

U-2 (HPC). Parallel Algo Designs

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★ Principles of Parallel Algorithm Design.

Preliminaries -

- Decomposing problems into tasks.
- Multiple ways of decomposition
- Tasks of diff size.
- Task dependency graph.
- Decomposition \rightarrow to divide a ~~task~~ computation into sub computations to execute them parallelly.
- Task \rightarrow programmer defined unit of computation.
 - generated by subdividing main computation by decomposing criteria.
- Task dependency graph \rightarrow all possible dependencies among tasks & order of execution of task is shown pictorially.
- Granularity -
 - \swarrow Fine or coarse.
 - size of tasks is expressed as granularity of parallelism.
 - Decompⁿ larger no. of smaller task \rightarrow Fine grained granularity
 - " smaller no. of larger " \rightarrow Coarse grained granularity
- Degree of concurrency - no. of tasks that can be executed in parallel.
 - max. degree of concurrency \rightarrow max. no. of tasks executed in parallel
 - avg degree of concurrency \rightarrow avg no. of tasks executed in parallel

* Critical path - determines average degree of concurrency for given granularity. path b/w any pair of start & finish node of nodes

* Critical path length - sum of weights along this path.
 wt. of nodes \rightarrow size or amt of work associated with corresponding task

* Decomposition techniques -
 decomp

1) Recursive Techniques

- divide & conquer strategy
- well suited for problems with inherent recursive structure
- may not be applicable to all problems
- divide problems into sub problems of same type
- eg \rightarrow sorting algo (Quicksort)

2) Exploratory decomposition (search space partitioning)

- partitions solⁿ space for concurrent exploration
- useful for problems with larger solⁿ space
- High performance if dependencies are low & predictions are accurate
- May not guarantee finding optimal solⁿ complex design.
- eg \rightarrow Machine learning (exploring parameters)

3) Speculative Decomposition

- creates subtasks speculatively (without guaranteed independence)
- high performance if dependencies are low & predictions are accurate
- Risk of wasted computation if speculation are wrong.
- eg \rightarrow Branch prediction in modern processors.

4) Hybrid Decomposition

- combines diff elements of diff techniques
- leverages strength of diff techniques to optimize for problem's characteristics
- complexity can increase as rate of the design involves managing multiple decomposition strategies.
- eg \rightarrow program might use recursive decomposition for main algo structure & data decomposition for processing larger datasets within each recursive step.

* Task Interaction Graph -

- The pattern in which task interact with each other.
- represents relationship & dependencies b/w tasks in a parallel program.
- Nodes \rightarrow Represent individual tasks.
- Edges \rightarrow represent interaction between tasks

Benefits -

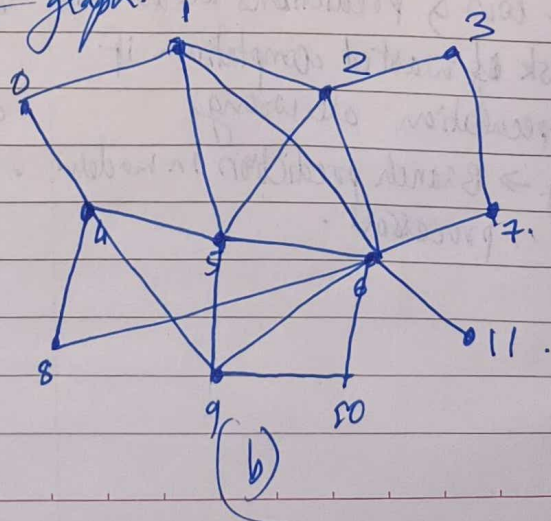
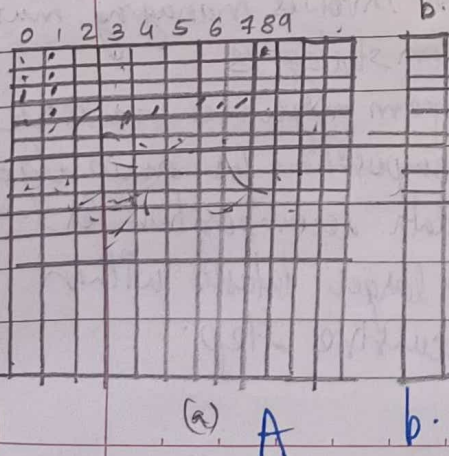
- Visualize communication patterns.
- Identify potential bottlenecks
- Design communication strategies
- Analyze potential for parallelism

- Task dependency graph represent \rightarrow control dependencies
- Task Interaction graph represent \rightarrow data dependencies

eg \rightarrow sparse matrix vector multiplication $A \times b$

- Computation of each result = an independent task.
 - Only non zero element of sparse matrix $A \rightarrow$ participated in computation
- If partition b across tasks, ie task T_i has $b[i:j]$ only.

Task interaction graph of computation = graph of matrix A
 A is adjacent matrix of graph.



* Processes & Mapping

Processes -

- Refers to a processing or computing agent that performs tasks.
- use code & data corresponding to task to produce output of task within time limit.
- exchange of data \rightarrow communicate with other processors.
- speedup in parallel formulation \rightarrow if more than one process remains active at a time, performing multiple tasks.

Mapping -

- assignment of task to process.
- good mapping scheme \rightarrow based on task dependency
- min. interactions \rightarrow mapping tasks
- mapping scheme \rightarrow exploit max concurrency & min. execution time.
- single task \rightarrow single process (no time wasted in interaction, but no speedup)
- efficiency to be achieved in parallel processing.

* Characteristics of Task & Interactions

- \rightarrow Task generation \rightarrow static & dynamic task generation.
- \rightarrow Task Sizes \rightarrow uniform & non uniform tasks.
- \rightarrow Knowledge of task sizes \rightarrow .
- \rightarrow size of data associated \rightarrow if size & location of data is known.

Mapping Techniques for load balancing.

Static Mapping

- distribution is before execution
- Info used is static i.e. predefined
- adaptability is ~~high~~ limited.
- complexity is low
- suitable for predictable workloads & stable systems.
- Is less efficient
- eg → block, cyclic, random

Dynamic Mapping

- distribution time is during execution.
- Info used is dynamic, i.e. real time
- adaptability is ~~low~~ high
- complexity is high
- suitable for unpredictable workloads & dynamic systems.
- Is more efficient.
- eg → master-slave, gossiping, work stealing

* Methods for Containing Interaction Overheads

- parallel algo → efficient → if it has min interaction overhead
- depends of factors
 - vol. of data exchanged during interaction
 - frequency of interaction
 - spatial & temporal pattern of interactions

- Methods are
- Maximizing Data Locality
 - Min. vol of Data exchange
 - Min. Frequency of Interactions
 - Min. Contention & Hot spots
 - Overlapping computation with interactions
 - Replicating data or computation.
 - Using optimized collective Interaction Operators
 - Overlapping Interactions with other Interaction

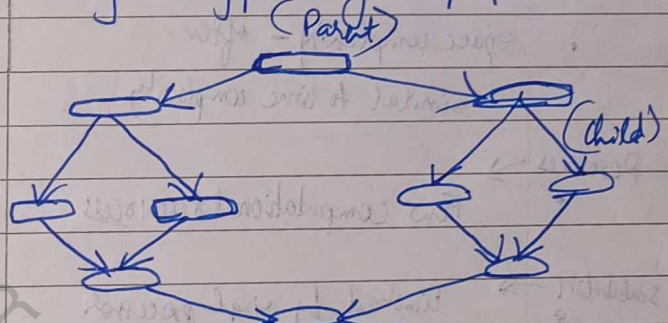
* Parallel Algo Models -

1) Data Parallel Model

- Divides data in chunks & processes in parallel across multiple processors.
- same instruction to independent data elements.
- Data dependency - Low
- Minimal communication.
- Automatic (equal workload) load balancing
- Synchronization may be required for shared data.
- eg → sorting a large list.

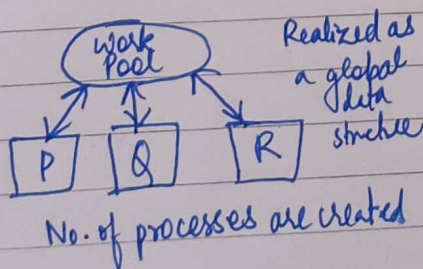
2) Task Graph Model

- Divides problem into independent tasks
- divides tasks or operations, each processor works on diff part of task concurrently
- Data dependency - Medium.
- Medium communication
- Load balancing is Manual (task design for balanced work load)
- each processor → diff task
- eg → img processing multiple photos.



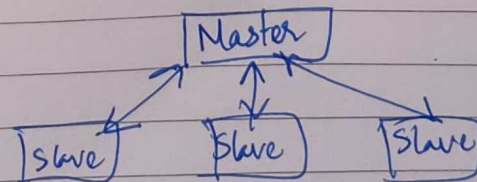
3) Work Pool Model

- Utilizes a pool of tasks or jobs where multiple workers fetch & execute tasks concurrently.
- Data dependency - Medium.
- Communication - Medium
- Load Balancing - Automatic.
- Requires efficient task scheduling algo
- eg → Assigning customer service tickets



4) Master Slave Model

- utilizes a master processor to ~~data~~ distribute tasks to multiple slave processor for execution
- Data dependency - High (master control task flow)
- Communication - Medium.
- Load balancing - Manual (master assigns tasks)
- Master distributes tasks & slaves execute
- eg → Video encoding



* Complexities.

Sequential Complexity

- single processor execution
- performance limited by single processor
- Time complexity - Big O
- Space complexity - often similar to time complexity

Parallel Complexity

- Multiple processor execution
- potential for improvement
- requires analysis of parallel execution
- similar with consideration of parallel execution

Resources →

- Few computational resources

Scalability →

limited by single processor

Synchronization

- Less concern

Complexity Analysis

- Simpler

eg → linear search, Bubble sort

- may require more due to multiple processors
- potential high scalability

- Require synchronization

- Complex

eg → Parallel matrix multiplication
Parallel solving

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Abnormalities in Parallel Algorithms -

↳ (unexpected performance in parallel algo)

Causes → 1) Load Imbalance - unequal workload distribution.

2) Communication Overhead - too much communication b/w processors

3) Data dependencies - improper handling of dependencies b/w data.

4) Race Conditions - conflicting access to shared resources.

5) Starvation - unable to access required resources

6) Concurrency bugs - errors from parallel execution

7) Cache Coherence Issues - inconsistent memory views among processor
or core

8) Inefficient Parallelization - overhead parallel execution → exceeds
performance gain

9) Deadlocks - processor or threads unable to progress due to
circular dependencies on resources