CSC 252: Computer Organization Fall 2021: Lecture 25

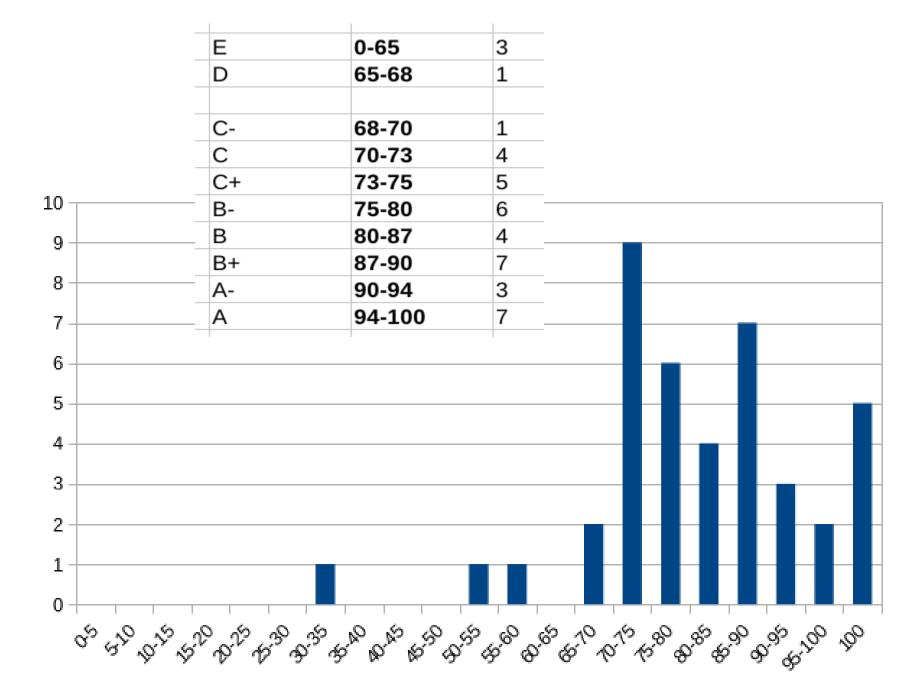
Multi-threading Multi-core

Instructor: Alan Beadle

Department of Computer Science University of Rochester

Announcements

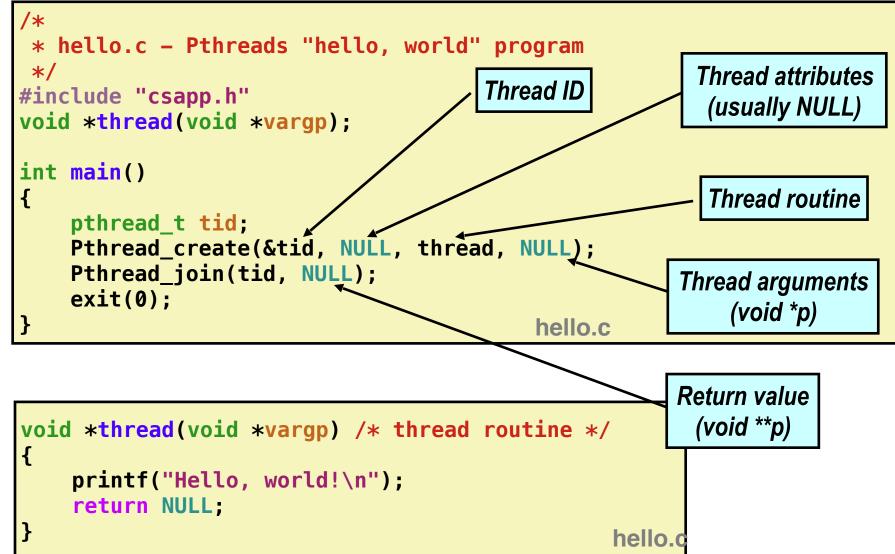
- A5 due Dec 9th (day after last lecture)
 - Let Abhishek know about slip days
- After today, 2 lectures remain
- Projected grades posted!



Announcements

- Open book test: any sort of paper-based product, e.g., book, notes, magazine, old tests.
- Exams are designed to test your ability to apply what you have learned and not your memory (though a good memory could help).
- Nothing electronic (including laptop, cell phone, calculator, etc) other than the computer you use to take the exam.
- Nothing biological, including your roommate, husband, wife, your hamster, another professor, etc.
- "I don't know" gets15% partial credit. Must erase everything else.

The Pthreads "hello, world" Program



Execution of Threaded "hello, world"

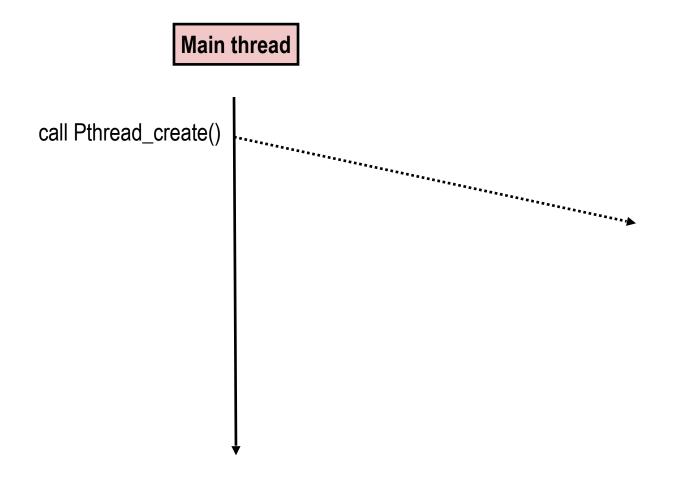
Main thread

Execution of Threaded "hello, world"

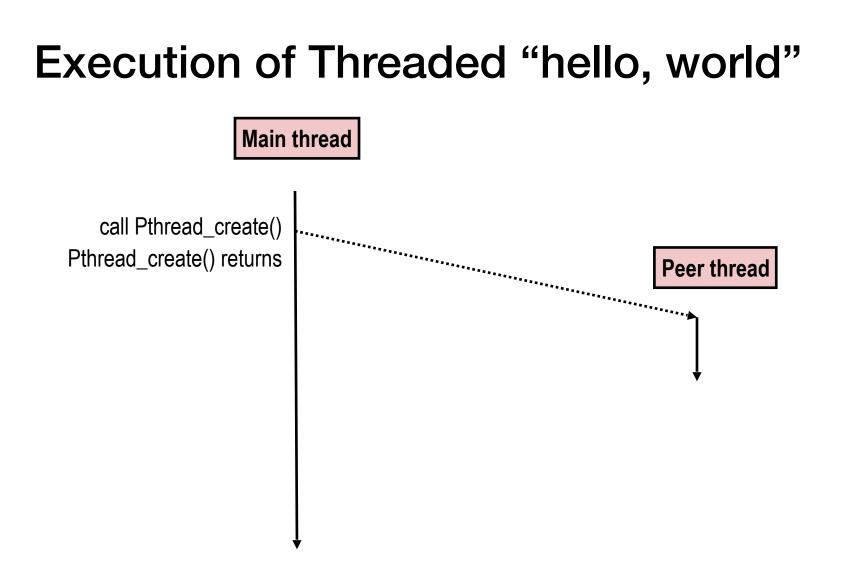
Main thread

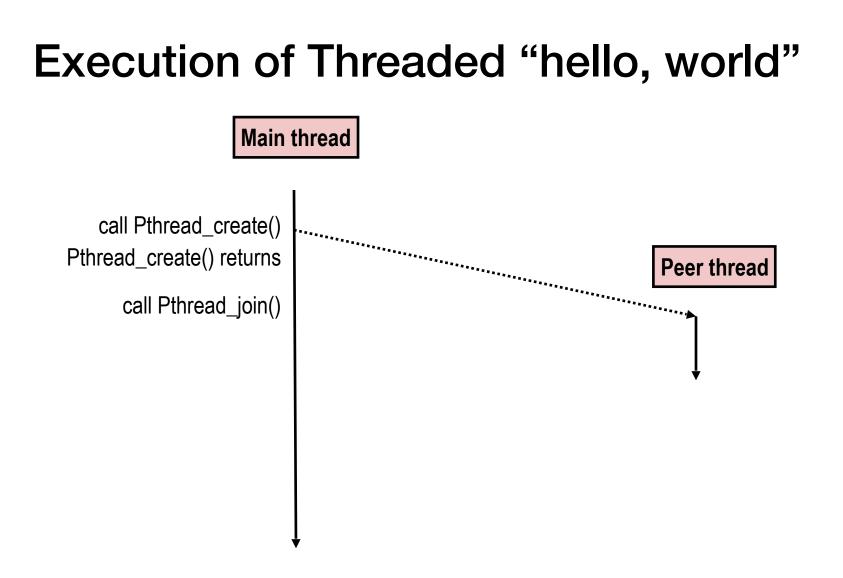
call Pthread_create()

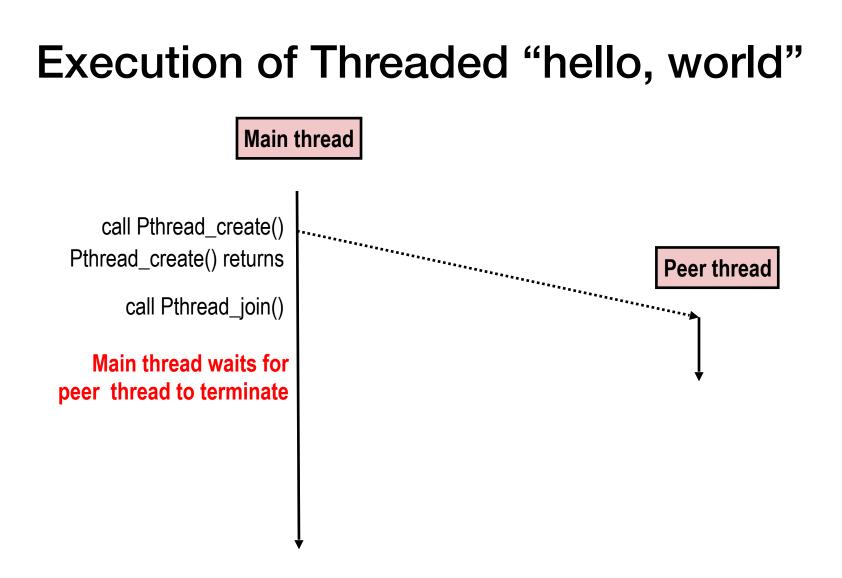
Execution of Threaded "hello, world"

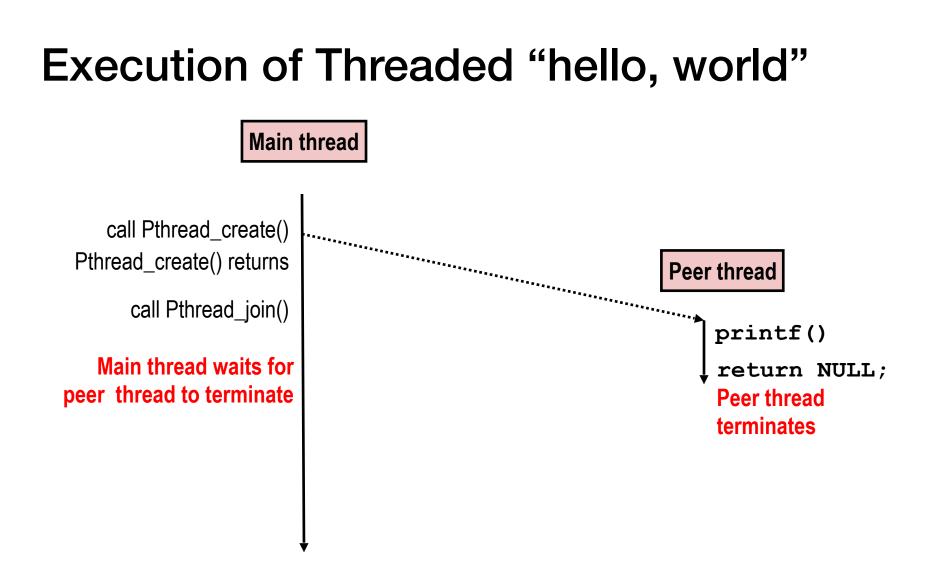


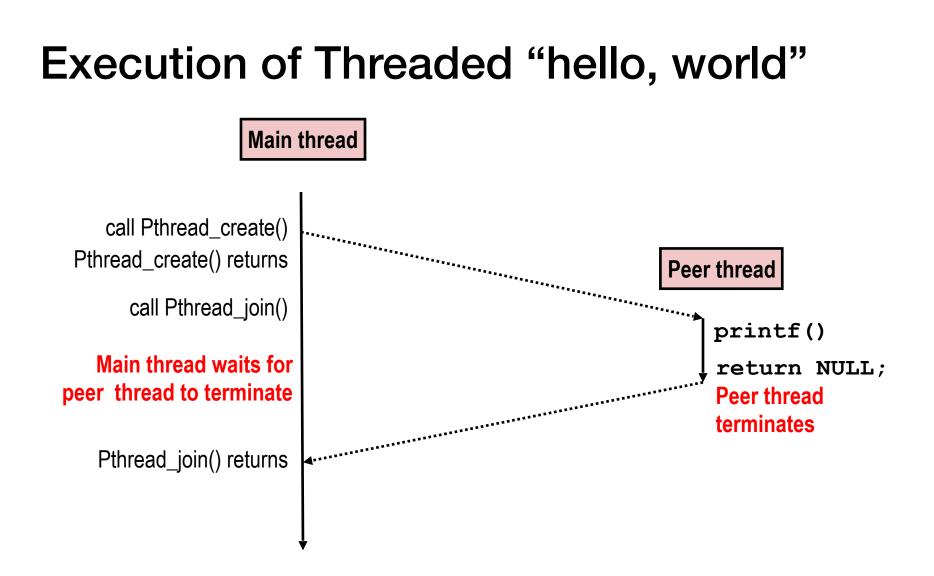
Execution of Threaded "hello, world" Main thread call Pthread_create() **Peer thread**

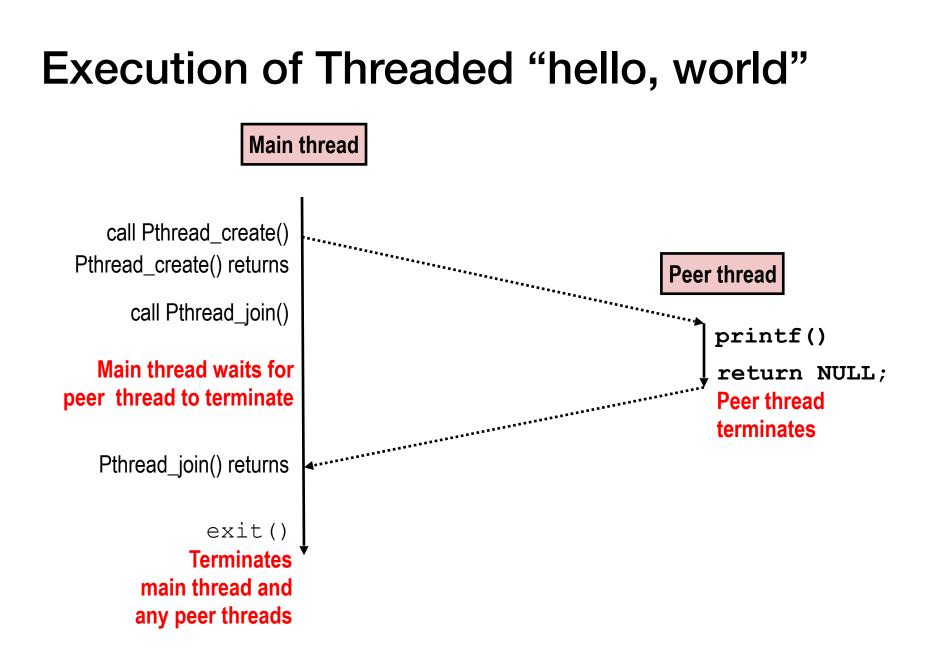










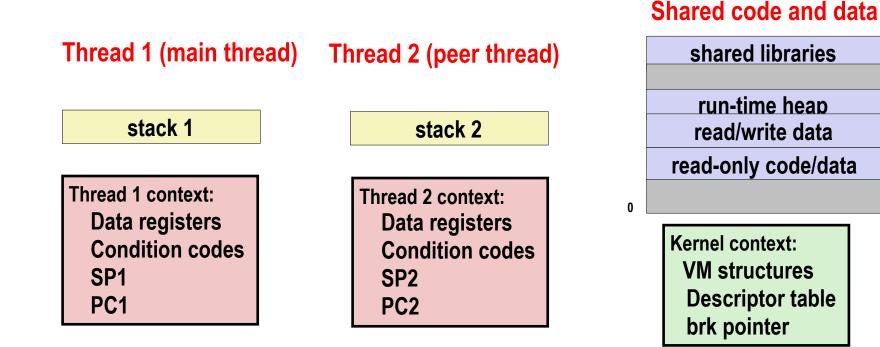


Today

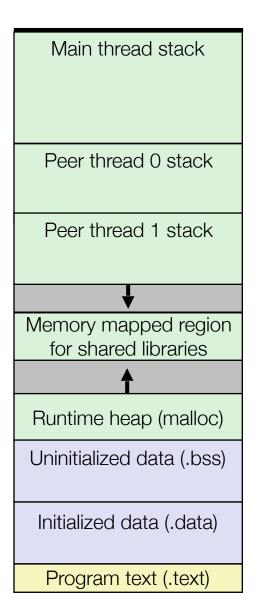
- From process to threads
 - Basic thread execution model
- Multi-threading programming
- Hardware support of threads
 - Single core
 - Multi-core
 - Cache coherence

Shared Variables in Threaded C Programs

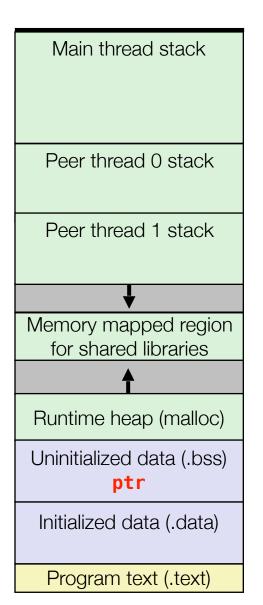
- One great thing about threads is that they can share same program variables.
- Question: Which variables in a threaded C program are shared?
- Intuitively, the answer is as simple as "global variables are shared" and "stack variables are private". Not so simple in reality.



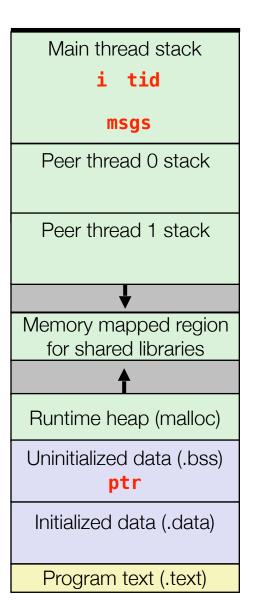
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char **ptr; /* global var */
void *thread(void *vargp)
{
    long myid = (long)vargp;
    static int cnt = 0;
    printf("[%ld]: %s (cnt=%d)\n",
         myid, ptr[myid], ++cnt);
    return NULL:
}
int main()
{
    long i;
    pthread_t tid;
    char *msgs[2] = {
        "Hello from foo",
        "Hello from bar"
    };
    ptr = msqs;
    for (i = 0; i < 2; i++)
        pthread_create(&tid,
            NULL,
            thread,
            (void *)i);
    pthread exit(NULL);
                             sharing
}
```



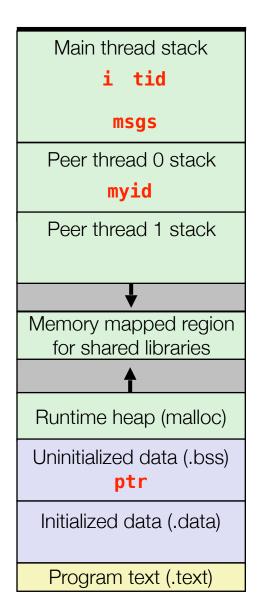
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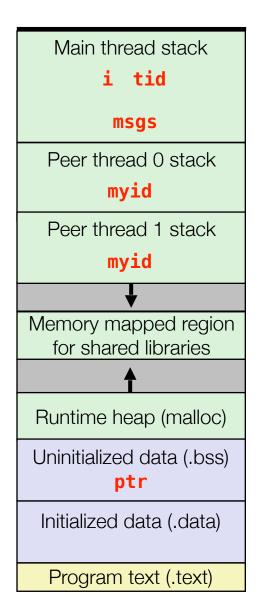
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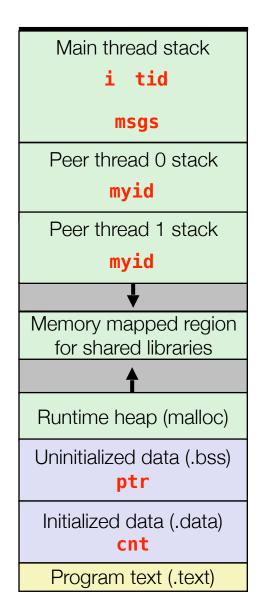
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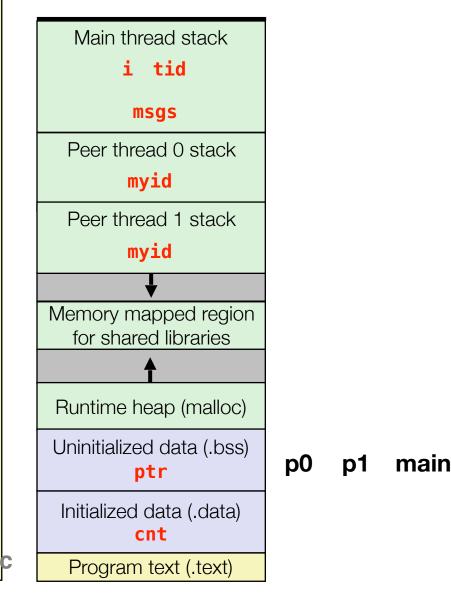
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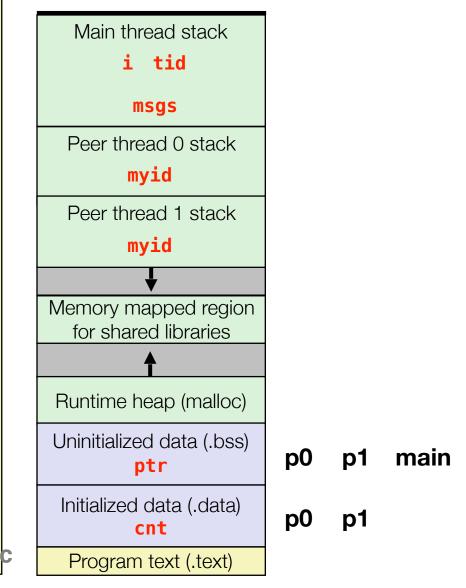
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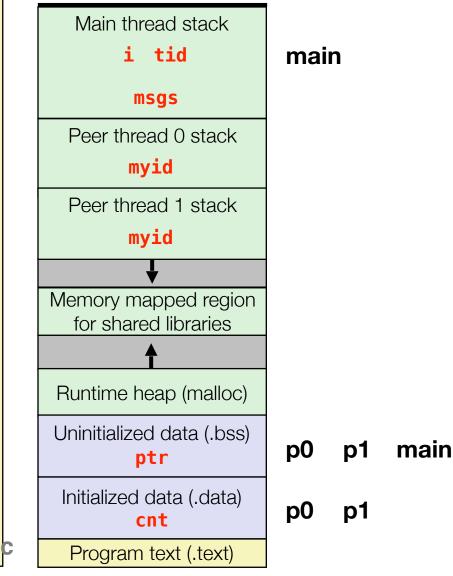
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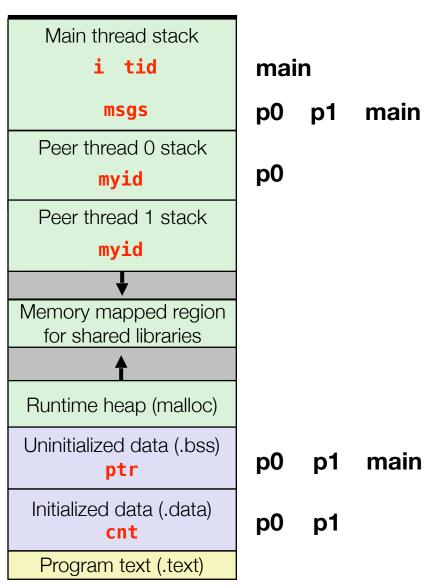


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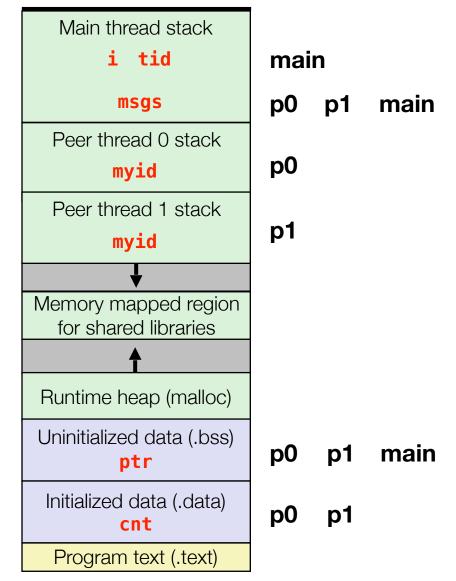


```
char **ptr; /* global var */
                                                Main thread stack
void *thread(void *vargp)
                                                     i tid
                                                                     main
{
    long myid = (long)vargp;
                                                                                main
    static int cnt = 0;
                                                      msgs
                                                                     p0
                                                                          p1
    printf("[%ld]: %s (cnt=%d)\n",
                                               Peer thread 0 stack
         myid, ptr[myid], ++cnt);
    return NULL:
                                                     myid
}
                                               Peer thread 1 stack
int main()
                                                     myid
{
    long i;
    pthread_t tid;
                                              Memory mapped region
    char *msgs[2] = {
                                                for shared libraries
        "Hello from foo",
        "Hello from bar"
    };
                                              Runtime heap (malloc)
    ptr = msqs;
    for (i = 0; i < 2; i++)
                                              Uninitialized data (.bss)
         pthread_create(&tid,
                                                                                main
                                                                     p0
                                                                           p1
                                                      ptr
             NULL,
             thread,
                                               Initialized data (.data)
             (void *)i);
                                                                     p0
                                                                           p1
                                                      cnt
    pthread exit(NULL);
                               sharing
}
                                               Program text (.text)
```

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Synchronizing Threads

- Shared variables are handy...
- ...but introduce the possibility of nasty *synchronization* errors.

Improper Synchronization

```
/* Global shared variable */
volatile long cnt = 0; /* Counter */
int main(int argc, char **argv)
Ł
   pthread t tid1, tid2;
   long niters = 10000;
   Pthread create(&tid1, NULL,
        thread, &niters);
    Pthread create(&tid2, NULL,
        thread, &niters);
    Pthread join(tid1, NULL);
    Pthread_join(tid2, NULL);
    /* Check result */
    if (cnt != (2 * 10000))
        printf("B00M! cnt=%ld\n", cnt);
    else
        printf("OK cnt=%ld\n", cnt);
    exit(0):
                                  badcnt.c
```

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/* Global shared variable */
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    else
        printf("OK cnt=%ld\n", cnt);
    exit(0):
                                  badcnt.c
```

linux> ./badcnt
OK cnt=20000

linux> ./badcnt
BOOM! cnt=13051

cnt should be 20,000.

What went wrong?

Assembly Code for Counter Loop

C code for counter loop in thread i

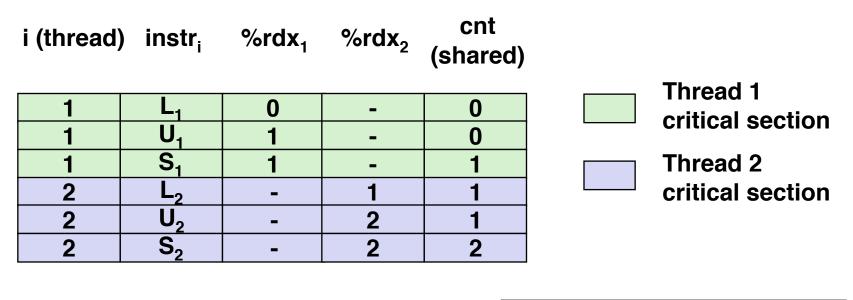
for (i = 0; i < niters; i++)
 cnt++;</pre>

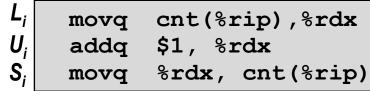
Asm code for thread i

testq jle movl	(%rdi), %rcx %rcx,%rcx .L2 \$0, %eax	<i>H_i</i> : Head
movq	<pre>cnt(%rip),%rdx \$1, %rdx %rdx, cnt(%rip) \$1, %rax</pre>	$\begin{cases} L_i : Load cnt \\ U_i : Update cnt \\ S_i : Store cnt \end{cases}$
cmpq jne .L2:	%rcx, %rax .L3	T_i: Tail

Concurrent Execution

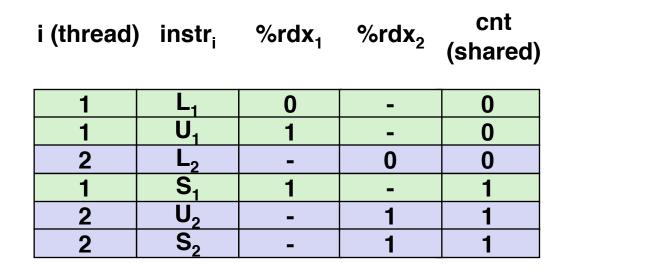
• Key observation: In general, any sequentially consistent interleaving is possible, but some give an unexpected result!

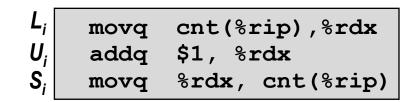




Concurrent Execution (cont)

• A legal (feasible) but undesired ordering: two threads increment the counter, but the result is 1 instead of 2



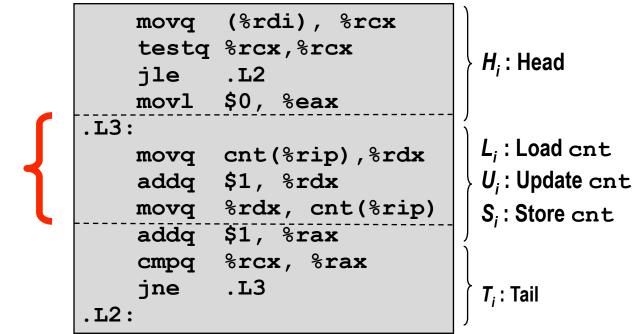


Assembly Code for Counter Loop

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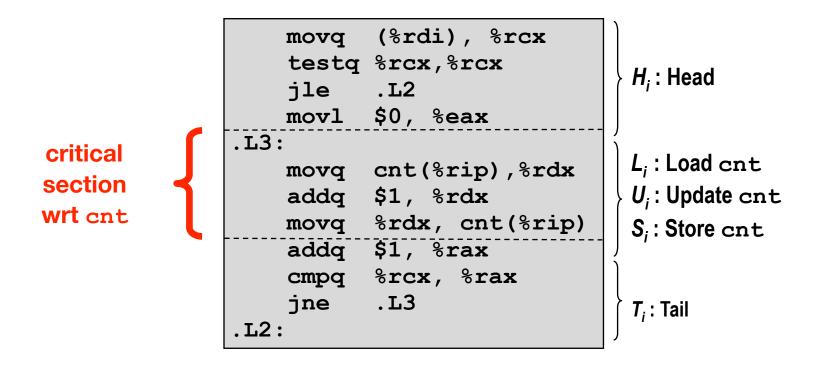
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critical section wrt cnt

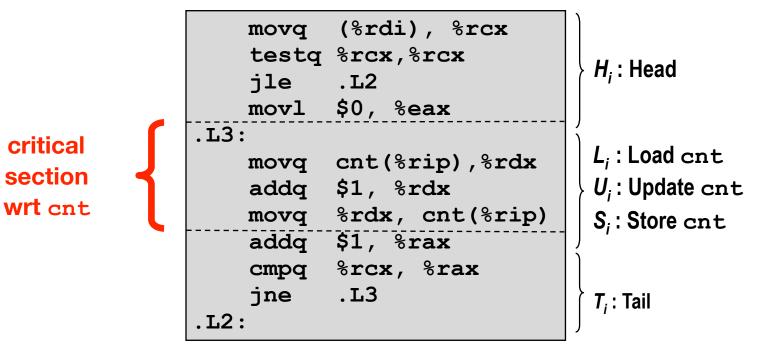
Critical Section

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- Code section (a sequence of instructions) where no more than one thread should be executing concurrently.
 - Critical section refers to code, but its intention is to protect data!
- Threads need to have *mutually exclusive* access to critical section. That is, the execution of the critical section must be *atomic*: instructions in a CS either are executed entirely without interruption or not executed at all.



Enforcing Mutual Exclusion

- We must *coordinate*/*synchronize* the execution of the threads
 - i.e., need to guarantee *mutually exclusive access* for each critical section.
- Classic solution:
 - Semaphores/mutex (Edsger Dijkstra)
- Other approaches
 - Condition variables
 - Monitors (Java)
 - 254/258 discusses these

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 - **Binary semaphore** is also called **mutex** (i.e., the semaphore value could only be 0 or 1)
 - Think of P operation as "**locking**", and V as "**unlocking**".

Proper Synchronization

 \bullet Define and initialize a mutex for the shared variable <code>cnt</code>:

```
volatile long cnt = 0; /* Counter */
sem_t mutex; /* Semaphore that protects cnt */
Sem_init(&mutex, 0, 1); /* mutex = 1 */
```

• Surround critical section with P and V:

```
for (i = 0; i < niters; i++) {
    P(&mutex);
    cnt++;
    V(&mutex);
}</pre>
```

```
linux> ./goodcnt 10000
OK cnt=20000
linux> ./goodcnt 10000
OK cnt=20000
linux>
```

Warning: It's orders of magnitude slower than badcnt.c.

• Wouldn't there be a problem when multiple threads access the mutex? How do we ensure exclusive accesses to mutex itself?

```
for (i = 0; i < niters; i++) {
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}
</pre>
```

```
function Lock(boolean *lock) {
    while (test_and_set(lock) == 1);
}
```

Deadlock

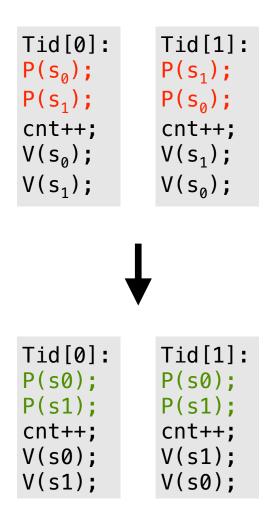
- Def: A process/thread is *deadlocked* if and only if it is waiting for a condition that will never be true
- General to concurrent/parallel programming (threads, processes)
- Typical Scenario
 - Processes 1 and 2 needs two resources (A and B) to proceed
 - Process 1 acquires A, waits for B
 - Process 2 acquires B, waits for A
 - Both will wait forever!

Deadlocking With Semaphores

```
void *count(void *varqp)
I{
    int i;
    int id = (int) vargp;
    for (i = 0; i < NITERS; i++) {</pre>
        P(&mutex[id]); P(&mutex[1-id]);
        cnt++:
        V(&mutex[id]); V(&mutex[1-id]);
    }
    return NULL;
int main()
ł
    pthread_t tid[2];
    Sem_init(&mutex[0], 0, 1); /* mutex[0] = 1 */
    Sem_init(&mutex[1], 0, 1); /* mutex[1] = 1 */
    Pthread_create(&tid[0], NULL, count, (void*) 0);
    Pthread_create(&tid[1], NULL, count, (void*) 1);
    Pthread_join(tid[0], NULL);
    Pthread_join(tid[1], NULL);
    printf("cnt=%d\n", cnt);
    exit(0);
```

Tid[0]:Tid[1]:P(s_0);P(s_1);P(s_1);P(s_0);Cnt++;Cnt++;V(s_0);V(s_1);V(s_1);V(s_0);

Avoiding Deadlock Acquire shared resources in same order



• Signal handlers are concurrent with main program and may share the same global data structures.

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```
static int x = 5;
void handler(int sig)
{
    x = 10;
}
int main(int argc, char **argv)
{
    int pid;
    Signal(SIGCHLD, handler);
    if ((pid = Fork()) == 0) { /* Child */
        Execve("/bin/date", argv, NULL);
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    if (x == 5)
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What if the following happens:

- Parent process executes and finishes if (x == 5)
- OS decides to take the SIGCHLD interrupt and executes the handler
- When return to parent process, y == 20!

Fixing the Signal Handling Bug

```
static int x = 5;
void handler(int sig)
{
   x = 10;
}
int main(int argc, char **argv)
{
    int pid;
    sigset_t mask_all, prev_all;
    sigfillset(&mask all);
    signal(SIGCHLD, handler);
    if ((pid = Fork()) == 0) { /* Child */
        Execve("/bin/date", argv, NULL);
    }
    Sigprocmask(SIG_BLOCK, &mask_all, &prev_all);
    if (x == 5)
        y = x * 2; // You'd expect y == 10
    Sigprocmask(SIG_SETMASK, &prev_all, NULL);
    exit(0);
```

 Block all signals before accessing a shared, global data structure.

```
static int x = 5;
void handler(int sig)
{
   P(&mutex);
   x = 10;
    V(&mutex);
}
int main(int argc, char **argv)
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    int pid;
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}
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• This implementation will get into a deadlock.

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- This implementation will get into a deadlock.
- Signal handler wants the mutex, which is acquired by the main program.
- Key: signal handler is in the same process/ thread as the main program. The kernel forces the handler to finish before returning to the main program.

Summary of Multi-threading Programming

- Concurrent/parallel threads access shared variables
- Need to protect concurrent accesses to guarantee correctness
- Semaphores (e.g., mutex) provide a simple solution
- Can lead to deadlock if not careful
- Take CSC 254/258 to know more about avoiding deadlocks (and parallel programming in general)

Thread-level Parallelism (TLP)

- Thread-Level Parallelism
 - Splitting a task into independent sub-tasks
 - Each thread is responsible for a sub-task

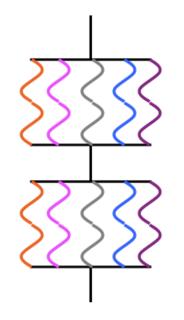
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- Example: Parallel summation of N number
 - Partition values 1, ..., n-1 into t ranges, [n/t] values each range
 - Each of t threads processes one range (sub-task)
 - Sum all sub-sums in the end

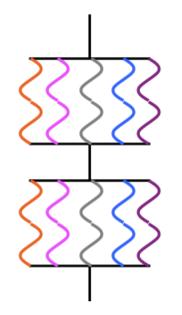
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- Question: if you parallel you work N ways, do you always an N times speedup?

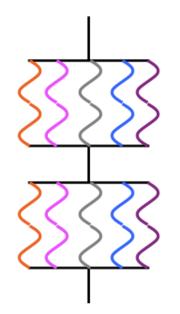
Why the Sequential Bottleneck?



- Maximum speedup limited by the sequential portion
- Main cause: Non-parallelizable operations on data



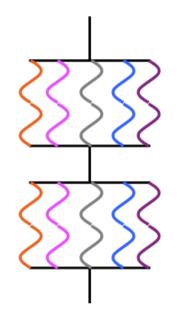
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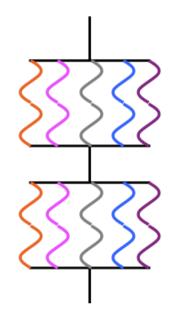
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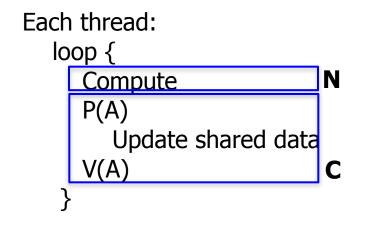
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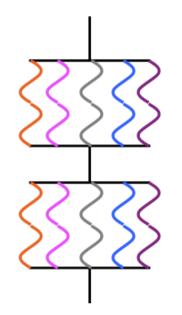
Each thread: loop { Compute N P(A) Update shared data V(A) }



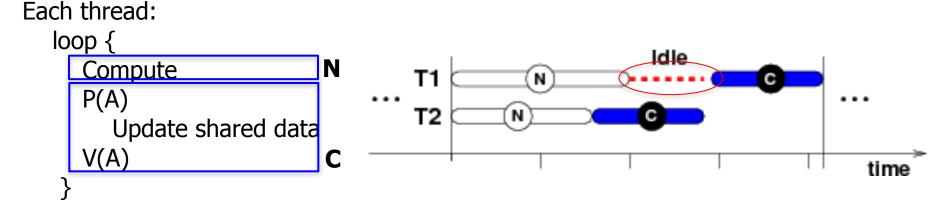


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- Completely parallelizable (f = 1): Speedup = N
- Completely sequential (f = 0): Speedup = 1
- Mostly parallelizable (f = 0.9, N = 1000): Speedup = 9.9

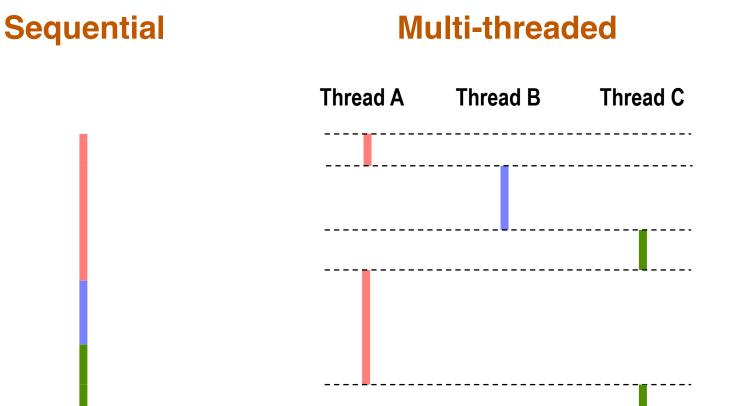
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Today

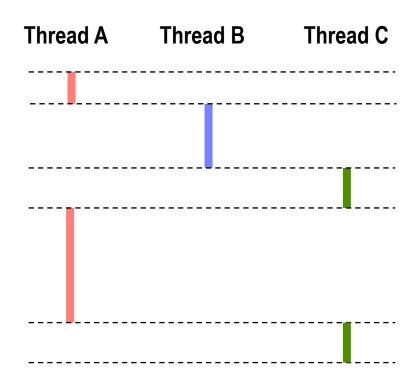
- From process to threads
 - Basic thread execution model
- Multi-threading programming
- Hardware support of threads
 - Single core
 - Multi-core
 - Cache coherence

Can A Single Core Support Multi-threading?

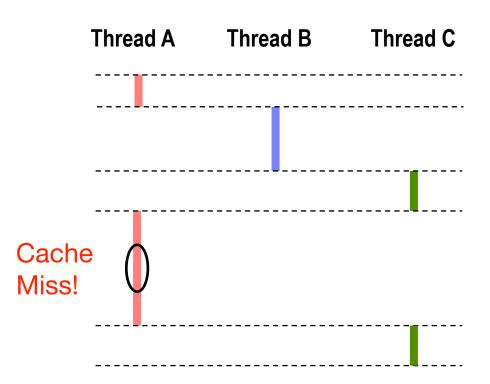
• Need to multiplex between different threads (time slicing)



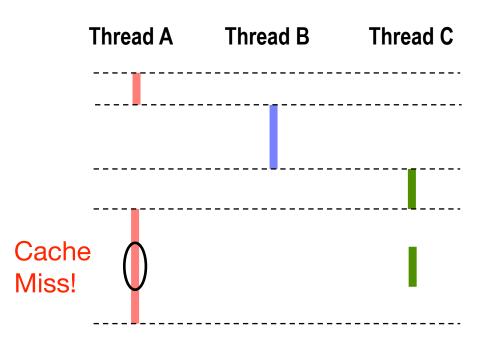
• Can single-core multi-threading provide any performance gains?



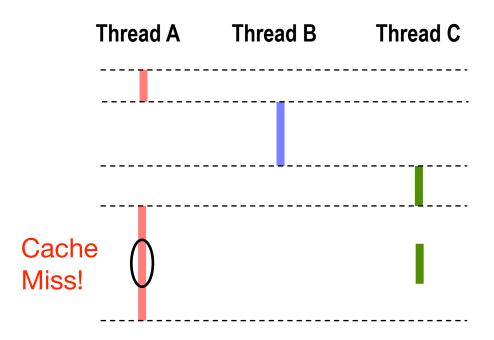
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- Can single-core multi-threading provide any performance gains?
- If Thread A has a cache miss and the pipeline gets stalled, switch to Thread C. Improves the overall performance.



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 - Event based, e.g., switch on L3 cache miss
 - Quantum based (every thousands of cycles)

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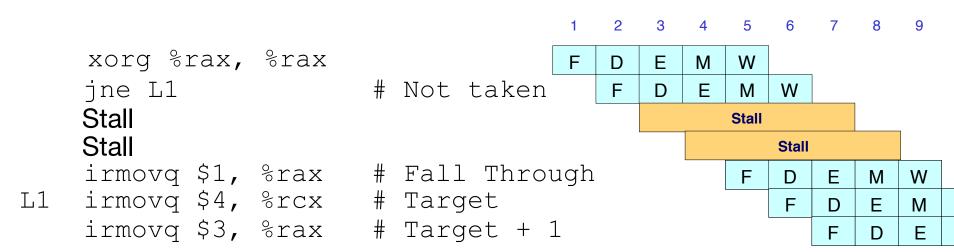
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• Either way, need to save/restore thread context upon switching.

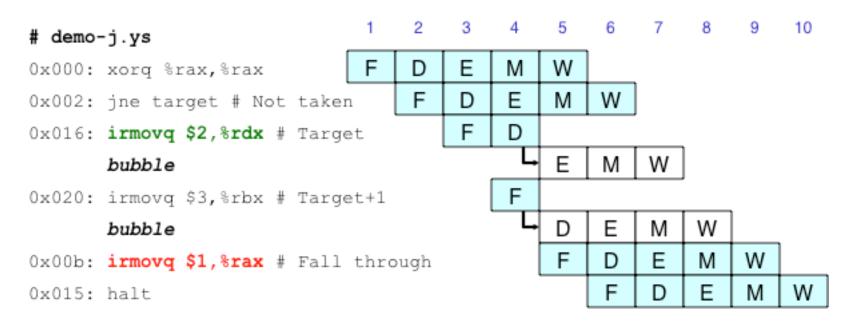
 One big bonus of fine-grained switching: no need for branch predictor!!

The stalling approach



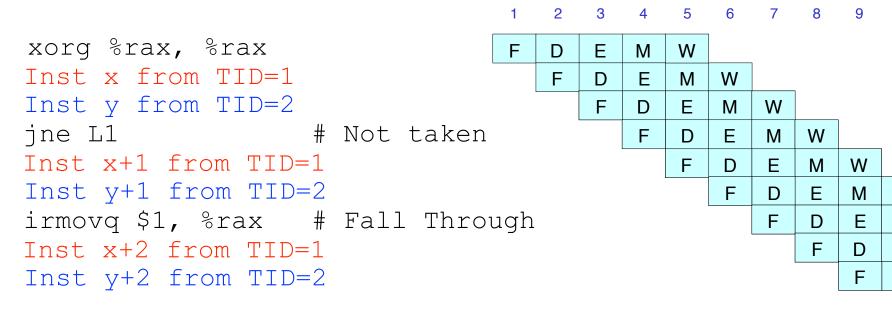
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The branch prediction approach



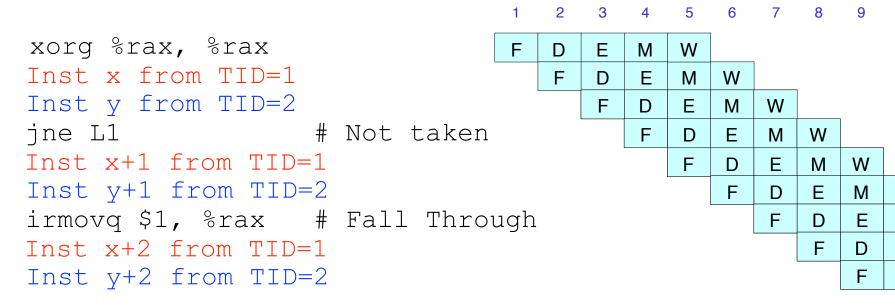
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The fine-grained multi-threading approach



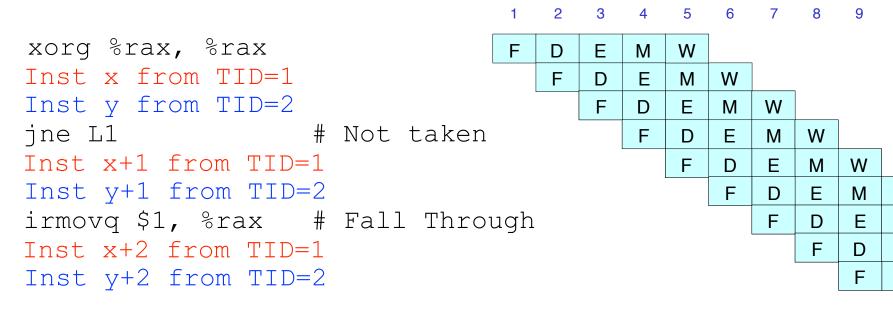
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 - Context switching overhead would be very high! Use separate hardware contexts for each thread (e.g., separate register files).

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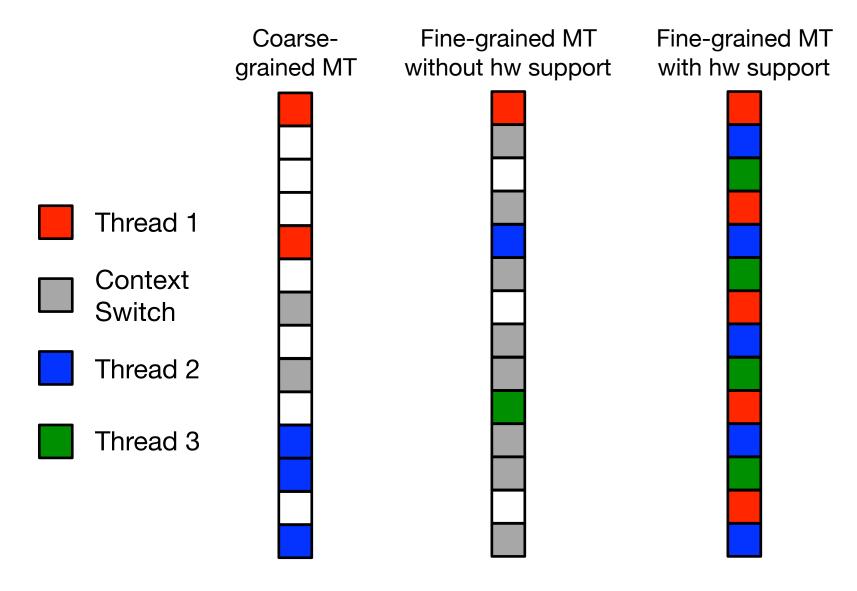


- One big bonus of fine-grained switching: no need for branch predictor!!
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 - GPUs do this (among other things). More later.

The fine-grained multi-threading approach

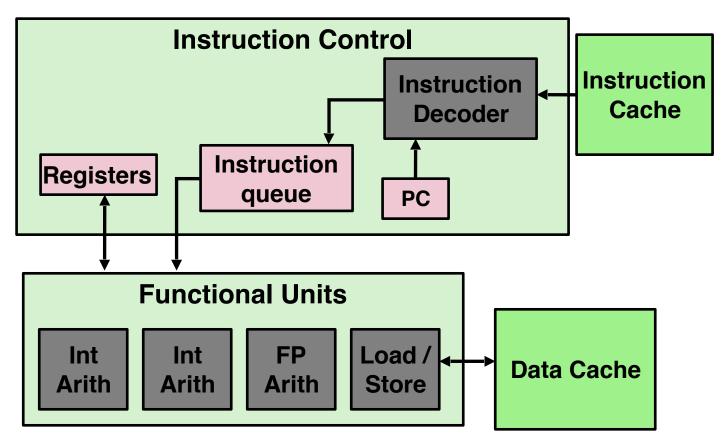


Multi-threading Illustration (so far...)

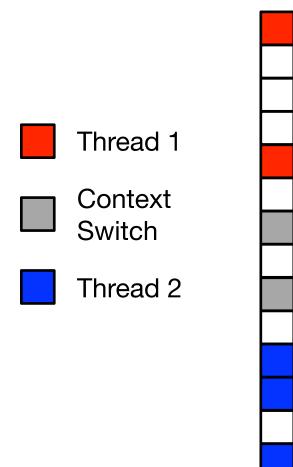


Modern Single-Core: Superscalar

- Typically has multiple function units to allow for decoding and issuing multiple instructions at the same time
- Called "Superscalar"



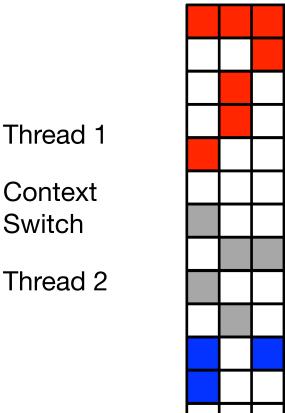
From Scalar to Multi-Scalar Multi-threading



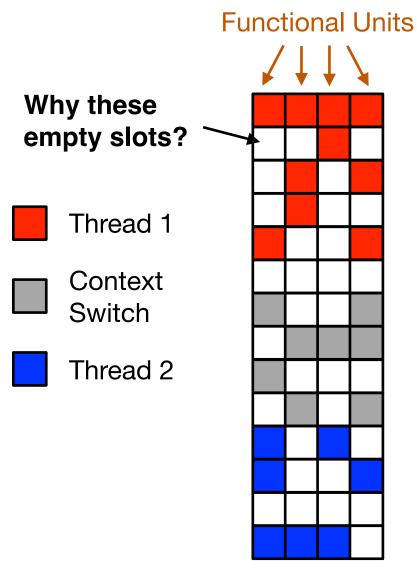
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Functional Units



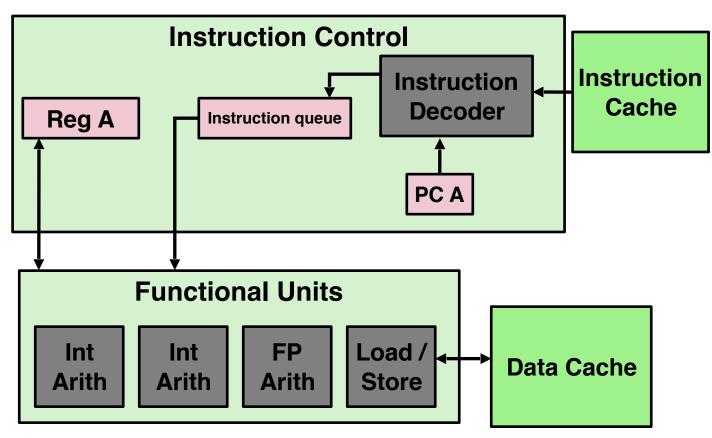


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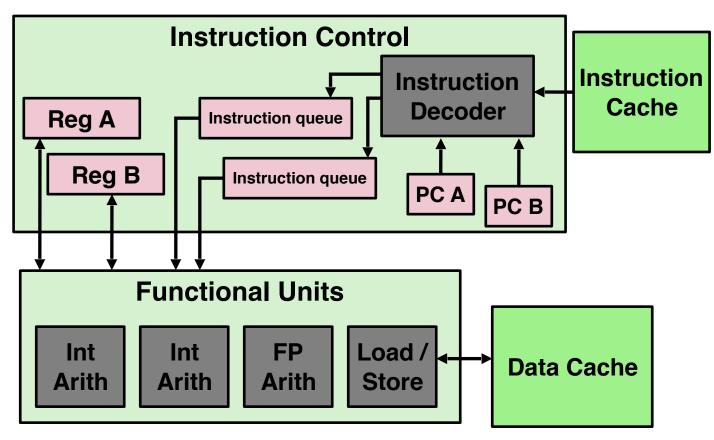
Simultaneous Multi-Threading (SMT)

- Intel call it hyper-threading.
- Replicate enough hardware structures to process K instruction streams, i.e., threads. K copies of all registers. Share functional units.
- SMT = Superscalar + Multi-threading



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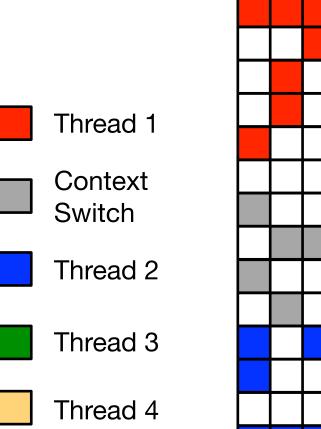
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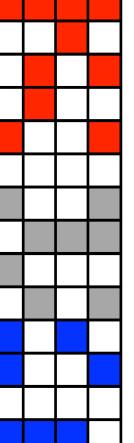


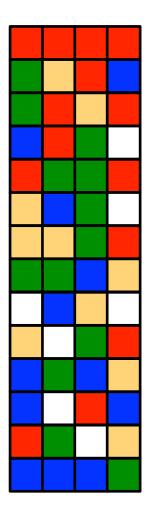
Conventional Multi-threading vs. Hyper-threading

Coarse-grained MT on a superscalar core

SMT



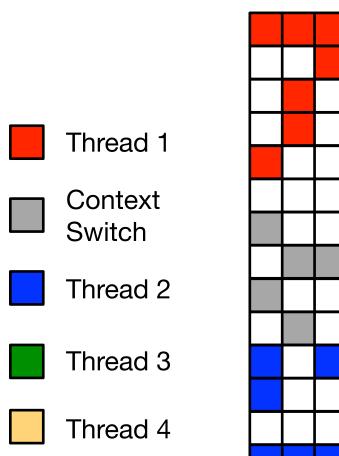


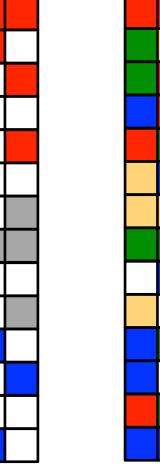


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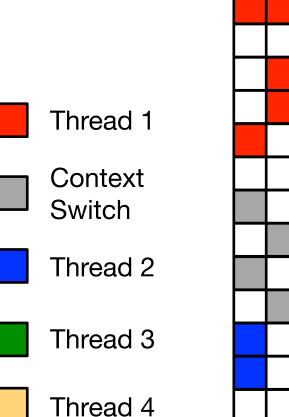


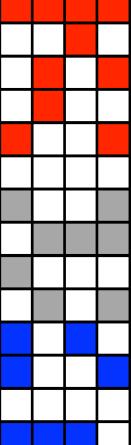
Can now make use of idle issue slots in conventional MT cores.

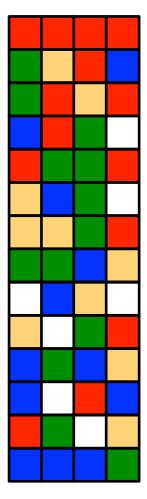
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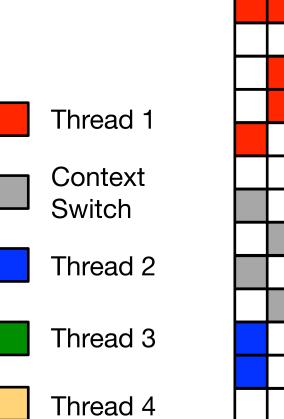
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Multiple threads actually execute in parallel (even with one single core)

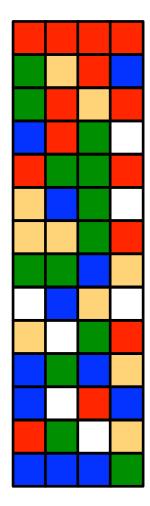
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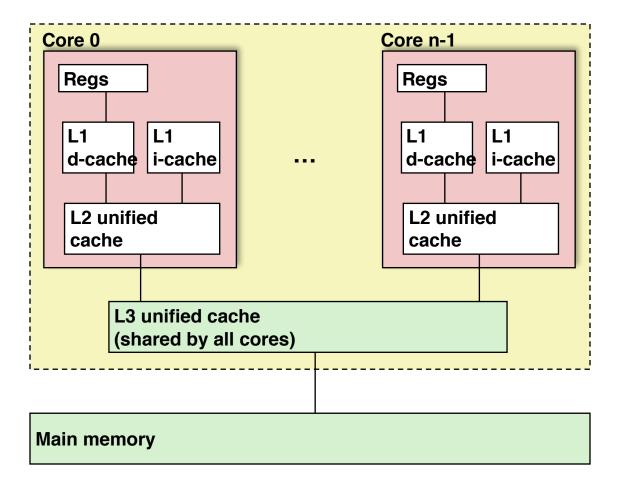
Multiple threads actually execute in parallel (even with one single core)

No/little context switch overhead

Today

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 - Basic thread execution model
- Multi-threading programming
- Hardware support of threads
 - Single core
 - Multi-core
 - Cache coherence

Multi-Threading on a Multi-core Processor



- Each core can run multiple threads, mostly through coarse-grained switching.
- Fine-grained switching on conventional multicore CPU is too costly.

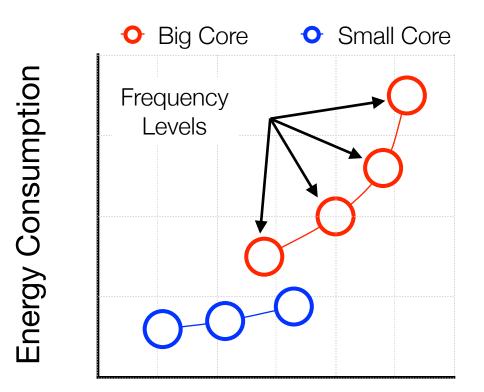
Combine Multi-core with SMT

- Common for laptop/desktop/server machine. E.g., 2 physical cores, each core has 2 hyper-threads => 4 virtual cores.
- Not for mobile processors (Hyper-threading costly to implement)

🙁 CPU-Z							□ X	
CPU Caches Mainboard Memory SPD Graphics Bench About								
Processor								
Name		Core i3						
Code Name	Skylake		Max TDP 65.0 W			Ū.	ntel?	
Package	Socket 1151 LGA CORE i3							
Technology	14 nm Core Voltage 1.376 V						nside	
Specification	Intel(R) Core(TM) i3-6100 CPU @ 3.70GHz							
Family	6 Mo		odel	E	St	epping	3	
Ext. Family	6 Ext. M		odel	5E	R	Revision R0		
Instructions MMX, SSE, SSE2, SSE3, SSSE3, SSE4.1, SSE4.2, EM64T, VT-x, AES, AVX, AVX2, FMA3								
Clocks (Core #0)								
Core Speed	4439.81 MHz		L1 Data 2		2 x 32 K	Bytes	8-way	
Multiplier	x 37.0 (8 - 37)		L1 Inst. 2		2 x 32 K	Bytes	8-way	
Bus Speed	120.00 MHz		Level 2 23		2 x 256 l	Bytes	4-way	
Rated FSB			Lev	13	3 MBy	rtes	12-way	
Selection Processor #1 Cores 2 Threads 4								
CPU-Z	Ver. 1.76.0.	x64	Tools		Valida	te	Close	j

Asymmetric Multiprocessor (AMP)

• Offer a large performance-energy trade-off space



Performance

Asymmetric Chip-Multiprocessor (ACMP)

• Already used in commodity devices (e.g., Samsung Galaxy S6, iPhone 7)



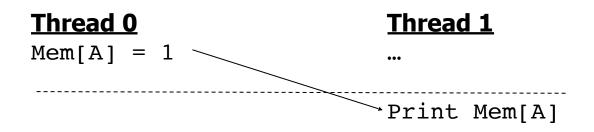
Today

- From process to threads
 - Basic thread execution model
- Multi-threading programming
- Hardware support of threads
 - Single core
 - Multi-core
 - Cache coherence

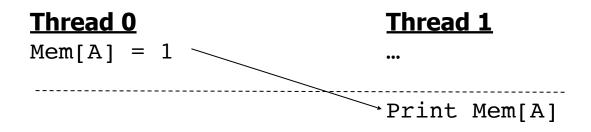
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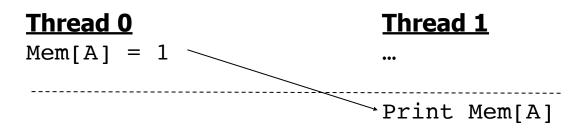
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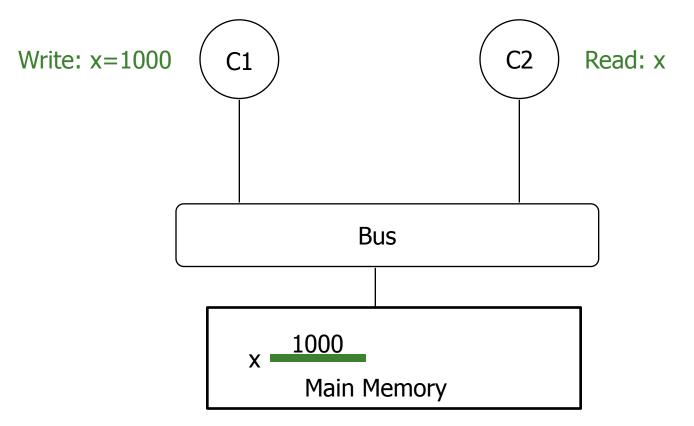
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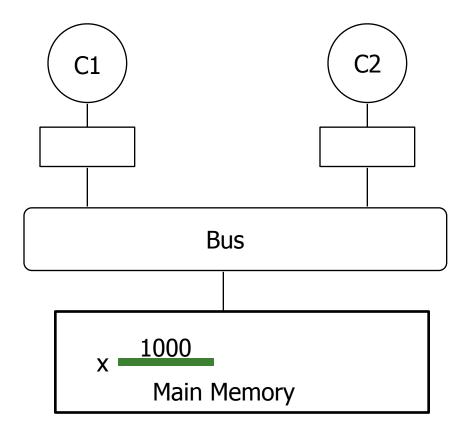


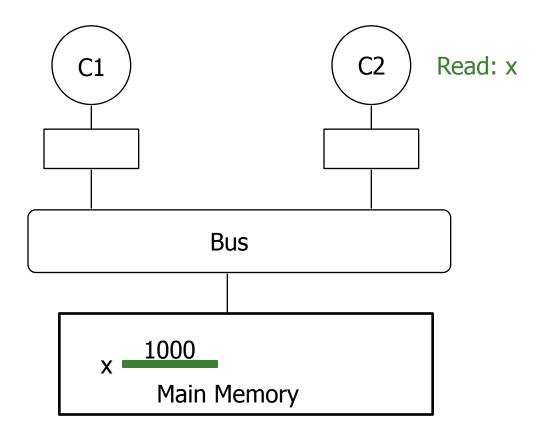
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- Threads share variables: e.g., Thread 0 writes to an address, followed by Thread 1 reading.
- Each read should receive the value last written by anyone
- **Basic question**: If multiple cores access the same data, how do they ensure they all see a consistent state?

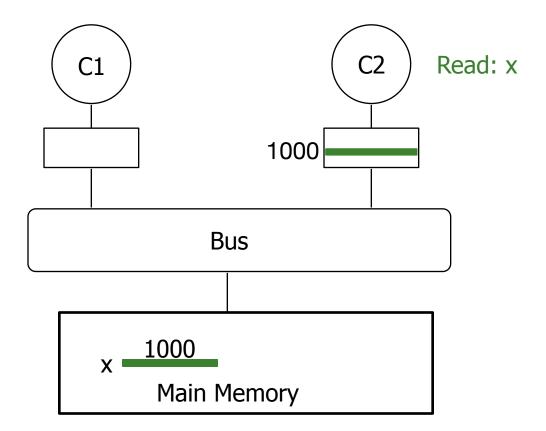


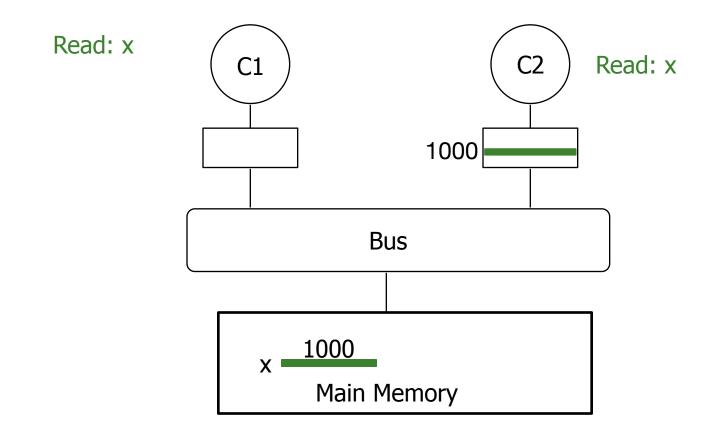
- Without cache, the issue is (theoretically) solvable by using mutex.
- ...because there is only one copy of x in the entire system. Accesses to x in memory are serialized by mutex.

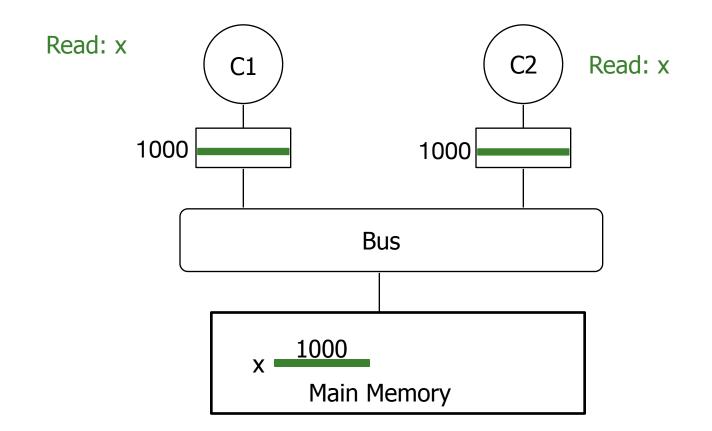


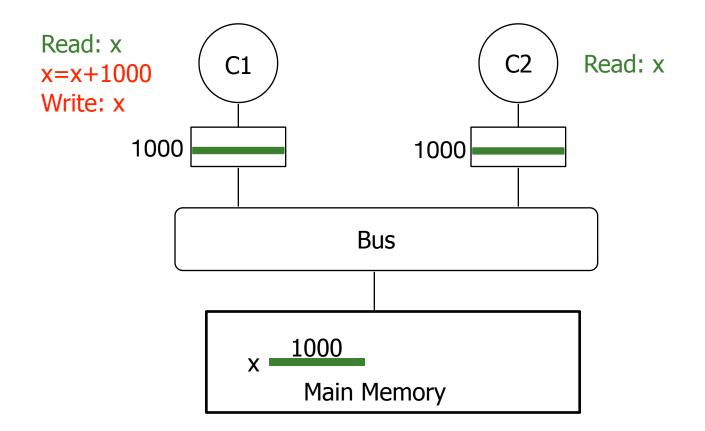


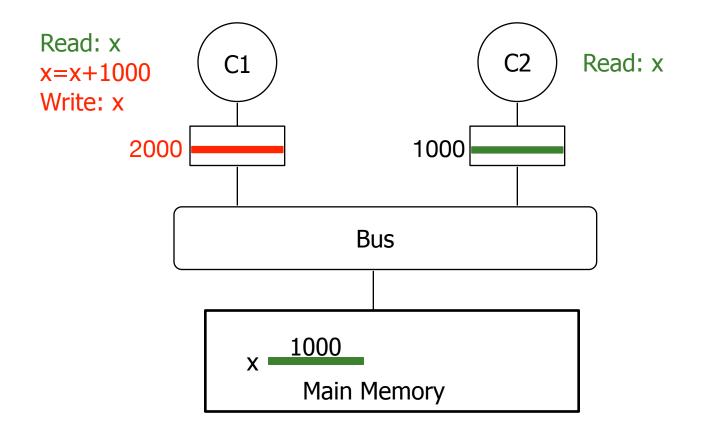


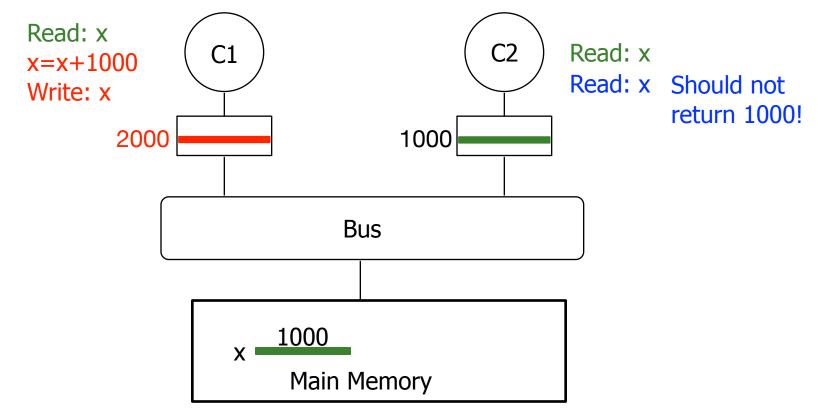












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- Idea: ensure multiple copies have same value, i.e., coherent
- **How?** Two options:
 - Update: push new value to all copies (in other caches)
 - Invalidate: invalidate other copies (in other caches)

Readings: Cache Coherence

- Most helpful
 - Culler and Singh, Parallel Computer Architecture
 - Chapter 5.1 (pp 269 283), Chapter 5.3 (pp 291 305)
 - Patterson&Hennessy, Computer Organization and Design
 - Chapter 5.8 (pp 534 538 in 4th and 4th revised eds.)
 - Papamarcos and Patel, "A low-overhead coherence solution for multiprocessors with private cache memories," ISCA 1984.

Also very useful

- Censier and Feautrier, "A new solution to coherence problems in multicache systems," IEEE Trans. Computers, 1978.
- Goodman, "Using cache memory to reduce processor-memory traffic," ISCA 1983.
- Laudon and Lenoski, "The SGI Origin: a ccNUMA highly scalable server," ISCA 1997.
- Martin et al, "Token coherence: decoupling performance and correctness," ISCA 2003.
- Baer and Wang, "On the inclusion properties for multi-level cache hierarchies," ISCA 1988.

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 - FLUSH-CACHE X: Flushes/invalidates all blocks in cache X.
- Classic example: TLB
 - Hardware does not guarantee that TLBs of different core are coherent
 - ISA provides instructions for OS to flush PTEs
 - Called "TLB shootdown"