

## General Research Interests

My research interests lie in building scalable (beyond-) silicon (planar to FinFET) chips tailored for next-generation AI workloads (e.g. Graph, NSAI). My research focus extends to designing chips specifically that address real-world industrial challenges (e.g. testing). I have the experience of designing custom/RTL blocks in TSMC 65GP and 40ULP nodes with industrial standard tapeout flow.

## Education

- Aug.'23–present **PhD Student, Electrical & Computer Engineering**, Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, GA, USA.  
Research Focus: Mixed-signal circuit and architecture for edge applications.  
Advisor: Steve W. Chaddick school chair and Prof., Arijit Raychowdhury
- Aug'19–July'23 **Bachelor of Engineering, Electrical & Computer Engineering**, Zhejiang University, Hangzhou, Zhejiang, PRC.

## Publications \*: Equal Contributions.

- DATE 2024 Zishen Wan\*, **Che-Kai Liu\***, Mohamed Ibrahim, Hanchen Yang, Samuel Spetalnick, Tushar Krishna, and Arijit Raychowdhury. H3dfact: Heterogeneous 3d integrated cim for factorization with holographic perceptual representations. In *Design Automation and Test in Europe*. Acceptance rate: 25%. ACM/IEEE, DATE 2024.
- ISPASS 2024 Zishen Wan, **Che-Kai Liu**, Hanchen Yang, Ritik Raj, Chaojian Li, Haoran You, Yonggan Fu, Cheng Wan, Yingyan (Celine) Lin, Tushar Krishna, and Arijit Raychowdhury. Towards cognitive ai systems: Workload and characterization of neuro-symbolic ai. In *IEEE International Symposium on Performance Analysis of Systems and Software*. Acceptance rate: 34%. IEEE, ISPASS 2024.
- TCAS-I 2024 Hamza E. Barkam, Sanggeon Yun, Paul R. Genssler, **Che-Kai Liu**, Zhuowen Zou, Hussam Amrouch, and Mohsen Imani. In-memory acceleration of hyperdimensional genome matching on unreliable emerging technologies. In *IEEE Transactions on Circuits and Systems I: Regular Papers*. IEEE, TCAS-I 2024.
- DATE 2024 Zhicheng Xu, **Che-Kai Liu**, Chao Li, Ruibin Mao, Jianyi Yang, Thomas Kämpfe, Mohsen Imani, Can Li, Cheng Zhuo, and Xunzhao Yin. Ferex: A reconfigurable design of multi-bit ferroelectric compute-in-memory for nearest neighbor search. In *Design Automation and Test in Europe*. Acceptance rate: 25%. ACM/IEEE, DATE 2024.
- ICCAD 2023 Shengxi Shou, **Che-Kai Liu**, Sanggeon Yun, Zishen Wan, Kai Ni, Mohsen Imani, X Sharon Hu, Jianyi Yang, Cheng Zhuo, and Xunzhao Yin. See-mcam: A scalable multi-bit fefet content addressable memory for energy efficient associative search. In *42nd IEEE/ACM International Conference on Computer-Aided Design*. Acceptance rate: 23%, ICCAD 2023.
- MLSys 2023 Zishen Wan, **Che-Kai Liu\***, Hanchen Yang\*, Chaojian Li\*, Haoran You\*, Yonggan Fu, Cheng Wan, Tushar Krishna, Yingyan Lin, and Arijit Raychowdhury. Towards cognitive ai system: A survey and prospective on neuro-symbolic ai. In *Workshop on Systems for Next-Gen AI Paradigms, Sixth Conference on Machine Learning and Systems*, MLSys 2023.

- DATE 2023 Hamza E. Barkam, Sanggeon Yun, Paul R. Genssler, Zhuowen Zou, **Che-Kai Liu**, Hussam Amrouch, and Mohsen Imani. Hdgim: Hyperdimensional genome sequence matching on unreliable highly-scaled fefet. In *Proceedings of the IEEE/ACM Design Automation and Test in Europe*. Acceptance rate: 25%. IEEE/ACM, DATE 2023.
- ICCAD 2022 **Che-Kai Liu**, Haobang Chen, Mohsen Imani, Kai Ni, Arman Kazemi, Ann Franchesca Laguna, Michael Niemier, Xiaobo Sharon Hu, Liang Zhao, Cheng Zhuo, and Xunzhao Yin. Cosime: Fefet based associative memory for in-memory cosine similarity search. In *41st IEEE/ACM International Conference on Computer-Aided Design*. Acceptance rate: 22%, ICCAD 2022.

## Professional Experience

Georgia Institute of Technology, USA

Aug, 2023 – Present **Graduate Research Assistant**, *Integrated Circuits and Systems Research Lab (ICSRL)*.

## Selected Awards

- 2023 ACM Student Research Competition **Finalist**.
- 2023 Outstanding undergraduate thesis award. Thesis title: "Cross-Layer Optimization for Computing-in-Memory Circuits, Architectures and Applications".
- 2022 **First Place**, ACM Student Research Competition at ACM/IEEE Int'l Conference on Computer-Aided Design (ICCAD), 2022.
- 2022 **Best** presentation award at ACM/IEEE ESWEEK EIC workshop, 2022.
- 2022 Research scholarship from the University of Notre Dame, IN, USA 2022.

## Talks

- 2024 Mar. H3DFact: Heterogeneous 3D Integrated CIM for Factorization with Holographic Perceptual Representations, 2024 IEEE Design Automation and Test in Europe (DATE), Valencia, Spain.
- 2024 Mar. Heterogeneous 3D Integrated CIM for Factorization, 2024 Center for the Co-Design of Cognitive Systems (CoCoSys), Annual Review, Atlanta, USA
- 2023 Oct. SEE-MCAM: A Scalable Multi-bit FeFET Content Addressable Memory for Energy Efficient Associative Search, IEEE/ACM 42<sup>nd</sup> International Conference on Computer-Aided Design (ICCAD), San Francisco, CA, USA.
- 2023 May "When Vector Symbolic Architecture meets Compute-in-Memory", ICSR Lab, Georgia Institute of Technology, Virtual
- 2022 Oct. Student Research Competition, IEEE/ACM 41<sup>st</sup> International Conference on Computer-Aided Design (ICCAD), San Diego, CA, USA.
- 2022 Nov. Cosime: Fefet based associative memory for in-memory cosine similarity search, IEEE/ACM 41<sup>st</sup> International Conference on Computer-Aided Design (ICCAD), 2023, San Diego, CA, USA.
- 2022 Oct. "Compute-in-Memory: A Cross-Layer Perspective", Bias Lab, University of California, Irvine, CA, USA.
- 2022 Sep. "An efficient Associative Memory Engine for Cosine Similarity-Based Nearest Neighbor Search", ACM/IEEE Embedded System Week (ESWEEK), Edge Intelligent Computing workshop, virtual.

## Skills

Technical (System) Verilog, Synopsys VCS/DC/ICC/StarRC, Cadence Virtuoso/Calibre/Innovus/AMS,  
Skill Python, C, MATLAB, Intel Quartus

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## Reviewer for

- 2023 **2024 IEEE International Symposium on Circuits and Systems (ISCAS).**  
2022-2023 **IEEE J. on Emerging and Selected Topics in Circuits & Systems (JETCAS).**  
2023-2024 **ACM Journal on Autonomous Transportation Systems (JATS).**

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## Research Agencies Participated

- 2023–present **CoCoSys: Center for the Co-Design of Cognitive Systems**, *Center director: Prof. Arijit Raychowdhury*, A Semiconductor Research Co. (SRC) sponsored by Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA).

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## Courses Participated during Ph.D. @ GaTech ECE

- Spring, 2024: **ECE8824: Silicon Validation**, *Instructor: Prof. Visvesh S. Sathe.*  
Spring, 2024: **ECE6412: Analog Integrated Circuit Design**, *Instructor: Prof. Gabriel A. Rincon-Mora.*  
Fall, 2023 : **ECE8903: Special Problems**, *Instructor: Prof. Arijit Raychowdhury.*  
Fall, 2023 : **ECE6130: Advanced VLSI Systems**, *Instructor: Prof. Arijit Raychowdhury.*  
Fall, 2023 : **CS6290/ECE6100: Advanced Computer Architecture**, *Instructor: Prof. Cong (Callie) Hao.*  
Fall, 2023 : **ECE4804: VLSI Theory to Tape-out**, *Instructor: Prof. Visvesh S. Sathe, Audit.*