Parallel Programming using OpenMP

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OpenMP Multithreaded Programming

• OpenMP stands for “Open Multi-Processing”
• OpenMP is a multi-vendor (see next page) standard to perform shared-memory multithreading
• OpenMP uses the fork-join model
• OpenMP is both directive- and library-based
• OpenMP threads share a single executable, global memory, and heap (malloc, new)
• Each OpenMP thread has its own stack (function arguments, function return address, local variables)
• Using OpenMP requires no dramatic code changes
• OpenMP probably gives you the biggest multithread benefit per amount of work you have to put in to using it

Much of your use of OpenMP will be accomplished by issuing C/C++ “pragmas” to tell the compiler how to build the threads into the executable

#pragma omp directive [clause]

Who is in the OpenMP Consortium?

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What OpenMP Isn’t:

• OpenMP doesn’t check for data dependencies, data conflicts, deadlocks, or race conditions. You are responsible for avoiding those yourself
• OpenMP doesn’t check for non-conforming code sequences
• OpenMP doesn’t guarantee identical behavior across vendors or hardware, or even between multiple runs on the same vendor’s hardware
• OpenMP doesn’t guarantee the order in which threads execute, just that they do execute
• OpenMP is not overhead-free
• OpenMP does not prevent you from writing code that triggers cache performance problems (such as in false-sharing), in fact, it makes it really easy

We will get to “false sharing” in the cache notes

Memory Allocation in a Multithreaded Program

Memory Allocation in a Multithreaded Program

Don’t take this completely literally. The exact arrangement depends on the operating system and the compiler. For example, sometimes the stack and heap are arranged so that they grow towards each other.

Using OpenMP on Linux

```bash
gcc -o proj proj.cpp -lm -fopenmp
```

Using OpenMP in Microsoft Visual Studio

1. Go to the Project menu → Project Properties
2. Change the setting Configuration Properties → C/C++ → Language → OpenMP Support to “Yes (openmp)”

If you are using Visual Studio 2019 and get a compile message that looks like this:

```
1>c1xx: error C2338: two-phase name lookup is not supported for C++/C++/CX, or OpenMP; use /Zc:twoPhase-
```

then do this:

1. Go to “Project Properties”→ “C/C++” → “Command Line”
2. Add `/Zc:twoPhase-` in “Additional Options” in the bottom section
3. Press OK
Seeing if OpenMP is Supported on Your System

#ifdef _OPENMP
fprintf(stderr, "OpenMP version %d is supported here\n", _OPENMP);
#else
fprintf(stderr, "OpenMP is not supported here – sorry\n\n\nexit( 0 );
#endif

This gives you a year and month of the OpenMP you are using

To get an OpenMP version number:

OpenMP 5.0 – November 2018
OpenMP 4.5 – November 2015
OpenMP 4.0 – July 2013
OpenMP 3.1 – July 2011

• By default, flip is using g++ 4.8.5, which uses OpenMP version 3.1
• Flip's g++ 9.2.0 uses OpenMP version 4.5
• Looks like Visual Studio 2019's is even older (?)

Numbers of OpenMP threads

How to specify how many OpenMP threads you want to have available:

omp_set_num_threads( num );

 Asking how many cores this program has access to:

 num = omp_get_num_procs();

 Actually returns the number of hyperthreads, not the number of physical cores

Setting the number of available threads to the exact number of cores available:

omp_set_num_threads( omp_get_num_procs( ) );

 Asking how many OpenMP threads this program is using right now:

 num = omp_get_num_threads();

 Asking which thread number this one is:

 me = omp_get_thread_num();

Creating an OpenMP Team of Threads

#pragma omp parallel default(none)
{...

This creates a team of threads

Each thread then executes all lines of code in this block.

Think of it this way:

#pragma omp parallel default(none)

#include <stdio.h>
#include <omp.h>

int main( )
{
omp_set_num_threads( 8 );
#pragma omp parallel default(none)
for( int i = 0; i < arraySize; i++ )
{
...
}
return 0;
}

Hint: run it several times in a row. What do you see? Why?

Uh-oh...

First Run
Hello, World, from thread #6 !
Hello, World, from thread #1 !
Hello, World, from thread #7 !
Hello, World, from thread #0 !
Hello, World, from thread #4 !
Hello, World, from thread #3 !
Hello, World, from thread #2 !
Hello, World, from thread #5 !

Second Run
Hello, World, from thread #0 !
Hello, World, from thread #7 !
Hello, World, from thread #6 !
Hello, World, from thread #1 !
Hello, World, from thread #4 !
Hello, World, from thread #3 !
Hello, World, from thread #2 !
Hello, World, from thread #5 !

There is no guarantee of thread execution order!

Creating OpenMP threads in Loops

#pragma omp parallel for default(none)
for( int i = 0; i < arraySize; i++ )
{
...

This creates a team of threads

from the thread pool and

divides the for-loop passes up

among those threads

There is an "implied barrier" at the end where

each thread waits until all threads are done, then

the code continues in a single thread

The code starts out executing in a single thread

The sets how many threads will be in the thread pool. It doesn't create them yet. It just

says how many will be used the next time you ask for them.

This lets the compiler to parallelize the for-loop into multiple threads. Each thread

automatically gets its own personal copy of the variable i because it is defined within the

for-loop body.

The default(none) directive forces you to explicitly declare all variables declared outside the

parallel region to be either private or shared while they are in the parallel region. Variables

declared within the for-loop are automatically private.
OpenMP for-Loop Rules

- The index must be an int or a pointer
- The start and terminate conditions must have compatible types
- Neither the start nor the terminate conditions can be changed during the execution of the loop
- The index can only be modified by the changed expression (i.e., not modified inside the loop itself)
- You cannot use a break or a goto to get out of the loop
- There can be no inter-loop data dependencies such as:
  
  ```
  a[i] = a[i-1] + 1.;
  ```

```cpp
#pragma omp parallel for default(none), shared(…), private(…)
for( int index = start ; index < end )
{
  a[index] = a[index-1] + 1.;
}
```

What to do about Variables Declared Before the for-loop Starts?

- **private(x)**: Means that each thread will get its own version of the variable
- **shared(x)**: Means that all threads will share a common version of the variable
- **default(none)**: I recommend that you include this in your OpenMP for-loop directive. This will force you to explicitly flag all of your externally-declared variables as shared or private. Don't make a mistake by leaving it up to the default!

Example:

```cpp
#pragma omp parallel for default(none), private(x)
```

For-loop "Fission"

Because of the loop dependency, this whole thing is not parallelizable:

```cpp
for( int i = 0; i < N; i++ )
{
  x = (float) i;
  float y = x*x;
  << more code… >
}
```

But, it can be broken into one loop that is not parallelizable, plus one that is:

```cpp
x[0] = 0.;
for( int i = 1; i < N; i++ )
{
  x[i] = x[i-1] + 1.;
  y[i] *= 2.;
}
```

For-loop "Collapsing"

```cpp
#pragma omp parallel for collapse(2)
for( int i = 1; i < N; i++ )
{
  x[i] = x[i-1] + 1.;
  y[i] *= 2.;
}
```

Single Program Multiple Data (SPMD) in OpenMP

```cpp
#define NUM 1000000
float A[NUM], B[NUM], C[NUM];
.
.
.
.
total = omp_get_num_threads( );
#pragma omp parallel default(none),private(me),shared(total)
{
  me = omp_get_thread_num( );
  DoWork( me, total );
}
```

void DoWork( int me, int total )

```cpp
int first = NUM * me / total - 1;
int last = NUM * (me+1)/total - 1;
for( int i = first; i <= last; i++ )
{
  C[i] = A[i] * B[i];
}
```
OpenMP Allocation of Work to Threads

Static Threads
• All work is allocated and assigned at runtime

Dynamic Threads
• The pool is statically assigned some of the work at runtime, but not all of it
• When a thread from the pool becomes idle, it gets a new assignment
• "Round-robin assignments"

OpenMP Scheduling
schedule(static [,chunksize])
schedule(dynamic [,chunksize])
Defaults to static
chunksize defaults to 1

OpenMP Allocation of Work to Threads

#pragma omp parallel for default(none),schedule(static,chunksize)
for( int index = 0 ; index < N ; index++)
chunksize = 1
Each thread is assigned one iteration, then
the assignments start over
chunksize = 2
Each thread is assigned two iterations, then
the assignments start over
chunksize = 4
Each thread is assigned four iterations, then
the assignments start over

Arithmetic Operations Among Threads – A Problem
#pragma omp parallel for private(myPartialSum),shared(sum)
for( int i = 0; i < N; i++ )
{ float myPartialSum = …
  sum = sum + myPartialSum;
}
• There is no guarantee when each thread will execute this line
• There is not even a guarantee that each thread will finish this line before some
  other thread interrupts it. (Remember that each line of code usually generates
  multiple lines of assembly.)
• This is non-deterministic!

Assembly code:
Load sum What if the scheduler
Add myPartialSum decides to switch
Store sum threads right here?

Conclusion: Don’t do it this way!

Here’s a trapezoid integration example.
The partial sums are added up, as shown on the previous page.
The integration was done 30 times.
The answer is supposed to be exactly 2.
None of the 30 answers is even close.
And, not only are the answers bad, they are not even consistently bad:
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And, not only are the answers bad, they are not even consistently bad!

Don’t do it this way! We’ll talk about how to do it correctly in the Trapezoid Integration noteset.

Synchronization
Mutual Exclusion Locks (Mutexes):
omp_init_lock( omp_lock_t *);
omp_set_lock(   omp_lock_t *);
omp_unset_lock( omp_lock_t *);
omp_test_lock(  omp_lock_t *);
(omp_lock_t
is really an array of 4 unsigned chars)
Blocks if the lock is not available
Then sets it and returns when it is available
If the lock is not available, returns 0
If the lock is available, sets it and returns 10
(omp_lock_t is a really an array of 4 unsigned chars)

Critical sections
#pragma omp critical
Restricts execution to one thread at a time
#pragma omp single
Restricts execution to a single thread ever

Barriers
#pragma omp barrier
Forces each thread to wait here until all threads arrive

(Note: there is an implied barrier after parallel for loops and OpenMP sections,
unless the nowait clause is used)
# Synchronization Example

```c
omp_lock_t Sync;
...
omp_init_lock( &Sync );
...
omp_set_lock( &Sync );
omp_set_lock( &Sync );
<< code that needs the mutual exclusion >>
<< code that needs the mutual exclusion >>
omp_unset_lock( &Sync );
omp_unset_lock( &Sync );
```

---

## Single-thread-execution Synchronization

```c
#pragma omp single
```

Restricts execution to a single thread ever. This is used when an operation only makes sense for one thread to do. Reading data from a file is a good example.

---

## Creating Sections of OpenMP Code

```c
#pragma omp parallel sections
{
#pragma omp section
{
Task 1
}
#pragma omp section
{
Task 2
}
```

Sections are independent blocks of code, able to be assigned to separate threads if they are available.

(Note: there is an implied barrier after parallel for loops and OpenMP sections, unless the nowait clause is used)

---

## What do OpenMP Sections do for You?

They decrease your overall execution time.

```c
omp_set_num_threads( 1 );
omp_set_num_threads( 2 );
omp_set_num_threads( 3 );
```

---

## A Functional Decomposition Sections Example

```c
#pragma omp parallel sections
{
#pragma omp section
{
Watcher( );
}
#pragma omp section
{
Animals( );
}
#pragma omp section
{
Plants( );
}
}
```

A Functional Decomposition Sections Example

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{
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(Note: there is an implied barrier after parallel for loops and OpenMP sections, unless the nowait clause is used)
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### A Potential OpenMP/Visual Studio Compiler Problem

If you print to standard error (stderr), like I do, then you think that you need to include `stderr` in the shared list because, well, you use it:

```
#pragma omp parallel for default(none) shared(a,b,stderr)
```

This turns out to be true for `g++/gcc` only.

If you are using Visual Studio, then do **not** include `stderr` in the list. If you do, you will get this error:

```
Y:\CS575\SQ22\robertw5-01\Project1\Project1.cpp(113,98): error C2059: syntax error: '('
```

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