Notes

• Midterm exam in 2 weeks, on Thursday, Nov. 10
  • on readings through previous week
• Group Project interim report due Nov. 7
• Still working on grading OpenMP project – will be done this week
Outline

• Overview
• Compiler-driven: Multiblock Parti
• Library-driven: Global Arrays
• Conclusion
Overview

• Writing good parallel programs for distributed memory systems is hard.
• Idea: abstraction on top of message passing to get results
  • We can do this where communication is regular: block-structured applications
  • Trade off: (somewhat) reduced performance for reduced effort
Multiblock Parti

• Provide High Performance Fortran-like language enhancements to support block-structured applications
• Treat things statically, where we can
  • Like Fortran D, High Performance Fortran, etc.
• Use run-time support where we can't establish compile-time bounds
Runtime Support

• **Regular_SECTION_Move_Sched**
  • Schedule a regular section move
  • Accommodates block, cyclic, and block-cyclic distributions when the bounds & strides are known at run-time

• **Overlap_Cell_Fill_Sched**: schedule moves for overlap / ghost cells
Compiler Support

• Additional HPF-like directives
• Static analysis for data distribution
• Insert calls for runtime workload partitioning based on data distribution
Static Analysis

• Done on for_all loop parameters
• Categorize one of three ways
  • No communication necessary
  • Copy overlap (ghost) regions
  • Copy regular sections
Experiment: Overhead

- Extra time from library calls and schedule building isn't too bad
Experiment: Multiblock Code

- Within 20% of hand-parallelized F77
- Difference between compiler-parallelized & hand-parallelized F90 is mostly in computing loop bounds and searching for previously-used schedules

![Table 1: Performance comparison for small mesh, one block (sec).](image1)

![Table 2: Performance comparison for larger mesh, two blocks (sec).](image2)
Experiment: Multigrid Code

- Within 10% of hand-parallelize code

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<th>No. of Proc.</th>
<th>Compiler: First Iteration</th>
<th>Compiler: Per-subsequent Iteration</th>
<th>By Hand: First Iteration</th>
<th>By Hand: Per-subsequent Iteration</th>
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<td>32</td>
<td>3.03</td>
<td>.95</td>
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<td>.88</td>
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Fig. 7. Semicoarsening multigrid performance (sec).
Experiment: Compiler Optimizations

• Performance stinks if schedules are not saved (Version I)
• Hand-implemented reuse improves over runtime reuse (II vs. III)
• Un-implemented optimization for loop-bounds in subroutines also improves (Version IV)

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Version I: Runtime Library does not save schedules
Version II: Runtime Library saves schedules
Version III: Schedule reuse implemented by hand
Version IV: Loop bounds reused within a procedure

Fig. 8. Effects of various optimizations (sec).
Global Arrays

- Library for parallelization abstraction
  - On distributed memory systems (clusters)
  - SPMD model
- Idea is to program as if shared memory, but move data between distributed memory and local memory as needed
  - Only operate on local data within each process
- Compatible with MPI, so can mix GA calls with MPI calls as needed
  - Built on top of ARMCI (Aggregate Remote Memory Copy Interface) library for one-sided communication (put/get) – portable and efficient
  - One-sided can be more efficient than send/receive, as shown for some applications, since less synchronization
Global Arrays

• Programmer can map both ways between global and local views of data objects (arrays)
  • But only compute on local view
• GA is also aware of SMP (multi-core) nodes
  • To support “mirrored view” – caching distributed memory data in shared memory for multiple processes to use
• Also has direct support for ghost cells
  • To avoid distributed to local copies for structured grid applications
  • And for periodic boundary conditions
• Paper also talks about sparse data management
  • But not clear how efficient GA is for computing with sparse matrices/vectors
Global Arrays

• Data parallel interfaces to operate on global arrays
  • To interface with other libraries like BLAS, SCALAPACK to perform data parallel collective operations

• Disk Resident Arrays allow extending global arrays to out-of-core
  • Basically distributed memory stored on (local) disks
  • With operations to move data between disks (instead of distributed memory) and local memory in each process

• Support for mapping global arrays onto subsets of processors

• Many similarities to Multiblock Parti, but also supports copies from global to local view

• Performance results show good scaling on several applications for parallel systems available at that time
  • All the applications employ large, dense, multi-dim data grids
  • And can take advantage of both low-latency and high-bandwidth networks (through ARMCI)
Overall Conclusion

• We can get close to hand-coded performance with these systems
• Are they easier to use?
• Current status:
  • Multiblock Parti no longer supported, other than inside applications and other parallel libraries
  • Global Arrays still supported by PNNL, latest release in Dec. 2021, and now uses ComEx (Communication Runtime for Extreme Scale) for communication, which by default uses MPI (and uses shared memory across processes on the same node)