Parallel Programming 2020, Assignment 1: Sparse LU Factorization

Deadline: Monday, October 12 before 23:59 hours.

In the first programming assignment, you will put what you have learned during the Sparse Matrix Computations lecture to practice. You will do so by firstly implementing a Sparse LU Factorization kernel and secondly performing a benchmark of your implementation.

The deadline for the assignment is October 12. The assignment has to be completed individually. You are expected to hand in a tarball containing your source code and a report detailing how you have dealt with the various implementation issues and your benchmark results in PDF format. The assignments should be handed by e-mail to hpc1-2020 (at) dvdzwaan (dot) com.

1 Implementation

The first part of the assignment consists of the implementation of a Sparse LU Factorization kernel, that applies partial pivoting. You need to implement a sequential program. The kernel must be written in C/C++ using solely arrays. No pointers, aliasing or dynamic allocations may be used. Arrays must be sized so that they fit the largest benchmark matrix its data at all times. Refer to array elements using array subscripts.

On the website a skeleton code is provided that reads matrices in the "Matrix Market" format and stores these in Compressed Row Storage format. You can use this skeleton as a starting point for your implementation.

In your PDF report, detail how you have dealt with the various implementation issues such as pivot search, masking operations, garbage collection and permutation issues.

(Bonus) For one bonus point, the implementation may be written in FORTRAN 77 instead of C/C++. You can then use the routines at https://math.nist.gov/MatrixMarket/mmio/f/mmiof77.html to load Matrix Market files.

2 Benchmarking

In the second part of the assignment, you will benchmark the LU factorization code you have implemented. The code has to first perform the factorization and second use the obtained L and U factors to solve the system for five B vectors, specified below. To be benchmarked are the execution time required to factorize the system, the total time to compute all five solution vectors, and the relative errors $\frac{||\tilde{x}-x||}{||x||}$ for each solution. ||x|| denotes the Euclidean Norm: $\sqrt{\sum x_i^2}$ and x is the actual solution and \tilde{x} is the solution computed by your implementation of LU factorization. The benchmarks need to be carried out using the Linux operating system on the Core i7 machines in room 302/304 at LIACS, or on one of the huisuil servers if working remotely. As test data, we will use 10 matrices from the SuiteSparse Matrix Collection (https://sparse.tamu.edu/):

HB/mcfe Lucifora/cell1
Schenk_IBMNA/c-21 Gaertner/nopoly
Oberwolfach/flowmeter5 Bai/mhd4800b
Averous/epb1 FIDAP/ex10
Grund/meg4 Okunbor/aft01

For the initialization of your program you need to construct five b vectors which are obtained by multiplying a given matrix A with an actual solution vector x (so, b = Ax). Take for x the following vectors:

- vector x consisting of all ones.
- vector x consisting of 0.1 for every element.

- vector x consisting of alternating +1, -1 values: +1, -1, +1, -1, +1, -1, ...
- vector x consisting of alternating +5, -5 values.
- vector x consisting of alternating +100, -100 values.

Note that the initialization is not part of the actual computation, so does not need to be benchmarked. A standard matrix multiplication or an external tool like Python with Scipy may be used to compute the b vectors.

Include the obtained results in your report, together with a brief discussion.

3 Input & output

Your submission is expected to include a *Makefile* which will build and output an executable called "lu" in the *same directory* as the Makefile. You can use the gcc/g++ compilers for C/C++ code, or the *gfortran* compiler for FORTRAN 77 code. If you prepared the *b* vectors using an external tool, include this data in your submission.

In order to easily benchmark your application, the executable is expected to take exactly one argument: the file name of a Matrix Market formatted file. It should output exactly 7 numbers to *stdout*. First it should output the execution time required to factorize the system in seconds, then the total time to compute all five solution vectors in seconds, and finally the relative errors for the five solutions individually. Any output on *stderr* is ignored.