HPEC 2002 abstract

Data Reorganization Interface (DRI) -

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This presentation is not restricted to the US-only session.

Topic Areas:
• Middleware Libraries and Application Programming Interfaces
• Software Architecture, Reusability, Scalability, and Standards
• Algorithm Mapping to High Performance Architectures

The Data Reorganization Interface (DRI) emphasizes the need for high performance and
easy-to-use “transpose and reshape” operations frequently needed in data-parallel signal
and image processing applications. Existing middleware standards such as message
passing interface (MPI) provide too little and relatively inefficient support for such
operations, and provide a low level of abstraction that exposes tedious details of parallel
programming to the end user. DRI enhances existing communication middleware (both
standard and proprietary) with common syntax, semantics and powerful abstractions for
data reorganization of clique and bipartite forms.

Planned transfer paradigms, together with abstractions related to datacubes and buffering
semantics, deliver high performance and scalability to these essential operations.
Additionally, significant ability to overlap communication and computation–an essential
capability for efficient, modern multicomputer and cluster systems–is part and parcel of
this specification and its implementations.

This presentation will cover the highlights of the first version of the DRI API, to be
completed by the time of the workshop. Both the features included in DRI 1.0, and those
that are deferred for later specification (including rationale and near term provisions for
those that want the excluded functionality) will be discussed. The current value of DRI to
embedded signal/image processing applications will be presented, in terms of its
application programming interface (API) and how its implementations address some
common application requirements. The presentation will include suggestions of ways the
HPEC community can derive additional value from DRI by focusing on additional
application requirements, either in the context of additional DRI specification or in
subsequent HPEC software efforts.