

The Tip of Iceberg in Open-Source Hardware GPU

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comparch



Outline

- Motivations
- Vortex GPU Platform
- Compiler Support
- Driver Support
- Software Stack
- Simulation Stack
- Debugging Stack
- The Future of OpenGPU





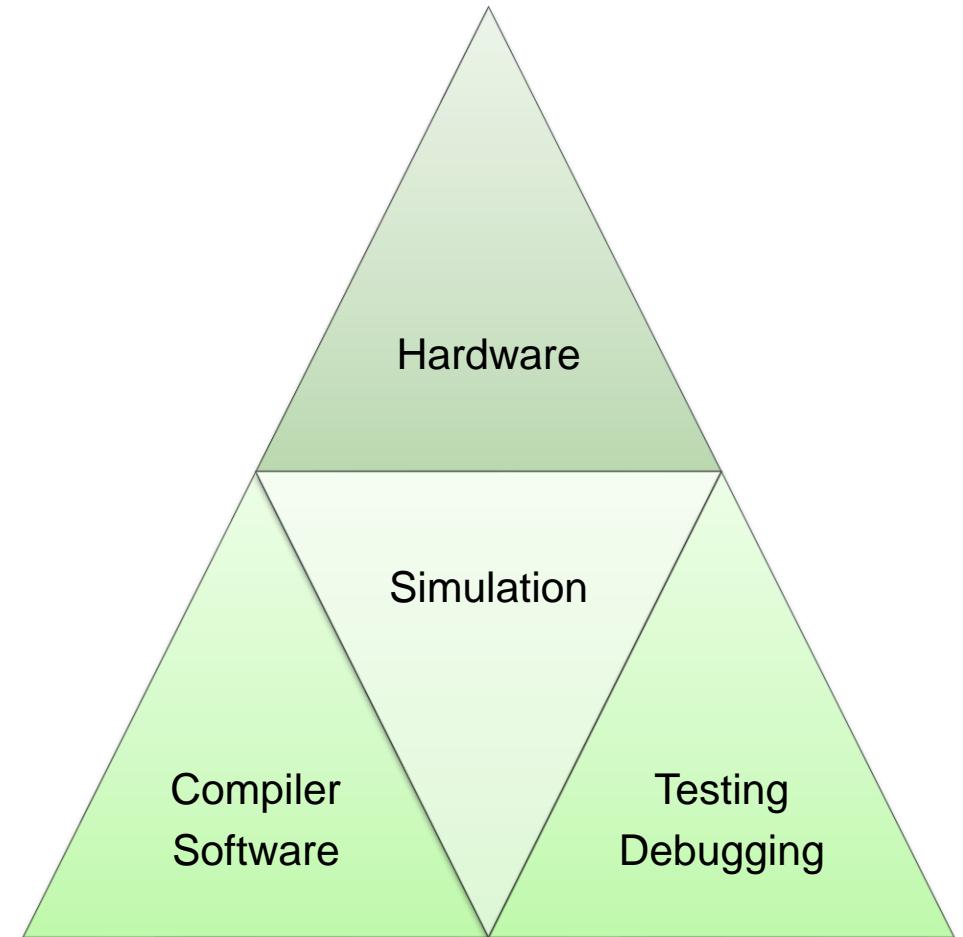
Motivations

Conventional GPU Architecture Research

- Focus on cycle-level simulation
- ISAs are proprietary
- No Full-system open-source GPU

The true cost of open-GPU research

- RTL is a smaller challenge
- An ISA extension is costly
- Compiler changes
- Software support
- Simulation support
- Debugging support





Motivations – Four Pillars

Simulation

- Pre-RTL evaluation
- Design-space exploration

Compiler

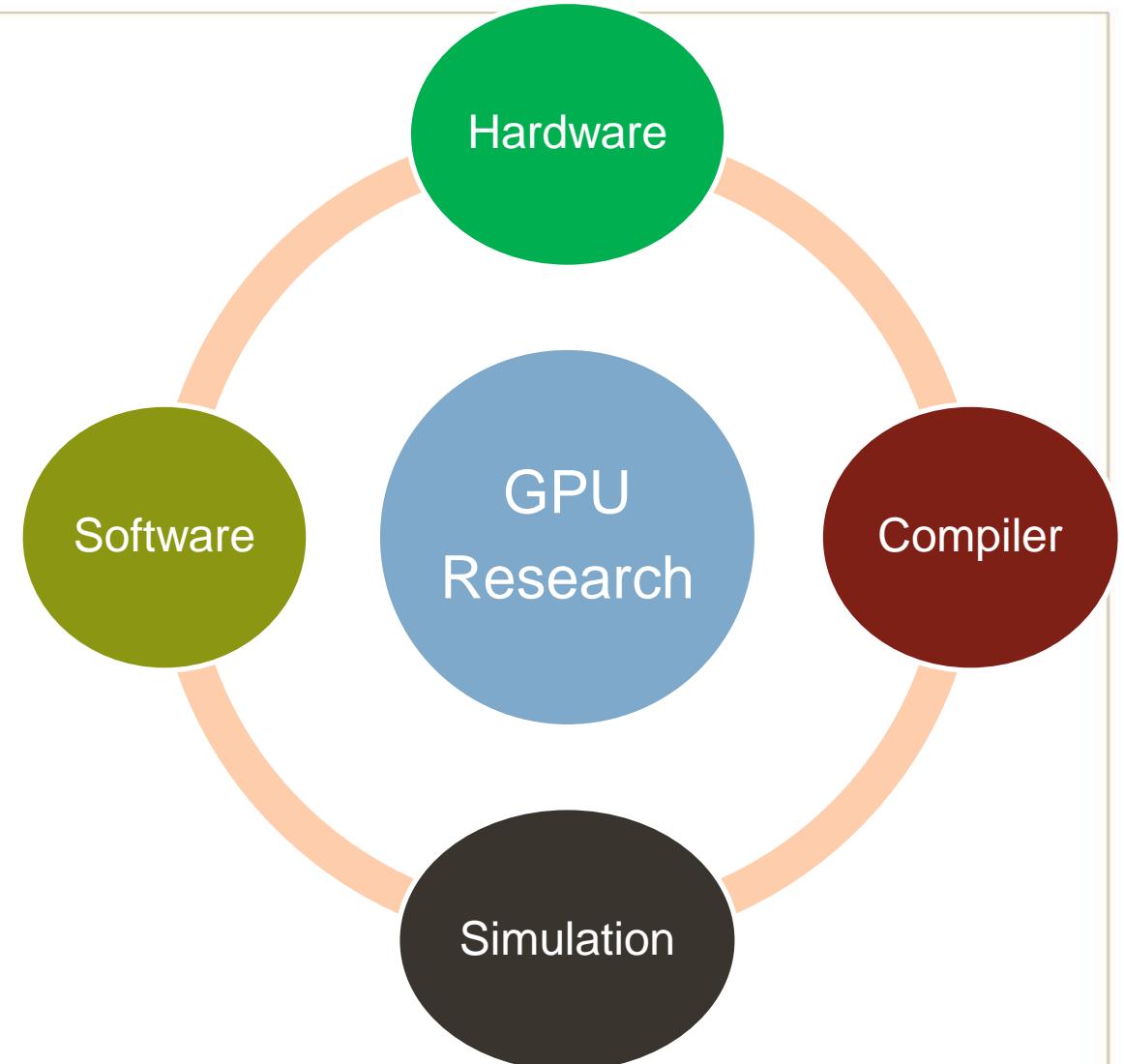
- Enabling language support
- Device-specific optimizations

Software

- User Applications
- OS driver support

Hardware

- RTL implementation
- FPGA Prototype
- ASIC fabrication





Vortex GPU Platform

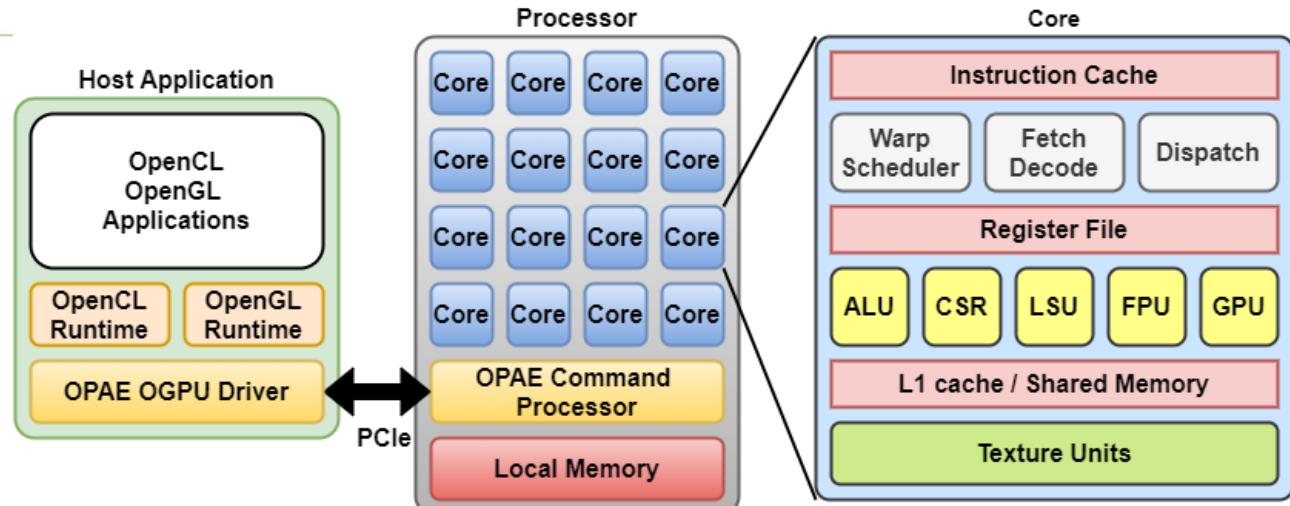
Supports OpenCL API

Current Target FPGA:

- Stratrix10 Intel FPGA
- 64 cores (1024 H/W threads)
- @250 MHz, 16 GB/s BW

Key Features

- PCIe-based Host communication
- High-bandwidth Cache sub-system
- Multi-channel memory system
- Design scaling & configuration
- Pipeline elasticity





ISA Extension for GPGPU

Threading model

- Thread clustering: Wavefront

Memory model

- Global / shared memory
- Texture / constants memory

Register File

- Per-thread registers

Thread scheduling

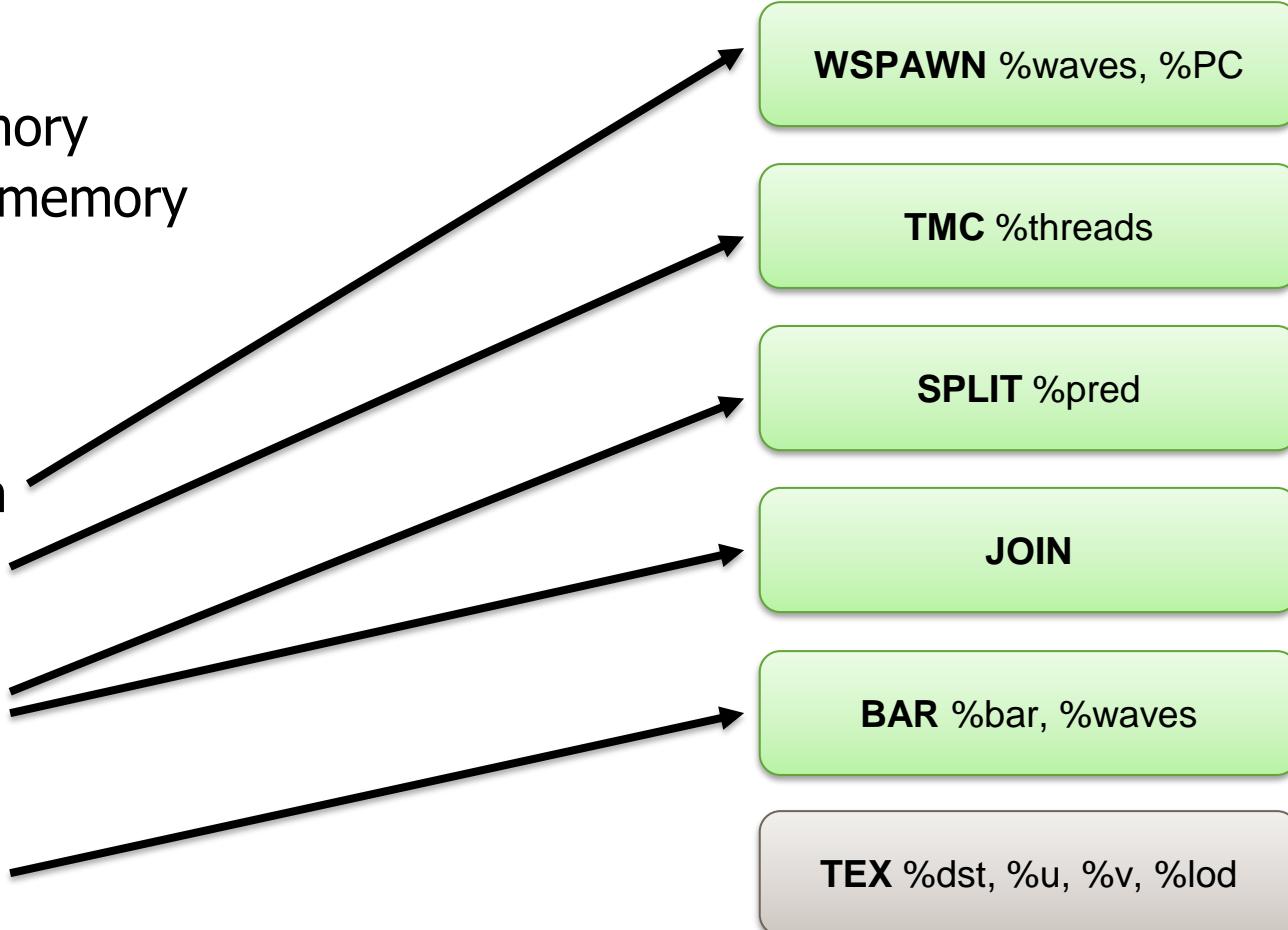
- Wavefront activation
- Thread mask

Flow control

- Split, Join

Synchronization

- Wavefront barrier





Compiler Support

Assembler/Disassembler

- Toolchain integration
- Code dump debugging

Automating Code Translation

- Identify code pattern
- Insert new instruction
- Code restructuration
- SW fallback

Sample Applications

- Split/join insertion
- Barrier insertion
- Wspawn insertion
- Texture sampler insertion

```
if (r1) {  
    ++r2;  
} else {  
    --r2;  
}
```

Split/join Insertion



```
vx_split r1  
bne r1, #0, @then  
@else: subi r2, r2, #1  
j @join  
@then: addi r2, r2, #1  
@join: vx_join
```

```
while (r1 != 0) {  
    ++r2  
    --r1;  
}
```

Split/join Insertion



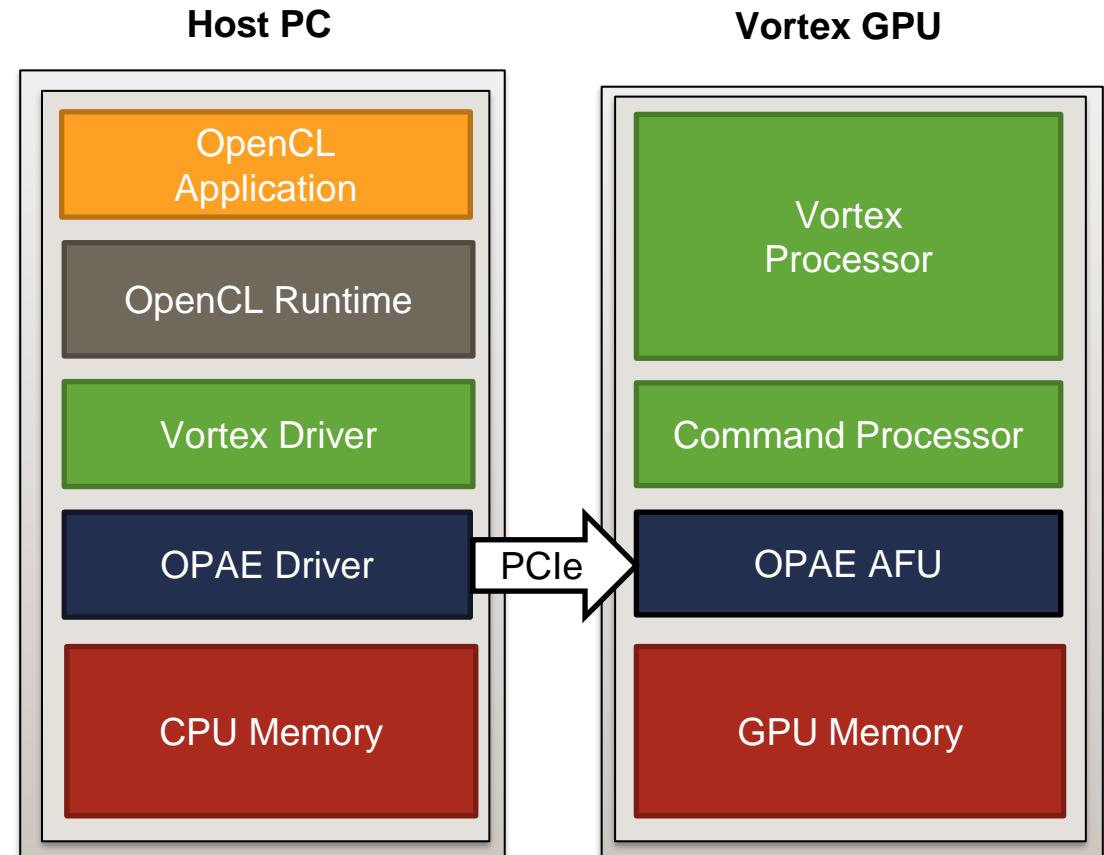
```
seqz r3, r1, #0  
vx_split r3  
bne r3, #0, @join  
@phead: csrr r4, #TMASK  
@body: add r2, r2, #1  
subi r1, r1, #1  
cmp r3, r1, #0  
vx_pred r3  
bne r3, @body  
vx_tmc r4  
@join: vx_join
```



Driver Support

GPU Driver Roles

- Interface between SW and HW
- Low-level OS abstraction
 - Kernel API
 - I/O drivers
- Low-level HW abstraction
 - DRAM controller
 - PCIe controller
 - GPIO controller
 - JTAG controller

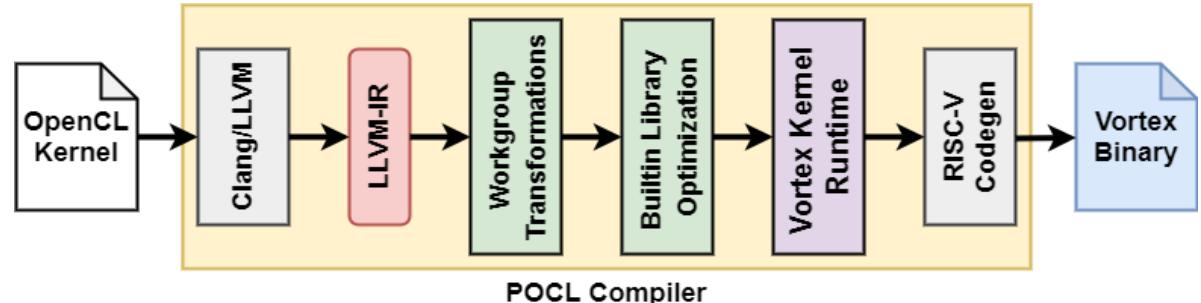




Software Stack - OpenCL

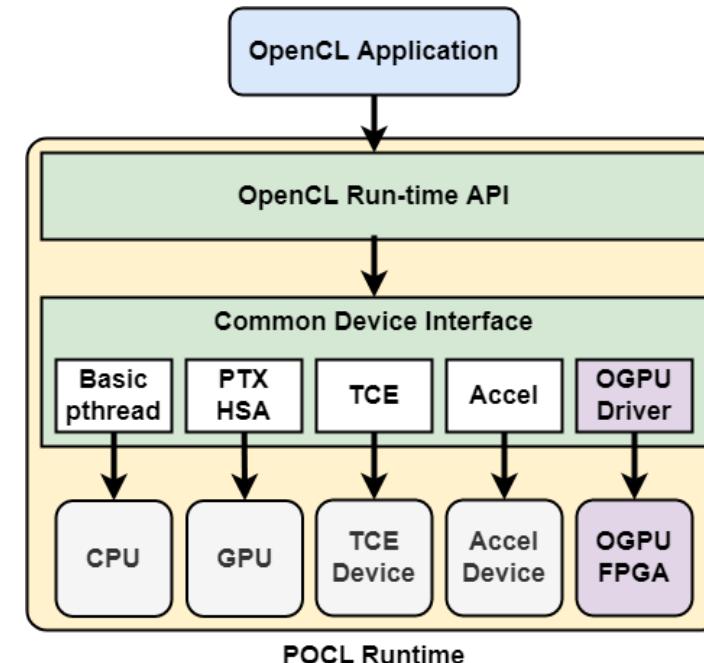
OpenCL Compiler

- Use POCL Compiler framework
- Added Vortex kernel runtime pass
 - Work items => Vortex threads
 - Wavefront invocations



OpenCL Runtime

- Use POCL Runtime framework
- Added new device target for Vortex
- FPGA Driver uses Intel OPAE API





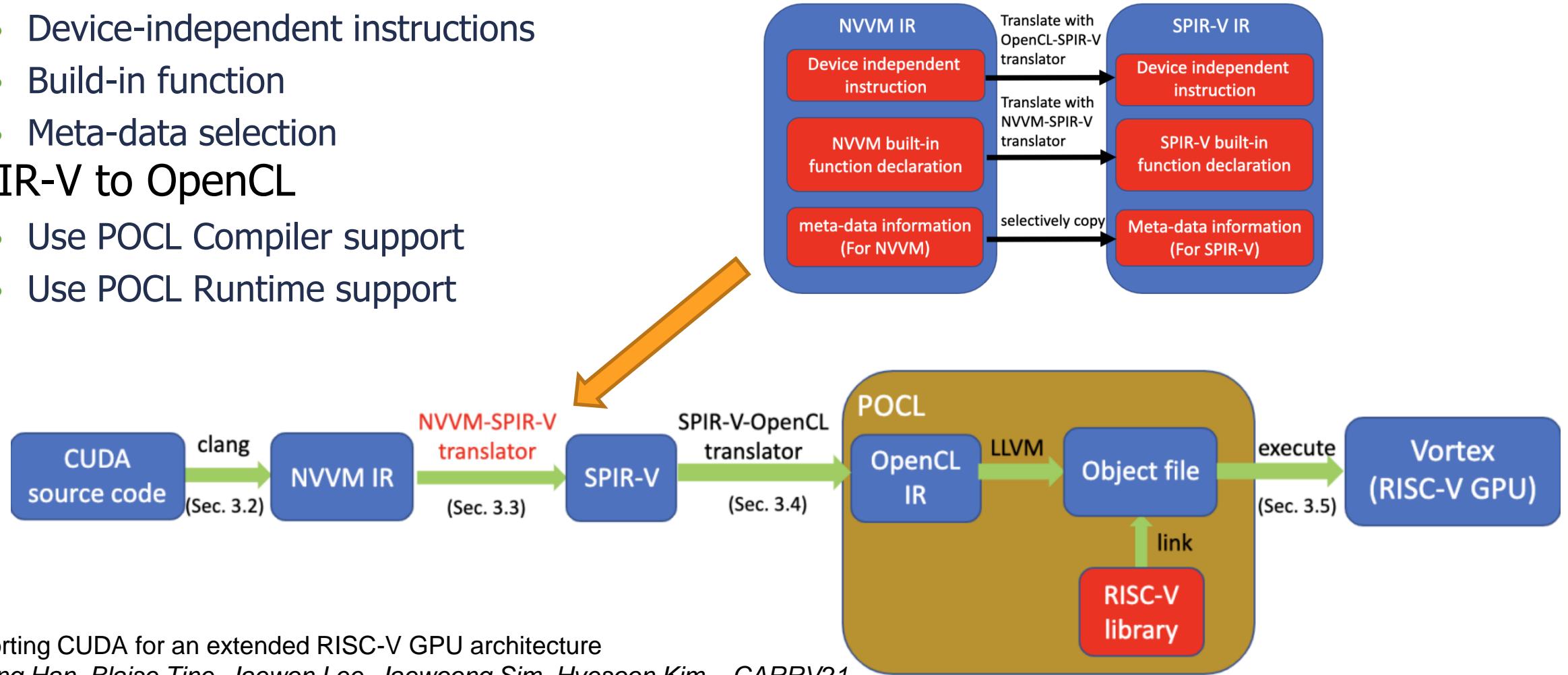
Software Stack - CUDA

NVVM-IR to SPIR-IR Translation

- Device-independent instructions
- Build-in function
- Meta-data selection

SPIR-V to OpenCL

- Use POCL Compiler support
- Use POCL Runtime support



Supporting CUDA for an extended RISC-V GPU architecture

Ruobing Han, Blaise Tine, Jaewon Lee, Jaewoong Sim, Hyesoon Kim – CARRV21



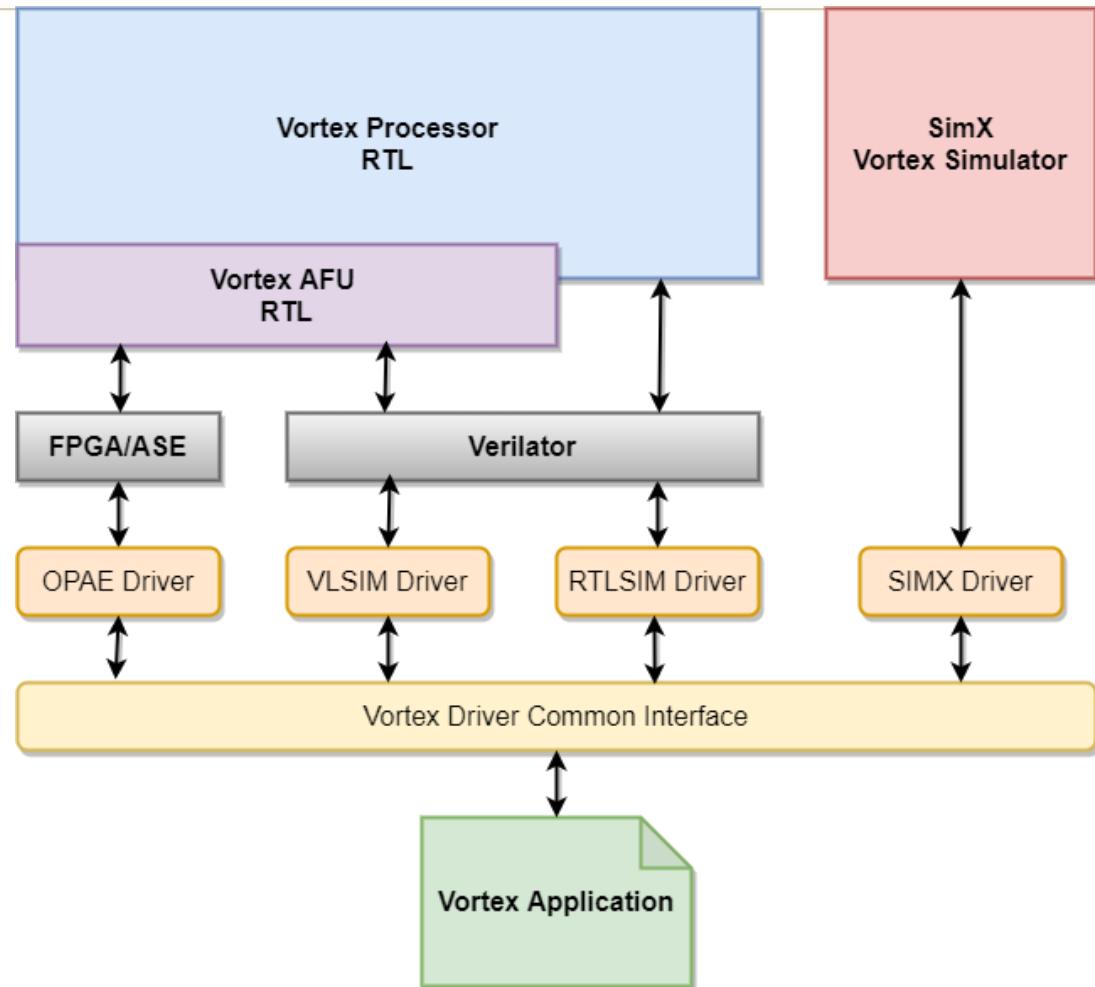
Simulation Stack

Cross-Platform Simulation

- FPGA
 - Device (Intel FPGA)
 - ASESIM (Intel ASE)
- RTL Simulation
 - RTLSIM (Processor only)
 - VLSIM (Processor + command processor)
- Cycle-Level Simulation
 - SimX

| A common driver API

- Same application runs anywhere





Simulation Stack (2)

SimX Emulator

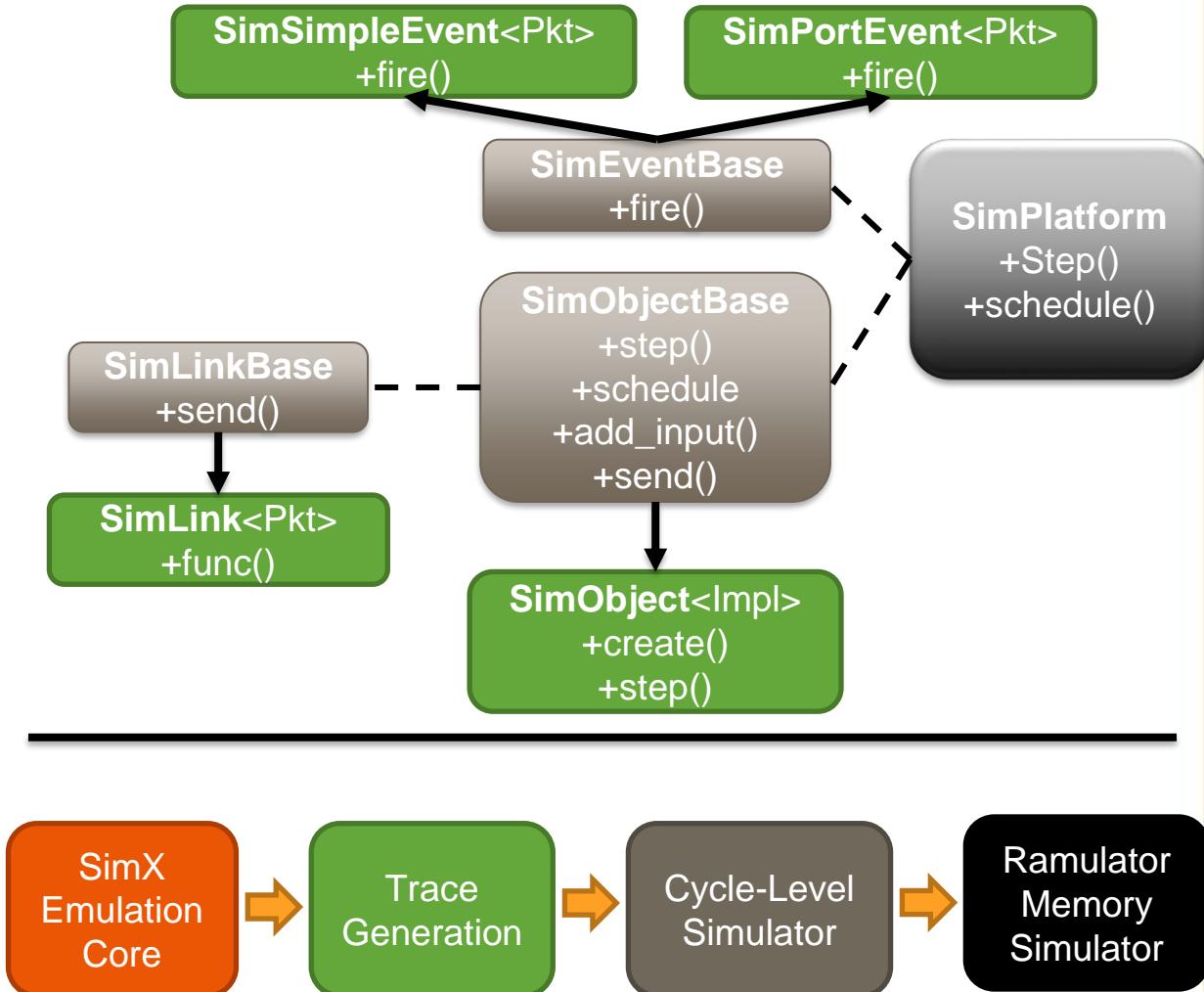
- Full ISA emulation
- Trace generation

SimX Timing Simulation Engine

- Event-base
- Communication ports
- Template abstraction

SimX Timing Simulator

- Full GPU Pipeline simulation
- High-Bandwidth Caches
- Ramulator-based Memory System





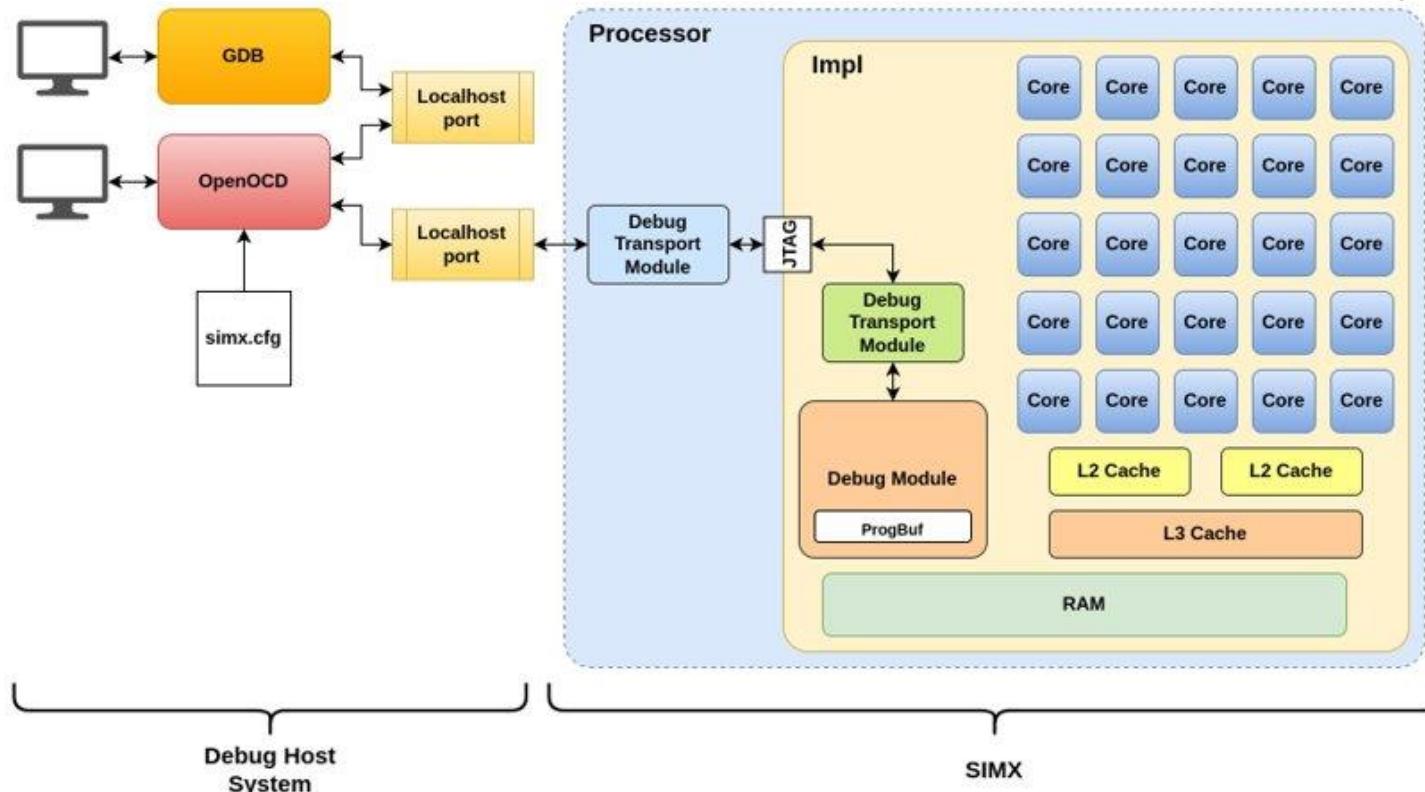
Debugging Stack

Basic console output

- No console access
- Multiple threads
- Override system calls

| RISC-V Debug Extension

- Per-warp-thread registers
- Hardware support
 - Debug module
- Software support
 - Customized for GPU
- Simulation support





Proposed Solutions

Configurable toolchain

- Facilitate compiler support for new extensions
 - e.g. GCC insn syntax
- Configurable driver APIs
 - e.g. OPAE
- Configurable Software APIs
 - e.g. POCL



The Future of OpenGPU

Hardware Extensions

- 3D Graphics
- Graphics Analytics
- Ray Tracing
- Custom Extension

Software Support

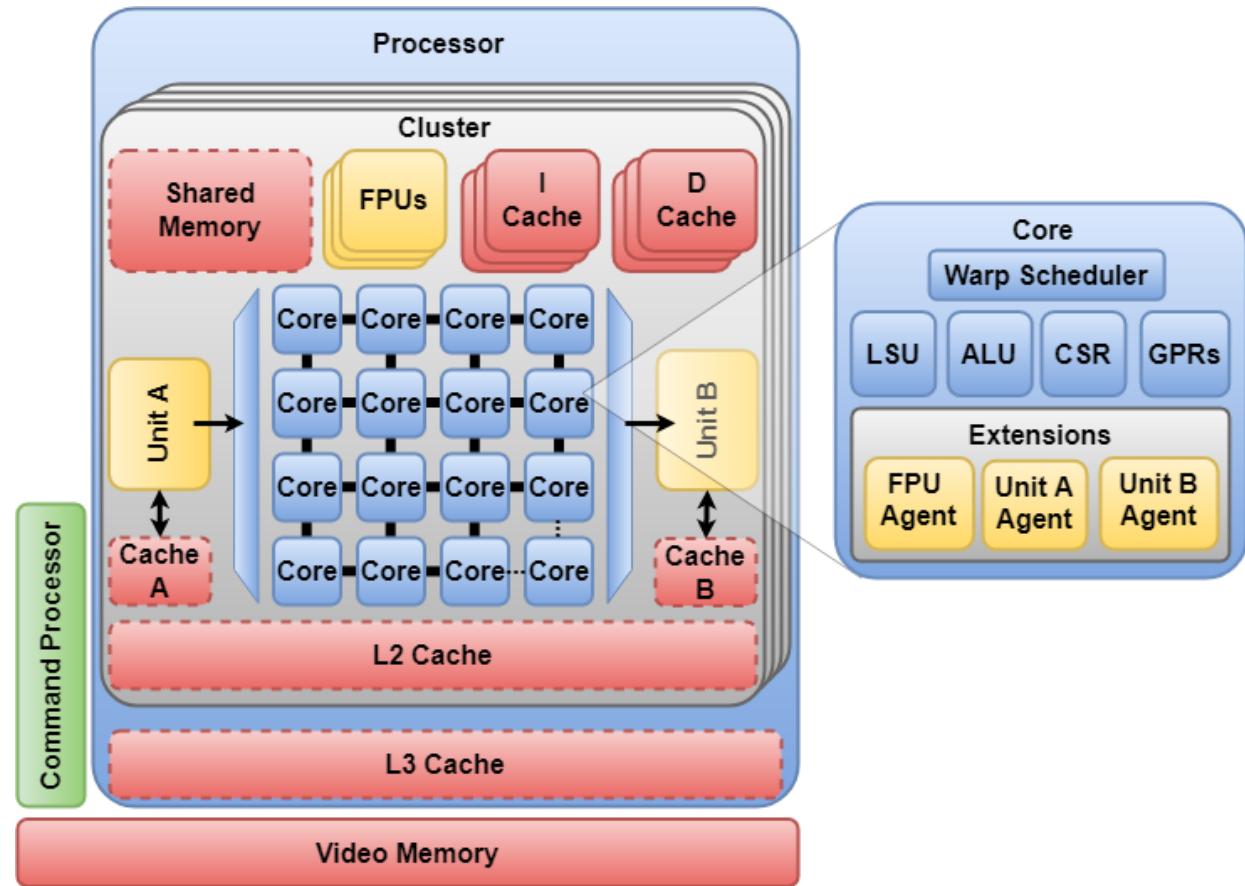
- CUDA Native Support
- Vulkan Graphics API

Cross-platform Synthesis

- Altera, Xilinx
- ASIC

SoC Integration

- ESP – Open SoC





Thank You!

Project Website
vortex.cc.gatech.edu