Performance Evaluation of Hartree-Fock Program
developed by Ruby Scripting Language

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ABSTRACT

Currently, molecular orbital (MO) calculation is known as accurate quantum theoretical method for
chemistry and widely used for purely theoretical chemistry research, designing functional material, and
drug discovery, and so on. But if we want implement new theoretical ideas in a conventional MO program,
we soon realize it is not so easy, because current practical MO programs are quite large and detailed source
code documents are not often disclosed. Therefore, it takes a lot of time to modify even fundamental data
like molecular integral values, Fock and Density matrices.

In this research, we are developing new MO calculation prototyping environment based on Ruby scripting
language. This prototyping environment has two objects: first, as educational programming materials with
famous quantum chemistry text book for students, second, as rapid prototyping method of new ideas for
researchers. If researchers understand their new method is effective with our environment, they can
implement again to conventional promising program system. This environment is for prototyping but has to
be sufficiently high performance, because quantum chemistry calculation is often too time consuming.

We implemented parallel restricted Hartree-Fock programming environment by Ruby language. For high-
performance calculations, we used C-language native code libraries for Array class and other utilities for
quantum chemistry calculations using Ruby foreign language extensions. We already prepared binding
utilities NArray class library\cite{2}, ruby-mpi MPI library\cite{3}, BLAS/Lapack libraries, and molecular integrals
calculation libraries based on Obara’s algorithm\cite{4}.

We evaluated and compared program sizes and parallel efficiencies of our new Ruby and native C-
language implantations with static load balancing algorithm. For code size, number of Ruby program steps
except comments is almost 450, while C program is 2298. For parallelization efficiencies, Ruby
implementation archived 48.4 \% efficiency. This result is sufficient enough, compared with 52.5 \% parallel
efficiency by C implementation.

Currently, we are developing Configuration State Function based Configuration Interaction (CI) method.
After this CI program is completed, our prototyping environment will be opened.

REFERENCES

\cite{3} A ruby binding of MPI, [On line]. Available: <https://github.com/seiya/ruby-mpi>.