Denovo: A radiation transport code for nuclear applications

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Science Drivers for Neutronics

- Spatial resolution
 - To resolve the geometry
 - 10⁹⁻¹² unknowns
 - mm³ cells in a m³ vessel
 - Depletion makes it harder
- Energy resolution
 - To resolve resonances
 - 10⁴⁻⁶ unknowns
 - Done in 0D or 1D today
- Angular resolution
 - To resolve streaming
 - 10²⁻⁴ unknowns
 - Space-energy resolution make it harder

- Crud and distortion
- Control rod insertion
- Ab initio design





Application Areas



ITER component performance/shielding



Reactor Analysis



Facility shielding/dosimetry

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National defense/ Urban modeling





Denovo Capabilities

- State of the art transport methods
 - 3D, non-uniform, regular grid SN
 - Multigroup energy, anisotropic Pn scattering
 - Forward/Adjoint
 - Fixed-source/k-eigenvalue
 - 6 spatial discretization algorithms
 - Linear and Trilinear discontinuous FE, step-characteristics, thetaweighted diamond, weighted diamond + flux-fixup
 - Parallel first-collision
 - Analytic ray-tracing (DR)
 - Monte Carlo (DR and DD)
 - Multiple quadratures
 - Level-symmetric
 - Generalized Legendre Product
 - Galerkin



- Within-group solvers
 - Krylov (GMRES, BiCGStab) and source iteration
 - DSA preconditioning (SuperLU/MLpreconditioned CG/PCG)
- Multigroup solvers
 - Transport Two-Grid upscatter acceleration of Gauss-Seidel
 - Krylov (GMRES, BiCGtab)
- Eigenvalue solvers
 - Power iteration (with rebalance)
 - CMFD in testing phase
 - Krylov (Arnoldi)
 - Shifted-inverse iteration in development

Power distribution in a BWR assembly



Pow

Denovo Parallel S

Denovo Capabilities

- Parallel Algorithms
 - Koch-Baker-Alcouffe (KBA) wavefront decomposition
 - Domain-replicated (DR) and domaindecomposed first-collision solvers
 - Multilevel energy decomposition in development
 - Parallel I/O built on SILO/HDF5
- > 5M CPU hours on Jaguar with 2 bugs



2010 INCITE Award Uncertainty Quantification for Three Dimensional Reactor Assembly Simulations, 8 MCPU-HOURS 2010 ASCR Joule Code 2009-2011 2 ORNL LDRDs

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- Advanced visualization, run-time, and development environment
 - 3 front-ends (HPC, SCALE, Pythonbindings)
 - Direct connection to SCALE geometry and data
 - Direct connection to MCNP input through ADVANTG
 - HDF5 output directly interfaced with Vislt
 - Built-in unit-testing and regression harness with DBC
 - Emacs-based code-development environment
 - Support for multiple external vendors
 - GSL, BLAS/LAPACK, TRILINOS (required)
 - BRLCAD, SUPERLU/METIS, SILO/HDF5 (optional)
 - MPI (toggle for parallel/serial builds)
 - SPRNG (required for MC module)
 - PAPI (optional instrumentation)



Discrete Ordinates Methods

• We solve the first-order form of the transport equation:

- Eigenvalue form for multiplying media (fission):

$$\begin{split} \hat{\mathbf{\Omega}} \cdot \nabla \psi(\mathbf{r}, \hat{\mathbf{\Omega}}, E) + \sigma(\mathbf{r}, E) \psi(\mathbf{r}, \hat{\mathbf{\Omega}}, E) &= \\ \int dE' \int_{4\pi} d\hat{\mathbf{\Omega}}' \,\, \sigma_{\mathrm{s}}(\mathbf{r}, \hat{\mathbf{\Omega}}' \cdot \mathbf{\Omega}, E' \to E) \psi(\mathbf{r}, \hat{\mathbf{\Omega}}', E') + \\ \frac{1}{k} \frac{\chi(E)}{4\pi} \int dE' \int_{4\pi} d\hat{\mathbf{\Omega}}' \,\, \nu \sigma_{\mathrm{f}}(\mathbf{r}, E') \psi(\mathbf{r}, \hat{\mathbf{\Omega}}', E') \end{split}$$

- Fixed source form:

$$\hat{\boldsymbol{\Omega}} \cdot \nabla \psi(\mathbf{r}, \hat{\boldsymbol{\Omega}}, E) + \sigma(\mathbf{r}, E) \psi(\mathbf{r}, \hat{\boldsymbol{\Omega}}, E) = \int dE' \int_{4\pi} d\hat{\boldsymbol{\Omega}}' \, \sigma_{\mathrm{s}}(\mathbf{r}, \hat{\boldsymbol{\Omega}}' \cdot \boldsymbol{\Omega}, E' \to E) \psi(\mathbf{r}, \hat{\boldsymbol{\Omega}}', E') + \frac{1}{4\pi} q_{\mathrm{e}}(\mathbf{r}, \hat{\boldsymbol{\Omega}}, E)$$

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Discrete Ordinates Methods

- The S_N method is a collocation method in angle.
 - Energy is discretized in groups.
 - Scattering is expanded in Spherical Harmonics.
 - Multiple spatial discretizations are used (DGFEM, Characteristics, Cell-Balance).

 $\mathbf{L}\psi = \mathbf{M}\mathbf{S}\phi + Q$

$$\phi = \mathbf{D}\psi$$

Dimensionality of operators:

$$t = N_g \times N_c \times N_u \times N_m$$
$$n = N_g \times N_c \times N_u \times N_a$$
$$n \times n)(n \times 1) = (n \times t)(t \times t)(t \times 1) + (n \times 1)$$



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Denovo Parallel S_{N}

Degrees of Freedom

• Total number of unknowns in solve:

unknowns =
$$N_g \times N_c \times N_u \times N_a \times N_m$$

• An ideal (conservative) estimate.

$$N_g = 238$$
$$N_c = 1 \times 10^9$$
$$N_u = 4$$
$$N_m = 16$$
$$N_a = 288$$

unknowns
$$\geq 4 \times 10^{15}$$



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Solver Taxonomy

The innermost part of each solver are transport sweeps

$$y = \mathbf{T}z = \mathbf{D}\underbrace{\mathbf{L}^{-1}z}_{\mathbf{L}\psi = z}$$



"It's turtles all the way down..."





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Parallel Performance

Angular Pipelining

- Angles in ± z directions are pipelined
- Results in 2×M pipelined angles per octant
- Quadrants are ordered to reduce latency

$$\epsilon_{\max} = \frac{2MB_K}{2MB_K + P_I + P_J - 2}$$





- Communication latency dominates as the block size becomes small
- Using a larger block size helps achieve the predicted efficency but,
 - Maximum achievable efficiency is lower
 - Places a fundamental limit on the number of cores that can be used for any given problem



Efficiency vs Block Size



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Overcoming Wavefront Challenge

- This behavior is systemic in any wavefront-type problem
 - Hyberbolic aspect of transport operator
- We need to exploit parallelism beyond space-angle
 - Energy
 - Time
- Amortize the inefficiency in KBA while still retaining direct inversion of the transport operator



Multilevel Energy Decomposition



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Multilevel Summary

- Energy decomposed into sets.
- Each set contains blocks constituting the entire spatial mesh.
- The total number of domains is

domains = sets \times blocks

- KBA is performed for each group in a set across all of the blocks.
 - Not required to scale beyond O(1000) cores.
- Scaling in energy across sets should be linear.
- Allows scaling to O(100K) cores and enhanced parallelism on accelerators.



Parallel Scaling

17,424 cores is effectively the maximum that can be used by KBA alone **Weak Scaling** 1.25 1.2 1.15 1.1 1,728,684,249,600 unknowns (44 groups) 1.05 Efficiency 1 78,576,556,800 unknowns (2 groups) 0.95 across 11 sets 0.9 Multilevel solvers allow weak scaling 0.85 beyond the KBA wavefront limit 0.8 0.75 0 20000 40000 60000 80000 100000 120000 Cores



MG Krylov solver partitioned



Strong Scaling



- Communication improvements were significant at 100K core level (using 11 sets).
- They do not appear to scale to 200K core. Why?
 - The problem isn't big enough to demonstrate strong scaling.
 - We are not using the optimal block decomposition.
 - Communication collision on torus across full machine.
 - Multiset communication latency across entire machine dominates.



What do we need to do?

- Optimize scaling out to 200K cores
- Investigate multithreading to reduce latency in space-angle sweep
- GPU kernels for sweep — Already in testing phase
- New strategies for puredownscatter (lower triangular) systems?

- New preconditioners
 - Multigrid in energy
 - Upper/lower diagonal energy matrix
- Time-dependence
- Multiphysics coupling

