Model-Driven Approach for Supporting the Mapping of Parallel Algorithms to Parallel Computing Platforms

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Abstract. The trend from single processor to parallel computer architectures has increased the importance of parallel computing. To support parallel computing it is important to map parallel algorithms to a computing platform that consists of multiple parallel processing nodes. In general different alternative mappings can be defined that perform differently with respect to the quality requirements for power consumption, efficiency and memory usage. The mapping process can be carried out manually for platforms with a limited number of processing nodes. However, for exascale computing in which hundreds of thousands of processing nodes are applied, the mapping process soon becomes intractable. To assist the parallel computing engineer we provide a model-driven approach to analyze, model, and select feasible mappings. We describe the developed toolset that implements the corresponding approach together with the required metamodels and model transformations. We illustrate our approach for the well-known complete exchange algorithm in parallel computing.

Keywords: Model Driven Software Development, Parallel Computing, High Performance Computing, Domain Specific Language, Tool Support.

1 Introduction

The famous Moore's law states that the number of transistors on integrated circuits and likewise the performance of processors doubles approximately every eighteen months [1]. Since the introduction of the law in 1965, the law seems to have quite accurately described and predicted the developments of the processing power of components in the semiconductor industry [2]. Although Moore's law is still in effect, currently it is recognized that increasing the processing power of a single processor has reached the physical limitations [3]. Hence, to increase the performance the current trend is towards applying parallel computing on multiple nodes. Here, unlike *serial computing* in which instructions are executed serially, multiple processing elements are used to execute the program instructions simultaneously.

To benefit from the parallel computing power usually parallel algorithms are defined that can be executed simultaneously on multiple nodes. As such, increasing the processing nodes will increase the performance of the parallel programs [4][5][6]. An important challenge in this context is the mapping of parallel algorithms on a computing platform that consists of multiple parallel processing nodes. In general a parallel algorithm can be mapped in different alternative ways to the processing nodes. Further, each mapping alternative will perform differently with respect to the quality requirements for speedup, efficiency and memory usage that are important in parallel computing [7]. The mapping process can be carried out manually for platforms with a limited number of processing nodes. However, over the last decade the number of processing nodes has increased dramatically to tens and hundreds of thousands of nodes providing processing performance from petascale to exascale levels [8]. As a consequence selecting a feasible mapping of parallel algorithm to computing platforms has become intractable for the human parallel computing engineer. Once the feasible mapping is selected the parallel algorithm needs to be transformed to the target parallel computing platform such as MPI, OpenMP, MPL, and CILK [15]. Due to the complexity and size of the parallel computing platform usually it is not easy to implement the algorithm manually on these platforms based on the selected mapping. Moreover, in case of requirements for changing the implementation platform porting the system to a new platform will be cumbersome.

In this paper we provide a model-driven approach to analyze, model, and select feasible mappings of parallel algorithms to a parallel computing platform. In the approach we provide the steps for defining models of the computing platform and the parallel algorithm. Based on the analysis of the algorithm and the computing platform feasible mappings are generated. The approach is supported by a corresponding toolset that builds on a predefined metamodel. Using model-to-model and model-to-text transformations we provide a solution to the code generation and portability problems. We provide an evaluation of our approach for the well-known complete exchange algorithm in parallel computing. The evaluation considers both the time to generate the alternative mappings, and the feasibility of the generated alternative on a real computing platform with respect to speedup and efficiency performance quality attributes.

The remainder of the paper is organized as follows. In section 2, we describe the problem statement. Section 3 presents the metamodel which is used by the approach that is described in section 4. Section 5 presents the tool that implements the approach. In section 6 we describe the evaluation of the approach. Section 7 presents the related work and finally we conclude the paper in section 8.

2 Problem Statement

In this section we will describe the problem statement in more detail by considering the mapping of the complete exchange parallel algorithm to a parallel computing platform. Fig. 1 shows the complete exchange algorithm which purpose is to collect all data from all nodes and to distribute data to all nodes [9][10][11]. This algorithm is a commonly used parallel algorithm that is often used as part of a bigger parallel algorithm. For instance, in simulation of molecular dynamics, the data of all particles are exchanged with each other to calculate some values like affinity between molecules. The complete exchange algorithm refers to nodes of a computing platform on which

the algorithm will run. Hereby, some nodes are selected as *dominating nodes* [12] that collect data, exchange data with each other and distribute the data to the other nodes.

```
Procedure Complete-Exchange:
For i=1 to n-1
  Collect data to the dominating nodes from the dominated nodes
Endfor
For i=n-1 downto 1
  Exchange the selected data between dominating nodes
  Distribute data from dominating nodes to the dominated nodes
Endfor
```



The algorithm is mapped to a computation platform that is defined as a *configura*tion of nodes. We distinguish among the physical configuration and logical configuration. The physical configuration defines the actual physical configuration of the system with the physical communication links among the processing units. We assume a distributed memory model in which each node has its own memory unit. The *logical configuration* is a view of the physical configuration that defines the logical communication structure among the physical nodes. Typically, for the same physical configuration we can have many different logical configurations. An example of a physical configuration and its logical configurations is shown in Fig. 2.

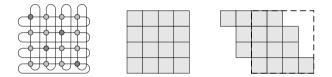


Fig. 2. Physical configuration of a topology (left) with two different logical configurations (middle and right)

Given a parallel algorithm like the complete exchange algorithm, it is important to define a feasible mapping of the algorithm steps to the logical configuration. The feasibility of a mapping is defined by the extent to which it supports the performance quality attributes of speedup with respect to serial computing and efficiency [7]. Speedup S_p is defined by the following formula:

$$S_p = \frac{T_s}{T_p}$$
(1)
where Ts is the execution time of the serial algorithm.

Tp is the execution time of the parallel algorithm with p processors.

v

Efficiency metric defines how well the processors are utilized in executing the algorithm. The formula for Efficiency Ep is as follows:

$$E_p = \frac{S_p}{p}$$
(2)

where Sp is the speed up as defined in equation (1) above and p is the number of processors. To measure speedup and efficiency the following metrics are applied:

- *Number of Cores Used-* the number of cores that are used in the computing platform for executing the algorithm.
- *Port Count Used* the total number of ports of all cores that are used in the communication among the cores.
- *Communication Length* the total number of communication links among cores that are needed to realize the execution of the algorithm.

To define a feasible mapping of the parallel algorithm to the computing platform the values for the above metrics should be minimized as much as possible to increase speedup and efficiency [7][13][14].

We can now refer to these metrics to discuss the feasibility of the mapping of the algorithm to the computing platform. Fig. 3 shows, for example, three different alternative logical configurations of the computing platform to execute the complete exchange algorithm. Each given logical configuration consists of 12x12 cores and represents actually a mapping alternative. The realization of the configurations will differ with respect to the assignment of dominating nodes, the number of cores used, the port count used and the communication length. Hence each logical configuration of the computing platform will result in a different speedup and efficiency. Similar to the example logical configurations in Fig. 3 we can identify many other different logical configurations. Selecting the optimal logical configuration with respect to speedup and efficiency is an important challenge for the parallel computing engineer. For smaller computing platforms with a limited number of cores the generation and selection of feasible alternative could be done to some extent. However, for larger multicore platform with thousand or tens of thousands of nodes this process becomes intractable.

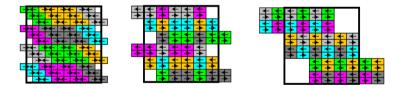


Fig. 3. Three alternative mapping of complete-exchange algorithm

Here we focus on two important and related problems. First of all, for a given parallel algorithm and physical configuration we need to define and generate the possible logical configurations and accordingly the mapping alternatives. Secondly, once a feasible mapping alternative is selected the required code for the parallel computing platform needs to be provided to realize the parallel algorithm. Due to the complexity and size of the mapping problem it is not easy to implement the parallel algorithm manually on the parallel computing platforms. Moreover, in case the implementation platform requires changing, porting the system to a new platform will be cumbersome and require considerable time [15]. Obviously, a systematic approach that is supported by tools is necessary to analyze the parallel algorithm, model the logical configuration, select feasible mapping alternatives and generate the code for the computing platform.

3 Approach

Fig. 4 shows the approach for supporting the mapping of a parallel algorithm for a parallel computing platform, and the generation of the code for the parallel computing platform. The approach consists of two basic sub-processes, *library definition* and parallel algorithm mapping and model transformations. The main purpose of the *library definition* sub-process is to define reusable assets including primitive tiles, communication patterns and operation definitions, which will be explained in subsequent sections. The activities of the library definition process include Define Logical Configuration, Define Communication Patterns and Define Operations. The created reusable assets are stored in the Parallel Algorithm Mapping Library (PAML). The parallel algorithm mapping and model transformations sub-process consists of the activities Analyze Algorithm, Select Logical Configuration Size, Generate Alternative Models, Select Feasible Model, and Model Transformation. This sub-process reuses the PAML assets to analyze the parallel algorithm and generate the alternative mapping models. The metrics for speedup and efficiency are calculated for each model and a feasible model is selected to be used on transformation and generation of artifacts. In the following subsections we will describe the metamodel and each step of the approach.

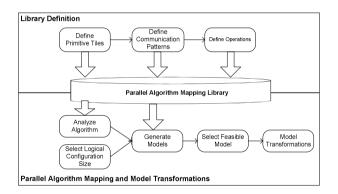


Fig. 4. Approach for mapping of parallel algorithm to parallel computing platforms

3.1 Metamodel

Fig. 5 shows the abstract syntax of the metamodel that is used by the approach in Fig. 4. The metamodel integrates the concepts for parallel algorithms (upper part of figure) with the concepts of parallel computing platforms (lower part of figure). In the metamodel, *Algorithm* includes one or more *Sections*. *Section* can be either *Serial Section* or *Parallel Section* and can be composed of other sections. Each section maps to one *Operation*. *Logical Configuration* defines the configuration that we have defined in section 2, and is composed of a number of *Tiles*. *Tile* can be either a (single) *Core*, or *Pattern* that represents a composition of tiles. Patterns are shaped by the operations of the sections in the algorithm. *Pattern* includes also the communication links among the cores.

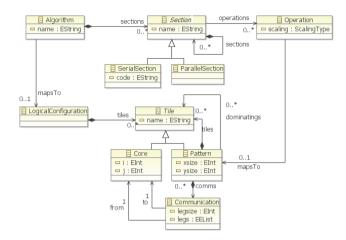


Fig. 5. Abstract Syntax of the Parallel Algorithm Mapping Metamodel (PAMM)

3.2 Define Primitive Tiles

As shown in Fig. 4, the first step of the definition of the library is the definition of primitive tiles. As stated before, we distinguish among the *physical configuration* and *logical configuration* of the topology. For very large topologies including a large number of cores, as in the case of exascale computing, the logical topology cannot be drawn on the same scale. Instead, for representing the topology in a more succinct way the topology can be defined as a regular pattern that can be built using *tiles*. Tiles as such can be considered as the basic building blocks of the logical configuration. The tile notation is used for addressing group of processing elements that form a neighborhood region on which processes and communication links are mapped. The smallest part of a tile is a *processing element* (core).

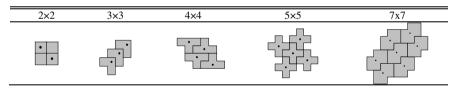


Fig. 6. Primitive tiling examples

Tiles can be used to construct the logical configuration using *scaling* that can be defined as the composition of the larger structure from the smaller tiles. In general we can distinguish among different primitive tiles which can be constructed in different ways. The selected tiling configuration will be dependent on the required communication patterns of the algorithm that will be explained in the next sub-section. Examples of primitive tiles are shown in Fig. 6 [16][17][9].

3.3 Define Communication Patterns

Each primitive tile defines the structure among the nodes but initially does not describe the dynamic behavior among these nodes. Hence, after defining the primitive tiles, we need to define the dynamic behavior among the nodes. This is defined using communication patterns for each tile configuration. A communication pattern includes communication paths that consist of a source node, a target node and a route between the source and target nodes. An example communication pattern is shown in Fig. 7.

Communication Paths	Tile	Communication Pattern		

Fig. 7. Communication patterns constructed with tile and matching communication paths

3.4 Define Operations

To define the mapping of an algorithm to a computing platform we consider an algorithm as consisting of a number of sections that include either parallel or serial code. As shown in the metamodel in Fig. 5 each section is mapped to a primitive operation that represents a reusable abstraction of recurring instructions in parallel algorithms. We can identify for example the following primitive operations: *Scatter* that distributes a set of data to nodes; *Gather* that collects data from nodes; *Reduce* that confines a mapped data. To realize an operation a corresponding communication pattern will be needed in the logical configuration. In general, one operation could be realized using different communication patterns. Fig. 8 shows, for example, some of the possible communication patterns for the *scatter* primitive operation.

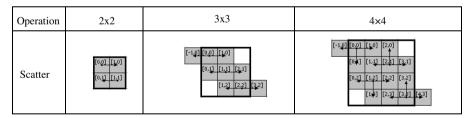


Fig. 8. Example communication patterns on different tiles for selected primitive operations

Each operation will in the end run on the tiles of the logical configuration. To compose the logical configuration using the primitive tiles, the tiles must be scaled to larger dimensions. When the tiles are scaled to a larger size, the operations, in other words the communication patterns assigned to operations, must also be scaled to larger logical configuration. Hereby, the scaling strategy of the operation affects the order of communication patterns when scaling the operations. Scaling strategy is the order of communication pattern generation for operation as bottom up or top down.

3.5 Analyze Algorithm

In the previous steps we composed our reusable library with the primitive tiles, communication patterns and operation. Hereby, to support the mapping of the algorithm to parallel computing platform, first we need to analyze the parallel algorithm. In this paper, the complete-exchange algorithm is selected for demonstrating the approach. Since the inherent complexity of the algorithm is relatively high for large input size, providing parallel implementations of these algorithms is usually considered to be important.

First of all we identify the separate sections of the algorithm. This is typically defined by considering separate code blocks which form a coherent set of steps to perform a computation. For example in Fig. 9 we have identified three separate sections for the complete exchange algorithm. The first section defines the transfer process of the data from the dominated nodes to the dominating nodes. The second section defines the exchange of the selected messages between the dominating nodes. Finally the third section defines the distribution of the data from dominating nodes to the dominated nodes. Note that the second and third sections belong to the same for loop, but they have been distinguished as separate sections since they form two separate coherent set of steps.

NO	PAR/SER	Algorithm Section				
1	PAR	Procedure Complete-Exchange:				
		For $i=1$ to $n-1$				
		Collect data to the dominating nodes from the domi-				
		nated nodes				
		Endfor				
2	PAR	For i=n-1 downto 1				
		Exchange the selected data between dominating nodes				
3	PAR	Distribute data from dominating nodes to the dominat-				
		ed nodes				
		Endfor				

Fig. 9. Sections of Complete Exchange Algorithm

The second step of the analysis includes the characterization of the serial (SER) and parallel sections (PAR) of the algorithm. A serial section is a part of the algorithm that will run on a single node, for instance an arithmetic operation. Typically a serial section is identified with a serial code block. A parallel section is the part of the algorithm to coordinate data with communications to be processed on different nodes. The decision of the section types of an algorithm is carried out manually by the parallel programming engineer. This is because the automatic analysis of the parallel algorithms is not trivial and no tool support has been provided for this yet. Moreover, the manual approach enables the parallel programming engineer to support different selection decisions, if this is possible with respect to the properties of the analyzed algorithm.

3.6 Select Logical Configuration Size

The selected algorithm will run on a number of processors that together form the logical configuration. The logical configuration size states the number of processors and determines which primitive tiles and communication patterns will be selected from the reusable library to construct the logical configuration. The primitive tiles and communication patterns are selected based on the *scale factors* that are calculated using the logical configuration size. The scale factor is the ratio of a logical configuration size to another logical configuration size. For example a 6x6 logical configuration has a scale factor of 3 to a 2x2 logical configuration. Hereby, we can construct a 6x6 logical configuration using a 3x3 logical configuration each node consisting of 2x2 logical configuration.

To calculate all the scale factors of a logical configuration we adopt *prime factorization* [18]. Prime factorization is the decomposition of a composite number into smaller primitive numbers. The primitive tiles with the primitive size numbers can be scaled to larger logical configuration by using prime factors as scale factors. For example if we have a 12x12 torus topology, the prime factors of 12 are 2, 2 and 3. As such, we can use a 3x3, and two 2x2 primitive tiles to construct the entire logical topology.

3.7 Generate Alternative Models

After finding the scale factors of logical configuration and decomposing the algorithm to parallel and serial sections, we can now generate the alternative mapping models. Since we labeled each algorithm section as PAR or SER, we need to select communication patterns assigned to operations from parallel domain library.

For complete-exchange example, gather, scatter and exchange operations are defined for various primitive tiles. Fig. 10 shows the example 2x2 (named as A2) and 3x3 (named as A3) size primitive tiles and patterns.

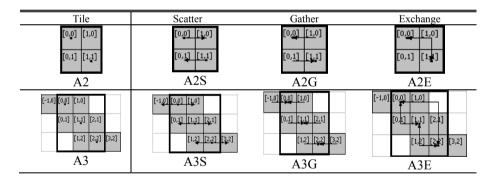


Fig. 10. Complete Exchange Operations

To generate the Parallel Algorithm Mapping Model (PAMMO), the patterns that are assigned to operations are scaled according to scale factors that are found by prime factorization. For example for 12x12 topology, the scale factors are found as 3, 2 and 2. A3S, A2S and A2S patterns are selected from the library to generate scatter operation. After selection of patterns, a sequence of patterns for each scale factor is generated. Fig. 11 shows this generated sequence of scatter operation patterns for 12x12 logical configuration.

The model generation algorithm is given in Fig. 12. Hereby, if the section is serial, than the serial code part is directly gathered to the mapping model. If the section is parallel, the pattern for the operation is generated whether the scaling strategy is UP or DOWN.

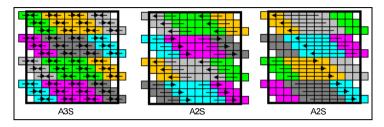


Fig. 11. Scatter operation patterns for a 12x12 topology

```
Procedure GenerateModel (section, size)
if typeof(section) = SER then Add section with code endif
if typeof(section) = PAR then
    Get the operation pattern from PAML
if scaling = UP then create pattern bottom up endif
if scaling = DOWN then create pattern top down endif
    ScalePattern(pattern, size)
endif
for each subsection in section GenerateModel(subsection) endfor
end
```

Fig. 12. Pseudo code for generating models

The algorithm just generates the one possible mapping for the algorithm. To generate all alternative mapping models, all variants of scale factors are found by using permutation. For example for 12x12 topology, scale factors [3,2,2] will have three permutations of [3,2,2], [2,3,2] and [2,2,3].

3.8 Select Feasible Model

After generating the possible mapping alternatives a feasible alternative needs to be selected by the parallel computing engineer. As stated before in section 2, alternatives will be selected based on the performance metric values for the number of cores used, port count used, and communication length. The calculation of the number of cores used is defined by summing all the cores that appear in the communications for executing the algorithm. The calculation of the number of ports is defined by summing the ports of the source and target nodes in the communications. Finally, the communication length is calculated by summing up the paths that occur within the communications for executing the algorithm.

3.9 Model Transformations

The previous steps have focused on analyzing the parallel algorithm and selecting a feasible mapping alternative. Subsequently, the algorithm needs to be implemented on

the computing platform that is represented by the logical configuration. In practice there are several computing platforms to implement the mapping such as, MPI, OpenMP, MPL, and CILK [15]. For different purposes different platforms might need to be selected. For example, if the parallel computing platform is built using distributed memory architecture then the MPI implementation platform needs to be chosen. In case shared memory architecture is used then OpenMP will be typically preferred. Other considerations for choosing the implementation platform can be driven by performance of these platforms.

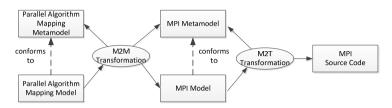


Fig. 13. Example model transformation chain of selected parallel algorithm mapping model in which a MPI implementation platform is chosen

To support the required platform independence requirement we apply the concepts of Model-Driven Architecture [19] in which a distinction is made between platform independent models (PIM), platform specific models (PSM) and code. In our case the PIM is represented by the logical configuration on which the parallel algorithm is mapped. We term this as Parallel Algorithm Mapping Model (PAM). The PSMs can be defined based on the existing parallel computing platforms. In Fig. 13 we show an example transformation chain for mapping the PAM to the MPI Model [20]. The mapping is defined by the M2M Transformation. MPI [20] is a popular and widely used parallel programming framework that adopts language-independent specifications to program parallel computers.

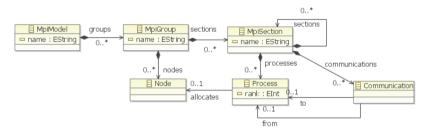


Fig. 14. MPI metamodel

Fig. 14 shows the metamodel for the MPI platform, which is used in the model transformation chain in Fig. 13. A typical MPI model defines the abstract processes and the communications that will run on the nodes, which together realize the parallel algorithm. An MPI model consists of a number of *MPIGroup* objects that define the selection and configuration of physical nodes. *MPIGroup* includes *MPISections*, which are composed of *Processes*. *Process* has *Communication* structures for message passing between the nodes.

From the final MPI model eventually the required code will be generated using M2T transformation techniques [21]. The details about the transformation will be explained in the next section in which we describe the tool that implements the approach.

4 Tool

For supporting the process as defined in the previous sections we have developed the tool ParMapper¹. This tool is a Java based application that can run on any Java Virtual Machine. The conceptual architecture of ParMapper is shown in Fig. 15. ParMapper includes two different types of tools including (1) tools for defining and preparing the configurations and likewise the development of the library, and (2) tools for defining the mapping of an algorithm to a given parallel computing platform using the library. The Library Definition Toolset supports the steps for defining primitive tiles (section 3.2), defining patterns (section 3.3), and defining the corresponding operations (section 3.4). The remaining steps of the process are supported by the Parallel Algorithm Mapping Toolset for analyzing algorithm (section 3.5), selecting the feasible model (section 3.8). The last step of the process, model transformations, (section 3.9) is supported by third party transformation tools like ATL [22] and XPand [23].

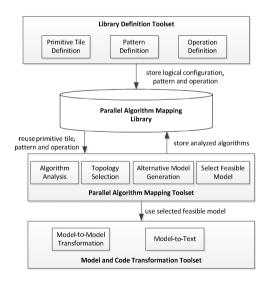


Fig. 15. Conceptual Architecture of the ParMapper Tool

The *Model and Code Transformation Toolset* are implemented in the *Eclipse* Development environment. For M2M and M2T transformations we used ATL and XPand, respectively. Fig. 16 shows part of the transformation rules from PAMM to

¹ The tool can be downloaded from

http://web.cs.hacettepe.edu.tr/~earkin/parmapper/

MPI metamodel. The transformation rules define the mapping of the communication patterns to MPI sections, cores to processes and communications to MPI communications. Fig. 17 shows part of the XPand code templates that we implemented to transform a MPI model to C code. In the first part of the template the MPI initializations and type definitions are provided (not shown). Subsequently, for each section the data initialization and the communication between the processes are defined. Each section is finalized with a barrier command that triggers the next step in the control flow of the parallel algorithm.

rule Algorithm2MpiModel {
from algorithm: ParallelModel!Algorithm
to application: MpiModel!MpiModel (
name<- algorithm.name, groups <- OrderedSet{mpiGroup}),
mpiGroup: MpiModel!MpiGroup (
<pre>name <- algorithm.name,sections<- algorithm.getPatterns())}</pre>
rule Pattern2Section {
from pattern: ParallelModel!Pattern
to section: MpiModel!MpiSection (
<pre>name<- pattern.name, processes <- pattern.getCores(),</pre>
communications <- pattern.getCommunications())}
rule Core2Process {
from core: ParallelModel!Core
to process: MpiModel!Process (
<pre>rank<- core.i.mod(core.getGlobalSize()) * core.getGlobalSize() +</pre>
<pre>core.mod(core.getGlobalSize()), data <- core.data)}</pre>
rule Comm2Comm {
fromp_communication : ParallelModel!Communication
to communication : MpiModel!Communication (
from<- p_communication.from, to <- p_communication.to,
<pre>fromData<- p_communication.fromData,)}</pre>

Fig. 16. Transformation rules from PAMM to MPI metamodel

```
«IMPORT mpi»
. // MPI initializations and type definitions
  «FOREACH groups AS group»
    «FOREACH group.sections AS section»
      «FOREACH section.processes AS process»
       «FOREACH process.data AS data»
         «data.type»* «data.name»;
if(rank == «process.rank») «data.name» = («data.type»*)
                malloc(«data.size»*sizeof(«data.tvpe»));
       «ENDFOREACH»
      «ENDFOREACH»
      «FOREACH section.communications AS comm»
if(rank == «comm.from.rank») {
MPI_Isend(«comm.fromData.name», «comm.fromData.size», MPI_«comm.fromData.type»,
«comm.to.rank», «comm.from.rank», MPI_COMM_WORLD, &request);
                                                                     - }
if(rank == «comm.to.rank») {
MPI_Irecv(«comm.toData.name»+«(comm.toData.size/4) * 0», «comm.fromData.size»,
MPI_«comm.toData.type», «comm.from.rank», MPI_ANY_TAG, MPI_COMM_WORLD, &request);
        3
      «ENDFOREACH»
MPI_Barrier(MPI_COMM_WORLD);
    «ENDFOREACH»
  «ENDFOREACH»
 // Final code
```



5 Evaluation

In the previous sections we have provided a model-driven development approach for generating the mapping alternatives. Obviously, for large scale multi core platform

the question is whether the alternatives are generated in feasible time. We have evaluated the generation process by considering various logical configuration sizes for the mapping alternatives of the complete exchange algorithm that is defined in the problem statement section. The mapping alternatives have been generated on a multicore PC with 12 core Intel Xeon 2.67Ghz processor and 40 GB of RAM.

Table 1 shows the result of the evaluation. The left column of the table shows the adopted logical configuration size which range from 36x36 to 1296x1296. The latter configuration size is typical for exascale computing. The middle column shows the number of generated mapping alternatives. The right column shows the time-to-generate the total number of alternatives. For the largest logical configuration size (1296x1296) the overall time to generate the alternatives took around 3 hours, which we consider to be feasible for that scale. We could reduce the time further by running the program on an even more powerful machine.

Logical Configuration Size		# Mapping Alternatives	Time To Generate	
1296	(36x36)	6	00:00:02	
5184	(72x72)	10	00:00:05	
46656	(216x216)	20	00:00:55	
419904	(648x648)	35	00:16:44	
944784	(972x972)	21	00:22:19	
1679616	(1296x1296)	70	02:45:43	

Table 1. Mapping model generation times

Table 2. Metric and time to run values for alternative mappings for complete exchange algorithm

Mapping	Calculated Metric Values			Measured Values		
	Ports	Communication	Core	Time To	Speedup*	Efficiency*
	Used	Length	Used	Run(ms)		(for 144 cores)
Alternative 1	792	880	516	200.07980	4.9980t	0.0347t
Alternative 2	792	952	516	202.37916	4.9412t	0.0343t
Alternative 3	792	1024	516	205.23701	4.8724t	0.0338t
Alternative 4	792	1024	588	203.90900	4.9041t	0.0340t
Alternative 5	792	1024	624	209.87113	4.7648t	0.0330t

*t is the total time for the computation running on single processing unit.

Besides of the evaluation of the generation time that is needed in model-driven transformations we have also looked at the speedup and efficiency measures for the generated alternatives. Since we used a PC with 12 cores we run the generated five alternatives from a 12x12 logical configuration size. Table 2 shows the measurement results of the parallel application that uses the complete exchange algorithm (5 mapping alternatives) for exchanging data while executing the parallel computations. The columns Port Number, Communication Length and Core Used are computed by ParMapper tool. The column Time To Run is measured, based on which the Speedup and Efficiency values are calculated (See equations (1) and (2) in section 2). To achieve reliable results we have in fact run the program 1000 times for each alternative and took the mean value of these 1000 runs.

From Table 2, we can derive that calculated metric values of ParMapper seem to directly correlate with the measured values. For example, in the table it appears that

Alternative 1 has the minimal time to run value and as such will perform the most optimal with respect to the speedup and efficiency metrics. If we look at the calculated metric values on the left of the table then we can see that these are also minimal values with respect to the other alternatives.

6 Related Work

Optimizing the mapping of parallel algorithms to parallel computing platforms has been addressed before and several tools have been introduced. These tools very often support the optimization of the mapping process by tracing or profiling the applications during run-time. Examples of these tools are TAU [24], HPC Toolkit [25], OpenlSpeedshop[26], and Scalasca[27]. Since the optimization is done at run-time these tools usually require that the implementation of the algorithm is completed before the analysis. However, for large scale parallel computing platforms the effort for the implementation is usually substantially high and as such an early analysis approach as defined in ParMapper is needed. Integration of ParMapper with existing profiling tools can be helpful to achieve an optimization after running the feasible alternative. Tools such as CUDA-CHILL[28] and hiCUDA [29], support code generation and also include mechanism to auto tune the code. But the analysis is again done after the implementation. Moreover, the space of different implementation alternatives and the reasoning with respect to metrics of speedup and efficiency is not directly supported.

ParMapper supports a model-driven approach to support different platform specific parallel programming frameworks and code generation. Similarly Gamatié et al. [30] present the so-called GASPARD design framework for massively parallel embedded systems. In GASPARD, high-level specifications of an embedded system are defined with the MARTE standard profile [31]. The resulting models are then automatically refined into low-level implementations. Different from ParMapper the approach as used in Gaspard does neither provide early analysis nor the design space generation and exploration of feasible mappings. Sussman [32] explains a model-driven mapping approach for distributed memory parallel computers. But this approach provides a running framework and does not support code transformation.

7 Conclusion

In this paper we have provided a systematic approach and the corresponding tool support for mapping parallel algorithms to parallel computing platforms. We have illustrated the approach for the complete exchange algorithm. With the tool we could generate the logical configurations for even large scale multi core applications such as in exascale computing. We have evaluated the approach by considering the required time for generating the models, as well as the reliability of the generated alternatives with respect to the actually measured values. Our study shows that ParMapper is reliable and can be used by parallel computing engineers to generate alternative mappings, provide an early analysis of these with respect to speedup and efficiency, and generate the platform specific model and the source code.

The tool is publicly made available to share our results and get feedback from the parallel computing community. Although we have applied the approach for one parallel computing algorithm, we believe that the approach is general and can be applied to other algorithms as well. In our approach we have assumed a parallel computing platform based on a distributed memory model. Further we assume a physical configuration that can be organized as mesh or torus that is widely used in parallel computing platforms. In our future work we will also consider the analysis of other parallel algorithms and execute ParMapper program on large scale multi core computers. In this context, we will enhance the analysis approach by considering various other quality factors such as power consumption and memory consumption and we will consider possible extensions to metamodels and approach.

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