



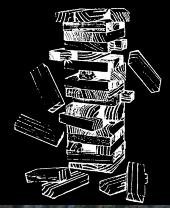
An introduction to `alpaka`

performance portability with alpaka – 7-8 March 2023

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overview



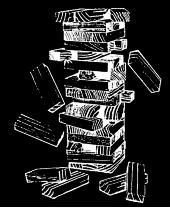
- yesterday we have seen
 - what *performance portability* means and discovered the Alpaka library
 - how to set up Alpaka for a simple project
 - how to compile a single source file for different back-ends
 - what are Alpaka platforms, devices, queues and events
- today we will learn
 - how to work with host and device memory
 - how to write device functions and kernels
 - how to use an Alpaka accelerator and work division to launch a kernel
 - and see a complete example !



memory operations



memory in alpaka



Buffers and Views

- can refer to memory on the host or on any device
 - general purpose host memory (e.g. as returned by `malloc` or `new`)
 - pinned host memory, visible by devices on a given platform (e.g. as returned by `cudaMallocHost`)
 - global device memory (e.g. as returned by `cudaMalloc`)
- can have arbitrary dimensions
- 0-dimensional buffers and views wrap and provide access to a single element:

```
float x = *buffer;
float y = buffer->pt();
```

- 1-dimensional buffers and views wrap and provide access to an array of elements:

```
float x = buffer[i];
```
- N-dimensional buffers and views wrap arbitrary memory areas:

```
float* p = std::data(buffer);
```

 - expect a nicer accessor syntax with c++23 `std::mdspan` and improved `operator[]`

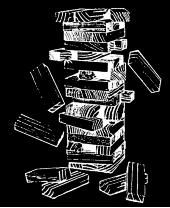


memory buffers



- buffers *own* the memory they point to
 - a host memory buffer can use either standard host memory, or pinned host memory mapped to be visible by the GPUs in a given platform
 - a buffer knows what device the memory is on, and how to free it
- buffers have shared ownership of the memory
 - like `shared_ptr<T>`
 - making a copy of a buffer creates a second handle to the same underlying memory
 - the memory is automatically freed when the last buffer object is destroyed (*e.g.* goes out of scope)
 - with queue-ordered semantic, memory is freed when the work submitted to the queue associate to the buffer is complete
- note that buffers always allow modifying their content
 - a `Buffer<const T>` would not be useful, because its contents could never be set
 - a `const Buffer<T>` does not prevent changes to the contents, as they can be modified through a copy

allocating memory



- buffer allocations and deallocations can be immediate or queue-ordered

- immediate operations

- allocate and free the memory immediately
 - may result in a device-wide synchronisation
 - e.g. `malloc / free` or `cudaMalloc / cudaFree`

```
// allocate an array of "size" floats in standard host memory
auto buffer = alpaka::allocBuf<float, uint32_t>(host, size);

// allocate an array of "size" floats in pinned host memory
// mapped to be efficiently copyable to/from all the devices on the Platform
auto buffer = alpaka::allocMappedBuf<Platform, float, uint32_t>(host, size);

// alloca an array of "size" floats in global device memory
auto buffer = alpaka::allocBuf<float, uint32_t>(device, size);
```

- queue-ordered operations are usually asynchronous, and may cache allocations

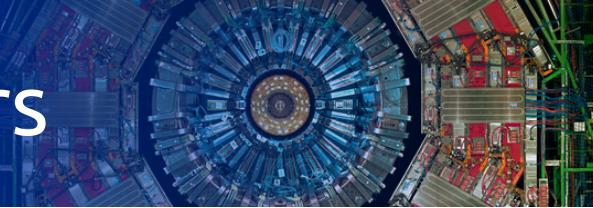
- guarantee that the memory is allocated before any further operations submitted to the queue are executed
 - guarantee that the memory will be freed once all pending operation in the queue are complete
 - e.g. `cudaMallocAsync / cudaFreeAsync`

```
// allocate an array of "size" floats in global gpu memory, ordered along queue
auto buffer = alpaka::allocAsyncBuf<float, uint32_t>(queue, size);
```

- available only on device that support it (CPUs, NVIDIA CUDA ≥ 11.2 , AMD ROCm ≥ 5.4)



using buffers



```
// require at least one device
std::size_t n = alpaka::getDevCount<Platform>();
if (n == 0) {
    exit(EXIT_FAILURE);
}

// use the single host device
Host host = alpaka::getDevByIdx<HostPlatform>(0u);
std::cout << "Host: " << alpaka::getName(host) << '\n';

// allocate a buffer of floats in host memory, mapped to ... the device
uint32_t size = 42;
auto host_buffer =
    alpaka::allocMappedBuf<Platform, float, uint32_t>(host, Vec1D{size});
std::cout << "pinned host memory buffer at " << std::data(host_buffer) << "\n\n";

// fill the host buffers with values
for (uint32_t i = 0; i < size; ++i) {
    host_buffer[i] = i;
}

// use the first device
Device device = alpaka::getDevByIdx<Platform>(0u);
std::cout << "Device: " << alpaka::getName(device) << '\n';

// create a work queue
Queue queue{device};
```

https://github.com/fwyzard/intro_to_alpaka/blob/master/alpaka/03_memory.cc

```
// ...
{
    // allocate a buffer of floats in global device memory, asynchronously
    auto device_buffer = alpaka::allocAsyncBuf<float, uint32_t>(queue, Vec1D{size});
    std::cout << "memory buffer on " << alpaka::getName(alpaka::getDev(device_buffer))
        << " at " << std::data(device_buffer) << "\n\n";

    // set the device memory to all zeros (byte-wise, not element-wise)
    alpaka::memset(queue, device_buffer, 0x00);

    // copy the contents of the device buffer to the host buffer
    alpaka::memcpy(queue, host_buffer, device_buffer);

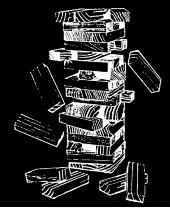
    // the device buffer goes out of scope, but the memory is freed only
    // once all enqueued operations have completed
}

// wait for all operations to complete
alpaka::wait(queue);

// read the content of the host buffer
for (uint32_t i = 0; i < size; ++i) {
    std::cout << host_buffer[i] << ' ';
}
std::cout << '\n';
```



using buffers



```
// require at least one device
std::size_t n = alpaka::getDevCount<Platform>();
if (n == 0) {
    exit(EXIT_FAILURE);
}

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for (uint32_t i = 0; i < size; ++i) {
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}

// use the first device
Device device = alpaka::getDevByIdx<Platform>(0u);
std::cout << "Device: " << alpaka::getName(device) << '\n';

// create a work queue
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https://github.com/fwyzard/intro_to_alpaka/blob/master/alpaka/03_memory.cc

```
// ...
{
    // allocate a buffer of floats in global device memory, asynchronously
    auto device_buffer = alpaka::allocAsyncBuf<float, uint32_t>(queue, Vec1D{size});
    std::cout << "memory buffer on " << alpaka::getName(alpaka::getDev(device_buffer))
        << " at " << std::data(device_buffer) << "\n\n";
    // set the device memory to all zeros (byte-wise, not element-wise)
    alpaka::memset(queue, device_buffer, 0x00);

    // copy the contents of the device buffer to the host buffer
    alpaka::memcpy(queue, host_buffer, device_buffer);

    // the device buffer goes out of scope, but the memory is freed only
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}

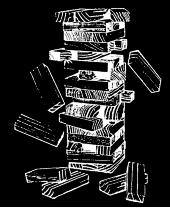
// wait for all operations to complete
alpaka::wait(queue);

// read the content of the host buffer
for (uint32_t i = 0; i < size; ++i) {
    std::cout << host_buffer[i] << ' ';
}
std::cout << '\n';
```

allocate buffers



using buffers



```
// require at least one device
std::size_t n = alpaka::getDevCount<Platform>();
if (n == 0) {
    exit(EXIT_FAILURE);
}

// use the single host device
Host host = alpaka::getDevByIdx<HostPlatform>(0u);
std::cout << "Host: " << alpaka::getName(host) << '\n';

// allocate a buffer of floats in host memory, mapped to ... the device
uint32_t size = 42;
auto host_buffer =
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std::cout << "pinned host memory buffer at " << std::data(host_buffer) << "\n\n";

// fill the host buffers with values
for (uint32_t i = 0; i < size; ++i) {
    host_buffer[i] = i;
}

// use the first device
Device device = alpaka::getDevByIdx<Platform>(0u);
std::cout << "Device: " << alpaka::getName(device) << '\n';

// create a work queue
Queue queue{device};
```

get the buffers' memory addresses

```
// ...
{
    // allocate a buffer of floats in global device memory, asynchronously
    auto device_buffer = alpaka::allocAsyncBuf<float, uint32_t>(queue, Vec1D{size});
    std::cout << "memory buffer on " << alpaka::getName(alpaka::getDev(device_buffer))
        << " at " << std::data(device_buffer) << "\n\n";
    // set the device memory to all zeros (byte-wise, not element-wise)
    alpaka::memset(queue, device_buffer, 0x00);

    // copy the contents of the device buffer to the host buffer
    alpaka::memcpy(queue, host_buffer, device_buffer);

    // the device buffer goes out of scope, but the memory is freed only
    // once all enqueued operations have completed
}

// wait for all operations to complete
alpaka::wait(queue);

// read the content of the host buffer
for (uint32_t i = 0; i < size; ++i) {
    std::cout << host_buffer[i] << ' ';
}
std::cout << '\n';
```



using buffers



```
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std::size_t n = alpaka::getDevCount<Platform>();
if (n == 0) {
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}

// use the single host device
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// allocate a buffer of floats in host memory, mapped to ... the device
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auto host_buffer =
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std::cout << "pinned host memory buffer at " << std::data(host_buffer) << "\n\n";

// fill the host buffers with values
for (uint32_t i = 0; i < size; ++i) {
    host_buffer[i] = i;
}

// use the first device
Device device = alpaka::getDevByIdx<Platform>(0u);
std::cout << "Device: " << alpaka::getName(device) << '\n';

// create a work queue
Queue queue{device};
```

write to and read from
the host buffer like a vector

```
// ...
{
    // allocate a buffer of floats in global device memory, asynchronously
    auto device_buffer = alpaka::allocAsyncBuf<float, uint32_t>(queue, Vec1D{size});
    std::cout << "memory buffer on " << alpaka::getName(alpaka::getDev(device_buffer))
        << " at " << std::data(device_buffer) << "\n\n";

    // set the device memory to all zeros (byte-wise, not element-wise)
    alpaka::memset(queue, device_buffer, 0x00);

    // copy the contents of the device buffer to the host buffer
    alpaka::memcpy(queue, host_buffer, device_buffer);

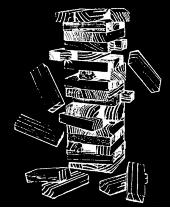
    // the device buffer goes out of scope, but the memory is freed only
    // once all enqueued operations have completed
}

// wait for all operations to complete
alpaka::wait(queue);

// read the content of the host buffer
for (uint32_t i = 0; i < size; ++i) {
    std::cout << host_buffer[i] << ' ';
}
std::cout << '\n';
```



using buffers



```
// require at least one device
std::size_t n = alpaka::getDevCount<Platform>();
if (n == 0) {
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}

// use the single host device
Host host = alpaka::getDevByIdx<HostPlatform>(0u);
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uint32_t size = 42;
auto host_buffer =
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std::cout << "pinned host memory buffer at " << std::data(host_buffer) << "\n\n";

// fill the host buffers with values
for (uint32_t i = 0; i < size; ++i) {
    host_buffer[i] = i;
}

// use the first device
Device device = alpaka::getDevByIdx<Platform>(0u);
std::cout << "Device: " << alpaka::getName(device) << '\n';

// create a work queue
Queue queue{device};
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```
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{
    // allocate a buffer of floats in global device memory, asynchronously
    auto device_buffer = alpaka::allocAsyncBuf<float, uint32_t>(queue, Vec1D{size});
    std::cout << "memory buffer on " << alpaka::getName(alpaka::getDev(device_buffer))
        << " at " << std::data(device_buffer) << "\n\n";

    // set the device memory to all zeros (byte-wise, not element-wise)
    alpaka::memset(queue, device_buffer, 0x00);

    // copy the contents of the device buffer to the host buffer
    alpaka::memcpy(queue, host_buffer, device_buffer);

    // the device buffer goes out of scope, but the memory is freed only
    // once all enqueued operations have completed
}

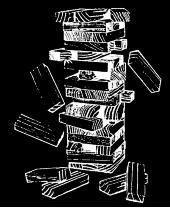
// wait for all operations to complete
alpaka::wait(queue);

// read the content of the host buffer
for (uint32_t i = 0; i < size; ++i) {
    std::cout << host_buffer[i] << ' ';
}
std::cout << '\n';
```

memset and memcpy operations
are always asynchronous



memory views



- views wrap memory allocated by some other mechanism to provide a common interface
 - e.g. a local variable on the stack, or memory owned by an `std::vector`
 - views *do not own* the underlying memory
 - the lifetime of a view should not exceed that of the memory it points to

```
float* data = new float[size];
auto view = alpaka::ViewPlainPtr<float, uint32_t>(data, host, Vec1D{size}); // define a view for a C++ array
alpaka::memcpy(queue, view, device_buffer); // copy the data to the array
```

- views to standard containers
 - Alpaka provides adaptors and can automatically use `std::array<T, N>` and `std::vector<T>` as views

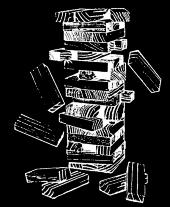
```
std::vector<float> data(size);
alpaka::memcpy(queue, data, device_buffer); // copy the data to the vector
```

- using views to emulate buffers to constant objects
 - buffers always allow modifying their content
 - but we can wrap them in a constant view: `alpaka::ViewConst<Buffer<T>>`

```
auto const_view = alpaka::ViewConst(device_buffer);
alpaka::memcpy(queue, host_buffer, const_view); // copy the data to the host
```



using views



```
// require at least one device
std::size_t n = alpaka::getDevCount<Platform>();
if (n == 0) {
    exit(EXIT_FAILURE);
}

// use the single host device
Host host = alpaka::getDevByIdx<HostPlatform>(0u);
std::cout << "Host: " << alpaka::getName(host) << '\n';

// allocate a buffer of floats in host memory, mapped to ... the device
uint32_t size = 42;
std::vector<float> host_data(size);
std::cout << "host vector at " << std::data(host_data) << "\n\n";

// fill the host buffers with values
for (uint32_t i = 0; i < size; ++i) {
    host_data[i] = i;
}

// use the first device
Device device = alpaka::getDevByIdx<Platform>(0u);
std::cout << "Device: " << alpaka::getName(device) << '\n';

// create a work queue
Queue queue{device};
```

https://github.com/fwyzard/intro_to_alpaka/blob/master/alpaka/04_views.cc

```
{ // allocate a buffer of floats in global device memory, asynchronously
    auto device_buffer = alpaka::allocAsyncBuf<float, uint32_t>(queue, Vec1D{size});
    std::cout << "memory buffer on " << alpaka::getName(alpaka::getDev(device_buffer))
        << " at " << std::data(device_buffer) << "\n\n";

    // set the device memory to all zeros (byte-wise, not element-wise)
    alpaka::memset(queue, device_buffer, 0x00);

    // create a read-only view to the device data
    auto const_view = alpaka::ViewConst(device_buffer);

    // copy the contents of the device buffer to the host buffer
    alpaka::memcpy(queue, host_buffer, const_view);

    // the device buffer goes out of scope, but the memory is freed only
    // once all enqueued operations have completed
}

// wait for all operations to complete
alpaka::wait(queue);

// read the content of the host buffer
for (uint32_t i = 0; i < size; ++i) {
    std::cout << host_data[i] << ' ';
}
std::cout << '\n';
```



using views



```
// require at least one device
std::size_t n = alpaka::getDevCount<Platform>();
if (n == 0) {
    exit(EXIT_FAILURE);
}

// use the single host device
Host host = alpaka::getDevByIdx<HostPlatform>(0u);
std::cout << "Host: " << alpaka::getName(host) << '\n';

// allocate a buffer of floats in host memory, mapped to ... the device
uint32_t size = 42;
std::vector<float> host_data(size); // use a vector directly
std::cout << "host vector at " << std::data(host_data) << "\n\n";

// fill the host buffers with values
for (uint32_t i = 0; i < size; ++i) {
    host_data[i] = i;
}

// use the first device
Device device = alpaka::getDevByIdx<Platform>(0u);
std::cout << "Device: " << alpaka::getName(device) << '\n';

// create a work queue
Queue queue{device};
```

https://github.com/fwyzard/intro_to_alpaka/blob/master/alpaka/04_views.cc

```
{ // allocate a buffer of floats in global device memory, asynchronously
    auto device_buffer = alpaka::allocAsyncBuf<float, uint32_t>(queue, Vec1D{size});
    std::cout << "memory buffer on " << alpaka::getName(alpaka::getDev(device_buffer))
        << " at " << std::data(device_buffer) << "\n\n";

    // set the device memory to all zeros (byte-wise, not element-wise)
    alpaka::memset(queue, device_buffer, 0x00);

    // create a read-only view to the device data
    auto const_view = alpaka::ViewConst(device_buffer);

    // copy the contents of the device buffer to the host buffer
    alpaka::memcpy(queue, host_buffer, const_view); // use a vector directly

    // the device buffer goes out of scope, but the memory is freed only
    // once all enqueued operations have completed
}

// wait for all operations to complete
alpaka::wait(queue);

// read the content of the host buffer
for (uint32_t i = 0; i < size; ++i) {
    std::cout << host_data[i] << ' ';
}
std::cout << '\n';
```



using views



```
// require at least one device
std::size_t n = alpaka::getDevCount<Platform>();
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// use the single host device
Host host = alpaka::getDevByIdx<HostPlatform>(0u);
std::cout << "Host: " << alpaka::getName(host) << '\n';

// allocate a buffer of floats in host memory, mapped to ... the device
uint32_t size = 42;
std::vector<float> host_data(size);
std::cout << "host vector at " << std::data(host_data) << "\n\n";

// fill the host buffers with values
for (uint32_t i = 0; i < size; ++i) {
    host_data[i] = i;
}

// use the first device
Device device = alpaka::getDevByIdx<Platform>(0u);
std::cout << "Device: " << alpaka::getName(device) << '\n';

// create a work queue
Queue queue{device};
```

https://github.com/fwyzard/intro_to_alpaka/blob/master/alpaka/04_views.cc

copy from a const view
to guarantee not
changing the device buffer

```
{
    // allocate a buffer of floats in global device memory, asynchronously
    auto device_buffer = alpaka::allocAsyncBuf<float, uint32_t>(queue, Vec1D{size});
    std::cout << "memory buffer on " << alpaka::getName(alpaka::getDev(device_buffer))
        << " at " << std::data(device_buffer) << "\n\n";

    // set the device memory to all zeros (byte-wise, not element-wise)
    alpaka::memset(queue, device_buffer, 0x00);

    // create a read-only view to the device data
    auto const_view = alpaka::ViewConst(device_buffer);

    // copy the contents of the device buffer to the host buffer
    alpaka::memcpy(queue, host_buffer, const_view);

    // the device buffer goes out of scope, but the memory is freed only
    // once all enqueued operations have completed
}

// wait for all operations to complete
alpaka::wait(queue);

// read the content of the host buffer
for (uint32_t i = 0; i < size; ++i) {
    std::cout << host_data[i] << ' ';
}
std::cout << '\n';
```

 device API



device functions

- device functions are marked with the ALPAKA_FN_ACC macro

```
ALPAKA_FN_ACC
float my_func(float arg) { ... }
```

- backend-specific functions

- if the implementation of a device function may depend on the backend or on the work division into groups and threads, it should be templated on the Accelerator type, and take an Accelerator object

```
template <typename TAcc>
ALPAKA_FN_ACC
float my_func(TAcc const& acc, float arg) { ... }
```

- the availability of C++ features depends on the backend and on the device compiler

- dynamic memory allocation is (partially) supported, but strongly discouraged
 - c++ std containers should be avoid
 - exceptions are usually not supported
 - recursive functions are supported only by some backends (CUDA: yes, but often inefficient; SYCL: no)
 - c++20 is available in CUDA code only starting from CUDA 12.0
 - etc.



alpaka device functions



examples:

- mathematical operations are similar to what is available in the c++ standard:
 - e.g.
`alpaka::math::sin(acc, arg)`
- atomic operations are similar to what is available in CUDA and HIP
 - e.g.
`alpaka::atomicAdd(acc, T* address, T value, alpaka::hierarchy::Blocks)`
- warp-level functions are similar to what is available in CUDA and HIP
 - e.g.
`alpaka::warp::ballot(acc, arg)`



kernels

- are implemented as an `ALPAKA_FN_ACC void operator()(...)` `const` function of a dedicated struct or class
 - kernels never return anything: `-> void`
 - kernels cannot change any data member on the host: must be declared `const`
- are always templated on the accelerator type, and take an accelerator object as the first argument

```
struct Kernel {  
    template <typename TAcc>  
    ALPAKA_FN_ACC void operator()(  
        TAcc const& acc,  
        float const* in1, float const* in2, float* out, size_t size) const  
    {  
        ...  
    }  
};
```

- the `TAcc acc` argument identifies the backend and provides the details of the work division

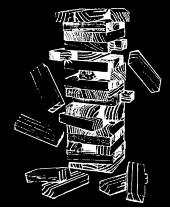


alpaka: grids, blocks, threads...



- alpaka maintains the work division into blocks and threads used in CUDA and OpenCL:
 - a kernel launch is divided into a grid of **blocks**
 - the various block are scheduled independently, so they may be running concurrently or at different times
 - operations in different blocks cannot be synchronised
 - operations in different blocks can communicate only through the device global memory
 - each block is composed of **threads** running in parallel
 - threads in a block tend to run concurrently, but may diverge or be scheduled independently from each other
 - operations in a block can be synchronised, *e.g.* with `alpaka::syncBlockThreads(acc);`
 - operations in a block can communicate through shared memory
 - blocks can be decomposed into sub-groups, *i.e.* **warps**
 - threads in the same warp can synchronise and exchange data using more efficient primitives

... and elements ?



- to support efficient algorithms running on a CPU, alpaka introduces an additional level in the execution hierarchy: **elements**
 - each thread in a block may run on multiple consecutive elements
 - CPU backends usually run with multiple elements per thread
 - a good choice might be 16 elements, so 16 consecutive integers or floats can be loaded into a cache line
 - in principle, this could allow a host compiler to auto-vectorise the code, but more testing and development is needed !
 - GPU backends usually run with a single element per thread
 - memory accesses are already coalesced at the warp level
 - in principle, 2 elements per thread could be used with `short` or `float16` data
- kernel should be written to allow for different number of elements per thread
 - a common approach is to use
 - N blocks, M threads per block, 1 element per thread on a GPU
 - N blocks, 1 thread per block, M elements per thread on a CPU

a simple strided loop



- we provide a helper to implement a simple N-dimensional strided loop
 - the launch grid is tiled and repeated as many times as needed to cover the problem size
 - this tends to be the most efficient approach when all threads can work independently

```
#include "workdivision.h"

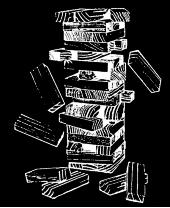
struct Kernel {
    template <typename TAcc>
    ALPAKA_FN_ACC void operator()(  
        TAcc const& acc,  
        float const* in1, float const* in2, float* out, size_t size) const  
{  
    for (auto index : elements_with_stride(acc, size)) {  
        out[index] = in1[index] + in2[index];  
    }  
}  
};
```

- for more complicated cases, use the `alpaka::getWorkDiv` and `alpaka::getIdx` functions

launching kernels



alpaka: work submission

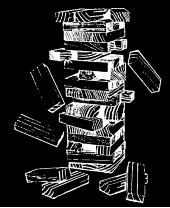


Accelerator

- describes “how” a kernel runs on a device
 - N-dimensional work division (1D, 2D, 3D, ...)
 - on the CPU, serial vs parallel execution at the thread and block level (single thread, multi-threads, TBB tasks, ...)
 - implementation of shared memory, atomic operations, etc.
- accelerators are created only when a kernel is executed, and can only be accessed in device code
 - each device function can (should) be templated on the accelerator type, and take an accelerator as its first argument
 - the accelerator object can be used to extract the execution configuration (blocks, threads, elements)
 - the accelerator type can be used to implement per-accelerator behaviour
- for example, an algorithm can be implemented in device code using a parallel approach for a GPU-based accelerator, and a serial approach for a CPU-based accelerator



launching a kernel



- a kernel launch requires
 - the type of the accelerator where the kernel will run
 - the queue to submit the work to
 - the work division into blocks, threads, and elements
 - an instance of the type that implements the kernel
 - the arguments to the kernel function
- we provide some helper types and functions
 - `config.h` includes the aliases `Acc1D`, `Acc2D`, `Acc3D` for 1D, 2D and 3D kernels
 - `workdivision.h` provides the helper function `make_workdiv<TAcc>(blocks, threads_or_elements)`

```
// launch a 1-dimensional kernel with 32 groups of 32 threads (GPU) or elements (CPU)
auto grid = make_workdiv<Acc1D>(32, 32);
alpaka::exec<Acc1D>(queue, grid, Kernel{}, a.data(), b.data(), sum.data(), size);
```

a complete  example



a complete alpaka example



- running on the CPU

```
https://github.com/fwyzard/intro\_to\_alpaka/blob/master/alpaka/05\_kernel.cc
```

```
$ ./05_kernel_cpu
Host: AMD EPYC 7352 24-Core Processor
Device: AMD EPYC 7352 24-Core Processor
Testing VectorAddKernel with scalar indices with a grid of (32) blocks x (1) threads x (32) elements...
success
Testing VectorAddKernel1D with vector indices with a grid of (32) blocks x (1) threads x (32) elements...
success
Testing VectorAddKernel3D with vector indices with a grid of (5, 5, 1) blocks x (1, 1, 1) threads x (4, 4, 4) elements...
success
```

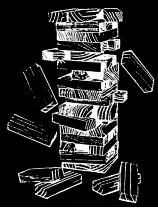
- running on the GPU

```
$ ./05_kernel_cuda
Host: AMD EPYC 7352 24-Core Processor
Device: Tesla T4
Testing VectorAddKernel with scalar indices with a grid of (32) blocks x (32) threads x (1) elements...
success
Testing VectorAddKernel1D with vector indices with a grid of (32) blocks x (32) threads x (1) elements...
success
Testing VectorAddKernel3D with vector indices with a grid of (5, 5, 1) blocks x (4, 4, 4) threads x (1, 1, 1) elements...
success
```

summary



- yesterday we learned
 - what *performance portability* means and discovered the Alpaka library
 - how to set up Alpaka for a simple project
 - how to compile a single source file for different back-ends
 - what are Alpaka platforms, devices, queues and events
- today we learned
 - how to work with host and device memory
 - how to write device functions and kernels
 - how to use an Alpaka accelerator and work division to launch a kernel
 - and see a complete example !
- congratulations!
 - now you can write *portable* and *performant* applications



(more) questions ?



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