# Bridging the gap between flat and hierarchical low-rank matrix formats 

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## Context



Linear system $A x=b$
Often a keystone in scientific computing applications (discretization of PDEs, step of an optimization method, ...)

Direct methods
Factorize $A=L U$ and solve $L U x=b$
(;) Numerically reliable
(:) Computational cos $\dagger$

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## Objective:

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Large scale applications

- Target size is $n \sim 10^{9}$ for sparse $\Rightarrow m \sim 10^{6}$ for dense
- $O\left(m^{2}\right)$ storage complexity and $O\left(m^{3}\right)$ flop complexity $m \sim 10^{6} \Rightarrow$ TeraBytes of storage and ExaFlops of computation!
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- Increasingly large numbers of cores available
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Large scale systems
- Increasingly large numbers of cores available
$\Rightarrow$ Need to design parallel algorithms
These two objectives are not always compatible


## Outline

1. Introduction

- The $\mathcal{H}$ format: very good complexity
- The BLR format: very good parallelism

2. Motivation

- Why we need a new format to bridge the gap

3. The MBLR format

- Complexity analysis
- Numerical results

4. Conclusion

## Preprint

R. P. Amestoy, A. Buttari, J.-Y. L'Excellent, and T. Mary, Bridging the gap between flat and hierarchical low-rank matrix formats: the multilevel BLR format, submitted (2018).

## Introduction

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Storage savings: $b^{2} / 2 b k=b / 2 k$
Similar flops savings when used in most linear algebra kernels

## Low-rank blocks

Most matrices are not low-rank in general but in some applications they exhibit low-rank blocks


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How to choose a good block partitioning of the matrix?

## $\mathcal{H}$ and BLR matrices



$$
\mathcal{H} \text {-matrix }
$$

- Nearly linear complexity
- Complex, hierarchical structure


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BLR matrix

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BLR is a comprise between complexity and performance:

- Small blocks $\Rightarrow$ can fit on single shared-memory node
- No global order between blocks $\Rightarrow$ flexible data distribution
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Can we find an even better comprise?

Motivation

## Computing the BLR complexity

Assume all off-diagonal blocks are low-rank. Then:


$$
\left.\begin{array}{rl}
\text { Storage } & =\operatorname{cost}_{L R} * n b_{L R}+\operatorname{cost}_{F R} * n b_{F R} \\
& =O(b r) * O\left(\left(\frac{m}{b}\right)^{2}\right)+O\left(b^{2}\right) * O\left(\frac{m}{b}\right) \\
& =O\left(m^{2} r / b+m b\right) \\
& =O\left(m^{3 / 2} \mathbf{r}\right. \\
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$$

FlopLU $=\operatorname{cost}_{\text {getrf }} * n b_{\text {getrf }}+$ cost trsm $* n b_{\text {trsm }}+\operatorname{costgemm} * n b_{\text {gemm }}$

$$
\begin{aligned}
& =O\left(b^{3}\right) * O\left(\frac{m}{b}\right)+O\left(b^{2} r\right) * O\left(\left(\frac{m}{b}\right)^{2}\right)+O\left(b r^{2}\right) * O\left(\left(\frac{m}{b}\right)^{3}\right) \\
& =O\left(m b^{2}+m^{2} r+m^{3} r^{2} / b^{2}\right) \\
& =\mathbf{O}\left(\mathbf{m}^{2} \mathbf{r}\right) \text { for } b=(m r)^{1 / 2}
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Result holds if a constant number of off-diag. blocks is full-rank.
國 P. Amestoy, A. Buttari, J.-Y. L'Excellent, and T. Mary, On the Complexity of the Block Low-Rank Multifrontal Factorization, SIAM J. Sci. Comput. (2017).

From dense to sparse: nested dissection


## From dense to sparse: nested dissection




Proceed recursively to compute separator tree

Factorizing a sparse matrix amounts to factorizing a sequence of dense matrices

$$
\Rightarrow
$$

sparse complexity is directly derived from dense one

## Nested dissection complexity formulas

2D: $\quad \mathcal{C}_{\text {sparse }}=\sum_{\ell=0}^{\log N} 4^{\ell} \mathcal{C}_{\text {dense }}\left(\frac{N}{2^{\ell}}\right)$

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## Nested dissection complexity formulas

2D: $\quad \mathcal{C}_{\text {sparse }}=\sum_{\ell=0}^{\log N} 4^{\ell} \mathcal{C}_{\text {dense }}\left(\frac{N}{2^{\ell}}\right) \quad \rightarrow$ common ratio $2^{2-\beta}$
3D: $\quad \mathcal{C}_{\text {sparse }}=\sum_{\ell=0}^{\log N} 8^{\ell} \mathcal{C}_{\text {dense }}\left(\frac{N^{2}}{4^{\ell}}\right) \quad \rightarrow$ common ratio $2^{3-2 \beta}$

| Assume $\mathcal{C}_{\text {dense }}=O\left(m^{\beta}\right)$. Then: |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :---: |
| 2D |  |  | 3 C |  |
| $\mathcal{C}_{\text {sparse }}(n)$ |  |  |  |  |
| $\mathcal{C}_{\text {sparse }}(n)$ |  |  |  |  |
| $\beta>2$ | $O\left(n^{\beta / 2}\right)$ | $\beta>1.5$ | $O\left(n^{2 \beta / 3}\right)$ |  |
| $\beta=2$ | $O(n \log n)$ | $\beta=1.5$ | $O(n \log n)$ |  |
| $\beta<2$ | $O(n)$ | $\beta<1.5$ | $O(n)$ |  |

$\Rightarrow$ Key motivation: $\mathcal{C}_{\text {dense }}<O\left(m^{2}\right)$ (2D) or $O\left(m^{3 / 2}\right)$ (3D)
is enough to get optimal sparse complexity!

|  | Storage |  |  |  | Flop LU |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  | $\mathcal{C}_{\text {dense }}$ |  | $\mathcal{C}_{\text {sparse }}$ |  | $\mathcal{C}_{\text {dense }}$ | $\mathcal{C}_{\text {sparse }}$ |  |
|  |  | 2D | 3D |  | 2D |  |  |
| FR | $O\left(m^{2}\right)$ | $O(n \log n)$ | $O\left(n^{4 / 3}\right)$ | $O\left(m^{3}\right)$ | $O\left(n^{3 / 2}\right)$ | $O\left(n^{2}\right)$ |  |
| BLR | $O\left(m^{3 / 2}\right)$ | $O(n)$ | $O(n \log n)$ | $O\left(m^{2}\right)$ | $O(n \log n)$ | $O\left(n^{4 / 3}\right)$ |  |
| $\mathcal{H}$ | $O(m \log m)$ | $O(n)$ | $O(n)$ | $O\left(m \log ^{2} m\right)$ | $O(n)$ | $O(n)$ |  |

Motivation:

- 2D flop and 3D storage complexity: can we find a simple way to improve just a little $\mathcal{C}_{\text {dense }}$ ?
- 3D flop complexity: still a large gap between BLR and $\mathcal{H}$

We propose a multilevel BLR format to bridge the gap

The MBLR format

Assume all off-diagonal blocks are low-rank. Then:

$$
\text { Storage }=\operatorname{cost}_{L R} * n b_{L R}+\operatorname{cost}_{B L R} * n b_{B L R}
$$



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\begin{aligned}
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Similarly, we can prove:
FlopLU $=\mathbf{O}\left(\boldsymbol{m}^{5 / 3} \mathbf{r}^{4 / 3}\right)$ for $b=\left(m^{2} r\right)^{1 / 3}$
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Result holds if a constant number of off-diag. blocks is BLR.

|  |  | FR | BLR | $2-B L R$ | $\ldots$ | $\mathcal{H}$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| storage | dense | $O\left(m^{2}\right)$ | $O\left(m^{1.5}\right)$ | $O\left(m^{1.33}\right)$ | $\ldots$ | $O(m \log m)$ |
|  | sparse | $O\left(n^{1.33}\right)$ | $O(n \log n)$ | $O(n)$ | $\ldots$ | $O(n)$ |
| flop LU | dense | $O\left(m^{3}\right)$ | $O\left(m^{2}\right)$ | $O\left(m^{1.66}\right)$ | $\ldots$ | $O\left(m \log ^{3} m\right)$ |
|  | sparse | $O\left(n^{2}\right)$ | $O\left(n^{1.33}\right)$ | $O\left(n^{1.11}\right)$ | $\ldots$ | $O(n)$ |

## Multilevel BLR complexity

## Main result

For $b=m^{\ell /(\ell+1)} r^{1 /(\ell+1)}$, the $\ell$-level complexities are:

$$
\begin{aligned}
\text { Storage } & =\mathbf{O}\left(\mathbf{m}^{(\ell+2) /(\ell+1)} \mathbf{r}^{\ell /(\ell+1)}\right) \\
\text { Flop } L U & =\mathbf{O}\left(\mathbf{m}^{(\ell+3) /(\ell+1)} \mathbf{r}^{2 \ell /(\ell+1)}\right)
\end{aligned}
$$

Proof: by induction. $\square$

- Simple way to finely control the desired complexity
- Block size $b \propto O\left(m^{\ell /(\ell+1)}\right) \ll O(m)$
$\Rightarrow$ may be efficiently processed in shared-memory
- Number of blocks per row/column $\propto O\left(m^{1 /(\ell+1)}\right) \gg O(1)$ $\Rightarrow$ flexibility to distribute data in parallel


## Influence of the number of levels $\ell$



Flop LU


- If $r=O(1)$, can achieve $O(n)$ storage complexity with only two levels and $O(n \log n)$ flop complexity with three levels


## Influence of the number of levels $\ell$



- If $r=O(1)$, can achieve $O(n)$ storage complexity with only two levels and $O(n \log n)$ flop complexity with three levels
- For higher ranks, optimal sparse complexity is not attainable with constant $\ell$ but improvement rate is rapidly decreasing: the first few levels achieve most of the asymptotic gain


## Numerical experiments (Poisson)

## Storage



## Flop LU



- Experimental complexity in relatively good agreement with theoretical one
- Asymptotic gain decreases with levels

Conclusion

A new multilevel format to...

- Finely control desired complexity between BLR's and H's
- Strike a balance between BLR's simplicity and H's complexity
- Trade off $\mathcal{H}$ 's nearly linear dense complexity and still achieve $\mathcal{C}_{\text {sparse }}=O(n)$

Future work: high-performance implementation

- Implementation of the MBLR format in a parallel, algebraic, general purpose sparse solver (e.g. MUMPS)


## Thank you for your attention

Slides and paper available here: personalpages.manchester.ac.uk/staff/theo.mary/

