CSEP 524: Parallel Computation
(week 2)

Brad Chamberlain

Tuesdays 6:30 – 9:20

MGH 231

Outline

- Nuts and Bolts

- Introduction to Chapel

- Discussions on Readings

Nuts and Bolts: Mailing Lists/Permissions

- Did we successfully get everyone…
  - on the mailing list?
  - access to the course widgets?

- If not, come add your name and UWID to my notebook before I leave tonight

Nuts and Bolts: Course Details

- Grading Breakdown:
  - 70%: assignments
  - 15%: reading, discussion questions, class participation
  - 15%: final project

- Mailing list etiquette:
  - message boards are the place to ask Qs on assignments
    - check for duplicates first (proposed convention: "HW*x*, Q*y*: *subject*")
    - don't give away more than necessary about the answer
  - cse524-staff@cs is for personal questions/issues
  - cse524a_wi13 is for us to mail you

- Videotaping lectures? Only if someone volunteers...

Nuts and Bolts: Office Hours

- Happy Office Hour is on!
  - 6 of us last week

- Brandon's Office Hour:
  - Thursday @ 1:30-2:30 (live and online)

Nuts and Bolts: Homework Schedule

- Homework Scheduling Options:
  - we intend to assign 1 week's HW every week
  - **option 1:** the 2 late day (week) policy advertised last week
  - **option 2:** take 2 weeks to do every homework
    - upsides:
      - like having a late day every week
      - presumably gives you more flexibility in your schedules
    - downsides:
      - requires more self discipline to not get too far behind
      - means we can't talk about assignments in class
        - » (but arguably, we shouldn't do this if people take late days anyway)
  - put it to a vote?

Nuts and Bolts: Readings

- We plan to have some sort of reading most weeks
- Submit 1-2 questions on each assigned reading
  - intentions:
    - keep yourself honest
    - find misunderstandings
    - generate discussion topics
  - we'll use dropbox for these going forward, not email
- During discussions, please start with your full name
- Lots of great questions this week!
  - more than we'll get to tonight, but several will recur or be answered throughout the quarter

Final Project (rough concept)

- Two general approaches:
  - Pick some aspect of parallel programming to learn about that we don't cover (I'll generate a list of candidates)
  - Or, pick some parallel programming project

- Deliverables:
  - short paper describing the technology/project
  - 5-minute in-class presentation
    - half the class during the final lecture
    - the other half during the same timeslot on exam week
    - (only required to attend the session you're presenting at)
    - tradeoffs: have an extra week to finish vs. done a week earlier

Introduction to Chapel

(see separate decks)