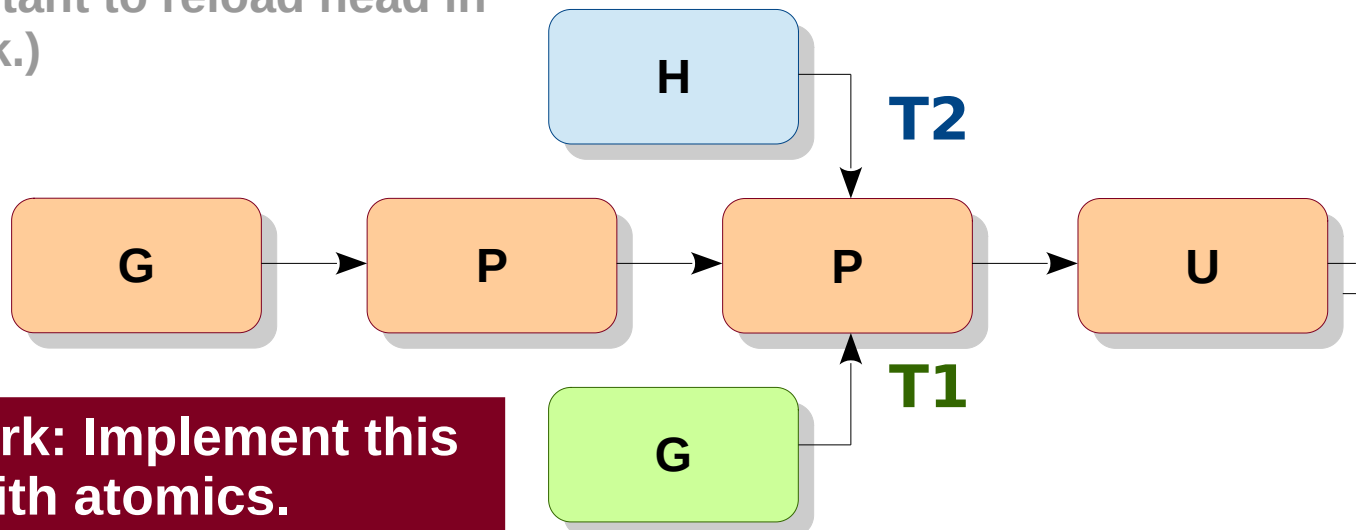


```
void insert(Node *naya) {  
    head → lock();  
    naya → next = head → next;  
    head → next = naya;  
    head → unlock();  
}
```



Lock head first, then copy.
(It is important to reload head in
head → lock.)

Insert naya as the second node.



**Classwork: Implement this
with atomics.**

Source: linkedList-add.cu

CPU-GPU Synchronization

- While GPU is busy doing work, CPU may perform useful work.
- If CPU-GPU collaborate, they require synchronization.

***Classwork:** Implement
a functionality to print sequence 0..10.
CPU prints even numbers,
GPU prints odd.*

CPU-GPU Synchronization

```
#include <cuda.h>
#include <stdio.h>

__global__ void printk(int *counter) {
    ++*counter;                      // in general, this can be arbitrary processing
    printf("\t%d\n", *counter);
}

int main() {
    int hcounter = 0, *counter;

    cudaMalloc(&counter, sizeof(int));

    do {
        printf("%d\n", hcounter);
        cudaMemcpy(counter, &hcounter, sizeof(int), cudaMemcpyHostToDevice);
        printk <<<1, 1>>>(counter);
        cudaMemcpy(&hcounter, counter, sizeof(int), cudaMemcpyDeviceToHost);
    } while (++hcounter < 10); // in general, this can be arbitrary processing

    return 0;
}
```

Pinned Memory

- Typically, memories are pageable (swappable).
- CUDA allows to make host memory pinned.
- CUDA allows direct access to pinned host memory from device.
- *cudaHostAlloc(&pointer, size, 0);*

***Classwork:** Implement
the same functionality to print sequence 0..10.
CPU prints even numbers,
GPU prints odd.*

Pinned Memory

```
#include <cuda.h>
#include <stdio.h>

__global__ void printk(int *counter) {
    ++*counter;
    printf("\t%d\n", *counter);
}

int main() {
    int *counter;

    cudaHostAlloc(&counter, sizeof(int), 0);

    do {
        printf("%d\n", *counter);
        printk <<<1, 1>>>(counter);
        cudaDeviceSynchronize();
        ++*counter;
    } while (*counter < 10);

    cudaFreeHost(counter);
    return 0;
}
```

No cudaMemcpy!

Classwork: Can we avoid repeated kernel calls?

Persistent Kernels

```
__global__ void printk(int *counter) {  
    do {  
        while (*counter % 2 == 0) ;  
        printf("\t%d\n", *counter);  
        ++*counter;  
    } while (*counter < 10);  
}  
int main() {  
    int *counter;  
  
    cudaHostAlloc(&counter, sizeof(int), 0);  
    printk <<<1, 1>>>(counter);  
  
    do {  
        while (*counter % 2 == 1) ;  
        printf("%d\n", *counter);  
        ++*counter;  
    } while (*counter < 10);  
  
    cudaFreeHost(counter);  
    return 0;  
}
```

Hierarchy of Barriers

- Warp: SIMD
- Block: `__syncthreads`
- Grid: Global Barrier
- CPU-GPU: `cudaDeviceSynchronize`

Who will use CPU-GPU for printing odd-even numbers?

- Increment is replaceable by arbitrary computation.
 - A matrix needs three computation steps. Each step can be parallelized on CPU and GPU. The matrix can be divided accordingly.
 - A graph can be partitioned. CPU and GPU compute shortest paths on different partitions. Their results are merged. Then iterate similarly.
 - ...
- Very useful when data does not fit in GPU memory (e.g., billions of data items, twitter graph, ...)
- Useful when CPU prepares data for the next GPU₇₄ iteration.

Synchronization Patterns

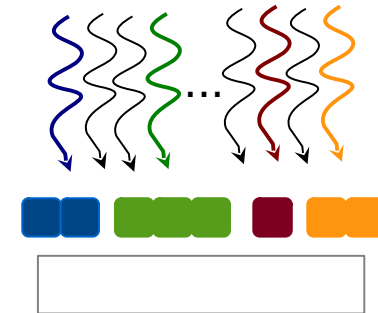
- Common situations that demand the same way of synchronizing
- Useful in applications from various domains
- Can be optimized, and applied to all
- Can be further optimized by customizing to an application

Barrier-based Synchronization

→ Disjoint accesses

- Overlapping accesses
- Benign overlaps

Consider threads pushing elements into a worklist



atomic per element



$O(e)$ atomics

atomic per thread

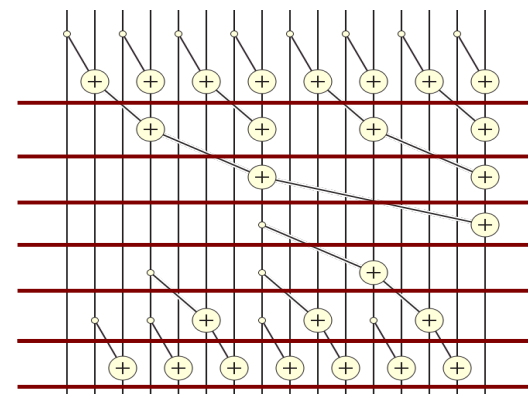


$O(t)$ atomics

prefix-sum



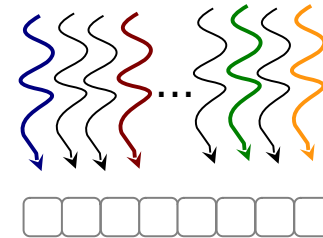
$O(\log t)$ barriers



Barrier-based Synchronization

- Disjoint accesses
- **Overlapping accesses**
- Benign overlaps

Consider threads trying to own a set of elements



atomic per element



e.g., for owning cavities in
Delaunay mesh refinement

non-atomic mark



prioritized mark



check



*Race
and
resolve*

AND

e.g., for inserting unique
elements into a worklist

non-atomic mark



check



*Race
and
resolve*

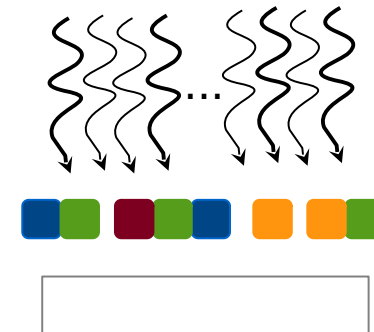
OR

Barrier-based Synchronization

- Disjoint accesses
 - Overlapping accesses
- **Benign overlaps**

e.g., level-by-level
breadth-first search

Consider threads updating shared
variables to the same value



with atomics



without atomics

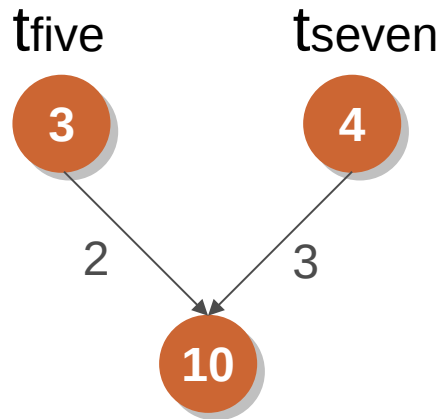


Exploiting Algebraic Properties

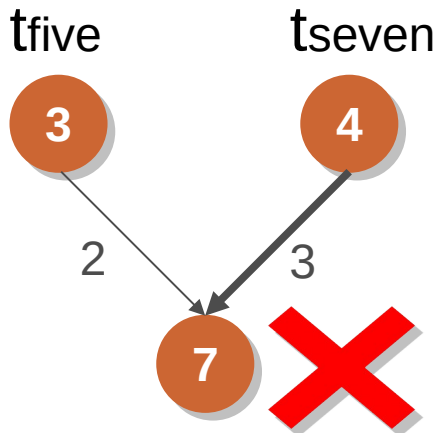
→ Monotonicity

- Idempotency
- Associativity

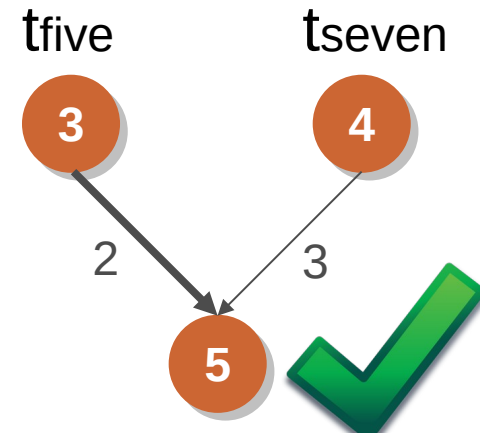
Consider threads updating distances in shortest paths computation



Atomic-free update



Lost-update problem

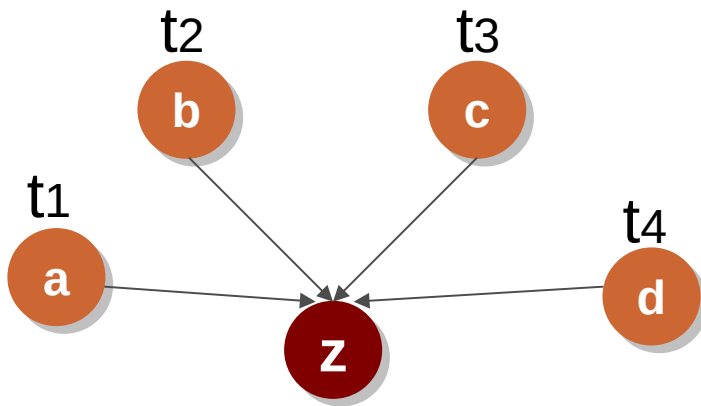


Correction by topology-driven processing, exploiting monotonicity

Exploiting Algebraic Properties

- Monotonicity
- ➔ **Idempotency**
- Associativity

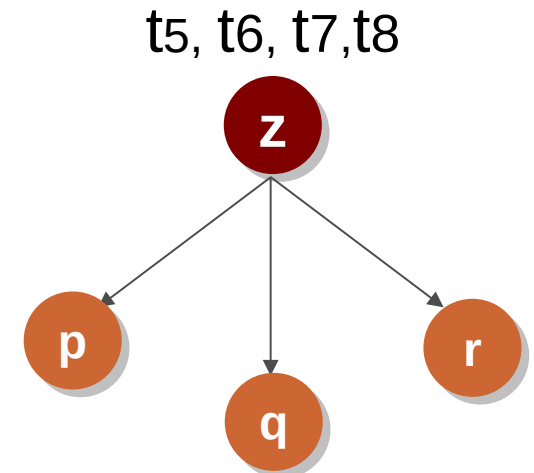
Consider threads updating distances in shortest paths computation



Update by multiple threads



Multiple instances of a node in the worklist

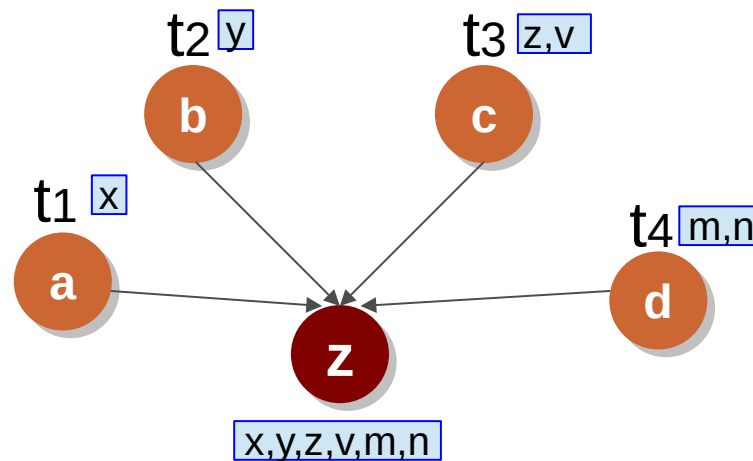


Same node processed by multiple threads

Exploiting Algebraic Properties

- Monotonicity
- Idempotency
- **Associativity**

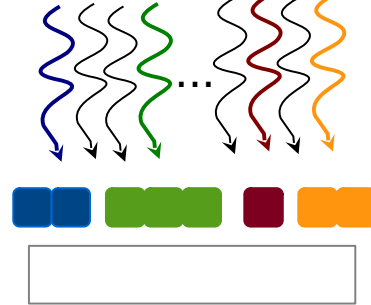
Consider threads pushing
information to a node



Associativity helps push
information using prefix-sum

Scatter-Gather

Consider threads pushing elements into a worklist



atomic per element



$O(e)$ atomics

atomic per thread



$O(t)$ atomics

prefix-sum



$O(\log t)$ barriers

scatter



gather



Learning Outcomes

- ✓ Data Race, Mutual Exclusion, Deadlocks
- ✓ Atomics, Locks, Barriers
- ✓ Reduction
- ✓ Prefix Sum
- ✓ Concurrent List Insertion
- ✓ CPU-GPU Synchronization