

Intro HPC: Blatt 7

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5.1 Reading: Roofline - An Insightful Visual Performance Model for Multicore Architectures

5.2 Reading: LogP: Towards a Realistic Model of Parallel Computation

The author is introducing a model, that describe the bottlenecks of a distributed memory multiprocessor in which processors communicate by point-to-point messages. Therefore it is based on a few of parameters like latency (L), overhead (o), bandwidth (g) of communication and the number of processes (P) and the assumption of a finite capacity. Furthermore it is generally for different types of communication protocols or applications.

The author is finding, that for some applications some parameters can get negligible, which makes a simplification of the model possible. He tested the model on different workloads like the FFT and the LU-Decomposition, to show how the use of the model can lead to efficient parallel applications in practice. In the paper he is also comparing this model to the widely used PRAM and the BSP model, which do not accurately reflect the performance characteristics of such systems, in his opinion.

This model is promising a couple of advantages to other often used models like including asynchronous algorithms. It is very general, so it might give a good overview of a system but not very detailed.