CRAY
THE SUPERCOMPUTER COMPANY

Chapel: Background

SC12
Salt Lake City, Utah

CRAY
CHAPEL

STREAM Triad: a trivial parallel computation

Given: m-element vectors A, B, C

Compute: $\forall i \in 1..m,\ A_i = B_i + \alpha \cdot C_i$

In pictures:

STREAM Triad: a trivial parallel computation

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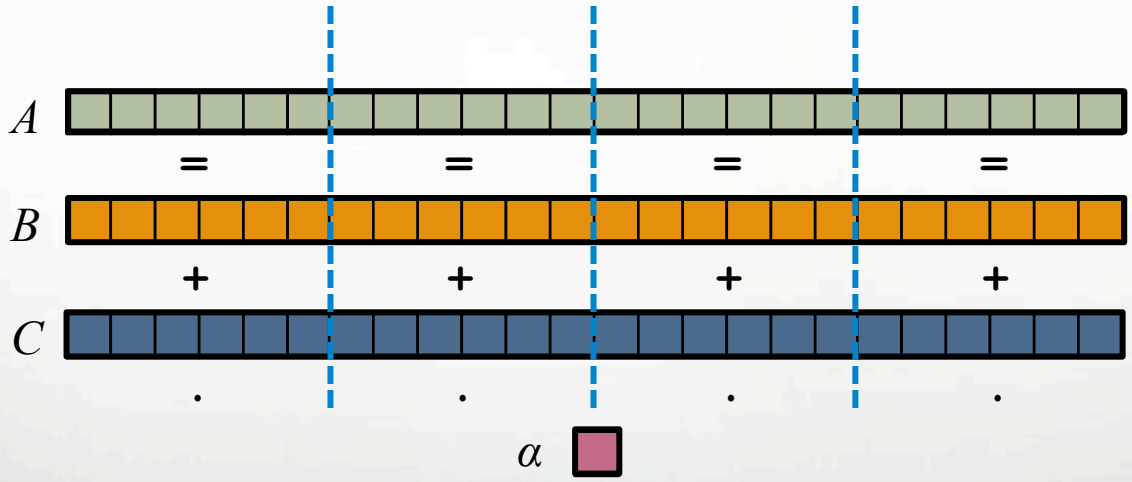
In pictures, in parallel:



STREAM Triad: a trivial parallel computation

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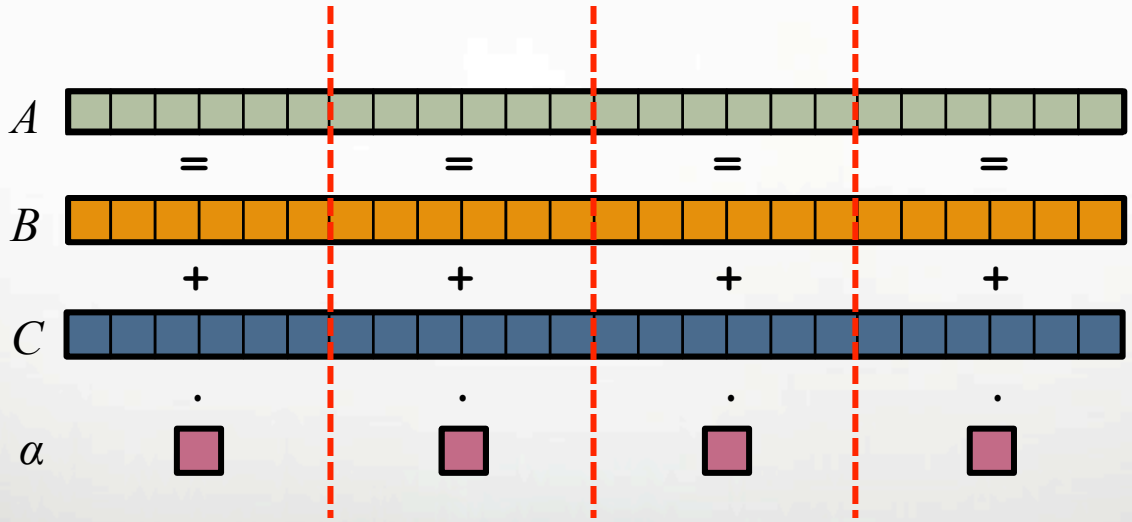

STREAM Triad: a trivial parallel computation

Given: m-element vectors A, B, C

Compute: $\forall i \in 1..m,\ A_i = B_i + \alpha \cdot C_i$

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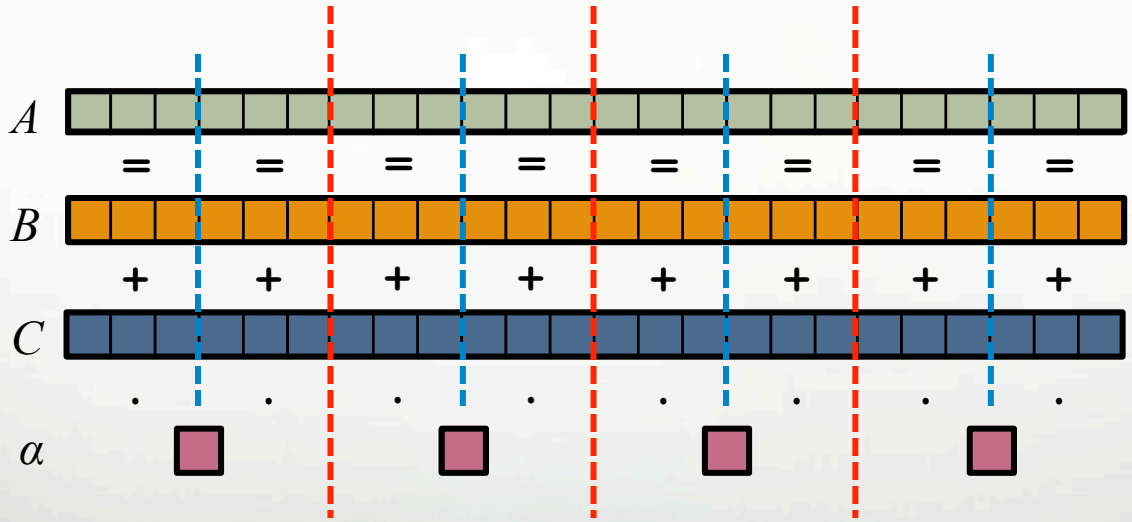
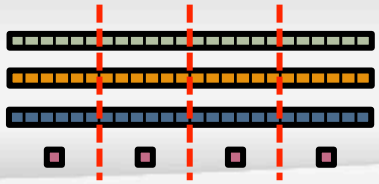


STREAM Triad: MPI



MPI

```
#include <hpcc.h>

static int VectorSize;
static double *a, *b, *c;

int HPCC_StarStream(HPCC_Params *params) {
  int myRank, commSize;
  int rv, errCount;
  MPI_Comm comm = MPI_COMM_WORLD;

  MPI_Comm_size( comm, &commSize );
  MPI_Comm_rank( comm, &myRank );

  rv = HPCC_Stream( params, 0 == myRank);
  MPI_Reduce( &rv, &errCount, 1, MPI_INT, MPI_SUM,
    0, comm );

  return errCount;
}

int HPCC_Stream(HPCC_Params *params, int doIO) {
  register int j;
  double  scalar;

  VectorSize = HPCC_LocalVectorSize( params, 3,
    sizeof(double), 0 );

  a = HPCC_XMALLOC( double, VectorSize );
  b = HPCC_XMALLOC( double, VectorSize );
  c = HPCC_XMALLOC( double, VectorSize );

  if (!a || !b || !c) {
    if (c) HPCC_free(c);
    if (b) HPCC_free(b);
    if (a) HPCC_free(a);
    if (doIO) {
      fprintf( outFile, "Failed to allocate memory (%d).
    \n", VectorSize );
      fclose( outFile );
    }
    return 1;
  }

  for (j=0; j<VectorSize; j++) {
    b[j] = 2.0;
    c[j] = 0.0;
  }

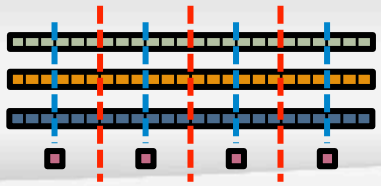
  scalar = 3.0;

  for (j=0; j<VectorSize; j++)
    a[j] = b[j]+scalar*c[j];

  HPCC_free(c);
  HPCC_free(b);
  HPCC_free(a);

  return 0;
}
```

STREAM Triad: MPI+OpenMP



MPI + OpenMP

```
#include <hpcc.h>
#ifdef _OPENMP
#include <omp.h>
#endif

static int VectorSize;
static double *a, *b, *c;

int HPCC_StarStream(HPCC_Params *params) {
  int myRank, commSize;
  int rv, errCount;
  MPI_Comm comm = MPI_COMM_WORLD;

  MPI_Comm_size( comm, &commSize );
  MPI_Comm_rank( comm, &myRank );

  rv = HPCC_Stream( params, 0 == myRank);
  MPI_Reduce( &rv, &errCount, 1, MPI_INT, MPI_SUM,
    0, comm );

  return errCount;
}

int HPCC_Stream(HPCC_Params *params, int doIO) {
  register int j;
  double  scalar;

  VectorSize = HPCC_LocalVectorSize( params, 3,
    sizeof(double), 0 );

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  b = HPCC_XMALLOC( double, VectorSize );
  c = HPCC_XMALLOC( double, VectorSize );

  if (!a || !b || !c) {
    if (c) HPCC_free(c);
    if (b) HPCC_free(b);
    if (a) HPCC_free(a);
    if (doIO) {
      fprintf( outFile, "Failed to allocate memory (%d).
    \n", VectorSize );
      fclose( outFile );
    }
    return 1;
  }

#ifdef _OPENMP
#pragma omp parallel for
#endif
  for (j=0; j<VectorSize; j++) {
    b[j] = 2.0;
    c[j] = 0.0;
  }

  scalar = 3.0;

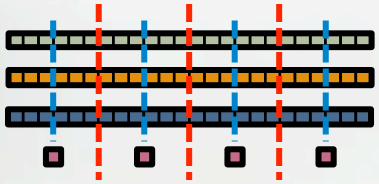
#ifdef _OPENMP
#pragma omp parallel for
#endif
  for (j=0; j<VectorSize; j++)
    a[j] = b[j]+scalar*c[j];

  HPCC_free(c);
  HPCC_free(b);
  HPCC_free(a);

  return 0;
}
```

STREAM Triad: MPI+OpenMP vs. CUDA

MPI + OpenMP



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}

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  if (!a || !b || !c) {
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    if (doIO) {
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      fclose( outFile );
    }
    return 1;
  }

#ifdef _OPENMP
#pragma omp parallel for
#endif
  for (j=0; j<VectorSize; j++) {
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  }

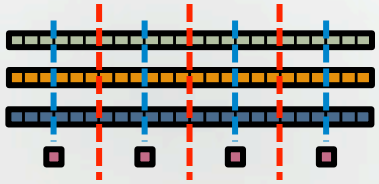
  scalar = 3.0;

#ifdef _OPENMP
#pragma omp parallel for
#endif
  for (j=0; j<VectorSize; j++)
    a[j] = b[j]+scalar*c[j];

  HPCC_free(c);
  HPCC_free(b);
  HPCC_free(a);

  return 0;
```

CUDA



```
#define N       2000000

int main() {
  float *d_a, *d_b, *d_c;
  float scalar;

  cudaMalloc((void**)&d_a, sizeof(float)*N);
  cudaMalloc((void**)&d_b, sizeof(float)*N);
  cudaMalloc((void**)&d_c, sizeof(float)*N);

  dim3 dimBlock(128);
  dim3 dimGrid(N/dimBlock.x );
  if( N % dimBlock.x != 0 ) dimGrid.x+=1;

  set_array<<<dimGrid,dimBlock>>>(d_b, .5f, N);
  set_array<<<dimGrid,dimBlock>>>(d_c, .5f, N);

  scalar=3.0f;
  STREAM_Triad<<<dimGrid,dimBlock>>>(d_b, d_c, d_a, scalar,  N);
  cudaThreadSynchronize();

  cudaFree(d_a);
  cudaFree(d_b);
  cudaFree(d_c);
}

__global__ void set_array(float *a,  float value, int len) {
  int idx = threadIdx.x + blockIdx.x * blockDim.x;
  if (idx < len) a[idx] = value;
}

__global__ void STREAM_Triad( float *a, float *b, float *c,
                              float scalar, int len) {
  int idx = threadIdx.x + blockIdx.x * blockDim.x;
  if (idx < len) c[idx] = a[idx]+scalar*b[idx];
}
```

Why so many programming models?

HPC has traditionally given users…

…low-level, *control-centric* programming models

…ones that are closely tied to the underlying hardware

…ones that support only a single type of parallelism

Examples:

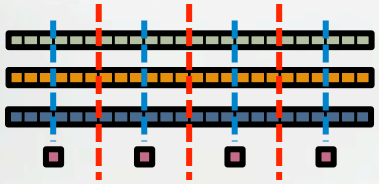
Type of HW Parallelism	Programming Model	Unit of Parallelism
Inter-node	MPI/UPC/CAF	executable
Intra-node/multicore	OpenMP/pthreads	iteration/task
Instruction-level vectors/threads	pragmas	iteration
GPU/accelerator	OpenACC/CUDA/OpenCL	SIMD function/task

benefits: lots of control; decent generality; easy to implement

downsides: lots of user-managed detail; brittle to changes

Rewinding a few slides…

MPI + OpenMP



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  rv = HPCC_Stream( params, 0 == myRank);
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int HPCC_Stream(HPCC_Params *params, int doIO) {
  register int j;
  double  scalar;

  VectorSize = HPCC_LocalVectorSize( params, 3, sizeof(double), 0 );

  a = HPCC_XMALLOC( double, VectorSize );
  b = HPCC_XMALLOC( double, VectorSize );
  c = HPCC_XMALLOC( double, VectorSize );

  if (!a || !b || !c) {
    if (c) HPCC_free(c);
    if (b) HPCC_free(b);
    if (a) HPCC_free(a);
    if (doIO) {
      fprintf( outFile, "Failed to allocate memory (%d).\n", VectorSize );
      fclose( outFile );
    }
    return 1;
  }

#ifdef _OPENMP
#pragma omp parallel for
#endif
  for (j=0; j<VectorSize; j++) {
    b[j] = 2.0;
    c[j] = 0.0;
  }

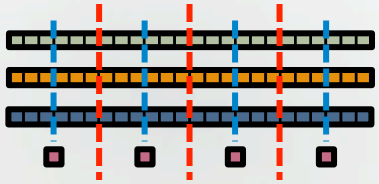
  scalar = 3.0;

#ifdef _OPENMP
#pragma omp parallel for
#endif
  for (j=0; j<VectorSize; j++)
    a[j] = b[j]+scalar*c[j];

  HPCC_free(c);
  HPCC_free(b);
  HPCC_free(a);

  return 0;
```

CUDA



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  scalar=3.0f;
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  cudaThreadSynchronize();

  cudaFree(d_a);
  cudaFree(d_b);
  cudaFree(d_c);
}

__global__ void set_array(float *a,  float value, int len) {
  int idx = threadIdx.x + blockIdx.x * blockDim.x;
  if (idx < len) a[idx] = value;
}

__global__ void STREAM_Triad( float *a, float *b, float *c,
                              float scalar, int len) {
  int idx = threadIdx.x + blockIdx.x * blockDim.x;
  if (idx < len) c[idx] = a[idx]+scalar*b[idx];
}
```

HPC suffers from too many distinct notations for expressing parallelism and locality

STREAM Triad: Chapel

MPI + OpenMP

Chapel

```
config const m = 1000,
             alpha = 3.0;

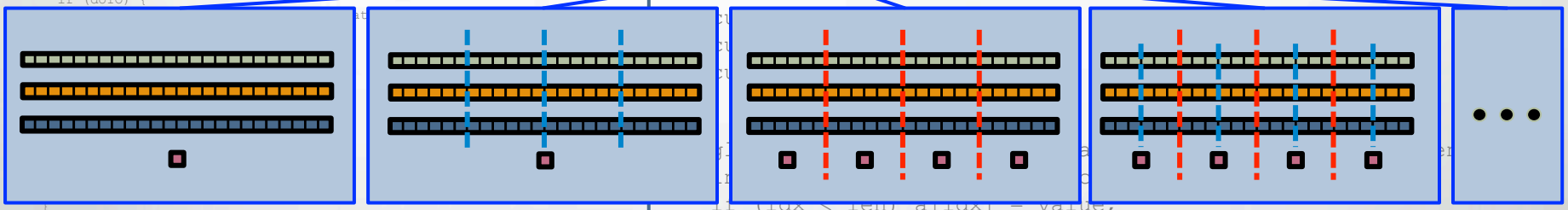
const ProblemSpace = {1..m} dmapped …;

var A, B, C: [ProblemSpace] real;

B = 2.0;
C = 3.0;

A = B + alpha * C;
```

the special sauce



Philosophy: Good language design can tease details of locality and parallelism away from an algorithm, permitting the compiler, runtime, applied scientist, and parallel expert to each focus on their strengths.

What is Chapel?

- An emerging parallel programming language
  - Design and development led by Cray Inc.
    - in collaboration with academia, labs, industry
  - Initiated under the DARPA HPCS program

- **Overall goal:** Improve programmer productivity
  - Improve the programmability of parallel computers
  - Match or beat the performance of current programming models
  - Support better portability than current programming models
  - Improve the robustness of parallel codes

- A work-in-progress

Chapel's Implementation

- Being developed as open source at SourceForge
- Licensed as BSD software
- **Target Architectures:**
  - Cray architectures
  - multicore desktops and laptops
  - commodity clusters
  - systems from other vendors
  - *in-progress:* CPU+accelerator hybrids, manycore, …

Outline

- Chapel's Context
- Chapel's Motivating Themes
  1. General parallel programming
  2. *Global-view* abstractions
  3. *Multiresolution* design
  4. Control over locality/affinity
  5. Reduce gap between mainstream & HPC languages

1) General Parallel Programming

With a unified set of concepts...

...express any parallelism desired in a user's program

- **Styles:** data-parallel, task-parallel, concurrency, nested, …
- **Levels:** model, function, loop, statement, expression

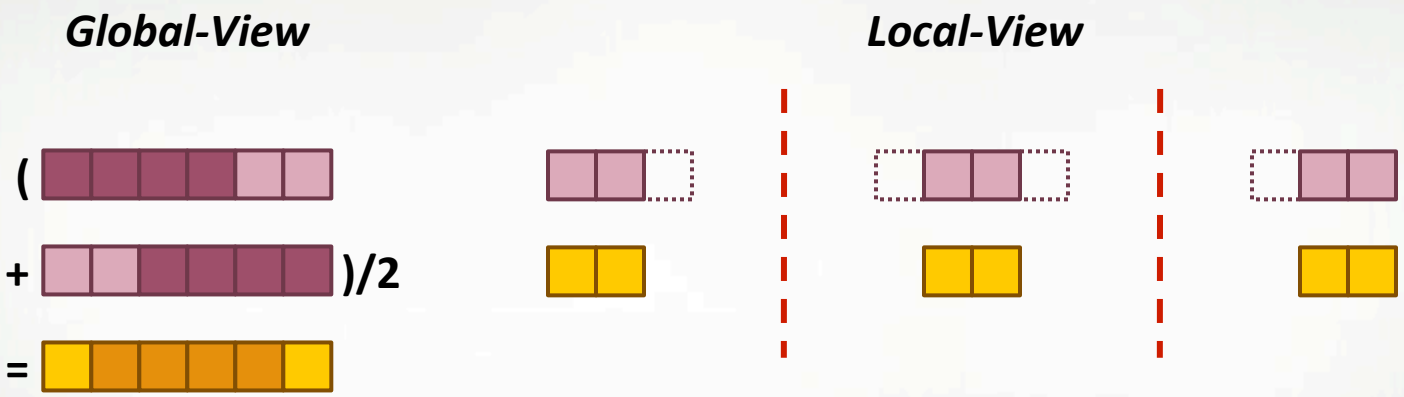
...target all parallelism available in the hardware

- **Types:** machines, nodes, cores, instructions

Style of HW Parallelism	Programming Model	Unit of Parallelism
Inter-node	Chapel	executable/task
Intra-node/multicore	Chapel	iteration/task
Instruction-level vectors/threads	Chapel	iteration
GPU/accelerator	Chapel	SIMD function/task

2) Global-View Abstractions

In pictures: "Apply a 3-Point Stencil to a vector"



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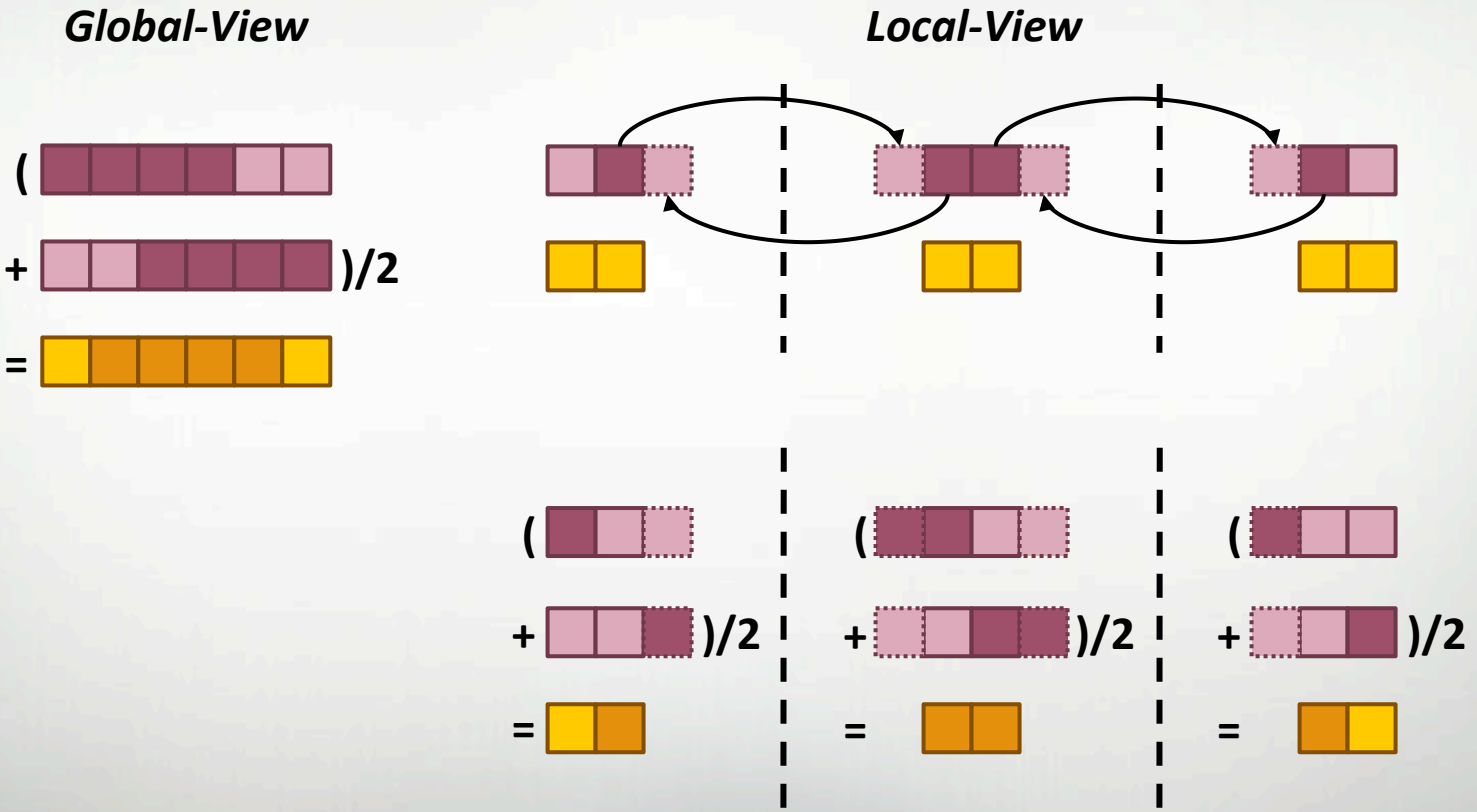
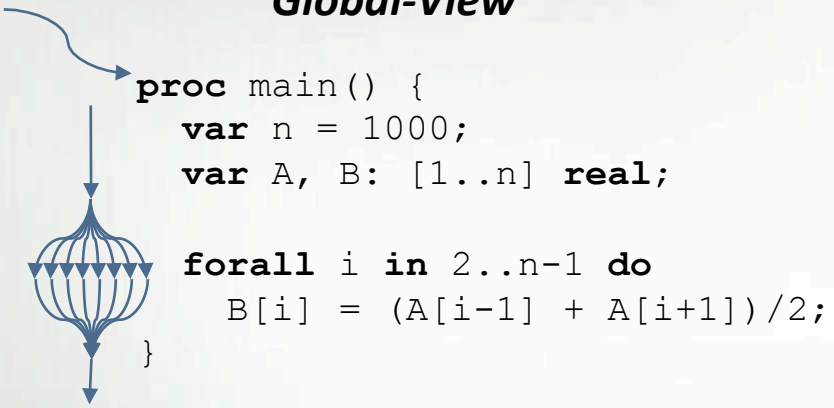


2) Global-View Abstractions

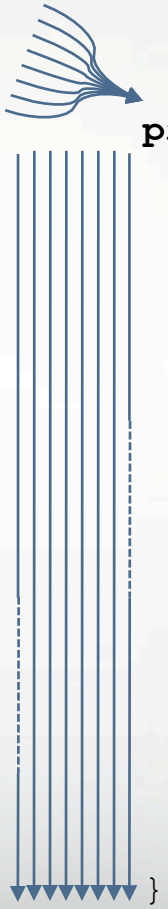
In code: "Apply a 3-Point Stencil to a vector"



Global-View

```
proc main() {
  var n = 1000;
  var A, B: [1..n] real;

  forall i in 2..n-1 do
    B[i] = (A[i-1] + A[i+1])/2;
}
```



Local-View (SPMD)

```
proc main() {
  var n = 1000;
  var p = numProcs(),
      me = myProc(),
      myN = n/p,
  var A, B: [0..myN+1] real;

  if (me < p-1) {
    send(me+1, A[myN]);
    recv(me+1, A[myN+1]);
  }
  if (me > 0) {
    send(me-1, A[1]);
    recv(me-1, A[0]);
  }
  forall i in 1..myN do
    B[i] = (A[i-1] + A[i+1])/2;
}
```

Bug: Refers to uninitialized values at ends of A

2) Global-View Abstractions

In code: "Apply a 3-Point Stencil to a vector"

Global-View

```
proc main() {
  var n = 1000;
  var A, B: [1..n] real;

  forall i in 2..n-1 do
    B[i] = (A[i-1] + A[i+1])/2;
}
```

Local-View (SPMD)

```
proc main() {
  var n = 1000;
  var p = numProcs(),
      me = myProc(),
      myN = n/p,
      myLo = 1,
      myHi = myN;
  var A, B: [0..myN+1] real;

  if (me < p-1) {
    send(me+1, A[myN]);
    recv(me+1, A[myN+1]);
  } else
    myHi = myN-1;
  if (me > 0) {
    send(me-1, A[1]);
    recv(me-1, A[0]);
  } else
    myLo = 2;
  forall i in myLo..myHi do
    B[i] = (A[i-1] + A[i+1])/2;
}
```

Assumes p divides n

Communication becomes geometrically more complex for higher-dimensional arrays

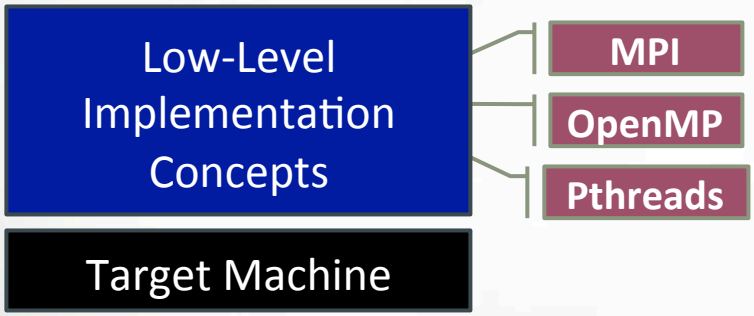
2) Global-View Programming: A Final Note

- A language may support both global- and local-view programming — in particular, Chapel does

```
proc main() {
  coforall loc in Locales do
    on loc do
      MySPMDProgram(loc.id, Locales.numElements);
}

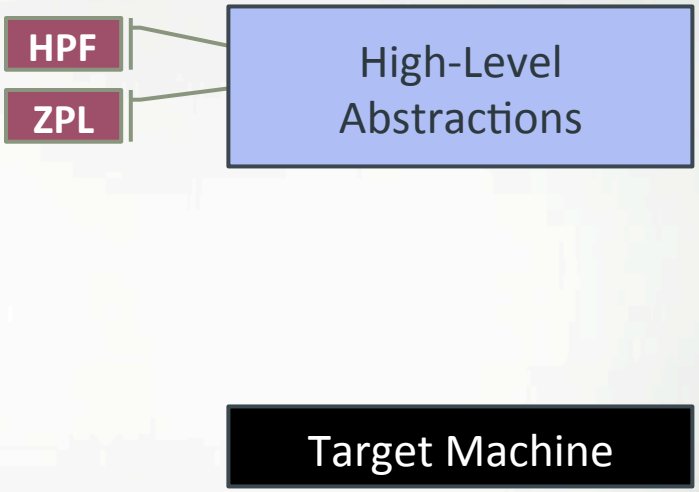
proc MySPMDProgram(me, p) {
  ...
}
```

3) Multiresolution Language Design: Motivation



"Why is everything so difficult?"

"Why don't my programs port trivially?"

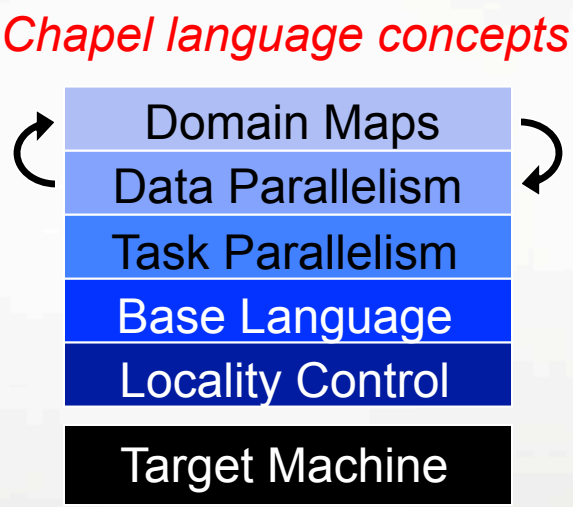


"Why don't I have more control?"

3) Multiresolution Design

Multiresolution Design: Support multiple tiers of features

- higher levels for programmability, productivity
- lower levels for greater degrees of control



- build the higher-level concepts in terms of the lower
- permit the user to intermix layers arbitrarily

4) Control over Locality/Affinity

Consider:

- Scalable architectures package memory near processors
- Remote accesses take longer than local accesses

Therefore:

- Placement of data relative to computation affects scalability
- Give programmers control of data and task placement

Note:

- As core counts grow, locality will matter more on desktops
- GPUs and accelerators already expose node-level locality

5) Reduce Gap Between HPC & Mainstream Languages

Consider:

- Students graduate with training in Java, Matlab, Perl, Python
- Yet HPC programming is dominated by Fortran, C/C++, MPI

We'd like to narrow this gulf with Chapel:

- to leverage advances in modern language design
- to better utilize the skills of the entry-level workforce...
- ...while not ostracizing the traditional HPC programmer
  - e.g., support object-oriented programming, but make it optional

Questions?

- Chapel's Context
- Chapel's Motivating Themes
  1. General parallel programming
  2. *Global-view* abstractions
  3. *Multiresolution* design
  4. Control over locality/affinity
  5. Reduce gap between mainstream & HPC languages