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Plasma-PEPSC Webinar 28 May 2024

alpaka Parallel Programming Library



















alpaka – Abstraction Library for Parallel Kernel Acceleration

alpaka is...

- A parallel programming library: Accelerate your code by exploiting your hardware's parallelism!
- An abstraction library independent of hardware ecosystem: Create portable code that runs on CPUs and GPUs!
- Open-source software & open-development





Problem of HPC Systems?

Heterogenous Hardware Ecosystem!

TOP500

- Frontier(USA) 1.194 Exaflop/s, AMD EPYC CPU + AMD Instict GPU
- Aurora(USA) 585 Petaflop/s, Intel Xeon CPU + Intel GPU Max
- Eagle(USA) 561 Petaflop/s, Intel Xeon CPU + Nvidia GPU H100
- Fugaku(Japan) 442 Petaflop/s, Fuiitsu A64FX CPU
- Lumi(Finland) 380 Petaflop/s, AMD EPYC CPU + AMD Instinct GPU



www.top500.org

THE LIST

11/2023 Highlights

The 62nd edition of the TOP500 shows five new or upgraded entries in the top 10 but the Frontier system still remains the only true exascale machine with an HPL score of 1.194 Exaflop/s.

The Frontier system at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Tennessee, USA remains the No. 1 system on the TOP500 and is still the only system reported with an HPL performance exceeding one Exaflop/s. Frontier brought the pole position back to the USA one year ago on the June 2022 listing and has since been remeasured with an HPL score of 1.194 Exaflop/s.

Frontier is based on the latest HPE Cray EX235a architecture and is equipped with AMD EPYC 64C 2GHz processors. The system has 8,699,904 total cores, a power efficiency rating of 52.59 gigaflops/watt, and relies on HPE's Slingshot 11 network for data transfer.

The Aurora system at the Argonne Leadership Computing Facility, Illinois, USA is currently being commissioned and will at full scale exceed Frontier with a peak performance of 2 Exaflop/s. It was submitted with a measurement on half of the final system achieving 585 Petaflop/s on the HPL benchmark which secured the No. 2 spot on the TOP500.

Aurora is built by Intel based on the HPE Cray EX - Intel Exascale Compute Blade which uses Intel Xeon CPU Max Series processors and Intel Data Center GPU Max Series accelerators which communicate through HPE's Slingshot-11 network interconnect.

The Eagle system installed in the Microsoft Azure cloud in the USA is newly listed as No. 3. This Microsoft NDv5 system is based on Intel Xeon Platinum 8480C processors and NVIDIA accelerators and achieved an HPL score of 561 Pflop/s.

read more »

List Statistics

Vendors System Share

- Frontier HPE Cray EX235a, AMD Optimized 3rd Generation EPYC 64C 2GHz. AMD Instinct MI250X Slingshot-11, HPE
- Aurora HPE Cray EX Intel Exascale Compute Blade, Xeon CPU Max 9470 52C 2.4GHz, Intel Data Center GPU Max, Slingshot-11, Intel
- Eagle Microsoft NDv5. Xeon Platinum 8480C 48C 2GHz, NVIDIA H100, NVIDIA Infiniband NDR. Microsoft
- Supercomputer Fugaku Supercomputer Fugaku, A64FX 48C 2.2GHz. Tofu interconnect D, Fujitsu
- LUMI HPE Cray EX235a, AMD Optimized 3rd Generation EPYC 64C 2GHz. AMD Instinct MI250X. Slingshot-11, HPE
- Leonardo BullSequana XH2000, Xeon Platinum 8358 32C 2.6GHz, NVIDIA A100 SXM4 64 GB, Quad-rail NVIDIA HDR100 Infiniband, **EVIDEN**
- Summit IBM Power System AC922, IBM POWER9 22C 3.07GHz. NVIDIA Volta GV100. Dual-



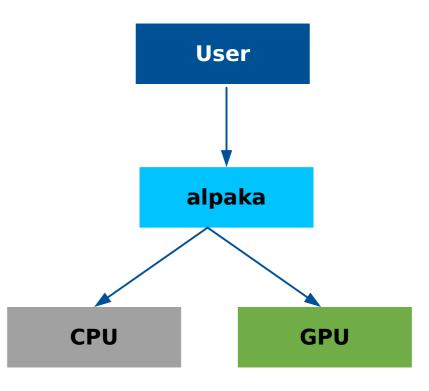


Without alpaka

Hardware ecosystem is heterogenous, platforms are not inter-operable \rightarrow parallel programs not easily portable

alpaka: one API to rule them all

- Abstraction (not hiding!) of the underlying hardware, compiler and OS
 - No default device, built-in functions, language extentions
- Easy change of the backend in code
- Direct usage of vendor APIs
 - GPU Backends: Hip (AMD), Cuda (NVidia), SYCL (Intel GPUs)
 - One can use vendor profilers and debuggers (Cuda, HIP...) for alpaka code!
 - CPU Backends: OpenMp, Threads, TbbBlocks
- Zero abstraction overhead for Kernel execution!
- **Heterogenous Programming**: Using different backends in a synchronized manner.







Find us on GitHub!

alpaka library: https://www.github.com/alpaka-group/alpaka

Full source code and many examples, Issue tracker

The documents: https://alpaka.readthedocs.io/en/latest/

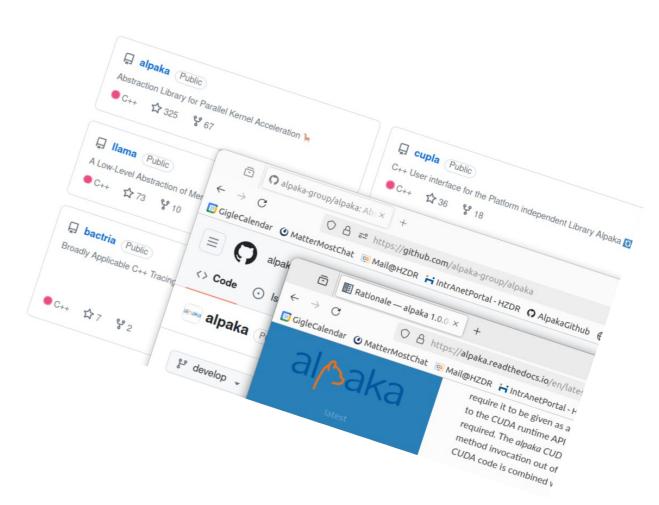
- Installation guide
- Cheatsheet
- Abstraction model and the rationale behind alpaka

Project group: https://www.github.com/alpaka-group

Contains all alpaka-related projects such as vikunja, cupla ...

alpaka is a free software (MPL 2.0)

moz://a Public License







Programming with alpaka

- C++ only!
- alpaka is written entirely in C++17. Coming soon: C++20.
- Header-only library. No additional runtime dependency. #include <alpaka/alpaka.hpp> is enough!
- Supports a wide range of modern C++ compilers (g++, clang++, Apple LLVM, MSVC)
- Portable across operating systems: Linux, macOS, Windows







Installation and Examples

I-Install Dependencies

- alpaka requires Boost, CMake and a modern C++ compiler (g++, clang++, Visual C++, ...)
 - Linux: sudo apt install libboost-all-dev (DEB)
 - MacOS: brew install boost (using homebrew, https://brew.sh)
 - Windows: vcpkg install boost (using vcpkg, https://github.com/microsoft/vcpkg)
- Depending on your target platform you may need additional packages
 - NVIDIA GPUs: CUDA Toolkit (https://developer.nvidia.com/cuda-toolkit)
 - AMD GPUs: ROCm / HIP (https://rocmdocs.amd.com/en/latest/index.html)
 - Intel GPUs: OneAPI Toolkit (https://www.intel.com/content/www/us/en/developer/tools/oneapi/basetoolkit.html#qs.9x3lnh)
- CMake is the preferred system for building and installing
 - Linux: sudo apt install cmake (DEB). macOS and Windows: Download the installer from https://cmake.org/download/





II - Compiling and running examples

- You can build all examples at once from your build directory:
 - configure the build with setting some cmake variables according to your system cmake -Dalpaka BUILD EXAMPLES=ON -DCMAKE BUILD TYPE=Release -Dalpaka ACC CPU B SEQ T SEQ ENABLE=ON -Dalpaka ACC GPU CUDA ENABLE=ON ...
 - build the examples cmake --build . --config Release
 - alpaka/build/example/ directory will include compiled examples. e.a. alpaka/build/example/vectorAdd will have vectorAdd
- Run all examples from the build directory of alpaka

ctest example/

Run all tests from the build directory of alpaka if BUILD TESTING cmake variable is set to ON.

ctest test/

Examples can be re-compiled and run in their corresponding directories under build directory if there is a code change in the source tree.

```
cd alpaka/build/example/vectorAdd
cmake --build. (or run the make command if make file is there)
```

```
git clone https://github.com/alpaka-group/alpaka.git
     cd alpaka
     mkdir build
  4 cd build/
  5 cmake -Dalpaka_BUILD_EXAMPLES=ON -DCMAKE_BUILD_TYPE=Release -Dalpaka_
ACC_CPU_B_SEQ_T_SEQ_ENABLE=ON -Dalpaka_ACC_GPU_CUDA_ENABLE=ON ..
    cmake --build . --config Release
     cd example/vectorAdd/
      /vectorAdd
```

```
alpaka_ACC_CPU_B_OMP2_T_SEQ_ENABLE
alpaka_ACC_CPU_B_SEQ_T_OMP2_ENABLE
alpaka_ACC_CPU_B_SEQ_T_SEQ_ENABLE
alpaka_ACC_CPU_B_SEQ_T_THREADS_ENABLE
alpaka_ACC_CPU_B_TBB_T_SEQ_ENABLE
alpaka ACC GPU CUDA ENABLE
alpaka ACC_GPU_CUDA_ONLY_MODE
alpaka ACC GPU HIP ENABLE
alpaka ACC GPU HIP ONLY MODE
alpaka ACC SYCL ENABLE
```

CMake variables which should be set to ON depending on your system during the configuration (by cmake -D.....) before compilation.





III - Install alpaka Library

Download alpaka: git clone -b develop https://github.com/alpaka-group/alpaka.git

In the terminal/powershell, switch to the downloaded alpaka directory:

cd /path/to/alpaka

• Create a build directory and switch to it:

mkdir build then cd build

```
git clone https://github.com/alpaka-group/alpaka.git
cd alpaka
mkdir build
cd build
cmake -DCMAKE INSTALL PREFIX=/some/other/path/ ...
cmake --install .
```

Configure build directory (If default directories is ok for you or you are planning to use alpaka from build directory; you can omit the install prefix cmake variable)

```
cmake -DCMAKE INSTALL PREFIX=/some/other/path/ ...
```

Install alpaka directly, compilation is not needed since it is a header only librarys! alpaka installation will reside in /some/other/path/

```
cmake --install.
```

You should now have a complete alpaka installation in the directory you chose earlier.

For Detailed information:

https://github.com/alpaka-group/alpaka-workshop-slides/tree/develop



IV - Create your first alpaka project

Option 1

1. After installation, create your cmake file as the one below in a new project directory. Use

find package(alpaka REQUIRED)

- 2. Create your cpp code (possibly under src directory of the project directory)
- 3. Inside the directory of your project run commands:

mkdir build then cd build

4. Configure your project by setting the relevant cmake variables to ON according to your system.

cmake -DCMAKE BUILD TYPE=Release -Dalpaka ACC CPU B SEQ T SEQ ENABLE=ON -Dalpaka ACC GPU CUDA ENABLE=ON -Dalpaka ACC GPU HIP ENABLE=ON ...

5. Build your code

cmake --build . --config Release

```
# CMakelists.txt for the myHelloWorld example
cmake_minimum_required(VERSION 3.22)
set( TARGET NAME myHelloWorld)
project(${_TARGET_NAME} LANGUAGES_CXX)
# Find alpaka.
find_package(alpaka REQUIRED)
# Add executable.
alpaka add executable(
   ${ TARGET NAME}
   src/myHelloWorld.cpp)
target_link_libraries(
   ${ TARGET NAME}
   PUBLIC alpaka::alpaka)
```

```
    CMakeCache.txt

  – cmake_install.cmake

    Makefile

 - myHelloWorld
CMakeLists.txt
 ___ myHelloWorld.cpp
```



Option 2

- 1. Copy one of the examples to a folder outside the alpaka source tree. The folder will be your project directory.
- 2. Remove ExampleDefaultAcc and getAccName from the code. Select a backend (accelerator) inside the code instead of ExampleDefaultAcc.
- 3. Clone alpaka under your project-directory
- 4. Add alpaka directory to CmakeLists.txt by add subdirectory

5. Repeat steps 3-5 of **Option1** under your project directory.

```
    CHANGELOG.md

  CMakeLists.txt for using alpaka by adding alpaka
# as a subdirectory to your project.
                                                                    CMakeLists.txt
cmake_minimum_required(VERSION 3.22)

    CMakePresets.json

    CONTRIBUTING.md

# Project.
set( TARGET NAME myVectorAddProject)
project(${ TARGET NAME} LANGUAGES CXX)
                                                                  — LICENSE
                                                                  - README.md
# add alpaka directory name(cloned into your project)
                                                                   README SYCL.md
add_subdirectory(./alpaka)
# Add executable.
alpaka_add_executable(
    ${ TARGET NAME}
                                                                  — CMakeCache.txt
    src/vectorAdd.cpp)
target link libraries(

    cmake install.cmake

    Makefile

    ${ TARGET NAME}
                                                                  myVectorAddProject
     PUBLIC alpaka::alpaka)
                                                                 CMakeLists.txt
                                                                  └─ vectorAdd.cpp
```





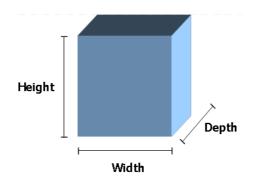
Tenets of Thread-Parallel Programming

Grid, block and thread based paralelisation model.

The model is instantiated differently on different processors, because of cache size and speed, the synchronization mechanism of the hardware, or simply the CPU-GPU difference. By using this abstraction the execution can be optimally adapted to the available hardware.

- **Large number of threads** should run the same code (**kernel**) on different data in parallel.
- Indexing of threads. Each thread should work on a different data portion or do a specific task, therefore each thread has an index accessible in kernel.

- Extent: A vector representing the sizes along dimensions. In 3d an extent is {Depth, Height, Width}



- **Dimensions:** Set of dimension names. {Z-dimension, Y-dimension, X-dimension}
- Number of Dimensions



Grid-Block Extent: Vec{3} Block-Thread Extent: Vec{4}



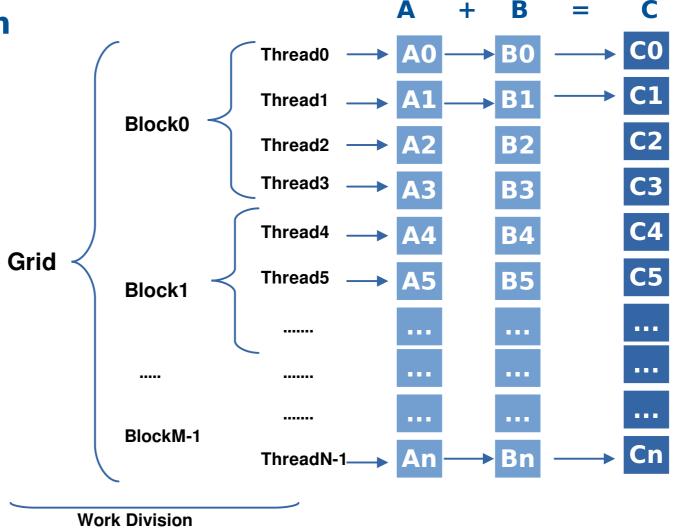
Grid-Block Extent: Vec{3} or Vec{1,3} Block-Thread Extent: Vec{4,5}





Vector Addition Problem

C = A + B







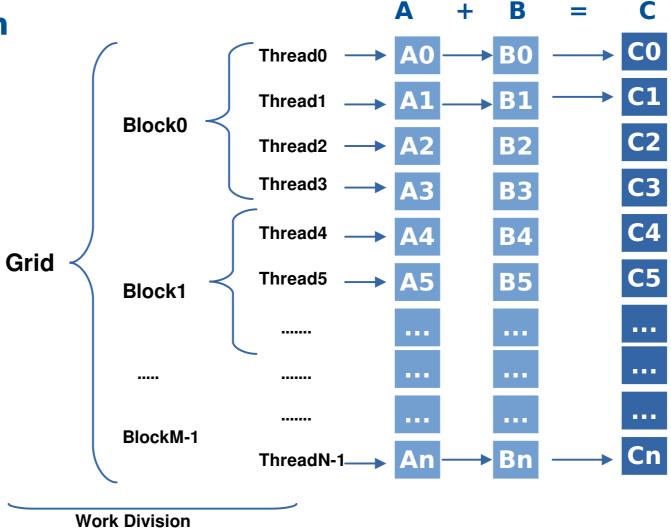
Vector Addition Problem

C = A + B

I- Mapping the ThreadIndex to the DataIndex

One to one, Identity

II- Grouping threads







Vector Addition Code Steps

- 1. Create Kernel.
- 2. Decide where will the paralel and non-parallel parts of the code run.
- 3. Decide how to parallelise (number of blocks and threads).
- 4. Allocate host and device memory for A,B and C.
- 5. Copy the memory to the device.
- 6. Run the kernel
- 7. Copy the result data back to the host.





1. Define the alpaka Kernel

- Contains the algorithm that is run by each thread
- alpaka Kernels are functors (functionlike C++ structs / classes) or lambdas
- Arguments can be pointers and trivially copyable types
- Agnostic to device details

```
// Single header library
#include <alpaka/alpaka.hpp>
#include <iostream>
class VectorAddKernel
    ALPAKA_NO_HOST_ACC_WARNING
    template<typename TAcc, typename TElem, typename TIdx>
    ALPAKA_FN_ACC auto operator()(
        TAcc const& acc, // the accelerator
        TElem const* const A, TElem const* const B, TElem* const C,
        TIdx const& numElements ) const -> void
        static_assert(alpaka::Dim<TAcc>::value == 1, "The kernel expects 1-dimensional indices!");
        // Get thread index
        TIdx const gridThreadIdx(alpaka::getIdx<alpaka::Grid, alpaka::Threads>(acc)[0u]);
        if(gridThreadIdx < numElements)</pre>
                // Use thread index as the data index
                C[gridThreadIdx] = A[gridThreadIdx] + B[gridThreadIdx];
```





Obtaining the indices of threads/blocks inside the Kernel



- Index of Thread on the Grid: auto gridThreadIndex = alpaka::getIdx<alpaka::Grid, alpaka::Threads>(acc); // gridThreadIndex is {1,9}
- Index of Thread on a Block: auto theradBlockIndex = alpaka::getIdx<alpaka::Block, alpaka::Threads>(acc); // threadBlockIndex is {1,4}
- Index of Block on the Grid: auto blockGridIndex = alpaka::getIdx<alpaka::Grid, alpaka::Blocks>(acc); // the blockGridIndex is {1}





2. Select the Accelerator, Platform and **Device**

- alpaka provides a number of pre-defined Accelerators.
 - AccGpuCudaRt for Nvidia GPUs
 - AccGpuHipRt for AMD GPUs
 - AccGpuSycIIntel for AMD, Intel and Nvidia GPUs
 - AccCpu0mp2Blocks based on OpenMP 2.x
 - AccCpuTbbBlocks based on TBB
 - AccCpuThreads based on std::thread
 - AccCpuSycl
 - AccFpgaSyclIntel
- **Device** instance represents a single physical device

```
auto main() -> int
   using Dim = alpaka::DimInt<1u>; // Number of dimensions as a type, 1 for 1D index domain
   using Idx = std::size_t; // Index type of the threads and buffers
   using DataType = std::uint32_t; // Define the buffer element type
   // Define the accelerator: AccGpuCudaRt, AccGpuHipRt,
   // AccCpuThreads, AccCpuOmp2Threads, AccCpuOmp2Blocks, AccCpuTbbBlocks AccCpuSerial
   using Acc = alpaka::AccGpuCudaRt<Dim, Idx>;
   using DevAcc = alpaka::Dev<Acc>;*
   // Select a device from platform of Acc
   auto const platform = alpaka::Platform<Acc>{};*
   auto const devAcc = alpaka::getDevByIdx(platform, 0);
```





3. How to parallelise?

I- Get a valid work division from alpaka

Use **getValidWorkDiv** function which **devides the full grid- thread extent into blocks.**

- Inputs:
 - Full grid-thread extent (total number of threads needed) and Elements per thread extent
- The probable output:

{Vec{alpaka::core::divCeil(numElements,1024)}, Vec{1024}, Vec{1} }

II - Determine the workdivision manually

- WorkDivision data structure consists 3 vectors:
 - Grid block extent.
 - Vec{alpaka::core::divCeil(numElements,1024)} or
 Vec{1, 1, alpaka::core::divCeil(numElements,1024)}
 depending on the number of dimensions.
 - Block thread extent: Vec{1024} or Vec{1,1,1024}
 - Elements per thread is Vec{1} or Vec{1,1,1}

```
using Acc = alpaka::AccGpuCudaRt<Dim, Idx>;
using DevAcc = alpaka::Dev<Acc>;
// Define the work division depending on the data
Idx const numElements(100000);
Idx const elementsPerThread(1u);
alpaka::Vec<<u>Dim</u>, Idx> const extent(numElements);
// Let alpaka calculate good block and grid sizes given our full problem extent
alpaka::WorkDivMembers<Dim, Idx> const workDiv = alpaka::getValidWorkDiv<Acc>(*
    devAcc, // device
    extent, // {length, height, depth} of grid. For 1D only legth of the vector!
    elementsPerThread, false, alpaka::GridBlockExtentSubDivRestrictions::Unrestricted);
VectorAddKernel kernel;
alpaka::exec<Acc>( // Run the kernel execution task
     vorkDiv
    kernel,
    std::data(bufAccA),
```

```
Total amount of constant memory:

Total amount of shared memory per block:

Total number of registers available per block: 65536

Warp size:

Maximum number of threads per multiprocessor: 2048

Maximum number of threads per block: 1024

Max dimension size of a thread block (x,y,z): (1024, 1024, 64)

Max dimension size of a grid size (x,y,z): (2147483647, 65535, 65535)
```

Nvidia Tesla K20 deviceQuery





4. Allocate data vectors A and B on host and device.

alpaka::Buf is multi-dimensional dynamic (runtime sized) container.

It contains

- memory,
- size,
- the device, the memory is allocated in!
- alpaka::allocBuf() allocates memory to the given device.

```
using Acc = alpaka::AccGpuCudaRt<Dim, Idx>;
using DevAcc = alpaka::Dev<Acc>;*
// Select a device from platform of Acc
quto const platform = alpaka::Platform<Acc>{};*
auto const devAcc = alpaka::getDevByIdx(platform, 0);
// Define the work division depending on the data
Idx const numElements(100000);
Idx const elementsPerThread(1u);
alpaka::Vec<Dim, Idx> const extent(numElements);
// Get the host device for allocating memory on the host.
auto const platformHost = alpaka::PlatformCpu{};
// Get the device directly from CPU platform not from the platform of Acc
quto const devHost = alpaka::getDevByIdx(platformHost, 0);
// Host device type is needed, still not known
using DevHost = alpaka::DevCpu;
// Allocate 3 host memory buffers
using BufHost = alpaka::Buf<DevHost, DataType, Dim, Idx>;
BufHost bufHostA(alpaka::allocBuf<DataType, Idx>(devHost, extent));
BufHost bufHostB(alpaka::allocBuf<DataType, Idx>(devHost, extent));
BufHost bufHostC(alpaka::allocBuf<DataType, Idx>(devHost, extent));
for(Idx i(0); i < numElements; ++i)</pre>
    bufHostA[i] = randomA; bufHostB[i] = randomB; bufHostC[i] = 0;
// Allocate 3 buffers on the accelerator
using BufAcc = alpaka::Buf<DevAcc, DataType, Dim, Idx>;*
BufAcc bufAccA(alpaka::allocBuf<DataType, Idx>(devAcc, extent));
BufAcc bufAccB(alpaka::allocBuf<DataType, Idx>(devAcc, extent));*
BufAcc bufAccC(alpaka::allocBuf<DataType, Idx>(devAcc, extent));*
```





5.1 Create the Queue for memcpy and kernel task

- alpaka::Queue is "a queue of tasks"
- Queue is always FIFO, everything is sequential inside the queue.
- and more
 - Different queues run in parallel for many devices
 - Used for synchronization
 - Accelerator back-ends can be mixed (used in interleaves) within a device queue.

```
// Create a queue on the device, define the synchronization behaviour
alpaka::Queue<Acc, alpaka::Blocking> queue(devAcc);
alpaka::memcpy(queue, bufAccA, bufHostA);
alpaka::memcpy(queue, bufAccB, bufHostB);
alpaka::memcpy(queue, bufAccC, bufHostC);
// Instantiate the kernel function object
VectorAddKernel kernel;
alpaka::exec<Acc>( // Run the kernel execution task
   queue,
   workDiv.
    kernel, alpaka::getPtrNative(bufAccA), alpaka::getPtrNative(bufAccB),
    alpaka::getPtrNative(bufAccC),
   numElements);
  Copy back the result
alpaka::memcpy(queue, bufHostC, bufAccC); // bufHostC includes the result!
```





5.2 Copy data vectors to the Device

- alpaka::memcpy copies the data from one buffer/view to another buffer or view.
- alpaka::Buf knows the device it belongs to.
- Alternatively alpaka::View is used to adapt already allocated memory.

if we already have a C++ **std::vector** at host; we don't need to create an alpaka::Buf to copy it between different devices. Converting it to an alpaka::View is enough to copy it using alpaka::memcpy.

```
// Allocate 3 buffers on the accelerator
using BufAcc = alpaka::Buf<DevAcc, DataType, Dim, Idx>;*
BufAcc bufAccA(alpaka::allocBuf<DataType, Idx>(devAcc, extent));
BufAcc bufAccB(alpaka::allocBuf<DataType, Idx>(devAcc, extent));*
BufAcc bufAccC(alpaka::allocBuf<DataType, Idx>(devAcc, extent));

// Define the synchronization behavior of a queue
// choose between Blocking and NonBlocking
// Create a queue on the device
alpaka::Queue<Acc, alpaka::Blocking> queue(devAcc);
// Copy from Host to Acc
alpaka::memcpy(queue, bufAccA, bufHostA);
alpaka::memcpy(queue, bufAccB, bufHostB);
alpaka::memcpy(queue, bufAccC, bufHostC);
```





6. Execute the kernel

- Call alpaka::exec function
- The result is stored in an alpaka::Buf

7. Copy result back

Copy the result in device to the host

```
// Instantiate the kernel function object
VectorAddKernel kernel;
alpaka::exec<Acc>( // Run the kernel execution task
    queue,
    workDiv,
    kernel,
    alpaka::getPtrNative(bufAccA),
    alpaka::getPtrNative(bufAccB),
    alpaka::getPtrNative(bufAccC),
    numElements);
// Copy back the result
alpaka::memcpy(queue, bufHostC, bufAccC); // bufHostC includes the result!
```







```
class VectorAddKernel
   ALPAKA NO HOST ACC WARNING
       template<typename TAcc, typename TElem, typename TIdx>
       ALPAKA_FN_ACC auto operator()(
           TAcc const& acc, // the accelerator
           TElem const* const A.
           TElem const* const B,
           TElem* const C,
           TIdx const& numElements) const -> void
       TIdx const gridThreadIdx(alpaka::getIdx<alpaka::Grid, alpaka::Threads>(acc)[0u]);
       if(gridThreadIdx < numElements)</pre>
           // Use thread index as the data index
           C[gridThreadIdx] = A[gridThreadIdx] + B[gridThreadIdx];
auto main() -> int
   using Dim = alpaka::DimInt<lu>; // Define the index domain ?
   using Idx = std::size_t; // Index type of the threads and buffers
   using DataType = std::uint32_t; // Define the buffer element type
   using Acc = alpaka::AccGpuCudaRt<Dim, Idx>;
   using DevAcc = alpaka::Dev<Acc>;
   // Select a device from platform of Acc
   auto const platform = alpaka::Platform<Acc>{};
   auto const devAcc = alpaka::getDevByIdx(platform, 0);
   Idx const numElements(100000);
   Idx const elementsPerThread(1u);
   alpaka::Vec<Dim, Idx> const extent(numElements);
```

```
alpaka::WorkDivMembers<Dim, Idx> const workDiv = alpaka::getValidWorkDiv<Acc>(*
    devAcc, // device
    elementsPerThread.
    false, alpaka::GridBlockExtentSubDivRestrictions::Unrestricted);
// Get the host device for allocating memory on the host.
 quto const platformHost = alpaka::PlatformCpu{};
 // Get the device directly from CPU platform not from the platform of Acc
auto const devHost = alpaka::getDevByIdx(platformHost, 0);
 using DevHost = alpaka::DevCpu;
using BufHost = alpaka::Buf<DevHost, DataType, Dim, Idx>;
 BufHost bufHostA(alpaka::allocBuf<DataType, Idx>(devHost, extent));
 BufHost bufHostB(alpaka::allocBuf<DataType, Idx>(devHost, extent)); **
BufHost bufHostC(alpaka::allocBuf<DataType, Idx>(devHost, extent)); **
// Fill the buffers
for(Idx i(0); i < numElements; ++i)</pre>
{ bufHostA[i] = randomA; bufHostB[i] = randomB; bufHostC[i] = 0; } •
using BufAcc = alpaka:: Buf < DevAcc, DataType, Dim, Idx>; ?
 BufAcc bufAccA(alpaka::allocBuf<DataType, Idx>(devAcc, extent));
BufAcc bufAccB(alpaka::allocBuf<DataType, Idx>(devAcc, extent));
BufAcc bufAccC(alpaka::allocBuf<DataType, Idx>(devAcc, extent)); **
 alpaka::Queue<Acc, alpaka::Blocking> queue(devAcc);
// Copy from Host to Acc
 alpaka::memcpy(queue, bufAccA, bufHostA);
 alpaka::memcpy(queue, bufAccB, bufHostB);
 alpaka::memcpy(queue, bufAccC, bufHostC);
 VectorAddKernel kernel;
    kernel, alpaka::getPtrNative(bufAccA), alpaka::getPtrNative(bufAccB),
    alpaka::getPtrNative(bufAccC),
 // Copy back the result
 alpaka::memcpy(queue, bufHostC, bufAccC); // bufHostC includes the result!
```





CASUS CENTER FOR ADVANCED SYSTEMS UNDERSTANDING

Parallel vector addition code

```
Single
                                  header
#include <iostream>9
class VectorAddKernel
                                                                 kernel
   ALPAKA_NO_HOST_ACC_WARNING
       template<typename TAcc, typename TElem, typename TIdx>
       ALPAKA_FN_ACC auto operator()(
           TAcc const& acc, // the accelerator
           TElem const* const A,
           TElem const* const B,
           TElem* const C,
           TIdx const& numElements) const -> void
       static_assert(alpaka::Dim<TAcc>::value == 1, "Kernel expects 1-dimensional indices!");
       TIdx const gridThreadIdx(alpaka::getIdx<alpaka::Grid, alpaka::Threads>(acc)[0u]);
       if(gridThreadIdx < numElements)</pre>
           // Use thread index as the data index
           C[gridThreadIdx] = A[gridThreadIdx] + B[gridThreadIdx];
auto main() -> int
   using Dim = alpaka::DimInt<lu>; // Define the index domain ?
   using Idx = std::size_t; // Index type of the threads and buffers
   using DataType = std::uint32_t; // Define the buffer element type
                                                                  Select
  // Define the accelerator: AccGpuCudaRt, AccGpuHipRt,
                                                                  accelerator
   using Acc = alpaka::AccGpuCudaRt<Dim, Idx>;
   using DevAcc = alpaka::Dev<Acc>;
                                                                  and the
   // Select a device from platform of Acc
                                                                  device (GPU)
   auto const platform = alpaka::Platform<Acc>{};
   auto const devAcc = alpaka::getDevByIdx(platform, 0);
   // Define the work division depending on the data
   Idx const numElements(100000);
   Idx const elementsPerThread(1u);
   alpaka::Vec<Dim, Idx> const extent(numElements);
```

```
// Let alpaka calculate good block and grid sizes given our full problem extent
alpaka::WorkDivMembers<Dim, Idx> const workDiv = alpaka::getValidWorkDiv<Acc>( ?
                                                                              Get Work
    extent, // {length, height, depth} of grid. For 1D only legth of the vector!
                                                                              division
    false, alpaka::GridBlockExtentSubDivRestrictions::Unrestricted);
// Get the host device for allocating memory on the host.
auto const platformHost = alpaka::PlatformCpu{};
                                                                       Get host
                                                                       device (CPU)
auto const devHost = alpaka::getDevByIdx(platformHost, 0);
using DevHost = alpaka::DevCpu;
// Allocate 3 host memory buffers
using BufHost = alpaka::Buf<DevHost, DataType, Dim, Idx>;
                                                                    allocate
BufHost bufHostA(alpaka::allocBuf<DataType, Idx>(devHost, extent));
BufHost bufHostB(alpaka::allocBuf<DataType, Idx>(devHost, extent)); **
                                                                    memory
BufHost bufHostC(alpaka::allocBuf<DataType, Idx>(devHost, extent));*
                                                                    at host (CPU)
// Fill the buffers
{ bufHostA[i] = randomA; bufHostB[i] = randomB; bufHostC[i] = 0; }♥
                                                                  allocate
using BufAcc = alpaka::Buf<DevAcc, DataType, Dim, Idx>; ?
BufAcc bufAccA(alpaka::allocBuf<DataType, Idx>(devAcc, extent));
                                                                 memory at
BufAcc bufAccB(alpaka::allocBuf<DataType, Idx>(devAcc, extent));*
BufAcc bufAccC(alpaka::allocBuf<DataType, Idx>(devAcc, extent)); •-
                                                                  device (GPU)
// Create a queue on the device, define the synchronization behaviour
alpaka::Queue<Acc, alpaka::Blocking> queue(devAcc);
                                             Copy vectors
alpaka::memcpy(queue, bufAccA, bufHostA);
                                             to device
alpaka::memcpy(queue, bufAccB, bufHostB);
                                             (GPU)
alpaka::memcpy(queue, bufAccC, bufHostC);
// Instantiate the kernel function object
                                                                       Execute
VectorAddKernel kernel;
alpaka::exec<Acc>( // Run the kernel execution task
                                                                        kernel
    kernel, alpaka::getPtrNative(bufAccA), alpaka::getPtrNative(bufAccB),
    alpaka::getPtrNative(bufAccC),
                                                                          Copy
    numElements):
// Copy back the result
                                                                         result
alpaka::memcpy(queue, bufHostC, bufAccC); // bufHostC includes the result!
                                                                         to host (CPU)
```





Programing Tips

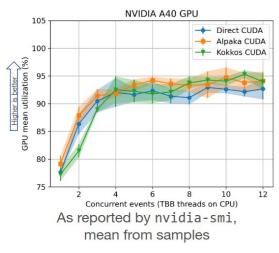
- If you want to pass multi-dimensional data to kernel, use mdspan (enable it via cmake option) (If you don't use mdspan; you will need to take care of alignment/pitch values. Pass the pointer, extents and the pitch.)
- To incease performance; using shared memory and constant memory of GPUs are among alpaka features.
- A kernel can be run directly by exec function or can be enqueued as a task.
- Vendor specific profiling and debugging tools (e.g. **nsys, rocprof** ...) can be used on compiled alpaka code.
- If you debug GPU code try to compile your code for CPU; and use CPU debugger tools (Change accelerator type to CPU accelerators, then debug using **gdb** and similar tools.)
- Inside alpaka Kernel, you can use printf; but you should not use std::cout for GPU backends.
- For unused number of dimensions in workdiv; use 1, for that dimension. auto blockThreadExtent = alpaka::Vec<TDim3D,ldx>{1u,1u,128u};

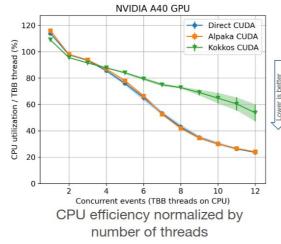




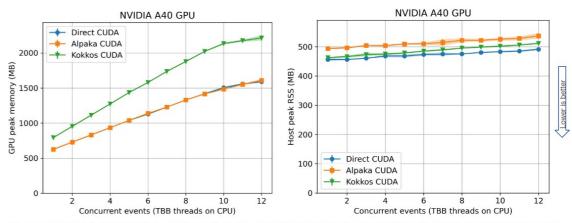
Performance of Alpaka

Mean GPU and CPU utilization on NVIDIA A40 GPU





Peak memory usage on NVIDIA A40 GPU



As reported by nvidia-smi and /proc/<PID>/status. A100 shows similar behavior.





Kokkos Kokkos C++ Performance Portability Programming Ecosystem Rx 195 followers Phttps://kokkos.org crtrott@sandia.gov



Source: Evaluating Performance Portability with the CMS **Heterogeneous Pixel Reconstruction code**

N. Andriotis¹, A. Bocci², E. Cano², L. Cappelli³, M. Dewing⁴, T. Di Pilato^{5,6}, J. Esseiva⁷, L. Ferragina⁸, G. Hugo², M. Kortelainen⁹, M. Kwok⁹, J. J. Olivera Loyola¹⁰, F. Pantaleo², A. Perego¹¹, W. Redjeb^{2,12} ¹BSC ²CERN ³INFN Bologna ⁴ANL ⁵CASUS ⁶University of Geneva ⁷LBNL ⁶University of Bologna ⁹FNAL ¹⁰ITESM ¹¹University of Milano Bicocca ¹² RWTH **CHEP 2023**

https://indico.jlab.org/event/459/contributions/11824/attachments/9281/14171/20230511-CHEaP23 CMSPortability.pdf





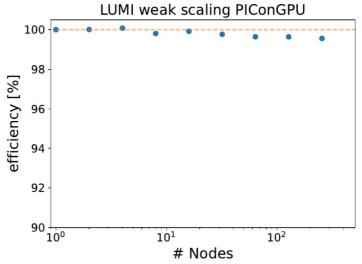
alpaka in the wild...

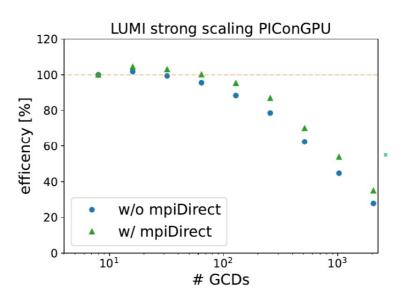
PIConGPU:

- Fully relativistic, manycore, 3D3V particle-in-cell (PIC) code
- Implements central algorithms in plasma physics
- Scalable to more than 18,000 GPUs
- Developed at Helmholtz-Zentrum Dresden-Rossendorf



https://github.com/ComputationalRadiationPhysics/picongpu









How to start using alpaka

- Don't write code initially on **cuda** because **alpaka** is already low level!
- **Use alpaka directly** by using examples and the cheat-sheet.
- BUT if you already have a codebase in cuda, converting to cupla can be a fast solution to benefit from alpaka features!

cupla - C++ User interface for the Platform Independent Library alpaka



https://github.com/alpaka-group/cupla





Cuda to portable C++ code

- Change the suffix .cu of the CUDA source files to .cpp
- Remove #include <cuda runtime.h> and other cuda specific include files.
- Add #include <cuda_to_cupla.hpp>

Cuda

```
Kernel Function
     template<int blockSize>
     __global__ void fooKernel(int * ptr, float value)
     { // ... }
 Kernel call at host
   dim3 gridSize(42,1,1);
   dim3 blockSize(256,1,1);
   fooKernel<16><< gridSize, blockSize, 0, 0>>>(ptr, 23);
 Device function
     template<typename TElem>
     __device__ int deviceFunction(TElem x)
     { // ... }
     // call
     auto result = deviceFunction(x);
 Shared memory
    shared int foo;
     shared int fooCArray2D[4][32];
```

cupla

```
Kernel Functor
    template<int blockSize>
   struct fooKernel {
      template<typename Tacc>
      ALPAKA FN ACC void operator()(TAcc const & acc, int *
   const ptr, float const value) const
      { // ... }
Kernel call at host
  dim3 gridSize(42,1,1); dim3 blockSize(256,1,1);
   CUPLA KERNEL(fooKernel<16>)( gridSize, blockSize, 0, 0)(ptr,
   23);
Device function
  template< typename TAcc, typename TElem >
   ALPAKA_FN_ACC int deviceFunction( TAcc const & acc, TElem
    { // ... }
    // call
    auto result = deviceFunction(acc, x);
Shared memory
    sharedMem(foo, int);
    sharedMem(fooCArray2D, cupla::Array< cupla::Array<int,4>, 32>);
```



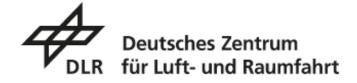


Community and Long Term Support

• Partners using and contributing to alpaka









alpaka is a part of Strategic Helmholtz Program-Oriented Funding Roadmap 2027-2034





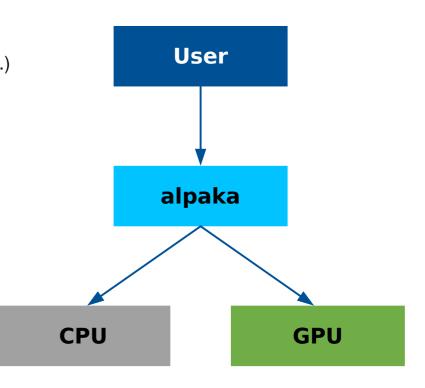
As a summary

Without alpaka

- In HPC world, Multiple hardware types are available from different vendors (CPUs, GPUs, ...)
- Platforms are not inter-operable → parallel programs are not easily portable

alpaka: one API to rule them all

- **Abstraction** (not hiding!) of the underlying hardware & software platforms
 - AMD, Nvidia, Intel GPUs, Different CPU parallelisations like TbbBlocks, OpenMP, Threads
- Easy change of the backend in Code
- Builts down to the same machine code with the vendor solutions
- Zero abstraction overhead for Kernel execution!
- Heterogenous Programming: Using different backends in a synchronized manner







If you use alpaka for your research, please cite one of the following publications:

Matthes A., Widera R., Zenker E., Worpitz B., Huebl A., Bussmann M. (2017): Tuning and Optimization for a Variety of Many-Core Architectures Without Changing a Single Line of Implementation Code Using the alpaká Library. In: Kunkel J., Yokota R., Taufer M., Shalf J. (eds) High Performance Computing. ISC High Performance 2017. Lecture Notes in Computer Science, vol 10524. Springer, Cham, DÖI: 10.1007/978-3-319-67630-2 36.

E. Zenker et al., "alpaka - An Abstraction Library for Parallel Kernel Acceleration", 2016 IEEE International Parallel and Distributed Processing Symposium Workshops (IPDPSW), Chicago, IL, 2016, pp. 631 – 640, DOI: 10.1109/IPDPSW.2016.50.

Worpitz, B. (2015, September 28). Investigating performance portability of a highly scalable particle-in-cell simulation code on various multi-core architectures. Zenodo. DOI: 10.5281/zenodo.49768.

Thank you!

You can contact us for any of your questions about alpaka!





APPENDICES





Appendix-1 Summary of alpaka Structures

- Accelerator provides abstract view of all capable physical devices
- **Device** represents a single physical device
- **Queue** enables communication between the host and a single Device, enables synchronisation of tasks on different queues
- **Platform** is a union of Accelerator, Device and Kernel
- **Task** is a device-side operation (e.g kernel, memory operation)
- Others: **Event, Buffer** (runtime sized contiguous container), **Vector** (static array)





Appendix-2: Programming Heterogeneous Systems-I

How to use multiple backends in parallel?

- Acquire at least one Device per Accelerator
- Create one Queue per Device

```
// Define Accelerators
using AccCpu = alpaka::AccCpu0mp2Blocks<Dim, Idx>;
using AccGpu = alpaka::AccGpuCudaRt<Dim, Idx>;
// Acquire at least one Device per Accelerator
auto devCpu = alpaka::getDevByIdx<AccCpu>(0u);
auto devGpu = alpaka::getDevBvIdx<AccGpu>(0u);
// Create one queue per device
using QueueProperty = alpaka::NonBlocking;
using QueueCpu = alpaka::Queue<AccCpu, QueueProperty>;
using QueueGpu = alpaka::Queue<AccGpu, QueueProperty>;
auto queueCpu = QueueCpu{devCpu};
auto queueGpu1 = QueueGpu{devGpu};
auto queueGpu2 = QueueGpu{devGpu};
// Run tasks in parallel
alpaka::enqueue(queueCpu, taskCpu);
alpaka::enqueue(QueueGpu1, taskGpu1);
alpaka::enqueue(QueueGpu2, taskGpu2);
// Make sure all non-blocking queue tasks finished
// before the main thread ends
alpaka::wait(queueCpu);
alpaka::wait(QueueGpu1);
alpaka::wait(QueueGpu2);
```





Appendix-3 Programming Heterogeneous Systems-II

Communication by Buffers

- Buffers are defined and created per Device
- Buffers can be copied between different Devices
- Notice: CPU to GPU copies (and vice versa) require GPU queue

```
// Allocate buffers
auto bufCpu = alpaka::allocBuf<float, Idx>(devCpu, extent);
auto bufGpu = alpaka::allocBuf<float, Idx>(devGpu, extent);
/* Initialization ... */
// Copy buffer from CPU to GPU - destination comes first
alpaka::memcopy(qpuQueue, bufGpu, bufCpu, extent);
// Execute GPU kernel
alpaka::enqueue(qpuQueue, someKernelTask);
// Copy results back to CPU and wait for completion
alpaka::memcopy(gpuQueue, bufCpu, bufGpu, extent);
// Wait for GPU, then execute CPU kernel
alpaka::wait(cpuQueue, gpuQueue);
alpaka::enqueue(cpuQueue, anotherKernelTask);
```

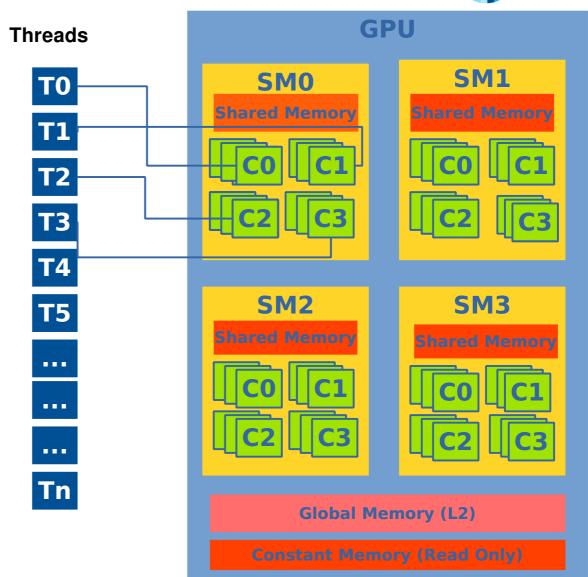




Appendix-4: How to set work-division?

How to distribute threads among SMs?

- Main determinants of mapping threads to the SMs:
 - Number of cores SM,
 - Warpsize,
 - Register and local memory (lm) usage of each thread,
 - Shared memory usage of each thread,
 - Threads per SM, Threads per Block, Blocks per Device
- Memory latencies: Global Memory and Constant memory has different latencies.
- Memory sizes: Size of shared memory used by threads in a block or blocks assigned to an SM





Appendix-5 – Understanding WorkDivision

1D WorkDivision

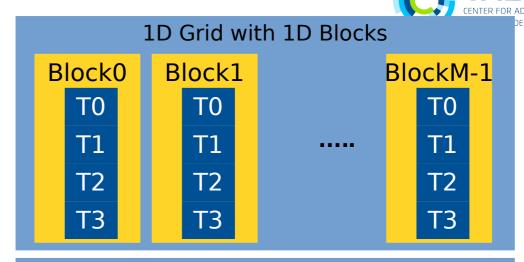
```
Grid Block Extent 1D vector = Vec{M}
Block Thread Extent 1D vector = Vec{4u}
Thread Elem Extent 1D vector = Vec{1u}
Grid Thread Extent 1D vector = Vec{4*M} or Vec{N}
```

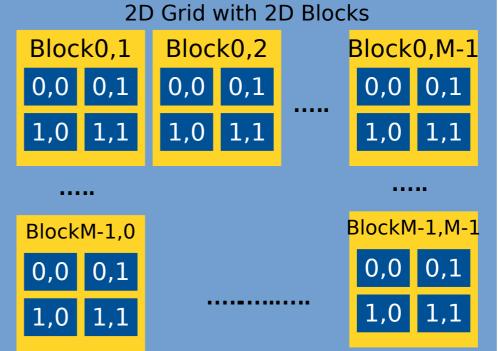
```
1D WorkDivision {{M},{4u},{1u}} // if Dim is 3 then fill with 1u
1D WorkDivision {{1u,1u,M},{1u,1u,4},{1u,1u,1u}}
```

2D WorkDivision!

Grid Block Extent 2D vector = Vec{M,M} Block Thread Extent 2D vector = Vec{2u,2u} Thread Elem Extent 2D vector = Vec{1u,1u}
Grid Thread Extent 2D vector = Vec{4u*M,4u*M} or Vec{N,N}

2D WorkDivision {{M,M},{2u,2u},{1u,1u}} 2D WorkDivision {{1u,M,M},{1u,2u,2u},{1u,1u,1u}}









Appendix-6 Set the workdivision manually

- WorkDivision data structure consists 3 vectors:
 - Grid block extent.

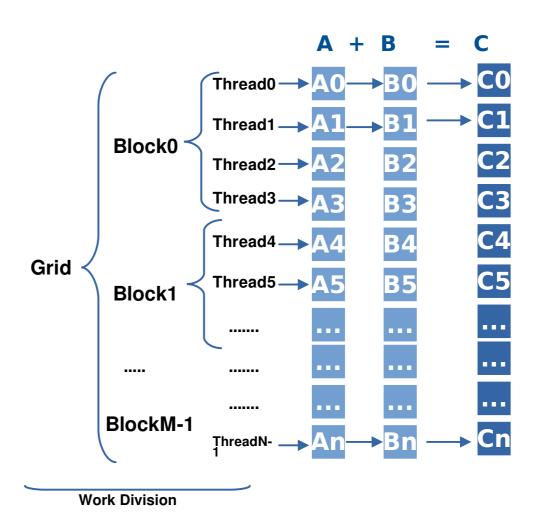
Vec{M} or Vec{1,1,M} depending on the number of dimensions.

Block thread extent.

```
Vec{4} or Vec{1,1,4}
```

- Elements per thread
- Setting work-div manually

```
using Dim1D = alpaka::DimInt<1>;//Set number of dims to 1
using Vec1D = alpaka::Vec<Dim1D, Idx>;//Define alias
auto workDiv1D = alpaka::WorkDivMembers(Vec1D{M}, Vec1D{4u}, Vec1D{1u});
using Dim3D = alpaka::DimInt<3>;//Set number of dims to 3
using Vec3D = alpaka::Vec<Dim3D, Idx>; //Define alias
auto workDiv3D = alpaka::WorkDivMembers(Vec3D{1,1,M}, Vec3D{1,1,4u}, Vec3D{1,1,1u});
```







Appendix-7 Tasks and Events

- Device-side related operations (kernels, memory operations) can be wrapped in tasks.
- Tasks are executed by **enqueue()** function.
- Tasks on the same queue are executed in order (FIFO principle)

```
alpaka::enqueue(queueA, task1);
alpaka::enqueue(queueA, task2); // task2 starts after
task1 has finished, even queueA is non-blocking
```

- Order of tasks in different gueues is unspecified
 - alpaka::enqueue(queueA, task1); alpaka::enqueue(queueB, task2); // task2 starts before, after or in parallel to task1
- For easier synchronization, alpaka Events can be inserted before, after or between Tasks:

```
auto myEvent = alpaka::Event<alpaka::Queue>(myDev);
alpaka::enqueue(queueA, myEvent);
alpaka::wait(queueB, myEvent); // queueB will only
resume after queueA reached myEvent
```

```
// Create a queue on the device
QueueAcc queue(devAcc);
// Instantiate the kernel function object
VectorAddKernel kernel;
// Create the kernel execution task.
quto const taskKernel = alpaka::createTaskKernel<Acc>(
    workDiv,
    kernel,
    alpaka::getPtrNative(bufAccA),
    alpaka::getPtrNative(bufAccB),
    alpaka::getPtrNative(bufAccC),
    numElements);
alpaka::enqueue(queue, taskKernel);
alpaka::wait(queue); // wait in case we are using an asynchronous queue
```





Appendix-8 Accelerator Details

- Accelerator chosen by the programmer and hides hardware specifics behind alpaka's abstract API using Acc = acc::AccGpuCudaRt<Dim, Idx>;
- Inside Kernel: contains thread state, provides access to alpaka's device-side API
 - The Accelerator provides the means to access to the indices

```
// get thread index on the grid
auto gridThreadIdx = alpaka::getIdx<Grid, Threads>(acc);
// get block index on the grid
auto gridBlockIdx = alpaka::getIdx<Grid, Blocks>(acc);
```

The Accelerator gives access to alpaka's shared memory (for threads inside the same block)

```
// allocate a variable in block shared static memory
auto & mySharedVar = block::shared::st::allocVar<int, COUNTER >(acc);
// get pointer to the block shared dynamic memory
float * mySharedBuffer = block::shared::dyn::getMem<float>(acc);
```

It also enables synchronization on the block level

```
// synchronize all threads within the block
block::sync::syncBlockThreads(acc);
```

- Internally, the accelerator maps all device-side functions to their native counterparts
 - Device-side functions require the accelerator as first argument: math::sgrt(acc, /* ... */); time::clock(acc); atomic::atomicOp<atomic::op::Or>(acc, /* ... */, hierarchy::Grids); (Atomics)
- On Host: Meta-parameter for choosing correct physical device and dependent types





APPENDIX-9 Device information and device management

- Each alpaka **Device** represents a single physical device;
- Contains device information:

```
auto const name = alpaka::getName(myDev);
                                                     Back-end-defined device
name
```

- auto const bytes = alpaka::getMemBytes(myDev); // Size of device memory
- auto const free = alpaka::getFreeMemBytes(myDev); // Size of available device memory
- Provides the means for device management:

```
alpaka::reset(myDev);
                                                     Reset GPU device state
```

- Encapsulates back-end device:
 - auto nativeDevice = alpaka::getDev(myDev); // nativeDevice is not portable!





APPENDIX-10 Queue operations

- Queues execute Tasks (see next slide):
 - alpaka::enqueue(myQueue, taskRunKernel);
- Check for completion:
 - bool done = alpaka::empty(myQueue);
- Wait for completion, Events (see next slide), or other Queues:
 - // blocks caller until all operations have alpaka::wait(myQueue); completed
 - alpaka::wait(myQueue, myEvent); // blocks myQueue until myEvent has been reached
 - alpaka::wait(myQueue, otherQueue); // blocks myQueue until otherQueue's ops have completed





Appendix-11 Changing the target platform by changing accelerator

```
using namespace alpaka;
using Dim = dim::DimInt<1u>;
using Idx = std::size t;
/*** BEFORE ***/
using Acc = alpaka::AccCpu0mp2Blocks<Dim, Idx>;
/*** AFTER ***/
using Acc = alpaka::AccGpuHipRt<Dim, Idx>;
/* No change required - dependent types and variables are automatically changed */
auto myDev = alpaka::getDevByIdx<Acc>(0u);
using Queue = alpaka::Queue<Acc, queue::NonBlocking>;
auto myQueue = Queue{myDev};
```