Project Status, Next Steps





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Safe Harbor Statement

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A Year in the Life of Chapel

• Two major releases per year (April / October)

- latest release: version 1.10, October 2nd, 2014
- a month later: detailed release notes
 - release and notes available at: http://chapel.cray.com/download.html

• SC activities (Nov)

- Chapel tutorials (most years)
- CHUG meet-up / happy hour (past four years)
- lightning talks BoF (past three years)
- educators forum (past two years)
- talks, posters, emerging technology booth, etc. (whenever possible)

• CHIUW: The Chapel Implementers and Users Workshop (May-June)

• Highlighting Chapel work being done around the community in talks and discussion

• Talks, panels, tutorials, research visits, papers, blogs, ... (year-round)

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Chapel version 1.10 Highlights

- lighter-weight tasking via Sandia's Qthreads
- initial support for Intel Xeon Phi Knights Corner (KNC)
- renewed focus on standard libraries
- support for Lustre and cURL-based data channels
- expanded array capabilities
- improved semantic checks, bug fixes, third-party packages, ...
- significant performance improvements

https://github.com/chapel-lang/chapel/releases/tag/1.10.0



Implementation Status -- Version 1.10 (Oct 2014)

Overall Status:

- User-facing Features: generally in good shape
 - some require additional attention (e.g., strings, OOP)
- Multiresolution Features: in use today
 - their interfaces are likely to continue evolving over time
- Error Messages: not always as helpful as one would like
 - correct code works well, incorrect code can be puzzling
- Performance: hit-or-miss depending on the idioms used
 - Chapel designed to ultimately support competitive performance
 - effort to-date has focused primarily on correctness

This is a good time to:

- Try out the language and compiler
- Use Chapel for non-performance-critical projects
- Give us feedback to improve Chapel
- Use Chapel for parallel programming education



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poster staffed by members of the Chapel team

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social gathering just across the way; open to general public, dutch treat

Participation in other BoFs:

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- PGAS: Partitioned Address Space Programming Model (Wed @ 12:15, room 273)



Chapel Lightning Talks 2014



Chapel Overview Greg Titus, Cray Inc.

CoMD in Chapel: The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly David Richards, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory

Chapel for Python Programmers Simon Lund, University of Copenhagen

Chapel Iterators: Providing Tiling for the Rest of Us Ian Bertolacci, Colorado State University

Chapel I/O: Getting to Your Data Wherever It Is Tim Zakian, Indiana University

LLVM-based Communication Optimizations for Chapel Akihiro Hayashi, Rice University

COHX: Chapel on HSX + XTQ

(Adventures of a PGAS Language in a Heterogenous World) Deepak Majeti, Rice University



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CHIUW 2014 Talks and Speakers

User Experiences with a Chapel Implementation of UTS

Jens Breitbart, Technische Universität München

Evaluating Next Generation PGAS Languages for Computational Chemistry

Daniel Chavarria-Miranda, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory

Programmer-Guided Reliability in Chapel

David E. Bernholdt, Oak Ridge National Laboratory

Towards Interfaces for Chapel

Chris Wailes, Indiana University

Affine Loop Optimization using Modulo Unrolling in Chapel

Aroon Sharma, University of Maryland

Keynote: Walking to the Chapel

Robert Harrison, Stony Brook University / Brookhaven National Laboratory

LLVM Optimizations for PGAS Programs

Akihiro Hayashi, Rice University

Opportunities for Integrating Tasking and Communication Layers

Dylan T. Stark, Sandia National Laboratories

Caching in on Aggregation

Michael Ferguson, Laboratory for Telecommunication Sciences



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Chapel: the next five years

Harden prototype to production-grade

- optimize performance
- add/improve lacking features
- improve interoperability
- Target more complex/modern compute node types
 - e.g., Intel MIC, CPU+GPU, AMD APU, ...

Continue to grow the user and developer communities

- including nontraditional circles: desktop parallelism, "big data"
- transition Chapel from Cray-managed to community-governed



The Cray Chapel Team (Summer 2014)





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... is a collaborative effort — join us!





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Chapel and Education

• When teaching parallel programming, I like to cover:

- data parallelism
- task parallelism
- concurrency
- synchronization
- locality/affinity
- deadlock, livelock, and other pitfalls
- performance tuning
- • •

I don't think there's been a good language out there...

- for teaching *all* of these things
- for teaching some of these things well at all
- until now: We believe Chapel can play a crucial role here

(see http://chapel.cray.com/education.html for more information and http://cs.washington.edu/education/courses/csep524/13wi/ for my use of Chapel in class)



Chapel: Educator Advocates

• And now, educators are making the argument for us:



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



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"I like Chapel... How can I help?"

Give Chapel a try to see whether it's on a useful path for your computational idioms

- if not, help us course correct
- pair programming with us is a good approach
- evaluate performance based on potential, not present

Let others know about your interest in Chapel

- your colleagues and management
- Cray leadership
- the broader parallel community (HPC and mainstream)

Contribute to the project

• code contributions, research collaborations, funding



For More Information: Online Resources

Chapel project page: http://chapel.cray.com

• overview, papers, presentations, language spec, ...

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

Chapel GitHub page: <u>https://github.com/chapel-lang</u>

• download 1.10.0 release, browse source repository

Chapel SourceForge page: https://sourceforge.net/projects/chapel/

• join community mailing lists; alternate release download site

Mailing Lists:

- chapel_info@cray.com: contact the team at Cray
- chapel-announce@lists.sourceforge.net: read-only list for announcements
- chapel-users@lists.sourceforge.net: user-oriented discussion list
- chapel-developers@lists.sourceforge.net: developer discussion
- chapel-education@lists.sourceforge.net: educator discussion
- chapel-bugs@lists.sourceforge.net: public bug forum



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For More Information: Suggested Reading

Overview Papers:

- <u>A Brief Overview of Chapel</u>, Chamberlain (pre-print of a chapter for A Brief Overview of Parallel Programming Models, edited by Pavan Balaji, to be published by MIT Press in 2014).
 - a detailed overview of Chapel's history, motivating themes, features
- <u>The State of the Chapel Union [slides]</u>, Chamberlain, Choi, Dumler, Hildebrandt, Iten, Litvinov, Titus. CUG 2013, May 2013.
 - a higher-level overview of the project, summarizing the HPCS period



For More Information: Lighter Reading

Blog Articles:

- <u>Chapel: Productive Parallel Programming</u>, <u>Cray Blog</u>, May 2013.
 - a short-and-sweet introduction to Chapel
- Why Chapel? (part 1, part 2, part 3), Cray Blog, June-August 2014.
 - a current series of articles answering common questions about why we are pursuing Chapel in spite of the inherent challenges
- [Ten] Myths About Scalable Programming Languages (index available here), IEEE TCSC Blog, April-November 2012.
 - a series of technical opinion pieces designed to combat standard arguments against the development of high-level parallel languages







Surveys

Please take the time to fill out and return the surveys

(both ours and SC14's)

Thanks!

For your interest in Chapel and your feedback



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Any Remaining Questions about Chapel?

Or, anything you'd like to see in a live demo?



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