MEI: Parallel Computing Universidade do Minho

Work Assignment Phase 2

Learning outcomes

This assignment phase aims to explore shared memory parallelism (OpenMP-based) to improve the overall execution time.

Introduction

Students are requested to improve the execution time by exploring shared-memory parallelism with OpenMP directives. The starting point for this second phase is the improved version of phase 1 with two changes:

- 1. Data size should increase from SIZE=42 to SIZE=84 (8 fold-increase in data size).
- 2. A new solver, more efficient and suitable for parallel execution, must be used. This solver is a red-back implementation with convergence check (see attached file for the new solver code).

In this assignment, students should follow a structured methodology to develop parallel programs, covering the following steps:

- (i) identify the application hot-spots (code blocks with high computation time);
- (ii) analyse and present the alternatives to explore parallelism within the hot-spots identified in (i);
- (iii) select an approach to explore parallelism, justified by a scalability analysis;
- (iv) implement and optimise the approach on the SeARCH cluster (compute node(s) on cpar queue);
- (v) measure and discuss the performance of the proposed solution.

Groups, submission format and dates

The work assignment should be performed by the same student's groups from previous phase.

Submission rules are the same with minor changes (in bold) in order to allow performance evaluation:

- the size of the problem in this phase duplicates (SIZE=84);
- the work must be submitted through the e-learning platform, compressed into a zip file that, when unzipped, should generate a base directory whose name is the groups elements, e.g., a43000_pg54000. It should include:
 - a 1-page PDF report with all relevant information using the same IEEE template (in https://www.ieee.org/conferences/publishing/templates.html); longer reports are penalized; annexes can be added beyond these 1 pages, but these might be read or not by the evaluator;
 - o a subdirectory with all source code (please, do not submit executables, or other files);
 - o a new Makefile is requested in the base directory, that generates and runs the executable (see example in annex).

Submission deadline: 23:59, 19-Nov-24.

The defence of this assignment will be performed during the oral presentation of the WA-Phase 3 (in Jan'25).

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Evaluation

The evaluation of this work will consider:

- (i) the selected approach to explore parallelism, its implementation with OpenMP and code legibility (65%);
- (ii) the execution time of the parallel implementation; the number of PUs is specified in the Makefile (15%);
- (iii) the **report quality**, including **strong scalability analysis**, profiling and other models and metrics that explain the results (20%).

Annex - A simple Makefile

The job submission must include a Makefile that generates one executable fluid_sim in the base directory. All source files should be placed in a subdirectory (e.g. src).

The program will be run for testing using make runseq for the sequential version and make runpar for the parallel version. Any necessary parameters, environment variables, etc., should be specified to minimize the program's execution time.

Suggestion: To simplify the process, you can use the same or different executables. Ensure that the sequential version runs on a single thread and that the parallel version uses the number of threads that minimizes execution time.