

CUDA Tutorial

ECSE 420: Fall 2019

By: Mohammad Mushfiqur Rahman

Outline

- TA Information
- Parallel Programming
- What is CUDA?
- CUDA Concepts
 - Heterogenous Computing
 - Blocks
 - Threads
 - Indexing
 - Cooperating Threads
 - Managing the Device
- References

TA Information

1. Name: Mohammad Mushfiqur Rahman (Mushfique)

Email: mohammad.rahman4@mcgill.ca

2. Name: Ankit Malhotra

Email: ankit.malhotra@mail.mcgill.ca

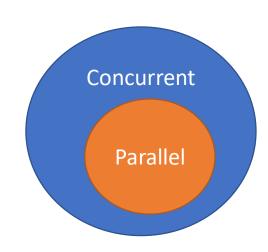
- TA Office Hours = Lab Sessions
- For emailing, please use "ECSE 420" in the subject for faster response!

Paralleling Programming

- What is **parallel** programming?
 - Programs are executed *simultaneously* on separate hardware, independent of each other.
- What is concurrent programming and how is that different?
 - Programs *seem* to run simultaneously on the same/separate hardware.
 - Ex parallel programs, task switching, etc.
- Amdahl's Law:

$$Speedup = \frac{1}{\frac{P}{n} + (1 - P)}$$

- P = parallelizable portion (0 to 1)
- n = processing elements (ex CPU cores)



What is CUDA?

- CUDA Architecture
 - Expose GPU parallelism for general-purpose computing
 - Retain performance
- CUDA C/C++
 - Based on industry-standard C/C++
 - Small set of extensions to enable heterogeneous programming
 - Straightforward APIs to manage devices, memory etc.
- This session introduces CUDA C/C++

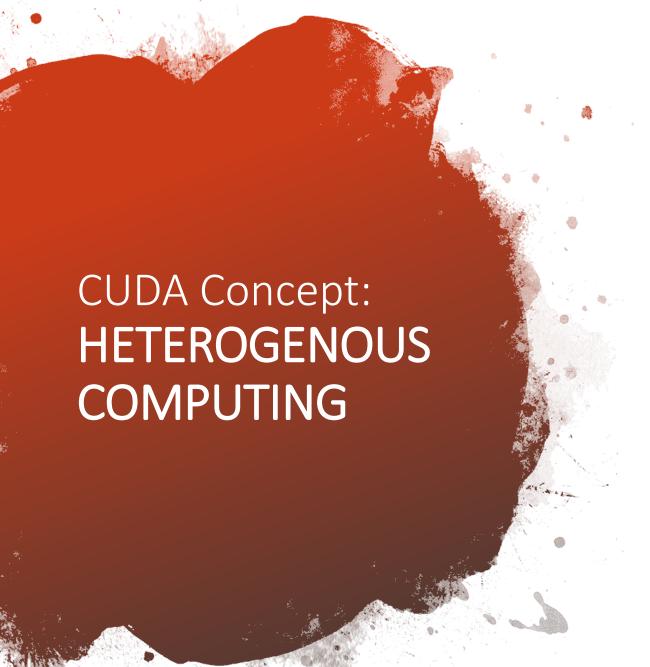
Prerequisites

• You (probably) need experience with C or C++, or other programming languages such as python, Matlab, etc.

You don't need GPU experience

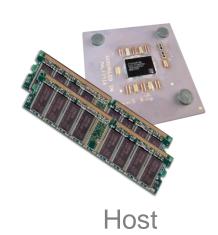
• You don't need parallel programming experience

You don't need graphics experience



• Terminology:

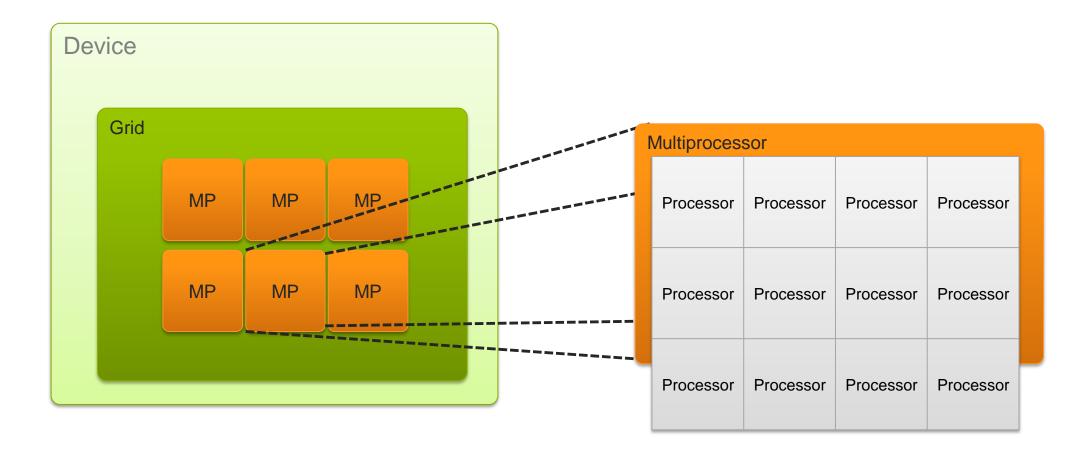
- Host The CPU and its memory (host memory)
- Device The GPU and its memory (device memory)





Device

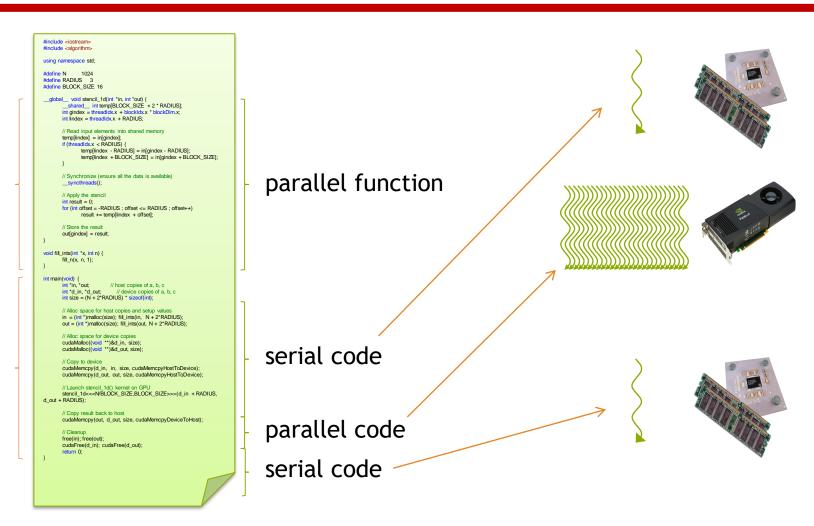
GPU Architecture



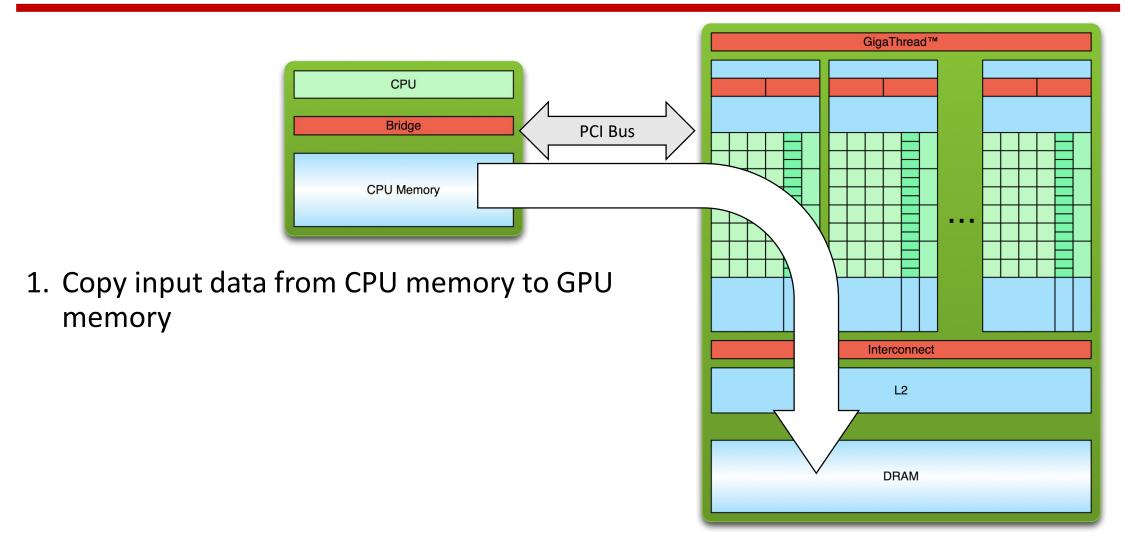
Heterogeneous Computing

Device code

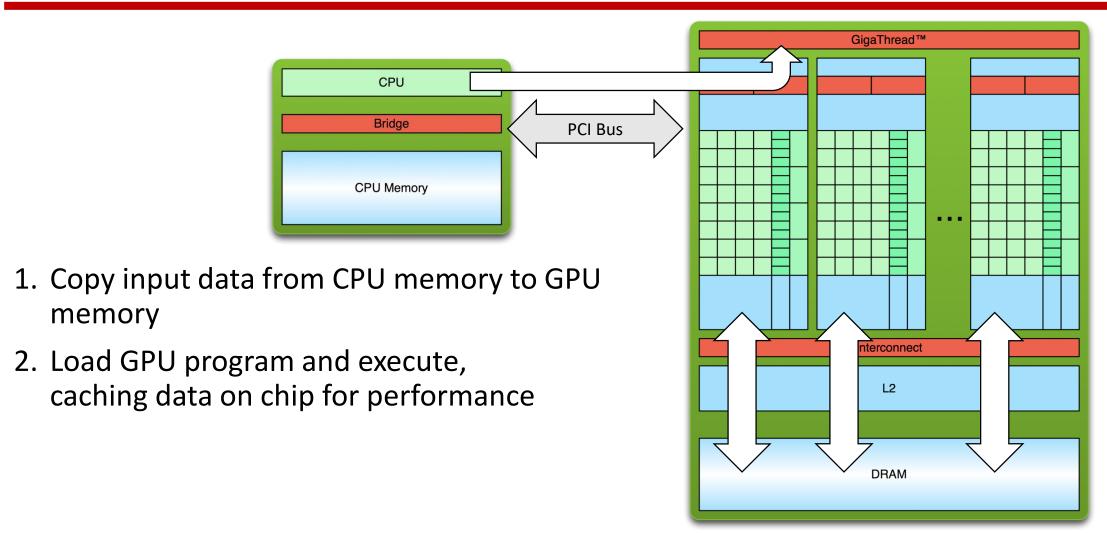
Host code



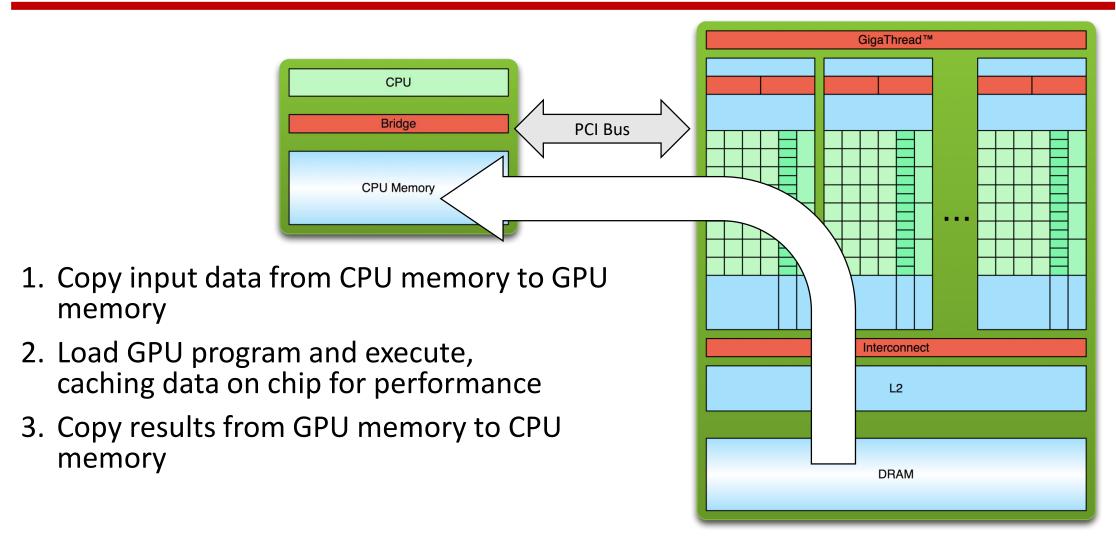
Simple Processing Flow



Simple Processing Flow



Simple Processing Flow



IDE, Toolkit and GPUs in the Labs

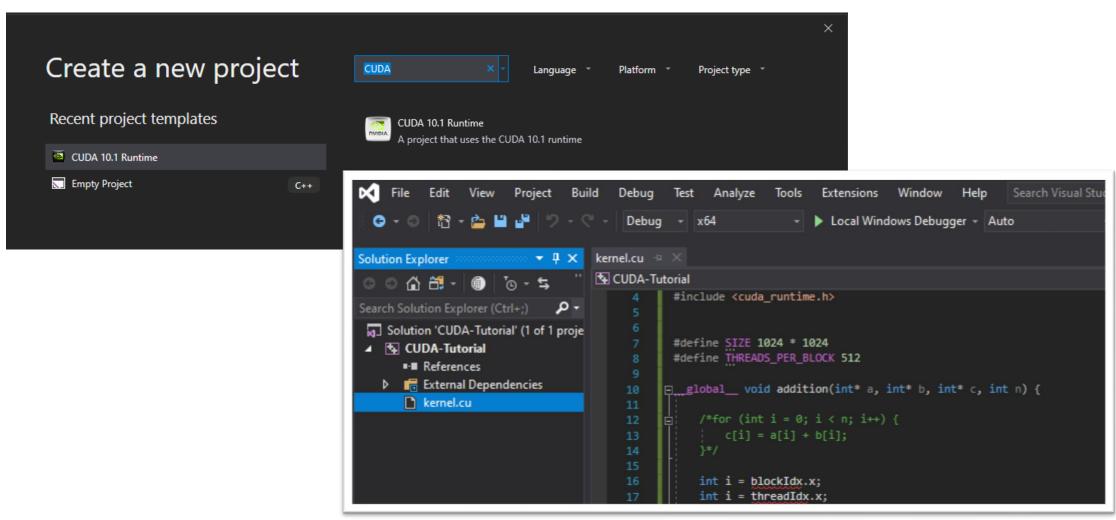
• IDE: Microsoft Visual Studio 2019 (Community Version), MATLAB 2019b

• Toolkit: **CUDA 10.1**

• GPU: NVIDIA GTX 1050 Ti



Creating Your First CUDA Project



Example 1: Hello World!

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>

int main(void) {
    printf("Hello World!\n");
    return 0;
}
```

- Standard C running on Host
- NVIDIA compiler (nvcc) can be used to compile programs with no device code
- Output:

 Microsoft Visual Studio Debug Console

 Hello World!

 C:\Users\mushf\source\repos\VectorAdd\x64\Debug\CUDA-Tutorial.exe (process 25064) exited with code 0.

 To automatically close the console when debugging stops, enable Tools->Options->Debugging->Automatically close the console when debugging stops.

 Press any key to close this window . . .

Example 1: Hello World! (With Device Code)

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
// CUDA runtime
#include <cuda runtime.h> ←======= Handles all the CUDA Syntax
#include <device launch parameters.h> \leftarrow===== Handles device parameters (threadIdx.x, blockIdx.x)
 global void myKernel(void) {
            printf("Hello World!\n");
int main(void) {
          myKernel <<<1, 1 >>> ();
          return 0;
            Microsoft Visual Studio Debug Console
Output:
           Hello World!
           C:\Users\mushf\source\repos\VectorAdd\x64\Debug\CUDA-Tutorial.exe (process 25064) exited with code 0.
           To automatically close the console when debugging stops, enable Tools->Options->Debugging->Automatically close the conso
           le when debugging stops.
           Press any key to close this window \dots
```

Example 1: Hello World! (With Device Code)

```
__global___void myKernel(void) {
```

- CUDA C/C++ keyword __global_ indicates a function that:
 - Runs on the device
 - Is called from host code
- **Kernels** Functions that run on device (GPU) and are called from host (CPU). Ex myKernel
- nvcc separates source code into host and device components
 - Device functions (e.g. mykernel ()) processed by NVIDIA compiler
 - Host functions (e.g. main()) processed by standard host compiler
 - gcc, cl.exe

Example 1: Hello World! (With Device Code)

```
myKernel <<<1, 1 >>> ();
```

- Triple angle brackets mark a call from host code to device code
 - Also called a "kernel launch"
 - We'll return to the parameters (1,1) in a moment
- That's all that is required to execute a function on the GPU!

Memory Management

- Host and device memory are separate entities
 - Device pointers point to GPU memory
 May be passed to/from host code
 May not be dereferenced in host code
 - Host pointers point to CPU memory
 May be passed to/from device code
 May not be dereferenced in device code



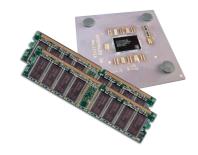


- Simple CUDA API for handling device memory
 - cudaMalloc(), cudaFree(), cudaMemcpy()
 - Similar to the C equivalents: malloc(), free(), memcpy()

Steps to remember

- 1. Allocate host memory and initialized host data
- 2. Allocate *device* memory
- 3. Transfer input data from host to device memory
- 4. Execute kernels
- 5. Transfer output from *device* memory to *host* memory



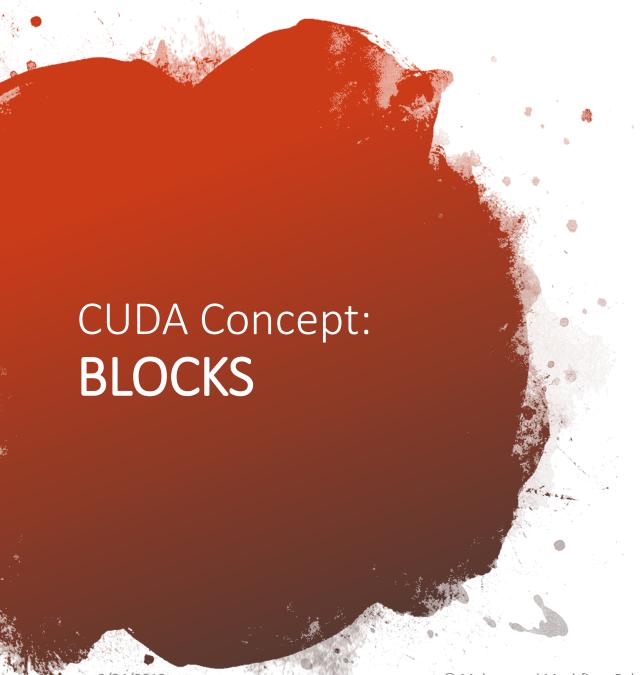


Example 2: Integer Addition

```
global void add(int *a, int *b, int *c) {
      *c = *a + *b;
int main(void) {
                   // host copies of a, b, c
      int a, b, c;
      int *d_a, *d_b, *d_c; // device copies of a, b, c
      int size = sizeof(int);
      // Allocate space for device copies of a, b, c
      cudaMalloc((void **)&d a, size);
      cudaMalloc((void **)&d_b, size);
      cudaMalloc((void **)&d c, size);
      // Setup input values
      a = 2;
      b = 7;
```

Example 2: Integer Addition

```
// Copy inputs to device
        cudaMemcpy(d a, &a, size, cudaMemcpyHostToDevice);
        cudaMemcpy(d b, &b, size, cudaMemcpyHostToDevice);
         // Launch add() kernel on GPU
        add<<<1,1>>>(d a, d b, d c);
        // Copy result back to host
        cudaMemcpy(&c, d c, size, cudaMemcpyDeviceToHost);
         // Cleanup
        cudaFree(d a); cudaFree(d b); cudaFree(d c);
        return 0;
```





Moving to Parallel

- GPU computing is about massive parallelism
 - So how do we run code in parallel on the device?

```
addition<<< 1, 1 >>>();

addition<<< N, 1 >>>();
```

• Instead of executing addition() once, execute N times in parallel

- With add() running in parallel we can do vector addition
- Terminology: each parallel invocation of addition() is referred to as a block
 - The set of blocks is referred to as a grid
 - Each invocation can refer to its block index using blockIdx.x

```
__global__ void addition(int *a, int *b, int *c) {
    c[blockIdx.x] = a[blockIdx.x] + b[blockIdx.x];
}
```

• By using blockIdx.x to index into the array, each block handles a different index

- With add() running in parallel we can do vector addition
- Terminology: each parallel invocation of add() is referred to as a block
 - The set of blocks is referred to as a grid
 - Each invocation can refer to its block index using blockIdx.x

```
__global__ void add(int *a, int *b, int *c) {
    c[blockIdx.x] = a[blockIdx.x] + b[blockIdx.x];
}
```

• By using blockIdx.x to index into the array, each block handles a different index

```
Block 0 Block 1 Block 2 Block 3  c[0] = a[0] + b[0]; c[1] = a[1] + b[1]; c[2] = a[2] + b[2]; c[3] = a[3] + b[3];
```

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
// CUDA runtime
#include <cuda_runtime.h>
#include <device launch parameters.h>
#define SIZE 1024
global void addition(int* a, int* b, int* c, int n) {
        /*for (int i = 0; i < n; i++) { ←=============Conventional way of Vector Addition with single thread
        c[i] = a[i] + b[i];
        }*/
        if (i < n) {
                 c[i] = a[i] + b[i];
```

```
// Printing an Array
void printArray(int* a, int n) {
      for (int i = 0; i < n; i++) {</pre>
             printf("c[%d] = %d\n", i, a[i]);
int main(void) {
      int* a, * b, * c;
      // Allocate space in Unified Memory for a,b,c
      cudaMallocManaged((void**)&b, SIZE * sizeof(int));
      cudaMallocManaged((void**)&c, SIZE * sizeof(int));
```

```
// Initializing the values
for (int i = 0; i < SIZE; i++) {</pre>
        a[i] = i;
        b[i] = i;
        c[i] = 0;
// Launch addition() kernel on GPU with SIZE blocks
addition<<< SIZE, 1 >>>(a, b, c, SIZE);
// Wait for GPU threads to complete
cudaDeviceSynchronize(); ←====New Function to sync
                                (more on that later..)
// Printing the Output Array
printArray(c, 10);
// Cleanup
cudaFree(a);cudaFree(b); cudaFree(c);
return 0;
```

Output:

```
Microsoft Visual Studio Debug Console

c[0] = 0 \\
c[1] = 2 \\
c[2] = 4 \\
c[3] = 6 \\
c[4] = 8 \\
c[5] = 10 \\
c[6] = 12 \\
c[7] = 14 \\
c[8] = 16 \\
c[9] = 18

C:\Users\mushf\source\repos\VectorAdd\x64
To automatically close the console when d le when debugging stops.
Press any key to close this window . . .
```



Block (2,1,0)						
	Thread (0,0,0)	Thread (1,0,0)	Thread (2,0,0)	Thread (3,0,0)	Thread (4,0,0)	
	Thread (0,1,0)	Thread (1,1,0)	Thread (2,1,0)	Thread (3,1,0)	Thread (4,1,0)	
	Thread (0,2,0)	Thread (1,2,0)	Thread (2,2,0)	Thread (3,2,0)	Thread (4,2,0)	

CUDA Threads

- Terminology: a block can be split into parallel threads
- Let's change addition () to use parallel threads instead of parallel blocks

```
__global___ void addition(int* a, int* b, int* c, int n) {
        int i = threadIdx.x;

        if (i < n) {
                  c[i] = a[i] + b[i];
        }
}</pre>
```

- We use threadIdx.x instead of blockIdx.x
- Need to make one change in main()...

Example 4: Vector Addition using Threads

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
// CUDA runtime
#include <cuda_runtime.h>
#include <device launch parameters.h>
#define SIZE 1024
global void addition(int* a, int* b, int* c, int n) {
          /*for (int i = 0; i < n; i++) { ←=============Conventional way of Vector Addition with single thread
          c[i] = a[i] + b[i];
          }*/
          int i = threadIdx.x;
←===========Using GPU Threads for Vector Addition
          if (i < n) {
                     c[i] = a[i] + b[i];
```

Example 4: Vector Addition using Threads

```
// Printing an Array
void printArray(int* a, int n) {
      for (int i = 0; i < n; i++) {</pre>
             printf("c[%d] = %d\n", i, a[i]);
int main(void) {
      int* a, * b, * c;
      // Allocate space in Unified Memory for a,b,c
      cudaMallocManaged((void**)&b, SIZE * sizeof(int));
      cudaMallocManaged((void**)&c, SIZE * sizeof(int));
```

Example 4: Vector Addition using Threads

```
// Initializing the values
for (int i = 0; i < SIZE; i++) {</pre>
        a[i] = i;
        b[i] = i;
        c[i] = 0;
// Launch addition() kernel on GPU with SIZE threads
addition<<< 1, SIZE >>>(a, b, c, SIZE);
// Wait for GPU threads to complete
cudaDeviceSynchronize(); ←====New Function to sync
                                (more on that later..)
// Printing the Output Array
printArray(c, 10);
// Cleanup
cudaFree(a);cudaFree(b); cudaFree(c);
return 0;
```

Output:

```
Microsoft Visual Studio Debug Console

c[0] = 0

c[1] = 2

c[2] = 4

c[3] = 6

c[4] = 8

c[5] = 10

c[6] = 12

c[7] = 14

c[8] = 16

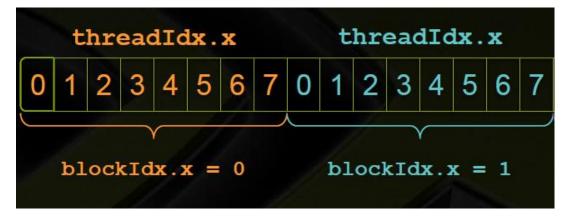
c[9] = 18

C:\Users\mushf\source\repos\VectorAdd\x64

To automatically close the console when debugging stops.

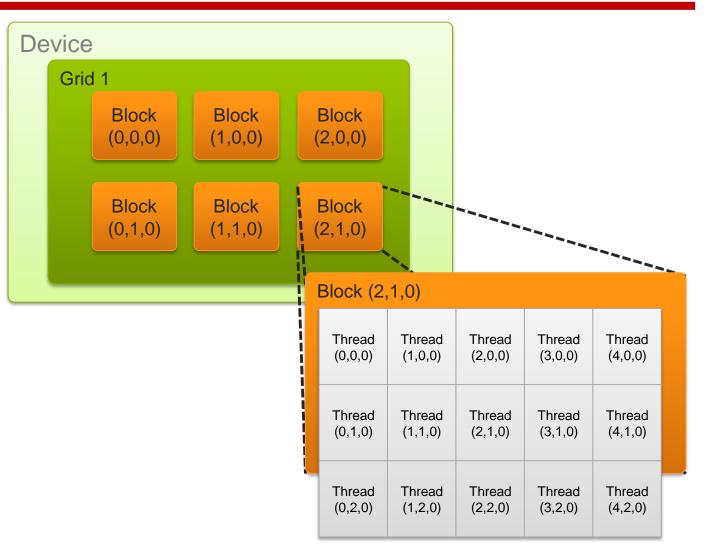
Press any key to close this window . . .
```





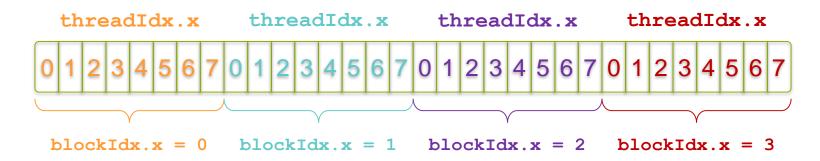
Indices and Dimensions

- A kernel is launched as a grid of blocks of threads
 - blockIdx and threadIdx are 3D
 - We will only show one dimension (x), the same logic applies for the rest (y, z)
- Built-in variables:
 - threadIdx
 - blockIdx
 - blockDim
 - gridDim



Indexing Arrays with Blocks and Threads

- We've seen parallel vector addition using:
 - Many blocks with one thread each
 - One block with many threads
- No longer as simple as using blockIdx.x and threadIdx.x
 - Consider indexing an array with one element per thread (8 threads/block)

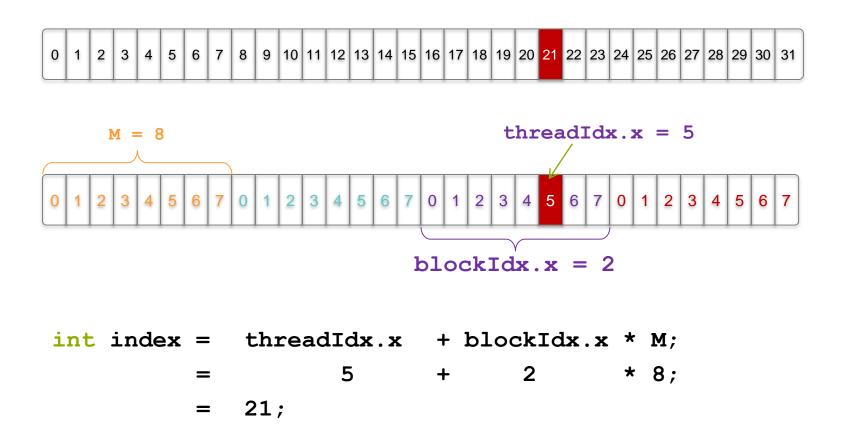


• With M threads/block a unique index for each thread is given by:

```
int index = threadIdx.x + blockIdx.x * M;
```

Example 5: Indexing Arrays

Which thread will operate on the red element?



Example 6: Vector Addition with Blocks and Threads

• Use the built-in variable blockDim.x for threads per block

```
int index = threadIdx.x + blockIdx.x * blockDim.x;
```

 Combined version of addition() to use parallel threads and parallel blocks

```
__global__ void addition(int *a, int *b, int *c) {
   int index = threadIdx.x + blockIdx.x * blockDim.x;
   c[index] = a[index] + b[index];
}
```

• What changes need to be made in main()?

Example 6: Vector Addition with Blocks and Threads

```
#define SIZE (2048*2048)
#define THREADS PER BLOCK 1024
// Printing an Array
void printArray(int* a, int n) {
        for (int i = 0; i < n; i++) {</pre>
                  printf("c[%d] = %d\n", i, a[i]);
int main(void) {
        int* a, * b, * c;
        // Allocate space in Unified Memory for a,b,c
         cudaMallocManaged((void**)&a, SIZE * sizeof(int));
         cudaMallocManaged((void**)&b, SIZE * sizeof(int));
         cudaMallocManaged((void**)&c, SIZE * sizeof(int));
```

Example 6: Vector Addition with Blocks and Threads

```
// Initializing the values
for (int i = 0; i < SIZE; i++) {</pre>
        a[i] = i;
        b[i] = i;
        c[i] = 0;
// Launch addition() kernel on GPU
addition<<< SIZE/ THREADS PER BLOCK, THREADS PER BLOCK >>>(a, b, c, SIZE);
// Wait for GPU threads to complete
cudaDeviceSynchronize();
// Printing the Output Array
printArray(c, 10);
// Cleanup
cudaFree(a);cudaFree(b); cudaFree(c);
return 0;
```

Handling Arbitrary Vector Sizes

- Typical problems are not friendly multiples of blockDim.x
- Avoid accessing beyond the end of the arrays:

```
__global___ void add(int *a, int *b, int *c, int n) {
    int index = threadIdx.x + blockIdx.x * blockDim.x;
    if (index < n)
        c[index] = a[index] + b[index];
}</pre>
```

Update the kernel launch:

```
add<<<(SIZE + M-1) / M,M>>>(d_a, d_b, d_c, SIZE);
```

```
• M = THREADS_PER_BLOCK
```

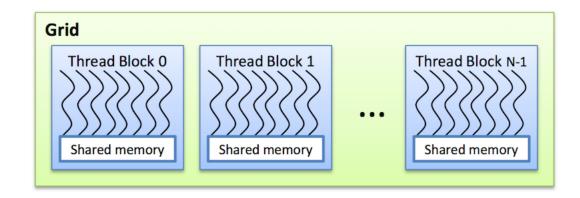
Why Bother with Threads?

- Threads seem unnecessary
 - They add a level of complexity
 - What do we gain?

- Unlike parallel blocks, threads have mechanisms to:
 - Communicate
 - Synchronize

• To look closer, we need a new example...

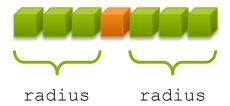




1D Stencil

- Stencil codes are a class of iterative kernels which update array elements according to some fixed pattern, called a stencil.
- Consider applying a 1D stencil to a 1D array of elements
 - Each output element is the sum of input elements within a radius

• If radius is 3, then each output element is the sum of 7 input elements:



Implementing Within a Block

- Each thread processes one output element
 - blockDim.x elements per block

- Input elements are read several times
 - With radius 3, each input element is read seven times

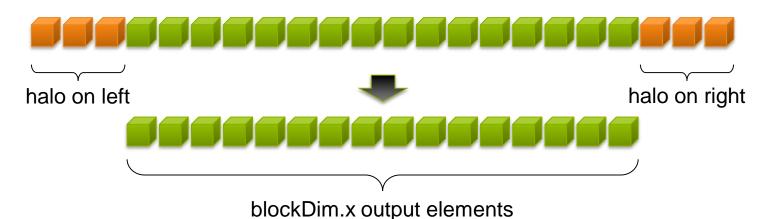


Sharing Data Between Threads

- Terminology: within a block, threads share data via shared memory
- Extremely fast on-chip memory, user-managed
- Declare using __shared__, allocated per block
- Data is not visible to threads in other blocks

Implementing With Shared Memory

- Cache data in shared memory
 - Read (blockDim.x + 2 * radius) input elements from global memory to shared memory
 - Compute blockDim.x output elements
 - Write blockDim.x output elements to global memory
 - Each block needs a halo of radius elements at each boundary



Stencil Kernel

```
global void stencil 1d(int *in, int *out) {
 shared__ int temp[BLOCK_SIZE + 2 * RADIUS];
 int gindex = threadIdx.x + blockIdx.x * blockDim.x;
 int lindex = threadIdx.x + RADIUS;
 // Read input elements into shared memory
 temp[lindex] = in[gindex];
 if (threadIdx.x < RADIUS) {</pre>
   temp[lindex - RADIUS] = in[gindex - RADIUS];
   temp[lindex + BLOCK SIZE] =
     in[gindex + BLOCK SIZE];
```

Stencil Kernel

```
// Apply the stencil
int result = 0;
for (int offset = -RADIUS ; offset <= RADIUS ; offset++)
  result += temp[lindex + offset];

// Store the result
out[gindex] = result;
}</pre>
```

Data Race!

- The stencil example will not work...
- Suppose thread 15 reads the halo before thread 0 has fetched it...

_syncthreads()

```
• void syncthreads();
```

- Synchronizes all threads within a block
 - Used to prevent RAW / WAR / WAW hazards

- All threads must reach the barrier
 - In conditional code, the condition must be uniform across the block

Stencil Kernel

```
global void stencil_1d(int *in, int *out) {
    shared int temp[BLOCK SIZE + 2 * RADIUS];
    int gindex = threadIdx.x + blockIdx.x * blockDim.x;
    int lindex = threadIdx.x + radius;
   // Read input elements into shared memory
   temp[lindex] = in[gindex];
    if (threadIdx.x < RADIUS) {</pre>
        temp[lindex - RADIUS] = in[gindex - RADIUS];
        temp[lindex + BLOCK SIZE] = in[gindex + BLOCK SIZE];
   // Synchronize (ensure all the data is available)
    syncthreads();
```

Stencil Kernel

```
// Apply the stencil
  int result = 0;
  for (int offset = -RADIUS ; offset <= RADIUS ;
offset++)
    result += temp[lindex + offset];

// Store the result
  out[gindex] = result;
}</pre>
```





Coordinating Host & Device

- Kernel launches are asynchronous
 - Control returns to the CPU immediately (while GPU is still running some tasks)

CPU needs to synchronize before consuming the results

```
cudaMemcpy()

Blocks the CPU until the copy is complete
Copy begins when all preceding CUDA calls have completed

cudaMemcpyAsync()

Asynchronous, does not block the CPU

cudaDeviceSynchronize

Blocks the CPU until all preceding CUDA calls have completed

()
```

Reporting Errors

- All CUDA API calls return an error code (cudaError t)
 - Error in the API call itself
 OR
 - Error in an earlier asynchronous operation (e.g. kernel)
- Get the error code for the last error: cudaError t cudaGetLastError(void)
- Get a string to describe the error:

```
char *cudaGetErrorString(cudaError_t)
printf("%s\n", cudaGetErrorString(cudaGetLastError()));
```

Device Management

Application can query and select GPUs

```
cudaGetDeviceCount(int *count)
cudaSetDevice(int device)
cudaGetDevice(int *device)
cudaGetDeviceProperties(cudaDeviceProp *prop, int device)
```

- Multiple threads can share a device
- A single thread can manage multiple devices

```
cudaSetDevice(i) to select current device
cudaMemcpy(...) for peer-to-peer copies
```

 $^{^{\}scriptsize{\scriptsize{\scriptsize{\scriptsize{1}}}}}$ requires OS and device support

Additional Information

- Functions on GPU called from CPU are declared using __global___
- Functions on GPU called from GPU are declared using __device__

- Try exploring the given sample CUDA projects in the lab computers
 - C:\ProgramData\NVIDIA Corporation\CUDA Samples
- The only CUDA syntax that might be marked red by Visual Studio:

You can simply ignore this.

References:

Material taken from NVIDIA:

https://developer.nvidia.com/

https://devblogs.nvidia.com/easy-introduction-cuda-c-and-c/

https://medium.com/@erangadulshan.14/1d-2d-and-3d-thread-allocation-for-loops-in-cuda-e0f908537a52

For programming API reference:

C: https://docs.nvidia.com/cuda/cuda-c-programming-guide/index.html

C++: https://devblogs.nvidia.com/even-easier-introduction-cuda/

Python: https://developer.nvidia.com/how-to-cuda-python

https://documen.tician.de/pycuda/,

https://devblogs.nvidia.com/cudacasts-episode-12-programming-gpus-cuda-python/

Java: http://www.jcuda.org/

Matlab: https://www.mathworks.com/solutions/gpu-computing/getting-started.html