HIGH PERFORMANCE COMPUTING: TOWARDS BETTER PERFORMANCE PREDICTIONS AND EXPERIMENTS

Tom Cornebize

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No science without computing



Arithmomètre (1851)



ENIAC (1945)



Fugaku (2021)

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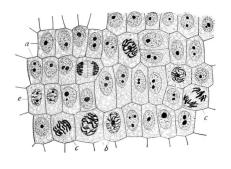
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Last decades:

- Exponential performance improvements (e.g. sequencing an entire human genome costed \$100,000,000 in 2001, \$1000 now)
- At the price of complexity (both software and hardware)

EXPERIMENTAL STUDY OF COMPUTER PERFORMANCE



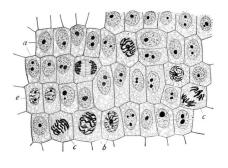
Similar to natural sciences

 $Complexity \Rightarrow Variability \ and \ Opacity$

 \Rightarrow No perfect model

 $\Rightarrow \text{Need for experiments}$

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Empirical studies can be carried in reality or in simulation

Typical Performance Evaluation Questions (Given my application and a supercomputer)



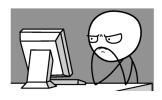
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 - How many nodes?
 - For how long?
 - · Which parameters?

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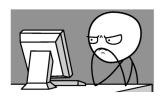
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Holy Grail: Predictive Simulation on a "Laptop"

Capture the whole application and platform complexity

Thesis contributions (towards this goal)

- · Case study: High Performance Linpack (HPL)
- Extensive (in)validation, comparing simulations with reality
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PERFORMANCE PREDICTION

THROUGH SIMULATION

SIM(EM)ULATION: THE SMPI APPROACH





- · C/C++/F77/F90 codes run unmodified out of the box
- · Simply replace mpicc/mpirun by smpicc/smpirun



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Full reimplementation of MPI on top of SIMORID

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Emulation: how?

- · Application runs for real on a laptop
- Communications are faked, good fluid network models
- Performance model for the target platform

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Contribution: Skip the expensive computations (mostly **dgemm**) and replace them by performance models

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Contribution: predict accurately the performance of HPL



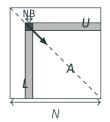
- Computations and communication overlap (custom collectives)
- More representative of some HPC applications
- Well established, used for the Top500

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Allocate and initialize A for k = N to 0 step NB do

Allocate the panel

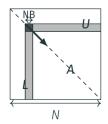
Factor the panel
Broadcast the panel
Update the sub-matrix

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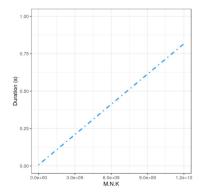
Tuning parameters

- Process grid
- Block size
- Broadcast algorithm
- · etc.

Hundreds of combinations

MODELING COMMPUTATIONS

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