Parallel Execution of Workflows Driven by a Distributed Database Management System

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1. INTRODUCTION

SCENARIO

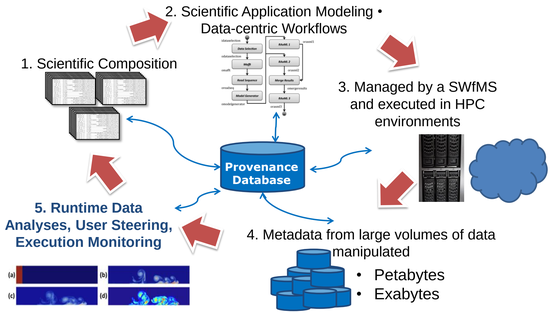
- Large-scale scientific simulations are complex • Huge amounts of data are manipulated • Executions take long time • HPC is required
- Simulations are composed of chained applications with a dataflow in between
- Modeled as data-centric workflows • Managed by a Scientific Workflow Management System (SWfMS)
- Large solution space is explored by varying parameters (Parameter Sweep)
- Each computation of parameters is represented by a task
  - Many Task Computing (MTC) [1] parallelism

DATA MANAGEMENT

- Runtime data analyses are extremely important • Data management is complex
- Three types of data are expected to be managed by a SWfMS:
  - Provenance Data [2] • Performance Data • Domain-specific Data

MOTIVATION

- Storing these data using a Database Management System (DBMS) at runtime enables powerful **runtime analytical capabilities** [3][4]
  - Execution Monitoring • Anticipated result analyses • User steering



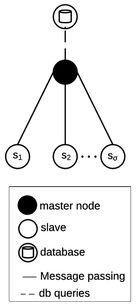
2. PROBLEM & OBJECTIVE

- SWfMS that use a DBMS at runtime rely on a Centralized DBMS, jeopardizing performance
- Trade-off: Analytical capabilities vs. Performance in a large scenario
- **Our objective is to deliver good performance without abdicating runtime analytical capabilities in large-scale simulations**

3. RESEARCH DESIGN & METHODOLOGY

Performance issues: Centralized Data Management

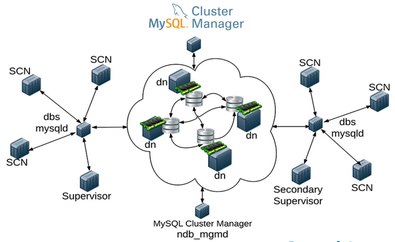
- C. DBMS struggles when dealing with simultaneous requests (mainly writes) from many clients
- A central (master) node is needed so it will be the only node able to access the database
- Contention at the DBMS is alleviated, but not at the master node
- The master is responsible for scheduling tasks among all slaves via message passing
- Application code becomes more complex for handling concurrency issues



Solution: Parallel Execution Driven by a Distributed DBMS (DDBMS)

- Utilization of a DDBMS to support **both parallel execution management** and **runtime provenance data gathering**
- Specialized in distributed concurrency control in the presence of multiple simultaneous requests [5]
- A central node for tasks scheduling is no longer necessary
- Such responsibility is transferred to the DDBMS
- Application code related to message passing is reduced and mostly **outsourced to a specialized system**
- Regarding provenance data gathering during execution, DDBMS have the same abilities as centralized DBMS, **maintaining analytical capabilities at runtime**

d-SCC Architecture

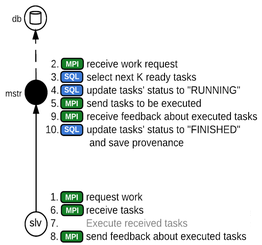


Composing Nodes:
- **Supervisor & Secondary**
- **SCN** – Worker machine
- **Dbs** (mysqld) –db server
- **Dn** – Data node
- **MySQL Cluster Manager**

Scan it!

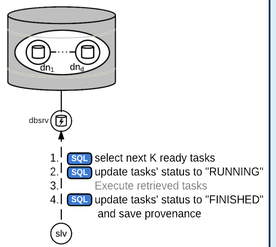
4. SCHEDULING COMPARISON

Relying on a Centralized DBMS with MPI for task scheduling



- DBMS being used to mainly store provenance
- Application code needs message passing

Relying on a DDBMS only



- DDBMS being used to both support parallelism and store provenance
- Application code is simpler; complexity is outsourced

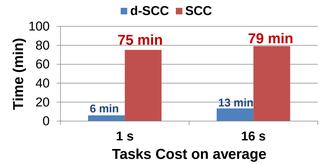
5. EXPERIMENTAL EVALUATION

SciCumulus Workflow engine

Grid'5000

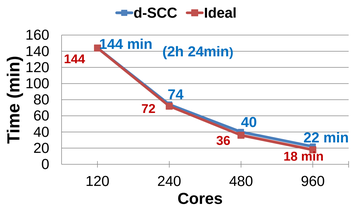
- We modified the architecture of SciCumulus (**SCC**) [6][7], a SWfMS that uses a Centralized DBMS to store provenance at runtime
- MySQL Cluster, an in-memory DDBMS, was utilized
- We ran the experiments on Grid5000 [8]
- We call our solution as **d-SCC**.

Execution Time Comparison



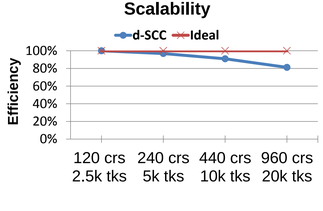
- 30k tasks
- 1008 cores in parallel
- More than 90% of gains for 1s tasks cost on average in relation to SCC

Execution Time



- 30k tasks (32 s on average each)
- Very close to ideal execution time (4 minutes from the ideal on 960 cores)
- Theoretical sequential time is approximately 11.5 days

Scalability



- Varying 120 cores executing 2.5k tasks to 960 cores executing 20k tasks
- Efficiency of over 80% in all cases

6. CONCLUSIONS

- Utilization of an in-memory DDBMS to support parallel execution and runtime provenance gathering in workflow systems
- **Good performance** on a 1,008-cores cluster maintaining **enhanced analytical capabilities at runtime**
- Over **80% of efficiency** and 90% of gains comparing with an architecture that relies on a Centralized DBMS.

FUTURE WORKS

- Fine-tuning of d-SCC exploring core memory
- Improve load balance and hardware failure features

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Experiments were carried out using the Grid'5000 testbed, (https://www.grid5000.fr).