POLYTECH PARIS-SACLAY

GP-GPU

GPU architecture

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POLYTECH PARIS-SACLAY

GPU architecture

1 – From vector to GPU based architectures
2 – NVIDIA products
3 – CUDA cores architecture
4 – Recent architecture issues

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Vector and SIMD architectures

8 vector processors

Cray Y-MP
(VECTOR architecture)

65536 1bit-ALU

CM2
(SIMD architecture)

Single Instruction Multiple Data

Vector instruction set

SIMD instruction set

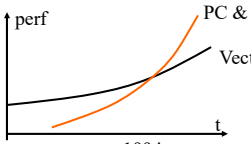
Extended Fortran / Extended C-language

Programming language & machines: to apply same instruction suites on each element of large data-arrays

Cray1 ····· CM2 – Cray Y-MP ····· DEC MasPar STOP
1976 1987-1988 1992-1996

3

Rise of the clusters



1994
1st (linux) PC cluster:
- *« Beowulf »* cluster
- 16 PC – Eth 10Mbit/s
- Half of a Cray performance!

Large PC market
→ A lot of funding to support a strong R&D effort!

1989: Fall of the Berlin Wall
→ Less funding to develop new Super-Computers in USA

→ Stop development of vector SuperComputers (excepted in Japan)

Cray1 ····· CM2 – Cray Y-MP ····· DEC MasPar STOP
1976 1987-1988 1992-1996

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Birth and evolution of GPU

Hybrid « *clusters* »
- HPC clusters
- Each node includes one or several GPU

Rise of the « *clusters* »
- Cheap parallel machines
- HPC clusters
- SuperComputers with cluster architecture

20 years of « *vector SuperComputers* »

1st NVIDIA GeForce

1st generic language on GPU

Cray XK7 is #1 in top500 including many NVIDIA GPU

Cray1 ··· DEC MasPar
1976 1992-1996

1999

2007

2012

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Birth and evolution of GPU

A GPU can be diverted to achieve vector computing

Hybrid « *clusters* »
- HPC clusters
- Each node includes one or several GPU

Rise of the « *clusters* »
- Cheap parallel machines
- HPC clusters
- SuperComputers with cluster architecture

Developers learn « GPU vector computing » (GPGPU - SIMT)

Developers forget vector computing

20 years of « *vector SuperComputers* »

1st NVIDIA GeForce

1st generic language on GPU

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Cray1 ··· DEC MasPar
1976 1992-1996

1999

2007

2012

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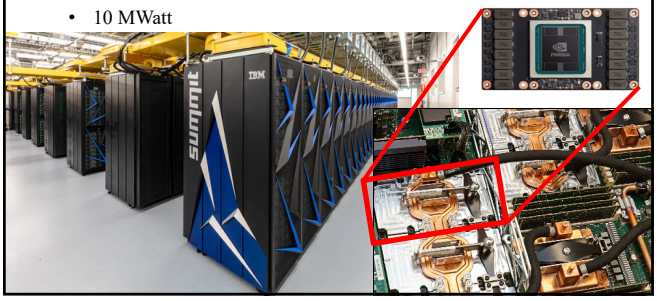
Summit - USA: N°1 in 2019, N° 2 in 2020-21

143.5 Pflops

- 9 216 processors IBM POWER9 22C 3.07GHz
- 27 648 **GPU Volta** GV100: **6 GV100/node**
  → 2 282 544 « cores » (CPU cores + CUDA cores)
- interconnect: Dual-rail Mellanox EDR Infiniband
- 10 MWatt



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GPU in the 2019-Top500

Group of TOP500 machines with GPU NVIDIA

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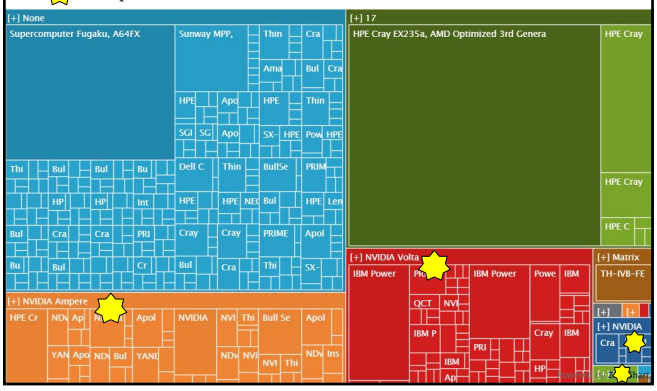
GPU in the 2022-Top500

Group of TOP500 machines with GPU NVIDIA



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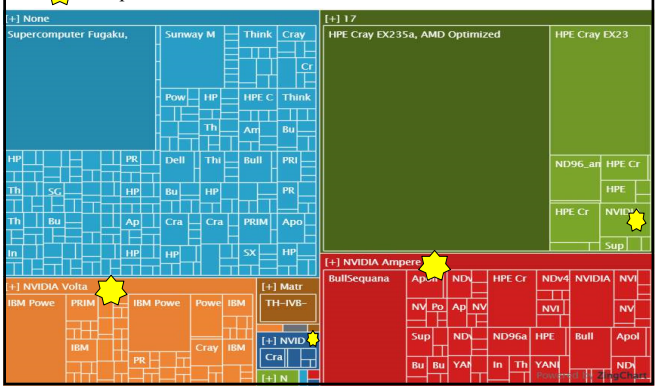
GPU in the 2023-Top500

Group of TOP500 machines with GPU NVIDIA



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GPU architecture

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GeForce / Tesla families

2 NVIDIA product families, 2 strategies:

Available cores:
- Generic CUDA Cores
- Tensor Cores
- Ray Tracing Cores

Available cores:
- Generic CUDA Cores
- Tensor Cores
- ~~Ray Tracing Cores~~

Floating-point format:
- simple-precision:
  many units, high perf
- double-precision:
  very few units, low perf

Computing capabilities:
- NOT certified

Insertion into clusters
- forbiden!

Floating-point format:
- simple-precision:
  many units, high perf
- double-precision:
  many units, high perf

Computing capabilities:
- certified

Insertion into clusters
- authorized/recommanded

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GeForce packaging

GeForce 256
1999

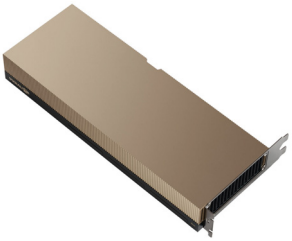
Air cooled

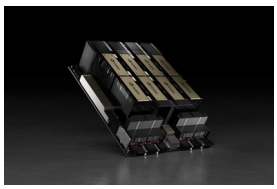
Water cooled

GeForce RTX 2080 Ti
2018

GeForce 3080/3090 RTX
2020

Tesla H100 packaging (V100 → A100 → H100)



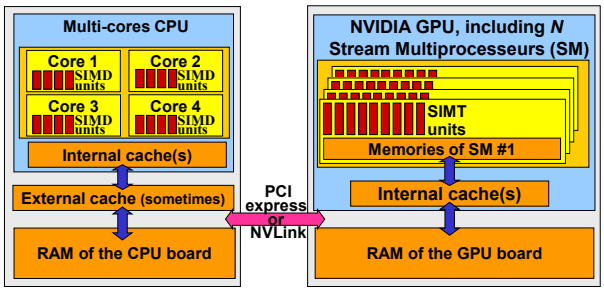


V100 has been a 3 billion dollar R&D project …. A100 ? … H100 ?

GPU architecture

CPU-GPU overview

- Both CPU and GPU are « multi-cores » with « hierarchical memories »



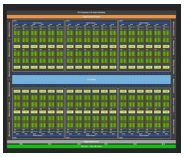
- CPU and GPU boards communicate across a fast NVLink, or a std (and slow) PCI-eXpress

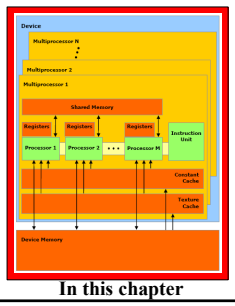
→ CPU uses GPU as a *scientific coprocessor* for *vector/SIMD computing*

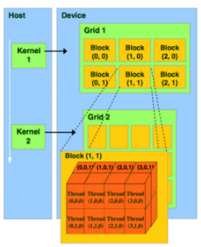
PTX virtual machine

(true) Hardware architecture ↔ **Virtual machine architecture** ↔ **Programming model & language**

GPU chip | PTX | CUDA







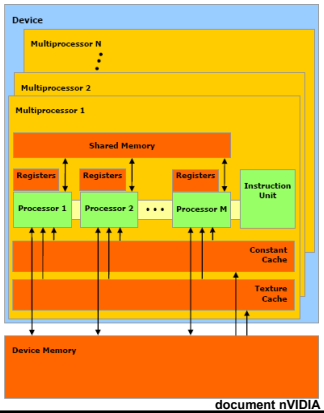
In this chapter

Stream Multiprocessors architecture

A GPU is a set of *N* Stream multiprocessors (SM):
- *N* independent « SIMT » machines
- Sharing the GPU board memory

Before Volta & Turing architectures one SM included:
- 1 instruction decoder/unit
- 32 strongly synchronized *hardware threads*, running *warps* of 32 threads
- 32K-128K registers distributed among all *hardware threads* (and not shared)
- A fast memory shared between all running threads (of the SM)

+ A scheduler of warps of threads, among a larger block of threads



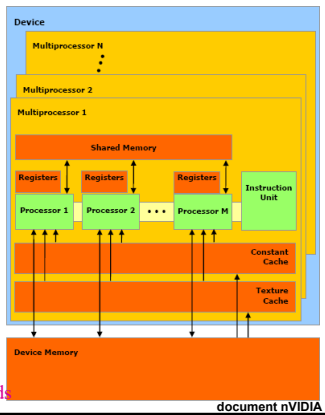
document nVIDIA

Stream Multiprocessors architecture

A GPU is a set of *N* Stream multiprocessors (SM):
- *N* independent « SIMT » machines
- Sharing the GPU board memory

Since Volta & Turing architectures each SM is more complex:
- several instruction decoders/units
- 64 *hardware threads*
  - still running *warps* of 32 threads
  - less strongly synchronized
- 32K-128K registers distributed among all *hardware threads* (and not shared)
- A fast memory shared between all running threads (of the SM)

+ several schedulers of *warps* of threads



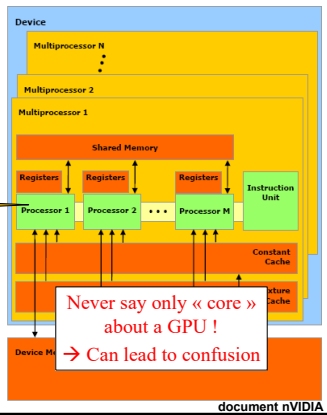
Stream Multiprocessors architecture

What is a « CUDA core » ?

→ It is a *hardware thread*:
1 ALU + access to SP and DP floating point units + some registers of the SM + access to the shared memory + access to the global memory of the GPU

CUDA core

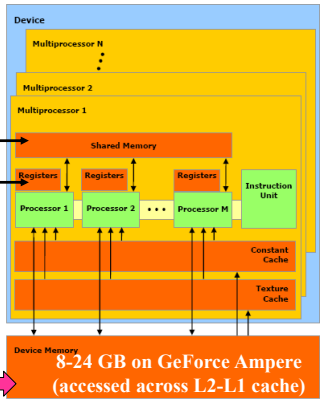
Comparison to CPU:
- A CUDA core can be compared to one ALU of a CPU SIMD unit (AVX units)
- A CPU core can be compared to one Stream Multiprocessor of a GPU



GPU multiple memories

Multiple memories are available:
- with different sizes

Pascal	96KB/SM
Volta	128KB/SM
Turing	64Kreg/SM
Ampere	256KB/SM



GPU multiple memories

Multiple memories are available:
- with different sizes
- and different speeds

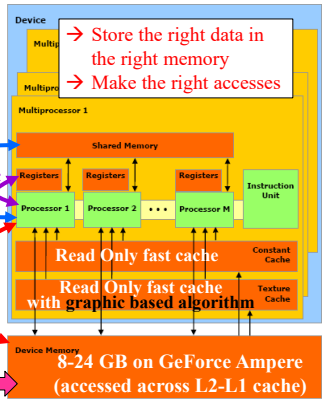
→ Store the right data in the right memory
→ Make the right accesses

2-4 clock tics unconstrained

1 clock tic ('0s')

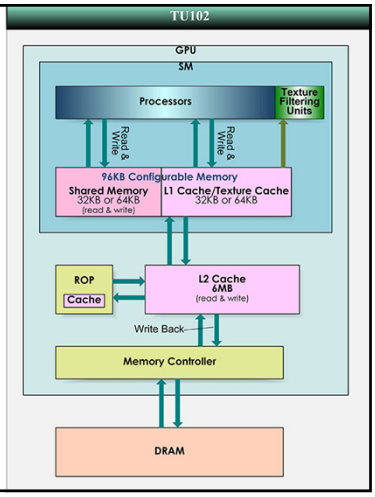
Slow & constrained
(requires *coalescent* accesses or becomes very slow)

CPU-GPU transfers: mandatory, but on PCIe they can kill the speedup!



Turing memory hierarchy

- All data accesses cross the L2 generic cache
- Both L1 generic cache and specialized texture cache read the L2 generic cache
- Using only L2-L1 mechanism is not so disadvantageous since Turing architcture
- But using the *Shared Memory* is still efficient (and more complex)



GPU architecture

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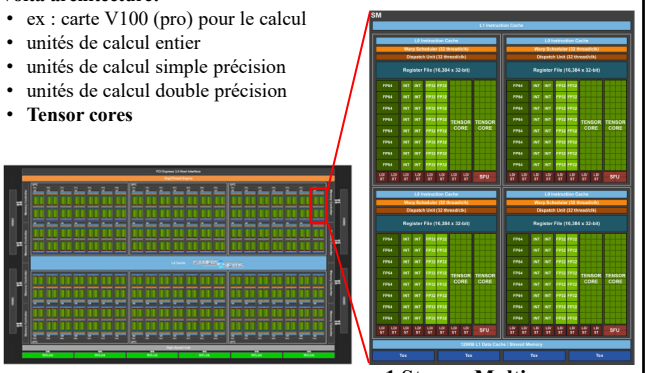
Recent architecture issues

New Tesla GPU

Volta architecture:

- ex : carte V100 (pro) pour le calcul
- unités de calcul entier
- unités de calcul simple précision
- unités de calcul double précision
- **Tensor cores**



1 Stream Multiprocessor

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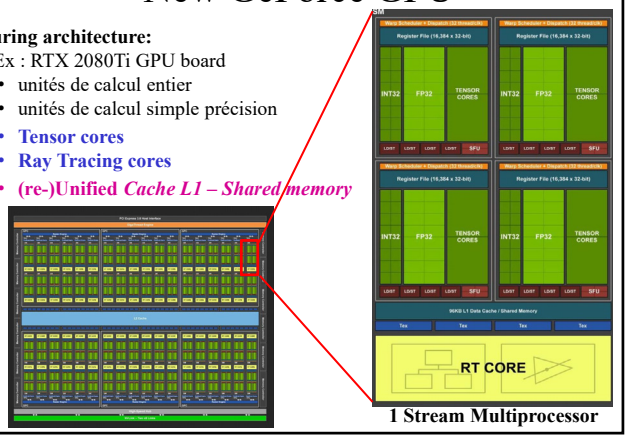
Recent architecture issues

New GeForce GPU

Turing architecture:

Ex : RTX 2080Ti GPU board

- unités de calcul entier
- unités de calcul simple précision
- **Tensor cores**
- **Ray Tracing cores**
- **(re-)Unified *Cache L1 – Shared memory***



1 Stream Multiprocessor

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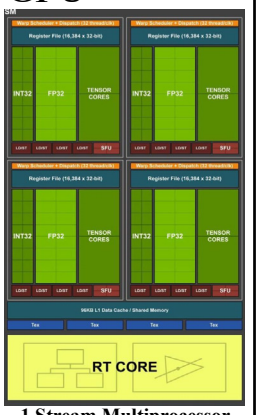
Recent architecture issues

New GeForce GPU

Turing architecture:

Ex : RTX 2080Ti GPU board

- 72 Stream Multiprocessor (SM)
- 64 CUDA cores / SM
  → 4608 CUDA cores
- Double-precision computing is possible but slow
- 8 Tensor cores / SM
  → 576 Tensor cores
- 1 Ray Tracing core / SM
  → 72 RT cores
- More efficient cache memory



1 Stream Multiprocessor

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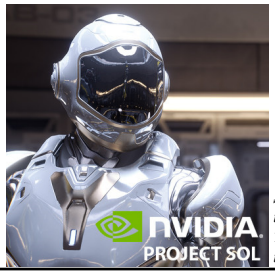
Recent architecture issues

Motivation to design RT cores

Ray Tracing cores:

- Final objective: « real time ray tracing for video »
- Currently: GPU not powerful enough
  → Real Time RT on a subset of rays
  + interpolation with Tensor Cores



Video game remains the main market for NVIDIA

→ GPU architecture evolutions must be useful for the video game market

SOL MAN from NVIDIA SOL ray tracing demo running on a Turing TU102 GPU with NVIDIA RTX technology in real-time

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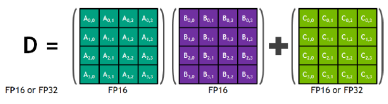
Recent architecture issues

Tensor Core features

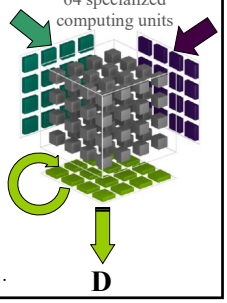
Tensor cores:

1 TC achieves a flow of product-add on a flow of 4x4 matrixes

- D = A.B : produces a flow of D output matrixes
- D = A.B + C, with accumulation of A.B product flow into C matrix



64 specialized computing units



Possible mixed-precision:

- input matrixes encoded on 16 bits
- internal computing on 32 bits
- output matrix flow on 16 or 32 bits

Useful for many kinds of applications: image processing, Machine Learning, Linear Algebra…

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Recent architecture issues

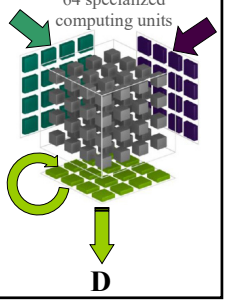
Tensor Core features

Tensor cores:

1 TC achieves a flow of product-add on a flow of 4x4 matrixes

- D = A.B : produces a flow of D output matrixes
- D = A.B + C, with accumulation of A.B product flow into C matrix

64 specialized computing units



A Tensor core:

- is a hardware implementation of a matrix operator,
- is a very useful operator for modern applications,
- including graphic applications (main GPU market).

→ A mathematical operator whose genericity justifies that it occupies a part of the chip!

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Cache memory improvement

New fast memory:

- 96 or 128 KBytes per SM
- Used for both: L1 cache, shared memory, texture cache

Rmk: The « shared memory » is an unmanaged L1 cache memory. The application developer has to design and implement a strategy adapted to its computations!

- If the shared memory is unused, the 96 KBytes will be automatically used for L1 cache
- A new and more efficient cache management strategy has been implemented

Objectives of this new fast memory architecture and management:

- To decrease the performance loss when not using shared memory…
- … many users have refused to design and implement a new cache management strategy (too difficult).

Evolution of the GPU features

Feature support (unlisted features are supported for all compute capabilities)	Compute capability (version)												
	1.0	1.1	1.2	1.3	2.x	3.0	3.2	3.5, 3.7, 5.0, 5.2	5.3	6.x	7.x	8.0	8.6
Integer atomic functions operating on 32-bit words in global memory	No	Yes											
atomicExch() operating on 32-bit floating point values in global memory													
Integer atomic functions operating on 32-bit words in shared memory	No	Yes											
atomicExch() operating on 32-bit floating point values in shared memory													
Integer atomic functions operating on 64-bit words in global memory													
Warp vote functions													
Double-precision floating-point operations	No	Yes											
Atomic functions operating on 64-bit integer values in shared memory	No	Yes											
Floating-point atomic addition operating on 32-bit words in global and shared memory													
_ballot()													
_threadfence_system()													
_syncthreads_count(), _syncthreads_and(), _syncthreads_or()													
Surface functions													
3D grid of thread block													
Warp shuffle functions , Unified Memory	No	Yes											
Funnel shift	No	Yes											
Dynamic parallelism	No	Yes											
Half-precision floating-point operations: addition, subtraction, multiplication, comparison, warp shuffle functions, conversion	No	Yes											
Atomic addition operating on 64-bit floating point values in global memory and shared memory	No	Yes											
Tensor core	No	Yes											
Mixed Precision Warp-Matrix Functions	No	Yes											
Hardware-accelerated async-copy	No	Yes											
Hardware-accelerated Split Arrive/Wait Barrier	No	Yes											
L2 Cache Residency Management	No	Yes											

Evolution of the GPU Tesla

Tesla Product	Tesla K40	Tesla M40	Tesla P100	Tesla V100
GPU	GK180 (Kepler)	GM200 (Maxwell)	GP100 (Pascal)	GV100 (Volta)
SMs	15	24	56	80
TPCs	15	24	28	40
FP32 Cores / SM	192	128	64	64
FP32 Cores / GPU	2880	3072	3584	5120
FP64 Cores / SM	64	4	32	32
FP64 Cores / GPU	960	96	1792	2560
Tensor Cores / SM	NA	NA	NA	8
Tensor Cores / GPU	NA	NA	NA	640
GPU Boost Clock	810/875 MHz	1114 MHz	1480 MHz	1530 MHz
Peak FP32 TFLOPS[1]	5	6.8	10.6	15.7
Peak FP64 TFLOPS[1]	1.7	.21	5.3	7.8
Peak Tensor TFLOPS[1]	NA	NA	NA	125

Some architecture features do not evolve monotonously

GPU architecture

End