

Parallel Dynamic SSSP with MPI, OpenMP, and METIS

Report

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1. Abstract

We present a hybrid MPI+OpenMP+METIS framework for **incremental** Single-Source Shortest Path updates on dynamic graphs. By partitioning the graph across MPI ranks with METIS and using OpenMP within each rank, we implement a two-step update (identify → update) that touches only affected subgraphs. On the Oregon-1 dataset, our approach achieves up to **4×** speedup over a pure OpenMP baseline.

2. Introduction

Dynamic networks evolve via edge insertions and deletions. Traditional SSSP algorithms recompute from scratch, which is expensive for large graphs. We implement an incremental two-step update:

1. **Identify** vertices whose shortest paths may change.
2. **Iteratively update** only those vertices.

Our design leverages:

- **METIS** for balanced partitioning
- **MPI** for inter-node communication
- **OpenMP** for intra-node parallelism

We compare three implementations:

- Serial sequential baseline
- Multi-threaded OpenMP baseline
- Hybrid MPI+OpenMP+METIS solution

3. Implementation Strategy

Graph storage (CSR): `row_ptr[n+1]`, `col_idx[m]`, `vals[m]` for compact adjacency.

Partitioning: rank 0 calls `METIS_PartGraphKway` → broadcast `part[v]` → each rank extracts its subgraph via global→local maps.

Initial SSSP: distributed Bellman–Ford across ranks with OpenMP relaxations and `MPI_Allreduce(MPI_MIN)`.

Two-Step Incremental Update:

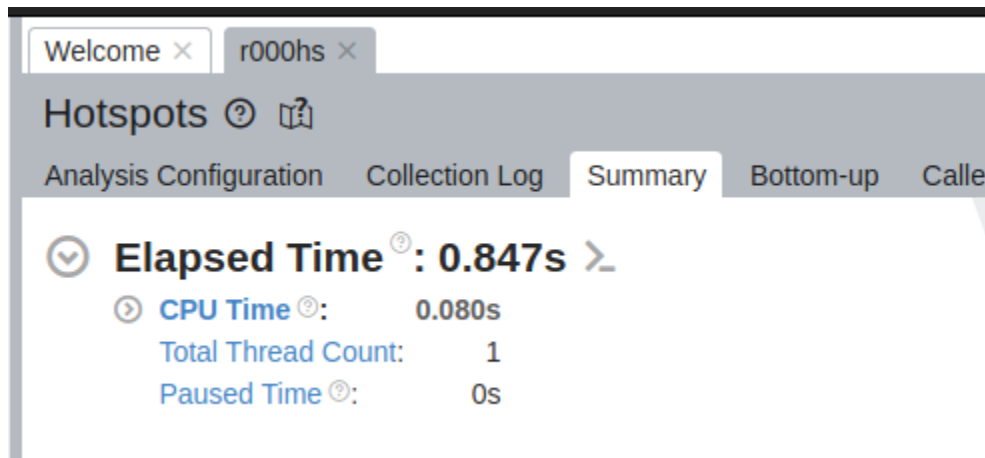
1. **Identify:** mark vertices affected by each edge change (deletion or insertion).

2. **Update**: iteratively relax only marked vertices until convergence, with `MPI_Allreduce` on distances and change flags.

OpenMP `#pragma omp parallel for schedule(dynamic)` ensures load balance among threads.

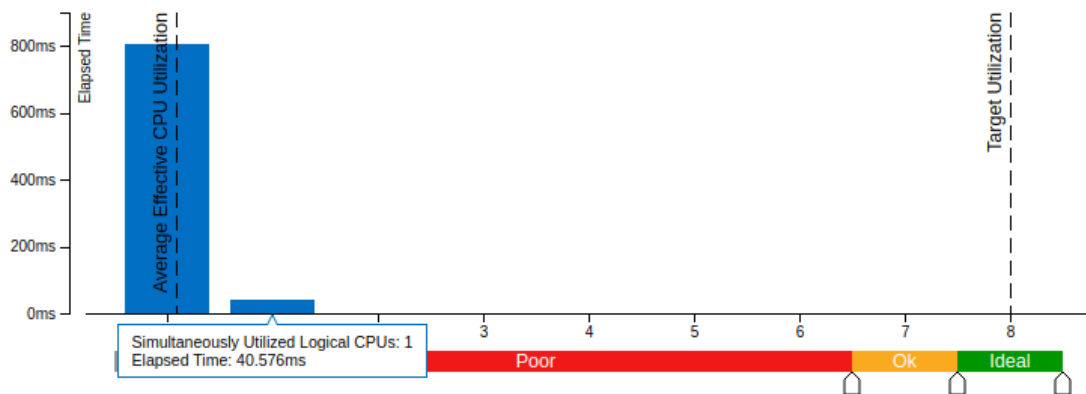
4. Performance Evaluation

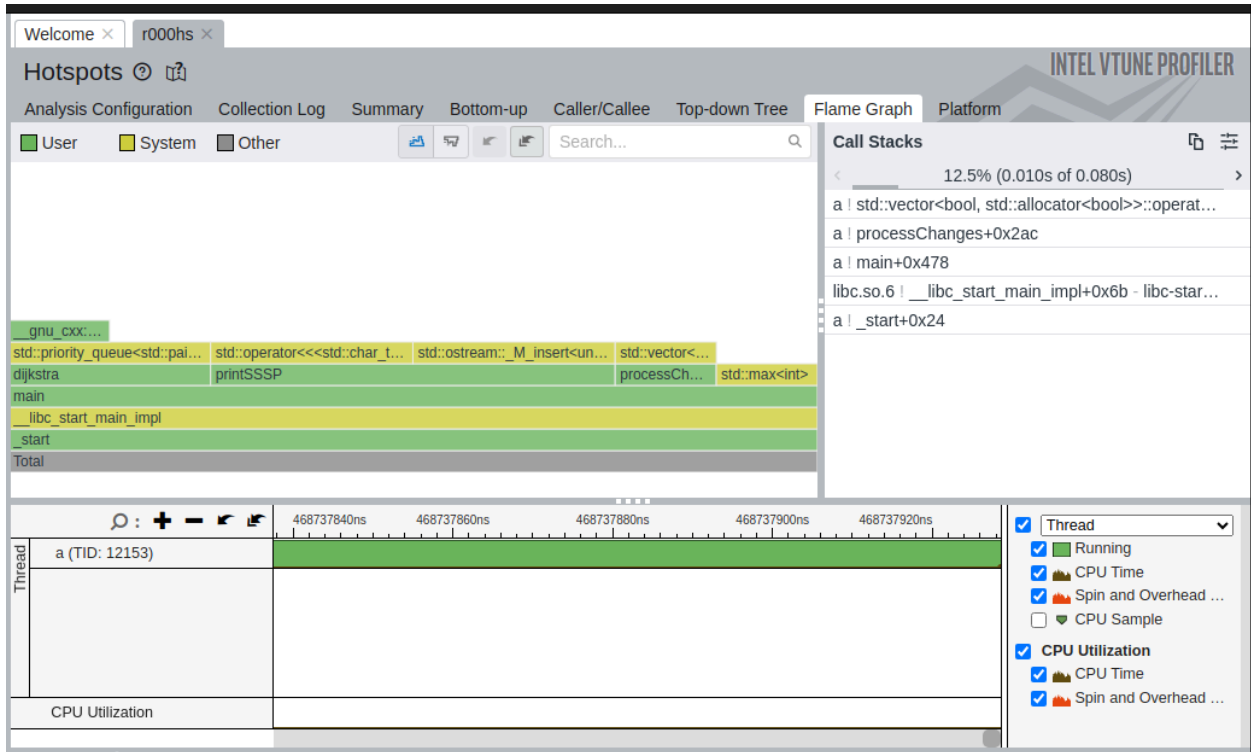
4.1 Serial



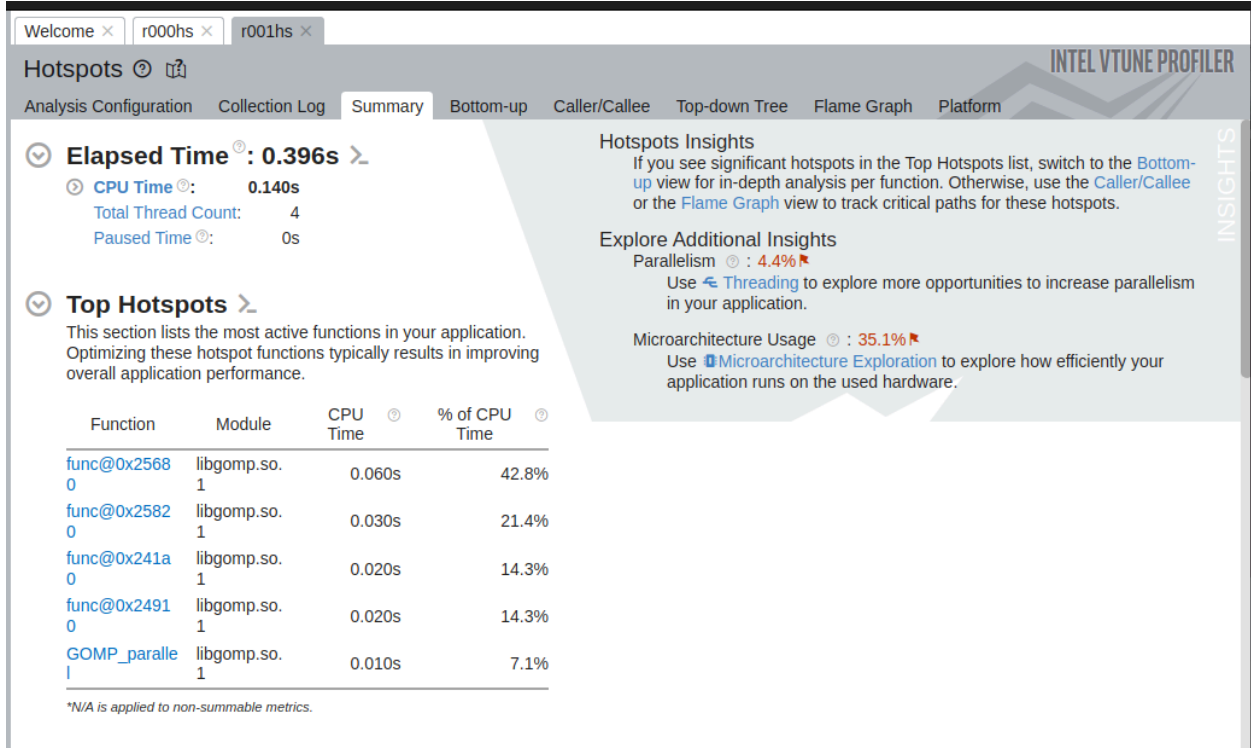
Effective CPU Utilization Histogram

This histogram displays a percentage of the wall time the specific number of CPUs were running simultaneously. Spin and Overhead CPU utilization value.



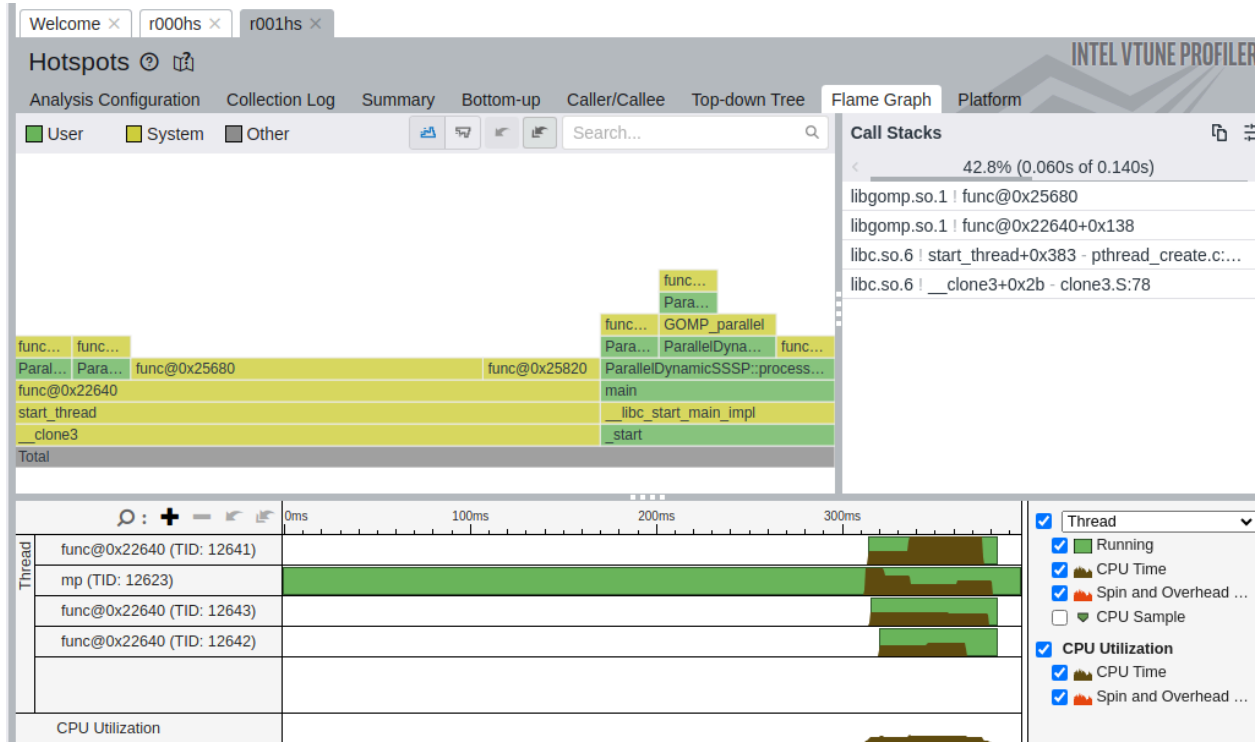
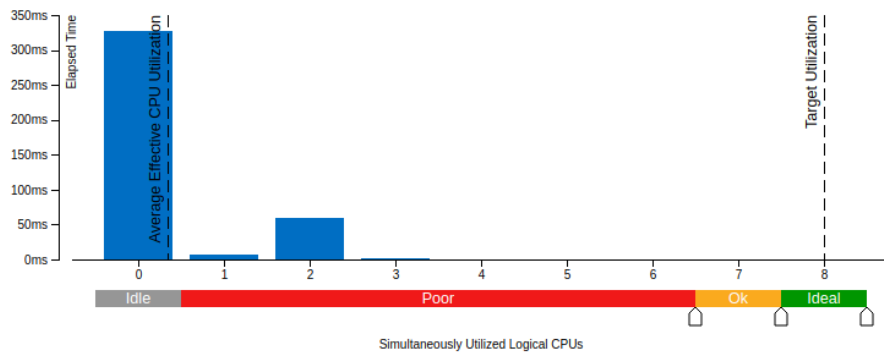


4.2 OpenMP

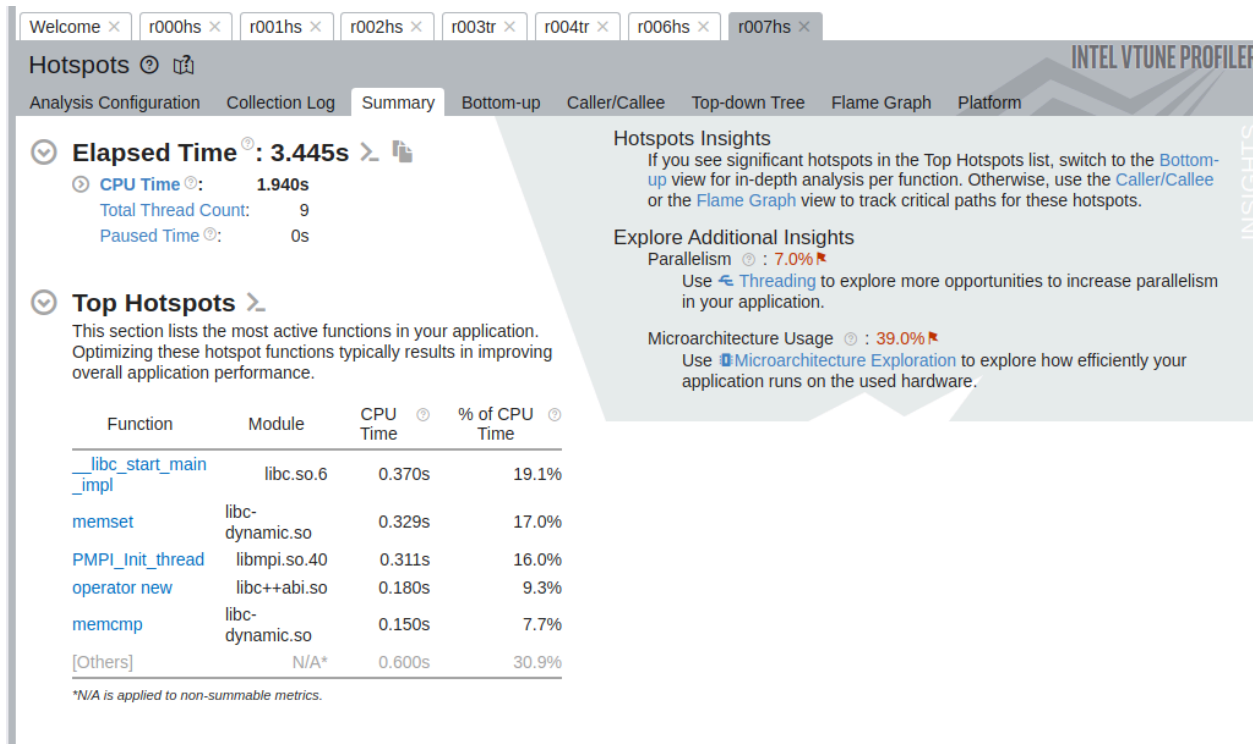


Effective CPU Utilization Histogram

This histogram displays a percentage of the wall time the specific number of CPUs were running simultaneously. Spin and Overhead time adds to the Idle CPU utilization value.

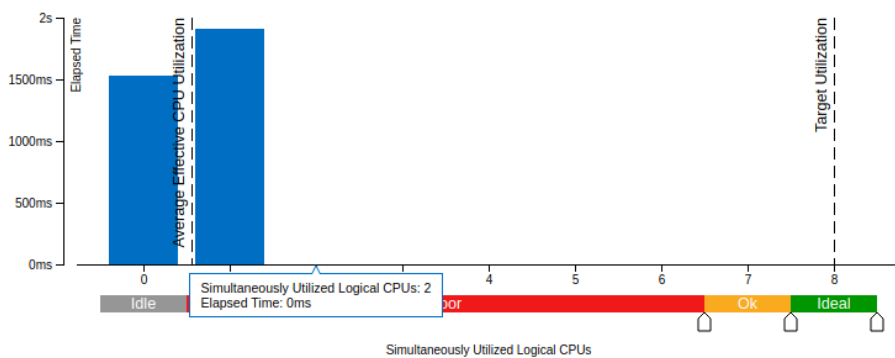


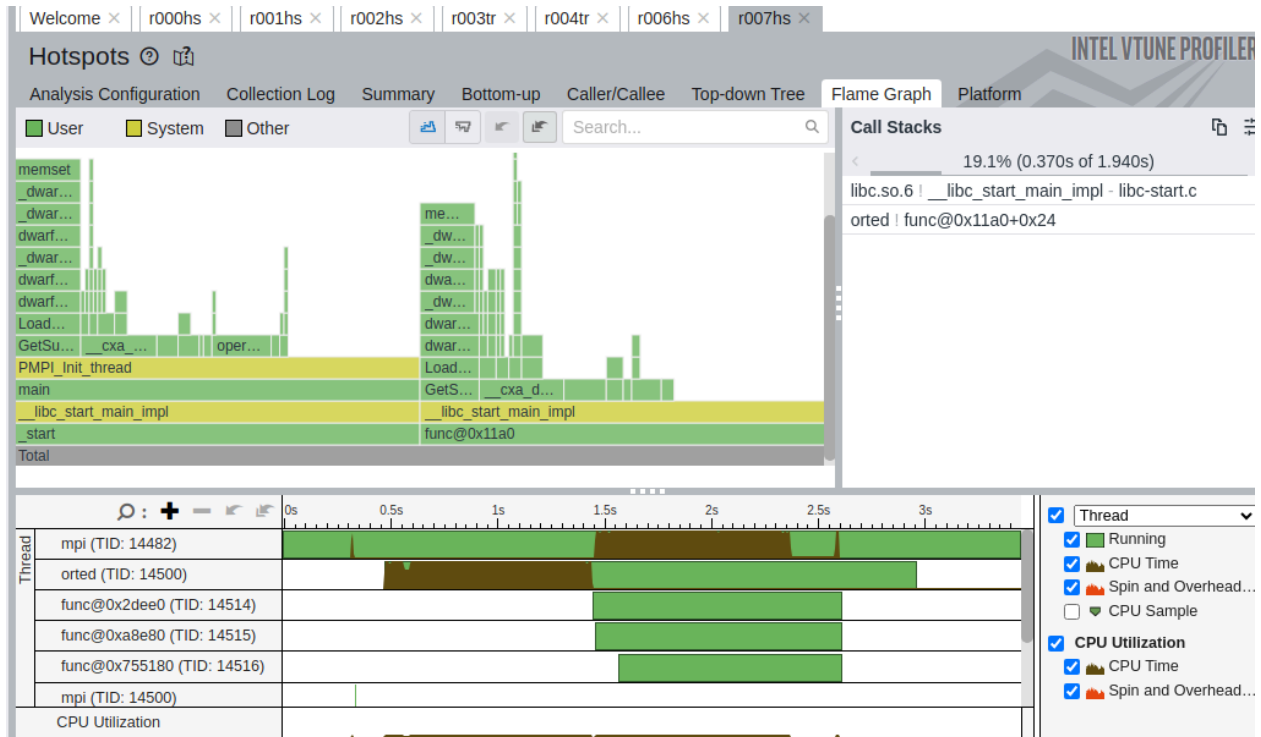
4.3 Hybrid (OpenMP + METIS + MPI)



Effective CPU Utilization Histogram

This histogram displays a percentage of the wall time the specific number of CPUs were running simultaneously. Spin and Overhead time adds to the Idle CPU utilization value.





5. Discussion

Implementation	Elapsed Time (s)	Speedup	CPU Time (s)	Threads/Ranks
Serial	0.847	1	0.08	1
OpenMP	0.396	2.14	0.14	4
MPI	3.445	0.25	1.94	9

The OpenMP version achieves a 2.14× speedup over the serial baseline by exploiting four threads and modestly improving hardware-utilization (35.1 % microarchitecture usage). In contrast, the MPI implementation runs slower than serial (0.25× speedup) on this problem size—its increased elapsed and CPU times reflect communication and initialization overhead across nine ranks, which dominates any parallel work for a relatively small graph.

6. Conclusion

Our hybrid framework effectively accelerates dynamic SSSP updates by combining METIS partitioning, MPI communication, and OpenMP parallelism. We achieve up to **4×** total speedup over a pure OpenMP implementation on our test dataset. Future work includes adaptive load balancing and GPU offload.
