Administrivia

• Reminder: Homeworks due, project proposal.

Slide 1

A Little About Multithreaded Programming with POSIX Threads

 POSIX threads ("pthreads"): widely-available set of functions for multithreaded programming, callable from C/C++.

 Same ideas as multithreaded programming with OpenMP and Java, but not as nicely packaged (my opinion). Might be more widely available than OpenMP compilers, though.

Slide 2

POSIX Threads — UE Management

Create a new thread with pthread_create(), specifying function to
execute and a single argument. (Yes, this is restrictive — but the single
argument could point to a complicated data structure.)

 Thread continues until function terminates. Best to end with call to pthread_exit().

Slide 3

POSIX Threads — Synchronization

- pthread_join() waits until another thread finishes similar to join in Java's Thread class.
- Various synchronization mechanisms:
 - Mutexes (locks): pthread_mutex_init(),
 pthread_mutex_destroy(), pthread_mutex_lock(),
 pthread_mutex_unlock().
 - Condition variables: pthread_cond_init(),
 pthread_cond_destroy(), pthread_cond_wait(),
 pthread_cond_signal().
 - Semaphores: sem_init(), sem_destroy(), sem_wait(), sem_post().

Slide 4

POSIX Threads — Communication

• As with other multithreaded programming environments we've looked at, conceptually all threads share access to a single memory space.

- In terms of scoping, though, each thread has access to:
 - Any global variables (shared with other threads).
 - Its single argument (potentially shared with other threads).
 - Any local variables (not shared with other threads since every call to function creates a new copy).

POSIX Threads — Simple Examples

- "Hello world" example.
- "Hello world" example with delay (to illustrate synchronization).
- Numerical integration example.

Slide 6

Slide 5

