

Kokkos R&D: Remote Memory Spaces

Scope and objectives

- Develop Remote Memory Spaces to integrate PGAS like models with Kokkos
- Explore different backend options such as SHMEM and MPI One-Sided
- Evaluate usability and initial performance in a proxy application.

Technical Approach

- Mostly transparent to applications: change a typedef and allocations and data access are distributed
- Four backends are available: libQUO (on-node only), SHMEM, MPI-OneSided and NVSHMEM (supports NVIDIA GPUs in the same node)
- Implemented as Add-On library to Kokkos.

Impact

- Many applications could potentially benefit from PGAS like communication models – in particular on systems with tightly coupled GPUs.
- EXAALT could benefit from this approach if it helps strong scaling small particle ensembles to multiple GPUs
- QMCPACK is interested in this approach in order to have a distributed spline table, which would require random access and is thus not amenable to typical MPI message passing approaches.

Performance Evaluation

Remote Memory Space Overhead Test
ExaMiniMD Lennard Jones 128k atoms, 1000 timesteps
Power9 2x20x4 run as 20x8 (MPIxThreads)



Deliverables STPM12 Milestone 7 Report available at <https://confluence.exascaleproject.org>
Code Repository Available at <https://github.com/kokkos/kokkos-remote-spaces> upon request

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