

Post-Optimization Automatic Differentiation by Synthesizing LLVM



William S. Moses



Valentin Churavy



wmoses@mit.edu Differentiable Programming Workshop April 7, 2021





William S. Moses



Valentin Churavy



Ludger Paehler



Johannes Doerfert



Jan Hückelheim



Sri Hari Krishna Narayanan



Michel Schanen



Paul Hovland

Differentiation Is Key To Machine Learning And Science

- Computing derivatives is key to many algorithms
 - Machine learning (back-propagation, Bayesian inference, uncertainty quantification)
 - Scientific computing (modeling, simulation)
- When working with large codebases or dynamically-generated programs, manually writing derivative functions becomes intractable
- · Community has developed tools to create derivatives automatically



Existing AD Approaches

- Differentiable DSL (TensorFlow, PyTorch, DiffTaichi)
 - Provide a new language designed to be differentiated
 - Requires rewriting everything in the DSL and the DSL must support all operations in original code
 - Fast if DSL matches original code well
- Operator overloading (Adept, JAX)
 - Provide differentiable versions of existing language constructs (double => adouble, np.sum => jax.sum)
 - May require writing to use non-standard utilities
 - Often dynamic: storing instructions/values to later be interpreted

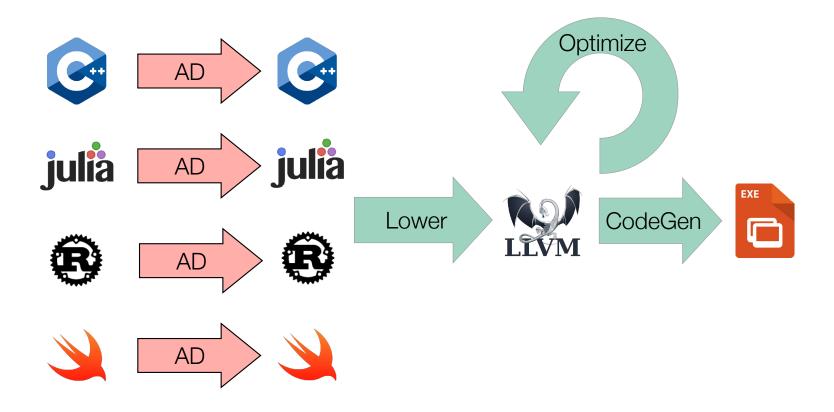


Existing AD Approaches

- Source rewriting
 - · Statically analyze program to produce a new gradient function in the source language
 - · Re-implement parsing and semantics of given language
 - · Requires all code to be available ahead of time
 - Difficult to use with external libraries



Existing Automatic Differentiation Pipelines





Case Study: Vector Normalization

```
//Compute magnitude in O(n)
double mag(double[] x);

//Compute norm in O(n^2)
void norm(double[] out, double[] in) {
  for (int i=0; i<n; i++) {
    out[i] = in[i] / mag(in);
  }
}</pre>
```

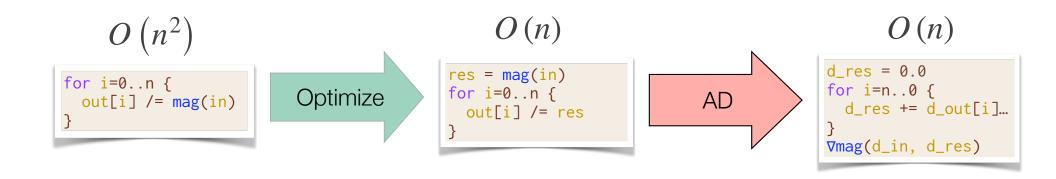


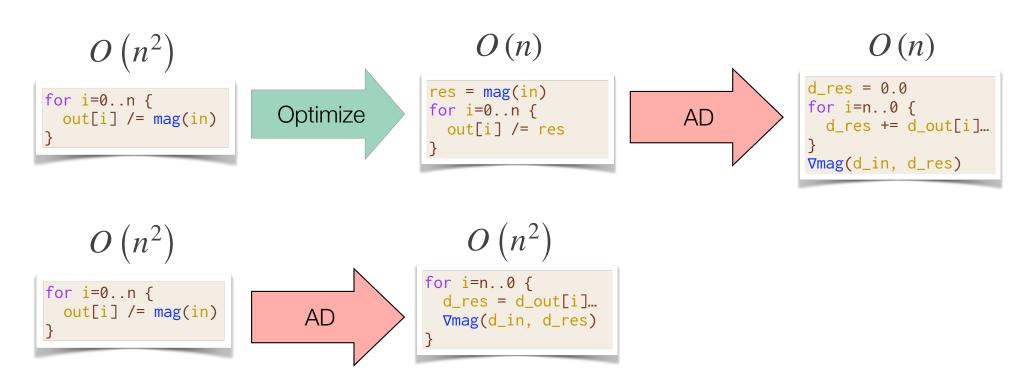
Case Study: Vector Normalization

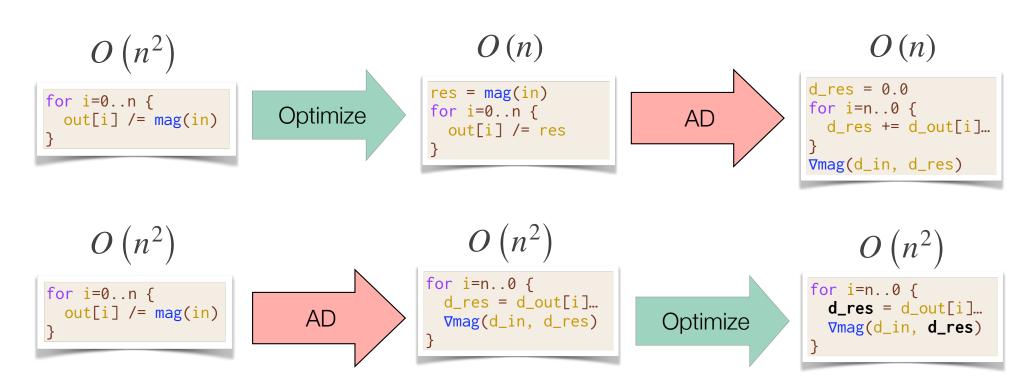
```
//Compute magnitude in O(n)
double mag(double[] x);

//Compute norm in O(n)
void norm(double[] out, double[] in) {
  double res = mag(in);
  for (int i=0; i<n; i++) {
    out[i] = in[i] / res;
  }
}</pre>
```

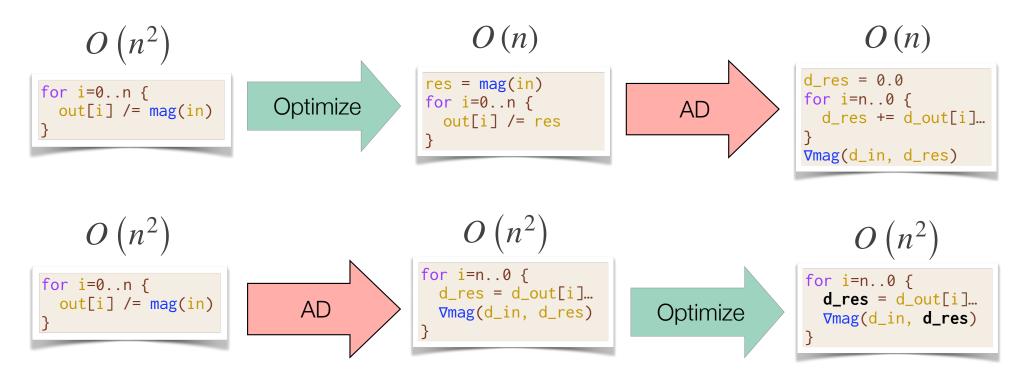






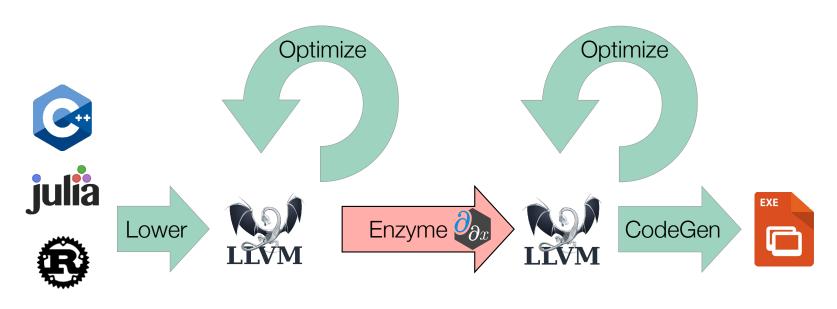


Differentiating after optimization can create asymptotically faster gradients!





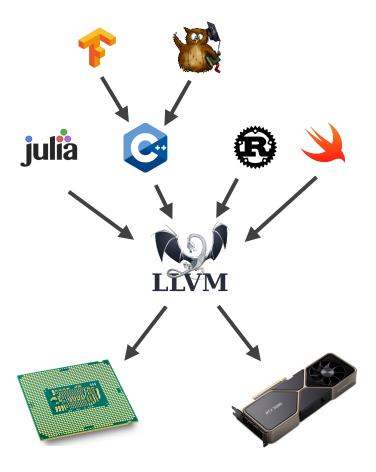
Performing AD at low-level lets us work on optimized code!





Why Does Enzyme Use LLVM?

- Generic low-level compiler infrastructure with many frontends
 - "Cross platform assembly"
 - Many backends (CPU, CUDA, etc)
- Well-defined semantics
- Large collection of optimizations and analyses





Case Study: ReLU3

C Source

```
double relu3(double x) {
  double result;
  if (x > 0)
    result = pow(x, 3);
  else
    result = 0;
  return result;
}
```

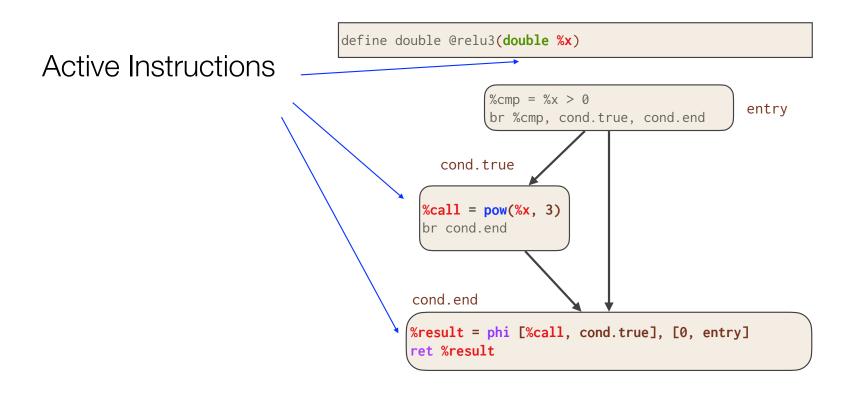
Enzyme Usage

```
double diffe_relu3(double x) {
  return __enzyme_autodiff(relu3, x);
}
```

LLVM



Case Study: ReLU3





```
define double @diffe_relu3(double %x, double %differet)
                                                            Allocate & zero
                 alloca %result' = 0.0
                 alloca %call'
                                = 0.0
         entry
                                                        shadow memory for
                 alloca %x'
                                = 0.0
                 %cmp = %x > 0
                                                              active values
                 br %cmp, cond.true, cond.end
cond.true
                                                                              cond.end
   %call = pow(%x, 3)
                             %result = phi [%call, cond.true], [0, entry]
   br cond.end
                             ; deleted return
                             %result' = 1.0
                             br reverse_cond.end
```



```
define double @diffe_relu3(double %x, double %differet)
                  alloca %result' = 0.0
                                                        Compute adjoints
                  alloca %call'
                               = 0.0
         entry
                  alloca %x'
                                 = 0.0
                                                     for active instructions
                  %cmp = %x > 0
                  br %cmp, cond.true, cond.end
cond.true
                                                                                  cond.end
     %call = pow(%x, 3)
                              %result = phi [%call, cond.true], [0, entry]
     br cond.end
                                deleted return
                               %result' = 1.0
                               br reverse_cond.end
 reverse_cond.true
                                  %tmp_res' = load %result'
                                  %call' += if %x > 0 then %tmp_res' else 0
                                                                                reverse_cond.end
%df = 3 * pow(%x, 2)
                                  store %result' = 0.0
%tmp_call' = load %call
                                  br %cmp, reverse_cond.true, reverse_entry
%x' += %df * %tmp_call'
store %call' = 0.0
br reverse_entry
                                         \%0 = load \%x'
                                                                  reverse_entry
                                          ret %0
```



```
define double @diffe_relu3(double %x, double %differet)
                  alloca %result' = 0.0
                                                           Compute adjoints
                  alloca %call'
                                 = 0.0
         entry
                  alloca %x'
                                 = 0.0
                                                        for active instructions
                  %cmp = %x > 0
                  br %cmp, cond.true, cond.end
cond.true
                                                                                   cond.end
     %call = pow(%x, 3)
                               %result = phi [%call, cond.true], [0, entry]
     br cond.end
                               ; deleted return
                               %result' = 1.0
                               br reverse_cond.end
 reverse_cond.true
                                  %tmp_res' = load %result'
                                  %call' += if %x > 0 then %tmp_res' else 0
                                                                                reverse_cond.end
%df = 3 * pow(%x, 2)
                                  store %result' = 0.0
%tmp_call' = load %call
                                  br %cmp, reverse_cond.true, reverse_entry
%x' += %df * %tmp_call'
store %call' = 0.0
br reverse_entry
                                          \%0 = load \%x'
                                                                  reverse_entry
                                          ret %0
```



```
define double @diffe_relu3(double %x)

Post

where we will a second true and the content of the
```

Essentially the optimal hand-written gradient!

```
double diffe_relu3(double x) {
  double result;
  if (x > 0)
    result = 3 * pow(x, 2);
  else
    result = 0;
  return result;
}
```



Challenges of Low-Level AD

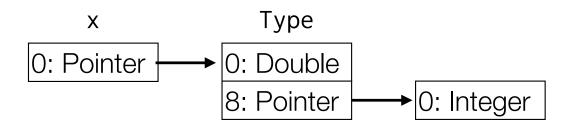
Low-level code lacks information necessary to compute adjoints

```
void f(void* dst, void* src) {
  memcpy(dst, src, 8);
}
```

Challenges of Low-Level AD

- New interprocedural dataflow analysis that detects the underlying type of data
- Each value has a set of memory offsets: type
- Perform series of fixed-point updates through instructions

```
struct Type {
  double;
  int*;
}
x = Type*;
```



```
types(x) = \{[0]: Pointer, [0,0]: Double, [0,8]: Pointer, [0,8,0]: Integer\}
```



Custom Derivatives & Multisource

One can specify custom forward/reverse passes of functions by attaching metadata

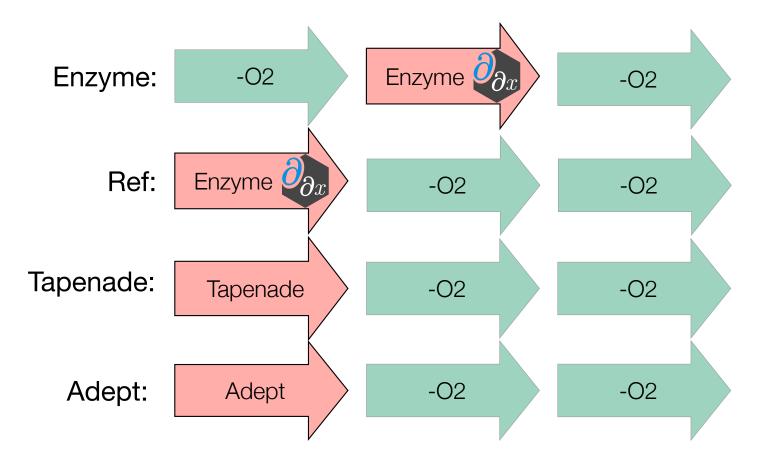
```
__attribute__((enzyme("augment", augment_func)))
__attribute__((enzyme("gradient", gradient_func)))
double func(double n);
```

 Enzyme leverages LLVM's link-time optimization (LTO) & "fat libraries" to ensure that LLVM bitcode is available for all potential differentiated functions before AD



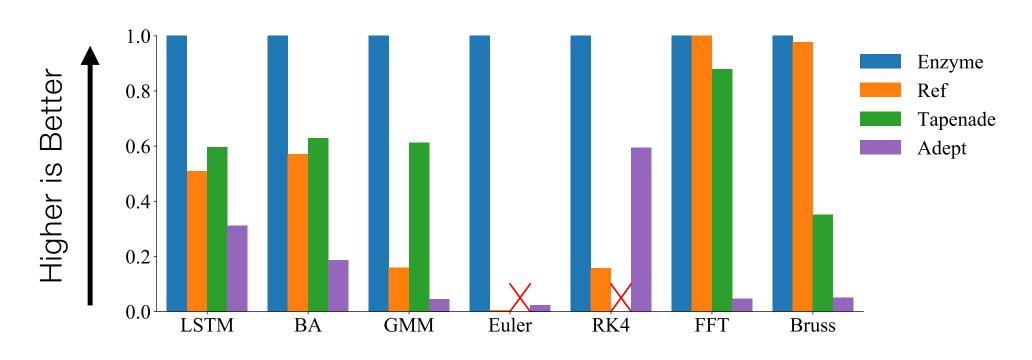
Experimental Setup

· Collection of benchmarks from Microsoft's ADBench suite and of technical interest





Speedup of Enzyme



Enzyme is 4.2x faster than Reference!



PyTorch-Enzyme & TensorFlow-Enzyme

```
import torch
from torch_enzyme import enzyme

# Create some initial tensor
inp = ...

# Apply foreign function to tensor
out = enzyme("test.c", "f").apply(inp)

# Derive gradient
out.backward()
print(inp.grad)
```

```
// Input tensor + size, and output tensor
void f(float* inp, size_t n, float* out);

// diffe_dupnoneed specifies not recomputing the output
void diffef(float* inp, float* d_inp, size_t n, float* d_out) {
    __enzyme_autodiff(f, diffe_dup, inp, d_inp, n, diffe_dupnoneed, (float*)0, d_out);
}
```





- Tool for performing reverse-mode AD of statically analyzable LLVM IR
- Differentiates code in a variety of languages (C, C++, Fortran, Julia, Rust, Swift, etc)
- 4.2x speedup over AD before optimization
- State-of-the art performance with existing tools
- Differentiate GPU kernels (come to GTC talk for more info!)
- Open Source (enzyme.mit.edu / github.com/wsmoses/Enzyme)
- PyTorch-Enzyme & TensorFlow-Enzyme imports foreign code in ML workflow

Acknowledgements

- Thanks to James Bradbury, Alex Chernyakhovsky, Hal Finkel, Laurent Hascoet, Mike Innes, Tim Kaler, Charles Leiserson, Yingbo Ma, Chris Rackauckas, TB Schardl, Lizhou Sha, Yo Shavit, Dhash Shrivathsa, Nalini Singh, Miguel Young de la Sota, and Alex Zinenko
- William S. Moses was supported in part by a DOE Computational Sciences Graduate Fellowship DESC0019323.
- Valentin Churavy was supported in part by the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) under Agreement No. HR0011-20-9-0016, and in part by NSF Grant OAC-1835443.
- This research was supported in part by LANL grant 531711. Research was sponsored by the United States Air Force Research Laboratory and was accomplished under Cooperative Agreement Number FA8750-19-2-1000.
- The views and conclusions contained in this document are those of the authors and should not be interpreted as representing the official policies, either expressed or implied, of the United States Air Force or the U.S. Government.



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END

