

# Optimal Scheduling for UET-UCT Grids Into Fixed Number of Processors

Theodore Andronikos, Nectarios Koziris,  
George Papakonstantinou and Panayiotis Tsanakas  
National Technical University of Athens  
Dept. of Electrical and Computer Engineering  
Computer Science Division  
Zografou Campus, Zografou 15773, Greece  
e-mail: {tedandr, nkoziris, papakon}@cslab.ece.ntua.gr

## Abstract

*The  $n$ -dimensional grid is one of the most representative patterns of data flow in parallel computation. Many scientific algorithms, which require nearest neighbor communication in a lattice space, are modeled by a task graph with the properties of a simple or enhanced grid. In this paper we consider an enhanced model of the  $n$ -dimensional grid by adding extra diagonal edges and allowing unequal boundaries for each dimension. First, we calculate the optimal makespan for the generalized UET-UCT (Unit Execution Time – Unit Communication Time) grid topology and, then, we establish the minimum number of processors required, to achieve the optimal makespan. We present the optimal time schedule, using unbounded and bounded number of processors, without allowing task duplication. This paper proves that UET-UCT scheduling of generalized  $n$ -dimensional grids into fixed number of processors is low complexity tractable.*

## 1 Introduction

Task scheduling is one of the most important and difficult problems in parallel systems. Since the general scheduling problem is known to be NP-complete (see Ullman [15]), researchers have given attention to other methods such as heuristics, approximation algorithms etc. In their paper Papadimitriou and Yannakakis [13] proved the intractability of the general scheduling problem of a task graph with arbitrary communication and computation times and proposed a clever heuristic with guaranteed worst performance twice the optimum makespan. In addition to this, Gerasoulis and Yang have proposed in [10], [17] the Dominant Sequence Clustering, a low complexity heuristic for general task graph scheduling, which is based on the critical path of tasks. On the other

hand, by restricting the general scheduling problem to instances with simple properties, we may come up with tractable solutions. For example, Jung et al. in [9] have presented a polynomial algorithm that finds the optimal makespan when the communication cost is constant and task duplication is allowed.

When both computation and communication times are restricted to have unit time length, it is known that scheduling general UET-UCT graphs with bounded number of processors is NP-complete, as Rayward-Smith proved in [14], or Picouleau in [13] by reduction from the unbounded UET-UCT instance. Even the case of unlimited processors, when no task duplication is allowed, is in general polynomially intractable [13]. On the other hand, using task duplication, Colin et Chretienne in [8] have presented a polynomial optimal schedule for arbitrary task graphs with UET and SCT (Small Communication Times, thus including UCT). Since the arbitrary task graph scheduling with UET-UCT and no duplication with unlimited processors is NP-complete, researchers have focused on special cases of DAGs. In [6] Chretienne presented an algorithm linear in the cardinality of the vertices of the graph, for optimal makespan on SCT in-trees and out-trees (thus covering UCT). In addition to this, there exist polynomial optimal solutions for Series-Parallel digraphs, bipartite graphs and trees with UCT as surveyed in [7].

This paper solves the problem of UET-UCT scheduling for task graphs having the form of a grid, on bounded number of processors, assuming no duplication. Grids and particularly generalized grids are typical task graphs, which model most of the signal processing algorithms and linear algebra methods such as matrix multiplication, LU decomposition etc. Although the general UET-UCT task graph scheduling problem into fixed number of processors is NP-complete, we restrict ourselves to grids which, as we prove, have low

complexity tractable schedules. We extend the simple grid model of [4] by considering generalized n-dimensional grids. In [1], [2] we have proved that the problem of time and space scheduling for generalized grids is has a polynomial time closed formula solution, when unbounded number of processors are available. We have calculated the *optimal makespan* for UET-UCT grids and *optimal number of processors*, i.e., the minimum number of processors required to achieve the optimal makespan. In this paper we extend the scheduling strategy presented in [1],[2] by considering bounded number of processors. We present an optimal time and space scheduling policy for UET-UCT grids. Our schedule partitions the vertices of the grid into disjoint sets that lie on a family of parallel hyperplanes. Each hyperplane contains vertices, which are executed on different processors at the same time if unlimited processors are available. Since the number of available processors is less than the cardinality of vertices in most of the hyperplanes (“large hyperplanes”), we use a folding strategy for space scheduling. If m processors are available, we use shifts of m vertices for each execution step. Our method is based on the fact that for every “large” hyperplane, there are m vertices available for execution, which are ancestors of m already executed points of a previous hyperplane.

The paper is organized as follows: In Section 2 we give the notation and some definitions and in Section 3 we present the optimal UET-UCT makespan for n-dimensional generalized grids and the minimum number of processors adequate for the optimal makespan. In Section 4 we establish a tight lower bound for optimal makespan for UET-UCT grids when the number of processors is fixed and a polynomial scheduling strategy that realizes this lower bound, and, thus, is optimal. Finally, in Section 5 we present an illustrative example of a 2-D and a 3-D grid optimally scheduled on unbounded and fixed number of processors.

## 2 Preliminary Concepts

### 2.1. Notation

In the rest of the paper the following notation is used:

- $N$  is the set of non negative integers (naturals).
- $n$  is the dimension of the grid.
- $G_U$  is the n-dimensional grid with terminal point  $U=(u_1, \dots, u_n)$ .

### 2.2. Basic Concepts

The directed edges of a grid represent **precedence constraints** that have to be satisfied in order to correctly complete the tasks represented by the vertices. The formal definition of the schedule must reflect our intuition that a vertex  $\mathbf{j}$  correctly begins its execution at instant  $k$  iff *all*

the vertices  $\mathbf{i} \in \text{IN}(\mathbf{j})$  have completed their execution and communicated their results (if needed) to  $\mathbf{j}$  by that moment.

- The **initial segment** of  $N^n$  with **terminal point**  $U=(u_1, \dots, u_n)+N^n$ , denoted  $N_U$ , is the set  $\{(k_1, \dots, k_n)+N^n \mid 0+k_i+u_i, 1+i+n\}$ .
- In case  $n=1$ , the initial segment  $\{k+N \mid 0+k+u\}$  is denoted  $N_u$ .
- Let  $\mathbf{e}_i$  be  $(0, \dots, 0, \dots, 1, \dots, 0)$ ,  $1+i+n$ . The (n-dimensional) grid vector set, denoted GVS, is the set  $\{\mathbf{d}=(d_1, \dots, d_n)+N^n \mid \mathbf{d}=\lambda_1\mathbf{e}_1+ \dots +\lambda_n\mathbf{e}_n, \text{ where } \lambda_i \in \{0, 1\} + \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i+0\}$ .

**Definition 2.1.** The generalized n-dimensional grid with terminal point  $U$ , denoted  $G_U$ , is the DAG with vertices the set  $N_U$  and directed edges the set  $\{(\mathbf{i}, \mathbf{j})+N_U^2 \mid \mathbf{j}=\mathbf{i}+\mathbf{d}, \mathbf{d} \in \text{GVS}\}$ . ■

**Definition 2.2.** We impose a **linear ordering** among the points of  $N_U$ , which we call **lexicographic ordering**. Let  $\mathbf{i}=(m_1, \dots, m_n)$  and  $\mathbf{j}=(k_1, \dots, k_n)$  be two points of  $N_U$ . We say that  $\mathbf{i}$  is less than  $\mathbf{j}$  and we write  $\mathbf{i} < \mathbf{j}$  iff  $m_r+k_r$  for some  $r, 1+r+n$ , and, if  $r+1, m_i=k_i, 1+i+r-1$ . ■

In the rest of the paper we use the lexicographic ordering of the vertices, i.e., when we write  $\mathbf{i} < \mathbf{j}$ , we mean that  $\mathbf{i}$  is lexicographically less than  $\mathbf{j}$ .

**Definition 2.3.** For every vertex  $\mathbf{j}$  of a grid  $G_U$ , we define the following sets:

- (1)  $\text{IN}(\mathbf{j}) = \{\mathbf{i}+N_U \mid \mathbf{j}=\mathbf{i}+\mathbf{d}, \text{ where } \mathbf{d} \in \text{GVS}\}$ , and
- (2)  $\text{OUT}(\mathbf{j}) = \{\mathbf{i}+N_U \mid \mathbf{i}=\mathbf{j}+\mathbf{d}, \text{ where } \mathbf{d} \in \text{GVS}\}$ . ■

**Definition 2.4.** A **schedule** for the grid  $G_U$ , denoted  $S(G_U)$ , is an ordered couple (TIME, PROC), where TIME and PROC are the **time** and **processor schedules**, respectively, defined as follows:

- (1) TIME is a function from  $N_U$  onto  $N_k$ , for some  $k+N$ , such that:

TIME( $\mathbf{j}$ )= $t + p$  the execution of task  $\mathbf{j}$  begins at moment  $t$ , and

- (2) PROC is a function from  $N_U$  onto  $N_m$ , for some  $m+N$ , such that:

PROC( $\mathbf{j}$ )= $r + c$  task  $\mathbf{j}$  is assigned to processor  $r$ , with the additional requirement

- (3)  $\forall \mathbf{i} < \mathbf{j} \in \text{IN}(\mathbf{j})$  TIME( $\mathbf{j}$ )  $\geq$  TIME( $\mathbf{i}$ ) +  $p$ , where:  
TIME( $\mathbf{i}$ ) +  $p + c$ ,  $\forall \mathbf{i} < \mathbf{j}$

$p$  is the processing time and  $c$  the communication delay. ■

**Remark 2.1.**

- (1) In UET-UCT grids we assume  $p=1$  and  $c=1$ .
- (2) Condition (3) is necessary in order to ensure the **validity** of the schedule, i.e., that the precedence constraints are respected. □





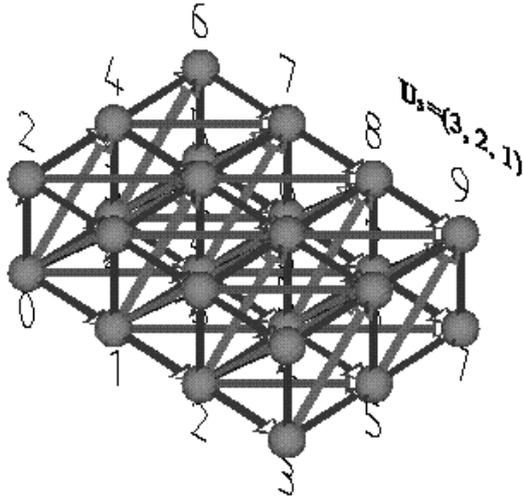


Figure 3.3. Execution Time for  $G_{U_3}$ .

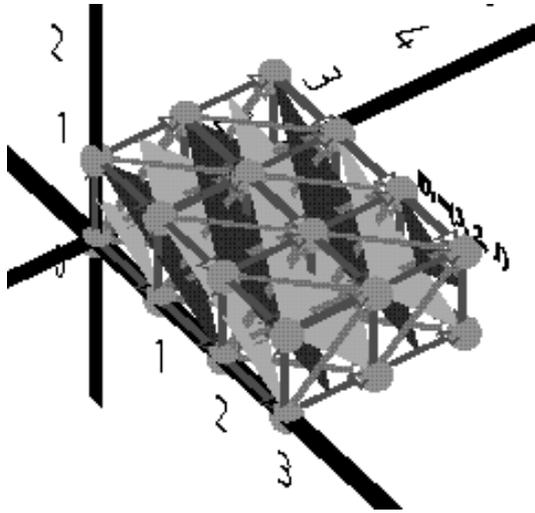


Figure 3.4. An optimal scheduling of  $G_{U_3}$ .

## 4 UET-UCT Grids & Fixed Number of Processors

### 4.1. Lower and Upper Bounds for the Optimal Makespan

In this section we establish lower and upper bounds for the optimal time schedule under the assumption that the number of processors is fixed. In the rest of this section we denote  $m$  the number of processors.

In the rest of the paper we assume that for the terminal point  $U=(u_1, \dots, u_n)$  of the  $n$ -dimensional UET-UCT grid  $G_U$  we have  $u_1 \geq u_2 \geq \dots \geq u_n$ . We can do that without any loss of generality because for every grid  $G_U$ , with terminal point  $U=(u_1, \dots, u_n)$ , there exists an isomorphic grid  $G_{U'}$  in

normal form with terminal point  $U=(u_1, \dots, u_n)$ , where  $(u_1, \dots, u_n)$  is a permutation of  $(u_1, \dots, u_n)$ . This assumption will greatly facilitate the statement of the subsequent results of this paper, regarding the UET-UCT case.

**Lemma 4.1.** Let  $G_U$  be a UET-UCT grid with terminal point  $U=(u_1, \dots, u_n)$  such that  $u_1 \geq u_2 \geq \dots \geq u_n$ . Let  $j_1 < \dots < j_p < \dots < j_{|+^1_{k+1}|+1}$  and  $j_1 < \dots < j_q < j_{q+1} < \dots < j_{|+^1_{k+1}|+1}$  be the index points of  $+^1_k$  and  $+^1_{k+1}$ , respectively,  $0+k+1^1_U$ , where  $j_q = j_p + e_1$  and  $j_p + e_1 \in N_U$ . Then, the following hold:

$$(1) \quad q = \left| +^1_{k+1} \right| + 1 \geq p,$$

$$(2) \quad 1 \bigcup_{k+1}^{+^1_{k+1}|+1} 1 j_k \bigcap_{k+1}^{+^1_{k+1}|+1} 1 + 1 j_1 \bigcap_{k+1}^{+^1_{k+1}|+1} 1 j_p, \text{ and}$$

$$(3) \quad 1 \bigcup_{k+1}^{+^1_{k+1}|+1} 1 j_k \bigcap_{k+1}^{+^1_{k+1}|+1} 1 + 1. \quad \square$$

The above Lemma says that any point  $j$  of  $+^1_{k+1}$  either depends on the point  $i=j-e_1$  of  $+^1_k$  or it does not depend on any point of  $+^1_k$  at all. Hence, the execution of  $j$  can begin at moment  $t+1$ , if the execution of  $i=j-e_1$  can begin at moment  $t$ , regardless of whether any point of  $+^1_k$  other than  $i$  began its execution at  $t$  (see Figure 4.1).

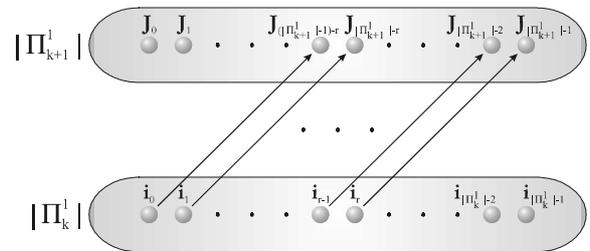


Figure 4.1. The Dependency Relation of  $+^k$  and  $+^k_{k+1}$ .

### 4.2. The Scheduling Strategy

What we have shown so far suggests the following optimal scheduling strategy:

Let  $j_1 < \dots < j_{p+1} < \dots < j_{|+^1_{k+1}|+1}$  and  $j_1 < \dots < j_{|+^1_{k+1}|+1}$  be the index points of  $+^1_k$  and  $+^1_{k+1}$ , respectively,  $0+k+1^1_U$ , and let  $j_{|+^1_{k+1}|+1} = i_r + e_1$ . Suppose

that at moment  $t$  the lexicographically first  $p$  points of  $\Pi_k^1$   $\mathbf{i}_{i_1} < \dots < \mathbf{i}_{i_2}$  are computed. We examine the following cases:

- >  $p-1 > r$ , where  $\mathbf{j}_{|\Pi_{k>1}^1|>1} = \mathbf{j}_{i_1}^1$  and  $\mathbf{j}_{i_2}^1$  is undefined. Then **Lemma 4.1** asserts that at moment  $t+1$  the first  $((|\Pi_{k>1}^1|-1)-r)+p > p$  (obviously  $r > |\Pi_{k>1}^1|$ ) points  $\mathbf{j}_{i_1} < \dots < \mathbf{j}_{i_2}$  of  $\Pi_{k>1}^1$  are available for execution.
- >  $p-1 > r$ , where  $\mathbf{j}_{|\Pi_{k>1}^1|>1} = \mathbf{j}_{i_1}^1$  and  $\mathbf{j}_{i_2}^1$  is undefined. Then **Lemma 4.1** asserts that at moment  $t+1$  all the points of  $\Pi_{k>1}^1$  are available for execution.

The conclusion is that either **at least**  $p$  points are available for execution, or **all** the points of  $\Pi_{k>1}^1$  are available for execution at moment  $t+1$ .

Utilizing the aforementioned optimal scheduling strategy, we derive the optimal makespan for any UET-UCT grid, as stated in the following Theorem:

**Theorem 4.1.** Let  $G_U$  be a UET-UCT grid with terminal point  $\mathbf{U}=(u_1, \dots, u_n)$  such that  $u_1 > u_2 > \dots > u_n$ , let  $m$  be the number of processors and let  $\text{TIME}_{m\text{-OPT}}$  be an optimal time schedule for  $G_U$ . Then the following hold:

$$\begin{aligned}
 > \text{TIME}_{m\text{-OPT}}(\mathbf{U}) > r > 1 > \frac{\sum_{k>r}^{L_k > r} |\Pi_k^1|}{m} > r > 2r > \frac{\sum_{k>r}^{L_k > r} |\Pi_k^1|}{m} > 1, \\
 > M_{\text{TIME}_{m\text{-OPT}}} > r > 1 > \frac{\sum_{k>r}^{L_k > r} |\Pi_k^1|}{m} > r > 1 > 2r > \frac{\sum_{k>r}^{L_k > r} |\Pi_k^1|}{m} > 1,
 \end{aligned}$$

where  $r$  is the least natural such that  $|\Pi_j^1| > m$ .  $\square$

## 5 Case Study

Consider the grids  $G_{U_2}$  and  $G_{U_3}$ , of **Examples 3.1** and **3.2**, with terminal points  $\mathbf{U}_2=(4, 3)$  and  $\mathbf{U}_3=(3, 2, 1)$ , respectively. The maximal coordinate of both terminal points is the first. The grids  $G_{U_2}$  and  $G_{U_3}$  are partitioned into the hyperplanes  $\Pi_k^i$ , whose cardinality is depicted in Table 2 and Table 3, respectively. Incidentally, one can also see that their optimal makespan is 10 and 9, respectively, when unbounded number of processors is available.

Table 2. The cardinality of  $\Pi_k^1$  for  $G_{U_2}$ .

Hyperplane	Cardinality
0	1
1	1
2	2
3	2
4	3
5	2
6	3
7	2
8	2
9	1
10	1

Table 3. The cardinality of  $\Pi_k^1$  for  $G_{U_3}$ .

Hyperplane	Cardinality
0	1
1	1
2	3
3	3
4	4
5	4
6	3
7	3
8	1
9	1

If we have only 2 processors available, then the following Table 4 and Table 5 depict the optimal time schedule for the grids  $G_{U_2}$  and  $G_{U_3}$ , respectively, based on the analysis of Section 4.

Table 4. The optimal UET-UCT schedule for  $G_{U_2}$ .

	$P_0$	$P_1$
<b>0</b>	(0, 0)	
<b>1</b>	(1, 0)	
<b>2</b>	(2, 0)	(0, 1)
<b>3</b>	(3, 0)	(1, 1)
<b>4</b>	(4, 0)	(2, 1)
<b>5</b>	(0, 2)	(3, 1)
<b>6</b>	(1, 2)	(4, 1)
<b>7</b>	(2, 2)	(0, 3)
<b>8</b>	(3, 2)	(1, 3)
<b>9</b>	(4, 2)	(2, 3)
<b>10</b>		(3, 3)
<b>11</b>		(4, 3)

## 6 Conclusion

In this paper we have proved that UET-UCT scheduling of task graphs having the form of  $n$ -

dimensional generalized grids is not only low complexity tractable but it also has a general solution expressed with a closed formula for both time and processors. We have presented an optimal strategy for both time and processor scheduling of these grids with unit communication delays, having bounded number of processors. The proposed scheduling strategy for these UET-UCT graphs is proved to achieve the optimal makespan.

Table 5. The optimal UET-UCT schedule for  $G_{U_3}$ .

	$P_0$	$P_1$
<b>0</b>	(0, 0, 0)	
<b>1</b>	(1, 0, 0)	
<b>2</b>	(2, 0, 0)	(0, 1, 0)
<b>3</b>	(0, 0, 1)	(1, 1, 0)
<b>4</b>	(1, 0, 1)	(3, 0, 0)
<b>5</b>	(2, 0, 1)	(2, 1, 0)
<b>6</b>	(0, 1, 1)	(0, 2, 0)
<b>7</b>	(3, 0, 1)	(3, 1, 0)
<b>8</b>	(1, 1, 1)	(1, 2, 0)
<b>9</b>	(2, 1, 1)	(2, 2, 0)
<b>10</b>	(0, 2, 1)	(3, 2, 0)
<b>11</b>	(1, 2, 1)	(3, 1, 1)
<b>12</b>	(2, 2, 1)	
<b>13</b>	(3, 2, 1)	

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