Lecture Notes in Computer Science 1823
Edited by G. Goos, J. Hartmanis and J. van Leeuwen
High Performance Computing and Networking

8th International Conference, HPCN Europe 2000
Amsterdam, The Netherlands, May 8-10, 2000
Proceedings
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Cataloging-in-Publication Data applied for

Die Deutsche Bibliothek - CIP-Einheitsaufnahme

(Lecture notes in computer science ; Vol. 1823)
ISBN 3-540-67553-1


ISSN 0302-9743

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Printed in Germany

Typesetting: Camera-ready by author, data conversion by Christian Grosche, Hamburg
Printed on acid-free paper SPIN 10721098 06/3142 5 4 3 2 1 0
Preface

This volume contains the proceedings of the international HPCN Europe 2000 event which was held in the Science and Technology Centre Watergraafsmeer, Amsterdam, the Netherlands, May 8-10, 2000.

HPCN (High Performance Computing and Networking) Europe event was organized for the first time in 1993 in Amsterdam as the result of several initiatives in Europe, the United States of America, and Japan. Succeeding HPCN events were held in Munich (1994), Milan (1995), Brussels (1996), and Vienna (1997), returning to Amsterdam in 1998 to stay.

The HPCN event keeps growing and advancing every year, and this year the event consisted of the scientific conference, focused workshops, and several associated events. The plenary lectures were presented by six renowned speakers:

- Henk van der Vorst, University of Utrecht, The Netherlands: *Giant Eigenproblems within Reach*,
- Wolfgang Gentzsch, CTO, Gridware Inc., Germany: *The Information Power Grid is Changing our World*,
- Bernard Lecussan, SupAero and ONERA/CERT/DTIM, France: *Irregular Application Computations on a Cluster of Workstations*,
- Miguel Albrecht, European Southern Observatory, Garching, Germany: *Technologies for Mining Terabytes of Data*,
- Hans Meinhardt, Max-Planck-Institut, Germany: *The Algorithmic Beauty of Sea Shells*, and

The conference consisted of parallel tracks presenting 52 selected papers, and one track presenting 25 posters. The areas covered in the conference include: Industrial and General End-User Applications of HPCN, Computational and Computer Sciences, and this year the scope of the conference was further expanded by an additional area to emphasize the information management aspects, and the importance of the web-based cooperative application infrastructures.

In the area of *Web-Based Cooperative Applications* presented papers addressed: virtual enterprises and laboratories, cooperation coordination, as well as advanced web-based tools for tele-working. The area of *Industrial and End-User Applications of HPCN* consisted of papers focused on parallelisation of industrial codes, data-mining, and network applications. The papers presented in the area of *Computational Science* were dedicated to problem solving environments, metacomputing issues, load balancing and partition techniques, and new parallel numerical algorithms. In the area of *Computer Science Research in HPCN* the
following subjects were presented: Java in HPC, cluster computing, monitoring and performance, as well as compilation and low-level algorithms.

The newly emerging domains and applications of HPCN were covered within five thematic workshops and three associated events. The *Java in High Performance Computing* workshop (chaired by Vladimir Getov) focused on the use of Java in simulations, distributed resource management, on-line processing, data-intensive applications, and other emerging research topics that combine distributed object technology with networking. The *LAWRA* workshop (chaired by Jerzy Waśniewski) is devoted to the new, recursive formulation of basic algorithms in numerical software packages. Recursion leads automatically to better utilization of memory, offers very concise program structures, and results in significant speedup on modern SMP processors. Several challenging requirements of the virtual laboratory environments such as the problem solving and computing issues, data mining, and the collaborative work in emerging scientific and engineering domains were addressed within the *Virtual Laboratory* workshop (chaired by Bob Hertzberger). The main goal of the *Cluster Computing* workshop (chaired by Mark Baker and Wolfgang Gentzsch) is to find out how clusters, built with commodity-off-the-shelf hardware components and free or commonly used software, may redefine the concept of high performance and availability computing. At the *EuroStore* workshop (chaired by Fabrizio Gagliardi) efficiency, reliability, and manageability of very large storage systems (Multi-PB) were discussed. These problems, being of great importance for industrial applications, have been observed in high energy physics.

The three associated events of the HPCN 2000 conference were: the MPR event – *Massive Parallel Computing* (organized by Job Kleuver), the NCF event – *Dutch Super Computing* (organized by Jaap Hollenberg), and the symposium on *Modeling and Simulation of Morphogenesis and Pattern Formation in Biology* (organized by Jaap Kaandorp). This symposium addresses the investigation of self-organization and emergent behavior in biological systems with particle-based techniques.

The conference proceedings reflect the state of the art in several main areas of research, within the wide spectrum of HPCN. It is worth mentioning that the deadline for contributed papers was January 18, 2000. All the accepted papers and posters, as well as a selection of some papers presented at the workshops, are included in the proceedings. We thank all contributors for their cooperation, and we are pleased to observe the high quality of the submitted contributions. The best conference papers will also be selected later for publication in a special issue of the North-Holland journal *Future Generation Computer Systems*.

The selection of papers for HPCN 2000 would not have been possible without the support and careful evaluation of all the submissions by the members of the HPCN 2000 program committee, and their associated reviewers. The organizing committee is grateful for all the invaluable suggestions and the cooperation that we received from the reviewers. Their help made it possible to get at least three referee reports for each paper.
We would like to express our high gratitude to the members of the local organizing committee and the conference secretariat. Our sincere thanks go to Lodewijk Bos and Rutger Hamelynck. We greatly appreciate all the personal efforts and dedication of Anne Frenkel for both creating the HPCN Europe web pages and helping with the organization of paper distribution and review results, and those of Berry van Halderen for both setting up the on-line paper submission software and preparing papers for the proceedings.

We would like to thank the computer support groups, the FdNWI faculty of the University of Amsterdam, headed by Gert Poletiek, for the electronic communication support, and SARA in Amsterdam, headed by Jaap Hollenberg, for the distribution of the program and participation calls for HPCN 2000.

The organizers acknowledge the support of the DUTCH HPCN foundation, and the help of the University of Amsterdam for making its facilities available for this event.

March 2000

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Job Kleuver (MPR - Massive Parallel Computing)
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# Table of Contents

## I Computational Science Track

### Session 1 - Problem Solving Environments

A Problem Solving Environment Based on Commodity Software  
*D.J. Lancaster, J.S. Reeve*  
3

DOVE: A Virtual Programming Environment for High Performance Parallel Computing  
*H.D. Kim, S.H. Ryu, C.S. Jeong*  
12

### Session 3 - Metacomputing

The Problems and the Solutions of the Metacomputing Experiment in SC99  
*S. Pickles, F. Costen, J. Brooke, E. Gabriel, M. Müller, M. Resch, S. Ord*  
22

Grid Computing on the Web Using the Globus Toolkit  
*G. Aloisio, M. Cafaro, P. Falabella, C. Kesselman, R. Williams*  
32

Data Futures in DISCWorld  
*H.A. James, K.A. Hawick*  
41

### Session 6 - Partitioners / Load Balancing

Algorithms for Generic Tools in Parallel Numerical Simulation  
*D. Lecomber, M. Rudgyard*  
51

Dynamic Grid Adaption for Computational Magnetohydrodynamics  
*R. Keppens, M. Nool, P.A. Zegeling, J.P. Goedbloed*  
61

Parallelization of Irregular Problems Based on Hierarchical Domain Representation  
*F. Baiardi, S. Chiti, P. Mori, L. Ricci*  
71

Dynamic Iterative Method for Fast Network Partitioning  
*C.S. Jeong, Y.M. Song, S.U. Jo*  
81

### Session 9 - Numerical Parallel Algorithms

ParIC: A Family of Parallel Incomplete Cholesky Preconditioners  
*M. Magolu monga Made, H.A. van der Vorst*  
89
Table of Contents

A Parallel Block Preconditioner Accelerated by Coarse Grid Correction .......................... 99
C. Vuik, J. Frank

Towards an Implementation of a Multilevel ILU Preconditioner on
Shared-Memory Computers .......................................................... 109
A. Meijster, F. W. Wubs

Session 11 - Numerical Parallel Algorithms

Application of the Jacobi-Davidson Method to Spectral Calculations in
Magnetohydrodynamics ............................................................ 119
A.J.C. Beliën, B. van der Holst, M. Nool, A. van der Ploeg,
J.P. Goedbloed

PLFG: A Highly Scalable Parallel Pseudo-random Number Generator for
Monte Carlo Simulations ......................................................... 127
C.J.K. Tan, J.A. Rod Blais

parSOM: Using Parallelism to Overcome Memory Latency in Self-Organizing
Neural Networks ................................................................. 136
Ph. Tomsich, A. Rauber, D. Merkl

II  Web-Based Cooperative Applications Track

Session 2 - Virtual Enterprises / Virtual Laboratories

Towards an Execution System for Distributed Business Processes in a
Virtual Enterprise .............................................................. 149
L.M. Camarinha-Matos, C. Pantoja-Lima

Towards a Multi-layer Architecture for Scientific Virtual Laboratories .... 163
H. Afsarmanesh, A. Benabdellaker, E.C. Kaletas, C. Garita,
L.O. Hertzberger

Session 4 - Cooperation Coordination

Modelling Control Systems in an Event-Driven Coordination Language ........................ 177
T.A. Limniotes, G.A. Papadopoulos

Ruling Agent Motion in Structured Environments .................................. 187
M. Cremonini, A. Omicini, F. Zambonelli

Dynamic Reconfiguration in Coordination Languages .......................... 197
G.A. Papadopoulos, F. Arbab
Session 7 - Advanced Web-Based Tools for Tele-working

Developing A Distributed Scalable Enterprise JavaBean Server. .......... 207  
Y. Guo, P. Wendel

CFMS - A Collaborative File Management System on WWW ............ 217  
S. Ruey-Kai, C. Ming-Chun, C. Yue-Shan, Y. Shyan-Ming, T. Jensen,  
H. Yao-Jin, L. Ming-Chih

Adding Flexibility in a Cooperative Workflow Execution Engine ........ 227  
D. Grigori, H. Skaf-Molli, F. Charoy

A Web-Based Distributed Programming Environment ..................... 237  
K.F. Aoki, D.T. Lee

III Computer Science Track

Session 5 - Monitoring and Performance

Performance Analysis of Parallel N-Body Codes ......................... 249  
P. Spinnato, G.D. van Albada, P.M.A. Sloot

Interoperability Support in Distributed On-Line Monitoring Systems .... 261  
J. Trinitis, V. Sunderam, T. Ludwig, R. Wismüller

Using the SMiLE Monitoring Infrastructure to Detect and Lower the  
Inefficiency of Parallel Applications .................................. 270  
J. Tao, W. Karl, M. Schulz

Session 8 - Monitoring and Performance

Run-Time Optimization Using Dynamic Performance Prediction .......... 280  
A.M. Alkindi, D.J. Kerbyson, E. Papaefstathiou, G.R. Nudd

Skel-BSP: Performance Portability for Skeletal Programming ............ 290  
A. Zavanella

Self-Tuning Parallelism .................................................... 300  
O. Werner-Kytölä, W.F. Tichy

A Novel Distributed Algorithm for High-Throughput and Scalable  
Gossiping ................................................................. 313  
V. De Florio, G. Deconinck, R. Lauwereins

Session 13 - Low-Level Algorithms

Parallel Access to Persistent Multidimensional Arrays from HPF  
Applications Using Panda ............................................... 323  
P. Brezany, P. Czerwinski, A. Swietanowski, M. Winslett
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Session 15 - Java in HPC</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A Java-Based Parallel Programming Support Environment .............. 363</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K.A. Hawick, H.A. James</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A Versatile Support for Binding Native Code to Java .................. 373</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M. Bubak, D. Kurzyniec, P. Luszczek</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Task Farm Computations in Java ........................................ 385</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M. Danelutto</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Session 16 - Clusters</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Simulating Job Scheduling for Clusters of Workstations ............. 395</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J. Santoso, G.D. van Albada, B.A.A. Nazief, P.M.A. Sloot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A Compact, Thread-Safe Communication Library for Efficient Cluster Computing ........................................ 407</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M. Danelutto, C. Pucci</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EPOS and Myrinet: Effective Communication Support for Parallel Applications Running on Clusters of Commodity Workstation .......... 417</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A.A. Fröhlich, G.P. Tientcheu, W. Schröder-Preikschat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Distributed Parallel Query Processing on Networks of Workstations ...... 427</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. Soleimany, S.P. Dandamudi</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Session 10 - Parallelisation of Industrial Applications</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>High Scalability of Parallel PAM-CRASH with a New Contact Search Algorithm ........................................... 439</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J. Clinckemaillie, H.G. Galbas, O. Kolp, C.A. Thole, S. Vlachoutsis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Large-Scale Parallel Wave Propagation Analysis by GeoFEM ............. 445</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K. Garatani, H. Nakamura, H. Okuda, G. Yagawa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Session 12 - Data Analysis and Presentation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creating DEMO Presentations on the Base of Visualization Model</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E.V. Zudilova, D.P. Shamonin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Very Large Scale Vehicle Routing with Time Windows and Stochastic Demand Using Genetic Algorithms with Parallel Fitness Evaluation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M. Protonotarios, G. Mourkousis, I. Vyrdis, T. Varvarigou</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extracting Business Benefit from Operational Data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T.M. Sloan, P.J. Graham, K. Smythie, A.D. Lloyd</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Session 14 - Miscellaneous Applications</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Considerations for Scalable CAE on the SGI ccNUMA Architecture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S. Posey, C. Liao, M. Kremenetsky</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>An Automated Benchmarking Toolset</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M. Courson, A. Mink, G. Marçais, B. Traverse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evaluation of an RCube-Based Switch Using a Real World Application</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E.C. Kaletas, A.W. van Halderen, F. van der Linden, H. Afsarmanesh, L.O. Hertzberger</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MMSRS - Multimedia Storage and Retrieval System for a Distributed Medical Information System</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R. Slota, H. Kosch, D. Nikolow, M. Pogoda, K. Breidler, S. Podlipnig</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Posters</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Web-Based Cooperative Applications</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dynamically Transcoding Data Quality for Faster Web Access</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. Chi-Huing, L. Xiang, A. Lim</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Easy Teach &amp; Learn(R): A Web-Based Adaptive Middleware for Creating Virtual Classrooms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T. Walter, L. Ruf, B. Plattner</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Industrial and End-User Applications</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A Beowulf Cluster for Computational Chemistry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K.A. Hawick, D.A. Grove, P.D. Coddington, H.A. James, M.A. Buntine</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The APEmille Project ........................................... 539
  E. Panizzi, G. Sacco

A Distributed Medical Information System for Multimedia Data -
The First Year’s Experience of the PARMED Project .............. 543
  H. Kosch, R. Slot, L. Bőszörményi, J. Kitowski, J. Ołtynowski,
  P. Wójcik

Airport Management Database in a Simulation Environment ....... 547
  A. Pasquarelli, T. Hruz

Different Strategies to Develop Distributed Object Systems at University
of La Laguna ......................................................... 551
  A. Estévez, F.H. Priano, M. Pérez, J.A. González, D.G. Morales,
  J.L. Roda

DESIREE: DEcision Support System for Inundation Risk Evaluation and
Emergencies Management ........................................... 555
  G. Adorni

Database System for Large-Scale Simulations with Particle Methods .... 558
  D. Kruk, J. Kitowski

Computational Science

Script Wrapper for Software Integration Systems ..................... 560
  J. Fischer, A. Schreiber, M. Strietzel

Implementation of Nested Grid Scheme for Global Magnetohydrodynamic
Simulations of Astrophysical Rotating Plasmas ....................... 564
  T. Kuwabara, R. Matsumoto, S. Miyaji, K. Nakamura

Parallel Multi-grid Algorithm with Virtual Boundary Forecast Domain
Decomposition Method for Solving Non-linear Heat Transfer Equation . 568
  G. Qingping, Y. Paker, Z. Shesheng, D. Parkinson, W. Jialin

High Performance Computing on Boundary Element Simulations ........ 572
  J.M. Cela, A. Julià

Study of Parallelization of the Training for Automatic Speech Recognition 576
  E.M. Daoudi, A. Meziane, Y.O. Mohamed El Hadj

Parallelization of Image Compression on Distributed Memory Architecture 580
  E.M. Daoudi, E.M. Jaâra, N. Cherif

Parallel DSMC on Shared and Hybrid Memory Multiprocessor Computers .... 584
Population Growth in the Penna Model for Migrating Population ........ 588
   A.Z. Maksymowicz, P. Gronek, W. Alda, M.S. Magdon-Maksymowicz,
   M. Kopec, A. Dydejczyk

Use of the Internet for Distributed Computing of Quantum Evolution .... 592
   A.V. Bogdanov, A.S. Gevorkyan, A.G. Grigoryan, E.N. Stankova

Computer Science

Debugging MPI Programs with Array Visualization ....................... 597
   D. Kranzlmueller, R. Kobler, R. Koppler, J. Volkert

An Analytical Model for a Class of Architectures under Master-Slave
Paradigm ................................................................. 601
   Y. Yalcınkaya, T. Steihaug

Dynamic Resource Discovery through MatchMaking ......................... 605
   O.F. Rana

A New Approach to the Design of High Performance Multiple Disk
Subsystems: Dynamic Load Balancing Schemes .......................... 610
   A.I. Vakali, G.I. Papadimitriou, A.S. Pomportsis

Embarrassingly Parallel Applications on a Java Cluster ................. 614
   B. Vinter

A Revised Implicit Locking Scheme in Object-Oriented Database Systems. 618
   W. Jun, K. Kim

Active Agents Programming in HARNESS ................................. 622
   M. Migliardi, V. Sunderam

VI Workshops

LAWRA Workshop

LAWRA Workshop: Linear Algebra with Recursive Algorithms:
http://lawra.uni-c.dk/lawra/ ........................................... 629
   F. Gustavson, J. Wasniewski

Java in HPC Workshop

Communicating Mobile Active Objects in Java ............................. 633
   F. Baude, D. Caromel, F. Huet, J. Vayssière

A Service-Based Agent Framework for Distributed Symbolic Computation 644
   R.D. Schimkat, W. Blochinger, C. Sinz, M. Friedrich, W. Küchlin
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Performance Analysis of Java Using Petri Nets</td>
<td>657</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O.F. Rana, M.S. Shields</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cluster Computing Workshop</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A Framework for Exploiting Object Parallelism in Distributed Systems</td>
<td>668</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W. Chen, M.T. Yong</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cluster SMP Nodes with the ATOLL Network: A Look into the Future of</td>
<td>678</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>System Area Networks</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L. Rzymianowicz, M. Waack, U. Brüning, M. Fischer, J. Kluge,</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P. Schulz</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>An Architecture for Using Multiple Communication Devices in a</td>
<td>688</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MPI Library</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H. Pedroso, J. Gabriel Silva</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Results of the One-Year Cluster Pilot Project</td>
<td>698</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K. Koski, J. Heikonen, J. Miettinen, H. Niemi, J. Ruokolainen,</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P. Tolvanen, J. Mäki, J. Rahola</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clusters and Grids for Distributed and Parallel Knowledge Discovery</td>
<td>708</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M. Cannataro</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Author Index</td>
<td>717</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>