



Green-Marl: A DSL for Easy and Efficient Graph Analysis

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Graph Analysis

Classic graphs; New applications

- Artificial Intelligence, Computational Biology, ...
- SNS apps: Linkedin, Facebook,...

Sam Worthington

Example> Movie Database

Sigourney Weaver

Avatar

James

Linda Hamilton Cameron

Aliens

Graph Analysis: a process of drawing out further information from the given graph data-set

"What would be the avg. hop-distance between any two (Australian) actors?"

"Is he a central figure in the movie network? How much?"



Kevin Bacon

"Do these actors work together more frequently than others?"



More formally ...

Graph Data-Set

- Graph G = (V,E): Arbitrary relationship (E) between data entities (V)
- Property P: any extra data associated with each vertex or edge of graph G (e.g. name of the person)
- Your Data-Set = $(G, \Pi) = (G, P_1, P_2, ...)$
- Graph analysis on (G, Π)
 - Compute a scalar value
 - e.g. Avg-distance, conductance, eigen-value, ...
 - Compute a (new) property
 - e.g. (Max) Flow, betweenness centrality, page-rank, ...
 - Identify a specific subset of G:
 - e.g. Minimum spanning tree, connected component, community structure detection, ...

The Performance Issue

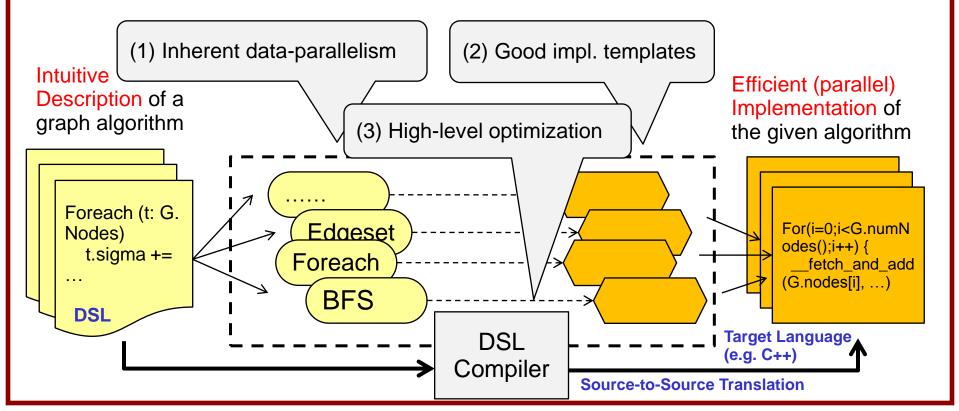
- Traditional single-core machines showed limited performance for graph analysis problems
 - A lot of random memory accesses + data does not fit in cache
 - ➔ Performance is bound to memory latency
 - Conventional hardware (e.g. floating point units) does not help much
- Use parallelism to accelerate graph analysis
 - Plenty of data-parallelism in large graph instances
 - Performance now depends on memory *bandwidth*, not *latency*.
 - Exploit modern parallel computers: Multi-core CPU, GPU, Cray XMT, Cluster, ...

New Issue: Implementation Overhead

- It is challenging to implement a graph algorithm
 - correctly
 - + and efficiently
 - + while applying parallelism
 - + differently for each execution environment
- Are we really expecting a single (averagelevel) programmer to do all of the above?

Our approach: DSL

- We design a domain specific language (DSL) for graph analysis
- The user writes his/her algorithm concisely with our DSL
- The compiler translates it into the target language (e.g. parallel C++ or CUDA)

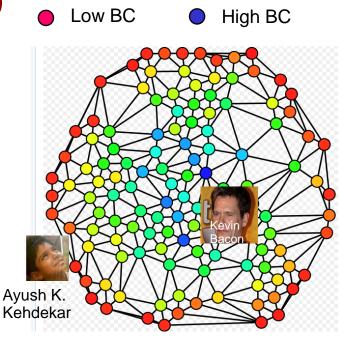


Example: Betweenness Centrality

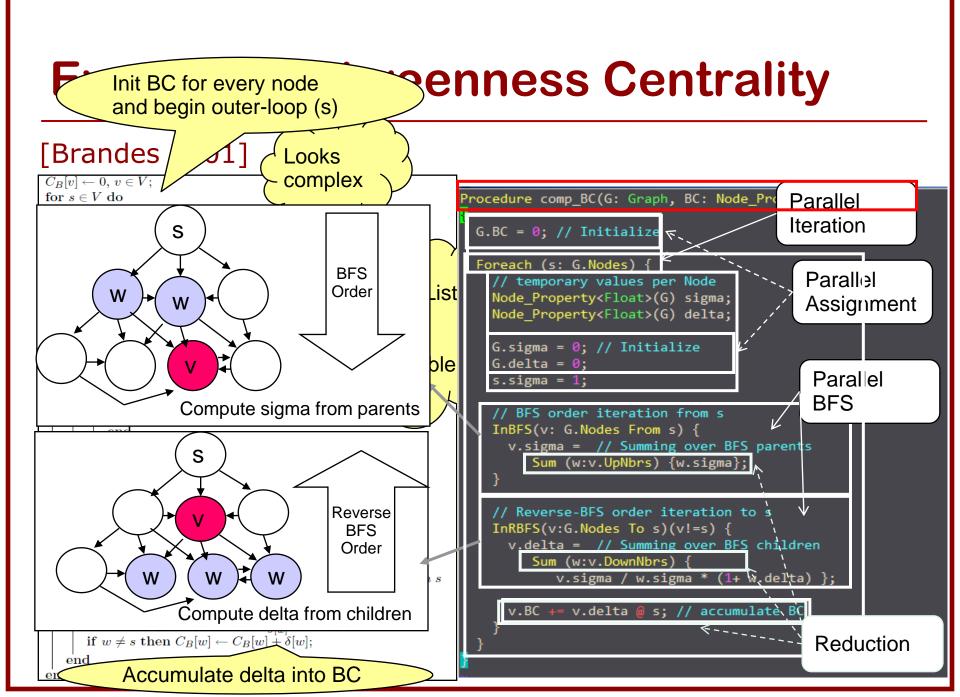
Betweenness Centrality (BC)

- A measure that tells how `central' a node is in the graph
- Used in social network analysis
- Definition
 - How many shortest paths are there between any two nodes going through this node.

$$C_B(v) = \sum_{s \neq v \neq t \in V} \frac{\sigma_{st}(v)}{\sigma_{st}}$$



[[]Image source; Wikipedia]



DSL Approach: Benefits

Three benefits

- Productivity
- Portability
- Performance

Productivity Benefits

A common limiting resource in software development
 your brain power (i.e. how long can you *focus*?)



A C++ implementation of BC from SNAP (a parallel graph library from GT):

≈ 400 line of codes (with OpenMP)

Vs. Green-Marl* LOC: 24

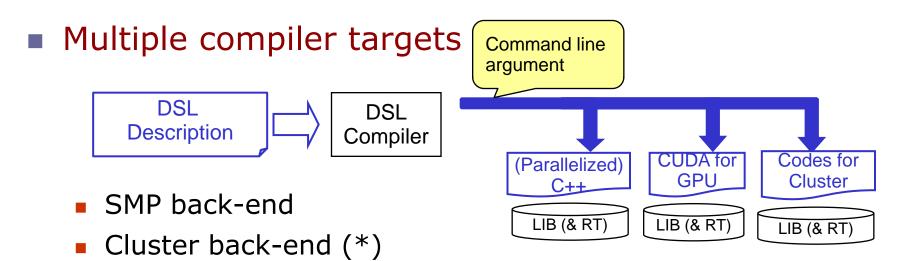
*Green-Marl (그린말) means Depicted Language in Korean

Productivity Benefits

Procedure	Manual LOC	Green-Marl LOC	Source	Misc
BC	~ 400	24	SNAP	C++ openMP
Vertex Cover	71	21	SNAP	C++ openMP
Conductance	42	10	SNAP	C++ openMP
Page Rank	75	15	http://	C++ single thread
SCC	65	15	http://	Java single thread

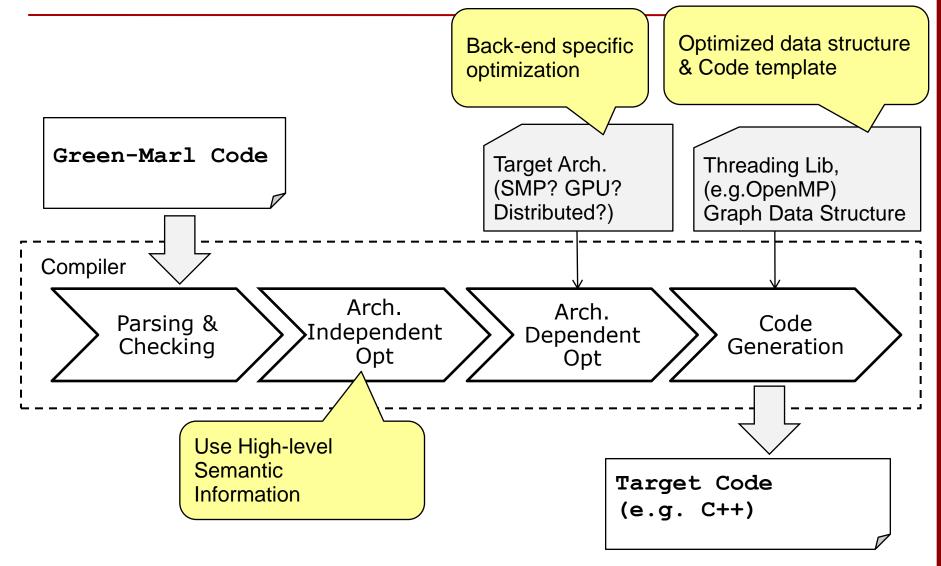
- It is more than LOC
 - ➔ Focusing on the algorithm, not its implementation
 - → More intuitive, less error-prone
 - → Rapidly explore many different algorithms

Portability Benefits

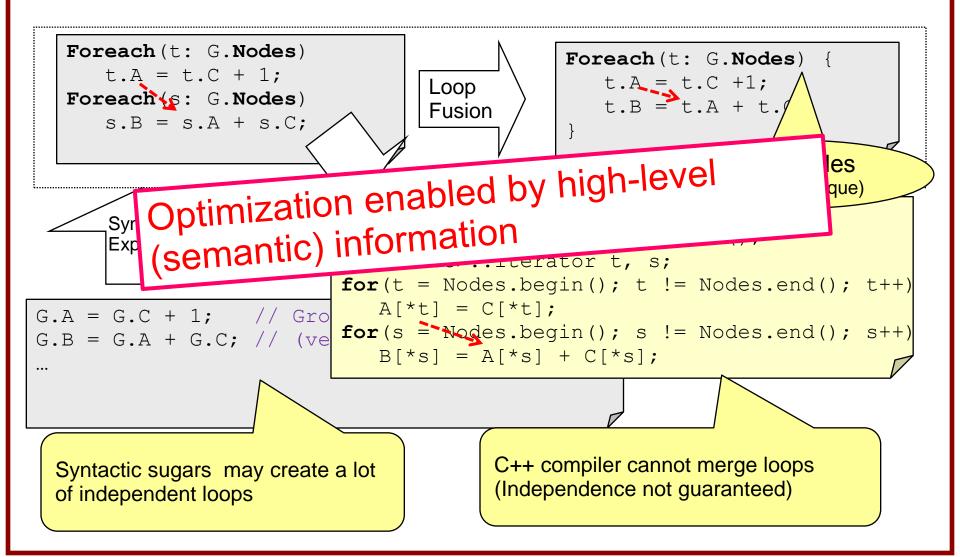


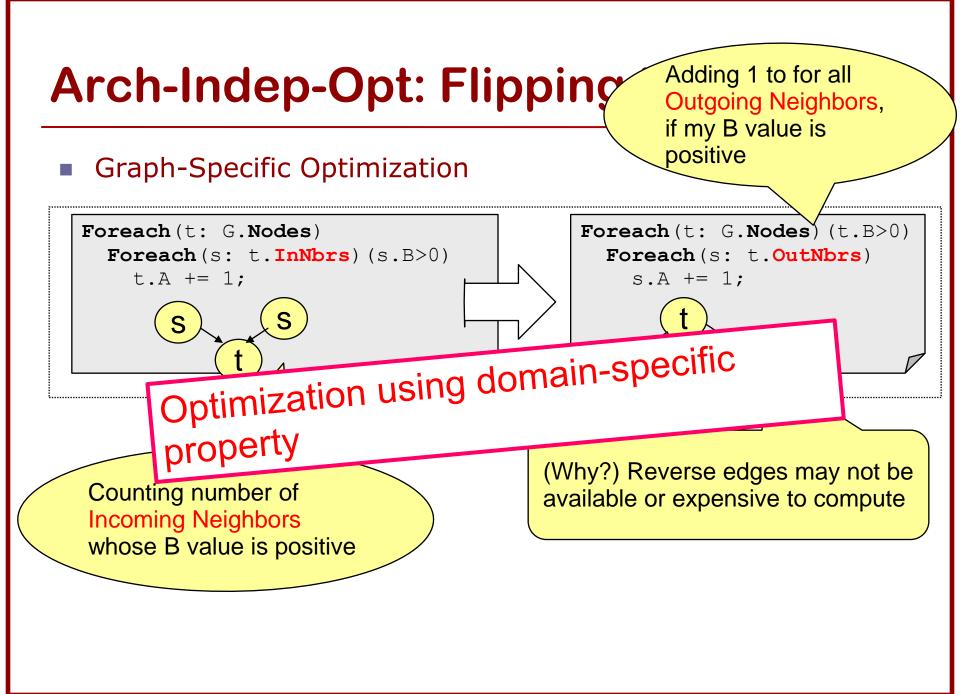
- For large instances
- We generate codes that work on Pregel API [Malewicz et al. SIGMOD 2010]
- GPU back-end (*)
 - For small instances
 - We know some tricks [Hong et al. PPOPP 2011]

Performance Benefits



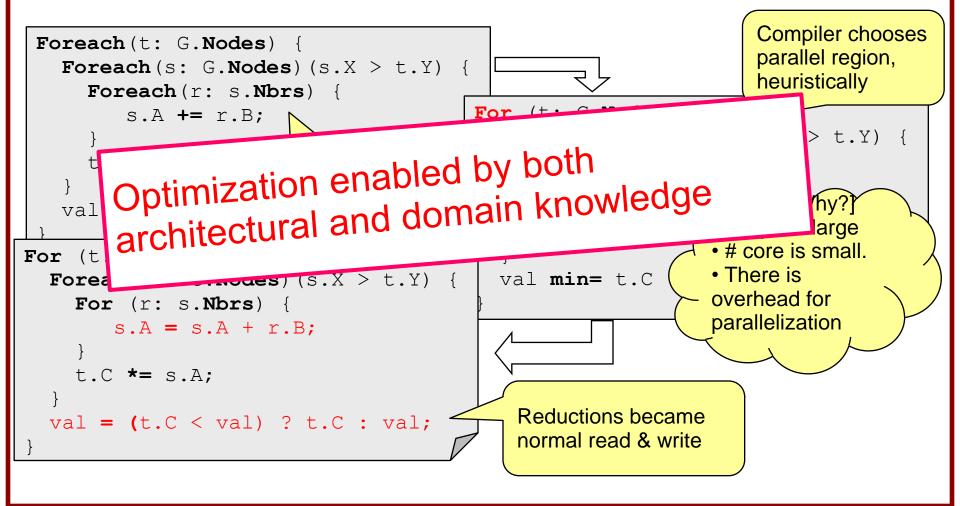
Arch-Indep-Opt: Loop Fusion





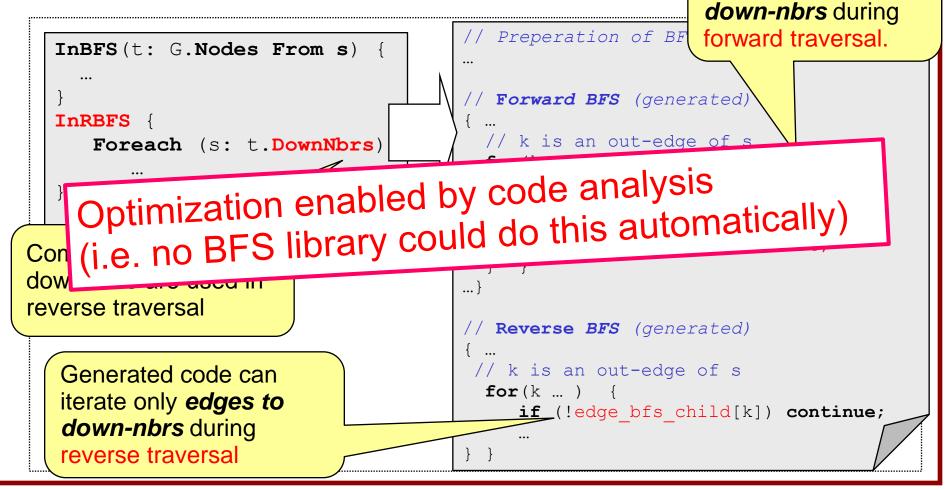
Arch-Dep-Opt : Selective Parallelization

Flattens nested parallelism with a heuristic



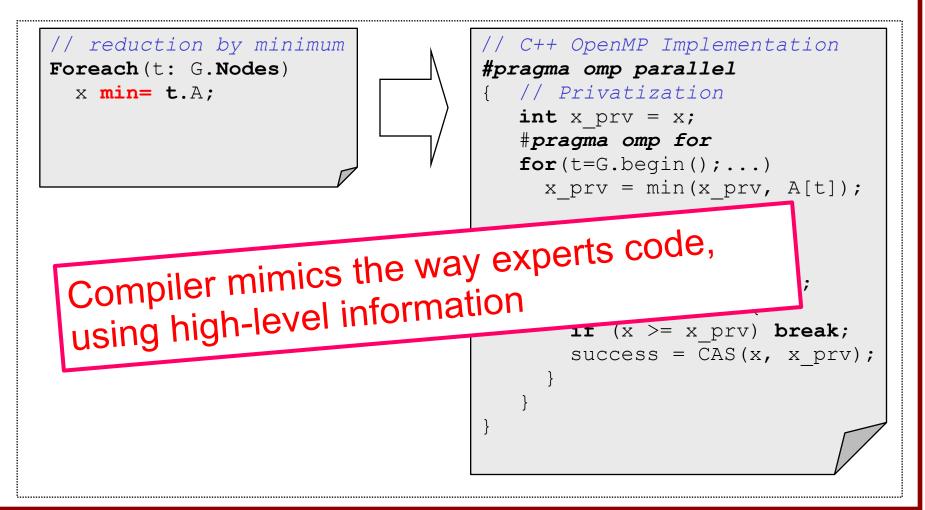
Code-Gen: Saving DownNbrs in BFS

Prepare data structure for reverse BFS trave Generated code forward traversal, only if required.



Code-Gen: Reduction

Reduction to Scalar > Privatization



Code-Gen: Code Templates

Data Structure

- Graph: similar to a conventional graph library
- Collections: custom implementation

Generated code also benefits from optimized libraries

- Hong et al. PACT 2011 (for CPU and GPU)
- Better implementations coming; can be adapted transparently
- DFS
 - Inherently sequential

Experimental Results

Betweenness Centrality Implementation

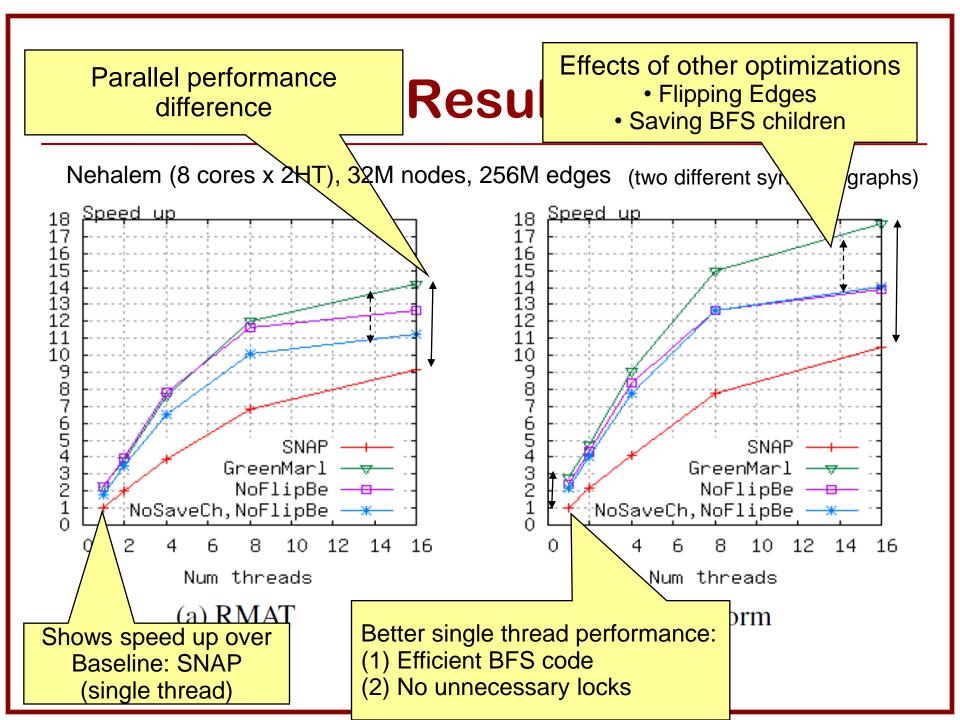
- (1) [Bader and Madduri ICPP 2006]
- (2) [Madduri et al. IPDPS 2009]
 - \rightarrow Apply some new optimizations

 → Performance improved over (1) ~ x2.3 on Cray XMT
 Parallel implementation available in SNAP library based on (1) not (2) (for x86)

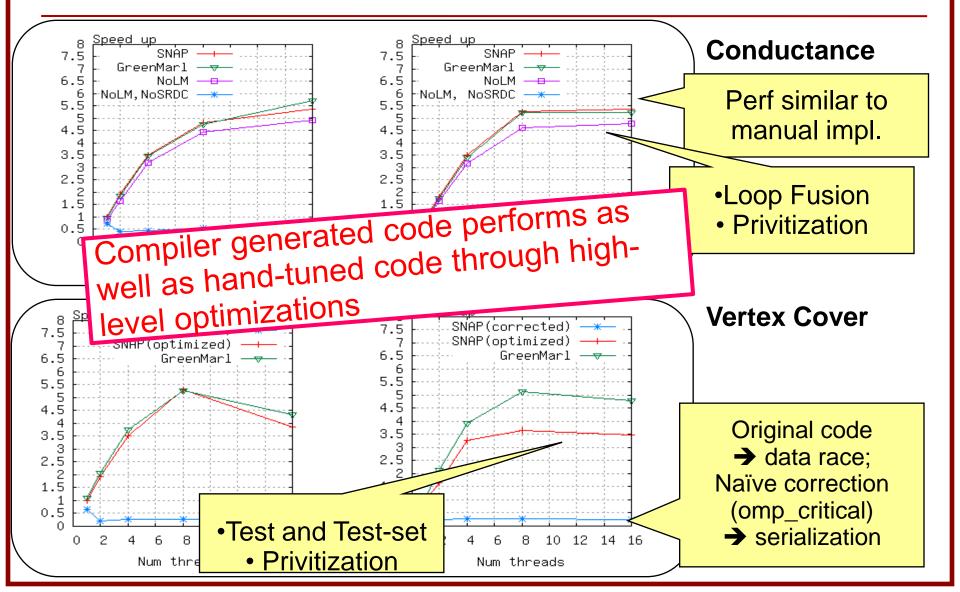
Our Experiment

Start from DSL description (as shown previously)

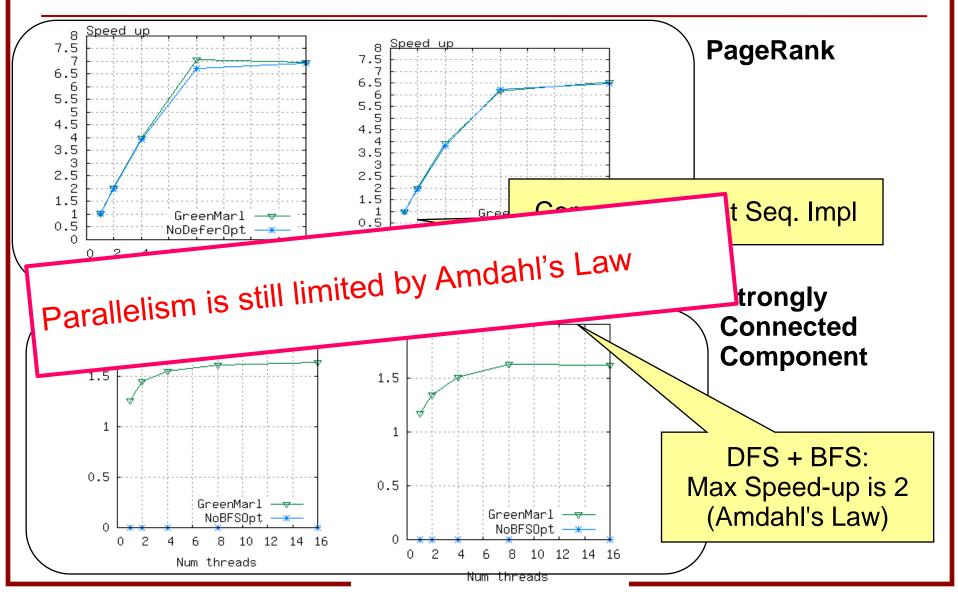
Let the compiler apply the optimizations in (2), automatically.



Other Results



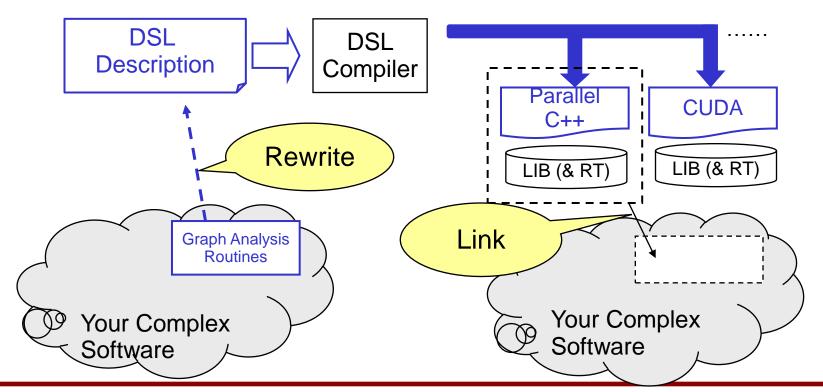
Other Results



Usage Model

"Do you expect me to re-write my whole application with your DSL?"

- No. Our src-to-src translation does not demand it.
- Okay, maybe a little glue code



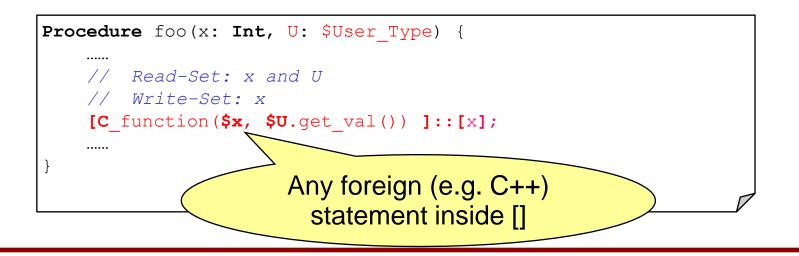
About Libraries

"Can I still use my custom library inside DSL?"

- Yes, via foreign syntax
 - Similar to _asm_ mechanism in gcc
 - Statements inside []

➔ Compiler simply keeps the text as-is in the generated code

Just tell the compiler what are being read/mutated.



Hand-tuned Codes

"I, as an expert, can create faster code by handtuning."

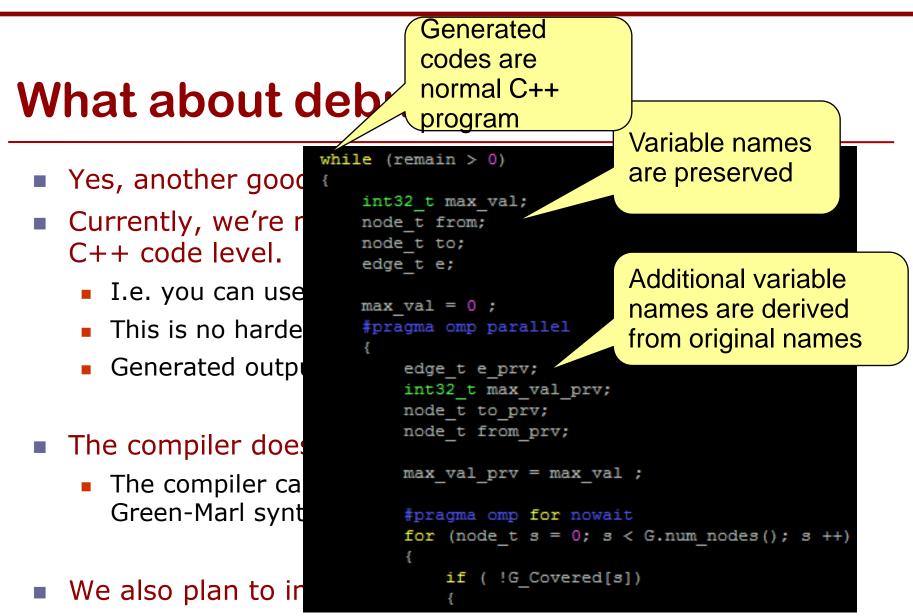
Yes, I'm sure you can

- DSL will be more helpful to non-experts. (Productivity)
- DSL enables rapid exploration of different algorithms

You can manually enhance compiler-generated code

Compiler output is fairly human-readable C++ code

DSL also provides portability



Will look like a MATLAB for graph.

./gm comp -V=1 -DS=2 foo.gm	the Compiler's Work Verbose = on Stop after Stage 2.
	<pre>./gm_comp -V=1 -DS=3.2 foo.gm Stage 3.2: Indep-Opt.[Regularize Stopping compiler after Stage 3.2 Procedure foo(</pre>
<pre>G : Graph, A : N_P <int>(G), B : N_P <int>(G)) : Int { Int X;</int></int></pre>	<pre>G : Graph, A : N_P <int>(G), B : N_P <int>(G)) : Int { Int X; Int X;</int></int></pre> Procedure foo(G : Graph, A : N_P <int>(G), B : N_P <int>(G)) : Int { Int X;</int></int>
<pre>Int Y; X = Sum(s: G.Nodes){s.A}; Y = Sum(t: G.Nodes){t.B}; Return X * Y; }</pre>	Int _S0; Int _S1; _S0 = 0; Foreach (s : G.Nodes) _S0 += s.A @ s ; _S1 = 0; Int _S1; _S1 = 0;
	<pre>X = _S0; _S1 = 0; Foreach (t : G.Nodes) _S1 += t.B @ t ; X = _S0; Foreach (s : G.Nodes) { _S0 += s.A @ s ; _S1 += s.B @ s ; }</pre>
Sums are expanded [Y = _S1; Return X * Y; } Loops are merged } X = _S0; Y = _S1; Return X * Y; }

Portability – Different Backends

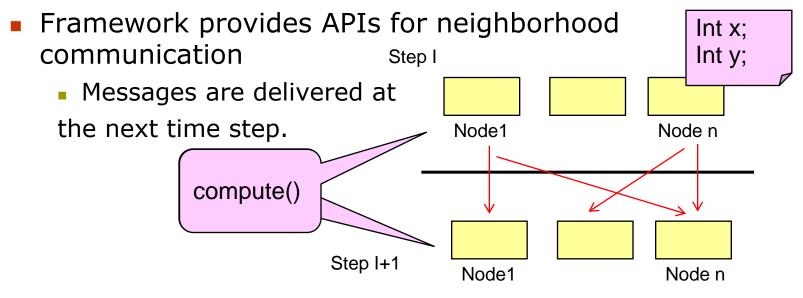
- Different back-ends of Green-Marl
 - Cache-coherent shared memory: current
 - Pregel (Distributed Environment) : on-going
 - Cray XMT : early investment
 - GPU : early investment
 - GraphLab (a different run-time): idea brainstroming
 - Custom hardware: idea brainstorming
 - RamCloud: idea brainstorming

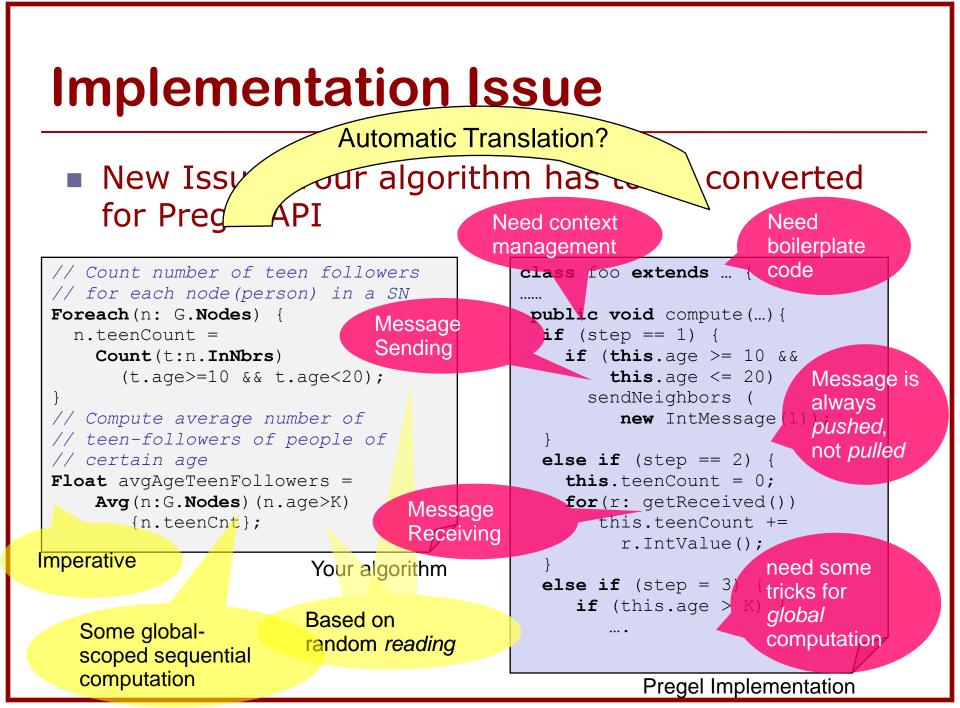
Capacity Issue in Graph Analysis

- Large graph + Associated data
 - ≥ Main Memory
- Disk-based system (i.e. virtual memory) ?
 - A lot of *random* accesses → disk latency kills you
- Stand-alone distributed program?
 - Large development overhead
- Map-Reduce (Hadoop)?
 - Unable to keep state across iterations → performance loss
- Pregel (or its replicates)

Pregel (from Google)

- Map-Reduce like framework with enhancement
 - Iterative, Sensitive, Vertex-centric
 - A vertex can maintain its associated data
 - Single compute() function
 - Called for every vertex by the system
 - At each time step





Issues to be solved

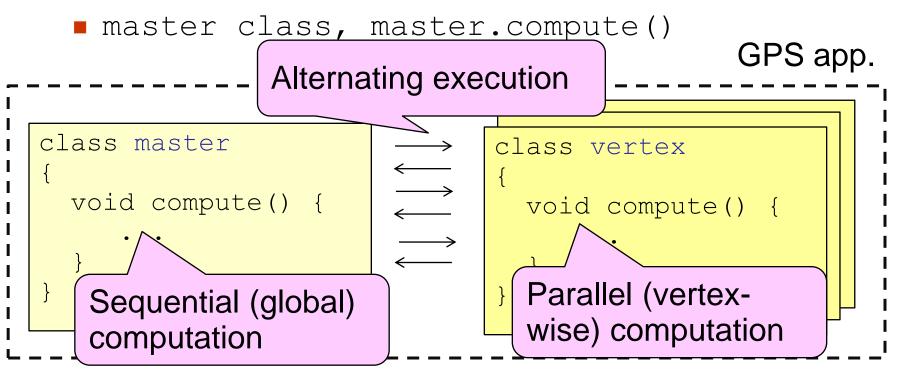
- Sequential computation
- Globally scoped variables
- Management of Execution Context
- Communication (message sending/receiving)
- Enforcing Push-based messaging

Our framework

- Pregel (from Google) is not open to public.
- GPS: an implementation of Pregel from Stanford, with Semih Salihoglu
- With enhancements
 - Optimized for performance
 - → $x5 \sim 10$ faster than Giraph (a popular Pregel implementation from Yahoo/Apache)
 - Elegant API for *global* objects and sequential computation

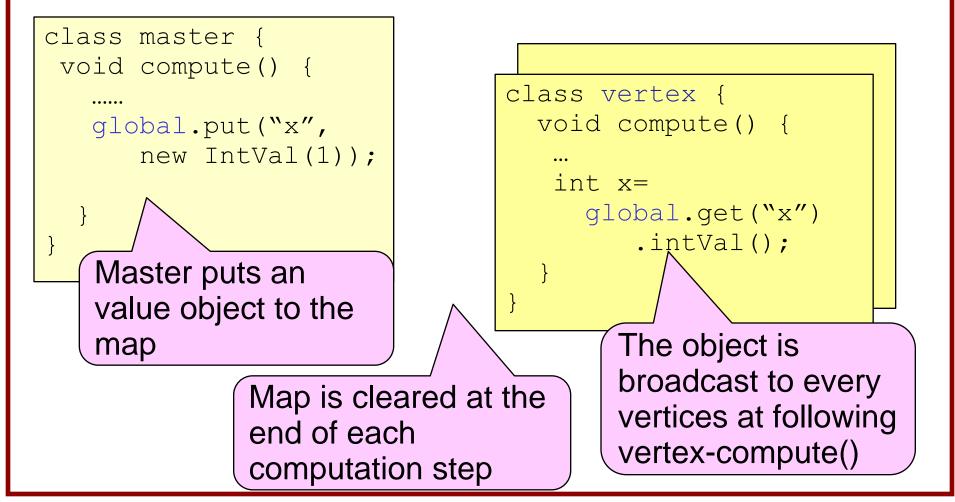
Handling Sequential Portion

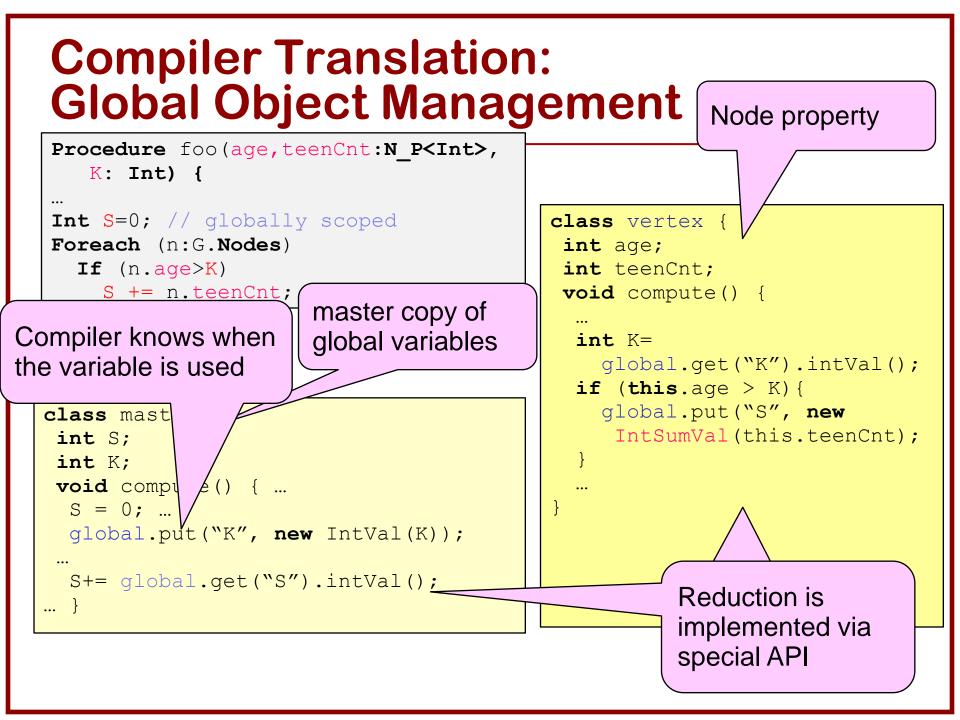
- Your algorithm may include sequential portion
 - E.g. termination based on global sum of difference in page rank algorithm
- GPS provides a nice API for this:



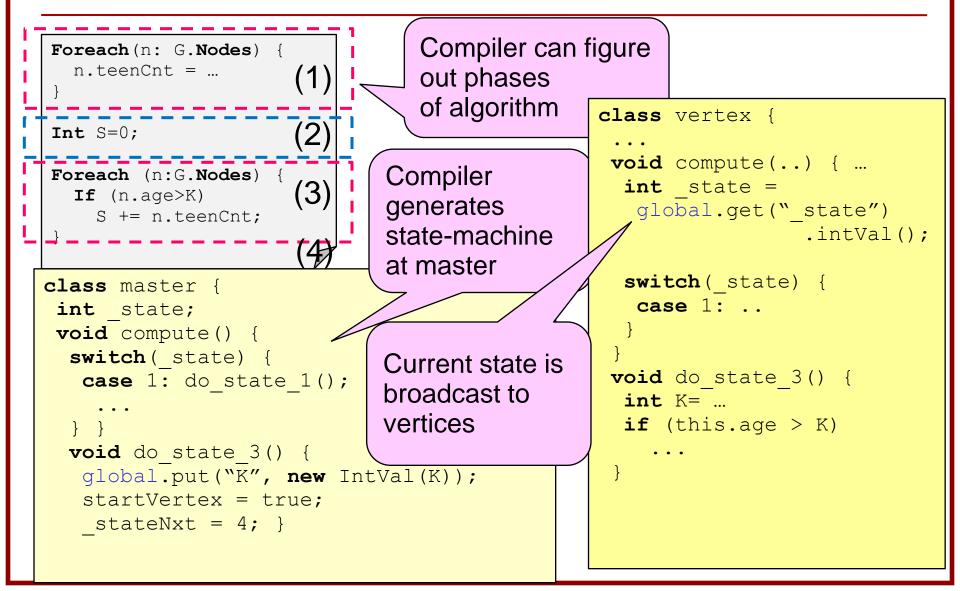
Globally shared variables

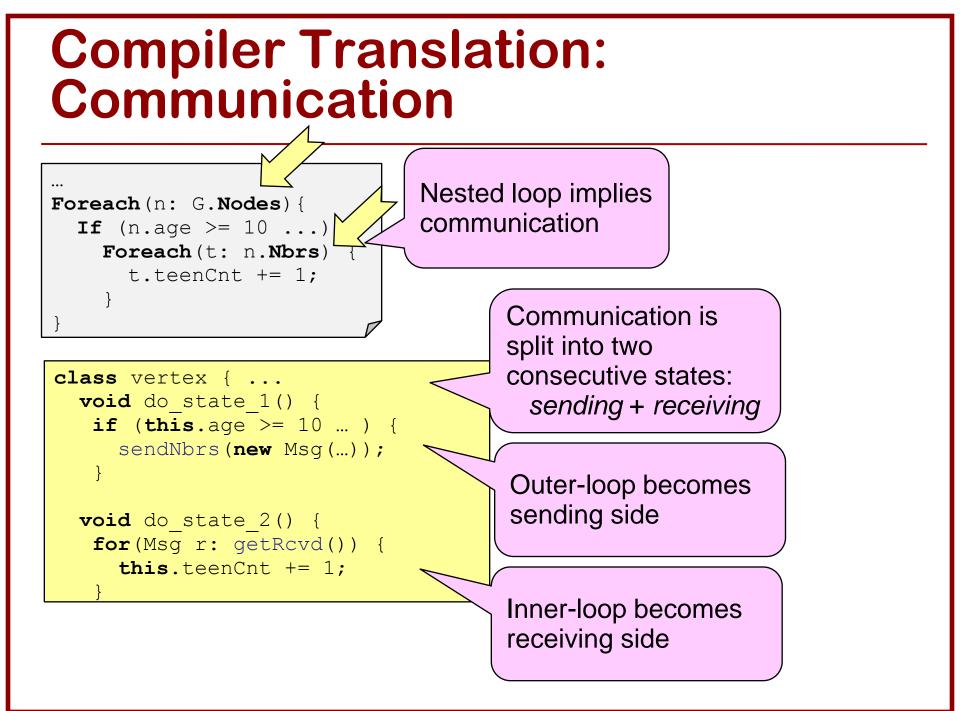
Another useful API: Global object map



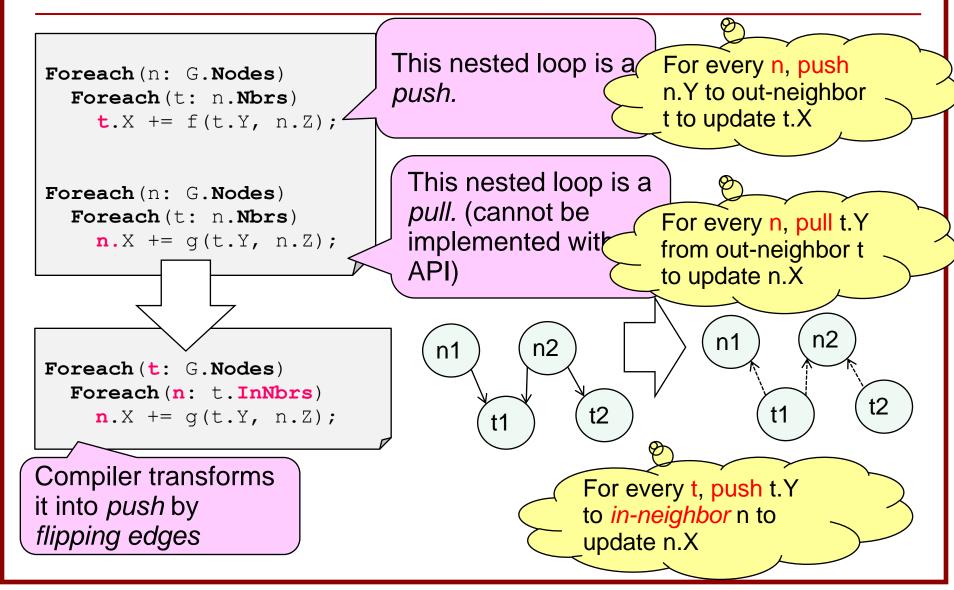


Compiler Translation: Execution Context & Sequential Portion

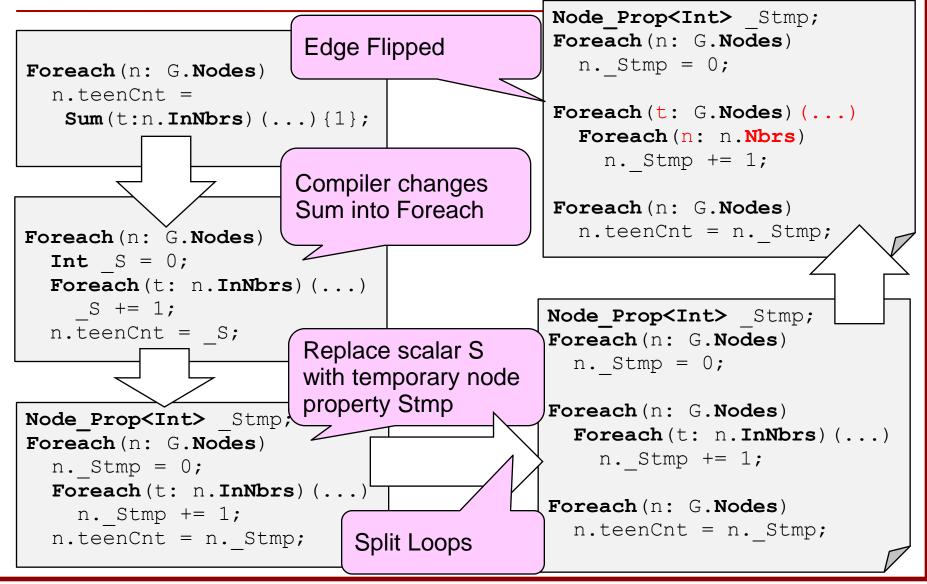




Enforcing Push-based algorithm



Compiler Transformation: Applying edge-flipping



There are still other details ...

- Defining message class
- Merging states together
- Optimizing temporary node properties
- Merging congruent message classes
- Current State:
 - Can transform many algorithms into Pregel
 - Compiler-generated code exhibits little overhead compared to hand-written code
 - Still improving.

Conclusion

Green-Marl

- A DSL designed for graph analysis
- Three benefits
 - Productivity
 - Performance
 - Portability
- Project page: ppl.stanford.edu/main/green_marl.html
- GitHub repository: github.com/stanford-ppl/Green-marl

Thank you for attention

Questions?

"Programs must be written for people to read, and only incidentally for machines to execute." -- Abelson & Sussman

Language Features

For graph analysis

- Built-in data types
- Node and edge property
- Collections
- Graph iteration and traversal

For parallel and distributed execution

- Implicit parallelism
- Consistency Model
- Reduction

For extensibility

Embedded foreign syntax

Types and Properties

Green-Marl is statically-typed languages

- Primitive types
- Graphs (directed, undirected),
- Node/Edge, Node/Edge properties
- Collections
- Foreign types (later)

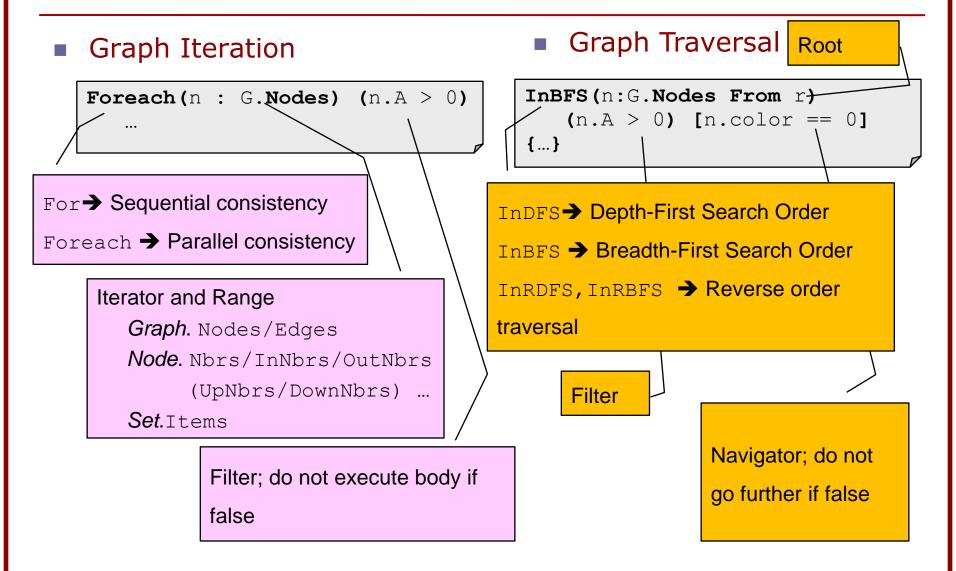
Types and Properties

- Node/Edge
 - Node(graph)
 - Bound to a graph instance
- Node/Edge Property
 - Node_Prop< prim_type > (graph)
- Collection Types
 - Node_Set (graph)
 - Node_Order (graph)
 - Node_Seq (graph)
 - Node_Multiset (graph)

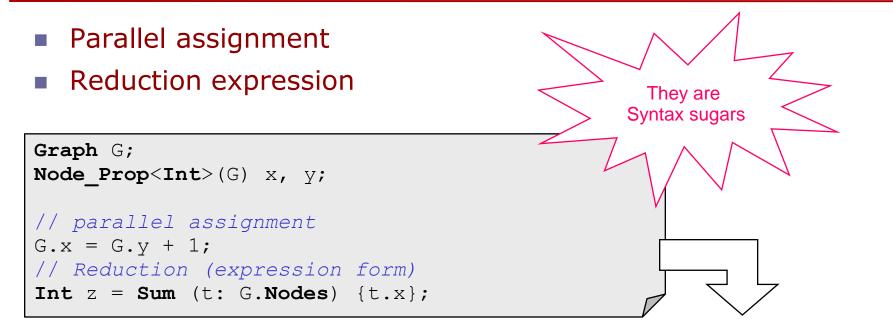
	Unique- ness	Ordered -ness
Set	Y	Ν
Order	Y	Υ
Sequence	Ν	Υ
Multiset	Ν	Ν

Graph G1, G2;	
Node(G1) n;	
Node (G2) m;	
n = m; // type error	

Graph Iteration and Traversal



Implicit Parallelism



```
Foreach (n: G.Nodes)
    n.x = n.y + 1;
Int z = 0;
Foreach (t: G.Nodes)
    z += t.x; // Reduction (assignment form)
```

Consistency Model

- Sequential Consistency (For)
- Parallel Consistency (Foreach)
 - Things happen in parallel ...
 - No ordering is guaranteed btwn concurrent loops
 - No visibility is guaranteed btwn concurrent loops
 - Use reductions!

Reductions

Assignment Form

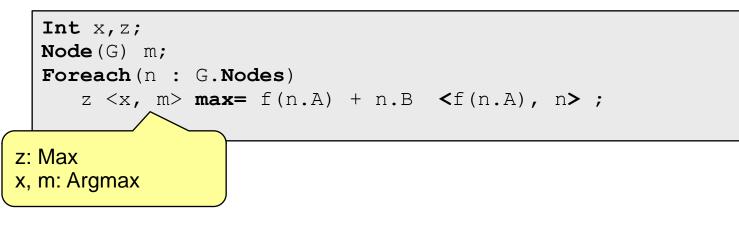
Int z = 0;
Foreach(n : G.Nodes)
z += n.X;

Expression Form

Int $z = Sum(n:G.Nodes) \{n.X\};$

+=	Sum{}
*=	Product{}
&=	All{}
=	Any{}
min=	Min{}
max=	Max{}

Argmax/Argmin



Bulk Synchronous Consistency

Deferred assignment

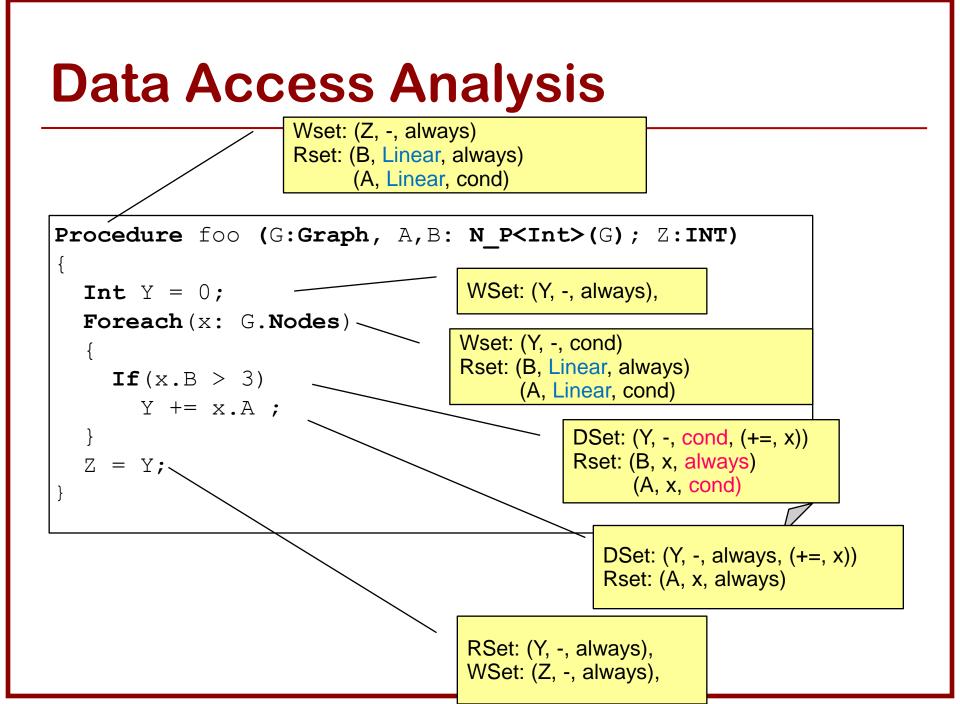
Foreach (s: G.Nodes) {
 // Reading t.A gives 'old' value
 s.A <= Sum (t: s.Nbrs) {t.A} @ s;</pre>

// modification to property A becomes
// visible at the end of s-loop

Loop bound indicator: tells to which loop this assignment is bound. (e.g. nested loop)

Note

- A note on parallel/sequential consistency and parallel execution
 - The compiler (runtime) may execute a *foreach* loop sequentially.
 - The compiler (runtime) may execute a *for* loop in parallel, as long as it can guarantee sequential consistency.
 - E.g. transactional memory or locks



I'm not a graph guy. Do you suggest that I create my own DSL?

- Yes, I encourage you.
- Green-Marl is a stand-alone DSL, created from the scratch
 - This paper is written with 3 of my managers.
 - Current compiler was implemented in less than 6 months.
 - It is a doable job : (1) Type checker is simple. (2) Code generation is also not very complicated as you emit C++ code
 - Designing a good language is challenging, though.
- There are easier ways, though.
 - Innovations in Embedded DSL
 - Delite [H. Chafi et al., PPoPP'11] → a framework for DSL creation
 - Green-Marl on Delite is also being developed.

Can every graph algorithm be written in Green-Marl?

- Good question. We hope so, don't have proof.
 - We think we have all the necessary basic blocks
 - Basic node/edge iteration; graph traversal
 - Four collections (set/seq/order/bag)
 - Reductions
- Foreign syntax / Foreign type may help you
- Still, we are improving our language specification
 - We're hearing from users, including professionals
 - Your opinion is valuable to us