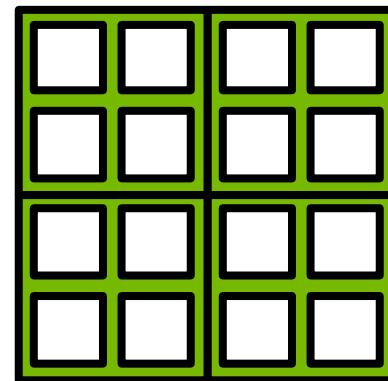


# Using Shared Memory to Support Coalesced Memory Access

We will examine a matrix transpose to demonstrate how shared memory can be used to promote coalesced data transfers to and from global memory

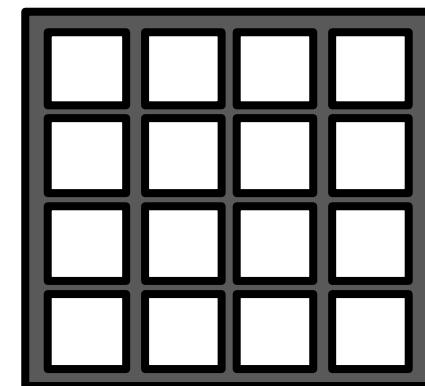
Grid



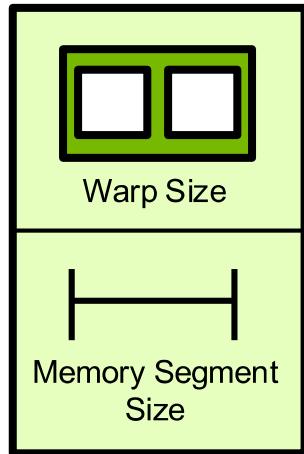
Here we have a (2,2) grid, with each block containing (2,2) threads as well as (4,4) input and output matrices

0	1	2	3
4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15

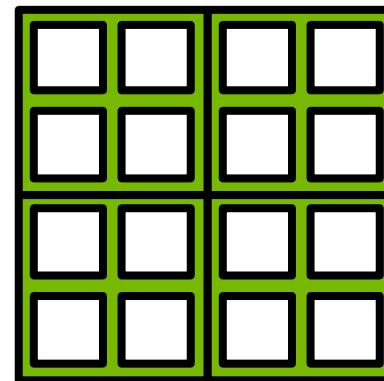
Input



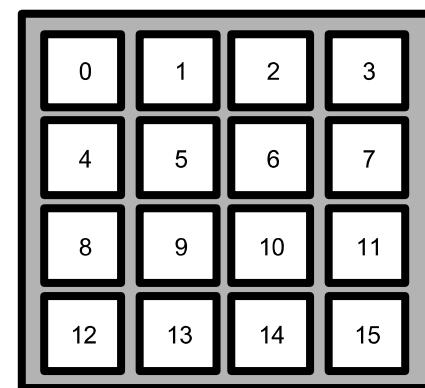
Output



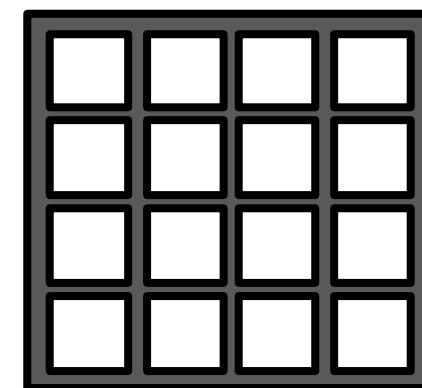
Grid



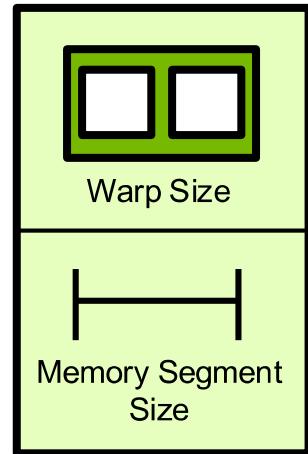
For these slides we will define a warp as 2 threads, and a memory segment as 2 data elements wide



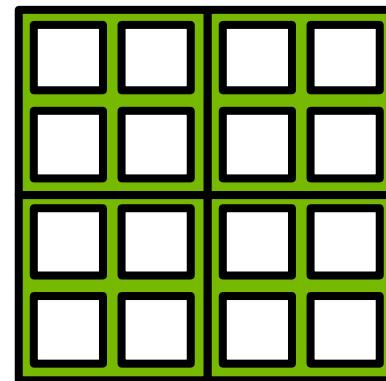
Input



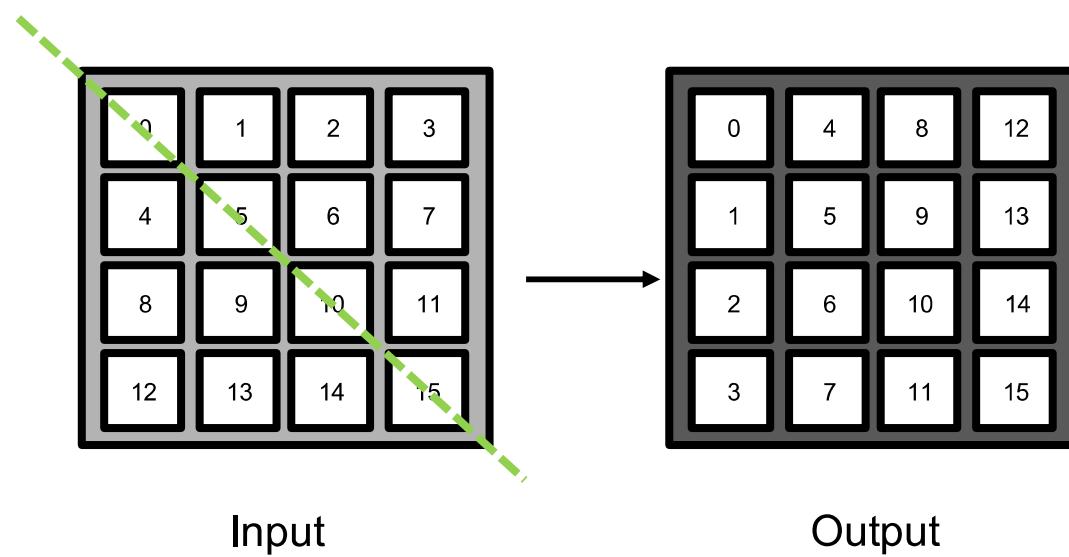
Output

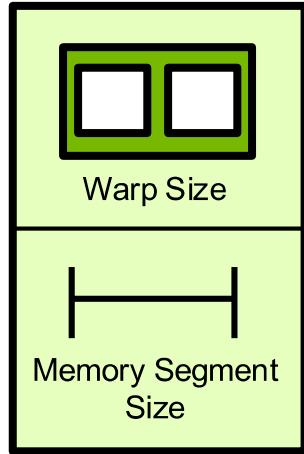


Grid

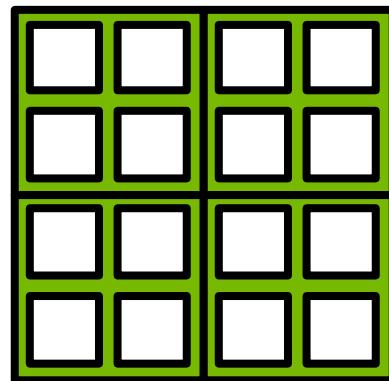


Our goal is to transpose the input by rotating all elements around the diagonal, writing the transposed elements to output





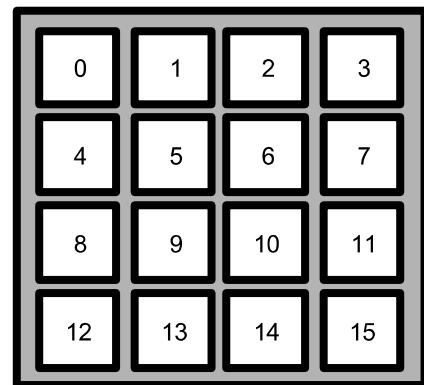
Grid



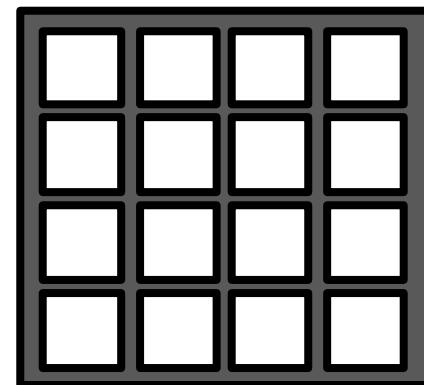
A naïve approach is to launch a grid with threads equal to input elements, and to have each thread read 1 element, then write it to output in the transposed location

```
x, y = cuda.grid(2)

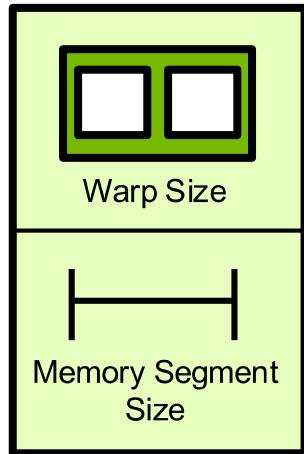
out[x][y] = in[y][x]
```



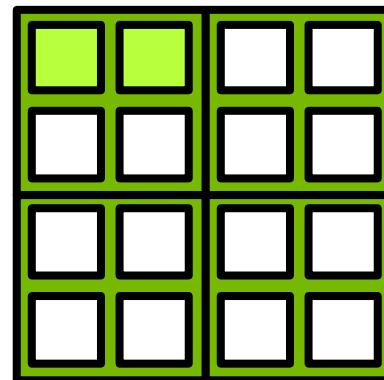
Input



Output



Grid



Observing the behavior of a single warp, is it the case that memory reads are coalesced? Let's dig into answering that question

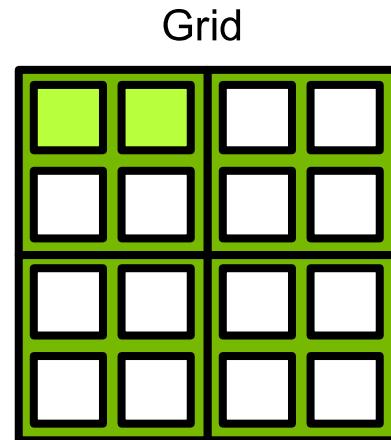
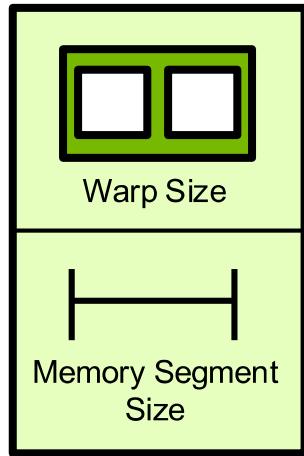
```
x, y = cuda.grid(2)

out[x][y] = in[y][x]
```

0	1	2	3
4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15

Input


Output



Rewriting the creation of the indexing variables, it is clearer that contiguous threads in the same warp are adjacent along the x axis

```

x = blockIdx.x * blockDim.x
  + threadIdx.x

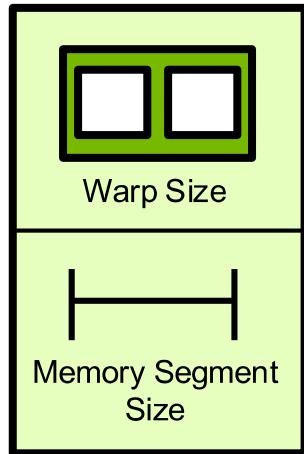
y = blockIdx.y * blockDim.y
  + threadIdx.y

out[x][y] = in[y][x]
  
```

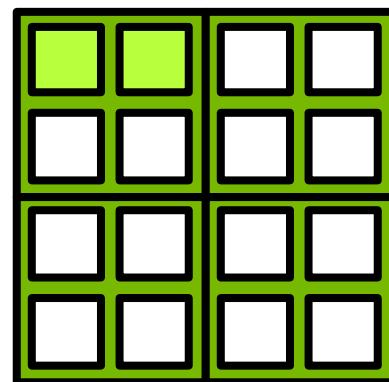
0	1	2	3
4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15

Input


Output



Grid

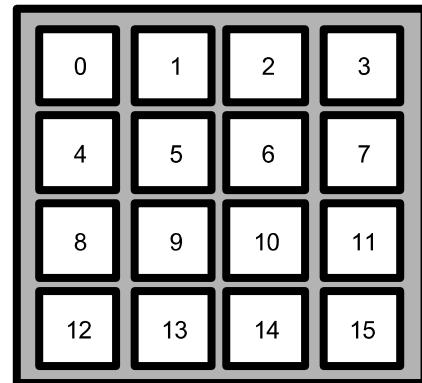


Furthermore, these contiguous threads will read elements from the rows of input where data elements are contiguous

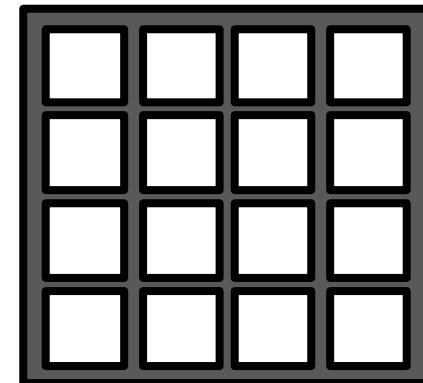
```
x = blockIdx.x * blockDim.x
    + threadIdx.x

y = blockIdx.y * blockDim.y
    + threadIdx.y

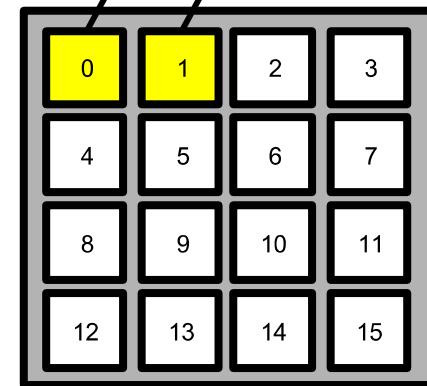
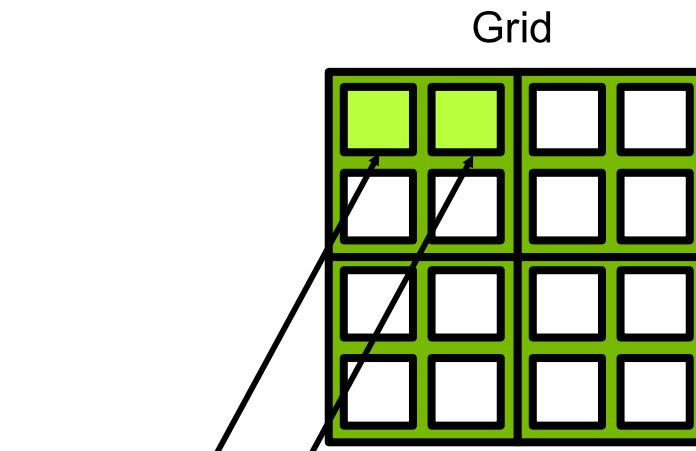
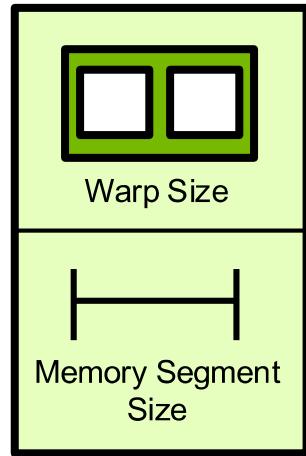
out[x][y] = in[y][x]
```



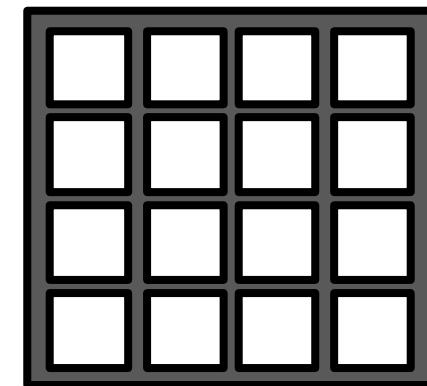
Input



Output



Input



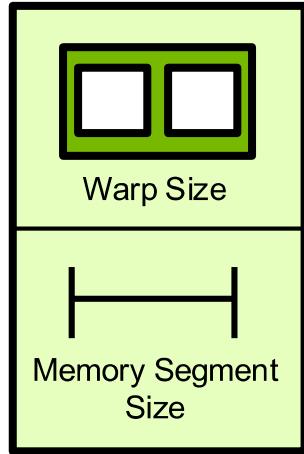
Output

Therefore, it makes sense that reads from input are coalesced

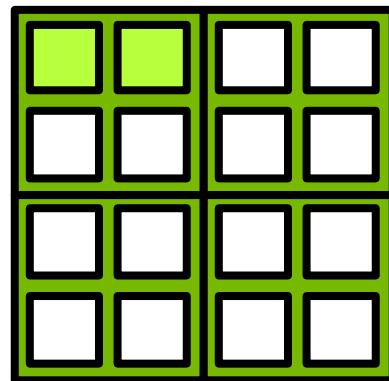
```
x = blockIdx.x * blockDim.x
    + threadIdx.x

y = blockIdx.y * blockDim.y
    + threadIdx.y

out[x][y] = in[y][x]
```



Grid

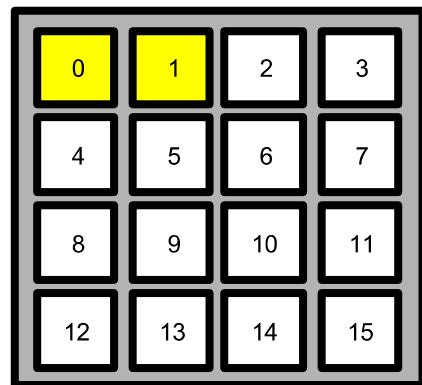


What about this warp's writes to output, will they be coalesced?

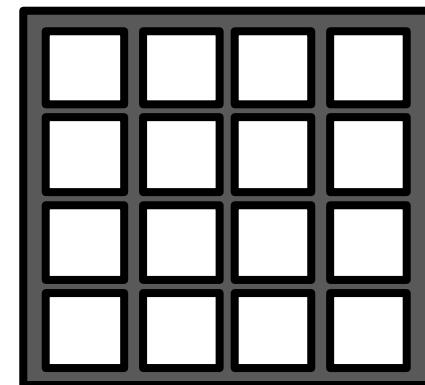
```
x = blockIdx.x * blockDim.x
    + threadIdx.x

y = blockIdx.y * blockDim.y
    + threadIdx.y

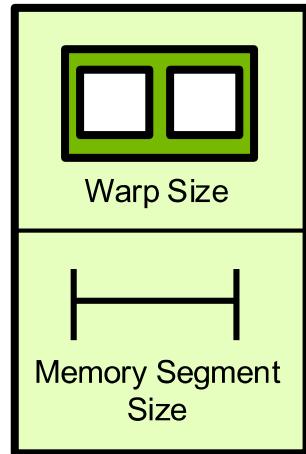
out[x][y] = in[y][x]
```



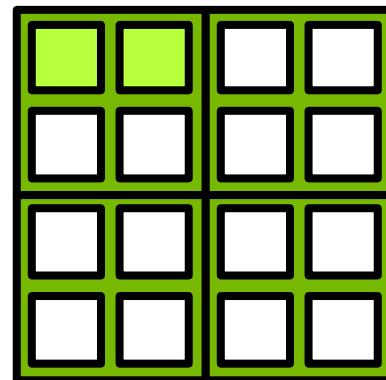
Input



Output



Grid

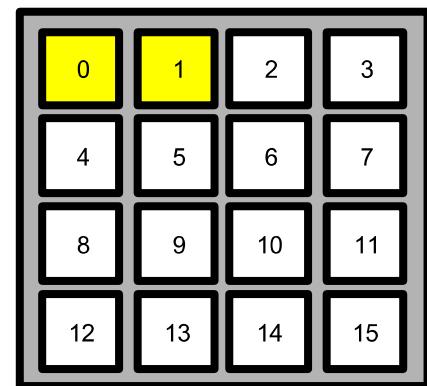


Here we see that contiguous threads in the same warp will be writing along a column in output

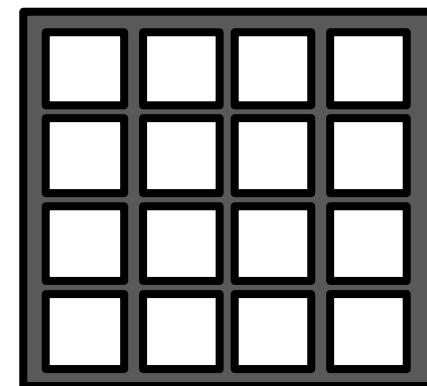
```
x = blockIdx.x * blockDim.x
    + threadIdx.x

y = blockIdx.y * blockDim.y
    + threadIdx.y

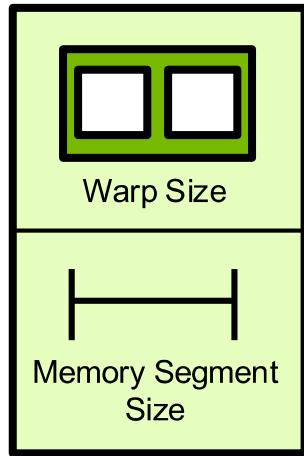
out [x] [y] = in[y] [x]
```



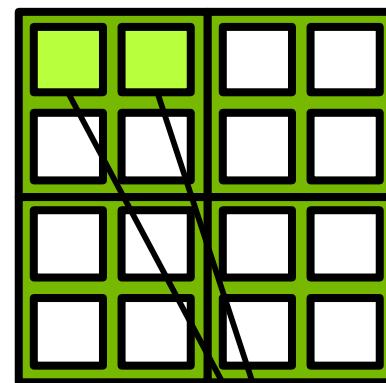
Input



Output



Grid



Therefore, the writes will not be coalesced

```
x = blockIdx.x * blockDim.x
    + threadIdx.x

y = blockIdx.y * blockDim.y
    + threadIdx.y

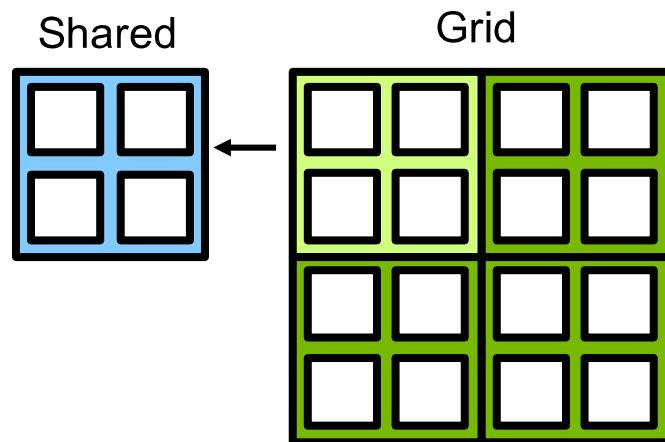
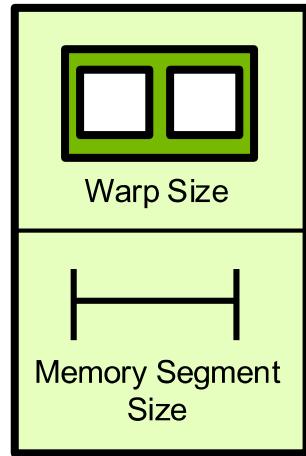
out[x][y] = in[y][x]
```

0	1	2	3
4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15

Input

0			
1			

Output



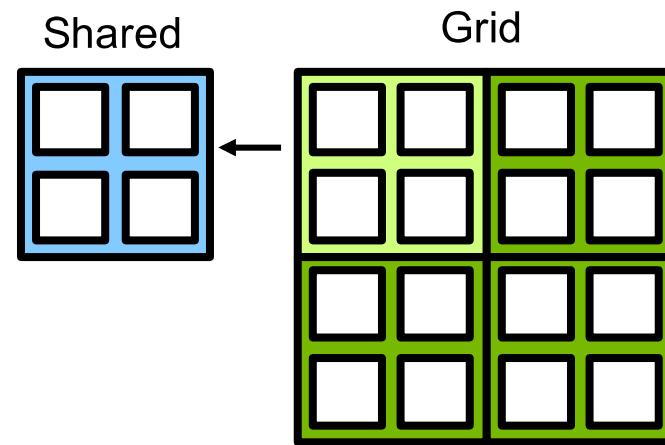
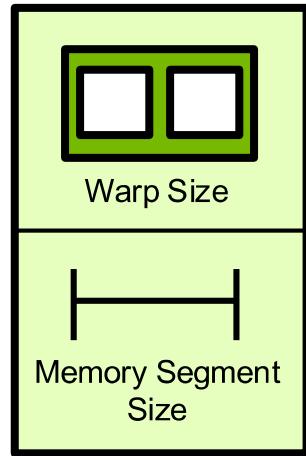
We can use shared memory to make coalesced reads and writes. Here, each block will allocate a (2,2) shared memory tile

```
tile = cuda.shared.array(2, 2)
```

0	1	2	3
4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15

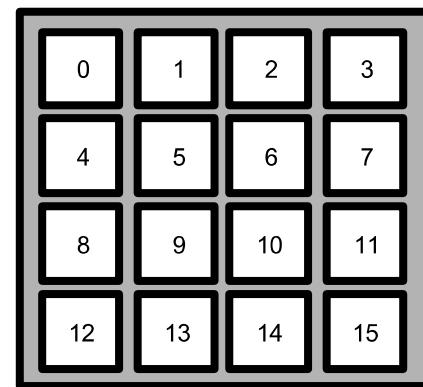
Input


Output

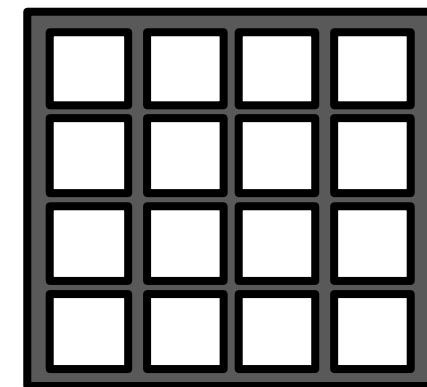


(It is worth reminding that in our slides, to preserve space, 2 threads is a warp length. A real warp is 32 threads)

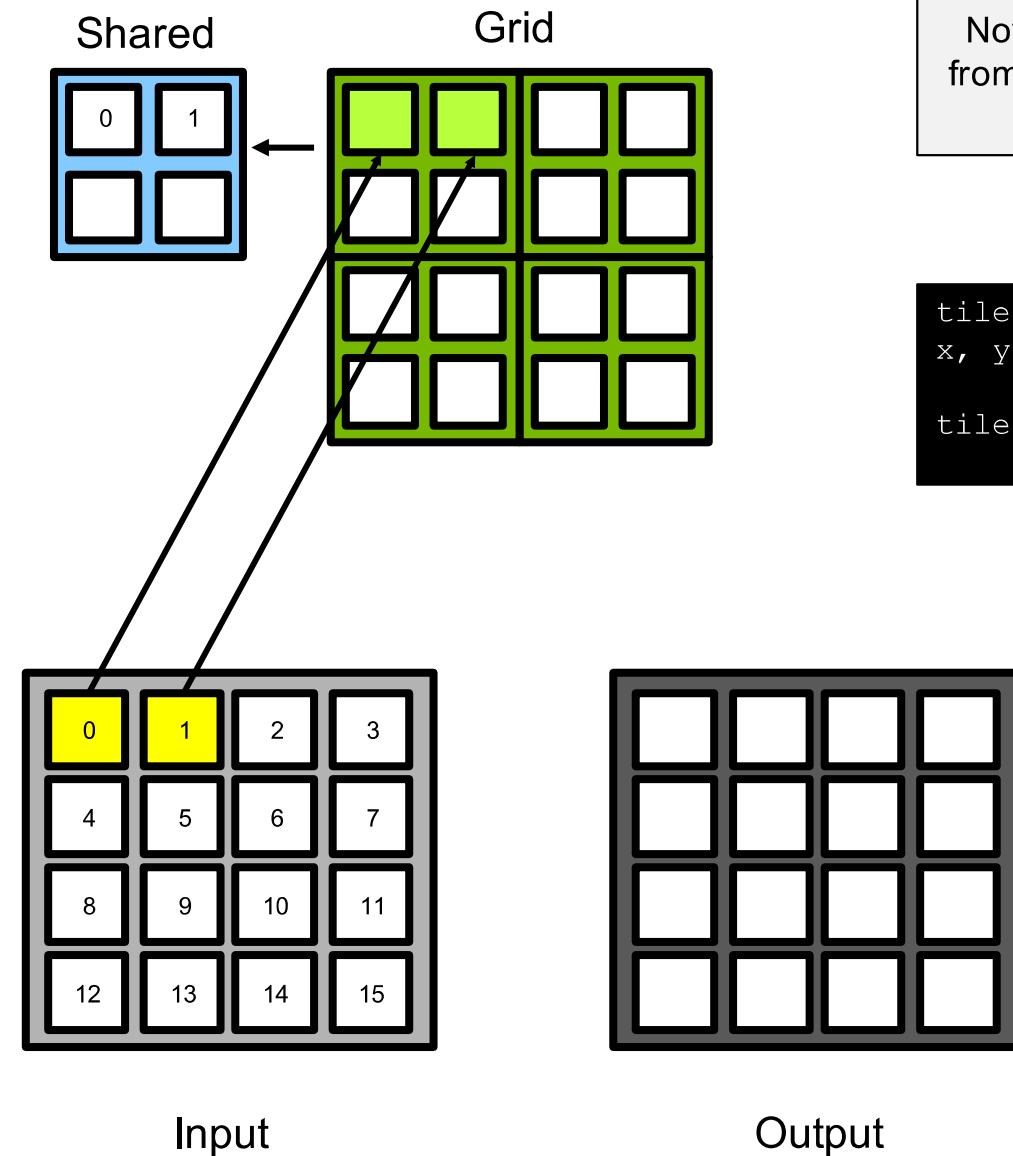
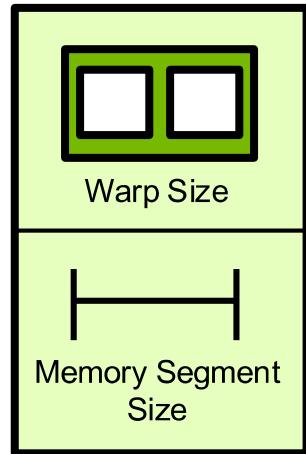
```
tile = cuda.shared.array(2, 2)
```



Input



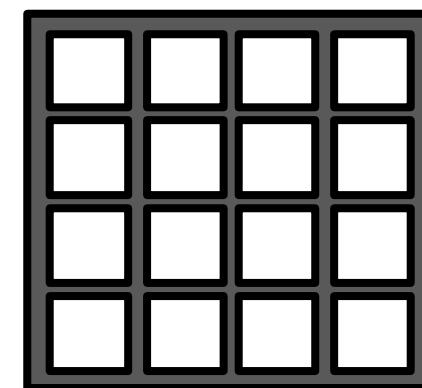
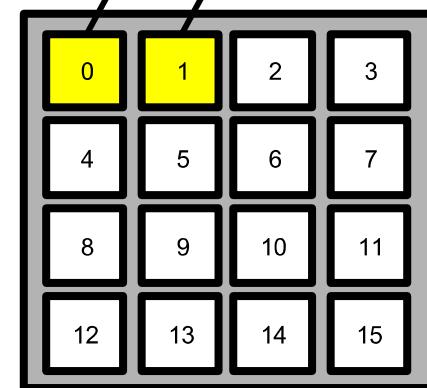
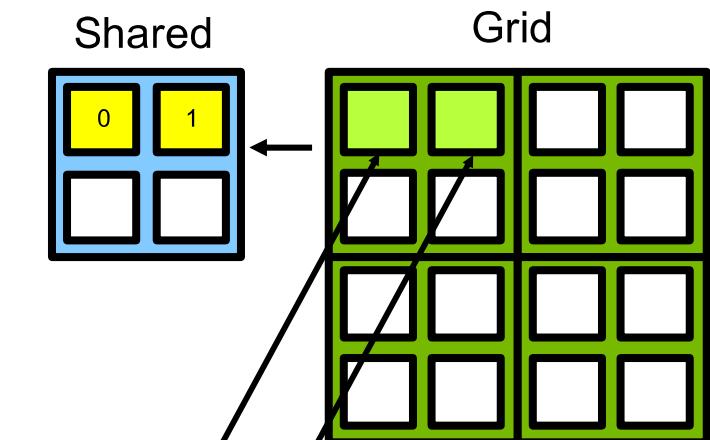
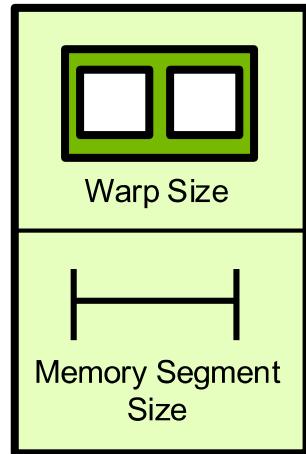
Output



Now we can make coalesced reads from input, and write the values to the block's shared memory tile

```
tile = cuda.shared.array(2,2)
x, y = cuda.grid(2)

tile[tIdx.y][tIdx.x] = in[y][x]
```

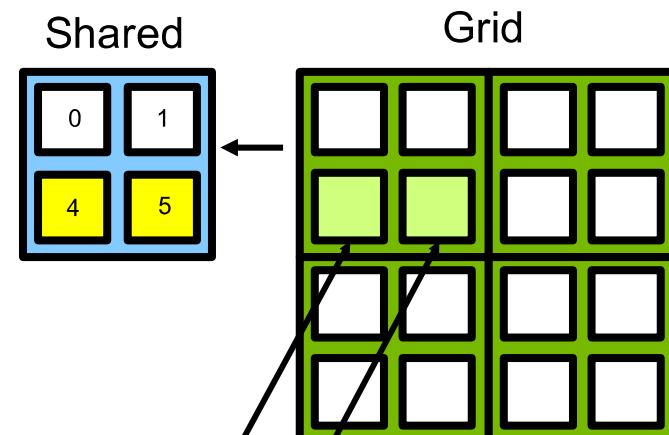
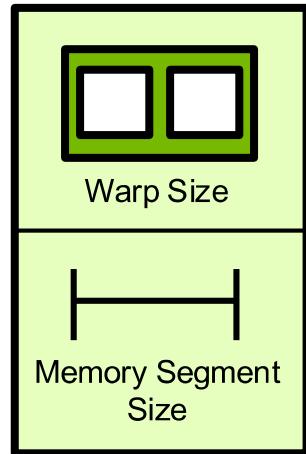


Because each shared memory tile is local to the block (not the grid) we index into it using thread indices, not grid indices

```

tile = cuda.shared.array(2,2)
x, y = cuda.grid(2)

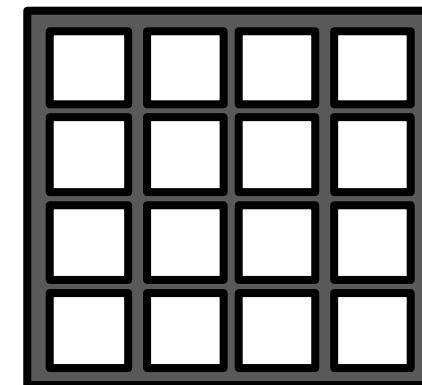
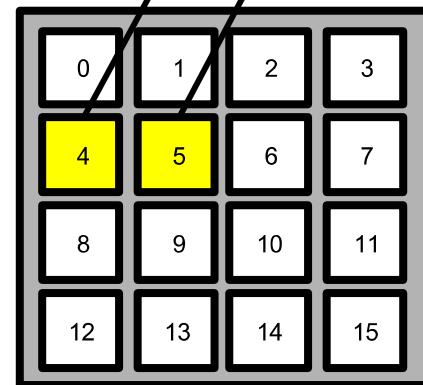
tile[tIdx.y][tIdx.x] = in[y][x]
  
```

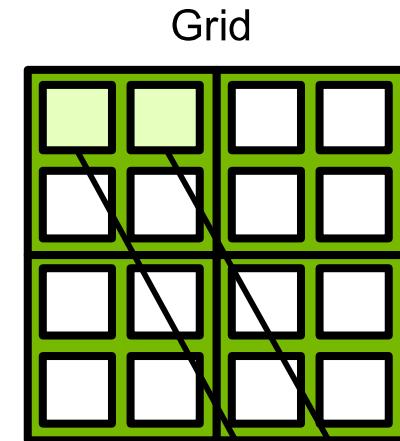
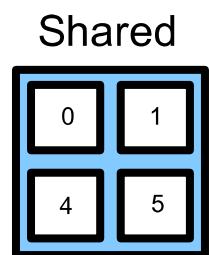
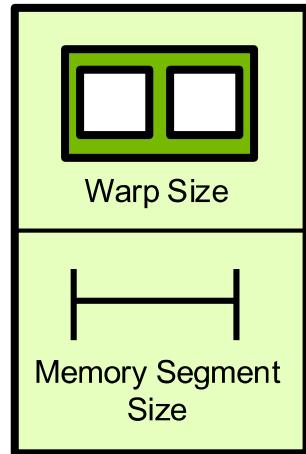


After synchronizing on all threads in the block, the tile will contain all the data this block needs to begin the writes

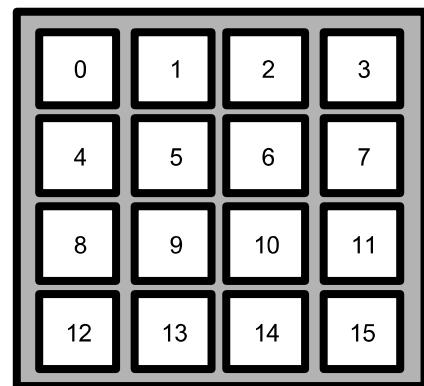
```
tile = cuda.shared.array(2,2)
x, y = cuda.grid(2)

tile[tIdx.y][tIdx.x] = in[y][x]
cuda.syncthreads()
```

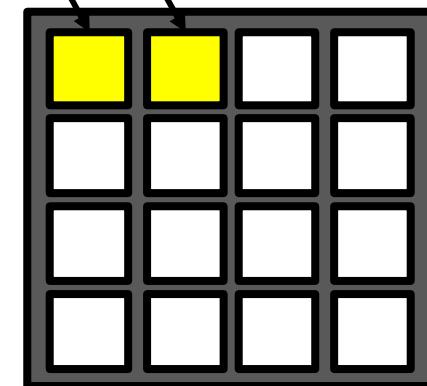




So that the writes are coalesced, we want each warp to write to a row in output



Input

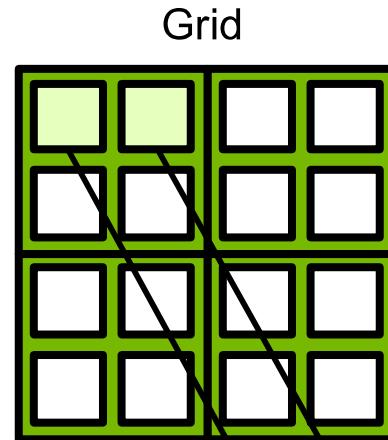
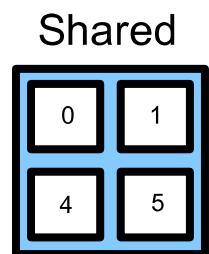
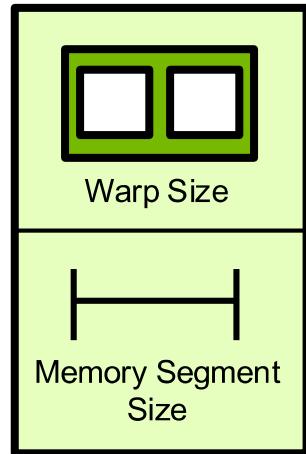


Output

```
tile = cuda.shared.array(2,2)
x, y = cuda.grid(2)

tile[tIdx.y][tIdx.x] = in[y][x]
cuda.syncthreads()

o_x = bId.y*bDim.y + tId.x
o_y = bId.x*bDim.x + tId.y
```

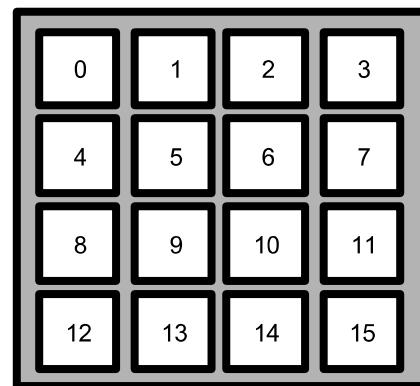


Notice that to write to output at the transposed locations we use blockIdx.y and blockDim.y to calculate the x axis index in output...

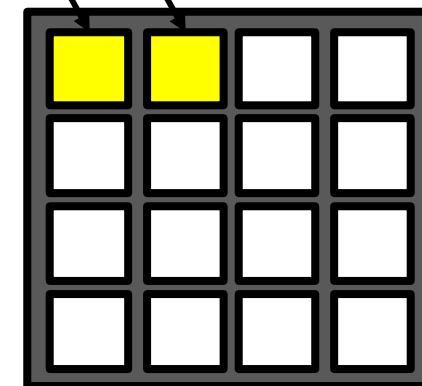
```
tile = cuda.shared.array(2,2)
x, y = cuda.grid(2)

tile[tIdx.y][tIdx.x] = in[y][x]
cuda.syncthreads()

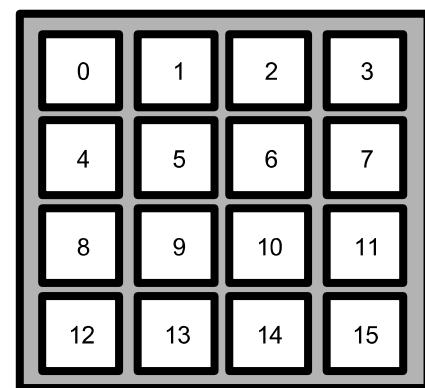
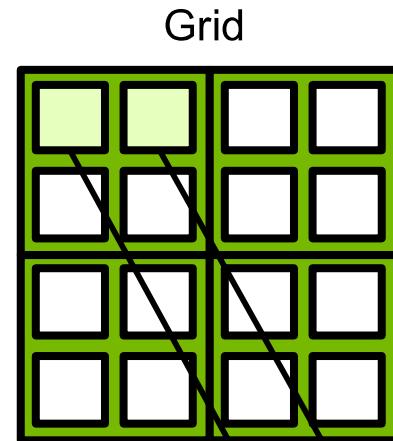
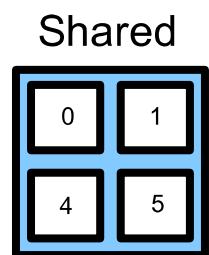
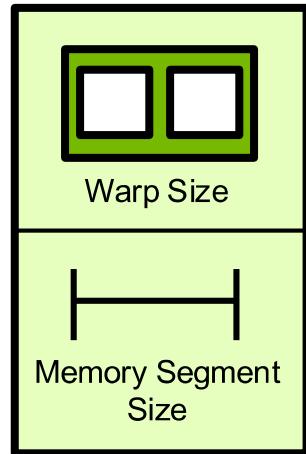
o_x = bId.y*blockDim.y + tId.x
o_y = bId.x*blockDim.x + tId.y
```



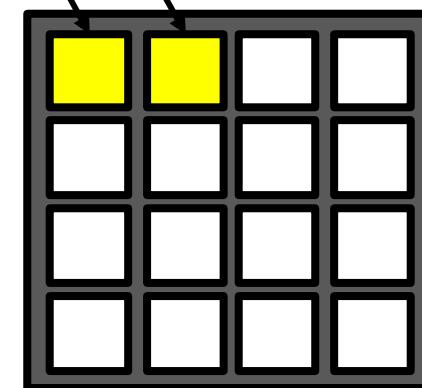
Input



Output



Input



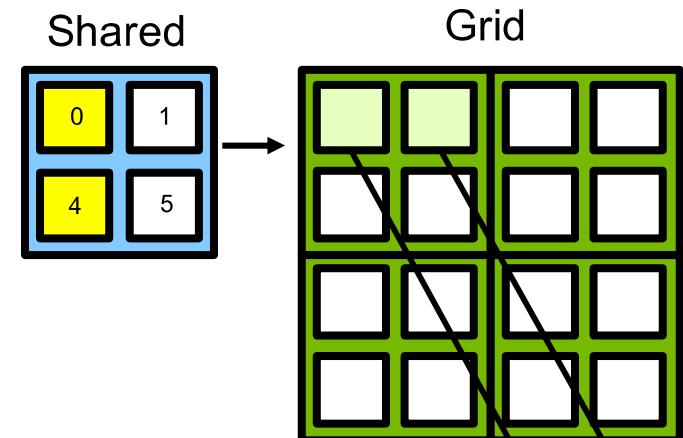
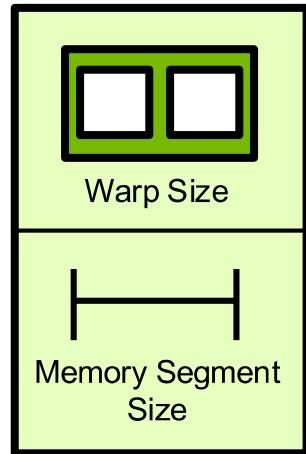
Output

...but to accomplish coalesced writes,  
we still map increments to threadIdx.x  
to be along the x output axis

```
tile = cuda.shared.array(2,2)
x, y = cuda.grid(2)

tile[tIdx.y][tIdx.x] = in[y][x]
cuda.syncthreads()

o_x = bId.y*bDim.y + tId.x
o_y = bId.x*bDim.x + tId.y
```

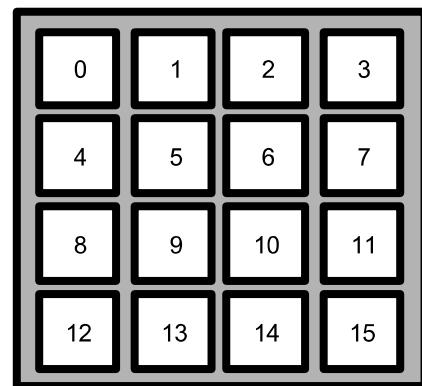


Because of this last detail, each warp will need to read from a column of the shared memory tile in order to perform the transpose

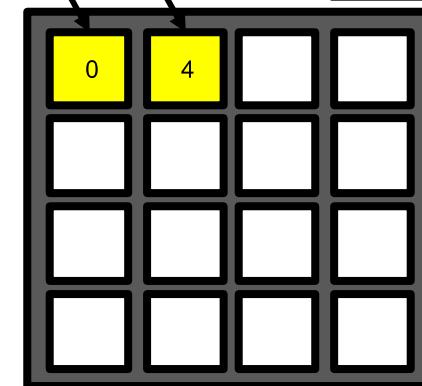
```
tile = cuda.shared.array(2,2)
x, y = cuda.grid(2)

tile[tIdx.y][tIdx.x] = in[y][x]
cuda.syncthreads()

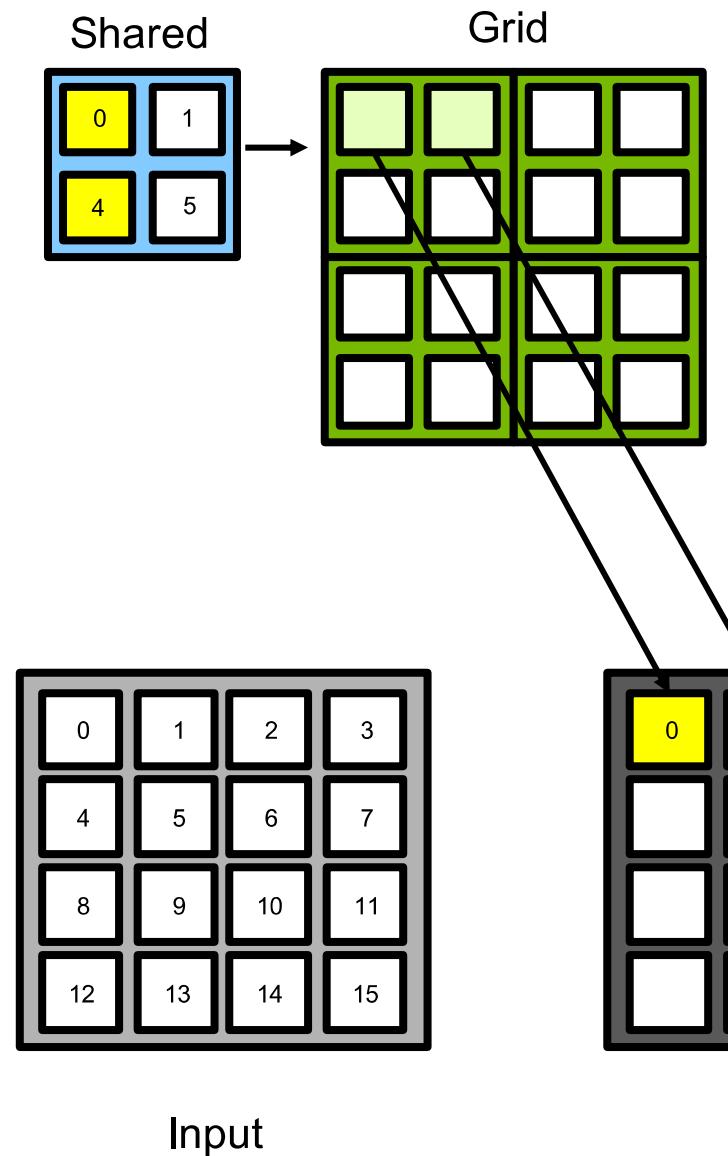
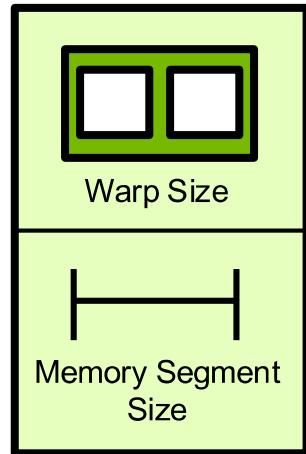
o_x = bId.y*bDim.y + tId.x
o_y = bId.x*bDim.x + tId.y
o[o_y][o_x] = tile[tIdx.x][tIdx.y]
```



Input



Output

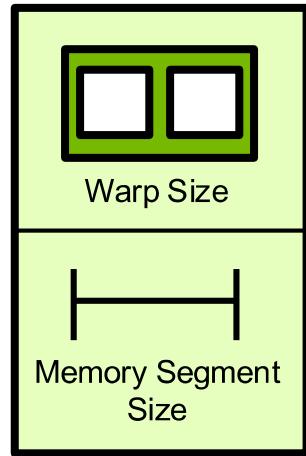


(There's more to come about efficient reads/writes to/from shared memory, but for now know that reading across the column in shared memory has very low impact compared to doing so with global memory)

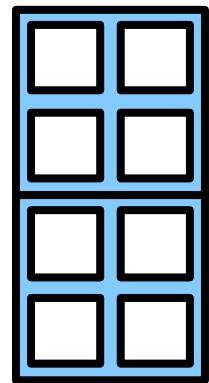
```
tile = cuda.shared.array(2,2)
x, y = cuda.grid(2)

tile[tIdx.y][tIdx.x] = in[y][x]
cuda.syncthreads()

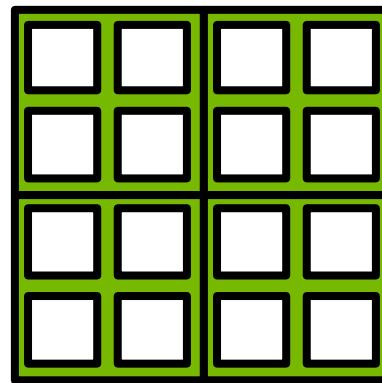
o_x = bId.y*bDim.y + tId.x
o_y = bId.x*bDim.x + tId.y
o[o_y][o_x] = tile[tIdx.x][tIdx.y]
```



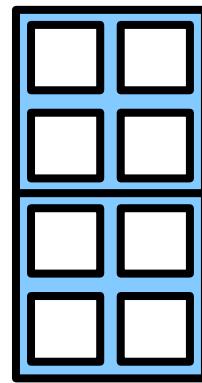
Shared



Grid



Shared

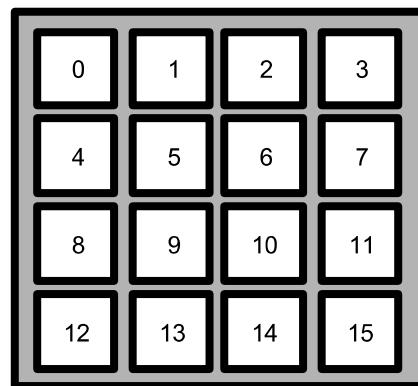


In this way we can transpose the matrix while making fully coalesced reads from and writes to global memory

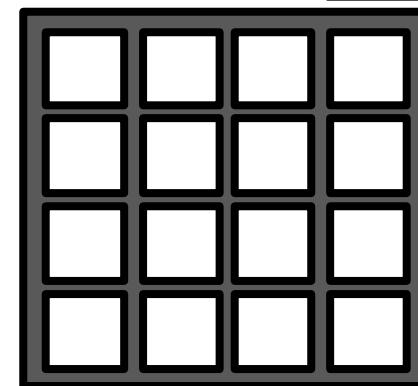
```
tile = cuda.shared.array(2,2)
x, y = cuda.grid(2)

tile[tIdx.y][tIdx.x] = in[y][x]
cuda.syncthreads()

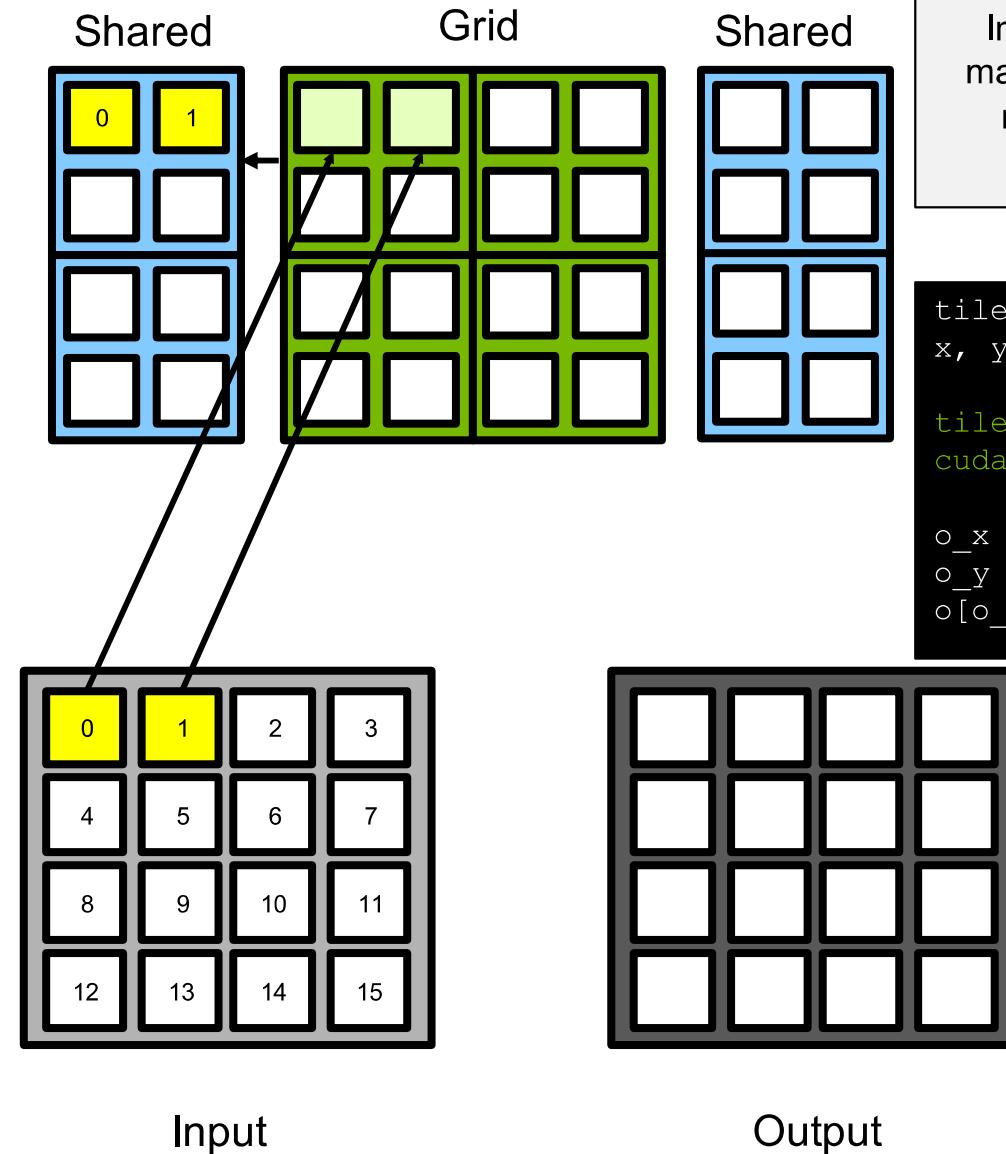
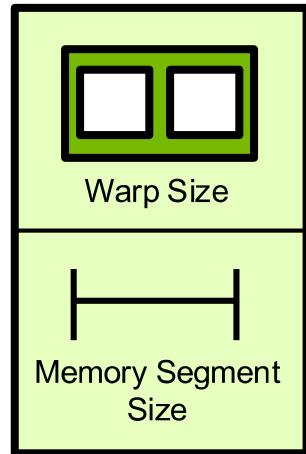
o_x = bId.y*bDim.y + tId.x
o_y = bId.x*bDim.x + tId.y
o[o_y][o_x] = tile[tIdx.x][tIdx.y]
```



Input



Output

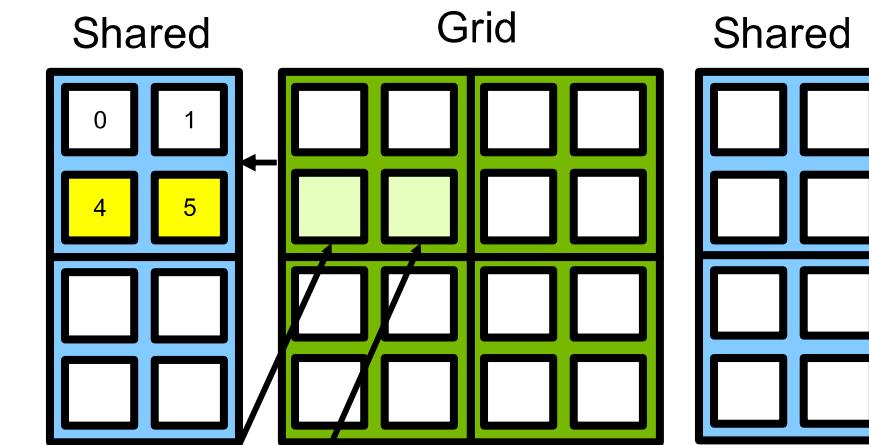
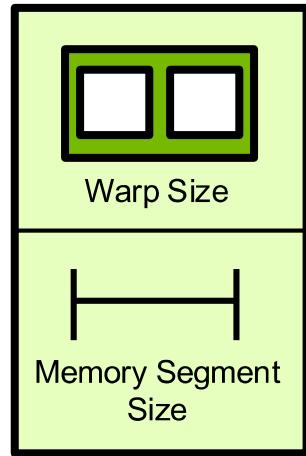


In this way we can transpose the matrix while making fully coalesced reads from and writes to global memory

```
tile = cuda.shared.array(2,2)
x, y = cuda.grid(2)

tile[tIdx.y][tIdx.x] = in[y][x]
cuda.syncthreads()

o_x = bId.y*bDim.y + tId.x
o_y = bId.x*bDim.x + tId.y
o[o_y][o_x] = tile[tIdx.x][tIdx.y]
```

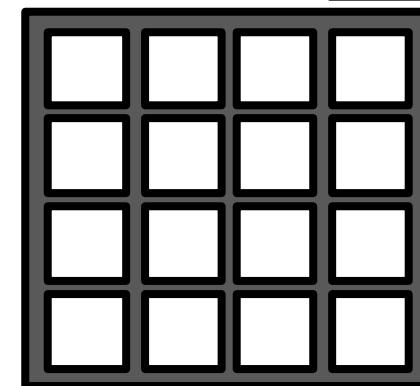
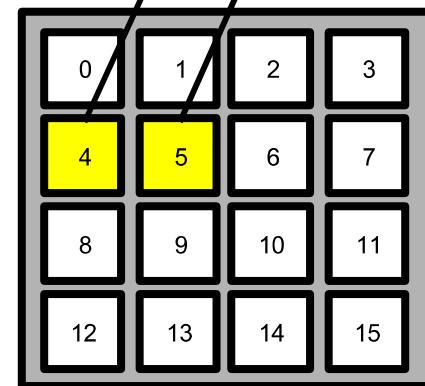


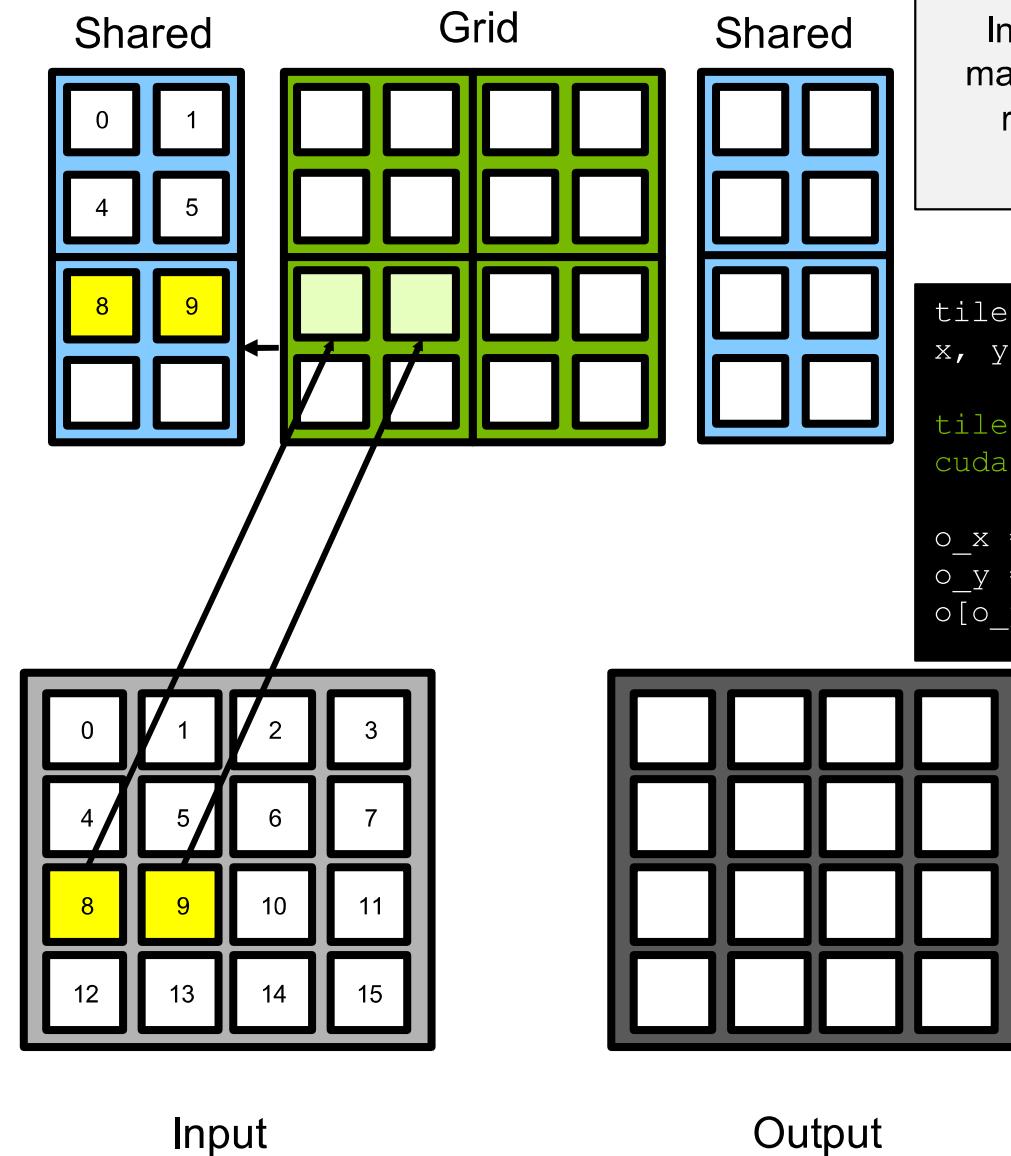
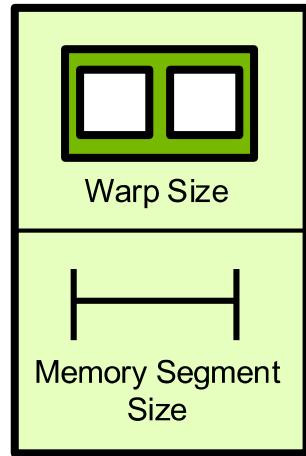
In this way we can transpose the matrix while making fully coalesced reads from and writes to global memory

```
tile = cuda.shared.array(2,2)
x, y = cuda.grid(2)

tile[tIdx.y][tIdx.x] = in[y][x]
cuda.syncthreads()

o_x = bId.y*bDim.y + tId.x
o_y = bId.x*bDim.x + tId.y
o[o_y][o_x] = tile[tIdx.x][tIdx.y]
```



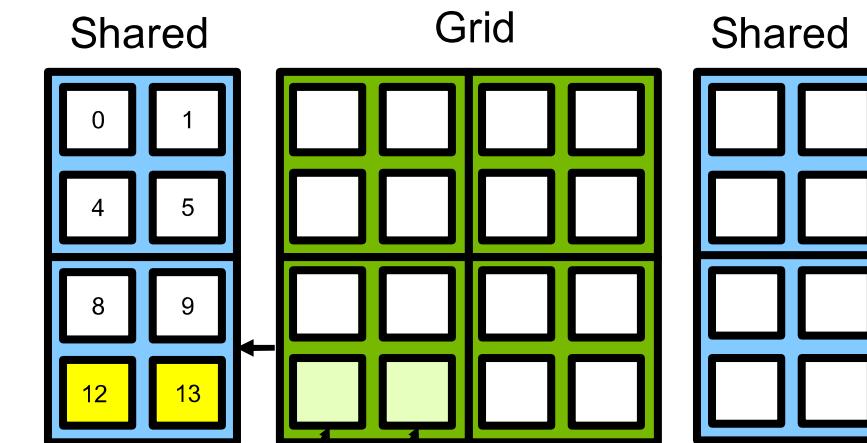
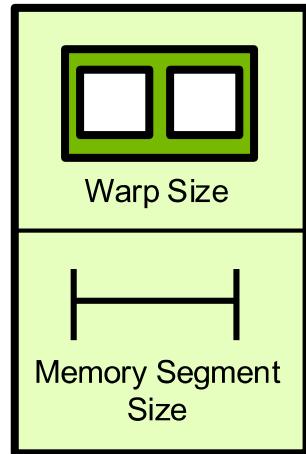


In this way we can transpose the matrix while making fully coalesced reads from and writes to global memory

```
tile = cuda.shared.array(2,2)
x, y = cuda.grid(2)

tile[tIdx.y][tIdx.x] = in[y][x]
cuda.syncthreads()

o_x = bId.y*bDim.y + tId.x
o_y = bId.x*bDim.x + tId.y
o[o_y][o_x] = tile[tIdx.x][tIdx.y]
```

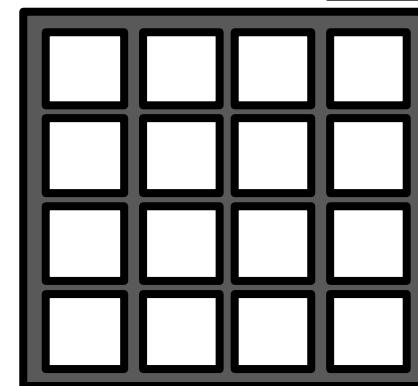
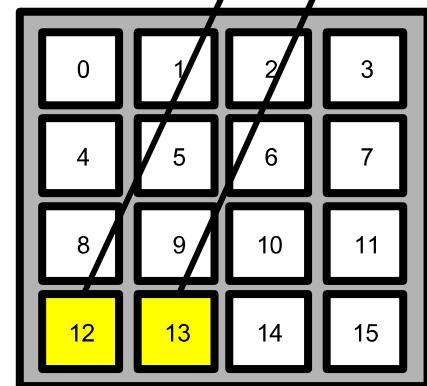


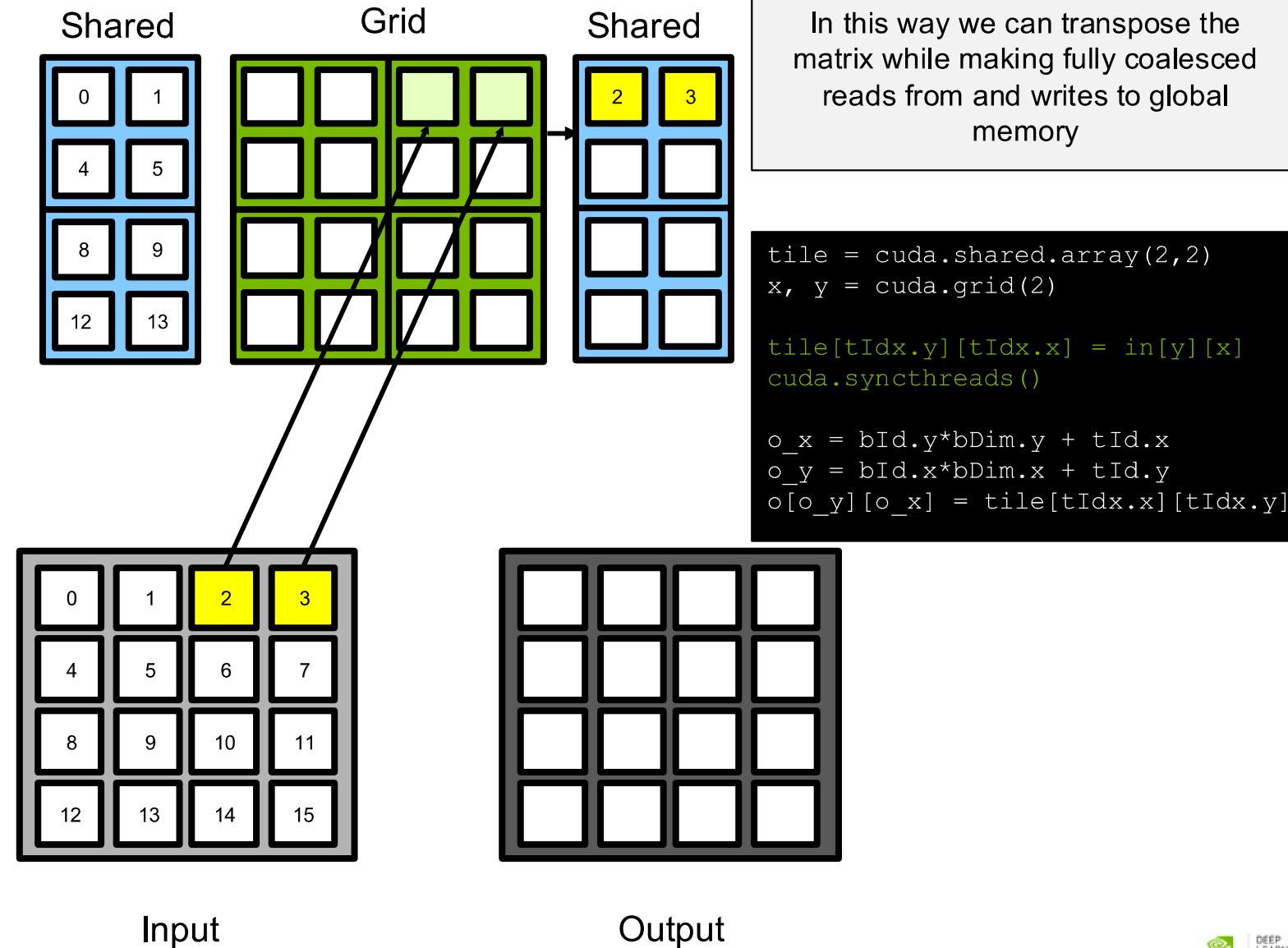
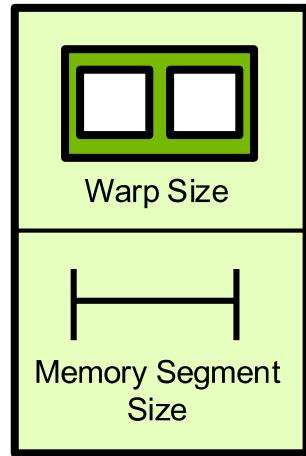
In this way we can transpose the matrix while making fully coalesced reads from and writes to global memory

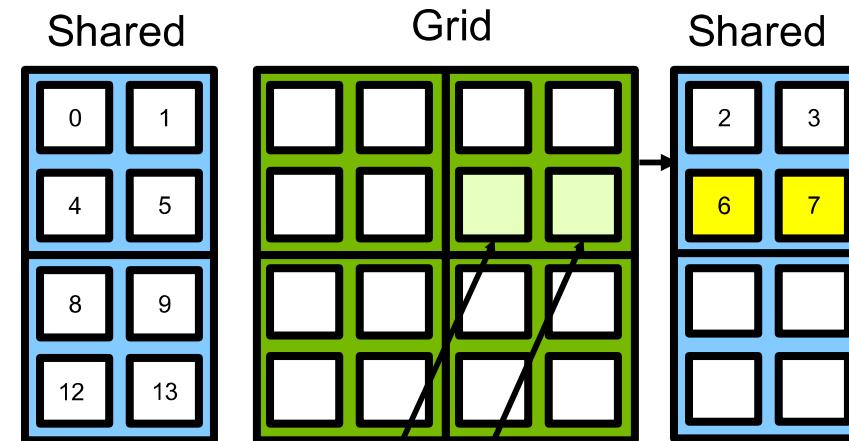
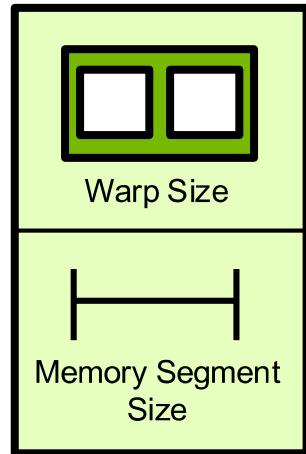
```
tile = cuda.shared.array(2,2)
x, y = cuda.grid(2)

tile[tIdx.y][tIdx.x] = in[y][x]
cuda.syncthreads()

o_x = bId.y*bDim.y + tId.x
o_y = bId.x*bDim.x + tId.y
o[o_y][o_x] = tile[tIdx.x][tIdx.y]
```





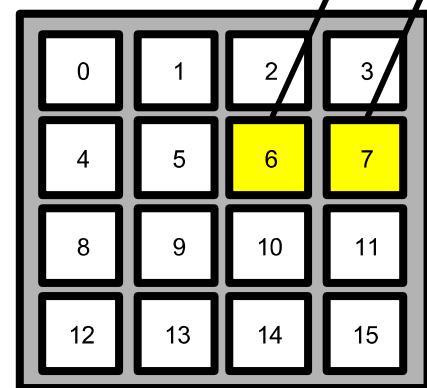


In this way we can transpose the matrix while making fully coalesced reads from and writes to global memory

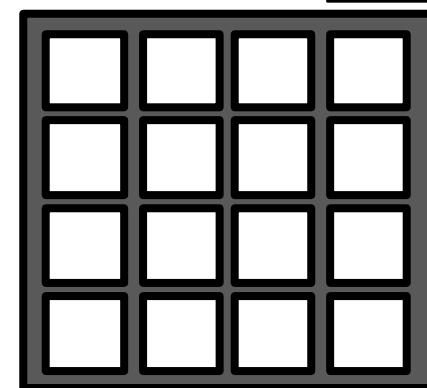
```
tile = cuda.shared.array(2,2)
x, y = cuda.grid(2)

tile[tIdx.y][tIdx.x] = in[y][x]
cuda.syncthreads()

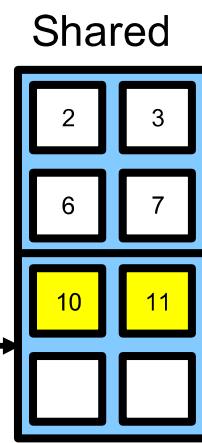
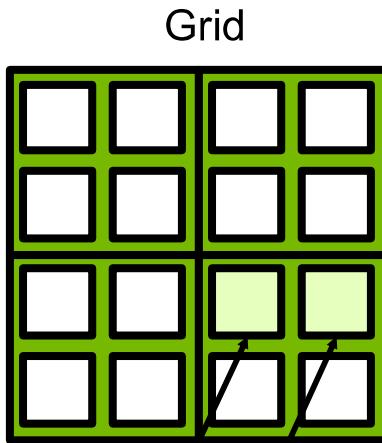
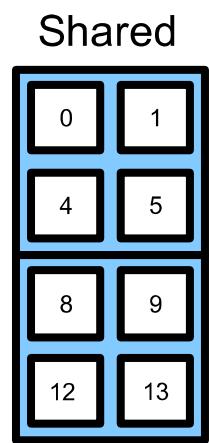
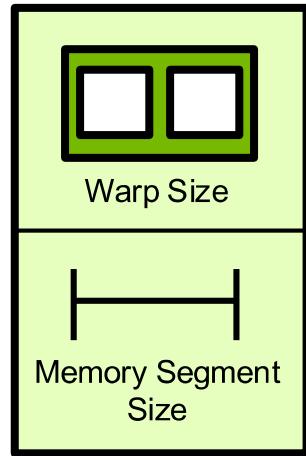
o_x = bId.y*bDim.y + tId.x
o_y = bId.x*bDim.x + tId.y
o[o_y][o_x] = tile[tIdx.x][tIdx.y]
```



Input



Output

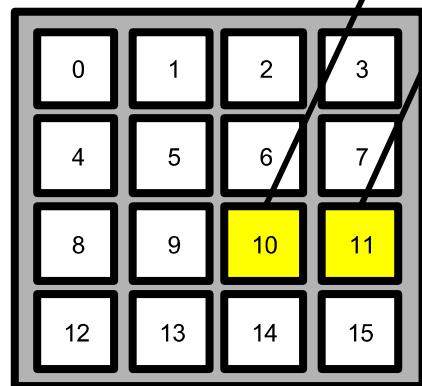


In this way we can transpose the matrix while making fully coalesced reads from and writes to global memory

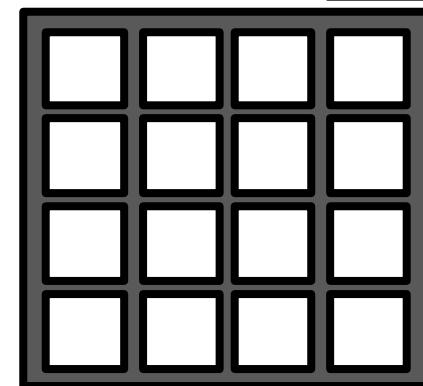
```
tile = cuda.shared.array(2,2)
x, y = cuda.grid(2)

tile[tIdx.y][tIdx.x] = in[y][x]
cuda.syncthreads()

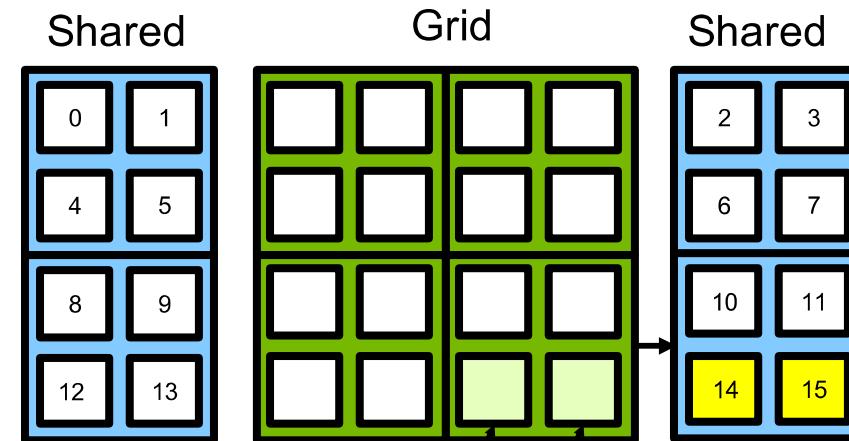
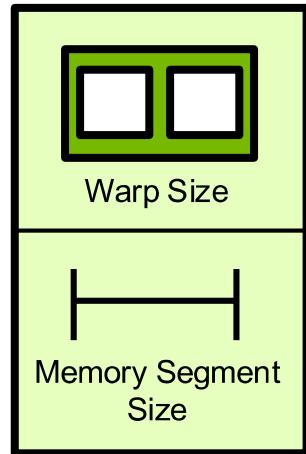
o_x = bId.y*bDim.y + tId.x
o_y = bId.x*bDim.x + tId.y
o[o_y][o_x] = tile[tIdx.x][tIdx.y]
```



Input



Output

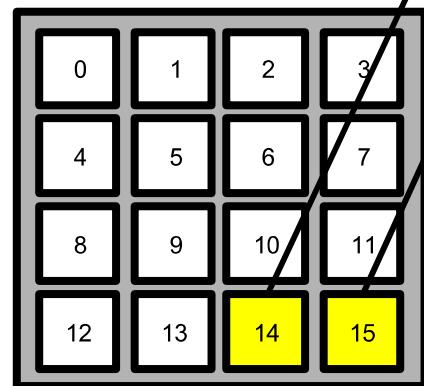


In this way we can transpose the matrix while making fully coalesced reads from and writes to global memory

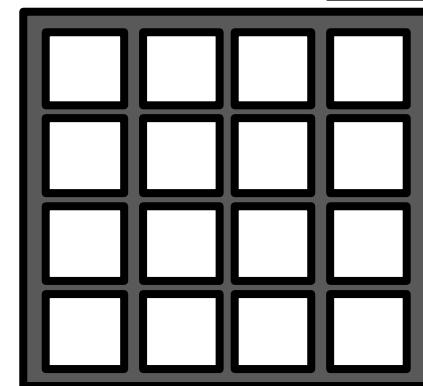
```
tile = cuda.shared.array(2,2)
x, y = cuda.grid(2)

tile[tIdx.y][tIdx.x] = in[y][x]
cuda.syncthreads()

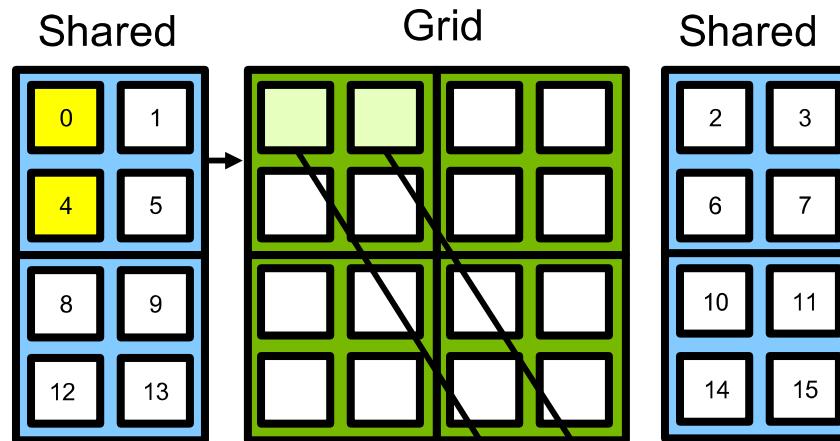
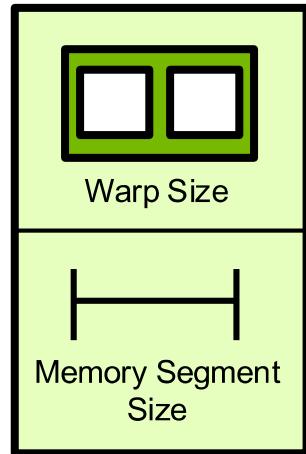
o_x = bId.y*bDim.y + tId.x
o_y = bId.x*bDim.x + tId.y
o[o_y][o_x] = tile[tIdx.x][tIdx.y]
```



Input



Output

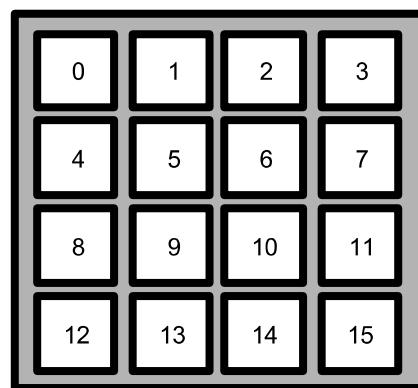


In this way we can transpose the matrix while making fully coalesced reads from and writes to global memory

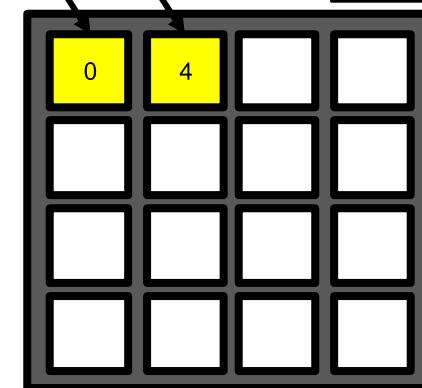
```
tile = cuda.shared.array(2,2)
x, y = cuda.grid(2)

tile[tIdx.y][tIdx.x] = in[y][x]
cuda.syncthreads()

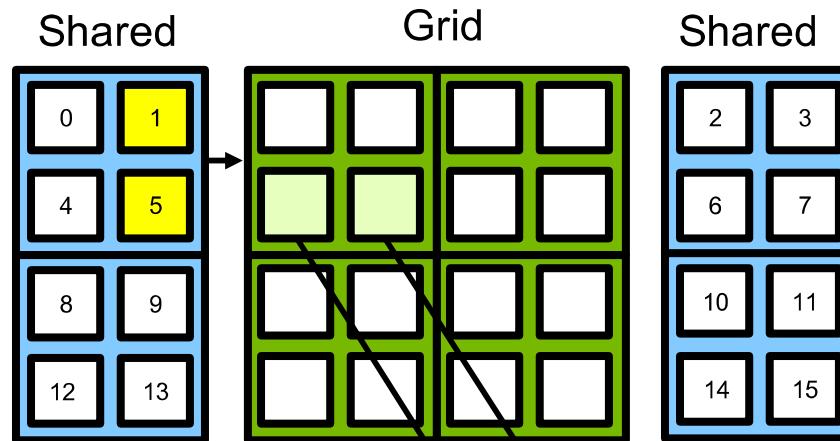
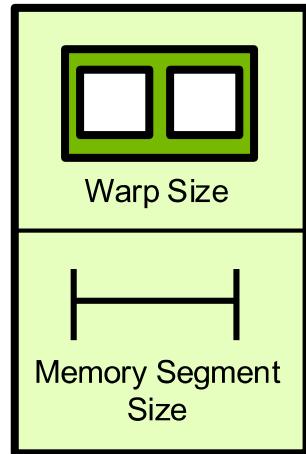
o_x = bId.y*bDim.y + tId.x
o_y = bId.x*bDim.x + tId.y
o[o_y][o_x] = tile[tIdx.x][tIdx.y]
```



Input



Output

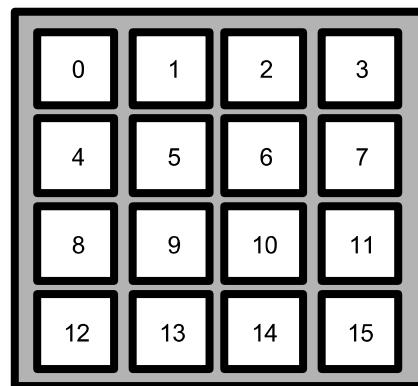


In this way we can transpose the matrix while making fully coalesced reads from and writes to global memory

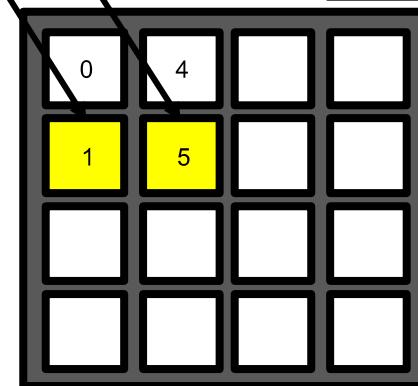
```
tile = cuda.shared.array(2,2)
x, y = cuda.grid(2)

tile[tIdx.y][tIdx.x] = in[y][x]
cuda.syncthreads()

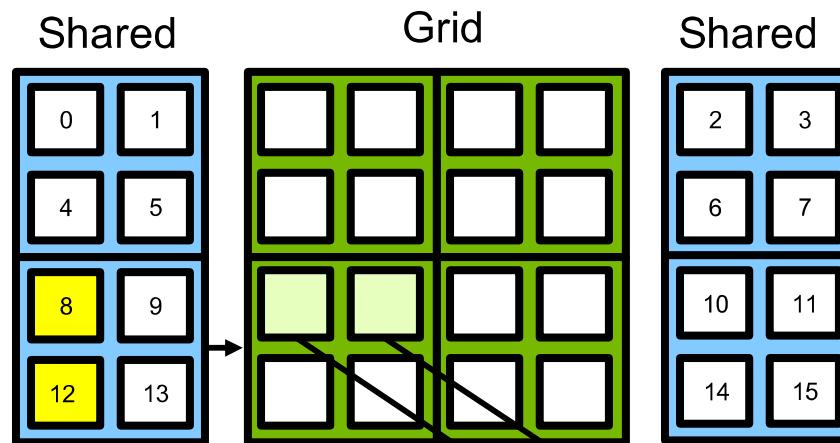
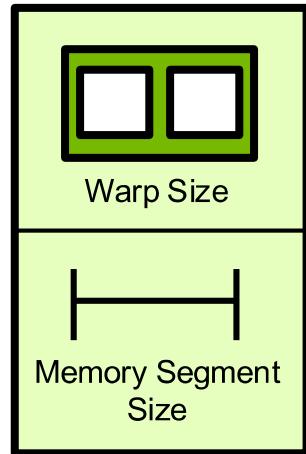
o_x = bId.y*bDim.y + tId.x
o_y = bId.x*bDim.x + tId.y
o[o_y][o_x] = tile[tIdx.x][tIdx.y]
```



Input



Output

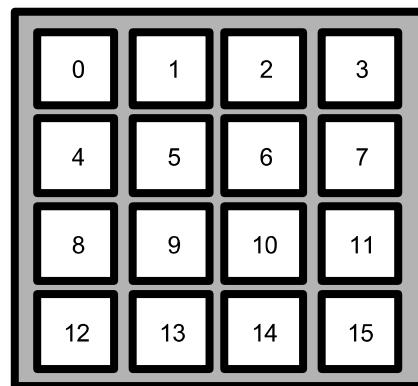


In this way we can transpose the matrix while making fully coalesced reads from and writes to global memory

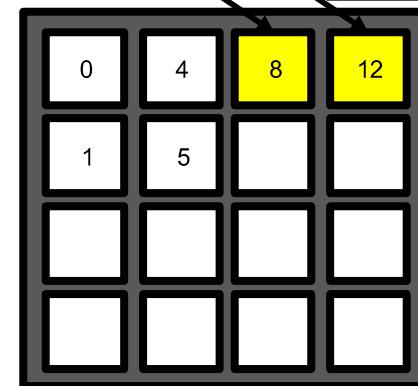
```
tile = cuda.shared.array(2,2)
x, y = cuda.grid(2)

tile[tIdx.y][tIdx.x] = in[y][x]
cuda.syncthreads()

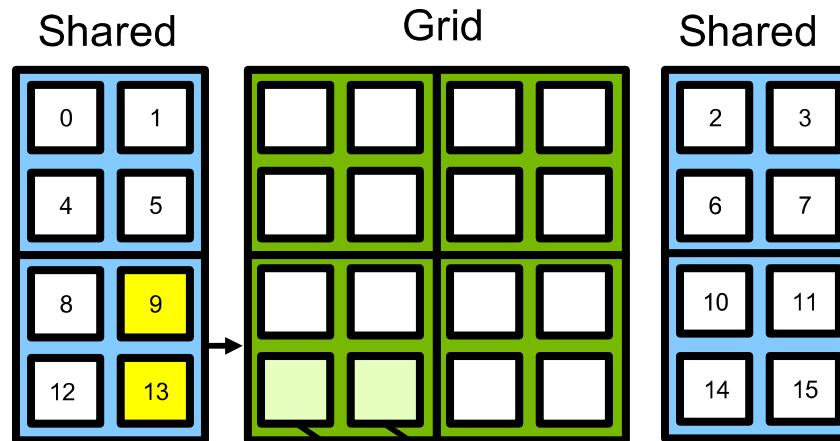
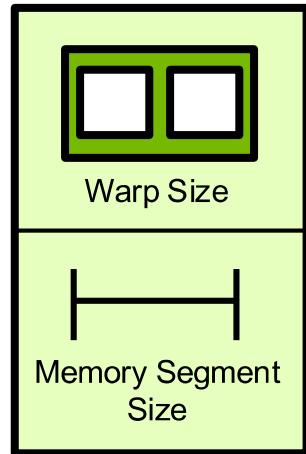
o_x = bId.y*bDim.y + tId.x
o_y = bId.x*bDim.x + tId.y
o[o_y][o_x] = tile[tIdx.x][tIdx.y]
```



Input



Output



In this way we can transpose the matrix while making fully coalesced reads from and writes to global memory

```
tile = cuda.shared.array(2,2)
x, y = cuda.grid(2)

tile[tIdx.y][tIdx.x] = in[y][x]
cuda.syncthreads()

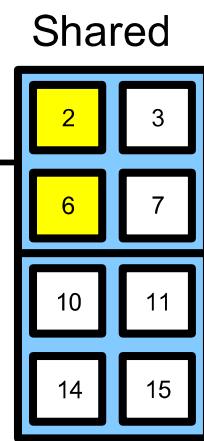
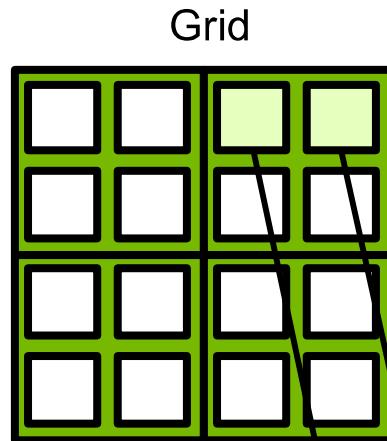
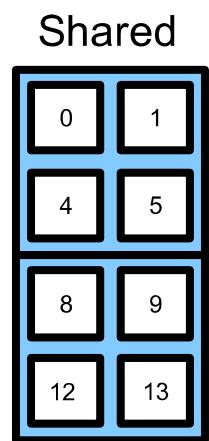
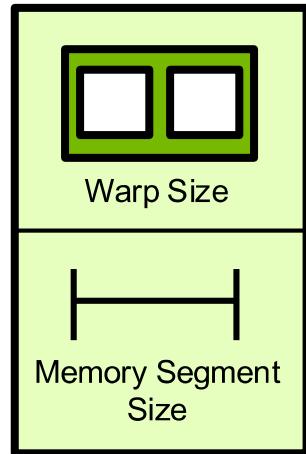
o_x = bId.y*bDim.y + tId.x
o_y = bId.x*bDim.x + tId.y
o[o_y][o_x] = tile[tIdx.x][tIdx.y]
```

0	1	2	3
4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15

Input

0	4	8	12
1	5	9	13

Output

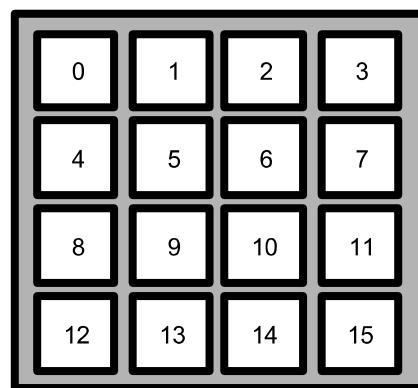


In this way we can transpose the matrix while making fully coalesced reads from and writes to global memory

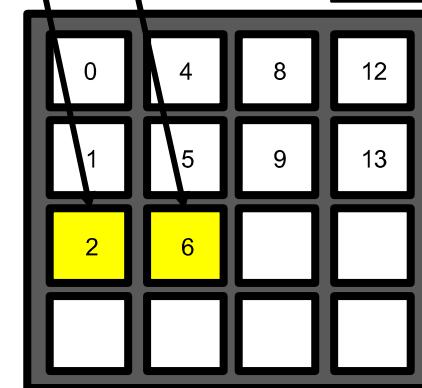
```
tile = cuda.shared.array(2,2)
x, y = cuda.grid(2)

tile[tIdx.y][tIdx.x] = in[y][x]
cuda.syncthreads()

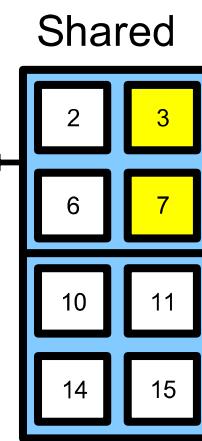
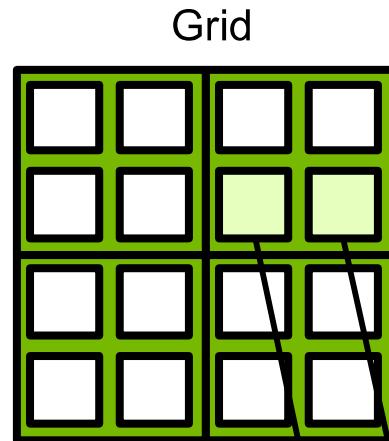
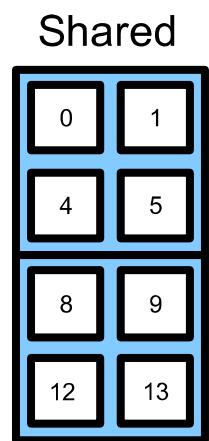
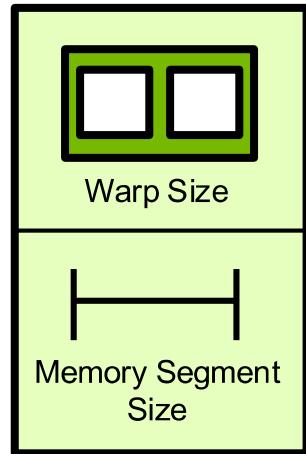
o_x = bId.y*bDim.y + tId.x
o_y = bId.x*bDim.x + tId.y
o[o_y][o_x] = tile[tIdx.x][tIdx.y]
```



Input



Output



In this way we can transpose the matrix while making fully coalesced reads from and writes to global memory

0	1	2	3
4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15

Input

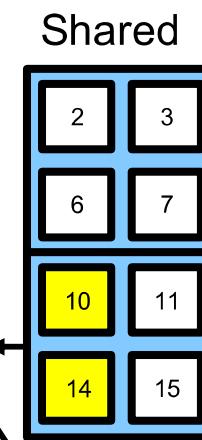
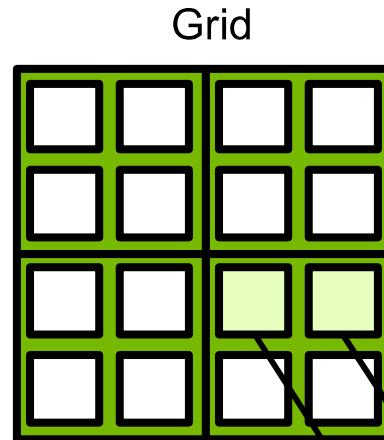
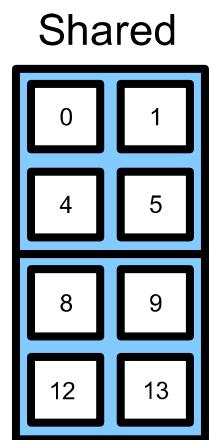
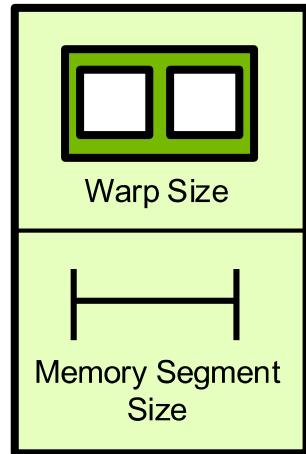
0	4	8	12
1	5	9	13
2	6		
3	7		

Output

```
tile = cuda.shared.array(2,2)
x, y = cuda.grid(2)

tile[tIdx.y][tIdx.x] = in[y][x]
cuda.syncthreads()

o_x = bId.y*bDim.y + tId.x
o_y = bId.x*bDim.x + tId.y
o[o_y][o_x] = tile[tIdx.x][tIdx.y]
```

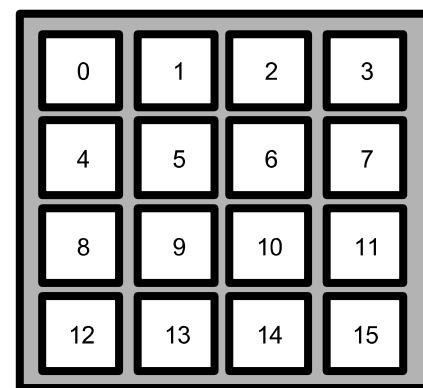


In this way we can transpose the matrix while making fully coalesced reads from and writes to global memory

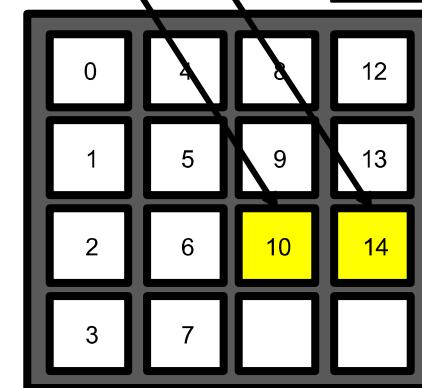
```
tile = cuda.shared.array(2,2)
x, y = cuda.grid(2)

tile[tIdx.y][tIdx.x] = in[y][x]
cuda.syncthreads()

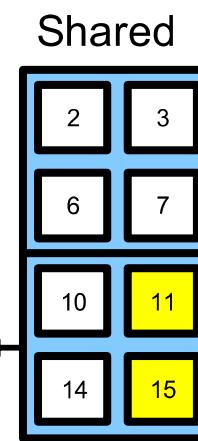
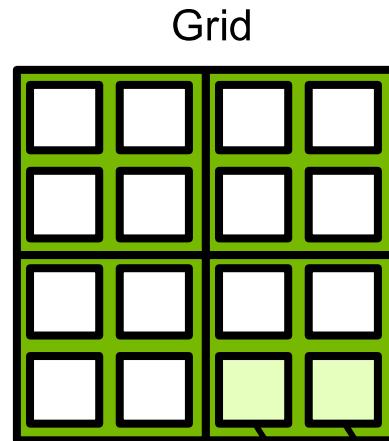
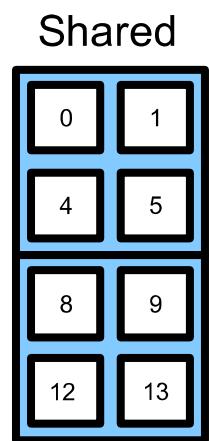
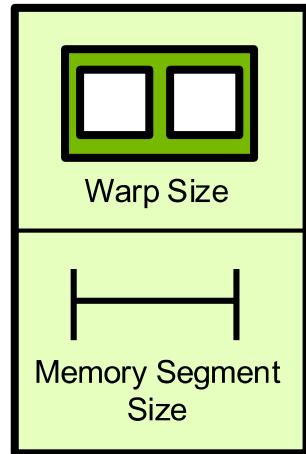
o_x = bId.y*bDim.y + tId.x
o_y = bId.x*bDim.x + tId.y
o[o_y][o_x] = tile[tIdx.x][tIdx.y]
```



Input



Output



In this way we can transpose the matrix while making fully coalesced reads from and writes to global memory

Input

0	1	2	3
4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15

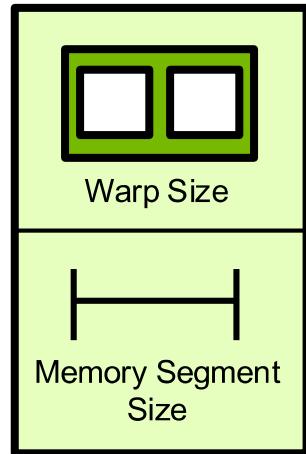
Output

0	4	8	12
1	5	9	13
2	6	10	14
3	7	11	15

```
tile = cuda.shared.array(2,2)
x, y = cuda.grid(2)

tile[tIdx.y][tIdx.x] = in[y][x]
cuda.syncthreads()

o_x = bId.y*bDim.y + tId.x
o_y = bId.x*bDim.x + tId.y
o[o_y][o_x] = tile[tIdx.x][tIdx.y]
```



Shared

0	1
4	5
8	9
12	13

Grid


Shared

2	3
6	7
10	11
14	15

In this way we can transpose the matrix while making fully coalesced reads from and writes to global memory

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```

0	1	2	3
4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15

Input

0	4	8	12
1	5	9	13
2	6	10	14
3	7	11	15

Output



[www.nvidia.com/dli](http://www.nvidia.com/dli)

DEEP  
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