Distributed algorithms

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TYPESET IN $\ensuremath{\mathbb{L}}^T E^{X2E}$ on a linux system



- Asynchronous distributed algorithms (ADAs)
- Simulation techniques
- Some examples



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Theme: atheism

Network of identical nodes, with message q



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- Each knows only its neighbours
- Each performs the same subalgorithm
- Each runs asynchronously wrt neighbours
- ∃ a finite set of pre-specified messages
- Indefinite delay before reply to message



Required: to perform some useful global actions:

Reboot system

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- Detect node failures

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- Compute and optimize network flows



Simulating an ADA on one processor

In decreasing order of weight:

- unix processes
- kernel threads
- threads in python, java etc.
- other tricks

Python threads

```
import threading
```

```
class Node:
```

```
def init(links):
    message_queue=[]
    # ...
def run():
    while 1:
    #
```

```
# ...
```

```
def send(target):
    # ...
```

```
def receive(source):
    # ...
```

```
nodes=[Node([2,3]),Node([3]),Node([1])]
```

```
for node in nodes:
   Thread(node.run).start()
```

Counting all nodes

All nodes asleep except 0, who is awake and sends to all neighbours

- if receiver awake: return 'reject'
- if receiver asleep:
 - wake up and relay message to neighbours
 - return number of nodes from relay replies
 - receiver returns sum+1 to requester

Asynchronous Bellman-Ford algorithm:

$$x(i) \leftarrow \min_{j \in \text{ neighbours of node } i} x(j) + d(j)$$

where:

- x(i) is node i's current estimate of the shortest path to node 0
- d(j) is the distance to node j (one hop)

Termination?

Building a spanning tree

Root node has weight 1

while 1:

- node sends its weight to neighbours
- if receiver is unweighted, adopt sender's weight+1
- else if receiver's weight > sender's weight+1
 - receiver adopts new parent

Layering

sorting, flows, ...

routing

counting; spanning tree

reboot; failure detection

adjacency



- Digraph G with r_k the resistance of edge k
- Problem 1: translate graph topology (known only locally) to circuit equations
- Problem 2: solve these equations
- Apply Kirchhoff's current law (KCL), Kirchhoff's voltage law (KVL), and Ohm's Law (ΩL) to circuit
- Let v be the voltage vector and i the current vector (in edge space)



- Find *incidence matrix* B from $BB^T = D A$ Then KCL is Bi = 0
- Build a spanning tree T. Edges in T are branches, other edges are chords. Each chord has a fundamental cycle (FC)
- C: matrix with one column for each edge, with elements being the coefficients of the corresponding FC in the edge space
- Then KVL is $C^{\mathsf{T}}v = 0$
- ΩL is $v_k = i_k r_k$

• i = Yv, where Y is the conductance matrix

•
$$Y = -C C^{+R}$$
, $R = diag(r_1, r_2, ...)$

- C^{+R} is the weighted Moore-Penrose pseudoinverse of C with weight R. If $R = W^{T}W$, then $C^{+R} = (WC)^{+}W^{T^{-1}}$
- I have developed an algorithm for incremental computation of C^{+R}, which can be applied as the columns of C are found by remote nodes





4 nodes 4 links

Example cotd





- N Lynch *Distributed algorithms*, Morgan Kauffman 1996
- D P Bertsekas & J N Tsitsiklis Parallel and distributed computation, Athena Scientific 1997
- B Bollobás Modern graph theory, Springer 1998

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