



A Julia Package for HPC Meta-Programming and Performance Portability

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and Jeffrey Vetter



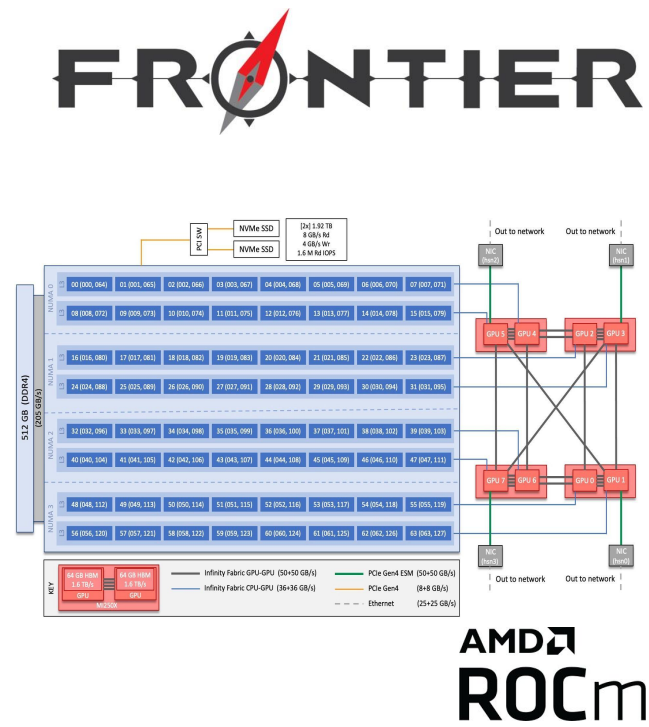
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Motivation: Performance Portability and Programming Productivity

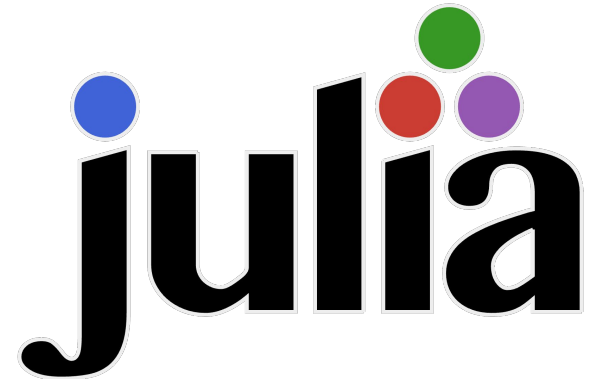
Program Once and Deploy Everywhere!



Why Julia?

Think in Python or Matlab, but now imagine that it works well on HPC

- A JIT language on top of LLVM
- Easy to use and agile interface with C performance
- Julia syntax is optimized for science
- Native syntax (no manual implemented wrappers or wrapper of ...) for HPC support
 - Threads, CUDA, AMDGPU, OneAPI, MPI, DAGGER etc
- Integrated and efficient support for packaging, reproducibility, CI/CD, ...
- All this makes Julia an ecosystem motivated by performance and productivity



Options for (Data) Parallelism in Julia

CPU multi-threading:

- Threads (built-in)
- Polyester
- OhMyThreads

GPU kernel model (fine-granularity):

- Vendor-specific packages:
 - CUDA, AMDGPU, oneAPI, Metal
- KernelAbstractions
 - Portable interface implemented by each vendor package

Performance-Portable (CPU or GPU with smart defaults):

- JACC

JACC.jl, Julia for ACCelerators

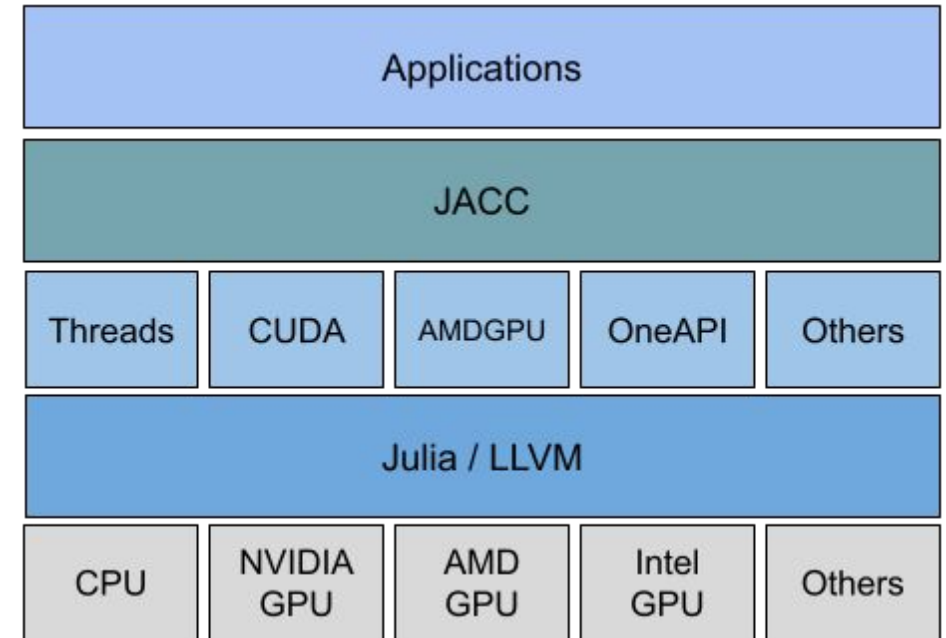


Simple to use performance portable model

- High-level performance portability model of Julia (parallel_for & parallel_reduce)
- **JACC is a unified Julia front-end on top of multiple backends**
 - Threads, CUDA, AMDGPU, and oneAPI
- Hide low-level and device specific implementation
 - Memory layout, granularity, etc.
- Improve programming productivity for science and HPC
- A growing community (family)
 - LBNL/NERSC, Argonne, MIT, ETHZ, BSC, Cerfacs, FI/CCQ, ...
 - You are welcome to join (JACC community meetings once a month)

<https://github.com/JuliaORNL/JACC.jl>

<https://ieeexplore.ieee.org/document/10820713>



Getting started with JACC



1. Add JACC as a dependency

```
julia> Pkg.add("JACC")
```

2. Set backend

```
julia> using JACC
```

```
julia> JACC.set_backend("cuda")
```

- This will install the appropriate backend package as a dependency (don't commit this).
- In some cases you will need to configure the backend package.

3. Restart julia

4. Load extension before use

```
julia> using JACC
```

```
julia> JACC.@init_backend
```

This imports the appropriate backend package for the preference set with JACC.set_backend

JACC paradigm basics

- **JACC.array**
 - Returns backend-managed array
 - No separate array type for JACC
- **JACC.parallel_for** and **JACC.parallel_reduce**
 - Kernel function passed as an argument
 - Unidimensional and multidimensional APIs
- **JACC.ones** or **JACC.zeros**

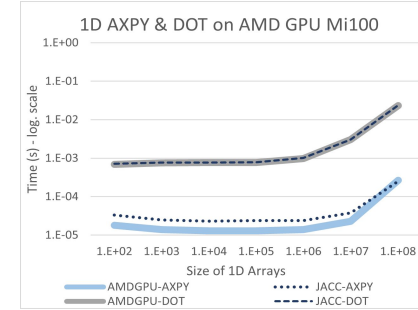
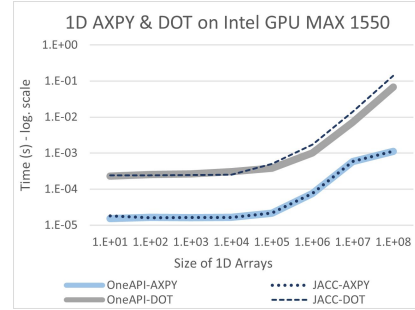
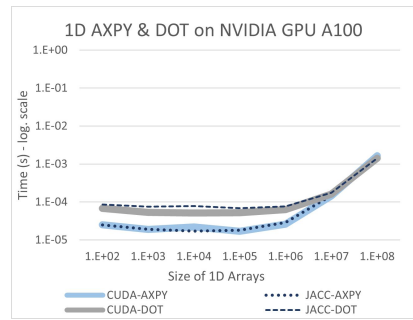
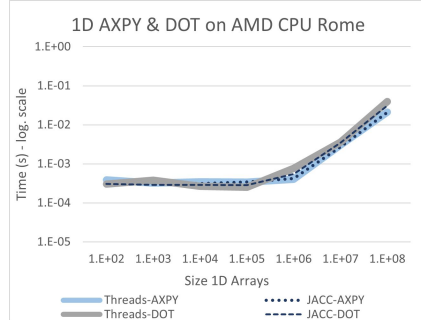
```
using JACC
JACC.@init_backend

# Unidimensional arrays
function axpy(i, alpha, x, y)
    x[i] += alpha * y[i]
end
function dot(i, x, y)
    return x[i] * y[i]
end
SIZE = 1_000_000
x = round.(rand(Float64, SIZE) * 100)
y = round.(rand(Float64, SIZE) * 100)
alpha = 2.5
dx = JACC.array(x)
dy = JACC.array(y)
JACC.parallel_for(SIZE, axpy, alpha, dx, dy)
res = JACC.parallel_reduce(SIZE, dot, dx, dy)

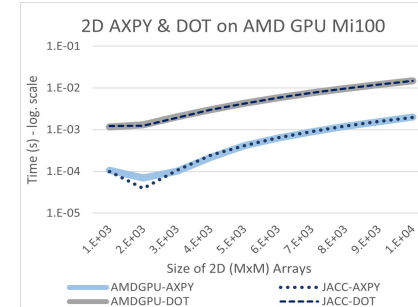
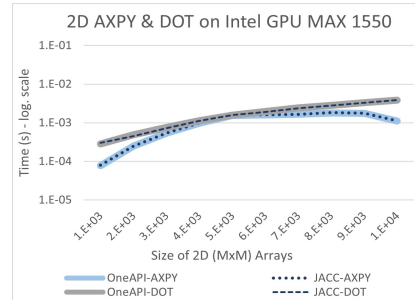
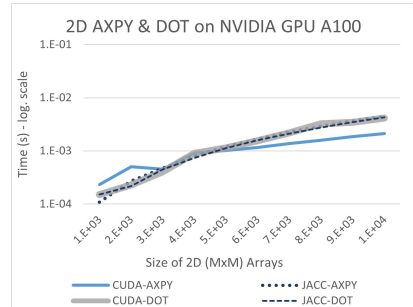
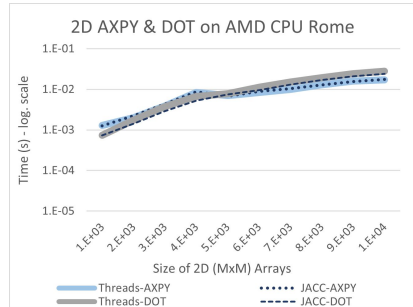
# Multidimensional arrays
function axpy(i, j, alpha, x, y)
    x[i, j] += alpha * y[i, j]
end
function dot(i, j, x, y)
    return x[i, j] * y[i, j]
end
SIZE = 1_000
x = round.(rand(Float64, SIZE, SIZE) * 100)
y = round.(rand(Float64, SIZE, SIZE) * 100)
alpha = 2.5
dx = JACC.array(x)
dy = JACC.array(y)
JACC.parallel_for((SIZE, SIZE), axpy, alpha, dx, dy)
res = JACC.parallel_reduce((SIZE, SIZE), dot, dx, dy)
```

Performance Results

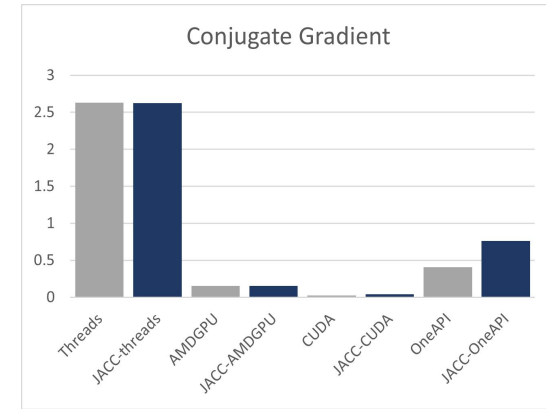
1D AXPY & DOT



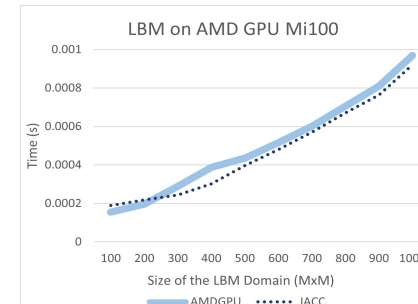
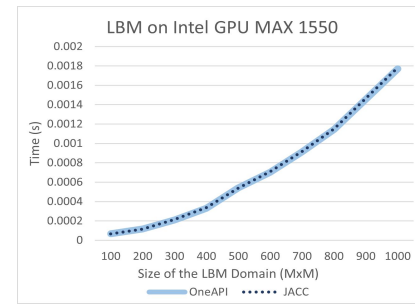
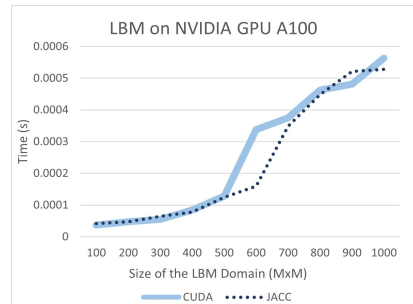
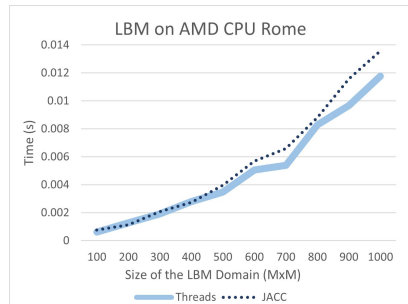
2D AXPY & DOT



Conjugate Gradient



Lattice – Boltzmann Method



JACC paradigm basics - arrays

`JACC.array(x::Base.Array)`

Constructs a backend-specific array (copying to device if necessary)

`JACC.array_type()`

Provides type of array that would be returned by `JACC.array`, e.g., `CuArray`

```
function foo(x::JACC.array_type() {Float64, 1})  
    # ...  
end
```

JACC paradigm basics - parallel_for

Moving from a serial loop to a JACC.parallel_for

```
for i = 1:N
    @inbounds x[i] += alpha * y[i]
end
```



```
JACC.parallel_for(N,
    (i, alpha, x, y) -> begin
        @inbounds x[i] += alpha * y[i]
    end,
    alpha, x, y) # anonymous function
```

(or, from the previous example)

```
function axpy(i, alpha, x, y)
    @inbounds x[i] += alpha * y[i]
end
JACC.parallel_for(SIZE, axpy, alpha, dx, dy)
```

Note that items must be passed explicitly.

JACC paradigm basics - parallel_for

Take a slightly more involved example and use a named tuple for the anonymous function

```
for i = 1:N
    @inbounds begin
        event = events[i, 6:8]
        weight = events[i, 1]
        for op in transforms
            v = op * event
            atomic_push!(hist, v, weight)
        end
    end
end
```



```
JACC.parallel_for(length(events),
    (i, t) -> begin
        @inbounds begin
            event = t.events[i, 6:8]
            weight = t.events[i, 1]
            for op in t.transforms
                v = op * event
                atomic_push!(t.h, v, weight)
            end
        end
    end,
    (h = hist, events, transforms), # named tuple
)
```

JACC paradigm basics - parallel_reduce

```
parallel_reduce(N, op, f, x...; init) -> typeof(init)
```

```
parallel_reduce(N, f, x...) = parallel_reduce(N, +, f, x...; init = 0.0)
```

```
parallel_reduce([op = +,] a::AbstractArray; init = default_init(eltype(a), op)) -> typeof(init)
```

```
# op ∈ {+, *, min, max, custom}
```

Examples

```
a = JACC.array(randn(Float64, SIZE))  
mysum = JACC.parallel_reduce(a)  
mymin = JACC.parallel_reduce(min, a)
```

```
maxIx = JACC.parallel_reduce(N, max,  
    (i, t) -> begin  
        @inbounds return compute_something(  
            t.signal,  
            t.theta[i],  
            t.phi[i],  
            t.transform,  
        )  
    end,  
    (  
        signal = signal,  
        theta,  
        phi,  
        transform,  
    ),  
    init = typemin(SizeType)  
)
```

Notes for GPU programming

- Any function can be used in a kernel (without special annotation)
(as long as it doesn't allocate)
- JACC imports the @atomic macro from [Atomix.jl](#)
- Use [StaticArrays.jl](#) for small fixed-size arrays
- Use [Adapt.jl](#) if you need to put GPU arrays in a struct

Simple exercises

1. Allocate an array and use a kernel to initialize the elements (e.g., using the index values)
2. Allocate an array of ones and find the sum of the elements using `parallel_reduce`.
3. Try #2 using a `parallel_for` with `@atomic`

(Bonus) Create a struct holding an array and use it in a kernel. (This is not a challenge for CPU-only code)

Some Implementation Details

- Most JACC functions have backend-specific implementations
- Use tag dispatch
- Backend tags are consistent with KernelAbstractions
- Example (from CUDA backend):
- API function dispatches to default backend

```
function parallel_for(N::Integer, f::Callable, x...)
    return parallel_for(default_backend(), N, f, x...)
end
```

```
function JACC.parallel_for(::CUDABackend, N::Integer, f::Callable, x...)
    kargs = kernel_args(N, f, x...)
    kernel, maxThreads = kernel_maxthreads(_parallel_for_cuda, kargs)
    threads = min(N, maxThreads)
    blocks = ceil{Int}(N / threads)
    shmem_size = attribute(
        device(), CUDA.DEVICE_ATTRIBUTE_MAX_SHARED_MEMORY_PER_BLOCK)
    CUDA.@sync kernel(
        kargs...; threads = threads, blocks = blocks, shmem = shmem_size)
end
```

LaunchSpec for parallel_for

- JACC.parallel_for defaults:
 - Synchronize
 - Use default stream
 - Compute threads, blocks, and shmem_size
- New version allows fine-grain control
- Specify one or more of the keywords
- Call parallel_for(spec, N, f, x...)

```
@kwdef mutable struct LaunchSpec{Backend}
    stream = default_stream(Backend)
    threads = 0
    blocks = 0
    shmem_size::Int = 0
    sync::Bool = false
end

launch_spec(; kw...) = LaunchSpec{typeof(default_backend())}(; kw...)
```

JACC.Multi: Exploiting Multi-GPU Nodes

Most current HPC nodes are multi-GPU

- **JACC.Multi**
 - Deploy JACC's specification to multi-GPU
- **JACC.Multi.array:**
 - `JX = JACC.Multi.array(X)`
 - X is evenly distributed into the different GPUs
 - JX is an implementation-specific structure for managing a set of sub-arrays
- **JACC.Multi.parallel_for** and **JACC.Multi.parallel_reduce**
 - Same specification, but launches portion of workload on all devices
- **Manage ghost elements between devices**

More thorough example in tests

```
# Unidimensional arrays
function axpy(i, alpha, x, y)
    x[i] += alpha * y[i]
end
function dot(i, x, y)
    return x[i] * y[i]
end
SIZE = 1_000_000
x = round.(rand(Float64, SIZE) * 100)
y = round.(rand(Float64, SIZE) * 100)
alpha = 2.5
dx = JACC.Multi.array(x)
dy = JACC.Multi.array(y)
JACC.Multi.parallel_for(SIZE, axpy, alpha, dx, dy)
res = JACC.Multi.parallel_reduce(SIZE, dot, dx, dy)

# Multidimensional arrays
function axpy_2d(i, j, alpha, x, y)
    x[i, j] += alpha * y[i, j]
end
function dot_2d(i, j, x, y)
    return x[i, j] * y[i, j]
end
SIZE = 1_000
x = round.(rand(Float64, SIZE, SIZE) * 100)
y = round.(rand(Float64, SIZE, SIZE) * 100)
alpha = 2.5
dx = JACC.Multi.array(x)
dy = JACC.Multi.array(y)
JACC.Multi.parallel_for((SIZE, SIZE), axpy_2d, alpha, dx, dy)
res = JACC.Multi.parallel_reduce((SIZE, SIZE), dot_2d, dx, dy)
```

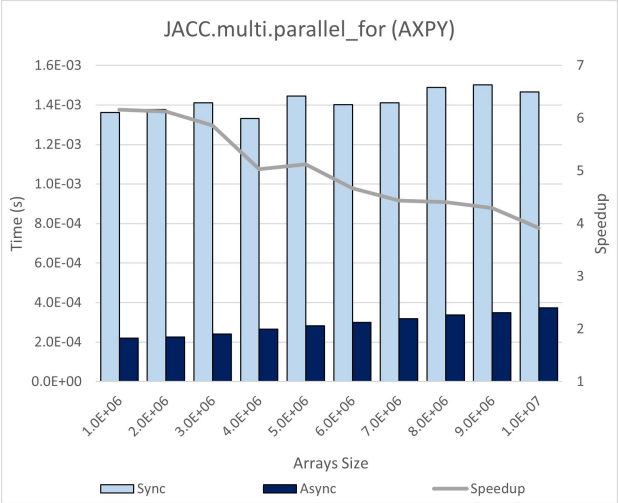
JACC.Multi: Performance Results

Synchronous vs Asynchronous

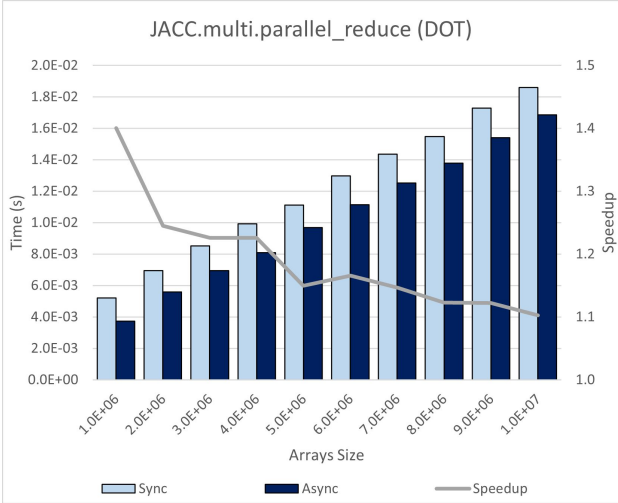
Frontier
4x AMD Mi250x GPUs



AXPY



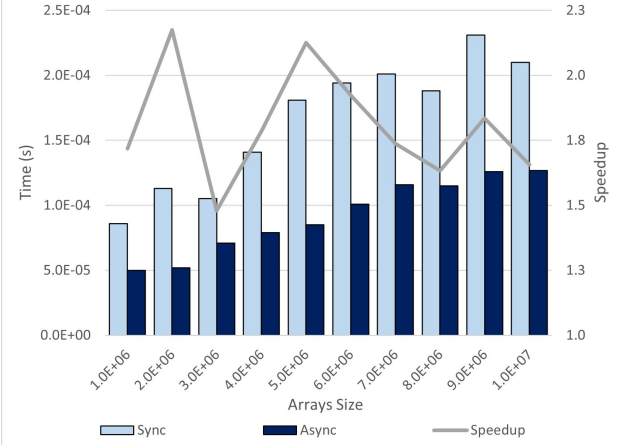
DOT



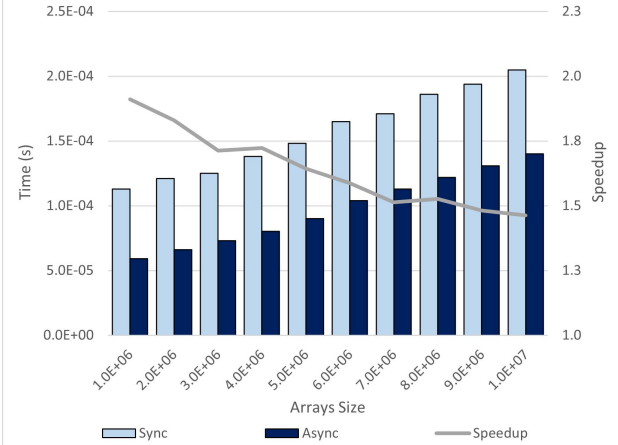
ExCL's Hudson Node
2x NVIDIA Hopper H100 GPUs



JACC.multi.parallel_for (AXPY)



JACC.multi.parallel_reduce (DOT)



JACC.shared: Exploiting High-Bandwidth on-chip GPUs Memory

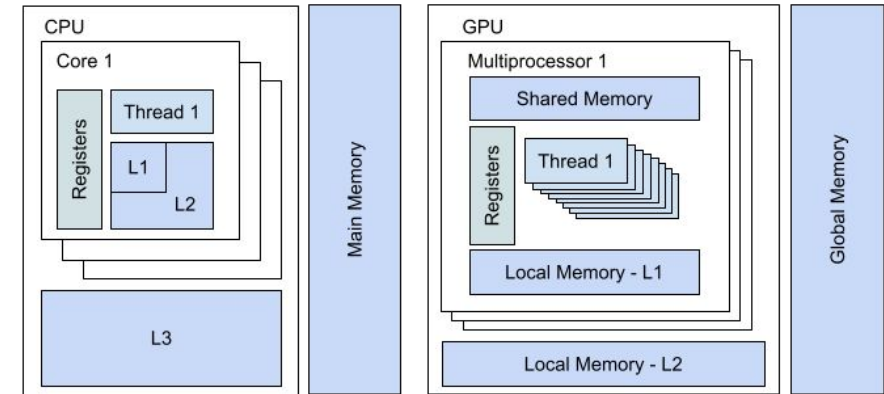
<https://ieeexplore.ieee.org/document/10938453>

- Shared memory on-chip GPUs memory are **orders of magnitude faster** than global memory
- Shared memory is useful to accelerate computations where multiple threads within the same block must access the same data multiple times

- **Implementation**

$Y = \text{JACC.shared}(X)$

- X is a JACC.array and Y is a copy of X stored in on-chip shared memory
- X can be any dimension
- Y can only be a unidimensional array
- To be used inside functions
- The array passed as argument must fit the capacity of the shared memory



```
function spectral(i, j, image, filter, num_bands)
    for b in 1:bands
        @inbounds image[b, i, j] *= filter[j]
    end
end

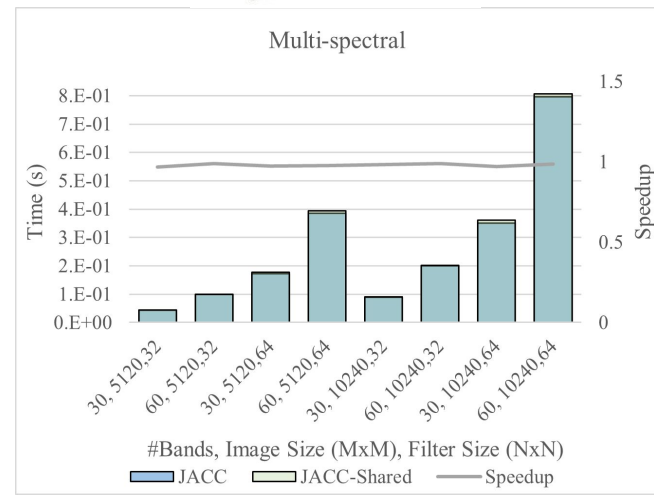
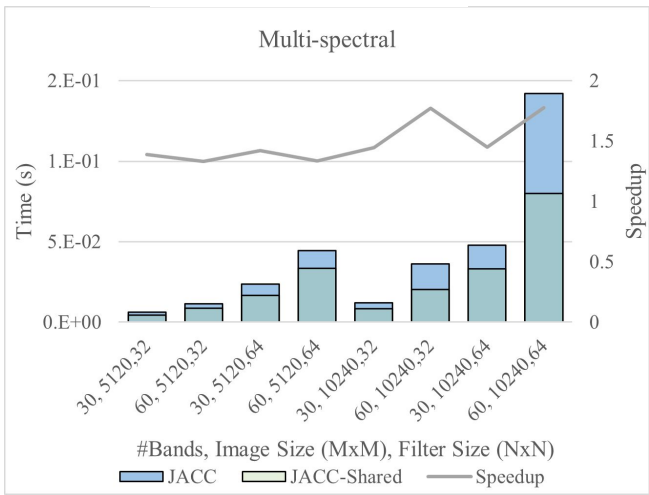
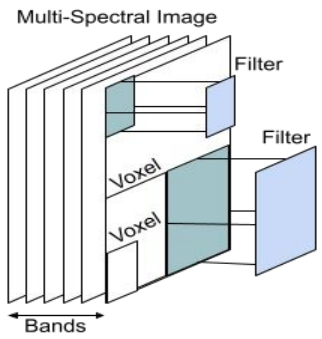
function spectral_shared(i, j, image, filter,
    num_bands)
    #Shared memory initialization
    filter_shared = JACC.shared(filter)
    for b in 1:bands
        @inbounds image[b, i, j] *= filter_shared[j]
    end
end

num_bands = 60
num_voxel = 10_240
size_voxel = 64*64
image = init_image(Float32,
    num_bands, num_voxel, size_voxel)
filter = init_filter(Float32, size_voxel)
jimage = JACC.Array(image)
jimage_shared = JACC.Array(image)
jfilter = JACC.Array(filter)
JACC.parallel_for((num_voxel, size_voxel),
    spectral[_shared], jimage, jfilter, num_bands)
```

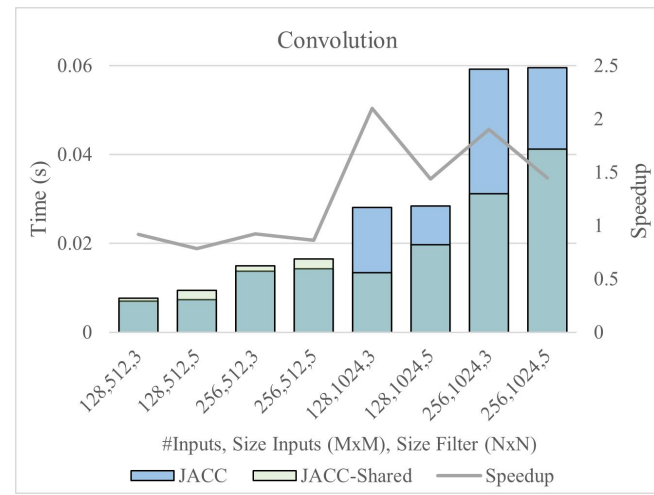
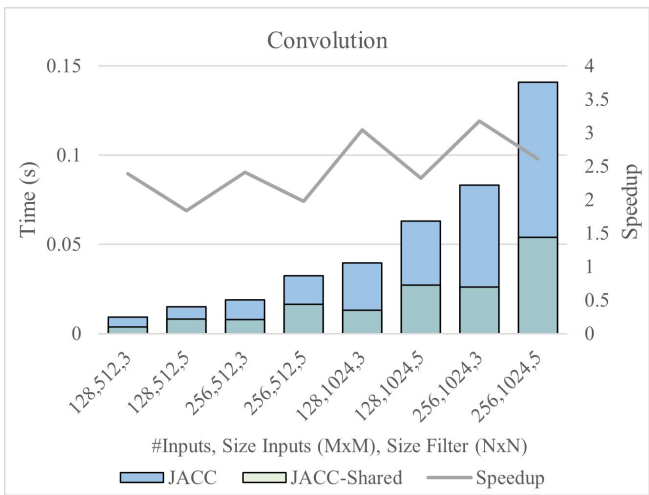
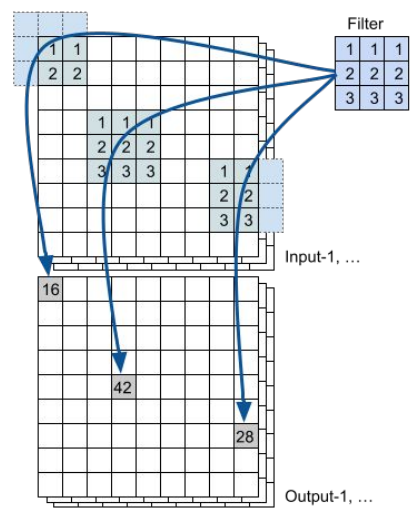
JACC.Shared: Performance Results



Multi-Spectral Imaging



AI Convolutions



Applications & Future Work

- Ongoing Efforts
 - Performance benchmarking (closing gaps)
 - More intuitive kernel launch
 - JACC.Async : Concurrency on multi-device nodes
 - JACC.Auto : Autotuning
 - Have ideas? Send us a message!
- Examples and applications using JACC
 - Look at the [tests](#)
 - Tatiana's [7-point stencil](#)
 - <https://github.com/JuliaORNL/MiniVATES.jl>
 - <https://github.com/JuliaORNL/JACC-applications>
 - <https://github.com/JuliaORNL/GrayScott.jl>
- Other HPC Julia tutorial resources
 - [SC24 tutorial](#)

Project:

- William F Godoy (ORNL)
- Pedro Valero Lara (ORNL)
- Philip W Fackler (ORNL)
- Narasinga Rao Miniskar (ORNL)
- Aaron Young (ORNL)
- Keita Teranishi (ORNL)

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- Karl Pierce (Flatiron Institute)
- Kelly Tang
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Questions?