



Kokkos, HPSF & CExA

Or: How We Learned To Stop Worrying
And Love Productive, Performance-portable
GPU Programming



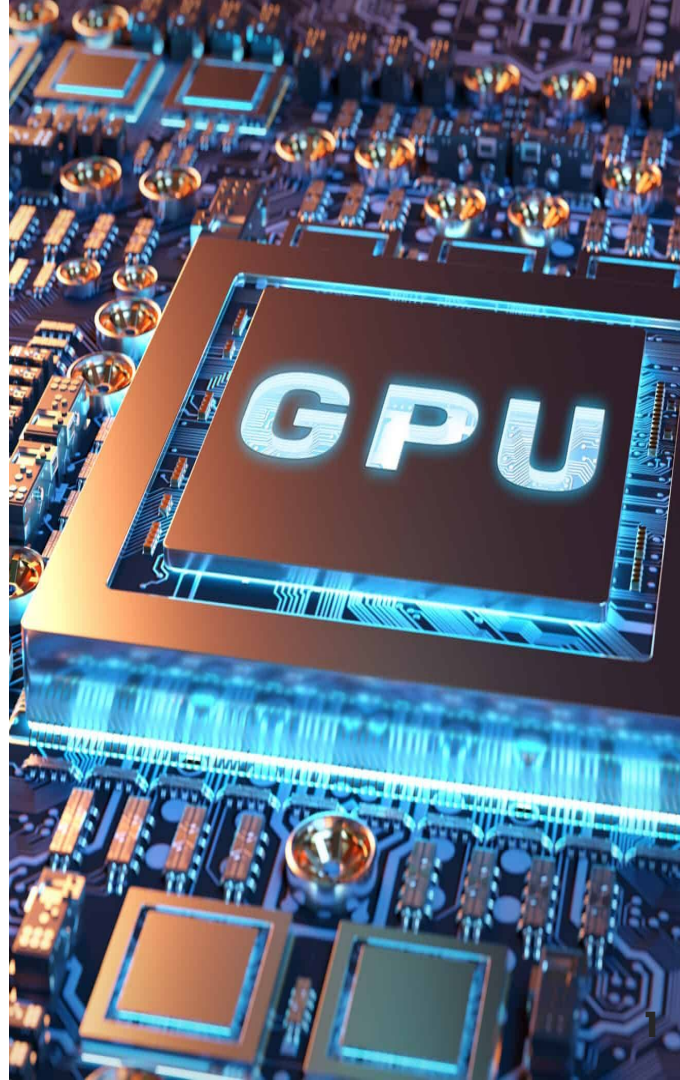
HPSF
HIGH PERFORMANCE
SOFTWARE FOUNDATION



**Computing at
Exascale with
Accelerators
at the CEA**

P3HPC'24 Workshop
Atlanta
November 18th 2024

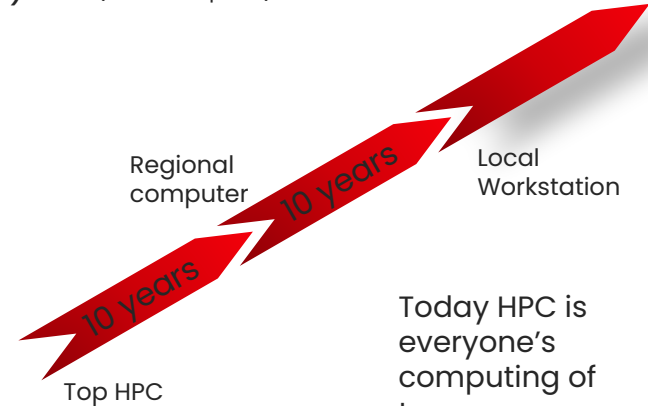
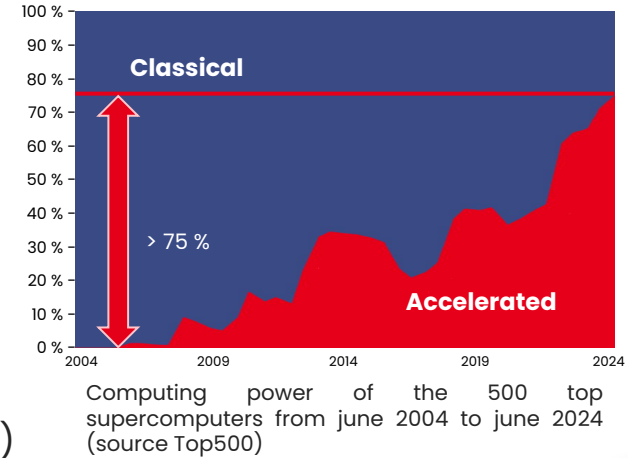
Julien Bigot, the CExA & Kokkos team



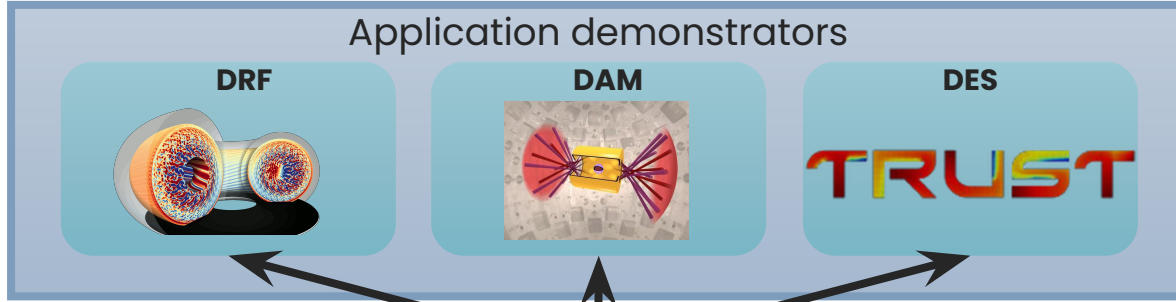
Context (2 years ago)

Come visit us
at booth 4143

- **CEA**: French Atomic Energy Commissary ("French DoE")
 - Around 20k researchers, 9 research centers all over France
 - Organized in 4 divisions: military applications (**DAM**), energies (**DES**), fundamental research (**DRF**) & technological developments (**DRT**)
 - **HPC** is a tool largely used **all over CEA**
- We just entered the **Exascale** era, that means **GPU**
 - **US Exascale**: **AMD** & **Intel**, **EU pre-Exascale**: **AMD** & **Nvidia**
 - 2 **Exascale** machines planned in **EU** for 2025
 - Jupiter machine in **Germany**, at Jülich => **Nvidia** + **SiPearl**(Rhea)
 - Jules Vernes machine in **France**, at **CEA/TGCC** (**open** call)
 - Need to re-develop applications with **Performance portability**
- **GPU middleware**: **software catalysts**
 - France and Europe: great research but no production tool
 - App developers are sitting on Buridan's ass
- A **need** for a long-term sustainable solution
 - **Adapted** to our hardware and software specificities
 - **Trust** in the roadmap



CExA project: goals



Long-term sustainable GPU catalyst



HPC ecosystem

Disseminate
and offer
training at large

Adapt
application
demonstrators

Provide a
long-term
sustainable
software
catalyst for GPU
computing

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GPU programming, a vast choice of approaches

- Low-level, assembly-style programming models
 - Nearly manipulate the actual instructions the device understands
 - E.g. HSA, Level Zero, PTX, Spir-V , ...
- General-purpose, imperative GPU programming models
 - Manipulate parallel loops, reductions, data transfer to & from device
 - E.g. Cuda, HIP, Kokkos, OpenACC, OpenMP (target), Raja, SYCL
- Combination & assembly of existing GPU kernels
 - Pytorch, StarPU, etc...
- Application framework for specific mesh types, numerical schemes
 - Use domain-specific concepts on GPU
- Pre-written GPU libraries
 - just call them from CPU
 - Neural Networks, Linear Algebra, ...

Ease of use

122

Performance

Performance portability

Domain abstractions

GPU transparency

Generality

Imperative GPU programming, a vast choice of approaches

- Cuda
- HIP
- Kokkos
- OpenACC
- OpenMP (target)
- Raja
- SYCL
 - OneAPI/DPC++
 - AdaptiveC++/OpenSYCL/hipSYCL

Imperative GPU programming, a vast choice of approaches

- Cuda
- HIP
- Kokkos
- OpenACC
- OpenMP (target)
- **Raja**
- SYCL
 - OneAPI/DPC++
 - **AdaptiveC++ (was OpenSYCL/hipSYCL)**
- **Production grade, with public support**

Imperative GPU programming, a vast choice of approaches

- **Cuda**
- **HIP**
- Kokkos
- **OpenACC**
- OpenMP (target)
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- SYCL
 - **OneAPI/DPC++**
 - AdaptiveC++/OpenSYCL/hipSYCL
- Production grade, with public support
- **Vendor neutral**

Imperative GPU programming, a vast choice of approaches

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OpenMP & Kokkos : the simplest GPU loop

```
for (int j = 0 ; j < Nj ; ++j) {  
    // [...]  
}
```

Sequential



```
#pragma omp teams distribute parallel for  
for (int j = 0 ; j < Nj ; ++j) {  
    // [...]  
}
```

OpenMP Target

```
parallel_for(Nj, KOKKOS_LAMBDA(int j) {  
    // [...]  
});
```

Kokkos

Execute in **parallel**, on a separate GPU thread each,
the same workload [...]
identified by a unique identifier **j**
Nj times between 0 and Nj-1

OpenMP & Kokkos : memory transfer

```
double* x = malloc(Ni*sizeof(double));
double* y = malloc(Nj*sizeof(double));
double* A = omp_target_alloc(
    Ni*Nj*sizeof(double),
    omp_get_initial_device());

#pragma omp target data \
    map(to: x[0:Ni]) \
    map(from: y[0:Nj])
{
#pragma omp teams distribute parallel for
for (int j = 0 ; j < Nj ; ++j) {
    for (int i = 0 ; i < Ni ; ++i) {
        y[j] += x[i] * A[j*Ni+i];
    }
}
}
```

OpenMP Target

```
View<double*, Kokkos::HostSpace> x(Ni);
View<double*, Kokkos::HostSpace> y(Nj);
View<double*> A(Nj, Ni);

{
    auto dx = create_mirror_view_and_copy(dev, x);
    auto dy = create_mirror_view(dev, y);
    parallel_for(Nj, KOKKOS_LAMBDA(int j) {
        for (int i = 0 ; i < Ni ; ++i) {
            dy(j) += dx(i) * A(j,i);
        }
    });
    deep_copy(y, dy);
}
```

Kokkos

Copy x to GPU from device before kernel
and y from GPU to device after kernel
Keep A on the device

Compilation

Kokkos

- A C++ **template library**
 - No direct code generation
 - rely on vendors C++-like languages
- **Multiple “backends”**
 - Selection at compile time
 - OpenMP, Cuda, OneAPI, HIP, ...
- Maximum 3 backends enabled at once
 - Serial backend
 - 1 Host parallel backend (openmp)
 - 1 Device parallel backend (cuda, HIP, Sycl)

OpenMP Target

- Use an OpenMP **compiler**
 - Compatible with the target construct
 - Compatible with the hardware you target
- **Each vendor** provides its own OpenMP compiler
 - Usually based on LLVM infra
- Default Clang/LLVM & GCC also try to support this
 - For some hardware

Imperative GPU programming, a vast choice of approaches

- Cuda
- HIP
- **Kokkos**
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- Raja
- SYCL
 - OneAPI/DPC++
 - AdaptiveC++/OpenSYCL/hipSYCL
- Production grade, with public support
- Vendor neutral
- **Annotations**
 - Works best with **imperative languages**: C, Fortran, ...
 - Requires to **re-design applications** for GPU
 - **Compiler integration**: potential for additional optimizations
- **Library**
 - Suited to language with deep **encapsulation**: C++
 - Requires to **re-design applications** for GPU
 - On top of vendor **backends**: easier to port to new hardware

Kokkos parallel patterns

```
parallel_for(Nj, KOKKOS_LAMBDA(int j) {  
    // [...]  
});
```

Kokkos parallel patterns

```
parallel_for(Nj, KOKKOS_LAMBDA(int j) {  
    // [...]  
});
```

```
parallel_reduce(Nj, KOKKOS_LAMBDA(int j, double& accumulator) {  
    // [...]  
    accumulator += /* [...] */ ;  
}, result);
```

```
parallel_scan(Nj, KOKKOS_LAMBDA(int j, double& result, bool isfinal)  
{  
    // [...]  
    accumulator += /* [...] */ ;  
    if(is_final) {  
        // [...]  
    }  
}, result);
```

- For
 - independent iterations
- Reduce
 - Accumulate into a single value
- Scan
 - N independent prefix reduction

Kokkos parallel patterns: easy debug

```
parallel_for("loop1", Nj, KOKKOS_LAMBDA(int j) {  
    // [...]  
});
```

- Naming loops ease debugging & profiling
- Integrated with kokkos-specific tools
- Get a trace with names includes
- Get a name in debug messages
- Omitted in the presentation, but a good practice overall

Kokkos parallel patterns: Policies

```
parallel_for(RangePolicy(1, Nj, chunk_size), KOKKOS_LAMBDA(int j) {  
    // [...]  
});
```

Beyond simple 1D execution

- RangePolicy for 1D iteration
 - Begin / end iteration boundaries
 - Chunk_size hint for improved performance
- MDRange policy for multi-dimensional iterations
 - Multi-D begin / end iteration boundaries
 - Tiling hint hint for improved performance

Kokkos parallel patterns: ExecutionSpace

```
parallel_for(RangePolicy(DefaultExecutionSpace(), 0, Nj), KOKKOS_LAMBDA(int j) {  
    // [...]  
});
```

- ExecutionSpace defines where to run
 - Cuda, HIP, SYCL, HPX, OpenMP, OpenMPTarget, Threads, Serial
 - 3 exec spaces per execution max: Serial + parallel Host + parallel Device
- Choose where to run at compile time with a #define
 - Usually set from CMake
- 2 predefined aliases are often enough
 - DefaultExecutionSpace: parallel Device, or parallel Host, or Serial
 - Most of the time, this is the default
 - DefaultHostExecutionSpace: parallel Host, or Serial
 - When using host-only code

Kokkos parallel patterns: hierarchical parallelism

```
parallel_for(TeamPolicy(Nj, team_size), KOKKOS_LAMBDA(const team_handle& team) {  
    // [...]  
    parallel_for(TeamThreadRange(team, Ni, chunk_size), KOKKOS_LAMBDA(int i) {  
        // [...]  
    });  
    // [...]  
});
```

- Default loops can not be nested
- 2-level nesting is supported by teams of threads
 - Matches groups / threads support in GPU
 - But also available on CPU
 - Intermediate (scratch) memory allocation available

○

Kokkos parallel patterns are asynchronous

```
parallel_for(Nj), KOKKOS_LAMBDA(int j) {  
    // [...]  
});  
parallel_for(Nj), KOKKOS_LAMBDA(int j) {  
    // [...]  
});  
fence();
```

- Asynchronous execution
- Result visibility is only assured after a fence
- Or between kernels running on the same execution space

Kokkos views: multi-dimensional arrays

```
View<int**, MemorySpace> my_matrix("matrix", Nx, Ny);
```

- Multi-dimensional arrays
 - Type & dimensionality specified: `int**` => 2D integer array
 - Dynamic sizes are parameters: `Nx`, `Ny`
 - Static sizes are also possible: `int*[4]` => 2D array, 4 × dynamic
- Behaves like a C++ `shared_ptr`
 - Shared ownership with reference counting (like in python)
- With a name for debugging/profiling
- `MemorySpace` is part of the type, defaults should be used
 - `CudaSpace`, `CudaHostPinnedSpace`, `CudaUVMSpace`, `HIPSpace`, `HIPHostPinnedSpace`, `HIPManagedSpace`, `SYCLDeviceUSMSpace`, `SYCLHostUSMSpace`, `SYCLSharedUSMSpace`, **HostSpace**, **SharedSpace**, `SharedHostPinnedSpace`
 - Check of accessibility between `MemorySpace` & `ExecutionSpace`

Kokkos views copies & co.

```
auto dview = subview(oview, pair(start, end), ALL, slice_idx);
```

- Make a new reference to a subset of an existing view
 - Modifying the result modifies the source
 - pair: select a subrange, ALL: keep the dimension, integer: slice the dimension

```
void deep_copy(const ExecSpace &exec_space, const ViewDest &dest, const ViewSrc &src);
```

- Copy data between 2 views
 - Potentially on distinct memory spaces
 - An asynchronous operation

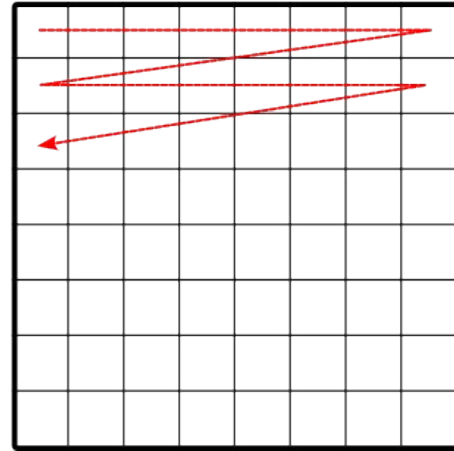
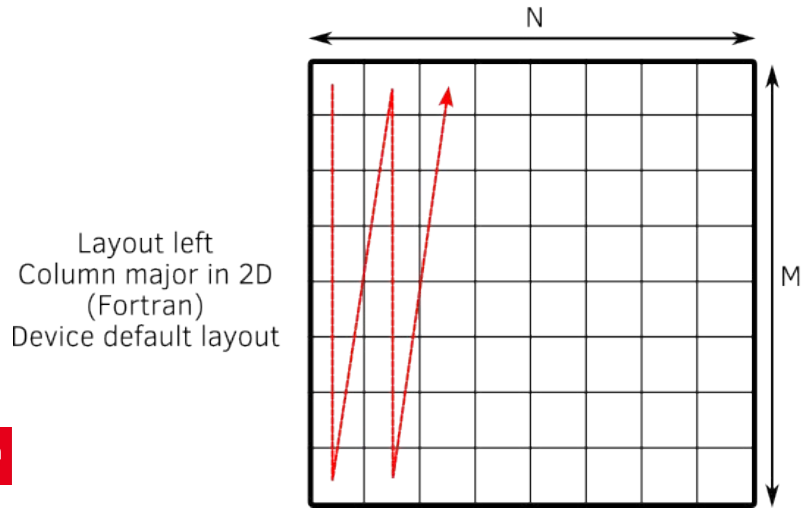
```
auto dview = create_mirror(mospace, a_view); // allocates & copy a new view of same size  
auto dview = create_mirror_view_and_copy(mospace, a_view); // allocates & copy if necessary
```

- Allocates & copy to a new memory space

Kokkos views layout

```
View<double**, LayoutLeft> A("A", M, N);
```

- Layout specifies the linearization of multi-D indices into memory
 - LayoutLeft (a.k.a Fortran, default on GPU)
 - LayoutRight (a.k.a C, default on Host)
 - LayoutStride (generic, useful for subviews)



Layout right
Row major in 2D
(C, C++, Python, Java)
Host default layout

What's in Kokkos (core library)?

Multi-dimensional arrays

- Layout auto change for performance

Parallel patterns w. asynchronous support

- Independent interactions, Reductions, Scans
- Iteration strategies
- Tiled, Hierarchical, ...

What's in Kokkos (core library)?

Multi-dimensional arrays

- Layout auto change for performance

Other containers

- Key-value maps, ScatterView ...

Automatic ref-counted Host/Device memory allocation & management

Host/device memory transfers

Support of "dual" arrays with one version on each side

- Up-to-date tracking & automatic transfers when required

Scratch memory

- Using "team-local" fast memory on the device

Parallel patterns w. asynchronous support

- Independent interactions, Reductions, Scans

Iteration strategies

- Tiled, Hierarchical, ...

Algorithms

- Sorting
- Random number generation
- Many of STL parallel algorithms
- ...

QoL features: portable printf, etc.

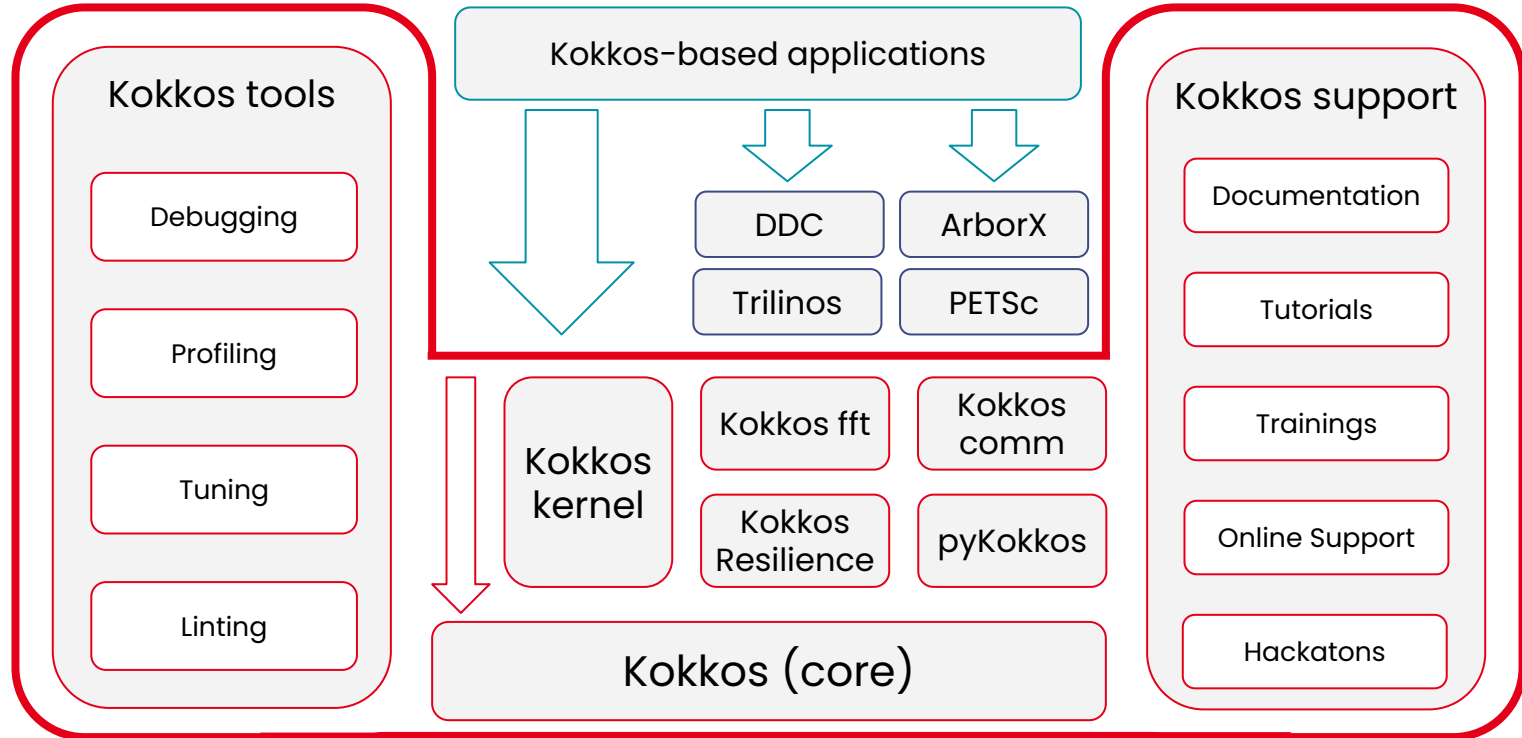
Portable atomic operations

SIMD

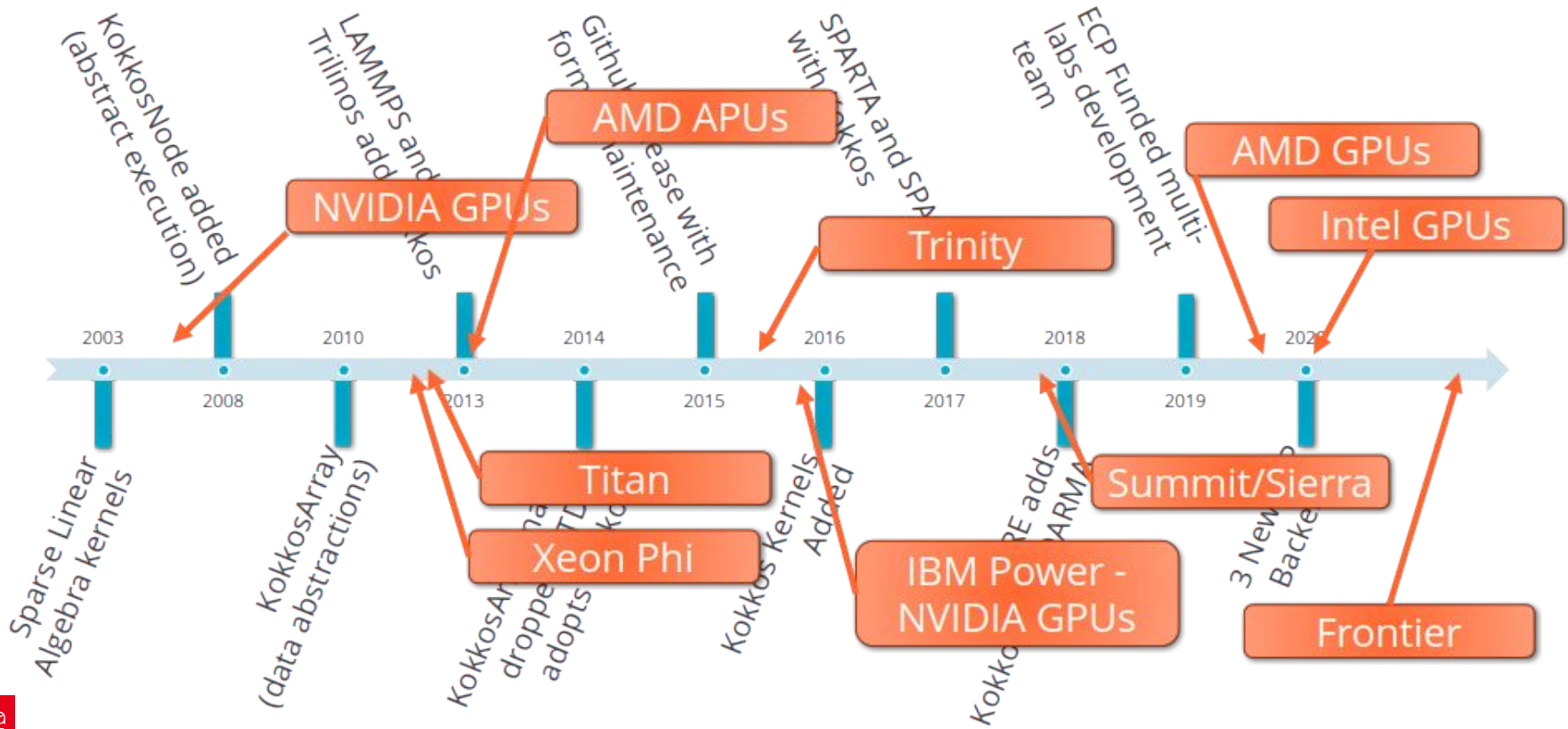
Coarse & fine-grain tasks

And much more...

Kokkos Ecosystem, beyond just the Kokkos project



Kokkos: a library with a history



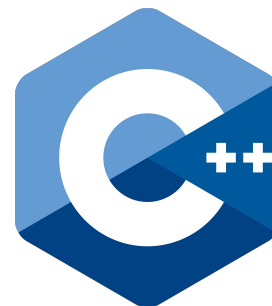
Kokkos an anteroom for standard C++

ISO C++ is **standardizing** base tools for **HPC**

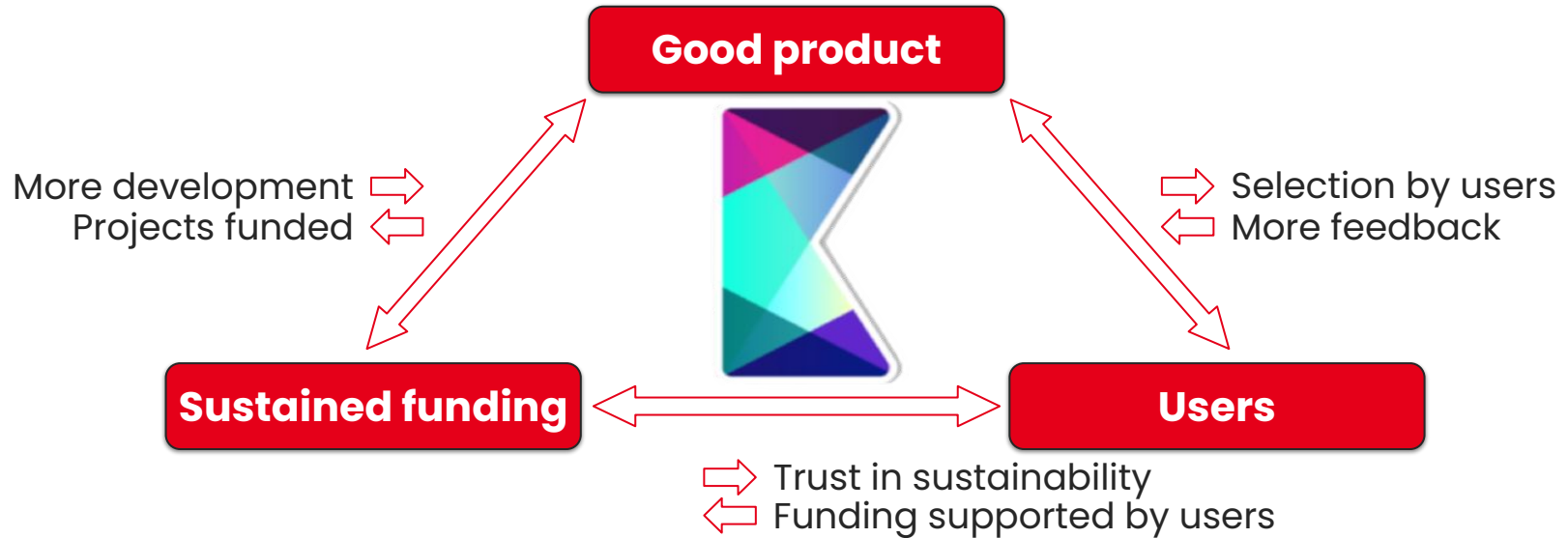
- Parallel programming is entering the **ISO C++ language**
 - Parallel algorithms, sender/receivers, etc.
- The **Kokkos team spearheads** the standardization of many **features**
 - Multi-D arrays (`std::mdspan`)
 - Vectorization (`std::simd`)
 - Linear algebra (`std::linalg`)
 - And much more to come (mixed precision, etc.)

Kokkos offers a **stable API today** for the features of the **C++ of tomorrow**

- Standardization is slow (9 years for `mdspan`)
 - Consensus with all communities
- **Kokkos** offers the features **today**
 - And keeps maintaining a **stable API** on top of **standardized ISO C++**
 - With added interoperability layers (Cf. `kokkos::view` / `std::mdspan`)
 - And in a **GPU-compatible** implementation (Cf. `kokkos::array`)



Kokkos at the center of a virtuous cycle



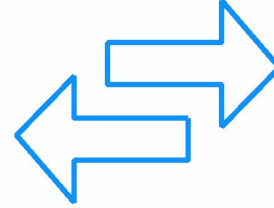
**There is strength in numbers:
collaboration on core products is good for everyone**

Here comes HPSF

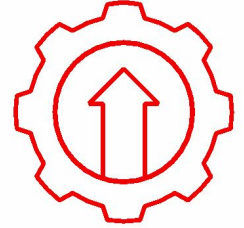
Come visit us
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Performance



Portability



Productivity

1. A neutral hub for open source, high performance software.
2. HPSF supports projects that advance portable software for diverse hardware by:
 - Increasing adoption
 - Aiding community growth
 - Enabling development efforts
3. Lowering barriers to productive use of today's and future high performance computing systems.

Under the Linux Foundation

Fund & vote

Members

Premier



General



Associate



Participate & vote



WGs

Outreach

Diversity

CI & Testing

Events

Tools

...

Technical Advisory Council



Join & vote

Projects

Viskores



Two (independant) ways to participate

Find out more:
HPSF BoF,
Tuesday 5:15PM,
B309

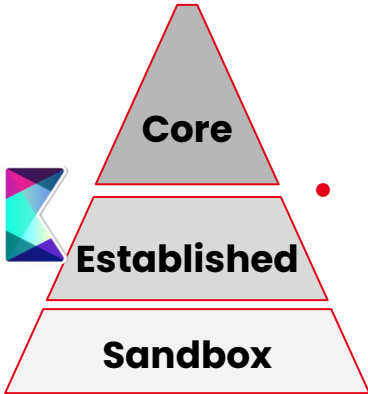
- Joining as a member (for institutions)
 - You need to join the Linux Foundation (Non-profit/academic, as associate for \$0)
 - Joining HPSF at one of three levels:
 - Premier: \$175k / year
 - General: \$2.5k - \$50k / year depending on size of organization
 - Associate: \$0 for non-profit / academic
 - Take a stand, fund it & get a say on where the funding goes to
- Joining as a project (for software project)
 - For the High Performance Computing ecosystem
 - That need a neutral home to facilitate multi-institutional collaborations
 - Providing vendor neutral solutions to engineering and science computational needs
 - Committed to building an open developer and user community

HPSF Software life-cycle

- **Core** projects have a **reliable** & **sustainable development** process
 - The **developer base** is strong and diverse
 - The **funding sources** are multiple
 - The **governance** is well specified
 - No single institution has a majority in the project lead
 - The project also fulfils all Established requirements

- **Established** projects are **production-strategic** for a **wide base of users**
 - The **user base** is wide and diverse
 - The **development process** is well documented and newcomers-friendly
 - The **development** is strong and steady
 - The project also fulfils all Sandbox requirements

- **Sandbox** projects are **free, open, neutral**, and **aim for the above**
 - Are **free, libre, open-source** HPC-related projects
 - With a **code of conduct**
 - And an aim to **widen developer and user-base** beyond a single institution



What kind of software is in HPSF so far?

Build & Deploy

- Build your software with tools that support all major computing architectures
- Deploy with cloud-ready packaging and container technologies on everything from your laptop to the largest exascale supercomputers

Develop & Sustain

- Leverage performance-portable software technologies
- Reuse high-quality scientific computing libraries including programming models, solvers, and visualization
- Foster community development for modeling and simulation applications

Analyze & Tune

- Profile your software with tools targeted at HPC environment
- Tune your software using information that connects performance data to how your software leverages HPSF projects



Spack



WarpX



AMReX



E4S



APPTAINER

APPTAINER



kokkos



Charliecloud



TRILINOS

Viskores



HPCToolkit

With CExA, CEA goes for Kokkos!

“adopt and adapt” strategy based on  Kokkos

- Kokkos : a **strong technical basis**

- A software architecture ready for the future
- Mature, free, libre, and open-source
- An **independent foundation** to own the product
 - HPSF under the Linux Foundation
- A **standardisation** effort in **ISO C++**



HPSF
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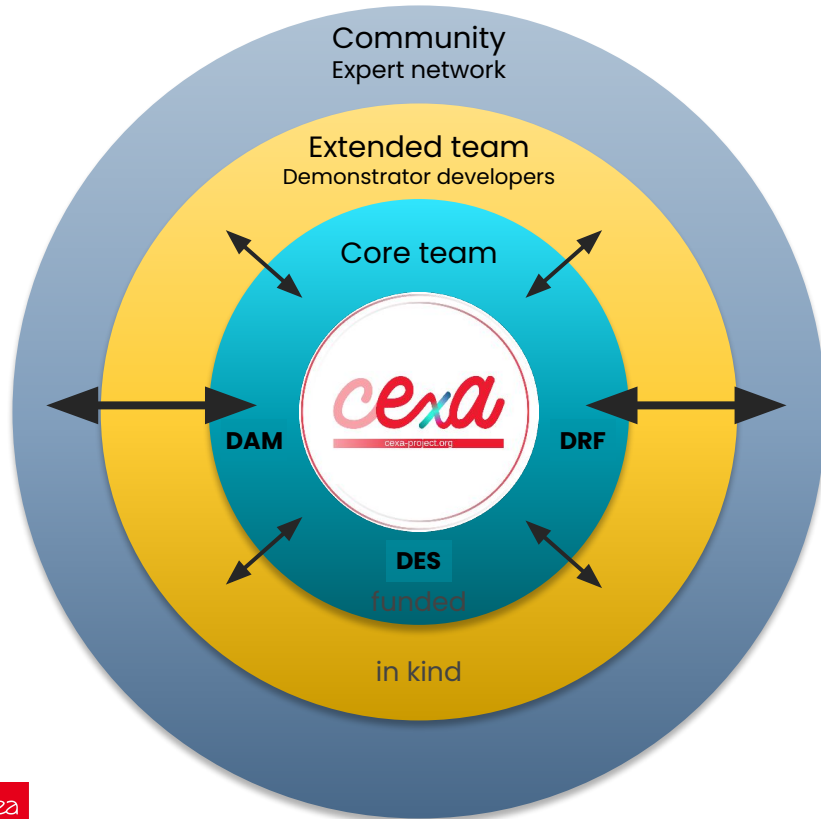
- Some **adaptations required**

- For European **hardware**
 - There is no real hardware sovereignty without software sovereignty
- For **applications** from CEA, France and Europe
 - Take our specificities into account



International
Organization for
Standardization

CExA project in practice



■ Core team

- Management, implementation and dissemination
- Fully integrated in the Kokkos team
- 13 researchers from all over CEA
- 3 recruitments done, 5 more funded
- Funding for 3 more hires expected next year

■ Extended team

- Demonstrator developers
 - Not funded
 - Find their own interest in the participation
- 2-3 new demonstrators every year

■ Community

- Federation of an expert network
- Co-design of CExA:
 - Identification of needs
 - Usage of CExA in applications
- Priority target for dissemination
- Sustainability of the work

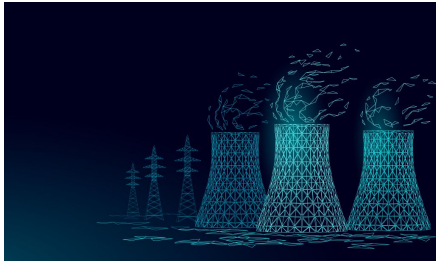
CExA: what's going on?

- Help with **documentation**
 - Website, Cheat-sheets, ...
- **Trainings**, lots of training!
- **Support** our applications
 - Test **unified memory** viability & performance
 - Add required solvers to **Kokkos-kernels**
- Improve software **quality**
 - Work on **GPU CI**
 - Co-maintaining Kokkos **Spack recipes**
- Ease **code migration**
 - From **Fortran**
 - From **C (with classes)**
 - From **OpenMP (CPU)**
- Test **hardware** & improve kokkos for it
 - **Intel PVC** backend improvement
 - **Nvidia Grace Hopper** memory management handling
- Add **our contributions** to Kokkos ecosystem
 - **DDC**
 - Discrete data & computation
 - **kokkos-fft**
 - Performance portable FFT with a Kokkos API
 - **Kokkos-comm**
 - Message passing integrated with Kokkos

To conclude



- **Kokkos** is a strong **vendor-neutral, performance portable** Exascale programming model with **GPU** support
- CExA & HPSF ensure it is a **sovereign** and **sustainable** approach that can be relied on for the foreseeable future
- A strong **dynamic** all over the CEA **and beyond**
- A **knock-on** effect with new **synergies** identified every weeks with code developers



The core team

Julien Bigot

Principal investigator



Ansar Calloo

Group leader



Cedric Chevalier

Group leader



Mathieu Lobet

Group leader



Yuuichi Asahi

Senior developer



Rémi Baron

Senior developer



Thomas Padioleau

Senior developer



Paul Zehner

Developer



Hariprasad Kannan

Developer

The extended team

Pierre Ledac

Trust/TrioCFD lead



Virginie Grandgirard

Gyselax++ lead



François Letierce

Triclade lead



Julien Jaeger

DAM link



Édouard Audit

Network animator



Samuel Kokh

DES link



Patrick Carribault

DAM link

Join us & join the fun!

Come visit
us at booth
4143: **CEA**
4648: **HPSF**

HPSF **BoF**,
Tuesday 5:15PM,
B309

2-years HPC DevOps Engineer position

Deployment and CI on supercomputers for the C++ Kokkos library within the “Moonshot” CExA project

CEA is recruiting DevOps engineers for a 2-year period to join the CExA “Moonshot” project team, which is setting up CEA’s GPU computing software stack around the Kokkos C++ library, to contribute to innovative packaging, deployment and continuous integration approaches for supercomputers, based in particular on Spack. A team of more than 10 people is currently being set up. The positions will be based at the CEA Saclay site near Paris.



2-years C++ expert engineer position

Contribution to the development of the Kokkos GPU computing library within the CExA “Moonshot” project

Join the CEA’s ambitious “Moonshot” project, CExA, and contribute to the development of the Kokkos GPU computing library. We are recruiting six talented and enthusiastic C++ development engineers for a period of 2 years to work at our CEA Saclay site near Paris.



<https://cexa-project.org>

Kokkos training & community animation

- Many Kokkos trainings
 - September 2023 with C. Trott & D. Lebrun Grandié in Saclay
 - March 2025 Hackathon at IDRIS
 - September 2024 w. D. Lebrun Grandié & L. Berger-Vergiat
 - November 2024 Mission Numérique CEA in Grenoble
 - January 2025 CEA/Riken winter school in Barcelona
 - January 2025 Hackathon w.
 - February 2025 Mission numérique in Cadarache
 - Summer school 2025 w. EDF & Inria
- Kokkos slack now has a #general-fr channel (~10% of the whole community)
- CEXA virtual café once a month
 - Informal presentations & discussions, in French about Kokkos, its ecosystem & GPU at large
- Kokkos virtual tea-time once a month
 - Informal presentations & discussions, in English about Kokkos, its ecosystem & GPU at large
 - With our US partners

