

18-344 Recitation 8

11/07/2025

Outline

1. Logistics
2. Homeworks
3. Review
4. Lab 3

Logistics

- Homework 7 released, deadline extended: November 10 (Monday) (in 3 days)
 - Covers lectures 15-16
- Homework 8 released, due on November 17 (Monday) (in 10 days)
 - Covers lecture 17
- Lab 3 deadlines extended as well
 - Code freeze: October 21 (Friday) (in two weeks)
 - Submit (push a commit to your repo) on GitHub Classroom
 - Report: November 24 (Monday) (in two weeks + three days)
 - Submit on Gradescope
- Lab 4 will still be released on November 17
 - Code freeze: December 11
 - Submit (push a commit to your repo) on GitHub Classroom
 - Report: December 14
 - Submit on Gradescope

Homework 7 – in case you missed it

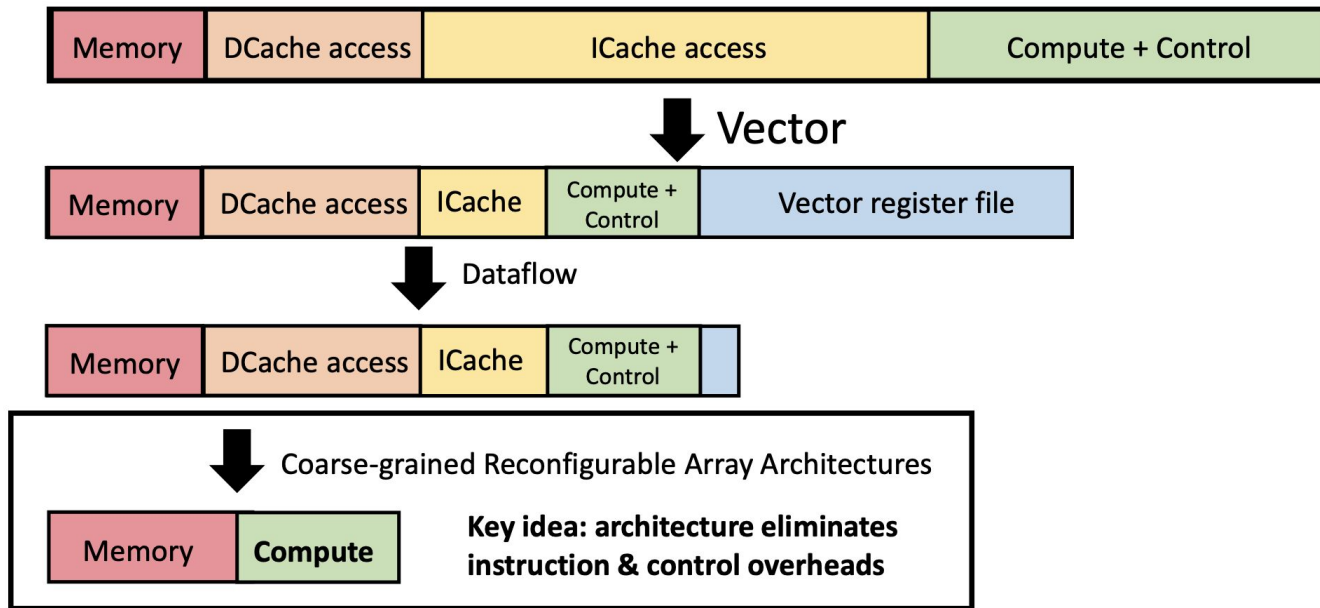
How to calculate the average *ILP* given a sequence of instructions?

For this assignment, we define: $ILP = \frac{T_1}{T_\infty}$

where T_n is the number of cycles to execute the sequence of instructions with n execution units.

Review

Scalar/Vector/(Spatial) Dataflow architectures



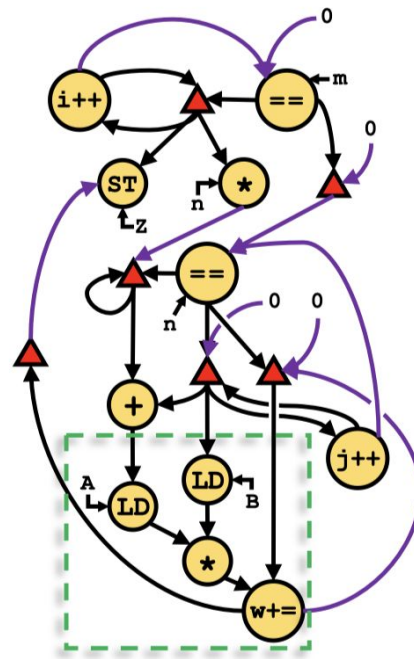
¹ Brandon Lucia. 2024. Energy-minimal Computing: Edge architectures for extreme efficiency. CMU 18-344.

Spatial dataflow for programmable acceleration

Dense matrix-vector multiplication:

Pseudocode and dataflow-graph (DFG)¹

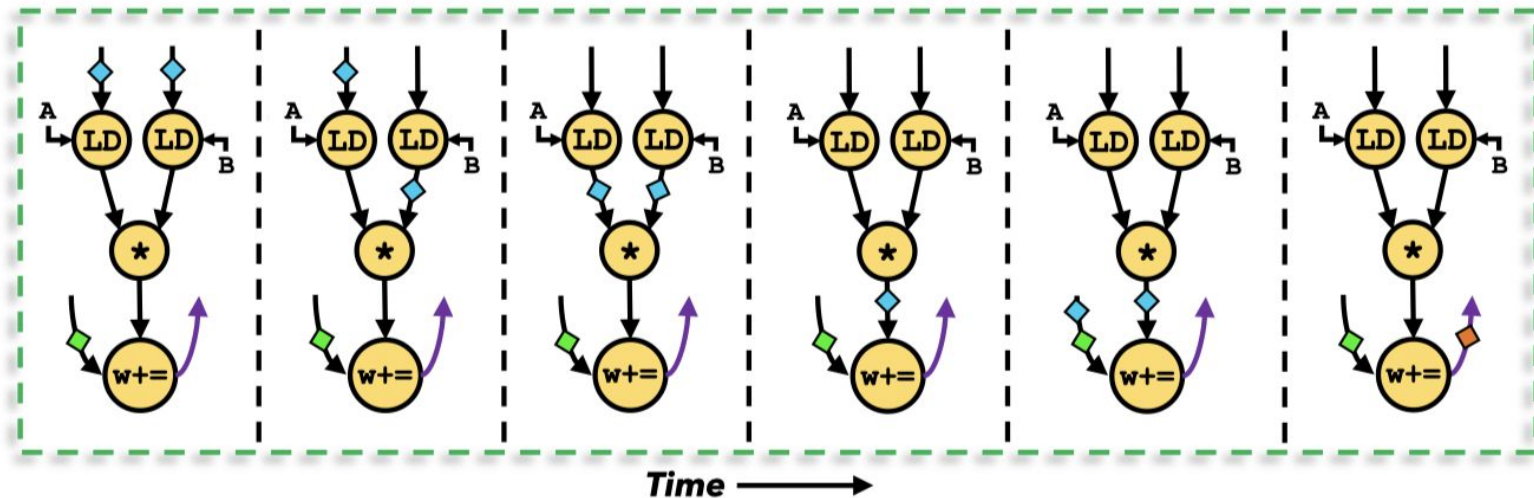
```
def dmvm (A, B, Z, m, n):  
  for i = 0..m:  
    w = 0  
    for j = 0..n:  
      w += A[i,j] * B[j]  
    Z[i] = w
```



¹ Nikhil Agarwal et al. 2024. The TYR Dataflow Architecture: Improving Locality by Taming Parallelism. MICRO 2024.

Dataflow in action

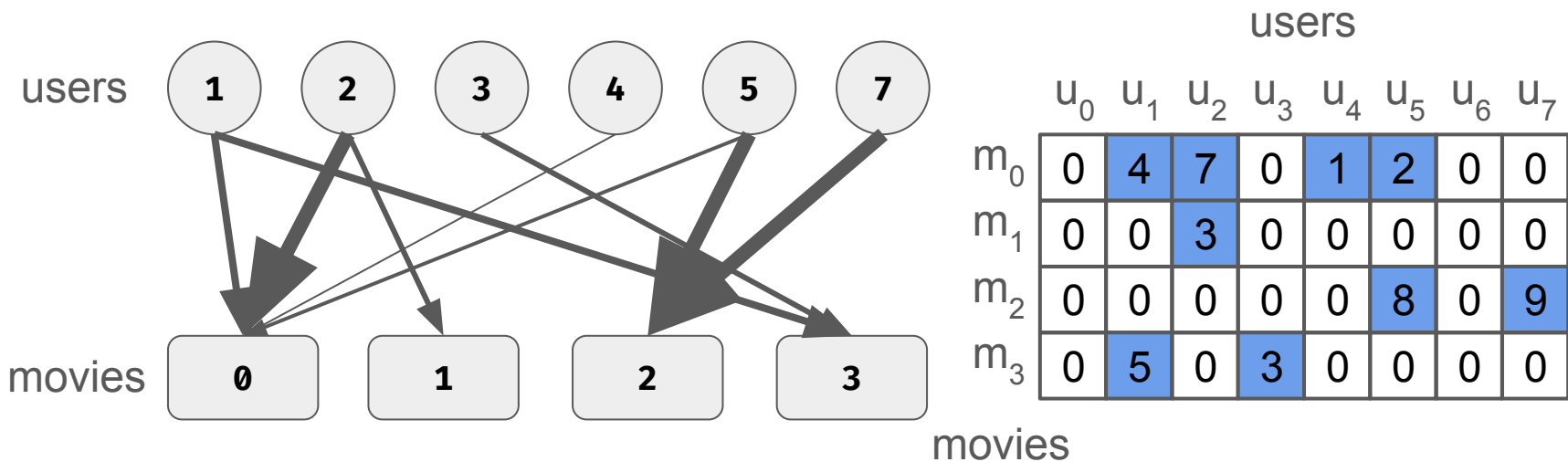
Dense matrix-vector multiplication's inner loop: a running example¹



¹ Nikhil Agarwal et al. 2024. The TYR Dataflow Architecture: Improving Locality by Taming Parallelism. MICRO 2024.

Sparse problems

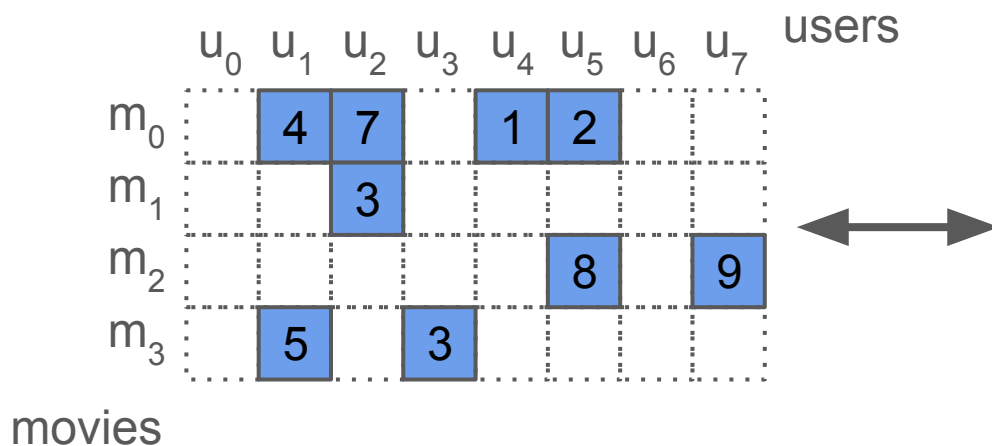
Machine learning, networking, and many more problems all involve ***sparse data***.



Compressed Sparse Columns/Rows – **CSC/CSR**

Matrices/tensors in sparse problems have *high memory footprint* yet *low density*.
=> Convert and store data in more space-efficient formats (e.g. **CSC** and **CSR**).

How to convert a matrix/edge list to **CSR**?



Edge list (may *not* always be sorted)
(also called COO, coordinate list):

2	→	0	:	7
2	→	1	:	3
1	→	0	:	4
1	→	3	:	5
3	→	3	:	3
4	→	0	:	1
7	→	2	:	9
5	→	0	:	2
5	→	2	:	8

EL to CSR: 1/ Sort **EL** by rows (user)

user	→	movie	:	weight
------	---	-------	---	--------

2	→	0	:	7
---	---	---	---	---

2	→	1	:	3
---	---	---	---	---

1	→	0	:	4
---	---	---	---	---

1	→	3	:	5
---	---	---	---	---

3	→	3	:	3
---	---	---	---	---

4	→	0	:	1
---	---	---	---	---

7	→	2	:	9
---	---	---	---	---

5	→	0	:	2
---	---	---	---	---

5	→	2	:	8
---	---	---	---	---

EL to CSR: 1/ Sort **EL** by rows (user)

user → movie : weight

2 → 0 : 7

2 → 1 : 3

1 → 0 : 4

1 → 3 : 5

3 → 3 : 3

4 → 0 : 1

7 → 2 : 9

5 → 0 : 2

5 → 2 : 8



EL to CSR: 1/4 Sort **EL** by rows (user)

user	→	movie	:	weight
------	---	-------	---	--------

1	→	0	:	4
---	---	---	---	---

1	→	3	:	5
---	---	---	---	---

2	→	0	:	7
---	---	---	---	---

2	→	1	:	3
---	---	---	---	---

3	→	3	:	3
---	---	---	---	---

4	→	0	:	1
---	---	---	---	---

5	→	0	:	2
---	---	---	---	---

5	→	2	:	8
---	---	---	---	---

7	→	2	:	9
---	---	---	---	---

EL to CSR: 2/4 Count neighbors and build offset array

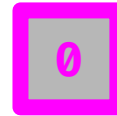
user → movie : weight

1	→	0	:	4
1	→	3	:	5
2	→	0	:	7
2	→	1	:	3
3	→	3	:	3
4	→	0	:	1
5	→	0	:	2
5	→	2	:	8
7	→	2	:	9

Neighbor count for each user

u_0	u_1	u_2	u_3	u_4	u_5	u_6	u_7
0	2	2	1	1	2	0	1

Start from 0



Offset Array (**OA**)

EL to CSR: 2/4 Count neighbors and build offset array

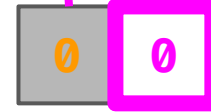
user → movie : weight

1	→	0	:	4
1	→	3	:	5
2	→	0	:	7
2	→	1	:	3
3	→	3	:	3
4	→	0	:	1
5	→	0	:	2
5	→	2	:	8
7	→	2	:	9

Neighbor count for each user

u_0	u_1	u_2	u_3	u_4	u_5	u_6	u_7
0	2	2	1	1	2	0	1

No edge starting from u_0 ,
 $0 + 0 = 0$



Offset Array (OA)

EL to CSR: 2/4 Count neighbors and build offset array

user → movie : weight

1	→	0	:	4
1	→	3	:	5
2	→	0	:	7
2	→	1	:	3
3	→	3	:	3
4	→	0	:	1
5	→	0	:	2
5	→	2	:	8
7	→	2	:	9

Neighbor count for each user

u_0	u_1	u_2	u_3	u_4	u_5	u_6	u_7
0	2	2	1	1	2	0	1

$$0 + 2 = 2$$

0	0	2
---	---	---

Offset Array (OA)

EL to CSR: 2/4 Count neighbors and build offset array

user → movie : weight

1	→	0	:	4
1	→	3	:	5
2	→	0	:	7
2	→	1	:	3

3 → 3 : 3

4 → 0 : 1

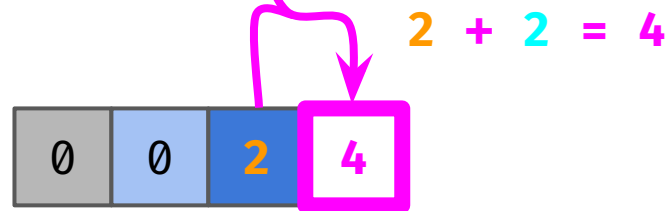
5 → 0 : 2

5 → 2 : 8

7 → 2 : 9

Neighbor count for each user

u_0	u_1	u_2	u_3	u_4	u_5	u_6	u_7
0	2	2	1	1	2	0	1



Offset Array (OA)

EL to CSR: 2/4 Count neighbors and build offset array

user → movie : weight

1	→	0	:	4
1	→	3	:	5
2	→	0	:	7
2	→	1	:	3
3	→	3	:	3
4	→	0	:	1
5	→	0	:	2
5	→	2	:	8
7	→	2	:	9

Neighbor count for each user

u_0	u_1	u_2	u_3	u_4	u_5	u_6	u_7
0	2	2	1	1	2	0	1

$4 + 1 = 5$

0	0	2	4	5
---	---	---	---	---

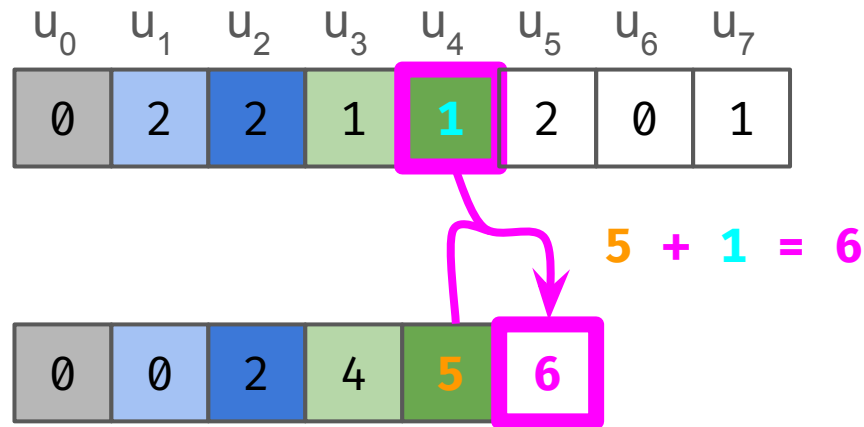
Offset Array (OA)

EL to CSR: 2/4 Count neighbors and build offset array

user → movie : weight

1	→	0	:	4
1	→	3	:	5
2	→	0	:	7
2	→	1	:	3
3	→	3	:	3
4	→	0	:	1
5	→	0	:	2
5	→	2	:	8
7	→	2	:	9

Neighbor count for each user



Offset Array (OA)

EL to CSR: 2/4 Count neighbors and build offset array

user → movie : weight

1	→	0	:	4
1	→	3	:	5
2	→	0	:	7
2	→	1	:	3
3	→	3	:	3
4	→	0	:	1
5	→	0	:	2
5	→	2	:	8
7	→	2	:	9

Neighbor count for each user

u_0	u_1	u_2	u_3	u_4	u_5	u_6	u_7
0	2	2	1	1	2	0	1

$$6 + 2 = 8$$

0	0	2	4	5	6	8
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

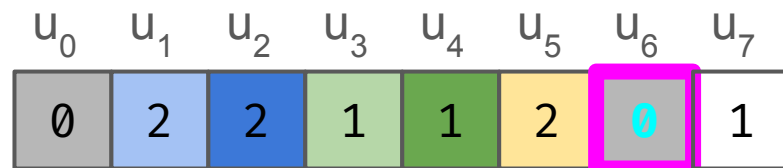
Offset Array (OA)

EL to CSR: 2/4 Count neighbors and build offset array

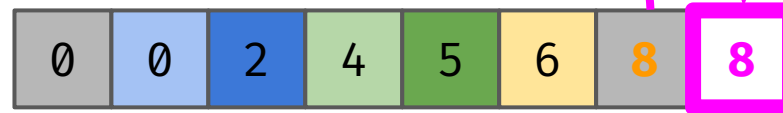
user → movie : weight

1	→	0	:	4
1	→	3	:	5
2	→	0	:	7
2	→	1	:	3
3	→	3	:	3
4	→	0	:	1
5	→	0	:	2
5	→	2	:	8
7	→	2	:	9

Neighbor count for each user



No edge starting from u_6 ,
 $8 + 0 = 8$



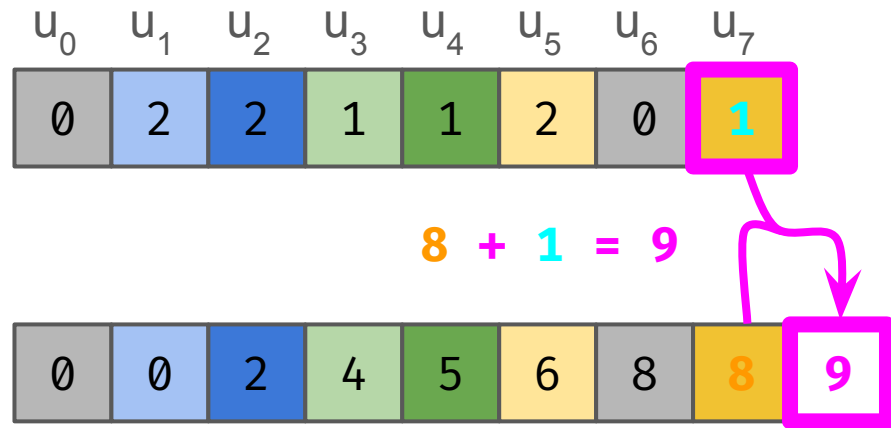
Offset Array (OA)

EL to CSR: 2/4 Count neighbors and build offset array

user → movie : weight

1	→	0	:	4
1	→	3	:	5
2	→	0	:	7
2	→	1	:	3
3	→	3	:	3
4	→	0	:	1
5	→	0	:	2
5	→	2	:	8
7	→	2	:	9

Neighbor count for each user



Offset Array (OA)

EL to CSR: 2/4 Count neighbors and build offset array

user → movie : weight

1	→	0	:	4
1	→	3	:	5
2	→	0	:	7
2	→	1	:	3
3	→	3	:	3
4	→	0	:	1
5	→	0	:	2
5	→	2	:	8
7	→	2	:	9

Offset Array (OA)

0	0	2	4	5	6	8	8	9
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

The last element in **OA** always equals to **size(edges)**

EL to CSR: 3/4 Build neighbor array

user → movie : weight

1	→	0	:	4
1	→	3	:	5
2	→	0	:	7
2	→	1	:	3
3	→	3	:	3
4	→	0	:	1
5	→	0	:	2
5	→	2	:	8
7	→	2	:	9

Offset Array (**OA**)

0	0	2	4	5	6	8	8	9
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

For each non-zero-length interval in the **OA**, append its edges' destinations (**movies**) to the **NA** *in-order*.

|

Neighbor Array (**NA**)

EL to CSR: 3/4 Build neighbor array

user → movie : weight

1	→	0	:	4
1	→	3	:	5
2	→	0	:	7
2	→	1	:	3
3	→	3	:	3
4	→	0	:	1
5	→	0	:	2
5	→	2	:	8
7	→	2	:	9

Offset Array (OA)

0	0	2	4	5	6	8	8	9
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

0	3
---	---

Neighbor Array (NA)

EL to CSR: 3/4 Build neighbor array

user → movie : weight

1	→	0	:	4
1	→	3	:	5
2	→	0	:	7
2	→	1	:	3
3	→	3	:	3
4	→	0	:	1
5	→	0	:	2
5	→	2	:	8
7	→	2	:	9

Offset Array (OA)

0	0	2	4	5	6	8	8	9
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

0	3	0	1
---	---	---	---

Neighbor Array (NA)

EL to CSR: 3/4 Build neighbor array

user → movie : weight

1	→	0	:	4
1	→	3	:	5
2	→	0	:	7
2	→	1	:	3
3	→	3	:	3
4	→	0	:	1
5	→	0	:	2
5	→	2	:	8
7	→	2	:	9

Offset Array (OA)

0	0	2	4	5	6	8	8	9
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

0	3	0	1	3
---	---	---	---	---

Neighbor Array (NA)

EL to CSR: 3/4 Build neighbor array

user → movie : weight

1	→	0	:	4
1	→	3	:	5
2	→	0	:	7
2	→	1	:	3
3	→	3	:	3
4	→	0	:	1
5	→	0	:	2
5	→	2	:	8
7	→	2	:	9

Offset Array (OA)

0	0	2	4	5	6	8	8	9
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

0	3	0	1	3	0
---	---	---	---	---	---

Neighbor Array (NA)

EL to CSR: 3/4 Build neighbor array

user → movie : weight

1	→	0	:	4
1	→	3	:	5
2	→	0	:	7
2	→	1	:	3
3	→	3	:	3
4	→	0	:	1
5	→	0	:	2
5	→	2	:	8
7	→	2	:	9

Offset Array (OA)

0	0	2	4	5	6	8	8	9
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

0	3	0	1	3	0	0	2
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Neighbor Array (NA)

EL to CSR: 3/4 Build neighbor array

user → movie : weight

1	→	0	:	4
1	→	3	:	5
2	→	0	:	7
2	→	1	:	3
3	→	3	:	3
4	→	0	:	1
5	→	0	:	2
5	→	2	:	8
7	→	2	:	9

Offset Array (OA)

0	0	2	4	5	6	8	8	9
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

0	3	0	1	3	0	0	2	2
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Neighbor Array (NA)

EL to CSR: 3/4 Build neighbor array

user → movie : weight

1	→	0	:	4
1	→	3	:	5
2	→	0	:	7
2	→	1	:	3
3	→	3	:	3
4	→	0	:	1
5	→	0	:	2
5	→	2	:	8
7	→	2	:	9

Offset Array (**OA**)

0	0	2	4	5	6	8	8	9
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Neighbor Array (**NA**)

0	3	0	1	3	0	0	2	2
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

EL to CSR: 4/4 Build the property array (if needed)

user → movie : weight

1	→	0	:	4
1	→	3	:	5
2	→	0	:	7
2	→	1	:	3
3	→	3	:	3
4	→	0	:	1
5	→	0	:	2
5	→	2	:	8
7	→	2	:	9

Offset Array (**OA**)

0	0	2	4	5	6	8	8	9
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Neighbor Array (**NA**)

0	3	0	1	3	0	0	2	2
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Property Array (**PA**)

4	5	7	3	3	1	2	8	9
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

EL to CSR: done!

user → movie : weight

1	→	0	:	4
1	→	3	:	5
2	→	0	:	7
2	→	1	:	3
3	→	3	:	3
4	→	0	:	1
5	→	0	:	2
5	→	2	:	8
7	→	2	:	9

Offset Array (**OA**) (indptr)

0	0	2	4	5	6	8	8	9
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Neighbor Array (**NA**) (indices)

0	3	0	1	3	0	0	2	2
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Property Array (**PA**) (data)

4	5	7	3	3	1	2	8	9
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

How to use the CSR?

Say, we are interested in user u_2 's rating for movie m_1 .

First, we find the offset for user u_2 by indexing **OA[2] and OA[2+1]**.

Next, we iterate through **NA** with range **OA[2] ... OA[2+1]-1** (inclusive) and check for a match with movie m_1 's index, **1**.

If match (e.g. at **NA[i]**), we then index **PA[i]** to find user u_2 's rating.

Offset Array (**OA**) (indptr)

0	0	2	4	5	6	8	8	9
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Neighbor Array (**NA**) (indices)

0	3	0	1	3	0	0	2	2
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Property Array (**PA**) (data)

4	5	7	3	3	1	2	8	9
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

EL (C00), CSC, and CSR

You should now be able to convert **EL** to **CSR**.

Similarly, you should be able to convert **EL** to **CSC**.

By traversing the **CSC/CSR** (as seen on last slide), you should be able to convert **CSC** and **CSR** to **EL** as well.

This is what you'll be implementing in the next lab!
(Without the property array.)

More to follow in upcoming weeks' recitations.

Lab 3

Lab 3 – in case you missed it

There's a little pintool that we distribute called **vm_trace**.

This pintool will be very useful for you to test and profile your VM implementation on real-world workloads.

It is not required that you use this pintool, however ***we highly recommend you use it***. (You'll need to *somehow* generate sufficiently complex traces for testing anyways. Why not go with the easier route?)

vm_trace is **NOT** included in the regular lab3 tar ball.

It is available separately at:

[/afs/ece.cmu.edu/class/ece344/assign/vm_trace.tar.gz](https://afs.ece.cmu.edu/class/ece344/assign/vm_trace.tar.gz)