Optimization of a Finite-Volume Method Application

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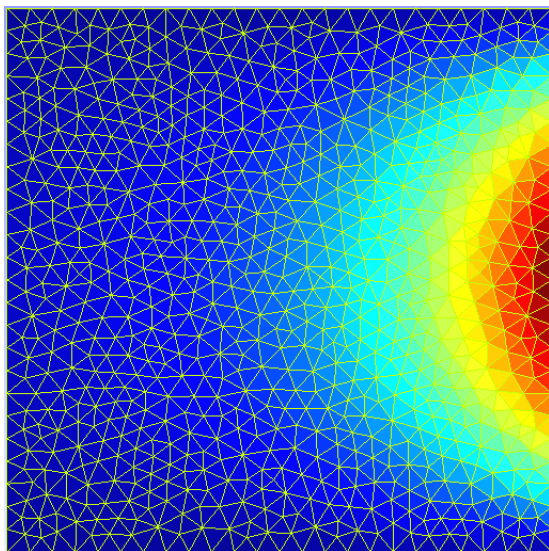
Universidade do Minho

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Index

conv-diff (Recap)

What? Computes the heat diffusion of a fluid spreading over an area;

How? Uses a Finite-Volume method;

Why? Represents surface as a mesh, making each cell only dependent of its neighbours;

The main objective is to compute a vector $\overline{\phi}$ such that

$$\overline{\phi} \longrightarrow G(\overline{\phi}) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \end{pmatrix}$$ This is accomplished in three different stages:

1. We begin with a candidate vector ϕ
2. For each edge, we compute the flux F_{ij}, with i and j being the indexes of the adjacent cells
3. For each cell, we compute $\sum |e_{ij}|F_{ij} - |c_i|f_i$

Thus: $\phi = \begin{pmatrix} \phi_1 \\ \vdots \\ \phi_I \end{pmatrix} \longrightarrow G = \begin{pmatrix} G_1 \\ \vdots \\ G_I \end{pmatrix}$

makeFlux   Compute the contribution from each edge;

makeResidual   Compute the ϕ vector, adding the flux for each cell from each contribution;

Original implementation

- **Arrays-of-Pointers**;

makeFlux

For all **edges**:

1. Read adjacent cell data;
2. Compute edge velocity;
3. Compute flux through edge;

makeResidual

For all **edges**:

1. Subtract flux from right cell;
2. Add flux to left cell;

Test Machines (for most of the project)

	compute-511@search AMD Opt 6174	compute-601@search Xeon X5650	compute-101@search Xeon E7520	MacBookPro Intel Ivy-Bridge i7
# processors	2	2	2	1
# cores per processor	12	6	1	4
hyper-threading	-	yes	yes	yes
clock frequency(GHz)	2.2	2.66	3.2	2.3
L1 capacity	128KB	32KB	16KB	64KB
L2 capacity	512KB	256KB	2MB	256KB
L3 capacity	12MB	12MB	-	6MB
RAM capacity	64GB	48GB	2GB	16GB

Table : Test machines

Naive Optimizations

- Removed redundant loads and calculations;
- Changed some variable definitions to *const*;
- Usage of a recent compiler auto-optimizations(SLP);

Identified Problems

- High number of memory accesses;
- Low operational intensity;
- Deep memory indirection chain;
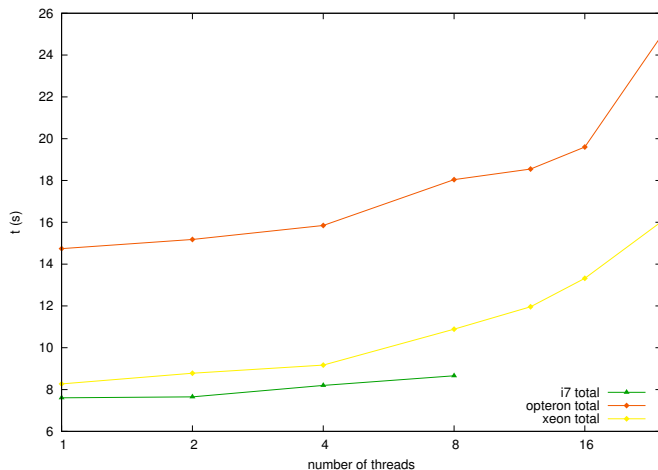- Bad data locality;

Achieved Results

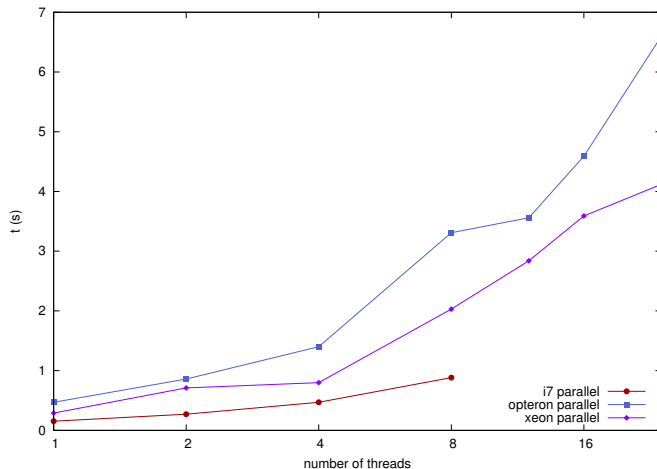Figure : Total application runtime

Achieved Results

Figure : Parallel section runtime

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