DATA PARALLELISM

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Learn about task parallelism and data parallelism
- Learn about the SPMD model for describing data parallelism
- Learn about SYCL execution and memory models
- Learn about enqueuing kernel functions with `parallel_for`

TASK VS DATA PARALLELISM

- **Task parallelism** is where you have several, possibly distinct tasks executing in parallel.
    - In task parallelism you optimize for latency.
- **Data parallelism** is where you have the same task being performed on multiple elements of data.
    - In data parallelism you optimize for throughput.

VECTOR PROCESSORS

- Many processors are vector processors, which means they can naturally perform data parallelism.
    - GPUs are designed to be parallel.
    - CPUs have SIMD instructions which perform the same instruction on a number elements of data.

SPMD MODEL FOR DESCRIBING DATA PARALLELISM

Sequential CPU code

```
void calc(int *in, int *out) {
  // all iterations are run in the same
  // thread in a loop
  for (int i = 0; i < 1024; i++){
    out[i] = in[i] * in[i];
  }
}

// calc is invoked just once and all
// iterations are performed inline
calc(in, out);
```

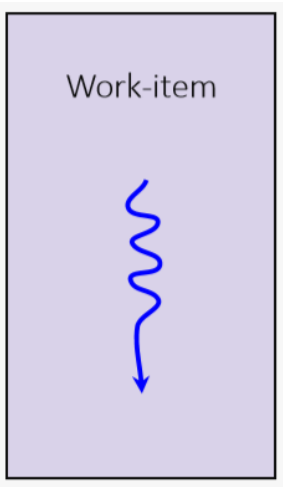
Parallel SPMD code

```
void calc(int *in, int *out, int id) {
  // function is described in terms of
  // a single iteration
  out[id] = in[id] * in[id];
}

// parallel_for invokes calc multiple
// times in parallel
parallel_for(calc, in, out, 1024);
```

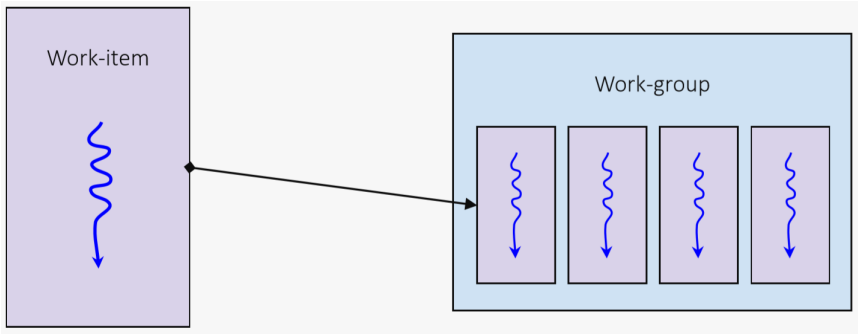
SYCL EXECUTION MODEL

- In SYCL kernel functions are executed by **work- items**.
- You can think of a work-item as a thread of execution.
- Each work-item will execute a SYCL kernel function from start to end.
- A work-item can run on CPU threads, SIMD lanes, GPU threads, or any other kind of processing element.



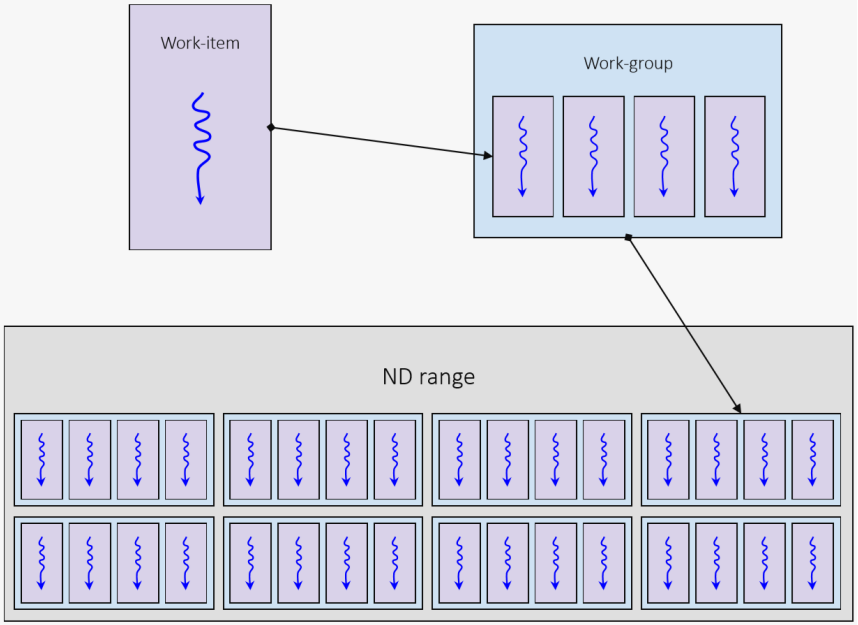
SYCL EXECUTION MODEL

- Work-items are collected together into **work-groups**
- The size of work-groups is generally relative to what is optimal on the device being targeted
- It can also be affected by the resources used by each work-item



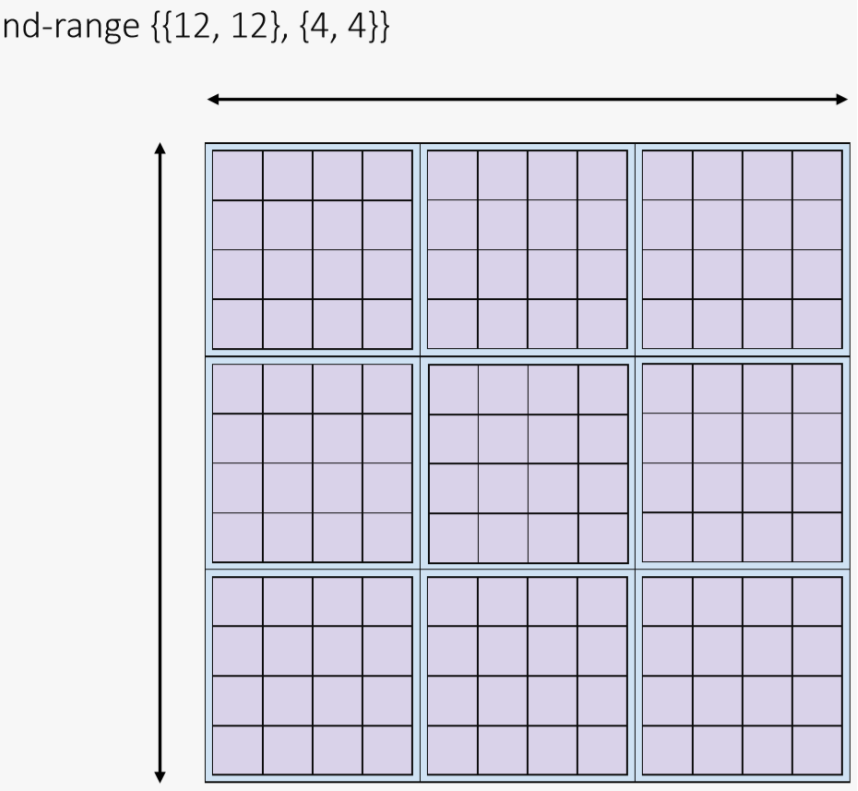
SYCL EXECUTION MODEL

- SYCL kernel functions are invoked within an **nd-range**
- An nd-range has a number of work-groups and subsequently a number of work-items
- Work-groups always have the same number of work-items



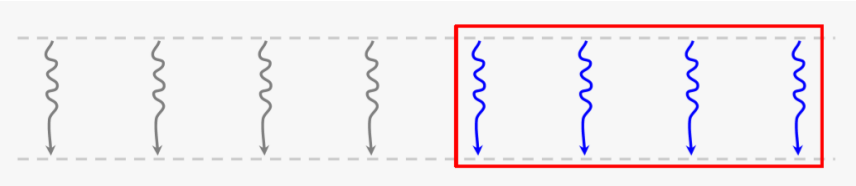
SYCL EXECUTION MODEL

- The nd-range describes an **iteration space**; how the work-items and work-groups are composed
- An nd-range can be 1, 2 or 3 dimensions
- An nd-range has two components
  - The **global-range** describes the total number of workitems in each dimension
  - The **local-range** describes the number of work-items in a work-group in each dimension



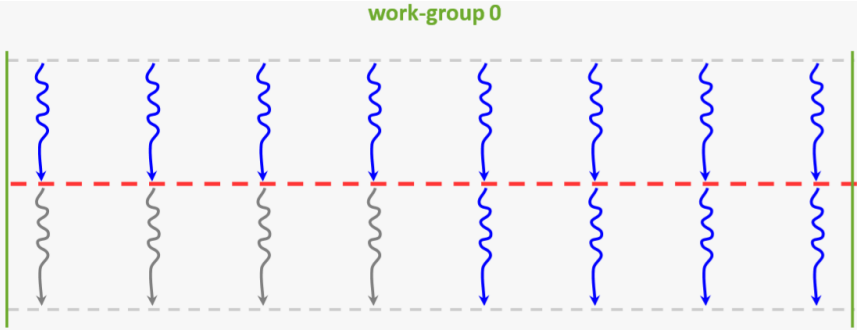
SYCL EXECUTION MODEL

- Multiple work-items will generally execute concurrently
- On vector hardware this is often done in lock-step, which means the same hardware instructions
- The number of work-items that will execute concurrently can vary from one device to another
- Work-items will be batched along with other work-items in the same work-group
- The order work-items and workgroups are executed in is implementation defined



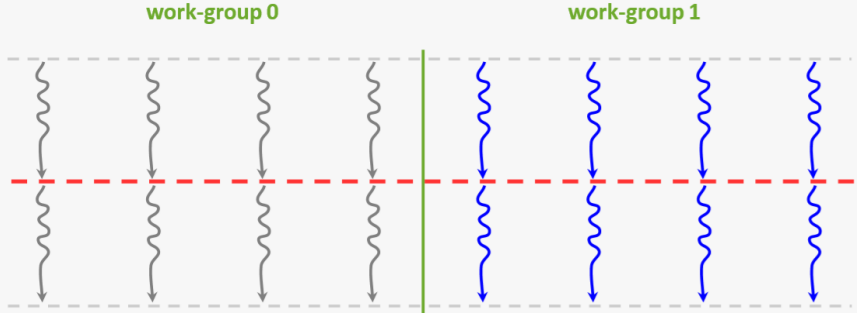
SYCL EXECUTION MODEL

- Work-items in a work-group can be synchronized using a work-group barrier
    - All work-items within a work-group must reach the barrier before any can continue on

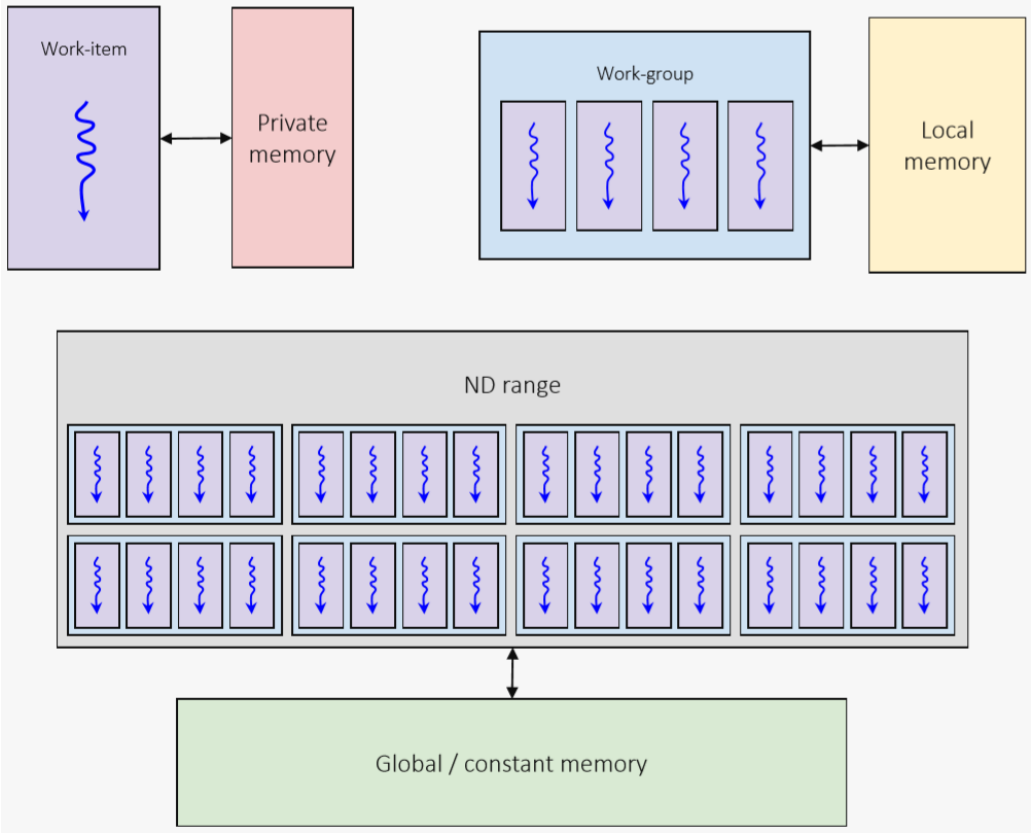


SYCL EXECUTION MODEL

- SYCL does not support synchronizing across all work-items in the nd-range
- The only way to do this is to split the computation into separate SYCL kernel functions



SYCL MEMORY MODEL



Each work-item can access

- a dedicated region of **private memory**
- a dedicated region of **local memory** accessible to all work-items in a work-group
- a single region of **global memory** that's accessible to all work-items in a ND-range
- a region of global memory reserved as **constant memory**, which is read-only

PARALLEL_FOR

```
cgh.parallel_for<my_kernel>(range{64, 64},
                            [=](id<2> idx){
  // SYCL kernel function is executed
  // on a range of work-items
});
```

- In SYCL kernel functions can be enqueued to execute over a range of work-items using `parallel_for`.
- When using `parallel_for` you must also pass `range` which describes the number of iteration space to be executed over.

PARALLEL_FOR

```
cgh.parallel_for<my_kernel>(range{64, 64},
                            [=](id<2> idx){
  // SYCL kernel function is executed
  // on a range of work-items
});
```

- When using `parallel_for` you must also have the function object which represents the kernel function take an `id`.
- This represents the current work-item being executed and its position within the iteration space.

EXPRESSING PARALLELISM

```
cgh.parallel_for<kernel>(range<1>(1024),
  [=](id<1> idx){
    /* kernel function code */
});
```

- Overload taking a **range** object specifies the global range, runtime decides local range
- An **id** parameter represents the index within the global range

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```
cgh.parallel_for<kernel>(range<1>(1024),
  [=](item<1> item){
    /* kernel function code */
});
```

- Overload taking a **range** object specifies the global range, runtime decides local range
- An **item** parameter represents the global range and the index within the global range

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```
cgh.parallel_for<kernel>(nd_range<1>(range<1>(1024),
  range<1>(32)),[=](nd_item<1> ndItem){
    /* kernel function code */

});
```

```
});
```

- Overload taking an **nd_range** object specifies the global and local range
- An **nd_item** parameter represents the global and local range and index

QUESTIONS

EXERCISE

Code_Exercises/Exercise_6_Vector_Add/source

Implement a SYCL application that adds two arrays of values together in parallel using `parallel_for`.