

# ArborX: a geometric search library

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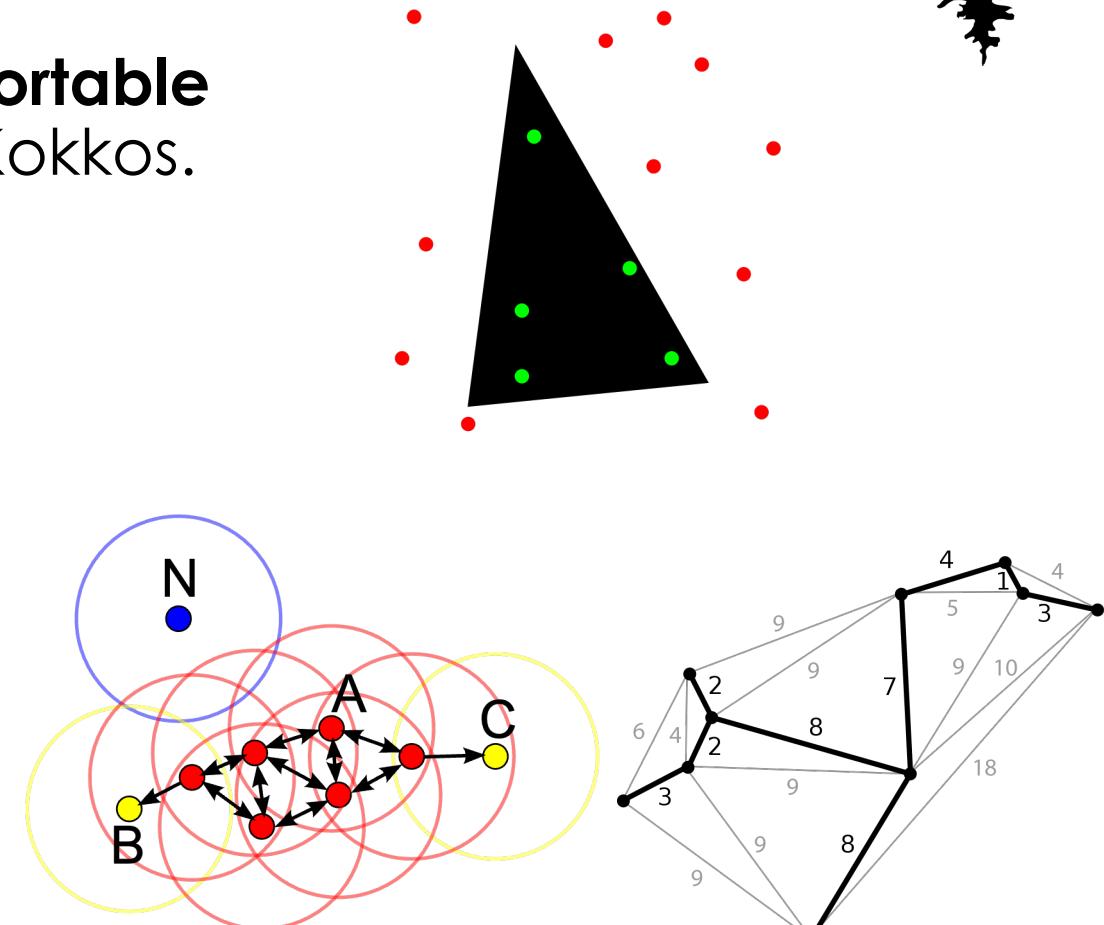




# What is ArborX?

ArborX is an open-source **performance portable geometric search library** based on MPI+Kokkos.

- **Search**
  - k-nearest neighbors (k-NN)
  - Range search (radius search, intersections)
- **Ray Tracing**
- **Clustering algorithms**
  - Minimum spanning tree (Euclidean MST)
  - Density-based clustering (DBSCAN, HDBSCAN\*)
- **Interpolation**
  - Moving Least Squares (MLS)



<https://github.com/arborx/ArborX>

# Who is developing ArborX?

## Core developer team

- Daniel Arndt\*
- Damien Lebrun-Grandié\*
- Andrey Prokopenko
- Bruno Turcksin\*



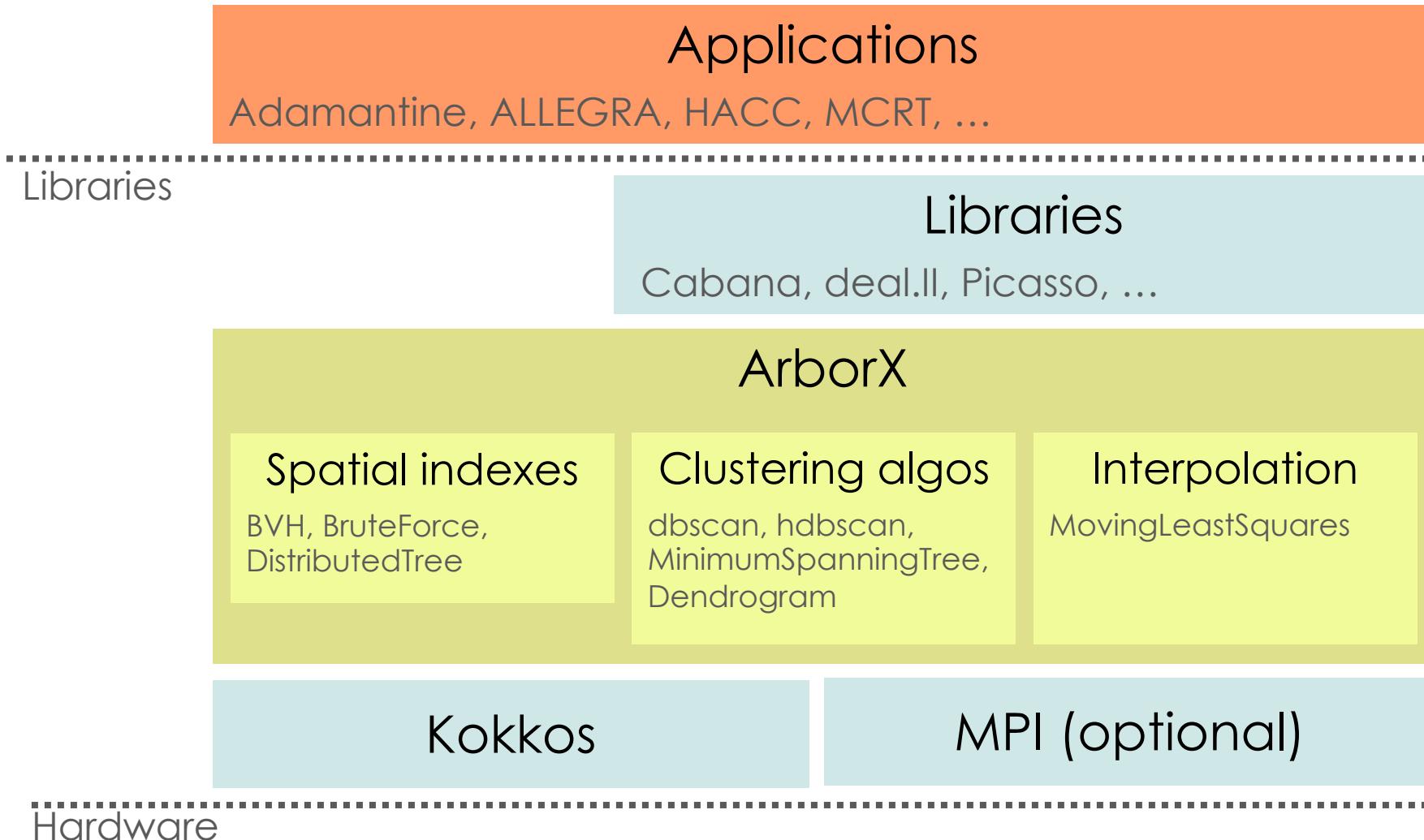
## Contributors

- Ana Gainaru
- Wenjun Ge
- Piyush Sao
- Yohann Bosqued



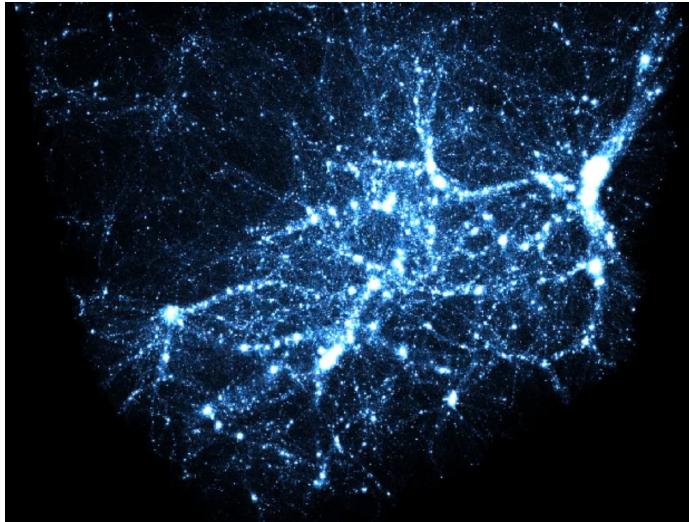
\* Also Kokkos developers!

# ArborX in the scientific software stack

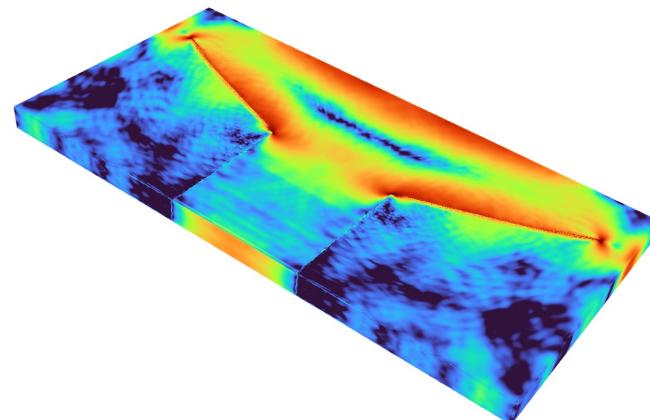


# Who uses ArborX?

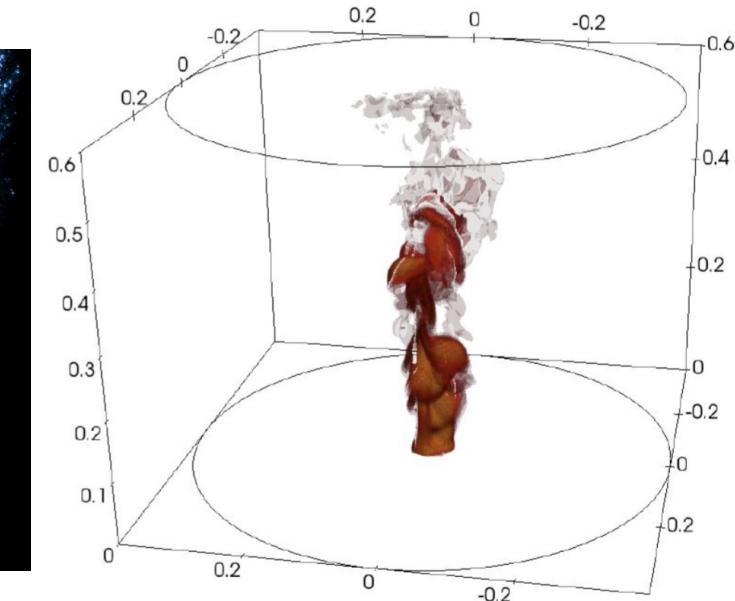
- **NimbleSM** contact mechanics
- **ALEGRA** shock hydrodynamics
- **LGRT** Lagrangian grid reconnection
- **deal.II** finite element library
- **DataTransferKit** solution transfer
- **MCRT** thermal radiation
- **Picasso** particle-in-cell
- **HACC/CosmoTools** clustering (dark matter)
- **Cabana** particle-based simulations
- **Adamantine** additive manufacturing
- ...



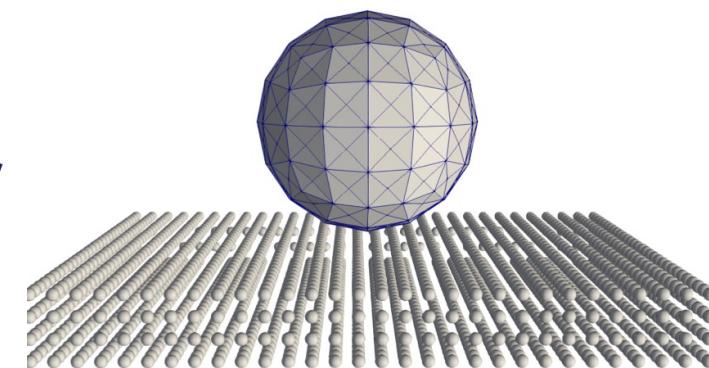
Cosmology (Credits: Nicholas Frontiere, ANL)



Additive manufacturing  
(Credits: Sam Reeve, ORNL)



Combustion (Credits: Nicolas Tricard, UConn)



Contact mechanics (Credits: Nicolas Morales, SNL)

# Why Kokkos?

Context: start of US DOE Exascale Computing Project ~2017

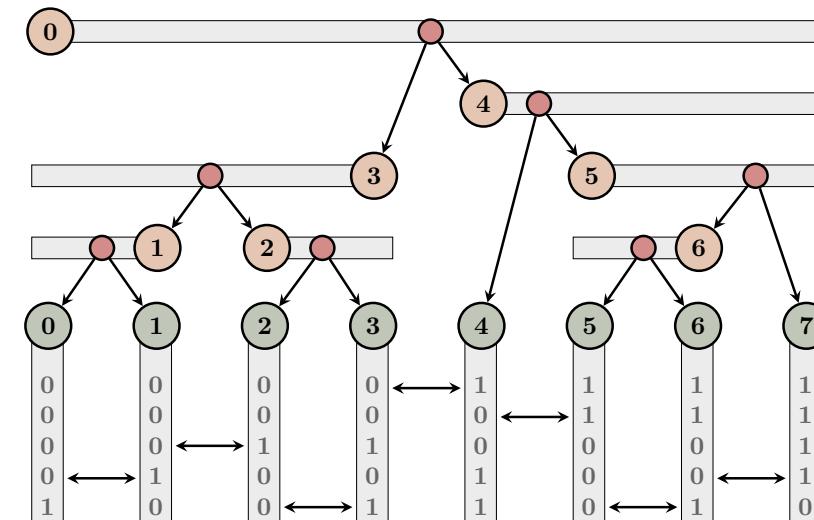
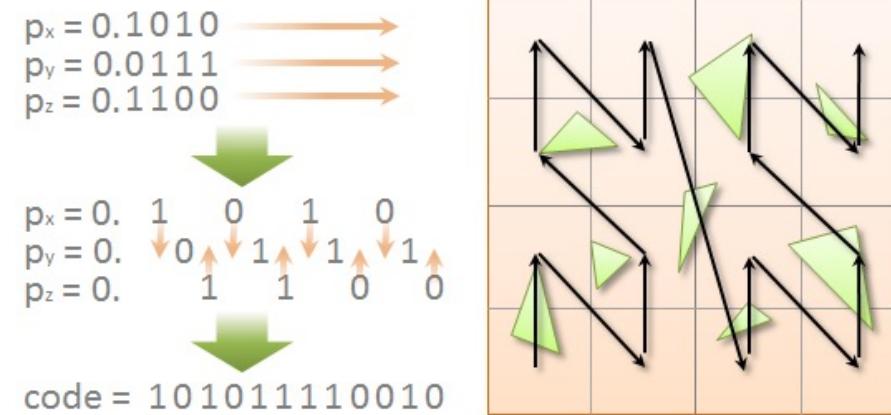
- Facing the unknown beyond Summit
- SYCL not around at that time
- RAJA? Kokkos? Roll our own?

Join forces with Kokkos

- More than a programming model
- Ecosystem with debugging and profiling tools, math libraries, etc.
- Building a community

# The workhorse: Bounding Volume Hierarchy (BVH)

- Impose order in which leaf nodes appear in the tree (Z-curve/Morton codes)
- Each internal node is a linear range over leaf nodes
- The splits are determined according to the highest bit that differs between the Morton codes within the given range
- Can be constructed fully in parallel



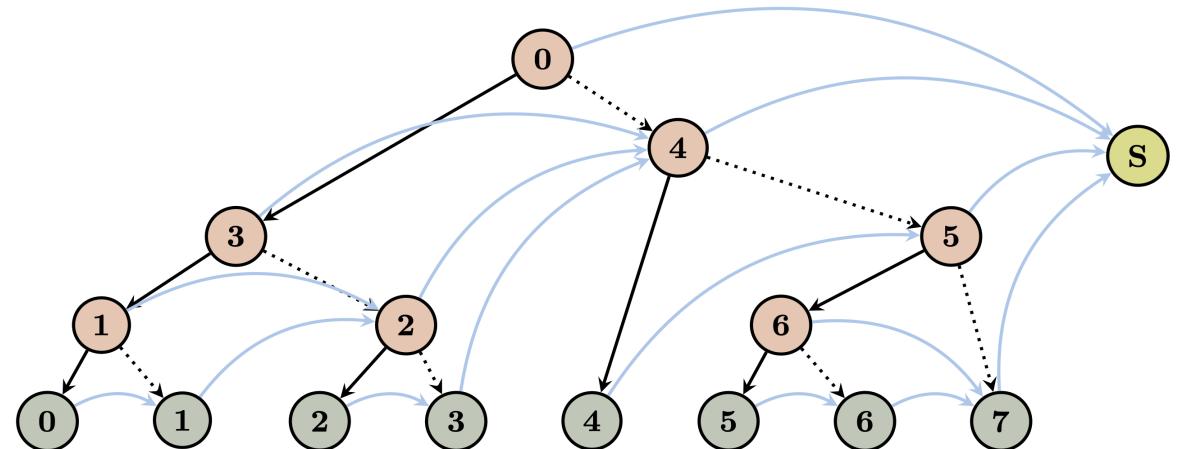
# Creating the index

- Building the data structure from a collection of boundable geometric objects  $O(N \log N)$
- Tree structure
  - $N$  leaf and  $N-1$  internal nodes
  - Store bounding volume, left child, and “rope”
  - Implementation detail not exposed in the API
- Interchangeable with other data structures provided (BruteForce)
- Distributed tree also uses MPI\_Comm

```
ArborX::BoundingVolumeHierarchy<MemorySpace>::  
    BoundingVolumeHierarchy
```

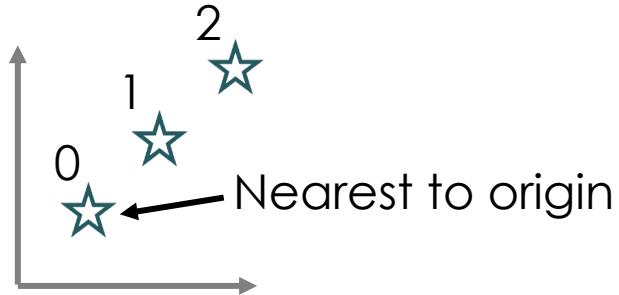
```
BoundingVolumeHierarchy() noexcept; // (1)
```

```
template <typename ExecutionSpace, typename Primitives>  
BoundingVolumeHierarchy(ExecutionSpace const &space,  
                        Primitives const &primitives); // (2)
```



# “Hello, World!” program with ArborX

## Nearest neighbor search



```
#include <ArborX.hpp>
#include <Kokkos_Core.hpp>
int main(int argc, char *argv[])
{
    Kokkos::initialize(argc, argv);
    {
        Kokkos::DefaultExecutionSpace exec;
        ArborX::BoundingVolumeHierarchy bvh(
            exec, to-view(
                {
                    {1., 1., 1.}, // 0
                    {2., 2., 2.}, // 1
                    {3., 3., 3.}, // 2
                }));
        bvh.query(
            exec, to-view(ArborX::nearest(ArborX::Point{0., 0., 0.})),
            KOKKOS_LAMBDA(auto /*predicate*/, int primitive_index) {
                printf("Nearest to origin is %d\n", primitive_index);
            });
    }
    Kokkos::finalize();
    return 0;
}
// Prints "Nearest to origin is 0"
```

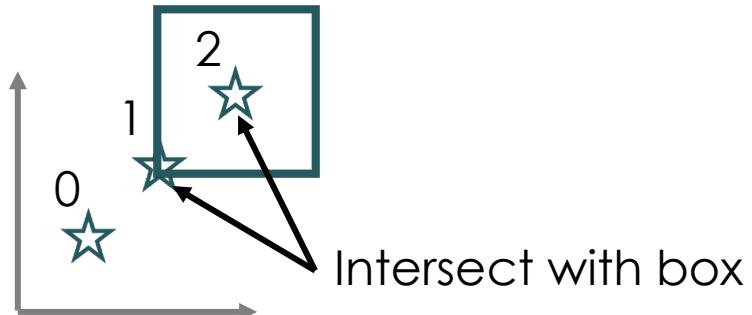
The code illustrates a nearest neighbor search using the ArborX library. It starts by including the necessary headers: `<ArborX.hpp>` and `<Kokkos_Core.hpp>`. The `main` function initializes the Kokkos execution space and creates a `BoundingVolumeHierarchy` (BVH) structure. The BVH is built with three points: (1, 1, 1), (2, 2, 2), and (3, 3, 3). The `bvh.query` method is then called with the execution space, a view of the BVH, and a lambda function that prints the index of the nearest point to the origin (0, 0, 0). The output of the program is "Nearest to origin is 0".

build data structure

search

# “Hello, World!” program with ArborX

## Intersection with geometries



```
#include <ArborX.hpp>
#include <Kokkos_Core.hpp>
int main(int argc, char *argv[])
{
    Kokkos::initialize(argc, argv);
    {
        Kokkos::DefaultExecutionSpace exec;
        ArborX::BoundingVolumeHierarchy bvh(
            exec, to-view(
                {
                    {1., 1., 1.}, // 0
                    {2., 2., 2.}, // 1
                    {3., 3., 3.}, // 2
                }));
        bvh.query(exec, to-view(ArborX::intersects(
            ArborX::Box{{2., 2., 2.}, {4., 4., 4.}})),
            KOKKOS_LAMBDA(auto /*predicate*/, int primitive_index) {
                printf("Found %d\n", primitive_index);
            });
    }
    Kokkos::finalize();
    return 0;
}
```

// Prints "Found 1\nFound 2\n" or "Found 2\nFound 1\n" Open slide master to edit

Unchanged

# Access traits

- Customization point
- Opt-in mechanism to tell ArborX
  - where does the data reside
  - how much of it
  - how to access
- Allowed to specialize ArborX::AccessTraits class template for user-defined type
- Available both for “primitives” and “predicates”

```
struct PointCloud
{
    float *d_x;
    float *d_y;
    float *d_z;
    int N;
};
```

Some user-defined type with coordinates allocated using cudaMalloc()

```
template <>
struct ArborX::AccessTraits<PointCloud, ArborX::PrimitivesTag>
{
    using memory_space = Kokkos::CudaSpace; Allocated in CUDA device memory

    static KOKKOS_FUNCTION size_t size(PointCloud const &cloud)
    {
        return cloud.N; Returns number of primitives
    }

    static KOKKOS_FUNCTION
    auto get(PointCloud const &cloud, size_t i)
    {
        return ArborX::Point{cloud.d_x[i], cloud.d_y[i], cloud.d_z[i]};
    } Access specified primitive
};
```

# Queries and callbacks

- Callbacks are another customization point
- Specify what to do when primitives meet a predicate
- Able to store results in compressed sparse row format

```
struct PrintfCallback
{
    template <typename Predicate, typename OutputFunctor>
    KOKKOS_FUNCTION void operator()(Predicate,
        int primitive_index, OutputFunctor const &out) const
    {
        printf("Found %d from functor\n", primitive_index);
        out(primitive_index);
    }
};
```

```
ArborX::BoundingVolumeHierarchy<MemorySpace>::query
```

```
template <typename ExecutionSpace, typename Predicates,
          typename Callback>
void query(ExecutionSpace const& space,
           Predicates const& predicates,
           Callback const& callback) const; // (1)
```

```
template <typename ExecutionSpace, typename Predicates,
          typename Indices, typename Offsets>
void query(ExecutionSpace const& space,
           Predicates const& predicates,
           Indices& indices,
           Offsets& offsets) const; // (2)
```

```
template <typename ExecutionSpace, typename Predicates,
          typename Callback, typename Values, typename Offsets>
void query(ExecutionSpace const& space,
           Predicates const& predicates,
           Callback const& callback,
           Values& values,
           Offsets& offsets) const; // (3)
```

# What ArborX uses from Kokkos

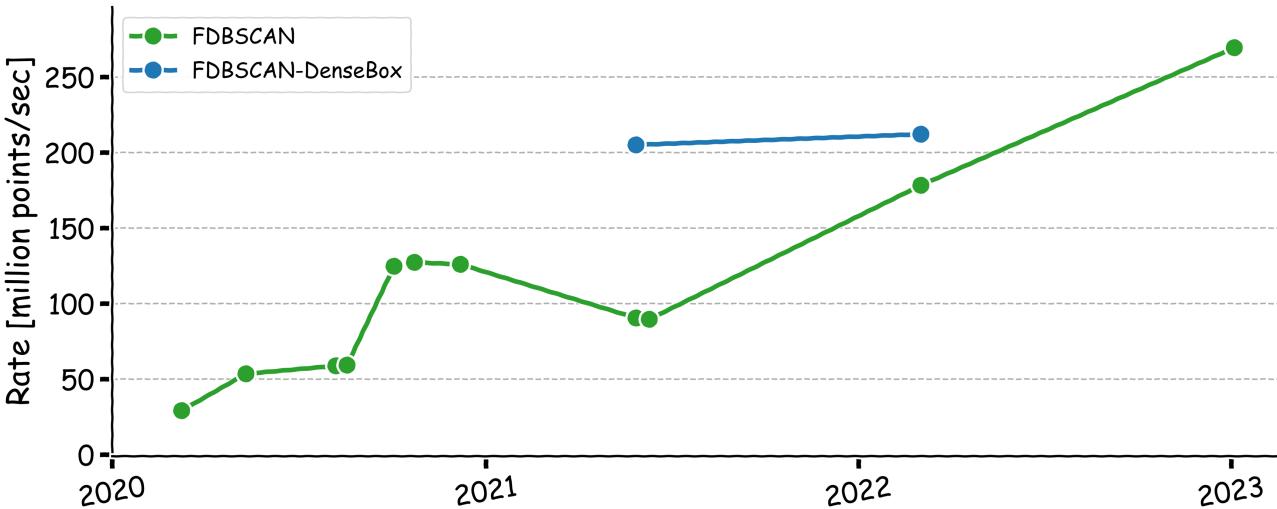
- Mostly **parallel\_{for,reduce,scan}** with regular **RangePolicy**
- Few **TeamPolicy**
- **Views, Arrays, pair**
- Synchronization primitives (atomic functions, memory fences)
- A few **algorithms** (most importantly sorting)
- Detection idioms (**Kokkos::is\_detected**)
- Mathy things (finite\_min/max, abs, pow, sqrt, bit\_cast)
- Profiling hooks (diligently annotating regions, kernels, and allocations)
- Custom reductions

# How ArborX extends Kokkos (we'd like not to)

- **is\_accessible\_from[\_host]**
- **sortByKey()**
- **swap()**
- **version()**
- **lastElement**
- **reallocWithoutInitializing**
- **clone, cloneWithoutInitializingNorCopying**
- **create\_layout\_right\_mirror\_view\_no\_init, create\_layout\_right\_mirror\_view\_and\_copy**
- **exclusivePrefixSum**
- **min(View), max(View), accumulate(View), adjacentDifference(View)**
  - We haven't played with std algorithms in Kokkos, hoping to see some performance results first

# How fast is ArborX?

- HACC 37M: 0.26s (Nvidia A100), 0.41s (AMD MI250x GCD).
- 1B 3D particles in 7.3s (1s construction, 6.3s query + clustering) on a single A100
- Constantly improving performance



State-of-the-art implementations

## ArborX: A Performance Portable Geometric Search Library

Authors: D. Lebrun-Grandié, A. Prokopenko, B. Turcksin, S. R. Slattery  
[Authors Info & Claims](#)

ACM Transactions on Mathematical Software, Volume 47, Issue 1 • Article No.: 2, pp 1–15  
• <https://doi.org/10.1145/3412558>

## Fast tree-based algorithms for DBSCAN for low-dimensional data on GPUs

Authors: Andrey Prokopenko, Damien Lebrun-Grandie, Daniel Arndt [Authors Info & Claims](#)

ICPP '23: Proceedings of the 52nd International Conference on Parallel Processing • August 2023 • Pages 503–512 • <https://doi.org/10.1145/3605573.3605594>

## A single-tree algorithm to compute the Euclidean minimum spanning tree on GPUs

Authors: Andrey Prokopenko, Piyush Sao, Damien Lebrun-Grandie [Authors Info & Claims](#)

ICPP '22: Proceedings of the 51st International Conference on Parallel Processing • August 2022 • Article No.: 14 • Pages 1–10 • <https://doi.org/10.1145/3545008.3546185>

# Is ArborX really “single-source”?

- ArborX achieves good performance from single-source Kokkos code
- From our experience
  - Often, optimization led to specialization of data structures and algorithms
  - But, as code matured, it typically converged towards a single implementation

## Few exceptions

- Returning a value instead of a reference with HIP in a bounding volume accessor on the device side because compiler had trouble generating efficient vector instructions
- Recompute distances on GPU or store them on thread local stack in nearest traversals
- Using slightly different “flavor” of the algorithm for the serial implementation of the minimum spanning tree and union-find algorithms

# What does the future hold?

- New interface (API v2) to provide more flexibility
- Finishing touches for HDBSCAN\* and interpolation algorithms
- RTX hardware support (e.g., OptiX)
- Multi-dimensional (>10) search
- Approximate search

**If you have an interesting problem,  
or simply want to learn more,  
talk to us!!!**

# Questions?

<https://github.com/arborx/ArborX>

[prokopenkoav@ornl.gov](mailto:prokopenkoav@ornl.gov)

## Acknowledgments

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