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BSC Performance tools suite: study cases on improving the efficiency of the EC-EARTH model components

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Efficiency in Earth science models

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- Efficiency is especially critical for Earth science models
- Simulations use a huge amount of computational resources
- Future simulations will need many more resources
 - Computational time
 - Storage and postprocess
 - Software to simplify the usage of the model



Energy efficiency

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• Energy efficiency



Performance loss caused by:

- Bad programming
- Load imbalance
- Synchronization
- Resource contention
- ...



- Since 1991
- **Based** on traces
- Open Source: http://www.bsc.es/paraver
- **Extrae**: Package that generates Paraver trace-files for a post-mortem analysis
- **Paraver**: Trace visualization and analysis browser
 - Includes trace manipulation: Filter, cut traces
- **Dimemas**: Message passing simulator



PARAVER trace analysis

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Serial efficiency





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EC-Earth: A coupled climate model

EC-Earth



- Earth System Model
- Reliable in-house predictions of global climate change
- Part of a Europe-wide consortium
- Being used in large European projects
 - EMBRACE
 - EUPORIAS
 - IS-ENES
 - SPECS
 - PRIMAVERA
- 3.1 version → IFS + NEMO-LIM + OASIS





 Preparing the next CMIP6 high-resolution simulations called HiResMIP



- Target resolutions are T511-ORCA025 and T1279-ORCA12
- 19 European groups involved
- No experience in analyzing efficiency on these resolutions

	Single climate experiment (10 members, 60 start dates, 10 years simulated)					
Resolution	Grid Size	Output Size	Computation Time			
T511-ORCA025	Atmos 40km - Ocean 25km	720 Tb	132.0 x 10 ⁶			
T1279-ORCA12	Atmos 16km - Ocean 9km	1,4 Pb	NA			

An EC-Earth Paraver trace

- Motivation: Finding a good configuration to **optimize** the resources usage
- IFS T255L91-ORCA1L46
- Configuration widely used in production
 - Using 7 cores for OASIS, 96 for IFS and 48 for NEMO
- 1 day simulation traces
- Traces generated in burst mode (only computational regions > 100us)
- Paraver view → Useful duration (displays duration of computational bursts)



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NEMO: An ocean model

NEMO ocean model

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Nucleus for European Modeling of the Ocean (NEMO) is a stateof-the-art global ocean model

It is used in oceanographic research, operational oceanography, seasonal forecast and climate studies

Includes several **sub-models**. Many of them can work in standalone version, many others need to be coupled



NEMO model scalability



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*Timelines have the same duration

LIM model as a bottleneck

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10

48

. .

.....

. .

Sea ice horizontal diffusion



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LIM HDF

288 **Outside MPI** MPI Isend **MPI Recv MPI** Wait MPI All gather

Only 20% of the time invested on computation

Global Communication at every loop iteration → 60% of the time



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NEMO model optimizations

Global communications reduction

- Convergence check that is executed in every loop iteration
- Control structure put to reduce the frequency by a factor of N

```
do while( control > threshold) ! Sub-time step loop
   . . .
      some computation with x
   call interchange ( x ) ! lateral boundary condition
   control = max(x) ! Find local max
   call global_max( control ) ! Find global max
end do
                        ! end of sub-time step loop
```

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Message packing





Performance improvement

- Message Packing + Reduction of global communications
- Increase in the model scalability and efficiency



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But it can be even better...

- Even though, in each LIM iteration we have:
 - 41 lim_hdf calls
 - More than 1400 collectives and border interchanges
- lim_hdf calls are (almost) independent → Reorder it to achieve coarser granularity and reduce collectives number by using the message packing

Original



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More performance improvement

- Previous optimizations already included in a new model branch and now are merged into the NEMO 3.6 trunk
- New optimizations increase further scalability



Scalability Improved!

Efficiency Improved!

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Conclusions

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- Little changes in the configuration can significantly improve the performance
- **Trace analysis** can **guide** the **users** in understanding the behavior of the code
- A precise analysis and prediction can generate ideas that direct the restructuring of the application in the most productive way
- Performance analysis is critical for a rational usage of the resources



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Thank you!

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