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CS 475

Project 6
CUDA Monte Carlo Simulation
Writeup

Machine this was run on:
This was run on a Google Cloud Compute Instance with the following GPU specifications:

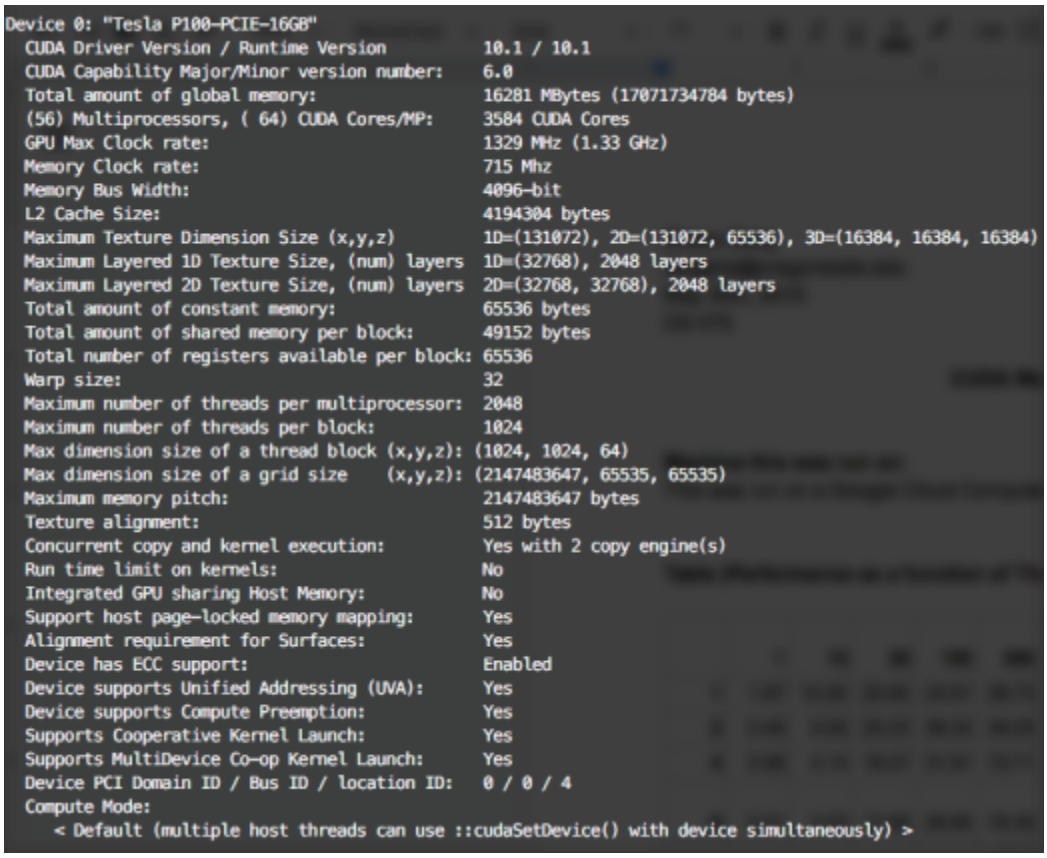
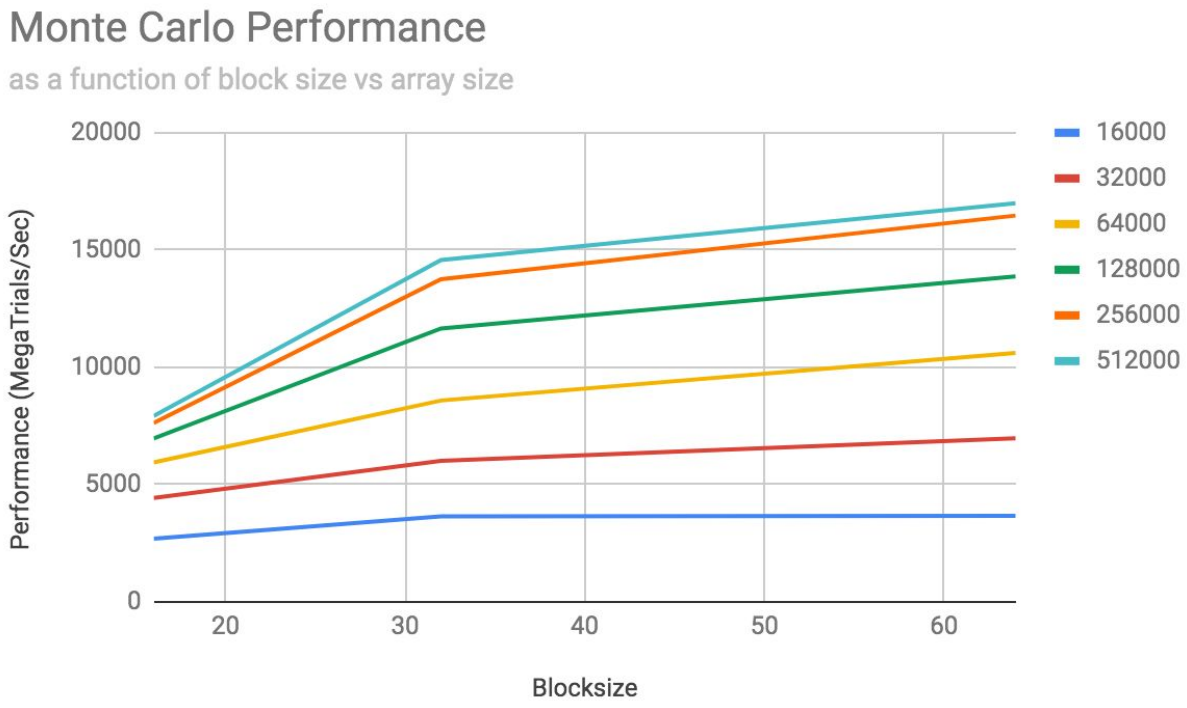


Table (Performance as a function of Threads vs Number of Trials)

	16000	**32000**	**64000**	**128000**	**256000**	**512000**
16	2698.04	4426.93	5949.37	6964.52	7631.48	7926.13
32	3646.71	6009.25	8584.43	11654.67	13758.47	14576.86
64	3669.19	6975.45	10617.4	13873.47	16469.38	16990.55

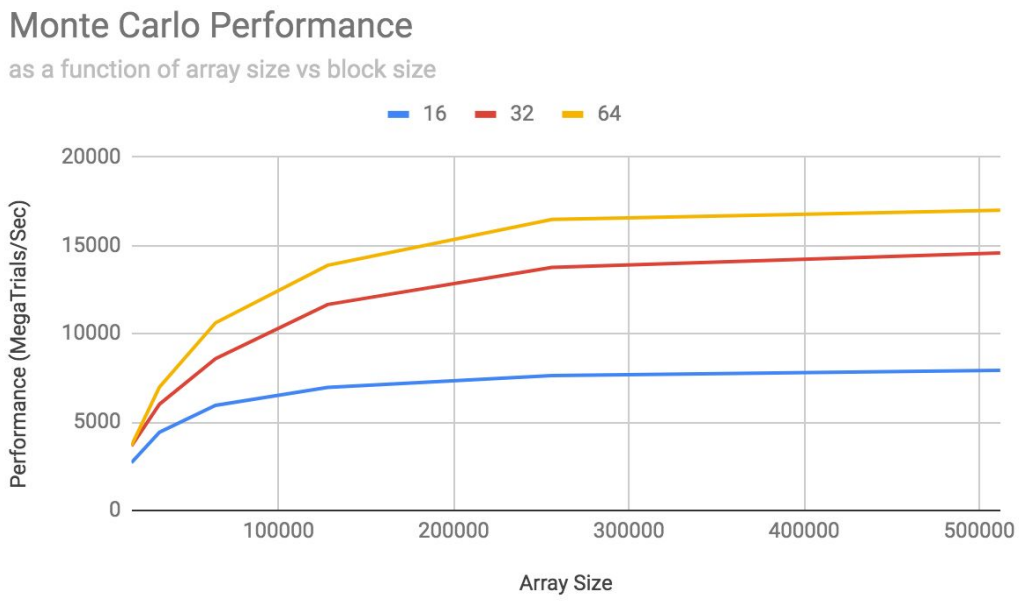
Units = MegaTrials/Sec

Graph 1 (MegaTrials per Second vs Blocksize)



Each line represents array size

Graph 2 (MegaTrials per Second vs Array Size)



Each line represents blocksize.

Additional Commentary

1. **What patterns are you seeing in the performance curves?**

   The performance curves for both graphs show a general increase in performance as array size and blocksize increases.

2. **Why do you think the patterns look this way?**

   The patterns appear this way because as array size and blocksize increase, more of the GPU is being utilized in the computations, thus an increase in performance is displayed.

3. **Why is a BLOCKSIZE of 16 so much worse than the other two?**

   The blocksize of 16 is worse than the other two because the warp size is 32. This means when using a block size of 16, 32 threads are still allocated to the problem, but only 16 are being used, leaving the other 16 unused.

4. **What does that mean for the proper use of GPU parallel computing?**

   To properly utilize the GPU in parallel computing, not only does the problem size need to be large enough, but the intended division of labor must also take into account the relevant sizes of the blocks on the target device to acquire all of the potential performance.