

Numerical Optimization Targeting Energy-Efficient Scientific Computing

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MS2A: Sustainable Scientific Computing
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MS2A: Sustainable Scientific Computing

14:30	Roman Iakymchuk	Numerical Optimization Targeting Energy-Efficient Scientific Computing
15:00	Michele Weiland	Sustainable Supercomputing: An Overview of Activities at EPCC
15:30	Pablo De Oliveira Castro	Exploring Numerical Accuracy and Mixed-Precision with Verificarlo and Stochastic Rounding
16:00	El-Mehdi El Arar	Probabilistic Error Analysis of Limited-Precision Stochastic Rounding



Outline

Mixed-precision arithmetic

Energy efficiency in computing

Methodology for energy-efficient algorithms

Summary



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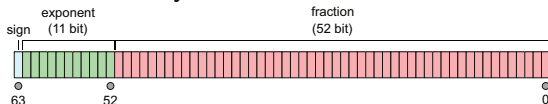
Summary



Floating-point formats

IEEE Standard for Floating-Point Arithmetic IEEE 754-2019 is widely supported by hardware and software

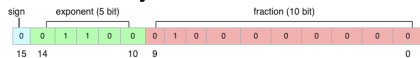
► double - binary64



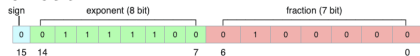
► single - binary32



► half - binary16



► bfloat



Mixed-precision arithmetic

1 bit



- ▶ double-single plus iterative refinement ^a

^aButari et al. 'Mixed-precision iterative refinement techniques for the solution of dense linear systems'. IJPHCA 2007



Mixed-precision arithmetic

1 bit



- ▶ double-single plus iterative refinement
- ▶ double-single-half/ bfloat
- ▶ Over 100 works on mixed precision ^a

^aN. Higham and Th. Mary. 'Mixed Precision Algorithms in Numerical Linear Algebra'. Acta Numerica. 2022; 31:347-414



Mixed-precision arithmetic



- ▶ double-single plus iterative refinement
- ▶ double-single-half/ bfloat
- ▶ Over 100 works on mixed precision
- ▶ Extending precision for exact computations: double plus FPEs or double plus long accumulator



Example: Ariane 5 explosion

- ▶ Failed maiden flight of the ESA Ariane 5 rocket
- ▶ Causes of the failure
 - ▶ Old code from Ariane 4, but Ariane 5 had higher horizontal velocity
 - ▶ **Overflow in converting numbers** (64-bit to 16-bit) for the horizontal velocity
 - ▶ This halted the internal navigation system and led to self destruction
- ▶ Loss: more than \$500 million for satellite



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Energy efficiency: from hardware to NLA

- ▶ Supercomputing is constrained by **power consumption**
- Power-efficient hardware
 - ▶ RIKEN's Fugaku w A64FX (FP64:FP32:FP16 = 1:2:4)
 - ▶ EPI (ARM, FPGA, RISC-V)
 - ▶ **Jülich to host the first EPI-based supercomputer**
- ▶ Numerical linear algebra is dominant by **double precision**
- **Mixed-precision/ energy-efficient algorithms**
 - math** Mixed and adaptive precision computing
 - code** Communication hiding or avoiding
 - tools** Numerical abnormalities and precision cropping



How to measure energy consumption?



Centre of Excellence in Exascale CFD

Best Practice Guide

Harvesting energy consumption on
European HPC systems: Sharing
Experience from the CEECE project

Iakymchuk et al. Zenodo, 2024

- ▶ More complex than measuring time-to-solution
- ▶ Measurements require elevated privileges

Objectives

- ▶ Facilitate energy measurements on the European HPC systems
- ▶ Teach the community how to conduct such measurements
- ▶ Provide examples with easy-to-use guide



Practical advices

What can we measure?

- ▶ CPU, DRAM, accelerators
- ▶ NO: cooling, interconnect



Practical advices

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- ▶ CPU, DRAM, accelerators
- ▶ NO: cooling, interconnect

Energy/ power-meters

- ▶ on clusters, use job monitoring systems like **SLURM**, eg energy measurement plugin `sacct`
- ▶ similarly, Energy Aware Runtime (**EAR**) helps to measure energy: `eacct`
- ▶ **likwid-powermeter** is another tool that can measure the entire program or its part
- ▶ MSR counters – the lowest level possible



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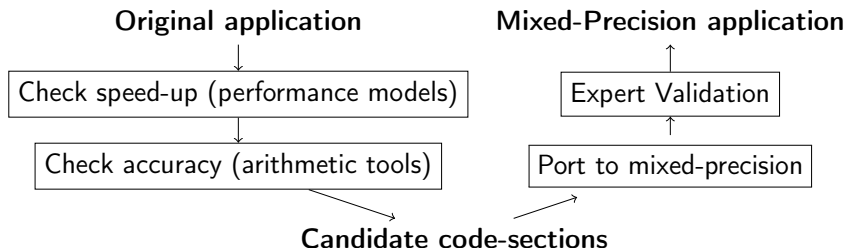
Methodology for energy-efficient algorithms

Summary



Methodology

Methodology to enable mixed-precision algorithmic solutions in applications with accuracy guarantees.



- ▶ Conduct classic or probabilistic (aka optimistic) error analysis
 - ▶ error bound with constant $\sqrt{n\mu}$ with high probability



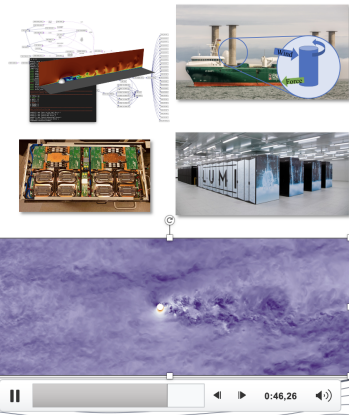
EuroHPC JU CoE CEEC

Center of Excellence in Exascale CFD

Overview

The main goal of CEEC is to address the extreme-scale computing challenge to enable the use of accurate and cost-efficient high fidelity computational fluid dynamics (CFD) simulations at exascale

- Implement **exascale-ready workflows** for addressing grand challenge scientific problems
- Develop **new or improved algorithms** that can efficiently exploit exascale systems.
- Significantly improve **energy efficiency** of simulations
- Demonstrate workflows on **lighthouse cases** relevant for both academia and industry



Courtesy of Niclas Janson, KTH

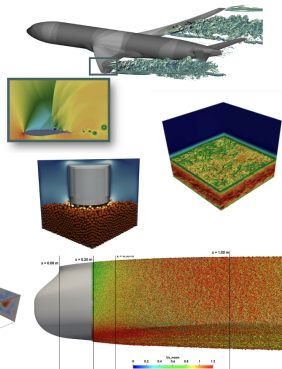


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Lighthouse Cases

- **Shock-boundary layer interaction and buffet on wings at the edge of the flight envelope**
 - Codes used: FLEXI
- **High fidelity aeroelastic simulation of the SFB 401 wing in flight conditions**
 - Codes used: Alya
- **Topology optimisation of static mixers**
 - Codes used: Neko
- **Localized erosion of an offshore wind-turbine foundations**
 - Codes used: walBerla
- **Simulation of Atmospheric Boundary Layer flows**
 - Codes used: NekRS/Nek5000
- **Merchant ship hull**
 - Codes used: Neko



CEECE us out on <https://ceec-coe.eu>



Test case

- ▶ **Nek5000/ Neko** are the high order, incompressible Navier-Stokes solvers based on the spectral element method
→ ‘matrix-free’
- ▶ **Nekbone** is a mini-app of Nek5000 and it solves a Poisson equation using a **Conjugate Gradient** method with the spectral element multigrid preconditioner



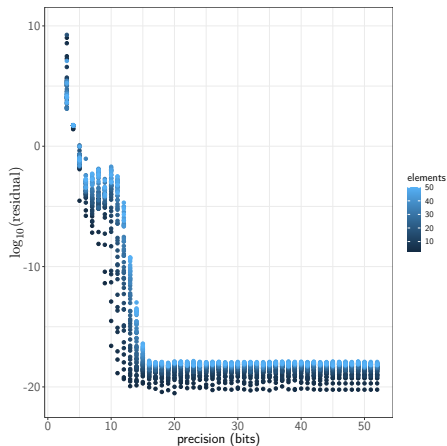
Nekbone w Vprec

$$Ax = b$$

while ($\tau > \tau_{\max}$)

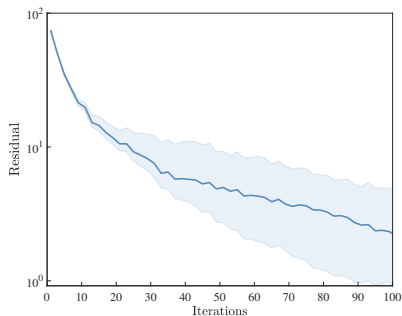
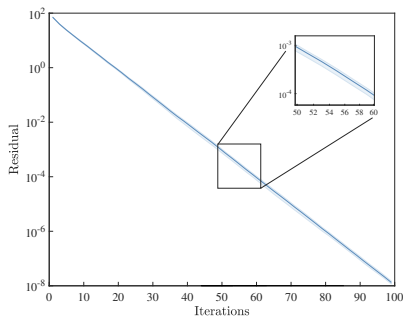
Step	Operation
$S1 :$	$w := Ad$
$S2 :$	$\rho := \beta / \langle d, w \rangle$
$S3 :$	$x := x + \rho d$
$S4 :$	$r := r - \rho w$
$S5 :$	$z := M^{-1}r$
$S6 :$	$\beta := \langle z, r \rangle$
$S7 :$	$d := (\beta / \beta_{old})d + z$
$S8 :$	$\tau := \langle r, r \rangle$

end while



Nekbone w MCA for FP32

Entire program, no preconditioner

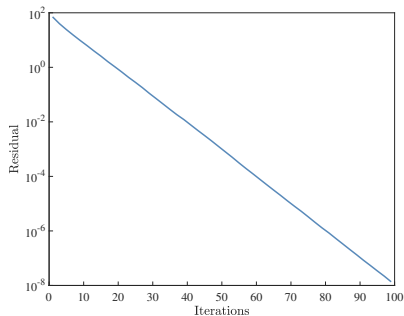
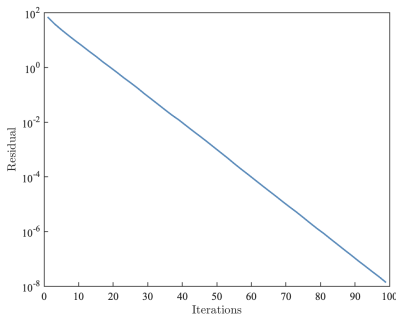


- ▶ Random Rounding (*rr*) mode (left)
- ▶ MCA (*mca*) mode (right)
- ▶ Issue in initialization $10^9 \times \cos(x) \rightarrow$ focus on the solver only



Nekbone w MCA for FP32

Only the CG loop, no preconditioner



- ▶ Random Rounding (*rr*) mode (left)
- ▶ MCA (*mca*) mode (right)



Performance of mixed-precision Nekbone

Parallel tests: gain in execution time w/o preconditioner

On LUMI-C, AMD EPYC 7763 CPU with 64 cores @2.45 GHz

(a) Whole program

MPI ranks	1	4	8	16	32	64	128
Mixed	0.741	0.905	0.995	1.642	1.694	2.096	2.641
Double	0.775	1.026	1.857	2.920	3.151	3.562	4.452
Gain	1.05x	1.13x	1.87x	1.78x	1.86x	1.70x	1.69x

(b) Solve time

MPI ranks	1	4	8	16	32	64	128
Mixed	0.165	0.178	0.190	0.256	0.430	0.445	0.476
Double	0.182	0.239	0.596	1.115	1.161	1.207	1.245
Gain	1.10x	1.34x	3.14x	4.36x	2.70x	2.71x	2.62x

- ▶ time is in seconds
- ▶ run each test five times, report median



energy-to-solution of mixed-precision Nekbone

LUMI-C

MPI ranks	32	stddev	64	stddev	128	stddev
Mixed	451.6	4.1%	653.6	2.4%	1089.4	1.0%
Double	990.6	3.9%	1424.8	4.5%	2061.2	3.2%
Gain	2.20x		2.18x		1.89x	

- ▶ run each test five times, compute mean & standard deviation (stddev)
- ▶ energy numbers are in joules measured by sacct (Slurm)
- ▶ On LUMI-C, 2x AMD EPYC 7763 CPU with 64 cores @2.45 GHz



energy-to-solution of mixed-precision Nekbone

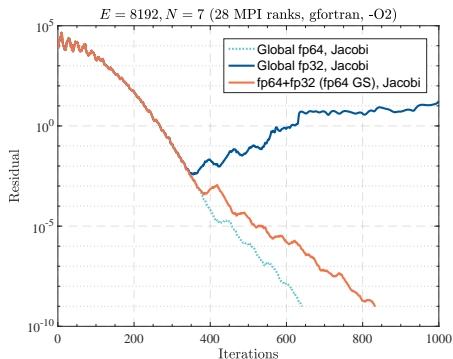
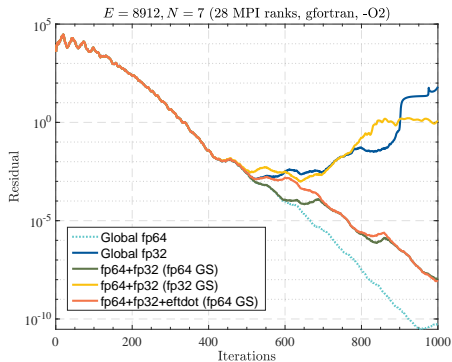
MareNostrum5

MPI ranks	20	40	80
Mixed	637	865	1221
Double	1042	2473	4685
Gain	1.64x	2.86x	3.84x

- ▶ Energy measurements with EAR
- ▶ On MN5, 2x Intel Sapphire Rapids 8460Y+ @2.3Ghz



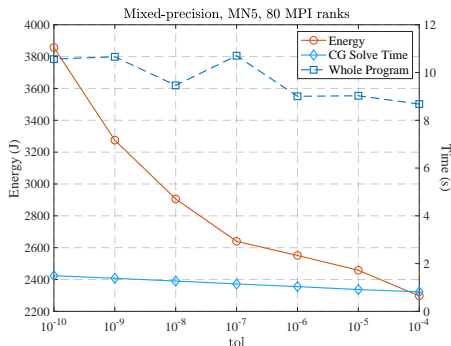
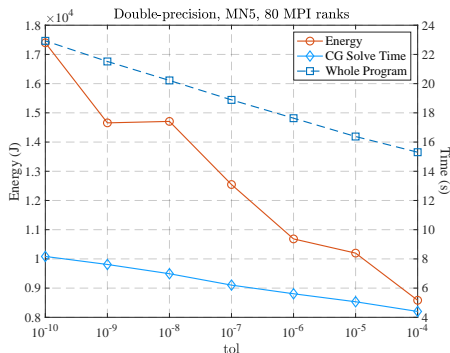
Neko: CG with preconditioner



- ▶ Results from the real-world Neko code
- ▶ Comparable convergence for mixed-precision



Accuracy vs Energy vs Time



- ▶ Nekbone with the multigrid preconditioned CG
- ▶ 3.7x-4.5x gain in energy and 1.8x-2.2x in time



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- ▶ Computer arithmetic operates with **finite precisions**
- ▶ Use **computer arithmetic tools** to
 - ▶ detect cancellations
 - ▶ get the right FP format
 - ▶ verify sensitivity of reduced precision
- ▶ Start measuring energy consumption
- ▶ Enabled mixed-precision in Nekbone and Neko:
 - ▶ use tools: Verificarlo, gprof, Intel Advisor
 - ▶ target the most time-consuming part
 - ▶ **reduced time-to-solution by up to 2.2x** and **energy-to-solution by up to 3.8x** on 80 MPI ranks at MareNostrum5




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- ▶ Computer arithmetic operates with **finite precisions**
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Thank you for your attention !


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Sustainable Scientific Computing

27 - 31 October 2025, Leiden, the Netherlands @omega





Topics

- Energy aware benchmarks and proxy applications
- Metrics and tools
- Optimization strategies
- Numerical verification and compiler tools

Scientific Organizers

- Roman Iakymchuk, Uppsala University and Umeå University
- Eva Darulova, Uppsala University
- Ana Lucia Varbanescu, University of Twente
- George Constantinides, Imperial College London

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References

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