

Image Sharpening Example

Running a simple parallel program

EPSRC

NERC SCIENCE OF THE ENVIRONMENT



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Aims (i)

- To familiarise yourself with running parallel programs
- To run a real parallel code (that does file I/O)
 - on different numbers of cores
 - measure the time taken
 - observe increase in performance (Amdahl's law? – see later)
- Acknowledgements
 - algorithm, diagrams and images taken from:
 - *Hypermedia Image Processing Reference*, Bob Fisher, Simon Perkins, Ashley Walker and Erik Wolfart, Department of Artificial Intelligence, University of Edinburgh (1994)



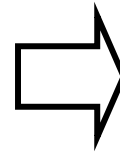
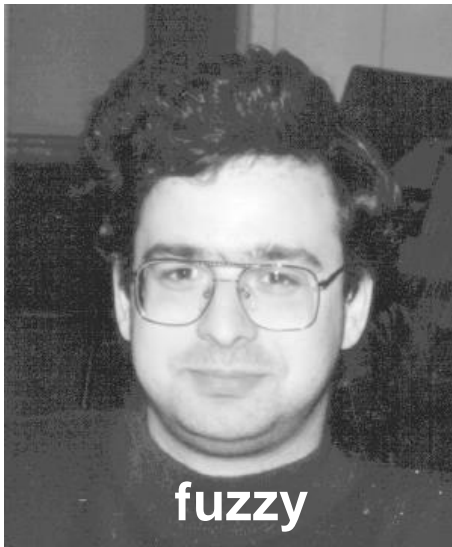
Aims (ii)

- To get you running on ARCHER
- To sort out all the practical details
 - usernames
 - passwords
 - graphics
 - transferring files
 - using the batch system
 - idiosyncrasies of your Windows / Mac / Linux laptop
 - ...
- Please ask for assistance if you need it!
 - demonstrators are here to help with all aspects of course



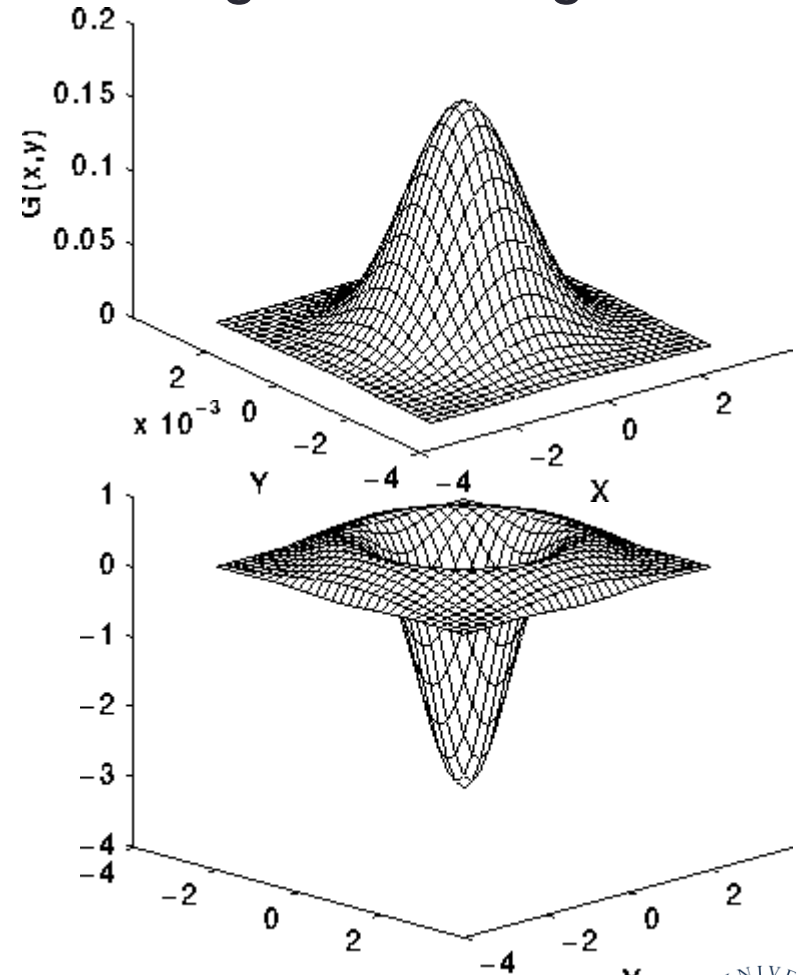
Image sharpening

- Images can be fuzzy for two main reasons
 - random noise
 - blurring
- Aim to improve quality by
 - smoothing to remove noise
 - detecting edges
 - sharpening up the image with the edges



Technicalities

- Each pixel replaced by a weighted average of its neighbours
 - weighted by a 2D Gaussian
 - averaged over a square region
- we will use:
 - Gaussian width of 1.4
 - a 17x17 square
 - then apply a Laplacian
 - this detects edges
 - a 2D second-derivative ∇^2
- Combine both operations
 - produces a single convolution filter



Implementation

- For over every pixel in the image
 - loop over all pixels in the 17x17 square surrounding it
 - add in the value of the pixel weighted by a filter

$$edge(i, j) = \sum_{k,l=-8,8} image(i+k, j+l) \times filter(k, l)$$

- This gives the edges
 - add the edges back into the original image with some scaling factor
 - we use 2.0
 - rescale the sharpened image so pixels lie in the range 0 - 255

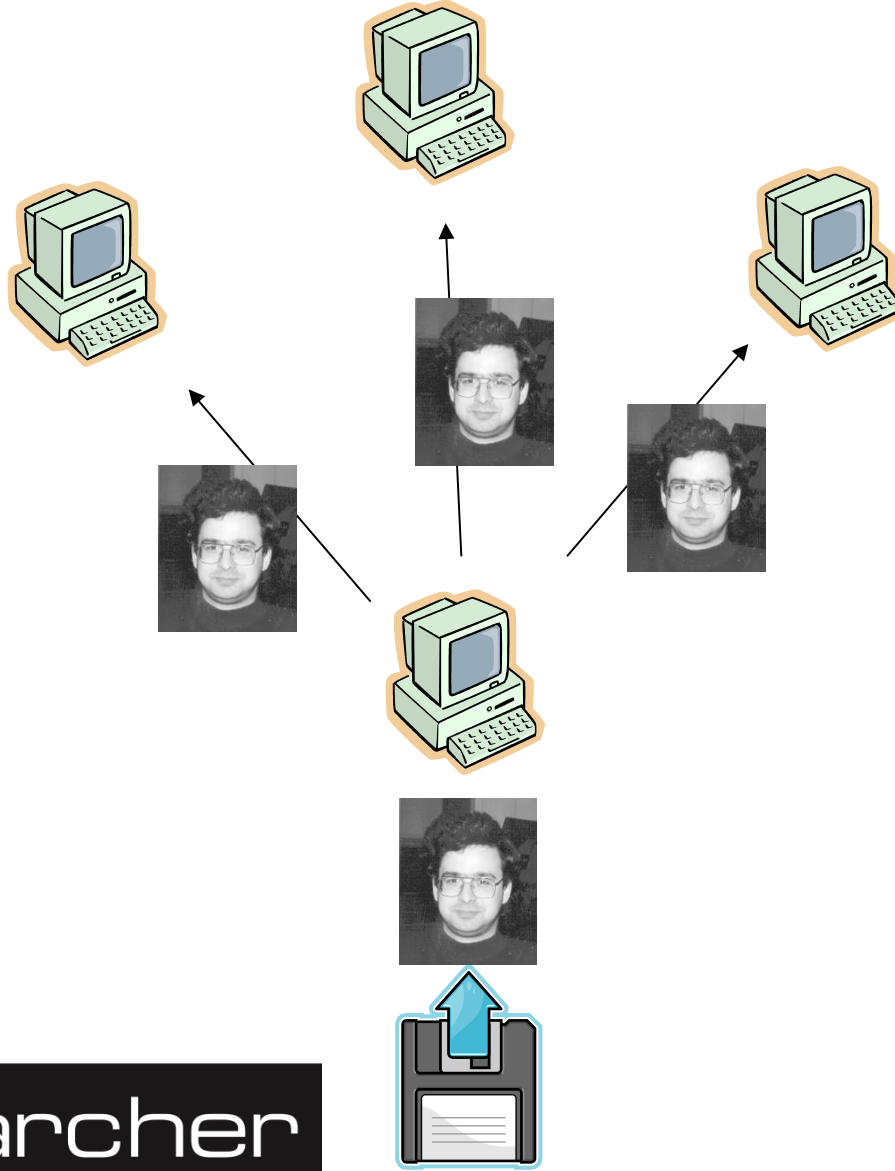


Parallelisation

- Each pixel can be processed independently
- A master process reads the image
- Broadcast the whole image to every process
- Each process computes edges for a subset of pixels:
 - scan the image line by line
 - with four processes, each process computes every fourth pixel
- Combine the edges back onto a master process
 - add back into original image and rescale
 - save to disk
- Reports two times:
 - calculation time for just computing edges on each process
 - overall time for the whole program including IO



Parallelisation



1	2	3	4	1
2	3	4	1	2
3				



Technicalities

- Supply a serial version for reference
- Parallelisation is achieved using message-passing model
- Implemented using MPI
 - the Message-Passing Interface
- Another version parallelised using shared-variables model
- Implemented using OpenMP
 - HPC standard for threaded programming
 - for interest - not critical to this exercise
- These concepts will be explained later in the course ...



PBS job submission scripts

```
#PBS -N sharpen ← name for PBS batch job
#PBS -l select=1 ← how many nodes you want
# now stuff that actually executes
...
aprun -n 4 ./sharpen ← program to run
```

← parallel job launcher

← how many cores to run on – remember 24 cores per node!

Compiling and Running

- We provide a tar file with code (C or Fortran) and image
- You should:
 - copy tar file it to your local account
 - unpack it
 - compile it
 - run it on the back end using appropriate batch scripts
 - view the input and output images using **display** program
 - note the times for different numbers of processors
 - can you interpret them?
- See the exercise sheet for full details!

