Assignment MPI: Numerical Integration

The purpose of this assignment is for you to learn more about

- implementing a static workload partitioning scheme in MPI,
- implementing a dynamic workload partitioning scheme in MPI (here Master-Worker).

As usual all time measurements are to be performed on the cluster.

1 Preliminary

To be able to compile and run an MPI program on mamba, you need to add the line module load openmpi at the end of the file .bashrc located in the home directory of your account on mamba. (log off and back in afterward.)

To compile an MPI application, use the mpic compiler in C and the mpicxx compiler in C++. They also serve as linker. To run an MPI application using 19 processes, you can run mpirun -n 19 ./myprogram. But you will need to have a proper node allocation first. And if you have a proper node allocation then specifying -n is not necessary because the cluster scheduler does that for you.

To queue an MPI job on mamba, you will need to specify how many nodes and how many cores per node you plan on using. You could use qsub -l nodes=2:ppn=16 to request two nodes with 16 cores each, or qsub -l procs=32 if you only care about having 32 cores independently of where they are. You can also use qsub -l nodes=4:ppn=4, to have 4 cores from 4 different nodes. There is currently a cap on mamba that prevents you from requiring more than 32 processes in total.

Question: Download, and compile the simple MPI program from canvas.

Question: Run it on mamba and verify it runs can run on different machines by passing different parameters to qsub.

2 Numerical Integration: static

Question: Adapt the numerical integration application to make it use MPI in a simple way. The first MPI process should take the first N/P iterations of the loop, the second should take the next N/P iterations of the loop, etc.. The partial integration should be accumulated on rank 0 so that it can print the correct answer to stdout and the time it took to stderr.

Question: Run and time that program on mamba using 1, 2, 4, 8, 16, 32 cores. And plot speedup charts. Use the queue_static.sh and plot_static.sh scripts to do so.

3 Numerical Integration: Master-Worker

A master-worker system enables dynamic scheduling of applications. The idea is that one of the MPI processes (usually rank 0) will be responsible for giving work to the other MPI processes and collect results.

Usually the master process starts by sending one chunk of work to all the workers and when one of the worker provides the result of that chunk of work, the master process will send a new chunk of work to the worker that just completed the work.

The workers will wait for a chunk of work to perform, perform that chunk of work, and return the result to the master node.

Pay attention that the master node needs to notify the worker nodes when there is no more work to perform so the workers can quit gracefully.

Question: Adapt the numerical integration to make it schedule the calculation using a master-worker system.

Question: Run and time that program on mamba using 1, 2, 4, 8, 16, 32 cores. And plot speedup charts. Use the queue_dynamic.sh and plot_dynamic.sh scripts to do so.

4 Extra Credit: Advanced Master-Worker

One of the issue with such a master-worker implementation is that the worker process will be idle until the master provides the next chunk. To avoid this, it is common that the master will give more than a single chunk of work (say, 3 chunks of work) to each worker. That way, when a worker sends a result to the master node, the worker still has some chunks of work (here, 2 chunks) to perform.

To implement this you will need to use the non-blocking MPI functions MPI_Isend, MPI_Irecv. And also, using functions that wait on completion of some non-blocking operation: MPI_Wait and variants.

Question: Adapt the numerical integration code to use advanced scheduling.

Question: Run and time that program on mamba using 1, 2, 4, 8, 16, 32 cores. And plot speedup charts.