

Finite Projective Geometry based Fast, Conflict-free Parallel Matrix Computations

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Matrix computations, especially iterative PDE solving (and the sparse matrix vector multiplication subproblem within) using conjugate gradient algorithm, and LU/Cholesky decomposition for solving system of linear equations, form the kernel of many applications, such as circuit simulators, computational fluid dynamics or structural analysis etc. The problem of designing approaches for parallelizing these computations, to get good speedups as much as possible as per Amdahl's law, has been continuously researched upon. In this paper, we discuss approaches based on the use of finite projective geometry graphs for these two problems. For the problem of conjugate gradient algorithm, the approach looks at an alternative data distribution based on projective-geometry concepts. It is proved that this data distribution is an optimal data distribution for scheduling the main problem of dense matrix-vector multiplication. For the problem of parallel LU/Cholesky decomposition of general matrices, the approach is motivated by the recently published scheme for interconnects of distributed systems, perfect difference networks. We find that projective-geometry based graphs indeed offer an exciting way of parallelizing these computations, and in fact many others. Moreover, their applications ranges from architectural ones (interconnect choice) to algorithmic ones (data distributions).

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