
Systems, Networks & Concurrency 2020



10

Summary

Uwe R. Zimmer - The Australian National University



Summary

Summary

Concurrency – The Basic Concepts

- **Forms of concurrency**
- **Models and terminology**
 - Abstractions and perspectives: computer science, physics & engineering
 - Observations: non-determinism, atomicity, interaction, interleaving
 - Correctness in concurrent systems
- **Processes and threads**
 - Basic concepts and notions
 - Process states
- **Concurrent programming languages:**
 - Explicit concurrency: e.g. Ada, Chapel
 - Implicit concurrency: functional programming – e.g. Haskell, Caml



Summary

Summary

Mutual Exclusion

- **Definition of mutual exclusion**
- **Atomic load and atomic store operations**
 - ... some classical errors
 - Decker's algorithm, Peterson's algorithm
 - Bakery algorithm
- **Realistic hardware support**
 - Atomic test-and-set, Atomic exchanges, Memory cell reservations
- **Semaphores**
 - Basic semaphore definition
 - Operating systems style semaphores



Summary

Summary

Communication & Synchronization

- **Shared memory based synchronization**
 - Flags, condition variables, semaphores, conditional critical regions, monitors, protected objects.
 - Guard evaluation times, nested monitor calls, deadlocks, simultaneous reading, queue management.
 - Synchronization and object orientation, blocking operations and re-queuing.
- **Message based synchronization**
 - Synchronization models
 - Addressing modes
 - Message structures
 - Examples



Summary

Summary

Non-Determinism

- **Non-determinism by design:**
 - Benefits & considerations
- **Non-determinism by interaction:**
 - Selective synchronization
 - Selective accepts
 - Selective calls
- **Correctness of non-deterministic programs:**
 - Sources of non-determinism
 - Predicates & invariants



Summary

Summary

Data Parallelism

- **Data-Parallelism**
 - Vectorization
 - Reduction
 - General data-parallelism
- **Examples**
 - Image processing
 - Cellular automata



Summary

Summary

Scheduling

- **Basic performance scheduling**
 - Motivation & Terms
 - Levels of knowledge / assumptions about the task set
 - Evaluation of performance and selection of appropriate methods
- **Towards predictable scheduling**
 - Motivation & Terms
 - Categories & Examples



Summary

Summary

Safety & Liveness

- **Liveness**
 - Fairness
- **Safety**
 - Deadlock detection
 - Deadlock avoidance
 - Deadlock prevention
- **Atomic & Idempotent operations**
 - Definitions & implications
- **Failure modes**
 - Definitions, fault sources and basic fault tolerance



Summary

Summary

Distributed Systems

- **Networks**
 - OSI, topologies
 - Practical network standards
- **Time**
 - Synchronized clocks, virtual (logical) times
 - Distributed critical regions (synchronized, logical, token ring)
- **Distributed systems**
 - Elections
 - Distributed states, consistent snapshots
 - Distributed servers (replicates, distributed processing, distributed commits)
 - Transactions (ACID properties, serializable interleavings, transaction schedulers)



Summary

Summary

Architectures

- **Hardware architectures - from simple logic to supercomputers**
 - logic, CPU architecture, pipelines, out-of-order execution, multithreading, ...
- **Data-Parallelism**
 - Vectorization, Reduction, General data-parallelism
- **Concurrency in languages**
 - Some examples: Haskell, Occam, Chapel
- **Operating systems**
 - Structures: monolithic, modular, layered, μ kernels
 - UNIX, POSIX



Summary

Exam preparations

Helpful

- **Distinguish** central aspects from excursions, examples & implementations.
- **Gain** full understanding of all central aspects.
- Be able to **categorize** any given example under a general theme discussed in the lecture.
- **Explain** to and **discuss** the topics with other (preferably better) students.
- Try whether you can **connect** aspects from different parts of the lecture.

Not helpful

- Remembering the slides word by word.
- Learn the Chapel / Unix / Posix / Occam / sockets reference manual page by page.

