Fault tolerance techniques for high-performance computing Part 1

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Outline





Checkpoint and rollback recovery

- Process checkpointing
- Coordinated checkpointing
- Hierarchical checkpointing



Probabilistic models

• Young/Daly's approximation

Exascale platforms (courtesy Jack Dongarra)

Potential System Architecture with a cap of \$200M and 20MW

Systems	2011 K computer	2019	Difference Today & 2019
System peak	10.5 Pflop/s	1 Eflop/s	O(100)
Power	12.7 MW	~20 MW	
System memory	1.6 PB	32 - 64 PB	O(10)
Node performance	128 GF	1,2 or 15TF	O(10) - O(100)
Node memory BW	64 GB/s	2 - 4TB/s	O(100)
Node concurrency	8	O(1k) or 10k	O(100) - O(1000)
Total Node Interconnect BW	20 GB/s	200-400GB/s	O(10)
System size (nodes)	88,124	O(100,000) or O(1M)	O(10) - O(100)
Total concurrency	705,024	O(billion)	O(1,000)
MTTI	days	O(1 day)	- O(10)

Exascale platforms (courtesy C. Engelmann & S. Scott)

Toward Exascale Computing (My Roadmap)

Based on proposed DOE roadmap with MTTI adjusted to scale linearly

Systems	2009	2011	2015	2018
System peak	2 Peta	20 Peta	100-200 Peta	1 Exa
System memory	0.3 PB	1.6 PB	5 PB	10 PB
Node performance	125 GF	200GF	200-400 GF	1-10TF
Node memory BW	25 GB/s	40 GB/s	100 GB/s	200-400 GB/s
Node concurrency	12	32	O(100)	O(1000)
Interconnect BW	1.5 GB/s	22 GB/s	25 GB/s	50 GB/s
System size (nodes)	18,700	100,000	500,000	O(million)
Total concurrency	225,000	3,200,000	O(50,000,000)	O(billion)
Storage	15 PB	30 PB	150 PB	300 PB
Ю	0.2 TB/s	2 TB/s	10 TB/s	20 TB/s
MTTI	4 days	19 h 4 min	3 h 52 min	1 h 56 min
Power	6 MW	~10MW	~10 MW	~20 MW

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Exascale platforms

Hierarchical

- $\bullet~10^5~{\rm or}~10^6~{\rm nodes}$
- Each node equipped with 10^4 or 10^3 cores

• Failure-prone

MTBF – one node	1 year	10 years	120 years
MTBF – platform	30sec	5mn	1h
of 10 ⁶ nodes			

More nodes \Rightarrow Shorter MTBF (Mean Time Between Failures)

Exascale platforms





Checkpoints

Proba models 1

Even for today's platforms (courtesy F. Cappello)





Checkpoints

Even for today's platforms (courtesy F. Cappello)



Typical "Balanced Architecture" for PetaScale Computers





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Without optimization, Checkpoint-Restart needs about 1h! (~30 minutes each)

Systems	Perf.	Ckpt time	Source
RoadRunner	1PF	~20 min.	Panasas
LLNL BG/L	500 TF	>20 min.	LLNL
LLNL Zeus	11TF	26 min.	LLNL
YYY BG/P	100 TF	~30 min.	YYY



LLNL BG/L



Outline



Faults and failures

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Probabilistic models

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Error sources (courtesy Franck Cappello)

Sources of failures

- Analysis of error and failure logs
- In 2005 (Ph. D. of CHARNG-DA LU) : "Software halts account for the most number of outages (59-84 percent), and take the shortest time to repair (0.6-1.5 hours). Hardware problems, albeit rarer, need 6.3-100.7 hours to solve."



Software errors: Applications, OS bug (kernel panic), communication libs, File system error and other. Hardware errors, Disks, processors, memory, network

Conclusion: Both Hardware and Software failures have to be considered

A few definitions

- Many types of faults: software error, hardware malfunction, memory corruption
- Many possible behaviors: silent, transient, unrecoverable
- Restrict to faults that lead to application failures
- This includes all hardware faults, and some software ones
- Will use terms *fault* and *failure* interchangeably
- Silent errors (SDC) will be addressed later in the course
- First question: quantify the rate or frequency at which these faults strike!

A few definitions

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Failure distributions: (1) Exponential



Checkpoints

 $Exp(\lambda)$: Exponential distribution law of parameter λ :

- Probability density function (pdf): $f(t) = \lambda e^{-\lambda t} dt$ for $t \ge 0$
- Cumulative distribution function (cdf): $F(t) = 1 e^{-\lambda t}$
- Mean: $\mu = \frac{1}{\lambda}$

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Failure distributions: (1) Exponential



Checkpoints

X random variable for $Exp(\lambda)$ failure inter-arrival times:

- $\mathbb{P}(X \leq t) = 1 e^{-\lambda t} dt$ (by definition)
- Memoryless property: P(X ≥ t + s | X ≥ s) = P(X ≥ t) (for all t, s ≥ 0): at any instant, time to next failure does not depend upon time elapsed since last failure

• Mean Time Between Failures (MTBF) $\mu = \mathbb{E}(X) = \frac{1}{\lambda}$

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Checkpoints

Failure distributions: (2) Weibull



Weibull(k, λ): Weibull distribution law of shape parameter k and scale parameter λ :

• Pdf: $f(t) = k\lambda(t\lambda)^{k-1}e^{-(\lambda t)^k}dt$ for $t\geq 0$

• Cdf:
$$F(t) = 1 - e^{-(\lambda t)}$$

• Mean: $\mu = \frac{1}{\lambda} \Gamma(1 + \frac{1}{k})$

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Failure distributions: (2) Weibull



Checkpoints

X random variable for $Weibull(k, \lambda)$ failure inter-arrival times:

- If k < 1: failure rate decreases with time "infant mortality": defective items fail early
- If k = 1: Weibull $(1, \lambda) = Exp(\lambda)$ constant failure time



Processor (or node): any entity subject to failures
 ⇒ approach agnostic to granularity

 If the MTBF is μ with one processor, what is its value with p processors?





Processor (or node): any entity subject to failures
 ⇒ approach agnostic to granularity

• If the MTBF is μ with one processor, what is its value with *p* processors?

• Well, it depends 😟

Checkpoints

With rejuvenation

- Rebooting all p processors after a failure
- Platform failure distribution
 ⇒ minimum of *p* IID processor distributions
- With *p* distributions $Exp(\lambda)$:

$$\min (Exp(\lambda_1), Exp(\lambda_2)) = Exp(\lambda_1 + \lambda_2)$$

$$\mu = \frac{1}{\lambda} \Rightarrow \mu_{p} = \frac{\mu}{p}$$

• With *p* distributions $Weibull(k, \lambda)$:

$$\min_{1..p} (Weibull(k,\lambda)) = Weibull(k,p^{1/k}\lambda)$$

$$\mu = \frac{1}{\lambda} \Gamma(1 + \frac{1}{k}) \Rightarrow \mu_{p} = \frac{\mu}{p^{1/k}}$$

Without rejuvenation (= real life)

- Rebooting only faulty processor
- Platform failure distribution
 ⇒ superposition of *p* IID processor distributions
 ⇒ IID only for Exponential

Checkpoints

• Define μ_p by

$$\lim_{F \to +\infty} \frac{n(F)}{F} = \frac{1}{\mu_p}$$

n(F) = number of platform failures until time F is exceeded

Theorem:
$$\mu_p = \frac{\mu}{p}$$
 for arbitrary distributions





If three processors have around 20 faults during a time $t \ (\mu = \frac{t}{20})...$



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MTBF with p processors (1/2)

Theorem: $\mu_p = \frac{\mu}{p}$ for arbitrary distributions

With one processor:

• n(F) = number of failures until time F is exceeded

Checkpoints

• X_i iid random variables for inter-arrival times, with $\mathbb{E}(X_i) = \mu$

•
$$\sum_{i=1}^{n(F)-1} X_i \le F \le \sum_{i=1}^{n(F)} X_i$$

• Wald's equation: $(\mathbb{E}(n(F)) - 1)\mu \leq F \leq \mathbb{E}(n(F))\mu$

•
$$\lim_{F \to +\infty} \frac{\mathbb{E}(n(F))}{F} = \frac{1}{\mu}$$

MTBF with p processors (2/2)

Theorem: $\mu_p = \frac{\mu}{p}$ for arbitrary distributions

With *p* processors:

- n(F) = number of platform failures until time F is exceeded
- $n_q(F)$ = number of those failures that strike processor q

Checkpoints

n_q(F) + 1 = number of failures on processor q until time F is exceeded (except for processor with last-failure)

•
$$\lim_{F \to +\infty} \frac{n_q(F)}{F} = \frac{1}{\mu}$$
 as above

•
$$\lim_{F \to +\infty} \frac{n(F)}{F} = \frac{1}{\mu_P}$$
 by definition

• Hence
$$\mu_p = \frac{\mu}{p}$$
 because $n(F) = \sum_{q=1}^{p} n_q(F)$

A little digression for afficionados

- X_i IID random variables for processor inter-arrival times
- Assume X_i continuous, with $\mathbb{E}(X_i) = \mu$
- Y_i random variables for platform inter-arrival times
- Definition: $\mu_p \stackrel{def}{=} \lim_{n \to +\infty} \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n} \mathbb{E}(Y_i)}{n}$
- Limits always exists (superposition of renewal processes)
- Theorem: $\mu_p = \frac{\mu}{p}$

Values from the literature

- MTBF of one processor: between 1 and 125 years
- Shape parameters for Weibull: k = 0.5 or k = 0.7
- Failure trace archive from INRIA (http://fta.inria.fr)
- Computer Failure Data Repository from LANL (http://institutes.lanl.gov/data/fdata)

Does it matter?



After infant mortality and before aging, instantaneous failure rate of computer platforms is almost constant

Summary for the road

- MTBF key parameter and $\mu_p = \frac{\mu}{p}$
- Exponential distribution OK for most purposes 🙂
- Assume failure independence while not (completely) true 😔

Outline



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Checkpoint and rollback recovery

- Process checkpointing
- Coordinated checkpointing
- Hierarchical checkpointing



Probabilistic models



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Outline

Faults and failures



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Hierarchical checkpointing



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Maintaining redundant information

Goal

- General Purpose Fault Tolerance Techniques: work despite the application behavior
- Two adversaries: Failures & Application
- Use automatically computed redundant information
 - At given instants: checkpoints
 - At any instant: replication
 - Or anything in between: checkpoint + message logging

Process checkpointing

Goal

- Save the current state of the process
 - FT Protocols save a *possible* state of the parallel application

Techniques

- User-level checkpointing
- System-level checkpointing
- Blocking call
- Asynchronous call

User-level checkpointing

User code serializes the state of the process in a file.

- Usually small(er than system-level checkpointing)
- Portability
- Diversity of use
- Hard to implement if preemptive checkpointing is needed
- Loss of the functions call stack
 - code full of jumps
 - loss of internal library state

System-level checkpointing

- Different possible implementations: OS syscall; dynamic library; compiler assisted
- Create a serial file that can be loaded in a process image. Usually on the same architecture, same OS, same software environment.
- Entirely transparent
- Preemptive (often needed for library-level checkpointing)
- Lack of portability
- Large size of checkpoint (pprox memory footprint)

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Blocking / Asynchronous call

Blocking checkpointing

Relatively intuitive: checkpoint(filename) Cost: no process activity during the whole checkpoint operation. Can be linear in the size of memory and in the size of modified files

Asynchronous checkpointing

System-level approach: make use of copy on write of fork syscall User-level approach: critical sections, when needed

Storage

Remote reliable storage

Intuitive. I/O intensive. Disk usage.

Memory hierarchy

- local memory
- local disk (SSD, HDD)
- remote disk
 - Scalable Checkpoint Restart Library http://scalablecr.sourceforge.net

Checkpoint is valid when finished on reliable storage

Distributed memory storage

- In-memory checkpointing
- Disk-less checkpointing

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Coordinated checkpointing



Definition (Missing Message)

A message is missing if in the current configuration, the sender sent it, while the receiver did not receive it

Coordinated checkpointing



Definition (Orphan Message)

A message is orphan if in the current configuration, the receiver received it, while the sender did not send it

Coordinated checkpointing



Create a consistent view of the application (no orphan messages)

- Every message belongs to a single checkpoint wave
- All communication channels must be flushed (all2all)

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Blocking coordinated checkpointing



Non-Blocking Coordinated Checkpointing



- Communications received after the beginning of the checkpoint and before its end are added to the receiver's checkpoint
- Communications inside a checkpoint are pushed back at the beginning of the queues

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Implementation

Communication Library

- Flush of communication channels
 - conservative approach. One Message per open channel / One message per channel
- Preemptive checkpointing usually required
 - Can have a user-level checkpointing, but requires one that be called any time

Application Level

- Flush of communication channels
 - Can be as simple as Barrier(); Checkpoint();
 - Or as complex as having a quiesce(); function in all libraries
- User-level checkpointing

Coordinated Protocol Performance



Coordinated Protocol Performance

- VCL = nonblocking coordinated protocol
- PCL = blocking coordinated protocol

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Outline





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Uncoordinated Checkpointing Idea



Processes checkpoint independently

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Checkpoints ○○○●○○

Uncoordinated Checkpointing Idea



Optimistic Protocol

- Each process i keeps some checkpoints C_i^j
- $\forall (i_1, \dots, i_n), \exists j_k / \{C_{i_k}^{j_k}\}$ form a consistent cut?
- Domino Effect

Piece-wise Deterministic Assumption



Piece-wise Deterministic Assumption

- Process: alternate sequence of non-deterministic choice and deterministic steps
- Translated in Message Passing:
 - Receptions / Progress test are non-deterministic (MPI_Wait(ANY_SOURCE), if(MPI_Test())<...>; else <...>)
 - Emissions / others are deterministic

Message Logging



Message Logging

By replaying the sequence of messages and test/probe with the result obtained during the initial execution (from the last checkpoint), one can guide the execution of a process to its exact state just before the failure

Message Logging



Message / Events

- Message = unique identifier (source, emission index, destination, reception index) + payload (content of the message)
- Probe = unique identifier (number of consecutive failed/success probes on this link)
- Event Logging: saving the unique identifier of a message, or of a probe

Message Logging



Message / Events

- Payload Logging: saving the content of a message
- Message Logging: saving the unique identifier and the payload of a message, saving unique identifiers of probes, saving the (local) order of events

Message Logging



Where to save the Payload?

- Almost always as Sender Based
- Local copy: less impact on performance
- $\bullet~$ More memory demanding $\rightarrow~$ trade-off garbage collection algorithm
- Payload needs to be included in the checkpoints

Message Logging



- Events must be saved on a reliable space
- Must avoid: loss of events ordering information, for all events that can impact the outgoing communications
- Two (three) approaches: pessimistic + reliable system, or causal, (or optimistic)

Optimistic Message Logging



- On a reliable media, asynchronously
- "Hope that the event will have time to be logged" (before its loss is damageable)

Optimistic Message Logging



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Optimistic Message Logging



Where to save the Events?

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Optimistic Message Logging



Where to save the Events?

- On a reliable media, asynchronously
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Pessimistic Message Logging



Where to save the Events?

- On a reliable media, synchronously
- Delay of emissions that depend on non-deterministic choices until the corresponding choice is acknowledged
- Recovery: connect to the storage system to get the history

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Pessimistic Message Logging



Where to save the Events?

- On a reliable media, synchronously
- Delay of emissions that depend on non-deterministic choices until the corresponding choice is acknowledged
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Causal Message Logging



- Any message carries with it (piggybacked) the whole history of non-deterministic events that precede
- Garbage collection using checkpointing, detection of cycles
- Can be coupled with asynchronous storage on reliable media to help garbage collection
- Recovery: global communication + potential storage system

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Recover in Message Logging



Recovery

- Collect the history (from event log / event log + peers for Causal)
- Collect Id of last message sent
- Emitters resend, deliver in history order
- Fake emission of sent messages

Faults

Checkpoints

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Uncoordinated Protocol Performance



Uncoordinated Protocol Performance

- NAS Parallel Benchmarks 64 nodes
- High Performance Linpack
- Figures courtesy of A. Bouteiller, G. Bosilca

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Hierarchical Protocols

Many Core Systems

- All interactions between threads considered as a message
- Explosion of number of events
- $\bullet\,$ Cost of message payload logging $\approx\,$ cost of communicating $\rightarrow\,$ sender-based logging expensive
- Correlation of failures on the node

Hierarchical Protocols



Hierarchical Protocol

- Processes are separated in groups
- A group co-ordinates its checkpoint
- Between groups, use message logging

Hierarchical Protocols



Hierarchical Protocol

- Coordinated Checkpointing: the processes can behave as a non-deterministic entity (interactions between processes)
- Need to log the non-deterministic events: Hierarchical Protocols *are* uncoordinated protocols + event logging
- No need to log the payload

Event Log Reduction

Strategies to reduce the amount of event log

- Few HPC applications use message ordering / timing information to take decisions
- Many receptions (in MPI) are in fact deterministic: do not need to be logged
- For others, although the reception is non-deterministic, the order does not influence the interactions of the process with the rest (send-determinism). No need to log either
- Reduction of the amount of log to a few applications, for a few messages: event logging can be overlapped

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Hierarchical Protocol Performance



Hierarchical Protocol Performance

- NAS Parallel Benchmarks shared memory system, 32 cores
- HPL distributed system, 64 cores, 8 groups

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Outline



Checkpoint and rollback recovery

Probabilistic models
Young/Daly's approximation

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Outline



Checkpoint and rollback recovery



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Checkpointing cost



Blocking model: while a checkpoint is taken, no computation can be performed

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- Periodic checkpointing policy of period T
- Independent and identically distributed (IID) failures
- Applies to a single processor with MTBF $\mu=\mu_{\mathit{ind}}$
- Applies to a platform with *p* processors with MTBF $\mu = \frac{\mu_{ind}}{p}$
 - coordinated checkpointing
 - tightly-coupled application
 - progress \Leftrightarrow all processors available
 - \Rightarrow platform = single (powerful, unreliable) processor \bigcirc

Waste: fraction of time not spent for useful computations

Waste in fault-free execution



- $\bullet~\mathrm{TIME}_{\text{base}}:$ application base time
- $TIME_{FF}$: with periodic checkpoints but failure-free

$$\mathrm{TIME}_{\mathsf{FF}} = \mathrm{TIME}_{\mathsf{base}} + \#\textit{checkpoints} \times \textit{C}$$

$$\#checkpoints = \left\lceil \frac{\text{TIME}_{\text{base}}}{T-C} \right\rceil pprox \frac{\text{TIME}_{\text{base}}}{T-C}$$
 (valid for large jobs)

$$WASTE[FF] = \frac{TIME_{FF} - TIME_{base}}{TIME_{FF}} = \frac{C}{T}$$

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Waste due to failures

- $\bullet~T{\rm IME}_{\text{base}}:$ application base time
- $\bullet~T{\scriptstyle\rm IME}_{FF}{:}$ with periodic checkpoints but failure-free
- $\bullet \ T{\rm IME}_{{\rm final}}:$ expectation of time with failures

$$ext{TIME}_{\mathsf{final}} = ext{TIME}_{\mathsf{FF}} + \mathit{N}_{\mathit{faults}} imes \mathit{T}_{\mathsf{lost}}$$

 N_{faults} number of failures during execution T_{lost} : average time lost per failure

$$N_{faults} = rac{\mathrm{TIME}_{\mathrm{final}}}{\mu}$$
 T_{lost} ?

Waste due to failures

- $\bullet~T{\rm IME}_{\text{base}}:$ application base time
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$$N_{faults} = rac{\mathrm{TIME}_{\mathsf{final}}}{\mu}$$

Computing T_{lost}



Rationale

- \Rightarrow Instants when periods begin and failures strike are independent
- \Rightarrow Approximation used for all distribution laws
- \Rightarrow Exact for Exponential and uniform distributions

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Waste due to failures

$$WASTE[fail] = \frac{TIME_{final} - TIME_{FF}}{TIME_{final}} = \frac{1}{\mu} \left(D + R + \frac{T}{2} \right)$$

 $TIME_{Encl} = TIME_{EE} + N_{Enults} \times T_{lost}$

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Total waste



$$\mathrm{WASTE} = \frac{\mathrm{TIME}_{\mathsf{final}} - \mathrm{TIME}_{\mathsf{base}}}{\mathrm{TIME}_{\mathsf{final}}}$$

$$1 - \text{WASTE} = (1 - \text{WASTE}[FF])(1 - \text{WASTE}[fail])$$

WASTE =
$$\frac{C}{T} + \left(1 - \frac{C}{T}\right) \frac{1}{\mu} \left(D + R + \frac{T}{2}\right)$$

How do we minimize the waste? (use the goat's lemma!)

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