



RAPIDS CUDA DataFrame Internals for C++ Developers - S91043

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GTC2019 | 03/20/19

What is RAPIDS cuDF?

Open-Source CUDA DataFrame

GPU-accelerated DataFrames

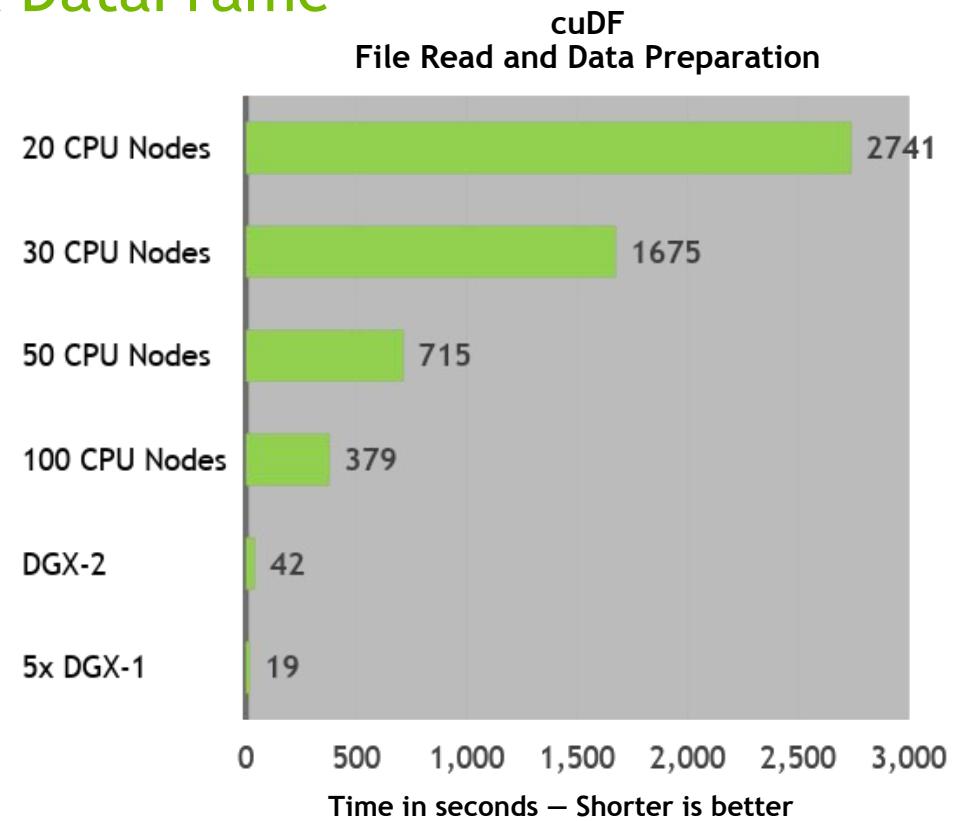
Data science operations: filter, sort, join, groupby,...

High-level, Python productivity (Pandas-like)

Bare-metal, CUDA/C++ performance

RAPIDS

github.com/rapidsai/cudf
rapids.ai



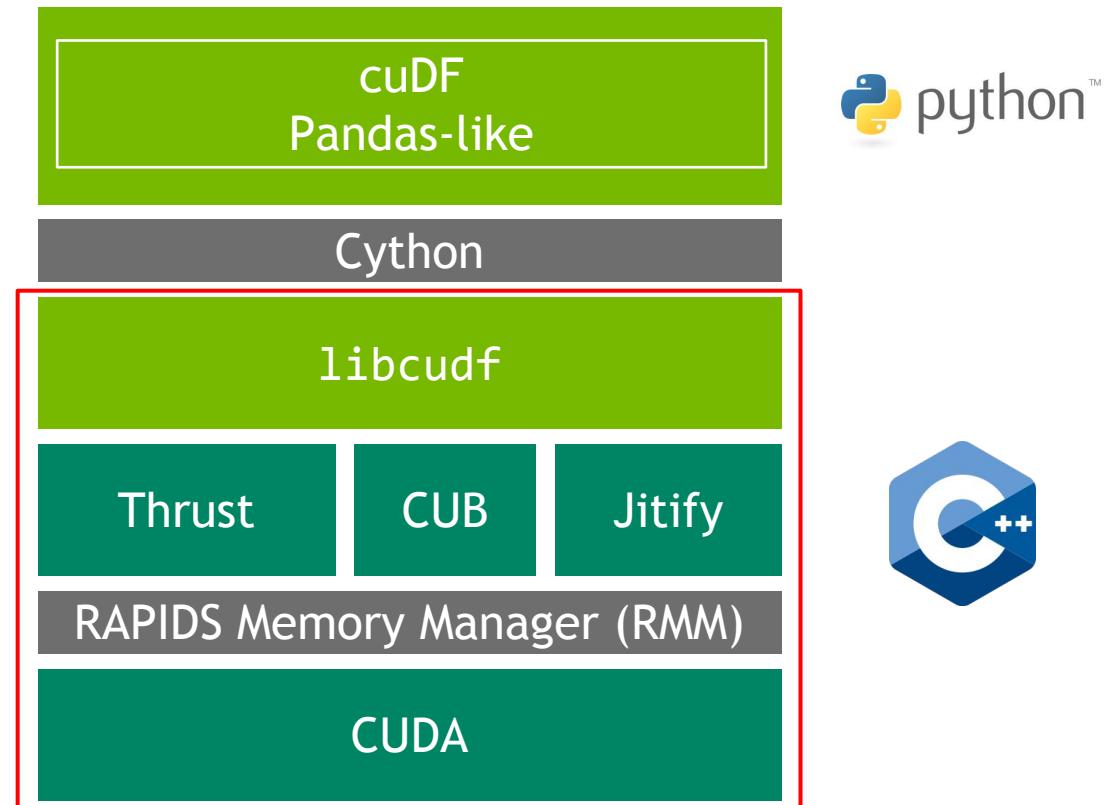
200GB CSV dataset; Data preparation includes joins, variable transformations. 5x DGX-1 on InfiniBand network. CPU nodes: 61 GiB of memory, 8 vCPUs, 64-bit platform, Apache Spark

libcudf

Who This Talk is For

You want to learn about:

- libcudf: cuDF's underlying C++14 library
- How to use libcudf in your applications
- CUDA-accelerated data science algorithms
- How to contribute to libcudf



CUDA DataFrame

What is a DataFrame?

Think spreadsheet

Equal length columns of different types

How to store in memory?

- cuDF uses [Apache Arrow^{\[1\]}](#)
- Contiguous, column-major data representation

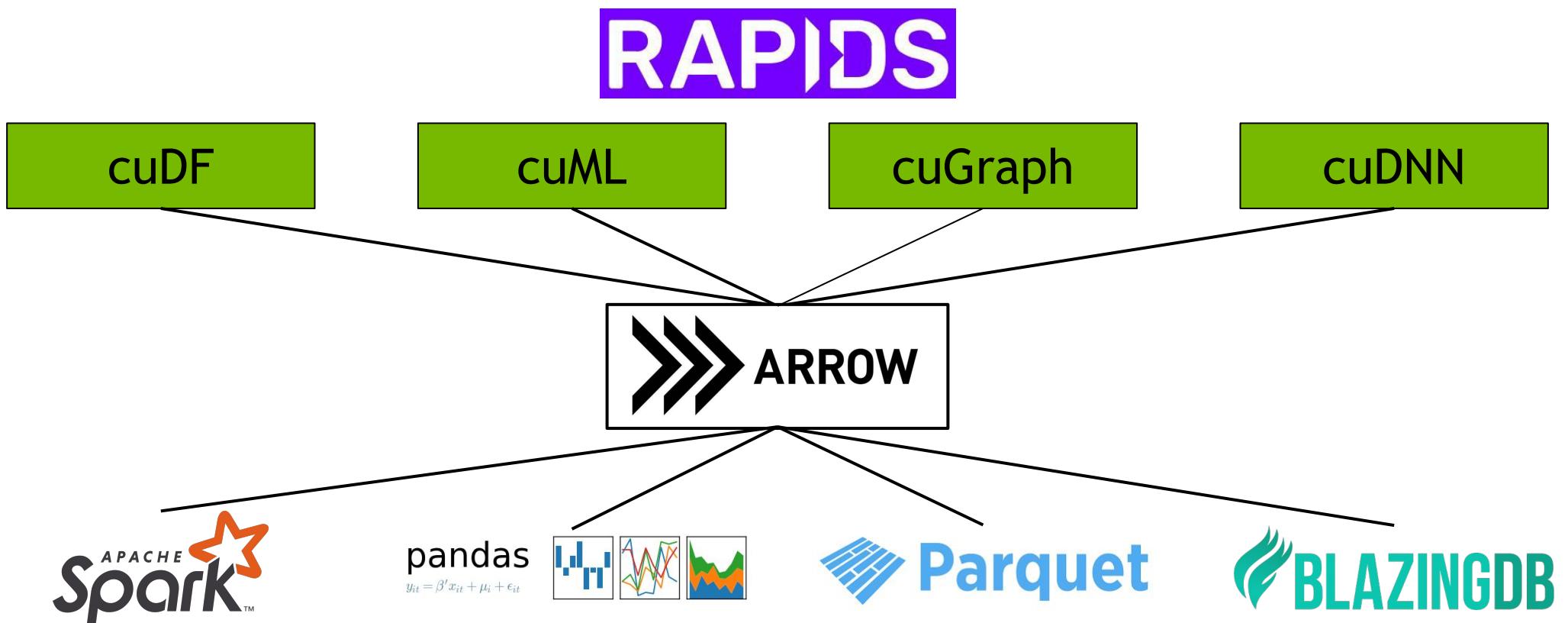


Mortgage ID	Pay Date	Amount (\$)
101	12/18/2018	1029.30
102	12/21/2018	1429.31
103	12/14/2018	1289.27
101	01/15/2018	1104.59
102	01/17/2018	1457.15
103	NULL	NULL

[1] https://arrow.apache.org/docs/memory_layout.html

Apache Arrow Memory Format

Enabling Interoperability



Column Representation

libcudf is column-centric

All operations defined in terms of operations on columns

Type-erased **data** (`void*`) allows interoperability with other languages and type systems

Arrow enables efficient, shallow copy data sharing across frameworks/languages

```
struct column {  
    void* data;          // contiguous buffer  
    int size;           // number of elements  
    Dtype type;         // type indicator  
    uint32_t* mask;     // null bitmask  
};  
  
enum Dtype {  
    INT,               // int value  
    FLOAT,             // float value  
    DATE   // int64_t ms since epoch  
    ...  
};
```

Null Bitmask

How To Represent Missing Data

Any element can be NULL → undefined

Different from NaN → defined invalid

NULL values are represented in bitmask

1-bit per element

- 0 == NULL
- 1 == not NULL

Least-significant bit ordering

```
values = [0, 1, null, NaN, null, 3]
bitmask = [0 0 1 0 1 0 1 1] = 0x2B
```

Column Example

Apache Arrow Memory Layout

Mortgage ID	Pay Date	Amount
101	12/18/2018	1029.30
102	12/21/2018	1429.31
103	12/14/2018	1289.27
101	01/15/2018	1104.59
102	01/17/2018	1457.15
103	NULL	NULL

Mortgage ID

```
data = [101, 102, 103, 101, 102, 103]  
size = 6  
type = INT  
bitmask = [0x3F] = [0 0 1 1 1 1]
```

Note LSB order

Pay Date

```
data = [1545091200000, 1545350400000, 1544745600000,  
       1514764800000, 1516147200000, *garbage* ]  
size = 6  
type = DATE  
bitmask = [0x1F] = [0 0 0 1 1 1 1]
```

Amount

```
data = [1029.30, 1429.31, 1289.27,  
       1104.59, 1457.15, *garbage*]  
size = 6  
type = FLOAT  
bitmask = [0x1F] = [0 0 0 1 1 1 1]
```

libcudf Operations

All functions act on one or more columns

Operations include:

- Sort
- Join
- Groupby
- Filtering
- Transpose
- etc.

Input columns are generally immutable

```
void some_function( cudf::column const* input,  
                    cudf::column * output,  
                    args...)  
{  
    // Do something with input  
    // Produce output  
}
```

Example Operation

Sort

`in->data` is *type-erased*

1. Deduce `T` from enum `in->type`
2. Call function template with `T`
3. Cast `in->data` to `T*`
4. Perform `thrust::sort` with
`typed_data`

Common pattern in libcudf

Problem: Duplicated switches are difficult to maintain and error-prone

```
void sort(cudf::column * in){  
    switch(in->type){  
        case INT:  
            typed_sort<int32_t>(in); break;  
        case FLOAT:  
            typed_sort<float>(in); break;  
        case DATE:  
            typed_sort<int64_t>(in); break;  
        ...  
    }  
}  
  
template <typename T>  
void typed_sort(cudf::column * in){  
    T* typed_data{ static_cast<T*>(in->data) };  
    thrust::sort(thrust::device,  
                typed_data, typed_data + in->size);  
}
```

Type Dispatching

libcudf's Solution

Centralize and abstract the switch

`type_dispatcher`

1. Maps `type` enum to `T`
2. Invokes functor `F<T>()`

```
template <typename Functor>
auto type_dispatcher(DType type,
                     Functor F)
{
    switch(type){
        case INT:   return F<int32_t>();
        case FLOAT: return F<float>();
        case DATE:  return F<int64_t>();
        ...
    }
}
```

*Note: The syntax `F<T>()` is abbreviated for clarity.
The correct syntax is `F::template operator()<T>()`.*

libcudf's type dispatcher also supports functors with arguments

Type Dispatching

Sort Revisited

Define a functor **F** with operator() template

type_dispatcher maps **type** to **T** and
invokes **F<T>()**

sort_functor casts with **T**

Perform **thrust::sort** on **typed_data**

sort.cu

```
#include <type_dispatcher.cuh>

sort_functor{
    cudf::column _col;
    sort_functor(cudf::column col) : _col{col} {}

    template <typename T>
    void operator()(){
        T* typed_data = static_cast<T*>(_col->data);
        thrust::sort(typed_data,
                    typed_data + _col->size);
    }
};

void sort(cudf::column * col){
    type_dispatcher(col->type, sort_functor{ *col });
}
```

Type Dispatching

Combinatorial Type Explosion

Binary operations between two columns are common (e.g., sum, minus, div, etc.)

`out = lhs op rhs`

Independent types

11+ types, 14+ ops

Problem:

- $11^3 \times 14 = \sim 18,600$ instantiations
- 1+ hour to compile just binary operations

```
void binary_op(cudf::column* out, cudf::column* lhs,
               cudf::column* rhs, Op op)
{
    // out, lhs, rhs types are all independent
    // Need to instantiate code for all combinations
    // Repeat for every `op`
}
```

Solution: JIT compilation with Jitify

Simplify CUDA Run-time Compilation

Compiles specialized kernel string at run time

Compiled kernel is cached for reuse

libcudf uses Jitify for binary operations

- ~300ms overhead to compile new kernel
- ~150ms to reuse kernel w/ new types
- Trivial overhead to reuse from cache

<https://github.com/NVIDIA/jitify>

```
const char* program_source = "my_program\n"
"template<int N, typename T>\n"
"__global__\n"
"void my_kernel(T* data) {\n"
"    T data0 = data[0];\n"
"    for( int i=0; i<N-1; ++i ) {\n"
"        data[0] *= data0;\n"
"    }\n"
"};\n";
static jitify::JitCache kernel_cache;
jitify::Program program = kernel_cache.program(program_source);

dim3 grid(1); dim3 block(1);
using jitify::reflection::type_of;
program.kernel("my_kernel")
    .instantiate(3, type_of(*data)) // Instantiates template
    .configure(grid, block)
    .launch(data);
```

Recap

libcudf so far...

- Apache Arrow memory layout
- Column-centric operations
- Type-erased data
- type_dispatcher to reconstruct type
- Runtime compilation w/ Jitify

Many operations require temporary memory allocations

Most cuDF ops not performed in place:
many column allocations/deallocations

```
sort_functor{
    cudf::column _col;
    sort_functor(cudf::column col) : _col{col} {}

    template <typename T>
    void operator()(){
        T* typed_data = static_cast<T*>(_col->data);

        // Allocates temporary memory!
        thrust::sort(thrust::device,
                    typed_data, typed_data + _col->size);
    }
};

void sort(cudf::column * col){
    type_dispatcher(col->type, sort_functor{ *col });
}
```



Memory Management

Memory Management Overhead

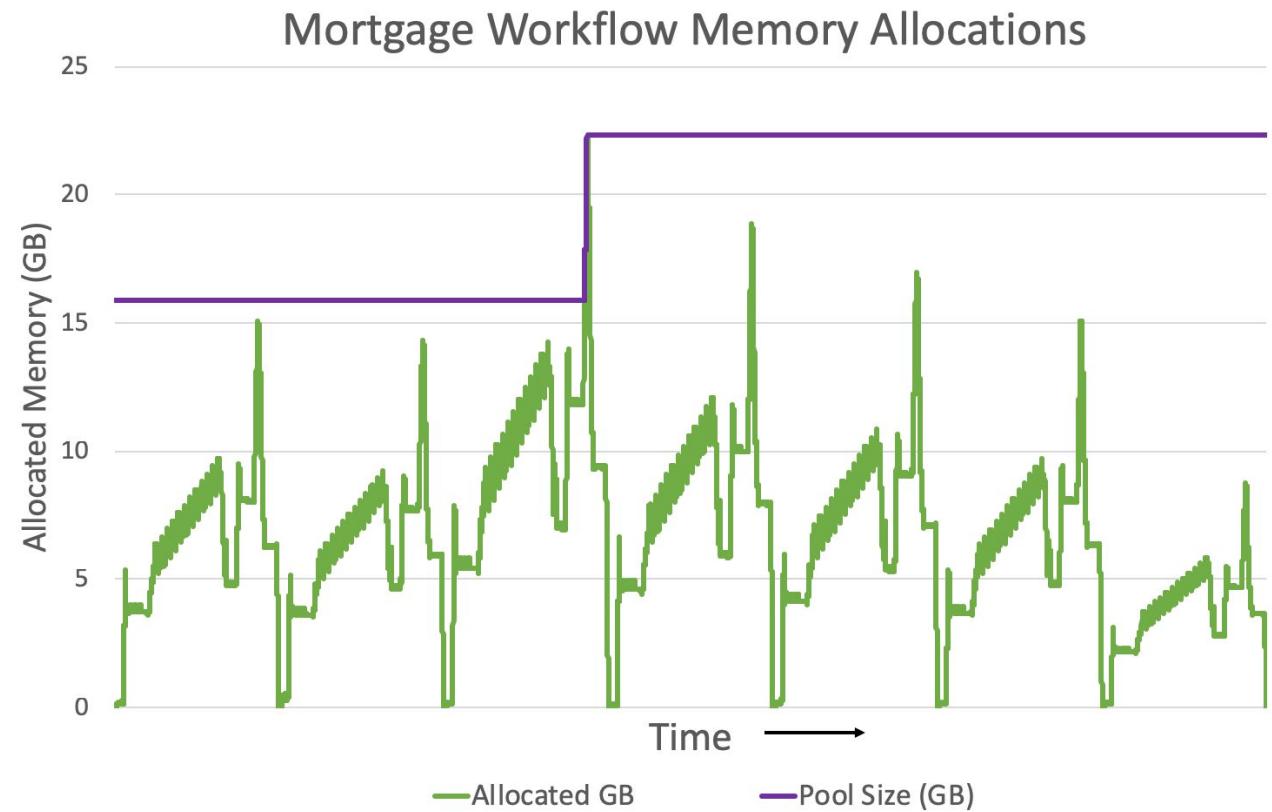
Example: cuDF Mortgage Workflow

Data cleanup and feature engineering

1. Read CSV files into DataFrames
2. Joins, groupbys, unary/binary ops
3. Create DMatrix for XGBoost

cuDF ops are not in-place
=> frequent malloc/free

88% of cuDF time spent in
CUDA memory management!



CUDA Memory Allocation

cudaMalloc / cudaFree: Why are they expensive?

Synchronous: blocks the device

```
cudaMalloc(&buffer, size_in_bytes);
```

cudaFree scrubs memory for security

```
cudaFree(buffer);
```

Peer Access: GPU-to-GPU direct memory access

cudaMalloc creates peer mappings

Scales $O(\#GPUs^2)$

RMM Memory Pool Allocation

<https://github.com/rapidsai/rmm>

Use large cudaMalloc allocation as **memory pool**

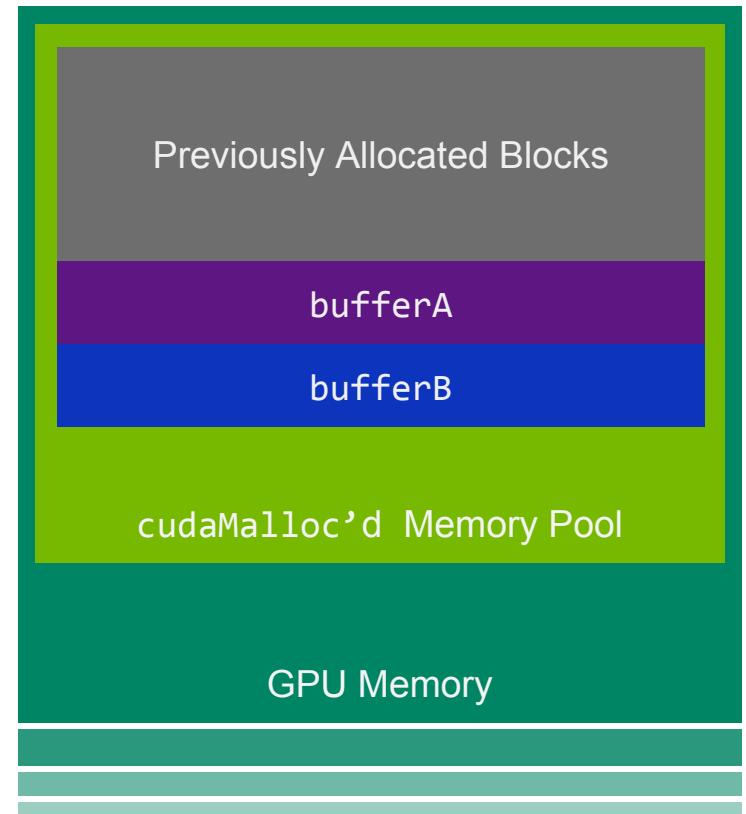
Custom memory management in **pool**

Streams enable asynchronous malloc/free

RMM currently uses CNMem as it's Sub-allocator

<https://github.com/NVIDIA/cnmem>

RMM is standalone and free to use in your own projects!



RAPIDS Memory Manager (RMM)

Drop-in Allocation Replacement

```
RMM_ALLOC(&buffer, size_in_bytes, stream_id);
```

```
RMM_FREE(buffer, stream_id);
```

Asynchronous



```
rmm::device_vector<int> dvec(size);
```

```
thrust::sort(rmm::exec_policy(stream)->on(stream), ...);
```

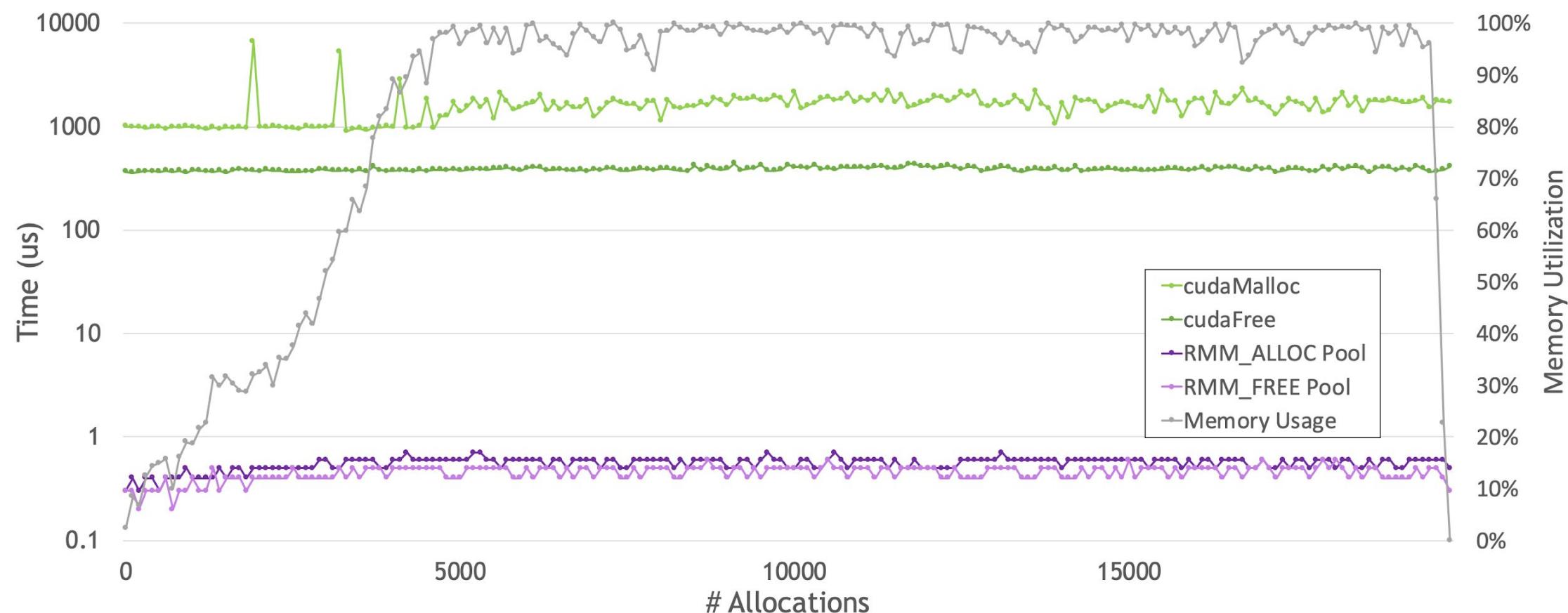


```
dev_ones = rmm.device_array(np.ones(count))
dev_twos = rmm.device_array_like(dev_ones)
# also rmm.to_device(), rmm.auto_device(), etc.
```



RMM Raw Performance

1000x faster than cudaMalloc/cudaFree (microbenchmark)



RMM: 10x Performance on RAPIDS

Mortgage Workflow on 16x V100 GPUs of DGX-2

	Time spent in malloc/free	Total ETL Time	% Time
cudaMalloc / cudaFree (no pool)	486s	550s	88.3%
rmmAlloc / rmmFree (pool)	0.088s	55s	0.16%

10x

cudaMalloc/cudaFree overhead gets worse with more GPUs

RMM is valuable even on Single-GPU runs, where the fraction is “only” 14-15%

RMM benefit is combination of low-overhead suballocation and reduced synchronization



Deep Dive

CUDA-Accelerated GroupBy

Deep Dive

Common data science operation

Group unique keys and aggregate associated values → reduce by key

Answers questions like:

“What’s the avg payment for each mortgage?”

“Which mortgages are delinquent?”

“Which mortgages are paid off early?”

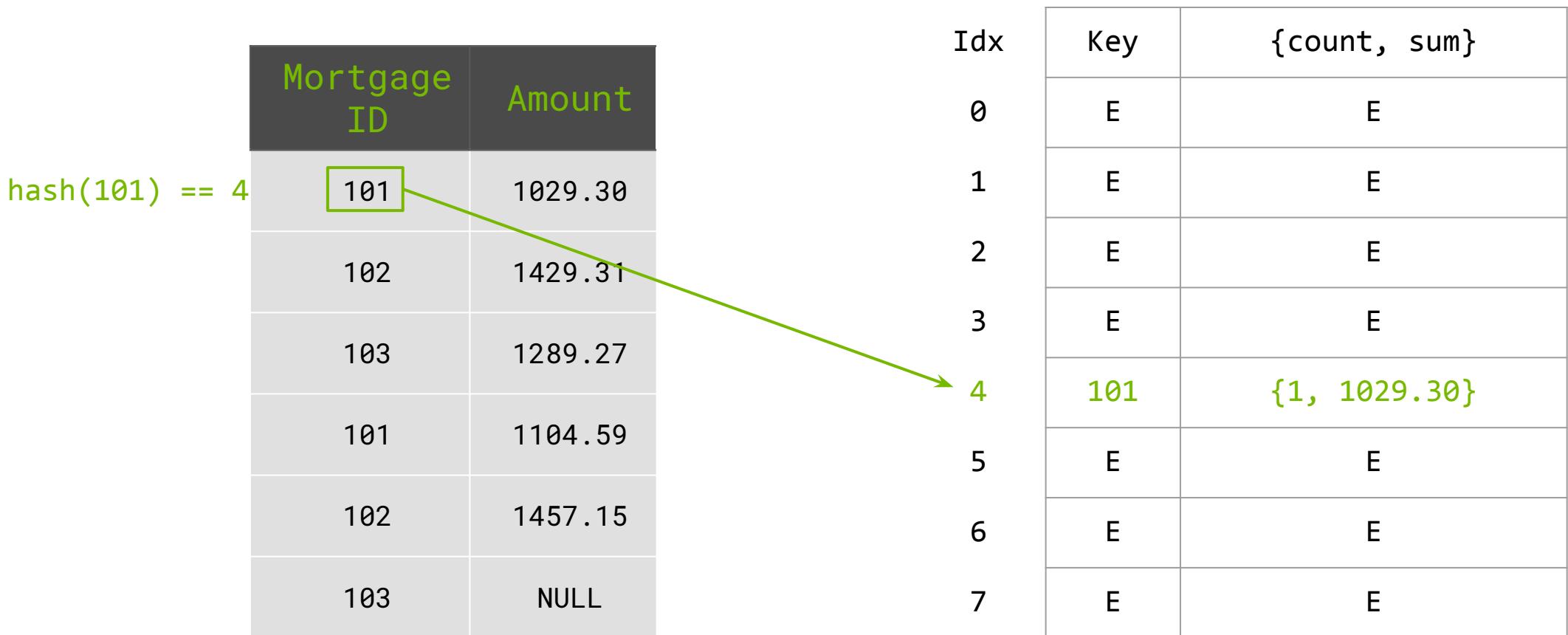
Mortgage ID	Pay Date	Amount	Avg
101	12/18/2018	1029.30	1066.95
101	01/15/2018	1104.59	
102	12/21/2018	1429.31	1443.23
102	01/17/2018	1457.15	
103	12/14/2018	1289.27	1289.27
103	NULL	NULL	

Hash-Based GroupBy

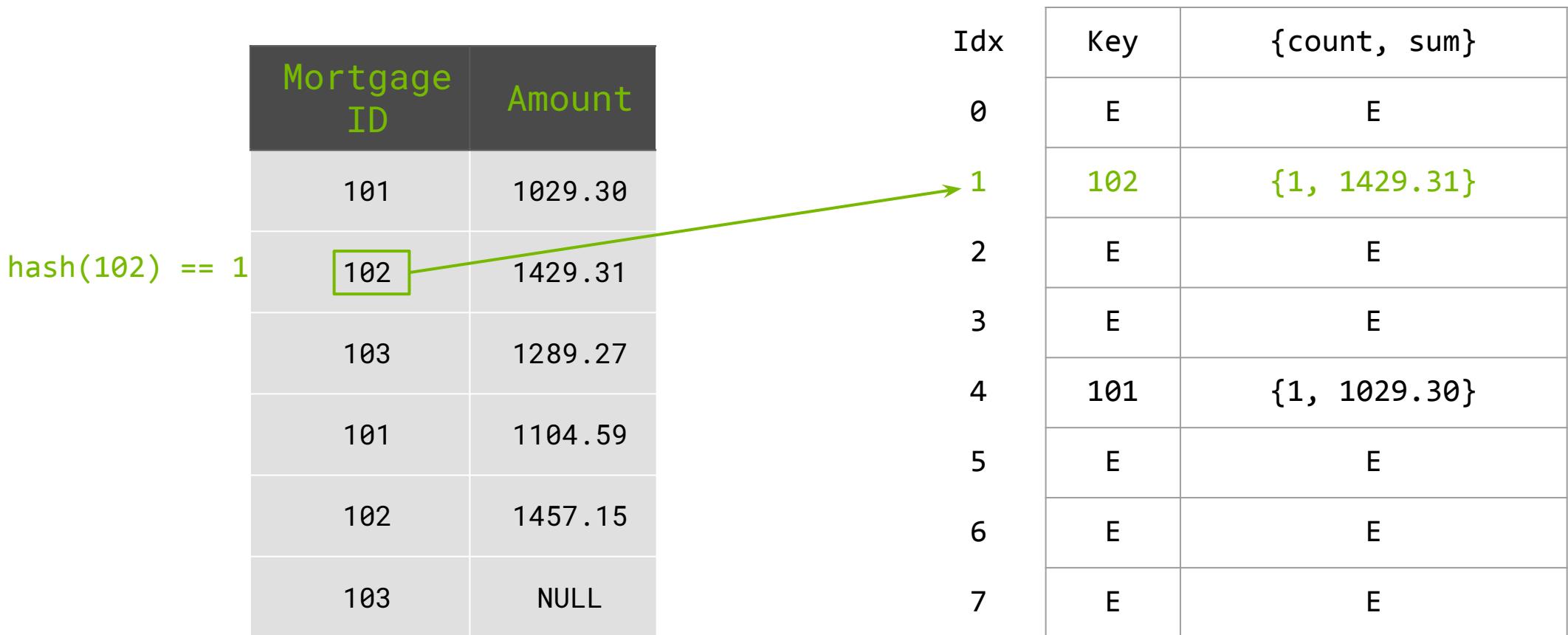
Mortgage ID	Amount
101	1029.30
102	1429.31
103	1289.27
101	1104.59
102	1457.15
103	NULL

Idx	Key	{count, sum}
0	E	E
1	E	E
2	E	E
3	E	E
4	E	E
5	E	E
6	E	E
7	E	E

Hash-Based GroupBy



Hash-Based GroupBy



Hash-Based GroupBy

hash(103) == 4

Mortgage ID	Amount
101	1029.30
102	1429.31
103	1289.27
101	1104.59
102	1457.15
103	NULL

Idx	Key	{count, sum}
0	E	E
1	102	{1, 1429.31}
2	E	E
3	E	E
4	101	{1, 1029.30}
5	E	E
6	E	E
7	E	E

Hash-Based GroupBy

hash(103) == 4

Mortgage ID	Amount
101	1029.30
102	1429.31
103	1289.27
101	1104.59
102	1457.15
103	NULL

103 =? 101

Idx	Key	{count, sum}
0	E	E
1	102	{1, 1429.31}
2	E	E
3	E	E
4	101	{1, 1029.30}
5	E	E
6	E	E
7	E	E

Hash-Based GroupBy

hash(103) == 4

Mortgage ID	Amount
101	1029.30
102	1429.31
103	1289.27
101	1104.59
102	1457.15
103	NULL

103 != 101
Collision!

Idx	Key	{count, sum}
0	E	E
1	102	{1, 1429.31}
2	E	E
3	E	E
4	101	{1, 1029.30}
5	E	E
6	E	E
7	E	E

Hash-Based GroupBy

hash(103) == 4

Mortgage ID	Amount
101	1029.30
102	1429.31
103	1289.27
101	1104.59
102	1457.15
103	NULL

Idx	Key	{count, sum}
0	E	E
1	102	{1, 1429.31}
2	E	E
3	E	E
4	101	{1, 1029.30}
5	103	{1, 1289.27}
6	E	E
7	E	E

Hash-Based GroupBy

hash(101) == 4

Mortgage ID	Amount
101	1029.30
102	1429.31
103	1289.27
101	1104.59
102	1457.15
103	NULL

Idx	Key	{count, sum}
0	E	E
1	102	{1, 1429.31}
2	E	E
3	E	E
4	101	{1, 1029.30}
5	103	{1, 1289.27}
6	E	E
7	E	E

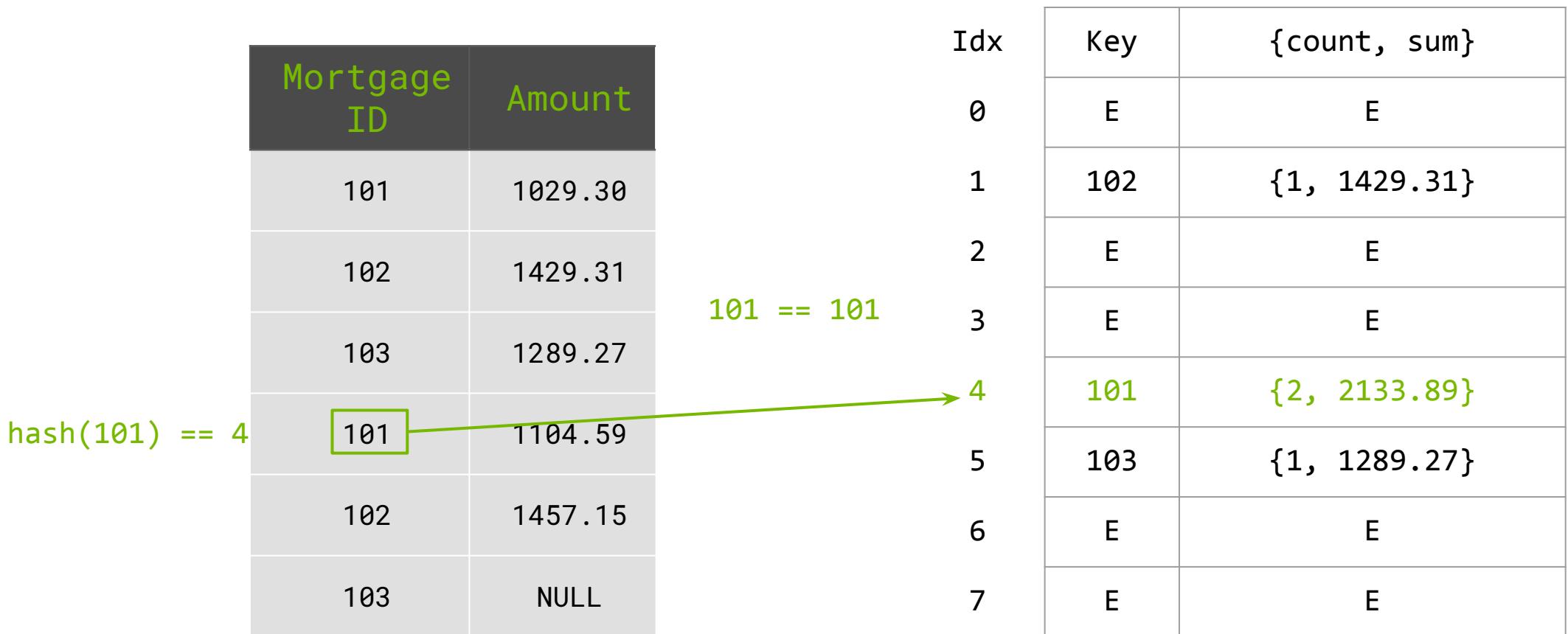
Hash-Based GroupBy

Mortgage ID	Amount
101	1029.30
102	1429.31
103	1289.27
hash(101) == 4	<div style="border: 1px solid green; padding: 2px;">101</div> 1104.59
102	1457.15
103	NULL

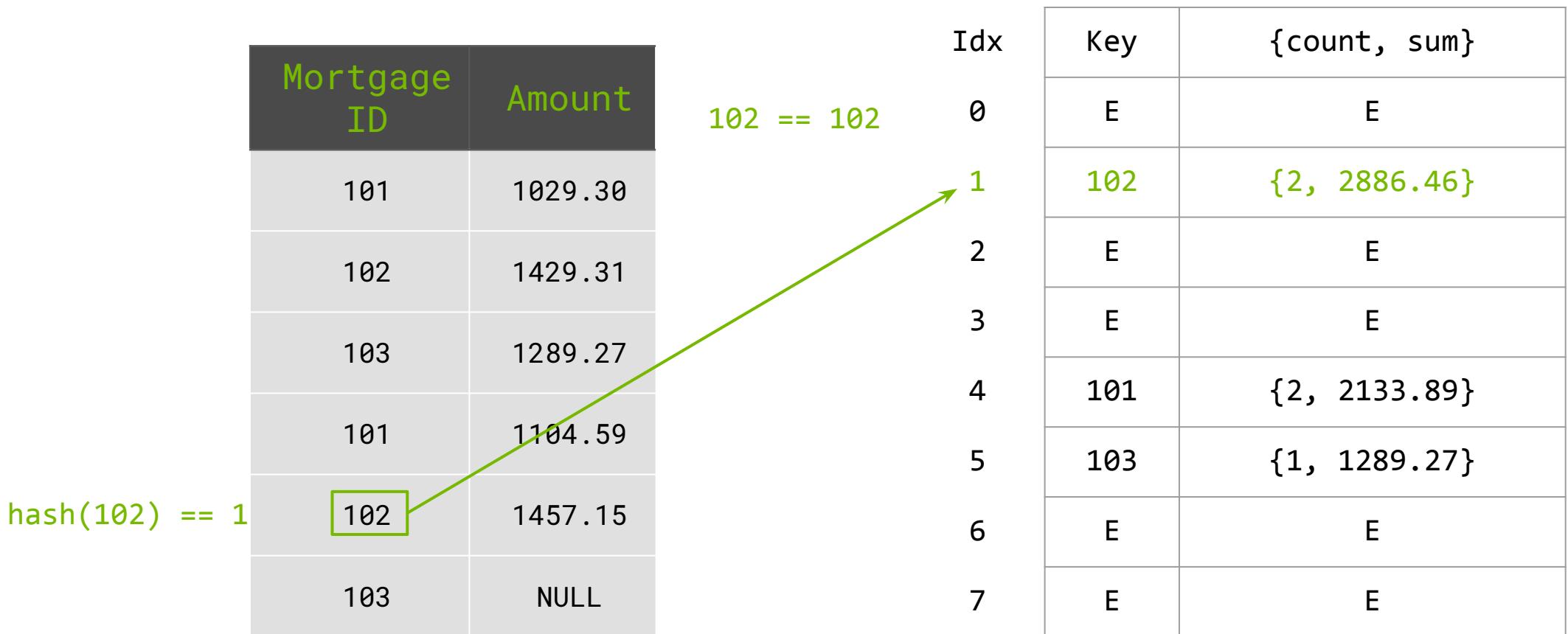
101 =? 101

Idx	Key	{count, sum}
0	E	E
1	102	{1, 1429.31}
2	E	E
3	E	E
4	101	{1, 1029.30}
5	103	{1, 1289.27}
6	E	E
7	E	E

Hash-Based GroupBy



Hash-Based GroupBy



Hash-Based GroupBy

Mortgage ID	Amount
101	1029.30
102	1429.31
103	1289.27
101	1104.59
102	1457.15
hash(102) == 4	103
	NULL

103 != 101

Idx	Key	{count, sum}
0	E	E
1	102	{2, 2886.46}
2	E	E
3	E	E
4	101	{2, 2133.89}
5	103	{1, 1289.27}
6	E	E
7	E	E

Hash-Based GroupBy

Mortgage ID	Amount	Idx	Key	{count, sum}
101	1029.30	0	E	E
102	1429.31	1	102	{2, 2886.46}
103	1289.27	2	E	E
101	1104.59	3	E	E
102	1457.15	4	101	{2, 2133.89}
103	NULL	5	103	{1, 1289.27}
hash(102) == 4	103	6	E	E
	NULL	7	E	E

Hash-Based GroupBy

Idx	Key	{count, sum}
0	E	E
1	102	{2, 2886.46}
2	E	E
3	E	E
4	101	{2, 2133.89}
5	103	{1, 1289.27}
6	E	E
7	E	E



Extract
non-empty entries
and perform
(sum/count)

Mortgage ID	Avg Amount
102	1443.23
101	1066.95
103	1289.27

concurrent_unordered_map

Enabling Hash-based GroupBy

```
template<typename KeyT, typename PayloadT>
__device__ void insert(KeyT const& new_key, PayloadT new_value){
    uint32_t hash_value = hash_function(new_key);
    int index          = hash_value % hash_table_size;
    while (not insert_success) {
        // Attempt to update hash bucket
        KeyT old_key = atomicCAS(&hash_table[index].key, EMPTY, new_key);

        // If the bucket was empty, or already contains “new_key”
        // Then update the associated payload
        if ( (EMPTY == old_key) or
            (new_key == old_key) ){
            // Update payload
            atomicAdd(&hash_table[index].count, 1);           // count++
            atomicAdd(&hash_table[index].sum, new_value); // sum += new_value
            insert_success = true;
        }
        // Insert failed, advance to next hash bucket
        index = (index + 1) % hash_table_size;
    }
}
```

*Note: Code is simplified for clarity.
Actual insert code accepts any generic
binary operation(s) to be performed
between the new and old payload.
Likewise, handling of null values is
omitted.*



Wrapping Up

libcudf C++

How to Use libcudf in Your Applications

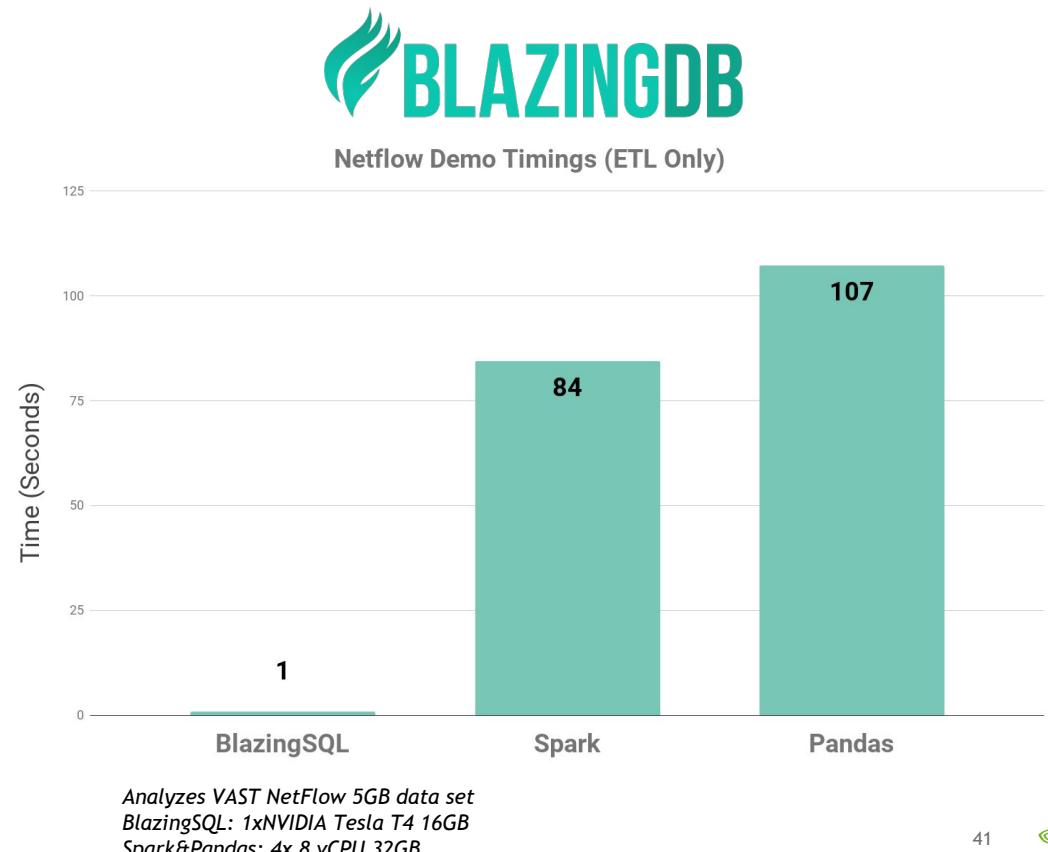
libcudf is not built for cuDF alone

Single-GPU primitives to enable building multi-GPU algorithms

libcudf C++ API is designed for reuse

Modular, reusable components

- concurrent_unordered_map
- Memory Manager (reusable sub-allocator)
- algorithms—join, groupby, etc.



Future Directions

What We Are Working On

Overhaul of legacy C interface to modern C++

Feature Completeness

- Push functionality from Python into C++

Coming Soon

- Improved String support, rolling window functions, statistic operations

- Generic variable-length datatypes

Future language support

- Spark Java bindings

Contribute to libcudf

Help Us Improve

libcudf is open source: Apache 2 license

Many interesting CUDA/C++ engineering and
algorithmic problems to solve

Try it out! File an issue or submit a PR!

<https://github.com/rapidsai/cudf>

Contributors:



@WalmartLabs

Learn More at GTC

CUDA Accelerated Data Analytics

Talk with me and others about libcudf and accelerating Data Analytics on GPUs

CE9113 - Connect with the Experts: Data Analytics on GPU: Algorithms and Implementations

Tomorrow - 11:00 AM -12:00 PM - SJCC Hall 3 Pod D

Learn how BlazingDB uses libcudf to accelerate SQL queries

S9798 - BlazingSQL on RAPIDS: SQL for Apache Arrow in GPU Memory

William Malpica, Rodrigo Aramburu, Felipe Aramburu

Today - 3:00 PM - 03:50 PM - SJCC Room 212A

Learn about accelerating Join on multiple GPUs

S9557 - Effective, Scalable Multi-GPU Joins

Nikolay Sakharnykh, Jiri Kraus, Tim Kaldwey

Today - 4PM - SJCC Room 212A (Concourse Level)

Learn how Unified Memory can help for Data Analytics

S9726 - Unified Memory for Data Analytics and Deep Learning

Nikolay Sakharnykh, Chirayu Garg

Tomorrow - 3:00 PM - 03:50 PM– SJCC Room 211A

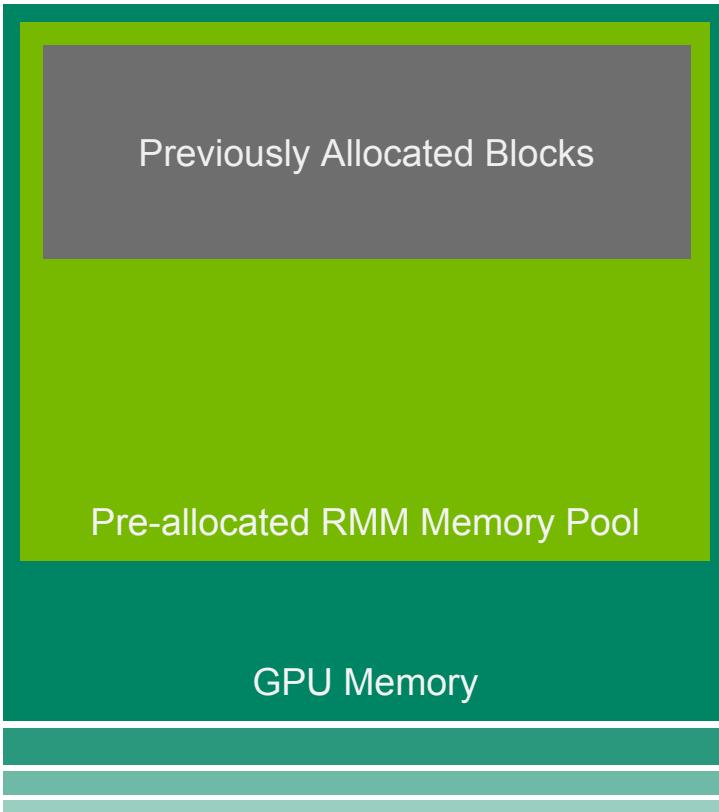


NVIDIA®



RMM

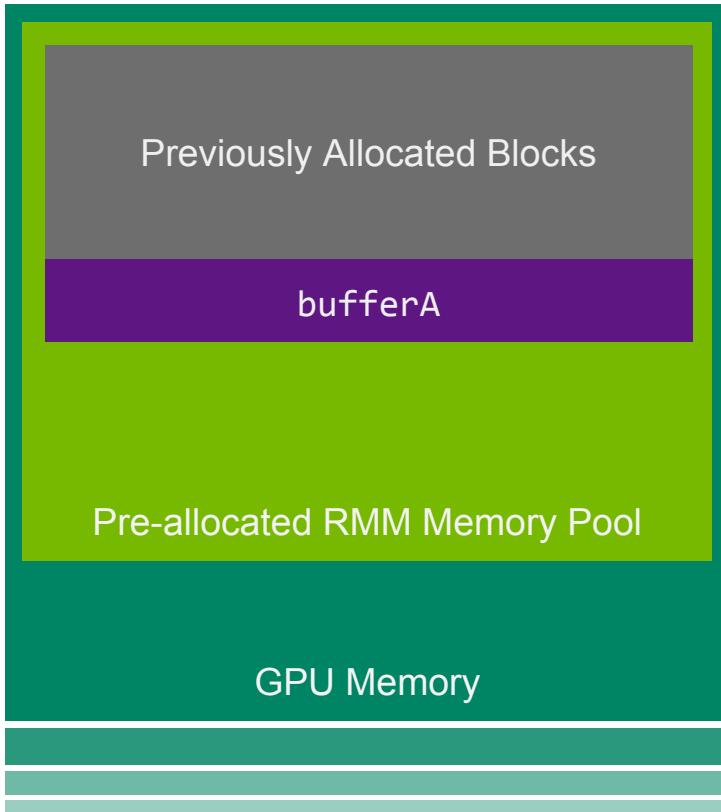
Pool Allocation Example



```
...
RMM_ALLOC(&bufferA, sizeA, streamA);
RMM_ALLOC(&bufferB, sizeB, streamB);
...
kernel<<<blocks,threads,streamA>>>(blockA,...);
cudaMemcpy(blockB, hostBuf, sizeB, streamB, ...);
...
RMM_FREE(bufferA, streamA);
...
RMM_FREE(bufferA, streamB);
```

RMM

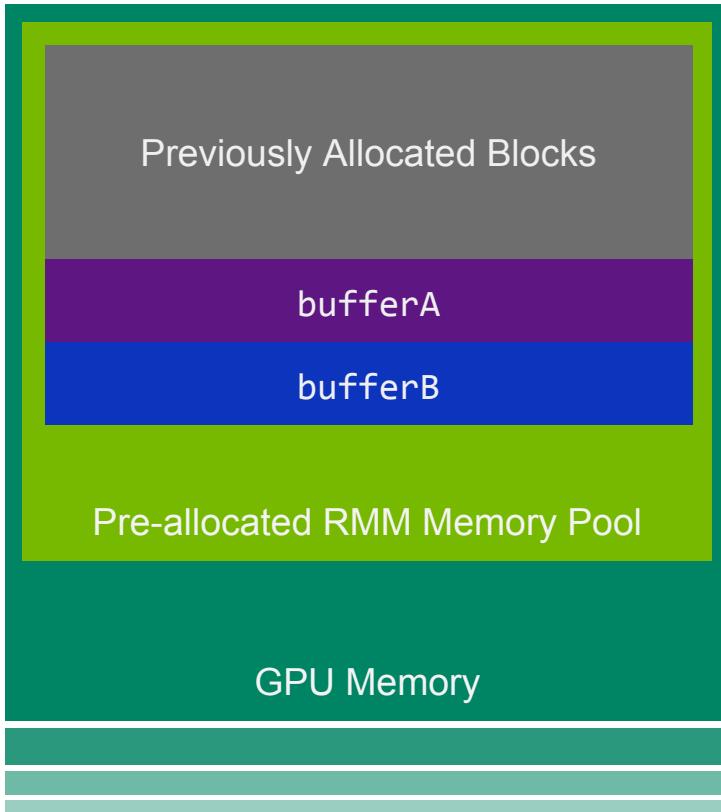
Pool Allocation Example



```
...
RMM_ALLOC(&bufferA, sizeA, streamA);
RMM_ALLOC(&bufferB, sizeB, streamB);
...
kernel<<<blocks,threads,streamA>>>(blockA,...);
cudaMemcpy(blockB, hostBuf, sizeB, streamB, ...);
...
RMM_FREE(bufferA, streamA);
...
RMM_FREE(bufferA, streamB);
```

RMM

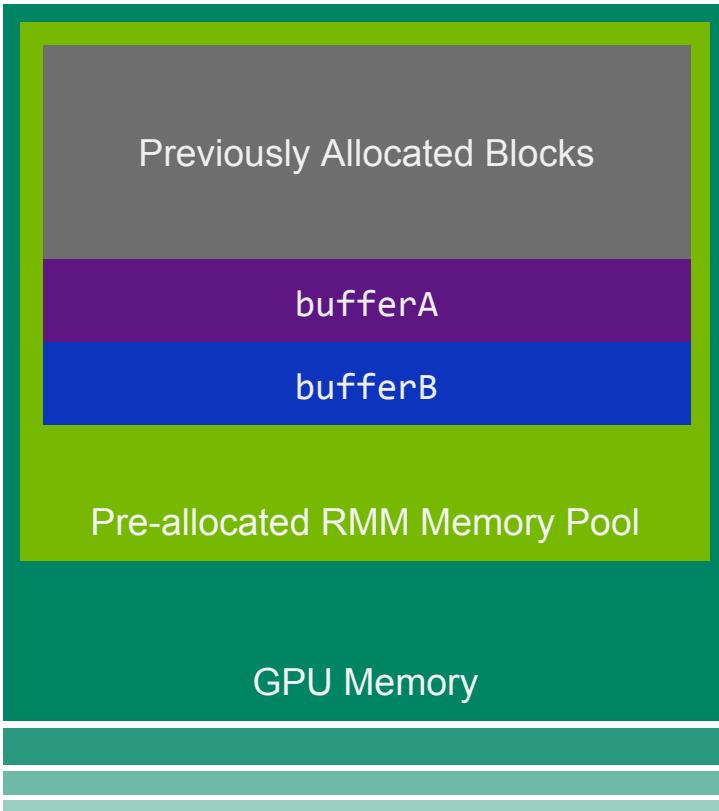
Pool Allocation Example



```
...
RMM_ALLOC(&bufferA, sizeA, streamA);
RMM_ALLOC(&bufferB, sizeB, streamB);
...
kernel<<<blocks,threads,streamA>>>(blockA,...);
cudaMemcpy(blockB, hostBuf, sizeB, streamB, ...);
...
RMM_FREE(bufferA, streamA);
...
RMM_FREE(bufferB, streamB);
```

RMM

Pool Allocation Example

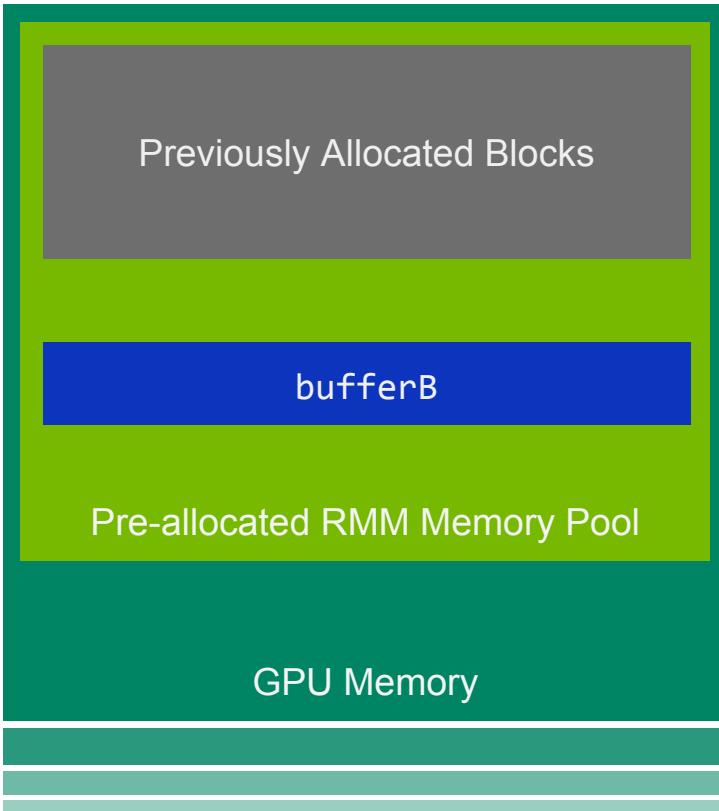


```
...
RMM_ALLOC(&bufferA, szA, streamA);
RMM_ALLOC(&bufferB, szB, streamB);
...
kernel<<<blocks,threads,streamA>>>(blockA,...);
cudaMemcpyAsync(blockB, hostBuf, szB, streamB,...);
...
RMM_FREE(bufferA, streamA);
...
RMM_FREE(bufferA, streamB);
```

Potential overlap!

RMM

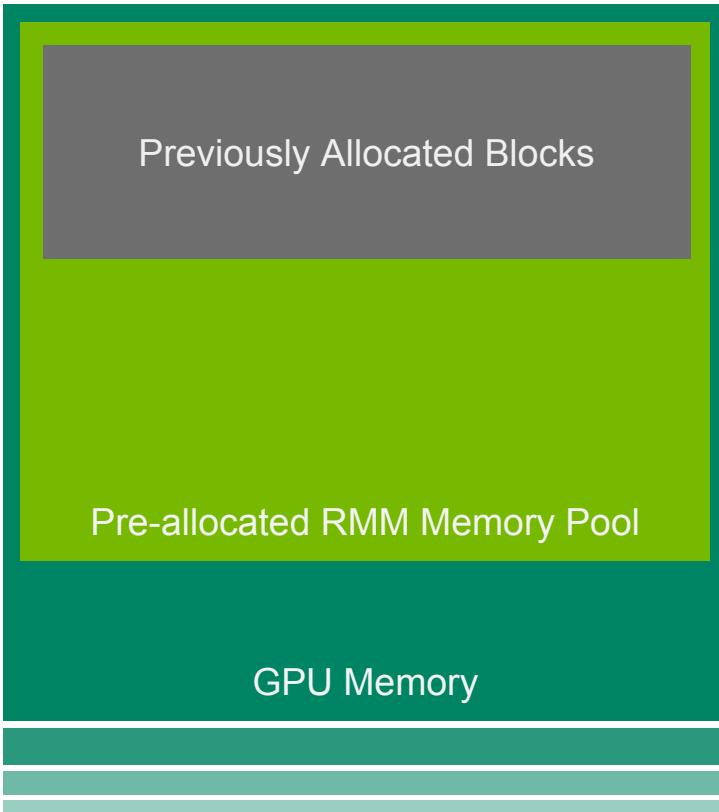
Pool Allocation Example



```
...
RMM_ALLOC(&bufferA, szA, streamA);
RMM_ALLOC(&bufferB, szB, streamB);
...
kernel<<<blocks,threads,streamA>>>(blockA,...);
cudaMemcpyAsync(blockB, hostBuf, szB, streamB,...);
...
RMM_FREE(bufferA, streamA);
...
RMM_FREE(bufferB, streamB);
```

RMM

Pool Allocation Example



```
...
RMM_ALLOC(&bufferA, szA, streamA);
RMM_ALLOC(&bufferB, szB, streamB);
...
kernel<<<blocks,threads,streamA>>>(blockA,...);
cudaMemcpyAsync(blockB, hostBuf, szB, streamB,...);
...
RMM_FREE(bufferA, streamA);
...
RMM_FREE(bufferB, streamB);
```