



Y.A.S.K.

Yet Another Stencil Kernel

Chuck Yount, Principal Engineer
Intel Corporation

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chuck.yount@intel.com

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Outline

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- Overview
- Example stencils and performance on Intel® Xeon® and Intel® Xeon Phi™ processors

YASK Features

- Vector folding and the fold builder
- Loop-code generator
- Memory accessor
- Debug output

Using YASK

- Build and test
- Output
- Use model
- Run-time options: hierarchy sizes, wave-front blocking, MPI
- Stencil, vectorization, loop, and advanced customization
- Collaboration opportunities

Introduction to YASK

Overview

YASK: Yet Another Stencil Kernel

- Goal: facilitate exploration of the stencil-performance design space for Intel® Xeon® or Intel® Xeon Phi™ processors supporting the AVX, AVX2, or AVX-512 instruction sets

Features

- Supports trade-off studies for coding options for
 - Vector-folding
 - Cache blocking
 - Memory layout
 - Loop construction
 - Temporal wave-front blocking
 - MPI halo exchanges
 - And more
- Is a collection of C++ code, code-generators and other scripts

Example 1: Iso3dfd stencil



Description

- Finite-difference code found in seismic imaging software used by energy-exploration companies to predict the location of oil and gas deposits

Performance* on 1024^3 problem size per node

- Intel® Xeon Phi™ processor 7250 (Knight's Landing)
 - 17.7 GPoints/sec on one node (68 cores)
- Intel® Xeon® processor E5-2697 v4 (Broadwell)
 - 4.8 GPoints/sec on one node (2 sockets of 18 cores each)

*Observed performance for illustration and comparison; not guaranteed.

Image from <https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:PlatformHolly.jpg>. Public domain--U.S. DoE.

Iso3dfd build and run “recipes”

KNL: Intel(R) Xeon Phi(TM) CPU 7250 @ 1.40GHz, 16GB
MCDRAM flat mode

- make clean; make stencil=iso3dfd arch=knl
- ./stencil-run.sh -arch knl -- -d 1024 # on 1 node

```
...
best-time (sec):                3.01762
best-throughput (prob-size-points/sec): 17.7912G
best-throughput (points-updated/sec):  17.7912G
best-throughput (est-FLOPS):          1.08526T
```

BDW: 2-socket Intel(R) Xeon(R) CPU E5-2697 v4 @ 2.30GHz

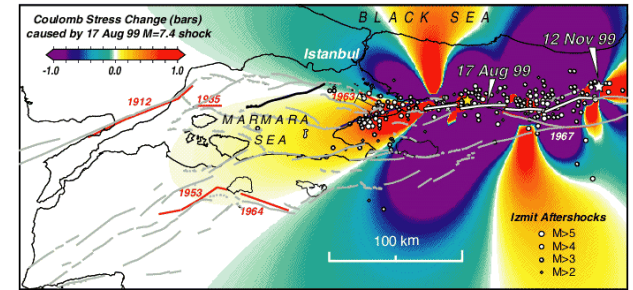
- make clean; make stencil=iso3dfd arch=hsw mpi=1
- mpirun -n 2 -ppn 2 ./stencil-run.sh -arch hsw -- \
 -nrx 2 -d 1024 -dx 512 # on 1 node (2 sockets)

```
...
best-time (sec):                11.1629
best-throughput (prob-size-points/sec): 4.80942G
best-throughput (points-updated/sec):  4.80942G
best-throughput (est-FLOPS):          293.374G
```

Example 2: AWP stencil

Description

- The primary compute kernel for the Anelastic Wave Propagation earthquake simulator:
<http://hpgeoc.sdsc.edu/AWPODC>
 - Consists of 26 grids
- Intel® Xeon Phi™ processor 7250 (Knight's Landing)
 - 19.3 GPoints/sec on one node (68 cores)



*Observed performance for illustration and comparison; not guaranteed.

Image from https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Izmit_11-12-99.gif. Public domain--U.S.G.S.

AWP build and run “recipes”

KNL: Intel(R) Xeon Phi(TM) CPU 7250 @ 1.40GHz,
16GB MCDRAM flat mode

- `make clean; make -j stencil=awp arch=knl mpi=1`
- `./stencil-run.sh -arch knl -- -d 1024 -dz 128`

...

best-time (sec):	5.20012
best-throughput (prob-size-points/sec):	1.29053G
best-throughput (points-updated/sec):	19.3579G
best-throughput (est-FLOPS):	348.442G

Using YASK

Initial build and test

Install

- Download the code from the 'GIT REPO' link at <https://01.org/yask>
- Install all the prerequisites from the README file

Build and run the default test program

- Type 'make -arch *name* -stencil *name*' per the README file
- Run the program using the stencil-run.sh script
 - Run natively on Xeon™ or Xeon Phi™ processors (KNL)
 - Use the -mic option to run on a Xeon Phi™ coprocessor (KNC)
 - Run under SDE to emulate hardware you don't have
- If it doesn't build and/or run, check the prerequisites

Typical run and output

Settings are printed

- Hierarchical sizes (spatial and temporal): rank, region, block, cluster, and vector
- Stencil shape and order
- Other miscellaneous compile-time and run-time settings

A number of trials (default=3) is run

- Time and throughput (points per sec) are printed
- FP-rate is estimated based on number of FP ops in original scalar spec
- Best result across the trials is re-printed

Validation

- If the '-v' option was used, a non-vectorized, non-tiled version of the code is run, the results are compared, and 'PASSED' or 'FAILED' is printed
- Validation is slow; run with a small problem size!
- If you get near-miss errors during validation, it may be due to rounding error instead of a bug; try building with "real_bytes=8" to check

Use model

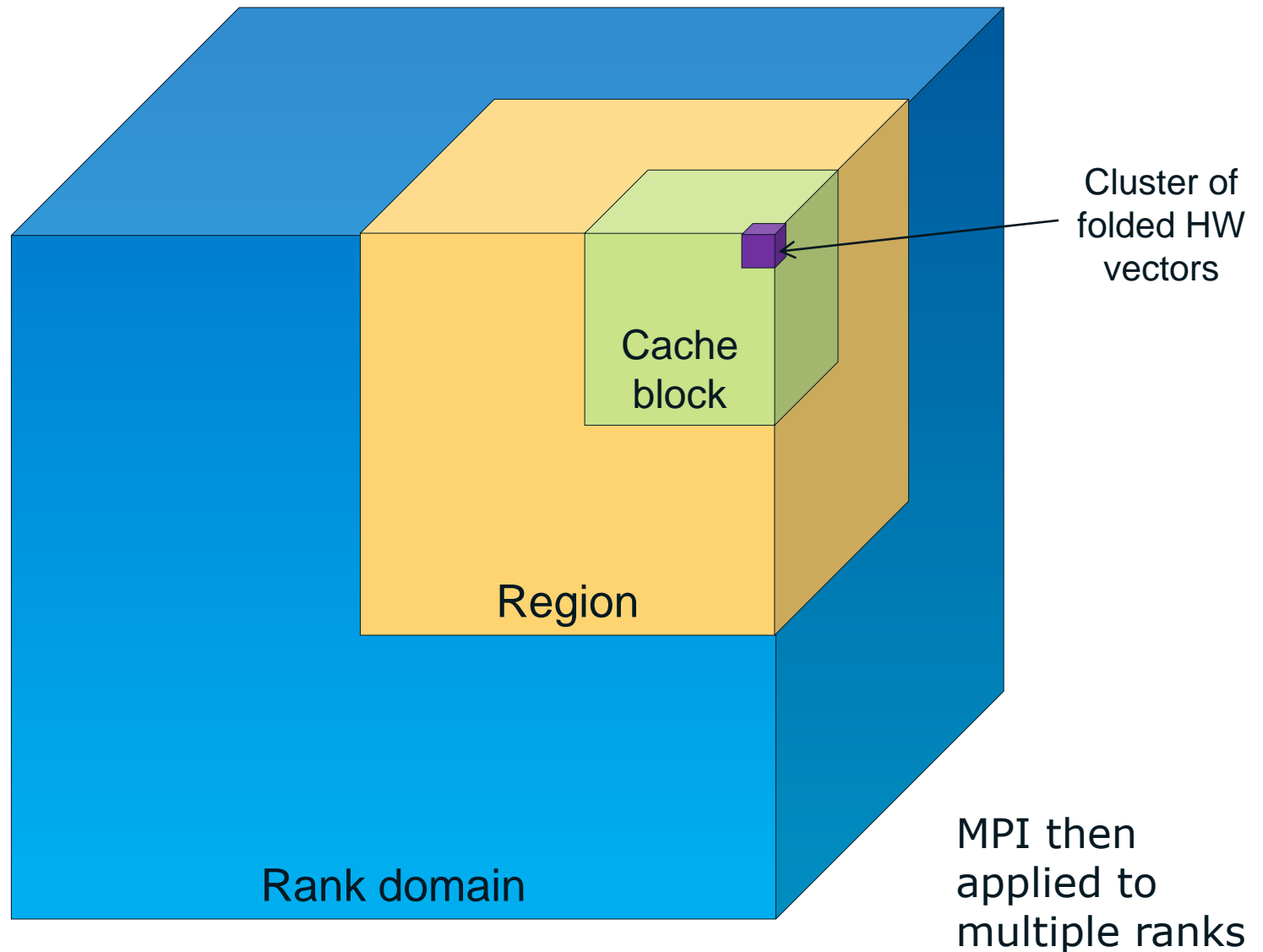
Goal

- YASK is a tool for exploring the stencil design space
- It is not a library (yet)

Typical usage model

- Identify stencil(s) used in your application
- Use existing stencil(s) in YASK or write your own
- Use YASK to find well-performing parameters
- Integrate the stencil code back into your application

Tiling applied at multiple levels



Common run-time options

Settings controlled from the `'stencil-run.sh'` script

- Binary selection via `'arch'` option
- Number of MPI ranks
- Which Xeon Phi coprocessor or other host to use
- Run with `'-h'` option to get help

Settings controlled from the `'stencil.arch.exe'` binary (passed through from the `stencil-run.sh` script)

- Spatial/temporal rank-domain size (overall problem if not using MPI): `-d*`
- Spatial/temporal region size (used for temporal wave-front blocking): `-r*`
- Cache-block size: `-b*`
- Padding: `-p*`
 - Used to fine-tune data alignment across rows and columns
 - The specified value is added to the halo size during memory allocation
- Number of trials: `-t`
- Enable validation: `-v`
- Run with `'-h'` option to get help

Enabling temporal wave-front blocking

Purpose

- The temporal blocking in YASK is designed to exploit large shared caches, e.g., when using the Intel® Xeon Phi™ processor in MCDRAM cache mode

Usage

- Temporal wave-front blocking is done using the “regions” level of the hierarchy shown earlier
 - Spatial blocks within each region are evaluated in parallel using OpenMP
 - The time slices within each region are evaluated sequentially to reuse memory
 - Regions are evaluated sequentially to increase shared-cache locality
- Executable run-time options
 - `-rt <n>` sets the number of time slices in each region
 - `-r* <n>` sets the spatial size of each region
 - Example: `stencil-run.sh -arch knl -d 1920 -dt 50 -r 768 -rt 25`
 - Note: the default setting of `-rt` is one (1), and the default setting of `-r` is zero (0), which means the region size is the same as the rank size.

Enabling MPI

Scope

- The MPI implementation in YASK exchanges halos with all neighbors in all directions
 - For 3D problems, this can be up to 26 neighbors (3^3-1)
 - For 4D problems, this can be up to 80 neighbors (3^4-1)

Usage

- Compile with MPI enabled using “make mpi=1 ...”
- Prefix “stencil-run.sh” with the appropriate MPI command, e.g., mpirun -n 4 -ppn 1
 - Use the “-ranks <n>” option to “stencil-run.sh” as a shortcut to run more than one rank on a single node
- Note: the -d* options control the rank size, so the overall problem size increases by the number of ranks (weak scaling)

Stencil customization

Stencil Type

- Use the `'stencil=stencil-name'` argument to the `make` command to select a stencil (required)
 - The *stencil-name* string is passed to the `foldBuilder` tool
- Current provided stencils
 - `'iso3dfd'`: an isotropic acoustic wave equation
 - `'3axis'`, `'9axis'`, `'3plane'`, and `'cube'`: common 3D symmetric shapes (defined in the [vector-folding paper](#))
 - `'ave'`: the simple 27-pt stencil from the miniGhost benchmark
 - `'awp'`: a simplified version of [AWP-ODC](#) earthquake simulation stencils
- Write your own by modifying code in `src/foldBuilder`
 - Implement the `StencilBase` interface using the `stencils/*Stencil.hpp` files as examples
 - Modify `main.cpp` to include your new `.hpp` file

Stencil customization (cont.)

Stencil size

- Use the `'radius= n '` argument to the make command
 - The n value is passed to the `'foldBuilder'` tool
 - Default is different for various stencils and ignored for some
 - See Makefile for current defaults
- Write your own by modifying code in `src/foldBuilder`
 - Follow the existing examples to pass the `'radius'` parameter to your stencil code if applicable

Other parameters

- If you're developing your own stencil, you can add more parameters similar to the `'radius'` one

Stencil customization (cont.)

Advanced

- The provided stencils assume uniformity across the entire 3D grid
 - The 'foldBuilder' tool evaluates the stencil code only from the origin to the extent of a vector
- Some stencil applications require special code at boundaries or other conditions
 - A mechanism for handling conditions that specify sub-domains is under development
 - See the awp_elastic stencil for an example
 - Since this is under development, the syntax may change

Vector-folding introduction

Concept

- Store small 2D or 3D block of data into each vector
- Pros: reduces memory BW requirements compared to traditional 1D in-line vectors
- Cons: requires data pre-conditioning (element rearranging) and additional shift and blend operations preceding SIMD arithmetic operations

Results

- Significant speedup shown on Intel® Xeon Phi™ Coprocessor
- Combining with loop tiling enables even more speedup

For more information

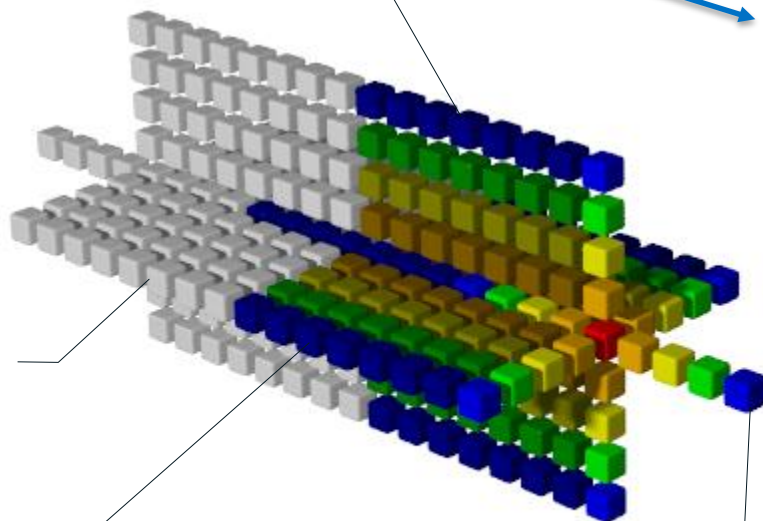
- Refer to paper on [Vector Folding from HPCC 2015](#)

Traditional in-line 1D vectorization

25-point 3D stencil
input vectorized using
8-element vectors,
each parallel to x-axis



Inner 3D loop iterates
in x direction, i.e.,
same dimension as
vectorization



Previous
iteration

Current
iteration

Need to read 17 new cache
lines* for each iteration (8 of
the 25 vectors overlap in x
dimension)



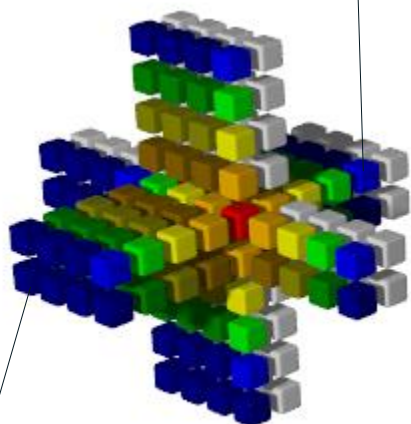
One 8-element
vector output per
iteration

Steady-state memory BW =
17 new cache lines input to
calculate each vector of output

*Assuming cache line size = vector size.

Reduce BW via vector folding

25-point 3D stencil
input vectorized using
8-element vectors,
*each containing a 4x2
grid in the x-y plane*



Need to read only 7 new
cache lines for each iteration
(vectors overlap in x-y
dimensions within an iteration
and in z dimension between
iterations)



Inner 3D loop iterates in z
direction, i.e., *perpendicular*
to 2D vector



One 8-element (4x2)
vector output per
iteration

Steady-state memory BW = **7**
new cache lines input to
calculate each vector of output:
2.4x lower than in-line

Vector-folding customization

Vector fold

- Use the `fold='x=n,y=n,z=n'` argument to the `make` command to control how much vectorization is done in each dimension
 - The values are passed to the 'foldBuilder' tool
 - Example: `make fold='x=1,y=2,z=8'` generates code using a 1x2x8 fold
 - Make sure the product of the fold lengths equals the vector size of the target architecture and FP precision (single or double)

Vector cluster

- Use the `cluster='x=n,y=n,z=n'` argument to the `make` command to control how many vectors are calculated and output simultaneously
 - The values are passed to the 'foldBuilder' tool
 - The default is 1x1x1, or one HW vector
 - This essentially implements loop unrolling in multiple dimensions

Loop-structure customization

The 'gen-loops.pl' script creates the loop-control code

- There are 4 loop-control codes
 - 'Outer' loops break the whole problem into OpenMP regions (typically, only one OpenMP region is used)
 - 'Region' loops break each OpenMP region into cache blocks
 - 'Block' loops iterate over each vector cluster in a cache block
 - 'Halo' loops are used for copying data for halo exchanges

Usage

- See the Makefile for default invocations or run 'make -n'
- Run './gen-loops.pl' without any parameters to get help on more options: index ordering, OpenMP scheduling, etc.
- Run the script before the make command or specify the *LOOP_ARGS variables in the make command to override

Misc. advanced customization

More compile-time options to the make command

- Use `'real_bytes=n'` to set the size of a float: *n*=4 for single-precision or *n*=8 for double-precision (default=4; 8 for 'ave' stencil)
- Use `'EXTRA_MACROS='macro-settings'` set other CPP macros
 - `'PFDL1=n1 PFDL2=n2'` to change the prefetch distances; only used in the prefetch code generated from 'gen-loops.pl', not in compiler-generated prefetch code
 - Example: `'make MACROS='PFDL2=15''`
 - See *.hpp for macro definitions
- Run `'make echo-settings'` to see other make variables

Automatic Tuning

YASK includes a genetic-algorithm-based automatic tuning utility

- Tunes compile-time and run-time options and parameters
- Run `'stencil-tuner.pl -h'` to get tuner options
- Example run:
 - Tune the parameters for the `'iso3dfd'` stencil on the KNL architecture, constraining the memory usage between 14 and 16 GiB
 - `./stencil-tuner.pl -stencil=iso3dfd -arch=knl -mem=14-16`

Collaboration

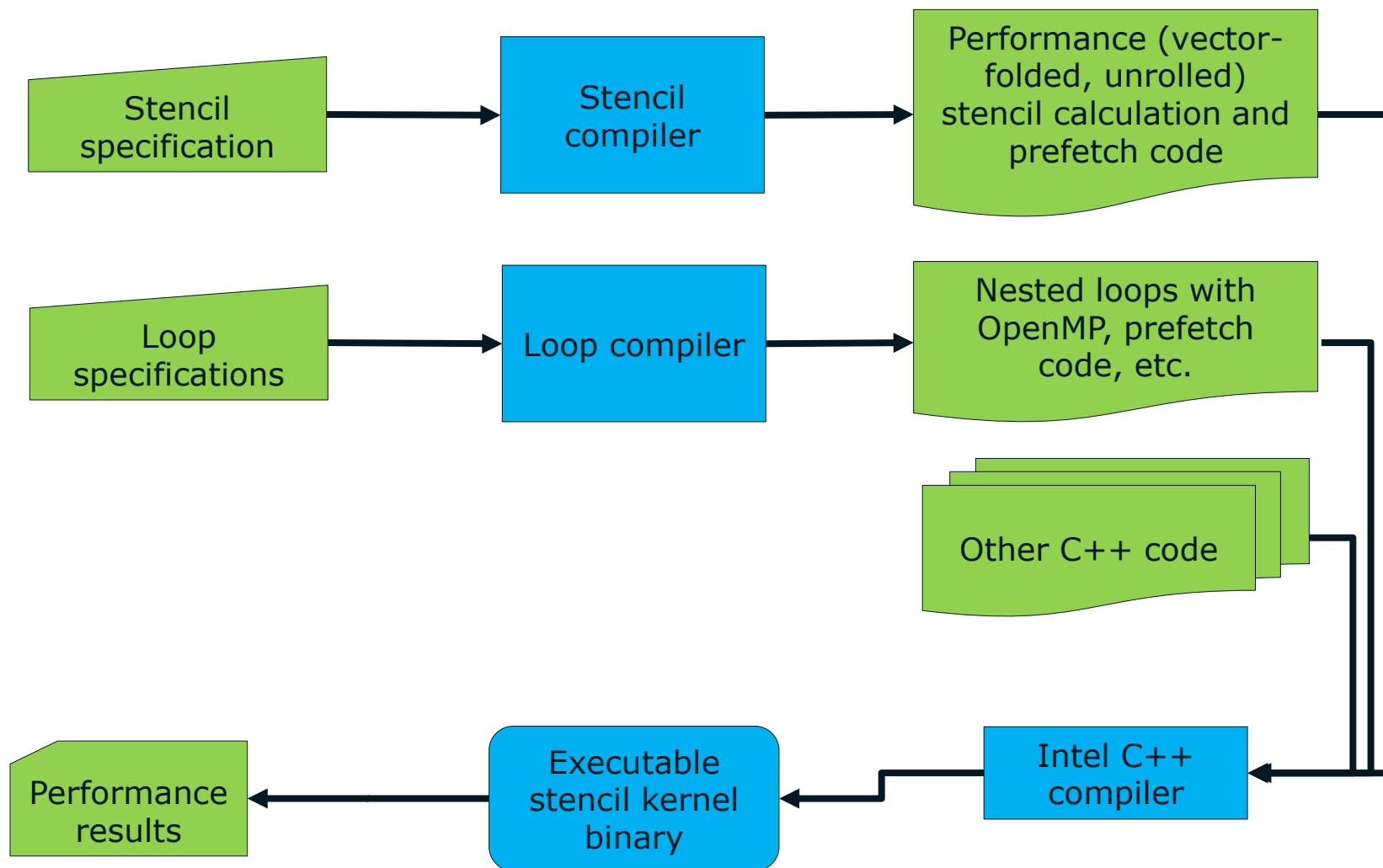
Use the blog at <https://01.org/yask> to ask and/or answer questions

Submit useful changes for review via github

Contact the author of this presentation for further collaboration opportunities

YASK Software Architecture

High-level components



Fold-builder code generator

Goal: automate the tedious and error-prone process of creating high-performance stencil code

Input

- Inherit from a C++ abstract 'StencilBase' class to create a new stencil type
- Define the grid(s) to be used and the names of their dimensions, e.g., "t", "x", "y", "z"
- Implement the 'define' method to define how one point in each grid is calculated from others
- Use loops, functions for coefficients, recursion, etc.

Process

- Compile code into fold-builder executable
- Run executable, specifying any stencil parameters (e.g., order), target architecture, etc.
- Code generator evaluates the 'define' method to create an abstract syntax tree (AST)
- AST is traversed, and optimized code is output

Output

- Efficient function to calculate stencil
 - Unrolled loops, intrinsics to construct unaligned vectors of points, etc.
 - Calls to memory accessor object
- Functions for prefetching to L1 and L2

Example input stencil code

```
class Iso3dfdStencil : public StencilOrderBase {  
...  
    INIT_GRID_4D(pressure, t, x, y, z),  
    INIT_GRID_3D(vel, x, y, z)  
...  
    virtual void define(const IntTuple& offsets) {  
...  
        // start with center value multiplied by coeff 0.  
        GridValue v = pressure(t, x, y, z) * coeff(0);  
  
        // add values from x, y, and z axes multiplied by the  
        // coeff for the given radius.  
        for (int r = 1; r <= _order/2; r++) {  
  
            // Add values from axes at radius r.  
            v += (  
                // x-axis.  
                pressure(t, x-r, y, z) +  
                pressure(t, x+r, y, z) +  
  
                // y-axis.  
                pressure(t, x, y-r, z) +  
                pressure(t, x, y+r, z) +  
  
                // z-axis.  
                pressure(t, x, y, z-r) +  
                pressure(t, x, y, z+r)  
  
                ) * coeff(r);  
  
        }  
  
        // finish equation, including t-1 and velocity components.  
        v = (2.0 * pressure(t, x, y, z)  
            - pressure(t-1, x, y, z) // subtract pressure from t-1.  
            + (v * vel(x, y, z));    // add v * velocity.  
  
        // define the value at t+1 to be equivalent to v.  
        pressure(t+1, x, y, z) IS_EQUIV_TO v;  
    }  
}
```

Declare 2 grids: 4D
"pressure" and 3D
"vel"

Write function to
define equation for
"pressure" update

The final equation
uses declarative (not
imperative) style via
the IS_EQUIV_TO
macro

Loop-code generator

Script that generates code for nested loops

- Input: Very simple DSL (domain-specific language)
 - `omp loop(y) { loop(x, z) { calc(stencil); } }`
 - Can easily change loop types, index ordering
- Output: C++ code to be included in function bodies
 - Loops annotated with OMP as requested
 - Inner loop might generate several loops, e.g.,
 - Prefetch L2
 - Prefetch L1
 - Calculate stencil and prefetch L2 and L1
 - Calculate and prefetch L1 only to avoid over-prefetching L2

Memory accessor

- C++ classes to allocate and access 3D & 4D matrices of vectors of floats or doubles
 - Construction specifies 'n, x, y, z' dimensions and padding sizes; padding includes halos (add 'n' for 4D)
 - Read and write access via methods: per vector for highest speed; per element for scalar code.
- Actual memory layout is encapsulated and defined via inheritance
 - Map 3D or 4D indices to 1-D mem address
 - 24 simple permutations of minor-to-major ordering
 - More complex mappings possible, e.g., tiling, space-filling curves
 - 'n' dimension is used for time and/or grid indices
- Uses concrete inheritance to allow inlining
 - Gives compiler full access to memory-layout formula
 - Allows common sub-expression elimination and other optimizations

Debug features

Can enable or disable various output by setting macros and rebuilding, e.g.,

- TRACE: print each stencil calculation
- TRACE_MEM: print each matrix read, write, prefetch, eviction
- TRACE_INTRINSICS: print before-and-after each permutation

Built-in memory-access tracker

- Models an infinite L1 or L2 cache
- Tracks reads, writes, prefetches, evictions
- Reports any un-prefetched read or un-read prefetch
- Reports summary stats
- Very useful for debugging prefetch code

Example cache-model output

```
modeling cache...
cache L2: redundant prefetch of 0x2aaabfa45a40 at line 193 after a read at line 85.
cache L2: redundant prefetch of 0x2aaabfa45a80 at line 193 after a read at line 85.
cache L2: redundant prefetch of 0x2aaabfa45a40 at line 195 after a prefetch at line 193.
cache L2: redundant prefetch of 0x2aaabfa45a40 at line 196 after a prefetch at line 195.
...
done modeling cache...
cache L2: read of 0x2aaabf9c3240 from line 85 without any eviction.
cache L2: read of 0x2aaabf9c3280 from line 85 without any eviction.
...
cache L2: prefetch of 0x2aaabfa53b00 from line 318 without any read.
cache L2: prefetch of 0x2aaabfa53b40 from line 318 without any read.
...
cache L2 stats:
  cur size = 324714 lines (19.8190 MB).
  max size = 324714 lines (19.8190 MB).
  ave size = 185126 lines (11.2992 MB).
  num reads = 722400.
    num reads of missing lines = 0.
    num lines read but never evicted = 321700.
  num prefetches = 1458800.
    num prefetches of lines never subsequently read = 3014.
    num prefetches of lines already in cache = 404686.
  num evictions = 0.
    num evictions to non-existent lines = 0.
  num prefetches into L1 = 729400.
    num prefetches into L1 of missing lines = 0.
```

