GPU Programming Model



Basics of OpenCL and CUDA programming models

KIT – University of the State of Baden-Wuerttemberg and National Research Center of the Helmholtz Association

Execution Flow





- All GPUs are treated individually and controlled by CPU thread
 - GPU cores in case of double-core cards
- Initialize contexts
- Send data to internal GPU memory
- Execute one or more task (so called kernels) on GPUs
- Collect results back in system memory



OpenCL/CUDA Kernel



The idea is to replace loops with functions (**kernels**) executing at each point in problem domain

```
void mul(...) {
    int i;
    for (i = 0; i < n; i++)
    out[i] = 2 * in[i];
}</pre>
```

_kernel mul(...) {
 int i = get_global_id(0);
 out[i] = 2 * in[i];
}



Writing a Kernel





a) Define a Grid of work-items (threads)

We select dimensionality (1D, 2D, or 3D) and number of threads along each dimension
Number of threads is not restricted by available hardware. The OpenCL engine will execute as many threads in parallel as permited by hardware and will sequentialize others.

b) Define a kernel function

- Which locates data offsets using provided thread coordinates and perform computations
- c) Schedule kernel on some data

OpenCL Kernel

kernel void invert(int width, __global float *res, __global const float *img) { int i = get_global_id(0) + get_global_id(1) * width; res[i] = 255 - img[i];

CUDA Kernel

_global___ void invert(int width, float *res, const float *img) { int i = threadIdx.x + threadIdx.y * width; res[i] = 255 - img[i];



Hardware View

CU4





- Several independent Compute Units
 - Able to handle independent flow instructions
 - Share Global Memory and L2 Cache
- SIMD Engine
 - Issue a single instruction on multiple data items
 - Share L1 Cache

CU3



NVIDIA Fermi





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Task Grid

The idea is to allow efficient communication of work-items using L1 cache



- Task grid is split in **work-groups** (blocks in CUDA terminology)
- Work-group is executed on one of the Compute Units and may use the local memory (shared memory) of this unit to exchange data
- Work-group size is not limited by the width of SIMD engine (but limited by available register space). Each instruction is executed in several steps. This is used to hide memory latencies.
- CU always execute a block of work-items in parallel. This block is called warp (NVIDIA) or wavefront (AMD) and may be less when actual size of SIMD engine.
- The Compute Unit may schedule multiple work groups simultaneously





Memory model





Host Memory

6 GB/s (PCIe x16 gen2) to 12 GB/s (PCIe x16 gen3)

Global Memory

100 – 300 GB/s with latencies up to 1000 clocks

Local Memory

1 – 2 TB/s (total) with latencies below 100 clocks

- Registers
 - private to work-items

Complex memory hierarchy consisting of 4 levels and with each level one order of magnitude faster when previous!



Execution Model



Task1 and Task2 are independent, Task3 partitionable



Automatic data interchange between devices

OpenCL **Queue** (CUDA Stream) and **Events** are synchronization primitives used to:

- Write asynchronous host code by scheduling multiple commands to the queue and waiting for completion
- Better utilize GPU resources while scheduling small Grids (supported only by some architectures)
- Handling of multiple GPU devices
- Get profiling informatation





Device commands may have dependencies and will be

- only submited to device when all specified events are triggered. This is used to synchronize queues.
- Queues
 - Automatically distributed between available GPUs
 - Support In-order (default) and out-of-order execution
 - May synchronize using Events

Host code may

- Wait until complete queue finishes (*clFinish*)
- Wait until some events are triggered (*clWaitForEvents*)
- Register a callback on event (*clSetEventCallback*)
- Create and trigger custom events to handle synchronization between host and queues (clCreateUserEvent, clSetUserEventStatus)
- Get timestamps when device command entered each of 4 possible states (*clGetProfilingInfo*)

Queues and Events

Events

- Each device command will trigger an event when finished



complete





Building OpenCL Application



- Detect available platforms and devices
- Initialize OpenCL context for selected devices
- Compile OpenCL kernels for selected devices
- Create command queues
- Copy data to device memory
- Perform computations using one or several kernels
- Copy results back to system memory
- Clean-up



Creating Context

cl_int err; cl_platform_id platform = 0; cl_uint num_devices; cl_device_id devices[16] = {0}; cl_command_queue queues[16] = {0}; cl_context ctx = 0;

Initializing all GPU devices from the first OpenCL platform and creating 1 command queue per device

err = clGetPlatformIDs(1, &platform, NULL); err = clGetDeviceIDs(platform, CL_DEVICE_TYPE_GPU, 16, devices, &num_devices); ctx = clCreateContext(props, num_devices, &device, NULL, NULL, &err);

for (i = 0; i < num_devices; i++) {
 queues[i] = clCreateCommandQueue(ctx, devices[i], CL_QUEUE_PROFILING_ENABLE, &err);
}</pre>

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```
Types of devices:
CL_DEVICE_TYPE_CPU
CL_DEVICE_TYPE_GPU
CL_DEVICE_TYPE_ACCELERATOR
```

clGetDeviceInfo may be used to get device configuration







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size t len: *FILE* * *f* = *fopen("application.cl", "r")*; fseek(f, 0, SEEK_END); len = ftell(f); fseek(f, 0, SEEK_SET); char *source = (char*)malloc(len + 1); fread(source + strlen(source), 1, len, f); fclose(f);

Building code

const char *build flags = "-cl-mad-enable"; cl program app = clCreateProgramWithSource(ctx, 1, (const char**)&source, &len, &err);err = clBuildProgram(app, num devices, devices, build flags, NULL, NULL);

cl kernel kernel = *clCreateKernel*(*app*, "*invert*", &*err*);

Instantiating kernels

Loading kernel code

OpenCL specification defines a number of build flags controlling allowed optimizations. The OpenCL platform may support additional flags defining the compiler behavior.

In case of threaded host code, a dedicated instance of cl kernel may be needed for each queue in the context



Reporting Build Errors

size_t size
char build_log[4096];
cl_build_status build_status;

err = clBuildProgram(app, num_devices, devices, build_flags, NULL, NULL);

} while (build_status == CL_BUILD_IN_PROGRESS);

Printing build log in case of error

Different compilation results may be produced for each device

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Building code

Waiting until build

is complete

Managing Device Memory



float in[size * size];
float out[size * size];

Load source data on the host

cl_mem dev_in = clCreateBuffer(ctx, CL_MEM_READ_ONLY | CL_MEM_COPY_HOST_PTR, size * size * sizeof(float), in, &err);

cl_mem dev_out = clCreateBuffer(ctx, CL_MEM_READ_WRITE, size * size * sizeof(float), NULL, &err);

Allocate device memory and load source buffer

Execute computations...

Synchronous or asynchronous

err = clEnqueueWriteBuffer(queue, dev_out, CL_FALSE, 0, size * size * sizeof(float), out, 0, NULL, NULL); Copy results back to host

You don't need to specify at which devices to allocate memory, OpenCL will handle this automatically

clEnqueueReadBuffer may be used to send data to device after device memory was allocated

clEnqueueReadBufferRect and **clEnqueueWriteBufferRect** may be used to transfer parts of multidimensional array

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Executing Kernels





CUDA Equivalent



float in[size * size]; float out[size * size];

Load source data on the host

float *dev in, *dev out; cudaMalloc(&dev in, size * size * sizeof(float)); cudaMalloc(&dev out, size * size * sizeof(float)); cudaMemcpy(dev_in, in, size * size * sizeof(float), cudaMemcpyHostToDevice);

Dim3 blocks(16,16); Dim3 grid(M/16, N/16);invert <<< grid, blocks >>> (size, dev out, dev in); Allocate device memory and copy source buffer

Define the grid and run the kernel.

cudaMemcpy(out, dev out, size * size * sizeof(float), cudaMemcpyDeviceToHost);

Get results back

global void invert(int width, float *res, const float *img) { *int i* = *threadIdx.x* + *threadIdx.y* * *width;* res[i] = 255 - img[i];

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Using PyOpenCL

import pyopencl as cl *import numpy*

in = numpy.random.rand(size * size).astype(numpy.float32) out = numpy.empty like(a)

ctx = cl.create some context() queue = cl.CommandQueue(ctx, properties=cl.command queue properties.PROFILING ENABLE)

src = open("application.cl", "r").read() program = cl.Program(ctx, kernelSrc).build()

dev in = cl.Buffer(ctx, cl.mem flags.READ ONLY | cl.mem flags.COPY HOST PTR, hostbuf=in) dev out = cl.Buffer(ctx, cl.mem flags.WRITE ONLY, out.nbytes)

LocalWorkSize = (16, 16,)globalWorkSize = (size, size,) event = program.invert(queue, global size, local size, size, dev out, dev in)

event.wait() cl.**enqueue read buffer**(queue, out, dev out).**wait**()

print("GPU execution time: %g ns" % (event.profile.end - event.profile.start))

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Wait completion and

get results back





Load source data on the host

Create context and queue

Building kernels

Define the grid and run the kernel.

Allocating device memory