

DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER SCIENCE & ENGINEERING



Data- & Pipeline- & Optimizer-Parallel Training

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Data Parallel Paradigm

Recall the Mini-Batch SGD



- Basic ideas:
 - To reduce the variance of stochastic gradients;
 - Split the training data into smaller batches;
 - Sampling batch (usually without replacement)
- Suppose we have:
 - B is the batch size:
 - *K* is the number of GPUs.
- Distribute the computation by the data dimension.

$$w_{t+1} = w_t - \alpha_t \cdot \frac{1}{B} \sum_{i=1}^{B} \nabla f(w_t; \xi_i)$$

Local Computation

$$w_{t+1} = w_t - \alpha_t \cdot (\frac{1}{B} \sum_{i_1=1}^{\frac{B}{K}} \nabla f(w_t; \xi_{i_1}) + \frac{1}{B} \sum_{i_2=1}^{\frac{B}{K}} \nabla f(w_t; \xi_{i_2}) + \dots + \frac{1}{B} \sum_{i_K=1}^{\frac{B}{K}} \nabla f(w_t; \xi_{i_K}))$$
CPU 4. CPU 4.

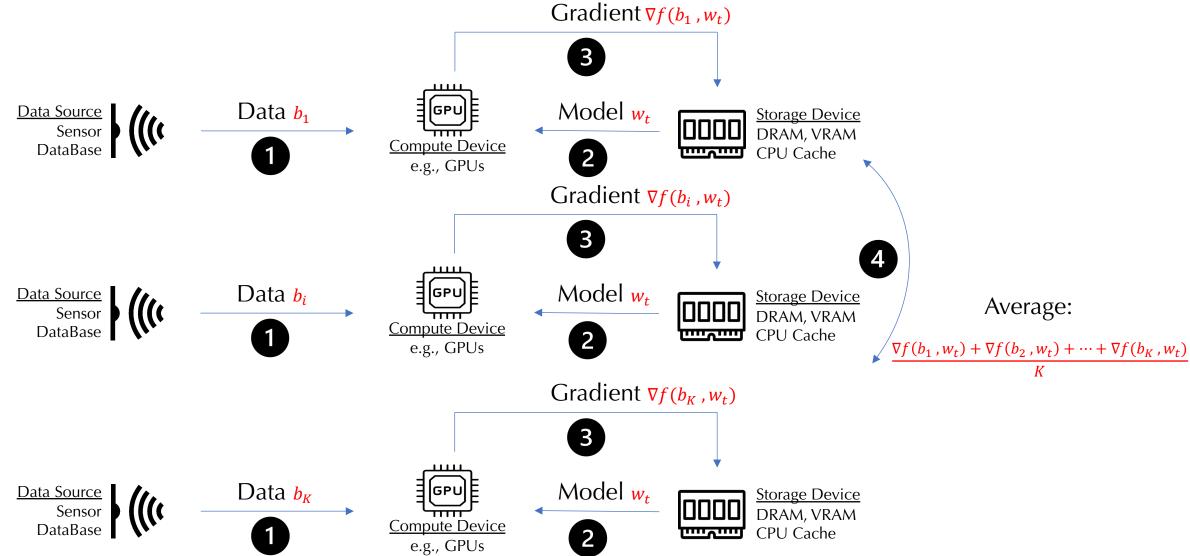
GPU 1

GPU 2

GPU K

Data Parallel SGD



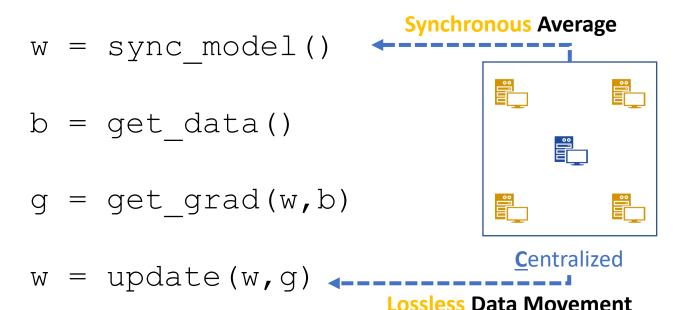


Basic Implementation



Core idea of data parallelism:

- Distribute batch gradient calculation to multiple workers;
- Synchronize gradients among GPU workers:
 - A central server (or AllReduce).
 - Synchronous average;
 - Lossless data movement.







- Suppose:
 - *C* is the total computation in the original forward and backward computation (counted by FLOPs);
 - D is the total number of parameters of the model;
 - *K* is the total number of GPUs in the cluster;
- Under Data parallel training:
 - What is the total computation on each device? $\frac{c}{K}$
 - What is the communication volume? **ALLReduce** a *D* dimensional buffer.





- PyTorch **DistributedDataParallel** (DDP) enables data parallel training in PyTorch.
- PyTorch **DistributedSampler** ensures each device gets a non-overlapping input batch.
- The model is replicated on all the devices.
- Each replica calculates gradients and synchronizes with the others using the **AllReduce** operation.

DDP API

DISTRIBUTEDDATAPARALLEL

CLASS torch.nn.parallel.DistributedDataParallel(module, device_ids=None, output_device=None, dim=0, broadcast_buffers=True, process_group=None, bucket_cap_mb=25, find_unused_parameters=False, check_reduction=False, gradient_as_bucket_view=False, static_graph=False, delay_all_reduce_named_params=None, param_to_hook_all_reduce=None, mixed_precision=None, device_mesh=None) [SOURCE]

Implement distributed data parallelism based on torch.distributed at module level.

This container provides data parallelism by synchronizing gradients across each model replica. The devices to synchronize across are specified by the input process_group, which is the entire world by default. Note that DistributedDataParallel does not chunk or otherwise shard the input across participating GPUs; the user is responsible for defining how to do so, for example through the use of a DistributedSampler.

See also: Basics and Use nn.parallel.DistributedDataParallel instead of multiprocessing or nn.DataParallel. The same constraints on input as in torch.nn.DataParallel apply.

Creation of this class requires that torch.distributed to be already initialized, by calling torch.distributed.init_process_group().

DistributedDataParallel is proven to be significantly faster than torch.nn.DataParallel for single-node multi-GPU data parallel training.

To use <code>DistributedDataParallel</code> on a host with N GPUs, you should spawn up <code>N</code> processes, ensuring that each process exclusively works on a single GPU from 0 to N-1. This can be done by either setting <code>CUDA_VISIBLE_DEVICES</code> for every process or by calling:

```
>>> torch.cuda.set_device(i)
```

where i is from 0 to N-1. In each process, you should refer the following to construct this module:

```
>>> torch.distributed.init_process_group(
>>> backend='nccl', world_size=N, init_method='...'
>>> )
>>> model = DistributedDataParallel(model, device_ids=[i], output_device=i)
```







Initialize the Process Group

```
import os
import sys
import tempfile
import torch
import torch.distributed as dist
import torch.nn as nn
import torch.optim as optim
import torch.multiprocessing as mp
from torch.nn.parallel import DistributedDataParallel as DDP
def setup(rank, world_size):
    os.environ['MASTER ADDR'] = 'localhost'
    os.environ['MASTER PORT'] = '12355'
    # initialize the process group
    dist.init process group("nccl", rank=rank, world size=world size)
def cleanup():
    dist.destroy process group()
```

Use DDP API



Define the Toy Model

```
class ToyModel(nn.Module):
    def __init__(self):
        super(ToyModel, self).__init__()
        self.net1 = nn.Linear(10, 10)
        self.relu = nn.ReLU()
        self.net2 = nn.Linear(10, 5)

def forward(self, x):
        return self.net2(self.relu(self.net1(x)))
```

Use DDP API



Use DDP API

```
def demo basic(rank, world size):
    print(f"Running basic DDP example on rank {rank}.")
    setup(rank, world size)
   # create model and move it to GPU with id rank
   model = ToyModel().to(rank)
    ddp model = DDP(model, device ids=[rank])
   loss fn = nn.MSELoss()
    optimizer = optim.SGD(ddp model.parameters(), lr=0.001)
    optimizer.zero grad()
    outputs = ddp_model(torch.randn(20, 10))
    labels = torch.randn(20, 5).to(rank)
    loss fn(outputs, labels).backward()
    optimizer.step()
    cleanup()
def run demo(demo fn, world size):
    mp.spawn(demo fn,
             args=(world_size,),
             nprocs=world size,
             join=True)
```

System Optimization



- Gradient bucketing:
 - Collective communications are more efficient with large tensors.
 - Group gradient tensor to buckets on continuous memory (known as flatten.)
- Overlapping communication and computation during back-propagation:
 - The AllReduce operation on gradients can start before the local backward pass finishes.
 - With bucketing, DDP only needs to wait for all contents in the same bucket before launching communications.

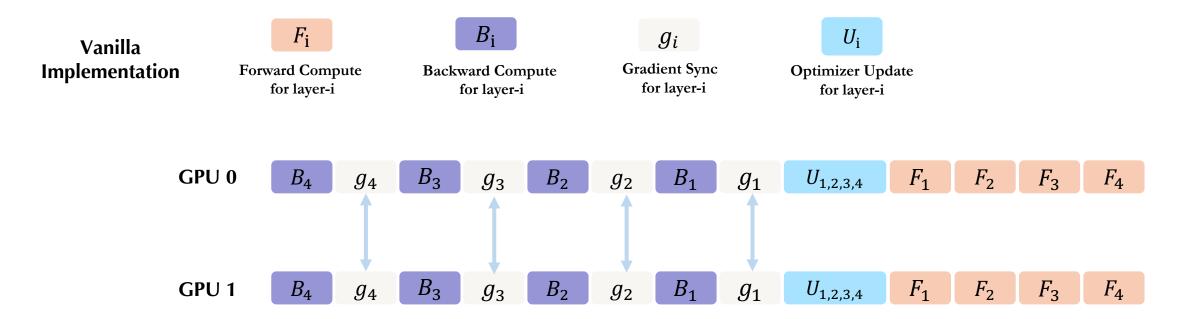
System Optimization





PyTorch System:

Optimize the standard data-parallel computation:



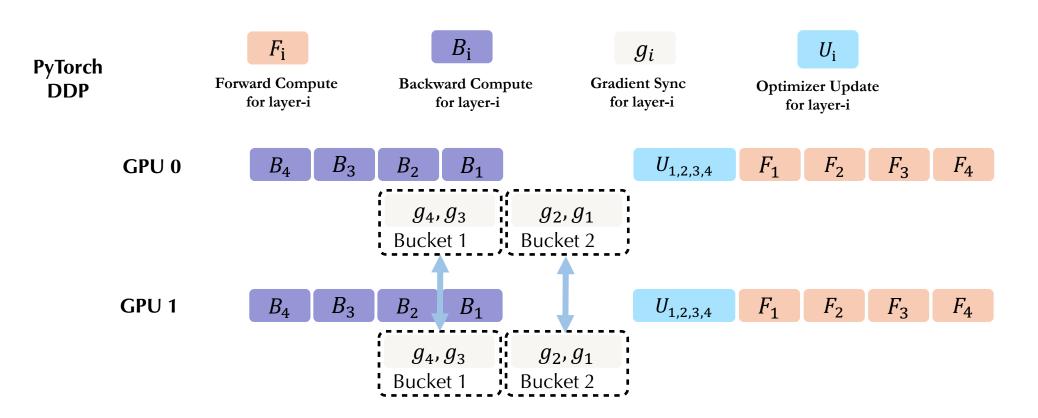
System Optimization





PyTorch System:

Optimize the standard data-parallel computation:



Algorithm Optimization



- Three main categories of algorithm design:
 - Lossy communication compression.
 - Asynchronous training.
 - Decentralized communication.

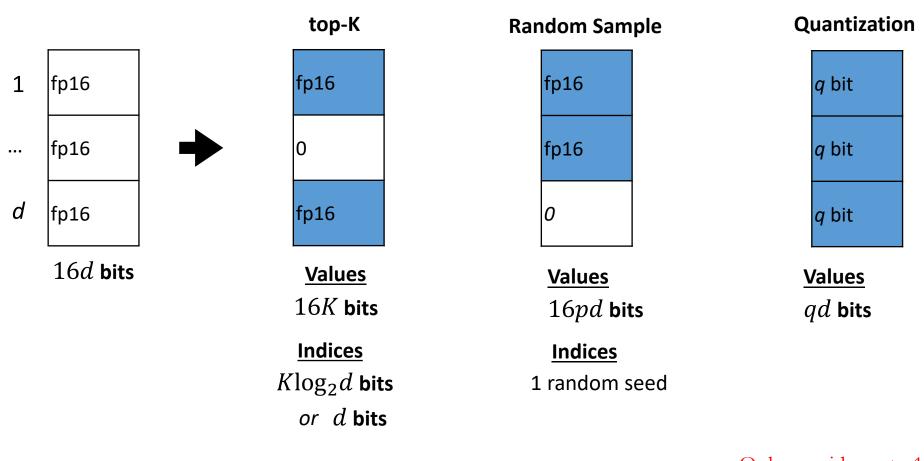




- Instead of exchanging the gradient as full precision floating point numbers;
- The system first compresses it into a lower precision representation before communication.
- Compression methods:
 - Top-K sparsification;
 - Random sparsification;
 - Quantization.

Compression Methods





Expensive to compute and to encode Indices

Might not keep top values as in Top-K

Only provide up to 16x (original precision: fp16) compression; hard to go aggressive





- Original paradigm: all workers conduct computation simultaneously and are all blocked until the communication among all machines is finished.
- If some machines are slower than other machines (i.e., there are stragglers), all machines need to wait for the slowest machine to finish the computation.
- Asynchronous training removes the synchronization barriers among all the machines with the consequence that each machine now has access to a staled model.

Decentralized Communication



- Lossy communication compression is designed to alleviate system bottlenecks caused by network bandwidth.
- Another type of network bottleneck is caused by latency.
- In that case, when there are K workers, the ring -based AllReduce implementation has an $\mathcal{O}(K)$ dependency on the network latency.
- Decentralized training:
 - Suppose a logical ring among *K* workers;
 - At every single iteration, a worker sends its model replica to the neighbour on its immediate left and neighbour on its immediate right;
 - Latency overhead becomes $\mathcal{O}(1)$.
 - On the downside, however, the information on a single worker only reaches its two adjacent neighbours in one round of communication.

Algorithm Illustration.



Mathematical Formulation

$$w_{t+1} = w_t - \gamma \mathbf{C} \left(\sum_{i=1..n} \mathbf{C} (\nabla f_i(\mathbf{w}_t, b_i)) \right)$$

$$w_{t+1} = w_t - \gamma \nabla f(w_{t-\tau_t}; b_i)$$
staleness caused by async

$$w_{t+1,i} = \frac{w_{t,i-1} + w_{t,i} + w_{t,i+1}}{3} - \gamma \nabla f(w_{t,i}; b_i)$$





- Advantages of data parallelism:
 - Easy to implement;
 - Generally applicable to most machine learning models.
- Limitation of data parallelism:
 - **Memory issue**: each device needs to maintain <u>a complete copy of the model</u> (parameters, gradients, and optimizer status). This is impossible for current LLMs.
 - Statistical efficiency: if the global batch size is too large, it may affect the convergence rate. Data parallelism cannot be used for infinite scale-out.



Pipeline Parallel Paradigm





- For large models that don't fit on a single GPU, pipeline parallelism partitions the model into multiple stages.
- Different nodes are responsible for different layers of a model.
- Communication in pipeline parallel paradigm:
 - Activations in the forward propagation;
 - Gradients of the activation in the backward propagation.
- Pipeline parallelism can be combined with data parallelism:
 - The nodes handling the same stage need to perform data parallel synchronization.

Formulation

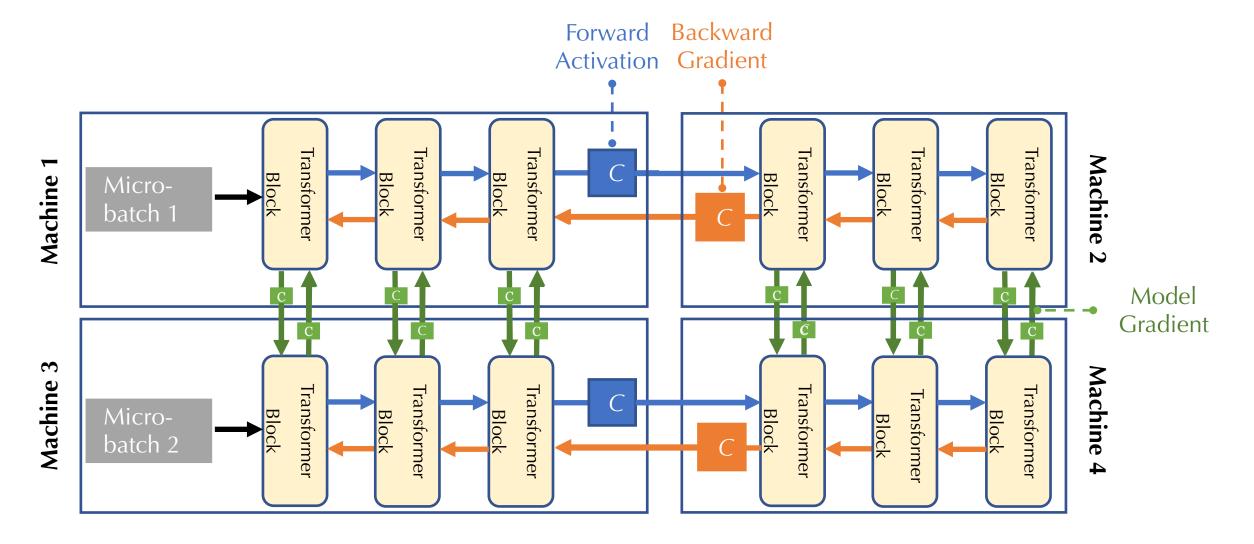


$$\min_{x} \mathbb{E}_{\xi} f(\xi, x) \rightarrow \min_{x} \mathbb{E}_{\xi} f(g(\xi, x_g), x_f)$$

Forward Activation

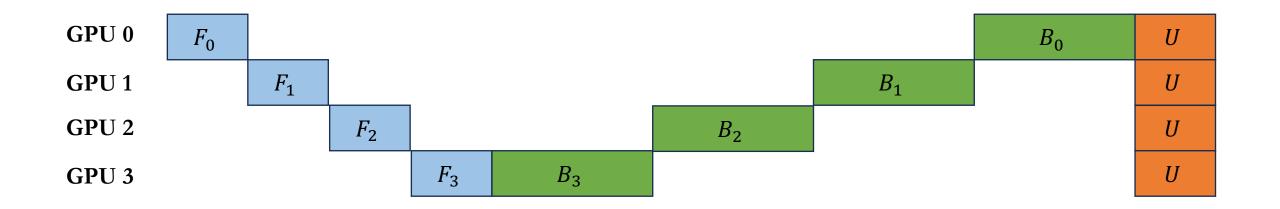
Pipeline Parallel





A Naïve Implementation





Time

The number on each block represents the stage index.



Pipeline Parallel Optimization

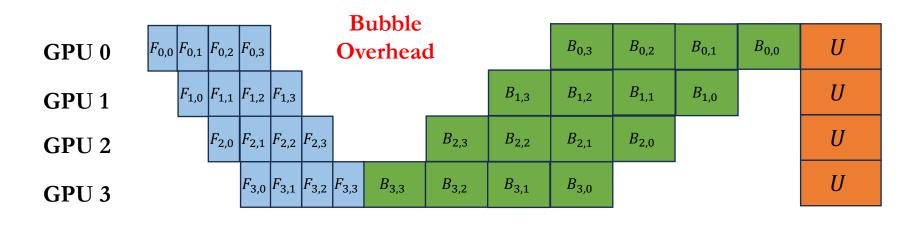




- In the naïve implementation, only one GPU is active at a time.
- This makes the MFU very low.
- Optimization: spilt each batch to micro-batches so that computation can be executed as a pipeline paradigm.
- There are some system optimizations to improve the efficiency of pipeline parallelism:
 - **Gpipe**: https://arxiv.org/abs/1811.06965
 - 1F1B from PipeDream-Flush:
 https://proceedings.mlr.press/v139/narayanan21a/narayanan2
 1a.pdf







- If we ignore the computation time of optimizer updates.
- Suppose:
 - *K* is the number of GPUs;
 - *M* is the number of micro-batches;
- What is the percentage of bubble overhead? $\frac{K-1}{M+K-1}$

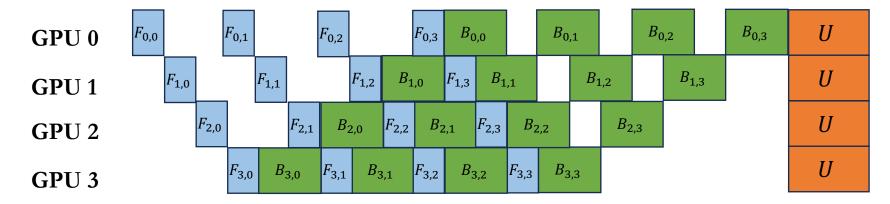
The number on each block represents the stage index and the micro-batch index.

Time

1F1B







• If we ignore the computation time of optimizer updates.

- Suppose:
 - *K* is the number of GPUs;
 - *M* is the number of micro-batches;
- What is the percentage of bubble overhead? $\frac{K-1}{M+K-1}$

Time

The number on each block represents the stage index and the micro-batch index.

Pipe API in PyTorch (Gpipe Implementation)



CLASS torch.distributed.pipeline.sync.Pipe(module, chunks=1, checkpoint='except_last', deferred_batch_norm=False) [SOURCE]

Wraps an arbitrary nn. Sequential module to train on using synchronous pipeline parallelism. If the module requires lots of memory and doesn't fit on a single GPU, pipeline parallelism is a useful technique to employ for training.

The implementation is based on the torchgpipe paper.

Pipe combines pipeline parallelism with checkpointing to reduce peak memory required to train while minimizing device under-utilization.

You should place all the modules on the appropriate devices and wrap them into an nn.Sequential module defining the desired order of execution. If a module does not contain any parameters/buffers, it is assumed this module should be executed on CPU and appropriate input tensors to the module are moved to CPU before execution. This behavior can be overridden by the WithDevice wrapper which can be used to explicitly specify which device a module should run on.

Parameters

- module (nn.Sequential) sequential module to be parallelized using pipelining. Each module in the
 sequence has to have all of its parameters on a single device. Each module in the sequence has to either be
 an nn.Module or nn.Sequential (to combine multiple sequential modules on a single device)
- chunks (int) number of micro-batches (default: 1)
- checkpoint (str) when to enable checkpointing, one of 'always', 'except_last', or 'never' (default: 'except_last'). 'never' disables checkpointing completely, 'except_last' enables checkpointing for all micro-batches except the last one and 'always' enables checkpointing for all micro-batches.
- deferred_batch_norm (bool) whether to use deferred BatchNorm moving statistics (default: False). If set to True, we track statistics across multiple micro-batches to update the running statistics per minibatch.







• "DeepSpeed is an easy-to-use deep learning optimization software suite that enables unprecedented scale and speed for DL Training and Inference."

-- Microsoft

- Support includes:
 - Large model training;
 - data parallelism, pipeline parallelism, tensor model parallelism, ZeRO-S1, S2, S3.
 - Large model inference.

Pipeline Parallelism in Deepspeed



Pipeline Parallelism

Model Specification

class deepspeed.pipe.PipelineModule(layers, num_stages=None, topology=None, loss_fn=None, seed_layers=False, seed_fn=None, base_seed=1234, partition_method='parameters', activation_checkpoint_interval=0, activation_checkpoint_func=<function checkpoint>, checkpointable_layers=None) [source]

Modules to be parallelized with pipeline parallelism.

The key constraint that enables pipeline parallelism is the representation of the forward pass as a sequence of layers and the enforcement of a simple interface between them. The forward pass is implicitly defined by the module Layers. The key assumption is that the output of each layer can be directly fed as input to the next, like a torch.nn.Sequence. The forward pass is implicitly:

```
def forward(self, inputs):
    x = inputs
    for layer in self.layers:
        x = layer(x)
    return x
```

Parameters

- layers (Iterable) A sequence of layers defining pipeline structure. Can be a torch.nn.Sequential module.
- num_stages (int, optional) The degree of pipeline parallelism. If not specified, topology must be provided.
- topology (deepspeed.runtime.pipe.ProcessTopology), optional) Defines the axes of parallelism axes for training. Must be provided if num_stages is

 None
- loss_fn (callable, optional) Loss is computed loss = loss_fn(outputs,
 label)
- seed_layers (bool, optional) Use a different seed for each layer. Defaults to False.
- seed_fn (type, optional) The custom seed generating function. Defaults to random seed generator.
- base_seed (int, optional) The starting seed. Defaults to 1234.
- partition_method (str, optional) The method upon which the layers are partitioned. Defaults to 'parameters'.
- activation_checkpoint_interval (int, optional) The granularity activation checkpointing in terms of number of layers. O disables activation checkpointing.
- activation_checkpoint_func (callable, optional) The function to use for activation checkpointing. Defaults to deepspeed.checkpointing.checkpoint.
- checkpointable_layers (list, optional) Checkpointable layers may not be checkpointed. Defaults to None which does not additional filtering.





• Code: https://github.com/microsoft/DeepSpeedExamples/blob/master/training/pipeline_parallelism/train.py

Load the library

```
import os
import argparse

import torch
import torch.distributed as dist

import torchvision
import torchvision.transforms as transforms
from torchvision.models import AlexNet
from torchvision.models import vgg19

import deepspeed
from deepspeed.pipe import PipelineModule
from deepspeed.utils import RepeatingLoader
```

Define the data loader

```
def cifar_trainset(local_rank, dl_path='/tmp/cifar10-data'):
   transform = transforms.Compose([
       transforms.Resize(256).
       transforms. CenterCrop(224),
       transforms.ToTensor().
       transforms.Normalize(mean=[0.485, 0.456, 0.406], std=[0.229, 0.224, 0.225]),
   1)
   # Ensure only one rank downloads.
   # Note: if the download path is not on a shared filesytem, remove the semaphore
   # and switch to args.local_rank
   dist.barrier()
   if local rank != 0:
       dist.barrier()
   trainset = torchvision.datasets.CIFAR10(root=dl path,
                                            train=True.
                                            download=True,
                                            transform=transform)
   if local_rank == 0:
       dist.barrier()
   return trainset
```





• Code: https://github.com/microsoft/DeepSpeedExamples/blob/master/training/pipeline_parallelism/train.py

Pass configurations

```
def get args():
    parser = argparse.ArgumentParser(description='CIFAR')
    parser.add_argument('--local_rank',
                        type=int,
                        default=-1.
                        help='local rank passed from distributed launcher')
    parser.add argument('-s',
                        '--steps',
                        type=int,
                        default=100,
                        help='quit after this many steps')
    parser.add_argument('-p',
                        '--pipeline-parallel-size',
                        type=int,
                        default=2,
                        help='pipeline parallelism')
    parser.add_argument('--backend',
                        type=str,
                        default='nccl',
                        help='distributed backend')
    parser.add_argument('--seed', type=int, default=1138, help='PRNG seed')
    parser = deepspeed.add_config_arguments(parser)
    args = parser.parse args()
   return args
```

Non-pipeline training loop

```
def train_base(args):
   torch.manual_seed(args.seed)
   # VGG also works :-)
   #net = vgg19(num_classes=10)
   net = AlexNet(num_classes=10)
   trainset = cifar_trainset(args.local_rank)
   engine, _, dataloader, __ = deepspeed.initialize(
       args=args,
       model=net,
       model parameters=[p for p in net.parameters() if p.requires grad],
       training data=trainset)
   dataloader = RepeatingLoader(dataloader)
   data iter = iter(dataloader)
   rank = dist.get_rank()
   gas = engine.gradient accumulation steps()
   criterion = torch.nn.CrossEntropyLoss()
   total_steps = args.steps * engine.gradient_accumulation_steps()
   step = 0
   for micro_step in range(total_steps):
       batch = next(data iter)
       inputs = batch[0].to(engine.device)
       labels = batch[1].to(engine.device)
       outputs = engine(inputs)
       loss = criterion(outputs, labels)
       engine.backward(loss)
       engine.step()
       if micro_step % engine.gradient_accumulation_steps() == 0:
           step += 1
           if rank == 0 and (step % 10 == 0):
               print(f'step: {step:3d} / {args.steps:3d} loss: {loss}')
```





• Code: https://github.com/microsoft/DeepSpeedExamples/blob/master/training/pipeline_parallelism/train.py

Pipeline parallel training loop

```
def join_layers(vision_model):
   layers = [
       *vision_model.features,
       vision_model.avgpool,
       lambda x: torch.flatten(x, 1),
       *vision_model.classifier,
   return layers
def train_pipe(args, part='parameters'):
   torch.manual_seed(args.seed)
   deepspeed.runtime.utils.set_random_seed(args.seed)
   # Build the model
   # VGG also works :-)
   #net = vgg19(num_classes=10)
   net = AlexNet(num_classes=10)
   net = PipelineModule(layers=join_layers(net),
                        loss_fn=torch.nn.CrossEntropyLoss(),
                        num_stages=args.pipeline_parallel_size,
                        partition_method=part,
                        activation_checkpoint_interval=0)
   trainset = cifar trainset(args.local rank)
   engine, _, _, _ = deepspeed.initialize(
       args=args,
       model=net,
       model_parameters=[p for p in net.parameters() if p.requires_grad],
       training_data=trainset)
   for step in range(args.steps):
        loss = engine.train batch()
```

Main entrance

```
if __name__ == '__main__':
    args = get_args()

    deepspeed.init_distributed(dist_backend=args.backend)
    args.local_rank = int(os.environ['LOCAL_RANK'])
    torch.cuda.set_device(args.local_rank)

if args.pipeline_parallel_size == 0:
        train_base(args)
    else:
        train_pipe(args)
```



Zero Redundancy Optimizer (ZeRO)





- Core design idea:
 - Reduce the memory footprint per device for data-parallel training.
- Optimize the memory footprint:
 - Model parameters;
 - Gradients;
 - Optimizer status.





	gpu ₀		gpu _i		gpu _{N-1}	Memory Consumed
Baseline				•••		$(2+2+K)*\Psi$
P _{os}						$2\Psi + 2\Psi + \frac{K * \Psi}{N_d}$
P _{os+g}		·				$2\Psi + \frac{(2+K)*\Psi}{N_d}$
P _{os+g+p}						$\frac{(2+2+K)*\Psi}{N_d}$

- ψ is the total number of parameters;
- *K* denotes the memory multiplier of optimizer states;
- N_d denotes the parallel degree.





• ZeRO Stage-1 Pos:

- The optimizer states are partitioned across the processes, so that each process updates only its partition.
- Same communication volume as data parallelism.





• ZeRO Stage-2 Pos+g:

- The reduced gradients for updating the model weights are also partitioned such that each process retains only the gradients corresponding to its portion of the optimizer states.
- Same communication volume as data parallelism.





• ZeRO Stage-3 Pos+g+p:

- The model parameters are partitioned across the processes. ZeRO-3 will automatically collect and partition them during the forward and backward passes.
- 50% increase in communication volume (when compared with data parallelism).

ZeRO Animation Illustration



ZeRO 4-way data parallel training

Using:

- P_{os} (Optimizer state)
- P_g (Gradient)
- P_p (Parameters)

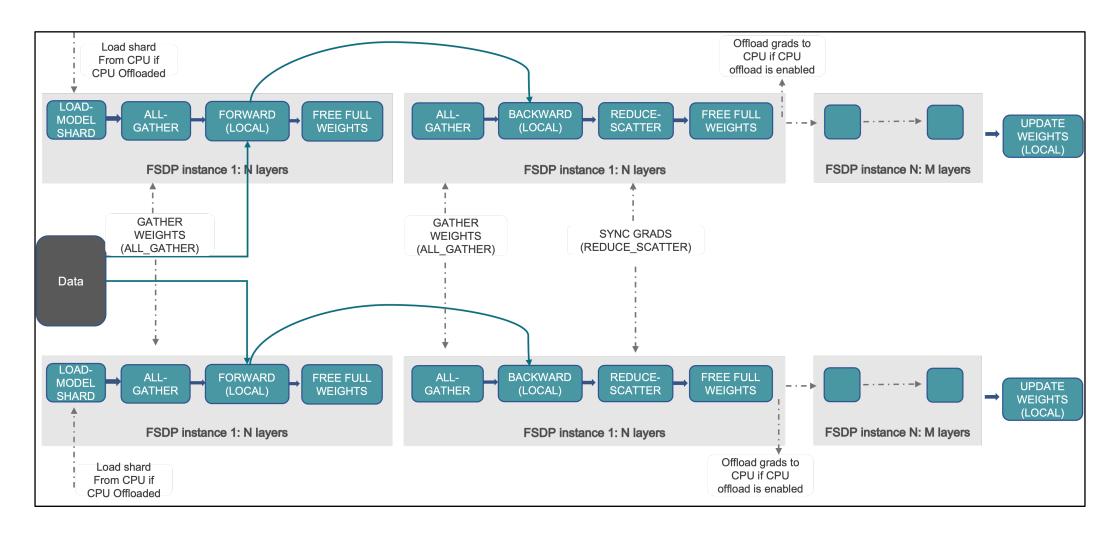




- FullyShardedDataParallel (FSDP) is the corresponding implementation of ZeRO-S3 in PyTroch:
 - FSDP is a type of data parallelism that shards model parameters, optimizer states and gradients across DDP ranks.
 - When training with FSDP, the GPU memory footprint is smaller than when training with DDP across all workers.
 - Come with the cost of increased communication volume.
 - The communication overhead is reduced by internal optimizations like overlapping communication and computation.







FSDP in PyTorch



• In construction:

• Shard model parameters and each rank only keeps its own shard.

• In forward pass:

- Run AllGather to collect all shards from all ranks to recover the full parameter in this FSDP unit;
- Run forward computation;
- Discard parameter shards it has just collected.

• In backward pass:

- Run AllGather to collect all shards from all ranks to recover the full parameter in this FSDP unit;
- Run backward computation.
- Run ReduceScatter to sync gradients;
- Discard parameters.

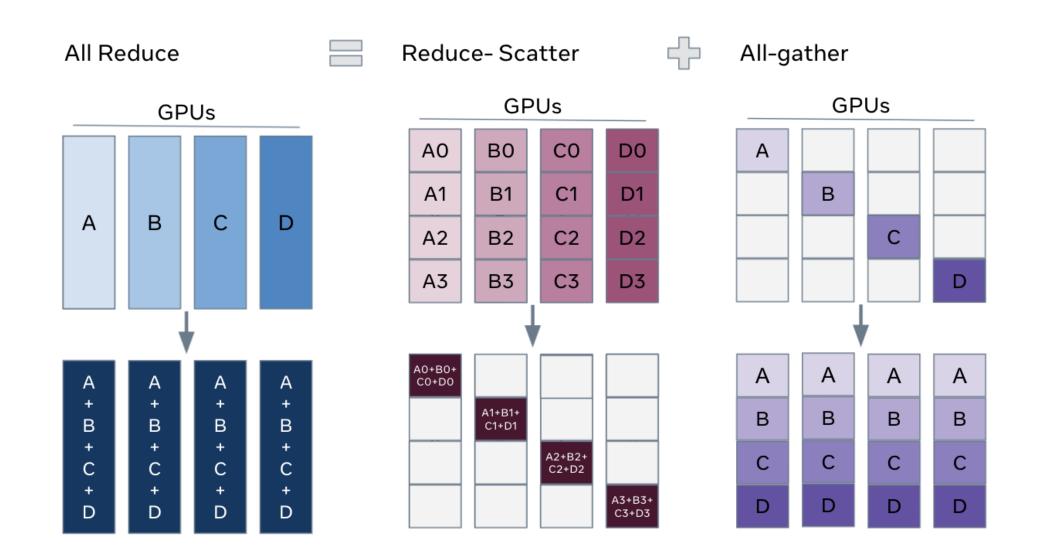
FSDP in PyTorch



- FSDP decomposes the DDP gradient AllReduce into ReduceScatter and AllGather.
- During the backward pass, FSDP reduces and scatters gradients, ensuring that each rank possesses a shard of the gradients.
- Then FSDP updates the corresponding shard of the parameters in the optimizer step.
- In the subsequent forward pass, FSDP performs an AllGather operation to collect and combine the updated parameter shards.

FSDP in PyTorch







PyTorch FSDP Practice

FSDP API



FULLYSHARDEDDATAPARALLEL

A wrapper for sharding module parameters across data parallel workers.

This is inspired by Xu et al. as well as the ZeRO Stage 3 from DeepSpeed. FullyShardedDataParallel is commonly shortened to FSDP.

Example:

```
>>> import torch
>>> from torch.distributed.fsdp import FullyShardedDataParallel as FSDP
>>> torch.cuda.set_device(device_id)
>>> sharded_module = FSDP(my_module)
>>> optim = torch.optim.Adam(sharded_module.parameters(), lr=0.0001)
>>> x = sharded_module(x, y=3, z=torch.Tensor([1]))
>>> loss = x.sum()
>>> loss.backward()
>>> optim.step()
```

Using FSDP



Use FSDP API

```
from torch.distributed.fsdp import (
   FullyShardedDataParallel,
   CPUOffload,
from torch.distributed.fsdp.wrap import (
   default auto wrap policy,
import torch.nn as nn
class model(nn.Module):
   def init (self):
       super().__init__()
       self.layer1 = nn.Linear(8, 4)
       self.layer2 = nn.Linear(4, 16)
       self.layer3 = nn.Linear(16, 4)
#model = DistributedDataParallel(model())
fsdp model = FullyShardedDataParallel(
   model(),
  fsdp auto wrap policy=default auto wrap policy,
   cpu_offload=CPUOffload(offload_params=True),
```

References



- https://dl.acm.org/doi/pdf/10.14778/3415478.3415530
- https://pytorch.org/tutorials/beginner/ddp_series_theory.html
- https://ethz.ch/content/dam/ethz/special-interest/infk/inst-cp/ds3lab-dam/documents/ZipML.pdf
- https://pytorch.org/docs/stable/pipeline.html
- https://arxiv.org/abs/1811.06965
- https://arxiv.org/abs/1806.03377
- https://www.deepspeed.ai/tutorials/pipeline/
- https://deepspeed.readthedocs.io/en/latest/zero3.html
- https://pytorch.org/tutorials/intermediate/FSDP_tutorial.html