Writing a Reproducible Article
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Writing a Reproducible Article

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Context

- HPC applications nowadays use both multi-core CPUs and GPUs
- Managing efficiently computation execution and data transfer is extremely complex
- Need for portable performance \(\sim\) **Runtime** system
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- Managing efficiently computation execution and data transfer is extremely complex
- Need for portable performance $\leadsto$ Runtime system

Many configuration parameters:

1. Task granularity
2. Scheduling strategies
3. Application structure

Emerging challenges:

1. Finding optimal combination of parameters for a given machine
2. Evaluate configurations on a wide variety of platforms
3. Quickly identify performance issues (e.g., bottlenecks)

Possible solution: Simulation
Our proposal

StarPU
Dynamic runtime for hybrid architectures. StarPU execution consists in scheduling a graph of tasks with data dependencies on the different computing resources.

Simgrid
Versatile simulator for distributed systems

Implementation:
- StarPU applications and runtime are emulated
- All operations related to thread synchronization, actual computations and data transfer are simulated
- Control part of StarPU is modified to dynamically inject computation and communication tasks into the simulator
- StarPU calibration and platform description is used by Simgrid
Results

hannibal: 3 QuadroFX5800  
attila: 3 TeslaC2050  
conan: 3 TeslaM2075  
frogkepler: 2 K20
Results
Results

- Works fine **now**, but coming to this point was not easy
- We had to do many iterations of:
  1. Running complex beta code on several not always dedicated machines
  2. Comparing with simulations, debugging, understanding, remodeling and going back to step 1 until not satisfied

- With good results, we decided to make a reproducible article
  1. From outside it looks like any other pdf paper
  2. From inside ...

I will try to convince you that our article is not only *reproducible* but also *readable* and *understandable*!

http://dx.doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.928338
Reproducible Research

article
analysis
data
experimentation
source code
Reproducible Research

- article
- analysis
- data
- experimentation
- source code

Requires a **daily usage of a labbook** (org, git/svn, ...)