

# Chapel's Multiresolution Programming Model

## Mixing High-level Parallel Abstractions with Lower-level Control

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Northwest C++ Users Group

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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.



# What is Chapel?



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# What is Chapel?

**Chapel:** A productive parallel programming language

- portable
- open-source
- a collaborative effort

## Goals:

- Support general parallel programming
  - “any parallel algorithm on any parallel hardware”
- Make parallel programming at scale far more productive



# Scalable Parallel Programming Concerns

**Q:** What do HPC programmers need from a language?

**A:** *Serial Code:* Software engineering and performance

*Parallelism:* What should execute simultaneously?

*Locality:* Where should those tasks execute?

*Mapping:* How to map the program to the system?

*Separation of Concerns:* Decouple these issues

***Chapel is a language designed to address these needs from first principles***



# Chapel and Other Languages

## Chapel strives to be as...

...**programmable** as Python

...**fast** as Fortran

...**scalable** as MPI, SHMEM, or UPC

...**portable** as C

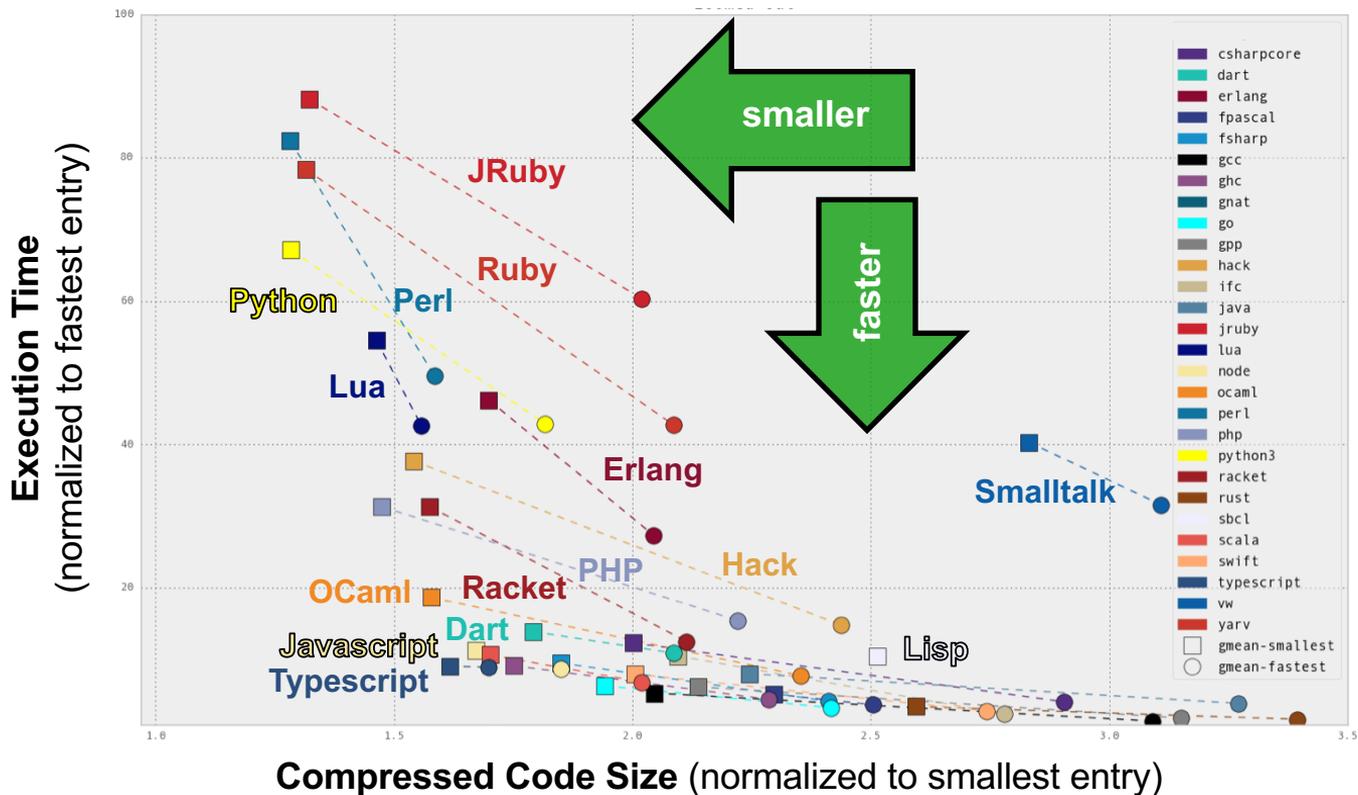
...**flexible** as C++

...**fun** as [your favorite programming language]



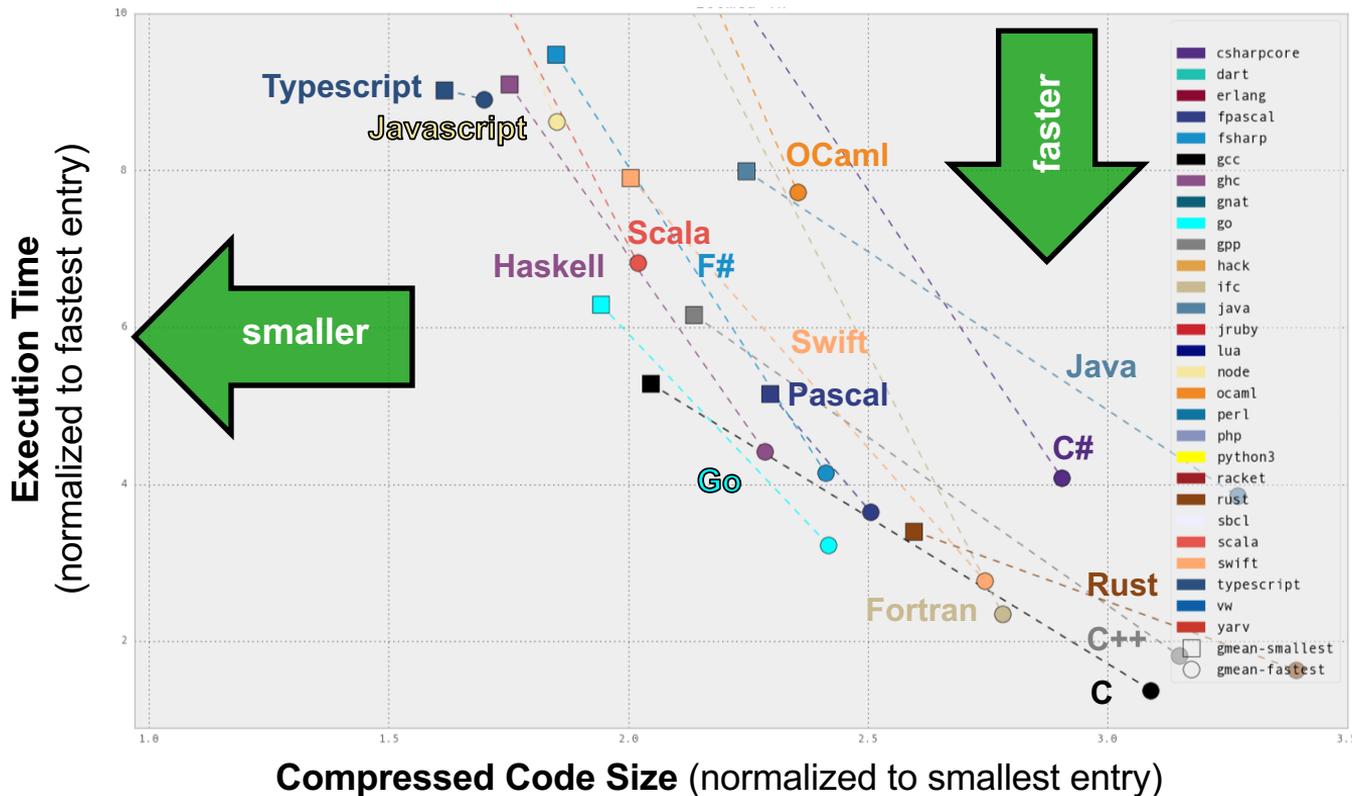
# CLBG Cross-Language Summary

(Oct 2017 standings)



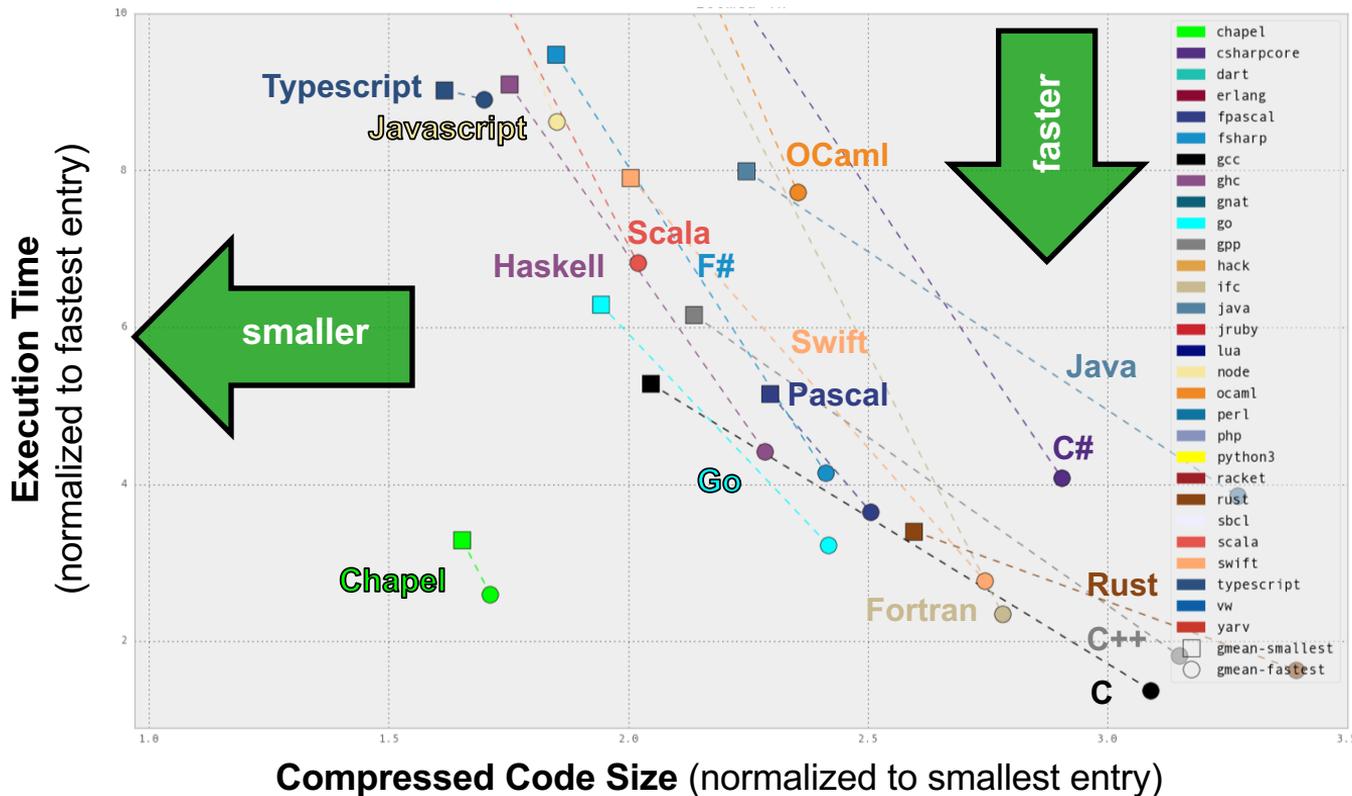
# CLBG Cross-Language Summary

(Oct 2017 standings, zoomed in)



# CLBG Cross-Language Summary

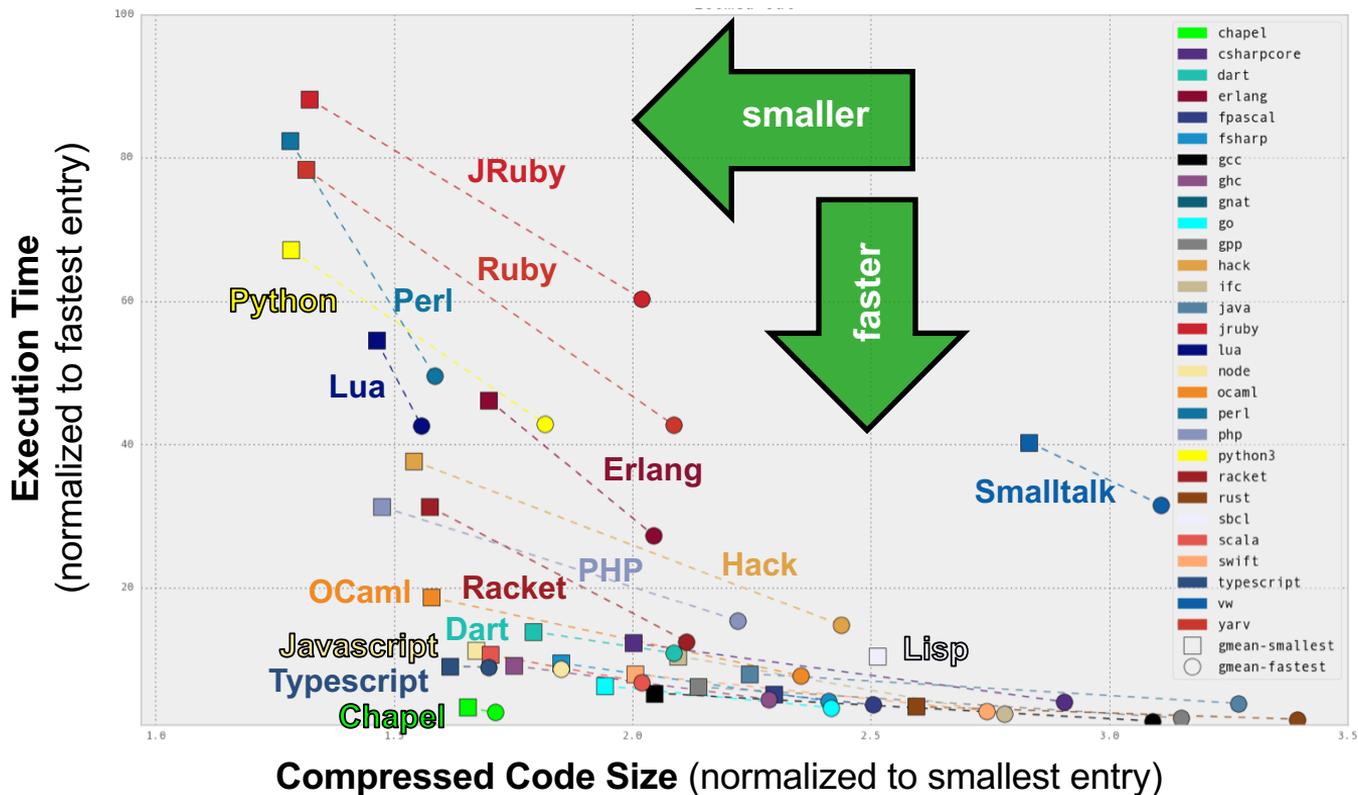
(Oct 2017 standings, zoomed in)



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# CLBG Cross-Language Summary

(Oct 2017 standings)



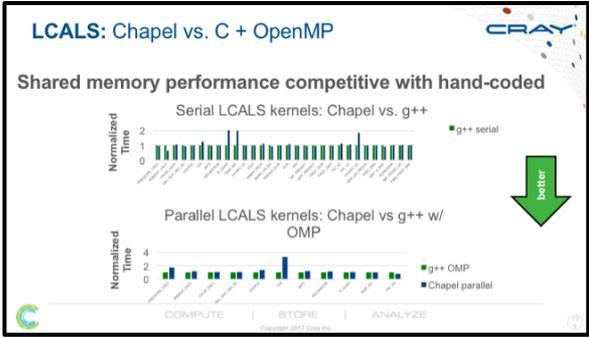
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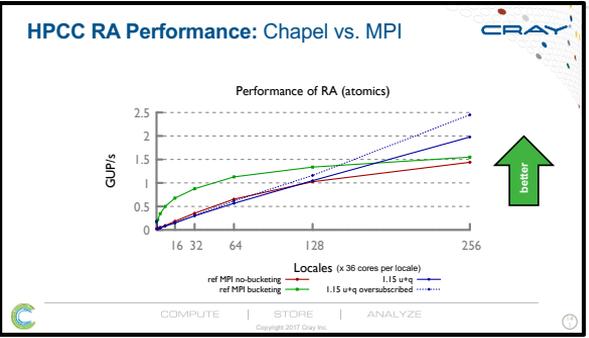


# Chapel Performance: HPC Benchmarks



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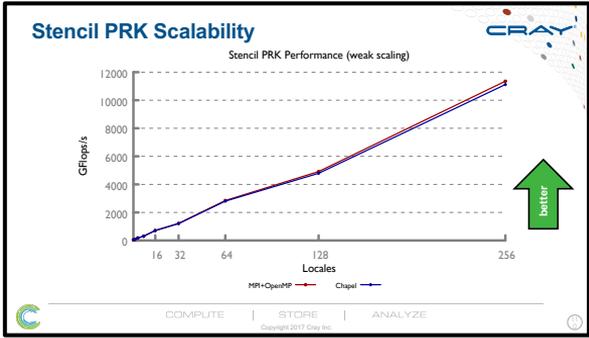
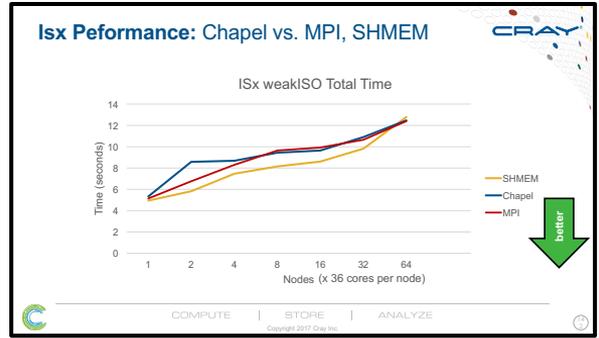
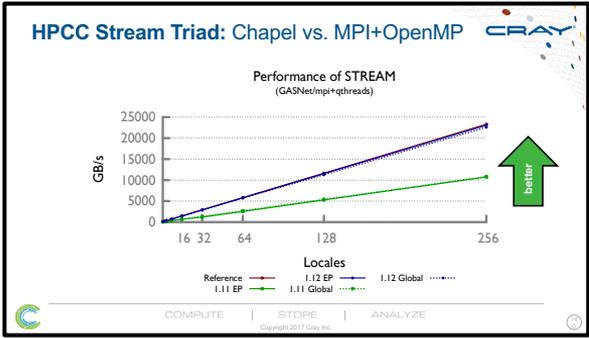
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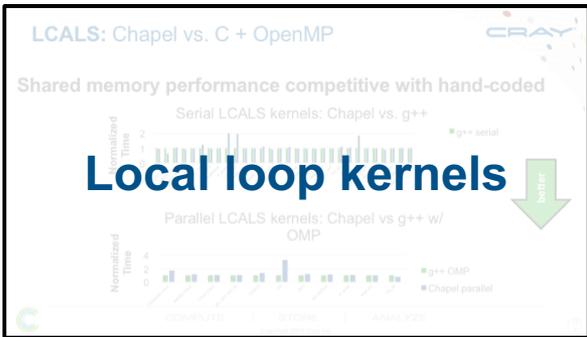
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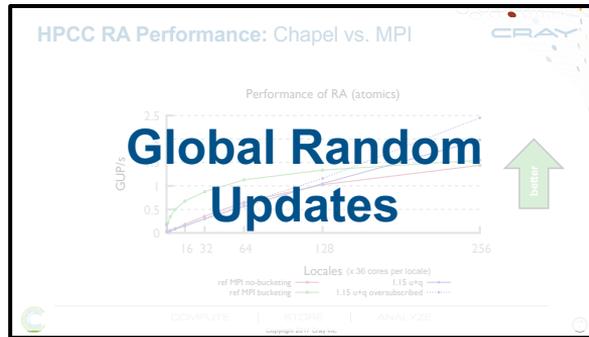
Nightly performance graphs online at: <https://chapel-lang.org/perf>

# Chapel Performance: HPC Benchmarks



LCALS

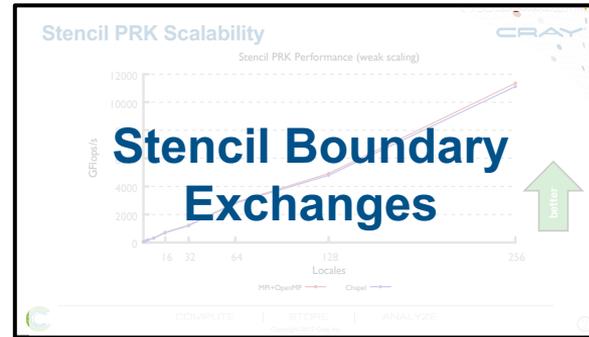
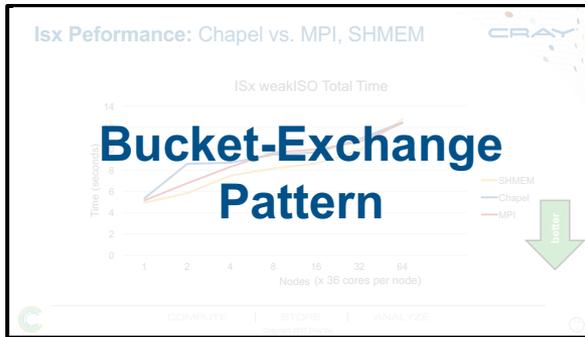
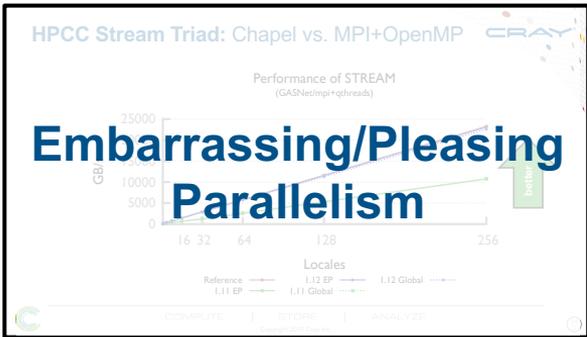
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Nightly performance graphs online at: <https://chapel-lang.org/perf>

# The Chapel Team at Cray (May 2017)



14 full-time employees + ~2 summer interns



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# Chapel Community Partners



Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory



Yale

(and several others...)

<https://chapel-lang.org/collaborations.html>



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# Tonight's Plan

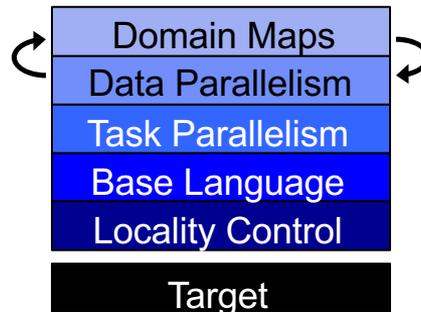
- **Cover features that we haven't in this forum before**
  - base language features of potential interest to C++ users
  - multiresolution features for user control over parallel abstractions
    - parallel iterators
    - domain maps
    - locale models
- **Review core features along the way**
  - goal: quicker than in previous talks
  - help refresh memories / bring new attendees up-to-speed
- **Please ask questions as we go**



# Chapel language feature areas



*Chapel language concepts*

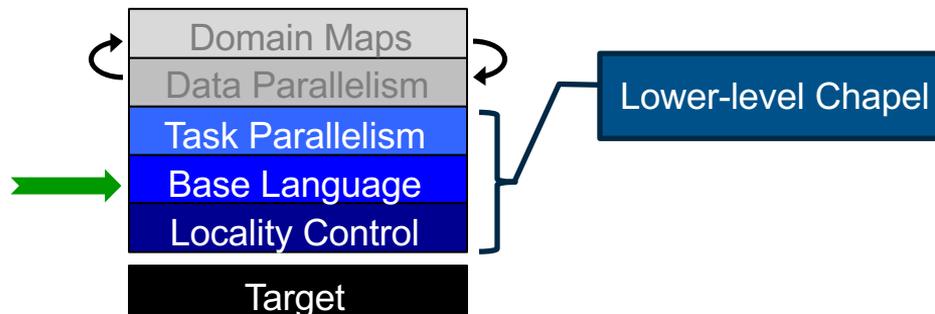


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# Base Language



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# Base Language Features, by example

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

```
config const n = 10;  
  
for f in fib(n) do  
    writeln(f);
```

```
0  
1  
1  
2  
3  
5  
8  
...
```



# Base Language Features, by example

Configuration declarations  
(to avoid command-line argument parsing)  
`./a.out --n=1000000`

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

```
config const n = 10;  
  
for f in fib(n) do  
  writeln(f);
```

```
0  
1  
1  
2  
3  
5  
8  
...
```



# Base Language Features, by example

## Modern iterators

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

```
config const n = 10;  
  
for f in fib(n) do  
    writeln(f);
```

```
0  
1  
1  
2  
3  
5  
8  
...
```



# Base Language Features, by 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;
  }
}

```

```

config const n = 10;

for f in fib(n) do
  writeln(f);

```

```

0
1
1
2
3
5
8
...

```



# Base Language Features, by example

Zippered iteration

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

```
config const n = 10;  
  
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, by example

## Range types and operators

```
iter fib(n) {  
    var current = 0;  
    next = 1;  
  
    for i in 1..n {  
        yield current;  
        current += next;  
        current <=> next;  
    }  
}
```

```
config const n = 10;  
  
for (i,f) in zip(0..#n, fib(n)) do  
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```

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



# Base Language Features, by example

tuples

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

```
config const n = 10;  
for (i, f) in zip(0..#n, fib(n)) do  
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```

```
fib #0 is 0  
fib #1 is 1  
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fib #5 is 5  
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```



# Base Language Features, by example

```
iter fib(n) {  
    var current = 0,  
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    for i in 1..n {  
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```
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  
...
```



# Other Base Language Features of Potential Interest to C++ Users



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# Other Base Language Features: OOP

## Two flavors of object-oriented types:

- Value-based:

```
record Circle {  
    var radius: real;  
    proc area() { ... }  
}
```

- Reference-based:

```
class Circle {  
    var radius: real;  
    proc area() { ... }  
}
```

```
var myCircle = new Circle(radius = 1.0),  
    myCircle2 = myCircle;    // copy for record, alias for class  
myCircle.radius = 2.0;  
writeln(myCircle2.area()); // 1.0 for record, 4.0 for class
```



# Other Base Language Features: Generics

- Support for generic types and functions

- w.r.t. types and statically known values (`param`s)

```
class Arr {  
    param numDims: int;           // number of dimensions  
    type eltType;                 // element type  
    var size: numDims*int;       // tuple storing per-dimension size  
}
```

```
var myArr  = new Arr(2, string, (100, 200)),  
    myArr2 = new Arr(3, real, (500, 500, 500));
```



# Other Base Language Features: Generics

- Support for generic types and functions

- w.r.t. types and statically known values (`param`s)

```
proc mypow(type t, x: t, param exponent: int) {  
  var result = 1:t;  
  for param i in 1..exponent do  
    result *= x;  
  return result;  
}
```

note: this is an utterly artificial and over-engineered way to write this function in Chapel, done merely to demonstrate type/param args in ~6 lines...

```
var twoSquared = mypow(int, 2, 2);
```

```
var piCubed = mypow(real, 3.14159265, 3);
```



- **Compile-time procedures to compute types / params**

```
proc computePacketSize(type t1, type t2) param {  
    return numBits(t1) + numBits(t2);  
}  
  
proc c_intToChapelInt() type {  
    return int(numBits(c_int));  
}
```

- Also, support for config types / params

```
config param bitsPerInt = 16;  
config type eltType = int(bitsPerInt);
```

```
chpl -sbitsPerInt=64 -selType=real(32) myProg.chpl
```



- Ability to unroll loops / fold conditionals or ‘void’ exprs

```
for param i in (1, 2.3, "hello", (5,7)) do
  writeln("i: " , i, " has type: ", i.type:string);
```

- Reflection module:

- “Can this function / method be resolved”
- “Iterate over all fields in this record giving me their names / types”
- ...



# Other Base Language Features

- **Error-handling**
- **Modules (namespaces)**
- **Overloading, filtering**
- **Default args, arg intents, keyword-based arg passing**
- **Argument type queries / pattern-matching**
- **...**

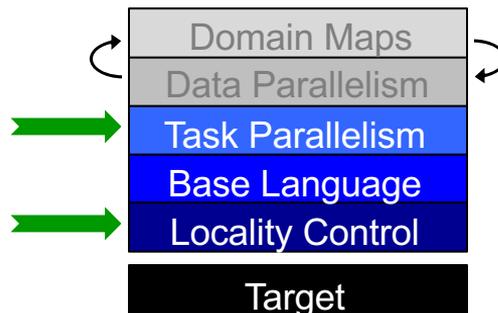


# Base Language Features: What's Missing?

- **better initializer (constructor) features**
  - currently being implemented and refined
- **delete-free programming / borrow-checking**
  - currently being designed and implemented
- **first-class functions**
  - prototyped, need strengthening
- **constrained generics / interfaces / concepts**
  - proposal drafted but not implemented
- **anti-function hijacking features**
  - currently under consideration



# Task Parallelism and Locality Control



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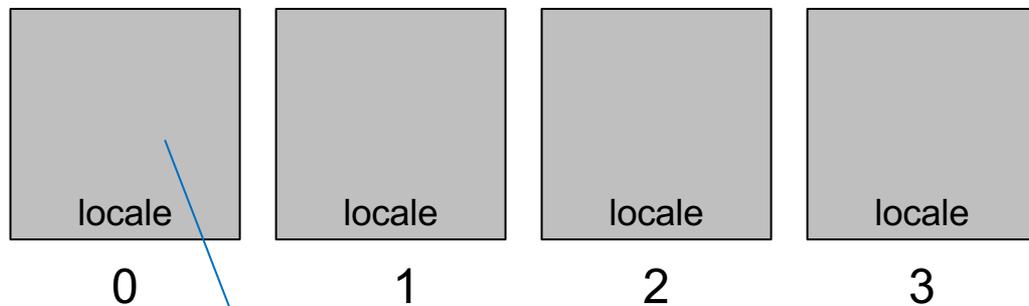
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# Locales

- Unit of the target system useful for reasoning about locality
  - Each locale can run tasks and store variables
    - Has processors and memory (or can defer to something that does)
  - For most HPC systems, locale == compute node

**Locales:**



User's main() executes on locale #0



# Task Parallelism and Locality, by example

taskParallel.chpl

```
coforall loc in Locales do
  on loc {
    const numTasks = here.numPUs();
    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 and Locality, by example

Abstraction of  
System Resources

taskParallel.chpl

```
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# Task Parallelism and Locality, by example

High-Level  
Task Parallelism

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# Task Parallelism and Locality, by example

taskParallel.chpl

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    coforall tid in 1..numTasks do
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            "running on %s\n",
            tid, numTasks, here.name);
  }
```

Control of Locality/Affinity

```
prompt> chpl taskParallel.chpl -o taskParallel
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# Task Parallelism and Locality, by example

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System Resources

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# Task Parallelism and Locality, by example

High-Level  
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# Task Parallelism and Locality, by example

taskParallel.chpl

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

Not seen here:

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

```
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 and Locality, by example

taskParallel.chpl

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            "running on %s\n",
            tid, numTasks, here.name);
  }
```

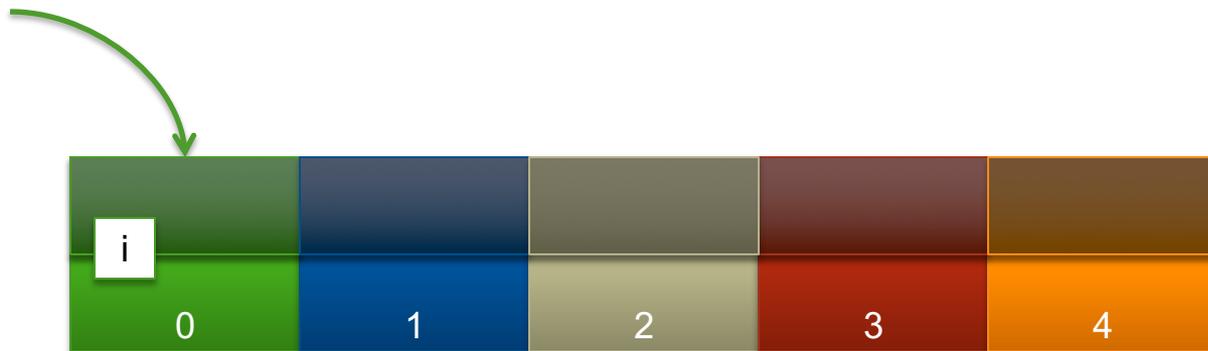
```
prompt> chpl taskParallel.chpl -o taskParallel
prompt> ./taskParallel --numLocales=2
Hello from task 1 of 2 running on n1033
Hello from task 2 of 2 running on n1032
Hello from task 2 of 2 running on n1033
Hello from task 1 of 2 running on n1032
```



# Chapel: Scoping and Locality



```
var i: int;
```



*Locales* (think: "compute nodes")

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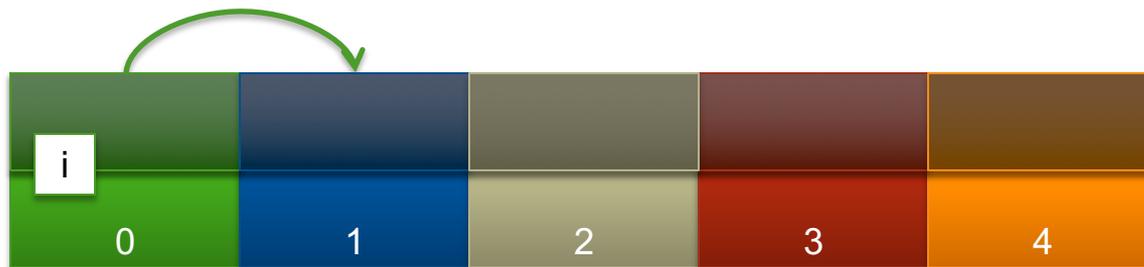
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# Chapel: Scoping and Locality



```
var i: int;  
on Locales[1] {
```



*Locales* (think: “compute nodes”)

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# Chapel: Scoping and Locality



```
var i: int;  
on Locales[1] {  
  var j: int;
```



*Locales* (think: “compute nodes”)

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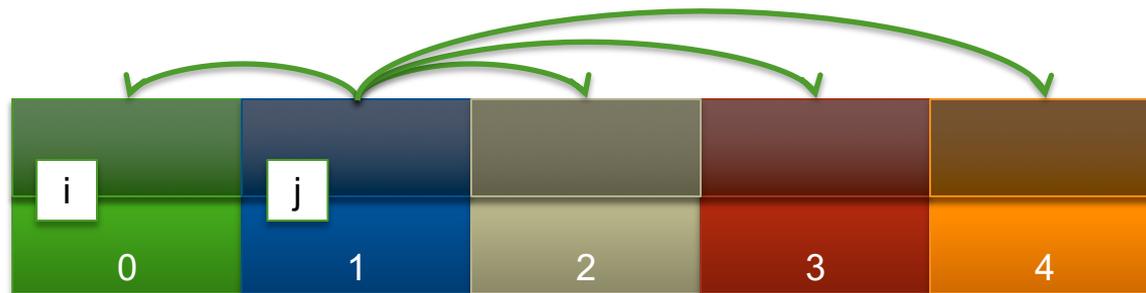
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# Chapel: Scoping and Locality



```
var i: int;  
on Locales[1] {  
  var j: int;  
  coforall loc in Locales {  
    on loc {
```



*Locales* (think: “compute nodes”)

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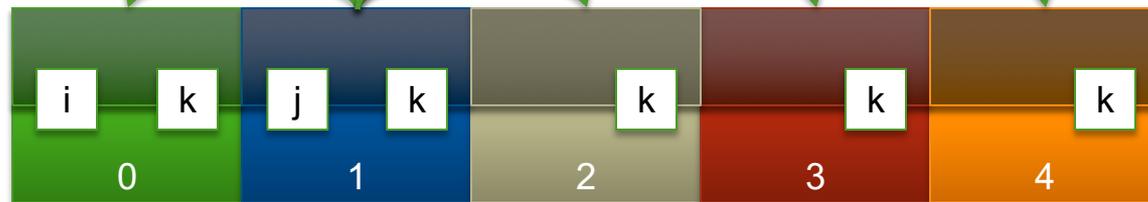
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# Chapel: Scoping and Locality



```
var i: int;  
on Locales[1] {  
  var j: int;  
  coforall loc in Locales {  
    on loc {  
      var k: int;  
      ...  
    }  
  }  
}
```



*Locales* (think: “compute nodes”)

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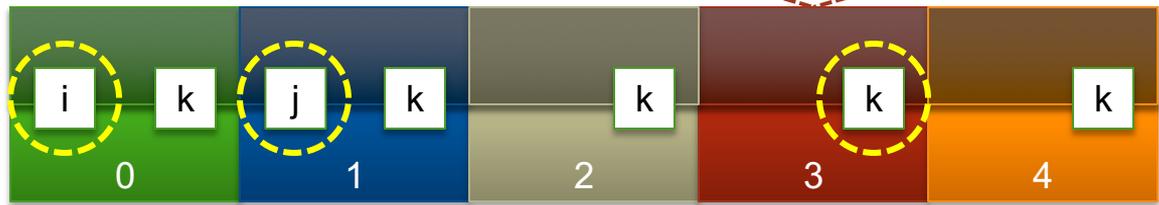
# Chapel: Scoping and Locality



```
var i: int;  
on Locales[1] {  
  var j: int;  
  coforall loc in Locales {  
    on loc {  
      var k: int;  
      k = 2*i + j;  
    }  
  }  
}
```

OK to access  $i, j$ , and  $k$  wherever they live

$k = 2*i + j;$



Locales (think: "compute nodes")

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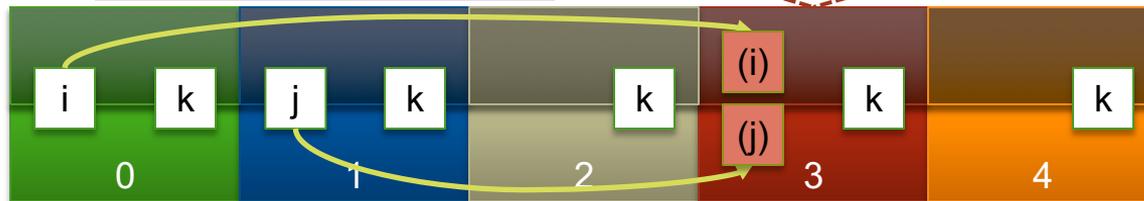
# Chapel: Scoping and Locality



```
var i: int;  
on Locales[1] {  
  var j: int;  
  coforall loc in Locales {  
    on loc {  
      var k: int;  
      k = 2*i + j;  
    }  
  }  
}
```

here, *i* and *j* are remote, so the compiler + runtime will transfer their values

$k = 2*i + j;$



Locales (think: "compute nodes")

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# Chapel: Locality queries

```
var i: int;  
on Locales[1] {  
  var j: int;  
  coforall loc in Locales {  
    on loc {  
      ...here...           // query the locale on which this task is running  
      ...j.locale...      // query the locale on which j is stored  
      ...here.physicalMemory(...)... // query system characteristics  
      ...here.runningTasks()...    // query runtime characteristics  
    }  
  }  
}
```



Locales (think: "compute nodes")

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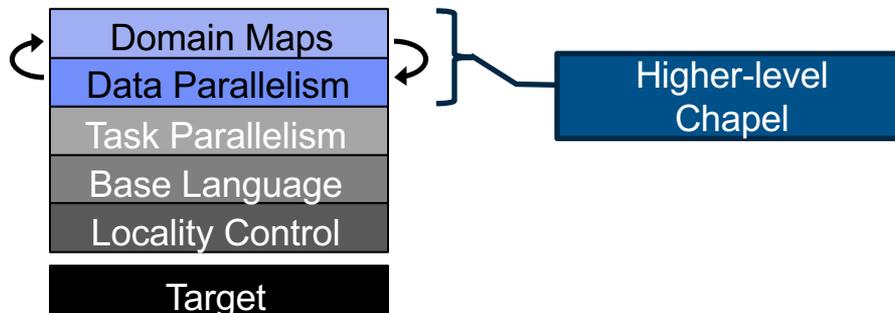
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# Data Parallelism in Chapel



*Chapel language concepts*



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# Data Parallelism, by example

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, by example

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;  
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4.1 4.3 4.5 4.7 4.9  
5.1 5.3 5.5 5.7 5.9
```



# Data Parallelism, by example

Arrays

dataParallel.chpl

```
config const n = 1000;  
var D = {1..n, 1..n};  
  
var A: [D] real;  
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4.1 4.3 4.5 4.7 4.9  
5.1 5.3 5.5 5.7 5.9
```



# Data Parallelism, by example

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  
  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, by example

This is a shared memory program

Nothing has referred to remote locales, explicitly or implicitly

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
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1.1 1.3 1.5 1.7 1.9
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4.1 4.3 4.5 4.7 4.9
5.1 5.3 5.5 5.7 5.9
  
```





# Data Parallelism, by example

This is a shared memory program

Nothing has referred to remote locales, explicitly or implicitly

dataParallel.chpl

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var D = {1..n, 1..n};  
  
var A: [D] real;  
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4.1 4.3 4.5 4.7 4.9  
5.1 5.3 5.5 5.7 5.9
```



# Distributed Data Parallelism, by example

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, by example

magic!

HPF-like!

descriptive!

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);
```

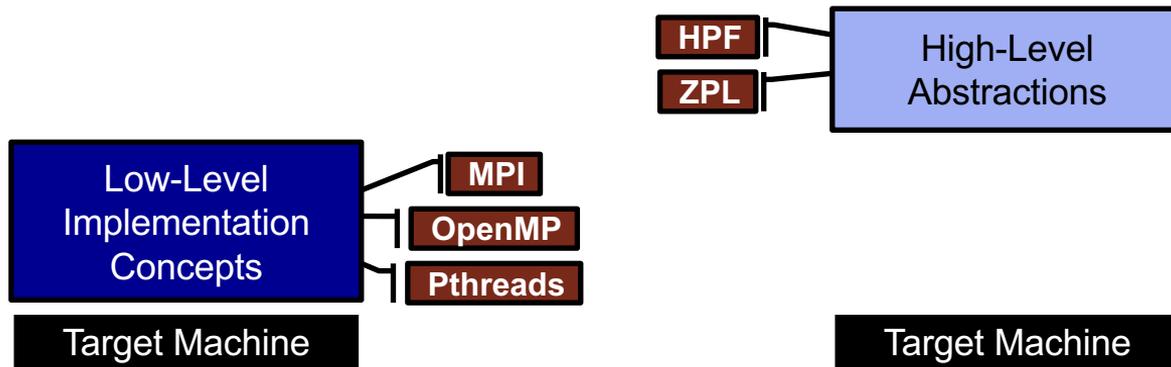
## Not at all...

- Lowering of code is well-defined
- User can control details
- Part of Chapel's *multiresolution philosophy...*

```
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
```



# Chapel's Multiresolution Design: Motivation



*“Why is everything so tedious/difficult?”*

*“Why don’t my programs trivially port to new systems?”*

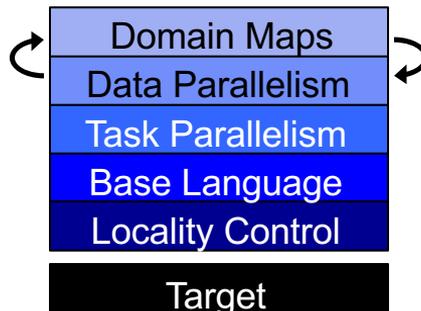
*“Why don’t I have more control?”*



# Chapel's Multiresolution Philosophy

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

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



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





# Distributed Data Parallelism, by example

Chapel's prescriptive approach:

```
forall (i,j) in D do...
```

⇒ invoke and inline D's default parallel iterator

- defined by D's type / domain map

## default domain map

- create a task per local core
- block indices across tasks

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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prompt> chpl dataParallel.chpl -o dataParallel  
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3.1 3.3 3.5 3.7 3.9  
4.1 4.3 4.5 4.7 4.9  
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```



# Distributed Data Parallelism, by example

Chapel's prescriptive approach:

```
forall (i,j) in D do...
```

⇒ invoke and inline D's default parallel iterator

- defined by D's type / domain map

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);
```

default domain map

cyclic domain map

on each target locale...

- create a task per core
- block local indices across tasks

```
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
```

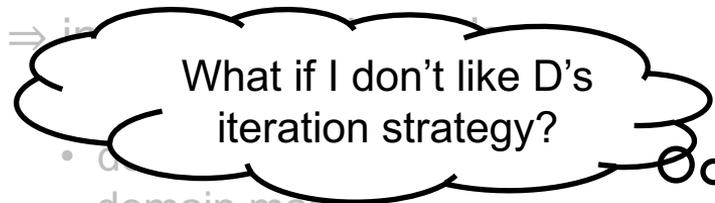




# Distributed Data Parallelism, by example

Chapel's prescriptive approach:

```
forall (i,j) in D do...
```



```
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;
```

- Write and call your own parallel iterator:

```
forall (i,j) in myParIter(D) do...
```

- Or, use a different domain map:

```
var D = {1..n, 1..n} dmapped Block(...);
```

- Or, write and use your own domain map:

```
var D = {1..n, 1..n} dmapped MyDomMap(...);
```

```
dataParallel.chpl -o dataParallel
./dataParallel --n=5 --numLocales=4
```



# Write and Call Your Own Parallel Iterator



---

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# Authoring Parallel Iterators

- **Similar to serial iterators, but invoked by `forall` loops**
  - Unlike serial iterators, these can contain parallel constructs

```
forall i in myParIter(D) { ... }
```

invokes:

```
iter myParIter(dom: domain, ... /* tag as a parallel iterator */) {  
  coforall tid in 0..#numTasks {  
    const myChunk = computeChunk(dom, tid, numTasks);  
    for i in myChunk do  
      yield i;  
  }  
}
```



# Authoring Zippered Parallel Iterators

- Parallel iterators can also support zippered iteration

```
forall (i,j) in zip(myParIter(D), A) { ... }
```

- defined in terms of leader...

```
iter myParIter(dom: domain, ...) {  
  coforall tid in 0..#numTasks do  
    yield computeChunk(dom, tid, numTasks);  
}
```

...and follower iterators:

```
iter myParIter(dom: domain, followThis, ...) {  
  for i in followThis do yield i;  
}
```



# Use a Different Domain Map



---

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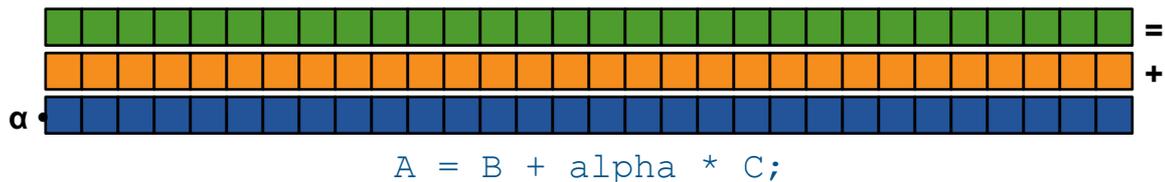
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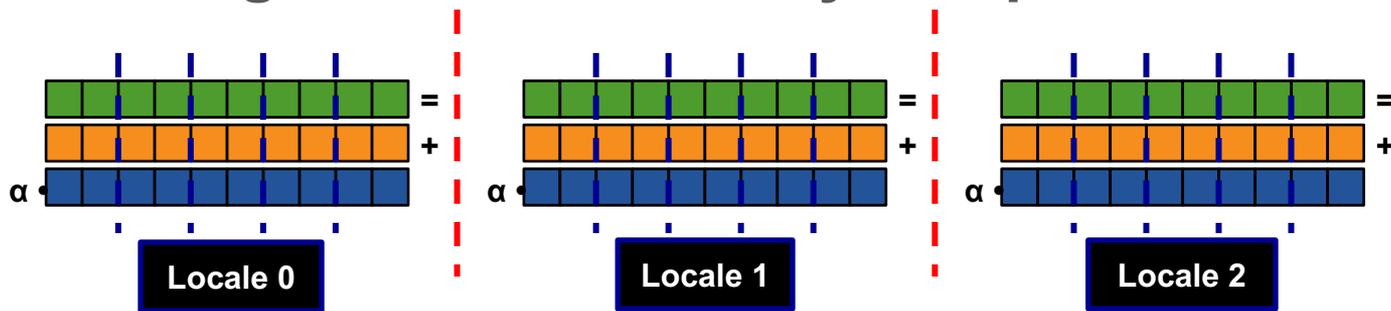


# Domain Maps: A Multiresolution Feature

Domain maps are “recipes” that instruct the compiler how to map the global view of a computation...



...to the target locales' memory and processors:



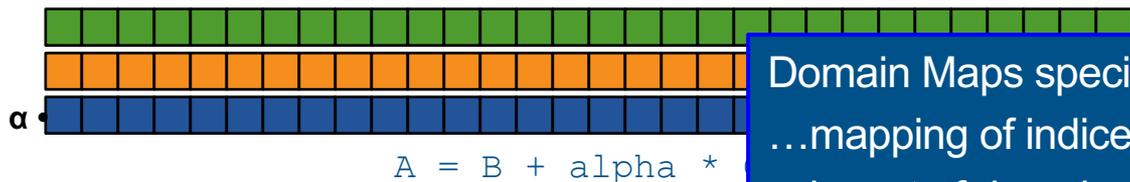
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# Domain Maps: A Multiresolution Feature

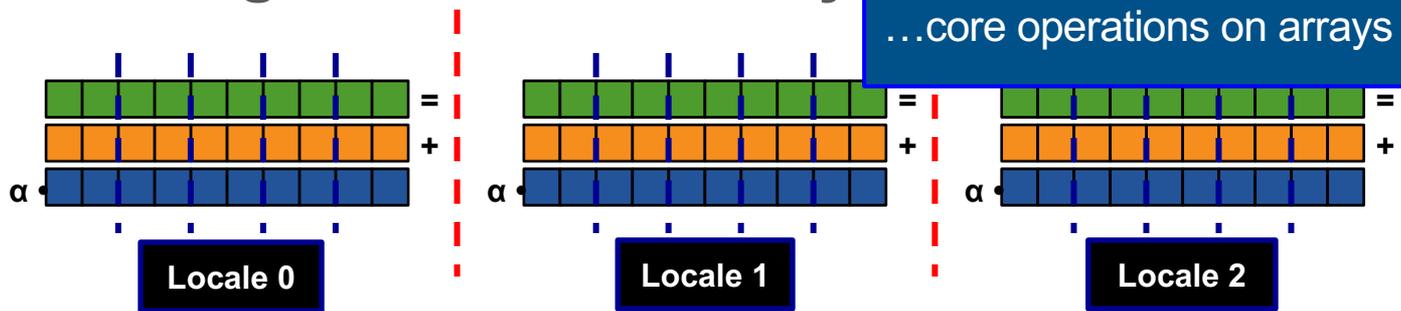


Domain maps are “recipes” that instruct the compiler how to map the global view of a computation...



Domain Maps specify...  
...mapping of indices to locales  
...layout of domains / arrays in memory  
...parallel iteration strategies  
...core operations on arrays / domains

...to the target locales' memory



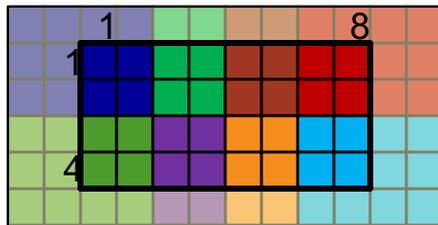
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# Sample Domain Maps: Block and Cyclic



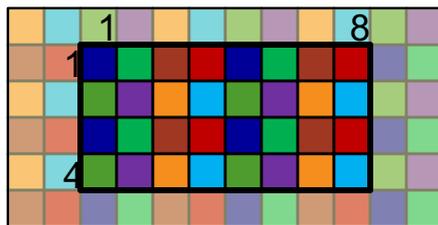
```
var Dom = {1..4, 1..8} dmapped Block( {1..4, 1..8} );
```



*distributed to*



```
var Dom = {1..4, 1..8} dmapped Cyclic( startIdx=(1,1) );
```



*distributed to*



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# Write and Use Your Own Domain Map



---

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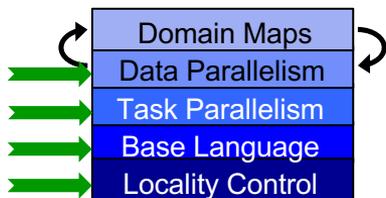
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# Chapel's Domain Map Philosophy

1. Chapel provides a library of standard domain maps
  - to support common array implementations effortlessly
2. Expert users can write their own domain maps in Chapel
  - to cope with any shortcomings in our standard library



3. Chapel's standard domain maps are written using the end-user framework
  - to avoid a performance cliff between “built-in” and user-defined cases
  - in fact every Chapel array is implemented using this framework



# Domain Map Descriptors

## Domain Map

**Represents:** a domain map value

**Generic w.r.t.:** index type

**State:** the domain map's representation

**Typical Size:**  $\Theta(1) \rightarrow \Theta(\text{numLocales})$

**Required Interface:**

- create new domains
- which locale owns index  $i$ ?

## Domain

**Represents:** a domain

**Generic w.r.t.:** index type

**State:** representation of index set

**Typical Size:**  $\Theta(1) \rightarrow \Theta(\text{numIndices})$

**Required Interface:**

- create new arrays
- queries: size, members
- iterators: serial, parallel
- domain assignment
- index set operations

## Array

**Represents:** an array

**Generic w.r.t.:** index type, element type

**State:** array elements

**Typical Size:**  $\Theta(\text{numIndices})$

**Required Interface:**

- (re-)allocation of elements
- random access
- iterators: serial, parallel
- get/set of sparse "zero" values
- ...

# Chapel and Performance Portability

- **Avoid locking key policy decisions into the language**
  - Array memory layout?
  - Sparse storage format?
  - Parallel loop policies?



# Chapel and Performance Portability

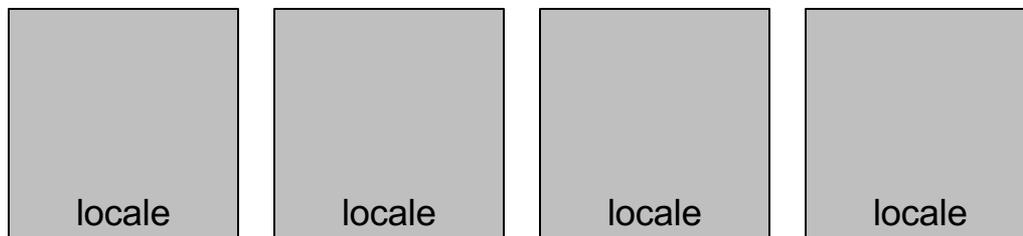
- **Avoid locking key policy decisions into the language**
  - Array memory layout? **not defined by Chapel**
  - Sparse storage format? **not defined by Chapel**
  - Parallel loop policies? **not defined by Chapel**
  - Abstract node architecture? **not defined by Chapel**
- **Instead, permit users to specify these in Chapel itself**
  - support performance portability through...
    - ...a separation of concerns
    - ...abstractions—known to the compiler, and therefore optimizable
  - **goal:** make Chapel a future-proof language



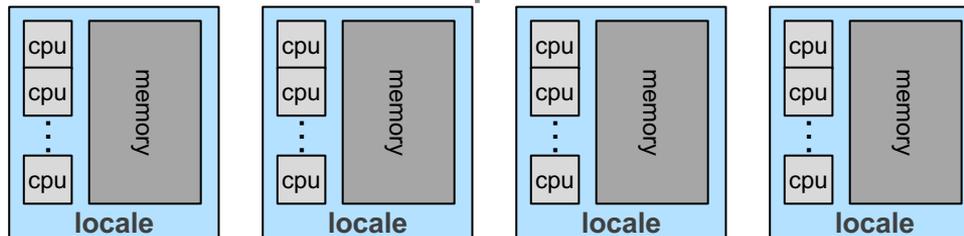
# Classic Locales



- **Historically, Chapel's locales were black boxes**
  - Intra-node concerns handled by compiler, runtime, OS



- This was sufficient when compute nodes were simple



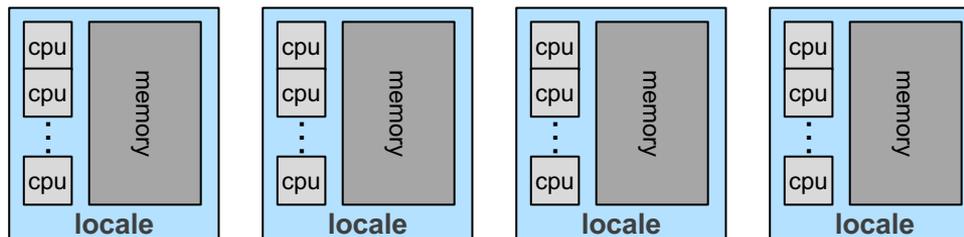
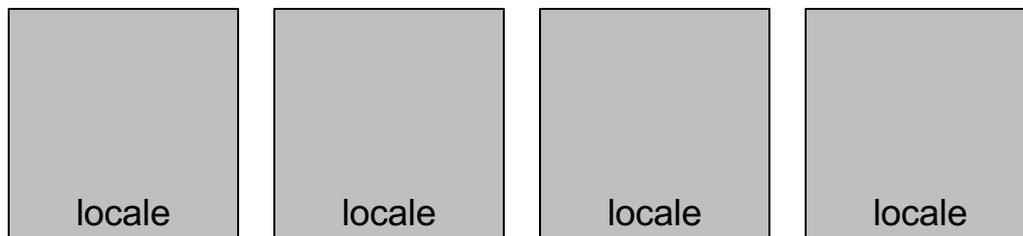
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# Classic Locales



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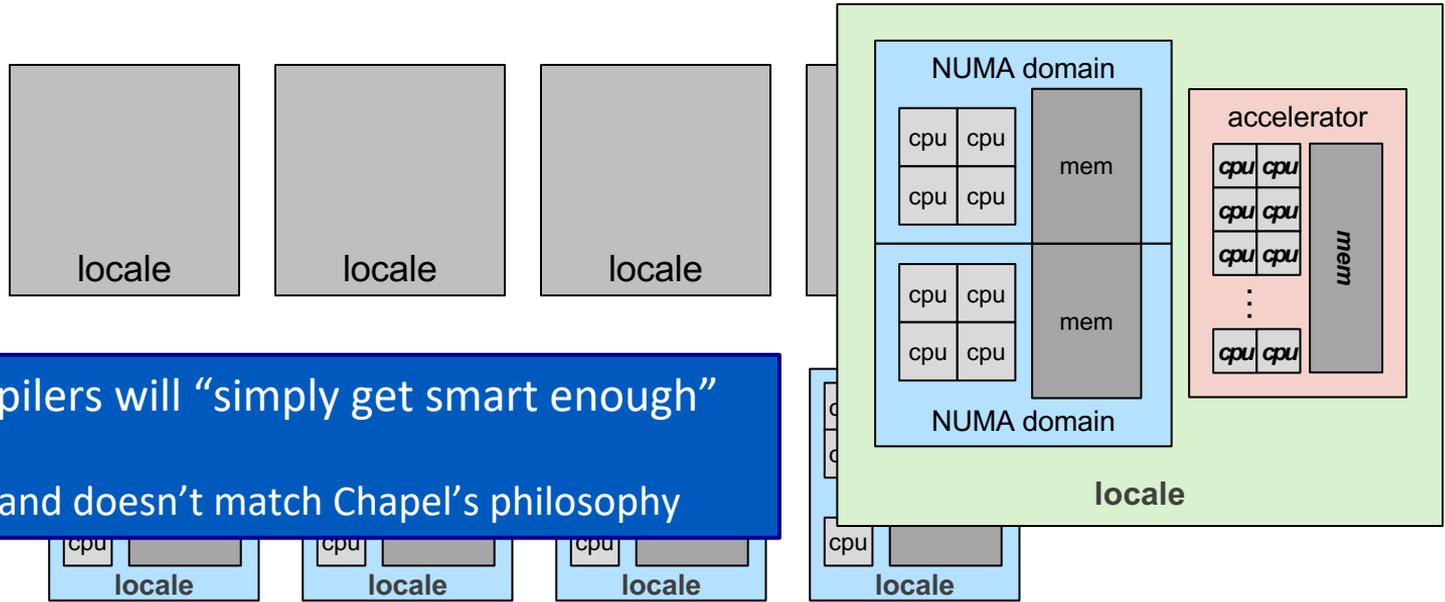
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# Classic Locales



- **Classic model breaks down for more complex cases**
  - E.g. multiple flavors of memory or processors



Could hope compilers will “simply get smart enough”  
...but seems naïve and doesn't match Chapel's philosophy



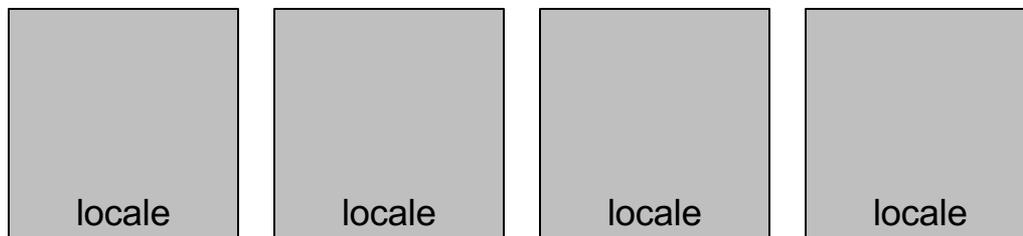
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# Hierarchical Locales

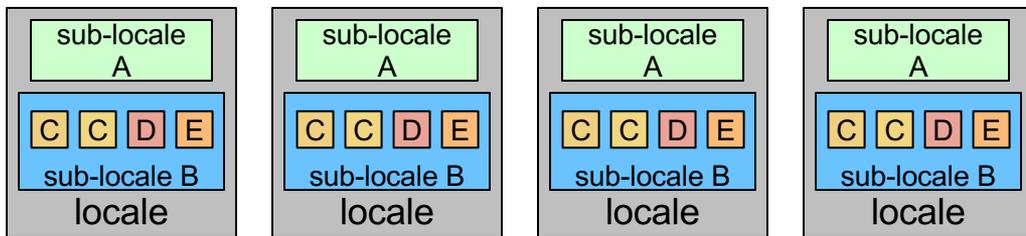
- So, we made locales hierarchical



# Hierarchical Locales

- So, we made locales hierarchical

- Locales can now themselves contain locales
  - E.g., an accelerator sub-locale, a scratchpad memory sub-locale



- Target sub-locales with on-clauses, as before
  - `on Locales[0].GPU do computationThatLikesGPUs();`
  - Ideally, hide such logic in abstractions: domain maps, parallel iterators
- Introduced a new multiresolution type: *locale models*

# Chapel's Locale Models

- **User-specified type representing locales**
- **Similar goals to domain maps:**
  - Support user implementation of key high-level abstractions
  - Make language future-proof (w.r.t. emerging architectures)



# Authoring a Locale Model

- **Creating a locale model:**
  - Create a top-level locale object type
    - In turn, it can contain fields representing sub-locales
  - Each locale / sub-locale type must meet a required interface:
    - **Memory:** How is it managed? (malloc, realloc, free)
    - **Tasking:** How do I launch and synchronize tasks?
    - **Communication:** How are data & control transferred between locales?
      - gets, puts, active messages
      - widening of pointers





# Locale Models: Status

- **All Chapel compilations use a locale model**
  - Set via environment variable or compiler flag
- **Current locale models:**
  - **flat:** the default, has no sublocales (as in the classic model)
  - **numa:** supports a sub-locale per NUMA domain within the node
  - **kn1:** for Intel® Xeon Phi™: numa w/ sublocale for HBM/MCDRAM



# Wrapping Up



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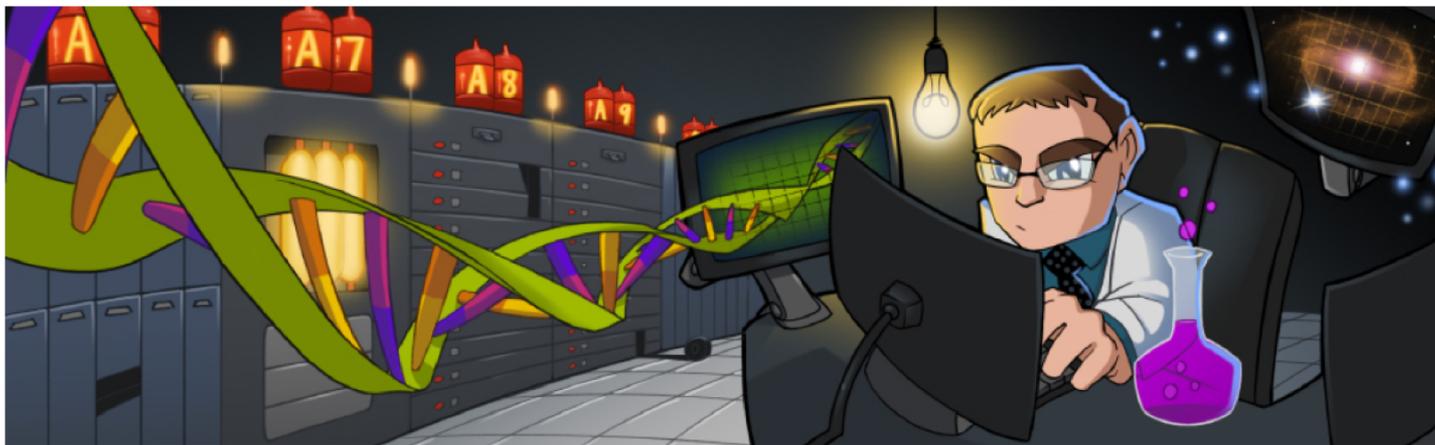
# Summary

- **Chapel's design uses a multiresolution philosophy**
  - High-level for productivity
  - Low-level for control
  - User-extensible for flexibility, future-proof design
- **Three key examples of multiresolution features:**
  - **Parallel iterators:** specify the implementation of forall loops
  - **Domain maps:** specify the implementation of domains and arrays
  - **Locale models:** specify the capabilities of the target architecture



## Chapel's Home in the Landscape of New Scientific Computing Languages (and what it can learn from the neighbours)

Jonathan Dursi, *The Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto*



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# Quote from CHI UW 2017 keynote



*“My opinion as an outsider...is that Chapel is important, Chapel is mature, and Chapel is just getting started.*

*“If the scientific community is going to have frameworks for solving scientific problems that are actually designed for our problems, they’re going to come from a project like Chapel.*

*“And the thing about Chapel is that the set of all things that are ‘projects like Chapel’ is ‘Chapel.’”*

**–Jonathan Dursi**

*Chapel’s Home in the New Landscape of Scientific Frameworks*

*(and what it can learn from the neighbours)*

**CHI UW 2017 keynote**

<https://ljdursi.github.io/CHI UW2017> / <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xj0rwdLOR4U>



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# Chapel Resources

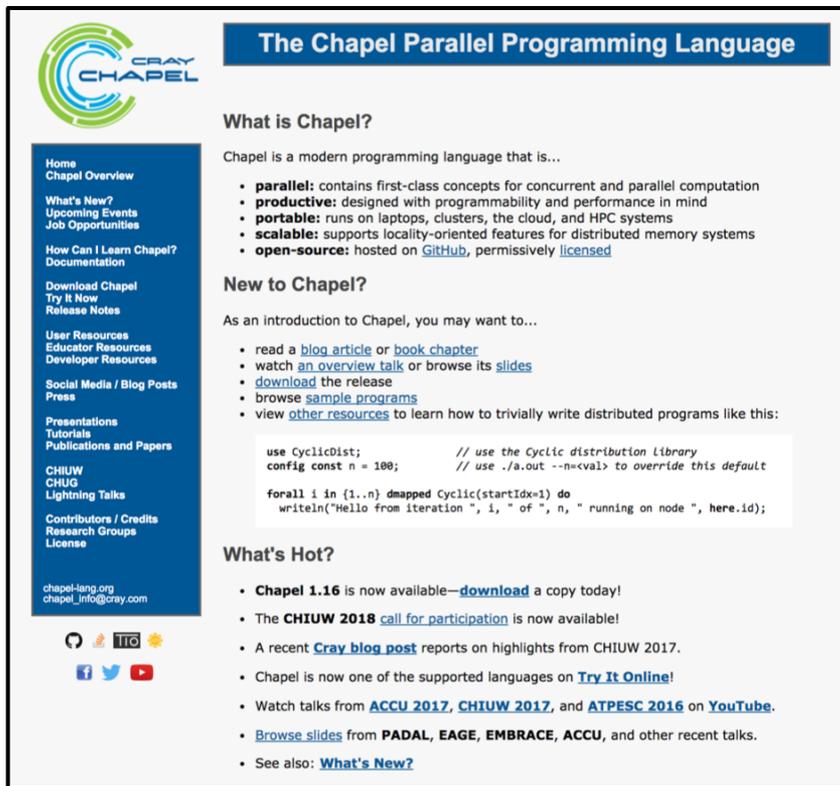


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The screenshot shows the Chapel website home page. At the top left is the Chapel logo. A blue sidebar on the left contains a navigation menu with links for Home, What's New?, How Can I Learn Chapel?, Download Chapel, User Resources, Social Media, Presentations, CHIUIW, and Contributors. The main content area has a blue header 'The Chapel Parallel Programming Language'. Below this is the section 'What is Chapel?' which defines Chapel as a modern programming language and lists its key features: parallel, productive, portable, scalable, and open-source. The 'New to Chapel?' section provides an introduction and lists resources like blog articles, book chapters, and sample programs. A code block shows a snippet of Chapel code using the Cyclic distribution library. The 'What's Hot?' section lists recent news items, including the availability of Chapel 1.16 and CHIUIW 2018 participation information. At the bottom of the sidebar are social media icons for GitHub, ITO, Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube.

## The Chapel Parallel Programming Language

### What is Chapel?

Chapel is a modern programming language that is...

- **parallel**: contains first-class concepts for concurrent and parallel computation
- **productive**: designed with programmability and performance in mind
- **portable**: runs on laptops, clusters, the cloud, and HPC systems
- **scalable**: supports locality-oriented features for distributed memory systems
- **open-source**: hosted on [GitHub](#), permissively [licensed](#)

### New to Chapel?

As an introduction to Chapel, you may want to...

- read a [blog article](#) or [book chapter](#)
- watch an [overview talk](#) or browse its [slides](#)
- [download](#) the release
- browse [sample programs](#)
- view [other resources](#) to learn how to trivially write distributed programs like this:

```
use CyclicDist;           // use the Cyclic distribution library
config const n = 100;    // use ./a.out --n=<val> to override this default

forall i in {1..n} dmapped Cyclic(startIdx=1) do
  writeln("Hello from iteration ", i, " of ", n, " running on node ", here.id);
```

### What's Hot?

- **Chapel 1.16** is now available—[download](#) a copy today!
- The **CHIUIW 2018** [call for participation](#) is now available!
- A recent [Cray blog post](#) reports on highlights from CHIUIW 2017.
- Chapel is now one of the supported languages on [Try It Online!](#)
- Watch talks from [ACCU 2017](#), [CHIUIW 2017](#), and [ATPESC 2016](#) on [YouTube](#).
- [Browse slides](#) from **PADAL**, **EAGE**, **EMBRACE**, **ACCU**, and other recent talks.
- See also: [What's New?](#)





# How to Track Chapel

<http://facebook.com/ChapelLanguage>

<http://twitter.com/ChapelLanguage>

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCHmm27bYjhknK5mU7ZzPGsQ/>

[chapel-announce@lists.sourceforge.net](mailto:chapel-announce@lists.sourceforge.net)

Facebook page for Chapel Programming Language. The page features the Chapel logo, a post from April 21 at 8:47am, and a box plot titled "How many times slower?". The box plot compares Chapel's performance against various languages like C, C++, Java, Fortran, etc. for different benchmarks. The text of the post states: "We're pleased to note that Chapel is currently ranked 5th in the Computer Language Benchmarks Game's 'fast-faster-faster' graphs. That said, we're even prouder of how clear and concise the Chapel programs are relative to other entries that perform well."

Twitter profile for Chapel Language (@ChapelLanguage). The profile shows 222 tweets, 12 following, 129 followers, and 32 likes. A recent tweet from 5h promotes the PAW 2017 workshop, stating: "Doing interesting applications work in Chapel or another PGAS language? Submit it to the PAW 2017 workshop at @SC17." Below the tweet is a promotional image for "The 2nd Annual PGAS Applications Workshop" held in November 2016 at SC17, featuring the PAW logo and logos for SC17 and sig xpc.

YouTube channel for Chapel Parallel Programming Language. The channel page shows a list of videos, including "SC16 Chapel Tutorial Promo" (6 months ago, 392 views) and "Chapel Productive, Multiresolution Parallel Programming | Brad Chamberlain, Cray, Inc." (7 months ago, 651 views). The channel also features a keynote video from CHLW 2016.



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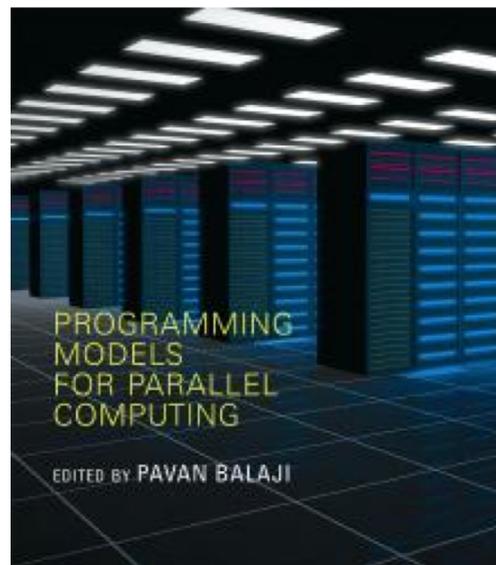
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# Suggested Reading (healthy attention spans)

Chapel chapter from [Programming Models for Parallel Computing](#)

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



Other Chapel papers/publications available at <https://chapel-lang.org/papers.html>



# Suggested Reading (short attention spans)

**[CHIUV 2017: Surveying the Chapel Landscape](#)**, [Cray Blog](#), July 2017.

- *a run-down of recent events*

**[Chapel: Productive Parallel Programming](#)**, [Cray Blog](#), May 2013.

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

**[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*

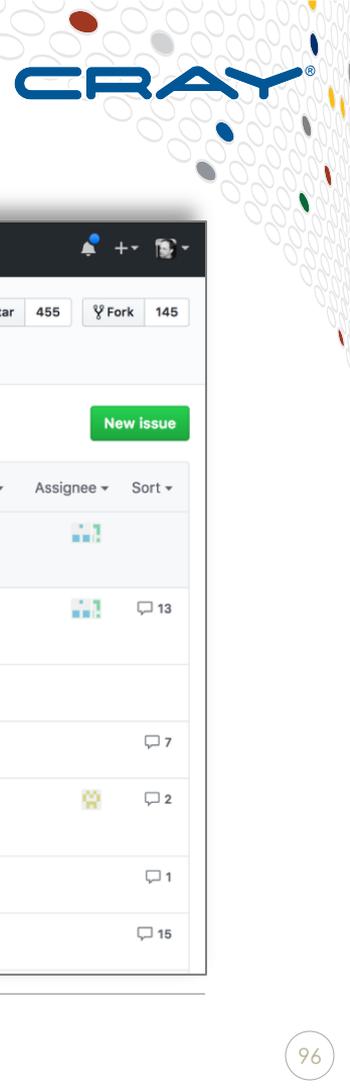
**[\[Ten\] Myths About Scalable Programming Languages](#)**, [IEEE TCSC Blog](#)

([index available on chapel-lang.org “blog posts” page](#)), Apr-Nov 2012.

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



# Chapel StackOverflow and GitHub Issues



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Chapel, the Cascade High Productivity Language, is a parallel programming language developed by Cray.  
learn more... top users synonyms

2 votes  
2 answers  
22 views  
asked 13 hours ago  
barymoo 52 • 2

Can one generate a grid of the Locales where a Distribution is mapped?  
If I run the following code: use BlockDist; config const dimension: int = 5; const space = [0..# dimension]; const matrixBlock: domain(2) dmapped Block(boundingBox=space) = space

3 votes  
1 answer  
24 views  
asked 15 hours ago  
barymoo 52 • 2

Is "[<var> in <distributed variable>]" equivalent to 'forall' ?  
I noticed something in a snippet of code I was given: var D: domain(2) dmapped Block(bound = Space; var A: [D] int; [a in A] a = a.locate.id; [s in A] equivalent to forall a in A a = ...

2 votes  
1 answer  
45 views  
asked Apr 18 at 1  
xSo0Dx 151 • 1

Get Non-primitive Variables from within a Cobegin - Chapel  
I want to compute some information in parallel and use the result outside the cobegin. To be my requirement is to retrieve a domain (and other non primitive types) like this var a,b: ...

3 votes  
1 answer  
Is there a default String conversion method in Chapel?  
Is there a default method that gets called when I try to cast an object into a string? (E.g. toString in Python.) I want to be able to do the following with an array of Objects, ...

This repository Search Pull requests Issues Marketplace Gist

chapel-lang / chapel Watch 45 Unstar 455 Fork 145

Code Issues 292 Pull requests 26 Projects 0 Settings Insights

Filters is:issue is:open Labels Milestones New issue

292 Open 77 Closed Author Labels Projects Milestones Assignee Sort

- Implement "bounded-coforall" optimization for remote coforalls area: Compiler type: Performance #6357 opened 13 hours ago by ronawho
- Consider using processor atomics for remote coforalls EndCount area: Compiler type: Performance #6356 opened 13 hours ago by ronawho 0 of 6
- make uninstall area: BTR type: Feature Request #6353 opened 14 hours ago by mppf
- make check doesn't work with ./configure area: BTR #6352 opened 16 hours ago by mppf
- Passing variable via in intent to a forall loop seems to create an iteration-private variable, not a task-private one area: Compiler type: Bug #6351 opened a day ago by cassella
- Remove chpl\_comm\_make\_progress area: Runtime easy type: Design #6349 opened a day ago by sungeunchoi
- Runtime error after make on Linux Mint area: BTR user issue #6348 opened a day ago by danindiana



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# Where to..



## Submit bug reports:

GitHub issues for chapel-lang/chapel: public bug forum

chapel\_bugs@cray.com: for reporting non-public bugs

## Ask User-Oriented Questions:

StackOverflow: when appropriate / other users might care

#chapel-users (irc.freenode.net): user-oriented IRC channel

chapel-users@lists.sourceforge.net: user discussions

## Discuss Chapel development

chapel-developers@lists.sourceforge.net: developer discussions

#chapel-developers (irc.freenode.net): developer-oriented IRC channel

## Discuss Chapel's use in education

chapel-education@lists.sourceforge.net: educator discussions

**Directly contact Chapel team at Cray: chapel\_info@cray.com**



# Questions?



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