Parallel programming

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Intro

All the source files of this course can be found on GitHub:

http://github.com/scemama/tccm2014

Warning

You are not expected to be able to do by yourself everything I will show!

My goal:

- Show you different visions of parallel computing
- Introduce some words you will here in the future
- Show you what exists, what can be done, and how

Don't panic and consider this class as general knowledge.

If you don't understand something, please STOP ME!

What is parallelism?

When solving a problem, multiple calculations can be carried out concurrently. If multiple computing hardware is used, concurrent computing is called **parallel computing**.

Many levels of parallelism:

- Distributed, Loosely-coupled: Computing grids: shell scripts
- Distributed, Tightly-coupled: Supercomputers: MPI, sockets, CoArray Fortran, UPC,...
- Hybrid: wth accelerators like GPUs, FPGAs, Xeon Phi, etc
- Shared memory : OpenMP, threads
- Socket-level: Shared cache
- Instruction-level : superscalar processors
- Bit-level: vectorization

All levels of parallelism can be exploited in the same code, but every problem is not parallelizable at all levels.

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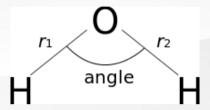
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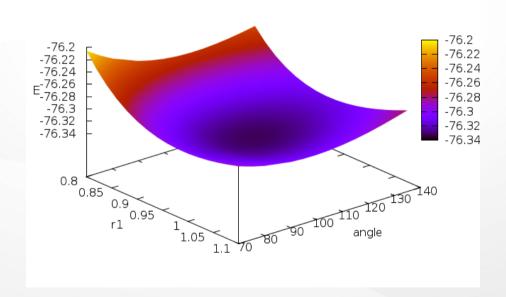
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Problem 1 : Potential energy surface

We want to create the CCSD(T) potential energy surface of the water molecule.





Constraints:

- We want to compute 25x25x25 = 15625 points
- We are allowed to use 100 CPU cores simultaneously
- We like to use Gaussian09 to calculate the CCSD(T) energy

But:

- The grid points are completely independent
- Any CPU core can calculate any point

Optimal solution: work stealing

- One grid point is E(r1,r2,angle)
- Dress the list of all the arguments (r1,r2,angle) : [(0.8,0.8,70.), ..., (1.1,1.1,140.)] (the *queue*)
- Each CPU core, when idle, pops out the head of the queue and computes E(r1,r2,angle)
- All the results are stored in a single file
- The results are sorted for plotting

GNU Parallel

GNU parallel executes Linux commands in parallel and can guarantee that the output is the same as if the commands were executed sequentially.

Example:

```
$ parallel echo ::: A B C
A
B
C
```

is equivalent to:

```
$ echo A ; echo B ; echo C
```

Multiple input sources can be given:

```
$ parallel echo ::: A B ::: C D
A C
A D
```

```
B C
B D
```

If no command is given after parallel the arguments are treated as commands:

```
$ parallel ::: pwd hostname "echo $TMPDIR"
/home/scemama
lpqdh82
/tmp
```

Jobs can be run on remote servers:

```
$ parallel ::: echo hostname
lpqdh82.ups-tlse.fr

$ parallel -S lpqlx139.ups-tlse.fr ::: echo hostname
lpqlx139.ups-tlse.fr
```

File can be transferred to the remote hosts:

```
$ echo Hello > input
$ parallel -S lpqlx139.ups-tlse.fr cat ::: input
cat: input: No such file or directory

$ echo Hello > input
$ parallel -S lpqlx139.ups-tlse.fr --transfer --cleanup cat ::: input
Hello
```

Convert thousands of images from .gif to .jpg

```
$ 1s
                                               img699.gif
ima1000.aif
           img241.gif img394.gif
                                  ima546.aif
                                                          ima850.aif
                                                          imq851.qif
img1001.gif
            img242.gif img395.gif img547.gif
                                               imq69.qif
[...]
img23.gif
            imq392.qif
                       imq544.qif imq697.qif
                                               img849.gif
img240.gif
            ima393.aif
                       img545.gif img698.gif
                                               ima84.aif
```

To convert one *.gif* file to *.jpg* format:

```
$ time convert img1.gif img1.jpg
real 0m0.008s
user 0m0.000s
sys 0m0.000s
```

Sequential execution:

```
$ time for i in {1..1011}
> do
> convert img${i}.gif img${i}.jpg
```

```
> done
real 0m7.936s
user 0m0.210s
sys 0m0.270s
```

Parallel execution on a quad-core:

```
$ time parallel convert {.}.gif {.}.jpg ::: *.gif
real   0m2.051s
user   0m1.000s
sys   0m0.540s
```

Potential energy surface

1. Fetch the energy in an output file

Running a CCSD(T) calculation with Gaussian09 gives the energy somewhere in the output:

```
CCSD(T) = -0.76329294074D+02
```

To get only the energy in the output, we can use the following command:

```
g09 < input | grep "^ CCSD(T)=" | cut -d "=" -f 2
```

2. Script that takes r1, r2 and angle as arguments

We create a script $run_h2o.sh$ that runs Gaussian09 for the water molecule taking r_1 , r_2 , and angle as command-line parameters, and prints the CCSD(T) energy:

```
#!/bin/bash
r1=$1
```

```
r2=$2
angle=$3
# Create Gaussian input file, pipe it to Gaussian, grep the CCSD(T)
# energy
cat << EOF | g09 | grep "^ CCSD(T)=" | cut -d "=" -f 2
# CCSD(T)/cc-pVTZ
Water molecule r1=\$\{r1\}\ r2=\$\{r2\}\ angle=\$\{angle\}
0 1
h
o 1 \{r1\}
h 2 ${r2} 1 ${angle}
EOF
```

Example:

```
$ ./run_h2o.sh 1.08 1.08 104.
-0.76310788178D+02
$ ./run_h2o.sh 0.98 1.0 100.
-0.76330291742D+02
```

3. Files containing arguments

We prepare a file *r1_file* containing the *r* values:

```
0.75
0.80
0.85
0.90
0.95
1.00
```

then, a file angle_file containing the angle values:

```
100.
101.
```

```
102.
103.
104.
105.
106.
```

and a file *nodefile* containing the names of the machines and their number of CPUs:

```
2//usr/bin/ssh compute-0-10.local
2//usr/bin/ssh compute-0-6.local
16//usr/bin/ssh compute-0-12.local
16//usr/bin/ssh compute-0-5.local
16//usr/bin/ssh compute-0-7.local
6//usr/bin/ssh compute-0-1.local
2//usr/bin/ssh compute-0-13.local
4//usr/bin/ssh compute-0-8.local
```

4. Run with GNU parallel

Let's first run the job on 1 CPU:

```
$ time parallel -a r1_file -a r1_file -a angle_file \
 --keep-order --tag -j 1 $PWD/run h2o.sh
0.75 \ 0.75 \ 100, -0.76185942070D+02
0.75 \ 0.75 \ 101. -0.76186697072D+02
0.75 \ 0.75 \ 102 -0.76187387594D+02
[...]
0.80\ 1.00\ 106. -0.76294078963D+02
0.85 \ 0.75 \ 100. -0.76243282762D+02
0.85 \ 0.75 \ 101. -0.76243869316D+02
[...]
1.00 \ 1.00 \ 105. -0.76329165017D+02
1.00 1.00 106.
             -0.76328988177D+02
real 15m5.293s
user 11m25.679s
```

```
sys 2m20.194s
```

Running in parallel on 64 CPUs with the *--keep-order* option, the output is the same, but it takes 39x less time!

```
$ time parallel -a r1 file -a r1 file -a angle file \
 --keep-order --tag --sshloginfile nodefile $PWD/run h2o.sh
0.75 \ 0.75 \ 100. -0.76185942070D+02
0.75 \ 0.75 \ 101. -0.76186697072D+02
0.75 \ 0.75 \ 102. -0.76187387594D+02
[...]
0.80 1.00 106. -0.76294078963D+02
0.85 \ 0.75 \ 100. -0.76243282762D+02
0.85 \ 0.75 \ 101. -0.76243869316D+02
[...]
1.00 1.00 105. -0.76329165017D+02
1.00 1.00 106. -0.76328988177D+02
real 0m23.848s
```

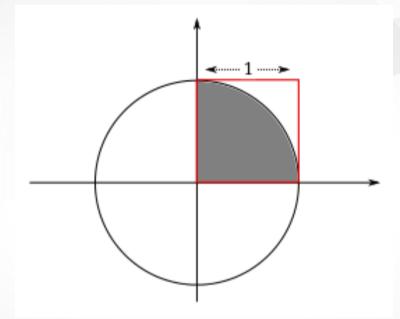
user 0m3.359s sys 0m3.172s

Links

- •O. Tange (2011): GNU Parallel The Command-Line Power Tool, ;login: The USENIX Magazine, February 2011:42-47.
- GNU parallel
- GNU parallel tutorial

Problem 2 : Computation of Pi

We want to compute the value of with a Monte Carlo algorithm.

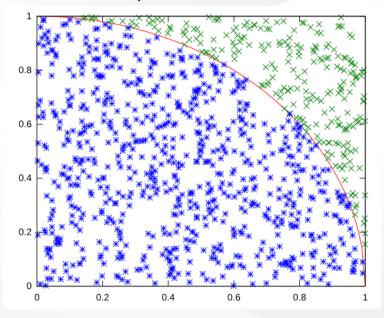


- The surface of the circle is πr^2 => For a unit circle, the surface is π
- The function in the red square is $y=1-x^2$ (the circle is $\sqrt{x^2+y^2}=1$)
- The surface in grey corresponds to

$$\int_{0}^{1} \sqrt{1 - x^2} \, dx = \pi/4$$

To compute this integral, a Monte Carlo algorithm can be used:

- Points (x,y) are drawn randomly in the unit square.
- Count how many times the points are inside the circle
- The ratio (inside)/(inside+outside) is $\pi/4$.



Constraints:

- ullet A large number of Monte Carlo steps will be computed ($> 10^{12}$)
- We are allowed to use 100 CPU cores simultaneously
- We stop when the statistical error is below a given threshold ($\sim 10^{-5}$) Optimal algorithm:
 - Each CPU core computes the its own average $X\!=\!4N_{\rm in}/N_{\rm total}$ over a smaller number of Monte Carlo steps (10^7)

```
compute_pi() {
  result := 0
  for i=1 to NMAX {
    x = random(); y = random()
    if ( x^2 + y^2 <= 1 ) {
      result := result + 1
    }
  }
  return 4*result/NMAX</pre>
```

- ullet All M results obtained on different CPU cores are independent, so they are Gaussian-distributed random variables (central-limit theorem)
- The X are sent to a central server
- The central server computes the running average

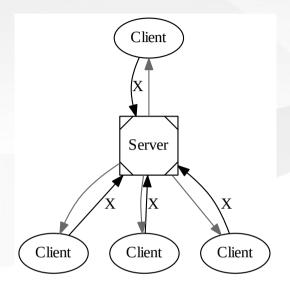
$$\pi \sim \bar{X} = \frac{1}{M} \sum_{i=1}^{M} X_i$$

and the variance

$$\sigma^2 = \frac{1}{M-1} \sum_{i=1}^{M} (X_i - \bar{X})^2$$

to compute the statistical error as $\delta\pi = \sigma/\sqrt{M}$

• The clients compute blocks as long as the central server asks them to do so when $\delta\pi$ is above the target error



Here, the calculations are no more independent: the stopping criterion depends on the results of all previous runs. We have introduced very simple **inter-process communications**.

Inter-process communication

Processes vs threads

Process:

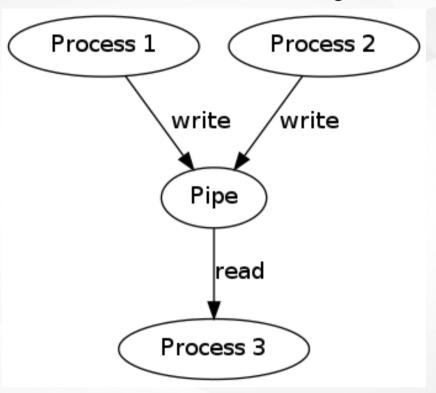
- Has its own memory address space
- Context switching between processes is slow
- Processes interact only through system-provided communication mechanisms
- Fork: creates a **copy** of the current process
- Exec: switches to running another binary executable
- Spawn: Fork and exec on the child

Theads:

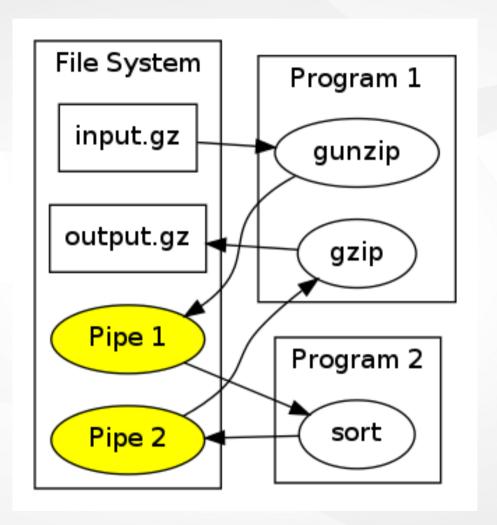
- Exist as subsets of a process
- Context switching between threads is fast
- Share the same memory address space : interact via shared memory

Communication with named pipes

A named pipe is a *virtual* file which is read by a process and written by other processes. It allows processes to communicate using standard I/O operations:



Example



Process 1: p1.sh

```
#!/bin/bash
# Create two pipes using the mkfifo command
mkfifo /tmp/pipe /tmp/pipe2
# Unzip the input file and write the result
# in the 1st pipe
echo "Run qunzip"
gunzip --to-stdout input.gz > /tmp/pipe
# Zip what comes from the second pipe
echo "Run gzip"
gzip < /tmp/pipe2 > output.gz
# Clear the pipes in the filesystem
rm /tmp/pipe /tmp/pipe2
```

Process 2: p2.sh

```
#!/bin/bash

# Read the 1st pipe, sort the result and write
# in the 2nd pipe
echo "Run sort"
sort < /tmp/pipe > /tmp/pipe2
```

Execution:

This simple example is equivalent to:

```
gunzip --to-stdout input.gz | sort | gzip > output.gz
```

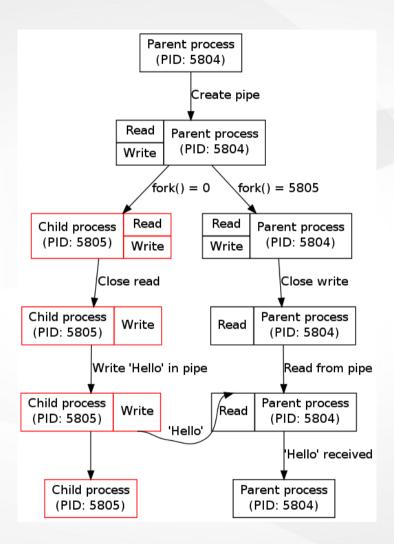
But the two programs *p1.sh* and *p2.sh*:

- can be started independently: p1 waits for p2 (blocking)
- can be run in different shells
- named pipes allow multiple processes to write in the same pipe

Communication with unnamed pipes

Unnamed pipes are equivalent to pipes, but they are opened/closed in the programs themselves. They imply a modification of the source files (apart from using unnamed pipes in the shell with the | operator).

Example



```
#!/usr/bin/env python
import sys, os
def main():
 # Print process ID (PID) of the current process
 print "PID: %d" % (os.getpid())
 # Open the pipe for inter-process communication
  r, w = os.pipe()
 new_pid = os.fork()
  if new_pid != 0:
      # This is the parent process
      print "I am the parent, my PID is %d"%(os.getpid())
     print "and the PID of my child is %d"%(new_pid)
     # Close write and open read file descriptors
     os.close(w)
```

```
r = os.fdopen(r, 'r')
    # Read data from the child
   print "Reading from the child"
    s = r.read()
    r.close()
   print "Read '%s' from the child"%(s)
else:
    # This is the child process
   print " I am the child, my PID is %d"%(os.getpid())
   # Close read and open write file descriptors
    os.close(r)
   w = os.fdopen(w, 'w')
   print " Sending 'Hello' to the parent"
    # Send 'Hello' to the parent
   w.write( "Hello!" )
   w.close()
   print " Sent 'Hello'"
```

```
if __name__ == "__main__":
    main()
```

```
$ ./fork.py
PID: 5804
I am the parent, my PID is 5804
and the PID of my child is 5805
I am the child, my PID is 5805
Reading from the child
   Sending 'Hello' to the parent
   Sent 'Hello'
Read 'Hello!' from the child
```

Computation of m with pipes

Pseudo-code

```
for i=1 to NPROC {
 pipe(i) := create_pipe()
  fork()
  if ( Child process ) {
     close(pipe(i).read )
     open (pipe(i).write)
     do {
        X := compute_pi()
        write X into pipe
        if ( failure ) {
          exit process
  close(pipe(i).write)
```

```
open (pipe(i).read )
data := []
N := 0
do {
  for i=1 to NPROC {
    X := pipe(i).read()
    data := data+[X]
    N := N+1
    ave := average(data)
    err := error (data)
    if (error < error_threshold) {</pre>
     print ave and err
     exit process
```

Python implementation

```
#!/usr/bin/env python
NMAX = 10000000
                      # Nb of MC steps/process
NMAX_inv = 1.e-7
error threshold = 1.0e-4 # Stopping criterion
NPROC = 4
                        # Use 4 processes
import os
from random import random, seed
from math import sqrt
def compute_pi():
  """Local Monte Carlo calculation of pi"""
  # Initialize random number generator
  seed (None)
  result = 0.
```

```
# Loop 10^7 times
  for i in xrange(NMAX):
    # Draw 2 random numbers x and y
    x = random()
    y = random()
    # Check if (x,y) is in the circle
    if x*x + y*y <= 1.:
      result += 1
 #X = estimation of pi
  result = 4.* float(result)*NMAX_inv
  return result
import sys
def main():
  # Reading edges of the pipes
 r = [None]*NPROC
```

```
# Running processes
pid = [None]*NPROC
for i in range(NPROC):
  # Create the pipe
  r[i], w = os.pipe()
  # Save the PIDs
  pid[i] = os.fork()
  if pid[i] == 0:
     # This is the child process
     os.close(r[i])
     w = os.fdopen(w, 'w')
     while True:
       # Compute pi on this process
       X = compute_pi()
       # Write the result in the pipe
       try:
```

```
w.write("%f\n"%(X))
         w.flush()
       except IOError:
         # Child process exits here
         sys.exit(0)
  else:
     # This is the parent process
     os.close(w)
     r[i] = os.fdopen(r[i], 'r')
data = []
while True:
  for i in range(NPROC):
    # Read in the pipe of the corresponding process
    X = float( r[i].readline() )
    data.append( float(X) )
    N = len(data)
```

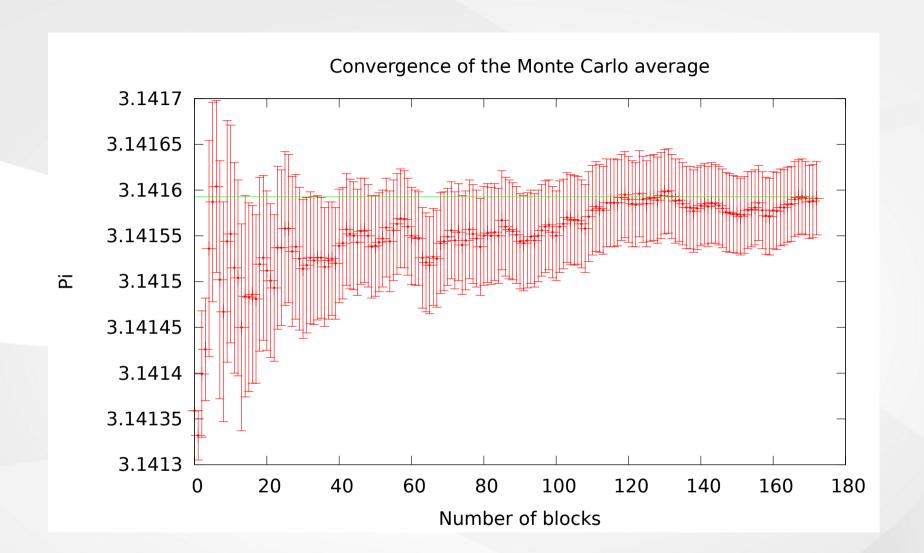
```
# Compute average
average = sum(data)/N
# Compute variance
if N > 2:
  1 = [(x-average)*(x-average) for x in data]
  variance = sum(1)/(N-1.)
else:
 variance = 0.
# Compute error
error = sqrt(variance)/sqrt(N)
print '%f +/- %f'%(average,error)
# Stopping condition
if N > 2 and error < error_threshold:</pre>
```

```
# Kill children
for i in range(NPROC):
    try: os.kill(pid[i],9)
    except: pass
    sys.exit(0)

if __name__ == '__main__':
    main()
```

```
$ ./pi_fork.py
3.142317 +/- 0.000000
3.141778 +/- 0.000000
3.141344 +/- 0.000534
3.141377 +/- 0.000379
3.141422 +/- 0.000297
3.141443 +/- 0.000243
3.141485 +/- 0.000210
```

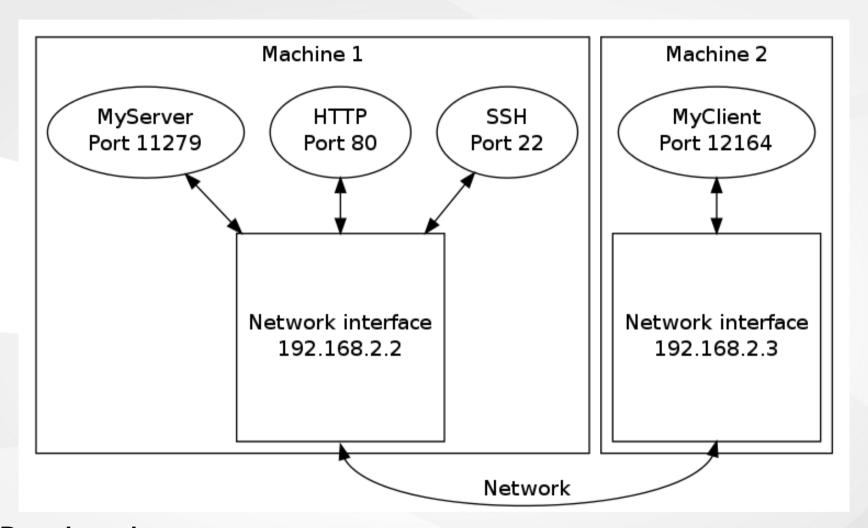
```
[...]
3.141513 +/- 0.000041
3.141513 +/- 0.000041
3.141514 +/- 0.000040
3.141512 +/- 0.000040
3.141513 +/- 0.000040
3.141515 +/- 0.000040
```



Sockets

Sockets are analogous to pipes, but they allow both ends of the pipe to be on different machines connected by a network interface. An Internet socket is characterized by a unique combination of :

- A transport protocol: TCP, UDP, raw IP, ...
- A local socket address: Local IP address and port number, for example 192.168.2.2:22
- A remote socket address: Optional (TCP)



Pseudo-code

Server code:

```
HOSTNAME := "server.tccm.fr"
PORT := 2014
socket := create_INET_socket()
bind( socket, (HOSTNAME, PORT) )
listen(socket)
(client_socket, address) := accept(socket)
data = recv(client_socket)
send(client_socket, "Thank you")
close(client_socket)
```

Client code:

```
HOSTNAME := "server.tccm.fr"
PORT := 2014
socket := create_INET_socket()
connect( socket, (HOSTNAME, PORT) )
message = "Hello, world !!!!!"
```

```
send(socket, message)
reply = recv(socket)
```

Python implementation

Server code:

```
#!/usr/bin/env python
import sys, os
import socket
import datetime # For printing the time
now = datetime.datetime.now
def main():
  # Get host name
 HOSTNAME = socket.gethostname()
 PORT = 11279
```

```
print now(), "I am the server : %s:%d"%(HOSTNAME, PORT)
# Create an INET socket
s = socket.socket(socket.AF_INET, socket.SOCK_STREAM)
# Bind the socket to the address and port
s.bind( (HOSTNAME, PORT) )
# Wait for incoming connections
s.listen(5)
# Accept connection
conn, addr = s.accept()
print now(), "Connected by", addr
# Buffered read of the socket
print now(), "Reading from socket"
data = ""
```

```
while True:
    message = conn.recv(8)
    print now(), "Buffer : "+message
    data += message
    if message == "" or len(message) < 8: break</pre>
  print now(), "Received data : ", data
 print now(), "Sending thank you..."
  conn.send("Thank you")
  print now(), "Closing socket"
  conn.close()
if __name__ == "__main__":
  main()
```

Client code:

```
#!/usr/bin/env python
import sys,os
import socket
import datetime
now = datetime.datetime.now
def main():
  # Get host name
  HOSTNAME = sys.arqv[1]
  PORT = int(sys.argv[2])
  print now(), "The target server is : %s:%d"%(HOSTNAME, PORT)
  # Create an INET socket
  s = socket.socket(socket.AF_INET, socket.SOCK_STREAM)
  # Connect the socket to the address and port of the server
```

```
s.connect( (HOSTNAME, PORT) )
 # Send the data
 message = "Hello, world !!!!!!"
 print now(), "Sending : "+message
  s.send(message)
 # Read the reply of the server
 data = s.recv(1024)
  s.close()
 print now(), 'Received: ', data
if name == " main ":
  main()
```

Server execution:

```
$ ./sock_server.py
2014-09-04 01:13:49.903443 I am the server : lpqdh82:11279
```

```
2014-09-04 01:13:53.387956 Connected by ('127.0.0.1', 44373)
2014-09-04 01:13:53.388007 Reading from socket
2014-09-04 01:13:53.388029 Buffer: Hello, w
2014-09-04 01:13:53.388046 Buffer: orld!!!
2014-09-04 01:13:53.388060 Buffer: !!!
2014-09-04 01:13:53.388071 Received data: Hello, world!!!!!!
2014-09-04 01:13:53.388081 Sending thank you...
2014-09-04 01:13:53.388157 Closing socket
```

Client execution:

```
$ ./sock_client.py lpqdh82 11279
2014-09-04 01:13:53.387347 The target server is : lpqdh82:11279
2014-09-04 01:13:53.387880 Sending : Hello, world !!!!!!
2014-09-04 01:13:53.388277 Received: Thank you
```

Computation of n with sockets

Server:

```
#!/usr/bin/env python
HOSTNAME = "localhost"
PORT = 1666
error_threshold = 4.e-5  # Stopping criterion
import sys, os
import socket
from math import sqrt
def main():
  data = []
  # Create an INET socket
  s = socket.socket(socket.AF_INET, socket.SOCK_STREAM)
```

```
# Bind the socket to the address and port
s.bind( (HOSTNAME, PORT) )
while True:
  # Wait for incoming connections
  s.listen(5)
  # Accept connection
  conn, addr = s.accept()
  # Buffered read of the socket
  X = ""
  while True:
    message = conn.recv(128)
    X += message
    if message == "" or len(message) < 128: break</pre>
```

```
data.append( float(X) )
N = len(data)
# Compute average
average = sum(data)/N
# Compute variance
if N > 2:
  1 = [(x-average)*(x-average) for x in data]
 variance = sum(1)/(N-1.)
else:
 variance = 0.
# Compute error
error = sqrt(variance)/sqrt(N)
print '%f +/- %f'%(average,error)
```

```
# Stopping condition
if N > 2 and error < error_threshold:
    conn.send("STOP")
    break
else:
    conn.send("OK")

conn.close()

if __name__ == "__main__":
    main()</pre>
```

Client:

```
#!/usr/bin/env python

NMAX = 100000000  # Nb of MC steps/process

NMAX_inv = 1.e-7
HOSTNAME = "localhost"
```

```
PORT = 1666
from random import random, seed
import socket
import sys
def compute_pi():
  """Local Monte Carlo calculation of pi"""
 # Initialize random number generator
  seed(None)
 result = 0.
 # Loop 10^7 times
  for i in xrange(NMAX):
    # Draw 2 random numbers x and y
   x = random()
   y = random()
   # Check if (x,y) is in the circle
```

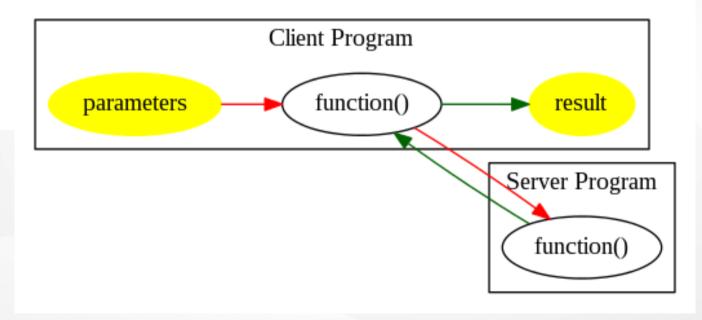
```
if x^*x + y^*y <= 1.:
      result += 1
  \# X = estimation of pi
  result = 4.* float(result)*NMAX_inv
  return result
def main():
 while True:
    X = compute_pi()
    # Create an INET socket
    s = socket.socket(socket.AF INET, socket.SOCK STREAM)
    # Connect the socket to the address and port of the server
    try:
      s.connect( (HOSTNAME, PORT) )
    except socket.error:
```

```
break
    # Send the data
    message = str(X)
    s.send(message)
    # Read the reply of the server
    reply = s.recv(128)
    s.close()
    if reply == "STOP":
      break
if __name__ == '__main__':
 main()
```

Remote procedure call (RPC)

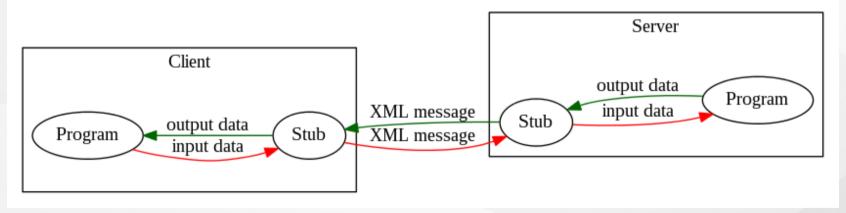
RPC enables software written in different languages and running on different computers to work with each other seamlessly.

One program running in a process (the client) calls a function belonging to another program running in another process (the server).



All the inter-process communication is hidden.

- 1. The client calls the *stub*: the parameters are converted to a standard representation (de-referencing pointers, big/little endian, etc)
- 2. The client stub *marshals* the parameters : they are packed together in a message.
- 3. The message is sent to the server
- 4. The server transmits the message to the server stub
- 5. The server stub *unmarshals* the message
- 6. The server calls its subroutine with the parameters
- 7. The output is sent back to the client using the same mechanism



Some RPC implementations:

- XML-RPC: XML is the encoding format and HTTP is the transport protocol
- JSON-RPC: JSON is the encoding format and HTTP is the transport protocol
- **SOAP**: Simple Object Access Protocol. Uses XML for encoding, but can use HTTP, HTTPS, SMTP, UDP, ... transport protocols
- CORBA: Common Object Request Broker Architecture
- etc...

XML-RPC simple example

Pseudo-code

Server code

```
function_1(x1) { ... }
function_2(y1,y2) { ... }

server := create_XML_RPC_server( (HOSTNAME, PORT) )
server.register ( function_1, function_2 )
server.start()
```

Client code

```
server := connect_XML_RPC_server( (HOSTNAME,PORT) )
result_1 := server.function_1(x1)
result_2 := server.function_2(y1,y2)
```

Python implementation

Server code

```
#!/usr/bin/env python
import SimpleXMLRPCServer
import socket
class MyServer(object):
 def hostname(self):
      """Returns the name of the host on which the server runs"""
      return socket.gethostname()
 def split(self, string):
      """Splits a string in a list of words"""
      return string.split()
```

```
def main():
    # Display the name of the server in the standard output
   host = socket.gethostbyname( socket.gethostname() )
   port = 8000
   print "Server URL is http://%s:%d"%(host,port)
    # Create an instance of the server
    server = SimpleXMLRPCServer.SimpleXMLRPCServer( (host, port) )
    # Associate all functions of MyServer with the server
    server.register instance( MyServer() )
    # Start the server
    server.serve forever()
if __name__ == '__main__':
   main()
```

Client code

```
#!/usr/bin/env python
from socket import gethostname
import sys
import xmlrpclib # XML-RPC library
def main():
 host = gethostname()
 print 'This host is: %s'%(host)
  # The URL of the server is the 1st argument of the command line
 url = sys.arqv[1]
  # Create a proxy object for the server
  server = xmlrpclib.Server(url)
  # Run the 'hostname' function on the server and print the output
 remote = server.hostname()
```

```
print 'Remote host is: %s'%(remote)

# Run the 'split' function on the server and print the output
s = "This is the string to split"
splitted = server.split(s)
print 'Splitted string has type:', type(splitted)
print str(splitted)

if __name__ == '__main__':
main()
```

Execution

```
scemama@lpqdh82 $ ./xmlrpc_server.py
Server URL is http://192.168.2.8:8000
lpqdh82 - - [29/Jul/2014 01:08:06] "POST /RPC2 HTTP/1.1" 200 -
lpqdh82 - - [29/Jul/2014 01:08:06] "POST /RPC2 HTTP/1.1" 200 -
```

```
scemama@pi $ ./xmlrpc_client.py http://192.168.2.8:8000
This host is: pi
Remote host is: lpqdh82
Splitted string has type: <type 'list'>
['This', 'is', 'the', 'string', 'to', 'split']
```

Monte Carlo Calculation of with XML-RPC

Pseudo-code

Server code:

```
data = []
server_is_running := False
subroutine set_result( X ) {
    data := data + [X]
    if ( get_error() <= error_threshold ) {</pre>
      server_is_running := False
function get_average() {
    return sum(data) / ( length(data) )
```

```
function get_variance() {
    average := get_average()
    \mathbf{v} := \mathbf{0}
    for all x in data {
      v := variance + (x-average)^2
    return v/(length(data)-1)
function get_error() {
    return sqrt( get_variance() / ( length(data) ) )
server := create_XML_RPC_server( (HOSTNAME, PORT) )
server.register ( set_result )
server.start()
server_is_running := True
while (server_is_running) {
```

```
server.handle_request()
}
print get_average(), get_error()
```

Client code:

```
function compute_pi() {
server := connect_XML_RPC_server( (HOSTNAME, PORT) )
loop := True
while (loop) {
    X := compute_pi()
    reply := server.set_result(X)
    loop := ( reply = "CONTINUE" )
```

Python implementation

Server code:

```
#!/usr/bin/python -u
from SimpleXMLRPCServer import SimpleXMLRPCServer
from math import sqrt
from time import gmtime, strftime
# Termination condition
error threshold = 1.e-4
class PiServer(object):
 def init (self):
      """Initialization of the server"""
      # Data is stored in a list
      self.data = []
```

```
# N is the number of random events
    self.N = 0
def set_result(self, value, address):
    """Adds a value coming from a given host"""
    self.data.append( value )
    self.N += 1
    # Termination condition is calculated now
    if self.N > 4 and self.error() < error threshold:</pre>
      self.terminate()
      result = 0
    else:
      result = 1
    # Each time a new event is added, display the
    # current average and error
    self.print_status(address)
    return result
```

```
def terminate(self):
    """Terminate the run"""
    global running
    running = False
def average(self):
    """Computes the running average"""
    return sum(self.data)/self.N
def variance(self):
    """Computes the variance"""
    x_ave = self.average()
    1 = [(x-x_ave)*(x-x_ave)  for x in self.data ]
    if self. N < 2:
      return 0.
    return sum(1)/(self.N-1)
def error(self):
```

```
"""Computes the error bar"""
    return sqrt(self.variance())/sqrt(self.N)
 def print status(self,address):
     """Displays something like:
     11 11 11
     time = strftime("%H:%M:%S", qmtime())
     print "[ %8s %15s ] : %f +/- %f (%4d)"%(time, address,
        self.average(), self.error(),self.N)
running = True
from socket import gethostbyname, gethostname
import sys
```

```
def main():
    # Print the URL and port number of the server
   host = gethostbyname( gethostname() )
   port = 8000
   print >>sys.stderr, "Server URL is http://%s:%d"%(host,port)
    # Create the server
    server = SimpleXMLRPCServer( (host, port), logReguests=False )
    # All functions of PiServer are accessible via XML-RPC
    server.register instance( PiServer() )
    # Run while the global variable 'running' is True
   while running:
       server.handle request()
if __name__ == '__main__':
   main()
```

Client code:

```
#!/usr/bin/env python
# Compute X as an average over 10^7 MC steps
NMAX = 10000000
NMAX inv = 1.e-7
from random import random, seed
def compute_pi():
  """Local Monte Carlo calculation of pi"""
  # Initialize random number generator
  seed(None)
  result = 0.
  # Loop 10^7 times
  for i in xrange(NMAX):
    # Draw 2 random numbers x and y
    x = random()
```

```
y = random()
    # Check if (x,y) is in the circle
    if x^*x + y^*y <= 1.:
      result += 1
  \# X = estimation of pi
  result = 4.* float(result)*NMAX inv
  return result
import sys
import xmlrpclib
from socket import gethostbyname, gethostname
def main():
  # The URL of the server is the 1st command line argument
 url = sys.argv[1]
  address = gethostbyname(gethostname())
  # Proxy for the XML-RPC server
```

```
server = xmlrpclib.Server(url)
  loop = True
  while loop:
      # Get a new estimate of pi
     pi = compute pi()
      # If it is not possible to set the result on the
      # server, the server is down so stop the calculation
      try:
        cont = server.set_result(pi,address)
        loop = (cont == 1)
      except:
        loop = False
if __name__ == '__main__':
  main()
```

Example fo execution using a single client:

```
$ time ./pi_server.py
Server URL is http://130.120.229.82:8000
                                         +/-
 15:43:26
             130.120.229.82 1 : 3.141130
                                               0.000000
                                                             1)
 15:43:29
            130.120.229.82 1 : 3.141475
                                         +/-
                                               0.000345
                                                             2)
 15:43:33
                                          +/-
                                                             3)
             130.120.229.82 ] : 3.141237
                                               0.000310
 15:43:37
                                          +/-
             130.120.229.82 1 : 3.141429
                                               0.000292
                                                             4)
 15:43:40
             130.120.229.82 1 : 3.141494
                                          +/-
                                               0.000235
                                                             5)
                                         +/-
 15:43:44
             130.120.229.82 1 : 3.141573
                                               0.000207
                                                             6)
 15:43:48
             130.120.229.82 1 : 3.141626
                                         +/-
                                               0.000183
                                                             7)
 15:43:51
             130.120.229.82 1 : 3.141663
                                         +/-
                                               0.000163
                                                             8)
```

Average is 3.5 seconds/block

Example fo execution using a multiple clients:

```
$ time ./pi_server.py
Server URL is http://130.120.229.82:8000
 15:39:56
                 127.0.0.1 1 : 3.141700
                                          +/-
                                               0.000000
                                                             1)
                 127.0.0.1 ] : 3.141630
                                         +/-
                                                             2)
 15:39:56
                                               0.000070
 15:39:57
                 127.0.0.1 1 : 3.141590
                                         +/-
                                               0.000057
                                                             3)
```

```
15:39:58
                  127.0.0.1 1 : 3.141404
                                            +/-
                                                 0.000191
                                                                4)
                                                                5)
 15:39:58
             130,120,229,23
                                 3.141325
                                            +/-
                                                 0.000167
 15:39:58
             130.120.229.23
                                            +/-
                                                 0.000138
                                                                6)
                                 3.141306
                                                                7)
 15:39:59
                  127.0.0.1
                                 3.141336
                                            +/-
                                                 0.000120
 15:40:00
                  127.0.0.1 1:
                                                 0.000150
                                 3.141444
                                            +/-
                                                                8)
[...]
 15:40:58
             130.120.229.82 1 : 3.141526
                                            +/-
                                                 0.000041
                                                            (177)
 15:40:58
                                                              178)
             130.120.229.82
                                 3.141522
                                            +/-
                                                 0.000041
 15:40:59
                   127.0.0.1
                                 3.141524
                                            +/-
                                                 0.000041
                                                              179)
 15:40:59
             130.120.229.23
                                                              180)
                                 3.141524
                                            +/-
                                                 0.000041
 15:40:59
                  127.0.0.1
                                            +/-
                                                 0.000041
                                                              181)
                                 3.141523
 15:41:00
                   127.0.0.1
                                                              182)
                                 3.141521
                                            +/-
                                                 0.000040
 15:41:00
             130.120.229.29
                                                 0.000040
                                                              183)
                                 3.141518
                                            +/-
 15:41:00
             130,120,229,27
                                 3.141520
                                            +/-
                                                 0.000040
                                                              184)
 15:41:00
                  127.0.0.1 1 : 3.141517
                                            +/-
                                                 0.000040
                                                              185)
real
        1m9.958s
       0m0.168s
user
        0m0.028s
SYS
```

Average is 0.37 seconds/block

Problem 3: Numerical computation of a 2-electron integral

We want to compute numerically the value of the following integral:

$$\langle \phi_1 \phi_2 | \phi_3 \phi_4 \rangle = \iint \phi_1(r_1) \phi_2(r_2) \frac{1}{r_{12}} \phi_3(r_1) \phi_4(r_2) dr_1 dr_2$$

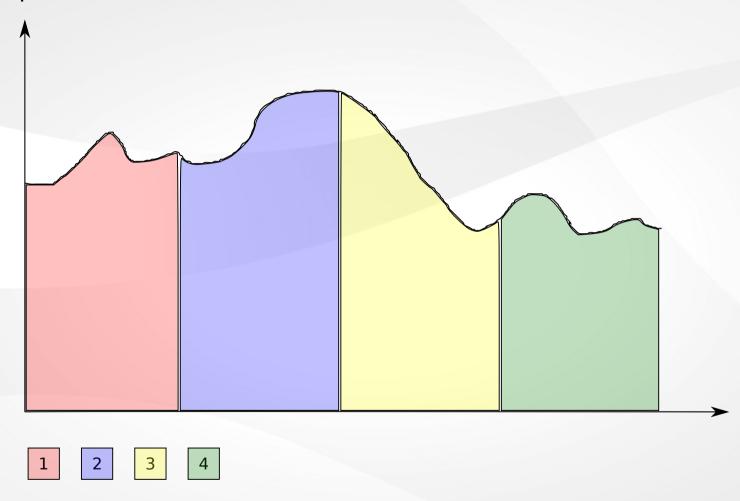
Constraints:

- We need to use Fortran
- ullet A large number of points will be computed ($\sim \! 10^{10}$)

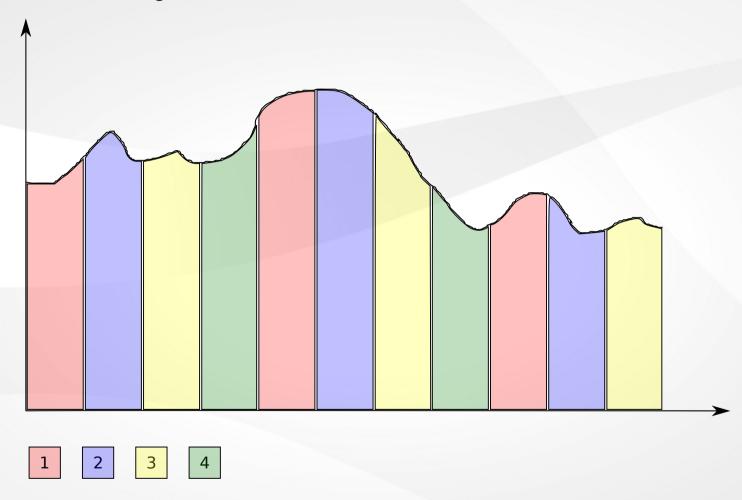
Simple solution:

- Compute the sum over a fixed number of grid points per CPU
- Use the Message Passing Interface (MPI) to communicate

Simple partition:



Better load balancing:



Message Passing Interface

MPI is a standard Application Programming Interface (API) which specifies how processes can communicate together.

- Each process has a rank and belongs to a group of processes.
- Processes can do point-to-point or collective communications

There is no need to pass the IP address and port number. All low-level communication is handled.

MPI programs start with a call to the MPI_Init function

```
! Fortran
integer :: ierr
call MPI_Init(ierr)
```

```
// C
#include <mpi.h>
int MPI_Init(int *argc, char ***argv)
```

```
// C++
#include <mpi.h>
void MPI::Init(int& argc, char**& argv)
void MPI::Init()
```

MPI programs end with a call to the MPI_Finalize function

```
integer :: ierr
call MPI_Finalize(ierr)
```

The rank of the current process is obtained with

```
call MPI_COMM_RANK(MPI_COMM_WORLD, myid, ierr)
```

and the total number of processes is obtained with

```
call MPI_COMM_SIZE(MPI_COMM_WORLD, nproc, ierr)
```

Synchronization

```
call MPI_BARRIER(MPI_COMM_WORLD,ierr)
```

All the processes are blocked until they are *all* at this point. They wait for each other.

Point-to-point send/receive operation

- sender: Rank of the process sending the data
- receiver: Rank of the process receiving the data
- <type> : Type of data (double precision, integer, etc)
- buffer: array of type <type>
- n: number of elements to send
- datatype: MPI type of data (MPI_DOUBLE_PRECISION, MPI_INTEGER4, etc)
- tag: Message tag. Used to identify the message.
- comm : Communicator. Usually MPI_COMM_WORLD
- *ierr* : if *ierr* == *MPI_SUCCESS*, everything went fine
- status: Contains some information about the incoming message to track failures

Collective communications

Broadcast: one-to-all communication. Send the same data to all processes.

```
include 'mpif.h'
<type> :: buffer(*)
integer :: n, datatype, sender, comm, ierr
call MPI_BCAST(buffer, n, datatype, sender, comm, ierr)
```

- buffer: Data to send to all processes
- n : Number of elements in *buffer*

Reductions: all-to-one communication.

```
include 'mpif.h'
<type> :: sendbuf(*), recvbuf(*)
integer :: n, datatype, op, sender, comm, ierr
call MPI_REDUCE(sendbuf, recvbuf, n, datatype, op, sender, comm, ierr)
```

- sendbuf: Buffer of data to send
- recvbuf: Buffer in which the data will be received
- op : Reduction operation to perform. Examples: MPI_SUM, MPI_MAX, MPI_PROD, etc

The all-to-all variant is *MPI_ALLREDUCE*.

MPI has lots of routines, have a look a the documentation.

Two-electron integral using MPI

Pseudo-code

```
function f(r1,r2) {
MPI Init()
myid := MPI COMM RANK( MPI COMM WORLD )
nproc := MPI COMM SIZE( MPI COMM WORLD )
dx := (xmax-xmin)/(nmax-1)
dv := dx^6
local result := 0.
// For 4 processors,
// Processor 0 runs over 1,5,9 ,13,...
// Processor 1 runs over 2,6,10,14,...
```

```
// Processor 2 runs over 3,7,11,15,...
// Processor 3 runs over 4,8,12,16,...
for i = myid+1 to nmax with a step of nproc {
  for j,k,l,m,n = 1 to nmax  {
     r1(1) := (i-1) * dx + xmin
     r1(2) := (j-1) * dx + xmin
     r1(3) := (k-1) * dx + xmin
    r2(1) := (1-1) * dx + xmin + dx/2
    r2(2) := (m-1) * dx + xmin + dx/2
     r2(3) := (n-1) * dx + xmin + dx/2
     // (+ dx/2 : Avoids divergence in 1/r12)
     local result := local result + f(r1,r2) * dv
result := MPI REDUCE(local result, MPI SUM, MPI COMM WORLD)
```

```
if (myid = 0) {
   print result
}

MPI_Finalize()
```

Fortran implementation

```
double precision function f(r1,r2)
implicit none
double precision, intent(in) :: r1(3), r2(3)

! < Phi_1 (r1) Phi_2 (r1) 1/r12 Phi_3 (r2) Phi_4 (r2) >

double precision :: Phi_1, Phi_2, Phi_3, Phi_4
double precision :: r12_inv

double precision, parameter :: alpha_1=1.d0 , alpha_3=1.5d0
double precision, parameter :: alpha_2=4.2d0, alpha_4=2.3d0
```

```
double precision, parameter :: X_1(3) = (/0.d0, 0.d0, 0.d0)
double precision, parameter :: X = 2(3) = (/0.d0, 1.d0, 0.d0/)
double precision, parameter :: X = 3(3) = (/0.d0, 1.d0, 1.d0)
double precision, parameter :: X = 4(3) = (/1.d0, 1.d0, 0.d0 /)
Phi 1 = exp (-alpha 1*((r1(1)-X 1(1))*(r1(1)-X 1(1)) + &
                       (r1(2)-X 1(2))*(r1(2)-X 1(2)) + &
                       (r1(3)-X 1(3))*(r1(3)-X_1(3)))
Phi_2 = exp(-alpha_2*((r2(1)-X_2(1))*(r2(1)-X_2(1)) + &
                       (r2(2)-X 2(2))*(r2(2)-X 2(2)) + &
                       (r2(3)-X 2(3))*(r2(3)-X 2(3)))
Phi_3 = exp(-alpha_3*((r1(1)-X_3(1))*(r1(1)-X_3(1)) + &
                       (r1(2)-X_3(2))*(r1(2)-X_3(2)) + &
                       (r1(3)-X 3(3))*(r1(3)-X 3(3)))
```

```
Phi_4 = exp(-alpha_4*((r2(1)-X_4(1))*(r2(1)-X_4(1)) + &
                         (r2(2)-X 4(2))*(r2(2)-X 4(2)) + &
                         (r2(3)-X 4(3))*(r2(3)-X 4(3)))
 r12 inv = 1.d0/dsqrt ((r1(1)-r2(1))*(r1(1)-r2(1)) + &
                         (r1(2)-r2(2))*(r1(2)-r2(2)) + &
                         (r1(3)-r2(3))*(r1(3)-r2(3))
 f = Phi_1 * Phi_2 * r12_inv * Phi_3 * Phi_4
end
program bielec
  implicit none
  include 'mpif.h'
  integer :: ierr
  integer :: myid
```

```
integer :: nproc
integer :: i,j,k,l,m,n
integer, parameter :: nmax=30
double precision, parameter :: xmin = -2.d0, xmax = 2.d0
double precision, external :: f
double precision :: r1(3), r2(3)
double precision :: local result, result
double precision :: dx,dv
! Initialize the MPI library
call MPI Init(ierr)
! Get the rank of the current process
call MPI COMM RANK(MPI COMM WORLD, myid, ierr)
! Get the the total number of processes
```

```
call MPI_COMM_SIZE(MPI_COMM_WORLD, nproc, ierr)
! Compute a partial result locally
local result = 0.d0
dx = (xmax-xmin)/dble(nmax-1)
dv = dx * * 6
! For 4 processes,
! Proces 0 runs over 1,5,9 ,13,...
! Proces 1 runs over 2,6,10,14,...
! Proces 2 runs over 3,7,11,15,...
! Proces 3 runs over 4,8,12,16,...
do i=myid+1,nmax,nproc
 r1(1) = dble(i-1) * dx + xmin
 do j=1, nmax
  r1(2) = dble(j-1) * dx + xmin
 do k=1, nmax
   r1(3) = dble(k-1) * dx + xmin
```

```
do l=1, nmax
    r2(1) = dble(1-1) * dx + xmin + dx/2
    ! + dx/2 : Avoids divergence in r1=r2
   do m=1,nmax
     r2(2) = dble(m-1) * dx + xmin + dx/2
     do n=1, nmax
      r2(3) = dble(n-1) * dx + xmin + dx/2
      local_result = local_result + f(r1,r2) * dv
     enddo
   enddo
   enddo
  enddo
enddo
enddo
! Sum the local results of all processes
! into the master process
call MPI_REDUCE(local_result, result, 1, &
```

```
MPI_DOUBLE_PRECISION, MPI_SUM, &
    0, MPI_COMM_WORLD, ierr)

if (myid == 0) then
    print *, result
endif

! Terminate the MPI library
call MPI_Finalize(ierr)

end
```

Links

- Open MPI: Open source MPI implementation: http://www.open-mpi.org/
- Open MPI documentation : http://www.open-mpi.org/doc/v1.8/

Coarray Fortran (CAF)

Extension of the Fortran 2008 standard.

- Each running process is called an image.
- The number of images is obtained with the built-in num_image() function
- The rank of the current process is obtained with this_image()

A *codimension* can be given to arrays in square brackets, for example:

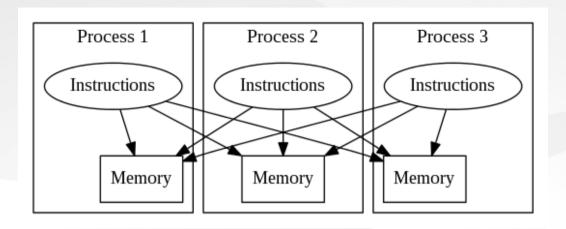
```
integer :: i[*]
double precision :: A(10)[*]
```

For any image,

- i[2]: value of i in image number 2
- *A*(5)[4]: value of *A*(5) in image number 4

Any image can directly have access an element in the memory of another image.

PGAS: Partitioned Global Address Space.



Much simpler than MPI:

- Higher level of abstraction than MPI
- Types, message sizes, tags, etc are known by the compiler
- Compiler can place the communication instructions where it is the best (asynchronous comm)
- Better performance obtained by non-experts

But:

- Experts can get more performance with MPI: more flexibility (lower level)
- Having knowledge of how MPI works helps to write efficient (CAF) code

Calculation of the 2-electron integral

```
double precision function f(r1,r2)
  implicit none
 double precision, intent(in) :: r1(3), r2(3)
  ! < Phi_1 (r1) Phi_2 (r1) 1/r12 Phi_3 (r2) Phi_4 (r2) >
 double precision :: Phi_1, Phi_2, Phi_3, Phi_4
 double precision :: r12_inv
 double precision,parameter :: alpha_1=1.d0 , alpha_3=1.5d0
 double precision, parameter :: alpha_2=4.2d0, alpha_4=2.3d0
 double precision, parameter :: X_1(3) = (/0.d0, 0.d0, 0.d0)
 double precision, parameter :: X_2(3) = (/0.d0, 1.d0, 0.d0/)
 double precision, parameter :: X_3(3) = (/0.d0, 1.d0, 1.d0)
 double precision, parameter :: X_4(3) = (/1.d0, 1.d0, 0.d0 /)
```

```
Phi 1 = exp (-alpha 1*((r1(1)-X 1(1))*(r1(1)-X 1(1)) + &
                       (r1(2)-X 1(2))*(r1(2)-X 1(2)) + &
                       (r1(3)-X 1(3))*(r1(3)-X 1(3)))
Phi_2 = exp(-alpha_2*((r2(1)-X_2(1))*(r2(1)-X_2(1)) + &
                       (r2(2)-X_2(2))*(r2(2)-X_2(2)) + &
                       (r2(3)-X 2(3))*(r2(3)-X 2(3)))
Phi_3 = exp(-alpha_3*((r1(1)-X_3(1))*(r1(1)-X_3(1)) + &
                       (r1(2)-X 3(2))*(r1(2)-X 3(2)) + &
                       (r1(3)-X 3(3))*(r1(3)-X 3(3)))
Phi_4 = exp(-alpha_4*((r2(1)-X_4(1))*(r2(1)-X_4(1)) + &
                       (r2(2)-X 4(2))*(r2(2)-X 4(2)) + &
                       (r2(3)-X 4(3))*(r2(3)-X 4(3)))
r12_{inv} = 1.d0/dsqrt ((r1(1)-r2(1))*(r1(1)-r2(1)) + &
```

```
(r1(2)-r2(2))*(r1(2)-r2(2)) + &
                         (r1(3)-r2(3))*(r1(3)-r2(3))
 f = Phi 1 * Phi 2 * r12 inv * Phi 3 * Phi 4
end
program bielec
  implicit none
  integer :: i,j,k,l,m,n
  integer, parameter :: nmax=30
 double precision, parameter :: xmin = -2.d0, xmax = 2.d0
 double precision, external :: f
 double precision :: r1(3), r2(3)
 double precision :: local result[*], result
 double precision :: dx,dv
```

```
! Compute a partial result locally
local result = 0.d0
dx = (xmax-xmin)/dble(nmax-1)
dv = dx**6
! Image 0 runs over 1,5,9 ,13,...
! Image 1 runs over 2,6,10,14,...
! Image 2 runs over 3,7,11,15,...
! Image 3 runs over 4,8,12,16,...
do i=this_image()+1,nmax,num_images()
 r1(1) = dble(i-1) * dx + xmin
 do j=1, nmax
  r1(2) = dble(j-1) * dx + xmin
 do k=1,nmax
   r1(3) = dble(k-1) * dx + xmin
   do l=1, nmax
    r2(1) = dble(1-1) * dx + xmin + dx/2
```

```
! + dx/2 : Avoids divergence in r1=r2
    do m=1, nmax
     r2(2) = dble(m-1) * dx + xmin + dx/2
     do n=1, nmax
      r2(3) = dble(n-1) * dx + xmin + dx/2
      local_result = local_result + f(r1,r2) * dv
     enddo
    enddo
   enddo
  enddo
 enddo
enddo
! Sum the local results of all processes
do i=1,num_images()
  result = result + local_result[i]
enddo
```

```
if (this_image() == 1) then
    print *, result
    endif
```

Links

- Coarray Fortran http://www.co-array.org/
- Rice University http://caf.rice.edu/
- Coarray with gfortran http://gcc.gnu.org/wiki/Coarray

Problem 4: Parallelization of a matrix product

Matrix products are usually not written by the user. It is preferable to use optimized libraries to perform linear algebra. A standardized API exists (**Lapack**) on top of the **BLAS** API. Every CPU manufacturer provides optimized libraries (MKL, ATLAS, NAG, ACML, CULA, etc).

For matrix products, we use **DGEMM**:

• D : double precision

• Ge: General

MM : Matrix Multiplication

```
NAME
```

```
DGEMM - perform one of the matrix-matrix operations
C := alpha*op( A )*op( B ) + beta*C
```

```
SYNOPSIS

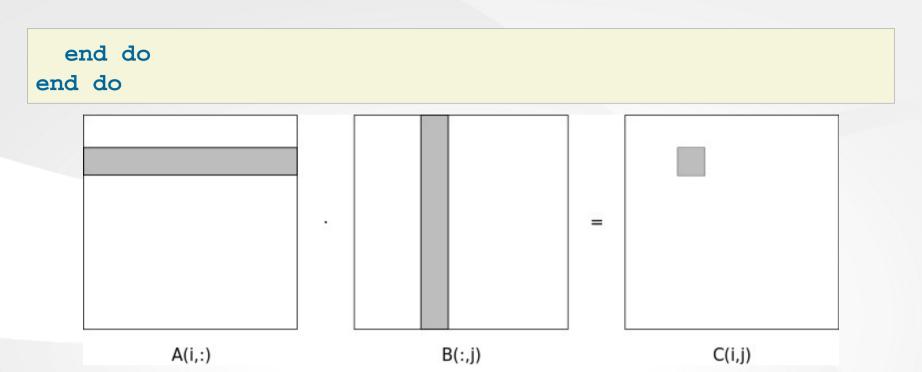
SUBROUTINE DGEMM ( TRANSA, TRANSB, M, N, K, ALPHA, A, LDA, B, LDB, BETA, C, LDC )

CHARACTER*1 TRANSA, TRANSB
INTEGER M, N, K, LDA, LDB, LDC
DOUBLE PRECISION ALPHA, BETA
DOUBLE PRECISION A( LDA, * ), B( LDB, * ), C( LDC, * )

...
```

$$C_{ij} = \sum_{k=1}^{N} A_{ik} B_{kj}$$

```
C = 0.
do j=1,N
    do i=1,N
    do k=1,N
        C(i,j) = C(i,j) + A(i,k) * B(k,j)
    end do
```



The final matrix can be split, such that each CPU core builds part of it.

A11	A 12	B11	B12		C11	C ₁₂	
A 21	A22	B21	B22		C21	C22	
A ₁₁	A ₁₂	B ₁₁	B ₁₂	=	C ₁₁	C ₁₂	
A ₂₁	A ₂₂	B ₂₁	B ₂₂	_	C ₂₁	C ₂₂	

A ₁₁	A ₁₂		B ₁₁	B ₁₂		C ₁₁	C ₁₂
A ₂₁	A ₂₂	•	B ₂₁	B ₂₂	=	C ₂₁	C ₂₂

$$\begin{array}{l} C_{11}\!=\!A_{11}\cdot\!B_{11}\!+\!A_{12}\cdot\!B_{21} \\ C_{12}\!=\!A_{11}\cdot\!B_{12}\!+\!A_{12}\cdot\!B_{22} \\ C_{21}\!=\!A_{21}\cdot\!B_{11}\!+\!A_{22}\cdot\!B_{21} \\ C_{22}\!=\!A_{21}\cdot\!B_{12}\!+\!A_{22}\cdot\!B_{22} \end{array}$$

The large $N \times N$ matrix product can be performed by doing 8 smaller matrix products of size $N/2 \times N/2$, that can be done simultaneously by 8 CPUs.

Data access is *slow* with respect to calculation:

Operation	Latency (ns)
Int ADD	0.3
FP ADD	0.9
FP MUL	1.5
L1 cache	1.2
L2 cache	3.5
L3 cache	13
RAM	79
Infiniband	1 200
Ethernet	50 000
Disk (SSD)	50 000
Disk (15k)	2 000 000

Arithmetic intensity: Flops/memory access

Sequential algorithm:

- The most efficient operation on a computer : ~95% of the peak performance
- $\bullet \mathcal{O}(N^2)$ data access and $\mathcal{O}(N^3)$ flops -> High arithmetic intensity -> Compute bound.
- (2 x N²) data reads, (N) data writes and (N³) flops
- Arithmetic intensity = N/2

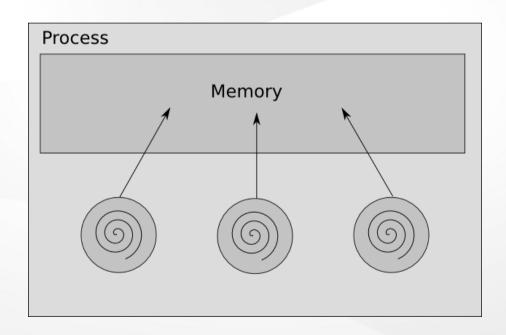
4-way parallel algorithm:

- Here, the data can not be disjoint between the CPUs
- To build one block, 4 blocks are needed
- The same block will be read by different CPUs
- (2 x N x N/2) data reads, (N/2 x N/2 x N) flops
- Arithmetic intensity = N/4 : less than sequential algorithm

Difficulty:

- A modern CPU can perform 8 FP ADD and 8 FP MUL per cycle (!!!)
- A random memory access takes ~300 cycles (4 800 flops!)

- A network access takes ~4000 cycles (64 000 flops!)
- To benefit from *distributed* parallelism, the matrices have to be *very* large Proposed solution: Use **shared-memory** parallelism
 - Avoids network bottleneck (~10x slower than RAM)
 - L3 cache sharing optimizes data access (~6x faster than RAM)
 - Hardware memory prefetchers will mask the RAM latencies



Threads

pthreads

- When starting a new thread, a concurrent execution of a function is started in the same memory domain.
- A private memory domain is created for the thread
- The parent process can wait until all the children threads have finished their work
- Fork/join model

Example in pseudo-code

```
function f() { ... }

t = pthread_create(f);
```

Example in Python

```
#!/usr/bin/env python
import threading
import time
A = 0
def f(x):
  global A
  time.sleep(1.)
 A = x
  print x, "written by thread"
def main():
  t = threading.Thread(target=f, args = [2])
  print "Before thread starts, A= ", A
  t.start()
  time.sleep(0.5)
```

```
print "A= ", A
  time.sleep(1.)
  print "A= ", A
  time.sleep(1.)
  t.join()
  print "After join, A=", A

if __name__ == '__main__':
  main()
```

What happens when 2 threads read from the same memory address at the same time?

Nothing special

What happens when 2 threads write at the same memory address at the same time?

If you are lucky, the program crashes. Otherwise, it is unpredictible.

Locks

To avoid writing simultaneously at the same memory location, we introduce **Locks**:

acquire_lock(L)

if L is free, the current thread gets the lock. Otherwise, block until the lock can be acquired

release_lock(L)

the lock is released by the current thread

Example of wrong code

```
#!/usr/bin/env python
import threading
import time

A = 0

def f(x):
```

```
global A
  for i in range(x):
   A = A+1
def main():
  t = [None for i in range(10)]
  for i in range(10):
    t[i] = threading.Thread(target=f, args = [100000])
  for i in range(10):
   t[i].start()
  for i in range(10):
   t[i].join()
 print A
if __name__ == '__main__':
  main()
```

Using a lock:

```
#!/usr/bin/env python
import threading
import time
A = 0
lock = threading.Lock()
def f(x):
  global A
  a = 0
  for i in range(x):
  a = a+1
  lock.acquire()
 A = A + a
  lock.release()
def main():
  t = [None for i in range(10)]
```

```
for i in range(10):
    t[i] = threading.Thread(target=f, args = [100000])
    for i in range(10):
        t[i].start()

for i in range(10):
        t[i].join()
    print A

if __name__ == '__main__':
    main()
```

A **semaphore** is more general than a lock: it can be taken simultaneously by more than 1 thread.

OpenMP

OpenMP is an extension of programming languages that enable the use of multi-threading to parallelize the code using directives given as comments. The same source code can be compiled with/without OpenMP.

For example:

```
!$OMP PARALLEL DEFAULT(SHARED) PRIVATE(i)
!$OMP DO
do i=1,n
  A(i) = B(i) + C(i)
end do
!$OMP END DO
!$OMP END PARALLEL
```

•!\$OMP PARALLEL starts a new multi-threaded section. Everything inside this block is executed by *all* the threads

- •!\$OMP DO tells the compiler to split the loop among the different threads (by changing the loop boundaries for instance)
- •!\$OMP END DO marks the end of the parallel loop. It contains an implicit synchronization. After this line, all the threads have finished executing the loop.
- •!\$OMP END PARALLEL marks the end of the parallel section. Contains also an implicit barrier.
- DEFAULT(SHARED): all the variables (A,B,C) are in shared memory by default
- PRIVATE(i): the variable i is private to every thread
 Other important directives:
 - •!\$OMP CRITICAL ... !\$OMP END CRITICAL : all the statements in this block are protected by a lock
 - •!\$OMP TASK ... !\$OMP END TASK : define a new task to execute
 - !\$OMP BARRIER : synchronization barrier

- •!\$OMP SINGLE ... !\$OMP END SINGLE : all the statements in this block are executed by a single thread
- •!\$OMP MASTER ... !\$OMP END MASTER : all the statements in this block are executed by the master thread
- omp_get_thread_num(): returns the ID of the current running thread
- omp_get_num_threads(): returns the total number of running threads
- OMP_NUM_THREADS: Environment variable (shell) that fixes the number of threads to run

Matrix product : simple OpenMP example

Loop parallelism

```
A = create matrix()
B = create_matrix()
// parallelize loop over i and j
for i=1 to N using a step of N/2 {
  for j=1 to N using a step of N/2 {
    for k=1 to N using a step of N/2 {
      // C_{ij} = A_{ik.B_kj}
      DGEMM ( C(i,j), A(i,k), B(k,j), (N/2, N/2) )
```

```
program submatrix_openmp
  implicit none
  integer, parameter
                         :: sze = 5000
  double precision, allocatable, dimension (:,:) :: A, B, C
  double precision
                                 :: cpu_0, cpu_1
                                 :: istart(2), iend(2)
  integer
  integer
                                 :: jstart(2), jend(2)
                                 :: i,j
  integer
  integer
                                 :: i1,i2,j1,j2,step
  integer, external
                                 :: omp_get_thread_num
  double precision
                                 S
  allocate (A(sze, sze), B(sze, sze), C(sze, sze))
 C = 0.40
  step = sze/2
```

```
!$OMP PARALLEL DEFAULT(NONE)
                                                          S
    !$OMP PRIVATE(i1, j1, j2, istart, jstart, iend, jend,
    !$OMP cpu_0,cpu_1)
                                                          \mathcal{E}
    !$OMP SHARED(A,B,C,step)
!$OMP MASTER
call wall_time(cpu_0)
!$OMP END MASTER
!Build the submatrices
!$OMP DO COLLAPSE(2)
do i1=1,sze,step
  do j2=1, sze, step
    istart(1) = i1
    iend(1) = istart(1) + step-1
    jstart(1) = j2
```

```
jend(1) = jstart(1) + step-1
    call create_matrix(A,sze,7.d0,istart(1),
                                                       \mathcal{S}
                         iend(1), jstart(1), jend(1))
    call create_matrix(B,sze,11.d0,istart(1),
                         iend(1), jstart(1), jend(1))
  enddo
enddo
!$OMP END DO
!$OMP MASTER
call wall_time(cpu_1)
write(0,*) 'Matrix build time : ', cpu_1-cpu_0, 's'
call wall_time(cpu_0)
!$OMP END MASTER
!$OMP DO COLLAPSE(2)
do i1=1, sze, step
  do j2=1, sze, step
```

```
istart(1) = i1
jstart(2) = j2
iend(1) = istart(1) + step-1
jend(2) = jstart(2) + step-1
do j1=1, sze, step
  jstart(1) = j1
  istart(2) = j1
  jend(1) = jstart(1) + step-1
  iend(2) = istart(2) + step-1
  ! Compute the submatrix product
  call dgemm('N','N',
                                                \delta
       1+iend(1)-istart(1),
                                                \delta
       1+jend(1)-jstart(1),
                                                \mathcal{L}
       1+jend(2)-jstart(2),
                                                \delta
       1.d0, A(istart(1), jstart(1)), sze,
       B(istart(2), jstart(2)), sze,
                                                \mathcal{L}
       1.d0, C(istart(1), jstart(2)), sze )
```

```
enddo
  enddo
enddo
!$OMP END DO
!$OMP MASTER
call wall_time(cpu_1)
write(0,*) 'Compute Time : ', cpu_1-cpu_0, 's'
!$OMP END MASTER
!$OMP END PARALLEL
! Print the sum of the elements
s = 0.d0
do j=1,sze
  do i=1,sze
  s = s + C(i,j)
  enddo
enddo
```

```
deallocate (A,B,C)
  print *, s
end
```

Task parallelism

Shared-memory work stealing

```
A = create matrix()
B = create matrix()
queue= []
for i=1 to N using a step of N/2 {
  for j=1 to N using a step of N/2 {
    for k=1 to N using a step of N/2 {
      // C_{ij} = A_{ik.B_kj}
      queue = queue + [ ( i, j, k ) ]
sem = semaphore(nproc)
```

```
function do_work( i,j,k ) {
 DGEMM (A,B,C,i,j,k)
 release_semaphore(sem)
do while queue is not empty
 acquire_semaphore(sem)
 // Pop out the 1st element of the queue
 params = queue.pop()
 pthread_create( do_work, params )
```

```
double precision
                                 :: wall_0, wall_1
integer
                                 :: istart(2), iend(2)
integer
                                 :: jstart(2), jend(2)
                                 :: i,j
integer
                                 :: i1,i2,j1,j2,step
integer
double precision
                                 :: S
allocate (A(sze,sze), B(sze,sze), C(sze,sze))
C = 0.d0
step = sze/2
!$OMP PARALLEL DEFAULT(NONE)
                                                        \delta z
    !$OMP PRIVATE(i1,j1,j2,istart,jstart,iend,jend)
    !$OMP SHARED(A,B,C,step,wall_0,wall_1)
```

```
!$OMP MASTER
call wall time(wall 0)
!Build the submatrices
do i1=1, sze, step
  do j2=1, sze, step
    istart(1) = i1
    iend(1) = istart(1) + step-1
    istart(1) = i2
    jend(1) = jstart(1) + step-1
    !$OMP TASK
    call create_matrix(A,sze,7.d0,istart(1),
                                                        \delta
                         iend(1), jstart(1), jend(1))
    !$OMP END TASK
    !SOMP TASK
    call create_matrix(B,sze,11.d0,istart(1),
                                                        &
                         iend(1), jstart(1), jend(1))
    !$OMP END TASK
```

```
enddo
enddo
!$OMP END MASTER
!$OMP TASKWAIT
!$OMP MASTER
call wall time(wall 1)
write(0,*) 'Matrix build time : ', wall_1-wall_0, 's'
call wall_time(wall_0)
do i1=1, sze, step
  do j2=1, sze, step
    istart(1) = i1
    jstart(2) = j2
    iend(1) = istart(1) + step-1
    jend(2) = jstart(2) + step-1
    do j1=1, sze, step
      jstart(1) = j1
```

```
istart(2) = j1
      jend(1) = jstart(1) + step-1
      iend(2) = istart(2) + step-1
       ! Compute the submatrix product
       !SOMP TASK
      call dgemm('N','N',
                                                    \delta
           1+iend(1)-istart(1),
                                                    \delta
           1+jend(1)-jstart(1),
                                                    \delta
           1+jend(2)-jstart(2),
                                                    \mathcal{L}
           1.d0, A(istart(1), jstart(1)), sze,
           B(istart(2), jstart(2)), sze,
           1.d0, C(istart(1), jstart(2)), sze )
      !$OMP END TASK
    enddo
  enddo
enddo
!$OMP END MASTER
```

```
!$OMP TASKWAIT
  !$OMP END PARALLEL
  call wall_time(wall_1)
 write(0,*) 'Compute Time : ', wall_1-wall_0, 's'
  ! Print the sum of the elements
  s = 0.d0
  do j=1,sze
   do i=1,sze
     s = s+C(i,j)
    enddo
  enddo
  deallocate (A,B,C)
 print *, s
end
```

Divide and Conquer algorithms

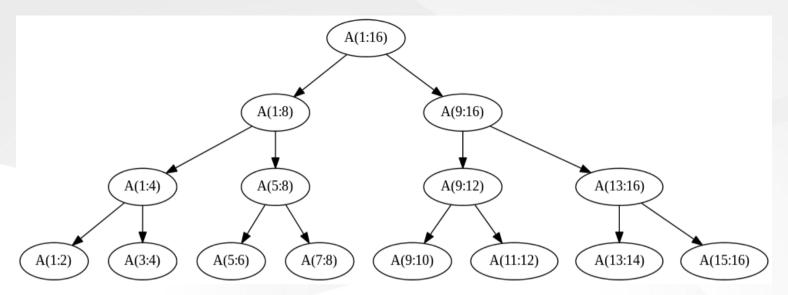
Algorithm based on recursion. The problem is divided in sub-problems that are solved in the same way as the large problem.

Example: Sum

Suppose you want to compute the sum of all the elements of the array A(1:16). This sum can be expressed as the sum of the two halves of the array:

S[A(1:16)] = S[A(1:8)] + S[A(9:16)]

The S function will be applied recursively.



Python

```
#!/usr/bin/python

sze_A = 5000000
A = [ i*1.5 for i in range(sze_A) ]

def sum_half(X):
    sze = len(X)
```

```
if sze > 1 :
    return sum_half(X[:sze/2]) + sum_half(X[sze/2:])
else:
    return X[0]

s = sum_half(A)
print 'DC : ', s
print 'Exact : 1.875000375E+13'
```

Fortran OpenMP

```
! Initialize array
do i=1,sze
 A(i) = dble(i)*1.5
enddo
!$OMP PARALLEL DEFAULT(NONE) SHARED(A,s)
!$OMP SINGLE
call sum_half( A(1), sze, s)
!$OMP END SINGLE
!$OMP TASKWAIT
!$OMP END PARALLEL
print *, 'Loop : ', sum(A)
print *, 'DC : ', s
print *, 'Exact : 1.875000375E+13'
```

```
end
recursive subroutine sum_half(A,sze,s)
  implicit none
  integer, intent(in)
                              :: sze
 real, intent(in)
                                :: A(sze)
 real, intent(out)
                                 : S
 real
                                 :: sa, sb
                                 :: i, sze_new
  integer
  if ( sze > 1 ) then
    sze new = sze/2
    !$OMP TASK SHARED(A,sa) FIRSTPRIVATE(sze_new)
    call sum_half(A(1), sze_new, sa)
    !$OMP END TASK
```

```
!$OMP TASK SHARED(A,sb) FIRSTPRIVATE(sze_new,sze)
    call sum_half(A(sze_new+1), sze-sze_new, sb)
    !$OMP END TASK
    !$OMP TASKWAIT
    s = sa+sb
  else
   s = A(1)
  endif
end
```

Divide and Conquer matrix product

Pseudo-code

```
recursive subroutine divideAndConquer(A,B,C,sze,ie1,je2)
 if ((ie1 < 200).and.(je2 < 200)) then
  call DGEMM
 else
   !$OMP TASK SHARED(A,B,C,sze) FIRSTPRIVATE(ie1,je2)
   call divideAndConquer( & ! +----+ +---+ +---+
     A(1,1), & ! | X | | X |
                  & ! +----+ . + X | + = +---+
     B(1,1),
     C(1,1), &! | | | |
                & ! +----+ +---+ +---+
     sze,
                 &! A
     ie1/2,
      je2/2)
   !$OMP END TASK
   !$OMP TASK SHARED(A,B,C,sze) FIRSTPRIVATE(ie1,je2)
```

```
call divideAndConquer( & ! +----+ +---+
  A(1,1),
                &! X
  B(1,1+je2/2), & ! +----+ . | X | = +---+--+
  C(1,1+je2/2), & !
                &! +----+ +---+ +---+
  sze,
  ie1/2,
                & ! A
  ie2-(ie2/2))
!SOMP END TASK
!$OMP TASK SHARED(A,B,C,sze) FIRSTPRIVATE(ie1,je2)
call divideAndConquer( & ! +----+ +---+
  A(1+ie1/2,1), &!
        & ! +---- X
  B(1,1),
  C(1+ie1/2,1), & ! X
                &! +----+ +---+ +---+
  sze,
  ie1-(ie1/2),
             &! A
  je2/2)
!$OMP END TASK
```

```
!$OMP TASK SHARED(A,B,C,sze) FIRSTPRIVATE(ie1,je2)
   call divideAndConquer( & ! +----+
      A(1+ie1/2,1), &!
      B(1,1+je2/2), & ! +----+ . | X = +---+
      C(1+ie1/2,1+je2/2),&! X
                                                Χ
                   & ! +----+ +---+ +---+
      sze,
      ie1-(ie1/2), & ! A
      je2-(je2/2))
   !$OMP END TASK
   !SOMP TASKWAIT
 endif
end
!$OMP PARALLEL DEFAULT(SHARED)
```

```
!$OMP SINGLE
    call divideAndConquer(A,B,C,sze, sze, sze )
!$OMP END SINGLE NOWAIT
!$OMP TASKWAIT
!$OMP END PARALLEL
```

Fortran implementation

```
call wall_time(wall_0)
C = 0.d0
step = sze/2
call wall time(wall 0)
!$OMP PARALLEL DEFAULT(NONE)
                                                        \delta z
    !$OMP PRIVATE(i1,j1,j2,istart,jstart,iend,jend) &
    !$OMP SHARED(A,B,C,step)
!$OMP SINGLE
!Build the submatrices
do i1=1, sze, step
  do j2=1, sze, step
    istart(1) = i1
    iend(1) = istart(1) + step-1
    jstart(1) = j2
```

```
jend(1) = jstart(1) + step-1
    !$OMP TASK SHARED(A)
    call create matrix(A,sze,7.d0,istart(1), &
                        iend(1), jstart(1), jend(1))
    !$OMP END TASK
    !$OMP TASK SHARED(B)
    call create_matrix(B,sze,11.d0,istart(1), &
                        iend(1), jstart(1), jend(1)
    !$OMP END TASK
  enddo
enddo
!$OMP END SINGLE NOWAIT
!$OMP TASKWAIT
!$OMP END PARALLEL
call wall time(wall 1)
write(0,*) 'Matrix build time : ', wall_1-wall_0, 's'
```

```
call wall_time(wall_0)
!$OMP PARALLEL DEFAULT(SHARED)
!$OMP SINGLE
call divideAndConquer(A,B,C,sze, sze, sze)
!$OMP END SINGLE NOWAIT
!$OMP TASKWAIT
!$OMP END PARALLEL
call wall time(wall 1)
write(0,*) 'Compute Time : ', wall_1-wall_0, 's'
! Print the sum of the elements
s = 0.d0
do j=1,sze
  do i=1,sze
  s = s + C(i,j)
  enddo
enddo
```

```
deallocate (A,B,C)
 print *, s
end
recursive subroutine divideAndConquer(A,B,C,sze,ie1,je2)
  implicit none
 double precision
                                :: wall 0, wall 1
  integer, intent(in)
                       :: sze
 double precision, dimension (sze, sze), intent(in) :: A, B
  double precision, dimension (sze, sze), intent(out) :: C
  integer, intent(in) :: ie1, je2
  if ( (ie1 < 200).and.(je2 < 200) ) then</pre>
   call dgemm('N','N',
                                          &
        ie1,
                                          &
        je2,
                                          \delta
```

```
sze,
                                           &
      1.d0, A,sze,
                                           &
      B,sze,
                                           &
      1.d0, C,sze )
else
  !$OMP TASK SHARED(A,B,C,sze) FIRSTPRIVATE(ie1,je2)
  call divideAndConquer(
                                           &
      A(1,1),
                                           &
      B(1,1),
                                           \delta
      C(1,1),
                                           &
                                           &
      sze,
      ie1/2,
      je2/2)
  !$OMP END TASK
  !$OMP TASK SHARED(A,B,C,sze) FIRSTPRIVATE(ie1,je2)
```

```
call divideAndConquer(
                                          &
    A(1,1),
                                          &
    B(1,1+je2/2),
                                          &
    C(1,1+je2/2),
                                          &
    sze,
                                          &
    ie1/2,
                                          &
    je2-(je2/2))
!$OMP END TASK
!$OMP TASK SHARED(A,B,C,sze) FIRSTPRIVATE(ie1,je2)
call divideAndConquer(
                                          &
    A(1+ie1/2,1),
                                          \delta
    B(1,1),
                                          \delta
    C(1+ie1/2,1),
                                          &
    sze,
    ie1-(ie1/2),
                                          &
    je2/2)
!$OMP END TASK
```

```
!$OMP TASK SHARED(A,B,C,sze) FIRSTPRIVATE(ie1,je2)
    call divideAndConquer(
                                             &
        A(1+ie1/2,1),
                                             &
        B(1,1+je2/2),
                                             &
        C(1+ie1/2,1+je2/2),
                                             &
                                             \delta
        sze,
        ie1-(ie1/2),
                                             &
        je2-(je2/2))
    !$OMP END TASK
    !$OMP TASKWAIT
  endif
end
```

Vectorization

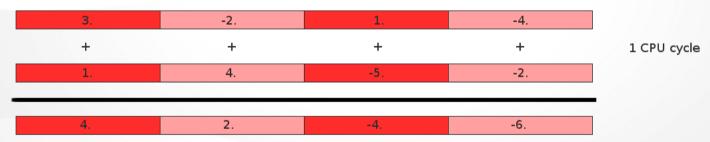
Parallelism that happens on a single CPU core.

SIMD: Single Instruction, Multiple Data

Execute the *same* instruction in parallel on all the elements of a vector:



Example: AVX vector ADD in double precision:



Different instruction sets exist in the x86 micro-architecture:

- MMX : Integer (64-bit wide)
- SSE -> SSE4.2 : Integer and Floating-point (128-bit)

- AVX : Integer and Floating-point (256-bit)
- AVX-512 : Integer and Floating-point (512-bit)

Requirements:

- 1. The elements of each SIMD vector must be contiguous in memory
- 2. The first element of each SIMD vector must be *aligned* on a proper boundary (64, 128, 256 or 512-bit).

Automatic vectorization

The compiler can generate automatically vector instructions when possible. A double precision AVX auto-vectorized loop generates 3 loops:

Peel loop (scalar)

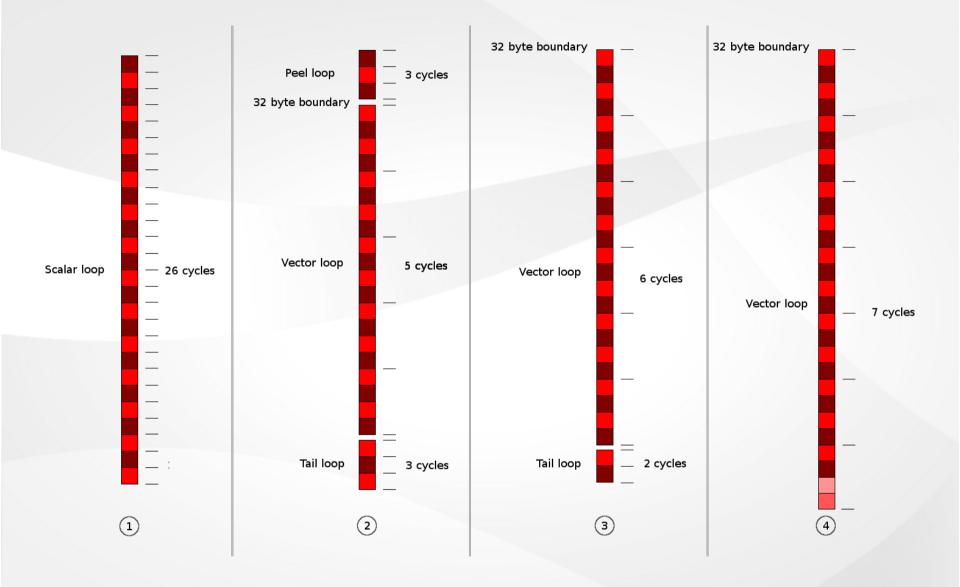
First elements until the 256-bit boundary is met

Vector loop

Vectorized version until the last vector of 4 elements

Tail loop (scalar)

Last elements



Intel specific Compiler directives

To remove the peel loop, you can tell the compiler to align the arrays on a 32 byte boundary using:

```
double precision, allocatable :: A(:), B(:)
!DIR$ ATTRIBUTES ALIGN : 32 :: A, B
```

Then, before using the arrays in a loop, you can tell the compiler that the arrays are aligned. Be careful: if one array is not aligned, this may cause a segmentation fault.

```
!DIR$ VECTOR ALIGNED

do i=1,n

A(i) = A(i) + B(i)

end do
```

To remove the tail loop, you can allocate A such that its dimension is a multiple of 4 elements:

```
n_4 = mod(n,4)
if (n_4 == 0) then
  n_4 = n
else
  n_4 = n - n_4 + 4
endif
allocate ( A(n_4), B(n_4) )
```

and rewrite the loop as follows:

```
do i=1,n,4
  !DIR$ VECTOR ALIGNED
  !DIR$ VECTOR ALWAYS
  do k=0,3
    A(i+k) = A(i+k) + B(i+k)
  end do
end do
```

In that case, the compiler knows that each inner-most loop cycle can be transformed safely into only vector instructions, and it will not produce the tail and peel loops with the branching. For small arrays, the gain can be significant.

For multi-dimensional arrays, if the 1st dimension is a multiple of 4 elements, all the columns are aligned:

```
double precision, allocatable :: A(:,:)
!DIR$ ATTRIBUTES ALIGN : 32 :: A
allocate(A(n 4,m))
do j=1, m
do i=1, n, 4
   !DIR$ VECTOR ALIGNED
   !DIR$ VECTOR ALWAYS
   do k=0.3
     A(i+k,j) = A(i+k,j) * B(i+k,j)
   end do
 end do
end do
```

Warning

In practice, using multiples of 4 elements is not always the best choice. Using multiples of 8 or 16 elements can be better because the inner-most loop may be unrolled by the compiler to improve the efficiency of the pipeline.

Instruction-level parallelism (ILP)

MIMD: Multiple instruction, Multiple data

With ILP, different execution units are used in parallel. For example, Sandy-Bridge (2011) x86 CPUs can perform simultaneously:

- 1 vector ADD
- 1 vector MUL
- 2 vector LOADs
- 1 vector STORE
- •1 integer ADD

Ideal for a scalar product (or a matrix product):

```
do i=1,N
    x = x + B(i)*C(i)
end do
```

Peak: 4 ADD + 4 MUL per cycle => 8 flops/cycle. For a 10-core CPU at 2.8GHz: 8 x 2.8E9 x 10 = 224 Gflops/s in double precision

Example:

```
do i=1,N
  A(i) = X(i) + Y(i)
end do
```

and

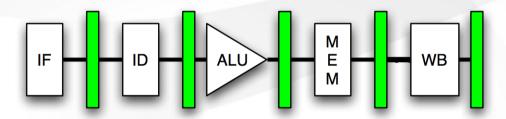
```
do i=1,N
  A(i) = 2.d0*(X(i) + Y(i))
end do
```

take the same amount of time.

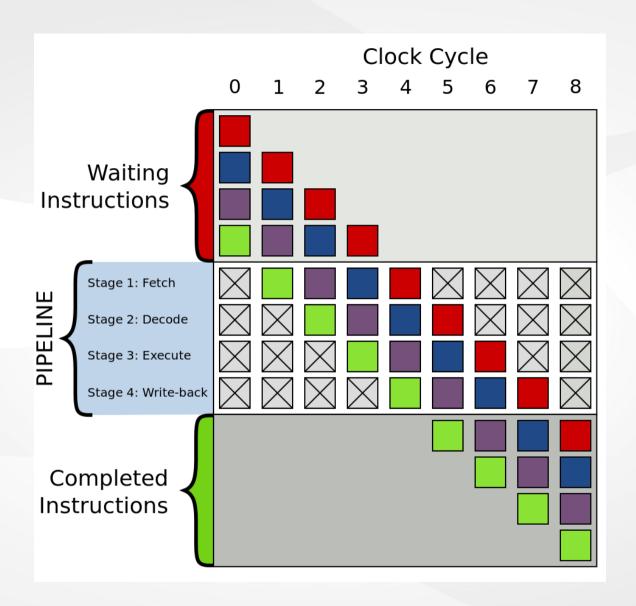
Pipelining

Here we consider a typical RISC processor with 4 different stages to perform an operation:

- 1. Instruction fetch
- 2. Instruction decode
- 3. Execution
- 4. Memory access+ write-back



Each stage can be executed using different physical units, such that all 4 units can be kept busy:



In this example:

Latency

4 cycles. It takes 4 cycles to perform one single operation

Throughput

1 cycle. We get one result every cycle

Out of order execution

Inside the CPU, the instructions are not executed in the exact sequence of the code, provided that it does not affect the result: independent instructions can be executed in any order.

The CPU can choose an execution order that improves the efficiency of the pipeline.

Branch prediction

When an *if* statement occurs, two paths can be taken by the program: it is a branch.

The pipeline has to be filled differently depending on the branch.

Branch prediction: the CPU assumes that one branch is more likely to be chosen, and fills the pipeline for it (speculative execution).

If the branch is mispredicted, the pipeline is emptied and the calculation is rolled back.

Branch mispredictions can have a large penalty on the execution.

Many branch predictors exist:

- Static predictor: always assume the condition is true
- Saturating counter: 1. Strongly not taken 2. Weakly not taken 3. Weakly taken
 4. Strongly taken
- Two-level adaptive predictor: a branch might be taken depending upon whether the previous two were taken
- Local branch prediction : one history buffer (~4 bits) for each conditional
- Global branch prediction: keep a global history buffer for all branches
- Loop predictor
- etc...

Example:

```
do i=1,N
  if ( mod(i,2) == 0 ) then
    ...
  else
    ...
  endif
end do
```

• Static: 50% success

Saturating: 50% success

• Local : 100% success (history = 1010)

Links

 "Pipeline-base" by Hellisp - Own work. Licensed under Public domain via Wikimedia Commons http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Pipeline-base.png "Pipeline, 4 stage" by en:User:Cburnett - Own workThis vector image was created with Inkscape.. Licensed under Creative Commons Attribution-Share Alike 3.0 via Wikimedia Commons - http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Pipeline,_4_stage.svg

Summary

- Multiple levels of parallelism : Coarse-grained -> Fine-grained
- Coarse-grained will give the highest level of parallel efficiency (lowest Communication/Computation ratio)
- Different levels of parallelism can be combined

The tools you use should be adapted to your problem:

For example

- doing a Monte Carlo calculation using OpenMP is a bad choice:
 - Shared memory is not required
 - Communication is generally low
 - Synchronization barriers can be avoided
 - Scaling would be limited to the number of cores/node
- diagonalizing a matrix with XML-RPC would not give a good scaling:
 - A lot of communication (matrix products)
 - Synchronizations necessary

If you need to do a Monte Carlo calculation where every Monte Carlo step diagonalizes a very large matrix, you can use OpenMP for the diagonalization and XML-RPC for the distribution of the MC steps.