

Computer Architecture

Lecture 2: Trends, Tradeoffs and Design Fundamentals

Prof. Onur Mutlu

ETH Zürich

Fall 2021

30 September 2021

Many Interesting Things
Are Happening Today
in Computer Architecture

Many Interesting Things
Are Happening Today
in Computer Architecture

Reliability
Security
Safety

Security: RowHammer (2014)



The Story of RowHammer

- One can **predictably induce bit flips** in commodity DRAM chips
 - >80% of the tested DRAM chips are vulnerable
- First example of how a **simple hardware failure mechanism** can create a **widespread system security vulnerability**

WIRED

Forget Software—Now Hackers Are Exploiting Physics

BUSINESS	CULTURE	DESIGN	GEAR	SCIENCE
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ANDY GREENBERG SECURITY 08.31.16 7:00 AM

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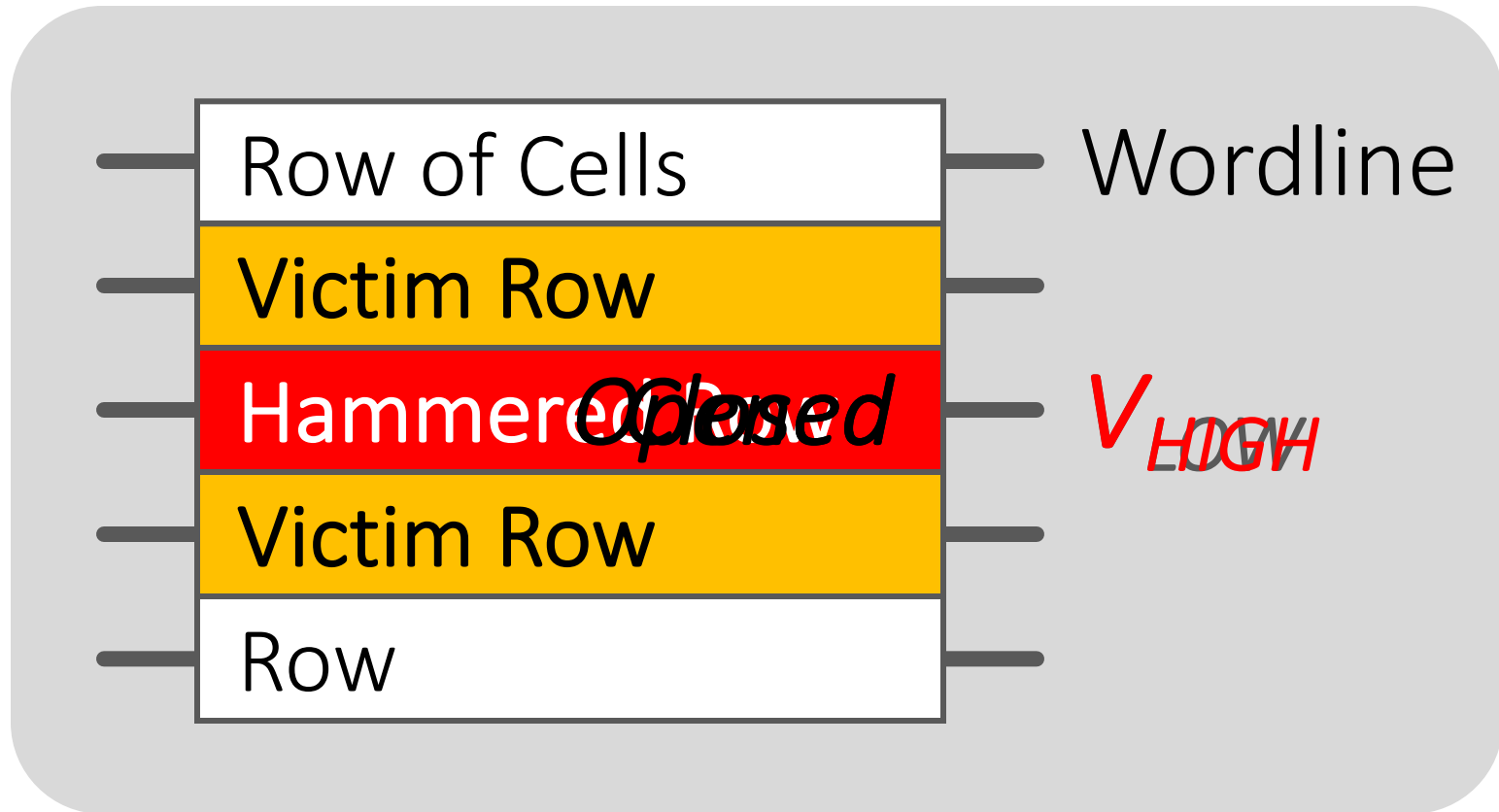
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18276



TWEET

FORGET SOFTWARE—NOW HACKERS ARE EXPLOITING PHYSICS

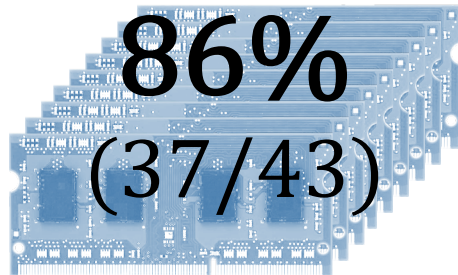
Modern DRAM is Prone to Disturbance Errors



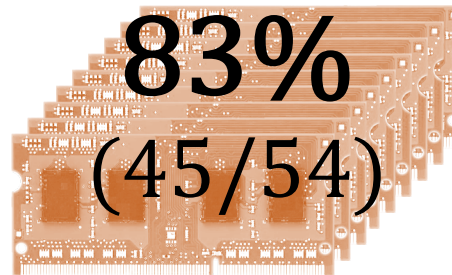
Repeatedly reading a row enough times (before memory gets refreshed) induces **disturbance errors** in adjacent rows in **most real DRAM chips you can buy today**

Most DRAM Modules Are Vulnerable

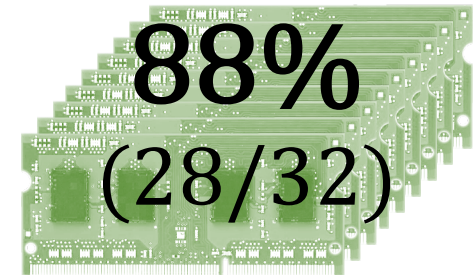
A company



B company



C company



Up to
 1.0×10^7
errors

Up to
 2.7×10^6
errors

Up to
 3.3×10^5
errors

One Can Take Over an Otherwise-Secure System

Flipping Bits in Memory Without Accessing Them: An Experimental Study of DRAM Disturbance Errors

Abstract. Memory isolation is a key property of a reliable and secure computing system — an access to one memory address should not have unintended side effects on data stored in other addresses. However, as DRAM process technology

Project Zero

[Flipping Bits in Memory Without Accessing Them:
An Experimental Study of DRAM Disturbance Errors](#)
(Kim et al., ISCA 2014)

News and updates from the Project Zero team at Google

[Exploiting the DRAM rowhammer bug to
gain kernel privileges](#) (Seaborn, 2015)

Monday, March 9, 2015

Exploiting the DRAM rowhammer bug to gain kernel privileges

Security: RowHammer (2014)



Rowhammer

It's like breaking into an apartment by repeatedly slamming a neighbor's door until the vibrations open the door you were after

More Security Implications (I)

“We can gain unrestricted access to systems of website visitors.”

www.iaik.tugraz.at

Not there yet, but ...



ROOT privileges for web apps!

29

Daniel Gruss (@lavados), Clémentine Maurice (@BloodyTangerine),
December 28, 2015 — 32c3, Hamburg, Germany



GATED
COMMUNITIES

Rowhammer.js: A Remote Software-Induced Fault Attack in JavaScript (DIMVA'16)

More Security Implications (II)

"Can gain control of a smart phone deterministically"



Drammer: Deterministic Rowhammer
Attacks on Mobile Platforms, CCS'16 11

More Security Implications (III)

- Using an integrated GPU in a mobile system to remotely escalate privilege via the WebGL interface



BIZ & IT TECH SCIENCE POLICY CARS GAMING & CULTURE

"GRAND PWNING UNIT" —

Drive-by Rowhammer attack uses GPU to compromise an Android phone

JavaScript based GLitch pwns browsers by flipping bits inside memory chips.

DAN GOODIN - 5/3/2018, 12:00 PM

Grand Pwning Unit: Accelerating Microarchitectural Attacks with the GPU

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Vrije Universiteit
Amsterdam
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More Security Implications (IV)

- Rowhammer over RDMA (I)



BIZ & IT TECH SCIENCE POLICY CARS GAMING & CULTURE

THROWHAMMER —

Packets over a LAN are all it takes to trigger serious Rowhammer bit flips

The bar for exploiting potentially serious DDR weakness keeps getting lower.

DAN GOODIN - 5/10/2018, 5:26 PM

Throwhammer: Rowhammer Attacks over the Network and Defenses

Andrei Tatar
VU Amsterdam

Radhesh Krishnan
VU Amsterdam

Elias Athanasopoulos
University of Cyprus

Cristiano Giuffrida
VU Amsterdam

Herbert Bos
VU Amsterdam

Kaveh Razavi
VU Amsterdam

More Security Implications (V)

- Rowhammer over RDMA (II)



Nethammer—Exploiting DRAM Rowhammer Bug Through Network Requests

Nethammer:

Inducing Rowhammer Faults through Network Requests

Moritz Lipp
Graz University of Technology

Misiker Tadesse Aga
University of Michigan

Michael Schwarz
Graz University of Technology

Daniel Gruss
Graz University of Technology

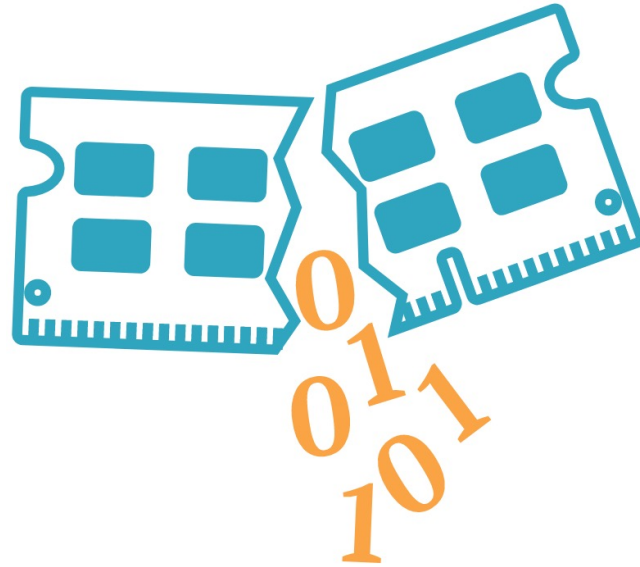
Clémentine Maurice
Univ Rennes, CNRS, IRISA

Lukas Raab
Graz University of Technology

Lukas Lamster
Graz University of Technology

More Security Implications (VI)

- IEEE S&P 2020



RAMBleed

RAMBleed: Reading Bits in Memory Without Accessing Them

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daniel.gruss@iaik.tugraz.at

Yuval Yarom

University of Adelaide and Data61
yval@cs.adelaide.edu.au

More Security Implications (VII)

■ USENIX Security 2019

Terminal Brain Damage: Exposing the Graceless Degradation in Deep Neural Networks Under Hardware Fault Attacks

Sanghyun Hong, Pietro Frigo[†], Yiğitcan Kaya, Cristiano Giuffrida[†], Tudor Dumitraş

University of Maryland, College Park

[†]Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam



A Single Bit-flip Can Cause Terminal Brain Damage to DNNs

One specific bit-flip in a DNN's representation leads to accuracy drop over 90%

Our research found that a specific bit-flip in a DNN's bitwise representation can cause the accuracy loss up to 90%, and the DNN has 40-50% parameters, on average, that can lead to the accuracy drop over 10% when individually subjected to such single bitwise corruptions...

[Read More](#)

More Security Implications (VIII)

■ USENIX Security 2020

DeepHammer: Depleting the Intelligence of Deep Neural Networks through Targeted Chain of Bit Flips

Fan Yao
University of Central Florida
fan.yao@ucf.edu

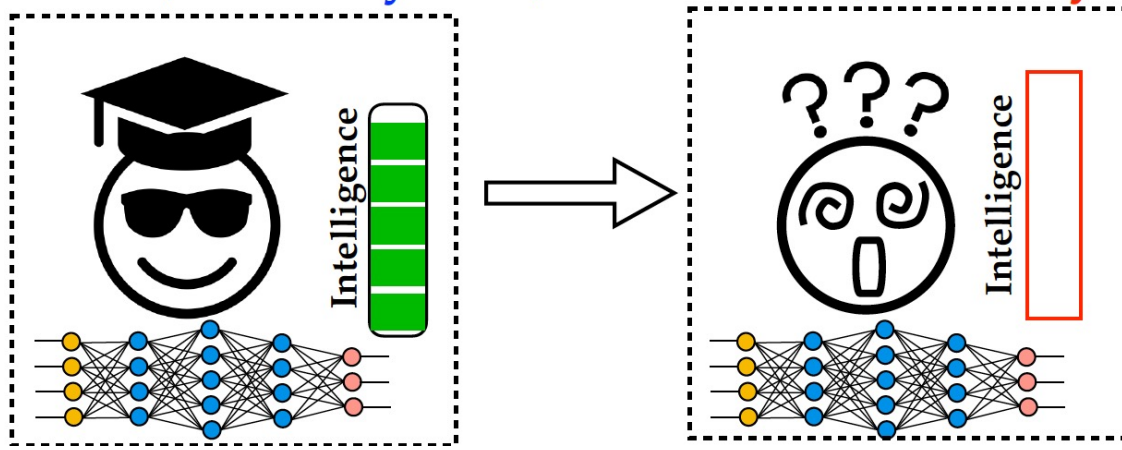
Adnan Siraj Rakin
Arizona State University
asrakin@asu.edu

Deliang Fan
Arizona State University
dfan@asu.edu

Degrade the inference accuracy to the level of Random Guess

Example: ResNet-20 for CIFAR-10, 10 output classes

Before attack, **Accuracy: 90.2%** After attack, **Accuracy: ~10% (1/10)**



RowHammer: Seven Years Ago...

- Yoongu Kim, Ross Daly, Jeremie Kim, Chris Fallin, Ji Hye Lee, Donghyuk Lee, Chris Wilkerson, Konrad Lai, and Onur Mutlu,
"Flipping Bits in Memory Without Accessing Them: An Experimental Study of DRAM Disturbance Errors"
Proceedings of the 41st International Symposium on Computer Architecture (ISCA), Minneapolis, MN, June 2014.
[[Slides \(pptx\) \(pdf\)](#)] [[Lightning Session Slides \(pptx\) \(pdf\)](#)] [[Source Code and Data](#)]

Flipping Bits in Memory Without Accessing Them: An Experimental Study of DRAM Disturbance Errors

Yoongu Kim¹ Ross Daly* Jeremie Kim¹ Chris Fallin* Ji Hye Lee¹
Donghyuk Lee¹ Chris Wilkerson² Konrad Lai Onur Mutlu¹

¹Carnegie Mellon University ²Intel Labs

RowHammer: 2019 and Beyond...

- Onur Mutlu and Jeremie Kim,
["RowHammer: A Retrospective"](#)
IEEE Transactions on Computer-Aided Design of Integrated Circuits and Systems (TCAD) Special Issue on Top Picks in Hardware and Embedded Security, 2019.
[[Preliminary arXiv version](#)]
[[Slides from COSADE 2019 \(pptx\)](#)]
[[Slides from VLSI-SOC 2020 \(pptx\) \(pdf\)](#)]
[[Talk Video](#) (1 hr 15 minutes, with Q&A)]

RowHammer: A Retrospective

Onur Mutlu^{§‡}
§ETH Zürich

Jeremie S. Kim^{‡§}
‡Carnegie Mellon University

RowHammer in 2020

RowHammer in 2020 (I)

- Jeremie S. Kim, Minesh Patel, A. Giray Yaglikci, Hasan Hassan, Roknoddin Azizi, Lois Orosa, and Onur Mutlu,
"Revisiting RowHammer: An Experimental Analysis of Modern Devices and Mitigation Techniques"
Proceedings of the 47th International Symposium on Computer Architecture (ISCA), Valencia, Spain, June 2020.
[[Slides \(pptx\)](#)] [[pdf](#)]
[[Lightning Talk Slides \(pptx\)](#)] [[pdf](#)]
[[Talk Video](#) (20 minutes)]
[[Lightning Talk Video](#) (3 minutes)]

Revisiting RowHammer: An Experimental Analysis of Modern DRAM Devices and Mitigation Techniques

Jeremie S. Kim^{§†} Minesh Patel[§] A. Giray Yağlıkçı[§]
Hasan Hassan[§] Roknoddin Azizi[§] Lois Orosa[§] Onur Mutlu^{§†}

[§]*ETH Zürich* [†]*Carnegie Mellon University*

Key Takeaways from 1580 Chips

- **Newer DRAM chips are more vulnerable to RowHammer**
- There are chips today whose weakest cells fail after **only 4800 hammers**
- Chips of newer DRAM technology nodes can exhibit RowHammer bit flips 1) in **more rows** and 2) **farther away** from the victim row.
- **Existing mitigation mechanisms are NOT effective**

RowHammer in 2020 (II)

- Pietro Frigo, Emanuele Vannacci, Hasan Hassan, Victor van der Veen, Onur Mutlu, Cristiano Giuffrida, Herbert Bos, and Kaveh Razavi,
"TRRespass: Exploiting the Many Sides of Target Row Refresh"
Proceedings of the 41st IEEE Symposium on Security and Privacy (S&P), San Francisco, CA, USA, May 2020.
[[Slides \(pptx\)](#)] [[pdf](#)]
[[Lecture Slides \(pptx\)](#)] [[pdf](#)]
[[Talk Video](#)] (17 minutes)
[[Lecture Video](#)] (59 minutes)
[[Source Code](#)]
[[Web Article](#)]
Best paper award.
Pwnie Award 2020 for Most Innovative Research. [Pwnie Awards 2020](#)

TRRespass: Exploiting the Many Sides of Target Row Refresh

Pietro Frigo^{*†} Emanuele Vannacci^{*†} Hasan Hassan[§] Victor van der Veen[¶]
Onur Mutlu[§] Cristiano Giuffrida^{*} Herbert Bos^{*} Kaveh Razavi^{*}

RowHammer in 2020 (III)

- Lucian Cojocar, Jeremie Kim, Minesh Patel, Lillian Tsai, Stefan Saroiu, Alec Wolman, and Onur Mutlu,
["Are We Susceptible to Rowhammer? An End-to-End Methodology for Cloud Providers"](#)
Proceedings of the [41st IEEE Symposium on Security and Privacy \(S&P\)](#), San Francisco, CA, USA, May 2020.
[[Slides \(pptx\)](#)] ([pdf](#))
[[Talk Video](#) (17 minutes)]

Are We Susceptible to Rowhammer?

An End-to-End Methodology for Cloud Providers

Lucian Cojocar, Jeremie Kim^{§†}, Minesh Patel[§], Lillian Tsai[‡],
Stefan Saroiu, Alec Wolman, and Onur Mutlu^{§†}
Microsoft Research, [§]ETH Zürich, [†]CMU, [‡]MIT

BlockHammer Solution in 2021

- A. Giray Yaglikci, Minesh Patel, Jeremie S. Kim, Roknoddin Azizi, Ataberk Olgun, Lois Orosa, Hasan Hassan, Jisung Park, Konstantinos Kanellopoulos, Taha Shahroodi, Saugata Ghose, and Onur Mutlu,

"BlockHammer: Preventing RowHammer at Low Cost by Blacklisting Rapidly-Accessed DRAM Rows"

Proceedings of the 27th International Symposium on High-Performance Computer Architecture (HPCA), Virtual, February-March 2021.

[[Slides \(pptx\)](#) ([pdf](#))]

[[Short Talk Slides \(pptx\)](#) ([pdf](#))]

[[Talk Video](#) (22 minutes)]

[[Short Talk Video](#) (7 minutes)]

BlockHammer: Preventing RowHammer at Low Cost by Blacklisting Rapidly-Accessed DRAM Rows

A. Giray Yağlıkçı¹ Minesh Patel¹ Jeremie S. Kim¹ Roknoddin Azizi¹ Ataberk Olgun¹ Lois Orosa¹
Hasan Hassan¹ Jisung Park¹ Konstantinos Kanellopoulos¹ Taha Shahroodi¹ Saugata Ghose² Onur Mutlu¹

¹*ETH Zürich*

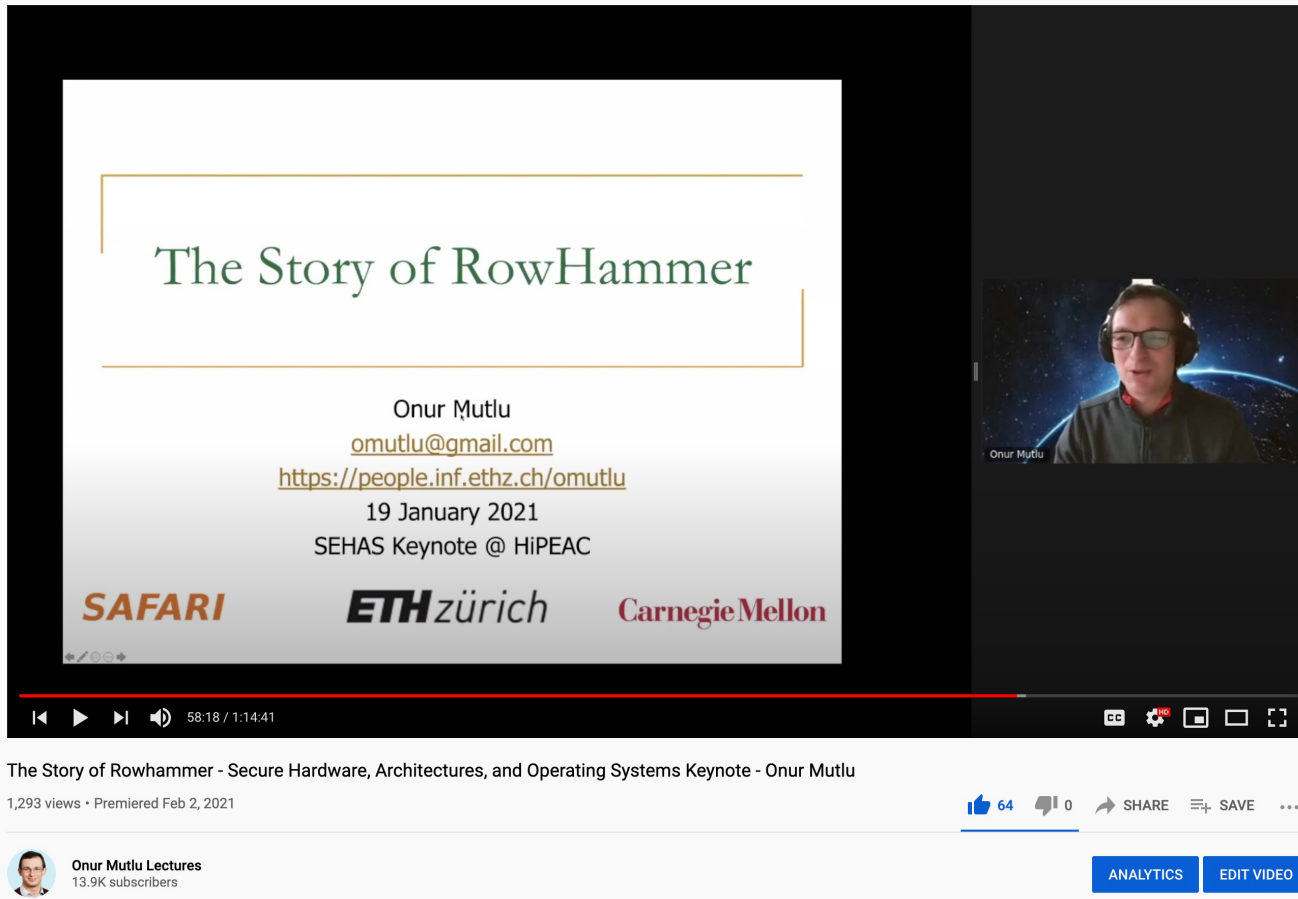
²*University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign*

Detailed Lectures on RowHammer

- **Computer Architecture, Fall 2020, Lecture 4b**
 - RowHammer (ETH Zürich, Fall 2020)
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KDy632z23UE&list=PL5Q2soXY2Zi9xidyIgBxUz7xRPS-wisBN&index=8>
- **Computer Architecture, Fall 2020, Lecture 5a**
 - RowHammer in 2020: TRRespass (ETH Zürich, Fall 2020)
 - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pwRw7QqK_qA&list=PL5Q2soXY2Zi9xidyIgBxUz7xRPS-wisBN&index=9
- **Computer Architecture, Fall 2020, Lecture 5b**
 - RowHammer in 2020: Revisiting RowHammer (ETH Zürich, Fall 2020)
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gR7XR-Eepcg&list=PL5Q2soXY2Zi9xidyIgBxUz7xRPS-wisBN&index=10>
- **Computer Architecture, Fall 2020, Lecture 5c**
 - Secure and Reliable Memory (ETH Zürich, Fall 2020)
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HvswnsfG3oQ&list=PL5Q2soXY2Zi9xidyIgBxUz7xRPS-wisBN&index=11>

The Story of RowHammer Lecture ...

- Onur Mutlu,
"The Story of RowHammer"
Keynote Talk at *Secure Hardware, Architectures, and Operating Systems Workshop (SeHAS)*, held with *HiPEAC 2021 Conference*, Virtual, 19 January 2021.
[[Slides \(pptx\)](#)] [[pdf](#)]
[[Talk Video](#) (1 hr 15 minutes, with Q&A)]



The Story of RowHammer

Onur Mutlu
omutlu@gmail.com
<https://people.inf.ethz.ch/omutlu>
19 January 2021
SEHAS Keynote @ HiPEAC

SAFARI ETH zürich Carnegie Mellon

58:18 / 1:14:41

The Story of Rowhammer - Secure Hardware, Architectures, and Operating Systems Keynote - Onur Mutlu
1,293 views · Premiered Feb 2, 2021

64 likes 0 comments SHARE SAVE ...

ANALYTICS EDIT VIDEO



Rowhammer

Two Upcoming RowHammer Papers at MICRO 2021

- Lois Orosa, Abdullah Giray Yaglikci, Haocong Luo, Ataberk Olgun, Jisung Park, Hasan Hassan, Minesh Patel, Jeremie S. Kim, Onur Mutlu,
"A Deeper Look into RowHammer's Sensitivities: Experimental Analysis of Real DRAM Chips and Implications on Future Attacks and Defenses"

MICRO 2021

A Deeper Look into RowHammer's Sensitivities: Experimental Analysis of Real DRAM Chips and Implications on Future Attacks and Defenses

Lois Orosa*
ETH Zürich

A. Giray Yağlıkçı*
ETH Zürich

Haocong Luo
ETH Zürich

Ataberk Olgun
ETH Zürich, TOBB ETÜ

Jisung Park
ETH Zürich

Hasan Hassan
ETH Zürich

Minesh Patel
ETH Zürich

Jeremie S. Kim
ETH Zürich

Onur Mutlu
ETH Zürich

Two Upcoming RowHammer Papers at MICRO 2021

- Hasan Hassan, Yahya Can Tuğrul, Jeremie S. Kim, Victor van der Veen, Kaveh Razavi, Onur Mutlu,

"Uncovering In-DRAM RowHammer Protection Mechanisms: A New Methodology, Custom RowHammer Patterns, and Implications"

MICRO 2021

Uncovering In-DRAM RowHammer Protection Mechanisms: A New Methodology, Custom RowHammer Patterns, and Implications

Hasan Hassan[†]

[†]*ETH Zürich*

Yahya Can Tuğrul^{†‡}

Kaveh Razavi[†]

[‡]*TOBB University of Economics & Technology*

Jeremie S. Kim[†]

Onur Mutlu[†]

^σ*Qualcomm Technologies Inc.*

Victor van der Veen^σ

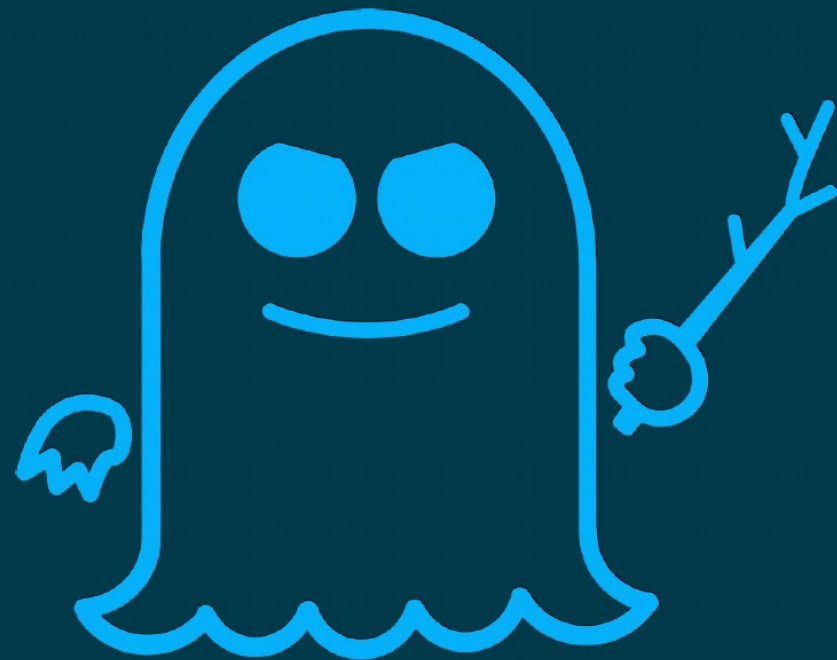
RowHammer is still
an open problem

Security by obscurity
is likely not a good solution

Security: Meltdown and Spectre (2018)



MELTDOWN



SPECTRE

Meltdown and Spectre

- Someone can steal secret data from the system **even though**
 - your program and data are perfectly correct and
 - your hardware behaves according to the specification and
 - there are no software vulnerabilities/bugs

- Why?
 - **Speculative execution leaves traces of secret data in the processor's cache** (internal storage)
 - It brings data that is not supposed to be brought/accessed if there was no speculative execution
 - **A malicious program can inspect the contents of the cache to "infer" secret data** that it is not supposed to access
 - **A malicious program can actually force another program to speculatively execute code that leaves traces of secret data**

More on Meltdown/Spectre Vulnerabilities

Project Zero

News and updates from the Project Zero team at Google

Wednesday, January 3, 2018

Reading privileged memory with a side-channel

Posted by Jann Horn, Project Zero

We have discovered that CPU data cache timing can be abused to efficiently leak information out of mis-speculated execution, leading to (at worst) arbitrary virtual memory read vulnerabilities across local security boundaries in various contexts.

Many Interesting Things
Are Happening Today
in Computer Architecture

Many Interesting Things
Are Happening Today
in Computer Architecture

More Demanding Workloads

Increasingly Demanding Applications

Dream

and, they will come

As applications push boundaries, computing platforms will become increasingly strained.

New Genome Sequencing Technologies

Nanopore sequencing technology and tools for genome assembly: computational analysis of the current state, bottlenecks and future directions

Damla Senol Cali ✉, Jeremie S Kim, Saugata Ghose, Can Alkan, Onur Mutlu

Briefings in Bioinformatics, bby017, <https://doi.org/10.1093/bib/bby017>

Published: 02 April 2018 **Article history** ▼



Oxford Nanopore MinION

Data → performance & energy bottleneck

Why Do We Care? An Example

200 Oxford Nanopore sequencers have left UK for China, to support rapid, near-sample coronavirus sequencing for outbreak surveillance

Fri 31st January 2020

Following extensive support of, and collaboration with, public health professionals in China, Oxford Nanopore has shipped an additional 200 MinION sequencers and related consumables to China. These will be used to support the ongoing surveillance of the current coronavirus outbreak, adding to a large number of the devices already installed in the country.



Each MinION sequencer is approximately the size of a stapler, and can provide rapid sequence information about the coronavirus.



700Kg of Oxford Nanopore sequencers and consumables are on their way for use by Chinese scientists in understanding the current coronavirus outbreak.

Population-Scale Microbiome Profiling



City-Scale Microbiome Profiling

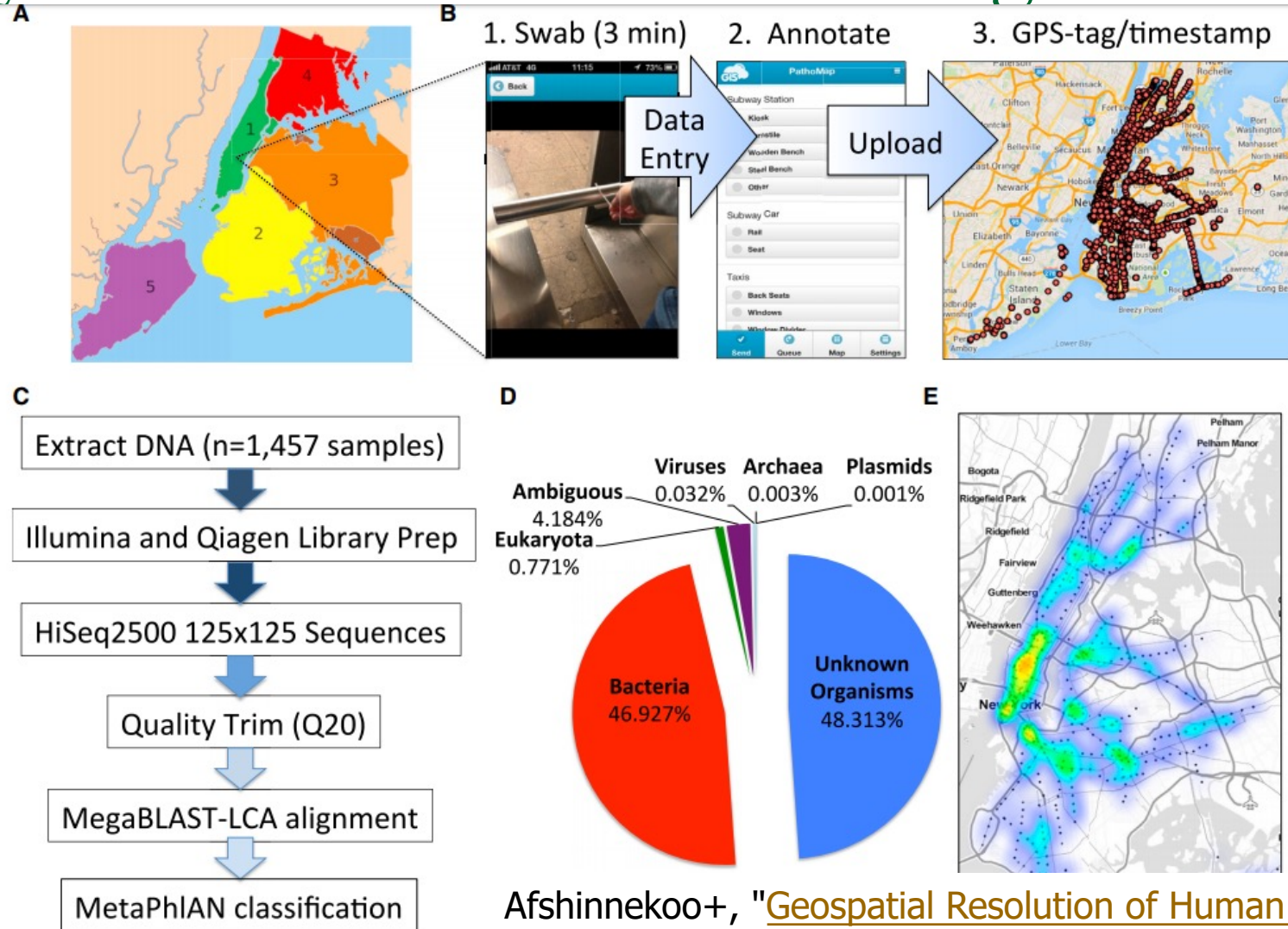


Figure 1. The Metagenome of New York City

(A) The five boroughs of NYC include (1) Manhattan (green)

(B) The collection from the 466 subway stations of NYC across the 24 subway lines involved three main steps: (1) collection with Copan Elution swabs, (2) data entry into the database, and (3) uploading of the data. An image is shown of the current collection database, taken from <http://pathomap.giscloud.com>.

(C) Workflow for sample DNA extraction, library preparation, sequencing, quality trimming of the FASTQ files, and alignment with MegaBLAST and MetaPhlan to discern taxa present

Afshinnekoo+, "Geospatial Resolution of Human and Bacterial Diversity with City-Scale Metagenomics", Cell Systems, 2015

Example: Rapid Surveillance of Ebola Outbreak

Figure 1: Deployment of the portable genome surveillance system in Guinea.



Quick+, "Real-time, portable genome sequencing for Ebola surveillance", *Nature*, 2016

High-Throughput Genome Sequencers



Illumina MiSeq



Pacific
Biosciences
Sequel II

Oxford
Nanopore
PromethION



Oxford Nanopore MinION



Illumina NovaSeq 6000



Pacific Biosciences RS II



Oxford
Nanopore
SmidgION

... and more! All produce data with different properties.

High-Throughput Genome Sequencers

Mohammed Alser, Zülal Bingöl, Damla Senol Cali, Jeremie Kim, Saugata Ghose, Can Alkan, Onur Mutlu
[“Accelerating Genome Analysis: A Primer on an Ongoing Journey”](#) IEEE Micro, August 2020.



MinION from ONT

Accelerating Genome Analysis: A Primer on an Ongoing Journey

Sept.-Oct. 2020, pp. 65-75, vol. 40

DOI Bookmark: [10.1109/MM.2020.3013728](https://doi.org/10.1109/MM.2020.3013728)

FPGA-Based Near-Memory Acceleration of Modern Data-Intensive Applications

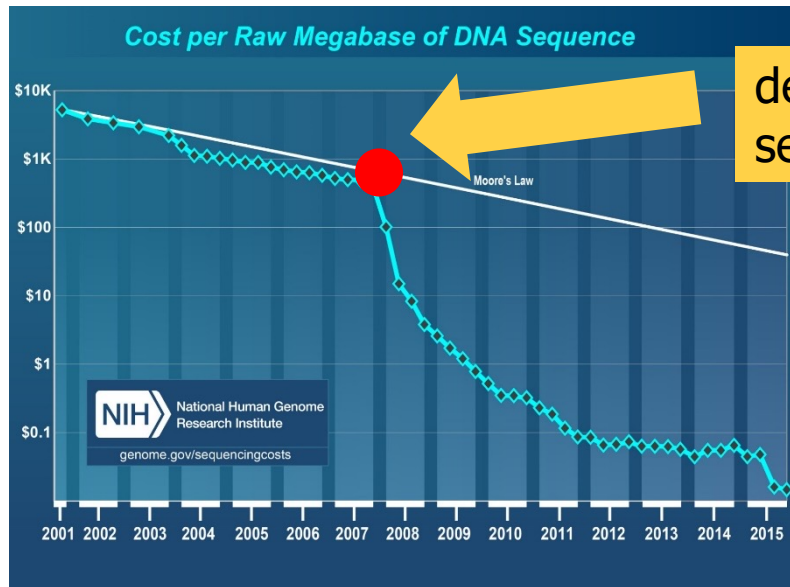
July-Aug. 2021, pp. 39-48, vol. 41

DOI Bookmark: [10.1109/MM.2021.3088396](https://doi.org/10.1109/MM.2021.3088396)



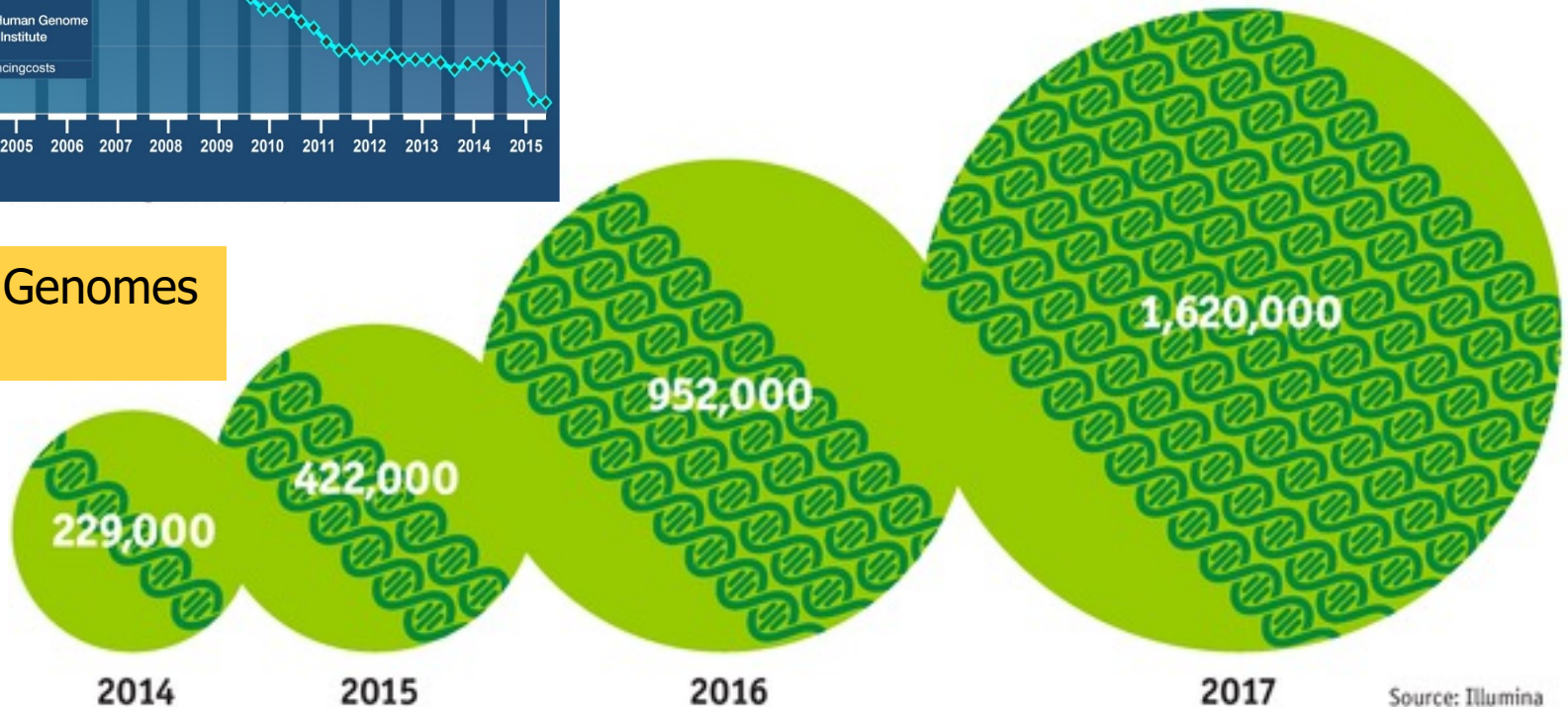
SmidgION from ONT

The Genomic Era



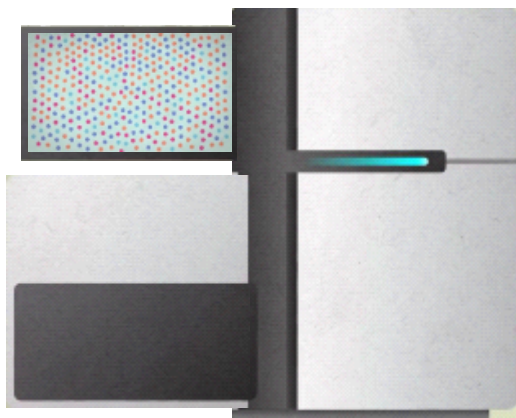
development of high-throughput sequencing (HTS) technologies

Number of Genomes Sequenced



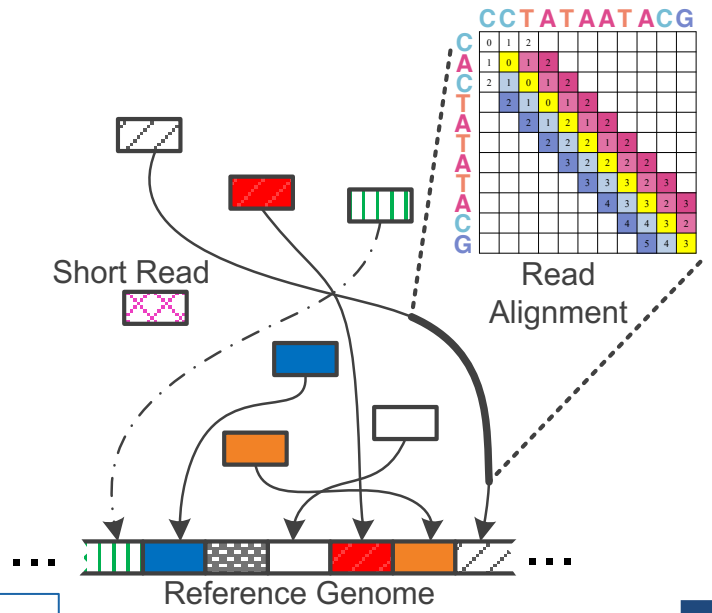
The Economist

Source: Illumina



Billions of Short Reads

ATATATACGTA
 TTTAGTACGTACGT
 ATACGTA
 CG CCCCTACGTA
 CGTACTAGTACGT
 TTAGTACGTACGT
 TACGTA
 TACGTA
 TTTAAACGTA
 CGTACTAGTACGT
 GGGAGTACGTACGT



1 Sequencing

Genome Analysis

Read Mapping 2

Data → performance & energy bottleneck

read4: CGCTTCCAT
 read5: CCATGACGC
 read6: TTCCATGAC



3 Variant Calling

Scientific Discovery 4

Software Acceleration: Eliminate Useless Work

- Download the source code and try for yourself
 - [Download link to FastHASH](#)

Xin *et al.* *BMC Genomics* 2013, **14**(Suppl 1):S13
<http://www.biomedcentral.com/1471-2164/14/S1/S13>



PROCEEDINGS

Open Access

Accelerating read mapping with FastHASH

Hongyi Xin¹, Donghyuk Lee¹, Farhad Hormozdiari², Samihan Yedkar¹, Onur Mutlu^{1*}, Can Alkan^{3*}

From The Eleventh Asia Pacific Bioinformatics Conference (APBC 2013)
Vancouver, Canada. 21-24 January 2013

Shifted Hamming Distance: SIMD Acceleration

<https://github.com/CMU-SAFARI/Shifted-Hamming-Distance>

Bioinformatics, 31(10), 2015, 1553–1560

doi: 10.1093/bioinformatics/btu856

Advance Access Publication Date: 10 January 2015

Original Paper

OXFORD

Sequence analysis

Shifted Hamming distance: a fast and accurate SIMD-friendly filter to accelerate alignment verification in read mapping

Hongyi Xin^{1,*}, John Greth², John Emmons², Gennady Pekhimenko¹,
Carl Kingsford³, Can Alkan^{4,*} and Onur Mutlu^{2,*}

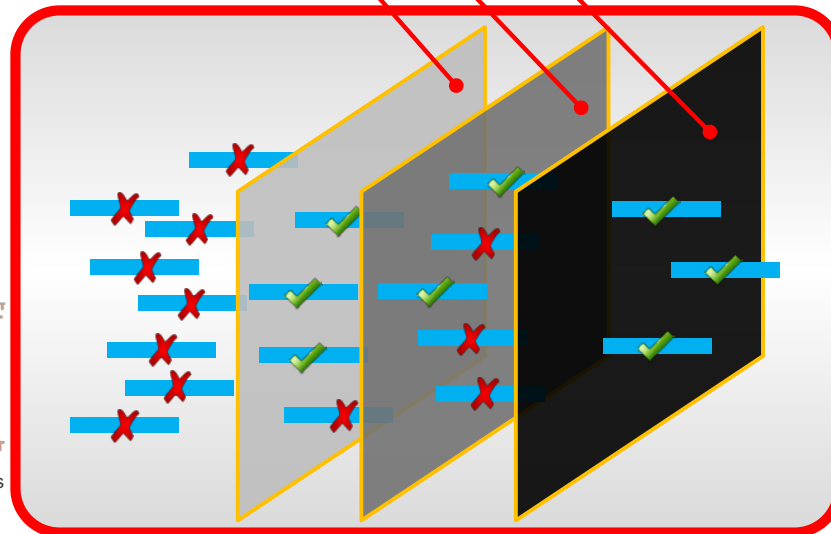
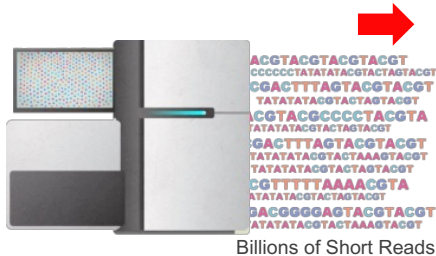
Xin+, ["Shifted Hamming Distance: A Fast and Accurate SIMD-friendly Filter to Accelerate Alignment Verification in Read Mapping"](#), **Bioinformatics 2015.**

GateKeeper: FPGA-Based Alignment Filtering



Low Speed & High Accuracy
 Medium Speed, Medium Accuracy
 High Speed, Low Accuracy

$\times 10^{12}$
mappings



$\times 10^3$
mappings

	C	T	A	T	A	A	T	A	C	G
C	0	1	2							
A	1	0	1	2						
C	2	1	0	1	2					
T		2	1	0	1	2				
A			2	1	2	1	2			
T				3	2	2	2	2		
A					3	3	3	2	3	
T						4	3	3	2	3
A							4	4	3	2
C								5	4	3
G									5	4

- 1 High throughput DNA sequencing (HTS) technologies
- 2 Read Pre-Alignment Filtering
Fast & Low False Positive Rate
- 3 Read Alignment
Slow & Zero False Positives

GateKeeper: FPGA-Based Alignment Filtering

- Mohammed Alser, Hasan Hassan, Hongyi Xin, Oguz Ergin, Onur Mutlu, and Can Alkan
"GateKeeper: A New Hardware Architecture for Accelerating Pre-Alignment in DNA Short Read Mapping"
Bioinformatics, [published online, May 31], 2017.
[\[Source Code\]](#)
[\[Online link at Bioinformatics Journal\]](#)

GateKeeper: a new hardware architecture for accelerating pre-alignment in DNA short read mapping

Mohammed Alser ✉, Hasan Hassan, Hongyi Xin, Oğuz Ergin, Onur Mutlu ✉, Can Alkan ✉

Bioinformatics, Volume 33, Issue 21, 1 November 2017, Pages 3355–3363,

<https://doi.org/10.1093/bioinformatics/btx342>

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In-Memory DNA Sequence Analysis

- Jeremie S. Kim, Damla Senol Cali, Hongyi Xin, Donghyuk Lee, Saugata Ghose, Mohammed Alser, Hasan Hassan, Oguz Ergin, Can Alkan, and Onur Mutlu,
["GRIM-Filter: Fast Seed Location Filtering in DNA Read Mapping Using Processing-in-Memory Technologies"](#)
BMC Genomics, 2018.
Proceedings of the 16th Asia Pacific Bioinformatics Conference (APBC), Yokohama, Japan, January 2018.
[[Slides \(pptx\) \(pdf\)](#)]
[[Source Code](#)]
[[arxiv.org Version \(pdf\)](#)]
[[Talk Video at AACBB 2019](#)]

GRIM-Filter: Fast seed location filtering in DNA read mapping using processing-in-memory technologies

Jeremie S. Kim^{1,6*}, Damla Senol Cali¹, Hongyi Xin², Donghyuk Lee³, Saugata Ghose¹, Mohammed Alser⁴, Hasan Hassan⁶, Oguz Ergin⁵, Can Alkan^{4*} and Onur Mutlu^{6,1*}

From The Sixteenth Asia Pacific Bioinformatics Conference 2018
Yokohama, Japan. 15-17 January 2018

Shouji (障子) [Alser+, Bioinformatics 2019]

Mohammed Alser, Hasan Hassan, Akash Kumar, Onur Mutlu, and Can Alkan,
"Shouji: A Fast and Efficient Pre-Alignment Filter for Sequence Alignment"
Bioinformatics, [published online, March 28], 2019.

[\[Source Code\]](#)

[\[Online link at Bioinformatics Journal\]](#)

Bioinformatics, 2019, 1–9

doi: 10.1093/bioinformatics/btz234

Advance Access Publication Date: 28 March 2019

Original Paper

OXFORD

Sequence alignment

Shouji: a fast and efficient pre-alignment filter for sequence alignment

**Mohammed Alser^{1,2,3,*}, Hasan Hassan¹, Akash Kumar², Onur Mutlu^{1,3,*}
and Can Alkan^{3,*}**

¹Computer Science Department, ETH Zürich, Zürich 8092, Switzerland, ²Chair for Processor Design, Center For Advancing Electronics Dresden, Institute of Computer Engineering, Technische Universität Dresden, 01062 Dresden, Germany and ³Computer Engineering Department, Bilkent University, 06800 Ankara, Turkey

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SneakySnake [Alser+, Bioinformatics 2020]

Mohammed Alser, Taha Shahroodi, Juan-Gomez Luna, Can Alkan, and Onur Mutlu,
"SneakySnake: A Fast and Accurate Universal Genome Pre-Alignment Filter for CPUs, GPUs, and FPGAs"

Bioinformatics, to appear in 2020.

[\[Source Code\]](#)

[\[Online link at Bioinformatics Journal\]](#)

Bioinformatics

doi.10.1093/bioinformatics/xxxxxx

Advance Access Publication Date: Day Month Year

Manuscript Category



OXFORD

Subject Section

SneakySnake: A Fast and Accurate Universal Genome Pre-Alignment Filter for CPUs, GPUs, and FPGAs

**Mohammed Alser^{1,2,*}, Taha Shahroodi¹, Juan Gómez-Luna^{1,2},
Can Alkan^{4,*}, and Onur Mutlu^{1,2,3,4,*}**

¹ Department of Computer Science, ETH Zurich, Zurich 8006, Switzerland

² Department of Information Technology and Electrical Engineering, ETH Zurich, Zurich 8006, Switzerland

³ Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh 15213, PA, USA

⁴ Department of Computer Engineering, Bilkent University, Ankara 06800, Turkey

GenASM Framework [MICRO 2020]

- Damla Senol Cali, Gurpreet S. Kalsi, Zülal Bingöl, Can Firtina, Lavanya Subramanian, Jeremie S. Kim, Rachata Ausavarungnirun, Mohammed Alser, Juan Gomez-Luna, Amirali Boroumand, Anant Nori, Allison Scibisz, Sreenivas Subramoney, Can Alkan, Saugata Ghose, and Onur Mutlu, "[GenASM: A High-Performance, Low-Power Approximate String Matching Acceleration Framework for Genome Sequence Analysis](#)"
Proceedings of the 53rd International Symposium on Microarchitecture (MICRO), Virtual, October 2020.
[[Lighting Talk Video](#) (1.5 minutes)]
[[Lightning Talk Slides \(pptx\)](#) ([pdf](#))]
[[Talk Video](#) (18 minutes)]
[[Slides \(pptx\)](#) ([pdf](#))]

GenASM: A High-Performance, Low-Power Approximate String Matching Acceleration Framework for Genome Sequence Analysis

Damla Senol Cali[†][✕] Gurpreet S. Kalsi[✕] Zülal Bingöl[∇] Can Firtina[◇] Lavanya Subramanian[‡] Jeremie S. Kim[◇][†]
Rachata Ausavarungnirun[○] Mohammed Alser[◇] Juan Gomez-Luna[◇] Amirali Boroumand[†] Anant Nori[✕]
Allison Scibisz[†] Sreenivas Subramoney[✕] Can Alkan[∇] Saugata Ghose^{*†} Onur Mutlu[◇][†][∇]
[†]Carnegie Mellon University [✕]Processor Architecture Research Lab, Intel Labs [∇]Bilkent University [◇]ETH Zürich
[‡]Facebook [○]King Mongkut's University of Technology North Bangkok ^{*}University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Future of Genome Sequencing & Analysis

Mohammed Alser, Zülal Bingöl, Damla Senol Cali, Jeremie Kim, Saugata Ghose, Can Alkan, Onur Mutlu
[“Accelerating Genome Analysis: A Primer on an Ongoing Journey”](#) IEEE Micro, August 2020.



MinION from ONT

Accelerating Genome Analysis: A Primer on an Ongoing Journey

Sept.-Oct. 2020, pp. 65-75, vol. 40

DOI Bookmark: [10.1109/MM.2020.3013728](https://doi.org/10.1109/MM.2020.3013728)

FPGA-Based Near-Memory Acceleration of Modern Data-Intensive Applications

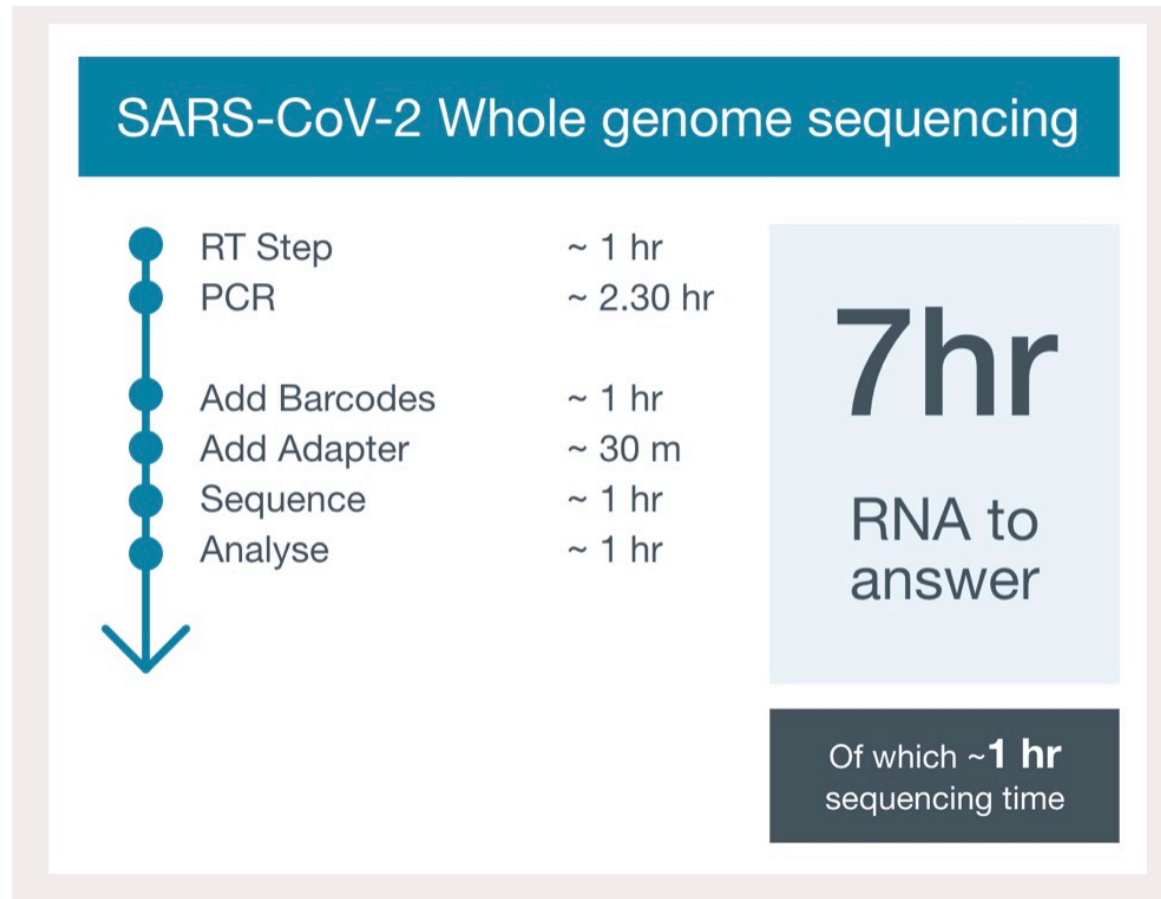
July-Aug. 2021, pp. 39-48, vol. 41

DOI Bookmark: [10.1109/MM.2021.3088396](https://doi.org/10.1109/MM.2021.3088396)



SmidgION from ONT

COVID-19 Nanopore Sequencing (I)



• From ONT (<https://nanoporetech.com/covid-19/overview>)

COVID-19 Nanopore Sequencing (II)

How are scientists using nanopore sequencing to research COVID-19?



Samples are collected

Validated SARS-CoV-2 RT-PCR test performed

- + SARS-CoV-2 positive samples
- SARS-CoV-2 negative samples: used as negative controls

How can this be used?
Genomic epidemiology: analyse variants & mutation rate, track spread of virus, identify clusters of transmission

What are the results?
From RNA to full SARS-CoV-2 consensus sequence in ~7 hours

How?
Targeted amplification of SARS-CoV-2 genome + multiplexed, rapid nanopore sequencing

Targeted SARS-CoV-2 nanopore sequencing



Metagenomic nanopore sequencing

How?
1 x RNA metagenomic sequencing run
1 x DNA metagenomic sequencing run

What are the results?
RNA: data for RNA viruses (including SARS-CoV-2) + microbial transcripts
DNA: data for bacteria + DNA viruses

How can this be used?
Characterise co-infecting bacteria & viruses, identify any correlation of risk factors, research potential future treatment implications

SARS-CoV-2 Direct RNA whole genome sequencing: assess viral genome in its native RNA form and the effect of base modifications

Immune repertoire: assess response of the immune system to SARS-CoV-2 infection by sequencing of full-length immune cell receptor genes and transcripts

Whole human genome sequencing: investigate what might cause different responses to the virus in different people based on their genome

What's next?



Find out more at nanoporetech.com/covid19



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From ONT (<https://nanoporetech.com/covid-19/overview>)

Accelerating Genome Analysis: Overview

- Mohammed Alser, Zülal Bingöl, Damla Senol Cali, Jeremie Kim, Saugata Ghose, Can Alkan, and Onur Mutlu,
"Accelerating Genome Analysis: A Primer on an Ongoing Journey"
IEEE Micro (IEEE MICRO), Vol. 40, No. 5, pages 65-75, September/October 2020.
[\[Slides \(pptx\)\(pdf\)\]](#)
[\[Talk Video \(1 hour 2 minutes\)\]](#)

Accelerating Genome Analysis: A Primer on an Ongoing Journey

Mohammed Alser

ETH Zürich

Zülal Bingöl

Bilkent University

Damla Senol Cali

Carnegie Mellon University

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Carnegie Mellon University

Can Alkan

Bilkent University

Onur Mutlu

ETH Zurich, Carnegie Mellon University, and
Bilkent University

More on Fast Genome Analysis ...

- Onur Mutlu,
"Accelerating Genome Analysis: A Primer on an Ongoing Journey"
Invited Lecture at [Technion](#), Virtual, 26 January 2021.
[[Slides \(pptx\)](#) ([pdf](#))]
[[Talk Video](#) (1 hour 37 minutes, including Q&A)]
[[Related Invited Paper \(at IEEE Micro, 2020\)](#)]

Insight: Shifting a String Helps Similarity Search

7 matches 1 mismatch

ISTANBUL

ISTNBUL

ISTNBUL

81

46:08 / 1:37:37

Onur Mutlu

Onur Mutlu - Invited Lecture @Technion: Accelerating Genome Analysis: A Primer on an Ongoing Journey

566 views · Premiered Feb 6, 2021

👍 31 🗨️ 0 ➦ SHARE 📌 SAVE ⋮

 Onur Mutlu Lectures
13.9K subscribers

ANALYTICS EDIT VIDEO

Detailed Lectures on Genome Analysis

- **Computer Architecture, Fall 2020, Lecture 3a**
 - **Introduction to Genome Sequence Analysis** (ETH Zürich, Fall 2020)
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CrRb32v7SJc&list=PL5Q2soXY2Zi9xidyIgBxUz7xRPS-wisBN&index=5>
- **Computer Architecture, Fall 2020, Lecture 8**
 - **Intelligent Genome Analysis** (ETH Zürich, Fall 2020)
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ygmQpdDTL7o&list=PL5Q2soXY2Zi9xidyIgBxUz7xRPS-wisBN&index=14>
- **Computer Architecture, Fall 2020, Lecture 9a**
 - **GenASM: Approx. String Matching Accelerator** (ETH Zürich, Fall 2020)
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XoLpzmN-Pas&list=PL5Q2soXY2Zi9xidyIgBxUz7xRPS-wisBN&index=15>
- **Accelerating Genomics Project Course, Fall 2020, Lecture 1**
 - **Accelerating Genomics** (ETH Zürich, Fall 2020)
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rgjl8ZyLsAg&list=PL5Q2soXY2Zi9E2bBVAgCqLgwiDRQDTyId>

Many Interesting Things
Are Happening Today
in Computer Architecture

More Demanding Workloads

Computing

is Bottlenecked by Data

Data is Key for AI, ML, Genomics, ...

- Important workloads are all data intensive
- They require rapid and efficient processing of large amounts of data
- Data is increasing
 - We can generate more than we can process

Data is Key for Future Workloads



In-memory Databases

[Mao+, EuroSys'12;
Clapp+ (Intel), IISWC'15]



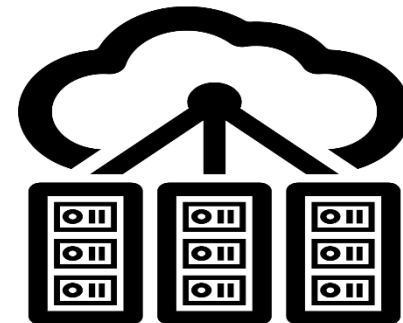
In-Memory Data Analytics

[Clapp+ (Intel), IISWC'15;
Awan+, BDCloud'15]



Graph/Tree Processing

[Xu+, IISWC'12; Umuroglu+, FPL'15]



Datacenter Workloads

[Kanev+ (Google), ISCA'15]

Data Overwhelms Modern Machines



In-memory Databases



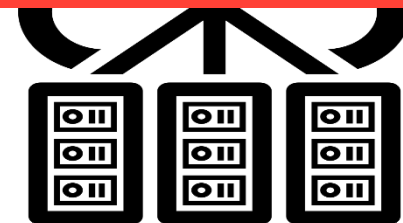
Graph/Tree Processing

Data → performance & energy bottleneck



In-Memory Data Analytics

[Clapp+ (Intel), IISWC'15;
Awan+, BDCloud'15]



Datacenter Workloads

[Kanev+ (Google), ISCA'15]

Data is Key for Future Workloads



Chrome

Google's web browser



TensorFlow Mobile

Google's machine learning framework

VP9



Video Playback

Google's **video codec**

VP9



Video Capture

Google's **video codec**

Data Overwhelms Modern Machines



Chrome



TensorFlow Mobile

Data → performance & energy bottleneck

VP9



Video Playback

Google's **video codec**

VP9



Video Capture

Google's **video codec**

Data Movement Overwhelms Modern Machines

- Amirali Boroumand, Saugata Ghose, Youngsok Kim, Rachata Ausavarungnirun, Eric Shiu, Rahul Thakur, Daehyun Kim, Aki Kuusela, Allan Knies, Parthasarathy Ranganathan, and Onur Mutlu, "[Google Workloads for Consumer Devices: Mitigating Data Movement Bottlenecks](#)" *Proceedings of the 23rd International Conference on Architectural Support for Programming Languages and Operating Systems (ASPLOS)*, Williamsburg, VA, USA, March 2018.

62.7% of the total system energy
is spent on **data movement**

Google Workloads for Consumer Devices: Mitigating Data Movement Bottlenecks

Amirali Boroumand¹

Saugata Ghose¹

Youngsok Kim²

Rachata Ausavarungnirun¹

Eric Shiu³

Rahul Thakur³

Daehyun Kim^{4,3}

Aki Kuusela³

Allan Knies³

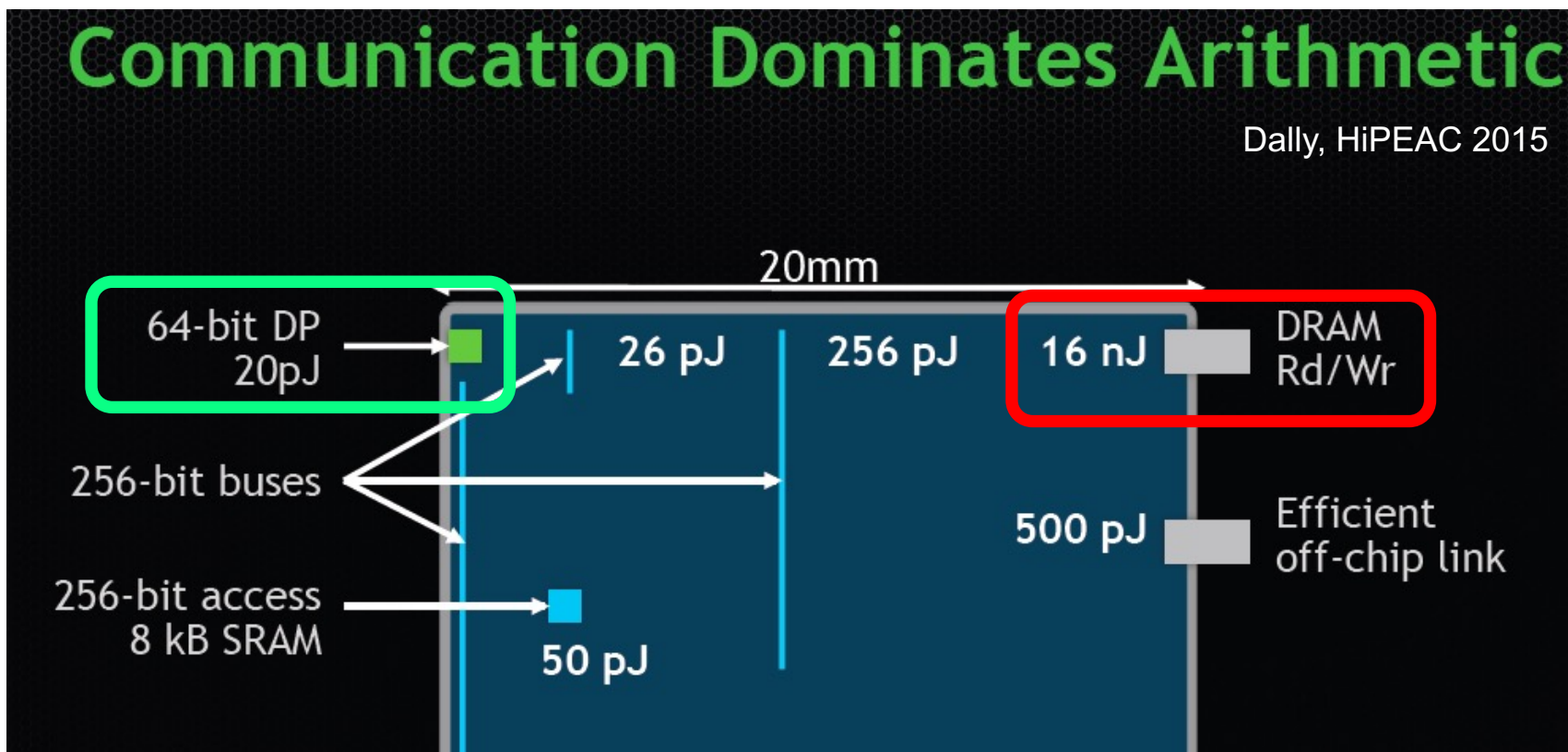
Parthasarathy Ranganathan³

Onur Mutlu^{5,1}

Data Movement vs. Computation Energy

Communication Dominates Arithmetic

Dally, HiPEAC 2015



A memory access consumes $\sim 100-1000X$ the energy of a complex addition

Many Interesting Things
Are Happening Today
in Computer Architecture

Many Novel Concepts Investigated Today

- **New Computing Paradigms (Rethinking the Full Stack)**
 - Processing in Memory, Processing Near Data
 - Neuromorphic Computing
 - Fundamentally Secure and Dependable Computers
- **New Accelerators (Algorithm-Hardware Co-Designs)**
 - Artificial Intelligence & Machine Learning
 - Graph Analytics
 - Genome Analysis
- **New Memories and Storage Systems**
 - Non-Volatile Main Memory
 - Intelligent Memory

Increasingly Demanding Applications

Dream

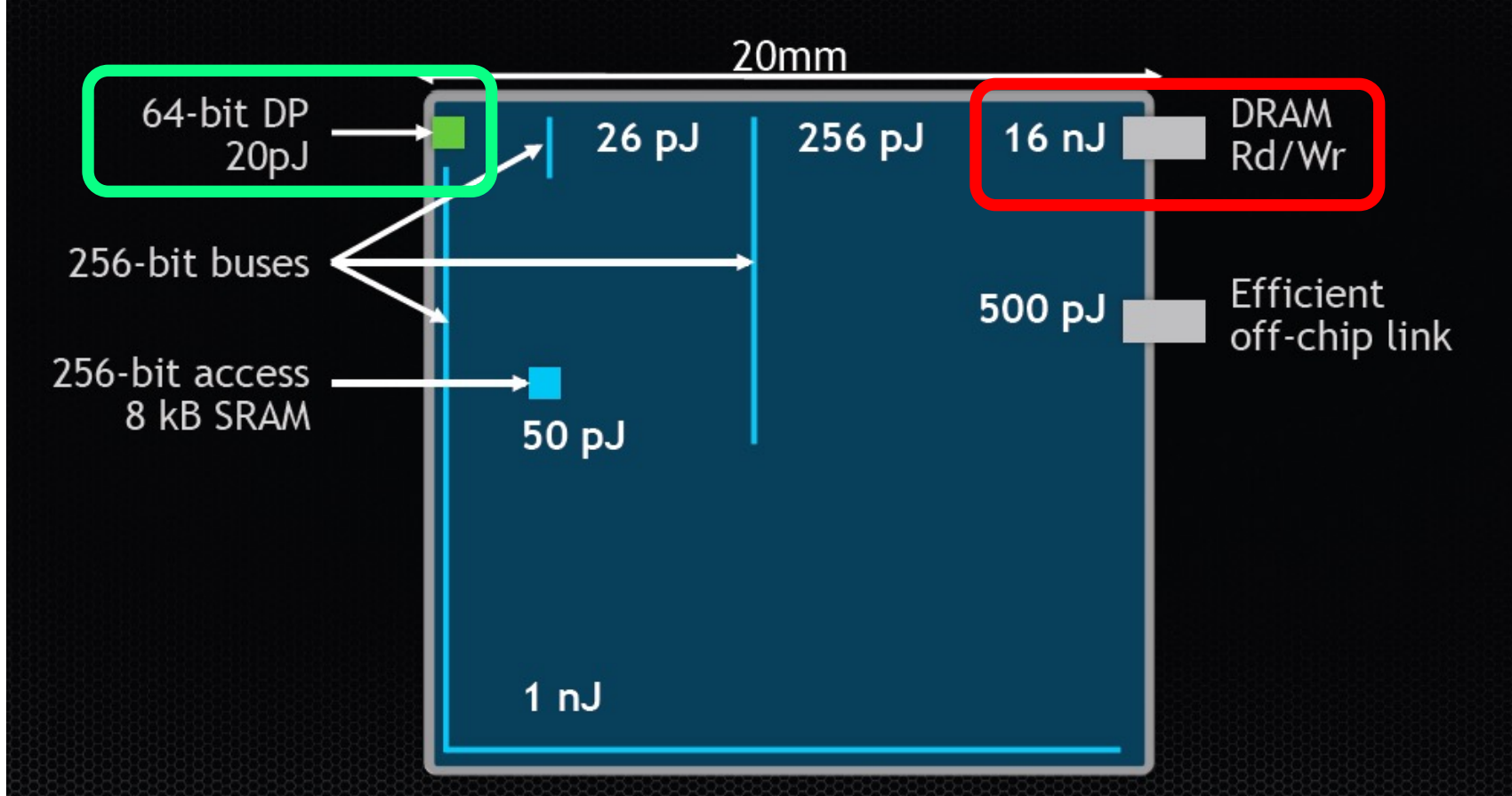
and, they will come

As applications push boundaries, computing platforms will become increasingly strained.

Increasingly Diverging/Complex Tradeoffs

Communication Dominates Arithmetic

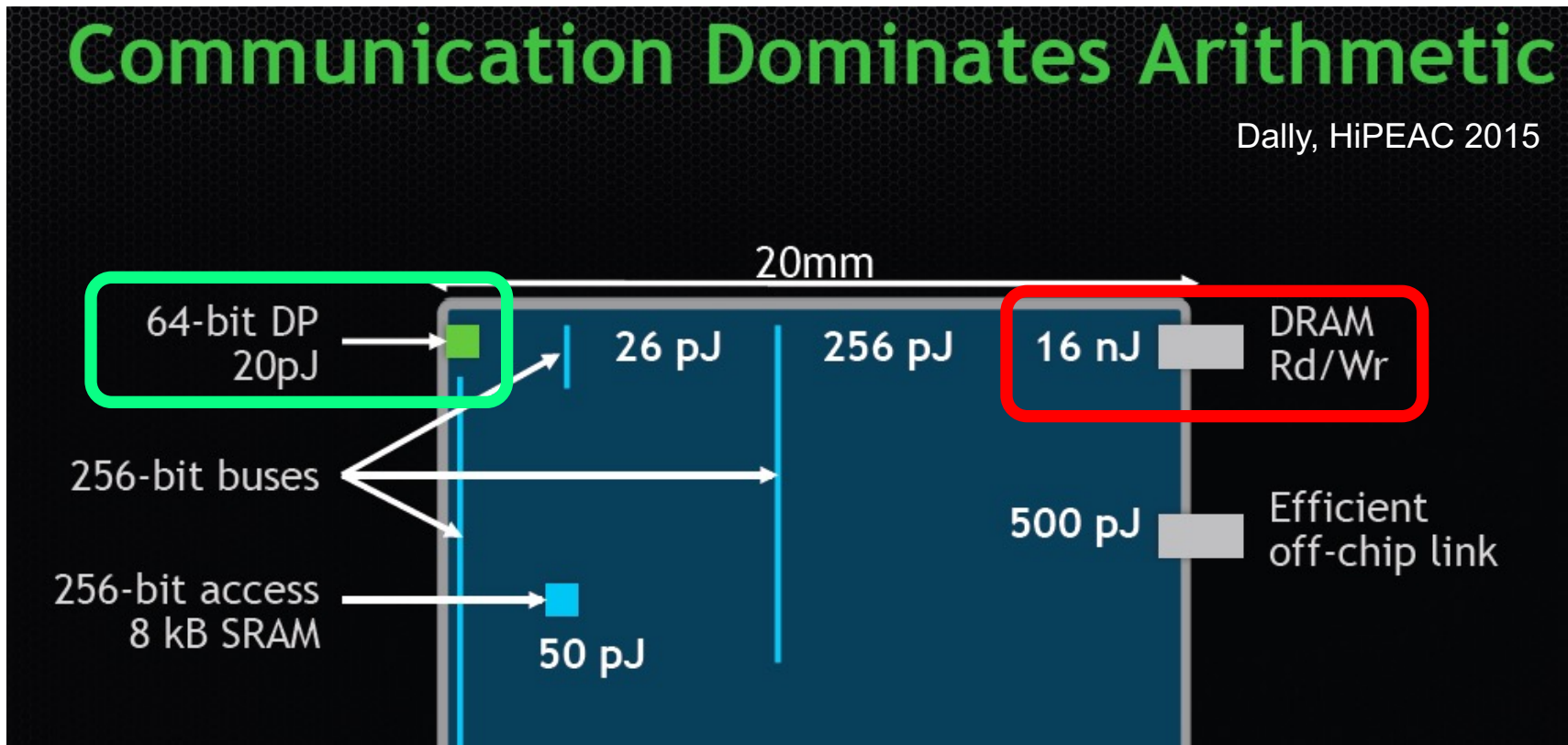
Dally, HiPEAC 2015



Increasingly Diverging/Complex Tradeoffs

Communication Dominates Arithmetic

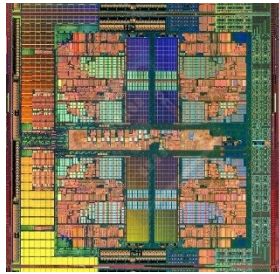
Dally, HiPEAC 2015



A memory access consumes $\sim 1000X$ the energy of a complex addition

Increasingly Complex Systems

Past systems



Microprocessor



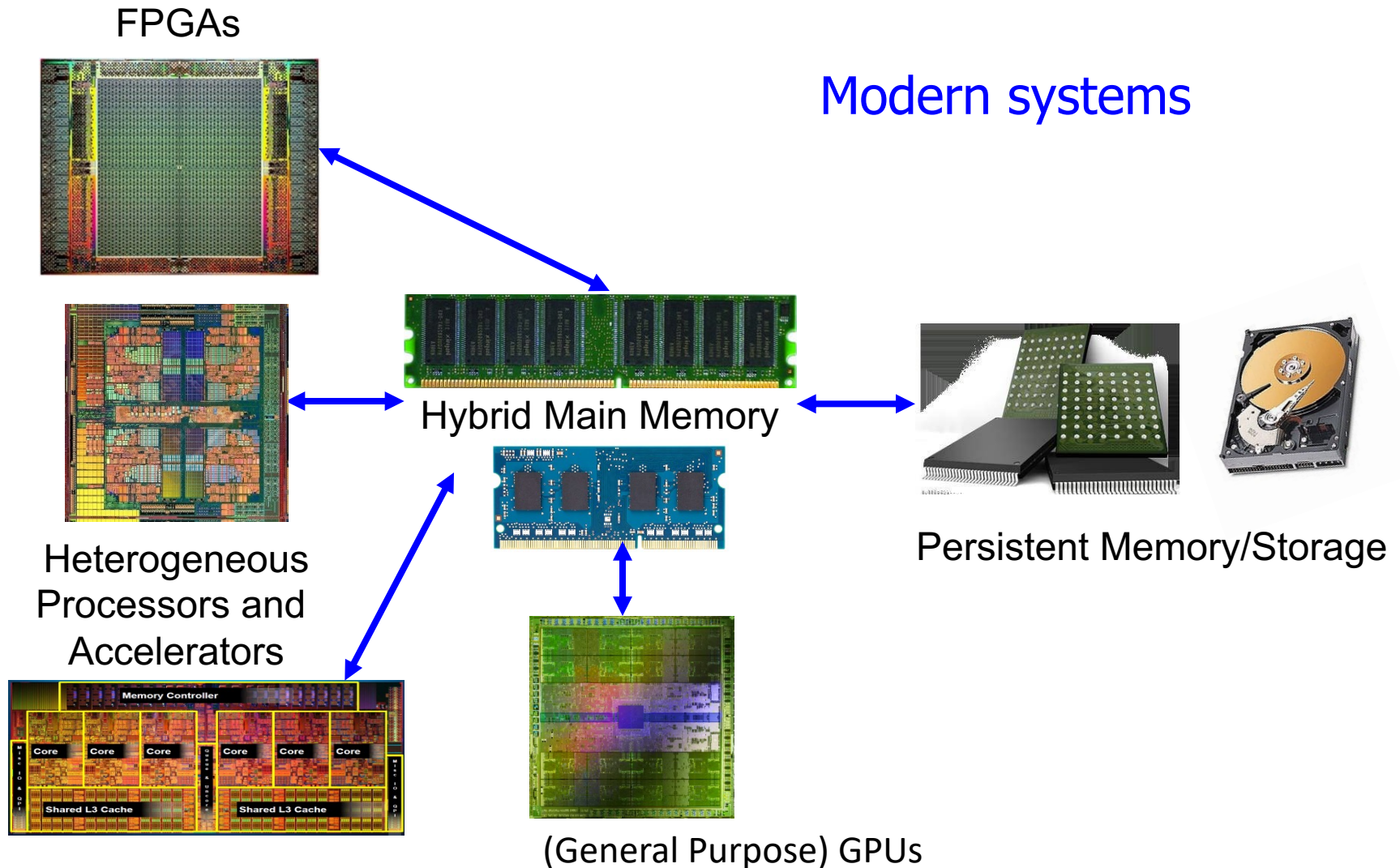
Main Memory



Storage (SSD/HDD)

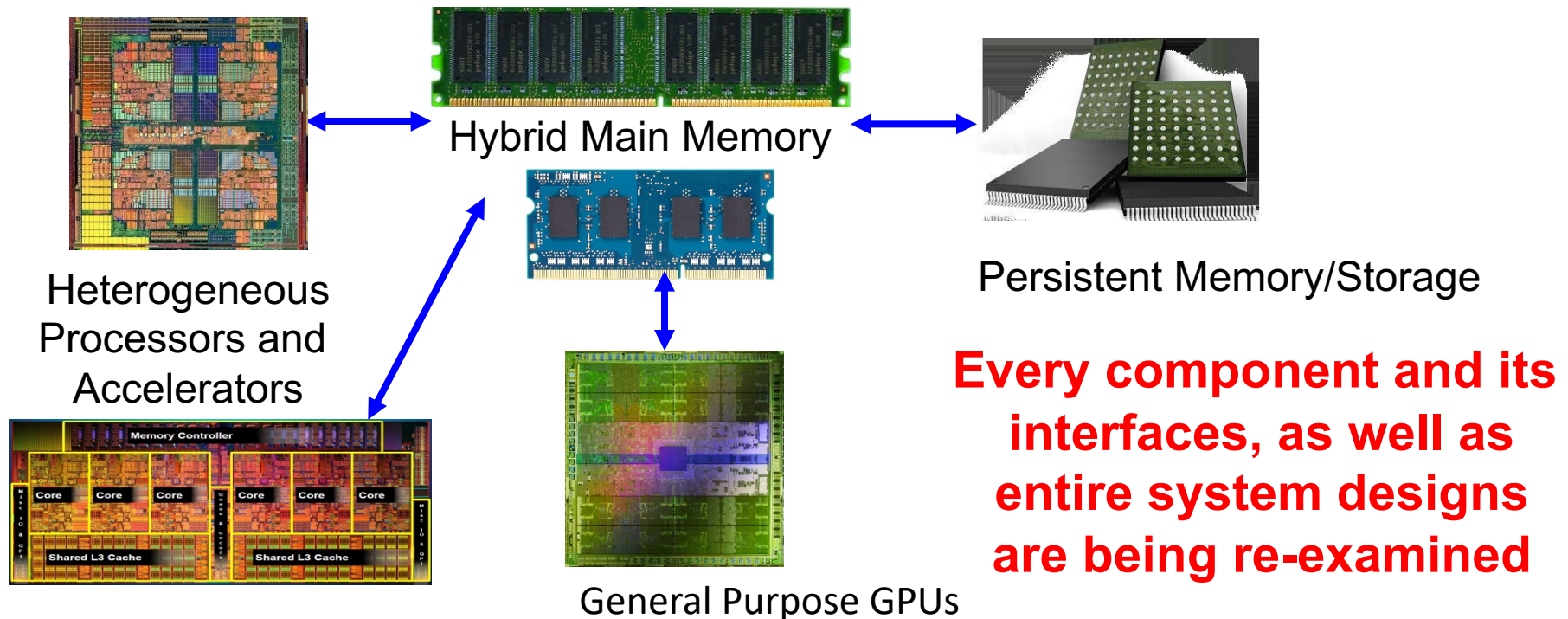


Increasingly Complex Systems



Computer Architecture Today

- Computing landscape is very different from 10-20 years ago
- Applications and technology both demand novel architectures



Computer Architecture Today (II)

- You can revolutionize the way computers are built, if you understand both the hardware and the software (and change each accordingly)
- You can invent new paradigms for computation, communication, and storage
- Recommended book: Thomas Kuhn, “[The Structure of Scientific Revolutions](#)” (1962)
 - Pre-paradigm science: no clear consensus in the field
 - Normal science: dominant theory used to explain/improve things (business as usual); exceptions considered anomalies
 - Revolutionary science: underlying assumptions re-examined

Computer Architecture Today (II)

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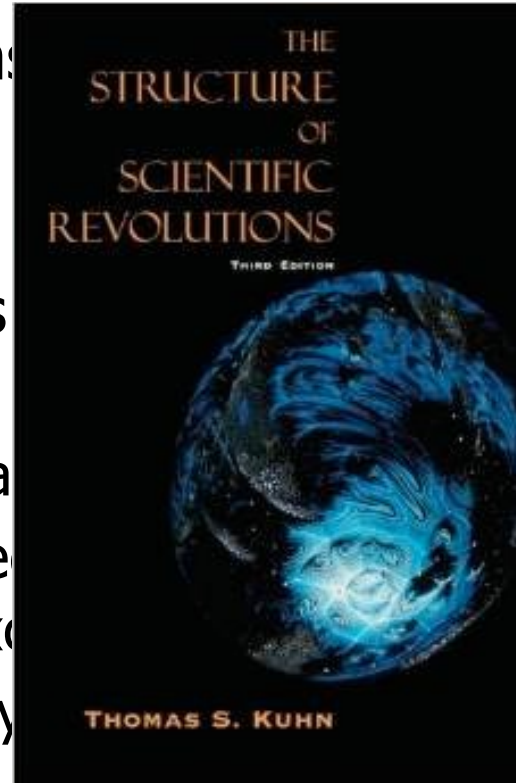
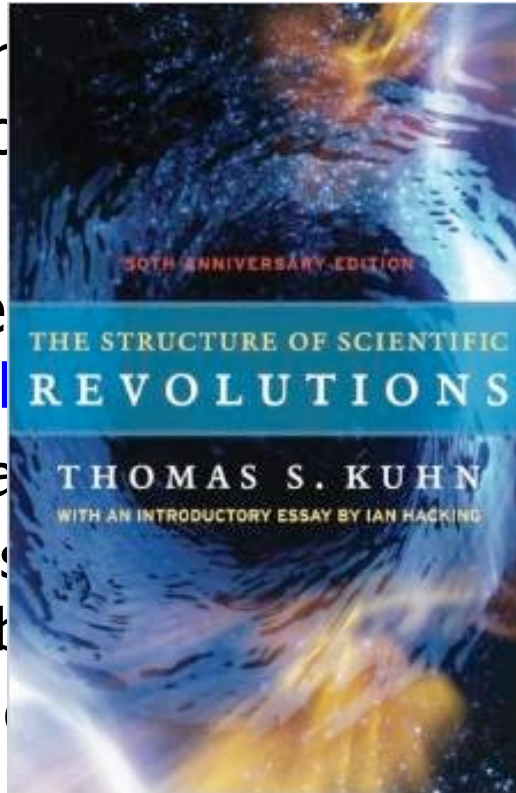
Computer Architecture Today (II)

- You can revolutionize the way computers are built, if you understand both the hardware and the software (and change each accordingly)

- You can improve communication

- Recommended reading: **Scientific Revolutions**

- Pre-prepare
- Normal scientific things (the exception)
- Revolutionary



ure of
eld
improve
anomalies
examined

Takeaways

- It is an exciting time to be understanding and designing computing architectures
- Many challenging and exciting problems in platform design
 - That no one has tackled (or thought about) before
 - That can have huge impact on the world's future
- Driven by huge hunger for data (Big Data), new applications (ML/AI, graph analytics, genomics), ever-greater realism, ...
 - We can easily collect more data than we can analyze/understand
- Driven by significant difficulties in keeping up with that hunger at the technology layer
 - Five walls: Energy, reliability, complexity, security, scalability

Let's Start with Some Fundamentals

Question: What Is This?



Answer: The First Major Piece of a Famous Architect

- **Bahnhof Stadelhofen:** “The train station has several of the features that became signatures of his work; straight lines and right angles are rare.”
- ETH Alumnus, PhD in Civil Engineering



Santiago Calatrava Valls (born 28 July 1951) is a Spanish [architect](#), [structural engineer](#), [sculptor](#) and [painter](#), particularly known for his bridges supported by single leaning pylons, and his railway stations, stadiums, and museums, whose sculptural forms often resemble living organisms.^[1] His best-known works include the [Milwaukee Art Museum](#), the [Turning Torso](#) tower in [Malmo](#), Sweden, the [Margaret Hunt Hill Bridge](#) in [Dallas](#), Texas, and the [Museum of Tomorrow](#) in [Rio de Janeiro](#),

Compare To This



Question 2: What Is This?



Answer: Masterpiece of a Famous Architect

Design [\[edit \]](#)

Calatrava said that the Oculus resembles a bird being released from a child's hand. The roof was originally designed to mechanically open to increase light and ventilation to the enclosed space. [Herbert Muschamp](#), architecture critic of *The New York Times*, compared the design to the [Bethesda Terrace and Fountain](#) in [Central Park](#), and wrote in 2004:

Strengths and Praise

“ Santiago Calatrava's design for the World Trade Center PATH station should satisfy those who believe that buildings planned for ground zero must aspire to a spiritual dimension. Over the years, many people have discerned a metaphysical element in Mr. Calatrava's work. I hope New Yorkers will detect its presence, too. With deep appreciation, I congratulate the Port Authority for commissioning Mr. Calatrava, the great Spanish architect and engineer, to design a building with the power to shape the future of New York. It is a pleasure to report, for once, that public officials are not overstating the case when they describe a design as breathtaking.^[43]

”

Design Constraints and Criticism

However, Calatrava's original soaring spike design was scaled back because of security issues. The *New York Times* observed in 2005:

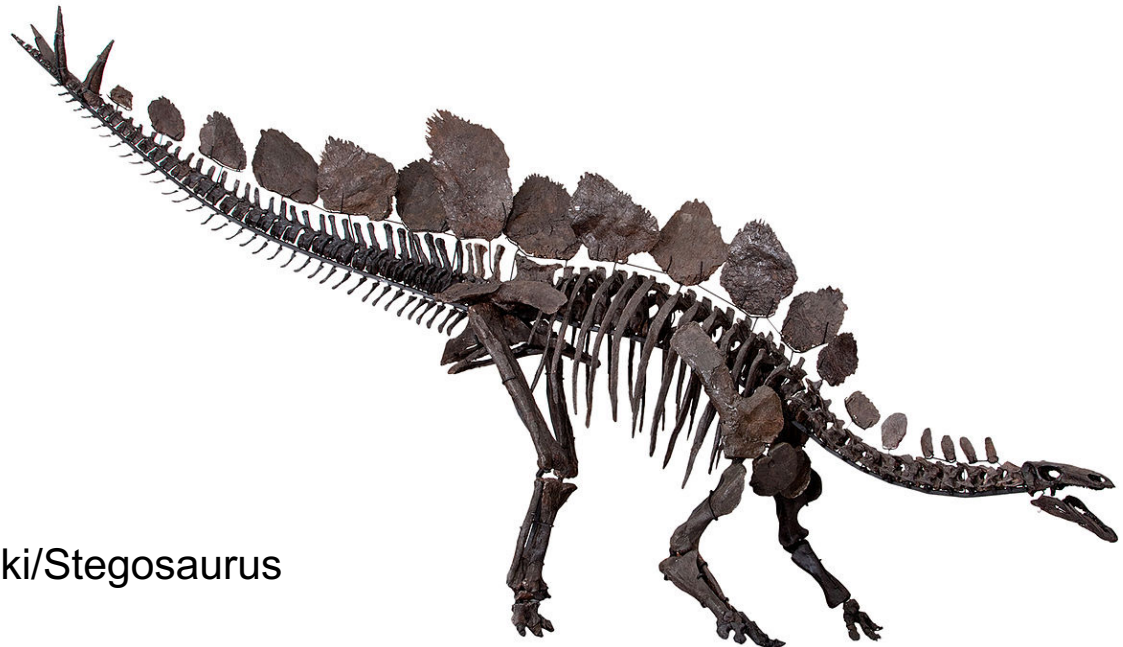
“ In the name of security, Santiago Calatrava's bird has grown a beak. Its ribs have doubled in number and its wings have lost their interstices of glass.... [T]he main transit hall, between Church and Greenwich Streets, will almost certainly lose some of its delicate quality, while gaining structural expressiveness. It may now evoke a slender *stegosaurus* more than it does a bird.^[45] ”

Stegosaurus

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

For the *pachycephalosaurid* of a similar name, see *Stegoceras*.

Stegosaurus (/ˌstɛɡəˈsɔːrəs/^[1]) is a genus of armored dinosaur. Fossils of this genus date to the Late Jurassic period, where they are found in Kimmeridgian to early Tithonian aged strata, between 155 and 150 million years ago, in the western United States and Portugal. Several



Source: <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stegosaurus>

Design Constraints: Noone is Immune

However, Calatrava's original soaring spike design was scaled back because of security issues. The *New York Times* observed in 2005:

“

In the name of security, Santiago Calatrava's bird has grown a beak. Its ribs have doubled in number and its wings have lost their interstices of glass.... [T]he main transit hall, between Church and Greenwich Streets, will almost certainly lose some of its delicate quality, while gaining structural expressiveness. It may now evoke a slender *stegosaurus* more than it does a bird.^[45]

”

The design was further modified in 2008 to eliminate the opening and closing roof mechanism because of budget and space constraints.^[46]

The Transportation Hub has been dubbed "the world's most expensive transportation hub" for its massive cost for reconstruction—\$3.74 billion dollars.^{[48][58]} By contrast, the proposed two-mile PATH extension

Question: What Is This?





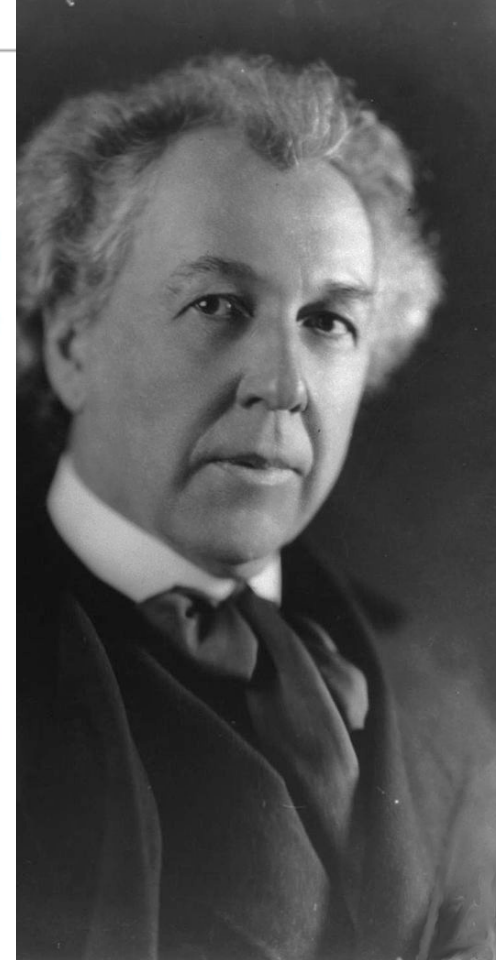
Answer: Masterpiece of Another Famous Architect

Fallingwater

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Fallingwater or **Kaufmann Residence** is a house designed by architect [Frank Lloyd Wright](#) in 1935 in rural [southwestern Pennsylvania](#), 43 miles (69 km) southeast of [Pittsburgh](#).^[4] The home was built partly over a waterfall on [Bear Run](#) in the Mill Run section of [Stewart Township, Fayette County, Pennsylvania](#), in the [Laurel Highlands](#) of the [Allegheny Mountains](#).

Time cited it after its completion as Wright's "most beautiful job";^[5] it is listed among *Smithsonian's* Life List of 28 places "to visit before you die."^[6] It was designated a [National Historic Landmark](#) in 1966.^[3] In 1991, members of the [American Institute of Architects](#) named the house the "best all-time work of American architecture" and in 2007, it was ranked twenty-ninth on the [list of America's Favorite Architecture](#) according to the [AIA](#).



Your First Comp Arch Assignment

- Go and visit Bahnhof Stadelhofen
 - Extra credit: Repeat for Oculus
 - Extra+ credit: Repeat for Fallingwater
- Appreciate the beauty & out-of-the-box and creative thinking
- Think about tradeoffs in the design of the Bahnhof
 - Strengths, weaknesses, goals of design
- Derive principles on your own for good design and innovation
- Due date: **Any time during this course**
 - Later during the course is better
 - Apply what you have learned in this course
 - Think out-of-the-box

But First, Today's First Assignment

- Find The Differences Of This and That

Find The Differences of This and That

This



That



Many Tradeoffs Between Two Designs

- You can list them after you complete the first assignment...

Aside: Evaluation Criteria for the Designs

- Functionality (Does it meet the specification?)
 - Reliability
 - Space requirement
 - Cost
 - Expandability
 - Comfort level of users
 - Happiness level of users
 - Aesthetics
 - ...
-
- How to evaluate goodness of design is always a critical question.

A Key Question

- How was Calavatra able to design especially his key buildings?
- Can have many guesses
 - (Ultra) hard work, perseverance, dedication (over decades)
 - Experience
 - Creativity, Out-of-the-box thinking
 - A good understanding of past designs
 - Good judgment and intuition
 - Strong skill combination (math, architecture, art, engineering, ...)
 - Funding (\$\$\$\$), luck, initiative, entrepreneurialism
 - Strong understanding of and commitment to fundamentals
 - Principled design
 - ...
- (You will be exposed to and hopefully develop/enhance many of these skills in this course)

Principled Design

- “To me, there are **two overriding principles** to be found in nature which are most appropriate for building:
 - one is the **optimal use of material**,
 - the other **the capacity of organisms to change shape, to grow, and to move.**”
 - *Santiago Calatrava*

- “Calatrava's constructions are inspired by natural forms like plants, bird wings, and the human body.”

Gare do Oriente, Lisbon, Revisited



Source: By Martín Gómez Tagle - Lisbon, Portugal, CC BY-SA 3.0, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=13764903>

Source: <http://www.arcspace.com/exhibitions/unsorted/santiago-calatrava/>

A Principled Design

Zoomorphic architecture

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Zoomorphic architecture is the practice of using animal forms as the inspirational basis and blueprint for architectural design. "While animal forms have always played a role adding some of the deepest layers of meaning in architecture, it is now becoming evident that a new strand of **biomorphism** is emerging where the meaning derives not from any specific representation but from a more general allusion to biological processes."^[1]

Some well-known examples of Zoomorphic architecture can be found in the [TWA Flight Center](#) building in [New York City](#), by [Eero Saarinen](#), or the [Milwaukee Art Museum](#) by [Santiago Calatrava](#), both inspired by the form of a bird's wings.^[3]

What Does This Remind You Of?



What About This?



Milwaukee Art Museum



Athens Olympic Stadium



City of Arts and Sciences, Valencia



Florida Polytechnic University (I)



Oculus, New York City



A Quote from The Other Famous Architect

- “architecture [...] based upon **principle**, and not upon **precedent**” (Frank Lloyd Wright)



A Principled Design

Organic architecture

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Organic architecture is a [philosophy](#) of [architecture](#) which promotes harmony between human habitation and the natural world through design approaches so sympathetic and well integrated with its site, that buildings, furnishings, and surroundings become part of a unified, interrelated composition.

A well-known example of organic architecture is [Fallingwater](#), the residence Frank Lloyd Wright designed for the Kaufmann family in rural Pennsylvania. Wright had many choices to locate a home on this large site, but chose to place the home directly over the waterfall and creek creating a close, yet noisy dialog with the rushing water and the steep site. The horizontal striations of stone masonry with daring [cantilevers](#) of colored beige concrete blend with native rock outcroppings and the wooded environment.

Another View



Yet Another View





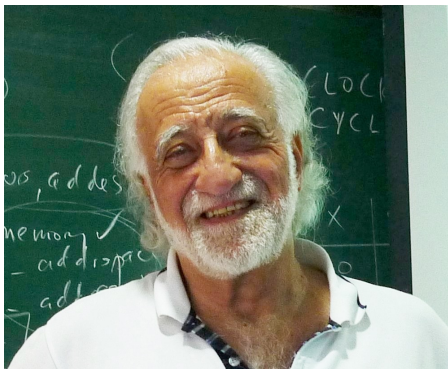
Major High-Level Goals of This Course

- Understand the principles
- Understand the precedents
- Based on such understanding:
 - Enable you to evaluate tradeoffs of different designs and ideas
 - Enable you to develop principled designs
 - Enable you to develop novel, out-of-the-box designs
- The focus is on:
 - Principles, precedents, and how to use them for new designs
- In Computer Architecture

Role of the (Computer) Architect

Role of the Architect

- Look Backward (Examine old code)***
- Look forward (Listen to the dreamers)***
- Look Up (Nature of the problems)***
- Look Down (Predict the future of technology)***



from Yale Patt's lecture notes

Role of The (Computer) Architect

- Look backward (to the past)
 - Understand tradeoffs and designs, upsides/downsides, past workloads. Analyze and evaluate the past.
- Look forward (to the future)
 - Be the dreamer and create new designs. Listen to dreamers.
 - Push the state of the art. Evaluate new design choices.
- Look up (towards problems in the computing stack)
 - Understand important problems and their nature.
 - Develop architectures and ideas to solve important problems.
- Look down (towards device/circuit technology)
 - Understand the capabilities of the underlying technology.
 - Predict and adapt to the future of technology (you are designing for N years ahead). Enable the future technology.

Takeaways

- Being an architect is not easy
- You need to consider **many** things in designing a new system + have good intuition/insight into ideas/tradeoffs

- But, it is fun and can be very rewarding
- And, enables a great future
 - E.g., many scientific and everyday-life innovations would not have been possible without architectural innovation that enabled very high performance systems
 - E.g., your mobile phones
 - E.g., self-driving vehicles

- This course will enable you to become a good computer architect

So, I Hope You Are Here for This

Comp. Systems

- How does an assembly program end up executing as digital logic?
- **What happens in-between?**
- How is a computer designed using logic gates and wires to satisfy specific goals?

Digital Design

“C” as a model of computation

Programmer’s view of how a computer system works

*Architect/microarchitect’s view:
How to design a computer that meets system design goals.*

Choices critically affect both the SW programmer and the HW designer

HW designer’s view of how a computer system works

Digital logic as a model of computation

Levels of Transformation

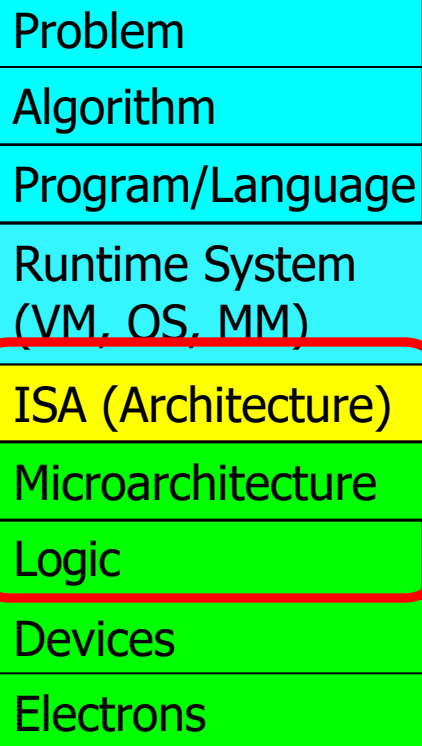
“The purpose of computing is [to gain] insight” (*Richard Hamming*)
We gain and generate insight by solving problems
How do we ensure problems are solved by electrons?

Algorithm

Step-by-step procedure that is **guaranteed to terminate** where **each step is precisely stated** and **can be carried out by a computer**

- **Finiteness**
- **Definiteness**
- **Effective computability**

Many algorithms for the same problem



ISA
(Instruction Set Architecture)

Interface/contract between SW and HW.

What the programmer assumes hardware will satisfy.



Microarchitecture

An implementation of the ISA

Digital logic circuits

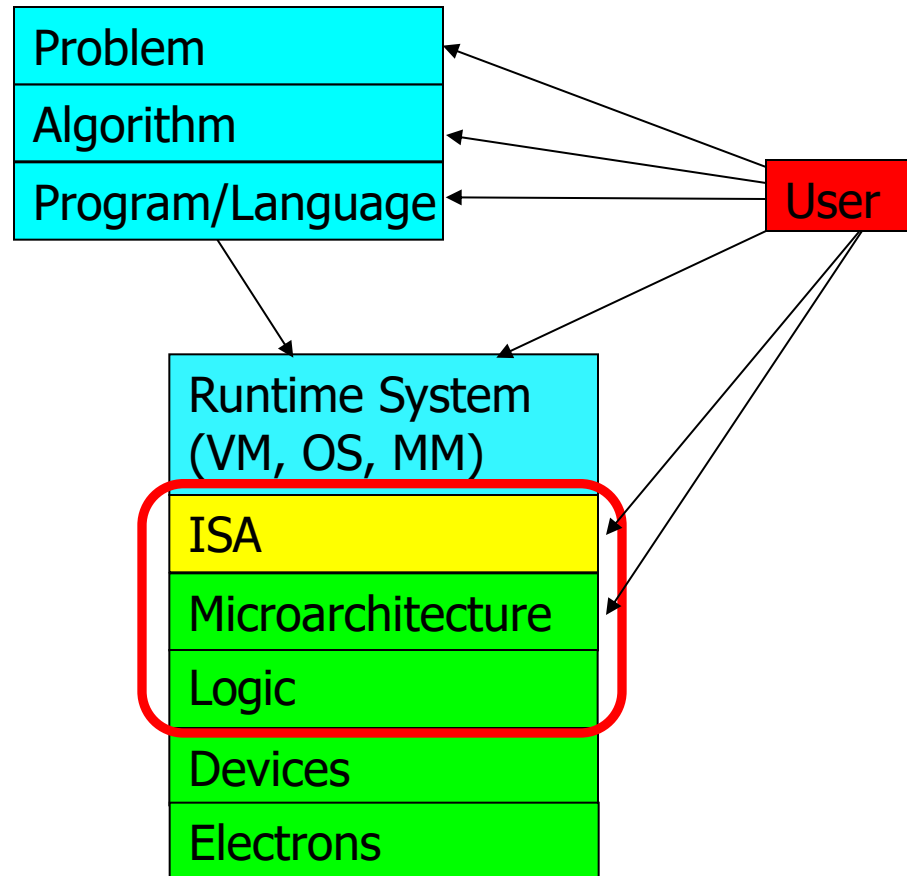
Building blocks of micro-arch (e.g., gates)

Aside: An Important Work By Hamming

- Hamming, “Error Detecting and Error Correcting Codes,” Bell System Technical Journal 1950.
- Introduced the concept of Hamming distance
 - number of locations in which the corresponding symbols of two equal-length strings is different
- Developed a theory of codes used for error detection and correction
- Also see:
 - Hamming, “You and Your Research,” Talk at Bell Labs, 1986.
 - <http://www.cs.virginia.edu/~robins/YouAndYourResearch.html>

Levels of Transformation, Revisited

- A user-centric view: computer designed for users



- The entire stack should be optimized for user

The Power of Abstraction

- **Levels of transformation create abstractions**
 - Abstraction: A higher level only needs to know about the interface to the lower level, not how the lower level is implemented
 - E.g., high-level language programmer does not really need to know what the ISA is and how a computer executes instructions
- **Abstraction improves productivity**
 - No need to worry about decisions made in underlying levels
 - E.g., programming in Java vs. C vs. assembly vs. binary vs. by specifying control signals of each transistor every cycle
- Then, why would you want to know what goes on underneath or above?

Crossing the Abstraction Layers

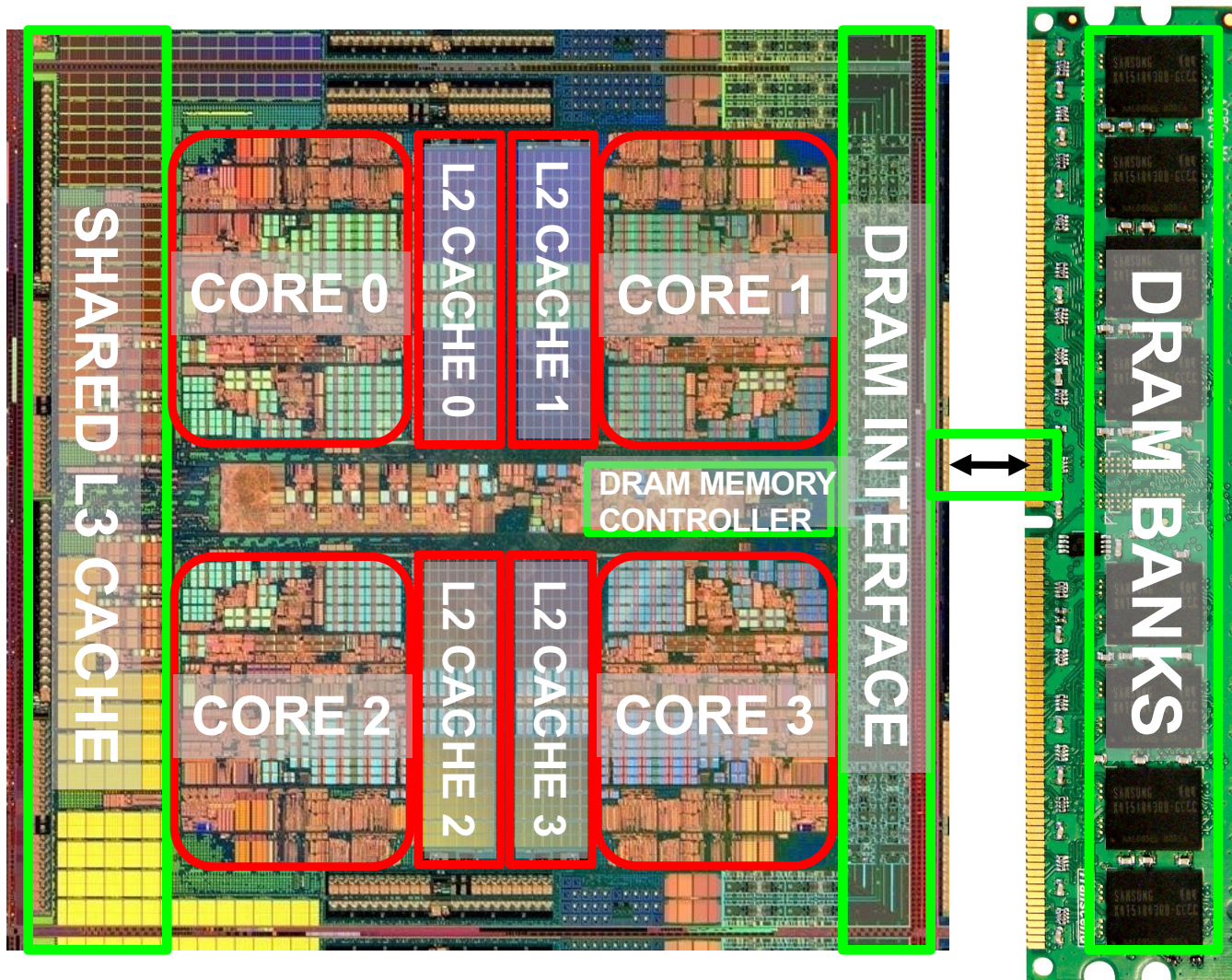
- As long as everything goes well, not knowing what happens underneath (or above) is not a problem.
- What if
 - The program you wrote is running slow?
 - The program you wrote does not run correctly?
 - The program you wrote consumes too much energy?
 - Your system just shut down and you have no idea why?
 - Someone just compromised your system and you have no idea how?
- What if
 - The hardware you designed is too hard to program?
 - The hardware you designed is too slow because it does not provide the right primitives to the software?
- What if
 - You want to design a much more efficient and higher performance system?

Crossing the Abstraction Layers

- Two key goals of this course are
 - to understand how a processor works underneath the software layer and how decisions made in hardware affect the software/programmer
 - to enable you to be comfortable in making design and optimization decisions that cross the boundaries of different layers and system components

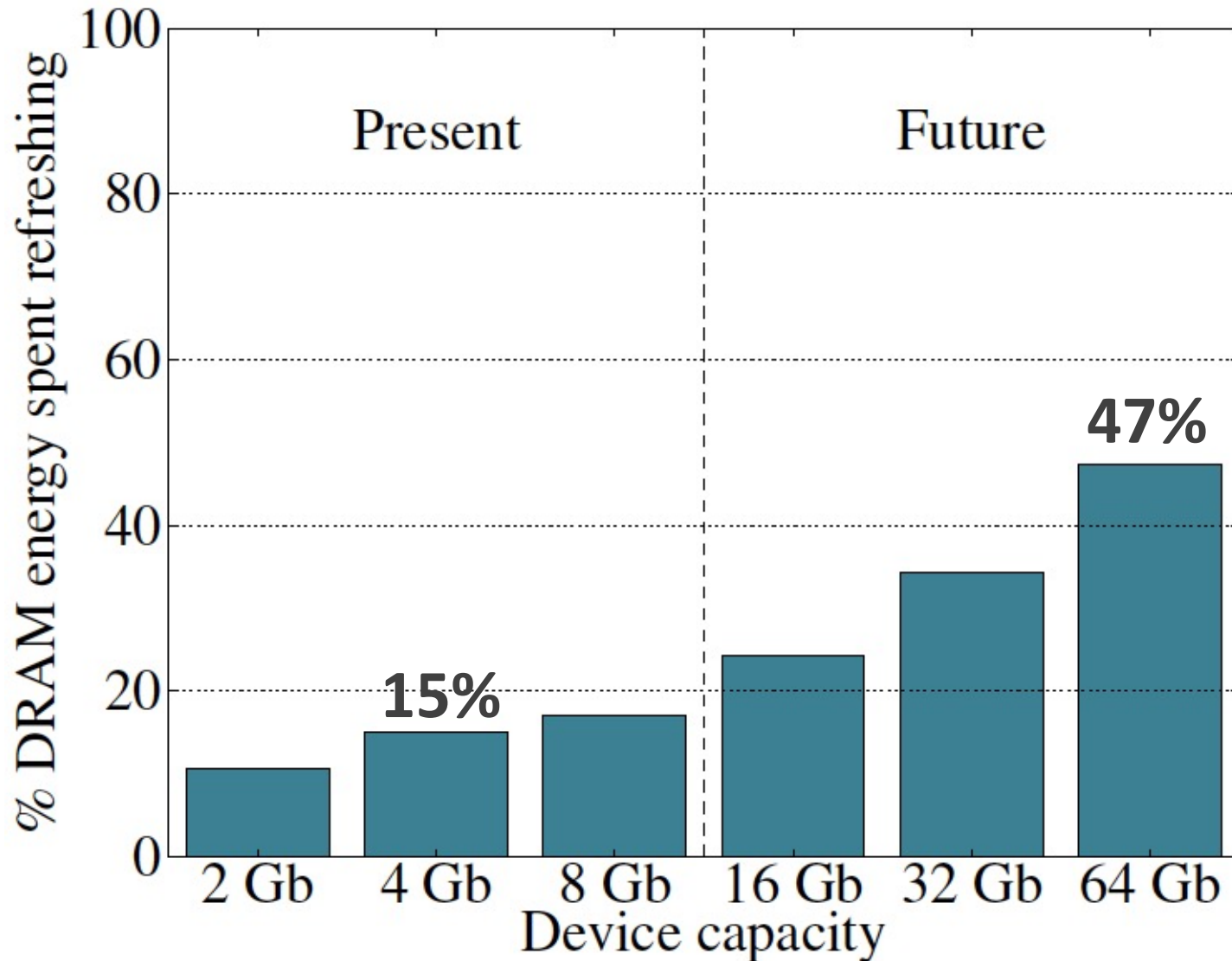
An Example: Multi-Core Systems

Multi-Core Chip



*Die photo credit: AMD Barcelona

Another Example: Memory Refresh



Computer Architecture

Lecture 2: Trends, Tradeoffs and Design Fundamentals

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