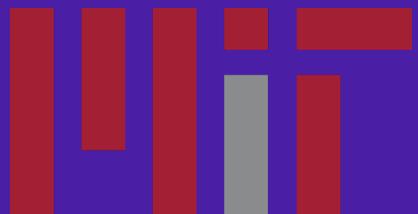


# Democratizing High-Performance DSL Development with BuildIt

Ajay Brahmakshatriya  
CSAIL, MIT

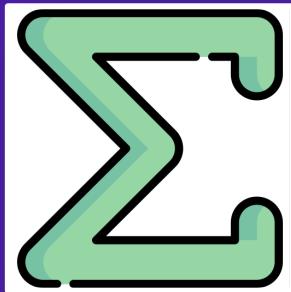
12<sup>th</sup> November 2024



# COMMIT has built a lot of DSLs



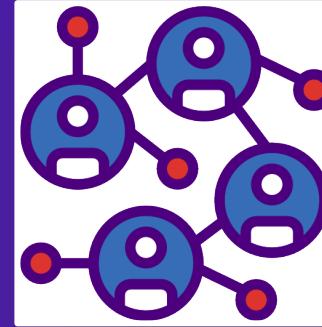
Milk



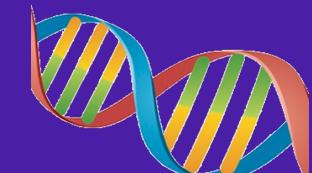
TACO



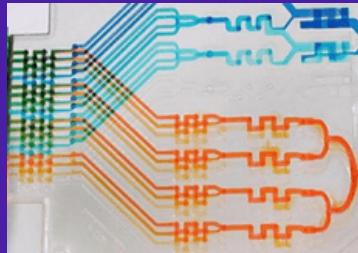
Finch



GraphIt



SEQ



BioStream



CoLa



SimIt



StreamIt

.999	<b>9</b>	18.998	<b>10</b>
	F		
	Fluorine		
	<sup>27</sup>		
	[He]2s <sup>2</sup> 2p <sup>5</sup>		
.066	<b>17</b>	35.453	<b>18</b>
	Cl		

Halide



PetaBricks

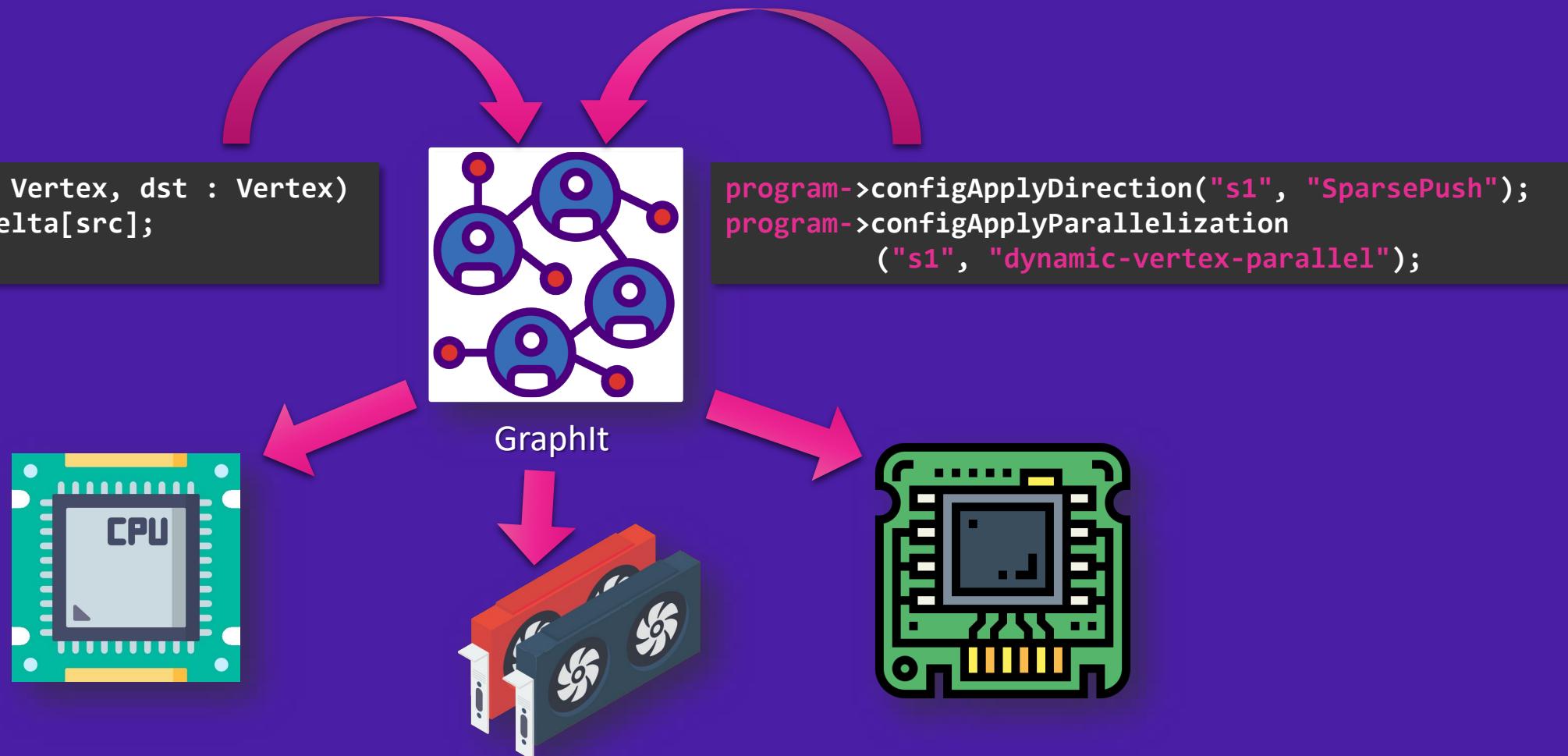


Tiramisu

# DSLs offer control to the user

```
func updateEdge(src : Vertex, dst : Vertex)
    ngh_sum[dst] += delta[src];
end
```

```
program->configApplyDirection("s1", "SparsePush");
program->configApplyParallelization
    ("s1", "dynamic-vertex-parallel");
```



## 1. Compiling Graph Applications for GPUs with GraphIt

Ajay Brahmakshatriya, Yuning Zhang, Changwan Hong, Shoaib Kamil, Julian Shun, Saman Amarasinghe

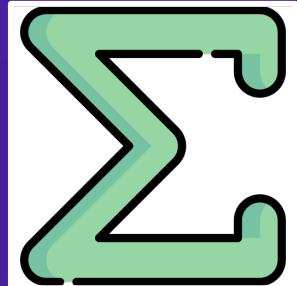
## 2. Taming the Zoo: A Unified Graph Compiler Framework for Novel Architectures

Ajay Brahmakshatriya, Emily Furst, Victor Yang, Claire Hsu, Changwan Hong, Max Ruttenberg, Yuning Zhang, Tommy Jung, Dustin Richmond, Michael Taylor, Julian Shun, Mark Oskin, Daniel Sanchez, Saman Amarasinghe

# DSLs offer control to the user

$y(i) = A(i,j) * x(j)$

`-s="split(i,i0,i1,32)" -s="reorder(i0,i1,j)"  
-s="parallelize(i0,CPUThread,NoRaces)"`



TACO



```
int compute(taco_tensor_t *y, taco_tensor_t *A, taco_tensor_t *x)
{
    int y1_dimension = (int)(y->dimensions[0]);
    double* restrict y_vals = (double*)(y->vals);
    int A1_dimension = (int)(A->dimensions[0]);
    int* restrict A2_pos = (int*)(A->indices[1][0]);
    int* restrict A2_crd = (int*)(A->indices[1][1]);
    double* restrict A_vals = (double*)(A->vals);
    int x1_dimension = (int)(x->dimensions[0]);
    double* restrict x_vals = (double*)(x->vals);
    ...
}
```

# DSLs offer control to the user



```
blur_x(x, y) = input(x-1, y) + input(x, y) + input(x+1,  
y)/3;  
blur_y(x, y) = blur_x(x, y-1) + blur_x(x, y) + blur_x(x,  
y+1)/3;
```



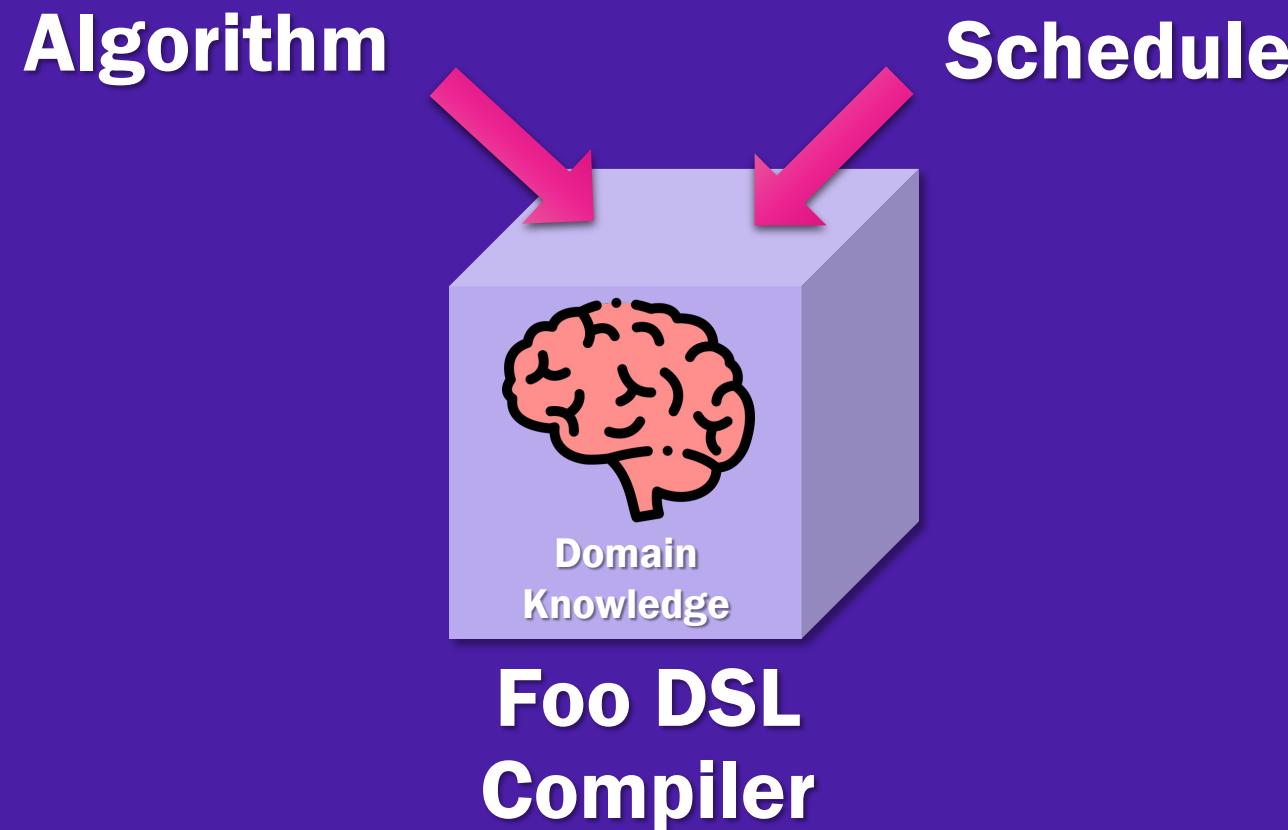
```
producer.compute_at(consumer, y);  
producer.trace_stores();  
consumer.trace_stores();
```

Halide

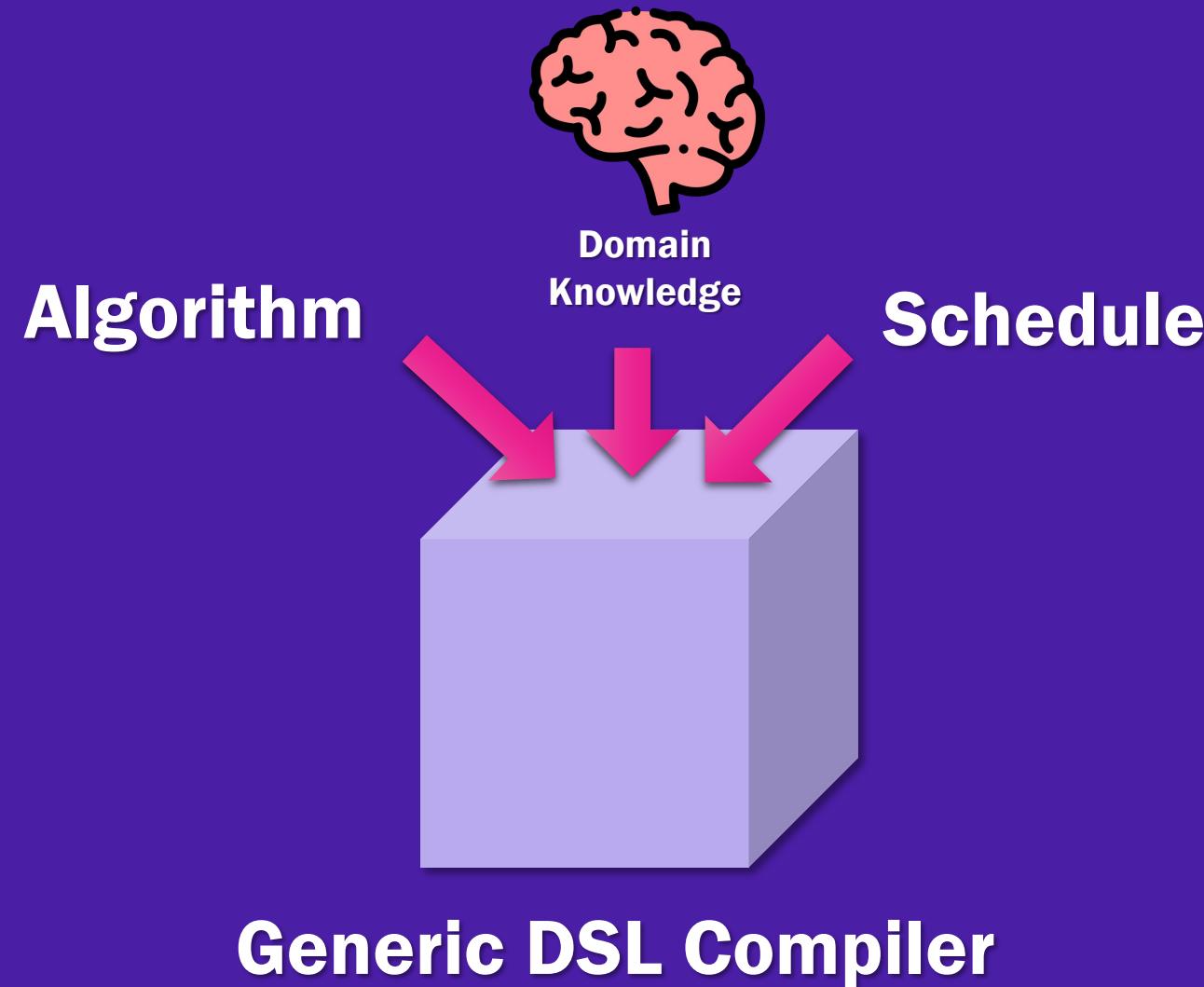
## Writing compilers is *Hard!*

DSL	LoC (Total)
GraphIt	100,362
TACO	71,684
Halide	322,822
Tiramisu	349,661

# The ONE DSL compiler to rule them all



# The ONE DSL compiler to rule them all



# What *really* is Domain Knowledge?

```
EdgeSet edges; VertexSet active_set;  
...  
edges.from(active_set).to(not_visited).apply(updateEdge);
```

```
func updateEdge(Vertex src, Vertex dst)  
    new_ranks[dst] += old_ranks[src];  
end
```

```
parallel for (v in active_set.vertices) {  
    for (neigh in edges.neighbors(v)) {  
        if (not_visited(neigh)) {  
            updateEdge(v, neigh);  
        }  
    }  
}
```

If `active_set` is sparse

```
parallel for ((src, dst) in edges) {  
    if (src in active_set) {  
        if (not_visited(dst)) {  
            updateEdge(src, dst);  
        }  
    }  
}
```

If `active_set` is dense

```
parallel for (v in edges.vertices) {  
    if (!not_visited(v)) continue;  
    for (n in edges.transpose.neigh(v)) {  
        if (n in active_set) {  
            updateEdge(n, v);  
        }  
    }  
}
```

If `active_set` is too large

```
void updateEdge(int src, int dst) {  
    atomicAdd(&new_ranks[dst], old_ranks[src]);  
}
```

```
void updateEdge(int src, int dst) {  
    new_ranks[dst] += old_ranks[src];  
}
```

# What *really* is Domain Knowledge?

Domain Experts  
know how to  
optimize libraries

```
if (active_set.is_sparse) {  
  
    parallel for (v in active_set.vertices) {  
        for (neigh in edges.neighbors(v)) {  
            if (not_visited(neigh)) {  
                updateEdge(v, neigh);  
            }  
        }  
    }  
  
} else if (active_set.is_dense && !is_large(active_set)) {  
  
    parallel for ((src, dst) in edges) {  
        if (src in active_set) {  
            if (not_visited(dst)) {  
                updateEdge(src, dst);  
            }  
        }  
    }  
  
} else {  
  
    parallel for (v in edges.vertices) {  
        if (!not_visited(v)) continue;  
        for (n in edges.transpose.neigh(v)) {  
            if (n in active_set) {  
                updateEdge(n, v);  
            }  
        }  
    }  
}
```

Runtime conditions  
with branches  
is slow

# What *really* is Domain Knowledge?

```
void updateEdge(int src, int dst) {
    if (active_set.is_sparse || active_set.is_dense &&
        !is_large(active_set)) {

        atomicAdd(&new_ranks[dst], old_ranks[src]);

    } else {
        new_ranks[dst] += old_ranks[src];
    }
}
```

**Runtime conditions  
with branches  
is slow**

# Enter BuildIt!

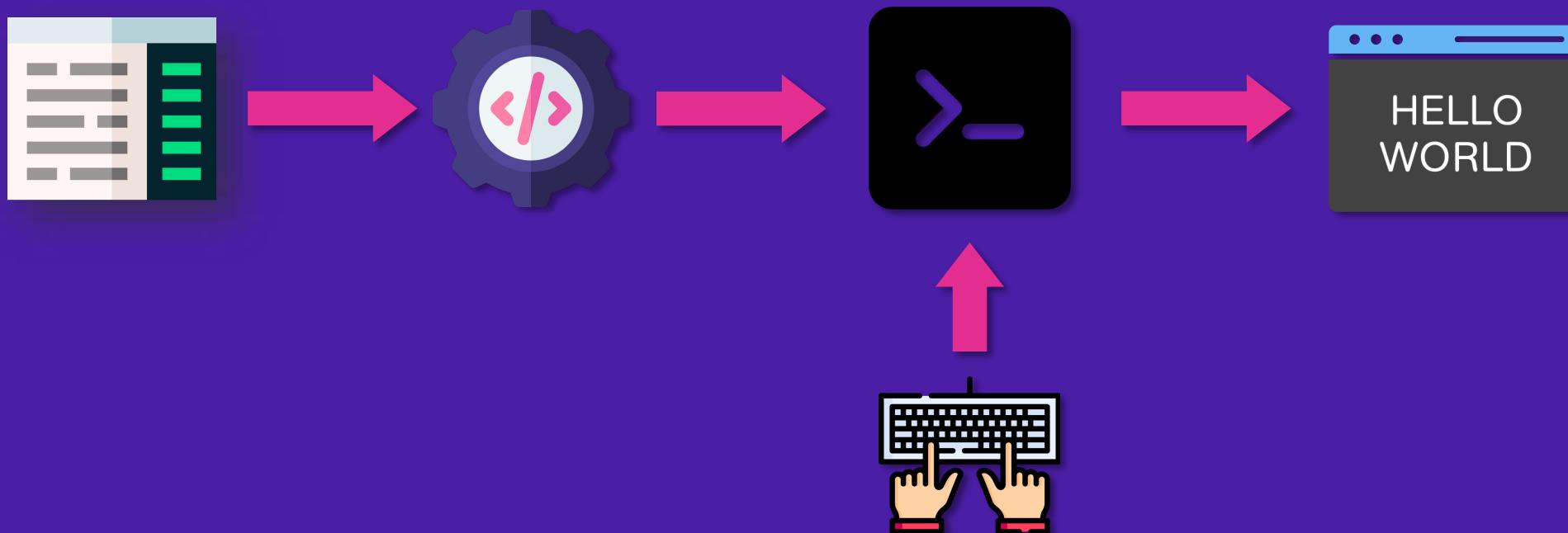


<https://buildit.so>

**BuildIt automatically turns  
library code into compilers!**

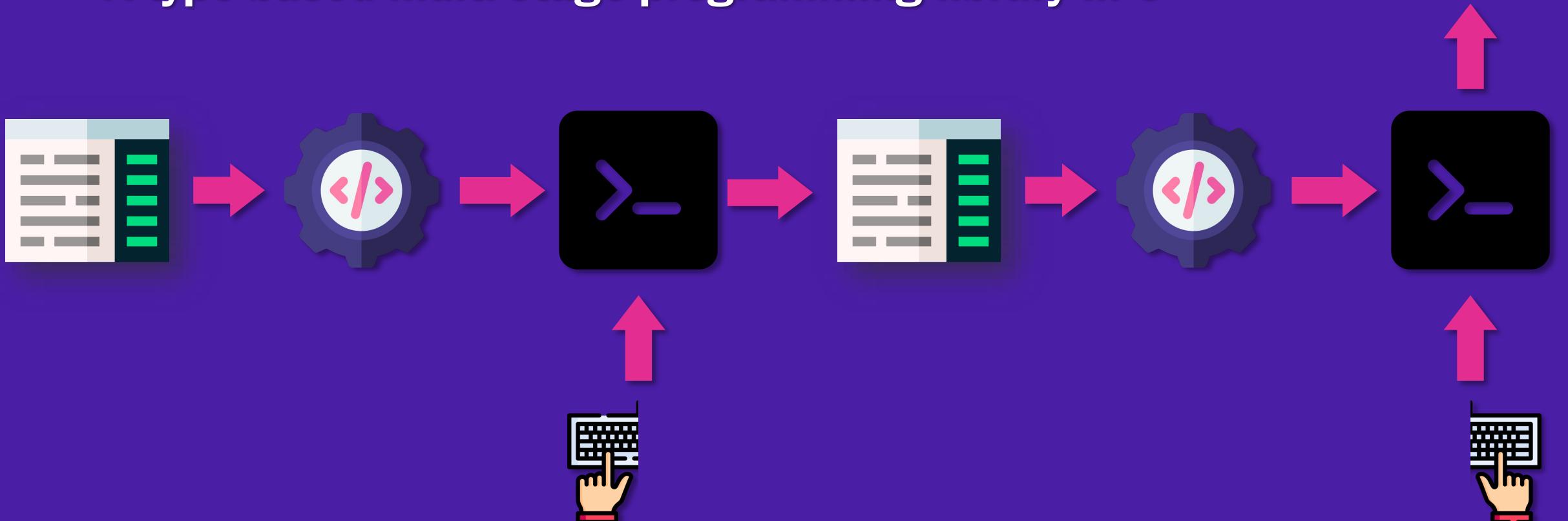
# Enter BuildIt!

- A type-based multi-stage programming library in C++



# Enter BuildIt!

- A type-based multi-stage programming library in C++



# Enter BuildIt!

- Two new types – `dyn_var<T>` and `static_var<T>`

```
// The power function to stage
dyn_var<int> power(dyn_var<int> base, static_var<int> exponent) {
    dyn_var<int> res = 1, x = base;
    while (exponent > 1) {
        if (exponent % 2 == 1)
            res = res * x;
        x = x * x;
        exponent = exponent / 2;
    }
    return res * x;
}
...
context.extract_function(power, "power_15", 15);
```



```
int power_15 (int arg0) {
    int var0 = arg0;
    int var1 = 1;
    int var2 = var0;
    var1 = var1 * var2;
    var2 = var2 * var2;
    var1 = var1 * var2;
    var2 = var2 * var2;
    var1 = var1 * var2;
    var2 = var2 * var2;
    return var1 * var2;
}
```

# Enter BuildIt!

- Two new types – `dyn_var<T>` and `static_var<T>`

```
// The power function to stage
dyn_var<int> power(static_var<int> base, dyn_var<int> exponent) {
    dyn_var<int> res = 1, x = base;
    while (exponent > 1) {
        if (exponent % 2 == 1)
            res = res * x;
        x = x * x;
        exponent = exponent / 2;
    }
    return res * x;
}
...
context.extract_function(power, "power_15", 15);
```



```
int power_15 (int arg1) {
    int var0 = arg1;
    int var1 = 1;
    int var2 = 15;
    while (var0 > 1) {
        if ((var0 % 2) == 1) {
            var1 = var1 * var2;
        }
        var2 = var2 * var2;
        var0 = var0 / 2;
    }
    return var1 * var2;
}
```

Full C++ language support in all stages

# How does BuildIt work?

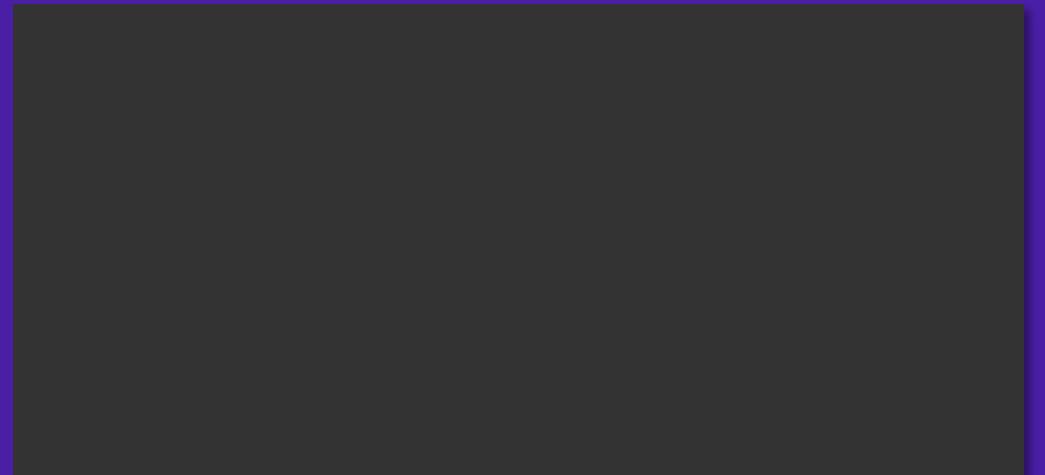
- BuildIt is embedded in C++ as a library, no compiler magic!

Overload all operators!!!



# How does BuildIt work?

- BuildIt overloads all operators on `dyn_var<T>` to generate code instead of running it



# How does BuildIt work?

- BuildIt overloads all operators on `dyn_var<T>` to generate code instead of running it

```
dyn_var<int> x, y = 0;
```

```
int var0;  
int var1 = 0;
```

# How does BuildIt work?

- BuildIt overloads all operators on `dyn_var<T>` to generate code instead of running it

```
dyn_var<int> x, y = 0;  
  
x + y * 2;
```

```
int var0;  
int var1 = 0;  
var0 + var1 * 2;
```

# How does BuildIt work?

- BuildIt overloads all operators on `dyn_var<T>` to generate code instead of running it

```
dyn_var<int> x, y = 0;  
  
x + y * 2;  
x = x + 1;
```

```
int var0;  
int var1 = 0;  
var0 + var1 * 2;  
var0 = var0 + 1;
```

# How does BuildIt work?

- BuildIt overloads all operators on `dyn_var<T>` to generate code instead of running it

```
dyn_var<int> x, y = 0;  
  
x + y * 2;  
x = x + 1;  
  
foo_bar(z[0], &w, "hello");
```

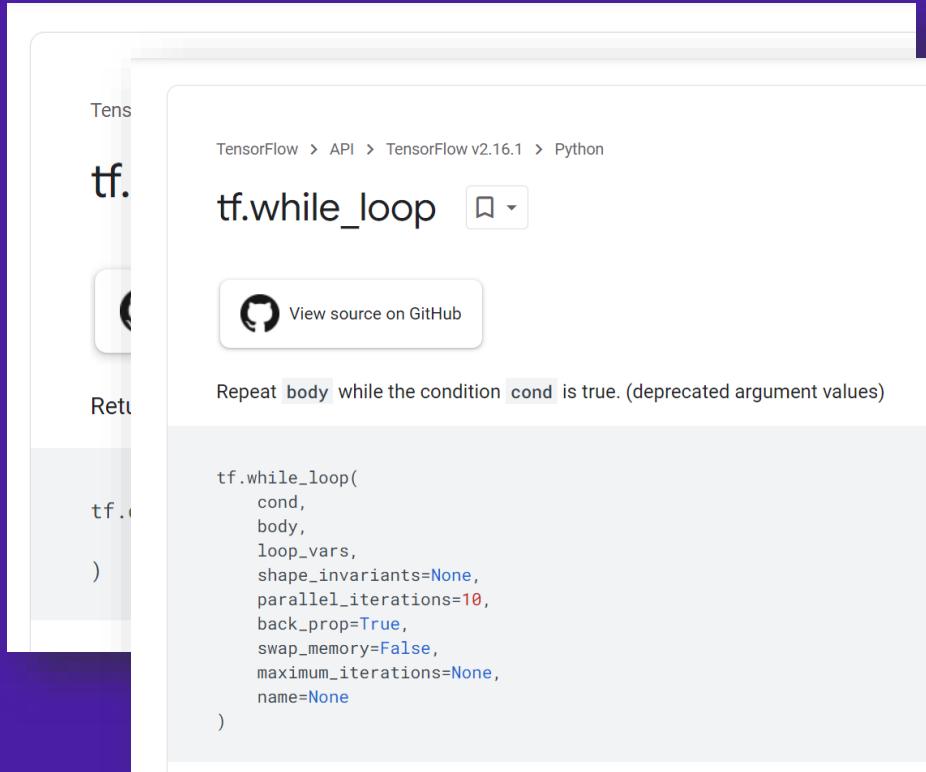
```
if (x == 3) {
```

```
int var0;  
int var1 = 0;  
var0 + var1 * 2;  
var0 = var0 + 1;  
  
foo_bar(var3[0], &var2, "hello");
```

```
?????
```

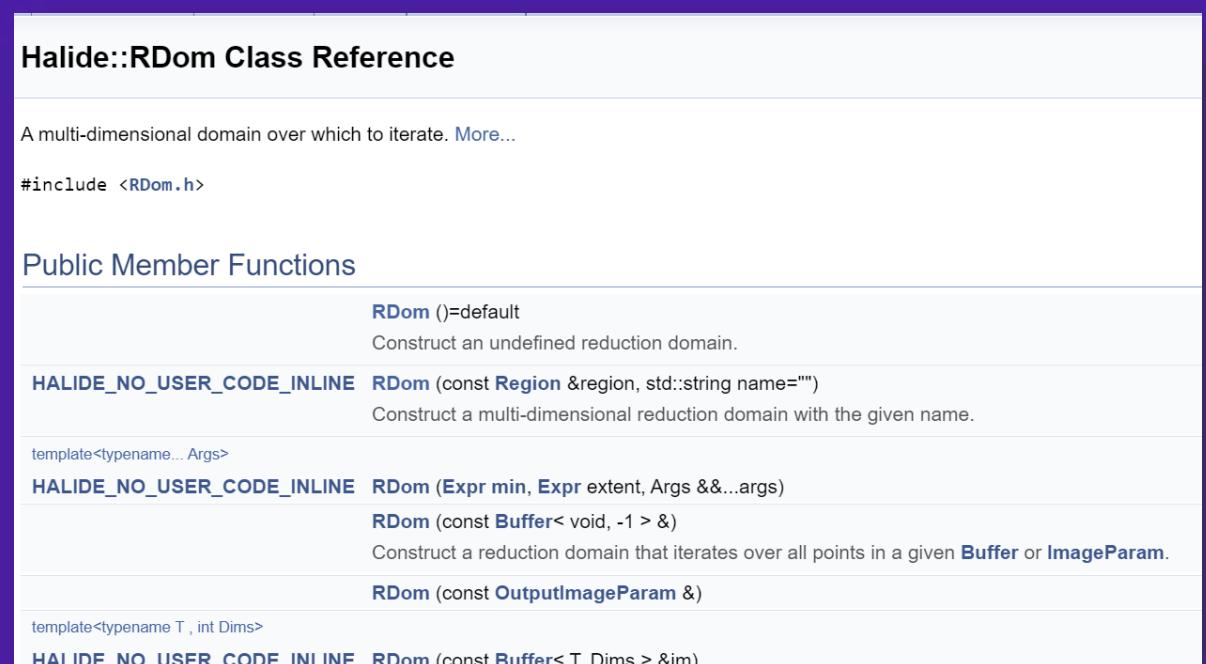
# How does BuildIt work?

- Special operators for control-flow



The screenshot shows the TensorFlow API documentation for the `tf.while_loop` function. The URL is [TensorFlow > API > TensorFlow v2.16.1 > Python](#). The function signature is `tf.while_loop(cond, body, loop_vars, shape_invariants=None, parallel_iterations=10, back_prop=True, swap_memory=False, maximum_iterations=None, name=None)`. A note indicates it's deprecated. Below the code, there's a GitHub link to view the source.

Control flow in Tensorflow



The screenshot shows the Halide `RDom` class reference. It includes a brief description of a multi-dimensional domain over which to iterate, an include directive (`#include <RDom.h>`), and a list of public member functions. The functions include the default constructor (`RDom ()=default`), a constructor for reduction domains from a region (`HALIDE_NO_USER_CODE_INLINE RDom (const Region &region, std::string name="")`), a template constructor for reduction domains from a buffer or image parameter (`HALIDE_NO_USER_CODE_INLINE RDom (Expr min, Expr extent, Args &&...args)`), a constructor for reduction domains from a buffer (`RDom (const Buffer< void, -1 > &)`), a constructor for output image parameters (`RDom (const OutputImageParam &)`), and a constructor for reduction domains from a buffer and dimensions (`HALIDE_NO_USER_CODE_INLINE RDom (const Buffer< T, Dims > &im)`).

Control flow in Halide

# How does BuildIt work?

- Special operators break first-stage semantics

```
static_var<int> x = ...;  
dyn_var<int> y = ...;  
  
buildit::if((y > 5), [&]() {  
    ...  
    x = x + 1;  
    foo(x);  
, [&] () {  
    ...  
    bar(x);  
});
```



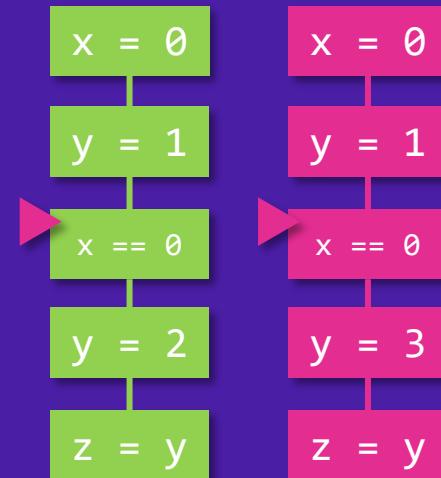
**Side effects on static variables  
leak from disjoint paths**

# How does BuildIt work?

- Execute multiple times to explore all paths

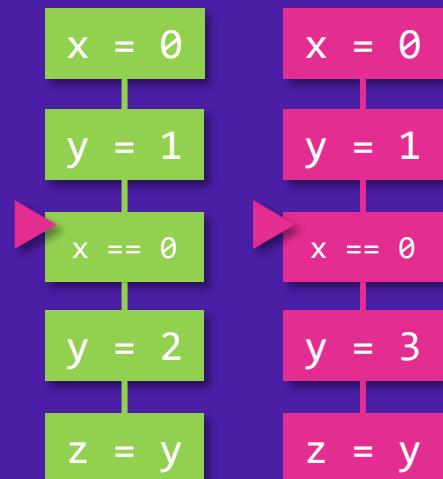
```
explicit dyn_var<T>::operator bool();
```

```
dyn_var<int> x = 0;  
dyn_var<int> y = 1;  
if (x == 0) {  
    y = 2;  
} else {  
    y = 3;  
}  
dyn_var<int> z = y;
```



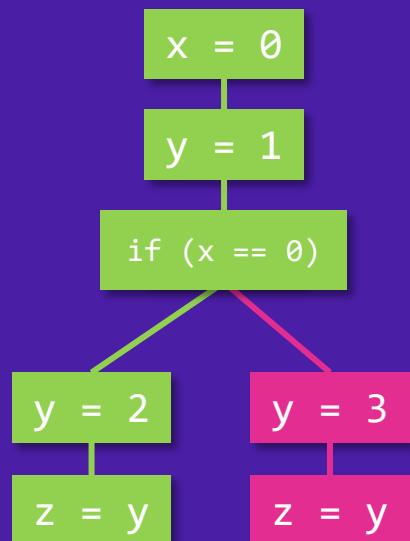
# How does BuildIt work?

- Execute multiple times to explore all paths



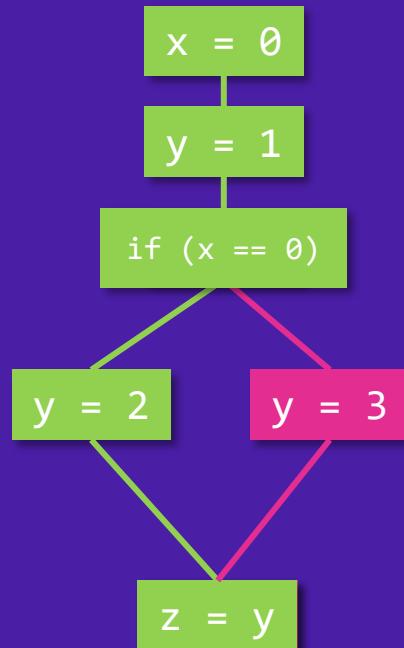
# How does BuildIt work?

- Execute multiple times to explore all paths



# How does BuildIt work?

- Execute multiple times to explore all paths



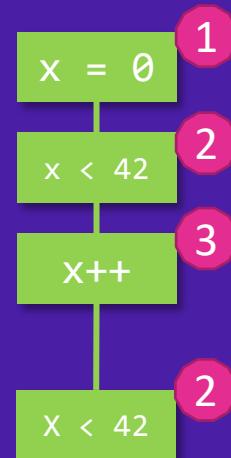
```
int var0 = 0;  
int var1 = 1;  
if (var0 == 0) {  
    var1 = 2;  
} else {  
    var1 = 3;  
}  
int var2 = var1;
```

Memoization to improve complexity – details in the paper!

# How does BuildIt work?

- What about loops? – use “Static Tags”

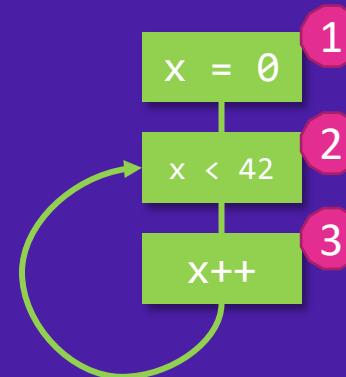
```
dyn_var<int> x = 0;  
  
while (x < 42) {  
    x++;  
}  
  
dyn_var<int> z = x;
```



# How does BuildIt work?

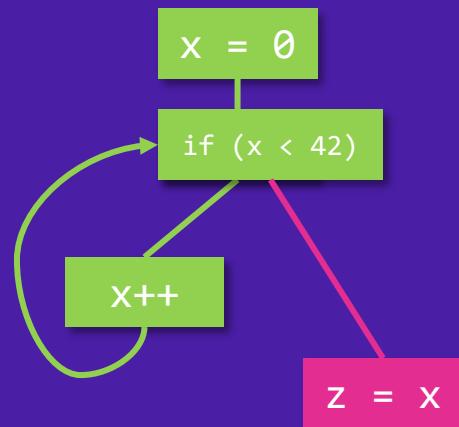
- What about loops? – use “Static Tags”

```
dyn_var<int> x = 0;  
  
while (x < 42) {  
    x++;  
}  
  
dyn_var<int> z = x;
```



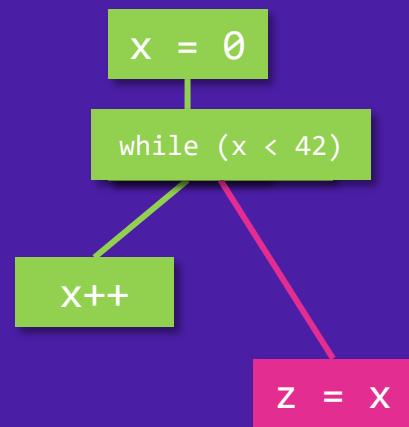
# How does BuildIt work?

- What about loops? – use “Static Tags”



# How does BuildIt work?

- What about loops? – use “Static Tags”



```
int var0 = 0;  
  
while (var0 < 42) {  
    var0++;  
}  
  
int var1 = var0;
```

# BuildIt to DSLs

```
// active_set.is_sparse - static_var<bool>
// active_set.vertices - dyn_var<vector<int>>
...
if (active_set.is_sparse) {
    for (dyn_var<int> v in active_set.vertices) {
        for (dyn_var<int> neigh in edges.neighbors(v)) {
            if (not_visited(neigh)) {
                updateEdge(v, neigh);
            }
        }
    }
} else if (active_set.is_dense && !is_large(active_set)) {
    for (dyn_var<int> (src, dst) in edges) {
        if (dyn_var<int> src in active_set) {
            if (not_visited(dst)) {
                updateEdge(src, dst);
            }
        }
    }
} else {
    for (dyn_var<int> v in edges.vertices) {
        if (!not_visited(v)) continue;
        for (dyn_var<int> n in edges.transpose.neigh(v)) {
            if (n in active_set) {
                updateEdge(n, v);
            }
        }
    }
}
```



```
for (v in edges.vertices) {
    if (!not_visited(v)) continue;
    for (n in edges.transpose.neigh(v)) {
        if (n in active_set) {
            updateEdge(n, v);
        }
    }
}
```

```
void updateEdge(int src, int dst) {
    new_ranks[dst] += old_ranks[src];
}
```

# **DSL compilers are more than code generation**

- **DSL compilers often need to analyze the code before specialized code generation**

**How do we do analyses without understanding how compilers work?**

# DSL compilers are more than code generation

- DSL compilers often need to analyze the code before specialized code generation

```
void updateEdge(Vertex src, Vertex dst) {  
    new_rank[dst] += old_rank[src];  
}
```

- Whether atomics are required depends on if the index at the write access is shared across multiple threads
- Data-flow analysis with a 3 point lattice – SHARED, INDEPENDENT, CONSTANT

# DSL compilers are more than code generation

```
struct Vertex {  
    dyn_var<int> vid;  
    enum access_t {SHARED, INDEPENDENT, CONSTANT};  
    static_var<access_t> access;  
};  
  
void Vertex::operator= (const Vertex &rhs) {  
    vid = rhs.vid;  
    access = rhs.access;  
}  
  
Vertex Vertex::operator+ (const Vertex &rhs) {  
    Vertex ret; ret.vid = vid + rhs.vid;  
    if (rhs.access == CONSTANT) ret.access = access;  
    else ret.access = SHARED;  
}
```

# DSL compilers are more than code generation

```
struct ArrayAccess{  
    Vertex index;  
    dyn_var<T[]> &array;  
}; // For expressions like array[Vertex]  
  
void ArrayAccess::operator+= (const ArrayAccess& rhs) {  
    if (index.access == INDEPENDENT)  
        array[index] += rhs.array[rhs.index];  
    else  
        atomicAdd(&array[index], rhs.array[rhs.index]);  
}
```

**Generates efficient code based on context of invocation**

# DSL compilers are more than code generation

```
parallel for (v in edges.vertices) {  
    if (!not_visited(v)) continue;  
    for (n in edges.transpose.neigh(v)) {  
        if (n in active_set) {  
            Vertex src(n); Vertex dst(v);  
            src.access = SHARED;  
            dst.access = INDEPENDENT;  
            updateEdge(src, dst);  
        }  
    }  
}
```



```
parallel for (...) {  
    for (...) {  
        new_ranks[dst] += old_ranks[src];  
    }  
}
```

```
void updateEdge(Vertex src, Vertex dst) {  
    new_ranks[dst] += old_ranks[src];  
}
```

# DSL compilers are more than code generation

- Infrastructure support for parallel CPU and GPU code generation

```
builder::annotate("pragma: omp parallel for");
for (dyn_var<int> i = 0; i < N; i++) {
    ...
}
```

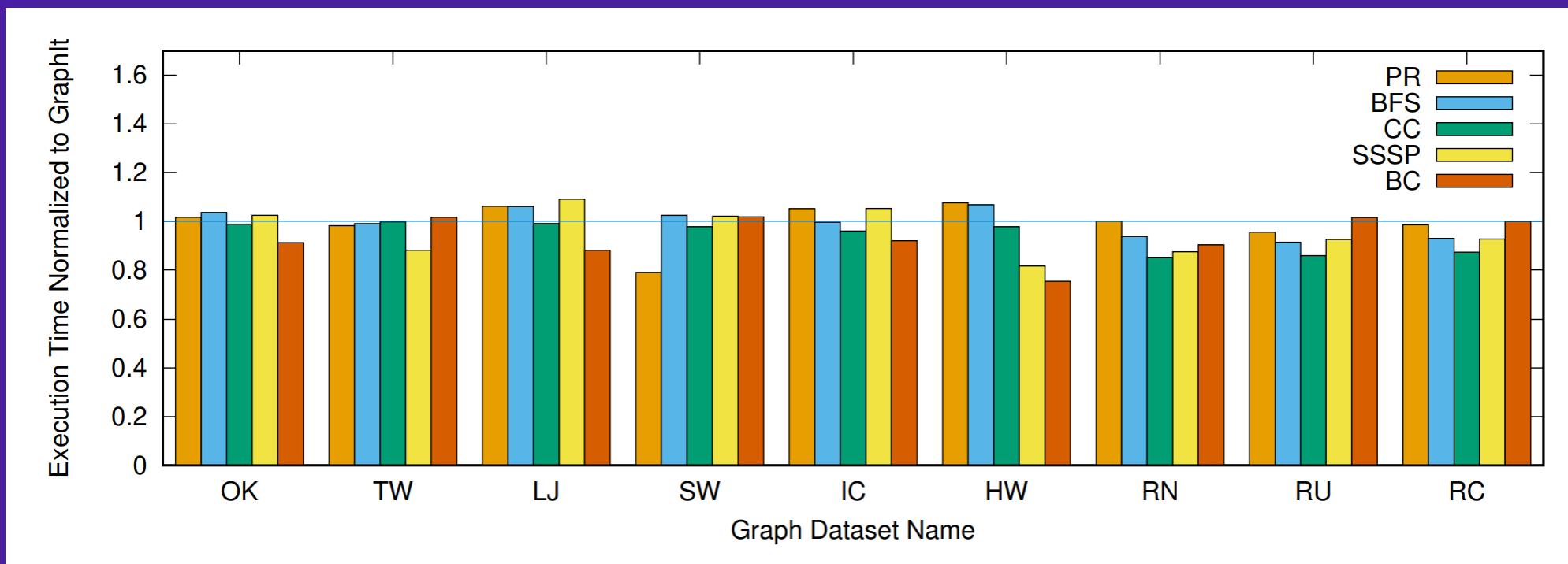
```
#pragma omp parallel for
for (int var0 = 0; var0 < 512; var0++) {
    ...
}
```

```
builder::annotate("CUDA_KERNEL");
for (dyn_var<int> i = 0; i < N; i++) {
    for (dyn_var<int> j = 0; j < M; j++) {
        a[i * M + j] = 3.14;
    }
}
```

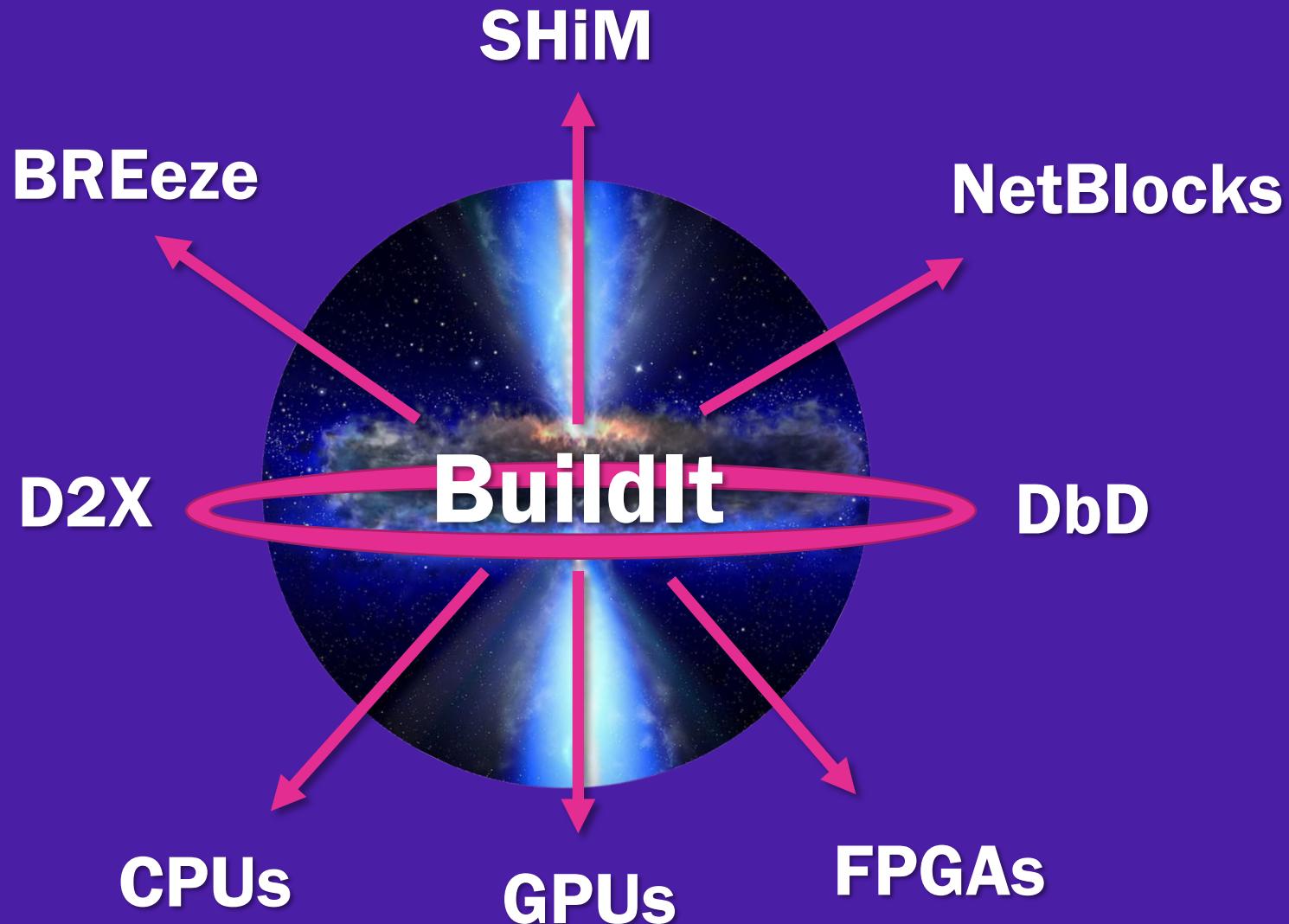
```
void __global__ cuda_kernel0(float* arg0) {
    arg0[blockIdx.x * 512 + threadIdx.x] = 3.14;
}
...
cuda_kernel0<<<256, 512>>>(a);
cudaDeviceSynchronize();
```

# GraphIt to CUDA in 2021 LoC

- Reimplemented the entire GraphIt GPU compiler including all schedules in just 2021 lines of C++ code



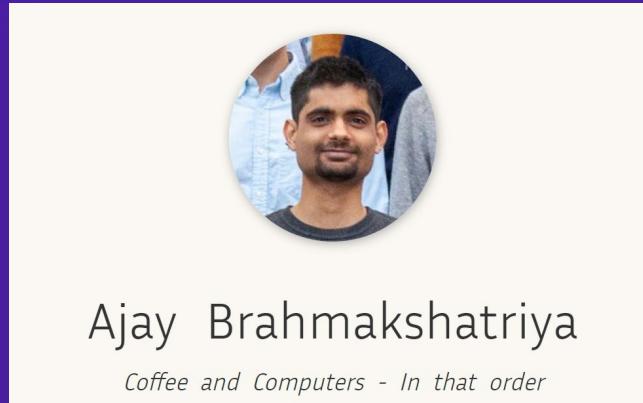
# The Quasar of BuildIt



<https://buildit.so>

Contributions welcome!

# Democratizing High-Performance DSL Development with BuildIt



<https://intimeand.space>



<https://buildit.so>

- If you are interested in building DSLs for your architectures or domains, reach out at [ajaybr@mit.edu](mailto:ajaybr@mit.edu)