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Solving Irregularly Structured Problems in Parallel

5th International Symposium, IRREGULAR'98
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Preface

The Fifth International Symposium on Solving Irregularly Structured Problems in Parallel (IRREGULAR'98) was scheduled for August 9–11, 1998, in NERSC, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, Berkeley, California, USA.

IRREGULAR focuses on algorithmic, applicational, and system aspects arising in the development of efficient parallel solutions to irregularly structured problems. It aims, in particular, at fostering cooperation among practitioners and theoreticians in the field. *IRREGULAR'98*, is the fifth in the series, after Geneva, Lyon, Santa Barbara, and Paderborn. IRREGULAR was promoted and coordinated by the Symposium Chairs, Afonso Ferreira (ENS Lyon) and José Rolim (Geneva).

This volume contains all contributed papers accepted for presentation at the '98 Symposium, together with abstracts of the invited lectures by Gary Miller (CMU), John Gilbert (Xerox PARC), Keshav Pingali (Cornell), Bruce Hendrickson (Sandia National Laboratory), and M. Valero (Technical U, Barcelona). In addition to the traditional contributed and invited talks, this year IRREGULAR has four mini-symposia: (1) *Principles and Practice of Preconditioned Iterative Methods*, organized by Edmond Chow (Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory), (2) *Mesh Generation*, organized by Kwok Ko (Stanford), (3) *Partitioning and Dynamic Load Balancing*, organized by Andrew Sohn (NJIT), and (4) *Information Retrieval*, organized by Hongyuan Zha (Penn State).

The contributed papers were selected out of several dozen submissions received in response to the call for papers. The selection of the contributed papers was based on originality, quality, and relevance to the symposium. Considerable effort was devoted to the evaluation of the submissions by the program committee and a number of other referees. Extensive feedback was provided to authors as a result, which we hope has proven helpful to them. We wish to thank the program committee and the referees as well as the authors of all submissions.

The final program represents an interesting cross section of research efforts in the area of irregular parallelism. By introducing mini-symposia to the conference, we hope to expand the scope of this conference especially by attracting papers on parallel processing for information organization and internet applications.

IRREGULAR'98 could not have happened without the dedicated work of our local organizers Roberta Boucher and Kare Zukor, from Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, whose sponsorship of the symposium is gratefully acknowledged.

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Contents

Invited Talk

- Combinatorial Preconditioning for Sparse Linear Systems 1
J. R. Gilbert

Regular Talks

- A Threaded Sliding Window Executor for Irregular Computation on a NOW 5
E. A. Schweitz, D. P. Agrawal
- Parallel Profile Matching for Large Scale Webcasting 17
M. Eichstaedt, Q. Lu, S.-H. Teng
- Large-Scale SVD and Subspace-Based Methods for Information Retrieval 29
H. Zha, O. Marques, H. D. Simon
- Thick-Restart Lanczos Method for Symmetric Eigenvalue Problems 43
K. Wu, H. D. Simon
- Portable Parallel Adaptation of Unstructured 3D Meshes 56
P. M. Selwood, M. Berzins, J. M. Nash, P. M. Dew
- Partitioning Sparse Rectangular Matrices for Parallel Processing 68
T. G. Kolda
- Locality Preserving Load Balancing with Provably Small Overhead 80
R. Garmann
- Tree-Based Parallel Load Balancing Methods for Solution-Adaptive
Unstructured Finite Element Models on Distributed
Memory Multicomputers 92
C.-J. Liao, Y.-C. Chung
- Coarse-Grid Selection for Parallel Algebraic Multigrid 104
A. J. Cleary, R. D. Falgout, H. Van Emden, J. E. Jones
- Overlapping and Short-Cutting Techniques in Loosely Synchronous
Irregular Problems 116
E. Gomez, L. Ridgway Scott

Invited Talk

Control Volume Meshes Using Sphere Packing <i>G. L. Miller</i>	128
---	-----

Regular Talks

Using Multithreading for the Automatic Load Balancing of Adaptive Finite Element Meshes <i>G. Heber, R. Biswas, P. Thulasiraman, G. R. Gao</i>	132
Dynamic Load Balancing for Parallel Adaptive Mesh Refinement <i>X.-Y. Li, S.-H. Teng</i>	144
A Robust and Scalable Library for Parallel Adaptive Mesh Refinement on Unstructured Meshes <i>J. Z. Lou, C. D. Norton, T. Cwik</i>	156
Quality Balancing for Parallel Adaptive FEM <i>R. Diekmann, F. Schlimbach, C. Walshaw</i>	170
Parallelization of an Unstructured Grid, Hydrodynamic-Diffusion Code <i>A. I. Shestakov, J. L. Milovich</i>	182
Exchange of Messages of Different Sizes <i>A. Goldman, D. Trystram, J. Peters</i>	194
The Distributed Object-Oriented Threads System DOTS <i>W. Blochinger, W. Küchlin, A. Weber</i>	206

Invited Talk

- Graph Partitioning and Parallel Solvers: Has the Emperor No Clothes? 218
B. Hendrickson

Regular Talks

- Parallel Simulation of Particulate Flows 226
M. G. Knepley, V. Sarin, A. H. Sameh
- Parallel Vertex-To-Vertex Radiosity on a Distributed Shared Memory System 238
A. Bar-Lev, A. Itzkovitz, A. Raviv, A. Schuster
- Load Balancing in Parallel Molecular Dynamics 251
L. V. Kalé, M. Bhandarkar, R. Brunner
- COMPASSION: A Parallel I/O Runtime System Including Chunking and Compression for Irregular Applications 262
J. Carretero, J. No, A. Choudhary, P. Chen
- Transformations of Cauchy Matrices, Trummer's Problem and a Cauchy-Like Linear Solver 274
V. Y. Pan, M. A. Tabanjeh, Z. Q. Chen, S. Providence, A. Sadikou
- A Parallel GRASP for the Steiner Problem in Graphs 285
S. L. Martins, C. C. Ribeiro, M. C. Souza
- A New Simple Parallel Tree Contraction Scheme and Its Application on Distance-Hereditary Graphs 298
S.-Y. Hsieh, C.-W. Ho, T.-S. Hsu, M.-T. Ko, G.-H. Chen
- Cooperative Multi-thread Parallel Tabu Search with an Application to Circuit Partitioning 310
R. M. Aïex, S. L. Martins, C. C. Ribeiro, N. de la R. Rodriguez
- Experiments with mpC: Efficient Solving Regular Problems on Heterogeneous Networks of Computers via Irregularization 332
D. Arapov, A. Kalinov, A. Lastovetsky, I. Ledovskih

Minisymposium Talks

Balancing the Load in Large-Scale Distributed Entity-Level Simulations <i>S. Brunnett</i>	344
Modeling Dynamic Load Balancing in Molecular Dynamics to Achieve Scalable Parallel Execution <i>L. Nyland, J. Prins, R. H. Yun, J. Hermans, H.-C. Kum, L. Wang</i>	356
Relaxed Implementation of Spectral Methods for Graph Partitioning <i>C. Xu, Y. Nie</i>	366
S-HARP: A Parallel Dynamic Spectral Partitioner <i>A. Sohn, H. D. Simon</i>	376
Information Filtering Using the Riemannian SVD (R-SVD) <i>E. P. Jiang, M. W. Berry</i>	386
Parallel Run-Time System for Adaptive Mesh Refinement <i>N. Chrisochoides</i>	396
Author Index	407