

# **HIGH PERFORMANCE STENCIL CODE GENERATION WITH LIFT**

Bastian Hagedorn | Larisa Stoltzfus | Michel Steuwer | Sergei Gorlatch | Christophe Dubach



**WWU**  
MÜNSTER

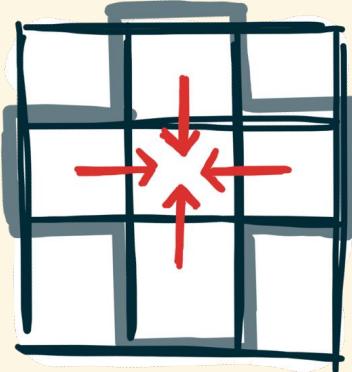


THE UNIVERSITY  
*of* EDINBURGH



University  
of Glasgow

# WHY STENCIL COMPUTATIONS?



**Stencil computations** are a class of kernels which update *neighboring* array elements according to a fixed pattern, called *stencil*.

Frequently occur in:



Medical Imaging



Machine Learning



Physics Simulations



PDE Solvers

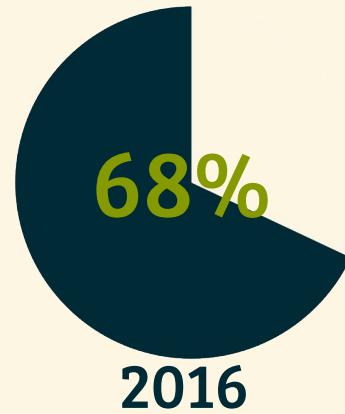
# WHY STENCIL COMPUTATIONS?

Stencil compute time:

HPC Center  
München



HPC Center  
Stuttgart



Frequently occur in:



Medical Imaging



Machine Learning



Physics Simulations



PDE Solvers

# YET ANOTHER STENCIL PAPER?



2005

2007

2009

2011

2013

2015

2018

ICS'05

ICS'09

CGO'12

CGO'15

CLUSTER'17

PLDI'07

SC'10

CLUSTER'13

WOLFHPC'16

CGO'18

# ***DOMAIN SPECIFIC LANGUAGES***

PATUS

Pochoir

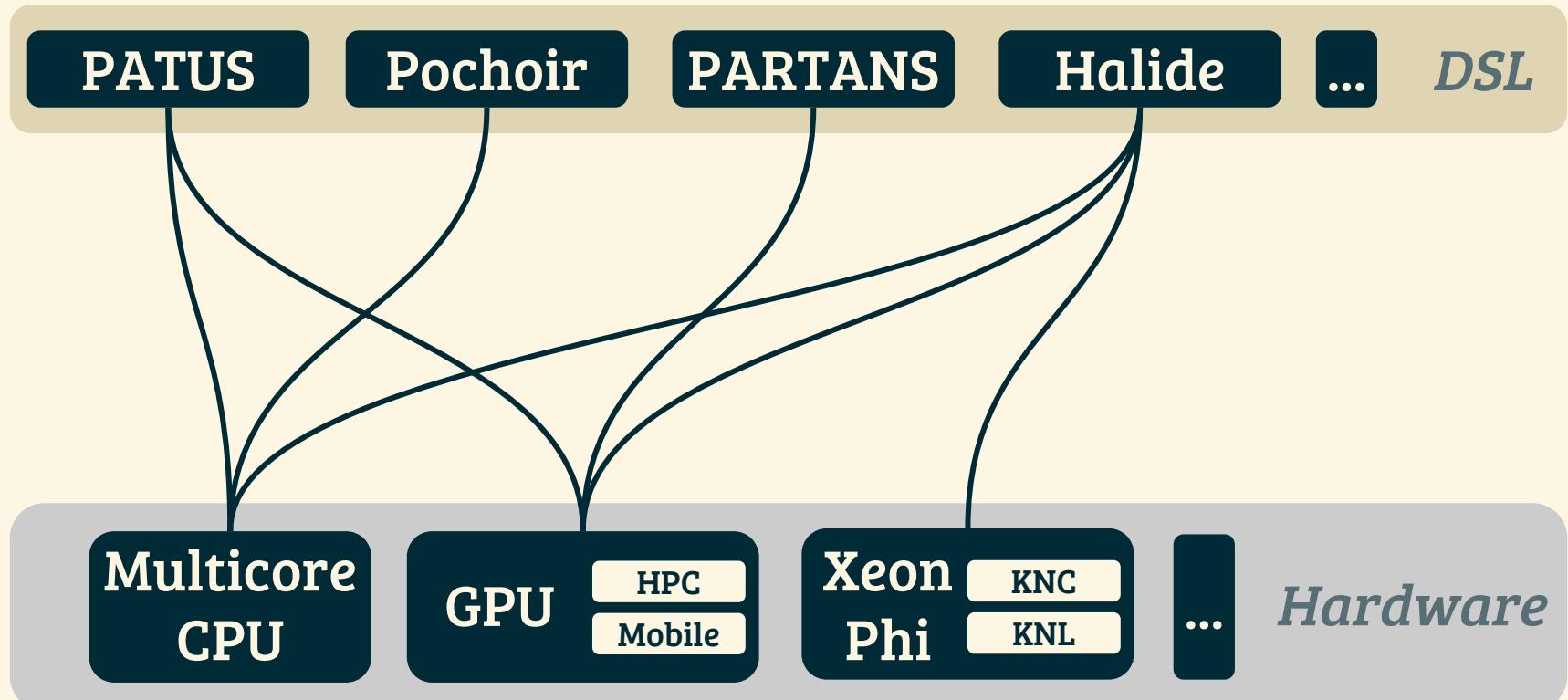
PARTANS

Halide

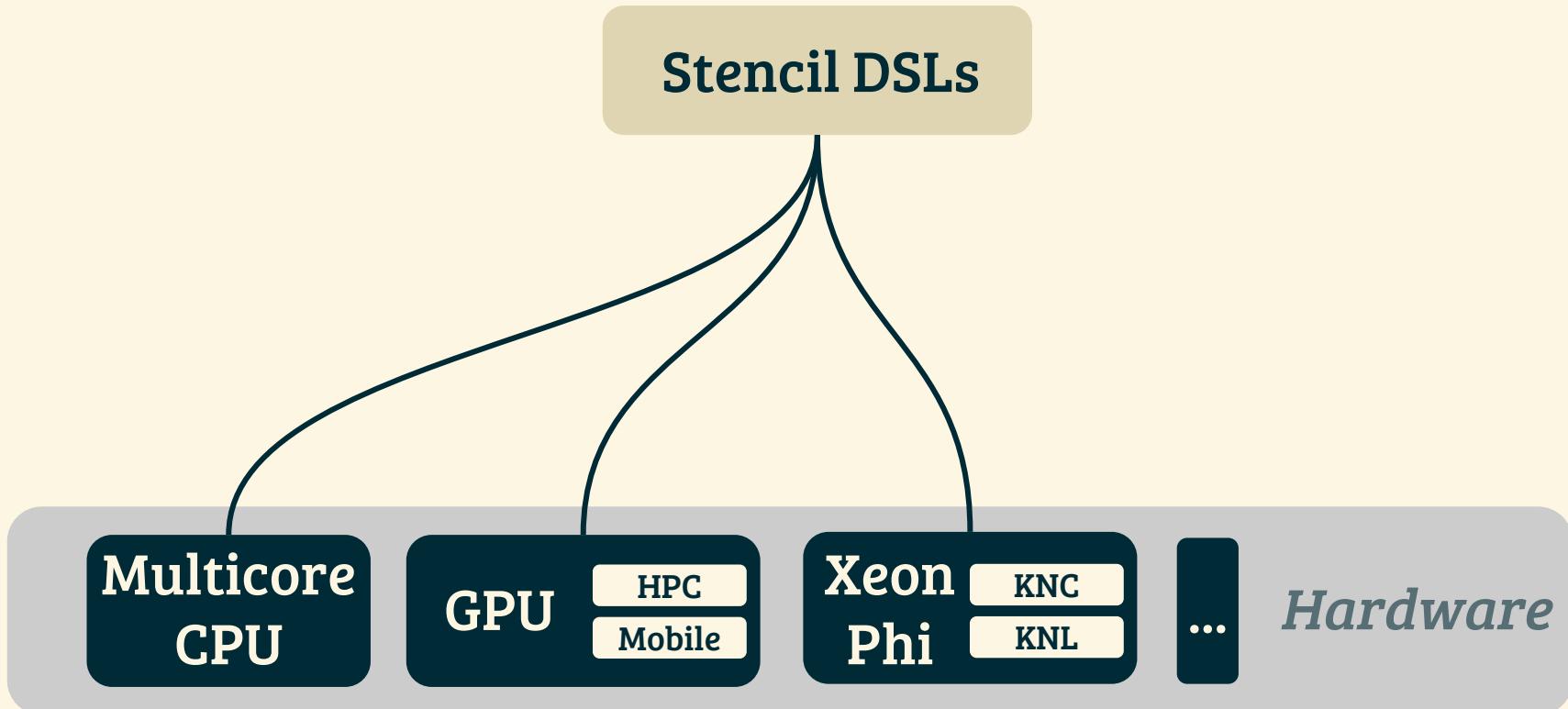
...

*DSL*

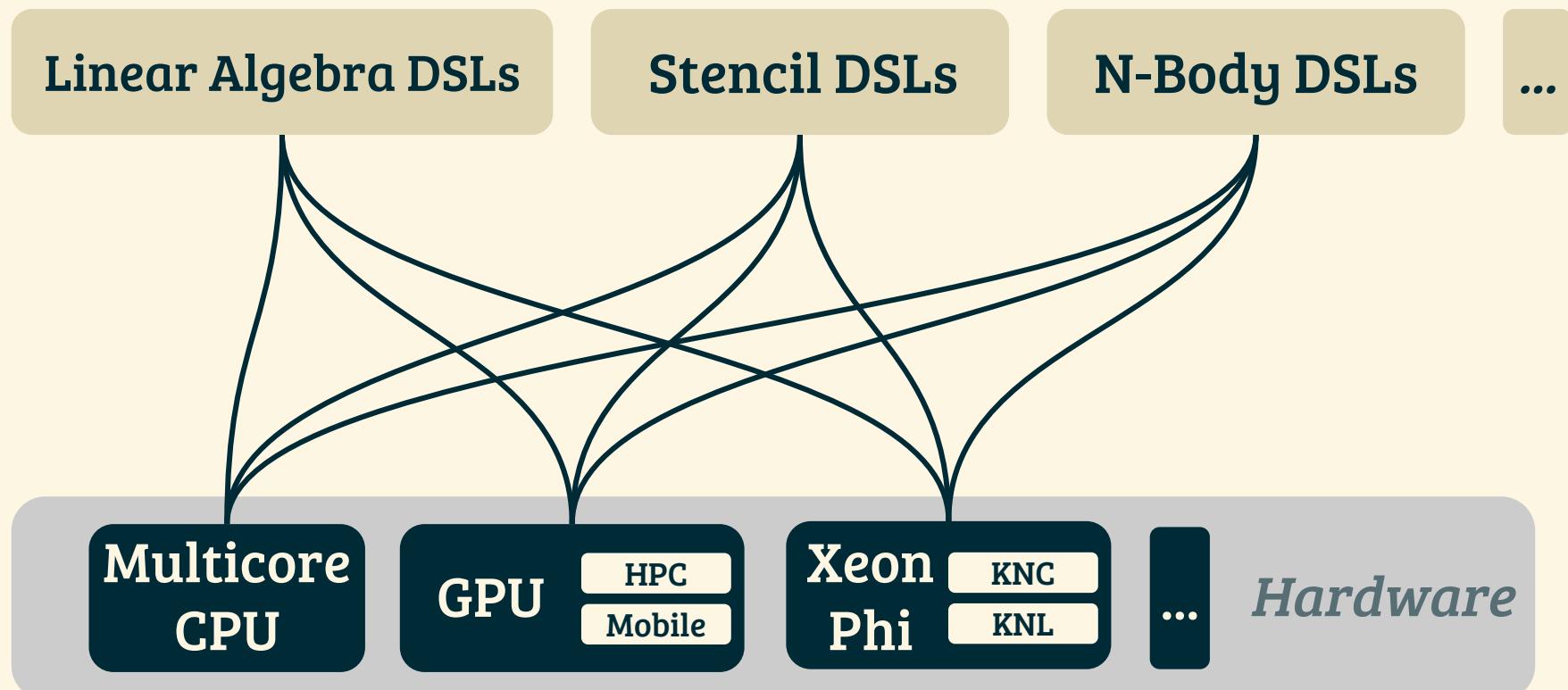
# ***EXPLOITING DOMAIN KNOWLEDGE***



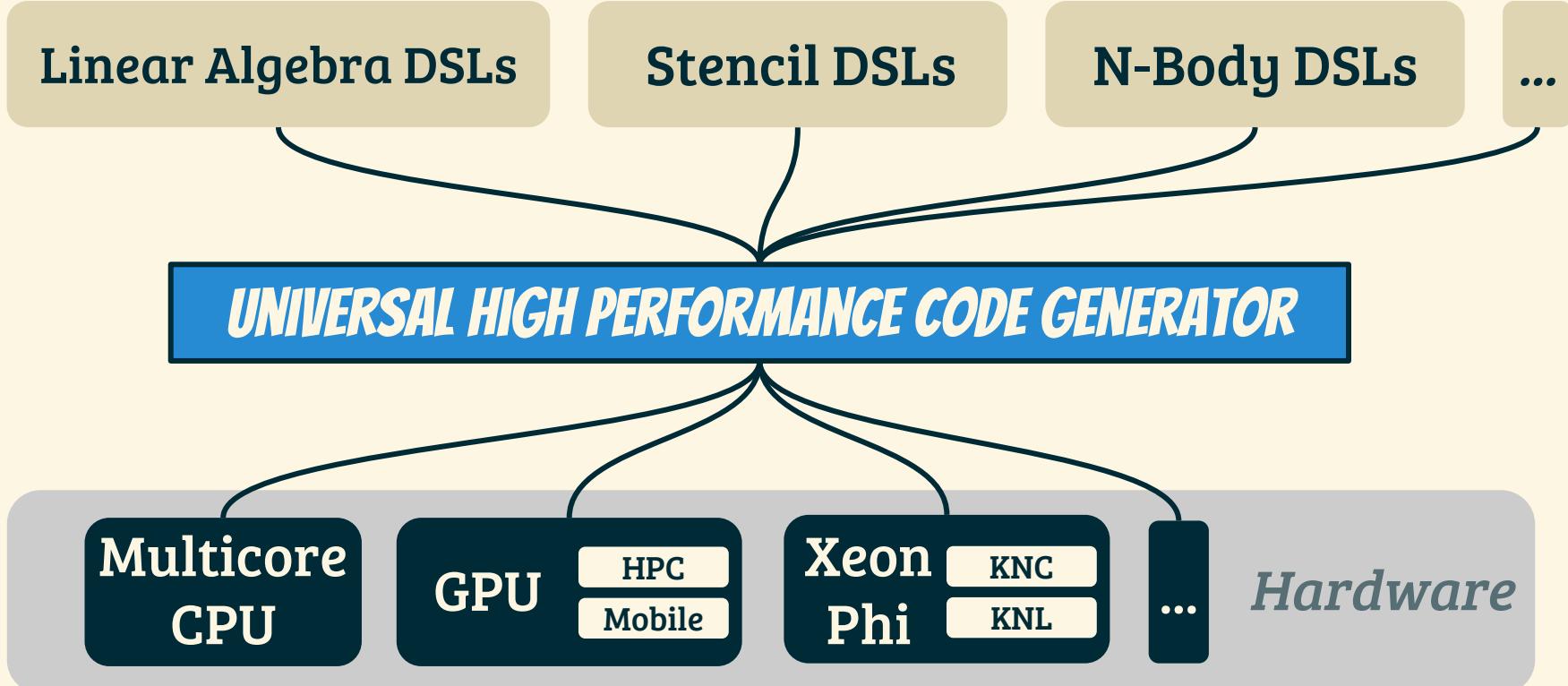
# ***EXPLOITING DOMAIN KNOWLEDGE***



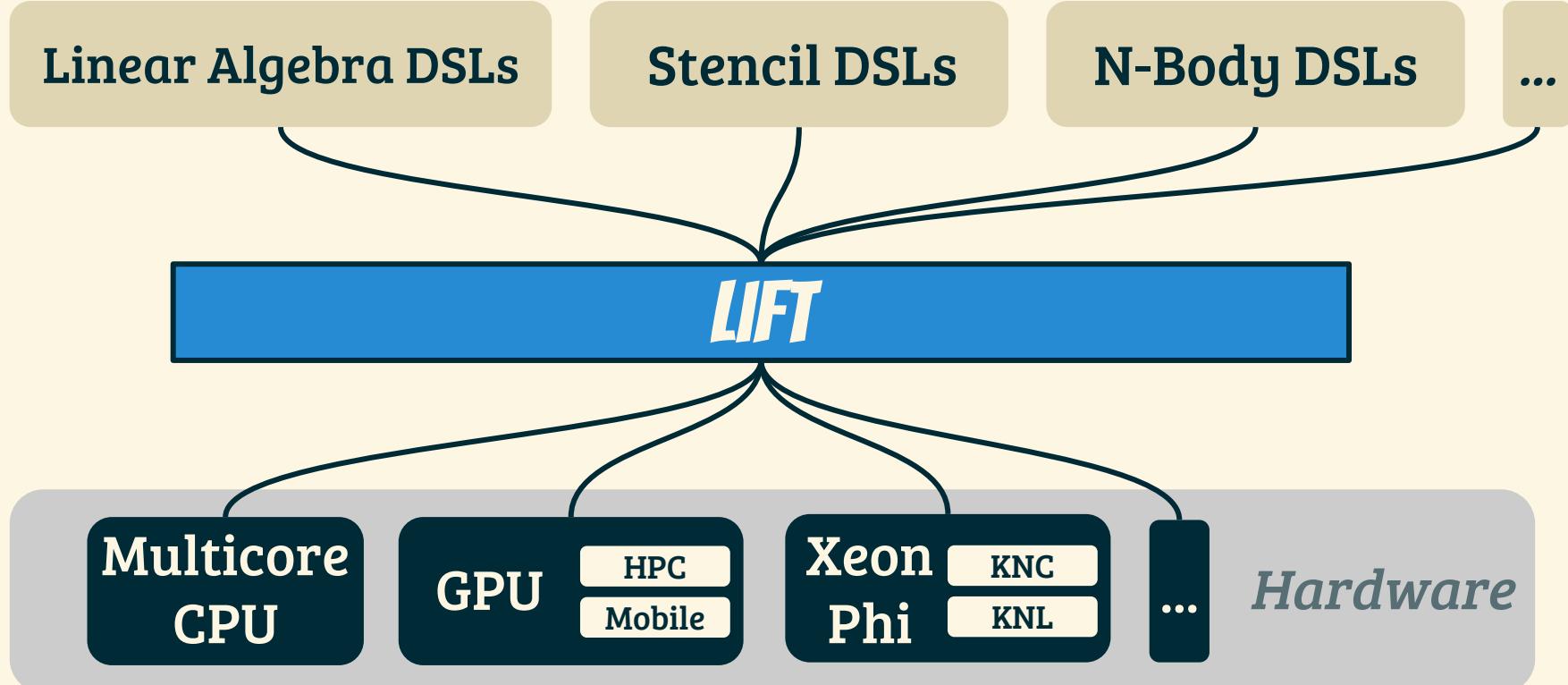
# ***EXPLOITING DOMAIN KNOWLEDGE***



# APPROACHING PERFORMANCE PORTABILITY



# APPROACHING PERFORMANCE PORTABILITY



**LIFT**

**DSL**

**DSL**

**DSL**

**Multicore  
CPU**

**GPU**

HPC  
Mobile

**Xeon  
Phi**

KNC  
KNL

...

*Hardware*

**LIFT**

DSL

DSL

DSL

High-Level IR

Multicore  
CPU

GPU

HPC  
Mobile

Xeon  
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KNC  
KNL

...

*Hardware*

**LIFT**

DSL

DSL

DSL

High-Level IR

Explore Optimizations  
by rewriting

[CASES'16]

Multicore  
CPU

GPU

HPC  
Mobile

Xeon  
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KNL

...

*Hardware*

**LIFT**

DSL

DSL

DSL

High-Level IR

Explore Optimizations  
by rewriting

[CASES'16]

Low-Level Program

Multicore  
CPU

GPU

HPC  
Mobile

Xeon  
Phi

KNC  
KNL

...

*Hardware*

LIFT

DSL

DSL

DSL

High-Level IR

Explore Optimizations  
by rewriting

[CASES'16]

Low-Level Program

Code Generation  
[CGO'17]

Multicore  
CPU

GPU

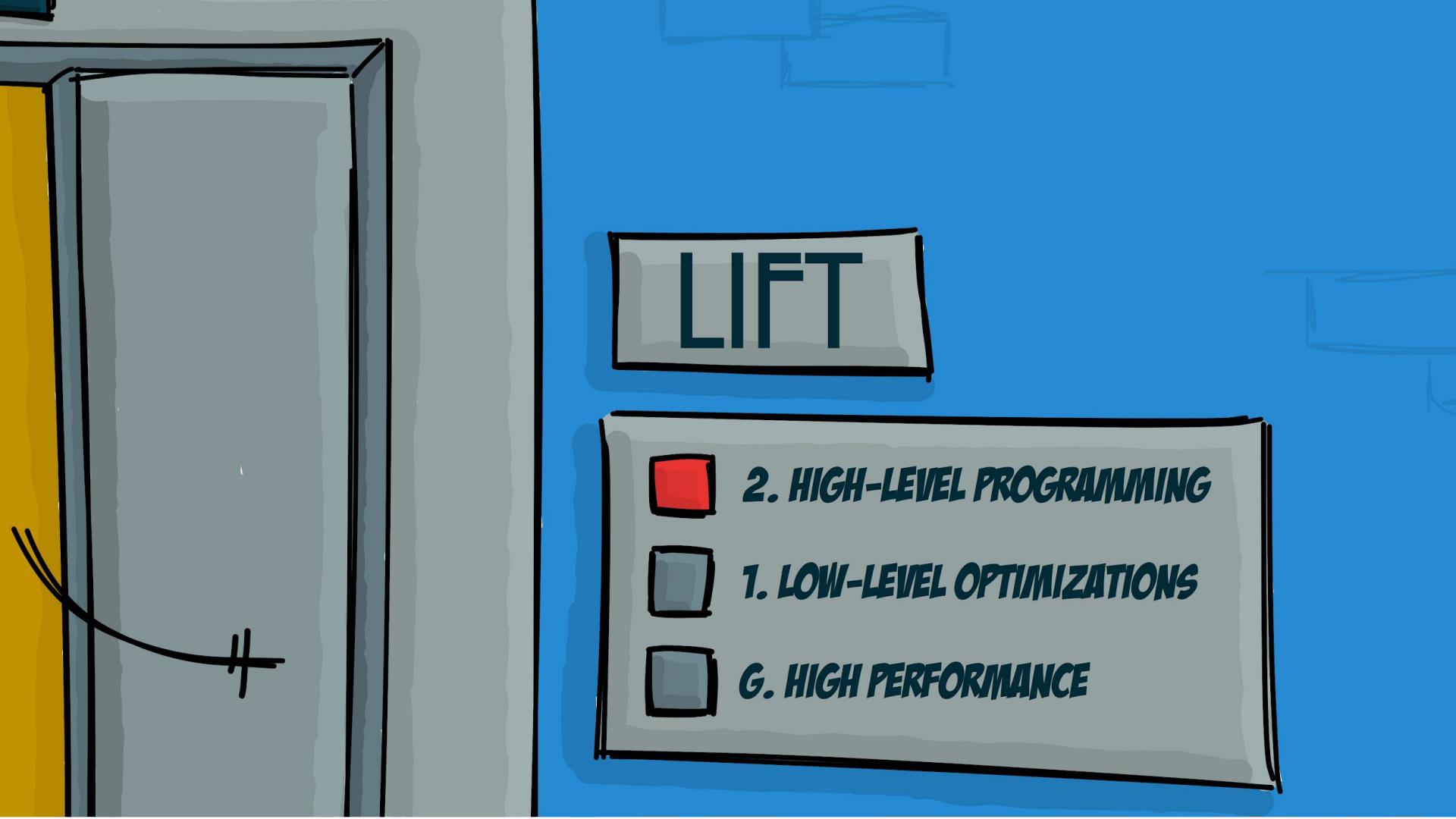
HPC  
Mobile

Xeon  
Phi

KNC  
KNL

...

Hardware



LIFT

2. HIGH-LEVEL PROGRAMMING

1. LOW-LEVEL OPTIMIZATIONS

G. HIGH PERFORMANCE

# LIFT'S HIGH-LEVEL PRIMITIVES

*map*( $\square \rightarrow \square$ ) 

*reduce*( $\oplus$ ) 

*split(n)* 

*join* 

*zip* 

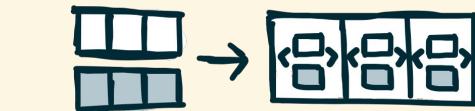
# LIFT'S HIGH-LEVEL PRIMITIVES

*map*( $\square \rightarrow \square$ ) 

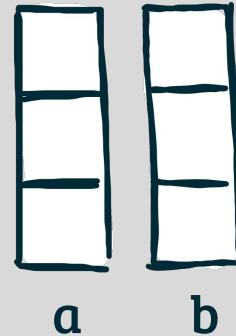
*reduce*( $\oplus$ ) 

*split(n)* 

*join* 

*zip* 

dotproduct.lift



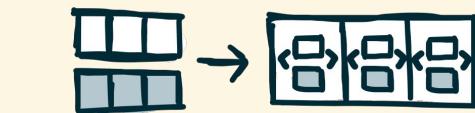
# LIFT'S HIGH-LEVEL PRIMITIVES

*map*( $\square \rightarrow \square$ ) 

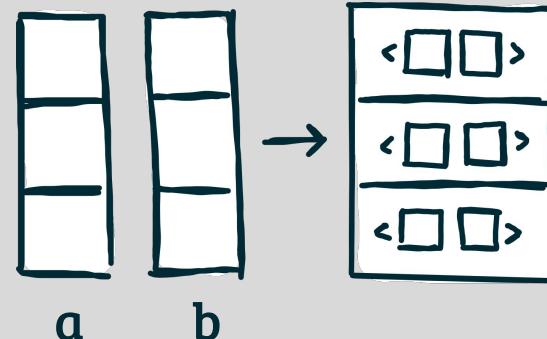
*reduce*( $\oplus$ ) 

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*zip* 

dotproduct.lift



*zip(a, b)*

# LIFT'S HIGH-LEVEL PRIMITIVES

*map*( $\square \rightarrow \square$ ) 

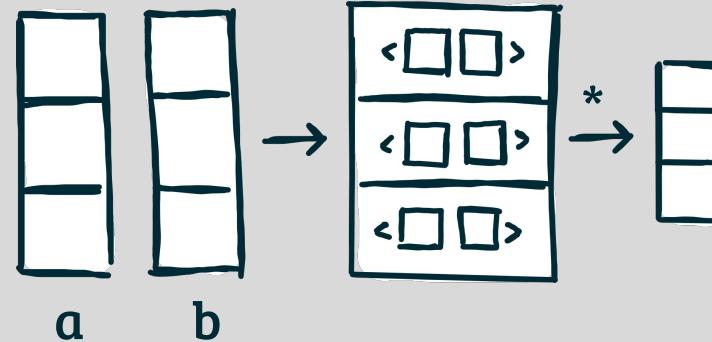
*reduce*( $\oplus$ ) 

*split(n)* 

*join* 

*zip* 

dotproduct.lift



*map(\*, zip(a,b))*

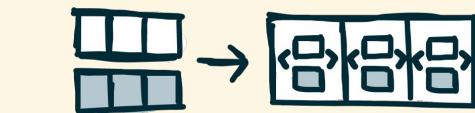
# LIFT'S HIGH-LEVEL PRIMITIVES

*map*( $\square \rightarrow \square$ ) 

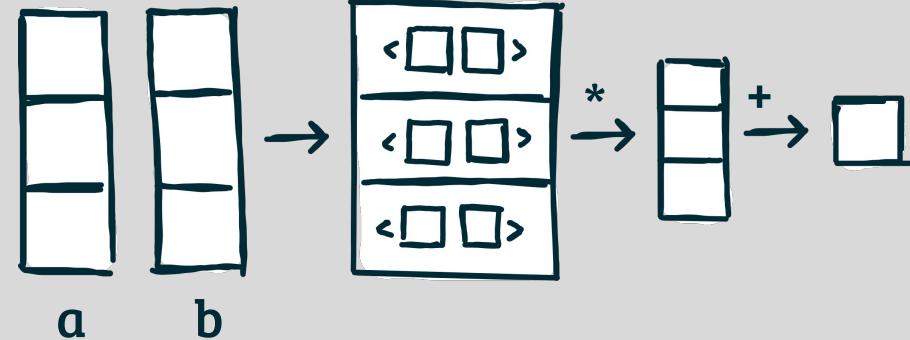
*reduce*( $\oplus$ ) 

*split(n)* 

*join* 

*zip* 

dotproduct.lift



*reduce*( $+$ ,  $0$ , *map*(\* , *zip*( $a$ ,  $b$ )))

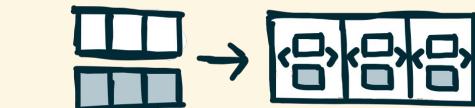
# LIFT'S HIGH-LEVEL PRIMITIVES

*map*( $\square \rightarrow \square$ ) 

*reduce*( $\oplus$ ) 

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*zip* 

stencil.lift?

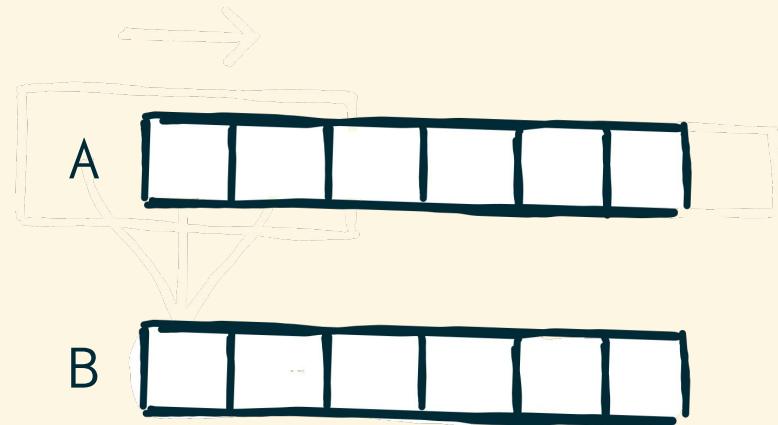
Can we express stencil computations in Lift?

Let's look at a simple stencil example...

# WHAT ARE STENCIL COMPUTATIONS?

## 3-point-stencil.c

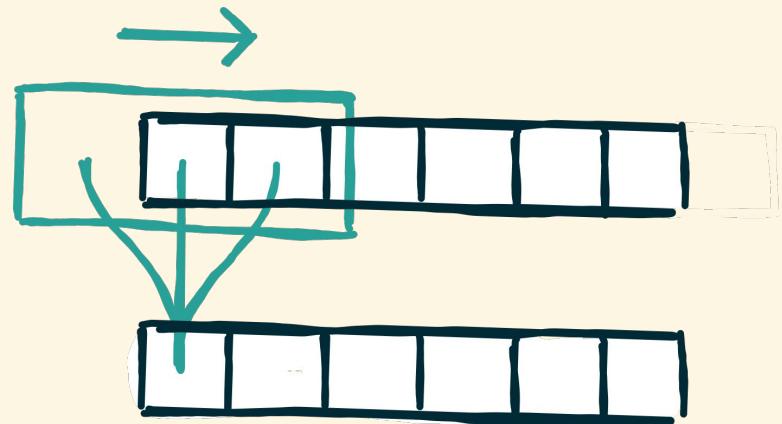
```
for (int i = 0; i < N ; i++) {  
    int sum = 0;  
    for ( int j = -1; j <= 1; j++) {  
        int pos = i + j;  
        pos = pos < 0 ? 0 : pos;  
        pos = pos > N - 1 ? N - 1 : pos;  
        sum += A[ pos ]; }  
    B[ i ] = sum ; }
```



# WHAT ARE STENCIL COMPUTATIONS?

## 3-point-stencil.c

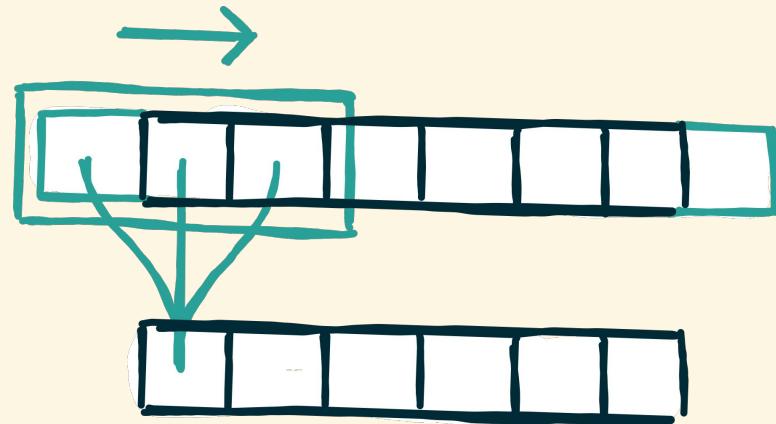
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```



# WHAT ARE STENCIL COMPUTATIONS?

## 3-point-stencil.c

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for (int i = 0; i < N ; i++) {  
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        pos = pos > N - 1 ? N - 1 : pos;  
        sum += A[ pos ]; }  
    B[ i ] = sum ; }
```



# STENCIL COMPUTATIONS IN LIFT

*map*( $\square \rightarrow \square$ ) 

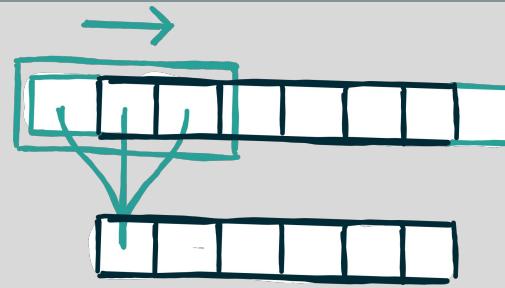
*reduce*( $\oplus$ ) 

*split(n)* 

*join* 

*zip* 

3-point-stencil.lift



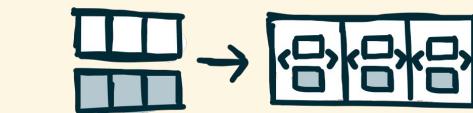
# STENCIL COMPUTATIONS IN LIFT

*map*( $\square \rightarrow \square$ ) 

*reduce*( $\oplus$ ) 

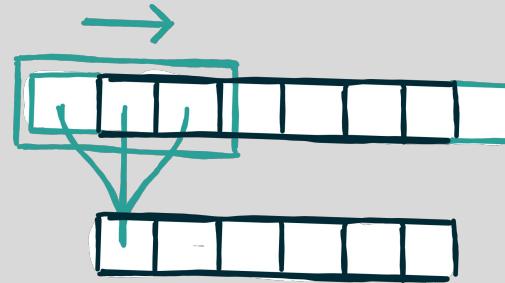
*split(n)* 

*join* 

*zip* 

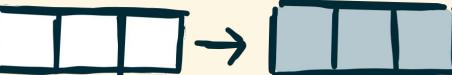
*stencil* 

3-point-stencil.lift



Add specialized primitive: Job done?

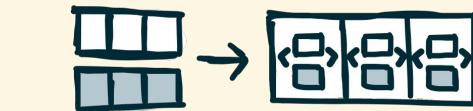
# STENCIL COMPUTATIONS IN LIFT

*map*( $\square \rightarrow \square$ )   $\rightarrow$  

*reduce*( $\oplus$ )   $\rightarrow$  

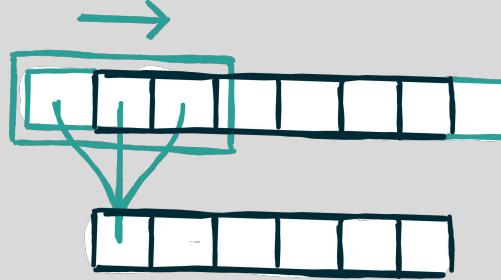
*split(n)*   $\rightarrow$  

*join*   $\rightarrow$  

*zip*   $\rightarrow$  

*stencil*   $\rightarrow$  

## 3-point-stencil.lift



Add specialized primitive: Job done?

🚫 **No Reuse**

*of existing primitives and optimizations*

🚫 **Domain-specific**

*rather than generic*

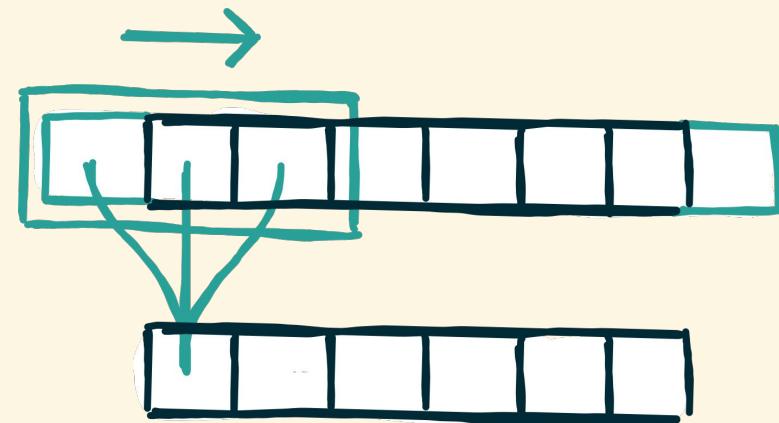
🚫 **Multidimensional?**

*is it composable?*

# DECOMPOSING STENCIL COMPUTATIONS

## 3-point-stencil.c

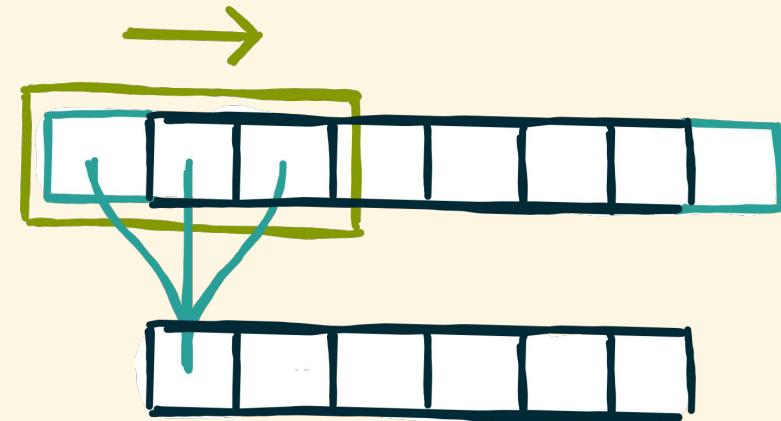
```
for (int i = 0; i < N ; i++) {  
    int sum = 0;  
    for ( int j = -1; j <= 1; j++) {  
        int pos = i + j;  
        pos = pos < 0 ? 0 : pos;  
        pos = pos > N - 1 ? N - 1 : pos;  
        sum += A[ pos ]; }  
    B[ i ] = sum ; }
```



# DECOMPOSING STENCIL COMPUTATIONS

## 3-point-stencil.c

```
for (int i = 0; i < N ; i++) {  
    int sum = 0;  
    for ( int j = -1; j <= 1; j++) { // ( a )  
        int pos = i + j;  
        pos = pos < 0 ? 0 : pos;  
        pos = pos > N - 1 ? N - 1 : pos;  
        sum += A[ pos ]; }  
    B[ i ] = sum ; }
```

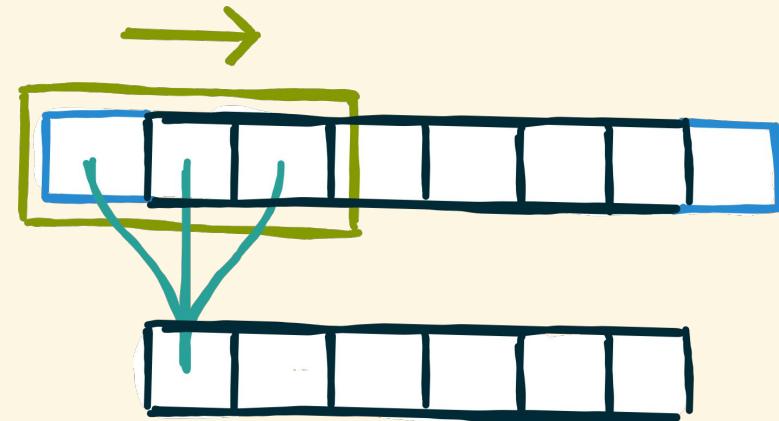


(a) access neighborhoods for every element

# DECOMPOSING STENCIL COMPUTATIONS

## 3-point-stencil.c

```
for (int i = 0; i < N ; i++) {  
    int sum = 0;  
    for ( int j = -1; j <= 1; j++) { // ( a )  
        int pos = i + j;  
        pos = pos < 0 ? 0 : pos;           // ( b )  
        pos = pos > N - 1 ? N - 1 : pos;  
        sum += A[ pos ]; }  
    B[ i ] = sum ; }
```

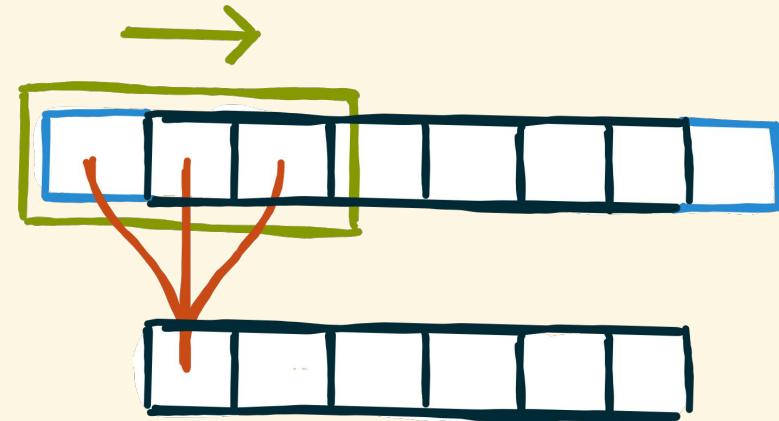


- (a) access neighborhoods for every element
- (b) specify boundary handling

# DECOMPOSING STENCIL COMPUTATIONS

## 3-point-stencil.c

```
for (int i = 0; i < N ; i++) {  
    int sum = 0;  
    for ( int j = -1; j <= 1; j++) { // ( a )  
        int pos = i + j;  
        pos = pos < 0 ? 0 : pos;           // ( b )  
        pos = pos > N - 1 ? N - 1 : pos;  
        sum += A[ pos ]; }               // ( c )  
    B[ i ] = sum ; }
```

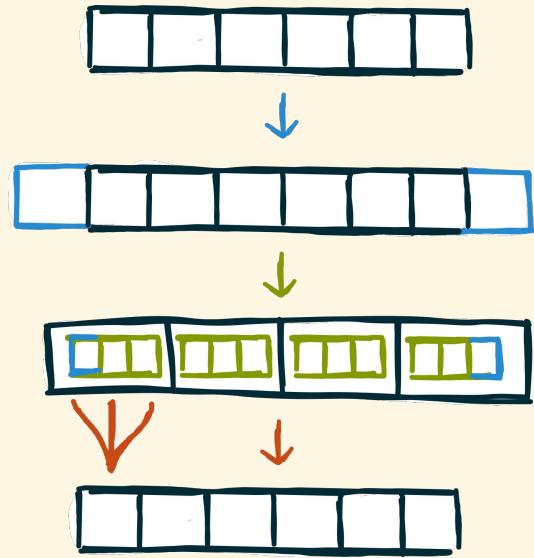


- (a) access neighborhoods for every element
- (b) specify boundary handling
- (c) apply stencil function to neighborhoods

# DECOMPOSING STENCIL COMPUTATIONS

## 3-point-stencil.c

```
for (int i = 0; i < N ; i++) {  
    int sum = 0;  
    for ( int j = -1; j <= 1; j++) { // ( a )  
        int pos = i + j;  
        pos = pos < 0 ? 0 : pos;           // ( b )  
        pos = pos > N - 1 ? N - 1 : pos;  
        sum += A[ pos ]; }               // ( c )  
  
    B[ i ] = sum ; }
```

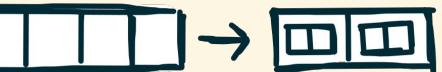


- (a) access neighborhoods for every element
- (b) specify boundary handling
- (c) apply stencil function to neighborhoods

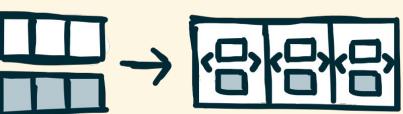
# STENCIL COMPUTATIONS IN LIFT

*map*( $\square \rightarrow \square$ ) 

*reduce*( $\oplus$ ) 

*split(n)* 

*join* 

*zip* 

3-point-stencil.lift



$\downarrow ???$



$\downarrow ???$



$\swarrow$

$\downarrow ???$



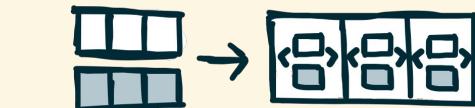
# STENCIL COMPUTATIONS IN LIFT

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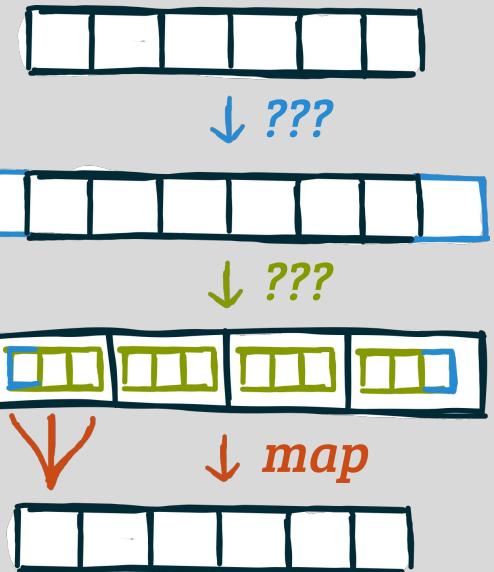
*split(n)* 

*join* 

*zip* 

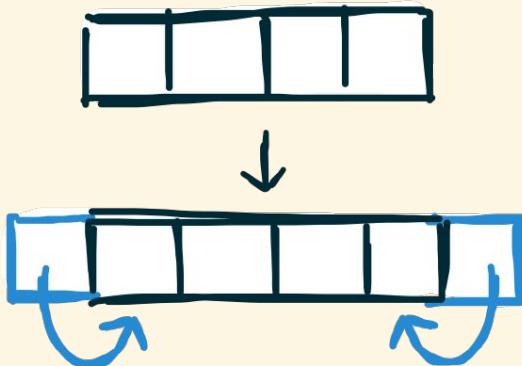
## 3-point-stencil.lift

- ✓ **Reuse map**  
*allows to reuse existing rewrite rules*
- ✓ **Simplicity**  
*one primitive per task*
- ✓ **Multidimensional**  
*easily composable*

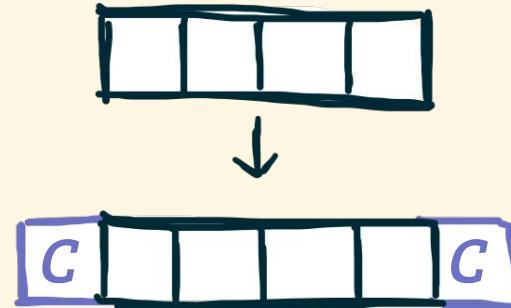


# BOUNDARY HANDLING USING PAD

*pad ( reindexing )*



*pad ( constant )*



**pad-reindexing.lift**

```
clamp(i, n) = (i < 0) ? 0 :  
((i >= n) ? n-1:i)
```

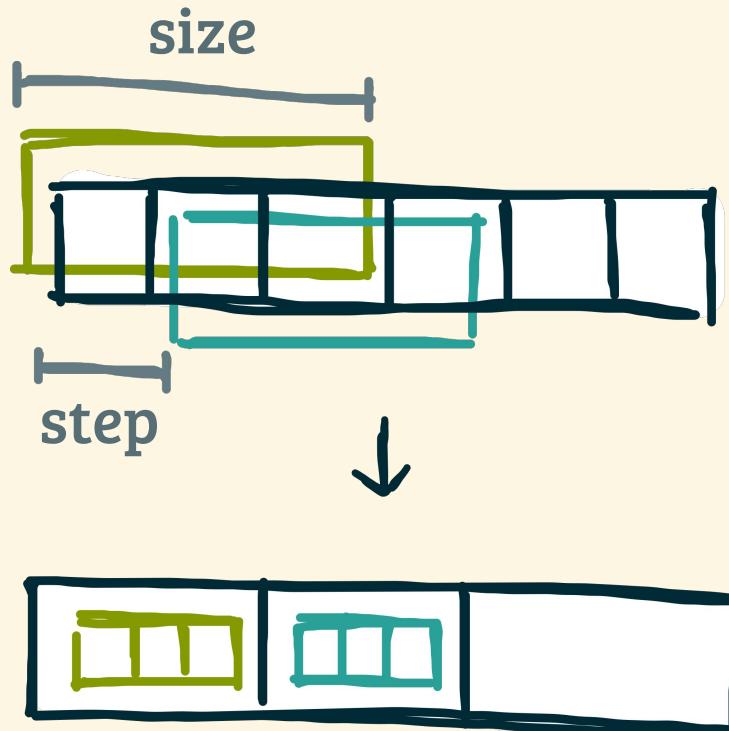
```
pad(1,1,clamp, [a,b,c,d]) =  
[a,a,b,c,d,d]
```

**pad-constant.lift**

```
constant(i, n) = C
```

```
pad(1,1,constant, [a,b,c,d]) =  
[C,a,b,c,d,C]
```

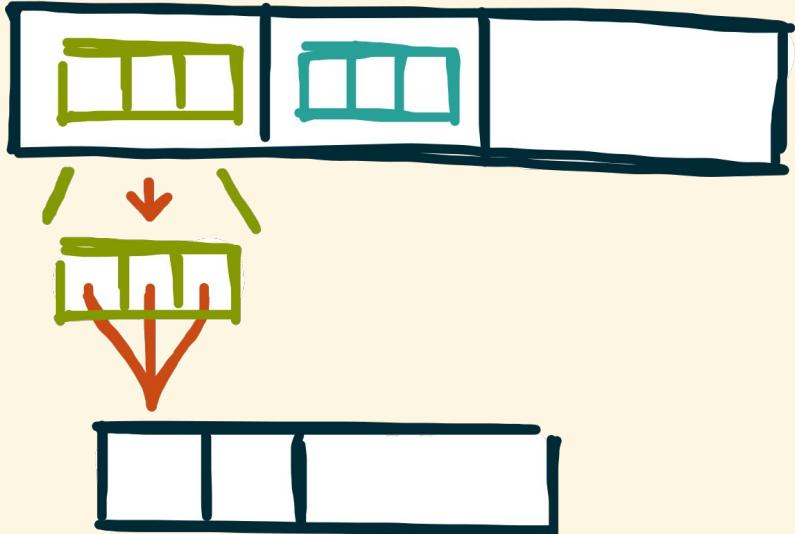
# NEIGHBORHOOD CREATION USING SLIDE



slide-example.lift

```
slide(3,1,[a,b,c,d,e]) =  
[[a,b,c],[b,c,d],[c,d,e]]
```

# APPLYING STENCIL FUNCTION USING MAP



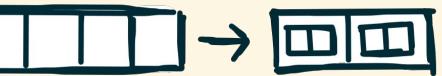
sum-neighborhoods.lift

```
map(nbh =>  
    reduce(add, 0.0f, nbh))
```

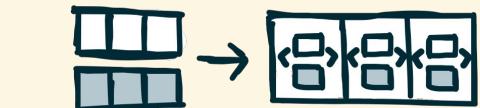
# PUTTING IT TOGETHER

*map*( $\square \rightarrow \square$ ) 

*reduce*( $\oplus$ ) 

*split*( $n$ ) 

*join* 

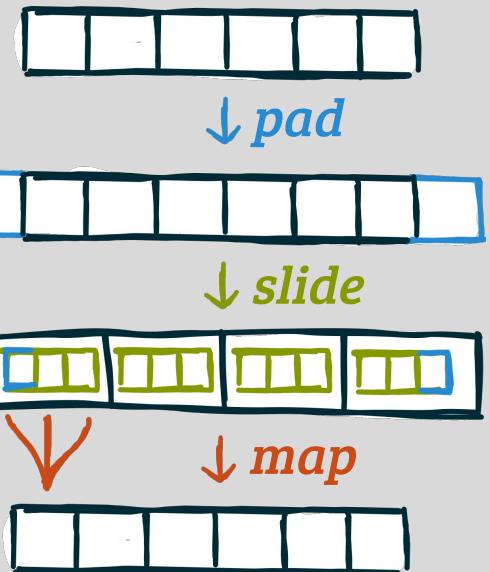
*zip* 

*pad*( $l,r,b$ ) 

*slide*( $n,s$ ) 

stencil1D.lift

```
def stencil1D =  
  fun(A =>  
    map(reduce(add, 0.0f),  
        slide(3,1,  
              pad(1,1,clamp,A))))
```



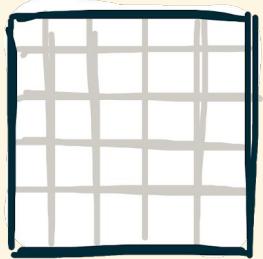
# **MULTIDIMENSIONAL STENCIL COMPUTATIONS**

are expressed as compositions of intuitive, generic 1D primitives

*Decompose to Re-Compose*

# MULTIDIMENSIONAL STENCIL COMPUTATIONS

are expressed as compositions of intuitive, generic 1D primitives

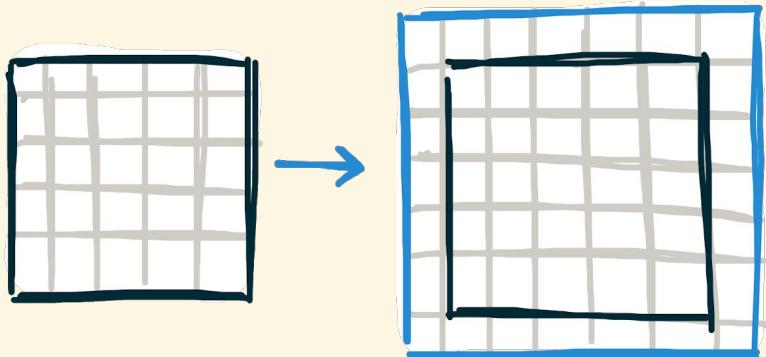


Decompose to Re-Compose

# MULTIDIMENSIONAL STENCIL COMPUTATIONS

are expressed as compositions of intuitive, generic 1D primitives

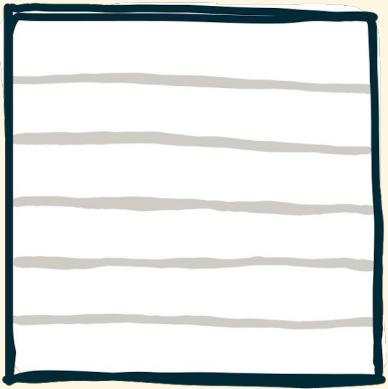
Decompose to Re-Compose



`pad2(1, 1, clamp, input)`

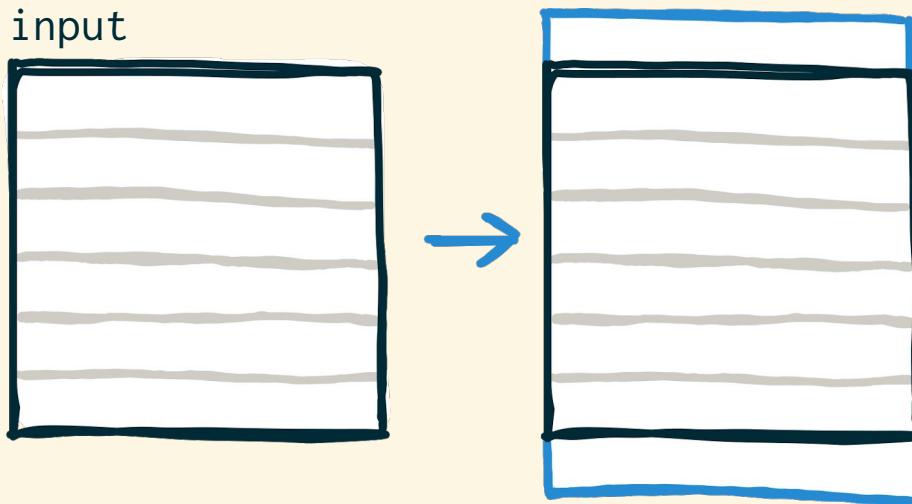
# MULTIDIMENSIONAL BOUNDARY HANDLING USING $pad_2$

input



$pad_2 =$

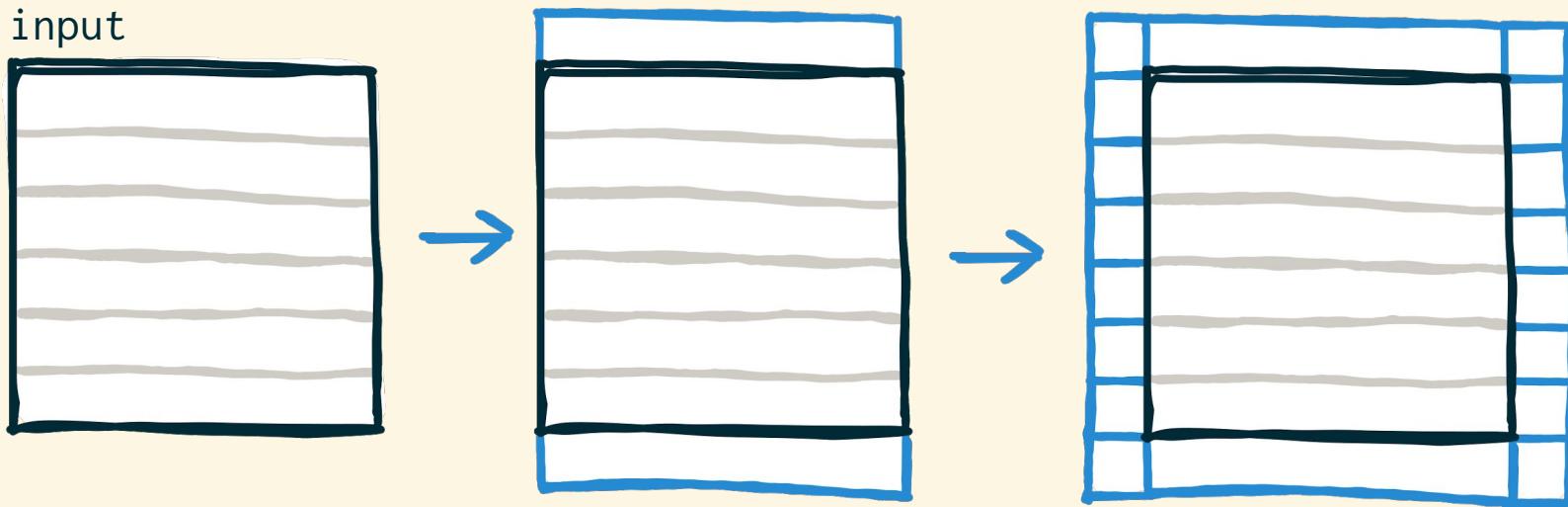
# MULTIDIMENSIONAL BOUNDARY HANDLING USING $pad_2$



$pad_2 =$

$pad(1, r, b, \text{input})$

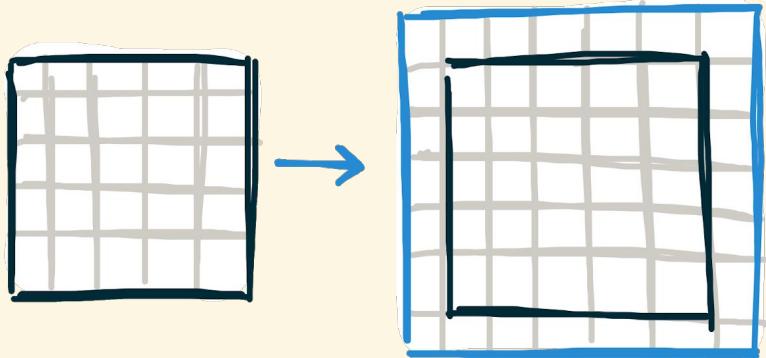
# MULTIDIMENSIONAL BOUNDARY HANDLING USING $\text{PAD}_2$


$$\text{pad}_2 = \text{map}(\text{pad}(l, r, b, \text{pad}(l, r, b, \text{input})))$$

# MULTIDIMENSIONAL STENCIL COMPUTATIONS

are expressed as compositions of intuitive, generic 1D primitives

Decompose to Re-Compose

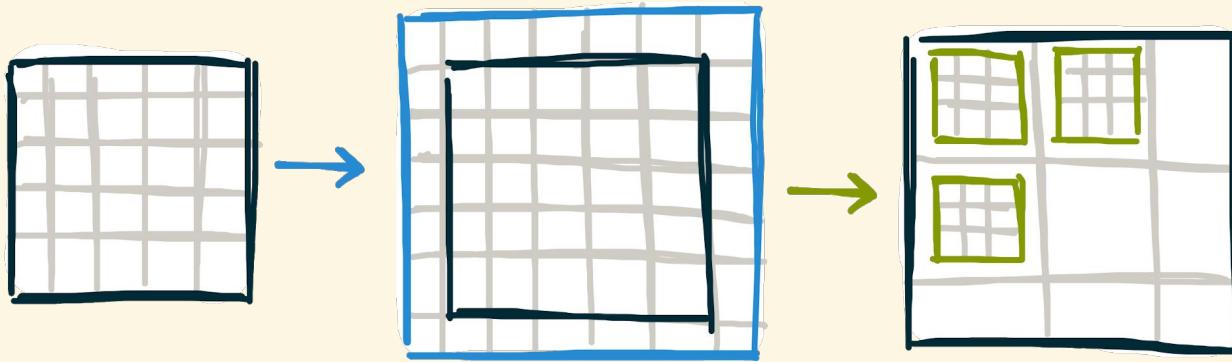


$pad_2(1, 1, clamp, input)$

# MULTIDIMENSIONAL STENCIL COMPUTATIONS

are expressed as compositions of intuitive, generic 1D primitives

Decompose to Re-Compose

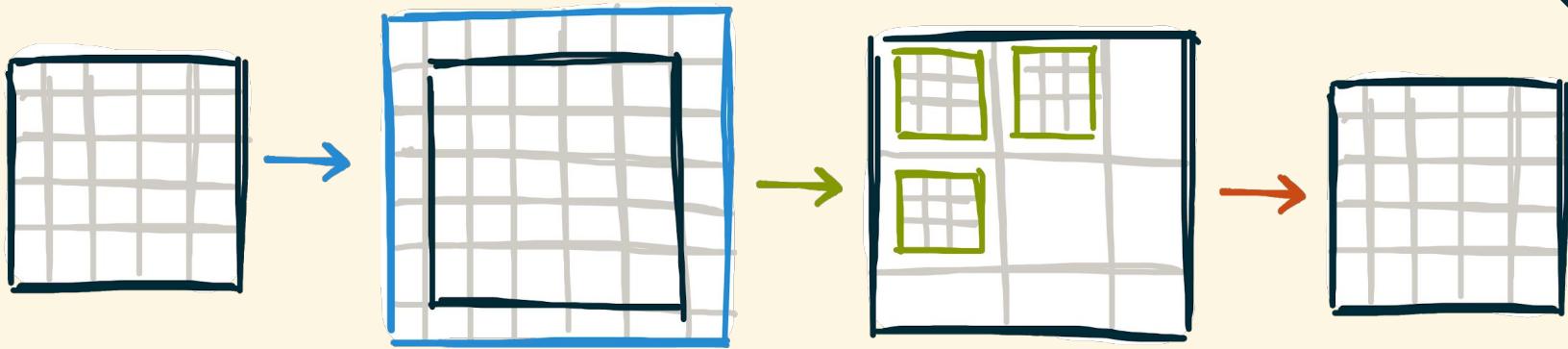


*slide<sub>2</sub>(3,1, pad<sub>2</sub>(1,1,clamp,input))*

# MULTIDIMENSIONAL STENCIL COMPUTATIONS

are expressed as compositions of intuitive, generic 1D primitives

Decompose to Re-Compose

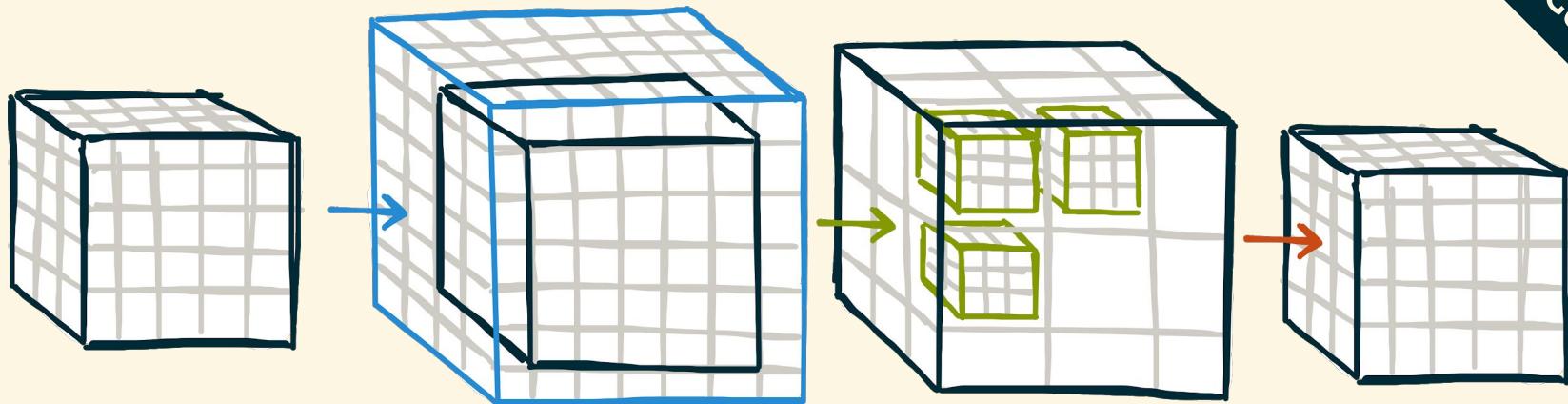


$\text{map}_2(\text{sum}, \text{slide}_2(3,1, \text{pad}_2(1,1, \text{clamp}, \text{input})))$

# MULTIDIMENSIONAL STENCIL COMPUTATIONS

are expressed as compositions of intuitive, generic 1D primitives

Decompose to Re-Compose

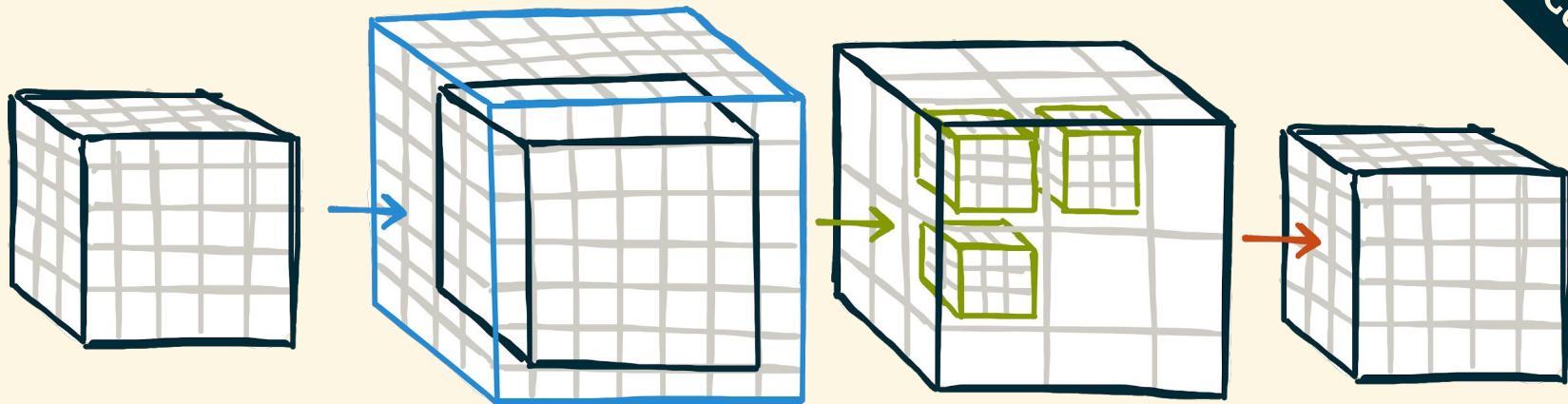


$\text{map}_3(\text{sum}, \text{slide}_3(3,1, \text{pad}_3(1,1, \text{clamp}, \text{input})))$

# MULTIDIMENSIONAL STENCIL COMPUTATIONS

are expressed as compositions of intuitive, generic 1D primitives

Decompose to Re-Compose



$\text{map}_3(\text{sum}, \text{slide}_3(3,1, \text{pad}_3(1,1, \text{clamp}, \text{input})))$

Advantages:



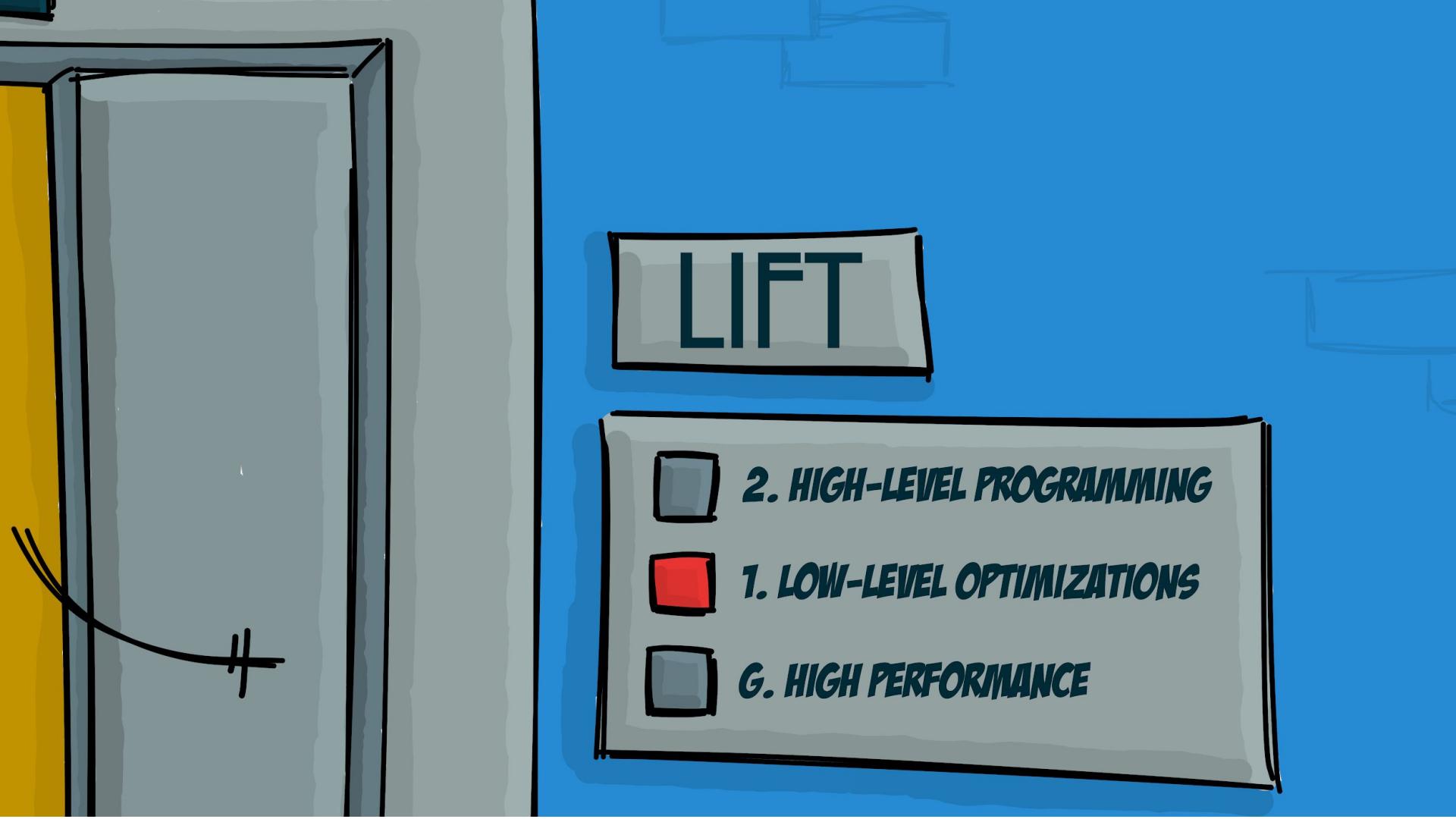
Compact Language



Reuse Rewrites



Simple Compilation



LIFT

2. HIGH-LEVEL PROGRAMMING

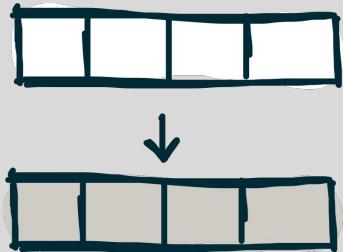
1. LOW-LEVEL OPTIMIZATIONS

G. HIGH PERFORMANCE

# **REUSING EXISTING REWRITE RULES**

Divide & Conquer

*map(f, A)*



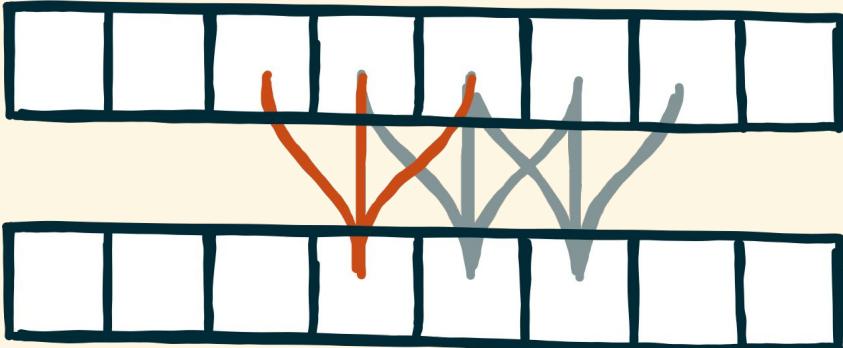
# REUSING EXISTING REWRITE RULES

## Divide & Conquer

$map(f, A) \rightarrow join(map(map(f), split(n, A)))$



# OPTIMIZATION: OVERLAPPED TILING



## Exploit Locality

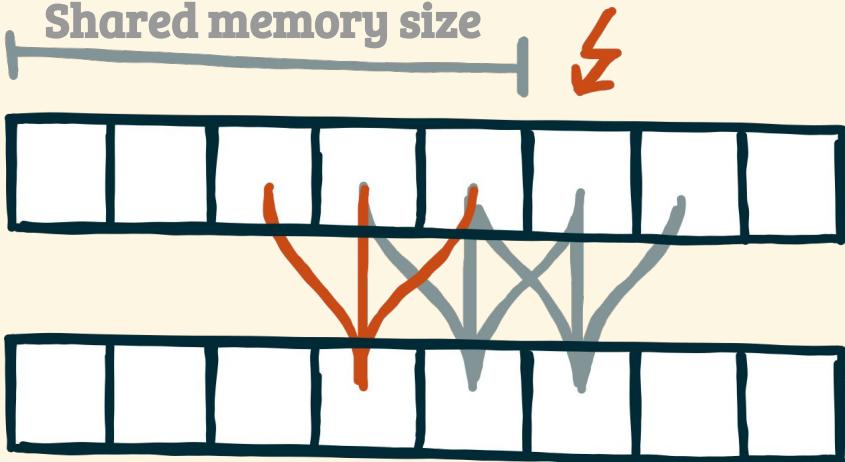
*Close neighborhoods share elements that can be grouped in tiles*



## Shared Memory

*Fast memory can be used to cache tiles*

# OPTIMIZATION: OVERLAPPED TILING



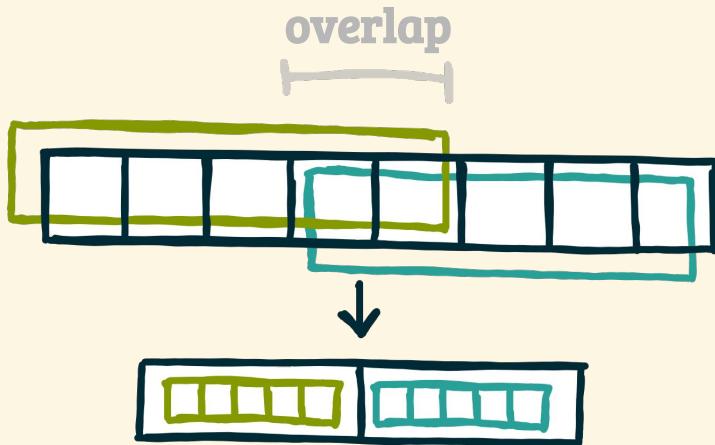
## Exploit Locality

*Close neighborhoods share elements that can be grouped in tiles*

## Shared Memory

*Fast memory can be used to cache tiles*

# OPTIMIZATION: OVERLAPPED TILING



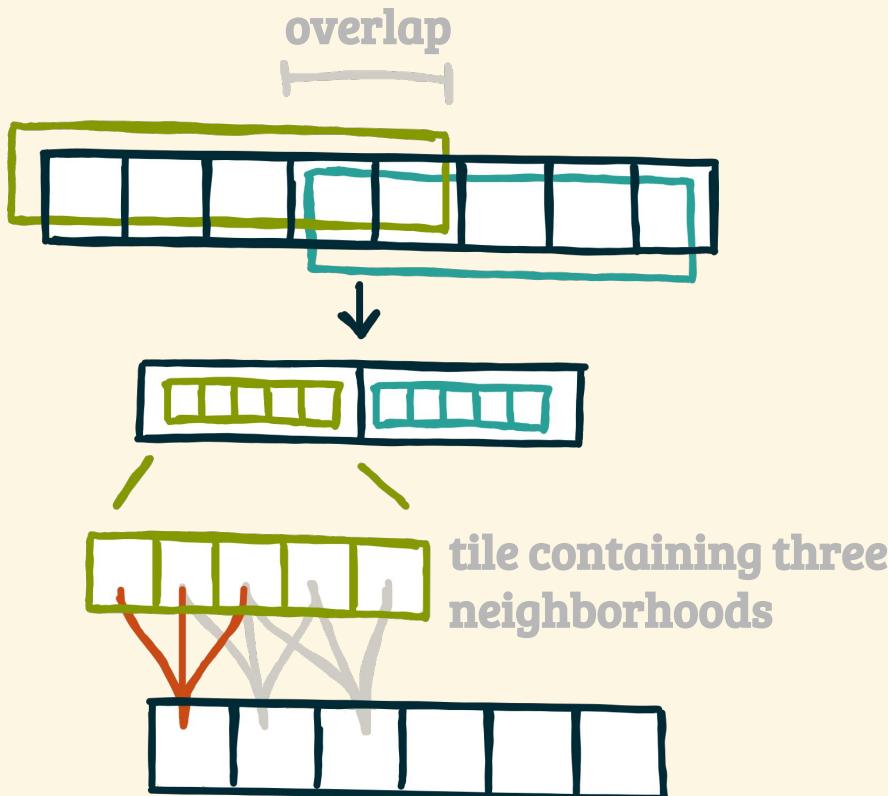
## ✓ Exploit Locality

*Close neighborhoods share elements that can be grouped in tiles*

## ✓ Shared Memory

*Fast memory can be used to cache tiles*

# OPTIMIZATION: OVERLAPPED TILING



## ✓ Exploit Locality

*Close neighborhoods share elements that can be grouped in tiles*

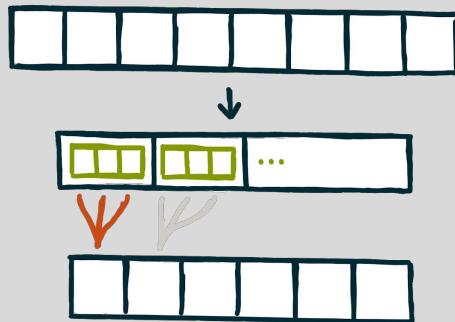
## ✓ Shared Memory

*Fast memory can be used to cache tiles*

# OVERLAPPED TILING AS A REWRITE RULE

overlapped tiling rule

`map(f, slide(3,1,input))`



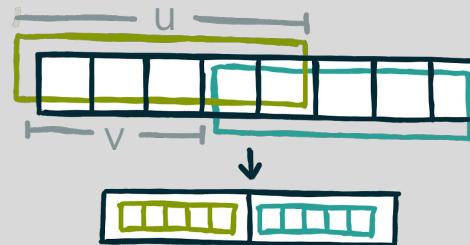
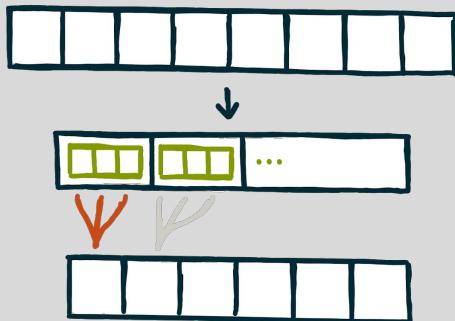
# OVERLAPPED TILING AS A REWRITE RULE

overlapped tiling rule

$\text{map}(f, \text{slide}(3, 1, \text{input}))$



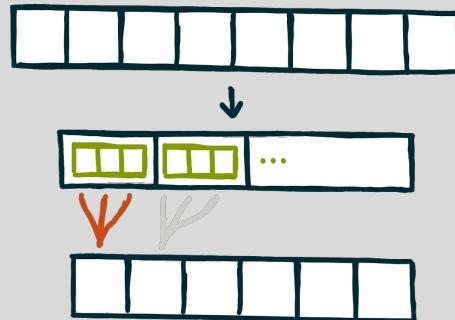
$\text{slide}(u, v, \text{input})$



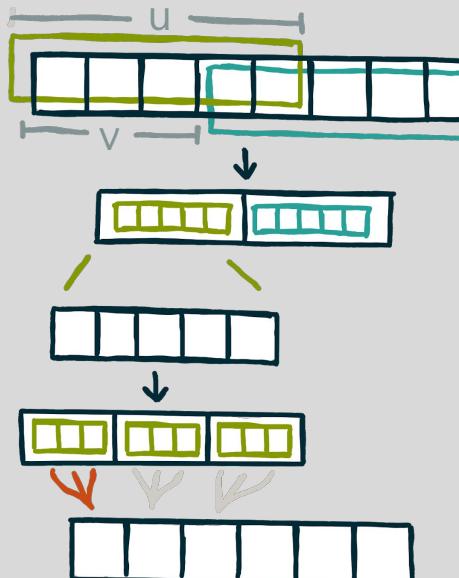
# OVERLAPPED TILING AS A REWRITE RULE

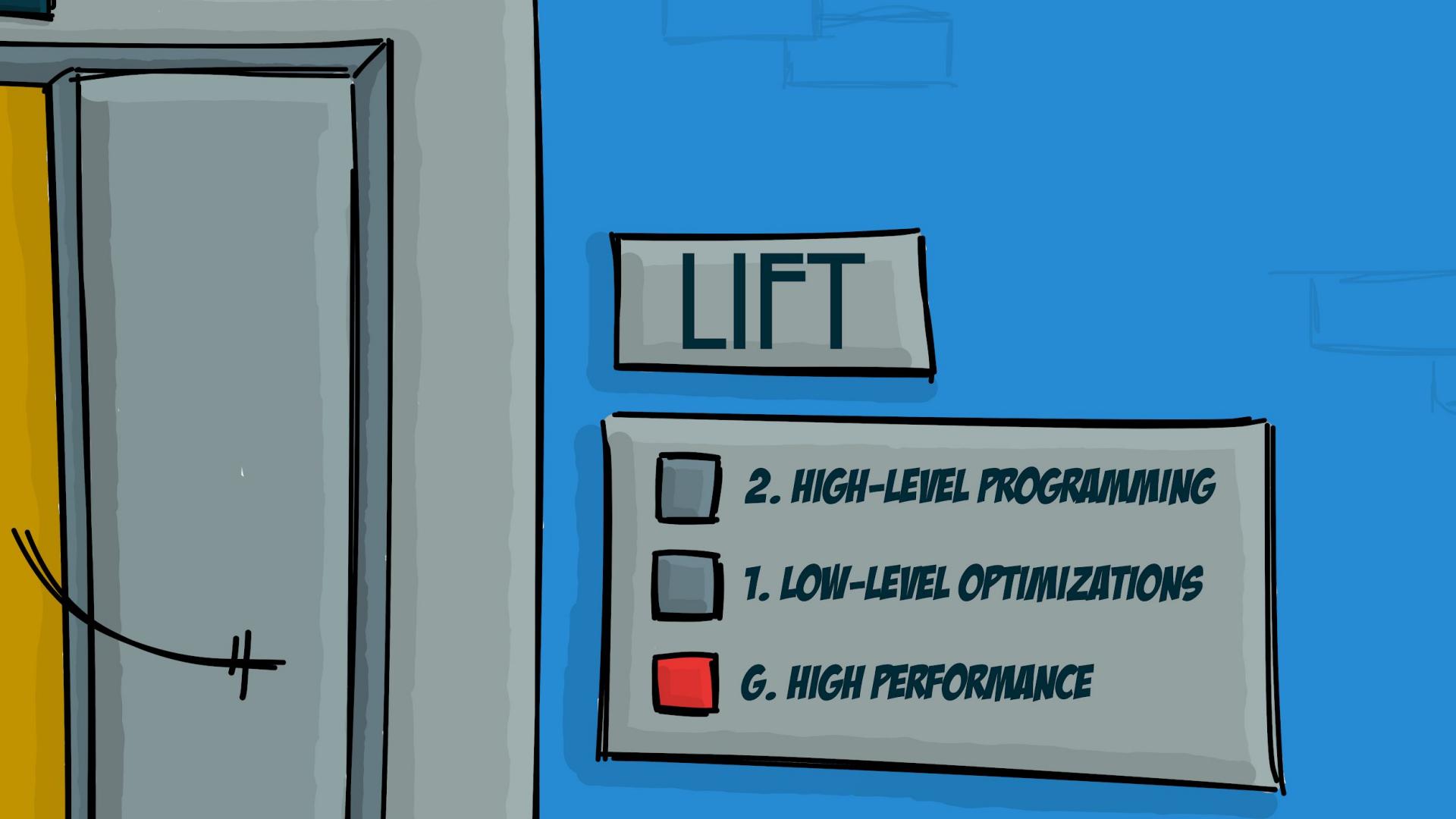
overlapped tiling rule

$\text{map}(f, \text{slide}(3,1,\text{input}))$



$\text{join}(\text{map}(\text{tile} \Rightarrow$   
 $\text{map}(f, \text{slide}(3,1,\text{tile})),$   
 $\text{slide}(u,v,\text{input})))$





LIFT

2. HIGH-LEVEL PROGRAMMING

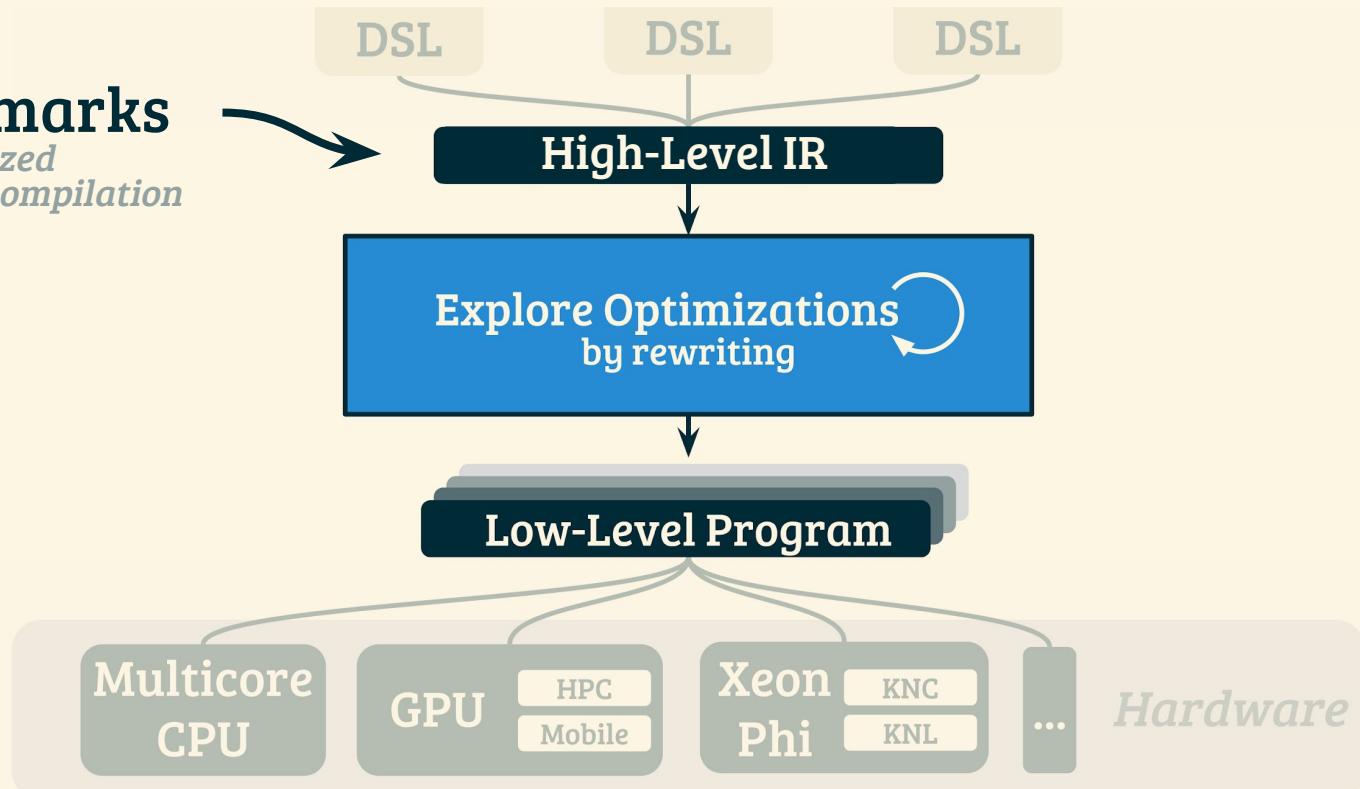
1. LOW-LEVEL OPTIMIZATIONS

G. HIGH PERFORMANCE

# EXPERIMENTAL EVALUATION



**14 Benchmarks**  
*6 hand-optimized  
8 polyhedral compilation*



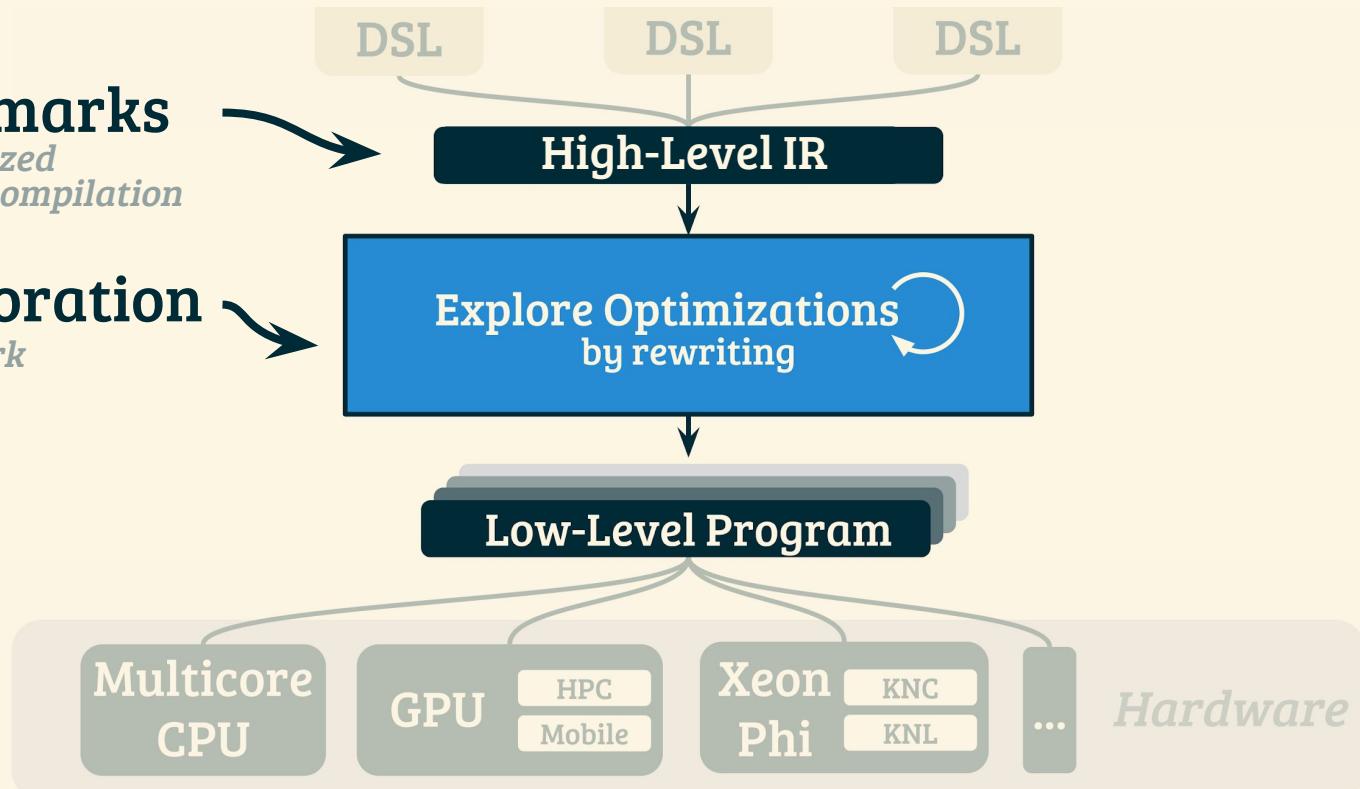
# EXPERIMENTAL EVALUATION



**14 Benchmarks**  
*6 hand-optimized  
8 polyhedral compilation*



**< 3h Exploration**  
*per benchmark*



# EXPERIMENTAL EVALUATION



**14 Benchmarks**

*6 hand-optimized  
8 polyhedral compilation*



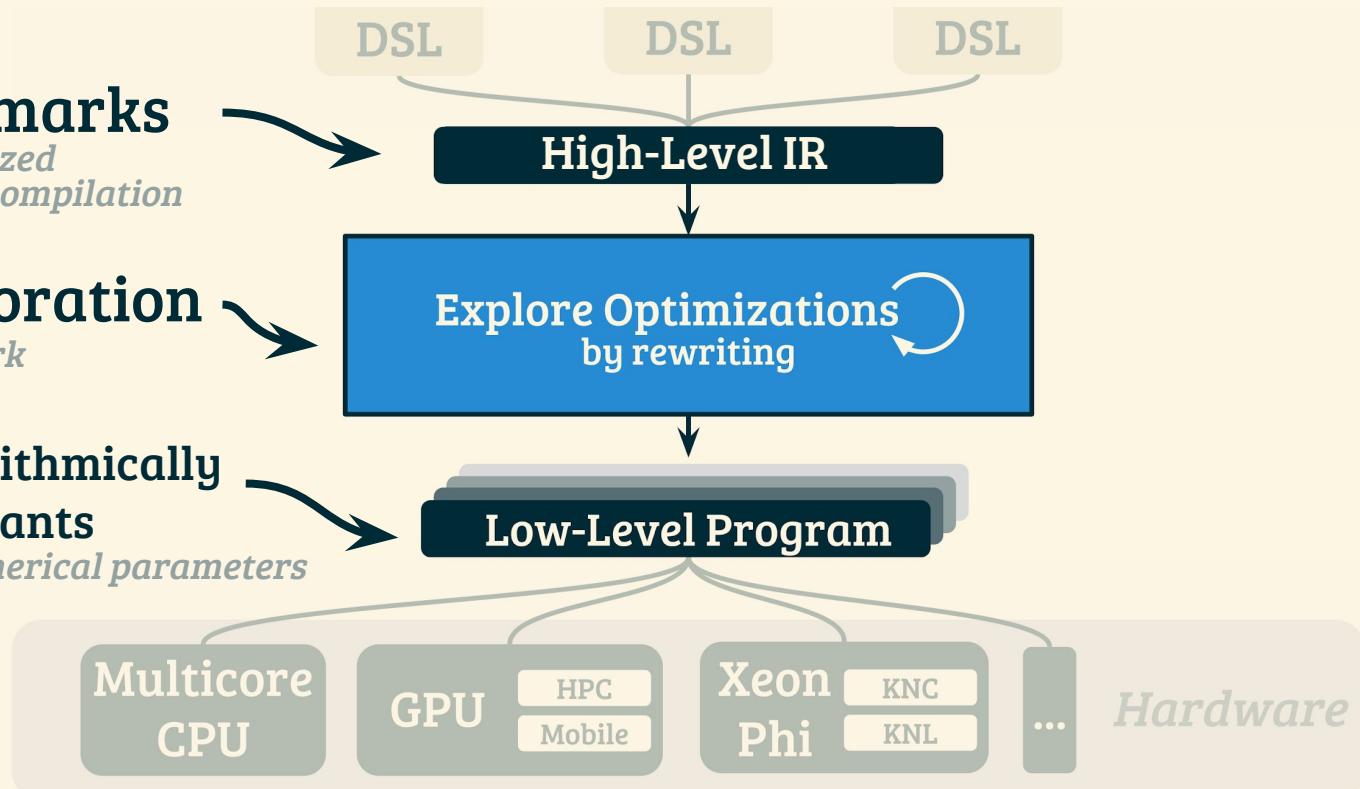
**< 3h Exploration**

*per benchmark*



**up to 20 algorithmically  
different variants**

*+ auto-tuning of numerical parameters*



# EXPERIMENTAL EVALUATION



## 14 Benchmarks

*6 hand-optimized  
8 polyhedral compilation*



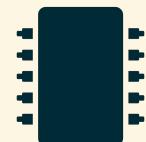
## < 3h Exploration

*per benchmark*



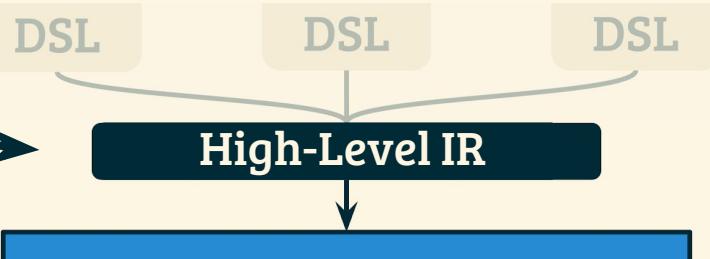
## up to 20 algorithmically different variants

*+ auto-tuning of numerical parameters*



## 3 GPU Architectures

*2 Desktop GPUs  
1 Mobile GPU*



GPU

HPC  
Mobile

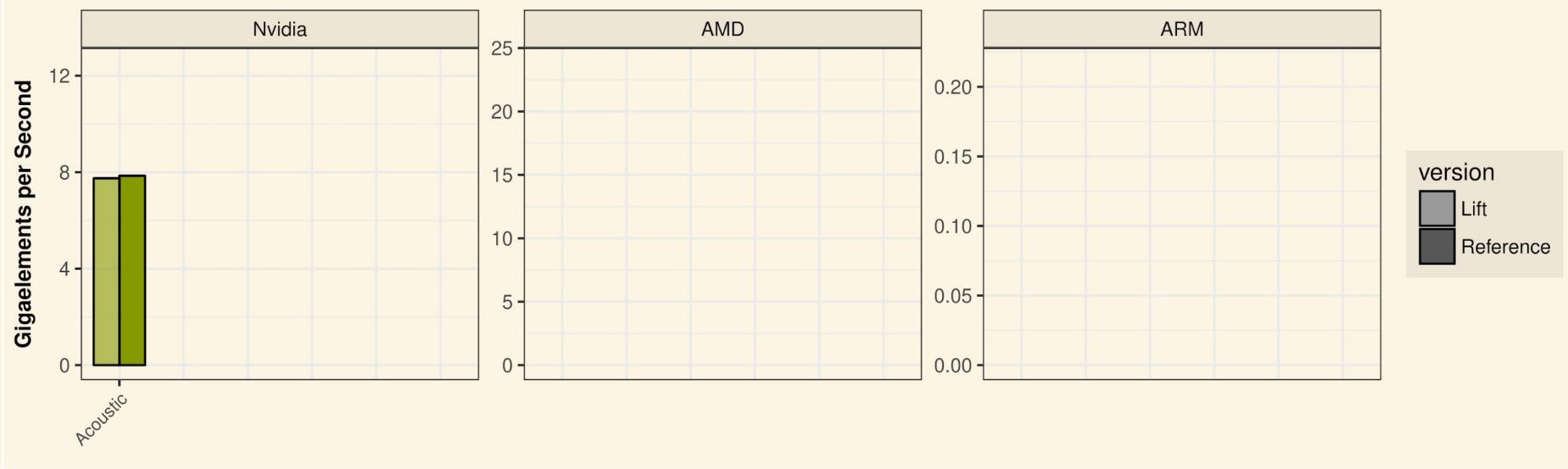
Xeon  
Phi

KNC  
KNL

Hardware

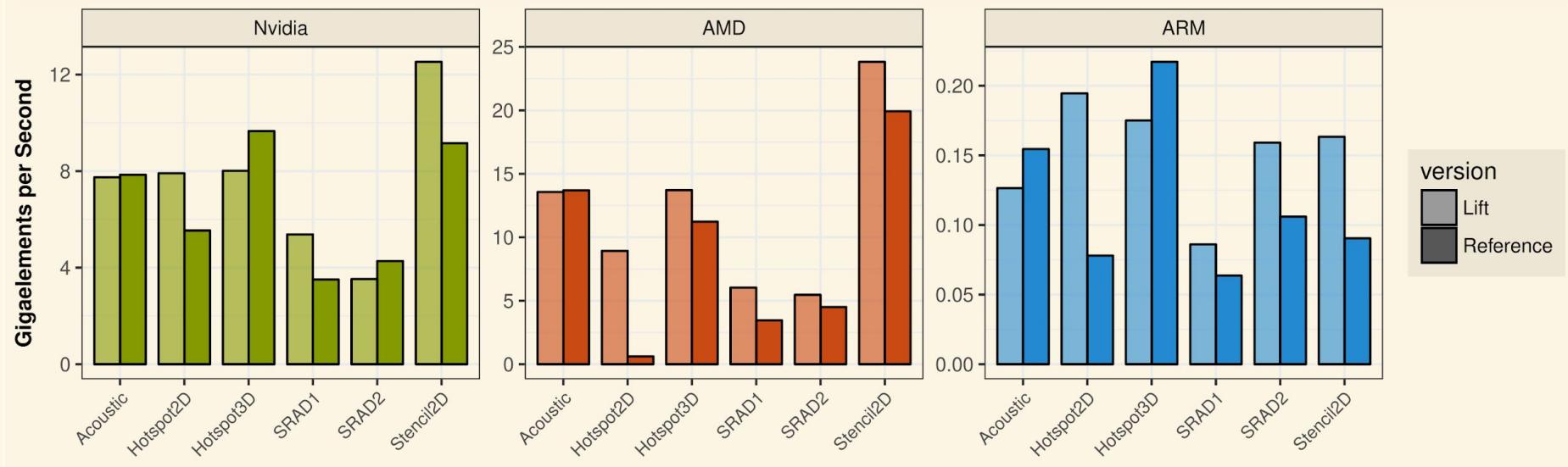
# ***COMPARISON WITH HAND-OPTIMIZED CODES***

**higher is better**



# COMPARISON WITH HAND-OPTIMIZED CODES

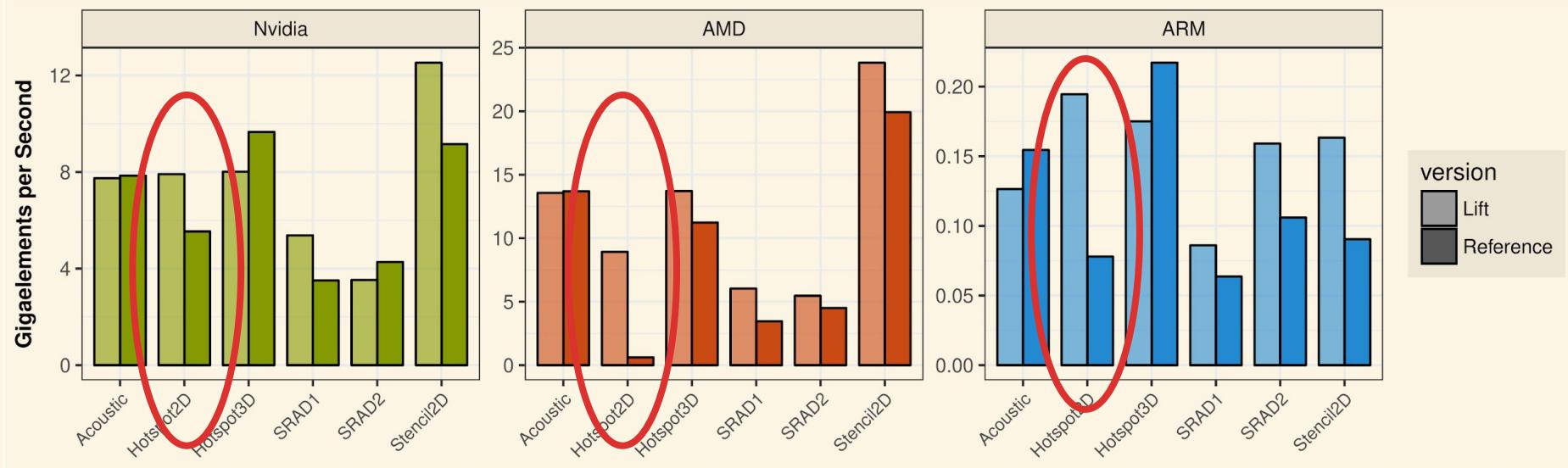
higher is better



Lift achieves the same performance  
as hand optimized code

# COMPARISON WITH HAND-OPTIMIZED CODES

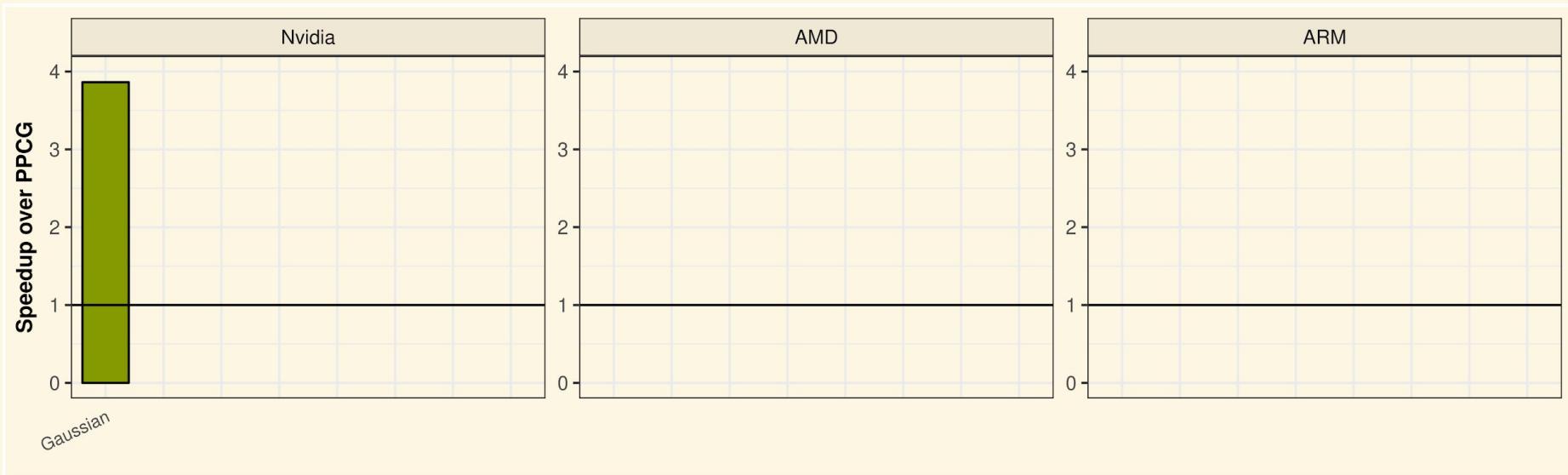
higher is better



Lift achieves the same performance  
as hand optimized code

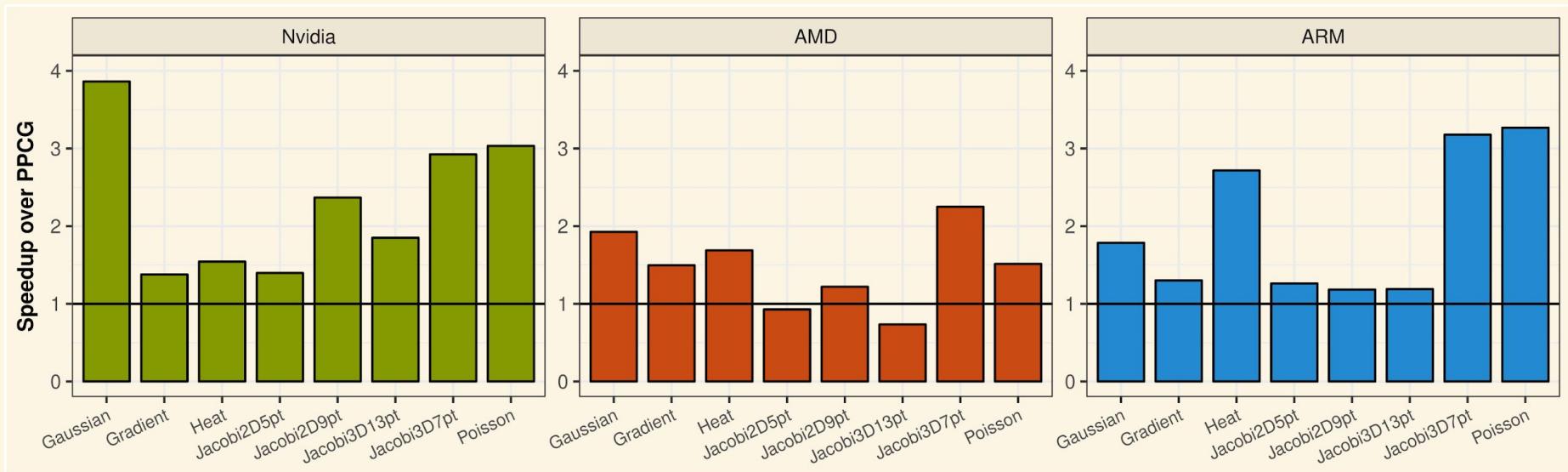
# ***COMPARISON WITH POLYHEDRAL COMPIRATION***

higher is better



# ***COMPARISON WITH POLYHEDRAL COMPILATION***

**higher is better**



**Lift outperforms state-of-the-art  
optimizing compilers**

# STENCIL COMPUTATIONS IN LIFT

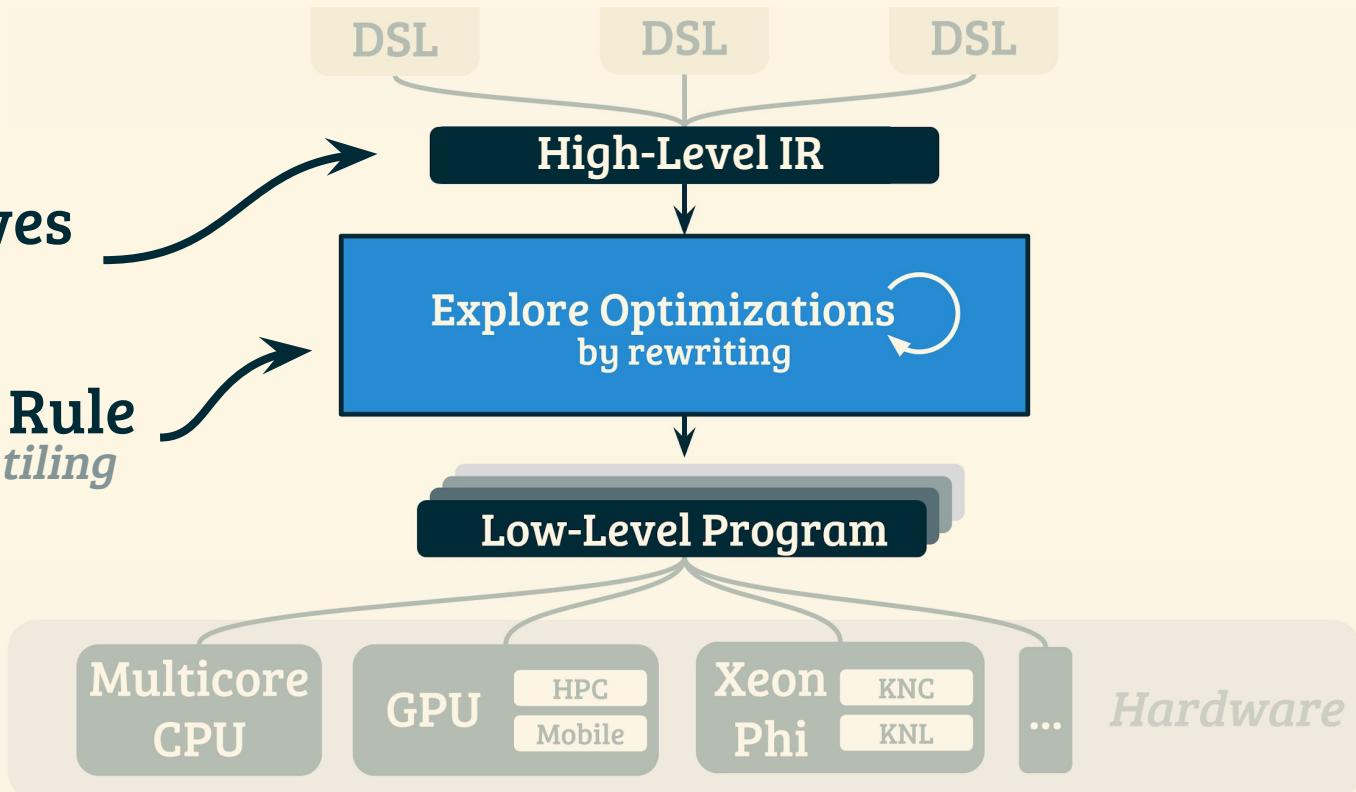
We added:



2 Primitives  
*pad, slide*



1 Rewrite Rule  
*overlapped tiling*



# LIFT IS OPEN SOURCE!



more info at:

# lift-project.org

” Paper



CGO Artifact



Source Code



Best Paper Award (CGO'18)

Bastian Hagedorn: [b.hagedorn@wwu.de](mailto:b.hagedorn@wwu.de)

TO BE CONTINUED...