Efficient parallel programming on ccNUMA nodes

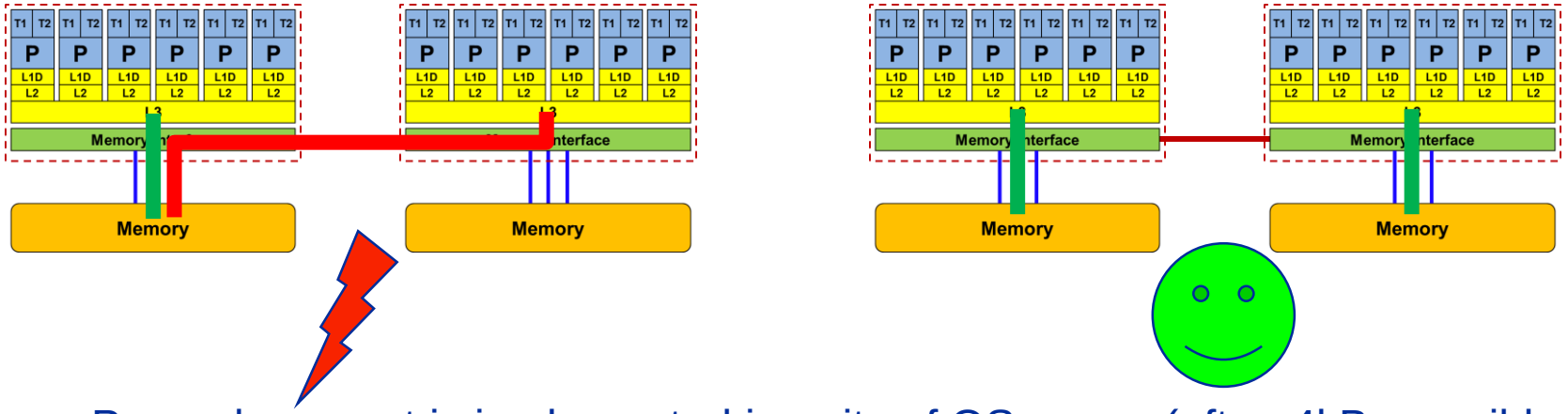
Performance characteristics of ccNUMA nodes

First touch placement policy

ccNUMA performance problems

"The other affinity" to care about

- **ccNUMA:**
  - Whole memory is transparently accessible by all processors
  - but physically distributed
  - with varying bandwidth and latency
  - and potential contention (shared memory paths)
- **How do we make sure that memory access is always as "local" and "distributed" as possible?**

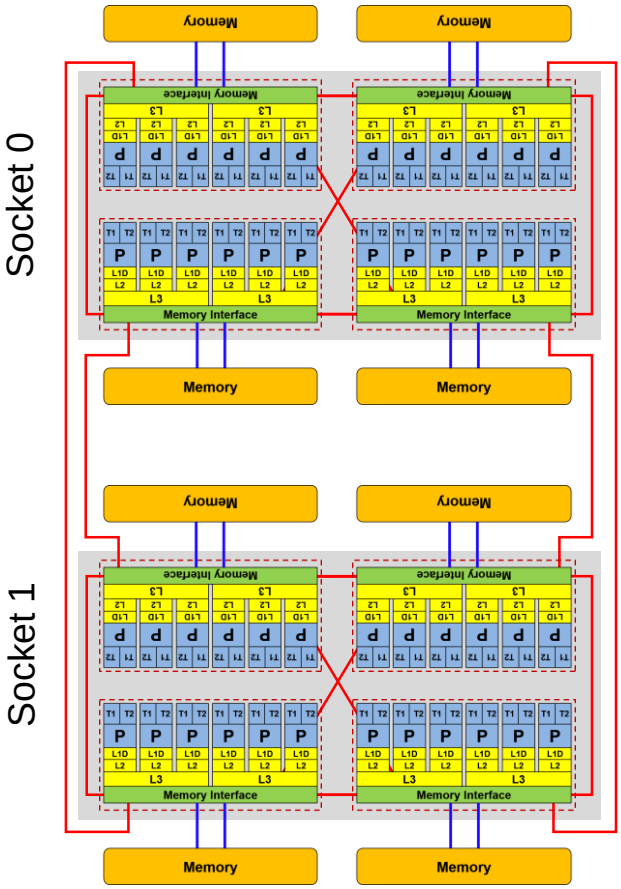


  - Page placement is implemented in units of OS pages (often 4kB, possibly more)

How much bandwidth does nonlocal access cost?

Example: AMD “Naples” 2-socket system (8 chips, 2 sockets, 48 cores): *STREAM Triad bandwidth measurements* [Gbyte/s]

MEM node \ CPU node	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
0	32.4	21.4	21.8	21.9	10.6	10.6	10.7	10.8
1	21.5	32.4	21.9	21.9	10.6	10.5	10.7	10.6
2	21.8	21.9	32.4	21.5	10.6	10.6	10.8	10.7
3	21.9	21.9	21.5	32.4	10.6	10.6	10.6	10.7
4	10.6	10.7	10.6	10.6	32.4	21.4	21.9	21.9
5	10.6	10.6	10.6	10.6	21.4	32.4	21.9	21.9
6	10.6	10.7	10.6	10.6	21.9	21.9	32.3	21.4
7	10.7	10.6	10.6	10.6	21.9	21.9	21.4	32.5



numactl as a simple ccNUMA locality tool :

How do we enforce some locality of access?

- **`numactl` can influence the way a binary maps its memory pages:**

```
numactl --membind=<nodes> a.out     # map pages only on <nodes>
        --preferred=<node>  a.out   # map pages on <node>
                                    # and others if <node> is full
        --interleave=<nodes> a.out  # map pages round robin across
                                    # all <nodes>
```

- **Examples:**

```
for m in `seq 0 3`; do
  for c in `seq 0 3`; do
    env OMP_NUM_THREADS=8 \
        numactl --membind=$m --cpunodebind=$c ./stream
  done
done
```

ccNUMA map scan

```
env OMP_NUM_THREADS=4 numactl --interleave=0-3 \
                              likwid-pin -c N:0,4,8,12 ./stream
```

- **But what is the default without `numactl`?**

ccNUMA default memory locality

- **"Golden Rule" of ccNUMA:**

  A memory page gets mapped into the local memory of the processor that first touches it!

  - Except if there is not enough local memory available
  - This might be a problem, see later
- **Caveat: "touch" means "write", not "allocate"**
- **Example:**

```
double *huge = (double*)malloc(N*sizeof(double));

for(i=0; i<N; i++) // or i+=PAGE_SIZE/sizeof(double)
   huge[i] = 0.0;
```

Memory not mapped here yet

Mapping takes place here

- **It is sufficient to touch a single item to map the entire page**

Coding for ccNUMA data locality

- **Most simple case: explicit initialization**

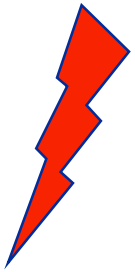
```
integer,parameter :: N=10000000
double precision A(N), B(N)



A=0.d0



!$OMP parallel do
do i = 1, N
  B(i) = function ( A(i) )
end do
!$OMP end parallel do
```



```
integer,parameter :: N=10000000
double precision A(N),B(N)
!$OMP parallel
!$OMP do schedule(static)
do i = 1, N
  A(i)=0.d0
end do
!$OMP end do
...
!$OMP do schedule(static)
do i = 1, N
  B(i) = function ( A(i) )
end do
!$OMP end do
!$OMP end parallel
```

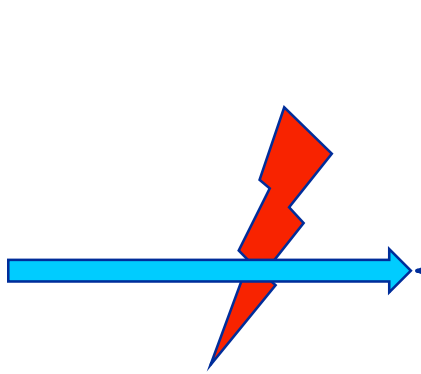
Coding for ccNUMA data locality

- Sometimes initialization is not so obvious: I/O cannot be easily parallelized, so “localize” arrays before I/O

```
integer,parameter :: N=10000000
double precision A(N), B(N)

READ(1000) A

!$OMP parallel do
do i = 1, N
  B(i) = function ( A(i) )
end do
!$OMP end parallel do
```



```
integer,parameter :: N=10000000
double precision A(N),B(N)
!$OMP parallel
!$OMP do schedule(static)
do i = 1, N
  A(i)=0.d0
end do
!$OMP end do
!$OMP single
READ(1000) A
!$OMP end single
!$OMP do schedule(static)
do i = 1, N
  B(i) = function ( A(i) )
end do
!$OMP end do
!$OMP end parallel
```

Basic compute node architecture: ccNUMA – Golden Rule

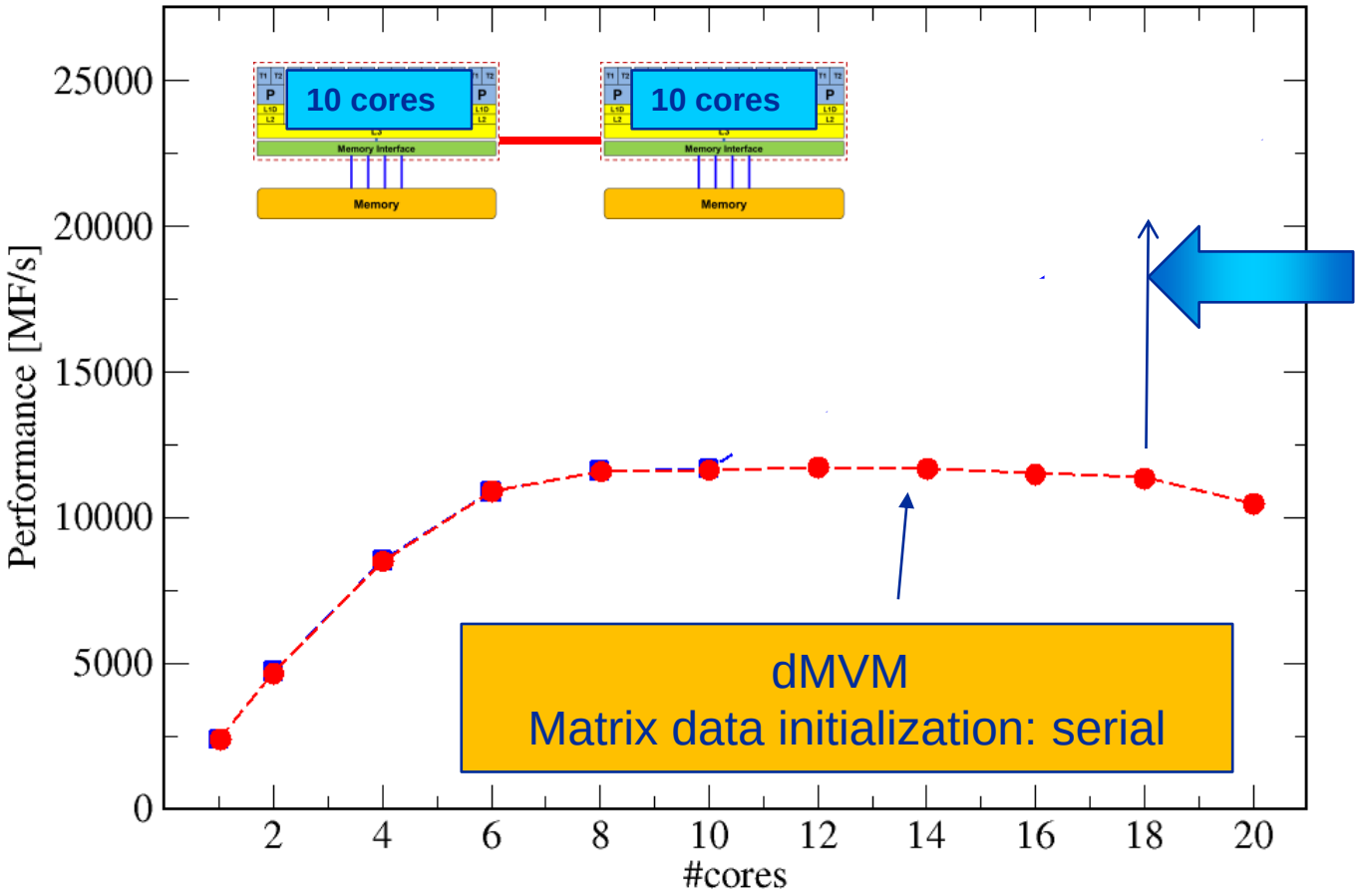
- **Dense matrix vector multiplication (dMVM)**

```
void dmvm(int n, int m, double *lhs, double *rhs, double
*mat){
#pragma omp parallel for private(offset,c)schedule(static)
{
  for(r=0; r<n; ++r) {
    offset=m*r;
    for(c=0; c<m; ++c)
      lhs[r] += mat[c + offset]*rhs[c];
}}
```

- **OpenMP parallelization?!**

Basic compute node architecture: ccNUMA – Golden Rule

```
#pragma omp parallel for schedule(static) private(c) {
for(r=0; r<n; ++r)
    for(c=0; c<m; ++c) mat[c + m*r] = …; } }
```



Parallelization of matrix data initialization

Coding for Data Locality

- **Required condition: OpenMP loop schedule of initialization must be the same as in all computational loops**
  - Only choice: `static`! Specify explicitly on all NUMA-sensitive loops, just to be sure…
  - Imposes some constraints on possible optimizations (e.g. load balancing)
  - Presupposes that all worksharing loops with the same loop length have the same thread-chunk mapping
  - If dynamic scheduling/tasking is unavoidable, more advanced methods may be in order
    - See below
- **How about global objects?**
  - Better not use them
  - If communication vs. computation is favorable, might consider properly placed copies of global data
- **C++: Arrays of objects and `std::vector<>` are by default initialized sequentially**
  - STL allocators provide an elegant solution

Coding for Data Locality:
Placement of static arrays or arrays of objects

- **Don't forget that constructors tend to touch the data members of an object. Example:**

```
class D {
  double d;
public:
  D(double _d=0.0) throw() : d(_d) {}
  inline D operator+(const D& o) throw() {
    return D(d+o.d);
  }
  inline D operator*(const D& o) throw() {
    return D(d*o.d);
  }
...
};
```

→ **placement problem with**

```
D* array = new D[1000000];
```

Coding for Data Locality:
Parallel first touch for arrays of objects

optional

- **Solution: Provide overloaded `D::operator new[]`**

```
void* D::operator new[](size_t n) {
  char *p = new char[n];    // allocate

  size_t i,j;
#pragma omp parallel for private(j) schedule(...)
  for(i=0; i<n; i += sizeof(D))
    for(j=0; j<sizeof(D); ++j)
      p[i+j] = 0;
  return p;
}

void D::operator delete[](void* p) throw() {
  delete [] static_cast<char*>p;
}
```

parallel first touch

- **Placement of objects is then done automatically by the C++ runtime via "placement new"**

Coding for Data Locality:
NUMA allocator for parallel first touch in **`std::vector<>`**


```
template <class T> class NUMA_Allocator {
public:
  T* allocate(size_type numObjects, const void
              *localityHint=0) {
    size_type ofs,len = numObjects * sizeof(T);
    void *m = malloc(len);
    char *p = static_cast<char*>(m);
    int i,pages = len >> PAGE_BITS;
#pragma omp parallel for schedule(static) private(ofs)
    for(i=0; i<pages; ++i) {
      ofs = static_cast<size_t>(i) << PAGE_BITS;
      p[ofs]=0;
    }
    return static_cast<pointer>(m);
  }
...
};
```

Application:

```
vector<double,NUMA_Allocator<double> > x(10000000)
```

Diagnosing bad locality

- **If your code is cache bound, you might not notice any locality problems**
- **Otherwise, bad locality limits scalability (whenever a ccNUMA node boundary is crossed)**
  - Just an indication, not a proof yet
- **Running with `numactl --interleave` might give you a hint**
  - See later
- **Consider using performance counters**
  - LIKWID-perfctr can be used to measure nonlocal memory accesses
  - Example for Intel dual-socket system (IvyBridge, 2x10-core):

```
likwid-perfctr -g NUMA -C M0:0-4@M1:0-4 ./a.out
```

Using performance counters for diagnosing bad ccNUMA access locality

- Intel Ivy Bridge EP node (running 2x5 threads): measure NUMA traffic per core

```
likwid-perfctr -g NUMA -C M0:0-4@M1:0-4 ./a.out
```

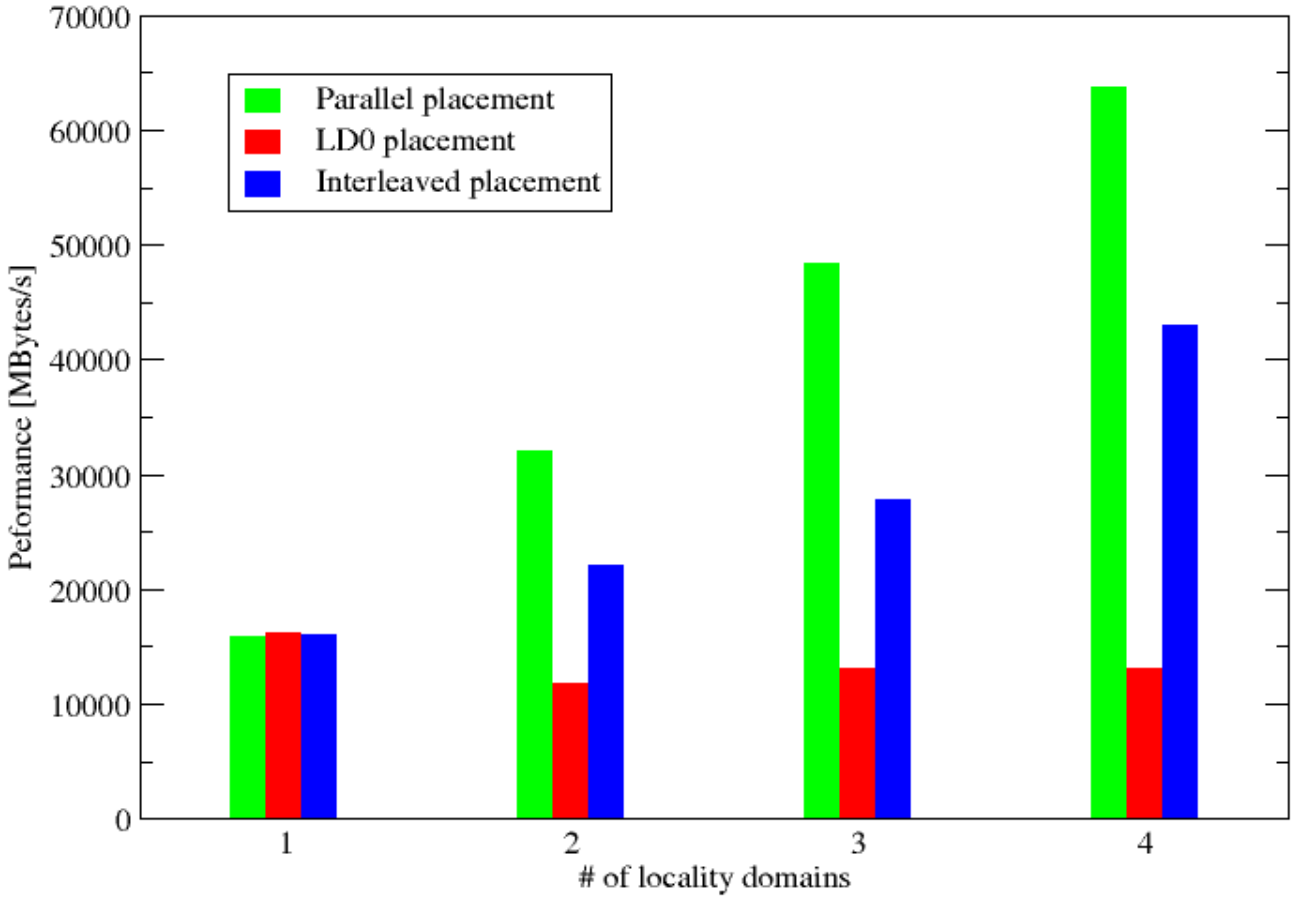
- Summary output:

Metric	Sum	Min	Max	Avg
Runtime (RDTSC) [s] STAT	4.050483	0.4050483	0.4050483	0.4050483
Runtime unhalted [s] STAT	3.03537	0.3026072	0.3043367	0.303537
Clock [MHz] STAT	32996.94	3299.692	3299.696	3299.694
CPI STAT	40.3212	3.702072	4.244213	4.03212
Local DRAM data volume [GByte] STAT	7.752933632	0.735579264	0.823551488	0.7752933632
Local DRAM bandwidth [MByte/s] STAT	19140.761	1816.028	2033.218	1914.0761
Remote DRAM data volume [GByte] STAT	9.16628352	0.86682464	0.957811776	0.916628352
Remote DRAM bandwidth [MByte/s] STAT	22630.098	2140.052	2364.685	2263.0098
Memory data volume [GByte] STAT	16.919217152	1.690376128	1.69339104	1.6919217152
Memory bandwidth [MByte/s] STAT	41770.861	4173.27	4180.714	4177.0861

- Caveat: NUMA metrics vary strongly between CPU models

About half of the overall memory traffic is caused by remote domain!

- **Parallel init: Correct parallel initialization**
- **LD0: Force data into LD0 via `numactl -m 0`**
- **Interleaved: `numactl --interleave <LD range>`**



Summary on ccNUMA issues

- **Identify the problem**
  - Is ccNUMA an issue in your code?
  - Simple test: run with **`numactl --interleave`**
- **Apply first-touch placement**
  - Look at initialization loops
  - Consider loop lengths and static scheduling
  - C++ and global/static objects may require special care
- **If dynamic scheduling cannot be avoided**
  - Consider round-robin placement
- **Buffer cache may impact proper placement**
  - Kick your admins
  - or apply sweeper code
  - If available, use runtime options to force local placement