Speeding up the Pulsar Search Pipeline

Piyush Panchal (SCITAS, EPFL)

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- Motivation: Pulsars help studying extreme physics
- Goal: GPU acceleration to enable full/faster processing





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- De-dispersion for trial DM values
 - Time domain: shifting time signals and adding
 - **Frequency domain**: shifting in fourier domain
- Full search on SMART dataset: ~15000 DM values





Time vs Frequency Domain De-Dispersion



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My contributions to dedisp (github.com/piyushplcr7/dedisp_tests):

- FITS input (SMART data format), optimized reads, handling float input type
- Compatibility with newer CUDA version
- Bug fixes: failing CuFFT calls, incorrect Fourier freq., non integer delay
- Usable CLI similar to Presto

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Next steps:

- Porting to AMD GPUs
- MPI + GPU implementation for full input (~589 GB)
- Integration with the acceleration/jerk search, using FFT directly
- GPU specific optimizations

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	Dedisp (FDD, GPU)	PrestoZL (TDD, GPU)	Presto (TDD, CPU)
1000 DMs	28.95 s	> 139.77 s (800 DM)	8 hrs+
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• Kuma (H100): 15000 DMs, 116.223 s!

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- Acceleration/jerk search: matched filtering in Fourier domain with templates

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- Acceleration/jerk search capture effects from orbital motion of Pulsar
- Parallelizable algorithm, same filters for all de-dispersed time series
- Full search on SMART dataset: ~10000 filters



Existing GPU implementations (CUDA)

- jintaoluo/presto2_on_gpu : 10+ yrs old code (No jerk search)
- chrislaidler/presto : 6+ yrs old code (No jerk search)
- Astro-accelerate
- PrestoZL

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- : Recent, no FDD only TDD. Jerk search implemented

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Progress:

• Extracted Jerk search from Astro-accelerate into a standalone executable

Next steps:

- Further optimizations in Astro-accelerate (naive copy of Presto)
- Exploring PrestoZL
- Porting to AMD GPUs

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	Presto (CPU)				Astro accelerate
kernels	1	2	4	8	GPU
33	0.178	0.137	0.1	0.105	0.304
357	1.318	0.766	0.431	0.268	0.492
1111	4.014	2.272	1.192	0.859	1.233
4221	19.217	9.808	5.501	3.023	4.102
25551	205.56	112.495	68.914	47.432	18.04

Questions?