



Hewlett Packard
Enterprise

Vendor-Neutral GPU Programming In Chapel

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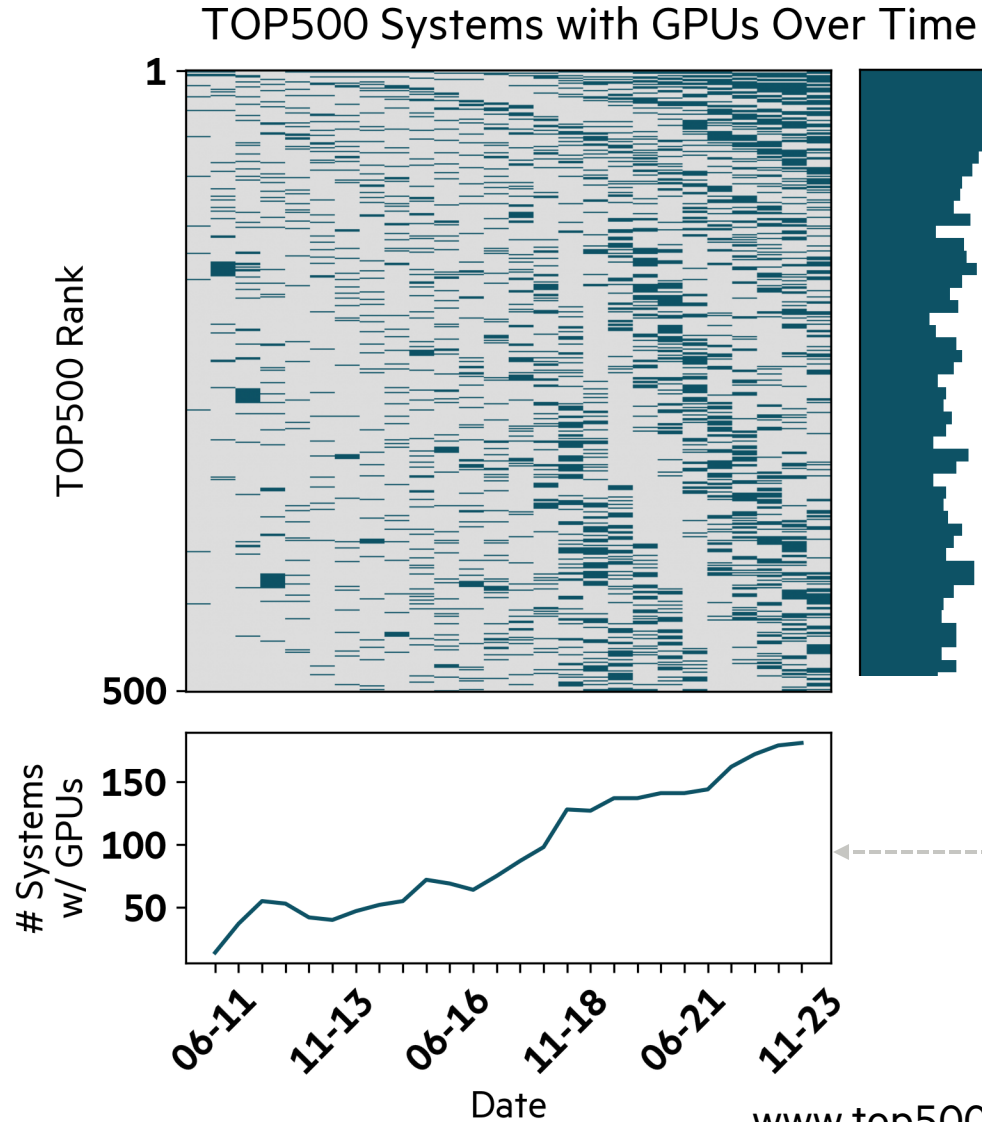
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engin@hpe.com
[linkedin.com/in/engink](https://www.linkedin.com/in/engink)

HPE Developer Meetup
July 31, 2024

It is Hard to Avoid GPUs

With GPUs
Without GPUs



www.top500.org

41% of top 10 have GPUs

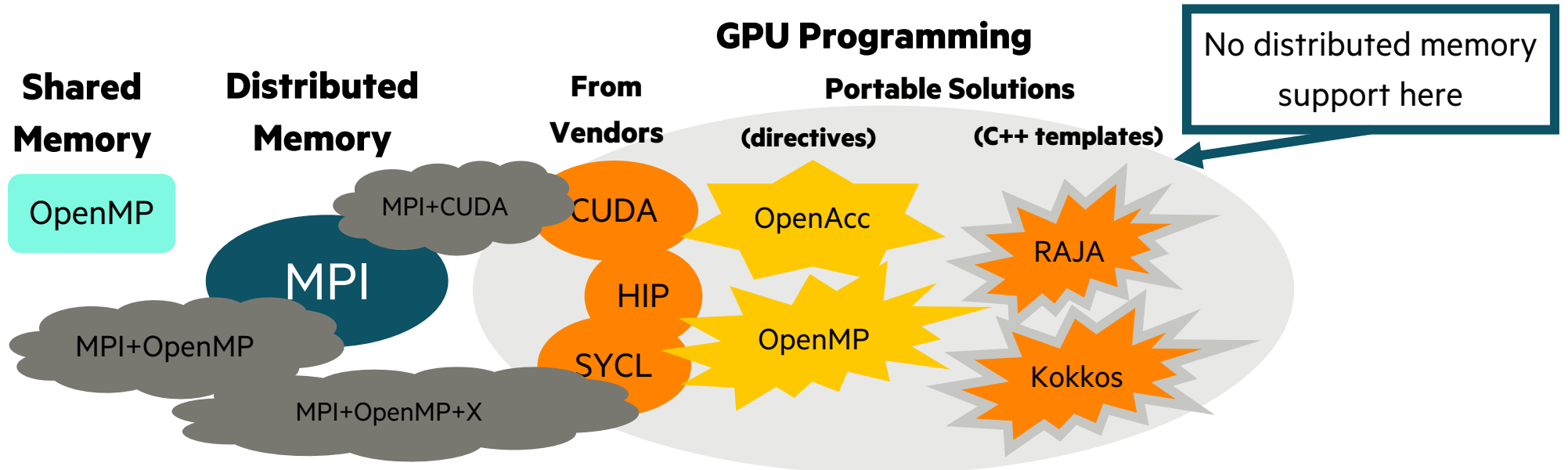
72% in the last 3 years

27% of top 100 have GPUs

52% in the last 3 years

13x more systems w/GPUs

GPUs are Easy to Find... but difficult to program



All are effective, powerful, essential and tested technologies!

- ... but programming for multiple nodes with GPUs appears to require at least 2 programming models
 - all of the models rely on C/C++/Fortran, which are different than the languages being taught these days
 - as a result, *using GPUs in HPC has a high barrier of entry*

Chapel is an alternative for productive distributed and shared memory GPU programming in a vendor-neutral way.



What is Chapel?

Chapel: A modern parallel programming language

- portable & scalable
- open-source & collaborative

Goals:

- Support general parallel programming
- Make parallel programming at scale far more productive



chapel-lang.org



What is Chapel?

Chapel works everywhere

- you can develop on your laptop and have the code scale on a supercomputer
- GPUs can be targeted in a vendor-neutral way
- runs on Linux laptops/clusters, Cray systems, MacOS, WSL, AWS, Raspberry Pi
- shown to scale on Cray networks (Slingshot, Aries), InfiniBand, RDMA-Ethernet

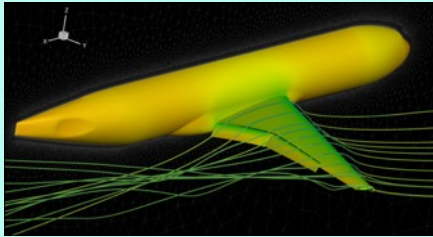
Chapel makes distributed/shared memory parallel programming easy

- data-parallel, locality-aware loops,
- ability to move execution and allocation to remote nodes,
- distributed arrays and bulk array operations
- different types of parallelism can be expressed with the same language features



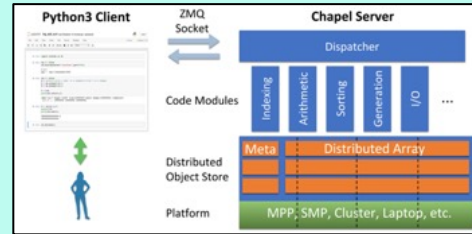
Applications of Chapel

Active GPU efforts



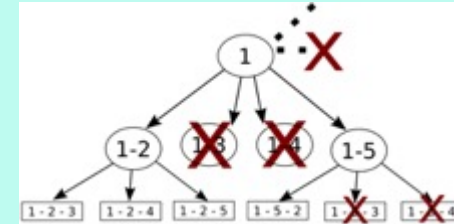
CHAMPS: 3D Unstructured CFD

Laurendeau, Bourgault-Côté, Parenteau, Plante, et al.
École Polytechnique Montréal



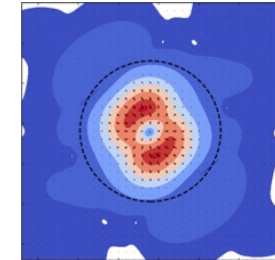
Arkouda: Interactive Data Science at Massive Scale

Mike Merrill, Bill Reus, et al.
U.S. DoD



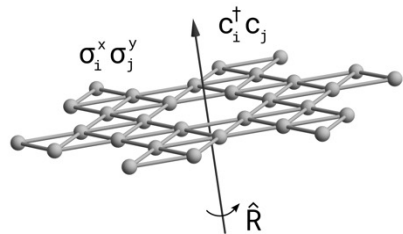
ChOp: Chapel-based Optimization

T. Carneiro, G. Helbecque, N. Melab, et al.
INRIA, IMEC, et al.



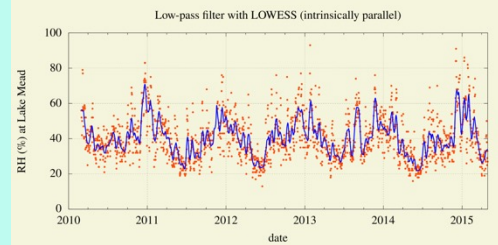
ChpUltra: Simulating Ultralight Dark Matter

Nikhil Padmanabhan, J. Luna Zagorac, et al.
Yale University et al.



Lattice-Symmetries: a Quantum Many-Body Toolbox

Tom Westerhout
Radboud University



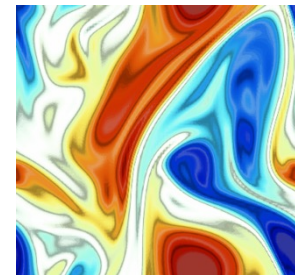
Desk dot chpl: Utilities for Environmental Eng.

Nelson Luis Dias
The Federal University of Paraná, Brazil



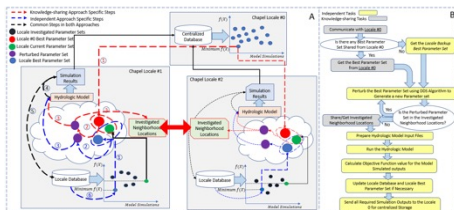
RapidQ: Mapping Coral Biodiversity

Rebecca Green, Helen Fox, Scott Bachman, et al.
The Coral Reef Alliance



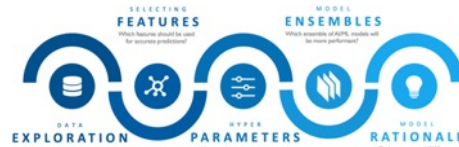
ChapQG: Layered Quasigeostrophic CFD

Ian Grooms and Scott Bachman
University of Colorado, Boulder et al.



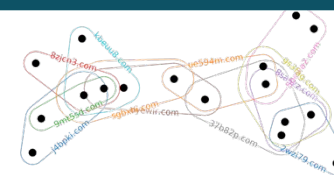
Chapel-based Hydrological Model Calibration

Marjan Asgari et al.
University of Guelph



CrayAI HyperParameter Optimization (HPO)

Ben Albrecht et al.
Cray Inc. / HPE



CHGL: Chapel Hypergraph Library

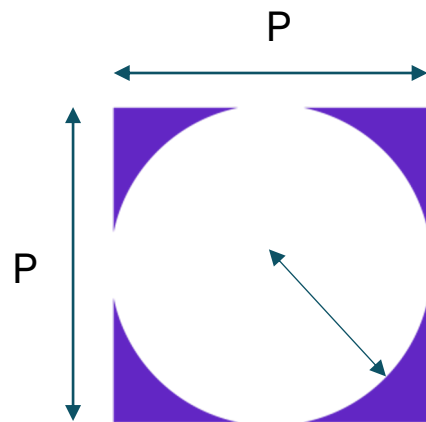
Louis Jenkins, Cliff Joslyn, Jesun Firoz, et al.
PNNL



Your Application Here?

Coral Reef Spectral Biodiversity

1. Read in a $(M \times N)$ raster image of habitat data
2. Create a $(P \times P)$ mask to find all points within a given radius.
3. Convolve this mask over the entire domain and perform a weighted reduce at each location.

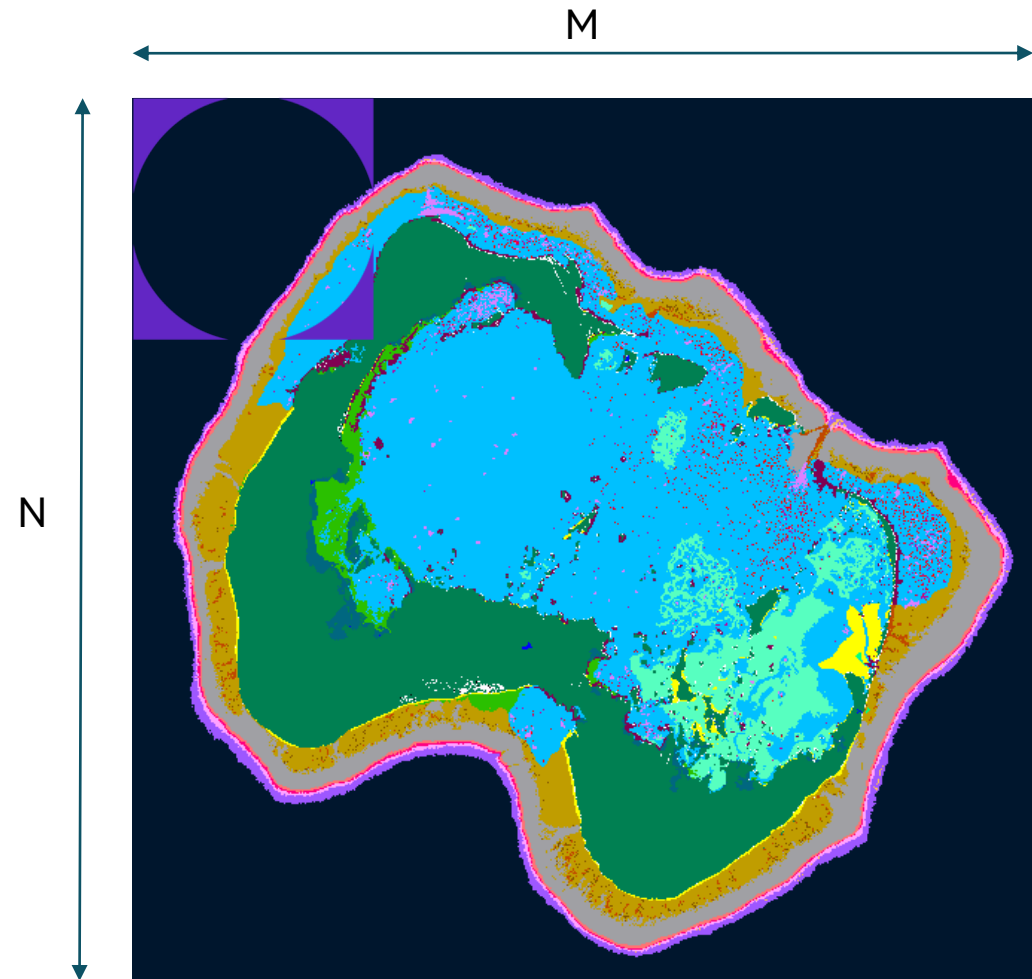


Algorithmic complexity: $O(MNP^3)$

Typically:

- $M, N > 10,000$

- $P \sim 400$



Coral Reef Spectral Biodiversity

```
proc convolve(InputArr, OutputArr) { // 3D Input, 2D Output
  for ... {
    tonOfMath();
  }
}

proc main() {
  var InputArr: ...;
  var OutputArr: ...;

  convolve(InputArr, OutputArr);
}
```



Coral Reef Spectral Biodiversity

```
proc convolve(InputArr, OutputArr) { // 3D Input, 2D Output
  foreach ... {
    tonOfMath();
  }
}
```

Using a different loop flavor to enable GPU execution.

```
proc main() {
  var InputArr: ...;
  var OutputArr: ...;
```

Multi-node, multi-GPU, multi-thread parallelism are expressed using the same language constructs.

```
  coforall loc in Locales do on loc { // use all nodes in parallel...
    coforall gpu in here.gpus do on gpu { // using GPUs on this node in parallel...
      coforall task in 0..#numWorkers { // using numWorkers on this GPU in parallel.
        var MyInputArr = InputArr[...];
        var MyOutputArr: ...;
        convolve(MyInputArr, MyOutputArr);
        OutputArr[...] = MyOutputArr;
      }
    }
  }
}
```

High-level, intuitive array operations work across nodes and/or devices



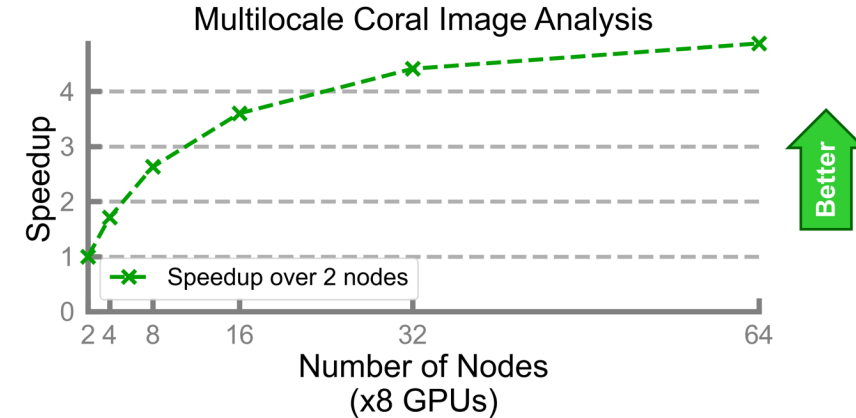
Coral Reef Spectral Biodiversity

```
proc convolve(InputArr, OutputArr) { // 3D Inp
  foreach ... {
    tonOfMath();
  }
}
proc main() {
  var InputArr: ...;
  var OutputArr: ...;

  coforall loc in Locales do on loc { // u
    coforall gpu in here.gpus do on gpu { // u
      coforall task in 0..#numWorkers { // using pa
        var MyInputArr = InputArr[...];
        var MyOutputArr: ...;
        convolve(MyInputArr, OutputArr);
        OutputArr[...] = MyOutputArr;
      }}}}
```

Runs on Frontier!

- 5x improvement going from 2 to 64 nodes
 - (from 16 to 512 GPUs)
- Straightforward code changes:
 - from sequential Chapel code
 - to GPU-enabled one
 - to multi-node, multi-GPU, multi-thread



- Scalability improvements coming soon!

What We Will Discuss Today

- An overview of parallelism and locality concepts in Chapel
- A live demo showcasing GPU capabilities
- Stories from the Chapel community

What we will not discuss today:

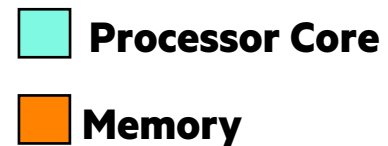
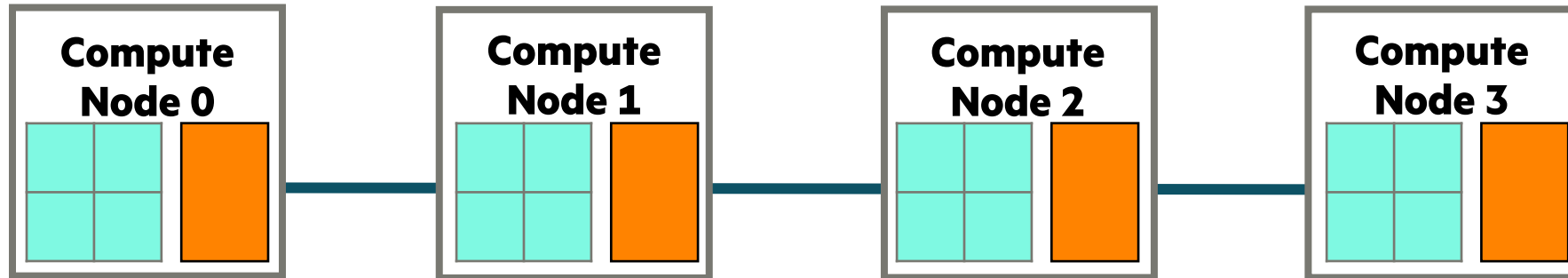
- Comprehensive list of Chapel features
 - (important ones will be covered)
- How GPU support is implemented
 - (happy to go over some backup slides, if there's interest)
- Everything you can do with GPUs using Chapel
 - (there's only so much time 😊)



GPU Programming in Chapel

Locales in Chapel

- In Chapel, a *locale* refers to a compute resource with...
 - processors, so it can run tasks
 - memory, so it can store variables
- For now, think of each compute node as being a locale

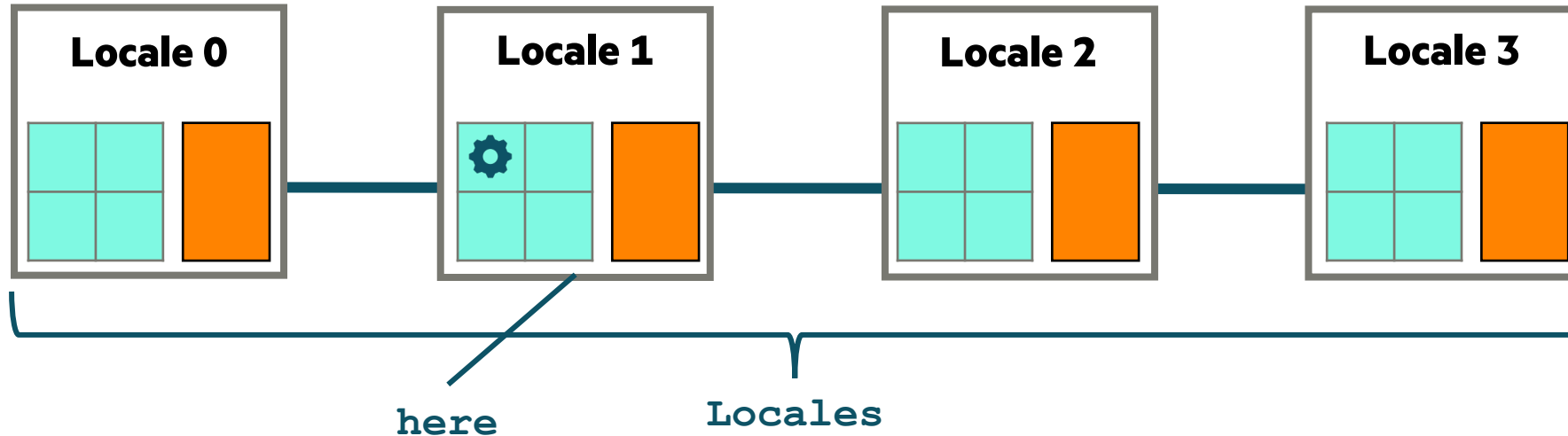




Key Built-In Types and Variables Related to Locales

locale: A type that represents system resources on which the program can run

Locales: An array of `locale` values

here : The `locale` on which the current task is executing

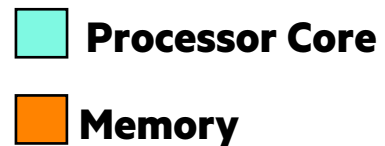
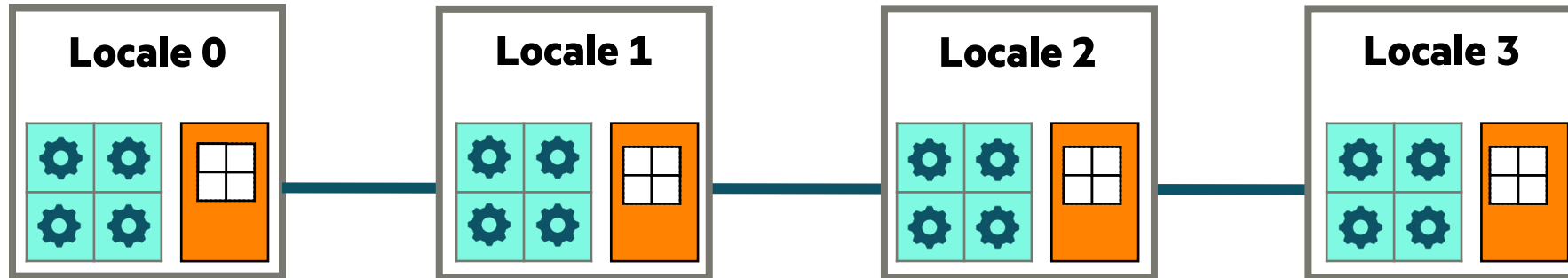


 **Processor Core**
 **Memory**



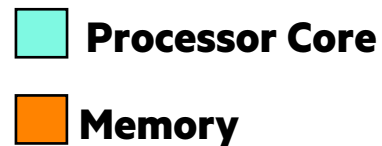
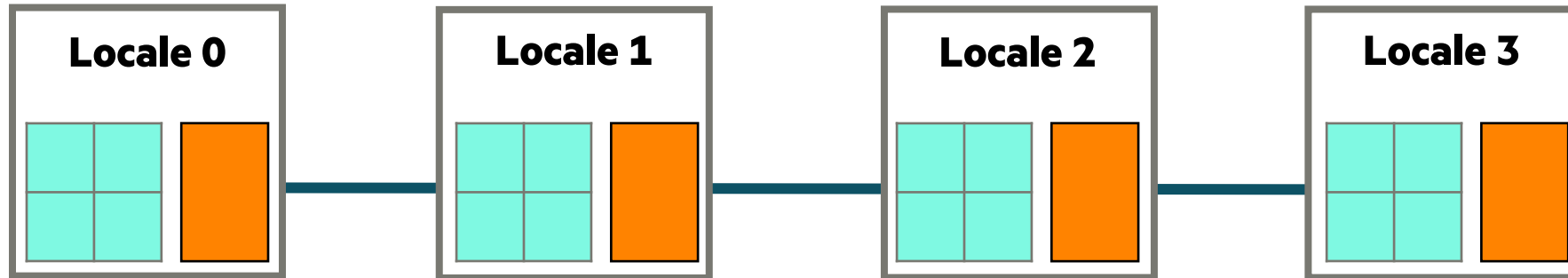
Key Concerns for Scalable Parallel Computing

- 1. parallelism:** Which tasks should run simultaneously?
- 2. locality:** Where should tasks run? Where should data be allocated?



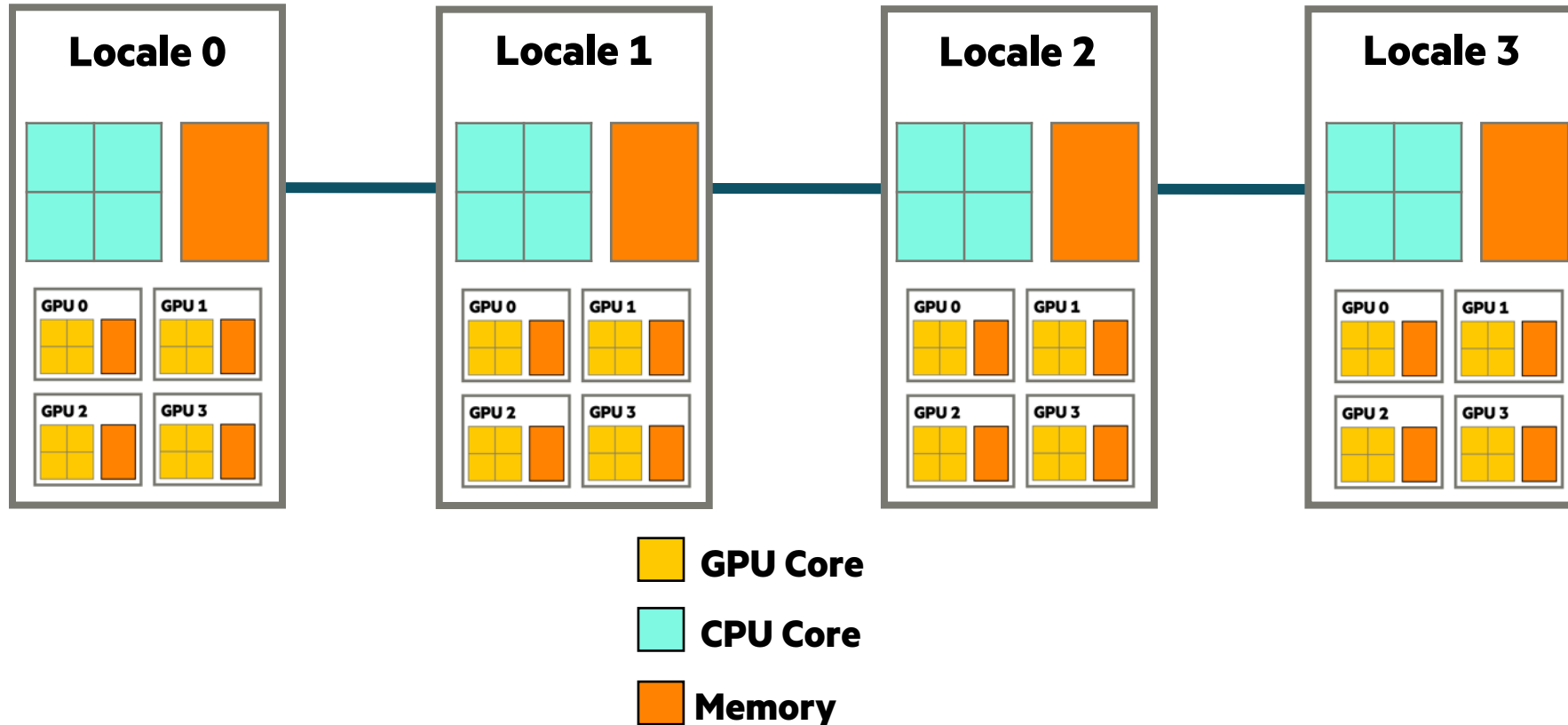
Key Concerns for Scalable Parallel Computing

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 - complicating matters, compute nodes now often have GPUs with their own processors and memory



Key Concerns for Scalable Parallel Computing

- 1. parallelism:** Which tasks should run simultaneously?
- 2. locality:** Where should tasks run? Where should data be allocated?
 - complicating matters, compute nodes now often have GPUs with their own processors and memory
 - we represent these as *sub-locales* in Chapel



Live Demo

Example Codes Are Available



<https://github.com/jabraham17/hpe-dev-meetup-chapel-july-2024>

A screenshot of a GitHub repository page for 'hpe-dev-meetup-chapel-july-2024'. The repository is public and has 1 branch and 0 tags. The commit history shows a recent update to the README by user 'jabraham17' 2 hours ago. The file list includes several Chapel code files (01_simpleSingleGpu.chpl, 02_arrayAssign.chpl, 03_sigmoid.chpl, 04_softmax.chpl, 05_life.chpl) and a README.md file. The README content is visible, stating that these codes were used in the HPE Developer Meetup on July 31st 2024 for "Vendor-Neutral GPU Programming in Chapel".

File	Commit Message	Time
01_simpleSingleGpu.chpl	initial commit of demo codes	2 hours ago
02_arrayAssign.chpl	initial commit of demo codes	2 hours ago
03_sigmoid.chpl	initial commit of demo codes	2 hours ago
04_softmax.chpl	initial commit of demo codes	2 hours ago
05_life.chpl	initial commit of demo codes	2 hours ago
README.md	update readme	2 hours ago





Stories From The Chapel Community

Chapel Performance on Different GPU and CPUs

- Comparing Chapel's performance
 - ...against OpenMP, Kokkos, CUDA and HIP
 - ...on different GPU and CPUs
 - ...using BabelStream, miniBUDE and TeaLeaf
- Recently presented at
 - Heterogeneity in Computing Workshop (HCW)
 - In conjunction with IPDPS

Performance Portability of the Chapel Language on Heterogeneous Architectures

Josh Milthorpe
Oak Ridge National Laboratory
Oak Ridge, Tennessee, USA
Australian National University
Canberra, Australia
ORCID: 0000-0002-3588-9896

Xianghao Wang
Australian National University
Canberra, Australia

Ahmad Azizi
Australian National University
Canberra, Australia

Abstract—A performance-portable application can run on a variety of different hardware platforms, achieving an acceptable level of performance without requiring significant rewriting for each platform. Several performance-portable programming models are now suitable for high-performance scientific application development, including OpenMP and Kokkos. Chapel is

other heterogeneous programming models that allow single-source programming for diverse hardware platforms.

We seek to answer the question: how well does Chapel support the development of *performance-portable* application codes compared to more widely-used programming models

Paper is available at milthorpe.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/Milthorpe_HCW2024.pdf

miniBUDE

- Proxy for BUDE (a protein docking simulation)
 - The computation is very arithmetically intensive and makes significant use of trigonometric functions

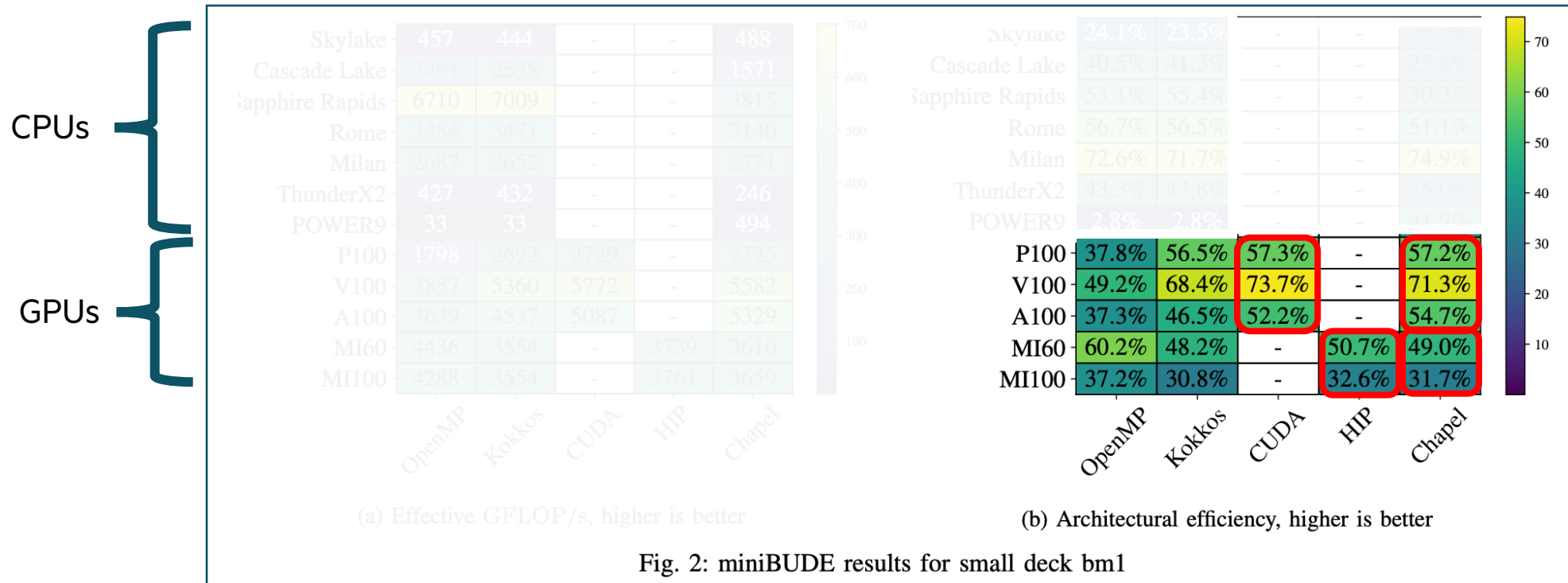


Figure from: "Performance Portability of the Chapel Language on Heterogeneous Architectures". Josh Milthorpe (Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Australian National University), Xianghao Wang (Australian National University), Ahmad Azizi (Australian National University) Heterogeneity in Computing Workshop (HCW)

Native GPU Programming in Chapel at Scale

- Comparing Chapel's native GPU programming
 - ...against interoperability with HIP and CUDA
 - ...on Frontier and Perlmutter
 - ...using N-Queens as proxy for combinatorial optimization
- To be presented at Euro-Par 2024
 - 26-30 August
 - Madrid, Spain

Investigating Portability in Chapel for Tree-based Optimization on GPU-powered Clusters

Tiago Carneiro¹[0000-0002-6145-8352], Engin Kayraklioglu²[0000-0002-4966-3812],
Guillaume Helbecque^{3,4}[0000-0002-8697-3721], and Nouredine Melab⁴

¹ Interuniversity Microelectronics Centre (IMEC), Belgium

`tiago.carneiropessoa@imec.be`

² Hewlett Packard Enterprise, USA

`engin@hpe.com`

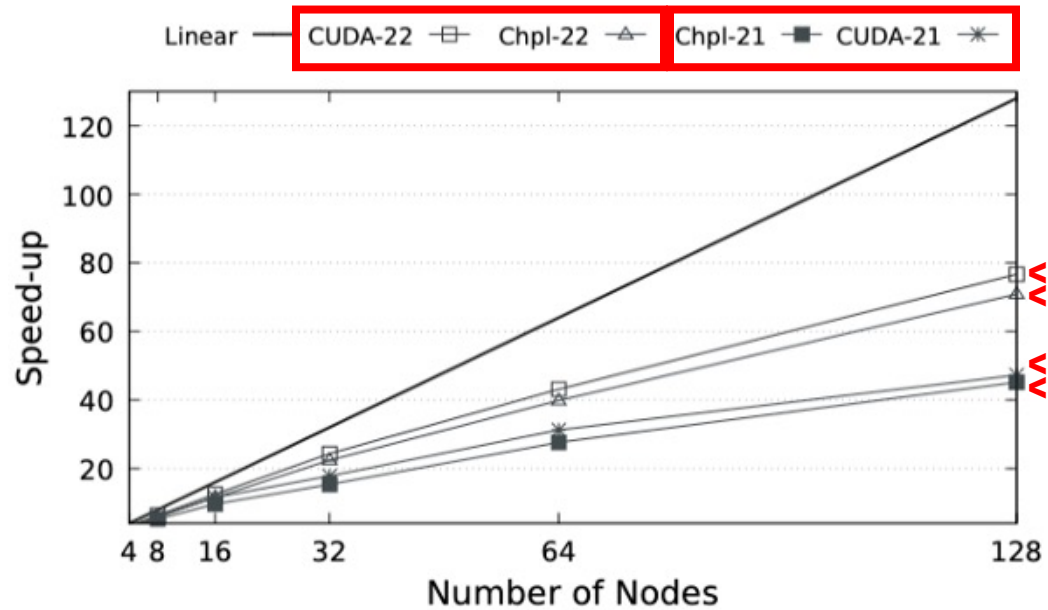
³ University of Luxembourg, Luxembourg

`guillaume.helbecque@uni.lu`

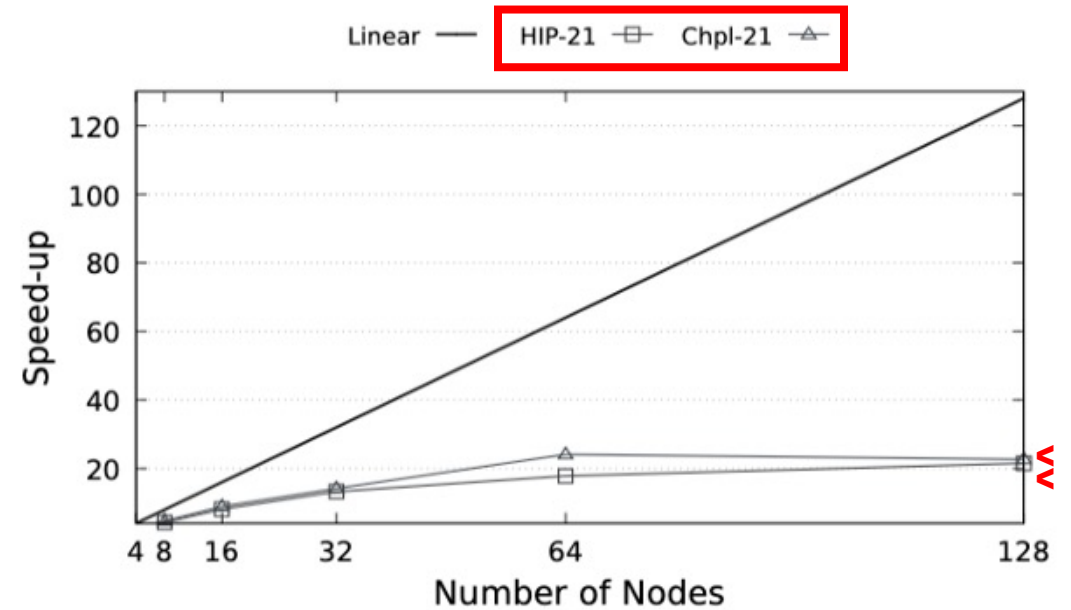
⁴ Université de Lille, CNRS, Centrale Lille, Inria, UMR 9189 - CRISTAL - Centre de
Recherche en Informatique Signal et Automatique de Lille, France

`nouredine.melab@univ-lille.fr`

Native GPU Programming in Chapel at Scale



(a) NVIDIA-based System



(b) AMD-based system

Figure from: "Investigating Portability in Chapel for Tree-Based Optimizations on GPU-powered Clusters". Tiago Carneiro, Engin Kayraklioglu, Guillaume Helbecque, Nouredine Melab
Europar 2024

Keynote at ChapelCon '24

A Case for Parallel-First Languages in Post-Serial, Accelerated World

Paul Sathre, Virginia Tech



Slides and recording are available on chapel-lang.org/ChapelCon24.html#keynote



ChapelCon '24 Keynote: A Case for Parallel-First Languages in a Post-Serial, Accelerated World



Chapel Parallel Programming Language
356 subscribers

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Summary

Where We Are Today

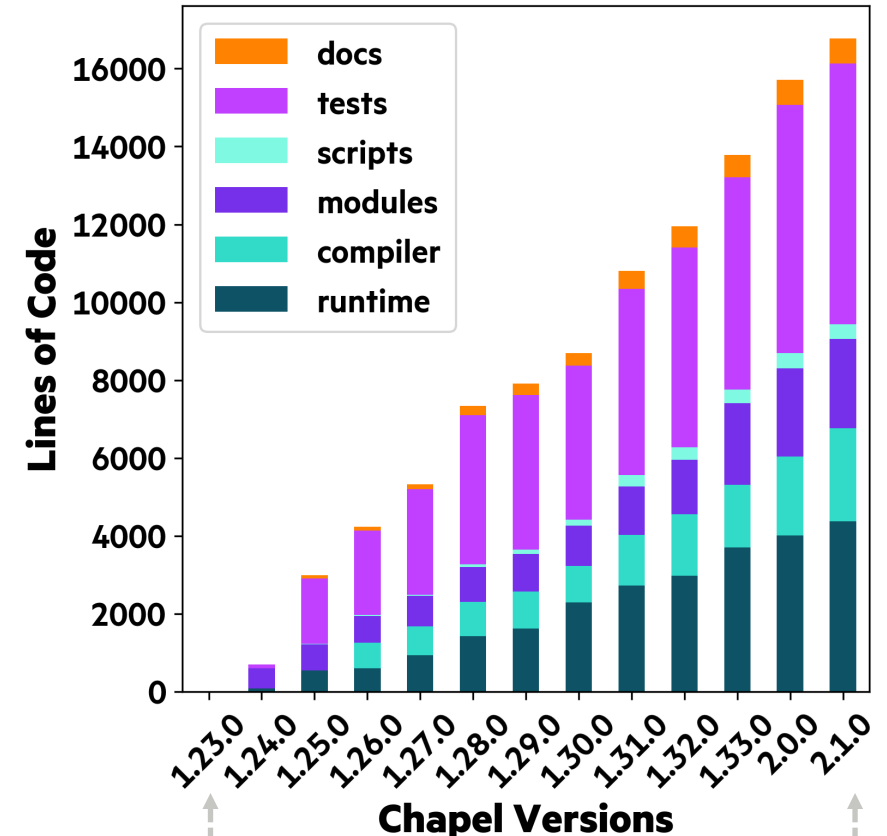
Over ~3 years we have been steadily improving

- NVIDIA, AMD GPUs are supported
- Multiple nodes with multiple GPUs can be used
- Parallel tasks can use GPUs concurrently
- GPU features can be emulated on CPUs

Mature enough to get started, big efforts are still underway

- Distributed arrays
- Intel support
- Improving language features to support GPU programming
- Performance improvements
- Bug fixes

GPU Code Volume Evolution



October
2020

March
2024



Ongoing AI/ML Efforts

Chapel Tensor Library (github.com/lainmon/gputil)

- PyTorch like interface for tensor operations:
 - Used for inference using NVIDIA and AMD GPUs
 - Builds up composable network layers like PyTorch
 - Supports loading in pretrained models from PyTorch
 - Tracks computational graph, supports backpropagation
- Ongoing effort is to support PyTorch interoperability and multi-locale inference

llm.chpl *Stay tuned!*

- A port of llm.c in Chapel (<https://github.com/karpathy/llm.c>)
- Even shorter, even more parallel implementation of GPT-2
 - Chapel's multidimensional arrays make implementation much simpler

MLPerf *Stay tuned!*

- We are actively looking into porting some MLPerf benchmarks in Chapel
- If interested, please reach out!



If You Want to Learn More About GPU Programming in Chapel

GPU Programming Blog Series: chapel-lang.org/blog/series/gpu-programming-in-chapel/

Introduction to GPU Programming in Chapel

Posted on January 10, 2024.

Tags: GPU Programming How-To

By: [Daniel Fedorin](#)

Chapel's High-Level Support for CPU-GPU Data Transfers and Multi-GPU Programming

Posted on April 25, 2024.

Tags: GPU Programming How-To

By: [Engin Kayraklioglu](#)

Technote: <https://chapel-lang.org/docs/main/technotes/gpu.html>

- Anything and everything about our GPU support
 - configuration, advanced features, links to some tests, caveats/limitations
- More of a reference manual than a tutorial

Previous talks

- **LinuxCon / Open Source Summit North America 2024 Talk:** GPU Programming in Chapel and a Live Demo
 - <https://youtu.be/5-jLdKduaJE?si=eazaz5mDORvmTjgRL>
- **CHI UW '23 Talk:** updates from May '22-May '23 period
 - <https://chapel-lang.org/CHI UW/2023/KayrakliogluSlides.pdf>
- **LCPC '22 Talk:** a lot of details on how the Chapel compiler works to create GPU kernels
 - <https://chapel-lang.org/presentations/Engin-SIAM-PP22-GPU-static.pdf>

Chapel is Open Source, Get Involved!

Check out "GPU Support" issues to contribute/report bugs



Join the discussion on Discourse



Join the discussion on Gitter



Try Chapel on GitHub Codespaces
github.com/chapel-lang/chapel-hello-world



See many other ways of trying Chapel
chapel-lang.org/download.html

GPU support coming soon!



Other Chapel Resources

Chapel homepage: <https://chapel-lang.org>

- (points to all other resources)


Blog: <https://chapel-lang.org/blog/>

Social Media:

- Facebook: [@ChapelLanguage](#)
- LinkedIn: [ChapelLanguage](#)
- Mastodon: [@ChapelProgrammingLanguage](#)
- X / Twitter: [@ChapelLanguage](#)
- YouTube: [@ChapelLanguage](#)

Community Discussion / Support:

- Discourse: <https://chapel.discourse.group/>
- Gitter: <https://gitter.im/chapel-lang/chapel>
- Stack Overflow: <https://stackoverflow.com/questions/tagged/chapel>
- GitHub Issues: <https://github.com/chapel-lang/chapel/issues>



The Chapel Parallel Programming Language

What is Chapel?

Chapel is a programming language designed for productive parallel computing at scale.

Why Chapel?

Because it simplifies parallel programming through elegant support for:

- **data parallelism** to trivially use the cores of a laptop, cluster, or supercomputer
- **task parallelism** to create concurrency within a node or across the system
- **a global namespace** supporting direct access to local or remote variables
- **GPU programming** in a vendor-neutral manner using the same features as above
- **distributed arrays** that can leverage thousands of nodes' memories and cores

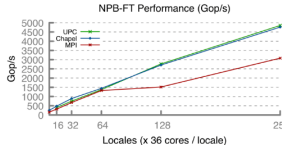
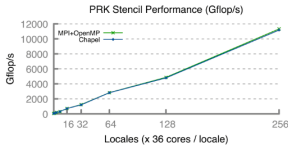
Chapel Characteristics

- **productive:** code tends to be similarly readable/writable as Python
- **scalable:** runs on laptops, clusters, the cloud, and HPC systems
- **fast:** performance **competes with or beats** conventional HPC programming models
- **portable:** compiles and runs in virtually any *nix environment
- **open-source:** hosted on [GitHub](#), permissively [licensed](#)
- **production-ready:** used in [real-world applications](#) spanning diverse fields

New to Chapel?

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

- watch [an overview talk](#) or browse its [slides](#)
- read a [chapter-length](#) introduction to Chapel
- learn about [projects powered by Chapel](#)
- check out [performance highlights](#) like these:



PRK Stencil Performance (Gflop/s)

Locales (x 36 cores / locale)	Chapel	OpenMP
16	~1000	~1000
32	~2000	~2000
64	~4000	~4000
128	~8000	~8000
256	~12000	~12000

NPB-FT Performance (Gops)

Locales (x 36 cores / locale)	Chapel	OpenMP
16	~1000	~1000
32	~2000	~2000
64	~4000	~4000
128	~8000	~8000
256	~12000	~12000

- read about [GPU programming](#) in Chapel, or watch a [recent talk about it](#)
- [browse sample programs](#) or learn how to write distributed programs like this one:

```
use CyclicDist; // use the Cyclic distribution library
config const n = 100; // use --n=<val> when executing to override this def

forall i in Cyclic.createDomain(1..n) do
  writeln("Hello from iteration ", i, " of ", n, " running on node ", here.i)
```

What's Hot?

- **ChapelCon '24** is coming in June (online)—[Read](#) about it and [register](#) today
- Doing science in Python and needing more speed/scale? [Maybe we can help?](#)

Closing Thoughts

GPUs are becoming more common but programming them isn't getting easier.

- C/C++/Fortran are not good starting points for many potential users.
- GPU capability (and parallelism in general) is typically achieved by additional frameworks.

Parallel programming, GPUs and HPC should be more accessible.

- There are many potential use cases in different fields, including social sciences.
- Making GPUs more accessible (and parallelism in general) accelerates progress.

Chapel makes parallel programming, GPUs and HPC more accessible.

- Existing applications prove that Chapel delivers on the promise.
- Its GPU support makes Chapel an all-inclusive solution for parallel programming.



chapel-lang.org

