### Advanced Computer Architecture Thread Programming

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### Your very first **useful** program with Pthreads

### Edge Detection Program





### Principle



Source: http://stats.stackexchange.com/questions/114385/what-is-the-difference-between-convolutional-neural-networks-restricted-boltzma

### The Files

You can download a file from Linux command line with **wget.** 

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The files are under http://trouve.sakura.ne.jp/ aca/img\_kernel.step1

- bmp.h: prototypes of the utility functions
- **bmp.c**: implementation of the utility functions
- img\_kernel.step1.c: the main function

### Edge Detection Program Flow (in img\_kernel.c)





```
#include "./bmp.h"
```

```
double edge kernel matrix[3][3] = {
};
double blur kernel matrix[5][5] = {
int main(int argc, char* argv[]) {
 if(argc!=3) { printf("Please specify the names of the input and output files in parameters:\n\t %s
<input.bmp> <output.bmp>\n", argv[0]); exit(-1); }
  printf("Reads the file %s ... \n", argv[1]);
  unsigned char info[54];
  data = read bmp(argv[1], info);
  if(data==NULL) { printf("Unable to open the file. Exit...\n"); return -1; }
  printf("Applies the kernel ... \n");
  int width = BMP WIDTH(info);
  int height = BMP HEIGHT(info);
  new data = malloc(width*height*sizeof(bmp pixel t));
  applyMatrix 33((unsigned char*)BMP PIXEL(data,0,1,width), (unsigned char*)BMP PIXEL(new data,
D,1,width), width, height-1, edge kernel matrix);
  printf("Writes the output file in %s ...", argv[2]);
  if(write bmp(argv[2], new data, info)==-1) {
    printf("Unable to write the file. Exit...\n"); return -1;
  free(data);
```

# The Serial Version of the Program

#### img\_kernel.step1.c

The main function only

#### #include "./bmp.h"

<pre>/* Edge detection */ double edge_kernel_matrix[3][3] = {     {-1, -1, -1},     {-1, 8, -1},     {-1, -1, -1} };</pre>	
<pre>/* Identity */ double id_kernel_matrix[3][3] = {     {0, 0, 0},     {0, 1, 0},     {0, 0, 0} };</pre>	
<pre>/* blur */ double blur_kernel_matrix[5][5] = {     {1.0/273.0, 4.0/273.0, 7.0/273.0, 4.0/273.0, 1.0/273.0},     {4.0/273.0, 16.0/273.0, 26.0/273.0, 16.0/273.0, 4.0/273.0},     {7.0/273.0, 26.0/273.0, 41.0/273.0, 26.0/273.0, 7.0/273.0},     {4.0/273.0, 16.0/273.0, 26.0/273.0, 16.0/273.0, 4.0/273.0},     {1.0/273.0, 4.0/273.0, 7.0/273.0, 4.0/273.0, 1.0/273.0} };</pre>	
<pre>int main(</pre>	d outp
printf("Reads the file %s\n", argv[1]);	
<pre>unsigned char info[54]; /* Reads the file and allocates the data in the heap */ unsigned char* data = read_BMP(argv[1], info);</pre>	
if(data == NULL) { printf("Unable to open the file Exit ) n") +	rotur
/* Does some stuff */ printf("Applies the kernel\n");	
<pre>// extracts image height and width from header int width = BMP_WIDTH(info); int height = BMP_HEIGHT(info);</pre>	

unsigned char\* new\_data = malloc(width\*height\*sizeof(bmp\_pixel\_t))

applyMatrix\_33((unsigned char\*)BMP\_PIXEL(data,0,1,width), (unsigned char\*)BMP\_PIXEL(new\_data, 1,width), width, height-1, edge kernel matrix);

printf("Writes the output file in %s ...", argv[2]);

/\* Writes the BMP to a file and frees the data from the heap \*/
if(write\_and\_free\_BMP(argv[2], new\_data, info)==-1) {
 printf("Unable to write the file. Exit...\n"); return -1;
}

free(data);

return 0;

The Serial Version of the Program img\_kernel.c

Pre-defined kernel matrix

Reads the bmp file

Creates a new image buffer

Applies the matrix

 Writes the output file and frees data

files in parameters:\n\t

### Compile / Link / Execute

① Compile and link the program

> gcc img\_kernel.step1.c bmp.c -lpthread -o img\_kernel.step1.out

#### 2 Execute

> ./img\_kernel.step1.out ~/examples/img/afghan.bmp afghan.out.bmp

#### afghan.bmp



#### afghan.out.bmp

You can use a smaller image if the network is slow: <u>http://trouve.sakura.ne.jp/aca/afghan.small.bmp</u>

### Exercise 1

- Compile and execute the program. Try with afghan.bmp.
- Try with other matrices, maybe your own !

### Exercise 2

 Modify the program so that it applies function remove\_red before edge detection. Call it img\_kernel.step2



### Check your output







#### Before

### Hint for Exercise 2



Let us Parallelize it

### Reminder of a Simple Pthread Program



### Affect a Rank to Thread

- It is common to affect a number to threads in order to identify them
  - We call it the rank of a thread
- In pthread, there is no automatic way to get the rank of a thread
- You can do it manually in pthread by passing arguments to the thread function



### About Measuring Execution Time

 One of the major motivation for parallelization is performance improvement:

 $speedup = \frac{execution \ time \ after \ parallelization}{execution \ time \ before \ parallelization}$ 

There are two ways to measure execution time

- Wall clock time: the actual time spent
- CPU time: the amount of time the CPU was actually making calculations. If threads are used, sums up all the time spent in all threads
- We are interested in **wall clock time**.

### Measuring Execution Time in Linux

Add **time** before the command to measure

me ./img\_kernel.step3.out ~/examples/img/afghan.bmp afghan.out.bmp



### Exercise 3

You can get step2 from http://trouve.sakura.ne.jp/ aca/img\_kernel.step2 if you're not confident with yours

- Modify the program so that it executes with two worker threads. Use dataparallelism. Call it img\_kernel.step3
- Is it faster than img\_kernel.step2 ?

#### Note:

- A possibility for thread to share variables is to use globals.
- Don't worry too much about artifacts

Worker 1

Worker 2

### Who gets That ?



If you don't, force a thread to wait a little with a sleep()



### Who gets That ?



If you don't, force a thread to wait a little with a sleep()

### Global Variable Mess



### Reminder: The memory Model

- All threads share the same memory space
- · All threads can access

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- · The global variables
- The memory dynamically allocated
- The can even access other thread's stack with pointers
  - This is often not a good idea



### Global Variable Mess

#### The problem

- All threads share the global variables
- Any modification in one thread impacts the other ones
- · In our example
  - Both threads share data and new\_data
- Both threads invert data and **new data**, that is, we invert two times · Possible fix
  - Only invert once 
    We use this one
  - Use local variables



### Exercise

### Modify **img\_kernel.step3.c** so that it only inverts the variables once



#### But the output is still strange…

### Race Condition

- A race might condition occurs when one thread writes a data read by another one
  If we do not use any synchronization, we do not
  - know in which order the read / write occurs

### Example of Race Condition



## Thread Synchronization

# What is Thread Synchronization

- A pool of techniques to control the order in which instructions in threads are executed
- · We will look at two kinds of synchronization
  - · Critical sections
  - · Barriers
- · Those are often implemented using
  - · Mutex
  - · Semaphore

### Critical Sections

- Critical sections make sure that at any time, at most one instance of a given code is under execution
- Some also use the term atomic sections
- There are no guarantee in which order critical sections are executes
- A critical section may execute concurrently to a non-critical one



### Barrier

- A barrier is another method to synchronize threads
- We say a thread "hits" a barrier
  A barrier consists in making all the threads wait at a given point in the code
- There is no guarantee of the order in which threads hit a barrier



### Mutual Exclusion Locks

 One can protect critical sections with mutual exclusion lock, or mutex

A mutex is a resource that should be

- Locked at the beginning of the critical section
  Unlocked at the end of it
- If a thread tries to reserve a mutex already locked, it waits until it is unlocked
- Only the thread that locked a mutex can unlock it

### Protect a Critical Section with a Mutex



- Lock/unlock the mutex at the beginning/end of the critical section
- Any thread that try to lock the mutex before it unlock will have to wait



- · The above is one line of C code
  - $\cdot\,$  It aims at affecting a different id (in myld) to threads
  - · We want myld to be different for each thread
- · Problem:
  - It is not atomic: two threads may end up with the same value in myld.

#### Example: if two threads run this way



### No problem
#### Example: but if two threads run this way



#### The threads have the same value !

# Quizz

How would you use mutex to fix this code so that all threads have a different myld ?



read myId from memory at &nextId
myId = myId + 1
write myId to memory at &nextId

# Semaphore

- · A semaphore is similar to a mutex
  - They are resources that can be locked and unlocked
  - They allow to make thread to wait for events
- · However, there are differences
  - They can be locked several times
  - They can by unlocked by any thread, not only the one that locked it

# Principle of a Semaphore

- · A semaphore contains a positive integer value
- · The value is decreased upon lock
- The value is increased upon unlock
- When a thread tries to unlock a semaphore at 0, it waits until some other thread unlocks it once.
- · It possible to initialize it at any value, for example:
  - $\cdot$  **0**. the semaphore needs to be unlocked
  - · 1. the semaphore can be locked once
  - n. the semaphore can be locked n times consecutively

# Mutex in Pthread

• Mutex variable (stores state)

pthread\_mutex\_t mutex;

- Lock a mutex (or wait if already locked)
   pthread mutex lock(&mutex);
- Unlock a mutex

pthread mutex unlock(&mutex);

# Quizz

How would you implement a barrier with a mutex ?

Put in a critical section !

Count the number of threads that hit the barrier

Wait until all the threads have hit the barrier

```
int nb_threads = 2;
int barrier_count = 0;
pthread_mutex_t mutex;
void* do_thread(void* arg) {
 [...]
pthread_mutex_lock(&mutex);
barrier_count++;
pthread_mutex_unlock(&mutex);
```

while(barrier\_count!=nb\_threads);

#### This is called **busy wait**

# Exercise

 Adds barriers to img\_kernel.step3.c to make it work. Call it img\_kernel.step4.c

You need two barriers

What you should get



# Problem with Busy Wait

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```
int nb_threads = 2;
int barrier_count = 0;
pthread_mutex_t mutex;
```

```
void* do_thread(void* arg) {
   [...]
```

```
pthread_mutex_lock(&mutex);
barrier_count++;
pthread_mutex_unlock(&mutex);
```

```
while(barrier_count!=nb_threads);
[...]
```

- The while loop keeps the processor busy
- This approach can be very inefficient if:
  - The thread has to wait for a long time
  - Two threads are running on the same processor

# Semaphore in C

Semaphore are not part of Pthread. On need to include "semaphore.h"

· Semaphore variable (stores state)



· Initialize a semaphore to n

sem\_init(&sem, 0, n);

Lock a semaphore (or wait if already locked)

sem wait(&sem);

· Unlock a semaphore

sem post(&sem);

### Waits for the semaphore to be ≠0 Decrements it

Decrements a semaphore

# Quizz

How would you implement a barrier with a semaphore ?

```
int nb threads = 2;
int barrier count = 0;
pthread mutex t mutex;
sem t semaphore;
sem init(semaphore, 0, 0)
void* do thread(void* arg) {
  [...]
  pthread mutex lock(&mutex);
  if(barrier1 count==nb threads-1) {
    pthread mutex unlock(&mutex);
    for(j=0;j<nb threads-1; j++) { sem post(&semaphore); }</pre>
  } else {
    barrier1 count++;
    pthread mutex unlock(&mutex);
    sem wait(&semaphore);
  [...]
```



int nb threads = 2;int barrier count = 0;③ Checks and update the barrier counter: pthread mutex t mutex; sem t semaphore; - protect with a mutex - all threads have hit the barrier if barrier\_count = sem init(semaphore, 0, 0) nb\_threads-1 (in this case, do not update the counter) void\* do thread(void\* arg) { [...] pthread\_mutex lock(&mutex) f(barrierl count==nb threads pthread mutex unlock(&mutex); for(j=0;j<nb threads-1; j++) sem post(&semaphore); } else · barrier1 count++; pthread mutex unlock(&mutex); sem wait(&semaphore); [...]

```
int nb threads = 2;
int barrier count = 0;
pthread mutex t mutex;
sem t semaphore;
sem init(semaphore, 0, 0)
void* do thread(void* arg) {
  [...]
  pthread mutex lock(&mutex);
  if (barrier1 count==nb threads-1) {
    pthread mutex unlock(&mutex);
    for(j=0;j<nb threads-1; j++) { sem post(&semaphore); }</pre>
  } else {
    barrier1 count++;
    pthread mutex unlock (&mutex);
    sem wait(&semaphore);
             ④ If not all threads have hit the barrier, wait for it
  [...]
             to be unlocked with a sem_post.
             Note: sem_wait blocks because the semaphore
             has been initialized to 0
```

```
int nb threads = 2;
int barrier count = 0;
pthread mutex t mutex;
sem t semaphore;
sem init(semaphore, 0, 0)
void* do thread(void* arg) {
  [...]
                                          5 Releases the barrier. Need to release
                                          it once for each waiting thread.
  pthread mutex lock(&mutex);
  if(barrier1 count==nb threads-1) {
    pthread mutex unlock(&mutex);
    for (j=0; j < nb threads -1; j++)
                                     sem post(&semaphore);
   else {
    barrier1 count++;
    pthread mutex unlock(&mutex);
    sem wait(&semaphore);
  [...]
```

# Exercise

 Modify img\_kernel.step4.c to use a semaphore instead of a busy wait. Call the program img\_kernel.step5.c.



# Problems of Mutex / Semaphores

# Deadlock (Example)

· Let us consider this program

# Thread 0Thread 1t=0pthread\_mutex\_lock(&mutex1);pthread\_mutex\_lock(&mutex2);t=1pthread\_mutex\_lock(&mutex2);pthread\_mutex\_lock(&mutex1);

### What happens ?

# Deadlock (Example)

· Let us consider this program

# Thread 0Thread 1t=0pthread\_mutex\_lock(&mutex1);pthread\_mutex\_lock(&mutex2);t=1pthread\_mutex\_lock(&mutex2);pthread\_mutex\_lock(&mutex1);Thread 0 waits<br/>for thread 1Thread 1 waits<br/>for thread 0

# Problem 1: Deadlock

- A dead lock occurs when two processes wait for each other
- · It results in both threads to wait forever
- Deadlocks are often very hard to detect in programs

# Exercise

 Implement a simple Pthread program that creates a deadlock with two threads and two mutex

# Problem 2: Serialization

- Code protected by critical sections and barriers cannot be executed in parallel anymore: they are serial
- This reduces the "amount of parallelism" of a program, therefore, the performance

**Amdahl's Law:** the speedup of parallel program is limited by its serial components. The speedup of a parallel program can be calculated as:

$$S(N) = \frac{1}{(1-P) + \frac{P}{N}}$$

N: number of threads

P amount of the program that can

execute in parallel



http://ja.wikipedia.org/wiki/アムダールの法則

# Rule of the Thumb

Avoid as most as possible any synchronization in programs because:

· It reduces performance

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· It raise the probability of bug

Most of the time, it boils down to avoiding to write in global variable

A common mean to achieve this is to **use local** variables

- · Copy the content of global variables into local ones
- Modify the local ones only
- · It is however not possible every time

# Exercise

 Remove the need for any synchronization from img\_kernel.step5.c by using local variables. Call it img\_kernel.step6.c.

You will need to modify the functions remove\_red and apply\_matrix33

# Quizz

Is it possible to remove synchronization in the code below ?

```
int nextId = 0;
pthread_mutex_t mutex;
void* do_thread(void* arg) {
   pthread_mutex_lock(&mutex);
   int myId = nextId++;
   pthread_mutex_unlock(&mutex);
[...]
}
```

# Simple Threading with OpenMP

# What is OpenMP

- Pthread is hard to use
  - · It require a lot of extra code (compared to a sequential program)
  - One need to implement by hand even common threading patterns
- OpenMP aims at reducing the amount of extra code, especially for simple threading patterns such as:
  - · Data parallelism
  - · Barriers
  - $\cdot$  Critical section
  - It consists of
    - $\cdot$  Compiler directives
    - · A library
    - $\cdot$  Some environment variables

You need a specific compiler !

# Data Parallelism in OpenMP

#### Sequential Program





#### **OpenMP** Program

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

```
int main() {
    int ID;
```

#pragma omp parallel num\_threads(10)
{
 ID=omp\_get\_thread\_num();
 printf("Hello %d\n", ID);

```
return 0;
```



# Parallelize a for Loop

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

int main() {
 int i, ID;

#pragma omp parallel for num\_threads(10)
for(i=0; i<20; i++) {
 ID=omp\_get\_thread\_num();
 printf("Hello %d -> %d\n", ID, i);

return 0;

Distribute the 20 iterations of the loop in 10 threads

# Exercise

- Write, compile and execute the programs of the two previous slides
- Note to compile, use the flag "-fopenmp" in the command line

gcc understands OpenMP

<pre>#include <stdio.h></stdio.h></pre>	<pre>student@ip-ac1f162f:~/examples/openmp\$ ./openmp1.out</pre>
<pre>#include <omp.h></omp.h></pre>	Hello 1
	Hello 2
<pre>int main() {</pre>	Hello 3
int ID;	Hello 4
#nragma omn narallel num threads (10)	Hello 5
{	Hello 6
<pre> ID=omp get thread num();</pre>	
<pre>printf("Hello %d\n", ID);</pre>	Hello Ø
}	Hello 9
, return 0; The exe	cution order is
} not n	radictable l
ποιρ	<pre>recurctable fight ~/examples/openmp\$ ./openmp2.out</pre>
	Hello $2 \rightarrow 4$
	Hello 2 -> 5 Hello 1 $>$ 2
	Hello 1 $\rightarrow$ 2 Hello 1 $\rightarrow$ 3
	Hello 4 -> 8
<pre>#include <stdio.h></stdio.h></pre>	Hello 4 $\rightarrow$ 9
<pre>#include <omp.h></omp.h></pre>	Hello 6 -> 12
	Hello 6 -> 13
<pre>int main() {</pre>	Hello 8 -> 16
int i, ID;	Hello 8 -> 17
	Hello 0 -> 0
<pre>#pragma omp parallel for num_threads(10)</pre>	Hello 0 -> 1
$ior(1=0; 1<20; 1++) $ {	Hello 3 -> 6
ID=omp_get_thread_num();	Hello 3 -> 7
printi("Hello %a -> %a\n", ID, i);	Hello 7 -> 14
	Hello 7 -> 15
roturn O.	Hello 9 -> 18
	Hello 5 -> 10
	Hello 5 -> 11
	Hello 9 -> 19

# Synchronization with OpenMP

It is possible to express most synchronization techniques in OpenMP

#### **Critical Sections**



#### **Barriers**



# Variable Sharing with OpenMP

- It is possible to define variables as shared and private explicitly
  - private(x,y): make x and y private to threads
  - shared (x,y): make x and y shared between threads
- · By default, variables are shared
### Exercise

You can get it from <a href="http://">http://</a> <a href="http://ternel.step2">ternel.step2</a>

Parallelize img\_kernel.step2.c with OpenMP using barriers. Call it img\_kernel.step7.c

## Major Design Patterns in Thread Programming

#### When do you **Spawn** threads ?

### How do you **divide** the work between threads ?

### How do you **Structure** your program ?

# Thread Creation

#### • Static threads

- The program creates a finite number of threads at startup
- · The programs give tasks to available threads
- · If no thread is available, waits for one to be ready
- · The thread sleeps when the task ends
- **Dynamic** threads
  - · The programs spawns a thread for each task
  - · The thread dies when the task ends

### Divide the Work among Threads Data and Task Parallelism



# Program Structures

Libraries like pThread allows to implement any parallel structure

- · But complex parallel programs tend to be hard to maintain
- Deadlock and performance problems are often hidden behind complexity

 Therefore, people tend to stick to simple structures, the major two being

- · Map reduce
- Producer / consumer

 The formalism of these simple techniques has contributed to the popularity of parallel programming (e.g. Hadoop)

### Program Structure Map Reduce

Map reduce is a very simple design pattern, in two steps Map step

- Many threads are spawn at the same time using data parallelism
- The input data are mapped to the threads (using more-orless complex patterns)
- Reduce step

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- $\cdot$  Upon termination, the output of each thread is gathered
- · All the workers are often synchronized with a barrier



### Program Structure Producer / Consumer

- Producer / Consumer is a simple design patterns that allows to distribute work among threads
- $\cdot\,$  It is articulated around two types of threads (non-synchronous)
  - · The producer ones: create work to do
  - The **consumer**: pick up work to do
- $\cdot\,$  The "work to do" is stored in a data structure in shared memory
  - · Protected by a mutex or a semaphore



## Homework (if you feel like it)

 Implement the image kernel application with a consumer / producer design pattern

### Word of the end Parallelism should be use wisely

### Thread vs. Asynchronous

- Threads are expensive for the system
  - Dedicated stack and structure in the kernels
  - Thread switch is time consuming (system calls, I/D cache misses)
  - This cost sometimes overrides the benefits for threading
  - In particular, I/O intensive programs may gain a lot from asynchronous, non-parallel programming
- Example of web server •
  - I/O intensive (1 network access: about 100ms, that is, 1G clock cycles) <del>41干</del>億
  - · Apache: use one dynamic threads per user request
  - Nginx: use single-thread, asynchronous programming

#### Nginx is 3 times faster, uses far less memory !





http://blog.webfaction.com/2008/12/a-little-holiday-present-10000reqssec-with-nginx-2/





**Note**: the benchmarks consists of serving a lot of small static files

## A Good Book



### お疲れさまでした