

# **SGLang DeepSeek Model Optimizations**

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2. Data Parallelism Attention
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## **→ 1. DeepSeek MLA Optimizations**

# MLA Introduction

**MLA (Multi-head Latent Attention)**<sup>1</sup> is an innovative attention architecture introduced by the DeepSeek-AI team, aimed at **improving inference efficiency**.

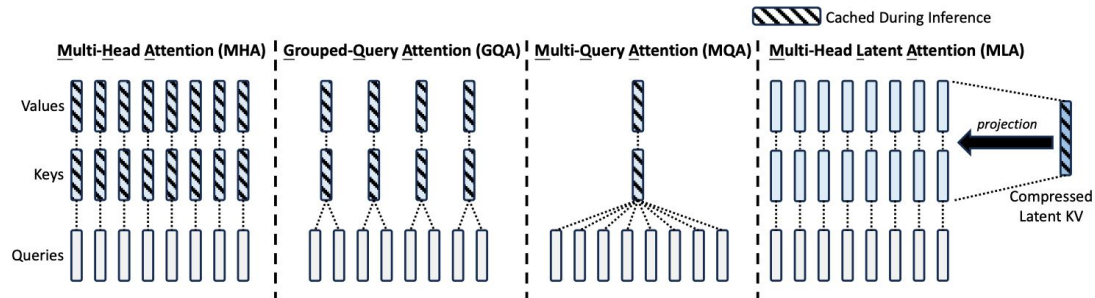
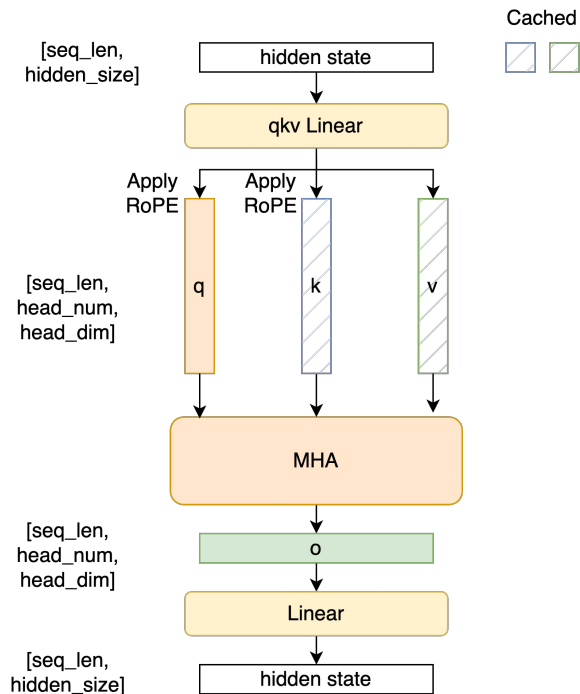


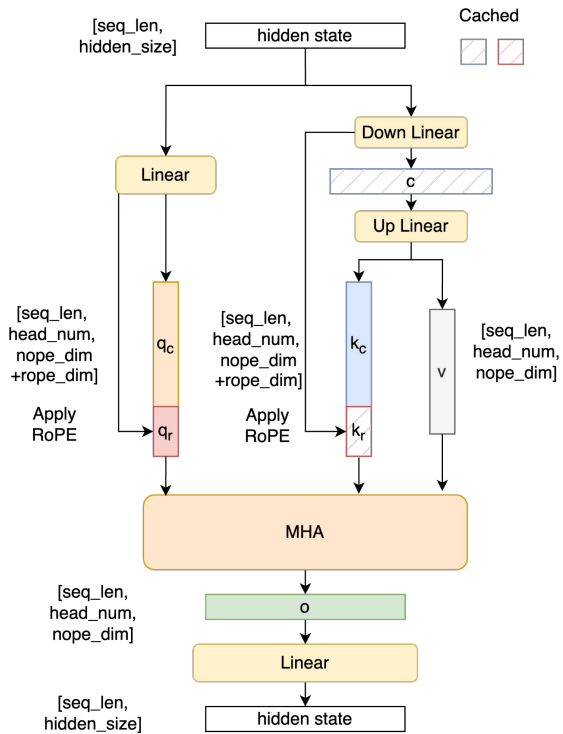
Figure 3 | Simplified illustration of Multi-Head Attention (MHA), Grouped-Query Attention (GQA), Multi-Query Attention (MQA), and Multi-head Latent Attention (MLA). Through jointly compressing the keys and values into a latent vector, MLA significantly reduces the KV cache during inference.

<sup>1</sup>DeepSeek-V2: A Strong, Economical, and Efficient Mixture-of-Experts Language Model (<https://arxiv.org/pdf/2405.04434>)

# Computation Overview



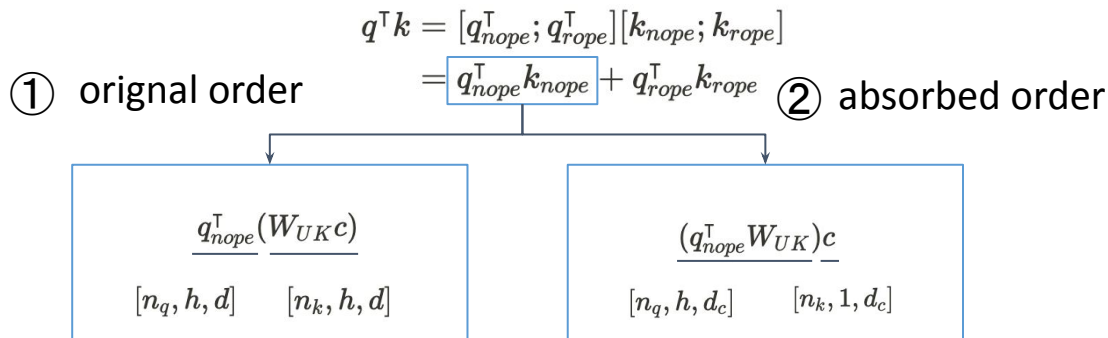
MHA



MLA

# Weight Absorption

Change the computation order based on **associative law** of matrix multiplication.



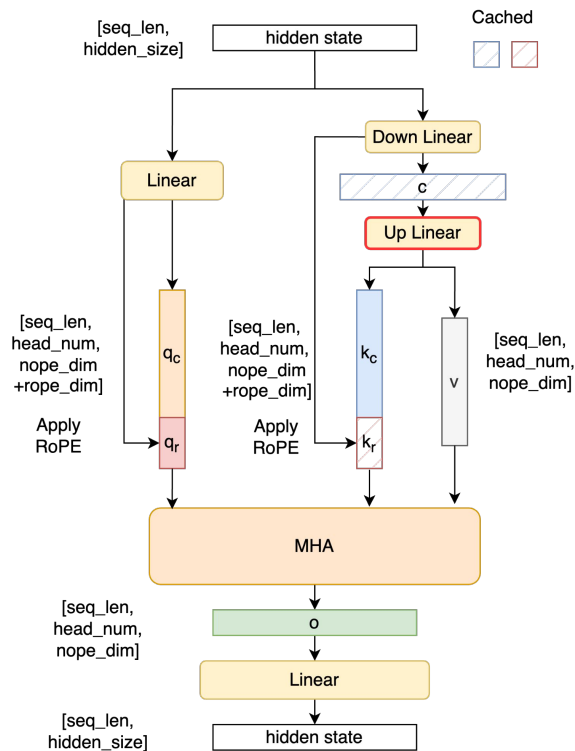
FLOPs:     $(2d_c - 1)hdn_k + (2d - 1)hn_q n_k$        $(2d - 1)hn_q d_c + (2d_c - 1)hn_q n_k$

In DeepSeek-V2,

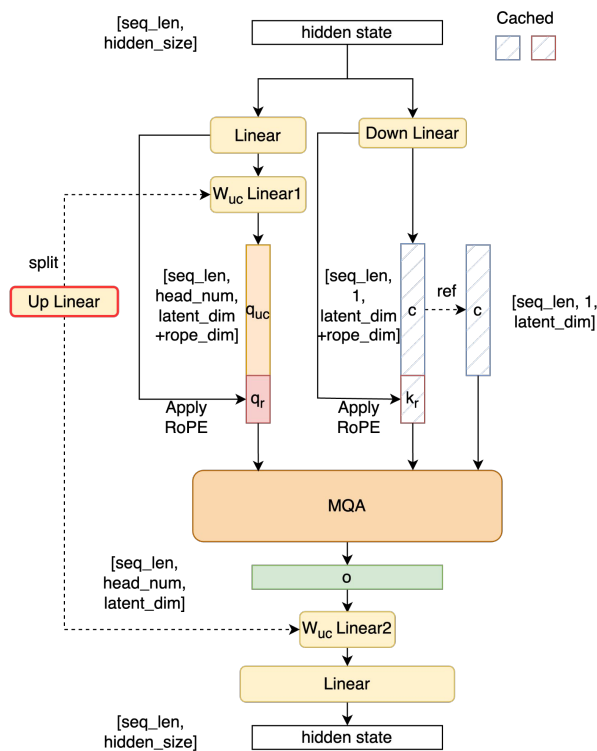
- $d = 128$
- $d_c = 512$
- $h = 128$

In **decoding stage** ( $n_q=1$ ), the method ② can take **less computation**.

# Weight Absorption Implementation



Original



w/ Weight Absorption

# Benefits & Results

## Benefits:

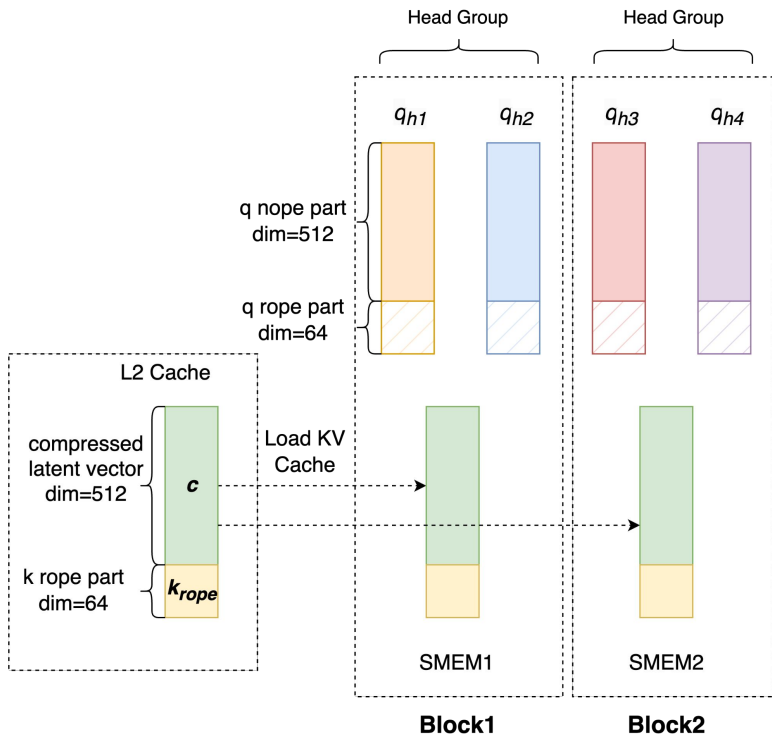
- Reduced overall computation in decoding stage
- Balanced the **computation** and **memory access** in decoding kernel
  - Increased the attention computation intensity
  - Reduced the memory access of KV cache

## Results:

- Achieved **2.4x** throughput improvement for DeepSeek-V2 model.



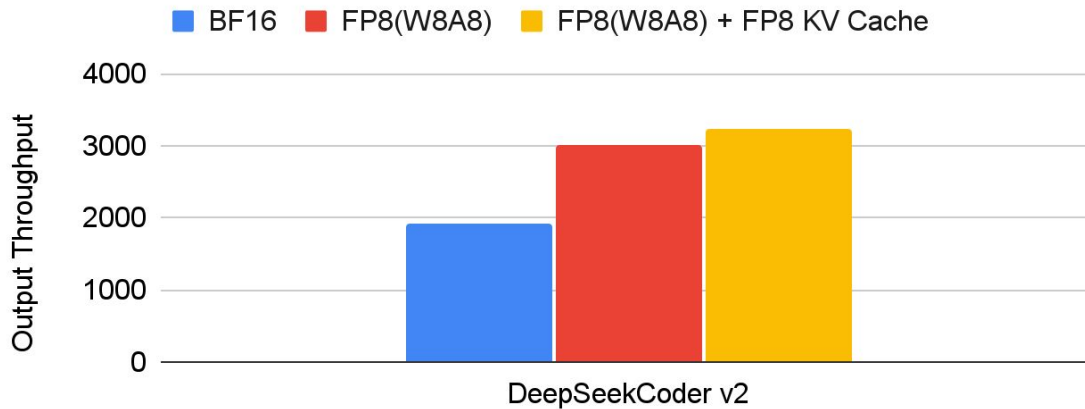
# Triton Decoding Kernel Optimization



- In the MLA decoding kernel, there is **only one KV head** shared by many query heads.
- We optimized the Triton decoding kernel to reduce **memory access** to the KV cache by **processing multiple query heads within one Triton block**.
- Use **Tensor Core** to do the qk computation.
- Achieved **1.35x** throughput improvement for DeepSeek-V2 and **1.5x** for DeepSeek-V2-Lite.

# FP8 Quantization

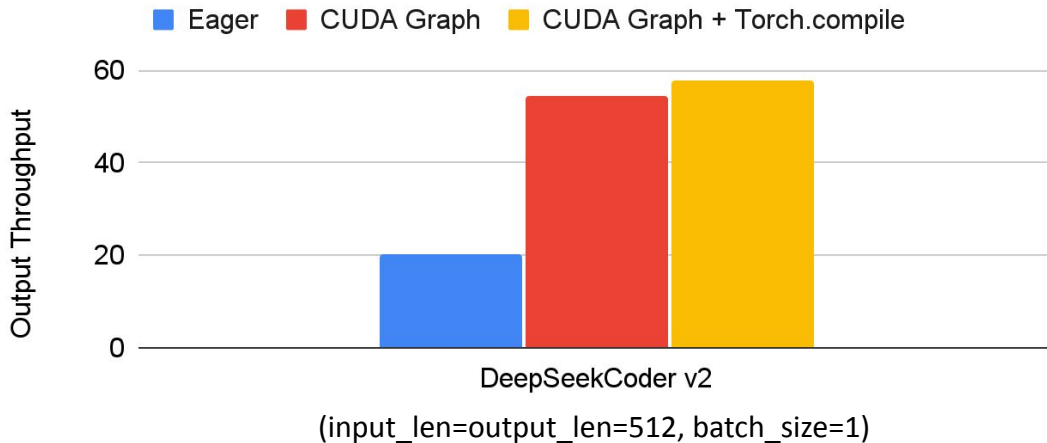
DeepSeek Multi-head Latent Attention (MLA) Throughput Benchmark on 8 x H100 (Higher is Better)



- Achieved **1.7x** throughput improvement with W8A8 FP8 and KV Cache FP8 quantization.
- Implemented **FP8 Batched MatMul** (BMM) operator to facilitate FP8 inference in MLA with weight absorption.

# CUDA Graph & Torch Compile

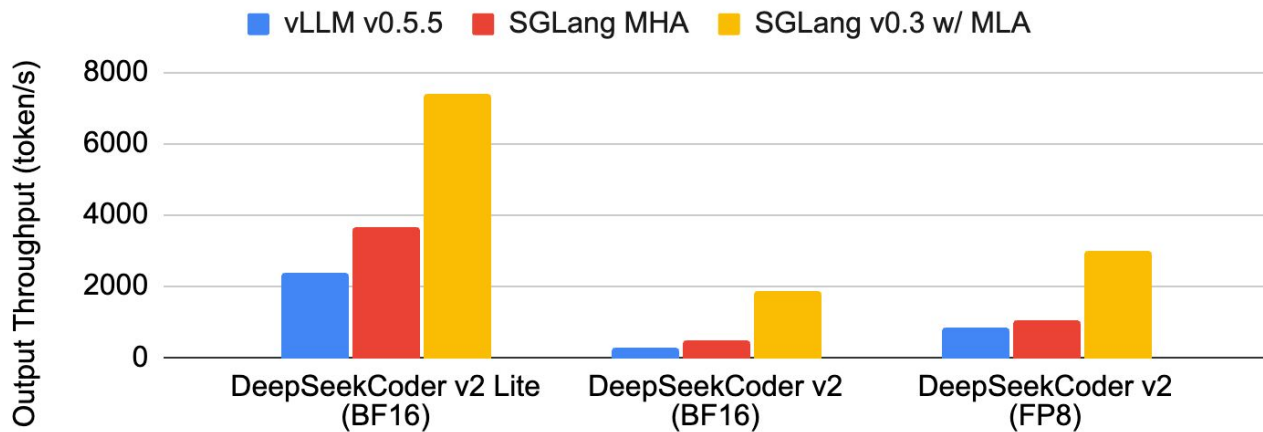
DeepSeek Multi-head Latent Attention (MLA) Throughput Benchmark on 8 x H100 (Higher is Better)



- MLA & MoE are compatible with CUDA Graph & Torch.compile
- **2.8x** decoding speed acceleration for **batch\_size=1**

# End2End Benchmark

DeepSeek Multi-head Latent Attention (MLA) Throughput Benchmark on H100  
(Higher is Better)



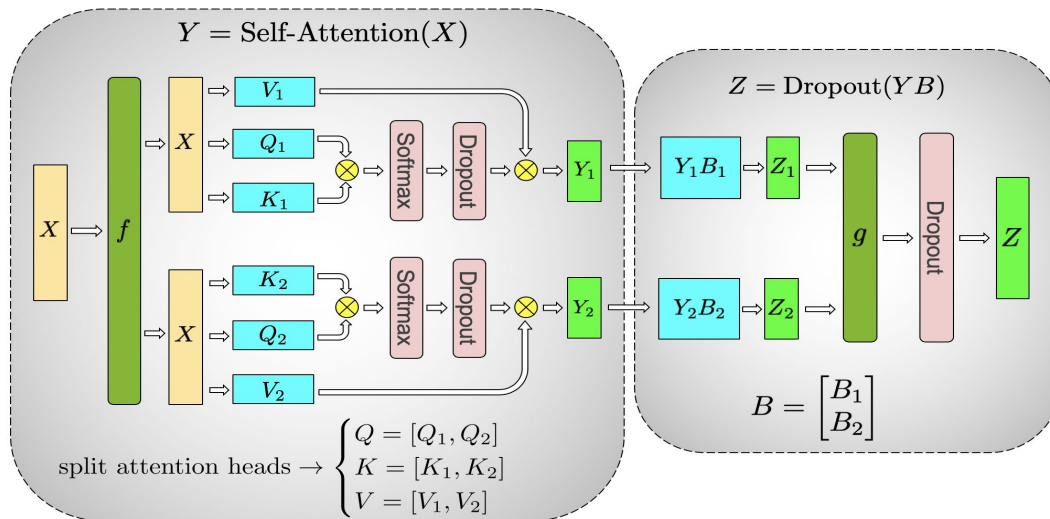
- Overall, we have achieved up to a **3~7x acceleration** in output throughput compared to the previous version.
- Source & Setup: <https://lmsys.org/blog/2024-09-04-sglang-v0-3>

## **→ 2. Data Parallelism Attention**

# Tensor Parallelism Attention

The most common parallelism strategy for inference is **tensor parallelism** (TP)<sup>1</sup>.

In the attention part, the weights and **attention heads** are split across multiple GPUs.

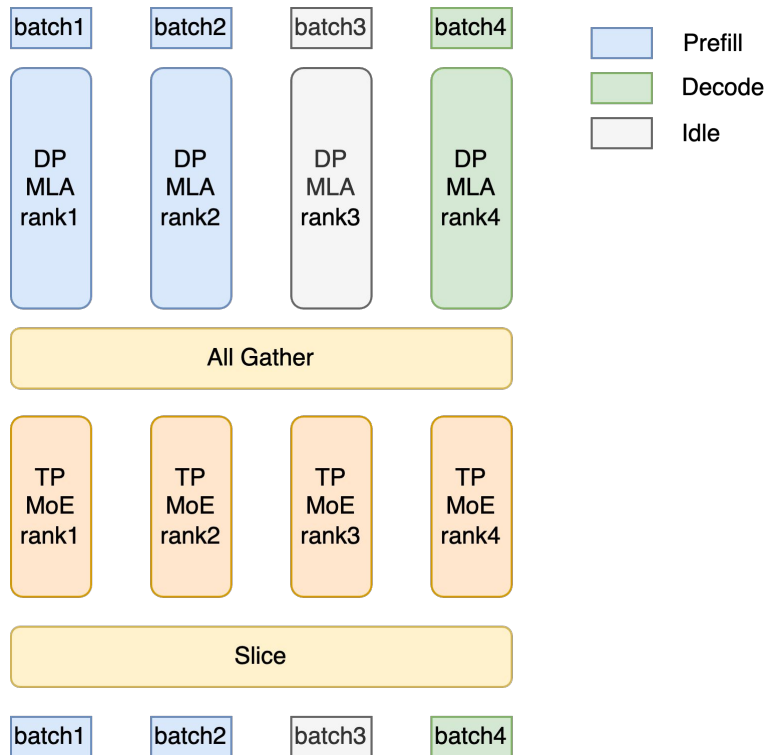


<sup>1</sup>Megatron-LM: Training Multi-Billion Parameter Language Models Using Model Parallelism (<https://arxiv.org/abs/1909.08053>)

# Observations

- Tensor parallelism might not be the most efficient strategy for models where the number of **KV heads** < the number of **GPUs available**.
  - For example, DeepSeek models use MLA and only have **one KV head** after weight absorption. If we use TP on 8 GPUs, it will lead to **duplicated KV cache** and unwanted memory usage.
- For many MoE models, the parameters in the attention part take a **small proportion** of the total parameters. (~3% for DeepSeek-V2)
  - Allows duplicating the weights and using **data parallelism (DP)** for the attention part.

# Data Parallelism Attention

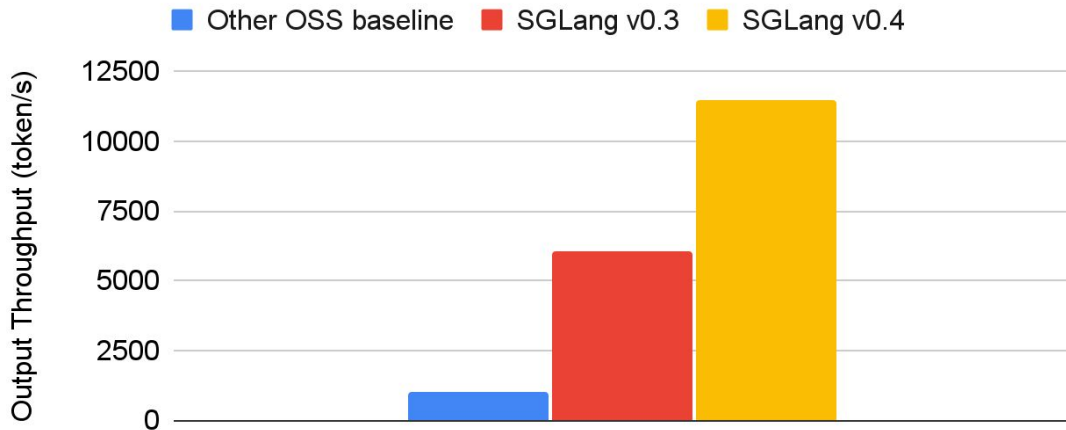


- Use **DP** for the **MLA** mechanism to reduce KV cache overhead.
- Each DP worker handles **different types of batches (prefill, decode, idle)** independently.
- The attention-processed data will be **all-gathered** among all workers before the MoE layer, and will be **redistributed back** to each worker after the MoE.



# Benchmark

DeepSeekCoder-V2 Throughput Benchmark on H100 (Higher is Better)



- Benchmark results for **FP8** DeepSeekCoder-V2 model on **8 x H100** 80GB GPUs.
- Achieved **1.9x decoding throughput** improvement compared to SGLang v0.3.
- Source & Setup: <https://lmsys.org/blog/2024-12-04-sqlang-v0-4>

## **➔ 3. DeepSeek-V3 Support & Optimizations**

# DeepSeek-V3 Support

We have supported [DeepSeek-V3](#) on SGLang from day one.

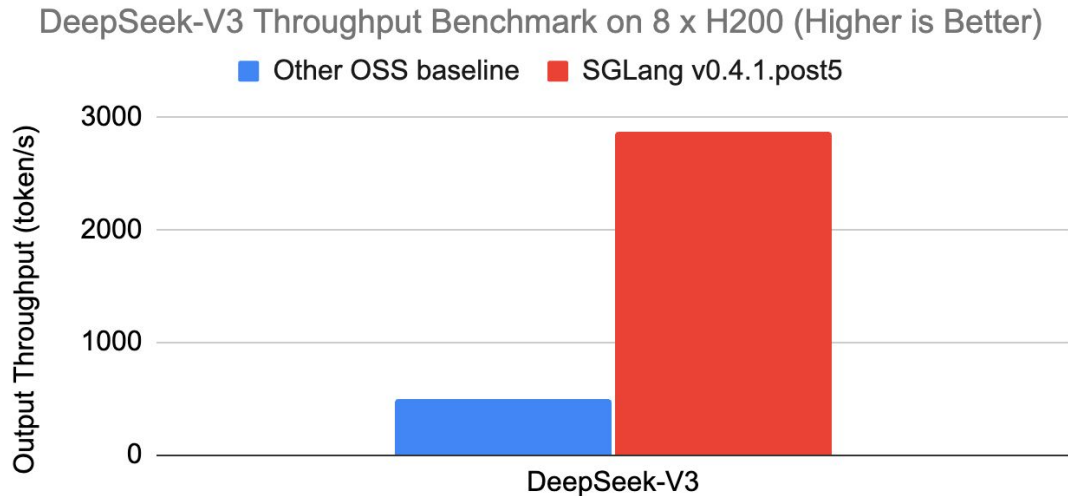
- v0.4.1 release: <https://github.com/sql-project/sqlang/releases/tag/v0.4.1>
- Usage: [https://github.com/sql-project/sqlang/tree/main/benchmark/deepseek\\_v3](https://github.com/sql-project/sqlang/tree/main/benchmark/deepseek_v3)

Optimizations for DeepSeek-V2 are effective for DeepSeek-V3 as well.

Further work we have done:

- No-aux MoE gate support
- FP8 block-wise quantization & kernel tuning
- MoE kernel optimizations
- Compatible with CUDA graph
- Multi-node TP inference support

# Benchmark



- Large QPS: Achieved **~3000 tok/s** output throughput on ShareGPT dataset.
- Batch size 1: Achieve **37 tok/s** output throughput.

# Further Optimizations

- Next-N speculative decoding
- TP + DP Attention
- Multi-node DP Attention
- Implement FP8 GEMM kernel with CUTLASS and CK
- MoE fused topk kernel

Optimization plan:

- <https://github.com/sgl-project/sglang/issues/2591>

Doc:

- <https://sgl-project.github.io/references/deepseek.html>

# Q & A

**Welcome to join our [Slack](#) and use [SGLang](#)!**