Boise State University ScholarWorks

Research Computing Days 2021

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ParFlow Performance Tracking & ParFlowIO

William Lawrence Boise State University

Nicholas Prussen Boise State University

Jared White Boise State University

ParFlow Performance Tracking & ParFlowIO

Advisor: Dr. Catherine Olschanowsky

1. ParFlow	
ParFlow is a hydrology model that simulates groundwater flow.	F
It runs on many of the fastest supercomputers in the world and has produced hundreds of papers.	r C F C
Our two research projects (ParFlowIO & ParFlow Performance Tracking) support the development and use of ParFlow.	e r
Atmospheric forcings water balance tand surface Vadose zone	
Root zone H2 H1 P2 P1 P1 Exfiltration	4
z=0	F F
ParFlow visualization (from ParFlow.org)	F

2. HydroFrame

- HydroFrame is a diverse team of hydrologists, computer scientists and software engineers. Their goal is to make national hydrologic simulations more accessible.
- ParFlow is a piece of software under the HydroFrame project.

William Lawrence, Nicholas Prussen, Jared White

3. ParFlow Performance Testing

Parflow Performance Testing is an initiative to easily display performance data to those running ParFlow. This project uses a combination of a ReactJS frontend with a Flask API to issue queries to the MongoDB database. This interface will serve as an easily accessible way to monitor ParFlow runs on Verde at Princeton.

3.1 Problem Statement

- Hydrologists want to easily view their run results and compare them to others
- ParFlow developers want to see the progression of runtime improvement with new releases
- This data is immense and not easily comparable

4. ParFlowIO

ParFlowIO is a C++11 library with a Python3 interface for reading and writing

ParFlow binary files.

ParFlowIO allows hydrologists to easily work with ParFlow data using standard data processing tools through a Python interface.

4.1 Problem Statement

- Hydrologists want to easily operate on ParFlow results
- ParFlow outputs its results as a ParFlow Binary File (.pfb)
- This file is difficult to read and write
- Existing IO tools are written in C/C++
- These existing tools aren't suitable for quick analysis





4.2 Solution

• ParFlowIO is composed of two parts:

- A C++11 library containing the majority of the code
- A Python3 interface to most of the C++ functions

• The Python3 interface allows hydrologists to easily manipulate their ParFlow results.

5. Technologies Used

5.1 ParFlow Performance Testing

• ReactJS • Flask MongoDB

5.2 ParFlowIO

• C++11 • Python3 • SWIG





6. Future Development

6.1 ParFlow Performance Testing

• Web app to view all runs on Princeton's Verde server and the ability to queue identical runs for re-testing.

6.2 ParFlowIO

- Future development will be handled by
- Princeton
- Existing tools will be ported to use
- ParFlowIO

7. Acknowledgements

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