Using ACCL Emulation/Simulation Flow

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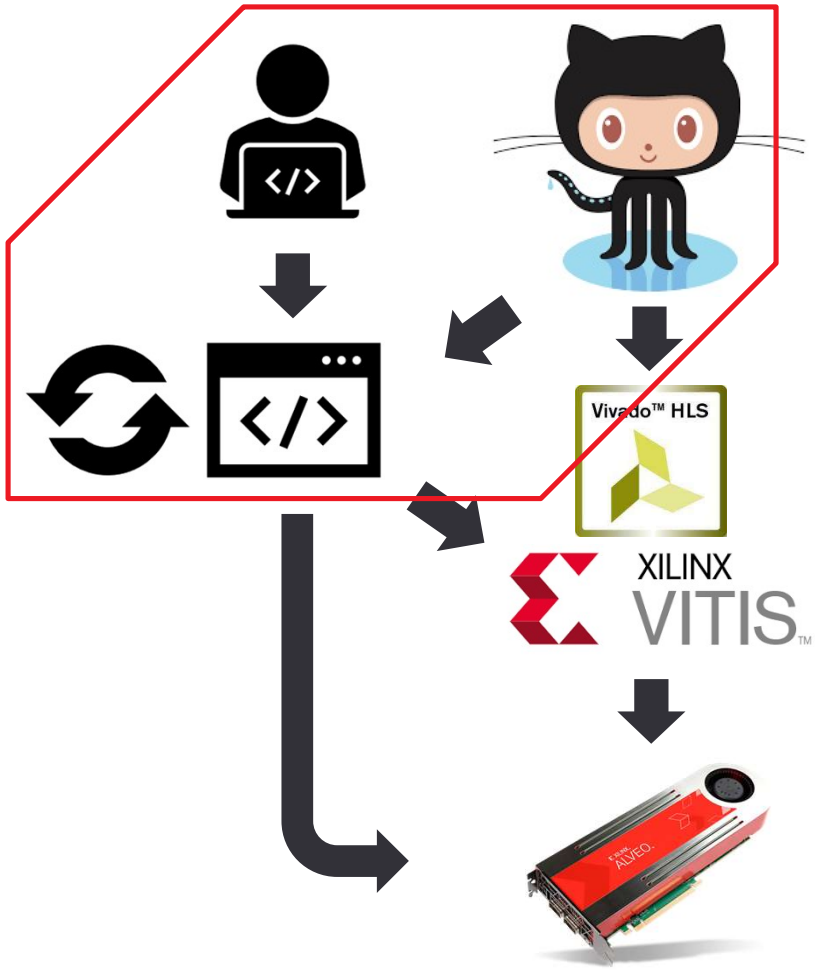
Steps to build ACCL-enabled FPGA application

- Clone ACCL repo(s):
  - https://github.com/Xilinx/ACCL
  - https://github.com/Xilinx/pyaccl
- Build and verify your distributed application
  - With or without FPGA acceleration
  - Using ACCL HLS code emulator and RTL simulator
- Build appropriate CCLO kernel and plugins
- Link with Vitis
  - Against platform, protocol offload engine (POE), and any application kernels
- Deploy to FPGA



ACCL emulation flow demonstration

- Learning objectives:
  - become acquainted with ACCL use-cases and API
  - Learn how to use the simulator and emulator for building host- or PL-driven applications
- Part 1: Host-driven applications
- Part 2: PL-driven, streaming applications

Cloning the Repo
Building Simulator and Emulator
Running Tests

Cloning the Repo, building Simulator, Emulator

```
user@host:~$ git clone --recursive https://github.com/Xilinx/ACCL.git -b tutorial
user@host:~$ cd ACCL/test/model/emulator/
user@host:emulator$ cmake .
[…]
user@host:emulator$ make
[…] (produces executable: cclo_emu)
user@host:emulator$ cd ../../../kernels/cclo
user@host:cclo$ make simdll
[…] (produces shared library: xsimk.so)
user@host:cclo$ cd ../../test/model/simulator
user@host:simulator$ /usr/bin/cmake . && make
[…] (produces executable: cclo_sim)
```

Use /usr/bin/cmake if Xilinx tools loaded

Use –j <num processors> to speed up compile

–j for speed, optionally set STACK_TYPE=TCP, default is UDP

Xilinx tools must be loaded

Building and running Tests

```
user@host:simulator$ cd ../../test/xrt
user@host:xrt$ cmake . && make
user@host:xrt$ mpirun -np 3 bin/test
[…] (test starts with 3 processes; exits when done)
```

Requires XRT and internet; use /usr/bin/cmake if Xilinx tools loaded

```
user@host:emulator$ python3 run.py -n 3 [-u]
[…] (emulator starts with 3 processes; end with Ctrl-C)
```

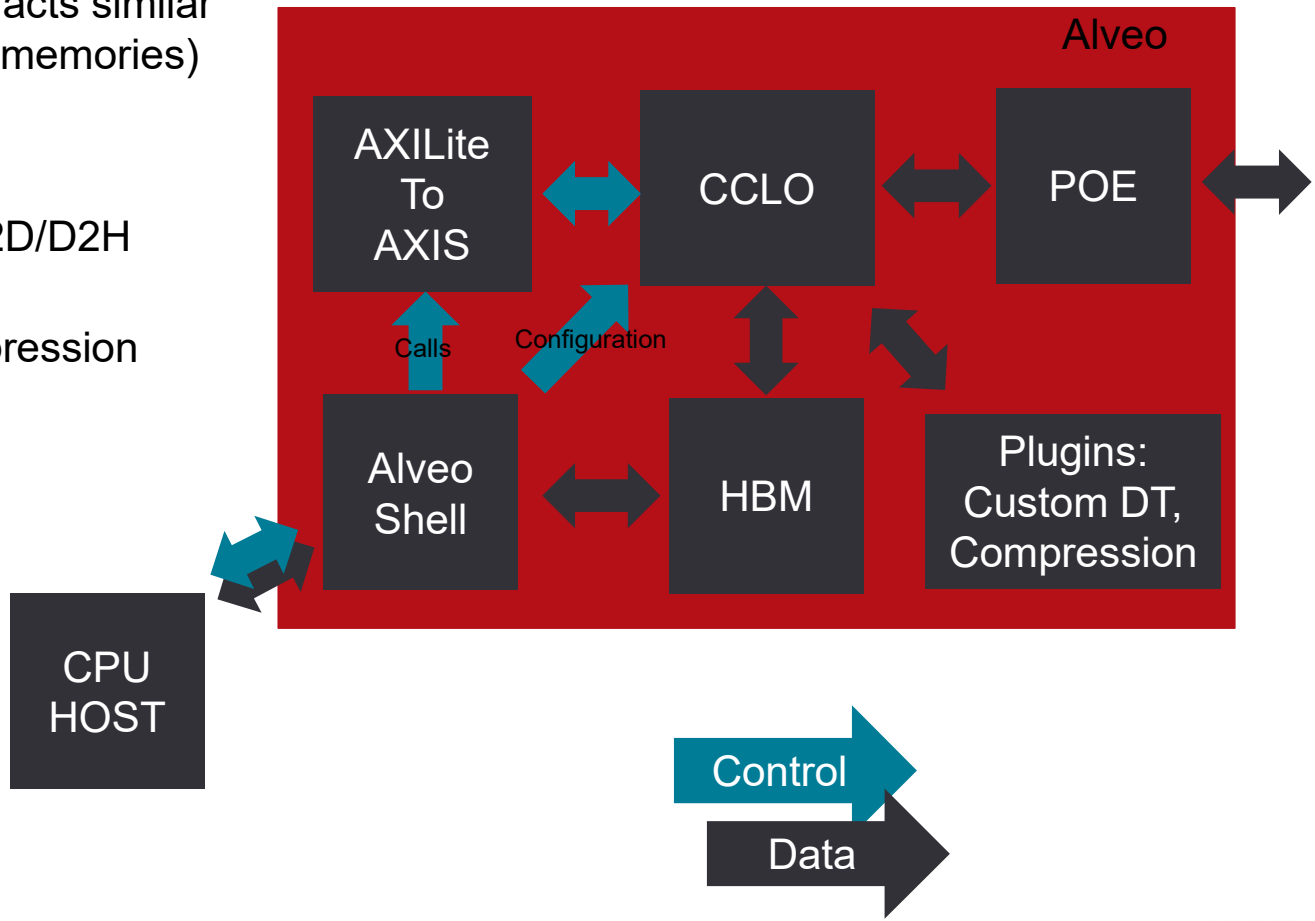
Emulator can select POE at start-up

Example host-driven ACCL Application
Scatter - Vadd - Gather

Typical ACCL system for host-driven applications

- Most generic way of using ACCL, FPGA acts similar to smart NIC (moves data between host memories)
- Host configures ACCL
- Host issues ACCL calls
- Data moves via FPGA memories and H2D/D2H copies
- Possibly traversing plugins for e.g. compression

- Relevant examples: ACCL XRT tests



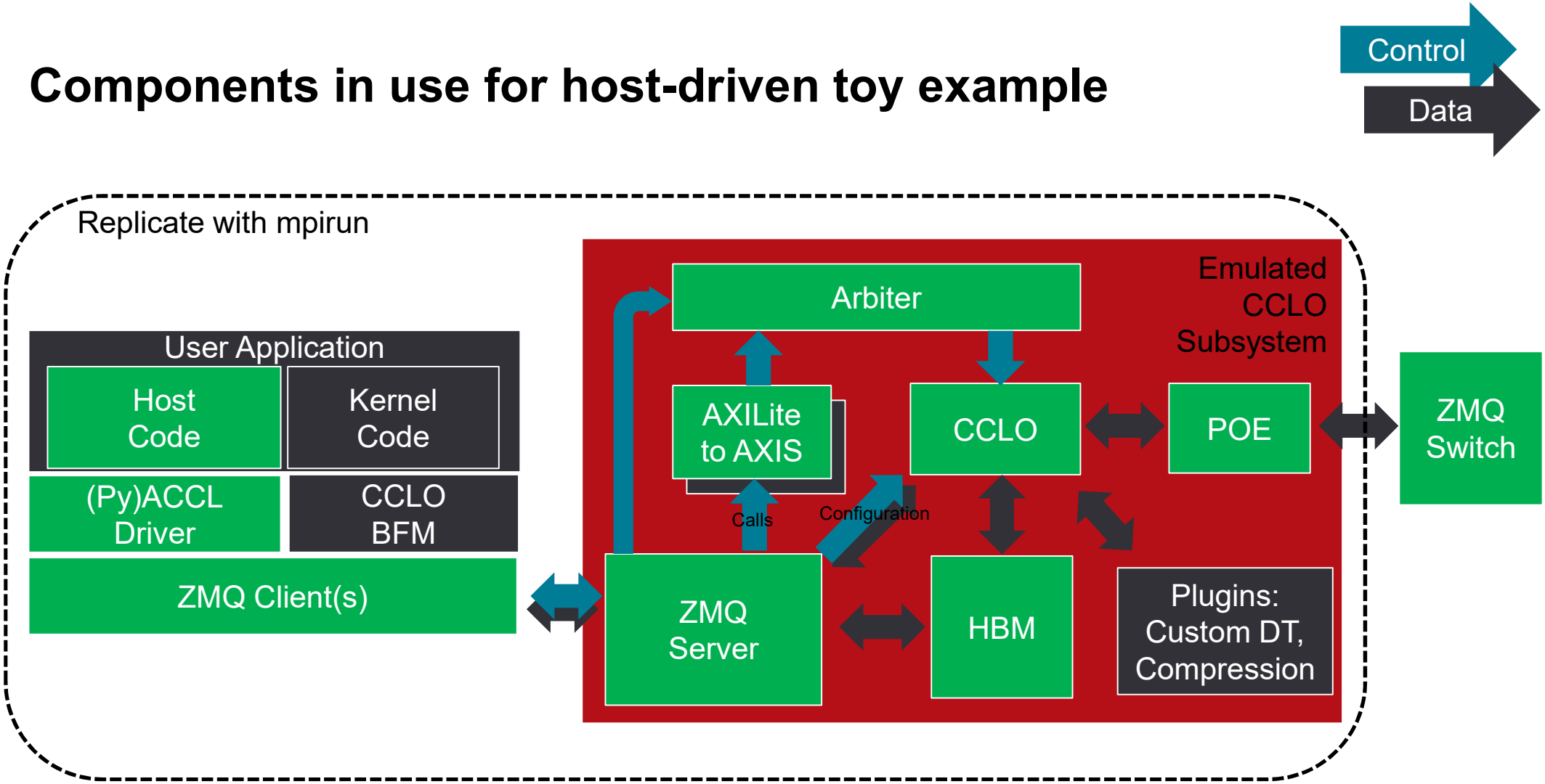
Code for host-driven toy application

```
//ACCL set-up
std::vector<rank_t> ranks = generate_ranks(true, rank, size);
std::unique_ptr<ACCL::ACCL> accl = initialize_accl(ranks, rank, true, acclDesign::UDP);
accl->set_timeout(1e6); //increase timeout for emulation

//application set-up
unsigned int i, datasize = 8;
auto op_buf = accl->create_buffer<float>(datasize * size, dataType::float32);
for (i=0; i<datasize*size; i++) op_buf->buffer()[i] = 0.0;
auto scatter_buf = accl->create_buffer<float>(datasize, dataType::float32);
auto res_buf = accl->create_buffer<float>(datasize, dataType::float32);
auto gather_buf = accl->create_buffer<float>(datasize * size, dataType::float32);
MPI_Barrier(MPI_COMM_WORLD);

//application compute
accl->scatter(*op_buf, *scatter_buf, datasize, 0); //scatter inputs from rank 0
for (i=0; i<datasize; i++) res_buf->buffer()[i] = scatter_buf->buffer()[i] + (i + rank);
accl->gather(*res_buf, *gather_buf, datasize, 0); //gather results to rank 0
```

Components in use for host-driven toy example



Running host-driven toy application

Start host code

```
user@host:simulator$ cd ../../test/host-scatter-vadd-gather
user@host:host-scatter-vadd-gather$ cmake . && make
user@host:host-scatter-vadd-gather$ mpirun –np 3 bin/scatter-vadd-gather
[…] (application starts with 3 processes; prints result and exits when done)
```

Start emulator

```
user@host:emulator$ python3 run.py –n 3 -u
[…] (emulator starts with 3 processes; end with Ctrl-C)
```

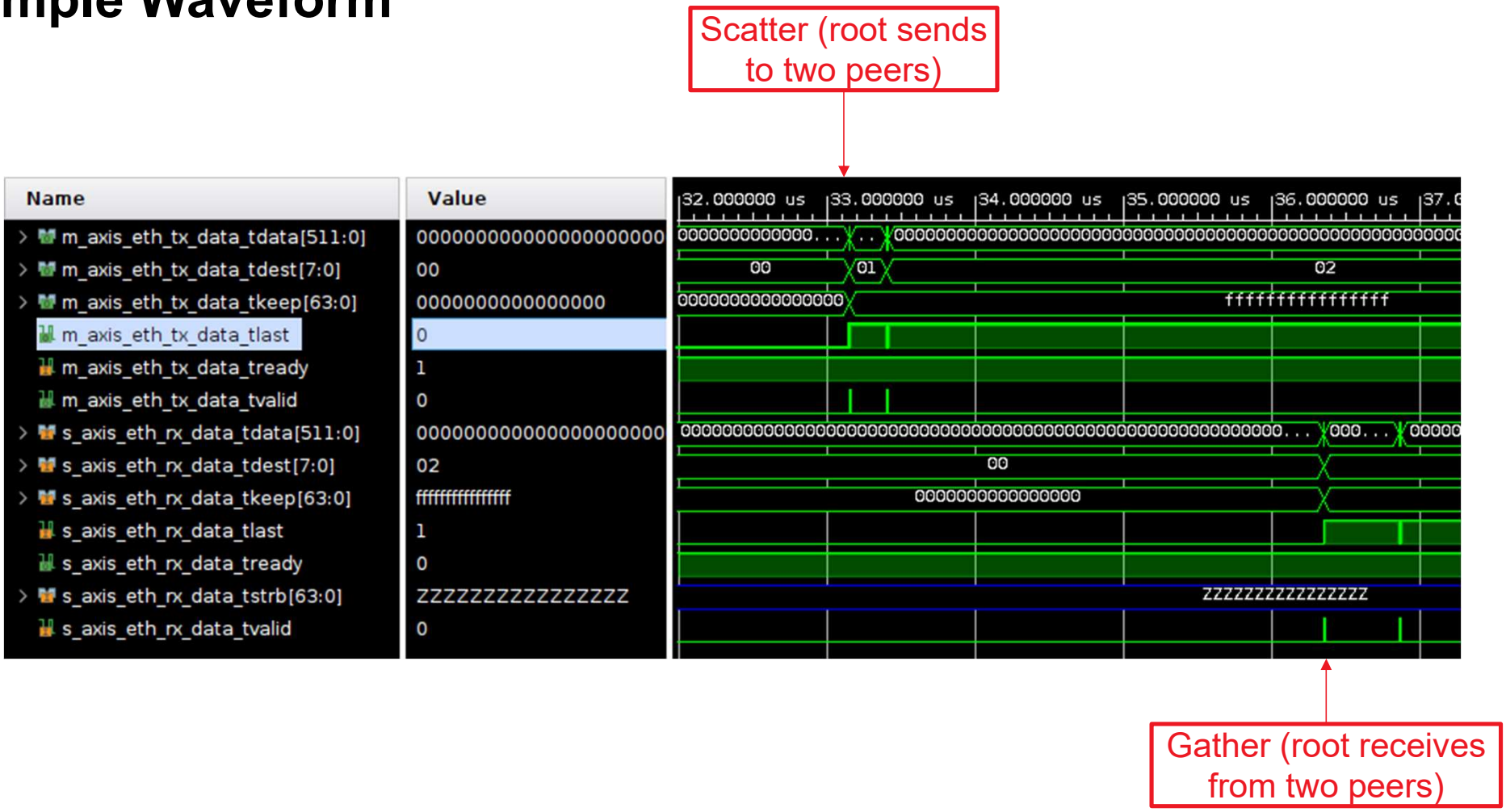
Must match acclDesign::UDP setting

Or start simulator

```
user@host:simulator$ python3 run.py –n 3 –u -w
[…] (simulator starts with 3 processes; end with Ctrl-C)
```

Must match acclDesign::UDP setting and simdll configuration; saves wave

Sample Waveform

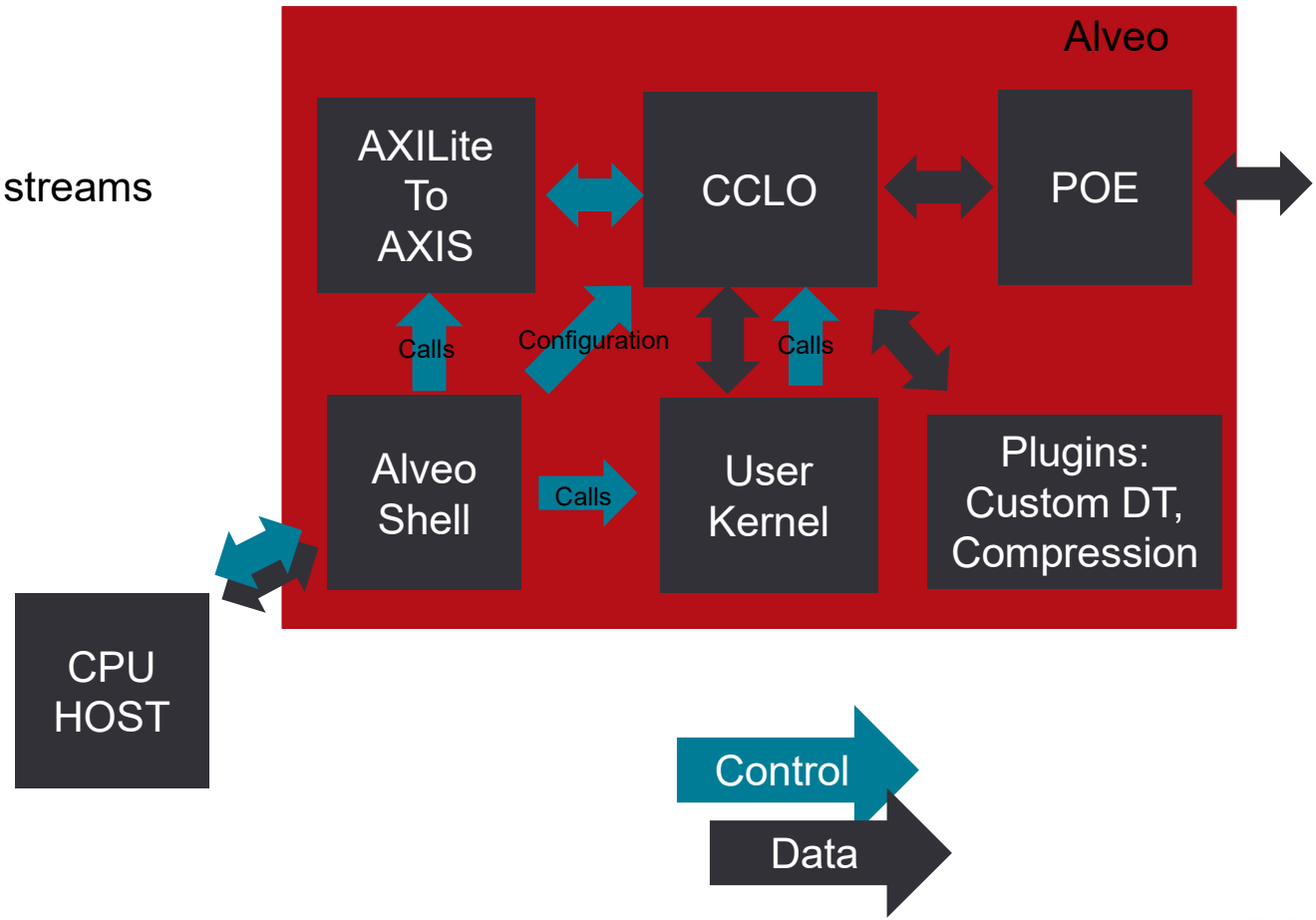


Example PL-driven ACCL Application
Scatter – PL vadd – Streaming Gather

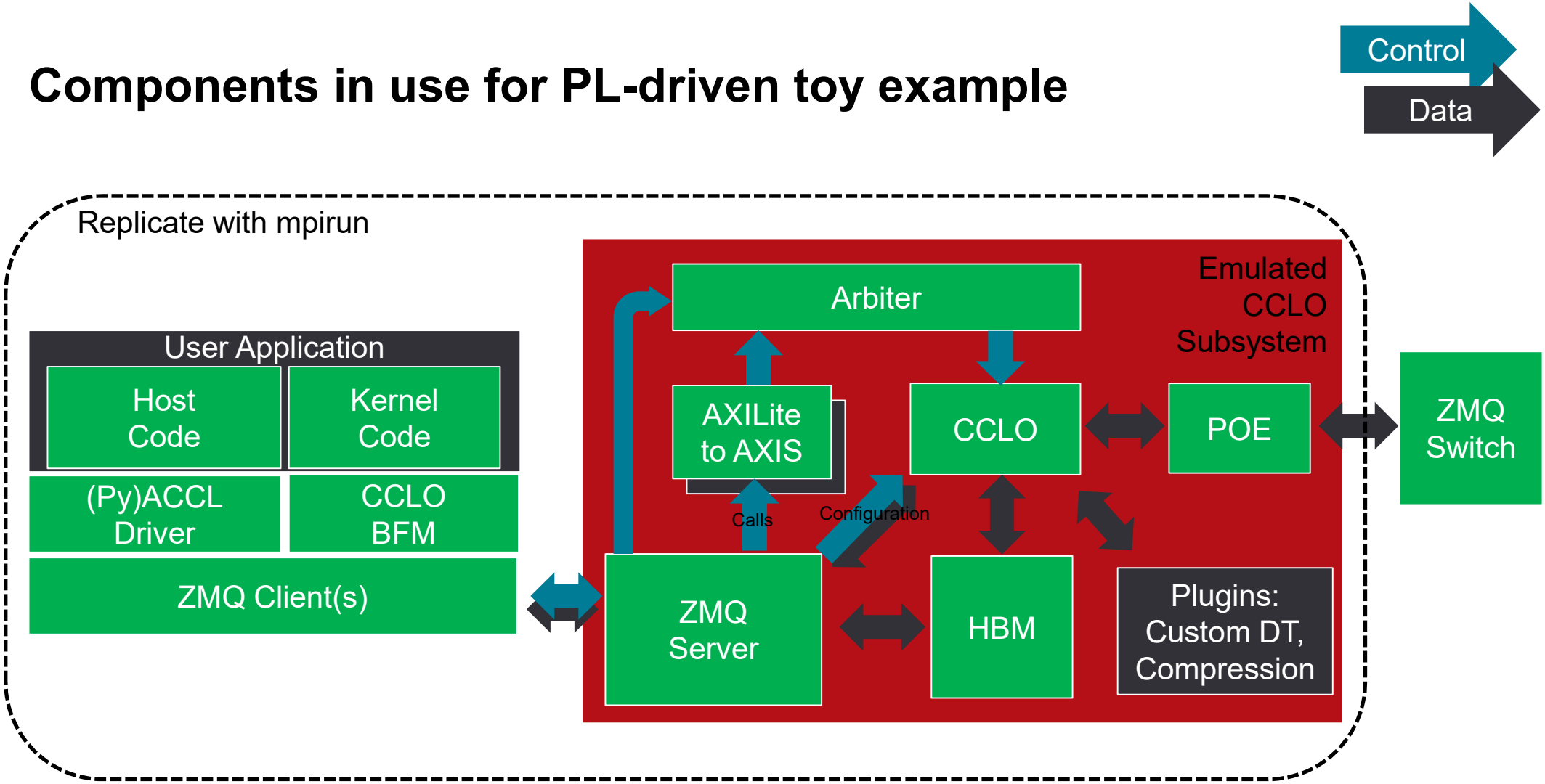
Typical ACCL system for PL-driven applications

- Suitable for low-latency applications
- Host configures ACCL
- PL Kernel issues calls
- PL kernel and CCLO exchange data via streams

- Relevant example: ACCL HLS tests



Components in use for PL-driven toy example



Host code for PL-driven toy application

```
//ACCL set-up as before
//initialize a CCLO BFM and streams
hlslib::Stream<command_word> callreq, callack;
hlslib::Stream<stream_word> data_cclo2krnl, data_krnl2cclo;
std::vector<unsigned int> dest = {9};
CCLO_BFM cclo(5500, rank, size, dest, callreq, callack, data_cclo2krnl, data_krnl2cclo);
cclo.run(); MPI_Barrier(MPI_COMM_WORLD);
//application set-up like before, but no res_buf
//scatter from host
accl->scatter(*op_buf, *scatter_buf, datasize, 0); //scatter inputs from rank 0
//run the hls kernel, using the global communicator
vadd_mem2stream_gather(
   scatter_buf->buffer(), gather_buf->physical_address(), datasize, rank,
   accl->get_communicator_addr(),
   accl->get_arithmetic_config_addr({dataType::float32, dataType::float32}),
   callreq, callack, data_krnl2cclo, data_cclo2krnl);
//get results from FPGA memory
gather_buf->sync_from_device();
```

Kernel code for PL-driven toy application

Hide command streams behind accl_hls interface

```
//set up interfaces to execute functions stream-to-memory
accl_hls::ACCLCommand accl(cmd_to_cclo, sts_from_cclo, comm_adr, dpcfg_adr, 0, 1);
accl_hls::ACCLData data(data_to_cclo, data_from_cclo);
//read data from src, increment it, and push the result into the CCLO stream
ap_uint<512> tmpword;
int word_count = 0, rd_count = count;
while(rd_count > 0){
    //read 16 floats into a 512b vector
    for(int i=0; (i<16) && (rd_count>0); i++){
        float inc = src[i+16*word_count]+(float)(i+rank);
        tmpword((i+1)*32-1,i*32) = *reinterpret_cast<ap_uint<32>*>(&inc);
        rd_count--;
    }
    //send the vector to cclo
    data.push(tmpword, 0);
    word_count++;
}
//send gather command to CCLO (root 0, src ignored - data from stream)
accl.gather(count, 0, 0, (ap_uint<64>)dst);
```

Similar MPI-like API available to HLS kernel

Running PL-driven toy application

Start host code

```
user@host:simulator$ cd ../../test/pl-scatter-vadd-gather
user@host:pl-scatter-vadd-gather$ cmake . && make
user@host:pl-scatter-vadd-gather$ mpirun –np 3 bin/scatter-vadd-gather
[…] (application starts with 3 processes; prints result and exits when done)
```

Allows user kernels to attach to CCLO streams

Start emulator

```
user@host:emulator$ python3 run.py –n 3 –u --no-kernel-loopback
[…] (emulator starts with 3 processes; end with Ctrl-C)
```

Or start simulator

```
user@host:simulator$ python3 run.py –n 3 –u –w --no-kernel-loopback
[…] (simulator starts with 3 processes; end with Ctrl-C)
```

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