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A New Hierarchical Interconnection Network with considering Efficient Energy Usage for Exa-scale Supercomputing

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Abstract

The requirement of high processing power is enormous; one of the high desire of next generation HPC systems. Since every computer chip has limited processing power, sequential processors can't be the suitable choice. For example, an Intel Core i7-3630QM processor (4 cores, 22nm fabrication process) can achieve about 76.8GFlops through the requirement of 45W electrical power usage. However, the requirement for exa-scale computing will require about 13 million of connecting such processors. Today's most powerful supercomputer Sunway Taihulight System has already achieved about 93 petaFlops performance with 10,649,600 cores requiring about 15.3MW electrical power using low degree 2D Mesh interconnect (2D Mesh has the performance constraints and faster saturation rate). Moreover, a high degree network like- Tofu (6D Mesh/Torus) interconnect used in K-computer has achieved 10.51 petaFlops performance (88,128 SPARC64 VIIIfx processors, Tofu interconnect with 10 cores to cores connectivity) by requiring 12.6MW of electrical power. Hence, to build an exa-flops Tofu system, it will require near about 1260MW of electrical power with the current advancements. These observations confirm that conventional structures are not feasible for the next generation networks due to the high power usage for the high degree core to core connectivity (Tofu interconnect) and also shows poor network performances (2D Mesh interconnect). Hence, the possible solution to reach the next generation exa-scale performance is to redesign the "Interconnection Network".

Exa-scale supercomputing requires network scalability over millions of cores and the performance constraint affects heavily for the large system along with the total power usage. In considering those constraints our focus resides on the "Hierarchical Interconnection Networks (HIN)". HINs possess the features like- constant node degree, small average distance, better bisection width, small number of wires and low network latency with high throughput. Constant node degree ensures the fixed router cost throughout the entire system, small average distance eliminates the possibility of the performance degradation, better bisection width ensures the network traffic handling capability, wiring complexity is effective for reducing the network power usage and finally, network latency ensures the packet reachability with the requested traffic load. This research also considers a new parameter of "Network Energy Usage" to ensure the high performance and the low power usage. Moreover, we have considered two possible network configurations of 65K cores and 1M cores analysis to ensure the superiority of our network for the exa-scale system.

Keywords: Interconnection Network, Hierarchical Flattened Butterfly Network, Estimation of Power Consumption, Dynamic Communication Performance, Energy Usage.