Construction and Evaluation of Coordinated Performance Skeletons
(*Predicting Performance in an Unpredictable World*)

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HiPC 2008

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Getting Started

OBJECTIVE: **Estimate application performance rapidly in a foreign/dynamic environment, e.g**

- Cluster with upgraded hardware or software components, e.g., MPI Library

- Desktop grid or "Volunteer nodes" or Amazon EC-2 cloud…

- Execution with different number of processes (8,16 or more processes best for 8 nodes)

- System under simulation

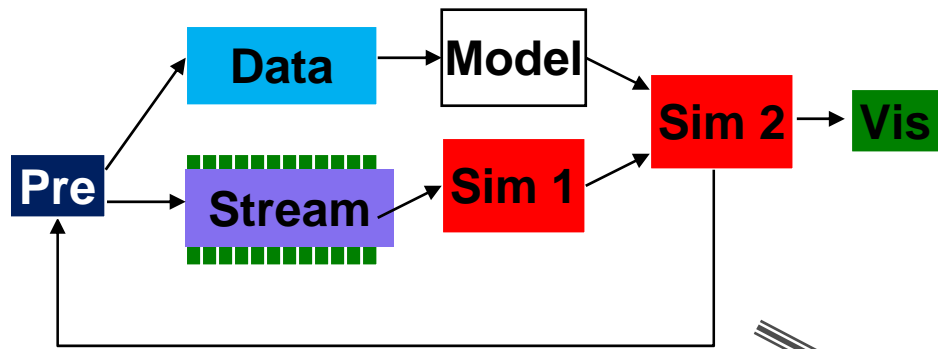Common factor is a hard to model scenario

Skelton Based Approach ?

Build a short running "*skeleton*" program that mimics execution behavior of a given application

GOAL: execution time of a performance skeleton is a fixed fraction of application execution time - say 1:1000, then..

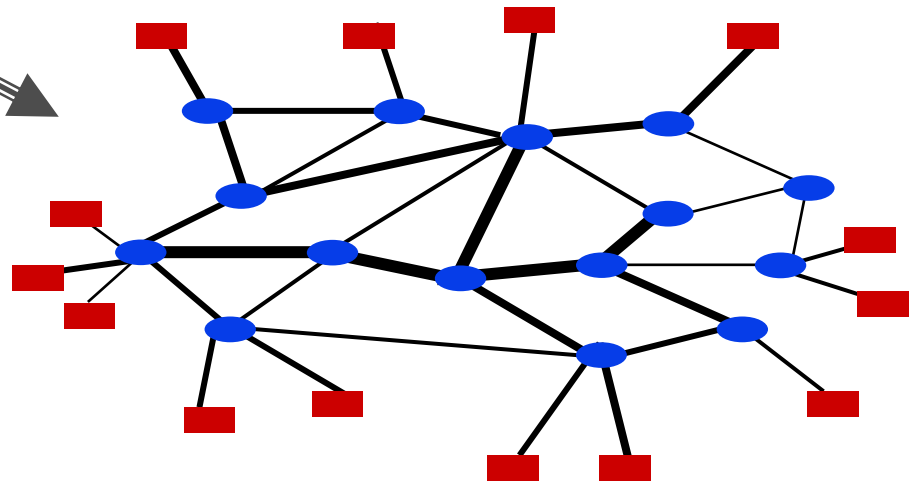| If the Application runtime is:	Skeleton runs in:
10K seconds on a dedicated compute cluster	10 secs
8K seconds with Open MPI on that cluster	8 secs
20K seconds on a shared heterogeneous grid	20 secs
1 million seconds under simulation	1000 secs
…..,	

Timed execution of a performance skeleton provides an estimate of application performance!

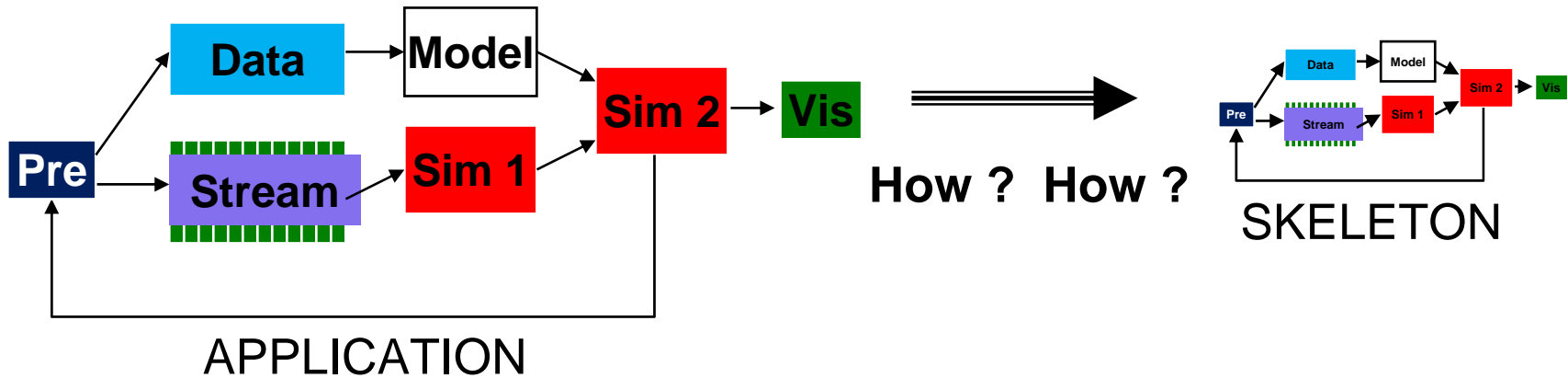# One Motivation: Mapping Distributed Applications on Networks

Data → Model

Pre → Data
Pre → Stream → Sim 1 → Sim 2 → Vis
Model → Sim 2

Application

Predict performance and select nodes by actual execution of performance skeletons on groups of nodes **?**

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How to Construct a Performance Skeleton ?

APPLICATION

How ? How ?

SKELETON

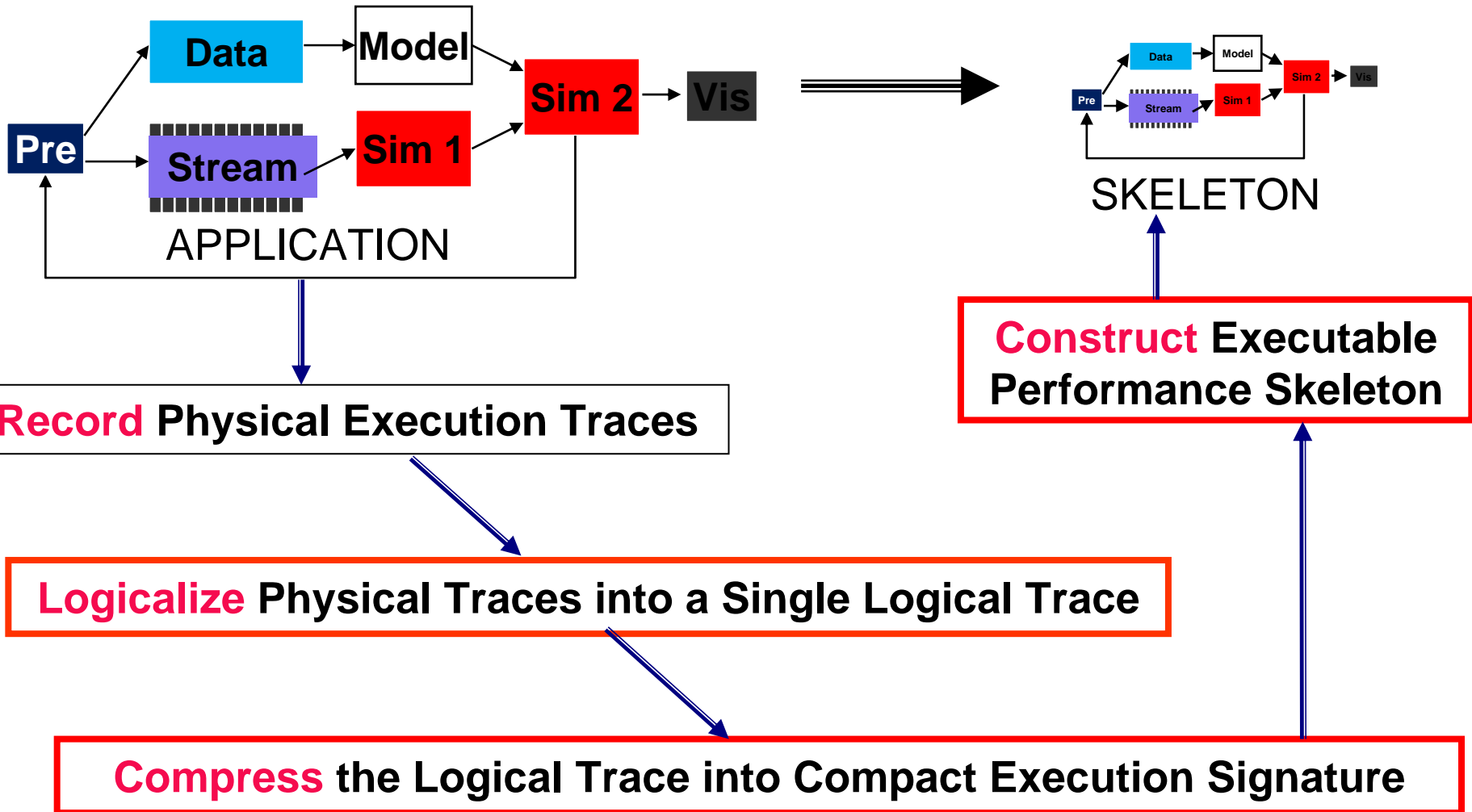## *Central challenge in this research*

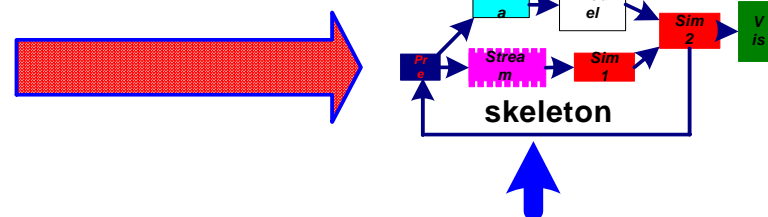**Common sense dictates that an application and its skeleton must be similar in**:
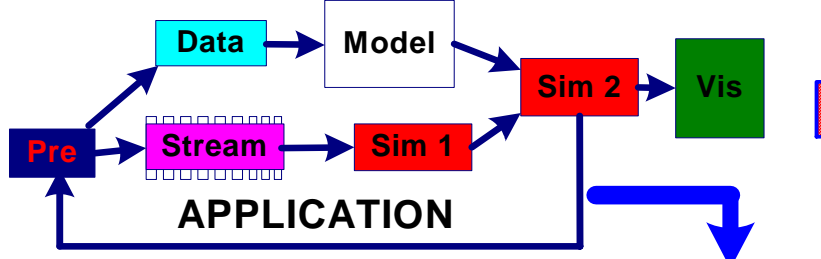
- **Computation behavior**
- **Communication behavior**
- Memory behavior (partly addressed in related work)
- I/O Behavior (not directly addressed)

All execution behavior is to be captured in a **short program**
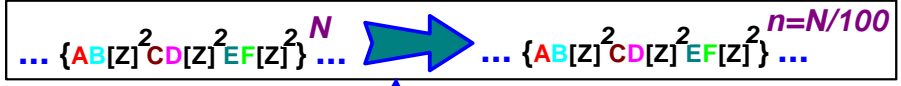
Skeleton Construction

Implementation for parallel MPI codes

Record Physical Execution Traces

Logicalize Physical Traces into a Single Logical Trace

Compress the Logical Trace into Compact Execution Signature

Construct Executable Performance Skeleton

Logicalization
(N Physical Traces ➜ Single Logical Trace)

- **In SPMD point-to-point communication all processors typically perform the same communication….**

    … on different data and with different processors (e.g. Left/Right neighbors)

    A regular logical communication topology exists (e.g. *Grid, Torus, Stencil, Hypercube, Butterfly…*)

Logicalization identifies the logical topology to convert family of physical traces to a logical trace,

An Example – 16-process BT benchmark

P0: Send (7, data), P1: Send (4, data) P2:: Send (5, data) ,… P15: Send (2, data) ➔ Send (SW, data)

in logical trace in the context of a 2D torus topology

Logicalization

Key challenge: Identify dominant communication topology from inter-node communication matrix

Matching against a known topology
Is solving graph isomorphism
- *No polynomial algorithm*

Practical solution with 3 Tests:

1. **Match node & edge counts**
2. **Match eigenvalues**
3. **Graph Isomorphism algorithm:**
   employed VF2 library

Test 1 eliminates most patterns cheaply.
Test 2 and Test 3 expensive but used sparingly.
Only Test 3 proves that a match exists.

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Illustration: BT/SP Benchmark

Benchmark	Processes	Simple Tests	Graph Spectrum Test	Isomorphism Test
BT/SP	9	**3×3 6-p stencil**	3×3 6-p stencil	3×3 6-p stencil
	16	**4×4 6-p stencil**	4×4 6-p stencil	4×4 6-p stencil
	36	**6×6 6-p stencil** 4×3×3 torus **2×2×3×3 torus**	6×6 6-p stencil	6×6 6-p stencil
	64	**8×8 6-p stencil** **2×2×2×2×2×2 grid** 4×2×2×2×2 torus 4×4×2×2 torus 4×4×4 torus	8×8 6-p stencil	8×8 6-p stencil
	121	**11×11 6-p stencil**	11×11 6-p stencil	11×11 6-p stencil

•Table shows candidate topologies remaining after each test
• Non-boldface topologies are isomorphic to topology above

Logicalization Notes

Works well in practice!

- Main communication topology must be static & regular
- Matching only against known patterns, but patterns easy to add and library can be large
  - All n-dim grids or n-ary trees specified in one shot
- Some message exchange not related to main communication pattern observed
  - Ignored with thresholding, only dominant toplogies captured
- Multiple mixed patterns (equal to subgraph isomorphism) not yet implemented

More details: *Q. Xu, R. Prithivathi, J. Subhlok, and R.Zheng, Logicalization of MPI communication traces, TRUH-CS-08-07, Univ of Houston, May 08*

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Compression of Logical Trace

Goal is to identify loop nests in the trace!

Matching sliding windows of trace is $O(N^3)$.
-- Commonly employed locally on trace sections
-- So can miss long range repeats (outer loops).

Two new algorithms developed:

1. An optimal $O(N^2)$ algorithm (finds outer loops first) : leverages Crochemore's algorithm to find all repeats

2. Greedy algorithm (finds inner loops first) guaranteed to miss at most 2 iterations of a loop – Very fast

Loop Discovery Performance

NAS Class C	Raw Trace Length (MPI Calls)	Compressed Trace Length (MPI Calls)	Optimal Loop Discovery (seconds)	Greedy Loop Discovery (seconds)
BT	17106	44	311.18	8.91
SP	26888	89	747.73	7.61
LU	323048	63	*113890.21 (~30 hours)*	*61.9*
CG	41954	10	240.27	8.48
MG	10047	648	144.54	10.88

More details: *Q. Xu and J. Subhlok., Efficient discovery of loop nests in communication traces of parallel programs, TR UH-CS-08-08, Univ of Houston, May 2008*

Skeleton Code Generation

Compressed logicalized trace, i.e., loop nest of MPI calls and compute operations
TO
Compact Matching executable C code

1. MPI calls in trace converted to executable MPI calls on synthetic data – global SPMD communication pattern generated

2. Compute sections converted to synthetic computations of equal duration

3. # of iterations in loop nest reduced to match desired skeleton execution time

Code Generation Challenges

- **"Local" communication**
  - e.g., No matching Send in trace for a Recv

The send is ignored or a synthetic matching Recv is generated

- **"Unbalanced" communication**
  - Send and Recv not matching, e.g., in data size

Match forced by adjusting parameters, e.g using mean data size.

These represent exceptions to the global dominant communication pattern.

Code generator ensures correctness with possible inaccuracy
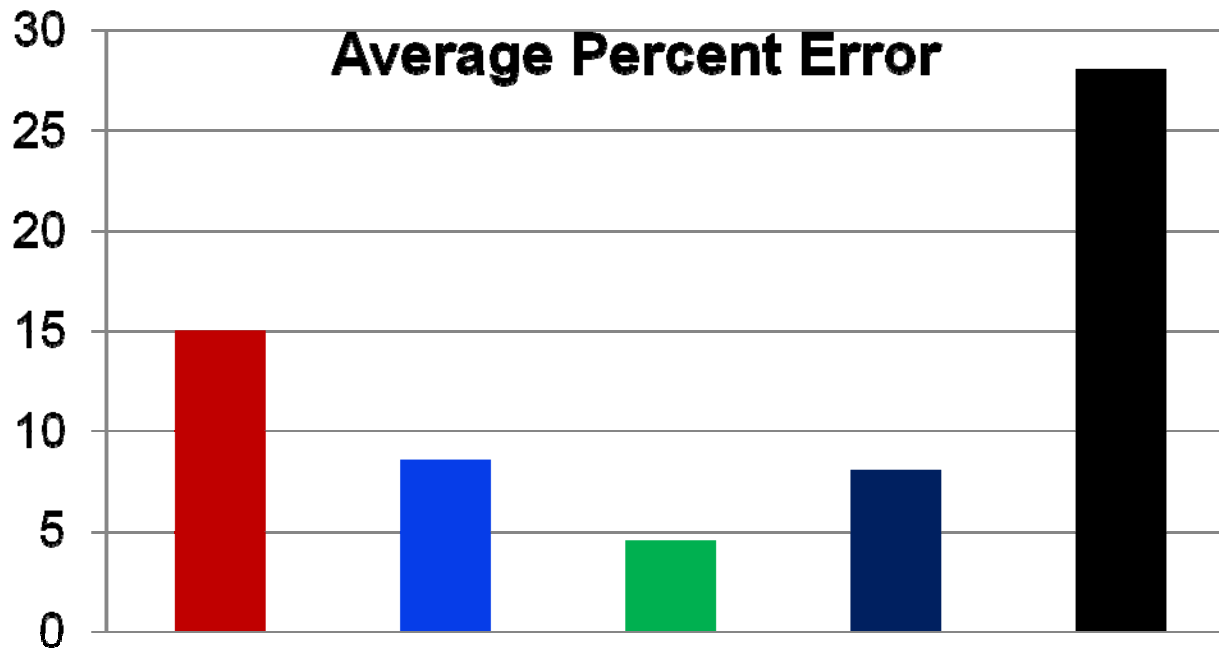
Validation of Skeleton Construction

Skeletons constructed for Class C NAS MPI benchmarks up to 128 nodes

Skeletons constructed in one scenario → Employed to predict performance in a new scenario:

- **Execution on a different cluster**
- **Execution under a new MPI library**
- **Execution under varying available bandwidth**
- **Execution with different number of nodes for the same number of processes**
- **Execution under competition with other jobs**

Validation Results

Summary from a large suite of experiments!

Across Cluster Archs (1.7 GHz Xeon --> 2.3 GHZ Dual Core Opteron)
Across Communication Libraries (MPICH --> Open MPI)
Simulate Bandwidth Sharing (100 Mbps --> 5, 20, 50, Mbps)
Processor Sharing within Application (1--2, 4 processes/processor)
Processor Sharing with External Apps (add1, 2 competing processes)

Validation Results

For most applications and scenarios, the prediction was rather accurate with error within 10% for skeletons running for a few minutes

However:

- Prediction in some scenarios is inaccurate

Reasons:

1. Computing not modeled precisely (memory, instructions)
2. Synchronization impact can exaggerate variations

Conclusions

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- Performance skeletons are an effective tool for estimating performance where modeling is impractical

- Methodologies for logicalization and loop nest discovery have broad applicability

FOR MORE INFORMATION (including papers/TRs with details of logicalization and compression):

- **www.cs.uh.edu/~jaspal   jaspal@uh.edu**

Thanks to NSF