



PENCIL

A Platform-Neutral Compute Intermediate Language for DSL Compilers

Riyadh Baghdadi^{1,2}

Adam Betts⁴

Alastair Donaldson⁴

Elnar Hajiyev⁵

Michael Kruse¹

Javed Absar³

Albert Cohen^{1,2}

Tobias Grosser^{1,2}

Jeroen Ketema⁴

Anton Lokhmotov³

Sven Verdoolaege^{2,6}

Ulysse Beaugnon^{1,2}

Róbert Dávid⁵

Sven Van Haastregt³

Alexey Kravets³

Chandan Reddy¹

¹École Normale Supérieure, ²INRIA, ³ARM, ⁴Imperial College London, ⁵RealEyes,
⁶KU Leuven

Obligatory Motivational Slide About Accelerators



Advantages

- Impressive raw performance
- Massive parallelism
- Low energy consumption per operation

Problems

- Highly optimized code is hard to write
- Non-portable performance
- Maintaining multiple sources for different architectures not easy

Compilers

Target
platforms

NVIDIA
GPUs

AMD
GPUs

ARM
(Mali,Adreno,...)

...

Compilers

Domain
languages

VOBLA

```
function gemm(alpha: Value,
              in A: SparseIterable<Value> [m] [k] ,
              in B: Value[k] [n] ,
              beta: Value,
              out C: Value[m] [n] )
{
    Cij *= beta forall _, _, Cij in C.sparse;
    C[i] [j] += alpha*Ail*B[l] [j]
    for i, l, Ail in A.sparse, j in 0:n-1;
}
```

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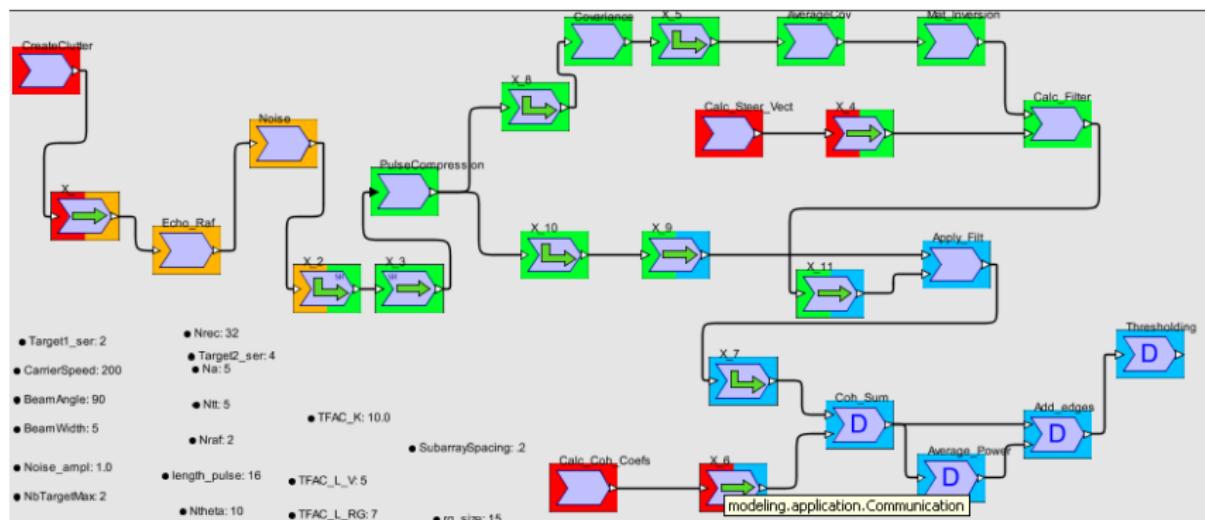
...

Compilers

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SpearDE



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Any DSL

...

Target platforms

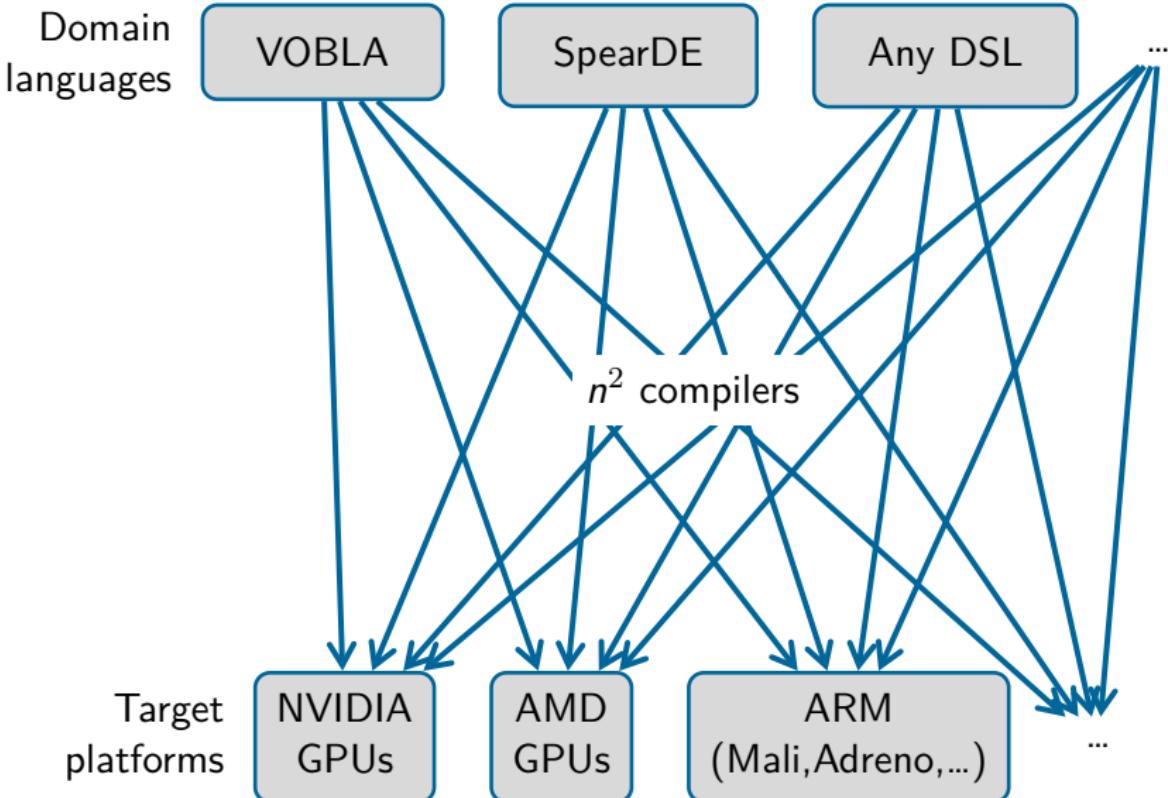
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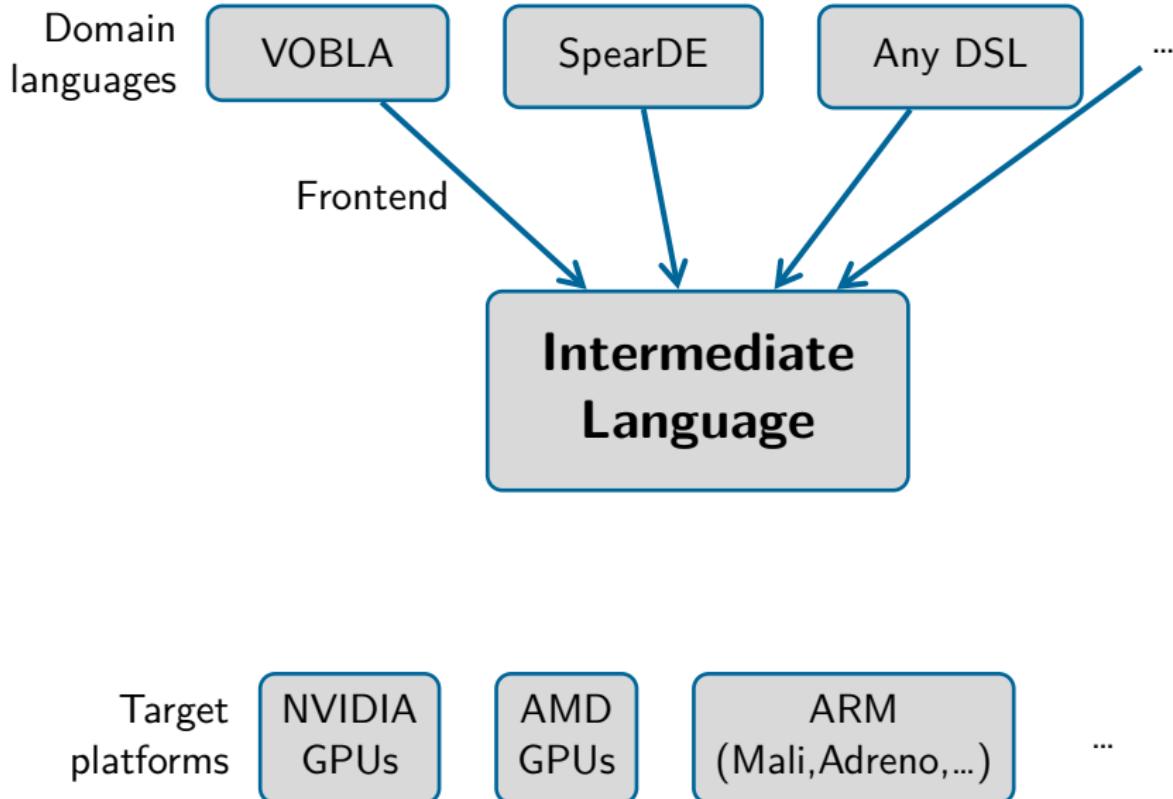
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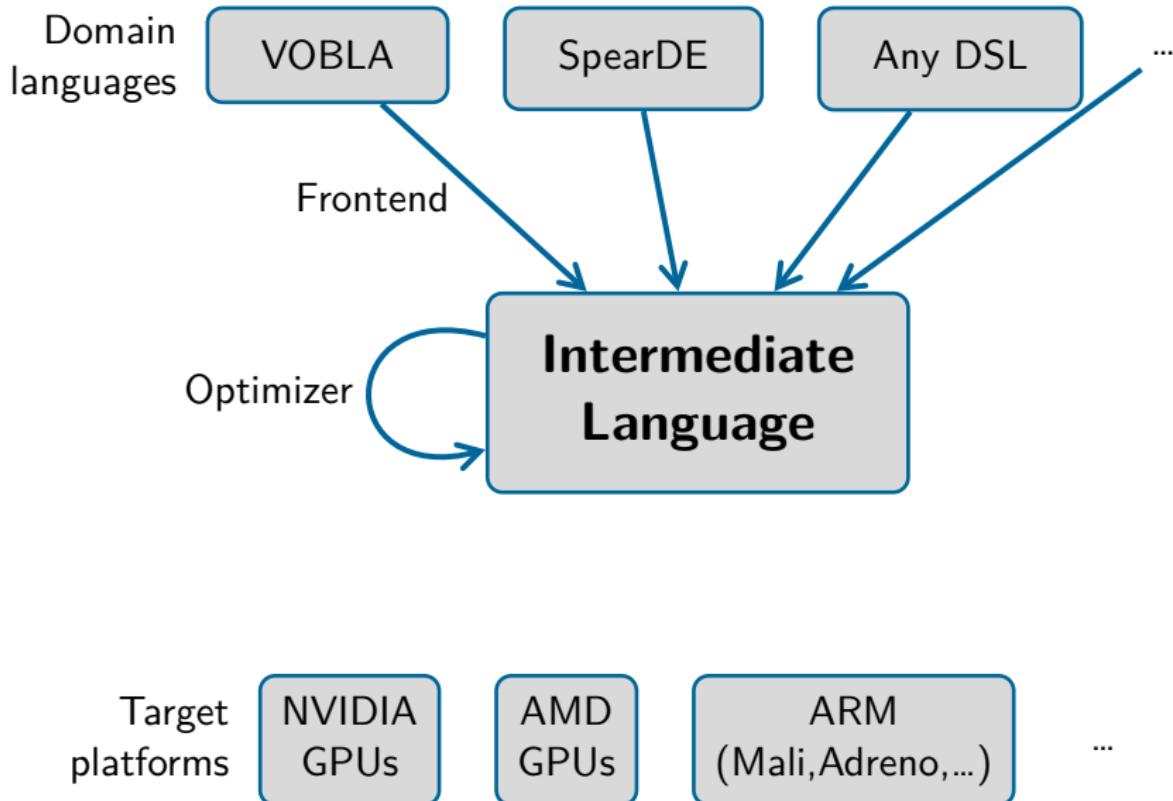
Compilers



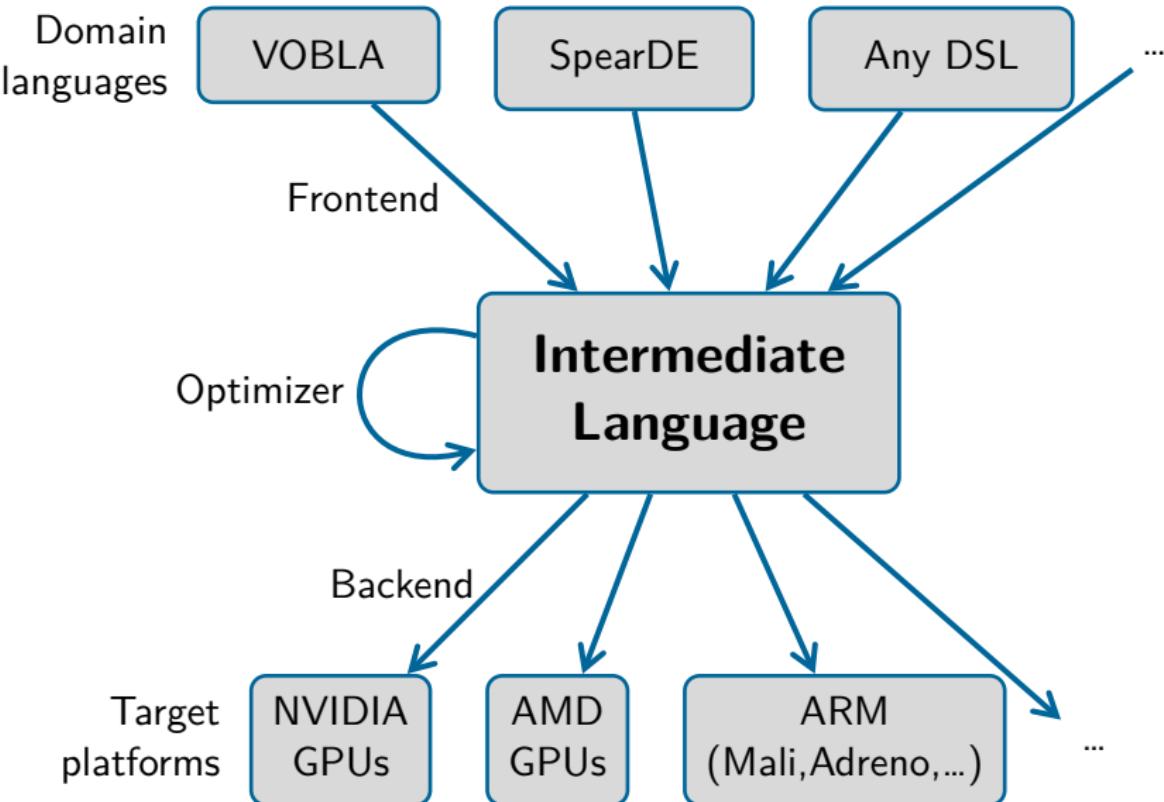
Compilers



Compilers



Compilers



Overview

1 Introduction

2 Approach

3 The Pencil Language

4 Discussion

5 pencilcc

6 PENCIL Style Guidelines

Ideas

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- Intermediate language
Any frontend language possible

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Powerful static analysis and optimizations

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- Intermediate language
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Powerful static analysis and optimizations
- Meta-level specification
Code properties not derivable from code itself (helps pessimistic optimizers)
- OpenCL output
Multiple target platforms

General Flow

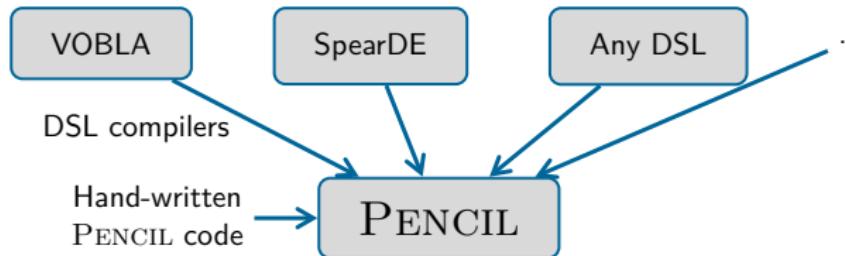
VOBLA

SpearDE

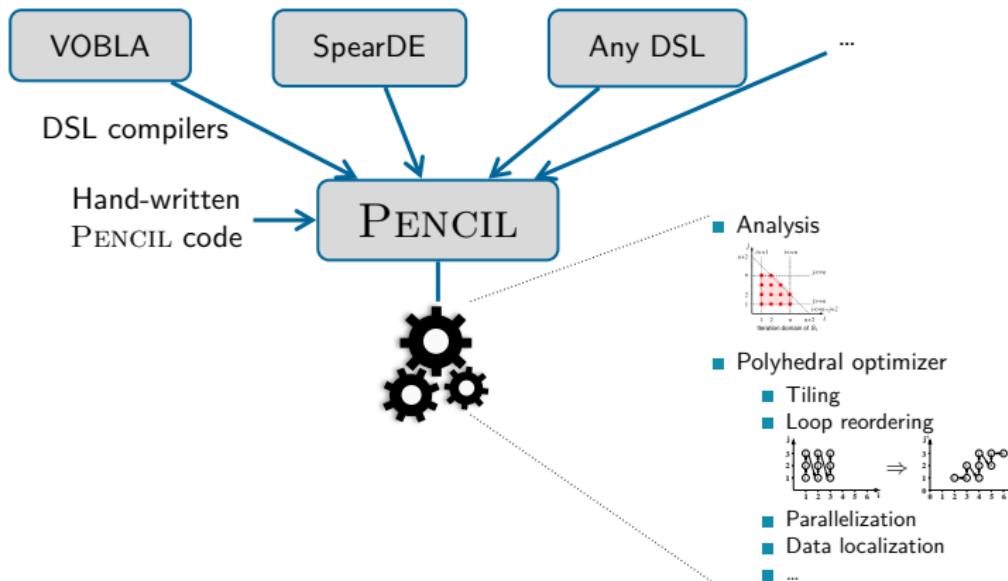
Any DSL

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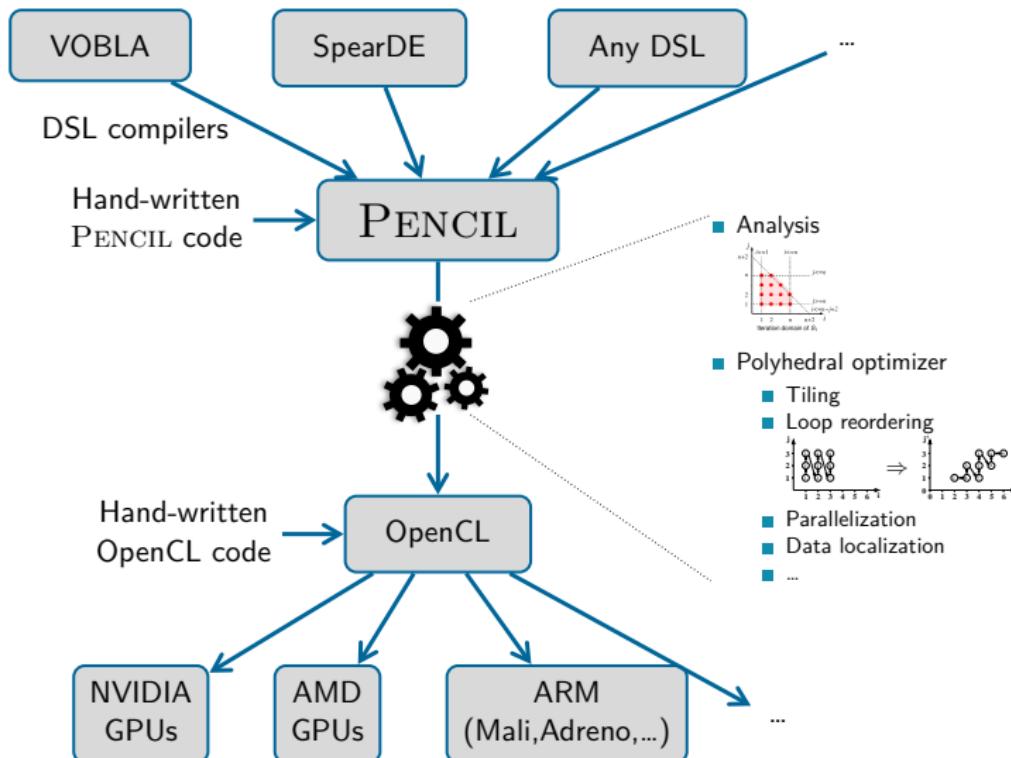
General Flow



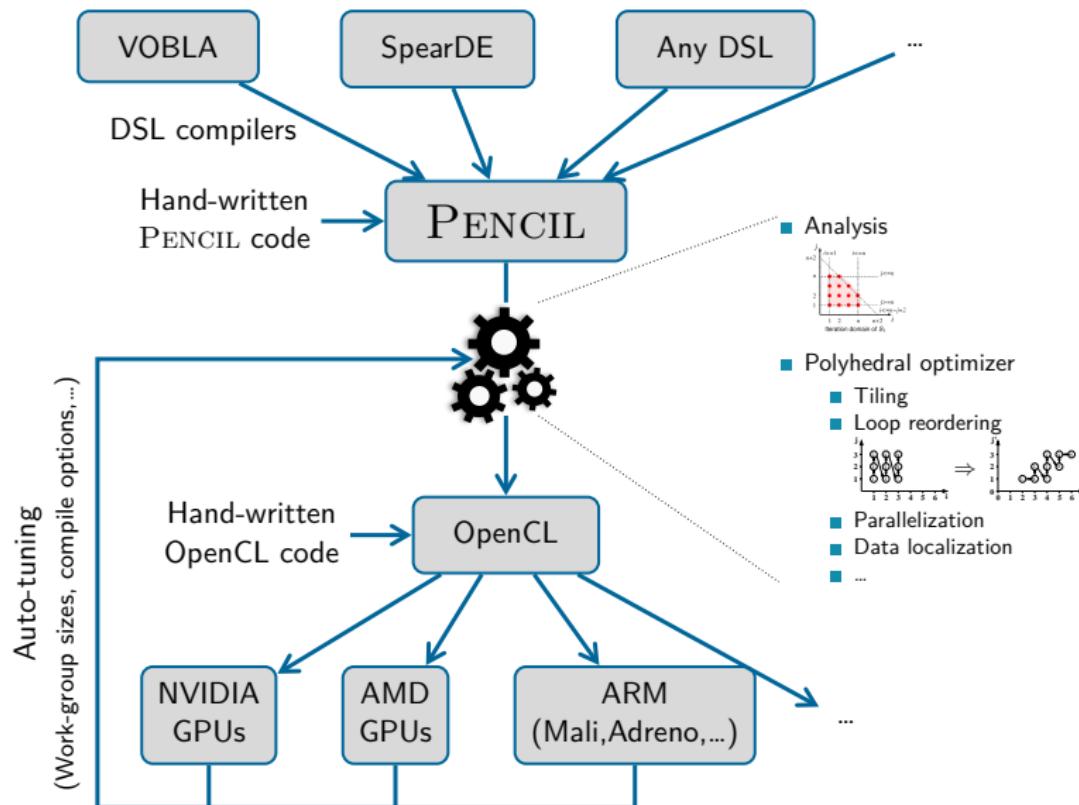
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```
void foo(int * const restrict A)
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⇒

```
void foo(int n, int A[static const restrict n])
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Invalidate data currently held by an array

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The result does not depend on the execution order of iterations

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- `__pencil_assume`

Make assumption violations undefined behaviour

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void foo(int * const restrict A)  
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void foo(int n, int A[static const restrict n])
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- Optimization hints
 - `__pencil_kill`
Invalidate data currently held by an array
 - `#pragma pencil independent`
The result does not depend on the execution order of iterations
 - `__pencil_assume`
Make assumption violations undefined behaviour
 - Summary functions
Describe the memory access pattern of a function

General Syntax

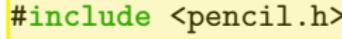
Example: Finite Impulse Response

```
1 #include <pencil.h>
2
3 void fir(int n, float in[static const restrict n],
4           float out[static const restrict n])
5 {
6     for (int i = 1; i < n-1; ++i) {
7         out[i] = (in[i-1] + in[i] + in[i+1])/3;
8     }
9 }
```

General Syntax

Example: Finite Impulse Response

Declarations & plain C compatibility



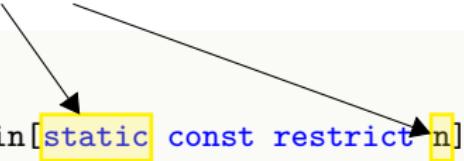
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General Syntax

Example: Finite Impulse Response

At least n elements (and non-null if n > 0)

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General Syntax

Example: Finite Impulse Response

Pointer in does not change in function body

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General Syntax

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No aliasing

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```

Canonical for-loop

General Syntax

Example: Finite Impulse Response

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9 }
```

```
out[i] = (in[i-1] + in[i] + in[i+1])/3;
```

Array subscripts (syntactically different from $*(\text{out} + \text{i})$)

Kill Statement

Example: Finite Impulse Response

```
1 void doublefir_inplace(int n, float in[static const restrict n],  
2                         float tmp[static const restrict n],  
3                         float out[static const restrict n])  
4 {  
5  
6  
7  
8     for (int i = 1; i < n-1; ++i) {  
9         tmp[i] = (in[i-1] + in[i] + in[i+1])/3;  
10    }  
11    tmp[0] = (in[0] + in[1])/2;  
12    tmp[n-1] = (in[n-2] + in[n-1])/2;  
13  
14    for (int i = 1; i < n-1; ++i) {  
15        out[i] = (tmp[i-1] + tmp[i] + tmp[i+1])/3;  
16    }  
17  
18  
19 }
```

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11    tmp[0] = (in[0] + in[1])/2;  
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13  
14    for (int i = 1; i < n-1; ++i) {  
15        out[i] = (tmp[i-1] + tmp[i] + tmp[i+1])/3;  
16    }  
17  
18    __pencil_kill(tmp); // Avoid copy to host  
19 }
```

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2                         float tmp[static const restrict n],  
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4 {  
5     __pencil_kill(tmp); // Avoid copy to device  
6     __pencil_kill(out); // Avoid copy to device  
7  
8     for (int i = 1; i < n-1; ++i) {  
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Independent Directive

Example: Basic Histogram

```
1 void basic_histogram(int n, int m,
2                     unsigned char image[static const restrict n][m],
3                     int hist[static const restrict 256]) {
4
5     for (int i=0; i<n; i++)
6
7         for (int j=0; j<m; j++) {
8             int idx = image[i][j];
9             atomic_add(hist[idx], 1);
10        }
11 }
```

Independent Directive

Example: Basic Histogram

```
1 void basic_histogram(int n, int m,
2                     unsigned char image[static const restrict n][m],
3                     int hist[static const restrict 256]) {
4 #pragma pencil independent
5     for (int i=0; i<N; i++)
6 #pragma pencil independent
7     for (int j=0; j<M; j++) {
8         int idx = image[i][j];
9         atomic_add(hist[idx], 1);
10    }
11 }
```

Assume Statement

Example: Matrix-Vector Multiplication

```
1 void gemv(int n, int m, float mat[static const restrict m][n],  
2           float vec[static const restrict n],  
3           float out[static const restrict m]) {  
4  
5  
6  
7     for (int i = 0; i < m; ++i) {  
8         out[i] = 0;  
9         for (int j = 1; j < n; ++j)  
10            out[i] += mat[i][j] * vec[j];  
11    }  
12 }
```

Assume Statement

Example: Matrix-Vector Multiplication

```
1 void gemv(int n, int m, float mat[static const restrict m][n],  
2           float vec[static const restrict n],  
3           float out[static const restrict m]) {  
4     __pencil_assume(n > 0 && m > 0);  
5  
6  
7     for (int i = 0; i < m; ++i) {  
8         out[i] = 0;  
9         for (int j = 1; j < n; ++j)  
10            out[i] += mat[i][j] * vec[j];  
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```

- Avoid code generation and checking for special cases

Assume Statement

Example: Matrix-Vector Multiplication

```
1 void gemv(int n, int m, float mat[static const restrict m][n],  
2           float vec[static const restrict n],  
3           float out[static const restrict m]) {  
4     __pencil_assume(n > 0 && m > 0);  
5     __pencil_assume(n <= 16);  
6  
7     for (int i = 0; i < m; ++i) {  
8         out[i] = 0;  
9         for (int j = 1; j < n; ++j)  
10            out[i] += mat[i][j] * vec[j];  
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11     }  
12 }
```

- Promote `vec` to local memory

Summary Function

```
1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8 void blackbox(int n, float in[static const restrict n],
9     float out[static const restrict n]);
10
11 void foo(int m, int n, float in[static const restrict n],
12     float out[static const restrict m][n]) {
13     for (int j=0; j<m; ++j)
14         blackbox(n, in, out[j]);
15 }
```

Summary Function

```
1 static void blackbox_summary(int n, float in[static const restrict n],
2                               float out[static const restrict n]) {
3     for (int i=0; i<n; ++i)
4         USE(in[i]);
5     for (int i=0; i<n; ++i)
6         DEF(out[i]);
7 }
8 void blackbox(int n, float in[static const restrict n],
9               float out[static const restrict n]) ACCESS(blackbox_summary);
10
11 void foo(int m, int n, float in[static const restrict n],
12           float out[static const restrict m][n]) {
13     for (int j=0; j<m; ++j)
14         blackbox(n, in, out[j]);
15 }
```

Summary Functions

Example: Fast Fourier Transformation

```
1 static void fftKernel32_summary(int n, int start, struct float2 a[static const restrict n]) {
2     for (int i=start; i<start+32; ++i)
3         USE(a[i]);
4     for (int i=start; i<start+32; ++i)
5         DEF(a[i]);
6 }
7
8 void fftKernel32(int n, int start, struct float2 a[static const restrict n])
9     ACCESS(fftKernel32_summary);
10
11 void fft64(struct float2 a[static const restrict 64]) {
12     for (int k = 0; k < 2; ++k) {
13         fftKernel32(64, k*32, a);
14     }
15     for (int k = 0; k < 32; ++k) {
16         float2 t = a[k];
17         float2 s = a[32+k];
18
19         a[k].x = s.x + cos(-2*PI*k/64)*t.x - sin(-2*PI*k/64)*t.y;
20         a[k].y = s.y + sin(-2*PI*k/64)*t.x + cos(-2*PI*k/64)*t.y;
21         a[32+k].x = s.x - cos(-2*PI*k/64)*t.x + sin(-2*PI*k/64)*t.y;
22         a[32+k].y = s.y - sin(-2*PI*k/64)*t.x - cos(-2*PI*k/64)*t.y;
23     }
24 }
```

Summary/Conclusion

- PENCIL language
 - Polyhedral-friendly subset of C99
 - `__pencil_kill(expr)`
 - `__pencil_assume(expr)`
 - `#pragma pencil independent`
 - Summary functions
- Versatile intermediate step
- Competitive performance using PPCG
- PPCG also compiles to CUDA and OpenMP

References

- PPCG
<http://freecode.com/projects/ppcg>
- VOBLA
Beaugnon et. al. *VOBLA: A vehicle for optimized basic linear algebra.* LCTES '14
- SpearDE
Lenormand and Edelin. *An industrial perspective: A pragmatic high end signal processing design environment at Thales.* SAMOS '03

Compile and Install

Requirements:

- gcc/clang
- GNU Autotools
- clang-dev
- Python 3
- OpenCL/nvcc in system default paths

```
$ git clone https://github.com/Meinersbur/pencilcc.git --recursive
$ cd pencilcc
$ ./autogen.sh
$ ./configure
$ make
$ sudo make install
```

Usage |

- Show command options

```
$ pencilcc -h
```

```
$ ppcg -h
```

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```
$ pencilcc -h  
$ ppcg -h
```

- Basic for C99 with PENCIL-extensions

```
$ pencilcc source.c -o program
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- Basic for C99 with PENCIL-extensions

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$ pencilcc source.c -o program
```

- Basic for PENCIL-only files (`#pragma scop/endscop` not required)

```
$ pencilcc main.c source.pencil.c -o program
```

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$ pencilcc source.c -o program
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```
$ pencilcc main.c source.pencil.c -o program
```

- Compile to CUDA

```
$ pencilcc source.c -o program --target=cuda
```

Usage |

- Show command options

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```
$ pencilcc main.c source.pencil.c -o program
```

- Compile to CUDA

```
$ pencilcc source.c -o program --target=cuda
```

- Show what it does

```
$ pencilcc source.c -o program --show-commands
```

Usage II

- Set tile size

```
$ pencilcc source.c -o program -S 32
```

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- Set tile size

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$ pencilcc source.c -o program -S 32
```

- Dump effective optimization parameters

```
$ pencilcc source.c -o program --dump-sizes  
{kernel[0]->tile[32];kernel[0]->block[64];kernel[0]->grid[1024]}
```

Usage II

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- Change optimization parameters

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"--sizes={kernel[i]->tile[32];kernel[i]->block[64];kernel[i]->grid[1024]}"
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- Change optimization parameters

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```

- Add hand-written OpenCL code

```
$ pencilcc source.c -o program --opencl-include-file=/path/to/file.inc
```

Usage II

- Set tile size

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$ pencilcc source.c -o program \  
"--sizes={kernel[i]->tile[32];kernel[i]->block[64];kernel[i]->grid[1024]}"
```

- Add hand-written OpenCL code

```
$ pencilcc source.c -o program --opencl-include-file=/path/to/file.inc
```

- When type-declarations conflict:

```
$ pencilcc source.c --opencl-include-file=file.inc --no-opencl-print-kernel-types
```

Usage II

- Set tile size

```
$ pencilcc source.c -o program -S 32
```

- Dump effective optimization parameters

```
$ pencilcc source.c -o program --dump-sizes  
{kernel[0]->tile[32];kernel[0]->block[64];kernel[0]->grid[1024]}
```

- Change optimization parameters

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$ pencilcc source.c -o program \  
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- Don't use shared (OpenCL: __local) memory:

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```

- Don't use shared (OpenCL: __local) memory:

```
$ pencilcc source.c -o program --no-shared-memory
```

- Don't use private (thread-local) memory:

```
$ pencilcc source.c -o program --private-memory
```

Ideal Loop Nesting

```
1 void foo(int n, int m, float A[static const restrict m][n],  
2           float B[static const restrict m][n]) {  
3 #pragma scop  
4     for (int i = 0; i < m; ++i) {  
5         for (int j = 0; j < n; ++j) {  
6             A[i][j] = B[i][j];  
7         }  
8     }  
9 #pragma endscop  
10 }
```

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- DO** use `static const restrict` in declarations
- DO** use `__pencil_assume` (lower/upper bound for each parameter)
- DO** use `__pencil_kill`
- DO** declare local arrays right after `#pragma scop`

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DONT exceed an array's dimensions's size

DONT declare structs/arrays variables inside loops (SROA them!)

AVOID extra statements to compute subexpressions

AVOID reductions

DONT write unusual code (Assign n,m ; Shadowing; Assign multiple values in one statements; ...)

Use Multidimensional Arrays

```
1 #define INDEX(i,j) ((i)*n+(j))
2 void foo(int n, int m, float *A, float *B) {
3     for (int i = 0; i < m; ++i)
4         for (int j = 0; j < n; ++j)
5             A[INDEX(i,j)] = B[INDEX(i,j)];
6 }
```

⇒

```
1 void foo(int n, int m, float A[static const restrict m][n],
2           float B[static const restrict m][n]) {
3     for (int i = 0; i < m; ++i)
4         for (int j = 0; j < n; ++j)
5             A[i][j] = B[i][j];
6 }
```

Use `__pencil_assume`

```
1 void foo(int m, float A[static const restrict m],  
2           float B[static const restrict m]) {  
3 #pragma scop  
4     for (int i = 0; i < m; ++i)  
5         A[i] = B[i];  
6 #pragma endscop  
7 }
```

⇒

```
1 void foo(int m, float A[static const restrict m],  
2           float B[static const restrict m]) {  
3 #pragma scop  
4     __pencil_assume(m > 0);  
5     __pencil_assume(m <= 128);  
6     for (int i = 0; i < m; ++i)  
7         A[i] = B[i];  
8 #pragma endscop  
9 }
```

Use `__pencil_kill`

```
1 void foo(int m, float A[static const restrict m],  
2           float B[static const restrict m]) {  
3 #pragma scop  
4   for (int i = 0; i < m; ++i)  
5     A[i] = B[i];  
6 #pragma endscop  
7 }
```

⇒

```
1 void foo(int m, float A[static const restrict m],  
2           float B[static const restrict m]) {  
3 #pragma scop  
4   __pencil_kill(A);  
5   for (int i = 0; i < m; ++i)  
6     A[i] = B[i];  
7 #pragma endscop  
8 }
```

Declare Local Arrays within SCoP

```
1 void foo(int m, float A[static const restrict m],  
2           float B[static const restrict m]) {  
3     float tmp[m];  
4 #pragma scop  
5     for (int i = 0; i < m; ++i) {  
6         tmp[i] = B[i];  
7         A[i] = tmp[i];  
8     }  
9 #pragma endscop  
10 }
```

⇒

```
1 void foo(int m, float A[static const restrict m],  
2           float B[static const restrict m]) {  
3 #pragma scop  
4     float tmp[m];  
5     for (int i = 0; i < m; ++i) {  
6         tmp[i] = B[i];  
7         A[i] = tmp[i];  
8     }  
9 #pragma endscop
```

No Iteration Over Pointers

```
1 for (float *p = A; p <= A+n; ++p)  
2     *p = 0;
```

⇒

```
1 for (int i = 0; i < m; ++i)  
2     A[i] = 0;
```

Avoid If-Conditions using Ternary Operator

```
1  for (int i = 0; i < m; ++i)
2      for (int j = 0; j < n; ++j)
3          if (x)
4              c = 5;
5          else
6              c = 6;
7          A[i][j] = c * B[i][j];
```

⇒

```
1  for (int i = 0; i < m; ++i) {
2      for (int j = 0; j < n; ++j) {
3          c = x ? 5 : 6;
4          A[i][j] = c * B[i][j];
5      }
```

Avoid Precomputing Common Subexpressions

```
1 for (int i = 0; i < m; ++i) {  
2     c = i * i;  
3     for (int j = 0; j < n; ++j)  
4         A[i][j] = c * B[i][j];  
5 }
```

⇒

```
1 for (int i = 0; i < m; ++i) {  
2     for (int j = 0; j < n; ++j)  
3         A[i][j] = (i*i) * B[i][j];
```

(except computing c is very complex)

Avoid Loop-Local Structs/Arrays |

```
1 for (int i = 0; i < m; ++i) {  
2     for (int j = 0; j < n; ++j) {  
3         struct float2 c = {1.0f, 0.0f};  
4         A[i][j] = c.x * c.x + c.y * c.y;  
5     }  
6 }
```

⇒

```
1 for (int i = 0; i < m; ++i) {  
2     for (int j = 0; j < n; ++j) {  
3         float x = 1.0f;  
4         float y = 0.0f;  
5         A[i][j] = x * x + y * y;  
6     }  
7 }
```

Avoid Loop-Local Arrays II

```
1 void foo(int n, int m, float A[static const restrict m][n],  
2           float B[static const restrict m][n]) {  
3     for (int i = 0; i < m; ++i) {  
4         float tmp[n];  
5         for (int j = 0; j < n; ++j) {  
6             tmp[j] = B[i][j];  
7             A[i][j] = tmp[j];  
8         }  
9     }  
10 }
```

⇒

```
1 void foo(int n, int m, float A[static const restrict m][n],  
2           float B[static const restrict m][n]) {  
3     float tmp[m][n];  
4     for (int i = 0; i < m; ++i)  
5         for (int j = 0; j < n; ++j) {  
6             tmp[i][j] = B[i][j];  
7             A[i][j] = tmp[i][j];  
8         }  
9     }
```

Help: PPCG did not parallelize my code!

- Add `#pragma pencil parallel`
- Contains a function call? Add a summary function
- Is there a locally declared struct/array variable?
- Non-affine array subscripts?
- Non-affine if-conditions?
- While loops?
- True serial dependency?

Help: PPCG takes too long!

- `-isl-schedule-max-coefficient=1`
- Use fewer statements ($a = b; ++a \Rightarrow a = b+1$)
- [Last resort] Translate code sections yourself in OpenCL/CUDA
- [If you feel experimental] Decorate code sections with tautological non-affine if-conditions (e.g. `if ((double)i*i>=0)`)

June