Image Processing

A case study for a domain decomposed MPI code



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• Starting with a big array:





• Split it into pieces:









• Assign pieces to processes:







• Use halos to deal with nearest-neighbour interactions







Edge detection / image reconstruction







Edge detection

Compare pixel to its four nearest neighbours

- pixel values are from 0 (black) to 255 (white)

 $edge_{i,j} = image_{i+1,j} + image_{1,j+1} + image_{i-1,j} + image_{i,j-1} - 4 image_{i,j}$

- What about the boundary conditions?
 - use non-periodic boundaries
 - pixels off the edge of the image (e.g. *image* M+1, j) are set to white
- Pad 2D arrays with halos
 - in serial code, all halo values set to 255 (i.e. white)





Image reconstruction

- Jacobi Solver to undo the simple edge detection algorithm (a five-point stencil)
 - simple example of discretised partial differential equation with nearest-neighbour interactions

- actually solving $\nabla^2 image = edge$

$$new_{i,j} = \frac{1}{4} \left(old_{i+1,j} + old_{1,j+1} + old_{i-1,j} + old_{i,j-1} - edge_{i,j} \right)$$

- Repeat many times
 - in parallel, must update halo values from neighbours every iteration



Different choices in C and Fortran





N/4



The case study

- I provide you with:
 - More detailed printed instruction
 - Tar-ball (Choice of C or Fortran)
 - Input routine
 - Output routine
 - Couple of input files
- Tasks
 - Write a serial code (with halos for fixed boundary conditions)
 - check that the serial code works!!
 - Distribute the work onto the processors; separate reconstructions
 - Get the halos exchanged; single reconstruction, identical to serial
 - Further suggestions on the instruction sheet



Viewing the Images

- Images are in a very old-fashioned text-based format
 - Portable Grey Map (PGM)
 - easy to read and write
- You may not be able to view PGM files on your laptop
 could install *ImageMagick* suite (which contains *display*)
 may have problems with the input edge files
 user@laptop:~> display image.pgm
- Simple viewing package available on ARCHER2
 - user@archer2:~> module load xview
 - user@archer2:~> xview -gamma 2 image.pgm



