CMPE 300 ALGORITHM ANALYSIS

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MPI Project

Programming Project

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1. Introduction

Our focus will be on the particular cellular automaton called the (Conway's) Game of Life, devised by J. H. Conway in 1970. Just "Game" for short. In the Game, we have a 2-dimensional orthogonal grid as a map (i.e. a matrix). Each cell on the map can either contain a creature (1) or be empty (0).

The 8 cells that are immediately around a cell are considered as its neighbors. Then, the rules of the Game are as follows:

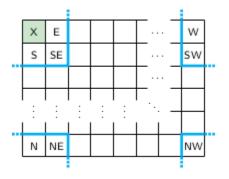
Loneliness kills: A creature dies (i.e. the cell becomes empty) if it has less than 2 neighboring creatures.

Overpopulation also kills: A creature dies (and becomes empty) if it has more than 3 neighboring creatures. See the following example. Note that the creature would not die if it had one less neighboring creature.

Reproduction: A new life appears on an empty cell if it has exactly 3 neighboring creatures. See the following example. Note that the creature would not be born if the cell had one more or one less neighboring creature.

In any other condition, the creatures remain alive, and the empty spaces remain empty.

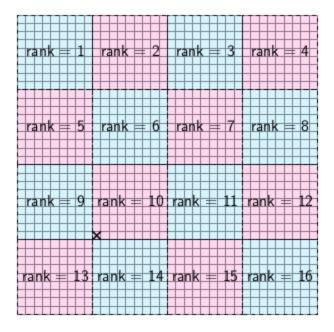
Boundaries: The neighbors are not missing! They are just at the opposite end of the map. See the following image for the neighborhood (with the blue "square") of the top left corner cell X. Letters N, S, E, and W denote the neighbors of X at North, South, East, and West. For instance, see how the "northern" neighbor (N) of X is at the bottom of the 2D array.



Program must be implemented in a parallel manner. Map of the game will be divided into subprocesses and the rules of the game will be implemented with communication between processes.

Splits: The maps that we will be using will always be 360×360 . We will be using smaller square maps in this section, only to have visualizations that look better.

Let's assume a S x S map. The map will be split into C square arrays, each with S / \sqrt{C} rows and columns. The following image shows how this split would be with S = 36 and C = 16.



Solution: The main process reads the input and divides the map to other processes. At each iteration, processes send the necessary data to other processes. After that, each process updates it's map by receiving information from other processes if it's necessary. When desired number of iterations is reached, the main process recollects the whole map from other processes and writes the result to an output file.

2. Program Interface

To run this program, mpi environment must be installed. Here's a link for downloading it:

https://www.open-mpi.org/doc/current/

To compile the program, user should open a command line and write the following command:

mpic++ game.cpp -o game

A compiled MPI program game, can be run with the following:

mpirun -np [M] --oversubscribe ./game input.txt output.txt [T]

[M] is the number of processes to run game on. If you want to have C=8 worker processes, then you need 9 processes in total, accounting for the manager. Hence, you should write -np 9 in the command line. (M-1) must be a perfect square and a divisor of 360. The flag --oversubscribe allows you to set [M] more than just the number of logical cores on your machine, which we will do. Arguments input.txt, output.txt, and [T] are passed onto game as command line arguments. The [T] is the number of iterations to simulate the Game. The output.txt should be filled with the map's final state after [T] iterations of simulation, with the same syntax as in the input file, described above.

3. Input and Output

The input.txt will contain the initial state of the map of size 360×360 with;

• rows separated by a single new line (\n) character,

- each cell on a row separated by a single space () character,
- each cell as a 0 or 1 for emptiness and life.

Here is an example input file of a 4 x 4 map:

If argument T is passed as 1, the program will perform 1 iteration and the output.txt file will be as follows:

0100 1000 0000

To give an example, map size is minimized; but the program works with larger inputs.

4. Program Structure

4.1 divideGame

After MPI is initialized, main process reads the input file and divides the map as checkers to the other processes. It divides the game sequentially and incrementally to each process with MPI_Send function. It also sends the boundaries to them. Meanwhile, other processes are waiting the information with MPI_Recv function.

Each cell is passed to the processes with different tag and each subprocess is waiting the data with this tag parameter from the rank 0 process. Subprocesses wait for the cell values in given boundaries. They also initialize ups, downs, lefts, rights and corners vectors with –1 value. Later, these vectors will be used to store data from adjacent processes.

Each process has two game map arrays. This is for calculating a new state of the map while not distorting the old one. In each state, old map and new map changes. This is implemented by incrementing a state variable in each iteration, and selecting the map with mode calculation.

4.2 sendAll

In this function, each process besides the rank 0 process sends the necessary information to its neighbors. Each process gets the neighbor process's rank in specific direction with **getWorldRank** function. As a tag, it sends the index of the cell in related boundary. It also passes tag 0 to its diagonal neighbors.

4.3 getWorldRank

Gets a direction string and returns the world rank at that direction. It involves a lot of checkered map calculations and edge case comparisons.

4.3 updateAll

In this function, each process besides the rank 0 process iterates through its cells and calls the **update** function with specific indexes. **Update** function calculates the number of living neighbors of the cell and updates it.

4.4 update

This function gets the number of living neighbors of the cell in given coordinate with **nOfLivingNeighbors** function. Then selects the old and new game maps according to the state variable. New game map is updated in given cell with living neighbor count and game rules.

4.5 nOfLivingNeighbors

This function calculates each neighbor of a cell and then returns the sum of these values. If the cell is in the boundaries, calls the **getFromArrayOrReceive** function with a direction and an index; otherwise gets the neighbor's value from its own game map.

4.6 getFromArrayOrReceive

This function gets the place of the neighbor cell in its boundary vectors with **getPlace** function first. If the direction is diagonal, set the index to 0 for tag logic. Then checks the place's value, if its value is not -1, returns this value. Because this means, value needed is already received from the neighbor process. Otherwise, gets the world rank in given direction with **getWorldRank** function, receives the value from the process with that rank, and updates its boundary vector with this value.

4.7 getPlace

Gets and index and a direction, returns a pointer to process' boundary vector's element in that index and direction.

4.8 Iterations

In a for loop **sendAll** and **updateAll** functions are called repeatedly. The time when a process enters the **updateAll** function, it sends all the information needed to other processes in **sendAll** function. This method eliminates the deadlock possibility. Also, these methods choose the old game map and new game map by looking to the stage parameter.

4.9 recollect

In this function, all processes except the rank zero process sends their maps to the rank zero process cell by cell. Meanwhile, rank zero process receives the data from other processes and puts them into its own map.

5. Examples

Let's examine a 4 x 4 matrix. And the matrix after one iteration.

1 1 0 1		0100
0010	->	1111
0000		0001
1 0 0 1		1111

Number of living neighbors = NW + N + NE + E + W + SW + S + SE

For cell (0,0), there are 1 + 1 + 0 + 1 + 1 + 0 + 0 + 0 = 4 living neighbors. So, overpopulation kills the cell.

For cell (0,1), there are 1+0+0+1+0+0+1=3 living neighbors. So, neighbor cells reproduce.

For cell (0,2), there are 0 + 0 + 1 + 1 + 1 + 0 + 1 + 0 = 4 living neighbors. So, overpopulation kills the cell.

For cell (0,3), there are 0 + 1 + 1 + 0 + 1 + 1 + 0 + 0 = 4 living neighbors. So, overpopulation kills the cell.

For cell (1,0), there are 1 + 1 + 1 + 0 + 0 + 0 + 0 + 0 = 3 living neighbors. So, neighbor cells reproduce.

For cell (1,1), there are 1 + 1 + 0 + 0 + 1 + 0 + 0 + 0 = 3 living neighbors. So, neighbor cells reproduce.

For cell (1,2), there are 1 + 0 + 1 + 0 + 0 + 0 + 0 + 0 = 2 living neighbors. So, the cell remains unchanged.

For cell (1,3), there are 0 + 1 + 1 + 1 + 0 + 0 + 0 + 0 = 3 living neighbors. So, neighbor cells reproduce.

For cell (2,0), there are 0 + 0 + 0 + 0 + 0 + 1 + 1 + 0 = 2 living neighbors. So, the cell remains unchanged.

For cell (2,1), there are 0 + 0 + 1 + 0 + 0 + 1 + 0 + 0 = 2 living neighbors. So, the cell remains unchanged.

For cell (2,2), there are 1 + 0 + 1 + 0 + 0 + 0 + 0 + 0 = 2 living neighbors. So, the cell remains unchanged.

For cell (2,3), there are 1 + 0 + 0 + 0 + 0 + 0 + 1 + 1 = 3 living neighbors. So, neighbor cells reproduce.

For cell (3,0), there are 0 + 0 + 0 + 1 + 0 + 1 + 1 + 0 = 3 living neighbors. So, neighbor cells reproduce.

For cell (3,1), there are 0 + 0 + 0 + 1 + 0 + 1 + 1 + 0 = 3 living neighbors. So, neighbor cells reproduce.

For cell (3,2), there are 0 + 0 + 0 + 0 + 1 + 1 + 0 + 1 = 3 living neighbors. So, neighbor cells reproduce.

For cell (3,3), there are 0+0+0+0+1+0+1+1=3 living neighbors. So, neighbor cells reproduce.

6. Improvements and Extensions

- **divideGame** and **recollect** functions sends and receives the cells from other processes one by one. Instead these functions may send and receive arrays. Since they are called only once in each execution, the functions are implemented in this way.
- Dividing the send and receive parts completely in **sendAll** and **updateAll** functions is really a safe way. However, one process can send the current cell value immediately after it calculates it. This approach could cause data misinterpretations, but by using a different tag in each iteration, these risks may be prevented.

7. Difficulties Encountered

C++ isn't a language I use every day and it's not very user-friendly. In this situation, some vector functions may be hard to use. When I was dividing and recollecting the game from rank zero process, I first tried to send and receive cells as blocks. But I couldn't fix segmentation fault error. Hence, I decided to send and receive the cells one by one.

Calculating neighbors was hard because of the checkered structure. For making the program to work properly, there are lot of edge cases to calculate with mod and division operations.

I also tried to send information immediately after calculating the new cell. But couldn't manage the solve deadlocks.

8. Conclusion

Project's game logic was not that hard to implement. But splitting the execution into processes and make them communicate with each other was hard. It was a great parallel programming practice and was helpful to understand the concepts of it. Also, project was involved a lot of calculations due to map splitting logic.

9. Appendix

```
int worldRank;
int worldSize;
int edgeSize;
const int NOT_RECEIVED = -1;
const int MASTER PROCESS RANK = 0;
vector<vector<vector<int>>> gameMaps;
vector<int> ups;
vector<int> downs;
vector<int> lefts;
vector<int> rights;
vector<int> corners;
int stage = 0;
int getWorldRank (string direction){
    //Get world rank of the process in given direction
int processPerRow = (int)sqrt(worldSize);
     bool isOnTopRow = worldRank <= processPerRow;</pre>
    bool isOnLeftmostColumn = worldRank % processPerRow == 1;
    bool isOnRightmostColumn = worldRank % processPerRow == 0;
 isObBottomBoGE€owoeldRawbr≵dRabkldSiwerldBimeessRerRow;
    bool isOnSWCorner = worldRank == worldSize - processPerRow;
bool isOnNECorner = worldRank == processPerRow;
    bool isOnNWCorner = worldRank == 1;
    if(direction == "N"){
         if(isOnTopRow) {
              return worldSize - processPerRow + worldRank - 1;
    return worldRank - processPerRow;
} else if(direction == "NW"){
         if(isOnTopRow){
              if(isOnNWCorner) {
                  return worldSize - 1;
              return worldSize - processPerRow + worldRank - 2;
                  return worldRank - 1;
              return worldRank - processPerRow - 1;
         if(isOnTopRow){
              if(isOnNECorner){
                  return worldSize - processPerRow;
//Process on the SW corner
              return worldSize - processPerRow + worldRank;
             if(isOnRightmostColumn) {
   return worldRank - 2 * processPerRow + 1;
   //Process on the leftmost column
              return worldRank - processPerRow + 1;
    } else if(direction == "W"){
         if(isOnLeftmostColumn) {
              return worldRank + processPerRow - 1;
         return worldRank - 1;
    } else if(direction == "E"){
         if(isOnRightmostColumn){
             return worldRank - processPerRow + 1;
//Process on the leftmost column
          return worldRank + 1;
```

```
} else if(direction == "5"){
         if(isOnBottomRow){
                   return processPerRow;
              return worldRank % processPerRow;
         return worldRank + processPerRow;
    } else if(direction == "5W"){
   if(isOnBottomRow){
              if(isOnSWCorner){
                  return processPerRow;
                   return processPerRow - 1;
              return worldRank % processPerRow - 1;
             if(isOnLeftmostColumn){
   return worldRank + 2 * processPerRow - 1;
   //Process on the top row
              return worldRank + processPerRow - 1;
    } else if(direction == "SE"){
         if(isOnBottomRow){
              if(isOnSECorner){
              return worldRank % processPerRow + 1;
         1 else f
              if(isOnRightmostColumn){
                   return worldRank + 1;
//Process on the leftmost column
              return worldRank + processPerRow + 1;
    //Returns the pointer to the place of the
//neighbor cell in given direction
if(direction == "N"){
         return &ups[index];
    } else if(direction == "W"){
        return &lefts[index];
    return &rights[index];
} else if(direction == "NW"){
    return &corners[0];
} else if(direction == "NE"){
         return &corners[2];
int getFromArrayOrReceive(string direction, int index){
//Neighböplacel=ggetPhace(dimestion; index);
```

```
if(direction.length() == 2){
          index = 0:
     if(*place == NOT_RECEIVED){//Neighbor cell is not received yet
          MPI_Recv(&result, 1, MPI_INT, getWorldRank
(direction), index, MPI_COMM_WORLD, MPI_STATUS_IGNORE);
          *place = result;
         result = *place;
//Set the result from local array
int nOfLivingNeighbors(int i, int j){
   //Returns the number of living neighbors of the cell
   vector<vector<int>>>* gameMap = stage % 2 == 1 ? &gameMaps[1] : &gameMaps[0];
     //Map to be used is chosen by looking at the stage
int lastIndex = edgeSize - 1;//Last column index
     int N, NE, NW, W, E, S, SE, SW;//Neighbors in directions if(i == 0){//i is in the first row
          N = getFromArrayOrReceive("N", j);
          if(j == 0) {//j is in the first column
NW = getFromArrayOrReceive("NW", j - 1);
               NW = getFromArrayOrReceive("N", j - 1);
          if(j == lastIndex) {//j is in the last column}
              NE = getFromArrayOrReceive("NE", j + 1);
               NE = getFromArrayOrReceive("N", j + 1);
         N = (*gameMap)[i - 1][j];
if(j == 0){//j is in the first column
               NW = getFromArrayOrReceive("W", i - 1);
               NW = (*gameMap)[i - 1][j - 1];
          if(j == lastIndex){//j is in the last column
    NE = getFromArrayOrReceive("E", i - 1);
               NE = (*gameMap)[i - 1][j + 1];
          S = getFromArrayOrReceive("S", j);
if(j == 0) {//j is in the first column
               SW = getFromArrayOrReceive("SW", j - 1);
              SW = getFromArrayOrReceive("5", j - 1);
          if(j == lastIndex) {//j is in the last column}
               SE = getFromArrayOrReceive("SE", j + 1);
          } else {
               SE = getFromArrayOrReceive("S", j + 1);
          S = (*gameMap)[i + 1][j];
               SW = getFromArrayOrReceive("W", i + 1);
```

```
SW = (*gameMap)[i + 1][j - 1];
           if(j == lastIndex){//j is in the last column
SE = getFromArrayOrReceive("E", i + 1);
                SE = (*gameMap)[i + 1][j + 1];
      if(j == lastIndex){//j is in the last column
          E = getFromArrayOrReceive("E", i);
           E = (*gameMap)[i][j + 1];
     if(j == 0){//j is in the first column
W = getFromArrayOrReceive("W", i);
      } else {
          W = (*gameMap)[i][j - 1];
void update(int i, int j){
     int livingNeighboorCount = nOfLivingNeighbors(i, j);
     //Select the old game map and the new game map by looking at the stage
vector<vector<int>>* newGameMap = stage % 2 == 1 ? &gameMaps[0] : &gameMaps[1];
vector<vector<int>>* oldGameMap = stage % 2 == 1 ? &gameMaps[1] : &gameMaps[0];
     if(livingNeighboorCount < 2 || livingNeighboorCount > 3){
           (*newGameMap)[i][j] = 0;
     } else if(livingNeighboorCount == 3){
           (*newGameMap)[i][j] = 1;
           (*newGameMap)[i][j] = (*oldGameMap)[i][j];
void readInput(string filename){
   //Read input to the game map array
   if(worldRank == MASTER_PROCESS_RANK){
           gameMaps.push_back(vector<vector<int>>());
           string line;
           while (getline(inputFile, line)){
                gameMaps[0].push_back(vector<int>());
                 for(int i = 0; i < line.length() - 1; i+=2){
   gameMaps[0][gameMaps[0].size() - 1].push_back(line[i] - '0');</pre>
void writeOutput(string filename){
     //Write the game map to the output file
if(worldRank == MASTER_PROCESS_RANK){
           ofstream outputFile;
           outputFile.open(filename);
           for(int i = 0; i < gameMaps[0].size(); i++){
    for(int j = 0; j < gameMaps[0][i].size(); j++){
        outputFile << gameMaps[0][i][j] << " ";</pre>
                outputFile << endl;
           outputFile.close();
```

```
void updateAll() {
    if(worldRank != MASTER PROCESS RANK){
         for(int i = 0; i < edgeSize; i++){
   for(int j = 0; j < edgeSize; j++){
      update(i, j);//Update all cells of game map</pre>
         ups = vector<int>(edgeSize, NOT_RECEIVED);
         downs = vector<int>(edgeSize, NOT_RECEIVED);
         lefts = vector<int>(edgeSize, NOT_RECEIVED);
         rights = vector<int>(edgeSize, NOT_RECEIVED);
         corners = vector<int>(4, NOT_RECEIVED);
         stage++;//Increment the stage
void divideGame(){
    MPI Comm_size(MPI COMM_WORLD, &worldSize);//get world size
MPI Comm_rank(MPI COMM_WORLD, &worldRank);//get world rank
if(worldRank == MASTER_PROCESS_RANK){
         \label{eq:edgeSize} $$ $edgeSize = gameMaps[0].size() / (int) sqrt(worldSize - 1); //set edge size for(int i = 1; i < worldSize; i++){} 
              int j = (i - 1) / (int)sqrt(worldSize - 1) * edgeSize;
//Beginning of the row index
              \label{eq:mpi_send} \mbox{MPI\_Send(\&edgeSize, 1, MPI\_INT, i, 0, MPI\_COMM\_WORLD);}
              //Send edge size to the process
              int boundaryJ = j + edgeSize;
              for(; j < boundaryJ; j++){
    int k = (i - 1) % (int)sqrt(worldSize - 1) * edgeSize;</pre>
                   int boundaryK = k + edgeSize;
                   for(; k < boundaryK; k++){
                        MPI Send(&gameMaps[0][j][k], 1, MPI INT, i, tag, MPI COMM WORLD);
                        tag++;
         gameMaps = vector<vector<vector<int>>>>(2);
         MPI_Recv(&edgeSize, 1, MPI_INT, 0, 0, MPI_COMM_WORLD, MPI_STATUS_IGNORE);
         int tag = 1;
         ups = vector<int>(edgeSize, NOT RECEIVED);
         downs = vector<int>(edgeSize, NOT_RECEIVED);
         lefts = vector<int>(edgeSize, NOT_RECEIVED);
         rights = vector<int>(edgeSize, NOT_RECEIVED);
         corners = vector<int>(4, NOT RECEIVED);
         for(int i = 0; i < edgeSize; i++){
              gameMaps[0].push_back(vector<int>());
              gameMaps[1].push_back(vector<int>());
               for(int j=0; j < edgeSize; j++){
                   MPI_Recv(&newVal, 1, MPI_INT, 0, tag, MPI_COMM_WORLD, MPI_STATUS_IGNORE);
                   gameMaps[0][i].push_back(newVal);
                   gameMaps[1][i].push_back(newVal);
                   tag++;
```

```
void sendAll(){
     if(worldRank != MASTER PROCESS RANK){
          //Get the current game ma
          vector<vector<int>>>* gameMap = stage % 2 == 1 ? &gameMaps[1] : &gameMaps[0];
          for(int j = 0; j < edgeSize; j++){
   MPI_Send(&(*gameMap)[0][j], 1, MPI_INT, getWorldRank("N"), j, MPI_COMM_WORLD);
   MPI_Send(&(*gameMap)[edgeSize - 1][j], 1, MPI_INT, getWorldRank("S"</pre>
), j, MPI COMM WORLD);
          for(int j = 0; j < edgeSize; j++){
   MPI Send(&(*gameMap)[j][0], 1, MPI_INT, getWorldRank("W"), j, MPI_COMM_WORLD);
   MPI_Send(&(*gameMap)[j][edgeSize - 1], 1, MPI_INT, getWorldRank("E"</pre>
), j, MPI COMM WORLD);
         MPI Send(&(*gameMap)[0][edgeSize - 1], 1, MPI_INT, getWorldRank("NE"), 0
, MPI_COMM_WORLD);
         \label{eq:mpi_send} $$ MPI\_Send(\&(*gameMap)[0][0], 1, MPI\_INT, getWorldRank("NW"), 0, MPI\_COMM\_WORLD); $$
         MPI\_Send(\&(*gameMap)[edgeSize - 1][edgeSize - 1], 1, MPI\_INT, getWorldRank("SE"), 0
, MPI COMM WORLD);
          \label{eq:mpi_send}  \mbox{MPI\_Send}(\&(*gameMap)[edgeSize - 1][0], 1, \mbox{MPI\_INT, getWorldRank}("SW"), 0 ] 
, MPI COMM WORLD);
void recollect(){
    if(worldRank != MASTER PROCESS RANK){
         vector<vector<int>>> gameMap = *(stage % 2 == 1 ? &gameMaps[1] : &gameMaps[0]);
         int tag = 0;//Tag for the cell
for(int i = 0; i < edgeSize; i++){</pre>
               for(int j = 0; j < edgeSize; j++){
                    MPI_Send(&gameMap[i][j], 1, MPI_INT, 0, tag, MPI_COMM_WORLD);
                    tag++;
               for(int i = 0; i < edgeSize; i++) {</pre>
                    for(int j = 0; j < edgeSize; j++) {
                         //Get the indexes of the cell
int indexI = (p - 1) / (int)sqrt(worldSize - 1) * edgeSize + i;
int indexJ = (p - 1) % (int)sqrt(worldSize - 1) * edgeSize + j;
                         MPI Recv(&gameMaps[0
[[index]][indexJ], edgeSize, MPI INT, p, tag, MPI COMM WORLD, MPI STATUS IGNORE);
                         tag++;
int main(int argc, char *args[]){
     string inputFileName = args[1];
     string outputFileName = args[2];
     int nOfIterations = stoi(args[3]);
    MPI Init(NULL, NULL);
    readInput(inputFileName);
    divideGame();
     for(int i = 0; i < nOfIterations; i++){</pre>
         sendAll();
         updateAll():
    writeOutput(outputFileName);
    MPI Finalize();
```