



# The OCCA abstract threading model

## Implementation and performance for high-order finite-element computations

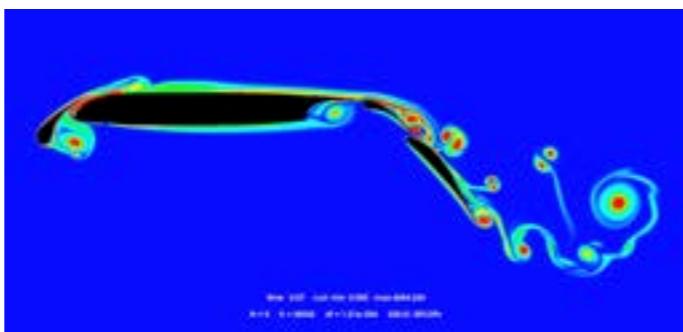
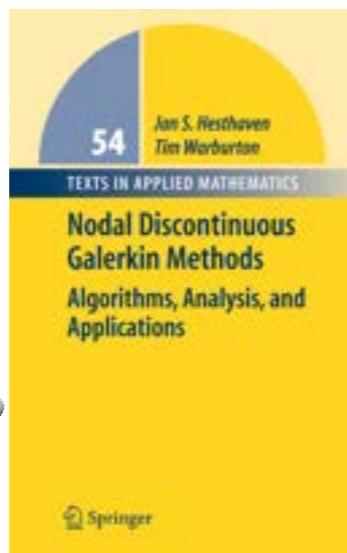
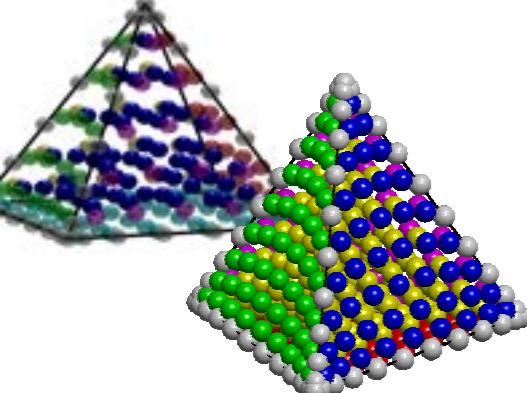
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# Towards efficient HPC applications for industrial simulations

*Multidisciplinary research*



**Cluster NewRiver at Virginia Tech (\*)**



Approximation  
Theory

Numerical  
Analysis

Numerical & Physical  
PDE Modeling

Accelerated  
Computing

High Performance  
Scalability

Basic science

Application

Industrial Scale

# Towards efficient HPC applications for industrial simulations

*Programming approach for HPC applications  
with many-core devices*

**MPI + X = 😎**

Which **X** for multi-threading ?

# Challenges for efficient HPC applications

## Portability

### *Code portability*

- CUDA, OpenCL, OpenMP, OpenACC, Intel TBB... are not code compatible.
- Not all APIs are installed on any given system.

### *Performance portability*

- Logically similar kernels differ in performance (GCC & ICPC, OpenCL & CUDA)
- Naively porting OpenMP to CUDA or OpenCL will likely yield low performance

## Uncertainty

- Code life cycle measured in decades.
- Architecture & API life cycles measured in Moore doubling periods.
- Example: IBM Cell processor, IBM Blue Gene Q

Need an efficient, durable, portable, open-source,  
vendor-independent approach for many-core programming

Portable programming framework - OCCA  
Kernel Language (OKL) - API  
Applications - Performance

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# Portable approaches for many-core programming (1/3)

## Directive approach

- Use of optional [`#pragma`]'s to give compiler transformation hints
- Aims for portability, **performance** and programmability
- OpenACC and OpenMP begin to resemble an API rather than code decorations



- Introduced for accelerator support through directives (2012).
- There are compilers which support the 1.0 specifications.
- OpenACC 2.0 introduces support for inlined functions.



- OpenMP has been around for a while (1997).
- OpenMP 4.0 specifications (2013) includes accelerator support.
- Few compilers (ROSE) support parts of the 4.0 specifications.



```
#pragma omp target teams distribute parallel for
for(int i = 0; i < N; ++i){
    y[i] = a*x[i] + y[i];
}
```

Code taken from:

WHAT'S NEW IN OPENACC 2.0 AND OPENMP 4.0, GTC '14

# Portable approaches for many-core programming (2/3)

## Wrapper approach

- Create a tailored library with **optimized** functions
- **Restricted** to a set of operations with flexibility from functors/lambdas

Thrust

- C++ library masking OpenMP, Intel's TBB and CUDA for x86 processors and NVIDIA GPUs
- **Vector library**, such as the standard template library (STL)

Kokkos

- Kokkos is from Sandia National Laboratories
- C++ **vector library** with linear algebra routines
- Uses OpenMP and CUDA for x86 and NVIDIA GPU support

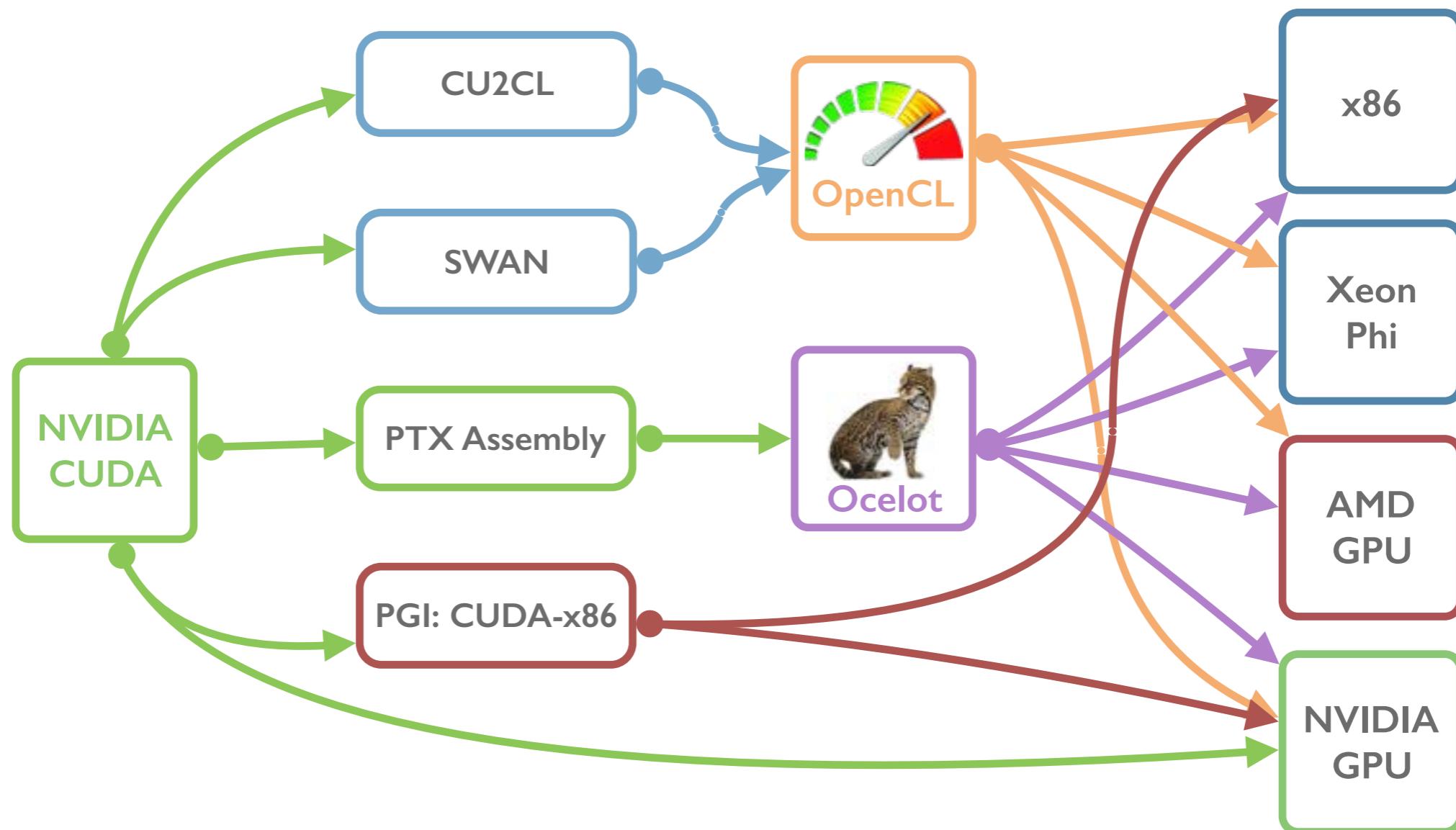
SkePU

- C++ template library
- Uses **code skeletons** for map, reduce, scan, mapreduce, ...
- Uses OpenMP, OpenCL and CUDA as backends

# Portable approaches for many-core programming (3/3)

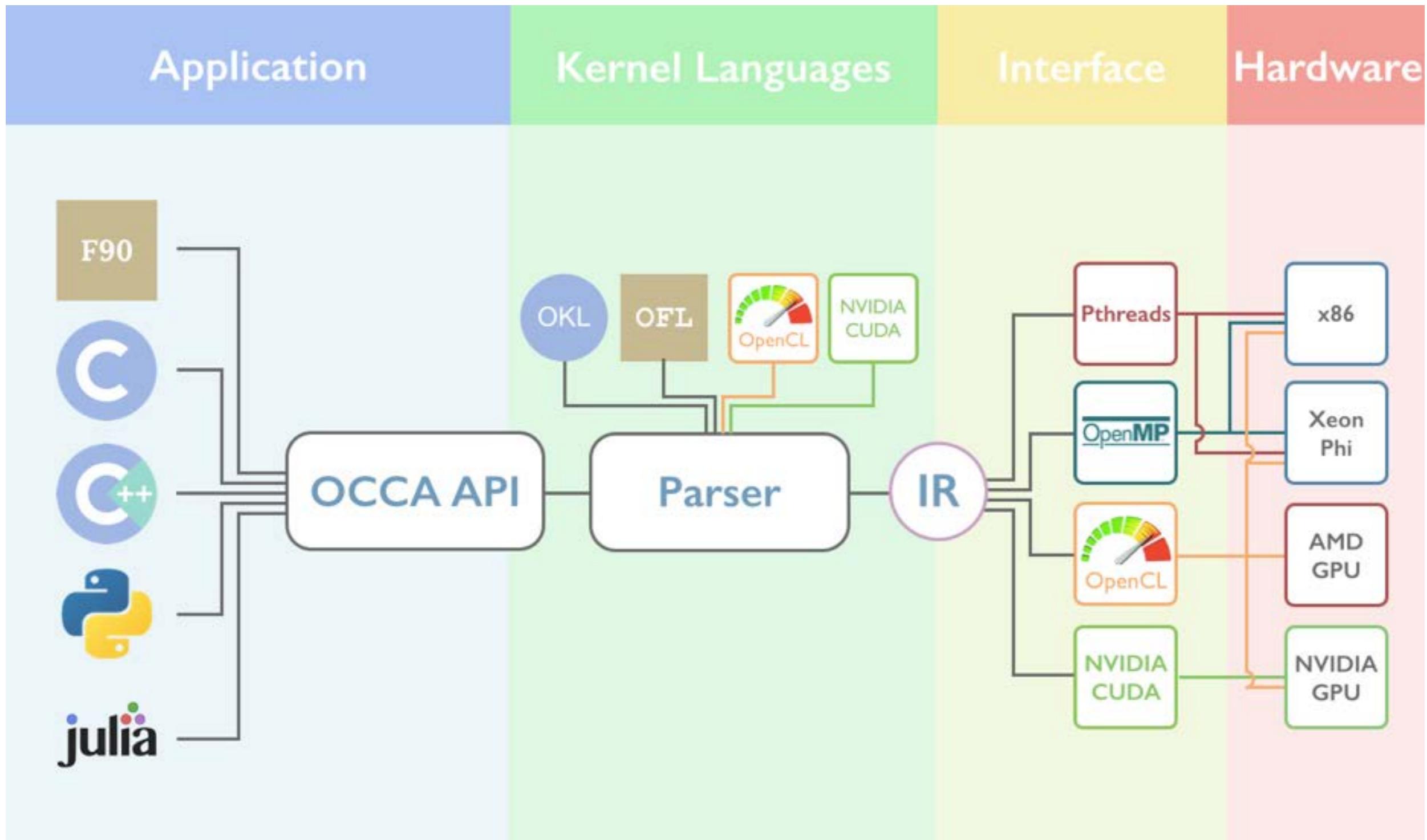
## Source-to-source approach

- CU2CL & SWAN have limited CUDA support (3.2 and 2.0 respectively) [Update](#) ?
- GPU Ocelot supports PTX from CUDA 4.2 (5.0 partially)
- PGI: CUDA-x86 appears to have been put in hiatus since 2011



# Open Concurrent Compute Architecture — OCCA

Portability Accessibility Lightweight



# What does OCCA not do?

Open Concurrent Compute Architecture

Auto-parallelize:

- Some programmer intervention is required to identify parallel for loops.

Auto-optimize:

- Programmer knowledge of architecture is still invaluable.

Auto-layout:

- The programmer needs to decide how data is arranged in memory.

Auto-distribute:

- You can use MPI+OCCA but you have to write the MPI code.
- We considered M-OCCA but it devolves quickly into a PGAS.

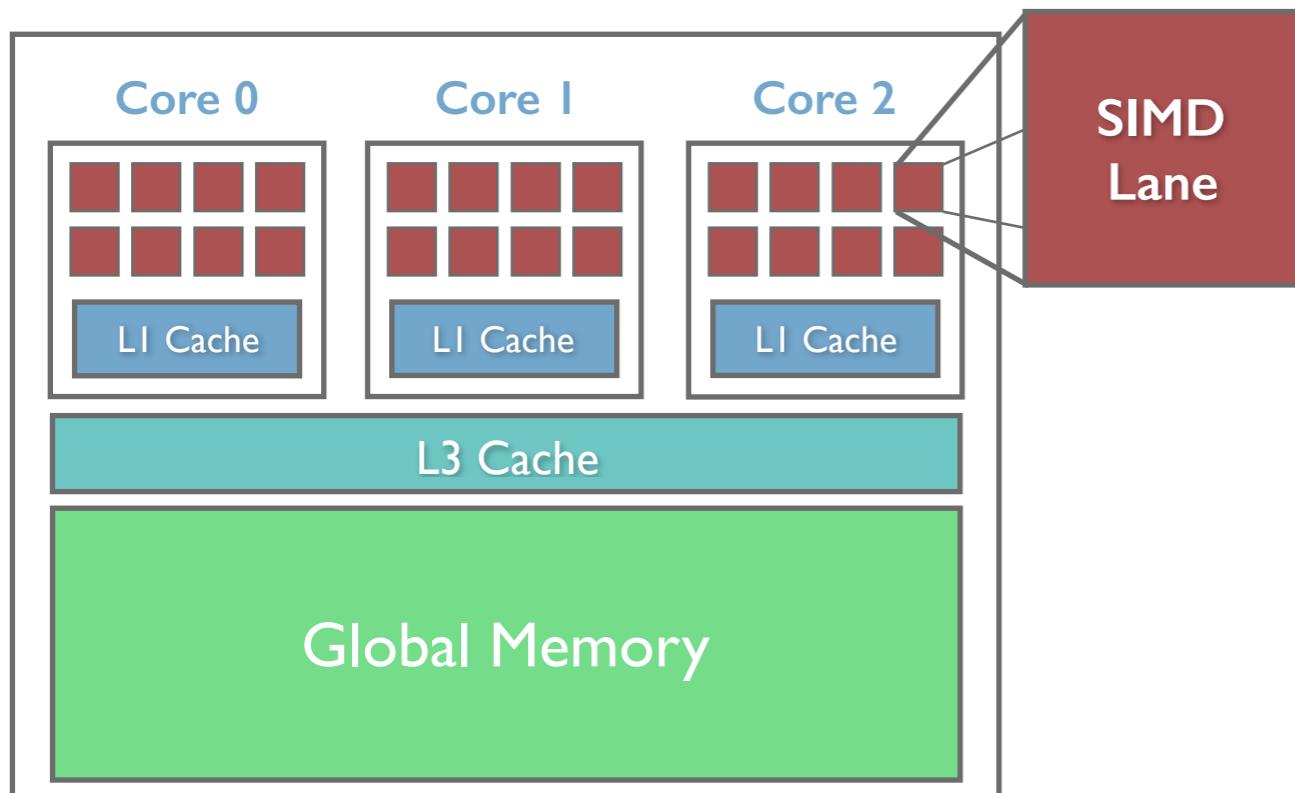
Low-level code:

- We do not circumvent the vendor compilers.

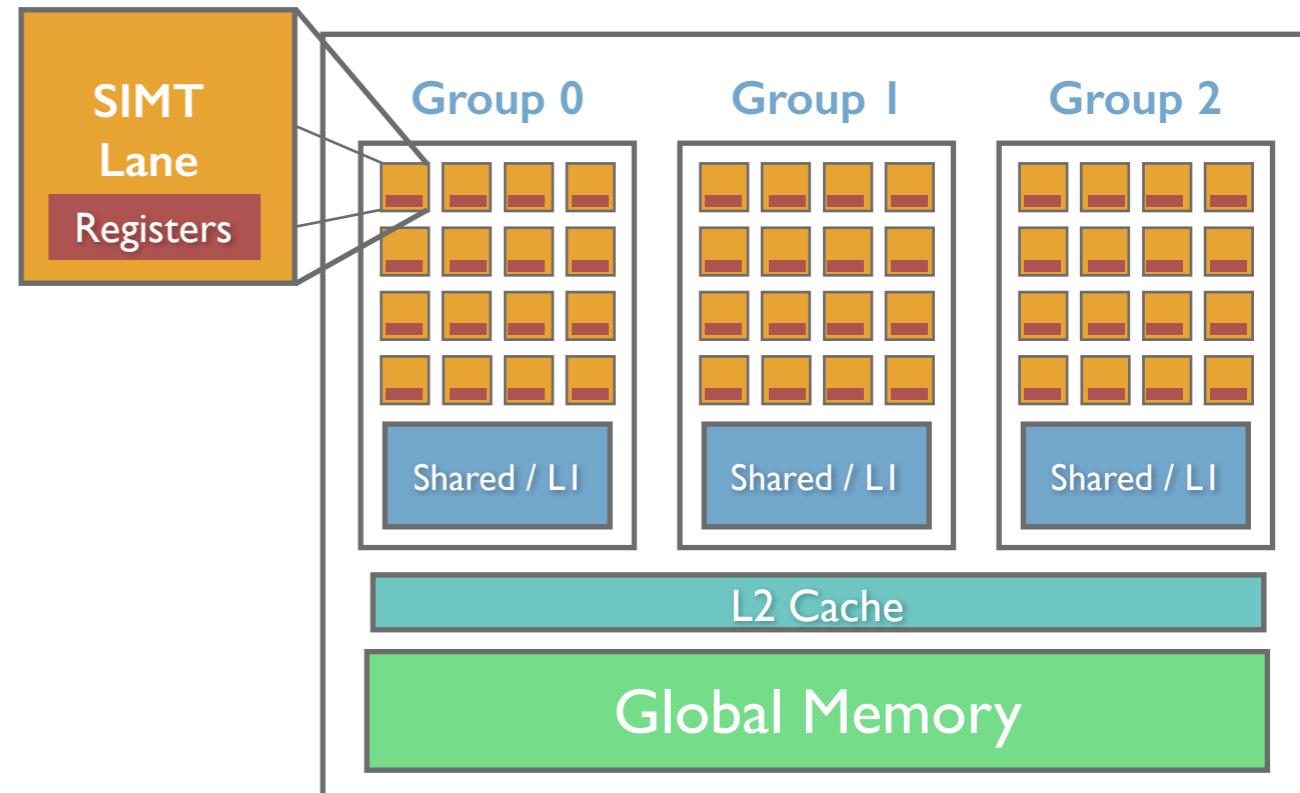
Portable programming framework - OCCA  
Kernel Language (OKL) - API  
Applications - Performance

# Parallelization Paradigm

CPU Architecture



GPU Architecture



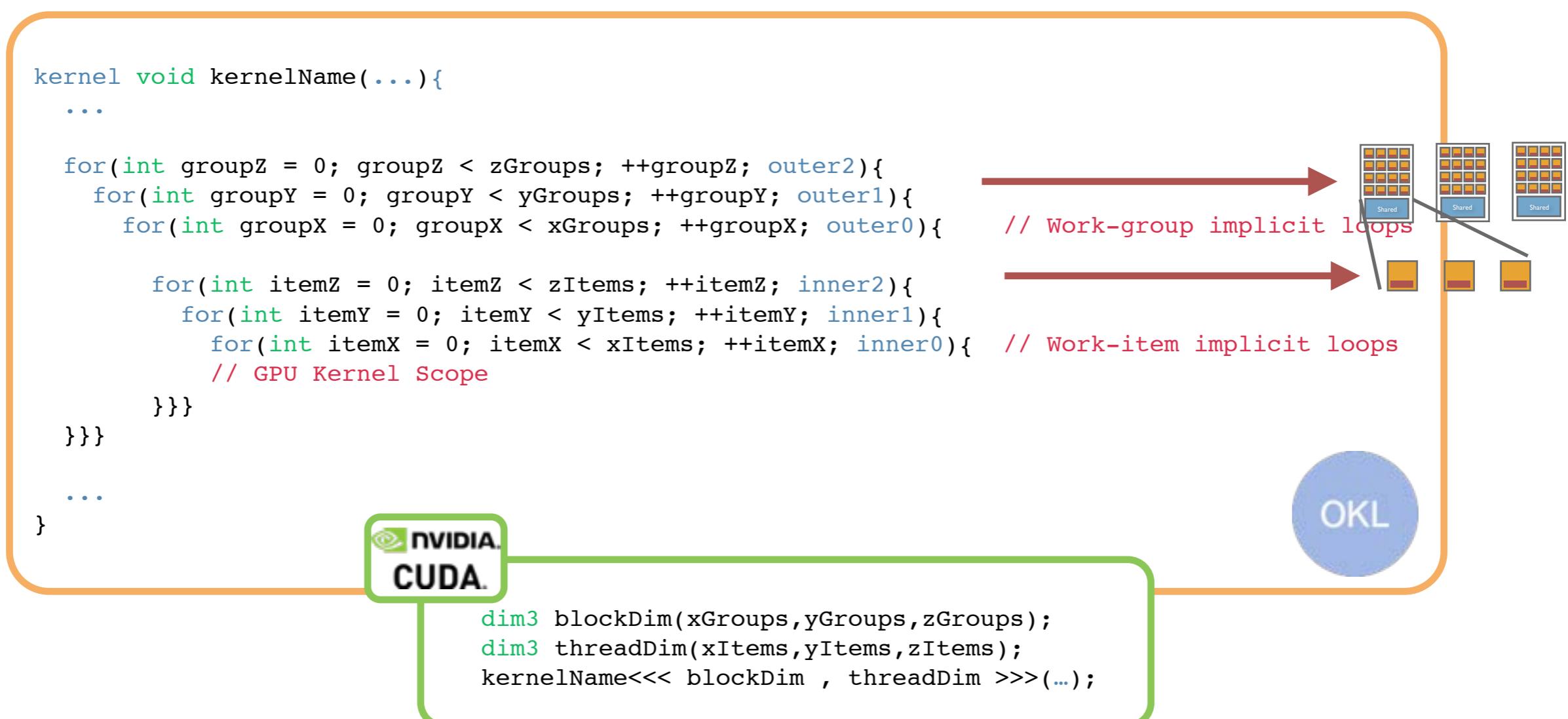
```
void cpuFunction(){  
    #pragma omp parallel for  
    for(int i = 0; i < work; ++i){  
  
        Do [hopefully thread-independent] work  
  
    }  
}
```

```
kernel void gpuFunction(){  
    // for each work-group {  
    //     for each work-item in group {  
  
        Do [group-independent] work  
  
    //    }  
    // }  
}
```

# Kernel Language OKL

## Description

- Minimal extensions to C, familiar for regular programmers
- Explicit loops expose parallelism for modern multicore CPUs and accelerators
- Parallel loops are explicit through the fourth for-loop **inner** and **outer** labels



# Kernel Language OKL

## Outer-loops

- Outer-loops are synonymous with CUDA and OpenCL kernels
- Extension: allow for multiple outer-loops per kernel

```
kernel void kernelName(...){  
  
    if(expr){  
        for(outer){  
            for(inner){  
                }  
        }  
    }  
    else{  
        for(outer){  
            for(inner){  
                }  
        }  
    }  
}  
  
while(expr){  
    for(outer){  
        for(inner){  
            }  
    }  
}  
}
```

A blue circular icon containing the letters "OKL" in white.

# Kernel Language OKL

## Shared memory

```
for(int groupX = 0; groupX < xGroups; ++groupX; outer0){ // Work-group implicit loops
    shared int sharedVar[16];

    for(int itemX = 0; itemX < 16; ++ itemX; inner0){ // Work-item implicit loops
        sharedVar[itemX] = itemX;
    }

    // Auto-insert [barrier(localMemFence);]

    for(int itemX = 0; itemX < 16; ++ itemX; inner0){ // Work-item implicit loops
        int i = (sharedVar[itemX] + sharedVar[(itemX + 1) % 16]);
    }
}
```



## Exclusive memory

```
for(int groupX = 0; groupX < xGroups; ++groupX; outer0){ // Work-group implicit loops
    exclusive int exclusiveVar, exclusiveArray[10];

    for(int itemX = 0; itemX < 16; ++ itemX; inner0){ // Work-item implicit loops
        exclusiveVar = itemX; // Pre-fetch
    }

    // Auto-insert [barrier(localMemFence);]

    for(int itemX = 0; itemX < 16; ++ itemX; inner0){ // Work-item implicit loops
        int i = exclusiveVar; // Use pre-fetched data
    }
}
```



# Example of code (Adding two vectors)

```
#include "occa.hpp"

int main(int argc, char **argv){
    occa::device device;
    occa::kernel addVectors;
    occa::memory o_a, o_b, o_ab;

    device.setup("mode = OpenCL, platformID = 0, deviceID = 0");

    float *a = new float[5];
    float *b = new float[5];
    float *ab = new float[5];

    for(int i = 0; i < 5; ++i){
        a[i] = i;
        b[i] = 1 - i;
        ab[i] = 0;
    }

    o_a = device.malloc(5*sizeof(float));
    o_b = device.malloc(5*sizeof(float));
    o_ab = device.malloc(5*sizeof(float));

    o_a.copyFrom(a);
    o_b.copyFrom(b);

    addVectors = device.buildKernelFromSource("addVectors.okl",
                                              "addVectors");

    addVectors(5, o_a, o_b, o_ab);

    o_ab.copyTo(ab);

    for(int i = 0; i < 5; ++i)
        std::cout << i << ":" << ab[i] << '\n';
}
```

# Example of code (Adding two vectors)

```
#include "occa.hpp"

int main() {
    occa::Context device;
    occa::Memory o_a = device.createMemory(5 * sizeof(float));
    occa::Memory o_b = device.createMemory(5 * sizeof(float));
    occa::Memory o_ab = device.createMemory(5 * sizeof(float));

    kernel void addVectors(const int entries,
                          const float *a,
                          const float *b,
                          float *ab) {
        for(int group = 0; group < ((entries + 15)/16); ++group; outer0){
            for(int item = 0; item < 16; ++item; inner0){
                const int i = item + (16 * group);

                if(i < entries)
                    ab[i] = a[i] + b[i];
            }
        }
    }

    o_a.copyFrom(5, 0);
    o_b.copyFrom(5, 0);

    addVectors = device.buildKernelFromSource("addVectors.okl",
                                              "addvectors");

    addVectors(5, o_a, o_b, o_ab);

    o_ab.copyTo(ab);

    for(int i = 0; i < 5; ++i)
        std::cout << i << ":" << ab[i] << '\n';
}
```



# Example of feature (UVA + Managed memory)

```
#include "occa.hpp"

int main(int argc, char **argv){
    occa::device device;
    occa::kernel addVectors;
    occa::memory o_a, o_b, o_ab;

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    float *a = new float[5];
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    float *ab = new float[5];

    for(int i = 0; i < 5; ++i){
        a[i] = i;
        b[i] = 1 - i;
        ab[i] = 0;
    }

    o_a = device.malloc(5*sizeof(float));
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    o_ab = device.malloc(5*sizeof(float));

    o_a.copyFrom(a);
    o_b.copyFrom(b);

    addVectors = device.buildKernelFromSource("addVectors.okl",
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    addVectors(5, o_a, o_b, o_ab);

    o_ab.copyTo(ab);

    for(int i = 0; i < 5; ++i)
        std::cout << i << ":" << ab[i] << '\n';
}
```

# Example of feature (UVA + Managed memory)

```
#include "occa.hpp"

int main(int argc, char **argv){
    occa::device device;
    occa::kernel addVectors;
    occa::memory o_a, o_b, o_ab;

    device.setup("mode = OpenCL, platformID = 0, deviceID = 0");

    float *a = (float*) device.managedUvaAlloc(5 * sizeof(float));
    float *b = (float*) device.managedUvaAlloc(5 * sizeof(float));
    float *ab = (float*) device.managedUvaAlloc(5 * sizeof(float));

    for(int i = 0; i < 5; ++i){
        a[i] = i;
        b[i] = 1 - i;
        ab[i] = 0;
    }

    o_a = device.malloc(5*sizeof(float));
    o_b = device.malloc(5*sizeof(float));
    o_ab = device.malloc(5*sizeof(float));

    o_a.copyFrom(a);
    o_b.copyFrom(b);

    addVectors = device.buildKernelFromSource("addVectors.okl",
                                              "addVectors");

    addVectors(5, a, b, ab);

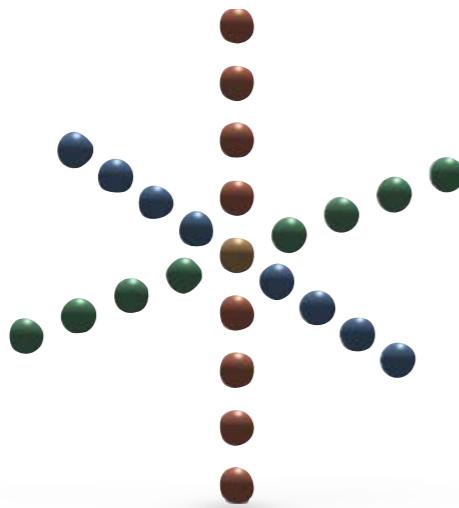
    occa::finish() // o_ab.copyTo(ab);

    for(int i = 0; i < 5; ++i)
        std::cout << i << ":" << ab[i] << '\n';
}
```

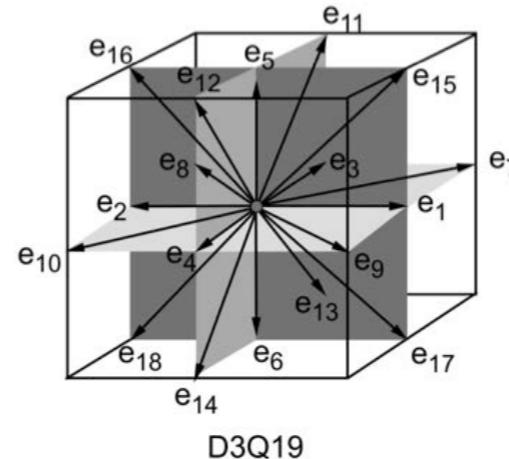
Portable programming framework - OCCA  
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# OCCA applications/benchmarks

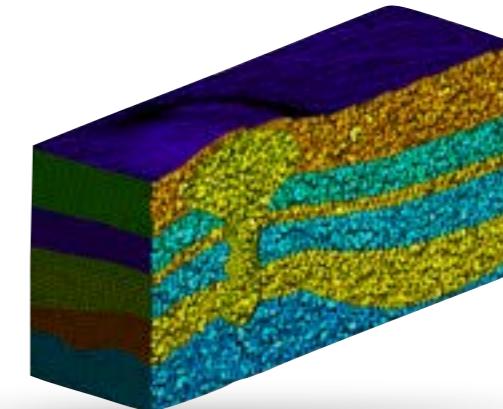
OCCA apps can perform close to or exceed native apps across platforms.



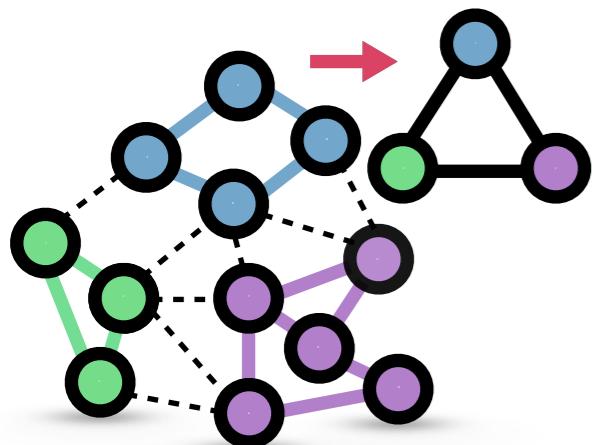
FDTD for seismic  
wave equation



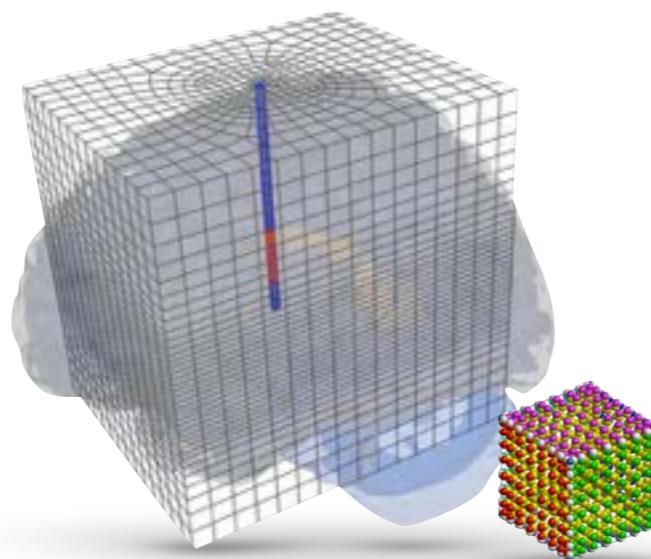
Lattice Boltzmann for  
Core Sample Analysis



RiDG: DG finite element  
for seismic imaging



ALMOND: algebraic  
multigrid library



MDACC: FEM model of  
laser tumor ablation

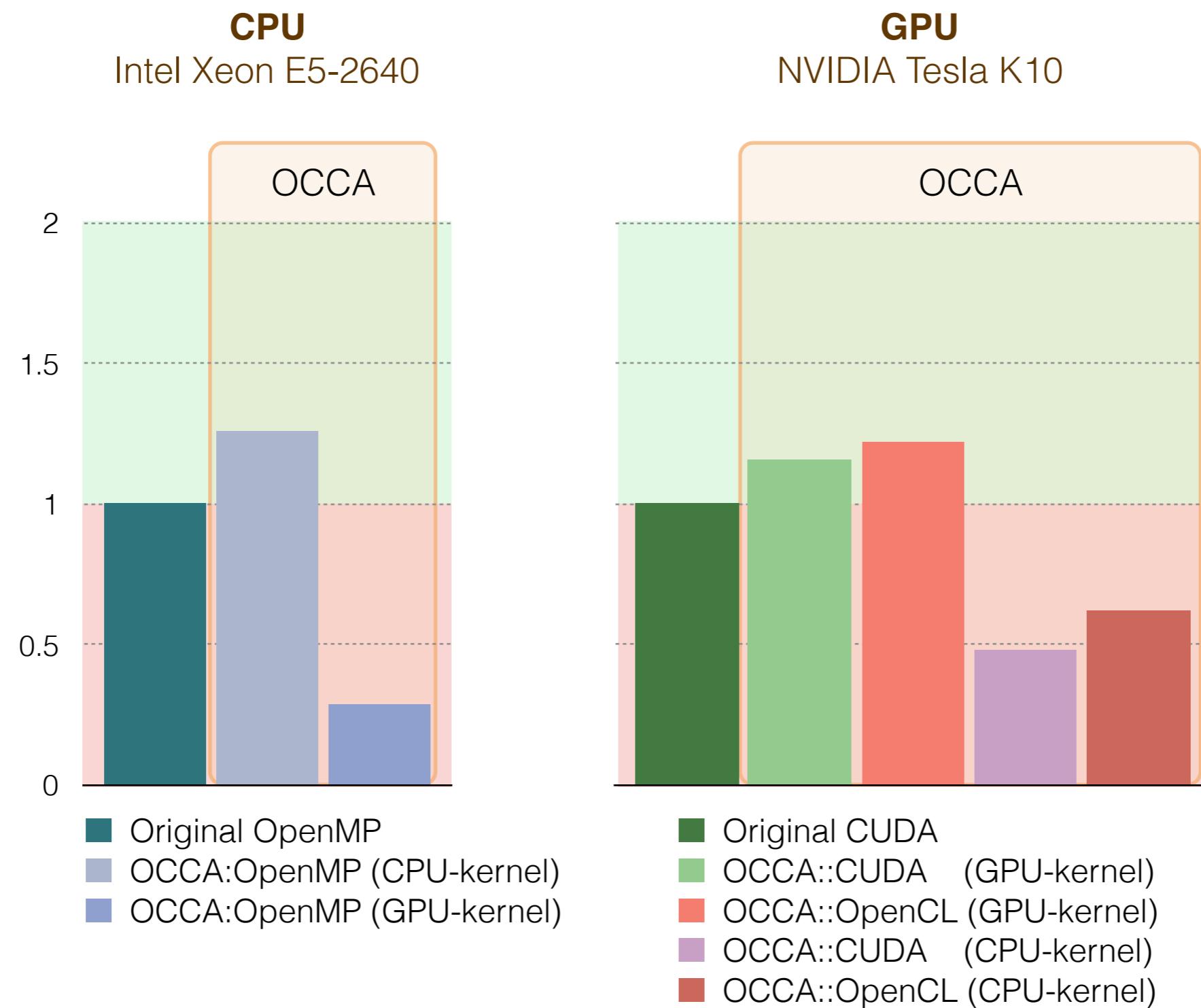


DG compressible  
Navier-Stokes solver

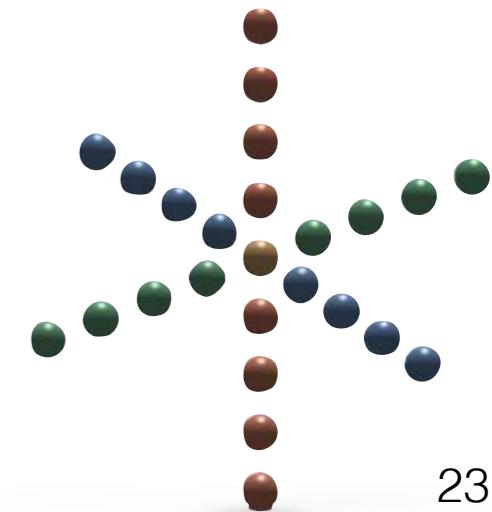


DG shallow-water &  
3D ocean modeling

# Results - Finite difference for seismic waves



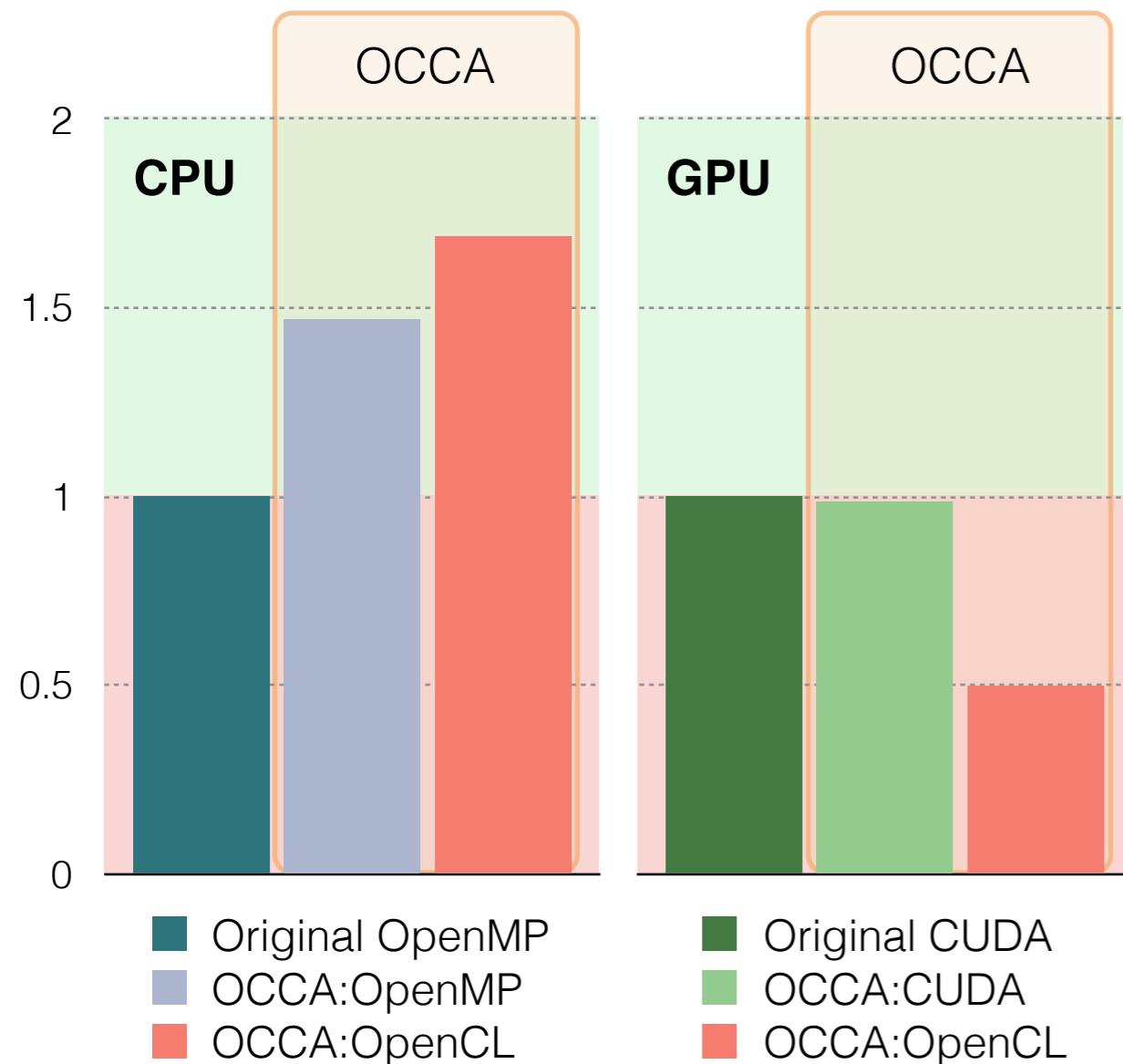
Medina, St-Cyr & Warburton (2015)  
Proceedings of ICOSAHOM 2014. 365-373



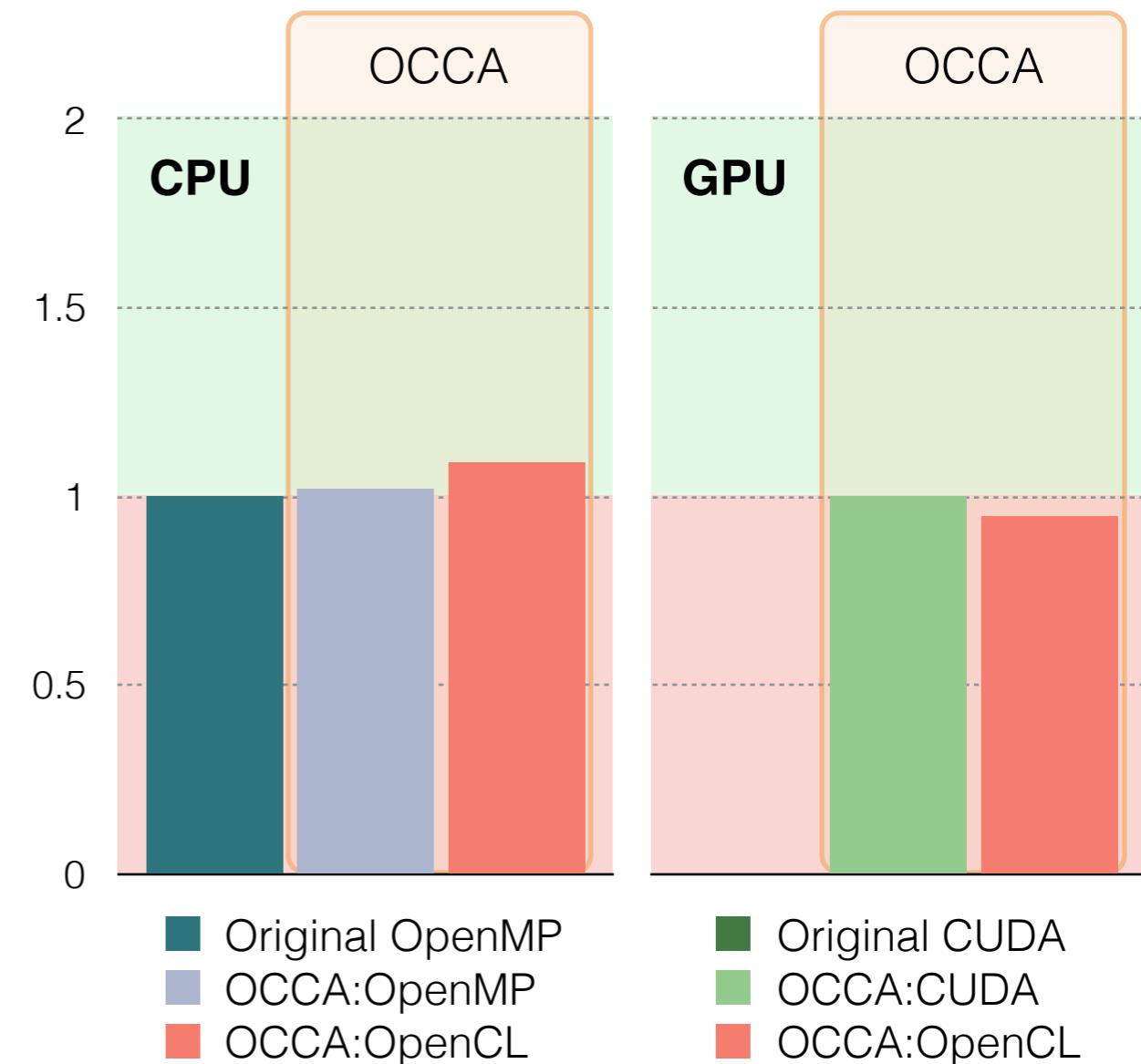
# Results - Monte Carlo for neutronics

*Collaborations with Argonne National Lab*

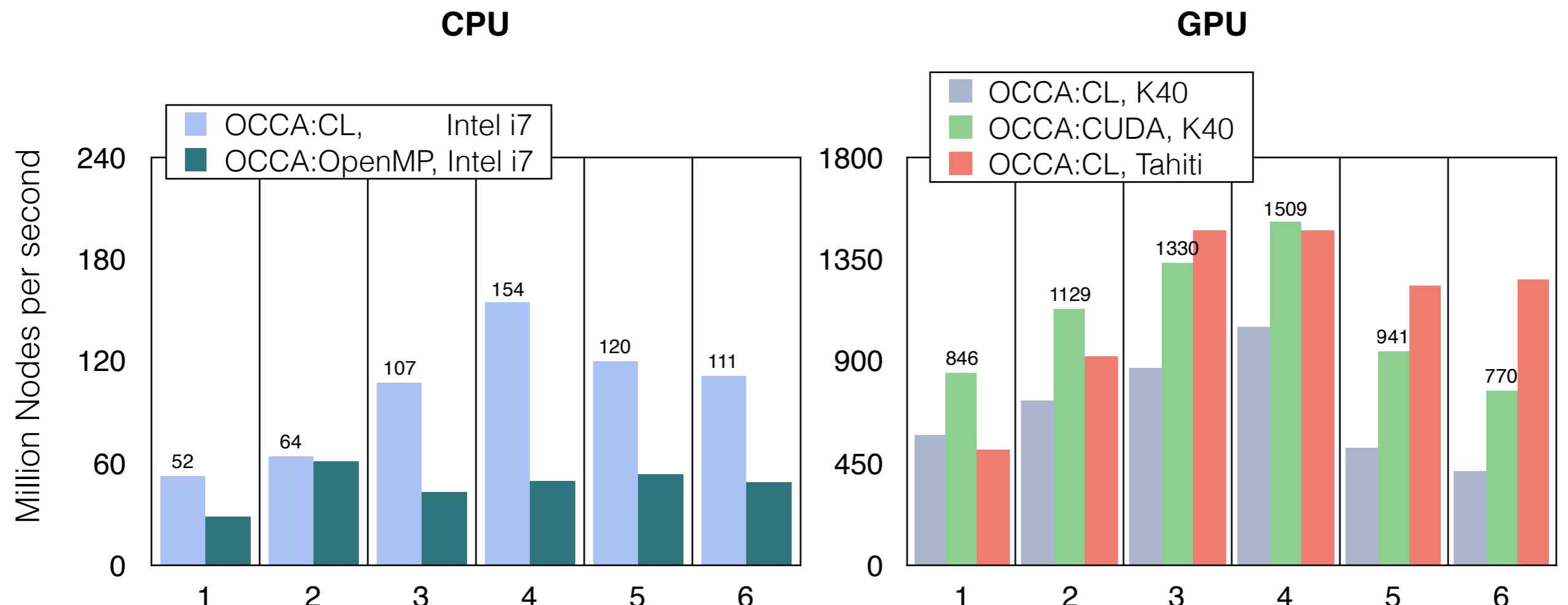
XSBench



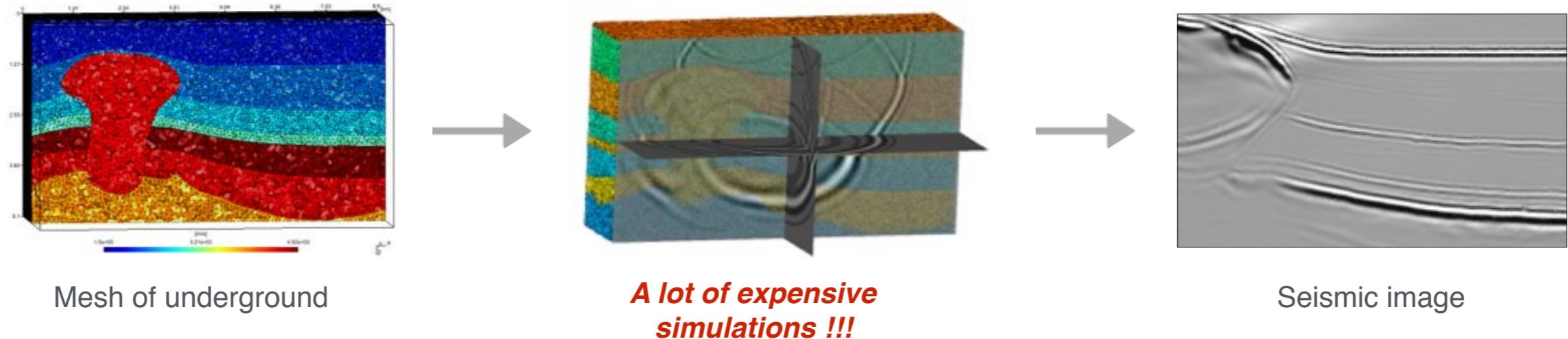
RSBench



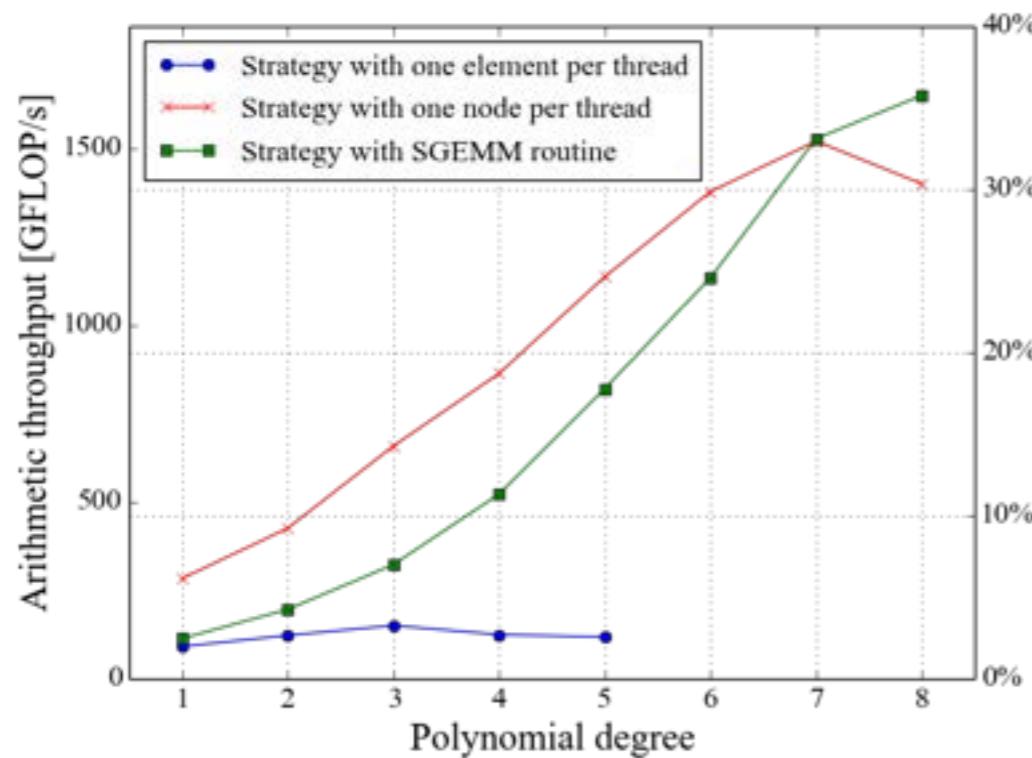
# Results - DG finite element for oceanographic waves



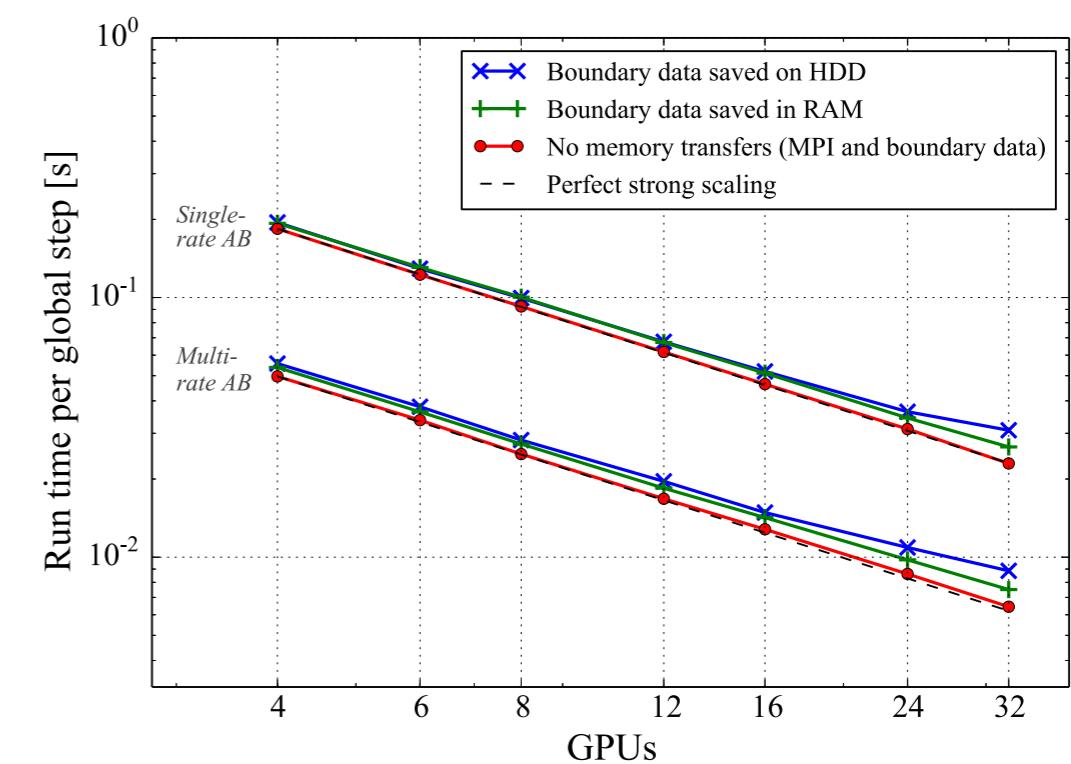
# Results - DG finite element for seismic imaging



Can reach **37% of theoretical peak GFLOP/s**  
OCCA::CUDA (Nvidia GTX980)



**Strong scalability with 32 GPUs**  
MPI + OCCA::CUDA (Nvidia K20)



# Open Concurrent Compute Architecture — OCCA

Portability Accessibility Lightweight

