

Wrap-up: Large-Scale Computational and Data Science

CS205: Computing Foundations for Computational Science
Dr. David Sondak
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HARVARD
School of Engineering
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IACS
INSTITUTE FOR APPLIED
COMPUTATIONAL SCIENCE
AT HARVARD UNIVERSITY

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A Practical View: From Design to Implementation

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- A.2. Large-scale Processing on the Cloud
- A.3. Practical Aspects of Cloud Computing
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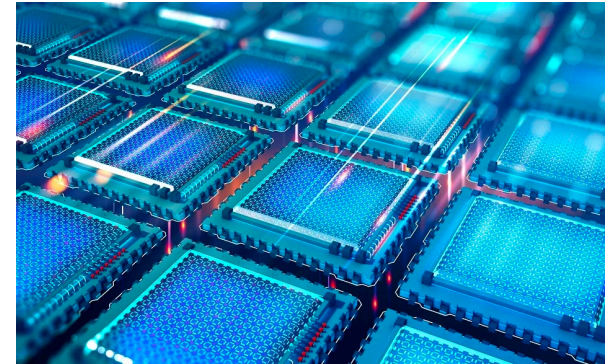
WRAP-UP: ADVANCED TOPICS

The Future of High Performance Computing

The Future of High Performance Computing

Is it obvious?

- Are more powerful computers inevitable?
 - What does more powerful mean?
- What kinds of challenges can we solve with supercomputers?
 - What issues can arise?
- Is the path forward linear?
 - New innovations may require drastic creativity



The Future of High Performance Computing

The Underlying Goal

- At it's heart, HPC enables solutions to the world's biggest, most important problems.
 - Healthcare
 - Education
 - Autonomous vehicles
 - Space travel and exploration
 - Climate change
- These problems are intractable with current algorithms and computing technology.
- Through a combination of algorithmic and computing innovations, we can begin to tackle and solve such problems.
 - We want good solutions and we want them fast (sometimes in real-time).



The Future of High Performance Computing

Where We Are

- We are on the cusp of the world's first *double-precision* exascale supercomputer.
- Frontier is under construction at Oak Ridge National Laboratories.
 - 1.5 EFLOP/s
 - More than 100 cabinets
 - A node contains: AMD EPYC CPU, 4 AMD Radeon Instinct GPUs
 - High speed links between CPU and GPU



<https://www.olcf.ornl.gov/frontier/#3>

The Future of High Performance Computing

Essential Challenges

- Major challenges going forward include:
 - Fault tolerance
 - **Energy and power**
 - Data storage and processing
 - Network interconnects
 - How to write parallel software at this scale
 - ...
- Great that we can solve big problems; are we creating new ones?
 - What is are environmental / ecological impacts?
 - Can consume enormous amounts of energy.
 - Take up a lot of space and displace natural environments.
 - What steps can we take now to mitigate these risks?

HPC Energy and Power

HPC Energy and Power

How Much Energy, Really?

- Supercomputers are really, really big.
Multiple cabinets ← nodes ← processors ← cores ← compute units.
 - Each little calculation costs a little bit of energy.
 - This depends on:
 - The hardware design
 - The software design
 - The algorithm design

| Computer Name | Year | Peak PFLOPS | MW at Peak | PFLOPS / MW |
|---------------|------|-------------|------------|-------------|
| Roadrunner | 2009 | 1.1 | 2.4 | 0.41 |
| Summit | 2019 | 148 | 10.1 | 14.8 |

HPC Energy and Power

Comparison to a City and a Brain

- In 2009, the projected energy consumption of an exascale computer was 2000 MW!
- The Frontier supercomputer is projected to have an energy consumption of 30 MW.



| | Peak performance | Energy consumption | Weight |
|-------------|-------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| Frontier | 1.5 EFLOPS | 30 MW | Hundreds of tons |
| Human brain | Roughly 30 PFLOPS | 20 W (average) | 3 lbs (average) |
| Tupelo, MI | N/A | 17.8 MW | ??? |

Addressing the Energy Needs

Addressing the Energy Needs

Hardware and Software and Algorithms

Hardware

- Replace copper cables with optical links
- New memory models
 - Non-volatile memory (NVM)
 - Low-voltage SRAM
- Reduce cost of data movement
 - 3D stacked memory
- Cooling technologies
 - Liquid immersion cooling systems

<https://www.top500.org/lists/green500/>

[Supercomputing's Super Energy Needs, and What to Do About Them](#)
[The Landscape of Exascale Research: A Data-Driven Literature Analysis](#)

Addressing the Energy Needs

Hardware and Software and Algorithms

Software

- Improve coordination between the processors
- Dynamically scale frequency, voltage, level of concurrency
- Efficiently distribute power over the nodes
 - Power-aware job scheduler

[A survey on software methods to improve the energy efficiency of parallel computing](#)
[The Landscape of Exascale Research: A Data-Driven Literature Analysis](#)

Addressing the Energy Needs

Hardware and Software and Algorithms

Algorithms

- Mixed-precision floating point calculations
- Communication-avoiding algorithms
- Approximation-based methods
 - Refine data types and the number of iterations
 - Avoid wasting memory and computing resources

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Addressing the Energy Needs

Efficient Datacenters

- Develop datacenters powered from renewable energy.
- Recycle the generated heat and use in the community.

100%
HYDROPOWERED
ENERGY UP TO
200MW



LUMI is using 100% hydropowered energy. Up to 200MWs are available. The waste heat of LUMI will produce 20 percent of the district heat of the area.

<https://www.lumi-supercomputer.eu/>

New Architectures on the Horizon

New Architectures on the Horizon

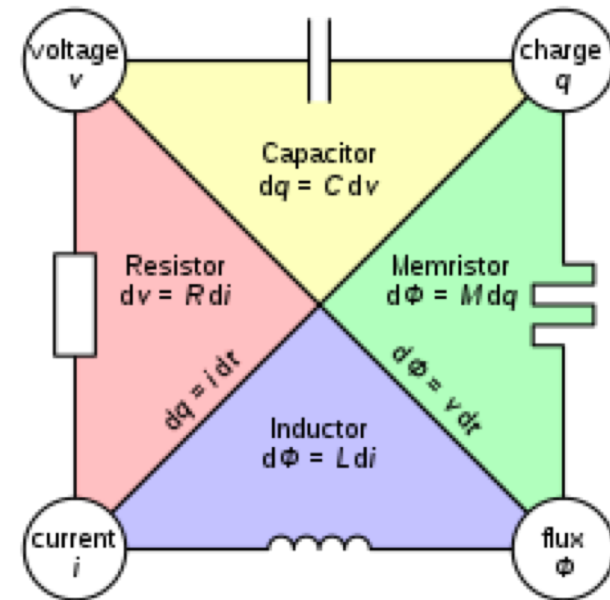
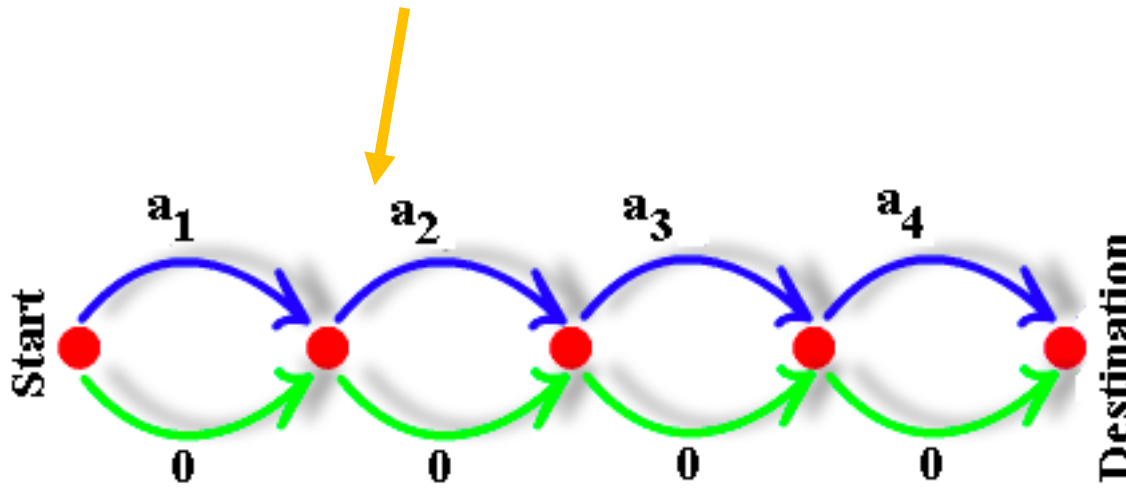
Neuromorphic Computing

- The brain is remarkably efficient
 - Only weighs 3 pounds on average
 - Consumes about 20 W on average
 - Rough estimate: 30 PFLOP capacity
- The basic goal of neuromorphic computing:
 - Build circuits composed of physical neurons
 - These circuits are connected by physical synapses
 - These synapses have direct access to memory
 - Inspired by the brain → leads to huge gains in speed and energy efficiency
- Main challenges:
 - Current transistor technology can't reach the scales necessary
 - Current circuit technology is limited to 2D

New Architectures on the Horizon

Neuromorphic Computing: Hardware

- Can we map deep neural networks onto a chip using physics?
- Two main technologies today:
 1. Hybrid CMOS/memristive
 2. Photonic



Physics for Neuromorphic Computing

New Architectures on the Horizon

Neuromorphic Computing: Memristive

- Hybrid CMOS/memristive
 - Neurons are made from CMOS (transistors)
 - Information flowing through the network is electrical current
 - A synapse acts like a valve for the current
 - Memristor (memory-resistor): A nanoscale resistor that has a memory of past voltages or currents
 - **Big challenge: How to build a memristor**
- Potential gains:
 - Hundred-fold gain in energy consumption and speed compared to GPUs

New Architectures on the Horizon

Neuromorphic Computing: Photonic

- Photonic
 - Build neural networks with optical components
 - Neurons implemented by optical resonators
 - Synapses implemented by multiple interferometers or using optical waveguides
- Benefits:
 - Convey information in parallel on a single fiber
 - Build a passive neural network with very low energy consumption
- Open considerations:
 - How to shrink the size of the neurons and synapses
 - How to minimize energy cost of converting information to light

New Architectures on the Horizon

Cryogenic Computing

- Can we significantly reduce power and cooling costs of giant computers?
- Current CMOS-based systems seem to be hitting a wall in terms of energy efficiency
- New architectures based on superconducting computing may offer a solution
 - Operate at ultra-low temperatures
 - Potential for 1 PFLOP/s at 20 KW; 100 PFLOP/s at 200 KW
 - May also aid quantum computing efforts

Cryogenic Computing Complexity (C3)

New Architectures on the Horizon

Analog Computing

- Analog computers were used for some of the most famous engineering missions (e.g. Apollo)
- The very basic idea is to have a system that is governed by the equations you want to solve
 - Originally this meant building computers out of gears
 - Eventually electronic analog computers were developed
- They were quite difficult to work with and were eventually replaced by digital computers

[Not Your Father's Analog Computer](#)

New Architectures on the Horizon

Analog Computing

- There is a resurgence of interest in analog computers now that digital computers are confronting their own issues
- Some research using FPGAs (Field Programmable Gate Arrays) indicates that analog computers could become cost-effective
- Limitations include:
 - Accuracy
 - Can be difficult to design
 - Cost can be high for complex problems

Beyond the Carbon Footprint

Is That All?

Thinking about Things Not Seen

- A lot of thought has been given to *energy efficiency*.
 - This is good:
 - More efficient calculations
 - Better use of resources
 - Smaller carbon footprint
- But there is more to the story:

Where are the resources to build these machines coming from?

- All hardware components must be built from something:
 - Rare metals?
 - Silicone?
 - Cooling with water --- Where does the water come from?

Is That All?

Thinking about Things Not Seen

- Datacenters and supercomputing centers are becoming very energy efficient
- Emissions are driven by one-time infrastructure and hardware
 - Facility construction
 - Chip manufacturing
- At Facebook, these infrastructure and hardware-related activities accounted for 23 times more carbon emissions than operational use!
- Need to update hardware, software, programming languages, and compilers
- Don't forget about water consumption and mining raw materials

[Chasing Carbon: The Elusive Environmental Footprint of Computing](#)

Discussion

Thoughts on the Future?

- Think about the different components of computing. Which ones do you think contribute to climate change? Why?
- What are the drivers for the development of new architectures? Which new approaches are you most excited about? Why?
- Discuss and expand upon the ecological implications of high performance computing.

Parting Thoughts

Where Do We Go From Here?

- We want to affect positive change in the world
- This requires social and environmental responsibility

**It's hard to save the world if we
cut the rainforests down to do so.**

Wrap-up

CS205: Aim and Objectives

Learn Parallel Computational Thinking and Tools

Practical overview of:

- Foundations of “parallel thinking”
- Aspects to consider when designing large-scale applications
- Parallel programming models for compute- and data-intensive applications, and
- Existing platforms, open-source tools and cloud services to support their execution

After the course, you will be in a great position to:

- Make effective use of the diverse, and rapidly changing, landscape of programming models, platforms and computing architectures for high performance computing and big data
- Decide which kind of programming model and platform is appropriate to meet your scalability and performance
- Apply the enduring principles behind these rapid changes in technology that remain true, no matter which version of a particular platform you are using

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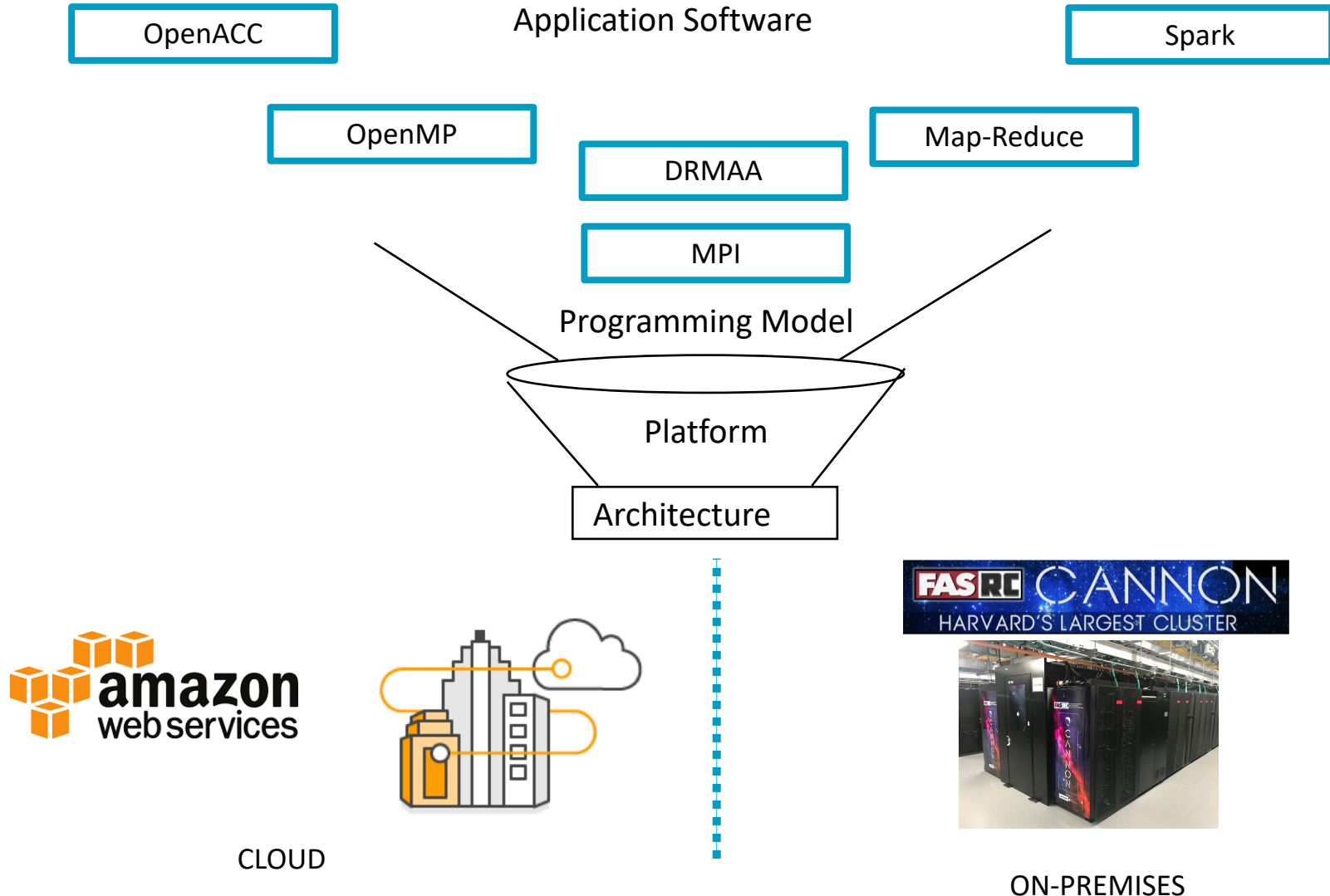
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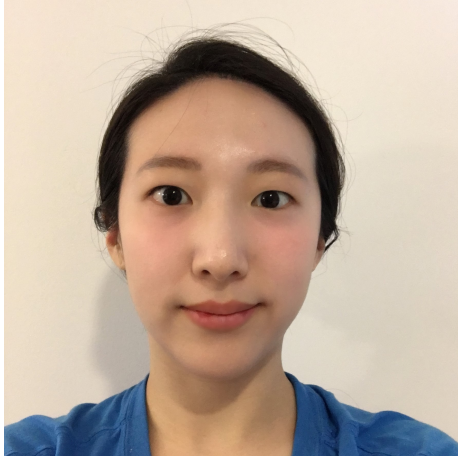
CS205: Contents

Programming Models, Platforms and Infrastructures



CS205: Staff

Teaching Fellows



Hayoun Oh



Simon Warchol



Oluwatosin (Tosin) Alliyu



Haipeng Lin



George Touloumes

Final Reminders

Course Wrap-up

- Final presentations
 - Monday, May 10th
 - Select a presentation block and presentation slot
 - Sign-up link is on Piazza
 - Read instructions when you sign up!
 - Please submit a pre-recorded version.
- Think about TF-ing in the fall!
- The Q is now open