

VECTORIZATION









LEARNING OBJECTIVES

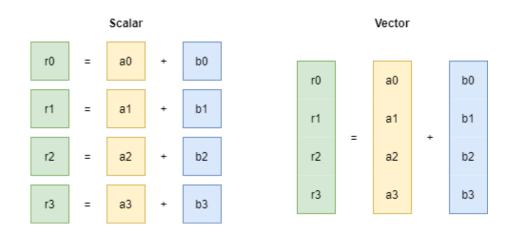
- Learn about scalar and vector instructions
- Learn about horizontal and vertical vectorization
- Learn how to write explicit vector code
- learn how to use swizzles







VECTOR INSTRUCTIONS



- Data parallel devices such as GPUs, SIMD CPUs and other accelerators are vector processors.
- This means they can execute vector instructions.
- Vector instructions are single instructions which perform loads, stores, or operations such as add or multiply on multiple elements at once.





VECTORIZATION

- Vectorization is the process of converting scalar code into vectorized code.
- In a SPMD programming model like SYCL vectorization is important.
- Vectorization can be performed in two ways, and it depends on how you write your code and can impact the mapping to hardware.









out, inA, inB: double

out[idx] = inA[idx] + inB[idx];



load

store

load

add

store

- Horizontal (or auto-) vectorization is done automatically by the compiler.
- It maps the scalar operation of each work-item to a single processing element, or element of a vector instruction.







work-item

0	1	2	3	

out, inA, inB: double4

out[idx] = inA[idx] + inB[idx];

0 - 3	4 - 7	8 - 11	12 - 15	
load	load	load	load	
add	add	add	add	
store	store	store	store	

- Vertical (or explicit) vectorization is done by using vector types explicitly.
- It maps the vector instruction of each work-item to multiple processing elements, or elements of vector instructions.





HORIZONTAL VS VERTICAL VECTORIZATION

- Both horizontal and vertical vectorization generally achieve the same result.
- It can be useful to specify vectorization explicitly, particularly for describing aligned loads and stores.
- An important distinction to make is that whether a kernel function uses explicit vector types can impact the mapping of work-items to processing elements.
- It's not always a 1:1 mapping.





VEC CLASS



template <typename dataT, int numElements>
class vec;

- The vec class template is used to represent explicit vectors in SYCL.
- It has a type which represents the type of elements it stores and a number of elements.
- The valid number of elements are 1, 2, 3, 4, 8, 16.
- Note that vectors of 3 elements are padded to the size of 4.









```
using float4 = vec<float, 4>;
...
```

• A number of aliases are provided for shorthand with the notation of the type followed by the size, such as float4.









```
auto f4 = sycl::float4{1.0f, 2.0f, 3.0f, 4.0f}; // {1.0f, 2.0f, 3.0f, 4.0f}

auto f2 = sycl::float4{2.0f, 3.0f}; // {2.0f, 3.0f}
auto f4 = sycl::float4{1.0f, f2, 4.0f}; // {1.0f, 2.0f, 3.0f, 4.0f}

auto f4 = sycl::float4{0.0f}; // {0.0f, 0.0f, 0.0f, 0.0f}
```

- A vec can be constructed with any combination of scalar and vector values which add up to the correct number of elements.
- A veccan also be constructed from a single scalar in which case it will initialize ever element to that value.









```
auto f4a = sycl::float4{1.0f, 2.0f, 3.0f, 4.0f}; // {1.0f, 2.0f, 3.0f, 4.0f}
auto f4b = sycl::float4{2.0f}; // {2.0f, 2.0f, 2.0f, 2.0f}
auto f4r = f4a * f4b; // {2.0f, 4.0f, 6.0f, 8.0f}
```

• The vec class provides a number of operators such as +, -, *, / and many more, which perform the operation elemeent-wise.







```
auto f4 = sycl::float4{1.0f, 2.0f, 3.0f, 4.0f}; // {1.0f, 2.0f, 3.0f, 4.0f}
auto f2 = f4.swizzle<0, 3>(); // {1.0f, 4.0f}

auto f4 = sycl::float4{1.0f, 2.0f, 3.0f, 4.0f}; // {1.0f, 2.0f, 3.0f, 4.0f}
f4.swizzle<1, 2>() = sycl::float2{9.0f, 9.0f}; // f4 becomes {1.0f, 9.0f, 9.0f, 4.0f}
```

• The swizzle function returns a representation of the specified elements of a vec which can be used on the lhs or rhs of an expression.









```
auto f4 = sycl::float4{1.0f, 2.0f, 3.0f, 4.0f}; // {1.0f, 2.0f, 3.0f, 4.0f}
auto f2 = f4.xw(); // {1.0f, 4.0f}

auto f4 = sycl::float4{1.0f, 2.0f, 3.0f, 4.0f}; // {1.0f, 2.0f, 3.0f, 4.0f}
f4.yz() = sycl::float2{9.0f, 9.0f}; // f4 becomes {1.0f, 9.0f, 9.0f, 4.0f}
```

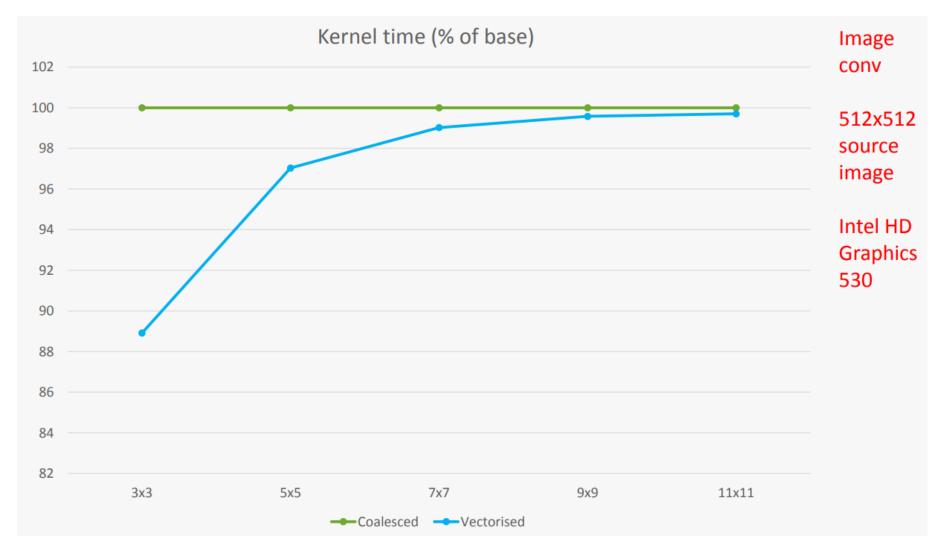
• If SYCL_SIMPLE_SWIZZLES is defined before including SYCL/sycl.hpp simplified swizzle member functions can also be used in place of swizzle.







VECTORIZED IMAGE CONVOLUTION PERFORMANCE







QUESTIONS







EXERCISE



Code_Exercises/Exercise_17_Vectors/source

Update the image convolution application to use vectors types.

