Outline

- The NOAA Boulder HPC System
- Parallel Debugging using SMS
- Workflow and Portal Development Activities



The NOAA Boulder HPC System



Use of High Performance Computing In Meteorology

October 2006

Merging Toward One Virtual **HPC Facility at NOAA**



October 2006

In Meteorology

ESRL HPC Facility



Some HPC Projects

- Implementation of the GFDL AM2 Model at CDC
- Properties of Fish Stock-Production Models
- All-Weather Microwave Radiance Assimilation
- Coastal Coupled Air-Sea Modeling
- Regional Climate Impact & Air Quality Experiments
- Global CO2 Assimilation and Flux Estimates
- Climate and Role of the Thermohaline Circulation
- Coastal Remote Sensing
- CSD WRF-Chem model
- Developmental Testbed Center
- ENSO and Beyond
- Studies of Pacific ENSO Variability
- ETL Cloud Model Conversion
- Integrated Feature Oriented Regional Modeling
- Toward an Improved Seasonal Prediction
- Great Lakes Regional Coupled Modeling
- Remote Sensing in Vietnam Waters
- Earth Magnetic Model
- THORPEX Data Assimiliation using NCEP & GFDL Models

- Modelling of ABL Processes over Complex Terrain
- Ensemble Forecasts with Stochastic Radiation
- Mesoscale Ensemble Forecast
- Coastal Modeling
- MMAP Hydrodynamic Model Development
- accounting for model error in ensemble DA
- Creating MODIS Data time series
- 2000 New England Air Quality Study
- Nested Ocean Models for the Northeast Pacific
- Reanalysis Without Radiosondes
- Regional Environmental Modeling
- Stratosphere-Troposphere Exhcange Study
- Predict Seasonal to Decadal Stormtrack Anomalies
- Space Weather Reanalysis
- 2000 Texas Air Quality Study
- WRF-Chem development
- Hybrid ensemble-3DVAR data assimilation on WRF
- WRF Simulations of MCS Rainfall
- Arctic Ocean Modeling and Global Climate Studies



ESRL System Characteristics

- High number of jobs
 - Thousands of jobs strains the SGE scheduler
 - Project allocations but no accounting
 - This will change as system load increases
- Parallel job requirements
 - Many require small number of PEs
 - Some require 100+
 - A few require >256
 - None above 500 PEs but that will be changing



Parallel Debugging using SMS



Use of High Performance Computing In Meteorology

October 2006

Scalable Modeling System 1988 - present

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Tom Henderson

Mark Govett

Jacques Middlecoff

Dan Schaffer



SMS Overview

- User adds directives to serial code
- SMS translates directives/serial code into parallel code
- Resulting parallel code runs efficiently on shared or distributed memory machines
- Parallelized many weather, ocean models including RUC, Eta and ROMS, POM
- Powerful debugging directives facilitate parallelization



Code Parallelization with SMS





SMS Debugging Support

- Run serial vs. parallel or parallel vs. parallel (different numbers of processes) and compare results on the fly
 - SMS directive

CSMS\$COMPARE_VAR

- "Bitwise-exact" summations required
 - Round-off error can mask bugs
- Check halo regions
 - SMS directive





SMS Debugging Directives

Insert directives in the code to verify array values are correct

portion of a decomposed array owned by a single process





CSMS\$CHECK_HALO





CSMS\$COMPARE_VAR





Parallel Debugging Support for WRF (Govett, Schaffer, Henderson)

- Utilize SMS debugging directives
- Link SMS run-time libraries with WRF
- Build a tool to automatically insert debugging directives in the code
 - where variables that have been updated
 - where horizontal dependencies exist

Status: Work is in progress



SMS Debugging Support for WRF



October 2006

Workflow and Portal Development

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Workflow and Portal Development

- Motivation
 - Developmental Testbed Center (DTC)
 - Collaboration between NOAA, NCEP, ESRL and NCAR, others
 - to evaluate and transfer new modeling capabilities
 - Support Model Development and Observing System Testing
 - Costly systems to build, deploy, and maintain
 - More complex models harder to evaluate



A Typical Scenario at the DTC

- Investigate the sensitivity of WRF-ARW to the choices of upper dampening depth and cooeficient
- Testing
 - many subtle variations are frequently tried for a single date.
 - Once a couple promising configurations were identified, more extensive tests are run
 - 4 30 day seasonal runs, three comparisons, two model variants.
 - Each run takes ~ 7 hours to complete



DTC Requirements

- Need to thoroughly test and evaluate models (user)
 - More complex models, configurations
 - Higher density data sets
 - More observational platforms
- Need to reliably manage the model runs (Workflow Manager)
- Need remote access to NOAA HPC systems (Portal)
- Need a clean way to manage code, scripts and configurations (Portal)
 - Repeat runs, compare configurations
- Need to evaluate results using verification and visualization capabilities



Workflow Manager

- Task: A single unit of computation
- Workflow: a set of tasks and their inter-dependencies
- Cycle: a workflow instantiated for a single date
- Experiment: a set of workflows run over a set of dates





Start

Workflow Manager

- Manages tasks running on a system
 - Automated detection of and recovery from system faults
 - Workflow can automatically resume after extended outages
 - Automatically retry tasks that have failed
 - Throttle option controls the number of tasks that can run simultaneously
 - Flow rate limits the number of cycles running at a time



WRF Portal Development

- Java Web-Start Application
- Beta-testing at the DTC
- Key Features
 - Define Tasks
 - Users can select and edit their own scripts, namelists, executables, etc
 - Define and configure workflows
 - Monitor experiment while running
 - Analyze results, diagnose errors



WRF Portal: Workflow Configuration

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WRF Portal: Workflow Monitoring

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Conclusion

- ESRL is working on a variety of HPC projects to which address new advancements in HPC including:
 - Java application to manage model development
 - Porting codes to new HPC systems
 - Debugging tool to simplify parallel code development and maintenance

