



# Machine Learning for CUDA+MPI Design Rules

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**Sandia National Labs**

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## Automatic Discovery of Implementation Rules for Fast GPU + MPI Operations



- Fast libraries for heterogeneous architectures
  - Mapping computation onto processors
  - Choosing communication strategy
  - Unpredictable performance interaction
- Prototype automatic tooling for discovering important design decisions
  - Reduced developer effort for performance on new systems
  - Maintain human provenance of library design
  - e.g. Modernize Tpetra MPI+GPU distributed linear algebra operations

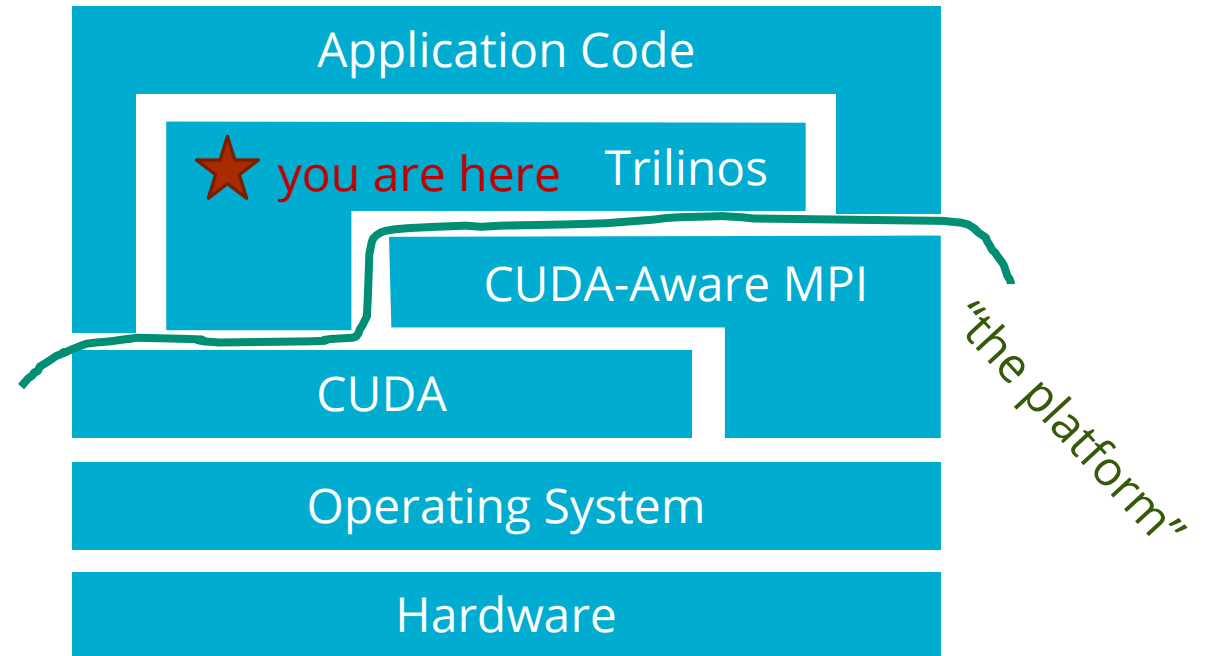
Key Challenge	How it's Done
Large Design Space	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Express operation as a directed acyclic graph (DAG) of operations</li><li>• Monte-Carlo Tree Search (MCTS) to identify and explore regions of interest</li></ul>
Extract performance insight	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Empirical benchmarking</li><li>• Feature vector for each implementation</li><li>• Decision tree training for design rules</li></ul>

Initial results pass “sniff test,” working on broader experiments and quantitative evaluation

# Libraries are built on existing lower-level primitives



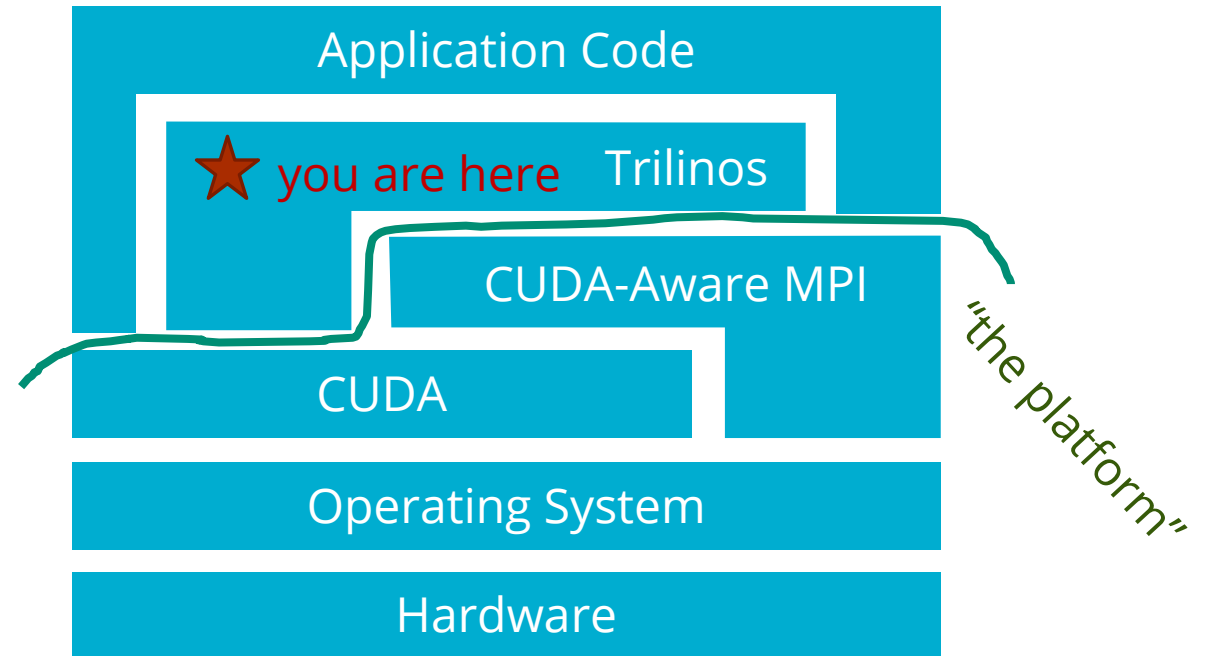
- Our libraries (and applications) are combinations of existing library and vendor operations
  - and code to coordinate them
  - and code to implement custom behavior



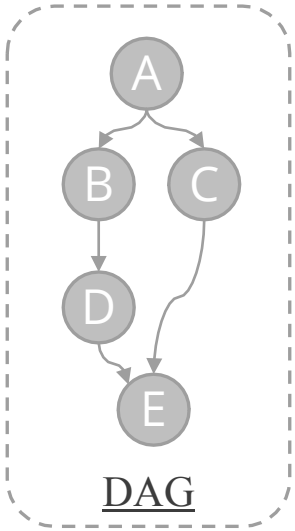
# Libraries are built on existing lower-level primitives



- Our libraries (and applications) are combinations of existing library and vendor operations
  - and code to coordinate them
  - and code to implement custom behavior
- Performance changes at many layers for new platforms
  - new hardware,
  - new CUDA version,
  - new OS version,
  - etc.



# Prototype Implementation in C++ and Python



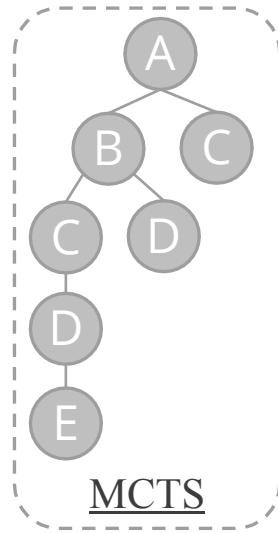
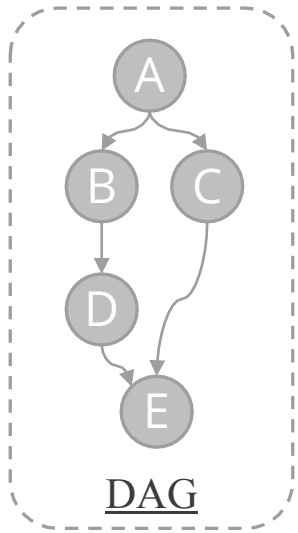
DAG

DAG of  
operations  
describes design  
space

C++ / CUDA / MPI

Python / scikit-learn

# Prototype Implementation in C++ and Python



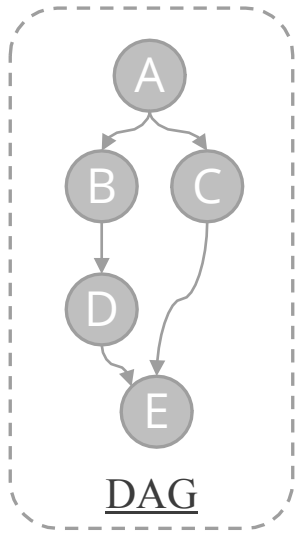
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MCTS searches  
order of operations  
and resource  
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C++ / CUDA / MPI

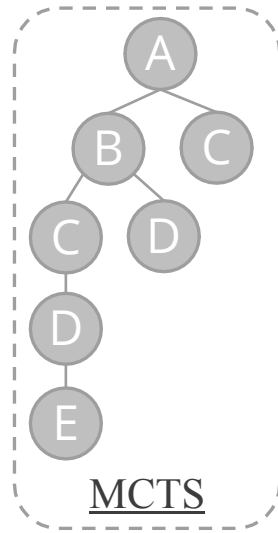
Python / scikit-learn

# Prototype Implementation in C++ and Python

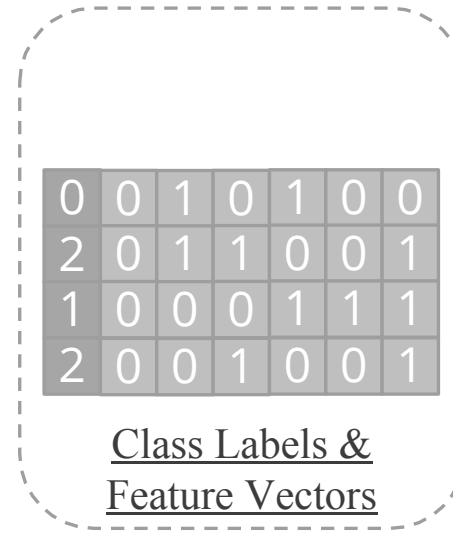


DAG of  
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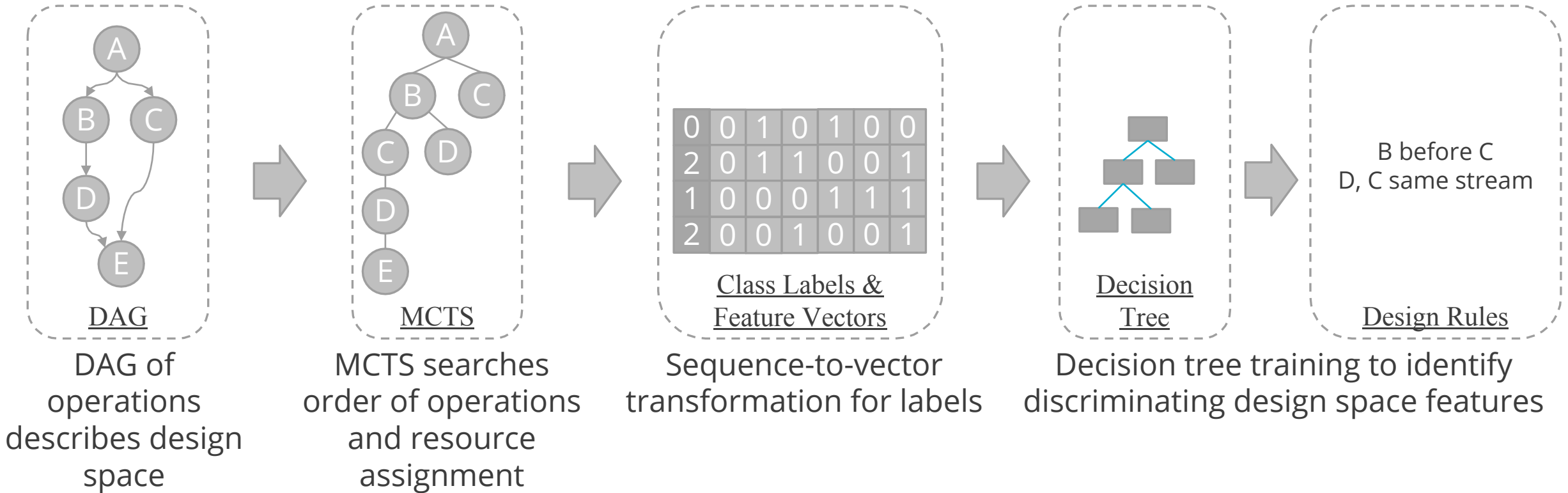
MCTS searches  
order of operations  
and resource  
assignment



Sequence-to-vector  
transformation for labels

Python / scikit-learn

# Prototype Implementation in C++ and Python



C++ / CUDA / MPI

Python / scikit-learn



# Example: Distributed SpMV



$$A x = y$$

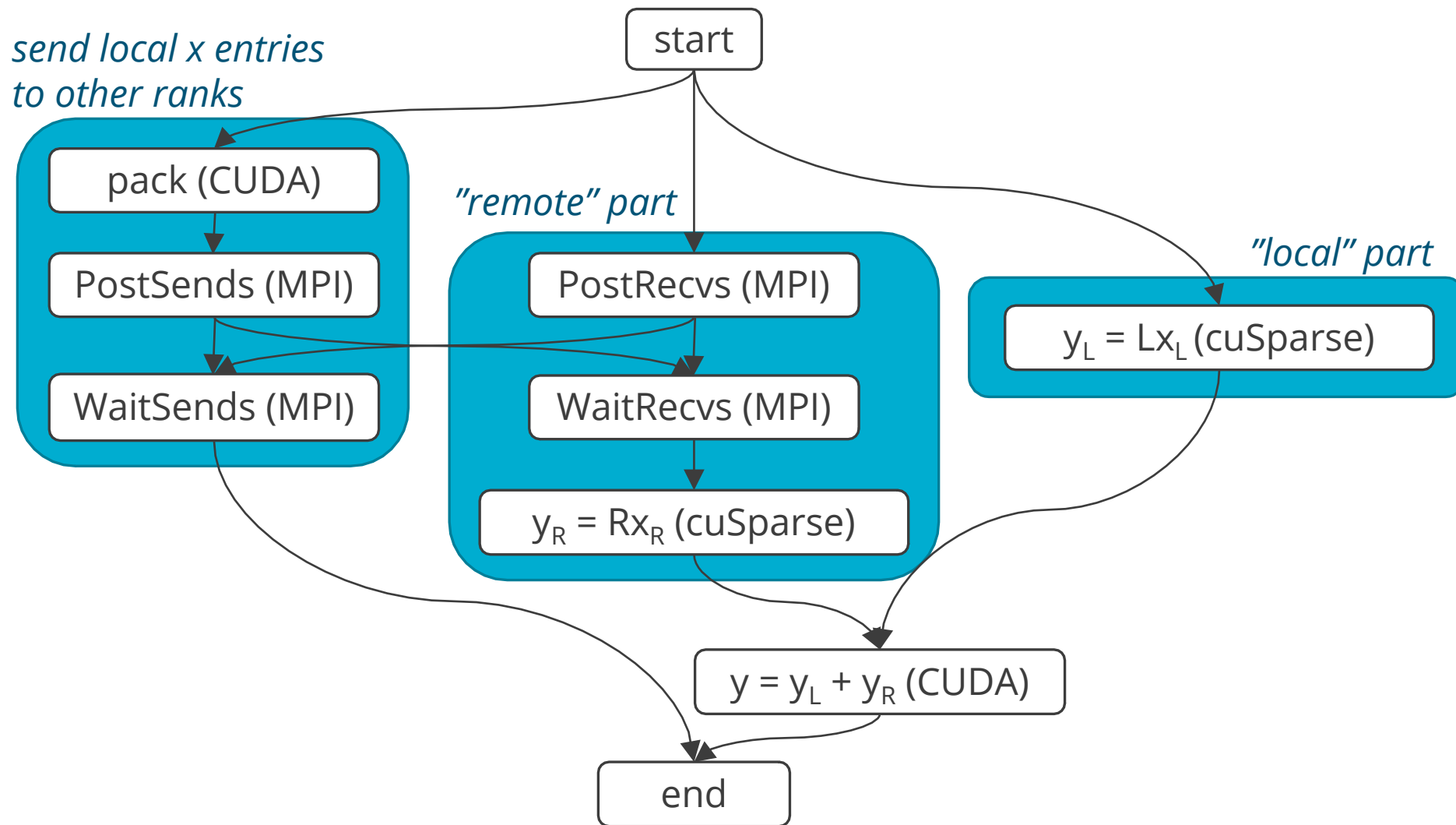
“Local” part needs no communication

Two independent SpMV in each rank

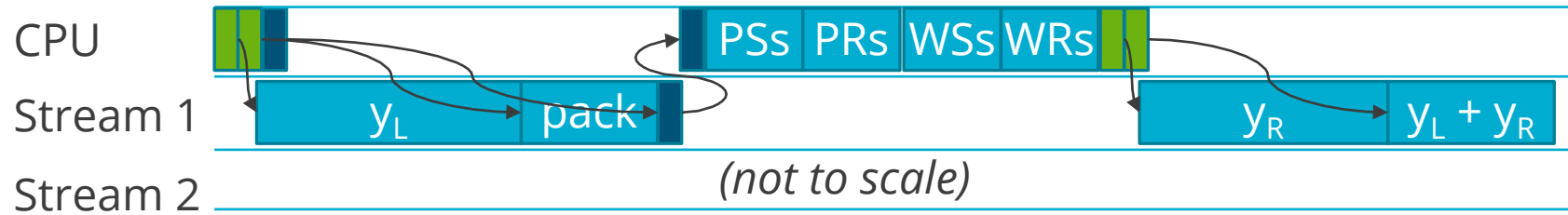
“Remote” part must wait to receive x-vector entries



# DAG represents primitive operations and their dependences

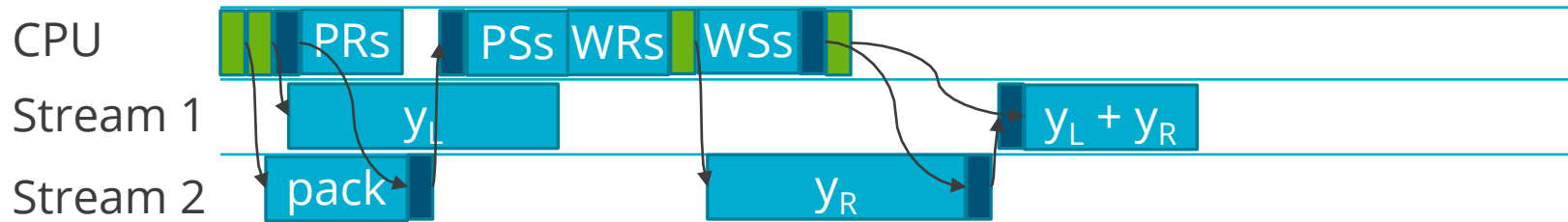


# Design Space: Order of Operations, Resource Assignment, and Synchronization



- Different resource assignments require different synchronization
- May improve GPU utilization or communication/computation overlap, but increases required operations

- kernel launch
- sync ops
- application operations

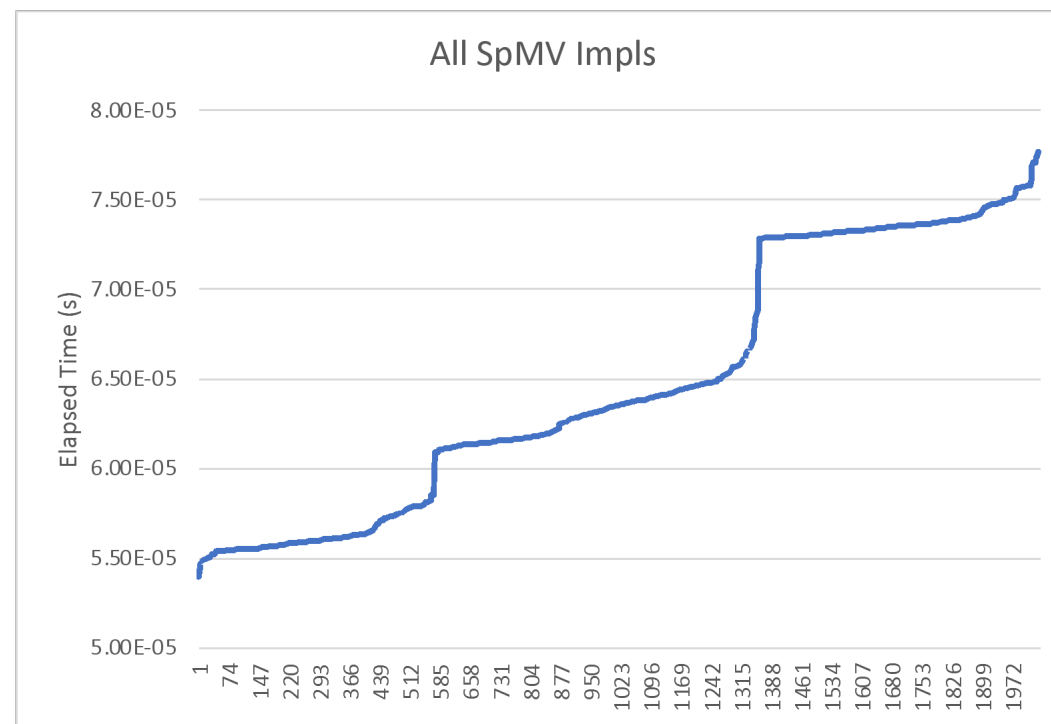


# Need to Discover Important Design Decisions



- Some choices matter a lot
- Many choices do not matter at all
- input- and system-dependent
- Large design space: lots of expert time to evaluate and implement for each target platform
- Monte-Carlo Tree Search to focus on valuable decisions

1.45x speedup



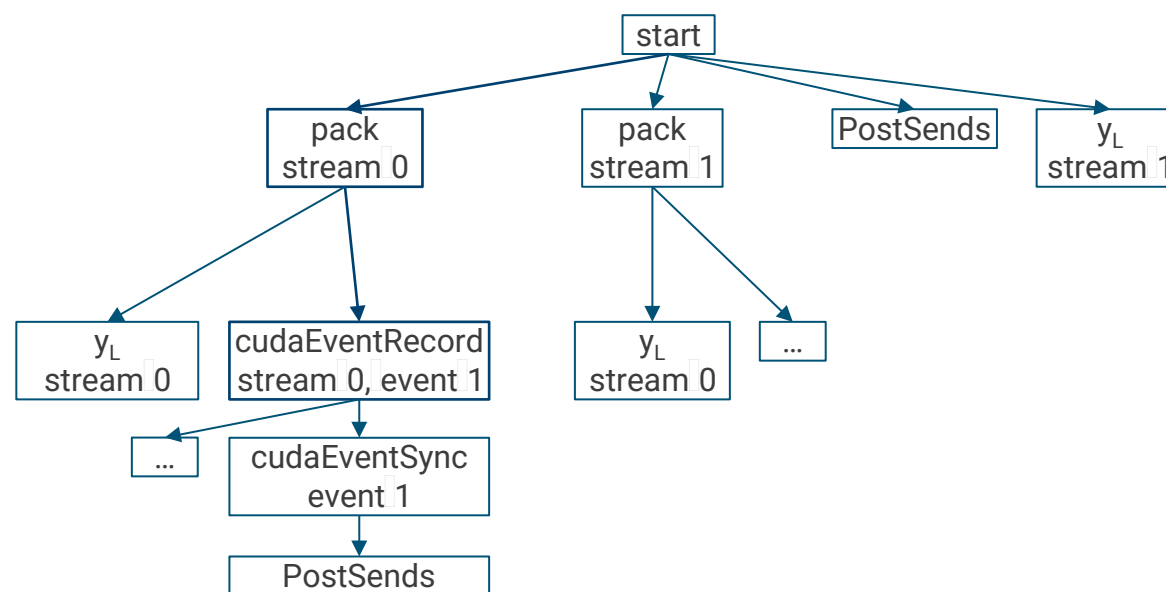
{order of operations}  
X  
{stream assignments}  
X  
{synchronizations}

2036 implementations

# MCTS Represents Search State in a Tree



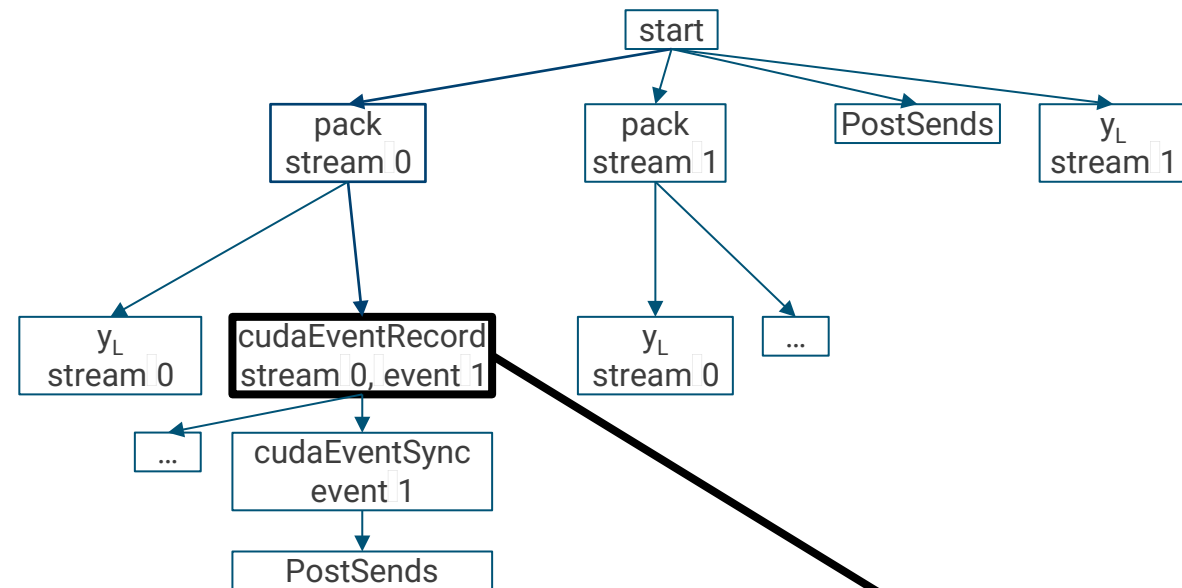
State space search is stored in a tree



# MCTS Represents Search State in a Tree



State space search is stored in a tree



Each node is an operation and resource assignment

*From DAG, or synchronization operation*

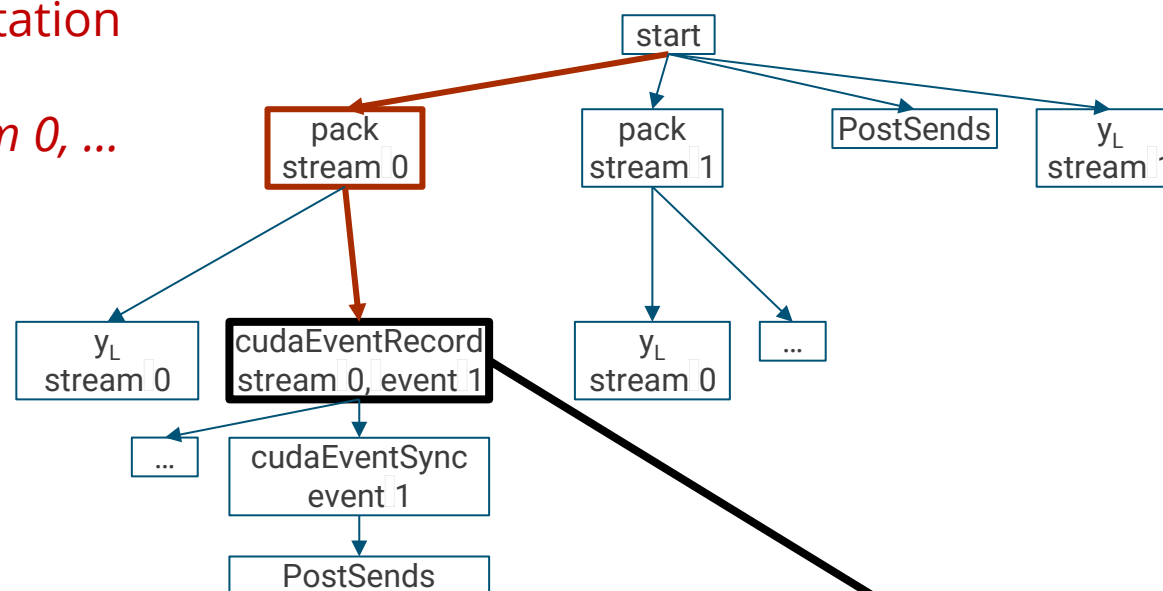
# MCTS Represents Search State in a Tree



State space search is stored in a tree

Path is the beginning of an implementation

*pack in stream 0, record event 1 in stream 0, ...*



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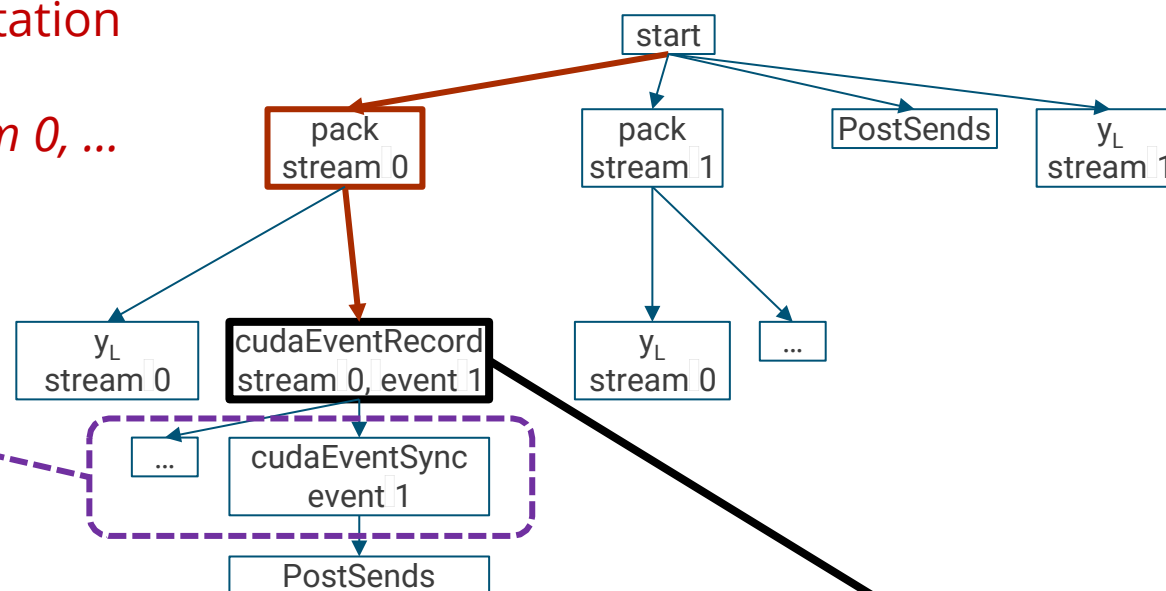
State space search is stored in a tree

Path is the beginning of an implementation

*pack in stream 0, record event 1 in stream 0, ...*

Children are all possible subsequent operation / resource combinations

*All DAG predecessors complete and synchronized*



Each node is an operation and resource assignment

*From DAG, or synchronization operation*



# MCTS Represents Search State in a Tree



State space search is stored in a tree

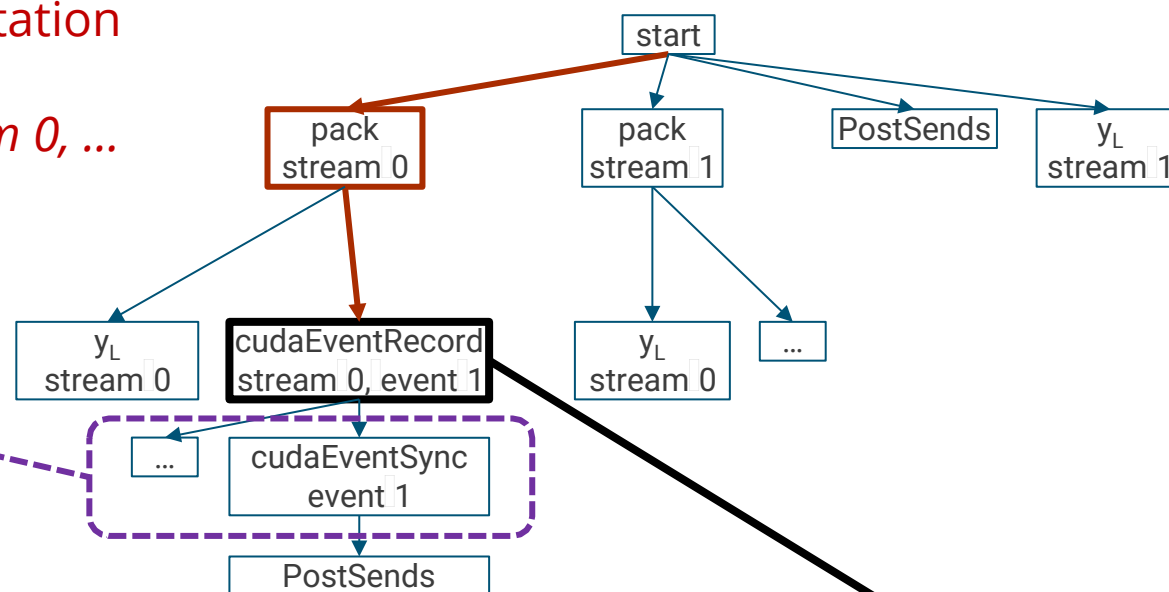
Path is the beginning of an implementation

*pack in stream 0, record event 1 in stream 0, ...*

Children are all possible subsequent operation / resource combinations

*All DAG predecessors complete and synchronized*

Each node stores empirical performance of any complete implementation it is part of



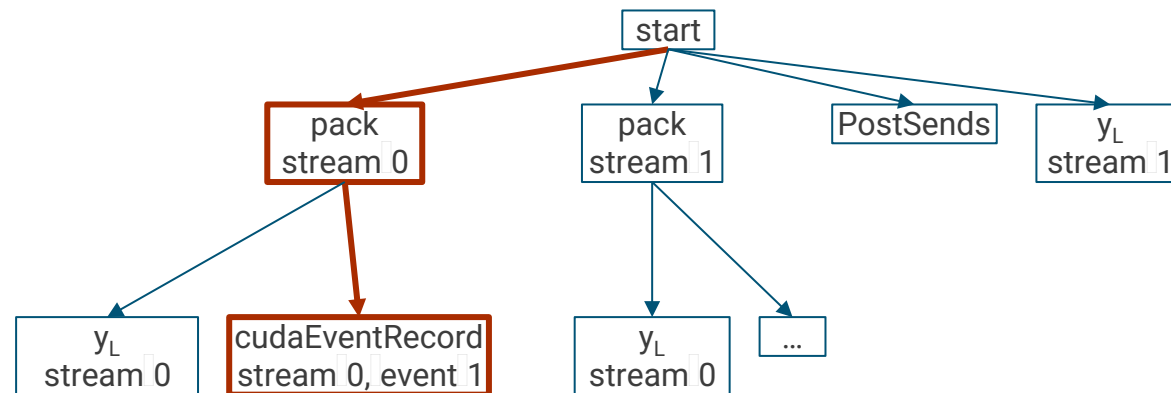
Each node is an operation and resource assignment

*From DAG, or synchronization operation*

# MCTS Iteratively Grows Tree to Focus on Valuable Regions



*Selection:* Choose a path through the tree, balancing valuable vs unexplored subtrees

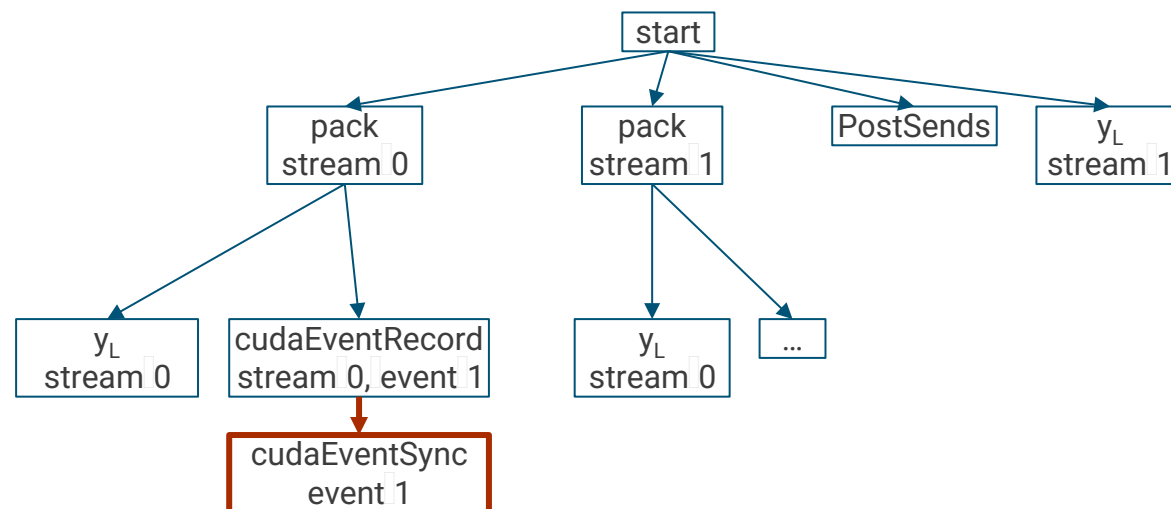


# MCTS Iteratively Grows Tree



*Selection:* Choose a path through the tree, balancing valuable vs unexplored subtrees

*Expansion:* Create a new child



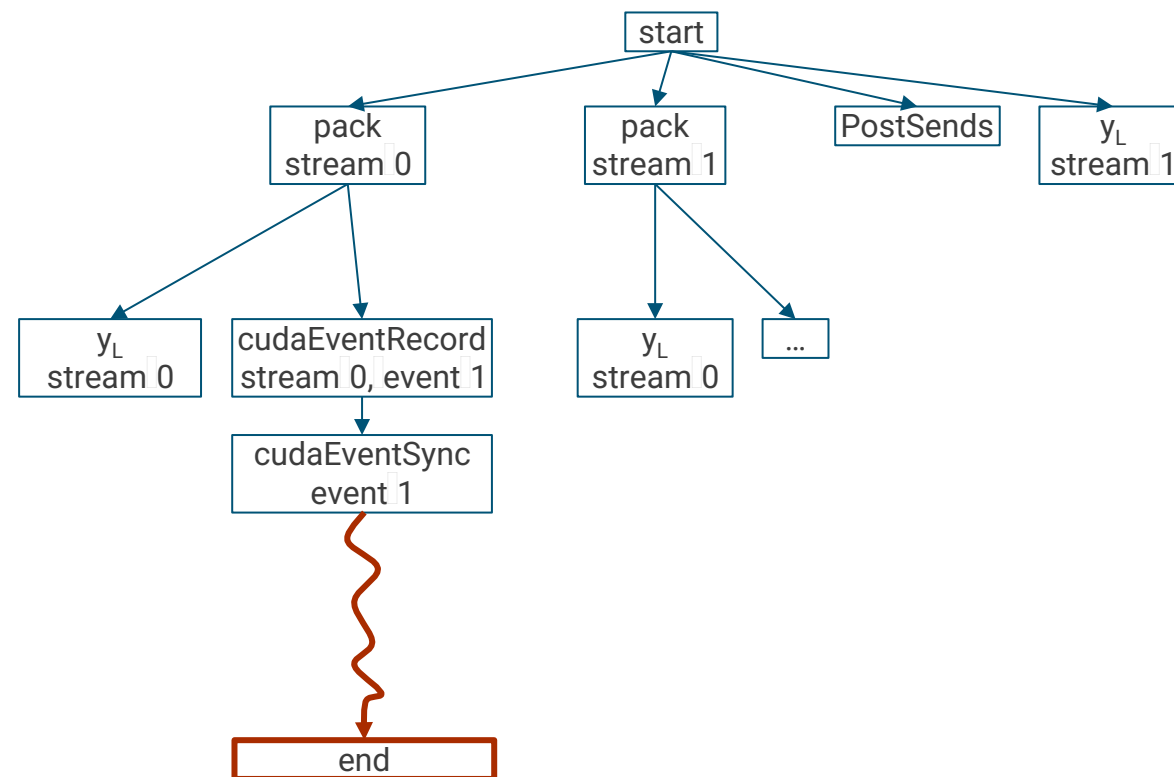
# MCTS Iteratively Grows Tree



*Selection:* Choose a path through the tree, balancing valuable vs unexplored subtrees

*Expansion:* Create a new child

*Rollout:* Random ordering / assignment to complete the implementation



# MCTS Iteratively Grows Tree

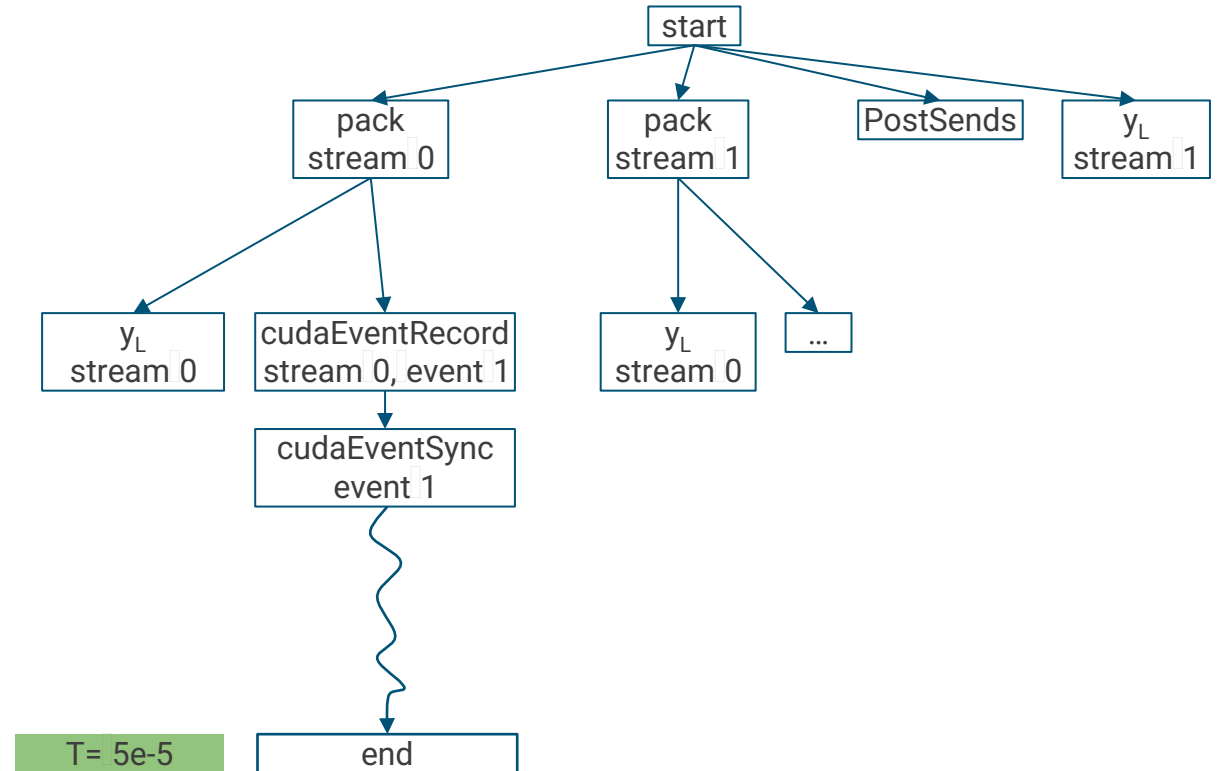


*Selection:* Choose a path through the tree, balancing valuable vs unexplored subtrees

*Expansion:* Create a new child

*Rollout:* Random ordering / assignment to complete the implementation

*Evaluation:* Empirical benchmark



# MCTS Iteratively Grows Tree



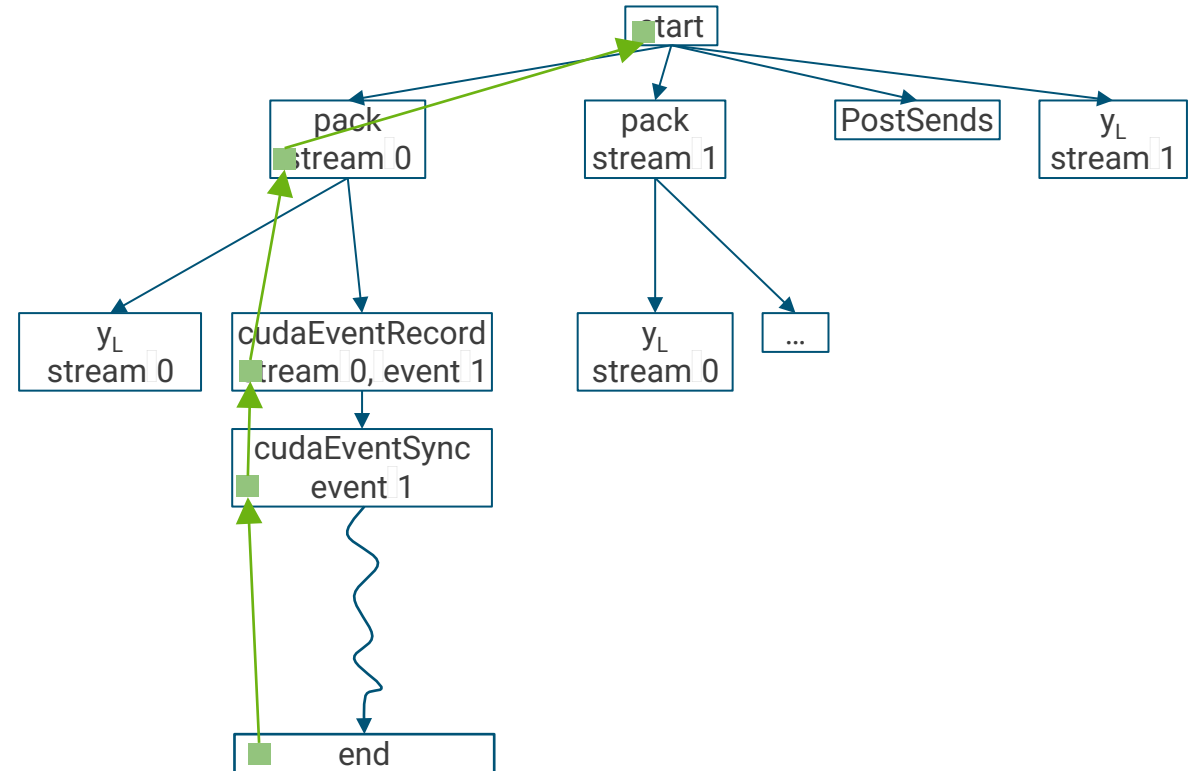
*Selection:* Choose a path through the tree, balancing valuable vs unexplored subtrees

*Expansion:* Create a new child

*Rollout:* Random ordering / assignment to complete the implementation

*Evaluation:* Empirical benchmark

*Backpropagation:* Update each node with new empirical result

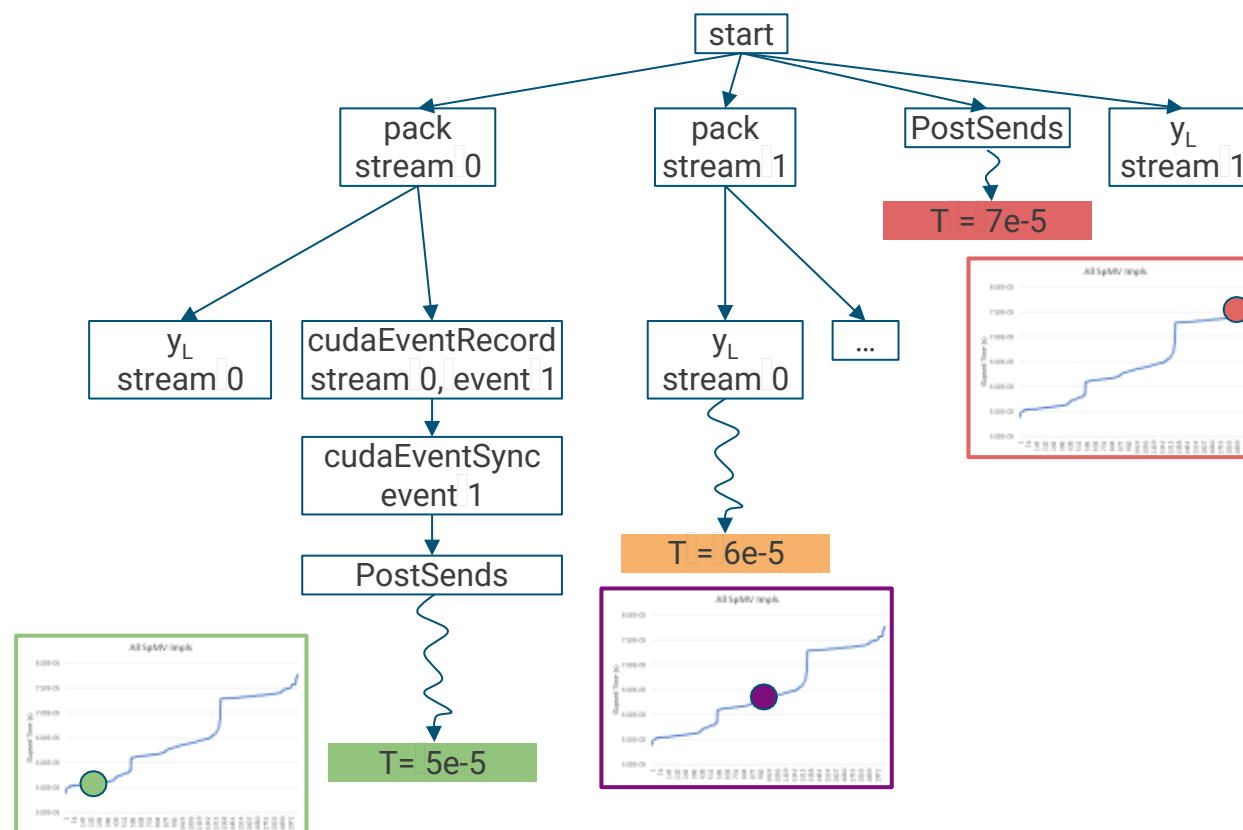


# Tree is Deeper and Larger in Valuable Regions

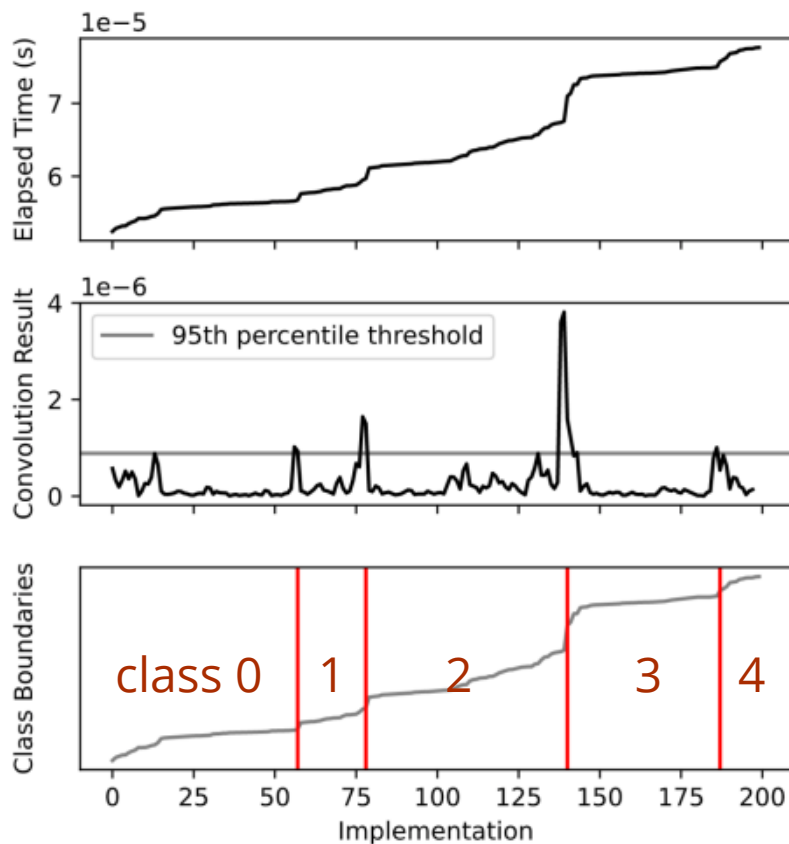


As iterations proceed, tree preferentially explores high-reward regions of the design space

Store all complete implementations and performance results in a table as we go



# Transform Empirical Results into Performance Classes and Feature Vectors



subset explored by MCTS



Impl.	Class Label	ordering rules		resource assignment rules	
		A then B	...	A same stream B	...
98	2	0	1	1	0
0	0	1	0	1	0
56	1	0	0	1	1
73	1	0	0	1	1
...					...

automatic class labeling to identify performance classes (convolution & peak detection)

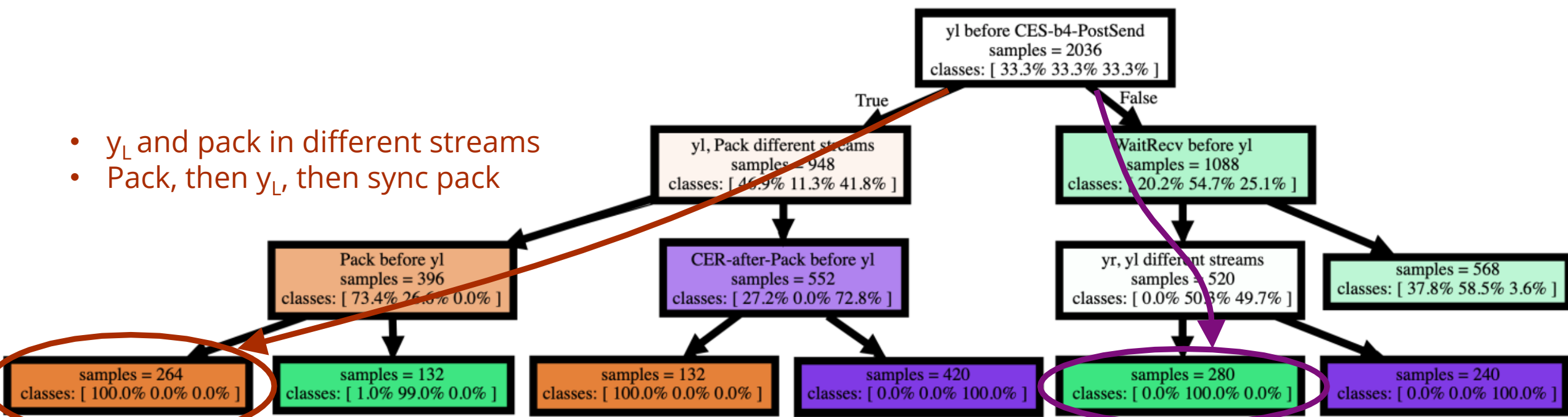
feature vectors encode which rules an implementation follows (sequence-to-vector transformation)



# Decision Tree Training to Determine which Rules Discriminate between Classes



- $y_L$  and pack in different streams
- Pack, then  $y_L$ , then sync pack



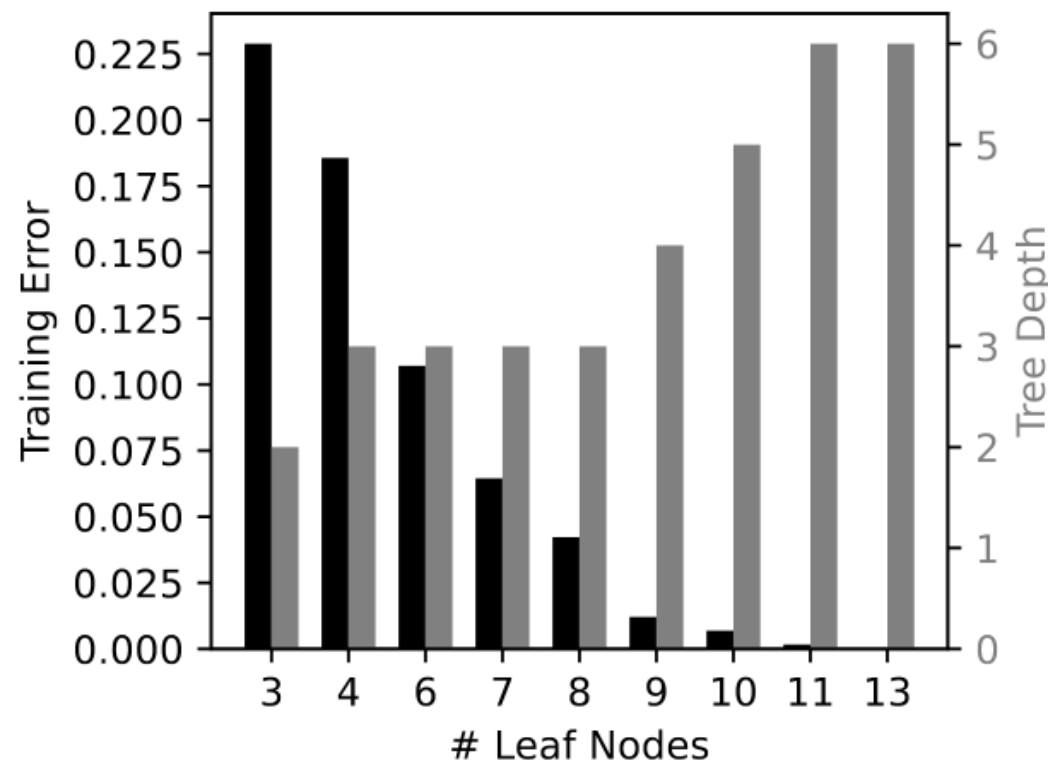
- sync pack before  $y_L$
- WaitRecv before  $y_L$
- $y_L, y_R$  in same stream

Each path through the tree is a set of design rules that define a performance class

# Train an Accurate Decision Tree



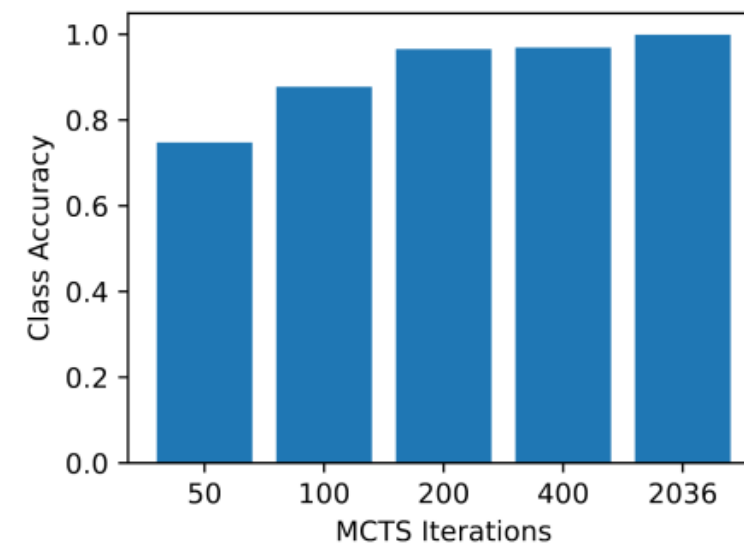
- Training process is for isolating discriminating features
  - **not** for classifying unseen inputs
- Incrementally increase tree size until 100% accuracy achieved
- Accuracy-complexity tradeoff in generated rules



# Does MCTS Find Relevant Design Space Regions?



- Each MCTS iteration is a costly empirical benchmark
- Rule quality with reduced iterations?
  - For a given # of iterations, how accurate are the rules?
  - For a given # of iterations, qualitative look at the rules?



MCTS Iterations	2036	50	100	200	400
<b>Discovered Ruleset for Fastest Performance Class</b>	$y_L \rightarrow \text{CES-b4-PostSend}$ $y_L \not\rightarrow \text{Pack}$ $\text{Pack} \rightarrow y_L$	$y_L \rightarrow \text{CES-b4-PostSend}$ $y_L \not\rightarrow \text{Pack}$ $\text{Pack} \rightarrow y_L$	$y_L \rightarrow \text{CES-b4-PostSend}$ $y_L \not\rightarrow \text{Pack}$ $\text{Pack} \rightarrow y_L$ $y_L \rightarrow \text{WaitSend}$	$y_L \rightarrow \text{CES-b4-PostSend}$ $y_L \not\rightarrow \text{Pack}$ $\text{Pack before } y_L$ $y_L \rightarrow \text{WaitSend}$	$y_L \rightarrow \text{WaitRecv}$ $\text{PostSend} \rightarrow y_L$ $\text{Pack} \rightarrow y_L$ $\text{CER-after-Pack} \rightarrow y_L$ $y_L \rightarrow \text{WaitSend}$ $\text{PostRecv} \rightarrow \text{CES-b4-PostSend}$

$A \not\rightarrow B$ : A different stream than B  
 $A \rightarrow B$ : A, then B

*Most populous ruleset shown*

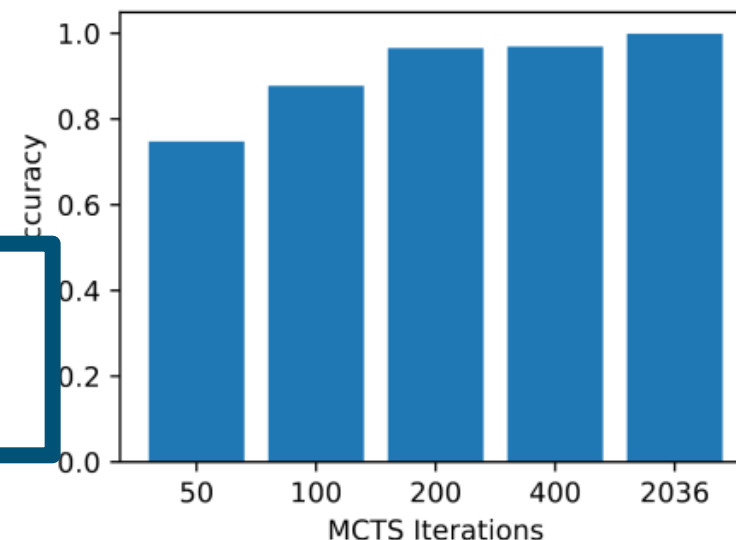
# Does MCTS Find Relevant Design Space Regions?



- Each MCTS iteration is a costly empirical benchmark
- Rule quality with reduced iterations?

- For a given # iterations
- For a given # rules

Few iterations → approx. random sample  
Sample distribution = exhaustive search



MCTS Iterations	2036	50	100	200	400
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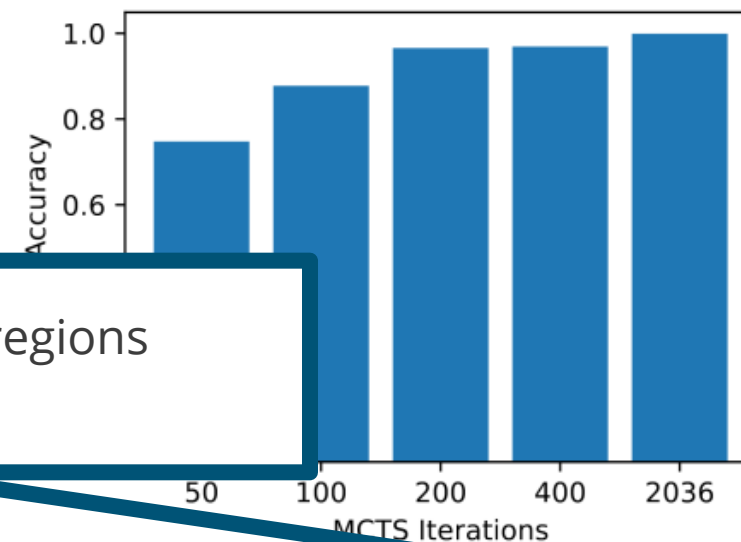
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*Most populous ruleset shown*

# Does MCTS Find Relevant Design Space Regions?



- Each MCTS iteration is a costly empirical benchmark
- Rule quality with reduced iterations?



More iterations → samples drawn from valuable regions  
More samples fall into different rules

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*Most populous ruleset shown*

# Vision for this work



- Current
  - C++ MCTS implementation for MPI/CUDA codes with multiple streams
  - Prototype feature-vector and decision tree training using SciKit in Python
  - Available in March at [github.com/sandialabs/tenzing-core](https://github.com/sandialabs/tenzing-core)
- Upcoming
  - Applying initial results to Tpetra distributed linear algebra package in Trilinos
- Future Explorations
  - Identify unexpected performance effects on target platforms (“performance bugs”)
  - What to do as communication / computation are more tightly integrated
- Summary
  - Represent CUDA+MPI operation as DAG
  - Automatically generate human-interpretable rules for library design
  - Maintain human provenance of implementation (no “black boxes”)