

Software Performance Engineering

LECTURE 6 Multicore Programming

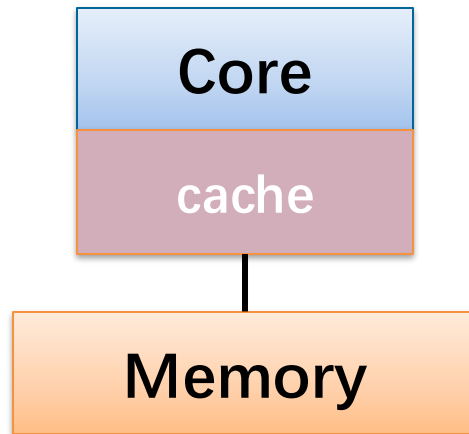
Xuhao Chen
September 25, 2025



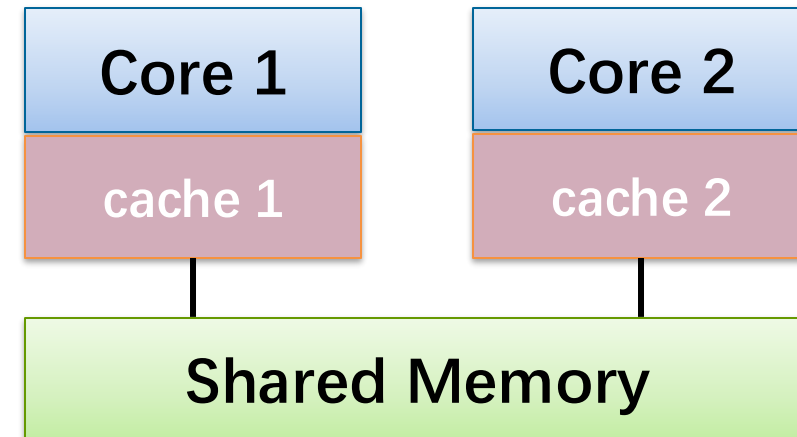
From Single-Core to Multi-Core

- Why Multicore? **Performance!**

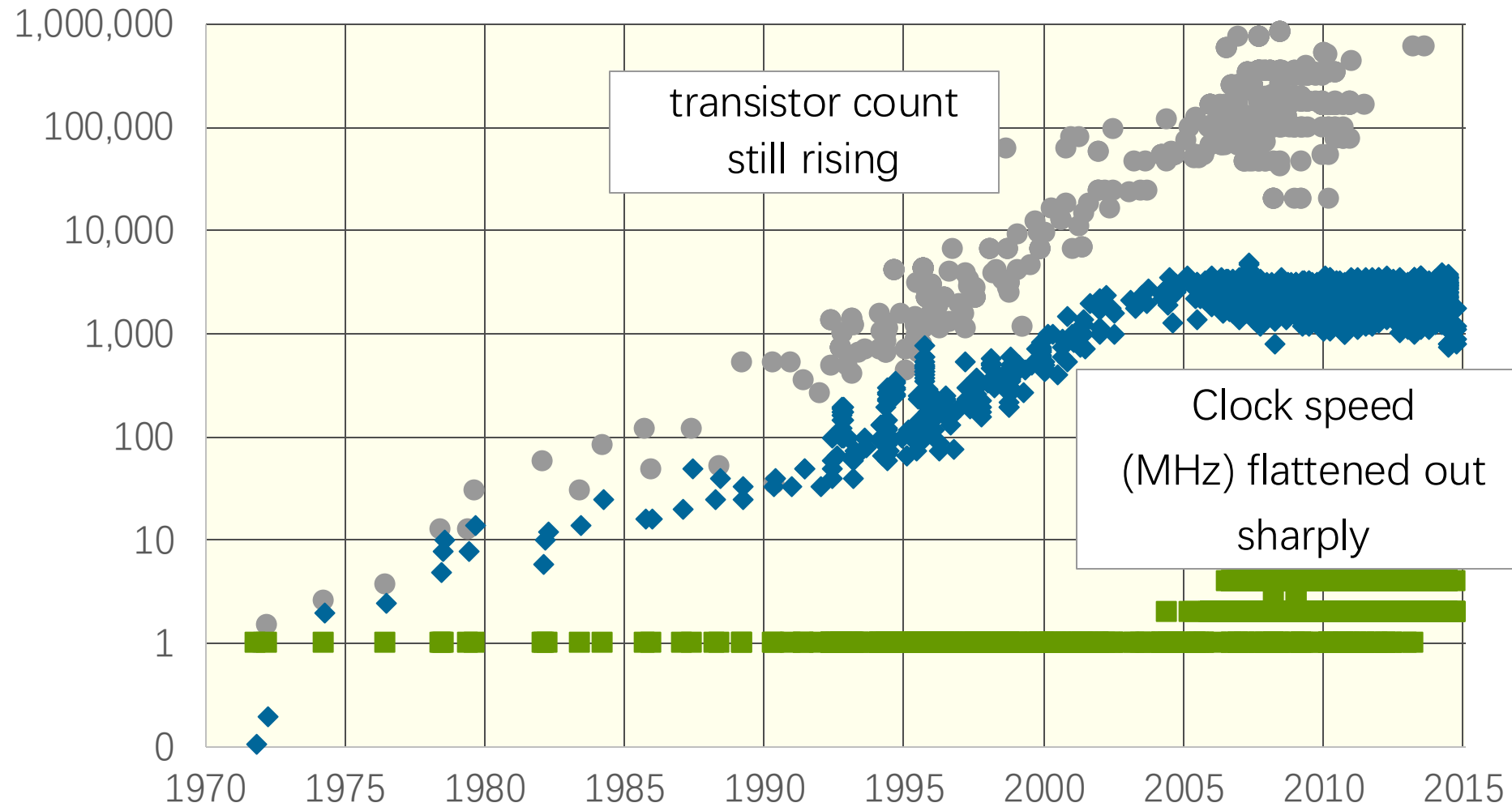
Single-core Processor



Multi-core Processor



Moore's Law



Processor data from Stanford's CPU DB [DKM12].

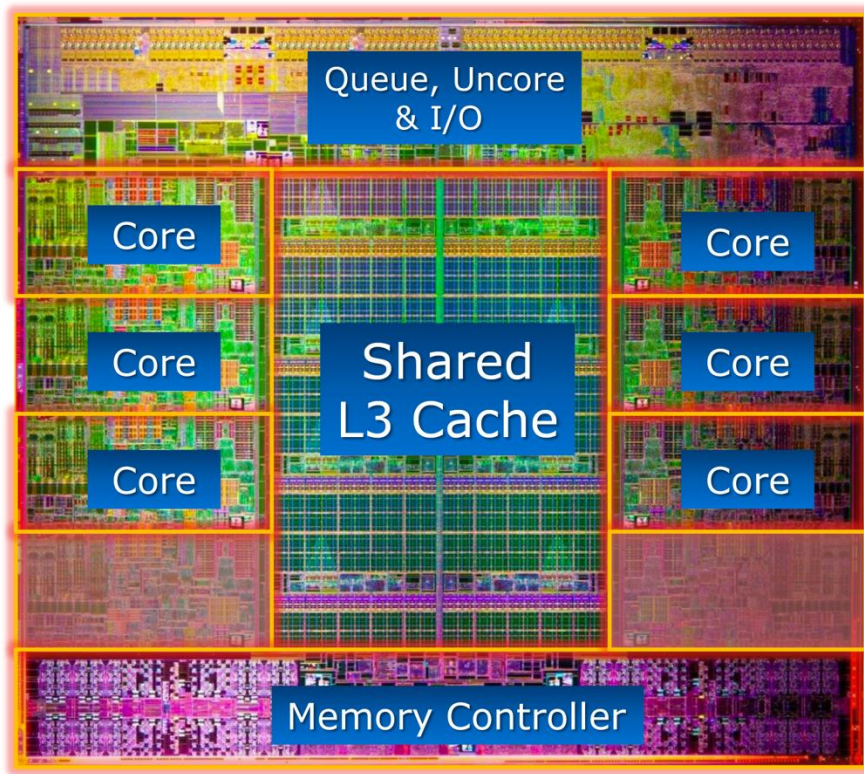
Power Wall at 4 GHz

- Power $\approx$ Voltage² * Frequency
- The end of Dennard Scaling



Vendor Solution: Multicore

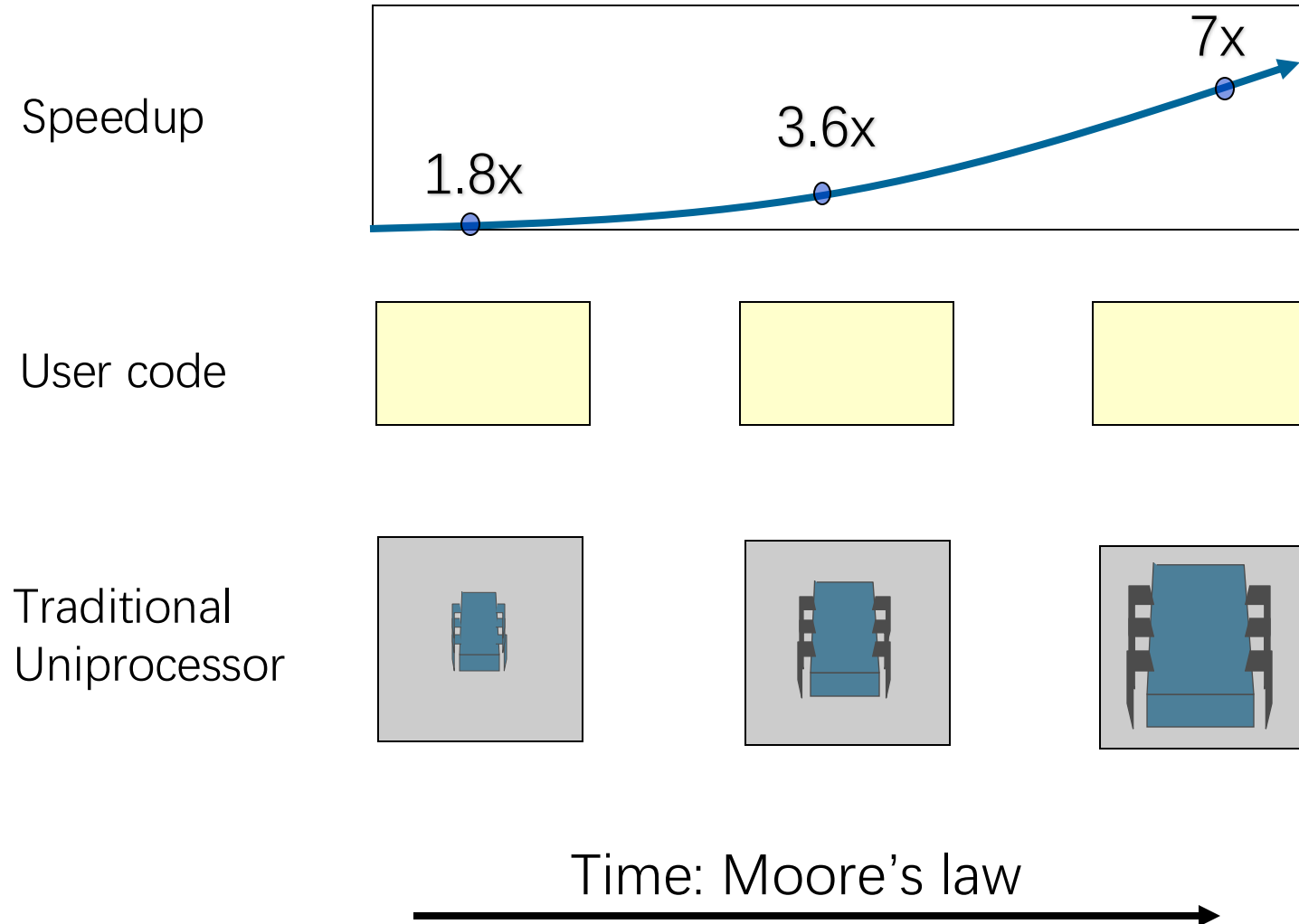
- To scale performance, vendors put many processing cores on the chip
- Each generation of Moore's Law potentially **doubles the number of cores**



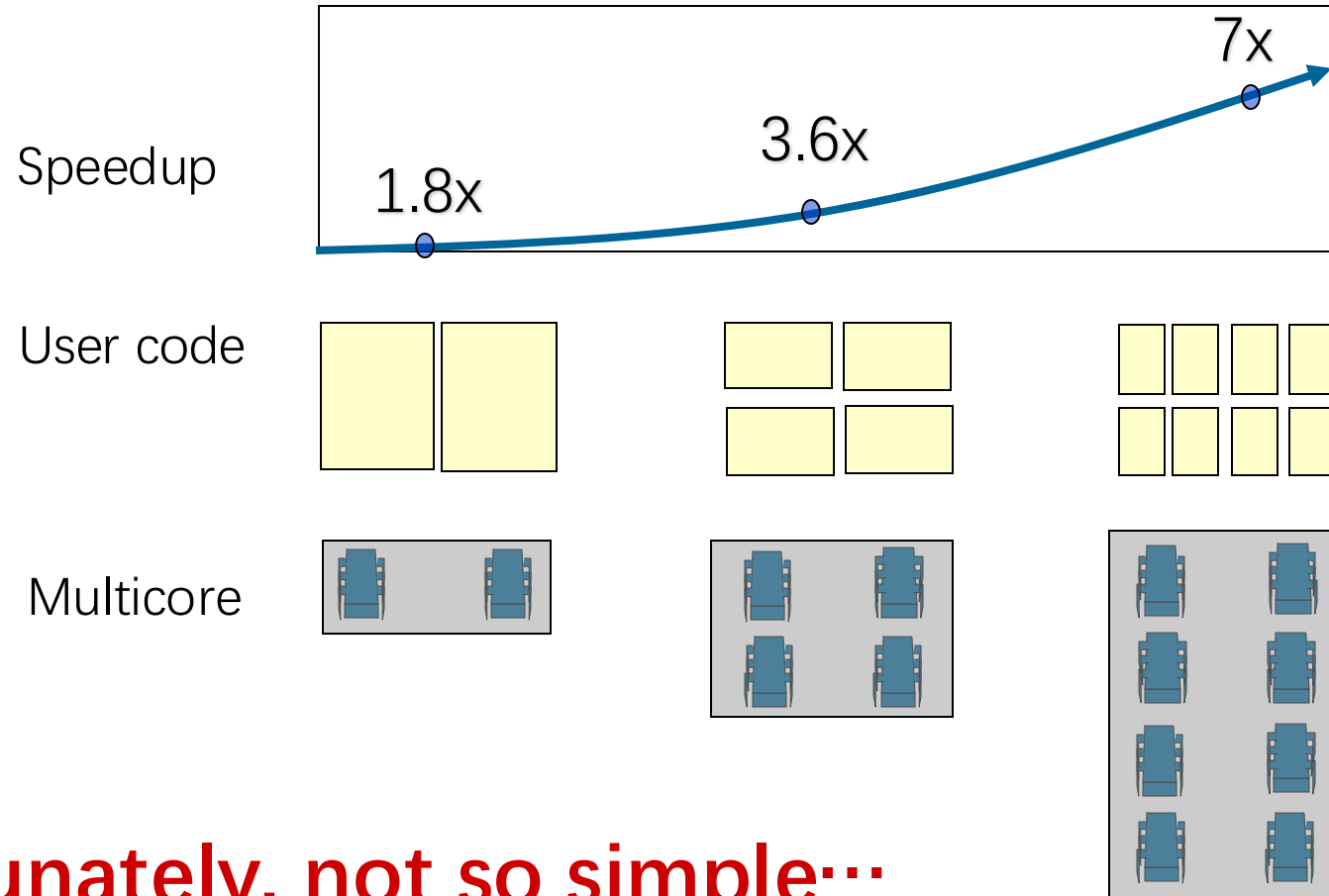
Intel Core i7 3960X
(Sandy Bridge E), 2011

- 6 cores
- 3.3 GHz
- 15-MB L3 cache

Historical Software Scaling



Ideal Multicore Scaling



Unfortunately, not so simple...

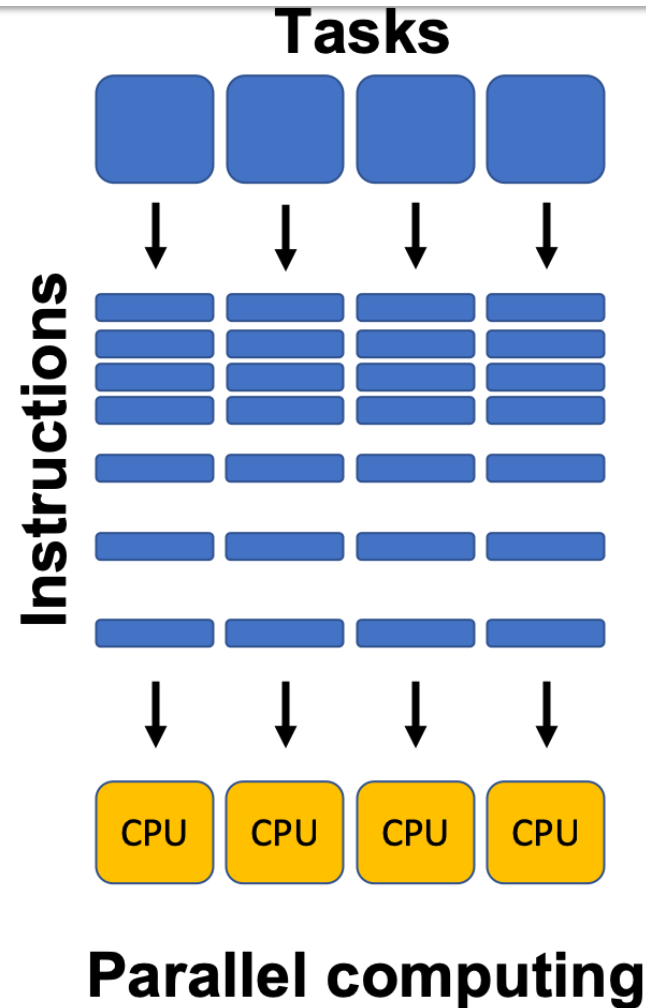
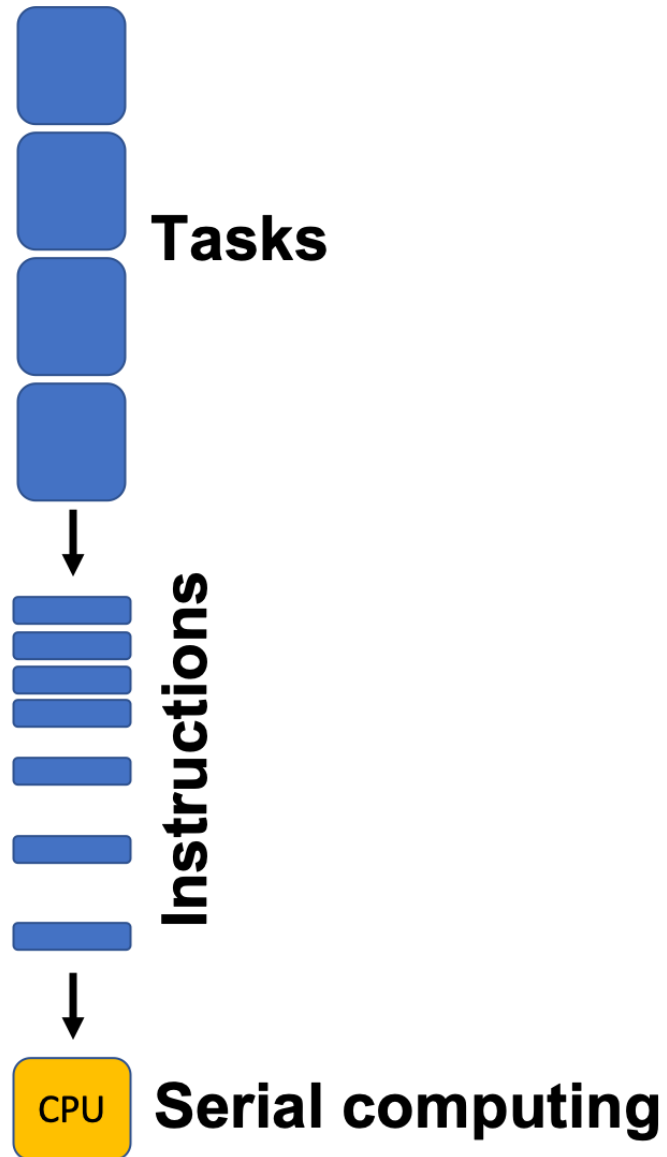
Free Lunch is Over *



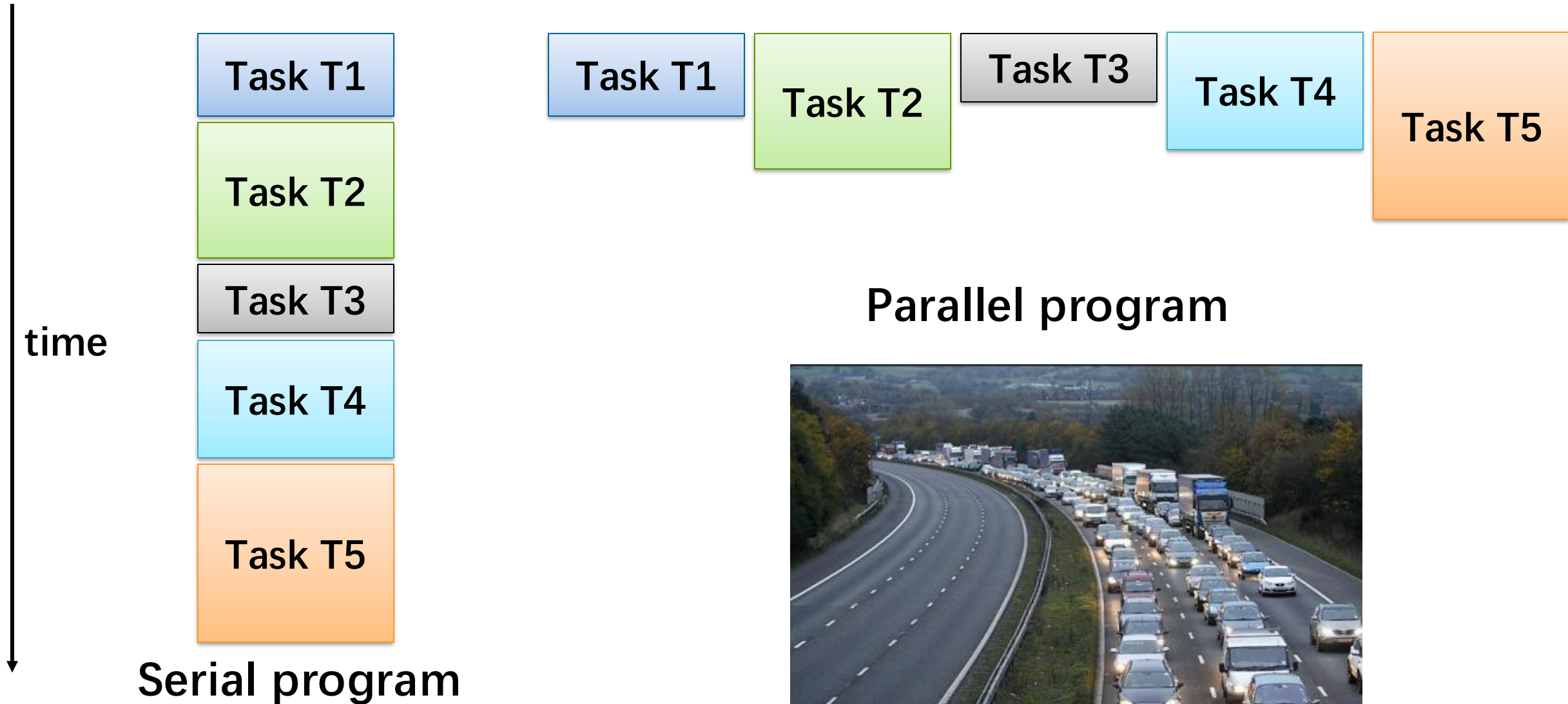
* Herb Sutter, The Free Lunch Is Over: A Fundamental Turn Toward Concurrency in Software, 2010

Serial vs. Parallel Programming

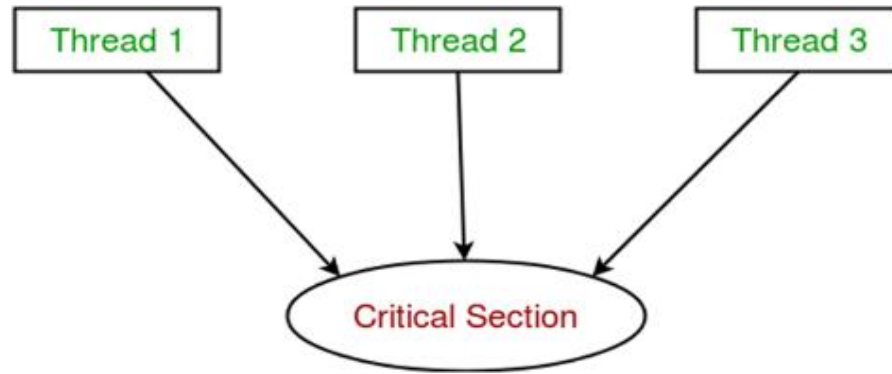
Parallel programming is hard!



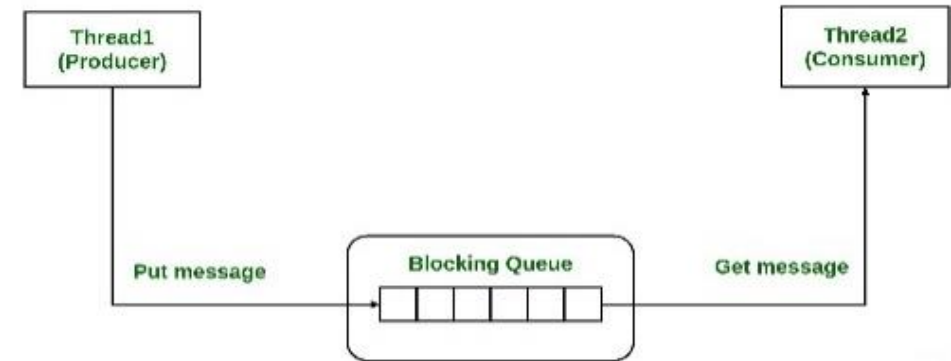
Load Imbalance



Synchronization & Communication



- Synchronization

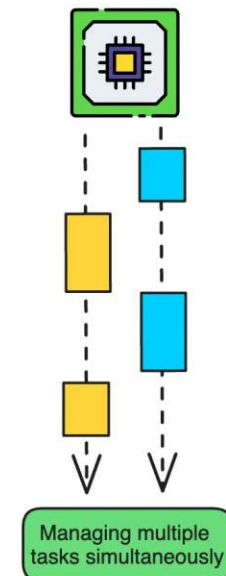


- Communication

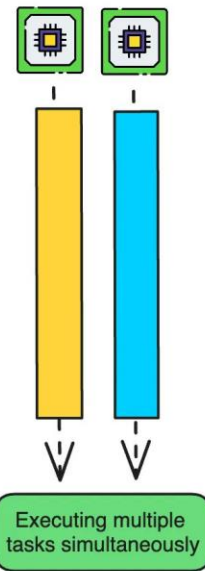
Concurrency vs. Parallelism

- A **parallel** program uses multiple CPU cores, each core performing a task independently.
- **Concurrency** enables a program to deal with multiple tasks even on a single CPU core
 - ▣ The core switches between tasks (i.e. threads) without necessarily completing each one → **time sharing**
- A program can have both, neither or a combination of parallelism and concurrency characteristics.

Concurrency



Parallelism



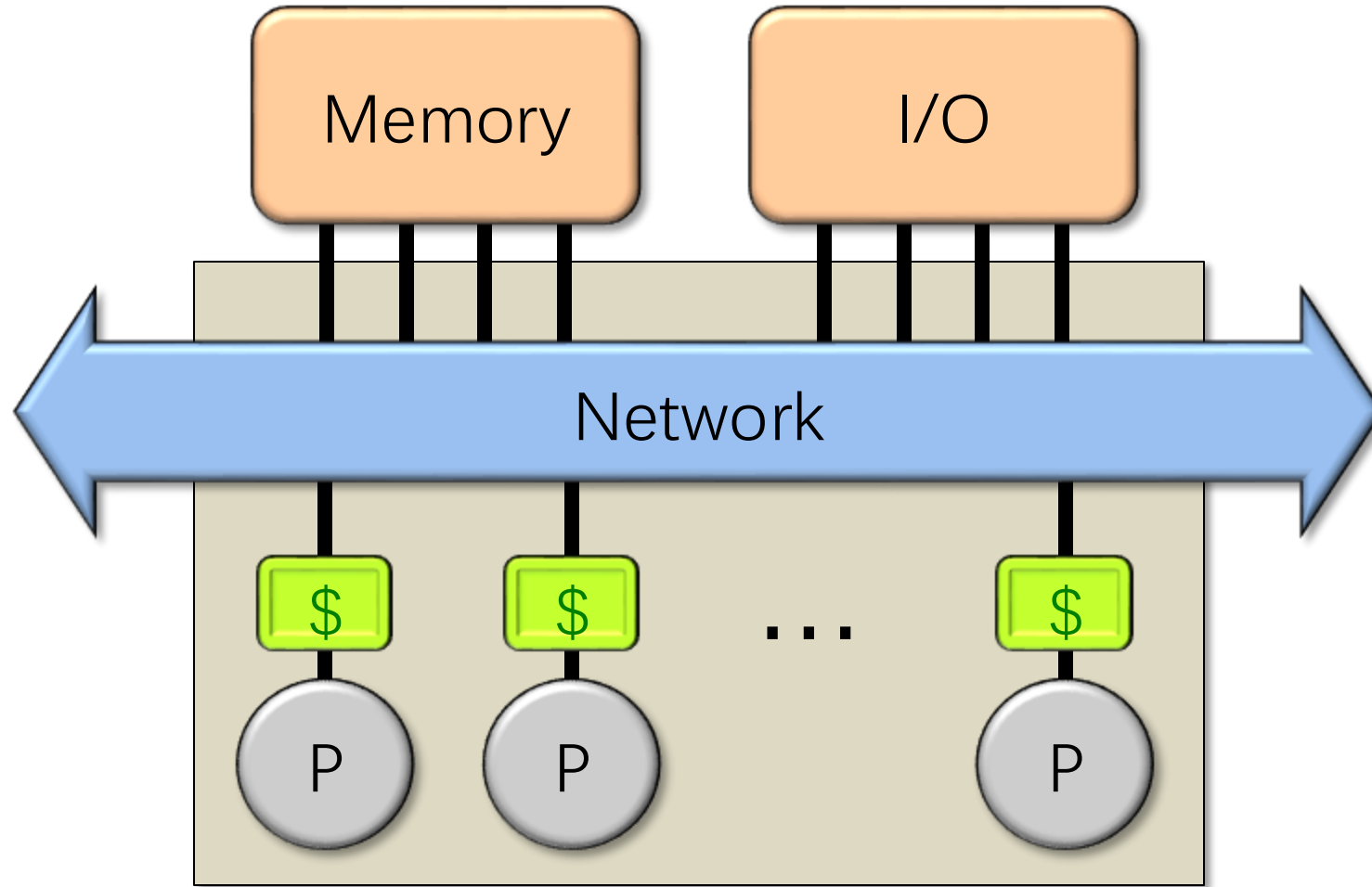
OUTLINE

- Shared-Memory Hardware
- How to **Program** Shared-Memory Hardware
 - ▣ Pthreads (and WinAPI Threads)
 - ▣ Threading Building Blocks (TBB)
 - ▣ OpenMP
 - ▣ Cilk

SHARED-MEMORY HARDWARE

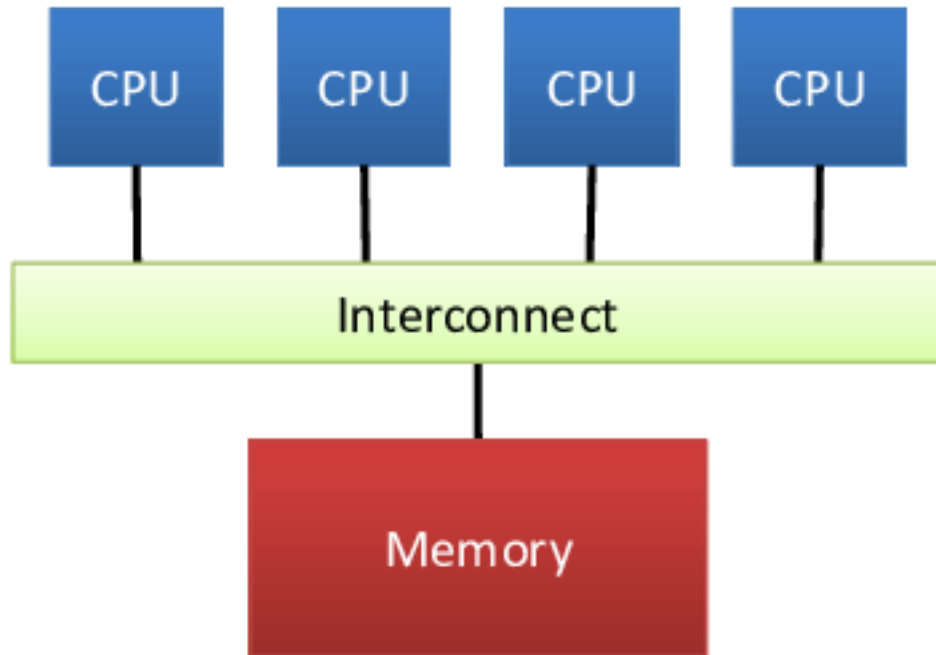


Abstract Multicore Architecture

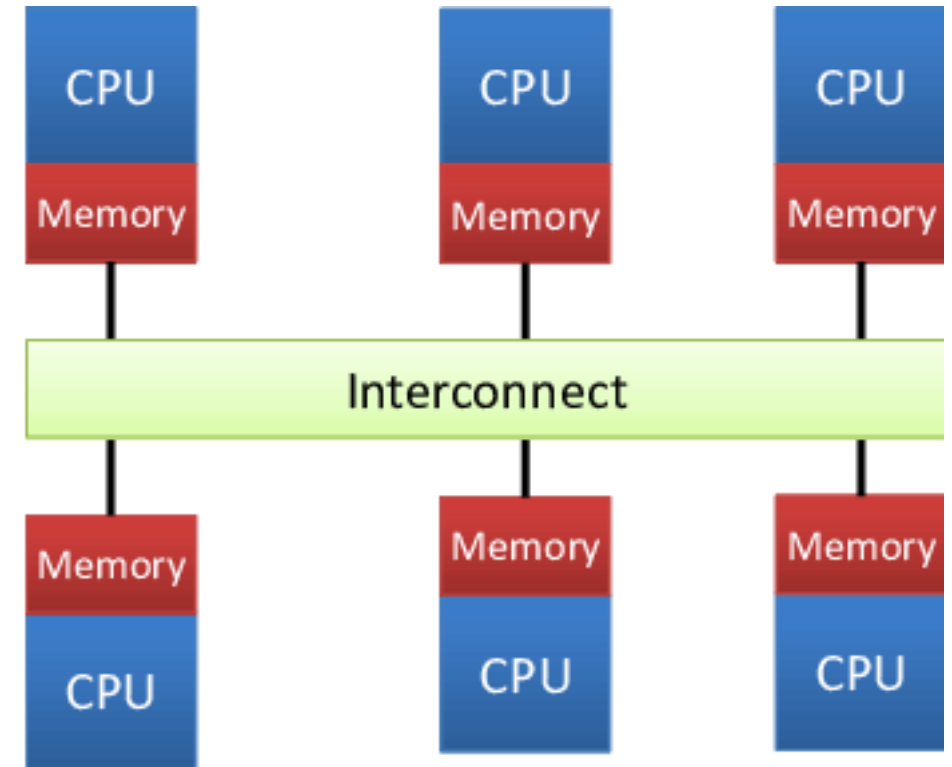


Shared Memory vs. Distributed Memory

Shared Memory



Distributed Memory



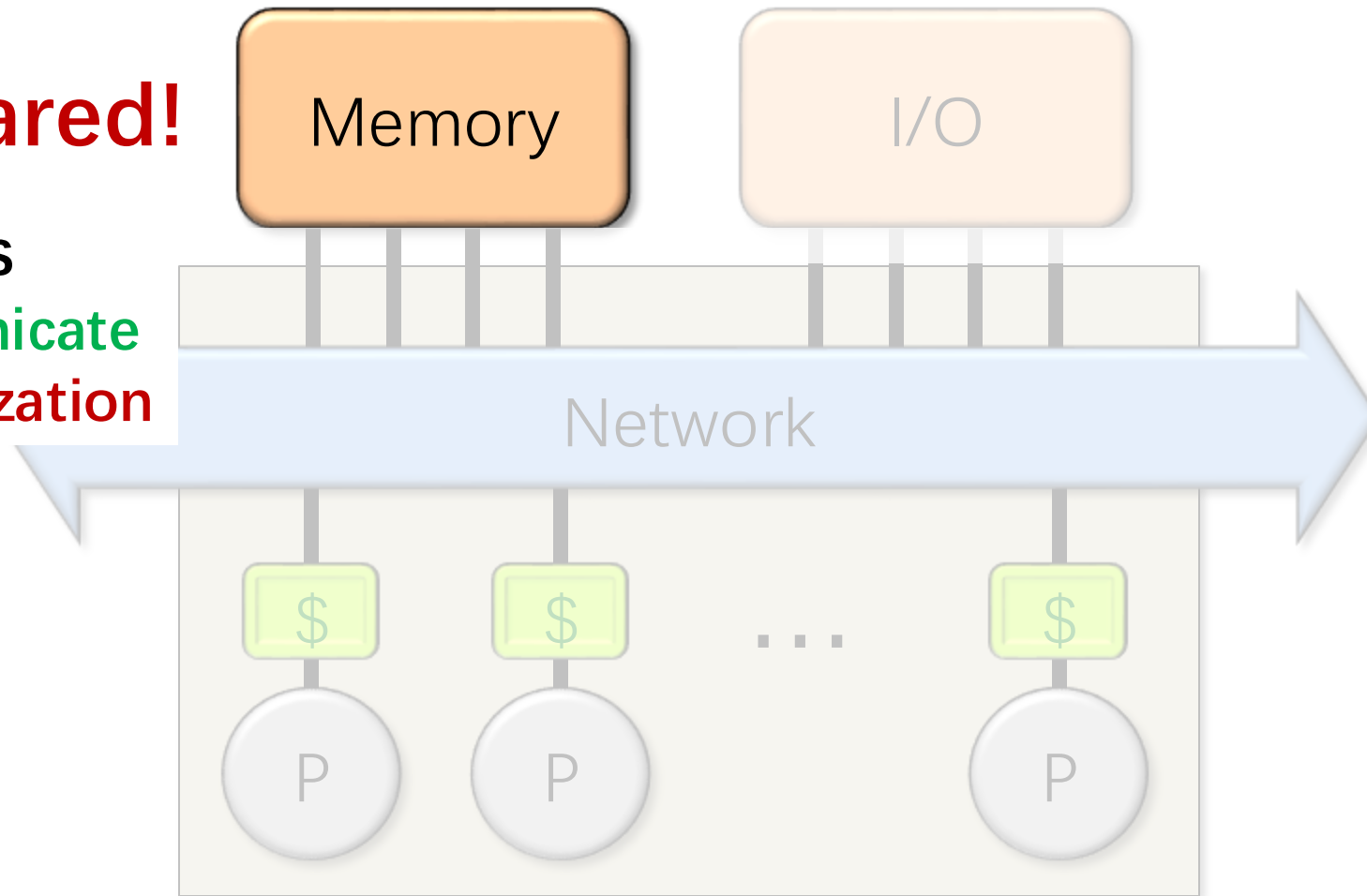
Abstract Multicore Architecture

Shared!

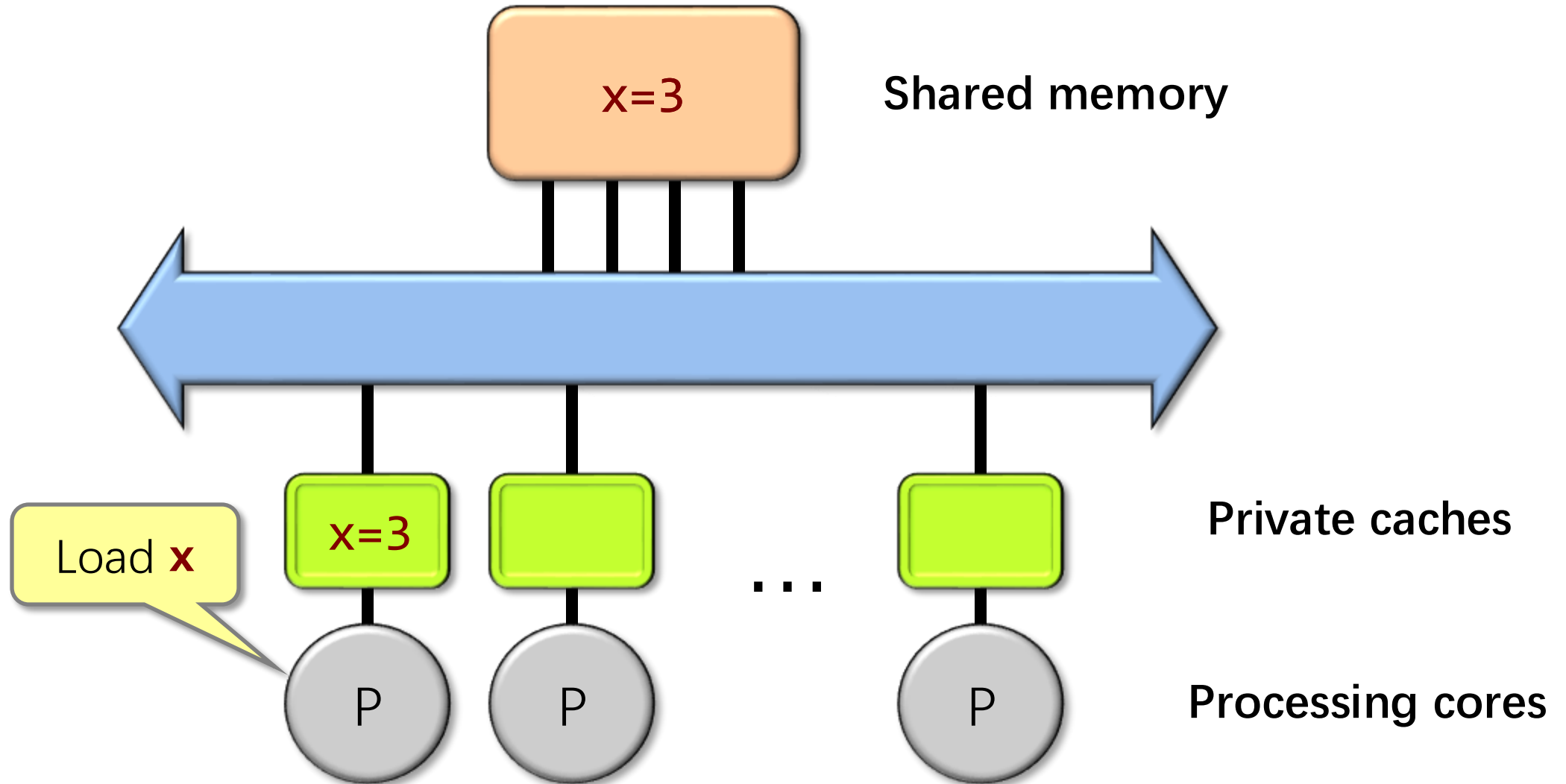
Pros and Cons

Easy to communicate

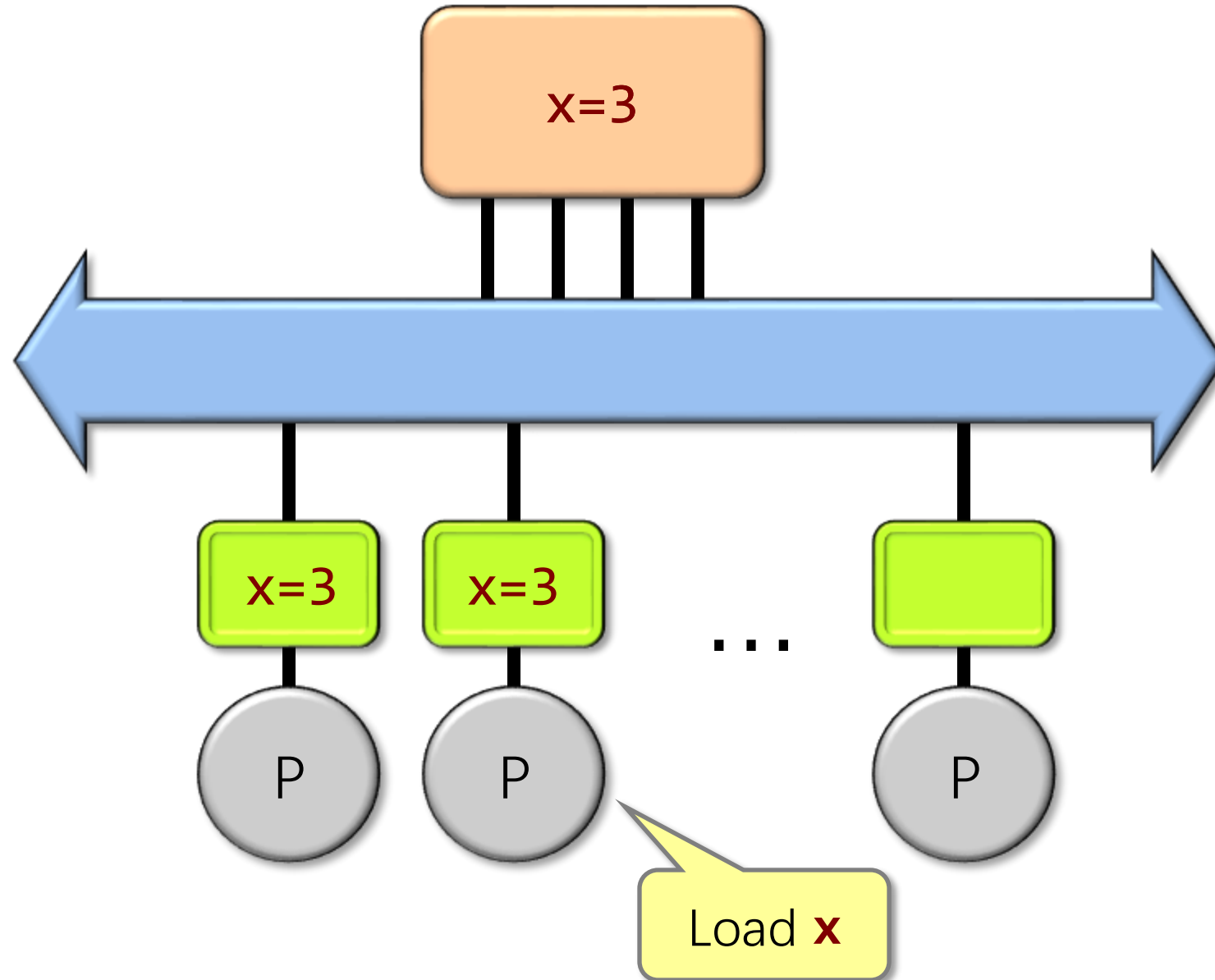
Need synchronization



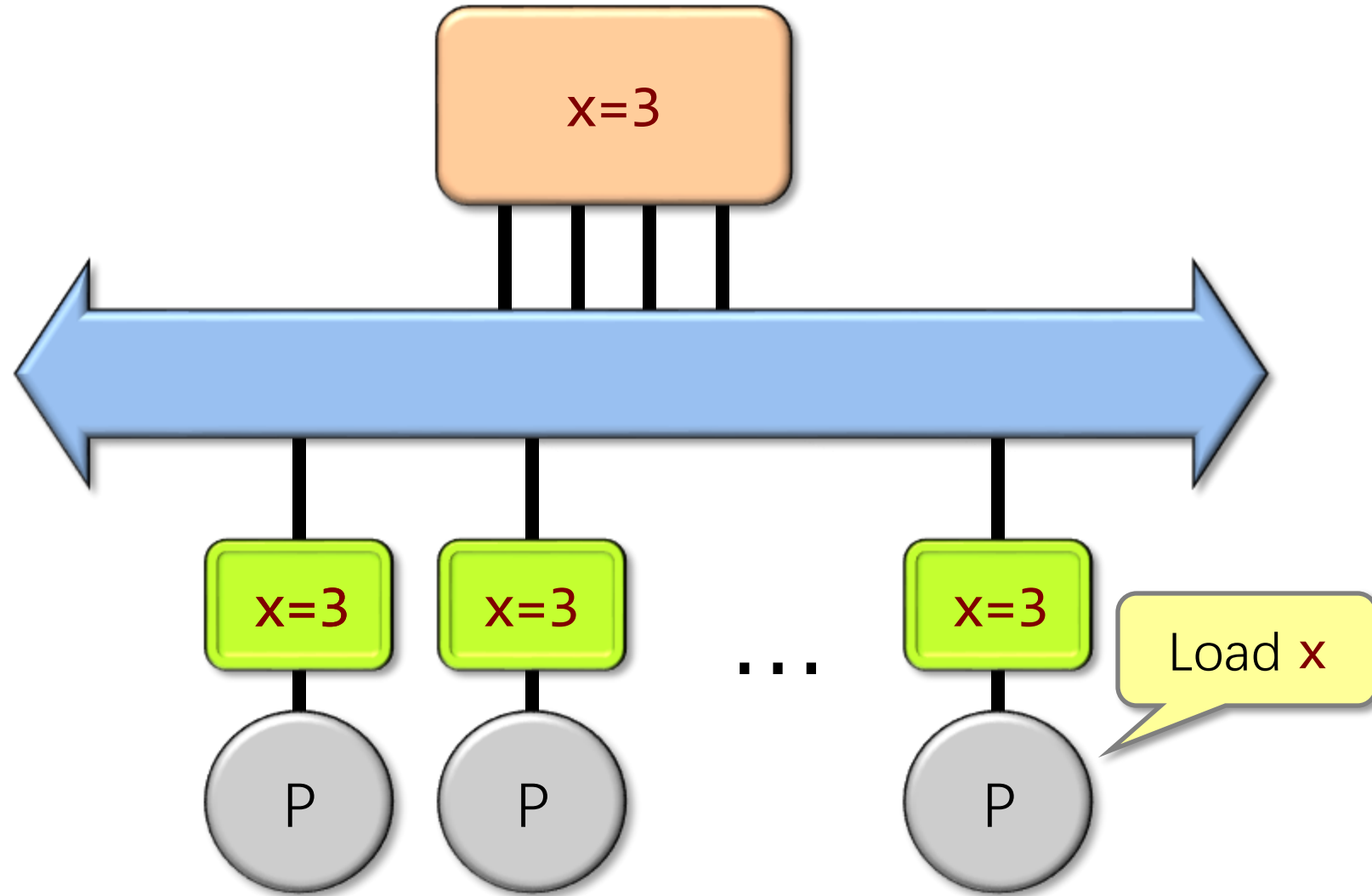
Cache Coherence



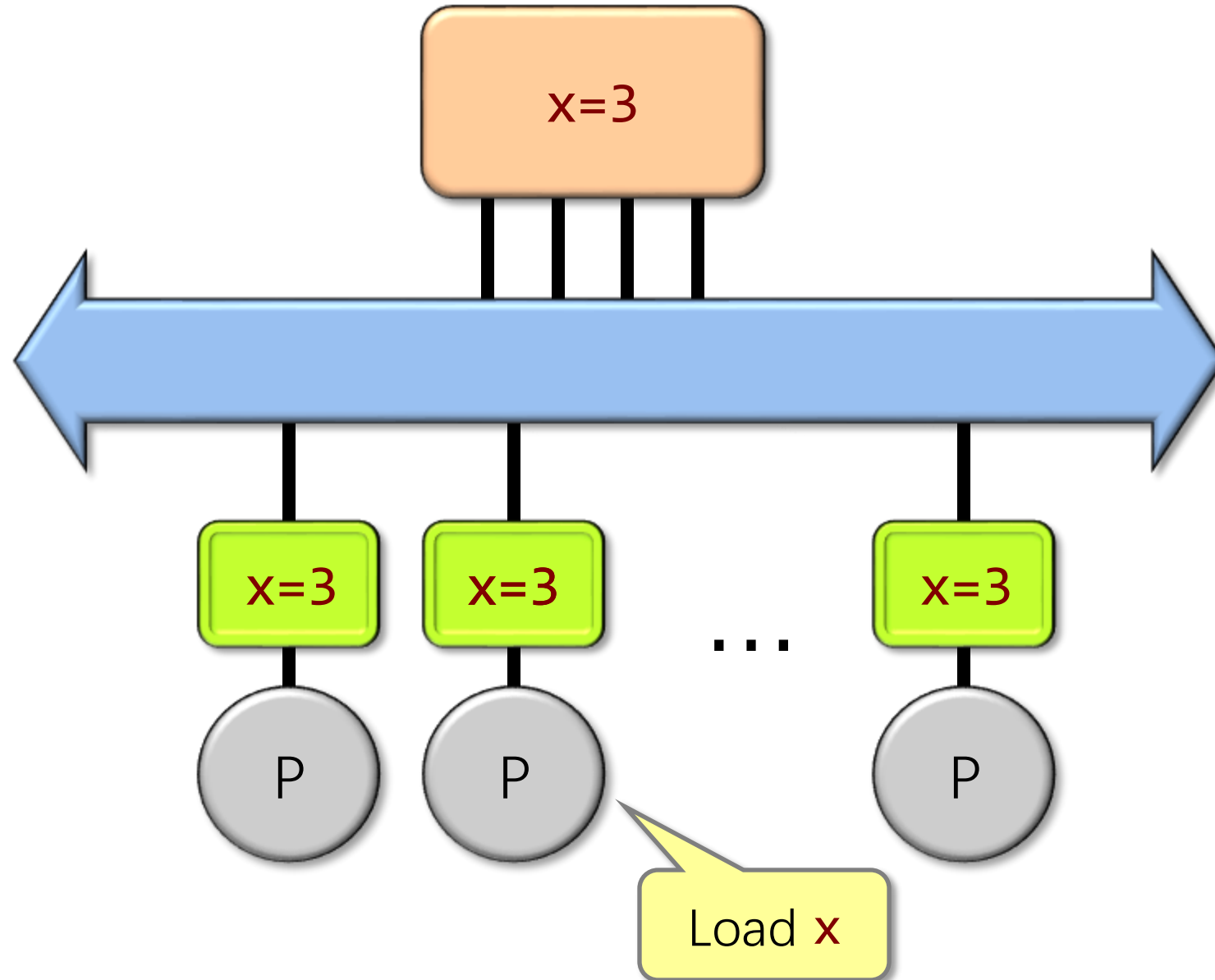
Cache Coherence



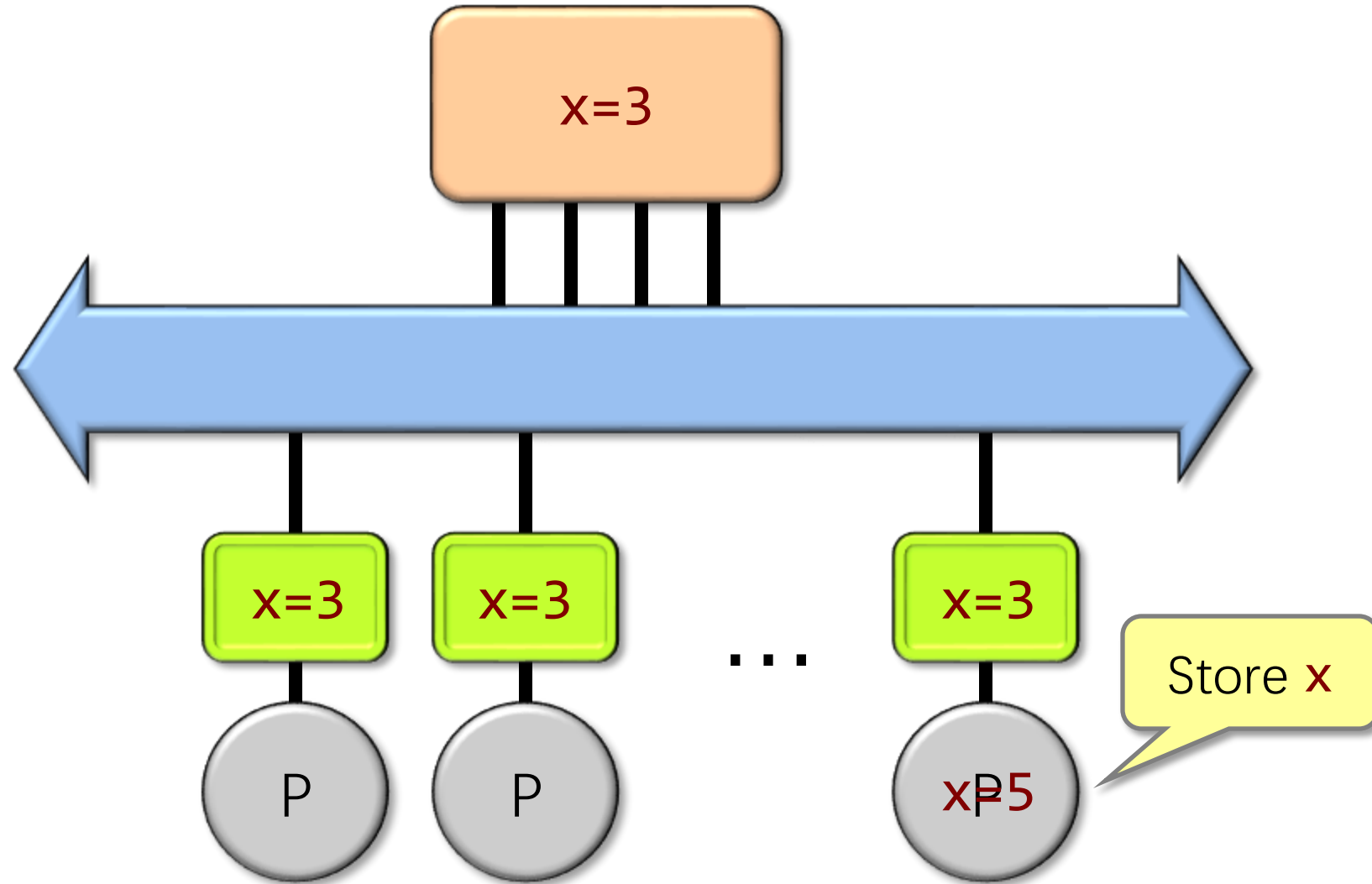
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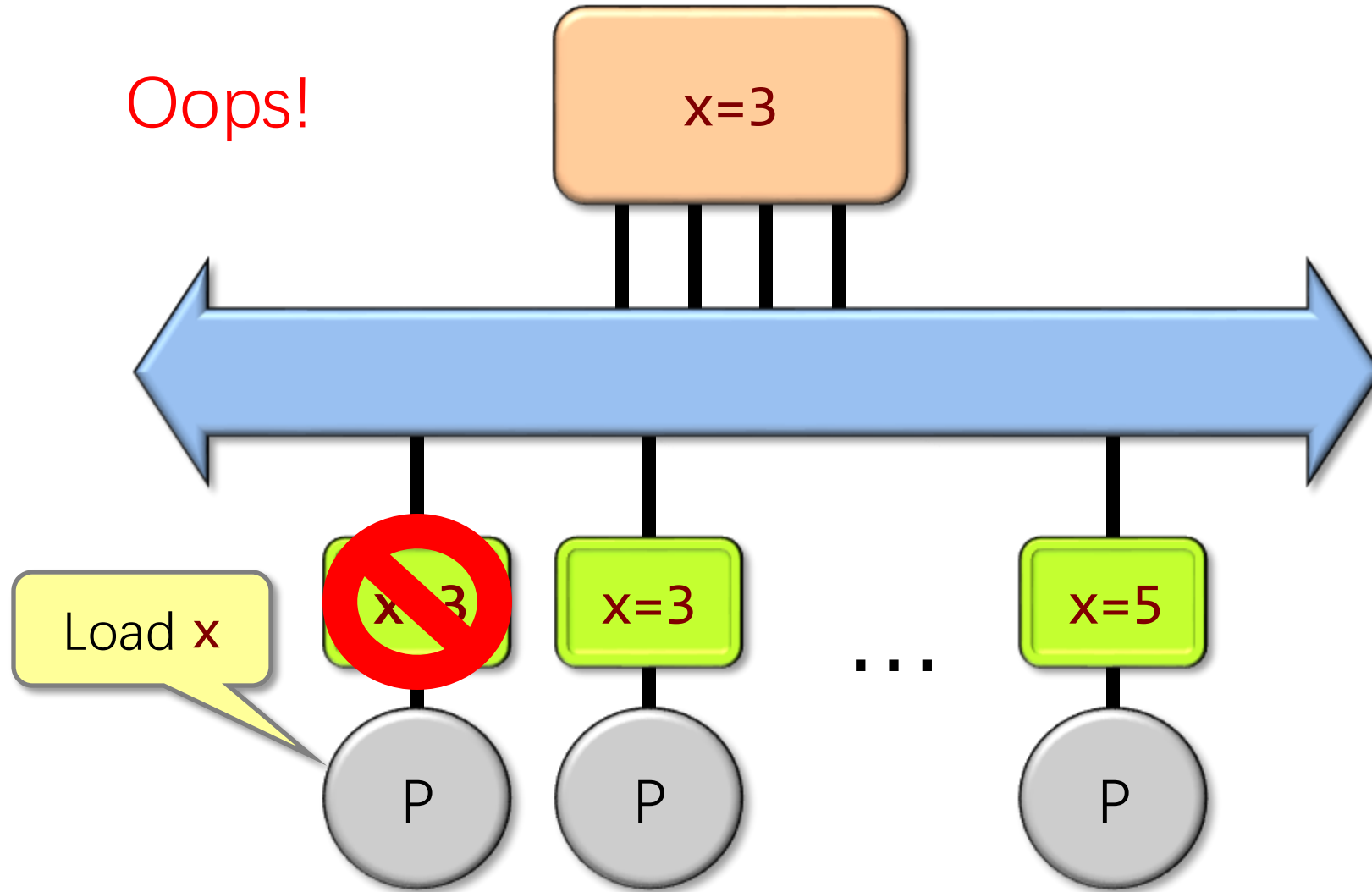
Cache Coherence



Cache Coherence



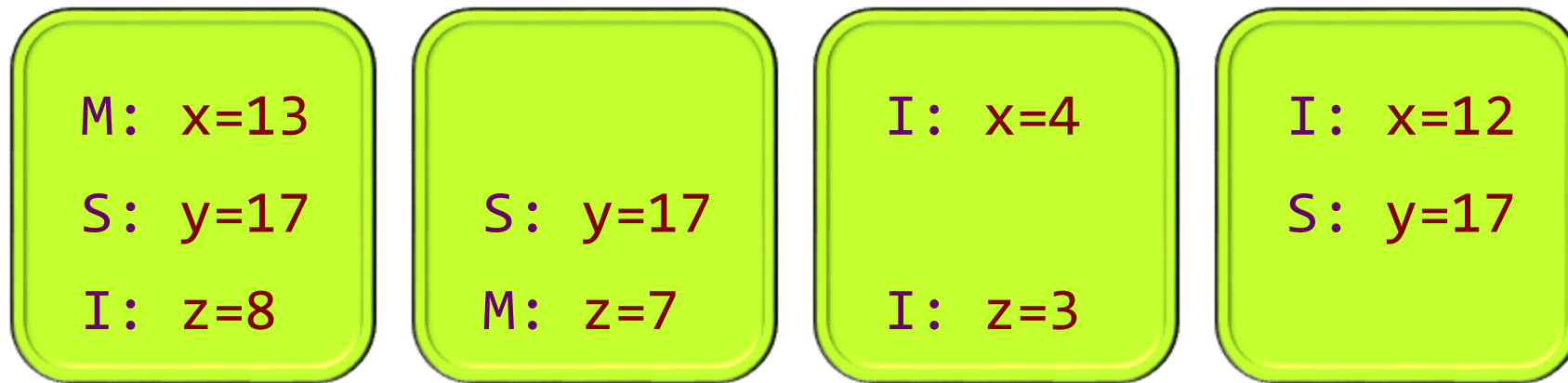
Cache Coherence



MSI Protocol

Each cache line is labeled with a state:

- **M**: cache block has been **modified**. No other caches contain this block in **M** or **S**.
- **S**: other caches may be **sharing** this block.
- **I**: cache block is **invalid** (same as not there).

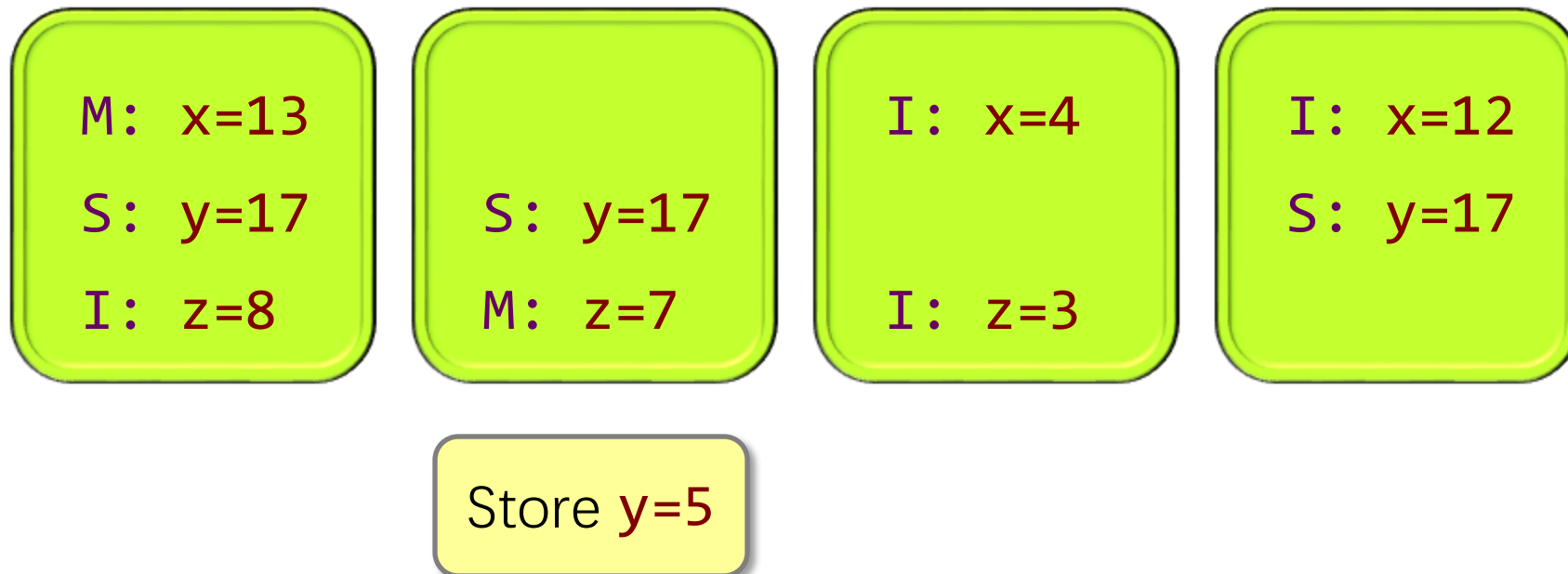


Before a cache modifies a location, the hardware first invalidates all other copies.

MSI Protocol

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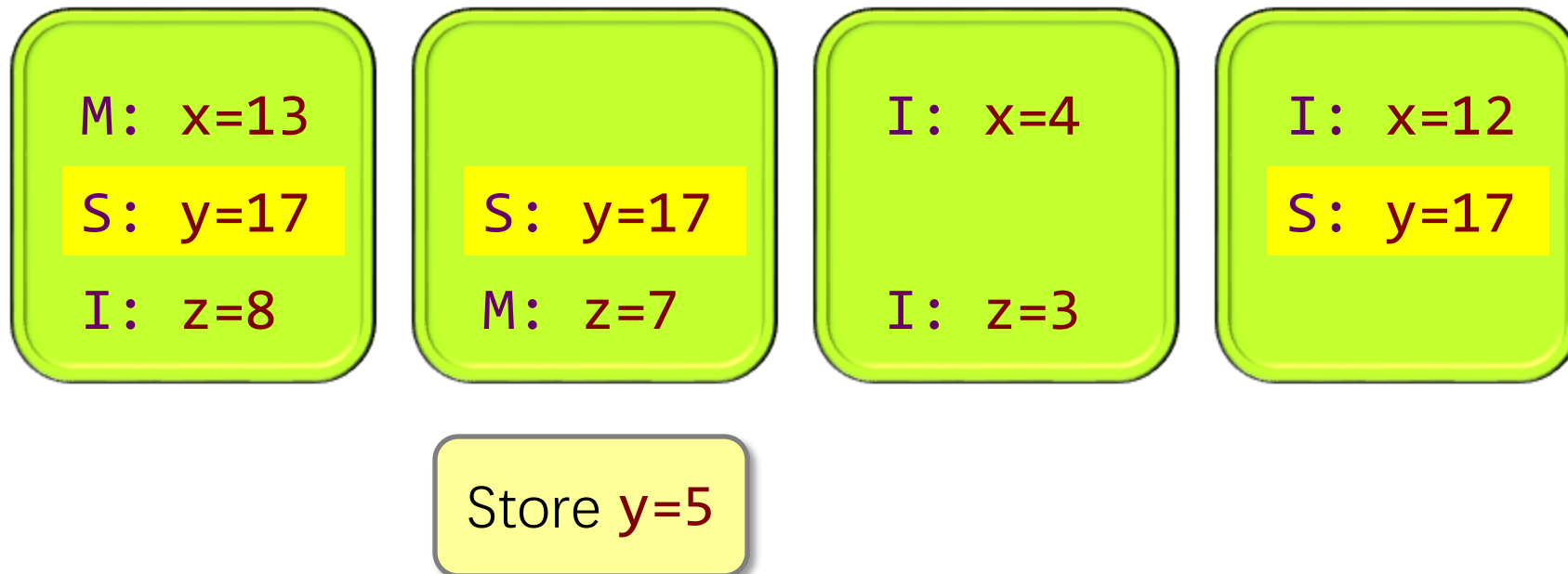
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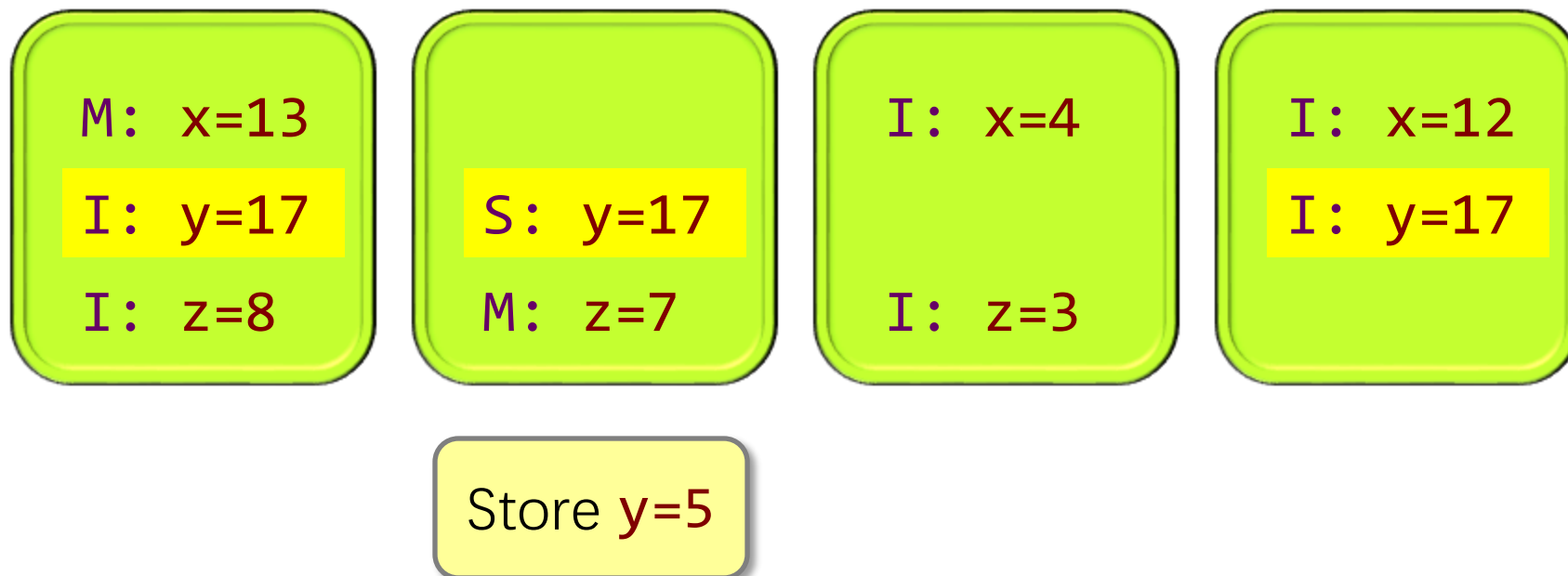
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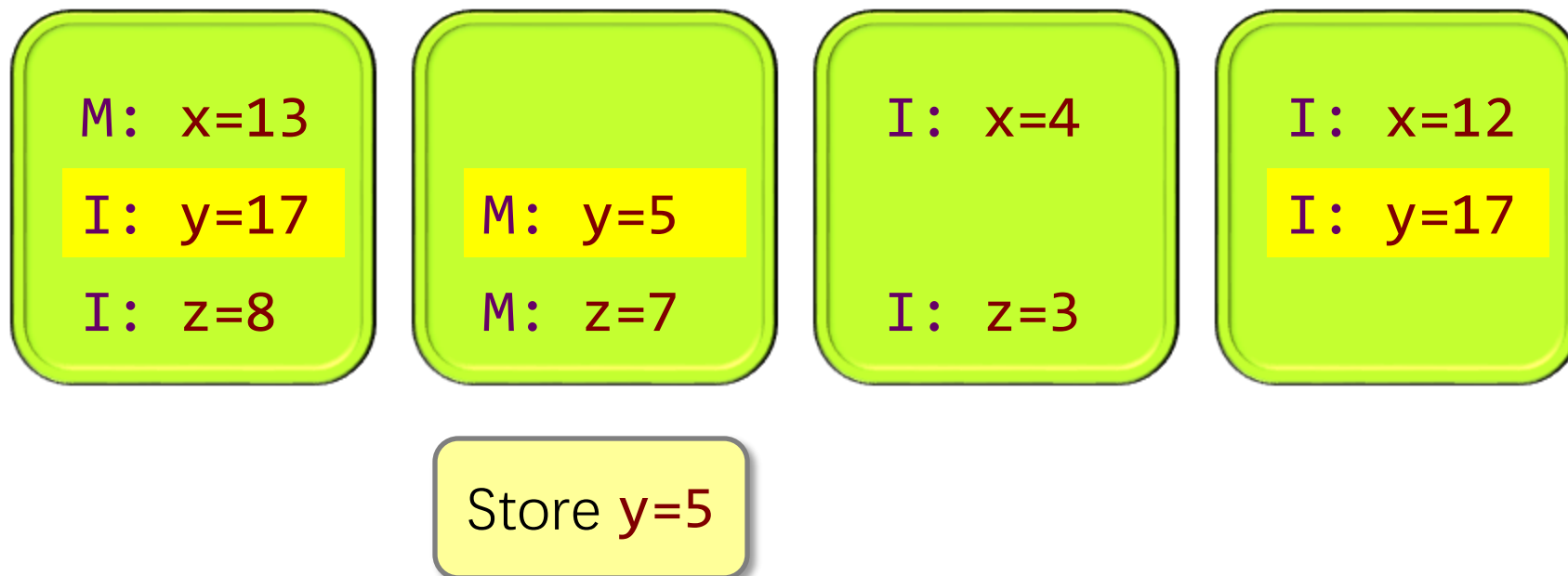
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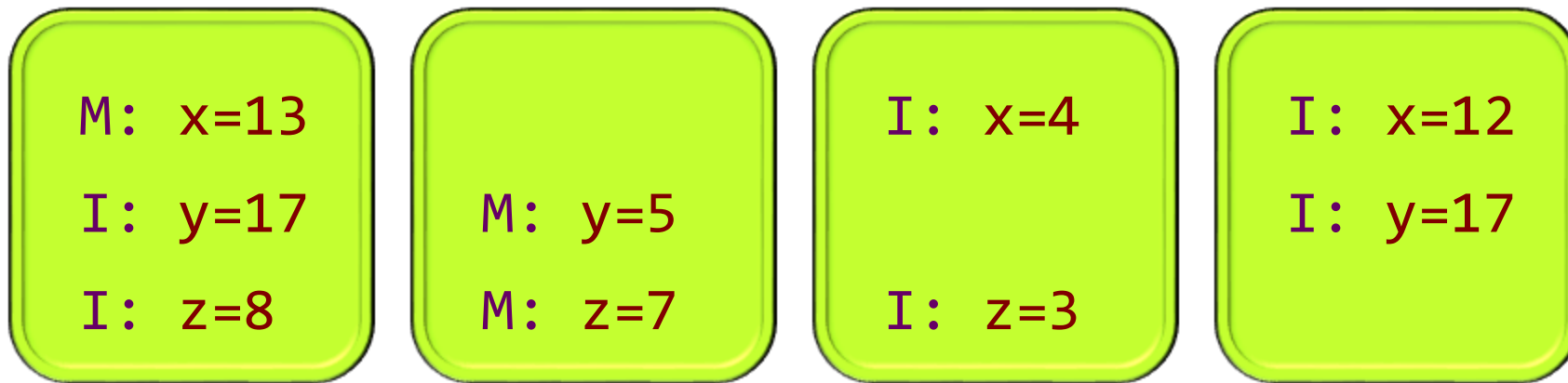
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CONCURRENCY PLATFORMS



Concurrency Platforms

- Programming directly on processor cores is **painful** and **error-prone**
- A **concurrency platform** helps
 - abstract processor cores
 - handle synchronization and communication
 - perform load balancing
- Examples
 - Pthreads and WinAPI threads
 - Threading Building Blocks (TBB)
 - OpenMP
 - **Cilk**

Fibonacci Numbers

The **Fibonacci numbers** are the sequence $\langle 0, 1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 13, 21, 34, \dots \rangle$, where each number is the sum of the previous two.

Recurrence:

$$F_0 = 0,$$

$$F_1 = 1,$$

$$F_n = F_{n-1} + F_{n-2} \text{ for } n > 1.$$



The sequence is named after **Leonardo di Pisa** (1170–1250 A.D.), also known as Fibonacci, a contraction of filius Bonaccii —“son of Bonaccio.” Fibonacci’s 1202 book *Liber Abaci* introduced the sequence to Western mathematics, although it had previously been discovered by Indian mathematicians.

Fibonacci Program

```
#include <inttypes.h>
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>

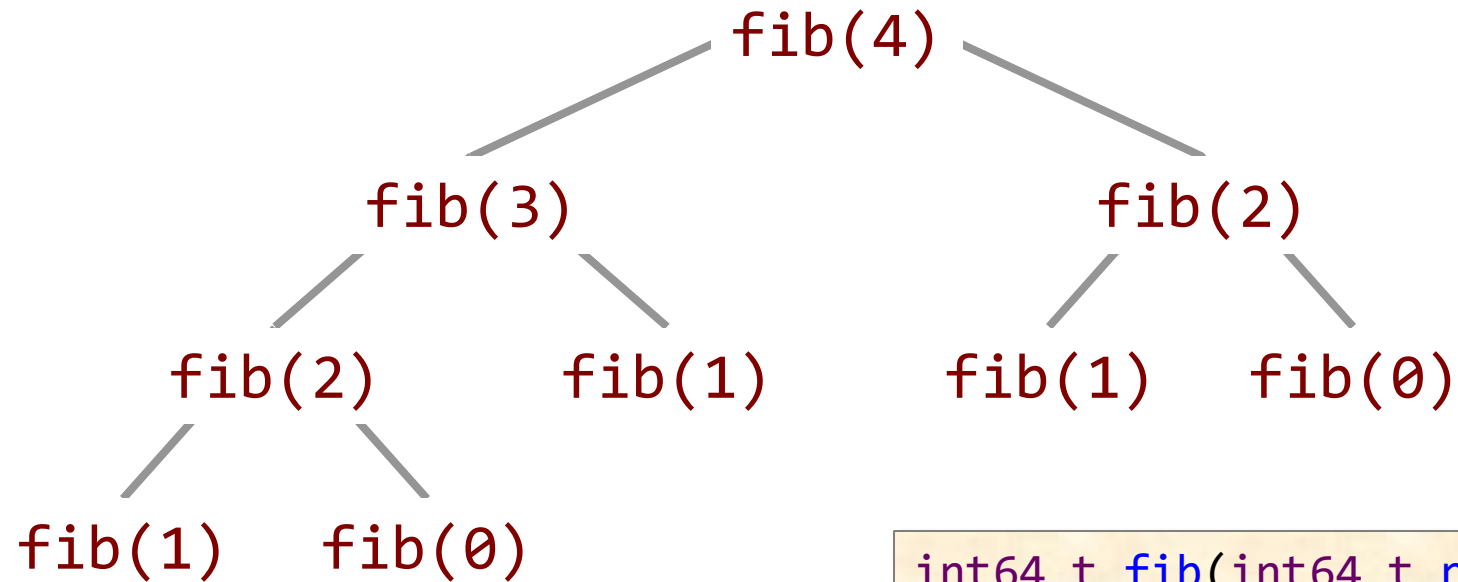
int64_t fib(int64_t n) {
    if (n < 2) {
        return n;
    } else {
        int64_t x = fib(n-1);
        int64_t y = fib(n-2);
        return (x + y);
    }
}

int main(int argc, char *argv[]) {
    int64_t n = atoi(argv[1]);
    int64_t result = fib(n);
    printf("Fibonacci of %" PRIu64 " is %" PRIu64 ".\n",
           n, result);
    return 0;
}
```

Disclaimer to Algorithms Police

This recursive program is a poor way to compute the n th Fibonacci number, but it provides a good didactic example.

Fibonacci Execution



Key idea for parallelization
`fib(n-1)` and `fib(n-2)` can
be executed simultaneously
without mutual interference

```
int64_t fib(int64_t n) {  
    if (n < 2) {  
        return n;  
    } else {  
        int64_t x = fib(n-1);  
        int64_t y = fib(n-2);  
        return (x + y);  
    }  
}
```

CONCURRENCY PLATFORMS

- **Pthreads (& WinAPI Threads)**
- Threading Building Blocks
- OpenMP
- Cilk



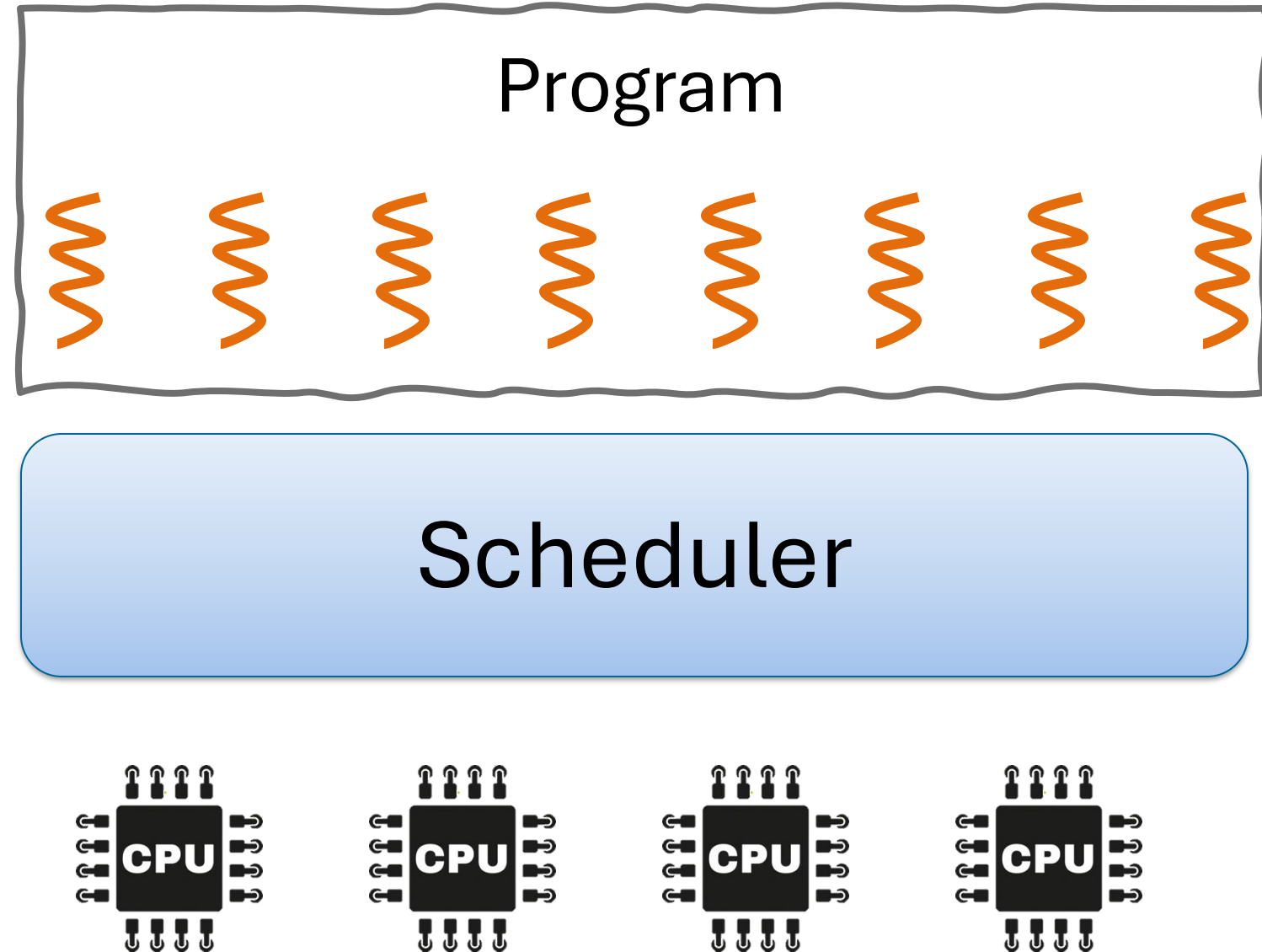
Pthreads*

- Standard API for threading specified by ANSI/IEEE POSIX 1003.1-2008
- Do-it-yourself concurrency platform
- Built as a library of functions with “special” non-C semantics
- Each thread implements an abstraction of a processor, which are multiplexed onto machine resources

*WinAPI threads provide similar functionality.

Threading Abstraction

- The programmer specifies **threads**
- The scheduler **maps** each thread to a processor (e.g., whenever a processor is available)



Pthreads*

- Standard API for threading specified by ANSI/IEEE POSIX 1003.1-2008
- Do-it-yourself concurrency platform
- Built as a library of functions with “special” non-C semantics
- Each thread implements an abstraction of a processor, which are multiplexed onto machine resources
- Threads communicate through shared memory
- Library functions mask the protocols involved in inter-thread coordination

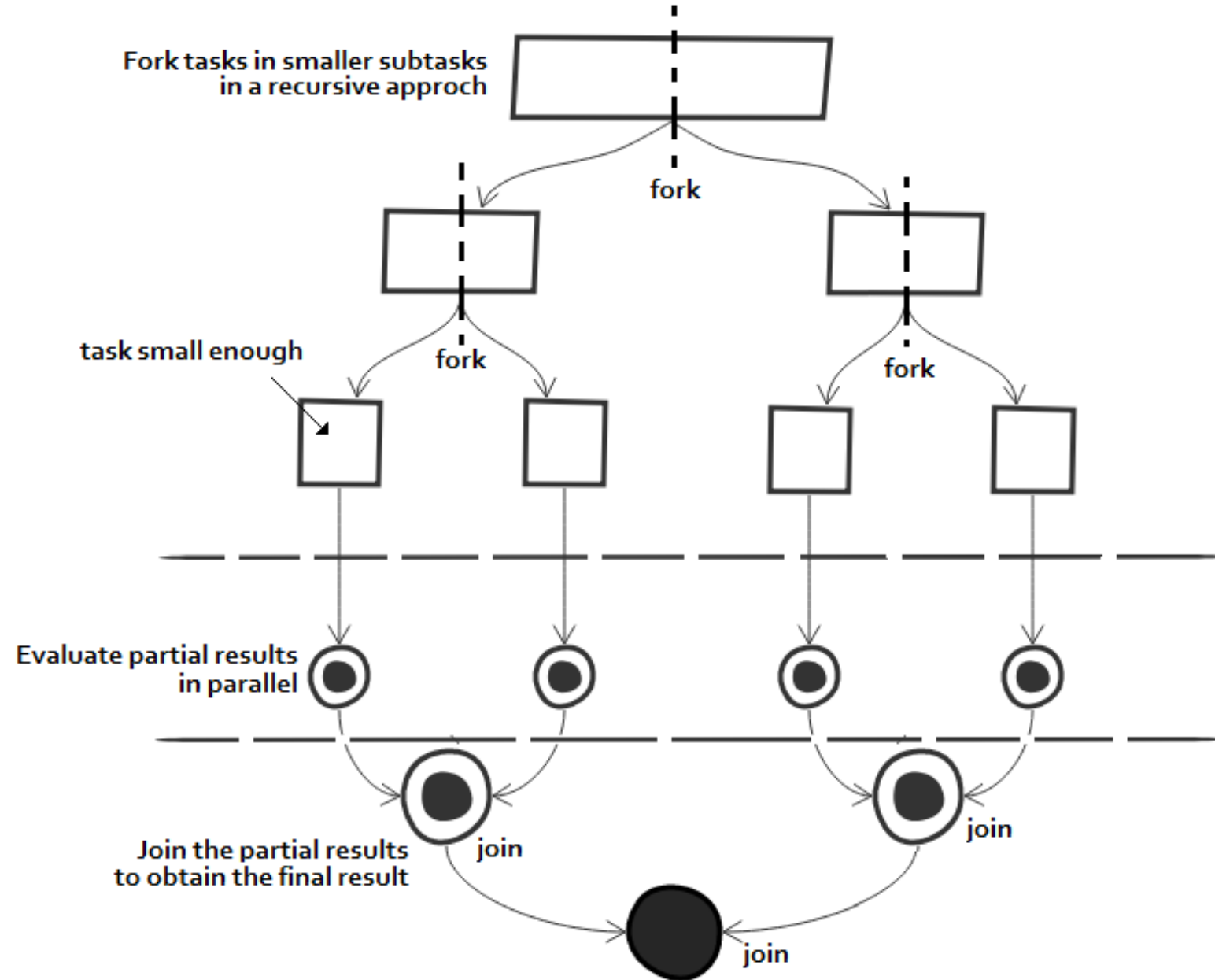
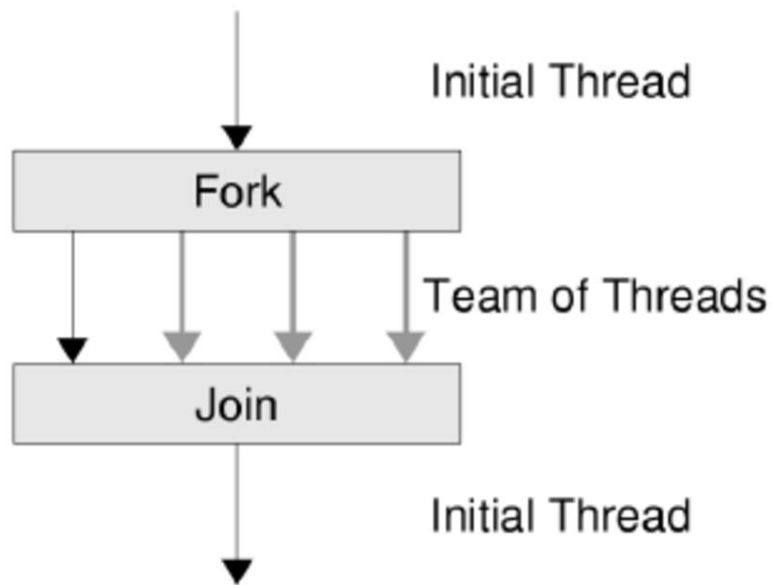
*WinAPI threads provide similar functionality.

Key Pthread Functions

```
int pthread_create(  
    pthread_t *thread,  
        //returned identifier for the new thread  
    const pthread_attr_t *attr,  
        //object to set thread attributes (NULL for default)  
    void *(*func)(void *),  
        //routine executed after creation  
    void *arg  
        //a single argument passed to func  
) //returns error status
```

```
int pthread_join(  
    pthread_t thread,  
        //identifier of thread to wait for  
    void **status  
        //terminating thread's status (NULL to ignore)  
) //returns error status
```

fork-join Programming Model



Pthread fib Implementation

```
#include <inttypes.h>
#include <pthread.h>
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>

int64_t fib(int64_t n) {
    if (n < 2) {
        return n;
    } else {
        int64_t x = fib(n-1);
        int64_t y = fib(n-2);
        return (x + y);
    }
}

typedef struct {
    int64_t input;
    int64_t output;
} thread_args;

void *thread_func(void *ptr) {
    int64_t i = ((thread_args *) ptr)->input;
    ((thread_args *) ptr)->output = fib(i);
    return NULL;
}
```

```
int main(int argc, char *argv[]) {
    pthread_t thread;
    thread_args args;
    int status;
    int64_t result;

    if (argc < 2) { return 1; }
    int64_t n = strtoul(argv[1], NULL, 0);
    if (n < 30) {
        result = fib(n);
    } else {
        args.input = n-1;
        status = pthread_create(&thread,
                                NULL,
                                thread_func,
                                (void*) &args);

        // main can continue executing
        if (status != NULL) { return 1; }
        result = fib(n-2);
        // wait for the thread to terminate
        status = pthread_join(thread, NULL);
        if (status != NULL) { return 1; }
        result += args.output;
    }
    printf("Fibonacci of %" PRId64 " is %" PRId64 ".\n",
           n, result);
    return 0;
}
```

Pthread fib Implementation

```
#include <inttypes.h>
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}
```

Original code

```
int main(int argc, char *argv[]) {
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    int status;
    int64_t result;

    if (argc < 2) { return 1; }
    int64_t n = strtoul(argv[1], NULL, 0);
    if (n < 30) {
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    } else {
        args.input = n-1;
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                                thread_func,
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        result = fib(n-2);
        // wait for the thread to terminate
        status = pthread_join(thread, NULL);
        if (status != NULL) { return 1; }
        result += args.output;
    }
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Pthread fib Implementation

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    return NULL;
}
```

Structure for
thread arguments

```
int main(int argc, char *argv[]) {
    pthread_t thread;
    thread_args args;
    int status;
    int64_t result;

    if (argc < 2) { return 1; }
    int64_t n = strtoul(argv[1], NULL, 0);
    if (n < 30) {
        result = fib(n);
    } else {
        args.input = n-1;
        status = pthread_create(&thread,
                                NULL,
                                thread_func,
                                (void*) &args);

        // main can continue executing
        if (status != NULL) { return 1; }
        result = fib(n-2);
        // wait for the thread to terminate
        status = pthread_join(thread, NULL);
        if (status != NULL) { return 1; }
        result += args.output;
    }
    printf("Fibonacci of %" PRId64 " is %" PRId64 ".\n",
           n, result);
    return 0;
}
```

Pthread fib Implementation

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void *thread_func(void *ptr) {
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    ((thread_args *) ptr)->output = fib(i);
    return NULL;
}
```

Function
called when
thread is
created

```
int main(int argc, char *argv[]) {
    pthread_t thread;
    thread_args args;
    int status;
    int64_t result;

    if (argc < 2) { return 1; }
    int64_t n = strtoul(argv[1], NULL, 0);
    if (n < 30) {
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        result += args.output;
    }
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}
```

Pthread **fib** Implementation

```
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#include <stdlib.h>

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void *thread_func(void *ptr) {
    int64_t i = ((thread_args *) ptr)->input;
    ((thread_args *) ptr)->output = fib(i);
    return NULL;
}
```

No point in creating thread if there isn't enough to do

```
int main(int argc, char *argv[]) {
    pthread_t thread;
    thread_args args;
    int status;
    int64_t result;

    if (argc < 2) { return 1; }
    int64_t n = strtoul(argv[1], NULL, 0);
    if (n < 30) {
        result = fib(n);
    } else {
        args.input = n-1;
        status = pthread_create(&thread,
                                NULL,
                                thread_func,
                                (void*) &args);

        // main can continue executing
        if (status != NULL) { return 1; }
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        // wait for the thread to terminate
        status = pthread_join(thread, NULL);
        if (status != NULL) { return 1; }
        result += args.output;
    }
    printf("Fibonacci of %" PRId64 " is %" PRId64 ".\n",
           n, result);
    return 0;
}
```


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    return NULL;
}
```

```
int main(int argc, char *argv[]) {
    pthread_t thread;
    thread_args args;
    int status;
    int64_t result;

    if (argc < 2) { return 1; }
    int64_t n = strtoul(argv[1], NULL, 10);
    if (n < 30) {
        result = fib(n);
    } else {
        args.input = n-1;
        status = pthread_create(&thread,
                                NULL,
                                thread_func,
                                (void*) &args);

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    return 0;
}
```

Marshal input
argument to
thread

Pthread fib Implementation

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} thread_args;

void *thread_func(void *ptr) {
    int64_t i = ((thread_args *) ptr)->input;
    ((thread_args *) ptr)->output = fib(i);
    return NULL;
}
```

Create thread to
execute **fib(n-1)**

```
int main(int argc, char *argv[]) {
    pthread_t thread;
    thread_args args;
    int status;
    int64_t result;

    if (argc < 2) { return 1; }
    int64_t n = strtoul(argv[1], NULL, 0);
    if (n < 30) {
        result = fib(n);
    } else {
        args.input = n-1;
        status = pthread_create(&thread,
                                NULL,
                                thread_func,
                                (void*) &args);

        // main can continue executing
        if (status != NULL) { return 1; }
        result = fib(n-2);
        // wait for the thread to terminate
        status = pthread_join(thread, NULL);
        if (status != NULL) { return 1; }
        result += args.output;
    }
    printf("Fibonacci of %" PRId64 " is %" PRId64 ".\n",
          n, result);
    return 0;
}
```

Pthread fib Implementation

```
#include <inttypes.h>
#include <pthread.h>
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>

int64_t fib(int64_t n) {
    if (n < 2) {
        return n;
    } else {
        int64_t x = fib(n-1);
        int64_t y = fib(n-2);
        return (x + y);
    }
}

typedef struct {
    int64_t input;
    int64_t output;
} thread_args;

void *thread_func(
    int64_t i = ((thread_args *) ptr)->input;
    ((thread_args *) ptr)->output = fib(i);
    return NULL;
}
```

Main program
runs **fib(n-2)**
in parallel.

```
int main(int argc, char *argv[]) {
    pthread_t thread;
    thread_args args;
    int status;
    int64_t result;

    if (argc < 2) { return 1; }
    int64_t n = strtoul(argv[1], NULL, 0);
    if (n < 30) {
        result = fib(n);
    } else {
        args.input = n-1;
        status = pthread_create(&thread,
                                NULL,
                                thread_func,
                                (void*) &args);

        // main can continue executing
        if (status != NULL) { return 1; }
        result = fib(n-2);
        // wait for the thread to terminate
        status = pthread_join(thread, NULL);
        if (status != NULL) { return 1; }
        result += args.output;
    }
    printf("Fibonacci of %" PRId64 " is %" PRId64 ".\n",
          n, result);
    return 0;
}
```


Pthread fib Implementation

```
#include <inttypes.h>
#include <pthread.h>
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>

int64_t fib(int64_t n) {
    if (n < 2) {
        return n;
    } else {
        int64_t x = fib(n-1);
        int64_t y = fib(n-2);
        return (x + y);
    }
}

typedef struct {
    int64_t input;
    int64_t output;
} thread_args;

void *thread_func(void *ptr) {
    int64_t i = ((thread_args *) ptr)->input;
    ((thread_args *) ptr)->output = fib(i);
    return NULL;
}
```

Block until the
auxiliary thread
finishes.

```
int main(int argc, char *argv[]) {
    pthread_t thread;
    thread_args args;
    int status;
    int64_t result;

    if (argc < 2) { return 1; }
    int64_t n = strtoul(argv[1], NULL, 0);
    if (n < 30) {
        result = fib(n);
    } else {
        args.input = n-1;
        status = pthread_create(&thread,
                                NULL,
                                thread_func,
                                (void*) &args);

        // main can continue executing
        if (status != NULL) { return 1; }
        result = fib(n-2);
        // wait for the thread to terminate
        status = pthread_join(thread, NULL);
        if (status != NULL) { return 1; }
        result += args.output;
    }
    printf("Fibonacci of %" PRId64 " is %" PRId64 ".\n",
          n, result);
    return 0;
}
```

Pthread fib Implementation

```
#include <inttypes.h>
#include <pthread.h>
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>

int64_t fib(int64_t n) {
    if (n < 2) {
        return n;
    } else {
        int64_t x = fib(n-1);
        int64_t y = fib(n-2);
        return (x + y);
    }
}

typedef struct {
    int64_t input;
    int64_t output;
} thread_args;

void *thread_func(void *ptr) {
    int64_t i = ((thread_args *) ptr)->input;
    ((thread_args *) ptr)->output = fib(i);
    return NULL;
}
```

Add the results together to produce the final output.

```
int main(int argc, char *argv[]) {
    pthread_t thread;
    thread_args args;
    int status;
    int64_t result;

    if (argc < 2) { return 1; }
    int64_t n = strtoul(argv[1], NULL, 0);
    if (n < 30) {
        result = fib(n);
    } else {
        args.input = n-1;
        status = pthread_create(&thread,
                                NULL,
                                thread_func,
                                (void*) &args);

        // main can continue executing
        if (status != NULL) { return 1; }
        result = fib(n-2);
        // wait for the thread to terminate
        status = pthread_join(thread, NULL);
        if (status != NULL) { return 1; }
        result += args.output;
    }
    printf("Fibonacci of %" PRId64 " is %" PRId64 ".\n",
           n, result);
    return 0;
}
```

Issues with Pthreads

Overhead	The cost of creating a thread $>10^4$ cycles $\Rightarrow$ coarse-grained concurrency. (Thread pools can help.)

Issues with Pthreads

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Issues with Pthreads

Overhead	The cost of creating a thread $>10^4$ cycles $\Rightarrow$ coarse-grained concurrency. (Thread pools can help.)
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Issues with Pthreads

Overhead	The cost of creating a thread $>10^4$ cycles $\Rightarrow$ coarse-grained concurrency. (Thread pools can help.)
Scalability	Fibonacci code gets at most about 1.5 speedup for 2 cores. Need a rewrite for more cores
Modularity	The Fibonacci logic is no longer neatly encapsulated in the <code>fib()</code> function
Code Simplicity	Programmers must marshal arguments (shades of 1957!) and engage in error-prone protocols for load-balance

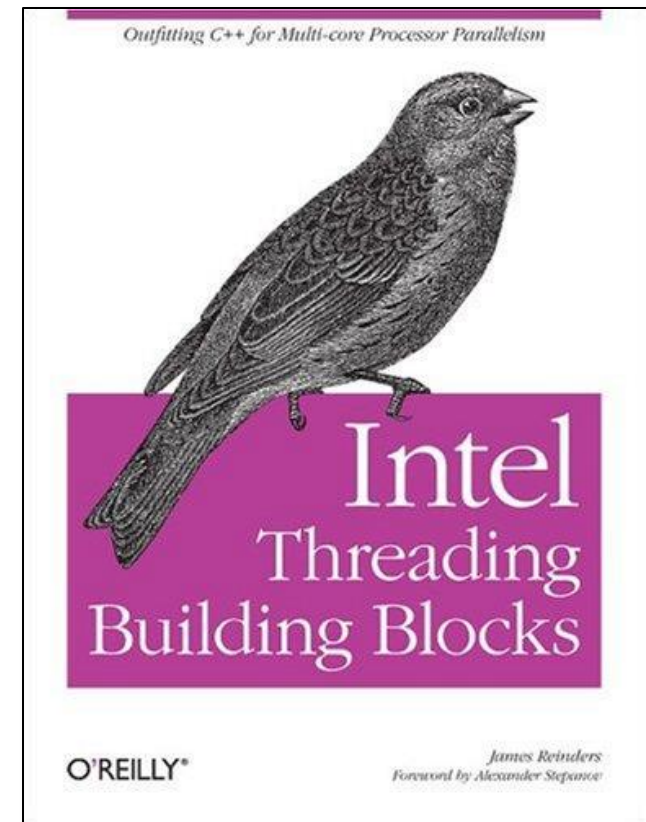
CONCURRENCY PLATFORMS

- Pthreads (& WinAPI Threads)
- **Threading Building Blocks**
- OpenMP
- Cilk



Threading Building Blocks

- Developed by Intel, as a **C++ library** that runs on native threads
- Programmer specifies **tasks** rather than threads
- Tasks are automatically load balanced across the threads using a **work-stealing** algorithm inspired by Cilk at MIT
- Focus on performance



Fibonacci in TBB

```
using namespace tbb;
class FibTask: public task {
public:
    const int64_t n;
    int64_t* const sum;
    FibTask(int64_t n_, int64_t* sum_) :
        n(n_), sum(sum_) {}

    task* execute() {
        if( n < 2 ) {
            *sum = n;
        } else {
            int64_t x, y;
            FibTask& a = *new( allocate_child() )
                          FibTask(n-1, &x);
            FibTask& b = *new( allocate_child() )
                          FibTask(n-2, &y);

            set_ref_count(3);
            spawn(b);
            spawn_and_wait_for_all(a);
            *sum = x + y;
        }
        return NULL;
    }
};
```

```
#include <cstdint>
#include <iostream>
#include "tbb/task.h"

int main(int argc, char *argv[]) {
    int64_t res;
    if (argc < 2) { return 1; }
    int64_t n =
        strtoul(argv[1], NULL, 0);
    FibTask& a = *new(task::allocate_root())
                 FibTask(n, &res);
    task::spawn_root_and_wait(a);

    std::cout << "Fibonacci of " << n
               << " is " << res << std::endl;
    return 0;
}
```

Fibonacci in TBB

```
using namespace tbb;
class FibTask: public task {
public:
    const int64_t n;
    int64_t* const sum;
    FibTask(int64_t n_, int64_t* sum_) :
        n(n_), sum(sum_) {}

    task* execute() {
        if( n < 2 ) {
            *sum = n;
        } else {
            int64_t x, y;
            FibTask& a = *new( allocate_child() )
                          FibTask(n-1, &x);
            FibTask& b = *new( allocate_child() )
                          FibTask(n-2, &y);

            set_ref_count(3);
            spawn(b);
            spawn_and_wait_for_all(a);
            *sum = x + y;
        }
        return NULL;
    }
};
```

A computation
organized as
explicit tasks.

```
#include <cstdint>
#include <iostream>
#include "tbb/task.h"

int main(int argc, char *argv[]) {
    int64_t res;
    if (argc < 2) { return 1; }
    int64_t n =
        strtoul(argv[1], NULL, 0);
    FibTask& a = *new(task::allocate_root())
                 FibTask(n, &res);
    task::spawn_root_and_wait(a);

    std::cout << "Fibonacci of " << n
               << " is " << res << std::endl;
    return 0;
}
```

Fibonacci in TBB

```
using namespace tbb;
class FibTask: public task {
public:
    const int64_t n;
    int64_t* const sum;
    FibTask(int64_t n_, int64_t* sum_) :
        n(n_), sum(sum_) {}

    task* execute() {
        if( n < 2 ) {
            *sum = n;
        } else {
            int64_t x, y;
            FibTask& a = *new( allocate_child() )
                          FibTask(n-1, &x);
            FibTask& b = *new( allocate_child() )
                          FibTask(n-2, &y);

            set_ref_count(3);
            spawn(b);
            spawn_and_wait_for_all(a);
            *sum = x + y;
        }
        return NULL;
    }
};
```

FibTask has an
input parameter **n**
and an output
parameter **sum**.

```
#include <cstdint>
#include <iostream>
#include "tbb/task.h"

int main(int argc, char *argv[]) {
    int64_t res;
    if (argc < 2) { return 1; }
    int64_t n =
        strtoul(argv[1], NULL, 0);
    FibTask& a = *new(task::allocate_root())
                 FibTask(n, &res);
    task::spawn_root_and_wait(a);

    std::cout << "Fibonacci of " << n
               << " is " << res << std::endl;
    return 0;
}
```

Fibonacci in TBB

```
using namespace tbb;
class FibTask: public task {
public:
    const int64_t n;
    int64_t* const sum;
    FibTask(int64_t n_, int64_t* s) :
        n(n_), sum(s) {}

    task* execute() {
        if( n < 2 ) {
            *sum = n;
        } else {
            int64_t x, y;
            FibTask& a = *new( allocate_child() )
                          FibTask(n-1, &x);
            FibTask& b = *new( allocate_child() )
                          FibTask(n-2, &y);

            set_ref_count(3);
            spawn(b);
            spawn_and_wait_for_all(a);
            *sum = x + y;
        }
        return NULL;
    }
};
```

The `execute()` function performs the computation when the task is started.

```
#include <cstdint>
#include <iostream>
#include "tbb/task.h"

int main(int argc, char *argv[]) {
    int64_t res;
    if (argc < 2) { return 1; }
    int64_t n =
        strtoul(argv[1], NULL, 0);
    FibTask& a = *new(task::allocate_root())
                 FibTask(n, &res);
    task::spawn_root_and_wait(a);

    std::cout << "Fibonacci of " << n
               << " is " << res << std::endl;
    return 0;
}
```

Fibonacci in TBB

```
using namespace tbb;
class FibTask: public task {
public:
    const int64_t n;
    int64_t* const sum;
    FibTask(int64_t n_, int64_t* sum_) :
        n(n_), sum(sum_) {}

    task* execute() {
        if( n < 2 ) {
            *sum = n;
        } else {
            int64_t x, y;
            FibTask& a = *new( allocate_child() )
                          FibTask(n-1, &x);
            FibTask& b = *new( allocate_child() )
                          FibTask(n-2, &y);

            set_ref_count(3);
            spawn(b);
            spawn_and_wait_for_all(a);
            *sum = x + y;
        }
        return NULL;
    }
};
```

Recursively
create two
child tasks
a and **b**.

```
#include <cstdint>
#include <iostream>
#include "tbb/task.h"

int main(int argc, char *argv[]) {
    int64_t res;
    if (argc < 2) { return 1; }
    int64_t n =
        strtoul(argv[1], NULL, 0);
    FibTask& a = *new(task::allocate_root())
                 FibTask(n, &res);
    task::spawn_root_and_wait(a);

    std::cout << "Fibonacci of " << n
               << " is " << res << std::endl;
    return 0;
}
```

Fibonacci in TBB

```
using namespace tbb;
class FibTask: public task {
public:
    const int64_t n;
    int64_t* const sum;
    FibTask(int64_t n_, int64_t* sum_) :
        n(n_), sum(sum_) {}

    task* execute() {
        if( n < 2 ) {
            *sum = n;
        } else {
            int64_t x, y;
            FibTask& a = *new( allocate_child() )
                          FibTask(n-1, &x);
            FibTask& b = *new( allocate_child() )
                          FibTask(n-2, &y);

            set_ref_count(3);
            spawn(b);
            spawn_and_wait_for_all(a);
            *sum = x + y;
        }
        return NULL;
    }
};
```

Set the number of tasks to wait for (2 children + 1 implicit for bookkeeping).

```
#include <stdint>
#include <iostream>
#include "tbb/task.h"

int main(int argc, char *argv[]) {
    int64_t res;
    if (argc < 2) { return 1; }
    int64_t n =
        strtoul(argv[1], NULL, 0);
    FibTask& a = *new(task::allocate_root())
                 FibTask(n, &res);
    task::spawn_root_and_wait(a);

    std::cout << "Fibonacci of " << n
               << " is " << res << std::endl;
    return 0;
}
```


Fibonacci in TBB

```
using namespace tbb;
class FibTask: public task {
public:
    const int64_t n;
    int64_t* const sum;
    FibTask(int64_t n_, int64_t* sum_) :
        n(n_), sum(sum_) {}

    task* execute() {
        if( n < 2 ) {
            *sum = n;
        } else {
            int64_t x, y;
            FibTask& a = *new( allocate_child() )
                          FibTask(n-1, &x);
            FibTask& b = *new( allocate_child() )
                          FibTask(n-2, &y);

            set_ref_count(3);
            spawn(b);
            spawn_and_wait_for_all(a);
            *sum = x + y;
        }
        return NULL;
    }
};
```

Start task **b**.

```
#include <cstdint>
#include <iostream>
#include "tbb/task.h"

int main(int argc, char *argv[]) {
    int64_t res;
    if (argc < 2) { return 1; }
    int64_t n =
        strtoul(argv[1], NULL, 0);
    FibTask& a = *new(task::allocate_root())
                 FibTask(n, &res);
    task::spawn_root_and_wait(a);

    std::cout << "Fibonacci of " << n
               << " is " << res << std::endl;
    return 0;
}
```

Fibonacci in TBB

```
using namespace tbb;
class FibTask: public task {
public:
    const int64_t n;
    int64_t* const sum;
    FibTask(int64_t n_, int64_t* sum_) :
        n(n_), sum(sum_) {}

    task* execute() {
        if( n < 2 ) {
            *sum = n;
        } else {
            int64_t x, y;
            FibTask& a = *new( allocate_child() )
                          FibTask(n-1, &x);
            FibTask& b = *new( allocate_child() )
                          FibTask(n-2, &y);

            set_ref_count(3);
            spawn(b);
            spawn_and_wait_for_all(a);
            *sum = x + y;
        }
        return NULL;
    }
};
```

Start task **a**, and wait for both
a and **b** to finish.

```
#include <stdint>
#include <iostream>
#include "tbb/task.h"

int main(int argc, char *argv[]) {
    int64_t res;
    if (argc < 2) { return 1; }
    int64_t n =
        strtoul(argv[1], NULL, 0);
    FibTask& a = *new(task::allocate_root())
                 FibTask(n, &res);
    task::spawn_root_and_wait(a);

    std::cout << "Fibonacci of " << n
                << " is " << res << std::endl;
    return 0;
}
```


Fibonacci in TBB

```
using namespace tbb;
class FibTask: public task {
public:
    const int64_t n;
    int64_t* const sum;
    FibTask(int64_t n_, int64_t* sum_) :
        n(n_), sum(sum_) {}

    task* execute() {
        if( n < 2 ) {
            *sum = n;
        } else {
            int64_t x, y;
            FibTask& a = *new( allocate_child() )
                          FibTask(n-1, &x);
            FibTask& b = *new( allocate_child() )
                          FibTask(n-2, &y);

            set_ref_count(3);
            spawn(b);
            spawn_and_wait_for_all(a);
            *sum = x + y;
        }
        return NULL;
    }
};
```

Add the results together to produce the final output.

```
#include <stdint>
#include <iostream>
#include "tbb/task.h"

int main(int argc, char *argv[]) {
    int64_t res;
    if (argc < 2) { return 1; }
    int64_t n =
        strtoul(argv[1], NULL, 0);
    FibTask& a = *new(task::allocate_root())
                 FibTask(n, &res);
    task::spawn_root_and_wait(a);

    std::cout << "Fibonacci of " << n
               << " is " << res << std::endl;
    return 0;
}
```

Fibonacci in TBB

```
using namespace tbb;
class FibTask: public task {
public:
    const int64_t n;
    int64_t* const sum;
    FibTask(int64_t n_, int64_t* sum_) :
        n(n_), sum(sum_) {}
```

```
    task* execute() {
        if( n < 2 ) {
            *sum = n;
        } else {
            int64_t x, y;
            FibTask& a = *new( allocate_child() )
                          FibTask(n-1, &x);
            FibTask& b = *new( allocate_child() )
                          FibTask(n-2, &y);

            set_ref_count(3);
            spawn(b);
            spawn_and_wait_for_all(a);
            *sum = x + y;
        }
        return NULL;
    }
};
```

Create root task;
spawn and wait.

```
#include <cstdint>
#include <iostream>
#include "tbb/task.h"

int main(int argc, char *argv[]) {
    int64_t res;
    if (argc < 2) { return 1; }
    int64_t n =
        strtoul(argv[1], NULL, 0);
    FibTask& a = *new(task::allocate_root())
                 FibTask(n, &res);
    task::spawn_root_and_wait(a);

    std::cout << "Fibonacci of " << n
                << " is " << res << std::endl;
    return 0;
}
```

Other TBB Features

- TBB provides many C++ templates to express common patterns simply
 - ▣ e.g. `parallel_for` for loop parallelism,
 - ▣ e.g. `parallel_reduce` for data aggregation,
 - ▣ e.g. `pipeline` and `filter` for software pipelining
- TBB provides `concurrent container` classes, which allow multiple threads to safely access and update items in the container concurrently
- TBB also provides a variety of `mutual-exclusion` library functions, including `locks` and `atomic updates`

CONCURRENCY PLATFORMS

- Pthreads (& WinAPI Threads)
- Threading Building Blocks
- **OpenMP**
- Cilk



OpenMP

- Specification by an industry consortium
- Several compilers available, both open-source and proprietary, including GCC, ICC, Clang, and Visual Studio
- Linguistic extensions to C/C++ and Fortran in the form of compiler **pragmas**
- Runs on top of native threads
- Supports loop parallelism, task parallelism, and pipeline parallelism



Fibonacci in OpenMP

```
int64_t fib(int64_t n) {  
    if (n < 2) {  
        return n;  
    } else {  
        int64_t x, y;  
        #pragma omp task shared(x,n)  
        x = fib(n-1);  
        #pragma omp task shared(y,n)  
        y = fib(n-2);  
        #pragma omp taskwait  
        return (x + y);  
    }  
}
```

Compiler directive.

Fibonacci in OpenMP

```
int64_t fib(int64_t n) {  
    if (n < 2) {  
        return n;  
    } else {  
        int64_t x, y;  
        #pragma omp task shared(x,n)  
        x = fib(n-1);  
        #pragma omp task shared(y,n)  
        y = fib(n-2);  
        #pragma omp taskwait  
        return (x + y);  
    }  
}
```

The following
statement is an
independent task.

Fibonacci in OpenMP

```
int64_t fib(int64_t n) {  
    if (n < 2) {  
        return n;  
    } else {  
        int64_t x, y;  
        #pragma omp task shared(x,n)  
        x = fib(n-1);  
        #pragma omp task shared(y,n)  
        y = fib(n-2);  
        #pragma omp taskwait  
        return (x + y);  
    }  
}
```

Sharing of memory is
managed explicitly.

Fibonacci in OpenMP

```
int64_t fib(int64_t n) {  
    if (n < 2) {  
        return n;  
    } else {  
        int64_t x, y;  
        #pragma omp task shared(x,n)  
        x = fib(n-1);  
        #pragma omp task shared(y,n)  
        y = fib(n-2);  
        #pragma omp taskwait  
        return (x + y);  
    }  
}
```

Wait for the two tasks
to complete before
continuing.

Fibonacci in OpenMP

- OpenMP provides many **pragma directives** to express common patterns
 - ▣ e.g. **parallel for** for loop parallelism
 - ▣ e.g. **reduction** for data aggregation
 - ▣ e.g. directives for scheduling and data sharing
- OpenMP supplies a variety of **synchronization constructs**,
 - ▣ e.g. barriers, atomic updates, mutual-exclusion (mutex) locks

CONCURRENCY PLATFORMS

- Pthreads (& WinAPI Threads)
- Threading Building Blocks
- OpenMP
- **Cilk**



Cilk

- Award-winning multithreading language developed at MIT
- Linguistic **extensions to C/C++** to support **fork-join** parallelism
- Features a provably efficient **work-stealing** scheduler
- Provides a **reducer** linguistic interface for parallelizing code with global variables

OpenCilk

- This course will be using the **OpenCilk** compiler
 - ▣ OpenCilk is based on **LLVM**
 - ◆ developed at MIT by Tao B. Schardl, William S. Moses, and Charles E. Leiserson
 - ▣ OpenCilk's **compiler** can generally produce better code than can other compilers for parallel-language constructs
 - ▣ The OpenCilk **runtime** system is based on Cheetah
 - ◆ developed by I-Ting Angelina Lee at Washington University in St. Louis
 - ▣ Tools: the **Cilksan** race detector and the **Cilkscale** scalability analyzer

Nested Parallelism in Cilk

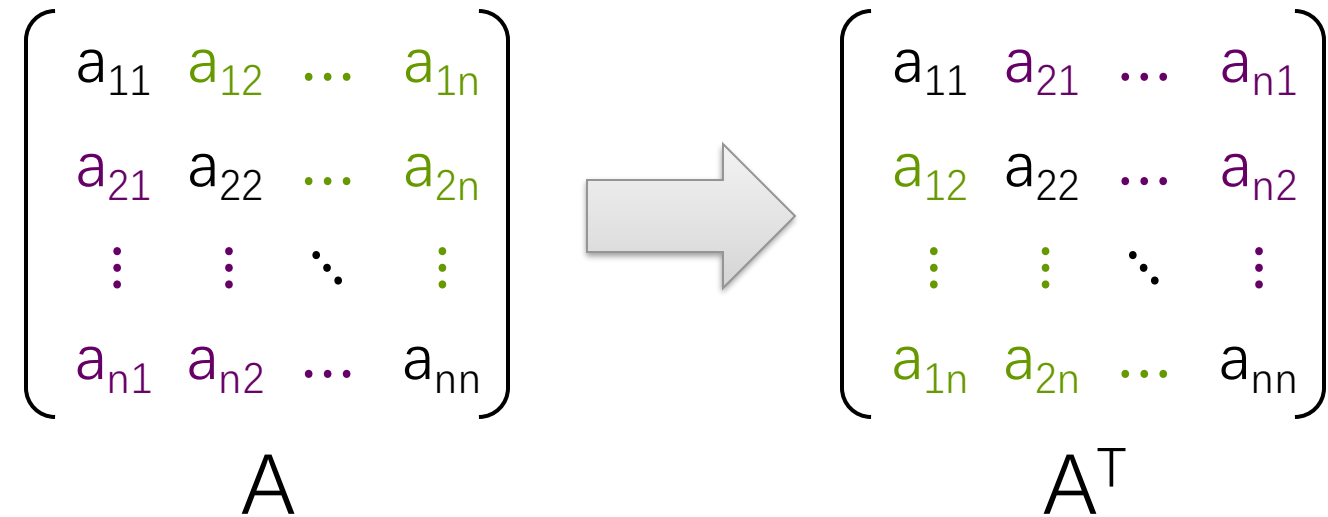
```
int64_t fib(int64_t n) {  
    if (n < 2)  
        return n;  
    int64_t x, y;  
    cilk_scope {  
        x = cilk_spawn fib(n-1);  
        y = fib(n-2);  
    }  
    return (x + y);  
}
```

The named **child** function may execute in parallel with the **parent** caller.

Control cannot pass this point until all spawned children have returned.

Loop Parallelism in Cilk

Example: in-place
matrix transpose



The iterations of a
cilk_for loop
execute in parallel

```
// indices run from 0, not 1
cilk_for (int i=1; i<n; ++i) {
    for (int j=0; j<i; ++j) {
        double temp = A[i][j];
        A[i][j] = A[j][i];
        A[j][i] = temp;
    }
}
```

Serial Semantics

Cilk source

```
int64_t fib(int64_t n) {  
    if (n < 2)  
        return n;  
    int64_t x, y;  
    cilk_scope {  
        x = cilk_spawn fib(n-1);  
        y = fib(n-2);  
    }  
    return (x + y);  
}
```



serial projection

```
int64_t fib(int64_t n) {  
    if (n < 2) {  
        return n;  
    } else {  
        int64_t x, y;  
        x = fib(n-1);  
        y = fib(n-2);  
        return (x + y);  
    }  
}
```

The **serial projection** of a Cilk program is always a legal interpretation of the program's semantics.

Remember, Cilk keywords **grant permission** for parallel execution. They do not **command** parallel execution.

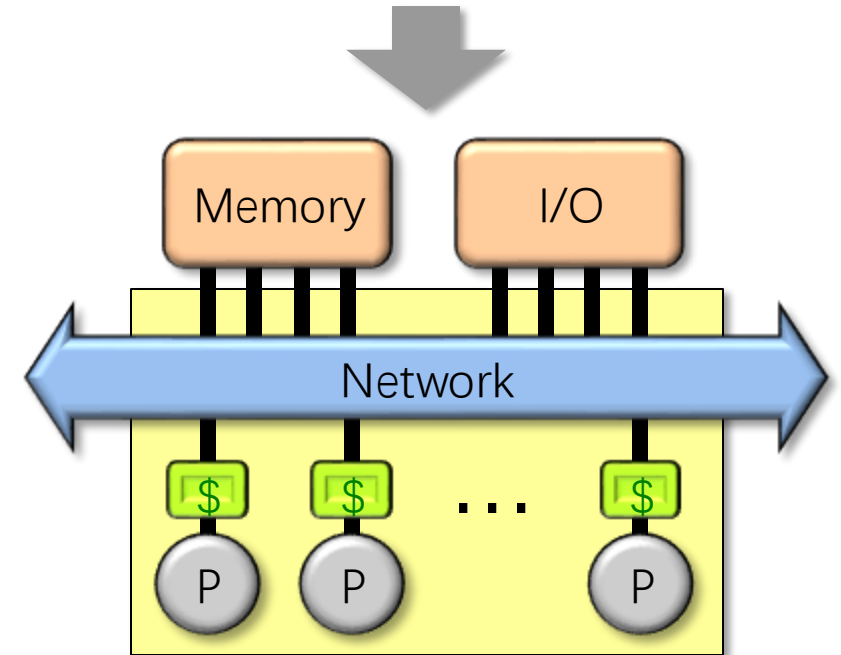
To obtain the serial projection:

```
#define cilk_for for  
#define cilk_spawn  
#define cilk_scope
```

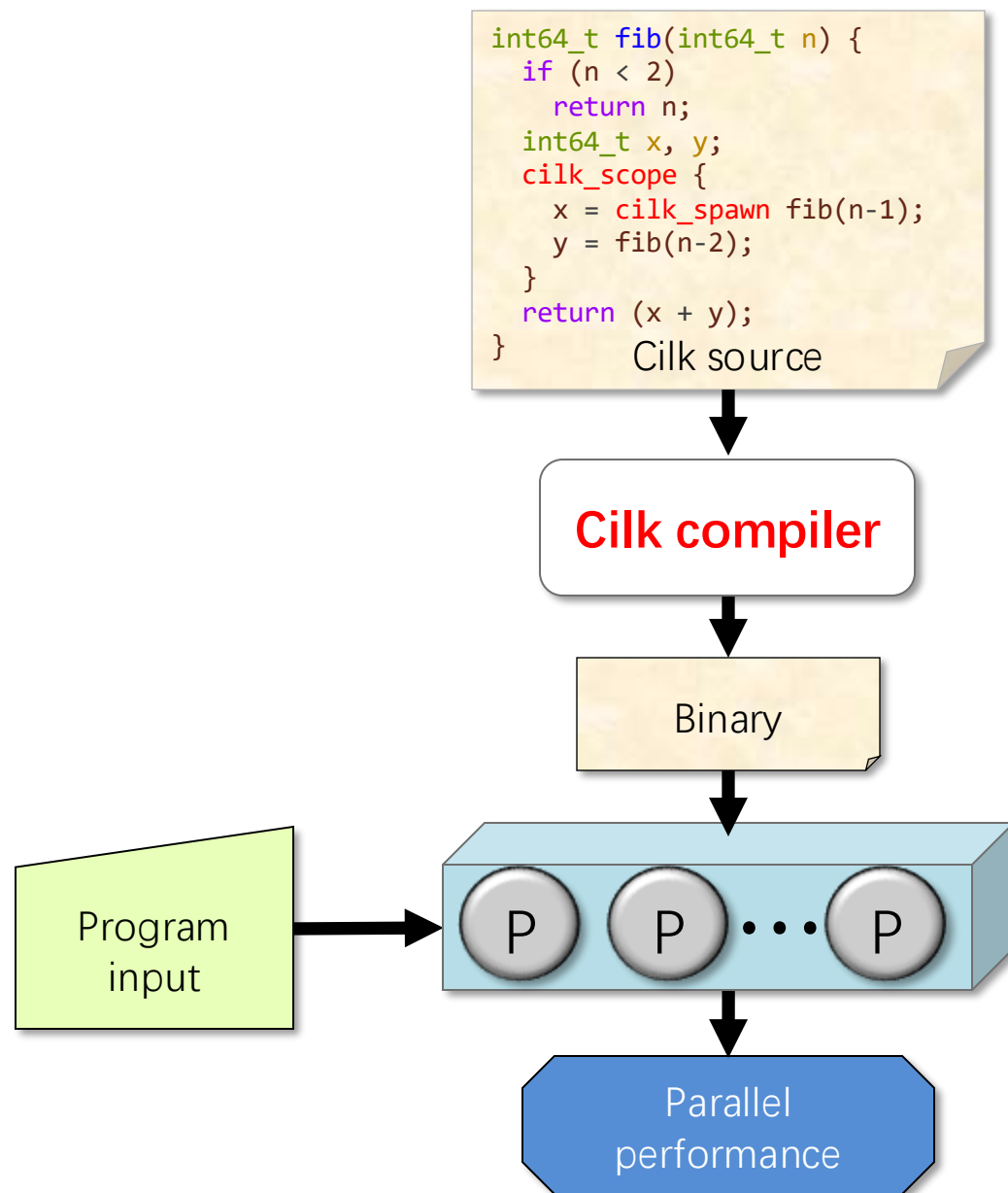

Scheduling

- Cilk allows the programmer to express **logical parallelism** in an application
- The Cilk **scheduler** maps the executing program onto the processor cores dynamically at runtime
- Cilk's **work-stealing** scheduling algorithm is provably efficient

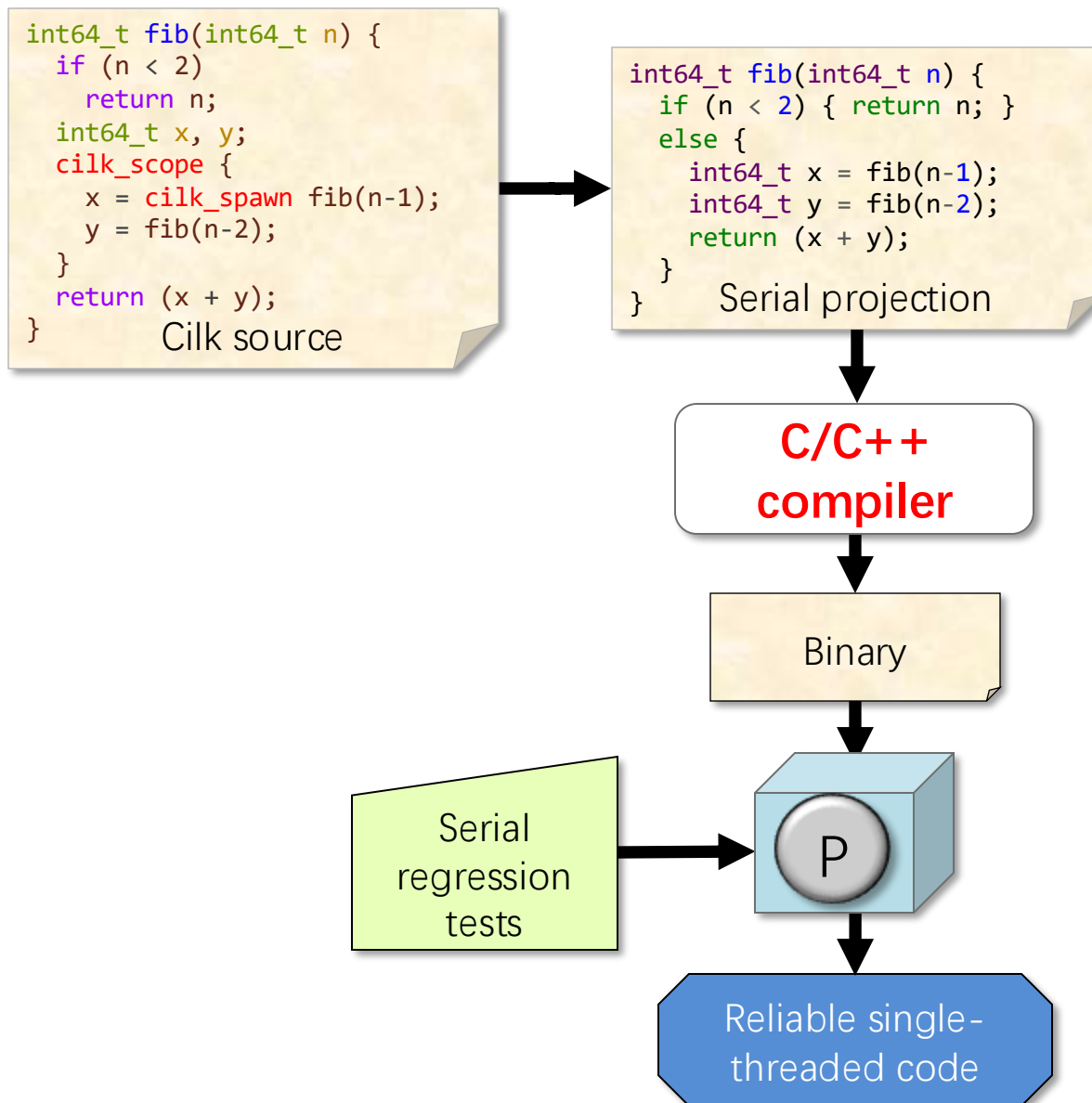
```
int64_t fib(int64_t n) {  
    if (n < 2)  
        return n;  
    int64_t x, y;  
    cilk_scope {  
        x = cilk_spawn fib(n-1);  
        y = fib(n-2);  
    }  
    return (x + y);  
}
```



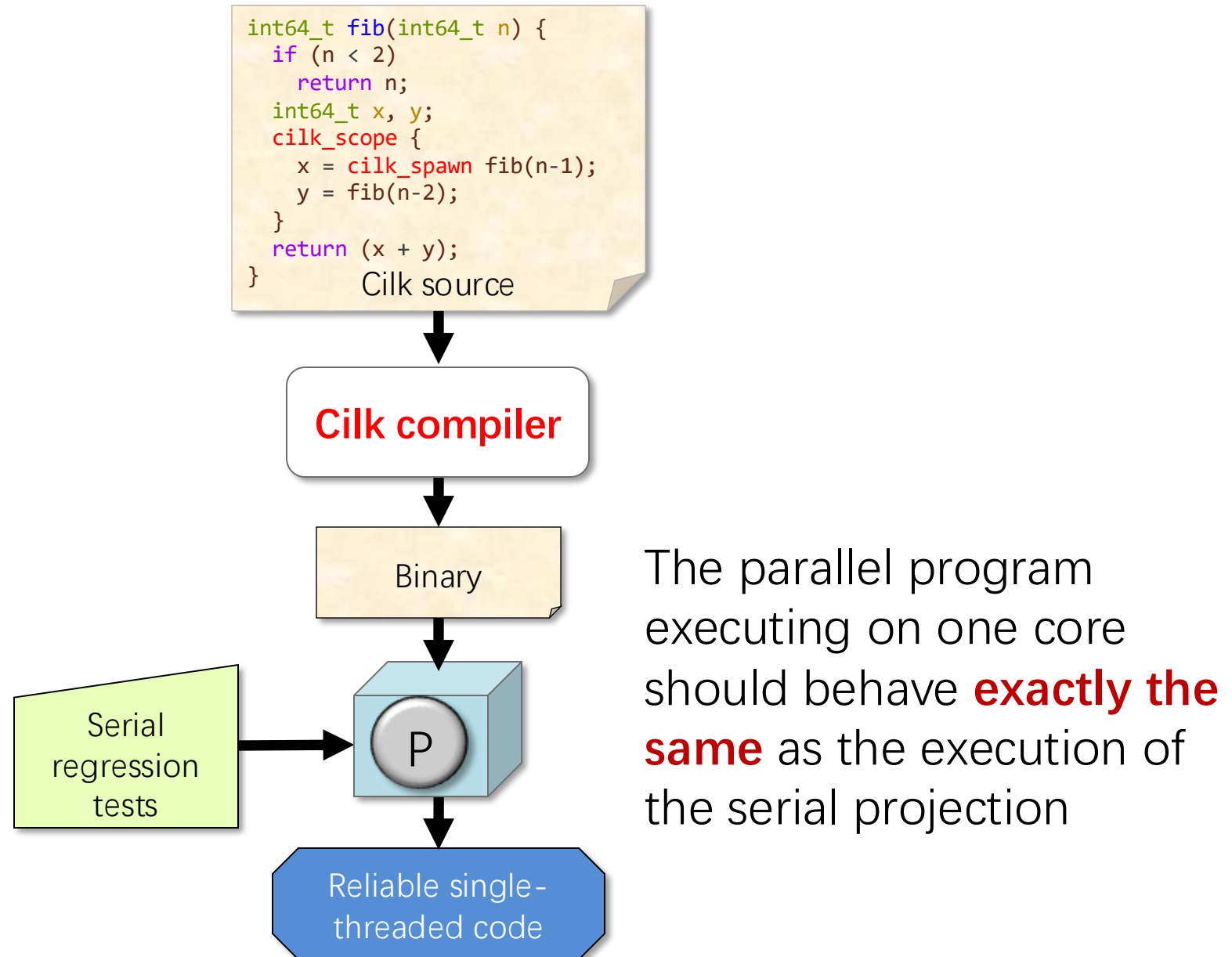
Cilk Platform



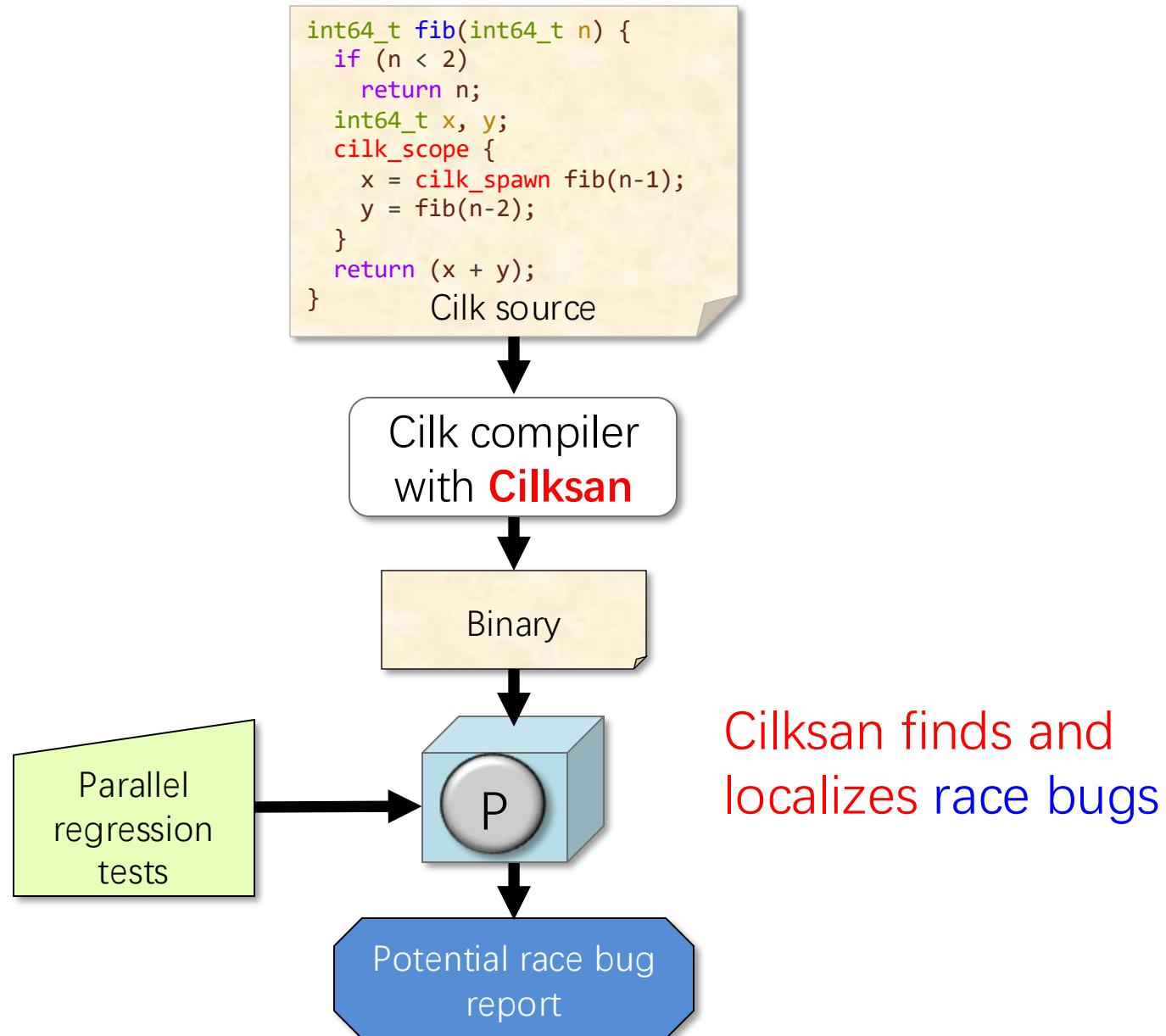
Serial Testing



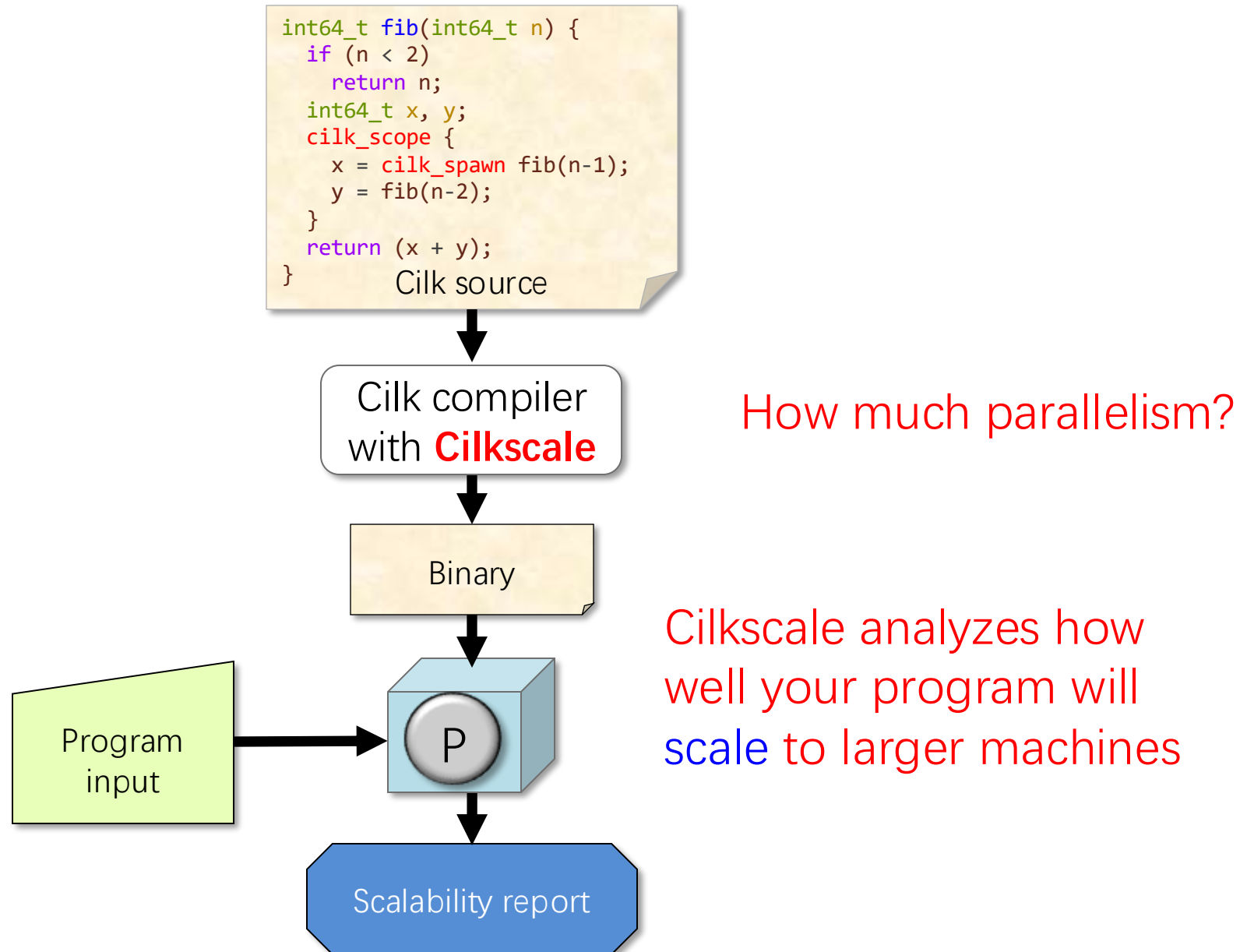
Alternative Serial Testing



Parallel Testing



Scalability Analysis



Summary

- Processors today have **multiple cores**, and obtaining high performance requires **parallel programming**
- Programming directly on processor cores is **painful** and **error-prone**
 - Concurrency platforms simplify programming for you
- **Cilk** simplifies parallel programming, and performs **provably** efficiently
- Project 2: Parallel simulation & rendering using Cilk