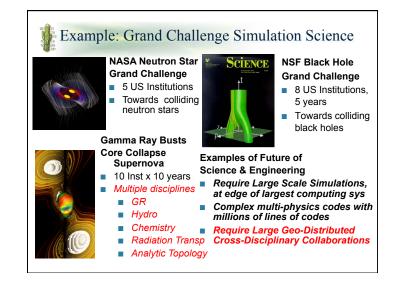


Application Code Complexity

Application Complexity has Grown

- Big Science on leading-edge HPC systems is a multidisciplinary, multi-institutional, multi-national efforts! (and we are not just talking about particle accelerators and Tokamaks)
- Looking more like science on atom-smashers
- Advanced Parallel Languages are Necessary, but NOT Sufficient!
 - Need higher-level organizing constructs for teams of programmers
 - Languages must work together with frameworks for a complete solution!



Community Codes & Frameworks

(hiding complexity using good SW engineering)

Frameworks (eg. Chombo, Cactus, SIERRA, UPIC, etc...)

- · Clearly separate roles and responsibilities of your expert programmers from that of the domain experts/scientist/users (productivity layer vs. performance layer)
- Define a social contract between the expert programmers and the domain scientists
- Enforces software engineering style/discipline to ensure correctness
- Hides complex domain-specific parallel abstractions from scientist/users to enable performance (hence, most effective when applied to community codes)
- Allow scientists/users to code nominally serial plug-ins that are invoked by a parallel "driver" (either as DAG or constraint-based scheduler) to enable productivity

Properties of the "plug-ins" for successful frameworks (SIAM CSE07)

- Relinquish control of main(): invoke user module when framework thinks it is best
- Module must be stateless (or benefits from that)
- Module only operates on the data it is handed (well-understood side-effects)
- Frameworks can be thought of as driver for coarse-grained functionalstyle of programming
 - · Very much like classic static dataflow, except coarse-grained objects written in
 - declarative language (dataflow without the functional languages)
 - · Broad flexibility to schedule Directed Graph of dataflow constraints

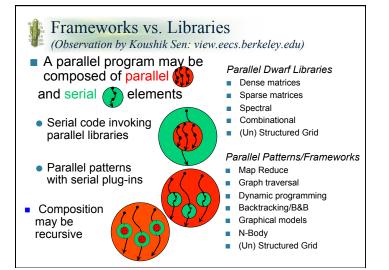
Framework vs. Libraries

Library

- User program invokes library (imperative execution model offers limited scheduling freedom)
- User defines presents data layout to library (compiler and system) has limited freedom to reorganize to match physical topology of underlying system hardware)

Framework

- Framework invokes user plug-in (declarative execution model)
- Only operation on data given (well defined scope for side-effects)
- Functional semantics provide more scheduling freedom

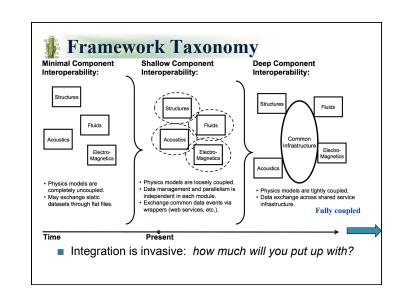


Separation of Concerns

Segmented Developer Roles

Developer Roles	Domain Expertise	CS/Coding Expertise	Hardware Expertise
Application: Assemble solver modules to solve science problems. (eg. combine hydro+GR +elliptic solver w/MPI driver for Neutron Star simulation)	Einstein	Elvis	Mort
Solver : Write solver modules to implement algorithms. Solvers use driver layer to implement "idiom for parallelism". (e.g. an elliptic solver or hydrodynamics solver)	Elvis	Einstein	Elvis
Driver : Write low-level data allocation/placement, communication and scheduling to implement "idiom for parallelism" for a given "dwarf". (e.g. PUGH)	Mort	Elvis	Einstein

Separation of Concerns Segmented Developer Roles			
Developer Roles	Conceptual Model	Instantiation	
Application : Assemble solver modules to solve science problems.	Neutron Star Simulation: Hydrodynamics + GR Solver using Adaptive Mesh Refinement (AMR)	BSSN GR Solver + MoL integrator + Valencia Hydro + Carpet AMR Driver + Parameter file (params for NS)	
Solver : Write solver modules to implement algorithms. Solvers use driver layer to implement "idiom for parallelism".	Elliptic Solver	PETSC Elliptic Solver pkg. (in C) BAM Elliptic Solver (in C++ & F90) John Town's custom BiCG- Stab implementation (in F77)	
Driver: Write low-level data allocation/placement, communication and scheduling to implement "idiom for parallelism" for a given "dwarf".	Parallel boundary exchange idiom for structured grid applications	Carpet AMR Driver SAMRAI AMR Driver GrACE AMR driver PUGH (MPI unigrid driver) SHMUGH (SMP unigrid driver)	



Observations on Domain-Specific Frameworks

Frameworks and domain-specific languages

- enforce coding conventions for big software teams
- Encapsulate a domain-specific "idiom for parallelism"
- Create familiar semantics for domain experts (more productive)
- Clear separation of concerns (separate implementation from specification)
- Common design principles for frameworks from SIAM CSE07 and DARPA Ogden frameworks meeting
 - Give up main(): schedule controlled by framework
 - Stateless: Plug-ins only operate on state passed-in when invoked
 - Bounded (or well-understood) side-effects: Plug-ins promise to restrict memory touched to that passed to it (same as CILK)

Benefits and Organizing Principles

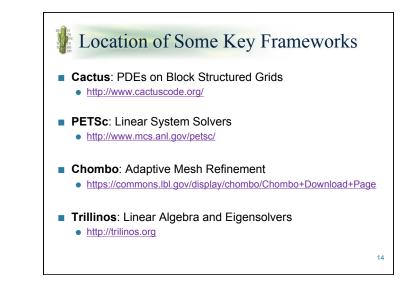
- Other "frameworks" that use same organizing principles (and similar motivation)
 - **NEURON** (parallel implementation of Genesis neurodyn)
 - SIERRA (finite elements/structural mechanics)
 - UPIC and TechX (generized code frameworks for PIC codes)
 - Chombo: AMR on block-structured grids (its hard)
 - Common feature is that computational model is well understood and broadly used (seems to be a good feature for workhorse "languages")

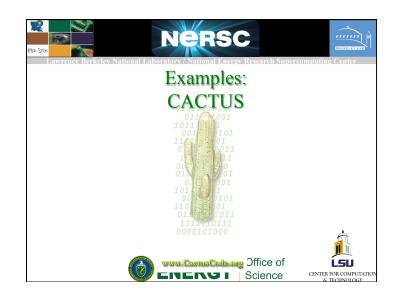
Common benefits (and motivations) are

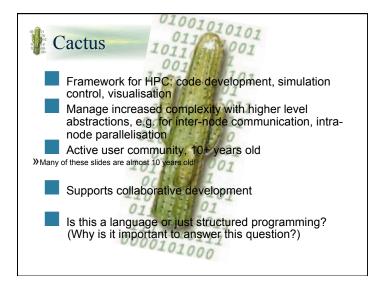
- Modularity (composition using higher-level semantics)
- Segmenting expertise / Separation of Concerns
- Unit Testing: This was the biggest benefit
- Performance analysis (with data aggregated on reasonable semantic boundaries)
- Correctness testing (on reasonable semantic boundaries)
- Enables reuse of "solver" components. Replace "driver" if you have a different hardware platform.

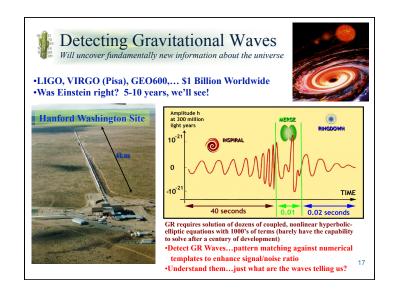
Benefits cont. Enabling Collaborative Development!

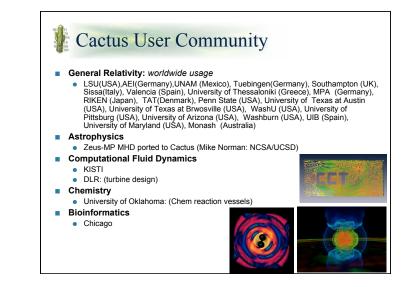
- They enable computer scientists and computational scientists to play nicely together
 - No more arguments about C++ vs. Fortran
 - Easy unit-testing to reduce finger pointing (are the CS weenies "tainting the numerics") (also good to accelerate V&V)
 - Enables multidisciplinary collaboration (domain scientists + computer jocks) to enables features that would not otherwise emerge in their own codes!
 Scientists write code that seem to never use "new" features
 - Scientists write code that seem to rever use new reatures
 Computer locks write code that no reasonable scientist would use
- Advanced CS Features are trivially accessible by Application Scientists
 - Just list the name of the module and it is available
 - Also trivially unit-testable to make sure they don't change numerics
- Also enables sharing of physics modules among computational scientists
 - The hardest part is agreeing upon physics interfaces (there is no magic!)
 - Nice, but not actually not as important as the other benefits (organizing large teams of programmers along the lines of their expertise is the











Cactus Features

Scalable Model of Computation

- Cactus provides 'idiom' for parallelism
 - Idiom for Cactus is parallel boundary exchange for block structured grids
 - Algorithm developers provide nominally "serial" plug-ins
 - Algorithm developers are shielded from complexity of parallel implementation
- Neuron uses similar approach for scalable parallel idiom

Build System

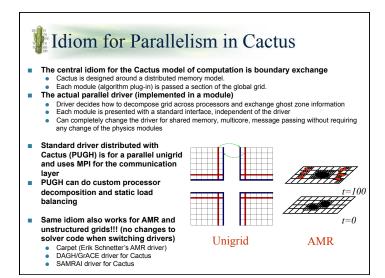
- User does not see makefiles (just provides a list of source files in a given module)
- "known architectures" used to store accumulated wisdom for multi-platform builds
- Write once and run everywhere (laptop, desktop, clusters, petaflop HPC)
- Modular Application Composition System
 - This is a system for composing algorithm and service components together into a complex composite application
 - Just provide a list of "modules" and they self-organize according to constraints (less tedious than explicit workflow)
 - Enables unit testing for V&V of complex multiphysics applications

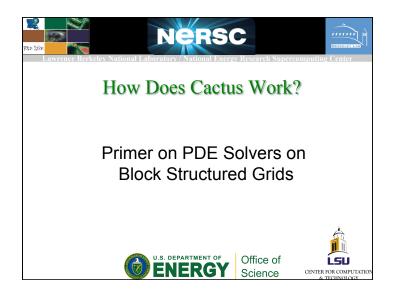
Language Neutrality

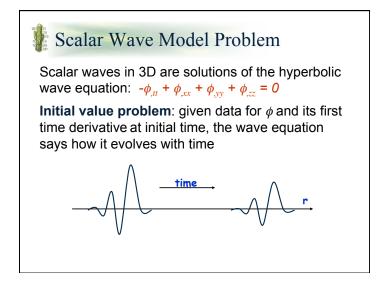
- Write modules in any language (C, C++, F77, F90, Java, etc...)
- Automatically generates bindings (also hidden from user)
- Overcomes age-old religious battles about programming languages

Cactus components (terminology)

- Thorns (modules):
 - Source Code
 - CCL: Cactus Configuration Language (Cactus C&C description)
 - Interface/Types: polymorphic datastructures instantiated in "driver-independent" manner
 - Schedule: constraints-based schedule
 - Parameter: must declare free parameters in common way for introspection, steering, GUIs, and common input parameter parser.
- Driver: Separates implementation of parallelism from implementation of the "solver" (can have Driver for MPI, or threads, or CUDA)
 - Instantiation of the parallel datastructures (control of the domaindecomposition)
 - Handles scheduling and implementation of parallelism (threads or whatever)
 - Implements communication abstraction
 - Drive must own all of these
- Flesh: Glues everything together
 - Just provide a "list" of modules and they self-assemble based on their constraints expressed by CCL
 - CCL not really a language

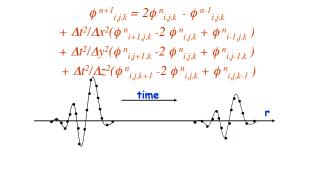


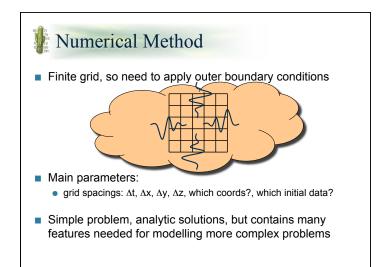


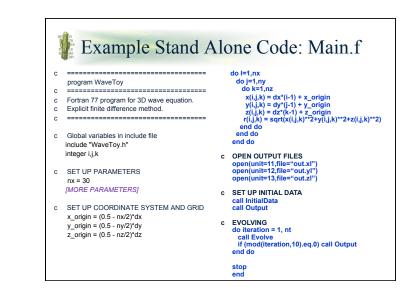


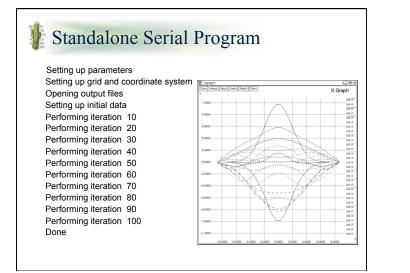
Numerical Method

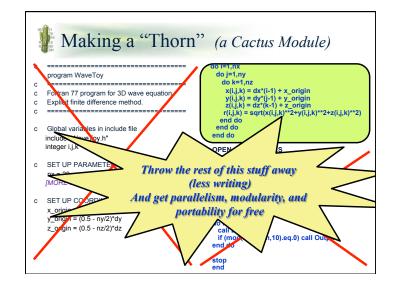
Numerical solve by discretising on a grid, using explicit *finite differencing* (centered, second order)

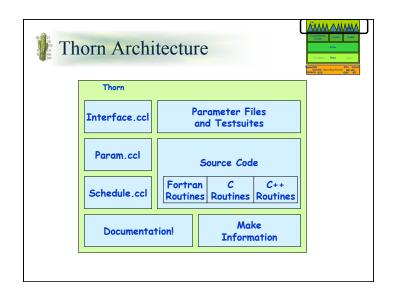


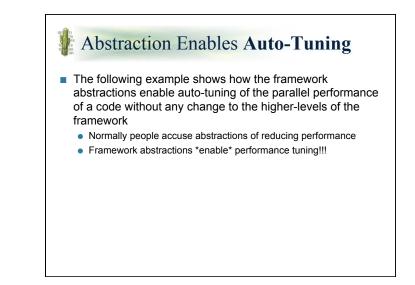


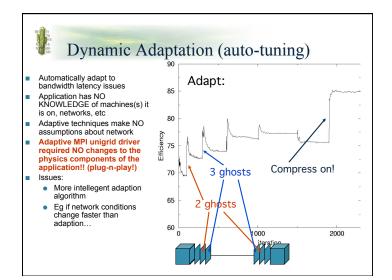


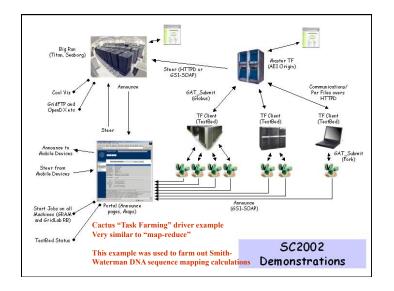


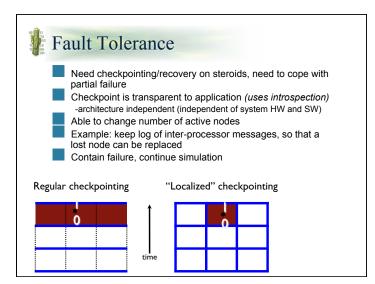


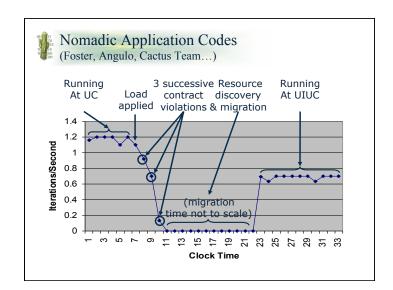


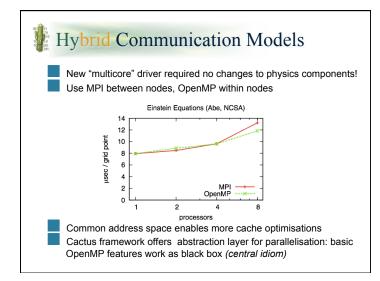




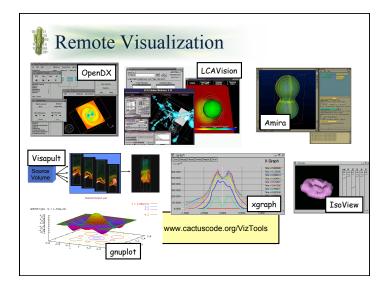


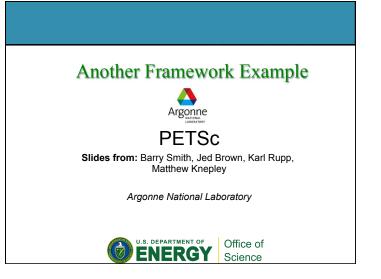


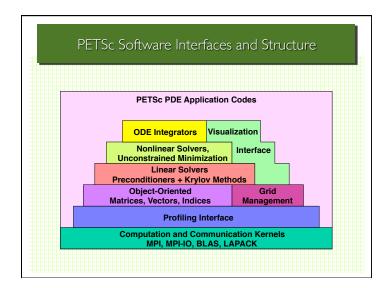


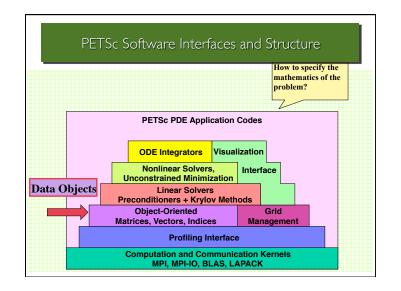


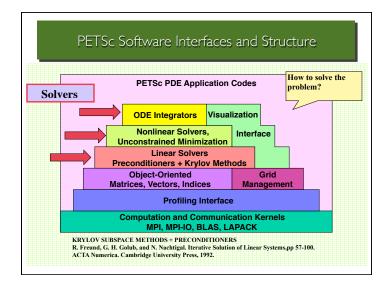


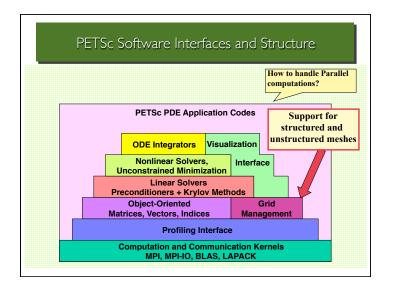


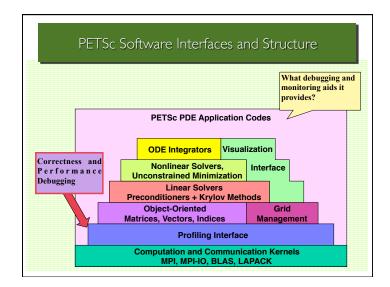


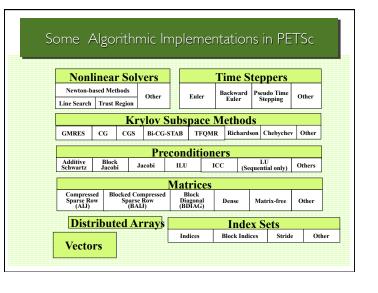


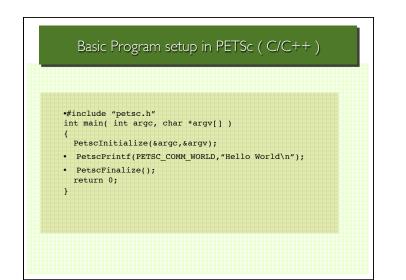


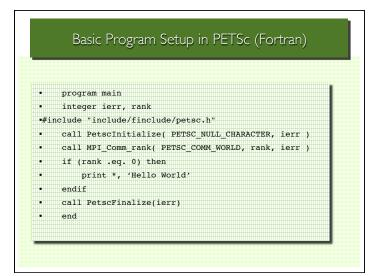


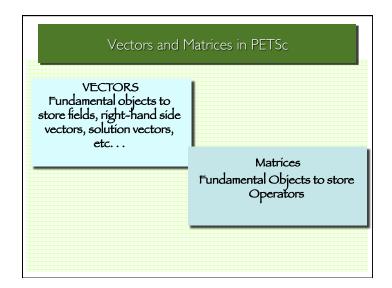


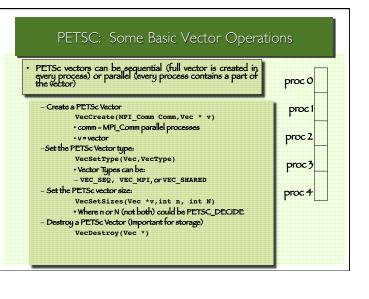


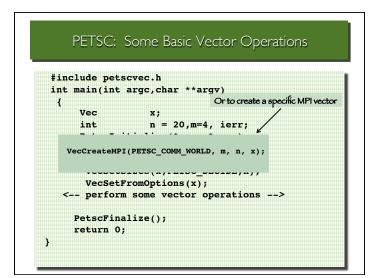












PETSC: Some Basic Vector Operations

VecAXPY(Scalar *a, Vec x, Vec y)	$\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{y} + \mathbf{a}^* \mathbf{x}$
VecAYPX(Scalar *a, Vec x, Vec y)	y = x + a*y
VecWAXPY(Scalar *a, Vec x, Vec y, Vec w)	w = a * x + y
VecScale(Scalar *a, Vec x)	$\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{a}^* \mathbf{x}$
VecCopy(Vec x, Vec y)	y = x
VecPointwiseMult(Vec x, Vec y, Vec w)	w_i = x_i *y_i
VecMax(Vec x, int *idx, double *r)	r = max x_i
VecShift(Scalar *s, Vec x)	$x_i = s + x_i$
VecAbs(Vec x)	x_i = x_i
VecNorm(Vec x, NormType type , double *r)	r = x

PETSC: Some Basic Matrix Operations Create a PETSc Matrix MatCreate (MPI_Comm comm, Mat *A) Set the PETSc Matrix type MatSetType (Mat *A, MatType matype) (see next slides for types of matrices) Set the PETSc Matrix sizes MatSetSizes (Mat *A, PetscInt m, PetscInt n, PetscInt N, PetscInt N) • where m, n are dimensions of the global matrix A Destroy a PETSc Matrix MatDestroy (Mat *A)

PETSC: Some Basic Matrix Operations

PETSc Matrix Types:

- default sparse AU (generic), MPIAU (parallel), SEQAU (sequential)
- block sparse AU (for multi-component PDEs): MPIAU, SEQAU
- symmetric block sparse AU: MPISBAU, SAEQSBAU
- block diagonal: MPIBDIAG, SEQBDIAG
- dense: MPIDENSE, SEQDENSE
- matrix-free
- many more formats (check documentation)

- II		
Every process will receive a s columns are determined by th	et of consecutive and	non-overlapping rows, the
Columns are determined by a		
	i i	
		M-9 N-9 m -2 n -1
	proc 1	M=8,N=8,m ₁ =3,n ₁ =k ₁
		rstart=0,rend=4
		M=8,N=8,m ₂ =3,n ₂ =k ₂
i		rstart=3.rend=6
	proc 2	rstart=3,renu=0
		MANA
	i	M=8,N=8,m ₃ =2,n ₃ = k ₃
		rstart=6,rend=8
	proc 31	istait offension



 Input values to the matrix
 In PETSc a process can input values for blocks of the matrix that are not in its local matrix. PETSc makes sure these values get to the right places and corresponding processes.
 MatSetValues (Mat mat, PetscInt m, PetscInt idxm[], PetscInt n, PetscInt idxm[], PetscScalar v[], InsertMode addv)
 idxm is a vector of global row indices and m is the number of rows in idxm
 idxn is a vector of global column indices and n is the number of columns in idxn
 v is an array of m X n values
 addv is either ADD_VALUES (accumulates) or INSERT_VALUES (sets)

PETSC: Some Basic Matrix Operations

- Assembling the parallel matrix

(must do before calling solvers and other operations!)

MatAssemblyBegin (Mat mat, MatAssemblyType type) MatAssemblyType:

- MAT_FLUSH_ASSEMBLY use between ADD_VALUES and INSERT_VALUES in MatSetValues
- MAT_FINAL_ASSEMBLY use after setting all the values in the matrix and before the matrix is used in the code

MatAssemblyEnd(Mat mat, MatAssemblyType type)

PETSC: Some Basic Matrix Operations

- Matrix vector multiplication

MatMult(Mat A,Vec y, Vec x) (y≠x)

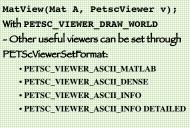
Matrix viewing

- MatView(Mat mat, PetscViewer viewer)
 - PetscViewer some viewer options:
 - PETSC_VIEWER_STDOUT_SELF standard output (default)
 - PETSC_VIEWER_STDOUT_WORLD synchronized standard output, only rank 0 prints - others send to rank 0
 - PETSC_VIEWER_DRAW_WORLD graphical display of nonzero structure

PETSC: Some Basic Viewer Operations

- VIEWERS provide information on any PETSc conceptual Object
- VIEWERS can be setup inside the program or at execution time
- VIEWERS provide an interface for extracting data and making it available to other tools and libraries
- vector fields, matrix contents
- various formats (ASCII, binary)
- Visualization
- simple graphics created with X11.

PETSC: Some Basic Viewer Operations

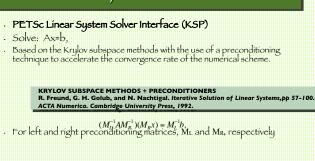




ETSC: Some Vector, Viewer and Matrix Examples

Included in the PETSc Distribution: 1) \$PETSC_DIR/src/mat/tests/ex2.c 2) Use of -mat_view_info_detailed, etc 3) \$PETSC_DIR/src/mat/tests/ex3.c 4) Use of -mat-view-draw

Linear Systems in PETSc



For $M_R = I$

 $r_L = M_L^{-1}b - M_L^{-1}Ax = M_L^{-1}r$ PETSC Default

Linear Systems in PETSc

To solve a Linear System, Ax = b in PETSc, one needs:

Declare x, b as PETSc vectors, and set the RHS b

Declare the matrix A, and explicitly set the matrix A when appropriate Set the Salver KSP:

. Option 1:

- . Select the base Krylov subspace based solver
- Select the preconditioner (Petsc PC)
- . Option 2:
- . Set the solver to use a solver from an external library

PETSc: Linear Solver - KSP Interface

KSP Object:

- Is the key element to manipulate linear solver
- Stores the state of the solver and other relevant information like:
 - Convergence rate and tolerance
 - Number of iteration steps
 - Preconditioners

PETSc: Linear Solver - KSP Interface

Linear Systems in PETSc

Schema of the program control flow

Main Routne

and b

Linear Solvers

PETSc

Solve Ax =

 Create a KSP Object KSPCreate(MPI_comm comm, KSP *ksp)
 Set KSP Operators KSPSetOperators(KSP *ksp, Mat Amat, Mat Pmat,

MatStructure flag)

Amat: is the original matrix from Ax=b Pmat: is the place holder for the preconditioning matrix (can be the same as A) flag: saves work while repeatedly solving linear systems of the same size using the same preconditioners. Possible values: SAME_NONZERO_PATTERN (same pattern for Pmat) DIFFERENT_NONZERO_PATTERN (different pattern for Pmat) SAM_PRECONDITIONER (identical Pmat)

PETSc: Linear Solver - KSP Interface

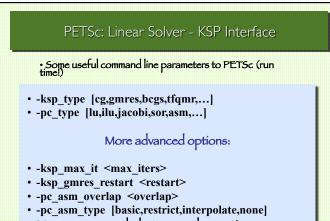
- Solve Linear System
 KSPSolve (KSP *ksp, Vec b, Vec x)
- Get Iteration Number
 KSPSolve(KSP *ksp, int *its)
- Destroy Solver KSPDestroy(KSP *ksp)

PETSc: Linear Solver - KSP Interface

Set the type PETSc KSP solver
 KSPSetType (KSP *ksp, KSPType method)

	Options Database	Default Convergence
KSPType	Name	Monitor [†]
KSPRICHARDSON	richardson	true
KSPCHEBYCHEV	chebychev	true
KSPCG	cg	true
KSPBICG	bicg	true
KSPGMRES	gmres	precond
KSPBCGS	bcgs	precond
KSPCGS	cgs	precond
KSPTFQMR	tfqmr	precond
KSPTCQMR	teqmr	precond
KSPCR	cr	precond
KSPLSQR	lsqr	precond
KSPPREONLY	preonly	precond
	KSPRICHARDSON KSPCHEBYCHEV KSPCG KSPBICG KSPGMRES KSPCGS KSPCGS KSPTFQMR KSPTCQMR KSPTCQMR KSPCR KSPLSQR	Drabase KSPTyee Name KSPRICHARDSON richardson KSPCRCHEBYCHEV chebychev KSPCG cg KSPGNRES gmes KSPGOK cgs KSPCGS cgs KSPTCQMR tqmr KSPCQME c KSPTCQMR tqmr KSPLQC c KSPLQC c

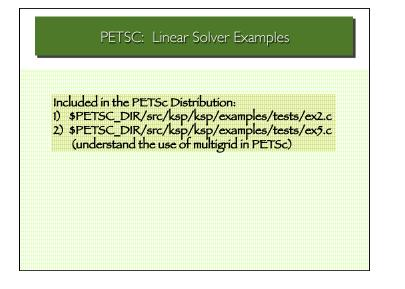
Table 3: KSP Defaults. All methods use left preconditioning by default.

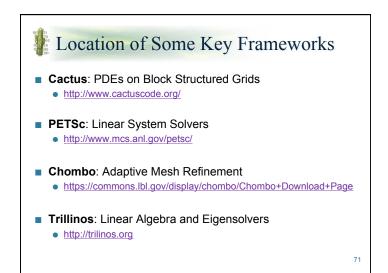


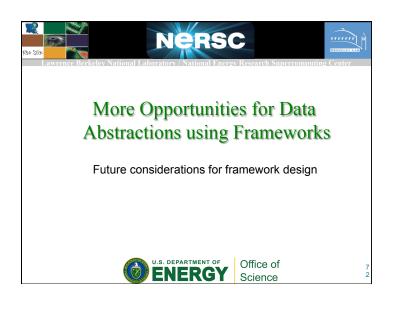
• Many more, use -help to see other options

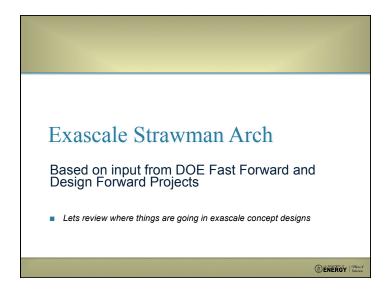
PETSc: Linear Solver - KSP Interface • Setting up the Preconditioners KSPGetPC(KSP ksp,PC *pc); PCSetType(PC *pc, const PCType type) PCType PCJACOBI Method **Options Database Name** Jacobi iacobi Block Jacobi PCBJACOBI bjacobi SOR (and SSOR) PCSOR SOL SOR with Eisenstat trick PCEISENSTAT eisenstat Incomplete Cholesky PCICC icc PCILU Incomplete LU ilu Additive Schwarz PCASM asm PCKSP Linear solver ksp Combination of preconditioners PCCOMPOSITE composite LU PCLU lu Cholesky PCCholesky cholesky No preconditioning PCNONE none Shell for user-defined PC PCSHELL shell Table 4: PETSc Preconditioners

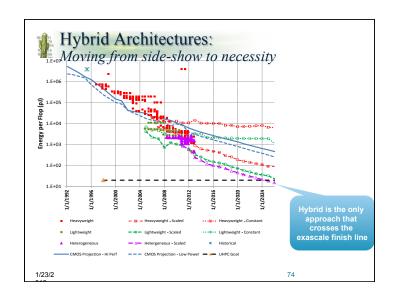
F	PETSc: Linear Solver - KSP Interoperable Interface						
	Use of solvers in external libraries						
	Use the runtime option: -ksp_type preonly -pc_type <pctype> -pc_factor_mat_</pctype>						
	solver_package <packagename>. Forcg: -ksp_type preonly -pc_type lu -pc_</packagename>						
			olver_package superlu_dis				
	MatType	РСТуре	MatSolverPackage	Package			
	••			(-pc_factor_mat_solver_package)			
	baij	cholesky	MAT_SOLVER_DSCPACK	dscpack			
	seqaij	lu	MAT_SOLVER_ESSL	essl			
	seqaij	lu	MAT_SOLVER_LUSOL	lusol			
	seqaij	lu	MAT_SOLVER_MATLAB	matlab			
	aij	lu	MAT_SOLVER_MUMPS	mumps			
	sbaij cholesky						
	plapack lu MAT_SOVLER_PLAPACK plapack						
	plapack cholesky						
	aij	lu	MAT_SOLVER_SPOOLES	spooles			
	sbaij	cholesky					
	seqaij	lu	MAT_SOLVER_SUPERLU	superlu			
	aij	lu	MAT_SOLVER_SUPERLU_DIST	superlu_dist			
	seqaij	lu	MAT_SOLVER_UMFPACK	umfpack			
	Table 5: Options for External Solvers						

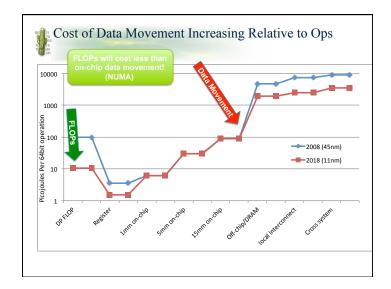


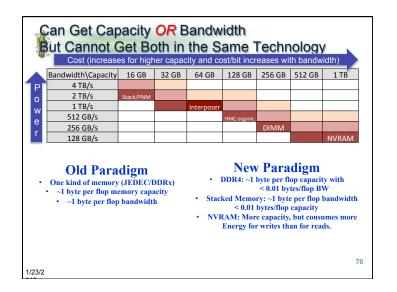


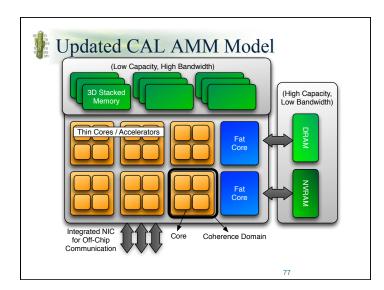


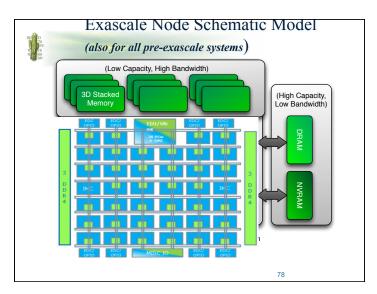


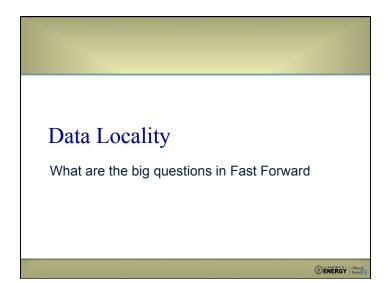


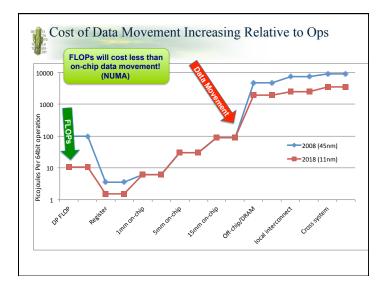


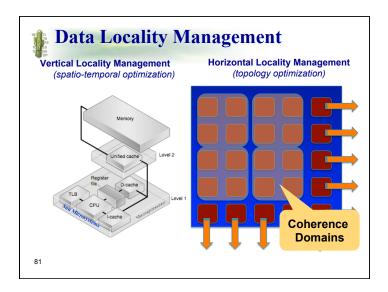


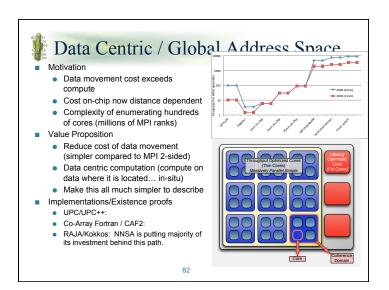












Research Thrusts in Data Movement

• Math:

- Old model: move data to avoid flops
- New model: use extra FLOPs to avoid data movement
- ExaCT Research: Higher order methods and communication avoiding
- · Pmodels:
- Old model: Parcel out work on-node and cache-coherence move data (data location follows work). Ignore distance & topology within node and between nodes.
- · New Model: Operate on data where it resides (work follows data location).
- ExaCT Research: Tiling abstractions to express data locality info. AMR modeling to study interconnect/box placement interaction
- · SDMA/UQ:
- · Old model: store everything on shared disk and look at it later
- New model: do analysis workflow as much as possible in-situ
- ExACT Research: Using metaskeleton to evaluate benefits of different workflow approaches and their requirements for system-scale architecture.

Expressing Hierarchical Layout

Old Model (OpenMP)

- Describe how to parallelize loop iterations
- Parallel "DO" divides loop iterations evenly among processors
- ... but where is the data located?

New Model (Data-Centric)

- Describe how data is laid out in memory
- Loop statements operate on data where it is located
- Similar to MapReduce, but need more sophisticated descriptions of data layout for scientific codes

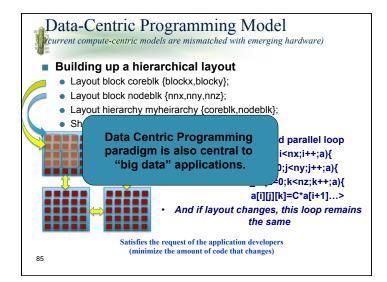
forall_local_data(i=0;i<NX;i++;A)
C[j]+=A[j]*B[i][j]);</pre>

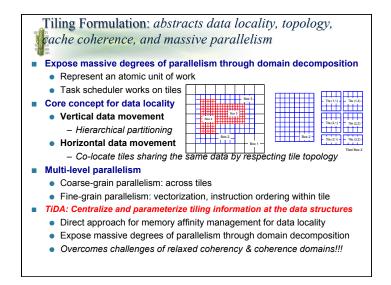


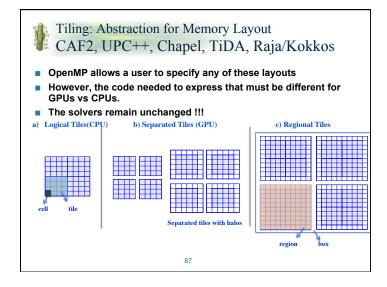


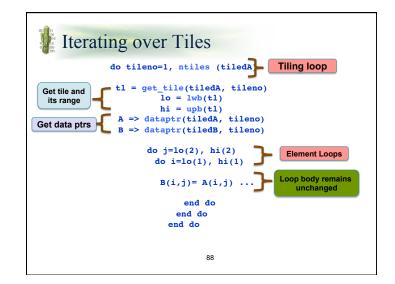
84

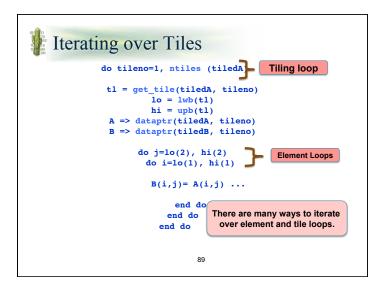
83

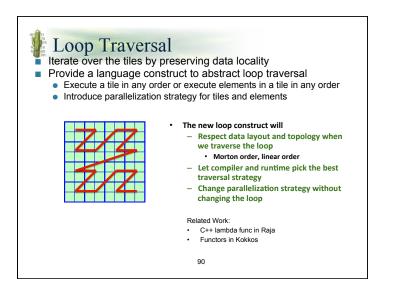


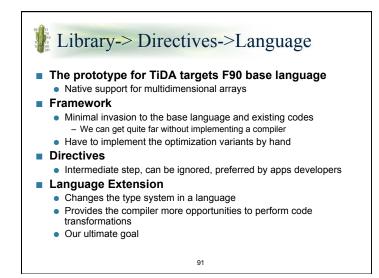


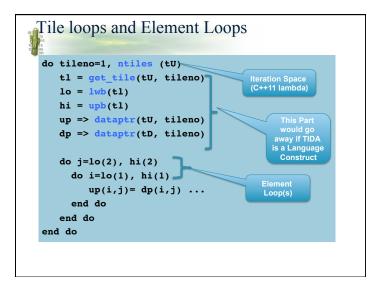


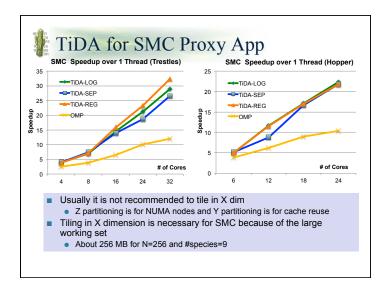


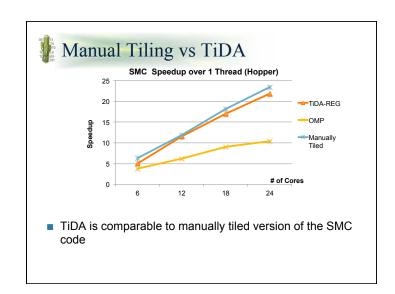


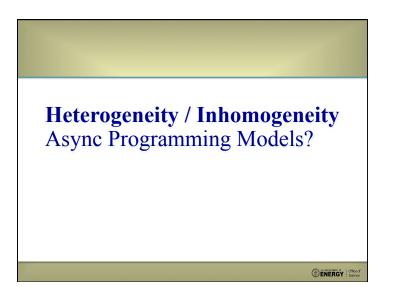


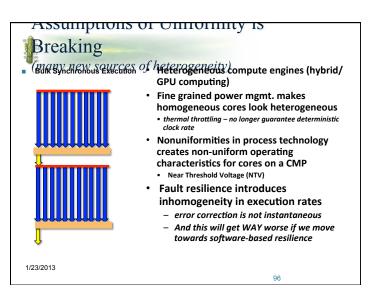


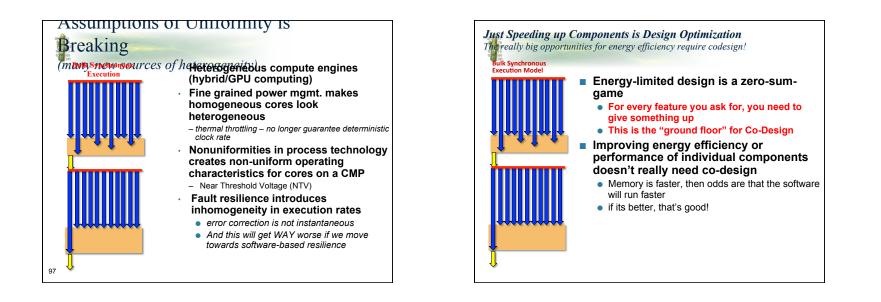


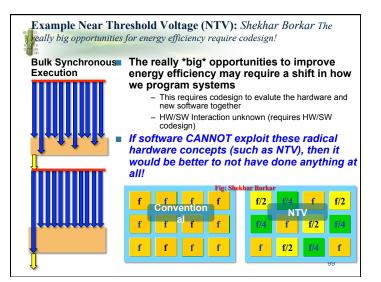


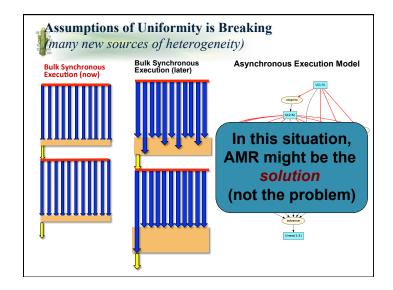


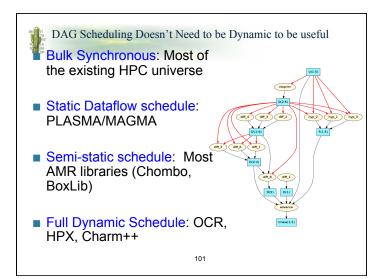


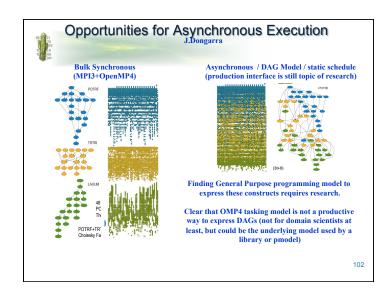


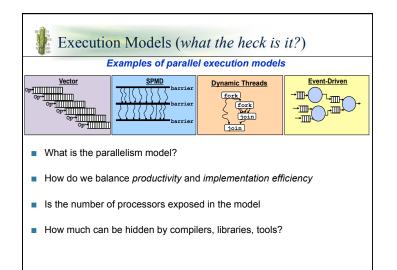


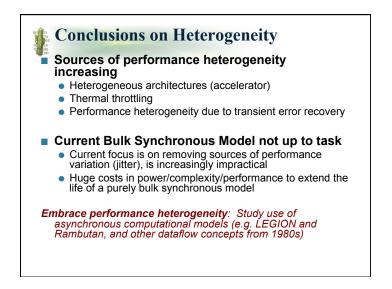






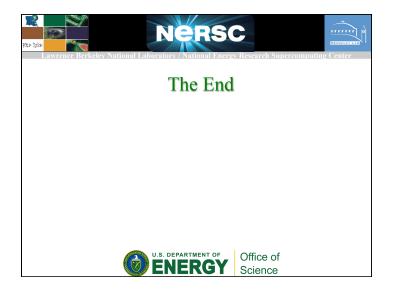


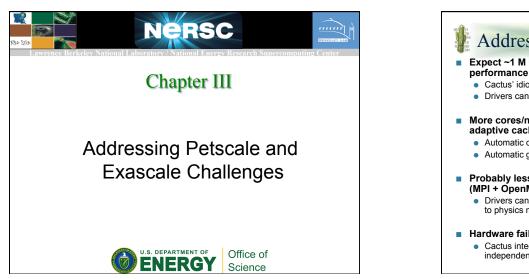




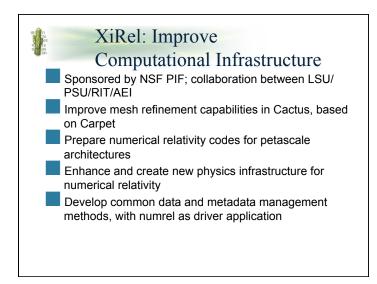
Summary

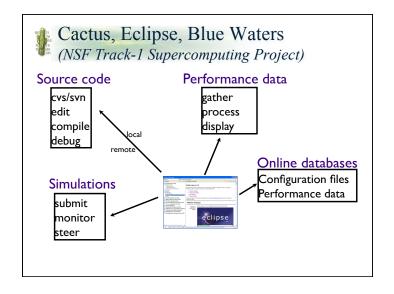
- Computational Science is increasingly carried out in large teams formed around applications frameworks
- Frameworks enable large and diverse teams to collaborate by organizing teams according to their capabilities
- Frameworks are modular, highly configurable, and extensible
- Isolation of applications, solver, and driver layers enables re-use in different applications domains, and scalability on new parallel architectures

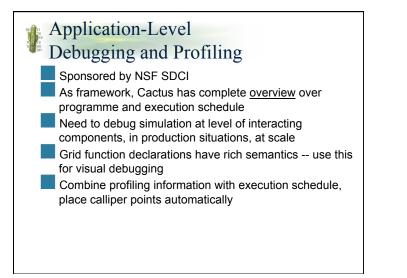


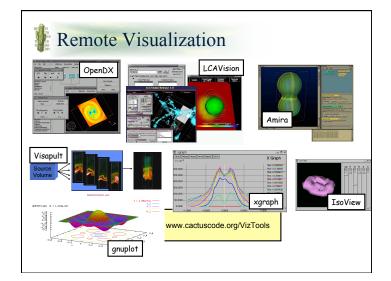


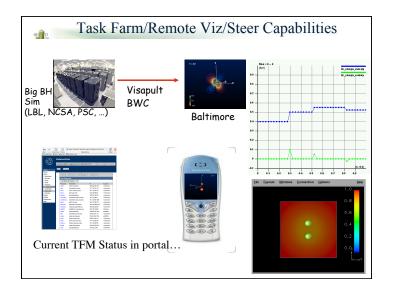
Addressing Petascale Challenges Expect ~1 M CPUs, need everything parallel (Amdahl): use performance modelling to improve codes • Cactus' idiom for parallelism is scalable to millions of CPUs Drivers can evolve without changing physics modules More cores/node tighten memory bottleneck: use dynamic, adaptive cache optimisations • Automatic code generation to select optimal cache strategy • Automatic generation for GP-GPU, Cell, and manycore targets Probably less memory/processor than today: use hybrid schemes (MPI + OpenMP) to reduce overhead • Drivers can be changed dramatically for multicore without requiring changes to physics modules Hardware failures "guaranteed": use fault tolerant infrastructure • Cactus integrated checkpoint uses introspection to remain applicationindependent as well as system independent

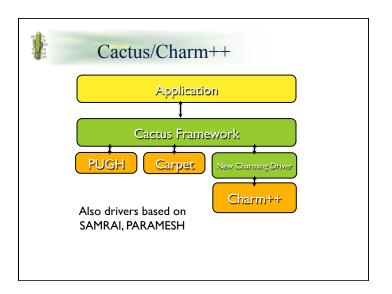


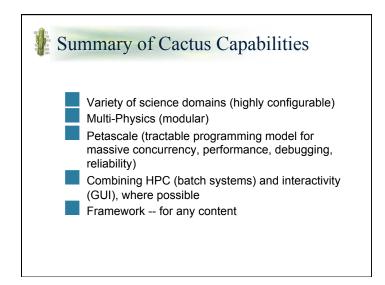


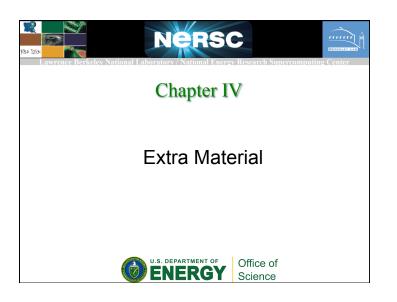












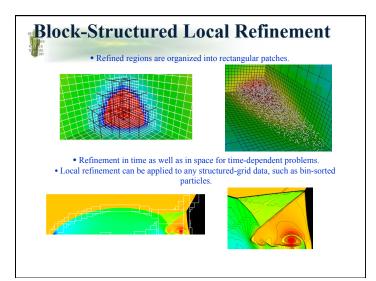
Framework Components

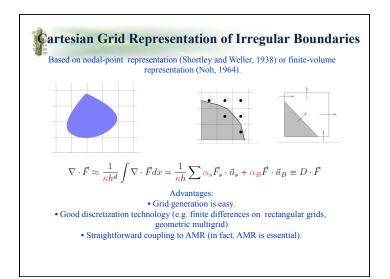
- Flesh: The glue that ties everything together (C&C language)
 - Supports composition of modules into applications (targets non-CS-experts)
 - Invokes modules in correct order (baseline scheduling)
 - Implements code build system (get rid of makefiles)
 - Implements parameter file parsing
 - Generates bindings for any language (Fortran, C, C++, Java)
- Driver: Implements idiom for parallelism
- Implements "dwarf-specific" composite datatypes
- Handles data allocation and placement (domain decomposition)
- Implements communication pattern for "idiom for parallelism"
- Implements thread-creation and scheduling for parallelism
- Solver/Module: A component implementing algorithm or other composable function
 - Can be written in any language (flesh handles bindings automatically)
 - Implementation of parallelism externalized, so developer writes nominally serial code with correct idiom. Parallelism handled by the "driver".
 - Thoms implementing same functionality derived from same 'abstract class' of functionality such as "elliptic solver" (can have many implementations of elliptic solve. Select at compile time and/or at runtime)

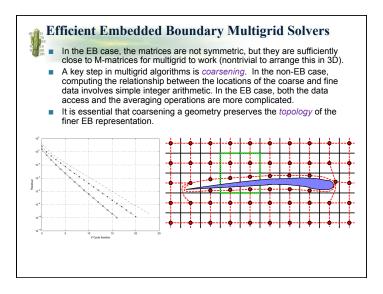
More Information

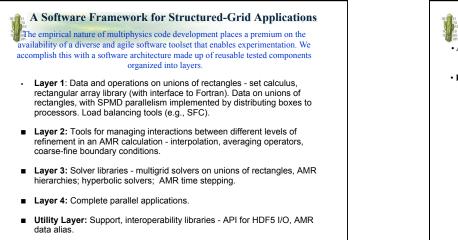
- The Science of Numerical Relativity
 - http://jean-luc.aei.mpg.de
 - http://dsc.discovery.com/schedule/episode.jsp?episode=23428000
 - http://www.appleswithapples.org/
- Cactus Community Code
 - http://www.cct.lsu.edu
 - http://www.cactuscode.org/
 - http://www.carpetcode.org/
- Grid Computing with Cactus
 - http://www.astrogrid.org/
- Benchmarking Cactus on the Leading HPC Systems
 - http://crd.lbl.gov/~oliker
 - http://www.nersc.gov/projects/SDSA/reports

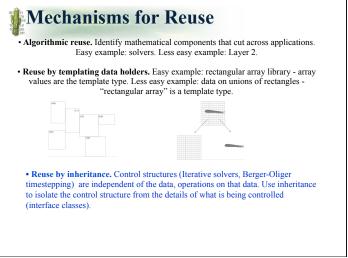


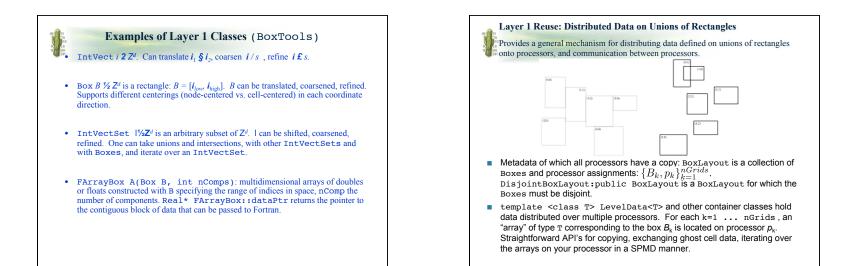


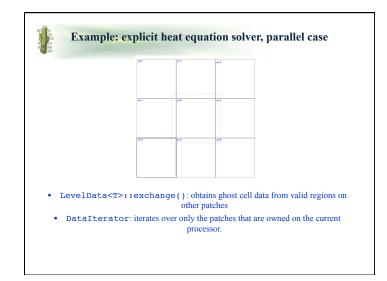


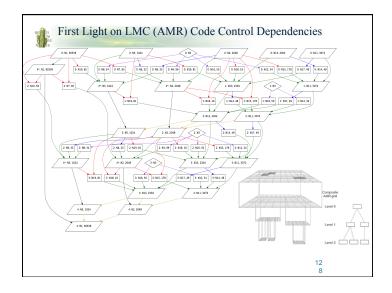












AMR Utility Layer

- API for HDF5 I/O.
- Interoperability tools. We have developed a framework-neutral representation for pointers to AMR data, using opaque handles. This will allow us to wrap Chombo classes with a C interface and call them from other AMR applications.
- Chombo Fortran a macro package for writing dimension-independent Fortran and managing the Fortran / C interface.
- Parmparse class from BoxLib for handling input files.
- Visualization and analysis tools (VisIt).

Spiral Design Approach to Software Development

Scientific software development is inherently high-risk: multiple experimental platforms, algorithmic uncertainties, performance requirements at the highest level. The Spiral Design approach allows one to manage that risk, by allowing multiple passes at the software and providing a high degree of schedule visibility.

Software components are developed in phases.

- Design and implement a basic framework for a given algorithm domain (EB, particles, etc.), implementing the tools required to develop a given class of applications.
- · Implement one or more prototype applications as benchmarks.
- Use the benchmark codes as a basis for measuring performance and evaluating design space flexibility and robustness. Modify the framework as appropriate.
- The framework and applications are released, with user documentation, regression testing, and configuration for multiple platforms.

Software Engineering Plan

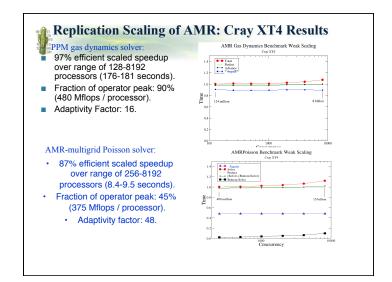
- All software is open source: http://seesar.lbl.gov/anag/ software.html.
- Documentation: algorithm, software design documents; *Doxygen* manual generation; users' guides.
- Implementation discipline: CVS source code control, coding standards.
- Portability and robustness: flexible make-based system, regression testing.
- Interoperability: C interfaces, opaque handles, permit interoperability across a variety of languages (C++, Fortran 77, Python, Fortran 90). Adaptors for large data items a serious issue, must be custom-designed for each application.

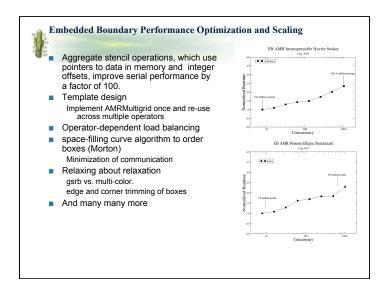
Replication Scaling Benchmarks

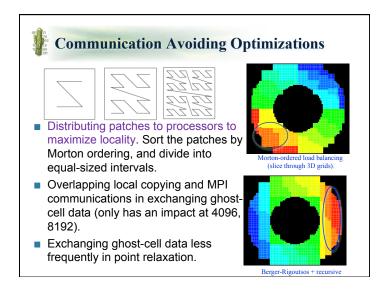
Take a single grid hierarchy, and scale up the problem by making identical copies. Full AMR code (processor assignment, remaining problem setup) is done without knowledge of replication.

- Good proxy for some kinds of applications scaleup.
- Tests algorithmic weak scalability and overall performance.
- Avoids problems with interpreting scalability of more conventional mesh refinement studies with AMR.









Chombo AMR Capabilities

 Single-level, multilevel solvers for cell-centered and node-centered discretizations of elliptic / parabolic systems.

- Explicit methods for hyperbolic conservation laws, with well-defined interface to physics-dependent components.
- Embedded boundary versions of these solvers.
- Extensions to high-order accuracy, mapped grids (under development).
- AMR-PIC for Vlasov-Poisson.
- Applications:
 - · Gas dynamics with self gravity. Coupling to AMR-PIC.
 - Incompressible Navier-Stokes Equations.
 - Resistive magnetohydrodynamics.
- Interfaces to HDF5 I/O, hypre, Vislt.
- Extensive suite of documentation. Code and documentation released in public domain. New release of Chombo in Spring 2009 will include embedded boundary capabilities (google "Chombo").