

CUDA SDK — BASIC CONCEPTS

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→ <https://tinyurl.com/cudafordummies/ii/13/notes-13.pdf>

BASIC CONVENTIONS

0_INTRODUCTION/SIMPLEPRINTF

1_UTILITIES

0_INTRODUCTION/SIMPLESTREAMS

4_CUDA_LIBRARIES/RANDOMFOG

5_DOMAIN_SPECIFIC/NBODY

4_CUDA_LIBRARIES/OCEANFFT

TAKE HOME MESSAGES

BASIC CONVENTIONS

CUDA SDK

- Nowadays on github (curated, re-structured, toolkit-dependent)

→ <https://github.com/nvidia/cuda-samples>

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- Excellent place for beginners to start looking around

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- Showcases all GPU features and explains fundamental CUDA concepts
- Open source and easily expandable with own projects
- Excellent place for beginners to start looking around
- Thematically organized into 9 major subject areas

→ <https://github.com/nvidia/cuda-samples>

BASIC CONVENTIONS CONT.

CUDA SDK CONT.

```
cuda-zen sh@n3073-004:~$ git clone --branch v12.9 --single-branch https://github.com/NVIDIA/cuda-samples
cuda-zen sh@n3073-004:~$ cd cuda-samples/Samples
cuda-zen sh@n3073-004: Samples$ ls
```

```
0_Introduction  2_Concepts_and_Techniques  4_CUDA_Libraries  6_Performance  8_Platform_Specific
1_Uilities      3_CUDA_Features             5_Domain_Specific  7_libNVVM
```

```
cuda-zen sh@n3073-004: Samples$ cd 0_Introduction
cuda-zen sh@n3073-004: 0_Introduction$ ls
```

CMakeLists.txt	mergeSort	simpleHyperQ	simpleTemplates
README.md	simpleAWBarrier	simpleIPC	simpleTexture
UnifiedMemoryStreams	simpleAssert	simpleLayeredTexture	simpleTexture3D
asyncAPI	simpleAssert_nvrtc	simpleMPI	simpleTextureDrv
clock	simpleAtomicIntrinsics	simpleMultiCopy	simpleVoteIntrinsics
clock_nvrtc	simpleAtomicIntrinsics_nvrtc	simpleMultiGPU	simpleZeroCopy
cudaOpenMP	simpleAttributes	simpleOccupancy	systemWideAtomics
fp16ScalarProduct	simpleCUDA2GL	simpleP2P	template
matrixMul	simpleCallback	simplePitchLinearTexture	vectorAdd
matrixMulDrv	simpleCooperativeGroups	simplePrintf	vectorAddDrv
matrixMulDynlinkJIT	simpleCubemapTexture	simpleStreams	vectorAddMMAP
matrixMul_nvrtc	simpleDrvRuntime	simpleSurfaceWrite	vectorAdd_nvrtc

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BASIC CONVENTIONS CONT.

CUDA SDK CONT.

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BASIC CONVENTIONS CONT.

CUDA SDK CONT.

0_Introduction	CUDA samples for beginners that illustrate key concepts with using CUDA and CUDA runtime APIs
1_Utilities	Utility samples that demonstrate how to query device capabilities and measure GPU/CPU bandwidth
2_Concepts_and_Techniques	CUDA related concepts and common problem solving techniques
3_CUDA_Features	Samples that demonstrate CUDA Features (cooperative groups, dynamic parallelism, graphs etc)
4_CUDA_Libraries	Samples that illustrate how to use CUDA platform libraries, NPP, NVJPEG, NVGRAPH cuBLAS, cuFFT, cuSPARSE, cuSOLVER and cuRAND
5_Domain_Specific	Samples from specific domains (graphics, finance, image processing)
6_Performance	Samples that illustrate performance optimizations
7_libNVVM	Samples of interfacing with NVVM IR (intermediate representations)
8_Platform_Specific	Samples of using CUDA for TEGRA architectures

→ <https://github.com/nvidia/cuda-samples>

BASIC CONVENTIONS CONT.

CUDA SDK CONT.

Consider for example function `assert()`

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <assert.h>

int main()
{
    int i;

    for (i=0; i<10; i++) {
        assert(i < 5);
        printf("current i is %d \n", i);
    }

    return(0);
}
```

→ https://tinyurl.com/cudafordummies/ii/13/smpl_assert.c

BASIC CONVENTIONS CONT.

CUDA SDK CONT.

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    }

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}
```

```
cuda-zen sh@n3073-004:~$ gcc ./smpl_assert.c
cuda-zen sh@n3073-004:~$ ./a.out
current i is 0
current i is 1
current i is 2
current i is 3
current i is 4
a.out: smpl_assert.c:20: main: Assertion `i < 5' failed.
Aborted (core dumped)
```

→ https://tinyurl.com/cudafordummies/ii/13/smpl_assert.c

BASIC CONVENTIONS CONT.

CUDA SDK CONT.

Consider for example function `assert()`

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    int i;

    for (i=0; i<10; i++) {
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    }

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}
```

Developer's checkpoints: If expression is TRUE `assert()` does nothing. If FALSE, abortion and error message.

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BASIC CONVENTIONS CONT.

CUDA SDK CONT.

There is also a CUDA SDK sample in 0_Introduction/simpleAssert/

Consider for example function `assert()`

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#include <assert.h>

int main()
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    int i;

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BASIC CONVENTIONS CONT.

CUDA SDK CONT. — 0_INTRODUCTION/SIMPLEASSERT

```
cuda-zen sh@n3073-004:~$ cd cuda-samples/Samples/0_Introduction/simpleAssert
cuda-zen sh@n3073-004: simpleAssert$ ls

CMakeLists.txt  README.md  simpleAssert.cu

cuda-zen sh@n3073-004: simpleAssert$ cd ../
cuda-zen sh@n3073-004: 0_Introduction$ cp -r ./simpleAssert ./my_simpleAssert
cuda-zen sh@n3073-004: 0_Introduction$ cd ./my_simpleAssert
cuda-zen sh@n3073-004: my_simpleAssert$ module purge
cuda-zen sh@n3073-004: my_simpleAssert$ module load gcc/12.2.0-gcc-8.5.0-7ih4ahb
cuda-zen sh@n3073-004: my_simpleAssert$ module load cuda/12.9.0-gcc-12.2.0-xznhx43
cuda-zen sh@n3073-004: my_simpleAssert$ module load cmake/3.29.1-gcc-12.2.0-yooqtj6
cuda-zen sh@n3073-004: my_simpleAssert$ mkdir build
cuda-zen sh@n3073-004: my_simpleAssert$ cd build
cuda-zen sh@n3073-004: build$ cmake ..
cuda-zen sh@n3073-004: build$ make
```

→ <https://github.com/nvidia/cuda-samples>

BASIC CONVENTIONS CONT.

CUDA SDK CONT. — 0_INTRODUCTION/SIMPLEASSERT CONT.

```
cuda-zen sh@n3073-004: build$ ./simpleAssert
simpleAssert starting...
OS_System_Type.release = 4.18.0-477.10.1.el8_8.x86_64
OS Info: <#1 SMP Tue May 16 07:35:04 EDT 2023>

GPU Device 0: "Ampere" with compute capability 8.0

Launch kernel to generate assertion failures

-- Begin assert output

simpleAssert.cu:63: void testKernel(int): block: [1,0,0], thread: [28,0,0] Assertion 'gtid < N' failed.
simpleAssert.cu:63: void testKernel(int): block: [1,0,0], thread: [29,0,0] Assertion 'gtid < N' failed.
simpleAssert.cu:63: void testKernel(int): block: [1,0,0], thread: [30,0,0] Assertion 'gtid < N' failed.
simpleAssert.cu:63: void testKernel(int): block: [1,0,0], thread: [31,0,0] Assertion 'gtid < N' failed.

-- End assert output

Device assert failed as expected, CUDA error message is: device-side assert triggered

simpleAssert completed, returned OK
```

→ <https://github.com/nvidia/cuda-samples>

BASIC CONVENTIONS CONT.

CUDA SDK CONT. — 0_INTRODUCTION/SIMPLEASSERT CONT.

simpleAssert.cu

```
__global__ void testKernel(int N)
{
    int gtid = blockIdx.x*blockDim.x + threadIdx.x;
    assert(gtid < N);
}
int main(int argc, char **argv)
{
    ...
    runTest(argc, argv);
    ...
}
void runTest(int argc, char **argv)
{
    int Nblocks = 2;
    int Nthreads = 32;
    cudaError_t error;
    ...
    findCudaDevice(argc, (const char **)argv);
    dim3 dimGrid(Nblocks);
    dim3 dimBlock(Nthreads);
    testKernel <<< dimGrid, dimBlock >>> (60);
    error = cudaDeviceSynchronize();
}
```

→ https://docs.nvidia.com/cuda/cuda-runtime-api/group__CUDART__TYPES.html

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BASIC CONVENTIONS CONT.

CUDA SDK CONT. — 0_INTRODUCTION/SIMPLEASSERT CONT.

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2 threadblocks
with 32 threads

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New type (enum)
for error variable

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Generic function
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CUDA 4 DUMMIES — OCT 22-23, 2025

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CUDA SDK CONT. — 0_INTRODUCTION/SIMPLEASSERT CONT.

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C++ style of
initializing variables
dimGrid and dim-
Block

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CUDA SDK CONT. — 0_INTRODUCTION/SIMPLEASSERT CONT.

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kernel launch

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New type (enum)
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Generic function
to identify GPU

Check is whether
gtid is < 60

2 threadblocks
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```

Device behaviour
identical to host;
lots of useful in-
formation !

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2 threadblocks
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BASIC CONVENTIONS CONT.

CUDA SDK CONT. — 0_INTRODUCTION/SIMPLEASSERT CONT.

simpleAssert.cu / error handling

```
void runTest(int argc, char **argv)
{
    ...
    printf("Launch kernel to generate assertion failures\n");
    testKernel <<< dimGrid, dimBlock >>> (60);

    //Synchronize (flushes assert output)
    printf("\n- Begin assert output\n\n");
    error = cudaDeviceSynchronize();
    printf("\n- End assert output\n\n");

    //Check for errors
    if (error == cudaErrorAssert) {
        printf("Device assert failed as expected, "
               "CUDA error message is: %s\n\n",
               cudaGetErrorString(error));
    }
    testResult = error == cudaErrorAssert;
}
```

→ https://docs.nvidia.com/cuda/cuda-runtime-api/group__CUDART__TYPES.html

CUDA 4 DUMMIES — OCT 22-23, 2025

BASIC CONVENTIONS CONT.

CUDA SDK CONT. — 0_INTRODUCTION/SIMPLEASSERT CONT.

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Pick up re-
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BASIC CONVENTIONS CONT.

CUDA SDK CONT. — 0_INTRODUCTION/SIMPLEASSERT CONT.

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    }
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Pick up re-
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Get specific
info from re-
turned error

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BASIC CONVENTIONS CONT.

CUDA SDK CONT. — 0_INTRODUCTION/SIMPLEASSERT CONT.

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}
```

Set global
variable to
true/false

Pick up re-
turn value from
CUDA call

Get specific
info from re-
turned error

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BASIC CONVENTIONS CONT.

CUDA SDK CONT. — 0_INTRODUCTION/SIMPLEASSERT CONT.

- `assert()` is a very simple and convenient way to do low-level debugging of kernel code

→ <https://github.com/nvidia/cuda-samples>

BASIC CONVENTIONS CONT.

CUDA SDK CONT. — 0_INTRODUCTION/SIMPLEASSERT CONT.

- `assert()` is a very simple and convenient way to do low-level debugging of kernel code
- Returns very detailed information, `threadIdx`, `blockIdx`, line number, function name

BASIC CONVENTIONS CONT.

CUDA SDK CONT. — 0_INTRODUCTION/SIMPLEASSERT CONT.

- `assert()` is a very simple and convenient way to do low-level debugging of kernel code
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- With `printf()` — surprisingly — we do also get output written from kernel code sections, however only at full block level terminating correctly

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BASIC CONVENTIONS CONT.

CUDA SDK CONT. — 0_INTRODUCTION/SIMPLEASSERT CONT.

- `assert()` is a very simple and convenient way to do low-level debugging of kernel code
- Returns very detailed information, `threadIdx`, `blockIdx`, line number, function name
- With `printf()` — surprisingly — we do also get output written from kernel code sections, however only at full block level terminating correctly
- For example add another line after `assert(gtid < N);`
`printf("*** message from thread %d ***\n", gtid);`

→ <https://github.com/nvidia/cuda-samples>

BASIC CONVENTIONS CONT.

CUDA SDK CONT. — 0_INTRODUCTION/SIMPLEASSERT CONT.

```
cuda-zen sh@n3073-004: build$ ./simpleAssert

simpleAssert starting...
OS_System_Type.release = 4.18.0-477.10.1.el8_8.x86_64
OS Info: <#1 SMP Tue May 16 07:35:04 EDT 2023>

GPU Device 0: "Ampere" with compute capability 8.0

Launch kernel to generate assertion failures

-- Begin assert output

*** message from thread 0 ***
*** message from thread 1 ***
*** message from thread 2 ***
.....
*** message from thread 29 ***
*** message from thread 30 ***
*** message from thread 31 ***
simpleAssert.cu:63: void testKernel(int): block: [1,0,0], thread: [28,0,0] Assertion 'gtid < N' failed.
simpleAssert.cu:63: void testKernel(int): block: [1,0,0], thread: [29,0,0] Assertion 'gtid < N' failed.
simpleAssert.cu:63: void testKernel(int): block: [1,0,0], thread: [30,0,0] Assertion 'gtid < N' failed.
simpleAssert.cu:63: void testKernel(int): block: [1,0,0], thread: [31,0,0] Assertion 'gtid < N' failed.

-- End assert output
```

→ <https://github.com/nvidia/cuda-samples>

0_INTRODUCTION/SIMPLEPRINTF

CUDA SDK CONT.

- There is also another simple CUDA example demonstrating regular operation of `printf()` in kernel code sections running on the device
- Compute capability must be at least 2.0
- Otherwise an alternative `cuPrintf()` can be used
- This example is also a good exercise to recall basic builtin variables of the kernel code section, e.g. `threadIdx`, `blockDim` etc.

→ <https://github.com/nvidia/cuda-samples>

0_INTRODUCTION/SIMPLEPRINTF CONT.

CUDA SDK CONT.

```
cuda-zen sh@n3073-004: 0_Introduction$ cp -r ./simplePrintf ./my_simplePrintf
cuda-zen sh@n3073-004: 0_Introduction$ cd ./my_simplePrintf
cuda-zen sh@n3073-004: my_simplePrintf$ mkdir build
cuda-zen sh@n3073-004: my_simplePrintf$ cd build
cuda-zen sh@n3073-004: build$ cmake ..
cuda-zen sh@n3073-004: build$ make
cuda-zen sh@n3073-004: build$ ./simplePrintf
GPU Device 0: "Ampere" with compute capability 8.0
```

```
Device 0: "NVIDIA A100-PCIE-40GB" with Compute 8.0 capability
printf() is called. Output:
```

[1, 0]:	Value is:10	[0, 0]:	Value is:10
[1, 1]:	Value is:10	[0, 1]:	Value is:10
[1, 2]:	Value is:10	[0, 2]:	Value is:10
[1, 3]:	Value is:10	[0, 3]:	Value is:10
[1, 4]:	Value is:10	[0, 4]:	Value is:10
[1, 5]:	Value is:10	[0, 5]:	Value is:10
[1, 6]:	Value is:10	[0, 6]:	Value is:10
[1, 7]:	Value is:10	[0, 7]:	Value is:10
[2, 0]:	Value is:10	[3, 0]:	Value is:10
[2, 1]:	Value is:10	[3, 1]:	Value is:10
[2, 2]:	Value is:10	[3, 2]:	Value is:10
[2, 3]:	Value is:10	[3, 3]:	Value is:10
[2, 4]:	Value is:10	[3, 4]:	Value is:10
[2, 5]:	Value is:10	[3, 5]:	Value is:10
[2, 6]:	Value is:10	[3, 6]:	Value is:10
[2, 7]:	Value is:10	[3, 7]:	Value is:10

0_INTRODUCTION/SIMPLEPRINTF CONT.

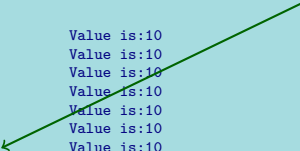
CUDA SDK CONT.

```
cuda-zen sh@n3073-004: 0_Introduction$ cp -r ./simplePrintf ./my_simplePrintf
cuda-zen sh@n3073-004: 0_Introduction$ cd ./my_simplePrintf
cuda-zen sh@n3073-004: my_simplePrintf$ mkdir build
cuda-zen sh@n3073-004: my_simplePrintf$ cd build
cuda-zen sh@n3073-004: build$ cmake ..
cuda-zen sh@n3073-004: build$ make
cuda-zen sh@n3073-004: build$ ./simplePrintf
GPU Device 0: "Ampere" with compute capability 8.0
```

```
Device 0: "NVIDIA A100-PCIE-40GB" with Compute 8.0 capability
printf() is called. Output:
```

[1, 0]:	Value is:10	[0, 0]:	Value is:10
[1, 1]:	Value is:10	[0, 1]:	Value is:10
[1, 2]:	Value is:10	[0, 2]:	Value is:10
[1, 3]:	Value is:10	[0, 3]:	Value is:10
[1, 4]:	Value is:10	[0, 4]:	Value is:10
[1, 5]:	Value is:10	[0, 5]:	Value is:10
[1, 6]:	Value is:10	[0, 6]:	Value is:10
[1, 7]:	Value is:10	[0, 7]:	Value is:10
[2, 0]:	Value is:10	[3, 0]:	Value is:10
[2, 1]:	Value is:10	[3, 1]:	Value is:10
[2, 2]:	Value is:10	[3, 2]:	Value is:10
[2, 3]:	Value is:10	[3, 3]:	Value is:10
[2, 4]:	Value is:10	[3, 4]:	Value is:10
[2, 5]:	Value is:10	[3, 5]:	Value is:10
[2, 6]:	Value is:10	[3, 6]:	Value is:10
[2, 7]:	Value is:10	[3, 7]:	Value is:10

4 x blocks with
indices from
0-7



0_INTRODUCTION/SIMPLEPRINTF CONT.

CUDA SDK CONT.

```
cuda-zen sh@n3073-004: 0_Introduction$ cp -r ./simplePrintf ./my_simplePrintf
cuda-zen sh@n3073-004: 0_Introduction$ cd ./my_simplePrintf
cuda-zen sh@n3073-004: my_simplePrintf$ mkdir build
cuda-zen sh@n3073-004: my_simplePrintf$ cd build
cuda-zen sh@n3073-004: build$ cmake ..
cuda-zen sh@n3073-004: build$ make
cuda-zen sh@n3073-004: build$ ./simplePrintf
GPU Device 0: "Ampere" with compute capability 8.0
```

Device 0: "NVIDIA A100-PCIE-40GB" with Compute 8.0 capability
printf() is called. Output:

[1, 0]:	Value is:10	[0, 0]:	Value is:10
[1, 1]:	Value is:10	[0, 1]:	Value is:10
[1, 2]:	Value is:10	[0, 2]:	Value is:10
[1, 3]:	Value is:10	[0, 3]:	Value is:10
[1, 4]:	Value is:10	[0, 4]:	Value is:10
[1, 5]:	Value is:10	[0, 5]:	Value is:10
[1, 6]:	Value is:10	[0, 6]:	Value is:10
[1, 7]:	Value is:10	[0, 7]:	Value is:10
[2, 0]:	Value is:10	[3, 0]:	Value is:10
[2, 1]:	Value is:10	[3, 1]:	Value is:10
[2, 2]:	Value is:10	[3, 2]:	Value is:10
[2, 3]:	Value is:10	[3, 3]:	Value is:10
[2, 4]:	Value is:10	[3, 4]:	Value is:10
[2, 5]:	Value is:10	[3, 5]:	Value is:10
[2, 6]:	Value is:10	[3, 6]:	Value is:10
[2, 7]:	Value is:10	[3, 7]:	Value is:10

4 × blocks with
indices from
0-7

stochastic or-
der of blocks
(1st index)

0_INTRODUCTION/SIMPLEPRINTF CONT.

CUDA SDK CONT.

simplePrintf.cu

```
__global__ void testKernel(int val)
{
    int gtid = blockIdx.x*blockDim.x + threadIdx.x;
    printf("[%d, %d]:\t\tValue is:%d\n",
           blockIdx.y*gridDim.x+blockIdx.x,
           threadIdx.z*blockDim.x*blockDim.y+threadIdx.y*blockDim.x+threadIdx.x,
           val);
}

int main(int argc, char **argv)
{
    ...
    dim3 dimGrid(2, 2);
    dim3 dimBlock(2, 2, 2);
    testKernel <<< dimGrid, dimBlock >>> (10);
    error = cudaDeviceSynchronize();
    ...
}
```

→ <https://github.com/nvidia/cuda-samples>

0_INTRODUCTION/SIMPLEPRINTF CONT.

CUDA SDK CONT.

simplePrintf.cu

```
__global__ void testKernel(int val)
{
    int gtid = blockIdx.x*blockDim.x + threadIdx.x;
    printf("[%d, %d]:\t\tValue is:%d\n",
           blockIdx.y*gridDim.x+blockIdx.x,
           threadIdx.z*blockDim.x*blockDim.y+threadIdx.y*blockDim.x+threadIdx.x,
           val);
}

int main(int argc, char **argv)
{
    ...
    dim3 dimGrid(2, 2);
    dim3 dimBlock(2, 2, 2);
    testKernel <<< dimGrid, dimBlock >>> (10);
    error = cudaDeviceSynchronize();
    ...
}
```

4 threadblocks
(2D-grid) with
8 threads (3D-
block)

0_INTRODUCTION/SIMPLEPRINTF CONT.

CUDA SDK CONT.

simplePrintf.cu

```
__global__ void testKernel(int val)
{
    int gtid = blockIdx.x*blockDim.x + threadIdx.x;
    printf("[%d, %d]:\t\tValue is:%d\n",
           blockIdx.y*gridDim.x+blockIdx.x, ←
           threadIdx.z*blockDim.x*blockDim.y+threadIdx.y*blockDim.x+threadIdx.x,
           val);
}

int main(int argc, char **argv)
{
    ...
    dim3 dimGrid(2, 2);
    dim3 dimBlock(2, 2, 2); ←
    testKernel <<< dimGrid, dimBlock >>> (10);
    error = cudaDeviceSynchronize();
    ...
}
```

Linearizes 2D-grid

4 threadblocks
(2D-grid) with
8 threads (3D-
block)

0_INTRODUCTION/SIMPLEPRINTF CONT.

CUDA SDK CONT.

simplePrintf.cu

```
__global__ void testKernel(int val)
{
    int gtid = blockIdx.x*blockDim.x + threadIdx.x;
    printf("[%d, %d]:\t\tValue is:%d\n",
           blockIdx.y*gridDim.x+blockIdx.x, ←
           threadIdx.z*blockDim.x*blockDim.y+threadIdx.y*blockDim.x+threadIdx.x, ←
           val);
}

int main(int argc, char **argv)
{
    ...
    dim3 dimGrid(2, 2); ←
    dim3 dimBlock(2, 2, 2);
    testKernel <<<< dimGrid, dimBlock >>>> (10);
    error = cudaDeviceSynchronize();
    ...
}
```

Linearizes 2D-grid

Again, serial-
ization of 3D-
threadblocks

4 threadblocks
(2D-grid) with
8 threads (3D-
block)

0_INTRODUCTION/SIMPLEPRINTF CONT.

CUDA SDK CONT.

- Good to see that `printf()` can be used also in kernel code
- Out of order execution of individual threadblocks in the blockgrid
- Only when the entire threadblock terminates correctly, `printf()` output will actually show up
- Important for the developmental stage, probably too expensive for production-ready runs

→ <https://github.com/nvidia/cuda-samples>

1__UTILITIES

CUDA SDK CONT.

- 1_Uilities contains several CUDA examples that may also be regarded as simple tools to characterize the GPU hardware at hand

→ <https://github.com/nvidia/cuda-samples>

1__UTILITIES

CUDA SDK CONT.

- 1_Uilities contains several CUDA examples that may also be regarded as simple tools to characterize the GPU hardware at hand
- deviceQuery has already been presented as a useful standard tool to list all device properties

→ <https://github.com/nvidia/cuda-samples>

1__UTILITIES

CUDA SDK CONT.

- 1__Utilities contains several CUDA examples that may also be regarded as simple tools to characterize the GPU hardware at hand
- deviceQuery has already been presented as a useful standard tool to list all device properties
- A recurring issue with CUDA is bandwidth of data transfer — especially because there are so many different variants

→ <https://github.com/nvidia/cuda-samples>

1__UTILITIES

CUDA SDK CONT.

- 1__Utilities contains several CUDA examples that may also be regarded as simple tools to characterize the GPU hardware at hand
- deviceQuery has already been presented as a useful standard tool to list all device properties
- A recurring issue with CUDA is bandwidth of data transfer — especially because there are so many different variants
- The bandwidthTest example is nowadays provided as a demo — it helps to get a quick overview of what bandwidth we can expect on the current device

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1__UTILITIES

CUDA SDK CONT.

- 1__Utilities contains several CUDA examples that may also be regarded as simple tools to characterize the GPU hardware at hand
- deviceQuery has already been presented as a useful standard tool to list all device properties
- A recurring issue with CUDA is bandwidth of data transfer — especially because there are so many different variants
- The bandwidthTest example is nowadays provided as a demo — it helps to get a quick overview of what bandwidth we can expect on the current device
- There are also several CLI args that may provide guidance for size/type dependence

→ <https://github.com/nvidia/cuda-samples>

1_UTILITIES CONT.

CUDA SDK CONT.

```
cuda-zen sh@n3073-004:1_Uilities$ which nvcc
cuda-zen sh@n3073-004:1_Uilities$ /gpfs/opt/sw/cuda-zen/spack-0.19.0/opt/spack/linux-almalinux8-zen/gcc-12.2.0/cuda-12.9.0-xznhx43d6
xdwudiuv7xcutpx6ympzybi/extras/demo_suite/bandwidthTest
```

```
[CUDA Bandwidth Test] - Starting...
Running on...
```

```
Device 0: NVIDIA A100-PCIE-40GB
Quick Mode
```

```
Host to Device Bandwidth, 1 Device(s)
```

```
PINNED Memory Transfers
```

Transfer Size (Bytes)	Bandwidth(MB/s)
33554432	26114.0

```
Device to Host Bandwidth, 1 Device(s)
```

```
PINNED Memory Transfers
```

Transfer Size (Bytes)	Bandwidth(MB/s)
33554432	25440.6

```
Device to Device Bandwidth, 1 Device(s)
```

```
PINNED Memory Transfers
```

Transfer Size (Bytes)	Bandwidth(MB/s)
33554432	1205414.9

→ <https://github.com/nvidia/cuda-samples>

1_UTILITIES CONT.

CUDA SDK CONT.

```
cuda-zen sh@n3073-004:1_Uilities$ which nvcc
cuda-zen sh@n3073-004:1_Uilities$ /gpfs/opt/sw/cuda-zen/spack-0.19.0/opt/spack/linux-almalinux8-zen/gcc-12.2.0/cuda-12.9.0-xznhx43d6
xdwudiuv7xcutpx6ympzybi/extras/demo_suite/bandwidthTest
```

```
[CUDA Bandwidth Test] - Starting...
Running on...
```

```
Device 0: NVIDIA A100-PCIE-40GB
Quick Mode
```

```
Host to Device Bandwidth, 1 Device(s)
```

```
PINNED Memory Transfers
```

Transfer Size (Bytes)	Bandwidth(MB/s)
33554432	26114.0

```
Device to Host Bandwidth, 1 Device(s)
```

```
PINNED Memory Transfers
```

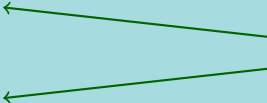
Transfer Size (Bytes)	Bandwidth(MB/s)
33554432	25440.6

```
Device to Device Bandwidth, 1 Device(s)
```

```
PINNED Memory Transfers
```

Transfer Size (Bytes)	Bandwidth(MB/s)
33554432	1205414.9

32MB (pinned) with
≈25 GB/s



→ <https://github.com/nvidia/cuda-samples>

1_UTILITIES CONT.

CUDA SDK CONT.

```
cuda-zen sh@n3073-004: 1_Uilities$ /gpfs/opt/sw/cuda-zen/spack-0.19.0/opt/spack/linux-almalinux8-zen/gcc-12.2.0/cuda-12.9.0-xznhx43d6
xdwudiuv7xcutpx6ympzybi/extras/demo_suite/bandwidthTest --help
cuda-zen sh@n3073-004: 1_Uilities$ /gpfs/opt/sw/cuda-zen/spack-0.19.0/opt/spack/linux-almalinux8-zen/gcc-12.2.0/cuda-12.9.0-xznhx43d6
xdwudiuv7xcutpx6ympzybi/extras/demo_suite/bandwidthTest --mode=quick --memory=pageable --htod
[CUDA Bandwidth Test] - Starting...
Running on...
```

```
Device 0: NVIDIA A100-PCIE-40GB
Quick Mode
```

```
Host to Device Bandwidth, 1 Device(s)
PAGEABLE Memory Transfers
```

Transfer Size (Bytes)	Bandwidth(MB/s)
33554432	16050.9

```
cuda-zen sh@n3073-004: 1_Uilities$ /gpfs/opt/sw/cuda-zen/spack-0.19.0/opt/spack/linux-almalinux8-zen/gcc-12.2.0/cuda-12.9.0-xznhx43d6
xdwudiuv7xcutpx6ympzybi/extras/demo_suite/bandwidthTest --mode=quick --memory=pinned --htod
[CUDA Bandwidth Test] - Starting...
Running on...
```

```
Device 0: NVIDIA A100-PCIE-40GB
Quick Mode
```

```
Host to Device Bandwidth, 1 Device(s)
PINNED Memory Transfers
```

Transfer Size (Bytes)	Bandwidth(MB/s)
33554432	26127.6

→ <https://github.com/nvidia/cuda-samples>

1_UTILITIES CONT.

CUDA SDK CONT.

```
cuda-zen sh@n3073-004: 1_Uilities$ /gpfs/opt/sw/cuda-zen/spack-0.19.0/opt/spack/linux-almalinux8-zen/gcc-12.2.0/cuda-12.9.0-xznhx43d6
xdwudiuv7xcutpx6ympzybi/extras/demo_suite/bandwidthTest --help
cuda-zen sh@n3073-004: 1_Uilities$ /gpfs/opt/sw/cuda-zen/spack-0.19.0/opt/spack/linux-almalinux8-zen/gcc-12.2.0/cuda-12.9.0-xznhx43d6
xdwudiuv7xcutpx6ympzybi/extras/demo_suite/bandwidthTest --mode=quick --memory=pageable --htod
[CUDA Bandwidth Test] - Starting...
Running on...
```

```
Device 0: NVIDIA A100-PCIE-40GB
Quick Mode
```

```
Host to Device Bandwidth, 1 Device(s)
PAGEABLE Memory Transfers
```

Transfer Size (Bytes)	Bandwidth(MB/s)
33554432	16050.9

```
cuda-zen sh@n3073-004: 1_Uilities$ /gpfs/opt/sw/cuda-zen/spack-0.19.0/opt/spack/linux-almalinux8-zen/gcc-12.2.0/cuda-12.9.0-xznhx43d6
xdwudiuv7xcutpx6ympzybi/extras/demo_suite/bandwidthTest --mode=quick --memory=pinned --htod
[CUDA Bandwidth Test] - Starting...
Running on...
```

```
Device 0: NVIDIA A100-PCIE-40GB
Quick Mode
```

```
Host to Device Bandwidth, 1 Device(s)
PINNED Memory Transfers
```

Transfer Size (Bytes)	Bandwidth(MB/s)
33554432	26127.6

PINNED is
preferable to
PAGEABLE

→ <https://github.com/nvidia/cuda-samples>

1_UTILITIES CONT.

CUDA SDK CONT.

```
cuda-zen sh@n3073-004: 1_Uilities$ /gpfs/opt/sw/cuda-zen/spack-0.19.0/opt/spack/linux-almalinux8-zen/gcc-12.2.0/cuda-12.9.0-xznhx43d6
xdwudiuv7xcutpx6ympzybi/extras/demo_suite/bandwidthTest --help
cuda-zen sh@n3073-004: 1_Uilities$ /gpfs/opt/sw/cuda-zen/spack-0.19.0/opt/spack/linux-almalinux8-zen/gcc-12.2.0/cuda-12.9.0-xznhx43d6
xdwudiuv7xcutpx6ympzybi/extras/demo_suite/bandwidthTest --mode=quick --memory=pageable --htod
[CUDA Bandwidth Test] - Starting...
Running on...
```

```
Device 0: NVIDIA A100-PCIE-40GB
Quick Mode
```

```
Host to Device Bandwidth, 1 Device(s)
PAGEABLE Memory Transfers
```

Transfer Size (Bytes)	Bandwidth(MB/s)
33554432	16050.9

Why so far off
the promised
1555 GB/s ???

```
cuda-zen sh@n3073-004: 1_Uilities$ /gpfs/opt/sw/cuda-zen/spack-0.19.0/opt/spack/linux-almalinux8-zen/gcc-12.2.0/cuda-12.9.0-xznhx43d6
xdwudiuv7xcutpx6ympzybi/extras/demo_suite/bandwidthTest --mode=quick --memory=pinned --htod
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Running on...
```

```
Device 0: NVIDIA A100-PCIE-40GB
Quick Mode
```

```
Host to Device Bandwidth, 1 Device(s)
PINNED Memory Transfers
```

Transfer Size (Bytes)	Bandwidth(MB/s)
33554432	26127.6

PINNED is
preferable to
PAGEABLE

→ <https://github.com/nvidia/cuda-samples>

1__UTILITIES CONT.

CUDA SDK CONT.

bandwidthTest.cu (essentials)

```
float
testDeviceToHostTransfer(unsigned int memSize, memoryMode memMode, bool wc)
{
    StopwatchInterface *timer = NULL;
    float elapsedTimeInMs = 0.0f;
    float bandwidthInGBs = 0.0f;
    unsigned char *h_idata = NULL;
    unsigned char *h_odata = NULL;
    cudaEvent_t start, stop;

    sdkCreateTimer(&timer);
    checkCudaErrors(cudaEventCreate(&start));
    checkCudaErrors(cudaEventCreate(&stop));

    //allocate host memory
    if (PINNED == memMode)
    {
        //pinned memory mode - use special function to get OS-pinned memory
        checkCudaErrors(cudaHostAlloc((void **)&h_idata, memSize, (wc) ? cudaHostAllocWriteCombined : 0));
        checkCudaErrors(cudaHostAlloc((void **)&h_odata, memSize, (wc) ? cudaHostAllocWriteCombined : 0));
    }
    else {
        //pageable memory mode - use malloc
    }
}
```

→ <https://github.com/NVIDIA/cuda-samples/archive/refs/tags/v12.8.zip>

1__UTILITIES CONT.

CUDA SDK CONT.

bandwidthTest.cu (essentials)

```
float
testDeviceToHostTransfer(unsigned int memSize, memoryMode memMode, bool wc)
{
    StopWatchInterface *timer = NULL;
    float elapsedTimeInMs = 0.0f;
    float bandwidthInGBs = 0.0f;
    unsigned char *h_idata = NULL;
    unsigned char *h_odata = NULL;
    cudaEvent_t start, stop;

    sdkCreateTimer(&timer);
    checkCudaErrors(cudaEventCreate(&start));
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    //allocate host memory
    if (PINNED == memMode)
    {
        //pinned memory mode - use special function to get OS-pinned memory
        checkCudaErrors(cudaHostAlloc((void **)&h_idata, memSize, (wc) ? cudaHostAllocWriteCombined : 0));
        checkCudaErrors(cudaHostAlloc((void **)&h_odata, memSize, (wc) ? cudaHostAllocWriteCombined : 0));
    }
    else {
        //pageable memory mode - use malloc
    }
}
```

32000000

→ <https://github.com/NVIDIA/cuda-samples/archive/refs/tags/v12.8.zip>

1_UTILITIES CONT.

CUDA SDK CONT.

bandwidthTest.cu (essentials)

```
float
testDeviceToHostTransfer(unsigned int memSize, memoryMode memMode, bool wc)
{
    StopWatchInterface *timer = NULL;
    float elapsedTimeInMs = 0.0f;
    float bandwidthInGBs = 0.0f;
    unsigned char *h_idata = NULL;
    unsigned char *h_odata = NULL;
    cudaEvent_t start, stop;

    sdkCreateTimer(&timer);
    checkCudaErrors(cudaEventCreate(&start));
    checkCudaErrors(cudaEventCreate(&stop));

    //allocate host memory
    if (PINNED == memMode)
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        //pinned memory mode - use special function to get OS-pinned memory
        checkCudaErrors(cudaHostAlloc((void **)&h_idata, memSize, (wc) ? cudaHostAllocWriteCombined : 0));
        checkCudaErrors(cudaHostAlloc((void **)&h_odata, memSize, (wc) ? cudaHostAllocWriteCombined : 0));
    }
    else {
        //pageable memory mode - use malloc
    }
}
```

32000000

CUDA types

→ <https://github.com/NVIDIA/cuda-samples/archive/refs/tags/v12.8.zip>

1__UTILITIES CONT.

CUDA SDK CONT.

bandwidthTest.cu (essentials)

```
float  
testDeviceToHostTransfer(unsigned int memSize, memoryMode memMode, bool wc)  
{  
    StopWatchInterface *timer = NULL;  
    float elapsedTimeInMs = 0.0f;  
    float bandwidthInGBs = 0.0f;  
    unsigned char *h_idata = NULL;  
    unsigned char *h_odata = NULL;  
    cudaEvent_t start, stop;  
  
    sdkCreateTimer(&timer);  
    checkCudaErrors(cudaEventCreate(&start));  
    checkCudaErrors(cudaEventCreate(&stop));  
  
    //allocate host memory  
    if (PINNED == memMode)  
    {  
        //pinned memory mode - use special function to get OS-pinned memory  
        checkCudaErrors(cudaHostAlloc((void **)&h_idata, memSize, (wc) ? cudaHostAllocWriteCombined : 0));  
        checkCudaErrors(cudaHostAlloc((void **)&h_odata, memSize, (wc) ? cudaHostAllocWriteCombined : 0));  
    }  
    else {  
        //pageable memory mode - use malloc  
    }  
}
```

32000000

CUDA types

CUDA time measurement

→ <https://github.com/NVIDIA/cuda-samples/archive/refs/tags/v12.8.zip>

1_UTILITIES CONT.

CUDA SDK CONT.

bandwidthTest.cu (essentials)

```
float
testDeviceToHostTransfer(unsigned int memSize, memoryMode memMode, bool wc)
{
    StopwatchInterface *timer = NULL;
    float elapsedTimeInMs = 0.0f;
    float bandwidthInGBs = 0.0f;
    unsigned char *h_idata = NULL;
    unsigned char *h_odata = NULL;
    cudaEvent_t start, stop;

    sdkCreateTimer(&timer);
    checkCudaErrors(cudaEventCreate(&start));
    checkCudaErrors(cudaEventCreate(&stop));

    //allocate host memory
    if (PINNED == memMode)
    {
        //pinned memory mode - use special function to get OS-pinned memory
        checkCudaErrors(cudaHostAlloc((void **)&h_idata, memSize, (wc) ? cudaHostAllocWriteCombined : 0));
        checkCudaErrors(cudaHostAlloc((void **)&h_odata, memSize, (wc) ? cudaHostAllocWriteCombined : 0));
    }
    else {
        //pageable memory mode - use malloc
    }
}
```

32000000

CUDA types

CUDA time measurement

Error handling via encapsulation

→ <https://github.com/NVIDIA/cuda-samples/archive/refs/tags/v12.8.zip>

1__UTILITIES CONT.

CUDA SDK CONT.

bandwidthTest.cu (essentials)

```
//initialize the memory
for (unsigned int i = 0; i < memSize/sizeof(unsigned char); i++)
{
    h_idata[i] = (unsigned char)(i & 0xff);
}
// allocate device memory
unsigned char *d_idata;
checkCudaErrors(cudaMalloc((void **) &d_idata, memSize));

//initialize the device memory
checkCudaErrors(cudaMemcpy(d_idata, h_idata, memSize,
                           cudaMemcpyHostToDevice));

//copy data from GPU to Host
sdkStartTimer(&timer);
checkCudaErrors(cudaEventRecord(start, 0));
if (PINNED == memMode)
{
    for (unsigned int i = 0; i < MEMCOPY_ITERATIONS; i++)
    {
        checkCudaErrors(cudaMemcpyAsync(h_odata, d_idata, memSize,
                                         cudaMemcpyDeviceToHost, 0));
    }
} else { ... }
```

→ <https://github.com/NVIDIA/cuda-samples/archive/refs/tags/v12.8.zip>

1_UTILITIES CONT.

CUDA SDK CONT.

bandwidthTest.cu (essentials)

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                                         cudaMemcpyDeviceToHost, 0));
    }
} else { ... }
```

Loop over 32M items

→ <https://github.com/NVIDIA/cuda-samples/archive/refs/tags/v12.8.zip>

1_UTILITIES CONT.

CUDA SDK CONT.

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```

Loop over 32M items

bitwise add like (i % 255)

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1_UTILITIES CONT.

CUDA SDK CONT.

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Loop over 32M items

bitwise add like $(i \% 255)$

Memory set up on GPU

→ <https://github.com/NVIDIA/cuda-samples/archive/refs/tags/v12.8.zip>

1_UTILITIES CONT.

CUDA SDK CONT.

bandwidthTest.cu (essentials)

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Loop over 32M items

bitwise add like $(i \% 255)$

Memory set up on GPU

Timing begin

1_UTILITIES CONT.

CUDA SDK CONT.

bandwidthTest.cu (essentials)

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//initialize the memory
for (unsigned int i = 0; i < memSize/sizeof(unsigned char); i++)
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Memory set up on GPU

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checkCudaErrors(cudaMemcpy(d_idata, h_idata, memSize,
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Timing begin

```
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checkCudaErrors(cudaEventRecord(start, 0));
if (PINNED == memMode)
{
    for (unsigned int i = 0; i < MEMCOPY_ITERATIONS; i++)
    {
        checkCudaErrors(cudaMemcpyAsync(h_odata, d_idata, memSize,
                                         cudaMemcpyDeviceToHost, 0));
    }
} else { ... }
```

100

→ <https://github.com/NVIDIA/cuda-samples/archive/refs/tags/v12.8.zip>

1__UTILITIES CONT.

CUDA SDK CONT.

bandwidthTest.cu (essentials)

```
checkCudaErrors(cudaEventRecord(stop, 0));

// make sure GPU has finished copying
checkCudaErrors(cudaDeviceSynchronize());
//get the total elapsed time in ms
sdkStopTimer(&timer);
checkCudaErrors(cudaEventElapsedTime(&elapsedTimeInMs, start, stop));

//calculate bandwidth in GB/s
double time_s = elapsedTimeInMs / 1e3;
bandwidthInGBs = (memSize * (float)MEMCOPY_ITERATIONS) / (double)1e9;
bandwidthInGBs = bandwidthInGBs / time_s;
//clean up memory
checkCudaErrors(cudaEventDestroy(stop));
checkCudaErrors(cudaEventDestroy(start));
sdkDeleteTimer(&timer);

... freeing allocated memory

return bandwidthInGBs;
}
```

→ <https://github.com/NVIDIA/cuda-samples/archive/refs/tags/v12.8.zip>

1_UTILITIES CONT.

CUDA SDK CONT.

bandwidthTest.cu (essentials)

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checkCudaErrors(cudaEventRecord(stop, 0));  
  
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checkCudaErrors(cudaEventDestroy(stop));  
checkCudaErrors(cudaEventDestroy(start));  
sdkDeleteTimer(&timer);  
  
... freeing allocated memory  
  
return bandwidthInGBs;  
}
```

Timing end

→ <https://github.com/NVIDIA/cuda-samples/archive/refs/tags/v12.8.zip>

1_UTILITIES CONT.

CUDA SDK CONT.

bandwidthTest.cu (essentials)

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checkCudaErrors(cudaEventRecord(stop, 0));
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Timing end

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sdkStopTimer(&timer);
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checkCudaErrors(cudaEventElapsedTime(&elapsedTimeInMs, start, stop));
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Exe time in ms

```
//calculate bandwidth in GB/s
```

```
double time_s = elapsedTimeInMs / 1e3;
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bandwidthInGBs = (memSize * (float)MEMCOPY_ITERATIONS) / (double)1e9;
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bandwidthInGBs = bandwidthInGBs / time_s;
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//clean up memory
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checkCudaErrors(cudaEventDestroy(stop));
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```
sdkDeleteTimer(&timer);
```

```
... freeing allocated memory
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```
return bandwidthInGBs;
```

```
}
```

→ <https://github.com/NVIDIA/cuda-samples/archive/refs/tags/v12.8.zip>

1_UTILITIES CONT.

CUDA SDK CONT.

bandwidthTest.cu (essentials)

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```

```
sdkDeleteTimer(&timer);
```

```
... freeing allocated memory
```

```
return bandwidthInGBs;
```

```
}
```

Convert and compute bw

→ <https://github.com/NVIDIA/cuda-samples/archive/refs/tags/v12.8.zip>

1__UTILITIES CONT.

CUDA SDK CONT.

- Data transfer between host and device is the slowest link involved in GPU computing
- Needs to be carefully designed/minimized case-by-case
- Peak bandwidth disparity between device memory \leftrightarrow GPU cores (1555 GB/s on A100) and host memory \leftrightarrow device memory (25 GB/s PCIe Gen4)
- GPU receives pinned memory only, which is a temporary translation of pageable host memory
- That's why the directly allocated memory in pinned form is transferred faster
- Another optimization strategy is to overlap memory transfer with computing

0_INTRODUCTION/SIMPLESTREAMS

CUDA SDK CONT.

- Efficiency comes with concurrently executing functions on all sorts of processing elements including CPU- and GPU-cores

→ <https://devblogs.nvidia.com/gpu-pro-tip-cuda-7-streams-simplify-concurrency>

0_INTRODUCTION/SIMPLESTREAMS

CUDA SDK CONT.

- Efficiency comes with concurrently executing functions on all sorts of processing elements including CPU- and GPU-cores
- CUDA applications manage concurrency with streams

→ <https://devblogs.nvidia.com/gpu-pro-tip-cuda-7-streams-simplify-concurrency>

0__INTRODUCTION/SIMPLESTREAMS

CUDA SDK CONT.

- Efficiency comes with concurrently executing functions on all sorts of processing elements including CPU- and GPU-cores
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0__INTRODUCTION/SIMPLESTREAMS

CUDA SDK CONT.

- Efficiency comes with concurrently executing functions on all sorts of processing elements including CPU- and GPU-cores
- CUDA applications manage concurrency with streams
- A stream is a sequence of commands executed in order
- Several streams may execute their respective sequence of commands concurrently/asynchronously

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0__INTRODUCTION/SIMPLESTREAMS

CUDA SDK CONT.

- Efficiency comes with concurrently executing functions on all sorts of processing elements including CPU- and GPU-cores
- CUDA applications manage concurrency with streams
- A stream is a sequence of commands executed in order
- Several streams may execute their respective sequence of commands concurrently/asynchronously
- With CUDA 7 control over more than one (default stream) was introduced, so that multiple host threads can now have their own associated default stream for launching kernels

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0_INTRODUCTION/SIMPLESTREAMS

CUDA SDK CONT.

- Efficiency comes with concurrently executing functions on all sorts of processing elements including CPU- and GPU-cores
- CUDA applications manage concurrency with streams
- A stream is a sequence of commands executed in order
- Several streams may execute their respective sequence of commands concurrently/asynchronously
- With CUDA 7 control over more than one (default stream) was introduced, so that multiple host threads can now have their own associated default stream for launching kernels
- Asynchronous commands in CUDA return control to the calling host thread before the device has finished the requested task (non-blocking), e.g. kernel launches, memory copies performed by functions with the Async suffix, etc.

→ <https://devblogs.nvidia.com/gpu-pro-tip-cuda-7-streams-simplify-concurrency>

0_INTRODUCTION/SIMPLESTREAMS CONT.

CUDA SDK CONT.

CUDA streams

```
KrnlDmmy <<< numBlocks, threadsPerBlock, numBytes >>> (); // default stream  
KrnlDmmy <<< numBlocks, threadsPerBlock, numBytes, 0 >>> (); // stream 0
```

→ <https://devblogs.nvidia.com/gpu-pro-tip-cuda-7-streams-simplify-concurrency>

→ <https://stackoverflow.com/questions/27162408/shared-memory-and-streams-when-launching-kernel>

0_INTRODUCTION/SIMPLESTREAMS CONT.

CUDA SDK CONT.

CUDA streams

Specifying a stream
for a kernel launch (or
memcpy) is optional

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KrnlDmmy <<< numBlocks, threadsPerBlock, numBytes >>> (); // default stream  
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0_INTRODUCTION/SIMPLESTREAMS CONT.

CUDA SDK CONT.

CUDA streams

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Stream 0 is the default stream

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0_INTRODUCTION/SIMPLESTREAMS CONT.

CUDA SDK CONT.

CUDA streams

Size of dynamically allocated shared memory

Specifying a stream for a kernel launch (or memcopy) is optional

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0_INTRODUCTION/SIMPLESTREAMS CONT.

CUDA SDK CONT.

CUDA streams

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Since CUDA 7 per-(host)thread default streams may be used

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0_INTRODUCTION/SIMPLESTREAMS CONT.

CUDA SDK CONT.

CUDA streams

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```

Since CUDA 7 per-(host)thread default streams may be used

Stream 0 is the default stream

Considered at compile time, `nvcc --default-stream per-thread`

→ <https://devblogs.nvidia.com/gpu-pro-tip-cuda-7-streams-simplify-concurrency>

→ <https://stackoverflow.com/questions/27162408/shared-memory-and-streams-when-launching-kernel>

0_INTRODUCTION/SIMPLESTREAMS CONT.

CUDA SDK CONT.

```
const int N = 1048576;

__global__ void kernel(float *x, int n)
{
    int tid = blockIdx.x * blockDim.x + threadIdx.x;
    for (int i = tid; i < n; i += blockDim.x) {
        x[i] = sqrt(pow(3.14159,i));
    }
}

int main()
{
    const int num_streams = 8;
    cudaStream_t streams[num_streams];
    float *data[num_streams];
    for (int i = 0; i < num_streams; i++) {
        cudaStreamCreate(&streams[i]);
        cudaMalloc(&data[i], N * sizeof(float));
        // launch one worker kernel per stream
        kernel <<< 1, 64, 0, streams[i] >>> (data[i], N);
        // launch a dummy kernel on the default stream
        kernel <<< 1, 1 >>> (0, 0);
    }
    cudaDeviceReset();
    return 0;
}
```

Thread-specific run through array
x[] with stride blockDim.x

→ https://tinyurl.com/cudafordummies/ii/t/stream_test.cu

0_INTRODUCTION/SIMPLESTREAMS CONT.

CUDA SDK CONT.

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const int N = 1048576;
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    }  
}
```

```
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    const int num_streams = 8;  
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Thread-specific run through array
x[] with stride blockDim.x

Special type declaration

→ https://tinyurl.com/cudaforbeginners/ii/t/stream_test.cu

0_INTRODUCTION/SIMPLESTREAMS CONT.

CUDA SDK CONT.

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    }  
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```
    cudaStream_t streams[num_streams];
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```
    float *data[num_streams];
```

```
    for (int i = 0; i < num_streams; i++) {
```

```
        cudaStreamCreate(&streams[i]);
```

```
        cudaMalloc(&data[i], N * sizeof(float));
```

```
        // launch one worker kernel per stream
```

```
        kernel <<< 1, 64, 0, streams[i] >>> (data[i], N);
```

```
        // launch a dummy kernel on the default stream
```

```
        kernel <<< 1, 1 >>> (0, 0);
```

```
    }
```

```
    cudaDeviceReset();
```

```
    return 0;
```

```
}
```

Thread-specific run through array
x[] with stride blockDim.x

Special type declaration

Stream creation and specific
memory allocation

→ https://tinyurl.com/cudaforummies/ii/t/stream_test.cu

0_INTRODUCTION/SIMPLESTREAMS CONT.

CUDA SDK CONT.

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    for (int i = tid; i < n; i += blockDim.x) {  
        x[i] = sqrt(pow(3.14159,i));  
    }  
}
```

```
}  
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{
```

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```

```
    cudaStream_t streams[num_streams];
```

```
    float *data[num_streams];
```

```
    for (int i = 0; i < num_streams; i++) {
```

```
        cudaStreamCreate(&streams[i]);
```

```
        cudaMalloc(&data[i], N * sizeof(float));
```

```
        // launch one worker kernel per stream
```

```
        kernel <<< 1, 64, 0, streams[i] >>> (data[i], N);
```

```
        // launch a dummy kernel on the default stream
```

```
        kernel <<< 1, 1 >>> (0, 0);
```

```
    }
```

```
    cudaDeviceReset();
```

```
    return 0;
```

```
}
```

Thread-specific run through array
x[] with stride blockDim.x

Special type declaration

Stream creation and specific
memory allocation

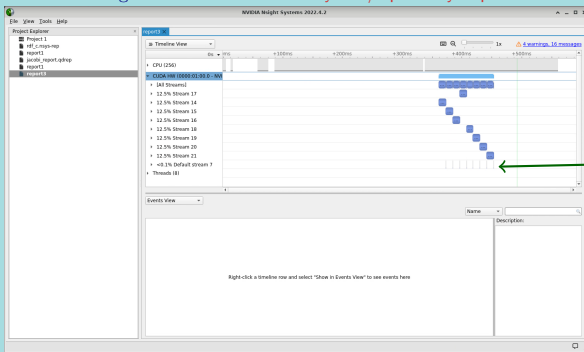
Kernel launch via streams

→ https://tinyurl.com/cudaforummies/ii/t/stream_test.cu

0_INTRODUCTION/SIMPLESTREAMS CONT.

CUDA SDK CONT.

```
cuda-zen sh@n3073-004: my_simpleStreams$ cp ../stream_test.cu ./simpleStreams.cu
cuda-zen sh@n3073-004: my_simpleStreams$ mkdir build
cuda-zen sh@n3073-004: my_simpleStreams$ cd build
cuda-zen sh@n3073-004: build$ cmake ..
cuda-zen sh@n3073-004: build$ make
cuda-zen sh@n3073-004: build$ nsys nvprof ./simpleStreams
cuda-zen sh@gui3068-009: build$ nsys-ui ./report1.nsys-rep
```



Interleaved
dummy kernel
sent to the default
stream → no con-
currency

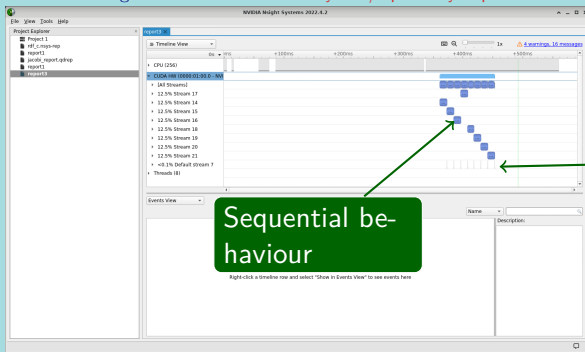
→ <https://devblogs.nvidia.com/gpu-pro-tip-cuda-7-streams-simplify-concurrency>

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0_INTRODUCTION/SIMPLESTREAMS CONT.

CUDA SDK CONT.

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```



Interleaved
dummy kernel
sent to the default
stream → no con-
currency

Sequential be-
haviour

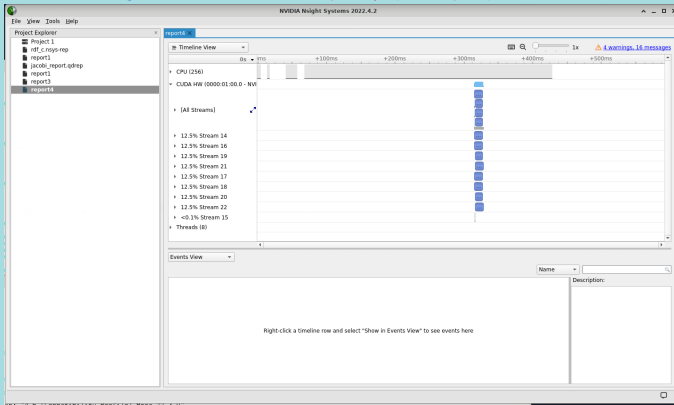
→ <https://devblogs.nvidia.com/gpu-pro-tip-cuda-7-streams-simplify-concurrency>

CUDA 4 DUMMIES — OCT 22-23, 2025

0_INTRODUCTION/SIMPLESTREAMS CONT.

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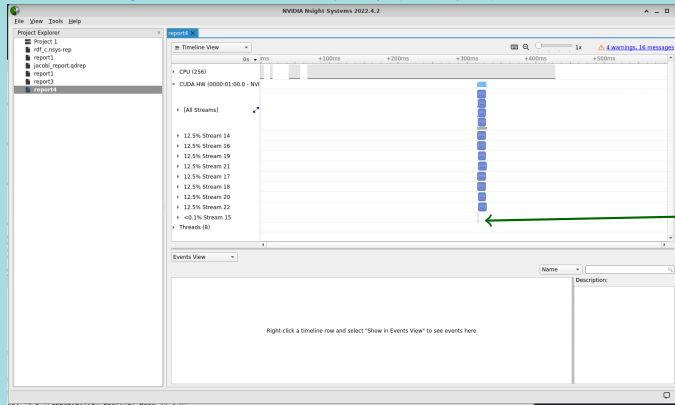
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Dummy kernel
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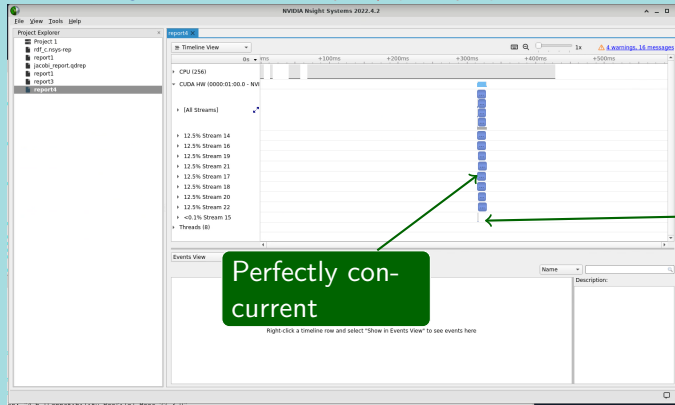
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CUDA 4 DUMMIES — OCT 22-23, 2025

0_INTRODUCTION/SIMPLESTREAMS CONT.

CUDA SDK CONT.

```
#include <omp.h>
const int N = 1048576;
__global__ void kernel(float *x, int n)
{
    int tid = blockIdx.x * blockDim.x + threadIdx.x;
    for (int i = tid; i < n; i += blockDim.x) {
        x[i] = sqrt(pow(3.14159,i));
    }
}
int main()
{
    const int num_streams = 8;
    cudaStream_t streams[num_streams];
    float *data[num_streams];
    omp_set_num_threads(num_streams);
    #pragma omp parallel for
    for (int i = 0; i < num_streams; i++) {
        cudaStreamCreate(&streams[i]);
        cudaMalloc(&data[i], N * sizeof(float));
        // launch one worker kernel per stream
        kernel <<< 1, 64, 0, streams[i] >>> (data[i], N);
    }
    cudaDeviceReset();
    return 0;
}
```

Individual host-threads
on separate CPU cores
with associated stream

→ https://tinyurl.com/cudafordummies/ii/t/stream_test_v5.cu

0_INTRODUCTION/SIMPLESTREAMS CONT.

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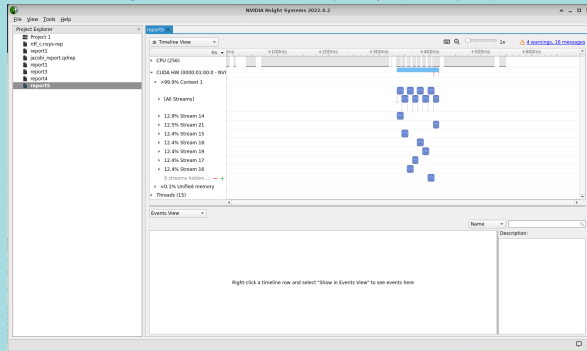
Simplest way of ex-
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CPU/GPU resources

→ https://tinyurl.com/cudafordummies/ii/t/stream_test_v5.cu

0_INTRODUCTION/SIMPLESTREAMS CONT.

CUDA SDK CONT.

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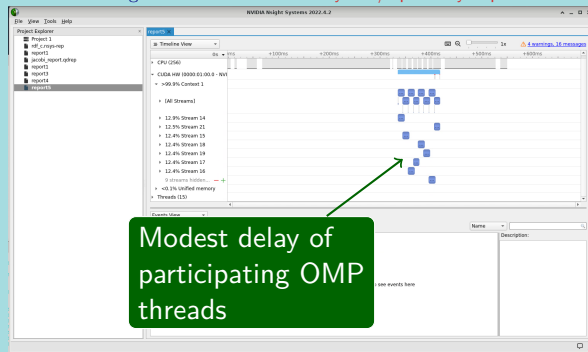
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Modest delay of
participating OMP
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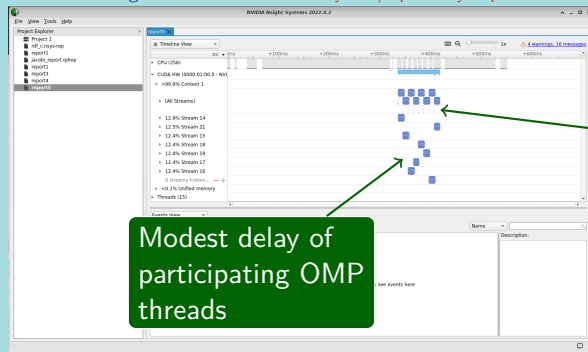
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Dummy kernel
perfectly concurrent !

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CUDA 4 DUMMIES — OCT 22-23, 2025

0_INTRODUCTION/SIMPLESTREAMS CONT.

CUDA SDK CONT.

- Streams enable a lot of flexibility in CUDA workloads
- Only the legacy default stream can pose problems
- Compiler flag `--default-stream per-thread` needs to be applied to all *.cu units involved
- `cudaDeviceSynchronize()` continues to synchronize everything on the device
- Individual streams may be synchronized via `cudaStreamSynchronize()`
- Ruling out interference by the default stream completely may be achieved with non-blocking streams, i.e. by passing the flag `cudaStreamNonBlocking` to `cudaStreamCreate()`

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4_CUDA_LIBRARIES/RANDOMFOG

CUDA SDK CONT.

- CUDA is for graphics cards, so there are a lot of graphics examples too
- Example 4_CUDA_Libraries/randomFog
- Random number generation (200k) with CURAND
- Spherical polar coordinates are used (radius, rho, theta) normalized and presented as uniform distribution on the sphere
- Several options to display the data set

→ `~/cuda-samples/Samples/4_CUDA_Libraries/my_randomFog/build/randomFog`

5_DOMAIN_SPECIFIC/NBODY

CUDA SDK CONT.

- nbody is a CUDA demo of a gravitational n-body simulation
- Rather efficient scaling (strong) with multiple GPUs
- OpenGL rendering
- Command line args like -numbodies=10000 or -fp64 or -fullscreen or -cpu

→ `~/cuda-samples/Samples/5_Domain_Specific/my_nbody/build/nbody`

4_CUDA_LIBRARIES/OCEANFFT

CUDA SDK CONT.

- oceanFFT is a graphical demo of an ocean surface
- Height field is computed with the help of the CUFFT library (CUDA Fast Fourier Transform)
- OpenGL rendering
- 'w' — toggle wireframe

→ `~/cuda-samples/Samples/4_CUDA_Libraries/my_oceanFFT/build/oceanFFT`

- CUDA SDK — a rich playground for beginners interested in learning the basics of GPU computing

TAKE HOME MESSAGES

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- CUDA streams bring in another level of flexibility, especially when run concurrently (perhaps from individual OpenMP threads on the host)
- Graphical demos — nice to have them too !