Introduction to CUDA and OpenCL Lab 4 report

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Introduction

The fourth lab was about grid processing configuration methods, managed memory, error handling and first implementation of the matrix multiplication algorithm. We have gotten many code samples, which included mismatch and stride-grid techniques, managed memory, error wrapper, matrix multiplication for both strategies of memory handling. We had been obligated to analyse them and prepare own error wrapper.

Results and conclusions

Firstly, we prepared the error wrapper - the simple function receiving the result of the Cuda API method and a message to print in the error case. It helps to organize code and increase transparency.

Analysing the mismatch and the stride-gride examples we concluded, that the first method is overall worse. In the mismatch, we have to define the dimensions of the grid depending on the data size. The use of the stride-grid technique allows us to keep the fixed size grid. If the logical threads are less than the data size requires, the mismatch technique will fail.

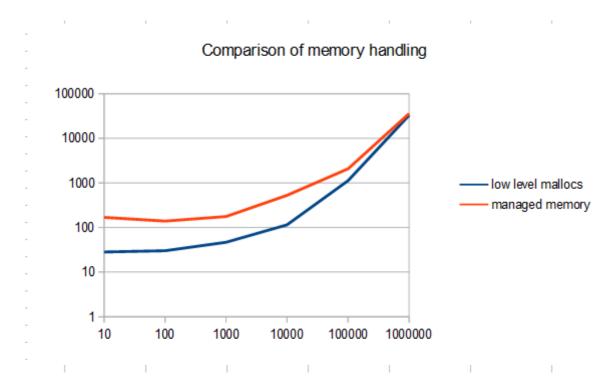
We created a program for processing configuration methods and then we wrote a complex script that used nvprof command to obtain execution time. We ran the program for various dimensions of blocks (rows) and grid(columns) ten times for each configuration (about 1500 measurements).



Table with time of execution of simple operation (multiplication by 2) for 10e7 elements, number of blocks – columns, threads for each block – rows.

Time for mismatch technique -19,86395 (200 measurements) All times provided in ms.

Lastly, we focused on managed memory. Based on the provided samples we created a program, which calculate time of computing for different grid processing configuration, grid dimensions and memory management. The results are below:



As we can see, the conclusion is that low level malloc is a little faster, but it is hardly noticeable for larger data size. Furthermore managed memory is easer to use and we do not have to worry about synchronization with the host side memory.