Chapel Boot Camp

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Chapel Team, Cray Inc.
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Safe Harbor Statement

This presentation may contain forward-looking statements that are based on our current expectations. Forward looking statements may include statements about our financial guidance and expected operating results, our opportunities and future potential, our product development and new product introduction plans, our ability to expand and penetrate our addressable markets and other statements that are not historical facts. These statements are only predictions and actual results may materially vary from those projected. Please refer to Cray's documents filed with the SEC from time to time concerning factors that could affect the Company and these forward-looking statements.

Motivation for Chapel

Q: Why doesn't HPC programming have an equivalent to Python / Matlab / Java / C++ / _(your favorite programming language here)_ ?

- one that makes it easy to get programs up and running quickly
- one that is portable across system architectures and scales
- one that bridges the HPC, data analysis, and mainstream communities

A: We believe this is due not to any particular technical challenge, but rather a lack of sufficient…

…long-term efforts
…resources
…community will
…patience

Chapel is our attempt to reverse this trend!

What is Chapel?

Chapel: An emerging parallel programming language

- portable
- open-source
- a collaborative effort
- a work-in-progress

Goals:

- Support general parallel programming
  - "any parallel algorithm on any parallel hardware"
- Make parallel programming far more productive

What does "Productivity" mean to you?

Recent Graduates:

"something similar to what I used in school: Python, Matlab, Java, …"

Seasoned HPC Programmers:

"that sugary stuff that I don't need because I ~~was born to suffer~~ want full control to ensure performance"

Computational Scientists:

"something that lets me express my parallel computations without having to wrestle with architecture-specific details"

Chapel Team:

"something that lets computational scientists express what they want, without taking away the control that HPC programmers want, implemented in a language as attractive as recent graduates want."

Chapel is Portable

- **Chapel is designed to be hardware-independent**

- **The current release requires:**
  - a C/C++ compiler
  - a *NIX environment (Linux, OS X, BSD, Cygwin, WSL, …)
  - POSIX threads
  - RDMA, MPI, or UDP (for distributed memory execution)

- **Chapel can run on…**

  …laptops and workstations
  …commodity clusters
  …the cloud
  …HPC systems from Cray and other vendors
  …modern processors like Intel Xeon Phi, GPUs*, etc.

* = not yet supported in the official release

Chapel is Open-Source

- Chapel's development is hosted at GitHub
  - https://github.com/chapel-lang
- Chapel is licensed as Apache v2.0 software
- Instructions for download + install are online
  - http://chapel.cray.com/download.html

The Chapel Team at Cray (May 2017)

Chapel Community R&D Efforts

Lawrence Berkeley
National Laboratory

(and several others, some of whom you will hear from today…)

http://chapel.cray.com/collaborations.html

Outline

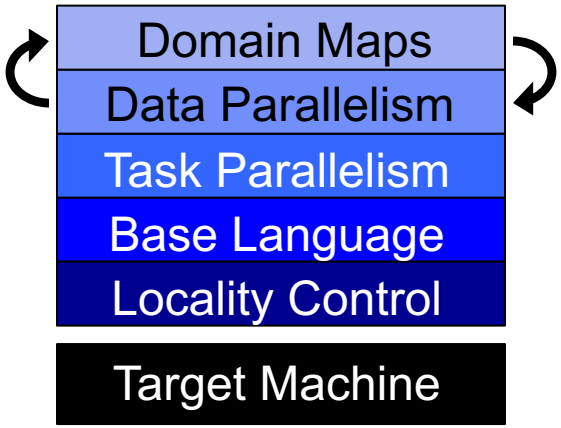
- ✓ Chapel Motivation and Background
- ➢ Chapel in a Nutshell
- Chapel Project: Past, Present, Future
- Chapel Resources

Chapel's Multiresolution Philosophy

Multiresolution Design: **Support multiple tiers of features**

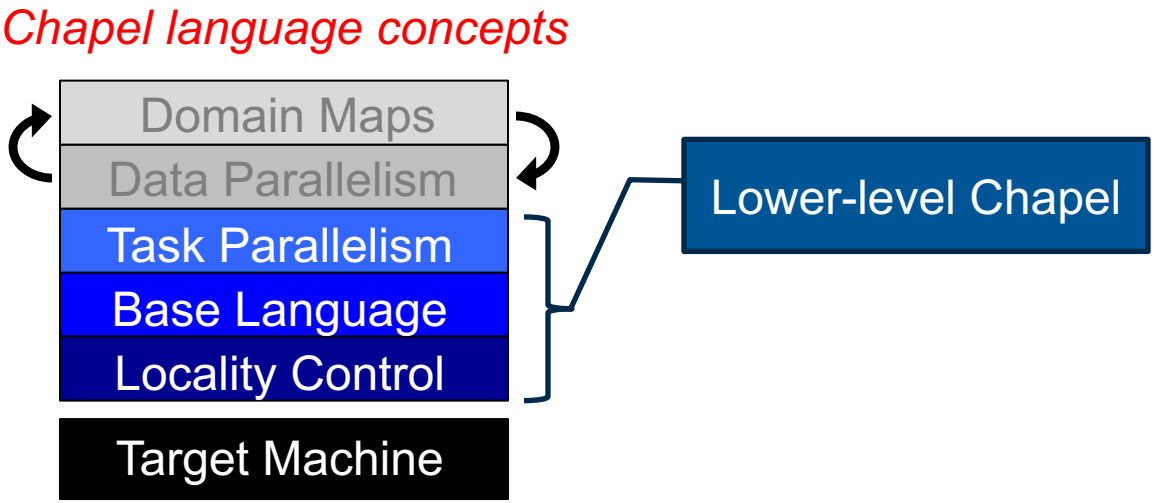
- higher levels for programmability, productivity
- lower levels for greater degrees of control

Chapel language concepts

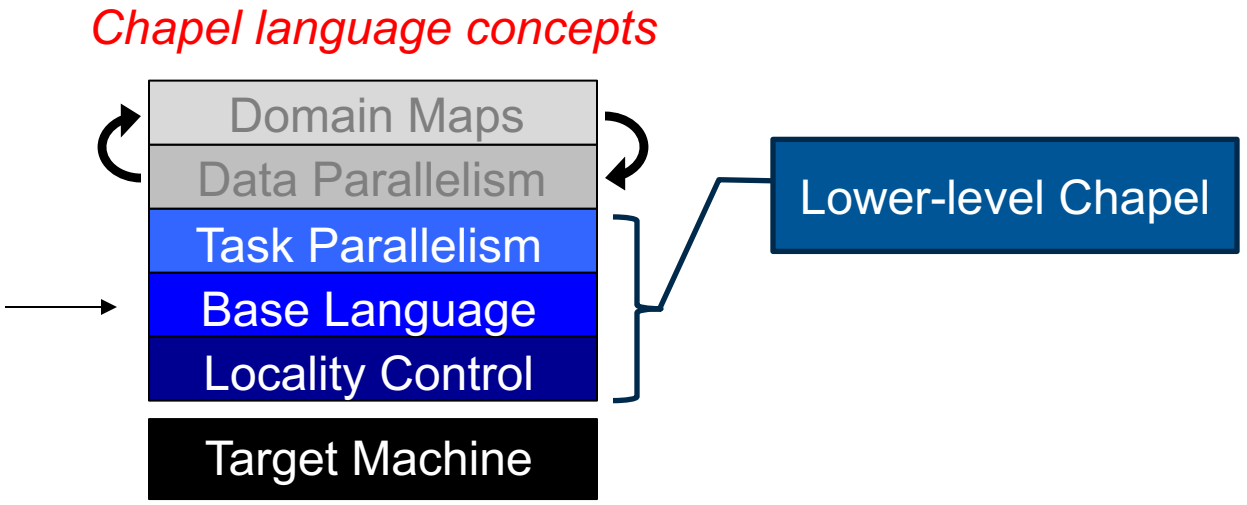


- build the higher-level concepts in terms of the lower
- permit the user to intermix layers arbitrarily

Lower-Level Features



Lower-Level Features



Base Language Features: Fibonacci Example

```
iter fib(n) {
  var current = 0,
      next = 1;

  for i in 1..n {
    yield current;
    current += next;
    current <=> next;
  }
}
```

```
for (i,f) in zip(0..#n, fib(n)) do
  writeln("fib #", i, " is ", f);
```

```
fib #0 is 0
fib #1 is 1
fib #2 is 1
fib #3 is 2
fib #4 is 3
fib #5 is 5
fib #6 is 8
...
```

Base Language Features: Fibonacci Example

iterators

```
iter fib(n) {
  var current = 0,
      next = 1;

  for i in 1..n {
    yield current;
    current += next;
    current <=> next;
  }
}
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for (i,f) in zip(0..#n, fib(n)) do
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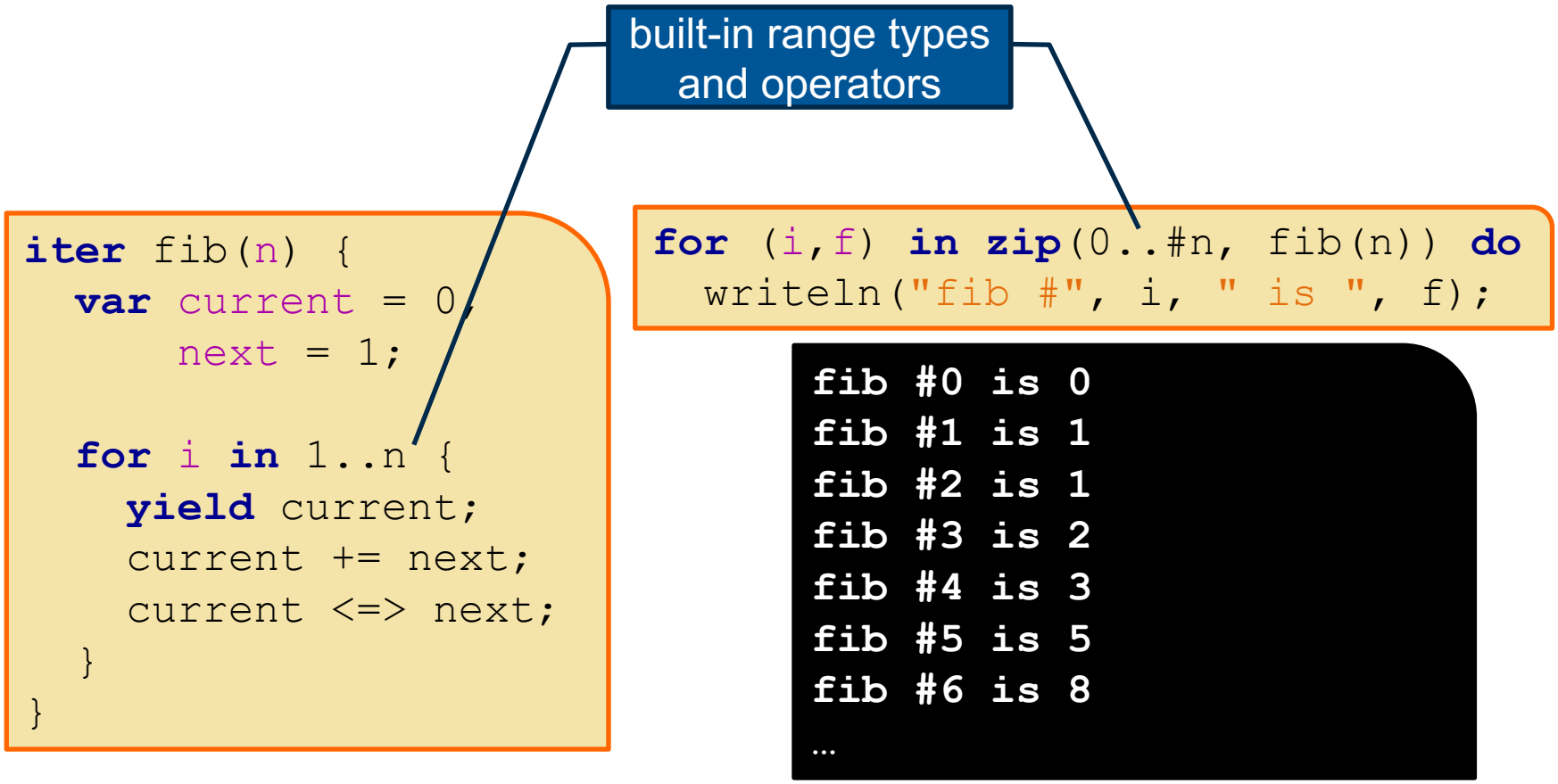

Base Language Features: Fibonacci Example

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  var current = 0,
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  for i in 1..n {
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    current <=> next;
  }
}
```

zippered iteration

```
for (i,f) in zip(0..#n, fib(n)) do
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fib #0 is 0
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iter fib(n) {
  var current = 0,
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  for i in 1..n {
    yield current;
    current += next;
    current <=> next;
  }
}
```

tuples

```
for (i,f) in zip(0..#n, fib(n)) do
  writeln("fib #", i, " is ", f);
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```
fib #0 is 0
fib #1 is 1
fib #2 is 1
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fib #5 is 5
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...
```

Base Language Features: Fibonacci Example

Static Type Inference for:
- arguments
- return types
- variables

```
iter fib(n) {
  var current = 0,
      next = 1;

  for i in 1..n {
    yield current;
    current += next;
    current <=> next;
  }
}
```

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Base Language Features: Fibonacci Example

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iter fib(n) {
  var current = 0,
      next = 1;

  for i in 1..n {
    yield current;
    current += next;
    current <=> next;
  }
}
```

swap operator

```
for (i,f) in zip(0..#n, fib(n)) do
  writeln("fib #", i, " is ", f);
```

```
fib #0 is 0
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Base Language Features: Fibonacci Example

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```
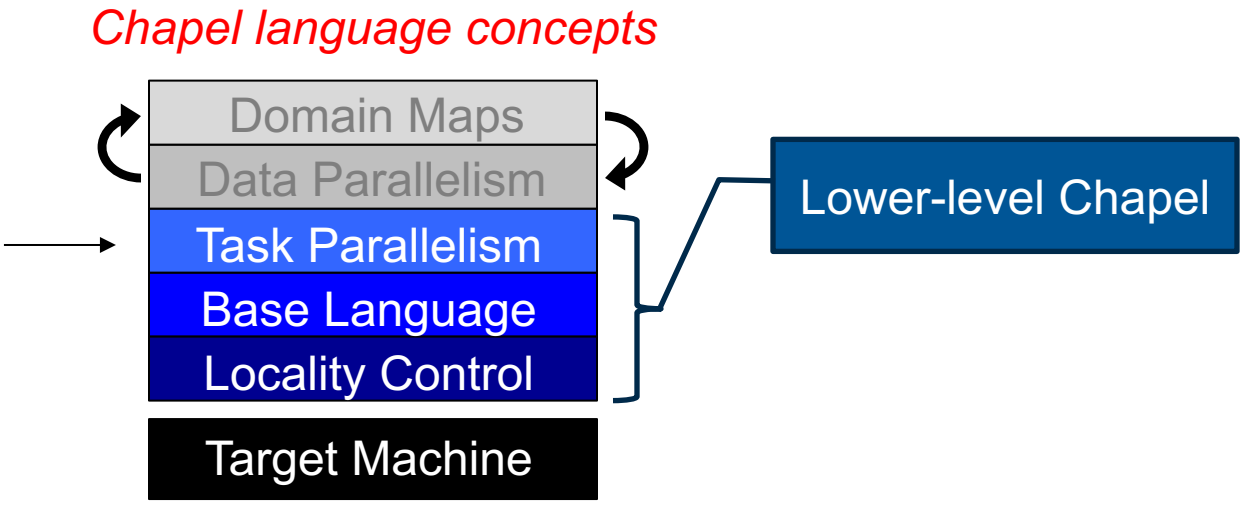

Lower-Level Features



Task Parallelism

beginTask.chpl

```
begin writeln("Hello!");
writeln("Goodbye...");
```

```
prompt> chpl beginTask.chpl -o beginTask
prompt> ./beginTask
Hello!
Goodbye...
prompt> ./beginTask
Goodbye...
Hello!
```

Task Parallelism

Creates a new task

beginTask.chpl

```
begin writeln("Hello!");
writeln("Goodbye...");
```

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Hello!
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Hello!
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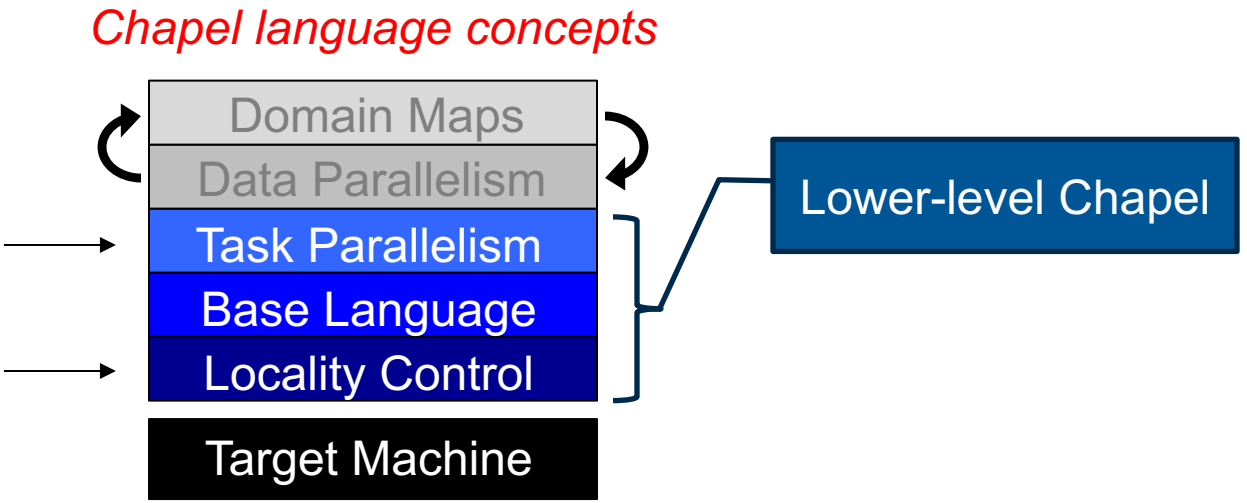
Lower-Level Features



Task Parallelism & Locality Control

taskParallel.chpl

```
coforall loc in Locales do
  on loc {
    const numTasks = here.maxTaskPar;
    coforall tid in 1..numTasks do
      writef("Hello from task %n of %n "+
             "running on %s\n",
             tid, numTasks, here.name);
  }
```

```
prompt> chpl taskParallel.chpl -o taskParallel
prompt> ./taskParallel --numLocales=2
Hello from task 1 of 2 running on n1033
Hello from task 2 of 2 running on n1032
Hello from task 2 of 2 running on n1033
Hello from task 1 of 2 running on n1032
```

Task Parallelism & Locality Control

High-Level Task Parallelism

taskParallel.chpl

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coforall loc in Locales do
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Task Parallelism & Locality Control

Abstraction of System Resources

taskParallel.chpl

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```

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Hello from task 1 of 2 running on n1033
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Hello from task 1 of 2 running on n1032
```

Task Parallelism & Locality Control

Control of Locality/Affinity

taskParallel.chpl

```
coforall loc in Locales do
  on loc {
    const numTasks = here.maxTaskPar;
    coforall tid in 1..numTasks do
      writef("Hello from task %n of %n "+
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             tid, numTasks, here.name);
  }
```

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Task Parallelism & Locality Control

Abstraction of System Resources

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Task Parallelism & Locality Control

High-Level Task Parallelism

taskParallel.chpl

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Hello from task 1 of 2 running on n1033
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```

Task Parallelism & Locality Control

Not seen here:

Data-centric task coordination via atomic and full/empty vars

taskParallel.chpl

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coforall loc in Locales do
  on loc {
    const numTasks = here.maxTaskPar;
    coforall tid in 1..numTasks do
      writef("Hello from task %n of %n "+
             "running on %s\n",
             tid, numTasks, here.name);
  }
```

```
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prompt> ./taskParallel --numLocales=2
Hello from task 1 of 2 running on n1033
Hello from task 2 of 2 running on n1032
Hello from task 2 of 2 running on n1033
Hello from task 1 of 2 running on n1032
```

Parallelism and Locality: Orthogonal in Chapel

- This is a **parallel**, but local program:

```
coforall i in 1..msgs do
  writeln("Hello from task ", i);
```

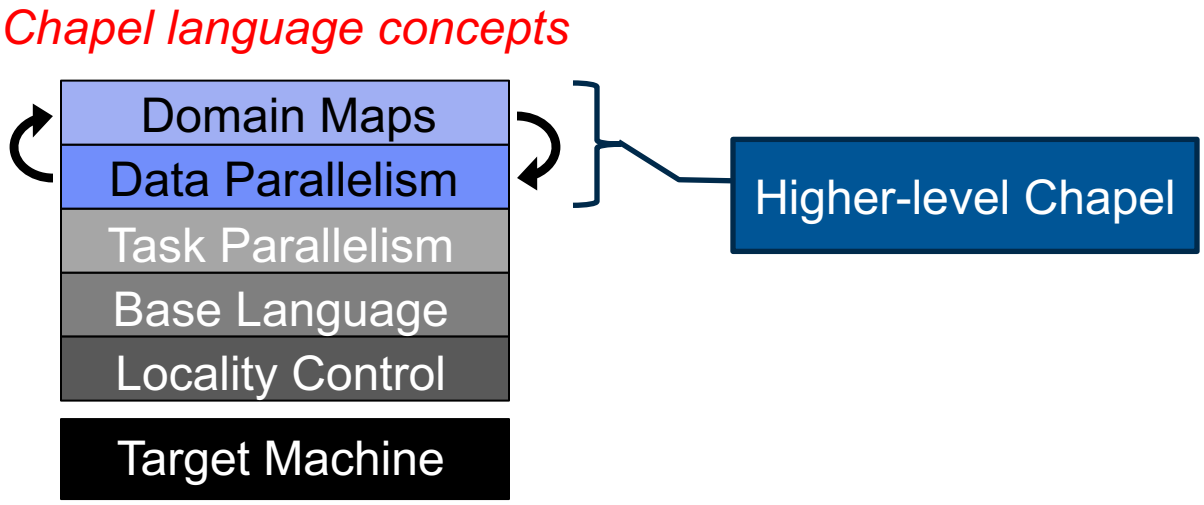
- This is a **distributed**, but serial program:

```
writeln("Hello from locale 0!");
on Locales[1] do writeln("Hello from locale 1!");
on Locales[2] do writeln("Hello from locale 2!");
```

- This is a **distributed parallel** program:

```
coforall i in 1..msgs do
  on Locales[i%numLocales] do
    writeln("Hello from task ", i,
            " running on locale ", here.id);
```

Higher-Level Features



Data Parallelism

dataParallel.chpl

```
config const n = 1000;
var D = {1..n, 1..n};

var A: [D] real;
forall (i,j) in D do
  A[i,j] = i + (j - 0.5)/n;
writeln(A);
```

```
prompt> chpl dataParallel.chpl -o dataParallel
prompt> ./dataParallel --n=5
1.1 1.3 1.5 1.7 1.9
2.1 2.3 2.5 2.7 2.9
3.1 3.3 3.5 3.7 3.9
4.1 4.3 4.5 4.7 4.9
5.1 5.3 5.5 5.7 5.9
```

Data Parallelism

Domains (Index Sets)

dataParallel.chpl

```
config const n = 1000;
var D = {1..n, 1..n};

var A: [D] real;
forall (i,j) in D do
  A[i,j] = i + (j - 0.5)/n;
writeln(A);
```

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3.1 3.3 3.5 3.7 3.9
4.1 4.3 4.5 4.7 4.9
5.1 5.3 5.5 5.7 5.9
```

Data Parallelism

Arrays

dataParallel.chpl

```
config const n = 1000;
var D = {1..n, 1..n};

var A: [D] real;
forall (i,j) in D do
  A[i,j] = i + (j - 0.5)/n;
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3.1 3.3 3.5 3.7 3.9
4.1 4.3 4.5 4.7 4.9
5.1 5.3 5.5 5.7 5.9
```

Data Parallelism

Data-Parallel Forall Loops

dataParallel.chpl

```
config const n = 1000;
var D = {1..n, 1..n};

var A: [D] real;
forall (i,j) in D do
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3.1 3.3 3.5 3.7 3.9
4.1 4.3 4.5 4.7 4.9
5.1 5.3 5.5 5.7 5.9
```

Distributed Data Parallelism

Domain Maps
(Map Data Parallelism to the System)

dataParallel.chpl

```
use CyclicDist;
config const n = 1000;
var D = {1..n, 1..n}
        dmapped Cyclic(startIdx = (1,1));
var A: [D] real;
forall (i,j) in D do
  A[i,j] = i + (j - 0.5)/n;
writeln(A);
```

```
prompt> chpl dataParallel.chpl -o dataParallel
prompt> ./dataParallel --n=5 --numLocales=4
1.1 1.3 1.5 1.7 1.9
2.1 2.3 2.5 2.7 2.9
3.1 3.3 3.5 3.7 3.9
4.1 4.3 4.5 4.7 4.9
5.1 5.3 5.5 5.7 5.9
```

Distributed Data Parallelism

Distributions

- BlockCycDist
- BlockDist
- CyclicDist
- DimensionalDist2D
- PrivateDist
- ReplicatedDist
- SparseBlockDist
- StencilDist

Layouts

- CSR

dataParallel.chpl

```
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config const n = 1000;
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- ➢ Chapel Project: Past, Present, Future
- ● Chapel Resources

Chapel's Origins: HPCS

DARPA HPCS: High Productivity Computing Systems

- **Goal:** improve productivity by a factor of 10x
- **Timeframe:** Summer 2002 – Fall 2012
- Cray developed a new system architecture, network, software stack…
  - this became the very successful Cray XC30™ Supercomputer Series

…and a new programming language: Chapel

Chapel's focus areas

- **Based on positive user response to Chapel under HPCS, Cray undertook a longer-term effort to improve it**
  - we've just completed our fourth year of this effort
- **Focus Areas:**
  1. Improving **performance** and scaling
  2. **Fixing** immature aspects of the language and implementation
     - e.g., strings, memory management, error handling, …
  3. **Porting** to emerging architectures
     - Intel Xeon Phi, accelerators, heterogeneous processors and memories, …
  4. Improving **interoperability**
  5. Growing the Chapel user and developer **community**
     - including non-scientific computing communities
  6. Exploring transition of Chapel **governance** to a neutral, external body

Chapel is a Work-in-Progress

- **Currently being picked up by early adopters**
  - Users who try it generally like what they see

- **Most current features are functional and working well**
  - some areas under active development, particularly:
    - Initializers
    - Error handling

- **Performance is improving, but remains hit-or-miss**
  - shared memory performance is often competitive with C+OpenMP
  - distributed memory performance continues to need more work

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Chapel Websites

Project page: http://chapel.cray.com

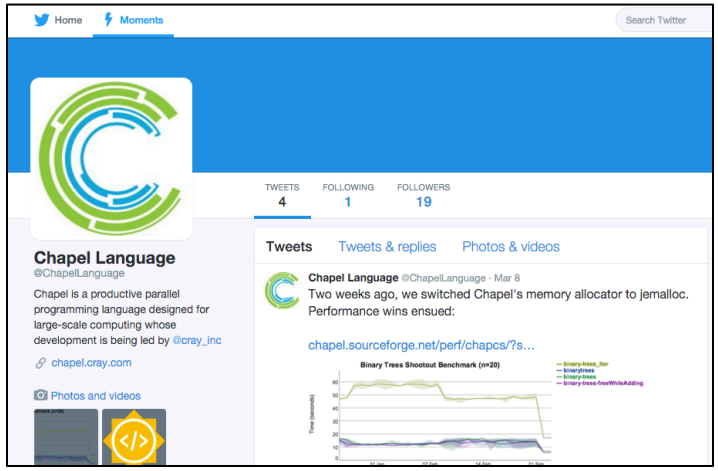
- overview, papers, presentations, language spec, …

GitHub: https://github.com/chapel-lang

- download Chapel; browse source repository; contribute code

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/ChapelLanguage

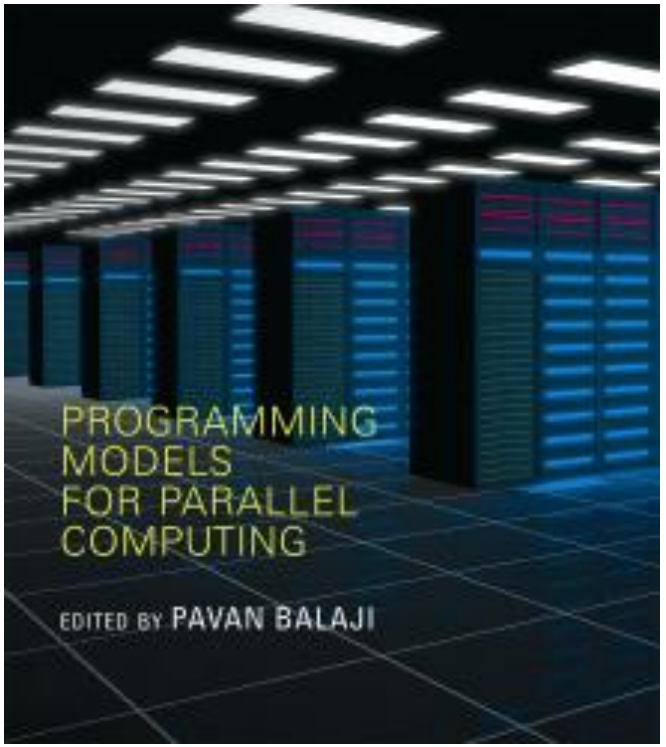
Twitter: https://twitter.com/ChapelLanguage



Suggested Reading

Chapel chapter from ***Programming Models for Parallel Computing***

- a detailed overview of Chapel's history, motivating themes, features
- edited by Pavan Balaji, published by MIT Press, November 2015
- chapter is now also available online



Other Chapel papers/publications available at **http://chapel.cray.com/papers.html**

Chapel Blog Articles

Chapel: Productive Parallel Programming, Cray Blog, May 2013.

- *a short-and-sweet introduction to Chapel*

Chapel Springs into a Summer of Code, Cray Blog, April 2016.

- *a run-down of some current events*

Six Ways to Say "Hello" in Chapel **(parts 1, 2, 3)**, Cray Blog, Sep-Oct 2015.

- *a series of articles illustrating the basics of parallelism and locality in Chapel*

Why Chapel? **(parts 1, 2, 3)**, Cray Blog, Jun-Oct 2014.

- *a series of articles answering common questions about why we are pursuing Chapel in spite of the inherent challenges*

[Ten] Myths About Scalable Programming Languages, IEEE TCSC Blog (index available on chapel.cray.com "blog articles" page), Apr-Nov 2012.

- *a series of technical opinion pieces designed to argue against standard reasons given for not developing high-level parallel languages*

Mailing Lists

low-traffic (read-only):

chapel-announce@lists.sourceforge.net: announcements about Chapel

community lists:

chapel-users@lists.sourceforge.net: user-oriented discussion list
chapel-developers@lists.sourceforge.net: developer discussions
chapel-education@lists.sourceforge.net: educator discussions

(subscribe at SourceForge: http://sourceforge.net/p/chapel/mailman/**)**

To contact the Cray team:

chapel_info@cray.com: contact the team at Cray
chapel_bugs@cray.com: for reporting non-public bugs

Other Community Resources

IRC channels (freenode.net):

#chapel: user-oriented discussions
#chapel-developers: developer discussions

Stack Overflow

stackoverflow.com: [chapel] tag monitored by core team

GitHub Issues:

github.com/chapel-lang/chapel/issues: bug reports & feature requests

Questions about Chapel?

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