Recent GPU Improvements in Charm++ 6.9

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How to Utilize GPUs in Charm++

1. Use CUDA directly
   - Let each chare offload (small) kernels
   - Or manually aggregate data at a synchronization point and offload one big kernel
2. Use **GPU Manager** library of Charm++
   - Why? What good is it?

Problems with Using GPUs in Charm++

- Due to **overdecomposition** and **asynchrony**

1. Granularity of work
2. Blocking offload API
3. Responsiveness

Current GPU Manager

- Addresses Problem 2 (blocking offload API)
- User constructs and submits a **`WorkRequest`** object, specifying
  - Data buffers and directions of transfer
  - Kernel to be executed and its specifications (e.g. grid size, block size)
- Runtime tracks `WorkRequests`, overlapping data transfers with kernel execution
  - But dœs NOT overlap multiple kernel executions
  - Because only one CUDA stream is used for kernels
- Execution continues without blocking after `WorkRequest` submission
- 3 CUDA streams used internally: Data-in, Kernel, Data-out
- Problems
  - Only one CUDA stream for all kernels
  - Unnecessarily complex API

New GPU Manager: Release 6.9.0

- Partially addresses Problem 1 (granularity of work)
  - Allows kernels to execute in separate CUDA streams
  - Runtime support for kernel aggregation is ongoing research
- Non-blocking feature implemented using CUDA events
- Much simpler API (almost identical to CUDA API)
  - **Hybrid API**: `hapi` prefix instead of `cuda`
  - `hapiAddCallback()`: invoke provided Charm++ callback function when data transfer/kernel execution completes, replaces `cudaStreamSynchronize()`
- Ongoing research to address Problem 3 (responsiveness)

Non-blocking Implementation of Offloading

- Use CUDA events to detect completion of GPU work
- Each PE maintains a queue of events
- Queue is checked in the scheduler before choosing what to execute next
- Charm++ callback invoked on completion to continue program flow
- Impractical for the user to implement
  - Unclear where in the program flow the queue should be checked
  - Unclear how frequent the checking should occur
- Alternative: CUDA callback, but single callback thread becomes a bottleneck

Matmul Code Comparison: CUDA, New GPU Manager

```
void cudaMatMul(ElementType *h_A, ElementType *h_B, ElementType *h_C,
                ElementType *d_A, ElementType *d_B, ElementType *d_C,
                cudaStream_t stream, int matrixSize) {
  int size = matrixSize * matrixSize * sizeof(ElementType);
  dim3 block(BLOCK_SIZE, BLOCK_SIZE);
  dim3 grid(ceil((float)matrixSize / block.x),
            ceil((float)matrixSize / block.y));

  cudaMemcpyAsync(d_A, h_A, size, cudaMemcpyHostToDevice, stream);
  cudaMemcpyAsync(d_B, h_B, size, cudaMemcpyHostToDevice, stream);

  matrixMul<<<grid, block, 0, stream>>>(d_C, d_A, d_B, matrixSize, matrixSize);

  cudaMemcpyAsync(h_C, d_C, size, cudaMemcpyDeviceToHost, stream);

  cudaStreamSynchronize(stream);
}
```

Figure: CUDA

```
void cudaMatMul(ElementType *h_A, ElementType *h_B, ElementType *h_C,
                ElementType *d_A, ElementType *d_B, ElementType *d_C,
                void *cb, int matrixSize) {
  int size = matrixSize * matrixSize * sizeof(ElementType);
  dim3 block(BLOCK_SIZE, BLOCK_SIZE);
  dim3 grid(ceil((float)matrixSize / block.x),
            ceil((float)matrixSize / block.y));

  cudaStream_t stream = hapiGetStream();

  hapiCheck(hapiMemcpyAsync(d_A, h_A, size, cudaMemcpyHostToDevice, stream));
  hapiCheck(hapiMemcpyAsync(d_B, h_B, size, cudaMemcpyHostToDevice, stream));

  matrixMul<<<grid, block, 0, stream>>>(d_C, d_A, d_B, matrixSize, matrixSize);
  hapiCheck(cudaPeekAtLastError());

  hapiCheck(hapiMemcpyAsync(h_C, d_C, size, cudaMemcpyDeviceToHost, stream));

  hapiAddCallback(stream, cb);
}
```

Figure: New API

Performance Evaluation: `busywait`

- Benchmark designed to validate new GPU Manager
- Tasks (kernels on GPU) busywait both on CPU and GPU
- Vary how much work out of total is offloaded, and how long they take
- 3 configurations of task duration:
  - CPU 1 ms, GPU 10 ms
  - CPU 10 ms, GPU 1 ms
  - CPU 10 ms, GPU 10 ms
- 8 PEs, 16 chares per PE, 128 chares total, 100 iterations
- 32 concurrent kernels with new GPU Manager (vs. 8 without)
- Up to **4.79x** speedup compared to directly using CUDA
- Effectiveness of runtime support depends on application characteristics

Performance Evaluation: `busywait`

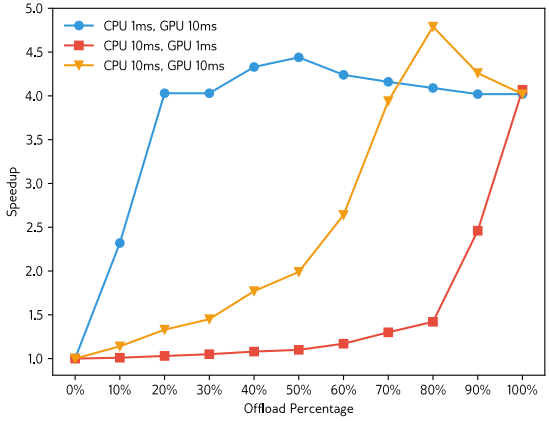


Figure: Speedup of `busywait` benchmark

Performance Evaluation: `stencil2d`

- 2D 5-point iterative stencil benchmark
- Evaluate effectiveness under realistic workload
- 16,384 x 16,384 grid, decomposed into 512 x 512 blocks (chares)
- 8 PEs, 128 chares per PE, 1,024 chares total, 100 iterations
- Vary percentage of chares that offload work to GPU
- 32 concurrent kernels with new GPU Manager (vs. 8 without)
- Up to **2.75x** speedup compared to directly using CUDA

Performance Evaluation: `stencil2d`

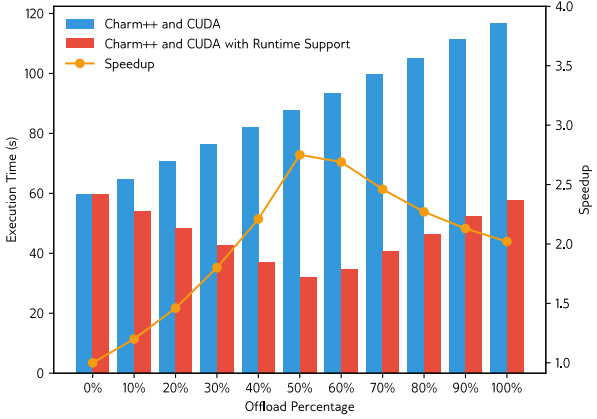


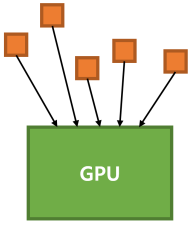
Figure: Execution Time and Speedup of `stencil2d` benchmark

Conclusion

- New GPU Manager: presented as a ACM SRC poster at SC'17
- 3 main issues with using GPUs in Charm++
  1. Granularity
  2. Blocking
  3. Responsiveness
- Mostly resolved issue #2, but need more work on issues #1 and #3
- Interesting research topics with fine-grain tasks and GPUs
- Increasing importance of accelerators even for irregular applications

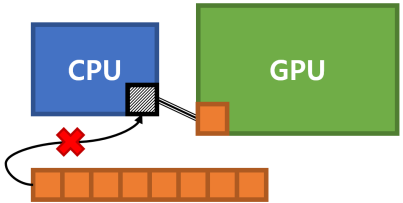
Backup Slides

Problem 1: Granularity of Work



- Each chare is fine-grained
- Contain little data and work $\rightarrow$ small kernels
- Kernels should be able to execute concurrently
- Or need to aggregate kernels

Problem 2: Blocking Offload API



- Commonly used CUDA API are blocking
  - E.g. `cudaDeviceSynchronize()`, `cudaStreamSynchronize()`
- PEs are implemented as persistent threads on CPU cores
- Blocking call thus prevents another chare from executing
- Another problem: number of concurrent kernels limited to the number of PEs
- Offload API should be **non-blocking** for Charm++

Problem 3: Responsiveness

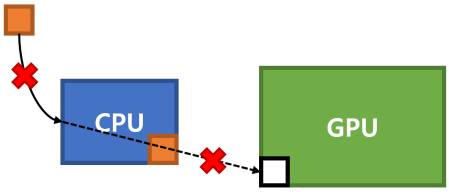


Figure: Slow initiation

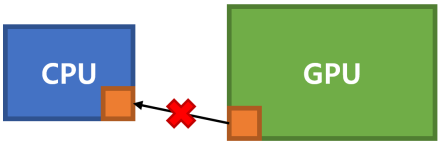


Figure: Slow response

1. Slow initiation
   - Method offloading work must wait if target PE is busy (even if the GPU is free)
2. Slow response
   - Handling completed GPU work delayed if target PE is busy

Performance Evaluation: Test Environment

- Single compute node of OLCF Titan
- Up to 8 cores of AMD Opteron 6274 CPU
- 32GB DDR3 memory
- NVIDIA Tesla K20X GPU

GPU Applications: ChaNGa

- Cosmological N-body simulations
- Leverages GPU Manager
- Offloads physics kernels
- Active work in optimization

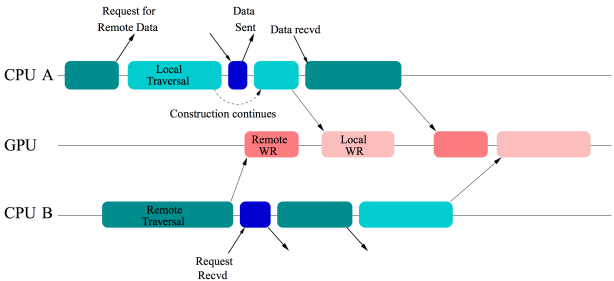


Figure: ChaNGa GPU Manager Design

GPU Applications: Recent ChaNGa Results

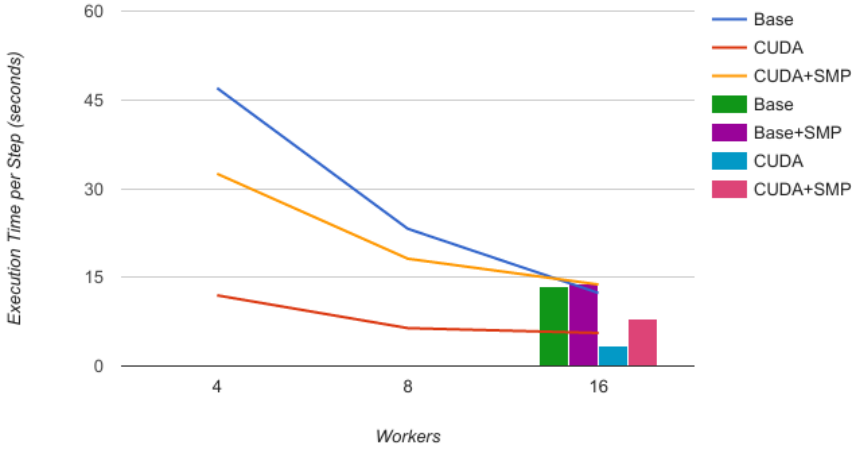


Figure: ChaNGa dwf1 on 4 XK Nodes of BlueWaters

GPU Applications: ChaNGa GPU Tree Walk

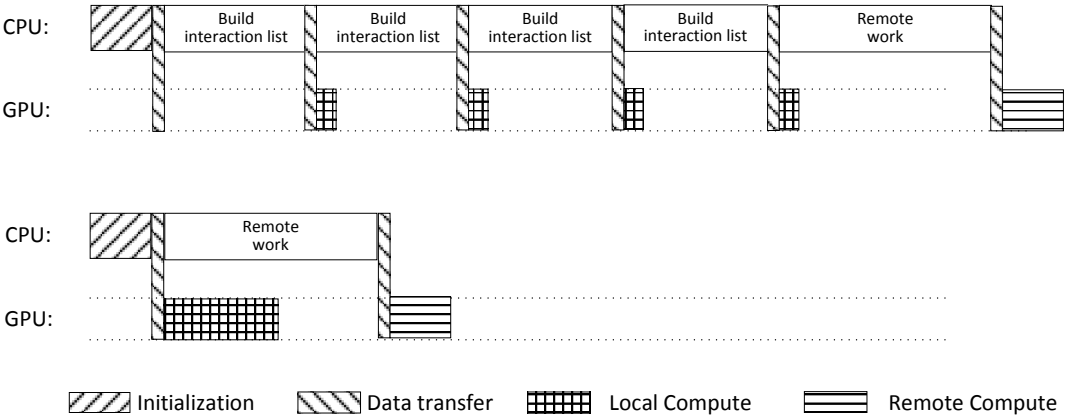


Figure: Strategy Comparison

GPU Applications: ChaNGa GPU Tree Walk

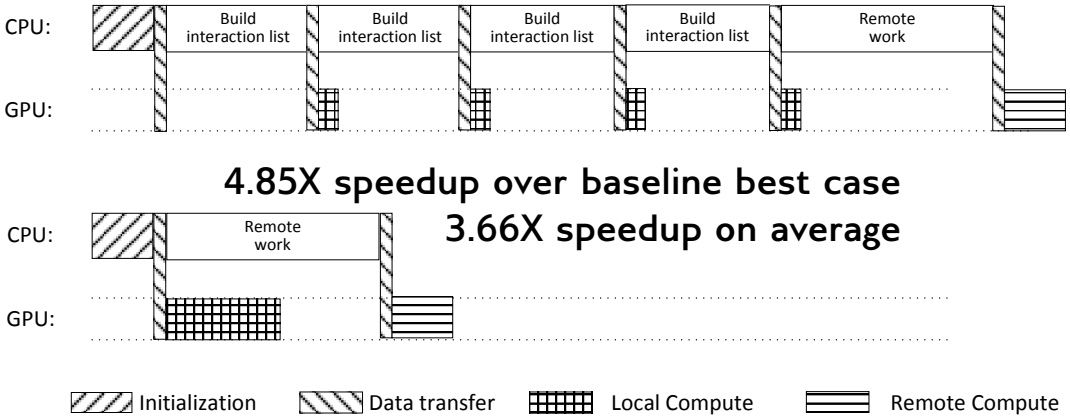
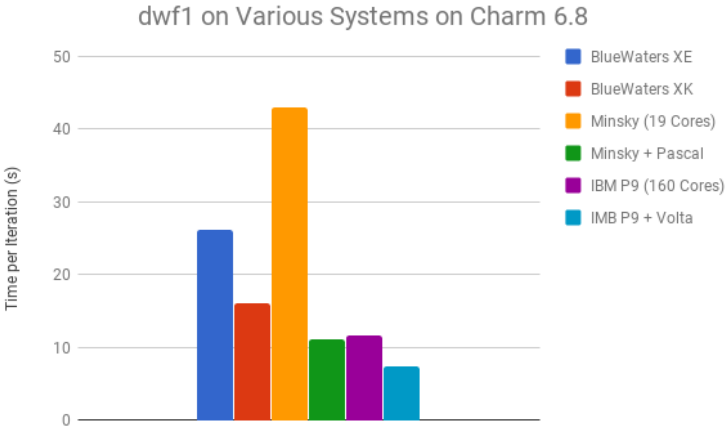


Figure: Strategy Comparison

GPU Applications: ChaNGa on GPU Generations



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