NVSHMEM: OPENSHMEM FOR GPU-CENTRIC COMMUNICATION

Sreeram Potluri Senior Software Engineer



BULK SYNCHRONY, THE BIG HAMMER

- More threads per GPU, more GPUs per system
- NVLINK connects GPUs in a node LD/ST access to peer-GPU memory
- Reliance on CPU limits scaling, limits utilization, harder to program



The need for a solution is increasing

Sreeram Potluri - spotluri@nvidia.com

OPENSHMEM FOR GPU-INITIATED COMMUNICATION

- NVSHMEM is based on OpenSHMEM 1.3 (+ thread safety)
- GPU-side API for remote data access, collectives and synchronization
- Extensions for GPUs:
 - Stream-based API CPU initiated communication but offloaded to GPU
 - Threadgroup-based API GPU-side API to take advantage of concurrency on the GPU
- Early Access planned for Jan 2018 GPUs within a single node (NVLink, PCIe, QPI)
- Implementation over InfiniBand is under investigation
- Get in touch if you are interested in co-designing your application

PERFORMANCE WITH MINI-APPS



4 GP100s connected with NVLink



2

1.5

1

0.5

0

Finer

Speedup using NVSHMEM Chebyshev Smoother





Acknowledgements: Effort supported by funding from ORNL and DoD