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Parallel Numerics

1 Setting up a MPI Environment

Setting up a MPI environment on your own linux machine for use as a personal playground should be pretty straightforward.

- i) Install the necessary packages (openmpi on Arch, openmpi-bin on Debian/Ubuntu, maybe -dev packages as well)
- ii) Compile using mpicc, mpic++ or for whatever language you prefer
- iii) Run your binary with mpirun -np N ./your_app using N processes.

2 MPI Application Code

The MPI programs that are shown in this tutorial are available for download at Github: https://github.com/floli/ParNum. Download them and get your hands dirty. For questions use the forum which I will monitor.

3 Data Dependency Graphs

i) Draw the data dependency graph for the evaluation of the following expression. Follow the given parenthesis. How many parallel steps are needed to compute the result?

$$\frac{((((x_1+x_2)-x_3)+5x_4)-7x_5)-x_6}{2}$$

ii) Design a faster algorithm that evaluates this expression by rearranging the parenthesis. How many parallel steps are needed now?

iii) Draw the data dependency graph of the following system of equations:

$$a = f_a(a)$$

$$b = f_b(a, b, d)$$

$$c = f_c(a, b, e)$$

$$d = f_d(b, e)$$

$$e = f_e(c, d)$$

Derive a suitable coloring that allows for maximal parallelism in a Gauss-Seidel type iteration over the given system.

4 BLAS — Basic Linear Algebra Subroutines

Basic Linear Algebra Subprograms (BLAS) is a specification that prescribes a set of low-level routines for performing common linear algebra operations such as vector addition, scalar multiplication, dot products, linear combinations, and matrix multiplication. They are the de facto standard low-level routines for linear algebra libraries; the routines have bindings for both C and Fortran. Although the BLAS specification is general, BLAS implementations are often optimized for speed on a particular machine, so using them can bring substantial performance benefits. BLAS implementations will take advantage of special floating point hardware such as vector registers or SIMD instructions.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Basic_Linear_Algebra_Subprograms

blas level	description	complexity	example
1	Vector-vector operations	$\mathcal{O}(n)$	$\alpha x + y, \ \alpha \in \mathbb{R}, \ x, y \in \mathbb{R}^n$
	Scalar-vector operations	$\mathcal{O}(n)$	
2	Matrix-vector operations	$\mathcal{O}(n^2)$	$\alpha Ax + \beta y, \ A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}, \ \beta \in \mathbb{R}$
3	Matrix-matrix operations	$\mathcal{O}(n^3)$	$\alpha AB + \beta C, \ B, C \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$

BLAS routines are preinstalled and, usually, not linked statically because each vendor could provide an optimized version.

5 Matrix-Matrix Multiplication

The product $A \cdot B$ of two $N \times N$ -matrices A and B is calculated as follows:

$$C = A \cdot B$$
 where $c_{ij} = \sum_{k=1}^{N} a_{ik} b_{kj}$.

A program that calculates this product has to use three independent loops (over i, j, k). The execution speed of the program depends on the arrangement of these loops.

i) Give a sketch of the data dependency and the data execution graph for one c_{ij} of this problem.

ii) Assume the dimension N is a multiple of \sqrt{p} , with p being the number of processors. The result matrix is split up into p quadratic submatrices. Every node has to compute one complete submatrix of the result matrix C.

 $A \cdot B = C$ is computed by p nodes. E.g. node #0 computes block C_{11} , node #1 computes block C_{12} , etc.:

$$\begin{pmatrix}
A_{11} & A_{12} & A_{13} \\
A_{21} & A_{22} & A_{23} \\
A_{31} & A_{32} & A_{33}
\end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix}
B_{11} & B_{12} & B_{13} \\
B_{21} & B_{22} & B_{23} \\
B_{31} & B_{32} & B_{33}
\end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix}
\#0 & \#1 & \#2 \\
\#3 & \#4 & \#5 \\
\#6 & \#7 & \#8
\end{pmatrix}$$

What parts of A and B are required to compute the result submatrix on one node? The first few nodes have to compute the following blocks:

node #0:
$$C_{11} = A_{11}B_{11} + A_{12}B_{21} + A_{13}B_{31}$$

node #1: $C_{12} = A_{11}B_{12} + A_{12}B_{22} + A_{13}B_{32}$
node #2: $C_{13} = A_{11}B_{13} + A_{12}B_{23} + A_{13}B_{33}$
node #4: $C_{20} = A_{21}B_{12} + A_{22}B_{22} + A_{23}B_{32}$

Interpret the multiplication formula $C_{ij} = \sum_{k=1}^{\sqrt{p}} A_{ik} B_{kj}$ block—wise. Let's assume every summand of the result is computed in one time step. What parts of A and B are required in which order? How many time steps are required?

The entries from the respective row and the column are required on each processor. There are \sqrt{p} time steps required.

iii) Every node is allowed to communicate with the node that computes the left, right, top or bottom submatrix of C only. Assume this cartesian topology is cyclic (toroidal). Furthermore, every node is allowed to hold only one submatrix of A and B at one time. Derive a communication scheme. Implement it using MPI and a language of your choice.