CS 677: Parallel Programming for Many-core Processors Lecture 3

Instructor: Philippos Mordohai

Webpage: www.cs.stevens.edu/~mordohai

E-mail: Philippos.Mordohai@stevens.edu

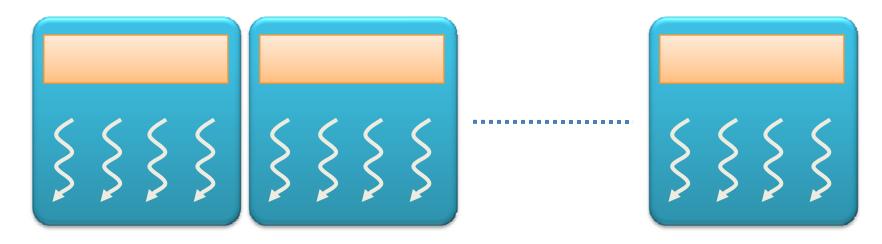
Overview

- A Common Programming Strategy
- Threading Hardware
- Memory Hardware
- Control Flow
 - Simple Reduction

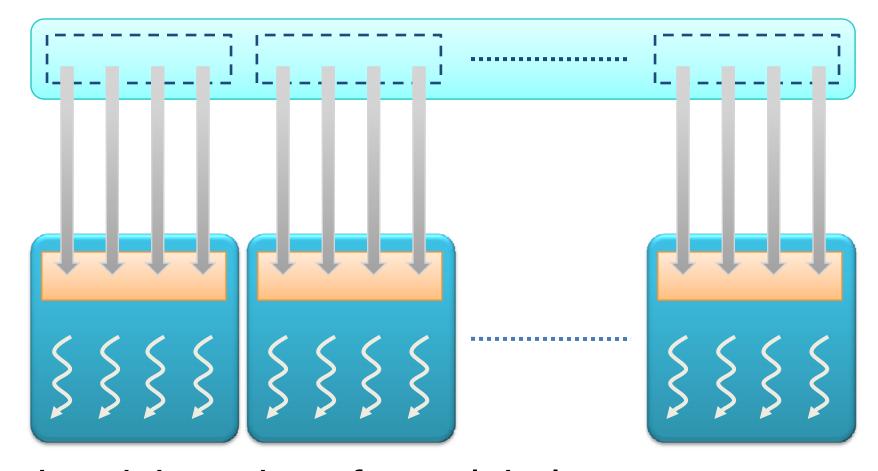
- Global memory resides in device memory (DRAM)
 - Much slower access than shared memory
- Tile data to take advantage of fast shared memory:
 - Generalize from adjacent_difference example
 - Lecture 2, slides 35-40
 - Divide and conquer

 Partition data into subsets that fit into shared memory

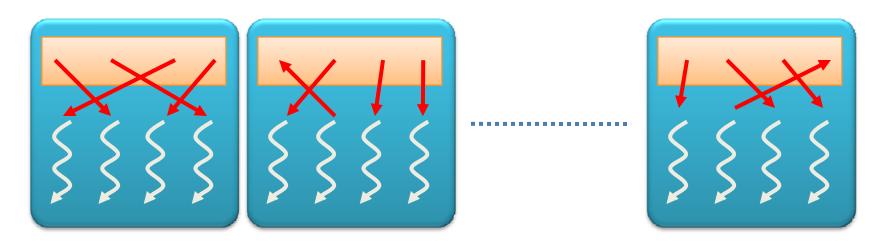




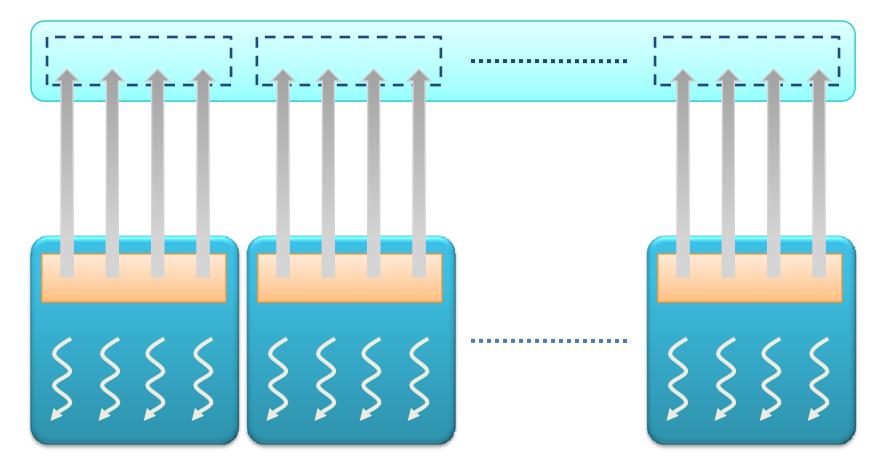
 Handle each data subset with one thread block



 Load the subset from global memory to shared memory, using multiple threads to exploit memory-level parallelism



 Perform the computation on the subset from shared memory



 Copy the result from shared memory back to global memory

- Carefully partition data according to access patterns
- Read-only → ___constant__ memory (fast)
- R/W & shared within block → __shared__
 memory (fast)
- R/W within each thread → registers (fast)
- Indexed R/W within each thread → local memory (slow)
- R/W inputs/results → cudaMalloc'ed global memory (slow)

Communication Through Memory

Question:

```
__global___ void race(void)
{
    __shared__ int my_shared_variable;
    my_shared_variable = threadIdx.x;

    // what is the value of
    // my_shared_variable?
}
```

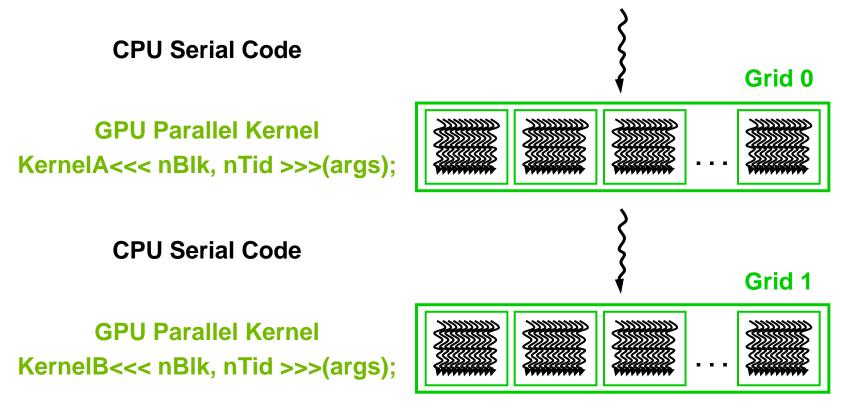
Communication Through Memory

- This is a race condition
- The result is undefined
- The order in which threads access the variable is undefined without explicit coordination
- Use barriers (e.g., __syncthreads) or atomic operations (e.g., atomicAdd) to enforce well-defined semantics

Threading Hardware

Single-Program Multiple-Data (SPMD)

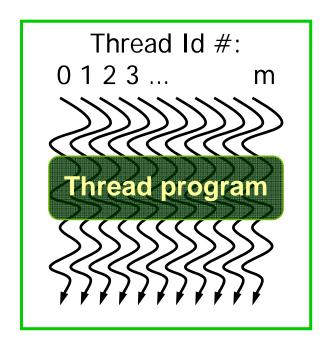
- CUDA integrated CPU + GPU application C program
 - Serial C code executes on CPU
 - Parallel Kernel C code executes on GPU thread blocks



CUDA Thread Block: Review

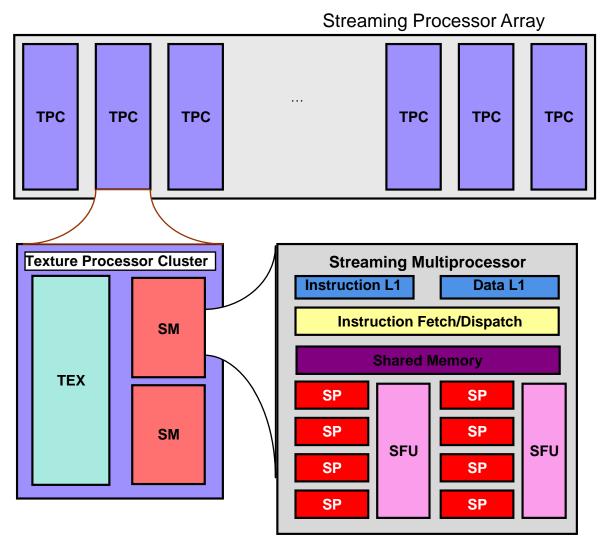
- Programmer declares (Thread) Block:
 - Block size 1 to 512 concurrent threads
 - Block shape 1D, 2D, or 3D
 - Block dimensions in threads
- All threads in a Block execute the same thread program
- Threads share data and synchronize while doing their share of the work
- Threads have thread id numbers within Block
- Thread program uses thread id to select work and address shared data

CUDA Thread Block



Courtesy: John Nickolls, NVIDIA

GeForce-8 Series HW Overview

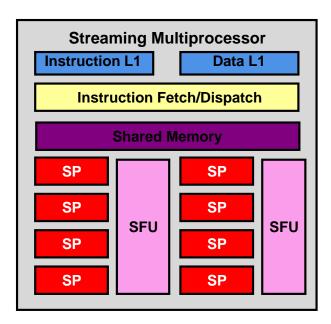


CUDA Processor Terminology

- SPA
 - Streaming Processor Array
- TPC
 - Texture Processor Cluster (2 or more SM + TEX)
- SM
 - Streaming Multiprocessor (8 or more SP)
 - Multi-threaded processor core
 - Fundamental processing unit for CUDA thread block
- SP
 - Streaming Processor
 - Scalar ALU for a single CUDA thread

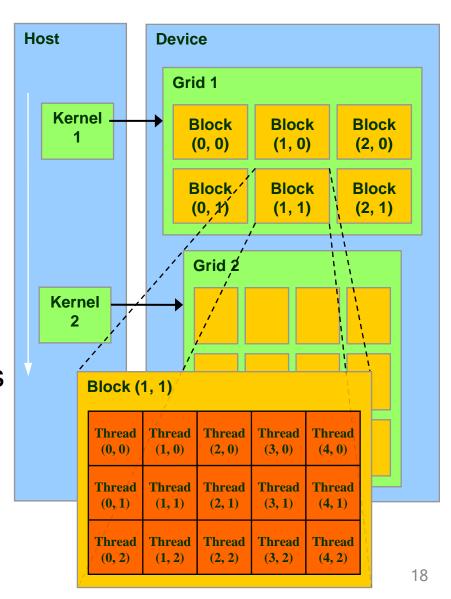
Streaming Multiprocessor (SM)

- Streaming Multiprocessor (SM)
 - 8 Streaming Processors (SP)
 - 2 Super Function Units (SFU)
- Multi-threaded instruction dispatch
 - 1 to 512 threads active
 - Shared instruction fetch per 32 threads
 - Cover latency of texture/memory loads
- 20+ GFLOPS
- 16 KB shared memory
- texture and global memory access

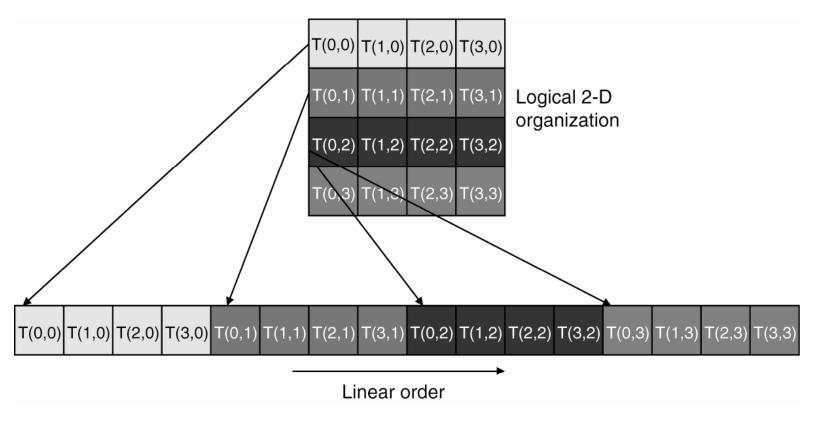


Thread Lifecycle in HW

- Grid is launched on the SPA
- Thread Blocks are serially distributed to all the SM's
 - Potentially >1 Thread Block per SM
- Each SM launches Warps of Threads
 - 2 levels of parallelism
- SM schedules and executes Warps that are ready to run
- As Warps and Thread Blocks complete, resources are freed
 - SPA can distribute more Thread Blocks

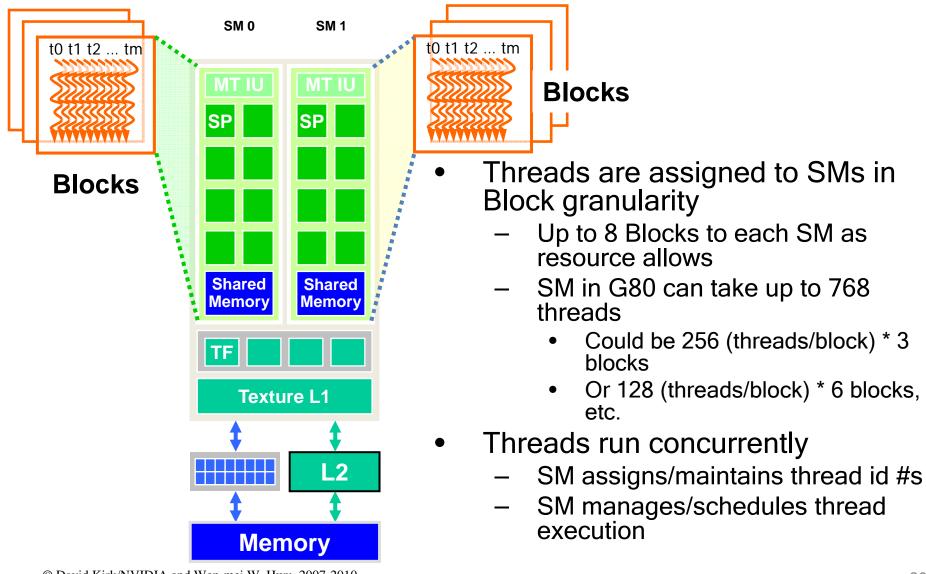


Threads in Linear Order



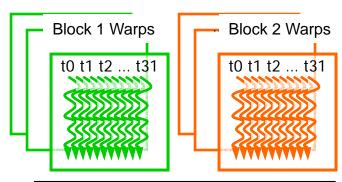
 If the block was 3D, we would start with threads whose threadIdx.z=0, then threadIdx.z=1, etc.

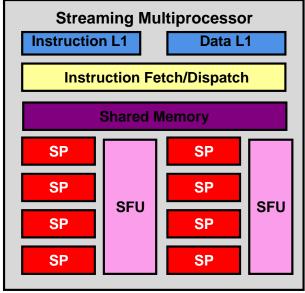
SM Executes Blocks



Thread Scheduling/Execution

- Each Thread Blocks is divided in 32thread Warps
 - This is an implementation decision, not part of the CUDA programming model
- Warps are scheduling units in SM
- If 3 blocks are assigned to an SM and each Block has 256 threads, how many Warps are there in an SM?
 - Each Block is divided into 256/32 = 8
 Warps
 - There are 8 * 3 = 24 Warps
 - At any point in time, only one of the 24
 Warps will be selected for instruction fetch and execution.





SM Warp Scheduling



SM multithreaded Warp scheduler

warp 1 instruction 42
warp 3 instruction 95
warp 8 instruction 12

- SM hardware implements zerooverhead Warp scheduling
 - Warps whose next instruction has its operands ready for consumption are eligible for execution
 - Eligible Warps are selected for execution on a prioritized scheduling policy
 - All threads in a Warp execute the same instruction when selected

4 clock cycles needed to dispatch the same instruction for all threads in a Warp in G80

- If one global memory access is needed for every 4 instructions
- A minimum of 13 Warps are needed to fully tolerate 200-cycle memory latency

SM Instruction Buffer - Warp Scheduling

- Fetch one warp instruction/cycle
 - from instruction L1 cache
 - into any instruction buffer slot
- Issue one "ready-to-go" warp instruction/cycle
 - from any warp instruction buffer slot
 - operand scoreboarding used to prevent hazards
- Issue selection based on round-robin/age of warp
- SM broadcasts the same instruction to 32 Threads of a Warp

Scoreboarding

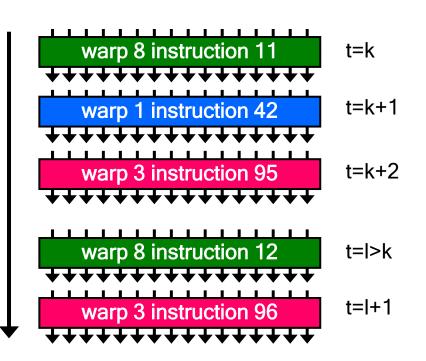
- How to determine if an instruction is ready to execute?
- A scoreboard is a table in hardware that tracks
 - instructions being fetched, issued, executed
 - resources (functional units and operands) they need
 - which instructions modify which registers
- Old concept from CDC 6600 (1960s) to separate memory and computation

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Scoreboarding Example

Consider three separate instruction streams: warp1,

warp3 and warp8

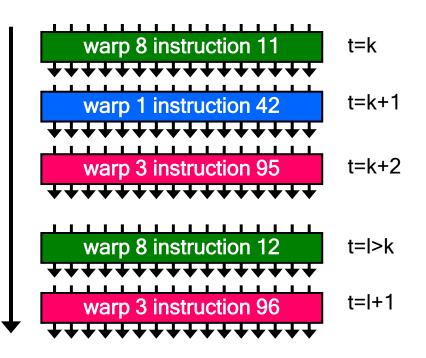


Warp	Current Instruction	Instruction State	
Warp 1	42	Computing	
Warp 3	95	Computing	
Warp 8	11	Operands ready to go	Schedule at time k

Scoreboarding Example

Consider three separate instruction streams: warp1,

warp3 and warp8



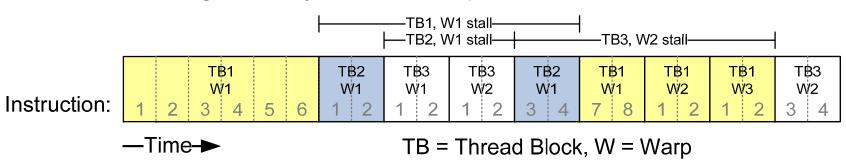
Warp	Current Instruction	Instruction State
Warp 1	42	Ready to write result
Warp 3	95	Computing
Warp 8	11	Computing

Schedule at time k+1

 \leftarrow

Scoreboarding

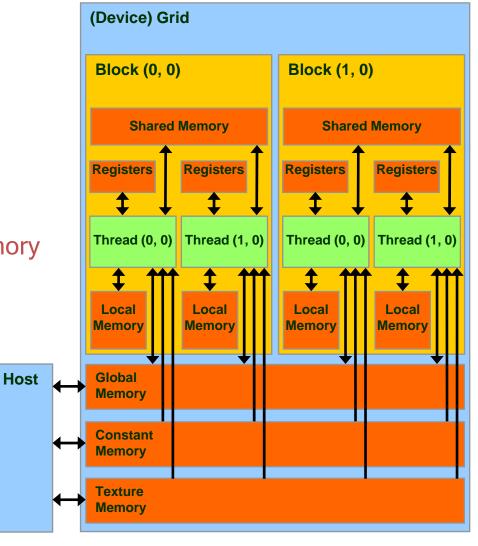
- All register operands of all instructions in the Instruction Buffer are scoreboarded
 - Status becomes ready after the needed values are deposited
 - prevents hazards
 - cleared instructions are eligible for issue
- Decoupled Memory/Processor pipelines
 - any thread can continue to issue instructions until scoreboarding prevents issue
 - allows Memory/Processor ops to proceed in shadow of other waiting Memory/Processor ops



Memory Hardware

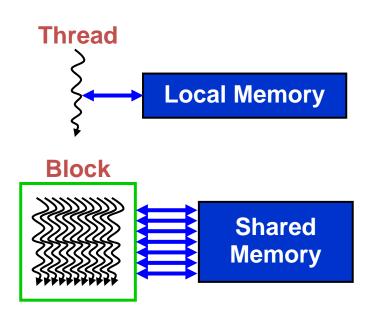
CUDA Device Memory Space: Review

- Each thread can:
 - R/W per-thread registers
 - R/W per-thread local memory
 - R/W per-block shared memory
 - R/W per-grid global memory
 - Read only per-grid constant memory
 - Read only per-grid texture memory
 - The host can R/W global, constant, and texture memories

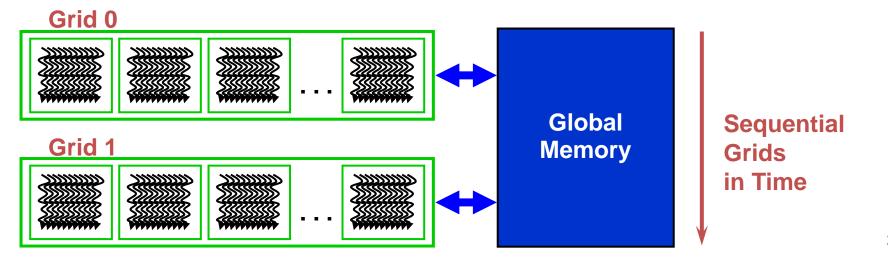


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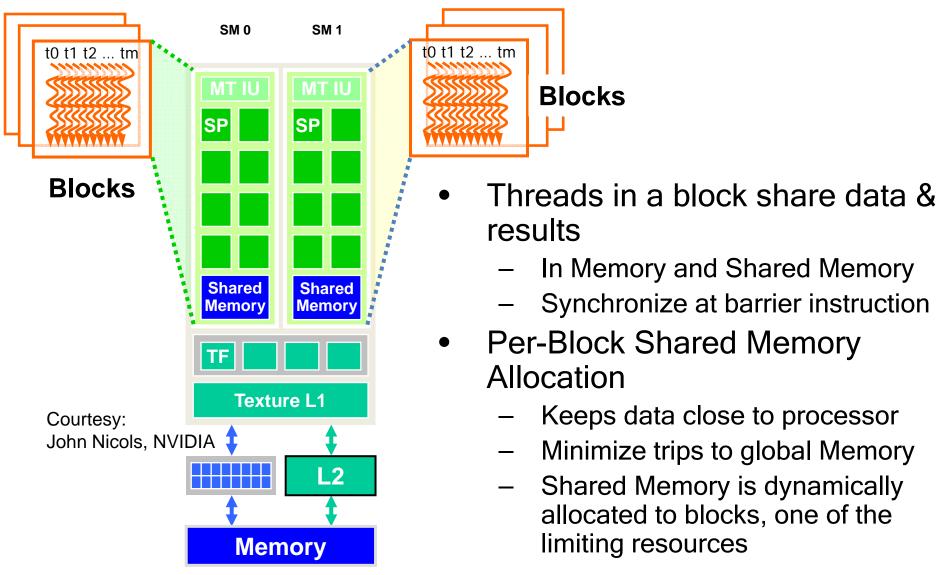
Parallel Memory Sharing



- Local Memory: per-thread
 - Private per thread
 - Auto variables, register spill
- Shared Memory: per-Block
 - Shared by threads of the same block
 - Inter-thread communication
- Global Memory: per-application
 - Shared by all threads
 - Inter-Grid communication



SM Memory Architecture



Texture Memory

- Read only
- More closely related to graphics pipeline
- Small, but can be faster than global memory due to cache
 - More relaxed coalescing requirements
 - Optimized for 2D spatial locality
 - Can pack 4 8-bit ints into 1 float
 - Converts data to [0.0 .. 1.0] or [-1.0 .. 1.0] range
 - Automatic boundary handling

⇒out of scope for now

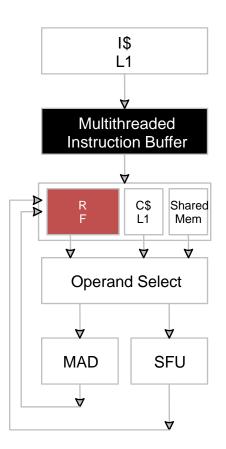
See http://cuda-programming.blogspot.com/2013/02/texture-memory-in-cuda-what-is-texture.html if interested

SM Register File

- Register File (RF)
 - 32 KB (8K entries) for each SM in G80
- TEX pipe can also read/write RF
 - 2 SMs share 1 TEX in G 80, 3 SMs per TEX in GTX 200
 - Related to graphics mode (out of scope)
- Load/Store pipe can also read/write RF

MAD: Multiply and Add unit

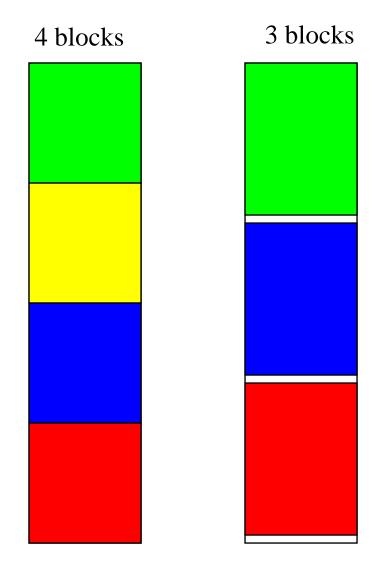
SFU: Super Function Unit - where more complex instructions are executed



Programmer View of Register File

- There are 8192 registers in each SM in G80
 - This is an implementation decision, not part of CUDA
 - Registers are dynamically partitioned across all blocks assigned to the SM
 - Once assigned to a block, the register is NOT accessible by threads in other blocks
 - Each thread in the same block only access registers assigned to itself

(This has changed but the example is still useful)



Matrix Multiplication Example

- If each Block has 16X16 threads and each thread uses 10 registers, how many threads can run on each SM?
 - Each block requires 10*256 = 2560 registers
 - -8192 = 3 * 2560 + change
 - So, three blocks can run on an SM as far as registers are concerned
- How about if each thread increases the use of registers by 1?
 - Each Block now requires 11*256 = 2816 registers
 - 8192 < 2816 *3</p>
 - Only two Blocks can run on an SM, 1/3 reduction of parallelism!!!

More on Dynamic Partitioning

- Dynamic partitioning gives more flexibility to compilers/programmers
 - One can run a smaller number of threads that require many registers each or a large number of threads that require few registers each
 - This allows for finer grain threading than traditional CPU threading models
 - The compiler can tradeoff between instructionlevel parallelism and thread level parallelism

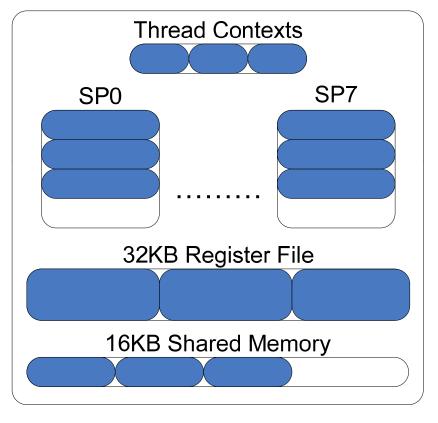
ILP vs. TLP Example

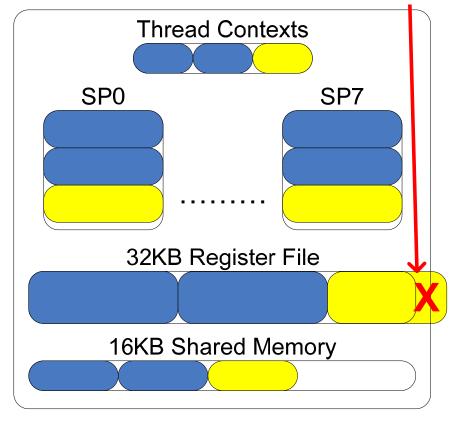
- Assume that a kernel has 256-thread Blocks, 4 independent instructions for each global memory load in the thread program, and each thread uses 10 registers, global loads take 200 cycles
 - 3 Blocks can run on each SM
- If a compiler can use one more register to change the dependence pattern so that 8 independent instructions exist for each global memory load
 - Only two can run on each SM
 - However, one only needs 200/(8*4) = 7 Warps to tolerate the memory latency
 - Two blocks have 16 Warps. The performance can be actually higher!

Resource Allocation Example



Insufficient registers to allocate 3 blocks



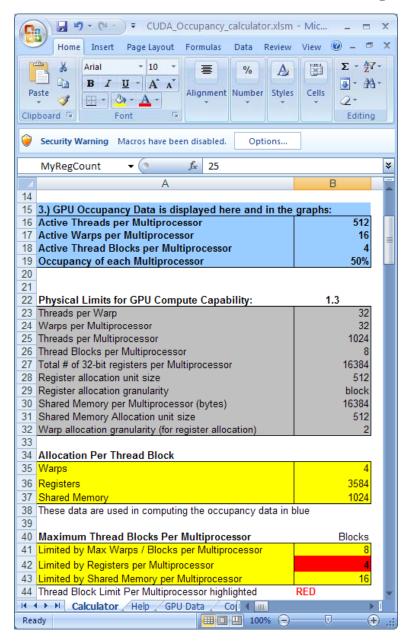


(a) Pre-"optimization"

(b) Post-"optimization"

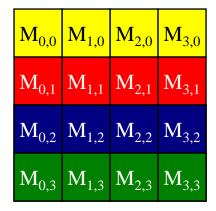
Increase in per-thread performance, but fewer threads: Lower overall performance in this case

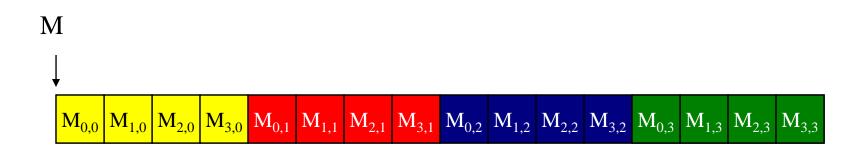
CUDA Occupancy Calculator



http://developer.download.nvidia.c om/compute/cuda/CUDA_Occupa ncy_calculator.xls

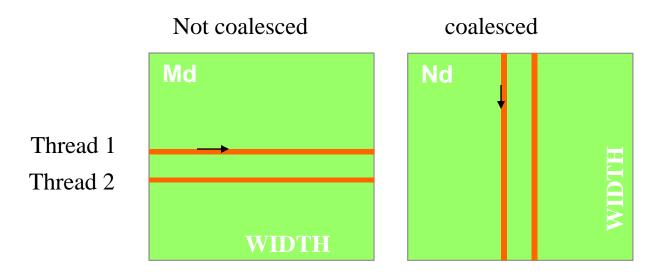
Memory Layout of a Matrix in C





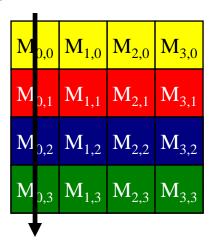
Memory Coalescing*

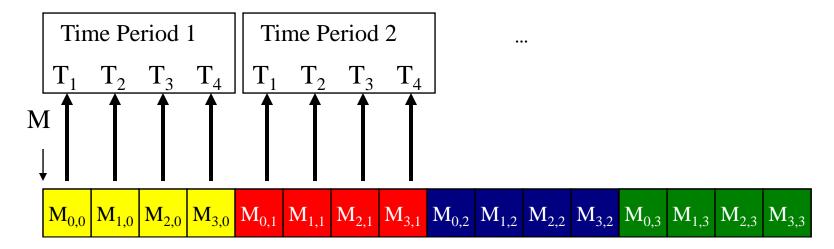
 When accessing global memory, peak performance utilization occurs when all threads in a half warp access continuous memory locations



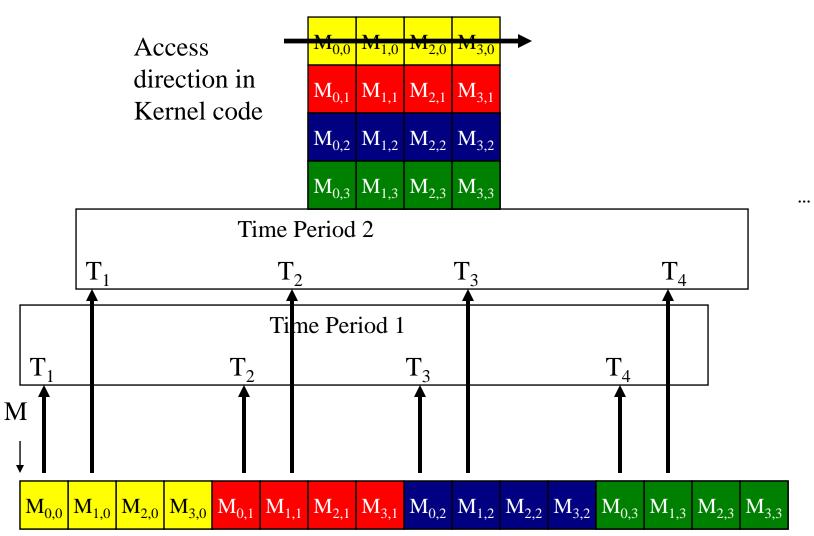
Memory Layout of a Matrix in C

Access direction in Kernel code





Memory Layout of a Matrix in C



Matrix Multiplication

```
__global__ void MatrixMulKernel(float* Md, float* Nd, float* Pd, int Width)
      shared float Mds[TILE WIDTH][TILE WIDTH];
1.
    __shared __float Nds[TILE_WIDTH][TILE_WIDTH];
    int bx = blockIdx.x; int by = blockIdx.y;
    int tx = threadIdx.x; int ty = threadIdx.y;
// Identify the row and column of the Pd element to work on
    int Row = by * TILE_WIDTH + ty;
    int Col = bx * TILE_WIDTH + tx;
    float Pvalue = 0;
// Loop over the Md and Nd tiles required to compute the Pd element
8. for (int m = 0; m < Width/TILE_WIDTH; ++m) {
// Collaborative loading of Md and Nd tiles into shared memory
9.
        Mds[ty][tx] = Md[Row*Width + (m*TILE_WIDTH + tx)];
        Nds[ty][tx] = Nd[(m*TILE_WIDTH + ty)*Width + Col]; ←
10.
11.
        syncthreads();
                                                     Why this works:
12.
    for (int k = 0; k < TILE_WIDTH; ++k)

    threads in warp have

          Pvalue += Mds[ty][k] * Nds[k][tx];
13.
14.
       __syncthreads();
                                                       same ty

    adjacent threads read

15. Pd[Row*Width + Col] = Pvalue;
                                                       adjacent elements from
                                                       memory
   © David Kirk/NVIDIA and Wen-mei W. Hwu, 2007-2010
   ECE 408, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
                                                                                   44
```

* Coalescing since 2013

- GPUs now have cache
- => Coalescing is less important as it is done by the hardware
- Make sure you have enough cache available for each warp
- There may still be some loss of performance (20-50%) due to uncoalesced access

Cache (Compute Capability 3.x)

- L1 cache for each multiprocessor
- L2 cache shared by all multiprocessors
- Both are used to cache accesses to local or global memory, including temporary register spills
- Cache behavior (e.g., whether reads are cached in both L1 and L2 or in L2 only) can be partially configured

Configuring the Cache

- The same on-chip memory is used for both L1 and shared memory. It can be configured as:
 - 48 KB of shared memory and 16 KB of L1 cache
 - 16 KB of shared memory and 48 KB of L1 cache
 - 32 KB of shared memory and 32 KB of L1 cache
- using cudaFuncSetCacheConfig()

Cache Preferences

Cache Preferences

- The default cache configuration is "prefer none"
- If a kernel has no preference, then it will default to the preference of the current CPU thread/context
- If the current thread/context also has no preference, then most recent cache configuration will be used
 - unless a different cache configuration is required to launch the kernel (e.g., due to shared memory requirements)
- The initial configuration is 48 KB of shared memory and 16 KB of L1 cache

Constants

- Immediate address constants (#define)
- Indexed address constants
- Constants stored in DRAM, and cached on chip
 - L1 per SM
- A constant value can be broadcast to all threads in a warp
 - Extremely efficient way of accessing a value that is common for all threads in a block!

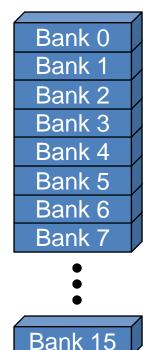
```
// specify as global variable
__device__ __constant__ float gpuGamma[2];
// copy gamma value to constant device memory
cudaMemcpyToSymbol(gpuGamma, &gamma, sizeof(float));
...
// access as global variable in kernel
res = gpuGamma[0] * threadIdx.x;
```

Shared Memory

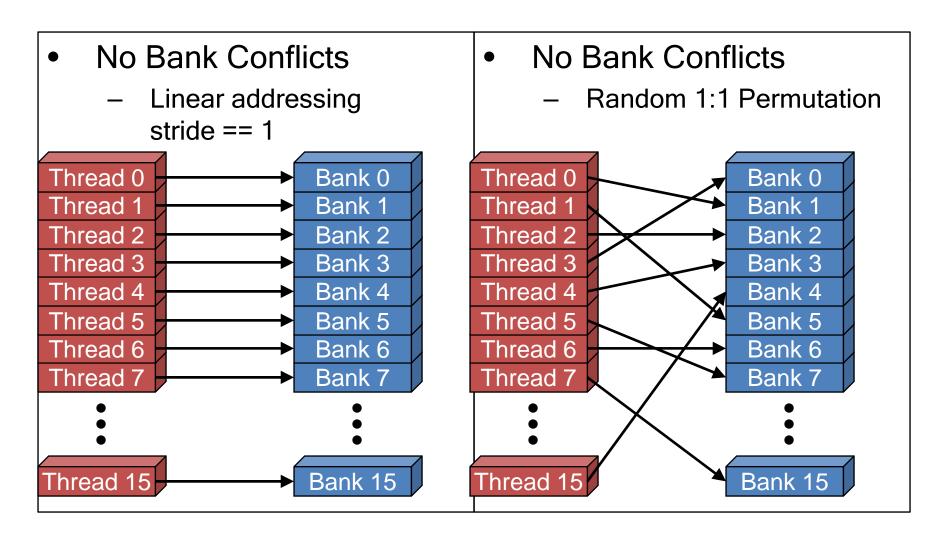
- Each SM has 16 or more KB of Shared Memory
 - 16 banks of 32-bit words
 - 64-bit access is also supported now
- CUDA uses Shared Memory as shared storage visible to all threads in a thread block
 - read and write access

Parallel Memory Architecture

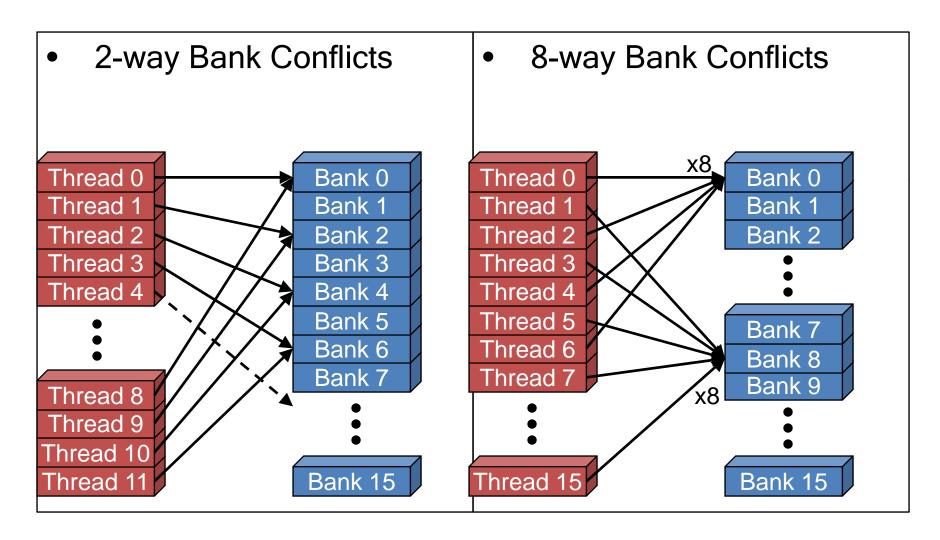
- In a parallel machine, many threads access memory
 - Therefore, memory is divided into banks
 - Essential to achieve high bandwidth
- Each bank can service one address per cycle
 - A memory can service as many simultaneous accesses as it has banks
- Multiple simultaneous accesses to a bank result in a bank conflict
 - Conflicting accesses are serialized



Bank Addressing Examples



Bank Addressing Examples



How Addresses Map to Banks on G80

- Each bank has a bandwidth of 32 bits per clock cycle
- Successive 32-bit words are assigned to successive banks
- G80 has 16 banks
 - So bank = address % 16
 - Same as the size of a half-warp
 - No bank conflicts between different half-warps, only within a single half-warp

Shared Memory Bank Conflicts

 Shared memory is as fast as registers if there are no bank conflicts

The fast case:

- If all threads of a half-warp access different banks, there is no bank conflict
- If all threads of a half-warp access an identical address, there is no bank conflict (broadcast)

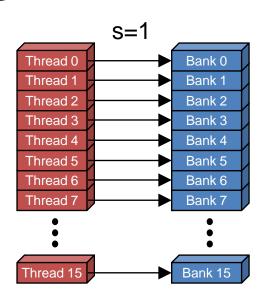
The slow case:

- Bank Conflict: multiple threads in the same half-warp access the same bank
- Must serialize the accesses
- Cost = max # of simultaneous accesses to a single bank

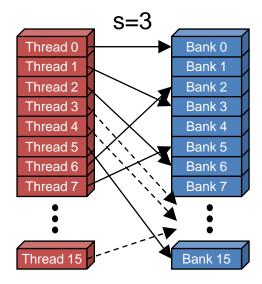
Linear Addressing

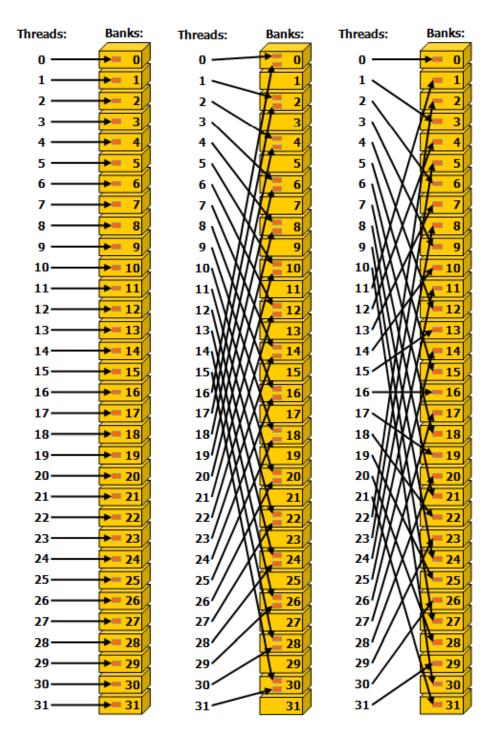
Given:

```
__shared__ float shared[256];
float foo =
  shared[baseIndex + s * threadIdx.x];
```



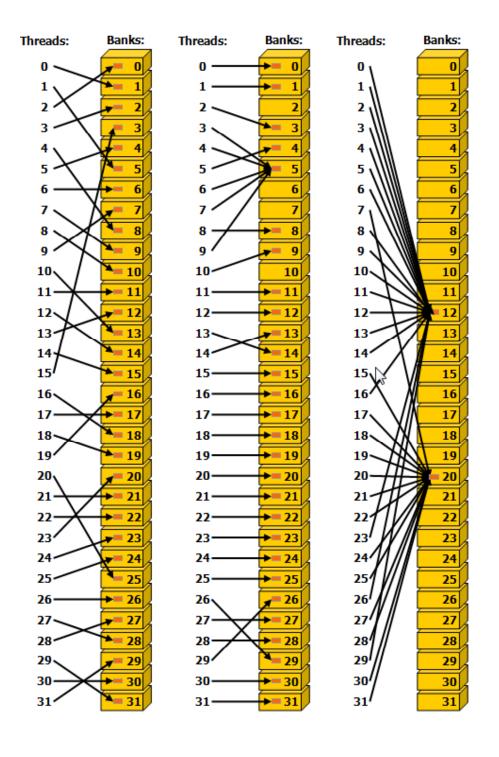
- This is only bank-conflict-free if s shares no common factors with the number of banks
 - 16 on G80, so s must be odd





Compute Capability 3.x

- Left: Linear addressing with a stride of one 32-bit word (no bank conflict)
- Middle: Linear addressing with a stride of two 32-bit words (no bank conflict)
- Right: Linear addressing with a stride of three 32-bit words (no bank conflict)
- More flexible definition of alignment within banks enables last two examples



Compute Capability 3.x

- Left: Conflict-free access via random permutation
- Middle: Conflict-free access since threads 3, 4, 6, 7, and 9 access the same word within bank 5
- Right: Conflict-free broadcast access (threads access the same word within a bank)

Control Flow

Control Flow Instructions

- Main performance concern with branching is divergence
 - Threads within a single warp take different paths
 - Different execution paths are serialized on GPU
 - The control paths taken by the threads in a warp are traversed one at a time until there is no more.
- A common case: avoid divergence when branch condition is a function of thread ID
 - Example with divergence:
 - If (threadIdx.x > 2) { }
 - This creates two different control paths for threads in a block
 - Branch granularity < warp size; threads 0, 1 and 2 follow different path than the rest of the threads in the first warp
 - Example without divergence:
 - If (threadIdx.x / WARP_SIZE > 2) { }
 - Also creates two different control paths for threads in a block
 - Branch granularity is a whole multiple of warp size; all threads in any given warp follow the same path

Parallel Reduction

- Given an array of values, "reduce" them to a single value in parallel
- Examples
 - Sum reduction: sum of all values in the array
 - Max reduction: maximum of all values in the array
- Typically parallel implementation:
 - Recursively halve # threads, add two values per thread
 - Takes log(n) steps for n elements, requires n/2 threads

A Vector Reduction Example

- Assume an in-place reduction using shared memory
 - The original vector is in device global memory
 - The shared memory is used to hold a partial sum vector
 - Each iteration brings the partial sum vector closer to the final sum
 - The final solution will be in element 0

A simple implementation

Assume we have already loaded array into

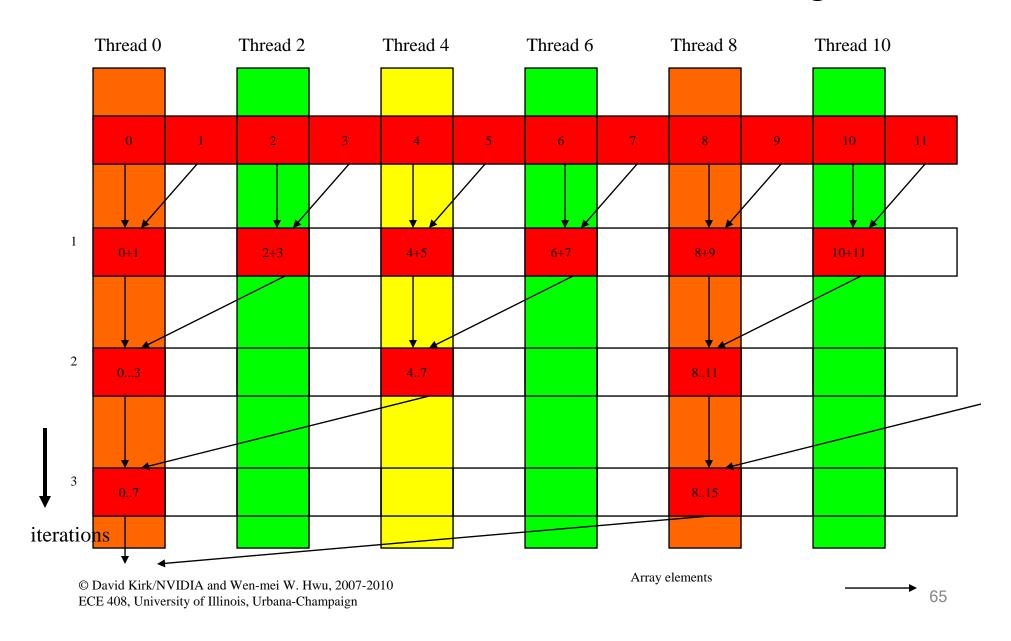
```
__shared__ float partialSum[]

unsigned int t = threadIdx.x;

for (unsigned int stride = 1;
    stride < blockDim.x; stride *= 2)

{
    __syncthreads();
    if (t % (2*stride) == 0)
        partialSum[t] += partialSum[t+stride];
}</pre>
```

Vector Reduction with Branch Divergence



Some Observations

- In each iteration, two control flow paths will be sequentially traversed for each warp
 - Threads that perform addition and threads that do not
 - Threads that do not perform addition may cost extra cycles depending on the implementation of divergence
- No more than half of threads will be executing at any time
 - All odd index threads are disabled right from the beginning!
 - On average, less than ¼ of the threads will be activated for all warps over time.
 - After the 5th iteration, entire warps in each block will be disabled, poor resource utilization but no divergence
 - This can go on for a while, up to 4 more iterations (512/32=16= 2⁴), where each iteration only has one thread activated until all warps retire

Shortcomings of the implementation

Assume we have already loaded array into

```
__shared__ float partialSum[]
BAD: Divergence
due to interleaved
branch decisions

for (unsigned int stride = 1;
    stride < blockDim.x;
    if (t % (2*stride) == 0)
        partialSum[t] += partialSum[t+stride];
}</pre>
```

A better implementation

Assume we have already loaded array into

```
__shared__ float partialSum[]

unsigned int t = threadIdx.x;

for (unsigned int stride = blockDim.x/2;
    stride > 1; stride >>= 1)

{
    __syncthreads();
    if (t < stride)
        partialSum[t] += partialSum[t+stride];
}</pre>
```

No Divergence until <= 16 sub-sums



Prefetching and Instruction Mix

Prefetching

- One could double buffer the computation, getting better instruction mix within each thread
 - This is classic software pipelining in ILP compilers

```
Loop {
Load current tile to shared memory
syncthreads()

Compute current tile
syncthreads()
}
```

```
Load next tile from global memory

Loop {
Deposit current tile to shared memory syncthreads()

Load next tile from global memory

Compute current tile

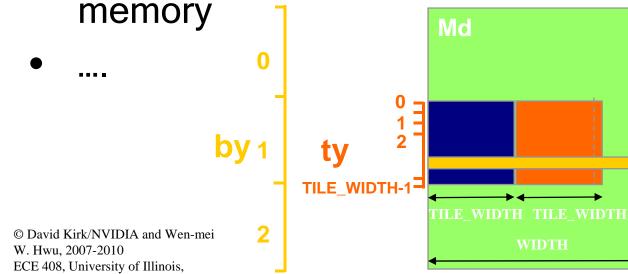
syncthreads()
}
```

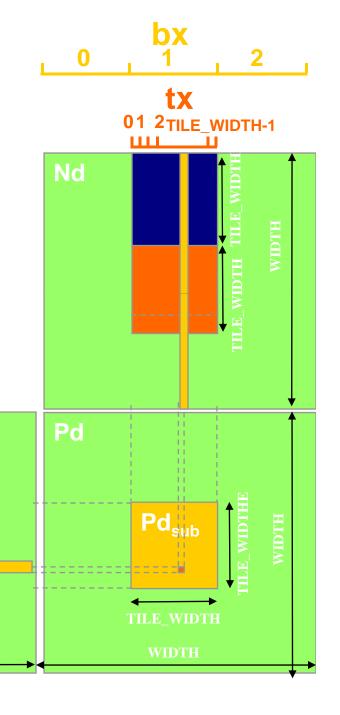
Prefetch

- Deposit blue tile from register into shared memory
- Syncthreads

Urbana-Champaign

- Load orange tile into register
- Compute Blue tile
- Deposit orange tile into shared





Instruction Mix Considerations

```
for (int k = 0; k < BLOCK_SIZE; ++k)
Pvalue += Ms[ty][k] * Ns[k][tx];</pre>
```

There are very few mul/add between branches and address calculation

Loop unrolling can help. (Be aware that any local arrays used after unrolling will be dumped into Local Memory)

```
Pvalue += Ms[ty][k] * Ns[k][tx] + ...
Ms[ty][k+15] * Ns[k+15][tx];
```

Unrolling

```
Ctemp = 0;
                                  Ctemp = 0;
for (...) {
                                   for (...) {
    shared
             float As[16][16];
                                       shared
                                                float As[16][16];
    shared float Bs[16][16];
                                       shared float Bs[16][16];
  // load input tile elements
                                     // load input tile elements
  As[ty][tx] = A[indexA];
                                    As[ty][tx] = A[indexA];
  Bs[ty][tx] = B[indexB];
                                    Bs[ty][tx] = B[indexB];
  indexA += 16;
                                     indexA += 16;
  indexB += 16 * widthB;
                                     indexB += 16 * widthB;
    syncthreads();
                                       syncthreads();
  // compute results for tile
                                     // compute results for tile
  for (i = 0; i < 16; i++)
                                     Ctemp +=
                                        As[ty][0] * Bs[0][tx];
      Ctemp += As[ty][i]
        * Bs[i][tx];
                                     Ctemp +=
                                        As[ty][15] * Bs[15][tx];
    syncthreads();
                                      syncthreads();
C[indexC] = Ctemp;
                                   C[indexC] = Ctemp;
       (b) Tiled Version
                                         (c) Unrolled Version
```