



University  
of Glasgow

# Lift: Code Generation by Rewriting Algorithmic Skeletons

Michel Steuwer — [michel.steuwer@glasgow.ac.uk](mailto:michel.steuwer@glasgow.ac.uk)  
and the LIFT team

**INSPIRING  
PEOPLE**



# 1968 - Go To Statement Considered Harmful

EWD215 - 0

## A Case against the GO TO Statement.

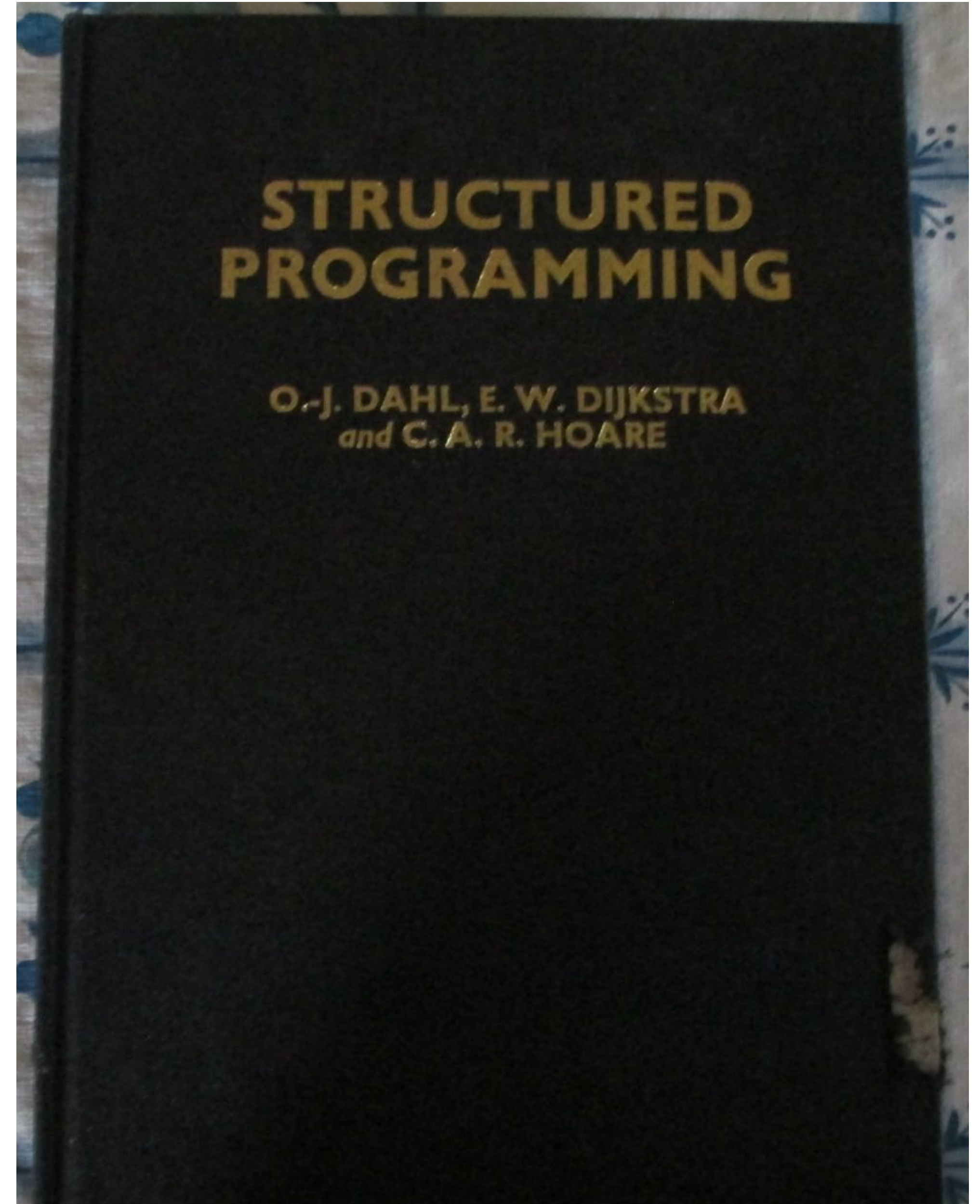
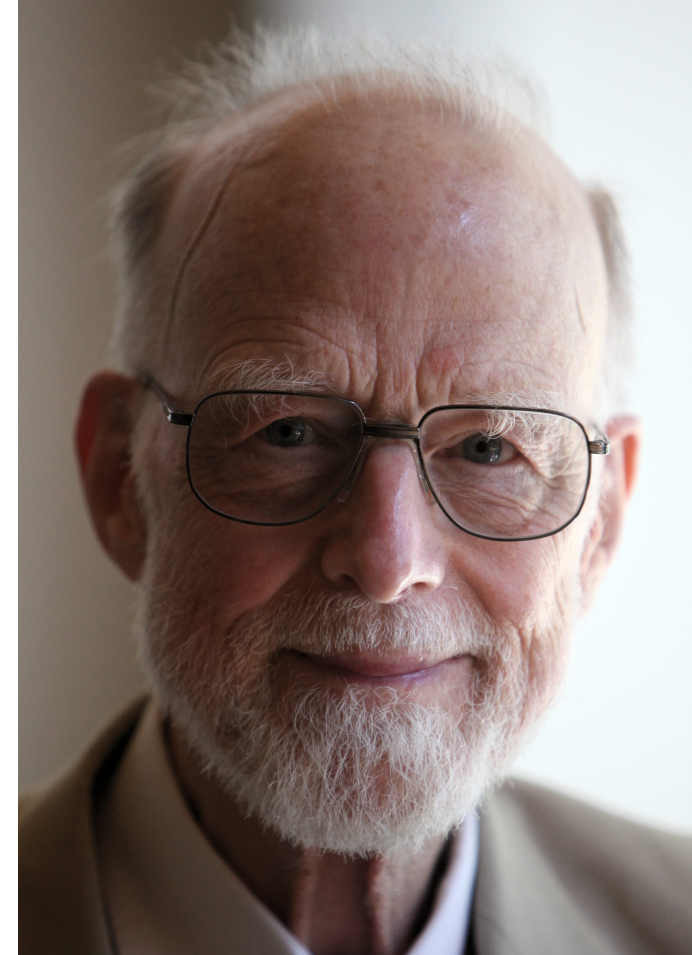
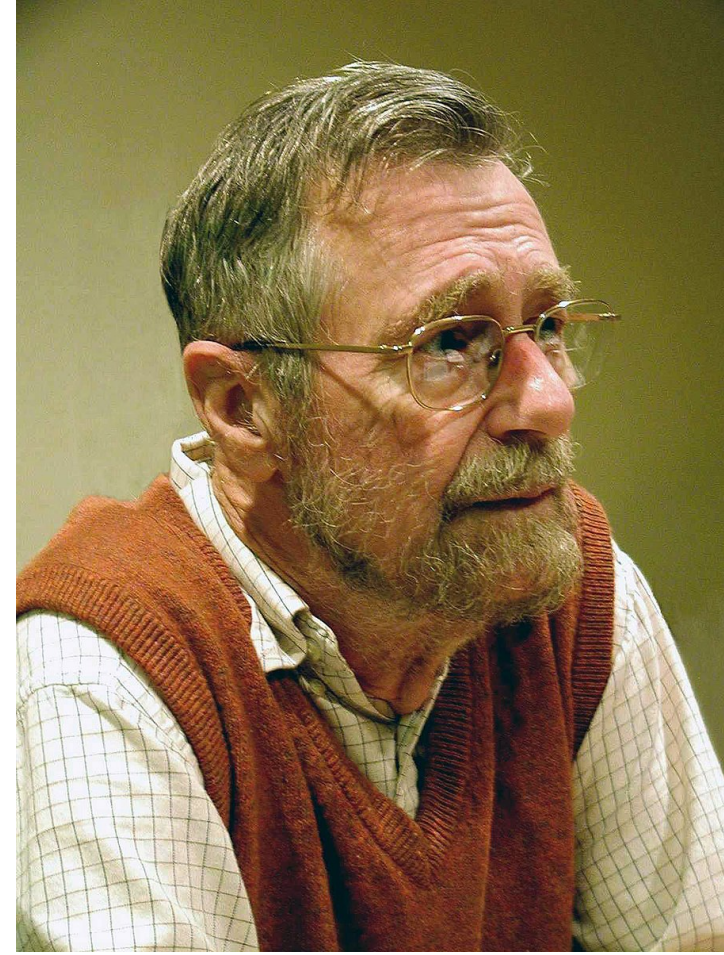
by Edsger W.Dijkstra  
Technological University  
Eindhoven, The Netherlands

Since a number of years I am familiar with the observation that the quality of programmers is a decreasing function of the density of go to statements in the programs they produce. Later I discovered why the use of the go to statement has such disastrous effects and did I become convinced that the go to statement should be abolished from all "higher level" programming languages (i.e. everything except -perhaps- plain machine code). At that time I did not attach too much importance to this discovery; I now submit my considerations for publication because in very recent discussions in which the subject turned up, I have been urged to do so.

My first remark is that, although the programmer's activity ends when he has constructed a correct program, the process taking place under control



# 1972 - Structured Programming



```
procedure matmult (A, B, C, m, n, p);  
  array A, B, C; integer m, n, p;  
begin integer i, j, k;  
  for i := 1 step 1 until m do  
    for j := 1 step 1 until n do  
      begin C[i, j] := 0;  
        for k := 1 step 1 until p do  
          C[i, j] := C[i, j] + A[i, k] × B[k, j]  
        end  
      end  
end;  
end;
```

# 1989 - Structured *Parallel* Programming



Research Monographs in  
Parallel and Distributed Computing  $\pi$

MURRAY COLE

## Algorithmic Skeletons: Structured Management of Parallel Computation

$D_C$  indivisible split join  $f = F$   
where  $F P = f P$ , if indivisible  $P$   
 $= \text{join}(\text{map } F (\text{split } P))$ , otherwise

[book] Algorithmic skeletons: structured management of

MI Cole - 1989 - [homepages.inf.ed.ac.uk](http://homepages.inf.ed.ac.uk)

Abstract In the past, most significant improvements in computer performance have been achieved as a result of advances in simple device technology. The introduction of large scale parallelism at the inter-processor level now represents a viable alternative.

☆ [Cited by 1304](#) [Related articles](#) [All 6 versions](#) [↔](#)

# LIFT



**2. HIGH-LEVEL PROGRAMMING**



**1. LOW-LEVEL OPTIMIZATIONS**



**G. HIGH PERFORMANCE**



[ICFP'15]

DSL DSL DSL

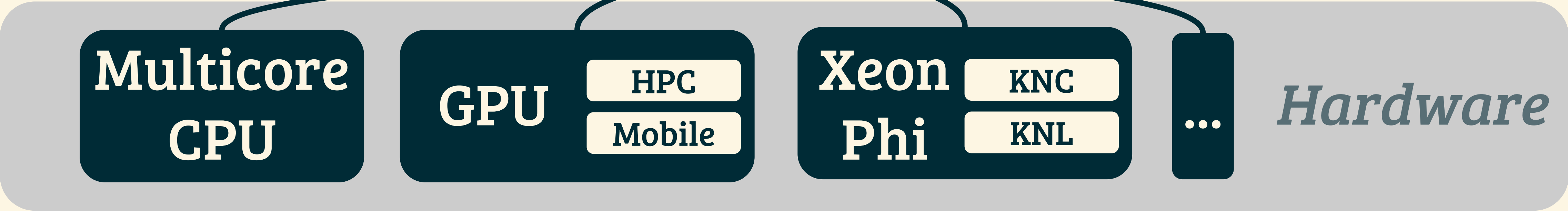
High-Level IR

Explore Optimizations  
by rewriting

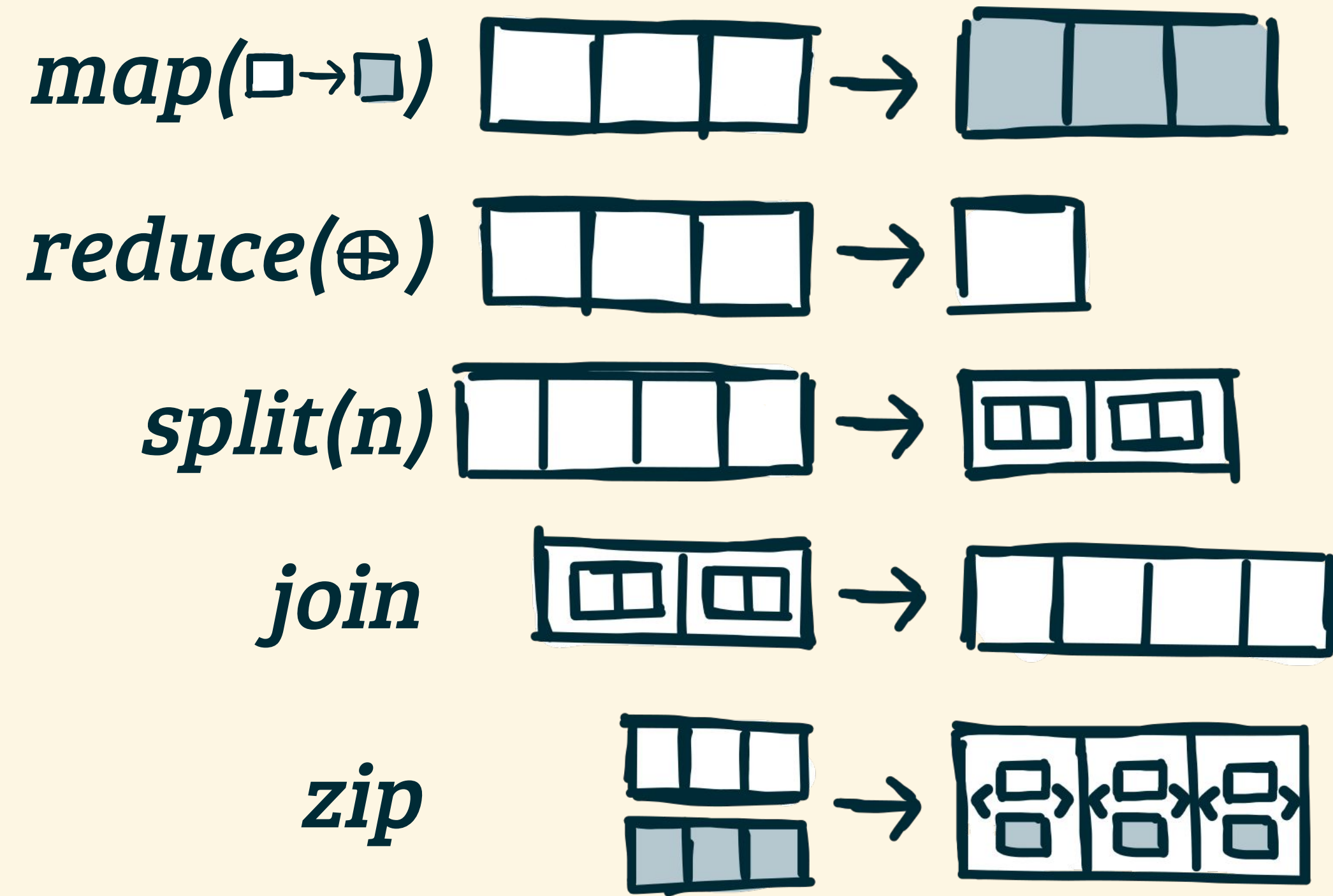
[GPGPU'16]  
[CASES'16]

Low-Level Program

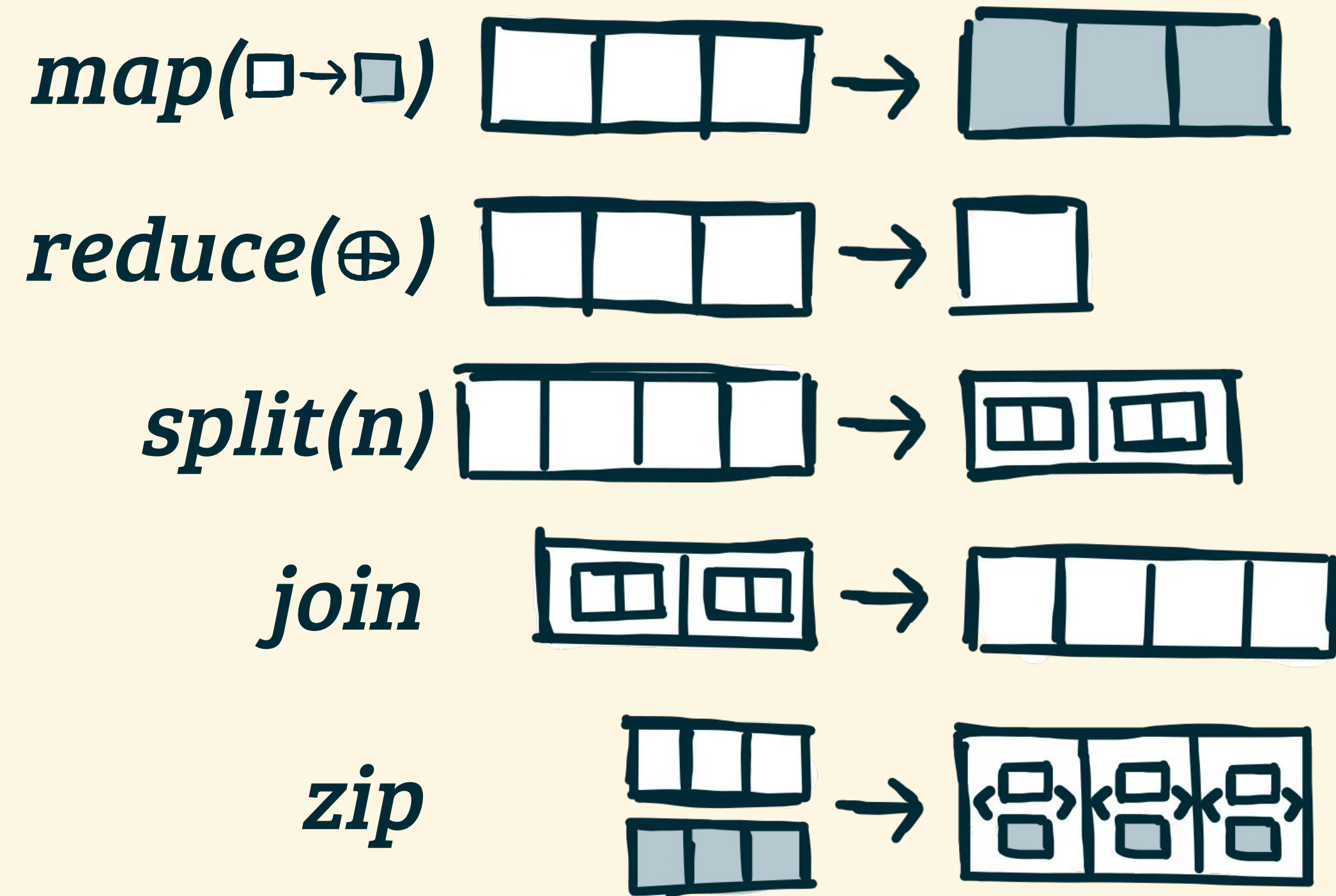
Code Generation  
[CGO'17]



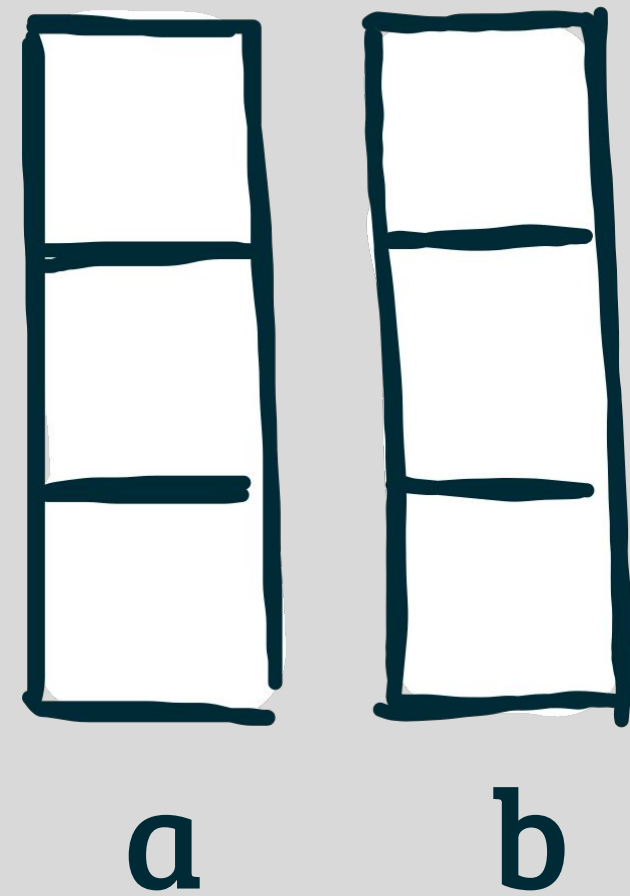
# LIFT'S HIGH-LEVEL PRIMITIVES



# LIFT'S HIGH-LEVEL PRIMITIVES

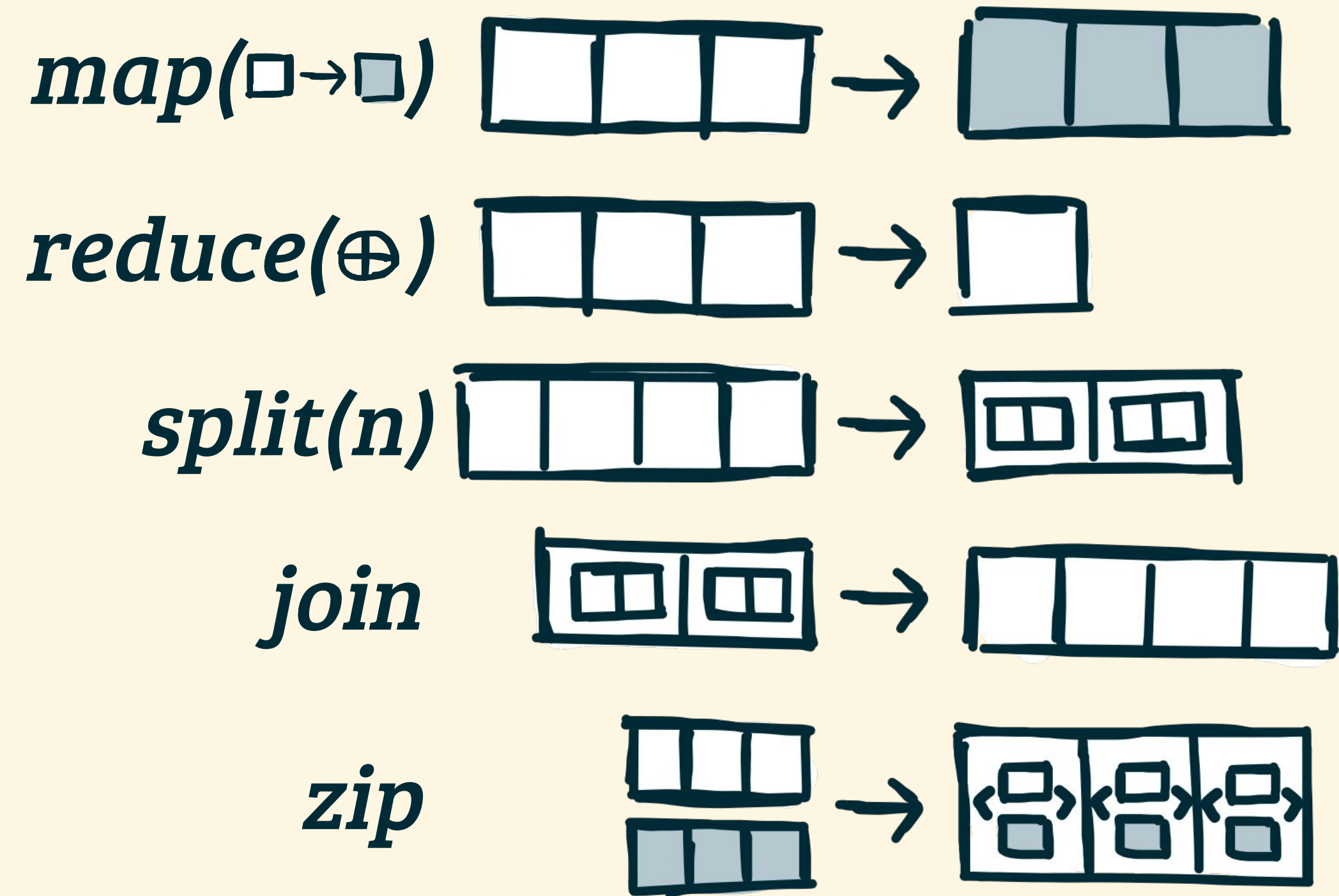


dotproduct.lift

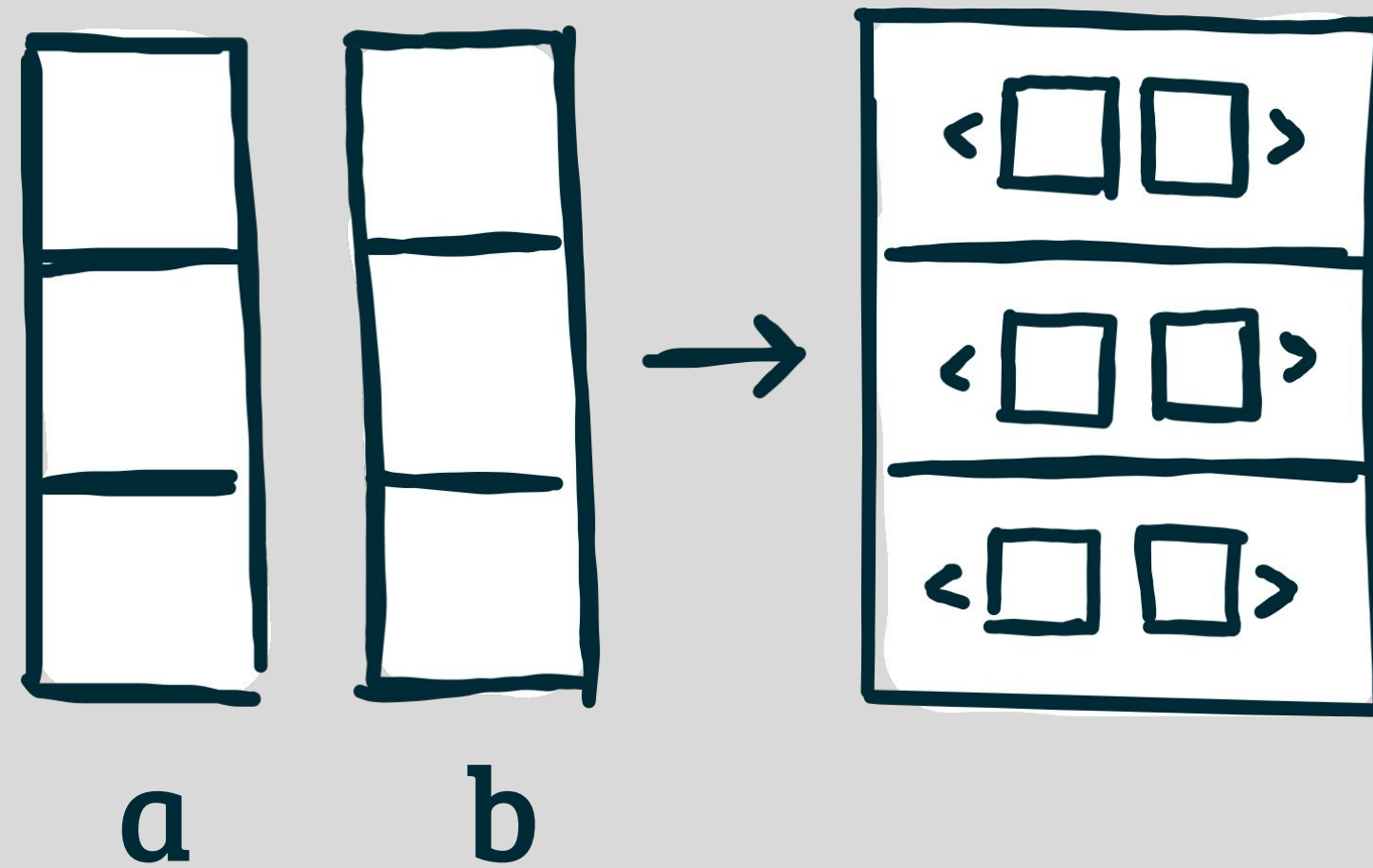




# LIFT'S HIGH-LEVEL PRIMITIVES

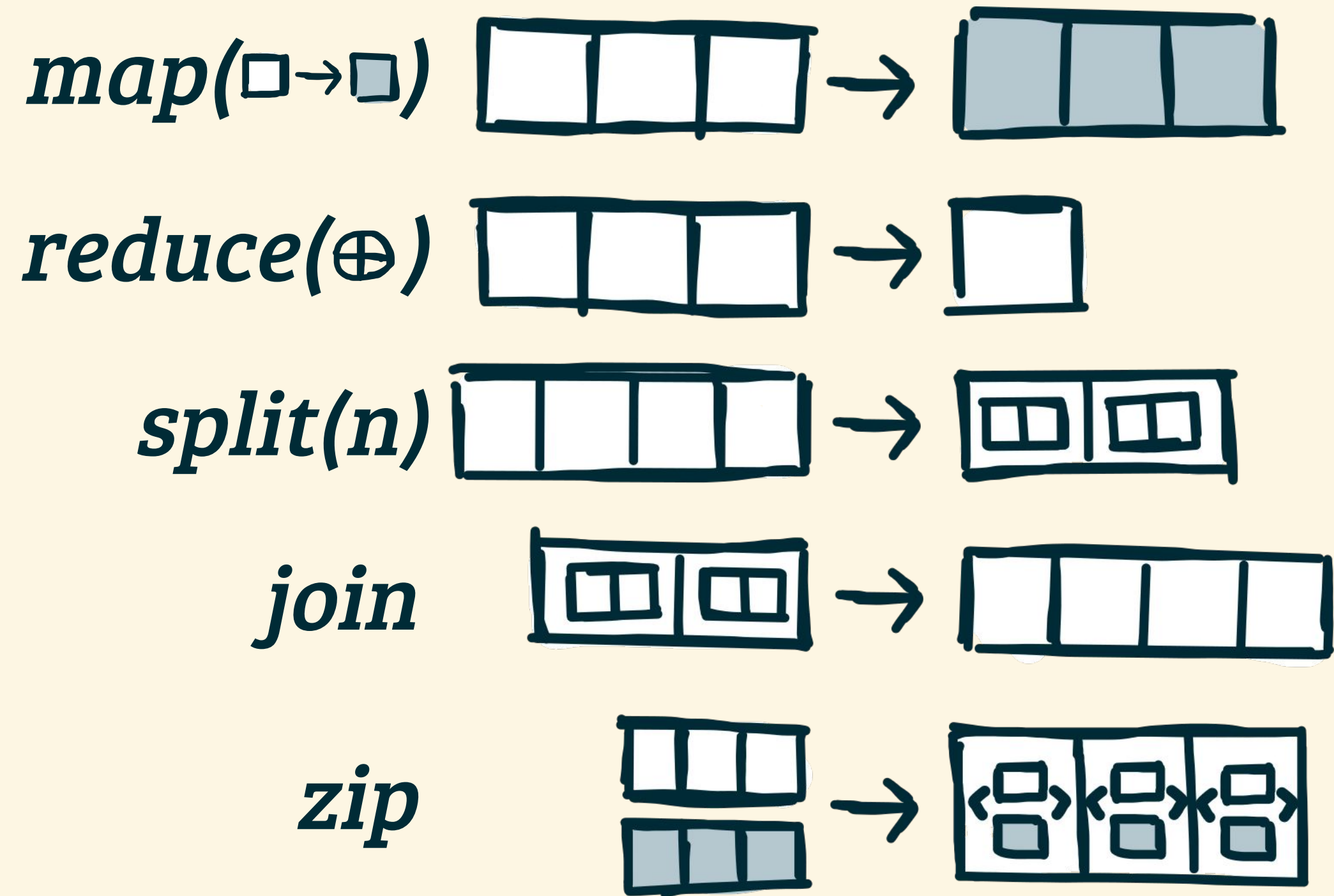


dotproduct.lift

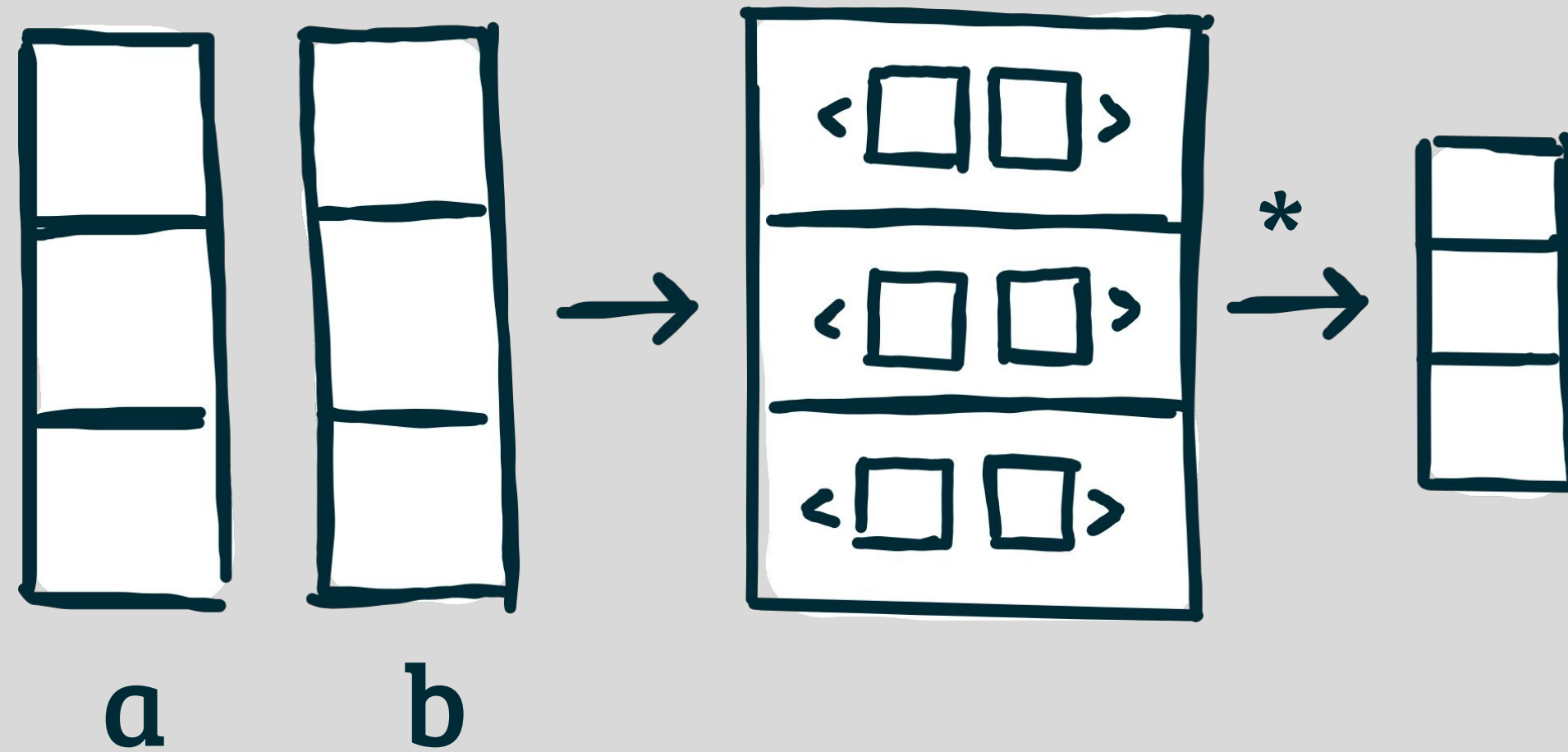


*zip*(a, b)

# LIFT'S HIGH-LEVEL PRIMITIVES

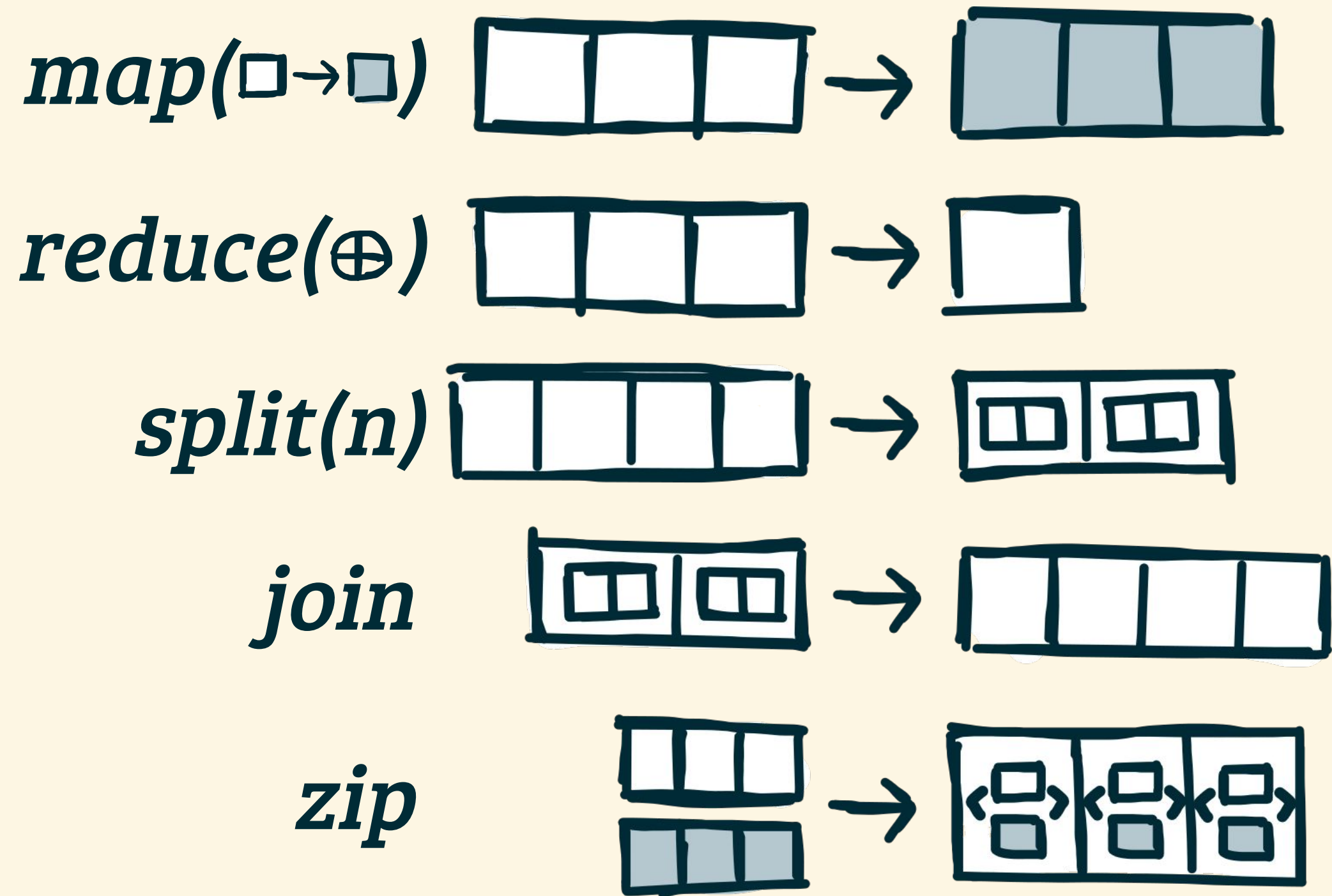


dotproduct.lift

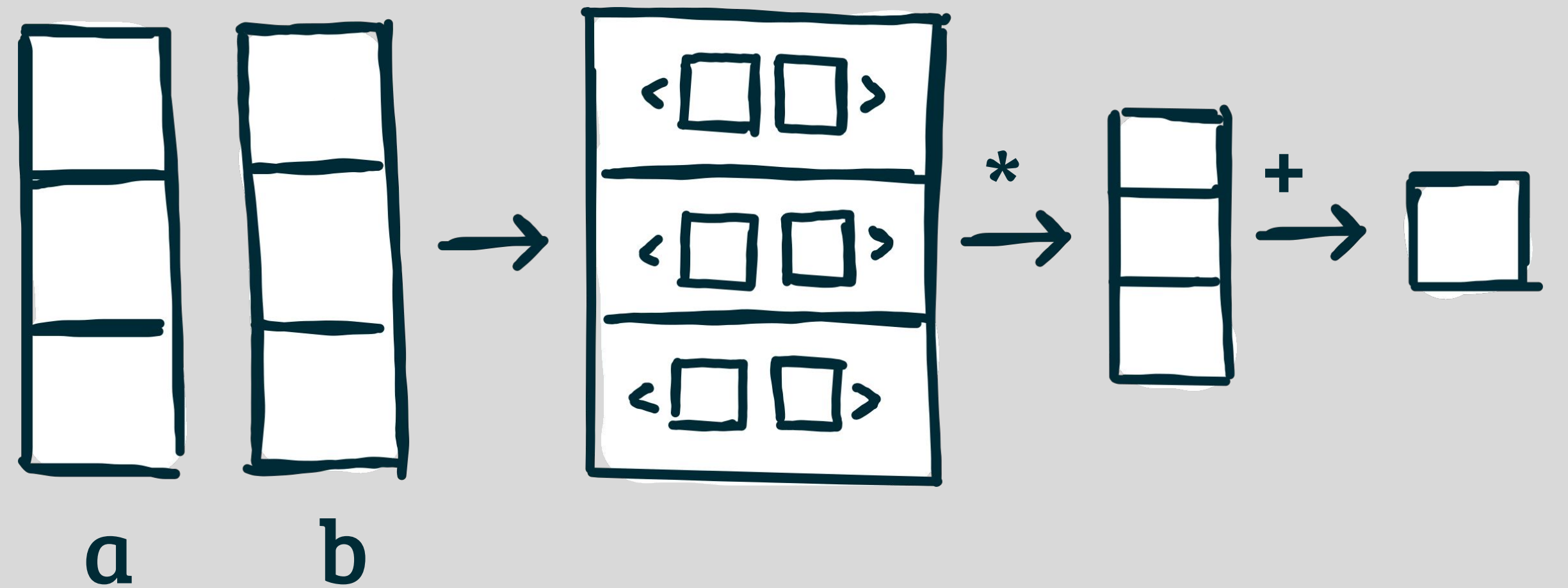


*map*(\* , *zip*(a,b))

# LIFT'S HIGH-LEVEL PRIMITIVES

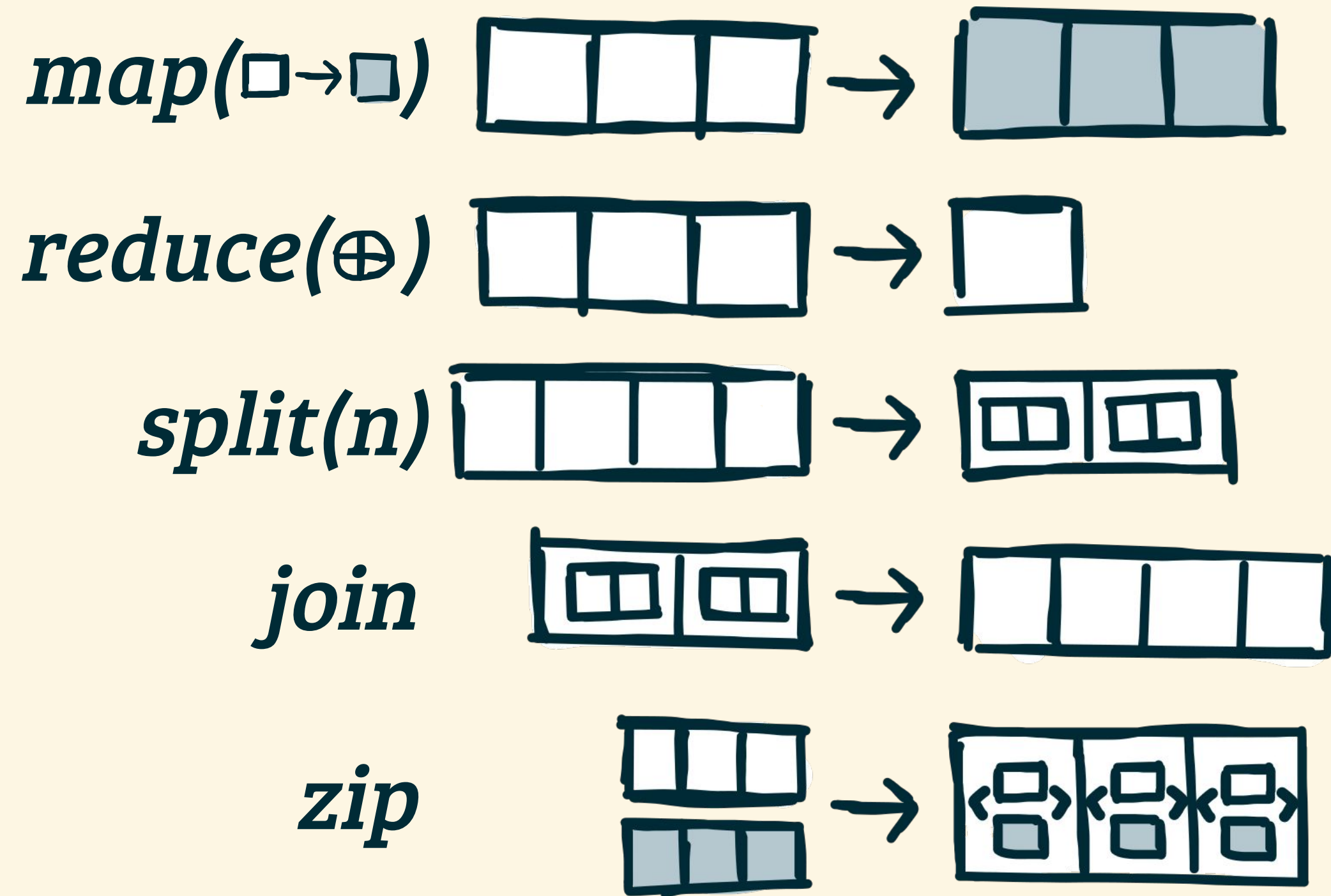


dotproduct.lift



*reduce*(+, 0, *map*(\* , *zip*(a, b)))

# LIFT'S HIGH-LEVEL PRIMITIVES



`matrixMult.lift`

```
map( $\lambda$  rowA  $\mapsto$   
  map( $\lambda$  colB  $\mapsto$   
    dotProduct(rowA, colB)  
  , transpose(B))  
, A)
```

# LIFT



**2. HIGH-LEVEL PROGRAMMING**



**1. LOW-LEVEL OPTIMIZATIONS**

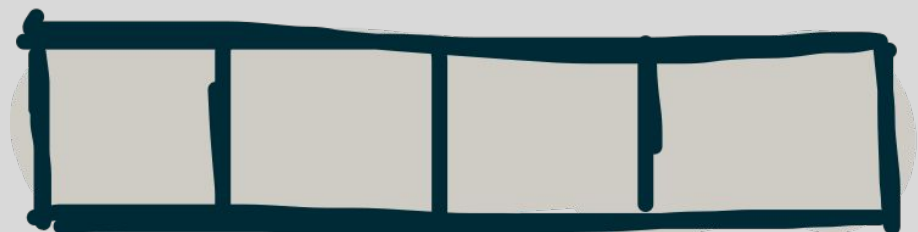
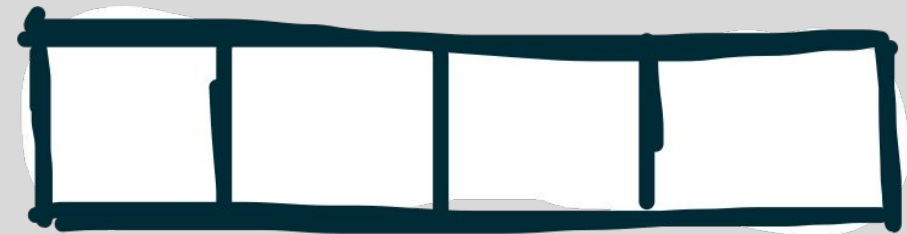


**G. HIGH PERFORMANCE**

# IMPLEMENTATION CHOICES AS REWRITE RULES

## Divide & Conquer

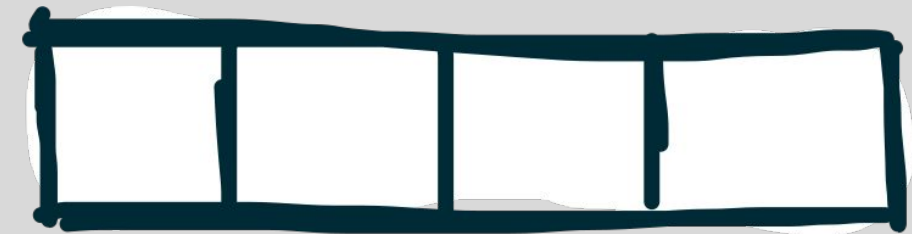
$map(f, A)$



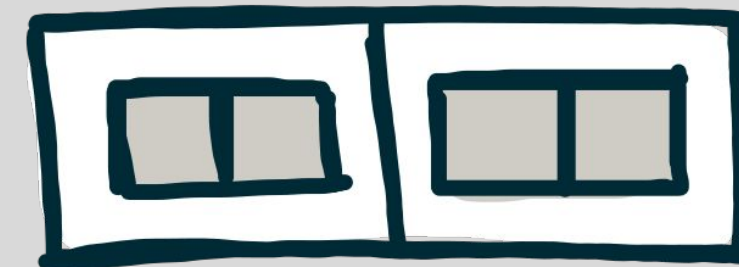
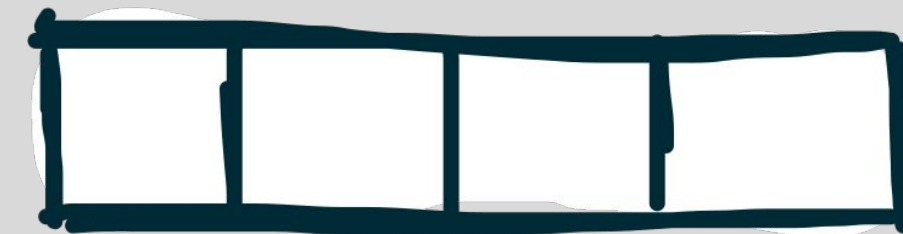
# IMPLEMENTATION CHOICES AS REWRITE RULES

## Divide & Conquer

$map(f, A)$



$join(map(map(f),$   
 $split(n, A)))$



# ***LIFT'S LOW LEVEL (OPENCL) PRIMITIVES***

**Lift primitive**

**OpenCL concept**

---

**mapGlobal**

**Work-items**

**mapWorkgroup**

**mapLocal**

**Work-groups**

**mapSeq**

**reduceSeq**

**Sequential implementations**

**toLocal, toGlobal**

**Memory areas**

**mapVec, splitVec, joinVec**

**Vectorisation**



# ***REWRITING INTO OPENCL***

**Map rules:**

**$\text{map } f \mapsto \text{mapGlobal } f \mid \text{mapWorkgroup } f \mid \text{mapLocal } f \mid \text{mapSeq } f$**

**Local / global memory:**

**$\text{mapLocal } f \mapsto \text{toLocal } (\text{mapLocal } f) \quad \text{mapLocal } f \mapsto \text{toGlobal } (\text{mapLocal } f)$**

**Vectorization:**

**$\text{map } f \mapsto \text{joinVec} \circ \text{map } (\text{mapVec } f) \circ \text{splitVec } n$**

# OPTIMIZATIONS AS MACRO RULES

## 2D Tiling

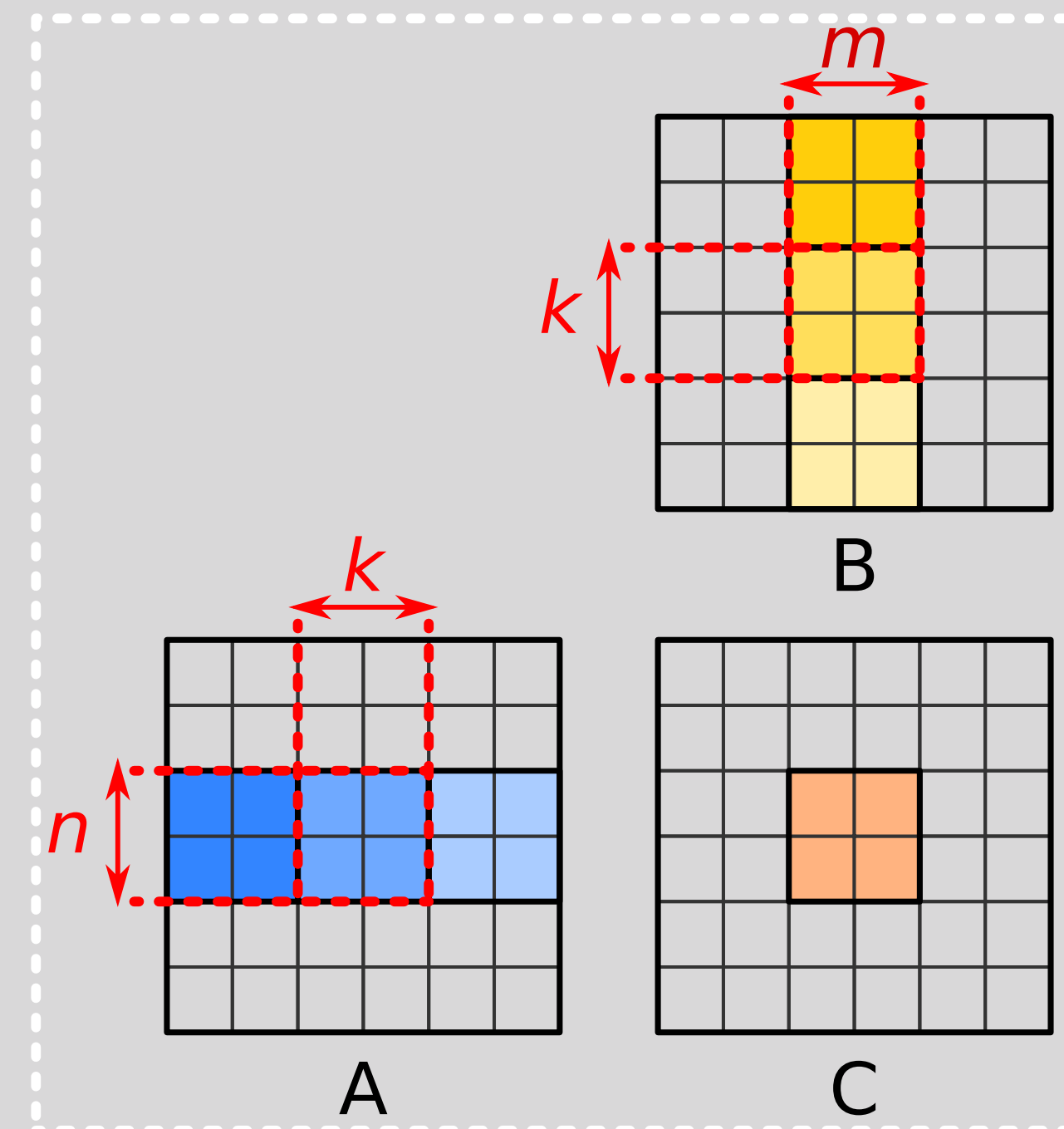
Naïve matrix multiplication

```
1 map(λ arow .  
2 map(λ bcol .  
3 reduce(+, 0) ◦ map(×) ◦ zip(arow, bcol)  
4 , transpose(B))  
5 , A)
```



Apply tiling rules

```
1 untile ◦ map(λ rowOfTilesA .  
2 map(λ colOfTilesB .  
3 toGlobal(copy2D) ◦  
4 reduce(λ (tileAcc, (tileA, tileB)) .  
5 map(map(+)) ◦ zip(tileAcc) ◦  
6 map(λ as .  
7 map(λ bs .  
8 reduce(+, 0) ◦ map(×) ◦ zip(as, bs)  
9 , toLocal(copy2D(tileB)))  
10 , toLocal(copy2D(tileA)))  
11 , 0, zip(rowOfTilesA, colOfTilesB))  
12 ) ◦ tile(m, k, transpose(B))  
13 ) ◦ tile(n, k, A)
```



[GPGPU'16]

# LIFT



**2. HIGH-LEVEL PROGRAMMING**

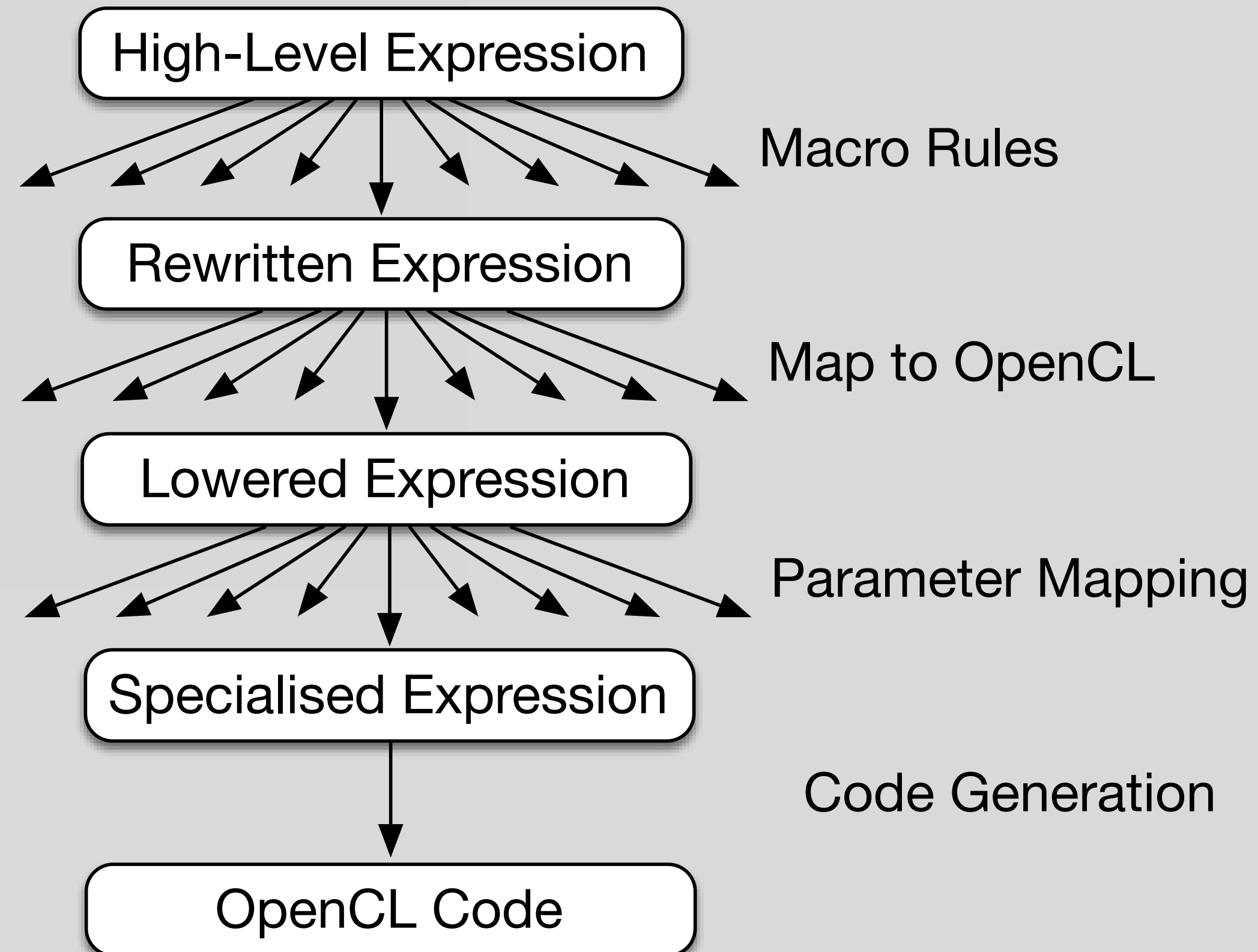


**1. LOW-LEVEL OPTIMIZATIONS**

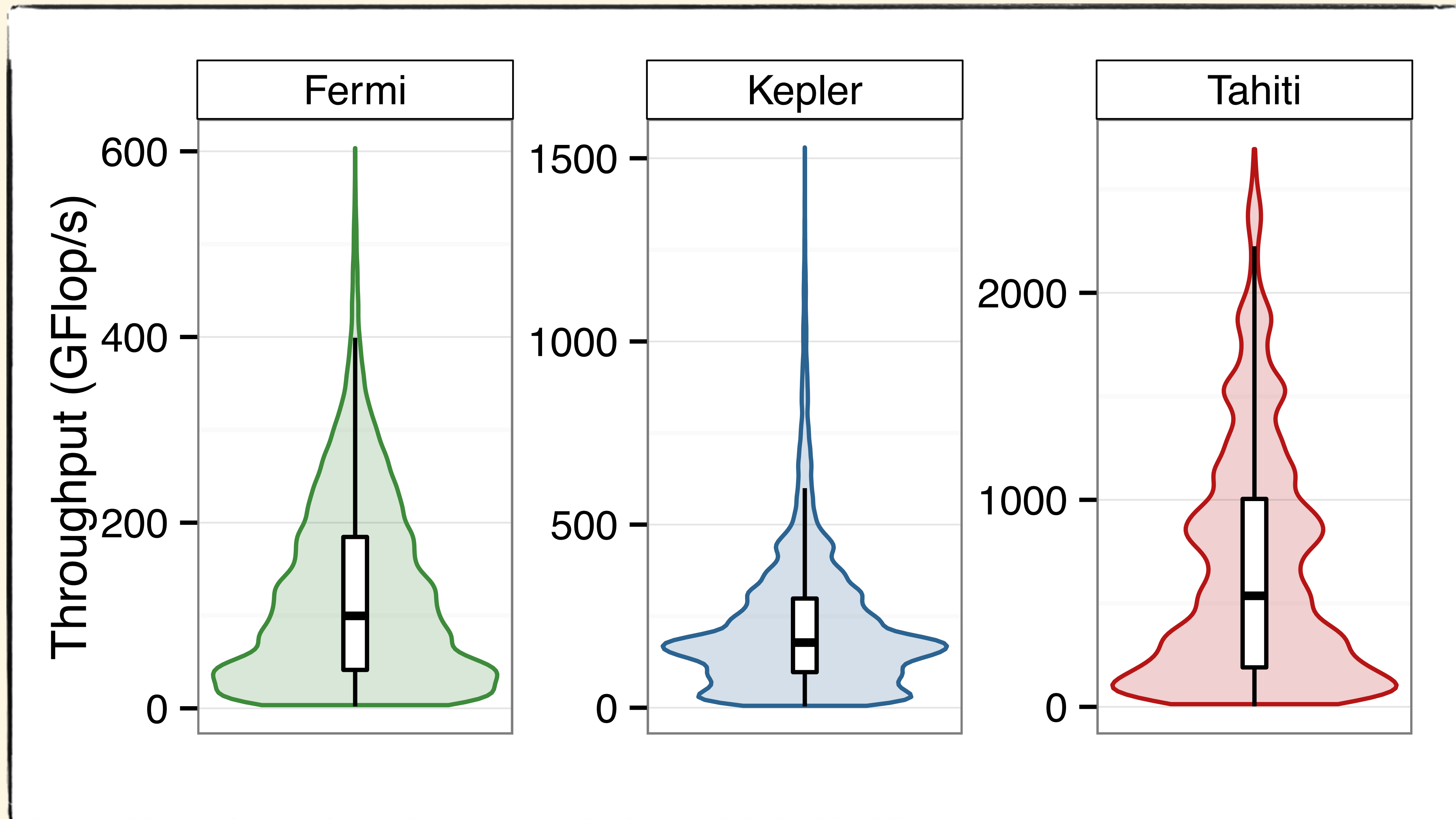


**G. HIGH PERFORMANCE**

# EXPLORATION BY REWRITING



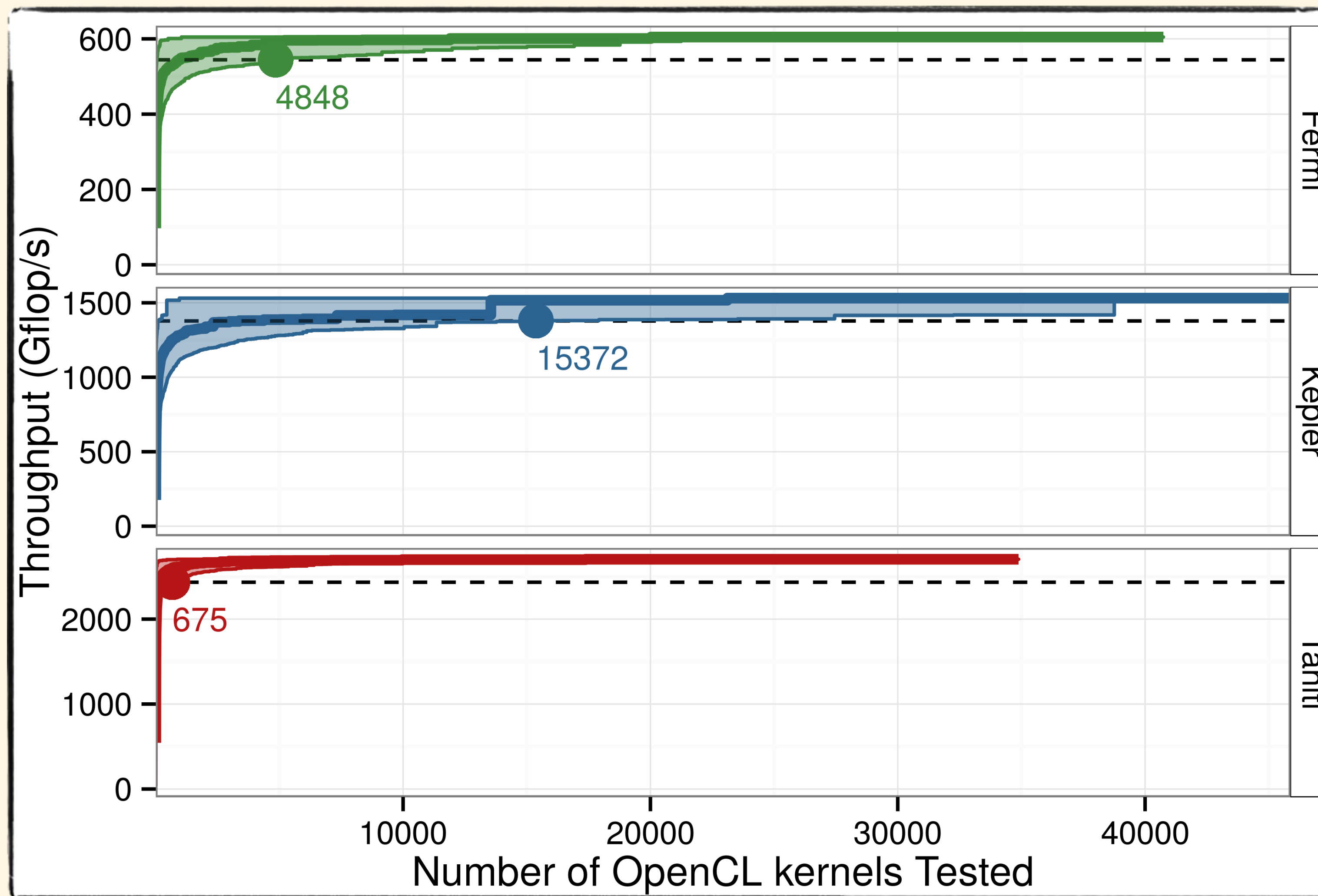
# ***EXPLORATION SPACE MATRIX MULTIPLICATION***



Only few generated code with very good performance

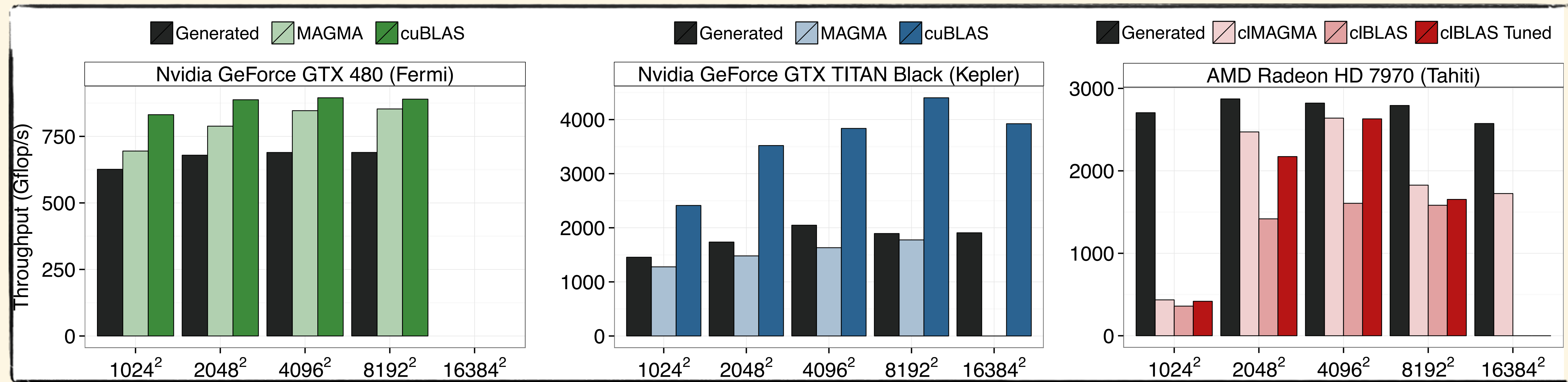
[GPGPU'16]

# ***EVEN RANDOMISED SEARCH WORKS WELL!***



**Still: One can expect to find a good performing kernel quickly!**

# PERFORMANCE RESULTS MATRIX MULTIPLICATION

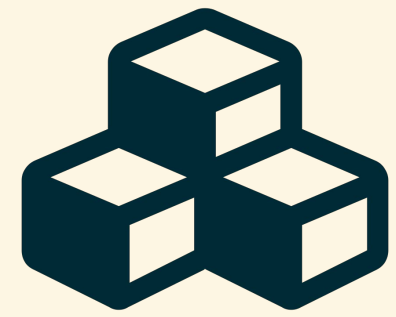


Performance close or better than hand-tuned MAGMA library

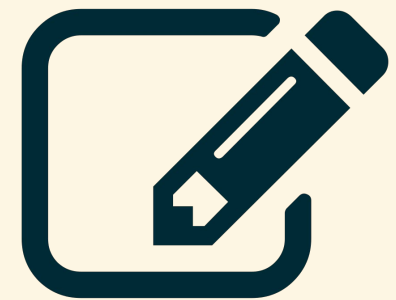
# STENCIL COMPUTATIONS IN LIFT

[CGO'18] Best Paper Award

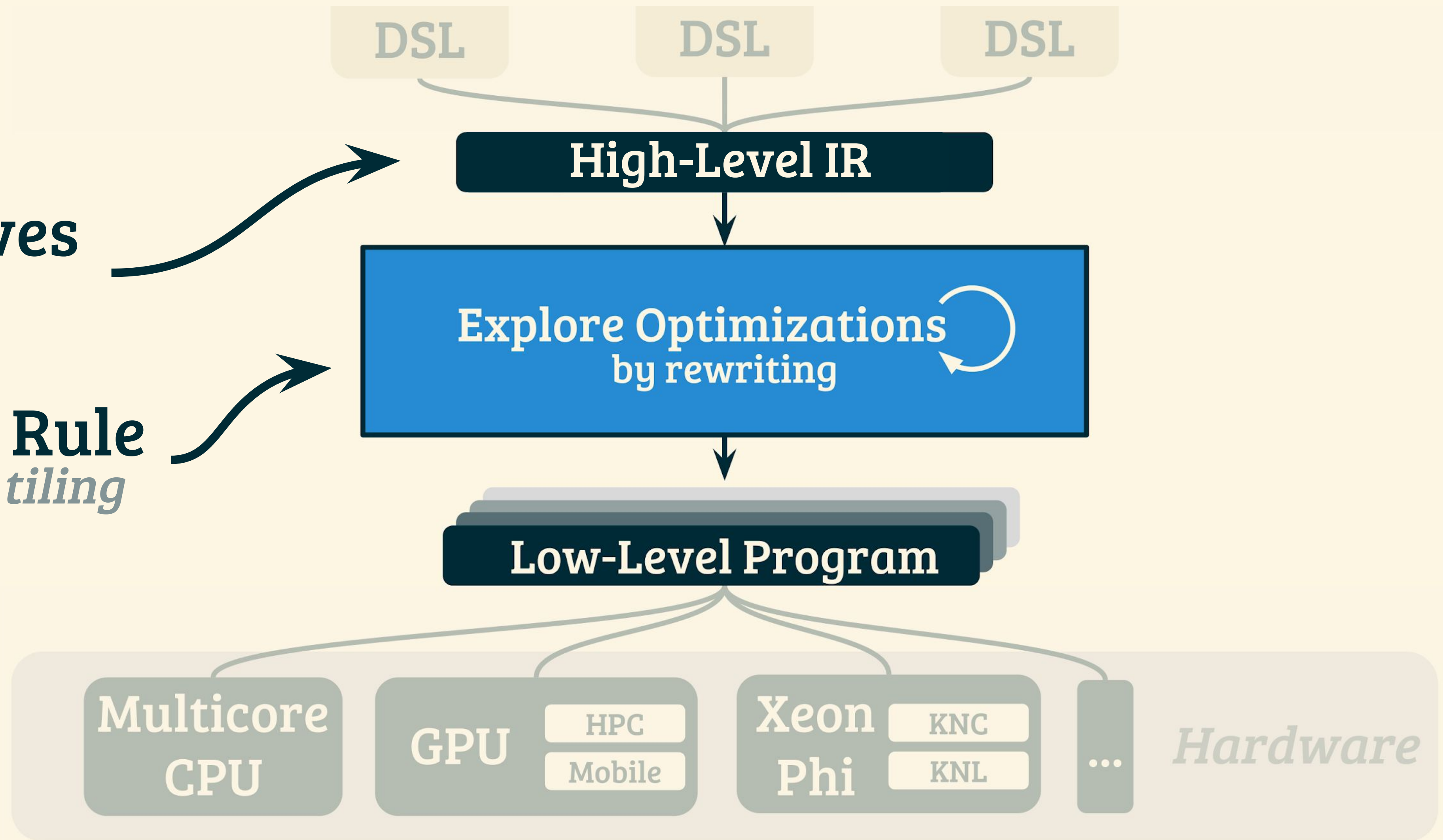
We added:



**2 Primitives**  
*pad, slide*



**1 Rewrite Rule**  
*overlapped tiling*

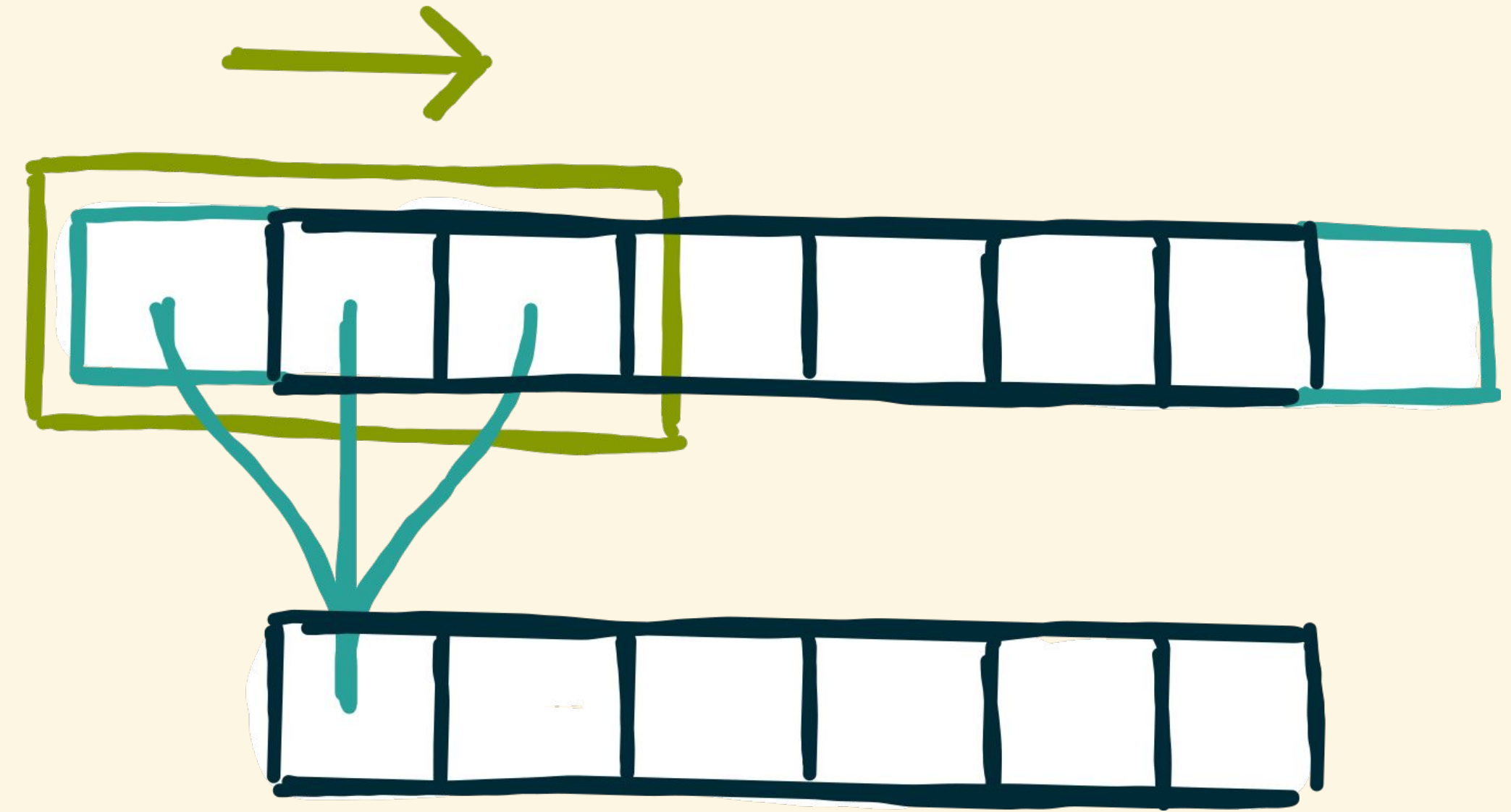




# DECOMPOSING STENCIL COMPUTATIONS

## 3-point-stencil.c

```
for (int i = 0; i < N ; i ++ ) {  
  int sum = 0;  
  for ( int j = -1; j <= 1; j ++ ) { // ( a )  
    int pos = i + j;  
    pos = pos < 0 ? 0 : pos;  
    pos = pos > N - 1 ? N - 1 : pos;  
    sum += A[ pos ]; }  
  B[ i ] = sum ; }
```

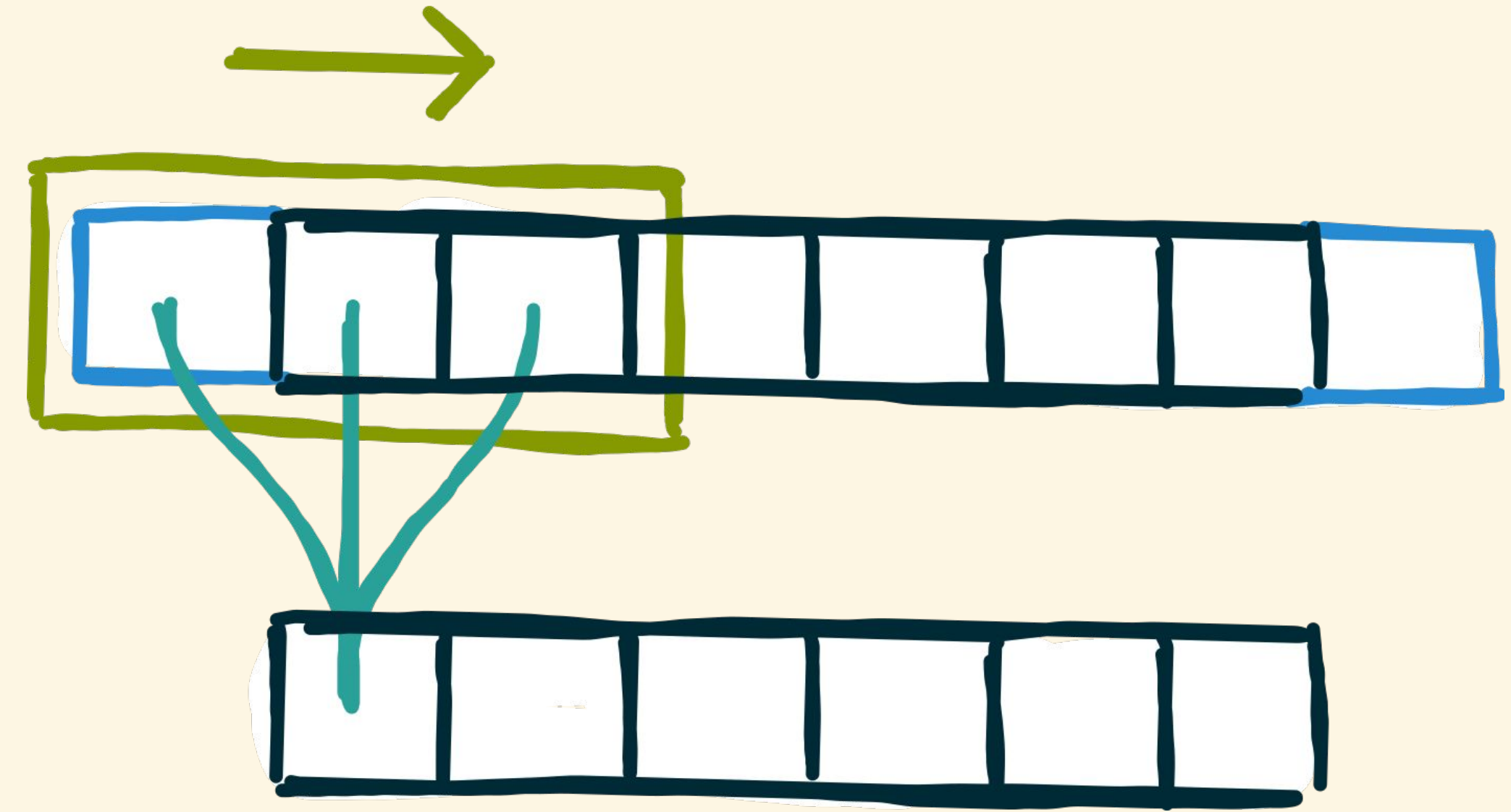


(a) access **neighborhoods** for every element

# DECOMPOSING STENCIL COMPUTATIONS

## 3-point-stencil.c

```
for (int i = 0; i < N ; i ++ ) {  
  int sum = 0;  
  for ( int j = -1; j <= 1; j ++ ) { // ( a )  
    int pos = i + j;  
    pos = pos < 0 ? 0 : pos; // ( b )  
    pos = pos > N - 1 ? N - 1 : pos;  
    sum += A[ pos ]; }  
  B[ i ] = sum ; }
```

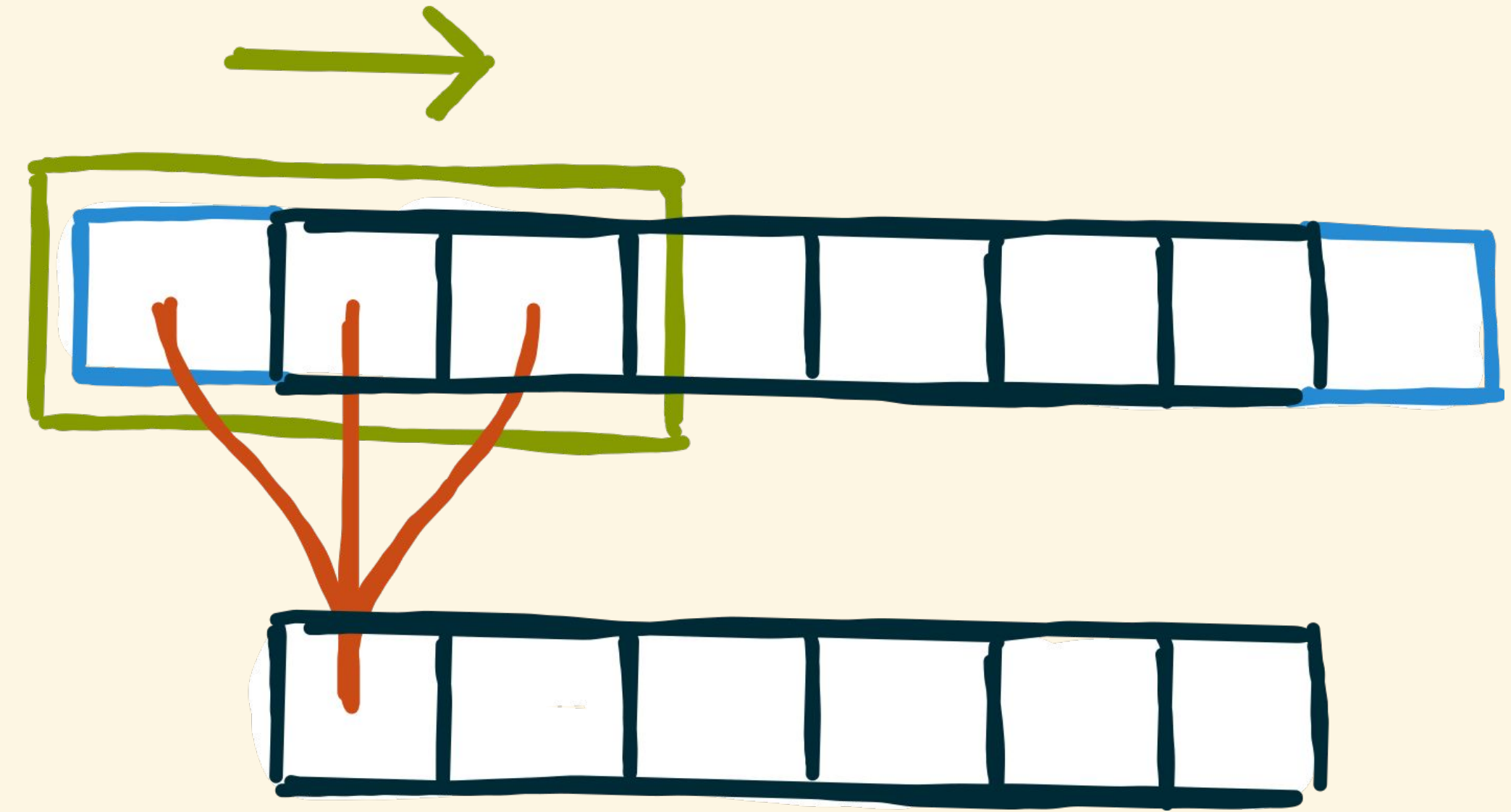


- (a) access **neighborhoods** for every element
- (b) specify **boundary handling**

# DECOMPOSING STENCIL COMPUTATIONS

## 3-point-stencil.c

```
for (int i = 0; i < N ; i ++ ) {  
  int sum = 0;  
  for ( int j = -1; j <= 1; j ++ ) { // ( a )  
    int pos = i + j;  
    pos = pos < 0 ? 0 : pos; // ( b )  
    pos = pos > N - 1 ? N - 1 : pos;  
    sum += A[ pos ]; } // ( c )  
  B[ i ] = sum ; }
```

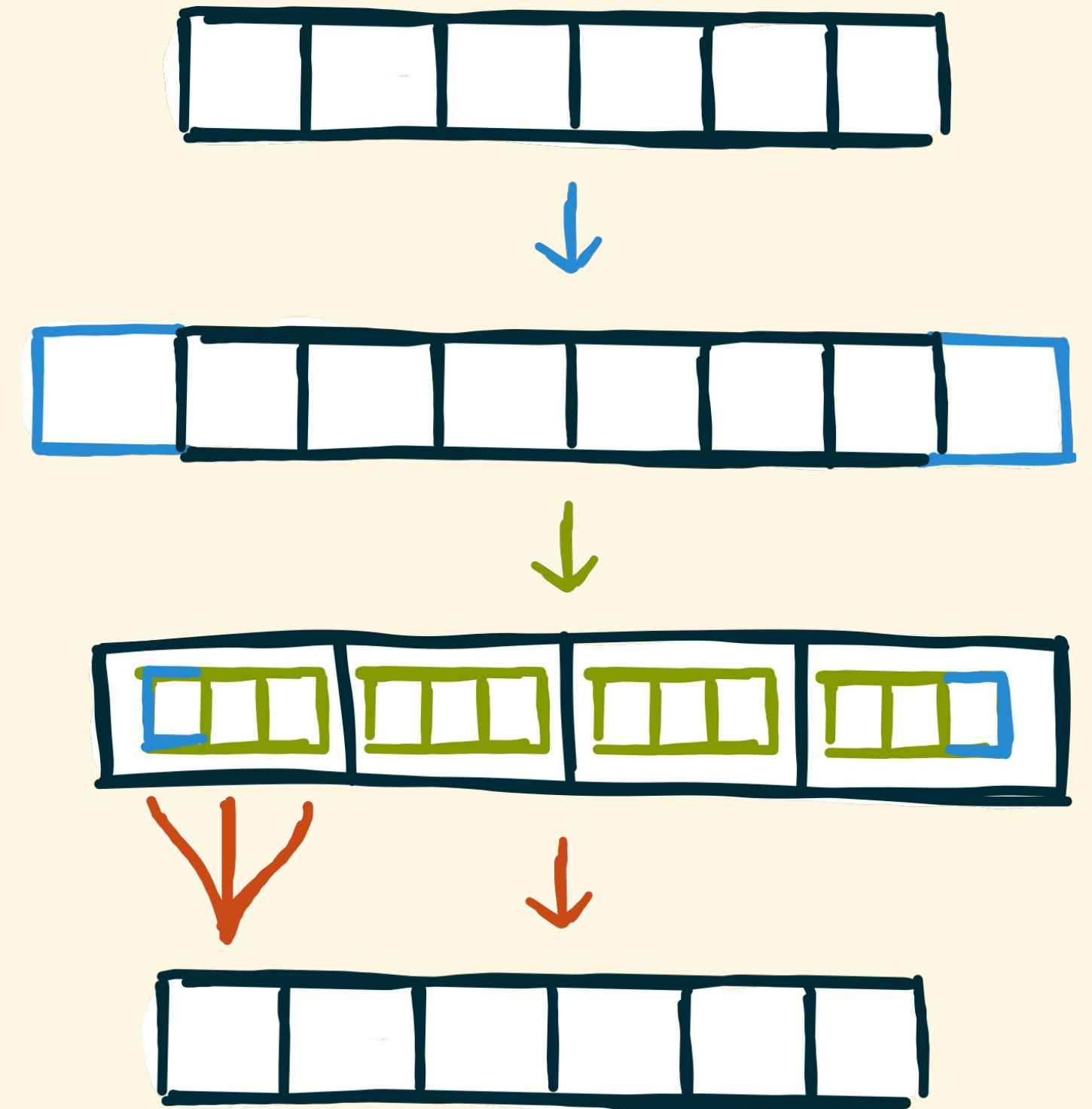


- (a) access **neighborhoods** for every element
- (b) specify **boundary handling**
- (c) apply **stencil function** to neighborhoods

# DECOMPOSING STENCIL COMPUTATIONS

## 3-point-stencil.c

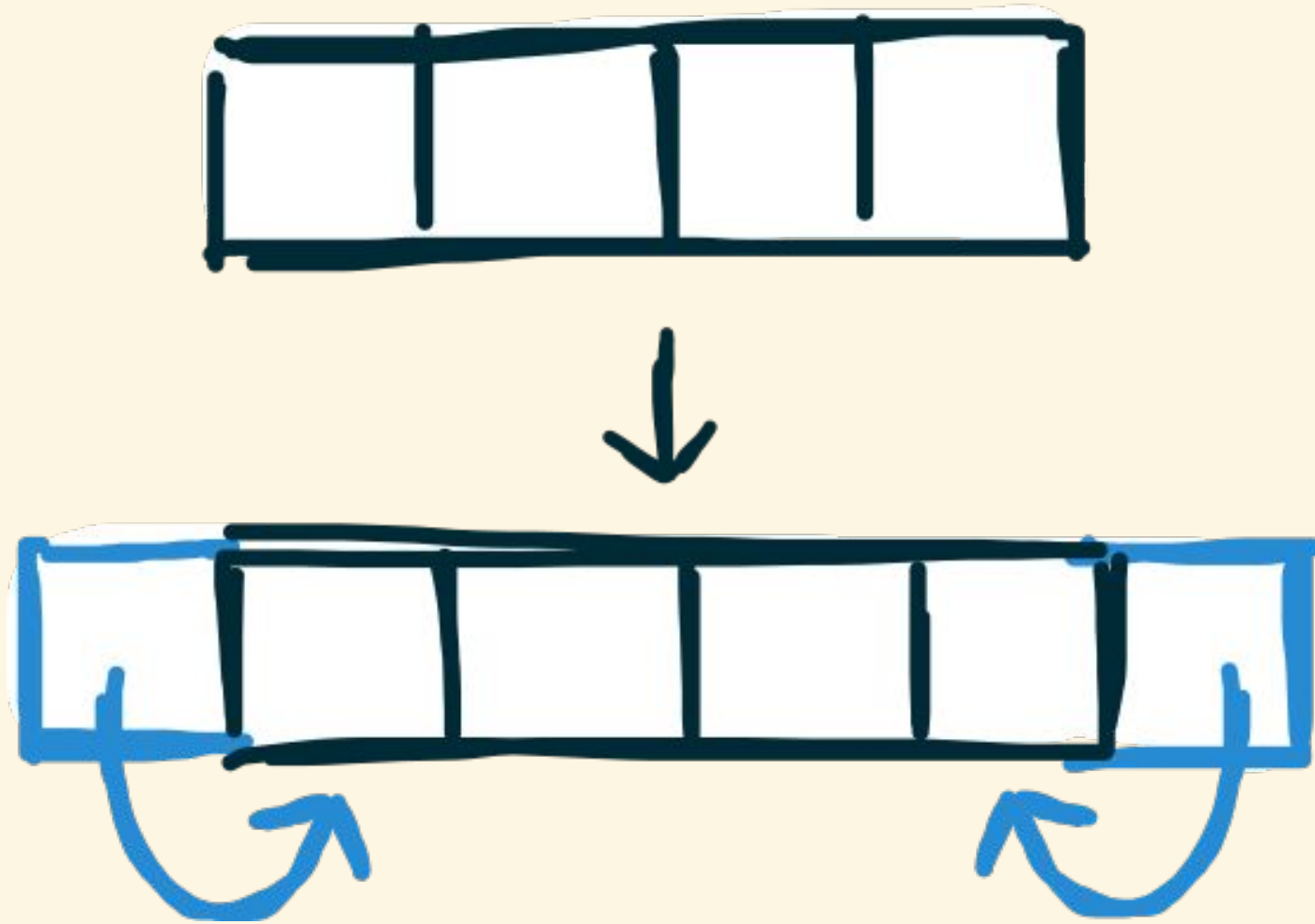
```
for (int i = 0; i < N ; i ++ ) {  
    int sum = 0;  
    for ( int j = -1; j <= 1; j ++ ) { // ( a )  
        int pos = i + j;  
        pos = pos < 0 ? 0 : pos; // ( b )  
        pos = pos > N - 1 ? N - 1 : pos;  
        sum += A[ pos ]; // ( c )  
    }  
    B[ i ] = sum ; }  
}
```



- (a)** access **neighborhoods** for every element
- (b)** specify **boundary handling**
- (c)** apply **stencil function** to neighborhoods

# BOUNDARY HANDLING USING PAD

*pad (reindexing)*

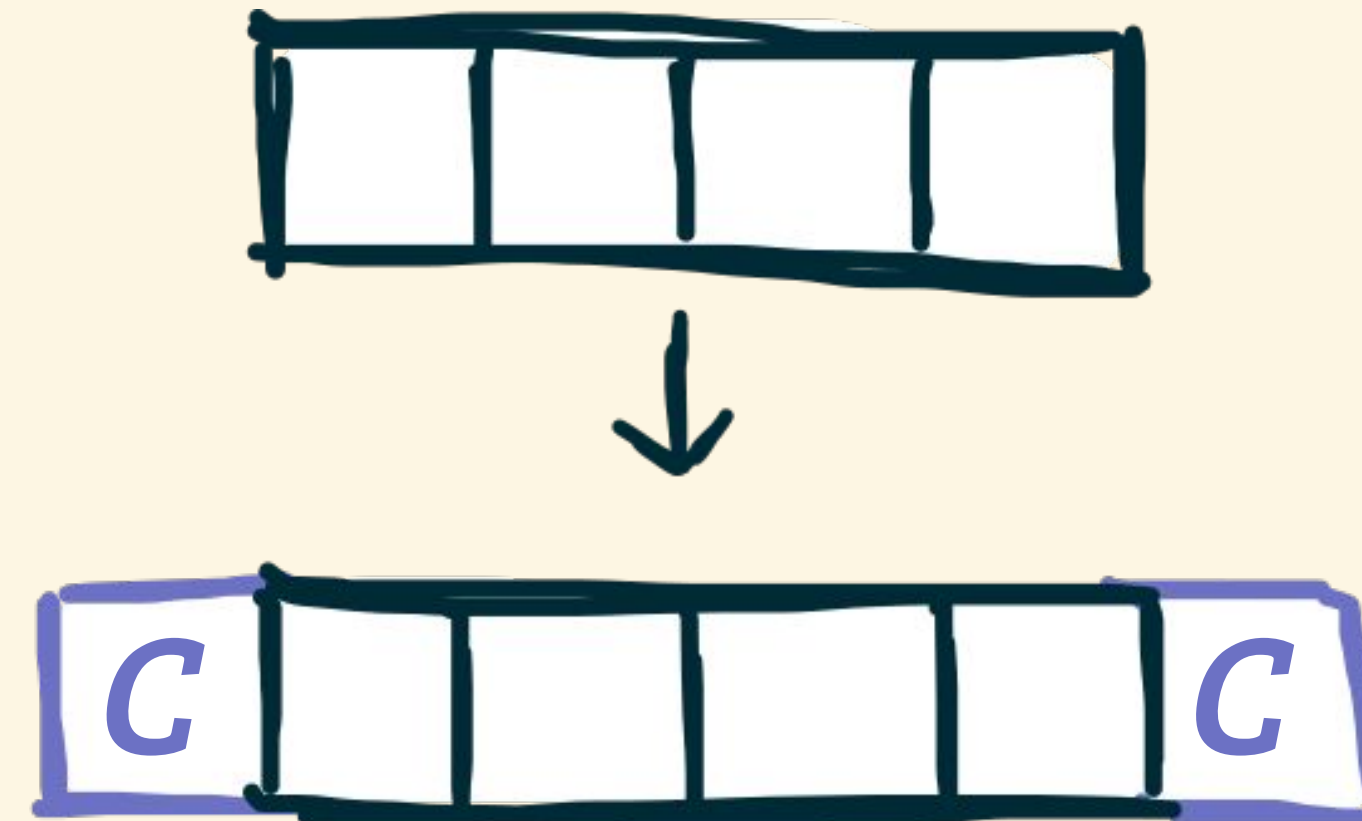


`pad-reindexing.lift`

```
clamp(i, n) = (i < 0) ? 0 :  
              ((i >= n) ? n-1:i)
```

```
pad(1,1,clamp, [a,b,c,d]) =  
  [a,a,b,c,d,d]
```

*pad (constant)*

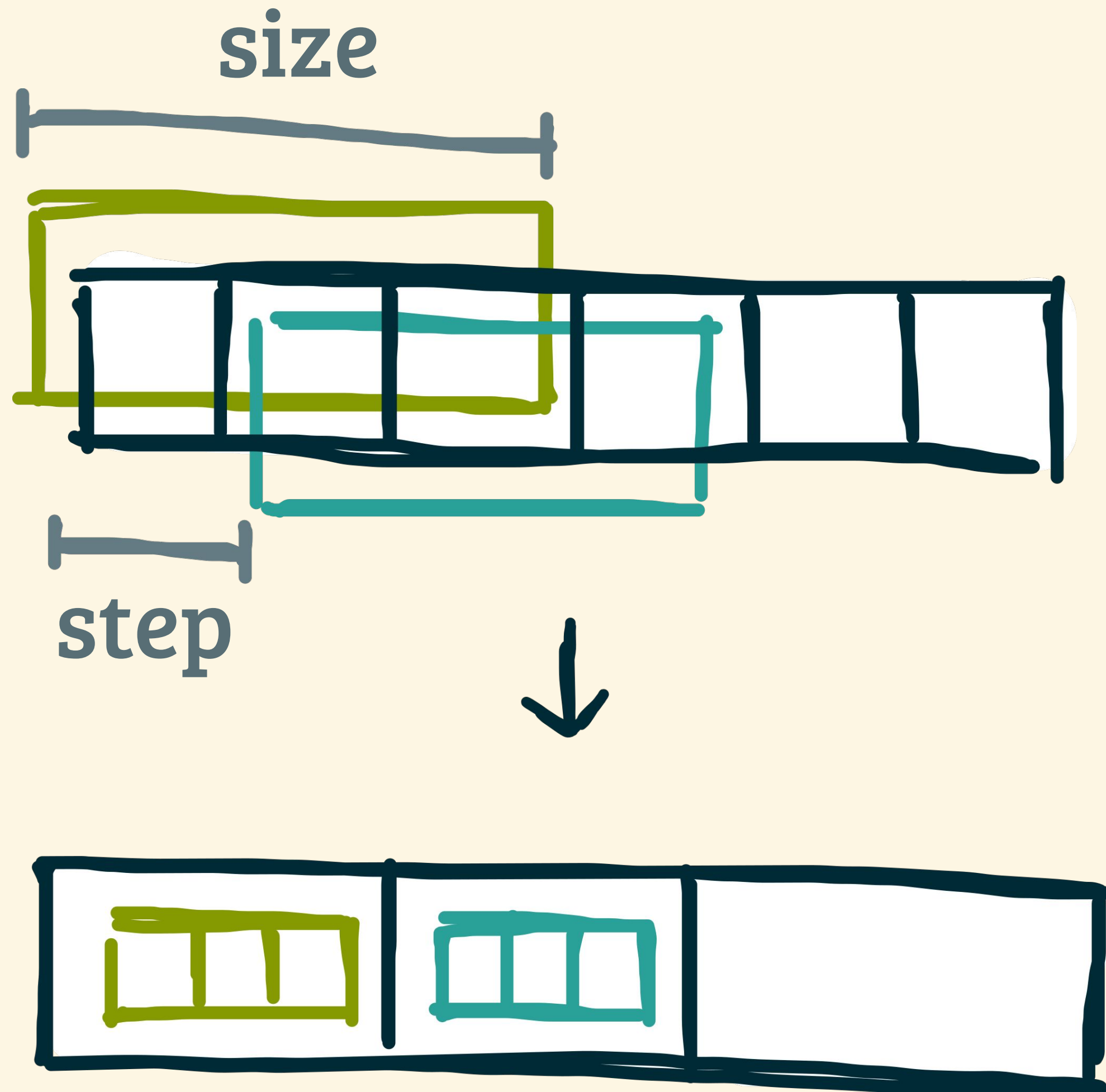


`pad-constant.lift`

```
constant(i, n) = C
```

```
pad(1,1,constant, [a,b,c,d]) =  
  [C,a,b,c,d,C]
```

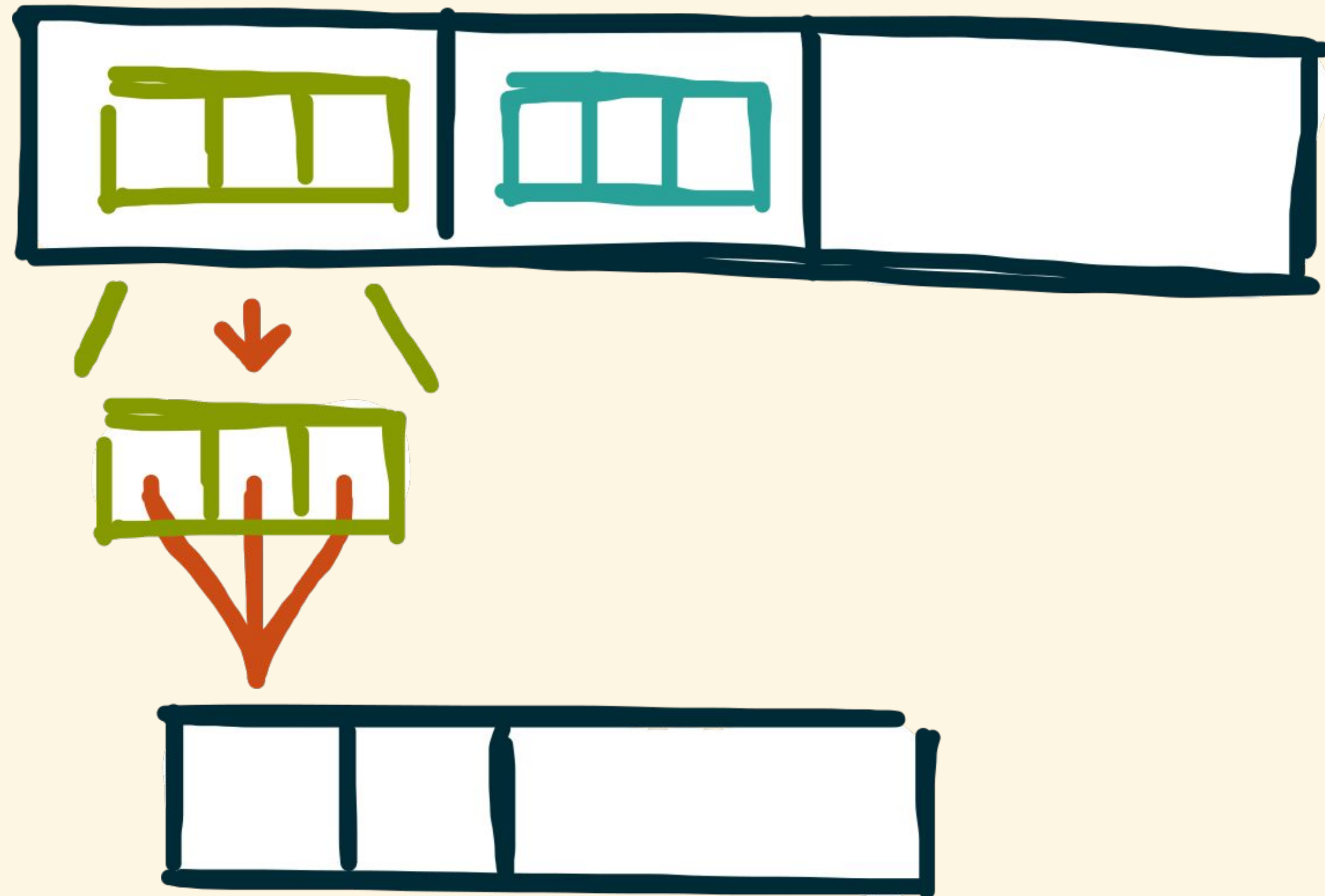
# NEIGHBORHOOD CREATION USING *SLIDE*



slide-example.lift

```
slide(3, 1, [a, b, c, d, e]) =  
[[a, b, c], [b, c, d], [c, d, e]]
```

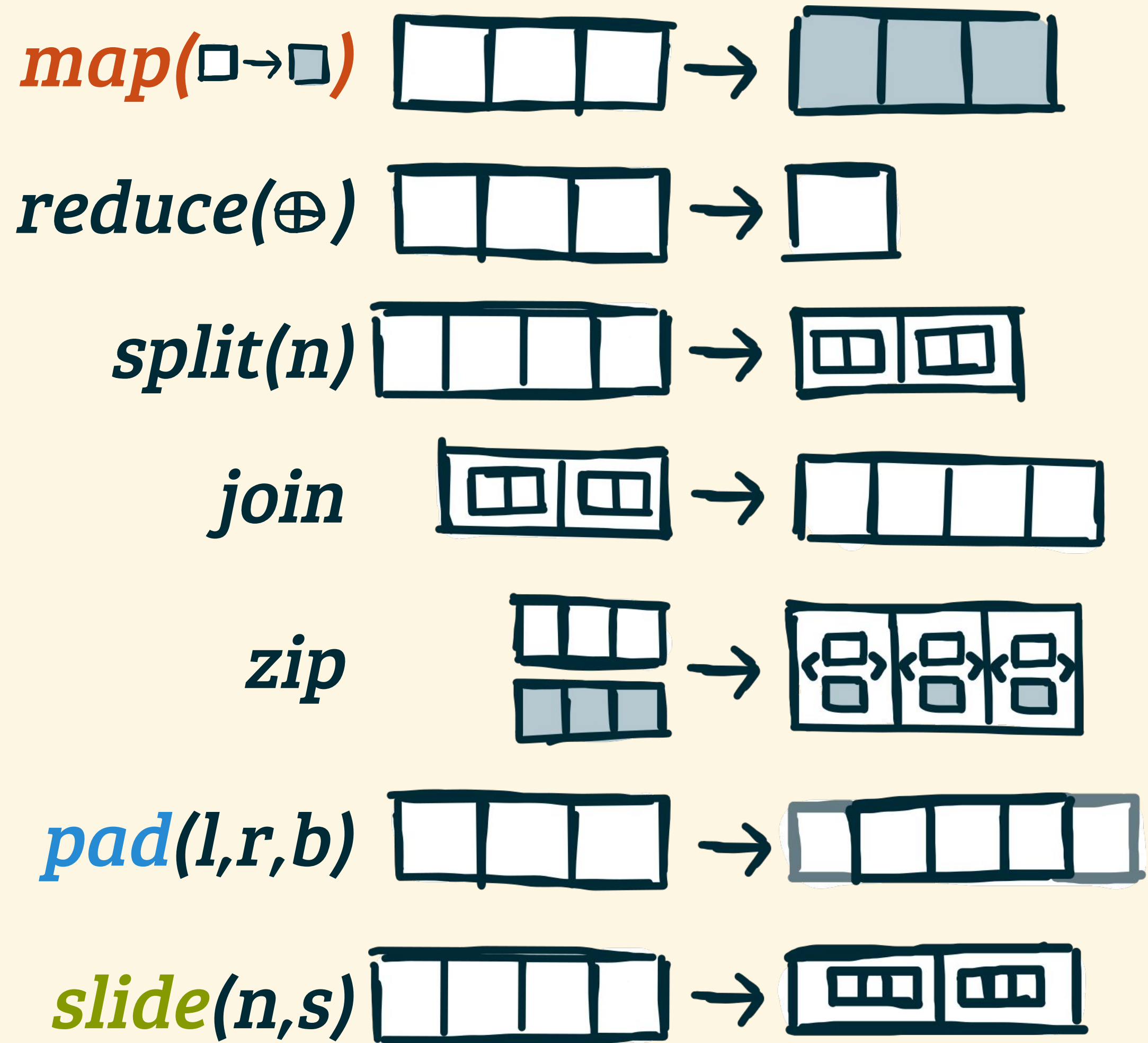
# APPLYING STENCIL FUNCTION USING **MAP**



sum-neighborhoods.lift

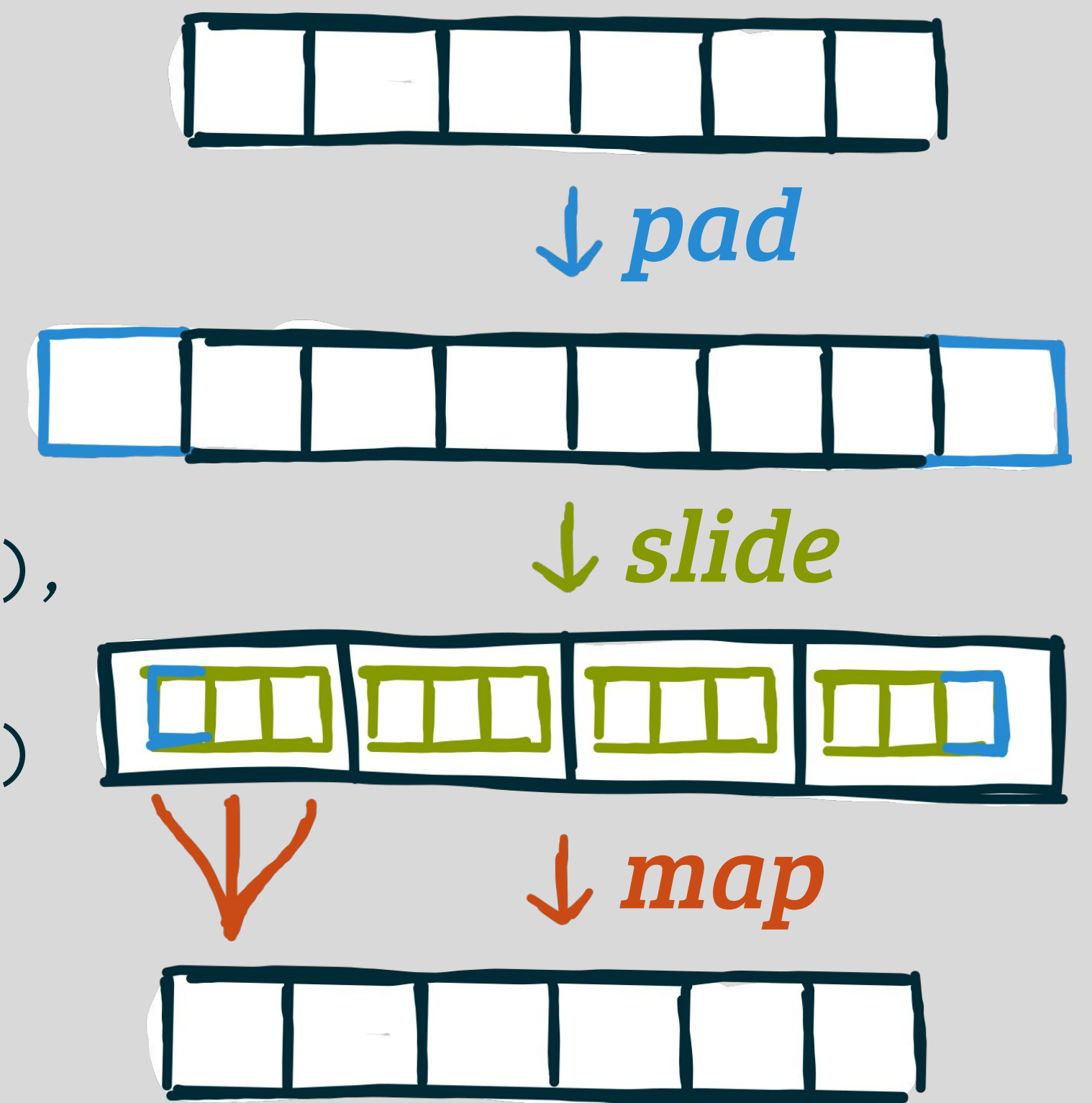
```
map(nbh =>  
  reduce(add, 0.0f, nbh))
```

# PUTTING IT TOGETHER



## stencil1D.lift

```
def stencil1D =
  fun(A =>
    map(reduce(add, 0.0f),
      slide(3, 1,
        pad(1, 1, clamp, A))))
```

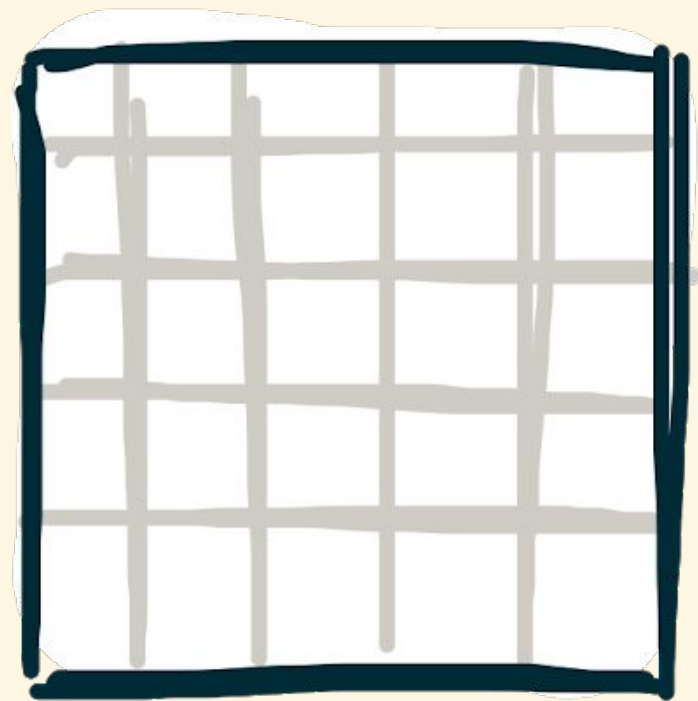




# ***MULTIDIMENSIONAL STENCIL COMPUTATIONS***

are expressed as compositions of intuitive, generic 1D primitives

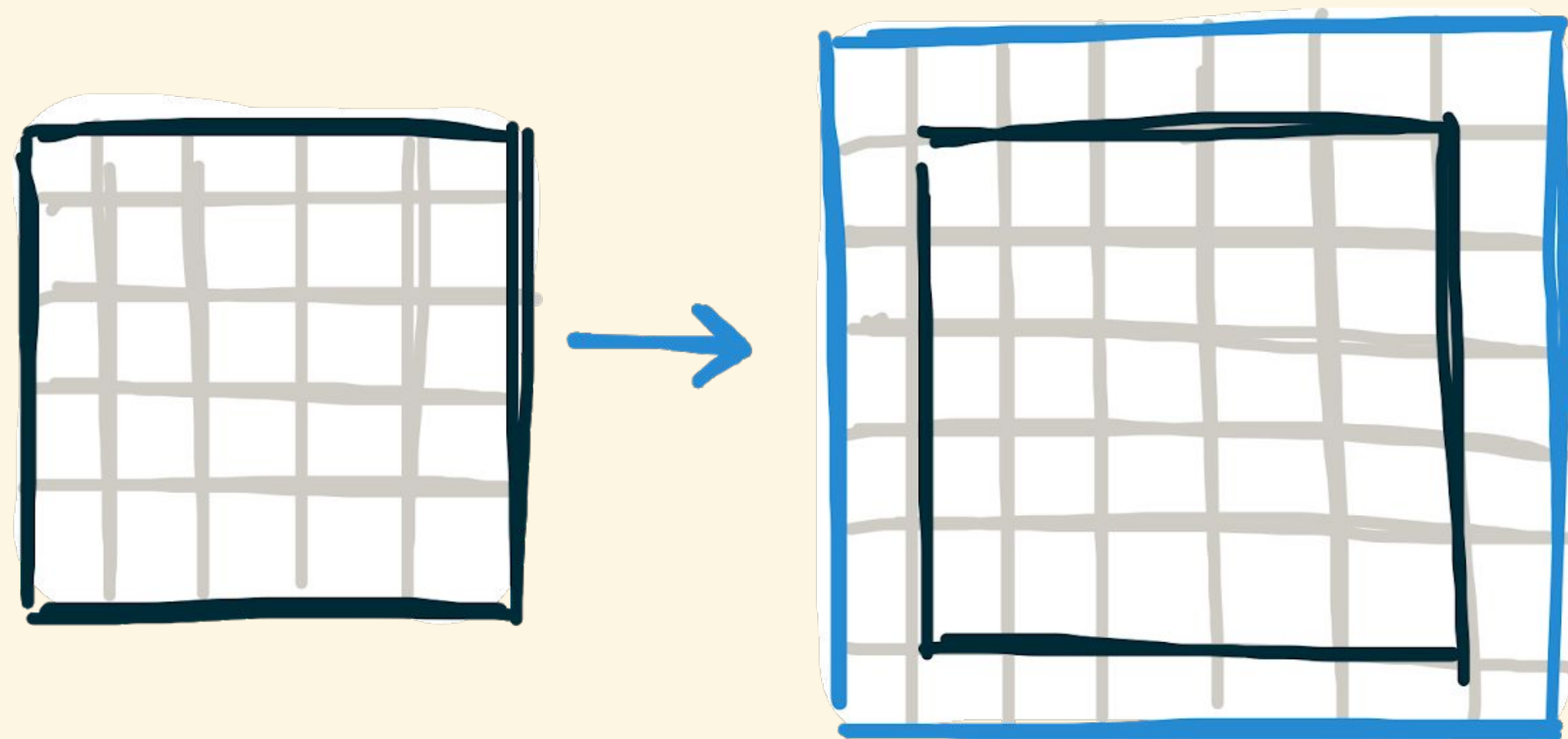
Decompose to Re-Compose



# MULTIDIMENSIONAL STENCIL COMPUTATIONS

are expressed as compositions of intuitive, generic 1D primitives

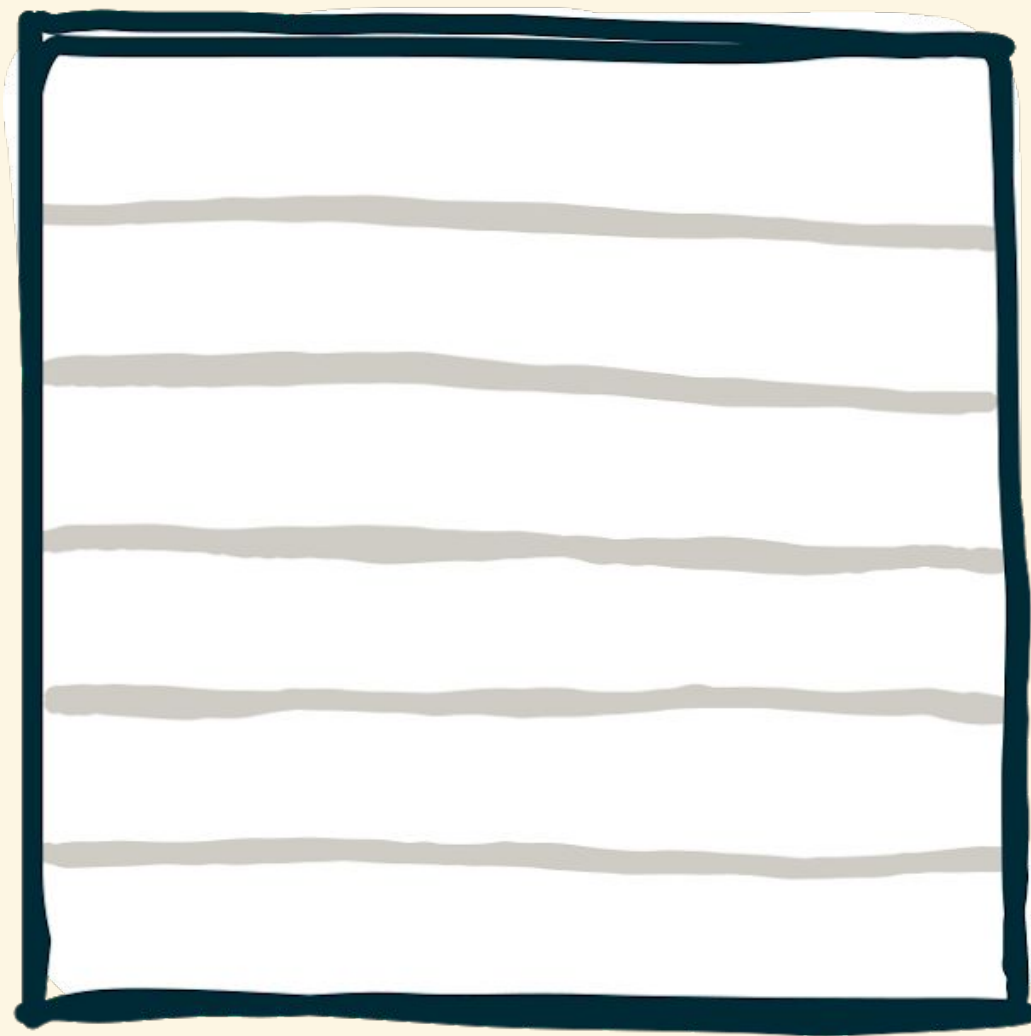
Decompose to Re-Compose



$\text{pad}_2(1, 1, \text{clamp}, \text{input})$

# ***MULTIDIMENSIONAL BOUNDARY HANDLING USING $PAD_2$***

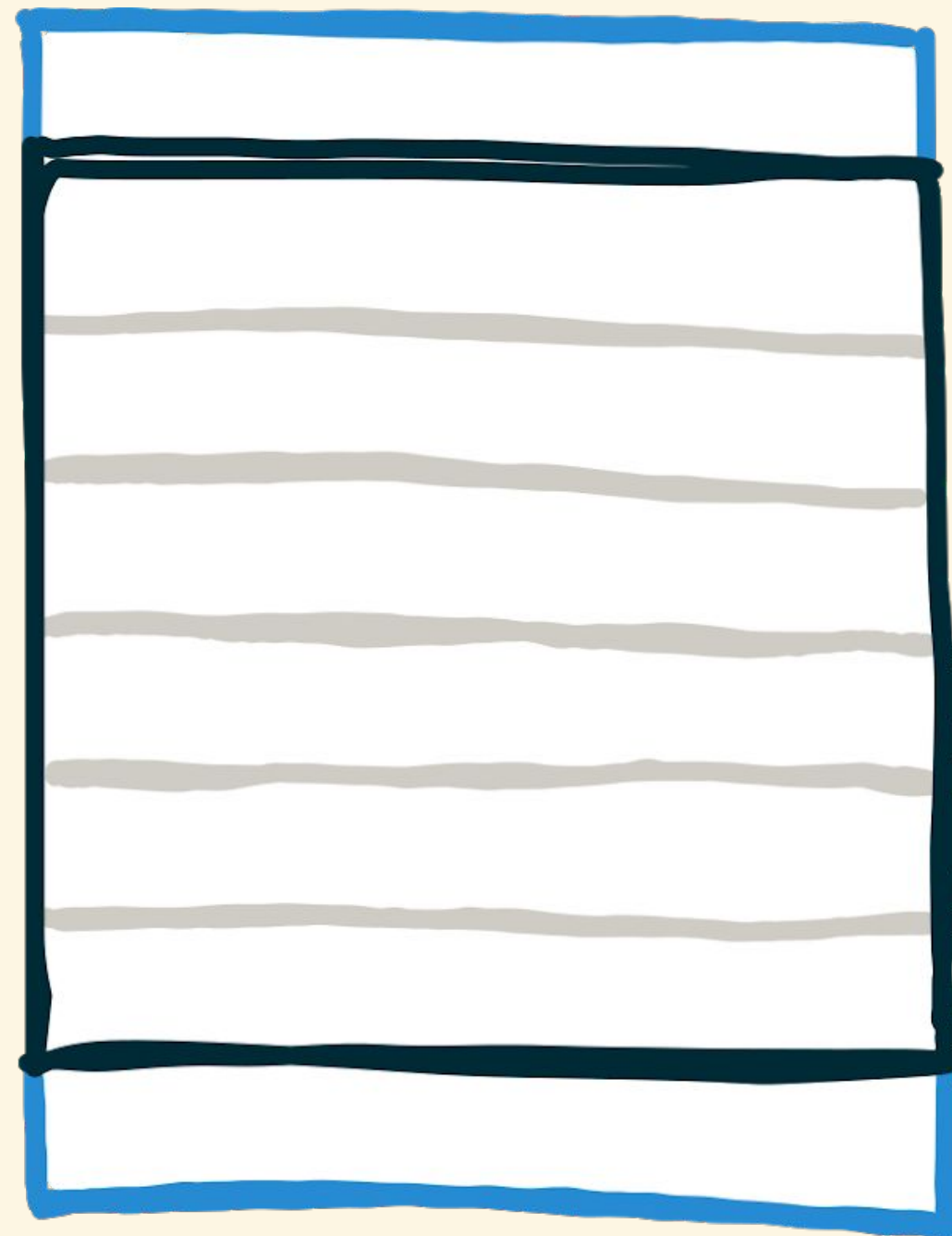
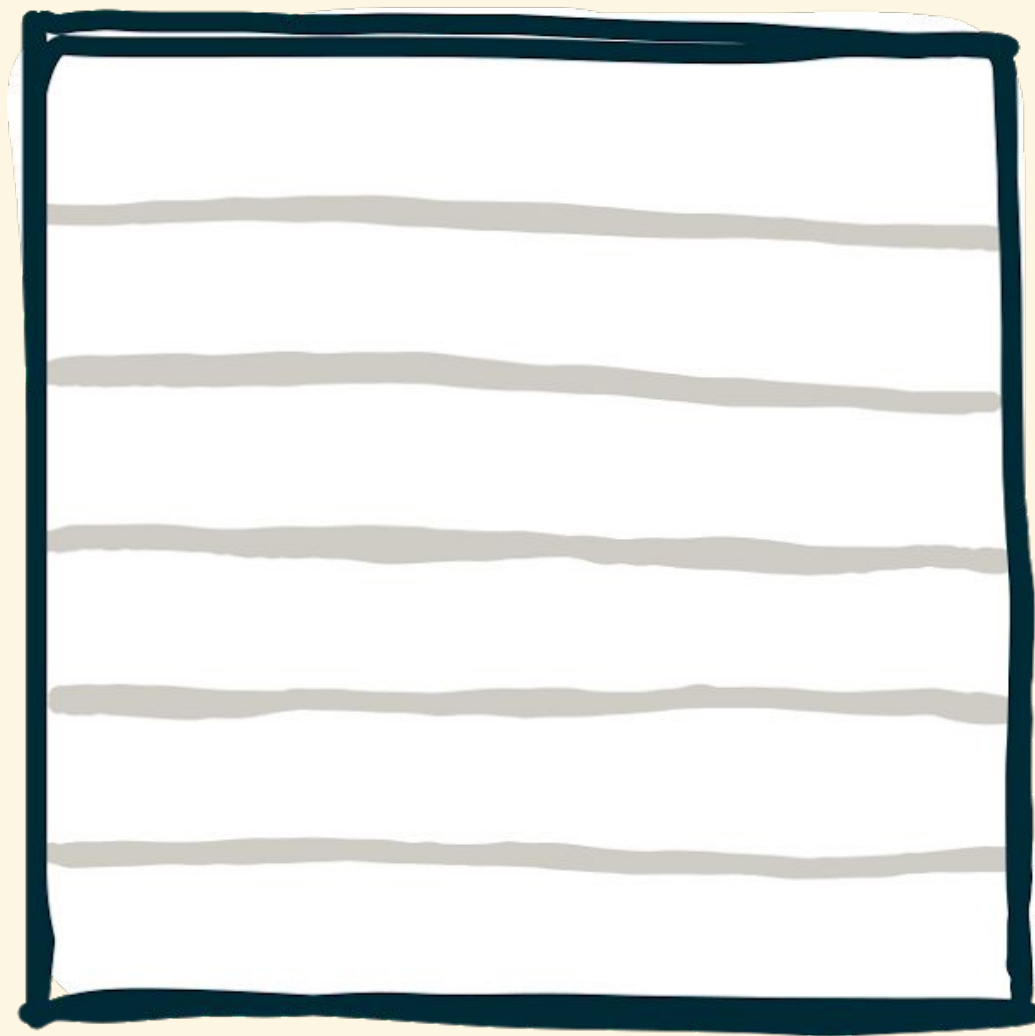
input



$pad_2 =$

# MULTIDIMENSIONAL BOUNDARY HANDLING USING $PAD_2$

input

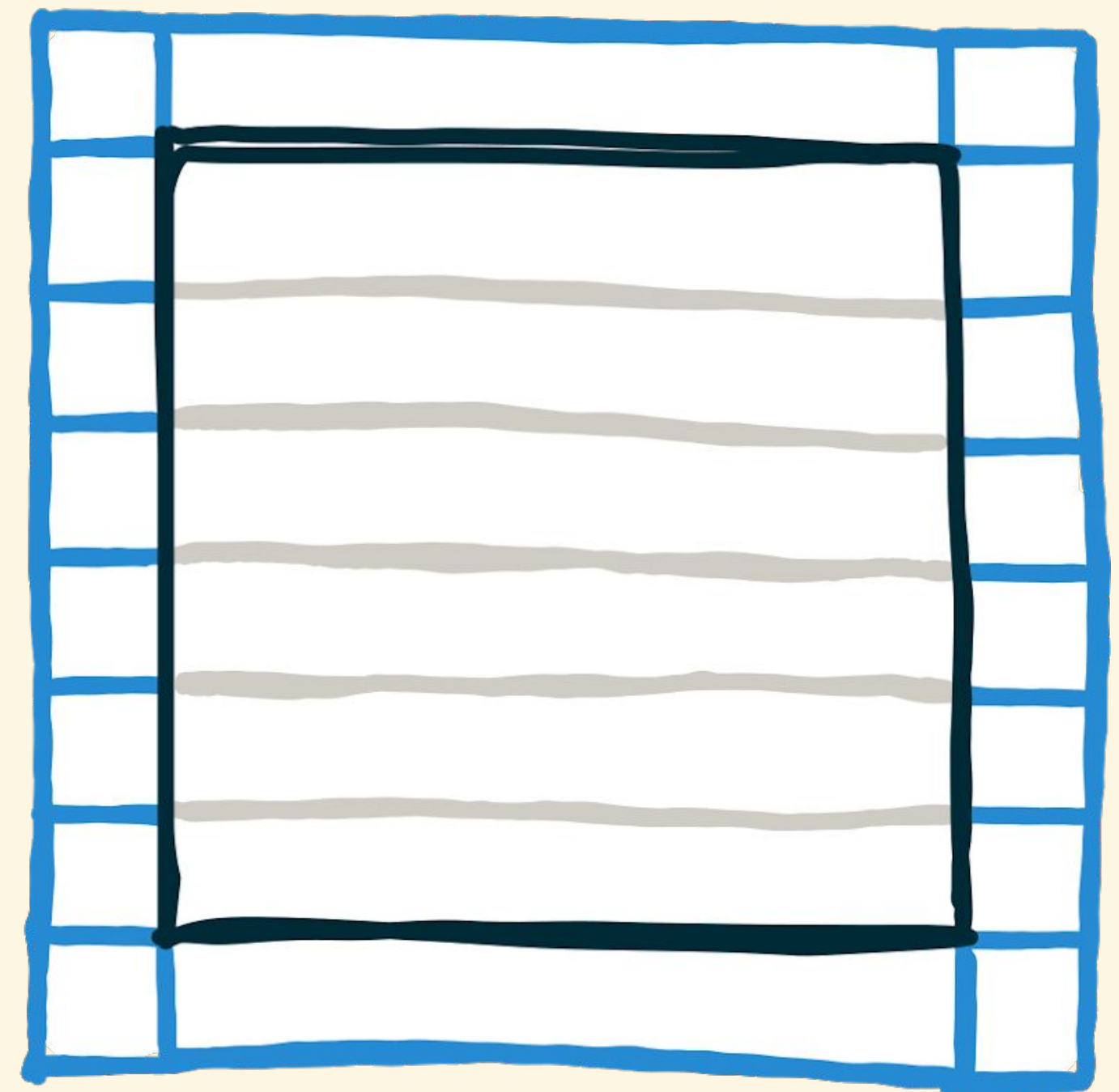
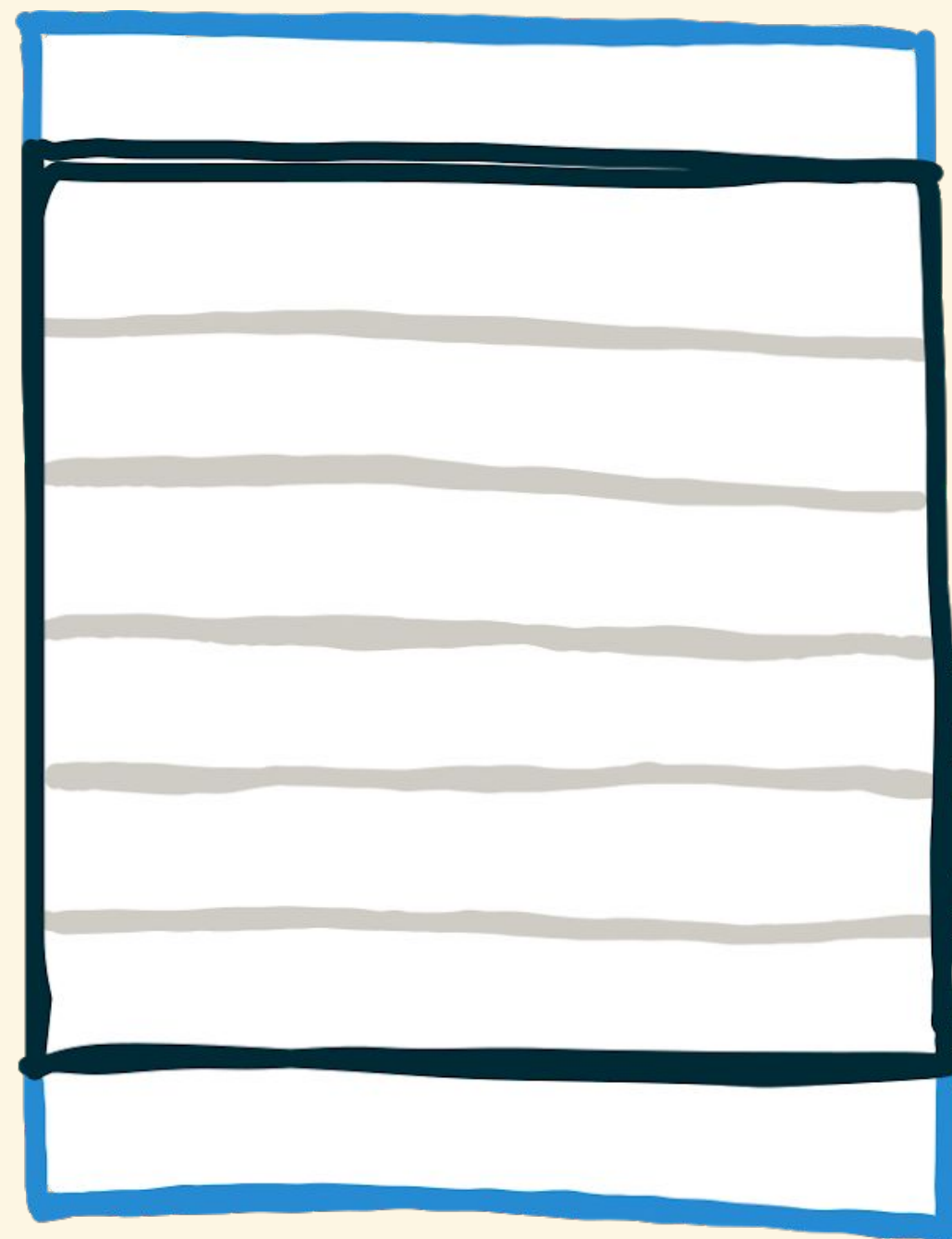
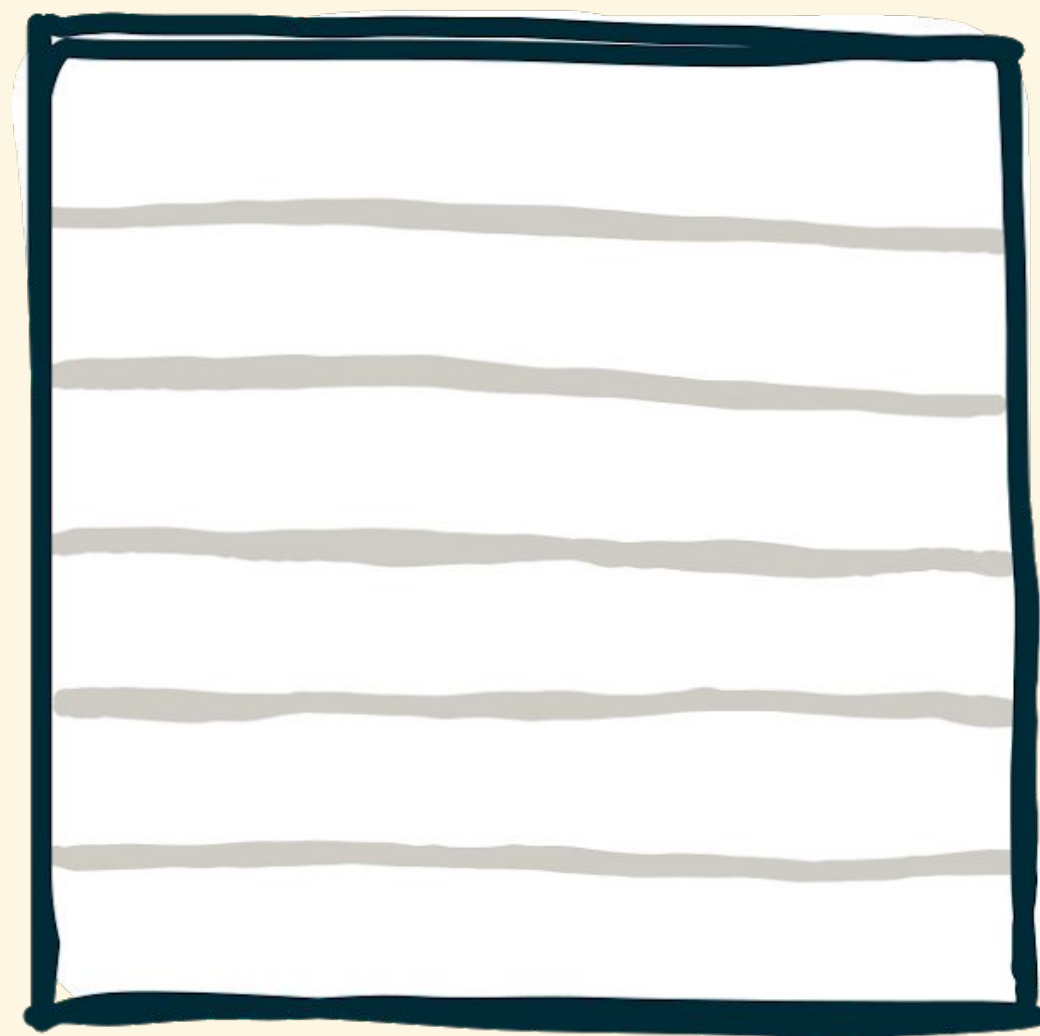


$pad_2 =$

$pad(1, r, b, input)$

# MULTIDIMENSIONAL BOUNDARY HANDLING USING $pad_2$

input

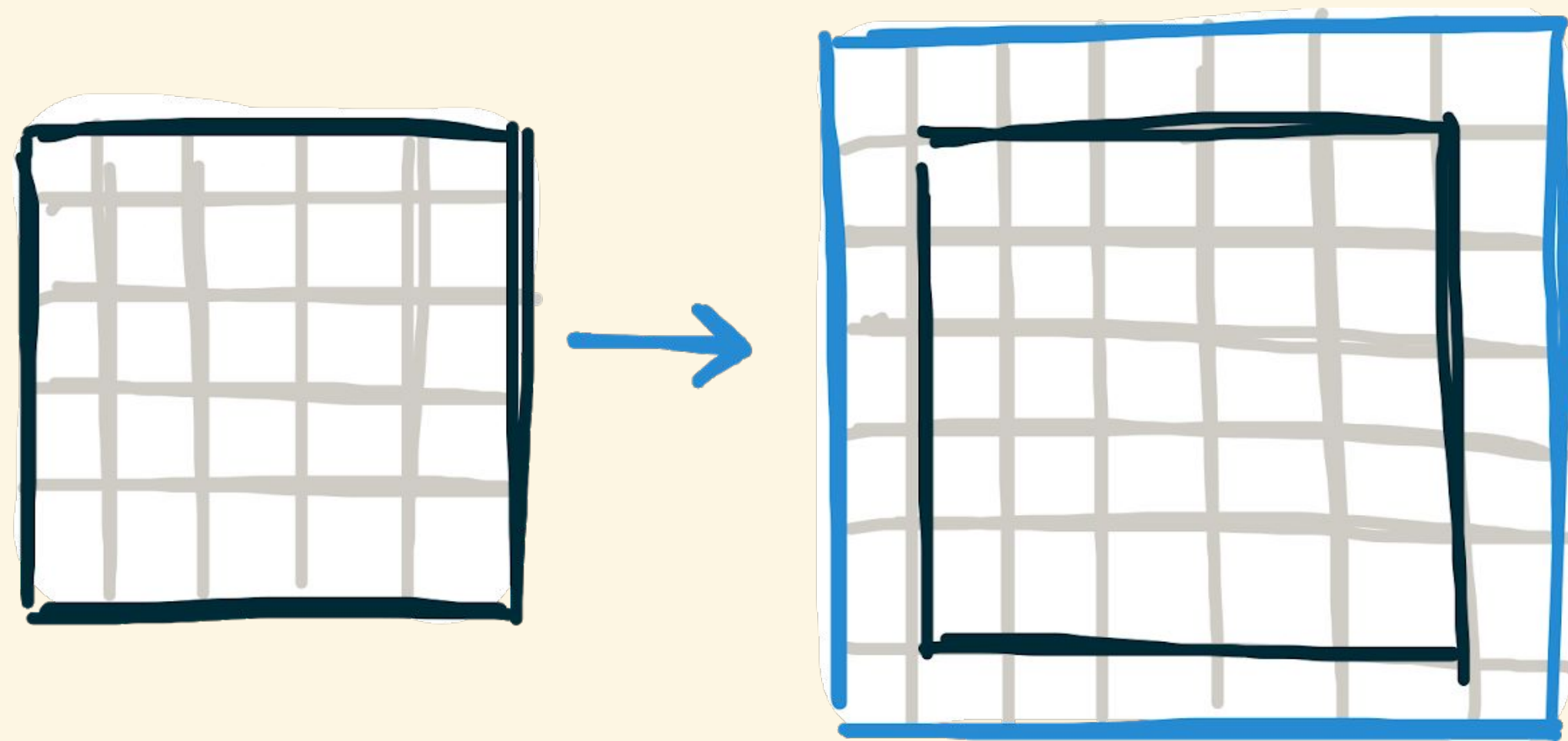


$pad_2 = map(pad(1, r, b, pad(1, r, b, input)))$

# MULTIDIMENSIONAL STENCIL COMPUTATIONS

are expressed as compositions of intuitive, generic 1D primitives

Decompose to Re-Compose

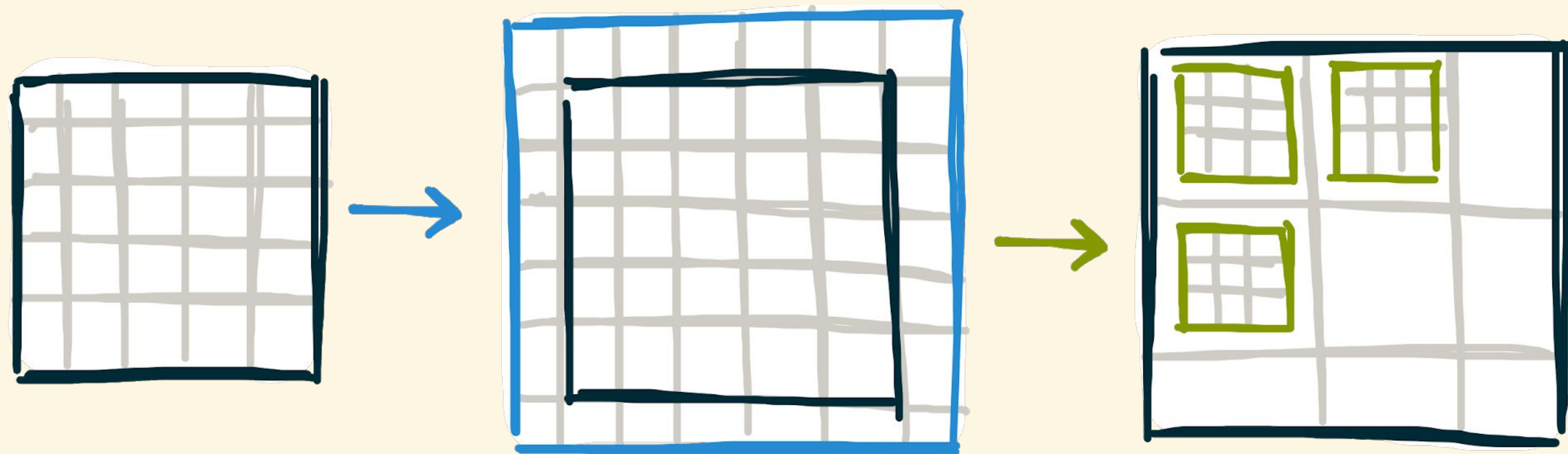


$pad_2(1, 1, clamp, input)$

# MULTIDIMENSIONAL STENCIL COMPUTATIONS

are expressed as compositions of intuitive, generic 1D primitives

Decompose to Re-Compose

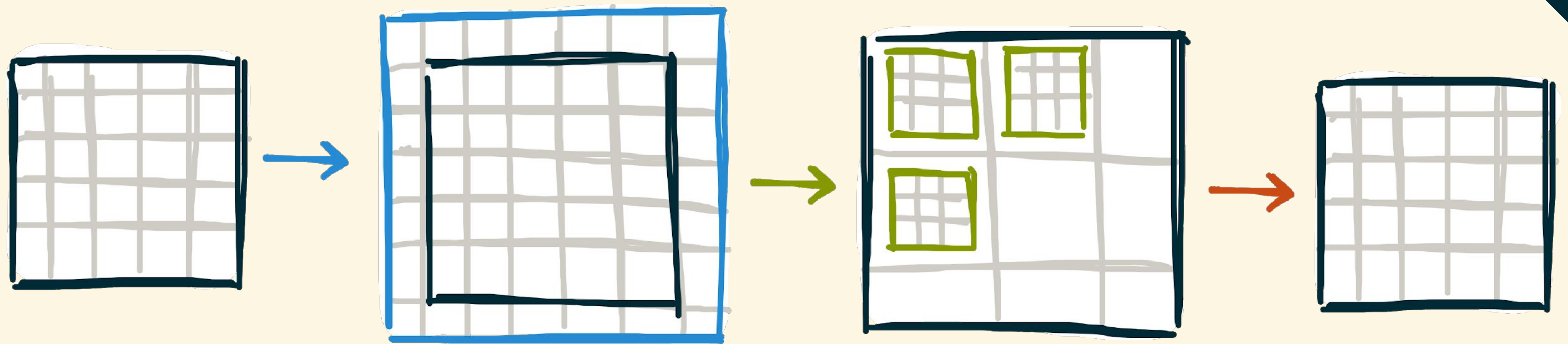


$slide_2(3, 1, pad_2(1, 1, clamp, input))$

# MULTIDIMENSIONAL STENCIL COMPUTATIONS

are expressed as compositions of intuitive, generic 1D primitives

Decompose to Re-Compose



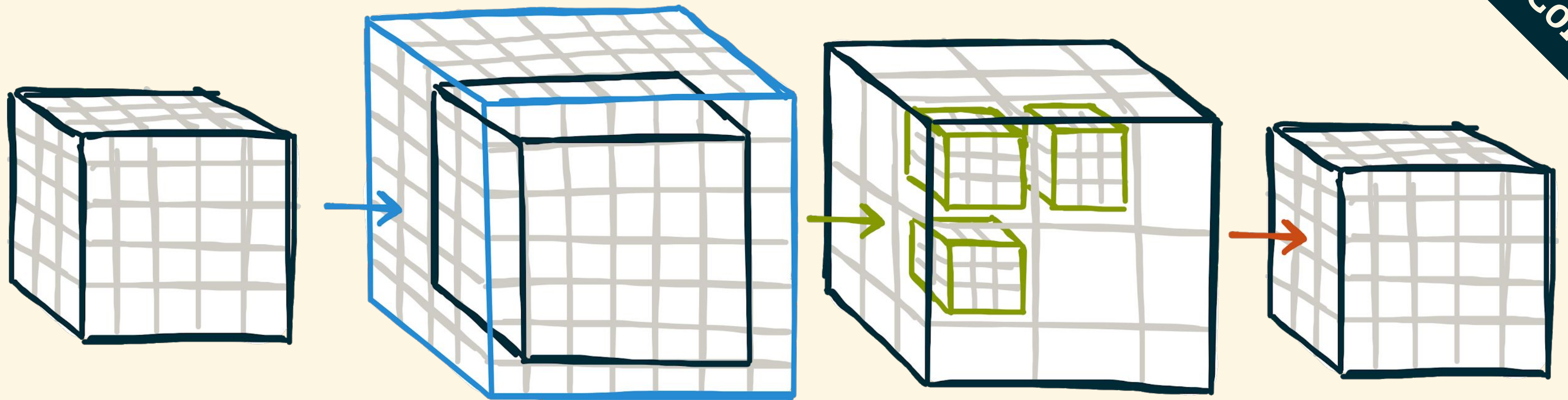
```
map2(sum, slide2(3, 1, pad2(1, 1, clamp, input)))
```



# MULTIDIMENSIONAL STENCIL COMPUTATIONS

are expressed as compositions of intuitive, generic 1D primitives

Decompose to Re-Compose

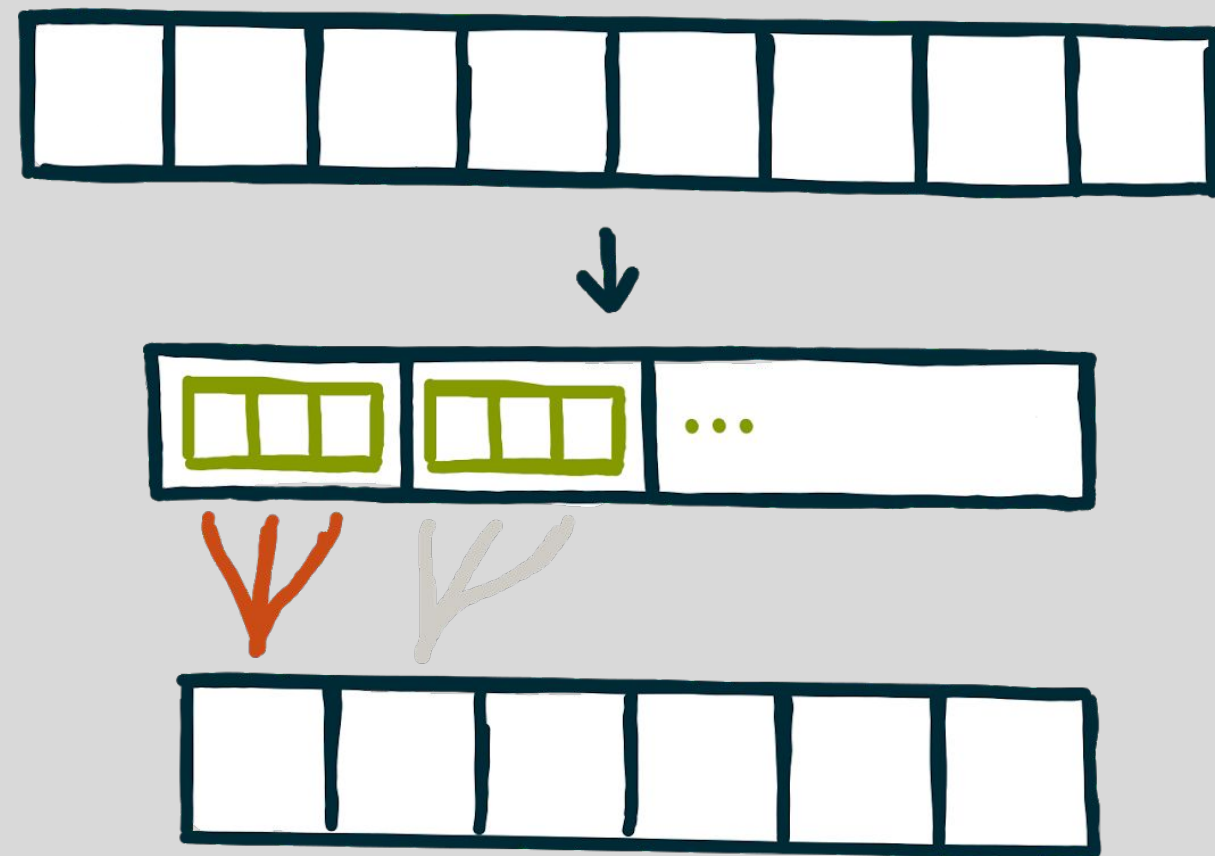


$map_3(sum, slide_3(3, 1, pad_3(1, 1, clamp, input)))$

# OVERLAPPED TILING AS A REWRITE RULE

overlapped tiling rule

```
map(f, slide(3, 1, input))
```



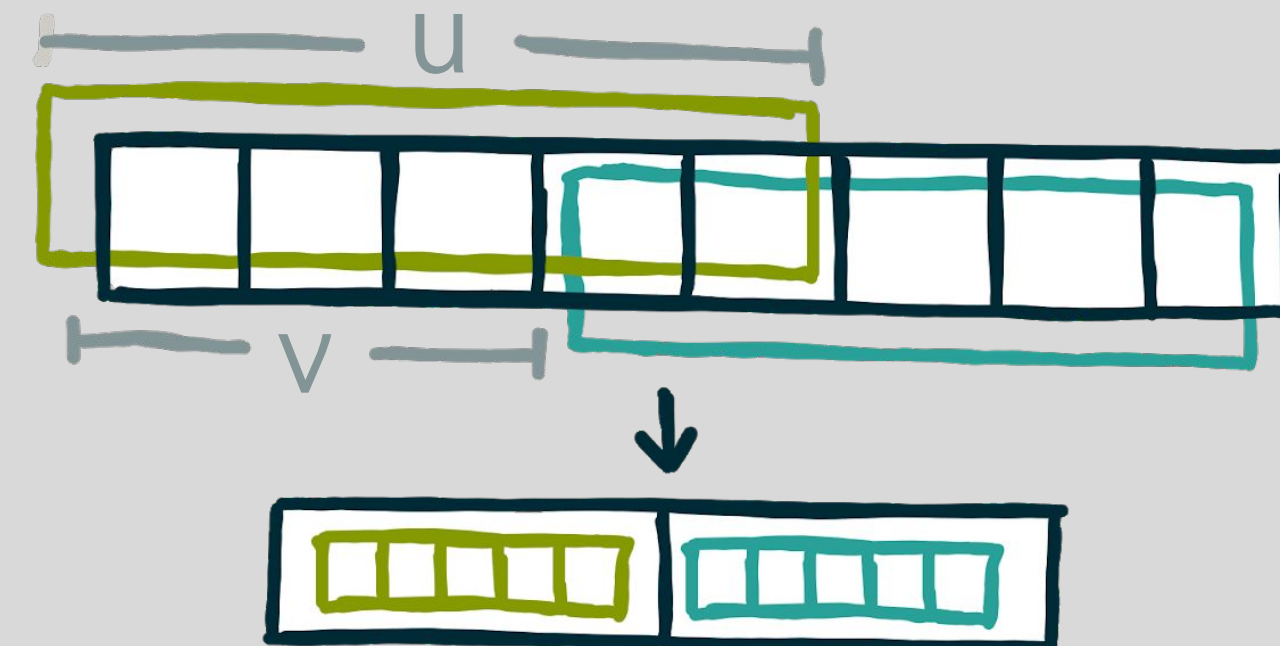
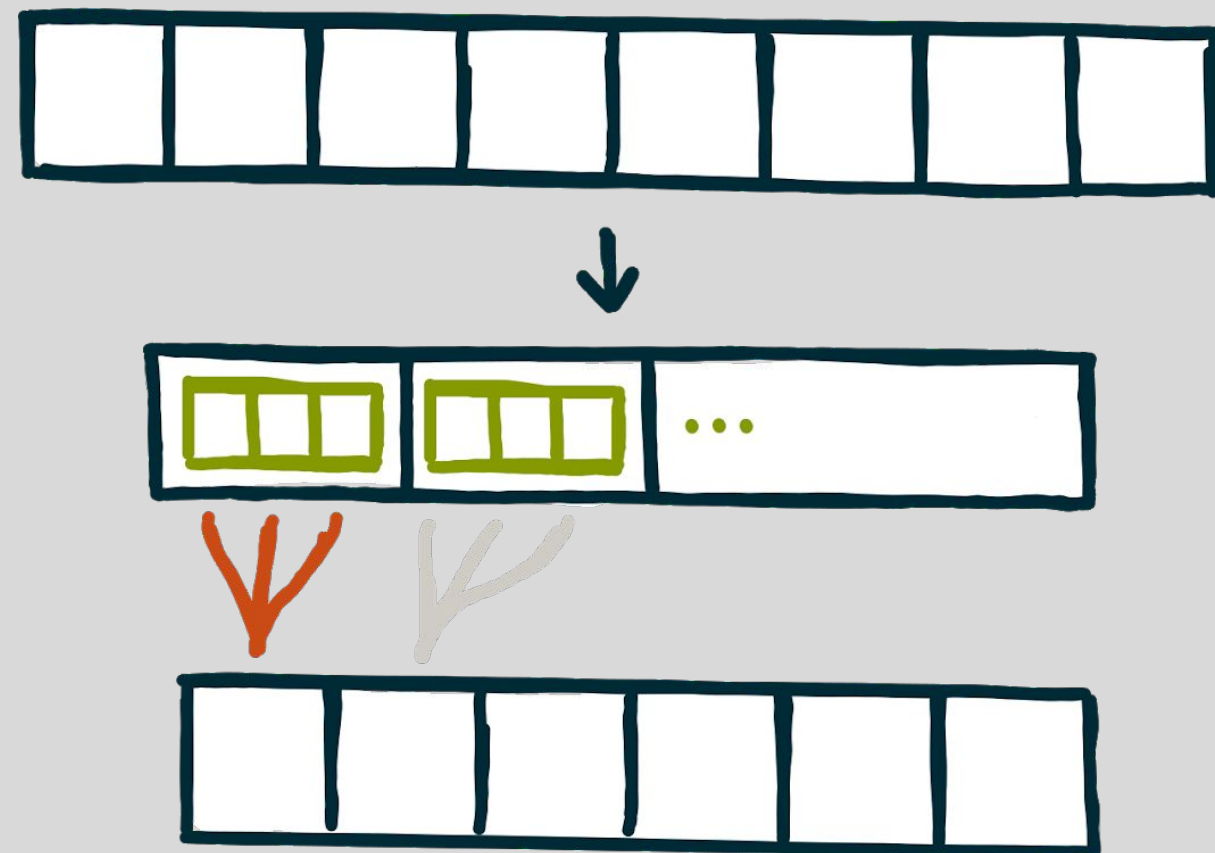
# OVERLAPPED TILING AS A REWRITE RULE

overlapped tiling rule

$map(f, slide(3, 1, input))$



$slide(u, v, input)$



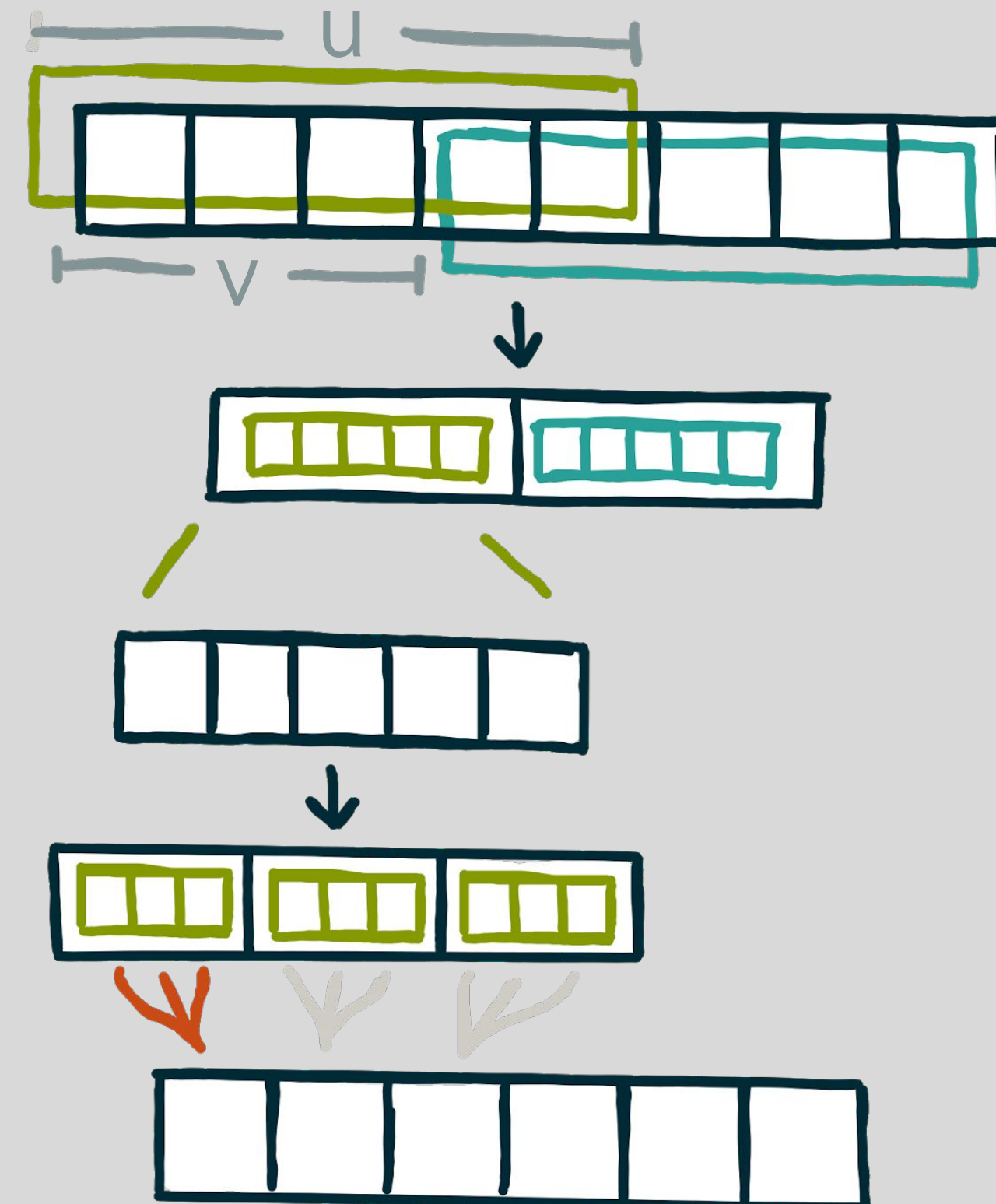
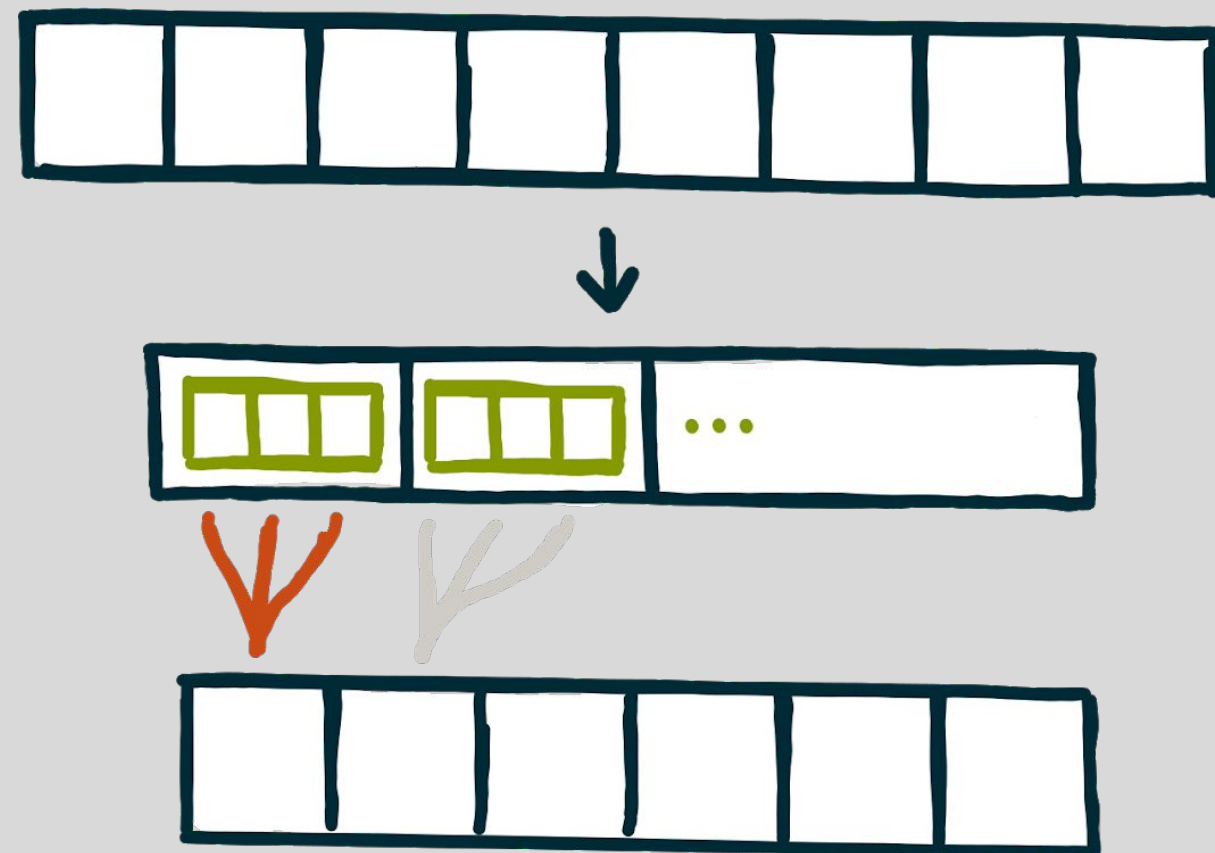
# OVERLAPPED TILING AS A REWRITE RULE

overlapped tiling rule

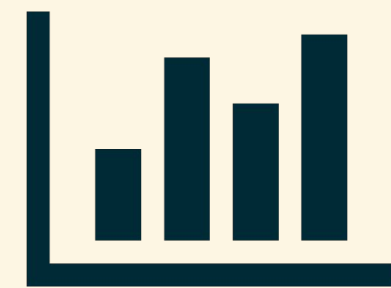
$map(f, slide(3, 1, input))$



$join(map(tile \Rightarrow$   
 $map(f, slide(3, 1, tile)),$   
 $slide(u, v, input)))$

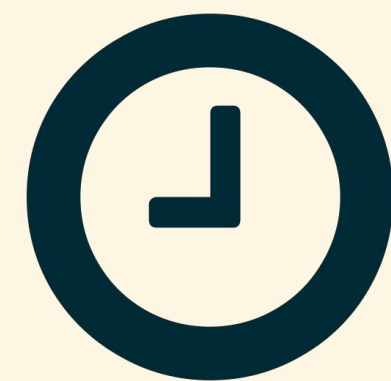


# EXPERIMENTAL EVALUATION



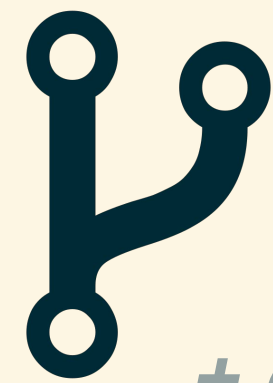
**14 Benchmarks**

*6 hand-optimized  
8 polyhedral compilation*



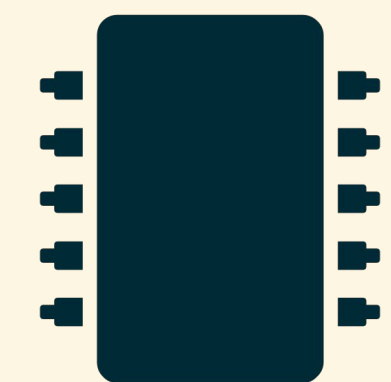
**< 3h Exploration**

*per benchmark*



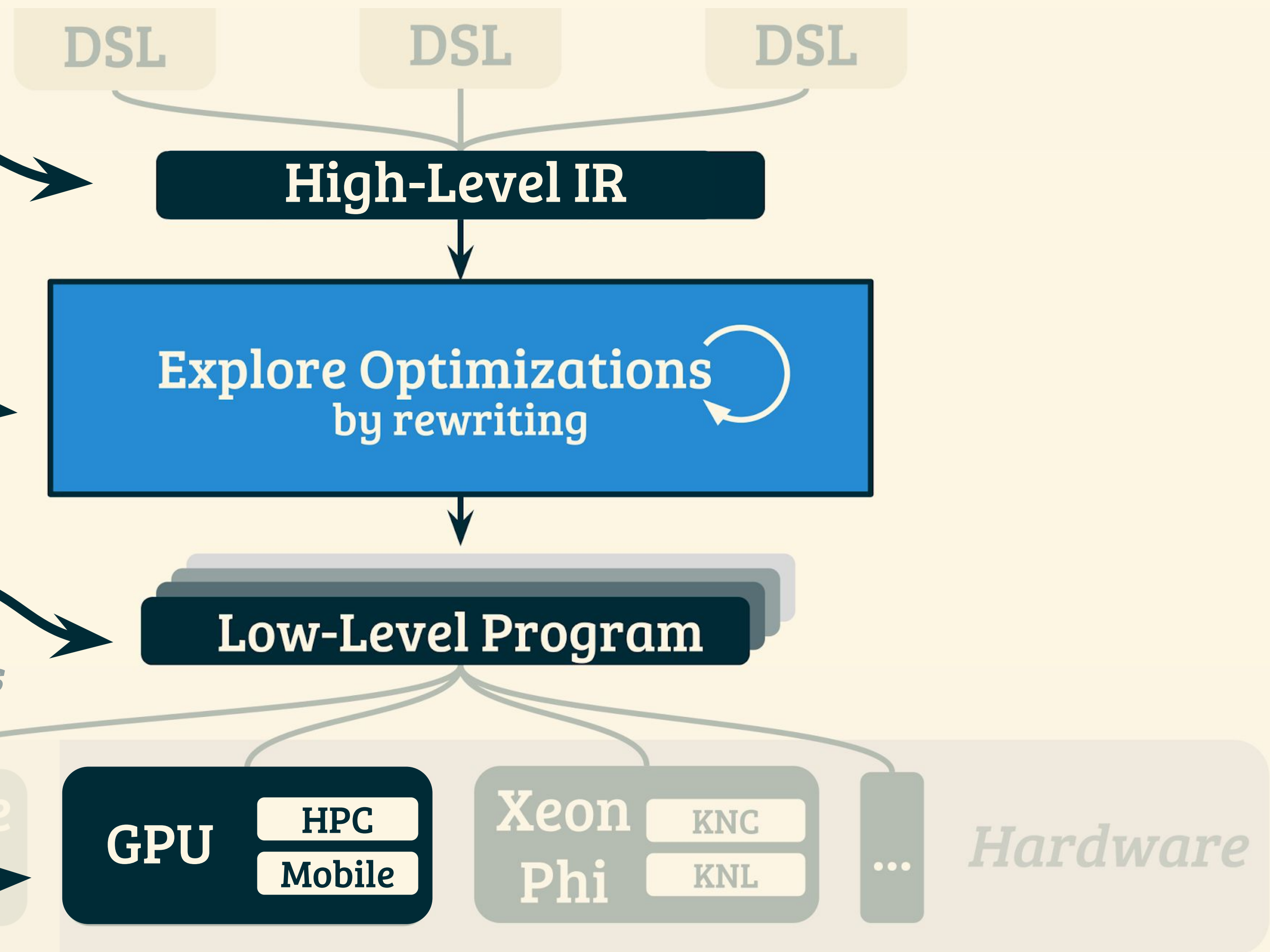
**up to 20 algorithmically  
different variants**

*+ auto-tuning of numerical parameters*



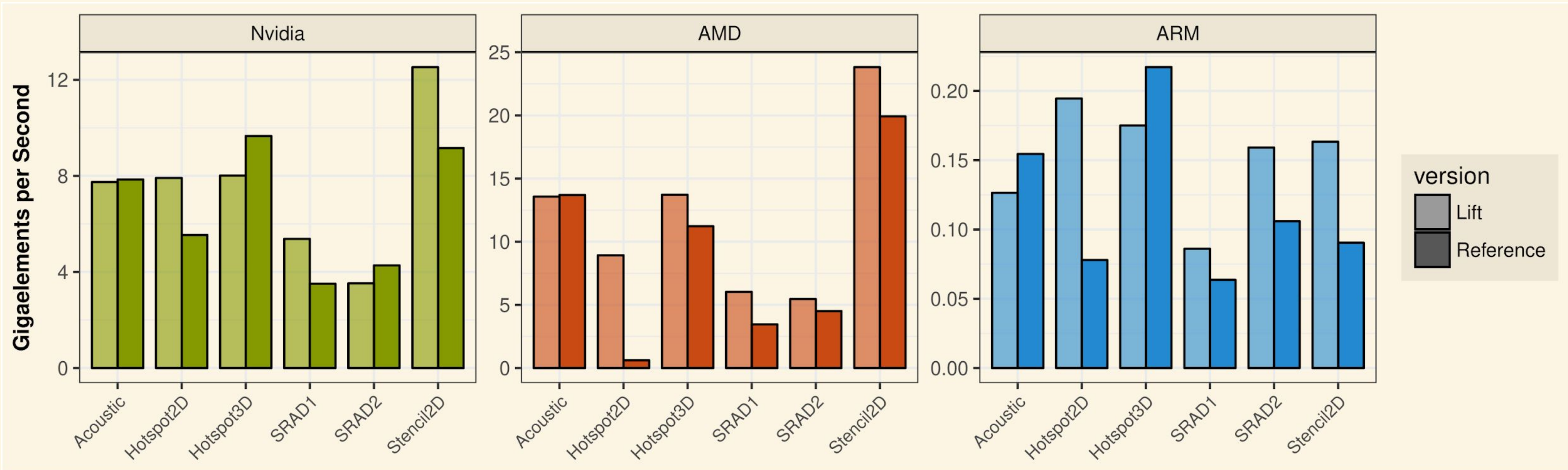
**3 GPU Architectures**

*2 Desktop GPUs  
1 Mobile GPU*



# COMPARISON WITH HAND-OPTIMIZED CODES

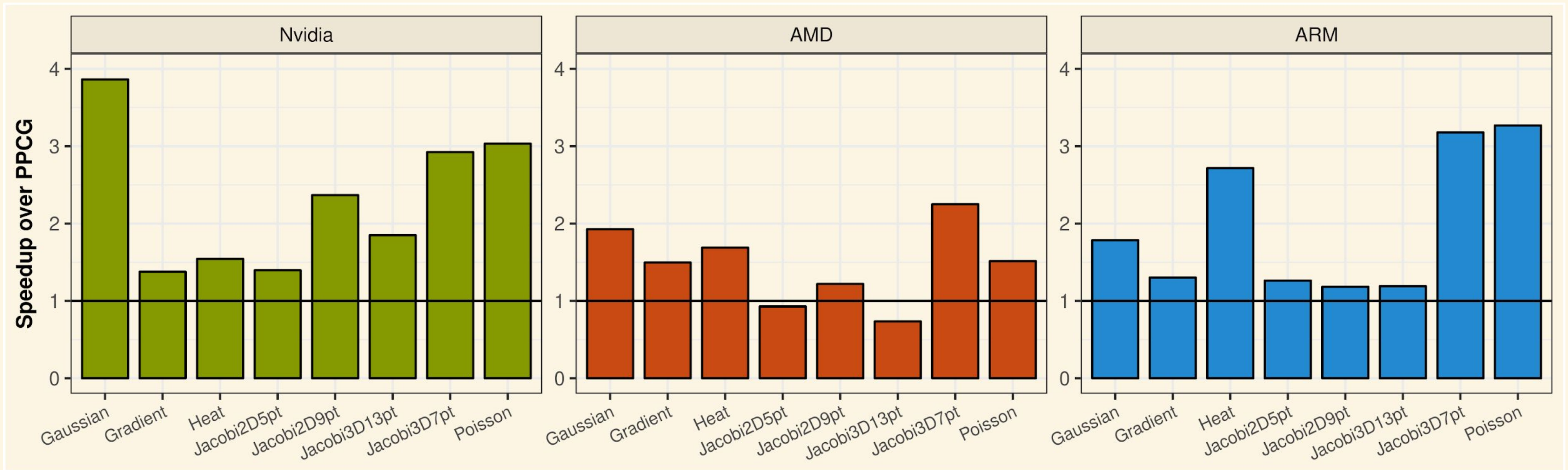
higher is better



**Lift achieves the same performance  
as hand optimized code**

# COMPARISON WITH POLYHEDRAL COMPILATION

higher is better



**Lift outperforms state-of-the-art  
optimizing compilers**

# LIFT IS OPEN SOURCE!



more info at:

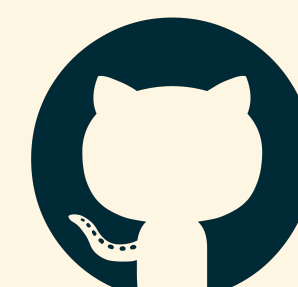
# lift-project.org



Paper



Artifacts



Source Code



Naums Mogers   Lu Li   Christophe Dubach   Bastian Hagedorn   Toomas Remmelg   Larisa Stoltzfus   Michel Steuwer   Federico Pizzuti   Adam Harries



## Automatic Matching of Legacy Code to Heterogeneous APIs: An Idiomatic Approach

Philip Ginsbach  
The University of Edinburgh  
philip.ginsbach@ed.ac.uk

Bruno Bodin  
The University of Edinburgh  
bbodin@ed.ac.uk

Toomas Remmelg  
The University of Edinburgh  
toomas.remmelg@ed.ac.uk

Christophe Dubach  
The University of Edinburgh  
christophe.dubach@ed.ac.uk

Michel Steuwer  
University of Glasgow  
michel.steuwer@glasgow.ac.uk

Michael F. P. O'Boyle  
The University of Edinburgh  
mob@ed.ac.uk

### Abstract

Heterogeneous accelerators often disappoint. They provide the prospect of great performance, but only deliver it when using vendor specific optimized libraries or domain specific languages. This requires considerable legacy code modifications, hindering the adoption of heterogeneous computing.

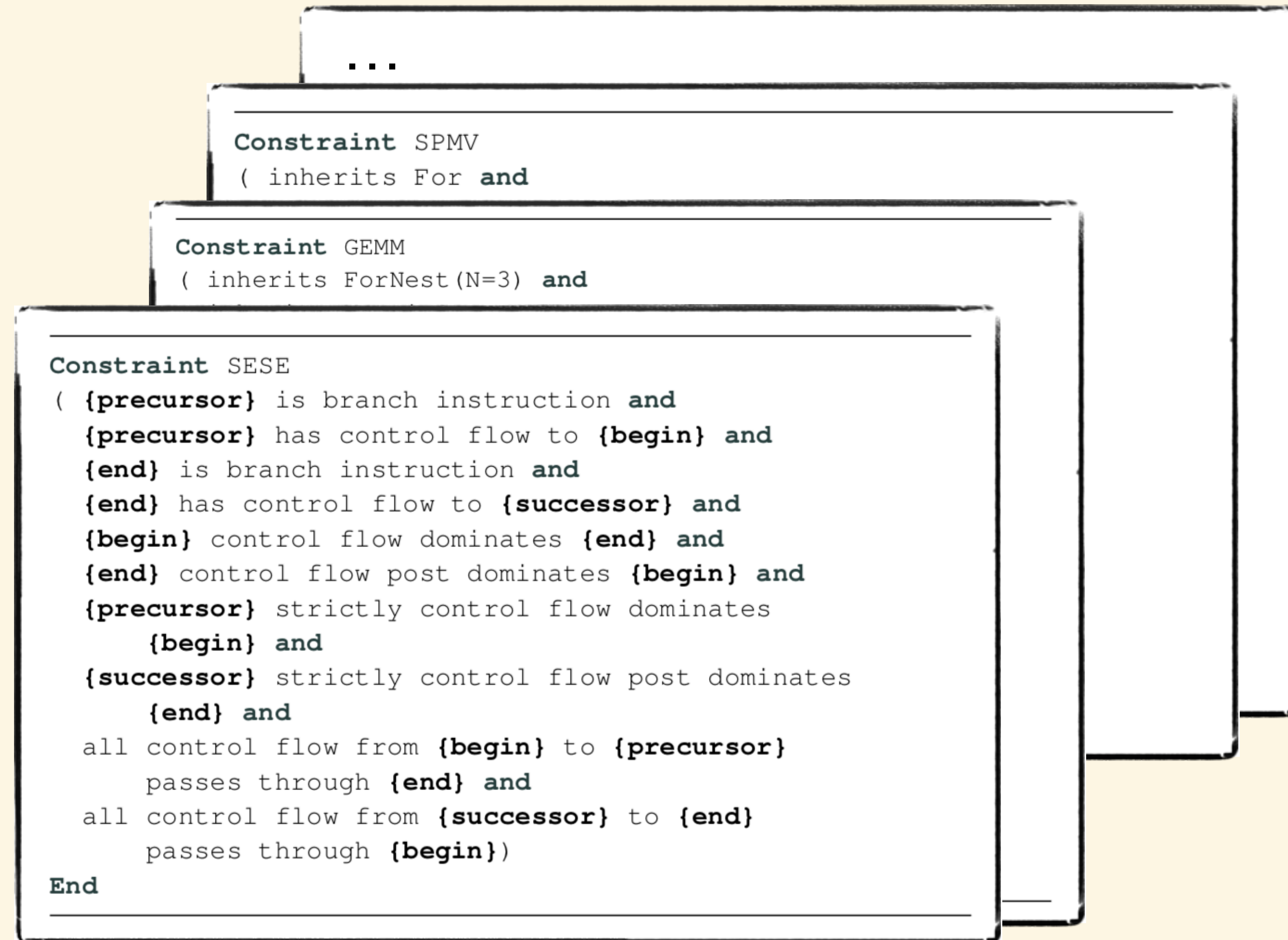
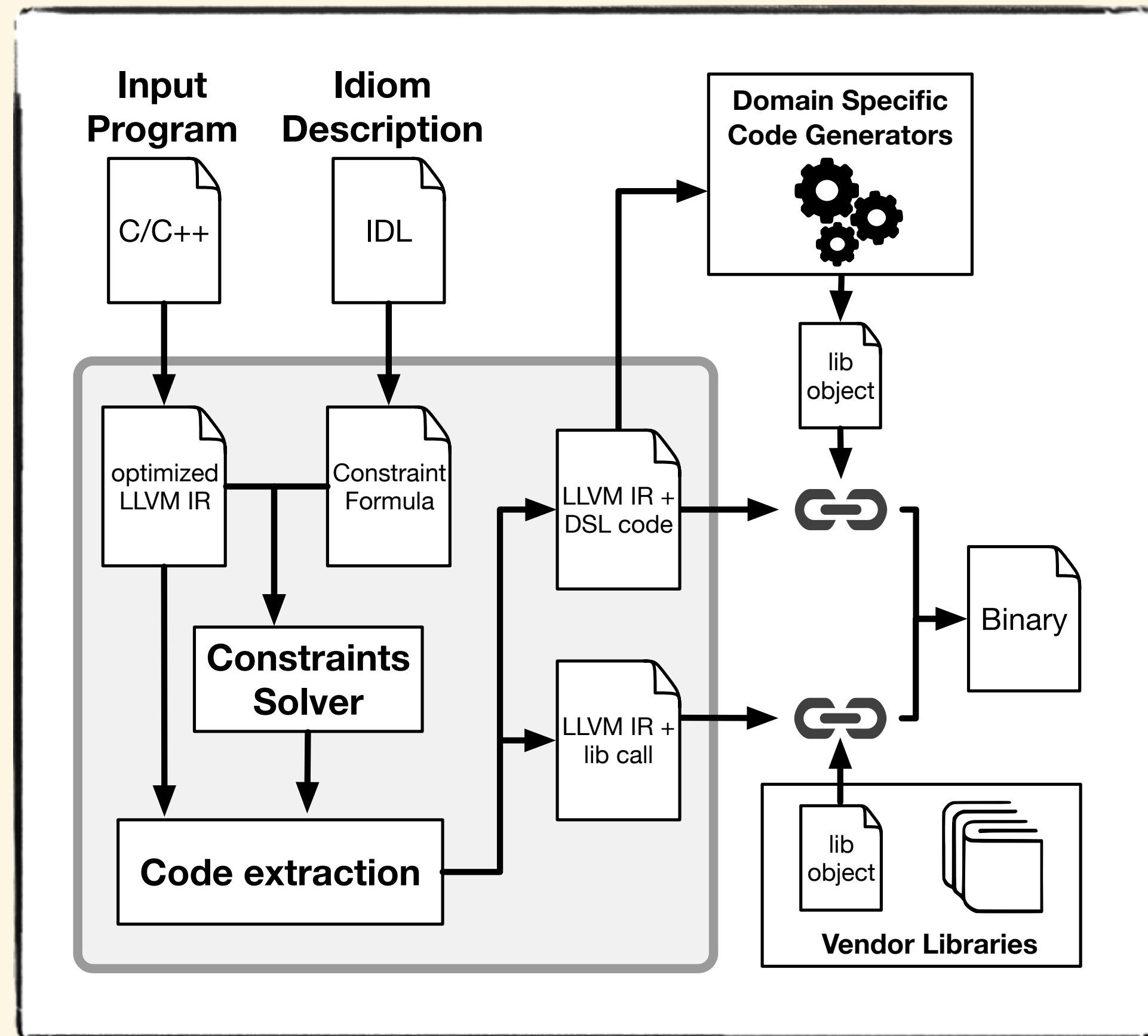
This paper develops a novel approach to automatically

### 1 Introduction

Heterogeneous accelerators provide the potential for great performance. However, achieving that potential is difficult. General purpose languages such as OpenCL [36] provide portability, but the achieved performance often disappoints [29]. This shortfall has led vendors to deliver specialized libraries to bridge the gap [2]. Alternatively, domain specific

# IDIOM DETECTION VIA CONSTRAINT LANGUAGE

[ASPLOS'18]



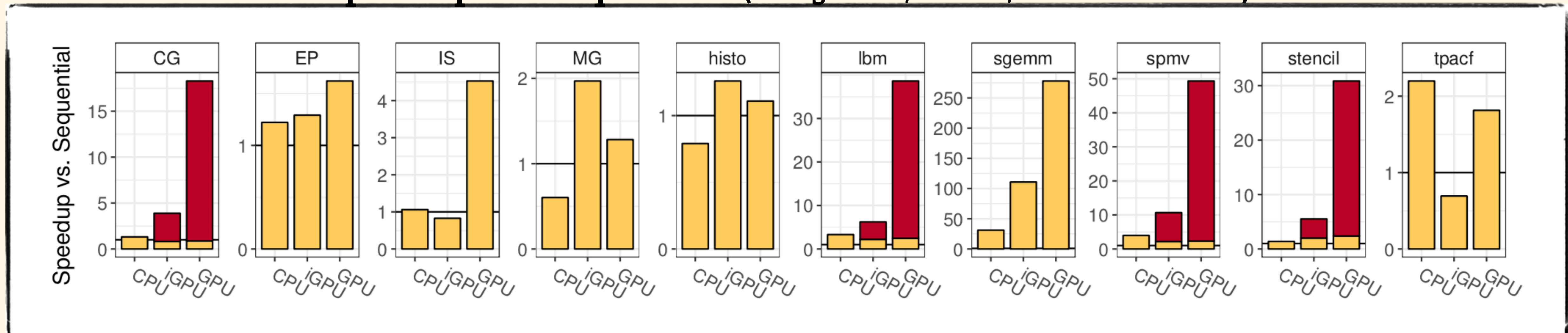
# PERFORMANCE RESULTS

[ASPLOS'18]

## Runtime Coverage of detected Idioms (NAS PB + Parboil)



## Speedup vs. Sequential (using BLAS, Halide, Lift as backends)





University  
of Glasgow

# The LIFT Project

Michel Steuwer — [michel.steuwer@glasgow.ac.uk](mailto:michel.steuwer@glasgow.ac.uk)

[www.lift-project.org](http://www.lift-project.org)



@LIFTlang

**INSPIRING  
PEOPLE**

#UofGWorldChangers



@UofGlasgow