
COMP 322: Fundamentals of Parallel Programming

Lecture 13: Parallelism in Java Streams, Parallel Prefix Sums

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

<http://comp322.rice.edu>

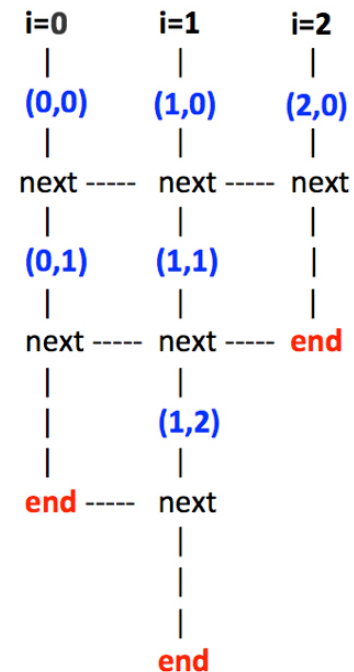


Worksheet #12: Forall Loops and Barriers

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



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:

Function	Preserves count	Preserves type	Preserves order
<i>map</i>	✓	✗	✓
<i>filter</i>	✗	✓	✓
<i>distinct</i>	✗	✓	✓
<i>sorted</i>	✓	✓	✗
<i>peek</i>	✓	✓	✓

Stream examples

Get the unique surnames in uppercase of the first 15 book authors that are 50 years old or over.

```
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.

```
library.stream()
    .map(Book::getAuthor)
    .filter(a -> a.getGender() == Gender.FEMALE)
    .map(Author::getAge)
    .filter(age -> age < 25)
    .reduce(0, Integer::sum);
```

Terminal operations

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

Common examples include:

Function	Output	When to use
reduce	concrete type	to cumulate elements
collect	list, map or set	to group elements
forEach	side effect	to perform a side effect on elements

Parallel streams

Parallel streams use the common ForkJoinPool for threading.

```
library.parallelStream()...
```

or intermediate operation:

```
IntStream.range(1, 10).parallel()...
```

Useful operations

Grouping:

```
library.stream().collect(
    groupingBy(Book::getGenre));
```

Stream ranges:

```
IntStream.range(0, 20)...
```

Infinite streams:

```
IntStream.iterate(0, e -> e + 1)...
```

Max/Min:

```
IntStream.range(1, 10).max();
```

FlatMap:

```
twitterList.stream()
    .map(member -> member.getFollowers())
    .flatMap(followers -> followers.stream())
    .collect(toList());
```

Pitfalls

- ✗ Don't update shared mutable variables i.e.


```
List<Book> myList = new ArrayList<>();
library.stream().forEach(
    (e -> myList.add(e));
```
- ✗ Avoid blocking operations when using parallel streams.

Source: <http://zeroturnaround.com/rebellabs/java-8-streams-cheat-sheet/>



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.

$$\begin{aligned} X[6] &= A[0] + A[1] + A[2] + A[3] + A[4] + A[5] + A[6] \\ &= (A[0] + A[1] + A[2] + A[3]) + (A[4] + A[5]) + A[6] \end{aligned}$$

Approach:

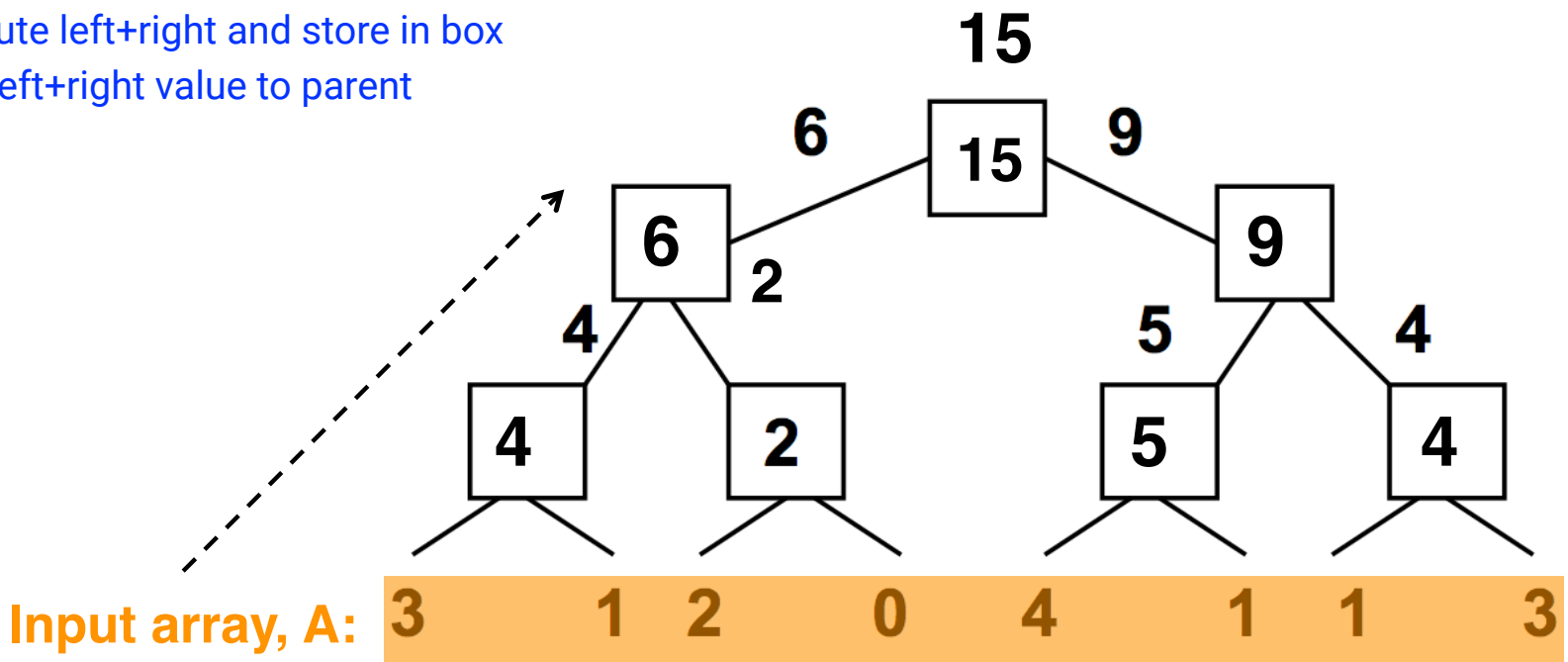
- Combine reduction tree idea from Parallel Array Sum with partial sum idea from Sequential Prefix Sum
- Use an “upward sweep” to perform parallel reduction, while storing partial sum terms in tree nodes
- Use a “downward sweep” to compute prefix sums while reusing partial sum terms stored in upward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



Parallel Prefix Sum: Upward Sweep (while calling scan recursively)

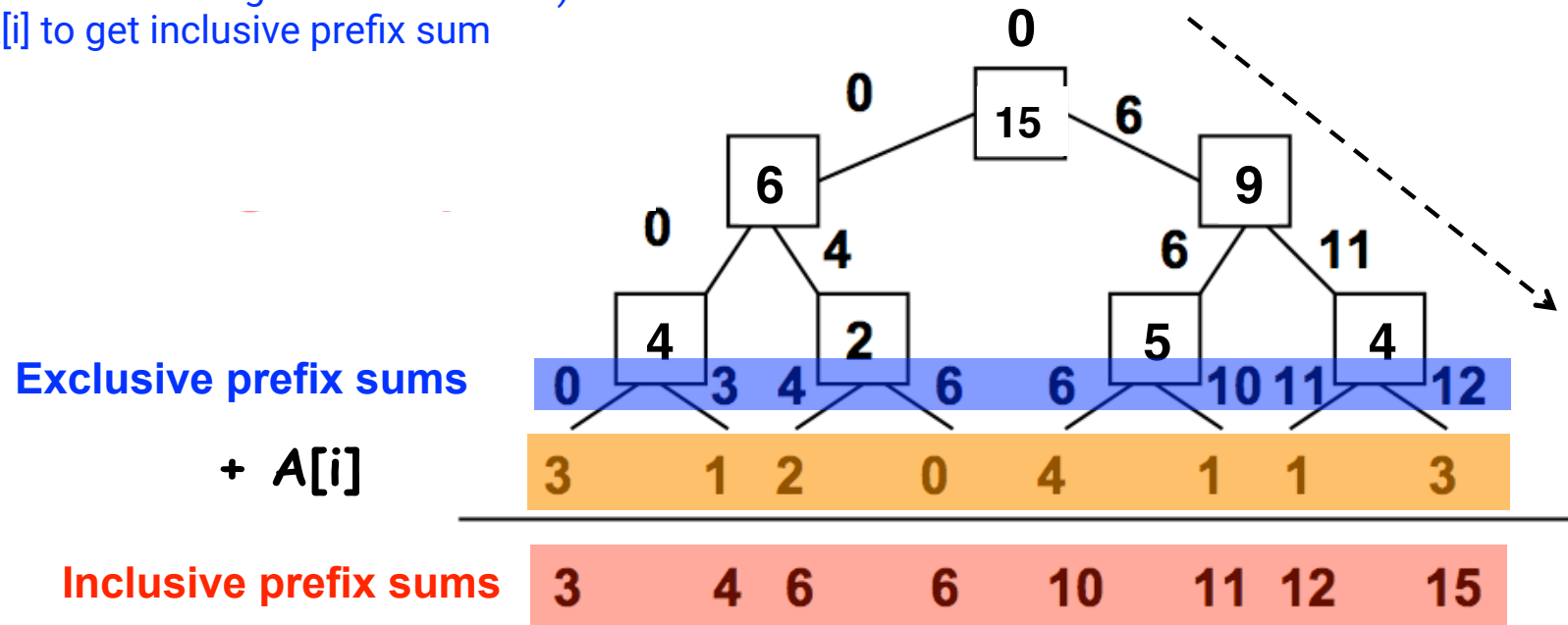
Upward sweep is just like Parallel Reduction, except that partial sums are also stored along the way

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



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



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

[Credits: David Walker and Andrew W. Appel (Princeton), Dan Grossman (U. Washington)]

Given an array **input**, produce an array **output** containing only elements such that **f(elt)** is true, i.e., `output = input.parallelStream().filter(f).toArray()`

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

f: 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]

```
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.

