Taming the Grid through dynamic adaptation: results and open problems

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Awaking up ...

- Sono Italiano
  - Computer Science Dept., University of Pisa
    - My web page: http://www.di.unipi.it/~aldinuc
  - I don’t speak Spanish, sorry ... of course I can understand some words, maybe also some questions ...

- I’m very glad to be here
  - Thanks to F. de Sande (a.k.a. Kiko), F. Almeida and all the ULL organising team
From high-level parallel programming to high-level grid programming

- **Part 0:** kidding, up to now
  - just to make you aware I speak another language or two, but not Spanish

- **Part I:** a very short introduction
  - no prerequisites, almost all of you already know what I’ll say

- **Part II:** high-level parallel programming
  - little prerequisites, some of you might know what I’ll say

- **Part III:** high-level parallel programming in Grid with dynamic Quality of Service control
  - conference level, technical, ASSIST environment (our research)
  - lot of open problems both theoretical and practical (not sure I will have the time to present them)

- **Part IV:** self-criticism and planned future
Part I

- Parallel programming
  - very short introduction
  - low-level mechanisms & libraries
- I’ll run quite fast here
  - stop me in any moment if needed
  - in any language ...
Traditional // prog. models

- In charge to the programmer:
  - Defining logically/physically parallel activities
  - Scheduling and mapping of parallel activities
  - Communication / shared memory access handling
  - Synchronization
  - Load balancing
  - Fault tolerance
Defining parallel activities

- Goal: define // activities} potentially parallel
  - Concurrent activities \( \Rightarrow \) parallel
  - Logically shared data \( \Rightarrow \) shared data/communications

- Implicit models
  - Derive parallel activities from plain sequential code
  - Data flow analysis \( \Rightarrow \) independent activities

- Explicit models
  - Threads
  - Processes
Interaction models

- Shared memory
  - Synchronization (locks, semaphores, monitors, …)
  - “Native” data representation

- Message passing
  - Synchronization (send / receive, barriers, …)
  - Data representation (XDR, marshalling, …)
  - Wide range of communication mechanisms:
    - Send / receive
    - RPC / RMI
State of the art tools

- Shared memory
  - POSIX threads (and derivatives)
  - JAVA threads (and derivatives)

- Message passing
  - TCP/IP socket API
  - MPI, PVM, ...
  - (RPC)
Shared memory models

- Processes + System V semaphores
- Threads (e.g. Java, POSIX)
  - Extends Thread - or - implements Runnable
  - public void run() { /* body of thread */}
  - synchronizations: monitor
  - public synchronized int incr() {...}
    - ... while(cond) { ... wait(); ... }
    - ... notify();
    - ... notifyAll();
- Distributed Shared Memories ...
message passing (sync)

... 
    a=1;
    send(P1,a);
    receive(P0,&a);
... 

(5) 

P0

...  
    a=5;
    send(P1,a);
    receive(P0,&a);
... 

(10) 

P1

...  
    receive(any,&b);
    b=a*2;
    send(P0,b);
... 

wait
scatter, then gather
```c
#include <stdio.h>
#include "mpi.h"
#define MAXPROC 8  /* Max number of processes */
#define NAMELEN 80 /* Max length of machine name */
#define LENGTH 24  /* Length of send buffer is divisible by 2, 4, 6 and 8 */

int main(int argc, char* argv[]) {
    int i, j, np, me;
    const int nametag  = 42;    /* Tag value for sending name */
    const int datatag  = 43;    /* Tag value for sending data */
    const int root = 0;         /* Root process in scatter */
    MPI_Status status;          /* Status object for receive */
    char myname[NAMELEN];             /* Local host name string */
    char hostname[MAXPROC][NAMELEN];  /* Received host names */
    int x[LENGTH];        /* Send buffer */
    int y[LENGTH];        /* Receive buffer */

    MPI_Init(&argc, &argv);                /* Initialize MPI */
    MPI_Comm_size(MPI_COMM_WORLD, &np);    /* Get nr of processes */
    MPI_Comm_rank(MPI_COMM_WORLD, &me);    /* Get own identifier */
    gethostname(&myname, NAMELEN);        /* Get host name */
    if (me == 0) {    /* Process 0 does this */
        /* Initialize the array x with values 0 .. LENGTH-1 */
        for (i=0; i<LENGTH; i++) {
            x[i] = i;
        }

        /* Check that we have an even number of processes and at most MAXPROC */
        if (np%2 != 0 || np>MAXPROC) {
            printf("You have to use an even number of processes (at most %d)
", MAXPROC);
            MPI_Finalize();
            exit(0);
        }

        printf("Process %d on host %s is distributing array x to all %d processes\n", me, myname);
        for (i=0; i<LENGTH/np; i++) {
            printf(" %d", y[i]);
        }
        printf("\n");

        /* Receive messages with hostname and the scattered data */
        for (i=1; i<np; i++) {
            MPI_Recv (&hostname[i], NAMELEN, MPI_CHAR, i, nametag,
                MPI_COMM_WORLD, &status);
            printf("Process %d on host %s has elements", i, hostname[i]);
            for (j=0; j<LENGTH/np; j++) {
                printf(" %d", y[j]);
            }
            printf("\n");
        }
        printf("Ready\n");
    } else { /* all other processes do this */
        /* Check sanity of the user */
        if (np%2 != 0 || np>MAXPROC) {
            MPI_Finalize();
            exit(0);
        }

        /* Receive the scattered array from process 0, place it in array y */
        MPI_Scatter(&x, LENGTH/np, MPI_INT, &y, LENGTH/np, MPI_INT, root, 
            MPI_COMM_WORLD);

        /* Send own name back to process 0 */
        MPI_Send (&myname, NAMELEN, MPI_CHAR, 0, nametag, MPI_COMM_WORLD);
        /* Send the received array back to process 0 */
        MPI_Send (&y, LENGTH/np, MPI_INT, 0, datatag, MPI_COMM_WORLD);
    }
    MPI_Finalize();
    exit(0);
}
```
public class DateClient {
    public static void main ...
        DateServer dateServer =
            (DateServer)Naming.lookup("rmi://" +
            args[0] + "/DateServer");

        Date when = dateServer.getDate();

    ...
}

public static void main (...)
    ... DateServerImpl dateS = new DateServerImpl();
    Naming.bind("DateServer", dateS);}

P0 (client, active)  P1 (server, passive)

RPC (getDate())

ask P1 to execute
getDate()

29/03/06

locally
execute(getDate())

take from P1 the
result
RPC example: Java RMI

// REMOTE INTERFACE

import java.rmi.Remote;
import java.rmi.RemoteException;
import java.util.Date;

public interface DateServer extends Remote {
    public Date getDate() throws RemoteException;
}

// CLIENT

import java.rmi.RMISecurityManager;
import java.rmi.Naming;
import java.util.Date;

public class DateClient {
    public static void main (String args[]) throws Exception {
        if (args.length != 1)
            throw new RuntimeException("Syntax: DateClient <hostname>");

        System.setSecurityManager(new RMISecurityManager());

        DateServer dateServer = (DateServer) Naming.lookup("rmi://" + args[0] + "/DateServer");

        Date when = dateServer.getDate();

        System.out.println(when);
    }
}

// SERVER

import java.rmi.server.UnicastRemoteObject;
import java.rmi.RMISecurityManager;
import java.rmi.RemoteException;
import java.rmi.Naming;
import java.util.Date;

public class DateServerImpl extends UnicastRemoteObject implements DateServer {
    public DateServerImpl() throws RemoteException {
    }

    public Date getDate() {
        return new Date();
    }

    public static void main(String args[]) throws Exception {
        System.setSecurityManager(new RMISecurityManager());

        DateServerImpl dateS = new DateServerImpl();
        Naming.bind("DateServer", dateS);

        public Date getDate() {
            return new Date();
        }
    }
}
Too complex? Not enough ...

- lot of code for a so simple paradigms
- lot of static/lunch-time assumptions
  - n. of Processing Elements and their names
  - size of the matrix, number of blocks, order of distribution
- lot of architectural assumptions
  - no firewalls, homogenous (data types) and reliable machines and net, ...
- performances, load balancing?
  - depends on the regularity of the computation
  - depends on the actual load of the machines
- Is it possible to address these problems?
  - Yes of course, by adding more and more code ...
Low-level programming

- Usually libraries
  - shared-memory (e.g. POSIX threads, DSM, ...)
  - message passing (e.g. POSIX sockets, MPI, PVM, ...)
  - orchestration code mixed with application code (e.g. mapping, scheduling, data distribution, fault-tolerance, caching, ...)
- Time consuming
  - programming, debugging
  - performance tuning
- Tailored for specific architectures
  - difficult to be ported on different platforms
  - not a good investment ...
Part II

- High-level parallel programming
  - what kind of problems it address
  - an overview of some environments
    - BSP (not shown here, no longer so popular)
    - HPF (just for historical reasons)
    - OpenMP
    - design patterns and skeletons ( ... )
    - components
Extension of the Fortran90
  - pragma for declaring parallelism
  - foremost paradigms of parallelism:
    - FORALL, DO INDEPENDENT
  - computes-owner rule
  - extremely difficult build a good compiler
    - data dependencies are entangled by indexes

The project can be considered trespassed
  - but very important, at least to know what concepts are very very very difficult to implement
An Example of FORALL

Initially,

\[ a = [0, 1, 2, 3, 4] \]
\[ b = [0, 10, 20, 30, 40] \]
\[ c = [-1, -1, -1, -1, -1] \]

\[
\text{FORALL ( } i = 2:4 \text{ )}
\]
\[ a(i) = a(i-1) + a(i+1) \]
\[ c(i) = b(i) \times a(i+1) \]

\[
\text{END FORALL}
\]

Afterwards,

\[ a = [0, 2, 4, 6, 4] \]
\[ b = [0, 10, 20, 30, 40] \]
\[ c = [-1, 40, 120, 120, -1] \]
So, what is the problem?

- In many cases the “arrows” shown in the previous slide are neither known at compile time (e.g. $a[i] = b[f(i)]$, $f$ function) nor constant across iterations.
- Thus, it is almost impossible to automatically derive good mapping of data onto processors.
- Thus performance may become rapidly disappointing.
OpenMP

- Thought for shared memory machines
  - The “arrows” problem no longer exist (arrows exist but simply cost less because of the shared memory)
  - no mapping problem (because of the shared memory)

- main target: parallelization of loops
  - co-begin/co-end model

- Core elements of OpenMP:
  - thread creation
  - work load distribution(work sharing)
  - data environment management
  - thread synchronization
```c
#include <stdio.h>
#define n 100000

void main()
{
  int a[n];
  int i;
  #pragma omp parallel
  #pragma omp for
    for (i=0;i<n;i++) a[i] = 2*i;
}
OpenMP: reduction

#include <omp.h>
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>

int main (int argc, char *argv[]) {

    int   i, n;
    float a[100], b[100], sum;

    /* Some initializations */
    n = 100;
    for (i=0; i < n; i++)
        a[i] = b[i] = i * 1.0;
    sum = 0.0;

    #pragma omp parallel for reduction(+:sum)
        for (i=0; i < n; i++)
            sum = sum + (a[i] * b[i]);

    printf("Sum = %f\n",sum);
}

1 2 3 4
cobegin
time

3 7 10
coend
Balance ...

Pros

- simple: need not deal with message passing as MPI does
- data layout and decomposition is handled automatically by directives.
- incremental parallelism: can work on one portion of the program at one time, no dramatic change to code is needed.
- a unified code for both serial and parallel applications: OpenMP constructs are treated as comments when sequential compilers are used.
- Original (serial) code statements need not, in general, be modified when parallelized with OpenMP. This reduces the chance of inadvertently introducing bugs.

Cons

- currently only run efficiently in shared-memory multiprocessor platforms, research ongoing for a distributed version
- requires a compiler that supports OpenMP. Visual C++ 2005 supports it, and so do the Intel compilers for their x86 and IPF product series. GCC 4.2 will support OpenMP, though it is likely that some distributors will add OpenMP support already to their GCC 4.1 based system compilers.
- low parallel efficiency: rely more on parallelizable loops, leaving out a relatively high percentage of a non-loop code in sequential part.
The new system presents the user with a selection of independent “algorithmic skeleton”, each of which describes the structure of a particular style of algorithm, in the way in which “higher order functions” represent general computational frameworks in the context of functional programming languages. The user must describe a solution to a problem as an instance of the appropriate skeleton.

(Cole 1988)
The principle (rephrased)

- Abstract parallelism exploitation pattern by parametric code (higher order function)
- Provide user mechanism to specify the parameters (sequential code, extra parameters)
- Provide (user protected) state-of-the-art implementation of each parallelism exploitation pattern
- In case, allow composition
  - Fundamental, second time property of skeletons systems
Example: task farm

- **Parameters:**
  - Worker code
  - Parallelism degree (computed?)

- **Known implementation**
  - Master slave pattern
  - Possibly distributed master

- **Composite worker**
  - Master to master optimisations
other examples ...

- Data parallel
  - map, fold, reduce,
  - haloswap
  - Divide&Conquer
    ...
- Control parallel
  - farm
  - pipeline
  - DAG, graph, ...
map

- functionally: apply the same function to each of the partitions of a domain
  - well known in functional programming
- parallel behaviour: once data is partitioned, the partitions can be independently crunched
  - depending on initial data layout, a the map may be trammelled by a scatter-gather pair
scatter-map-gather
- similar to map, but the initial data is divided in parts which are not partitions
  - some data (halo) appears in more than one parts
  - in the case the data is kept in distributed form, some more communications are needed
  - since data in halos is replicated, it should be somehow kept coherent (usually just one PE can write it)
Since high-level ...

- we know the semantics
- functional behaviour
- parallel behaviour
- it can be used to
- provide good implementation
- optimise programs
- develop tools to tune (statically, dynamically) the program to the running environment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Exec Rules (→)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. seq $x^\ell \xrightarrow{f} f x^\ell$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. farm $\Delta x^\ell \xrightarrow{\Delta} x^{O(\ell, x)}$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. pipe $\Delta_1 \Delta_2 x^\ell \xrightarrow{\Delta_2 \cdot R^{O(\ell, x)}} \Delta_1 x^\ell$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. comp $\Delta_1 \Delta_2 x^\ell \xrightarrow{\Delta_2 \Delta_1 x^\ell}$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. map $p^{-1} \Delta p x^\ell \xrightarrow{p^{-1} (\alpha \Delta)} p x^\ell$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. d&amp;c $t p^{-1} \Delta p x^\ell \xrightarrow{p^{-1} (\alpha (\text{d&amp;c } t p^{-1} \Delta p))} p x^\ell$ otherwise</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. while $t \Delta x^\ell \xrightarrow{\Delta x^\ell}$ otherwise</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\[
\frac{\Delta x^\ell_1 \xrightarrow{z_i} y^i}{R^{\ell_1} \Delta x^\ell_2 \xrightarrow{\ell_3} y^i(\ell_1, \ell_2, 0)} \text{ relabel} \quad \frac{\Delta_1 x^\ell \xrightarrow{\Delta_2 y^i}}{\Delta_2 \Delta_1 x^\ell \xrightarrow{\Delta_2 y^i}} \text{ context}
\]

\[
p x^\ell = (y_1^1, \ldots, y_n^\ell) \quad \Delta y_1^i \xrightarrow{\ell_i} z_i^1 \quad p^{-1} (z_1^1, \ldots, z_n^\ell) = z \quad i = 1..n
\]

\[
p^{-1} (\alpha \Delta) p x^\ell \xrightarrow{\ell_1, \ldots, \ell_n} z_1, \ldots, z_n
\]

\[
\forall i \leq i \leq n \quad \Gamma_1 \vdash \Gamma_1 : \Delta_1 x^\ell_1 : \cdots : \Delta_n x^\ell_n : \Gamma_1 : y_1^1 : \cdots : y_n^\ell : \Gamma
\]

M. Aldinucci and M. Danelutto, Computer Languages, Elsevier, 2006
Skelettons: evolution

Cole PhD (1988)
Fixed degree DC, Iterative combination, Cluster Task queue

Darlington (1992)
Pipeline, Farm, RaMP, DMPA

P3L (1991)
Pipeline, Farm, Map, Reduce

SCL
Fortran S

SkIE
ASSIST
Lithium
OcamlP3L

BMF ('80)
map fold reduce prefix + algebra

MALLBA ('00)
Combinatorial optimisation

Skillicorn (mid '90)

Kuchen Skil (1998)

Serot (1999)
Skipper (→MDF)

HOC (early '00)

Muesli (2002)
Pipeline, Farm, Parallel array + collectives

eSkel (2002)
Parametric skeletons + Give/Take

eSkel2 (2005)
M. Cole, A. Benoit
skeletons are “design patterns” (and vice-versa)

- not fully correct, but please enable me to use this approximation (Cole 2001)

- they can be realised in any language

- implementations exist in C, C++, Java, Ocaml ...
Skeletons in Pisa

P3L (the Pisa Parallel Programming Language 1991)

SkIE
(Skeleton Integrated Environment 1997)

OcamlP3L
(1998)

Macro Data Flow RunTime (1999)

SKElab (SKEleton LIBrary 2000)

Lithium (2000)

ASSIST
(A Software development System based on Integrated Skeleton Technology 2001)

muskel
(µskeleton lib 2003)
Part III

- Grids
- Why Grids are really different from clusters
  - the need of QoS control
  - the need of adaptive programs
- ASSIST (University of Pisa)
What is the Grid

• “... co-ordinated resource sharing and problem solving in dynamic, multi institutional virtual organisations.” (Foster, Anatomy of the Grid)

• “1) co-ordinates resources that are not subject to centralised control …”
  “2) … using standard, open, general-purpose protocols and interfaces”
  “3) … to deliver nontrivial qualities of service.” (Foster, What is the Grid?)
Grid features 1

- **Heterogeneity:**
  - machines are heterogeneous: different HW, OS, power ... networks are multi-tier, each tier is different (networks are heterogeneous as well).
  - protocols to guarantee interoperability (middleware, SOKU)

- **Complexity**
  - most interesting apps. are inherently distributed. Due to the scale is progressively more difficult to ensure good speedups, and correctness
  - no way to do it with low-level approaches. High-level tools needed.

- **QoS**
  - apps are required to exhibit a pre-determined QoS. In many interesting cases the QoS change along the run (e.g. catastrophes management)
• Dynamicity:
  • platform, networks, and services become unavailable, change performances, fail-stop, ... and do it during the run. And do it for sure, is it not a remote possibility (Gannon, Kennedy, Kesselman, Dongarra, ... GrADS@Rice Univ.)
  • correctness as well as performance control become dynamic proprieties
  • the application should be ready to react to that, in other words it should be adaptive.

• No adaptivity means no Grid
  • this our idea (and also the idea of several partners of CoreGRID, Grids@Rice, ...)

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May such HW be a Grid?

- Boxes have different powers
  - (46:1 max ratio)
- Net performance
- Two Firewalls
- ATM, Eth100, WiFi 11/54
- Operating Systems
  - Linux, MacOSX, Windows
- HW architecture
  - Single CPU and SMP
  - P2, P3, P4, HTP4, G4, G5

Yes!
Many aspects rethought

- Virtualization of resources
  - needed for adaptivity (Globus not enough)
    - ASSIST ➔ Virtual Process
    - ProActive ➔ Active Object

- Performance prediction
  - scheduling, mapping.... static/lunch time informations not reliable (look an example)
Grid platforms are supposed to exploit different “power” (in the meaning of Aristotelian power/act) and net bandwidth, both of them may rapidly change over time.
Performance metrics

±1400%
Speedup ...?

ReJECTED

Graph showing speedup with data points and a trend line.

Chart labels:
- X-axis: 0 to 10
- Y-axis: 0 to 50
Part III: // prog. & QoS

- Motivating ...
  - high-level programming for the grid
  - application adaptivity for the grid
- ASSIST basics & adaptivity in ASSIST
  - mechanisms
  - demo & some experiments
- Components & QoS
  - autonomic managers
  - QoS contracts
- Concluding remarks
• concurrency exploitation, concurrent activities set up, mapping/scheduling, communication/synchronization handling and data allocation, ...

• manage resources heterogeneity and unreliability, networks latency and bandwidth unsteadiness, resources topology and availability changes, firewalls, private networks, reservation and jobs schedulers, ...

... and a non trivial QoS for applications

not easy leveraging only on middleware

D. Gannon et al. opened the way (GrADS@Rice)
“moving most of the Grid specific efforts needed while developing high-performance Grid applications from programmers to grid tools and run-time systems”

ASSIST is a high-level programming environment for grid-aware applications. Developed at Uni. Pisa within several national & EU projects. First version in 2001. Open source under GPL.
app = graph of modules

Programmable, possibly nondeterministic input behaviour

Sequential or parallel module

Typed streams of data items
native + standards

ASSIST native or wrap (MPI, CORBA, CCM, WS)

TCP/IP, Globus, IIOP CORBA, HTTP/SOAP
An “input section” can be programmed in a CSP-like way.

Data items can be distributed (scattered, broadcasted, multicasted) to a set of **Virtual Processes** which are named accordingly to a topology.

Data items partitions are elaborated by VPs, possibly in an iterative way:

while(...)  
forall VP(in, out) barrier

data is logically shared by VPs (owner-computes)

Data is eventually gathered accordingly to an user defined way.

Easy to express standard paradigms (skeltons), such as farm, deal, haloswap, map, apply-to-all, forall, ...
parmod implementation

input manager

VP manager (VPM)

VP

input manager

VP manager (VPM)

VP

Virtual Processes

processes
Compiling & running

QoS contract

ASSIST compiler

resource description

XML

executable code

(linux, mac, M$win)

Managers

AM+MAMs

Grid execution agent (GEA)

Launch

Query new resources

Reconf commands

Network of processes
Adaptivity aims to dynamically control program configuration (e.g. parallel degree) and mapping:

- for performance (high-performance is a natural sub-target)
- for fault-tolerance (enable to cope with unsteadiness of resources, and some kind of faults)
Adaptivity recipe (ingredients)

1. Mechanism for adaptivity
   - reconf-safe points
     - in which points a parallel code can be safely reconfigured?
   - reconf-safe point consensus
     - different parallel activities may not proceed in lock-step fashion
   - add/remove/migrate computation & data

2. Managing adaptivity
   - QoS contracts
     - Describing high-level QoS requirement for modules/applications
   - “self-optimizing” modules/components
     - under the control of an autonomic manager
Mechanisms

• At parmod level
  • add/remove/migrate VPs
  • very low-overhead due to knowledge coming from high-level semantics + suitable compiling tools

• At component level
  • create/destroy/wire/unwire parallel entities
  • medium/large overhead due to underlying API for staging, run, ...

• Not addressed in this talk (see references in the paper: Europar 05, ParCo 05, ...), I just show a short demo
adaptivity: a working ex.

1. Gexec(newPE, VPM)
2. acquire consensus
3. move VP and data

Only 3. is in the critical path
run begin with 1 VPM

lines arrive slowly one after the other (par. degree=1)

4 fresh VPMs are started

fresh VPMs are added to the app.

lines arrive much faster (par. degree=5)

reconf: release 3 VPMs

lines arrive a bit slower (par. degree=2)

reconf: add the 4 VPMs

4 fresh VPMs are started

reconf. console
GrADS papers reports overhead in the order of hundreds of seconds (K. Kennedy et al. 2004), this is mainly due to the stop/restart behavior, not to the different running env.
Autonomic Computing

- AC emblematic of a vast hierarchy of self-governing systems, many of which consist of many interacting, self-governing components that in turn comprise a number of interacting, self-governing components at the next level down.
- IBM “invented” it in 2001 (control with self-awareness, from human body autonomic nervous system)
  - self-optimization, self-healing, self-protection, self-configuration = self-management
- control loop, of course, exists from mid of last century
Autonomic behavior as been included in NGG2/3 (Next Generation Grid) EU founding recommendation as prerequisite for Grid computing

- **monitor**: collect execution stats: machine load, VPM service time, input/output queues lengths, ...
- **analyze**: instanciate performance models with monitored data, detect broken contract, in and in the case try to individuate the problem
- **plan**: select a (predefined or user defined) strategy to reconvey the contract to valid status. The strategy is actually a list of mechanism to apply.
- **execute**: leverage on mechanism to apply the plan

Managed element (module, component)
A software component is a system element offering a predefined service and able to communicate with other components.

Szyperski/Messerschmitt definition:

- Multiple-use
- Non-context-specific
- Composable with other components
- Encapsulated i.e., non-investigable through its interfaces
- A unit of independent deployment and versioning

Examples: COM, EJB, Fractal, CCM, GCM ...
Further specialization of OO technique

A significant difference w.r.t. objects is a component explicitly declares its context

- An object *provides* methods (i.e. operations and data)
- A component *provides* methods (called operations or ports), and *requires* methods as in MALLBA....
ASSIST graphs can be enclosed in components
they can be wired one another
they may use to wrap sequential or parallel code (e.g. MPI)
they can be wired to other legacy components (e.g. CCM)

- currently *native component model*, already converging in the forthcoming GCM (authors involved in CoreGRID NoE, WP3)
modules and components are controlled by managers

managers implements NF-ports

the distributed coordination of managers enable the managing of the application as whole (the top manager being the Application Manager)
**QoS contract**
(of the experiment I’ll show you in a minute)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Perf. features</th>
<th>$QL_i$ (input queue level), $QL_o$ (input queue level), $T_{ISM}$ (ISM service time), $T_{OSM}$ (OSM service time), $N_w$ (number of VPMs), $T_w[i]$ (VPM$_i$ avg. service time), $T_p$ (parmod avg. service time)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Perf. model</td>
<td>$T_p = \max{T_{ISM}, \sum_{i=1}^{n} T_w[i]/n, T_{OSM}}$, $T_p &lt; K$ (goal)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deployment</td>
<td>arch = (i686-pc-linux-gnu ∨ powerpc-apple-darwin*)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adapt. policy</td>
<td>goal_based</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
experiment: stateless farm

- **contract:**
  - keep a given service time
  - contract change along the run
Experimenting heterogeneity

Expected work balance among platforms

Not only Intel+linux: similar experiments has been run on Linux, Mac, Win, and a mixture of them
Data-par experiment (STP)

Distribution of load among platforms (n. of VPs)

Time (iteration no.)

Relative Unbalance

Iteration time
A distributed App is an assembly of components, which may be primitive or formed by other components. Functional dependencies and management and QoS hierarchy are involved.

The QoS of a component depends by its nested components and their functional relations. Components may include either sequential or distributed code.

Provided QoS can be synthesized in a bottom-up fashion, while requested QoS imposed in top-down fashion. Application management can be distributed along the hierarchy to improve management locality.
Part IV: our research status

- Grid-HPC group (1 Full, 1 associate, 2 researchers + PhD students)
  - CoreGRID NoE, GridCoord SSA, BEinGRID IP, XtreemOS IP, GridComp STREP + some Italian projects (SFIDA.it, Grid.it)
  - Direct connection with many EU partners (co-authored papers in last 3 years): INRIA Rennes (F), INRIA Sophia Antipolis (F), ENS Lyon (F), Uni. Muenster (D), Uni. Passau (D), Uni. Belfast (UK), Uni. Leicester (UK), Uni. Fribourg (Ch), + Italians
  - Several industrial partners: IBM, Atos Origin (Spain & Italy), Eurotech (Italy), TxT e-solutions (Italy), Bull (France)
Grid current status

- Grid is becoming a quite fuzzy topic
  - Many projects have an unclear scientific value, conferences and papers are even worse ...
    - Some “important” conferences count 1500 pages LNCS proceedings
    - Unclear financial support in EU 7th FP
  - Many aspects characterizing “Foster” idea of Grid are not of interest of industry
    - Too many freedom degrees (job schedulers, firewalls, languages, protocols, standards, architectures, failures, security, performances ...)
    - Not really HPC, not really Distributed Computing ...
Back to the future

- HPC and classical architectural topics
  - Cluster virtualization (Xen, ...), cluster anonymization (avoiding single points of failures HW and services)
  - High-level programming of multi-core CPUs, SPU-based CPUs (e.g. IBM cell, Intel network processors)
  - Shared memory, memory hierarchies for WAN & Grid (exploiting locality through high-level languages compilation)
- Intrinsically distributed applications
  - Ubiquitous/wearable apps, design once and sell many, ...
  - Dynamic QoS control formalization and its theoretical foundations
Application adaptivity in ASSIST

- complex, but transparent (no burden for the programmers)
  - they should just define their QoS requirements
  - QoS models are automatically generated from program structure (and don’t depend on seq. funct.)

- dynamically controlled, efficiently managed
  - catch both platforms unsteadiness and code irregular behavior in running time
  - performance models not critical, reconfiguration does not stop the application
  - key feature for the grid
ASSIST cope with
  
- grid platform unsteadiness
- interoperability with standards
  - and rely on them for many features
- high-performance
- app deployment problems on grid
  - private networks, job schedulers, firewalls, ...
  - Is it high-performance?
- QoS of the whole application through hierarchy of managers
Adaptivity, autonomicity and QoS

- Grid core features
- Will remain core features in the next future
  - Xen-based cluster reconfiguration requires app reconfiguration
  - Ubiquitous computing requires dynamic control
  - HW evolution requires it, if you don’t want to redesign apps every two years
- Offer large space for both technical advances and theoretical speculation
ASSIST is open source under GPL

http://www.di.unipi.it/Assist.html

Thank you

Please feel free to contact me at

http://www.di.unipi.it/~aldinuc