



# Lecture 23: Parallel Discrete-event Simulation

Abhinav Bhatele, Department of Computer Science



UNIVERSITY OF  
MARYLAND

# Announcements

---

- Project demos: May 6 and 11
- Final project due on: May 13 11:59 pm AoE

# Summary of last lecture

---

- $n$ -body problem: gravitational forces on celestial bodies
- Several parallel algorithms:
  - Barnes-Hut
  - Fast Multipole Method
  - Particle Mesh
  - P3M
- Simulation codes: FLASH, Cello, ChaNGa, PKDGRAV



# Discrete-event simulation

---

- Modeling a system in terms of events that happen at discrete points in time
- Either model discrete sequence of events
- Or model time-stepped sequences
- Simulation typically involves system state, event list and a global time variable

# Parallel discrete-event simulation

---

- Divide the events to be simulated among processes
- Send messages wherever there are causality relationships between events
- Synchronize global clock periodically

# Conservative vs. optimistic simulation

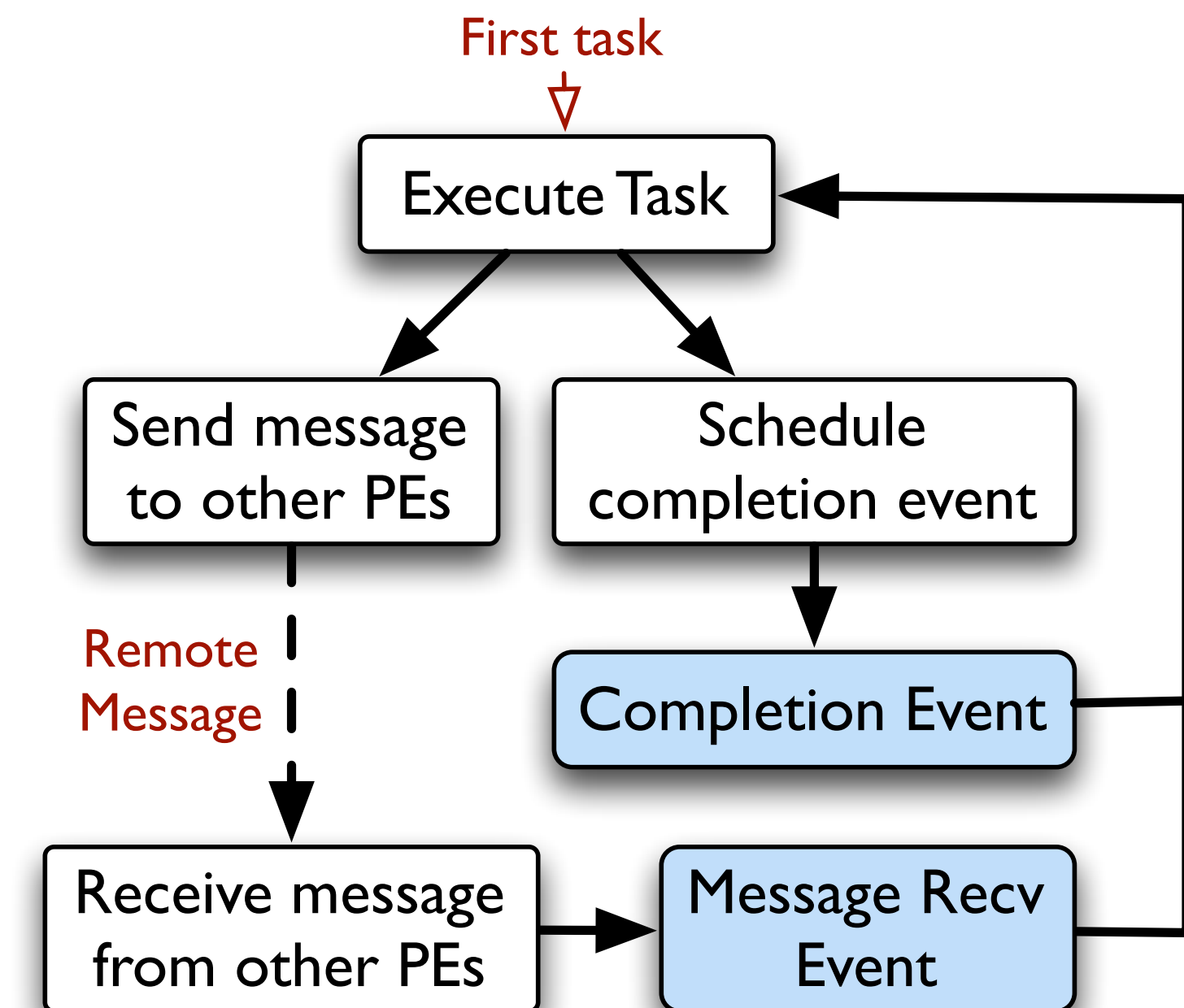
---

- Conservative DES
  - Do not allow any causality errors
- Optimistic DES
  - Allow causality errors and rollback if needed



# Trace-driven network simulation

- Task is started at time  $t_s$
- Possible remote messages to other PEs
  - Kick off other tasks that depend on a message
- Completion event scheduled for time  $t_s + t_e$



# Running TraceR in optimistic mode

---

- Record extra information during forward execution to enable rollback later
  - List of tasks triggered by a message recv or completion event
- Implement reverse handlers for each event



# Epidemiology simulations

---

- Agent-based modeling to simulate epidemic diffusion
- Models agents (people) and interactions between them
- People interact when they visit the same location at the same time
- These “interactions” between pairs of people are represented as “visits” to locations
- A bi-partite graph of people and locations is used

# EpiSimdemics: Parallel implementation

- All the people and locations are distributed among all processes
- Computation can be done locally in parallel
- Communication when sending visit and infection messages
- Uses Charm++, a message-driven model

```
1 while  $d \leq d_{max}$  do
2   for  $p \in P$  do
3     Evaluate scenario trigger conditions;
4     Update health state  $h_p$ , if necessary, and reevaluate triggers;
5     foreach  $v \in V_p$  ( visit schedule of  $p$ ) do
6       | Send visit message  $m$  to location  $l$ ;
7     end
8   end
9   for  $l \in L$  do
10    foreach  $m$  destined for  $l$  do
11      | Determine the sublocation  $l_s$  to visit;
12      | Create an arrival and departure event for each visit;
13      | Put the events into the event queue  $q_e$  of  $l$ ;
14    end
15    Reorder  $q_e$  by the time of event in ascending order;
16    foreach  $e \in q_e$  do
17      | if  $e$  is arrival then
18      |   | Put  $p$  into sublocation  $l_s$ ;
19      | else
20      |   | Remove  $p$  from sublocation  $l_s$ ;
21      |   | foreach  $p'$  currently in  $l_s$  do
22      |   |   | Compute disease transmission probability  $q$ 
23      |   |   |   | between  $p'$  and  $p$ ;
24      |   |   |   | if  $q > threshold$  then
25      |   |   |   |   | Send infection message to the infected
26      |   |   |   |   |   | person ( $p$  or  $p'$ );
27      |   |   |   |   | end
28      |   |   |   | end
29      |   |   | end
30      |   | end
31    end
32  end
33   $d++$ ;
34 end
```



# Questions?



UNIVERSITY OF  
MARYLAND

Abhinav Bhatele

5218 Brendan Iribe Center (IRB) / College Park, MD 20742

phone: 301.405.4507 / e-mail: [bhatele@cs.umd.edu](mailto:bhatele@cs.umd.edu)