Parallel octree-based adaptive finite elements for large-scale geoscience applications

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Outline

- Parallel octree-based dynamic adaptive mesh refinement—definitions and challenges
- ② Our scope and other approches
- 3 Our approach to adaptive FEM based on parallel octrees
- ④ Driving application: mantle convection

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Parallel octree-based dynamic adaptive mesh refinement Adaptive mesh refinement



Figure: Adaptively refined mesh

- AMR essential for resolving physical phenomena that vary over a wide range of scales
- we estimate a factor of $\sim 10^2 10^3$ savings in the number of dofs for our application





- The mesh is based on an octree: nodes in the tree map to hexahedral elements
- Octrees allow simple treatment of connectivity information
- Octree-based meshes are a tradeoff between geometric flexibility and simplicity



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- Octree partitioned among processors
- Underlying mesh operations parallelized according to the octree partitioning





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Parallel octree-based dynamic adaptive mesh refinement Dynamic mesh adaptation

- For time-dependent problems the mesh needs to be adapted dynamically
- Mesh adaptation needs to run simultaneously with application



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 \Rightarrow Problem: Mesh and application data need to be redistributed among processors \Rightarrow dynamic load balancing











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• adaptive mesh refinement/coarsening for finite elements that scales to large (i.e., > 1K) numbers of processors



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- an end-to-end approach, i.e., all components (meshing, solver, analysis and visualization) run in parallel and tightly coupled on the same machine



- adaptive mesh refinement/coarsening for finite elements that scales to large (i.e., > 1K) numbers of processors
- an end-to-end approach, i.e., all components (meshing, solver, analysis and visualization) run in parallel and tightly coupled on the same machine
- very large applications in geosciences









Strong scaling: Keep workload constant and increase the number of processors

Weak scaling: Increase problem size and number of processors simultaneously





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4 8 no of procs



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Scalings

Results for Rhea: weak scalings for advection-diffusion equation with adaptive mesh refinement/coarsening on up to 2000 processors: efficiency per time step



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Adaptive FEM based on parallel octrees $_{\text{start with initial mesh}}$

































Adaptive FEM based on parallel octrees estimate error for each element



Adaptive FEM based on parallel octrees $_{\mbox{select elements for coarsening}}$



Adaptive FEM based on parallel octrees coarsening elements



Adaptive FEM based on parallel octrees $_{\mbox{select elements for refinement}}$



Adaptive FEM based on parallel octrees $_{\rm refine\ elements}$



Adaptive FEM based on parallel octrees $_{2 \text{ to 1 balance}}$



Adaptive FEM based on parallel octrees

2 to 1 balance: select elements for refinement



Adaptive FEM based on parallel octrees $_{2 to 1}$ balance refine

































(interpolate fine ightarrow coarse)


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Adaptive FEM based on parallel octrees $_{\rm initial \ partitioning}$



Adaptive FEM based on parallel octrees load balanced partitioning



Adaptive FEM based on parallel octrees P_0 portion of the tree





Adaptive FEM based on parallel octrees P_1 portion of the tree





Adaptive FEM based on parallel octrees P_2 portion of the tree



Adaptive FEM based on parallel octrees ${}_{\rm addressing\ an\ octant}$



Adaptive FEM based on parallel octrees addressing an octant





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Driving application: Mantle convection



Figure: Taken from US Geological Survey https://www.usgs.com

- main control on thermal and geological evolution
- central for understanding
 - plate tectonics
 - volcanism
 - dynamics of the solid earth

Driving application: Mantle convection



Figure: Isosurfaces of temperature field; plot courtesy of Shijie Zhong

Driving application: Mantle convection



Figure: Isosurfaces of temperature field; plot courtesy of Shijie Zhong Resolution down to $\sim 1 {\rm km}$ needed to resolve fine structures

- $\Rightarrow ~ \sim 10^{12} \text{ elements on} \\ \textbf{uniform grid}$
- $\Rightarrow ~ \sim 10^9 \text{ elements on} \\ \textbf{adaptive grid}$

$$\frac{\partial T}{\partial t} + u \cdot \nabla T - \nabla^2 T - \gamma = 0, \qquad (AD)$$

$$\nabla \cdot \left[\eta(T)\left(\nabla u + \nabla^{\top} u\right)\right] - \nabla p + \mathsf{Ra}Te_r = 0, \qquad (S1)$$

$$\nabla \cdot u = 0. \tag{S2}$$

Parameters:

Variables:

- T...temperature
- u...velocity
- $p \dots$ pressure

- Ra $\sim 10^6 10^9 \dots$ Rayleigh number
- γ ...heat production rate
- $\eta(T) \cong \eta_o \exp(1 E_o T)$... viscosity
- e_r...radial direction

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Driving application: Mantle convection Discretization and Solution

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- α-timestepping for advection-diffusion equation (does not require system solves)

Driving application: Mantle convection From the cube to spherical geometry



- embed mantle into octree box
- refine near the boundary
- intial approach: use a fictitous domain method to enforce boundary conditions (via penalties or Lagrange multipliers)
- explore immersed finite element method

Driving application: Mantle convection Percentage of wall clock time for Rhea components



Driving application: Mantle convection

Results for Rhea: weak scalings for advection-diffusion equation with adaptive mesh refinement/coarsening on up to 2000 processors: efficiency per time step



Future work We intend to

- develop a scalable Stokes solver to attack the full mantle convection problem
- make our earth round (i.e., extend to spherical geometry)
- ${\, \bullet \, }$ optimize and test the approach for ${\cal O}(10^5)$ processors
- long term: inverse problem (iRhea)

Conclusions

- All AMR compents (error estimation, coarsening, refinement, balancing, repartitioning) consume less than 8% of total run time on up to 2000 processors
 - efficiency can only improve with (implicit, nonlinear) Stokes solver
- Parallel efficiency drops from 83.3% on 2 procs to 75.4% on 2000 procs
- Parallel adaptive mesh refinement/coarsening for FEM that scales up to thousands of processors is possible!
- In principle, higher-order elements and irregular boundaries are possible