Eigen

a c++ linear algebra library

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[http://eigen.tuxfamily.org]



Outline

- 9:00 → 9:30 Discovering Eigen
 - motivations
 - API preview
- 9:30 → 10:30 Eigen's internals
 - design choices
 - meta-programming
 - expression templates

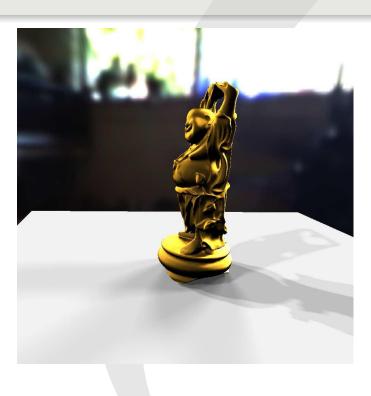
coffee break –

Outline

- $11:00 \to 12:30$ Use cases
 - Geometry & 3D algebra
 - RBFs (dense solvers)
 - (bi-)Harmonic interpolation (sparse solvers)
- $12:30 \rightarrow 13:00$
 - Roadmap
 - Open-source community
 - Open discussions

Presentations

Real-time Soft Shadows





Surface Reconstruction





Skinning & Vector Graphics



Computer Graphics & Linear Algebra?

Computer Graphics & Linear Algebra

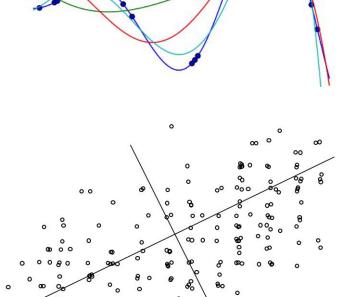
- points & vectors
 - 2D to 4D vectors (+, -, *, dot, cross, etc.)
- space transformations
 - 2x2 to 4x4 matrices (including non squared matrices as 3x4)
 - inverse (Cramer's rule, Div. & Conq.)
 - polar decomposition
 - → Singular Value Decomposition (SVD)
- point sets: normals, oriented bounding boxes
 - → Eigen-value decomposition (EVD)

small fixed size linear algebra

Computer Graphics & Linear Algebra

- Linear Least-square
 - Polynomial fit,
 Curvature estimation, MLS
 - Radial Basis Functions

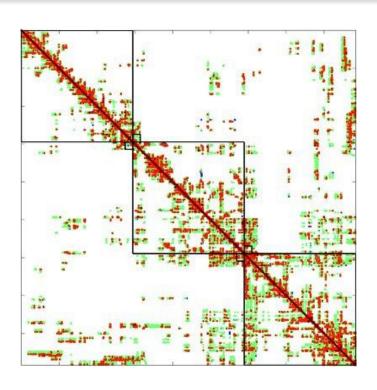




from small to large dense linear algebra

Computer Graphics & Linear Algebra

- Differential equations, FEM
 - physical simulation
 - mesh processing
 - surface reconstruction
 - interpolation



large sparse linear algebra

Context summary

- Matrix computation are everywhere
 - Various applications:
 - simulators/simulations, video games, audio/image processing, design, robotic, computer vision, augmented reality, etc.
 - Need various tools:
 - numerical data manipulation, space transformations
 - inverse problems, PDE, spectral analysis
 - Need performance:
 - on standard PC, smartphone, embedded systems, etc.
 - real-time performance

Matrix computation?

MatLab

- + friendly API
- + large set of features
- math only
- extremely slow for small objects

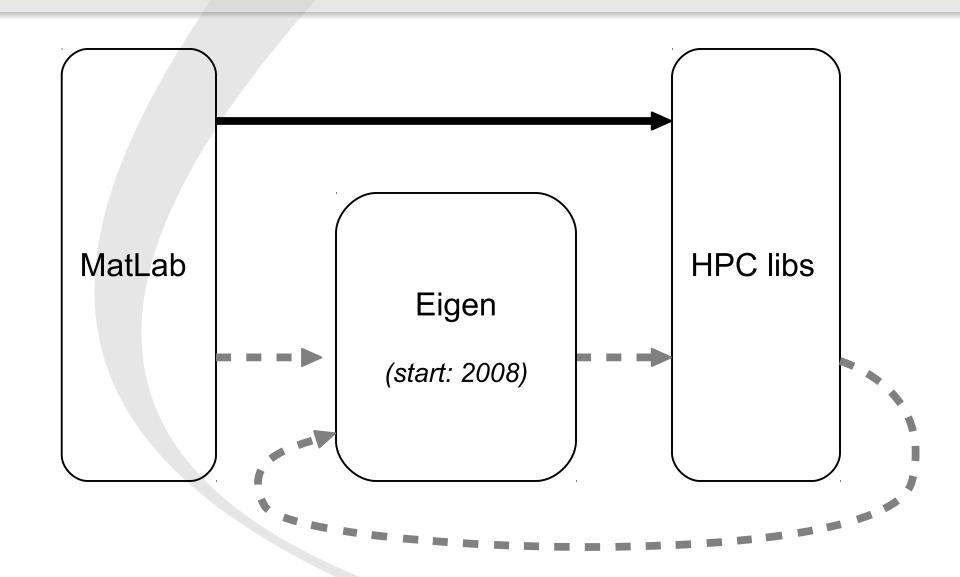
→ Prototyping

Zoo of libs

- + highly optimized
- 1 feature = 1 lib
- +/- tailored for advanced user / clusters
- slow for small objects

→ Advanced usages

Matrix computation?



Facts

- Pure C++ template library
 - header only
 - no binary to compile/install
 - no configuration step
 - no dependency (optional only)

```
#include <Eigen/Eigen>
using namespace Eigen;
int main() {
   Matrix4f A = Matrix4f::Random();
   std::cout << A << std::endl;
}</pre>
```

\$ g++ -02 example.cpp -o example

Facts

- Pure C++ template library
 - header only
 - no binary to compile/install
 - no configuration step
 - no dependency (optional only)
- Packaged by all Linux distributions (incl. macport)
- Opensource: MPL2
 - → easy to install & distribute

Multi-platforms

- Supported compilers:
 - GCC (≥4.2), MSVC (≥2008), Intel ICC,
 Clang/LLVM, old apple's compilers
- Supported systems:
 - x86/x86_64, ARM, PowerPC
 - Linux, Windows, OSX, IOS
- Supported SIMD vectorization engines:
 - $SSE{2,3,4}$
 - NEON (ARM)
 - Altivec (PowerPC)

Large feature set

- Core
 - Matrix and array manipulation (~MatLab, 1D & 2D)
 - Basic linear algebra (~BLAS)
 - incl. triangular & self-adjoint matrix
- LU, Cholesky, QR, SVD, Eigenvalues
 - Matrix decompositions and linear solvers (~Lapack)
- Geometry (transformations, ...)
- Sparse
 - Manipulation
 - Solvers (LLT, LU, QR & CG, BiCGSTAB, GMRES)
- WIP modules (autodiff, non-linear opt., FFT, etc.)

→ "unified API" - "all-in-one"

Optimized for both small and large objects

- Small objects
 - means fixed sizes:

```
Matrix<float,4,4>
```

- malloc-free
- meta unrolling
- specialized algo

- Large objects
 - means dynamic sizes

```
Matrix<float,Dynamic,1>
```

- cache friendly kernels
- multi-threading (OpenMP)

- Vectorization (SIMD)
- Unified API → write generic code
- Mixed fixed/dynamic dimensions

Generic code (1/2)

• Non-generic code:

```
class    Sphere {
    float[3]
    float
    /* ... */
};
```

center;
radius;

Generic code (1/2)

Write generic code:

Eigen takes care of the low level optimizations

Generic code (2/2)

Write fully generic code:

Custom scalar types

- Can use custom types everywhere
 - Exact arithmetic (rational numbers)
 - Multi-precision numbers (e.g., via mpfr++)
 - Auto-diff scalar types
 - Interval
 - Symbolic

Example:

```
typedef Matrix<mpreal, Dynamic, Dynamic> MatrixMP;
MatrixMP A, B, X;
// init A and B
// solve for A.X=B using LU decomposition
X = A.lu().solve(B);
```

Communication with the world

- → standard matrix representations
- to Eigen

```
float* raw_data = malloc(...);
Map<MatrixXd> M(raw_data, rows, cols);
// use M as a MatrixXd
M = M.inverse();
```

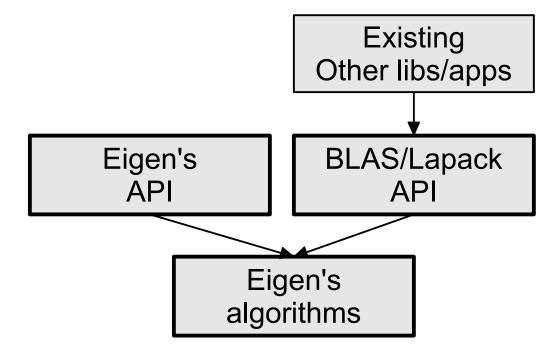
from Eigen

```
MatrixXd M;
float* raw_data = M.data();
int stride = M.outerStride();
raw_data[i+j*stride]
```

→ same for sparse matrices

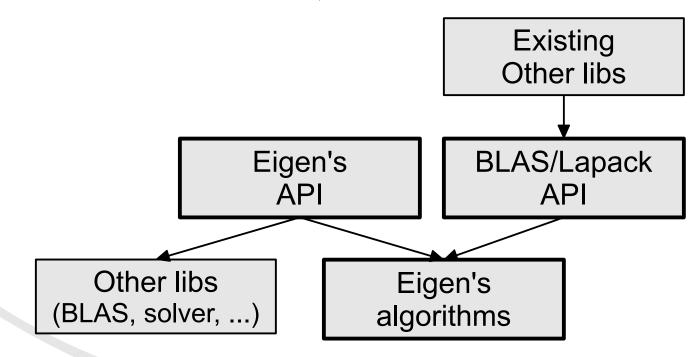
Eigen & BLAS

- Call Eigen's algorithms through a BLAS/Lapack API
 - Alternative to ATLAS, OpenBlas, Intel MKL
 - e.g., sparse solvers, Octave, Plasma, etc.
 - Run the Lapack test suite on Eigen



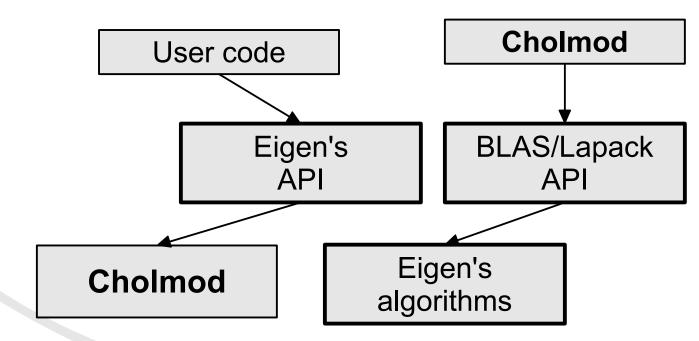
External backends

- External backends
 - Fallback to existing BLAS/Lapack/etc. (done by Intel)
 - Unified interface to many sparse solvers:
 - UmfPack, Cholmod, PaSTiX, Pardiso



External backends

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Documentation

Documentation

- Support
 - Forum, IRC, Mailing-List
 - Bugzilla

API demo

Internals



Technical aspects

- Matrix factorizations?

Matrix products?

-Sparse algebra?

Expression templates

Meta-programming

Vectorization

Preliminaries 1/3 - C++

Template programming & Inheritance:

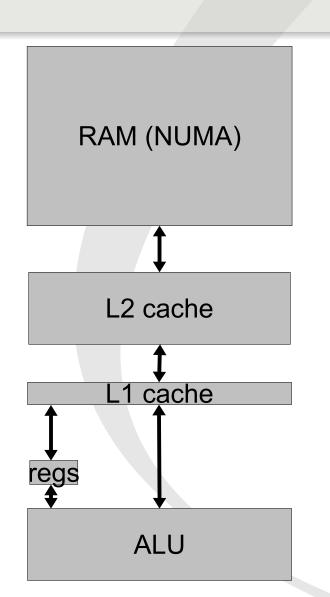
```
template<typename Scalar, int N>
class Vector : public SomeBaseClass {
   Scalar m_data[N];
   /* ... */
};
```

Partial template specialization:

```
template<typename Real, int N>
class Vector<complex<Real>,N> : public AnotherBaseClass {
   Real m_real[N];
   Real m_imag[N];
   /* ... */
};

vector<double,3> v1;
Vector<complex<float>,3> v2;
```

Preliminaries 2/3 - Memory Hierarchy



x1000 bigger; ~400 cycles



x100 bigger (900x900 floats); 40-100 cycles



x100 bigger (90x90 floats); 1-4 cycles



small (8x8 floats); 1 cycle

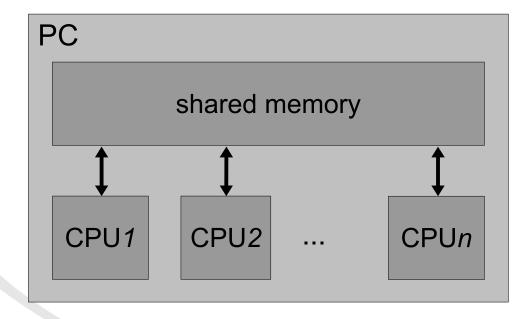
Preliminaries 3/3 - Parallelism

 4 levels of parallelism: Cluster of PCs → MPI PC2 PCnPC1 network

out of the scope of Eigen

Preliminaries 3/3 - Parallelism

- 4 levels of parallelism:
 - cluster of PCs → MPI
 - multi/many-cores → OpenMP



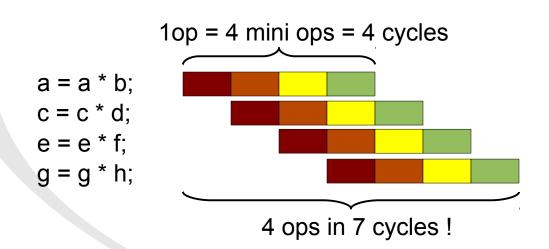
Preliminaries 3/3 - Parallelism

- 4 levels of parallelism:
 - cluster of PCs → MPI
 - multi/many-cores → OpenMP
 - SIMD → intrinsics for vector instructions (SSE, AVX, ...)



Preliminaries 3/3 - Parallelism

- 4 levels of parallelism:
 - cluster of PCs → MPI
 - multi/many-cores → OpenMP
 - SIMD → intrinsics for vector instructions (SSE, AVX, ...)
 - pipelining → needs non dependent instructions



time

Peak performance

- Example
 - Intel Core2 Quad CPU Q9400 @ 2.66GHz (x86_64)
 - pipelining → 1 mul + 1 add / cycle (ideal case)
 - SSE → x 4 single precision ops at once
 - frequency \rightarrow x **2.66G**
 - peak performance: 21,790 Mflops (for 1 core)

that's our goal!

Problem statement

Example:

```
m3 = m1 + m2 + m3;
```

Standard C++ way:

```
class Matrix {
  float m_data[M*N];
  float& operator()(int i, int j) { return m_data[i+j*M]; }
};

Matrix operator+(const Matrix& A, const Matrix& B) {
  Matrix res;

for(int j=0; j<N; ++j)
  for(int i=0; i<M; ++i)
   res(i,j) = A(i,j) + B(i,j);

return res;
}</pre>
```

Problem statement

Example:

```
m3 = m1 + m2 + m3;
```

Standard C++ way, result:

```
tmp1 = m1 + m2;
tmp2 = tmp1 + m3;
m3 = tmp2;
```

- \rightarrow 3 loops :(
- → 2 temporaries :(
- → 8*M*N memory accesses :(

Example:

```
m3 = m1 + m2 + m3;
```

- Expression templates:
 - "+" returns an expression:

```
Sum<Matrix, Matrix>
operator+(const Matrix& A, const Matrix& B) {
   return Sum<Matrix, Matrix>(A,B);
}

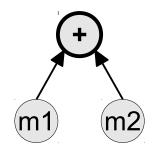
template<typename type_of_A, typename type_of_B>
class Sum {
   const type_of_A &A;
   const type_of_B &B;
}:
```

Example:

$$m3 = m1 + m2 + m3$$

→ "expression tree"

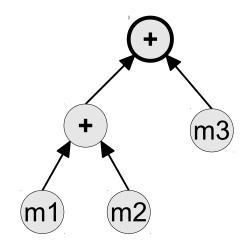
Sum<Matrix, Matrix>



Example:

$$m3 = m1 + m2 + m3$$

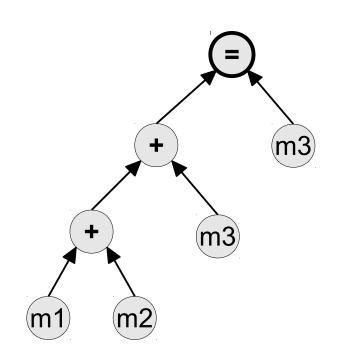
→ "expression tree"



Example:

$$m3 = m1 + m2 + m3$$

→ "expression tree"



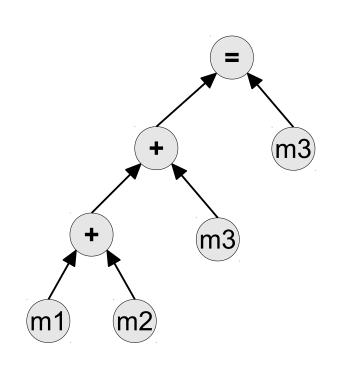
Example:

```
m3 = m1 + m2 + m3;
```

→ "expression tree"

```
Assign<Matrix,
Sum< Sum<Matrix, Matrix>,
Matrix > >
```

- Immediate question:
 - How to evaluate this?



Bottom-up approach:

```
template<type_of_A, type_of_B>
class Sum {
   const type_of_A &A;
   const type_of_B &B;

   Scalar coeff(i, j) {
     return A.coeff(i,j) + B.coeff(i,j);
   }
};
```

→ simple, can specialize the implementation based on the operand types...

... but not on the **whole expression** :(

- Solution: top-down creation of an evaluator
 - evaluator:

```
template<ExprType> class Evaluator;
```

partial specialization for each operation, e.g.:

```
template<type_of_A, type_of_B>
class Evaluator< Sum<type_of_A, type_of_B> > {
    Evaluator<type_of_A> evalA(A);
    Evaluator<type_of_B> evalB(B);
    Scalar coeff(i,j) {
      return evalA.coeff(i,j) + evalB.coeff(i,j);
    }
};
```

Matrix evaluator:

```
class Evaluator<Matrix> {
  const Matrix &mat;
  Scalar coeff(i) { return mat.data[i]; }
};
```

- Solution: top-down creation of an evaluator
 - assignment evaluator (dest ← source):

- Example: m3 = m1 + m2 + m3;
 - compiles to:

```
for(i=0; i<m3.size(); ++i)
    m3[i] = "Evaluator(m1+m2+m3)".coeff(i);</pre>
```

Template Instantiations

```
for(i=0; i<m3.size(); ++i)
     m3[i] = \text{``Evaluator}(m1+m2+m3)\text{''.coeff}(i);
class Evaluator< Sum< Sum<Matrix,Matrix>, Matrix > > {
  Evaluator<Sum<Matrix, Matrix> > evalA("m1+m2");
 Evaluator<Matrix>
                                  evalB("m3");
  Scalar coeff(i) {
                                                               generated
    return evalA.coeff(i) + evalB.coeff(i);
                                                                by the
                                                               compiler!
};
                                  m3[i]
class Evaluator< Sum<Matrix, Matrix> > {
 Evaluator<Matrix> evalA("m1");
 Evaluator<Matrix> evalB("m2");
  Scalar coeff(i) {
    return evalA.coeff(i) + evalB.coeff(i);
               m1[i]
                                  m2[i]
```

Template Instantiations

```
m3 = m1 + m2 + m3;
After inlining:
      for(i=0; i<m3.size(); ++i)</pre>
           m3[i] = m1[i] + m2[i] + m3[i];
                  → 1 loop
                  \rightarrow no temporaries
                  → /2 memory accesses
```

- Generalize to any coefficient-wise operations
 - example:

```
m3.block(1,2,rows,cols) = 2*m1 - m2.transpose();
```

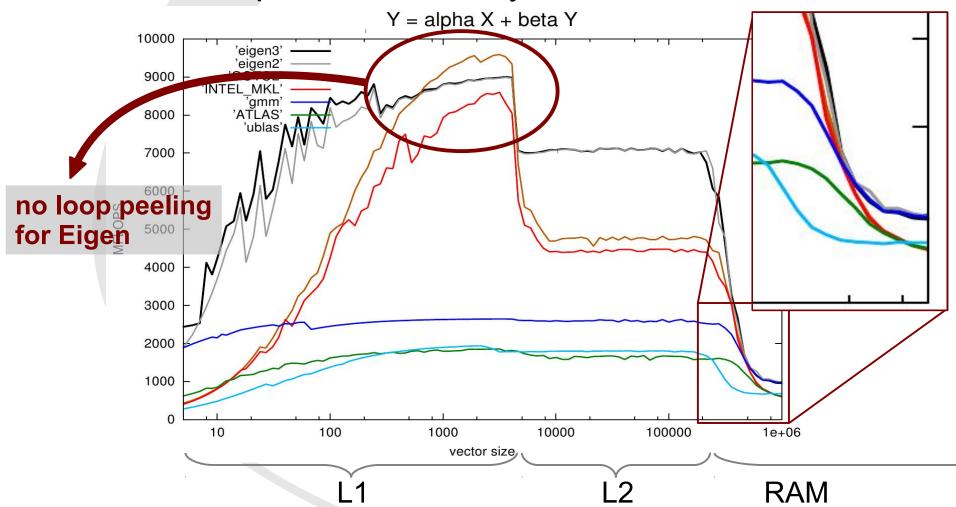
– expression type:

- compiles to:

```
for(int j=0; j<cols; ++j)
  for(int i=0; i<rows; ++i)
    m3(i+1,j+2) = 2*m1(i,j) - m2(j,i);</pre>
```

Expr. templates: Fused operations

reduce temporaries, memory accesses, cache misses



Expr. templates: Better API

- Better API
 - more examples:

```
x.col(4) = A.lu().solve(B.col(5));
x = b * A.triangularView<Lower>().inverse();
```

Combinatorial complexity

Explosion of types and possible combinations

```
Sum<.,.> operator+(const Matrix& A, const Matrix& B);
Sum<.,.> operator+(const Sum<.,.>& A, const Matrix& B);
Sum<.,.> operator+(const Sum<.,.>& A, const Sum<.,.>& B);
Sum<.,.> operator+(const Sum<.,.>& A, const Transpose<.>& B);
Sum<.,.> operator+(const Transpose<.>& A, const Matrix& B);
...
```

- → need a common base class
 - + polymorphism

Combinatorial complexity

Common base class:

};

```
class Matrix : MatrixBase {...};
class Sum<A,B> : MatrixBase {...};

class MatrixBase {

   Sum<MatrixBase, MatrixBase>
   operator+(const MatrixBase& other) {
    return Sum<MatrixBase, MatrixBase, MatrixBase>(*this, other);
}

   cannot work this way!
```

→ need compile-time polymorphism
 → CRTP (Curiously Recurring Template Pattern)

class Evaluator<Sum<A,B> >

: EvaluatorBase {

CRTP

base class:

```
class Matrix : MatrixBase {...};
class Sum<A,B> : MatrixBase {...};
class MatrixBase {
  Sum<MatrixBase, MatrixBase>
  operator+(const MatrixBase& other) {
    return Sum<MatrixBase,MatrixBase>(*this, other);
```

CRTP

base class + static polymorphism:

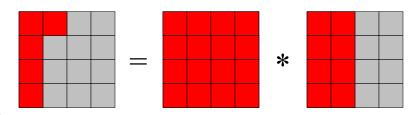
```
class Matrix : MatrixBase< Matrix > {...};
class Sum<A,B> : MatrixBase< Sum<A,A> > {...};
template<typename Derived>
class MatrixBase {
 template<typename OtherDerived>
 Sum<Derived,OtherDerived>
 operator+(const MatrixBase<OtherDerived>& other) {
    return Sum<Derived,OtherDerived>(derived(), other.derived());
 Derived& derived() { return static_cast<Derived&>(*this); }
};
```

Product-like operations?

- Expression templates
 - very good for any coefficient-wise operations
 - what about matrix products?

```
class Evaluator< Product<type_of_A, type_of_B> > {
    Scalar coeff(i,j) {
    return (A.row(i).cwiseProduct(B.col(i).transpose()).sum();
    }
};
```

- what's wrong?



→ OK for very very small matrices only

How to make products efficient?

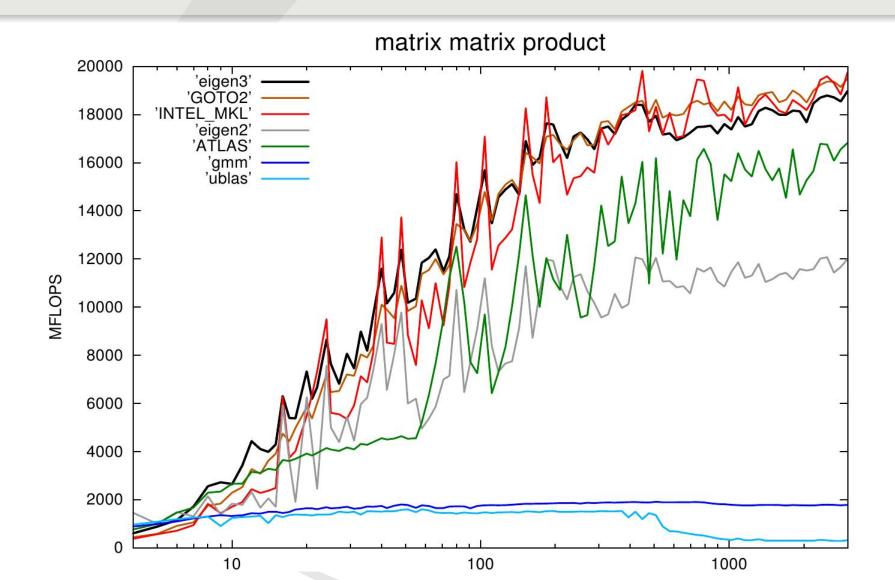
- → cache-aware product algorithm
 - optimize L2, L1 and register reuses
 - needs access the data of the result

```
D = C + A * B;

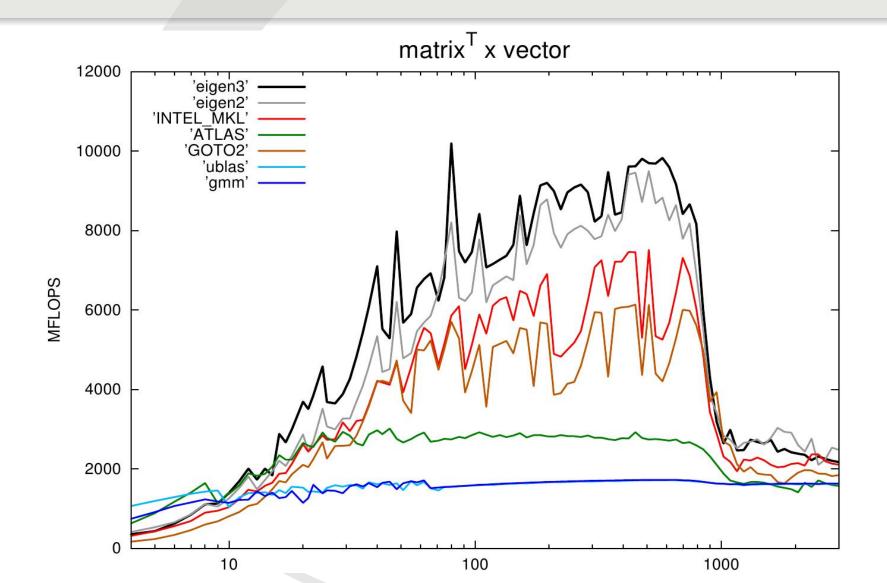
needs to be evaluated into a temporary:

Matrix tmp;
gemm(A, B, tmp);
D = C + tmp;
```

Performance



Performance



How to make products efficient?

Combinatorial complexity

- one product version is very complex (lot of instructions)
 - → handle only one generic version:

```
gemm<op1,op2>(A,B,s,C);

→ C += s * op1(A) * op2(B);
```

- op_ = nop, conjugate, transpose, adjoint
- A, B, C → reference to block of memory with strides

Top-down expression analysis

- Products
 - detect & evaluate product sub expressions

```
• e.g.: ... 3*m1 + (2*m2).adjoint() * m3 + ...
               gemm<Adj, Nop>(m2, m3, -2, tmp);
Evaluator<Product<type_of_A, type_of_B> > : Evaluator<Matrix> {
  Evaluator(A,B) : Evaluator<Matrix>(tmp) {
   EvaluatorForProduct<type of A> evalA(A);
   EvaluatorForProduct<type_of B> evalB(B);
    gemm<evalA.op,evalB.op>( evalA.data, evalB.data,
                              evalA.scale*evalB.scale,
                              tmp);
 Matrix tmp;
```

Top-down expression analysis

- Products
 - avoid temporary when possible

```
• e.g.: m4 -= (2 * m2).adjoint() * m3;
               gemm<Adj, Nop>(m2, m3, -2, m4);
Evaluator<Assign<type_of_C,Product<type_of_A,type_of_B> > {
 Evaluator(C,P) {
   EvaluatorForProduct<type of A> evalA(P.A());
   EvaluatorForProduct<type_of_B> evalB(P.B());
    gemm<evalA.op,evalB.op>( evalA.data, evalB.data,
                              evalA.scale*evalB.scale,
                              C);
```

Top-down expression analysis (cont.)

More complex example:

```
m4 -= m1 + m2 * m3;

- so far: tmp = m2 * m3;
m4 -= m1 + tmp;

- better: m4 -= m1;
m4 -= m2 * m3;

// catch R = A + B * C
Evaluator<Assign<R,Sum<A,Product<B,C> > > { ... };
```

Tree optimizer

Even more complex example:

```
res -= m1 + m2 + m3*m4 + 2*m5 + m6*m7;

- Tree optimizer

→ res -= ((m1 + m2 + 2*m5) + m3*m4) + m6*m7;

- yields: res -= m1 + m2 + 2*m5;
res -= m3*m4;
res -= m6*m7;
```

– Need only two rules:

```
// catch A * B + Y and builds Y' + A' * B'
TreeOpt<Sum<Product<A,B>,Y> > { ... };

// catch X + A * B + Y and builds (X' + Y') + (A' * B')
TreeOpt<Sum<Sum<X,Product<A,B> >,Y> > { ... };

\longrightarrow demo
```

Tree optimizer

Last example:

```
res += m1 * m2 * v;

- Tree optimizer

→ res += m1 * (m2 * v);

- Rule:

TreeOpt<Product<Product<A,B>,C> > { ... };
```

Vectorization

- How to exploit SIMD instructions?
 - Evaluator:

```
class Evaluator< Sum<type_of_A, type_of_B> > {
    Scalar coeff(i,j) {
       return evalA.coeff(i,j) + evalB.coeff(i,j);
    }
    Packet packet(i,j) {
       return padd(evalA.packet(i,j), evalB.packet(i,j));
    }
};
    unified wrapper to intrinsics
    (SSE, NEON, AVX)
```

Vectorization

- How to exploit SIMD instructions?
 - Assignment:

```
class Evaluator< Assign<Dest,Source> > {
  void run() {
    for(int i=0; i<evalDst.size(); ++i)
       evalDst.coeff(i,j) = evalSrc.coeff(i,j);
  }

  void run_simd() {
    for(int i=0; i<evalDst.size(); i+=PacketSize)
       evalDst.writePacket(i,j, evalSrc.packet(i,j));
  }
}:</pre>
```

Vectorization: result

```
movl 8(%ebp), %edx
movss 20(%ebp), %xmm0
movl 24(%ebp), %eax
movaps %xmm0, %xmm2
shufps $0, %xmm2, %xmm2
movss 12(%ebp), %xmm0
movaps %xmm2, %xmm1
mulps (%eax), %xmm1
shufps $0, %xmm0, %xmm0
movl 16(%ebp), %eax
mulps (%eax), %xmm0
addps %xmm1, %xmm0
subps (%edx), %xmm0
movaps %xmm0, (%edx)
```

Unrolling

- Small sizes
 - → cost dominated by loop logic
 - → remove the loop... yourself!

(don't overestimate compiler's abilities

```
for(int i=n-1; i>=0; --i)
  foo(i,args);

void foo_impl(int i,args) {
  foo(i,args);
  if(i>0)
   foo_impl(i-1,args);
}

foo_impl(n-1,args);

functional approach
```

```
template<int I> struct foo_impl {
    static void run(args) {
        foo(I,args);
        foo_impl<I-1>::run(args);
    }
};

template<> struct foo_impl<-1> {
    static void run(args) {}
};

foo_impl<N-1>::run(args);
```

Controls

- Still many questions:
 - which loops have to be unrolled?
 - which sub-expressions have to be evaluated?
 - is vectorization worth it?
- Depend on many parameters:
 - scalar type
 - expression complexity
 - kind of operations
 - architecture

→ need an evaluation cost model

Cost model

- Cost Model
 - Track an approximation of the cost to evaluate one coefficient
 - each scalar type defines: ReadCost, AddCost, MulCost
 - combined for each expression by the evaluator, e.g.:

Cost model

- Examples:
 - loop unrolling (partial)

- evaluation of sub expressions
 - (a+b) * c → (a+b) is evaluated into a temporary
 - enable vectorization of sub expressions

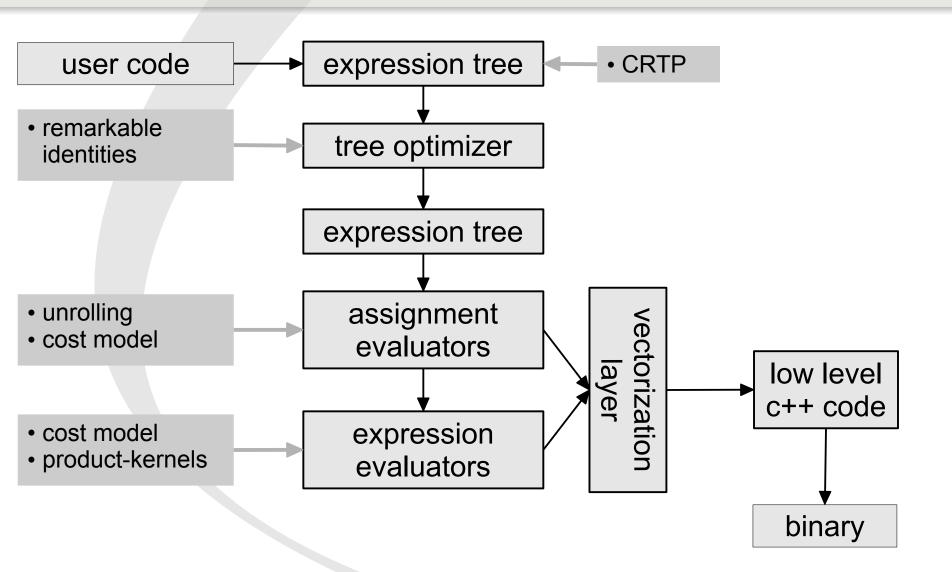
```
(2*A+B).log() + C.abs()/4
```

1 loop, but no vectorization

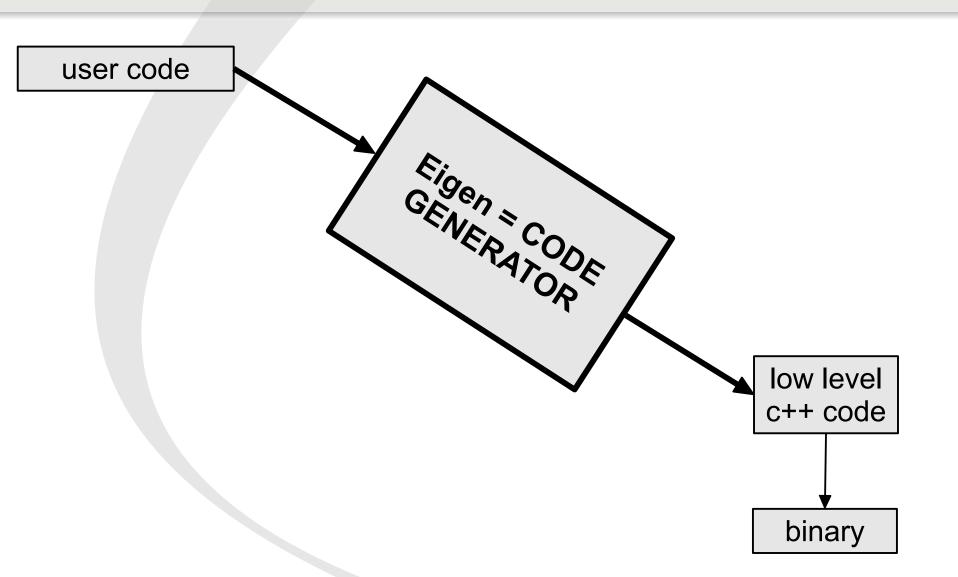
?

```
t1 = 2*A+B;  // vec on
t1 = t1.log();  // no vec
t1 + C.abs()/4;  // vec on
```

Putting everything together



Putting everything together

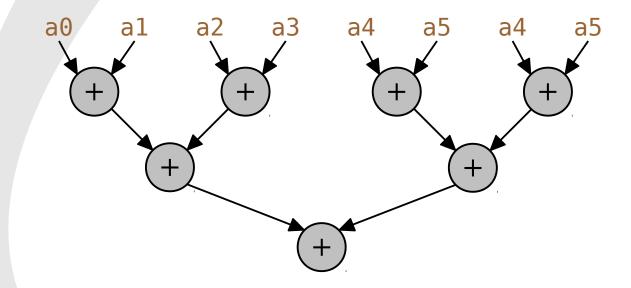


Reductions

- Example: dot = (v1.array() * v2.array()).sum();
- Naive way:

Reductions

→ divide & conquer:



- Exercise: write a generic D&C meta-unroller!
 - solution in Eigen/src/Core/Redux.h

 \rightarrow demo

Eigen tutorial

– coffee break –



Eigen tutorial

Use cases



Space Transformation & OpenGL

Space Transformations

- Needs
 - Translations, Scaling, Rotations,
 - Isometry, Affine/Projective transformation
 - ... in arbitrary dimensions
- Many different approaches

v' = 2*rot*v + (p-rot*p)

Transformations Own cooking

Low level math:

```
Matrix3f rot = ???;
v' = rot * (2*v-p) + p;
```

- Directly manipulate a D+1 matrix:
 - form the matrix:

```
Matrix<float,3,4> T;
T.leftCols<3>() = 2*rot;
T.col(3) = p - rot * p;
```

– apply the transformation:

```
Vector4f v1;
v1 << v, 1;
v' = T * v1;
v' = T * v.homogeneous();
```

Transformations The procedural approach

OpenGL1 inspired

```
Transform<float,3,Affine> T; // wrap a Matrix4f

T.setIdentity();
T.translate(p);
T.rotate(angle,axis);
T.translate(-p);
T.translate(-p);
T.scale(2);

T.preTranslate(angle,axis);
T.preTranslate(p);

V' = T * V;
   - CONS:
```

- hide the concatenation logic
 - how to concatenate on the left?
 - error prone, does help to understand transformations
 - far away to what people write on paper

Transformations The "natural" approach

Example:

```
Transform<float,3,Affine> T;

T = Translation3f(p) * rot * Translation3f(-p) * Scaling(2);

v' = T * v;
```

Unified concatenate/apply → "*"

```
Translation3f(p) * v; // compiles to "p+v"
Isometry3f T1;
T1 * Scaling(-1,2,2); // returns an Affine3f
```

Transformations The "natural" approach

- 3D rotations:
 - AngleAxis, Unit quaternion, Unitary matrix

```
... * AngleAxis3f(M_PI/2, Vector3f::UnitZ()) * ...
```

Unified conversions → "="

```
Quaternionf q; q = AngleAxis3f(...);
```

Unified inversion → .inverse()

```
Translation3f(p).inverse() // \rightarrow Translation3f(-p)
Isometry3f T1;
T1.inverse() // \rightarrow T1.linear().transpose()
* Translation3f(-T1.translation())
```

Transformations Generic programming

Write generic optimized functions:

```
template<typename TransformationType>
void foo(const TransformationType& T) {
   T * v
   T.inverse() * v
   Projective3f(...) * T * Translation3f(...) * T.inverse()
   ...
}
```

Eigen & OpenGL

Expression templates & OpenGL

```
Vector3f p;
glUniform3fv(p.data());
                we already know that from "p"!
Vector3f p1, p2;
glUniform3fv((0.5*(p1+p2)).data());
                                   not available on expressions!
Matrix4f A, B;
glUniformMatrix4fv((A*B).eval().data());
                                   Are we sure the storage
                                    order match?
```

Eigen & OpenGL

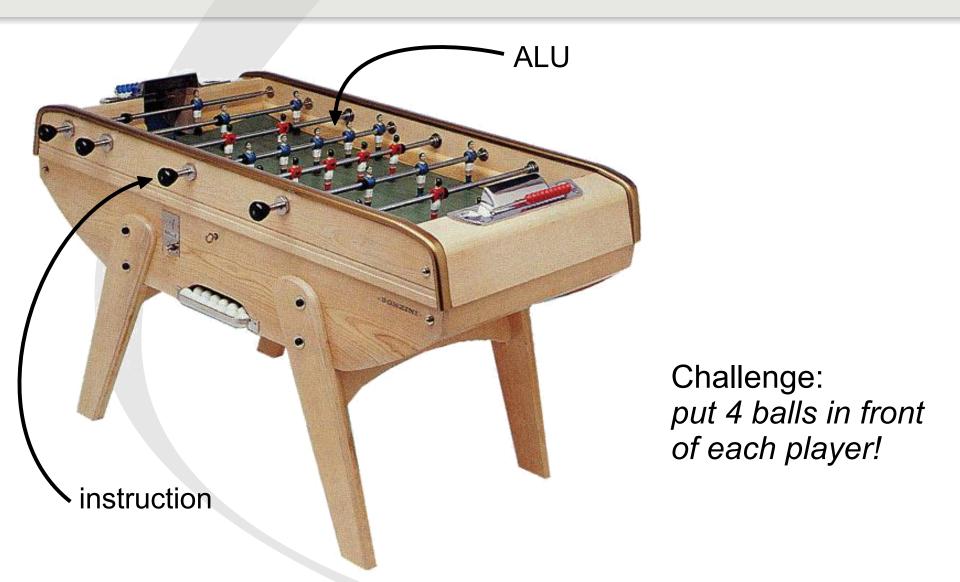
<Eigen/OpenGLSupport>

```
#include <Eigen/OpenGLSupport>
using Eigen::glUniform;

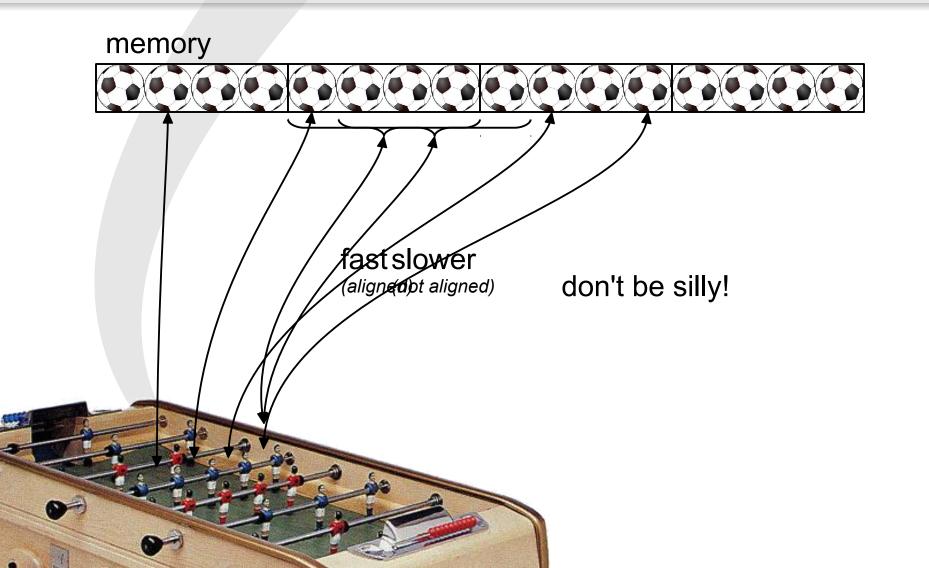
Vector3f p1, p1;
Matrix3f A;
glUniform(p1+p2);
glUniform(A*p1);
glUniform(A.topRows<2>().transpose());
...
```

Vectorization of 3D vectors

Vectorization: difficulties?



Vectorization: difficulties?



AoS versus SoA

Array of Structure

```
std::vector<Vector3f> points_aos;
```

Structure of Array

```
struct SoA {
   VectorXf x, y, z;
};
SoA points_soa;
```

Example: compute the mean

AoS versus SoA

Eigen's way

```
Matrix<float,3,Dynamic,ColMajor> points_aos;
Matrix<float,3,Dynamic,RowMajor> points_soa;
```

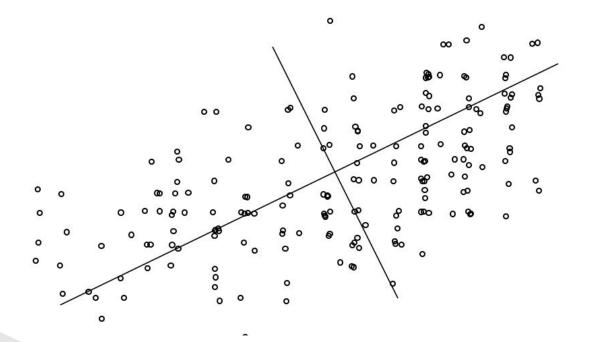
– Highly flexible:

```
points_xxx.col(i) = Vector3f(...);
Affine3f T;
point_xxx = T * points_xxx;
mean = points_xxx.rowwise().mean();
```



Example on 3D point clouds

```
Matrix3Xf points = ...;
Matrix3xf c_points = points.colwise() - points.rowwise().mean();
Matrix3f cov = c_points * c_points.transpose();
SelfAdjointEigenSolver<Matrix3f> eig(cov);
```



Example on 3D point clouds

```
Matrix3Xf points = ...;
Matrix3xf c_points = points.colwise() - points.rowwise().mean();
Matrix3f cov = c_points * c_points.transpose();
SelfAdjointEigenSolver<Matrix3f> eig(cov);
```

normal estimations

```
Vector3f normal = eig.eigenvectors().col(0);
```

local planar parameterization

```
Matrix3Xf l_points = eig.eigenvectors().transpose() * points;
```

compute (cheap) oriented bounding boxes

```
AlignedBox3f bbox;
for(int i=0; i<points.cols(); ++i)
  bbox.extend(l_points.col(i));
Quaternionf q(eig.eigenvectors().transpose());</pre>
```

- Tips for 2D and 3D matrices
 - default iterative algorithm:

```
SelfAdjointEigenSolver<Matrix3f> eig;
eig.compute(cov);
```

closed form algorithms:
 (fast but lack a few bits of precision)

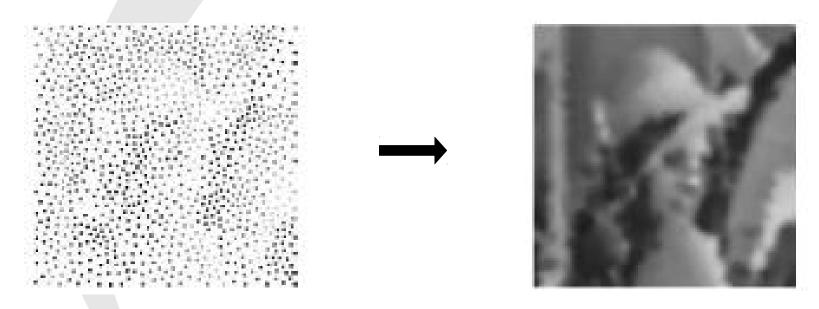
```
SelfAdjointEigenSolver<Matrix3f> eig;
eig.computeDirect(cov);
```

Linear Regression

(Dense Solvers)

Scattered Data Approximation

Example in the functional settings



input:

- sample positions P_i
- with associated values f_i

output:

• a smooth scalar field $f: \mathbb{R}^d \to \mathbb{R}$ s.t., $f(\mathbf{p}_i) \approx f_i$

Basis Functions Decomposition

Express the solution as:

$$f(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{j} \alpha_{j} \phi_{j}(\mathbf{x})$$

Radial Basis Functions

$$f(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{j} \alpha_{j} \phi(\|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{q}_{j}\|)$$

- example:

 - q_i? → evenly distributed

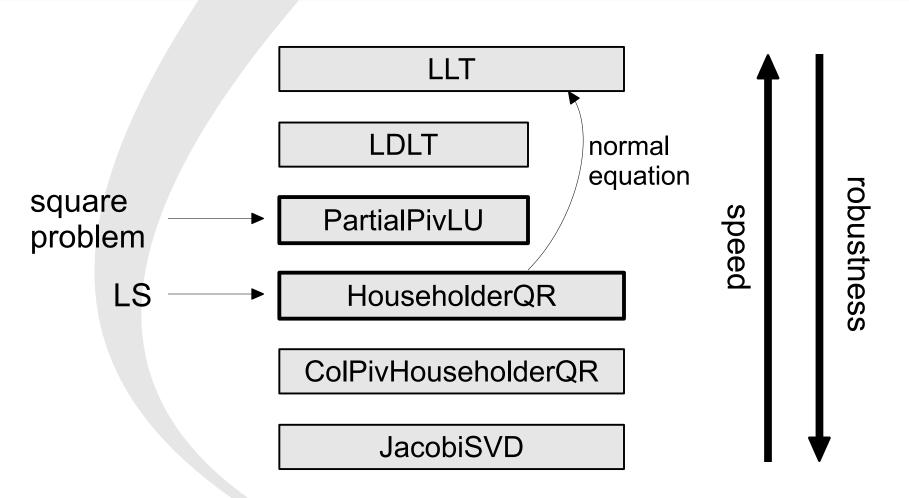
Matrix formulation

- Least square minimization: $\alpha = \underset{\alpha}{argmin} \sum_{i} (f(\mathbf{p}_{i}) f_{i})^{2}$
- Matrix form:

$$\begin{bmatrix} \vdots \\ \mathbf{p}_{i} - \mathbf{q}_{j} \| \end{pmatrix} \cdots \mathbf{\alpha} = \begin{bmatrix} \vdots \\ f_{i} \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \mathbf{\alpha} = \arg\min_{\mathbf{\alpha}} \| \mathbf{A} \mathbf{\alpha} - \mathbf{b} \|^{2}$$

- as many unknowns as constraints: \Leftrightarrow A $\alpha = \mathbf{b}$
 - → interpolation

Dense Solvers



(bi-)Harmonic interpolation

(Sparse Solvers)

Laplacian equation

$$\Delta f = 0$$

$$\Delta f = \nabla \cdot \nabla f = \frac{\partial^2 f_x}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 f_y}{\partial y^2} + \cdots$$

- Many applications
 - interpolation
 - smoothing
 - regularization
 - deformations
 - parametrization
 - etc.

Laplacian equation

$$\Delta f = 0$$

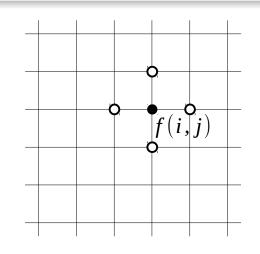


[courtesy of A. Jacobson et al.]

Discretization

Example on a 2D grid:

$$\Delta \Leftrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & -4 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \qquad -\frac{1}{1}$$



$$\Delta f(i,j) = \frac{(f(i-1,j)+f(i+1,j)+f(i,j-1)+f(i,j+1))}{4} - f(i,j) = 0$$

– Matrix form:

$$\mathbf{L} \mathbf{f} = 0$$

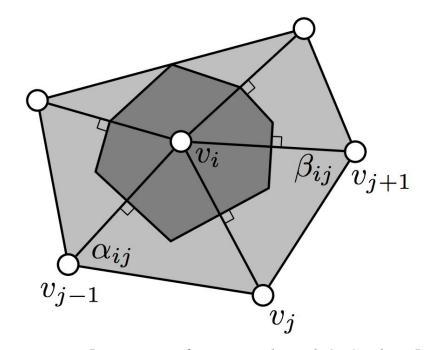
Discretization

• On a 3D mesh:

$$\Delta f(v_i) = \sum_{v_j \in N_1(v_i)} L_{i,j}(f(v_j) - f(v_i))$$

$$L_{i,j} = \frac{\cot \alpha_{ij} + \cot \beta_{ij}}{A_i + A_j}$$

$$L_{i,i} = -\sum_{v_j \in N_1(v_i)} L_{i,j}$$



[courtesy of M. Botsch and O. Sorkine]



Sparse Representation

Naive way:

```
std::map<pair<int,int>, double>
```

- Eigen::SparseMatrix
 - Matrix:

```
0 3 0 0 0
22 0 0 0 17
7 5 0 1 0
0 0 0 0 0
0 0 14 0 8
```

Compressed Column-major Storage:

```
Values: 22 7 3 5 14 1 17 8
InnerIndices: 1 2 0 2 4 2 1 4
OuterStarts: 0 2 4 5 6 8
```

Constraints

- Dirichlet boundary conditions
 - fix a few (or many) values: $f(v_i) = \overline{f}_i$, $v_i \in \Gamma$
 - updated problem:

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{L}_{00} & \mathbf{L}_{01} \\ \mathbf{L}_{10} & \mathbf{L}_{11} \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{\hat{f}} \\ \mathbf{f} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{\theta} \end{bmatrix} \quad \Rightarrow \mathbf{L}_{00} \cdot \mathbf{\hat{f}} = -\mathbf{L}_{01} \cdot \mathbf{\bar{f}}$$



Bi-harmonic interpolation

Continuous formulation:

$$\Delta \cdot \Delta f = 0$$

• Discrete form:

$$\mathbf{L} \cdot \mathbf{L} \cdot \mathbf{f} = 0$$

Solver Choice

- Questions:
 - Solve multiple times with the same matrix?
 - yes → direct methods
 - Dimension of the support mesh
 - 2D → direct methods
 - 3D → iterative methods
 - Can I trade the performance? Good initial solution?
 - yes → iterative methods
 - Hill conditioned?
- Still lost? → sparse benchmark

What next?



Coming soon: 3.2

- Already in 3.2-beta1
 - SparseLU
 - SparseQR
 - GeneralEigenSolver (Ax=IBx)
 - Ref<>
 - write generic but non-template function!

WIP: AVX

- AVX
 - SIMD on 256bits register (8 floats, 4 doubles)
 - ... or 128bits (4 floats, 2 doubles)
- Challenge
 - select the best register-width

WIP: CUDA

- Why only now?
 - CUDA 5 made it possible
- Roadmap
 - call Eigen from CUDA kernel
 - useful for small fixed size algebra
 - add a CudaMatrix class
 - coefficient-wise ops
 - special assignment evaluator
 - products & solvers
 - wrap optimized CUDA libraries
 (ViennaCL, CuBlas, Magma, etc.)

WIP: SparseMatrixBlock

- SparseMatrixBlock
 - → "SparseMatrix<Matrix4f>"
 - useful with high-order elements
 - classic with iterative methods (→ ViennaCL)
 - would be a first with direct methods!
 - huge speed-up expected!

WIP: Non-Linear Optimization

- Non-linear least square
 - Generic Levenberg-Marquart
 - Dense & Sparse
- Quadratic Programming
 - linear least-square + inequalities

WIP: utility modules

- Auto-diff
- Polynomials
 - differentiation & integration

Concluding remarks



License

- Initially:
 - LGPL3+
 - → default choice
 - → not as liberal as it might look...
- Now:
 - MPL2 (Mozilla Public License 2.0)
 - same spirit but with tons of advantages:
 - accepted by industries
 - do work with header only libraries
 - versatile (apply to anything)
 - a lot simpler
 - good reputation

Developer Community

- Jan 2008: start of Eigen2
 - part of KDE
 - packaged by all Linux distributions
 - open repository
 - open discussions on mailing/IRC
 - 300 members, 300 messages/month
 - → good quality API
- Today
 - most development @ Inria (Gaël + full-time engineer)
- Future
 - → consortium... ??

User community

- Active project with many users
 - Website:

~30k unique visitors/months



- Major domains
 - Geometry processing, Robotics,
 Computer vision, Graphics

Summary

Many unique features:

- C++ friendly API
- Easy to use, install, distribute, etc.
- Versatile
 - small, large, sparse
 - custom scalar types
 - large set of tools
- No compromise on performance
 - static allocation, temporary removal, unrolling, auto vectorization, cache-aware algorithms, multi-threading, etc.
- Multi-platforms

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 - Désiré Nuentsa,
 - Christoph Hertzberg,
 - Thomas Capricelli
 - + 100 others

- You're welcome to join!
 - documentation
 - bug report/patches
 - write unit tests
 - discuss the future on ML
 - ...

– don't be shy!