

Unzipping Baskets with TBB

Zhe Zhang

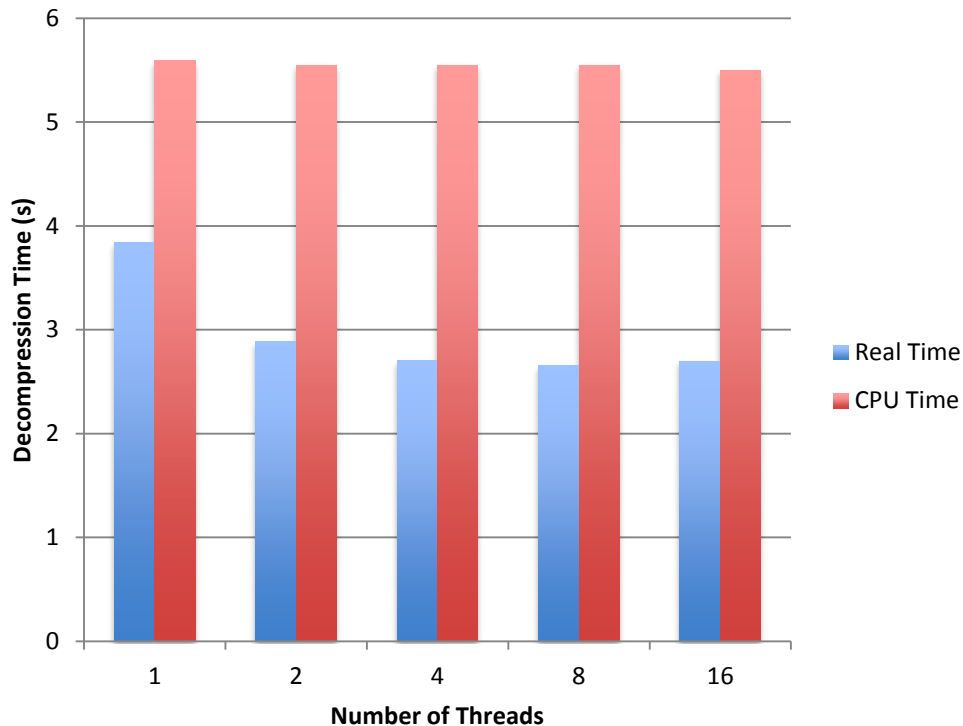
University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Agenda

- Motivation
- Introduction of TBB
- Implementation
- Thoughts on Improvement
- Future work

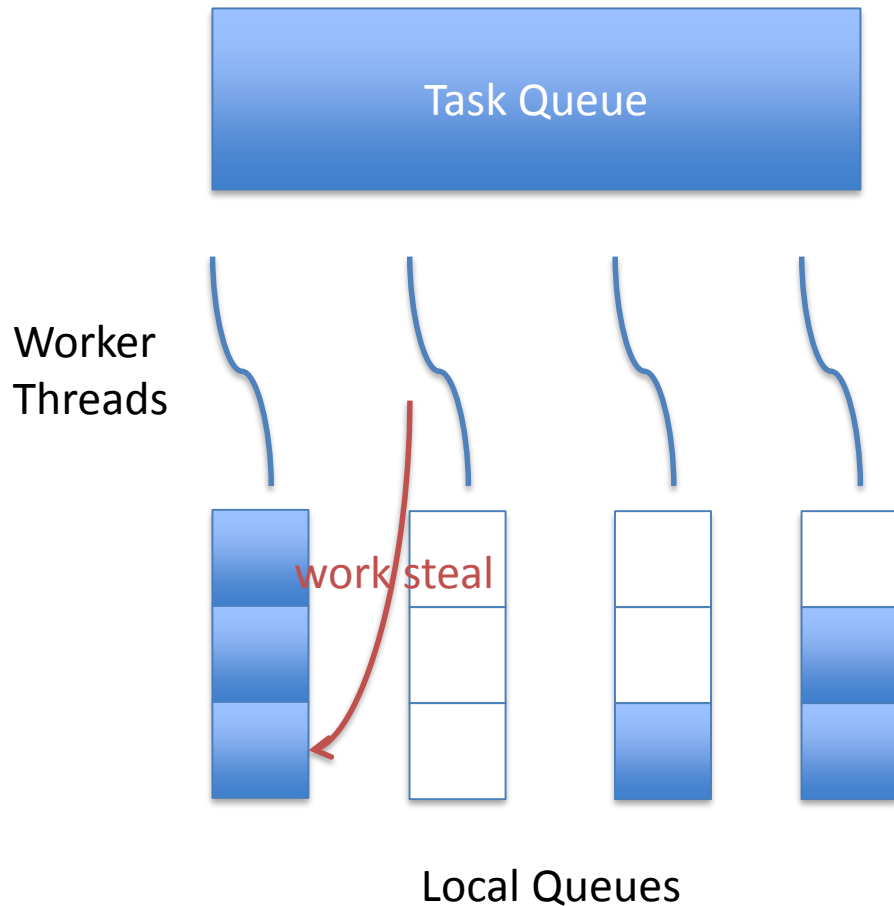
Motivation

Decompression of pthread



- The experiment was run on 4-core VM.
- Pthread does not linearly scale decompression speed.
- Decompressing threads are competed for lock to update buffers and its status.

Thread Building Block (TBB)



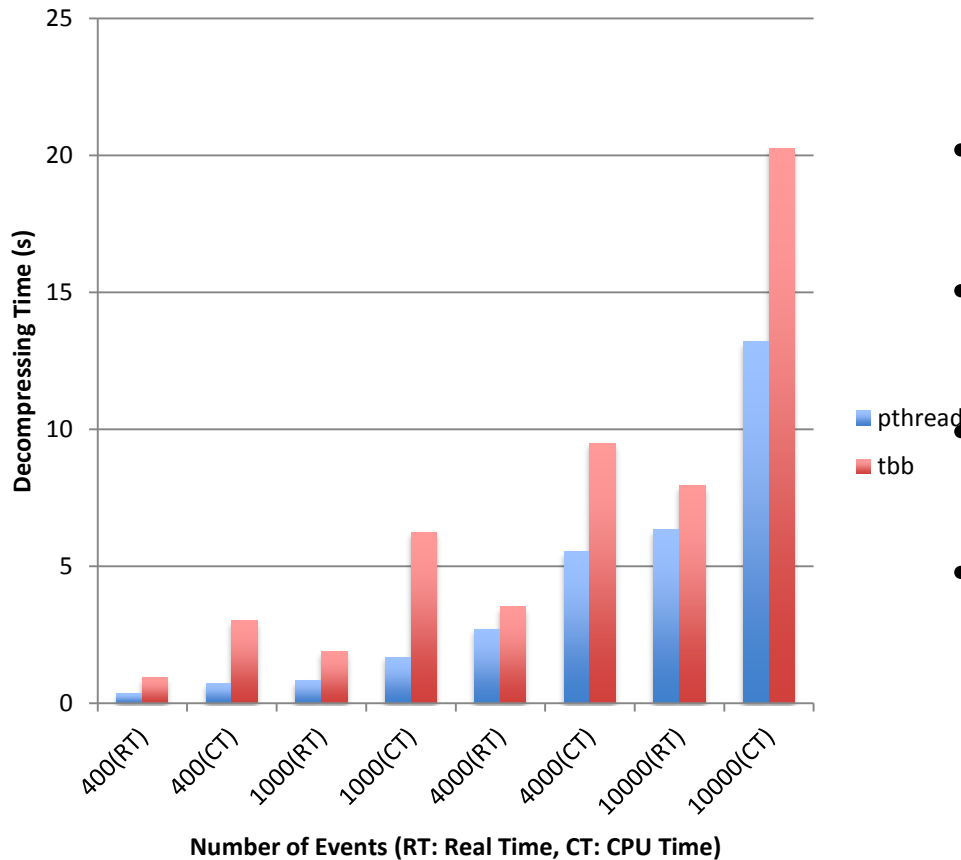
- TBB is a C++ template designed by Intel for parallel programming on multicore processors.
- It adopts work stealing mechanism.

Implementation

- Each task is dedicated to decompressing a single basket.
- Using unlimited cache to hold unzipped buffers.
 - Removed (*fTotalUnzipBytes* < *fUnzipBufferSize*)
- Creating TBB tasks when cache miss happens in the main thread.

Performance between Pthread and TBB

Comparison between Pthread and TBB



- The experiment was run on 4-core VM.
- Current implementation of TBB is slower than Pthread.
- Benchmark with more events seem close the gap.
- 4000 Events: 1.71x CPU Time
10000 Events: 1.54x CPU Time

Thoughts on Improvement(I)

- In Pthread implementation, the main thread decompress baskets in three scenarios:
 - Basket size is too small (< 256 bytes)
 - Basket size is too large ($> 4 * fUnzipBufferSize$)
 - Cache miss occurs
- In TBB, a task could compact multiple small baskets together.

Thoughts on Improvement(II)

- In Pthread implementation, when cache miss happens, a background thread pick up a zipped basket to work on.
- In TBB, when cache miss happens, UnzipCacheTBB function repeatedly creates tasks for the same baskets.
- Need to find a good spot for the function to avoid unnecessary task overhead.

Thoughts on Improvement(III)

- In Pthread implementation, the background threads pick up the baskets which are close to the requested basket (determined by `fLastReadPos`).
- In TBB, tasks are randomly appended to the queue, executing sequence is undetermined.

Future Work

- Dynamically assign baskets to a task.
- Minimizing the number of tasks created.
- Assigning different priorities to different tasks.

Questions ?