CS 380 - GPU and GPGPU Programming
Lecture 12: GPU Compute APIs, Pt. 2

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Reading Assignment #7 (until Oct 18)

Read (required):

- Programming Massively Parallel Processors book, 3rd edition,
  Chapter 7 (*Parallel Patterns: Convolution*)
- PTX Instruction Set Architecture 7.4 (`https://docs.nvidia.com/cuda/pdf/ptx_isa_7.4.pdf`)
  Read Chapters 1 – 3; get an overview of Chapter 12;
  browse through the other chapters to get a feeling for what PTX looks like
- CUDA SASS, Chapter 4: `https://docs.nvidia.com/cuda/pdf/CUDA_Binary_Utilities.pdf`

Read (optional):

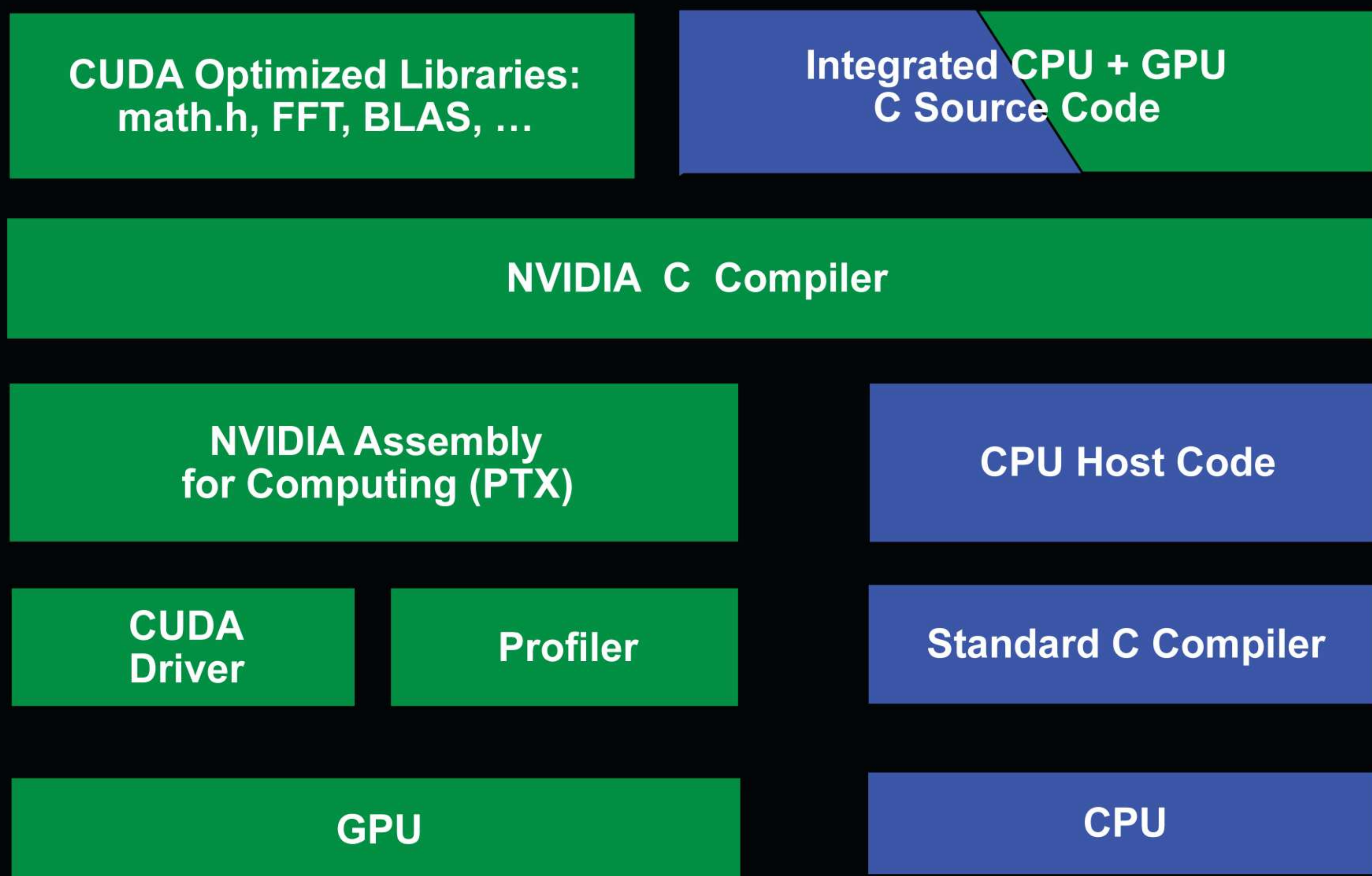
- Inline PTX Assembly in CUDA (CUDA SDK: **`Inline_PTX_Assembly.pdf`**)
- Dissecting GPU Architecture through Microbenchmarking:

  Volta: `https://arxiv.org/abs/1804.06826`
  Turing: `https://arxiv.org/abs/1903.07486`

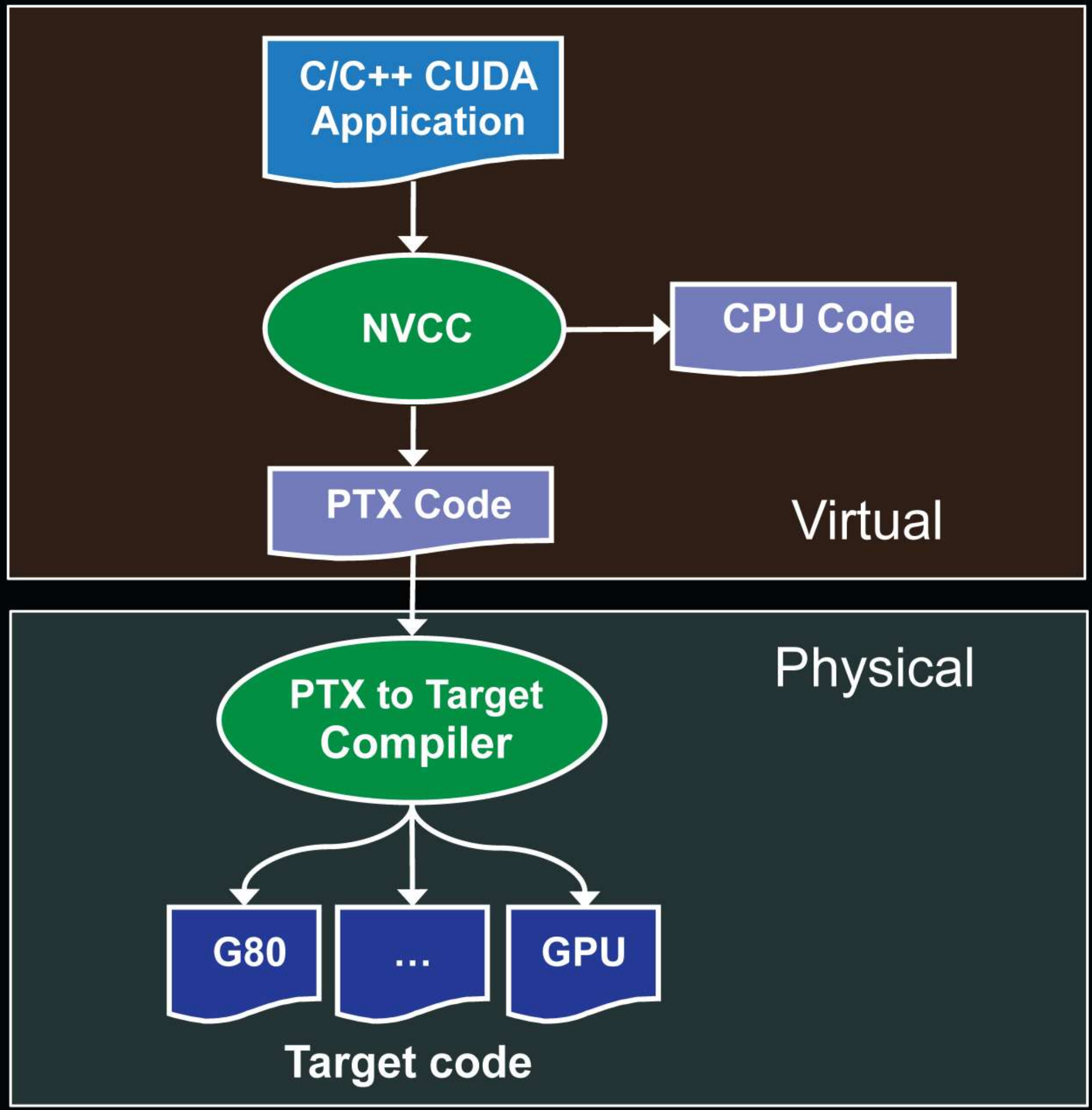
`https://developer.download.nvidia.com/video/gputechconf/gtc/2019/presentation/s9839-discovering-the-turing-t4-gpu-architecture-with-microbenchmarks.pdf`

  Ampere: `https://www.nvidia.com/en-us/on-demand/session/gtcspring21-s33322/`

CUDA Software Development



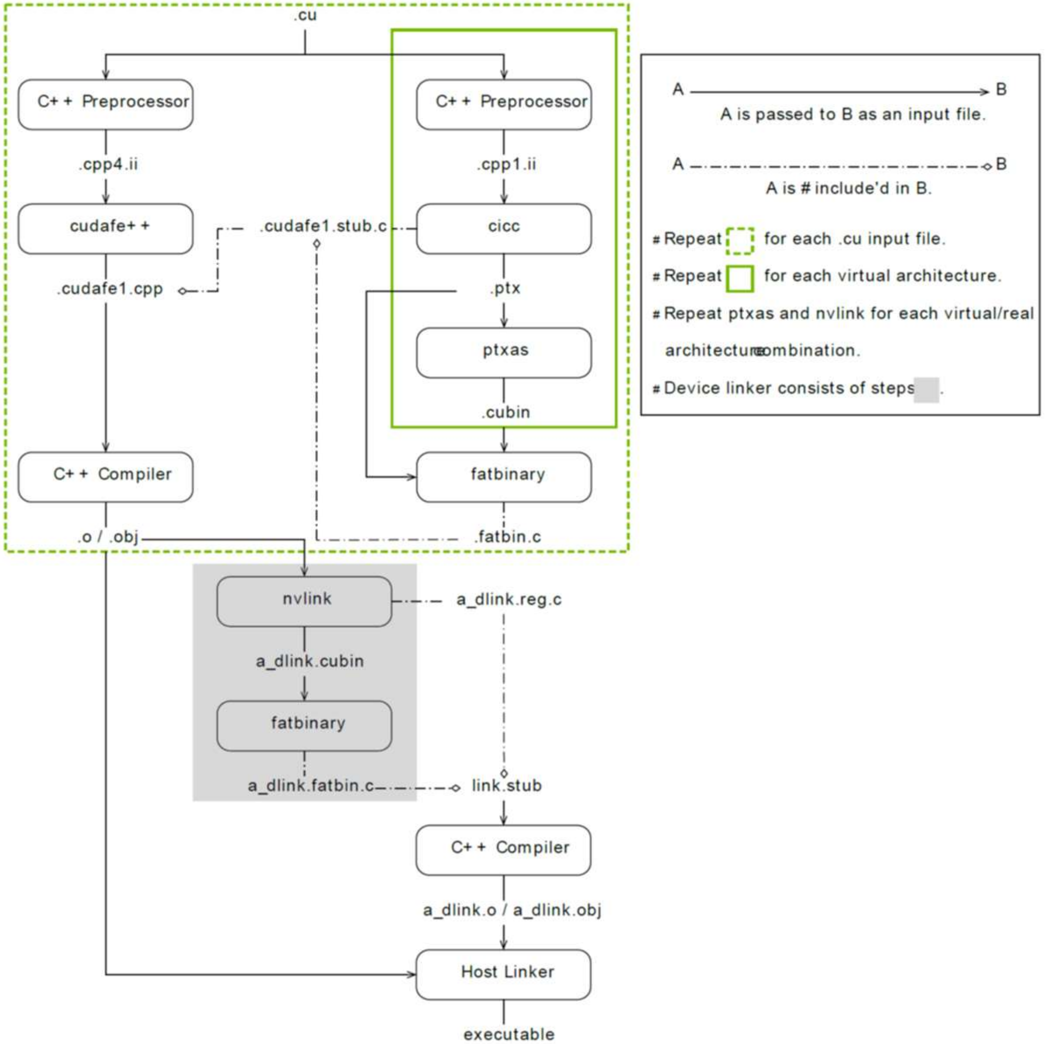
Compiling CUDA Code



CUDA Compilation Trajectory

CUDA Compiler Driver
(NVCC) docs:

`CUDA_Compiler_Driver_NVCC.pdf`



CUDA Compilation Trajectory / Code Gen

4.2.7. Options for Steering GPU Code Generation

4.2.7.1. `--gpu-architecture` *arch* (`-arch`)

Specify the name of the class of NVIDIA virtual GPU architecture for which the CUDA input files must be compiled.

With the exception as described for the shorthand below, the architecture specified with this option must be a *virtual* architecture (such as compute_50). Normally, this option alone does not trigger assembly of the generated PTX for a *real* architecture (that is the role of `nvcc` option `--gpu-code`, see below); rather, its purpose is to control preprocessing and compilation of the input to PTX.

For convenience, in case of simple `nvcc` compilations, the following shorthand is supported. If no value for option `--gpu-code` is specified, then the value of this option defaults to the value of `--gpu-architecture`. In this situation, as only exception to the description above, the value specified for `--gpu-architecture` may be a *real* architecture (such as a sm_50), in which case `nvcc` uses the specified *real* architecture and its closest *virtual* architecture as effective architecture values. For example, `nvcc --gpu-architecture=sm_50` is equivalent to `nvcc --gpu-architecture=compute_50 --gpu-code=sm_50,compute_50`.

See Virtual Architecture Feature List for the list of supported *virtual* architectures and GPU Feature List for the list of supported *real* architectures.

CUDA Compilation Trajectory / Code Gen

4.2.7.2. `--gpu-code` *code*,... (-code)

Specify the name of the NVIDIA GPU to assemble and optimize PTX for.

`nvcc` embeds a compiled code image in the resulting executable for each specified *code* architecture, which is a true binary load image for each *real* architecture (such as sm_50), and PTX code for the *virtual* architecture (such as compute_50).

During runtime, such embedded PTX code is dynamically compiled by the CUDA runtime system if no binary load image is found for the *current* GPU.

Architectures specified for options `--gpu-architecture` and `--gpu-code` may be *virtual* as well as *real*, but the *code* architectures must be compatible with the *arch* architecture. When the `--gpu-code` option is used, the value for the `--gpu-architecture` option must be a *virtual* PTX architecture.

For instance, `--gpu-architecture=compute_60` is not compatible with `--gpu-code=sm_52`, because the earlier compilation stages will assume the availability of `compute_60` features that are not present on `sm_52`.

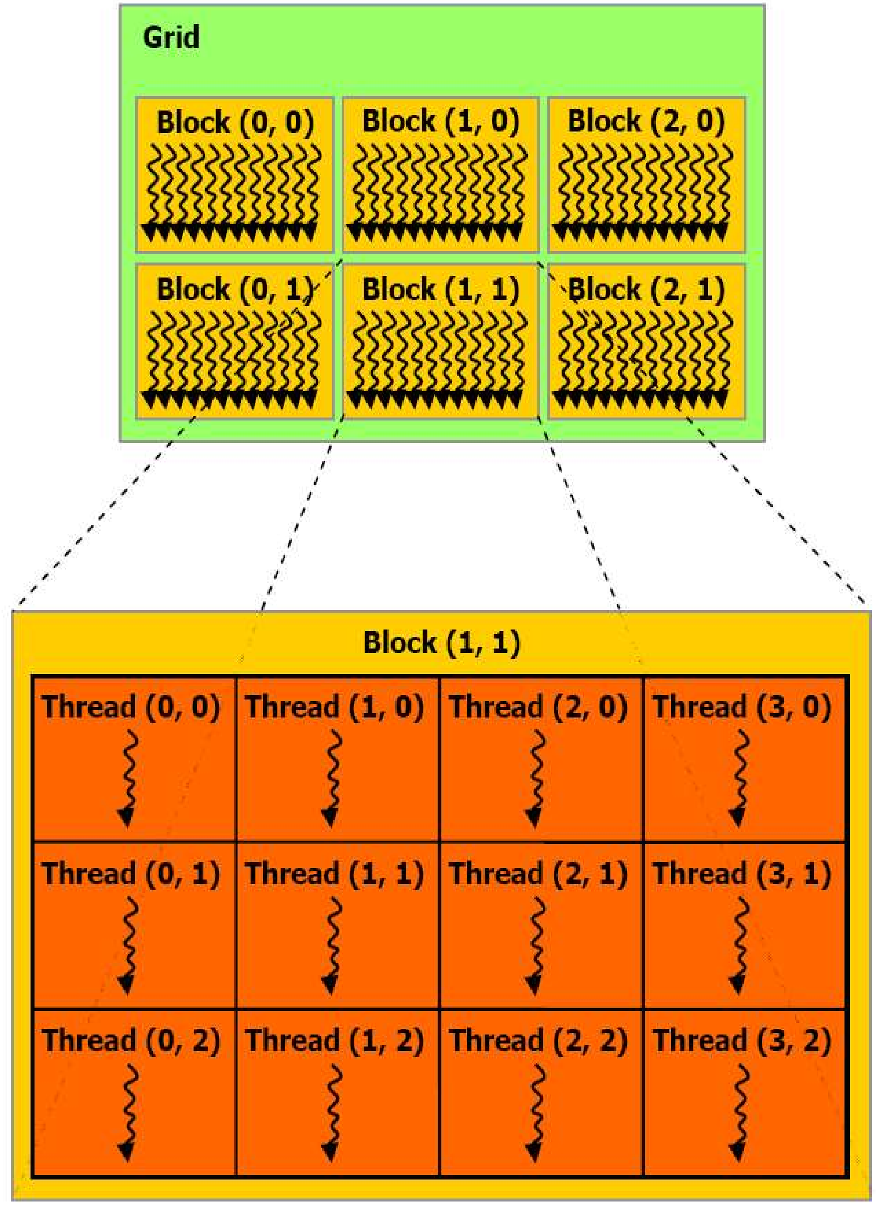
See Virtual Architecture Feature List for the list of supported *virtual* architectures and GPU Feature List for the list of supported *real* architectures.

Look at compatibility guides:

https://docs.nvidia.com/cuda/pdf/NVIDIA_Ampere_GPU_Architecture_Compatibility_Guide.pdf

CUDA Multi-Threading

- CUDA model groups threads into blocks; blocks into grid
- Execution on actual hardware:
  - Block assigned to SM (up to 8, 16, or 32 blocks per SM; depending on compute capability)
  - 32 threads grouped into warp



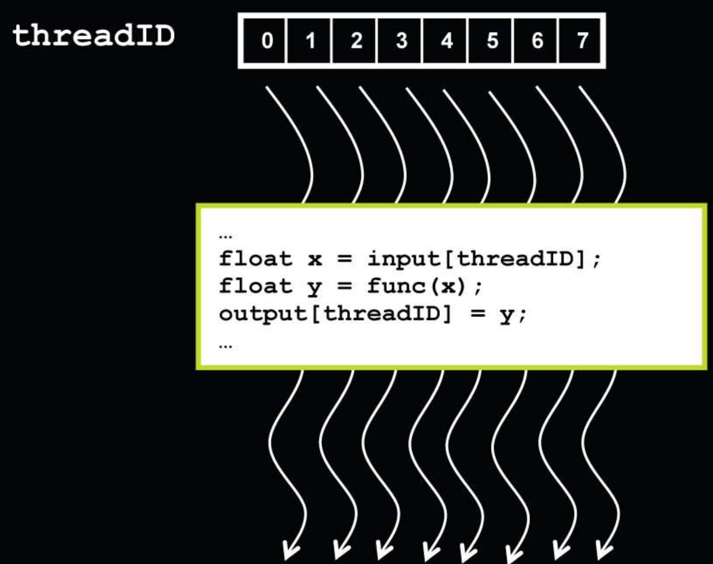
CUDA Kernels and Threads

- Parallel portions of an application are executed on the device as **kernels**
  - One **kernel** is executed at a time
  - Many threads execute each **kernel**
- Differences between CUDA and CPU threads
  - CUDA threads are extremely lightweight
    - Very little creation overhead
    - Instant switching
  - CUDA uses 1000s of threads to achieve efficiency
    - Multi-core CPUs can use only a few

Definitions
Device = GPU
Host = CPU
Kernel = function that runs on the device

Arrays of Parallel Threads

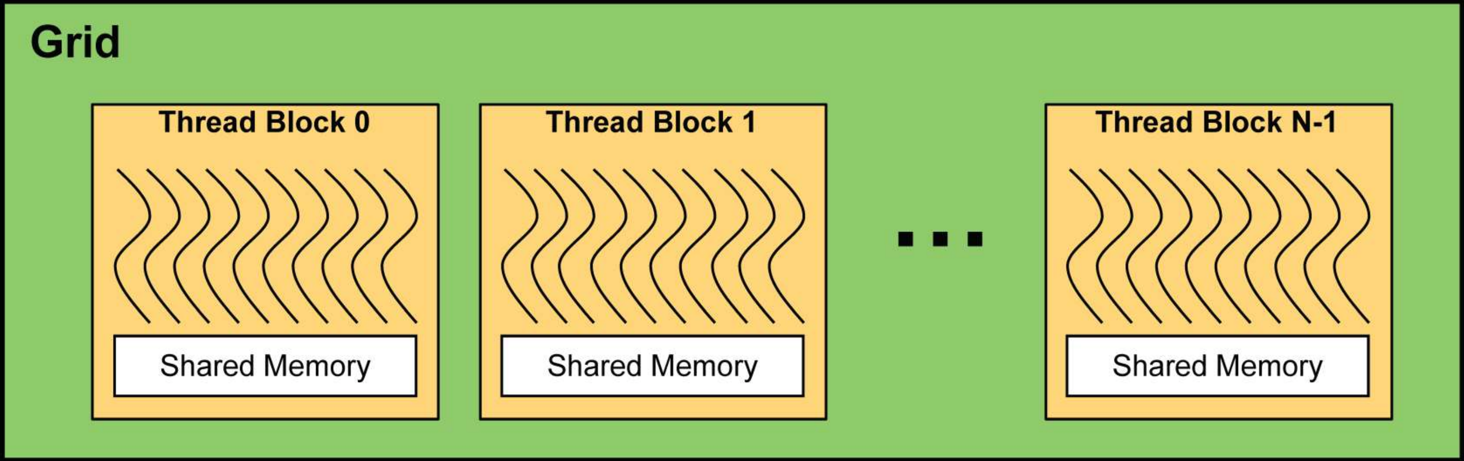
- A CUDA kernel is executed by an array of threads
  - All threads run the same code
  - Each thread has an ID that it uses to compute memory addresses and make control decisions




```
…
float x = input[threadID];
float y = func(x);
output[threadID] = y;
…
```

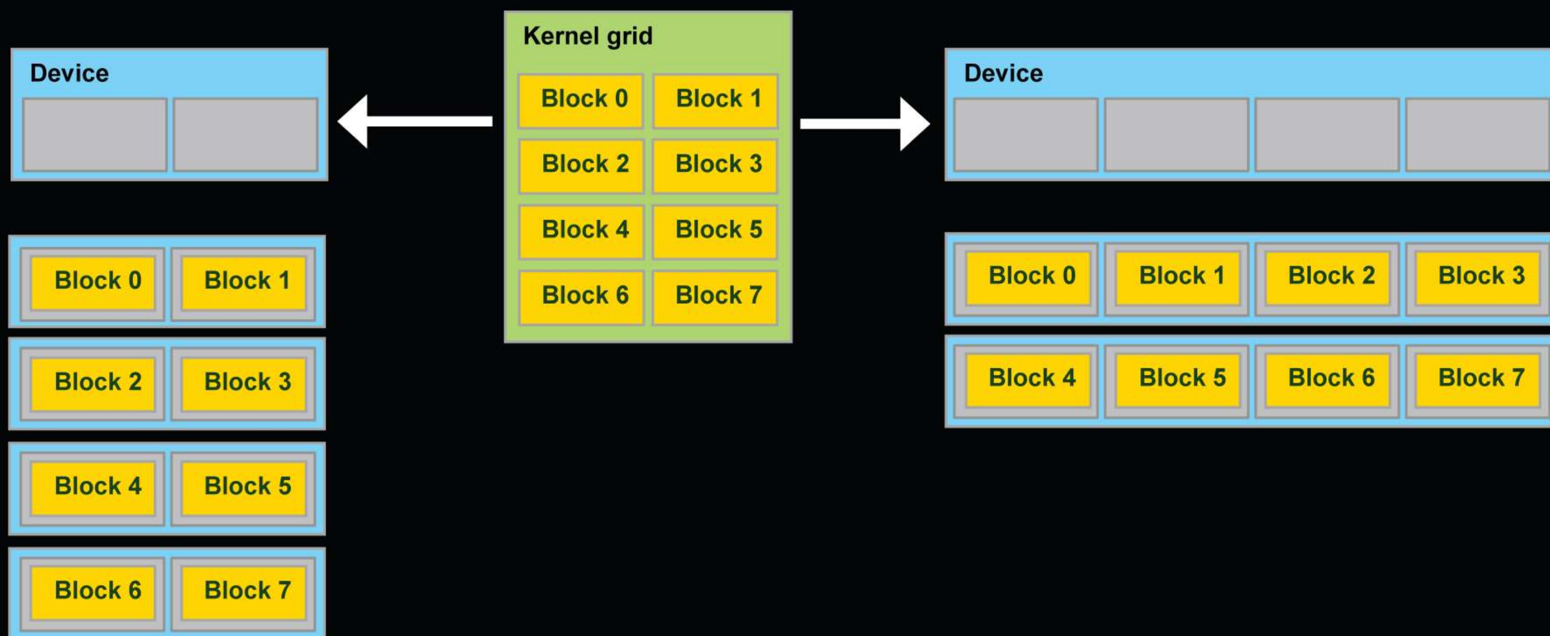
Thread Batching

- Kernel launches a grid of thread blocks
  - Threads within a block cooperate via shared memory
  - Threads within a block can synchronize
  - Threads in different blocks cannot cooperate
- Allows programs to *transparently scale* to different GPUs

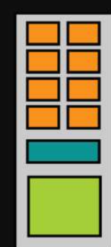


Transparent Scalability

- Hardware is free to schedule thread blocks on any processor
  - A kernel scales across parallel multiprocessors

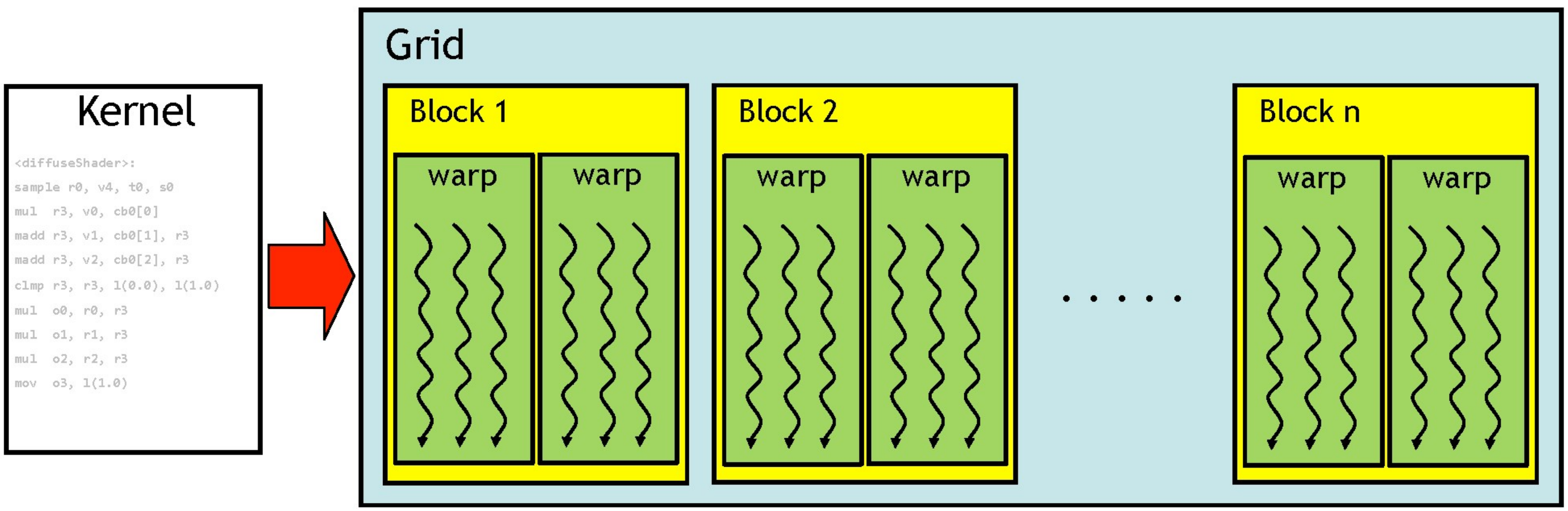


Execution Model

Software	Hardware	
 Thread	 Thread Processor	Threads are executed by thread processors
 Thread Block	 Multiprocessor	Thread blocks are executed on multiprocessors Thread blocks do not migrate Several concurrent thread blocks can reside on one multiprocessor - limited by multiprocessor resources (shared memory and register file)
 Grid	 Device	A kernel is launched as a grid of thread blocks Only one kernel can execute on a device at one time

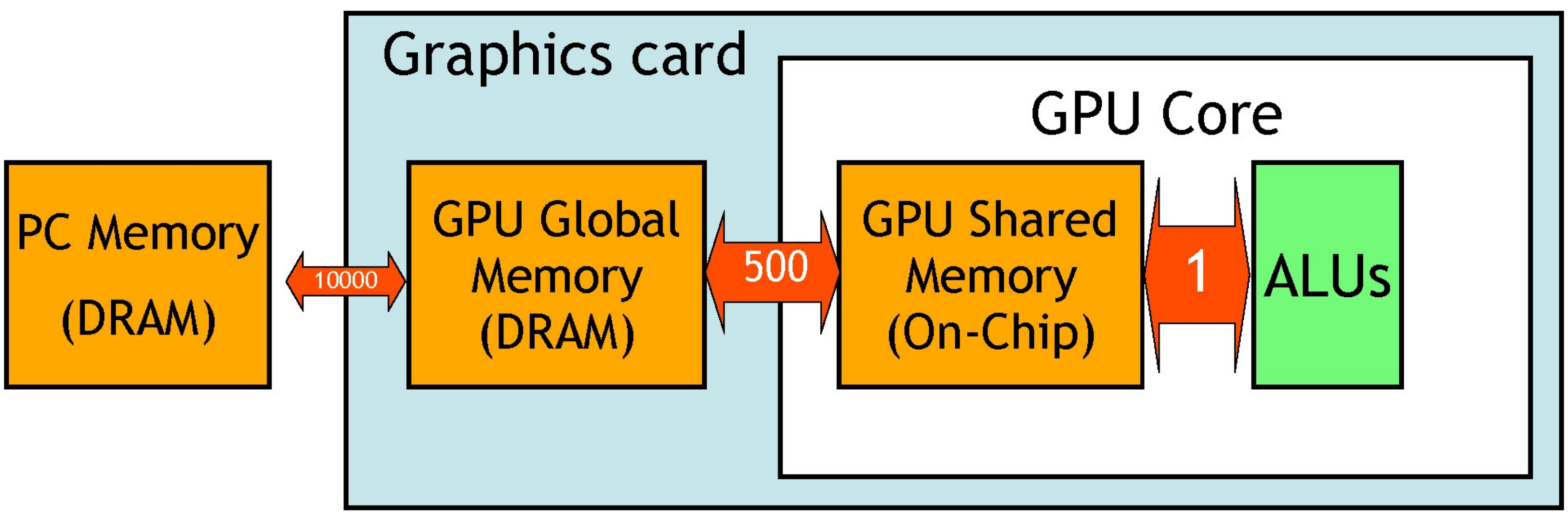
CUDA Programming Model

- Kernel
  - GPU program that runs on a thread grid
- Thread hierarchy
  - Grid : a set of blocks
  - Block : a set of warps
  - Warp : a SIMD group of 32 threads
  - Grid size * block size = total # of threads



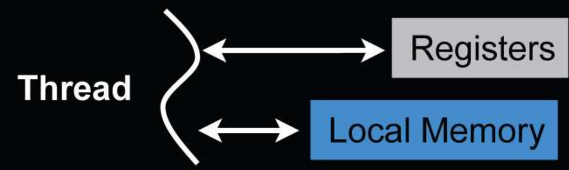
CUDA Memory Structure

- Memory hierarchy
  - PC memory : off-card
  - GPU global : off-chip / on-card
  - GPU shared/register/cache : on-chip
- The host can read/write global memory
- Each thread communicates using shared memory



Kernel Memory Access

- **Per-thread**

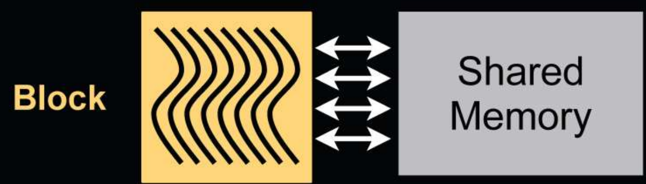


On-chip

Off-chip, uncached

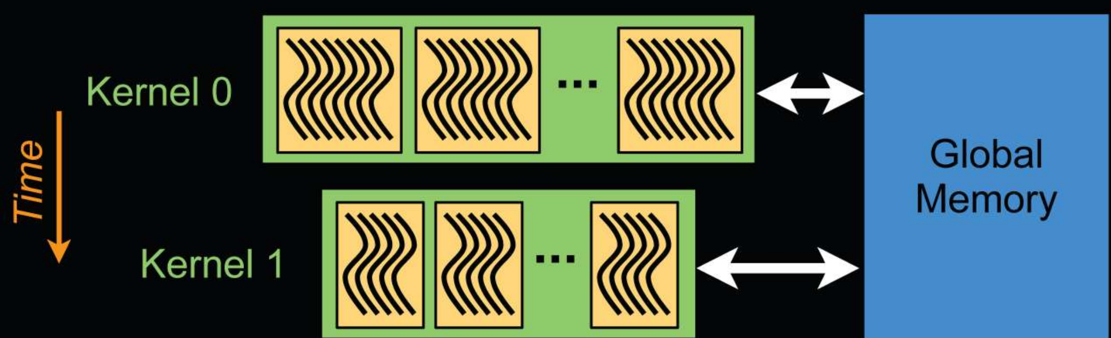
cached on Fermi or newer

- **Per-block**



- On-chip, small
- Fast

- **Per-device**



- Off-chip, large
- Uncached
- Persistent across kernel launches
- Kernel I/O

cached on Fermi or newer

Memory Architecture

Memory	Location	Cached	Access	Scope	Lifetime
Register	On-chip	N/A	R/W	One thread	Thread
Local	Off-chip	No*	R/W	One thread	Thread
Shared	On-chip	N/A	R/W	All threads in a block	Block
Global	Off-chip	No*	R/W	All threads + host	Application
Constant	Off-chip	Yes	R	All threads + host	Application
Texture	Off-chip	Yes	R	All threads + host	Application

* cached on Fermi or newer

(Memory) State Spaces

PTX ISA 7.4 (Chapter 5)

Name	Addressable	Initializable	Access	Sharing
`.reg`	No	No	R/W	per-thread
`.sreg`	No	No	RO	per-CTA
`.const`	Yes	Yes[1]	RO	per-grid
`.global`	Yes	Yes[1]	R/W	Context
`.local`	Yes	No	R/W	per-thread
`.param` (as input to kernel)	Yes[2]	No	RO	per-grid
`.param` (used in functions)	Restricted[3]	No	R/W	per-thread
`.shared`	Yes	No	R/W	per-CTA
`.tex`	No[4]	Yes, via driver	RO	Context

Notes:

[1] Variables in `.const` and `.global` state spaces are initialized to zero by default.

[2] Accessible only via the `ld.param` instruction. Address may be taken via `mov` instruction.

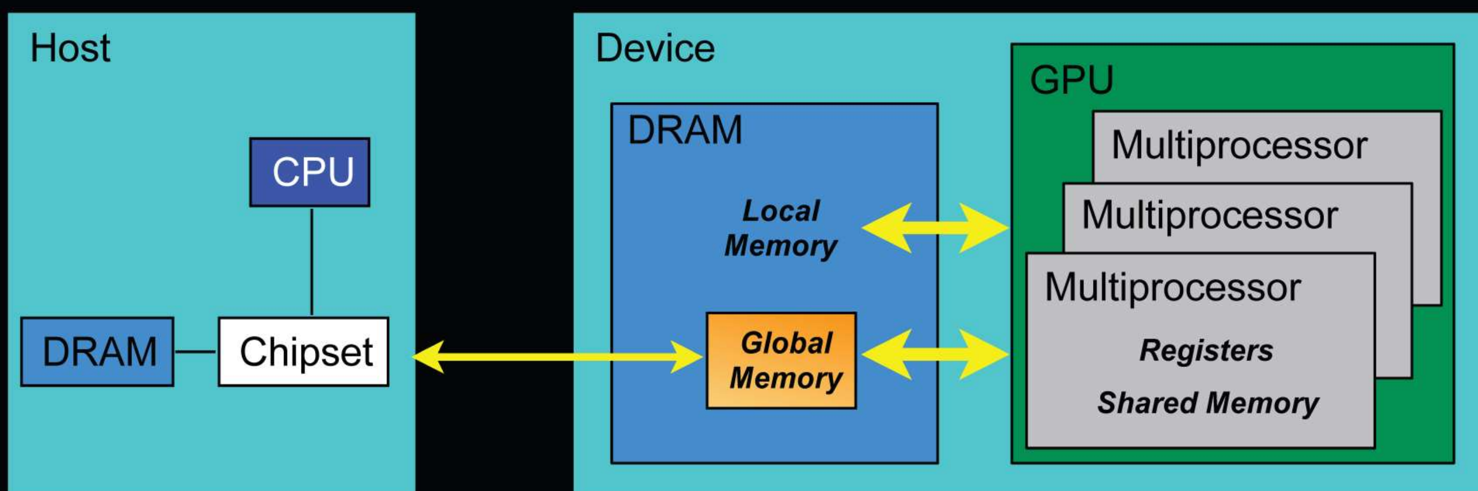
[3] Accessible via `ld.param` and `st.param` instructions. Device function input and return parameters may have their address taken via `mov`; the parameter is then located on the stack frame and its address is in the `.local` state space.

[4] Accessible only via the `tex` instruction.

Managing Memory

Unified memory space can be enabled on Fermi / CUDA 4.x and newer

- **CPU and GPU have separate memory spaces**
- **Host (CPU) code manages device (GPU) memory:**
  - **Allocate / free**
  - **Copy data to and from device**
  - **Applies to *global* device memory (DRAM)**



GPU Memory Allocation / Release

- cudaMalloc(void ** pointer, size_t nbytes)
- cudaMemset(void * pointer, int value, size_t count)
- cudaFree(void* pointer)

```
int n = 1024;
int nbytes = 1024*sizeof(int);
int *a_d = 0;
cudaMalloc( (void**)&a_d,  nbytes );
cudaMemset( a_d, 0, nbytes);
cudaFree(a_d);
```

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Data Copies

- cudaMemcpy(void *dst, void *src, size_t nbytes, enum cudaMemcpyKind direction);
  - `direction` specifies locations (host or device) of `src` and `dst`
  - Blocks CPU thread: returns after the copy is complete
  - Doesn't start copying until previous CUDA calls complete
- enum cudaMemcpyKind
  - cudaMemcpyHostToDevice
  - cudaMemcpyDeviceToHost
  - cudaMemcpyDeviceToDevice

Data Movement Example

```
int main(void)
{
  float *a_h, *b_h;  // host data
  float *a_d, *b_d;  // device data
  int N = 14, nBytes, i ;

  nBytes = N*sizeof(float);
  a_h = (float *)malloc(nBytes);
  b_h = (float *)malloc(nBytes);
  cudaMalloc((void **) &a_d, nBytes);
  cudaMalloc((void **) &b_d, nBytes);

  for (i=0, i<N; i++) a_h[i] = 100.f + i;

  cudaMemcpy(a_d, a_h, nBytes, cudaMemcpyHostToDevice);
  cudaMemcpy(b_d, a_d, nBytes, cudaMemcpyDeviceToDevice);
  cudaMemcpy(b_h, b_d, nBytes, cudaMemcpyDeviceToHost);

  for (i=0; i< N; i++) assert( a_h[i] == b_h[i] );
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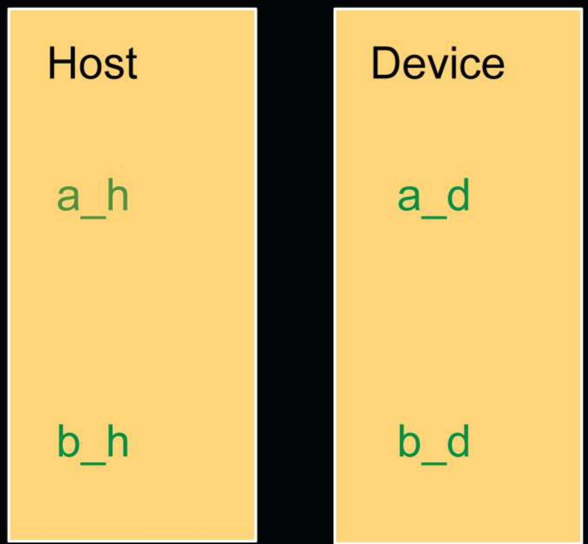

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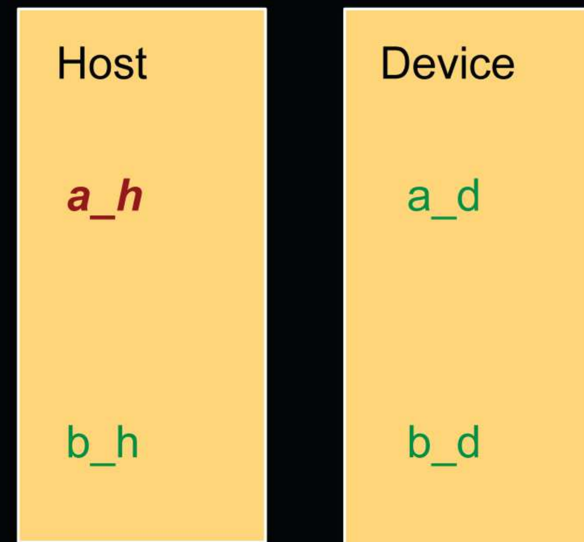

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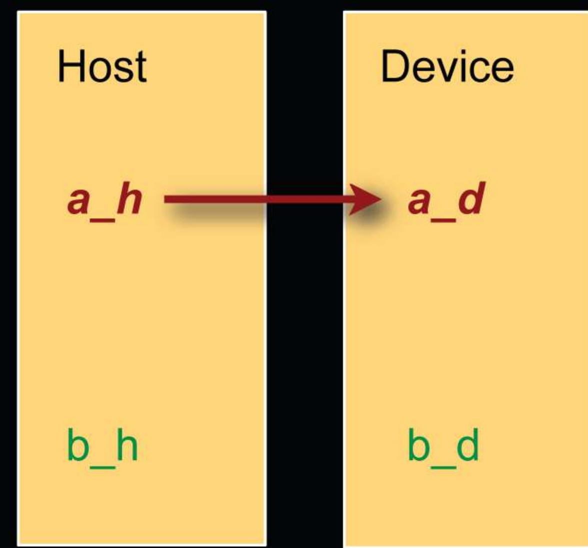

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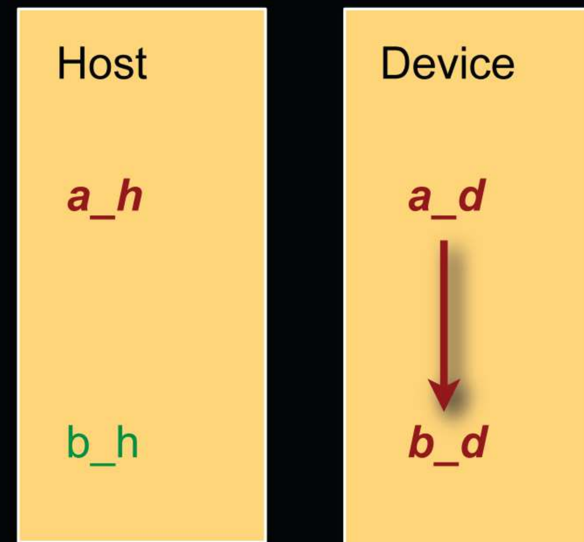

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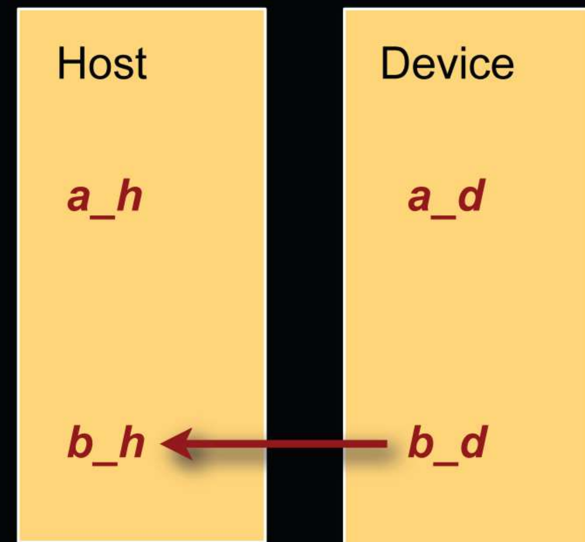

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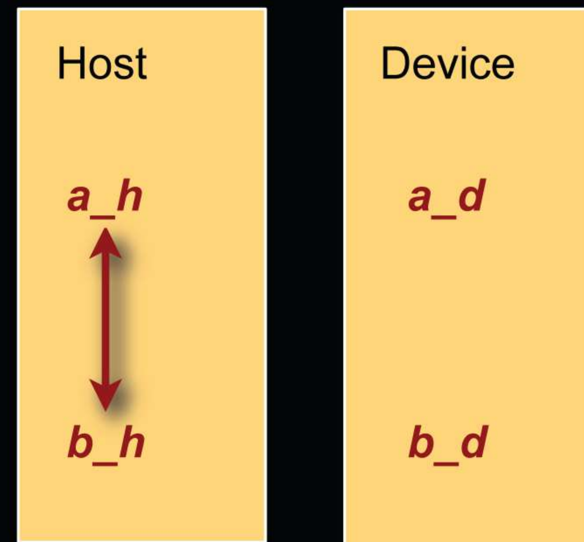

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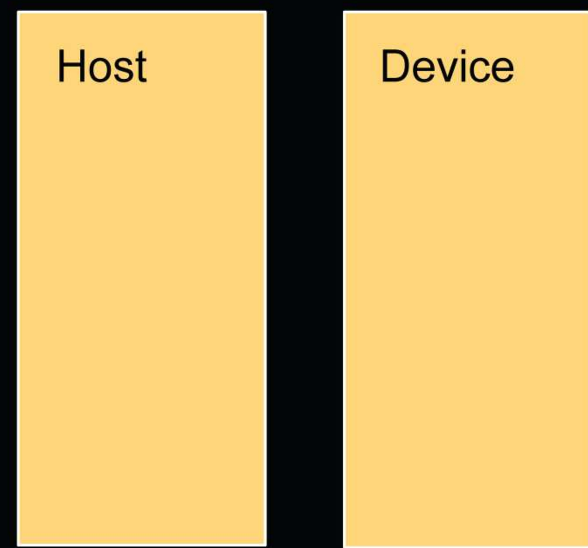

Executing Code on the GPU

- **Kernels are C functions with some restrictions**
  - Cannot access host memory — except: (*) and (**)
  - Must have void return type
  - No variable number of arguments ("varargs")
  - (Not recursive) — recursion supported on __device__ functions from cc. 2.x (i.e., basically on *all* current GPUs)
  - No static variables

- **Function arguments automatically copied from host to device**

(*) "unified memory programming" introduced with CUDA 6 (cc. 3.x +): allocate memory with cudaMallocManaged(); uses automatic migration

(**) also: mapped pinned (page-locked) memory ("zero-copy memory") : allocate memory with cudaMallocHost(); beware of low performance!!

Note: UVA ("unified virtual addressing"; cc. 2.x +) is something different!! just pertains to unified pointers (see cudaPointerGetAttributes(), …)

Function Qualifiers

- Kernels designated by function qualifier:
  - __global__
    - Function called from host and executed on device
    - Must return void
- Other CUDA function qualifiers
  - __device__
    - Function called from device and run on device
    - Cannot be called from host code
  - __host__
    - Function called from host and executed on host (default)
    - __host__ and __device__ qualifiers can be combined to generate both CPU and GPU code

Variable Qualifiers (GPU code)

- __device__
  - Stored in global memory (large, high latency, no cache)
  - Allocated with cudaMalloc (__device__ qualifier implied)
  - Accessible by all threads
  - Lifetime: application
- __shared__
  - Stored in on-chip shared memory (very low latency)
  - Specified by execution configuration or at compile time
  - Accessible by all threads in the same thread block
  - Lifetime: thread block
- Unqualified variables:
  - Scalars and built-in vector types are stored in registers
  - What doesn't fit in registers spills to "local" memory

CUDA 6+: __managed__ (with __device__) for managed memory (unified memory programming)

Launching Kernels

- Modified C function call syntax:

```
kernel<<<dim3 dG, dim3 dB>>>(…)
```

- Execution Configuration (“<<< >>>”)
  - dG - dimension and size of grid in blocks
    - Two-dimensional: x and y
    - Blocks launched in the grid: dG.x * dG.y
  - dB - dimension and size of blocks in threads:
    - Three-dimensional: x, y, and z
    - Threads per block: dB.x * dB.y * dB.z
  - Unspecified dim3 fields initialize to 1

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CUDA Built-in Device Variables

- All __global__ and __device__ functions have access to these automatically defined variables
  - `dim3 gridDim;`
    - Dimensions of the grid in blocks (at most 2D)
  - `dim3 blockDim;`
    - Dimensions of the block in threads
  - `dim3 blockIdx;`
    - Block index within the grid
  - `dim3 threadIdx;`
    - Thread index within the block

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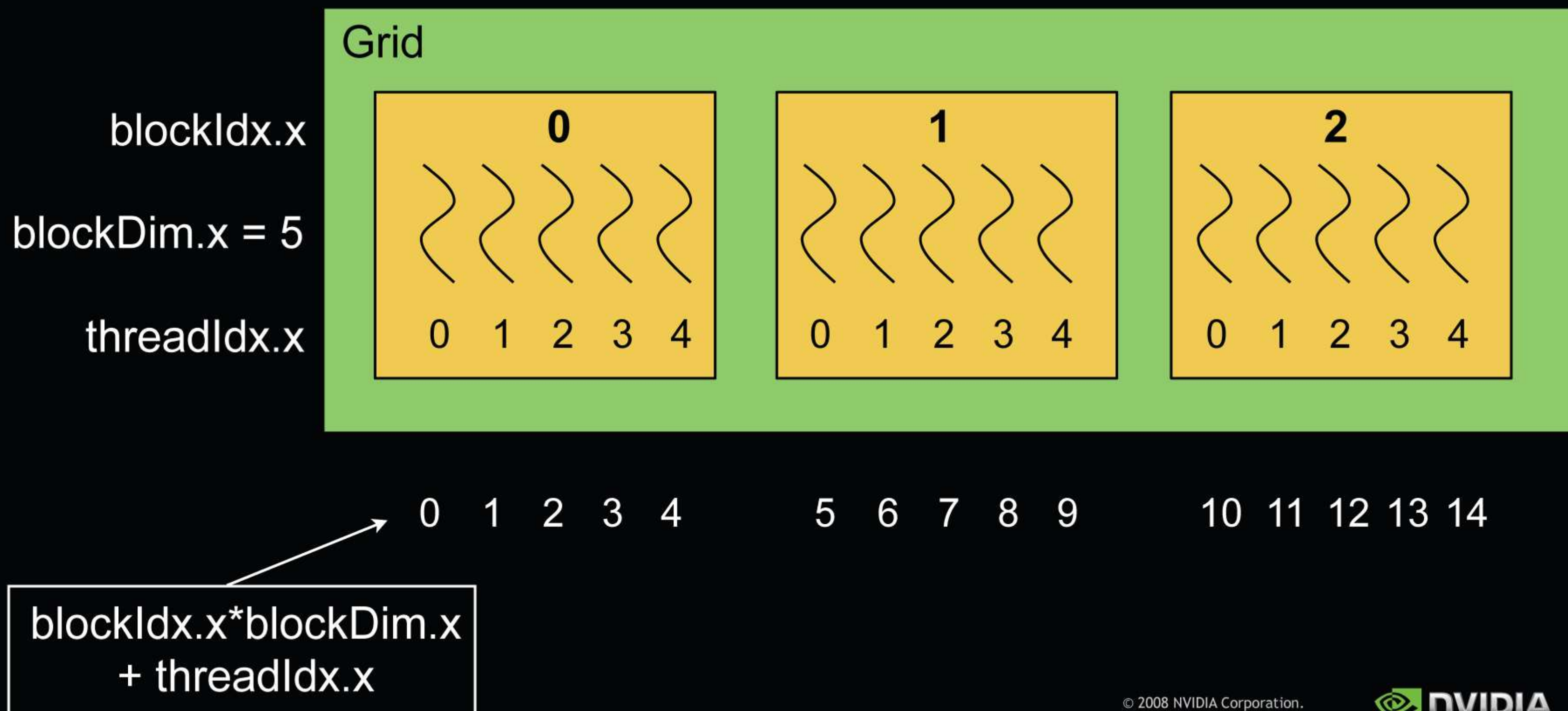
Unique Thread IDs

- **Built-in variables are used to determine unique thread IDs**
  - **Map from local thread ID (threadIdx) to a global ID which can be used as array indices**



Increment Array Example

CPU program

```
void inc_cpu(int *a, int N)
{
  int idx;

  for (idx = 0; idx<N; idx++)
     a[idx] = a[idx] + 1;
}

int main()
{
   ...
   inc_cpu(a, N);
}
```

CUDA program

```
__global__ void inc_gpu(int *a, int N)
{
  int idx = blockIdx.x * blockDim.x
               + threadIdx.x;
  if (idx < N)
     a[idx] = a[idx] + 1;
}

int main()
{
  …
  dim3 dimBlock (blocksize);
  dim3 dimGrid( ceil( N / (float)blocksize) );
  inc_gpu<<<dimGrid, dimBlock>>>(a, N);
}
```

Thread Cooperation

- The Missing Piece: threads may need to cooperate
- Thread cooperation is valuable
  - Share results to avoid redundant computation
  - Share memory accesses
    - Drastic bandwidth reduction
- Thread cooperation is a powerful feature of CUDA
- Cooperation between a monolithic array of threads is not scalable
  - Cooperation within smaller batches of threads is scalable

Host Synchronization

- All kernel launches are asynchronous
  - control returns to CPU immediately
  - kernel executes after all previous CUDA calls have completed
- cudaMemcpy() is synchronous
  - control returns to CPU after copy completes
  - copy starts after all previous CUDA calls have completed
- cudaThreadSynchronize()
  - blocks until all previous CUDA calls complete

CUDA 4.x or newer:
cudaDeviceSynchronize() and
cudaStreamSynchronize()

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Host Synchronization Example

```
// copy data from host to device
cudaMemcpy(a_d, a_h, numBytes, cudaMemcpyHostToDevice);

// execute the kernel
inc_gpu<<<ceil(N/(float)blocksize), blocksize>>>(a_d, N);

// run independent CPU code
run_cpu_stuff();

// copy data from device back to host
cudaMemcpy(a_h, a_d, numBytes, cudaMemcpyDeviceToHost);
```

Device Runtime Component: Synchronization Function

- `void __syncthreads();`
- Synchronizes all threads in a block
  - Once all threads have reached this point, execution resumes normally
  - Used to avoid RAW / WAR / WAW hazards when accessing shared
- Allowed in conditional code only if the conditional is uniform across the entire thread block

Synchronization

- Threads in the same block can communicate using shared memory
- No HW global synchronization function yet
- __syncthreads()
  - Barrier for threads only within the current block
- __threadfence()
  - Flushes global memory writes to make them visible to all threads

Plus newer sync functions, e.g., from compute capability 2.x:
__syncthreads_count(), __syncthreads_and/or(),
__threadfence_block(), __threadfence_system(), …

Now: *Must* use versions with _sync suffix, because of
Independent Thread Scheduling (compute capability 7.x and newer)!

COOPERATIVE GROUPS

Kyrylo Perelygin, Yuan Lin

GTC 2017

NVIDIA

COOPERATIVE GROUPS VS BUILT-IN FUNCTIONS

Example: warp aggregated atomic

```
// increment the value at ptr by 1 and return the old value
__device__ int atomicAggInc(int *p);
```

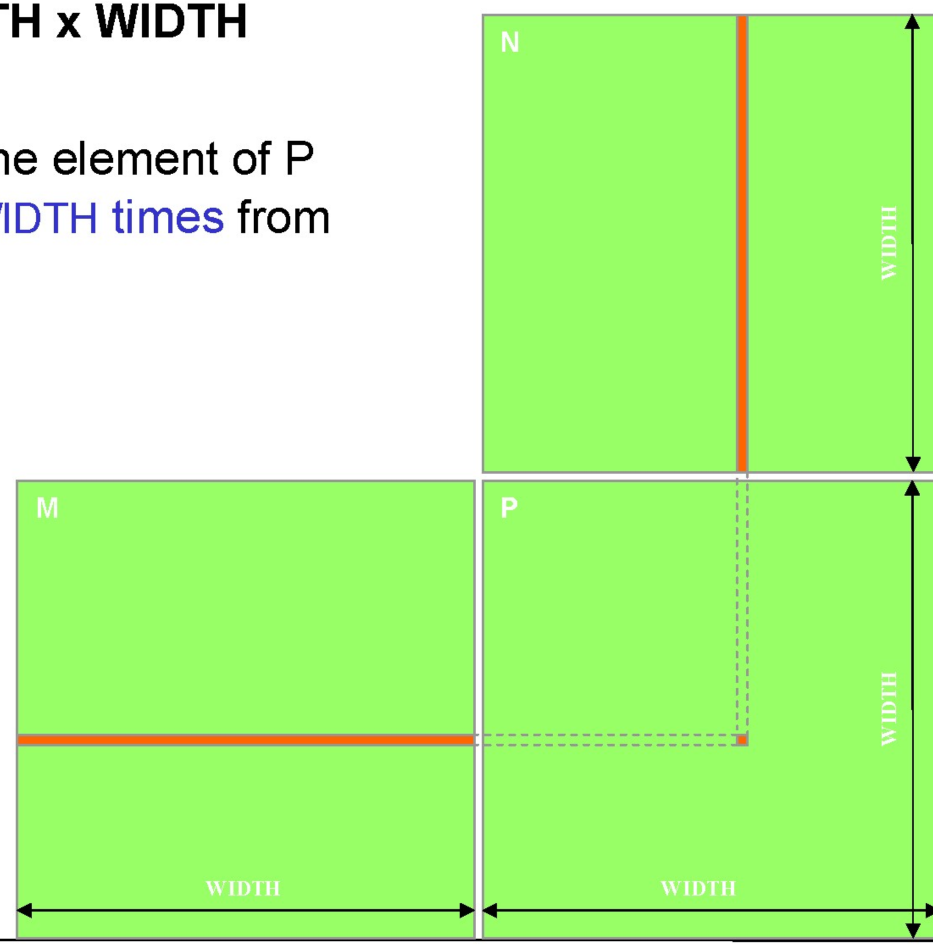
`coalesced_group g = coalesced_threads();`
 	
`int res;`
`if (g.thread_rank() == 0)`
`   res = atomicAdd(p, g.size());`
`res = g.shfl(res, 0);`
`return g.thread_rank() + res;`
	`int mask = __activemask();`
	`int rank = __popc(mask & __lanemask_lt());`
	`int leader_lane = __ffs(mask) - 1;`
	`int res;`
	`if (rank == 0)`
	`   res = atomicAdd(p, __popc(mask));`
	`res = __shfl_sync(mask, res, leader_lane);`
	`return rank + res;`

Matrix-Matrix Multiplication

P=MN

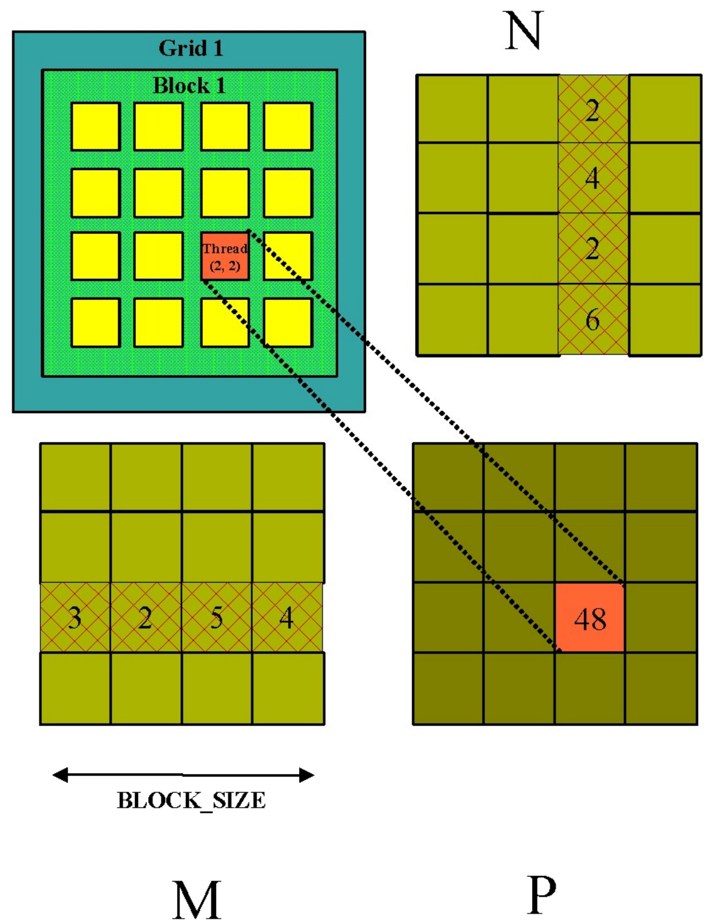
Programming Model: Square Matrix Multiplication

- **P = M * N of size WIDTH x WIDTH**
- **Without tiling:**
  - One thread handles one element of P
  - M and N are loaded WIDTH times from global memory



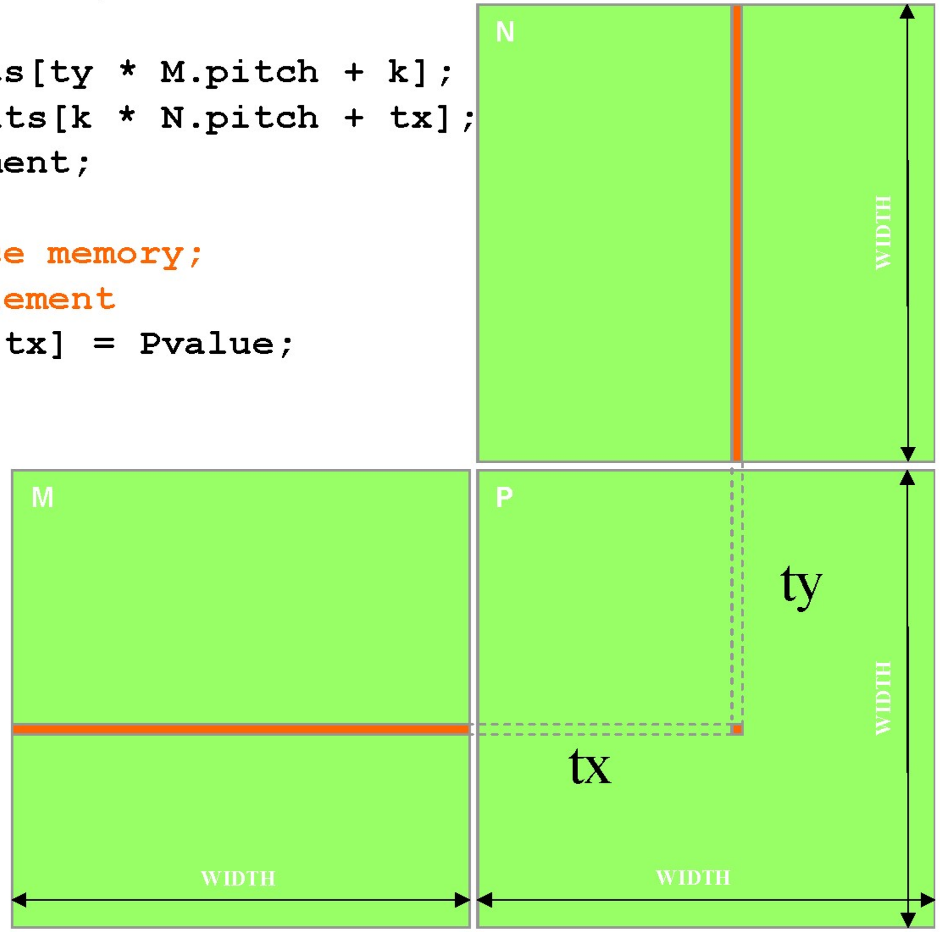
Multiply Using One Thread Block

- **One block of threads computes matrix P**
  - Each thread computes one element of P
- **Each thread**
  - Loads a row of matrix M
  - Loads a column of matrix N
  - Perform one multiply and addition for each pair of M and N elements
  - Compute to off-chip memory access ratio close to 1:1 (not very high)
- **Size of matrix limited by the number of threads allowed in a thread block**



Matrix Multiplication Device-Side Kernel Function (cont.)

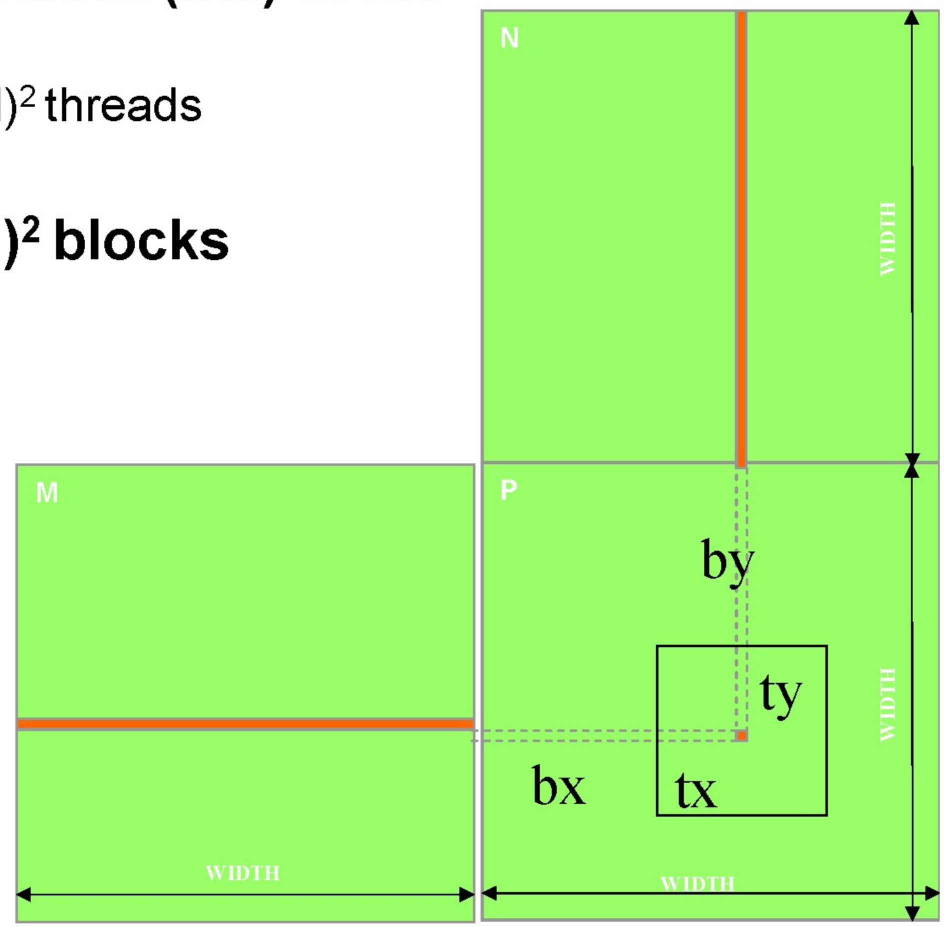
```
…
    for (int k = 0; k < M.width; ++k)
    {
      float Melement = M.elements[ty * M.pitch + k];
      float Nelement = Nd.elements[k * N.pitch + tx];
      Pvalue += Melement * Nelement;
    }
    // Write the matrix to device memory;
    // each thread writes one element
    P.elements[ty * blockDim.x+ tx] = Pvalue;
}
```



Handling Arbitrary Sized Square Matrices

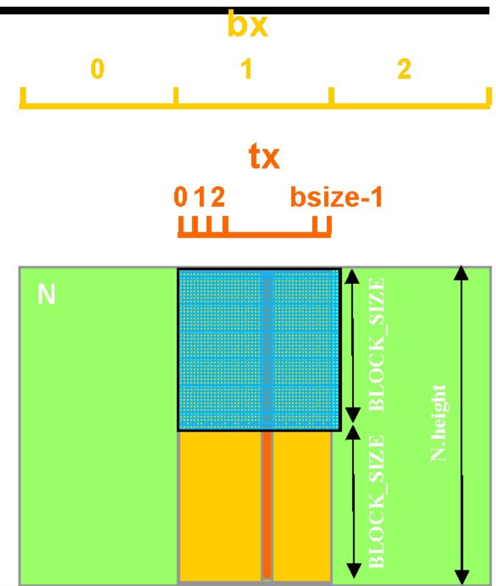
- **Have each 2D thread block to compute a (BLOCK_WIDTH)^2 sub-matrix (tile) of the result matrix**
  - Each has (BLOCK_WIDTH)^2 threads
- **Generate a 2D Grid of (WIDTH/BLOCK_WIDTH)^2 blocks**

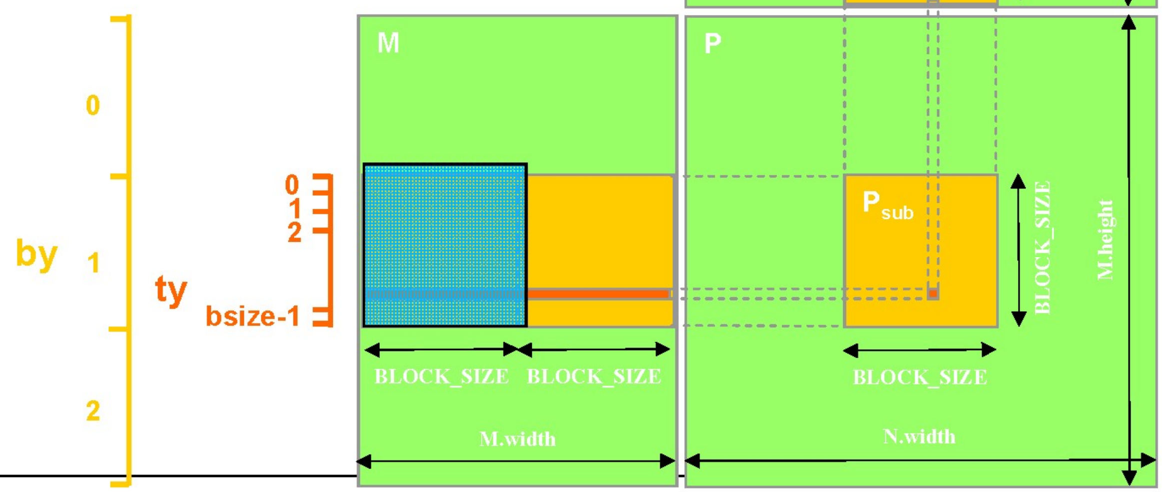
You still need to put a loop around the kernel call for cases where WIDTH is greater than Max grid size!



Multiply Using Several Blocks - Idea

- One thread per element of P
- Load sub-blocks of M and N into shared memory
- Each thread reads one element of M and one of N
- Reuse each sub-block for all threads, i.e. for all elements of P
- Outer loop on sub-blocks





Hendrik Lensch and Robert Strzodka

Multiply Using Several Blocks - Idea

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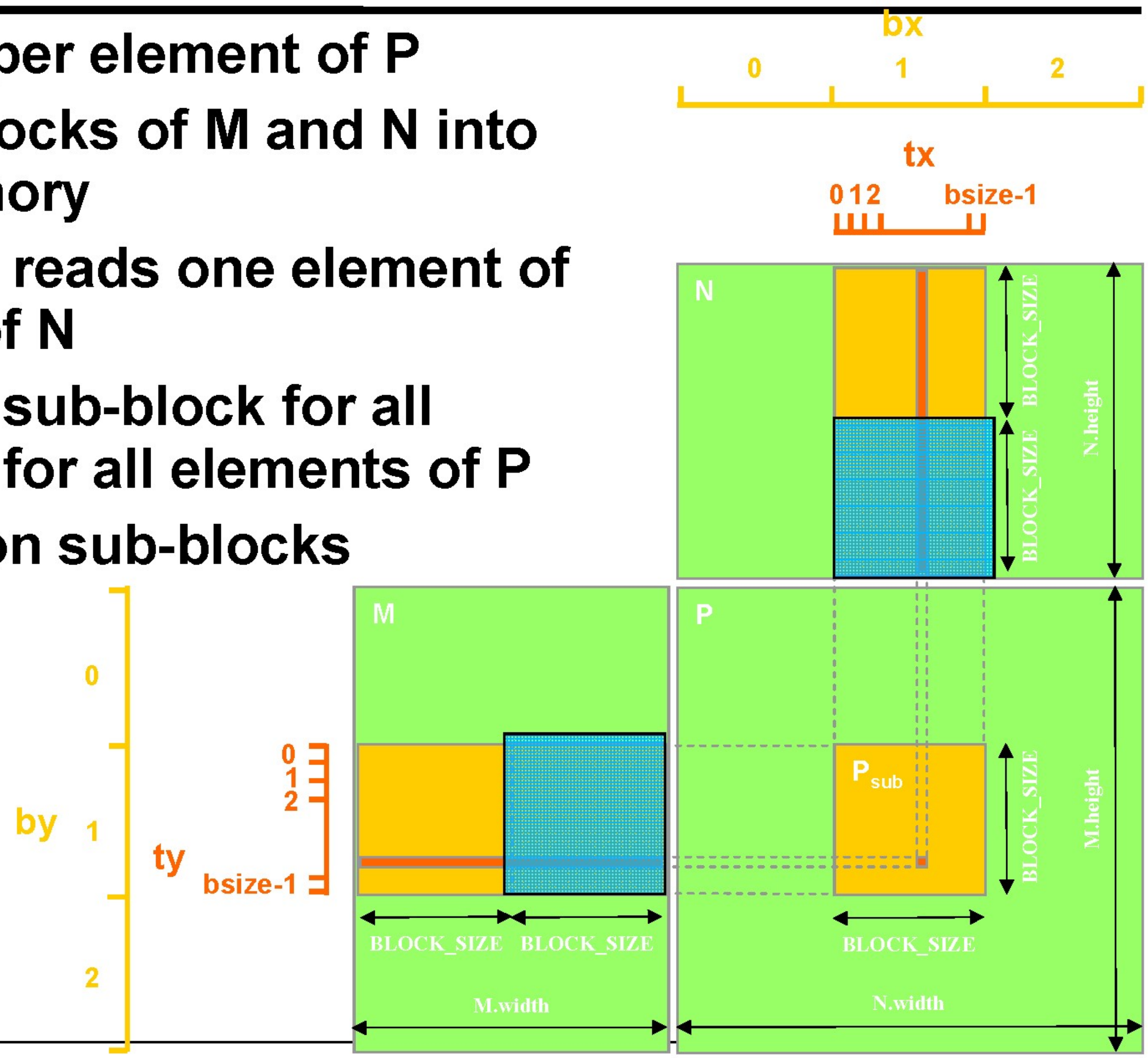


Example: Matrix Multiplication (1)

- Copy matrices to device; invoke kernel; copy result matrix back to host

```
// Matrix multiplication - Host code
// Matrix dimensions are assumed to be multiples of BLOCK_SIZE
void MatMul(const Matrix A, const Matrix B, Matrix C)
{
    // Load A and B to device memory
    Matrix d_A;
    d_A.width = d_A.stride = A.width; d_A.height = A.height;
    size_t size = A.width * A.height * sizeof(float);
    cudaMalloc((void**)&d_A.elements, size);
    cudaMemcpy(d_A.elements, A.elements, size,
               cudaMemcpyHostToDevice);
    Matrix d_B;
    d_B.width = d_B.stride = B.width; d_B.height = B.height;
    size = B.width * B.height * sizeof(float);
    cudaMalloc((void**)&d_B.elements, size);
    cudaMemcpy(d_B.elements, B.elements, size,
               cudaMemcpyHostToDevice);
```

Example: Matrix Multiplication (2)

```
    // Allocate C in device memory
    Matrix d_C;
    d_C.width = d_C.stride = C.width; d_C.height = C.height;
    size = C.width * C.height * sizeof(float);
    cudaMalloc((void**)&d_C.elements, size);

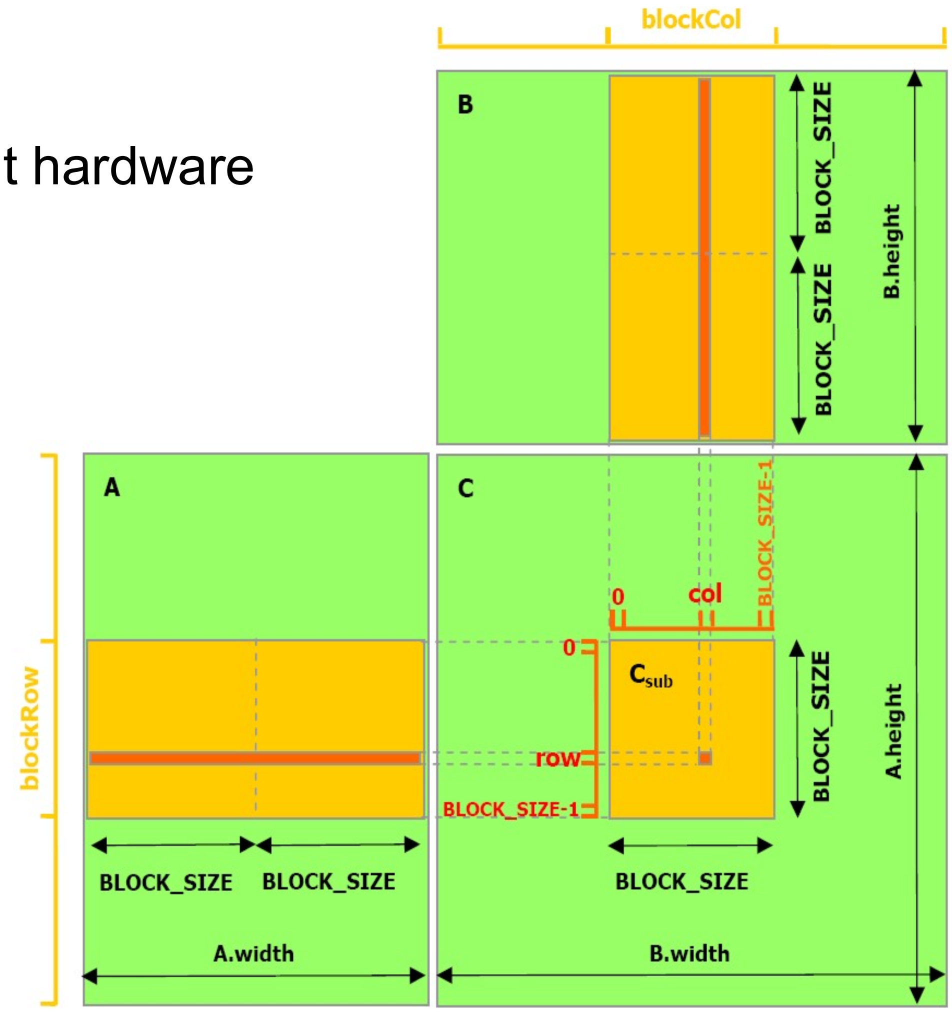
    // Invoke kernel
    dim3 dimBlock(BLOCK_SIZE, BLOCK_SIZE);
    dim3 dimGrid(B.width / dimBlock.x, A.height / dimBlock.y);
    MatMulKernel<<<dimGrid, dimBlock>>>(d_A, d_B, d_C);

    // Read C from device memory
    cudaMemcpy(C.elements, d_C.elements, size,
               cudaMemcpyDeviceToHost);

    // Free device memory
    cudaFree(d_A.elements);
    cudaFree(d_B.elements);
    cudaFree(d_C.elements);
}
```

Example: Matrix Multiplication (3)

- Multiply matrix block-wise
- Set BLOCK_SIZE for efficient hardware use, e.g., to 16 on cc. 1.x or 16 or 32 on cc. 2.x +
- Maximize parallelism
  - Launch as many threads per block as block elements
  - Each thread fetches one element of block
  - Perform row * column dot products in parallel



Example: Matrix Multiplication (4)

```
__global__ void MatrixMul( float *matA, float *matB, float *matC, int w )
{
    __shared__ float blockA[ BLOCK_SIZE ][ BLOCK_SIZE ];
    __shared__ float blockB[ BLOCK_SIZE ][ BLOCK_SIZE ];

    int bx = blockIdx.x; int tx = threadIdx.x;
    int by = blockIdx.y; int ty = threadIdx.y;

    int col = bx * BLOCK_SIZE + tx;
    int row = by * BLOCK_SIZE + ty;

    float out = 0.0f;
    for ( int m = 0; m < w / BLOCK_SIZE; m++ ) {

        blockA[ ty ][ tx ] = matA[ row * w +   m * BLOCK_SIZE + tx       ];
        blockB[ ty ][ tx ] = matB[ col     + ( m * BLOCK_SIZE + ty ) * w ];
        __syncthreads();

        for ( int k = 0; k < BLOCK_SIZE; k++ ) {
            out += blockA[ ty ][ k ] * blockB[ k ][ tx ];
        }
        __syncthreads();
    }

    matC[ row * w + col ] = out;
}
```

Caveat: for brevity, this code assumes matrix sizes are a multiple of the block size (either because they really are, or because padding is used; otherwise guard code would need to be added)

Thank you.