GPUs for PLUTO

GPU-porting of the PLUTO code for Computational Plasma Physics

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PLUTO





PLUTO is a modular parallel code providing a multi-physics and multi-algorithm framework for solving the equations of gas and plasma dynamics in astrophysics.

Grid-based, finite volume code relying on a Reconstruct-Solve-Average (RSA) strategy.

http://plutocode.ph.unito.it/

GPU-PORTING

GPU-porting refers to the process of adapting or optimizing a software application to run efficiently on GPUs.

GPUs typically offer higher computational efficiency compared to CPUs, meaning they can achieve more computations per power consumed.

The ultimate reason to recur to GPUs is that they can lead to significantly faster computations.

OPENACC MORE SCIENCE, LESS PROGRAMMING

OPENACC is the programming model chosen for the GPU-porting.

- High-level
- Requires few changes to the code
- Directive-based

The pragma acc parallel loop is a directive used in OpenACC to indicate that a loop can be parallelized and executed in parallel on the GPU.

#pragma acc enter data copyin(A, B)
// ... Code where A and B are used in GPU computations ...
#pragma acc exit data delete(A, B)

#pragma acc parallel loop
for (int i = 0; i < N; i++) {
 // Loop body
 // ...
}</pre>

The pragma enter data copyin directive is used to explicitly transfer data from the CPU memory to the GPU memory.



PRIVATE VARIABLES

Private variables are those that have local scope and are allocated individually for each thread or GPU core.

Multiple threads or GPU cores may be executing the same kernel concurrently. If a variable were shared among all threads, concurrent read/write operations could lead to data races and inconsistencies.

```
double *vLR = ARRAY 1D(NVAR, double);
#pragma acc parallel loop collapse(3)( private(vLR[:NVAR])
for (k = kbeq; k \leq kend; k++)
for (j = jbeq; j \le jend; j++)
for (i = ibeq; i \le iend; i++)
    for (nv = 0; nv < NFLX; nv++) {
      vLR[nv] = 0.5*(vL(i,j,k,nv) + vR(i,j,k,nv));
    double a2LR = GAMMA*vLR[PRS]/vLR[RH0];
    cmaxLR = vLR[VXn] + cf;
    cminLR = vLR[VXn] - cf;
    double cLR = MAX(fabs(cminLR), fabs(cmaxLR));
    cmax(i) = cLR;
    for (nv = 0; nv < NFLX; nv++) {
      flux(i,nv) = 0.5*(fL(i,j,k,nv) + fR(i,j,k,nv))
                 - 0.5*cmax(i)*(uR(i,j,k,nv) - uL(i,j,k,nv));
}}}
```

COALESCED MEMORY ACCESS

When neighboring threads access neighboring memory locations, it is considered coalesced memory access.

In this case the GPU can perform memory transactions more efficiently, reducing the overall memory access time and improving performance.





NCCL

NCCL stands for NVIDIA Collective Communications Library.

It is a software library developed by NVIDIA that provides high-performance inter-GPU communication primitives for parallel computing applications.

In particular NCCL assures direct GPU communication.



Multi-GPU Programming with CUDA, GPUDirect, NCCL, NVSHMEM, and MPI (CWES1084)

PROFILING TOOLS









PERFORMANCE





NEXT STEPS

Optimization •

Porting of the Particle Module •

Implementation of the High-Order • method for the ResRMHD module



V. Berta, A. Mignone, M. Bugli, G. Mattia

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