OpenMP
OpenMP

• Programming language extension
  – Compiler support required
  – "Open Multi-Processing"
  – Open standard: latest version is 5.1 (released Nov 2020)
  – Managed by a consortium: openmp.org

• “Automatic” thread-level parallelism
  – Guided by programmer-supplied directives (pragmas)
  – Does NOT verify correctness of parallel transformations
  – Targets shared-memory systems
  – Used in distributed systems for on-node parallelism
Technology comparison

- **Cilk / Cilk Plus**
  - Language extension - new keywords: spawn, sync, cilk_for
  - Purchased by Intel in 2009; losing steam now

- **Intel Thread Building Blocks (TBB)**
  - Template library (C++ only)
  - Gaining popularity, but fairly complicated to use

- **OpenMP**
  - Directive-based; supported by most major compilers
  - Currently the most popular CPU-based technology

- **OpenACC**
  - Directive-based; similar to OpenMP
  - Primarily aimed at GPU parallelism (driven by NVIDIA)
Fork-join threading

- OpenMP provides **directives** to control threading
  - General ***fork-join*** threading model w/ **teams** of threads
  - One **main** (or “master”) thread and multiple **worker** threads

C preprocessor (261 review)

- Text-based processing phase of compilation
  - Can be run individually with “cpp”
  - Performs textual modifications on program code

```
#define MAX_LEN 128

char name[MAX_LEN];
snprintf(name, MAX_LEN, "%s", argv[1]);
```

Before

```
char name[128];
snprintf(name, 128, "%s", argv[1]);
```

After
C preprocessor (261 review)

- Controlled by directives on lines beginning with “#”
  - Must be the first non-whitespace character
  - Alignment is a matter of personal style

```c
#include <stdio.h>
#define FOO
#define BAR 5

int main() {
    #ifdef FOO
    printf("Hello!\n");
    #else
    printf("Goodbye!\n");
    #endif
    printf("%d\n", BAR);
    return 0;
}

my preference
```

```c
#include <stdio.h>
#define FOO
#define BAR 5

int main() {
    ifdef FOO
    printf("Hello!\n");
    else
    printf("Goodbye!\n");
    endif
    printf("%d\n", BAR);
    return 0;
}
```
Pragmas

- **#pragma** - generic preprocessor directive
  - Provides direction or info to later compiler phases
  - Ignored by compilers that don't support it
  - All OpenMP pragma directives begin with "omp"
  - Basic threading directive: "parallel"
    - Runs the following code construct in fork/join parallel threads
    - Implicit barrier at end of construct

```c
#pragma play(global_thermonuclear_war)
do_something();

#pragma omp parallel
  do_something_else();
```
Compiling and running w/ OpenMP

- Must `#include <omp.h>`
- Must compile with `"-fopenmp" flag`

```
gcc -g -std=c99 -Wall -fopenmp -o omp omp.c
srun ./omp
```

- Use `OMP_NUM_THREADS` environment variable to set thread count
  - Default value is core count (w/ hyper-threads)

```
OMP_NUM_THREADS=4 srun ./omp
```
"Hello World" example

```c
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <omp.h>

int main(int argc, char *argv[])
{
    #pragma omp parallel
    printf("Hello!\n");

    printf("Goodbye!\n");

    return EXIT_SUCCESS;
}
```
Mutual exclusion

- Use "critical" directive to enforce mutual exclusion
  - Only one thread at a time can execute the following construct
  - A critical section can optionally be named
    - Sections that share a name share exclusivity
    - CAUTION: all unnamed sections “share” a name!

```c
#pragma omp critical(gres)
global_result += my_result;
```
Pragma scope

Most OpenMP pragmas apply to the immediately-following statement or block
  - Not necessarily just the next line!

```c
#pragma omp parallel
printf("hello!\n");

#pragma omp parallel
{
    int a = 0;
    ... 
    global_var += a;
}

#pragma omp parallel
total += a * b + c;

#pragma omp parallel
for (i = 0; i < n; i++) {
    sum += i;
}

Warning: different semantics from #pragma omp parallel for
```
Functions

• Built-in functions:
  - `omp_get_num_threads()`
    • Returns the number of threads in the current team
    • Similar to MPI_Comm_size
  - `omp_get_max_threads()`
    • Returns the maximum number of threads in a team
    • Can be used outside a parallel region
  - `omp_get_thread_num()`
    • Returns the caller's thread ID within the current team
    • Similar to MPI_Comm_rank
  - `omp_get_wtime()`
    • Returns the elapsed wall time in seconds
    • Similar to MPI_Wtime
Trapezoid example (from textbook)

Is this task or data parallelism?

What problem(s) might we run into?
Trapezoid example (from textbook)

- **Solution:**  
  (w/ some non-OMP code omitted for brevity)

```c
int main() {
    double global_result = 0.0;

    #pragma omp parallel
trapezoid(&global_result);

    printf("Estimated area: %.14e\n", global_result);
}

void trapezoid(double* global_result) {
    double my_result;

    int my_tid = omp_get_thread_num();
    int num_threads = omp_get_num_threads()
    // calculate my_result based on my_tid and num_threads

    #pragma omp critical
    *global_result += my_result;
}
```
Incremental parallelization

- Pragmas allow **incremental parallelization**
  - Gradually add parallel constructs
  - OpenMP programs can be correct serial programs when compiled without "-fopenmp"
    - Silence the pragma warnings with "-Wno-unknown-pragmas"
    - Still need to guard the `#include` and function calls
  - Use "_OPENMP" preprocessor variable to test
    - If defined, it is safe to call OpenMP functions

```c
#ifdef _OPENMP
#include <omp.h>
#endif

int my_rank = omp_get_thread_num();
int thread_count = omp_get_num_threads();
#endif

int my_rank = 0;
int thread_count = 1;
#endif
```
Barriers

- Explicit barrier: "barrier" directive
  - All threads must sync

```c
#pragma omp barrier
```
Directives can be modified by clauses

- Text that follows the directive
- Some clauses take parameters
- E.g., "num_threads"

```c
#pragma omp parallel num_threads(thread_count)
```

**WARNING**: Only use the “num_threads” clause if you wish to hard-code the number of threads (this is not considered best practice for OpenMP!)
Single-thread regions

- Implicit barrier: "single" directive
  - Only one thread executes the following construct
    - Could be any thread; don’t assume it’s the first/main thread
    - For main-thread-only, use “master” directive
  - All threads must sync at end of directive
    - Use “nowait” clause to prevent this implicit barrier

```c
#pragma omp single
global_result /= 2;

#pragma omp single nowait
global_iter_count++;
```
Reductions

- The `reduction(op:var)` clause applies an operator to a sequence of operands to get a single result
  - Similar to MPI_Reduce
  - In OpenMP, uses a shared-memory reduction variable (var)
  - All intermediate/final values are stored in the reduction variable
  - OpenMP handles synchronization (implicit mutex)
  - Supported operations (op): +, -, *, &, |, ^, &&, ||, min, max

```c
double foo = 0.0;
#pragma omp parallel reduction(+:foo)
foo += (do_calc() * PI)/2.0;
```
Scope of variables

• In OpenMP, each variable has a thread "scope"
  - **Shared** scope: accessible by all threads in team
    • Default for variables declared **before** a parallel block
  - **Private** scope: accessible by only a single thread
    • Default for variables declared **inside** a parallel block

```c
double foo = 0.0; // shared
#pragma omp parallel
{
    double bar = do_calc() * PI; // private
    #pragma omp critical
    foo = foo + bar/2.0;
}
```
The "default" clause changes the default scope for variables declared outside the parallel block

- **default(none)** mandates explicit scope declaration
  - Use "shared" and "private" clauses
  - Compiler will check that you declared all variables
  - This is good programming practice and **required in CS 470**

```c
#include <omp.h>

double sum = 0.0;

#pragma omp parallel for num_threads(thread_count) \ 
  default(none) reduction(+:sum) private(k, factor) \ 
  shared(n)
for (k = 0; k < n; k++) {
  if (k % 2 == 0)
    factor = 1.0;
  else
    factor = -1.0;
  sum += factor/(2*k+1);
}
Private variable nuances

- Sometimes it is useful to have a variable that is neither completely shared nor completely private
- Use `firstprivate` to initialize with the value before parallel region
  - Useful if all threads need to start with the same value but later diverge
- Use `lastprivate` to save last value after parallel region

```c
int i;
#pragma omp parallel
{
#pragma omp for lastprivate(i)
    for (i = 0; i < n-1; i++)
        a[i] = b[i] + b[i+1];
}
a[i] = b[i];
```
Parallel for loops

• The "parallel for" directive parallelizes a loop
  – Probably the most powerful and most-used directive
  – Divides loop iterations among a team of threads
  – **CAVEAT**: the for-loop must have a very particular form

```
for
  index = start ; index >= end ; index += incr
  index < end
  index <= end
  index > end
  index --
  --index
  index++
  ++index
  index = index + incr
  index = incr + index
  index = index - incr
```
Parallel for loops

- The compiler must be able to determine the number of iterations prior to the execution of the loop

- Implications/restrictions:
  - The number of iterations must be finite (no "for (; ;)")
  - The `break` statement cannot be used (although `exit()` is ok)
  - The `index` variable must have an integer or pointer type
  - The `index` variable must only be modified by the "increment" part of the loop declaration
  - The `index`, `start`, `end`, and `incr` expressions/variables must all have compatible types
  - The `start`, `end`, and `incr` expressions must not change during execution of the loop
**Issue: correctness**

```
fib[0] = fib[1] = 1;
for (i = 2; i < n; i++)
    fib[i] = fib[i-1] + fib[i-2];
```

but sometimes we get this (w/ 2 threads)

```
fib[0] = fib[1] = 1;
#pragma omp parallel for
for (i = 2; i < n; i++)
    fib[i] = fib[i-1] + fib[i-2];
```

1 1 2 3 5 8 13 21 34 55

this is correct

1 1 2 3 5 8 0 0 0 0 0
Loop dependencies

- A loop has a **data dependence** if one iteration depends on another iteration
  - Explicitly (as in Fibonacci example) or implicitly
  - Includes side effects!
  - Sometimes called **loop-carried dependence**

- A loop with dependencies cannot (usually) be parallelized correctly by OpenMP
  - Identifying dependencies is very important!
  - OpenMP does not check for them
Loop dependencies

• Examples:

```c
for (i = 0; i < n; i++) {
    a[i] = b[i] * c[i];
}
OK!
```

```c
for (i = 0; i < n; i++) {
    a[i] += b[i]
}
OK!
```

```c
for (i = 0; i < n; i++) {
    a[i] += a[i]
}
OK!
```

```c
for (i = 1; i < n; i++) {
    a[i] += a[i-1]
}  // BAD! (iteration i depends on i-1)
```

```c
for (i = 1; i < n; i += 2) {
    a[i] += a[i-1]
}  // OK!
```

```c
for (i = 1; i < n; i++) {
    a[i] += b[i-1]
}  // OK!
```
Loop scheduling

- Use the `schedule` clause to control how parallel for-loop iterations are allocated to threads
  - Modified by `chunksize` parameter
  - `static`: split into chunks before loop is executed
  - `dynamic`: split into chunks, dynamically allocated to threads (similar to thread pool or tasks)
  - `guided`: like dynamic, but chunk sizes decrease
    - The specified chunksize is the minimum
  - `auto`: allows the compiler or runtime to choose
  - `runtime`: allows specification using `OMP_SCHEDULE`
Loop scheduling

## Loop scheduling

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Parallel regions

- Often useful: multiple for-loops inside a parallel region
  - Many pragmas bind dynamically to any active parallel region
  - Less thread creation/joining overhead
  - Private variables can be re-used across multiple loops

```
#    pragma omp parallel
#       pragma omp for
for (int i = 0; i < n; i++) {
    do_something_parallel();
}
#       pragma omp single
    do_something_serial();
#    pragma omp parallel for
for (int j = 0; j < m; j++) {
    do_something_else_parallel();
}
```

```
#    pragma omp parallel
    {
        #    pragma omp parallel for
        for (int i = 0; i < n; i++) {
            do_something_parallel();
        }

        #    pragma omp single
        do_something_serial();

        #    pragma omp parallel for
        for (int j = 0; j < m; j++) {
            do_something_else_parallel();
        }
    }
```

Original    Faster
The parallel for loop only applies to the loop layer that you specify
- For nested loops, use the `collapse` clause to combine iteration spaces
- Spaces must be “square”
  - i.e., inner loop iteration count should not depend on outer loop value
  - Project note: this is NOT the case for many loops in P3!

```c
#pragma omp parallel for collapse(2)
for (i = 0; i < n; i++) {
    // row
    for (j = 0; j < n; j++) {
        // column
        a[i*n + j] = 1.0;
    }
}
```
Atomics

- OpenMP provides access to highly-efficient hardware synchronization mechanisms
  - Use the `atomic` pragma to annotate a single statement
  - Statement must be a single increment/decrement or in the following form:
    - `x <op> <expr>;`  // `<op>` can be +, -, *, /, &, |, ^, <<, >>
  - Many ISAs provide an atomic load/modify/store instruction
    - In x86-64, specified using the LOCK prefix
    - Far more efficient than using a mutex (i.e., `critical`)  
      - This requires multiple function calls!
OpenMP provides a basic locking system

- Useful for protecting a data structure rather than a region of code
- `omp_lock_t`: lock variable
  - Similar to `pthread_mutex_t`
- `omp_lock_init`: initialize lock
  - Similar to `pthread_mutex_init`
- `omp_set_lock`: acquire lock
  - Similar to `pthread_mutex_lock`
- `omp_unset_lock`: release lock
  - Similar to `pthread_mutex_unlock`
- `omp_lock_destroy`: clean up a lock
  - Similar to `pthread_mutex_destroy`
Thread safety

• Don't **mix** mutual exclusion mechanisms
  - #pragma omp critical
  - #pragma omp atomic
  - omp_set_lock()

• Don't **nest** mutual exclusion mechanisms
  - Nesting unnamed critical sections **guarantees** deadlock!
    • The thread cannot enter the second section because it is still in the first section, and unnamed sections “share” a name
  - If you must, use **named** critical sections or **nested** locks
Nested locks

• Simple vs. nested locks
  - `omp_nest_lock_*` instead of `omp_lock_*`
  - A nested lock may be acquired multiple times
    • Must be in the same thread
    • Must be released the same number of times
    • Allows you to write functions that call each other but need to acquire the same lock
OpenMP is most often used for **data parallelism** (parallel for)
However, it also supports explicit **task parallelism**

Pre-OpenMP 3.0 mechanism: sections directive
- Contains multiple section blocks; each section runs on separate thread
- Must list all sections in same location (cannot dynamically add new tasks)
- Implicit barrier at end (unless `nowait` clause is specified)

```
#pragma omp parallel sections
{
    #pragma omp section
    producer();
    #pragma omp section
    consumer();
}
```
Tasks

- Post-OpenMP 3.0 mechanism: task directive
  - Similar to thread pool task model
  - Tasks are assigned to available worker threads by the runtime
    - Tasks may be deferred if no workers available
  - No implicit barrier; use taskwait directive if needed
  - Use single region if only one thread should begin (e.g., recursion)
    - Use nowait clause to allow other threads to run tasks

```c
main:
#   pragma omp parallel
#   pragma omp single nowait
quick_sort(items, n);

quicksort:  
    <select pivot and partition>
    // recursively sort each partition
#   pragma omp task
    quick_sort(items, p+1);
#   pragma omp task
    quick_sort(items+q, n-q);
#   pragma omp taskwait
```
SIMD support

• Post-OpenMP 4.0 mechanism: `simd` directive
  - Enables generation of vector instructions (e.g., SSE or AVX)
  - Can encode some loop-carried dependencies using `safelen(X)` directive

```c
#pragma omp simd
{
  for (i=0; i<N; i++) {
    a[i] = a[i] + b[i] * c[i];
  }
}

#pragma omp simd safelen(4)
{
  for (i=0; i<(N-4); i++) {
    a[i] = a[i+4] + b[i] * c[i];
  }
}
```
GPU support

- Post-OpenMP 4.0/4.5 mechanism: target directive
  - Offloads computation to a device (e.g., GPU)
  - Data management using map directive with from and to clauses

```c
void vec_mult(int N)
{
    int i;
    float p[N], v1[N], v2[N];
    init(v1, v2, N);
    # pragma omp target map(to: v1, v2) map(from: p)
    # pragma omp parallel for
    for (i=0; i<N; i++) {
        p[i] = v1[i] * v2[i];
    }
    output(p, N);
}
```

More OpenMP examples

- Posted in /shared/cs470
  - For-loop scheduling (omp-sched)
  - Critical sections and deadlock (omp-deadlock)
  - The ‘atomic’ directive (omp-atomic)
  - Tasks (omp-qsort)
  - Matrix multiplication (omp-matmult)