Adaptive optics simulations etc

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AO: Introduction





AO: Correction



AO: Performance

- How well will a given AO system perform?
- We need to simulate it to find out...

AO: Simulation

- Lots of components:
 - A
 2 main simulation categories:
 - M Analytical (usually Fourier based)
 - D Monte-Carlo (physical/geometrical
 - W optics, time series etc)
 - M
 - Science cameras



AO: Monte-Carlo

- Break into timesteps:
 - Translate phase screens (wind velocity, frozen turbulence etc)
 - Gives time varying turbulence
 - Introduce DM effect
 - Shaped on previous timestep
 - Measure wavefront with wavefront sensor
 - CCD noise, shot noise etc
 - Make science image, and integrate with previous images
 - Compute new DM shape (wavefront reconstruction)

AO: 3 stages

- Calibrations
- Calculations
- Atmosphere/telescope simulation
 - Full end-to-end simulation
 - Parallelised with MPI and threading

AO: Calibrations

 Need to know how the DM affects the wavefronts



Matrix equation: Ax=b

$$A \begin{vmatrix} \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0$$

AO: Calculations

- Solve Ax=b
 - b is the slope measurement
 - A is the interaction matrix (k
 - x are the values to be put o
- $\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{A}^{\cdot 1}\mathbf{b}$
- So, compute A⁻¹
 - Pseudo inverse: (A^TA)⁻¹A^T



AO: Simulation

- Wavefront sensor measures slopes, b
 - Reformat into a vector
- Compute the corresponding correction:
 - x=A^{.1}b
- Apply x to the mirror:
 - reshape x to 2D, and apply cubic spline interpolation

Monte-Carlo: challenges

- Larger simulations take longer to run
 - Higher order or larger telescope
- Scales as O(D^4) for reconstruction
- The inversion step (one off) scales as O(D^6)
 - Nasty... but only once per simulation
 - WHT: 4.2m \rightarrow 0.05s
 - ELT: 42m \rightarrow 14 hours!!! (39m \rightarrow 9 hours)
 - Actually more like 4-5 hours

AO: Alternative solvers

- Inversion can take too long
- Use an iterative solver (a direct solver):
 - Ax=b
 - No inversion necessary (A⁻¹ not needed)
 - Conjugate gradient algorithm favoured
 - But must be done every simulation time-step
 - Takes longer to run, replaces the matrix-vector multiplication
 - O(D⁴) but with much larger pre-factor

A lesson



AO: Hardware acceleration

- Cray XD1 supercomputer
- 12 Opterons, 6 FPGAs
- Circa 2004





AO: Wavefront sensor acceleration

• Wavefront sensor module:



- In an FPGA: 600x speedup!!!
 - 9 months FTE

19. a.....

Amdahls Law

 The speedup to a comput that compuspeedup or

s=600 If P=0.9: Speedup 9.9x rovement on P of ot has a

If P=0.5: Speedup 2x

If P=0.1: Speedup 1.1x

CPU improvements

- Wait a year: CPUs will improve
- Will this render hardware acceleration worthless?
 - Depends on:
 - simulation type
 - achievable speedup
 - effort required
 - reusability



- •For GPUs, effort usually small/medium
 - Code reusable should work with new GPUs
 - Though performance gain can actually be a loss if done badly

Simulation usability

- Tweaking an AO simulation is important
 - While it is running...
 - Allows a quick investigation of parameters
 - to help decide on a parameter space to explore
 - And helps debug (why isn't performance what we hoped for!)
- Diagnostics also important plots, printouts etc
- How can we do this?
 - Turn the simulation into a server
 - Clients connect, and can then send commands/request data
 - Use shared memory for parameters
 - Clients can modify the shared memory but more dangerous

Our approach to usability

Server

Simulation

and Python

- Simula
 - Pyth
 - modules/algorithms and single operations
 - And as a server
 - Make use of Python introspection
 - The ability to execute arbitrary code
 - Which is sent via a socket from the user
 - C modules written such that important parameters are accessible and changeable from Python
 - Trade-off between flexibility and implementation time
- Generally a good approach for this type of simulation
 - Unanticipated changes can be made
 - Prototyping in Python before (eventual) speedup in C
 - Debugging made easy can view all parameters/data in the simulation



Finally: Some results



- In AO it is standard practise to:
 - Validate with other simulation tools (independent codes)
 - Validate with on-sky results the ultimate test

Future plans

- Enabling of advanced AO simulations
 - Different operational modes
 - Ground layer AO, laser tomographic AO, extreme AO
 - Speckle suppression
 - Coronograph simulation
- Extensive use of Hamilton cluster
 - Use existing hardware reduce power consumption
- More end-to-end details
 - Integrated Zemax models
- GPU acceleration
 - Faster, better Performance/Watt
- Database caching

