Lecture 13: Parallelism in Java Streams,
Parallel Prefix Sums

Zoran Budimlić and Mack Joyner
{zoran, mjoyner}@rice.edu

http://comp322.rice.edu
Worksheet #12: Forall Loops and Barriers

Draw a “barrier matching” figure similar to lecture 12 slide 11 for the code fragment below.

1. String[] a = {“ab”, “cde”, “f”};
2. . . . int m = a.length; . . .
3. forallPhased (0, m-1, (i) -> {
4.   for (int j = 0; j < a[i].length(); j++) {
5.     // forall iteration i is executing phase j
6.     System.out.println("(" + i + "," + j + ")");
7.     next();
8.   }
9. });

Solution

\[
\begin{array}{ccc}
i=0 & i=1 & i=2 \\
(0,0) & (1,0) & (2,0) \\
\text{next} & \text{next} & \text{next} \\
(0,1) & (1,1) & \\
\text{next} & \text{next} & \text{next} \\
(1,2) & \\
\text{end} & \text{next} & \\
\text{end} & \\
\end{array}
\]
How Java Streams addressed pre-Java-8 limitations of Java Collections

1. Iteration had to be performed explicitly using for/foreach loop, e.g.,
   // Iterate through students (collection of Student objects)
   for (Student s in students) System.out.println(s);
   ⇒ Simplified using Streams as follows
   students.stream().forEach(s -> System.out.println(s));

2. Overhead of creating intermediate collections
   List<Student> activeStudents = new ArrayList<Student>();
   for (Student s in students)
       if (s.getStatus() == Student.ACTIVE) activeStudents.add(s);
   for (Student a in activeStudents) totalCredits += a.getCredits();
   ⇒ Simplified using Streams as follows
   totalCredits = students.stream().filter(s -> s.getStatus() == Student.ACTIVE)
                   .mapToInt(a -> a.getCredits()).sum();

3. Complexity of parallelism simplified (for example by replacing stream() by parallelStream())
# Java 8 Streams Cheat Sheet

## Definitions
- A stream is a pipeline of functions that can be evaluated.
- Streams can transform data.
- A stream is not a data structure.
- Streams cannot mutate data.

## Intermediate operations
- Always return streams.
- Lazily executed.

**Common examples include:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Function</th>
<th>Preserves count</th>
<th>Preserves type</th>
<th>Preserves order</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>map</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>filter</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>distinct</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sorted</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✗</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>peek</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Stream examples
- Get the unique surnames in uppercase of the first 15 book authors that are 50 years old or over.
  ```java
  library.stream()
  .map(book -> book.getAuthor())
  .filter(author -> author.getAge() >= 50)
  .map(Author::getSurname)
  .map(String::toUpperCase)
  .distinct()
  .limit(15)
  .collect(toList());
  ```
- Compute the sum of ages of all female authors younger than 25.
  ```java
  library.stream()
  .map(Book::getAuthor)
  .filter(a -> a.getGender() == Gender.FEMALE)
  .map(Author::getAge)
  .filter(age -> age < 25)
  .reduce(0, Integer::sum);
  ```

## Parallel streams
- Parallel streams use the common ForkJoinPool for threading.
  ```java
  library.parallelStream()...
  ```
- or intermediate operation
  ```java
  IntStream.range(1, 10).parallel()...
  ```

## Useful operations
- **Grouping:**
  ```java
  library.stream().collect(
    groupingBy(Book::getGenre));
  ```
- **Stream ranges:**
  ```java
  IntStream.range(0, 20)...
  ```
- **Infinite streams:**
  ```java
  IntStream.iterate(0, e -> e + 1)...  
  ```
- **Max/Min:**
  ```java
  IntStream.range(1, 10).max();
  ```
- **FlatMap:**
  ```java
  twitterList.stream()
  .map(member -> member.getFollowers())
  .flatMap(followers -> followers.stream())
  .collect(toList());
  ```

## Terminal operations
- Return concrete types or produce a side effect.
- Eagerly executed.

**Common examples include:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Function</th>
<th>Output</th>
<th>When to use</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>reduce</td>
<td>concrete type</td>
<td>to cumulate elements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>collect</td>
<td>list, map or set</td>
<td>to group elements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>forEach</td>
<td>side effect</td>
<td>to perform a side effect on elements</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Pitfalls
- Don't update shared mutable variables i.e.
  ```java
  List<Book> myList = new ArrayList<>();
  library.stream().forEach
  (e -> myList.add(e));
  ```
- Avoid blocking operations when using parallel streams.

Parallelism in processing Java Streams

- Parallelism can be introduced at a stream source ...
  - e.g., library.parallelStream()...
- ... or as an intermediate operation
  - e.g., library.stream().sorted().parallel()...
- Stateful intermediate operations should be avoided on parallel streams ...
  - e.g., distinct, sorted, user-written lambda with side effects
- ... but stateless intermediate operations work just fine
  - e.g., filter, map
- Parallelism is usually more efficient on unordered streams ...
  - e.g., stream created from unordered source (HashSet), or from .unordered() intermediate operation
- ... and with unordered collectors
  - e.g., ConcurrentHashMap
Beyond Sum/Reduce Operations — Prefix Sum (Scan) Problem Statement

Given input array A, compute output array X as follows

\[ X[i] = \sum_{0 \leq j \leq i} A[j] \]

- The above is an inclusive prefix sum since \( X[i] \) includes \( A[i] \)
- For an exclusive prefix sum, perform the summation for \( 0 \leq j < i \)
- It is easy to see that inclusive prefix sums can be computed sequentially in \( O(n) \) time …

// Copy input array A into output array X
X = new int[A.length]; System.arraycopy(A,0,X,0,A.length);

// Update array X with prefix sums
for (int i=1 ; i < X.length ; i++) \( X[i] += X[i-1] \);

- … and so can exclusive prefix sums
An Inefficient Parallel Algorithm for Exclusive Prefix Sums

1. `forall(0, X.length-1, (i) -> {`
2.   // computeSum() adds $A[0..i-1]$
3.   $X[i] = computeSum(A, 0, i-1);$  
4. `})`

Observations:

- Critical path length, $CPL = O(\log n)$
- Total number of operations, $WORK = O(n^2)$
- With $P = O(n)$ processors, the best execution time that you can achieve is $T_P = \max(CPL, WORK/P) = O(n)$, which is no better than sequential!
How can we do better?

Assume that input array $A = [3, 1, 2, 0, 4, 1, 1, 3]$

Define $\text{scan}(A) =$ exclusive prefix sums of $A = [0, 3, 4, 6, 6, 10, 11, 12]$

Hint:

• Compute $B$ by adding pairwise elements in $A$ to get $B = [4, 2, 5, 4]$
• Assume that we can recursively compute $\text{scan}(B) = [0, 4, 6, 11]$
• How can we use $A$ and $\text{scan}(B)$ to get $\text{scan}(A)$?
Another way of looking at the parallel algorithm

Observation: each prefix sum can be decomposed into reusable terms of power-of-2-size e.g.

\[
\]

Approach:

- Combine reduction tree idea from Parallel Array Sum with partial sum idea from Sequential Prefix Sum
- Use an “upward sweep” to perform parallel reduction, while storing partial sum terms in tree nodes
- Use a “downward sweep” to compute prefix sums while reusing partial sum terms stored in upward sweep
Parallel Prefix Sum: Upward Sweep
(while calling scan recursively)

Upward sweep is just like Parallel Reduction, except that partial sums are also stored along the way

1. Receive values from left and right children
2. Compute left+right and store in box
3. Send left+right value to parent

Input array, A:

```
 3 1 2 0 4 1 1 3
```
Parallel Prefix Sum: Downward Sweep
(while returning from recursive calls to scan)

1. Receive value from parent (root receives 0)
2. Send parent’s value to LEFT child (prefix sum for elements to left of left child’s subtree)
3. Send parent’s value + left child’s box value to RIGHT child (prefix sum for elements to left of right child’s subtree)
4. Add $A[i]$ to get inclusive prefix sum

Exclusive prefix sums

\[
\begin{array}{c}
0 & 4 & 3 & 4 & 2 & 6 & 6 & 0 & 4 & 5 & 10 & 11 & 4 & 12
\end{array}
\]

\[
+ A[i]
\]

Inclusive prefix sums

\[
\begin{array}{c}
3 & 1 & 2 & 0 & 4 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 3
\end{array}
\]
Summary of Parallel Prefix Sum Algorithm

- Critical path length, CPL = $O(\log n)$
- Total number of add operations, WORK = $O(n)$
- Optimal algorithm for $P = O(n/\log n)$ processors
  - Adding more processors does not help
- Parallel Prefix Sum has several applications that go beyond computing the sum of array elements
- Parallel Prefix Sum can be used for any operation that is associative (need not be commutative)
  - In contrast, finish accumulators required the operator to be both associative and commutative
Parallel Filter Operation

Given an array **input**, produce an array **output** containing only elements such that \( f(\text{elt}) \) is true, i.e.,

\[
\text{output} = \text{input}.\text{parallelStream().filter}(f).\text{toArray()}
\]

Example: **input** [17, 4, 6, 8, 11, 5, 13, 19, 0, 24]

\[ f: \text{is elt > 10} \]

**output** [17, 11, 13, 19, 24]

Parallelizable?

− Finding elements for the output is easy
− But getting them in the right place seems hard
Parallel prefix to the rescue

1. Parallel map to compute a **bit-vector** for true elements (can use Java streams)
   
   input \[17, 4, 6, 8, 11, 5, 13, 19, 0, 24\]
   bits \[1, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 1, 1, 0, 1\]

2. Parallel-prefix sum on the bit-vector (not available in Java streams)
   
   bitsum \[1, 1, 1, 1, 2, 2, 3, 4, 4, 5\]

3. Parallel map to produce the output (can use Java streams)
   
   output \[17, 11, 13, 19, 24\]

   ```java
   output = new array of size bitsum[n-1]
   FORALL (i=0; i < input.length; i++) {  
     if(bits[i]==1)  
       output[bitsum[i]-1] = input[i];
   }
   ```
Announcements & Reminders

- HW2 is available and due today by 11:59pm
- HW3 will be available today and due March 21st (two intermediate checkpoints!)
- Quiz for Unit 2 (topics 2.1 - 2.6) is available on Canvas, and due by 11:59pm on Monday
- Watch the topic 3.5, 3.6 videos for the next lecture
- Use Piazza (public or private posts, as appropriate) for all communications re. COMP 322
- See Office Hours link on course web site for latest office hours schedule.