



Parallelization of the SIMD Kalman Filter for Track Fitting

Rama Malladi

R. Gabriel Esteves

Ashok Thirumurthi

Xin Zhou

Michael D. McCool

Anwar Ghuloum

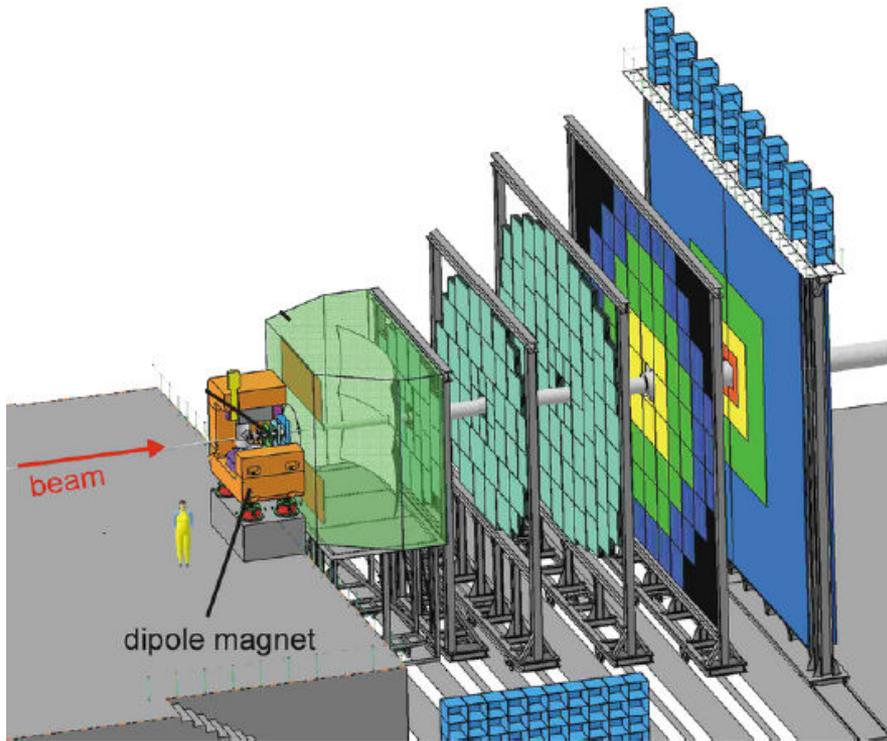
Outline

- Track fitting: introduction and motivation
- Kalman filter-based track fitting
 - Algorithm
 - Optimization
- Ct implementation
 - Results
 - Future work

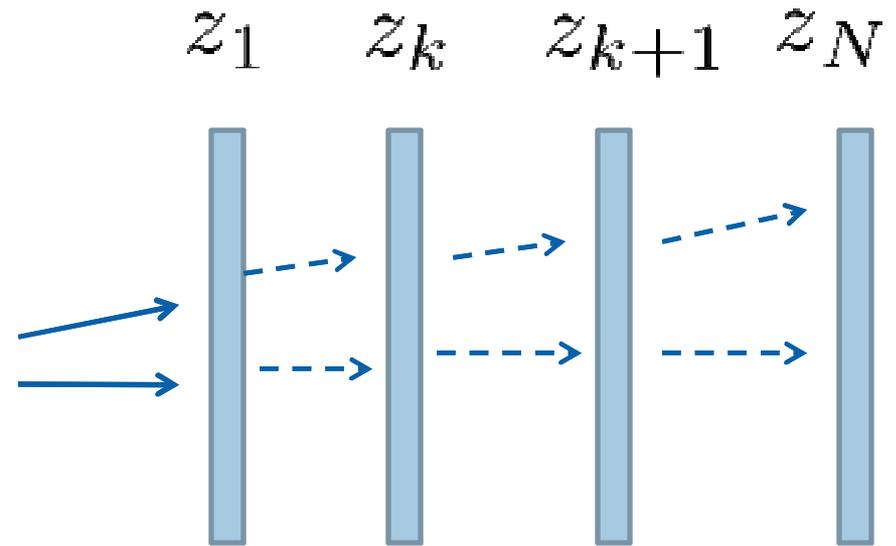
Goal of HEP experiments

- ◆ Simulate extreme conditions of matter
 - ◆ Experiments involving particle collisions
- ◆ Particles are subject to several physics processes:
 - ◆ Energy loss
 - ◆ Multiple Coulomb scattering
 - ◆ Magnetic field
- ◆ Measurements taken along the trajectory (noisy)
- ◆ Data analysis:
 - ◆ **Track finding:**
 - ◆ Associating a subset of measurements to each particle.
 - ◆ **Track fitting:**
 - ◆ Computing the state of the particle at each measurement in the subset.

Track fitting: Measurement process



From Friese et al "CBM experiment at FAIR"



Track fitting: Problem statement

- Given a track (sequence of observations z_k) \rightarrow determine the state of the particle at each observation point.
- Measurement varies with each experiment
- State is usually given by tuple of values:

$$r_k = (x, y, t_x, t_y, q/p)$$

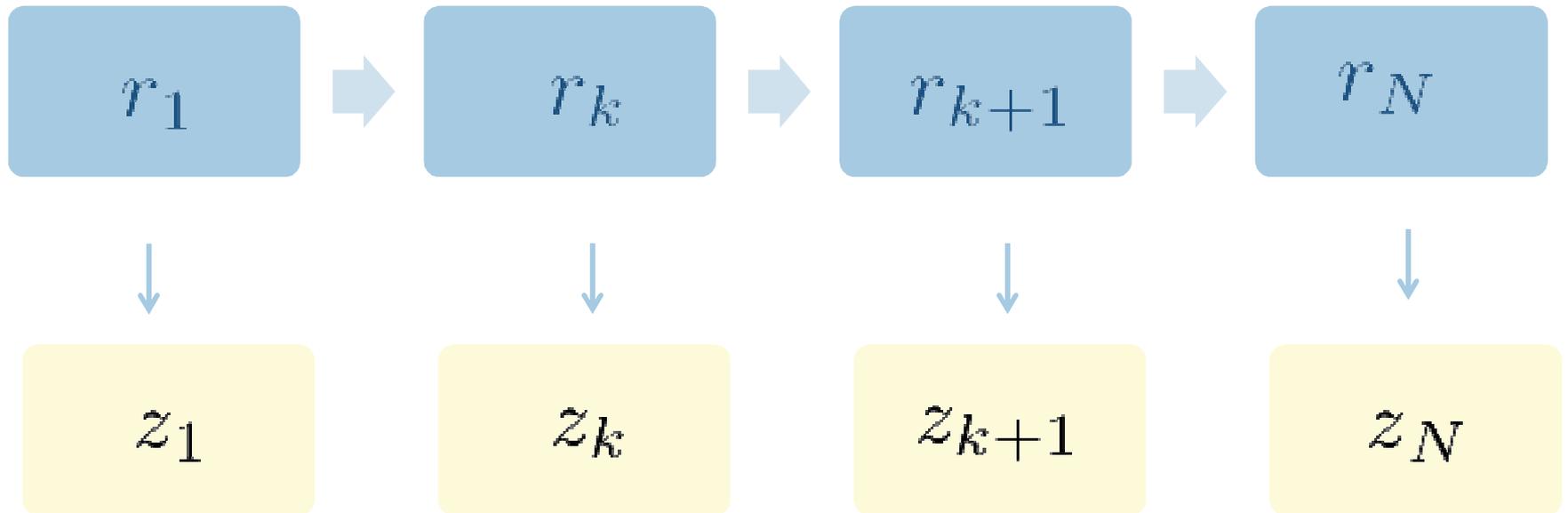
$$r_k \in \mathbb{R}^m$$

Progressive methods: Kalman filter

- Proposed by Rudolf Kalman (1960)
- Recursive least-squares formulation, based on system's state-space representation
- Applied to track fitting independently by Früwirth and Billoir
- Used to analyze data from LHCb, CBM, most detectors

State-space formulation

Hidden (unobserved/unobservable) process generates the observed sequence of observations:



Kalman filter (KF): Assumptions

- Independence structure: Markovian assumption

$$P(r_k | r_{1:k-1}) = P(r_k | r_{k-1})$$

$$P(z_k | r_{1:k}, z_{1:k}) = P(z_k | r_k)$$

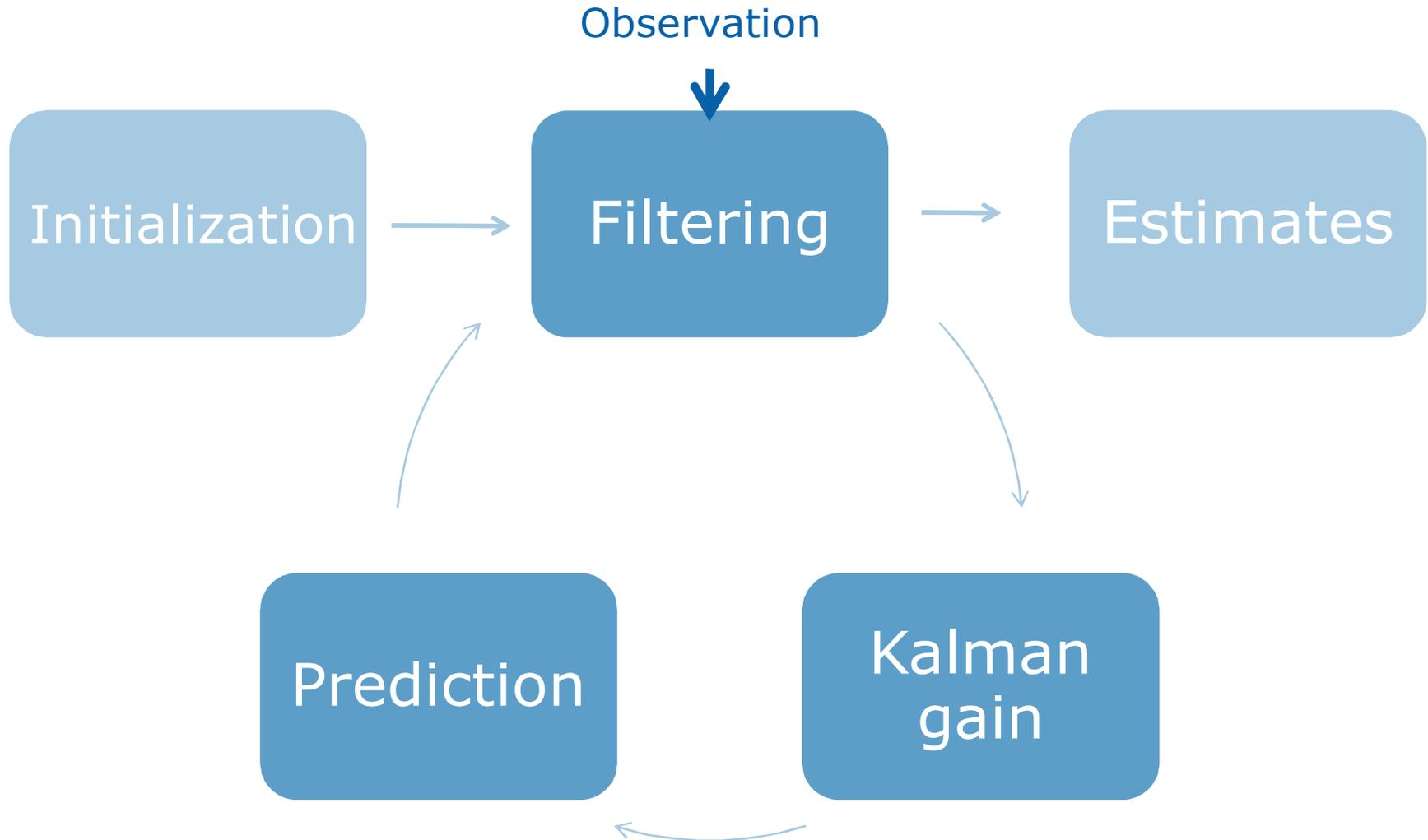
- Dynamical system formulation: Process/measurement eqs.

$$r_k = F r_{k-1} + \epsilon_k$$

$$z_k = H r_k + \nu_k$$

$$\epsilon_k \sim \mathcal{N}(0, R) \quad \nu_k \sim \mathcal{N}(0, Q)$$

KF: Sequentially incorporate observations



KF: Prediction/correction

■ Prediction

- Geometrical/physical considerations
 - Movement of particle in magnetic field
- Material considerations
 - Energy loss
 - Multiple Coulomb scattering

■ Correction

- Bayesian update

KF: Prediction/correction

- Prediction

$$\hat{r}_{k+1}^P = F \hat{r}_k$$

$$P_{k+1}^P = F P_k F' + R$$

- Kalman gain update

$$K_{k+1} = \tilde{P}_{k+1} H' (H \tilde{P}_{k+1} H' + Q)^{-1}$$

- Correction

$$\hat{r}_{k+1} = \hat{r}_{k+1}^P + K_{k+1} (z_k - H \hat{r}_{k+1}^P)$$

$$P_{k+1} = (I - K_{k+1} H) P_{k+1}^P$$

KF: Optimization

- Physical
 - Initial model (homogeneous/non-homogeneous magnetic field)
 - Polynomial approximation of the magnetic field
- Numerical
 - Want to use single instead of double precision for performance
 - Still need to assure numerical stability (→ UD factorization)
- Implementation
 - Take advantage of modern hardware features: multicore + vectors
 - Obvious parallelization opportunity: over tracks

Consistent with approach described in Cell-based implementation (Gorbunov et al, 2007)

Levels of parallelism

Grid	Group of clusters communicating through internet
Cluster	Group of computers communicating through fast interconnect
Node	Group of processors communicating through shared memory
Socket	Group of cores communicating through shared cache
Core	Group of functional units communicating through registers
Hyperthreads	Group of thread contexts sharing functional units
Superscalar	Group of instructions sharing functional units
Pipeline	Sequence of instructions sharing functional units
Vector	Single instruction using multiple functional units

Ct: C for Throughput

- Dynamic run-time environment
 - Managed data/code
 - Dynamic code generation
 - Autovectorization
- Domain-specific language embedded in C++

Ct implementation

Program structure

- Prolog
 - Copy (user) data into Ct-controlled space
 - Convert to structure of array (SoA) form for efficiency
- Compute
 - Define and invoke compute kernels that work on Ct types
 - Parallelized over multiple tracks with the same number of measurements
- Epilog
 - Copy data back into user space
 - Converts into array of structure (AoS) form for convenience

Performance measurements

- Run-time compilation time ***excluded*** (can be amortized)
- SoA and AoS conversion time is ***included***

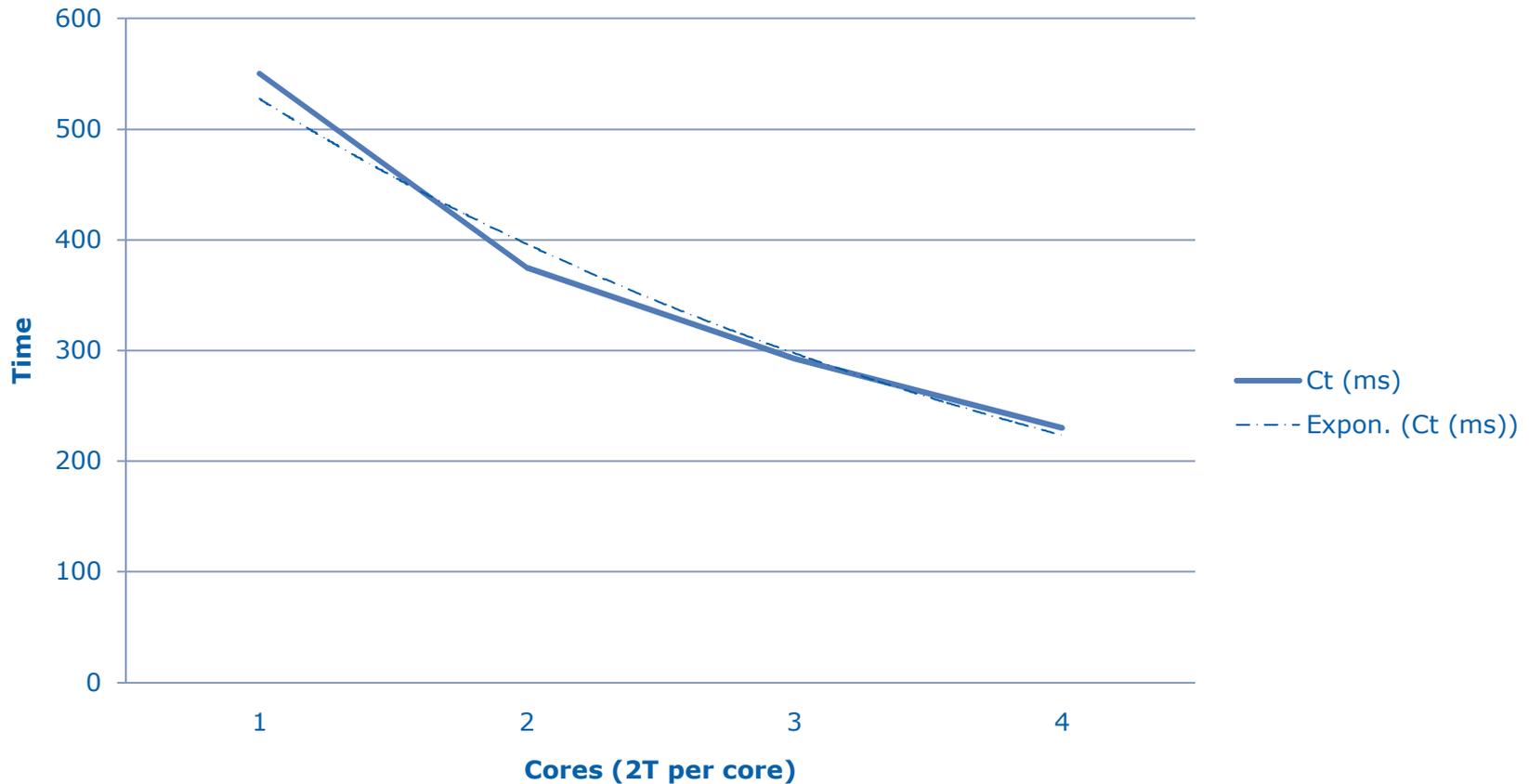
Ct: Kernel invocation/definition

```
rcall(fitTracksCtEntry)(vSize, structTracks, structStations, vtT, vtC);
```

```
_for( i = N - 1, i >= 0, i-- ){  
    // magnetic field setup  
    filter( ts, ss, xInfo, ts.hitsX2.row( i ), w, T, C );  
    filter( ts, ss, yInfo, ts.hitsY2.row( i ), w, T, C );  
    for( int j = 0; j < 3; j++ ){  
        H2[j] = H1[j];  
        H1[j] = H0[j];  
    }  
    z2 = z1;  
    z1 = z0;  
}_endFor;
```

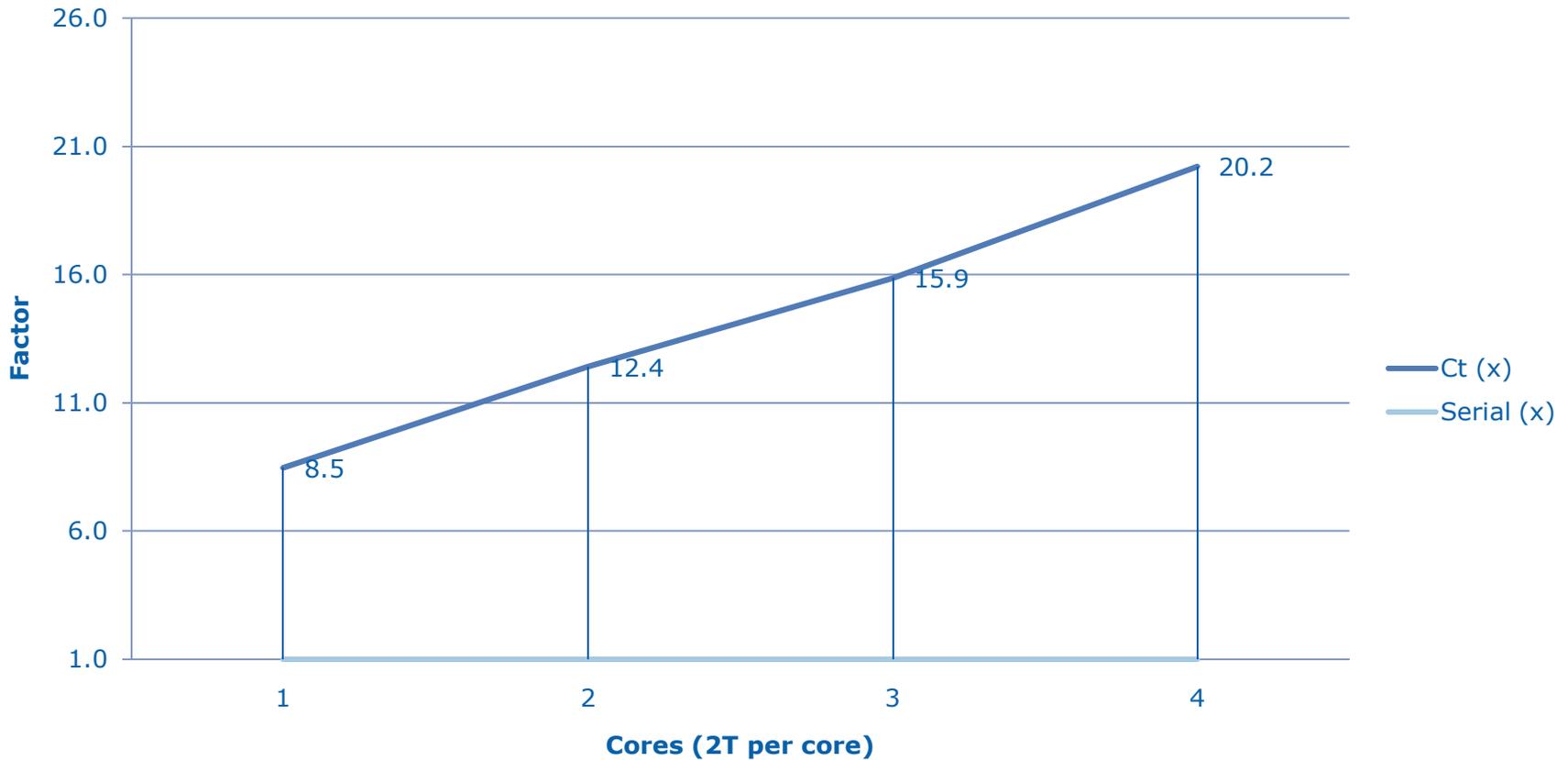
Strong Scalability, with Hyperthreading

CERN Track Fitting - Strong Scalability



Strong Scalability with Hyperthreading

CERN Track Fitting - Speedup



Future work

Parallelism allows use of more powerful algorithms:

- Gaussian sum filter [[Früwirth et al 1997](#)]
 - Non-Gaussian noise; use parallel bank of Kalman filters
- Particle filters (aka Sequential Monte Carlo, Doucet et al, 2001)
 - Non-linear dynamics; naturally parallel

Explore other parallelisation strategies:

- Pipeline strategy if applicable

Integration with C++ frameworks:

- Ct allows construction of reusable frameworks
- Ct allows development of application-specific languages
- Explore parallelization of entire frameworks like `genfit` instead of experiment-specific kernels



Q/A

References

- Rudolf Früwirth: "Track fitting with non-Gaussian noise", 1997
- Gorbunov et al: "Fast SIMDized Kalman filter based track fit", Computer Physics Communications 178(5), 2008
- Doucet et al.: Sequential Monte Carlo Methods in Practice, Springer, 2001

Backup



Experimental setup

- Baseline characterization
 - Single-precision
 - UDKF
- Test platform

CPU	1 @ 4-core Intel Core i7-920 @ 2.67 GHz	6 GB RAM
OS	64-bit Windows Server 2008	
Compiler	icl.exe v11.1.054	