



Run-Time Parallelization and Thread-Level Speculation

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Goal of run-time parallelization



- Typical target: **irregular loops**

```
for ( i=0; i<n; i++)
  a[i] = f ( a[ g(i) ], a[ h(i) ], ... );
```

- Array index expressions $g, h \dots$ depend on run-time data
e.g.; $g(i) = x[i]$ (indexed array access)
- Iterations cannot be statically proved independent
(and not either dependent with distance +1)

- **Principle:**

At runtime, inspect $g, h \dots$ to find out the real dependences
and compute a schedule for partially parallel execution

- Can also be combined with speculative parallelization

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Overview



- **Run-time parallelization of irregular loops**
 - DOACROSS parallelization
 - Inspector-Executor Technique (shared memory)
 - Inspector-Executor Technique (message passing)
 - Privatizing DOALL Test *
- **Speculative run-time parallelization of irregular loops ***
 - LRPD Test *
- **General Thread-Level Speculation**
 - Hardware support *

* = not yet covered in this lecture. See the references.

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Runtime parallelization

DOACROSS Parallelization

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DOACROSS Parallelization



- Useful if dependence distances are unknown, but often > 1
- Allow independent subsequent loop iterations to overlap
- Bilateral synchronization

- Simple example for shared memory:

```
for ( i=0; i<n; i++)
  a[i] = f ( a[ g(i) ], ... );
```

```
sh float aold[n];
sh flag done[n]; // flag array
```

```
forall ( i=0; i<n; i++) { // spawn n threads, one per iteration
  done[i] = 0;
  aold[i] = a[i]; // create a copy
  barrier;
  if ( g(i) < i ) wait until done[ g(i) ];
  a[i] = f ( a[ g(i) ], ... );
  else
  a[i] = f ( aold[ g(i) ], ... ); fi
  set( done[i] );
}
```

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Runtime parallelization

Inspector-Executor Technique

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Inspector-Executer Technique (1)

- Compiler generates 2 pieces of customized code for such loops:

Inspector

- calculates values of index expression by simulating whole loop execution
 - typically, based on sequential version of the source loop (some computations could be left out)
- computes implicitly the real iteration dependence graph
- computes a parallel schedule as (greedy) wavefront traversal of the iteration dependence graph in topological order
 - all iterations in same wavefront are independent
 - schedule depth = #wavefronts = critical path length



Executer

- follows this schedule to execute the loop



Inspector-Executer Technique (2)

Source loop:

```
for ( i=0; i<n; i++)
    a[i] = f( a[ g(i) ], a[ h(i) ], ... );
```

Inspector:

```
int wf[n]; // wavefront indices
int depth = 0;
for (i=0; i<n; i++)
    wf[i] = 0; // init.
for (i=0; i<n; i++) {
    wf[i] = max ( wf[ g(i) ], wf[ h(i) ], ... ) + 1;
    depth = max ( depth, wf[i] );
}
```

- Inspector considers only flow dependences (RAW), anti- and output dependences to be preserved by executer



Inspector-Executer Technique (3)

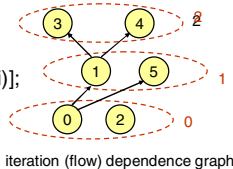
Example:

```
for (i=0; i<n; i++)
    a[i] = ... a[ g(i) ] ...;
```

i	0	1	2	3	4	5
g(i)	2	0	2	1	1	0
wf[i]	0	1	0	2	2	1
g(i)<i?	no	yes	no	yes	yes	yes

Executer:

```
float aold[n]; // buffer array
aold[1:n] = a[1:n];
for (w=0; w<depth; w++)
    forall (i, 0, n) if (wf[i] == w) {
        a1 = (g(i) < i)? a[g(i)] : aold[g(i)];
        ... // similarly, a2 for h etc.
        a[i] = f( a1, a2, ... );
    }
```



Inspector-Executer Technique (4)

Problem: Inspector remains sequential – no speedup

Solution approaches:

- Re-use schedule over subsequent iterations of an outer loop if access pattern does not change
 - amortizes inspector overhead across repeated executions
- Parallelize the inspector using doacross parallelization [Saltz, Mirchandaney'91]
- Parallelize the inspector using sectioning [Leung/Zahorjan'91]
 - compute processor-local wavefronts in parallel, concatenate
 - trade-off schedule quality (depth) vs. inspector speed
 - Parallelize the inspector using bootstrapping [Leung/Z.'91]
 - Start with suboptimal schedule by sectioning, use this to execute the inspector → refined schedule



Inspector-Executer Technique (5) - DMS

- Global address space (GAS) languages for DMS (HPF, UPC, NestStep, Co-Array Fortran, ...)

- Compiler must insert necessary **Send / Recv** operations to move data from owning to reading processor
- Necessary even for (irregular) *parallel* loops (iterations are statically asserted to be independent, e.g. by user directive)

- Can use inspector-executer method for run-time scheduling of communication in irregular loops

Inspector:

- determines communication map + reverse map (schedule): Who has to send which owned elements to whom
- allocate buffer for received elements; adapt access functions



Executer:

- communicates according to schedule
- executes loop



Inspector-Executer Technique (5) - DMS

Example:

```
forall (i, 0, 12, #)
    y[i] = y[i] + a[ ip[i] ] * x[i]
```

- y[1:n], a[1:n], ip[1:n], x[1:n] aligned and block-distributed across 3 processors P0, P1, P2
- Compiler applies owner-computes rule

i	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
owner of y[i]	P0	P0	P0	P0	P1	P1	P1	P1	P2	P2	P2	P2
ip[i]	1	5	6	10	0	3	4	8	10	5	4	9
owner of a[ip[i]]	P0	P1	P1	P2	P0	P0	P1	P2	P2	P1	P1	P2

Inspector-Executor Technique (6) - DMS



- Inspector step 1:
construct communication map
(here, in parallel)

dest	source	data	local buffer area (private)
P0	P1	a[5], a[6]	lb[0:1]
	P2	a[10]	lb[2]
P1	P0	a[0], a[3]	lb[0:1]
	P2	a[8]	lb[2]
P2	P1	a[4], a[5]	lb[0:1]

Inspector-Executor Technique (7) - DMS



- Inspector step 2:
construct reverse communication map
(communication schedule)

source	dest	data	remote buffer area
P0	P1	a[0], a[3]	lb[0:1]
P1	P0	a[5], a[6]	lb[0:1]
P1	P2	a[4], a[5]	lb[0:1]
P2	P0	a[10]	lb[2]
P2	P1	a[9]	lb[2]

Inspector-Executor Technique (8) - DMS



- Inspector, step 3:
Construct modified access functions
(represented as local table of pointers)

i	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
owner of y[i]	P0	P0	P0	P0	P1	P1	P1	P1	P2	P2	P2	P2
ip[i]	1	5	6	10	0	3	4	8	10	5	4	9
owner of a [ip[i]]	P0	P1	P1	P2	P0	P0	P1	P2	P2	P1	P1	P2
accesstable [i] = where to find a[ip[i]] in local memory	a	lb	lb	lb	lb	lb	a	lb	a	lb	lb	a
	+1	+0	+1	+2	+0	+1	+0	+2	+2	+0	+1	+1

Remark: Communication maps and address tables can be reused if ip[.] does not change between subsequent executions of the source loop.

Inspector-Executor Technique (9) - DMS



- Executor:

```
// send data according to reverse communication map:
for each Pj in dest
    send requested a[:] elements to Pj
// receive data according to communication map:
for each Pi in source
    recv a[:] elements, write to respective lb entries
// Remark: the above part can be skipped in subsequent
// executions of the executor if ip[] and a[] do not change.
```

```
// execute loop with modified access function:
forall (i, 0, 12, #)
    y[i] = y[i] + *(accesstable[i]) * x[i];
```



Some references on run-time parallelization



- R. Cytron: Doacross: Beyond vectorization for multiprocessors. Proc. ICPP-1986
- D. Chen, J. Torrellas, P. Yew: An Efficient Algorithm for the Run-time Parallelization of DOACROSS Loops, Proc. IEEE Supercomputing Conference, Nov. 2004, IEEE CS Press, pp. 518-527
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- S. Leung, J. Zahorjan: Improving the performance of run-time parallelization. Proc. ACM PPOPP-1993, pp. 83-91.
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- Lawrence Rauchwerger, David Padua: The LRPD Test: Speculative Run-Time Parallelization of Loops with Privatization and Reduction Parallelization. Proc. ACM SIGPLAN PLDI-95, 1995, pp. 218-232.



Thread-Level Speculation

Speculative execution



- For automatic parallelization of sequential code where dependences are hard to analyze statically
- Works on a **task graph**
 - constructed implicitly and dynamically
- **Speculate on:**
 - control flow, data independence, synchronization, values

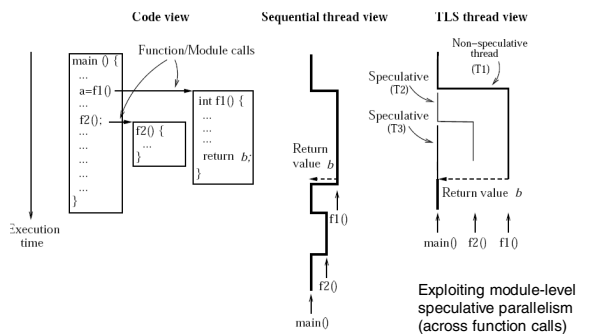
We focus on thread-level speculation (TLS) for CMP/MT processors. Speculative ILP is not considered here.
- **Task:**
 - **statically:** Connected, single-entry subgraph of the control-flow graph
 - ▶ Basic blocks, loop bodies, loops, or entire functions
 - **dynamically:** Contiguous fragment of dynamic instruction stream within static task region, entered at static task entry

Speculative execution of tasks



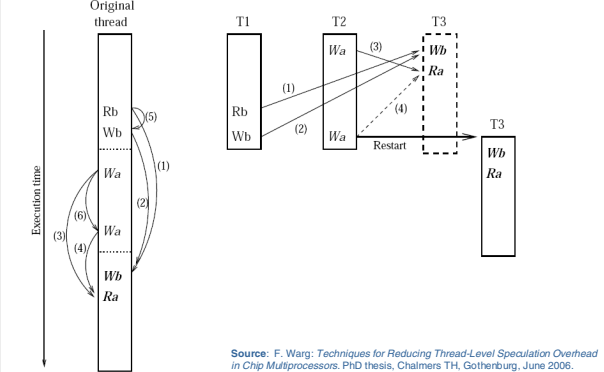
- **Speculation on inter-task control flow**
 - After having assigned a task, predict its successor task and start it speculatively
- **Speculation on data independence**
 - For inter-task memory data (flow) dependences
 - ▶ conservatively: await write (memory synchronization, message)
 - ▶ speculatively: hope for independence and continue (execute the load)
- **Roll-back** of speculative results on mis-speculation (expensive)
 - When starting speculation, state must be buffered
 - Squash an offending task and all its successors, restart
- **Commit speculative results** when speculation resolved to correct
 - Task is retired

TLS Example



Source: F. Wang: Techniques for Reducing Thread-Level Speculation Overhead in Chip Multiprocessors. PhD thesis, Chalmers TH, Gothenburg, June 2006.

Data dependence problem in TLS



Source: F. Wang: Techniques for Reducing Thread-Level Speculation Overhead in Chip Multiprocessors. PhD thesis, Chalmers TH, Gothenburg, June 2006.

Selecting Tasks for Speculation



- **Small tasks:**
 - too much overhead (task startup, task retirement)
 - low parallelism degree
- **Large tasks:**
 - higher misspeculation probability
 - higher rollback cost
 - many speculations ongoing in parallel may saturate the resources
- **Load balancing issues**
 - avoid large variation in task sizes
- Traversal of the program's control flow graph (CFG)
 - Heuristics for task size, control and data dep. speculation

TLS Implementations



- **Software-only speculation**
 - for loops [Rauchwerger, Padua '94, '95]
 - ...
- **Hardware-based speculation**
 - Typically, integrated in cache coherence protocols
 - Used with multithreaded processors / chip multiprocessors for automatic parallelization of sequential legacy code
 - If source code available, compiler may help e.g. with identifying suitable threads

Some references on speculative execution / parallelization



- T. Vijaykumar, G. Sohi: Task Selection for a Multiscalar Processor. Proc. MICRO-31, Dec. 1998.
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- J. Steffan et al.: Improving value communication for thread-level speculation. HPCA-8, 2002.
- M. Cintra, J. Torrellas: Eliminating squashes through learning cross-thread violations in speculative parallelization for multiprocessors. HPCA-8, 2002.
- Fredrik Warg and Per Stenström: Improving speculative thread-level parallelism through module run-length prediction. Proc. IPDPS 2003.
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- T. Ohsawa et al.: Pinot: Speculative multi-threading processor architecture exploiting parallelism over a wide range of granularities. Proc. MICRO-38, 2005.