

Designing ultra-fast algorithms

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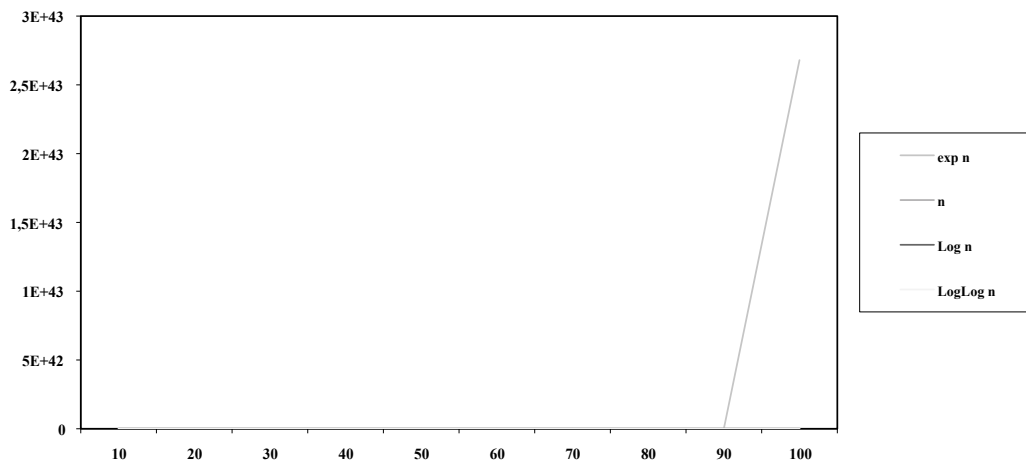
Ensimag, INP, Grenoble University

INRIA / LIG Moais

- Multiple Access (SDMA / FDMA / CDMA) provides concurrent access to memory in constant time :

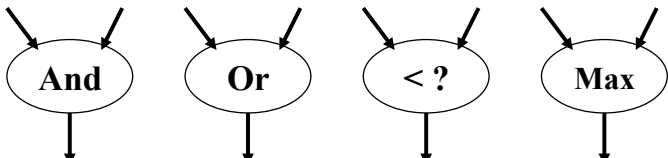
CRCW : Concurrent Read Concurrent Write

Algorithmic costs

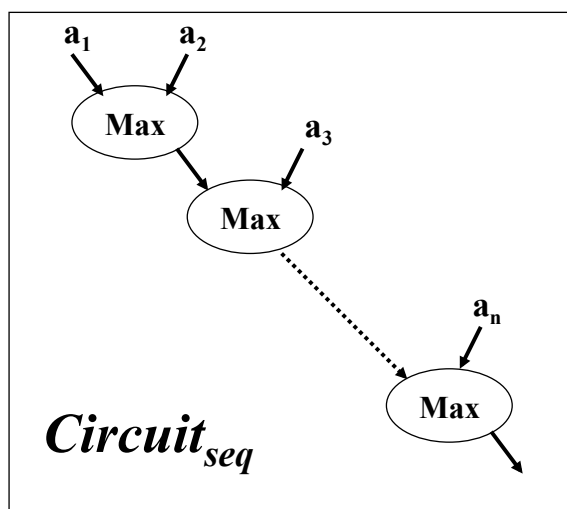


Computing the maximum

- Designing the fastest circuit to compute the maximum
- Input : n elements a_i of an ordered set $<$
Output : the maximum element

- Available gates : 

Basic serial circuit



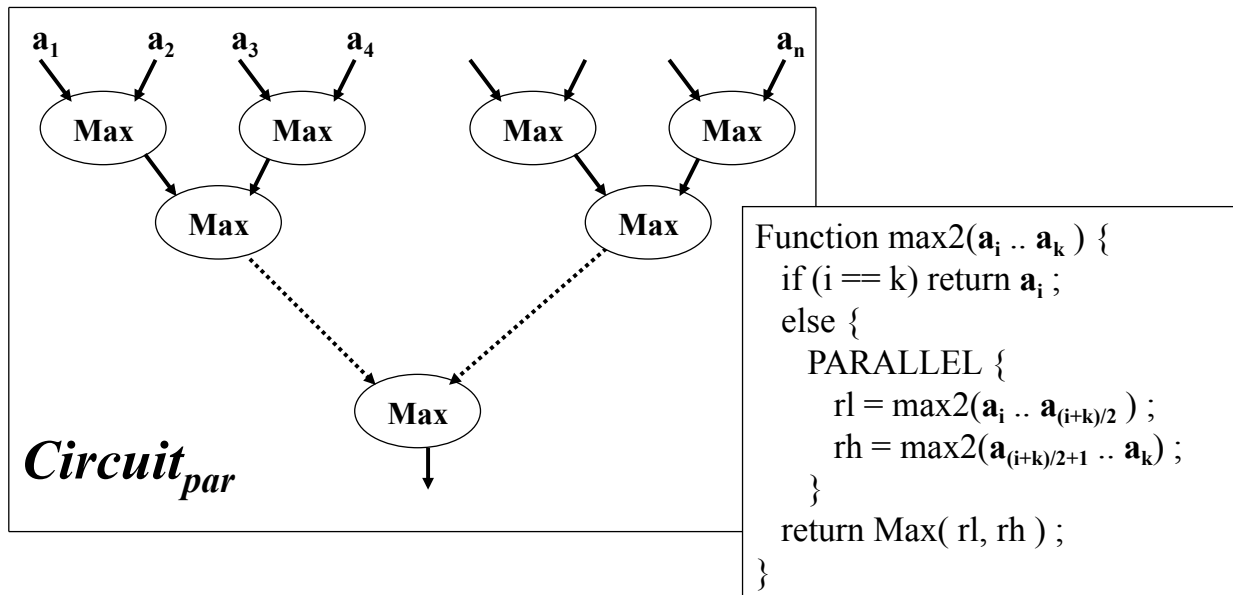
```
res := a1 ;  
For i := 2 .. n do  
  res := Max ( res, an ) ;  
Return res;
```

$D = \text{Depth} = n$

$W = \text{Work} = n$

(NB Work and depth are in number of Compare gates)

Faster with Parallelism



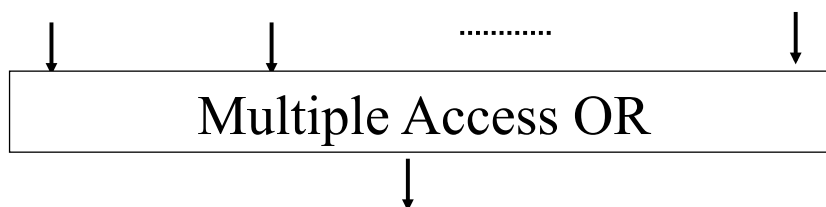
$$D = \log_2 n$$

$$W = n$$

May Multiple Access help ?

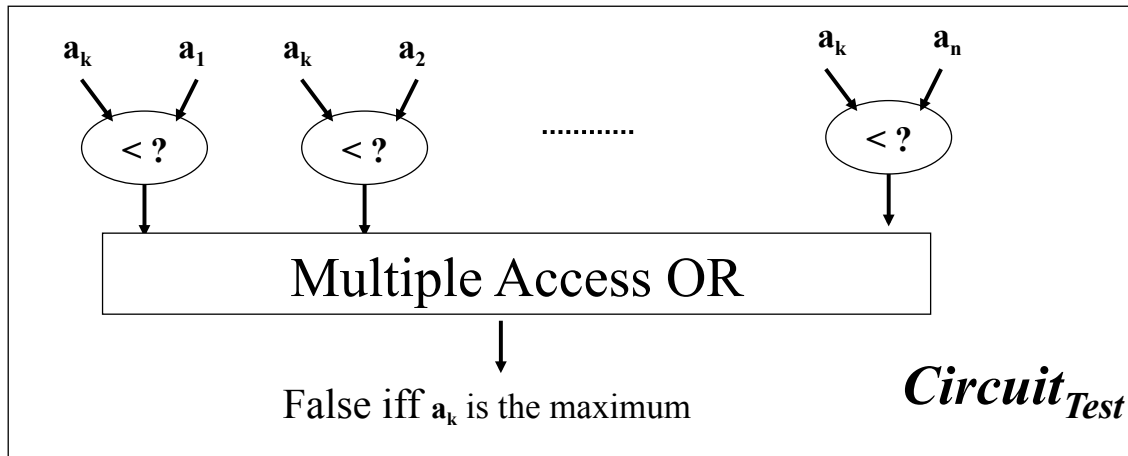
- Taking benefit of multiple access :

logical or of n bits in constant time



Ultrafast algorithm for testing the maximum

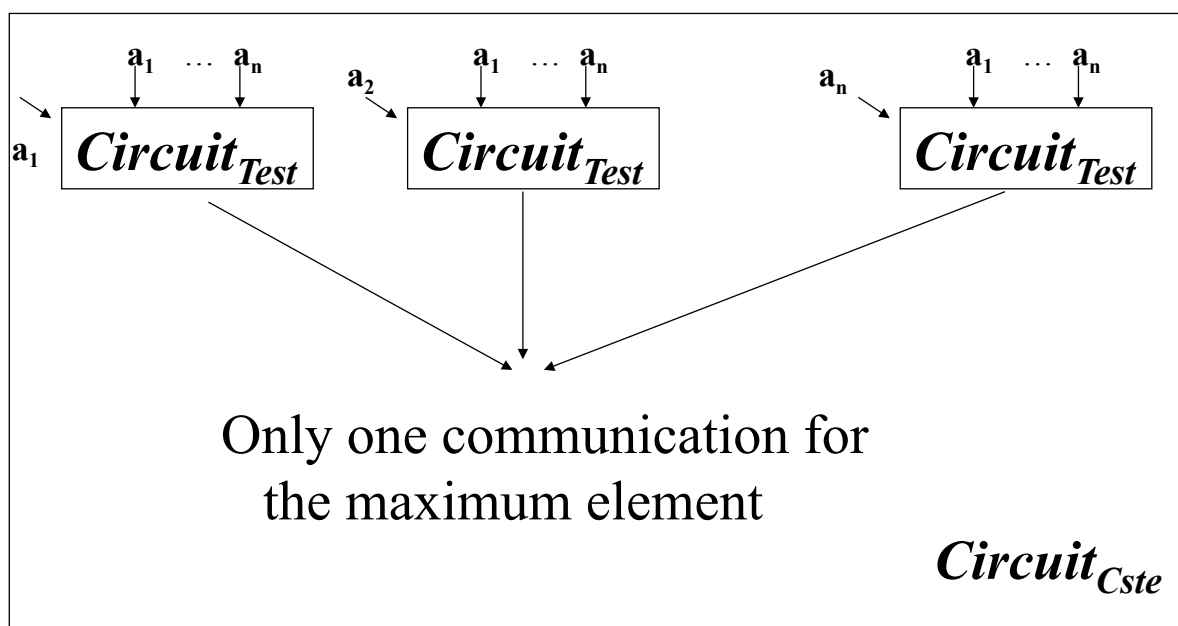
$$a_k = \text{Max}(a_1 \dots a_n) \Leftrightarrow a_k \geq a_i \text{ for } i \neq k \Leftrightarrow \text{AND}_{i \neq k} (a_k \geq a_i) \\ \Leftrightarrow \text{NOT} (\text{OR}_{i \neq k} (a_k < a_i))$$



D= 1 ☺

W= n

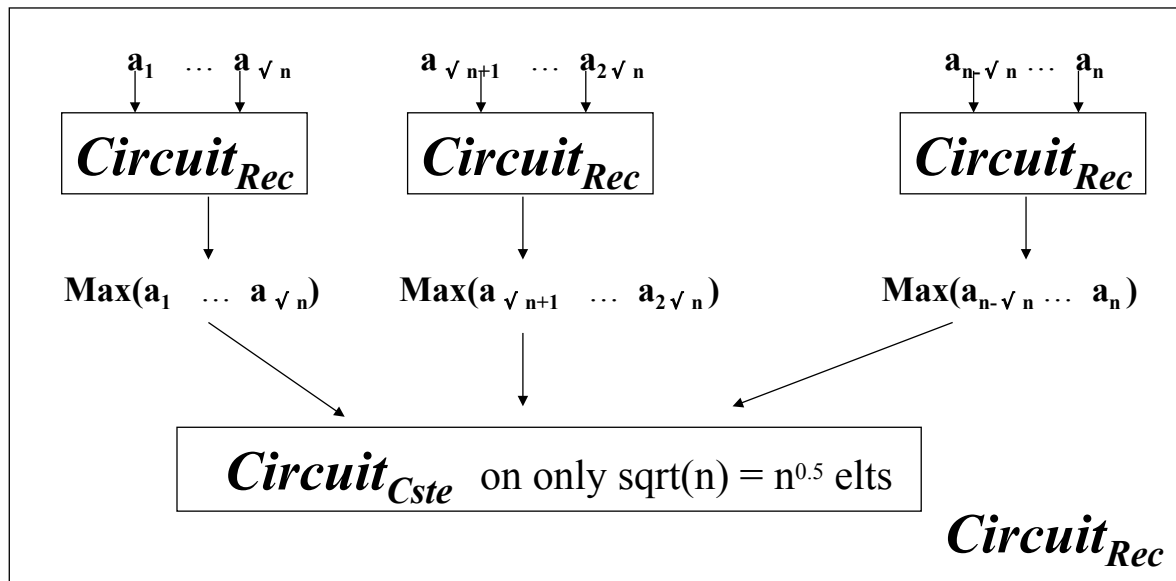
Application: computing the maximum



D= 1 ☺

W= n^2 ☹

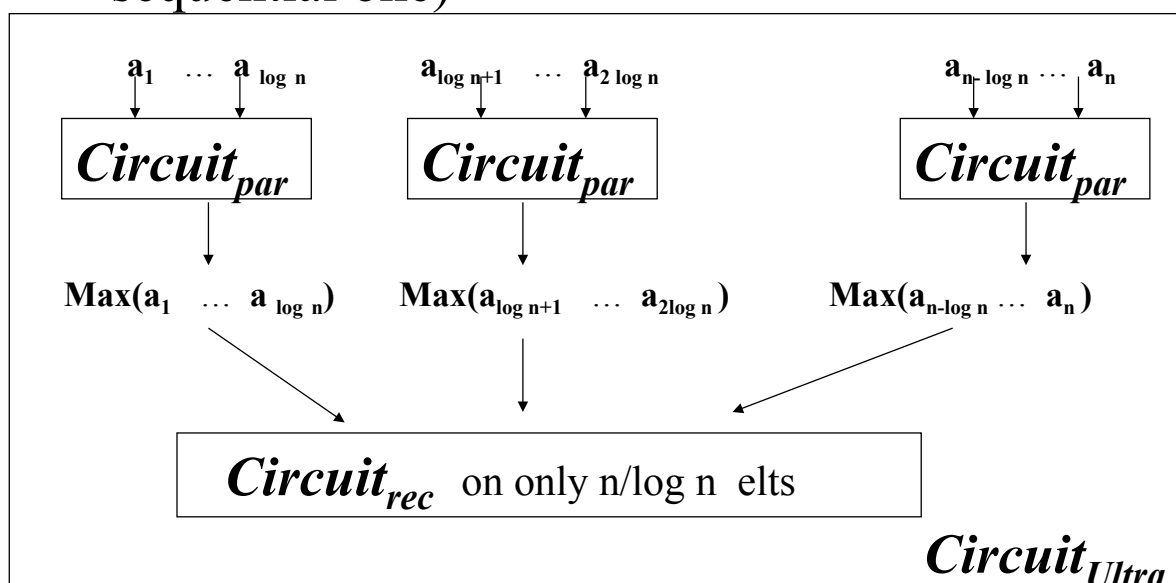
A recursive ultrafast parallel algo



- $D(n) = D(n^{0.5}) + 1 = \log \log n$
- $W(n) = n^{0.5} \cdot \#procs(n^{0.5})n + n = n \log \log n$

Optimizing the number of units

- Take benefit of the parallel algorithm to minimize the number of units (could be the sequential one)



Conclusion : an ultrafast algorithm

- Final algorithm : $D = \text{depth} = 3 \cdot \log \log n$ ☺
 $W = \text{work} = 1 \cdot n + O(n \log \log n / \log n)$ ☺
- Technique used : « cascading »
mixing 3 algorithms to obtain an ultrafast one !
- Fundamental technique for parallel algorithms design
and in software engineering too.
- Both theoretical and practical issues.
- Exercises:
 - Circuit for Merge on CREW PRAM in $D = \log \log n$ and n ops
 - D&C Program for Prefix with $\text{depth} = O(\log n)$ (not $\log^2 n!$) (in Kaapi or Cilk or TBB or ...)