

TETRACOM: Technology Transfer in Computing Systems



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OpenCL for the Kalray MPPA Manycore Processor

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OpenCL on the MPPA: Challenges

The MPPA processor has a clustered architecture with 16 clusters, each with 16 application cores and a shared local memory. Porting C99 application code for parallel execution is possible by using INRIA's PPCG (Polyhedral Parallel Code Generation). PPCG's OpenCL back-end contributed to motivate the support for OpenCL 1.2 on the MPPA processor.



OpenCL on the MPPA: Implementation

The MPPA run-time system implements OpenCL global memory using a software distributed shared memory (DSM). The OpenCL host API is implemented by porting the POCL open-source framework to the MPPA (Kalray is a POCL contributor). The OpenCL-C compiler is based on LLVM, which has been retargeted to the Kalray MPPA processor cores.



OpenCL for the MPPA Results

- Kalray contributed out-of-order OpenCL queues to the POCL project
- Kalray retargeted LLVM to its three VLIW core architectures (k1a, k1b 32-bit, k1b 64-bit)
- Kalray evolved its prototype OpenCL environment to support the standard combination of 'data parallel' and 'task parallel' models with OpenCL-C and the OpenCL host API.

 PENCIL-C benchmarks, including SLAMBench k-fusion, and the complete Polybench-4.1, can be accelerated on the MPPA after translation to OpenCL by PPCG.

On-going work targets the OpenCL 1.2 conformance and using MPPA I/O cores as host CPU

