

Chapter 8 – Concurrency

Introduction to Programming Languages

First Edition, 2013

Author: Arvind Bansal
© Chapman Hall / CRC Press
ISBN: 978-146-6565142

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Topics Covered



- Concurrent Execution and Abstractions
 - Race Condition; Threads and Dependencies; Synchronization and Mutual Exclusion; Sequential Consistency
- Program Dependency and Automatic Parallelization
 - Control Dependency; Data Dependency; Program Dependency Graph; Parallelization Techniques; Granularity and Execution Efficiency; Program Slicing
- Task and data Parallelism
- Distributed computing
 - Remote Procedures and Parameter Passing in RPC
- Communicating Sequential Processes
- Memory Models of Concurrency
- Concurrent Programming Constructs
- Concurrent Programming in Ada, Java and Emerald

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Introduction



- Goal is to speed up computationally slow programs
- Advantages
 - Efficient execution of programs
 - Efficient utilization of multiple resources
- Levels of parallelism
 - Design new parallel algorithms
 - At algorithm level, identify subtasks that can be executed concurrently
 - Develop smart compilation to automatically incorporate parallelism
 - Write programs with parallel constructs
- Restrictions in exploiting parallelism
 - Waiting for conditional statement on which following statements depend
 - Waiting for statements that produce the data being consumed
 - Waiting when a shared data is being used by one of the processes
- Sequential consistency: the output after exploiting concurrency must be the same as executing sequentially
 - Parallelization should not violate the property of causality

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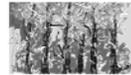
Concurrent Execution and Abstraction



- Approaches to exploit concurrency
 - Parallelizing compilers: sequential programs → concurrent programs
 - Develop concurrent programs using concurrency constructs
- Dependencies limit concurrency
 - Causality of actions
 - Dependency due to control abstractions
 - Dependencies due to update and flow of data
 - Due to order imposed by the programmer in uniprocessor execution
- Dependency imposes sequential execution
 - Dependency to be minimized without violating sequential consistency
 - Causality based sequentiality is inherent and unavoidable
- Causes of sequentiality
 - Limited hardware and data access resources than needed by subtasks
 - Need to avoid racing condition
 - Need to manage shared resources

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Race Conditions



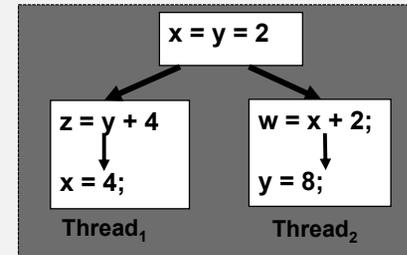
- Race condition violates sequential consistency
 - Caused by the presence of shared variables updated in random order
 - A high level instruction is translated to multiple low level instructions
 - The sharing of result of partial computation by one subtask to another subtask may produce different outcomes inconsistently different than sequential execution
- Maintaining sequential consistency
 - Multiple actions together should be executed as one atomic action
 - To ensure atomicity a Boolean variable called semaphore / lock is set
- Example of race condition (x and w are aliases)
 - $x = 4; y = 8; z = x + y; w = 5; y = 2 * w$
 - Sequential execution gives $x = w = 5; y = 10; z = 12$
 - *Concurrently executed and terminating in the order $x = 4; w = 5; y = 8; z = x + y, y = 2 * w$ gives the value $x = w = 5; y = 10, and z = 13$*

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Threads and Dependencies



- Thread is a sequence of actions
 - light weight process that shares memory space with parent process
- Properties of threads
 - Parent process spawn multiple threads that merge after termination
 - Multiple threads execute concurrently in the same memory space
 - Shared variables need to be handled mutually exclusively by threads
- Dependencies
 - Shared variables introduce dependencies in thread actions
- Example
 - X and y are shared
 - Thread 1 produces value of x
 - Thread 2 produces value of y
 - Thread 1 consumes value of y
 - Thread 2 consumes value of x
 - Only one possibility of execution
 - Follows sequential consistency



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Mutual Exclusion



- Mutual exclusion ensures sequential consistency
 - Only one process at a time. Others wait for their turn.
 - Lack of enforcement may cause incorrect program behavior.
- Mechanism to ensure mutual exclusion
 - Associate a separate lock with every shared resource.
 - Thread using the shared resource sets the lock before entering critical section, and releases after the end of the critical section.
 - Only one thread can grab the lock at a time.
- Problems with locks
 - Starvation of threads if locks are used aggressively.
 - Improper declaration violates mutual exclusion or causes starvation.
 - May cause excessive overhead of waiting if critical section is bigger.
- Monitor provides mutual exclusion among threads
 - Passive high level construct includes all mutually exclusive processes.
 - Uses **critical section** – a small chunk of code where lock is kept.
 - Operations within critical section are **atomic operations**.
 - Uses two operations: **lock** and **release** to ensure mutual exclusion

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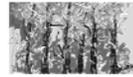
Atomic Operations Issues



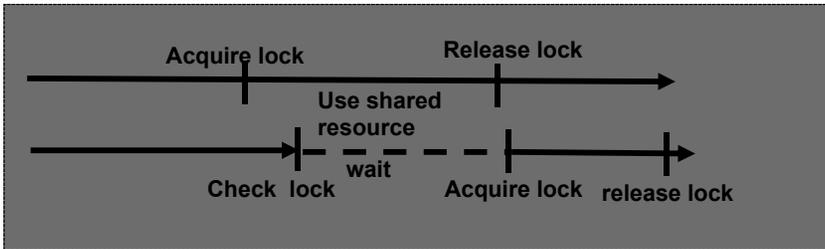
- Multiple threads work simultaneously.
 - All the operations updating shared variables and using the updated value are placed together in a critical section.
 - All the operations in a critical section are treated as one single instruction.
 - Atomicity is enforced using locks.
 - During atomic operation currently subtask will keep the control.
- ```
integer counter; max = 3000;
Thread vote-count:
{ ask; read(vote);
 counter = counter + 1;
if (counter < max)
 vote_array[counter] = vote; }
```
- Explanation
    - Shared variable is index variable counter
    - counter is used access the vote-array
    - If the control is passed to another voter thread after incrementing then counter is incremented by 2, and vote is not recorded

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# Synchronization



- Waiting for other subtasks before executing the next instruction
- Needed to maintain sequential consistency
- Synchronization is needed
  - In the presence of shared variables among multiple threads using lock
  - When a subtask is waiting for an input value to be produced
  - To avoid race condition



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# Program Dependency



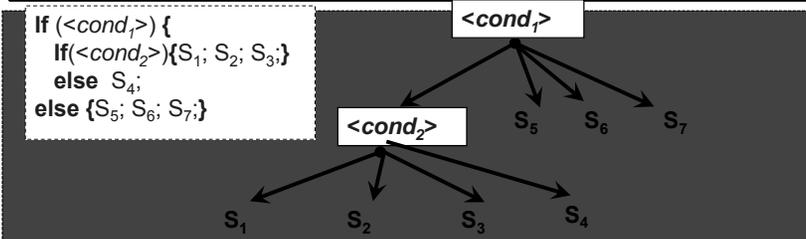
- Sequential consistency
  - The result of concurrent execution is same as sequential execution
  - Possible if the store attained by different permutation is the same
  - Possible if the operations are commutative
  - Store can be split into N mutually exclusive partitions each effected independently by different statement
  - The instructions do not update the store
- Program dependency
  - Statements are executed sequentially to maintain sequential consistency
  - Two types of dependency: control dependency and data dependency
  - Dependency relationship is transitive, antisymmetric and anti-reflexive
- Exploiting concurrency
  - Program's execution order is modeled as a directed acyclic graph
  - Edges between the statements shows control or data dependency
  - Dependent statements are executed sequentially

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# Control Dependency



- Caused by control abstraction, separate from dataflow
- Sequentiality in control dependency
  - Conditional statement and actions. A high level control abstraction translated to low level instructions reveals the control dependency
  - Calling subprogram and called program
- $S_1$  dominates  $S_2$  means  $S_2$  is always executed after  $S_1$
- $S_2$  post-dominates  $S_1$  if all the paths from  $S_1$  to end go through  $S_2$
- The directed acyclic graph showing control dependency is called control dependency graph or CDG



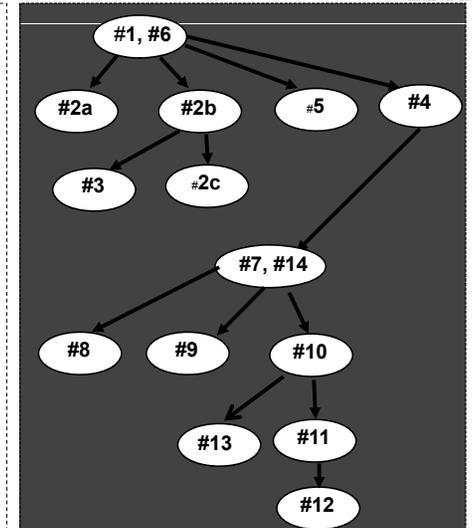
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# Control Dependency Graph



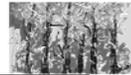
```
integer m[4], max;
program main () % start
1) { integer i, j;
2) for (i = 0; i <= 3; i++)
3) read(m[i]);
4) call find_max
5) write(max);
6) } % stop

procedure find_max () % start
7) {integer i;
8) max = m[0];
9) i = 0;
10) while (i <= 3)
11) if (m[i] > max)
12) max = m[i];
13) i++;
14) } % stop
```



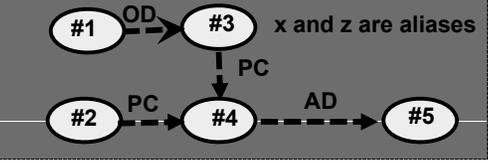
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# Data Dependency



- Sequential on a graph paper ty due to the presence of shared variables
- Types of dependencies
  - Producer-consumer: the value can not be used until produced
  - Anti-dependence: all the consumers of previous values must be executed before rewriting the shared variable
  - Output dependence: maintaining the sequential order of aliased variable to ascertain that consumers use the actual values
- Data dependency graph
  - Acyclic directed graph made of data dependencies
  - Loops should be unrolled to establish exact data dependencies

- x = 4; % producer
- y = 5; % producer
- z = 8; % OD
- w = x + y; % PC
- z = 9 % OD and AD



# Data Dependency Graph

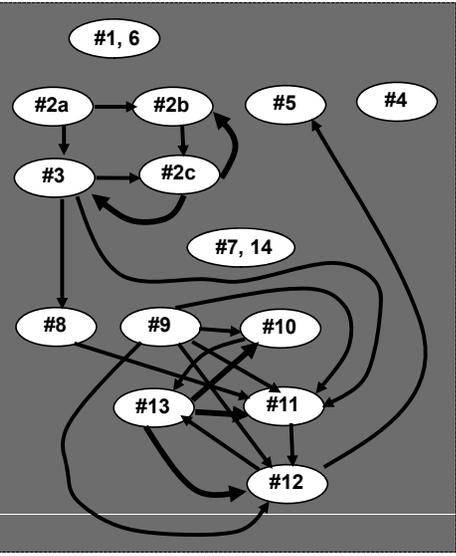


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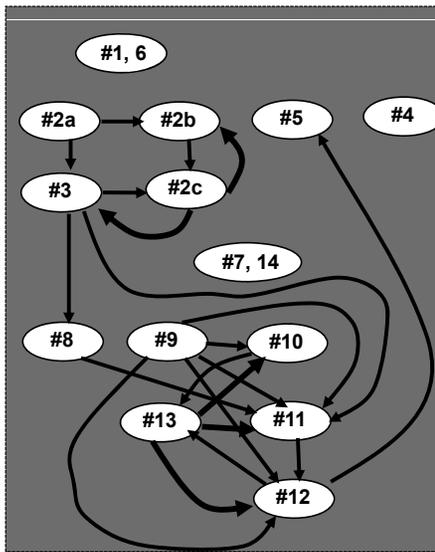
program main () % start
1) { integer i, j;
2) for (i = 0; i <= 3; i++)
3) read(m[i]);
4) call find_max
5) write(max);
6) } % stop

procedure find_max () % start
7) { integer i;
8) max = m[0];
9) i = 1;
10) while (i <= 3)
11) if (m[i] > max)
12) max = m[i];
13) i++;
14)} % stop

```



# Types of Edges in the Graph



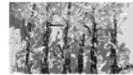
| Edge       | Type | Edge       | Type |
|------------|------|------------|------|
| (#2a, #2b) | PC   | (#9, #11)  | PC   |
| (#2a, #3)  | PC   | (#9, #12)  | PC   |
| (#2b, #2c) | AD   | (#10, #13) | AD   |
| (#2c, #2b) | PC   | (#11, #12) | AD   |
| (#2c, #3)  | PC   | (#12, #5)  | PC   |
| (#3, #2c)  | AD   | (#12, #13) | AD   |
| (#3, #8)   | PC   | (#13, #10) | PC   |
| (#3, #11)  | PC   | (#13, #11) | PC   |
| (#8, #11)  | PC   | (#13, #12) | PC   |
| (#9, #10)  | PC   |            |      |

# Loop Unrolling Example



- Loop must be unrolled to see all the dependencies
- The following example establishes the acyclic nature
  - $\{(iter_k: \#2b, iter_k: \#2c), (iter_k: \#2c, iter_{k+1}: \#2b)\}$
  - $\{(iter_k: \#2c, iter_{k+1}: \#3), (iter_k: \#3, iter_k: \#2c)\}$
- Edges are between two different iteration cycles

# Program Dependency Graph

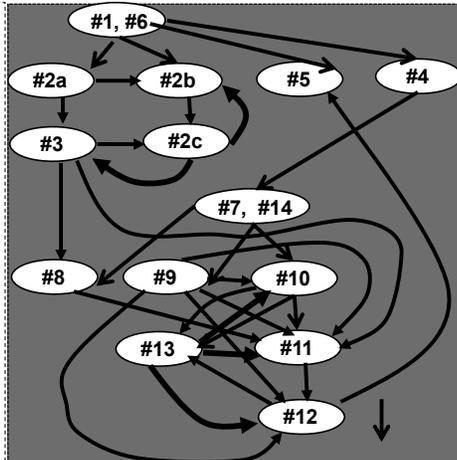


- Actual dependency between the statements in a program
- Formed by superimposing control and data dependency graphs

```

program main () % start
1) { integer i, j;
2) for (i = 0; i <= 3; i++)
3) read(m[i]);
4) call find_max
5) write(max);
6) } % stop
procedure find_max () % start
7) { integer i;
8) max = m[0];
9) i = 1;
10) while (i <= 3)
11) if (m[i] > max)
12) max = m[i];
13) i++;
14)} % stop

```



# Parallelization Techniques

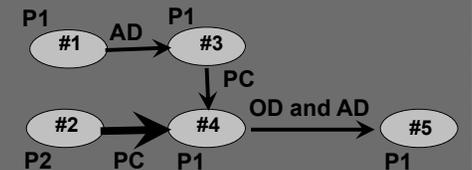


- Find independent paths in a program dependency graph
- Issues in incorporating concurrency
  - allocation for nodes sharing data-dependency edges
  - removing redundant dependencies caused by control abstractions
  - keeping the data transfer overhead between processors minimal
- Mapping program dependency graph on processors
  - Unroll the loops depending upon processor availability
  - Map statements on processors so that data transfer between processors is minimal to reduce data transfer overhead
  - Dependent statements can be mapped on the same processor

```

1) x = 4; % producer
2) y = 5; % producer
3) z = 8; % OD
4) w = x + y; % PC
5) z = 9 % OD and AD

```



# For-Loop Unrolling



- Control abstractions introduce redundant sequentiality
  - Due to the presence of index variables and incrementing them
- Examples
  - for (i = 0; i <= 3; i++) read(m[i]); is sequential. However unrolled version is concurrent: **read(m[1]), read(m[2]), read(m[3]), read(m[4])**
  - for (i = 0; i <= n, i++) a[i] = b[i] + 4 is sequential when not unrolled. However, unrolled version is concurrent
- Unrolling with limited processors
 

```

for (i = 0; i <= 1000; i++)
 {a[i] = 10; b[i] = a[i] + 4; c[i] = 2 * b[i];}

```

is translated to (for four processors)

```

for (i = 0; i <= 250; i++)
{ a[i] = 10; b[i] = a[i] + 4; c[i] = 2 * b[i]; % on processor 1
 a[i + 1] = 10; b[i + 1] = a[i + 1] + 4; c[i + 1] = 2 * b[i + 1]; % on processor 2
 a[i + 2] = 10; b[i + 2] = a[i + 2] + 4; c[i + 2] = 2 * b[i + 2]; % on processor 3
 a[i + 3] = 10; b[i + 3] = a[i + 3] + 4; c[i + 3] = 2 * b[i + 3]; % on processor 4

```

# While-loop Unrolling



- Issues
  - Due to the indefinite size, needs to exit out of the unrolled block
- Mechanism
  - Unroll the block as many times as number of processors
  - Implement an conditional exit statement with each statement
- Illustration after unrolling with four processors
 

```

while (<cond>)
{
 <block>; if (<cond>) exit;
 <block>; if (<cond>) exit;
 <block>; if (<cond>) exit;
 <block>;
}

```

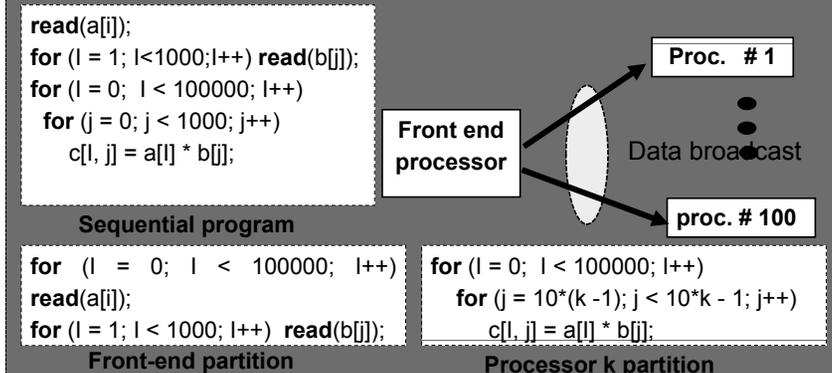
## Granularity and Execution Efficiency

- Granularity is the size of statement blocks executed sequentially on the same processor
- Types of granularity
  - Fine-grain: number of statements is very small
  - Coarse-grain: number of sequentially executed statements on a processor is large
- Problems with fine-grain concurrency
  - Too much interprocessor data-transfer overhead.
  - The advantage gained by distributing statements is lost due to excessive data transfer overhead
- Advantages of coarse-grain concurrency
  - Data transfer overhead is significantly reduced
- Concurrency gains only sublinear speed up due to
  - Limited hardware resources such as data bus and memory ports
  - Shared variables in a program
  - Packing-unpacking cost and use of system routines in data transfer
  - Need to exchange the objects and environments in distributed computing

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## Program Partitioning

- Partition the programs such that
  - Parts of program with lots of data dependency are grouped together and executed on the same processor to remove data transfer overhead
  - Nested loops should be unrolled and the corresponding data should be distributed on processors at compile time



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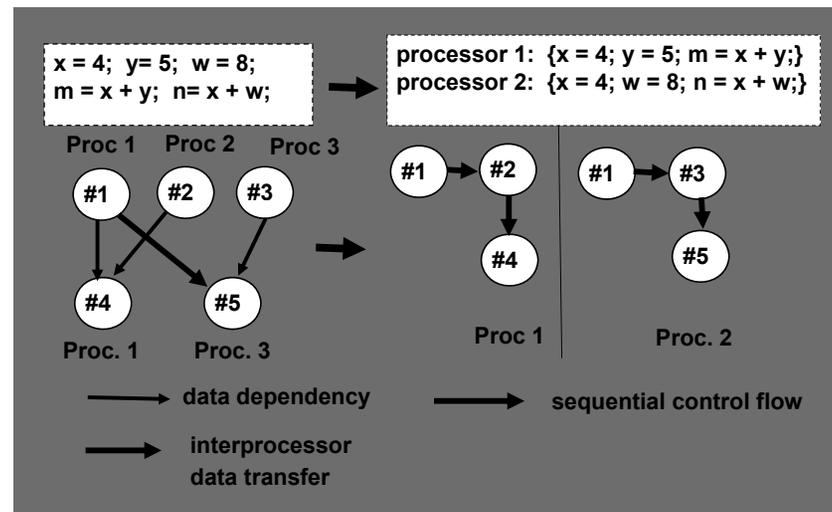
## Program Slicing

- Compile-time analysis of PDG to optimize program properties
  - Splits a program in multiple slices to optimize the program properties
- Application
  - matching programs; identifying duplicated code in programs; debugging the programs; software maintenance; automated parallelization
- Program slicing for automatic parallelization
  - Minimize the data transfer overhead by dividing the programs into multiple blocks with minimal data transfer overhead
- Technique
  - Identify statement-nodes in PDG that sends data to multiple processors, and create clones of those statements
  - Identify data-dependency edges connecting two different processors and map the sink node in the same processor



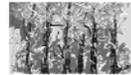
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## Program Slicing Example



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# Task Parallelism



- Spawns and manages multiple threads executing concurrently
- Threads spawned using thread-pool that contains inactive threads
  - Thread-pool removes the overhead of creating threads
- Implementation in various languages
  - C, C++ use a thread library such as Posix
  - Java uses synchronized methods
  - Ada uses task construct to spawn multiple subtasks
- Issues in handling multiple concurrent threads
  - synchronization and handling shared resources
  - communication between the threads and the parent processes and communication among threads
  - resource allocations to avoid starvation and deadlocks
  - resource deallocation when the process or threads are terminated
- Starvation is indefinite waiting by a process/thread for CPU-time
- Deadlock is when two more processes are waiting for resources other processes are holding without releasing them timely

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# Handling Concurrent Threads



- Approaches
  - Without mutual communication that does not use any shared resources
  - the use of shared resources
- Shared resource approach
  - Use of lock in critical sections to enforce mutual exclusion
  - Shared resources can be handled using high level constructs such as monitors as in Concurrent Pascal or synchronized methods as in Java
- Operations on locks
  - **Wait\_and\_lock** to acquire the shared resource
  - Release to free the shared resource
- Problem with threads
  - Critical section has to be restarted if interrupted/aborted in between
  - Large boundary of critical section causes excessive wait
  - Blocking large objects (ex: arrays) causes unnecessary sequentiality
  - Objects should not be blocked for read operations
  - Overhead of checking the status of the locks
  - Improper placement of locks can cause starvation or incorrect execution

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# Solving Concurrent Thread Issues



- Reading problem
  - Use different types of locks: **shared-read** lock allows concurrent reading; **exclusive locks** are traditional locks
- Critical section boundary problem
  - Use of **transactional memory** and **shadow copy** to allow reading before update and after update provided no read-write conflict exists
  - Update is done only after the successful transaction is committed
  - Each transaction keeps its **read-set** and **write-set** to avoid conflict
- Read-set and Write-set conflict resolution
  - **Eager resolution**: pessimistic, finds more conflict, no rollback problem
  - **Lazy resolution**: finds less conflicts, optimistic but has overhead of transaction rollback if the conflict resolution is late
- Improper placement of lock problem: use monitors
- Alternative Information exchange between threads
  - Asynchronous producer-consumer information exchange using buffer

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# Data Parallelism



- Applying the same instruction on multiple elements concurrently
  - The data-elements should not have data-dependency
  - Works well with flat data structures: arrays, sequences, and sets
- Example of loop with data-parallelism
  - **for** (i = 0; i <= 1000; i++) a[i] = a[i] + 4 % data\_parallel for-loop
- Example of loop with no data-parallelism
  - **for**(i = 1; i <= 999; i++) a[i] = a[i - 1] + a[i + 1] % sequential for-loop
  - It is sequential because a[i] is dependent upon the value of a[i - 1]
- Map-reduce model of data parallelism
  - *map* function sorts a collection of (key, value) pairs
  - *Reduce* function groups the sorted values into groups that can be handled by a user-defined function
- Data parallel constructs
  - $a[1:N] = b[1:N] + c[1:N]$

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## Integrating Task and Data Parallelism



- Task parallelism is supported by MIMD architecture
- Data parallelism is supported by SIMD architecture
- Advantage of integration
  - There are problems that need both task and data parallelism.
- Different approaches of integration
  - Multiple concurrent data parallel computations
  - A coordinator process that spawns multiple data parallel subtasks
  - Shared data abstraction (SDA) written concurrently by multiple data-parallel operations
  - Distributed shared data structures: Shared data structures is an accumulation of multiple distributed spaces. Each processor writes into its own partition in data parallel manner. A subtask can access data space on other processors too.

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## Distributed Computing



- Distributed computing
  - execute procedures concurrently on different processors
  - Supports either **data migration**, **code migration** or a combination of two
- Data migration: transfer data to remote processors for computation
  - Useful when information exchange is not too large
- Code migration: transfer code to remote processor for computation
  - Useful when overhead of code transfer is less than overhead of data transfer; and to reduce the computational overhead on servers
- Communication overhead between distributed processors
  - Overhead of multiple layers of network protocol
  - Computational overhead of linearizing the data at source and delinearizing the data at the destination
  - Synchronous communication blocks the process until the acknowledgement sent by the receiver is received
  - Asynchronous communication: sender deposits in the mailbox that is retrieved using a system routine
  - Need for access of local resources by remote processors

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## Executing Remote Procedure



- Executing subprograms on remote processors
  - More than one memory address spaces
  - Information is physically transferred across machines using network
  - The result may be passed back across the processors.
- Information exchange mechanism to remote processors
  - **Passing the reference**: significant overhead of information access; easy to pass the references
  - **Passing the value**: overhead of object details, channel, and buffer address needs to be transferred
- Mechanism to invoke remote procedure
  - Pack (**marshall**) all the information into a packet called **stub**
  - Send the information using system call to network layer using a channel
  - Unpack the information at the remote end, and execute
  - Pack the result back, and send through the stub to calling subprogram
- Mechanism works fine in uniform operating system

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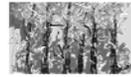
## Parameter Passing in RPC



- Types of parameter passing
  - Call by move similar to call by value in single address space
  - Call by reference similar to call by reference in single address space
  - Call by copy-restore similar to call by value-result in single space
  - Scheme that copies the object only once and then uses the remote copy by looking at the object-id when requested for object. The scheme is an integration of call by reference + call by move
- Passing parameters has overhead due to
  - System calls, communication layer, delay in transmission, marshaling and demarshaling, conversion of data structure to different format in heterogeneous address space
  - Undoing the effect of changes during call by reference if the called procedure does not terminate properly or communication fails
  - Suspension of the calling program to preserve the data structure when called program is executing in call by copy-restore
- Languages supporting different parameter scheme
  - Emerald supports all forms
  - Java supports Remote method Invocation

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## Communicating Sequential Process



- A model of concurrent programming using guarded commands
  - Guards are used as input sources; commands are used as output
  - Concurrent processes ( $P \parallel Q$ ) are disjoint and do not share variables
  - No need for synchronization because there are no shared variables
- Notations for operations on concurrent processes
  - $\alpha P$ : set of events seen by a process  $P$
- Operations with same alphabet
  - commutativity:  $P \parallel Q \equiv Q \parallel P$
  - associativity:  $P \parallel (Q \parallel R) \equiv (P \parallel Q) \parallel R$
  - deadlock:  $P \parallel \text{Stop}_{\alpha P} \equiv \text{Stop}_{\alpha P}$
  - running:  $P \parallel \text{Run}_{\alpha P} \equiv P$
  - agreement:  $(c \rightarrow P) \parallel (c \rightarrow Q) \equiv (c \rightarrow (P \parallel Q))$
  - disagreement:  $(c \rightarrow P) \parallel (d \rightarrow Q) \equiv \text{Stop}$
- Operations on different alphabet
  - $(a \rightarrow P) \parallel (c \rightarrow Q) \equiv (a \rightarrow (P \parallel (c \rightarrow Q)))$
  - $(c \rightarrow P) \parallel (b \rightarrow Q) \equiv (b \rightarrow (Q \parallel (c \rightarrow P)))$
  - $(a \rightarrow P) \parallel (b \rightarrow Q) \equiv (a \rightarrow (P \parallel (b \rightarrow Q))) \mid (b \rightarrow (Q \parallel (a \rightarrow P)))$

## More Operations on Processes



- Sequential composition
  - is\_associative  $(P; Q); R \equiv P; (Q; R)$
  - with\_unit  $\text{skip}; P \equiv P$
  - with\_zero  $\text{Abort}; P \equiv \text{Abort}$
  - distributes  $(a \rightarrow P); Q \equiv a \rightarrow (P; Q)$
- Guarded command
  - is\_associative  $(P \square Q) \square R \equiv P \square (Q \square R)$
  - commutative  $P \square Q \equiv Q \square P$
  - distributes  $(P \square Q); R \equiv (P; R) \square (Q; R)$

## CSP Language



- uses laws of concurrency, sequential composition and guarded commands
- CSP language statement
  - Input  $\rightarrow$  output command
  - input: declaration, a Boolean condition, or a process with input data.
  - Output command: skip, assignment, alternative command, parallel command, iterative command, or a process that outputs data.
  - Syntax for input process supply data:  $\langle \text{process} \rangle ? \langle \text{input-data} \rangle$
  - Syntax for output process generating data:  $\langle \text{process} \rangle ! \langle \text{output-data} \rangle$
  - Output processes terminate when all the input processes terminate or guards are no more true
- Language support and semantics
  - single data entities, arrays, structured data, array of processes, assignment, alternative commands, iterative commands, parallel commands, recursive processes, and subroutines.
  - Iterative loop continues until all input processes stop supplying data
  - Semantics of guards is the same as guarded commands

## Syntax of CSP Language



```

<parallel-command> ::= '[' (<process> {' || <process> }* ')'
<process> ::= <identifier> { (<command> | <declaration>)+
<command> ::= skip | <assignment> | <input-statement> |
<output-command> | <alternative-command> |
<iterative-command> | <parallel-command>
<assignment> ::= <variable> = <expression>
<input-statement> ::= <process-name> ? <variable>
<output-command> ::= <process-name> ! <variable>
<iterative-command> ::= '*' <alternative-command>
<alternative-command> ::= '[' <guarded-command>
 { '[' <guarded-command> }* ']'

```

## Example

jobuffer::

```
m = 80; buffer(0..m - 1) character; c character;
rear, front: integer; rear = 0; front = 0; count = 0;
full, empty: Boolean; full = false; empty = true;
* [count == m - 1 → full = true □
 count == 0 → empty = true □
 not(full); producer?c → % read c from the producer
 buffer[front] = c;
 front = front + 1 mod m;
 count = count + 1;
 empty = false □
 not(empty) → consumer ! buffer(rear);
 rear = rear + 1 mod m;
 count = count - 1;
 full = false]
```

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## Memory Models of Concurrency

- Specifies how memory behaves under models of concurrency
- Memory model is important because
  - Compilers reorganizes the instructions for optimization many times violating the property of sequential consistency
  - The memory model should provide race free execution without introducing extra sequentiality
  - In the absence of a safe model, hackers may attack Internet languages
- Synchronization properties for sequential consistency
  - Data-race free
  - Follow synchronization order consistent with program order
  - Lock action should be followed by release action
  - After a lock is placed, no process should violate lock before release. This problem is difficult to maintain for many languages since they allow unsynchronized methods to access shared resource
  - A read operations reads the last updated value
  - A write operation should wait unless all read operations on previous write in the program order have taken place – **Anti dependency property**

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## Current Memory Models

- Java 5 has an extensive memory model
  - Supports volatile variables to separate locks and shared variables from other regular variables. Program order of the volatile variables is not altered by the optimizing compilers
- Problems in existing memory model
  - Lock set in one thread can not be reset in another thread
  - Use of shared variables in two threads gives rise to cyclic reasoning that can only be broken by global analysis of causality
  - A thread may be blocked for input output interaction. Due to volatile variable maintaining program order, all other threads waiting for volatile variables are also blocked unless the lock is released

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## Concurrent Programming Constructs

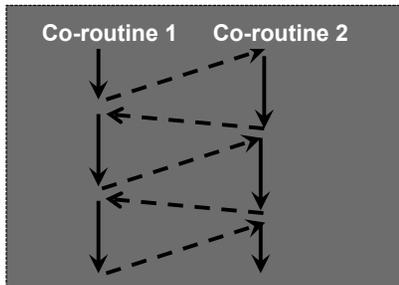
- Coroutines
  - Control between two processes alternate
  - Each process saves its state before passing the control
  - implemented in Simula, Modula-2, Ruby, Lua and Go
- Constructs for data parallel programming
- Constructs for parallel spawning of subtasks
  - Cobegin and Coend pair: spawns subtasks without shared variables
  - Fork and join: starts multiple processes, parent process suspends, and resumes after all spawned processes terminate
- Constructs for spawning multiple threads
  - `thread.new()`; `thread.start()`; `thread.join()`;
- Synchronization constructs to handle shared resources
  - Lock(v); ... release(v)
  - Monitors: support mutual exclusion of procedures
  - Synchronized methods
- Constructs for invoking remote procedures

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## Co-routines



- Two processes alternate
- They save their state before passing the control to other
- They resume from the last suspension point
- implemented in Simula, Modula-2, Ruby, Lua



```
fact = Fiber.new
m, n = 1, 1
loop do
 Fiber.yield n
 m = m + 1
 n = n * m
end
end
5.times {puts fact.resume}
```

- Two coroutines: function *fact* generates a factorial and the external loop prints out the value
- External loop starts the fact
- Fact generates value using *fiber.yield* and suspends and passes the control to external loop
- External loop resumes the fact coroutines again using the method *fact.resume*

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## Cobegin / Coend



- Spawns multiple independent subtasks
  - No shared variables between subtasks
  - Main task suspends when subtasks start, and resumes after all subtasks terminate
- Concurrent Pascal syntax

```
x := 0; z := 4;
cobegin
 begin x := 1; x := x + 1 end; % concurrent activity 1
 begin z := 2; z := z - 1 end; % concurrent activity 2
coend;
```
- SMIL syntax

```
<par>
 <text src = "my_resume.html" region = "text_area" dur = "60s" />
 <video src = "my_presentation.mpg" region = "Video_area" />
</par>
```

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## Monitors



- Monitors are passive declarations like modules
- Embedded entities in a monitor
  - Shared resources
  - Mutually exclusive procedures that work on shared resources.
  - An initial body is executed when a monitor is called.
  - A process can access its own variables.
- Any process has to use monitor and the corresponding procedures to access the shared resource.
  - There is no direct access to shared resources.
  - Waiting is done using **spin-lock** or **suspension of a process**.
- Abstract syntax

```
type <identifier> = monitor (<parameter-list>
 <shared variable declarations>
 procedure <identifier> <procedure-body>
 procedure <identifier> <procedure-body>
 ...
 procedure <identifier> <procedure-body>
 <initial-body of the monitor>
```

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## An Example of Monitor



```
monitor iobuffer;
m = 80;
char buffer[0..m - 1];
integer rear, front, count;
condition nonempty, nonfull;
procedure insert(char element)
{ if (count == m - 1) then
 await(nonfull);
 buffer[rear] = element;
 rear = (rear + 1) modulo m;
 count = count + 1;
 signal(nonempty);
}

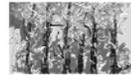
procedure remove (char element)
{ if (count == 0) then
 await(nonempty)
 result = buffer[front];
}

front = (front + 1) modulo n;
count = count - 1;
signal(nonfull);

% initial body of the monitor
{ rear = 0; front = 0; count = 0;
 nonempty = false; nonfull = true }
...
iobuffer console;
...
{
 ...
 console.insert('a');
 ...
}
```

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## Concurrent Programming in ADA



- Ada uses tasks for concurrent programming
    - Tasks are equivalent to Java threads
    - Task is declared like a module
    - Two important features of task: *entry-point* and *accept*
    - *Entry points-accept* pair is used for parameter passing from other tasks
  - Abstract syntax
- ```
Procedure <proc_identifier>  
    task <task-name1> is <entry-points1> end <task-name1>  
    task body <task-name1> is <block1> end <task-name1>  
    ...  
    task <task-nameN> is <entry-pointN> end <task-nameN>  
    task body <task-nameN> is <blockN> end <task-nameN>  
begin null end <proc_identifier>
```

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Example in ADA



```
WITH Ada.Text_IO;  
USE Ada.Text_IO;  
PROCEDURE Assignment IS  
    TASK SolveProblem IS ENTRY start_thinking (Problem_index: INTEGER);  
    END SolveProblem;  
    TASK BODY SolveProblem IS  
    BEGIN  
        ACCEPT start_thinking (Problem_index: INTEGER) DO  
            delay 240.0; -- Put delay to simulate time taken to solve a problem  
            Put_Line("write answer ");  
        END start_thinking;  
    END SolveProblem;  
  
BEGIN  
    FOR Index IN 1..5 LOOP  
        SolveProblem.start_thinking(Index)  
        Put_Line("Solving the next problem");  
    END loop;  
    Put_Line("Assignment done");  
END Assignment
```

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Concurrent Programming in JAVA



- Concurrency constructs in Java
 - Thread primitives and synchronized methods
 - <thread-name>.start (), <thread-name>.yield (), <thread-name>.sleep(<duration>), <thread-name>.setPriority (<priorityValue>)
 - Synchronized methods are used for shared objects that are visible to other threads. Confined objects need not be synchronized.
 - Methods using a shared variable are declared as *synchronized methods*
- Problems with synchronized methods
 - Locks cannot be set in one method and released in another method.
 - Locks are not at the variable level but at the method level
 - An unsynchronized method can also update the shared variables
 - Synchronized method causes sequentially slowing down the execution.

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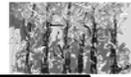
Distributed Programming in Emerald



- Emerald supports fine grain object mobility
- Components of Emerald objects
 - *Unique network id* that can be generated by concatenating *host-name*, *process-name* and *local identifier*
 - Data representation local to the object
 - Methods working on the local data
 - An optional process that may invoke other objects
- Types of objects
 - Global objects – objects are completely mobile
 - Local objects – immovable objects embedded under another object
 - Direct objects – basic type used to build another object
- Advantages of fine-grain mobility in Emerald
 - Enhances load balancing
 - Object mobility provides robustness against processor failure
 - Active objects can be moved to other processors for better efficiency
 - Better utilization of special software on specialized processors

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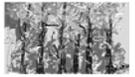
Object Mobility in Emerald



- Operations for object mobility
 - Locate an object
 - Move an object
 - Fix an object at a particular node
 - Unfix an object to make it mobile again
 - Refix an object that is a combination of unfix, move, and fix at a node
- Parameter passing in Emerald
 - **Call by object-reference:** remote objects can be accessed only by going through the operating system. Remote objects reference can be passed to distributed nodes easily
 - **Call by visit:** object is moved to remote processor, and after the computation, object is copied back
 - **Call by move:** object is moved to remote processor. However, it is not copied back from the remote processor

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Summary I



- Concurrent programming is concerned about dividing a task into multiple subtasks executing concurrently
 - Concurrent execution should maintain sequential consistency
- Concurrency can be exploited using task parallelism, data parallelism, or the integration of the two
 - Data parallelism is about the same operation on multiple data
 - Task parallelism is about different subtasks on different or same data
 - Integration can be done using: 1) spawning multiple data parallel tasks concurrently; 2) distributed data structure and subtasks working concurrently
- Subtasks can be executed concurrently using:
 - Multiple processes / threads without shared variables
 - Threads with shared variables: needs synchronization
- There are three types of dependencies :
 - Control dependency and data dependency

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Summary II



- Three types of data dependencies
 - Producer-consumer, anti dependency, output dependency
- Control dependency is dependent upon
 - Conditional statements and procedure calls
 - Conditional statement is embedded in if-then-else statement, while-loop, for-loop and case statements
- Concurrency is exploited at
 - Fine-grain concurrency with packing / unpacking overhead
 - Coarse-grain parallelism groups multiple statements on single processor to reduce the data transfer and packing-unpacking overhead
 - Program slicing reduces communication overhead by replicating statements and grouping statements to execute on one processor
- Shared variable synchronization is done using
 - Locks and monitors
 - Locks are associated with a shared resource, and captured by a single process and released after the end of the critical section
 - Locks can cause additional sequentiality, deadlocks and starvation

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Summary III



- Critical sections and atomic operations
 - All operations in a critical section are treated as one atomic operation
 - Critical section should be as small as possible to avoid sequentiality
- CSP is an algebraic treatment of processes
 - Based upon guarded commands and algebraic theory of processes
- CSP language is based upon CSP algebra
 - Input part is guard includes declarations and input streams
 - Output is command and output streams
 - All input processes must terminate for a process to terminate
- Distributed computing
 - Is based upon code and data mobility for better resource utilization
 - Code mobility uses code migration or object migration
 - Emerald uses object migration. Emerald objects are flat
 - There is additional overhead of accessing distributed objects due to the involve of operating systems and computer network
 - Emerald uses both reference and object movement for parameter passing

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