



GPU Programming

(in CUDA)

Summer 2019

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Session 7





- Applications
 - Parallel Reduction
 - Prefix Sum (Scan)
 - Histogram
 - Convolution

- A popular class of computation
 - Goal: To master the concept of control divergence through reduction trees (how to be work efficient).
-

Parallel Reduction



- Use: Summarize a set of input values into one value using a “reduction operation”

- Max
- Min
- Sum
- Product

You need to initialize the result as an identity value for the reduction operation

- Smallest possible value for max reduction
 - Largest possible value for min reduction
 - 0 for sum reduction
 - 1 for product reduction
-

Parallel Reduction

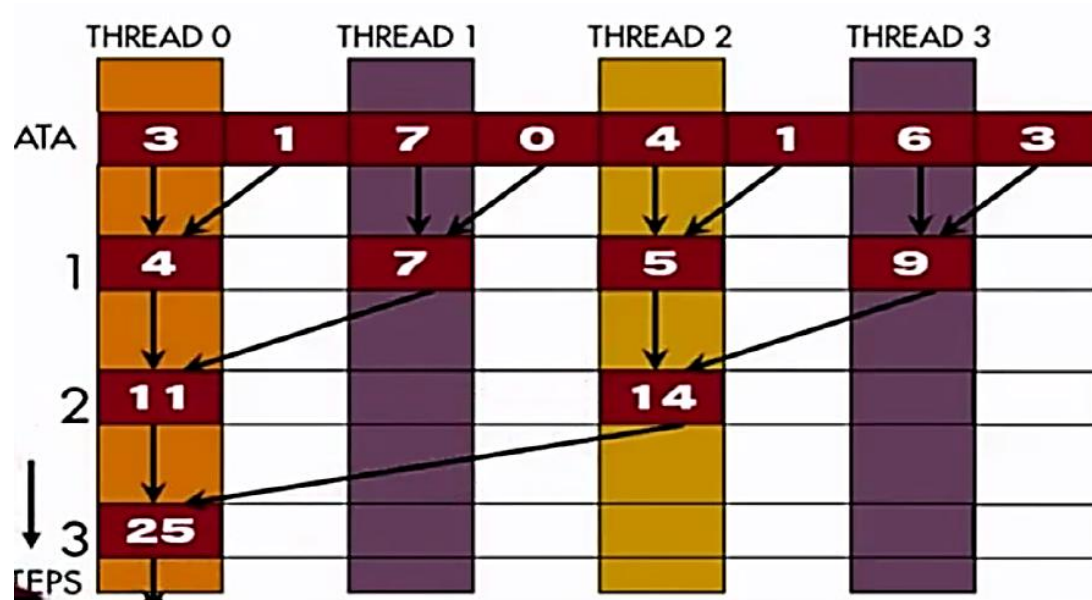


- Example
- Calculate Max Value from vector:
- A parallel reduction tree algorithm performs $N-1$ operations in $\log(N)$ steps



Parallel Reduction

- An example



Parallel Reduction



- For N input values, the reduction tree performs:
 - $(1/2)N + (1/4)N + (1/8)N + \dots (1/N) = N-1$ operations
 - In $\log(N)$ steps – 1 000 000 input values take 20 steps
 - Assuming that we have enough execution resources
 - Average parallelism $(N-1)/\log(N)$
 - For N = 1 000 000 average parallelism is 50 000
 - However, peak resource requirement is 500 000
- This is a work-efficient parallel algorithm
 - The amount of work done is comparable to sequential
 - Many parallel algorithms are not work efficient

- A commonly used strategy for processing large input data sets
 - There is no required order of processing elements in a data set (associative and commutative)
 - Partition the data set into smaller chunks
 - Have each thread process a chunk
 - Use a reduction tree to summarize the results from each chunk into the final answer
 - Google and Hadoop MapReduce frameworks are examples of this pattern
 - We will focus on the reduction tree step for now.
-

- Example: Handling privatization
 - Multiple threads write into an output location
 - Replicate the output location so that each thread has a private output location
 - Use a reduction tree to combine the values of private locations into the original output location
-

Parallel Reduction



- An example

setting up the shared memory

BlockDim is the number of threads in a block

- Each thread block takes $2 * \text{BlockDim}$ input elements

- Each threads loads 2 elements into shared memory

```
__shared__ float partialSum[2*BLOCK_SIZE];  
  
unsigned int t = threadIdx.x;  
Unsigned int start = 2*blockIdx.x*blockDim.x;  
partialSum[t] = input[start + t];  
partialSum[blockDim+t] = input[start+ blockDim.x+t];
```

Parallel Reduction



- Why do we need syncthreads()?

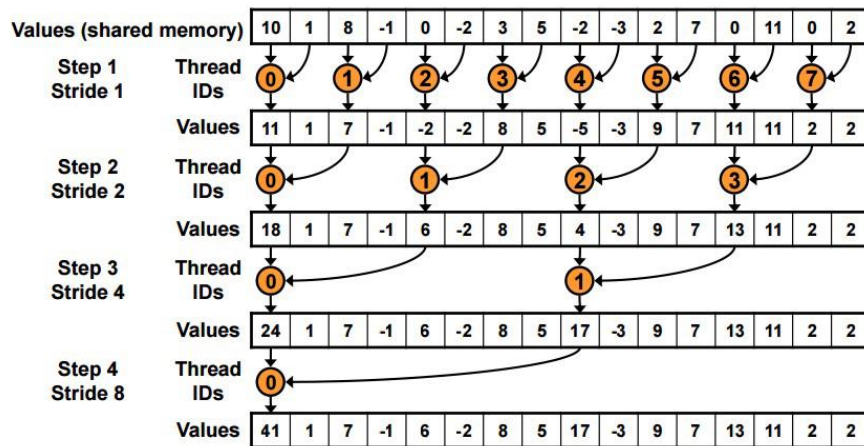
```
for (unsigned int stride = 1;
     stride <= blockDim.x; stride *= 2)
{
    __syncthreads();
    if (t % stride == 0)
        partialSum[2*t] += partialSum[2*t+stride];
}
```

- For the case where the vector is larger than the size of the block
- Thread 0 in each thread block write the sum of the thread block in partialSum[0] into a vector indexed by the blockIdx.x
- This means that we would have to iterate the algorithm and launch another kernel until we only have one block left

Parallel Reduction



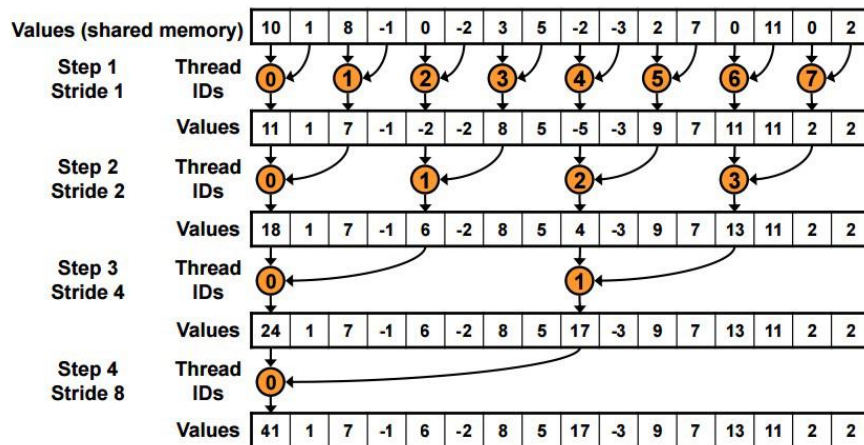
Parallel Reduction: Interleaved Addressing



Parallel Reduction



Parallel Reduction: Interleaved Addressing

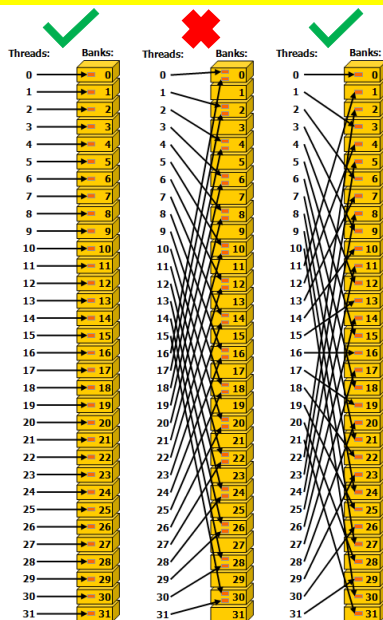


What happens if the warp has more than 16 threads executing?

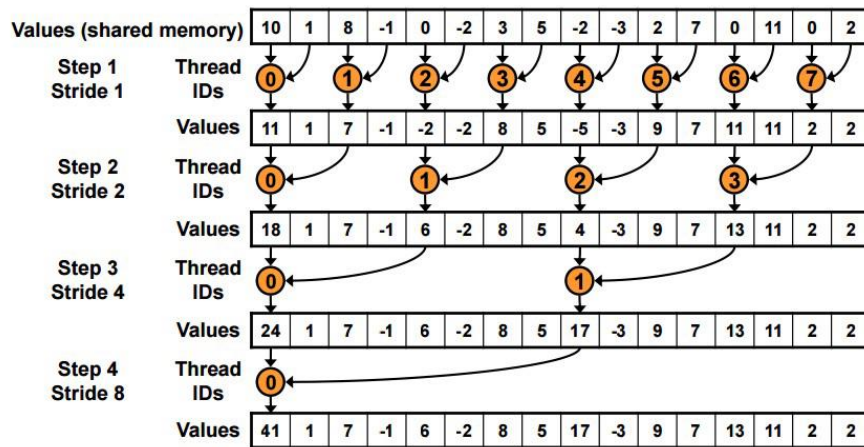
Parallel Reduction



Remember! Shared memory may have bank conflicts



Parallel Reduction: Interleaved Addressing



New Problem: Shared Memory Bank Conflicts

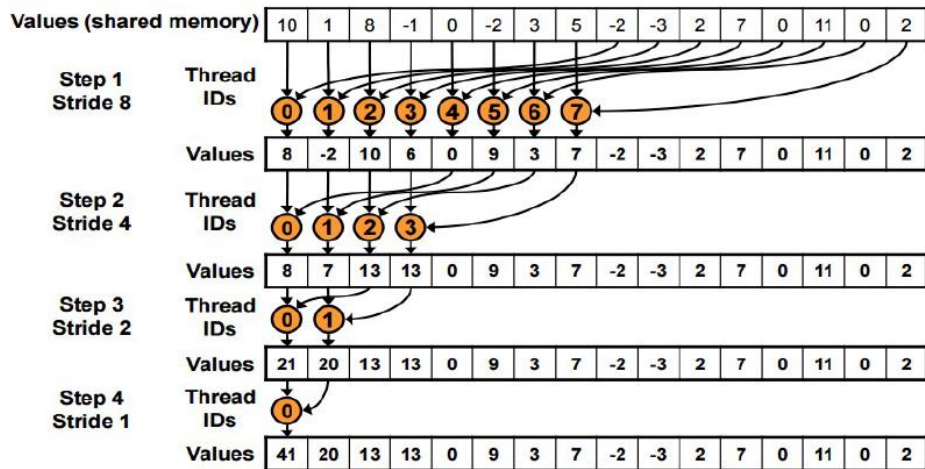
Load left side:
Thread 0
load values[0]
Thread 1
load values[2]
...
Thread 16
load values[32]
Thread 17
load values[34]
...

Load right side:
Thread 0
load values[1]
Thread 1
load values[3]
...
Thread 16
load values[33]
Thread 17
load values[35]
...

Parallel Reduction

- A better reduction?

Parallel Reduction: Sequential Addressing



Sequential addressing is conflict free

Parallel Reduction



- There's a problem
 - Idle threads!
 - Half of the threads are idle on first loop iteration!
 - This is wasteful....

```
for (unsigned int s=blockDim.x/2; s>0; s>>=1) {  
    if (tid < s) {  
        sdata[tid] += sdata[tid + s];  
    }  
    __syncthreads();  
}
```


Parallel Reduction



- Halve the number of blocks, and replace single load:

```
// each thread loads one element from global to shared mem
unsigned int tid = threadIdx.x;
unsigned int i = blockIdx.x*blockDim.x + threadIdx.x;
sdata[tid] = g_idata[i];
__syncthreads();
```

- With two loads and first add of the reduction:

```
// perform first level of reduction,
// reading from global memory, writing to shared memory
unsigned int tid = threadIdx.x;
unsigned int i = blockIdx.x*(blockDim.x*2) + threadIdx.x;
sdata[tid] = g_idata[i] + g_idata[i+blockDim.x];
__syncthreads();
```

- Unrolling the last warp
 - As reduction proceeds, # “active” threads decreases
 - When $s \leq 32$, we have only one warp left
 - Instructions are SIMD synchronous within a warp
 - That means when $s \leq 32$:
 - We don't need to `__syncthreads()`
 - We don't need “if (tid < s)” because it doesn't save any work
 - Lets unroll the last 6 iterations of the inner loop
-

Parallel Reduction



- Note: This saves useless work in all warps, not just the last one!
- Without unrolling, all warps execute every iteration of the for loop and if statement

```
__device__ void warpReduce(volatile int* sdata, int tid) {  
    sdata[tid] += sdata[tid + 32];  
    sdata[tid] += sdata[tid + 16];  
    sdata[tid] += sdata[tid + 8];  
    sdata[tid] += sdata[tid + 4];  
    sdata[tid] += sdata[tid + 2];  
    sdata[tid] += sdata[tid + 1];  
}
```

↑
IMPORTANT:
For this to be correct,
we must use the
“volatile” keyword!

```
// later...  
for (unsigned int s=blockDim.x/2; s>32; s>>=1) {  
    if (tid < s)  
        sdata[tid] += sdata[tid + s];  
    __syncthreads();  
}  
  
if (tid < 32) warpReduce(sdata, tid);
```

Parallel Reduction



Final Optimized Kernel

```
template <unsigned int blockSize>
__device__ void warpReduce(volatile int *sdata, unsigned int tid) {
    if (blockSize >= 64) sdata[tid] += sdata[tid + 32];
    if (blockSize >= 32) sdata[tid] += sdata[tid + 16];
    if (blockSize >= 16) sdata[tid] += sdata[tid + 8];
    if (blockSize >= 8) sdata[tid] += sdata[tid + 4];
    if (blockSize >= 4) sdata[tid] += sdata[tid + 2];
    if (blockSize >= 2) sdata[tid] += sdata[tid + 1];
}

template <unsigned int blockSize>
__global__ void reduce6(int *g_idata, int *g_odata, unsigned int n) {
    extern __shared__ int sdata[];
    unsigned int tid = threadIdx.x;
    unsigned int i = blockIdx.x*(blockSize*2) + tid;
    unsigned int gridSize = blockSize*2*gridDim.x;
    sdata[tid] = 0;

    while (i < n) { sdata[tid] += g_idata[i] + g_idata[i+blockSize]; i += gridSize; }
    __syncthreads();

    if (blockSize >= 512) { if (tid < 256) { sdata[tid] += sdata[tid + 256]; } __syncthreads(); }
    if (blockSize >= 256) { if (tid < 128) { sdata[tid] += sdata[tid + 128]; } __syncthreads(); }
    if (blockSize >= 128) { if (tid < 64) { sdata[tid] += sdata[tid + 64]; } __syncthreads(); }

    if (tid < 32) warpReduce(sdata, tid);
    if (tid == 0) g_odata[blockIdx.x] = sdata[0];
}
```

Parallel Reduction



- Please note: this warp synchronized technique only works in older models. After Volta, this technique is no longer valid due to the change in GPU architecture.
- More on this:
 - <https://devblogs.nvidia.com/cooperative-groups/>
 - <https://devblogs.nvidia.com/inside-volta/>

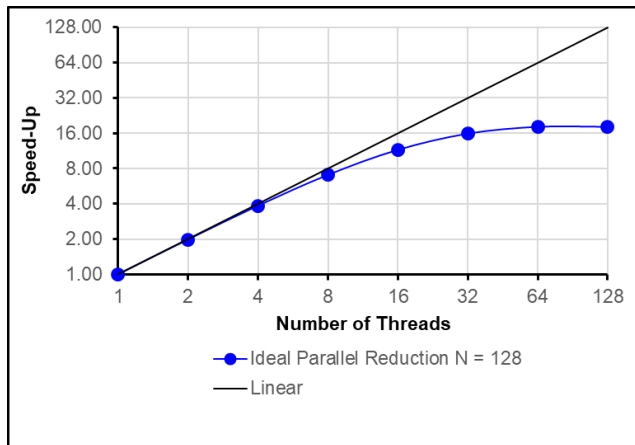
Thoughts on Reduction for CPU



$n = \log_2 \text{Row Size}$

$tp = \log_2 \text{Num Threads}$

$\text{Ideal Exec Time} = \max(1, 2^{n-tp}) - 1 + \min(n, tp)$



Row Matrix Size: 48000
Sparsity: >99 %
Average Row Density: ~128

- Why reduction is not ideal
 - Cache sharing between threads in different cores (inefficient memory accesses), loses locality of having each thread access all consecutive memory
 - Reduction requires synchronization between threads (after each step) = reduced efficiency
 - Reduction ideal speedup is lower than linear in certain scenarios
 - Row parallelism does the same amount of work at the end, though threads can focus on independent work

Prefix Sum (Scan)



- Definition
 - Prefix sum, cumulative sum, inclusive scan, or simply scan of a sequence of numbers x_0, x_1, x_2, \dots . Gives a second sequence of numbers y_0, y_1, y_2, \dots , the sums of prefixes (running totals) of the input sequence.
 - Any binary operation (not just the addition operation).
- Example
 - If (+) is addition, then scan on the set: **[3 1 7 0 4 1 6 3]**
 - Returns the set: **[0 3 4 11 11 15 16 22]**

Note: Exclusive scan: last input element is not included in the result

Prefix Sum (Scan)



- A Naïve inclusive parallel Scan
 - Assign one thread to calculate each y element
 - Have every thread add up all x elements needed for

the y element

$$y0 = x0$$

$$y1 = x0 + x1$$

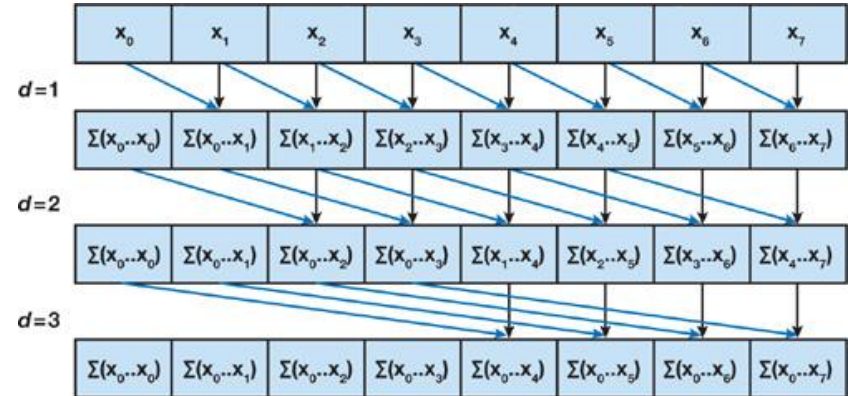
$$y2 = x0 + x1 + x2$$

- Note: Parallel programming is easy as long as you do not care about performance

Prefix Sum (Scan)

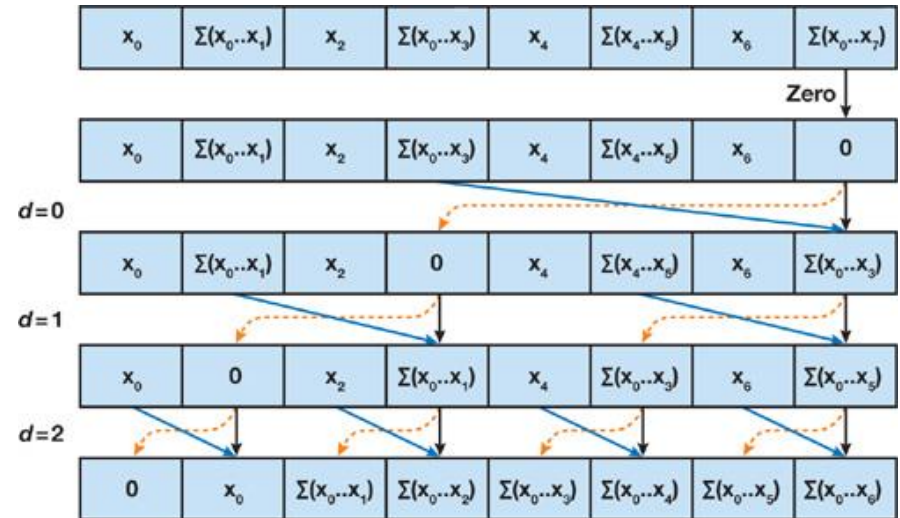
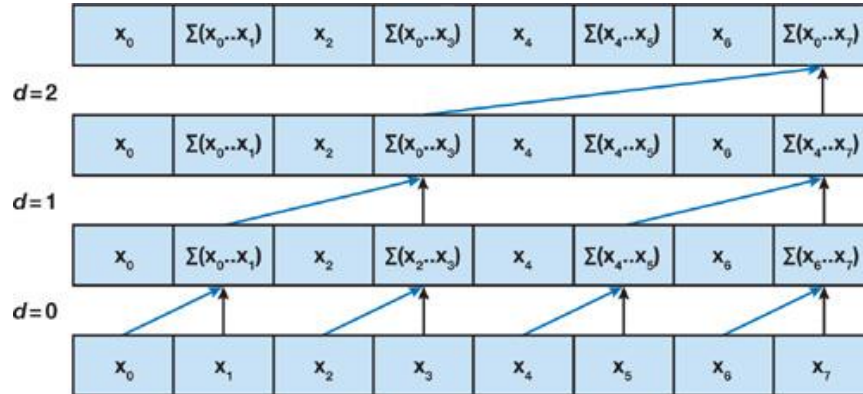


- Hillis Steele Scan: A slightly better version compared to naïve version.
- Iterate $\log(n)$ times: Threads stride to n : Add pairs of elements stride elements apart. Double stride at each iteration.
- This scan algorithm is not that work efficient
 - Sequential scan algorithm does $n-1$ adds
 - How many does this one do?
 - What happens if the # of elements is 10^6 ?



Prefix Sum (Scan)

- Even better one: Blelloch Scan.
- Reduces in $\log(n)$, downsweeps in $\log(n)$.
- Total steps: $2 \log(n)$
- This scan algorithm is work efficient



Prefix Sum (Scan)



- Useful in implementation of several parallel algorithms:
 - Radix sort
 - Quicksort
 - String comparison
 - Lexical analysis
 - Stream compaction
 - Polynomial evaluation
 - Solving recurrences
 - Tree operations
 - histograms
- Examples
 - Assigning camp slots
 - Assigning farmer market space
 - Allocating memory to parallel threads
 - Allocating memory buffer for communication channels

More info: https://developer.nvidia.com/gpugems/GPUGems3/gpugems3_ch39.html

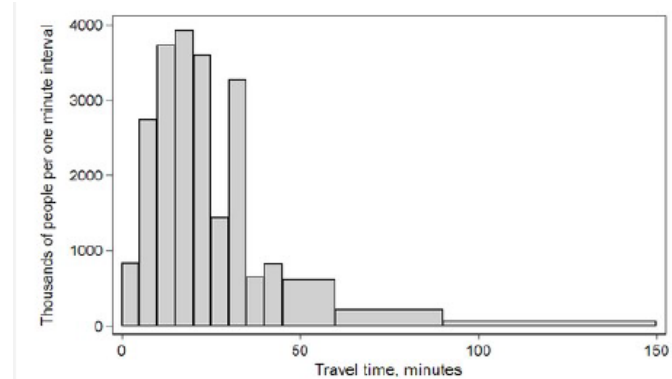
Histogram

- A histogram is a graphical representation of the distribution of numerical data.

Bar Graph

- Serial Algorithm

```
For (i=0; I < BIN_COUNT; i++)  
    result[i]=0;  
For (i=0; I < measurements.size(); i++)  
    result[computeBin(measurements[i])]++;
```



Histogram



- Naïve implementation:

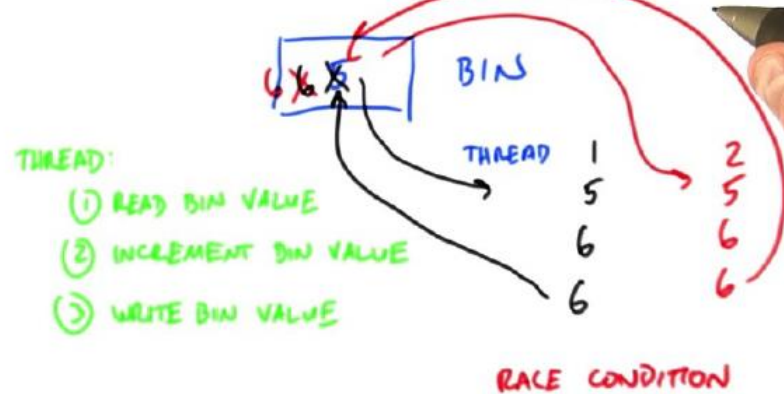
```
__global__ void naive_histo(int *d_bins, const int *d_in, const int BIN_COUNT)
{
    int myId = threadIdx.x + blockDim.x * blockIdx.x;
    int myItem = d_in[myId];
    int myBin = myItem % BIN_COUNT;
    d_bins[myBin]++;
}
```

Histogram

- Naïve implementation:

```
__global__ void naive_histo(int *d_bins, const int *d_in, const int BIN_COUNT)
{
    int myId = threadIdx.x + blockDim.x * blockIdx.x;
    int myItem = d_in[myId];
    int myBin = myItem % BIN_COUNT;
    d_bins[myBin]++;
}
```

WHY THE OBVIOUS METHOD DOESN'T WORK



Histogram



- Naïve implementation using atomic operations (Method 1):
 - This will avoid RAW hazards.

```
__global__ void simple_histo(int *d_bins, const int *d_in)
{
    int myId = threadIdx.x + blockDim.x * blockIdx.x;
    int myItem = d_in[myId];
    int myBin = myItem % BIN_COUNT;
    atomicAdd(&(d_bins[myBin]), 1);
}
```

Histogram



- Naïve implementation using atomic operations (Method 1):
 - This will avoid RAW hazards.

```
__global__ void simple_histo(int *d_bins, const int *d_in)
{
    int myId = threadIdx.x + blockDim.x * blockIdx.x;
    int myItem = d_in[myId];
    int myBin = myItem % BIN_COUNT;
    atomicAdd(&(d_bins[myBin]), 1);
}
```

QUIZ

- Histogram with 1M elements
- You can choose # of bins:



Histogram

- Redefining the method. Local histogram + reduction (Method 2)

PER-THREAD PRIVATIZED (LOCAL) HISTOGRAMS, THEN REDUCE
128 ITEMS · 8 THREADS · 3 BINS
(EACH THREAD GETS 16 ITEMS)



Histogram

- Redefining the method. Local histogram + reduction (Method 2)

PER-THREAD PRIVATIZED (LOCAL) HISTOGRAMS, THEN REDUCE
128 ITEMS · 8 THREADS · 3 BINS
(EACH THREAD GETS 16 ITEMS)



Q: DO WE NEED ATOMICS TO MANAGE ACCESS TO
THESE LOCAL PER-THREAD HISTOGRAMS?

YES ☐
NO ☐

Histogram

- Redefining the method. Sort then reduce by key (Method 3)

Sort, then reduce by key

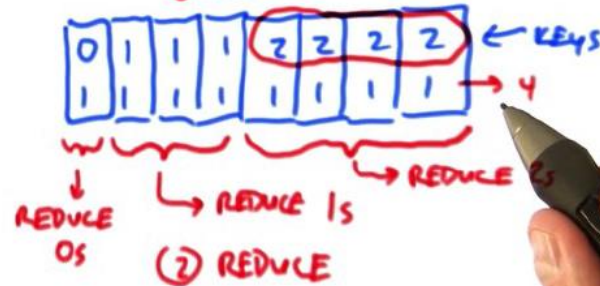
8 ENTRIES

3 DWS

(0, 1, 2)



(1) SORT



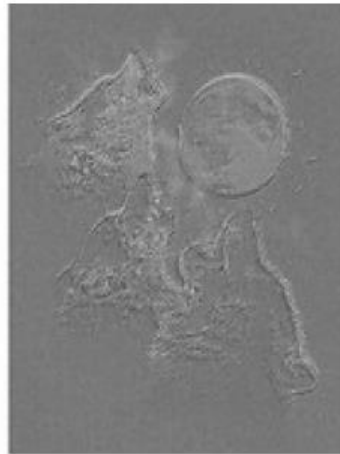
Histogram



- Final thoughts on histogram:
 - Using Atomic operations
 - Using per-thread histograms, and then reduce
 - Sort, then reduce by key
 - Question
 - 256 elements, 8 bins. How many atomic adds are needed?
 - Naive atomic technique. (256 threads)
 - Processing 16 elements per thread with local histogram, and then atomics.
-

- Applications
 - A popular array operation that is used in various forms in signal processing, digital recording, image processing, video processing, and computer vision.
 - Convolution is often performed as a filter that transforms signals and pixels into more desirable values
 - Some filters smooth out the signal values so that one can see the big-picture trend
 - Others like Gaussian filters can be used to sharpen boundaries and edges of objects in images
-

Convolution



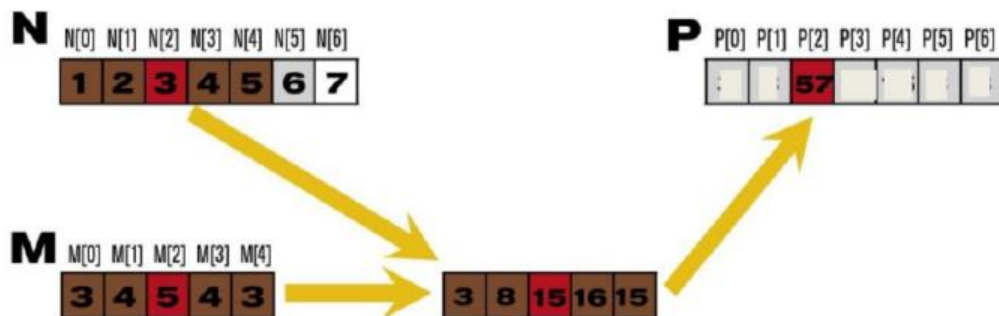
Convolution



- An array operation where each output data element is a weighted sum of a collection of neighboring input elements
 - The weights used in the weighted sum calculation are defined by an input mask array, commonly referred to as the convolution kernel
 - We will refer to these mask arrays as convolution masks to avoid confusion.
 - The same convolution mask is typically used for all elements of the array.
-

Convolution

- 1D Convolution example
 - Commonly used for audio processing
 - Mask size is usually an odd number of elements for symmetry



- Example

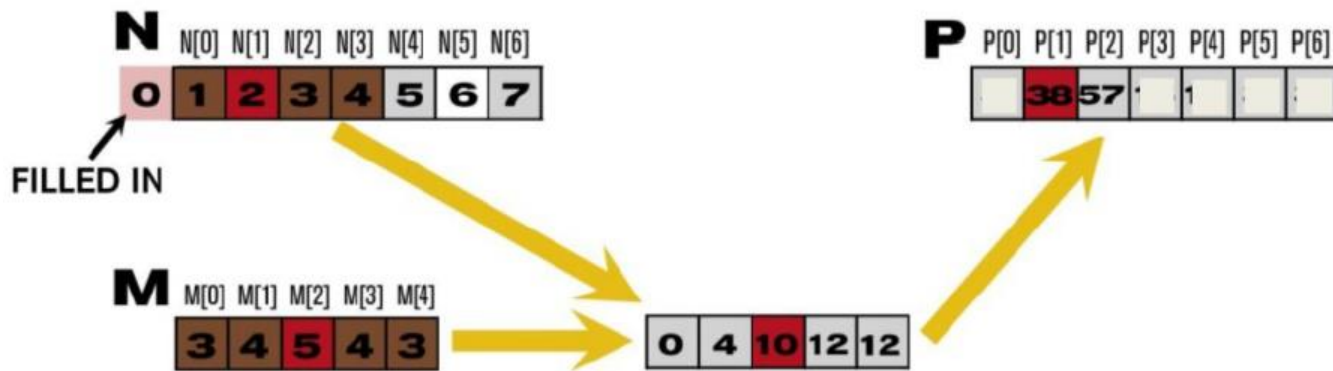
- A causal discrete-time FIR filter of order N, each value of the output sequence is a weighted sum of the most recent input values:

$$\begin{aligned}y[n] &= b_0x[n] + b_1x[n-1] + \cdots + b_Nx[n-N] \\ &= \sum_{i=0}^N b_i \cdot x[n-i],\end{aligned}$$

- Where:
 - $X[n]$ is the input signal
 - $Y[n]$ is the output signal,
 - N is the filter order, an Nth-order filter has (N+1) terms on the right-hand side
 - B_i is the value of the impulse response at the i th instance for $0 \leq i \leq N$ of an Nth-order filter. If the filter is a direct form FIR filter then b_i is also a coefficient of the filter.
-

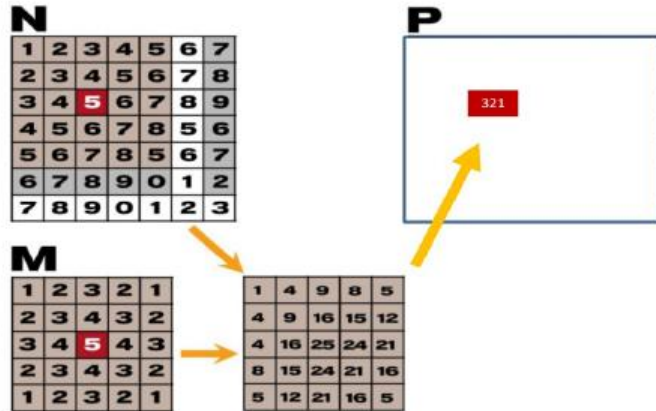
Convolution

- Calculation of output elements near the boundaries (beginning and end) of the input array need to deal with “ghost” elements
 - Different policies (0, replicates of boundary values, etc.)

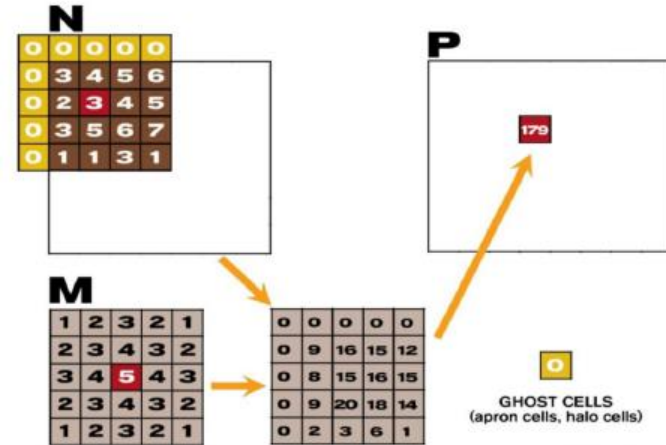


Convolution

- 2D convolution



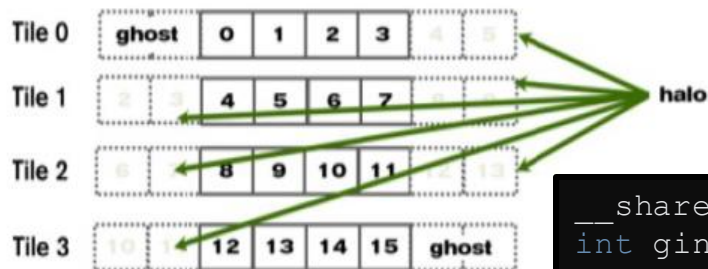
2D convolution – ghost cells



Convolution



- Tiled Convolution for 1D

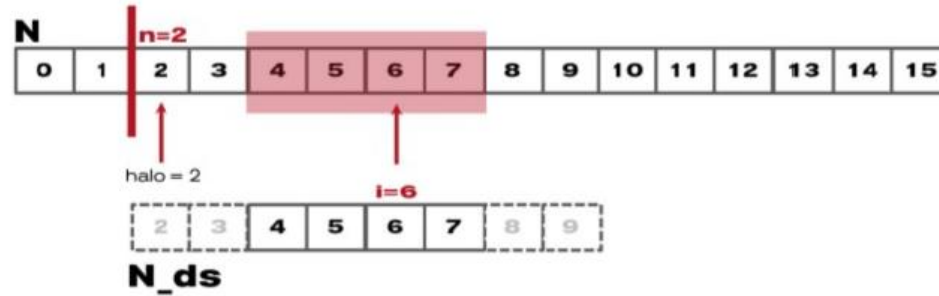


```
__shared__ double N_ds[BLOCK_SIZE + 2 * RADIUS];  
int gindex = threadIdx.x + blockIdx.x * blockDim.x;  
int lindex = threadIdx.x + RADIUS;
```

Convolution



- Loading the internals

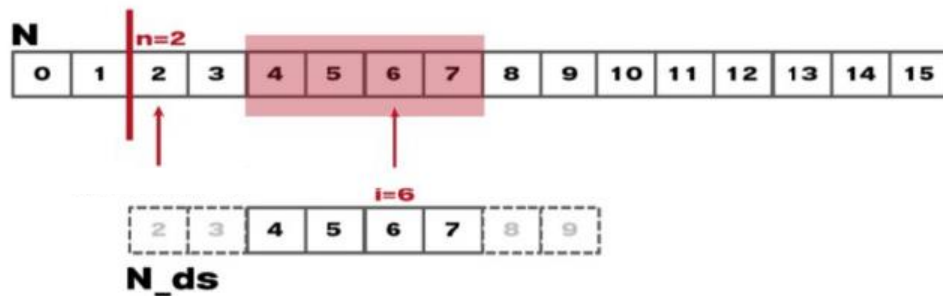


```
// Read input elements into shared memory  
N_ds[lindex] = in[gindex]
```

Convolution



- Loading the left halo

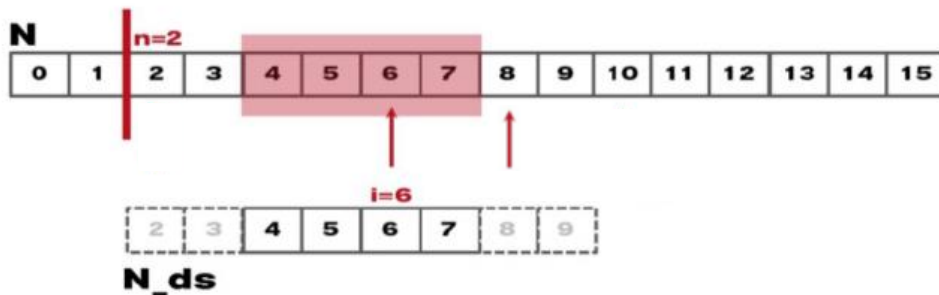


```
if (threadIdx.x < RADIUS) {  
    N_ds[lindex - RADIUS] = (gindex - RADIUS >= 0) ? in[gindex - RADIUS]: 0.0;  
}
```

Convolution



- Loading the right halo



```
if (threadIdx.x < RADIUS) {  
    N_ds[lindex + BLOCK_SIZE] = (gindex+BLOCK_SIZE < vector_size) ? in[gindex + BLOCK_SIZE]: 0.0;  
}
```

Convolution



```
__global__ void stencil_shared(double *in, double *out, int vector_size) {

    __shared__ double temp[BLOCK_SIZE + 2 * RADIUS];

    int gindex = threadIdx.x + blockIdx.x * blockDim.x;
    int lindex = threadIdx.x + RADIUS;

    if (gindex < vector_size){

        // Read input elements into shared memory
        temp[lindex] = in[gindex];
        // At both end of a block, the sliding window moves beyond the block boundary.
        // E.g, for thread id = 512, we will read in[505] and in[1030] into temp.
        if (threadIdx.x < RADIUS) {
            temp[lindex - RADIUS] = (gindex - RADIUS >= 0) ? in[gindex - RADIUS]: 0.0;
            temp[lindex + BLOCK_SIZE] = (gindex + BLOCK_SIZE < vector_size) ? in[gindex + BLOCK_SIZE]: 0.0;
        }

    } else {
        temp[lindex] = 0.0;
    }

    __syncthreads();

    if (gindex < vector_size){
        // Apply the stencil
        double result = 0.0;
        // #pragma unroll
        for (int offset = -RADIUS ; offset <= RADIUS ; ++offset)
            result += temp[lindex + offset];

        // Store the result
        out[gindex] = result;
    }
}
```


Convolution



- Example: Shared memory data reuse, with radius of 2.
- A stencil/convolution operation has a lot of potential for data reuse.
- Image processing algorithms can commonly use this resource as well.
- The Sobel filter is an example of this algorithm we will cover in the image processing class.

