



Software

TENSORFLOW* ON MODERN INTEL® ARCHITECTURES

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Intel

TENSORFLOW* ON CPU HAS BEEN VERY SLOW

You must choose one of the following types of TensorFlow to install:

- **TensorFlow with CPU support only.** If your system does not have a NVIDIA® GPU, you must install this version. Note that this version of TensorFlow is typically much easier to install (typically, in 5 or 10 minutes), so even if you have an NVIDIA GPU, we recommend installing this version first.
- **TensorFlow with GPU support.** TensorFlow programs typically run significantly faster on a GPU than on a CPU. Therefore, if your system has a NVIDIA® GPU meeting the prerequisites shown below and you need to run performance-critical applications, you should ultimately install this version.

https://www.tensorflow.org/install/install_linux

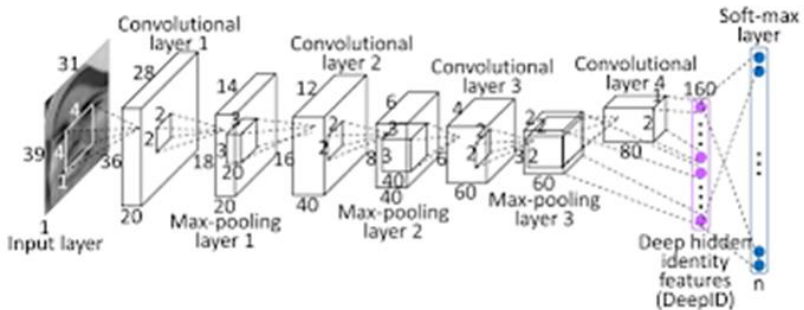
UNTIL TODAY.

Up to 72x Speedup in Training and 86x Speedup in Inference!
Up-streamed and Ready to Use!

AGENDA

- **Deep Learning & TensorFlow**
- Optimizing TensorFlow on Intel® Architecture
- Summary & Call to Action
- Tutorial on Cray (cori) systems

DEEP LEARNING: CONVOLUTIONAL NEURAL NETWORK



1	1	1	0	0
0	1	1	1	0
0	0	1	1	1
0	0	1	1	0
0	1	1	0	0

Image

4		

Convolved Feature

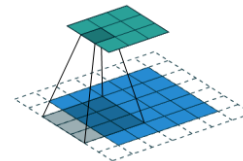
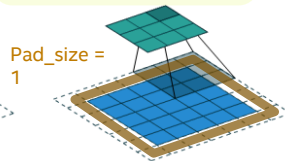
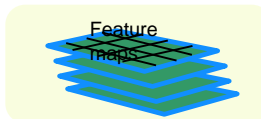
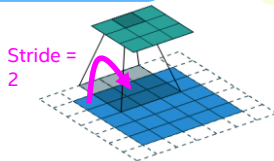
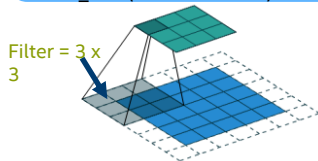
Convolution Parameters:

Number of outputs/feature-maps: $< 4 >$

Filter size: $< 3 \times 3 >$

Stride: $< 2 >$

Pad_size (for corner case): $< 1 >$



DEEP LEARNING: TRAIN ONCE USE MANY TIMES

Step 1: Training

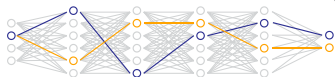
(Over Hours/Days/Weeks)

Input data



Person

Create deep network



Trained Model

Output classification

90% person
8% traffic light

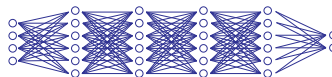
Step 2: Inference

(Real Time)

New input from camera and sensors



Trained neural network model



Output classification



97% person

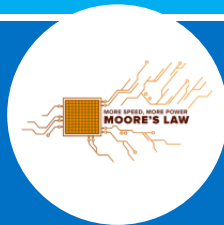
DEEP LEARNING: WHY NOW?

Bigger Data



Image: 1000 KB / picture
Audio: 5000 KB / song
Video: 5,000,000 KB / movie

Better Hardware



Transistor density doubles
every 18 months
Cost / GB in 1995: \$1000.00
Cost / GB in 2015: \$0.03

Smarter Algorithms



Advances in algorithm
innovation, including neural
networks, leading to better
accuracy in training models

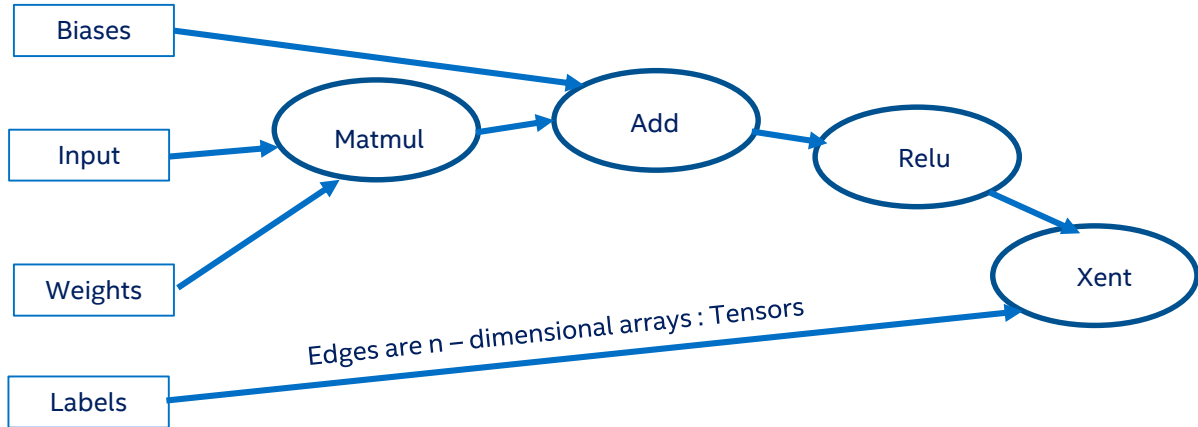
TENSORFLOW

- 2nd generation open source machine learning framework from Google*
- Widely used across Google in many key apps – search, Gmail, photos, translate, etc.
- General computing mathematical framework used on:
 - Deep neural network
 - Other machine learning frameworks
 - HPC applications
- Core system provides set of key computational kernel, extendable user ops
- Core in C++, front end wrapper is in python specifies/drives computation
- Multi-node support using proprietary GRPC protocols



TENSORFLOW: COMPUTATION IS A DATAFLOW GRAPH WITH TENSORS

- Google's open source machine learning framework
- <https://github.com/tensorflow/tensorflow>



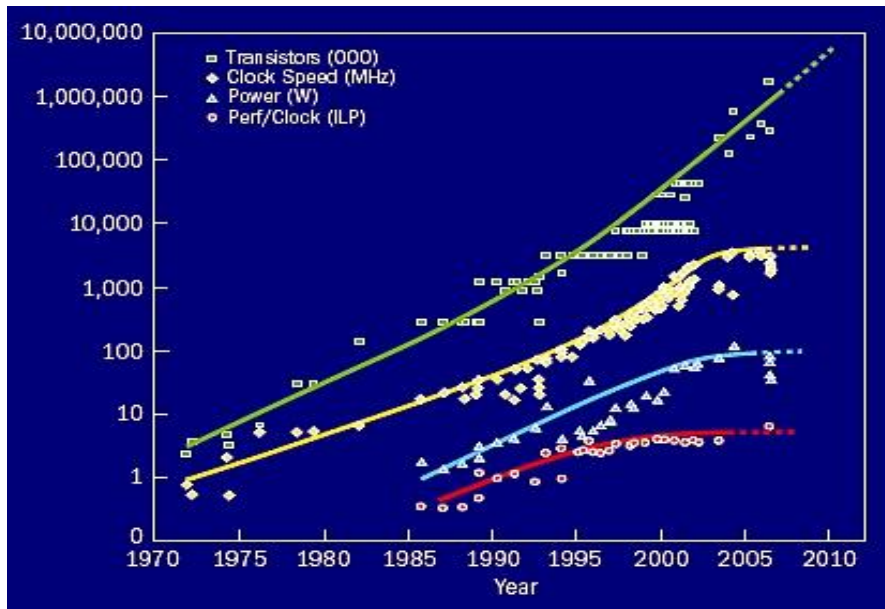
Example from Jeff Dean's presentation

AGENDA

- Deep Learning & TensorFlow
- **Optimizing TensorFlow on Intel® Architecture**
 - Why Optimize
 - Optimization Challenges & Techniques Used
 - Performance Results
- Summary & Call to Action

OPTIMIZATION MATTERS ON MODERN ARCHITECTURES WITH HIGH CORE COUNTS AND WIDE SIMD VECTORS

MOORE'S LAW GOES ON!



Increasing clock speeds -> more cores + wider SIMD (Hierarchical parallelism)

COMBINED AMDAHL'S LAW FOR VECTOR MULTICORES*

$$Speedup = \left(\frac{1}{Serial_{frac} + \frac{1 - Serial_{frac}}{NumCores}} \right) * \left(\frac{1}{Scalar_{frac} + \frac{1 - Scalar_{frac}}{VectorLength}} \right)$$

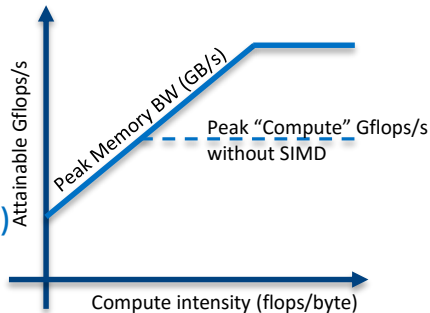
Goal: Reduce **Serial Fraction** and Reduce **Scalar Fraction** of Code

Compute Bound Performance

Most kernels of ML codes are compute bound
i.e. raw FLOPS matter

Roofline Model

Gflops/s = min (Peak Gflops/s, Stream BW * flops/byte)



OPTIMIZING TENSORFLOW AND DEEP LEARNING WORKLOADS

PERFORMANCE OPTIMIZATION ON MODERN PLATFORMS

Hierarchical Parallelism

Coarse-Grained / multi-node

Domain decomposition

Scaling

- Improve load balancing
- Reduce synchronization events, all-to-all comms

Fine-Grained Parallelism / within node

Sub-domain: 1) Multi-level domain decomposition (ex. across layers)
2) Data decomposition (layer parallelism)

Utilize all the cores

- OpenMP, MPI, TBB...
- Reduce synchronization events, serial code
- Improve load balancing

Vectorize/SIMD

- Unit strided access per SIMD lane
- High vector efficiency
- Data alignment

Efficient memory/cache use

- Blocking
- Data reuse
- Prefetching
- Memory allocation

INTEL STRATEGY: OPTIMIZED DEEP LEARNING ENVIRONMENT



Fuel the development of vertical solutions

Nervana Cloud™

Accelerate design, training, and deployment



Drive optimizations across open source machine learning frameworks

Intel®
Nervana™
Graph

Intel® Math Kernel
Library (Intel® MKL)

Intel® MKL-DNN

Maximum performance on Intel architecture



Deliver best single node and multi-node performance

Training

Inference

EXAMPLE CHALLENGE 1: DATA LAYOUT HAS BIG IMPACT ON PERFORMANCE

- Data layouts impact performance
 - Sequential access to avoid gather/scatter
 - Have iterations in inner most loop to ensure high vector utilization
 - Maximize data reuse; e.g. weights in a convolution layer
- Converting to/from optimized layout is some times less expensive than operating on unoptimized layout

A1	A2	A3	A4	A5	
B1	A'1	A'2	A'3	A'4	A'5
C1	B'1	B'2	B'3	B'4	B'5
D1	C'1	C'2	C'3	C'4	C'5
E1	D'1	D'2	D'3	D'4	D'5
	E'1	E'2	E'3	E'4	E'5

A1	A2	...	B1	..	A'1	A'2	..
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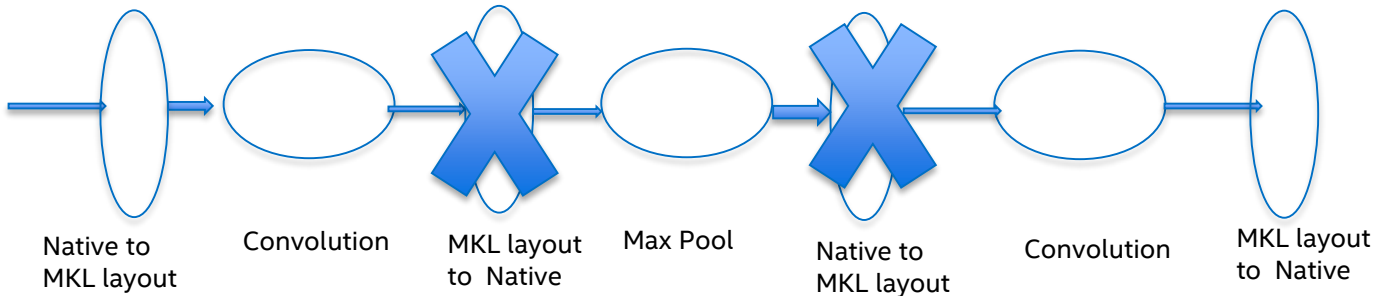
Better optimized for
some operations

VS

A1	A'1	A2	A'2	..	B1	B'1	..
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EXAMPLE CHALLENGE 2: MINIMIZE CONVERSIONS OVERHEAD

- End-to-end optimization can reduce conversions
- Staying in optimized layout as long as possible becomes one of the tuning goals
- Minimize the number of back and forth conversions
 - Use of graph optimization techniques



OPTIMIZING TENSORFLOW & OTHER DL FRAMEWORKS FOR INTEL[®] ARCHITECTURE

- Leverage high performant compute libraries and tools
 - e.g. Intel[®] Math Kernel Library, Intel[®] Python, Intel[®] Compiler etc.
- Data format/shape:
 - Right format/shape for max performance: blocking, gather/scatter
- Data layout:
 - Minimize cost of data layout conversions
- Parallelism:
 - Use all cores, eliminate serial sections, load imbalance
- Memory allocation
 - Unique characteristics and ability to reuse buffers
- Data layer optimizations:
 - Parallelization, vectorization, IO
- Optimize hyper parameters:
 - e.g. batch size for more parallelism
 - Learning rate and optimizer to ensure accuracy/convergence

INITIAL PERFORMANCE GAINS ON MODERN XEON (2 SOCKETS BROADWELL - 22 CORES)

Benchmark	Metric	Batch Size	Baseline Performance Training	Baseline Performance Inference	Optimized Performance Training	Optimized Performance Inference	Speedup Training	Speedup Inference
ConvNet-Alexnet	Images / sec	128	33.52	84.2	524	1696	15.6x	20.2x
ConvNet-GoogleNet v1	Images / sec	128	16.87	49.9	112.3	439.7	6.7x	8.8x
ConvNet-VGG	Images / sec	64	8.2	30.7	47.1	151.1	5.7x	4.9x

- Baseline using TensorFlow 1.0 release with standard compiler knobs
- Optimized performance using TensorFlow with Intel optimizations and built with
 - `bazel build --config=mkl --copt="-DEIGEN_USE_VML"`

INITIAL PERFORMANCE GAINS ON MODERN XEON PHI (KNIGHTS LANDING – 68 CORES)

Benchmark	Metric	Batch Size	Baseline Performance Training	Baseline Performance Inference	Optimized Performance Training	Optimized Performance Inference	Speedup Training	Speedup Inference
ConvNet-Alexnet	Images / sec	128	12.21	31.3	549	2698.3	45x	86.2x
ConvNet-GoogleNet v1	Images / sec	128	5.43	10.9	106	576.6	19.5x	53x
ConvNet-VGG	Images / sec	64	1.59	24.6	69.4	251	43.6x	10.2x

- Baseline using TensorFlow 1.0 release with standard compiler knobs
- Optimized performance using TensorFlow with Intel optimizations and built with
 - `bazel build --config=mkl --copt="-DEIGEN_USE_VML"`

ADDITIONAL PERFORMANCE GAINS FROM PARAMETERS TUNING

- Data format: CPU prefers NCHW data format
- Intra_op, inter_op and OMP_NUM_THREADS: set for best core utilization
- Batch size: higher batch size provides for better parallelism
 - Too high a batch size can increase working set and impact cache/memory perf

Best Setting for Xeon (Broadwell – 2 Socket – 44 Cores)

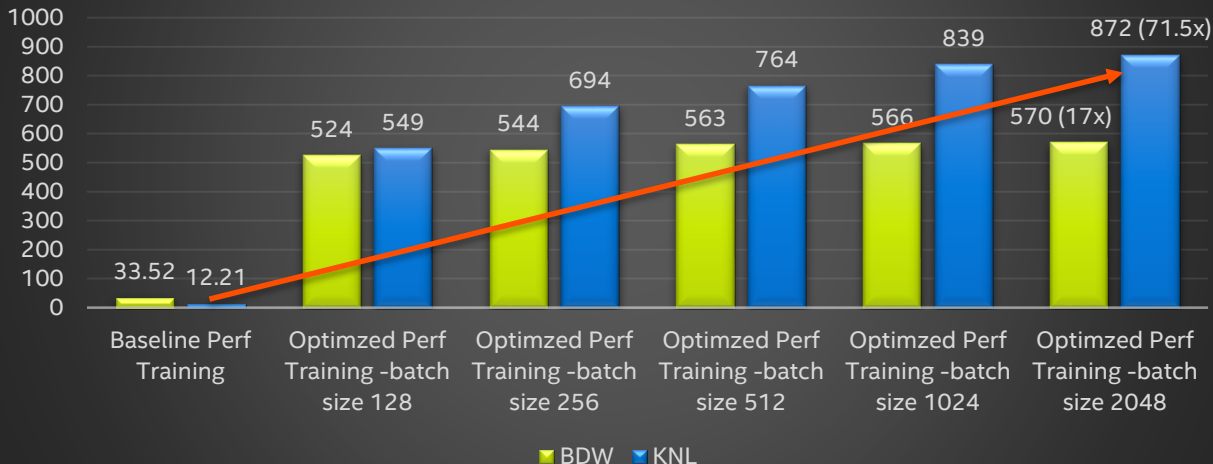
Benchmark	Data Format	Inter_op	Intra_op	KMP_BLOCKTIME	Batch size
ConvNet- AlexnetNet	NCHW	1	44	30	2048
ConvNet-Googlenet V1	NCHW	2	44	1	256
ConvNet-VGG	NCHW	1	44	1	128

Best Setting for Xeon Phi (Knights Landing – 68 Cores)

Benchmark	Data Format	Inter_op	Intra_op	KMP_BLOCKTIME	OMP_NUM_THREADS	Batch size
ConvNet- AlexnetNet	NCHW	1	136	30	136	2048
ConvNet-Googlenet V1	NCHW	2 training 1 inference	68	Infinite	68	256
ConvNet-VGG	NCHW	1	136	1	136	128

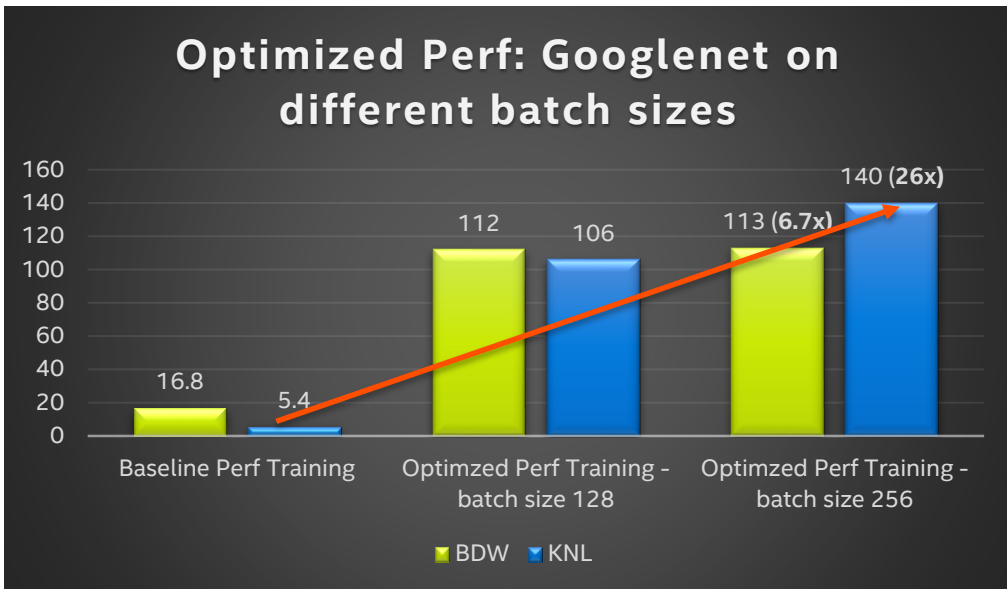
PERFORMANCE GAINS – CONVNET-ALEXNET TRAINING (IMAGES PER SECOND)

Optimized Perf: Alexnet on different batch sizes



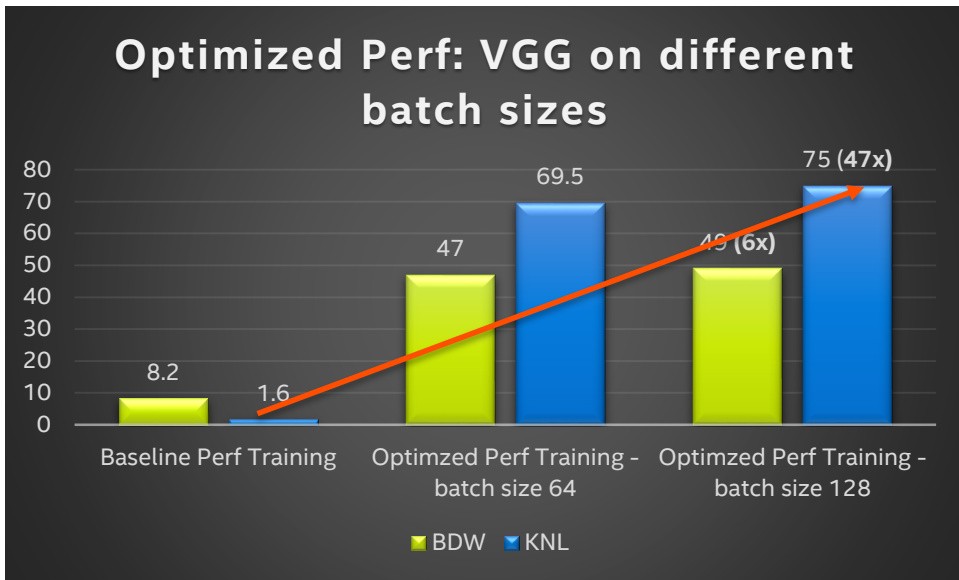
72x Speedup From New Optimizations – available through Google’s TensorFlow Git

PERFORMANCE GAINS – CONVNET-GOOGLENET V1 TRAINING (IMAGES PER SECOND)



26x Speedup From New Optimizations – available through Google’s TensorFlow Git

PERFORMANCE GAINS – CONVNET-VGG TRAINING (IMAGES PER SECOND)



47x Speedup From New Optimizations – available through Google’s TensorFlow Git

HOW DO I GET ORDER OF MAGNITUDE CPU SPEEDUP FOR MY TOPOLOGY?

- Optimized TensorFlow on Intel architectures available from the public git.
 - `git clone https://github.com/tensorflow/tensorflow.git`
- Configure for best performance on CPU:
 - Run “./configure” from the TensorFlow source directory
 - Select option for MKL (CPU) optimization
 - Automatically downloads latest MKL-ML
- Building for best performance on CPU
 - Use following command to create a pip package that can be used to install the optimized TensorFlow wheel
 - `bazel build --config=mkl --copt="-DEIGEN_USE_VML" --s --c opt //tensorflow/tools/pip_package:build_pip_package`
- Install the optimized TensorFlow wheel
 - `bazel-bin/tensorflow/tools/pip_package/build_pip_package ~/path_to_save_wheel`
 - `pip install --upgrade --user ~/path_to_save_wheel/wheel_name.whl`

HOW DO I GET ORDER OF MAGNITUDE CPU SPEEDUP FOR MY TOPOLOGY? (2)

- Maximum performance requires using all the available cores efficiently
- Users and data scientists should experiment with environment variable settings
 - Best setting depend on topology and platform (e.g., number of cores)
 - Example of ConvNet-Alexnet environment settings on Knights Landing
 - `KMP_BLOCKTIME = 30`
 - `KMP_SETTINGS = 1`
 - `KMP_AFFINITY= granularity=fine,verbose,compact,1,0`
 - `OMP_NUM_THREADS= 136` (Xeon Phi has 68 physical cores)
- Knobs in the Python topology can also impact performance:
 - Data format: using NCHW format to avoid additional internal format conversions to get maximum performance
 - Matmul layer: the second input matrix should be transposed for better performance
 - Intra_op /inter_op: experiment with intra_op/inter_op for each topology/ platform
 - Example of ConvNet-Alexnet settings on Xeon Phi
 - `inter_op = 2`
 - `intra_op = 136`

SUMMARY

- TensorFlow is widely used DL and AI framework
 - It has been slow on CPU until now
- Significant performance gains from optimization on modern Intel® Xeon® and Xeon Phi™ processors
- Traditional optimization techniques: vectorization, parallelization, cache blocking, etc.
- Unique performance challenges: data layout, hyper parameters, inter/intra layer parallelization, etc.

CALL TO ACTION

Latest TensorFlow with Intel optimizations directly from TensorFlow GIT repository



Use the right configuration, building and best parameter settings



Orders of magnitude higher CPU performance for inference and training

TUTORIAL ON CRAY (CORI) KNL SYSTEMS

Instructions also at:
</global/cscratch1/sd/vrane/README>

1. Get TensorFlow from Google's repository
git clone
<https://github.com/tensorflow/tensorflow.git>

2. Get convnet Alexnet
wget
https://raw.githubusercontent.com/soumith/convnet-benchmarks/master/tensorflow/benchmark_alexnet.py

3. Load Java (bazel 0.5.4 needs Java 1.8+)
module load java

4. Load Python/Pip
module load python

5. Load gcc (need 5.4+)
module load gcc

6. Setup Bazel
wget
https://github.com/bazelbuild/bazel/releases/download/0.4.5/bazel-0.4.5-installer-linux-x86_64.sh
chmod +x bazel-0.4.5-installer-linux-x86_64.sh
./bazel-0.4.5-installer-linux-x86_64.sh --user
export PATH=~/.bin/:\$PATH

7. Configure tensorflow
cd tensorflow
./configure
MKL -> yes
everything else -> default

8. Build!
bazel build --config=mkl --copt="-DEIGEN_USE_VML" -s
-c opt

//tensorflow/tools/pip_package:build_pip_package

9. Make a wheel
bazel-
bin/tensorflow/tools/pip_package/build_pip_package
</full-path>/wheel/

10. Install the wheel
(If you don't want to build, there is a pre-built one using the instructions above available at:
/global/cscratch1/sd/vrane/tensorflow-1.1.0-cp27-cp27mu-linux_x86_64.whl)

pip install </full-path>/wheel/tensorflow-1.1.0rc2-cp27-cp27mu-linux_x86_64.whl --upgrade --target=</full-path>/install/

11. Set PYTHONPATH to installed location
export PYTHONPATH=</full-path>/install/

12. Find a node to run the benchmark
salloc --reservation=CUG2C -N 1 -p regular -C knl,quad,flat -t 60 -A ntrain

13. Run the benchmark you downloaded in step 2 (convnet Alexnet)
python benchmark_alexnet.py

14. Now optimize the benchmark for KNL:
a. OMP_NUM_THREADS and inter/intra-op settings
import os
os.environ["OMP_NUM_THREADS"] = "136"
os.environ["KMP_BLOCKTIME"] = "30"
os.environ["KMP_SETTINGS"] = "1"
os.environ["KMP_AFFINITY"] =

"granularity=fine,verbose,compact,1,0"

tf.app.flags.DEFINE_integer('inter_op', 2,
"""Inter Op Parallelism Threads.""")

tf.app.flags.DEFINE_integer('intra_op', 136,
"""Intra Op Parallelism Threads.""")

b. Change batch size to 2048

c. Instead of relu_layer, use matmul (transposed) and relu. This formats the data in a manner that allows for faster processing in MKL.

d. Set the allocator to BFC, and supply the intra and inter-op parallelism flags to the session.

```
config =  
tf.ConfigProto(inter_op_parallelism_threads=FLAGS.intra_op,  
intra_op_parallelism_threads=FLAGS.intra_op )  
config.gpu_options.allocator_type =  
'BFC'  
sess = tf.Session(config=config)
```

15. Rerun the benchmark to see the performance improvement.
[You can find an optimized version of the benchmark here (with the modifications from step 14):
/global/cscratch1/sd/vrane/benchmark_alexnet_knl.py]
python benchmark_alexnet.py

MORE FROM INTEL...

Intel® Nervana™ AI Academy

Collaborate and Learn with Intel
Learn more about the Intel® Student Developer Program for AI

Intel® Competition on Kaggle®
Compete in this upcoming new challenge from Intel and Kaggle!

GETTING STARTED

Machine Learning 101
Help us to build Nervana™ AI in order to help you maximize your knowledge base and get machine learning to use quickly, efficiently, and cost-effectively on Intel architecture.

Deep Learning 101
In this video, we describe various deep learning cases and highlight those in which Caffe™ was used, and describe how Caffe is optimized for Intel architecture.

Visit:
software.intel.com/ai/academy

Kaggle Competition: Intel® & MobileODT Cervical Cancer Screening



MobileODT
Mobile Optical Detection Technologies



Software

Register:
kaggle.com/c/intel-mobileodt-cervical-cancer-screening

Additional Deep Learning Resources

Building Skip-Thought Vectors for Document Understanding
The idea of covering natural language processing (NLP) with a problem of vector space mathematics using deep learning models has [...]

neon v1.8.0 released!
Highlights from this release include:
"Skip Thought Vectors example"
"Statistical compilation support"
"Neuron Accelerator Gradient option to SGD optimization [...]

End-to-end speech recognition with neon
Dr. Andrew Senior and Tom Lee from Intel are an extremely talented team. The information-bearing elements present in speech exist over a multitude [...]

neon v1.7.0 released!
Highlights from this release include:
"Update Data Loader to allow for flexible, multi-threaded data loading and transformations. More information can be found [...]

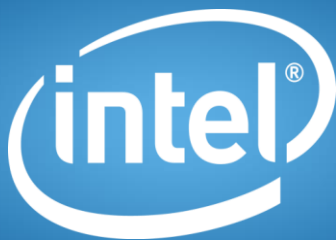
Accelerating Neural Networks with Binary Arithmetic
At Nervana we are deeply interested in algorithmic and hardware improvements for speeding up neural networks. One particularly exciting area [...]

Previous Release: Intel® Nervana™ Graph
The field of deep learning is moving at a rapid pace. Practitioner's need tools that are flexible enough to [...]

Visit:
nervanasys.com/learn

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- Relative performance is calculated by assigning a baseline value of 1.0 to one benchmark result, and then dividing the actual benchmark result for the baseline platform into each of the specific benchmark results of each of the other platforms, and assigning them a relative performance number that correlates with the performance improvements reported.
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For systems also featuring Resilient System Technologies: No computer system can provide absolute reliability, availability or serviceability. Requires an Intel® Run Sure Technology-enabled system, including an enabled Intel processor and enabled technology(ies). Built-in reliability features available on select Intel® processors may require additional software, hardware, services and/or an Internet connection. Results may vary depending upon configuration. Consult your system manufacturer for more details.
For systems also featuring Resilient Memory Technologies: No computer system can provide absolute reliability, availability or serviceability. Requires an Intel® Run Sure Technology-enabled system, including an enabled Intel® processor and enabled technology(ies). built-in reliability features available on select Intel® processors may require additional software, hardware, services and/or an Internet connection. Results may vary depending upon configuration. Consult your system manufacturer for more details.



Q&A:

**TENSORFLOW* ON MODERN INTEL®
ARCHITECTURES**

CONFIGURATION DETAILS



Xeon-Broadwell: Intel® Xeon™ processor E5-2699v4 (22 Cores, 2.2 GHz), 128GB DDR memory, Centos 7.2 based on Red Hat* Enterprise Linux 7.2

Xeon Phi – Knights Landing: Intel® Xeon Phi™ processor 7250 (68 Cores, 1.4 GHz, 16GB MCDRAM: Flat mode), 96GB DDR memory, Centos 7.2 based on Red Hat* Enterprise Linux 7.2

AlexNet, GoogleNet v1 and VGG benchmarks:

<https://github.com/soumith/convnet-benchmarks>

CURRENT INTEL® XEON PLATFORMS

45nm Process Technology		32nm Process Technology		22nm Process Technology		14nm Process Technology	
Nehalem	Westmere	Sandy Bridge	Ivy Bridge	Haswell	Broadwell		
NEW Intel® Microarchitecture (Nehalem)	Intel Microarchitecture (Nehalem)	NEW Intel Microarchitecture (Sandy Bridge)	Intel Microarchitecture (Sandy Bridge)	NEW Intel Microarchitecture (Haswell)	Intel Microarchitecture (Haswell)		
<i>TOCK</i>	<i>TICK</i>	<i>TOCK</i>	<i>TICK</i>	<i>TOCK</i>	<i>TICK</i>		
							

Latest released – Broadwell (14nm process)

- Intel’s foundation of HPC and ML performance
- Suited for full scope of workloads
- Industry leading performance/watt for serial & highly parallel workloads.
- Upto 22 cores / socket (Broadwell-EP) (w/ Hyper-Threading technology)

Software optimization helps maximize benefit and adoption of new features

2ND GENERATION INTEL® XEON PHI™ PLATFORM

Knights Landing

Holistic Approach to Real Application Breakthroughs



Platform Memory

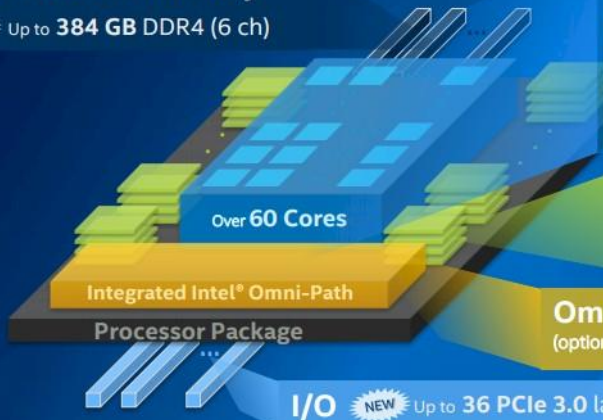
NEW Up to **384 GB** DDR4 (6 ch)

Compute

- Intel® Xeon® Processor Binary-Compatible
- **3+ TFLOPS¹, 3X ST²** (single-thread) perf. vs KNC
- **2D Mesh** Architecture
- **Out-of-Order** Cores

On-Package Memory

- Over **5x** STREAM vs. DDR4³
- Up to **16 GB** at launch



Omni-Path (optional)

- **1st** Intel processor to integrate

INTEL® AVX TECHNOLOGY

SNB/IVB

256b AVX1
Flops/Cycle: 16 SP / 8 DP

HSW/BDW

256b AVX2
Flops/Cycle: 32SP / 16 DP (FMA)

SKX & KNL

512b AVX512
Flops/Cycle: 64SP / 32 DP (FMA)

AVX	AVX2
256-bit basic FP	Float16 (IVB 2012)
16 registers	256-bit FP FMA
NDS (and AVX128)	256-bit integer
Improved blend	PERMD
MASKMOV	Gather
Implicit unaligned	

AVX512
512-bit FP/Integer
32 registers
8 mask registers
Embedded rounding
Embedded broadcast
Scalar/SSE/AVX "promotions"
Native media additions
HPC additions
Transcendental support
Gather/Scatter

OPTIMIZATION NOTICE

Optimization Notice

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