

# Basic CPU optimization overview

Stefan Andersson stefan@cray.com







# Vectorization on AMD

And Intel as well





# **Vectorization through SSE : What is it ?**

- **Streaming SIMD Extensions (SSE)** is a SIMD instruction set extension to the x86 architecture
- SSE originally added eight new 128-bit registers known as XMM0 through XMM7. The AMD64 extensions from AMD (originally called x86-64 and later duplicated by Intel) add a further eight registers XMM8 through XMM15. There is also a new 32-bit control/status register, MXCSR. The registers XMM8 through XMM15 are accessible only in 64-bit operating mode.
- Each register packs together:
  - four 32-bit single-precision floating point numbers or
  - two 64-bit double-precision floating point numbers or
  - two 64-bit integers or
  - four 32-bit integers or
  - eight 16-bit short integers or
  - sixteen 8-bit bytes or characters





#### **SSE : Example**

#### • Example :

The following simple example demonstrates the advantage of using SSE. Consider an operation like vector addition, which is used very often in computer graphics applications. To add two single precision, 4-component vectors together using x86 requires four floating point addition instructions **vec\_res.x = v1.x + v2.x**;

**vec\_res.y = v1.y + v2.y**;

**vec\_res.z = v1.z + v2.z**;

vec\_res.w = v1.w + v2.w;

This would correspond to four x86 FADD instructions in the object code. On the other hand, as the following pseudo-code shows, a single 128 bit 'packed-add' instruction can replace the four scalar addition instructions. movaps xmm0,address-of-v1 ;xmm0=v1.w | v1.z | v1.y | v1.x addps xmm0,address-of-v2 ;xmm0=v1.w+v2.w | v1.z+v2.z | v1.y+v2.y | v1.x+v2.x movaps address-of-vec\_res,xmm0



## SSE

- The AMD Opteron is capable of generating 4 flops/clock in 64 bit mode and 8 flops/clock for 32 bit mode
  - Assembler must contain SSE instructions
  - Compilers only generate SSE instructions when it can vectorize the DO loops
  - Libraries must be Quad core (or higher) enabled
- Operands must be aligned on 128 bit boundaries
  - Operand alignment can be performed; however, it distracts from the performance.





## When does the compiler vectorize

- What can be vectorized
  - Only loops
  - Stride 1 arrays, indirect addressing is bad
  - No recursion
- Check the compiler output listing and/or assambler listing
  - Look for packed SSE instructions
- Note of caution : Don't get to excited about vectorization
   The main limitation is often memory bandwidth





#### **Next Generation : AVX (Advanced Vector Extensions)**

- Max Vector length doubled to 256 bit (Register)
- Much cleaner instruction set
  - Result register is unique from the source registers
  - Old SSE instruction set always destroyed a source register
- Floating point multiple-accumulate (FMA)
  - A(1:4) = B(1:4)\*C(1:4) + D(1:4) ! Now one instruction
- Next processor generation of both AMD and Intel will have AVX
- Vectors are becoming more important, not less





# Basic loops optimizations techniques





## Loop interchange

- **loop interchange** is the process of exchanging the order of two iteration variables.
- For example, in the code fragment: for i from 0 to 10 for j from 0 to 20 a[i,j] = i + j; loop interchange would result in: for j from 0 to 20 for i from 0 to 10 a[i,j] = i + j





#### Loop unrolling

• Loop unrolling is the replication of loop body while at the same time incrementing the loop counter by the number of copies of that loop body

```
do i = 1,n

a(i) = a(i) + b(i)

enddo

Unrolled loop:

do i = 1,n,4

a(i) = a(i) + b(i)

a(i+1) = a(i+1) + b(i+1)

a(i+2) = a(i+2) + b(i+2)

a(i+3) = a(i+3) + b(i+3)

enddo
```

Plus some clean up work





#### Why do loop unrolling?

- Enable register reuse
- Reduce the loop control overhead
- Improve scheduling
- Allow for more efficient software prefetching
- All excellent reasons to unroll a loop when optimizing for a microprocessor...

Circa 1990 - 2005





#### Loop unrolling today

- Compilers are very good at unrolling to
  - Enable register reuse
  - Improve cache reuse
  - Reduce loop control overhead
  - Improve scheduling
  - Allow for more efficient software prefetching
- Modern CPU has less need for unrolling, as they have
  - A very fast L1 cache
  - Extremely out-of-order
  - Very fast loop flow control
  - Good hardware prefetching and it is getting better all the time

HLRS



#### Loop unrolling: when you should do it

First look to see if the compiler is already unrolling the loop for you. If it is not, consider the following cases

- Small loop body with indirect addressing or if tests
- An outer loop where unrolling would allow for a rapid reuse of a variable
- You are trying to get a very high percentage of peak and have already done everything else

HLRS

This optimization is being used less and less frequently



# **Strip mining**

- Strip mining involves splitting a single loop into a nested loop. The resulting inner loop iterates over a section or strip of the original loop, and the new outer loop runs the inner loop enough times to cover all the strips, achieving the necessary total number of iterations. The number of iterations of the inner loop is known as the loop's strip length.
- Consider the Fortran code below:

```
DO I = 1, 10000
A(I) = A(I) * B(I)
ENDDO
```

mining this loop using a strip length of 1000 yields the following loop nest

```
DO IOUTER = 1, 10000, 1000
DO STRIP = IOUTER, IOUTER+999
A(STRIP) = A(STRIP) * B(STRIP)
ENDDO
ENDDO
```



#### When should I optimize matmul?

- Never
  - Use a vendor provided DGEMM library
  - Write simple triple nested loop or array syntax and let the compiler pattern match it
- Other BLAS level 1 and 2 libraries are also provided and should be considered for use unless those array operations are part of a larger loop nest and using BLAS routine will inhibit compiler analysis and optimization







# **Cache Optimization**

Based on John Leveques presentation





#### **Consider the following example**

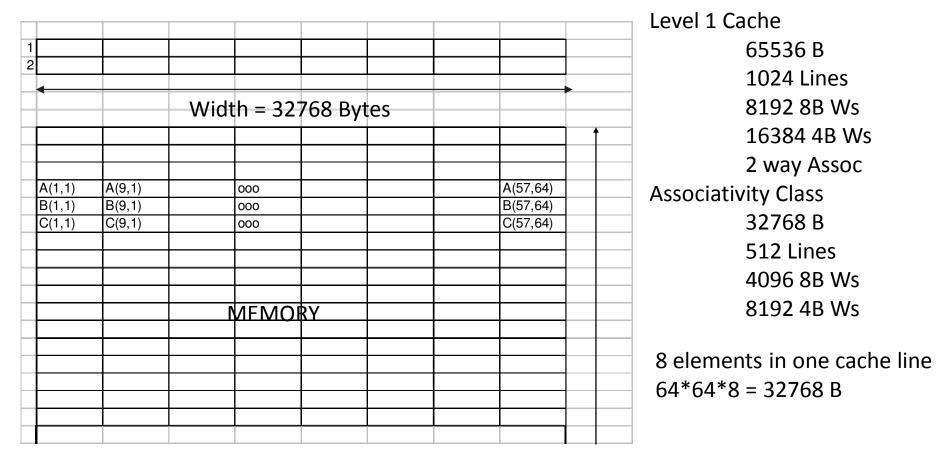
Real * 8	A(64,64),B(64,64),C(64,64)		
DO I = 1,N			
	A(I,1) +B(I,1)		
ENDDO			





#### **Memory and Cache Layout Visualization**

Level 1 Cache





H L R S

## Step 1 : Get the first element A(1,1)

Real * 8	A(64,64),B(64	4,64), <b>C(</b> 64,64)		
DO I = 1,N				
	A(I,1) +B(I,1)			
ENDDO				
Fetch A(1,1)		Fetch from M	Uses 1 Associativity Class	 
		1		





## A(1-8,1) is loaded into the cache

#### Level 1 Cache

										Level 1 Cache
	<b>A(1-8</b> ,1)									65536 B
2										1024 Lines
			Wid	th = 32	768 Bv	tes			•	8192 8B Ws
									<b>≜</b>	16384 4B Ws
						<u> </u>	—			2 way Assoc
	A(1,1)	A(9,1)		000				A(57,64)		Associativity Class
	B(1,1)	B(9,1)		000		<u> </u>		B(57,64)		32768 B
	C(1,1)	C(9,1)		000		<u> </u>	<u> </u>	C(57,64)		
										512 Lines
										4096 8B Ws
										8192 4B Ws
						1	<u> </u>			
										64*64*8 = 32768 B
								+		





# Step 2 : Load B(1,1)

Real * 8	A(64,64),B(64	4,64),C(64,64)		
DO I = 1,N				
	A(I,1) +B(I,1)			
ENDDO				
Fetch A(1,1)		Fetch from M	Uses 1 Associativity Class	
Fetch B(1,1)		Fetch from M	Uses 2 Associativity Class	





## B(1-8,1) is loaded into the cache

#### Level 1 Cache

					Level 1 Cache
1 A(1-8,1)					65536 B
2 <mark>B(1-8,1)</mark>					 1024 Lines
		Width = 3	2768 Bytes		 8192 8B Ws
					 16384 4B Ws
					2 way Assoc
A(1,1)	A(9,1)	000		A(57,64)	Associativity Class
B(1,1)	B(9,1)	000		B(57,64)	
C(1,1)	C(9,1)	000		C(57,64)	 32768 B
					512 Lines
					4096 8B Ws
		MFM			8192 4B Ws
					64*64*8 = 32768 B





#### Step 3 : Load C(1,1), needed even if it's not read

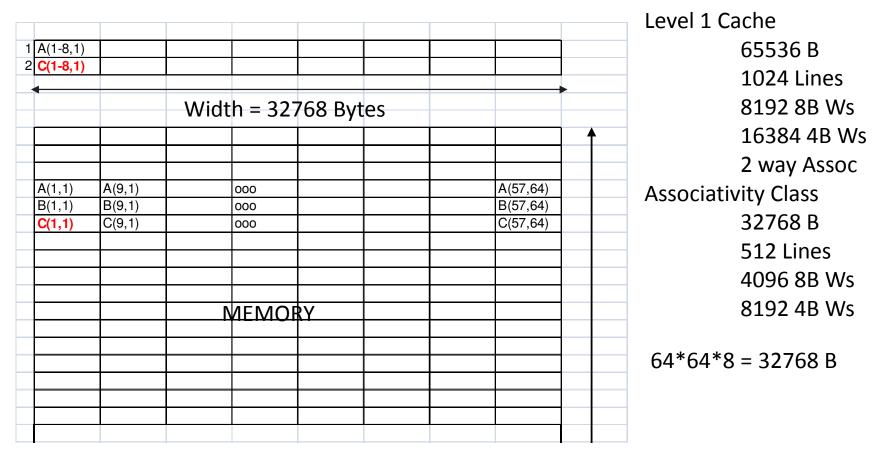
Real * 8	A(64,64),B(64	4,64),C(64,64)			
DO I = 1,N					
,	A(I,1) +B(I,1)				
ENDDO					
Fetch A(1,1)		Fetch from M	Uses 1 Associativity Class		
Fetch B(1,1)			Uses 2 Associativity Class		
Add A(1,1) +	B(1,1)				
Store C(1,1)		Fetch from M	Overwrites either 1 or 2 A	ssociativity	Class





# C(1-8,1) is loaded, B(1-8,1) is removed

Level 1 Cache





H L R S

## What happens

Real * 8	A(64,64),B(64	4,64),C(64,64)		
DO I = 1,N				
<b>C(I,1)</b> = <i>I</i>	A(I,1) +B(I,1)			
ENDDO				
Fetch A(1,1)		Fetch from M	Uses 1 Associativity Clas	S
Fetch B(1,1)		Fetch from M	Uses 2 Associativity Clas	S
Add A(1,1) +	B(1,1)			
Store C(1,1)		Fetch from M	Overwrites either 1 or 2	Associativity Class
Fetch A(2,1)		Fetch from L	2 Overwrites either 1 or 2	Associativity Class
Fetch B(2,1)		Fetch from L	2 Overwrites either 1 or 2	Associativity Class
Add A(2,1) +	B(2,1)			
Store C(2,1)		Fetch from L	2 Overwrites either 1 or 2	Associativity Class



# Must be a better Way : Padding to change the memory layout

Real * 8	A(64,64),pad1(16),B(64,64),pad2(16),C(64,64)									
DO I = 1,N										
C(I,1) =	A(I,1) +B(I,1)									
ENDDO										





#### **Cache and memory layout with padding**

#### Level 1 Cache

							Level 1 Cache
1 A(1-8,1)							65536 B
2		B(1-8,1)		C(1-8,1)			1024 Lines
		Width	n = 3276	8 Byte	es		8192 8B Ws
						<b>↑</b>	16384 4B Ws
							2 way Assoc
A(1,1)	A(9,1)		000			A(57,64)	Associativity Class
	Pad1(9-16)	B(1,1)	B(9,1)	000		B(41,64)	·
	B(57,64)	Pad2(1-8)		C(1-8,1)	C(9,1)	C(25,64)	32768 B
C(33,64)	C(41,64)	C(49,64)	C(57,64)				512 Lines
							4096 8B Ws
		M	<b>IEMORY</b>	,			8192 4B Ws
_							64*64*8 = 32768 B
_							





Loval 1 Cacha

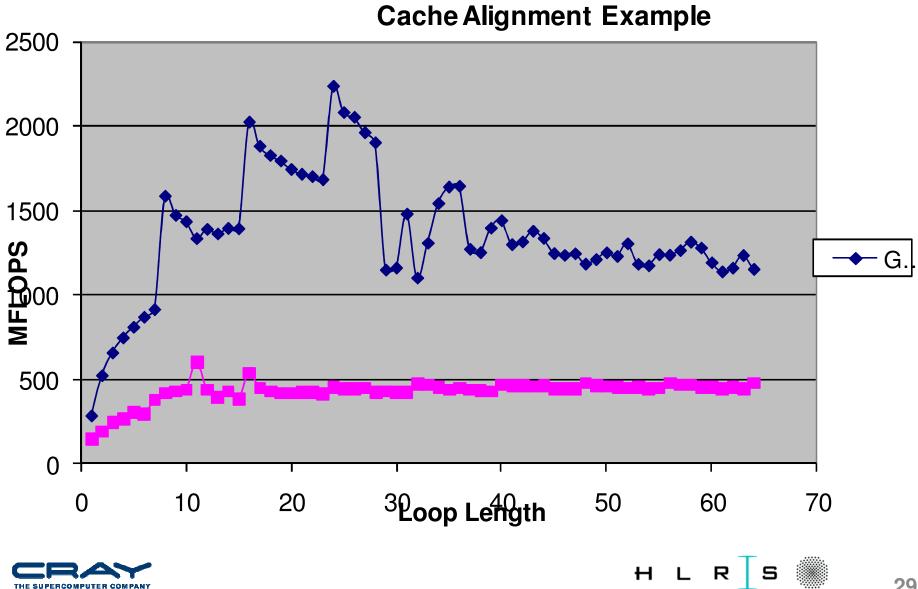
#### More reuse of cache

Real * 8	A(64,64),pac	11(16),B(64,64)		
DO I = 1,N				 
C(I,1) =	A(I,1) +B(I,1)			
ENDDO				
Fetch A(1)		Uses 1 Associ	iativity Class	
Fetch B(1)		Uses 2 Assoc	iativity Class	
Add A(1) +	B(1)			
Store C(1)		Uses 1 Assoc	ativity Class	
Fetch A(2)		Gets from L1	Cache	
Fetch B(2)		Gets from L1	Cache	
Add A(2) + I	B(2)			
Store C(2)		Gets from L1	Cache	





#### **Performance difference**



#### **Bad Cache Alignment**

Time%		0.2%	
Time		0.00003	
Calls		1	
PAPI_L1_DCA	455.433M/sec	1367	ops
DC_L2_REFILL_MOESI	49.641M/sec	149	ops
DC_SYS_REFILL_MOESI	0.666M/sec	2	ops
BU_L2_REQ_DC	74.628M/sec	224	req
User time	0.000 secs	7804	cycles
Utilization rate		97.9%	
L1 Data cache misses	50.308M/sec	151	misses
LD & ST per D1 miss		9.05	ops/miss
D1 cache hit ratio		89.0%	
LD & ST per D2 miss		683.50	ops/miss
D2 cache hit ratio		99.1%	
L2 cache hit ratio		<b>98.7</b> %	
Memory to D1 refill	0.666M/sec	2	lines
Memory to D1 bandwidth	40.669MB/sec	128	bytes
L2 to Dcache bandwidth	3029.859MB/sec	9536	bytes



H L R S

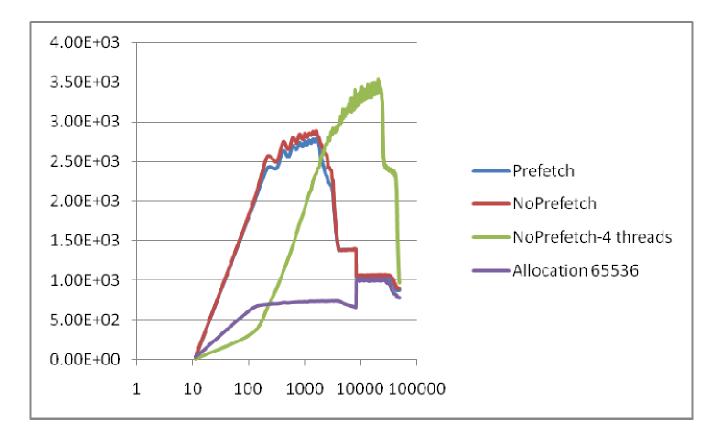
#### **Good Cache Alignment**

Time%		0.1%	
Time		0.00002	
Calls		1	
PAPI_L1_DCA	689.986M/sec	1333	ops
DC_L2_REFILL_MOESI	33.645M/sec	65	ops
DC_SYS_REFILL_MOESI		0	ops
BU_L2_REQ_DC	34.163M/sec	66	req
User time	0.000 secs	5023	cycles
Utilization rate		95.1%	
L1 Data cache misses	33.645M/sec	65	misses
LD & ST per D1 miss		20.51	ops/miss
D1 cache hit ratio		95.1%	
LD & ST per D2 miss		1333.00	ops/miss
D2 cache hit ratio		100.0%	
L2 cache hit ratio		100.0%	
Memory to D1 refill		0	lines
Memory to D1 bandwidth		0	bytes
L2 to Dcache bandwidth	2053.542MB/sec	4160	bytes



# **Performance = F( Cache Utilization )**

Stream Triad (MFLOPS)

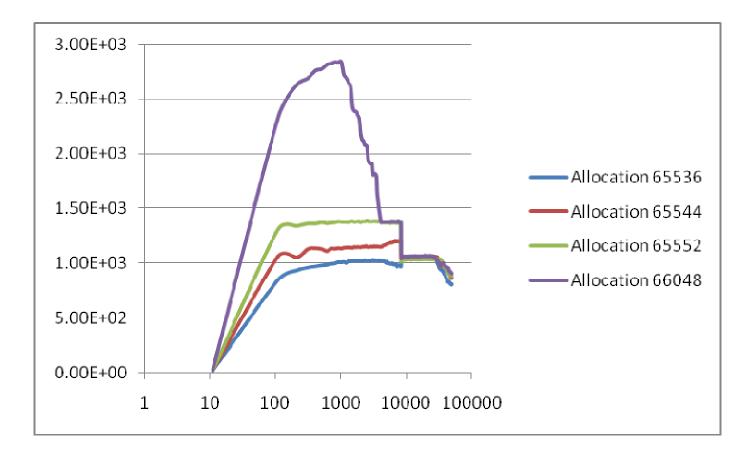






# **Performance = F( Cache Utilization )**

Stream Triad (MFLOPS)







# Cache Blocking from Start to Finish

HLRS Workshop 3. Feb. 2011

Stefan Andersson (Based on Steve Whalen's work) stefan@cray.com





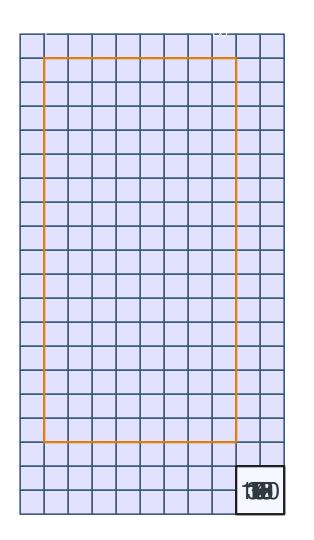
#### **Overview**

- Cache blocking is a combination of strip mining and loop interchange, designed to increase data reuse.
  - Takes advantage of temporal reuse: re-reference array elements already referenced
  - Good blocking will take advantage of spatial reuse: work with the cache lines!
- Many ways to block any given loop nest
  - Which loops get blocked?
  - What block size(s) to use?
- Analysis can reveal which ways are beneficial
- But trial-and-error is probably faster





# **Cache Use in Stencil Computations**



• 2D Laplacian

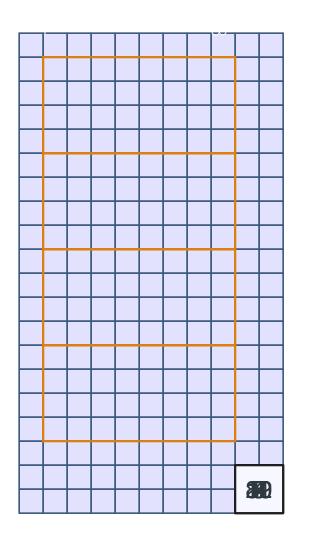
- Cache structure for this example:
  - Each line holds 4 array elements
  - Cache can hold 12 lines of u data

HLRS

• No cache reuse between outer loop iterations



#### **Blocking to Increase Reuse**



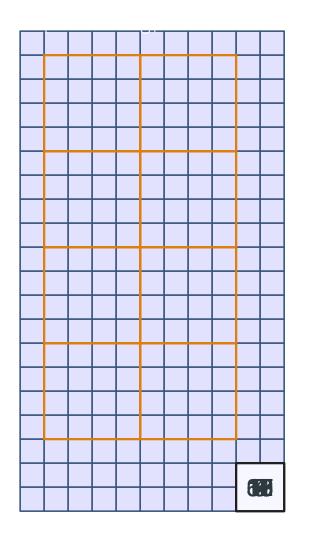
- Unblocked loop: 120 cache misses
- Block the inner loop

• Now we have reuse of the "j+1" data





#### **Blocking to Increase Reuse**



- One-dimensional blocking reduced misses from 120 to 80
- Iterate over 4×4 blocks

end do end do

Better use of spatial locality (cache lines)
 H L R ↓ S



# What Could Go Wrong?

"I tried cache-blocking my code, but it didn't help"

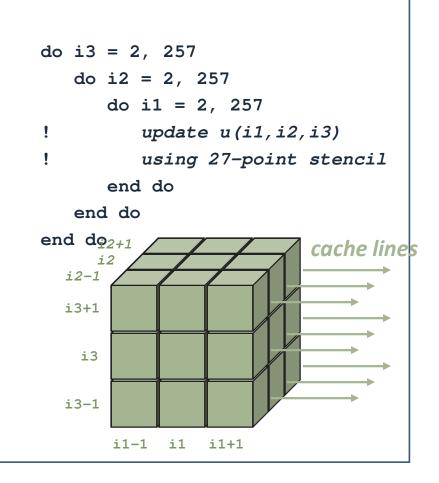
- You're doing it wrong
  - Your block size is too small (too much loop overhead)
  - Your block size is too big (data is falling out of cache)
  - You're targeting the wrong cache level (?)
  - You haven't selected the correct subset of loops to block
- The compiler is already blocking that loop
- Prefetching is acting to minimize cache misses
- Computational intensity within the loop nest is very large, making blocking less important.





### A Real-Life Example: NPB MG

- Multigrid PDE solver
- Class D, 64 MPI ranks
  - Global grid is 1024 × 1024 × 1024
  - Local grid is 258 × 258 × 258
- Two similar loop nests account for >50% of run time
- 27-point 3D stencil
  - There is good data reuse along leading dimension, even without blocking







# I'm Doing It Wrong

```
Block the inner two loops
Creates blocks extending along i3 direction
 do I2BLOCK = 2, 257, BS2
    do I1BLOCK = 2, 257, BS1
       do i3 = 2, 257
          do i2 = I2BLOCK,
                                              &
                  min(I2BLOCK+BS2-1, 257)
             do i1 = I1BLOCK,
                                              &
                      min(I1BLOCK+BS1-1, 257)
 !
                update u(i1, i2, i3)
                 using 27-point stencil
 !
             end do
          end do
       end do
    end do
 end do
```

Block size	Mop/s/process
unblocked	531.50
16 × 16	279.89
22 × 22	321.26
28 × 28	358.96
34 × 34	385.33
40 × 40	408.53
46 × 46	443.94
52 × 52	468.58
58 × 58	470.32
64 × 64	512.03
70 × 70	506.92
H L R S	



#### **That's Better**

Block the outer two loops

Preserves spatial locality along i1 direction do I3BLOCK = 2, 257, BS3 do I2BLOCK = 2, 257, BS2do i3 = I3BLOCK, & min(I3BLOCK+BS3-1, 257) do i2 = I2BLOCK, & min(I2BLOCK+BS2-1, 257) do i1 = 2, 257! update u(i1, i2, i3)using 27-point stencil ! end do end do end do end do end do

Block size	Mop/s/process
unblocked	531.50
16 × 16	674.76
22 × 22	680.16
28 × 28	688.64
34 × 34	683.84
40 × 40	698.47
46 × 46	689.14
52 × 52	706.62
58 × 58	692.57
64 × 64	703.40
70 × 70	693.87



H L R S

#### Exam ple : U sing Cray Directives

#### CCE blocks well, but it sometimes blocks better with help

<pre>!dir\$ blockable(j,k) !dir\$ blockingsize(16) do k = 6, nz-5     do j = 6, ny-5     do i = 6, nx-5     ! stencil     end do </pre>	Exercise 1 original loop	Exercise 1 loop with help
end do end do end do	do j = 6, ny-5 do i = 6, nx-5 ! <i>stencil</i> end do end do	<pre>!dir\$ blockingsize(16)     do k = 6, nz-5         do j = 6, ny-5             do i = 6, nx-5                 ! stencil             end do             end do             end do</pre>

- Use the -r a option to get a loopmark listing
  - Identifies which loops were blocked
  - Gives the block size the compiler used









