

Building the LLM model on the supercomputer Fugaku toward the AI for Science



Fujitsu Ltd. Takahide Yoshikawa

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History of our Supercomputer System



Fugaku System





Unit	# of CPUs	Description
CPU	1	Single socket node with HBM2 & Interconnect
CMU	2	CPU Memory Unit: 2x CPU
BoB	16	Bunch of Blades: 8x CMU
Shelf	48	3x BoB
Rack	384	8x Shelf (Front 4, Back 4)
System	158,976	432Racks×384CPU=165,888≠158,976 396Racks are Full, 36Racks are Half(192CPUs)

Fugaku System Specification



Fugaku System			Lunited windson	Megève - Berlin	
# of Rack	432	2 Racks	torent internet de Dubin terrisorie d'Andréener	Arry Derent	
# of Nodes		158,976	6 Nodes	The second secon	Additional Control Con
Total Length of Interconnect Cable		Ì	≧900 km	A rate - A subject - A rate -	Parts Course Carmany Conserve
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Network Ethernet S		Switch	512	1030 km	Accesso acceso
InfiniBand		Switch	58	Portugal Spain Presence 90)0km

Applications of Fugaku



- High Performance Computing

 AI/ML
 for Science
 Accel
 - Computer Simulations:
 Fluid Dynamics, Molecular Dynamics, Electro Magnetic, Quantum Chemistry etc.



Courtesy of RIKEN, Suzuki Motor Corp.



- Accelerating 13B parameter LLM on Fugaku
- Training 400B Japanese tokens in 4 months using 13,824 nodes
- Achieving an average score of 5.5 on the Japanese MT-Bench. This score is the highest among LLM for the Japanese language

 $\overset{{}_{}}{\otimes}$ Started the development of a distributed, parallel training method of LLM on Fugaku

- Achieving solutions specific to Japanese language and developing a generative AI model (Fugaku LLM)
- Developing fine-tuned models target to business and reducing weight for power efficiency

Fugaku-LLM

Develop





Courtesy of Kobe Univ, Honda R&D, RIKEN



1. Characteristics of LLM (Large Language Model) 2. Technology to Accelerate Training 3. Accelerating Techniques for Fugaku LLM 4. Process and Achievements of Fugaku LLM 5. Summary

Large Language Model (LLM)



LLM Mode with A Huge # of Params

Large Datasets

- AI Model for natural language processing
 - Uses: Generating Text, Answering Questions, Summarizing Text, Translation etc.
 - Most of recent LLMs are based on Transformer.



- Models are trained by large datasets.
- A Huge # of parameters are required.

Scaling Laws





- Claiming a power law relationship among
 Accuracy ∞ Computational Complexity, Amount of Data, Parameters
 - Creating **more accurate** models = **Scaling the factors** (Compute, Dataset, Params)
- Various high-accurate models with a huge # of params are proposed.
 - Requiring enormous amount of computing resources

How much resources are required?

1. Huge amount of Computation

- Training of GPT-3 with 175B params
 - 1 month for A100x8,000
- Training of GPT-4 with 1.8T params
 - More than 3 months for A100x20,000
 - 3.2 days for H100x100,000

2. Huge amount of Memory

- Training of GPT-3 with 175B params
 - Storing params (FP16) requires >350GB
 - For training, requires 8 times larger memory = Cannot fit into a single node

Large-scale distributed training is essential. (H100x100,000 needs 150MW=\$124M/year)

model -	#params	SIBI	#toker	IS # accele	
	•			<u> </u>	ng tim
GPT-3 [55]	May-2020	175	300B tokens	-	-
Shard [104]	Jun-2020	600	1T tokens	2048 TPU v3	4 d
Codex [105]	Jul-2021	12	100B tokens	-	-
ERNIE 3.0 [106]	Jul-2021	10	375B tokens	384 V100	-
urassic-1 [107]	Aug-2021	178	300B tokens	800 GPU	-
HyperCLOVA [108]	Sep-2021	82	300B tokens	1024 A100	13.4 d
FLÂN [67]	Sep-2021	137	-	128 TPU v3	60 h
(uan 1.0 [109]	Oct-2021	245	180B tokens	2128 GPU	-
Anthropic [110]	Dec-2021	52	400B tokens	-	-
VebGPT [81]	Dec-2021	175	-	-	-
Gopher [64]	Dec-2021	280	300B tokens	4096 TPU v3	920 h
ERNIE 3.0 Titan [11]] Dec-2021	260	-	-	-
GLaM [112]	Dec-2021	1200	280B tokens	1024 TPU v4	574 h
.aMDA [68]	Jan-2022	137	768B tokens	1024 TPU v3	57.7 d
AT-NLG [113]	Jan-2022	530	270B tokens	4480 80G A100	-
AlphaCode [114]	Feb-2022	41	967B tokens	-	-
nstructGPT [66]	Mar-2022	175	-	-	-
Chinchilla [34]	Mar-2022	70	1.4T tokens	-	-
PaLM [56]	Apr-2022	540	780B tokens	6144 TPU v4	-
AlexaTM [115]	Aug-2022	20	1.3T tokens	128 A100	120 d
parrow [116]	Sep-2022	70	-	64 TPU v3	-
VeLM [117]	Sep-2022	10	300B tokens	128 A100 40G	24 d
J-PaLM [118]	Oct-2022	540	-	512 TPU v4	5 d
lan-PaLM [69]	Oct-2022	540	-	512 TPU v4	37 h
Flan-U-PaLM [69]	Oct-2022	540	-	-	-
GPT-4 [46]	Mar-2023	-	-	-	-
PanGu- Σ [119]	Mar-2023	1085	329B tokens	512 Ascend 910	100 d
PaLM2 [120]	May-2023	16	100B tokens	-	-

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https://arxiv.org/abs/2303.18223



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Three types of Distributed Training



Pros and Cons of the Distributed Types FUJITSU

	Pros	Cons
Data Parallel data0 →	Highly Scalable Easy to Distribute	 Model processing time does not become shorter Large Mini-Batch Problem (If the split data volume is too large, the data becomes homogenized and thus learning accuracy decreases.)
Tensor Parallel	Model processing time becomes shorter Memory usage = 1/N (N=# of nodes)	Frequent Communications Communication and computation cannot be overlapped.
Pipeline Parallel	Model processing time becomes shorter Memory usage = 1/N (N=# of nodes)	Privative of the state of the s

3D Parallelism



- Combining 3 types of parallelism
 - Splitting the Model \rightarrow Tensor + Pipeline Parallelism
 - Splitting the Dataset \rightarrow Data Parallelism
- Typical Combination of Parallelism on GPU clusters
 - Tensor: Keep within a node with multiple GPUs
 - Pipeline: Min # of GPU which has **enough memory to store the model**
 - Data: Make batch size as large as possible (<4M Tokens)
- Frameworks which support 3D parallelism
 - Megatron-LM + PyTorch
 - Megatron-LM <u>https://github.com/NVIDIA/Megatron-LM</u>
 - PyTorch <u>https://pytorch.org/</u>



Pipeline Parallel © 2025 Fujitsu Limited



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Breakdown of GPT Computation Time



Most of LLM computation includes Dense Matrix Multiplication.

 \rightarrow 66% on A64FX (Fugaku), and 49% on A100



Rio Yokota and Shukai Nakamura, https://hpcic-kkf.com/forum/2022/kkf_02/data/yokota_kkf2022-02_v2.pdf

Breakdown of GPT 3D Parallelism

- 90% of time is Parallel Processing
 - Reducing communication time leads to faster processing.
- For Data Parallel and Tensor Parallel Bottleneck = All Reduce Comms.
- For Pipeline Parallel
 Bottleneck = Waiting Time (Bubble)
- → Optimizations are implemented to reduce these bottlenecks.



Parallelization Ratio on Fugaku to train GTP-3 13B Data Parallel=67.2% Tensor Parallel = 2.0% Pipeline Parallel = 18.9% Data : Tensor : Pipeline ≒ 35:1:10

Optimizing Transformer on Fugaku

• The bottlenecks of Transformer:

- Dense Matrix Multiplications
- Network Communications (All Reduce)

Software Layers

Transformer (GPT-x)

Parallelization (Megatron-DeepSpeed)

AI/ML Framework (PyTorch)

Math Libraries

Bottleneck Analysis → Dense Matrix and Network Comms.

Communication Optimizations

Porting PyTorch to Fugaku

Matrix Multiplications Optimizations

Accelerating Matrix Multiplications (1/2) FUJITSU

- Most of LLM consists of two types of matrix multiplications
 - MLP: Large Matrices, which can be covered by BLAS
 - Attention head(<u>B</u>atch <u>M</u>atrix <u>M</u>ul.): Multiple Small Matrix Mul.
 These cannot be efficiently covered by BLAS.

Implemented optimized BMM to accelerate attention head.





Implementation of Batch Matrix Multiplication for Large Language Model Training on A64FX CPUs, Hiroki Tokura et al., COOL Chips 27 © 2025 Fujitsu Limited

Accelerating Matrix Multiplications (2/2) FUJITSU

A64FX has 48cores (4CMG).

Implementation of Batch Matrix Multiplication for Large Language Model Training on A64FX CPUs, Hiroki Tokura et al., COOL Chips 27

- Partitioned a single matrix multiplication into multiple cores.
 - If unsuitably partitioned, the waiting time to sync cores becomes huge.
 - Once the LLM model is fixed, there are only several patterns of matrices. Thus, the best splitting pattern can be determined beforehand.





The patterns how to divide among 12 cores.

Example of how to partitioned to 2 cores (t=2).



Waiting Time

If the size of matrices is not Nx of # of cores, load imbalance between cores occurs. Also, when handling data that is too large for the cache, it results in waiting time.

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- Tofu Interconnect connects Fugaku Nodes. That is 6D Mesh-Torus network (X,Y,Z,A,B,C).
- X and A, Y and B, Z and C are used in a couple. Y-Axis Even though it was partitioned, still the torus structure is retained.



By using X and A axis, the **mesh becomes torus**

X-axis

A-axis



X-Axis

Accelerating All Reduce Comms. (2/2) FUjin

21

- If collective comms. are mapped onto mesh network, congestions will occur at the center.
- To prevent this, **bidirectional torus comms.** are applied.

- In order to secure such comm. paths using 2 axis (X and A, Y and B etc.), finding such a non-overwrapped, unicursal path is critical.
- This is achieved by using a dedicated rank mapping algorithm.







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Training LLM on Fugaku



Fugaku-LLM with 13B parameters

- https://huggingface.co/Fugaku-LLM/Fugaku-LLM-13B
- AI Model Architecture: GPT-2
 - Multiple hyperparameter patterns were publicly available.
- # of layers: 40, Hidden size: 5184, # of attention heads: 36
- Final AI Model Training Period: 4 months (From Dec. to Mar.)
 - Fine Tuning began in Feb.

• # of Nodes: 13,824

Data Parallel288Pipeline Parallel8Tensor Parallel6288(Data) x 8(Pipeline) x 6(Tensor) = 13,824 Nodes

Bug Found#1: Deterioration of LOSS in Tensor Parallel (1/2) FUJITSU

- When training with tensor parallelism, the loss worsens as the training steps progress.
 - At the beginning, both tensor's and pipeline's loss decrease.
 - Tensor's **begins to increase the loss** halfway through.





Bug Found#2: NaN occurs Frequently

- As training steps go, NaN frequently appears in loss.
- Cause: Overflows in activation Function
 - No inf guard was implemented in the optimization codes.

How to debug these?

- Dumping data and states in the model
- Checking for equivalent points in multiple nodes
- Narrowing down using binary search



Pre-training of LLM on Fugaku



- To prevent training from stopping, researchers must stay online. (From Dec. to Jan.)
 - Even if one node goes down, training restarts from the checkpoint.

Arranging a **24-hour shift**, and once stops, researchers restart the process.

- Why do we monitor?
 - Depending on the state of Fugaku and LLM, prompt responses are necessary.
 - Tuning Hyperparameters
 - Responding to crashed nodes
 - Adjusting # of nodes and rank mapping



Optimization Results: x6 Computation Speed and x3 Comm. Speed

Ported the DL framework Megatron-DeepSpeed to Fugaku and Accelerated the small matrix multiplications (BMM) 6x faster (110sec \rightarrow 18sec), due to **the successful partitioning of the matrices** on multiple cores.

1693389241.318550480.fcc.pytorch.y.r1.13_for_a64fx.tar のプロファイル結果							
Name	Self CPU %	Self CPU C	PU total %	CPU total	CPU time avg	# of Calls	
aten::bmm	18.07%	110.819s	18.08%	110.845s	24.055ms	4608	
aten::bmm	18.17%	108.8025	18.17%	108.8325	23.618ms	4608	
aten::bmm	18.53%	110.858s	18.53%	110.890s	24.065ms	4608	
aten::bmm	19.15%	110.5945	19.16%	110.6255	24.007ms	4608	
aten::bmm	18.33%	108.646s	18.34%	108.679s	23.585ms	4608	

1701935794.711074240.fcc.pytorch.y.r1.13_for_a64fx.tar.gz のプロファイル結果						
Name	Self CPU %	Self CPU	PU total %	CPU total	CPU time avg	# of Calls
aten::bmm	3.56%	18.2735	3.57%	18.3025	3.972ms	4608
aten::bmm	3.64%	18.394s	3.64%	18.423s	3.998ms	4608
aten::bmm	3.57%	18.154s	3.57%	18.1855	3.946ms	4608
aten::bmm	3.58%	17.959s	3.59%	17.990s	3.904ms	4608
aten::bmm	3.61%	18.3415	3.62%	18.3735	3.987ms	4608

Accelerated communication performance 3x faster by using **bidirectional torus communications**.







3x Faster

Achievements: LLM for the Japanese Language with 13B params



Fugaku-LLM was trained on **380 billion tokens** using **13,824 nodes** of Fugaku, with about **60% of the training data being Japanese**, combined with English, mathematics, and code. (2 months for pre-training, 2 months for post training)

- Fugaku-LLM is trained from scratch using our own data, so the **entire learning process can be monitored**, which is superior in terms of transparency and safety.
- Fugaku-LLM is the best model among open ones that are developed in Japan.
- The model shows a score of 9.18 in the humanities and social sciences tasks.
- The model will be able to perform natural dialogue based on keigo (honorific speech) and other features of the Japanese language.





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Summary

- Characteristics of LLM
 - Scaling Laws (Computation x Dataset x Params) = High Accuracy
- Distributed Training for LLM
 - Data Parallel, Tensor Parallel and Pipeline Parallel Combination of these = **3D Parallelism**
- Accelerating Techniques for Fugaku LLM
 - Small Matrix Mul.:

Pre-analyze matrix shapes and optimally map on multiple cores \rightarrow 6x faster

- All Reduce: Bidirectional Collective Comms. \rightarrow 3x faster
- Achievements of Fugaku LLM (13B Params)
 - Trained in 4 months using 13,824 nodes
 - Achieved a score of 9.18 in humanities category, which is higher than GPT-4











If you have any questions please get in touch:

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