A Fault-Tolerant Framework for Large-Scale Simulations

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Background
- Faults and Fault-Tolerant Techniques (FT)
- Sparse Grids
- The Sparse Grid Combination Technique
- Complexity Metrics

Developing the Framework
- Building Sparse Grid Solvers
- Requirements
- Numerical MapReduce Framework (NuMRF)
- Parallel SGCT Implementation

Future Plans
- Integration into GENE
- Extension to Handling Soft Faults
fault recovery and fault-tolerance

Technological approaches:

- Replication/redundancy
- Runtime checkpointing with recovery through restart/task reassignment
- Runtime recreation of lost data using neighboring data

Algorithm-based FT (ABFT):

- Huang and Abraham (1984): row/column checksums to correct for computational errors
- Du et al. (2012): checksum-based fail/stop in to LU & QR decompositions
- Liu (2002); Geist and Engleman (2007): chaotic relaxation
- Dean and Ghemawat (2004): MapReduce
- Our group: sparse grid combination method with built-in runtime fault-tolerance

“...computational techniques for one mill...BILLION processing elements!”

J. Larson et al. A Fault-Tolerant Framework for Large-Scale Simulations
what is a sparse grid?

A solution to a complexity problem:

- The number of gridpoints on a \(d\)-dimensional isotropic grid grows exponentially w.r.t. \(d\)
- This is the curse of dimensionality
- A sparse grid provides fine-scale resolution in each dimension, but not combined fine scales from all multidimensional subspaces
- Constructed from a number of coarser component grids that are fine-scale in some dimensions but coarse in others
- Developed to solve problems in high dimensions
sparse grids reduce problem size dramatically

\[
\| \mathcal{F} \| \propto 2^{Ld} \]

\[
\| \mathcal{J} \| \propto 2^L L^{d-1} \]

\[
R_C = \frac{\| \mathcal{F} \|}{\| \mathcal{J} \|} \propto \left( \frac{2^L}{L} \right)^{d-1}
\]
geometric definition of sparse grid

a simple sparse grid

∪

sparse grid in frequency / scale space

∪

captures fine scales in both dimensions but not joint fine scales
The classic combination solution $f_L^C(\vec{x})$ for level $L$ in $d$ dimensions is, in terms of the component grid solutions $f_l(\vec{x})$

$$f_L^C(\vec{x}) = \sum_{q=0}^{d-1} (-1)^q \binom{d-1}{q} \sum_{|\vec{l}|_1=L-q} f_l(\vec{x})$$

- Possible to include $m \leq L - 1$ hyperplanes’ worth of “spare” component grids for FT.
- These spare grids are used only in scenarios of loss of one ore classic combination component grids due to fault(s)
classic combination and example ft scenarios

classic combination  
loss of (3, 4)  
loss of (2, 5)
building solvers on sparse grids

**Algorithm**

1. Pick a set $\mathcal{G}$ of multidimensional, coarser component grids
2. Solve on each component grid $\mathcal{G}_l$ (interpolate to $\mathcal{S}$)
3. (Linear) Combination of component grids’ solutions for solution on $\mathcal{S}$
4. *Optional*: interpolate solution from $\mathcal{S}$ to $\mathcal{F}$
5. *Time Evolution/Iteration*: propagate solution on $\mathcal{S}$ back to each $\mathcal{G}_l \in \mathcal{G}$

- Error bounds for solutions on the sparse grid can be computed based on the scheme used on the component grids and the combination method
- Each combination involves an $M \times N$ transfer
what is an $M \times N$ transfer?

Data connections for the 2D level 5 SGCT
implications for a parallel sgct

complexity analysis tells us...

- Lossy ABFT overhead is low compared to replication
- High values of \((L, d)\) will engender
  - numerous component grid tasks
  - high grid data volumes
  - many (parallel) data connections routing data to/from the sparse grid
- Further modeling required using application- and platform-specific information
  - application performance data
  - hardware characteristics: processor speed, switch latency/bandwidth
implications for a parallel sgct, cont’d…

requirements for a parallel sgct system

- **Low-level automation:**
  - Distributed grid/field data description
  - Parallel \( M \times N \) transfer \( \mathcal{G}_I \leftrightarrow \mathcal{L} \)
  - Data transformation (specifically, interpolation)
  - Performance measurement/timing
  - Fault detection/reporting

- **High-level automation:**
  - Scheduling of iterative execution of large numbers of tasks
    - Load balance based on task cost model (TCM)
    - Probabilistic Fault Detection (PFD) through predicted/elapsed runtime comparison
  - Automatic coordination of large numbers of \( M \times N \) transfers
  - Monitoring/ explicit fault detection
  - Self-steering using an error quality of service (QoS) model to compute alternative solutions in the event of faults

- Compatibility with legacy science/engineering codes
EXECUTION / COORDINATION
Monitoring, Load-balancing/Scheduling, Fault Detection, Error QoS

MAP
User-defined
• For example, component grid solutions in combination technique
• MPI/OpenMP parallelism

DATA ROUTING
MxN transfer of Map() outputs to Reduce() inputs (and vice-versa for iteration)

REDUCE
Can be user-defined
• NuMRF provides classic combination technique
• MPI/OpenMP parallelism

UTILITY
PyGrAFT Grid/Field representation, MxN transfer services, Task Cost and Error QoS Modeling services, timing, language interoperability, FT MPI
PyGrAFT is the data language for NuMRF. It is a system for
- Representing logically Cartesian grids `CartGrid` class)
  - Arbitrary dimensionality supported
- Field data residing on these grids (`GriddedScalarField`)
  - Implemented using NumPy ndarray
    - Arbitrary dimensionality supported
    - Any NumPy base type supported
  - Any number of fields may be associated with a `CartGrid`
  - Complete flexibility regarding storage order
- Expressing multi-resolution relationships (`FullGrid` and `ComponentGrid` subclasses)
- Performing combinations involving component grids.
- Parallelization currently underway

At present, there are numerous test examples. Including generation of most of the sparse grid pictures in this talk.
PyGrAFT: Comparison of FT Techniques on 3D Advection

- Problem size $L = 21$, truncation parameter 5, combine 4 times; MTF: 25...1000s
- Local checkpoint: each process saves copy of component grid
- Global checkpoint: each process keeps copy of last combined grid
- Recombine: avoid using data from failed processes

![Graph showing time vs. faults for 3D advection](image)
c++ parallel sgct implementation

- Implemented in three C++ classes:
  - GridCombine2D: Overall combination method
  - Vec2D: Supports fundamental calculations
  - ProcGrid2D: Domain decomposition for each grid

  Level of abstraction reduced code complexity dramatically!

- Assumptions:
  - Each component grid $G_l$ is distributed over a 2D grid of MPI PE’s $P_l$
  - Algorithm uses gather-scatter within each grid’s pool
  - Load balance computed with an awareness of computational cost; based on component grids’ respective (fixed) $\Delta t$

  Implemented using aggressive defensive programming techniques (cross-checking 2D vector calculations, etc)
    - Robustness (simplest $L = 4$ case requires 32 processes!)
    - Rapid development

- Source only about 1000 lines of code
- Interoperable with NuMRF via CTypes
### C++ Parallel SGCT Performance

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<tr>
<th>Cores</th>
<th>simulateAdvection</th>
<th>SGCT</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Normalized Efficiency</th>
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Fixed Dt, Level 4, grid points \((2^{12} + 1) \times (2^{12} + 1)\), number of combinations 100, number of time-steps \(2^{12}\), RAIJIN cluster.
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Non-fixed dt, Level 4, grid points \((2^{12} + 1) \times (2^{12} + 1)\), number of combinations 100, number of time-steps \(2^{12}\), RAIJIN cluster.
Application total task
Load balance for level 4, grid points \((2^{10} + 1) \times (2^{10} + 1)\), non-fixed dt, number of combinations 1, number of time-steps \(2^{10}\), OPL cluster
Parallel SGCT has considerable complexity!

NuMRF, a MapReduce variant: numerical-analysis-friendly, error/fault aware calling framework

Implementation of NuMRF’s data model (PyGrAFT) is well underway, with encouraging preliminary results
  - SGCT has considerably less overhead than in-memory local or global checkpointing

A robust parallel SGCT has been built
  - Scaling is reasonable: depends on frequency of grid recombination and \# cores

Careful management of software complexity has been an essential part in the design of the framework.
Future work

- Fault-Tolerant GENE gyro-kinetic plasma application
  - Using $L = 4$ 3-D SGCT on $x \times ky \times z = 1024 \times 512 \times 32$ grid
  - Robust to process failure using ULFT on MPI 3.1

- Develop Infrastructure to deal with node failures.

- Completion of PyGrAFT: Parallelization, $M \times N$ services, interpolation services, and sparse grid representation
  - Integration of parallel SGCT C++ codes
  - Bandwidth-reducing optimization using hierarchical basis sub-grids

- Major follow-up project: soft error detection and avoidance
  - Based on wavelet analysis on SG hierarchical basis grids
  - Advantage: general technique, oblivious of details of simulation
  - Limitation: MTF must be $> \text{period of check} + \text{partial SGCT}$
THANK YOU!

QUESTIONS?