# Debugging, Profiling, Performance Analysis, Optimization, Load **Balancing**

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# Foster's Design Methodology

- From Designing and Building Parallel Programs by Ian Foster
- Four Steps:
  - Partitioning
    - · Dividing computation and data
  - Communication
    - Sharing data between computations
  - Agglomeration
    - Grouping tasks to improve performance
  - Mapping
    - Assigning tasks to processors/threads



### Parallel Algorithm Design: PCAM

- Partition: Decompose problem into fine-grained tasks to maximize potential parallelism
- Communication: Determine communication pattern among tasks
- Agglomeration: Combine into coarser-grained tasks, if necessary, to reduce communication requirements or other costs
- Mapping: Assign tasks to processors, subject to tradeoff between communication cost and concurrency



### **Designing Threaded Programs** Partition Divide problem into The Problem tasks Communicate Determine amount Initial tasks and pattern of communication communication \*\*\* Agglomerate - Combine tasks Map Final Program Assign agglomerated

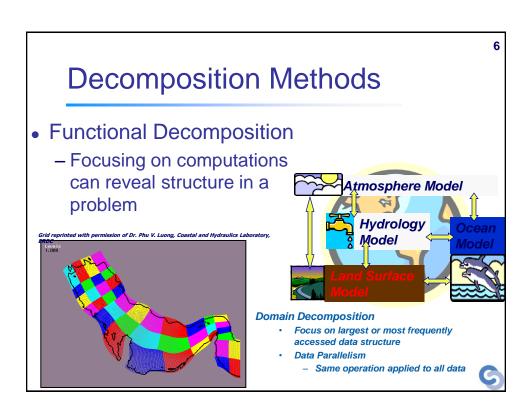
tasks to created

threads

### Parallel Programming Models

- Functional Decomposition
  - Task parallelism
  - Divide the computation, then associate the data
  - Independent tasks of the same problem
- Data Decomposition
  - Same operation performed on different data
  - Divide data into pieces, then associate computation





# **Example: Computing Pi**

- We want to compute  $\pi$
- One method: method of darts\*
- Ratio of area of square to area of inscribed circle proportional to  $\pi$



\*Disclaimer: this is a <u>TERRIBLE</u> way to compute π. Don't even think about doing it this way in real life!!!



### **Method of Darts**

- Imagine dartboard with circle of radius *R* inscribed in square
- Area of circle =  $\pi R^2$
- Area of square  $=(2R)^2 = 4R^2$
- Area of circle Area of square  $=\frac{\pi R^2}{4R^2} = \frac{\pi}{4}$





### **Method of Darts**

- So, ratio of areas proportional to  $\pi$
- How to find areas?
  - Suppose we threw darts (completely randomly) at dartboard
  - Could count number of darts landing in circle and total number of darts landing in square
  - Ratio of these numbers gives approximation to ratio of areas
  - Quality of approximation increases with number of darts

 $-\pi = 4 \times$ # darts inside circle # darts thrown



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### **Method of Darts**

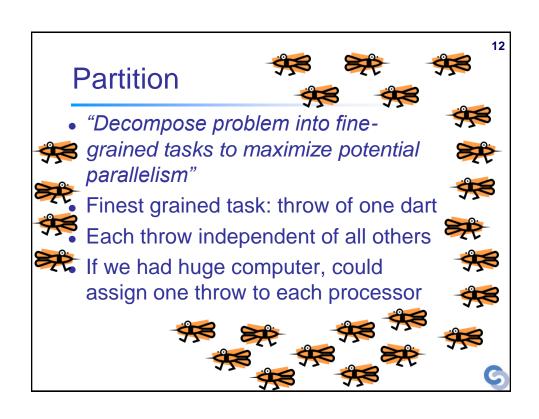
- Okay, Rebecca, but how in the world do we simulate this experiment on a computer?
  - -Decide on length R
  - -Generate pairs of random numbers (x, y) so that  $-R \le x$ ,  $y \le R$
  - -If (x, y) within circle (i.e. if  $(x^2+y^2) \le R^2$ ), add one to tally for inside circle
  - Lastly, find ratio



### Parallelization Strategies

- What tasks independent of each other?
- What tasks must be performed sequentially?
- Using PCAM parallel algorithm design strategy

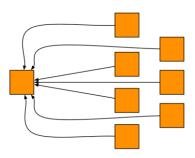




Communication

"Determine communication pattern among tasks"

 Each processor throws dart(s) then sends results back to manager process





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# Agglomeration

"Combine into coarser-grained tasks, if necessary, to reduce communication requirements or other costs"

- To get good value of  $\pi$ , must use millions of darts
- We don't have millions of processors available
- Furthermore, communication between manager and millions of worker processors would be very expensive
- Solution: divide up number of dart throws evenly between processors, so each processor does a share of work



**Mapping** 

"Assign tasks to processors, subject to tradeoff between communication cost and concurrency"

- Assign role of "manager" to processor 0
- Processor 0 will receive tallies from all the other processors, and will compute final value of  $\pi$
- Every processor, including manager, will perform equal share of dart throws



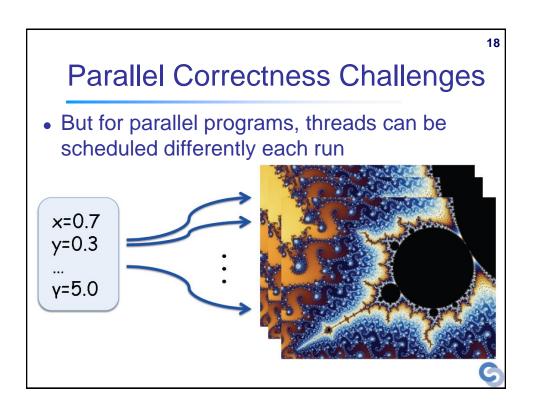
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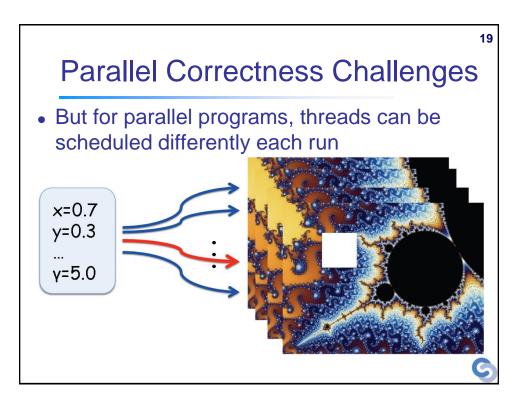
# Parallel Correctness Challenges

- Parallel programming presents a number of new challenges to writing correct software
  - New kinds of bugs: data races, deadlocks, etc.
  - More difficult to test programs and find bugs
  - More difficult to reproduce errors
- Key Difficulty: Potential non-determinism
  - Order in which threads execute can change from run to run
  - Some runs are correct while others hit bugs



# Parallel Correctness Challenges • For sequential programs, we typically expect that same input → same output x=0.7 y=0.3 ... y=5.0 Program P





# Parallel Correctness Challenges

- But for parallel programs, threads can be scheduled differently each run
- A bug may occur under only rare schedules.
  - In 1 run in 1000 or 10,000 or ...
- May occur only under some configurations:
  - Particular OS scheduler
  - When machine is under heavy load.
  - Only when debugging/logging is turned off!



### **Testing Parallel Programs**

- For **sequential** programs:
  - Create several test inputs with known answers.
  - Run the code on each test input
  - If all tests give correct input, have some confidence in the program
  - Have intuition about which "edge cases" to test
- But for parallel programs:
  - Each run tests only a single schedule
  - How can we test many different schedules?
  - How confident can we be when our tests pass?



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# **Testing Parallel Programs**

- Possible Idea: Can we just run each test thousands of times?
- Problem: Often not much randomness in OS scheduling
  - May waste much effort, but test few different schedules
  - Recall: Some schedules tend to occur only under certain configurations – hardware, OS, etc
  - One easy parameter to change: load on machine



**Stress Testing** 

- Idea: Test parallel program while oversubscribing the machine
  - On a 4-core system, run with 8 or 16 threads
  - Run several instances of the program at a time
  - Increase size to overflow cache/memory
  - Effect: Timing of threads will change, giving different thread schedules
- Pro: Very simple idea, easy to implement
  - And often works!



Noise Making / Random Scheduling

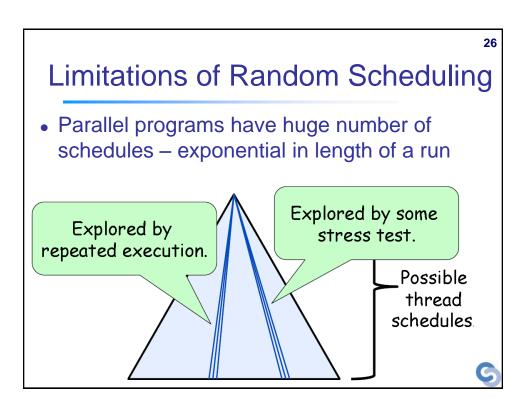
- Idea: Run with random thread schedules
  - E.g., insert code like:
    - if (rand() < 0.01) usleep(100)
    - if (rand() < 0.01) yield()
  - Can add to only "suspicious" or "tricky" code.
  - Or use tool to seize control of thread scheduling.
- Pros: Still fairly simple and often effective.
  - Explores different schedules than stress testing.
  - Many tools can perform this automatically

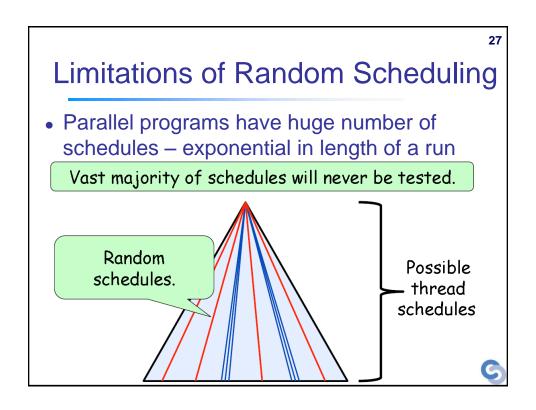


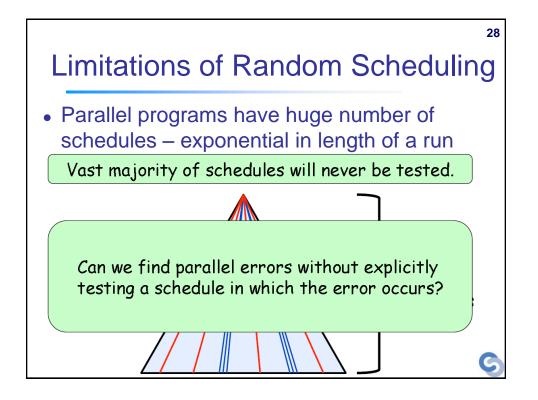
### Noise Making / Random Scheduling

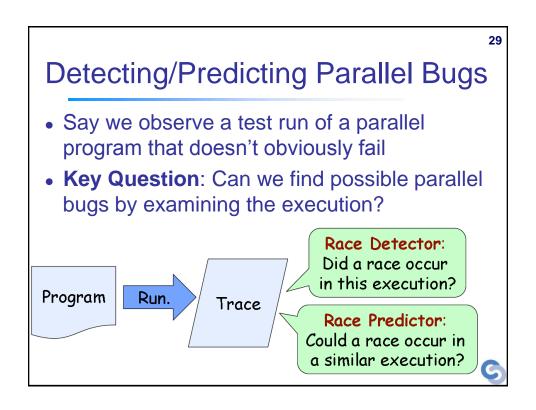
- IBM's ConTest: Noise-making for Java
  - Clever heuristics about where to insert delays
- Berkeley's Thrille (C + pthreads) and
- CalFuzzer (Java) do simple random scheduling
  - Extensible: Write testing scheduler for your app
- Microsoft Research's Cuzz (for .NET)
  - New random scheduling algorithm with probabilistic guarantees for finding bugs – available soon
- Many of these tools provide replay same random number seed → same schedule

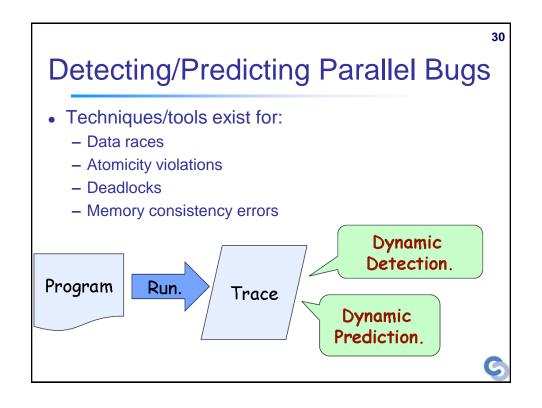












### Data Race Detection / Prediction

- 20+ years of research on race detection
- Happens-Before Race Detection [Schonberg '89]:
  - Do two accesses to a variable occur, at least one a write, with no intervening synchronization?
  - No false warnings
- Lockset Race Prediction [Savage, et al., '97]:
  - Does every access to a variable hold a common lock?
  - Efficient, but many false warnings
- Hybrid Race Prediction [O'Callahan, Choi, 03]:
  - Combines Lockset with Happens-Before for better performance and fewer false warnings vs. Lockset



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# Coverage vs. False Warnings

- False Warning: Tool reports a data race, but the race cannot happen in a real run
- Coverage: How many of the real data races does a tool report?
- Hybrid race prediction:
  - Better coverage but more false warnings
- Happens-Before race detection:
  - Fewer false warnings (still some, in practice) and less coverage



### **Dynamic Data Race Tools**

- Intel Thread Checker for C + pthreads
  - Happens-Before race detection
- Valgrind-based tools for C + pthreads
  - Helgrind and DRD (Happens-Before)
  - –ThreadSanitizer (Hybrid)
- CHESS performs race detection for .NET
- CalFuzzer and Thrille: hybrid race detection for Java and C + pthreads



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# Static Analysis

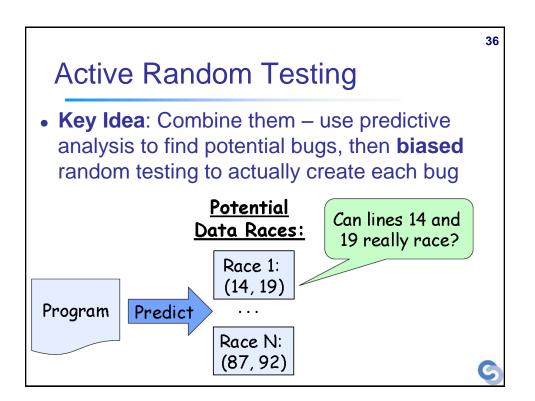
- Have only discussed dynamic analyses
  - Examine a real run/trace of a program
- Static analyses predict data races, deadlocks, etc., without running a program
  - Only examine the source code
  - Area of active research for ~20 years
  - Potentially much better coverage than dynamic analysis – examines all possible runs
  - But typically also more false warnings
- CHORD: static race and deadlock prediction

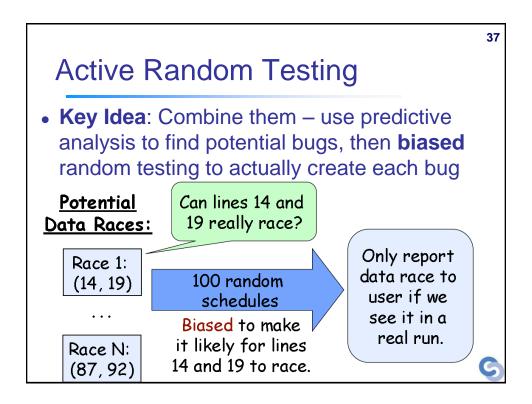


**Active Random Testing Overview** 

- Problem: Random testing can be very effective for parallel programs, but can miss many potential bugs
- Problem: Predictive analyses find many bugs, but can have false warnings
  - Time consuming and difficult to examine reported bugs and determine whether or not they are real
- Key Idea: Combine them use predictive analysis to find potential bugs, then biased random testing to actually create each bug





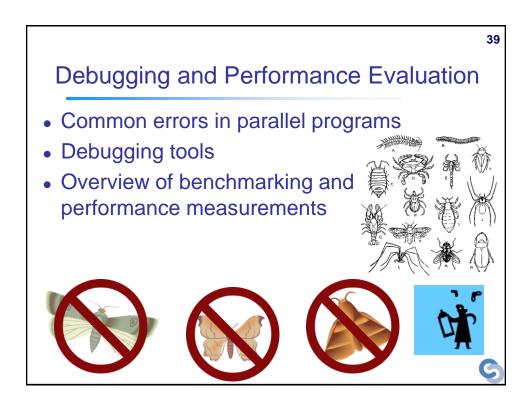


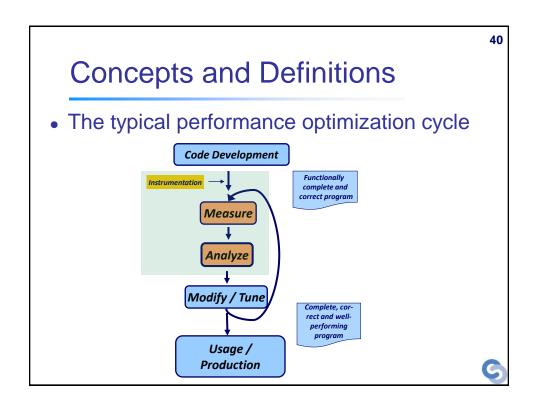
### **Active Random Testing**

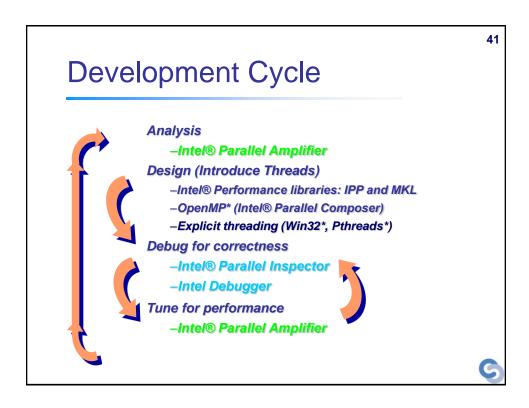
- CalFuzzer is an extensible, open-source tool for active testing of Java programs
  - For data races, atomicity bugs, and deadlocks.
  - RaceFuzzer is the active testing algorithm for data races – will show by example.
- Thrille for C + pthreads.
  - For data races.
- And UPC-Thrille for Unified Parallel C.
  - Part of the Berkeley UPC system



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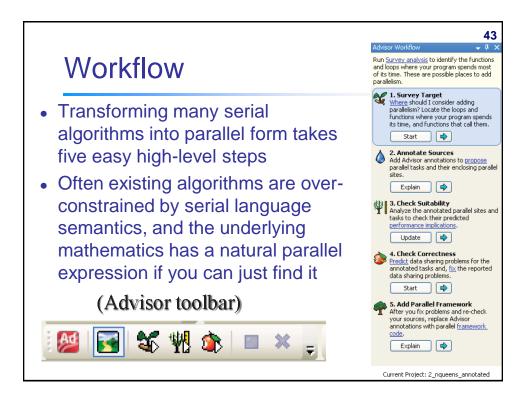


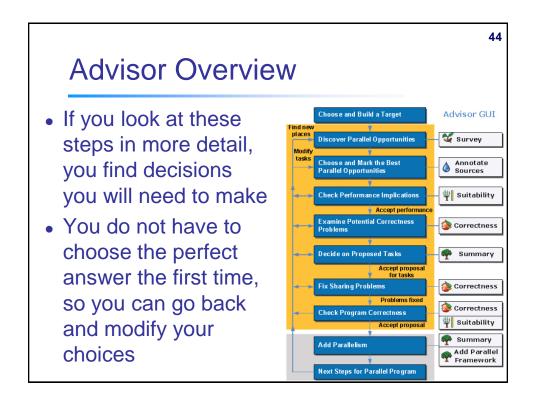
### Intel® Parallel Studio

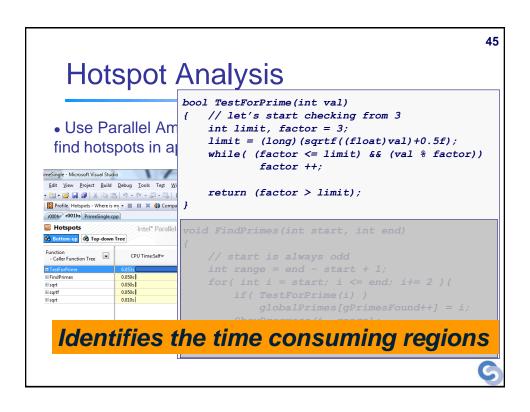
- Decide where to add the parallelism
  - Analyze the serial program
  - Prepare it for parallelism
  - Test the preparations
- Add the parallelism
  - Threads, OpenMP, Cilk, TBB, etc.
- Find logic problems
  - Only fails sometimes
  - Place of failure changes
- Find performance problems

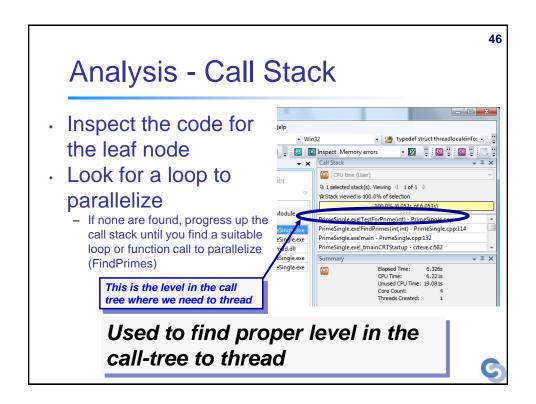


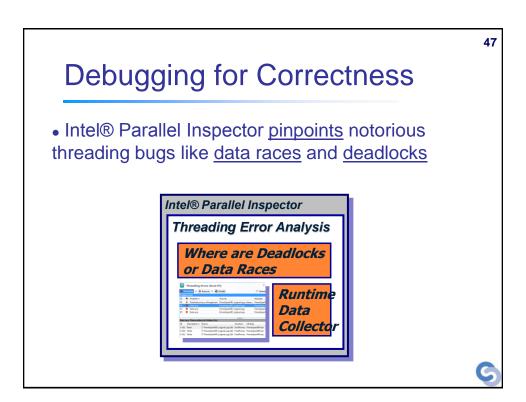
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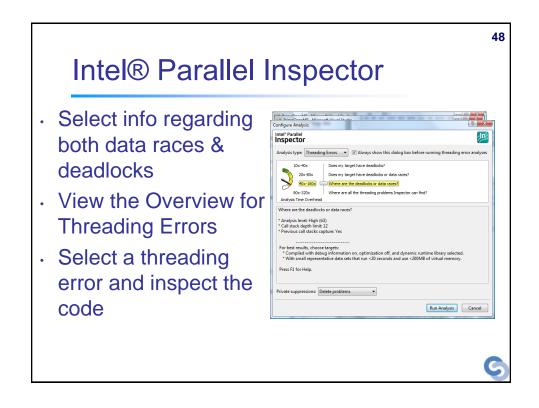


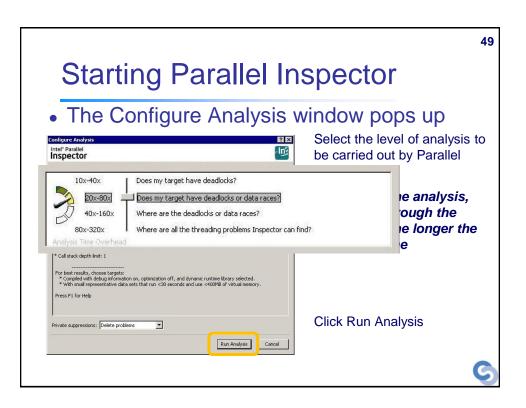












### **Motivation**

- Developing threaded applications can be a complex task
- New class of problems are caused by the interaction between concurrent threads
  - Data races or storage conflicts
    - More than one thread accesses memory without synchronization
  - Deadlocks
    - Thread waits for an event that will never happen



Intel® Parallel Inspector

- Debugging tool for threaded software
  - Plug-in to Microsoft\* Visual Studio\*
- Finds threading bugs in OpenMP\*, Intel® Threading Building Blocks, and Win32\* threaded software
- Locates bugs quickly that can take days to find using traditional methods and tools
  - Isolates problems, not the symptoms
  - Bug does not have to occur to find it!



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Parallel Inspector: Analysis

- Dynamic as software runs
  - Data (workload) -driven execution
- Includes monitoring of:
  - Thread and Sync APIs used
  - Thread execution order
    - Scheduler impacts results
  - Memory accesses between threads

Code path must be executed to be analyzed



### Parallel Inspector: Before You Start

- Instrumentation: background
  - Adds calls to library to record information
    - Thread and Sync APIs
    - Memory accesses
  - Increases execution time and size
- Use **small** data sets (workloads)
  - Execution time and space is expanded
  - Multiple runs over different paths yield best results

Workload selection is important!



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### Workload Guidelines

- Execute problem code once per thread to be identified
- Use smallest possible working data set
  - Minimize data set size
    - Smaller image sizes
  - Minimize loop iterations or time steps
    - Simulate minutes rather than days
  - Minimize update rates
    - Lower frames per second

Finds threading errors faster!



**Binary Instrumentation** 

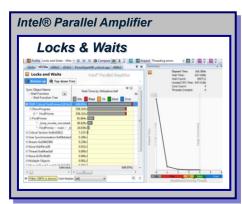
- Build with supported compiler
- Running the application
  - Must be run from within Parallel Inspector
  - Application is instrumented when executed
  - -External DLLs are instrumented as used



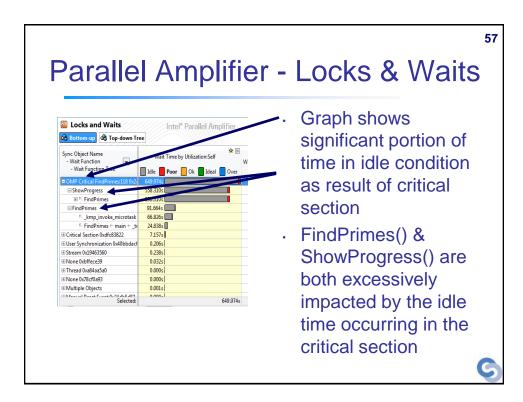
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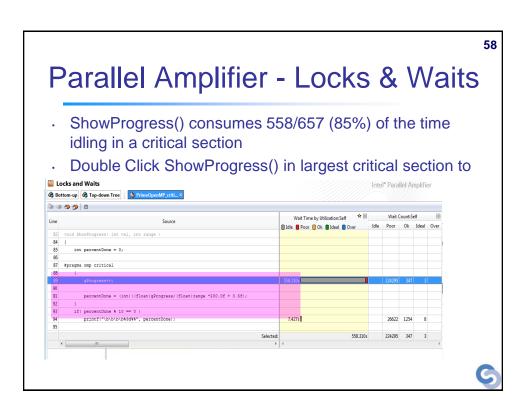
**Tuning for Performance** 

Parallel Amplifier (Locks & Waits) pinpoints performance bottlenecks in threaded applications



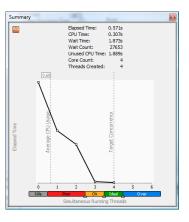






# Parallel Amplifier Summary

- Elapsed Time shows.571 sec
- Wait Time/ Core Count = 1.87/4 = .47 sec
- Waiting 82% of elapsed time in critical section
- Most of the time 1 core and occasionally 2 are occupied



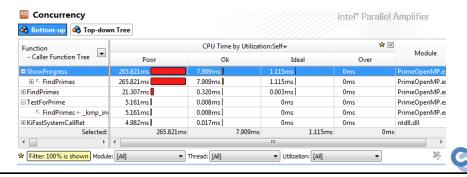


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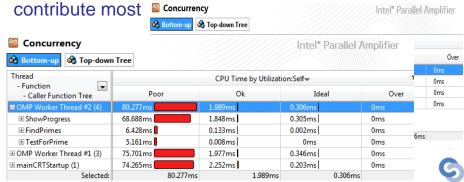
# Parallel Amplifier - Concurrency

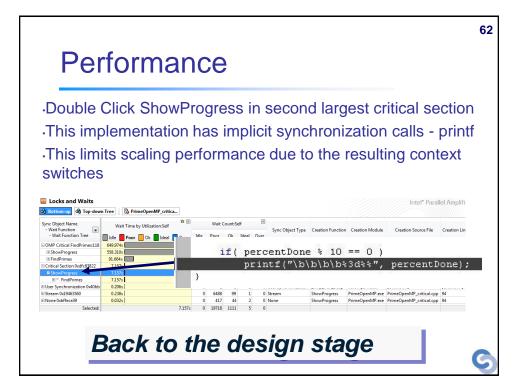
- Function Caller Function Tree
- ShowProgress is called from FindPrimes and represent the biggest reason concurrency is poor

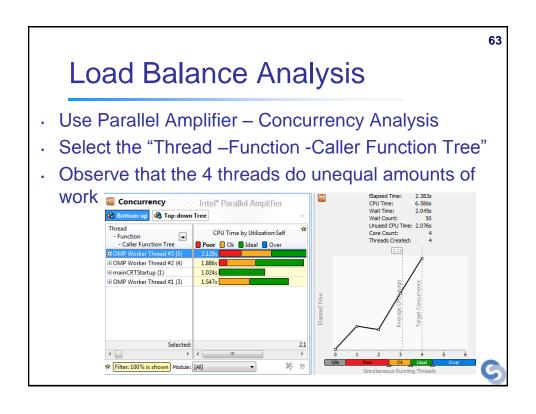


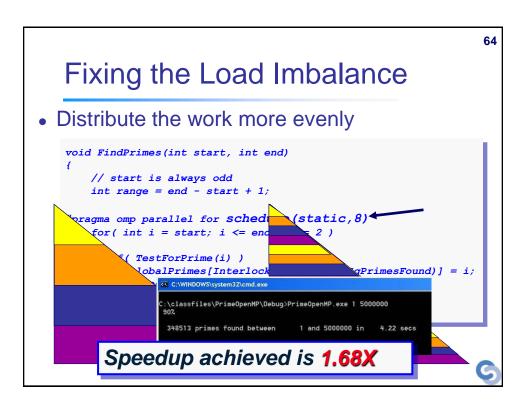
Parallel Amplifier - Concurrency

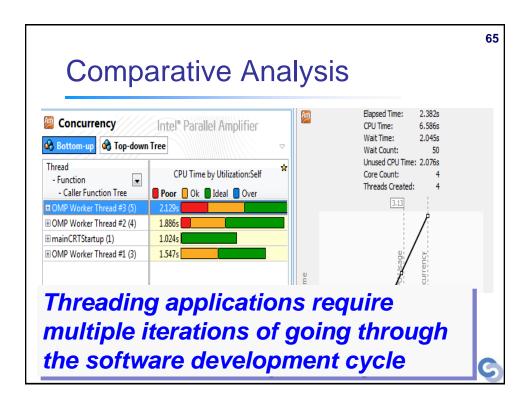
- · Thread -Function -Caller Function Tree
- This view shows how each thread contributes to the concurrency issue
- Expanding any thread will reveal the functions that contribute most Concurrency







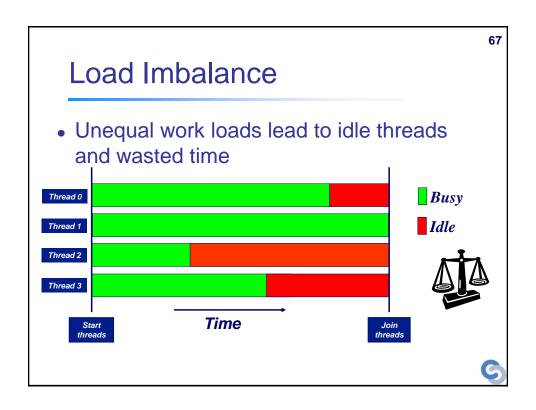




### Common Performance Issues

- Load balance
  - Improper distribution of parallel work
- Synchronization
  - Excessive use of global data, contention for the same synchronization object
- Parallel Overhead
  - Due to thread creation, scheduling...
- Granularity
  - Not sufficient parallel work





Redistribute Work to Threads

- Static assignment
  - –Are the same number of tasks assigned to each thread?
  - –Do tasks take different processing time?
    - Do tasks change in a predictable pattern?
      - ◆Rearrange (static) order of assignment to threads
    - Use dynamic assignment of tasks

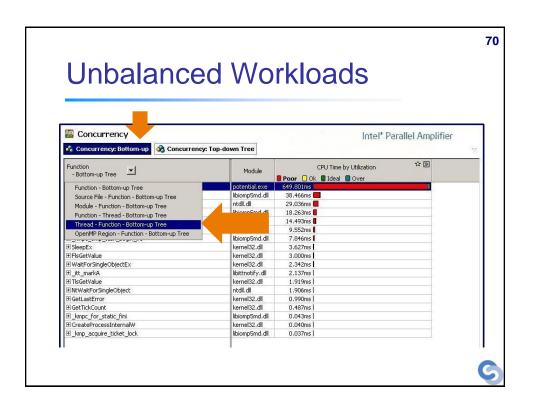


Redistribute Work to Threads

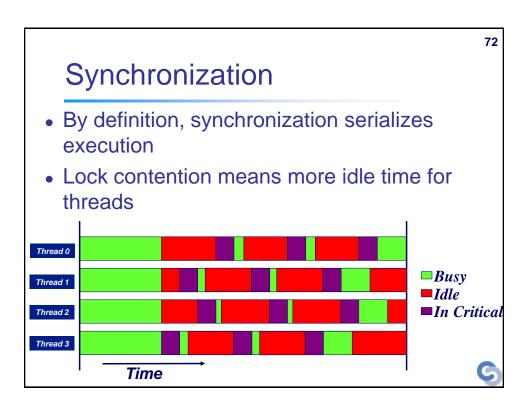
- Dynamic assignment
  - Is there one big task being assigned?
    - Break up large task to smaller parts
  - Are small computations agglomerated into larger task?
    - Adjust number of computations in a task
    - More small computations into single task?
    - Fewer small computations into single task?
    - Bin packing heuristics



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**Synchronization Fixes** 

- Eliminate synchronization
  - Expensive but necessary "evil"
  - Use storage local to threads
    - Use local variable for partial results, update global after local computations
    - Allocate space on thread stack (alloca)
    - Use thread-local storage API (TIsAlloc)
  - Use atomic updates whenever possible
    - Some global data updates can use atomic operations (Interlocked API family)



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**General Optimizations** 

- Serial Optimizations
  - Serial optimizations along the critical path should affect execution time
- Parallel Optimizations
  - Reduce synchronization object contention
  - Balance workload
  - Functional parallelism
- Analyze benefit of increasing number of processors
- Analyze the effect of increasing the number of threads on scaling performance



**Testing & Debugging Conclusions** 

- Many tools available right now to help find bugs in parallel software
  - Data races, atomicity violations, deadlocks
- No silver bullet solution!
  - Have to carefully design how an application threads will coordinate and share/protect data
  - Tools will help catch mistakes when the design is accidentally not followed
  - Ad hoc parallelization likely to never be correct, even with these tools



Measurement: Profiling vs. Tracing

- Profiling
  - Summary statistics of performance metrics
    - Number of times a routine was invoked
    - · Exclusive, inclusive time
    - · Hardware performance counters
    - Number of child routines invoked, etc.
    - Structure of invocations (call-trees/call-graphs)
    - · Memory, message communication sizes
- Tracing
  - When and where events took place along a global timeline
    - Time-stamped log of events
    - Message communication events (sends/receives) are tracked
    - Shows when and from/to where messages were sent
    - Large volume of performance data generated usually leads to more perturbation in the program



# Measurement: Profiling

#### Profiling

- Helps to expose performance bottlenecks and hotspots
- 80/20 –rule or *Pareto principle:* often 80% of the execution time in 20% of your application
- Optimize what matters, don't waste time optimizing things that have negligible overall influence on performance

#### Implementation

- Sampling: periodic OS interrupts or hardware counter traps
  - Build a histogram of sampled program counter (PC) values
  - · Hotspots will show up as regions with many hits
- Measurement: direct insertion of measurement code
  - Measure at start and end of regions of interests, compute difference



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# Measurement: Tracing

#### Tracing

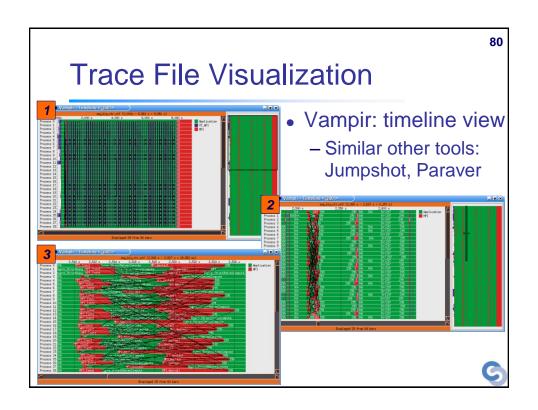
- Recording of information about significant points (events) during program execution
  - entering/exiting code region (function, loop, block, ...)
  - thread/process interactions (e.g., send/receive message)
- Save information in event record
  - timestamp
  - CPU identifier, thread identifier
  - Event type and event-specific information
- Event trace is a time-sequenced stream of event records
- Can be used to reconstruct dynamic program behavior
- Typically requires code instrumentation

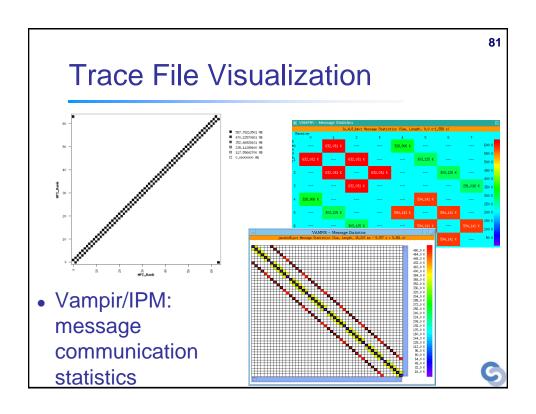


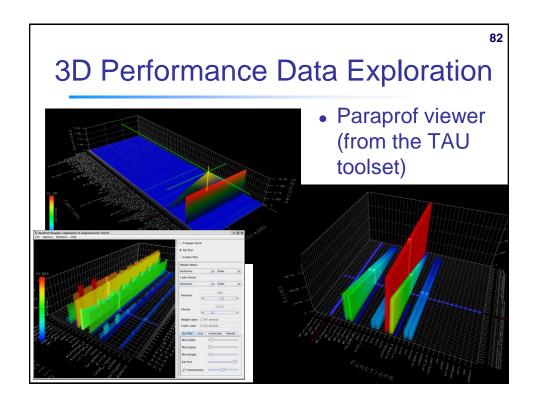
# Performance Data Analysis

- Draw conclusions from measured performance data
- Manual analysis
  - Visualization
  - Interactive exploration
  - Statistical analysis
  - Modeling
- Automated analysis
  - Try to cope with huge amounts of performance by automation
  - Examples: Paradyn, KOJAK, Scalasca, Periscope









**Automated Performance Analysis** 

- Reason for Automation
  - Size of systems: several tens of thousand of processors
  - LLNL Sequoia: 1.6 million cores
  - Trend to multi-core
- Large amounts of performance data when tracing
  - Several gigabytes or even terabytes
- Not all programmers are performance experts
  - Scientists want to focus on their domain
  - Need to keep up with new machines
- Automation can solve some of these issues



Automation Example

\*\*\*Constraint\*\*

\*\*Process 1 (6.0)

\*\*Process 2 (6.0)

\*\*Process 3 (6.0)

\*\*Process 5 (6

#### Hardware Performance Counters

- Specialized hardware registers to measure the performance of various aspects of a microprocessor
- Originally used for hardware verification purposes
- Can provide insight into:
  - Cache behavior
  - Branching behavior
  - Memory and resource contention and access patterns
  - Pipeline stalls
  - Floating point efficiency
  - Instructions per cycle
- Counters vs. events
  - Usually a large number of countable events hundreds
  - On a small number of counters (4-18)
  - PAPI handles multiplexing if required



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### What is PAPI

- Middleware that provides a consistent and efficient programming interface for the performance counter hardware found in most major microprocessors.
- Countable events are defined in two ways:
  - Platform-neutral Preset Events (e.g., PAPI\_TOT\_INS)
  - Platform-dependent Native Events (e.g., L3\_CACHE\_MISS)
- Preset Events can be derived from multiple Native Events (e.g. PAPI\_L1\_TCM might be the sum of L1 Data Misses and L1 Instruction Misses on a given platform)
- Preset events are defined in a best-effort way
  - No guarantees of semantics portably
  - Figuring out what a counter actually counts and if it does so correctly can be hairy



#### **PAPI Hardware Events**

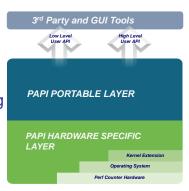
- Preset Events
  - Standard set of over 100 events for application performance tuning
  - No standardization of the exact definitions
  - Mapped to either single or linear combinations of native events on each platform
  - Use papi\_avail to see what preset events are available on a given platform
- Native Events
  - Any event countable by the CPU
  - Same interface as for preset events
  - Use papi\_native\_avail utility to see all available native events
- Use papi\_event\_chooser utility to select a compatible set of events



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# **PAPI** Counter Interfaces

- PAPI provides 3 interfaces to the underlying counter hardware:
  - A low level API manages hardware events in user defined groups called EventSets. Meant for experienced application programmers wanting fine-grained measurements.
  - A high level API provides the ability to start, stop and read the counters for a specified list of events.
  - Graphical and end-user tools provide facile data collection and visualization.





# PAPI High Level Calls

- PAPI\_num\_counters()
  - get the number of hardware counters available on the system
- PAPI\_flips (float \*rtime, float \*ptime, long long \*flpins, float \*mflips)
  - simplified call to get Mflips/s (floating point instruction rate), real and processor time
- PAPI\_flops (float \*rtime, float \*ptime, long long \*flpops, float \*mflops)
  - simplified call to get Mflops/s (floating point operation rate), real and processor time
  - PAPI\_ipc (float \*rtime, float \*ptime, long long \*ins, float \*ipc)
    - gets instructions per cycle, real and processor time
- PAPI\_accum\_counters (long long \*values, int array\_len)
  - add current counts to array and reset counters
- PAPI\_read\_counters (long long \*values, int array\_len)
  - copy current counts to array and reset counters
- PAPI\_start\_counters (int \*events, int array\_len)
  - start counting hardware events
- PAPI\_stop\_counters (long long \*values, int array\_len)
  - stop counters and return current counts



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### PAPI Example Low Level API Usage

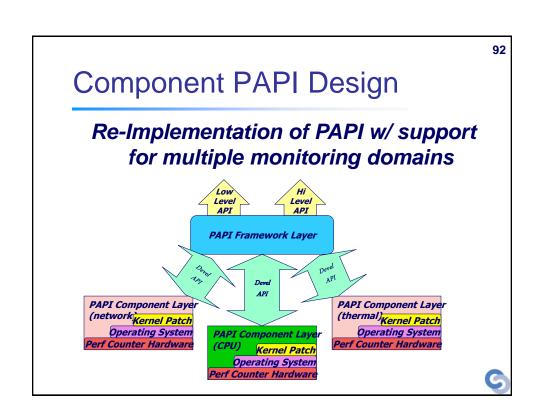
```
#include "papi.h"
#define NUM EVENTS 2
int Events[NUM EVENTS]={PAPI FP OPS,PAPI TOT CYC},
int EventSet;
long long values[NUM EVENTS];
/* Initialize the Library */
retval = PAPI_library_init (PAPI_VER_CURRENT);
/* Allocate space for the new eventset and do setup */
retval = PAPI create eventset (&EventSet);
/* Add Flops and total cycles to the eventset */
retval = PAPI add events (&EventSet,Events,NUM EVENTS);
/* Start the counters */
retval = PAPI start (EventSet);
do work(); /* What we want to monitor*/
/*Stop counters and store results in values */
retval = PAPI stop (EventSet, values);
```

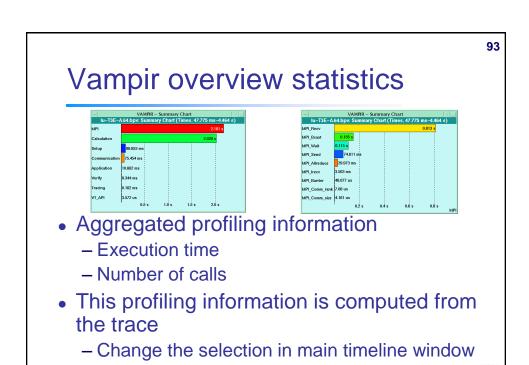


# Using PAPI through tools

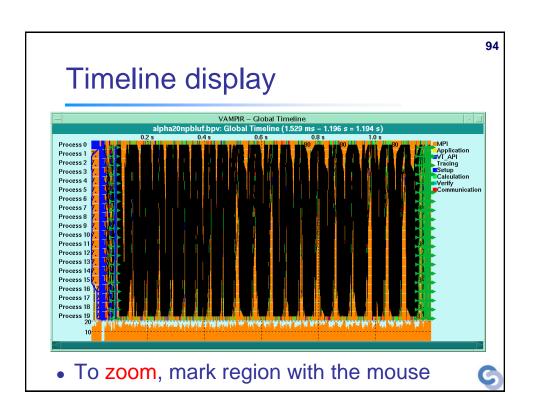
- You can use PAPI directly in your application, but most people use it through tools
- Tool might have a predfined set of counters or lets you select counters through a configuration file/environment variable, etc.
- Tools using PAPI
  - TAU (UO)
  - PerfSuite (NCSA)
  - HPCToolkit (Rice)
  - KOJAK, Scalasca (FZ Juelich, UTK)
  - Open|Speedshop (SGI)
  - ompP (UCB)
  - IPM (LBNL)

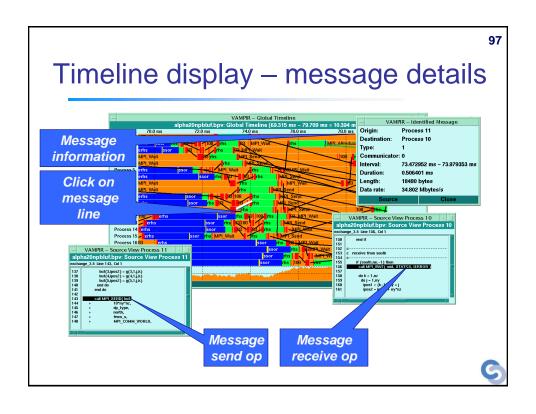


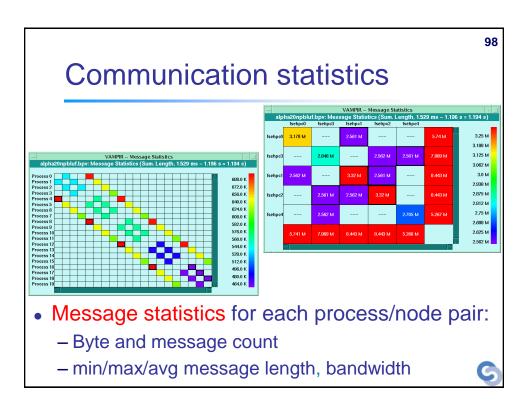


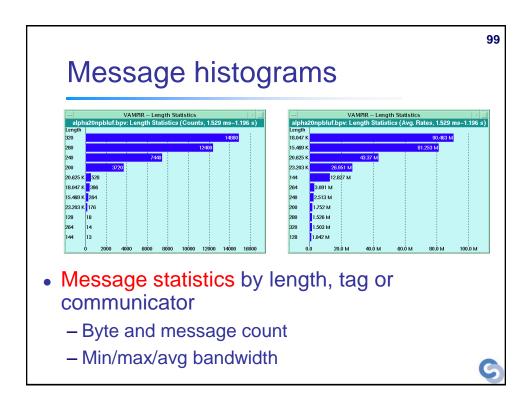


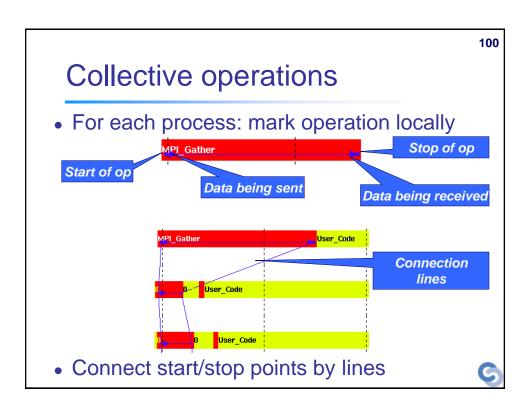
Inclusive or exclusive of called routines

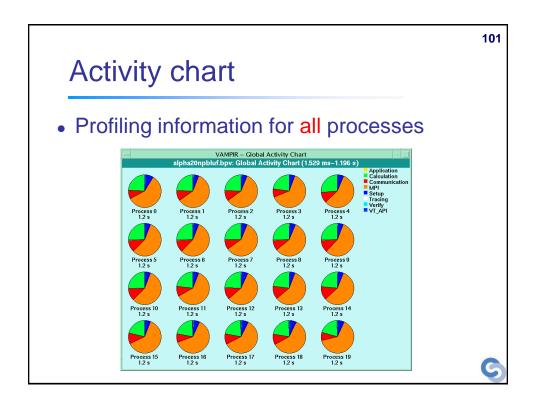


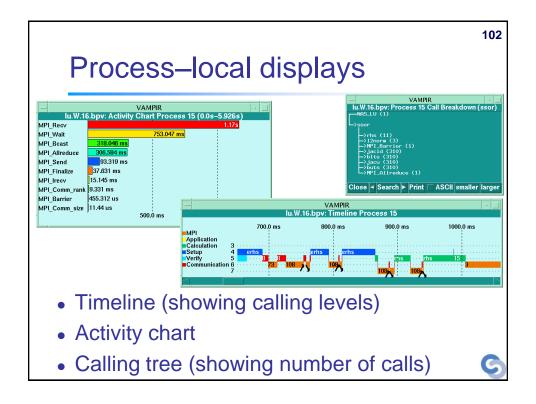


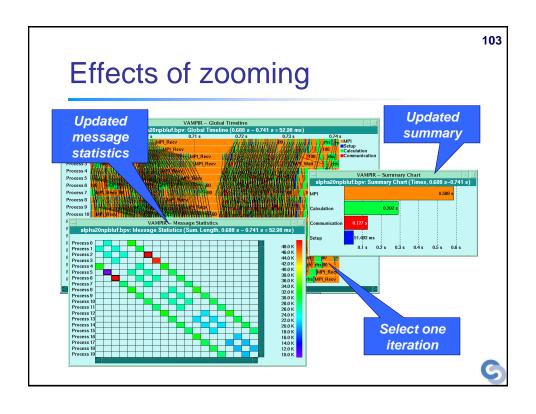


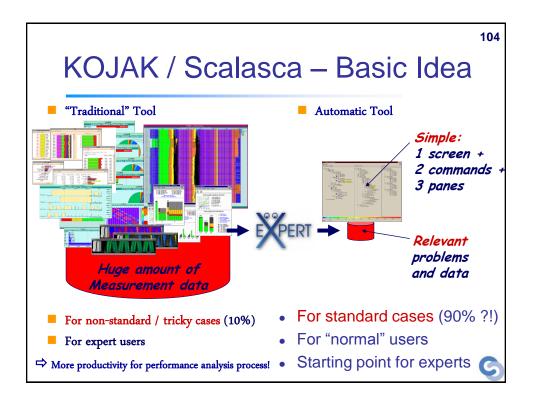


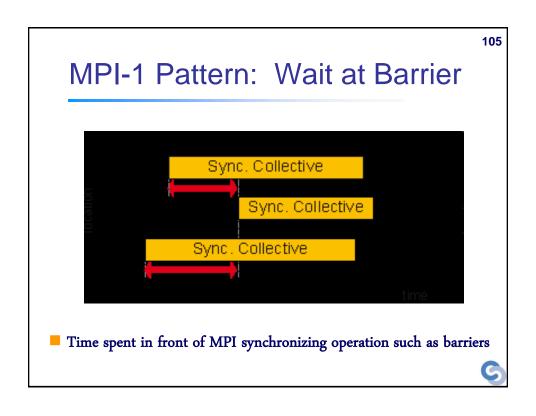


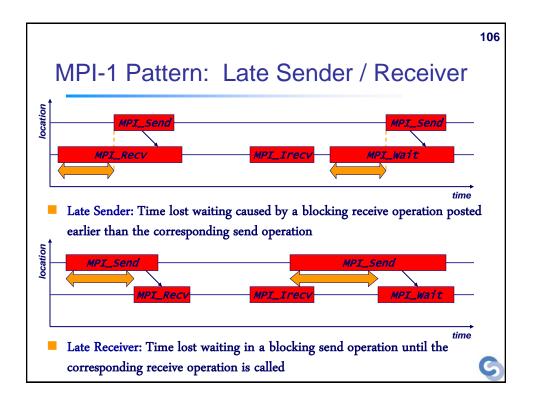




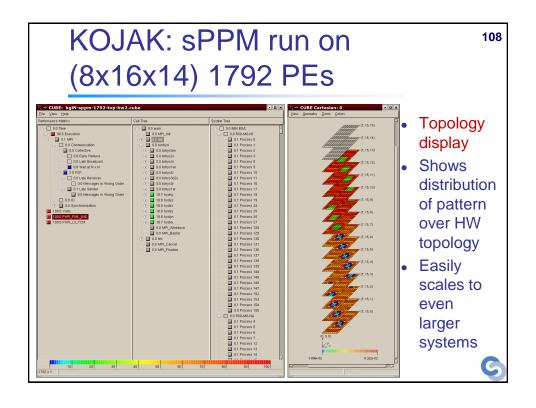












### **TAU Parallel Performance System**

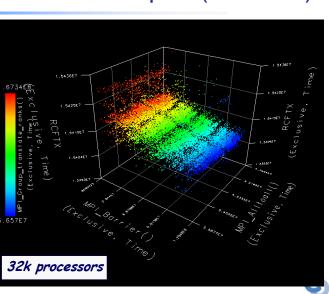
- http://www.cs.uoregon.edu/research/tau/
- Multi-level performance instrumentation
  - Multi-language automatic source instrumentation
- Flexible and configurable performance measurement
- Widely-ported parallel performance profiling system
  - Computer system architectures and operating systems
  - Different programming languages and compilers
- Support for multiple parallel programming paradigms
  - Multi-threading, message passing, mixed-mode, hybrid
- Integration in complex software, systems, applications



### Y

# ParaProf – 3D Scatterplot (Miranda)

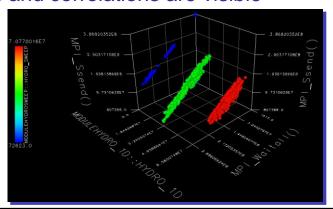
- Each point is a "thread" of execution
- A total of four metrics shown in relation
- ParaVis 3D profile visualization library



PerfExplorer - Cluster Analysis

 Four significant events automatically selected (from 16K processors)

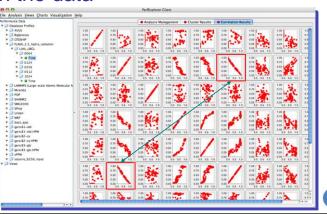
Clusters and correlations are visible





PerfExplorer – Correlation Analysis (Flash)

 Describes strength and direction of a linear relationship between two variables (events) in the data





#### **Tools References**

- IBM ConTest (Noise-Making for Java):
  - https://www.research.ibm.com/haifa/projects/verification/contest/index.html
- Cuzz (Random scheduling for C++/.NET):
  - http://research.microsoft.com/en-us/projects/cuzz/
- Intel Thread Checker and Parallel Inspector (C/C++):
  - http://software.intel.com/en-us/intel-thread-checker/
  - http://software.intel.com/en-us/intel-parallelinspector/
  - http://software.intel.com/en-us/articles/intel-parallel-studio-xe/
- Helgrind, DRD, ThreadSanitizer (Dynamic Data Race Detection/Prediction for C/C++):
  - http://valgrind.org/docs/manual/hg-manual.html
  - http://code.google.com/p/data-race-test/
- CHORD (Static Race/Deadlock Detection for Java):
  - http://code.google.com/p/jchord/



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### **Tools References**

- CalFuzzer (Java):
  - http://srl.cs.berkeley.edu/~ksen/calfuzzer/
- Thrille (C):
  - http://github.com/nicholasjalbert/Thrille
- CHESS (C++/.NET Model Checking, Race Detection):
  - http://research.microsoft.com/en-us/projects/chess/default.aspx
- Java Path Finder (Model Checking for Java):
  - http://babelfish.arc.nasa.gov/trac/jpf
- Tau Performance System (Fortran, C, C++, Java, Python):
  - http://www.cs.uoregon.edu/research/tau/home.php
- Vampir/GuideView (C/C++ and Fortran):
  - https://computing.llnl.gov/code/vgv.html
- Performance Application Programming Interface (PAPI):
  - http://icl.cs.utk.edu/papi/

