

# State of the Chapel Project

Brad Chamberlain, Chapel Team, Cray Inc.

CHIUW 2018

May 25, 2018



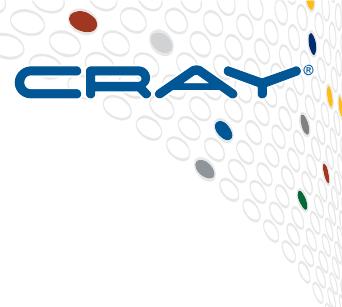
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# What is Chapel?



**Chapel:** A productive parallel programming language

- portable & scalable
- open-source & collaborative

## Goals:

- Support general parallel programming
  - “any parallel algorithm on any parallel hardware”
- Make parallel programming at scale far more productive



# Chapel and Productivity



**Chapel aims to be as...**

- ...**programmable** as Python
- ...**fast** as Fortran
- ...**scalable** as MPI, SHMEM, or UPC
- ...**portable** as C
- ...**flexible** as C++
- ...**fun** as [your favorite programming language]



# The Chapel Team at Cray (May 2018)



13 full-time employees + ~2 summer interns



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# Chapel Community Partners



Lawrence Berkeley  
National Laboratory



Yale

(and several others...)

<https://chapel-lang.org/collaborations.html>



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# A Year in the Life of Chapel



- **Two major releases per year** (was: Apr & Oct; now: Mar & Sept)
  - ~a month later: detailed [release notes](#)
  - latest release: Chapel 1.17, released April 5<sup>th</sup> 2018
- **CHIUW:** Chapel Implementers and Users Workshop (May–June)
- **SC** (November)
  - talks, tutorials, panels, BoFs, posters, exhibits, ...
  - annual **CHUG (Chapel Users Group)** happy hour
- **Talks, tutorials, research visits, social media, ...** (year-round)



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# Welcome to CHI UW!



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# CHIUW 2018: Agenda ([chapel-lang.org/CHIUW2018.html](http://chapel-lang.org/CHIUW2018.html))



- 8:30: Chapel 101 (optional)
- 9:00: Welcome, State of the Project
- 9:30: Break
- 10:00: Talks: Applications of Chapel
- 11:00: Quick Break
- 11:10: Talks: Chapel Design and Evolution
- 12:10: Lunch
- 1:40: Keynote Talk: “Why Languages Matter”, Kathy Yelick
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- 3:00: Break
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- 5:30: Wrap-up / Head to Dinner



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# CHIUW 2018: Organizing Committee



## General Chairs:

- Michael Ferguson, *Cray Inc.*
- Nikhil Padmanabhan, *Yale University*

## Program Committee:

- Brad Chamberlain (chair), *Cray Inc.*
- Aparna Chandramowlishwaran (co-chair), *UC Irvine*
- Mike Chu, *AMD*
- Anshu Dubey, *Argonne National Laboratory*
- Jonathan Dursi, *The Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto*
- Hal Finkel, *Argonne National Laboratory*
- Marta Garcia Gasulla, *Barcelona Supercomputing Center*
- Clemens Grelck, *University of Amsterdam*
- Jeff Hammond, *Intel*
- Bryce Lelbach, *Nvidia*
- Michelle Strout, *University of Arizona*
- Kenjiro Taura, *University of Tokyo*
- David Wonnacott, *Haverford College*



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# CHIUW 2018: Keynote



## Kathy Yelick, “Why Languages Matter”

**Abstract:** In the next few years, exascale computing systems will become available to the scientific community. These systems will require new levels of parallelization, new models of memory and storage, and a variety of node architectures for processors and accelerators. In the decade that follows, we can expect more of these changes, as well as increasing levels of hardware specialization. These systems will provide simulation and analysis capabilities at unprecedented scales, and when combined with advanced physical models, mathematical and statistical methods, and computer science and abstractions, they will lead to scientific breakthroughs. Yet the full power of these systems will only be realized if there is sufficient high-level programming support that will abstract details of the machines and give programmers a natural interface for writing new science applications.



# CHIUW 2018: Keynote



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## Why Consider New Languages at all?

- **Do we need a language? And a compiler?**
  - If higher-level syntax is needed for productivity
    - We need a language
  - If static analysis is needed to help with correctness
    - We need a compiler (front-end)
  - If static optimizations are needed to get performance
    - We need a compiler (back-end)

(Source: HPCS productivity workshop panel, ~2004?)



# CHIUW 2018: Research Papers



## Parallel Sparse Tensor Decomposition in Chapel

Thomas Rolinger (*University of Maryland*), Tyler Simon, and Christopher Krieger (*Laboratory for Physical Sciences*)

## Iterator-Based Optimization of Imperfectly-Nested Loops

Daniel Feshbach, Mary Glaser (*Haverford College*), Michelle Strout (*University of Arizona*), and David Wonnacott (*Haverford College*)

## Investigating Data Layout Transformations in Chapel

Apan Qasem (*Texas State University*), Ashwin Aji, and Mike Chu (*AMD*)

## RCUArray: An RCU-like Parallel-Safe Distributed Resizable Array

Louis Jenkins (*Bloomsburg University*)

## Purity: An Integrated, Fine-Grain, Data-Centric Communication Profiler for the Chapel Language

Richard Johnson and Jeffrey Hollingsworth (*University of Maryland*)



# CHIUW 2018: Technical Talks



## Transitioning from Constructors to Initializers in Chapel

Lydia Duncan and Michael Noakes (*Cray Inc.*)

## Adding Lifetime Checking to Chapel

Michael Ferguson (*Cray Inc.*)

## Tales from the Trenches: Whipping Chapel Performance Into Shape

Elliot Ronaghan, Ben Harshbarger, and Greg Titus (*Cray Inc.*)

## ChplBlamer: A Data-centric and Code-centric Combined Profiler for Multi-locale Chapel Programs

Hui Zhang and Jeffrey Hollingsworth (*University of Maryland*)

## Mason, Chapel's Package Manager

Ben Albrecht (*Cray Inc.*), Sam Partee (*Haverford College*), Ben Harshbarger, and Preston Sahabu (*Cray Inc.*)



# CHIUW 2018: Lightning Talks & Flash Discussions



- Continuing last year's successful session
- Last session of the day!
- Goal: high-energy hot topics for low attention spans!
- Format: Short talks, Q&A, war stories, ...whatever!
- Sign up for a slot!



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# CHIUW 2018: Code Camp Plans



- **Typically, we've held a code camp on day 2 of CHIUW**
  - work on questions, challenges, coding in small teams
  - takes advantage of being in one place
- **This year's advance response was a bit tepid**
- **So, taking a more *ad hoc* approach**
  - Plan is to work in pairs / small groups in common areas
  - If have a topic you're interested in partnering on, let us know
  - If there's lots of last-minute interest, we'll see about a room



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# A Brief History of Chapel



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# A Brief History of Chapel



## Chapel's Infancy: DARPA HPCS (2003–2012)

- ~6–7 Chapel developers at Cray
- Research focus:
  - distinguish locality from parallelism
  - seamlessly mix data- and task-parallelism
  - support user-defined distributed arrays, parallel iterators
- Captured post-HPCS project status in CUG 2013 paper:  
*The State of the Chapel Union*

Chamberlain, Choi, Dumler, Hildebrandt, Iten, Litvinov, Titus



# A Brief History of Chapel



## Chapel's Infancy: DARPA HPCS (2003–2012)

- ~6–7 Chapel developers at Cray
- Research
  - distinguishing
  - seamless
  - support
- Captured

*The State of*

Chamberlain

### Post-HPCS barriers to using Chapel in practice:

- Performance and Scalability
- Immature Language Features
- Insufficient Libraries
- Memory Leaks
- Lack of Tools
- Lack of Documentation
- Fear of Being the Only User

Yet user interest in Chapel's potential was high...



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# A Brief History of Chapel



**Chapel's Infancy:** DARPA HPCS (2003–2012)

**Chapel's Adolescence:** “the five-year push” (2013–2018)

- ~13–14 Chapel developers at Cray
- Development focus
  - address weak points in HPCS prototype



# CUG 2018 Paper: Summary of Five-year Push



## Chapel Comes of Age: Making Scalable Programming Productive

Bradford L. Chamberlain, Elliot Ronaghan, Ben Albrecht, Lydia Duncan, Michael Ferguson,  
Ben Harshbarger, David Iten, David Keaton, Vassily Litvinov, Preston Sahabu, and C.

Chapel Team  
Cray Inc.  
Seattle, WA, USA  
[chapel\\_info@cray.com](mailto:chapel_info@cray.com)

**Abstract**—Chapel is a programming language whose goal is to support productive, general-purpose parallel computing at scale. Chapel's approach can be thought of as combining the strengths of Python, Fortran, C/C++, and MPI in a single language. Five years ago, the DARPA High Productivity Computing Systems (HPCS) program that launched Chapel wrapped up, and the team embarked on a five-year effort to improve Chapel's appeal to end-users. This paper follows up on our CUG 2013 paper by summarizing the progress made by the Chapel project since that time. Specifically, Chapel's performance now competes with or beats hand-coded C+MPI/SHMEM+OpenMP; its suite of standard libraries has grown to include FFTW, BLAS, LAPACK, MPI, ZMQ, and other key technologies; its documentation has been modernized and fleshed out; and the set of tools available to Chapel users has grown. This paper also characterizes the experiences of early adopters from communities as diverse as astrophysics and artificial intelligence.

**Keywords**—Parallel programming; Computer languages

### I. INTRODUCTION

Chapel is a programming language designed to support productive, general-purpose parallel computing at scale. Chapel's approach can be thought of as striving to create a language whose code is as attractive to read and write as Python, yet which supports the performance of Fortran and the scalability of MPI. Chapel also aims to compete with C

The development of the Chapel language was driven by Cray Inc. as part of its participation in the DARPA High Productivity Computing Systems program. The project wrapped up in late 2012, at which point the team had developed a compelling prototype, having successfully addressed many of the key research challenges that the program had set forth. Chief among these was supporting distributed parallelism in a unified manner within a single language, accomplished by supporting the creation of parallel regions and parallel abstractions like parallel loops and parallel reductions, as well as lower-level Chapel features such as tasks.

Under HPCS, Chapel also succeeded in demonstrating the expressiveness of parallelism using distinct parallel regions, allowing programmers to specify which computation should run in which parallel region and which parallel region should be run. This permits Chapel to support multicore, multi-node, and heterogeneous parallelism using a single unified language.

Chapel's implementation under HPCS demonstrated that the language could be implemented in a way that was optimized for HPC-specific features, such as memory support available in Cray® Gemini interconnect networks. This allows Chapel to take

[paper](#) and [slides](#) available at [chapel-lang.org](http://chapel-lang.org)



**Chapel Comes of Age:  
Productive Parallelism at Scale**   
**CUG 2018**

Brad Chamberlain, Chapel Team, Cray Inc.



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# CUG 2018 Paper: User Perspectives



## Chapel Comes of Age: Making Scalable Programming Productive

Bradford L. Chamberlain, Elliot Ronagan, Ben Albrecht, Lydia Duncan, Michael Ferguson, Ben Harshbarger, David Iten, David Keaton, Vassily Litvinov, Preston Sahabu, and Greg Titus  
*Chapel Team*  
*Cray Inc.*  
*Seattle, WA, USA*

## VII. USER PERSPECTIVES

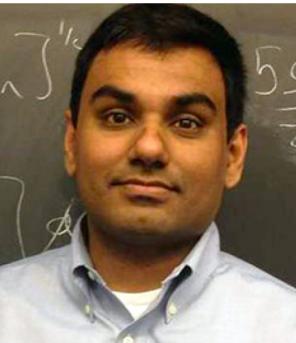
Throughout Chapel’s development, we have worked closely with users and prospective users to get their feedback, and to improve Chapel’s utility for their computations. In preparing this paper, we sent a short survey to a number of current and prospective Chapel users so that we could convey their perspectives on Chapel in their own words. This section summarizes a few of the responses that we received. We start with two current users of Chapel from the fields of Astrophysics and Artificial Intelligence (AI).

#### **Keywords**-Parallel progr

## I. IN

Chapel is a programmable, general-purpose language whose code is Python, yet which supports

works. This allows Chapel to take advantage of native



# Time-to-Science Astrophysicist



# Commercial AI Scientist



# Genomics Researcher



DOE Scientist



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# CUG 2018 Paper: User Perspectives

**Notably, user responses all resonated with this goal:**

Chapel aims to be as...

...**programmable** as Python

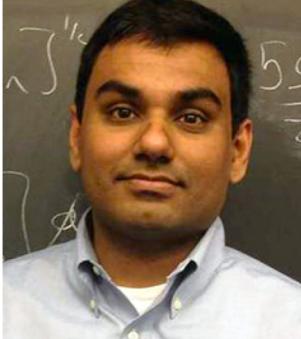
...**fast** as Fortran

...**scalable** as MPI, SHMEM, or UPC

...**portable** as C

...**flexible** as C++

...**fun** as [your favorite language]



**Time-to-Science  
Astrophysicist**



**Commercial AI  
Scientist**



**Genomics  
Researcher**



**DOE Scientist**



# A Brief History of Chapel



**Chapel's Infancy:** DARPA HPCS (2003–2012)

**Chapel's Adolescence:** “the five-year push” (2013–2018)

- ~13–14 Chapel developers at Cray
- Development focus
  - address weak points in HPCS prototype



# A Brief History of Chapel: What's Next?



**Chapel's Infancy:** DARPA HPCS (2003–2012)

**Chapel's Adolescence:** “the five-year push” (2013–2018)

**Chapel's College Years:** “three! more! years!” (2018–2021)

- Continue development focus:
  - **Stabilize/Harden Language Core:** “no backwards breaking changes”
  - **Interoperability / Usability:** Python, Jupyter, C++, ...
  - **Portability:** Libfabric/OFI, GPUs, Cloud computing
  - **Data Structures:** Sparse, DataFrames, Distributed Associative Arrays
  - **Chapel AI, Increased Adoption**





# Chapel: Highlights of the Past Year (or Five)



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# Chapel Language and Libraries



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# Language: Highlights Since CHI UW 2017



- **User-defined Initializers:** ready for use
  - constructor replacement; fix for OOP problems
  - [see Lydia's talk this morning](#)
- **Error Handling:** ready for use
- **'defer' Statement:** registers cleanup actions
- **Uninterpreted Strings:** can contain linefeeds, escapes
- **Delete-Free Programming**
  - improving 'Owned' / 'Shared' and migrating into the language
  - [see Michael's talk this morning](#)



# Libraries: New Since CHIUW 2017



- **Crypto:** new module based on OpenSSL
  - developed by Sarthak Munshi, GSoC 2017
- **DistributedBag / DistributedDeque:** distributed collections
  - developed by Louis Jenkins, GSoC 2017, speaking this morning
- **DistributedIterators:** distributed load-balancing iterators
- **TOML:** initial support for reading TOML files



# Libraries: Improved Since CHIUW 2017



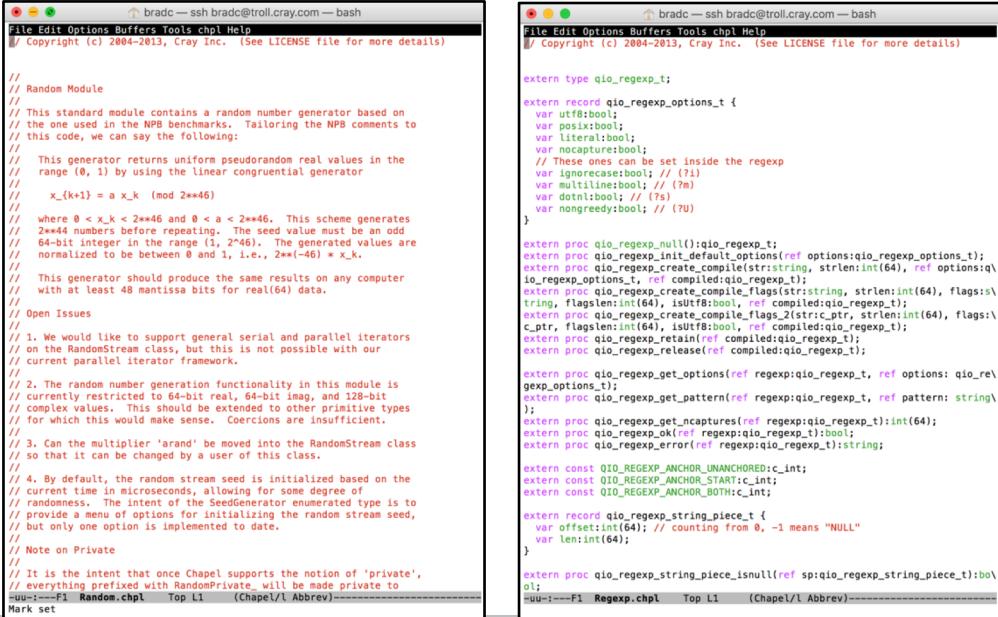
- **LinearAlgebra:** various ongoing improvements
- **MPI:** improved support for mixing with various configurations
  - co-developed by Nikhil Padmanabhan
- **ZMQ:** improved interoperability with Python via ZMQ
  - developed by Nick Park
- **Path:** added missing routines
  - developed by Sarthak Munshi, Surya Priy, Unnati Parekh, Prithvi Patel, and Varsha Verma
- **Math:** added Bessel functions
  - developed by Nimit Bhardwaj



# Libraries: Post-HPCS

## After HPCS: ~25 library modules

- documented via source comments, if at all:



```

// Random Module
//
// This standard module contains a random number generator based on
// the one used in the NPB benchmarks. Tailoring the NPB comments to
// this code, we can say the following:
//
// This generator returns uniform pseudorandom real values in the
// range (0, 1) by using the linear congruential generator
//  $x_{\{k+1\}} = a \cdot x_k \pmod{2^{46}}$ 
//
// where  $0 < x_k < 2^{46}$  and  $0 < a < 2^{46}$ . This scheme generates
//  $2^{44}$  numbers before repeating. The seed value must be an odd
// 64-bit integer in the range [1,  $2^{46}$ ]. The generated values are
// normalized to be between 0 and 1, i.e.,  $2^{46} \cdot x_k$ .
//
// This generator should produce the same results on any computer
// with at least 48 mantissa bits for real(64) data.
//
// Open Issues
//
// 1. We would like to support general serial and parallel iterators
// on the RandomStream class, but this is not possible with our
// current parallel iterator framework.
//
// 2. The random number generation functionality in this module is
// currently restricted to 64-bit real, 64-bit imgq, and 128-bit
// complex values. This should be extended to other primitive types
// for which this would make sense. Coercions are insufficient.
//
// 3. Can the multiplier 'rand' be moved into the RandomStream class
// so that it can be changed by a user of this class.
//
// 4. By default, the random stream seed is initialized based on the
// current time in microseconds, allowing for some degree of
// randomness. The intent of the SeedGenerator enumerated type is to
// provide a menu of options for initializing the random stream seed,
// but only one option is implemented to date.
//
// Note on Private
//
// It is the intent that once Chapel supports the notion of 'private',
// everything prefixed with RandomPrivate_ will be made private to
// -uu:----F1 Random.chpl Top L1 (Chapel/l Abbrev)
Mark set

```

```

extern type qio_regexp_t;
extern record qio_regexp_options_t {
    var utf8:bool;
    var posix:bool;
    var literal:bool;
    var nocapture:bool;
    // These flags can be set inside the regexp
    var ignorecase:bool; // (?i)
    var multiline:bool; // (?m)
    var dotall:bool; // (?s)
    var nongreedy:bool; // (?U)
}

extern proc qio_regexp_null():qio_regexp_t;
extern proc qio_regexp_init_default_options(ref options:qio_regexp_options_t);
extern proc qio_regexp_create_compile(str:string, strlen:int(64), ref options:q
io_regexp_options_t, ref compiled:qio_regexp_t);
extern proc qio_regexp_create_compile_flags(str:string, strlen:int(64), flags:s
tring, flagslen:int(64), isutf8:bool, ref compiled:qio_regexp_t);
extern proc qio_regexp_create_compile_flags_2(string_ptr, strlen:int(64), flags:\c
_ptr, flagslen:int(64), isutf8:bool, ref compiled:qio_regexp_t);
extern proc qio_regexp_retain(ref compiled:qio_regexp_t);
extern proc qio_regexp_release(ref compiled:qio_regexp_t);

extern proc qio_regexp_get_options(ref regexp:qio_regexp_t, ref options: qio_re
gexp_options_t);
extern proc qio_regexp_get_pattern(ref regexp:qio_regexp_t, ref pattern: string\
);
extern proc qio_regexp_get_ncaptures(ref regexp:qio_regexp_t):int(64);
extern proc qio_regexp_ok(ref regexp:qio_regexp_t):bool;
extern proc qio_regexp_error(ref regexp:qio_regexp_t):string;

extern const QIO_REGEXP_ANCHOR_UNANCHORED:c_int;
extern const QIO_REGEXP_ANCHOR_START:c_int;
extern const QIO_REGEXP_ANCHOR_BOTH:c_int;

extern record qio_regexp_string_piece_t {
    var offset:int(64); // counting from 0, -1 means "NULL"
    var len:int(64);
}

extern proc qio_regexp_string_piece_isnull(ref sp:qio_regexp_string_piece_t):bo
ol;

```



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# Libraries: Now



Now: ~60 library modules

- web-documented, many user-contributed

The screenshot displays two pages from the Chapel Documentation 1.16 website:

- Standard Modules**: A list of standard library modules including Assert, Barrier, Barriers, BigInt, BitOps, Buffers, CommDiagnostics, DateTime, DynamicIntegers, FileSystem, GMP, Help, IO, List, Math, Memory, Path, Random, Reflection, Regexp, Spawn, Sys, SysBasic, SysTypes, SysError, Time, Types, and UtilReplicatedVar.
- Package Modules**: A list of package modules including BLAS, Collection, Crypto, Curl, DistributedBag, DistributedDeque, DistributedInters, FFTW, FFTW\_MT, Futures, HDFS, HDFSliterator, LAPACK, LinearAlgebra, MPI, Norm, OwnedObject, RangeChunk, RecordParser, Search, SharedObject, Sort, VisualDebug, and ZMQ.



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# Libraries: Now

**Math:** FFTW, BLAS, LAPACK, LinearAlgebra, Math

**Inter-Process Communication:** MPI, ZMQ (ZeroMQ)

**Parallelism:** Futures, Barrier, DynamicIterators

**Distributed Computing:** DistributedIterators, DistributedBag,  
DistributedDeque, Block, Cyclic, Block-Cyclic, ...

**File Systems:** FileSystem, Path, HDFS

**Others:** BigInteger, BitOps, Crypto, Curl, DateTime, Random,  
Reflection, Regexp, Search, Sort, Spawn, ...



# Arrays, Domain Maps: New Since CHIUW 2017



- **Sparse:**
  - Added support for CSC layouts
  - Reduced communication for Block-Sparse Arrays
- **Replicated:** Improved behavior
- **Rank Change / Reindex:** Reduced communication



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# Performance, Generated Code, and Memory Leaks



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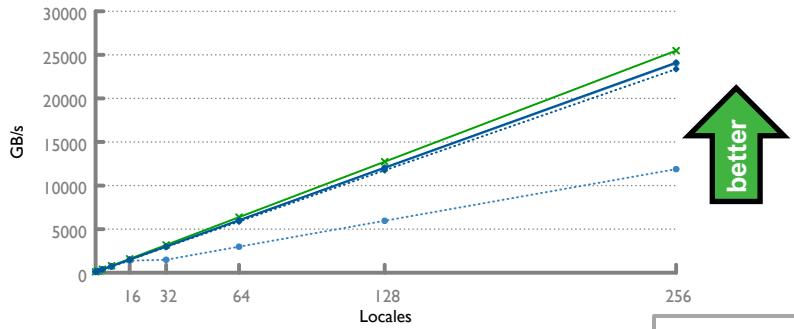
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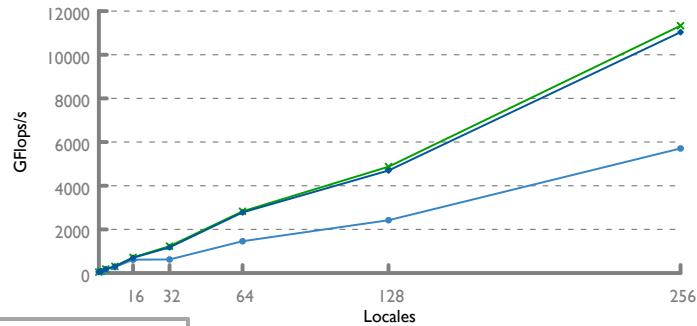
# Performance: Improvements since Chapel 1.16



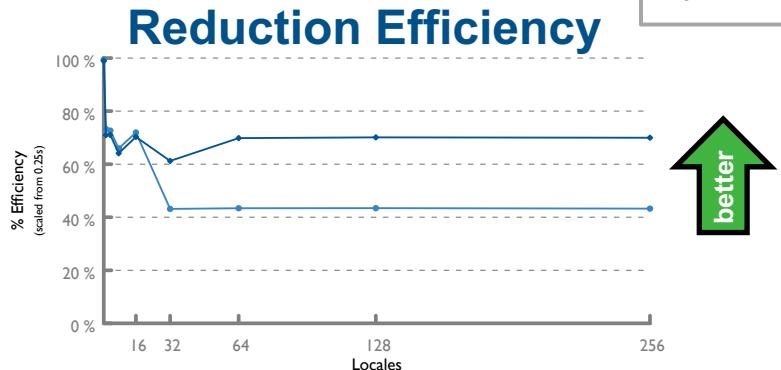
## STREAM Performance



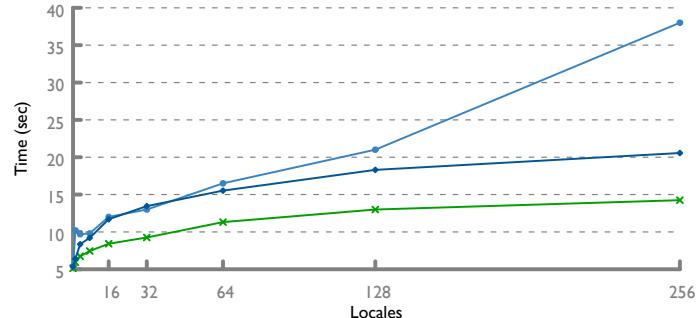
## PRK Stencil Performance



## Reduction Efficiency



## ISx Time



better



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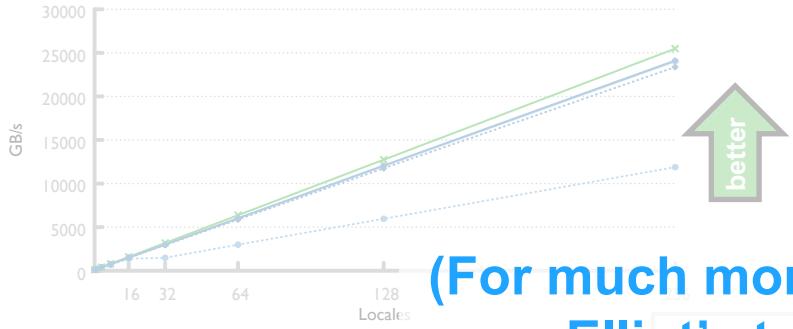
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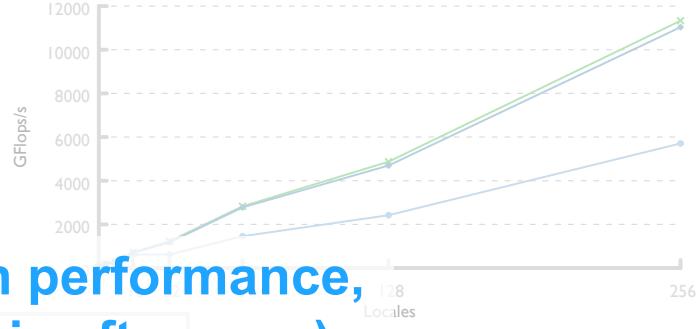
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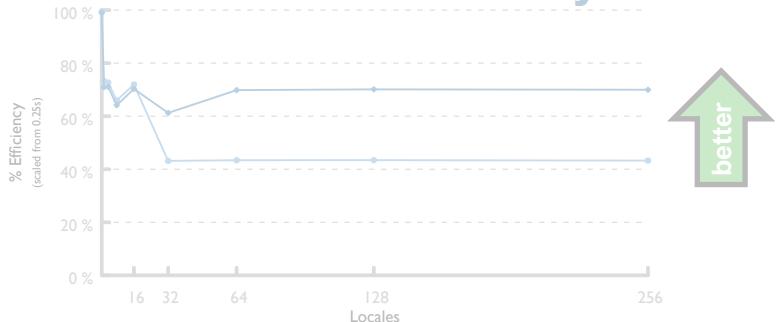
## STREAM Performance



## PRK Stencil Performance



## Reduction Efficiency



(For much more on performance,  
see Elliot's talk this afternoon)

## ISx Time



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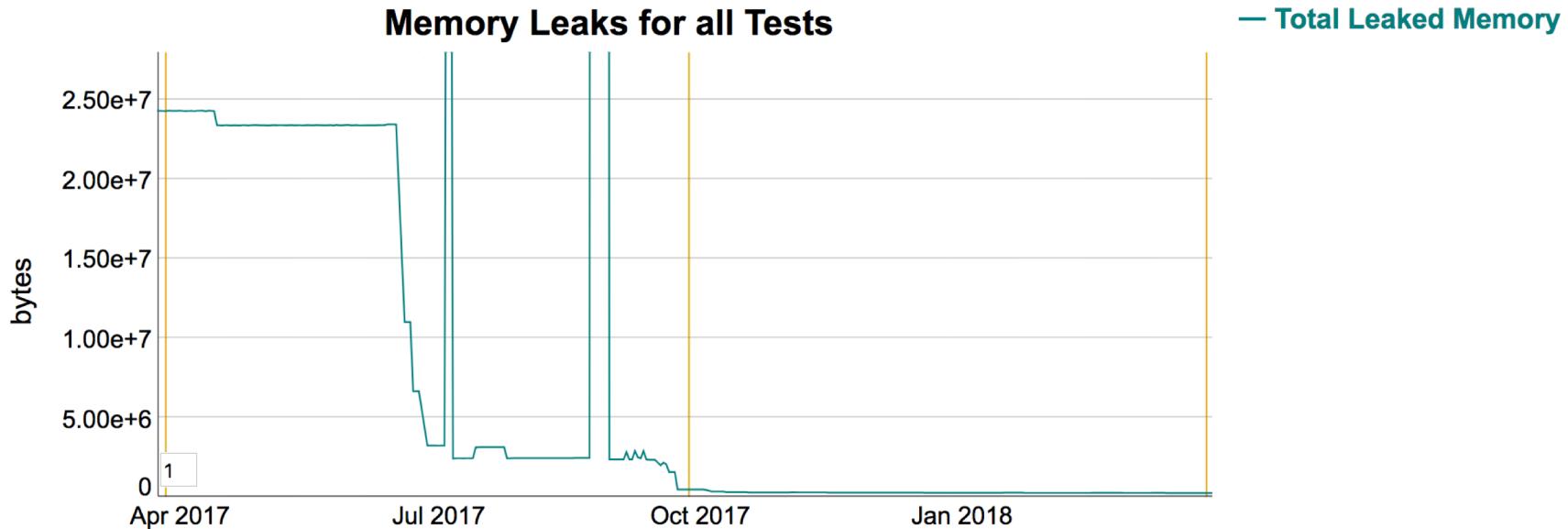
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# Memory Leaks: Since CHIUW 2017



**Memory leaks in testing reduced ~100x from 1.15 to 1.17:**



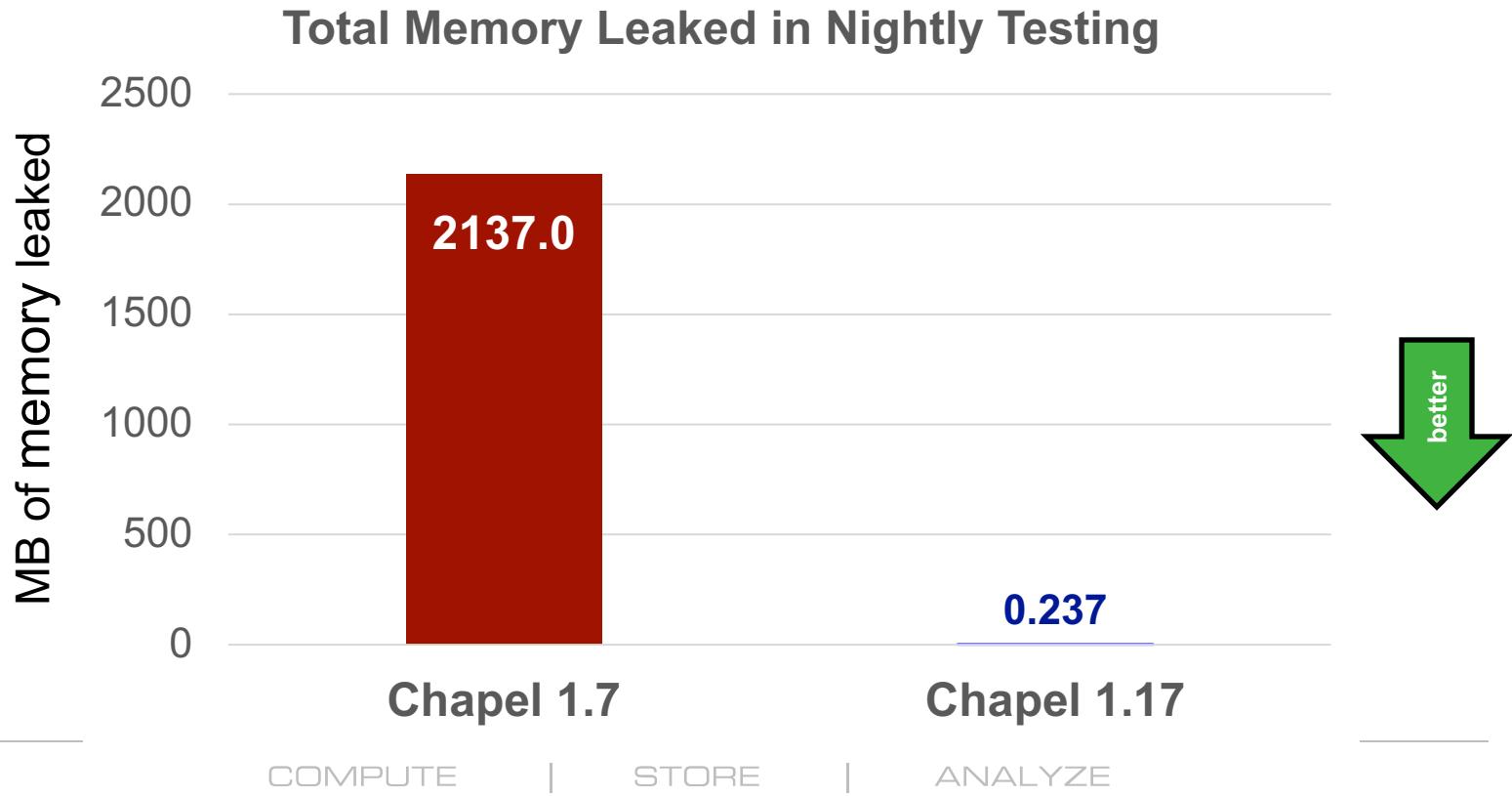
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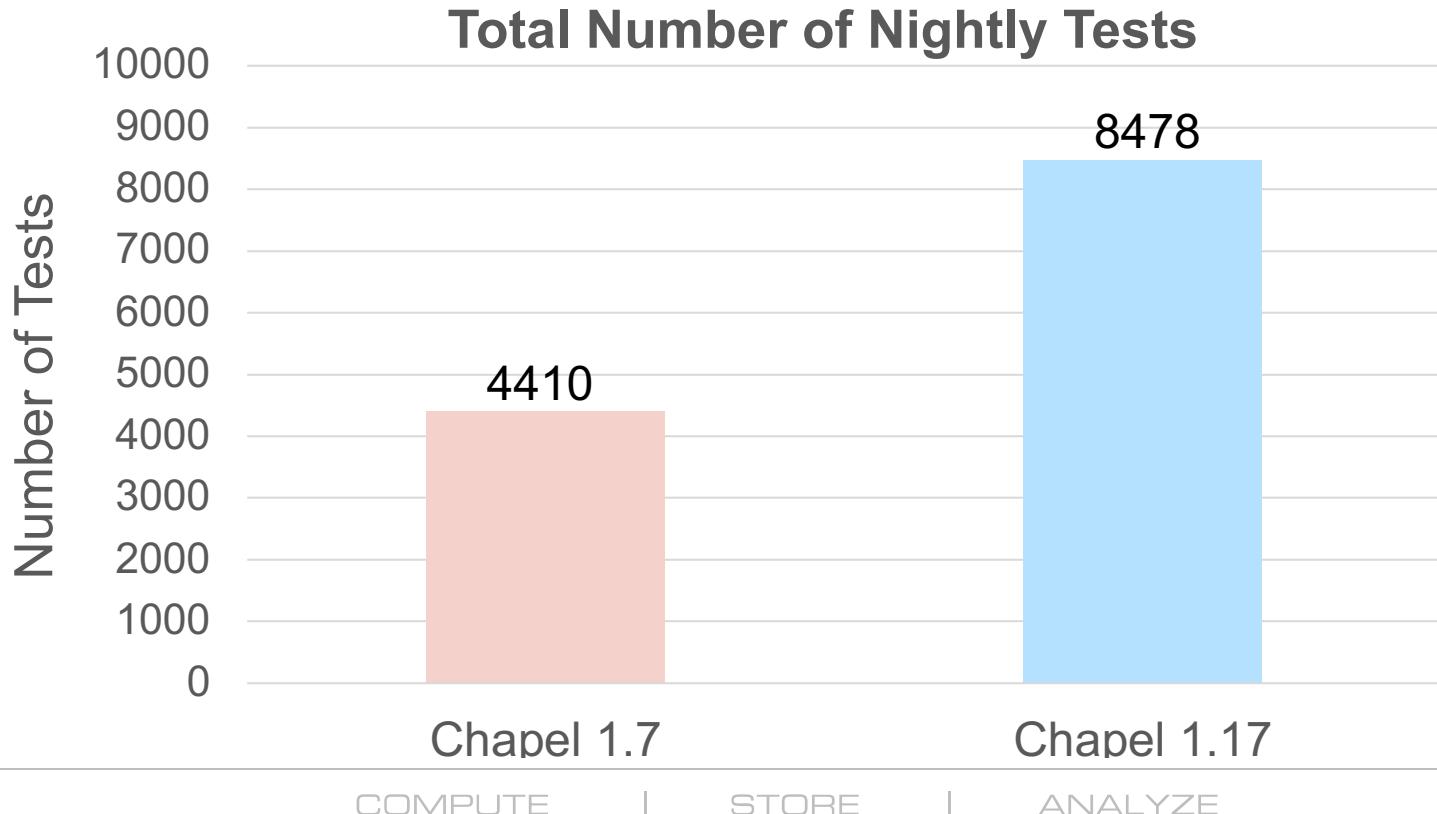
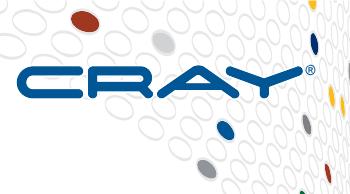
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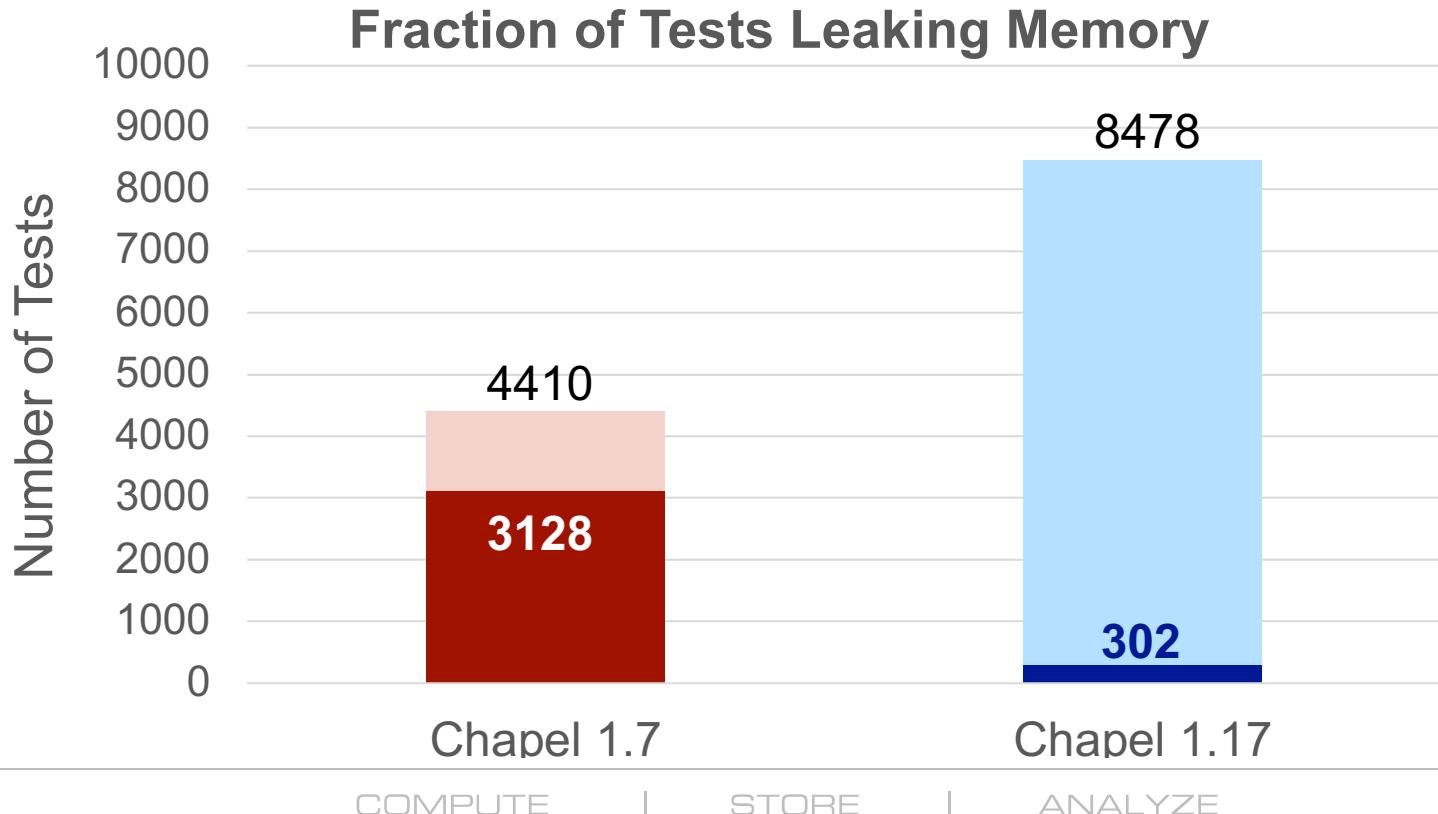
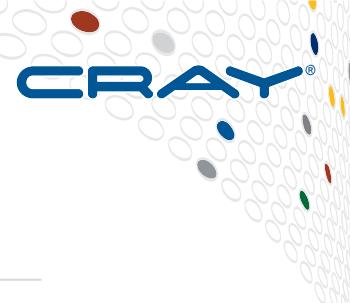
# Memory Leaks: Post-HPCS vs. Now



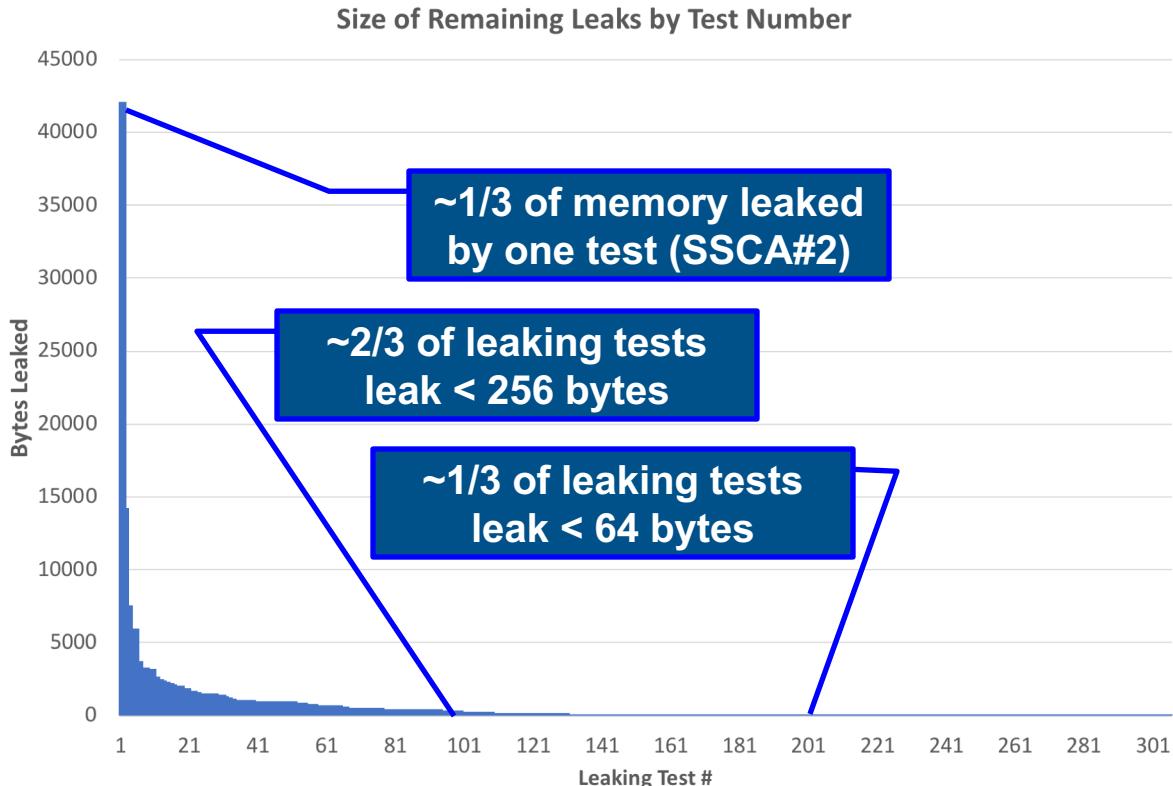
# Memory Leaks: Post-HPCS vs. Now



# Memory Leaks: Post-HPCS vs. Now



# Memory Leaks: Remaining Leaks



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# Portability: Highlights Since CHI UW 2017



- **ARM:** Chapel support for Cray XC50 with ARM processors
- **FreeBSD, PowerPC:** Improved portability
- **OmniPath:** Added support
- **gcc:** Improved portability to new versions



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# Chapel Ecosystem



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# Tools: Highlights Since CHI UW 2017



- **mason: package manager**
  - see Ben Albrecht's talk this afternoon
- **c2chapel: convert C header files to 'extern' declarations**
- **bash tab completion: command-line help for 'chpl' args**
- **chpl:**
  - now names executable after main file rather than 'a.out'
  - now offers suggestions for unfamiliar flags
  - improved support for LLVM back-end
- **configure + make install: added familiar ways to build**



# Documentation: Post-HPCS



## After HPCS:

- a PDF language specification
- a Quick Reference sheet
- a number of READMEs
- ~22 primer examples

bradc -- ssh bradc@troll.cray.com -- bash  
\*\*\*\*\*  
Chapel doc README  
\*\*\*\*\*  
  
This directory contains the following documentation:  
  
README : this file  
README.bugs : how to report bugs or suggestions to the Chapel team  
README.building : information about building the Chapel compiler  
README.chplenv : setting up your environment to use Chapel  
README.compile : how to compile Chapel code  
README.executing : execution options for Chapel programs  
README.multilocale : how to execute Chapel on multiple locales  
README.threads : executing how Chapel tasks are implemented using threads  
README.tutorials : notes for Cray Linux/UMPC/SC users  
README.cygwin : notes for Cygwin users  
README.extern : technical note on interfacing with external C routines  
README.prereqs : technical note on using value-to-string formatting  
README.prerogs : prerequisites for using Chapel  
  
chapelLanguageSpec.pdf : the current draft of the Chapel language specification  
  
hpccOverview.pdf : a high-level overview of our implementations of the HPC Challenge benchmarks for STREAM Triad, Random Access, and Sort in Chapel  
  
hpccTutorial.pdf : a companion paper to the previous that provides a detailed walkthrough of our implementations of the HPCC benchmarks to serve as a tutorial to Chapel and the codes themselves  
  
quickReference.pdf : a one-sheet, tri-fold overview of Chapel syntax for quick reference  
  
For more Information  
  
For additional information about Chapel, please refer to:  
\* "Parallel Programmability and the Chapel Language" by Bradford L. Chamberlain, David Callahan, and Hans P. Zima, published in the International Journal of High Performance Computing Applications, August 2007, 21(3): 291-312.

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Chapel Language Specification  
Version 0.93

Chapel Quick Reference

Quick Start

How to write a one-line "Hello, world" program

Chapel User Manual

Expression Precedence and Associativity

Page 1

Statements

If cond then statement1 else statement2();  
if cond1 then1; else if cond2 then2;  
select expr1 do statement1;  
for index in aggregate do statement1;  
when equal1 then1; when equal2 then2;  
when less than1 then1; when less than2 then2;

while condition do {  
  do1;  
  do2;  
} -> while condition;  
for index in aggregate do {  
  do1;  
  do2;  
} -> for index in aggregate;  
break or break outer;  
continue or continue outer;

Procedures

proc bareProc (in img);  
var var1; complex = 1 + 1;  
return 0;

proc foosil (in img);  
var var1; complex = 1 + 1;  
return 0;

proc foosil return 1+2 + 1 + 1;

Formal Argument Patterns

in : expected  
out : copied-in  
inout : copied-out  
ref : passed by reference  
none : passed by value, no references, but with local modifications allowed  
bind : like ref for arrays, domains, syncs, regions, and other aggregates

Named Formal Arguments

proc foostuff(in: int, arg1: real) { ... }  
foostuff(3.14, arg1:2)

Default Values for Formal Arguments

proc foostuff(in: int, arg1: real = 3.14);  
foostuff()



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# Documentation: Now

Now: 200+ modern, hyperlinked, web-based documentation pages

The screenshot displays three web pages from the Chapel Documentation 1.16 site:

- Compiling and Running Chapel**: This page includes sections for Quickstart Instructions, Using Chapel, Platform-Specific Notes, Technical Notes, and Tools.
- Using Chapel**: This page includes sections for Quick Reference, Hello World Variants, Primers, Language Specification, Built-in Types and Functions, Standard Modules, Package Modules, Standard Layouts and Distributions, and Chapel Users Guide (WIP).
- Task Parallelism**: This page illustrates Chapel's parallel tasking features, featuring code snippets for `config const n = 10; // used for the coforall loop` and `begin writeln("1: output from main task");`.

The sidebar on the left lists categories such as COMPILING AND RUNNING CHAPEL, WRITING CHAPEL PROGRAMS, LANGUAGE HISTORY, and more. The footer features the Cray logo and navigation links for COMPUTE, STORE, and ANALYZE.



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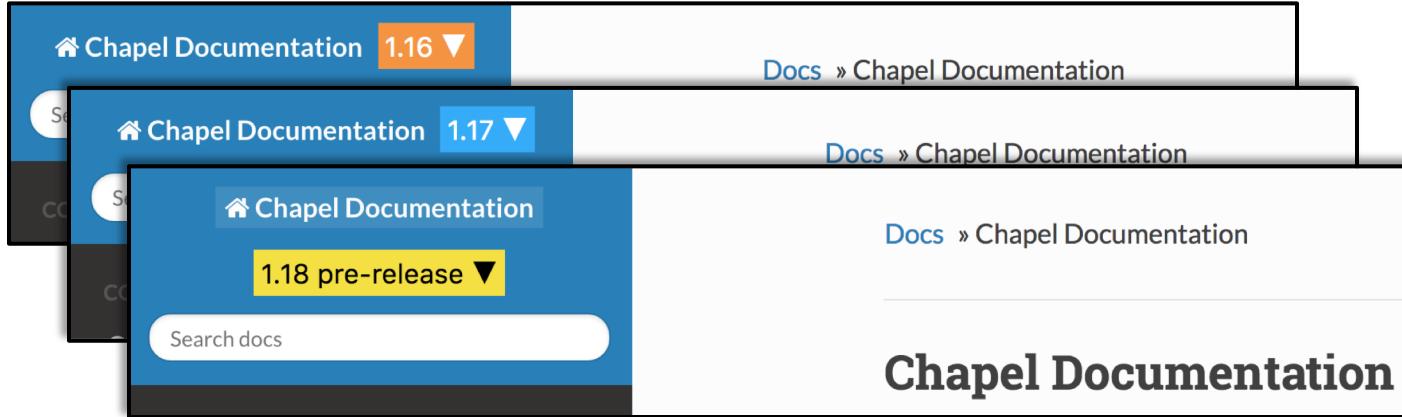
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# Website: Highlights Since CHI UW 2017



- Added color-coded documentation version menu



- Moved <http://chapel.cray.com> to <https://chapel-lang.org>

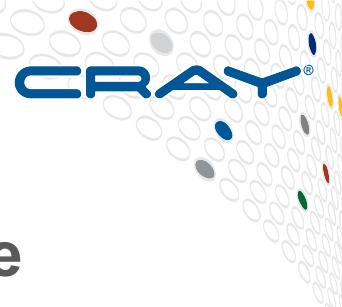


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# Chapel on StackOverflow



- StackOverflow ‘chapel’ questions are on the rise

The screenshot shows the StackOverflow search results for the tag 'chapel'. The search bar at the top contains '[chapel]'. Below it, a summary box indicates '78 questions tagged' with links to 'chapel' and 'about'. A 'BLOG' sidebar on the right lists two posts: 'What are the Most Disliked Programming Languages?' and 'Podcast #120 - Halloween Spooktacular with Anil Slash'. The main content area displays five Chapel-related questions:

- Print string domain values with comma separation in Chapel**  
I have a domain I'd like to output with commas. In Python I can use the string .join() method, being fed by a list .sort()-ed product, but in Chapel I am not getting the right results. var names = (\* ...  
asked Oct 20 at 17:41 by Brian Dolan  
18 views
- Continue out of FORALL loop in Chapel**  
When you write it all caps like that, you really see the FORTRAN heritage. Anyway, I can't get the forall continue syntax correct. var ids = {1,2,3,5,7,11}; forall id in ids { if id == 5 then ...  
asked Oct 20 at 15:59 by Brian Dolan  
34 views
- Assign an array to a property in a Chapel Class**  
Here is a Python-like pattern I need to re-create in Chapel. class Gambler { var luckyNumbers: [1..0] int; } var nums = [13,17,23,71]; var KennyRogers = new Gambler(); KennyRogers.luckyNumbers = ...  
asked Oct 20 at 15:11 by Brian Dolan  
13 views
- How to represent a Set or Dictionary in Chapel?**  
In Python, it's easy to create a set of unique, un-ordered objects with >>> s = set() >>> s.add("table") >>> s.add("chair") >>> s.add("emu") >>> s.set({...}  
asked Oct 20 at 15:11 by Brian Dolan  
1 views

**143 questions tagged  
(up ~116 since CHI UW 2017)**

Jobs near you

- Lead Mobile Developer- Android  
Leafly ♀ Seattle, WA  
android java
- Mid-Level C# Producer for SWAT Shooter  
Giant Enemy Crabs. ♀ Seattle, WA



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# Try It Online (TIO): now supports Chapel



# TIO

To get started, select a language.

Search

Categories

- » Practical
- » Recreational

Results

...	Archway	Black (blk)	Charm	O2	Factor	Half-Broken Car in H...	K (ok)	Mono
///	Archway2	Boo	Cheek	Dash	Fantom	Haskell	kavod	Mosk
0\$ABIE	Bootfuck	Cheddar	dc	Felix	Haxe	Klein	Moon	Moon
ZDFuck	ArnoldC	Brachylog	Chef	Deadfish+	FerNANDo	Hastack	Kotlin	Momo
2\$able	AsciDots	Brachylog v1	Chez Scheme	Decimal	FEU	Hexadecimal Stacking	Ish	MUMI
3\$var	ASPFix	Braille	CHEK Scheme	Delimit	Fish	Hexagony	Labyrinth	MY
4	Assembly (as, x64-LL)	Brain-Flak	Chip	Desart	Fission	Hodor	Lean	My_B
7	Assembly (asm, x64-LL)	Brain-Flak (BrainHack)	CL (Mono IL assembly)	Dotor	Fractran	Homespun	Lua	Never
99	Assembly (gcj, x64-LL)	Crosson Gum	Cobol	Elvy	Right	Hughes	Literate Haskell	Never
g+	Assembly (x86-LL)	Crashboot	cml	DOSBox	FOLCAL-69	Husk	LUMIR	Nim
>>	Assembly (MIPS, SPIM)	Brainf&#251;king	Clam	Dodos	Foo	Hyper-Dimensional B...	LISP	Nim
???	Assembly (neon, x64-LL)	brainfuck	Clean	Drederef	Forked	I	Locksmith	NoSQL
V	Attack	Braingolf	CLIPS	DStack	Forte	Icon	Logicode	NTFL
A Pear Tree	Aubergine	Brat	Closure	eacal	Forth (forth)	Iridis	LCODE	Num3r
Accfl	AWK	Brian & Chuck	COBOL (GNU)	ecop + c (gcc)	Fortran (F90tran)	Implicit	Lost	Octet
Aceto	axo	Broccoli	Cobra	ecop + c++ (gcc)	Fourier	Incident	LOWER	Object
Actuality	Bash	Bubblegum	Coconut	Egeli	FRACTRAN	INTERCAL	Lua	Object
Ada (GNAT)	bc	C (clang)	CoffeeScript 1	Element	Fuelux	Io	Ly	Object
Adapt	Beam	C (gcc)	CoffeeScript 2	ELF (ld80/x64, Linux)	Function	J	Ma	OCaml
Add+	Beets	C (gcc)	Commentator	Emacs (x86)	Functionoid	Juby	Ma	OCaml
Adjust	BlissShell	C# (.NET Core)	Commercial	EVM-IR	Foray	Jest	MachineCode	Octave
Agile	Bootsville	C# (Mono C# compil.)	Common Lisp	Emacs (x86)	Galo	Java (JDK 10)	Makie	Octave
Agony	Brewska	C# (Mono C# Shell)	Conditi	Emmental	Gembit Scheme (gsi)	Java (OpenJDK 8)	Malibige	Octave
Ahsel (gesotope)	Befunge-93	C# (Visual C# Compil.)	Convex	Emoji	Geot++	JavaScript (Babel No...)	MarioLANG	OML
ALCOL 68 (Genie)	Befunge-93 (FB80)	C# (Visual C# Interp.)	Cood	Emicode	GAP	JavaScript (Node.js)	Mascaron	OML
Alice	Befunge-93 (MTFI)	C++ (clang)	Corea	Emotionicon	Glypho	JavaScript (SpiderMonkey)	Mathics	DRK
Alice ML	Befunge-93 (PyFunge)	C++ (gcc)	COW	Enlist	Glypho (shorthand)	Jelly	MATL	OSH
Alphabeta	Befunge-96 (MTFI)	Cardinal	cQuentz 0	Erlang (escript)	grapnplot	Jellyfish	Maverick	Pain+
Alphuck	Befunge-97 (MTFI)	Carrot	Crayon	ETA	Go	Joy	Maxima	Parrot
Alumini	Befunge-98 (FB80)	Clawflower	Crystal	evl	Go!++	Job	Memory(GAP)	Parrot
anyone	Befunge-98 (PyFunge)	Cores	Cubically	Emicode	GoJS	Julia 0.4	Memory(GAP)	Parrot
API (Dynamic Classics)	Befunge-98 (PyFunge)	Crunch	Cubicule	Emicode	Grime	Julia 0.6	Minimal-20	Parrot
API (Dynamic Unicode)	BRILliant	Chain	Cubes	ExtraC	Groovy	Jr	misoM	Parrot
API (ergn/api)	BitChanger	Changing	Curry (Sloth)	FW (.NET Core)	Groovy	K (Kona)	Minkolang	Parrot
Appleseed	Bitwise	Chapel	Cy	FW (Mono)	GS2	K (Kona)	Mirror	Per1.5
ARBLE	Bitwise Fuckery	Charcoal	D	face	Guile	K (gnv/s)	Perle 6	Perle 6

What is TIO?

To use TIO, simply click on one of the links sent to a TIO arena, executing the code and generating a client-side application.

Why TIO?

- TIO hosts 190 practical languages
- TIO listens: language contact options listed
- The TIO web app is fast
- The software that powers TIO works great on all platforms

<https://tio.run/>

# TIO

Hello World ▾ switch languages ▾

Chapel

► Compiler flags

► Header

▼ Code

```
coforall i in 1..10 do
    writeln("Hello from task ", i);
```

56 chars, 56 bytes (UTF-8)

► Footer

► Input

► Arguments

▼ Output

```
Hello from task 2
Hello from task 4
Hello from task 6
Hello from task 8
Hello from task 10
Hello from task 1
Hello from task 3
Hello from task 5
Hello from task 7
Hello from task 9
```



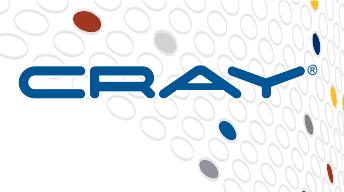
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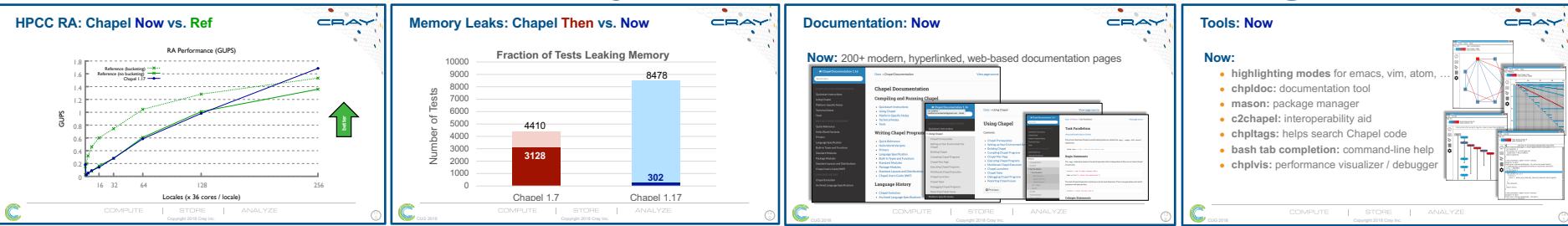
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# Summary



*Chapel has made huge strides over the past year/5 years*

*We've addressed many historical barriers to using Chapel*



*We're continuing our work to support and improve Chapel*

*We're looking for the next generation of Chapel users,  
as well as concrete use cases for AI / ML*



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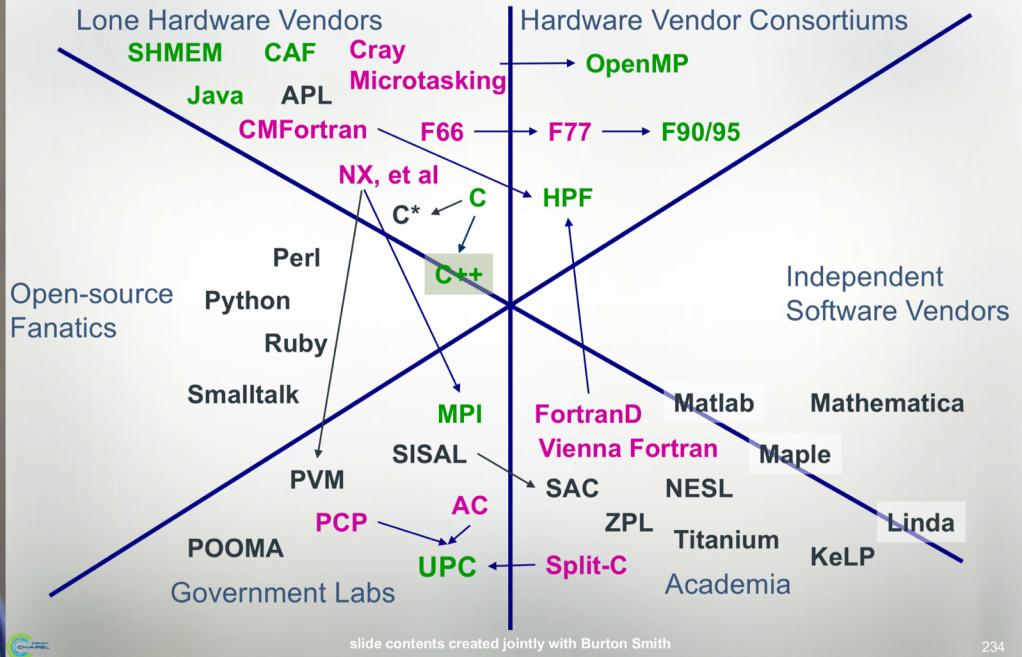
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# In Memory of Burton Smith



## Where do Languages Come From?



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# CHIUW 2018: Agenda ([chapel-lang.org/CHIUW2018.html](http://chapel-lang.org/CHIUW2018.html))



- 8:30: Chapel 101 (optional)
- 9:00: Welcome, State of the Project
- 9:30: Break
- 10:00: Talks: Applications of Chapel
- 11:00: Quick Break
- 11:10: Talks: Chapel Design and Evolution
- 12:10: Lunch
- 1:40: Keynote Talk: “Why Languages Matter”, Kathy Yelick
- 2:40: Talks: Chapel Performance
- 3:00: Break
- 3:30: Talks: Tools for Chapel
- 4:30: Lightning Talks and Flash Discussions
- 5:30: Wrap-up / Head to Dinner



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# Chapel Resources



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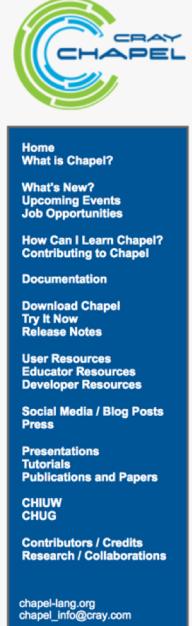
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# Chapel Central



<https://chapel-lang.org>

- downloads
- documentation
- resources
- presentations
- papers



The Chapel Parallel Programming Language

## What is Chapel?

Chapel is a modern programming language that is...

- **parallel:** contains first-class concepts for concurrent and parallel computation
- **productive:** designed with programmability and performance in mind
- **portable:** runs on laptops, clusters, the cloud, and HPC systems
- **scalable:** supports locality-oriented features for distributed memory systems
- **open-source:** hosted on [GitHub](#), permissively [licensed](#)

## New to Chapel?

As an introduction to Chapel, you may want to...

- read a [blog article](#) or [book chapter](#)
- watch [an overview talk](#) or browse its [slides](#)
- [download](#) the release
- browse [sample programs](#)
- view [other resources](#) to learn how to trivially write distributed programs like this:

```
use CyclicDist;           // use the Cyclic distribution Library
config const n = 100;      // use --n=<val> when executing to override this default
forall i in {1..n} dmapped Cyclic(startIdx=1) do
    writeln("Hello from iteration ", i, " of ", n, " running on node ", here.id);
```

## What's Hot?

- Chapel **1.17** is now available—[download](#) a copy or browse its [release notes](#)
- The [advance program](#) for **CHI UW 2018** is now available—hope to see you there!
- Chapel is proud to be a [Rails Girls Summer of Code 2018 organization](#)
- Watch talks from **ACCU 2017**, **CHI UW 2017**, and **ATPESC 2016** on [YouTube](#)
- [Browse slides](#) from **SIAM PP18**, **NWCPP**, **SeLang**, **SC17**, and other recent talks
- Also see: [What's New?](#)



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# Chapel Social Media (no account required)



<http://twitter.com/ChapelLanguage>

<http://facebook.com/ChapelLanguage>

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCHmm27bYjhknK5mU7ZzPGsQ/>

The image displays three screenshots of social media profiles for the Chapel Programming Language:

- Twitter Profile:** Shows 576 tweets, 48 following, 278 followers, 200 likes, and 1 list. It features a large green and blue circular logo. A pinned tweet discusses an interview with Brad Chamberlain about Chapel.
- Facebook Page:** Shows 72 subscribers. It features the same green and blue circular logo. A post from April 21 at 5:47pm compares Chapel's performance against other languages in a benchmarks game.
- YouTube Channel:** Shows 72 subscribers. It features the same green and blue circular logo. It contains a playlist of Chapel presentations, including keynotes from CHI UW 2017 and ACCU 2017, and a video from PyCon UK 2017.



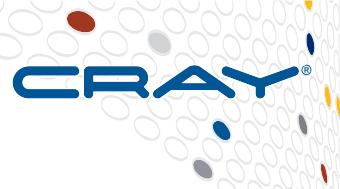
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# Chapel Community



<https://stackoverflow.com/questions/tagged/chapel>

<https://github.com/chapel-lang/chapel/issues>

<https://gitter.im/chapel-lang/chapel>

[chapel-announce@lists.sourceforge.net](mailto:chapel-announce@lists.sourceforge.net)

The collage consists of four panels:

- Stack Overflow Questions:** Shows a list of tagged questions about Chapel. Examples include "Tuple Concatenation in Chapel" and "Is there a way to use non-scalar values in functions with where clauses in".
- Github Issues:** Shows a list of issues in the chapel-lang/chapel repository. Examples include "Implement 'bounded-coforall' optimization for remote coforalls", "Consider using processor atomics for remote coforalls", and "make uninstall".
- Gitter Chat:** Shows a snippet of the Gitter chat interface for the chapel-lang channel. It includes messages from users like Brian Dolan and Michael Ferguson discussing array syntax and performance.
- Community Stats:** Shows a purple-themed page with statistics for the Chapel programming language, including developer hours (0600-1700 PT) and community size (over 800k people).



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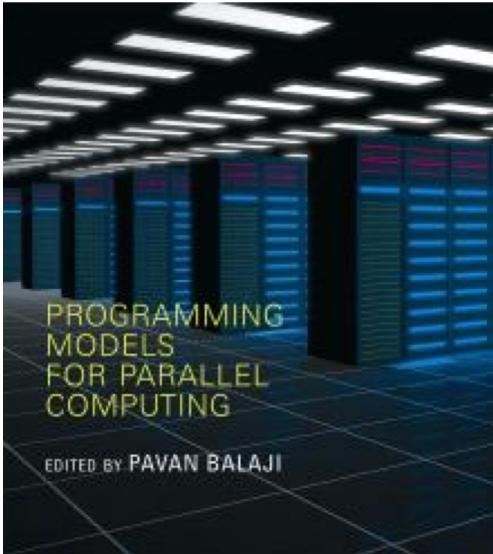
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# Suggested Reading (healthy attention spans)



Chapel chapter from [Programming Models for Parallel Computing](#)

- a detailed overview of Chapel's history, motivating themes, features
- published by MIT Press, November 2015
- edited by Pavan Balaji (Argonne)
- chapter is also available [online](#)



Other Chapel papers/publications available at <https://chapel-lang.org/papers.html>



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# Suggested Reading (short attention spans)



**CHIUW 2017: Surveying the Chapel Landscape**, [Cray Blog](#), July 2017.

- *a run-down of recent events (as of 2017)*

**Chapel: Productive Parallel Programming**, [Cray Blog](#), May 2013.

- *a short-and-sweet introduction to Chapel*

**Six Ways to Say “Hello” in Chapel** (parts [1](#), [2](#), [3](#)), [Cray Blog](#), Sep-Oct 2015.

- *a series of articles illustrating the basics of parallelism and locality in Chapel*

**Why Chapel?** (parts [1](#), [2](#), [3](#)), [Cray Blog](#), Jun-Oct 2014.

- *a series of articles answering common questions about why we are pursuing Chapel in spite of the inherent challenges*

**[Ten] Myths About Scalable Programming Languages**, [IEEE TCSC Blog](#)

(index available on [chapel-lang.org](#) “blog posts” page), Apr-Nov 2012.

- *a series of technical opinion pieces designed to argue against standard reasons given for not developing high-level parallel languages*



# Where to..



## Submit bug reports:

[GitHub issues for chapel-lang/chapel](#): public bug forum  
[chapel\\_bugs@cray.com](mailto:chapel_bugs@cray.com): for reporting non-public bugs

## Ask User-Oriented Questions:

[StackOverflow](#): when appropriate / other users might care  
[Gitter \(chapel-lang/chapel\)](#): community chat with archives  
[chapel-users@lists.sourceforge.net](mailto:chapel-users@lists.sourceforge.net): user discussions

## Discuss Chapel development

[chapel-developers@lists.sourceforge.net](mailto:chapel-developers@lists.sourceforge.net): developer discussions  
[GitHub issues for chapel-lang/chapel](#): for feature requests, design discussions

## Discuss Chapel's use in education

[chapel-education@lists.sourceforge.net](mailto:chapel-education@lists.sourceforge.net): educator discussions

## Directly contact Chapel team at Cray: [chapel\\_info@cray.com](mailto:chapel_info@cray.com)



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