Building a Portable, Scalable, Performant ZFP Backend using oneAPI and SYCL to Advance Exascale Computing: A Developer Perspective

ALPER SAHISTAN, NATE MORRICAL, PETER LINDSTROM, VALERIO PASCUCCI

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- Compression and ZFP
- Utilizing DPCT Migration Tool
  - Comparison between CUDA and generated SYCL codes
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- Kernel Timing
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Introduction

- Most applications are memory-bound
  - Device memory or transfer-time > Computation time
  - Especially relevant for **GPU**s
- **ZFP** as a compression tool plays a vital role in HPC
  - Relaxes memory constraints
  - Exploits the regularity in data
- **oneAPI** and **SYCL** as enablers
  - Portable and scalable ZFP backend
  - We aim to share our experiences using these tools.

Compression and ZFP

Problems with large data today:

- Processor and clock speeds have plateaued and emphasis is on parallel computing.
- Memory per-core 
- Data set sizes and computation need 
- Memory > FLOPs

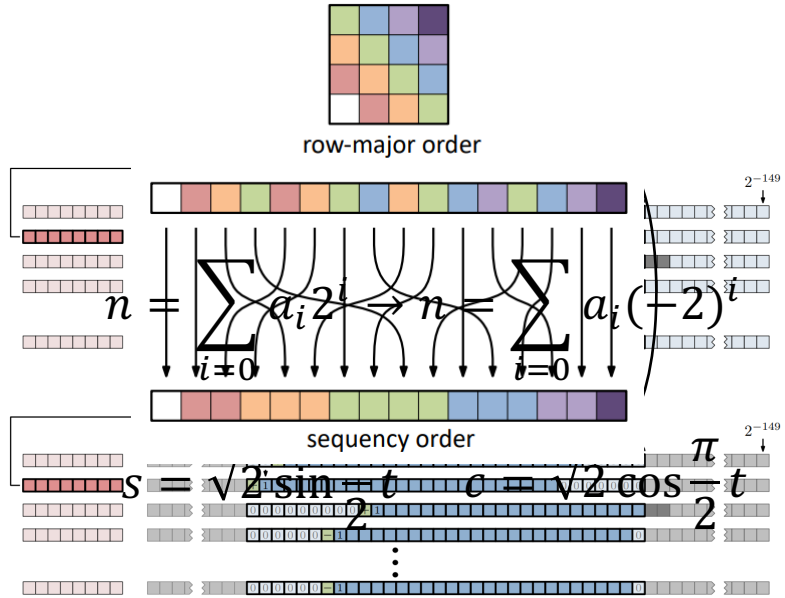
Viable Solution: **Compression**

- With floating-point data, lossy-compression offers more data reduction.

Compression and ZFP

ZFP data compression:

1. Block-Partitioning: *d*- dimentional array into 4^d blocks.
2. FP numbers are converted into block-floating-point representation and they are shifted/rounded to 4^d signed integers
3. Application of decorrelating transform
4. Reorder integer coefficients by sequency
5. Two's complement signed integers are converted into negabinary
6. List of 4^d integers are transposed: least to most significant ordering
7. Each bit plane is compressed losslessly using embedded coding
8. The embedded coder emits one bit at a time until stopping criteria are satisfied: **fixed rate, fixed precision, or fixed accuracy**



Utilizing DPCT Migration Tool

- We have utilized DPCT tool to convert CUDA implementation to SYCL.
  - `dpct --in-root=. ./src/cuda/interface.cu --use-experimental-features="occupancy-calculation,nd_range_barrier" --extra-arg="-I ./include“`
- Translations for several CUDA functions were unavailable in the 2023.1.0 so we are strictly using DPCT 2023.2.0
- Currently implementation works for fixed-rate mode on Linux systems.

```
// encode kernel
template <typename Scalar> __global__
void encode1_kernel(…){ //omitted for brevity
  const size_t blockId = blockIdx.x + (size_t)gridDim.x *
(blockIdx.y + (size_t)gridDim.y * blockIdx.z);
  // each thread gets a block; block index = global thread index
  const size_t block_idx = blockId * blockDim.x + threadIdx.x;
  // number of zfp blocks
  const size_t blocks = (size + 3) / 4;
  // return if thread has no blocks assigned
  if (block_idx >= blocks)
    return;
  // logical position in 1d array
  const size_t pos = block_idx;
  const ptrdiff_t x = pos * 4;
  // offset into field
  const ptrdiff_t offset = x * stride;
  // initialize block writer
  BlockWriter::Offset bit_offset = block_idx * maxbits;
  BlockWriter writer(d_stream, bit_offset);
  // gather data into a contiguous block
  Scalar fblock[ZFP_1D_BLOCK_SIZE];
  const uint nx = (uint)min(size_t(size - x), size_t(4));
...
}
```

```
// encode kernel
template <typename Scalar>
void encode1_kernel(…){ //omitted for brevity
  const size_t blockId = item_ct1.get_group(2) +
     (size_t)item_ct1.get_group_range(2) *
     (item_ct1.get_group(1) +
     (size_t)item_ct1.get_group_range(1) *
      item_ct1.get_group(0));
  // each thread gets a block; block index = global thread
index
  const size_t block_idx = blockId *
     item_ct1.get_local_range(2) + item_ct1.get_local_id(2);
  // number of zfp blocks
  const size_t blocks = (size + 3) / 4;
  // return if thread has no blocks assigned
  if (block_idx >= blocks)
    return;
  // logical position in 1d array
  const size_t pos = block_idx;
  const ptrdiff_t x = pos * 4;
  // offset into field
  const ptrdiff_t offset = x * stride;
  // initialize block writer
  BlockWriter::Offset bit_offset = block_idx * maxbits;
  BlockWriter writer(d_stream, bit_offset);
  // gather data into a contiguous block
  Scalar fblock[ZFP_1D_BLOCK_SIZE];
  const uint nx = (uint)::sycl::min(size_t(size - x),
size_t(4));
...
}
```

Some Rewrites

CUDA

```
// determine whether ptr points to device memory
inline bool is_gpu_ptr(const void* ptr)
{
  bool status = false;
  cudaPointerAttributes atts;
  if (cudaPointerGetAttributes(&atts, ptr) == cudaSuccess)
    switch (atts.type) {
      case cudaMemoryTypeDevice:
#if CUDART_VERSION >= 10000
      case cudaMemoryTypeManaged:
#endif
        status = true;
        break;
    }
  // clear last error so other error checking does not pick it up
  (void)cudaGetLastError();
  return status;
}
```

SYCL from DPCT

```
// determine whether ptr points to device memory
inline bool is_gpu_ptr(const void *ptr) try {
  bool status = false;
  dpct::pointer_attributes atts;
  if (DPCT_CHECK_ERROR(atts.init(ptr)) == 0)
    switch (atts.get_memory_type()) {
      case sycl::usm::alloc::device:
#if (SYCL_LANGUAGE_VERSION >= 202000)
      case sycl::usm::alloc::shared:
#endif
        status = true;
        break;
    }(void)0;
  return status;
}
```

SYCL after corrections

```
// determine whether ptr points to device memory
inline bool is_gpu_ptr(const void *ptr){
  dpct::pointer_attributes atts;
  try {
    atts.init(ptr);
    switch (atts.get_memory_type()) {
      case ::sycl::usm::alloc::device:
      /* FALL THROUGH */
      case ::sycl::usm::alloc::shared:
        return true;
      default:
        return false;
    }
  } catch (::sycl::exception const &exc) {
    return false;
  }
  return false;
}
```

Issues and Solutions with DPCT

- **Problem:** DPCT does not translate .cuh files.
  Solution: Renaming all .cuh files to .cu and adjusting the inclusions and Cmake.
  - We have reported this problem
- **Problem:** `cudaOccupancyMaxActiveBlocksPerMultiprocessor` is not supported.
  Solution: Updating DPCT tool to 2023.2.0 and turning on `--use-experimental-features=occupancy-calculation`

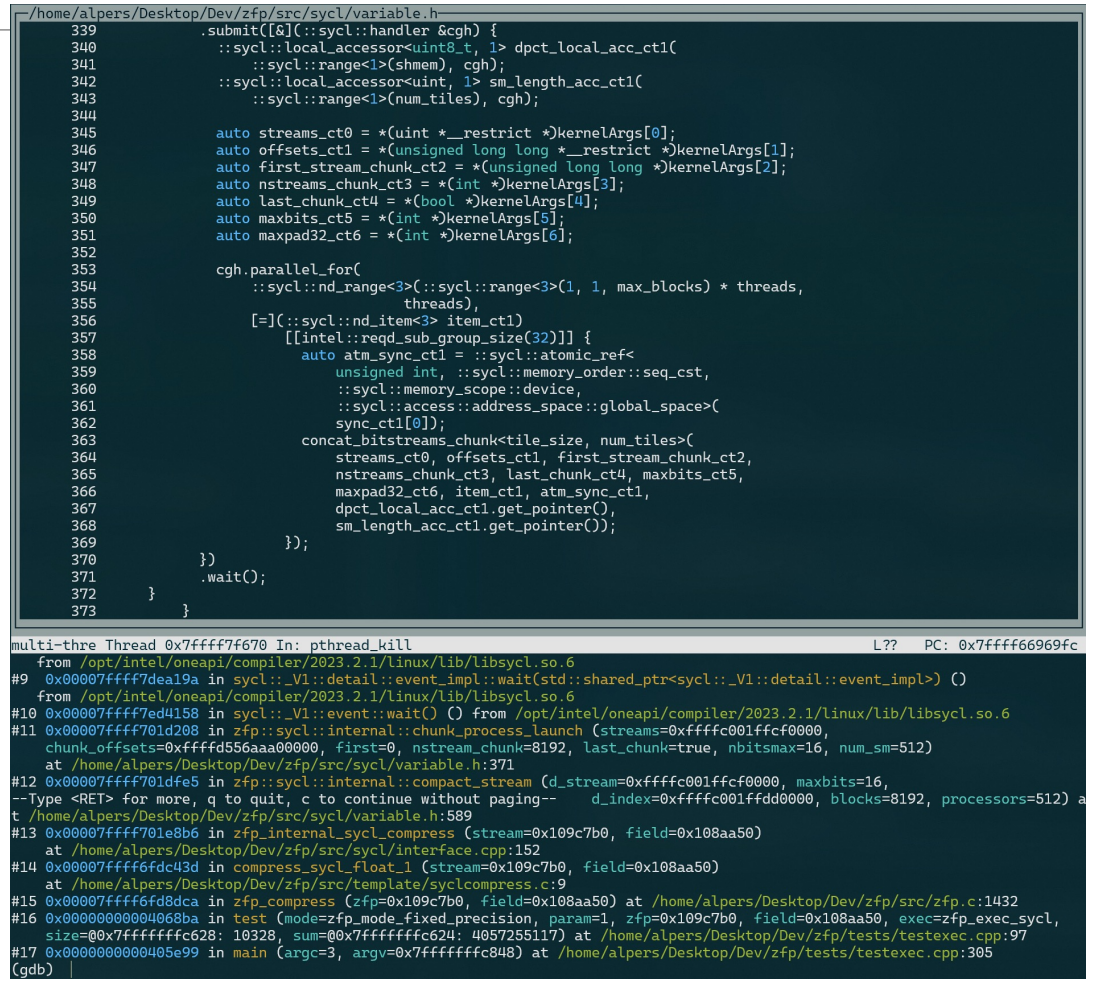
```
cudaOccupancyMaxActiveBlocksPerMultiprocessor(&max_blocks,
    concat_bitstreams_chunk<tile_size, num_tiles>,
    tile_size * num_tiles, shmem);
```

```
dpct::experimental::calculate_max_active_wg_per_xecore(
                &max_blocks, tile_size * num_tiles,
                shmem + num_tiles * sizeof(uint));
```

- src/cuda/constants.cu
- src/cuda/decode.cu
- src/cuda/decode1.cu
- src/cuda/decode2.cu
- src/cuda/decode3.cu
- src/cuda/device.cu
- src/cuda/encode.cu
- src/cuda/encode1.cu
- src/cuda/encode2.cu
- src/cuda/encode3.cu
- src/cuda/error.cu
- src/cuda/reader.cu
- src/cuda/shared.cu
- src/cuda/timer.cu
- src/cuda/variable.cu
- src/cuda/writer.cu

Debugging with oneAPI-gdb

- The variable-rate modes of ZFP's SYCL port has a bug at the moment.
  - The bug causes it to crash with `terminate called after throwing an instance of 'sycl::_V1::runtime_error' what(): Native API failed. Native API returns: -14 (PI_ERROR_EXEC_STATUS_ERROR_FOR_EVENTS_IN_WAIT_LIST) -14 (PI_ERROR_EXEC_STATUS_ERROR_FOR_EVENTS_IN_WAIT_LIST)`
- We employed oneAPI-gdb to insert breakpoints watch variables and stack-trace
  - We traced the bug to the kernel `concat_bitstreams_chunk`
  - However we failed to get the tracing to go inside the kernel.



Kernel Timing

- We used `sycl::event` objects to time the compression/decompression kernels.
  - Surprisingly difficult.

We attempted multiple solutions:

```
// Fixes over DPCT translation for CUDA event timers in ZFP
dpct::device_ext& dev_ct1 = dpct::get_current_device();
sycl::queue q_b((::sycl::device)dev_ct1,
::sycl::property::queue::enable_profiling{});
sycl::event start =  q_b.ext_oneapi_submit_barrier();
q_ct1.submit(…{…}) .wait();//kernel
sycl::queue &q_b2((::sycl::device)dev_ct1,
::sycl::property::queue::enable_profiling{});
stop = q_b2.ext_oneapi_submit_barrier();
stop.wait_and_throw();
q_b2.wait();

float time = stop.get_profiling_info<info::event_profiling::command_start>()
- start. get_profiling_info<info::event_profiling::command_end>();
```

```
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LID_ARG_VALUE)
```

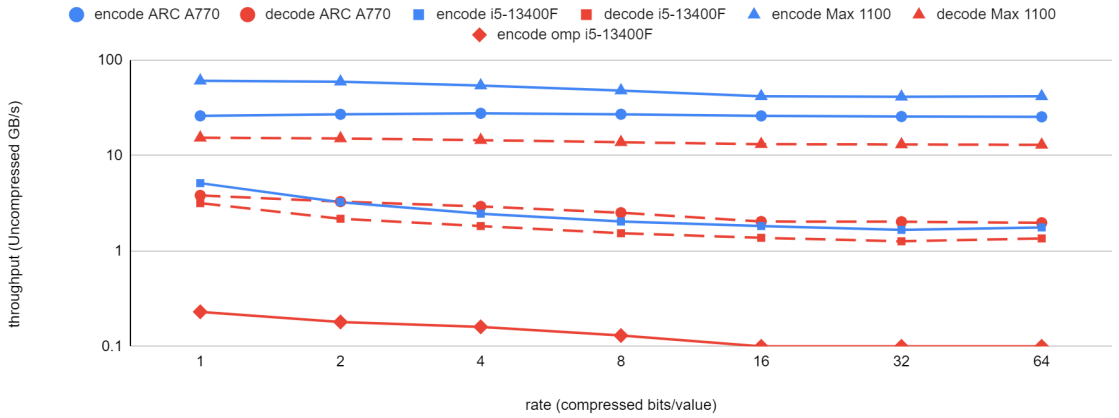
Produces inconsistent timings for different

Solution ✅

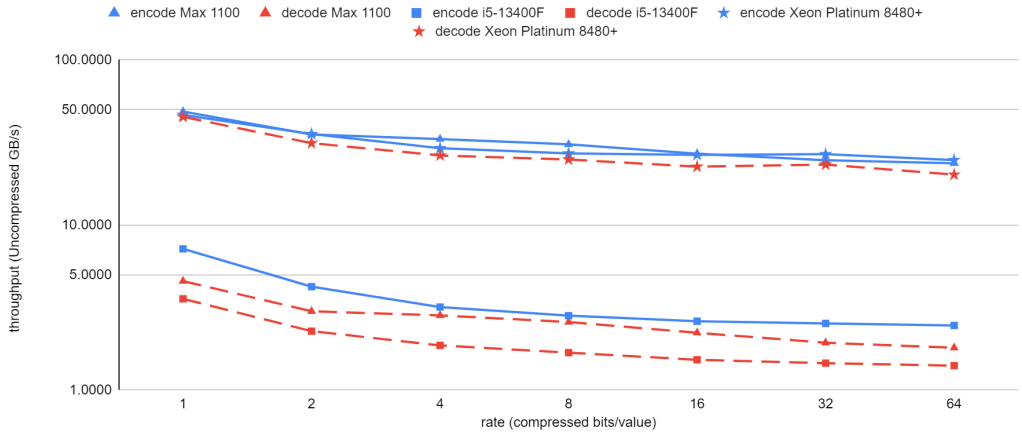
combinations (possible bug in oneAPI)

Results(higher is better)

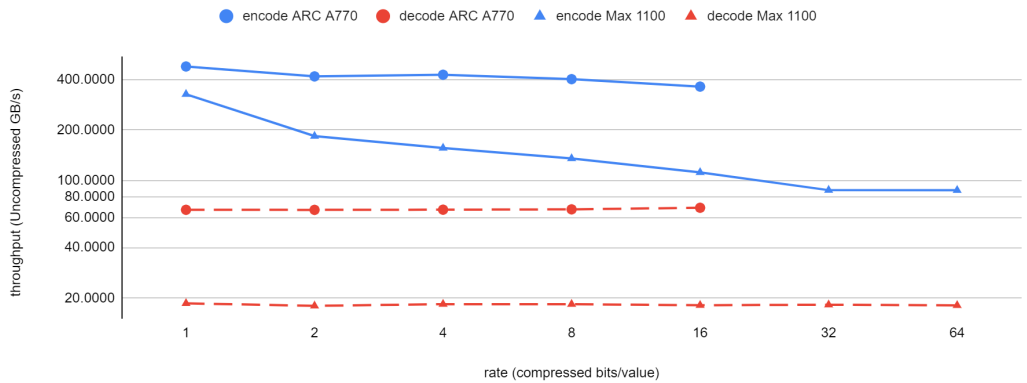
SCALE-T(0.52GB)



Miranda-density(0.28GB)



EXAFEL-LCLS(8.5GB)



[1] K. Zhao et al., "SDRBench: Scientific Data Reduction Benchmark for lossy compressors," 2020 IEEE International Conference on Big Data (Big Data), 2020. doi:10.1109/bigdata50022.2020.9378449
[2] "Scientific Data Reduction Benchmarks," sdrbench.github.io, https://sdrbench.github.io/ (accessed Nov. 26,

Conclusion

- We successfully transformed the ZFP library's fixed-rate mode from a CUDA implementation to Intel's SYCL using the DPCT tool.
- We shared our insights about using Intel's oneAPI development tools.
  - As an improvement, we recommend the implementation of stack tracing within kernel functions for oneAPI-gdb
- We recommend the support of more convenient driver maintenance for Linux systems.
  - Certain functionalities are restricted to specific kernel versions.
- As double precision floating point numbers are extensively utilized in exascale computations, we strongly advocate their emulated implementation for Intel ARC GPUs.

Future Work

- Our work on ZFP's variable-rate mode is still on going
- Several algorithmic and implementation optimizations for the SYCL port
- Possible visualization tools for rendering the compressed data