Performance Analysis

- Predict performance of parallel programs
- Understand barriers to higher performance
- General speedup formula
- Amdahl’s Law
- Gustafson-Barsis’ Law
- Karp-Flatt metric
- Isoefficiency metric

Speedup Formula

$$\text{Speedup} = \frac{\text{Sequential execution time}}{\text{Parallel execution time}}$$

Execution Time Components:

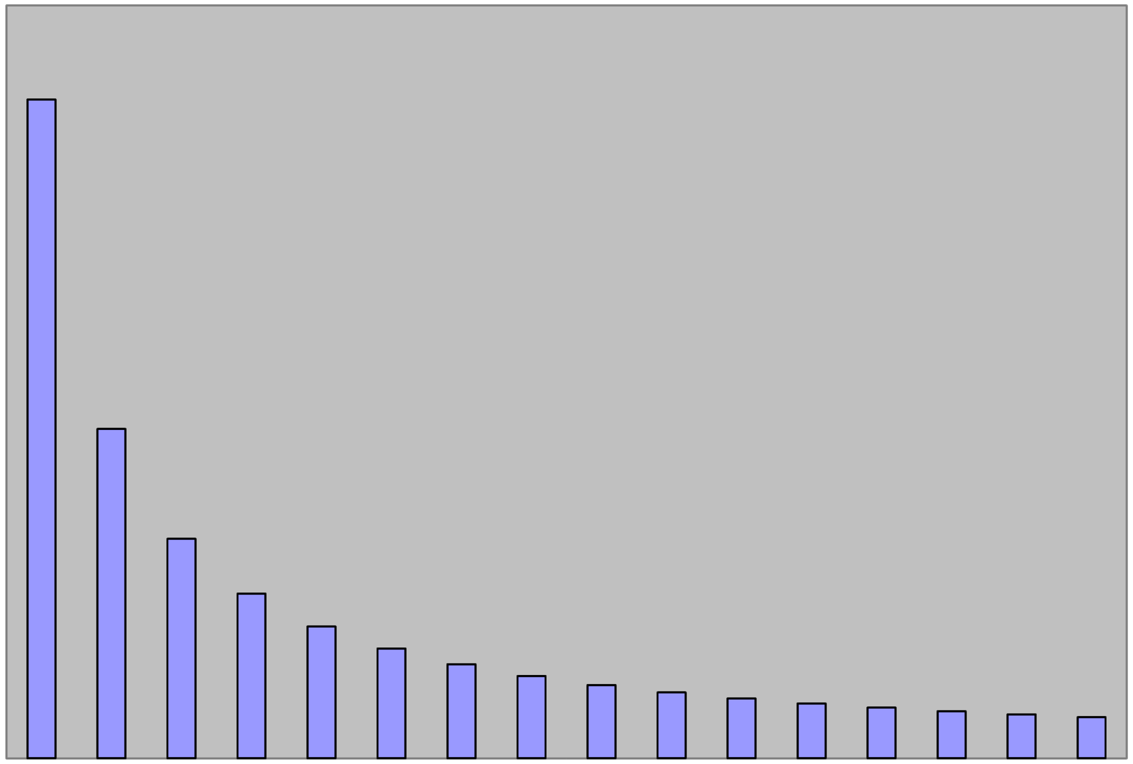
- Inherently sequential computations: $\sigma(n)$
- Potentially parallel computations: $\phi(n)$
- Communication operations: $\kappa(n,p)$

Speedup Expression

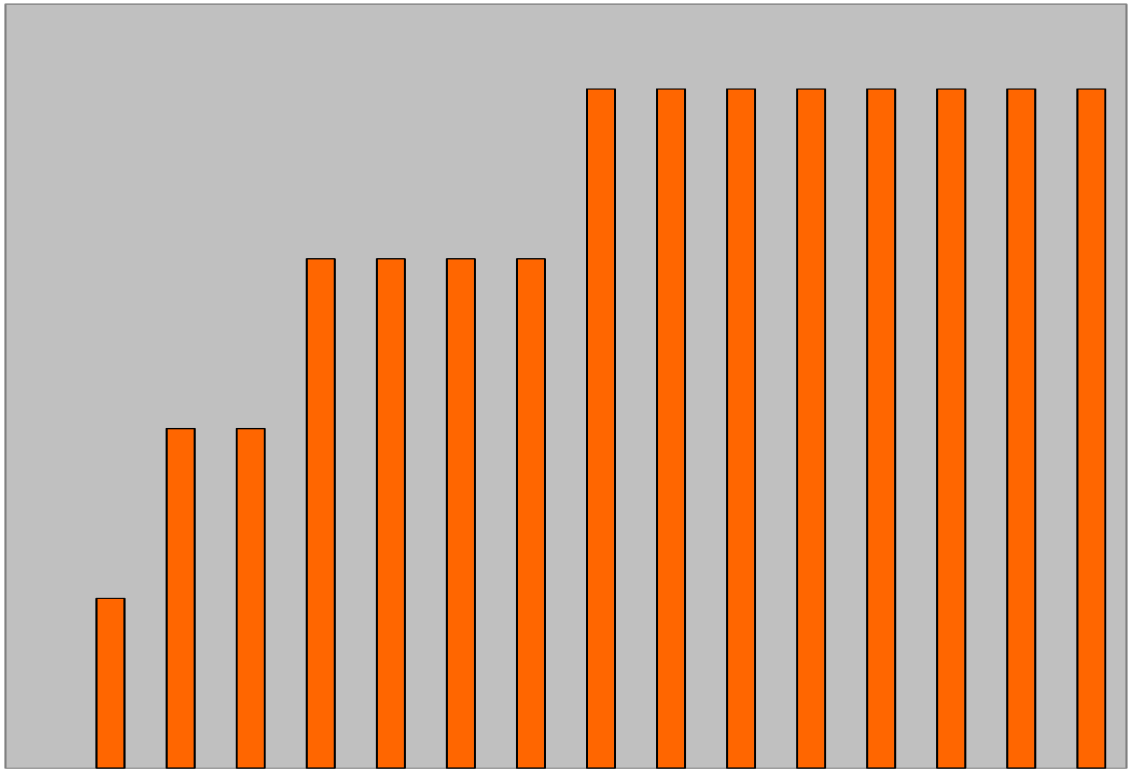
Given the components of the execution time, can develop a formula for the speedup that depends on the size of the problem, *n*, and the number of processors, *p*.

$$\psi(n,p) \leq \frac{\sigma(n)+\phi(n)}{\sigma(n)+\phi(n)/p+\kappa(n,p)}$$

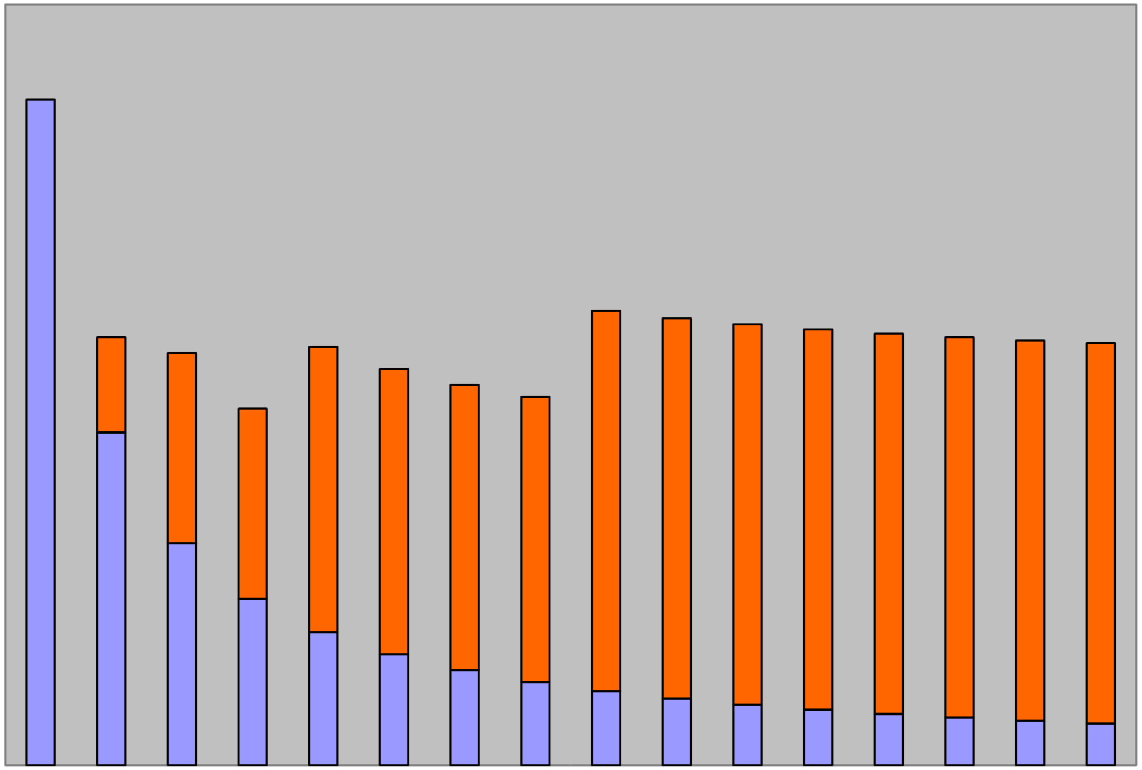
$\phi(n)/p$



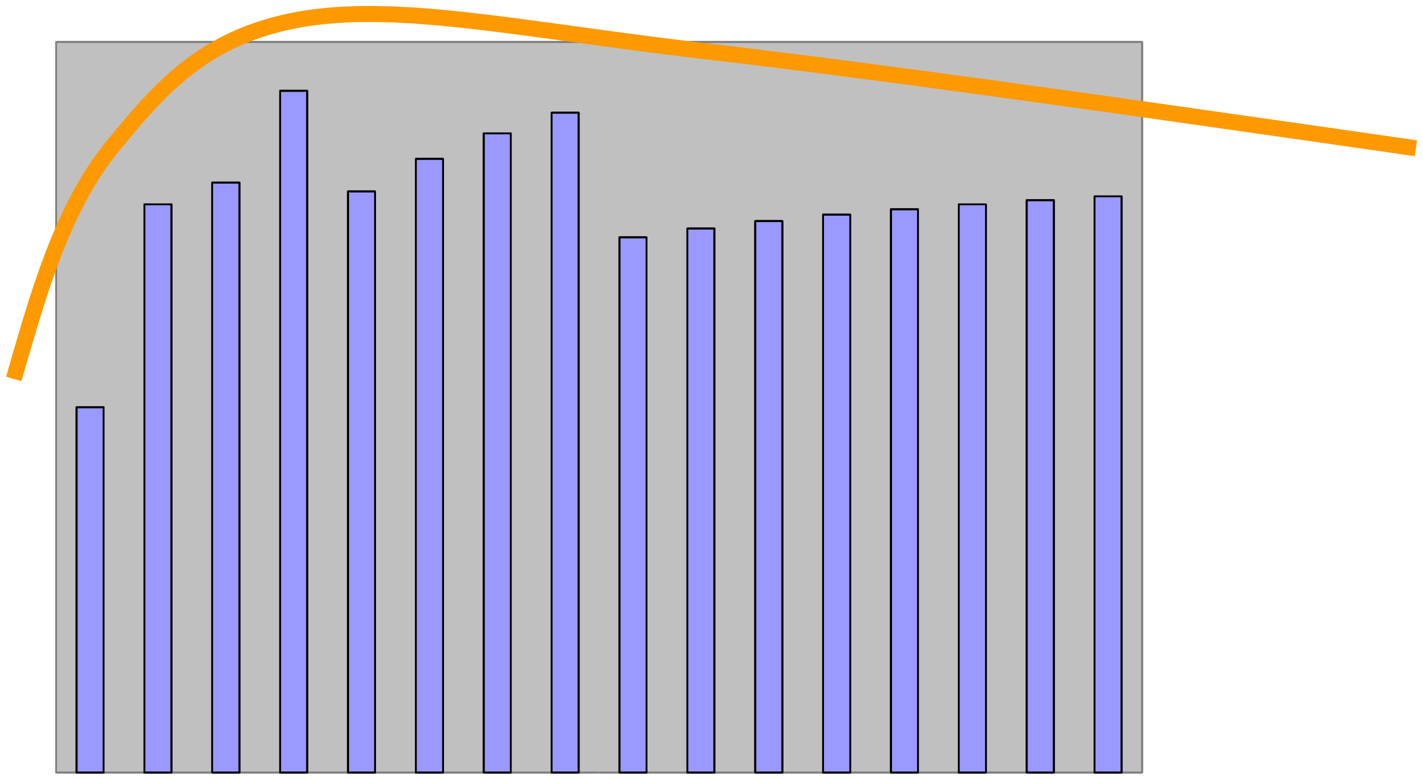
$\kappa(n,p)$



$\phi(n)/p + \kappa(n,p)$



Speedup Plot



Efficiency

$$\text{Efficiency} = \frac{\text{Sequential execution time}}{\text{Processors} \times \text{Parallel execution time}}$$

$$\text{Efficiency} = \frac{\text{Speedup}}{\text{Processors}}$$

Efficiency is a fraction:

$$0 \leq \varepsilon(n,p) \leq 1$$

$$\varepsilon\left(n,p\right) \leq \frac{\sigma\left(n\right)+\phi\left(n\right)}{p\sigma\left(n\right)+\phi\left(n\right)+p\kappa\left(n,p\right)}$$

All terms > 0 $\Rightarrow \varepsilon(n,p) > 0$

Denominator > numerator $\Rightarrow \varepsilon(n,p) < 1$

Amdahl's Law

$$\psi(n,p) \le \frac{\sigma(n)+\phi(n)}{\sigma(n)+\phi(n)/p+\kappa(n,p)}$$

$$\psi(n,p) \le \frac{\sigma(n)+\phi(n)}{\sigma(n)+\phi(n)/p}$$

Let $f = \sigma(n)/(\sigma(n) + \phi(n))$; i.e., f is the fraction of the code which is inherently sequential

$$\psi \le \frac{1}{f+(1-f)/p}$$

Example 1

- 95% of a program’s execution time occurs inside a loop that can be executed in parallel. What is the maximum speedup we should expect from a parallel version of the program executing on 8 CPUs?

$$\psi \leq \frac{1}{0.05 + (1 - 0.05)/8} \simeq 5.9$$

Example 2

- 20% of a program’s execution time is spent within inherently sequential code. What is the limit to the speedup achievable by a parallel version of the program?

$$\frac{1}{0.2+(1-0.2)/p}=\frac{1}{0.2}=5¿$$

Limitations of Amdahl’s Law

- Ignores $\kappa(n,p)$ - overestimates speedup
- Assumes f constant, so underestimates speedup achievable

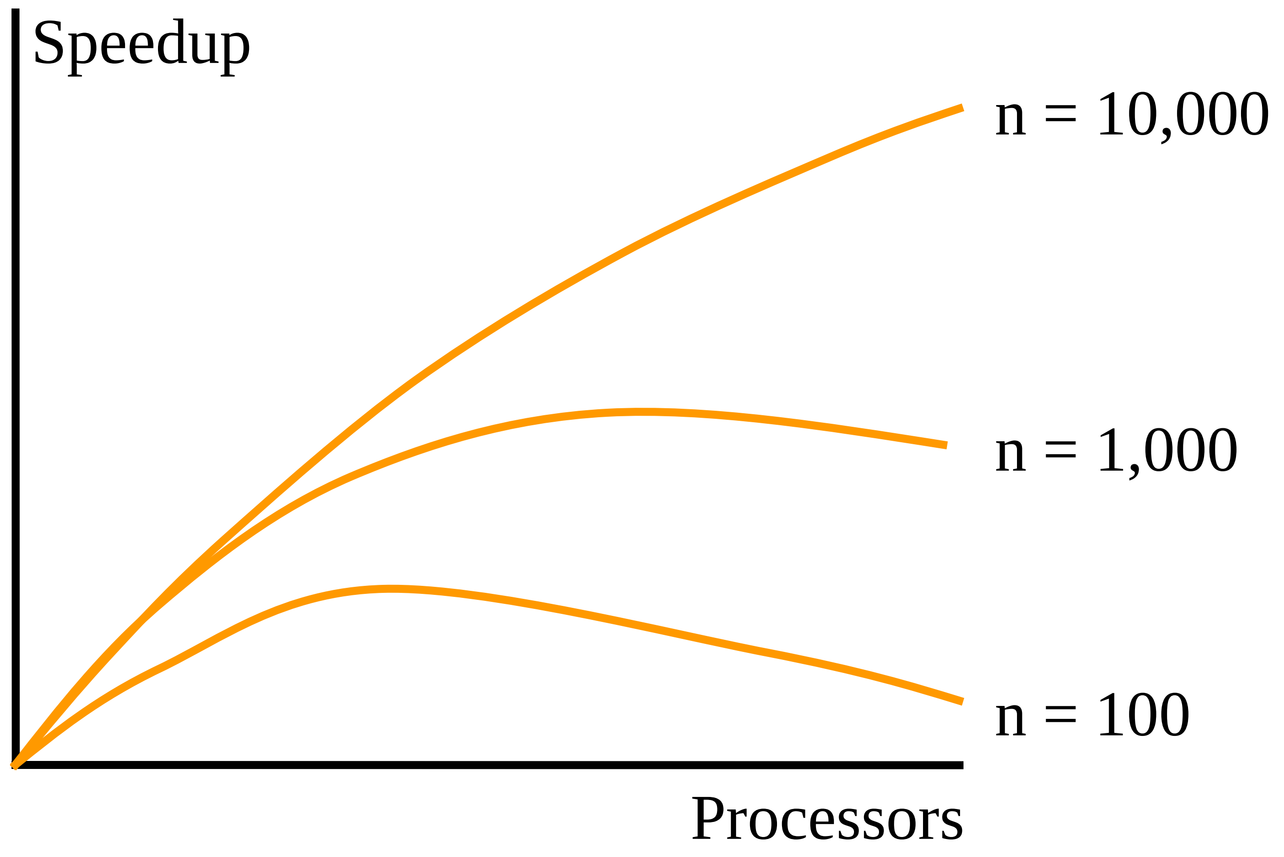
Amdahl Effect

- Typically $\sigma(n)$ and $\kappa(n,p)$ have lower complexity than $\phi(n)/p$

As n increases, $\phi(n)/p$ dominates $\sigma(n)$ & $\kappa(n,p)$

- *As n increases, speedup increases*
- *As n increases, sequential fraction f decreases.*

Illustration of Amdahl Effect



Review of Amdahl’s Law

- Treats problem size as a constant
- Shows how execution time decreases as number of processors increases

Another Perspective - Gustafson-Barsis's Law

- We often use faster computers to solve larger problem instances
- Let's treat time as a constant and allow problem size to increase with number of processors

Gustafson-Barsis's Law

$$\psi(n,p) \leq \frac{\sigma(n)+\phi(n)}{\sigma(n)+\phi(n)/p}$$

Let $T_p = \sigma(n)+\phi(n)/p = 1$ unit

Let *s* be the fraction of *time* that a parallel program spends executing the serial portion of the code.

$$s = \sigma(n)/(\sigma(n)+\phi(n)/p)$$

Then,

$\psi = T_1/T_p = T_1 <= s + p*(1-s)$ (the *scaled speedup*)

Gustafson-Barsis's Law (cont.)

Thus, sequential time would be *p* times the parallelized portion of the code plus the time for the sequential portion.

ψ <= s + p*(1-s)   (the *scaled speedup*)

Restated,

$$\psi \le p + (1 - p)s$$

Thus, sequential time would be p times the parallel execution time minus (p-1) times the sequential portion of execution time.

Summary of applying Gustafson-Barsis's Law

- Begin with parallel execution time and estimate the time spent in sequential portion.
- Predicts scaled speedup (Sp - ψ - same as T_1)
- Estimate sequential execution time to solve same problem (s)
- Assumes that s remains fixed irrespective of how large is *p* - thus overestimates speedup.
- Problem size ($s + p*(1-s)$) is an increasing function of *p*

Example 1

- An application running on 10 processors spends 3% of its time in serial code. What is the scaled speedup of the application?

$$\psi = 10 + (1 - 10)(0.03) = 10 - 0.27 = 9.73$$

…except 9 do not have to execute serial code

Execution on 1 CPU takes 10 times as long…

Example 2

- What is the maximum fraction of a program's parallel execution time that can be spent in serial code if it is to achieve a scaled speedup of 7 on 8 processors?

$$7 = 8 + (1 - 8)s \Rightarrow s \approx 0.14$$

The Karp-Flatt Metric

- Amdahl’s Law and Gustafson-Barsis’ Law ignore $\kappa(n,p)$
- They can overestimate speedup or scaled speedup
- Karp and Flatt proposed another metric

Experimentally Determined Serial Fraction

$$e = \frac{\sigma(n) + \kappa(n,p)}{\sigma(n) + \phi(n)}$$

$$\frac{\text{Inherently serial component of parallel computation + processor communication and synchronization overhead}}{\text{Single processor execution time}}$$

$$e = \frac{1/\psi - 1/p}{1 - 1/p}$$

Experimentally Determined Serial Fraction

- Takes into account parallel overhead
- Detects other sources of overhead or inefficiency ignored in speedup model
  - Process startup time
  - Process synchronization time
  - Imbalanced workload
  - Architectural overhead

Example 1

p	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
ψ	1.8	2.5	3.1	3.6	4.0	4.4	4.7

What is the primary reason for speedup of only 4.7 on 8 CPUs?

e	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1

Since *e* is constant, large serial fraction is the primary reason.

Example 2

p	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
ψ	1.9	2.6	3.2	3.7	4.1	4.5	4.7

What is the primary reason for speedup of only 4.7 on 8 CPUs?

e	0.070	0.075	0.080	0.085	0.090	0.095	0.100

Since *e* is steadily increasing, overhead is the primary reason.

Isoefficiency Metric

- Parallel system: parallel program executing on a parallel computer
- Scalability of a parallel system: measure of its ability to increase performance as number of processors increases
- A scalable system maintains efficiency as processors are added
- Isoefficiency: way to measure scalability

Isoefficiency Derivation Steps

- Begin with speedup formula
- Compute total amount of overhead
- Assume efficiency remains constant
- Determine relation between sequential execution time and overhead

Deriving Isoefficiency Relation

Determine overhead

$$T_o(n,p) = (p-1)\sigma(n) + p\kappa(n,p)$$

Substitute overhead into speedup equation

$$\psi(n,p) \le \frac{p(\sigma(n)+\phi(n))}{\sigma(n)+\phi(n)+T_0(n,p)}$$

Substitute $T(n,1) = \sigma(n) + \phi(n)$. Assume efficiency is constant. Hence, T_0/T_1 should be a constant fraction.

$$T(n,1) \ge C T_0(n,p)$$ Isoefficiency Relation

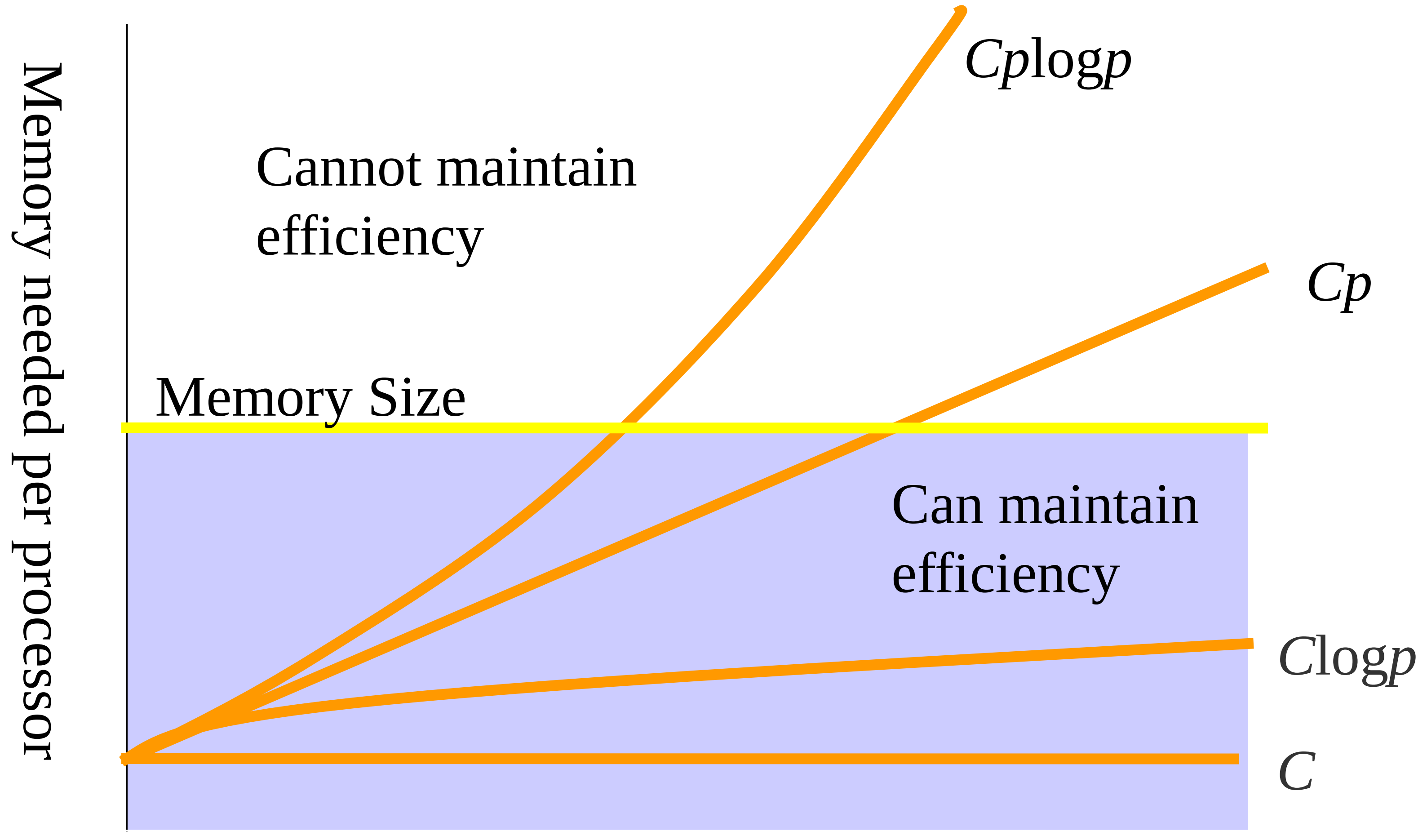
Scalability Function

- Suppose isoefficiency relation is $n \geq f(p)$
- Let $M(n)$ denote memory required for problem of size n
- $M(f(p))/p$ shows how memory usage **per processor** must increase to maintain same efficiency
- We call $M(f(p))/p$ the scalability function

Meaning of Scalability Function

- To maintain efficiency when increasing *p*, we must increase *n*
- Maximum problem size limited by available memory, which is linear in *p*
- Scalability function shows how memory usage per processor must grow to maintain efficiency
- Scalability function a constant means parallel system is perfectly scalable

Interpreting Scalability Function



Example 1: Reduction

- Sequential algorithm complexity
  $T(n,1) = \Theta(n)$
- Parallel algorithm
  - Computational complexity = $\Theta(n/p)$
  - Communication complexity = $\Theta(\log p)$
- Parallel overhead
  $T_0(n,p) = \Theta(p \log p)$

Reduction (continued)

- Isoefficiency relation: $n \geq C\, p \log p$
- We ask: To maintain same level of efficiency, how must n increase when p increases?
- $M(n) = n$

$$M\left(Cp \log p\right)/\, p = Cp \log p / p = C \log p$$

- The system has good scalability

Example 2: Floyd's Algorithm

- Sequential time complexity: $\Theta(n^3)$
- Parallel computation time: $\Theta(n^3/p)$
- Parallel communication time: $\Theta(n^2 \log p)$
- Parallel overhead: $T_0(n,p) = \Theta(pn^2 \log p)$

Floyd's Algorithm (continued)

- Isoefficiency relation
  $n^3 \geq C(p\, n^3 \log p) \Rightarrow n \geq C\, p \log p$
- $M(n) = n^2$

$$M(Cp \log p)/p = C^2 p^2 \log^2 p / p = C^2 p \log^2 p$$

- The parallel system has poor scalability

Summary (1/3)

- Performance terms
  - Speedup
  - Efficiency
- Model of speedup
  - Serial component
  - Parallel component
  - Communication component

Summary (2/3)

- What prevents linear speedup?
  - Serial operations
  - Communication operations
  - Process start-up
  - Imbalanced workloads
  - Architectural limitations

Summary (3/3)

- Analyzing parallel performance
  - Amdahl’s Law
  - Gustafson-Barsis’ Law
  - Karp-Flatt metric
  - Isoefficiency metric