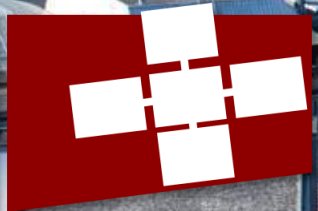


Torsten Hoefler

Developing and maintaining software on future heterogeneous machines

Workshop on Software Challenges of Extreme Heterogeneity, NIST, 2020



This project has received funding from the European Research Council (ERC) under grant agreement "DAPP (PI: T. Hoefler)".



Develop? Maintain? Do we even know how to run software?

- **A huge community gave up years ago!**
 - The problem was simply reasonable software version and library management
 - -> too hard, solve it by throwing resources (memory, bandwidth at it ...)
 - Opposite of efficiency!

- **And now we go heterogeneous!?**
 - Brave new world – if you have k classes of machines ...
... multiply the management complexity by k !



Torsten Hoefler
@thoefler

When containers arrived, good software version management stopped. Now nothing is backwards compatible and each package requires specific versions. I run four CUDA and three gcc versions - it stops being fun when they require different driver interfaces :-(
[#darksideofcontainers](#)

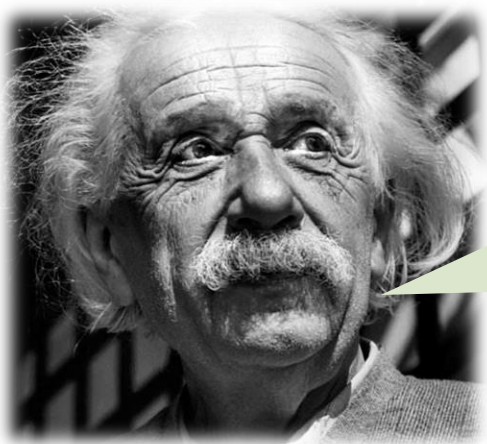


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Back on topic: Dataflow to the rescue

- Performance-centric computing is really a data management challenge!
- Heterogeneity is only needed to achieve performance
 - So, we represent programs with their data movement as first-class citizen



Wait, what!? I could not care less!

$$E = mc^2 \quad - \quad H|\Psi\rangle = E|\Psi\rangle$$

Productive dataflow programming

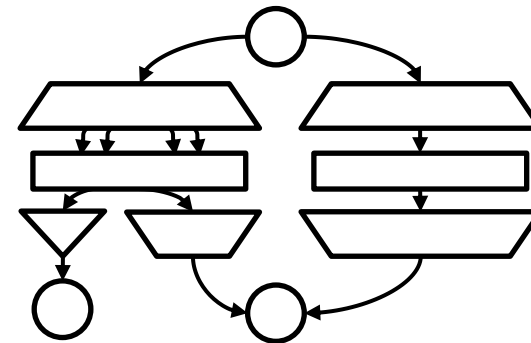
- **Python as DSL between scientist/user and performance engineer**
 - And as productivity factor for performance engineering!
 - Cf.



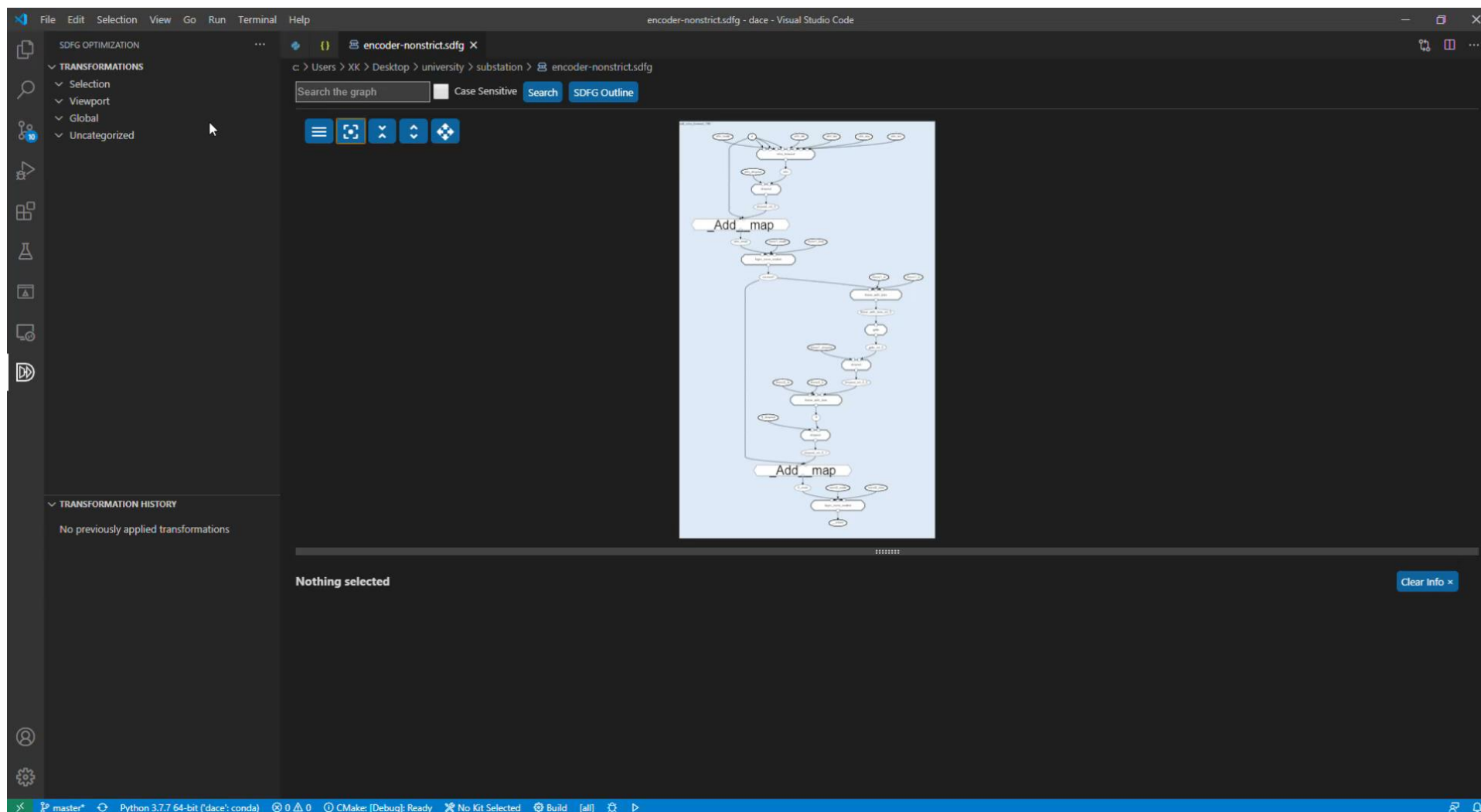
- **We embrace this model and generalize it to a wider community**
 - Let's make scientific computing productive (again?)



- Key idea: parametric (dataflow) graphs as program representation
Generate C/C++ code as backend or RTL (CPU, GPU, FPGA, ...)



Data Movement is All you Need – seriously!



Battle-tested on large-scale heterogeneous systems

- pip install dace
- **Gordon Bell Award 2019**
 - Quantum Nano Transport simulation
Design of future micro-processors
- **Now working on large-scale:**
 - AI (transformers)
 - Climate (COSMO, icon, fv3)
 - Green's functions solvers
 - ... your project?

