An Integrated Performance Visualizer for MPI/OpenMP Programs

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Abstract

As cluster computing has grown, so has its use for large scientific calculations. Recently, many researchers have experimented with using MPI between nodes of a clustered machine and OpenMP within a node, to manage the use of parallel processing. Unfortunately, very few tools are available for doing an integrated analysis of an MPI/OpenMP program. KAI Software, Pallas GmbH and the US Department of Energy have partnered together to build such a tool, VGV. VGV is designed for doing scalable performance analysis - that is, to make the performance analysis process qualitatively the same for small cluster machines as it is for the largest ASCI systems. This paper describes VGV and gives a flavor of how to find performance problems using it.