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The Kokkos ecosystem - Sustaining performance portability at the exascale era

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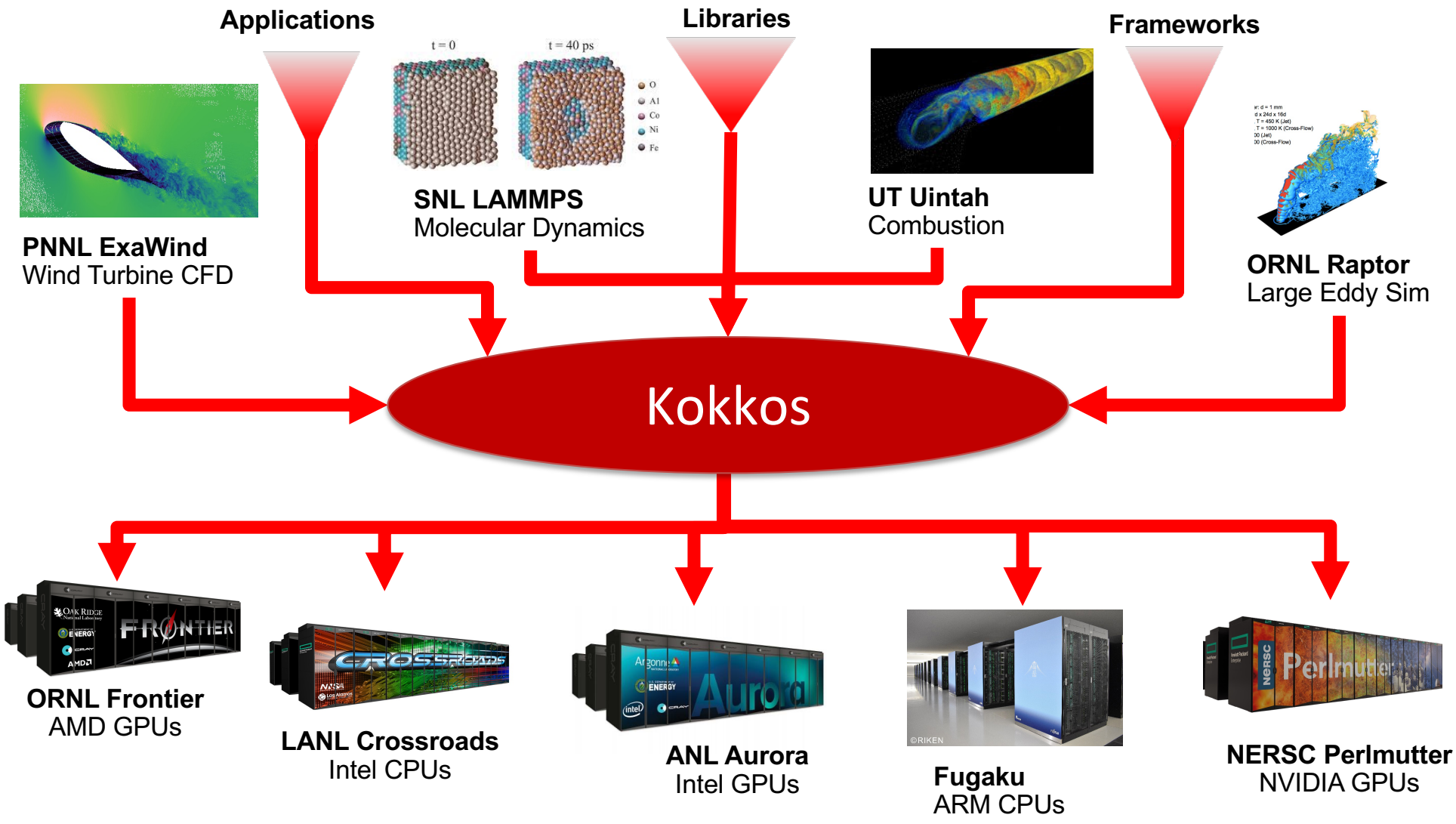

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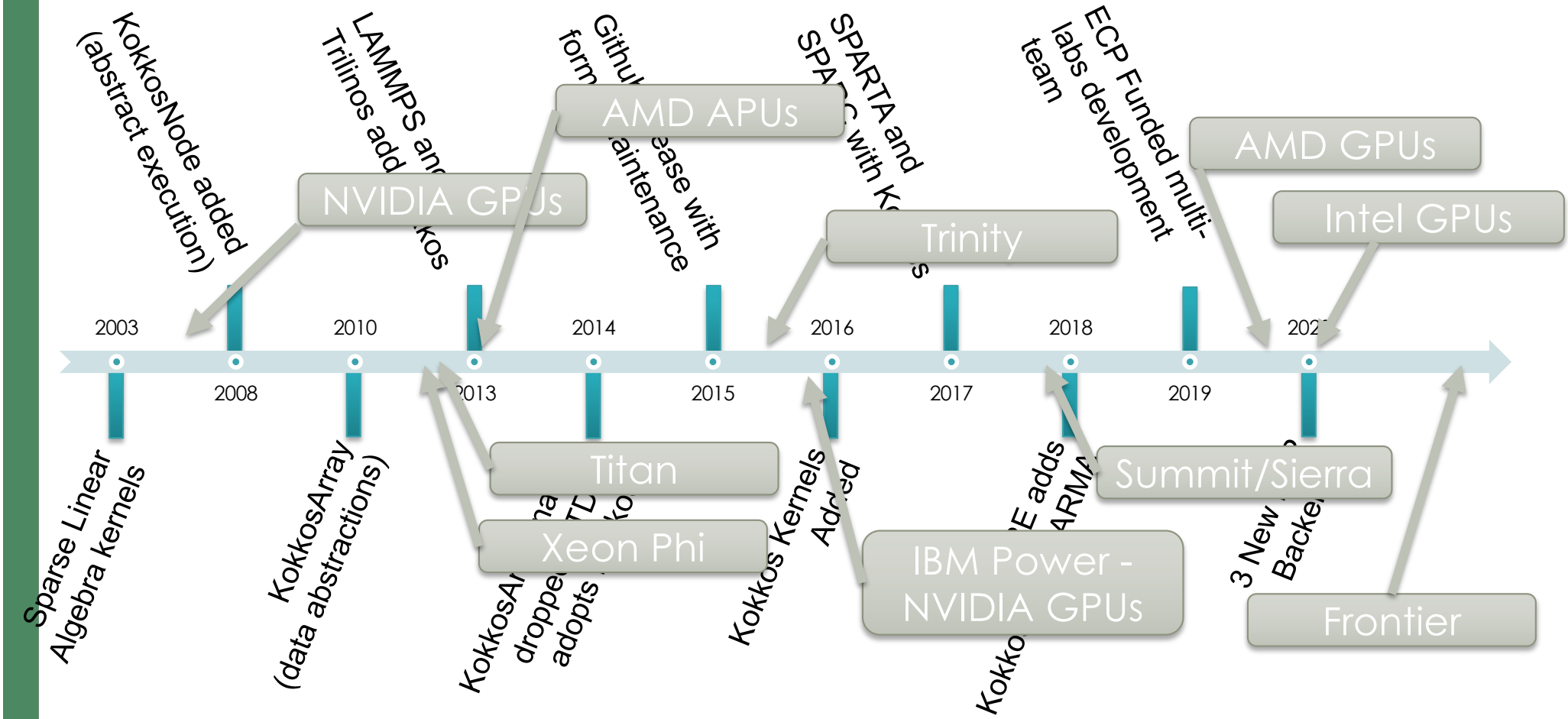
What is Kokkos?

- A C++ Programming Model for Performance Portability
  - Implemented as a template library on top of CUDA, OpenMP, …
  - Aims to be descriptive not prescriptive
  - Aligns with developments in the C++ standard
- Expanding solution for common needs of modern science/engineering codes
  - Math libraries based on Kokkos
  - Tools which enable insight into Kokkos
- It is Open Source
  - Maintained and developed at https://github.com/kokkos
- It has many users at wide range of institutions

Kokkos Timeline



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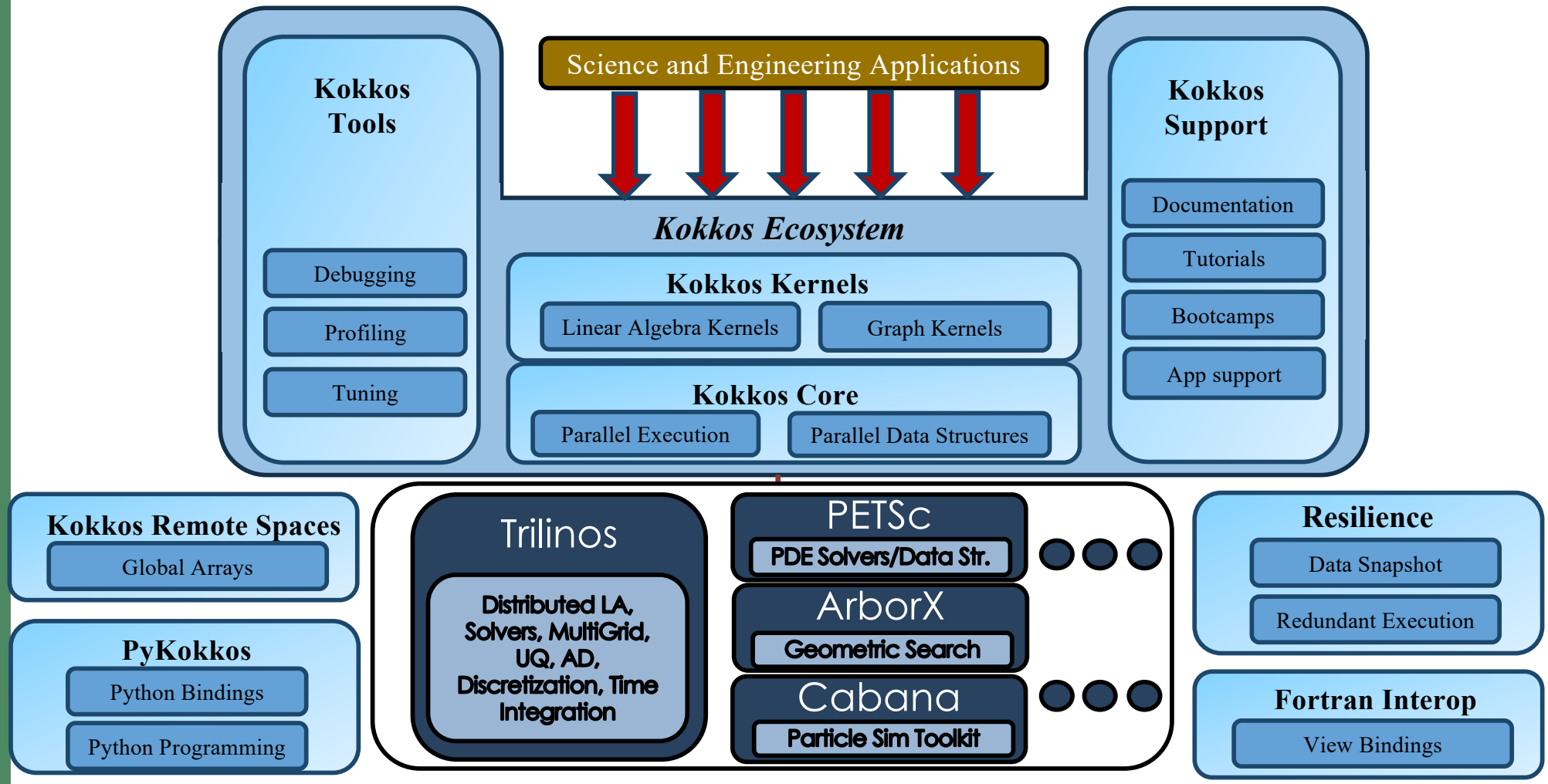
The Kokkos Ecosystem - Today



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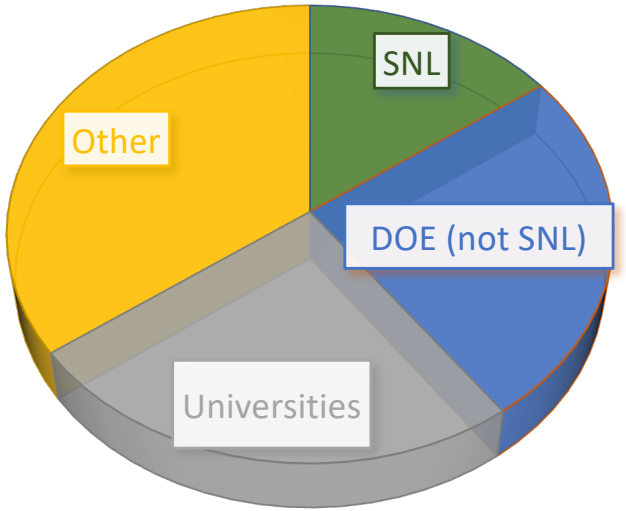
Kokkos Community

Kokkos Slack

https://kokkosteam.slack.com

- >1200 registered users
- >150 institutions
  - Including 34 European



Kokkos Developers

Sandia National Laboratories
OAK RIDGE National Laboratory
Argonne NATIONAL LABORATORY
cea
BERKELEY LAB
Los Alamos NATIONAL LABORATORY EST.1943
CSCS
NGA NexGen Analytics

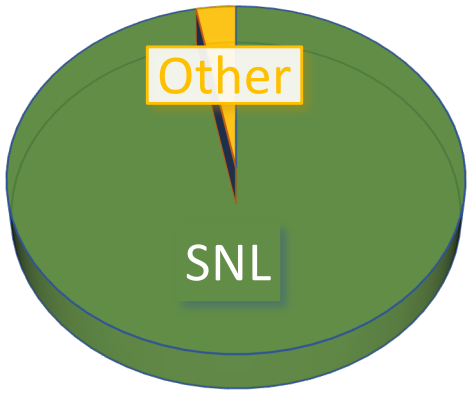
Applications and Libraries

- Estimated 150-300 HPC projects using Kokkos
- On the order of three-dozen apps run science and engineering production runs with Kokkos
  - Many apps use multiple Kokkos based libraries
- Similar distribution as the Slack User

50% of C++ based DOE ECP codes use Kokkos

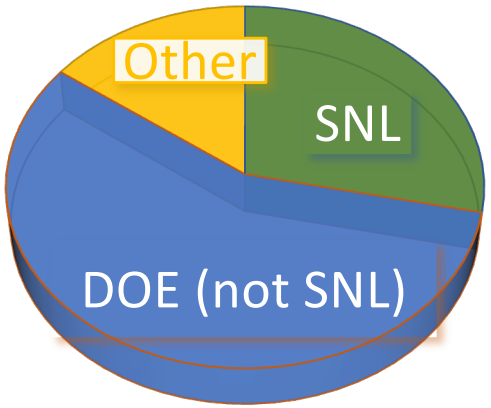
Kokkos Core - Contributions

2015-2017



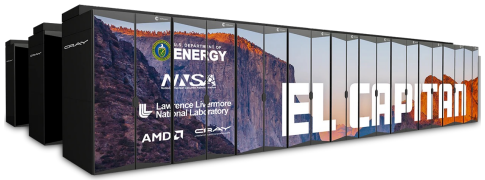
ECP Funding

2021-2023



- Most of Kokkos-Tools and Kokkos-Kernels development still at Sandia
- ISO C++ Contribution well distributed over labs

Frontier/Aurora support status



AMD Frontier/El Capitan: HIP

Production-ready since Kokkos 4.0

- Fine grained tasking is missing

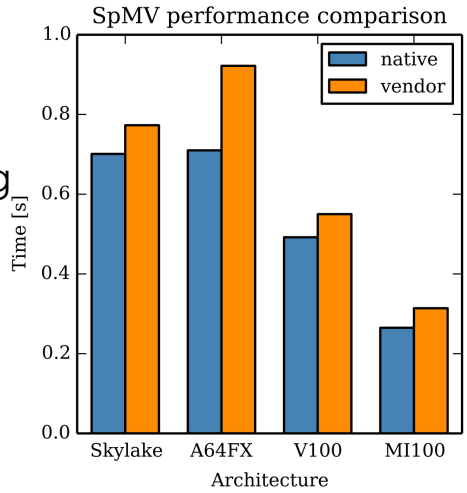
PR and nightly testing on AMD GPUs

Generally, performance is good

AMD GPUs struggle a bit compared to NVIDIA GPUs with cache intensive workloads

Performance Portability of Kokkos code is excellent however

See for example native Kokkos SPMV implementation beating vendor libraries for a range of use cases



Intel Aurora: DPC++/SYCL

Still experimental

- DPC++/SYCL is still evolving (not fully stabilized)
- Tracking latest toolchain developments
- Regressions in functionality still common

PR testing on NVIDIA GPUs, nightly testing on actual Intel PVC hardware

Most Kokkos-based ECP applications pass testing with the SYCL backend

Performance similar to AMD

- Some issues around bandwidth – only getting about 65% of peak

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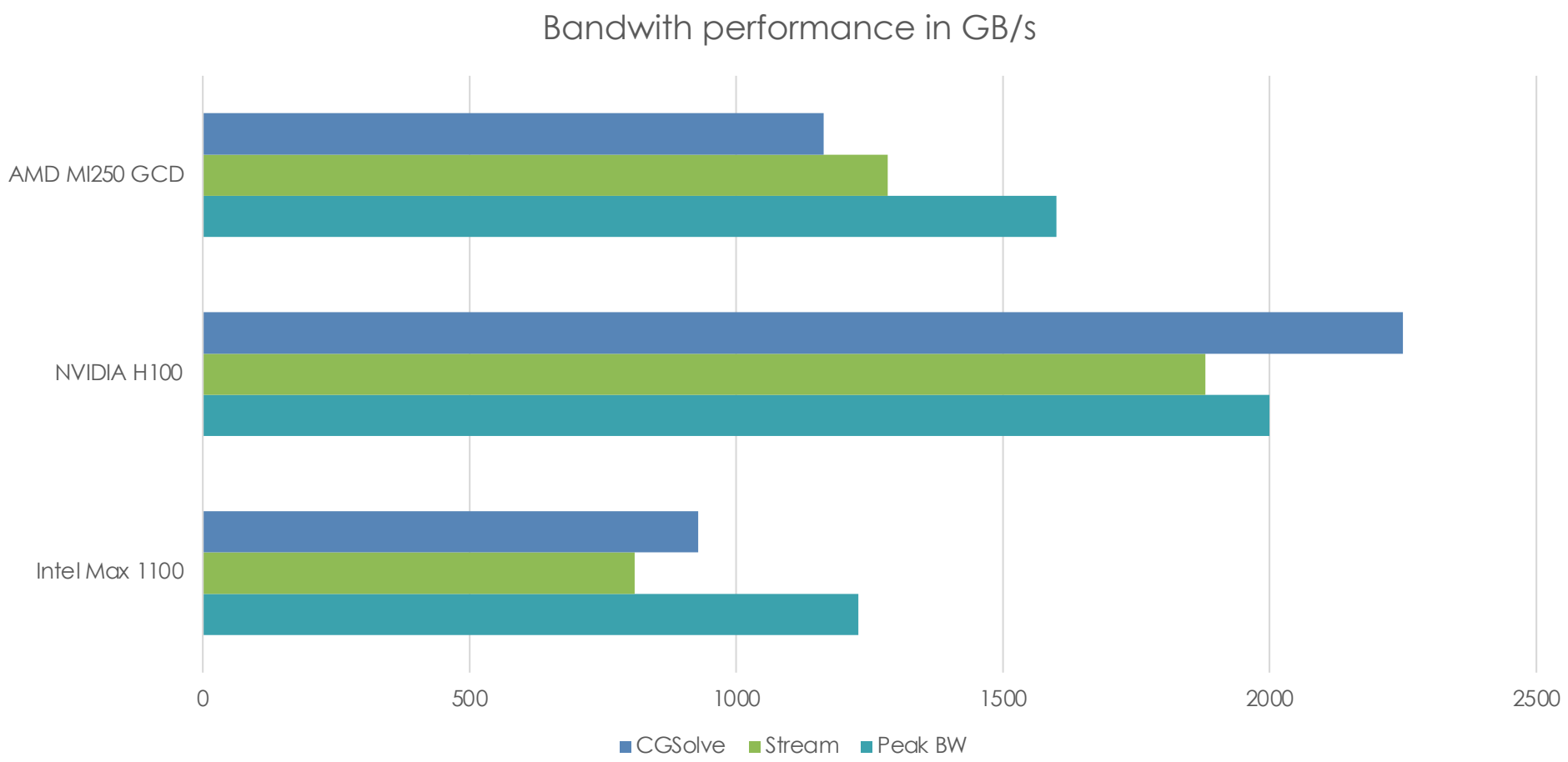
Performance benchmarks



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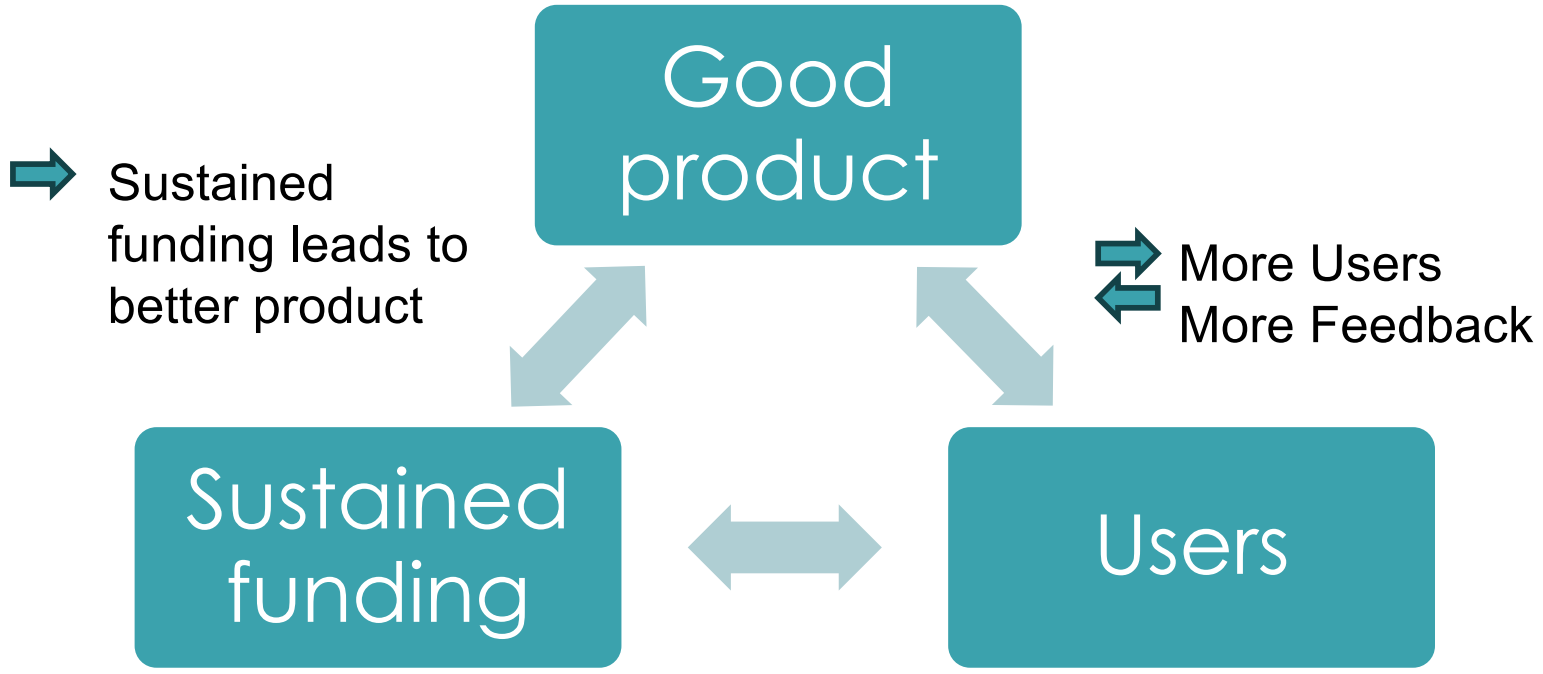
Sustainment: a self reinforcing cycle?



There is strength in numbers: collaboration on core product good for everyone!

Pillars for Long Term Sustainment

Open Source

- Enable wider set of contributor
- Risk mitigation for partner institutions – no one can just take the project away; worst case scenario is institutional fork with internal continued development
- Permissive license critical for industry participation

Core Funding

- Need a group of institutions to sustain core development team
  - NNSA – Sandia National Laboratories *(+ Los Alamos National Laboratory?)*
  - DOE – ASCR Facilities – Oak Ridge Leadership Computing Facility, NERSC, … ?
  - CEA starting now

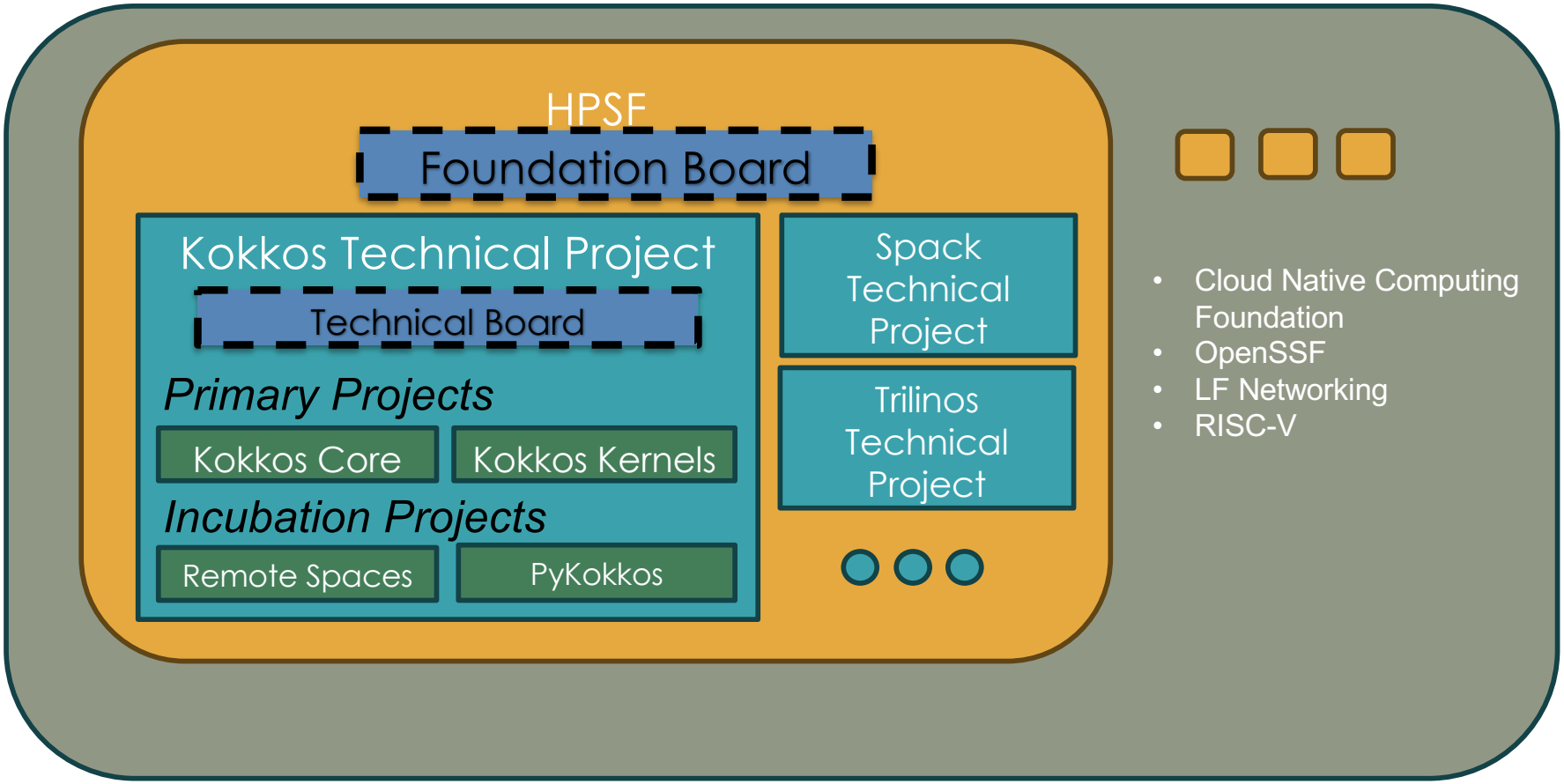
Open Governance

- Encourage participation of institutions by enabling say in direction
  - Enable path for new core funding teams to enter

High Performance Software Foundation

https://hpsf.io

Primary Goal: *Enable true partnerships on Kokkos via open governance.*



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Kokkos and ISO C++

Long term sustainment via integration of Kokkos features into ISO C++ standard

Getting something into ISO C++

- Requires a lot of effort
  - mdspan was 9 years, but we didn't know what we were doing
  - linalg took 5 years to get into draft
- Requires prototype and usage experience
  - Need to be able to show successful use in field by sizeable community

Kokkos as the HPCs proving ground

- Large enough community
- More
- Kokk

In the standard
- "this" capture C++17
- atomic_ref C++20
- mdspan C++23

In flight for 26
- linalg – BLAS with extensions – *in draft*
- Batched linalg
- mdarray
- submdspan – *in draft*
- More accessors and layouts
- simd
- senders/receivers

nters

We need long term engagement with ISO C++ as integral part of Kokkos effort.

Sustainment through standardization
Multi-dimensional arrays

```
Kokkos::View<double**> A("A", M, N);
Kokkos::View<double[4][4], Kokkos::LayoutLeft> B("B");
```

```
std::mdspan A(ptr, M, N);
std::mdspan<double, std::extents<int, 4, 4>, std::layout_left> B(ptr);
```

```
template <
   class DataType
   [, class LayoutType]
   [, class MemorySpace]
   [, class MemoryTraits]>
class Kokkos::View;
```

```
template<
   class T,
   class Extents,
   class LayoutPolicy = std::layout_right,
   class AccessorPolicy = std::default_accessor<T>
> class mdspan; (since C++23)
```


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Sustainment through standardization
Linear algebra

```
dgemv('N', M, N, 1., A, 1, x, 1, 0., y, 1);  // 11 parameters
```
BLAS

```
KokkosKernels::gemv('N', 1., A, x, 0., y);
```
KokkosKernels

```
std::matrix_vector_product(A, x, y);
```
Standard C++

```
template<
    [class ExecutionHandle,]
    class InMat,
    class InVec,
    class OutVec>
void KokkosKernels::gemv (
     [const ExecutionHandle& exec,]
     const char trans[],
     typename InMat::const_value_type& alpha,
     InMat A,
     OutMat x,
     typename OutVec::const_value_type& beta,
     OutVec y);
```

```
template<
   [class ExecutionPolicy,]
   InMatrix InMat,
   InVector InVec,
   OutVector OutVec
> void matrix_vector_product( [ExecutionPolicy&& exec,]
                              InMat A,
                              InVec x,
                              OutVec y );  (since C++26)
```


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Our ideas for future directions of Kokkos

Edge computing / Embedded Support

- Many of the same concerns as HPC – resource constraint, performance critical
- Many different devices including FPGAs

Programming Language Safety

- More concern about cyber security – how do we write safer code?
- Kokkos data abstractions (View/mdspan/mdarray) enable safer encapsulation – could make it almost impossible to have out-of-bounds memory access
- Combined with static analysis could be significant step to enable C++ codes which are memory safe by design

Better integration with distributed computing

- Remote spaces
- MPI interface taking Kokkos data structures

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