Everything You Always Wanted to Know About Proxy Apps (But Were Afraid to Ask)

ECP Annual Meeting 2018

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Hal Finkel (ANL)
Jeanine Cook (SNL)

Knoxville, TN
February 8, 2018
Agenda

• (20 min) David Richards       Project Overview
• (10 min) Christoph Junghans   Web Site & Spack
• (15 min) Hal Finkel           Proxy App Use Cases
• (15 min) Jeanine Cook         Proxy Characterization
• (5 min)   David Richards      Wrap Up

Please feel free to ask questions at any time (don’t be afraid)
ECP Proxy App Project: Objectives and Scope
Why does this project exist?

• Assemble and curate a proxy app suite that represents the most important features (especially performance) of exascale applications.

• Improve the quality of proxies created by ECP and maximize the benefit received from their use.
  – Set standards for documentation, build and test systems, performance models and evaluations, etc.

• Collect requirements of app teams. Assess gaps between ECP applications and proxy app suite. Ensure proxy suite covers application motifs and requirements.

• Coordinate use of proxy apps in the co-design process. Connect producers to consumers. Promote success stories and correct misuse of proxies.
Proxy App Project Team

- ANL: Hal Finkel, Tom Uram, Summer students
- LANL: Christoph Junghans, Robert Pavel
- LBNL: Peter McCorquodale
- LLNL: David Richards, Abhinav Bhatel, Nikhil Jain
- ORNL: Bronson Messer, Tiffany Mintz, Shirley Moore
- SNL: Omar Aaziz, Jeanine Cook, Courtenay Vaughan
Proxy applications are models for one or more features of a parent application

- Proxy apps omit many features of parent apps
- Proxy apps come in various sizes
  - Kernels, skeleton apps, mini apps
- Proxies can be models for
  - Performance critical algorithms
  - Communication patterns
  - Programming models and styles
- Like any model, proxies can be misused beyond their regime of validity
Why create a proxy for your application?

- Application cannot be shared with collaborator
  - OUO, Export Control, Classified, etc.
- Application is too large and complex for collaborator to understand or use
- Need a more nimble code to prototype and test ideas
  - Smaller code base that still captures key issue being explored
  - Easier to build and work with

Proxies are most useful when created by or in close collaboration with a code team.
Vendors use proxy apps for co-design

- Proxy apps communicate DOE concerns
  - PathForward, CORAL NRE, etc.
  - Vendors are asking us for codes

- The proxy app team has a dedicated POC for each PathForward vendor
  - AMD  Jeanine Cook
  - Cray  Christoph Junghans
  - HPE  David Richards
  - IBM  Shirley Moore
  - Intel  Hal Finkel
  - Nvidia  Tom Uram

Proxies are not meant to be static codes, but start a give and take process towards mutual understanding.
Proxy apps play a prominent role in procurement benchmarks

- CORAL: Nekbone, LULESH, SNAP, miniFE, XSBENCH
- APEX: MILC, miniDFT, miniPIC, PENNANT, SNAP, UMT
- CORAL 2: Nekbone, Kripke, Quicksilver, PENNANT
- Not to mention numerous microkernels, and example suites
  - DGEMM, IOR, Mdtest, RAJA Performance Suite, Stream, Stride, etc.
### How are proxy apps different from benchmarks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Proxy Application</th>
<th>Benchmark</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Generic modeling and co-design tool</td>
<td>• Measurement of a specific observable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Unconstrained observables</td>
<td>• Defines a Figure of Merit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Intended to be modified (within limits)</td>
<td>• Defines rules and restrictions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Flexible problem definitions</td>
<td>• Frozen code version</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Constrained problem definition</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Proxy apps only become benchmarks when sufficient definitions and constraints are applied.
How to solve problems with proxy apps

• Wrong question: “Which proxy app should I use”

• Right Question(s):
  – What is the problem/question to be investigated
  – What are the resources? Will this be run on a simulator? Real hardware?
  – What is a reasonable model to address the question within the available resources?
  – What other investigations are necessary to establish reasonable model parameters?

• Example: Use a communication simulator to examine on-node vs off-node traffic
  – Look at real applications, especially in a strong scaling regime, to find parameters of communication models that are both realistic and representative of a real world use case.

• Bad example: Run an MD code (or proxy) with many particles per rank using a communication simulator.
  – Communication fraction is so low that improvements won’t impact overall performance.

Proxies are models. This is a modeling exercise
Reporting results obtained with proxy apps

- **Bad:** table or graph with (proxy) app names and “performance” results
- **Bad:** optimize the proxy instead of the application
- **Good:**
  - Specify the problem parameters for each (proxy) app
  - Explain why the app should (or should not) be sensitive (performance or otherwise) to the topic being explored.
  - Explain why the apps were chosen and why they advance understanding of the topic.
  - **Bad:** These are DOE proxies that I found on a web site

**WARNING:** The default problems for many proxy apps are little more than “smoke tests”. They have little relevance to the production workload.
The ECP Proxy App Suite (v1.0)
New releases planned every 6 months

- AMG
- CANDLE Benchmarks
- CoMD
- Ember
- Laghos
- MACSio
- miniAMR
- miniFE
- miniTri
- Nekbone
- SW4lite
- SWFFT

You can help!!
We are looking for proxies created by ECP projects

We may define other specialized collections of proxies
Takeaways

• Proxy apps are models
  – They only represent parts of the parent app

• Proxy apps have many use cases
  – Prototyping, co-design, procurement, etc.

• Using a proxy app is a modeling exercise
  – Proxies and benchmarks are different and should not be confused

• The proxy app project will help the external community use proxies successfully

If you are not sure about if you are using a proxy correctly, e-mail the developer.
Questions?
ECP Proxy Apps
Website and Spack

Christoph Junghans & Robert Pavel (LANL)
08-Feb-2018
LA-UR 18-20872
Proxy App Website
A page to find them all

http://proxyapps.exascaleproject.org/

Exascale Proxy Applications
In high performance computing (HPC), proxy applications (“proxy apps”) are small, simplified codes that allow application developers to share important features of large applications without forcing collaborators to assimilate large and complex code bases. This website provides a common platform for HPC researchers and users to explore and share proxy apps. This work is part of the ongoing Exascale Proxy Applications Project that is part of the Exascale Computing Project (ECP). For more information on ECP, please visit exascaleproject.org.

Proxy Applications
Proxy apps are often used as models for performance-critical computations, but proxy apps can do more than just represent algorithms or computational characteristics of apps. They also capture programming methods and styles that drive requirements for compilers and other elements of the tool chain. Within ECP, application teams, co-design centers, software technology projects and vendors all plan to use proxy apps as a major mechanism to drive collaborations and co-design solutions for exascale challenges.

Proxy Application Standards and Suite
A major goal of the Exascale Proxy Applications Project is to improve the quality of proxies created by ECP and maximize the benefit received from their use. To accomplish this goal, an ECP proxy app suite composed of proxies developed by ECP projects that represent the most important features (especially performance) of exascale applications will be created. This suite will be released and distributed through this webpage. To ensure high quality of ECP proxy apps, we have defined standards for documentation, build and test systems, performance models and evaluations, etc. We will also provide templates and best practices for proxy developers to help meet these standards.

Something missing?
File an issue:
https://github.com/proxyapps/proxyapps.github.io
Proxy App Website
Add a proxy app

Under FAQ -> “Getting a proxy application added to this website” ->
https://github.com/proxyapps/proxyapps.github.io/issues/new
Proxy Suite in Spack
A command to get them all

• Spack: A flexible package manager endorsed by ECP

• Get the Proxy Suite with one command
  $ spack install --source ECP-Proxy-Suite@1.0
  (might take a while!)

• How to get Spack (see SPACK breakout session for more details)
  $ git clone https://github.com/spack/spack.git
  $ cd spack/bin
  $ ./spack install <Some Package>

• See the packages of the proxy suite:
  $ spack list -t ecp-proxy-app
Random Tricks for Spack
Things you might need along the way

• Using your system libraries instead of building them:
  (need to edit your ~/.spack/packages.yml)

• Build proxy app with certain compiler:
  $ spack install <app> %gcc@7.0

• Build proxies with certain compiler flags:
  $ spack install <app> cflags='--02 --g'

• Build proxies with certain MPI:
  $ spack install <app> ^openmpi@4.0

• Don’t build proxy app, just get me the code:
  $ spack install --source --only package <app>
Example Spack package.xml
Also see the Spack documentation


Spack-related tips and tricks

If you want to assist spack in finding compilers, read this.

If you want to use a system installed MPI and prevent spack from building it, read this. A sample ~/.spack/packages.yaml file is below:

```
packages:
  all:
    providers:
      mpi: [m不曾ich2]
      m不曾ich2:
      paths:
        m不曾ich2@system: <path to m不曾ich2>
        version: [system]
        buildable: False
```

If you do not want a long hash in the installed proxy apps’ directories, read this. A sample ~/.spack/config.yaml file is below:

```
config:
  #install_path_scheme: '\{ARCHITECTURE\}/\{COMPILERNAME\}-\{COMPILERVER\}/\{PACKAGE\}-\{VERSION\}'
```

Something wrong with Spack?
File an issue:
https://github.com/spack/spack
Questions?
Proxy Apps - How Do We Use These Things?

- Proxy apps as prototype for application design change
- Proxy apps and ST projects
- Proxy apps and hardware evaluation

![Proxy Apps Table]

**Proxy App** | **Version** | **Website** | **GitHub**
---|---|---|---
MIQ | 1.0 | Website | GitHub
GANDALF Benchmarks | 1.0 | Website | GitHub
| 1.1 | Website | GitHub
| 1.2 | Website | GitHub
| 1.3 | Website | GitHub
| 1.4 | Website | GitHub
| 2.0 | Website | GitHub
| 2.1 | Website | GitHub
| 2.2 | Website | GitHub
| 2.3 | Website | GitHub
| 2.4 | Website | GitHub
| 3.0 | Website | GitHub
| 3.1 | Website | GitHub
| 3.2 | Website | GitHub

(Picture from: https://cryptosrus.com/best-gpu-for-mining/)
Modeling Changes to Applications

QMCPACK is a production level open source QMC code for computing the electronic structure of atoms, molecules, and solids.

- Used for INCITE, CORAL, OLCF CAAR & ALCF ESP.
- C++11, MPI, OpenMP, CUDA, Boost, Parallel HDF5, libXML2.
- O(400K) code lines, estimated O(100K) for core functionality.
- 10+ year history, 7500+ commits, 35 contributors.
- Today: Largely incompatible OpenMP & CUDA execution pathways.
Exploring Kokkos using miniQMC (work exploring OpenMP offloading also in progress).
Creating Quicksilver (proxy for Mercury) required modeling choices
Proxy apps are models for one or more aspects of their parents

- Three specific uses:
  - A nimble prototype code for testing design or refactoring options for Mercury
  - An open source vehicle for co-design with outside partners
  - A benchmark code to replace our previous Monte Carlo benchmark code

- Overall goal was to approximate the overall application performance of Mercury
  - Control flow is dominated by branching due to the random sampling of reactions.
  - Memory access patterns associated with reading cross section tables tend to be latency-bound, small memory loads that are difficult or impossible to cache or coalesce.
  - Domain decomposition and internode communication to handle large problems.

- Major data structures intentionally similar to Mercury

- Flexible inputs to represent multiple common use modes

It is essential to identify the key features of the parent app the proxy is intended to represent and include faithful models of those features
Is Quicksilver a good representation of Mercury? Initially no, but...
Deleting low-weight particles solves the problem

There is no such capability in the parent application, but it makes Quicksilver a better model for Mercury
Quicksilver and Mercury are hostile to the typical GPU fine-grained threading approach

- loop over cycles (time steps)
  - cycle_init
    - source in new particles
    - population control
  - cycle_tracking
    - loop over particles
      - until census
        - find distance to census (end of time step)
        - find distance to material boundary (mesh facet)
        - find distance to collision (reaction)
        - select reaction and update particle
  - cycle_finalize

“Fat” threading strategy:
- Each thread gets its own “vault” of particles
- Tally and buffer data structures are replicated to avoid races
- Works great on CPU platforms!

This is 1000s (or 10,000s) of lines of code

Can this “Big-Kernel” approach possibly perform well?
To test big-kernel we wrote a proxy app for our proxy app

- Quicksilver was more complicated than we wanted to port GPU
  - MPI, variable particle count, etc.

- Quicksilver_lite is even more approximate than Quicksilver
  - Zero-D mesh, very simplified physics

- Quicksilver_lite maintains features most likely to impair GPU performance
  - Random table look-ups
  - Call stack depth in nuclear data look-ups
  - Branchy control flow and divergence

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Initialize</th>
<th>Compute</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>P8 CPU (10 threads)</td>
<td>0.27 sec</td>
<td>1.25 sec</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P8 CPU (40 threads)</td>
<td>0.45 sec</td>
<td>0.72 sec</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P-100 GPU</td>
<td>0.26 sec</td>
<td>0.45 sec</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

QS_lite run times (lower is better)

QS_lite provided our first evidence that the big-kernel approach might actually work
**Mercury is employed for a very wide variety of problems**

No single sample problem will represent all use cases

- By changing problem inputs we can adjust:
  - Fraction of particles that reach census
  - Ratio of facet crossings to reactions
  - Relative probabilities of different reaction types

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Fat (CPU) seg/sec</th>
<th>Thin (GPU) seg/sec</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reaction Dominated</td>
<td>8.52e+06</td>
<td>1.15e+07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balanced</td>
<td>1.35e+07</td>
<td>7.50+e06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Facet Dominated</td>
<td>2.24e+07</td>
<td>2.90+e07</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

GPUs and CPUs are similar, but with difference performance sensitivities. GPUs are slowest in balanced case. Perhaps due to highest divergence?
Uses by software-technology projects
Proxy Apps in the LLVM Test Suite
Initial Results of ROSE on ECP Proxy Apps

**ROSE:** 8 passing 100% out of 11 applications from spack/spack:
1 application had build system issue (TBD)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>application</th>
<th>passes</th>
<th>failures</th>
<th>% passing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>amg</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>ECP CANDLE Benchmarks</td>
<td>(TBD)</td>
<td>(TBD)</td>
<td>(TBD)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>CoMD</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Laghos</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>MACSio</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>36%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>MiniAMR</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>MiniFE</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>MiniTri</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>83%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Nekbone</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>91%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>SW4lite</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>SWFFT</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>XSBench</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Our experiences have informed our documented best practices:

http://proxyapps.exascaleproject.org/standards/

- What does the proxy represent?
- How do you run and what do the options mean?
- How can we tell if the computation is sufficiently correct?
- How can we relate the performance to improvements in the real applications?
Uses for hardware evaluation and co-design
How Vendors Use Proxy Apps

- Better understand our workloads and applications
- Use with simulators for processors, memory, networks, and I/O
- Use to test new software technology and programming models (much as we do)
- Be mindful of over-optimization for current hardware: we want to know how to realistically want to write the software in the future.

As a result, we need to understand our proxy apps and applications well so that we can give vendors meaningful pieces of software!
The CoMD proxy app was modified to study load imbalance

Spherical voids are randomly introduced during problem setup to form “Swiss cheese”. Adding a center of mass velocity makes load imbalance dynamic.

Often small modifications in how existing proxies are used can be helpful for exploring new questions.
Questions?
Proxy App Assessment: Are They Representative?

Jeanine Cook, Omar Aaziz, Tanner Juedeman (SNL)
Hal Finkel, Brian Homerding (ANL)
Shirley Moore, Tiffany Mintz (ORNL)
Peter McCorquodale (LBNL)
How do we Determine if Proxies are Representative of Full Apps? (1)

Success is highly dependent on coordination with the Application Development Teams

• Qualitative
  – Determine what each proxy is intended to represent
    • Memory behavior?
    • Computation?
    • Communication?
    • Programming model exploration?
  – Determine the mapping of proxies to parent apps
    • Some are generic and meant to represent a large problem space so map back to multiple apps
    • Some map to a specific app (but right now, these are mostly not in the ECP App suite)
  – Determine representative scaling configurations
  – Determine representative problems and sizes
  – Determine consistent (across labs involved) platform for experimentation
    • Architecture and compilers/optimizations need to be held constant
How do we Determine if Proxies are Representative of Full Apps? (2)

Success is highly dependent on Application Assessments

• Quantitative
  – First steps
    • Profiling
      – Mostly to understand proxy composition
  • Basic characterization
    – % of theoretical peak
    – Fraction of memory BW used
    – Fraction of cache BW used at various levels
    – FLOPS/core
    – IntOPS/core
    – Arithmetic intensity (FLOPS/DRAM bytes)
    – Computation vs communication time
How do we Determine if Proxies are Representative of Full Apps? (3)

Success is highly dependent on coordination with the Application Assessment Team

• Quantitative
  – Comparison Methodology
    • Statistical – uses PCA and K-means Clustering (with Manhattan distance)
    • Key is to determine metrics that distinguish behavior of proxies/apps
      – Many proxies/apps have very similar behavior at the hardware level for basic characteristics
        • In some cases, not easy to identify metrics that distinguish behavior
  – Can easily do for proxies, but what about applications?
    • Collaboration and coordination with the Application Assessment Team a must
      – Agree on which data to collect, which platform/compilers/optimizations, which tools to use so we can fairly compare/use data
    • Many of the ECP applications are in various stages of development
      – Continuous cycle of measurement, analysis….
To Date

• Qualitative
  – Mostly understand what each proxy is supposed to represent (mostly obtained from documentation)
  – Have problem size and scaling info that maps back to parent app for about 90% of proxies (will release to community in upcoming report)
  – Don’t fully understand mapping of proxies back to parents for all proxies
    • Because they aren’t ECP application specific, they can make back to many parents
      – We see this in comparison data
    – Have consistent experimental platform across labs (Haswell), but unfortunately its performance monitoring unit known to have issues

• Initial quantitative characterization/comparison
  – Profiling ➔ mostly done
  – Characterization ➔ in progress
  – Proxy/parent comparison ➔ Lots of work on methodology, but still not sure correct

• First Milestone on this work due in March
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Proxy App</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>miniFE</td>
<td>Unstructured implicit finite element or finite volume</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SWFFT</td>
<td>Fast Fourier transform which distributes data between ranks in a 3D cartesian grid communicator, and then re-distributed across three 2D pencil distributions to compute the DFFTs along each dimension.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XSbench</td>
<td>Computationally intensive part of a typical MC transport algorithm - the calculation of macroscopic neutron cross sections</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>miniTri</td>
<td>Triangle enumeration with a calculation of specific vertex and edge properties. Key uses include dense subgraph detection, characterizing graphs, improving community detection, and generating graphs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CoMD</td>
<td>Reference implementation of classical molecular dynamics algorithms and workloads as used in materials science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>miniMD</td>
<td>Parallel molecular dynamics simulation of a Lennard-Jones or a EAM system</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>nekbone</td>
<td>Solves a standard Poisson equation using a conjugate gradient iteration with a simple or spectral element multigrid preconditioner on a block or linear geometry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SW4lite</td>
<td>Bare bone version of SW4; 3D seismic modeling</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Profiling and Characterization: Initial Investigation Workflow

• Document build, optimization and run options
• Look into how the application scales across threads
• Find and focus on sections of the code where the application is spending its time.
• Gather some high level performance measures with PAPI counter data using HPCToolkit. Eg. Cache Miss Rates, IPC (compare to the baseline from hardware documentation)
• Additionally, investigate how the important parts of the code are stressing the memory hierarchy by combining performance counter data with measurements from the Empirical Roofline Tool.
• From these results begin to determine how application is stressing the hardware. Eg. Computation, memory bandwidth, memory latency.
Initial Findings on Haswell

• miniFE (openMP version with 256 size parameters):
  – Memory latency bound from indirect memory access.

• SWFFT(1 node with 720 grid vertexes along one side):
  – Split between computation and communication.

• XSBench (default with lookups increased):
  – Experiences memory latency issues from going to DRAM while also using around 50% of DRAM bandwidth.

• miniTri(openMP version using Email-enron dataset):
  – Spends majority of its time in the STL and allocating memory.
Application Characterization Guide

Utilizing Observations to Create Application Characterization

Workflow:
1. Gather Context starting with recording build options and run options.
2. Decide on Important part(s) of Application to Analyze.
4. Perform Analysis.

Gather Application Context

1. Build
   - Record Compiler Version: gcc -v
   - Record Optimization Flags: eg: -O3 -ffast-math -march=native
   - Record Dependent Library Versions? lld -v [.exe]
   - Check for Compiler Specific Source Code Pragmas
     - Check to see what compile definitions in the build system are doing (DINTEL)

2. Run
   - Look directly for #pragma's in Source Code: grep -R 3 -A 3 "#pragma" ./*

Create Application Characterization from Observations

1. Scaling
2. Instructions per Cycle
3. Memory Characteristics
Proxy Analysis Report

miniFE

MiniFE is an proxy application for unstructured implicit finite element codes. It is similar to HPCCG and pHPCCG but provides a much more complete vertical covering of the steps in this class of applications. MiniFE also provides support for computation on multicore nodes, including pthreads and Intel Threading Building Blocks (TBB) for homogeneous multicore and CUDA for GPUs. Like HPCCG and pHPCCG, MiniFE is intended to be the "best approximation to an unstructured implicit finite element or finite volume application, but in 8000 lines or fewer."

Parameters

Compiler = 'clang 5.0.1'

Build_FLAGS = '-g -O3 -march=native -fopenmp -DMINIFE SCALAR=double -DMINIFS LOCAL_ORDINAL=int -DMINIFE Global_ORDINAL=int -DMINIFE CSR _MATRIX -DMINIFE INFO=1 -DMINIFE KERNELS=6'

Run_PARAMETERS = '-nx 256 -ny 256 -nz 256'

Compiler Specific Pragmas

#pragma loop_count(15) -intel

Scaling

In [1]: import matplotlib
import numpy as np
Proxy to Parent Comparison

• Map proxies in current ECP suite to applications that comprise some of the ECP apps
  – Developing methodology, so this is OK from now
  – As ECP apps come available in varying degrees of completion, would like to use those
    • Will work with Application Assessment project

• Hardware performance counter and mpiP data → PCA → Clustering
  – Key is to collect data/metrics that actually distinguish applications
    • Have collected more performance data than any human would ever want to look at!
  – Using equivalent problems on proxy/parent apps, but probably not representative of ECP problems of interest
    • OK for now, since developing methodology

• Still tweaking methodology

• Milestone due in March
Experimental Methodology

• Haswell
• LDMS application samplers for collecting hardware counter and mpiP data
  – Take sample every 1sec
• Application/proxy mapping: miniMD ➔ LAMMPS; Nekbone ➔ Nek5000
  – Then used a bunch of different proxies
  – Used Graph 500 as outlier
## Problem Size

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Applications</th>
<th>Problem size</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sw4lite</td>
<td>grid h=10 nx=512 ny=512 nz=512 time steps=440</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>miniMD</td>
<td>Units=metal force style=lj size of problem=20x20x20 Timesteps=1200000 timestep size=0.005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>miniFE</td>
<td>nx=1152 ny=1152 nz=1152</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nek5000</td>
<td>Type=ethier numSteps = 150000 [PRESSURE] preconditioner = semg_xxt residualTol = 1e-08 residualProj = no [VELOCITY] residualTol = 1e-12 residualProj = no density = 1 viscosity = -10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CoMD</td>
<td>-i 16 -j 4 -k 2 --nx=400 --ny=400 --nz=400 • xproc: 16 yproc: 4 zproc: 2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Applications

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Applications</th>
<th>Problem size</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>XSBench</td>
<td>-s large -I 140000000 -G unionized</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• -s &lt;size&gt; Size of H-M Benchmark to run (small, large, XL, XXL)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• -I &lt;lookups&gt; Number of Cross-section (XS) lookups</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• -G &lt;grid type&gt; Grid search type (unionized, nuclide). Defaults to unionized.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SWFFT</td>
<td>n_repetitions = 250000 ngx = 16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• &lt;n_repetitions&gt; is the number of times to run the complete forward and backward test (in case there are memory-system effects that make timing information different after the first repetition)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• &lt;ngx&gt; is the number of grid vertexes along one side of the entire 3D grid volume.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graph500</td>
<td>Recursive MATrix (R-MAT) scale = 28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nekbone</td>
<td>Range of number of elements per proc = 0 250 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAMMPS</td>
<td>nx, ny, nz = 100 Timestep = 0.005 Run = 12000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Haswell only has AVX event (limited FP); miss ratio events may be unreliable (don’t trust denominators)
Clustering Analysis (Unsupervised Machine Learning!)

- After PCA, K-means clustering using Manhattan distance
  - Use average of hardware counter rates and mpiP data over 5 runs for each proxy/parent
  - A single run configuration (8 nodes, 16 processes/node, 1 rank/core)
  - Choose data for PCA randomly from 8 ranks, one of those is always rank 0
Summary

• Still have much work to do
  – Need to understand clustering data, use appropriate problem sizes, add more apps and more real app/proxy pairs
  – Haven’t even started with measurement of accelerators yet!

• Need input from apps teams (through Apps Assessment project)
  – Problem sizes, scaling
  – What data would you like to see? Where to put instrumentation?

• Will share our data and lessons learned with vendors
  – Maybe through the new working group interactions (?)
Questions?
Questions

1. Where can I find a proxy with <insert desired feature>  
   Answer: Try our catalog at http://proxyapps.exascaleproject.org/  
   Or, ask our team.

2. Will you add my proxy to the ECP suite?  
   Answer: Maybe. But even if we don’t you can add it to our catalog

3. What is the best way to create a proxy?  
   Answer: Its complicated. Start from scratch or cut from existing app.

4. Can my proxy have <insert feature>  
   Answer: Maybe. But simple is best.

5. How do I create a good proxy?  
   Answer: See our standards and practices document  
   Also, find a way to address a unique niche
Thank you!