Using SYCL as an Implementation Framework for HPX.Compute

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Plan

HPX

Concepts

HPX.Compute

Challenges

Benchmarking

Summary

Goals
What is HPX?

- High Performance ParalleX $^{1,2}$
- Runtime for parallel and distributed applications
- Written purely in C++, with large usage of Boost
- Unified and standard-conforming C++ API

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$^1$ ParalleX an advanced parallel execution model for scaling-impaired applications - H. Kaiser et al - ICPPW, 2009

What is HPX?
HPX and C++ standard

HPX implements and even extends:

- Concurrency TS, N4107
- Extended async, N3632
- Task block, N4411
- Parallelism TS, N4105
- Executor, N4406

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HPX and C++ standard

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- Parallelism TS, N4105
- Executor, N4406

Another components

- partitioned vector
- segmented algorithms\(^3\)

Overview

Application

- Parallel Algorithms
- Fork-Join
- Asynchronous

Restrictions

Sequence, Where

Concepts

Execution Policies

Executors...

Executor Parameters...

e.g. chunk size, kernel name, GPU parameters
Execution policy

Puts restriction on execution, ensuring thread-safety

C++17
- sequential
- parallel
- parallel unsequenced

HPX
- asynchronous sequential
- asynchronous parallel
Asynchronous execution

Future
- represents result of an unfinished computation
- enables sending off operations to another thread
- TS allows for concurrent composition of different algorithms
- explicit depiction of data dependencies

Compose different operations
```cpp
hpx::future<type> f1 = hpx::parallel::for_each(par_task, ...);
auto f2 = f1.then(
    [] (hpx::future<type> f1) {
        hpx::parallel::for_each(par_task, ...);
    }
);
```
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HPX.Compute

- a unified model for heterogeneous programming
- platform and vendor independent
- interface based on C++17 and further extensions to C++ standard

Backends for:

- host
- CUDA
- HCC
- SYCL

4 unfinished
HPX.Compute

- a unified model for heterogeneous programming
- platform and vendor independent
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Three major concepts:

- target
- allocator
- executor
Target

- an abstract type expressing data locality and place of execution
- variety of represented hardware requires a simplified interface

Target interface:

```cpp
// Blocks until target is ready
void synchronize();

// Future is ready when all tasks allocated on target have been finished
hpx::future< void > get_future() const;
```
Target

- an abstract type expressing data locality and place of execution
- variety of represented hardware requires a simplified interface

SYCL implementation of target

- communicates with device through `sycl::queue`
- multiple targets may represent the same device
- requires additional measures for asynchronous communication
Allocator

- allocate and deallocate larger chunks of data on target
- data allocation is trivial on backends where memory is accessed with pointers (host, CUDA)

SYCL implementation of allocator

- create `sycl::buffer` objects
- not possible to tie a buffer to given device
Executor

- execute code on device indicated by data location
- usual GPU-related restrictions on allowed C++ operations
- marking device functions not required

Interface of an executor

```cpp
struct default_executor : hpx::parallel::executor_tag {

    template <typename F, typename Shape, typename ... Ts>
    void bulk_launch(F && f, Shape const & shape, Ts &&... ts) const;

    template <typename F, typename Shape, typename ... Ts>
    std::vector<hpx::future<void>> bulk_async_execute(F && f,
        Shape const & shape, Ts &&... ts) const;
};
```
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Device accessors

Capturing data buffers in SYCL

- a host iterator can only store `sycl::buffer` and position
- a separate device iterator has to be created in command group scope
- `sycl::global_ptr` represents an iterator type on device, but `std::iterator_traits` specialization or related typedefs are missing in SYCL standard

Comparison with other backends:

- an additional static conversion function is necessary
- distinct iterator types on host and device
- requires templated function objects or C++14 generic lambda
Data movement

Problem: copy data from a device to a given memory block on host, with a selection of an offset and size?

- **host_accessor** - an intermediate copy in SYCL runtime, no flexibility, may lead to deadlocks if a host accessor is not destroyed
- **set_final_data** - applicable only for buffer destruction, no flexibility
- **range-based subbuffer** - can emulate offset and size for **host_accessor**
- **map_allocator** - data is copied to a pointer defined by the SYCL user, but it can not be changed

Further issues

- no ability to synchronize with data transfer
Data movement

Suggested extension for SYCL

// copy all contents of buffer
template<typename T, int N, typename OutIter>
sycl::event copy(const sycl::buffer<T,N> & src, OutIter dest);

// copy range [begin, end) to buffer, fully replacing its contents
template<typename InIter, T, int N>
sycl::event copy(InIter begin, InIter end, sycl::buffer<T,N> & dest);
Data movement

Suggested extension for SYCL

```cpp
// write range to buffer starting at 'pos'
template<typename T, int N, typename InIter>
sycl::event sycl::buffer<T,N>::write(
    std::size_t pos, InIter begin, InIter end
);

// read 'size' elements starting at 'pos'
template<typename T, int N, typename OutIter>
sycl::event sycl::buffer<T,N>::read(
    std::size_t pos, std::size_t size, OutIter dest
);
```
Asynchronous execution

What SYCL offers for synchronization?

- blocking wait for tasks in queue
- blocking wait for enqueued kernels with `sycl::event`
- SYCL API does not cover OpenCL callbacks

Competing solutions

- stream callbacks in CUDA
- an extended future in C++AMP/HCC
Asynchronous execution

Use SYCL-OpenCL interoperability for callbacks

```cpp
// future_data is a shared state of hpx::future
cl::sycl::queue queue = ...;
future_data * ptr = ...;
cl_event marker;
clEnqueueMarkerWithWaitList(queue.get(), 0, nullptr, &marker);
clSetEventCallback(marker, CL_COMPLETE,
    [](cl_event, cl_int, void * ptr) {
        marker_callback(static_cast<future_data*>(ptr));
    }, ptr);
```

Downside

- not applicable for SYCL host device
Non-standard layout datatypes

An example: standard C++ tuple

- common `std::tuple` implementations, such as in `libstdc++` or `libc++`, are not C++11 standard layout due to multiple inheritance
- adding a non-standard implementation requires complex changes in existing codebase

Approaches for other types

- refactor current solution to be C++ standard layout
- manually deconstruct the object and construct again in kernel scope
- add serialization and deserialization interface to problematic types
- automatic serialization by the compiler - technique used in HCC
Kernel naming

- two-tier compilation needs to link kernel code and invocation
- name has to be unique
- breaks the standard API for STL algorithms
- different extensions to C++ may solve this problem\(^5\)

\(^5\) Khronos’s OpenCL SYCL to support Heterogeneous Devices for C++ - Wong, M. et al. - P0236R0
Named execution policy

- execution policy contains the name
- use the type of function object if no name is provided
- used in ParallelSTL project

A SYCL named execution policy

```cpp
struct DefaultKernelName {}

template <class KernelName = DefaultKernelName>
class sycl_execution_policy {
  ...
};
```

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6 https://github.com/KhronosGroup/SyclParallelSTL/
Named execution policy

- execution policy contains the name
- use the type of function object if no name is provided
- used in ParallelSTL project

Cons:
- no logical connection between execution policy and kernel name
- duplicating `std::par` execution policy

https://github.com/KhronosGroup/SyclParallelSTL/
Named execution policy

Our solution: executor parameters

- an HPX extension to proposed concepts for executors
- a set of configuration options to control execution
- control settings which are independent from the actual executor type
- example: OpenMP-like chunk sizes

Pass kernel name as a parameter

```cpp
// uses default executor: par
hpx::parallel::for_each(
    hpx::parallel::par.with(
        hpx::parallel::kernel_name<class Name>()
    ),
    ...
);```

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Benchmarking

Summary
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Benchmarking hardware for STREAM

Khronos SYCL

- **GPU**: AMD Radeon R9 Fury Nano
- **ComputeCPP**: CommunityEdition-0.1.1
- **OpenCL**: AMD APP SDK 2.9

GPU-STREAM has been used to measure SYCL performance: https://github.com/UoB-HPC/GPU-STREAM
STREAM benchmark on 305 MB arrays

- HPX
- HPX without callbacks
- SYCL

Bandwidth (GB/s)
STREAM

STREAM scaling with size

Array size (MB)

Bandwidth (GB/s)

HPX
HPX without callbacks
SYCL
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The Good

- performance and capabilities comparable with competing standards
- no requirement of marking functions capable of running on a device
- previous experiments revealed that an overhead of ComputeCpp, an offline device compiler for SYCL, is not severe during build process
Summary

The Bad

- kernel names appearing in standard interface
- troublesome capture of complex types storing SYCL buffers
- lack of explicit data movement
- limited support for SPIR on modern GPUs
Summary

The Ugly

- asynchronous callbacks work but with a slight overhead
- SYCL pointer types can not be treated as iterators
- troublesome capture of non-standard layout types
Future

Goals

- demonstrate a complex problem solved over host and GPU with our model and STL algorithms
- extend implementation with more algorithms

Challenges

- how to express on-chip/local memory through our model?
- try to reduce overhead for shorter kernels
Thanks for your attention

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