







MPCGPU: Real-Time Nonlinear Model Predictive Control through Preconditioned Conjugate Gradient on the GPU







Emre Adabag<sup>1</sup>, Miloni Atal<sup>\*1</sup>, William Gerard<sup>\*1</sup>, Brian Plancher<sup>2</sup> 1: School of Engineering and Applied Science, Columbia University 2: Barnard College, Columbia University



Symmetric Stair Preconditioning of Linear Systems for Parallel Trajectory Optimization









MPCGPU: Real-Time Nonlinear Model Predictive Control through Preconditioned Conjugate Gradient on the GPU

Symmetric Stair Preconditioning of Linear Systems for Parallel Trajectory Optimization



# Introduction and Motivation

- 2 Background and Related Work
- ③ Parallel Preconditioners
- The (Symmetric) Stair Preconditioner
- S Experiments and Results

# Model Predictive Control (MPC): State-of-the-Art Robot Motion Planning and Control











# Model Predictive Control (MPC): State-of-the-Art Robot Motion Planning and Control





Grandia, Ruben, et al. "Perceptive locomoti model-predictive control." *IEEE Transactior* 

# ...but there still is a long way to go!



Inside the lab: How does Atlas work? (youtube.com/watch?v=EezdinoG4mk) One Major Challenge – Computational Speed!

> Dynamics (youtube.com/watch?v=-e1\_QhJ1EhQ) rkour (youtube.com/watch?v=tF4DML7FIWk)

CPUs are not getting faster and CPU design benefits are decreasing in effect resulting in a need for parallelism!





#### **48 Years of Processor Trends**

Original data up to the year 2010 collected and plotted by M. Horowitz, F. Labonte, O. Shacham, K. Olukotun, L. Hammond, and C. Batten New plot and data collected for 2010-2019 by K. Rupp https://github.com/karlrupp/microprocessor-trend-data

GPUs offer increased computational parallelism and are natural choice to explore to accelerate MPC



### **Multi-Core CPU**





GPUs offer increased computational parallelism and are natural choice to explore to accelerate MPC







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![](_page_9_Picture_0.jpeg)

![](_page_9_Picture_2.jpeg)

### Successive Convex Optimization

While (not converged):

- 1) Compute Taylor Approxim
- 2) Take Gradient Step

3) Apply a line search (or trust region) to ensure descent on the original problem

# Solve the KKT System

$$\begin{bmatrix} G & C^T \\ C & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -\delta Z \\ \lambda \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} g \\ c \end{bmatrix}$$

Iterative Methods like the Preconditioned Conjugate Gradient Algorithm are GPU-Parallel Friendly

But they require a symmetric system and preconditioner!

![](_page_10_Picture_0.jpeg)

## Solving the KKT System via the Schur Complement

![](_page_10_Picture_2.jpeg)

![](_page_10_Figure_3.jpeg)

![](_page_11_Picture_0.jpeg)

MPCGPU: Real-Time Nonlinear Model Predictive Control through Preconditioned Conjugate Gradient on the GPU

Symmetric Stair Preconditioning of Linear Systems for Parallel Trajectory Optimization

![](_page_11_Picture_3.jpeg)

# Introduction and Motivation 2 Background and Related Work Parallel Preconditioners 4 The (Symmetric) Stair Preconditioner **5** Experiments and Results

![](_page_12_Picture_0.jpeg)

![](_page_12_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_12_Picture_2.jpeg)

![](_page_12_Figure_3.jpeg)

![](_page_13_Picture_0.jpeg)

MPCGPU: Real-Time Nonlinear Model Predictive Control through Preconditioned Conjugate Gradient on the GPU

Symmetric Stair Preconditioning of Linear Systems for Parallel Trajectory Optimization

![](_page_13_Picture_3.jpeg)

# Introduction and Motivation 2 Background and Related Work Barallel Preconditioners The (Symmetric) Stair Preconditioner **5** Experiments and Results

![](_page_14_Picture_0.jpeg)

![](_page_14_Picture_2.jpeg)

# $S = \Psi - P$ $S^{-1} \approx \Phi^{-1} = (I + \Psi^{-1}P + (\Psi^{-1}P)^2 \dots)\Psi^{-1}$

Tradeoff between accuracy and computational complexity & sparsity

# **Key Requirement:**

 $\rho(\Psi^{-1}P) < 1$ 

![](_page_15_Picture_0.jpeg)

![](_page_15_Picture_2.jpeg)

$$S = \Psi - P \quad S^{-1} \approx \Phi^{-1} = (I + \Psi^{-1}P + (\Psi^{-1}P)^2 \dots)\Psi^{-1}$$

![](_page_15_Figure_4.jpeg)

![](_page_16_Picture_0.jpeg)

![](_page_16_Picture_2.jpeg)

$$S = \Psi - P \quad S^{-1} \approx \Phi^{-1} = (I + \Psi^{-1}P + (\Psi^{-1}P)^2 \dots)\Psi^{-1}$$

## Left and Right Stair Splitting

![](_page_16_Figure_5.jpeg)

[52] Li, Hou-Biao, et al. "On some new approximate factorization methods for block tridiagonal matrices suitable for vector and parallel processors." [53] Li, Hou-Biao, et al. "Chebyshev-type methods and preconditioning techniques."

[54] Lu, Hao. "Stair matrices and their generalizations with applications to iterative methods I: A generalization of the successive overrelaxation method." 17

![](_page_17_Picture_0.jpeg)

![](_page_17_Picture_2.jpeg)

![](_page_17_Figure_3.jpeg)

[52] Li, Hou-Biao, et al. "On some new approximate factorization methods for block tridiagonal matrices suitable for vector and parallel processors."[53] Li, Hou-Biao, et al. "Chebyshev-type methods and preconditioning techniques."

[54] Lu, Hao. "Stair matrices and their generalizations with applications to iterative methods I: A generalization of the successive overrelaxation method." 18

![](_page_18_Picture_0.jpeg)

![](_page_18_Picture_2.jpeg)

### **Benefits**

- Sparse
- Parallel-Friendly
- $\rho(\Psi^{-1}P) < 1$

## Challenges

 Not Symmetric so PCG will <u>not</u> work!

$$S^{-1} \approx \Phi^{-1} = \Psi^{-1} \qquad \begin{array}{c} \text{Is this good for} \\ \text{PCG inside MPC?} \end{array}$$

$$\Psi_l^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} D_1^{-1} & 0 & 0 \\ -D_2^{-1}O_1^T D_1^{-1} & D_2^{-1} & -D_2^{-1}O_2 D_3^{-1} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\Psi_r^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} D_1^{-1} & -D_1^{-1}O_1 D_2^{-1} & 0 \\ 0 & D_2^{-1} & 0 \\ 0 & -D_3^{-1}O_2^T D_2^{-1} & D_3^{-1} \end{bmatrix}$$

[52] Li, Hou-Biao, et al. "On some new approximate factorization methods for block tridiagonal matrices suitable for vector and parallel processors."[53] Li, Hou-Biao, et al. "Chebyshev-type methods and preconditioning techniques."

[54] Lu, Hao. "Stair matrices and their generalizations with applications to iterative methods I: A generalization of the successive overrelaxation method." 19

![](_page_19_Picture_0.jpeg)

![](_page_19_Picture_1.jpeg)

$$\Phi_{add}^{-1} = \frac{1}{2} (\Psi_l^{-1} + \Psi_r^{-1}) \text{ Symmetric!}$$

$$\Psi_l^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} D_1^{-1} & 0 & 0 \\ -D_2^{-1}O_1^T D_1^{-1} & D_2^{-1} & -D_2^{-1}O_2 D_3^{-1} \\ 0 & 0 & D_3^{-1} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\Psi_r^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} D_1^{-1} & -D_1^{-1}O_1 D_2^{-1} & 0 \\ 0 & D_2^{-1} & 0 \\ 0 & -D_3^{-1}O_2^T D_2^{-1} & D_3^{-1} \end{bmatrix}.$$

[52], [53], [54]

![](_page_20_Picture_0.jpeg)

![](_page_20_Picture_1.jpeg)

$$\Phi_{add}^{-1} = \frac{1}{2} (\Psi_l^{-1} + \Psi_r^{-1})$$
 Symmetric!

### **Benefits**

- Sparse
- Parallel-Friendly
- Symmetric Positive Definite

$$\bullet \rho(\Phi_{add}^{-1}P) < 1$$

ChallengesPCG not  
guaranteed  
to converge!
$$\lambda(\Phi_{add}^{-1}S) \in \left(0, \frac{9}{8}\right]$$

# An improved symmetric block tri-diagonal stair-based preconditioner

![](_page_21_Picture_1.jpeg)

$$\Phi_{sym}^{-1} = \Psi_l^{-1} + \Psi_r^{-1} - D^{-1} \qquad \Psi_l^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} D_1^{-1} & T & 0 & 0 \\ -D_2^{-1}O_1^T D_1^{-1} & D_2^{-1} & -D_2^{-1}O_2 D_3^{-1} \\ 0 & 0 & T & D_3^{-1} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\Phi_{sym}^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} D_1^{-1} & -D_1^{-1}O_1D_2^{-1} & 0\\ -D_2^{-1}O_1^TD_1^{-1} & D_2^{-1} & -D_2^{-1}O_2D_3^{-1}\\ 0 & -D_3^{-1}O_2^TD_2^{-1} & D_3^{-1} \end{bmatrix}$$

![](_page_22_Picture_0.jpeg)

![](_page_22_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_22_Figure_2.jpeg)

### **Benefits**

- Sparse
- Parallel-Friendly
- Symmetric Positive Definite
- $\rho(\Phi_{sym}^{-1}P) < 1$

$$\lambda(\Phi_{sym}^{-1}S) \in (0,1]$$

[52], [53], [54]

MPCGPU: Real-Time Nonlinear Model Predictive Control through Preconditioned Conjugate Gradient on the GPU

![](_page_23_Picture_1.jpeg)

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- 4 The (Symmetric) Stair Preconditioner

Experiments and Results

We tested the impact of our preconditioner on representative trajectory optimization problems

![](_page_24_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_24_Figure_2.jpeg)

# github.com/A2R-Lab/SymStair

Image Sources: Drake Simulator and underactuated.csail.mit.edu

Numerical analysis confirms the theoretical **eigenvalue distribution** for trajectory optimization ...

![](_page_25_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_25_Figure_2.jpeg)

![](_page_26_Picture_0.jpeg)

## ...resulting in a drastically reduced condition number...

![](_page_26_Picture_2.jpeg)

![](_page_26_Figure_3.jpeg)

🗆 Jacobi 🗖 Block-Jacobi

![](_page_27_Picture_0.jpeg)

## ...resulting in a drastically reduced condition number...

![](_page_27_Picture_2.jpeg)

![](_page_27_Figure_3.jpeg)

🔲 Jacobi 🗖 Block-Jacobi 🗖 Overlapping Block 🗖 Additive Stair

![](_page_28_Picture_0.jpeg)

...resulting in a drastically reduced condition number...

![](_page_28_Picture_2.jpeg)

![](_page_28_Figure_3.jpeg)

Jacobi Block-Jacobi Overlapping Block Additive Stair Symmetric Stair % Improvement over Jacobi % Improvement over Best Alternative

# ...and critically fewer iterations to convergence on representative trajectory optimization problems

![](_page_29_Picture_1.jpeg)

# ...and critically fewer iterations to convergence on representative trajectory optimization problems

![](_page_30_Figure_1.jpeg)

% Improvement over Jacobi % Improvement over Best Alternative

How can we leverage this to accelerate end-to-end robotic planning and control systems?

![](_page_31_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_31_Picture_2.jpeg)

Emre Adabag<sup>1</sup>, Miloni Atal<sup>\* 1</sup>, William Gerard<sup>\* 1</sup>, Brian Plancher<sup>2</sup> 1: School of Engineering and Applied Science, Columbia University 2: Barnard College, Columbia University Symmetric Stair Preconditioning of Linear Systems for Parallel Trajectory Optimization

The symmetric stair preconditioner is parallel friendly and has advantageous theoretical properties (resulting spectral radius  $\leq 1$ )

This translates to improved condition number and **iterations to convergence** for iterative linear system solvers in the context of trajectory optimization

![](_page_32_Figure_4.jpeg)

![](_page_32_Picture_5.jpeg)

Xueyi Bu<sup>1</sup>, Brian Plancher<sup>2</sup>1: School of Engineering and Applied Science, Columbia University2: Barnard College, Columbia University

bplancher@barnard.edu a2r-lab.org

![](_page_33_Picture_0.jpeg)

![](_page_33_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_33_Picture_2.jpeg)

![](_page_33_Picture_3.jpeg)

MPCGPU: Real-Time Nonlinear Model Predictive Control through Preconditioned Conjugate Gradient on the GPU

![](_page_33_Picture_6.jpeg)

![](_page_33_Picture_7.jpeg)

![](_page_33_Picture_8.jpeg)

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![](_page_33_Picture_10.jpeg)

### Symmetric Stair Preconditioning of Linear Systems for Parallel Trajectory Optimization

![](_page_33_Picture_12.jpeg)

![](_page_33_Figure_14.jpeg)

![](_page_34_Picture_0.jpeg)

![](_page_34_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_34_Picture_2.jpeg)

![](_page_34_Picture_3.jpeg)

MPCGPU: Real-Time Nonlinear Model Predictive Control through Preconditioned Conjugate Gradient on the GPU

![](_page_34_Picture_6.jpeg)

![](_page_34_Picture_7.jpeg)

![](_page_34_Picture_8.jpeg)

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![](_page_34_Picture_10.jpeg)

Symmetric Stair Preconditioning of Linear Systems for Parallel Trajectory Optimization

![](_page_34_Picture_12.jpeg)

![](_page_34_Figure_14.jpeg)

![](_page_35_Picture_0.jpeg)

![](_page_35_Picture_1.jpeg)

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MPCGPU: Real-Time Nonlinear Model Predictive Control through Preconditioned Conjugate Gradient on the GPU

![](_page_35_Picture_6.jpeg)

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![](_page_35_Picture_10.jpeg)

Symmetric Stair Preconditioning of Linear Systems for Parallel Trajectory Optimization

![](_page_35_Picture_12.jpeg)

![](_page_35_Figure_14.jpeg)

![](_page_36_Picture_0.jpeg)

![](_page_36_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_36_Picture_2.jpeg)

![](_page_36_Picture_3.jpeg)

MPC**GPU**: Real-Time Nonlinear Model Predictive Control through Preconditioned Conjugate Gradient **on the GPU** 

![](_page_36_Picture_6.jpeg)

![](_page_36_Picture_7.jpeg)

![](_page_36_Picture_8.jpeg)

![](_page_36_Picture_9.jpeg)

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![](_page_36_Picture_11.jpeg)

Symmetric Stair Preconditioning of Linear Systems for Parallel Trajectory Optimization

![](_page_36_Picture_13.jpeg)

![](_page_36_Figure_15.jpeg)

![](_page_37_Picture_0.jpeg)

MPCGPU: Real-Time Nonlinear Model Predictive Control through Preconditioned Conjugate Gradient on the GPU

Symmetric Stair Preconditioning of Linear Systems for Parallel Trajectory Optimization

![](_page_37_Picture_3.jpeg)

# Introduction and Motivation

- 2 Background and Related Work
- 3 GBD-PCG
- 4 MPCGPU
- S Experiments and Results

# Model Predictive Control (MPC): State-of-the-Art Robot Motion Planning and Control

![](_page_38_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_38_Figure_2.jpeg)

![](_page_38_Picture_3.jpeg)

![](_page_38_Picture_4.jpeg)

![](_page_39_Picture_0.jpeg)

# Model Predictive Control (MPC): State-of-the-Art Robot Motion Planning and Control

![](_page_39_Picture_2.jpeg)

![](_page_39_Picture_3.jpeg)

Grandia, Ruben, et al. "Perceptive locomoti model-predictive control." *IEEE Transaction* 

# ...but there still is a long way to go!

![](_page_39_Picture_6.jpeg)

Inside the lab: How does Atlas work? (youtube.com/watch?v=EezdinoG4mk) One Major Challenge – Computational Speed!

> Dynamics (youtube.com/watch?v=-e1\_QhJ1EhQ) rkour (youtube.com/watch?v=tF4DML7FIWk)

![](_page_40_Picture_0.jpeg)

...resulting in a need to leverage parallelism!

![](_page_40_Picture_2.jpeg)

![](_page_40_Figure_3.jpeg)

**48 Years of Processor Trends** 

Original data up to the year 2010 collected and plotted by M. Horowitz, F. Labonte, O. Shacham, K. Olukotun, L. Hammond, and C. Batten New plot and data collected for 2010-2019 by K. Rupp <u>https://github.com/karlrupp/microprocessor-trend-data</u>

GPUs offer increased computational parallelism and are natural choice to explore to accelerate MPC

![](_page_41_Picture_1.jpeg)

### **Multi-Core CPU**

![](_page_41_Figure_3.jpeg)

![](_page_41_Figure_4.jpeg)

GPUs offer increased computational parallelism and are natural choice to explore to accelerate MPC

![](_page_42_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_42_Figure_2.jpeg)

![](_page_43_Picture_0.jpeg)

MPCGPU: Real-Time Nonlinear Model Predictive Control through Preconditioned Conjugate Gradient on the GPU

Symmetric Stair Preconditioning of Linear Systems for Parallel Trajectory Optimization

![](_page_43_Picture_3.jpeg)

# Introduction and Motivation **Background and Related Work** 2 GBD-PCG MPCGPU **5** Experiments and Results

![](_page_44_Picture_0.jpeg)

![](_page_44_Picture_2.jpeg)

### Fully Separable Across Time!

### **Successive Convex Optimization**

While (not converged):

- **1) Compute Taylor Approximation**
- 2) Take Gradient Step

3) Apply a line search (or trust region) to ensure descent on the original problem

$$\min_{\substack{x_0, u_0 \dots x_{N-1}, u_{N-1}, x_N \\ \text{subject to:}}} l_f(x_N) + \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} l(x_k, u_k)$$
$$\sup_{k=0} l(x_k, u_k) = x_{k+1} \forall k \in [0, N)$$
$$g(x_k, u_k) \ge 0 \forall k$$

**Direct Transcription** 

### **Direct Transcription QP (Taylor expansion)**

$$\min_{\substack{x_0, u_0 \dots x_{N-1}, u_{N-1}, x_N \\ \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} (x_k - x_g)^T Q_N (x_k - x_g) + u_k^T R u_k}} \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} (x_k - x_g)^T Q(x_k - x_g) + u_k^T R u_k}$$
  
subject to:  $x_0 - x_s = 0$   
 $x_{k+1} - A_k x_k - B_k u_k = 0 \ \forall k \in [0, N)$ 

![](_page_45_Picture_1.jpeg)

### **Successive Convex Optimization**

While (not converged):

- 1) Compute Taylor Approximation
- 2) Take Gradient Step

3) Apply a line search (or trust region) to ensure descent on the original problem

 $\tilde{f}(x)|_{x=w}$ 

f(x)

![](_page_46_Picture_0.jpeg)

![](_page_46_Picture_2.jpeg)

Parallel Line Search Techniques

### **Successive Convex Optimization**

While (not converged):

- 1) Compute Taylor Approximation
- 2) Take Gradient Step

3) Apply a line search (or trust region) to ensure descent on the original problem

 $\tilde{f}(x)|_{x=w}$ 

f(x)

![](_page_47_Picture_0.jpeg)

MPCGPU: Real-Time Nonlinear Model Predictive Control through Preconditioned Conjugate Gradient on the GPU

Symmetric Stair Preconditioning of Linear Systems for Parallel Trajectory Optimization

![](_page_47_Picture_3.jpeg)

![](_page_47_Figure_4.jpeg)

![](_page_48_Picture_0.jpeg)

![](_page_48_Picture_2.jpeg)

### Successive Convex Optimization

While (not converged):

- 1) Compute Taylor Approxim
- 2) Take Gradient Step

3) Apply a line search (or trust region) to ensure descent on the original problem

# Solve the KKT System

$$\begin{bmatrix} G & C^T \\ C & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -\delta Z \\ \lambda \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} g \\ c \end{bmatrix}$$

Iterative Methods like the Preconditioned Conjugate Gradient Algorithm are Parallel Friendly

> We can use the Symmetric Stair Preconditioner and the Schur Complement!

We can solve the KKT system with a GPU-parallelfriendly preconditioned iterative method

![](_page_49_Picture_1.jpeg)

# **Preconditioned Conjugate Gradient**

 $r = \gamma - S\lambda$  $\widetilde{r}$ , p while  $r < \epsilon$  $\alpha = \eta / p^{T}Sp \eta = r^{T}$  $\lambda += \alpha p, r = \alpha Sp$  $\tilde{r} =$ 

Computationally dominated by matrixvector products! (and reductions)

![](_page_50_Picture_0.jpeg)

13:  $\eta = \eta'$ 

14: return  $\lambda$ 

And we can refactor it to make it more parallel!

![](_page_51_Picture_1.jpeg)

Algorithm 1: Preconditioned Conjug $(S, \Phi^{-1}, \gamma, \lambda, \epsilon) \rightarrow \lambda^*$	gate Gradient (PCG)		
1: $r = \gamma - S\lambda$ 2: $\tilde{r}, p = \Phi^{-1}r$ 3: $\eta = r^T \tilde{r}$	Initialization		
4: <b>for</b> iter $i = 1$ : max_iter <b>do</b> 5: $\alpha = \eta/(p^T S p)$ 6: $r = r - \alpha S p$ 7: $\lambda = \lambda + \alpha p$		17: 18:	for block $b = 0 : N$ in parallel do Load $r_{b-1}$ , $r_{b+1}$
8: $\tilde{r} = \Phi^{-1}r$ 9: $\eta' = r^T \tilde{r}$	Main Loop	19: 20:	$\begin{split} \tilde{r}_b &= \Phi_b^{-1} r_{b-1:b+1} \\ \eta_b' &= r_b^T \tilde{r}_b \end{split}$
10: If $\eta' < \epsilon$ then return $\lambda$ 11: $\beta = \eta' / \eta$ 12: $n = \tilde{r} + \beta n$		21:	$\eta' = \mathbf{ParallelReduce}(\eta'_b)$
13: $p = \eta'$	J		

14: return  $\lambda$ 

![](_page_52_Picture_0.jpeg)

MPCGPU: Real-Time Nonlinear Model Predictive Control through Preconditioned Conjugate Gradient on the GPU

Symmetric Stair Preconditioning of Linear Systems for Parallel Trajectory Optimization

![](_page_52_Picture_3.jpeg)

![](_page_52_Picture_4.jpeg)

![](_page_53_Picture_0.jpeg)

# MPCGPU: A 3-Step Method for GPU-Parallel-Friendly Direct Trajectory Optimization

![](_page_53_Picture_2.jpeg)

(B) GBD-PCG

#### **Successive Convex Optimization**

While (not converged):

1) Compute Taylor Approximation

2) Take Gradient Step

3) Apply a line search (or trust region) to ensure descent on the original problem

![](_page_54_Picture_0.jpeg)

# MPCGPU: A 3-Step Method for GPU-Parallel-Friendly Direct Trajectory Optimization

![](_page_54_Picture_2.jpeg)

![](_page_54_Figure_3.jpeg)

![](_page_54_Figure_4.jpeg)

**Successive Convex Optimization** 

While (not converged):

1) Compute Taylor Approximation

2) Take Gradient Step

3) Apply a line search (or trust region) to ensure descent on the original problem

# The Bernard Accessible and Accelerated Robotics Lab

# MPCGPU: A 3-Step Method for GPU-Parallel-Friendly Direct Trajectory Optimization

![](_page_55_Picture_2.jpeg)

![](_page_55_Figure_3.jpeg)

![](_page_56_Picture_0.jpeg)

# MPCGPU: A 3-Step Method for GPU-Parallel-Friendly Direct Trajectory Optimization

![](_page_56_Picture_2.jpeg)

#### **MPCGPU:** Successive Convex Optimization Optimized for MPC on the GPU!

![](_page_56_Figure_4.jpeg)

MPCGPU: Real-Time Nonlinear Model Predictive Control through Preconditioned Conjugate Gradient on the GPU

![](_page_57_Picture_1.jpeg)

# Introduction and Motivation

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Experiments and Results

![](_page_58_Picture_0.jpeg)

We then tested MPCGPU on a 5-point pick-and-place circuit in simulation...

![](_page_58_Picture_2.jpeg)

![](_page_58_Picture_3.jpeg)

Image Source: Crocoddyl Viewer github.com/A2R-Lab/MPCGPU

# ... resulting in up to a 3.6x average speedup in Inear system solve time ...

![](_page_59_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_59_Figure_2.jpeg)

60

# ... resulting in up to a 3.6x average speedup in Inear system solve time ...

![](_page_60_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_60_Figure_2.jpeg)

61

# ... and a best case order-of-magnitude speedup for the majority of solves!

![](_page_61_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_61_Picture_2.jpeg)

CPU QDLDL

# ... and a **best case order-of-magnitude** speedup for the majority of solves!

![](_page_62_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_62_Figure_2.jpeg)

□ GBD-PCG 1e-5 □ CPU QDLDL

# ... and a **best case order-of-magnitude** speedup for the majority of solves!

![](_page_63_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_63_Figure_2.jpeg)

□ GBD-PCG 5e-5 □ GBD-PCG 1e-5 □ CPU QDLDL

# ... and a **best case order-of-magnitude** speedup for the majority of solves!

![](_page_64_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_64_Figure_2.jpeg)

□ GBD-PCG 1e-4 □ GBD-PCG 5e-5 □ GBD-PCG 1e-5 □ CPU QDLDL

![](_page_65_Picture_0.jpeg)

![](_page_65_Picture_1.jpeg)

MPCGPU with GBD-PCG		Knot Points					
		32	64	128	256	512	
Rate	250Hz						
trolF	500Hz	Number of Loop Iterations of Successive Convex Optimization					
Con	1kHz						

![](_page_66_Picture_0.jpeg)

![](_page_66_Picture_1.jpeg)

MPCGPU with GBD-PCG		Knot Points					
		32	64	128	256	512	
Rate	250Hz	22.2	19.7	15.4	5.2	4.4	
Control F	500Hz	10.3	Number of <b>Loop Iterations</b> of Successive Convex Optimization				
	1kHz	4.9					

MPCGPU scales to 512 knot points at 1kHz and a periteration rate of 4kHz for 128 knot points at 500Hz

![](_page_67_Picture_1.jpeg)

MPCGPU with GBD-PCG		Knot Points					
		32	64	128	256	512	
Rate	250Hz	22.2	19.7	15.4	5.2	4.4	
trol	500Hz	10.3	10.6	8.0	4.6	3.0	
Con	1kHz	4.9	5.2	3.7	2.4	1.7	

![](_page_68_Picture_0.jpeg)

MPCGPU: Real-Time Nonlinear Model Predictive Control through Preconditioned Conjugate Gradient on the GPU

Symmetric Stair Preconditioning of Linear Systems for Parallel Trajectory Optimization

**Accelerated Robotics Lab** 

![](_page_68_Picture_3.jpeg)

We leverage the improved conditioning of the symmetric stair preconditioner to build a fast parallel PCG solver which provides up to a 10x speedup for a majority of linear system solves and a 3.6x speedup on average

Through its GPU-first design MPCGPU scales to kilohertz control rates for NMPC with trajectories as long as 512 knot points

### Warm-starting and Co-Design Matter!

![](_page_68_Figure_7.jpeg)

![](_page_68_Picture_8.jpeg)

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