

Composability and Data Partitioning in High Performance Computing

Master Internship 2025

Keywords: High Performance Computing, Parallel languages, Data Partitioning, Composability.

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Context

Numerical simulation is a key technology for many application domains. Thanks to the democratization of high performance computers (HPC), complex physics and more generally complex systems can now be simulated routinely. Numerical simulation is considered as the third pillar of sciences (with experiment and theory).

While the machines are very powerful, their programming models face several challenges to easily and efficiently exploit the available computing resources. A particular challenge is to ease code composability to improve separation of concerns and code reuse. Code composability appears also more and more required to handle the complexity of hardware and software.

Though composable code is an old dream [4] that is very common in sequential and distributed computing [7], it is an open issue for parallel computing. Several previous works such as CCA [1], L2C [3], Comet [6] have shown that it is achievable on specific parallel patterns. In particular Comet transforms a data-partitioned data flow into a task-based code that is able to submit StarPU [2], OpenMP or MPC [5] tasks.

Internship Objectives

This internship is part of the PEPR NumPEX Exa-soft project that in particular aims at improving parallel code composability.

The objective of this internship is to study how to improve partitioned data management to easily be able to add application specific efficient data partitioning support. Currently, on one hand, advanced task runtime engines like StarPU need to understand the structure of partitioned data to efficiently move it from CPU to GPU/accelerator memory. On the other hand, higher level programming environments like Comet [6] needs also to understand it to be able to generate adequate StarPU code.

After an analysis of the situation, the goal is to design and evaluate a proof of concept on a synthetic benchmark based on Comet and StarPU.

The internship will require good parallel algorithmic skills (data partitionning) as well a taste for modeling (meta-models) and programming (Python/C++/C and task-based/StartPU programming).

Comments

The internship will be located at the LIP, ENS Lyon. This internship could lead to a PhD.

References

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