

## GROMACS - Bug #2980

### taskassignment fails with unit tests when GPUs and custom number of ranks is used

06/17/2019 05:28 PM - Szilárd Páll

<b>Status:</b> New	
<b>Priority:</b> Normal	
<b>Assignee:</b>	
<b>Category:</b> mdrun	
<b>Target version:</b>	
<b>Affected version - extra info:</b> master	<b>Difficulty:</b> uncategorized
<b>Affected version:</b> 2019.3	
<b>Description</b>	
<pre>\$ bin/mdrun-test -ntmpi 3 [...]</pre>	
<pre>Opened /home/pszilard/projects/gromacs/gromacs-master/build_gcc73_cuda92/src/programs/mdrun/tests/ Testing/Temporary/PmeTest_ReproducesEnergies_spc-and-methanol_PmeOnCpuTune.edr as single precision energy file Last energy frame read 20 time 0.020 Reading file /home/pszilard/projects/gromacs/groma cs-master/build_gcc73_cuda92/src/programs/mdrun/tests/Testing/Temporary/PmeTest_ReproducesEnergies .tpr, VERSION 2020-dev-20190606-ec71536 (single precision) Can not increase nstlist because an NVE ensemble is used Using 3 MPI threads Using 1 OpenMP thread per tMPI thread</pre>	
<pre>----- Program: mdrun-test, version 2020-dev-20190606-ec71536 Source file: src/gromacs/taskassignment/taskassignment.cpp (line 256) Function: std::vector&lt;std::vector&lt;gmx::GpuTaskMapping&gt; &gt;::value_type gmx::runTaskAssignment(con st std::vector&lt;int&gt;&amp;, const std::vector&lt;int&gt;&amp;, const gmx_hw_info_t&amp;, const gmx::MDLogger&amp;, const t _commrec*, const gmx_multisim_t*, const gmx::PhysicalNodeCommunicator&amp;, const std::vector&lt;gmx::Gpu Task&gt;&amp;, bool, PmeRunMode) MPI rank: 0 (out of 3)</pre>	
<p>Inconsistency in user input: There were 3 GPU tasks found on node racoon, but 2 GPUs were available. If the GPUs are equivalent, then it is usually best to have a number of tasks that is a multiple of the number of GPUs. You should reconsider your GPU task assignment, number of ranks, or your use of the <code>-nb</code>, <code>-pme</code>, and <code>-npme</code> options, perhaps after measuring the performance you can get.</p>	
<p>For more information and tips for troubleshooting, please check the GROMACS website at <a href="http://www.gromacs.org/Documentation/Errors">http://www.gromacs.org/Documentation/Errors</a></p>	
<p>The above can't run without passing <code>-gputasks</code>; luckily the <code>GMX_GPUTASKS</code> environment variable can be used with unit tests too (which don't have the command line option), but this would require passing <code>-nb/-pme</code> which can't be done:</p>	
<pre>\$ GMX_GPUTASKS="001" bin/mdrun-test -ntmpi 3 [...]</pre>	
<p>This run will generate roughly 0 Mb of data</p>	
<p>There were 3 notes Reading file /home/pszilard/projects/gromacs/gromacs-master/build_gcc73_cuda92/src/programs/mdrun/ tests/Testing/Temporary/PmeTest_ReproducesEnergies.tpr, VERSION 2020-dev-20190606-ec71536 (single precision)</p>	
<pre>----- Program: mdrun-test, version 2020-dev-20190606-ec71536 Source file: src/gromacs/taskassignment/decidegpuusage.cpp (line 132)</pre>	

```
Function:    bool gmx::decideWhetherToUseGpusForNonbondedWithThreadMpi(gmx::TaskTarget, const std::vector<int>&, const std::vector<int>&, gmx::EmulateGpuNonbonded, bool, bool, bool, int)
```

Inconsistency in user input:

When you use `mdrun -gputasks`, `-nb` and `-ntmpi` must be set to non-default values, so that the device IDs can be interpreted correctly. If you simply want to restrict which GPUs are used, then it is better to use `mdrun -gpu_id`. Otherwise, setting the `CUDA_VISIBLE_DEVICES` environment variable in your bash profile or job script may be more convenient.

For more information and tips for troubleshooting, please check the GROMACS website at <http://www.gromacs.org/Documentation/Errors>

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