ASSIGNMENTS COURSE MATERIAL OVERVIEW

# **Assignments**

There are six assignments in total, four of which are mandatory. Solutions of Assignments 4 and 5 count towards you examination. The first due date is rather late after the start to provide sufficient time to get acquainted with HPC. Do not underestimate the time it takes to solve an assignment.

#### Please consider the submission instructions.

Name	<b>Due Date</b>	Description
development environmen	nt Mo, Sept. 16	Basic development tools.
<u>optimization</u>	Mo, Sept. 30	Performance measurement, diagnosis, and basic optimization.
threads	Mo, Oct. 14	POSIX threads.
openmp	Fr, Oct. 25	OpenMP, a compiler parallelization framework.
opencl (optional)	Fr, Oct. 25 (bonus assignment	r) Framework for heterogeneous computing environment (GPU, FPGA, etc.).
mpi (optional)	Fr, Oct. 25 (bonus assignment	d) Message passing interface for distributed computing.

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# **Submission instructions**

There are three types of assessments: Peer assessment in the lab, peer assessment via Canvas, and assessment of (runtime) performance, also via Canvas. I will assess the runtime performance of your solutions to Assignments 2 and beyond. For these your program's performance is the key and only objective. You handle Assignments 0 and 1 yourself as peer assessments. Assignments 2 and 3 feature one report each, which is subject to peer assessment, too. It is due prior to your submission of the program, the idea being that you can make use of the feedback you receive in your implementation.

#### Peer assessment in the lab

The focus of peer assessed assignments is to enforce learning of basic techniques that you will need for the remaining assignments. First solve the assignments independently. Then get together in groups of three to check and possibly improve your solutions in group work. You can then come forward to me or one of the assistents during the computer lab sessions. After possibly asking some questions for cross-check, we will register your passing the assignment. You do not have to submit anything to Canvas for these assignments.

## Peer assessment via Canvas

Assignments 2 and 3 comprise a report that you have to submit via Canvas. These report are also peer assessed, but in written form and anonymously. Instructions for both the report and the peer feedback are provided below.

## Performance assessment via Canvas

You submit your code in the format described below via Canvas. Make sure before submitting that the file that you submit passes the **check scripts that I provide** on Gantenbein (as opposed to on your own computer or any other computer).

# **Submission groups**

For Assignments 2 and beyond you are allowed and encouraged to work on and submit assignments in **groups of two or three students**. You have to **sign up for a group tag** via Canvas. For example, hpcgp001 would be such a tag.

If you do not have a group and do not want to find one yourself, you can come and talk to me and I will try and help you. Also if you plan to work alone, come and talk to me in order to see whether this is really the best idea. Students working alone in the overwhelming majority have suffered from excessively high work loads, and lower achievement and learning rates.

## Programming language

Do not diverge from the choice of programming language. You have to use C for the program code and GNU Make for the makefiles. Based on past years' experience, C++ is not an option.

# **Build system**

Your code must compile and run on gantenbein.

#### Makefile

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```
./mainl
./main2
```

The makefile must also provide a clean target that shall remove all files resulting from compilation, but no more. For example, if you provide two files, main.c and makefile, and running the executable main yields another file called outputfile, then

```
make
./main
make clean
```

should preserve main.c, makefile, and outputfile, but delete main.o (if present) and main.

#### **Submission archive**

Your solution to Assignments 2 and beyond should be packaged as a tar.gz-archive and uploaded to Canvas. Make sure to check the directory structure in the tar-file to match the requirements of the check script. For example, the following commands produce different tar-files:

```
tar czf submit.tar.gz code/main.c
tar czf submit.tar.gz main.c
```

## Timeline for Assignments 2 and 3

Assignments 2 and 3 and include the implementation of one program and the writing of one report. Here is a suggested timeline:

- Day 1: List concepts from the lecture and Assignments 0 and 1 that appear useful or related to the assignment. This can yield a sketch of the report
- Day 1 and 2: Discuss the program layout and split it into subtasks. This can contribute to the sketch of the report.
- Day 2 and 3: Implement the layout. Do layout ideas work out?
- Day 3 to 5: Implement subtasks and revisit layout accordingly.
- Day 5: Achieve a functional program. What about performance?
- Day 4 and 5: Improve report with everything learned so far. Submit! (Deadline is only on Monday.)
- Day 6: Read and assess reports from others. Any ideas that you have not yet thought of, but that would help to improve your program?
- Day 7 to 10: Identify which parts of your program are slowest and improve them. Repeat until done. It is normal that "polishing" programs takes such a large share of the development time.

## Reports for Assignments 2 and 3

The report shall focus on collecting concepts from the lectures and Assignments 0 and 1 that are relevant for your implementation. Provide a list of such concepts and for each of them explain why you think it is relevant and how you think it will impact your implementation.

Beyond that summary of concepts, sketch the intended layout of your program. Here program layout refers to how you intend to split the project task in Assignment 2 into subtasks, and how that devision will be reflected in your implementation

Upload your report as a pdf-file to Canvas. You may use the markdown template below as a blueprint and then compile to pdf via kramdown. **Do not include your names in the report, in order to facilitate double-blind peer-feedback**.

## Markdown

Markdown is a markup language which is geared towards easy typing and reading. If not familiar with it, you can find a <u>summary of most important commands</u>. You can produce pdf file from a markdown file using kramdown, which is available on gantenbein:

```
kramdown report.md -o pdf > report.pdf
```

#### **Report Template**

```
## Relevant concepts
```

- \*\*Stack allocation\*\*. We have learned in Assignment 0 that there are two types of allocated memory: Stack and heap allocated memory. One acquires stack allocated memory by using array declarations inside of functions, as opposed to global declarations of arrays.

Memory allocated on the stack is limited in size, but tends to be faster. Moreover, stack allocated memory is thread local and therefore provides an opportunity to untangle the mutual impact of parallel threads on one another. Consequentially, it is an important consideration to employ stack allocated memory in the innermost iteration steps, i.e., the Newton iteration for an individual point on the complex plane.

We plan to test this concept by comparing runtimes of variants of our program using stack and heap allocated memory in the innermost iteration steps.

```
***CONTINUE HERE WITH FUTHER CONCEPTS***
```

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```
computation of the Newton iteration and the writing of results to the two output files. Each of them will be implemented in a separate function, that are intended to be run as the main function of corresponding POSIX threads.

The computation of the Newton iteration can be further split up into ***INSERT***

As for the writing to file, we have identified ***INSERT*** independent subtasks. ***INSERT***
```

#### Peer-Feedback on the Report

You are assigned three reports via Canvas. Evaluate them based on the rubric below. Further, point out the strongest point of each and pinpoint one aspect each which deserves further attention by the authors. Upload your review as a pdf-file to Canvas. You may use the following markdown text as a blueprint and then compile to pdf via kramdown. Do not include your names in the review, in order to facilitate double-blind peer-feedback.

#### Completeness of concepts list

- Excellent: Lists at least four additional concepts from the lecture that hypothetically impact the implementation.
- Average: Lists at least two additional concepts from the lecture that hypothetically impact the implementation.
- Can be improved: Lists one or no additional concept from the lecture that hypothetically impact the implementation.

#### Discussion of concepts: technical background

- Excellent: Revisits for each concept how it can be accessed in C-code and how it manifests itself in hardware.
- Average: Sketches how each concept can be accessed in C-code and how it manifests itself in hardware.
- Can be improved: Access in C-code or effect on hardware are not described.

#### Discussion of concepts: impact on implementation

- Excellent: Provides a clear cut hypothesis for how the concept could impact the implementation.
- Average: Outlines possible effect on the implementation.
- Can be improved: The effect on the implementation is not discussed.

#### Clarity of program layout

- Excellent: After reading the program layout thoroughly twice, the program's envisioned structure becomes clear.
- Average: A rough impression of the program's intended structure transpires.
- Can be improved: After repeated reading the program's structure remains unclear.

#### Resolution of subtasks

- Excellent: The discussed subtask can probably be implemented in few tens of lines each.
- Average: The subtasks are of size that a concrete implementation seems a day's manageable work.
- Can be improved: The subtasks appear too coarse to me.

#### Overall clarity of report

- Excellent: After reading the report thoroughly twice, the implementation ideas become clear.
- Average: A rough impression of the implementation ideas transpires.
- Can be improved: After repeated reading the implementation idea remains unclear.

# Peer-Feedback Template

```
# Assignment 2: Review of programming report
Following the rubric, I evaluate the report as:
```

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- \*\*\*Excellent/Average/Can be improved\*\*\*
  concerning discussion of concepts: technical background.
- \*\*\*Excellent/Average/Can be improved\*\*\*
  concerning discussion of concepts: impact on implementation.
- \*\*\*Excellent/Average/Can be improved\*\*\*
  concerning clarity of program layout.
- \*\*\*Excellent/Average/Can be improved\*\*\*
  concerning resolution of subtasks.

To me, \*\*\*INSERT\*\*\* seems a particular strong point of the report. \*\*\*JUSTIFY YOUR OPINION IN TWO OR THREE SENTENCES\*\*\*.

One aspect that I find could particularly help the group to improve their implementation is to revisit \*\*\*INSERT\*\*\*. \*\*\*JUSTIFY YOUR OPINION IN TWO OR THREE SENTENCES\*\*\*.

# **Development machine: Gantenbein**

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Gantenbein is a computer at the department of mathematics. You must have access to check and submit your assignments. I will give you an account after you have registed in PingPong. Come and see me during the first lab session.

If you, for instance, have the user name hpcuser023, you log into gantenbein via

ssh hpcuser023@gantenbein.math.chalmers.se

After that you have a usual terminal to work in. Gantenbein does not allow for a graphical user interface, like all high performance computing environments. Use the terminal as explained in the first lectures.

# Editing files on gantenbein

There are two standard text editors installed on gantenbein: NeoVim and Emacs. For beginners I very much recommend to use Emacs. You can open a file for editing by

emacs FILENAME

Navigation within a file works, for example, with key arrows. To write a file to disc press CTRL-x CTRL-s. To close a file press CTRL-x CTRL-c.

#### Transfering files to and from gantenbein

Should you want to edit files on a different system, you will need means to transfer them to and from gantenbein. I will not give you support on this, since the officially recommended way is to work on gantenbein directly.

Here, though, is some information for your convenience: The most confortable way is to use sshfs, which is available to you if you use your own Linux, Mac, or Windows computer. It connects a folder on gantenbein with a folder on your computer in a persistent way. To transfer individual folders or files, you can use the command scp on Linux and Mac. The user manual can be retrieved by the man command, as explained in the lectures.

If you decide to take files on your own computer, but do not have a suitable code editor, Atom is a popular one that runs on Linux, Mac, and Windows. Yet again, though, I will not provide support for running this on your system.

# **Assignment 0: Development Environment and basic programming**

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The goal of this pre-assignment is to practice the basic use of the terminal environment and make. This is subject to peer-assessment.

# Loging in and setting up a terminal environment

Make sure to revisit from the lectures's slides how to:

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# Flint and Arb

Arb is a library for arbitrary precision ball arithmetic. It builds up on Flint, a library for fast number theoretic comuputation. The next goal is to provide local installations of both on gantenbein. You will need to install Flint first and then Arb.

#### Acquiring the code

Many programs that one uses in an HPC environment are not provided by the system. You have to find them yourself, often on the web. Make sure to:

- Find both Flint 2.5 and Arb 2.14 on the web.
- Download the source code to your home directory or a suitable subfolder.

#### **Using Git**

The following is optional for those, who wish to train the use of git.

- Find the git repositories of Flint and Arb.
- Clone them to build the very latest versions instead of versions 2.5 and 2.14, respectively.
- Discuss what is the advantage and disadvantage of using such not yet released code?
- When inspecting the git history of Flint, how do such general arguments apply to the case at hand?

# **Installing Flint**

To build and install Flint, find the INSTALL file in the Flint source folder and follow the instructions. When configuring the build make sure that:

- Flint is installed into HOME/local\_flint, where HOME is your home directory.
- Flint is built using the system-wide installation of MPIR and MPFR.
  - o Both MPIR and MPFR are libraries.
  - Notice that the install documentation of Flint is inaccurate when it discusses detecting the installation path of both MPIR and MPFR.
     Work by analogy.
- Flint is built using the native processor architecture (GCC target architecture) of gantenbein.

#### **Installing Arb**

Adjust the steps that you follows for installing Flint to Arb. In particular, you will have to find a way how to inform the Arb configuration about where you have installed Flint. Make sure that:

- Arb is built using the native processor architecture (GCC target architecture) of gantenbein.
- Arb is installed into HOME/local\_arb, where HOME is your home directory.

### **Testing your installation**

Flint comes with a small set of tests. Find out how to build and run them.

• Verify that your installion of Flint runs its tests correctly.

Arb comes with a small set of examples.

- Copy the example poly\_roots.c into a separate folder.
- Write a makefile to build it.
- Verify the functioning of the resulting program.

# **Basic C programming**

The basic layout of C programs is similar to other programming languages, Java for example. A reference can be found at <a href="expprecessors"><u>expprecessors</u></a>. It is important to be familiar with the syntax of if, for, and while statements, which are merely a syntactic variation of what can be found in other programming languages. The next goal is to get familiar with the basic pattern of stack allocation, heap allocation, and file access.

# Stack allocation

Allocation describes the reserving of memory for a program. Stack allocation is the fastest variant. While the C standard makes no assumption on what memory is allocated on the stack, it is reasonable to assume that arrays of static size are allocated on the stack.

Write a program employing the following allocation pattern

```
#define SIZE 10
int as[SIZE];
```

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Make sure that you place the declaration of the array in the main function (as opposed to global scope).

Compile and run the program with optimization level 1 on gcc. Then increase the size of the arrary, recompile and run, until the program fails with a segmentation fault. Explain this behavior assuming that that allocation was performed on the stack.

## Heap allocation

Heap allocation is the alternative to stack allocation. It is generally slower, but more flexible. In particular, it has less restrictions on the size of allocated memory.

Write a program with the following allocation pattern

```
#define SIZE 10
int * as = (int*) malloc(sizeof(int) * SIZE);
for ( size_t ix = 0; ix < SIZE; ++ix )
   as[ix] = 0;
printf("%d\n", as[0]);</pre>
```

Compile and run as above, and verify that the program does not fail for sizes that triggered a segmentation fault before.

#### **Reducing memory fragmentation**

When allocating memory on the heap, there is no guarantee about where it is positioned. A common strategy to avoid this is to allocate memory in large blocks (contiguous memory). Implement a program based on the next two code snippets. Explain the meaning of all variables, and exhibit the possible layout of allocated memory in both cases.

Not avoiding memory fragmentation:

```
#define SIZE 10
int ** as = (int**) malloc(sizeof(int*) * SIZE);
for ( size t ix = 0; ix < SIZE; ++ix )
  as[ix] = (int*) malloc(sizeof(int) * SIZE);
for ( size t ix = 0; ix < SIZE; ++ix )
  for ( size_t jx = 0; jx < SIZE; ++jx )
    as[ix][jx] = 0;
printf("%d\n", as[0][0]);
for ( size t ix = 0; ix < SIZE; ++ix )
    free(as[ix]);
free(as);
Avoiding memory fragmentation:
#define SIZE 10
int * asentries = (int*) malloc(sizeof(int) * SIZE*SIZE);
int ** as = (int**) malloc(sizeof(int*) * SIZE);
for ( size_t ix = 0, jx = 0; ix < SIZE; ++ix, jx+=SIZE )
  as[ix] = asentries + jx;
for ( size_t ix = 0; ix < SIZE; ++ix )
  for ( size_t jx = 0; jx < SIZE; ++jx )
    as[ix][jx] = 0;
printf("%d\n", as[0][0]);
free (as);
free (asentries);
```

## Writing to files

The C file model is based on FILE pointers, which have to be acquired and released. Check on the web the syntax and meaning of the following functions:

- fclose
- fflush

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- fseek
- ftell
- · fwrite

Implement two programs. One that

- · opens a file for writing,
- writes a square matrix of size 10 with int entries (ix\*jx in the ix-th row and jx-th column) to that file,
- closes the file.

The other one

- reopens the file for reading,
- reads the matrix from the file.
- checks that the entry in the ix-th row and jx-th column equals ix\*jx.

How does your choice of memory allocation (contiguous vs. noncontiguous) impact the possibilities to write the matrix?

## Parsing command line arguments

Programs can be called with command line arguments. For example, a program printargs might be called as

```
./printargs -a2 -b4
```

These arguments are passed to the main function

```
int
main(
    int argc,
    char *argv[]
```

as an array of null-terminated strings argy (argument vector), the number of which is argc (argument count). In the above example the argument count is 3 and the argument vector accordingly contains 3 strings "./printargs", "-a2", and "-b4".

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Make sure that you are familiar with the concept of null-terminated strings and stdout and check on the web the syntax and meaning of the following functions and expressions:

- == 'a' (as opposed to == "a")
- strcmp
- strtol
- printf

Implement a program that

- accepts two arguments -aA and -bB for integers A and B in arbitrary order, i.e. -aA -bB and -bB -aA are both legitimate arguments when calling your program,
- · converts A and B to integers, and
- writes to stdout the line "A is (INSERT A) and B is (INSERT B)".

For example calling

```
printargs -a2 -b4

or

printargs -b4 -a2

should output

A is 2 and B is 4
```

As a final remark observe that standard programs would equally accept "-a2" and "-a 2". When using standard solutions like POSIX getopt, this is automatically taken care of.

# Learning summary

This assignment is a preparation towards your working on Assignments 2 through 5. In particular, you will need the following to facilitate your course studies:

• From the first part, it is very helpful to keep in mind the use of makefiles. They save you a lot of time when recompiling, and make the use of compiler flags more transparent. When coding and then rerunning your program, you might want to use commands like

```
make && ./program with parameters
```

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also less flexible. That is, using contiguous memory allocation you are forced to allocated the required memory at once. As for non-contiguous memory allocation you can allocate and free each row whenever it is optimal in your code.

- From the fifth part, it is helpful to record that fprintf is potentially much slower than fwrite. In particular, when writing the same string repeatedly in a program, it can be helpful to prepare a string in memory (i.e. an array of char) via, for example, sprintf and then write it to file employing fwrite.
- From the sixth part, it is helpful to remember the programming pattern. Most programs need to parse command line arguments. You can reuse the code that you have written in other assignments.

# **Assignment 1: Optimization**

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The goal of the first assignment is to practice how to time and profile code, and to inspect some aspects that contribute to performance. This is an assortment of various, independent tasks that are subject to peer assessment. It is allowed and suggested to complete each task, and then consult with your peer assessment group for feedback before starting the next task.

# **Time**

In this task you familiarize yourself with a naive approach to timing and benchmarking. Familiarize yourself with

- · the datatype timespec and
- the function timespec get.

Implement a program that

- in a loop repeats,
  - the naive computation of the sum of the first billion integers,
- writes the result to stdout,
- takes the time before and after the loop,
- computes the runtime of a single loop iteration from the difference of start and stop time.

Compile and run the program with all possible optimization levels (-O0 -O1 -O2 -O3 -Os -Og). Also generate assembler code for each of the optimization levels. Discuss the timing results in light of that assembler code.

# **Inlining**

In this task you will see the effect of automatic inlining. You have to compile programs with optimization level 2 (i.e. compiler flag -O2) in order to produce the effect.

Implement a function with signature

```
void
mul_cpx( double * a_re, double * a_im, double * b_re, double * b_im, double * c_re, double * c_im)
```

that computes the product of two complex numbers b and c, and stores it in a. The suffices re and im stand for the real and imaginary part of a,b,c respectively.

- Provide two identical implementations of this function, with two different names mul\_cpx\_mainfile and mul\_cpx\_separatefile, once in the same file as the main function and once in a *separate* c-file. Recall to this end that you have to provide and include a corresponding header file in the second case.
- Write a program, called mainfile, that
  - o generates vectors as\_re, as\_im, bs\_re, bs\_im, cs\_im, and cs\_im of doubles, each of length 30,000,
  - o generates entries for bs re, bs im, cs re, and cs im (any kind of entries will do), and then
  - o multiplies the entries of bs and cs using mul\_cpx\_mainfile, saving results to as.
- · Write a program, called separatefile, that
  - o generates vectors as\_re, as\_im, bs\_re, bs\_im, cs\_im, and cs\_im of doubles, each of length 30,000,
  - o generates entries for bs re, bs im, cs re, and cs im (any kind of entries will do), and then
  - o multiplies the entries of bs and cs using mul\_cpx\_separatefile, saving results to as.
- Write a program, called inlined, that
  - o generates vectors as re, as im, bs re, bs im, cs im, and cs im of doubles, each of length 30,000,
  - o generates entries for bs\_re, bs\_im, cs\_re, and cs\_im (any kind of entries will do), and then
  - o multiplies the entries of bs and cs saving results to as by inserting the implementation of mul cpx into the main-function by hand.
- Benchmark each of the three variants and reason about the difference.
- Use the tool nm to examine the first two executables for symbols that correspond to mul\_cpx\_mainfile and mul\_cpx\_separatefile. Do you find them in both cases?
- If you have time left, then try to adjust the first program using "static inline" and check the output again with the tool nm.

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- creates a matrix of doubles of size 1000 x 1000,
- stores them in a matrix in row major order,
- computes the row and the column sums.

Use the following naive implementations of row and column sums:

```
void
row sums (
  double * sums,
  const double ** matrix,
  size t nrs,
  size t ncs
  for ( size t ix=0; ix < nrs; ++ix ) {
    double sum = 0;
    for ( size_t jx=0; jx < ncs; ++jx )
      sum += matrix[ix][jx];
    sums[ix] = sum;
void
col_sums(
  double * sums,
  const double ** matrix,
  size t nrs,
  size_t ncs
  for ( size t jx=0; jx < ncs; ++jx ) {
    double \overline{sum} = 0;
    for ( size_t ix=0; ix < nrs; ++ix )</pre>
     sum += matrix[ix][jx];
    sums[jx] = sum;
```

With an eye to memory access patterns

- benchmark both variants and compare timings, then
- reimplement the slower summation in a more effective way.

To conclude

- compile your program with optimization level 0 and 2, and
- · summarize and explain your timing results.

# **Indirect addressing**

In this task you get familiar with the impact of indirect addressing. It is frequently used for sparse matrix and vector operators.

Write a program that

- increments a vector y by a multiple of a vector x, both of which have length 1,000,000.
- the index vector (as opposed to real world applications) has also that same length.

Concretely, implement, as a program base on the following code:

```
n = 1000000; m = 1000;
for (kx=0; kx < n; ++kx) {
  jx = p[kx];
  y[jx] += a * x[jx];
```

Benchmark two variants of the program for some fix vectors x and y (any kind of entries will do), and some nonzero scalar a, where p is generated by either

```
ix = 0;
for (jx=0; jx < m; ++jx)
  for (kx=0; kx < m; ++kx)
    p[jx + m*kx] = ix++;</pre>
```

or

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Benchmark with optimization level 0 and 2 in all cases. Compare the timings, and explain the difference.

# Writing to HDD and to SSD

In this task you familiarize yourself with the performance difference between HDD (Hard Disc Drive) and SSD (Solid State Drive).

Home directories on gantenbein are mapped to a RAID 5 configuration of HDDs. In addition there is an SSD available at /run/mount/scratch, which is available to all users. When accessing /run/mount/scratch, create a folder hpcuserXXX with XXX your hpc user number on gantenbein.

- Implement a program that first writes and then reads the first  $1048576 = 2^20$  integers to a file
  - on HDD and
  - on SSD.
- Benchmark write and read times separately for both variants. Given the discussion from the lecture, is the result surprising?

Next, in the terminal,

- copy the folder /usr/include to your home director,
- measure the time of copying 10 times this copy to another folder called include copy,
- copy the folder /usr/include to your directory in /run/mount/scratch,
- measure the time of copying 10 times this copy to another folder called include\_copy.

Discuss all timing results and speculate about the general efficient use of HDD and SSD.

# Valgrind

In this task you familiarize yourself with some basic use of valgrind.

Implement a program with the following code:

```
int * as;
as = (int*)malloc(10*sizeof(int));
int sum = 0;

for ( int ix = 0; ix < 10; ++ix )
    as[ix] = ix;

for ( int ix = 0; ix < 10; ++ix )
    sum += as[ix];

printf("%d\n", sum)

free(as);</pre>
```

Compile the program with optimization level 0 and with the flag -g, then run the program with valgrind memcheck.

Repeat the compilation and running with valgrind after making one of the following modifications:

- Comment out the initialization of as.
- · Comment out the freeing of as.
- Amend the code with an additional free(as) at the end.

Discuss the respective valgrind output.

# **GDB**

In this task you familiarize yourself with a very basic use of the debugger GDB.

Implement a program based on the following code

```
int * as = NULL;
int sum = 0;

for ( int ix = 0; ix < 10; ++ix )
   as[ix] = ix;

for ( int ix = 0; ix < 10; ++ix )
   sum += as[ix];

free(as);</pre>
```

Compile the program (here, refered to as invalid\_access) with optimization level 0 and with the flag -g. Run the following code in the shell:

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- Press in and enter to start running the program.
- Once the execution stops (because of invalid memory access), type "focus src" and press enter.
- Type "p as" and press enter to see the print the value of as at the time the program aborted execution.
- You can quit the debugger by typing quit and then pressing enter.

Note that when you need to pass arguments to your program you can invoke GDB as follows:

gdb --args PROGRAM ARGS

# **Learning Summary**

Like Assignment 0, this assignment is a preparation towards your working on Assignments 2 through 5. In particular, you will need the following to facilitate your course studies:

- From the first part, it is helpful to remember that reasonable benchmarking of small pieces of code can be achieved by running it sufficiently often and taking the average. Recall from the lecture that running code a single time incurs so many random effects that the result cannot be considered a benchmark.
- From the second part, it is useful to remember that inlining of code potentially speeds up a function. This is particularly true if the function is small. To explicitly suggest to the compiler that a function be inlined you can prepend the declaration with "static inline".
- From the third part, it is useful to remember that locality can make a dramatic difference in runtime. To see this effect, it is really crucial here to run the code sufficiently often (at least 100000 times) when benchmarking.
- From the fourth part, it is useful to remember that indirect addressing always comes with extra cost. But that extra cost raises enormously
  when memory is accessed in a nonlinear way.
- From the fifth part, it is useful for future use beyond this course to remember that the advantage of SSD might be overcompensated by RAID.
- From the sixth and seventh part, it is useful to remember valgrind and GDB as efficient means to detect incorrect memory access. When you observe a segmentation fault in your program, one of the first steps to locate it should involve the use of valgrind and GDB.

# **Assignment 2: Threads**

# → Back to the overview of assignments

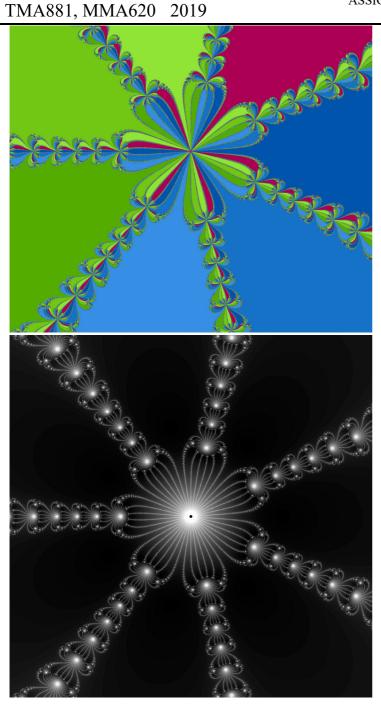
We will use Newton's method to practice programming with POSIX threads. Give a function f, say  $f(x) = x^3 - 1$ , where  $x^3$  denotes the third power of x, Newton's method iteratively strives to find a root of f. Starting with a value  $x_0$ , one sets  $x_{k+1} = x_k - f(x_k) / f'(x_k)$ . Convergence of this is unclear, and even if it does converge, it is unclear what root of f is approached.

Here is an example run of Newton's method for three different (complex) values of x 0.

One can experimentally find which points on the complex plane converge to which root. Below there are two pictures: In the left one every pixel is colored in such a way that its color corresponds to the root which it converges to. In the right hand side, every pixel is colored in such a way that its color corresponds to the number of iterations which are necessary to get close to a root of f. Note that this computation can be carried out for each pixel in parallel. There is no interdependence among the iterations.

ASSIGNMENTS COURSE MATERIAL

**OVERVIEW** 



You can find more images in the the folder

/home/hpc2019/a2\_example/

on gantenbein.

# **Implementation**

Implement in C using POSIX threads a program called newton that computes similar pictures for a given functions  $f(x) = x^d - 1$  for complex numbers with real and imaginary part between -2 and +2. The program should write the results as PPM files (see the description of PPM below) to the current working directory. The files should be named newton\_attractors\_xD.ppm and newton\_convergence\_xD.ppm, where D is replaced by the exponent of x that is used.

Your program should accept command line arguments

```
./newton -t5 -11000 7
./newton -11000 -t5 7
```

The last argument is d, the exponent of x in  $x^d - 1$ . The argument to -1 gives the number of rows and columns for the output picture. The argument to -t gives the number of threads used to compute the pictures. For example, the above command computes images of size 1000x1000 for the polynomial  $x^7 - 1$ . It uses 5 threads for the Newton iteration.

ASSIGNMENTS COURSE MATERIAL OVERVIEW

/home/hpc2019/a2 example/newton -t2 -11000 5

#### Implement details: Iteration

- If x i is closer than  $10^-3$  to one of the roots of f(x), then abort the iteration.
- Newton iteration does not converge for all points. To accommodate this, abort iteration if x\_i is closer than 10^-3 to the origin, or if the absolute value of its real or imaginary part is bigger than 10^10. In the pictures treat these cases as if there was an additional zero of f(x) to which these iterations converge.

You have to run the iteration for each point until either of these criteria is met.

## Implement details: Writing to file

- Besides the threads to compute the iteration you may use one main thread for convenience and one thread that writes to disc. Neither of them may compute the newton iteration.
- While you have to run the iteration for each point, till the end, you may cap the number of iterations before writing the file newton\_convergence\_xD.ppm. In order to produce recognizable quality pictures, you should not cap at less than 50.
- The output file must be a level 3 PPM file. Observe that this is an ASCII based image format and it is an RGB (as opposed to grayscale) format.

#### **PPM** files

PPM (Portable PixMap) files are an ASCII based image format. You can write and read them as a text file. Wikipedia contains a description with examples. In this assignment the header must look like

P3 L L M

where L is the number of rows and columns and M is the maximal color value used in the body of the file.

# Implementation details: Simplifications

- You may assume that the degree is small, i.e. less than 10, and hardcode optimal formulas case by case.
- You may assume that the number of lines is not too large, i.e. less than 100000.
- You may (and should) use nanosleep from the POSIX standard provided in the header time.h.

# Implementation strategy

The following is a possible implementation strategy. While it is not mandatory to follow it, I highly recommend any student without extensive programming experience to adhere to it.

# Splitting the assignment into smaller tasks

This assignment comprises four largely independent tasks:

- Parsing command line arguments
- Synchronization of compute and write threads.
- Data transfer between compute and write threads.
- Checking the convergence and divergence conditions.
- Computation of of x\_n in the iteration step.
- Writing to file.

#### **Parsing**

You can adjust the code from Assignment 0 to this end. Use global variables to store the number of threads and lines to make available to all threads.

#### Synchronization

A framework for synchronizing compute and write threads was presented in the lecture.

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- To start with, you can omit all code for computation, checking, and writing
- Make sure via valgrind (use optimization level 0 when compiling) that the code you write accesses memory correctly for various numbers of threads (e.g. 1, 2, 3, 4) and lines (e.g. 10, 37, 1000).
- Add as a computing step a sleep command for 100 micro seconds.
- Add as a writing step printf("%d", ix), where ix is the item index (i.e. row index).
- Run the program for various numbers of threads (e.g. 1, 2, 3, 4) and lines (e.g. 10, 37, 100) and make sure that the program prints the numbers in correct order and that valgrind does not detect any invalid memory access.

When finishing these steps you have functional synchronization facilities as required for the assignment. It is helpful to

- make a copy of your code so far for later comparison in case you encounter errors, or
- add a tag in case you are using git for version controle.

#### Data transfer

Recall that the result of a single computation in the lecture's code was represented by an array

```
int * result;
```

Since items correspond to rows in this implementation, each result has to include the attractor index and the convergence index for each pixel in a row.

- Given the assumption that the degree and hence number of attractors is small, what is the smalles data type that can encode the attractor index associated with a pixel? Call this type TYPE\_ATTR.
- Given the assumption that the number of iterations may be capped at a small value, what is the smalles data type that can encode the (capped) number of iterations till convergence associated with a pixel? Call this type TYPE CONV.

Implement, allocate, and free two global arrays

```
TYPE_ATTR ** attractors;
TYPE_CONV ** convergences;
```

and corresponding local arrays in the computation and writing threads:

```
TYPE_ATTR * attractor;
TYPE CONV * convergence;
```

#### Writing

It is advantagous to implement the writing step prior to the computation step, since you will have accessible feedback once the writing is in place. To guarantee meaningful input values in the writing thread add the following initialization to your computing threads:

```
for ( size_t cx = 0; cx < nmb_lines; ++cx ) {
  attractor[cx] = 0;
  convergence[cx] = 0;
}</pre>
```

Make sure that the attractor and convergence value 0 indeed is assigned meaning in your encoding. Most likely this is the case, but it is important to check these assumptions to avoid unnecessary searching for errors in your code.

 In the code for the writing thread, prior to iterating through the items, make sure that you open your output files and write the required file header.

One might be tempted to implement the writing as

```
fprintf(attr_file, "%d %d %d ", COLOR_VALUEO, COLOR_VALUE1, COLOR_VALUE2);
fprintf(conv file, "%d %d %d ", GRAY VALUE, GRAY VALUE, GRAY VALUE);
```

but recall that fprintf is slow; fwrite is a better solution.

- Read up on how strings are represented in C.
- Prior to iterating through the items, prepare strings for each triple of color and gray values that you will need. You can either hardcode
  them or employ sprintf.
- When writing an item (i.e. a row) write the prepared strings directly to file via fwrite.

# Checking

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OVERVIEW

- An upper bound on the absolute value of the real and imaginary part of x.
- A lower bound on the absolute value of x.
- A lower bound on the absolute value of x x', where x' is one of the roots of the given polynomial.

When implementing the arithmetic part of this step, it is helpful to first consider two questions:

- The absolute value of a complex number is the square root of its square norm. How can one avoid taking the square root? In particular, how can you avoid the use of the function cabs?
- The square norm of a complex number is the sum of two squares. When computing it for a difference x x', how can one avoid computing twice the difference of the respective real and imaginary parts?
- How can the suggested precomputing of the exact values of the roots of the given polynomial accelerate any of these steps?

The checking for the d+2 states (d the degree of the given polynomial) inside of a repeated computation like the iteration in this assignment requires an adapted programming pattern. Consider one similar to the following:

```
for ( conv = 0, attr = DEFAULT_VALUE; ; ++conv ) {
   if ( CHECK CONDITION ) {
     attr = VALUE;
     break;
}
if ( CHECK CONDITION ) {
   attr = VALUE;
   break;
}
for ( EXPRESSION )
   if ( CHECK CONDITION ) {
     attr = VALUE_NOT_EQUAL_TO_THE_DEFAULT_ONE;
     break;
}
if ( attr != DEFAULT_VALUE )
   break;
// computation
}
```

To understand this code snippet, read up on the syntax of

- the for statement, i.e. all its three arguments,
- the break statement, and, for completeness,
- the continue statement.

# Computation

It remains to implement the computation in order to complete the program. Since you can use functionality from complex.h and you can hardcode your formula, this step is largely about finding an expression for the iteration step that is as efficient as possible. Once more, recall that using cpow is not an option.

• Inserting the Newton iteration step naively, you obtain  $x - (x^d - 1)/(d^*x^d - 1)$ . How can you simplify it.

When hardcoding the expression that you derive from this, the following syntax is convenient:

```
switch ( degree ) {
  case 1:
    STATEMENTS FOR DEGREE 1;
    break;
  case 2:
    STATEMENTS FOR DEGREE 2;
    break;
  case 3:
    STATEMENTS FOR DEGREE 3;
    break;
  // insert further cases

default:
    fprintf(stderr, "unexpected degree\n");
    exit(1);
}
```

To understand this code, read up on

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the function exit

## Test script

You can check your submission with the script

/home/hpc2019/a2 grading/check submission.py PATH TO SUMISSION.tar.gz

For instance, if you have provided your submission in the file /home/hpcuser023/newton.tar.gz, then you run

/home/hpc2019/a2 grading/check submission.py /home/hpcuser023/newton.tar.gz

Recall that your submission has to pass this script for you to pass this assignment. So test before submitting.

The script also generates two PNG-pictures in the folder pictures, which given an indication of whether you program yields correct output.

#### Performance goals

The program will be tested with the following arguments. It must be at least as fast as given in the corresponding tables.

Single threaded, 1000 lines, varying polynomial x^d - 1

Degree of polynomial 1 2 5 7 Maximal runtime in seconds 0.04 0.11 0.42 0.77

Multithreaded, 1000 lines, x^5 - 1

Number of threads 1 2 3 4 Maximal runtime in seconds 0.42 0.23 0.15 0.12

Ten threads, varying number of lines,  $x^7 - 1$ 

Number of lines 1000 2000 3000 Maximal runtime in seconds 0.09 0.35 0.79

# Timeline

The timeline suggested in the submission instructions is:

- Day 1: List concepts from the lecture and Assignments 0 and 1 that appear useful or related to the assignment. This can yield a sketch of the report.
- Day 1 and 2: Discuss the program layout and split it into subtasks. This can contribute to the sketch of the report.
- Day 2 and 3: Implement the layout. Do layout ideas work out?
- Day 3 to 5: Implement subtasks and revisit layout accordingly.
- Day 5: Achieve a functional program. What about performance?
- Day 4 and 5: Improve report with everything learned so far. Submit! (Deadline is only on Monday.)
- Day 6: Read and assess reports from others. Any ideas that you have not yet thought of, but that would help to improve your program?
- Day 7 to 10: Identify which parts of your program are slowest and improve them. Repeat until done. It is normal that "polishing" programs takes such a large share of the development time.

#### Going into depth: Further questions to consider

This assignment presents plenty of opportunities for improvment, both from the algorithmic point of view and the technical one. Here are some inspirations for further exploration.

- Dropping the assumption that the degree is small requires several tweaks of the code.
- For very large numbers of lines a more sophisticated and flexible partitioning of the work is necessary.
- Almost every computation has at least one or two iterations. Can one cut them but precomputing more?
- It is possible to achieve complexity log(d) in the degree d. The biggest problem is that naive checking distances to roots is slow if the degree is large. One approach to solve this is to combine a Taylor expansion of x^d 1 and a binary search

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# → Back to the overview of assignments

In this assignment, we count distances between points in 3-dimensional space. One possibility to think of this is as cells, whose coordinates were obtained by diagnostics and which require further processing.

Distances are symmetric, i.e. distance between two cells c 1 and c 2 and the distance in reverse direction c 2 to c 1 should be counted once.

## **Implementation**

Implement a program in C, called cell distances, that uses OpenMP for parallelization and that:

- Reads coordinates of cells from a text file "cells" in the current working directory.
- Computes the distances between cells counting how often each distance rounded to 2 decimal places occurs.
- Outputs to stdout a sorted list of distances with associated frequencies (including 0 fequencies at your will).

Your program should accept command line arguments

```
./cell distances -t5
```

The argument to -t give the number of OpenMP threads that you may use. You may only use OpenMP parallelism.

You can find an example program at

```
/home/hpc2019/a3 example/cell distances -t10
```

#### Input

Coordinates are given in a file, in which each row corresponds to one cell. The three coordinates are separated by exactly one blank space. Each coordinate is given exactly as follows: A sign '+' or '-', two digits, a decimal point '.', and three digits. For instance, the following is a valid input of 10 cells.

```
+01.330 -09.035 +03.489

-03.718 +02.517 -05.995

+09.568 -03.464 +02.645

-09.620 +09.279 +08.828

+07.630 -02.290 +00.679

+04.113 -03.399 +05.299

-00.994 +07.313 -06.523

+03.376 -03.614 -06.657

+01.304 +09.381 -01.559

-04.238 -07.514 +08.942
```

#### Output

A valid output to the above input is

```
03.00 1
05.54 1
05.85 1
05.91 1
06.07 1
06.54 1
07.94 1
08.58 1
09.40 1
09.59 1
09.65 1
09.98 1
10.00 1
11.18 1
11.68 1
11.77
11.98 1
13.46 1
14.02 1
14.11 1
14.77 1
14.78 1
14.96 1
```

15.07 1 15.38 1 15.71 1

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17.33 1
17.63 1
17.66 1
17.72 1
17.79 1
18.00 1
19.02 1
19.10 1
19.31 1
20.65 1
21.67 1
22.00 1
22.31 1
23.85 1
23.98 1

You can find further test data in the folder

/home/hpc2019/a3\_grading/test\_data

# Reference implementation

A reference implementation in Julia is available at

/home/hpc2019/a3 grading/cell distances.jl

## Implementation details: Simplifications

• You can assume that coordinates are between -10 and 10.

# Implementation details: Memory consition

- The programm at no time may consume more than 1 GiBi byte = 1024^3 bytes of memory. This will not be tested. Explain in your report why your program does not allocate more.
- You may not make any assumption on the number of cells except that there is less than 2^32.

You do not have to proof that this is the case, but your report has to contain an arugment why your implementation achieves this.

# Implementation details: Precision

• Round off error are tolerated to a certain extend.

In case of doubt use the test script from below.

# Implementation strategy

The following is an outline of aspects that play into designing an efficient implementation.

#### Splitting the assignment into smaller tasks

This assignment comprises four tasks. As opposed to Assignment 2, they are not independent, but design choices influence each other.

- Computing the distance of two points and incrementing the corresponding counts.
- Reading and parsing the file.
- Memory management.
- Parallization.

## Computing the distance of two points

Here is a list of observations and questions that can help you designing a good solution to this subtask.

- Given the fixed point format for input and output, floating point data types are not necessarily the optimal one. What other data types
  would be alternatives?
- When using another data type to store input and output, it is necessary to convert to float to compute square roots. How large is the incured performance loss?
- The choice of output format impacts the way how distance counts can be stored. What is the most efficient way of recording distance counts that you can think of?

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- How are strings encoded in C? Recall that this was already an important aspect in Assignment 2.
- Is there a connection between the value of a digit (as a character) and the numerical value that is represents? How can that be used to parse efficiently a string of the form "+15.023"?

#### Memory management

There are three aspects of memory management that you have to balance. Recall that block iteration was a technique you saw in the lectures.

- File access is relatively time consuming. In particular, latency is relatively high. So you want to avoid reading from file frequently.
- A large number of cells would not fit into 1 GiBi of memory, so you have to reload at times. The functions fseek and ftell allow you to navigate inside of a file.
- Balancing these first two aspects yields a read size that is bad for memory locality when iterating through pairs of cells. So you also have to employ a technique to improve locality in the iteration.

#### **Parallization**

Parallelization can enter at several points of the program. Parsing and counting distances are the two most beneficial ones.

- Is there a synchronization issue with parsing?
- Can you avoid explite synchronization when counting distances in parallel?

# **Test script**

You can check your submission with the script

```
/home/hpc2019/a3_grading/check_submission.py PATH_TO_SUMISSION.tar.gz
```

Notice that the test script

- 1. checks your output for correctness,
- 2. redirects stdout to a file, so that additional runtime costs for writing to disc can apply.

# Performance goals

Number of points 1e4 1e5 1e5 1e5 Number of threads 1 5 10 20

Maximal runtime in seconds 0.26 9.3 5.0 2.7

#### **Timeline**

The timeline suggested in the submission instructions is:

- Day 1: List concepts from the lecture and Assignments 0 and 1 that appear useful or related to the assignment. This can yield a sketch of the report.
- Day 1 and 2: Discuss the program layout and split it into subtasks. This can contribute to the sketch of the report.
- Day 2 and 3: Implement the layout. Do layout ideas work out?
- Day 3 to 5: Implement subtasks and revisit layout accordingly.
- Day 5: Achieve a functional program. What about performance?
- Day 4 and 5: Improve report with everything learned so far. Submit! (Deadline is only on Monday.)
- Day 6: Read and assess reports from others. Any ideas that you have not yet thought of, but that would help to improve your program?
- Day 7 to 10: Identify which parts of your program are slowest and improve them. Repeat until done. It is normal that "polishing" programs takes such a large share of the development time.

# **Assignment 4: OpenCL**

# → Back to the overview of assignments

A simple model for heat diffiusion in 2-dimensional space, splits it up into  $n_x$  times  $n_x$  small boxes. In each time step, the temperature h(i,j) of a box with coordinates i and j is updated as

```
h(i,j) + c * ( (h(i-1,j) + h(i+1,j) + h(i,j-1) + h(i,j+1))/4 - h(i,j) )
```

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Implement in C using the CPU via OpenCL a program heat diffusion that

- 1. Reads array size and initial values from the file diffusion.
- 2. Executes a given number of steps of heat diffusion with given diffusion constant, and
- 3. Outputs the average a of temperatures.
- 4. Outputs the average absolute difference of each temperature to the average of all temperatures.

Your program should accept command line arguments

```
./heat_diffusion -n20 -d0.02
```

to compute 20 iterations with diffusion constant 0.02. You may only use OpenCL parallelism. You find an example program at

```
/home/hpc2019/a4 example/heat diffusion -n20 -d0.02
```

# OpenCL on gantenbein reroutes to a POSIX threads implementation

As a consequence of how Chalmers purchase policies work less than perfect, this year no GPUs are available for training purpose. Instead, we use POCL, which provides an OpenCL interface to POSIX threads. Your OpenCL code should hence be optimized for the performance characteristics of CPUs as opposed to GPUs.

NOTE: During the course, the GPU became available again. You may now freely choose to either use the GPU or POCL. You are encouraged to use the GPU in order to get in touch with its distinct hardware characteristics.

#### Input

The first row of the input file diffusion contains two positive integers, which you may assume are positive. They determine the width and the height. Each line after the first one contains three entries, two integer values that denoted valid coordinates and an initial value that parses as a floating point number. For example,

```
3 3
1 1 1e6
```

yields the setup in the following example.

## Example

As an example, we consider the case of 3 times 3 with initial values as below.

Computing with diffusion constant 1/30, the next two iterations are

```
0 8333 0
8333 9667e2 8333
0 8333 0
```

and

```
138.9 1611e1 138.9
1611e1 9347e2 1611e1
138.9 1611e1 138.9
```

In particular, the average temperature is 111080 (as opposed to the original average 111111).

The absolute difference of each temperature and the average is

```
1109e2 9497e1 1109e2
9497e1 8236e2 9497e1
1109e2 9497e1 1109e2
```

with average is 183031.55. After five further iterations this will decrease to 151816.97.

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**OVERVIEW** 

/home/hpc2019/a4 grading/check submission.py PATH TO SUMISSION.tar.gz

## Performance goals

For each column in the next table, there is a file describing an initial configuration available in

/home/hpc2019/a4\_grading/test\_data

Width * Height	100 * 100	10000 * 10000	100000 * 100
Diffusion constant	0.01	0.02	0.6
Number of iterations	100000	1000	200
Time in seconds	1.65	97.6	1.4

# **Assignment 5: MPI**

#### → Back to the overview of assignments

In this assignment you reimplement the heat diffusion exercise from Assignment 4 in MPI.

### **Using MPI on Gantenbein**

MPI on Gantenbein is organized as a module. Before using it run

module load mpi

#### **Implementation**

Implement in C using MPI a program heat\_diffusion that

- 1. Reads array size and initial values from the file diffusion.
- 2. Executes a given number of steps of heat diffusion with given diffusion constant, and
- 3. Outputs the average a of temperatures.
- 4. Outputs the average absolute difference of each temperature to the average of all temperatures.

Your program should accept command line arguments

```
mpirun -n 1 ./heat diffusion -n20 -d0.02
```

to compute 20 iterations with diffusion constant 0.02. You may only use MPI parallelism. You find an example program at

mpirun -n 1 /home/hpc2019/a5\_example/heat\_diffusion -n20 -d0.02

#### **Test script**

You can check your submission with the script

/home/hpc2019/a5\_grading/check\_submission.py PATH\_TO\_SUMISSION.tar.gz

# Performance goals

For each column in the next table, there is a file describing an initial configuration available in

/home/hpc2019/a4\_grading/test\_data

Width * Height	100 * 100	100 * 100	10000 * 10000	10000 * 10000	10000 * 10000	100000 * 100	0 100000 * 100
Diffusion constant	0.01	0.01	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.6	0.6
Number of iterations	100000	100000	1000	1000	1000	200	200
Number of MPI processes	1	10	2	5	10	1	5
Time in seconds	1.78	2.20	97.6	51.3	29.8	4.1	1.7

Observe that the second case allows for a slower runtime with more CPU compared to the first one, checking the parallelization overhead in case of small arrays.