

Chapter 4

Data-Level Parallelism (DLP) in Vector, SIMD, and GPU Architectures

Part 1: Introduction & Vector Architectures

"Who's first?" "America." "Who's second?" "Sir, there is no second."

-Dialog between two observers of the sailing race later named "The America's Cup" and run every few years -- the inspiration for John Cocke's naming of the IBM research processor as "America." This processor was the precursor to the RS/6000 series and the first superscalar microprocessor.

Acknowledgements

- Thanks to many sources for slide material
 - © 1990 Morgan Kaufmann Publishers, © 2001-present Elsevier Computer Architecture: A Quantitative Approach by J. Hennessy & D. Patterson
 - © 1994 Morgan Kaufmann Publishers, © 2001-present Elsevier Computer Organization and Design by D. Patterson & J. Hennessy
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 - © 2006, © 2010 No Starch Press for Inside the Machine by J. Stokes
 - © 2007 W.-M. Hwu & D. Kirk, University of Illinois & NVIDIA
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What We Know



- What new techniques have we learned that make control go fast?
 - ... datapath go fast?

Flynn's Classification Scheme

- SISD single instruction, single data stream
 - uniprocessors
- SIMD single instruction, multiple data streams
 - single control unit broadcasting operations to multiple datapaths
- MISD multiple instruction, single data stream
 - no such machine
 - (though some people put vector machines in this category)
- MIMD multiple instructions, multiple data streams
 - *a.k.a* multiprocessors (SMPs, MPPs, clusters, NOWs)



Continuum of Granularity

- "Coarse"
 - Each processor is more powerful
 - Usually fewer processors
 - Communication is more expensive between processors
 - Processors are more loosely coupled
 - Tend toward MIMD
- "Fine"
 - Each processor is less powerful
 - Usually more processors
 - Communication is cheaper between processors
 - Processors are more tightly coupled
 - Tend toward SIMD

"If you were plowing a field, which would you rather use? Two strong oxen or 1024 chickens?"

- Seymour Cray

The Road Ahead

- What's Up?
 - Chapter 4: Data-level parallelism (DLP). Fine-grained parallelism.
 - Vector & stream processors
 - SIMD extensions: MMX \rightarrow SSE
 - Graphics processing units (GPUs)
- What We Just Completed
 - Chapter 5: Thread-level parallelism (TLP). Coarse-grained parallelism.
 - Multicore
 - Multiprocessors
 - Clusters

Introduction to SIMD

- SIMD architectures can exploit significant data-level parallelism for
 - Matrix-oriented scientific computing
 - Media-oriented image and sound processors
- SIMD is more energy efficient than MIMD
 - Only needs to fetch one instruction per data operation
 - Makes SIMD attractive for personal mobile devices
- SIMD allows programmer to continue to think sequentially

SIMD Parallelism

- Vector architectures (VMIPS, Motorola AltiVec)
- SIMD extensions (MMX \rightarrow SSE \rightarrow AVX)
- Graphics processing units (GPUs)
- For x86 processors
 - Expect two additional cores per chip per year
 - Expect SIMD width to double every four years
 - Expect potential speedup from SIMD to be twice that from MIMD

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Seymour Cray The Father of Supercomputing



An American electrical engineer and supercomputer architect who designed a series of computers that were the fastest in the world for decades..

- "Anyone can build a fast CPU. The trick is to build a fast system."
- When asked what kind of CAD tools he used for the Cray-1, Cray said that he liked "#3 pencils with quadrille pads."
- When he was told that Apple Computer had just bought a Cray to help design the next Apple Macintosh, Cray commented that he had just bought a Macintosh to design the next Cray.
- In 70s–80s, Supercomputer \equiv Vector Machine

Scalar vs. Vector



Representing Vectors

- Multiple items within same data word
- Multiple data words

 "The basic unit of SIMD is the vector, which is why SIMD computing is also known as vector processing. A vector is nothing more than a row of individual numbers or scalars."

SIMD Architectures by Jon "Hannibal" Stokes http://arstechnica.com/articles/paedia/cpu/simd.ars

Vector Code Example

<pre># C code for (i=0; i<64; i++) C[i] = A[i] + B[i];</pre>	<pre># Scalar Code LI R4, 64 loop: L.D F0, 0(R1) L.D F2, 0(R2) ADD.D F4, F2, F0 S.D F4, 0(R3) DADDIU R1, 8 DADDIU R1, 8 DADDIU R2, 8 DADDIU R3, 8 DSUBIU R4, 1 BNEZ R4, loop</pre>	<pre># Vector Code LI VLR, 64 LV V1, R1 LV V2, R2 ADDV.D V3, V1, V2 SV V3, R3</pre>
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• What are the advantages of vector code?

Vector Instruction Set

- Compact
 - one short instruction encodes N operations
- Expressive ... tells hardware that these N operations:
 - are independent
 - use the same functional unit
 - access disjoint registers
 - access registers in the same pattern as previous instructions
 - access a contiguous block of memory (unit-stride load/store), or
 - access memory in a known pattern (strided load/store)
- Scalable
 - can run same object code on more parallel pipelines or lanes

Vector Arithmetic

- Use deep pipeline (=> fast clock) to execute element operations
- Simplifies control of deep pipeline because elements in vector are independent (=> no hazards!)

Six stage multiply pipeline



v3 <- v1 * v2



Vector Memory-Memory vs. Vector Register Machines

- Vector memory-memory instructions hold all vector operands in main memory
- The first vector machines, CDC Star-100 ('73) and TI ASC ('71), were memory-memory machines



Vector Memory-Memory vs. Vector Register Machines

- Vector memory-memory architectures (VMMA) require greater main memory bandwidth. Why?
- VMMAs make it difficult to overlap execution of multiple vector operations. Why?
- VMMAs incur greater startup latency.
 - Scalar code was faster on CDC Star-100 for vectors < 100 elements.
 - For Cray-1, vector/scalar breakeven point was around 2 elements.
- Apart from CDC follow-ons (Cyber-205, ETA-10) all major vector machines since Cray-1 have had vector register architectures.
 - We ignore vector memory-memory from now on.

Vector Register Architectures

- Basic idea
 - Read sets of data elements into "vector registers"
 - Operate on those registers
 - Disperse the results back into memory
- Registers are controlled by compiler
 - Used to hide memory latency
 - Leverage memory bandwidth

Processor (year)	Vector clock rate (MHz)	Vector registers	Elements per register (64-bit elements)	Vector arithmetic units	Vector load-store units	Lanes
Cray-1 (1976)	80	8	64	6: FP add, FP multiply, FP reciprocal, integer add, logical, shift	1	1
Cray X-MP (1983) Cray Y-MP (1988)	118 166	8	64	8: FP add, FP multiply, FP reciprocal, integer add, 2 logical, shift, population count/parity	2 loads 1 store	1
Cray-2 (1985)	244	8	64	5: FP add, FP multiply, FP reciprocal/sqrt, integer add/shift/population count, logical	1	1
Fujitsu VP100/ VP200 (1982)	133	8-256	32-1024	3: FP or integer add/logical, multiply, divide	2	1 (VP100) 2 (VP200)
Hitachi S810/S820 (1983)	71	32	256	4: FP multiply-add, FP multiply/divide-add unit, 2 integer add/logical	3 loads 1 store	1 (S810) 2 (S820)
Convex C-1 (1985)	10	8	128	2: FP or integer multiply/divide, add/logical	1	1 (64 bit) 2 (32 bit)
NEC SX/2 (1985)	167	8 + 32	256	4: FP multiply/divide, FP add, integer add/ logical, shift	1	4
Cray C90 (1991) Cray T90 (1995)	240 460	8	128	8: FP add, FP multiply, FP reciprocal, integer add, 2 logical, shift, population count/parity	2 loads 1 store	2
NEC SX/5 (1998)	312	8 + 64	512	4: FP or integer add/shift, multiply, divide, logical	1	16
Fujitsu VPP5000 (1999)	300	8-256	128-4096	3: FP or integer multiply, add/logical, divide	1 load 1 store	16
Cray SV1 (1998) SV1ex (2001)	300 500	8	64 (MSP)	8: FP add, FP multiply, FP reciprocal, integer add, 2 logical, shift, population count/narity	1 load-store 1 load	2 8 (MSP)
VMIPS (2001)	500	8	64	5: FP multiply, FP divide, FP add, integer add/shift, logical	1 load-store	1
NEC SX/6 (2001)	500	8 + 64	256	4: FP or integer add/shift, multiply, divide, logical	1	8
NEC SX/8 (2004)	2000	8 + 64	256	4: FP or integer add/shift, multiply, divide, logical	1	4
Cray X1 (2002)	800	32	64 256 (MSP)	3: FP or integer, add/logical, multiply/shift, divide/square root/logical	1 load 1 store	2 8 (MSP)
Cray XIE (2005)	1130					

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VMIPS

- Example architecture: VMIPS
 - Loosely based on Cray-1
 - Vector registers
 - Each register holds a 64-element, 64 bits/element vector
 - Register file has 16 read ports and 8 write ports
 - Vector functional units
 - Fully pipelined
 - Data and control hazards are detected
 - Vector load-store unit
 - Fully pipelined
 - One word per clock cycle after initial latency
 - Scalar registers
 - 32 general-purpose registers
 - 32 floating-point registers



VMIPS Instructions

- ADDVV.D: add two vectors
- ADDVS.D: add vector to a scalar
- LV/SV: vector load and vector store from address
- Example: DAXPY

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L.D	F0,a	• •	load scalar a
LV	V1,Rx	• •	load vector X
MULVS.D	V2,V1,F0	• •	vector-scalar multiply
LV	V3,Ry	• •	load vector Y
ADDVV	V4,V2,V3	•	add
SV	Ry,V4	;	store the result

• Requires 6 instructions vs. almost 600 for MIPS

Vector Execution Time

- Execution time depends on three factors:
 - Length of operand vectors
 - Structural hazards
 - Data dependencies
- VMIPS functional units consume one element per clock cycle
 - Execution time is approximately the vector length
- Convoy
 - Set of vector instructions that could potentially execute together