Synchronization: Implementing Barriers Promises + Futures

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Today

- Questions?
- Administrivia
 - Lab 2 due sooner than you'd like
- Material for the day
 - Barrier implementation
 - Promises & Futures
- Acknowledgements
 - Thanks to Gadi Taubenfield: I borrowed from some of his slides on barriers

Faux Quiz (answer any N, 5 min)

 How are promises and futures related? Since there is disagreement on the nomenclature, don't worry about which is which—just describe what the different objects are and how they function.

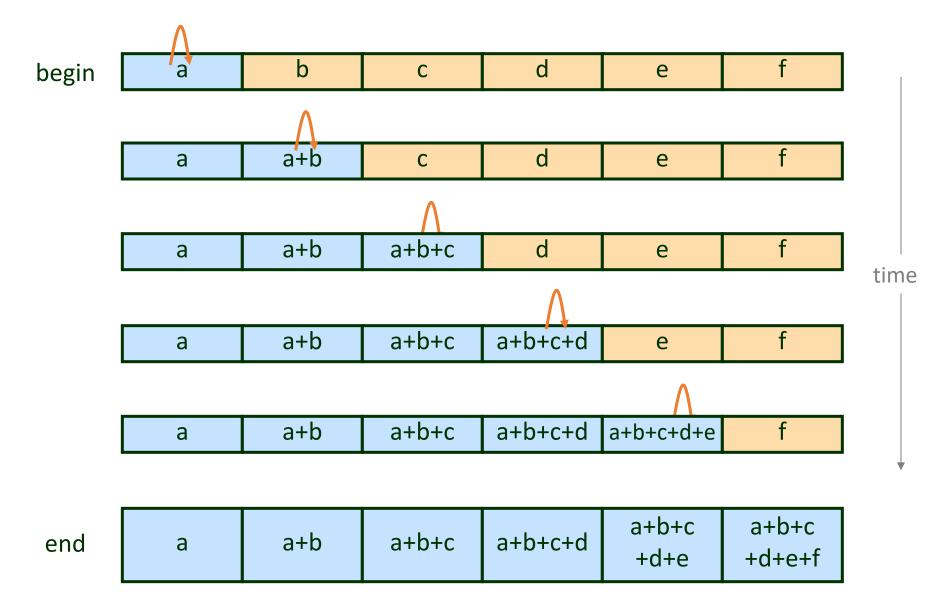
Barriers



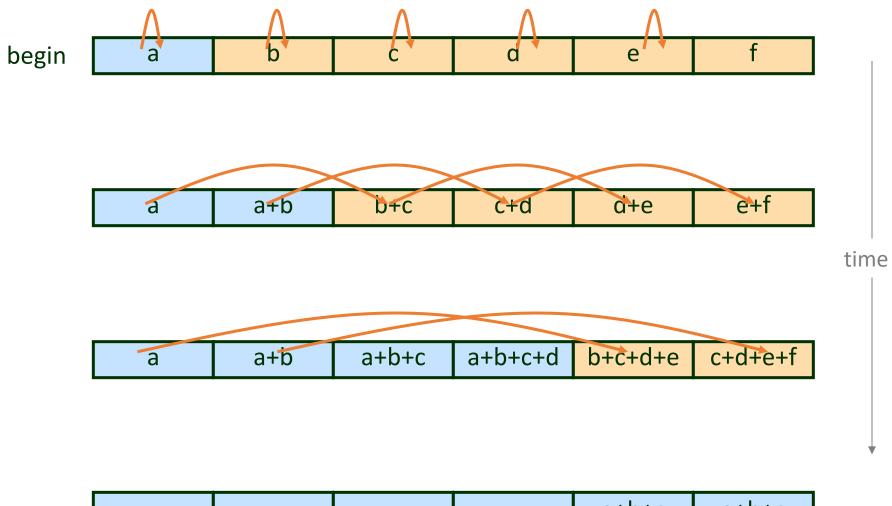
Prefix Sum

begin	а	b	С	d	е	f	
				ļ.			
							time
							Ļ
and		a+b	a+b+c	a+b+c+d	a+b+c	a+b+c	
end	а	d+D	d+D+C	a+0+C+0	+d+e	+d+e+f	

Prefix Sum







end	а	a+b	a+b+c	a+b+c+d	a+b+c +d+e	a+b+c +d+e+f
-----	---	-----	-------	---------	---------------	-----------------

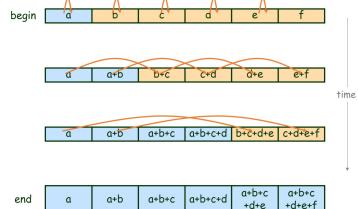
Pthreads Parallel Prefix Sum

```
int g_values[N] = { a, b, c, d, e, f };
```

```
void prefix sum thread(void * param) {
```

```
int i;
int id = *((int*)param);
int stride = 0;
```

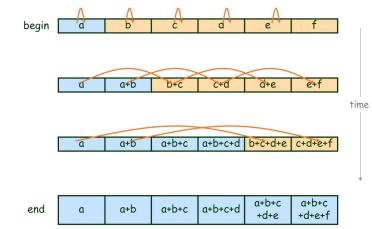
```
for(stride=1; stride<=N/2; stride<<1) {
  g_values[id+stride] += g_values[id];</pre>
```



Will this work?

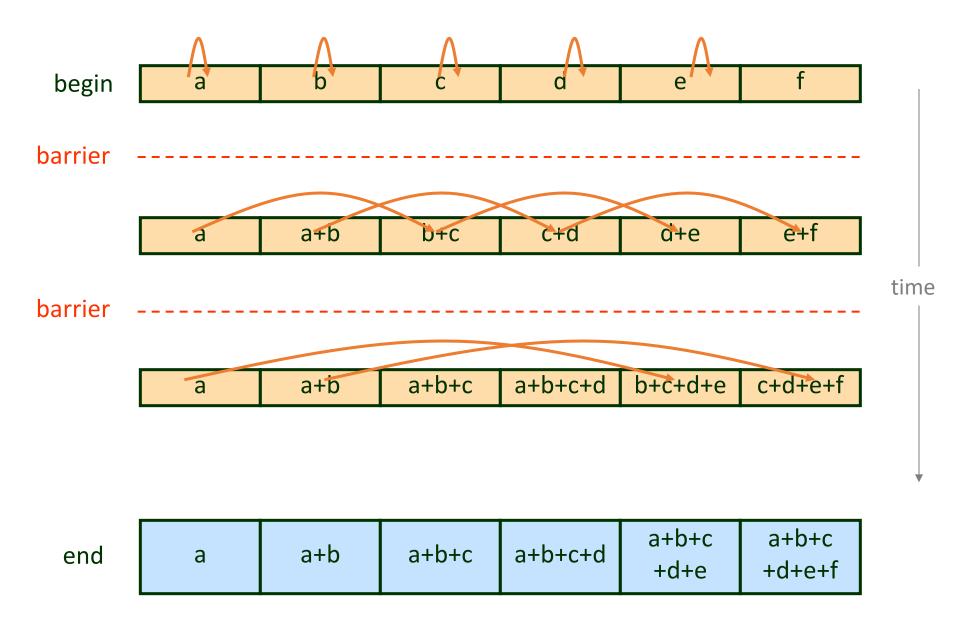
Pthreads Parallel Prefix Sum

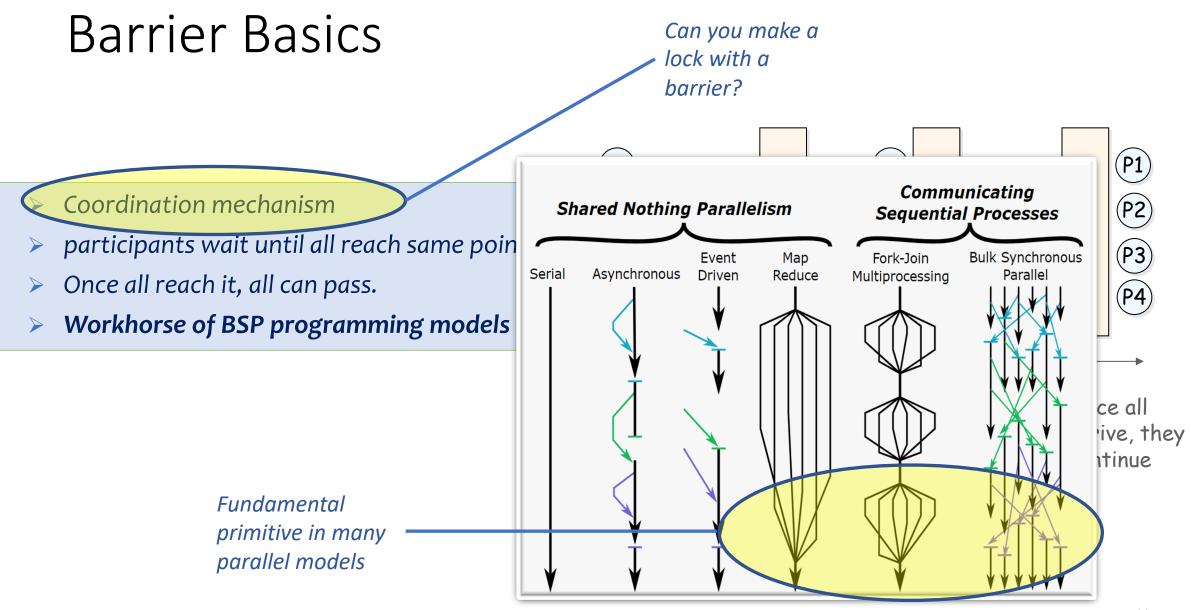
```
pthread mutex t g locks[N] = { MUTEX INITIALIZER, ...};
int g values[N] = { a, b, c, d, e, f };
void prefix sum thread(void * param) {
  int i;
  int id = *((int*)param);
  int stride = 0;
  for(stride=1; stride<=N/2; stride<<1) {</pre>
    pthread mutex lock(&g locks[id]);
    pthread mutex lock(&g locks[id+stride]);
    g values[id+stride] += g_values[id];
    pthread mutex unlock(&g_locks[id]);
    pthread mutex unlock(&g locks[id+stride]);
```



fixed?

Parallel Prefix Sum





Barriers: Goals

Desirable barrier properties:

- Low shared memory space complexity
- Low contention on shared objects
- Low shared memory references per process
- No need for shared memory initialization
- Symmetric: same amount of work for all
- Algorithm simplicity
- Simple basic primitive
- Minimal propagation time
- Reusability of the barrier (must!)

Barrier Building Blocks

- Conditions
- Semaphores
- Atomic Bit
- Atomic Register
- Fetch-and-increment register
- Test and set bits
- Read-Modify-Write register

Barrier with Semaphores

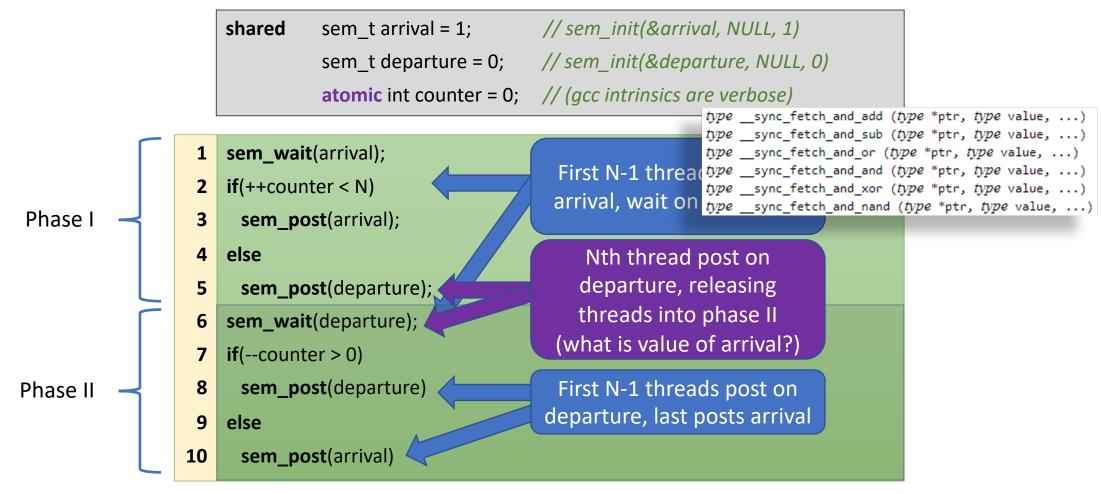




Barrier using Semaphores Algorithm for N threads

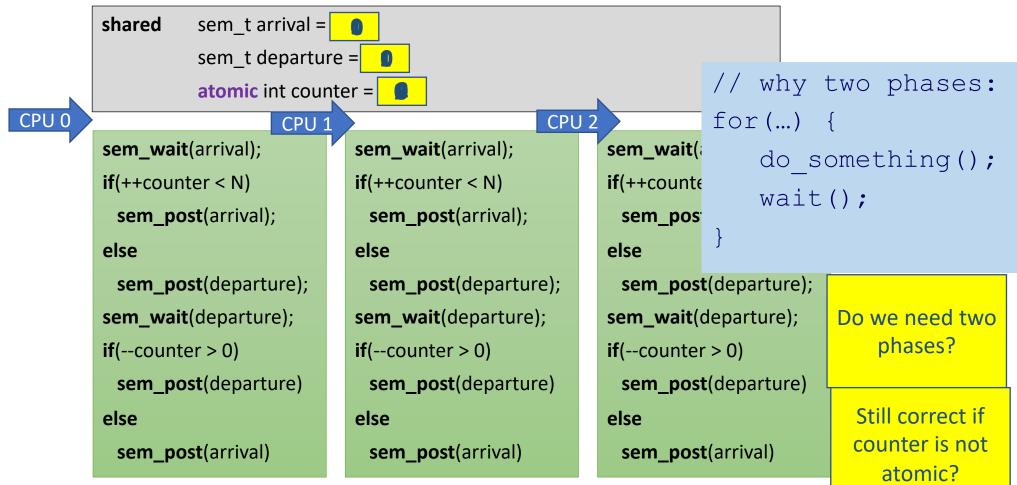






Semaphore Barrier Action Zone N == 3





Barrier using Semaphores Properties

- Pros:
 - Very Simple
 - Space complexity O(1)
 - Symmetric
- Cons:
 - Required a strong object
 - Requires some central manager
 - High contention on the semaphores
 - Propagation delay O(n)





Barriers based on counters



Counter Barrier Ingredients

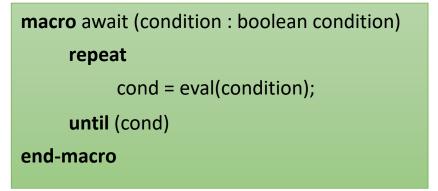
Fetch-and-Increment register

- A shared register that supports a F&I operation:
- Input: register r
- Atomic operation:
 - *r* is incremented by 1
 - the old value of r is returned

```
function fetch-and-increment (r : register)
    orig_r := r;
    r:= r + 1;
    return (orig_r);
end-function
```

Await

- For brevity, we use the **await** macro
- Not an operation of an object
- This is just "spinning"



Simple Barrier Using an Atomic Counter

shared	counter: fetch and increment reg. – {0,n}, initially = 0	
	go: atomic bit, initial value does not matter	
local	local.go: a bit, initial value does not matter	
	local.counter: register	

1 local.go := go

- 2 local.counter := fetch-and-increment (counter)
- 3 **if** local.counter + 1 = n **then**
- 4 counter := 0
- 5 go := 1 go
- 6 **else await**(local.go ≠ go)

Pros/Cons?

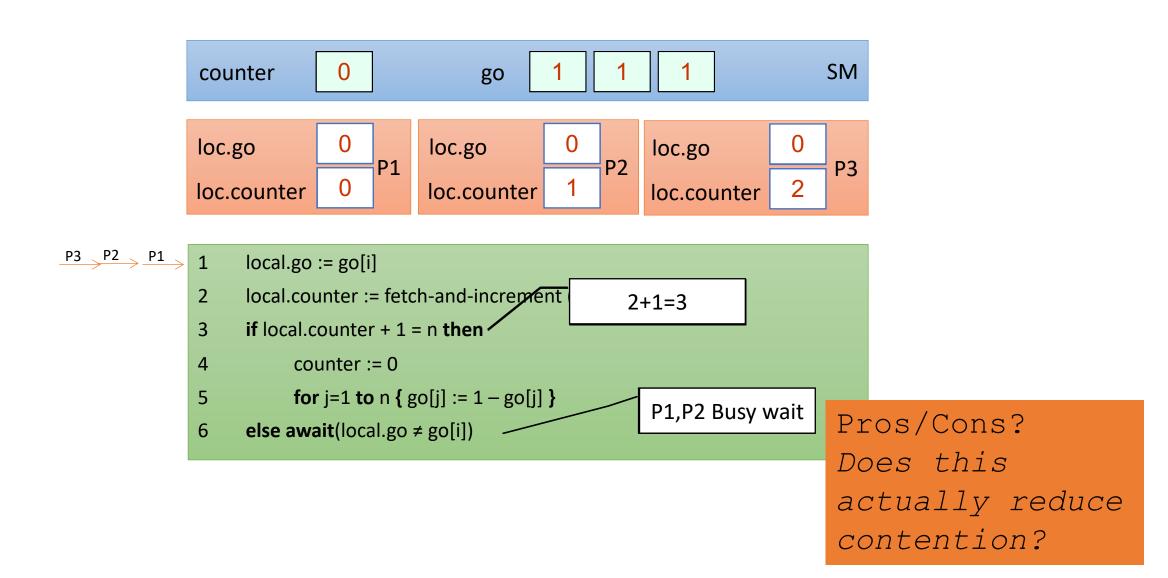
- There is high memory contention on go bit
- Reducing the contention:
 - Replace the go bit with n bits: go[1],...,go[n]
 - Process p_i may spin only on the bit go[i]

A Local Spinning Counter Barrier Program of a Thread i

shared	counter: fetch and increment reg. – {0,n}, initially = 0		
	go[1n]: array of atomic bits, initial values are immaterial		
local	local.go: a bit, initial value is immaterial		
	local.counter: register		

1	local.go := go[i]
2	local.counter := fetch-and-increment (counter)
3	if local.counter + 1 = n then
4	counter := 0
5	<pre>for j=1 to n { go[j] := 1 - go[j] }</pre>
6	else await(local.go ≠ go[i])

A Local Spinning Counter Barrier Example Run for n=3 Threads



Comparison of counter-based Barriers

Simple Barrier	Simple Barrier with go array
• Pros:	• Pros:
• Cons:	• Cons:

Comparison of counter-based Barriers

Simple Barrier

- Pros:
 - Very Simple
 - Shared memory: O(log n) bits
 - Takes O(1) until last waiting p is awaken
- Cons:
 - High contention on the go bit
 - Contention on the counter register (*)

Simple Barrier with go array

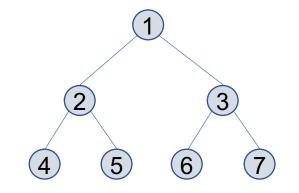
- Pros:
 - Low contention on the go array
 - In some models:
 - spinning is done on local memory
 - remote mem. ref.: O(1)
- Cons:
 - Shared memory: O(n)
 - Still contention on the counter register (*)
 - Takes O(n) until last waiting p is awaken

Tree Barriers

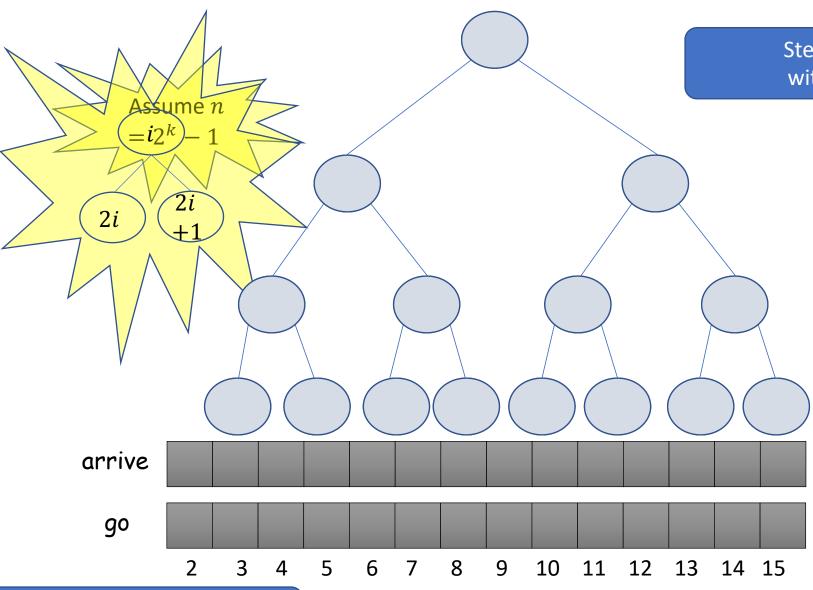


A Tree-based Barrier

- Threads are organized in a binary tree
- Each node is owned by a predetermined thread
- Each thread waits until its 2 children arrive
 - combines results
 - passes them on to its parent
- Root learns that its 2 children have arrived \rightarrow tells children they can go
- The signal propagates down the tree until all the threads get the message



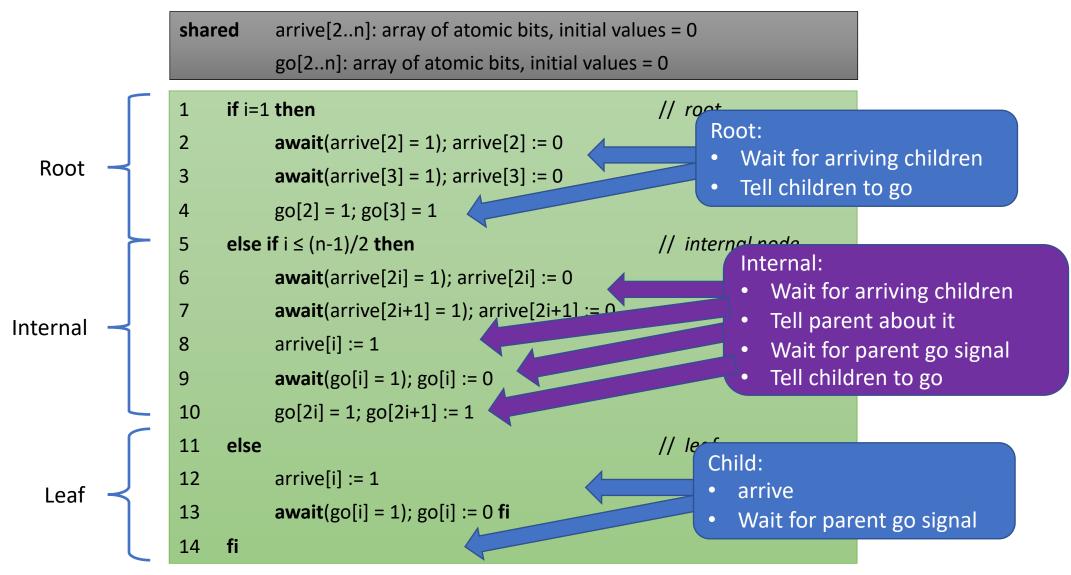
A Tree-based Barrier: indexing

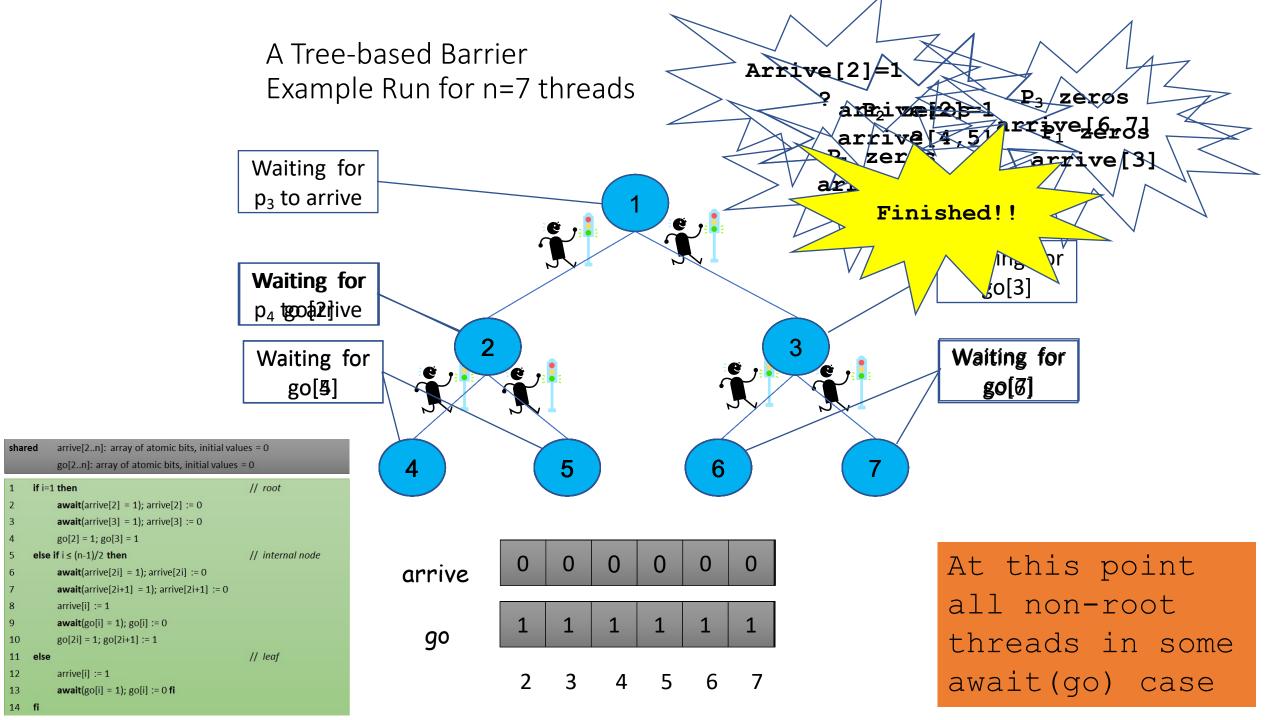


Step 1: label numerically with depth-first traveral

Indexing starts from 2 Root \rightarrow 1, doesn't need wait objects

A Tree-based Barrier program of thread i



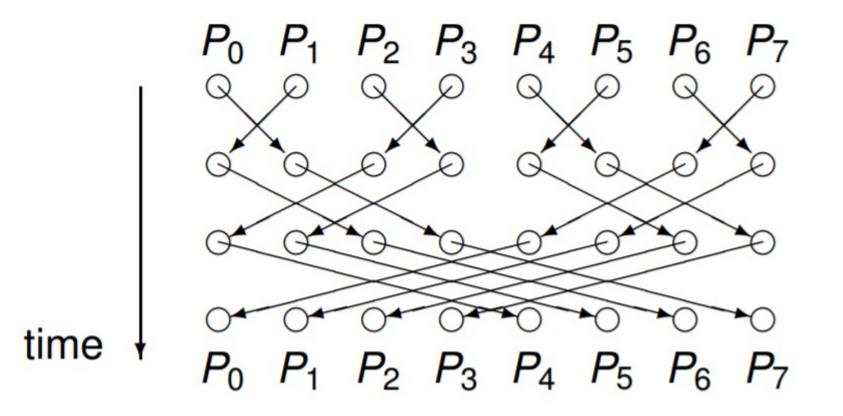


Tree Barrier Tradeoffs

• Pros:

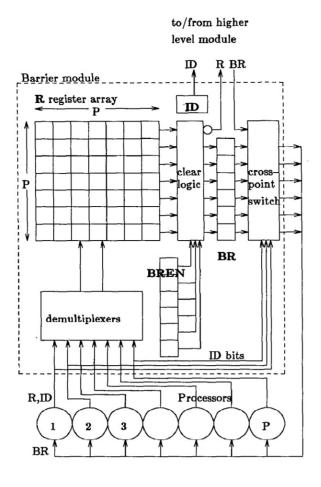
• Cons:

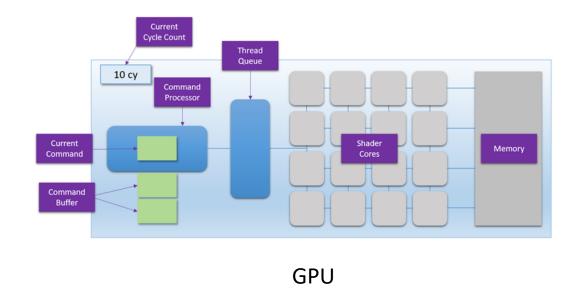
Butterfly Barrier



• When would this be preferable?

Hardware Supported Barriers





When would this be useful?

CPU

Barriers Summary

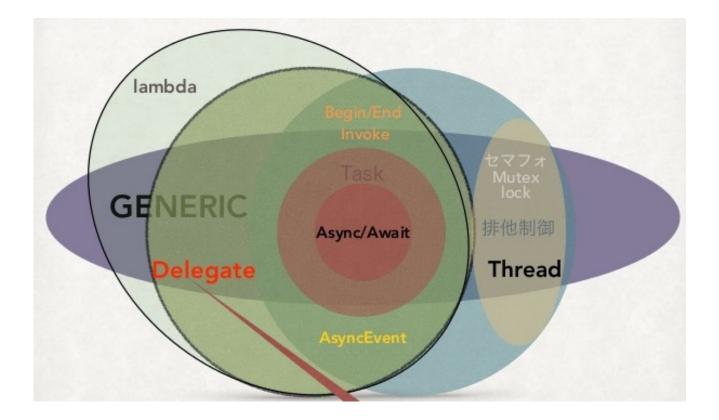
Seen:

- Semaphore-based barrier
- Simple barrier
 - Based on atomic fetch-and-increment counter
- Local spinning barrier
 - Based on atomic fetch-and-increment counter and go array
- Tree-based barrier

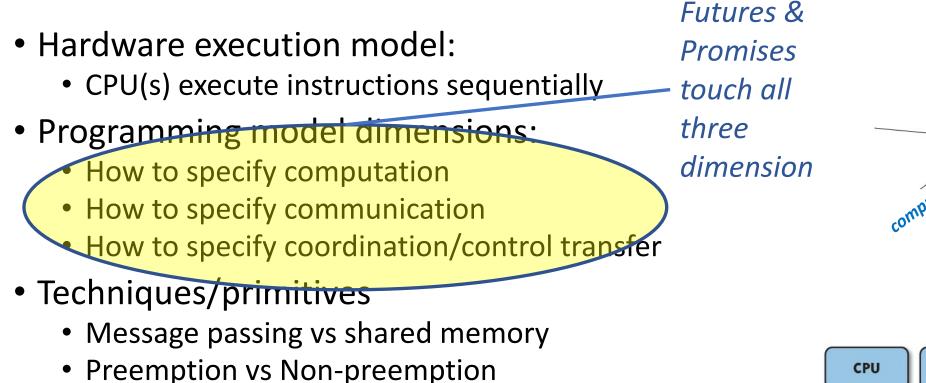
Not seen:

- Test-and-Set barriers
 - Based on test-and-test-and-set objects
 - One version without memory initialization
- See-Saw barrier
- Book has condition barriers

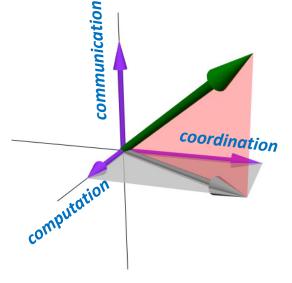
Asynchronous Programming Events, Promises, and Futures

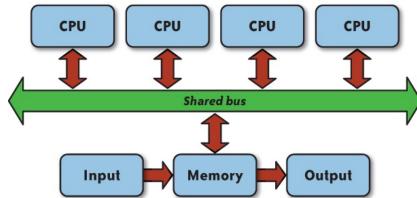


Programming Models for Concurrency



• Dimensions/techniques not always orthogonal





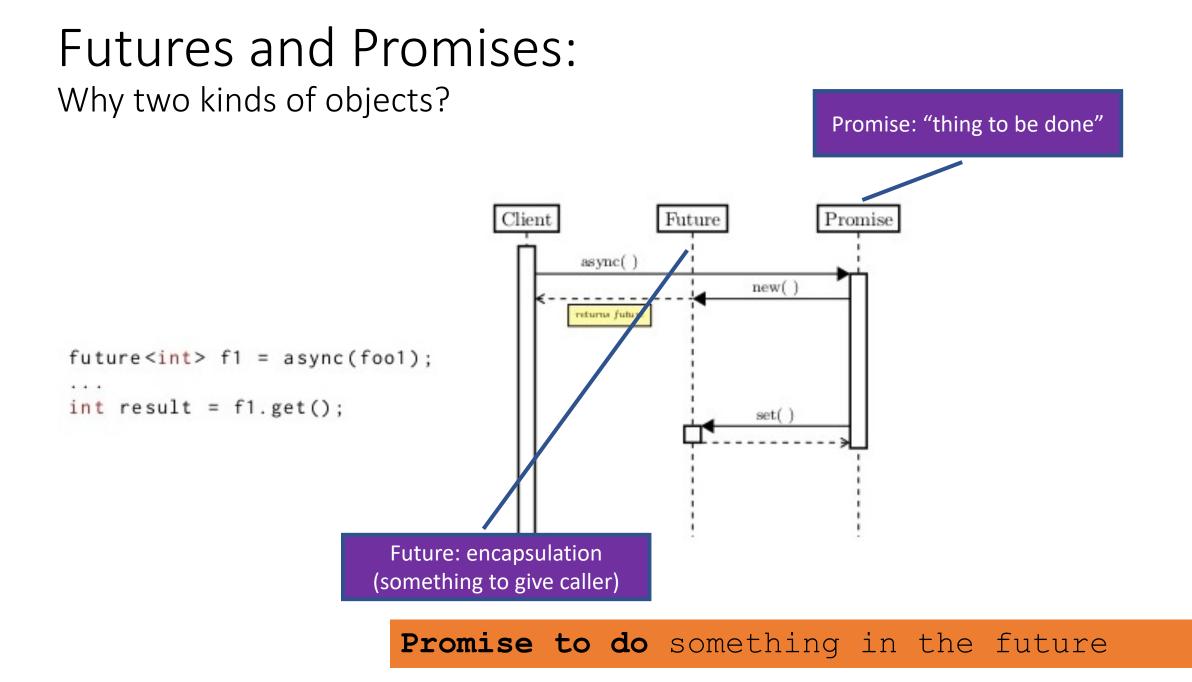
Futures & Promises

- Values that will eventually become available
- Time-dependent states:
 - Completed/determined
 - Computation complete, value concrete
 - Incomplete/undetermined
 - Computation not complete yet
- Construct (future X)
 - immediately returns value
 - concurrently executes X

Java Example

```
1 static void runAsyncExample() {
      CompletableFuture cf = CompletableFuture.runAsync(() -> {
2
          assertTrue(Thread.currentThread().isDaemon());
3
          randomSleep();
4
5
      });
6
      assertFalse(cf.isDone());
7
      sleepEnough();
8
      assertTrue(cf.isDone());
9 }
```

- CompletableFuture is a container for Future object type
- cf is an instance
- runAsync() accepts
 - Lambda expression
 - Anonymous function
 - Functor
- runAsync() immediately returns a waitable object (cf)
- Where (on what thread) does the lambda expression run?



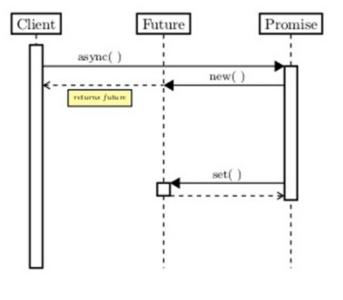
Futures vs Promises

Mnemonic: Promise to *do* something Make a promise *for* the future

- Future: read-only reference to uncompleted value
- Promise: single-assignment variable that the future refers to
- Promises *complete* the future with:
 - Result with success/failure
 - Exception



Language	Promise	Future
Algol	Thunk	Address of async result
Java	Future <t></t>	CompletableFuture <t></t>
C#/.NET	TaskCompletionSource <t></t>	Task <t></t>
JavaScript	Deferred	Promise
C++	std::promise	std::future



Putting Futures in Context My unvarnished opinion

Futures:

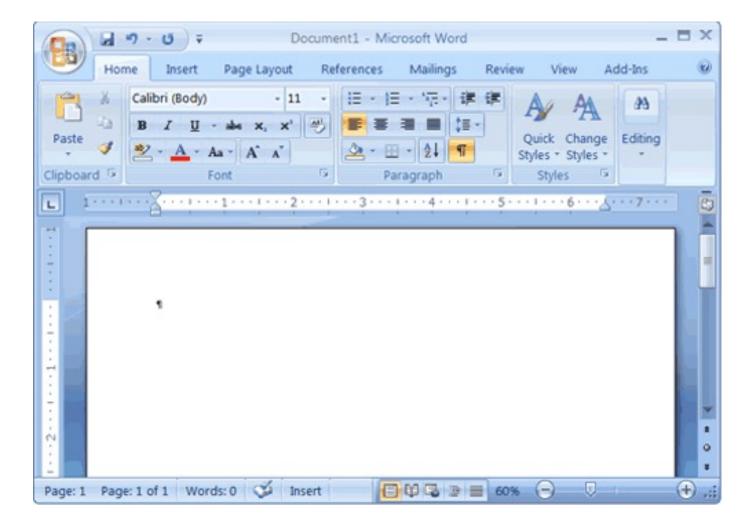
- abstraction for concurrent work supported by
 - Compiler: abstractions are *language-level objects*
 - Runtime: scheduler, task queues, thread-pools are transparent
- Programming remains mostly imperative/sequential
 - Threads of control peppered with asynchronous/concurrent tasks

Compromise P

- Event-based
- Thread-based

```
1 static void runAsyncExample() {
2   CompletableFuture cf = CompletableFuture.runAsync(() -> {
3      assertTrue(Thread.currentThread().isDaemon());
4      randomSleep();
5   });
6   assertFalse(cf.isDone());
7   sleepEnough();
8   assertTrue(cf.isDone());
9 }
```

GUI Programming



do {

WaitForSomething(); RespondToThing(); until(forever);

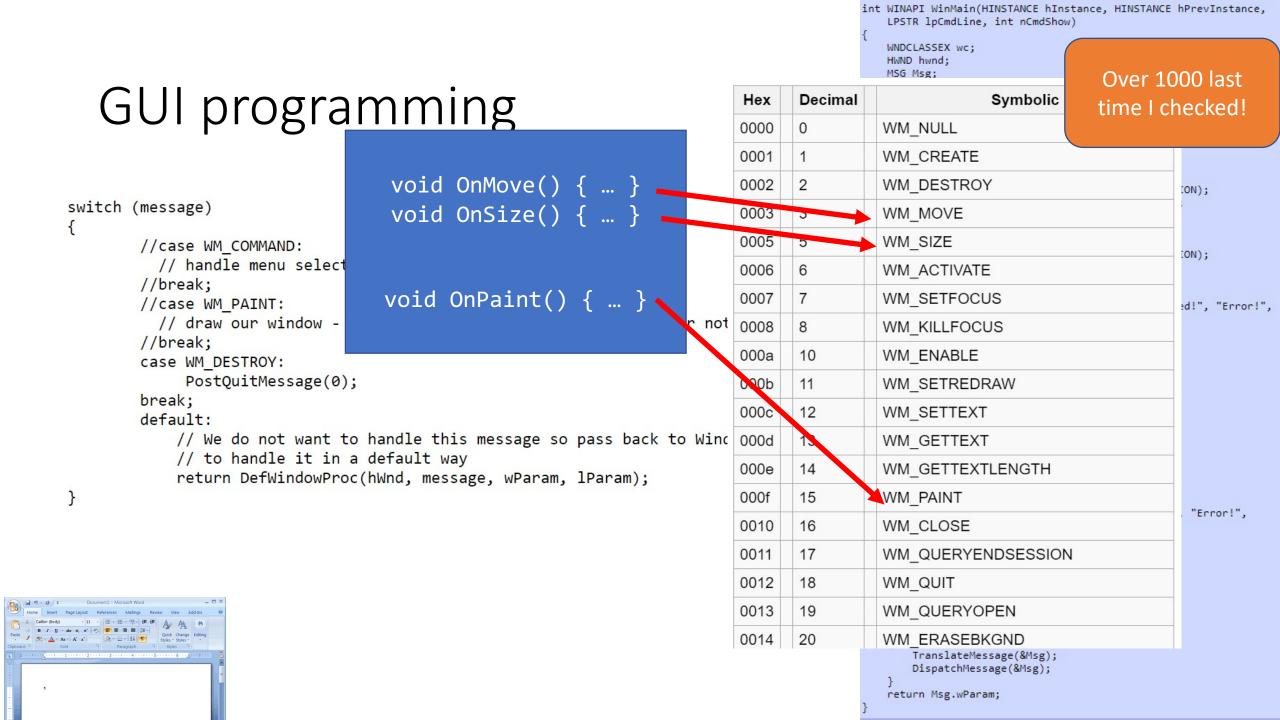
GUI Programming

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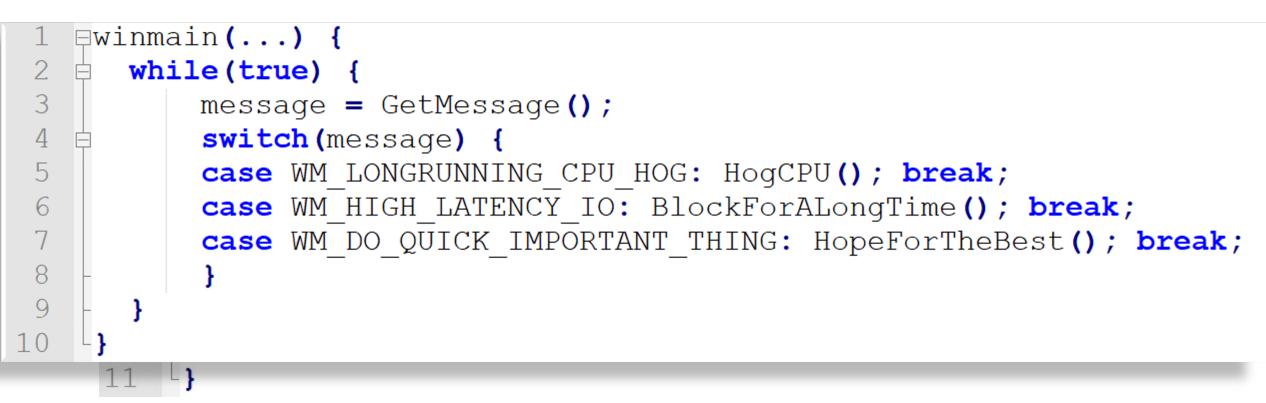
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// Step 2: Creating the Window hwnd = CreateWindowEx(switch (message) WS EX CLIENTEDGE, //case WM COMM g szClassName, // handle me "The title of my window", //break; WS OVERLAPPEDWINDOW, //case WM PAIN // draw our CW USEDEFAULT, CW USEDEFAULT, 240, 120, //break; NULL, NULL, hInstance, NULL); case WM DESTRO PostQuitMessage(0); break; default: // We do not want to handle this message so pass back to Windows // to handle it in a default way return DefWindowProc(hWnd, message, wParam, lParam); // Step 3: The Message Loop while(GetMessage(&Msg, NULL, 0, 0) > 0) TranslateMessage(&Msg); DispatchMessage(&Msg);

int WINAPI WinMain(HINSTANCE hInstance, HINSTANCE hPrevInstance, LPSTR lpCmdLine, int nCmdShow) WNDCLASSEX wc; HWND hwnd; MSG Msg; //Step 1: Registering the Window Class = sizeof(WNDCLASSEX); wc.cbSize wc.style = 0; wc.lpfnWndProc = WndProc; wc.cbClsExtra = 0; wc.cbWndExtra = 0; wc.hInstance = hInstance; wc.hIcon = LoadIcon(NULL, IDI APPLICATION); = LoadCursor(NULL, IDC ARROW); wc.hCursor wc.hbrBackground = (HBRUSH)(COLOR_WINDOW+1); wc.lpszMenuName = NULL; wc.lpszClassName = g szClassName; wc.hIconSm = LoadIcon(NULL, IDI APPLICATION); if(!RegisterClassEx(&wc)) MessageBox(NULL, "Window Registration Failed!", "Error!", MB ICONEXCLAMATION | MB OK); return 0; Step 2: Creating the Window hwnd = CreateWindowEx(WS_EX_CLIENTEDGE, g_szClassName, "The title of my window", WS_OVERLAPPEDWINDOW, CW USEDEFAULT, CW USEDEFAULT, 240, 120, NULL, NULL, hInstance, NULL); if(hwnd == NULL) MessageBox(NULL, "Window Creation Failed!", "Error!", MB ICONEXCLAMATION | MB OK); return 0; ShowWindow(hwnd, nCmdShow); UpdateWindow(hwnd); // Step 3: The Message Loop while(GetMessage(&Msg, NULL, 0, 0) > 0) TranslateMessage(&Msg); DispatchMessage(&Msg); return Msg.wParam;



GUI Programming Distilled



Pros

- Simple imperative programming
- Good fit for uni-processor

Cons

- Awkward/verbose
- Obscures available parallelism

GUI Programming Distilled

```
How can we
  ⊟winmain(...) {
     while(true) {
2
                                             parallelize
3
         message = GetMessage();
4
         switch(message) {
                                                this?
5
         case WM THIS: DoThis(); break;
         case WM THAT: DoThat(); break;
6
         case WM OTHERTHING: DoOtherThing(); break;
         case WM DONE: return;
8
9
```

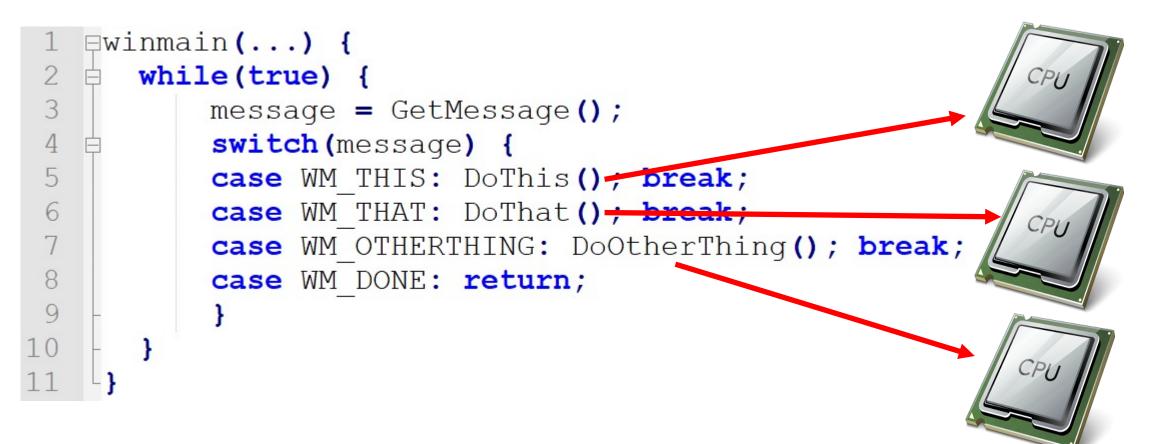




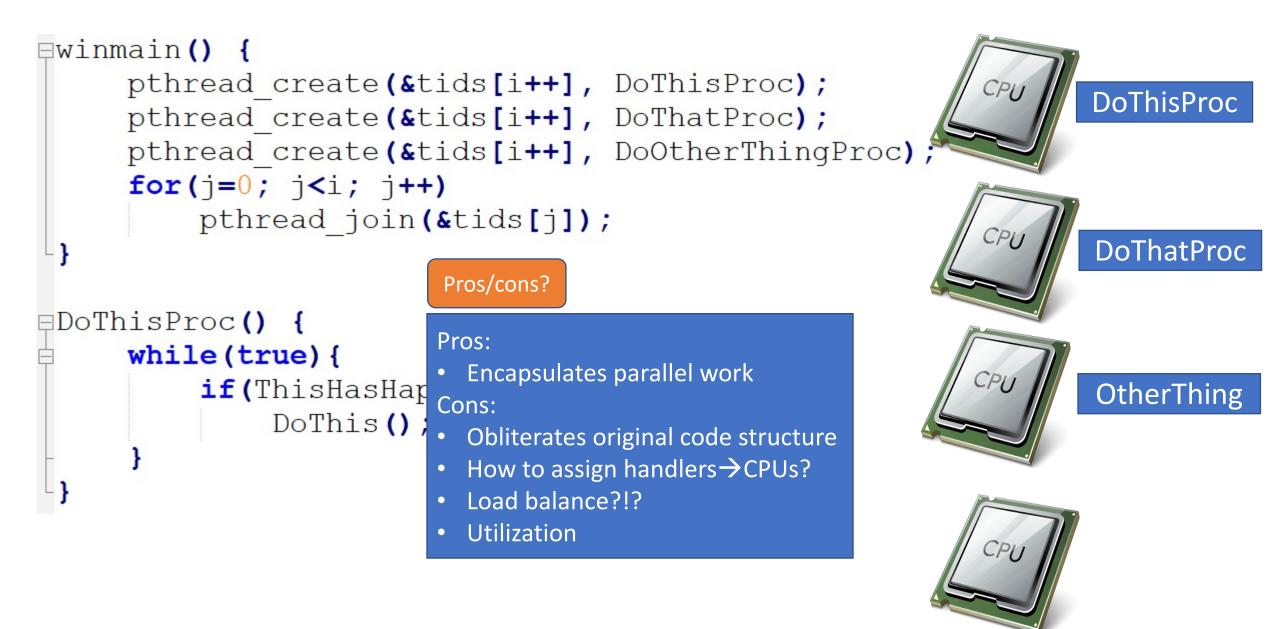




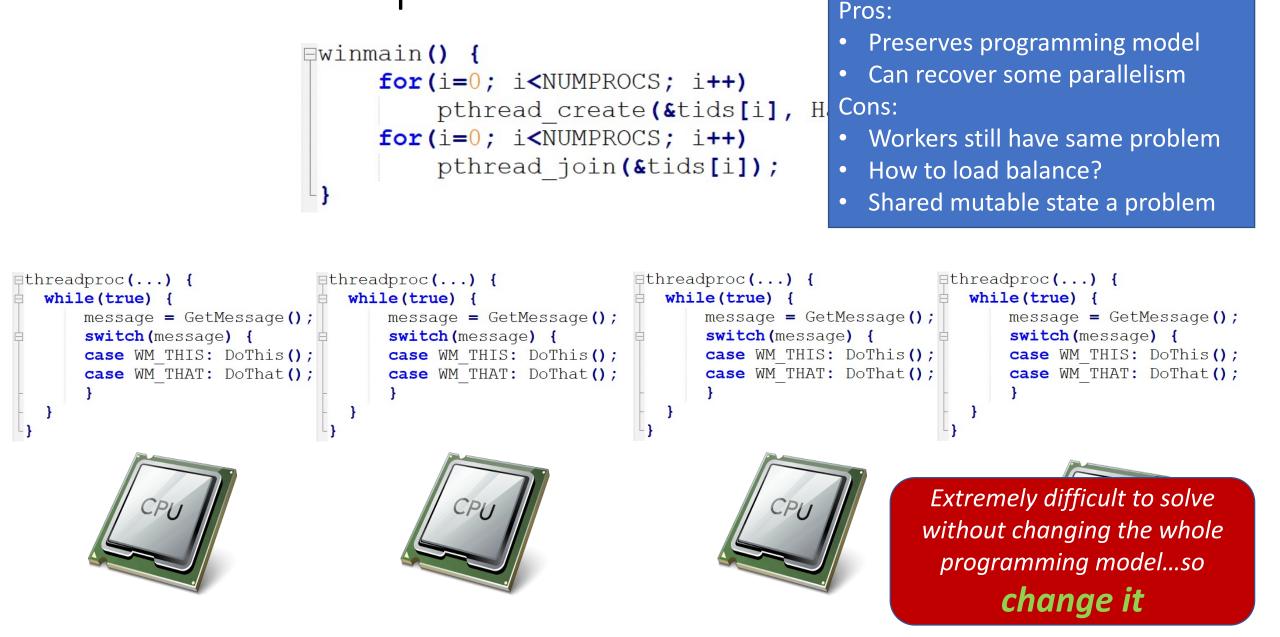
Parallel GUI Implementation 1



Parallel GUI Implementation 1



Parallel GUI Implementation 2



Pros/cons?

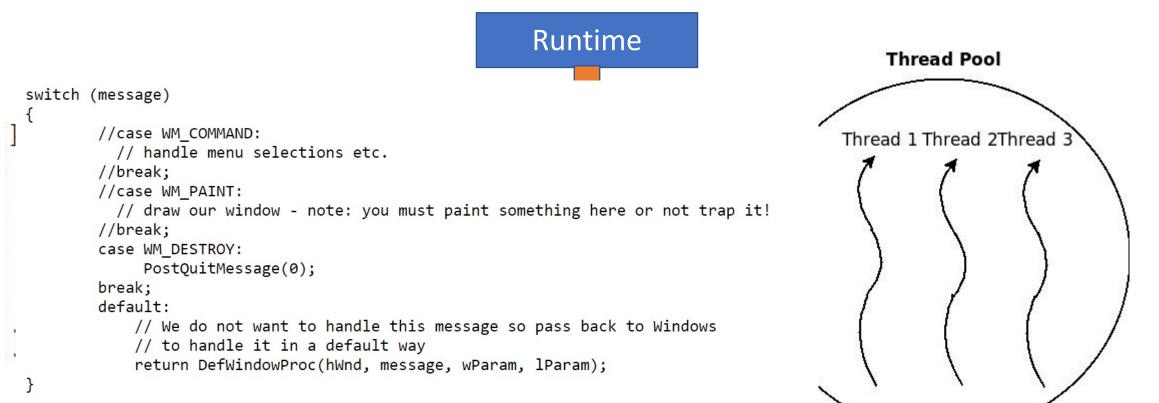
Event-based Programming: Motivation

- Threads have a *lot* of down-sides:
 - Tuning parallelism for different environments
 - Load balancing/assignment brittle
 - Shared state requires locks \rightarrow
 - Priority inversion
 - Deadlock
 - Incorrect synchronization
 - ...
- Events: restructure programming model to have no threads!

Event Programming Model Basics

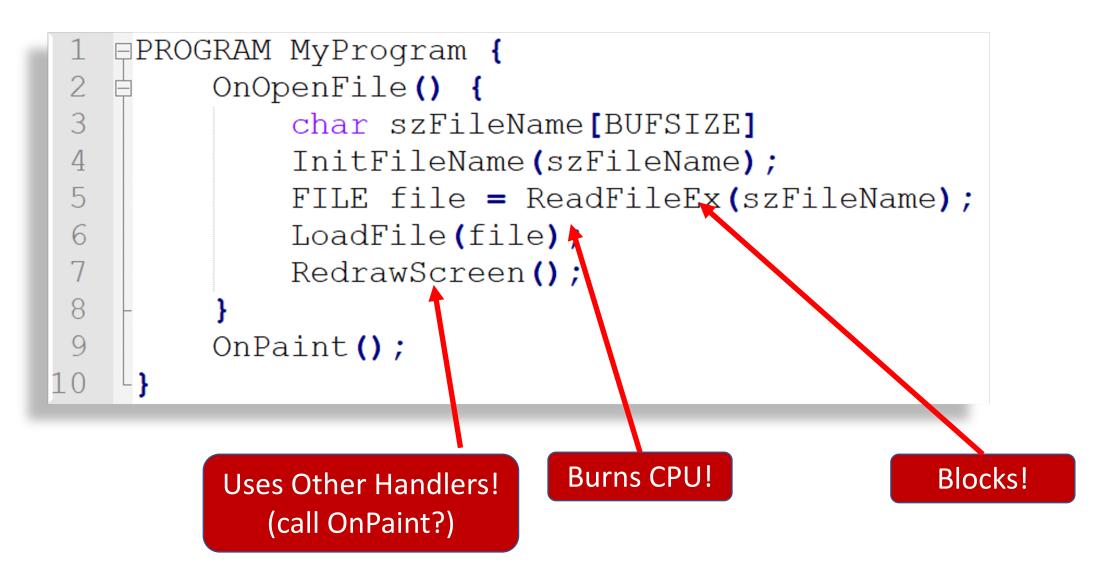
- Programmer *only writes events*
- Event: an object queued for a module (think future/promise)
- Basic primitives
 - create_event_queue(handler) → event_q
 - enqueue_event(event_q, event-object)
 - Invokes handler (eventually)
- Scheduler decides which event to execute next
 - E.g. based on priority, CPU usage, etc.

Event-based programming



Is the problem solved?

Another Event-based Program



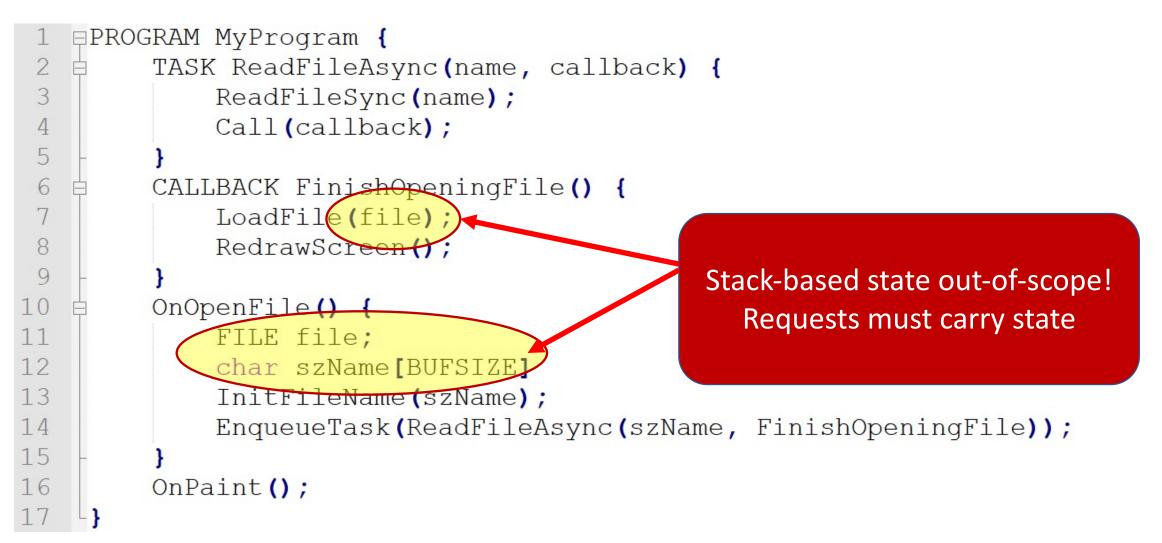
No problem! Just use more events/handlers, right?

```
■PROGRAM MyProgram {
 2
         TASK ReadFileAsync(name, callback) {
 3
             ReadFileSync(name);
             Call(callback);
 4
 5
         CALLBACK FinishOpeningFile() {
 6
             LoadFile(file);
             RedrawScreen();
 8
 9
10
         OnOpenFile() {
11
             FILE file;
12
             char szName [BUFSIZE]
13
             InitFileName(szName);
14
             EngueueTask(ReadFileAsync(szName, FinishOpeningFile));
15
        OnPaint();
16
```

Continuations, BTW

```
    PROGRAM MyProgram {
2
        OnOpenFile() {
3
             ReadFile(file, FinishOpeningFile);
4
5
        OnFinishOpeningFile() {
             LoadFile(file, OnFinishLoadingFile);
 6
        OnFinishLoadingFile() {
8
             RedrawScreen();
9
10
        OnPaint();
12
```

Stack-Ripping



Threads vs Events

• Thread Pros

Language-level Futures: the cons eet spor

• Event Pros



• Thread Cons

Thread Pool Implementation

void

```
ThreadPool::StartThreads(
     in UINT uiThreads,
      in BOOL bWaitAllThreadsAlive
    Lock();
    if (uiThreads != 0 && m vhThreadDescs.size() < m uiTargetSize)
        ResetEvent (m hAllThreadsAlive);
    while(m vhThreadDescs.size() < m uiTargetSize) {</pre>
        for(UINT i=0; i<uiThreads; i++) {</pre>
            THREADDESC* pDesc = new THREADDESC(this);
            HANDLE * phThread = &pDesc->hThread;
            *phThread = CreateThread (NULL, 0, ThreadPoolProc, pDesc, 0, NULL);
            m vhAvailable.push back(*phThread);
            m vhThreadDescs[*phThread] = pDesc;
    m uiThreads = (UINT)m vhThreadDescs.size();
    Unlock();
    if(bWaitAllThreadsAlive)
        WaitThreadsAlive();
```

Cool project idea: build a thread pool!

Thread Pool Implementation

```
DWORD
ThreadPool::ThreadPoolProc(
      in THREADDESC * pDesc
   HANDLE hThread = pDesc->hThread;
   HANDLE hStartEvent = pDesc->hStartEvent;
   HANDLE hRuntimeTerminate = PTask::Runtime::GetRuntimeTerminateEvent();
   HANDLE vEvents[] = { hStartEvent, hRuntimeTerminate };
   NotifyThreadAlive(hThread);
    while(!pDesc->bTerminate) {
        DWORD dwWait = WaitForMultipleObjects(dwEvents, vEvents, FALSE, INFINITE);
        pDesc->Lock();
        pDesc->bTerminate |= bTerminate;
        if (pDesc->bRoutineValid && !pDesc->bTerminate) {
            LPTHREAD START ROUTINE lpRoutine = pDesc->lpRoutine;
            LPVOID lpParameter = pDesc->lpParameter;
            pDesc->bActive = TRUE;
            pDesc->Unlock();
            dwResult = (*lpRoutine) (lpParameter);
            pDesc->Lock();
            pDesc->bActive = FALSE;
            pDesc->bRoutineValid = FALSE;
        pDesc->Unlock();
        Lock();
        m vhInFlight.erase(pDesc->hThread);
        if(!pDesc->bTerminate)
            m vhAvailable.push back(pDesc->hThread);
        Unlock();
   NotifyThreadExit (hThread);
   return dwResult;
```

ThreadPool Implementation

```
BOOL
ThreadPool::SignalThread(
    ____in HANDLE hThread
    //
{
    Lock();
    BOOL bResult = FALSE;
    std::set<HANDLE>::iterator si = m_vhWaitingStartSignal.find(hThread);
    if(si!=m_vhWaitingStartSignal.end()) {
        m_vhWaitingStartSignal.erase(hThread);
        THREADDESC * pDesc = m_vhThreadDescs[hThread];
        HANDLE hEvent = pDesc->hStartEvent;
        SetEvent(hEvent);
        bResult = TRUE;
    }
    Unlock();
    return bResult;
}
```

Redux: Futures in Context

Futures:

- abstraction for concurrent work supported by
 - Compiler: abstractions are *language-level objects*
 - Runtime: scheduler, task queues, thread-pools are transparent
- Programming remains mostly imperative
 - Threads of control peppered with asynchronous/concurrent tasks

Compromise Model:

- Event-based programming
- Thread-based programming Currently: 2nd renaissance IMHO

```
1 static void runAsyncExample() {
2  CompletableFuture cf = CompletableFuture.runAsync(() -> {
3     assertTrue(Thread.currentThread().isDaemon());
4     randomSleep();
5   });
6   assertFalse(cf.isDone());
7   sleepEnough();
8   assertTrue(cf.isDone());
9 }
```

Questions?