



Open Standards for Embedded Compute and Vision Acceleration

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President, Khronos Group

Khronos Connects Software to Silicon



Open, royalty-free interoperability standards to harness the power of GPU, XR and multiprocessor hardware

3D graphics, augmented and virtual reality, parallel programming, inference and vision acceleration

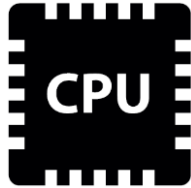
Non-profit, member-driven standards organization, open to any company

Proven multi-company governance and Intellectual Property Rights Framework

Founded in 2000

~ 200 Members | ~ 40% US, 30% Europe, 30% Asia

The Need for Parallel Processing

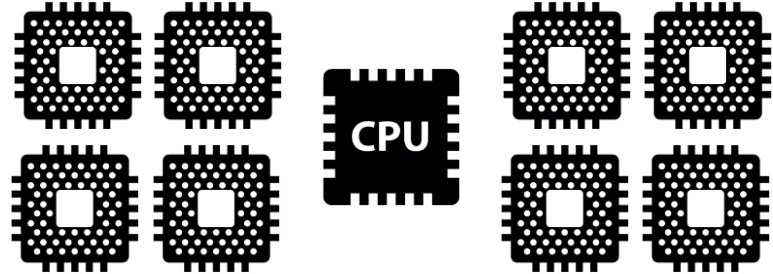


Single Processor

Simple to program *but* may not provide enough performance

especially

as Moore's Law frequency/power scaling is slowing



Multi-Processor

Additional processors can process expanded workloads *but* adds complexity to system design and programming:

- (i) Divide workload into kernel programs for distribution across available processors
- (ii) Synchronize use of compute and memory resources
- (iii) Communicate intermediate data and results

Open standard APIs and languages can help manage this complexity

What is an Open Interoperability Standard?

Open Standards

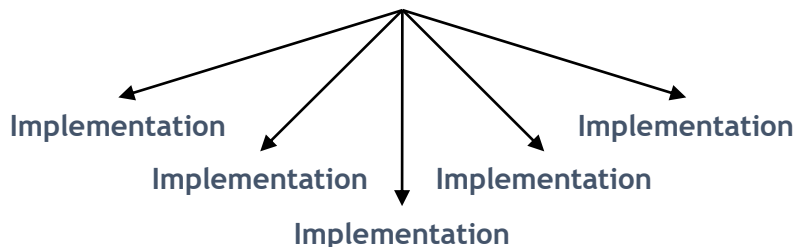
INTEROPERABILITY is precisely specified COMMUNICATION

E.g., software to hardware, client to server

OPEN standard specifications are created through multi-company cooperation under an agreed IP framework

Open standard specifications PLUS conformance tests enable MULTIPLE CONSISTENT IMPLEMENTATIONS to meet the needs of diverse markets, price points, and use cases

Open Standard = Shared Specification



Often used for **HARDWARE** APIs to enable competition between diverse implementations without fragmentation

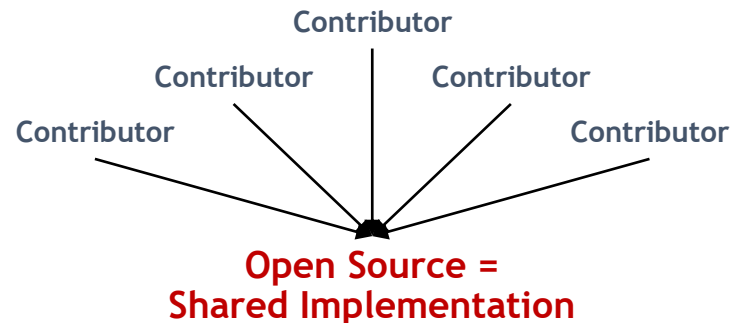
Open Source

Open-source projects are created through multi-company cooperation and software effort via a contribution license

Design governance ranges from narrow to broad

Depending on project's history and purpose

Open *standards* often use open *source* to share the development effort for sample implementations, tools, samples, conformance tests, validators, etc.



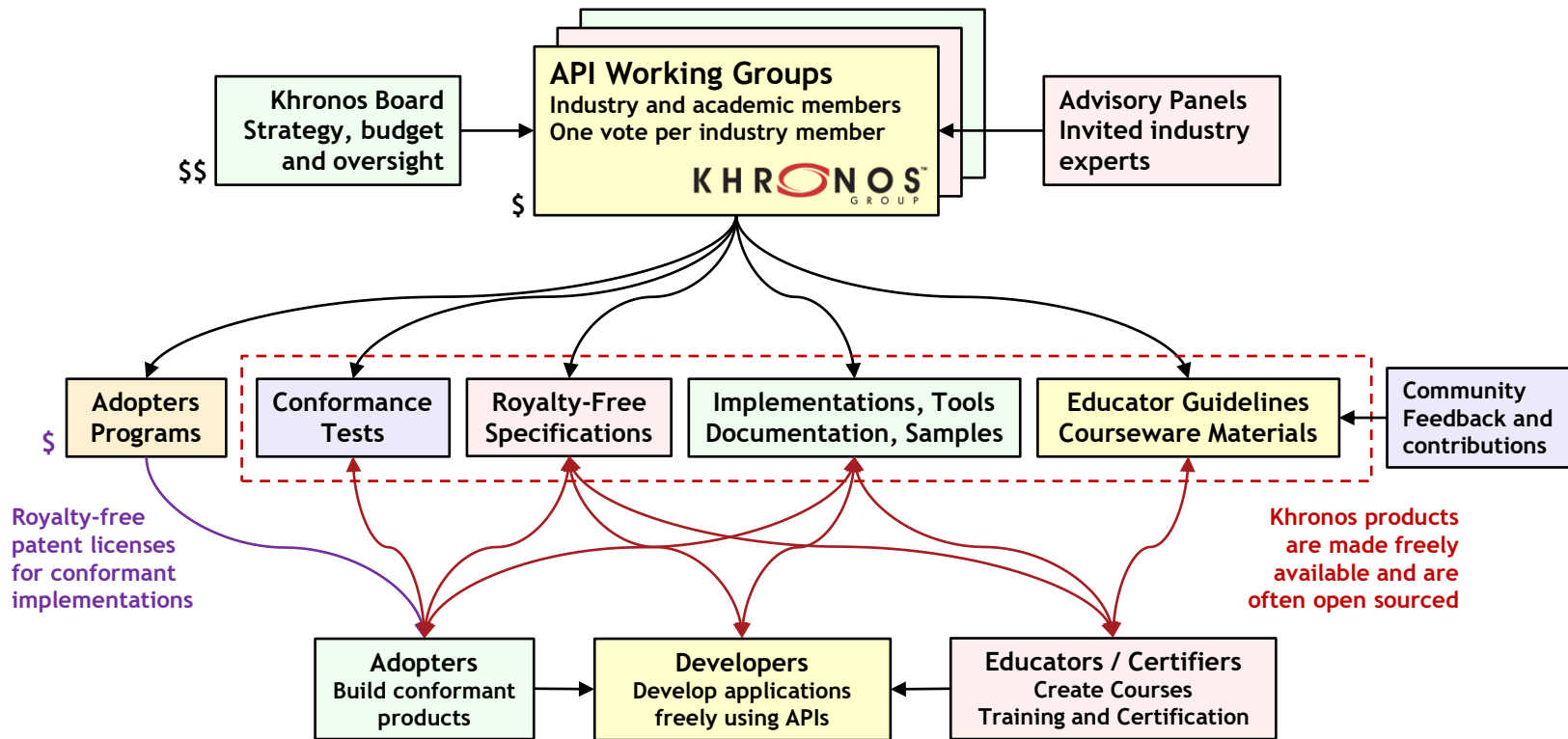
Often used for **SOFTWARE** libraries and languages to share effort AND gain consistency through a single implementation

Benefits of Open Interoperability Standards

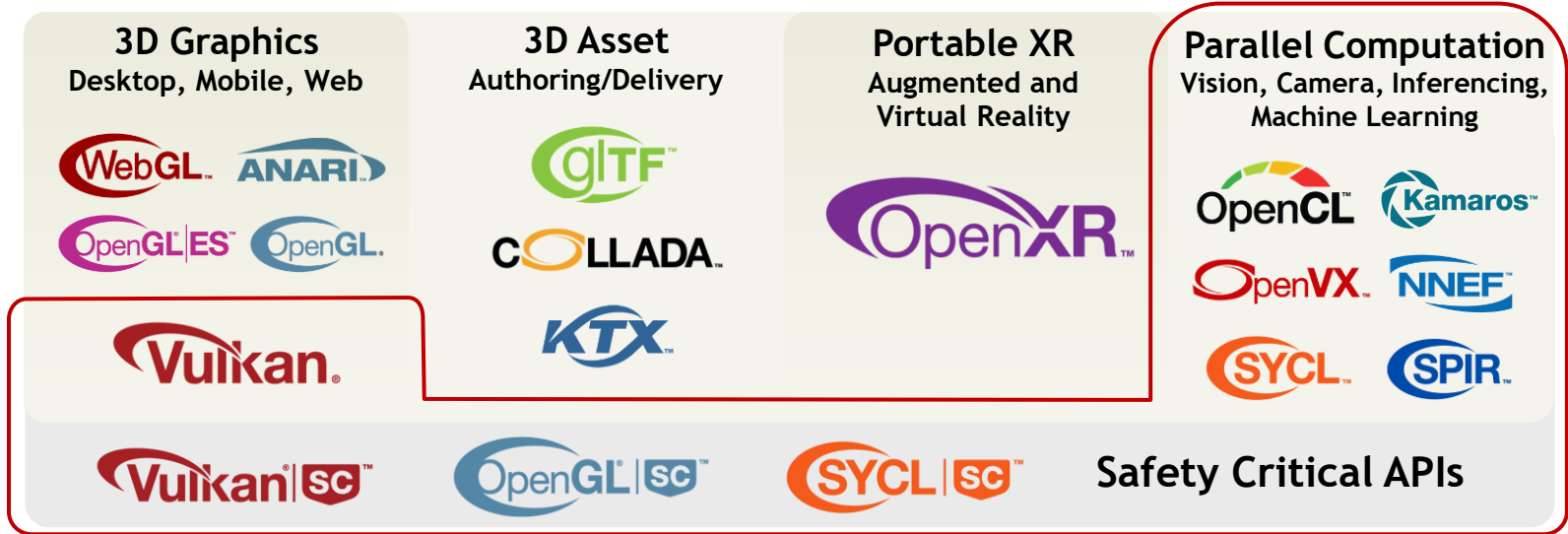
- **Proven solutions - often available royalty free**
 - Leveraging significant industry effort and industry expertise
- **Benefits for hardware and software developers**
 - Cross-platform application portability and reusability
 - Industry-wide ecosystem of tools and libraries
- **Benefits for embedded markets**
 - Decoupled software and hardware for streamlined development, integration and safety certification
 - Cross-generation reusability and field upgradability

Why Open Standards?	Expand Commercial Opportunity Network effect of compatible products & services	Reduce Costs Share design effort and drive increased volume
	Avoid Market Friction Reduce fragmentation and confusion	Speed Time to Market Leverage proven functionality and testing
When?	When Technologies are Proven Avoid R&D by standards committee	Consensus Need Downsides of no available standard widely obvious
How?	Multi-company Governance to Build Trust Avoid single-company control or dependency	Well-defined IP Rights Policy Royalty-free standards drive wide adoption
	Innovation through Flexible Extensibility Extensions meet timely customer & market needs	Innovation through Careful Abstraction Freedom to innovate implementation details

Khronos Cooperative Framework



Khronos Active Standards



Khronos standards most relevant to compute, embedded, vision and safety critical markets

Khronos Compute Acceleration Standards

**Higher-level
Languages and APIs**
Streamlined development and
performance portability


Single source C++
programming with
compute acceleration

 →
Neural Network
Exchange Format
Trained Networks




Graph-based vision
and inferencing
acceleration




  
Third party vision,
streaming and
inferencing libraries

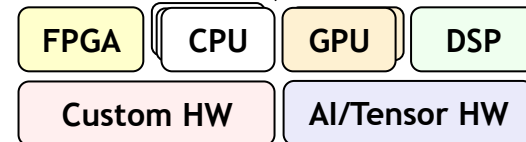
**Lower-level
Languages and APIs**
Explicit hardware control

Applications, libraries, and
higher-level languages and
APIs may use lower-level
Khronos standards to access
hardware acceleration


GPU rendering +
compute acceleration
↓


Shaders ←  → Kernels
Intermediate Representation (IR)
language compiler target supporting
parallel execution and graphics


Heterogeneous
compute acceleration
↓



Multiple programming abstractions to meet the
needs of diverse software stack architectures

OpenCL - Low-level Parallel Programming

Programming and Runtime Framework for Application Acceleration

Offload compute-intensive kernels onto parallel
heterogeneous processors
CPUs, GPUs, DSPs, FPGAs, Tensor Processors
OpenCL C or C++ kernel languages

Platform Layer API

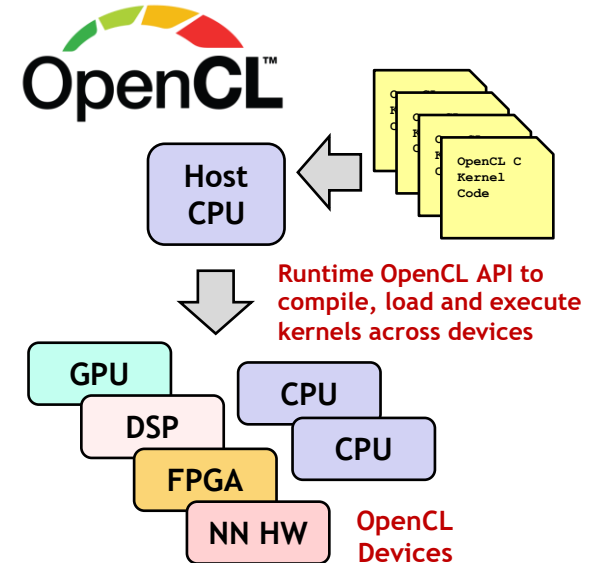
Query, select and initialize compute devices

Runtime API

Build and execute kernels programs on multiple devices

Explicit Application Control

Which programs execute on what device
Where data is stored in memories in the system
When programs are run, and what operations are
dependent on earlier operations



Complements GPU-only APIs

Simpler programming model
Relatively lightweight run-time
More language flexibility, e.g., pointers
Rigorously defined numeric precision

Machine Learning Acceleration APIs

Open-Source Frameworks

Compilers and Libraries (mostly open source)

Acceleration APIs

ONNX Runtime can also call libraries:
TensorRT, OpenVINO, TensorFlow Lite,
Arm Compute Library

TensorFlow

TensorFlow Lite

PyTorch

ONNX
RUNTIME

oneAPI
DPC++/SYCL

NVIDIA
TensorRT

XLA

tvm

TensorFlow Lite
Delegates

GLOW

MLIR

OpenVINO

Microsoft
DirectML

DirectML is also used by
ML.NET and WinML

NVIDIA
CUDA

AMD
ROCm

OpenCL™

Vulkan

Google
NNAPI

Open
Standard
APIs

Custom Kernels File Formats

MLIR is part of the LLVM compiler infrastructure
XLA uses LLVM IR and backend

OpenCL 3.0 Adoption and Roadmap

- **Regular (roughly) quarterly releases with new unified specification format**
 - 3.0.16 released in April 2024 with External Memory and Semaphores finalized
- **Considerable open-source activity**
 - Mesa Rusticl for Linux
 - clang/LLVM compilation front-ends
 - Layered implementations clspv and Ancle over Vulkan, OpenCLon12 over DX12
- **Emerging acceptance of OpenCL as compute layer over Vulkan**
 - Especially for Machine Learning
- **Active extension pipeline - driven by mobile, embedded and desktop markets**
 - Recordable Command Buffers, Unified Shared Memory, Cooperative Matrix and other ML primitives

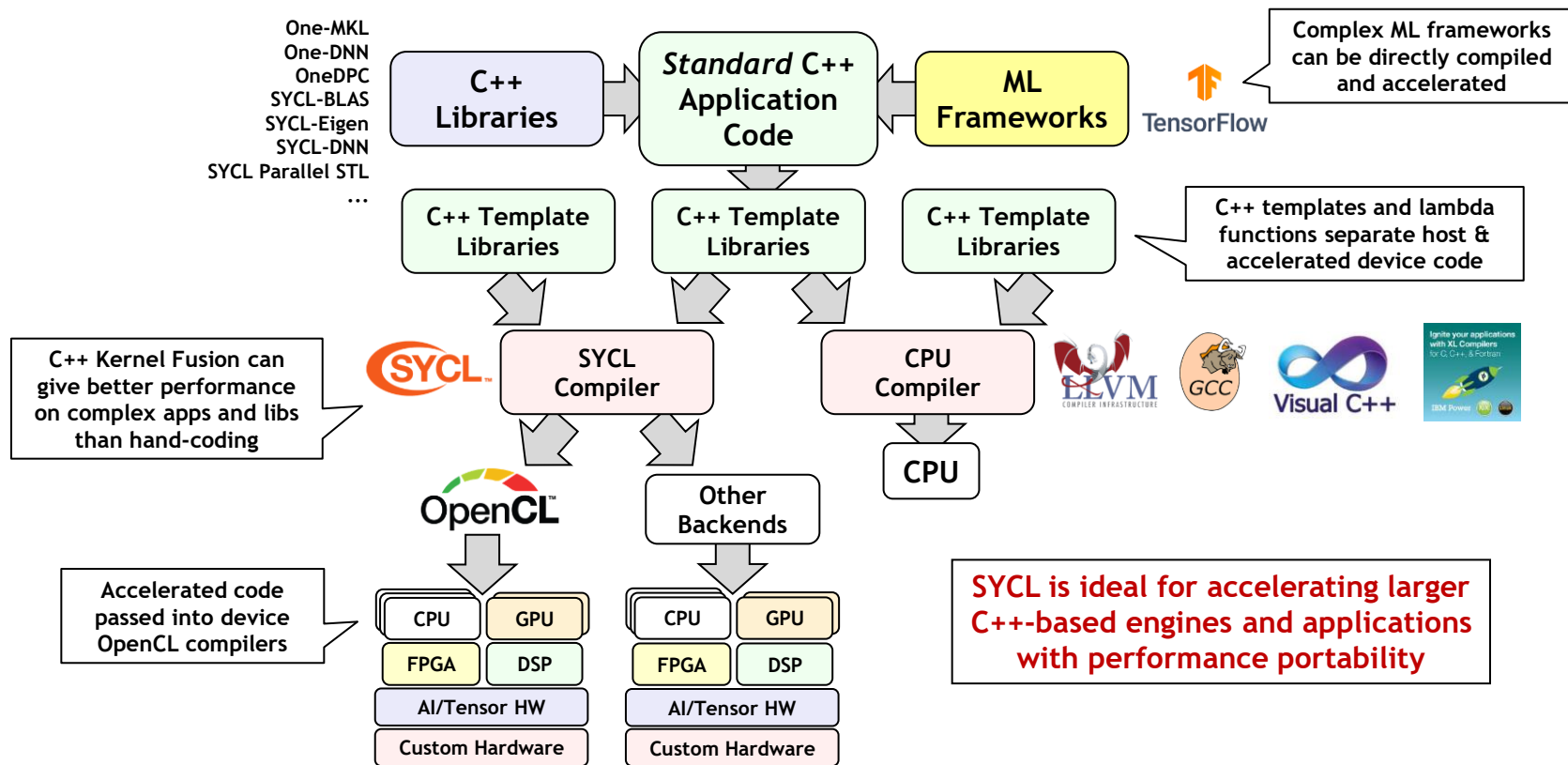
OpenCL 3.0 growing adoption

<https://www.khronos.org/conformance/adopters/conformant-products/opencl>



Adopters of previous OpenCL Versions

SYCL Single-Source C++ Parallel Programming



SYCL Timeline

SYCL enables Khronos to influence
ISO C++ to (eventually) support
heterogeneous compute



C++11



C++14



C++17



C++20



C++23

SYCL, OpenCL and SPIR-V, as
open industry standards,
enable flexible integration
and deployment of multiple
acceleration technologies



SYCL 1.2
C++11 Single source
programming



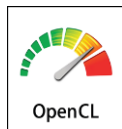
SYCL 1.2.1
C++11 Single source
programming



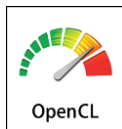
SYCL 2020
C++17 Single source
programming
Many HPC features
Multiple backend options



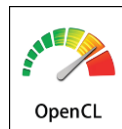
SYCL 202X
C++XX Single source
programming



OpenCL 1.2
OpenCL C Kernel
Language



OpenCL 2.1
SPIR-V in Core



OpenCL 2.2



OpenCL 3.0



OpenCL 3.0



2011

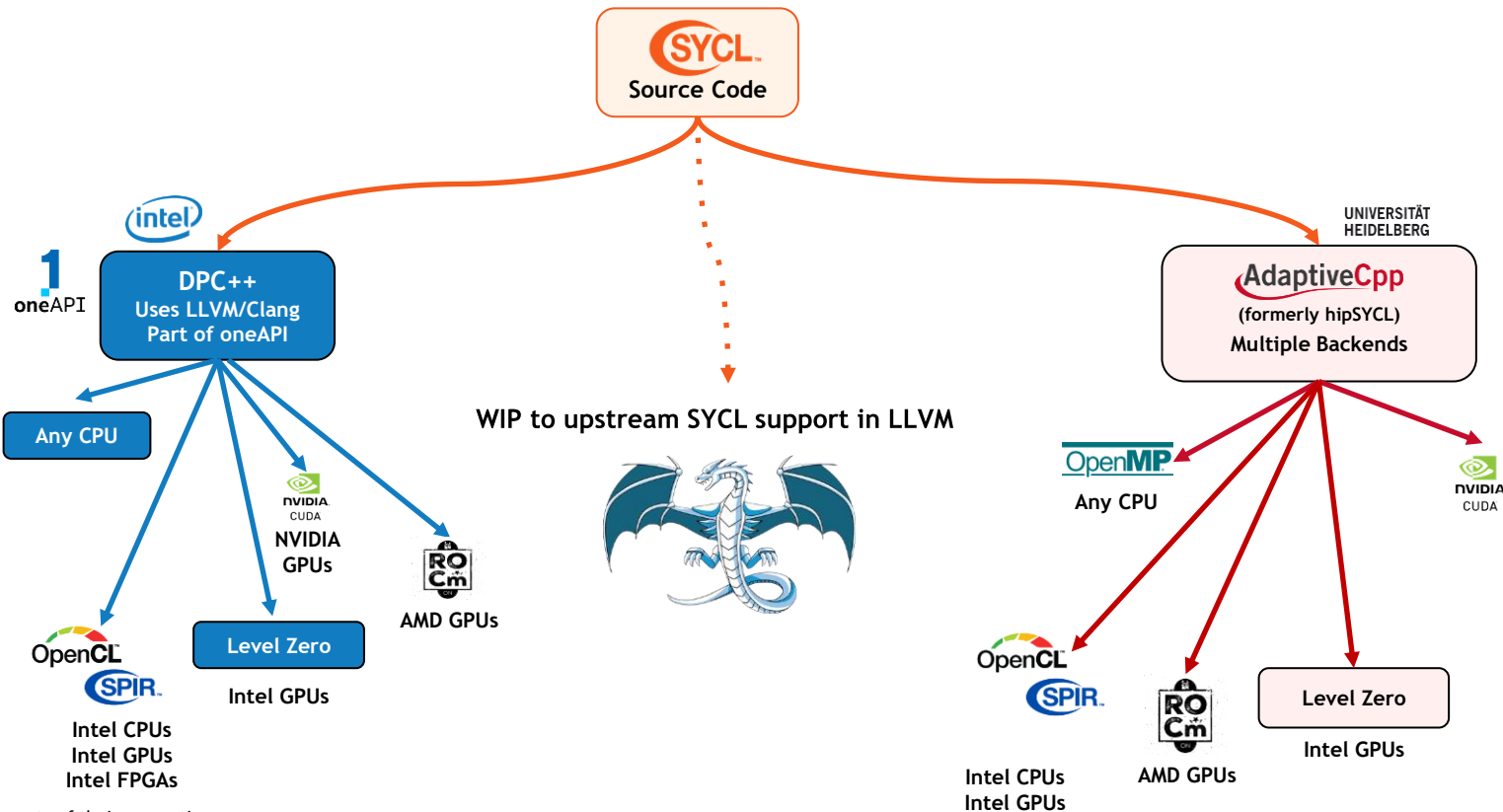
2015

2017

2020

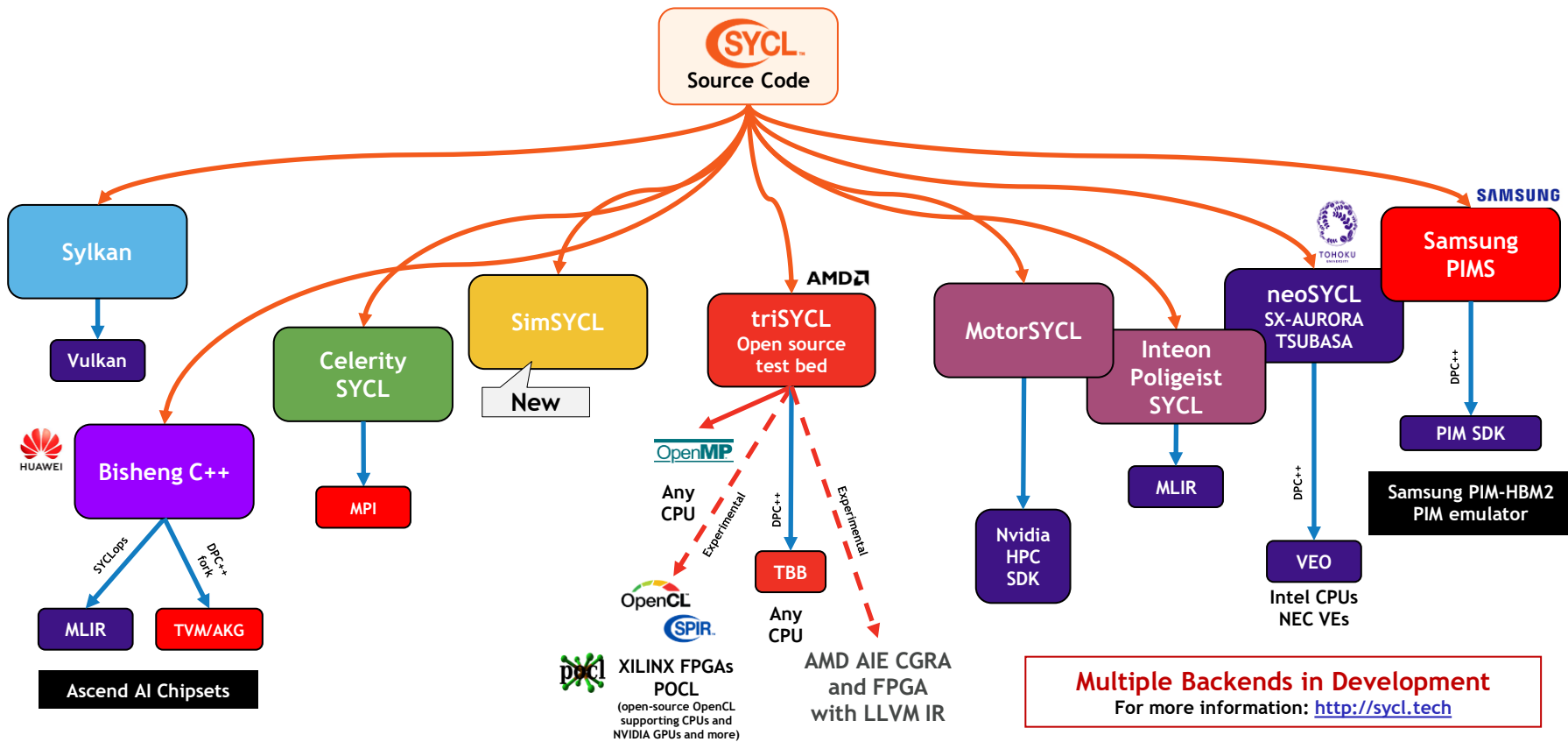
202X

SYCL Implementations in Development



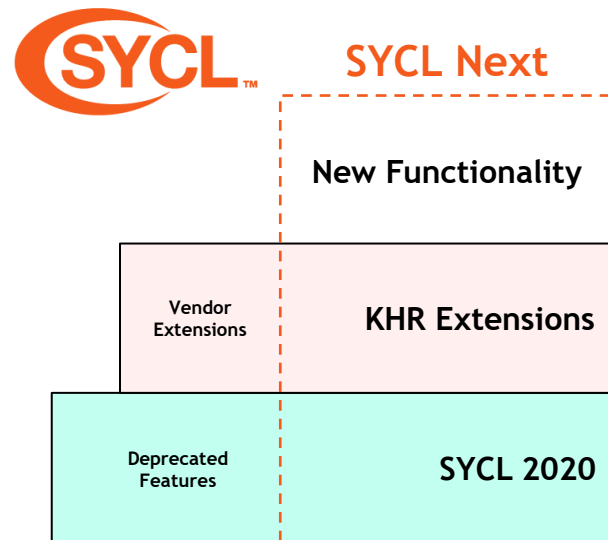
Logos are the property of their respective owners

SYCL Experimental Development



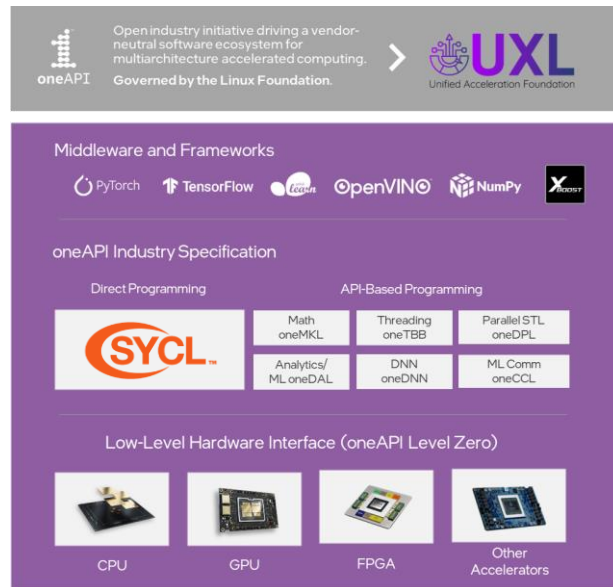
SYCL Next

- Strategic path to incrementally release new features as KHR extensions
 - Complete with tests and implementations
- Key priorities are:
 - Syntax improvements
 - Queue event performance
 - Task graphs
 - Compile-time properties
 - Hierarchical parallelism
- Seeking feedback on priority features!
 - <https://community.khronos.org/c/sycl/>
 - <https://registry.khronos.org/SYCL/>



Intel oneAPI DPC++ and UXL Foundation

- Intel oneAPI DPC++ is conformant with SYCL 2020 Specification
 - Unified Shared Memory, Parallel Reductions, Work Group Algorithms, Class Template Argument Deductions, Simplification of Accessors, Expanded Interoperability, and more
- UXL Unified Acceleration Foundation
 - Accelerated computing open ecosystem
 - Tools and Libraries
 - Compilers and development tools
 - APIs and specifications
- Khronos and UXL have just announced a liaison



OpenVX Cross-Vendor Vision and Inferencing

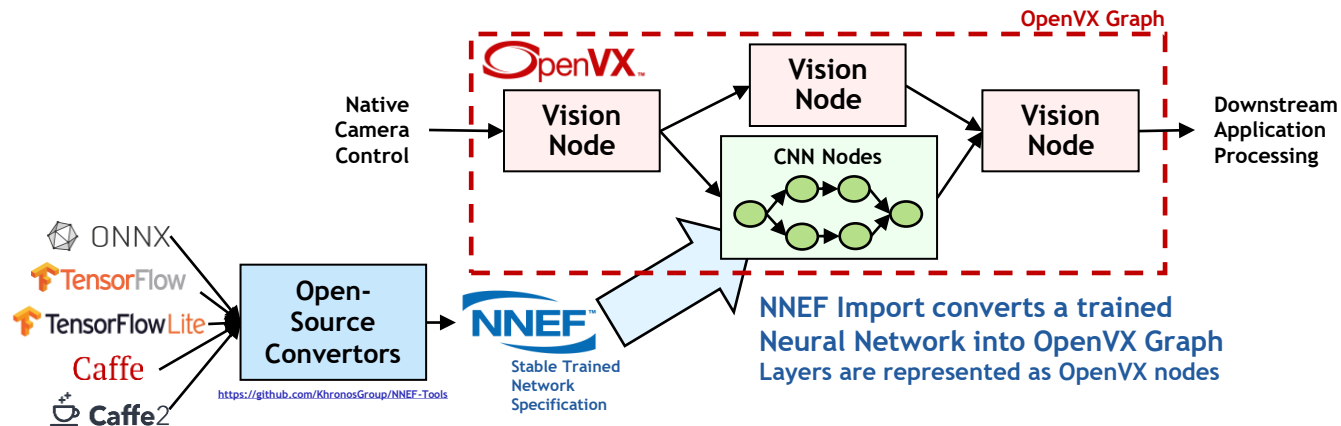
High-level graph-based abstraction for portable, efficient vision processing

Optimized OpenVX drivers created, optimized and shipped by processor vendors

Implementable on almost any hardware or processor with performance portability

Graph can contain vision processing and NN nodes for global optimization

Run-time graph execution need very little host CPU interaction



Vendors optimize and ship drivers for their platform

Full list of conformant OpenVX implementations here:

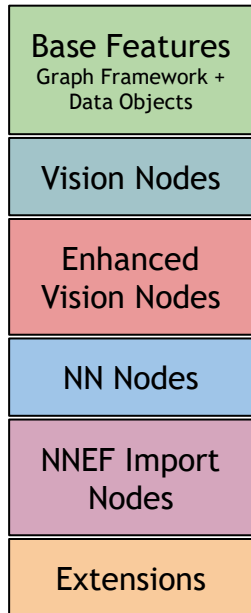
<https://www.khronos.org/conformance/adapters/conformant-products/openvx>



OpenVX Roadmap

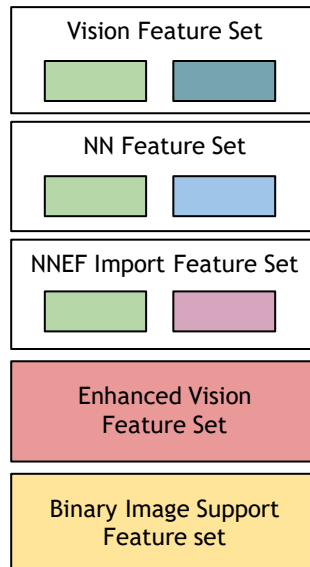


OpenVX Node Functionality



OpenVX 1.X grew
Node functionality
over time

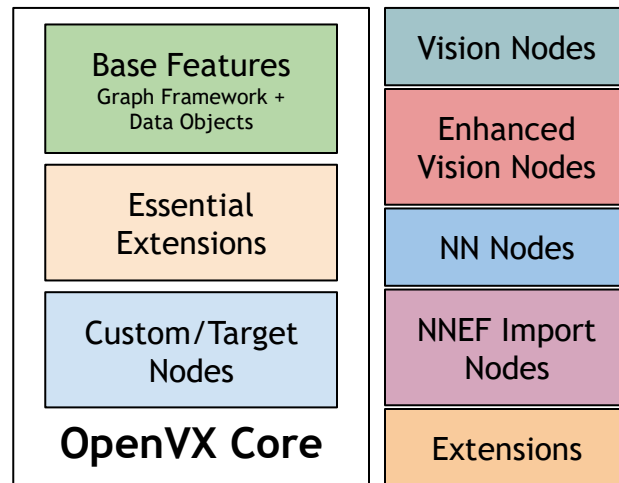
OpenVX 1.3.X Feature Sets to reduce fragmentation



OpenVX 1.3.X implementations
include Base Features plus at least
one of Vision/NN/NNEF feature sets

OpenVX 2.0 Core + Optional Extensions

Focus on the OpenVX Graph Framework
Flexible pipelined data flow through target hardware
Seamless custom kernel support
Extensions e.g., for vision/radar/lidar processing



OpenVX 2.0 implementations need
to include just OpenVX Core plus
customer or selected Nodes

Growing Need for APIs for Functional Safety

Safety-critical APIs reduce system-level certification effort where functional safety is paramount

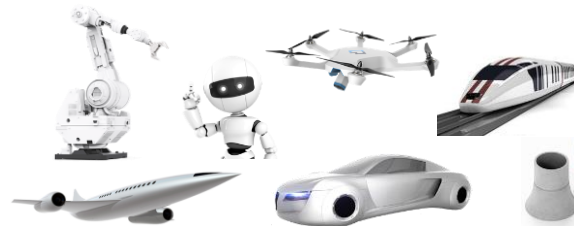
- 1) Streamlined to reduce documentation and testing surface area
- 2) Deterministic behavior to simplify system design and testing
- 3) Unambiguous and comprehensive fault handling



1990s - Avionics

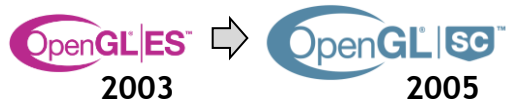


2010s - Automotive



2020s - Autonomous vehicles and devices, avionics, medical, industrial, and energy

Khronos has 20 years experience in adapting safety-critical API from proven mainstream APIs



The Need for a Camera System API Standard

Increasing Sensor Diversity

Including camera arrays and depth sensors such as Lidar



Multiple Sensors Per System

Synchronization and coordination become essential



The cost and time to integrate and utilize sensors in embedded systems has become a major constraint on innovation and efficiency in the embedded vision market

Increasing Sensor Processing Demands

Including inferencing. Sensor outputs need to be flexibly and efficiently generated and streamed into acceleration processors

Proprietary APIs Hinder Innovation

Vendor-specific APIs to control cameras, sensors and close-to-sensor ISPs prevent access of full camera capabilities



Embedded Camera System API - In Development

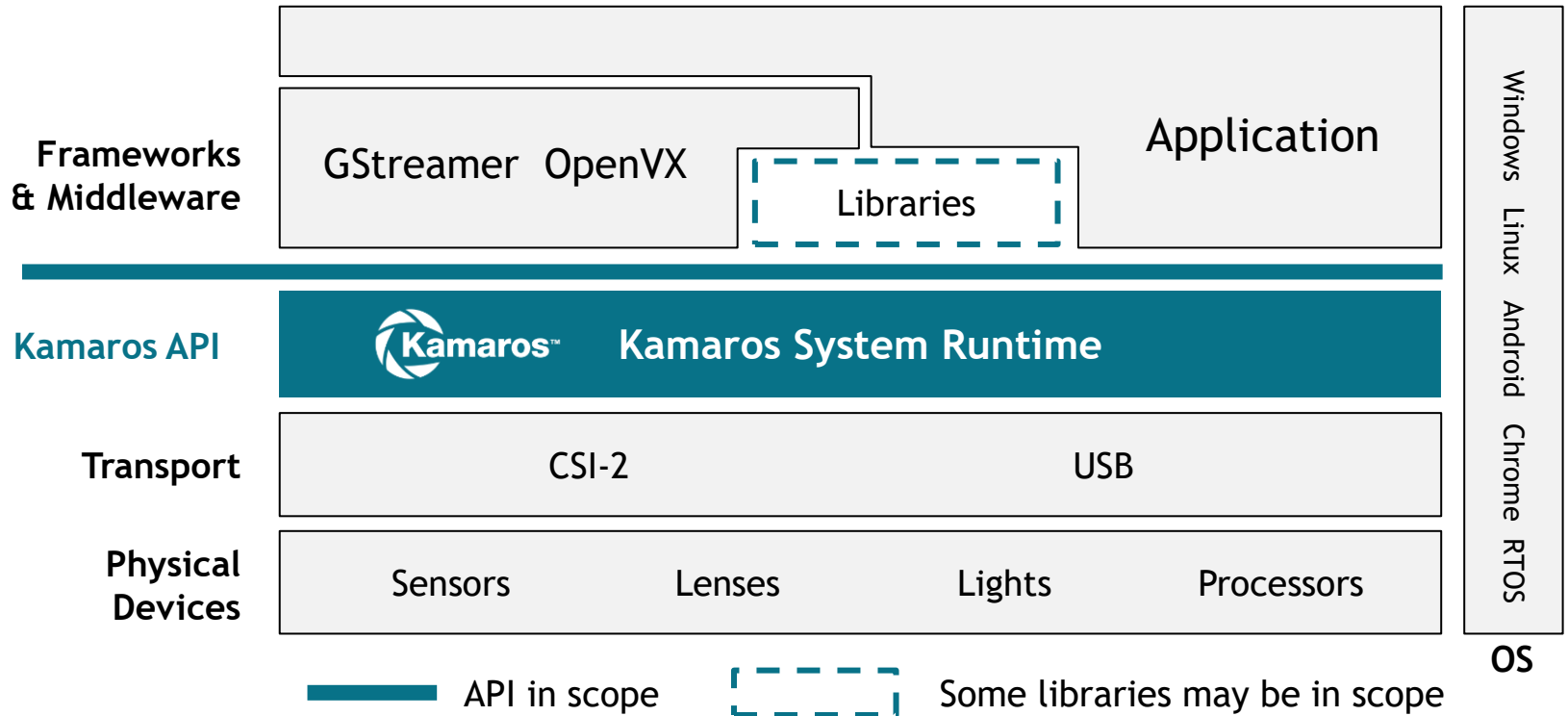
Open, cross-vendor, royalty-free open standard for camera, sensor and ISP control in embedded, mobile, industrial, XR, automotive, and scientific markets

Benefits

- Portability of camera/sensor code for easier system integration of new sensors
- Preservation of application code across multiple generations of cameras and sensors
- Sophisticated control over sensor stream generation for effective downstream processing

An effective camera API abstraction will enable camera and sensor vendors to expose hardware capabilities without disclosing proprietary implementation details while gaining access to a larger ecosystem of libraries and applications

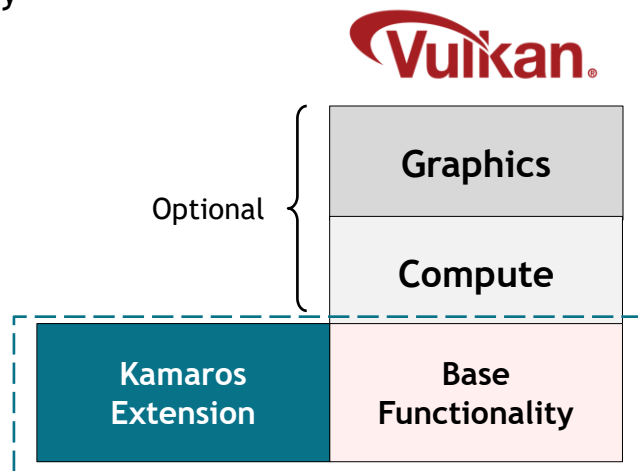
Typical Kamaros Software Stack



Names of transport layers, framework and operating systems are illustrative examples

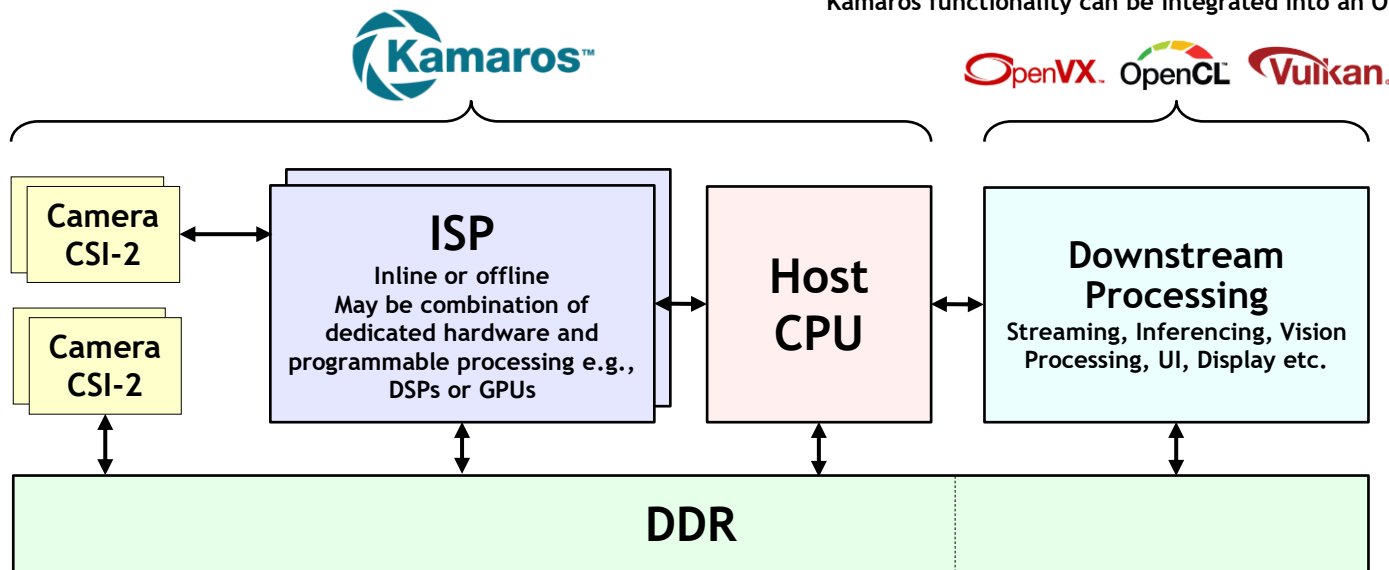
Kamaros and Vulkan

- **Kamaros is re-using Vulkan design elements**
 - Saves time in redesigning recurring elements
 - Queues, buffers, synchronization etc.
- **Deploy as a Vulkan extension or standalone API**
 - Standalone API can be implemented without a GPU
- **Vulkan design is well-proven**
 - Low-level, explicit hardware access
 - Seamless interop with compute and graphics functionality
- **Leverages Vulkan Ecosystem**
 - SDK tooling including layers and loaders
 - Use relevant parts of Vulkan CTS
 - Developer familiarity

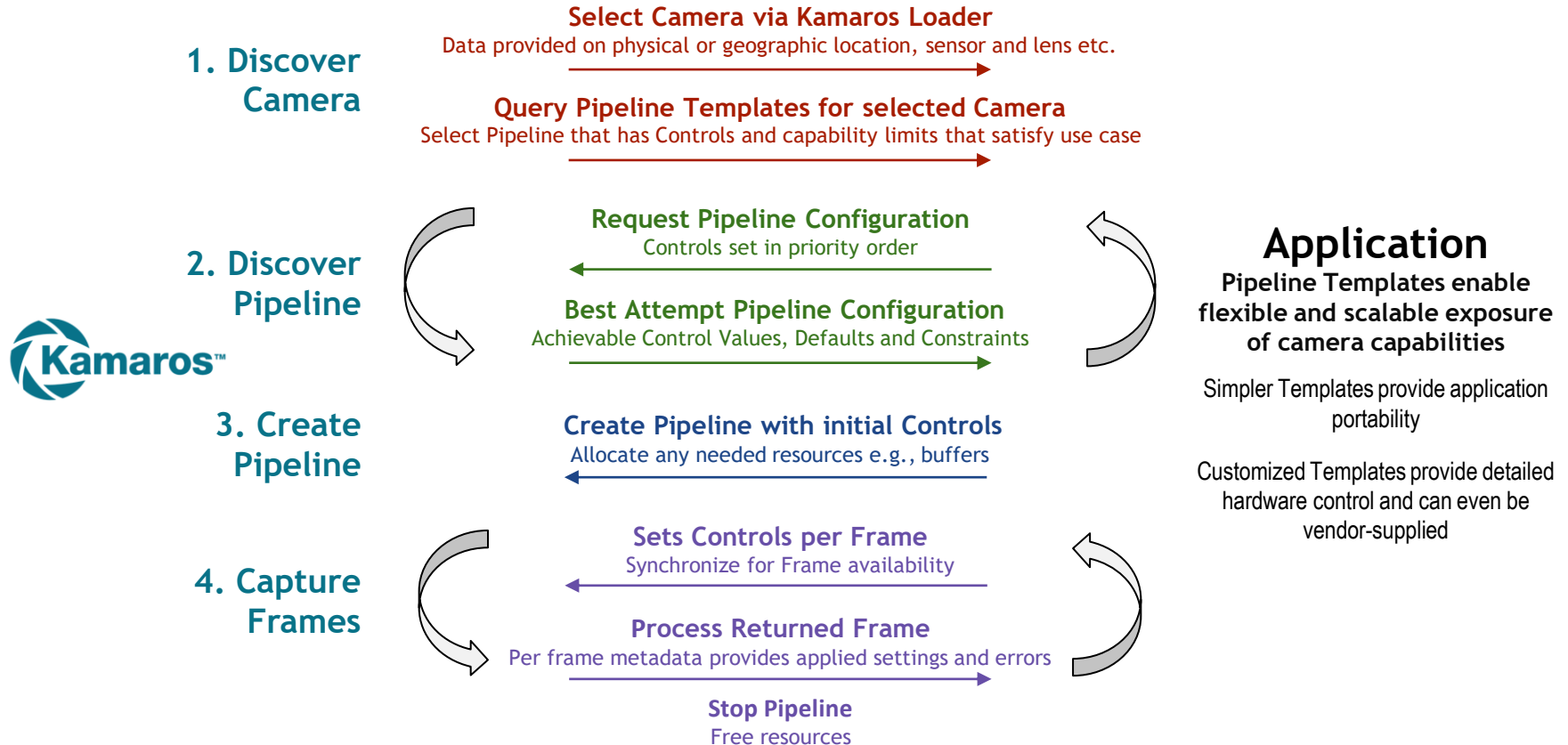


Typical Kamaros System Implementation

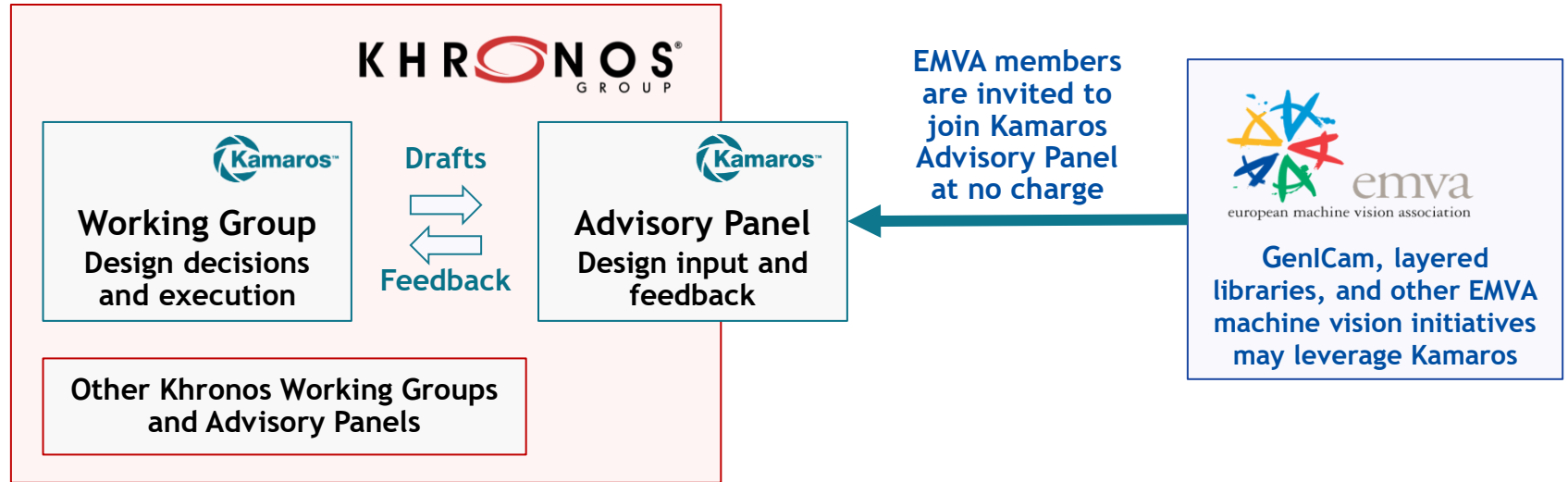
Can use any API - for example Khronos open standards
If Kamaros is implemented as Vulkan extension, can be single
Vulkan runtime on ISP and Downstream Processing
Kamaros functionality can be integrated into an OpenVX Node



Kamaros Portable Application Structure



Kamaros, Khronos and EMVA Cooperation



Khronos / EMVA have a Liaison Agreement for ongoing coordination and joint membership privileges for designated liaisons

Get Involved!



Khronos is developing a growing family of open, royalty-free API standards relevant to embedded and safety-critical markets

Any company is welcome to join Khronos to influence standards development

<https://www.khronos.org/members/> or email memberservices@khronosgroup.org

More information on any Khronos API

<https://www.khronos.org/>

Khronos members can participate in the Kamaros Camera Working Group

EMVA Members can join the Kamaros Advisory panel

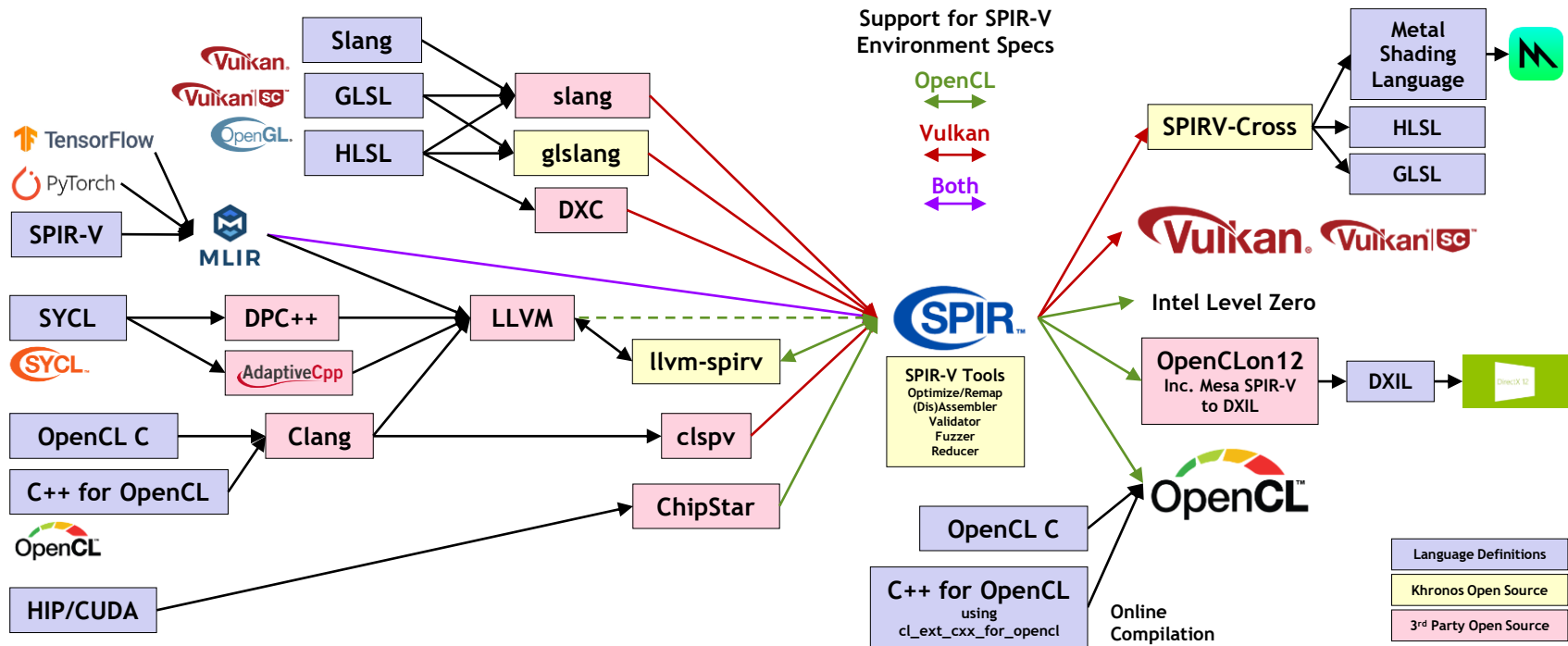
<https://www.khronos.org/kamaros>





Background and Archive


SPIR-V Ecosystem



MLIR is part of the LLVM compiler infrastructure

API Layering

Enabled by increasingly robust of open-source compiler ecosystem leveraging SPIR-V



<i>Layers Over</i>	Vulkan	OpenGL	OpenCL	OpenGL ES	DX12	DX9-11
Vulkan		Zink	clspv + clvk Ankle RustiCL/Zink	GLOVE Angle	vkd3d-Proton vkd3d	DXVK WineD3D
OpenGL	gfx-rs Ashes			Angle		WineD3D
DX12	Dozen gfx-rs	Microsoft 'GLOn12'	Microsoft 'CLOn12'			Microsoft D3D11On12
DX9-11	gfx-rs Ashes			Angle		
Metal	MoltenVK gfx-rs			MoltenGL Angle		

ROWS
Benefit Platforms by enabling content without additional kernel level drivers

COLUMNS

Benefit ISVs by providing application deployment flexibility and fighting fragmentation by making an API available across multiple platforms even if no native drivers available

Layered OpenCL Implementations

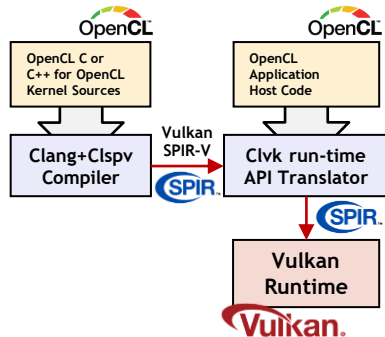
clspv + clvk

OpenCL over Vulkan
Google

clspv open-source OpenCL kernel to Vulkan SPIR-V compiler - tracks top-of-tree LLVM and Clang - not a fork

clvk - prototype open-source OpenCL to Vulkan run-time API translator

Used by shipping apps and engines on Android e.g., Adobe Premiere Rush video editor - 200K lines of OpenCL C kernel code



clspv + Ancle

OpenCL over Vulkan
Samsung

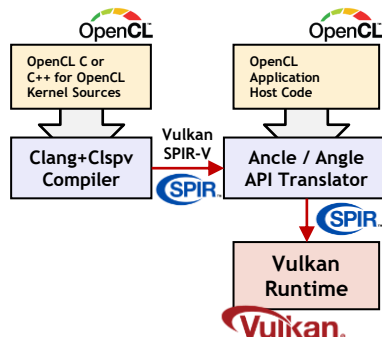
Integrates clspv and OpenCL runtime into Angle code base

Samsung Motivation

"OpenCL is widely used and deployed and is making a comeback thanks to ML"

"OpenCL is a favored high-level (front-end) compute language! Easier to write than Vulkan"

Ancle makes OpenCL a first-class citizen in Android by relying on Vulkan as its Native Driver"



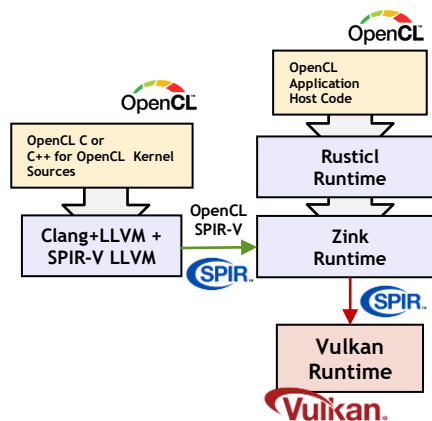
Rusticl over Zink

OpenCL over Vulkan
Mesa

The Zink Gallium driver emits Vulkan API calls and now supports OpenCL Kernels



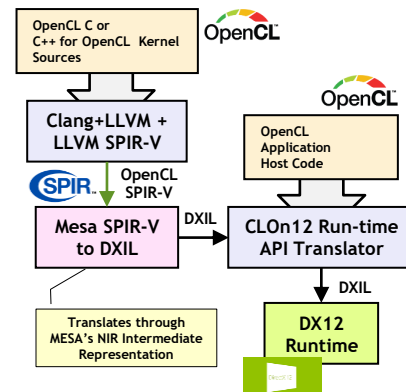
MESA



OpenCLOn12

OpenCL over DX12
Microsoft

GPU-accelerated OpenCL on any DX12 PC and Cloud instance (x86 or Arm)



Apps, Libraries and Engines using OpenCL

Pervasive, cross-vendor, open standard for
low-level heterogeneous parallel programming

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_OpenCL_applications

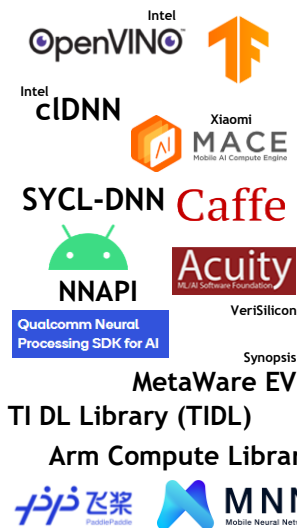
Desktop Creative Apps



Parallel Languages



Machine Learning Libraries and Frameworks



Molecular Modelling Libraries



Machine Learning Compilers



Vision, Imaging and Video Libraries



Math and Physics Libraries



Linear Algebra Libraries



Executing OpenCL Programs

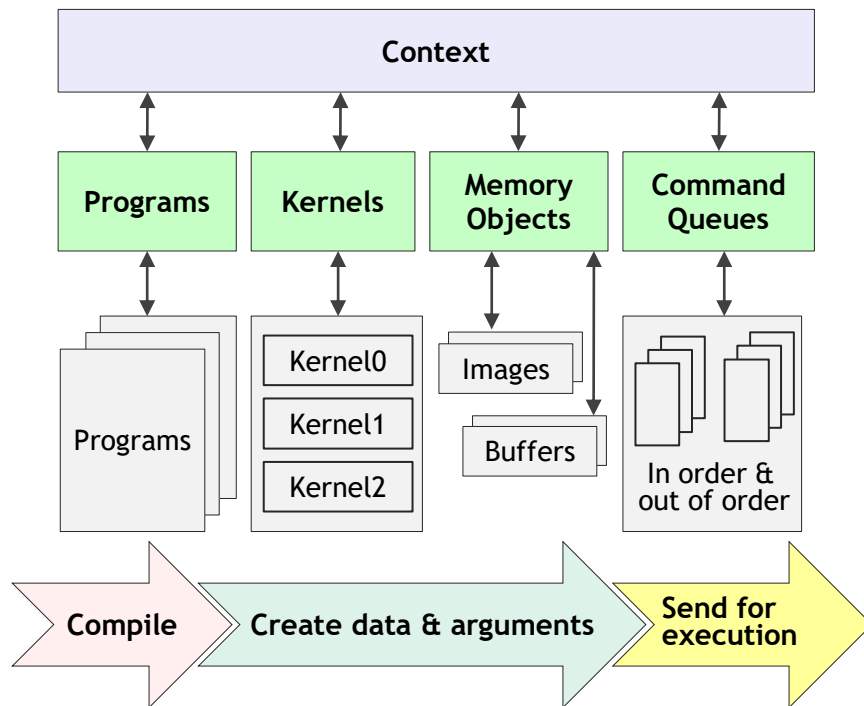
A **kernel** program is the basic unit of executable code (similar to a C function)

An OpenCL **program** is a collection of kernels and functions

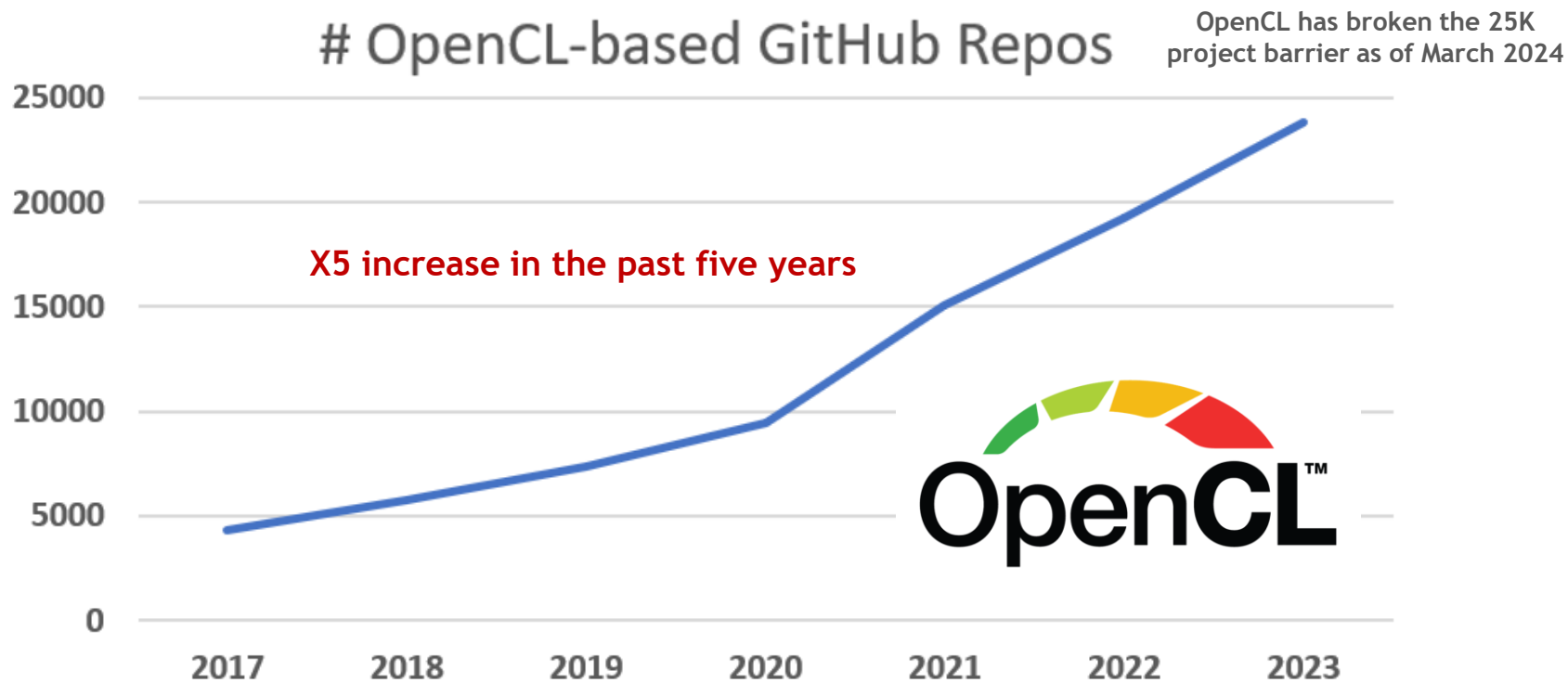
An OpenCL **command queue** is used by the host application to send kernels and data transfer functions to a device for execution.

By **enqueueing** commands into a command queue, kernels and data transfer functions may execute asynchronously and in parallel with application host code

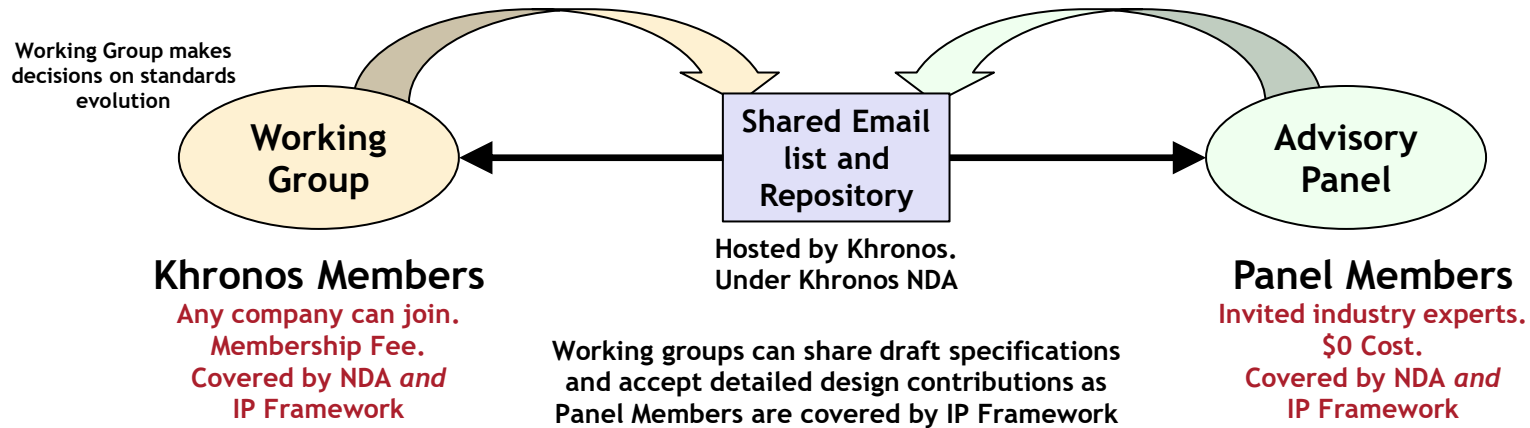
As an open standard, OpenCL is a well proven design, available from many silicon vendors with an extensive ecosystem of available tools, compilers, libraries and educational materials



OpenCL Open-Source Project Momentum



OpenCL Advisory Panel



Please reach out to opencl-chair@lists.khronos.org if you wish to apply

Developers - Please Give Us Feedback!

- Give us your feedback on the OpenCL spec GitHub
 - What could be added to the OpenCL ecosystem to make you more productive?
 - What API and Language features do you most need?
 - <https://github.com/KhronosGroup/OpenCL-Docs>
- Please download and run the GPUinfo OpenCL Hardware Capability Viewer
 - <https://opencl.gpuinfo.org/download.php>
- Consider applying to join the OpenCL Advisory Panel!
 - Email opencl-chair@lists.khronos.org



OpenCL Resources

- OpenCL Home Page
 - <https://www.khronos.org/opencl/>
- OpenCL Registry for OpenCL core and extension specifications
 - <https://www.khronos.org/registry/OpenCL/>
- C++ for OpenCL Documentation
 - https://github.com/KhronosGroup/Khronosdotorg/blob/master/api/opencl/assets/CXX_for_OpenCL.pdf
- OpenCL SDK
 - <https://github.com/KhronosGroup/OpenCL-SDK>
- OpenCL Guide
 - <https://github.com/KhronosGroup/OpenCL-Guide>
- OpenCL Specification Source
 - <https://github.com/KhronosGroup/OpenCL-Docs>
- OpenCL Conformant Products
 - <https://www.khronos.org/conformance/adopters/conformant-products/opencl>
- GPUinfo.org Hardware Database
 - <https://www.gpuinfo.org/>
- Layered OpenCL implementations - clspv/clvk and OpenCLon12
 - <https://github.com/google/clspv>
 - <https://github.com/kpet/clvk>
 - <https://github.com/microsoft/OpenCLon12>

SYCL Developer Resources

- I need to learn SYCL
 - The book
 - Attend a tutorial
 - SYCL Academy: <https://github.com/codeplaysoftware/syclacademy>
- I know SYCL, and need more information about an API
 - SYCL Reference <https://www.khronos.org/sycl/reference>
- I need to know the ins-and-outs of an API
 - SYCL Spec (it's quite readable!) <https://registry.khronos.org/SYCL/>
- I still need help!
 - Forums:
 - <https://community.khronos.org/c/sycl/>
 - <https://stackoverflow.com/questions/tagged/sycl>
 - SYCL.tech: <https://sycl.tech/>
 - Khronos Discord: <https://www.khr.io/khrdiscord>
 - Ask your implementor

Get Involved!



Public contributions to Specification and Conformance Tests

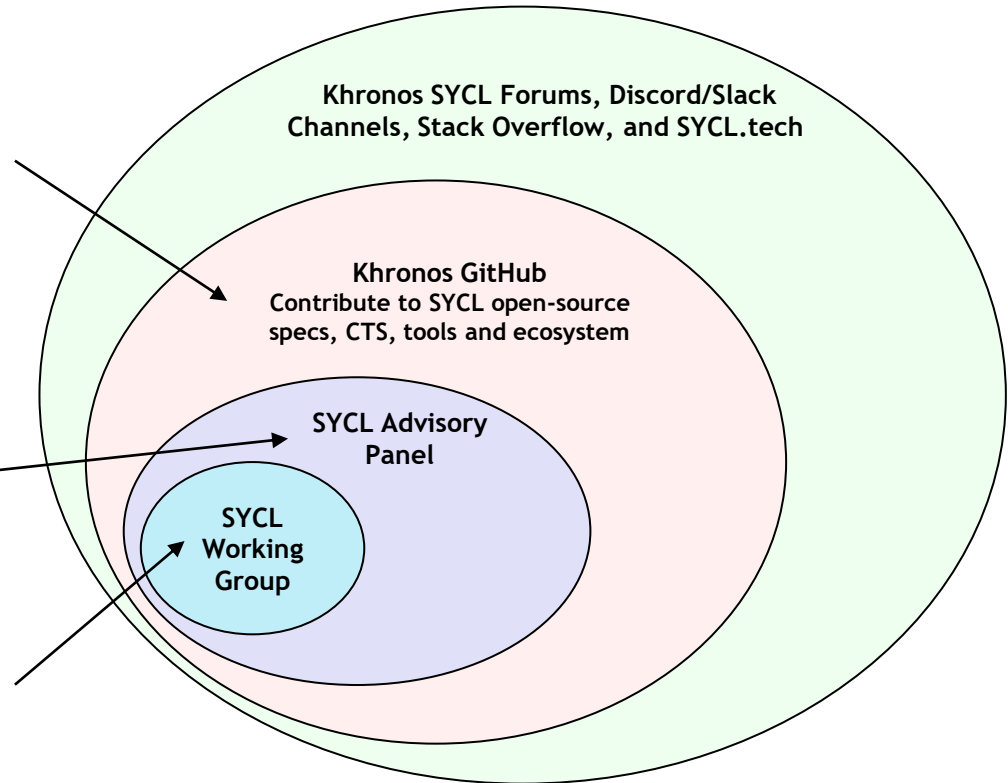
<https://github.com/KhronosGroup/SYCL-CTS>
<https://github.com/KhronosGroup/SYCL-Docs>

**Join as an Invited Expert
(no cost, sign Khronos NDA)**

<https://www.khronos.org/advisors/>

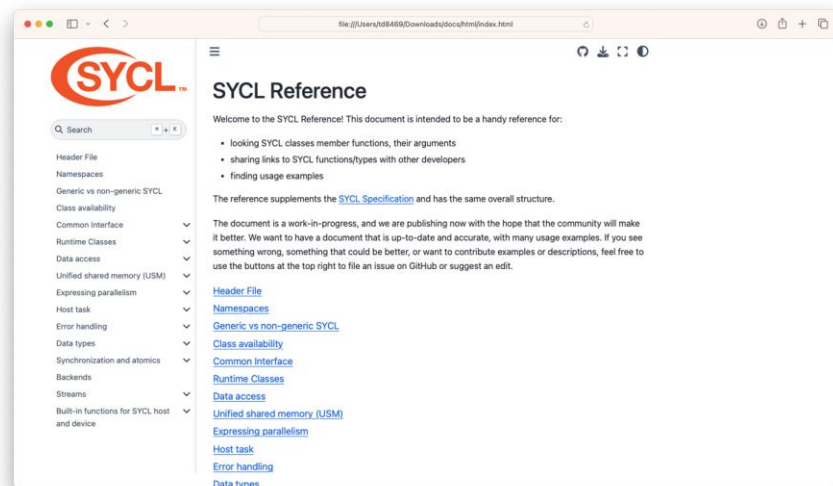
Join as a Khronos members

<https://www.khronos.org/members/>
<https://www.khronos.org/registry/SYCL/>



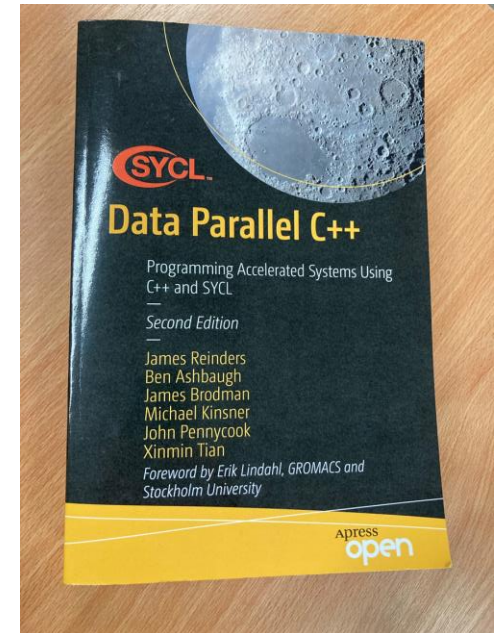
SYCL Reference

- New resource to support SYCL developers
- Inspired by cppreference.com
- Short descriptions of SYCL 2020 API
- Specification remains the canonical document
- <https://www.khronos.org/sycl/reference>



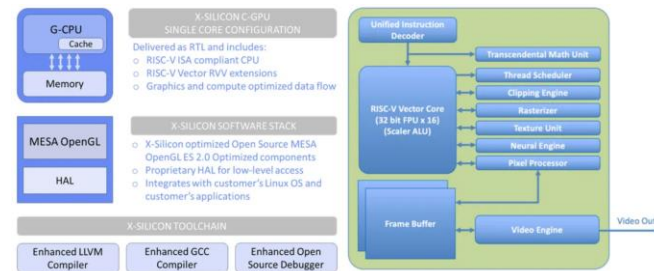
The SYCL Book (second edition)

- New edition up to date with SYCL 2020
 - Published Oct 4th, 2023
- Source code repository of examples
- Freely open online, or available in paperback
<https://link.springer.com/book/10.1007/978-1-4842-9691-2>



Recent AI/RISC-V Use of Khronos Standards

- **SiM.ai Chip Startup Raises \$70 Million to Quicken AI on Cars and Robots**
 - <https://www.msn.com/en-us/money/other/chip-startup-raises-70-million-to-quicken-ai-on-cars-and-robots/ar-BB1l48bl>
 - SiMa.ai is one of a growing number of startups trying to perfect hardware for a future where AI is mainstream. The startup has enlisted more than 50 customers for its first chip, which mainly targeted computer vision, and is now working on a second generation. The new chip is scheduled for release in the first quarter of next year. SiMa.ai's products support various types of open standards including Linux and OpenCL
- **Axelera Uses oneAPI Construction Kit to Rapidly Enable Open Standards Programming for the Metis AIPU**
 - <https://www.edge-ai-vision.com/2024/04/axelera-uses-oneapi-construction-kit-to-rapidly-enable-open-standards-programming-for-the-metis-aipu/>
 - At Axelera, we therefore believe that the answer to the question of how to best bushwhack through the accelerator jungle is to embrace open standards, such as OpenCL and SYCL. OpenCL and SYCL are open standards defined by the Khronos Group. They define an application programming interface (API) for interacting with all kinds of devices as well as programming languages for implementing compute kernels to run on these devices.
- **New RISC-V microprocessor can run CPU, GPU, and NPU workloads simultaneously leveraging Khronos OpenGL**
 - <https://www.tomshardware.com/pc-components/cpus/former-silicon-valley-vets-create-risc-v-microprocessor-that-can-run-cpu-gpu-and-npu-workloads-simultaneously>



C++ for OpenCL

Open-Source Compiler Front-end

Replaces the OpenCL C++ kernel language spec

[Official release](#) published in OpenCL-Docs repo

Enables full OpenCL C and most C++17 capabilities

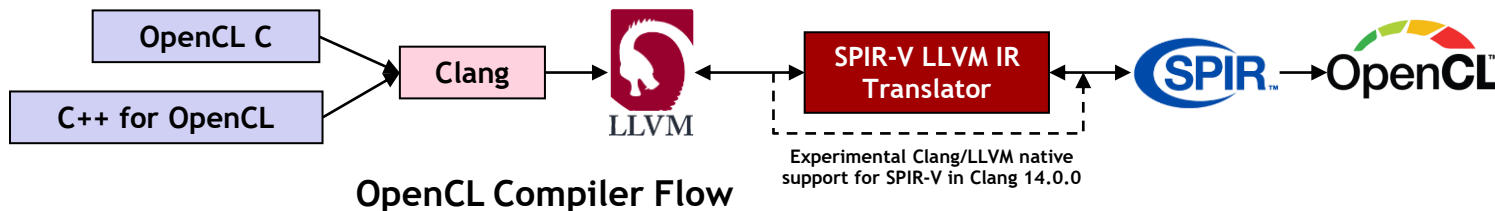
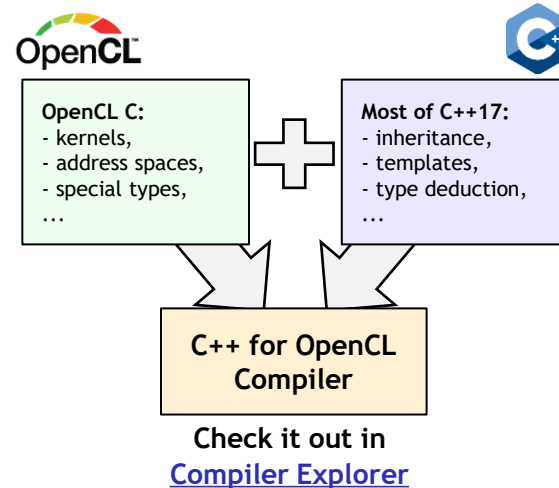
OpenCL C code is valid and fully compatible

Enables gradual transition to C++ for existing apps

Supported in Clang since release 9.0

Generates SPIR-V 1.0 plus SPIR-V 1.2 where necessary

Online compilation via [cl_ext_cxx_for_opengl](#) extension



OpenCL Specification Releases and Roadmap

OpenCL 3.0.16 shipped on April 4th, 2024

Continues the regular release cadence for new functionality and bug fixes
External memory objects and semaphores for external sharing and Interop finalized
Kernel Clock extension provisional release

OpenCL Extension Pipeline

Provisional, EXT and Vendor extensions - candidates for final ratification
We are listening to your input!

Support C++ for OpenCL (EXT)
Command Buffer Record/Replay (provisional)
Unified Shared Memory
Floating Point Atomics
Required Subgroup Size
Generalized Image from buffer
Image Tiling Controls

YUV Multi-planar Images
Cross-workgroup Barriers
Cooperative Matrices
Timeline Semaphores
32 and 64-length vectors
Indirect Dispatch
ML Operations

