GEOMETRIC and GRAPHICS ALGORITHMS on KESTREL



ConvexHullPROBLEM

Why?

- Communication between adjacent processors are fast, ideal for bubble sort and local convex hull computations
- Simple idea, easily extended from sequential algorithm
- Computational geometry is fun!

How?

- Replace-and-shift approach
- Every processor is assigned one planar point, and its two lexicographic-sorted adjacent neighbors
- Perform right-hand-turn (RHT) test on all processors (parallelism)
- If triplet fails the RHT test, replace middle point with last point (replace)
- If two adjacent points P and Q are the same, replace Q with Q's right-adjacent point (shift)

Results

- Odd-even transposition sorting has complexity O(n), requires at most 2n-6 iterations for applying right-hand-turn test, hence:
- Parallel complexity of O(n), with constant factor 2
- If right-hand-turn test returns false for collinear points, the shift phase can be eliminated
- Implemented 3-layer algorithm that supports input size from 1025 to 1536 points
- To support bigger or smaller dataset size, need to implement more or less layers, respectively
- Limited simulation results are shown in charts to the right

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What?

New algorithm for 2D convex hull problem on linear SIMD machines employing Systolic Shared Registers
Study the parallel performance of Cohen-Sutherland and Liang-Barsky clipping algorithms





ClippingALGORITHMS

Why?

Apparent data-parallelism, suitable for SIMD machines
Of fundamental importance in graphics rendering
Initial work to decide if future graphics applications feasible on Kestrel?

How?

- Load points in array
- Each processor is assigned a pair of endpoints
 Independent data
- Perform sequential algorithm simultaneously on all processors

Results

- Cohen-Sutherland does not perform well (many conditionals)
- Theoretically worse than brute-force approach
- Parallel Liang-Barsky outperforms Cohen-Sutherland by approximately 10 times
- Limited analysis based on number of binary code lines generated for each implementation on Kestrel.
- Has yet to determine the factor of improvement between
 - parallel and sequential implementations

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References

[1] Hearn, Donald and Baker, M. Pauline, Computer Graphics: C Version
[2] de Berg et al., Computational Geometry: Algorithms and Applications
[3] Kumar et al., Intro. To Parallel Computing: Design & Analysis of Algorithms

