

High Performance Computing for Operation Research

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INRIA-Alchemy seminar, Thursday March 17

Research topics

- ▶ Fundamental Aspects of Algorithms and Complexity (Formalism, proof, quantification, classification, ...)
- ▶ Discrete Dynamical Systems (Chip Firing Game, Periodicity, Garden of Eden, Invariants, ...)
- ▶ Parallel Scheduling (SPMD, SIMD, Systolic, ...)
- ▶ Polyhedral model (recurrences equations, re-indexation, systematic synthesis, code derivation, ...)
- ▶ Efficient Parallel Programming (Standard Parallel Machines et (Heterogeneous/Clustered) multicores machines)
- ▶ Program Transformations (Source-to-source framework aiming at monitoring parallel implementations)
- ▶ Power Aware Computing (Energy Efficient Embedded Programs)
- ▶ Applied Mathematics and Operation Research (Mathematical modeling, Optimization, Linear Algebra, Matrix Computation)

Discrete Dynamical Systems

Given a graph $G = (X, A)$ and a transition function φ such that $\varphi(G) = (X, A')$ with $\text{card}(A) = \text{card}(A')$. We study the evolution $G_0 = G, G_1 = \varphi(G_0), \dots, G_{n+1} = \varphi(G_n)$.

Remark: on a finite graph, such an evolution is ultimately **periodic**. Any state of the graph before the period is called **transient**.

Interesting questions are

- ▶ the set of period lengths for a given graph
- ▶ bounds of period lengths
- ▶ garden of Eden (graph with no transient length)
- ▶ relation between the structure of the graph and periodicity
- ▶ applications (games, simulation, graph scheduling)

This work gave an inspiration to derive a parallel scheduling methodology for acyclic graphs with some recurrent structure.

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Polyhedral model and parallel scheduling

A system of recurrence equations (SRE) defining a variable X has the following form

$$X(z) = \begin{cases} D_1^X & : g_1(\dots X(f(z)) \dots) \\ \vdots & \\ \vdots & \end{cases} \quad F(i, j, k) = \begin{cases} \{i, j, k \mid k = 0\} & : a_{i,j} \\ \{i, j, k \mid i = j = k\} & : F(i, j, k-1) * \\ \{i, j, k \mid i = k \neq j\} & : F(k, k, k) \otimes F(i, j, k) \\ \{i, j, k \mid j = k \neq i\} & : F(i, j, k-1) \otimes F(k, k, k) \\ \{i, j, k \mid i \neq k; j \neq k\} & : F(i, j, k-1) \oplus \\ & (F(i, k, k) \otimes F(k, j, k-1)) \end{cases}$$

- Algebraic and syntax transformations (**polyhedral model framework, compiler, scheduler, symbolic analysis, ...**)
- Graph based approaches easily apply to SRE through the underlying dependence graph \Rightarrow **systematic synthesis !**

Scheduling a system of recurrence equations onto p processors is the task of finding a valid *timing function* T (i.e. $T(z) > T(f(z))$) and an allocation function A such that $[T(z_1) = T(z_2)] \Rightarrow [A(z_1) \neq A(z_2)]$.

Theorem 1. Let $G_1 = (X_1, F_1)$ and $G_2 = (X_2, F_2)$ two isomorphic graphs, and let φ an isomorphism from G_2 to G_1 . If (t, a) is a valid schedule of G_1 , where t is a timing function and a an allocation function, then $(t \circ \varphi, a \circ \varphi)$ is a valid schedule of G_2 .

Theorem 2. Let $G = (X, A)$ be a directed acyclic graph. If G is self isomorphic with the decomposition $X = X_1 \cup X_2 \cup \dots \cup X_\gamma$, and the set of isomorphisms $\{\varphi_k, k = 2, \dots, \gamma\}$, then the schedule specified by the timing function t and the allocation function a given by (6-7) is valid.

Applications: **sorting, APP, Cholesky, tensor product of matrices**

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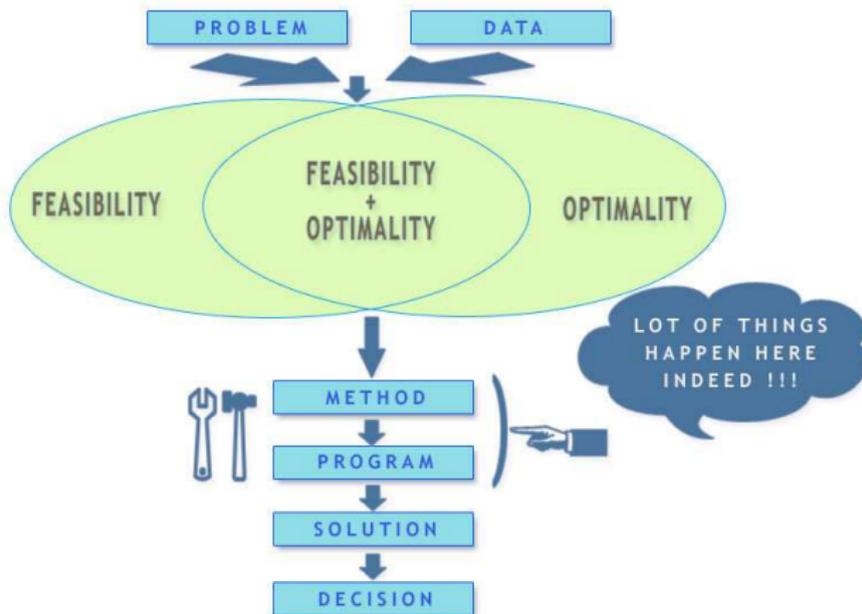
Topics or Aspects to Explore



A deep investigation of the following points are potentially rewarding:

- ▶ implement our recursive scheduling method as a module of a polyhedral model based framework.
- ▶ develop robust and user-friendly source-to-source tools to monitor parallel programming on accelerators based systems.
- ▶ provide specialized mathematical or communication libraries for specific architectures.
- ▶ clarify which algorithmic paradigms or programming model yield the best benefit of emergent architectures.
- ▶ participate in multidisciplinary efforts for solving large scale problems efficiently on parallel systems.

Operation Research Overview



Operation Research Overview

Remark: Computationally challenging aspect of problems are referred as **large-scale** problems. This could come either from the tremendous search space or input data, or from the structural intractability of the problem.



Some Illustrative Instances

► P-MEDIAN

Open P facilities relative to N customers with minimum sum of the shortest demand weighted distance between customers and facilities.

Applications: cluster analysis, facility location, services (telecommunication, emergency, ...)

$N = 20$ and $P = 5$ yields 15,505 possibilities

$N = 50$ and $P = 10$ yields $\approx 10^{10}$ possibilities

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{x,y} \quad & \sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{j=1}^n c_{ij} x_{ij} \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & \sum_{i=1}^m x_{ij} = 1, \quad \forall j, \\ & \sum_{i=1}^m y_i = p, \\ & x_{ij} \leq y_i, \quad \forall i, j, \\ & x_{ij}, y_i \in \{0, 1\}, \end{aligned}$$



Some Illustrative Instances

► CREW PAIRING PROBLEM

Finding a set of round trips (**pairings**) (starting and ending at the home base) covering all flight legs that the company has to carry out with a **minimal crew cost**.

Applications:

CREW SCHEDULING PROBLEM = CREW PAIRING PROBLEM + CREW ASSIGNMENT PROBLEM.

Optimal crew management and best recovery in case of disruption.

- As difficult as the SET COVERING PROBLEM, which is **NP-COMPLETE** (Karp)
- The operational crew cost can show up more than 5% over predictions in a month (\approx million \$)

$$\begin{aligned} \min_x & cx \\ Ax &= 1 \\ x &\in \{0, 1\}^n \end{aligned}$$



Some Illustrative Instances

▶ TRAVELING SALESMAN PROBLEM

Given a list of cities and their pairwise distances, the task is to find a **shortest tour** that visits each city exactly once.

Applications:

Transportation, logistic, genome sequencing, benchmark for optimization methods, ...

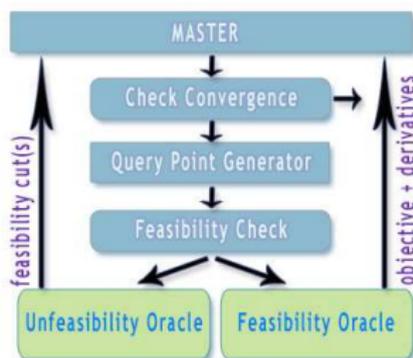
- ▶ As difficult as the HAMILTONIAN CYCLE PROBLEM, which is **NP-COMPLETE** (Karp)
- ▶ Please, forget about brute force approach! (**16 cities \Rightarrow 653 837 184 000 possibilities**)
- ▶ Modern optimization method have shown optimistic performances on practical instances
- ▶ Competitive solutions are **parallel implementation of powerful optimization methods**
- ▶ TSP (VLSI-Bell Labs) of size **85 900** solved in **1.5 year** (2004-2006) using a cluster of **96** 2.8 GHz Intel Xeon and **32** 2.4 GHz AMD Opteron connected with 100 MB ethernet.

Continuous Optimization Scheme

Oracle based optimization deals with the convex programming problem

$$\min\{f(u) = f_1(u) + f_2(u) \mid u \in U \subset \mathbb{R}^n\},$$

where f_1 is a convex function, f_2 is a twice differentiable convex function and U is a convex set.



Interesting points are:

- improve the accuracy of the lower bound estimation
- invest on convergence acceleration strategies
- parallelization of the linear algebra kernel of existing methods
- parallelization of the function and/or the derivative evaluations
- parallel implementation of decomposition methods (projection, multi-objectives)

Discrete Optimization \leftrightarrow Continuous Optimization

► Bender decomposition

$$\begin{array}{l}
 \min_{\substack{y \in \{0,1\} \\ x \in \mathbb{R}}} F(x) + G(y) + H(x,y) \\
 \text{s.t.} \quad C_1(x) \\
 \quad \quad C_2(y) \\
 \quad \quad C_3(x,y)
 \end{array}
 \quad \Rightarrow \quad
 \begin{array}{l}
 \min_{\substack{y \in \{0,1\} \\ x \in \mathbb{R}}} \{ G(y) + \min\{ F(x) + H(x,y) \} \} \\
 C_2(y) \quad C_1(x) \\
 \quad \quad C_3(x,y)
 \end{array}$$

► Lagrangian relaxation

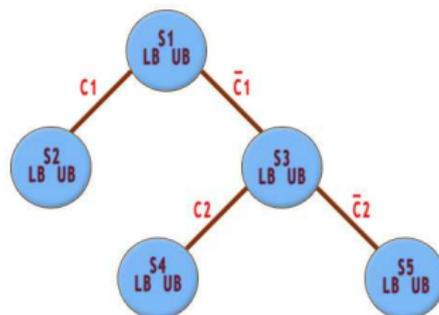
$$\begin{array}{l}
 \min f(x) \\
 g(x) \geq 0 \\
 x \in D
 \end{array}
 \quad \Rightarrow \quad
 \begin{array}{l}
 \max_{\pi \geq 0} \min_{x \in D} L(x, \pi) = f(x) - \pi g(x)
 \end{array}$$

The idea behind is to “remove” the offending constraint by incorporating its violation in the objective.

Examples

- Constrained shortest path
- Time optimal scheduling under memory/energy constraint
- Portfolio selection under cardinality constraints

Branch and Bound



- ▶ efficient parallel heuristics (upper bounds)
- ▶ efficient and generic multi-thread implementation of the global branch and bound scheme
- ▶ parallel branching with N child nodes ($N \geq 2$ and non constant)
- ▶ workload balance, synchronization, scalability, and high efficiency

Aspects to Explore



A deep investigation of the following points are potentially rewarding:

- ▶ modifying existing methods for better exposure of the parallelism.
- ▶ parallel approximation algorithms.
- ▶ parallel multidirectional search strategies.
- ▶ provide more efficient parallelization of interior point method.
- ▶ new paradigms

END & QUESTIONS



THANKS FOR YOUR ATTENTION !