OpenSHMEM over MPI: A Performance Contender

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Overview of OpenSHMEM over MPI

- **OpenSHMEM**
  - Specialized API designed for fast one-sided and collective communication
  - Directly mapping to low-level network API to ensure high performance
    - Any overhead is too much overhead!

- **MPI**
  - Low level library focusing on completeness of feature (e.g., p2p, one-sided, collectives, various reduction operation types, various data types)

- **OpenSHMEM over MPI**
  - OSHMPI: a *portable* implementation of OpenSHMEM but *extra software overheads may exist*
  - As a serious performance contender
    - What are the software overheads in OpenSHMEM over MPI?
    - Can we optimize them? How much?
  - As a GPU-aware OpenSHMEM implementation
    - Support CPU-initiated GPU communication
    - Leverage highly-optimized GPU-aware MPI implementations
Systemic Software Overhead Analysis & Optimizations in RMA Path

- Datatype decoding
  - Datatype is a constant in each SHMEM op but becomes a variable when passing down to MPI
    - Compiler cannot optimize, result in 14 additional instructions at PUT fast path
  - **Optimization**: leverage compiler IPO (already provided by mainstream compilers) to optimize code across OSHMPI and MPI libraries at link-time
    - All instructions can be eliminated by compiler

- Window metadata access
  - MPI internal win obj stores metadata, e.g., comm (MPI-specific), network ep, remote mr_rkey...
    - Access to MPI win->comm’s attributes causes expensive pointer dereferences at RMA /AMO fast-path
  - **Optimization**: Identify win with COMM_WORLD at win creation and avoid win->comm dereferences at OSHMPI RMA fast path (All OSHMPI windows use dup of COMM_WORLD)

- Virtual address translation for remote buffers
  - MPI requires relative offset (displacement) of remote buffers
    - Cause extra translations in OSHMPI (vaddr->disp) and MPI (disp->vaddr) at RMA/AMO fast path
  - **Optimization**: introduce MPI extension (MPIX_PUT_ABS|MPIX_GET_ABS) to handle vaddr directly

- Expensive MPI full progress
  - Ensure prompt progress for all MPI communication types (i.e., P2P, coll, AM-based)
    - Cause expensive overhead in SHMEM blocking operations and fence/quiet which may be unnecessary for OSHMPI
  - **Optimization**: progress polling with low freq when no AM occurs; exclude unnecessary polling for P2P/coll in RMA path
OSHMPI Performance Evaluation

- OSU benchmark `osu_oshm_put`
- Over OFI/Intel Omni-Path:
  - Optimized OSHMPI/MPICH delivers similar results as that of SOS in internode latency
  - No visible gap in internode message rate (graph omitted)
- Over UCX/Mellanox ConnectX-5:
  - OSHMPI/MPICH delivers only ~5% additional overhead compared to OSHMEM in internode latency
  - No visible gap in internode message rate (graph omitted)
GPU-Aware OpenSHMEM with Memory Space Prototype

- Developed memory space prototype in OSHMPI (subset of the entire proposal)
  - Omit teams in this prototype, but flexible to extend

- Communication schemes with memory space
  - AMO/RMA with a space context
    - Dedicated internal window (i.e., communication resource + remote mem) for each space context
  - AMO/RMA without specific context (CTX_DEFAULT)
    - Attach default symmetric heap, global data, all space heaps to a single dynamic window as shared communication resource

- Create GPU memory space
  - E.g., specify CUDA mem_kind to allocate space heap by internally using cudaMalloc
CPU-Initiated GPU-Aware OpenSHMEM RMA

- Why leverage GPU-aware MPI implementations?
  - Most GPU-specific optimizations are already provided by MPI
  - Portable support for wide range of GPUs (e.g., NVIDIA GPU, AMD GPU, Intel GPU)

- Limitations of GPU-aware MPI implementations
  - Some MPI impls provide GPU-awareness only for PT2PT, RMA simply segfaults (e.g., Spectrum MPI, OpenMPI/UCX)
  - Some MPI impls supports GPU-aware RMA but have to internally utilize active message (AM) for internode data transfer (e.g., MPICH/UCX)

- Design Strategies in OSHMPI
  - Support both MPI-PT2PT based path and MPI-RMA based path for RMA operations
  - Require the user to specify the GPU features (value is subset of “pt2pt,put,get,acc”) of the underlying MPI implementation
  - Choose the appropriate RMA path at runtime
GPU-Aware OpenSHMEM Evaluation (1)

- Extended OSU benchmark osu_oshm_put with memory space and CUDA memkind
  - Experiments: **GPU-to-GPU**, **GPU-to-Host**, **Host-to-GPU** for both intranode and internode latency
- All experiments were performed on Summit
- OSHMPI can portably support **CPU-initiated** mode by leveraging various GPU-aware MPI implementations
  - IBM Spectrum MPI (smpi): supports GPU only for PT2PT
  - MVAPICH-GDR (mva): supports GPU for both PT2TP and RMA, but segfaults at internode transfer when size >= 4Kbytes
- NVSHMEM: as reference of **GPU-initiated** SHMEM
  - Support only GPU-to-GPU and Host-to-GPU in version 1.0.1
GPU-Aware OpenSHMEM Evaluation (2)

- **Observations**
  - **OSHMPI over MPI:** performance trend of each option varies in different data transfer direction
    - OSHMPI/MVA-pt2pt delivered the lowest latency in **GPU-to-GPU, GPU-to-Host** directions
    - But OSHMPI/SMPI-pt2pt performs better in the **Host-to-GPU** direction
    - Analysis for the root cause of such performance diversity is still ongoing
  - **NVSHMEM:** delivered relatively high latency
    - Might be caused by high software overhead since the data transfer is performed by a low-frequency GPU thread

* Inter-node GPU-to-Host and Host-to-GPU results share a similar trend. Graphs are omitted.
Summary

- **OSHMPI as a serious performance contender**
  - Analysis & optimizations focused on essential RMA operations (optimizations are also valid for AMO)
  - Optimized OSHMPI/MPICH can deliver similar performance as that of the native impls
  - No visible gap compared to SOS/OPA, ~5% overhead compared to OSHMEM/IB!

- **OSHMPI as a GPU-aware OpenSHMEM implementation**
  - Explored memory space extension for supporting GPU space heap
  - Portably support *CPU-initiated* communication by leveraging both GPU-aware MPI PT2PT and RMA

- **Ongoing / next step:**
  - Overhead analysis & optimizations for GPU-aware OpenSHMEM
  - Automatic MPI GPU feature detection without user hints
  - OpenSHMEM 1.5 support (e.g., team, nonblocking AMO...)
  - Thorough analysis and optimization for team-based collectives and AMO

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- All optimizations and new features are available on GitHub:
  - OSHMPI: https://github.com/pmodels/oshmpi
  - MPICH: https://github.com/pmodels/mpich
  - Will be included in the upcoming releases of OSHMPI and MPICH.