CS 33: Introduction to Computer Organization

Week 8

Admin

- Homework 5: "due" Wednesday, November 25th
- Lab 4: OpenMP (AKA your reward for finishing Smashing Lab) "due" Thursday, December 3rd.
- Lab 4: OpenMP (AKA your reward for finishing Smashing Lab) due Friday, December 4th.
- Yes, actually, honest to goodness due on Friday. That is the DROP DEAD DATE. Any assignments submitted beyond that date will NOT be accepted.

Agenda

- Midterm 2
- Wrap up Processes/Threads and Synchronization
- Lab 4: OpenMP
- HW5/Class Material included in the slides that there's no way in hell we'll get to:
 - Command line args
 - Deadlock Cases
 - Thread safe vs. Reentrancy

Midterm 2

- Mean: 48.1 (out of 99)
- Median: 48 (out of 99)
- Interestingly in my section, something of a bimodal distribution.

Midterm Secret Solutions

Question 1: Though unconvention insist on me



anusual number of gorillas.

- What happens when a child process completes?
- Processes can be "running", "stopped", or "terminated".
- A completed child process is terminated, but the resources that are used to keep track of the child process still exist.
- This is (and this is completely real), known as a zombie. A zombie child.

- An undead process is one who has technically terminated.
 - More formal definition of exit(0): terminates the process
- However, you can't get rid of a zombie that easily; the resources that the operating system uses to manage that process continue to exist.
- A process will do so unless, and I'm dead serious, it is "reaped", after which its resources are reclaimed.

- One of the functions that the parent has over the child is:
 - waitpid(pid_t pid, int *status, int options)
- From the parent's perspective, the default behavior is "wait for the child process with process id of 'pid' to terminate before continuing"
- If pid == -1, waitpid will wait for any one of the child processes to complete.

- However, waitpid technically serves an additional role regarding system resources.
- waitpid essentially waits for the child to die and become a zombie so that the parent can reap it of its resources.
- ...which is a terrifying glimpse into the disturbed mind of whoever came up with this.

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <unistd.h>
int main()
 if(fork() == 0)
  printf("a");
 else
  printf("b");
  waitpid(-1, NULL, 0);
 printf("c");
 exit(0);
```

 What's the output of this program?

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <unistd.h>
int main()
 if(fork() == 0)
  printf("a");
 else
  printf("b");
  waitpid(-1, NULL, 0);
 printf("c");
 exit(0);
```

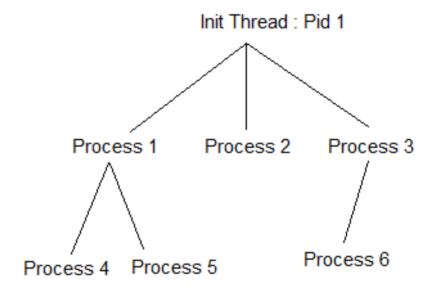
- Once fork is hit, the child will print a and the parent will print b.
- Afterwards, both will print c.
- The parent will not print c until the child has printed a and c.
- There are no other restrictions on ordering.
- abcc, acbc, bacc

- Because variables that are created before a fork is duplicated in the child process, this means that child processes also share file descriptors.
- The OS needs to be able to keep track of what files that each process has opened.
- The OS does this by maintaining a table of processes and their corresponding files that are open.
- Each entry has a label or a "file descriptor"

- In order for the process to access the file, it has to go through the OS so it must know the file descriptor of the file it is trying to access.
- A file descriptor is just an integer that corresponds to an index into the OS's table of files.
- Thus, children also have duplicates of the file descriptors and can thus access the same files.

- File descriptors have to be closed in order to tell the OS that it's done dealing with a particular file.
- As a result, when a child gets a cloned file descriptor, the parent and child are responsible for closing the file descriptor.

- With Processes, the organization looks like this:
- If a child process becomes orphaned (ex. process 1 exits while process 4 and process 5 are still running), the OS arranges for the process to be adopted by the kindly Mrs. Init Process from down the street.



- Because of this tree hierarchy and because most processes run in isolation (no shared memory), Processes really only have to worry about the high level status of the children:
 - Is it still running? Paused?
 - How did it exit (normally or via signal)?
 - Why was it out so late last night? Has it been drinking? Was it Braden? You know he's a bad kid.
- As a result, processes don't have to worry much about synchronization. Not so with the hyper-social Threads.

- All threads that belong to a particular process are peers, which mean there's a lot more management that can occur.
- int pthread_create(pthread_t *tid, pthread_attr_t const *attr, func *f, void *args)
 - Creates thread, assigns thread id to tid. When thread starts, it will call f(args)
- pthread_t pthread_self(void);
 - Get own thread id.
- void pthread_exit(void *thread_return)
 - Thread kills itself with return value in *thread_return

- int pthread_cancel(pthread_t tid)
 - Thread murders another thread with id tid, in cold blood.
- int pthread_join(pthread_t tid, void ** thread_return)
 - One thread waits for thread tid to complete before continuing.
 - Technically more reaping happens here.

- int pthread_detach(pthread_t tid)
 - Makes thread specified by tid autonomous.
 That is, the thread cannot be killed via by pthread_cancel and it cannot be reaped/waited on by pthread_join.
 - The thread achieves invincibility.

```
void *thread(void * args)
Consider the following
code:
                                 pthread_detach(pthread self());
                                 int * pconnfd = args;
int main()
                                 int connfd = *pconnfd;
                                 process(connfd);
 while(true)
                                 close(connfd);
   pthread t tid;
                                 return 0;
   int connfd = Accept(...);
   pthread create(&tid, 0,
thread, &connfd);
                                Does this work?
```

- connfd is a local variable of the main thread.
- Thus, connfd has an address that corresponds to some spot on the main.
- The value of connfd is assigned in the main thread by Accept.
- The address to this value of connfd is passed into the thread.

```
while(true)
 pthread t tid;
 int connfd = Accept(...);
 pthread create(&tid, 0,
thread, &connfd);
void *thread(void * args)
 int * pconnfd = args;
 int connfd = *pconnfd
```

- The thread then uses the address of the main thread's connfd for args.
- The thread will get the value and store it to a local variable.
- Meanwhile, the main thread re-assigns a value to connfd.
- The address that the old thread uses still corresponds to connfd in the main thread.

```
while(true)
 pthread t tid;
 int connfd = Accept(...);
 pthread create(&tid, 0,
thread, &connfd);
void *thread(void * args)
 int * pconnfd = args;
 int connfd = *pconnfd
```

- If that reassignment (connfd = Accept...) occurs before connfd = *pconnfd, then the old value will be wiped away.
- This is an example of a race condition (and a pretty bad one).
- Make sure this doesn't happen.

```
while(true)
 pthread t tid;
 int connfd = Accept(...);
 pthread create(&tid, 0,
thread, &connfd);
void *thread(void * args)
 int * pconnfd = args;
 int connfd = *pconnfd
```

- Conclusion?
- Any time a thread gets a pointer that points to another thread's stack frame, be wary.
- We can fix this by making it so that the value passed into the thread is NOT a pointer pointing to the main thread's stack frame.

```
while(true)
 pthread t tid;
 int connfd = Accept(...);
 pthread create(&tid, 0,
thread, &connfd);
void *thread(void * args)
 int * pconnfd = args;
 int connfd = *pconnfd
```

- Now, we deal with an int
 *, whose address IS still
 in the main thread's
 stack.
- However, what we pass into the thread is the value of the int*, which is malloc'd.

```
while(true)
 pthread t tid;
 int *connfd = malloc(sizeof(int));
 *connfd = Accept(...);
 pthread create(&tid, 0, thread,
connfd);
void *thread(void * args)
 int * pconnfd = args;
 int connfd = *pconnfd
```

- One of the major advantages of using threads over processes is the ease by which threads can share data.
- This of course, is marred by the potential that by using threads, you get the wrong result.
- That's bad.
- How do we ensure that behavior is correct, even when the execution order is not guaranteed?

- We can enforce protection for shared variables or critical sections with semaphores, which are basically locks that tell us how many threads can enter a section of code.
- The semaphore is of type: sem_t and it is sort of a glorified counter or more conceptually, a door that allows/prevents entry into a section of code.

- While the counter is non-zero, the door is open and thread can pass. When this happens, the counter decrements.
- When the counter is zero, the door is closed.
 The thread must wait for the door to be open again (counter becomes non-zero) before it can pass.

- sem_t sem;
- sem_wait(&sem) If sem is non-zero, return and decrement sem (the door is open, thread is allowed to pass). If sem is zero, wait until sem is non-zero, then decrement and return (the door is closed, wait for it to open).
- sem_post(&sem) Increment sem by one. If sem was previously zero, the door was closed.
 Open the door and allow another thread in.

- Say we have the following line of code:
 - line of code>
- ...and we want to allow only two threads to be able to execute that line of code at any time.
- sem t sem;
- sem_init(&sem, 0, 2); //0 is an options argument, 2 is the number of threads allowed
- sem_wait(&sem);
- code>;
- sem_post(&sem);

 Let's say we have some shared resource that you can read and write from. This can be done via two functions:

```
void read()
 <read shared resource>
void write()
 <write shared resource>
```

- However, we want the following conditions:
 - There can be an unbounded number of concurrent readers.
 - There can be only 1 writer and if someone is writing, there can be no readers.
- How can we go about this?

```
void read()
{
  <read>
  }

void write()
  {
  <write>
}
```

```
sem_t r; // init to ?
sem_t w;// init to 1

void read()
{
    sem_wait(&w);
    <write>
    sem_post(&v);
    <read>
    sem_post(&r);
}
```

- We'll definitely want some semaphores around the critical sections in read/write.
- Is this right?

```
sem_t r; // init to ?
sem_t w;// init to 1

void read()
{
    sem_wait(&w);
    sem_wait(&r);
    sem_post(&w);
    sem_post(&r);
}
```

- This prevents multiple writers, but it allows writing to happen at the same time as reading.
- Also, what do we initialize r to We want unbounded readers.
- Let's try to solve the "writing/reading at the same time" problem first

```
sem_t r; // init to ?
sem_t w;// init to 1

void read()
{
    sem_wait(&w);
    sem_wait(&r)
    sem_wait(&w)
    sem_wait(&w)
    sem_wait(&w)
    sem_wait(&w)
    sem_wait(&r)
}
```

- Now, writing cannot happen at the same time as reading.
- What's the next step?

```
sem_t r; // init to ?
sem_t w;// init to 1
void read()
{
  sem_wait(&r)
  sem_wait(&w)
  <read>
  sem_wait(&w)
  sem_wait(&r)
}
```

```
void write()
{
  sem_wait(&w);
  <write>
  sem_post(&w);
}
```

- If we initialized r to, say 10, we could not have 10 readers reading at the same time because w is initialized to 1.
- We recognize that we only want to run sem_wait(&w) when there are no readers.

```
sem_t r; // init to ?
sem_t w;// init to 1
void read()
{
  sem_wait(&r)
  sem_wait(&w)
  <read>
  sem_wait(&w)
  sem_wait(&r)
}
```

```
void write()
{
   sem_wait(&w);
   <write>
   sem_post(&w);
}
```

- If no readers, there might be a writer. Therefore, a reader must call sem_wait(&w) to reserve the critical section.
- If there are readers, then that means there cannot be a writer.
- Therefore, the reader doesn't need to call sem_wait(&w)

```
sem tr; // init to?
sem t w;// init to 1
void read()
 sem wait(&r)
 if(there are no readers)
  sem wait(&w)
 <read>
 if(this is the last reader)
  sem post(&w)
 sem post(&r)
```

```
void write()
{
   sem_wait(&w);
   <write>
   sem_post(&w);
}
```

 Once a reader has finished reading, it must also check: if it is the last reader, then it should be able to allow a writer. Therefore it must release the lock by calling sem post(&w)

```
sem tr; // init to?
sem t w;// init to 1
int reader count = 0;
void read()
 sem wait(&r)
 reader count++;
 if(read count == 1)
  sem wait(&w)
 <read>
 reader count--;
 if(reader count == 0)
  sem post(&w)
 sem post(&r)
```

```
void write()
{
  sem_wait(&w);
  <write>
  sem_post(&w);
}
```

Does this work?

```
sem tr; // init to?
sem t w;// init to 1
int reader count = 0;
void read()
 sem wait(&r)
 reader count++;
 if(read count == 1)
  sem wait(&w)
 <read>
 reader count--;
 if(reader count == 0)
  sem_post(&w)
 sem post(&r)
```

```
void write()
{
  sem_wait(&w);
  <write>
  sem_post(&w);
}
```

- Two problems, first of all, this only works if we can set r to infinity, which we can't.
- Second, there's still a possible race condition. What if two reader threads increment reader_count before either can get to reader_count == 1? The whole system messes up.

```
sem tr; // init to?
sem t w;// init to 1
int reader count = 0;
void read()
 sem wait(&r)
 reader count++;
 if(read count == 1)
  sem wait(&w)
 <read>
 reader count--;
 if(reader_count == 0)
  sem post(&w)
 sem post(&r)
```

```
void write()
{
  sem_wait(&w);
  <write>
  sem_post(&w);
}
```

- That this treats the <read> as the critical section, but that's not what we want to protect.
- We want to make sure that infinite readers can read, but only one reader can increment reader_count at a time.

```
sem tr; // init to 1
sem t w;// init to 1
int reader count = 0;
void read()
 sem wait(&r);
 reader count++;
 if(read count == 1)
  sem wait(&w);
 sem post(&r);
 <read>
 sem wait(&r);
 reader count--;
 if(reader count == 0)
  sem post(&w)
 sem post(&r)
```

```
void write()
{
  sem_wait(&w);
  <write>
  sem_post(&w);
}
```

- It satisfies the constraints (single writer, multiple reader).
- Is there maybe still a problem though?

```
sem tr; // init to 1
sem t w;// init to 1
int reader count = 0;
void read()
 sem wait(&r);
 reader count++;
 if(read count == 1)
  sem wait(&w);
 sem post(&r);
 <read>
 sem wait(&r);
 reader count--;
 if(reader count == 0)
  sem post(&w)
 sem post(&r)
```

```
void write()
{
  sem_wait(&w);
  <write>
  sem_post(&w);
}
```

- This method is unfair to writers.
- That is to say, a potential writer could be starved since if readers keep coming in, the writer will never have a chance to write.

- Unlike the other labs, the objective of this lab is simple.
- Premise: You have code that's slow.
- Goal: Make it go fast.
- The End.

- Getting started:
 - Download the openmplab.tgz file from CCLE
 - Copy it to Inxsrv09.seas.ucla.edu (more than ever, USE Inxsrv09 and gcc version 5.2.0)
 - Unzip it.
- To run the unaltered code, use:
 - make seq
 - This will produce an executable called "seq" (note, the specs are wrong).

- In order to speed it up, you are to use two tools, one familiar and one new (probably):
 - To determine what to speed up: gprof.
 - To speed it up: OpenMP, an API for shared memory, thread based parallelism.

- To use gprof:
- Compile with GPROF=1
 - ex. make seq GPROF=1
- Execute the executable (this produces gmon.out)
 - ex. ./seq
- Run gprof with the executable as the argument
 - ex. gprof seq | less
 - The command gprof seq normally prints out a wall of text. The "| less" redirects the output as input into the "less" command, which allows you to read it more easily.
 - Quit "less" with q.

- The code provided performs a computation using six functions (func0 to func5) located in the func.c.
- You are to speed up the execution of the program by speeding up these six function.
- How?

- You could use the normal Chapter 5 style optimizations, but we want something powerful that makes uses of multiple processors.
- This means using threads and doing multithreading.
- However, we want to use something a little more powerful and exotic than POSIX threads.
- So exotic that you might never see it again...

- As a result, we use OpenMP
- OpenMP is an extension to C/C++ (and Fortran) that allows for a simple and convenient way of launching threads to do work in parallel among multiple processors.
- Surprisingly, you won't be personally using a bunch of new functions.
- You'll be specifying a bunch of pre-processor directives.

- Yup, these: "#".
- As a refresher, preprocessor directives are statements that are marked with "#".
- Statements marked with these are instructions that tell the processor what to do:
 - #define min(a, b) (a < b ? a : b)</p>
 - #include <stdio.h>
 - #don't become sentient

- The first step of compilation is the preprocessing step where the compiler will find all of the directives and follow the instructions.
- OpenMP exposes an interface for multithreading that is almost purely based on these preprocessor instructions.
- Other than some helper functions defined in omp.h. Ex.
 - omp_set_num_threads(int);
 - omp_get_thread_num();

```
    Ex:
        int main()
        {
            int a = 0;
            printf("%d\n", a);
        }
```

 Say you want to parallelize this so that 4 threads run this code.

```
Ex:
int main()
 omp set num threads(4); //Use 4 threads
 #pragma omp parallel //Define the following
                        //block as parallel code
  int a = 0; //run by each thread
  printf("%d\n", a);
```

```
Ex:
int main()
 #pragma omp parallel
  int a = 0;
  printf("%d\n", a);
```

 If the number of threads is not specified, the default is used. On SEASnet Inxsrv09, this means 32 (the number of processors).

- Upon hitting the block specified by the #pragma omp directive, the single thread of execution branches off into several parallel threads.
- When each thread reaches the end of the block:

```
#pragma omp parallel {
...
```

} ← Here

 ...each thread will wait for all of the other threads before continuing. This is known as a "barrier".

- The "parallel" keyword means "launch threads in parallel"
- This the basis how OpenMP works.
- Synchronization and control can also be done via these directives. Within a parallel block, you can also have other directives that specify things.
- Such as...

critical:

```
#pragma omp critical
{
     <CRITICAL SECTION>
}
```

- Only one thread can enter the critical section at a time. Other threads must wait (like semaphores)
- atomic:

```
#pragma omp atomic
{
  tmp += 1;
}
```

Only one thread can perform a particular read/write.
 This only applies to single variable that is read/write.

- barrier:
 - #pragma omp barrier
 - All threads must wait here for all threads to complete before continuing.
- ...and so much more.
- So... so much more.
- http://openmp.org/mp-documents/omp-handson-SC08.pdf

 Back to this example: int main() #pragma omp parallel int a = 0; printf("%d\n", a);

What if a were declared outside of the parallel section?

 Back to this example: int main() int a = 0; #pragma omp parallel a++; printf("%d\n", a);

• Is 'a' shared among the 32 threads?

Data sharing:

- By default, a variable declared inside of a parallel block is private to each block.
- By default, a variable declared outside of a parallel block is shared among all of the threads of a parallel block that accesses the variable. In the previous example, "a" was the same "a" among all threads.
- "a" was also the same "a" that was declared before entering the parallel block
- What do we expect to see as an output?

- Data sharing:
 - Utter chaos
 - Because there is no protection of the shared variable and because writes are not atomic, the results are going to be crazy.
 - If we want to share the variables in a way that's more graceful and predictable, we'll have to use critical or atomic but then, we'll essentially be doing code in serial.

 A variable within a parallel block can be made private to each thread by using the "private" keyword. Note: this example is deliberately problematic. To see why, turn the page...

```
int main()
{
  int a = 0;
  #pragma omp parallel private(a)
  {
    a++;
    printf("%d\n", a);
  }
}
```

 Warning: the variable will also be private relative to the original declaration.

```
int main()
{
  int a = 123;
  #pragma omp parallel private(a)
  {
    a++;
    printf("%d\n", a);
  }
}
```

 The "a" inside the block will not be initialized to 123. It will be uninitialized.

 If you do want to make the private variable in the block initialized to the value specified in the original thread, use "firstprivate".

```
int main()
{
  int a = 123;
  #pragma omp parallel firstprivate(a)
  {
    a++;
    printf("%d\n", a);
  }
}
```

The "a" inside the block will now be initialized to 123.

- Loops
- Consider:

```
int i;
for(i = 0; i < N; i++)
{
    <PARALLELIZABLE CODE>
}
```

 You can do this with an "#pragma omp parallel" block, but you'll have to manually assign threads to iterations of the loop.

- Loops
- Or you can do this:

```
int i;
#pragma omp parallel for
for(i = 0; i < N; i++)
{
    <PARALLELIZABLE CODE>
}
```

- ...which magics it up for you.
- However, there are (at least) two bits of trickiness here.

What if you have this:

```
int acc = 0;
int i;
#pragma omp parallel for
for(i = 0; i < N; i++)
{
   acc += <PARALLELIZABLE CODE>
}
printf("%d\n", acc);
```

What's the problem with this?

What if you have this:

```
int acc = 0;
int i;
#pragma omp parallel for
for(i = 0; i < N; i++)
{
   acc += <PARALLELIZABLE CODE>
}
printf("%d\n", acc);
```

- What's the problem with this?
 - acc += ... is not atomic. The result will not be correct.

 To ensure that you can use accumulators use the "reduction" keyword, which allows you to collect results into one shared variable among threads.

```
int acc = 0;
int i;
#pragma omp parallel for reduction(+:acc)
for(i = 0; i < N; i++)
{
   acc += <PARALLELIZABLE CODE>
}
printf("%d\n", acc);
```

Format: (<operation> : <variable>);

• Finally, consider:

```
int acc = 0;
int j = 0;
int i;
#pragma omp parallel for reduction(+:acc)
for(i = 0; i < N; i++)
i += 2;
acc += <PARALLELIZABLE CODE>
printf("%d\n", acc);
```

It looks like j is in a similar situation as acc.

However, the dependence on j is artificially loop carried.
 You can covert it to:

```
int acc = 0;
int j = 0;
int i;
#pragma omp parallel for private(j) reduction(+:acc)
for(i = 0; i < N; i++)
{
    j = 2*i;
    acc += <PARALLELIZABLE CODE>
}
printf("%d\n", acc);
```

 You may find that small tweaks like this may be necessary to make an "omp parallel for" possible.

- Final Notes:
- The specs specify methods of invoking the make file, several of which are wrong.
- "make seq" will generate an executable called "seq".
- "make omp" will generate an executable called "omp".
- "make ____ SRC=funcv2.c" does not work.
 - If you'd like this functionality to work, in the Makefile change:
 - SRC = filter.c
 - SRCS = \$(SRC) main.c func.c util.c
 - to
 - SRC = func.c
 - SRCS = \$(SRC) main.c filter.c util.c

Final Notes:

- The run times will vary each time you call filter.
- As it turns out, as the SEASnet processor become more burdened, it will actually slow itself down, which will lead to a slower execution time.
- If you think you have a solution, double check your time by running your code repeatedly.
- You are supposed to speed up the "FUNC TIME" as reported by the print statement by 3.5x.

Final Notes:

 When you run the code with GPROF=1, the times will slow down. Example output:

FUNC TIME: .670985

TOTAL TIME: 2.772028

- This suggests that the total amount of time spent by the functions in func.c take up ~20-25%.
- If you actually look at the gprof print out, you may see this:

Final Notes:

```
cumulative
            self self
                          total
time
     seconds seconds calls ms/call ms/call
                                     name
                                     func1
61.19
        0.44 0.44
                      15
                          29.37
                                31.65
25.03 0.62 0.18 5177344 0.00 0.00
                                     rand2
2.78 0.64 0.02 491520 0.00 0.00 f...
                                     init
2.78 0.66 0.02 2 10.01
                                10.01
```

- This suggests that func1 alone is taking 61% of the time.
- I'm no expert, but I think 20 is like, not the same as 61.

- As it turns out, gprof doesn't take into account blocking I/O time, which is the bulk of what the non-func.c functions do.
- Use either your own measurements (get_time)
 or use the ones that are printed out by the
 output.

- Final Notes: Memory Leaks
- According to checkmem, OpenMP loves to leak memory.

```
int a;
#pragma omp parallel
{
  a = 0;
}
```

• Even this "leaks memory".

- Final Notes:
- If the memory error printed out by "make checkmem" is "Memory not freed", don't worry about it. Otherwise, go back and double check.
- Make sure to use "make check" to confirm that the output.txt generated by the program is the same as correct.txt. If silent, the files are the same.