

MSc Scientific Computing Dissertation  
Benchmarking a Raspberry Pi 4 Cluster

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## Part I

# Project Report

# Chapter 1

## Introduction

### 1.1 Arm

Since the release of the Acorn Computers Arm1 in 1985, as a second coprocessor for the BBC Micro, through to powering today's fastest supercomputer, the Japanese 8 million core Fugaku supercomputer, Arm has steadily grown to become a dominant force in the microprocessor industry, with more than 170+ billion Arm-based processors shipped to date.

Famed for power efficiency, which directly equates to battery life, Arm-based processors dominate the mobile device market for phones and tablets. And market segments which have almost exclusively been based upon x86 processors from Intel or AMD are also increasingly turning to Arm-based processors. Microsoft's current flagship laptop, the Surface Pro X, released in October 2019, is based on a Microsoft designed Arm-based processor. And Apple announced in June 2020 a roadmap to transition all Apple devices to Apple designed Arm-based processors within 2 years.

When Acorn engineers designed the Arm1, and subsequently the Arm2 for the Acorn Archimedes personal computer, low power consumptions was not the primary design criteria. Their focus was on simplicity of design. Influenced by research projects at Stanford University and the University of California, Berkeley, their focus was on producing a Reduced Instruction Set Computer (RISC). In comparison to a contemporary Complicated Instruction Set Computer (CISC), the simplicity of a RISC design required fewer transistors, which directly translated to a lower power consumption. The RISC design permitted the Arm2 to outperform the Intel 80286, a contemporary CISC design, whilst using less power.



Figure 1.1: The Raspberry Pi 4 Model B.

## 1.2 Raspberry Pi

The Raspberry Pi Foundation, founded in 2009, is a UK based charity whose aim is to "promote the study of computer science and related topics, especially at school level, and to put the fun back into learning computing". Through its subsidiary, Raspberry Pi (Trading) Ltd, it provides low-cost, high-performance single-board computers called Raspberry Pi's, and free software.

At the heart of every Raspberry Pi is a Broadcom "System on a Chip" (SoC). The SoC integrates Arm processor cores with video, audio and Input/Output (IO). The IO includes USB, Ethernet, and General Purpose IO (GPIO) pins for interfacing with devices such as sensors and motors. The SoC is mounted on small form factor circuit board which hosts the memory chip, and video, audio, and IO connectors. A MicroSD card is used to boot the operating system and for permanent storage.

Initially released in 2012 as the Raspberry Pi 1, each subsequent model has seen improvements in SoC processor core count or performance, clock speed, connectivity and available memory.

The Raspberry Pi 1 has a single-core 32-bit ARM1176JZF-S based SoC clocked at 700 MHz and 256 MB of RAM. The RAM was increased to 512 MB in 2016.





Figure 1.2: The Raspberry Pi Zero.

The Raspberry Pi 2, released in 2015, introduced a quad-core 32-bit Arm Cortex-A7 based SoC clocked at 900 MHz and 1 GB of RAM.

In 2016, the Raspberry Pi 3 was released with a quad-core 64-bit Arm Cortex-A53 based SoC clocked at 1.2 GHz, together with 1 GB of RAM.

The most recent addition to the range, in 2019, is the Raspberry Pi 4, sporting a quad-core 64-bit Cortex-A72 based SoC clocked at 1.5 GHz. This model is available with 1, 2, 4 and 8 GB of RAM. This model with 4 GB of RAM was used for this project.

Since 2012 the official operating system for all Raspberry Pi models has been Raspbian, a Linux operating system based on Debian. Raspbian has recently been renamed Raspberry Pi OS. To support the aims of the Foundation, a number of educational software packages are bundled with Raspberry Pi OS. These include a "non-commercial use" version of Mathematica, and a graphical programming environment aimed at young children called Scratch.

Python is the official programming language, due to its popularity and ease of use, and the inclusion of an easy to use Python IDE has been a Foundation priority. This is currently Thonny.

Even though the Raspberry Pi 3 introduced a 64-bit processor, Raspberry Pi OS has remained a 32-bit operating system. However, to complement the intro-



Figure 1.3: The Raspberry Pi Compute Module 3+ (CM3+).

duction of the Raspberry Pi 4 with 8 GB of RAM, a 64-bit version is currently in public beta testing.

Raspberry Pi OS is not the only operating system available for the Raspberry Pi. The Raspberry Pi website provides downloads for Raspberry Pi OS, and also NOOBS (New Out of the Box Software), together with a MicroSD card OS image burning tool called Raspberry Pi Imager. NOOBS and Raspberry Pi Imager make it easy to install operating systems such as Ubuntu, RISC OS, Windows 10 IoT Core, and more. Ubuntu 20.04 LTS 64-bit, the operating system used for this project, is available for download from the Ubuntu website, and is also available as an install option within Raspberry Pi Imager.

Since the release of the Raspberry Pi 1, the Raspberry Pi has been available in a number of model variants and circuit board formats. The Model B of each release is the most powerful variant, intended for desktop use. The Model A is a simpler and cheaper variant intended for embedded projects. The models B+ and A+ designate an improvement to the current release hardware. The Raspberry Pi Zero is a tiny, inexpensive variant without most of the external connectors, designed for low power, possibly battery powered, embedded projects. The Raspberry Pi Compute Module is a stripped down version of the Raspberry Pi without any external connectors. This model is aimed at industrial applications and fits in a standard DDR2 SODIMM connector.

## 1.3 Aims

### 1.3.1 Benchmark Performance

The main aim of this project is to benchmark the performance of an 8 node Raspberry Pi 4 Model B cluster using standard HPC benchmarks. These benchmarks include High Performance Linpack (HPL), HPC Challenge (HPCC) and High Performance Conjugate Gradient (HPCG).

A pure OpenMPI topology was benchmarked, together with a hybrid OpenMPI/OpenMP topology.

### 1.3.2 Performance Optimisations

Having determined a Baseline performance benchmark, opportunities for performance optimisations were investigated for a single core, single node and the whole cluster. Network optimisation was also investigated, and proved to be significant factor in overall cluster performance.

### 1.3.3 Investigate Gflops/Watt

The Green500 List ranks computer systems by energy efficiency, Gflops/Watt. In June 2020, ranking Number 1, the most energy-efficient system was the MN-3 by Preferred Networks in Japan, which achieved a record 21.1 Gigaflops/Watt. Ranking 200 was Archer at the University of Edinburgh, which achieved 0.497 Gflops/Watt.

The final aim of this project was to investigate where the Aerin cluster might fair in relation to the Green500 List.

## 1.4 Typography

This has been a very hands-on computing project with lots of Linux command line use. To enable a reader to replicate the cluster build and results, the Linux commands, output and file listings are included in the dissertation text, and colour coded as follows to aid readability.

This is a computer name.

`node1`

This is a command to type.

```
$ cat /proc/softirqs
```

This is the command output.

	CPU0	CPU1	CPU2	CPU3
HI :	1	0	0	1
TIMER :	3835342	3454143	3431155	3431023
NET_TX :	36635	0	0	0
NET_RX :	509189	146	105	121
BLOCK :	95326	4367	4311	4256
IRQ_POLL :	0	0	0	0
TASKLET :	4900	3	4	25
SCHED :	444569	267214	218701	189120
HRTIMER :	67	0	0	0
RCU :	604466	281455	260784	277699

This is a long command to type.

```
$ mpirun -bind-to-socket -host node1:1,node2:1,node3:1 -np 3  
  ↪ -x OMP_NUM_THREADS=4 xhpl
```

Yes, in the command above, it is possible to reduce typing by putting the host data in a `hostfile`, but this illustrates the typography.

This is a file listing.

Listing 1.1: `/etc/hosts`

```
1 ##  
2 # Host Database  
3 #  
4 # localhost is used to configure the loopback interface  
5 # when the system is booting. Do not change this entry.  
6 ##  
7 127.0.0.1 localhost  
8 255.255.255.255 broadcasthost  
9 ::1 localhost  
10 192.168.0.1 node1  
11 192.168.0.2 node2  
12 192.168.0.3 node3  
13 192.168.0.4 node4  
14 192.168.0.5 node5  
15 192.168.0.6 node6  
16 192.168.0.7 node7  
17 192.168.0.8 node8  
18 192.168.0.9 node9
```

And this is something to take note of.

```
This is a 'gotcha', or  
This differs from a similar build procedure, or  
This is a 'hack' to be fixed permanently later, or  
Don't do this at home, or,  
Something similar
```

## 1.5 Project GitHub Repositories

The project code and benchmark results are hosted in the following GitHub repository.

<https://github.com/johnduffymsc/picluster>

This dissertation TeX and PDF files, and the Jupyter Notebook used to generate the plots, are hosted in the following GitHub repository.

<https://github.com/johnduffymsc/dissertation>

## Chapter 2

# ARM Architectures for HP

## Chapter 3

# The Aerin Cluster

### 3.1 Description

Detailed build instructions for the Aerin Cluster are included in Part II Chapter 7. This chapter describes the components of the cluster, and includes some advice and lessons learned.

Photo...

The Aerin Cluster consists of the following hardware and software components.

#### 3.1.1 Hardware

- 8 x Raspberry Pi 4 Model B compute nodes, **node1** to **node8**
- 1 x Raspberry Pi 4 Model B build node, **node9**
- 9 x Official Raspberry Pi 4 USB-C Power Supplies (5.1V, 3A)
- 9 x Class 10 A1 MicroSD cards
- 9 x Heatsinks with integrated fans
- 1 x Netgear FVS318G 8 Port Gigabit Router/Firewall
- 1 x Netgear GS316 16 Port Gigabit Switch (with Jumbo Frame support)
- Cat 7 Cabling (Minimum Cat 5e for Gigabit Ethernet)

The 9 x Raspberry Pi 4 are the 4GB RAM version. Recently, an 8GB RAM version became available, which would be the preferred version for a future cluster.

Some benchmarks require a substantial amount of time to run, so it is helpful to have a dedicated build node for compiling software, developing scripts, etc, while the benchmarks run on dedicated compute nodes. This is **node9**.

It is convenient to have a compute node designated the “master” node (there is a convenience and not a requirement). This is **node1**. If any software needs to be compiled locally to the compute nodes, and not on the build node, then the “master” node is used to do this. This node is also used to mirror the GitHub repository and to run the various Pi Cluster Tools.

The Raspberry Pi 4 is sensitive to voltage drops, especially whilst booting. So it was decided to purchase 9 Official Raspberry Pi 4 power supplies, rather than a USB hub with multiple power outlets which may not have been able to maintain its output voltage whilst booting 9 nodes. The 9 power supplies do take up some space, so a future development would be to investigate a suitably rated USB hub.

MicroSD cards are available in a number of speed classes and use categories. The recommended minimum specification for the Raspberry Pi 4 is Class 10 A1. The “10” refers to a 10 MB/s write speed. The “A” refers to the “Application” category, which support at least 1500 read operations and 500 write operations per second.

Cooling is a major consideration when building any cluster, even an 8 node Raspberry Pi cluster. The Raspberry Pi 4 throttles back the clock speed at approximately 85°C, which would not only have had a negative impact on benchmark results, but also on repeatability. So, it was very important to select suitable cooling. After some investigation, it was decided to purchase heatsinks with integrated fans. These proved to be very successful, with no greater than 65°C observed at any time, even with 100% CPU utilisation for many hours.

As we shall see, the Raspberry Pi 4 has very good Ethernet networking capabilities. The theoretical maximum bandwidth of a Gigabit Ethernet connection is 1 Gbit/s. With the default MTU (Maximum Transmission Unit) of 1500 bytes, the Raspberry Pi 4 can achieve 930 Mbit/s. This is 93% of the theoretical maximum bandwidth. Increasing the MTU to 9000 bytes increases the achievable, and measurable, bandwidth to 980 Mbit/s. This is, effectively, full Gigabit speed.

The MTU is the network packet payload size in bytes, i.e. the size of your data that is transmitted in a single network packet. It is actually 28 bytes less than the MTU due to network protocol overhead. We shall see later how a larger MTU can improve network efficiency and improve benchmark performance.



This brings us on to network equipment and cabling. Having seen that the Raspberry Pi 4 is capable of full Gigabit Ethernet, it is important that we make full use of it. It would be tempting to use any old router/firewall, switch, and cabling found lurking around in some dusty cupboard. This would be a mistake, and potentially cripple the cluster network. Courtesy of Ebay, I acquired a professional grade router/firewall and switch for less than £30 each. And the switch supports Jumbo Frames up to 9000 bytes, which we will be making use of.

A Jumbo Frame is any MTU greater than 1500 bytes. There is no standard maximum size for a Jumbo Frame, but the norm seems to be 9000 bytes. Not all network devices support Jumbo Frames, and a change of MTU size from the default 1500 bytes has to be supported by all devices on the network (although some devices are smart enough to accommodate multiple MTU's).

The router/firewall acts a cluster interface to the outside world. In my home environment the WAN (Wide Area Network) side of the router/firewall is connected to my ADSL router via an ethernet cable. This permits the compute nodes on the LAN (Local Area Network) side of the firewall to connect to the internet and download updates. When relocated to UCL, the WAN side of the router/firewall would be connected to the internal UCL network.

The router/firewall exposes a single IP address for the cluster to the WAN. Access from the outside world to the cluster is through this single IP address via SSH which is routed to `node1`. The router/firewall also acts as DHCP (Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol) server for the compute node LAN. Compute node hostnames, such as `node1` etc, are configured by a boot script which determines the node hostname from the last octet of the node IP address, served by the DHCP server based on the MAC address. This ensures that each compute node is always assigned the same LAN IP address and hostname across reboots. It sounds more complicated than it actually is, and is easily setup through the router/firewall web-based setup. More details are in Part II Chapter 7.

The switch acts as an extension to the number of LAN port on the router/-firewall. And because it supports Jumbo Frames it can accommodate an MTU increase to 9000 bytes local to the compute nodes.

My initial build of the Aerin Cluster only used the 8 port Gigabit Router/Firewall. Only having 8 ports quickly became tiresome, so a 5 port switch was added so that I could directly connect `node9` and my `macbook` to the compute nodes without having to SSH through the firewall. Later, when it became apparent that the 5 port switch didn't support Jumbo Frames, this was replaced with the current 16 port switch. I did anticipate having to replace the Router/Firewall because it doesn't support Jumbo Frames, but the switch is sufficiently smart to route 9000 byte packets between the compute nodes, and fragment any packets to/from the outside world, through the Router/Firewall, into 1500 byte packets.

Cat 5 network cables support only 100 Mbit/s networking, and without any electrical shielding. Cat 5e supports 1 Gbit/s without shielding. Cat 6 supports 1 Gbit/s, possibly with shielding depending on the cable. Cat 6a and Cat 7 support 10 Gbit/s with electrical shielding. To ensure maximum use of the network capabilities of the Raspberry Pi 4, a minimum of Cat 5e cabling must be used. Because the Aerin Cluster cable lengths are relatively short, and therefore inexpensive, I opted to use CAT 7 cabling. My advice would be to do the same for any future clusters. Any performance limiting factor is then not the cabling. If you need to use old cable, check the labelling!

### 3.1.2 Software

- The individual entries are indicated with a black dot, a so-called bullet.
- The text in the entries may be of any length.

Photo...

Highlights...

Limitations...

Reference data sheet in Appendix...

Photo...

Description...

Ubuntu 20.04 LTS 64-bit Preinstalled Server...

Reference Appendix A for detailed build instructions...

Limitations...

Software/update management...

Cluster management tools

BLAS libraries...

BLAS library management... `update-alternatives --config libblas.so.3-aarch64-linux-gnu`

### **3.1.3 Pi Cluster Tools**

picluster/tools... appendix ?... use from node1...

## **3.2 Network**

The network...

## **3.3 BLAS Libraries**

### **3.3.1 GotoBLAS**

### **3.3.2 OpenBLAS**

### **3.3.3 BLIS**

## **3.4 OpenMPI Topology**

The...

## **3.5 Hybrid OpenMPI/OpenMP Topology**

The network...

## Chapter 4

# HPC Benchmarks

### 4.1 Landscape

Lists...

Top500...

Green500...

HPCG...

High Performance Linpack (HPL) is the industry standard HPC benchmark and has been for ??? years. It is used by Top500 and Green500. However, it has been criticised for producing a single number, and not being a true measure of real-world application performance. This has led to the creation of complementary benchmarks, namely HPC Challenge (HPCC) and High Performance Conjugate Gradients (HPCG). These benchmarks measure whole system performance, including processing power, memory bandwidth and network speed, in relation to standard HPC algorithms such as FFT and CG.

A more detailed description of each benchmark follows.

### 4.2 High Performance Linpack (HPL)

Reference Paper...

[https://www.netlib.org/benchmark/hpl/...](https://www.netlib.org/benchmark/hpl/)

Describe algorithm...

Terminology  $R_{peak}$ ,  $R_{max}$ ..., problem size...

Describe methodology for determining main parameters NB, N, P and Q...

N formula...

Reference <http://hpl-calculator.sourceforge.net>

### 4.2.1 HPL.dat

Describe HPL.dat parameters...

Listing 4.1: Example HPL.dat

```
1 HPLinpack benchmark input file
2 Innovative Computing Laboratory, University of Tennessee
3 HPL.out          output file name (if any)
4 0                device out (6=stdout,7=stderr,file)
5 1                # of problems sizes (N)
6 26208            Ns
7 1                # of NBs
8 32               NBs
9 0                PMAP process mapping (0=Row-,1=Column-major)
10 2               # of process grids (P x Q)
11 1 2             Ps
12 8 4             Qs
13 16.0            threshold
14 3               # of panel fact
15 0 1 2           PFACTs (0=left, 1=Crout, 2=Right)
16 2               # of recursive stopping criterium
17 2 4             NBMINs (>= 1)
18 1               # of panels in recursion
19 2               NDIVs
20 3               # of recursive panel fact.
21 0 1 2           RFACTs (0=left, 1=Crout, 2=Right)
22 1               # of broadcast
23 0               BCASTs (0=1rg,1=1rM,2=2rg,3=2rM,4=Lng,5=LnM)
24 1               # of lookahead depth
25 0               DEPTHs (>=0)
26 2               SWAP (0=bin-exch,1=long,2=mix)
27 64              swapping threshold
28 0               L1 in (0=transposed,1=no-transposed) form
29 0               U in (0=transposed,1=no-transposed) form
30 1               Equilibration (0=no,1=yes)
31 8               memory alignment in double (> 0)
```

A detailed description of each line of this file is ...

## 4.2.2 HPL.out

Describe HPL.out...

It is very easy to use `grep` to find the lines in HPL.out containing the results. And to then conduct a general numeric sort, first by P and then by Gflops, to find Rmax for each P and Q pair, squeezing repeated white space down to a single space for readability.

```
$ grep WR HPL.out | sort -g -k 4 -k 7 | tr -s ' ' > HPL.out.sorted
  ↪ sorted
```

Listing 4.2: Example HPL.out.sorted

1	WR00C2R2	26208	32	1	8	802.01	1.4965e+01
2	WR00R2C2	26208	32	1	8	799.75	1.5007e+01
3	WR00L2L2	26208	32	1	8	796.04	1.5077e+01
4	WR00C2C2	26208	32	1	8	794.65	1.5103e+01
5	WR00L2C2	26208	32	1	8	793.86	1.5118e+01
6	WR00C2L2	26208	32	1	8	793.67	1.5122e+01
7	WR00R2L2	26208	32	1	8	793.48	1.5126e+01
8	WR00R2R2	26208	32	1	8	790.26	1.5187e+01
9	WR00L2R2	26208	32	1	8	789.16	1.5208e+01
10	WR00R2L4	26208	32	1	8	774.49	1.5497e+01
11	WR00C2R4	26208	32	1	8	773.52	1.5516e+01
12	WR00L2L4	26208	32	1	8	770.20	1.5583e+01
13	WR00R2C4	26208	32	1	8	767.92	1.5629e+01
14	WR00L2C4	26208	32	1	8	763.10	1.5728e+01
15	WR00L2R4	26208	32	1	8	762.43	1.5742e+01
16	WR00R2R4	26208	32	1	8	761.92	1.5752e+01
17	WR00C2C4	26208	32	1	8	761.58	1.5759e+01
18	WR00C2L4	26208	32	1	8	757.87	1.5836e+01
19	WR00R2R2	26208	32	2	4	728.78	1.6468e+01
20	WR00R2C2	26208	32	2	4	728.21	1.6481e+01
21	WR00R2L2	26208	32	2	4	726.55	1.6519e+01
22	WR00C2R2	26208	32	2	4	722.38	1.6614e+01
23	WR00L2C2	26208	32	2	4	721.63	1.6632e+01
24	WR00L2L2	26208	32	2	4	721.54	1.6634e+01
25	WR00C2C2	26208	32	2	4	721.25	1.6640e+01
26	WR00C2L2	26208	32	2	4	720.82	1.6650e+01
27	WR00L2R2	26208	32	2	4	720.80	1.6651e+01
28	WR00L2R4	26208	32	2	4	692.09	1.7341e+01
29	WR00R2C4	26208	32	2	4	690.37	1.7385e+01
30	WR00C2L4	26208	32	2	4	686.69	1.7478e+01
31	WR00C2C4	26208	32	2	4	686.23	1.7489e+01
32	WR00C2R4	26208	32	2	4	686.08	1.7493e+01

```
33 WR00L2L4 26208 32 2 4 686.02 1.7495e+01
34 WR00L2C4 26208 32 2 4 685.88 1.7498e+01
35 WR00R2L4 26208 32 2 4 685.76 1.7502e+01
36 WR00R2R4 26208 32 2 4 684.45 1.7535e+01
```

### 4.2.3 Running xhpl

To run xhpl using the serial version of OpenBLAS...

```
$ ~/picluster/tools/picluster-set-libblas-openblas-serial
```

or, with the serial version of BLIS...

```
$ ~/picluster/tools/picluster-set-libblas-blis-serial
```

```
cd ~/picluster/hpl/hpl-2.3/bin/serial
mpirun -np 4 xhpl
```

## 4.3 HPC Challenge (HPCC)

HPCC...

## 4.4 High Performance Conjugate Gradients (HPCG)

HPCG...

## Chapter 5

# Benchmarking the Aerin Cluster

### 5.1 Theoretical Maximum Performance (Gflop/s)

The Raspberry Pi 4 Model B is based on the Broadcom BCM2711 System on a Chip (SoC).

Block diagram from Cortex-A72 Software Optimisation Guide

4 cores

1.5 GHz

128 bit SIMD

4 GB memory (our chosen model)

Caches...

Pipeline...

Simplistically, ...

This ignores instructions pipelining benefits...



## 5.2 OpenMPI Baseline

Ubuntu 20.04 LTS 64-bit packages, without any tweaks...

1 core... a single ARM Cortex-A72 core...

1 node... a single Raspberry Pi 4 Model B, 4 x ARM Cortex-A72 cores...

Linpack performance scales with problem size... [REFERENCE](#)

80% of memory a good initial guess... [FAQ](#) [REFERENCE](#)...

Methodology...

1 core... to investigate single core performance... caveats... use 1GB of memory...

1 node... to investigate inter-core performance...

2 nodes... to investigate inter-core and inter-node performance...

1..8 nodes ... to investigate over scaling of performance with node count... with optimal N, NB, P and Q parameters determined from 2 node investigation... caveats...

### 5.2.1 1 Core Baseline

Problem size restricted to 80% of memory...

NB 32 to 256 in increments of 8...

NB	N	NB	N	NB	N	NB	N	NB	N
32	18528	80	18480	128	18432	176	18480	224	18368
40	18520	88	18480	136	18496	184	18400	232	18328
48	18528	96	18528	144	18432	192	18432	240	18480
56	18536	104	18512	152	18392	200	18400	248	18352
64	18496	112	18480	160	18400	208	18512	256	18432
72	18504	120	18480	168	18480	216	18360	-	-

```
$ mpirun -bind-to-core -host node1:1 -np 1 xhpl
```

mpirun does bind to core by default for  $np \leq 2$

4 x 4.7527e+00 = 19 Gflops

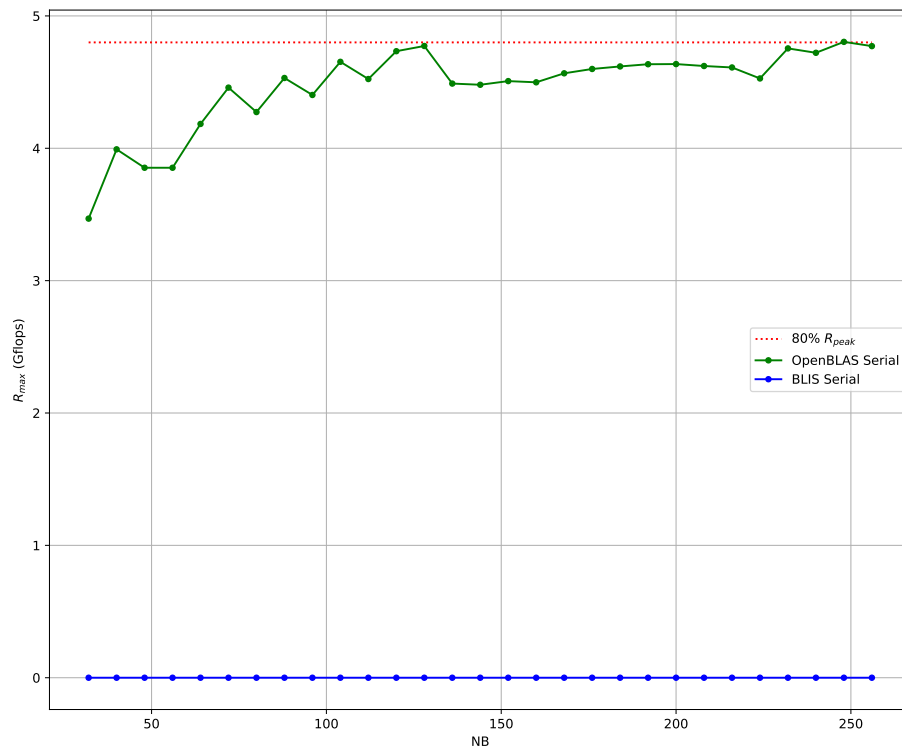


Figure 5.1: OpenMPI 1 Core  $R_{max}$  vs NB using 80% memory.

Explain -bind-to core

Cache misses from peak...

A single core is capable of achieving maximum theoretical performance... CAVEATS  
whole L2 cache, whole node 4 GB memory, although problem size limited to  
80% of 1 GB...

### 5.2.2 1 Node Baseline

1x4

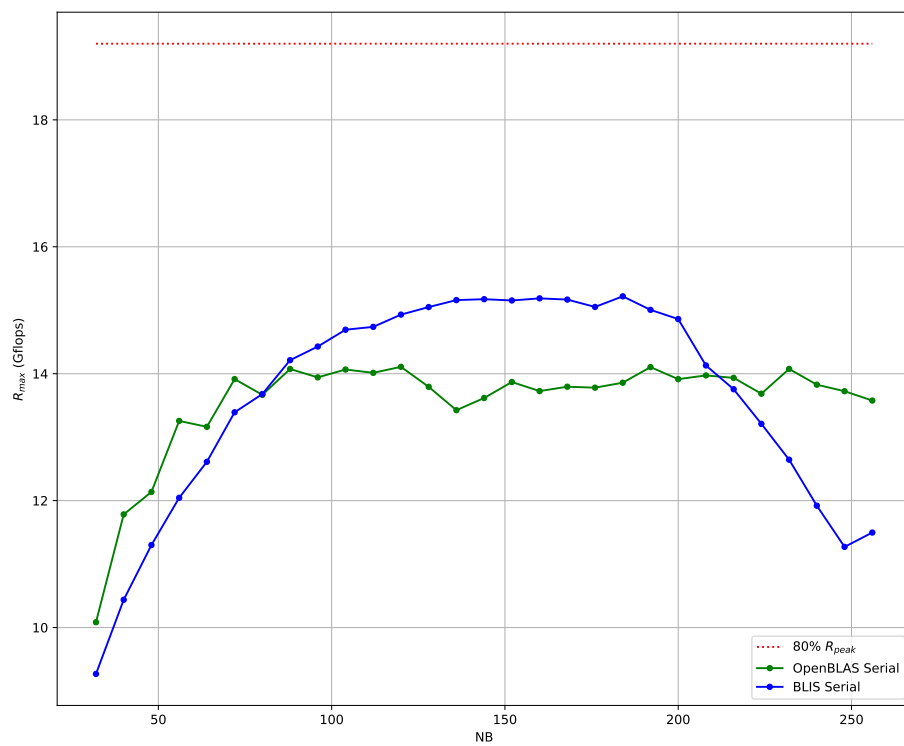


Figure 5.2: OpenMPI 1 Node  $R_{max}$  vs NB using 80% memory.

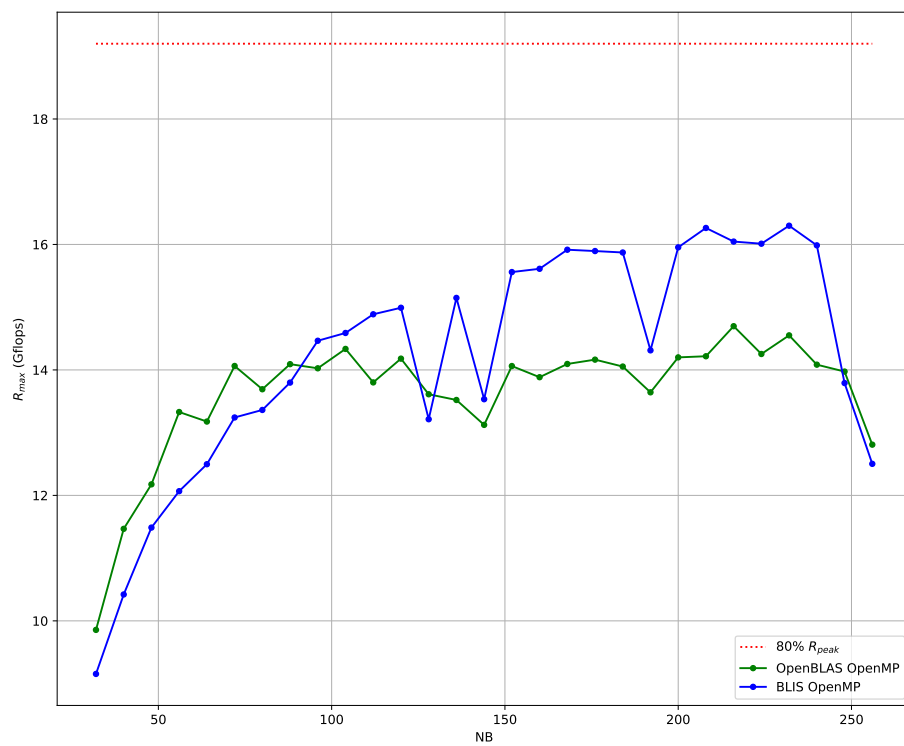


Figure 5.3: Hybrid OpenMPI/OpenMP 1 Node  $R_{max}$  vs NB using 80% memory.

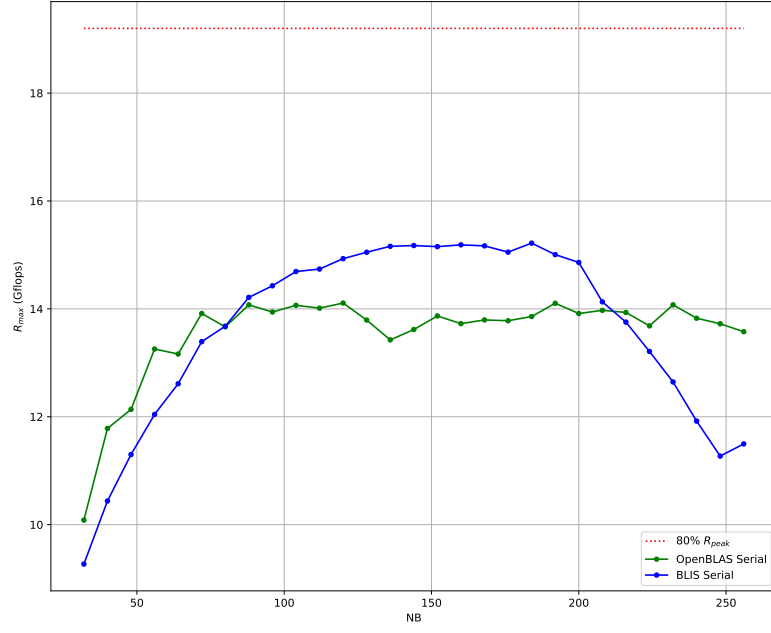
NB	N	NB	N	NB	N	NB	N	NB	N
32	18528	80	18480	128	18432	176	18480	224	18368
40	18520	88	18480	136	18496	184	18400	232	18328
48	18528	96	18528	144	18432	192	18432	240	18480
56	18536	104	18512	152	18392	200	18400	248	18352
64	18496	112	18480	160	18400	208	18512	256	18432
72	18504	120	18480	168	18480	216	18360	-	-

```
$ mpirun -bind-to-core -host node1:4 -n 4 xhpl
```

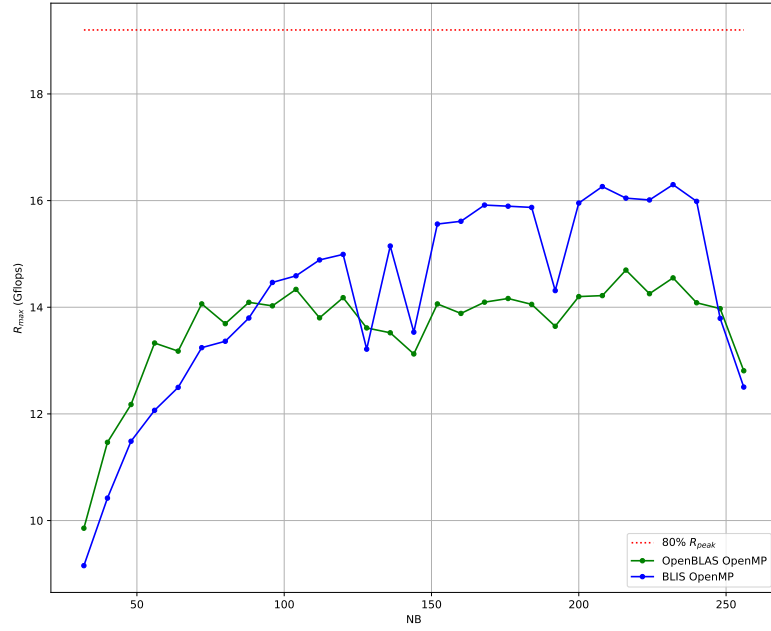
Explain bind to core...

mpirun does bind to socket by default for  $np \geq 2$

```
$ mpirun -bind-to-socket -host node1:1 -x OMP_NUM_THREADS=4
  ↪ -n 1 xhpl
```



(a) OpenMPI



(b) Hybrid OpenMPI/OpenMP

Figure 5.4: 1 Node  $R_{max}$  vs NB using 80% memory.

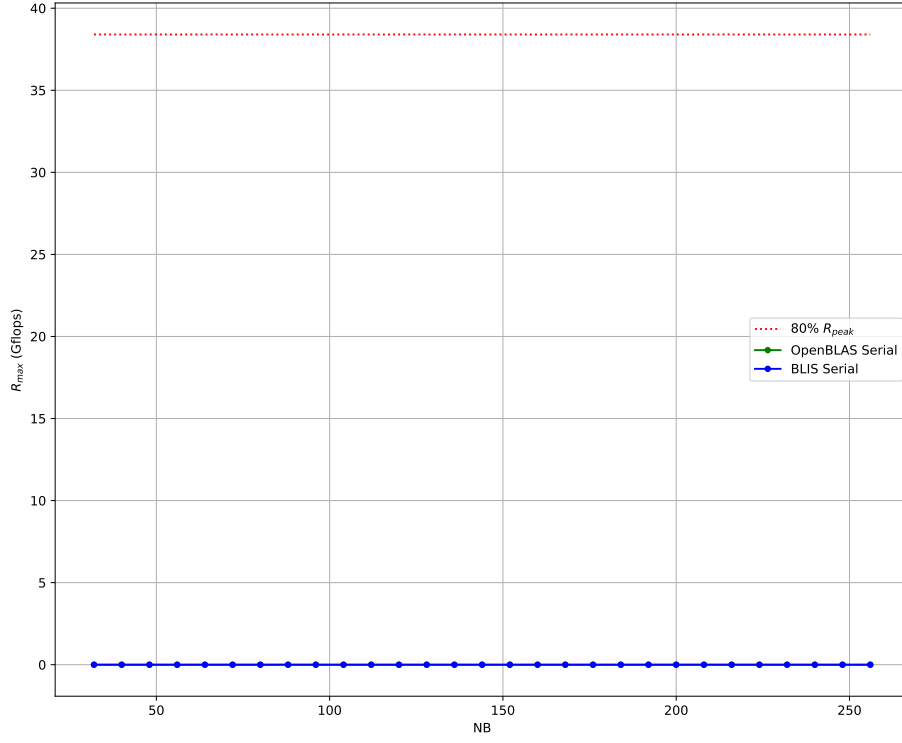


Figure 5.5:  $R_{max}$  vs  $NB$  2 Nodes using 80% memory.

### 5.2.3 2 Node Baseline

P1 x Q8

P2 x Q4

NB	N	NB	N	NB	N	NB	N	NB	N
32	26208	80	26160	128	26112	176	26048	224	26208
40	26200	88	26136	136	26112	184	26128	232	25984
48	26208	96	26208	144	26208	192	26112	240	26160
56	26208	104	26208	152	26144	200	26200	248	26040
64	26176	112	26208	160	26080	208	26208	256	26112
72	26208	120	26160	168	26208	216	26136	-	-

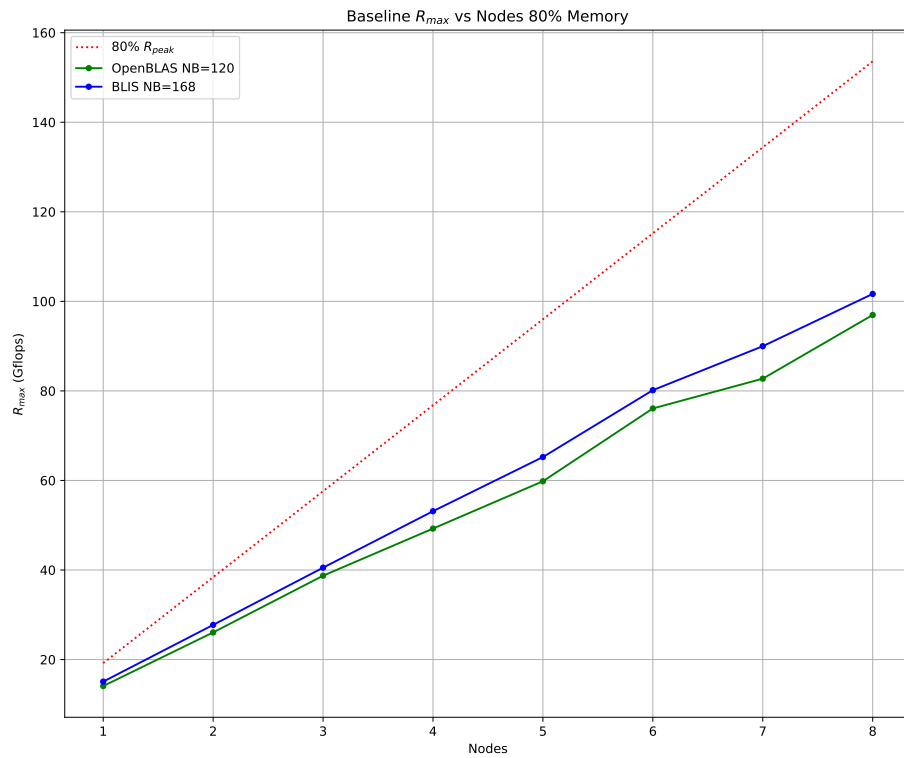


Figure 5.6:  $R_{max}$  vs Nodes using 80% memory.

#### 5.2.4 Cluster Baseline

1x32 2x16 4x8

#### 5.2.5 Observations

Best NB...

PxQ discussion... 1x8 vs 2x4... ethernet comment...

Iperf...

htop...

top...

perf...



cache misses...

software interrupts...

Suggests... improve network efficiency?

## 5.3 Hybrid OpenMPI/OpenMP Baseline

### 5.3.1 1 Core Baseline

### 5.3.2 1 Node Baseline

### 5.3.3 Cluster Baseline

## 5.4 Optimisations

### 5.4.1 Single Core Optimisation

#### Rebuild libopenblas0-serial

Better BLAS library...

The Debian Science Wiki suggests...

So, following the instructions in `/usr/local/share/`

Details are in Appendix ?...

Poking around in the OpenBLAS source code, I noticed...

`cpuid_arm64.c`

in function `void get_cpuconfig(void)`

Listing 5.1: `cpuid_arm64.c`

```
...
case CPU_CORTEXA57:
case CPU_CORTEXA72:
case CPU_CORTEXA73:
    // Common minimum settings for these Arm cores
    // Can change a lot, but we need to be conservative
    // TODO: detect info from /sys if possible
```

```

printf("#define %s\n", cpuname[d]);
printf("#define L1_CODE_SIZE 49152\n");
printf("#define L1_CODE_LINESIZE 64\n");
printf("#define L1_CODE_ASSOCIATIVE 3\n");
printf("#define L1_DATA_SIZE 32768\n");
printf("#define L1_DATA_LINESIZE 64\n");
printf("#define L1_DATA_ASSOCIATIVE 2\n");
printf("#define L2_SIZE 524288\n");
printf("#define L2_LINESIZE 64\n");
printf("#define L2_ASSOCIATIVE 16\n");
printf("#define DTB_DEFAULT_ENTRIES 64\n");
printf("#define DTB_SIZE 4096\n");
break;
...

```

REFERENCE: Arm...

The following two lines are incorrect for the Arm Cortex-A72:

```

printf("#define L2_SIZE 524288\n");
printf("#define DTB_DEFAULT_ENTRIES 64\n");

```

To reflect the 1MB of L2 cache of the BCM?????, and the 32 entry L1 Data TLB, they should be:

```

printf("#define L2_SIZE 1048576\n");
printf("#define DTB_DEFAULT_ENTRIES 32\n");

```

Having changed these to the correct values, the build process now accurately reflects the 1MB of L2 cache on line 18 of 0-serial/config.h from which the libopenblas0-serial package is built:

Listing 5.2: 0-serial/config.h

```

1 #define OS_LINUX 1
2 #define ARCH_ARM64 1
3 #define C_GCC 1
4 #define __64BIT__ 1
5 #define PTHREAD_CREATE_FUNC pthread_create
6 #define BUNDERSCORE _
7 #define NEEDBUNDERSCORE 1
8 #define ARMV8
9 #define HAVE_NEON
10 #define HAVE_VFPV4
11 #define CORTEXA72
12 #define L1_CODE_SIZE 49152
13 #define L1_CODE_LINESIZE 64
14 #define L1_CODE_ASSOCIATIVE 3
15 #define L1_DATA_SIZE 32768

```

```

16 #define L1_DATA_LINESIZE 64
17 #define L1_DATA_ASSOCIATIVE 2
18 #define L2_SIZE 1048576
19 #define L2_LINESIZE 64
20 #define L2_ASSOCIATIVE 16
21 #define DTB_DEFAULT_ENTRIES 64
22 #define DTB_SIZE 4096
23 #define NUM_CORES 4
24 #define CHAR_CORENAME "CORTEXA72"
25 #define GEMM_MULTITHREAD_THRESHOLD 4

```

On completion of the build process, and after uninstalling the original libopenblas0-serial package and installing the new one...

Discussion...

**Rebuild libblis3-serial**

## 5.4.2 Single Node Optimisation

### Kernel Preemption Model

The Linux kernel has 3 Preemption Models...

1... 2... The default 3...

As per the Help in the Kernel Configuration...

Listing 5.3: Kernel Configuration Preemption Model Help

```

CONFIG_PREEMPT_NONE:

This is the traditional Linux preemption model, geared
    ↪ towards
throughput. It will still provide good latencies most of the
time, but there are no guarantees and occasional longer
    ↪ delays
are possible.

Select this option if you are building a kernel for a server
    ↪ or
scientific/computation system, or if you want to maximize
    ↪ the
raw processing power of the kernel, irrespective of
    ↪ scheduling
latencies.

```

So, kernel rebuilt with CONFIG\_PREEMPT\_NONE=y

See Appendix ? on how to rebuild the kernel...

Installed on each node...

So, although this optimisation applies to single node, the benefits of applying this optimisation may not be apparent until the kernel has to juggle networking etc...

RESULTS...

### Recieve Queues

```
$ sudo perf record mpirun -allow-run-as-root -np 4 xhpl
```

Running xhpl on 8 nodes using OpenBLAS...

```
$ mpirun -host node1:4 ... node8:4 -np 32 xhpl
```

SHORTLY AFTER PROGRAM START...

On node1,... where we initiated...

top...

```
top - 20:33:15 up 8 days, 6:02, 1 user, load average:
  ↳ 4.02, 4.03, 4.00
Tasks: 140 total, 5 running, 135 sleeping, 0 stopped,
  ↳ 0 zombie
%Cpu(s): 72.5 us, 21.7 sy, 0.0 ni, 0.0 id, 0.0 wa, 0.0
  ↳ hi, 5.8 si, 0.0 st
MiB Mem : 3793.3 total, 330.1 free, 3034.9 used,
  ↳ 428.3 buff/cache
MiB Swap: 0.0 total, 0.0 free, 0.0 used.
  ↳ 698.7 avail Mem

    PID USER      PR  NI   VIRT   RES   SHR S  %CPU  %MEM
    ↳      TIME+ COMMAND
 34884 john      20   0 932964 732156 7980 R 100.3 18.8
    ↳ 106:40.29 xhpl
 34881 john      20   0 933692 732272 7916 R 100.0 18.9
    ↳ 107:29.75 xhpl
 34883 john      20   0 932932 731720 8136 R  99.3 18.8
    ↳ 107:33.25 xhpl
 34882 john      20   0 932932 731784 8208 R  97.7 18.8
    ↳ 107:33.64 xhpl
```

SOFTIRQS...

NODE 2 - 2 NODES ONLY TO SEE EFFECT...

IPERF!!!

On node8, running the top command...

```
$ top
```

We can see...

```
top - 18:58:44 up 8 days, 4:29, 1 user, load average:
    ↪ 4.00, 3.75, 2.35
Tasks: 133 total, 5 running, 128 sleeping, 0 stopped,
    ↪ 0 zombie
%Cpu(s): 50.7 us, 47.8 sy, 0.0 ni, 0.0 id, 0.0 wa, 0.0
    ↪ hi, 1.4 si, 0.0 st
MiB Mem : 3793.3 total, 392.7 free, 2832.6 used,
    ↪ 568.0 buff/cache
MiB Swap: 0.0 total, 0.0 free, 0.0 used.
    ↪ 901.1 avail Mem

  PID USER      PR  NI   VIRT    RES    SHR S  %CPU  %MEM
    ↪      TIME+  COMMAND
23928 john       20   0 883880 682456  8200 R 100.0 17.6
    ↪      13:14.17 xhpl
23927 john       20   0 883988 682432  7932 R  99.7 17.6
    ↪      13:12.58 xhpl
23930 john       20   0 883912 682664  7832 R  99.7 17.6
    ↪      13:17.01 xhpl
23929 john       20   0 883880 682640  8376 R  99.3 17.6
    ↪      13:16.25 xhpl
```

Indicates that only 50.7% of CPU time is being utilised by user programs (us), Linpack/OpenMPI...

I hypothesise that the 1.4% of software interrupts (si) is responsible 47.8% of CPU time in the kernel (sy) servicing these interrupts...

Lets have a look at the software interrupts on the system...

```
$ watch -n 1 cat /proc/softirqs
```

```
Every 1.0s: cat /proc/softirqs

              CPU0      CPU1      CPU2      CPU3
    HI:              0          1          0          1
    TIMER: 122234556  86872295  85904119  85646345
```

NET_TX:	222717797	228381	147690	144396
NET_RX:	1505715680	1132	1294	1048
BLOCK:	63160	11906	13148	11223
IRQ_POLL:	0	0	0	0
TASKLET:	58902273	33	2	6
SCHED:	3239933	3988327	2243001	2084571
HRTIMER:	8116	55	53	50
RCU:	6277982	4069531	4080009	3994395

As can be seen...

1. the majority of software interrupts are being generated by network receive (NET\_RX) activity, followed by network transmit activity (NET\_TX)...
2. these interrupts are being almost exclusively handled by CPU0...

What is there to be done?...

1. Reduce the numbers of interrupts...
  - 1.1 Each packet produces an interrupt - interrupt coalescing...
  - 1.2 Reduce the number of packets - increase MTU...
- 2.1 Share the interrupt servicing activity evenly across the CPUs...

### 5.4.3 Network Optimisation

On node2 start the Iperf server...

```
$ iperf -s
```

On node1 start the Iperf client...

```
$ iperf -c
```

ping tests of MTU...

iperf network speed...

### Jumbo Frames

Requires a network switch capable of Jumbo frames...

```
$ ip link show eth0
```

```
2: eth0: <BROADCAST,MULTICAST,UP,LOWER_UP> mtu 1500 qdisc mq
↪ state UP mode DEFAULT group default qlen 1000
   link/ether dc:a6:32:60:7b:cd brd ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff
```

```
$ ping -c 1 -s 1500 -M do node2
```

```
PING node2 (192.168.0.2) 1500(1528) bytes of data.
ping: local error: message too long, mtu=1500
```

```
$ ping -c 1 -s 1472 -M do node2
```

```
PING node2 (192.168.0.2) 1472(1500) bytes of data.
1480 bytes from node2 (192.168.0.2): icmp_seq=1 ttl=64 time
↪ =0.392 ms
```

Trying to set the MTU to 9000 bytes...

```
$ sudo ip link set eth0 mtu 9000
```

... results with...

```
Error: mtu greater than device maximum.
```

In fact, attempting to set the MTU to anything greater than 1500 bytes...

```
$ sudo ip link set eth0 mtu 1501
```

... results with...

```
Error: mtu greater than device maximum.
```

Need to build a kernel with Jumbo frame support...

See Appendix ?...

```
$ ip link show eth0
```

```
2: eth0: <BROADCAST,MULTICAST,UP,LOWER_UP> mtu 9000 qdisc mq
↪ state UP mode DEFAULT group default qlen 1000
   link/ether dc:a6:32:60:7b:cd brd ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff
```

```
$ ping -c 1 -s 9000 -M do node2
```

```
PING node2 (192.168.0.2) 9000(9028) bytes of data.  
ping: local error: message too long, mtu=9000
```

```
$ ping -c 1 -s 8972 -M do node2
```

```
PING node2 (192.168.0.2) 8972(9000) bytes of data.  
8980 bytes from node2 (192.168.0.2): icmp_seq=1 ttl=64 time  
    ↪ =0.847 ms
```

On node2 create the Iperf server...

```
$ iperf -s
```

On node1 create and run the Iperf client...

```
$ iperf -i 1 -c node2
```

```
-----  
Client connecting to node2, TCP port 5001  
TCP window size: 682 KByte (default)  
-----  
[ 3] local 192.168.0.1 port 46216 connected with  
    ↪ 192.168.0.2 port 5001  
[ ID] Interval      Transfer      Bandwidth  
[ 3] 0.0-10.0 sec  1.15 GBytes  991 Mbits/sec
```

## 5.4.4 Kernel TCP Parameters Tuning

REFERENCE...

<https://www.open-mpi.org/faq/?category=tcp>

Listing 5.4: /etc/sysctl.d/picluster.conf

```
1 net.core.rmem_max = 16777216  
2 net.core.wmem_max = 16777216  
3 net.ipv4.tcp_rmem = 4096 87380 16777216  
4 net.ipv4.tcp_wmem = 4096 65536 16777216  
5 net.core.netdev_max_backlog = 30000  
6 net.core.rmem_default = 16777216  
7 net.core.wmem_default = 16777216  
8 net.ipv4.tcp_mem= 16777216 16777216 16777216  
9 net.ipv4.route.flush = 1
```



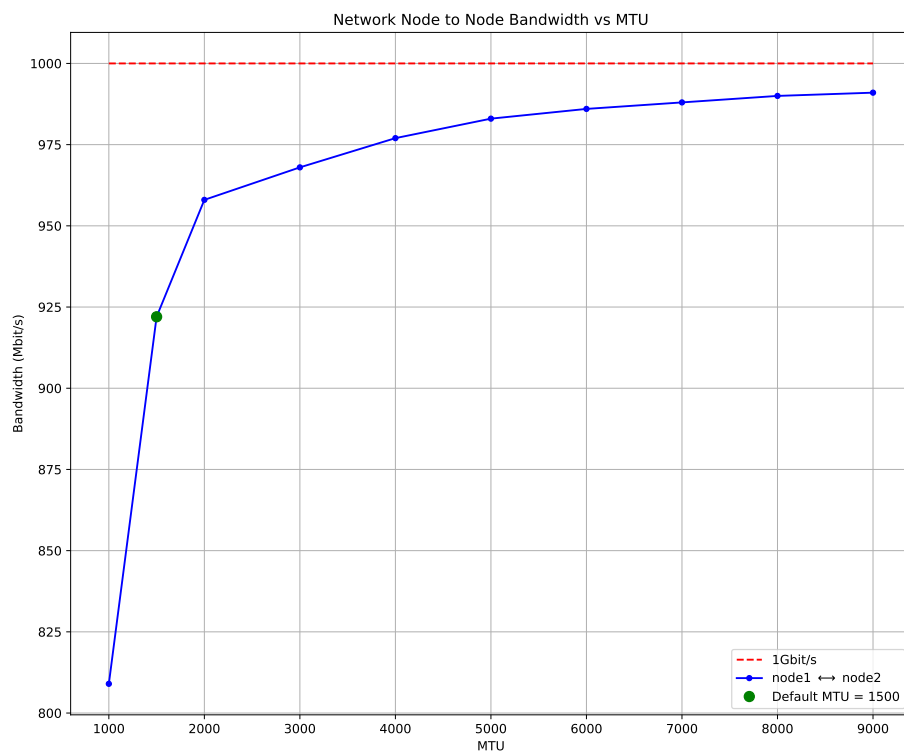


Figure 5.7: Network Node to Node Bandwidth vs MTU.

```
sudo sysctl --system
```

or

```
sudo shutdown -r now
```

```
Aug 11 03:35:40 node5 kernel: [19256.425779] bcmgenet  
    ↪ fd580000.ethernet eth0: bcmgenet_xmit: tx ring 1 full  
    ↪ when queue 2 awake
```

## Chapter 6

### Summary

## Part II

# Build Instructions

## Chapter 7

# The Aerin Cluster

### 7.1 Introduction

This appendix is intended to be a complete and self contained guide for building a Raspberry Pi Cluster. With the caveat that the cluster has the bare minimum software/functionality necessary to compile and run the High Performance Linpack (HPL) benchmark, namely the build-essential package, two BLAS libraries (OpenBLAS and BLIS), and Open-MPI. A number of performance measurement tools are also installed, such as perf and iperf. The latest version of HPL is downloaded and built from source.

It would be a relatively simple task to add... SLIRM or...

The cluster consists of the following components...

8 x Raspberry Pi 4 Model B 4GB compute nodes, node1 to node8  
1 x software development and build node, node9  
9 x Official Raspberry Pi 4 Model B power supplies  
9 x 32GB Class 10 MicroSD cards  
1 x *workstation*, in my case my MacBook Pro,  
1 x 8 port Gigabit Router/Firewall  
1 x 16 port Gigabit switch with Jumbo Frame support

Items

Photo

## 7.2 Preliminary Tasks

### 7.2.1 Update Raspberry Pi EE-PROMs

### 7.2.2 Obtain Raspberry Pi MAC Addresses

### 7.2.3 Generate User Key Pair

On macbook (no passphrase):

```
$ ssh-genkey -t rsa -C john
```

This will create two files... in ...

### 7.2.4 Amend macbook /etc/hosts

On macbook, using your favourite editor, add the following to /etc/hosts:

```
1 192.168.0.1 node1
2 192.168.0.2 node2
3 192.168.0.3 node3
4 192.168.0.4 node4
5 192.168.0.5 node5
6 192.168.0.6 node6
7 192.168.0.7 node7
8 192.168.0.8 node8
9 192.168.0.9 node9
```

This enables...

```
$ ssh john@node1
```

or, the abbreviated...

```
$ ssh node1
```

provided the user name on the macbook is the same as the Linux user created by cloud-init.

### 7.2.5 Router/Firewall Configuration

Local network behind firewall/switch: 192.168.0.254

WAN address LAN address

Firewall/Switch (Netgear FVS318G)

Describe DHCP reservations mapping IP to MAC addresses.

Describe ssh access

Add relevant PDFs.

## 7.3 Ubuntu 20.04 64-bit LTS Installation

The idea is to have a single (modified) Ubuntu 20.04 image which can be used to install Ubuntu 20.04 on all of the nodes...

### 7.3.1 Create the Installation Image

The instructions below are for MacOS but should be straightforward to adjust for other operating systems.

On macbook...

Download the Raspberry Pi 4 Ubuntu 20.04 LTS 64-bit pre-installed server image from the Ubuntu website.

Double click the compressed the `.xz` file to extract the `.img` file.

Double click the `.img` file to mount the image in the `macbook` filesystem as:

`/Volumes/system-boot`

We now need to edit the `user-data` file which stores the `cloud-init` configuration. The `user-data` file used to create the Aerin Cluster is at Listing 7.

Listing 7.1: `/Volumes/system-boot/user-data`

```
1 #cloud-config
2
3 # This is the user-data configuration file for cloud-init.
4   ↳ By default this sets
5 # up an initial user called "ubuntu" with password "ubuntu",
6   ↳ which must be
7 # changed at first login. However, many additional actions
8   ↳ can be initiated on
9 # first boot from this file. The cloud-init documentation
10  ↳ has more details:
11 #
12 # https://cloudinit.readthedocs.io/
13
14 # On first boot, set the (default) ubuntu user's password to
15   ↳ "ubuntu" and
16 # expire user passwords
17 chpasswd:
18   expire: true
19   list:
20     - ubuntu:ubuntu
21     - john:john
```



```

17
18 # Enable password authentication with the SSH daemon
19 ssh_pwauth: true
20
21 ## Add users and groups to the system, and import keys with
22   ↳ the ssh-import-id
23 groups:
24 - john: [john]
25
26 users:
27 - default
28   name: john
29   gecos: John Duffy
30   primary_group: john
31   sudo: ALL=(ALL) NOPASSWD:ALL
32   shell: /bin/bash
33   ssh_authorized_keys:
34     - ssh-rsa ...= john
35
36 ## Update apt database and upgrade packages on first boot
37 package_update: true
38 package_upgrade: true
39
40 ## Install additional packages on first boot
41 packages:
42 - git
43 - tree
44 - unzip
45 - iperf
46 - net-tools
47 - linux-tools-common
48 - linux-tools-raspi
49 - build-essential
50 - gfortran
51 - gdb
52 - fakeroot
53 - devscripts
54 - openmpi-bin
55 - libblis3-serial
56 - libblis3-openmp
57 - libopenblas0-serial
58 - libopenblas0-openmp
59
60 ## Write arbitrary files to the file-system (including
61   ↳ binaries!)
62 write_files:
63 - path: /etc/hosts
64   content: |
65     127.0.0.1 localhost
66     192.168.0.1 node1

```

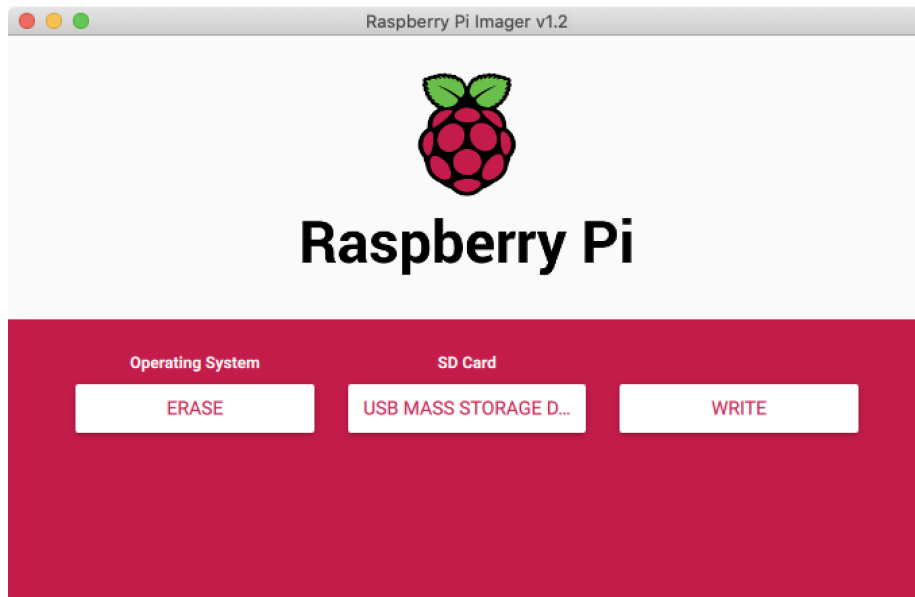


Figure 7.1: Using Raspberry Pi Imager to erase and format a MicroSD card.

```

65     192.168.0.2 node2
66     192.168.0.3 node3
67     192.168.0.4 node4
68     192.168.0.5 node5
69     192.168.0.6 node6
70     192.168.0.7 node7
71     192.168.0.8 node8
72     192.168.0.9 node9
73     permissions: '0644'
74     owner: root:root
75
76     ## Run arbitrary commands at rc.local like time
77     runcmd:
78     - hostnamectl set-hostname --static node$(hostname -i | cut
79     ↪ -d ' ' -f 1 | cut -d '.' -f 4)
    - reboot

```

Eject/unmount the .img file.

Use Raspberry Pi Imager to erase...

Then use the Raspberry Pi Imager to write preinstalled server image to the MicroSD card...

When complete, remove the MicroSD card from the card reader, place it the



Figure 7.2: Using Raspberry Pi Imager to write the server image to a MicroSD card.

Raspberry Pi and plug in the power cable.

The cloud-init configuration process will now start. The Raspberry Pi will acquire its IP address from the router, setup users, update apt, upgrade the system, download software packages, set the hostname (based on the IP address), and finally the system will reboot.

## 7.4 Post-Installation Tasks

### 7.4.1 Enable No Password Access

This is required for Open-MPI...

Our public key was installed on each node by cloud-init. So, we can ssh into each node without a password, and use the abbreviated ssh node1, instead of ssh john@node1 (assuming john is the user name on the workstation).

We need to copy our private key to node1 (only node1)...

```
$ scp ~/.ssh/id_rsa node1:~/.ssh
```

Then to enable access to nodes node2 to node9 without a password from node1, we need to import the ... keys into the node1 knownhosts file...

This is easily done. From macbook...

```
$ ssh node1
```

And then from node1, for node2 to node9...

```
$ ssh node2
```

This will generate will generate a message similar to...

```
The authenticity of host 'node2 (192.168.0.2)' can't be
  ↳ established.
ECDSA key fingerprint is SHA256:5VgsnN2nPvpfbJmALh3aJd0eT/
  ↳ NvDXqN8TCreQyNaFA.
Are you sure you want to continue connecting (yes/no/[
  ↳ fingerprint])?
```

Respond yes to this, which imports the host key into the ~/.ssh/knownhosts file of node1.

And then exit from the connected node...

```
$ exit
```

Repeat the above for node2 to node9.

The above is only required to be done once (unless the host keys on node2 to node9 change).

### 7.4.2 Uninstall unattended-upgrades

The `unattended-upgrades` package is installed automatically...

This can potentially interfere with long running benchmarks...

Remove...

From macbook:

```
$ ssh node1
$ ~/picluster/tools/do "sudo apt remove unattended-upgrades"
```

Don't forget to upgrade your cluster regularly at convenient times with...

```
$ ssh node1
$ ~/picluster/tools/upgrade
```

### 7.4.3 Add Ubuntu Source Repositories

We are going to be rebuilding some packages from source...

```
$ ssh node1
$ sudo touch /etc/apt/sources.list.d/picluster.list
$ sudo vim /etc/apt/sources.list.d/picluster.list
```

... and add the following source repositories...

Listing 7.2: `/etc/apt/sources.list.d/picluster.list`

```
1 deb-src http://archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu focal main universe
2 deb-src http://archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu focal-updates main
  ↪ universe
```

... and then update the repository cache...

```
$ sudo apt update
```

### 7.4.4 Create a Project Repository

Xpand upon...

```
$ ssh node1
$ mkdir picluster
```

```
$ cd picluster
$ git init
```

Ensure you do push your repository to a remote repository at regular intervals...

### 7.4.5 Select BLAS Library

The cloud-init process will have installed four BLAS libraries, namely...

libopenblas0-serial

libopenblas0-openmp

libblis0-serial

libblis0-openmp

To query the BLAS library currently in use on each node we can use one of our Pi Cluster tools...

```
$ ~/picluster/tools/libblas-query
```

```
node8... /usr/lib/aarch64-linux-gnu/openblas-openmp/libblas.
      ↪ so.3
node7... /usr/lib/aarch64-linux-gnu/openblas-openmp/libblas.
      ↪ so.3
node6... /usr/lib/aarch64-linux-gnu/openblas-openmp/libblas.
      ↪ so.3
node5... /usr/lib/aarch64-linux-gnu/openblas-openmp/libblas.
      ↪ so.3
node4... /usr/lib/aarch64-linux-gnu/openblas-openmp/libblas.
      ↪ so.3
node3... /usr/lib/aarch64-linux-gnu/openblas-openmp/libblas.
      ↪ so.3
node2... /usr/lib/aarch64-linux-gnu/openblas-openmp/libblas.
      ↪ so.3
node1... /usr/lib/aarch64-linux-gnu/openblas-openmp/libblas.
      ↪ so.3
```

To select an alternative library we can use another of our Pi Cluster tools...

```
$ ~/picluster/tools/libblas-set blis-serial
```

```
node8... done
node7... done
node6... done
```

```
node5... done
node4... done
node3... done
node2... done
node1... done
```

```
$ ~/picluster/tools/libblas-query
```

```
node8... /usr/lib/aarch64-linux-gnu/blis-serial/libblas.so.3
node7... /usr/lib/aarch64-linux-gnu/blis-serial/libblas.so.3
node6... /usr/lib/aarch64-linux-gnu/blis-serial/libblas.so.3
node5... /usr/lib/aarch64-linux-gnu/blis-serial/libblas.so.3
node4... /usr/lib/aarch64-linux-gnu/blis-serial/libblas.so.3
node3... /usr/lib/aarch64-linux-gnu/blis-serial/libblas.so.3
node2... /usr/lib/aarch64-linux-gnu/blis-serial/libblas.so.3
node1... /usr/lib/aarch64-linux-gnu/blis-serial/libblas.so.3
```

## Chapter 8

# Install High-Performance Linpack (HPL)

Download and install the latest version of HPL on `node1`...

```
$ ssh node1
$ cd ~/picluster
$ mkdir hpl
$ cd hpl
$ wget https://www.netlib.org/benchmark/hpl/hpl-2.3.tar.gz
$ gunzip hpl-2.3.tar.gz
$ tar xvf hpl-2.3.tar
$ rm hpl-2.3.tar
$ cd hpl-2.3
```

Create a `Make.picluster` file...

```
$ cd setup
$ bash make_generic
$ cp Make.UNKNOWN ../Make.picluster
$ cd ..
```

Amend `Make.picluster` as per listing ???.

Listing 8.1: `/picluster/hpl/hpl-2.3/Make.picluster`

```
1 #
2 # -- High Performance Computing Linpack Benchmark (HPL)
3 #   HPL - 2.3 - December 2, 2018
4 #   Antoine P. Petitet
5 #   University of Tennessee, Knoxville
```



```

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    ↳ LIABILITY, OR TORT
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    ↳ OUT OF THE USE
44 # OF THIS SOFTWARE, EVEN IF ADVISED OF THE POSSIBILITY OF
    ↳ SUCH DAMAGE.
45 #
    ↳ #####
    ↳
46 #
47 #
    ↳ -----
    ↳
48 # - shell
    ↳ -----
    ↳
49 #
    ↳ -----
    ↳
50 #
51 SHELL      = /usr/bin/bash
52 #
53 CD         = cd
54 CP         = cp
55 LN_S       = ln -s
56 MKDIR      = mkdir -p
57 RM         = rm -f
58 TOUCH      = touch
59 #
60 #
    ↳ -----
    ↳
61 # - Platform identifier
    ↳ -----
62 #
    ↳ -----
    ↳
63 #
64 ARCH       = picluster
65 #
66 #
    ↳ -----
    ↳
67 # - HPL Directory Structure / HPL library

```

```

68 #
69 #
70 TOPdir      = $(HOME)/picluster/hpl/hpl-2.3
71 INCdir      = $(TOPdir)/include
72 BINDir      = $(TOPdir)/bin/$(ARCH)
73 LIBdir      = $(TOPdir)/lib/$(ARCH)
74 #
75 HPLlib      = $(LIBdir)/libhpl.a
76 #
77 #
78 # - Message Passing library (MPI)
79 #
80 # MPinc tells the C compiler where to find the Message
81 # header files, MPlib is defined to be the name of the
82 # library to be
83 # used. The variable MPdir is only used for defining MPinc
84 # and MPlib.
85 #
86 MPdir       = /usr/lib/aarch64-linux-gnu/openmpi
87 MPinc       = $(MPdir)/include
88 MPlib       = $(MPdir)/lib/libmpi.so
89 #
90 #
91 # - Linear Algebra library (BLAS or VSIPL)
92 #
93 # LAinc tells the C compiler where to find the Linear
94 # header files, LAlib is defined to be the name of the
95 # library to be
96 # used. The variable LAdir is only used for defining LAinc
97 # and LAlib.
98 #
99 LAdir       = /usr/lib/aarch64-linux-gnu
100 LAinc       =
101 LAlib       = $(LAdir)/libblas.so.3
102 #

```

```

99  #
    ↪ -----
    ↪
100 # - F77 / C interface
    ↪ -----
101 #
    ↪ -----
    ↪
102 # You can skip this section if and only if you are not
    ↪ planning to use
103 # a BLAS library featuring a Fortran 77 interface.
    ↪ Otherwise, it is
104 # necessary to fill out the F2CDEFS variable with the
    ↪ appropriate
105 # options. **One and only one** option should be chosen in
    ↪ **each** of
106 # the 3 following categories:
107 #
108 # 1) name space (How C calls a Fortran 77 routine)
109 #
110 # -DAdd_          : all lower case and a suffixed
    ↪ underscore (Suns,
111 #                  Intel, ...),
    ↪ [default]
112 # -DNoChange      : all lower case (IBM RS6000),
113 # -DUpCase        : all upper case (Cray),
114 # -DAdd__         : the FORTRAN compiler in use is f2c.
115 #
116 # 2) C and Fortran 77 integer mapping
117 #
118 # -DF77_INTEGER=int : Fortran 77 INTEGER is a C int,
    ↪ [default]
119 # -DF77_INTEGER=long : Fortran 77 INTEGER is a C long,
120 # -DF77_INTEGER=short : Fortran 77 INTEGER is a C short.
121 #
122 # 3) Fortran 77 string handling
123 #
124 # -DStringSunStyle : The string address is passed at the
    ↪ string loca-
125 #                  tion on the stack, and the string
    ↪ length is then
126 #                  passed as an F77_INTEGER after
    ↪ all explicit
127 #                  stack arguments,
    ↪ [default]
128 # -DStringStructPtr : The address of a structure is
    ↪ passed by a
129 #                  Fortran 77 string, and the
    ↪ structure is of the
130 #                  form: struct {char *cp; F77_INTEGER

```

```

131  ↪ len;},
# -DStringStructVal : A structure is passed by value for
132  ↪ each Fortran
# 77 string, and the structure is
133  ↪ of the form:
# struct {char *cp; F77_INTEGER len;},
134 # -DStringCrayStyle : Special option for Cray machines,
135  ↪ which uses
# Cray fcd (fortran character
136  ↪ descriptor) for
# interoperoperation.
137 #
138 F2CDEFS = -DAdd_ -DF77_INTEGER=int -DStringSunStyle
139 #
140 #
141  ↪ -----
142  ↪
# - HPL includes / libraries / specifics
143  ↪ -----
144 #
# HPL_INCLUDES = -I$(INCdir) -I$(INCdir)/$(ARCH) -I$(MPinc)
145 # HPL_LIBS = $(HPLlib) $(LALib) $(MPLib)
146 #
147 # - Compile time options
148  ↪ -----
149 #
# -DHPL_COPY_L force the copy of the panel L
150  ↪ before bcast;
# -DHPL_CALL_CBLAS call the cblas interface;
151 # -DHPL_CALL_VSIPL call the vsip library;
152 # -DHPL_DETAILED_TIMING enable detailed timers;
153 #
# By default HPL will:
154 # *) not copy L before broadcast,
155 # *) call the BLAS Fortran 77 interface,
156 # *) not display detailed timing information.
157 #
158 #
159 # HPL_OPTS =
160 #
161 #
162  ↪ -----
163  ↪
#
# HPL_DEFS = $(F2CDEFS) $(HPL_OPTS) $(HPL_INCLUDES)
164 #
165 #
166  ↪ -----

```

```

166 # - Compilers / linkers - Optimization flags
167 #
168 #
169 CC          = mpicc
170 CCNOOPT     = $(HPL_DEFS)
171 CCFLAGS     = $(HPL_DEFS) -O3 -march=armv8-a -mtune=cortex-
172             ↪ a72
173 #
174 LINKER      = $(CC)
175 LINKFLAGS   = $(CCFLAGS)
176 #
177 ARCHIVER    = ar
178 ARFLAGS     = r
179 RANLIB      = echo
180 #

```

Build HPL...

```
$ make arch=picluster
```

This creates the executable `xhpl` and input file `HPL.dat` in `bin/picluster`

The `xhpl` executable has to exist in the same location on each node, so copy `xhpl` to node2 to node8 (only `xhpl`, and not `HPL.dat`)...

```

$ cd bin/picluster
$ ~/picluster/tools/do "mkdir -p picluster/hpl/hpl-2.3/bin/
  ↪ picluster"
$ scp xhpl node2:~picluster/hpl/hpl-2.3/bin/picluster
$ scp xhpl node3:~picluster/hpl/hpl-2.3/bin/picluster
$ scp xhpl node4:~picluster/hpl/hpl-2.3/bin/picluster
$ scp xhpl node5:~picluster/hpl/hpl-2.3/bin/picluster
$ scp xhpl node6:~picluster/hpl/hpl-2.3/bin/picluster
$ scp xhpl node7:~picluster/hpl/hpl-2.3/bin/picluster
$ scp xhpl node8:~picluster/hpl/hpl-2.3/bin/picluster

```

## Chapter 9

# Install HPC Challenge (HPCC)

These instructions are derived from the README.txt file in the top level directory of the HPCC source code.

Download and install the latest version of HPCC on `node1`...

```
$ ssh node1
$ cd ~/picluster
$ mkdir hpcc
$ cd hpcc
$ wget http://icl.cs.utk.edu/projectsfiles/hpcc/download/
  ↳ hpcc-1.5.0.tar.gz
$ gunzip hpcc-1.5.0.tar.gz
$ tar xvf hpcc-1.5.0.tar
$ rm hpcc-1.5.0.tar
$ cd hpcc-1.5.0
```

Copy the HPL build script `Make.picluster` to the `hpl` directory...

```
$ cd hpl
$ cp ~/picluster/hpl/hpl-2.3/Make.picluster .
```

Make the following changes to `Make.picluster`. These differ from the build instructions for HPL.

Change the `TOPdir` variable to `../../..`.

Listing 9.1: `Make.picluster`

```
TOPdir = ../../..
```

Add the `math` library explicitly, `-lm`, for the linker...

Listing 9.2: Make.picluster

```
LAlib = $(LAdir)/libblas.so.3 -lm
```

Add the constant `OMPI_OMIT_MPI1_COMPAT_DECLS` to `CCFLAGS`, otherwise the compilation fails...

Listing 9.3: Make.picluster

```
CCFLAGS = $(HPL_DEFS) -O3 -march=armv8-a -mtune=cortex-a72 -  
→ DOMPI_OMIT_MPI1_COMPAT_DECLS
```

Now move back up into the top level directory...

```
$ cd ..
```

Build HPCC...

```
$ make arch=picluster
```

Copy the `hpcc` executable to all of the nodes...

```
$ ~/picluster/tools/do "mkdir -p ~/picluster/hpcc/hpcc  
→ -1.5.0"  
$ scp hpcc node2:~/picluster/hpcc/hpcc-1.5.0  
$ scp hpcc node3:~/picluster/hpcc/hpcc-1.5.0  
$ scp hpcc node4:~/picluster/hpcc/hpcc-1.5.0  
$ scp hpcc node5:~/picluster/hpcc/hpcc-1.5.0  
$ scp hpcc node6:~/picluster/hpcc/hpcc-1.5.0  
$ scp hpcc node7:~/picluster/hpcc/hpcc-1.5.0  
$ scp hpcc node8:~/picluster/hpcc/hpcc-1.5.0
```

Create the input file `hpccinf.txt`...

```
$ cp _hpccinf.txt hpccinf.txt
```

And amend as necessary. An input file which uses 80% of the total cluster memory is at Listing ???.

To run HPCC across all 8 nodes...

```
$ mpirun -host node1:4,node2:4,...node7:4,node8:4 -np 32  
→ hpcc
```



The output will be in the file `hpccoutf.txt`.

## Chapter 10

# Install High Performance Conjugate Gradients (HPCG)

## Chapter 11

# Ubuntu Kernel Build Procedure

This procedure is derived from the Ubuntu Wiki BuildYourOwnKernel document...

Make sure you have made the source code repositories available as per...

Create a kernel build directory with the correct directory permissions to prevent source download warnings.

```
$ ssh node1
$ mkdir -p ~/picluster/build/kernel
$ sudo chown _apt:root ~/picluster/build/kernel
$ cd ~/picluster/build/kernel
```

Install the kernel build dependencies...

```
$ sudo apt-get build-dep linux linux-image-$(uname -r)
```

Download the kernel source...

```
$ sudo apt-get source linux-image-$(uname -r)
$ cd linux-raspi-5.4.0
```

This bit is a fix for the subsequent `editconfigs` step of the build procedure...

```
$ cd debian.raspi/etc
$ sudo cp kernelconfig kernelconfig.original
$ sudo vim kernelconfig
```

And make the following change...

Listing 11.1: diff kernelconfig kernelconfig.original

```
5c5
<  archs="arm64"
---
>  archs="armhf arm64"
```

Then move back up to the kernel source top level directory...

```
$ cd ../../..
```

Prepare the build scripts...

```
$ sudo chmod a+x debian/rules
$ sudo chmod a+x debian/scripts/*
$ sudo chmod a+x debian/scripts/misc/*
```

SOURCE CHANGES AND/OR verb—editconfigs— AT THIS POINT

```
$ sudo apt install libncurses-dev
$ sudo LANG=C fakeroot debian/rules clean
$ sudo LANG=C fakeroot debian/rules editconfigs
```

Tweak the kernel name for identification...

```
$ cd debian.raspi
$ sudo cp changelog changelog.original
$ sudo vim changelog
```

And make the following change, where `+picluster0` is our kernel identifier...

Listing 11.2: diff changelog changelog.original

```
1c1
< linux-raspi (5.4.0-1015.15+picluster0) focal; urgency=
  ↪ medium
---
> linux-raspi (5.4.0-1015.15) focal; urgency=medium
```

Move up to the top level kernel source directory...

```
$ cd ..
```

And build the kernel...

```
$ sudo LANG=C fakeroot debian/rules clean
$ sudo LANG=C fakeroot debian/rules binary-arch
cd ..
```

Install the new kernel...

```
$ sudo dpkg -i linux*picluster0*.deb
$ sudo shutdown -r now
```

Another build procedure fix...

After each kernel build delete the `linux-libc-dev` directory...

```
$ cd ~/picluster/build/kernel/linux-raspi-5.4.0/debian
$ rm -rf linux-libc-dev
$ cd ..
```

## Chapter 12

# Build Kernel with No Pre-Emption Scheduler

## Chapter 13

# Build Kernel with Jumbo Frames Support

Standard MTU is 1500 bytes...

Maximum payload size is 1472 bytes...

NB of 184 (x 8 bytes for Double Precision) = 1472 bytes...

NB > 184 => packet fragmentation => reduced network efficiency...

This causes drop of in performance???...

Max MTU on Raspberry Pi 4 Model B is set at build time to 1500...

Not configurable above 1500...

TODO: EXAMPLE OF ERROR MSG...

Need to build the kernel with higher MTU...

Make the required changes to the source... as per REFERENCE

```
cd linux-raspi-5.4.0

sudo vim include/linux/if_vlan.h...
    #define VLAN_ETH_DATA_LEN    9000
    #define VLAN_ETH_FRAME_LEN  9018

sudo vim include/uapi/linux/if_ether.h...
```

```
#define ETH_DATA_LEN      9000
#define ETH_FRAME_LEN     9014

sudo vim drivers/net/ethernet/broadcom/genet/bcmgenet.c...
#define RX_BUF_LENGTH     10240
```

Add a Jumbo Frames identifier, "+jf", to the new kernel name...

```
sudo vim debian.raspi/changelog...
linux (5.4.0-1013.13+jf) focal; urgency=medium
```



## Chapter 14

# Rebuild OpenBLAS

```
$ ssh node1
$ mkdir -p build/openblas
$ chown -R _apt:root build
$ cd build/openblas
$ sudo apt-get source openblas
$ sudo apt-get build-dep openblas
$ cd openblas-0.3.8+ds
```

Edit cpuid\_arm64.c...

```
$ sudo cp cpuid_arm64.c cpuid_arm64.c.original
$ sudo vim cpuid_arm64.c
```

```
$ diff cpuid_arm64.c cpuid_arm64.c.original
```

```
275c275
<      printf("#define L2_SIZE 1048576\n");
---
>      printf("#define L2_SIZE 524288\n");
278c278
<      printf("#define DTB_DEFAULT_ENTRIES 32\n");
---
>      printf("#define DTB_DEFAULT_ENTRIES 64\n");
```

And, then following the instructions in debian/README.Debian

```
$ DEB_BUILD_OPTIONS=custom dpkg-buildpackage -uc -b
```

Once the build is complete..

```
cd ..  
$ sudo apt remove libopenblas0-serial  
$ sudo dpkg -i libopenblas0-serial\_0.3.8+ds-1\_arm64.deb
```

Ensure the correct BLAS library is being used...

```
$ sudo update-alternatives --config libblas.so.3-aarch64-  
  ↪ linux-gnu
```

copy to other nodes remove old... install new...

If more than one BLAS library is installed, check update-alternatives!!!

ssh node2 .. node8

```
$ ssh node2 sudo apt remove libblas0-serial  
$ scp libopenblas0-serial\_0.3.8+ds-1\_arm64.deb node2:~  
$ ssh sudo dpkg -i libopenblas0-serial\_0.3.8+ds-1\_arm64.  
  ↪ deb  
$ ssh sudo update-alternatives --config libblas.so.3-aarch64  
  ↪ -linux-gnu
```

## Chapter 15

# Rebuild BLIS

```
$ ssh node1
$ mkdir -p picluster/build/blis
$ cd picluster/build/blis
$ apt-get source blis
$ sudo apt-get build-dep blis
$ cd blis-0.6.1
```

## Chapter 16

# Build OpenMPI from Source

Do all of this on node1...

```
$ ssh node1
```

We want to avoid collisions with multiple OpenMPI installations, so remove original installed version...

```
$ sudo apt remove openmpi-common  
$ sudo apt remove openmpi-bin  
$ sudo apt autoremove
```

OpenMPI requires the libevent-dev package...

```
$ sudo apt install libevent-dev
```

Create a build directory, and download and, and and following BLAH, BLAH build OpenMPI...

```
$ mkdir -p ~/picluster/build/openmpi  
$ cd ~/picluster/build/openmpi  
$ wget https://download.open-mpi.org/release/open-mpi/v4.0/  
  ↳ openmpi-4.0.4.tar.gz  
$ gunzip openmpi-4.0.4.tar.gz  
$ tar xvf openmpi-4.0.4.tar  
$ rm openmpi-4.0.4.tar  
$ cd openmpi-4.0.4  
$ mkdir build
```

```
$ cd build
$ ../configure CFLAGS="-O3 -march=armv8-a -mtune=cortex-a72"
$ make all
$ sudo make install
$ sudo ldconfig
```

OpenMPI will installed to /usr/local

EXTRACT FROM HPL.dat

TODO: HOW TO COPY TO ALL NODES!

## Chapter 17

# Aerin Cluster Tools

Listing 17.1: picluster/tools/upgrade

```
1 #!/usr/bin/bash
2
3 NODES=9
4
5 for (( i=$NODES; i>0; i-- ))
6 do
7     echo "Upgrading node$i..."
8     ssh node$i sudo apt update
9     ssh node$i sudo apt full-upgrade --yes
10    ssh node$i sudo apt autoremove --yes
11    ssh node$i sudo shutdown -r now
12 done
```

Listing 17.2: picluster/tools/reboot

```
1 #!/usr/bin/bash
2
3 NODES=8
4
5 for (( i=$NODES; i>0; i-- ))
6 do
7     echo "Rebooting node$i..."
8     ssh node$i sudo shutdown -r now
9 done
```

Listing 17.3: picluster/tools/shutdown

```
1 #!/usr/bin/bash
2
3 NODES=8
```

```

4 for (( i=$NODES; i>0; i-- ))
5 do
6     echo "Shutting down node$i..."
7     ssh node$i sudo shutdown -h now
8 done
9

```

Listing 17.4: picluster/tools/libblas-query

```

1 #!/usr/bin/bash
2
3 NODES=8
4
5 for (( i=$NODES; i>0; i-- ))
6 do
7     printf "node$i... "
8     ssh node$i update-alternatives --query libblas.so.3-
9         ↪ aarch64-linux-gnu \
10         | grep Value: \
11         | gawk '{print $2}'
12 done
13

```

Listing 17.5: picluster/tools/libblas-set

```

1 #!/usr/bin/bash
2
3 NODES=8
4
5 case $1 in
6     "openblas-serial" | "openblas-openmp" | "blis-serial" | "
7         ↪ blis-openmp")
8         for (( i=$NODES; i>0; i-- ))
9         do
10             printf "node$i... "
11             ssh node$i sudo update-alternatives --quiet --set \
12                 libblas.so.3-aarch64-linux-gnu \
13                 /usr/lib/aarch64-linux-gnu/$1/libblas.so.3
14             printf "done\n"
15         done
16         exit
17     ;;
18 esac
19
20 echo "Usage: libblas-set {openblas-serial|openblas-openmp|
21     ↪ blis-serial|blis-openmp}"
22

```

## Chapter 18

# Arm Performance Libraries

This does not work, yet! HPL will compile and link to Arm Performance Libraries, but raises an illegal instruction error at runtime.

At the time of writing, Arm Performance Libraries release 20.2.0 requires a minimum Instruction Set Architecture (ISA) of armv8.1-a. Unfortunately, the Raspberry Pi's Cortex-A72 ISA is armv8.0-a. An Arm representative has indicated on the Arm HPC Forum that the next release of the libraries will support the armv8.0-a ISA.

This Chapter is included for future reference.

The Arm Performance Libraries website states:

”Arm Performance Libraries provides optimised standard core math libraries for high-performance computing applications on Arm processors. This free version of the libraries provides optimised libraries for Arm® Neoverse™ N1-based Armv8 AArch64 implementations that are compatible with various versions of GCC. You do not require a license for this version of the libraries.”

To install Arm Performance Libraries, firstly download Arm Performance Libraries 20.2.0 with GCC 9.3 for Ubuntu 16.04+ from the Arm website.

Then follow these instructions.

```
$ ssh node1
```

Install the required `environment_modules` package.

```
$ sudo apt install environment-modules
```



Then extract and install Arm Performance Libraries.

The default installation directory is /opt/arm.

```
$ mkdir ~/picluster/armpl
$ cd ~/picluster/armpl
$ tar xvf arm-performance-libraries_20.2_Ubuntu-16.04_gcc
  ↪ -9.3.tar
$ rm arm-performance-libraries_20.2_Ubuntu-16.04_gcc-9.3.tar
$ sudo ./arm-performance-libraries_20.2_Ubuntu-16.04.sh
```

Copy the Make.picluster configuration file.

```
$ cd ~/picluster/hpl/hpl-2.3
$ cp Make.picluster Make.picluster-armpl
```

Make the following changes to Make.picluster-armpl.

Listing 18.1: Make.picluster-armpl

```
LAdir      = /opt/arm/armpl_20.2_gcc-9.3
LAinc      =
LAlib      = -L$(LAdir)/lib -larmpl -lgfortran -lamath -lm
```

Build HPL.

```
$ make arch=picluster-armpl
```