Using Work Queue Inside and Outside the Classroom

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Motivation

Problem: Introducing PDC



Parallel and distributed computing are becoming increasingly important.

Solution: Work Queue

Use **Work Queue** to introduce undergraduates to **parallel** and **distributed computing** in the context of:

- Class Assignments
- Independent Study
- Undergraduate Research

Background

Teaching and Research @ UWEC

Liberal arts, undergraduate focused university.





Emphasize **teaching** and faculty/student collaborative **research**.

Distributed Computing @ UWEC







Teaching Approach

• Core

Computer Organization and Design

• Service

- Introduction to Programming in C++
- Computing for the Sciences and Mathematics

• Elective

- Cloud Computing
- Unix Systems Programming

Work Queue MapReduce

WorkQueue MapReduce Name: wqmr-buipj Port: 9001 Work Directory: ./wqmr-buipj Map: [=========] 100.00% Reduce: [=======] 100.00% Workers: I: 0 R: 12 B: 0 J: 12 O: 0 Tasks: W: 0 R: 0 U: 0 D: 981 C: 981 Data: S: 237.21MB R: 706.65KB Start Time: Fri Oct 11 12:40:57 2013 Work Time: Fri Oct 11 12:41:09 2013 Elapsed Time: 58 Elapsed Work Time: 45

Last Event: Task r0000 returned with exit status 0

Brute-force Password Cracking

Using Go, students implemented a brute-force password cracker:

- Serial version
- Parallel version using CSP



Distributed version using Work Queue



Research Approach

- Focus on high-level applications
- Take advantage of **frameworks**
- Keep students engaged and motivated
- Reach out and take advantage of resources

Work Queue is a great framework for enabling novice users to explore *parallel* and *distributed computing*.

Distributed Animation Rendering



Distributed Animation Rendering



Photo Processing Pipeline



Photo Processing Pipeline



Num of Batches 448

- Max Batch Size 1385
- Min Batch Size 1
- Avg Batch Size 16.4

Num	of	Tasks	Submitted	7372
Num	of	Tasks	Failed	104

Scalable Image Transcoding



Scalable Image Transcoding

File Size	Set Size	# of Workers						
File Size		1	2	4	8	16	24	30
15KB	10	1x	1.47x	1.56x	2.13x	1.85x	2.00x	2.40 x
	100	1x	1.60x	2.80x	4.43x	5.96x	6.42x	6.44 x
	1000	1x	1.65x	3.12x	5.02x	7.97x	9.27x	9.31 x
1 MB	10	1x	1.65x	2.40x	2.78x	3.05x	3.73x	3.87 x
	100	1x	2.10x	3.87x	6.55x	9.56x	7.65x	8.27x
	1000	1x	2.17x	4.28x	7.75x	11.2x	10.5x	12.12 x
10MB	10	1x	1.84x	2.46x	2.88x	4.48 x	3.43x	3.27x
	100	1x	1.98x	3.90x	4.95x	7.34 x	4.61x	4.76x
	1000	1x	1.74x	3.97x	5.63x	6.26x	4.75x	4.93x

Final Thoughts

Summary



- Work Queue is easy to use.
- Work Queue is flexible.
- Work Queue is portable.
- Work Queue is extensible.

Work Queue is a great way to introduce PDC to undergraduate students!

Future Work

Teaching

- Incorporate into
 Computational
 Science course
- Introduce in Computer Science systems course

Research

- Web portal for art students to utilize DSABR
- Visualization and monitoring of Work Queue

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Questions?

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