Parallelization Principles

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Parallel Programming and Challenges

- Recall the advantages and motivation of parallelism
- But parallel programs incur overheads not seen in sequential programs
  - Communication delay
  - Idling
  - Synchronization
Challenges

Idle time

Computation

Communication

Synchronization
How do we evaluate a parallel program?

- **Execution time,** $T_p$
- **Speedup, $S$**
  - $S(p, n) = \frac{T(1, n)}{T(p, n)}$
  - Usually, $S(p, n) < p$
  - Sometimes $S(p, n) > p$ (superlinear speedup)
- **Efficiency, $E$**
  - $E(p, n) = \frac{S(p, n)}{p}$
  - Usually, $E(p, n) < 1$
  - Sometimes, greater than 1
- **Scalability** – Limitations in parallel computing, relation to $n$ and $p$.  

Speedups and efficiency

Ideal

Practical
Limitations on speedup – Amdahl’s law

- Amdahl's law states that the performance improvement to be gained from using some faster mode of execution is limited by the fraction of the time the faster mode can be used.

- Overall speedup in terms of fractions of computation time with and without enhancement, % increase in enhancement.

- Places a limit on the speedup due to parallelism.

- Speedup = \( \frac{1}{(f_s + (f_p/P))} \)
Gustafson’s Law

- Increase problem size proportionally so as to keep the overall time constant
- The scaling keeping the problem size constant (Amdahl’s law) is called strong scaling
- The scaling due to increasing problem size is called weak scaling
PARALLEL PROGRAMMING
CLASSIFICATION AND STEPS
Programming Paradigms

- Shared memory model – Threads, OpenMP, CUDA
- Message passing model – MPI
Parallelizing a Program

Given a sequential program/algorith, how to go about producing a parallel version

Four steps in program parallelization

1. **Decomposition**
   - Identifying parallel tasks with large extent of possible concurrent activity; splitting the problem into tasks

2. **Assignment**
   - Grouping the tasks into processes with best load balancing

3. **Orchestration**
   - Reducing synchronization and communication costs

4. **Mapping**
   - Mapping of processes to processors (if possible)
Steps in Creating a Parallel Program

Partitioning

Decomposition

Sequential computation

Tasks

Assignment

Processes

Orchestration

Parallel program

Mapping

Processors

P0

P1

P2

P3
Decomposition and Assignment

- Specifies how to group tasks together for a process
  - Balance workload, reduce communication and management cost

- In practical cases, both steps combined into one step, trying to answer the question “What is the role of each parallel processing entity?”
Data Parallelism and Domain Decomposition

- Given data divided across the processing entities
- Each process owns and computes a portion of the data – owner-computes rule
- Multi-dimensional domain in simulations divided into subdomains equal to processing entities
- This is called **domain decomposition**
Domain decomposition and Process Grids

- The given $P$ processes arranged in multi-dimensions forming a **process grid**
- The domain of the problem divided into process grid
Illustrations

Process grid

1 × 5

5 × 1

2 × 3

2-D domain decomposed using the process grid

3-D domain decomposed using the process grid
Data Distributions

- For dividing the data in a dimension using the processes in a dimension, **data distribution** schemes are followed.

- Common data distributions:
  - Block: for regular computations
  - Block-cyclic: when there is load imbalance across space

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Task parallelism

- Independent tasks identified
- The task may or may not process different data
Orchestration

**Goals**

- Structuring communication
- Synchronization

**Challenges**

- Organizing data structures – packing
- Small or large messages?
- How to organize communication and synchronization?
Orchestration

- **Maximizing data locality**
  - Minimizing volume of data exchange
    - Not communicating intermediate results - e.g. dot product
  - Minimizing frequency of interactions - packing

- **Minimizing contention and hot spots**
  - Do not use the same communication pattern with the other processes in all the processes

- **Overlapping computations with interactions**
  - Split computations into phases: those that depend on communicated data (type 1) and those that do not (type 2)
  - Initiate communication for type 1; During communication, perform type 2

- **Replicating data or computations**
  - Balancing the extra computation or storage cost with the gain due to less communication
Mapping

Which process runs on which particular processor?
- Can depend on network topology, communication pattern of processes
- On processor speeds in case of heterogeneous systems

The tasks are grouped by a process called mapping

Two objectives:
- Balance the groups
- Minimize inter-group dependencies

Represented as task graph

Mapping problem is NP-hard
Based on Task Partitioning

- Based on **task dependency graph**

- In general the problem is NP complete
## High-level Goals

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Step</th>
<th>Architecture-Dependent?</th>
<th>Major Performance Goals</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Decomposition</td>
<td>Mostly no</td>
<td>Expose enough concurrency but not too much</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assignment</td>
<td>Mostly no</td>
<td>Balance workload</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Reduce communication volume</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orchestration</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Reduce noninherent communication via data locality</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Reduce communication and synchronization cost</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>as seen by the processor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Reduce serialization at shared resources</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Schedule tasks to satisfy dependences early</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mapping</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Put related processes on the same processor if necessary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Exploit locality in network topology</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Example
Given a 2-d array of float values, repeatedly average each elements with immediate
neighbours until the difference between two iterations is less than some tolerance value

do {
    diff = 0.0
    for (i=0; i < n; i++)
        for (j=0; j < n, j++){
            temp = A[i][j];
            A[i][j] = average (neighbours);
            diff += abs (A[i][j] – temp);
        }
    while (diff > tolerance) ;
Assignment
Orchestration

- Different for different programming models/architectures
  - Shared address space
    - Naming: global addr. Space
    - Synch. through barriers and locks
  - Distributed Memory /Message passing
    - Non-shared address space
    - Send-receive messages + barrier for synch.
SAS Version – Generating Processes

1. int n, nprocs; /* matrix: (n + 2-by-n + 2) elts.*/
2. float **A, diff = 0;
2a. LockDec (lock_diff);
2b. BarrierDec (barrier1);
3. main()
4. begin
5. read(n); /*read input parameter: matrix size*/
5a. Read (nprocs);
6. A ← g_malloc (a 2-d array of (n+2) x (n+2) doubles);
6a. Create (nprocs -1, Solve, A);
7. initialize(A); /*initialize the matrix A somehow*/
8. Solve (A); /*call the routine to solve equation*/
8a. Wait_for_End (nprocs-1);
9. end main
10. procedure Solve (A)  /*solve the equation system*/
11. float **A;  /*A is an (n + 2)-by-(n + 2) array*/
12. begin
13. int i, j, pid, done = 0;
14. float temp;
14a. mybegin = 1 + (n/nprocs)*pid;
14b. myend = mybegin + (n/nprocs);
15. while (!done) do  /*outermost loop over sweeps*/
16.   diff = 0;  /*initialize difference to 0*/
16a.   Barriers (barrier1, nprocs);
17.   for i ← mybeg to myend do/*sweep for all points of grid*/
18.     for j ← 1 to n do
19.       temp = A[i,j];  /*save old value of element*/
22.       diff += abs(A[i,j] - temp);
23.     end for
24.   end for
25.   if (diff/(n*n) < TOL) then done = 1;
26. end while
27. end procedure
SAS Version -- Issues

- SPMD program
- `Wait_for_end` – all to one communication
- How is `diff` accessed among processes?
  - Mutex to ensure `diff` is updated correctly.
  - Single lock $\Rightarrow$ too much synchronization!
  - Need not synchronize for every grid point. Can do only once.

- What about access to $A[i][j]$, especially the boundary rows between processes?

- Can loop termination be determined without any synch. among processes?
  - Do we need any statement for the termination condition statement
SAS Version -- Solve

10. procedure Solve (A) /*solve the equation system*/
11.    float **A; /*A is an (n + 2)-by-(n + 2) array*/
12. begin
13.    int i, j, pid, done = 0;
14.    float mydiff, temp;
14a.    mybegin = 1 + (n/nprocs)*pid;
14b.    myend = mybegin + (n/nprocs);
15. while (!done) do /*outermost loop over sweeps*/
16.    mydiff = diff = 0; /*initialize local difference to 0*/
16a.    Barriers (barrier1, nprocs);
17.    for i ← mybeg to myend do/*sweep for all points of grid*/
18.        for j ← 1 to n do
19.            temp = A[i,j]; /*save old value of element*/
22.            mydiff += abs(A[i,j] - temp);
23.        end for
24.    end for
24a    lock (diff-lock);
24b    diff += mydiff;
24c    unlock (diff-lock)
24d    barrier (barrier1, nprocs);
25. if (diff/(n*n) < TOL) then done = 1;
25a    Barrier (barrier1, nprocs);
26. end while
27. end procedure
SAS Program

- **done** condition evaluated redundantly by all
- Code that does the update identical to sequential program
  - each process has private mydiff variable
- Most interesting special operations are for synchronization
  - accumulations into shared diff have to be mutually exclusive
  - why the need for all the barriers?
- Good global reduction?
  - Utility of this parallel accumulate??
Message Passing Version

- Cannot declare A to be global shared array
  - compose it from per-process private arrays
  - usually allocated in accordance with the assignment of work -- owner-compute rule
    - process assigned a set of rows allocates them locally

- Structurally similar to SPMD SAS

- Orchestration different
  - data structures and data access/naming
  - communication
  - synchronization

- Ghost rows
Data Layout and Orchestration

Data partition allocated per processor
Add ghost rows to hold boundary data
Send edges to neighbors
Receive into ghost rows
Compute as in sequential program
Message Passing Version – Generating Processes

1. int n, nprocs; /* matrix: (n + 2-by-n + 2) elts.*/
2. float **myA;
3. main()
4. begin
5. read(n); /*read input parameter: matrix size*/
5a. read (nprocs);
/* 6. A ← g_malloc (a 2-d array of (n+2) x (n+2) doubles); */
6a. Create (nprocs -1, Solve, A);
/* 7. initialize(A); */ /*initialize the matrix A somehow*/
8. Solve (A); /*call the routine to solve equation*/
8a. Wait_for_End (nprocs-1);
9. end main
Message Passing Version – Array allocation and Ghost-row Copying

10. procedure Solve (A) /*solve the equation system*/
11. float **A; /*A is an (n + 2)-by-(n + 2) array*/
12. begin
13. int i, j, pid, done = 0;
14. float mydiff, temp;
14a. myend = (n/nprocs); 
6. myA = malloc (array of (n/nprocs) x n floats );
7. initialize (myA); /* initialize myA LOCALLY */
15. while (!done) do /*outermost loop over sweeps*/
16. mydiff = 0; /*initialize local difference to 0*/
16a. if (pid != 0) then
   SEND (&myA[1,0], n*sizeof(float), (pid-1), row);
16b. if (pid != nprocs-1) then
   SEND (&myA[myend,0], n*sizeof(float), (pid+1), row);
16c. if (pid != 0) then
   RECEIVE (&myA[0,0], n*sizeof(float), (pid -1), row);
16d. if (pid != nprocs-1) then
   RECEIVE (&myA[myend+1,0], n*sizeof(float), (pid -1), row);
Message Passing Version – Solver

12. begin
    ... ... ...
15. while (!done) do /*outermost loop over sweeps*/
    ... ... ...
17. for i ← 1 to myend do/*sweep for all points of grid*/
18.     for j ← 1 to n do
19.         temp = myA[i,j]; /*save old value of element*/
21.             myA[i,j+1] + myA[i+1,j]); /*compute average*/
22.         mydiff += abs(myA[i,j] - temp);
23.     end for
24.     end for
24a if (pid != 0) then
24b.     SEND (mydiff, sizeof (float), 0, DIFF);
24c.     RECEIVE (done, sizeof(int), 0, DONE);
24d.     else
24e.         for k ← 1 to nprocs-1 do
24f.             RECEIVE (tempdiff, sizeof(float), k , DIFF);
24g.             mydiff += tempdiff;
24h.         endfor
24i.         If(mydiff/(n*n) < TOL) then done = 1;
24j.         for k ← 1 to nprocs-1 do
24k.             SEND (done, sizeof(float), k , DONE);
24l.         endfor
25. end while
26. end procedure
Notes on Message Passing Version

- Receive does not transfer data, send does
  - unlike SAS which is usually receiver-initiated (load fetches data)
- Can there be deadlock situation due to sends?
- Communication done at once in whole rows at beginning of iteration, not grid-point by grid-point
- Core similar, but indices/bounds in local rather than global space
- Synchronization through sends and receives
  - Update of global diff and event synch for done condition – mutual exclusion occurs naturally
Orchestration: Summary

- Shared address space
  - Shared and private data explicitly separate
  - Communication implicit in access patterns
  - Synchronization via atomic operations on shared data
  - Synchronization explicit and distinct from data communication
Orchestration: Summary

- **Message passing**
  - Data distribution among local address spaces needed
  - No explicit shared structures (implicit in comm. patterns)
  - Communication is explicit
  - Synchronization implicit in communication (at least in synch. case)
Grid Solver Program: Summary

- Decomposition and Assignment similar in SAS and message-passing
- Orchestration is different
  - Data structures, data access/naming, communication, synchronization
  - Performance?
## Grid Solver Program: Summary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Feature</th>
<th>SAS</th>
<th>Msg-Passing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Explicit global data structure?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communication</td>
<td>Implicit</td>
<td>Explicit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Synchronization</td>
<td>Explicit</td>
<td>Implicit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Explicit replication of border rows?</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>