Collective Communication: Theory and Practice

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Outline

Part I: Theory

- Model of parallel computation
- Collective communications
- A building block approach to library implementation

Part II: Practice

- Implementation on the Paragon
- Performance results

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Model of Parallel Computation

- *p* nodes
- physical two dimensional mesh
 - r rows, c columns
 - nodes have physical indices (*i*,*j*)
- often logically viewed as a linear array
 - indexed 0, ... , *p*-1
 - nodes are numbered in row-major order



- physical two dimensional mesh
 - r rows, c columns
 - nodes have physical indices (*i*,*j*)

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11

- often logically viewed as a linear array
 - indexed 0, ... , *p*-1
 - nodes are numbered in row-major order

• often logically viewed as a linear array - indexed 0, ..., p-1

The Cost of Communication

- send a message of length *n* over *d* links
- packetize the message
- Example: *d*=6

































The Cost of Communication

- send a message of length *n* over *d* links
- k packets
- Cost:

The Cost of Communication

- send a message of length *n* over *d* links
- k packets

• Cost:

$$\alpha + d\left(\alpha_{net} + \frac{n}{k}\beta\right) + (k-1)\left(\alpha_{net} + \frac{n}{k}\beta\right)$$

$$=$$

$$\alpha + n\beta + (d+k-1)\alpha_{net} + \frac{d-1}{k}n\beta$$

$$\approx$$

$$\alpha + n\beta$$

• Example revisited ...










































Model of Parallel Computation

- a node can send directly to any other node
- a node can simultaneously receive and send
- cost of communication
 - sending a message of length *n* between any two nodes

- if a message encounters a link that simultaneously accomodates *M* messages, the cost becomes

Model of Parallel Computation

- a node can send directly to any other node
- a node can simultaneously receive and send
- cost of communication
 - sending a message of length *n* between any two nodes

$\alpha + n\beta$

- if a message encounters a link that simultaneously accomodates *M* messages, the cost becomes

$\alpha + Mn\beta$

Interfering messages

• Example: two messages of length *n* which share at least one link














































































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Collective Communications

- Broadcast
- Reduce(-to-one)
- Scatter
- Gather
- Allgather
- Reduce-scatter
- Allreduce

Broadcast



After



Reduce(-to-one)

Before

After





Broadcast/Reduce(-to-one)









Allgather



Reduce-scatter









Allgather/Reduce-scatter



Allreduce

Before

After



Lower bounds (startup)

- Broadcast
 Reduce(-to-one)
 Scatter/Gather
 Allgather
- Reduce-scatter
- Allreduce

 $\lceil log(p) \rceil \alpha$

 $\lceil log(p) \rceil \alpha$

Lower bounds (bandwidth)

- Broadcast
- Reduce(-to-one)
- Scatter/Gather
- Allgather
- Reduce-scatter
- Allreduce

nβ $n\beta + \frac{p-1}{p}n\gamma$ $\frac{p-l}{p}n\beta$ $\frac{p-1}{p}n\beta$ $\frac{p-1}{p}n\beta + \frac{p-1}{p}n\gamma$ $2\frac{p-1}{n\beta} + \frac{p-1}{n\gamma}n\gamma$ p *p*

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A building block approach to library implementation

• Short vector case

• Long vector case

• Hybrid algorithms

Short vector case

Primary concern:

- algorithms must have low latency cost

• Secondary concerns:

- algorithms must work for arbitrary number of nodes
 - » in particular, not just for power-of-two numbers of nodes
- algorithms should avoid network conflicts
 - » not absolutely necessary, but nice if possible

Minimum spanning tree based algorithms

- We will show how the following building blocks:
 - broadcast/combine-to-one
 - scatter/gather

can be implemented using minimum spanning trees embedded in the logical linear array while attaining

- minimal latency
- implementation for arbitrary numbers of nodes
- no network conflicts


• message starts on one processor



• divide logical linear array in half



• send message to the half of the network that does not contain the current node (root) that holds the message



• send message to the half of the network that does not contain the current node (root) that holds the message



• continue recursively in each of the two halves

Broadcast



After















Let us view this more closely

 Red arrows indicate startup of communication (leading to latency, α)

 Green arrows indicate packets in transit (leading to a bandwidth related cost proportional to β and the length of the packet)




















































































Cost of minimum spanning tree broadcast



number of steps

cost per steps

Cost of minimum spanning tree broadcast



number of steps

cost per steps

Notice: attains lower bound for latency component

MSTBCAST(x, root, left, right)

```
if left = right return

mid = \lfloor (left + right)/2 \rfloor

if root \leq mid then dest = right else dest = left
```

```
if me == root SEND(x, dest)
if me == dest RECV(x, root)
```

```
if me ≤ mid and root ≤ mid
	MSTBCAST( x, root, left, mid )
else if me ≤ mid and root > mid
	MSTBCAST( x, dest, left, mid )
else if me > mid and root ≤ mid
	MSTBCAST( x, dest, mid+1, right )
else if me > mid and root > mid
	MSTBCAST( x, root, mid+1, right )
```

dest root me left right mid **169**





Reduce(-to-one)

Before

After























Cost of minimum spanning tree reduce(-to-one)

 $\lceil log(p) \rceil (\alpha + n\beta + n\gamma)$

number of steps

cost per steps
Cost of minimum spanning tree reduce(-to-one)

 $\lceil log(p) \rceil (\alpha + n\beta + n\gamma)$ number of steps cost per steps

Notice: attains lower bound for latency component

MSTREDUCE(x, root, left, right)

```
if left = right return
mid = |(left + right)/2|
if root \leq mid then srce = right else srce = left
if me \leq mid and root \leq mid
   MSTREDUCE( x, root, left, mid )
else if me \leq mid and root > mid
   MSTREDUCE( x, srce, left, mid )
else if me > mid and root \leq mid
   MSTREDUCE( x, srce, mid+1, right )
else if me > mid and root > mid
    MSTREDUCE( x, root, mid+1, right )
```

if me == srce SEND(x, root)184 if me == root RECV(tmp, srce) and <math>x = x + tmp





























l

Cost of minimum spanning tree scatter

• Assumption: power of two number of nodes

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\log(p)} \left(\alpha + \frac{n}{2^k} \beta \right)$$

$$= \log(p) \quad \alpha + \frac{p-1}{p} n\beta$$

Cost of minimum spanning tree scatter

• Assumption: power of two number of nodes

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\log(p)} \left(\alpha + \frac{n}{2^k} \beta \right)$$

$$= \log(p) \quad \alpha + \frac{p-1}{p} n\beta$$

Notice: attains lower bound for latency and bandwidth components



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Cost of minimum spanning tree gather

• Assumption: power of two number of nodes

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\log(p)} \left(\alpha + \frac{n}{2^k} \beta \right)$$

$$= \log(p) \quad \alpha + \frac{p-1}{p} n\beta$$

Cost of minimum spanning tree gather

• Assumption: power of two number of nodes

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\log(p)} \left(\alpha + \frac{n}{2^k} \beta \right)$$

$$= \log(p) \quad \alpha + \frac{p-1}{p} n\beta$$

Notice: attains lower bound for latency and bandwidth components
Using the building blocks

Allgather (short vector)



Allgather (short vector)



Allgather (short vector)



Cost of gather/broadcast allgather

• Assumption: power of two number of nodes

gather

broadcast

$$log(p)\alpha + \frac{p-1}{p}n\beta$$
$$log(p)(\alpha + n\beta)$$
$$2log(p)\alpha + \left(\frac{p-1}{p} + log(p)\right)n\beta$$

Cost of gather/broadcast allgather

• Assumption: power of two number of nodes

gather

2

broadcast

$$\frac{\log(p)\alpha + \frac{p-1}{p}n\beta}{\log(p)(\alpha + n\beta)}$$
$$\frac{\log(p)\alpha + \left(\frac{p-1}{p} + \log(p)\right)n\beta}{p}$$

1

Notice: does not attain lower bound for latency or bandwidth components

Reduce-scatter (short vector)



Reduce-scatter (short vector)



Reduce-scatter (short vector)



Cost of Reduce(-to-one)/scatter Reduce-scatter

• Assumption: power of two number of nodes

Reduce(-to-one)
$$log(p)(\alpha + n\beta + n\gamma)$$

scatter $log(p)\alpha + \frac{p-1}{p}n\beta$
 $2log(p)\alpha + \left(\frac{p-1}{p} + log(p)\right)n\beta + log(p)n\gamma$

Cost of Reduce(-to-one)/scatter reduce-scatter

• Assumption: power of two number of nodes

Reduce(-to-one)
$$log(p)(\alpha + n\beta + n\gamma)$$

scatter $log(p)\alpha + \frac{p-1}{p}n\beta$
 $2log(p)\alpha + \left(\frac{p-1}{p} + log(p)\right)n\beta + log(p)n\gamma$

Notice: does not attain lower bound for latency or bandwidth components

Allreduce (short vector)



Allreduce (short vector)



Allreduce (short vector)



Cost of reduce(-to-one)/broadcast Allreduce

Assumption: power of two number of nodes

Reduce(-to-one) $log(p)(\alpha + n\beta + n\gamma)$ broadcast $log(p)(\alpha + n\beta)$ $2log(p)\alpha + 2log(p)n\beta + log(p)n\gamma$

Cost of reduce(-to-one)/broadcast Allreduce

Assumption: power of two number of nodes

Reduce(-to-one) $log(p)(\alpha + n\beta + n\gamma)$ broadcast $log(p)(\alpha + n\beta)$ $2log(p)\alpha + 2log(p)n\beta + log(p)n\gamma$

Notice: does not attain lower bound for latency or bandwidth components



Reduce(-to-one)

 $log(p)(\alpha+n\beta+n\gamma)$

Scatter $log(p)\alpha + \frac{p-l}{p}n\beta$

Gather $log(p)\alpha + \frac{p-l}{p}n\beta$

Broadcast $log(p)(\alpha + n\beta)$



Allreduce

Allgather



Recap

Reduce(-to-one)

 $log(p)(\alpha+n\beta+n\gamma)$

Scatter $log(p)\alpha + \frac{p-l}{p}n\beta$

Gather $log(p)\alpha + \frac{p-l}{p}n\beta$

Broadcast $log(p)(\alpha + n\beta)$

Reduce-scatter $2log(p)\alpha + log(p)n(\beta + \gamma) + \frac{p-l}{p}n\beta$

> **Allreduce** $2log(p)\alpha + log(p)n(2\beta + \gamma)$

Allgather $2log(p)\alpha + log(p)n\beta + \frac{p-l}{p}n\beta$





A building block approach to library implementation

• Short vector case

Long vector case

• Hybrid algorithms

Long vector case

• Primary concern:

- algorithms must have low cost due to vector length
- algorithms must avoid network conflicts

• Secondary concerns:

- algorithms must work for arbitrary number of nodes
 - » in particular, not just for power-of-two numbers of nodes

Long vector building blocks

- We will show how the following building blocks:
 - collect/distributed combine
 - scatter/gather

can be implemented using "bucket" algorithms while attaining

- minimal cost due to length of vectors
- implementation for arbitrary numbers of nodes
- no network conflicts
- NOTICE: scatter and gather already satisfy these conditions

General principles

- A logical ring can be embedded in a physical linear array with worm-hole routing, since the "wrap-around" message doesn't conflict
 - This is used to "drop off" messages or to "pick up" contributions



• A logical ring can be embedded in a physical linear array with worm-hole routing, since the "wrap-around" message doesn't conflict







General principles

- Can be used to implement the following building blocks:
 - collect
 - distributed combine
 - using a bucket algorithm embedded in the physical linear array while attaining
 - minimal cost due to vector length
 - implementation for arbitrary numbers of nodes
 - no network conflicts

Allgather




































Cost of bucket Allgather

number of steps

$$(p-1)\left(\alpha + \frac{n}{p}\beta\right) = cost per steps$$

$$(p-1)\alpha + \frac{p-1}{p}n\beta$$

Cost of bucket Allgather



Notice: attains lower bound for bandwidth component

Reduce-scatter











































Cost of bucket distributed combine

$$(p-1)\left(\alpha+\frac{n}{p}\beta+\frac{n}{p}\beta\right) =$$

number of steps

$$(p-1)\alpha + \frac{p-1}{p}n\beta + \frac{p-1}{p}n\gamma$$

cost per steps
Cost of bucket Reduce-scatter

$$(p-1)\left(\alpha + \frac{n}{p}\beta + \frac{n}{p}\gamma\right) =$$

number of steps

$$(p-1)\alpha + \frac{p-1}{p}n\beta + \frac{p-1}{p}n\gamma$$

cost per steps

Notice: attains lower bound for bandwidth and computation component

Scatter

Notice: Scatter as implemented before was optimal in **latency** and bandwidth components

Before

After



Gather

Notice: Gather as implemented before was optimal in **latency** and bandwidth components

Before

After



Using the building blocks

Broadcast (long vector)



Broadcast (long vector)



Broadcast (long vector)



Cost of scatter/allgather broadcast

• Assumption: power of two number of nodes catter
gather $\begin{pmatrix} log(p)\alpha + \frac{p-1}{p}n\beta \\ (p-1)\alpha + \frac{p-1}{p}n\beta \\ (log(p) + p - 1)\alpha + 2\frac{p-1}{p}n\beta
\end{pmatrix}$

Cost of scatter/allgather broadcast

• Assumption: power of two number of nodes log(p) $\alpha + \frac{p-1}{p}n\beta$ (p-1) $\alpha + \frac{p-1}{p}n\beta$

$$\frac{p}{(\log(p) + p - 1)\alpha + 2\frac{p - 1}{p}n\beta}$$

Notice: attains within a factor of two of the lower bound for bandwidth

Reduce(-to-one) (long vector)



Combine-to-one (long vector)



Combine-to-one (long vector)



Cost of Reduce-scatter/Gather Reduce(-to-one)

• Assumption: power of two number of nodes Reduce-scatter $(p-1)\alpha + \frac{p-1}{p}n\beta + \frac{p-1}{p}n\gamma$ gather $log(p)\alpha + \frac{p-1}{p}n\beta$ $(log(p) + p - 1)\alpha + 2\frac{p-1}{p}n\beta + \frac{p-1}{p}n\gamma$

Cost of Reduce-scatter/Gather Reduce(-to-one)

• Assumption: power of two number of nodes Reduce-scatter $(p-1)\alpha + \frac{p-1}{p}n\beta + \frac{p-1}{p}n\gamma$ gather $log(p)\alpha + \frac{p-1}{p}n\beta$ $(log(p) + p - 1)\alpha + 2\frac{p-1}{p}n\beta + \frac{p-1}{p}n\gamma$

> Notice: attains within a factor of two of the lower bound for bandwidth and attains lower bound for computation

Allreduce (long vector)



Allreduce (long vector)



Allreduce (long vector)



Cost of Reduce-scatter/Allgather Allreduce

• Assumption: power of two number of nodes Reduce-scatter $(p-1)\alpha + \frac{p-1}{p}n\beta + \frac{p-1}{p}n\gamma$ Allgather $(p-1)\alpha + \frac{p-1}{p}n\beta$ $\frac{p-1}{2(p-1)\alpha + 2\frac{p-1}{p}n\beta + \frac{p-1}{p}n\gamma}$

Cost of Reduce-scatter/Allgather Allreduce

• Assumption: power of two number of nodes Reduce-scatter $(p-1)\alpha + \frac{p-1}{p}n\beta + \frac{p-1}{p}n\gamma$ Allgather $(p-1)\alpha + \frac{p-1}{p}n\beta$ $\frac{p-1}{2(p-1)\alpha + 2\frac{p-1}{p}n\beta + \frac{p-1}{p}n\gamma}$

Notice: attains the lower bound for bandwidth and computation

Recap

Reduce-scatter $(p-l)\alpha + \frac{p-l}{p}n(\beta + \gamma)$

Scatter $log(p)\alpha + \frac{p-l}{p}n\beta$

Gather $log(p)\alpha + \frac{p-l}{p}n\beta$

Allgather
$$(p-1)\alpha + \frac{p-1}{p}n\beta$$



Allreduce

Broadcast









Advanced Techniques: Taking advantage of higher dimensions

Physical 2D meshes

- Simple solution: embed logical linear array
 problem: large p implies high latency for bucket algorithms
- Advanced solution: perform operation in each dimension
 - collect:
 - collect within rows, followed by collect within columns
 - distributed combine:
 - same, in reverse

Example: 2D Allgather



Example: 2D Allgather





Example: 2D Collect







Allgather in columns

Cost of 2D Allgather

row Allgather
$$(c-1)\alpha + (c-1)\frac{n}{p}\beta$$

column Allgather $(r-1)\alpha + (r-1)\frac{c}{p}n\beta$
 $(r+c-2)\alpha + \frac{p-1}{p}n\beta$

bandwidth term is unaffected

latency term is 320 reduced

Example: 2D Scatter/Allgather Broadcast



Example: 2D Scatter/Allgather Broadcast



Example: 2D Scatter/ Allgather Broadcast



Example: 2D Scatter/ Allgather Broadcast





Example: 2D Scatter/Collect Broadcast







Allgather in columns

Cost of 2D scatter/Allgather broadcast

 $(log(p) + r + c - 2)\alpha + 2\frac{p-1}{n\beta}$ p
A building block approach to library implementation

• Short vector case

• Long vector case

Hybrid algorithms

Hybrid algorithms (intermediate length case)

• algorithms must balance latency, cost due to vector length, and network conflicts

Example

• We will illustrate the techniques using the broadcast as an example

- short vector: minimum spanning tree broadcast





- Option 1:
 - MST broadcast in column
 - MST broadcast in rows



- Option 1:
 - MST broadcast in column
 - MST broadcast in rows



- Option 2:
 - Scatter in column
 - MST broadcast in rows
 - Allgather in columns



- Option 2:
 - Scatter in column
 - MST broadcast in rows
 - Allgather in columns



- Option 2:
 - Scatter in column
 - MST broadcast in rows
 - Allgather in columns



- Option 3:
 - Scatter in column
 - Scatter in rows
 - Allgather in rows
 - Allgather in columns



- Option 3:
 - Scatter in column
 - Scatter in rows
 - Allgather in rows
 - Allgather in columns



- Option 3:
 - Scatter in column
 - Scatter in rows
 - Allgather in rows
 - Allgather in columns



- Option 3:
 - Scatter in column
 - Scatter in rows
 - Allgather in rows
 - Allgather in columns

• Option 1:

- MST broadcast in column
- MST broadcast in rows
- Option 2:
 - Scatter in column
 - MST broadcast in rows
 - Allgather in columns
- Option 3:
 - Scatter in column
 - Scatter in rows
 - Allgather in rows
 - Allgather in columns

 $\frac{\log(c)\alpha + \log(c)n\beta}{\log(r)\alpha + \log(r)n\beta}$ $\frac{\log(p)\alpha + \log(p)n\beta}{\log(p)n\beta}$

• Option 1:

- MST broadcast in column
- MST broadcast in rows

• Option 2:

- Scatter in column
- MST broadcast in rows
- Allgather in columns
- Option 3:
 - Scatter in column
 - Scatter in rows
 - Allgather in rows
 - Allgather in columns

$$log(c)\alpha + \frac{c-1}{c}n\beta$$
$$log(r)\alpha + log(r)\frac{n}{c}\beta$$
$$(c-1)\alpha + \frac{c-1}{c}n\beta$$
$$(log(p) + c - 1)\alpha + \left(2\frac{c-1+log(r)}{c}\right)n\beta$$

• Option 1:

- MST broadcast in column
- MST broadcast in rows
- Option 2:
 - Scatter in column
 - MST broadcast in rows
 - Allgather in columns
- Option 3:
 - Scatter in column
 - Scatter in rows
 - Allgather in rows
 - Allgather in columns

 $log(c)\alpha + \frac{c-1}{c}n\beta$ $log(r)\alpha + \frac{r-1}{r}\frac{n}{c}\beta$ $(r-1)\alpha + \frac{r-1}{r}\frac{n}{c}\beta$ $(c-1)\alpha + \frac{c-1}{c}n\beta$ $(log(p) + r + c - 2)\alpha + 2\frac{p-1}{p}n\beta$

• Option 1:

- MST broadcast in column
- MST broadcast in rows
- Option 2:
 - Scatter in column
 - MST broadcast in rows
 - Allgather in columns
- Option 3:
 - Scatter in column
 - Scatter in rows
 - Allgather in rows
 - Allgather in columns

$$log(p)\alpha + log(p)n\beta$$

$$(log(p) + c - 1)\alpha + \left(2\frac{c - 1 + log(r)}{c}\right)n\beta$$

$$(log(p) + r + c - 2)\alpha + 2\frac{p - l}{p}n\beta$$

Higher dimensions

- This technique can be extended by viewing one- and two-dimensional meshes logically as higher dimensions
 - reduces latency
 - incurs network conflicts
 - can be used to create faster short vector implementations

Details require more time that is available today

Other techniques

Pipelined algorithms

- can be used to further reduce the cost of broadcast and combine-to-one for long vectors
- very effective on hypercubes
 - » (Ho and Johnsson)
- effective on meshes with low latency
 - » (Watts and van de Geijn)
- complicated to implement, analyze and explain

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Theory is nice, but how does it work in practice?

Paragon does not match our model

- Bad news:
 - » sending and receiving more complex then the model indicates
 - » forced messages vs. unforced messages
 - » preposted messages vs. nonpreposted messages
 - » etc.
- Good news:
 - » excess bandwidth in the network

Interprocessor Collective Communication (InterCom) Project

Implementation on the Paragon

- Short vector building blocks
 - reduce latency by *not* preposting and synchronizing
- Long vector building blocks
 - improve bandwidth by preposting and synchronizing
- Incorporate more complex issues into model
 - various startups, bandwidths, depending on situation

Use simple heuristic to choose hybrid strategy

- because of excess bandwidth, the mesh acts more like a hypercube, for which some solid theory exists
 - » (van de Geijn)
- details go beyond this tutorial.

Performance

Performance comparison

- NX collective communication
- Message Passing Interface (MPI)
 - Reference implementation from ANL and MSU
 - Bill Gropp, Rusty Lusk, and Tony Skjellum
- Basic Linear Algebra Communication Subprograms (BLACS)
 - Communication library of ScaLAPACK
 - Reference implementation from the Univ. of TN
 - Jack Dongarra and Clint Whaley
- Interprocessor Collective Communication (iCC) Library

- High performance implementation by the InterCom team




















This PowerPoint presentation may be copied for nonprofit educational purposes. Credit should be given to the InterCom project.

For information, contact rvdg@cs.utexas.edu

CollMark: Collective Communicaton Benchmark

A look at the current state-of-the-art (spring 2000)

How to measure the quality of an implementation

• Architecture independent measure of the quality of the implementation:

$$\frac{T_{comm}(n,p)}{T_{p2p}(n)}$$

• Ideally:

$$\frac{T_{comm}(n,p)}{T_{p2p}(n)} \xrightarrow[n \to \infty]{} 1 \quad or \quad 2$$

