Collective Framework and Performance Optimization to Open MPI for Cray XT 5 platforms

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Collectives are Critical for HPC Application Performance

 A large percentage of application execution time is spent in the global synchronization operations (collectives)

 Moving towards exascale systems (million processor cores), the time spent in collectives only increases

 Performance and scalability of HPC applications requires efficient and scalable collective operations



Weakness in current Open MPI implementation

Open MPI lacks support for

- Customized collective implementation for arbitrary communication hierarchies
- Concurrent progress of collectives on different communication hierarchies
- Nonblocking collectives
- Taking advantage of capabilities of recent network interfaces (example offload capabilities)
- Efficient point-to-point message protocol for Cray XT platforms



Cheetah : A Framework for Scalable Hierarchical Collectives

- Goals of the framework
- Provide building blocks for implementing collectives for arbitrary communication hierarchy
- Support collectives tailored to the communication hierarchy
- Support both blocking and nonblocking collectives efficiently
- Enable building collectives customized for the hardware architecture



Cheetah Framework : Design principles

- Collective operation is split into collective primitives over different communication hierarchies
- Collective primitives over the different hierarchies are allowed to progress concurrently
- Decouple the topology of a collective operation from the implementation, enabling the reusability of primitives
- Design decisions are driven by nonblocking collective design, blocking collectives are a special case of nonblocking ones
- Use Open MPI component architecture



Cheetah is Implemented as a Part of Open MPI



Cheetah Components and its Functions

- Base Collectives (BCOL) Implements basic collective primitives
- Subgrouping (SBGP) Provides rules for grouping the processes
- Multilevel (ML) Coordinates collective primitive execution, manages data and control buffers, and maps MPI semantics to BCOL primitives
- Schedule Defines the collective primitives that are part of collective operation
- Progress Engine Responsible for starting, progressing and completing the collective primitives



BCOL Component – Base collective primitives

- Provides collective primitives that are optimized for certain communication hierarchies
 - BASESMUMA: Shared memory
 - P2P: SeaStar 2+, Ethernet, InfiniBand
 - IBNET: ConnectX-2
- A collective operation is implemented as a combination of these primitives
 - Example, *n* level Barrier can be a combination of Fanin (first *n-1* levels), Barrier (nth level) and Fanout (first *n-1* levels)



SBGP Component – Group the Processes Based on the Communication Hierarchy



Open MPI portals BTL optimization



Portal acknowledgment is not required for Cray XT 5 platforms as they use Basic End to End Protocol (BEER) for message transfer



Experimental Setup

• Hardware :

Jaguar

- 18,688 Compute Nodes
- 2.6 GHz AMD Opteron (Istanbul)
- SeaStar 2+ Routers connected in a 3D torus topology
- Benchmarks :
 - Point-to-Point : OSU Latency and Bandwidth
 - Collectives :
 - Broadcast in a tight loop
 - Barrier in a tight loop



1 Byte Open MPI P2P Latency is 15% better than Cray MPI

OMPI vs CRAY portals latency



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Open MPI and Cray MPI bandwidth saturate at ~2 Gbp/s

OMPI vs CRAY portals bandwidth



Hierarchical Collective Algorithms



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Flat Barrier Algorithm



Hierarchical Barrier Algorithm



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Cheetah's Barrier Collective Outperforms the Cray MPI Barrier by 10%



Data Flow in a Hierarchical Broadcast Algorithm



NODE 1

Source of the Broadcast

NODE 2



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Hierarchical Broadcast Algorithms

- Knownroot Hierarchical Broadcast
 - the suboperations are ordered based on the source of data
 - the suboperations are concurrently started after the execution of suboperation with the source of broadcast
 - uses k-nomial tree for data distribution
- N-ary Hierarchical Broadcast
 - same as Knownroot algorithm but uses N-ary tree for data distribution
- Sequential Hierarchical Broadcast
 - the suboperations are ordered sequentially
 - there is no concurrent execution



Cheetah's Broadcast Collective Outperforms the Cray MPI Broadcast by 10% (8 Byte)



Cheetah's Broadcast Collective Outperforms the Cray MPI Broadcast by 92% (4 KB)



Cheetah's Broadcast Collective Outperforms the Cray MPI Broadcast by 9% (4 MB)



Summary

- Cheetah's Broadcast is 92% better than the Cray MPI's Broadcast
- Cheetah's Barrier outperforms Cray MPI's Barrier by 10%
- Open MPI point-to-point message latency is 15% better than the Cray MPI (1 byte message)
- The key to the performance and scalability of the collective operations
 - Concurrent execution of sub-operations
 - Scalable resource usage techniques
 - Asynchronous semantics and progress
 - Customized collective primitives for each of communication hierarchy



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