

C-DAC Four Days Technology Workshop

ON

Hybrid Computing – Co-Processors/Accelerators
Power-aware Computing – Performance of
Applications Kernels

hyPACK-2013
(Mode-1:Multi-Core)

Lecture Topic:

Multi-Core Processors : Shared Memory Prog:
Pthreads Part-II

Venue : CMSD, UoHYD ; Date : October 15-18, 2013

C-DAC Five Days Technology Workshop

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Heterogeneous Computing –
Many Core / Multi GPU
Performance Algorithms, **A**pplication Kernels

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Lecture Topic:
Multi-Core Processors : Shared Memory Prog:
Pthreads Part-II

Venue : CMSD, UoHYD ; Dates : Oct 17-21, 2012

Shared Memory Programming – Pthreads

Lecture Outline

Following Topics will be discussed :

- ❖ What is Thread ?
- ❖ What are Pthreads?
- ❖ Pthread APIs on Different OS
- ❖ Compilation, Linking and Execution of Pthread Programs
- ❖ Example codes using Pthreads

Source : Reference [4],[6], [7]

What is Thread ?

What is Thread ?

- ❖ A thread is a discrete sequence of related instructions that is executed independently of other instruction sequences.
- ❖ It is an entity that can be scheduled by an operating system to run independently.

Microsoft Windows using C /C++ languages

- ❖ Win 32 / Microsoft Foundation Class Library (**MFC**) wrapped Windows **API** functionality in C++ classes
 - Provides Developers with C/C++ interface for developing windows applications
- ❖ Performance Issues – Concept of Virtual Machine op-codes & Overhead Minimization
- ❖ Performance Issues – run in a Managed runtime environment
- ❖ Legacy Application Support

Source : Reference [4],[6], [7]

Microsoft Windows using C /C++ languages

- ❖ Creating Threads
 - `CreateThread();`
- ❖ Terminate the Thread
 - `ExitThread();`
- ❖ Managing Threads
- ❖ Thread Communication using Windows events
- ❖ Thread Synchronization
- ❖ Thread Atomic Operations
- ❖ Thread Pools; Thread Priority & Thread Affinity

Source : Reference [4],[6], [7]

Threading APIs for Microsoft .NET Framework

- ❖ Provide common execution environment for all the major languages : C++ & Visual Basic; C#
 - ThreadStart() – Constructs a new thread
- ❖ Microsoft .NET framework Class Library – provides examples of the APIs
- ❖ Managing Threads
- ❖ Thread Synchronization
- ❖ Thread Atomic Operations
- ❖ Thread Pools; Thread Affinity
- ❖ Thread Priority - .Net framework supports five levels thread priority

Source : Reference [4],[6], [7]

What are Pthreads?

- ❖ POSIX threads or Pthreads is a portable threading library which provides consistent programming interface across multiple operating systems.
- ❖ It is set of C language programming types and procedure calls, implemented with pthread.h file and a thread library.
- ❖ Set of threading interfaces developed by IEEE committee in charge of specifying a portable OS Interface.
- ❖ Library that has standardized functions for using threads across different platform.

❖ Pthread APIs can be informally grouped into three major classes:

1.Thread Management

- thread creation,joining,setting attributes etc.

2.Thread Synchronization

- functions that deal with Mutex

3.Condition Variables

- functions that deal with condition variables

Pthread APIs

❖ All identifiers in the thread library begins with **pthread_**

Routine Prefix	Functional Group
pthread_	Threads themselves and misc subroutines
pthread_attr_	Thread Attribute objects
pthread_mutex_	Mutex related routines
pthread_cond_	Condition variable related

Pthread APIs

❖ Thread Management Routines :

pthread_create():

Syntax: `pthread_create(thread,attr,start_routine,arg)`

where,

thread - an unique identifier for the new thread

attr – an attribute object that is used to set thread attributes

start_routine- the C routine that the thread will execute once created

arg- an argument that may be passed to start_routine.

Pthread APIs

❖ pthread_exit():

Syntax: `pthread_exit(void *value_ptr)`

- is used to terminate a thread. It is called after thread has completed its work and is no longer required to exist.

❖ pthread_join():

Syntax: `pthread_join(threadId , status)`

Blocks the calling thread until specified threadId thread terminates.

Pthread APIs

pthread_detach():

Syntax:

```
pthread_detach( pthread_t thread_to_detach)
```

- is used to detach the thread from other threads when it has no need to interact with them.

❖ Thread Synchronization Routines :

pthread_mutex_init():

Syntax -

`pthread_mutex_init(mutex , attr)`

- initializes the mutex and sets its attributes

❖ **pthread_mutex_destroy():**

Syntax -

`pthread_mutex_destroy(mutex)`

- destroy the mutex

Pthread APIs

❖ **pthread_mutex_lock():**

Syntax - : `pthread_mutex_lock(mutex)`

- Locks a mutex.
- If the mutex is already locked, the calling thread blocks until the mutex becomes available.

❖ **pthread_mutex_trylock():**

Syntax - : `pthread_mutex_trylock(mutex)`

- Tries to lock a Mutex.
- If the mutex object referenced by mutex is currently locked by any thread, the call returns immediately.

❖ **pthread_mutex_unlock():**

Syntax - : `pthread_mutex_unlock(mutex)`

- Unlocks a Mutex.

Pthread APIs

- ❖ **Condition Variable Routines** : A condition variable is a time mechanism that is tightly bound to a mutex and a data item. It is used when one or more threads are waiting for the value of data item to change.
- ❖ Example : The code listed in Producer /Consumer statuaries

pthread_cond_init():

Syntax : `pthread_cond_init(condition,attr)`

- initializes condition variables.

pthread_cond_destroy():

Syntax : `pthread_cond_destroy(condition,attr)`

- destroys condition variables.

- ❖ Remark : Pthreads has no built in thread pool mechanism

Pthread APIs

- ❖ **Semaphores** : A semaphore is a counter that can have any nonnegative value. Threads wait on a semaphore.
- ❖ When the semaphore's value is 0, all threads are forced to wait. When the value is non-zero, a waiting thread is released to work.
- ❖ Pthreads does not implement semaphores, they are part of a different POSIX specification.
- ❖ Semaphores are used in conjunction with Pthreads' thread-management functionality

Usage : Include <semaphore.h>

- `sem_init(&sem, &attr, value);`
- `sem_post(&sem);`
- `sem_wait(&sem);`

Pthread APIs – Key Points

- ❖ Threads can communicate with one another using events
- ❖ A care is needed to terminate the Thread while using the C runtime library.
- ❖ Thread synchronizations can be accomplished through the use of Mutexes, Semaphores, Critical Sections, and Interlocked functions
- ❖ Windows support multiple thread-priority levels
- ❖ Processor affinity is a mechanism that allows the programmer to specify which processor a thread should try to run on. – OS play an important role on Multi Core processor
- ❖ POSIX Threads (Pthreads) is a portable threading APIs that is supported on a number of platforms.

Compiling and Executing Pthread Programs

- ❖ The compilation and execution details of Pthreads programs will vary from one system to another. The essential steps are common to all the systems: In case of `gcc` the steps are :

For compiling:

```
$ gcc -o < executable name > < name of source file > -lpthread
```

or

```
make
```

Note : Pthreads code should include the `pthread.h` header file.

Compiling and Executing Pthread Programs

To compile `pthread` code

`pthread-helloworld.c`

Use the command

`gcc -o helloworld pthread-helloworld.c -lpthread`

In order to execute we need to give,

`./name_of_executable`

`./helloworld`

Pthreads : Data Race - Example Program

Example 3.4 ([pthread-demo-datarace.c](#)) (Illustrate data race condition in a situation which occurs when more than one thread are trying to work with or update global variable

```
#include <pthread.h>
```

```
#include <stdlib.h>
```

```
#include <unistd.h>
```

```
#include <stdio.h>
```

```
int myglobal;                // declaration of global variable
```

```
pthread_mutex_t mymutex=PTHREAD_MUTEX_INITIALIZER;
```

Source : Reference [4],[6], [7]

Pthreads : Data Race - Example Program

```
void *thread_function_datarace(void *arg)
{
    int i,j;
    for ( i=0; i<n; i++ )
    {
        j=myglobal;
        j=j+1;
        printf("\n In thread_function_datarace..\t");
        sleep(1);
        myglobal=j;
    }
    return NULL;
}
```

*Example 3.4
continued ...*

Pthreads : Data Race - Example Program

```
void *thread_function_mutex(void *arg)
{
    int i,j;
    for ( i=0; i<n; i++ )
    {
        pthread_mutex_lock(&mymutex);
        j=myglobal;
        j=j+1;
        printf("\n In thread_function_mutex..\t");
        sleep(0.1);
        myglobal=j;
        pthread_mutex_unlock(&mymutex);
    }
    return NULL;
}
```

*Example 3.4
continued ...*

Pthreads : Data Race - Example Program

*Example 3.4
continued ...*

```
int main(void)
{

    pthread_t mythread;
    int i;

    if ( pthread_create( &mythread, NULL, thread_function_datarace, NULL) )
    {
        printf("error creating thread.");
        abort();
    }
}
```


Pthreads : Data Race - Example Program

```
for ( i=0; i<n; i++)
{
    myglobal=myglobal+1;
    printf("\n In main..\t");
    sleep(1);
}
if ( pthread_join ( mythread, NULL ) )
{
    printf("error joining thread.");
    abort();
}
printf("\n Value of myglobal in thread_function_datarace is : %d\n",myglobal);
printf("\n-----\n");
```

*Example 3.4
continued ...*

Pthreads : Data Race - Example Program

*Example 3.4
continued ...*

```
myglobal = 0;
if ( pthread_create( &mythread, NULL, thread_function_mutex, NULL) ) /
{
    printf("error creating thread.");
    abort();
}
for ( i=0; i<n; i++)
{
    pthread_mutex_lock(&mymutex);
    myglobal = myglobal+1;
    pthread_mutex_unlock(&mymutex);
    printf("\n In main..\t");
    sleep(1);
}
```

Pthreads : Data Race - Example Program

*Example 3.4
continued ...*

```
if ( pthread_join ( mythread, NULL ) )
{
    printf("error joining thread.");
    abort();
}

printf("\n");
printf("\n Value of myglobal in thread_function_mutex is : %d\n",myglobal);

exit(0);

}
```

Shared Memory Programming: Pthreads

- ❖ An Overview of Threading APIs
- ❖ Summary of POSIX Threads (Pthreads) Model
- ❖ Threads on Windows and Different platforms is possible and Multi Core processors systems with different OS can be used
- ❖ Compilation and Linking of Pthread Programs
- ❖ Example codes using Pthreads
- ❖ Different platforms support Pthreads capabilities. Features may not be available in all Pthreads environments.

Conclusions

- ❖ Important issues in Shared parallel programming -Pthreads
- ❖ Common Synchronization problems with Pthreads
- ❖ Pthreads Performance issues on Multi Core Processors

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Thank you