Boosting Machine Learning Innovation: Computing Systems that Learn and Adapt

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Tayler Hetherington, Natalie Enright Jerger, Tor Aamodt, Gennady Pekhimenko

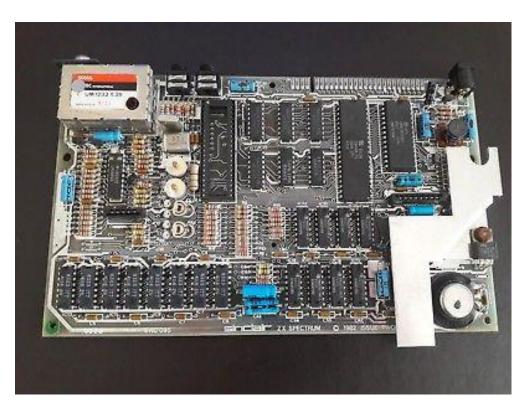
Andreas Moshovos

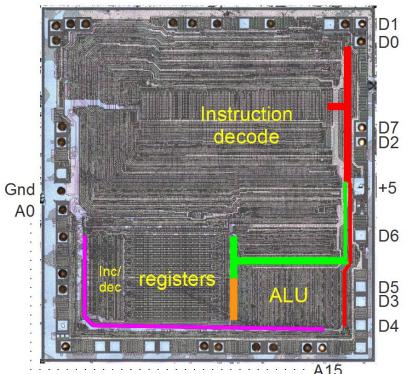


A bit about my background



10>LET a=10 20 PRINT a K







Computing Hardware

We build tools Used by "everyone" for "everything" Science, medicine, commerce, ...



Our Current Goal

- Enabling Further Innovation in Machine Learning
 - Reduce compute, memory footprint and communication
 - Edge, Server, IoT
- Two Guiding Principles...

Principle #1

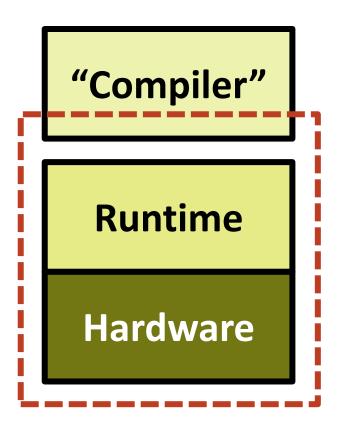
The advantage of natural occurring properties in Deep Learning Models

Do not require any changes In the ML network/software Developing software is hard...

But, ...Reward model optimizations

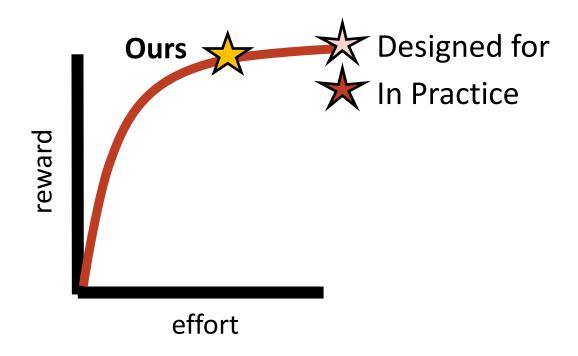


Improvements come from hardware alone or low-level runtime/compiler optimizations



Principle #2

Balance hardware (area/energy) cost vs. reward (compute/memory amplification)



Behaviour-based approach to ML acceleration

7+ years of research

Family of techniques:

- Zero/near zero activation skipping
- Bit-serial designs → static + dynamic precision
- Memory compression (data width + delta) / on-chip /off-chip
- Bit-skipping designs
 - Computational Imaging
- Sparsity
- Inference + Training
- Software Tools:
 - Training Algorithm → bitwidth selection
 - Profiling

Apack

Lossless compression for fixed-point inference

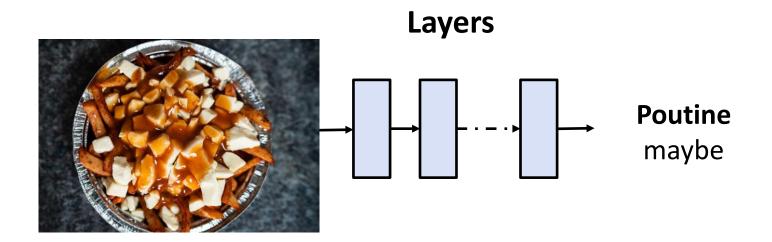
Mokey

Quantization for Transformers

Schrödinger's FP

 Dynamic Adaptation of Floating-Point Containters

Example: Convolutional Neural Networks



Tons of Out += A x W
For other types of networks too

Neural Nets do...

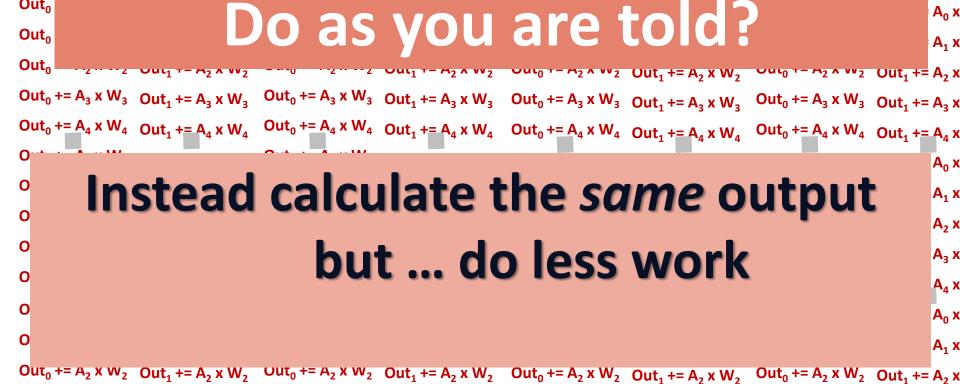
```
Out_0 += A_0 \times W_0 Out_1 += A_0 \times W_0
                                                 Out_0 += A_0 \times W_0 Out_1 += A_0 \times W_0
                                                                                                   Out_0 += A_0 \times W_0 Out_1 += A_0 \times W_0
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Out_0 += A_1 \times W_1 Out_1 += A_1 \times W_1
                                                 Out_0 += A_1 \times W_1 Out_1 += A_1 \times W_1
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Out_0 += A_2 \times W_2 Out_1 += A_2 \times W_2
                                                 Out_0 += A_2 \times W_2 Out_1 += A_2 \times W_2
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Out
                                                                        Many MACs
Out
Out_0 += A_0 \times W_0 Out_1 += A_0 \times W_0
                                                 Out_0 += A_0 \times W_0 Out_1 += A_0 \times W_0
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Out_0 += A_1 \times W_1 Out_1 += A_1 \times W_1
                                                 Out_0 += A_1 \times W_1 Out_1 += A_1 \times W_1
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Out_0 += A_2 \times W_2 Out_1 += A_2 \times W_2
                                                 Out_0 += A_2 \times W_2 Out_1 += A_2 \times W_2
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Out_0 += A_3 \times W_3 Out_1 += A_3 \times W_3
                                                 Out_0 += A_3 \times W_3 Out_1 += A_3 \times W_3
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                                                                                                   Out_0 += A_3 \times W_3 Out_1 += A_3 \times W_3
Out
                                                   Lots of data to transfer
Out
                                                                                                                                                                                              Wo
Out_0 \leftarrow A_1 \times vv_1 \quad Out_1 \leftarrow A_1 \times vv_1
                                                 Out_0 \leftarrow A_1 \times vv_1 \quad Out_1 \leftarrow A_1 \times vv_1
                                                                                                  Out_0 += A_1 \times W_1 Out_1 += A_1 \times W_1
                                                                                                                                                    Out_0 += A_1 \times W_1 Out_1 += A_1 \times W_1
Out_0 += A_2 \times W_2 Out_1 += A_2 \times W_2
                                                 Out_0 += A_2 \times W_2 Out_1 += A_2 \times W_2
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                                                                                                   Out_0 += A_2 \times W_2 Out_1 += A_2 \times W_2
Out_0 += A_3 \times W_3 \quad Out_1 += A_3 \times W_3
                                                 Out_0 += A_3 \times W_3 Out_1 += A_3 \times W_3
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                                                                                                                                                    Out_0 += A_3 \times W_3 \quad Out_1 += A_3 \times W_3
Out_0 += A_4 \times W_4 Out_1 += A_4 \times W_4
                                                 Out_0 += A_4 \times W_4 Out_1 += A_4 \times W_4
                                                                                                   Out_0 += A_4 \times W_4 Out_1 += A_4 \times W_4
                                                                                                                                                    Out_0 += A_4 \times W_4 Out_1 += A_4 \times W_4
```

When we started we assumed: Everyone in industry will target parallelism and data blocking first.

We wanted to be ready with the next technologies once these two are "perfected".

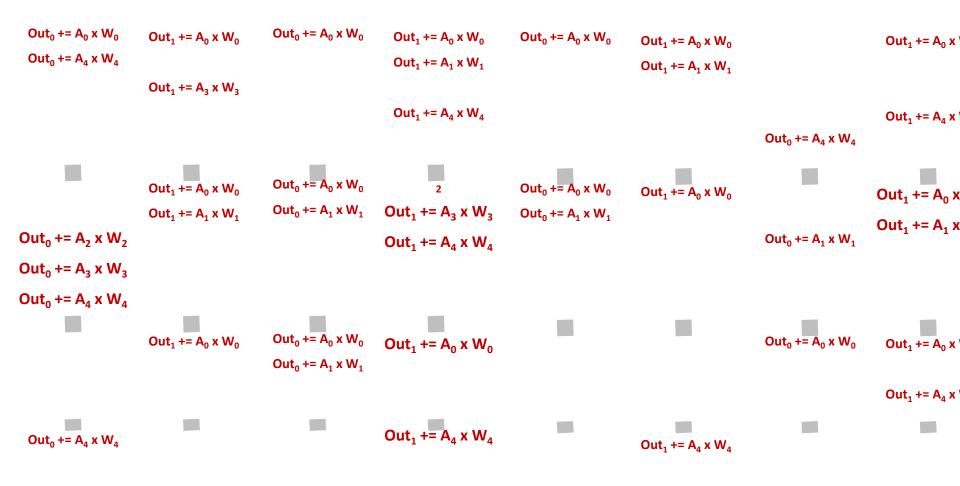
We targeted "behavior" based optimizations: what ML does at runtime that we can take advantage of. The programmer specifies a way to compute a result, as long as we produce the same result we can play tricks at the hardware level to improve efficiency. Lots of experience from CPUs: caches, branch prediction, etc.

Outo

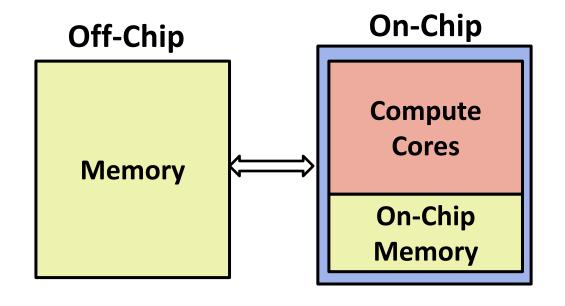


 $Out_0 += A_3 \times W_3$ $Out_1 += A_3 \times W_3$ $Out_0 += A_3 \times W_3$ $Out_1 += A_3 \times W_3$ $Out_0 += A_3 \times W_3$ $Out_1 += A_3 \times W_3$

 $Out_{0} += A_{4} \times W_{4} \quad Out_{1} += A_{4} \times W_{4} \quad Out_{0} += A_{4} \times W_{4} \quad Out_{1} += A_{4} \times W_{4} \quad Out_{0} += A_{4} \times W_{4} \quad Out_{1} += A_{4} \times$



Technology #1: Memory Transfers: Shapeshifter



On- vs. Off-Chip

Energy: ~100x

Latency: ~50x

Compute/Watt is the primary design constraint

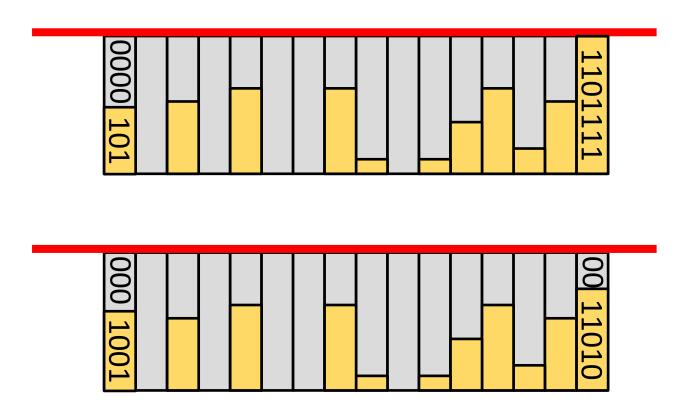
Conventional Approach: One Datawidth to Rule them All

OUT += A X W	OUT += A X W	OUT += A X W	OUT += A
OUT += A x W	OUT += A X W	OUT += A X W	OUT += A
OUT += A x W	OUT += A X W	OUT += A X W	OUT += A
OUT += A x W	OUT += A X W	OUT += A X W	OUT += A
OUT += A x W	OUT += A X W	OUT += A X W	OUT += A
OUT += A X W	OUT += A X W	OUT += A X W	OUT += A
OUT += A x W	OUT += A X W	OUT += A x W	OUT += A
OUT += A X W	OUT += A X W	OUT += A X W	OUT += A
OUT += A x W	OUT += A X W	OUT += A X W	OUT += A
OUT += A x W	OUT += A X W	OUT += A X W	OUT += A
OUT += A x W	OUT += A X W	OUT += A X W	OUT += A
OUT += A X W	OUT += A X W	OUT += A x W	OUT += A
OUT += A X W	OUT += A X W	OUT += A X W	OUT += A
OUT += A X W	OUT += A X W	OUT += A X W	OUT += A
OUT += A X W	OUT += A X W	OUT += A x W	OUT += A
OUT += A X W	OUT += A X W	OUT += A X W	OUT += A

Pick a datatype that fits the range of all values... this proves excessive for ML workloads...

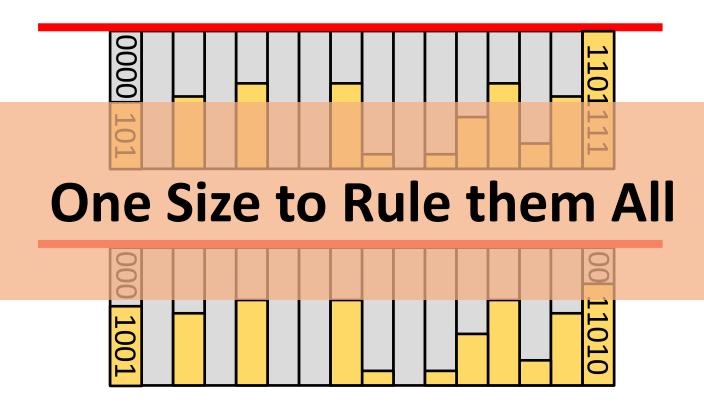
Conventional Data Transfers: Fixed Size Container Per Value

e.g., transfer 16 values at a time all using 8b each



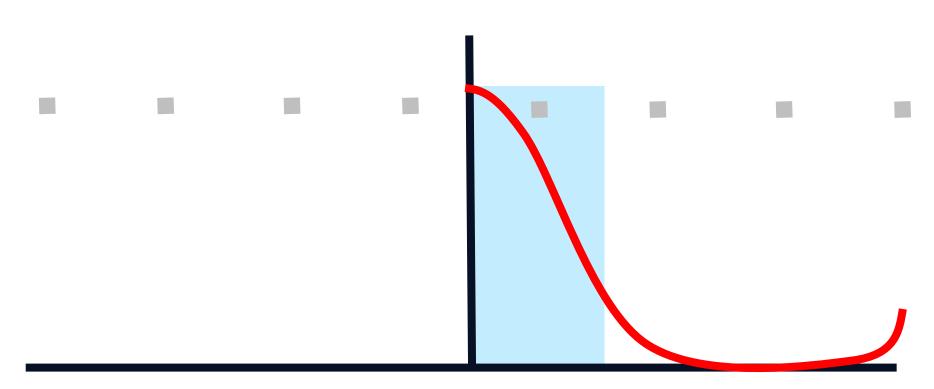
Conventional Data Transfers: Fixed Size Container Per Value

e.g., transfer 16 values at a time all using 8b each



Most ML values can fit in much narrow containers

$$Out_{0} += A_{0} \times W_{0} \quad Out_{1} += A_{0} \times W_{0} \quad Out_{0} += A_{0} \times W_{0} \quad Out_{1} += A_{0} \times W_{0} \quad Out_{0} += A_{0} \times W_{0} \quad Out_{1} += A_{0} \times$$



DPRed: Making Typical Activation and Weight Values Matter In Deep Learning Computing, Delmas et al., https://arxiv.org/abs/1804.06732

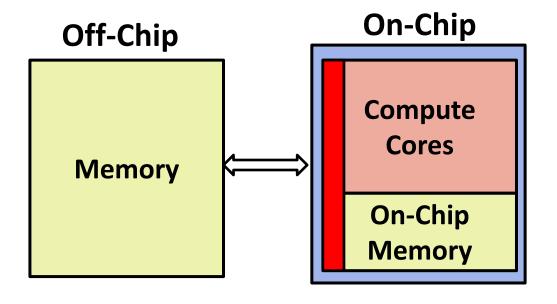
Value Distribution During Inference

Far from Uniform: Few Values -> Most Frequent

Cumulative Distribution of Values



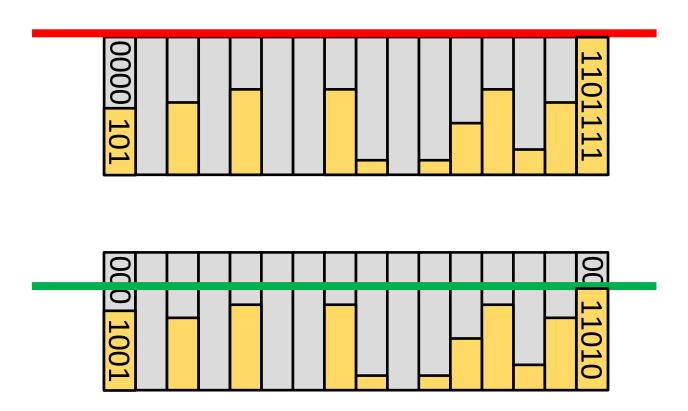
Technology #1: Memory Transfers: Shapeshifter



Encode/Decode Value to/from Memory

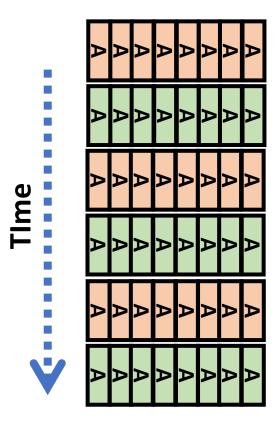
Shapeshifter: Make Typical Values Matter

Container adapts to value content. Weights and activations.

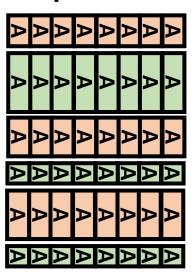


Memory Transfers

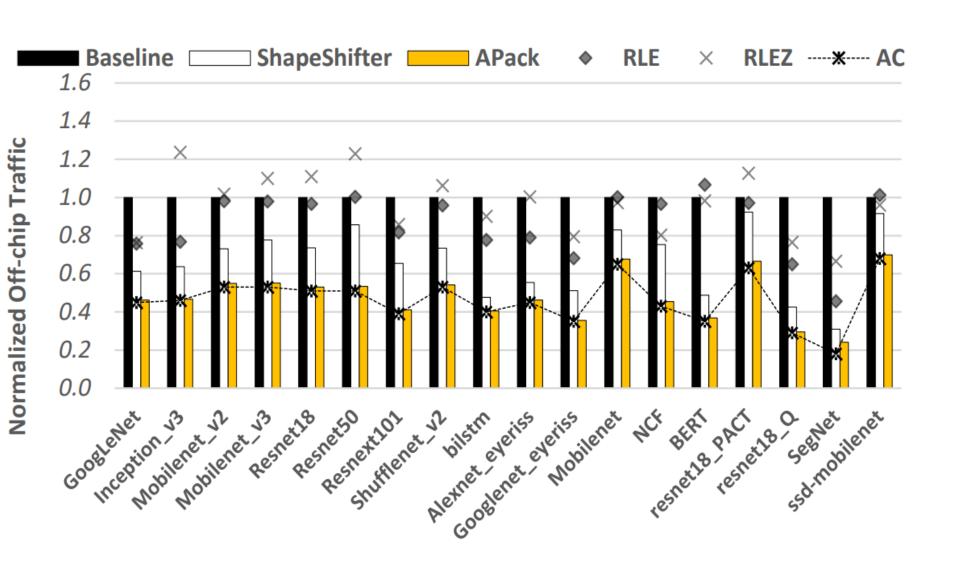
Conventional



Shapeshifter



Shapeshifter Effectiveness



Shapeshifter: Life is not always fair

This may happen often depending on the network



APACK

12 0 23 45 67 127 18 22 88 103 234 22 1 0 2 3 5 8 19 9 0 9 8 20 28 220 20 20 244 223 2 1 1 0 1 0 19 9 0 9 8 20 28 220 20 20 244 223 2 1 1 0 1 0 12 0 23 45 67 127 18 22 88 103 234 22 1 0 2 3 5 8 234 22 1 0 2 3 5 8 9 8 20 28 220 20 20 244 223 2 1 1 0 1 0 12 0 23 45 19 9 0 67 127 18 22 88 103

. . . .

28 220 20 20 244 223 2 1 1 0 1 0 234 22 1 0 2 3 19 9 0 67 127 18 22 88 103 5 8 9 8 20 12 0 23 45



0.1023846489202837462829838393....333292

12 0 23 45 67 127 18 22 88 103 234 22 1 0 2 3 5 8 19 9 0 9 8 20 28 220 20 20 244 223 2 1 1 0 1 0 19 9 0 9 8 20 28 220 20 20 244 223 2 1 1 0 1 0 12 0 23 45 67 127 18 22 88 103 234 22 1 0 2 3 5 8 234 22 1 0 2 3 5 8 9 8 20 28 220 20 20 244 223 2 1 1 0 1 0 1 2 0 23 45 19 9 0 67 127 18 22 88 103

. . . .

28 220 20 20 244 223 2 1 1 0 1 0 234 22 1 0 2 3 19 9 0 67 127 18 22 88 103 5 8 9 8 20 12 0 23 45

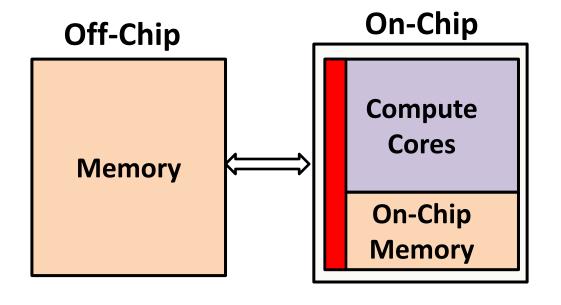


0.1023846489202837462829838393....333292

 $0.1101010101010101010111110101...111001_{(2)}$

Frequent values → less than ONE BIT

Technology #1: Memory Transfers: Shapeshifter



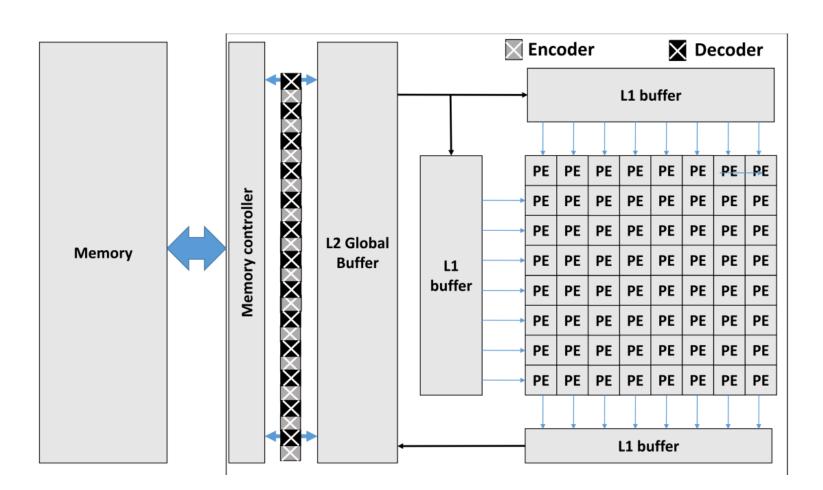
Encode/Decode Value to/from Memory

APACK: Lossless Compression for fixed-point

- Based on Arithmetic Coding
 - Encode a TENSOR with unique REAL number
- Precision needed:
 - Sequence Length
 - Frequency of values
- Outline:
 - Classical Arithmetic Coding
 - Too expensive too slow
 - Apack

Key Idea: Encode Values According to Frequency

- Transparently encode/decode
- Lossless
- Weights in advance / Activations Profiling



Value Distribution During Inference

Far from Uniform: Few Values -> Most Frequent

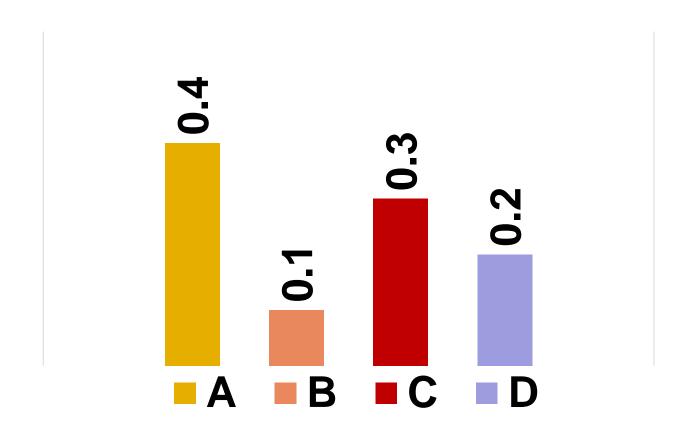
Cumulative Distribution of Values



Values change with input → Distributin not so much

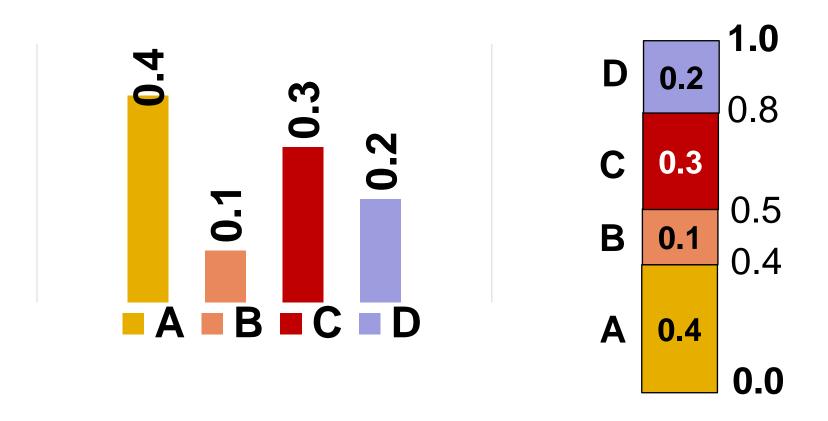
Classical Arithmetic Coding

Symbols w/ Frequencies



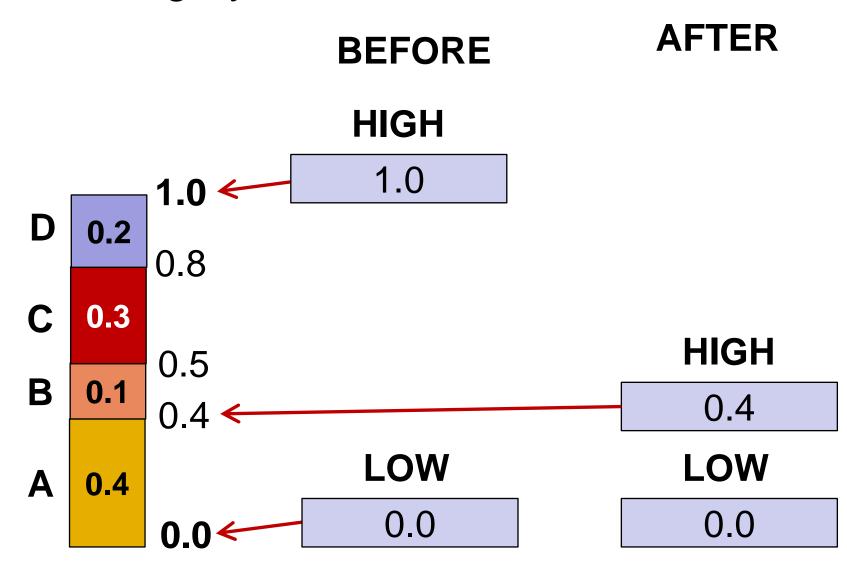
Classical Arithmetic Coding

- #1 Range/Probability Assignment
 - All the info needed to encode decode

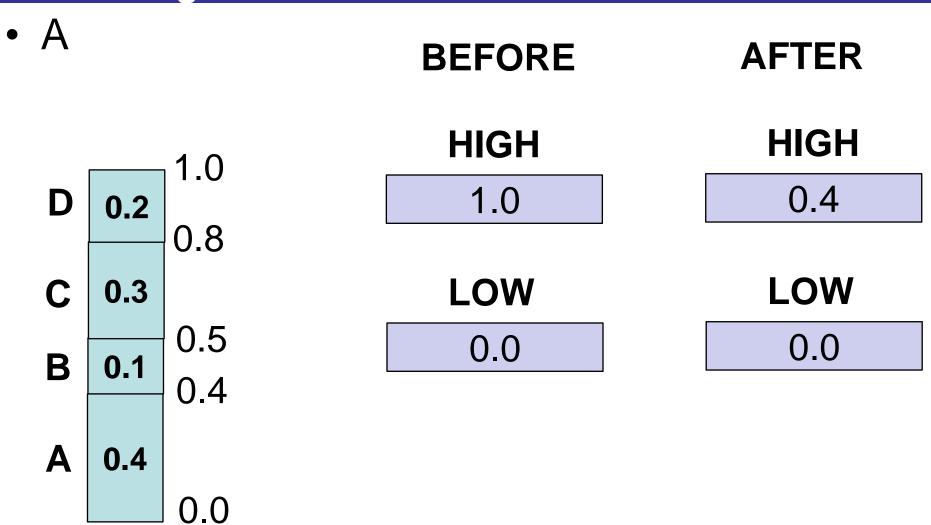


Encoding ABA

Incoming Symbol: A

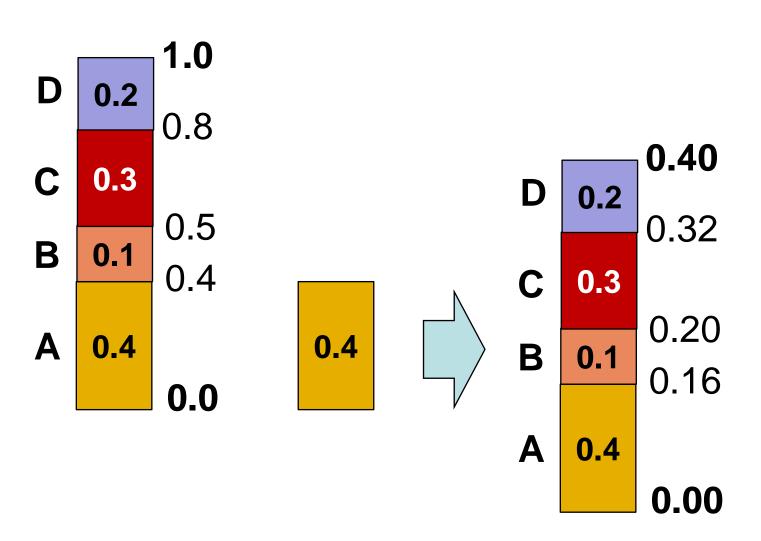


Encoding the first value: A

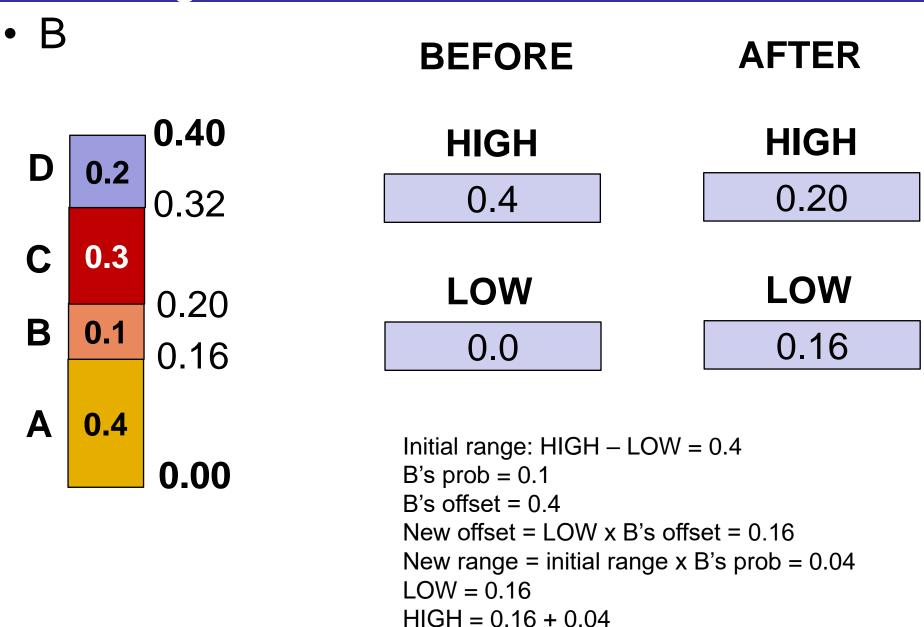


After Encoding A

How our range table looks

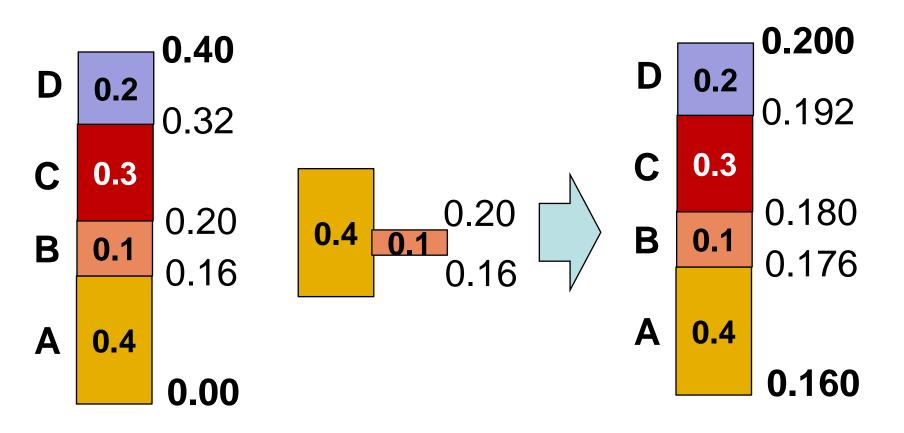


Encoding the second value: B

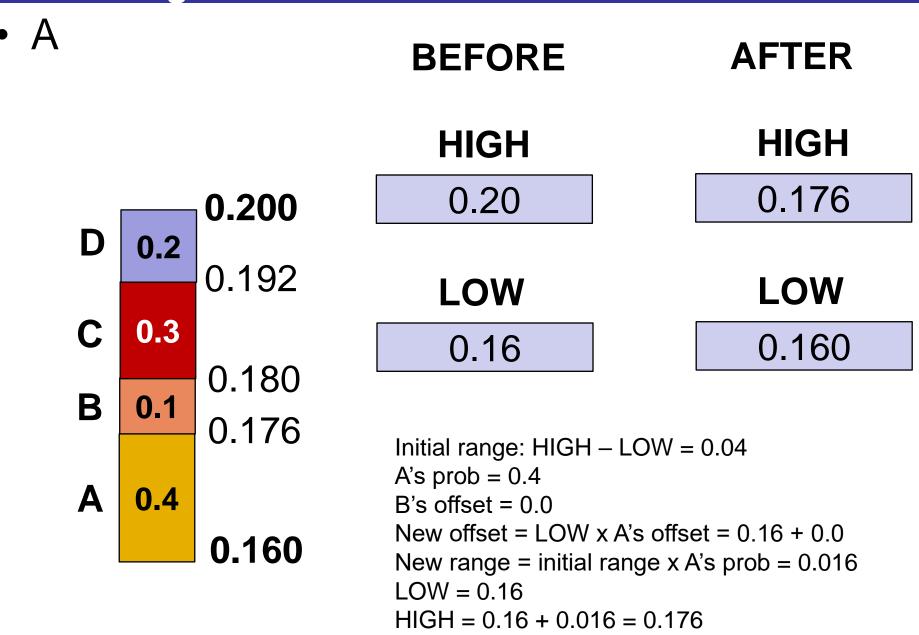


Enconding the B

Incoming Symbols: AB



Encoding the third value: A



Challenges with Arithmetic Coding

- Arbitrary Precision Arithmetic
 - Multiplications and Divisions
- Expensive Range Table
 - 256 entries for 8b fixed-point
- Low Bandwidth
 - 1 bit per invocation

V = PREFIX + OFFSET

$$0000\ 0000 = 0$$

$$0101\ 0111 = 01000\ 0000+1\ 0111$$

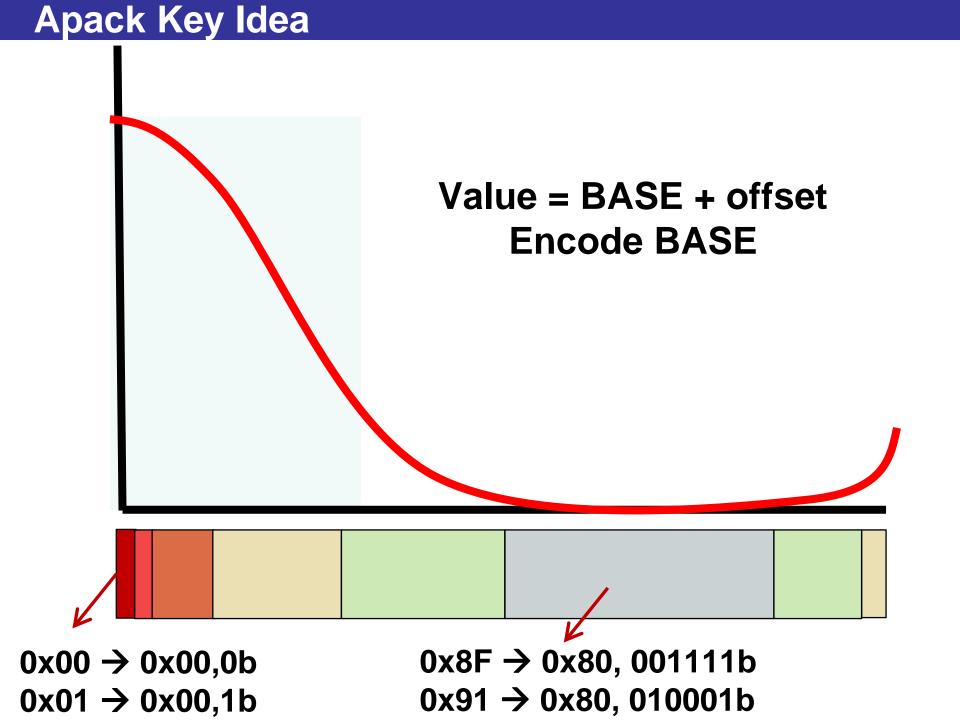


Table Generation: Done in Advance

IDX	v_min	v_max	OL	tlow	thigh	P
0	0x00	0x03	2	0x000	0x1EB	0.4795
1	0x04	0x07	2	0x1EB	0x229	0.0605
2	0x08	0x0F	3	0x229	0x238	0.0146
3	0x10	0x3F	6	0x238	0x23A	0.0020
4	0x40	0x4F	4	0x23A	0x23A	0.0000
5	0x50	0x5F	4	0x23A	0x23A	0.0000
6	0x60	0x6F	4	0x23A	0x23A	0.0000
7	0x70	0x7F	4	0x23A	0x23A	0.0000
8	0x80	0x8F	4	0x23A	0x23A	0.0000
9	0x90	0x9F	4	0x23A	0x23A	0.0000
10	0xA0	0xAF	4	0x23A	0x23A	0.0000
11	0xB0	0xBF	4	0x23A	0x23A	0.0000
12	0xC0	0xCF	4	0x23A	0x23A	0.0000
13	0xD0	0xF3	6	0x23A	0x23C	0.0020
14	0xF4	0xFB	3	0x23C	0x276	0.0566
15	0xFC	0xFF	2	0x276	0x3FF	0.3838

Table Generation: Done in Advance

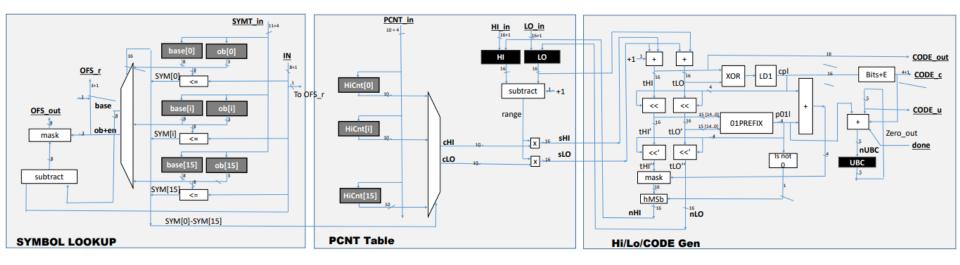
		، ۱		- r		1
IDX	v_min	v_max	OL	tlow	thigh	Р
0	0x00	0x03	2	0x000	0x1EB	0.4795
1	0x04	0x07	2	0x1EB	0x229	0.0605
2	0x08	0x0F	3	0x229	0x238	0.0146
3	0x10	0x3F	6	0x238	0x23A	0.0020
4	0x40	0x4F	4	0x23A	0x23A	0.0000
5	0x50	0x5F	4	0x23A	0x23A	0.0000
6	0x60	0x6F	4	0x23A	0x23A	0.0000
7	0x70	0x7F	4	0x23A	0x23A	0.0000
8	0x80	0x8F	4	0x23A	0x23A	0.0000
9	0x90	0x9F	4	0x23A	0x23A	0.0000
10	0xA0	0xAF	4	0x23A	0x23A	0.0000
11	0xB0	0xBF	4	0x23A	0x23A	0.0000
12	0xC0	0xCF	4	0x23A	0x23A	0.0000
13	0xD0	0xF3	6	0x23A	0x23C	0.0020
14	0xF4	0xFB	3	0x23C	0x276	0.0566
15	0xFC	0xFF	2	0x276	0x3FF	0.3838

8b 3b 10b

0.11010101010101010...1011110101 (2)

 $0.11010101010101010...10111101011111001_{(2)}$

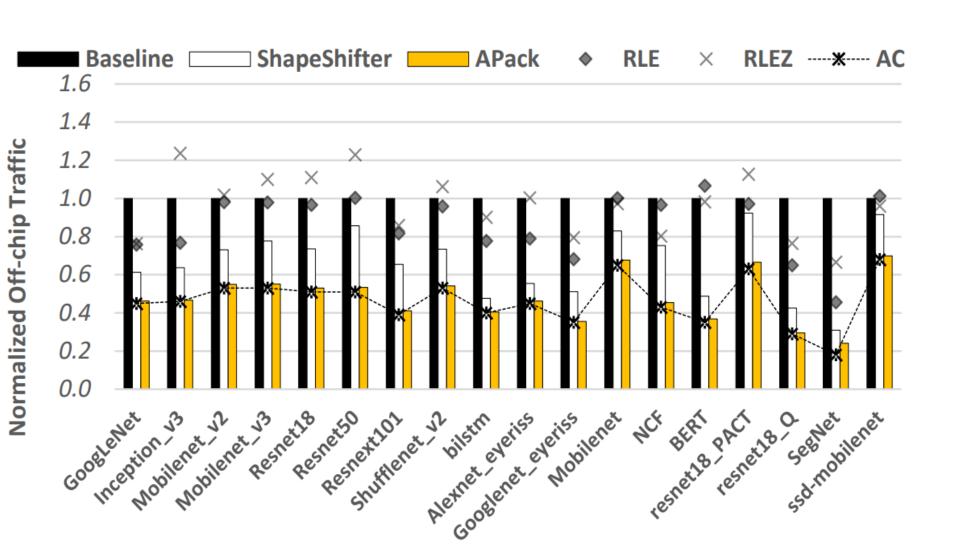
APACK Encoder



Hardware

- Fixed-Point
- 10b x 16b Multiplications and 16b comparisons
- A few leading 1
- One value per "cycle"
- Use multiple to sustain BW needed
- Externally: Sequential Streams

APACK Activations





Mokey

Enabling Narrow Fixed-Point Inference

for Out-of-the-Box Floating-Point Transformer Models







Challenges



Weights

Activations

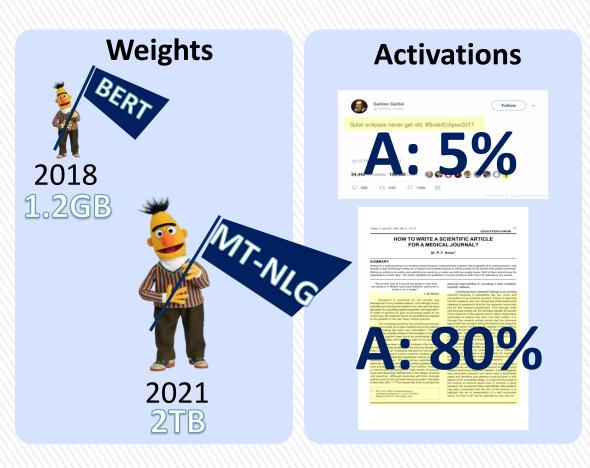
Memory: Performance & Energy Bottleneck

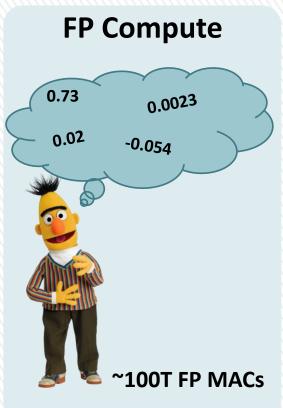




Challenges

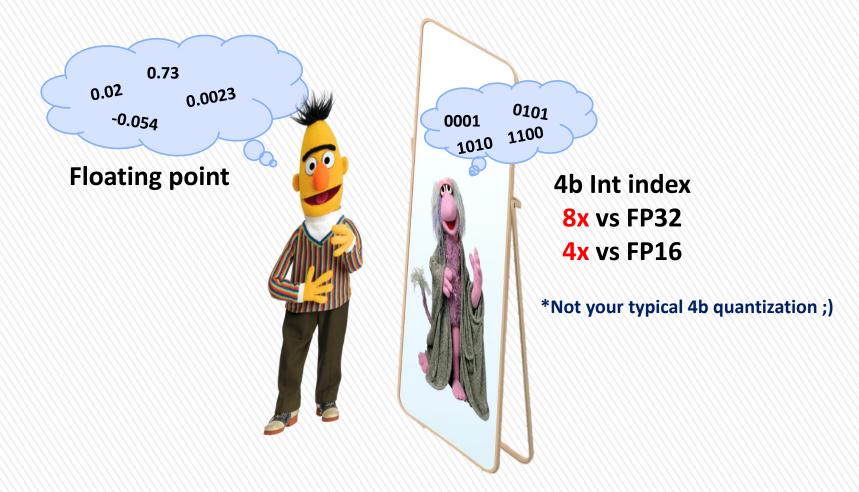






Mokey: BERT's Better Self

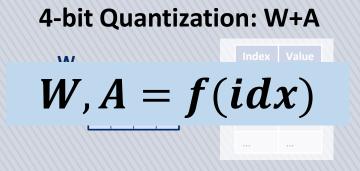


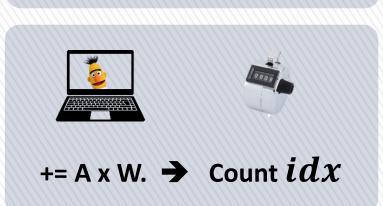




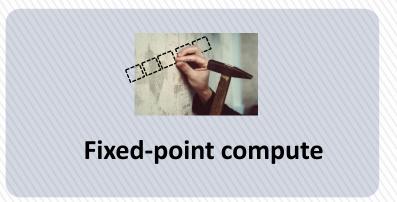


Mokey









Mokey HW Accelerator

Vs. Tensor Cores: 15x Faster + 100x Energy Efficient

Mokey Memory Compression

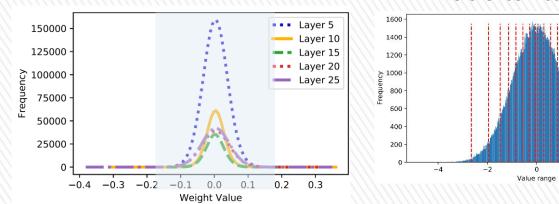
For Tensor Cores:

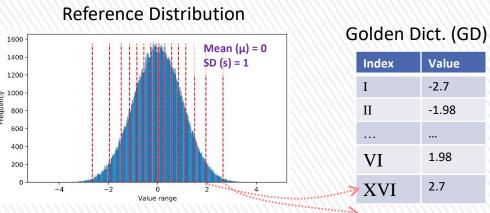
Off-chip Only: 4x Faster + 8x Energy Efficient

Off- and on-chip*: 10x Faster + 50x Energy Efficient









Scale and Shift is All You Need





Original

$$A \times W += 0.2 \times 0.7 = 0.14$$

Dictionary Quant.

Mokey Quant.

$$A = I$$
 $W = II$

How?

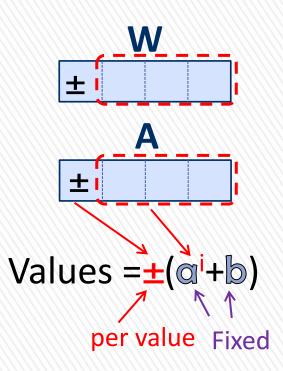
$$A \times W += I \times II = 0.14$$





Index	Value		
I	0.05		
II	0.35		
VI	1.97		
VII	2.6		

Golden Dict. (GD)

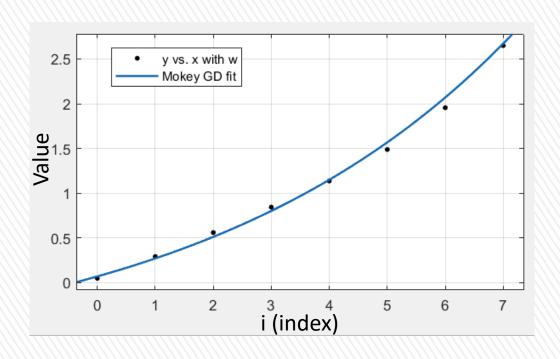






Index	Value		
I	0.05		
II	0.35		
VI	1.97		
VII	2.6		

Golden Dict. (GD)



$$GD = a^i + b$$

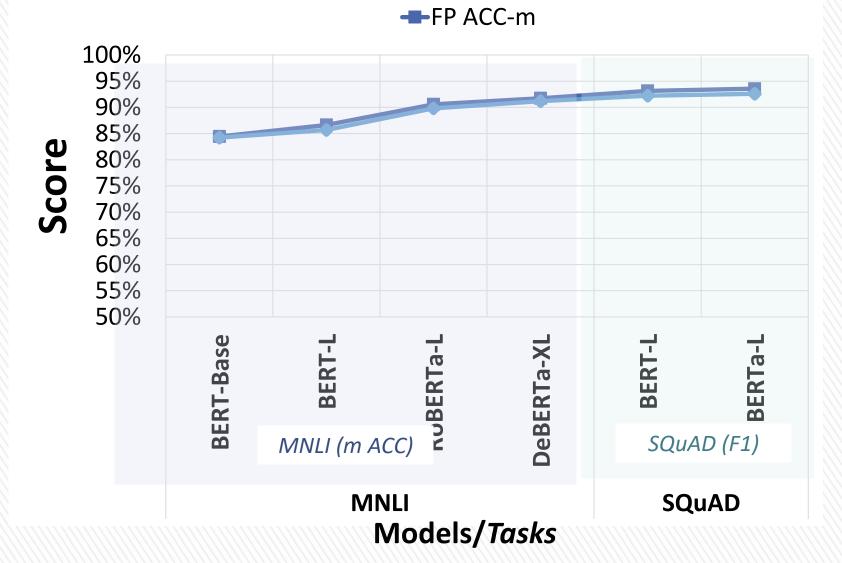
Evaluation



- > FP16 Tensor Cores baseline
- Wide range of on-chip buffers
- ➤ 110M 750M parameter models
- Custom cycle accurate simulator.
 - o DRAMsim3: Dual Channel DDR4-3200
- On-chip Memory: CACTI
- Synthesis: Synopsis Design Compiler
 - o 65nm TSMC 1Ghz
- Layout: Cadence Innovus
- Signal Activity: Modelsim
- Power Estimation: Cadence Innovus



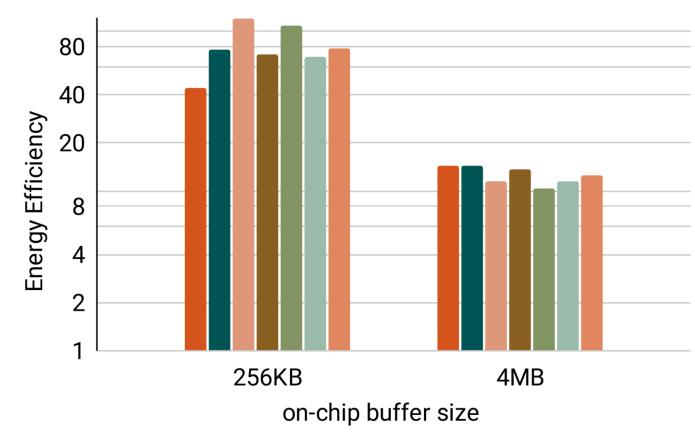






_Base_MNLI _Large_MNLI _Large_SQuAD RTa_Large_MNLI RTa_Large_SQuAD RTa_XL_MNLI

MEAN

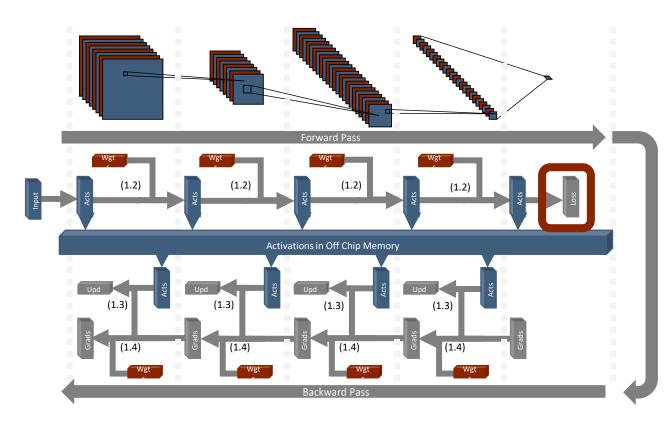


Memory Compression and more in paper ©

Schrödinger's FP Dynamic Adaptation of Floating-Point Containers During Training

Gradient Descent – Overview

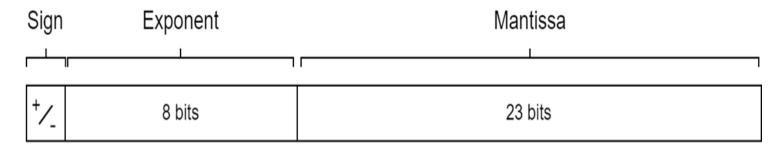
Loss function



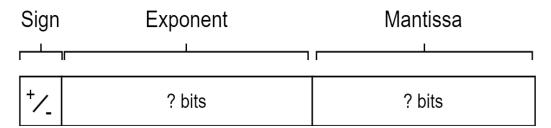
$$w_i^l = w_i^l - LR \times \frac{\partial L}{\partial w_i^l}$$

The Precision Problem

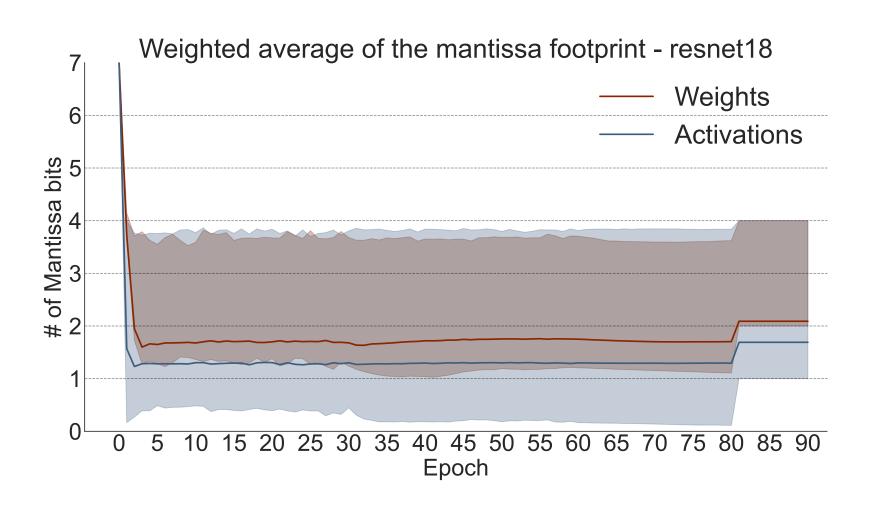
FP32 Data Type



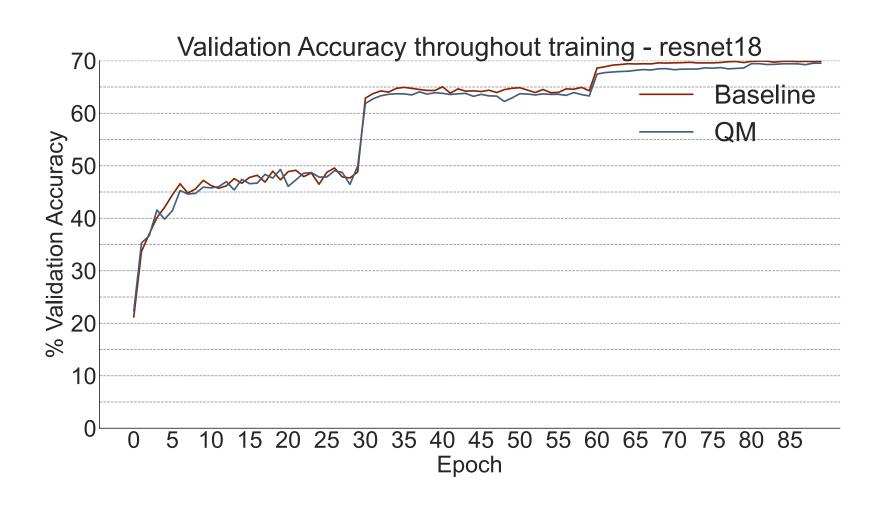
Automatic Data Type



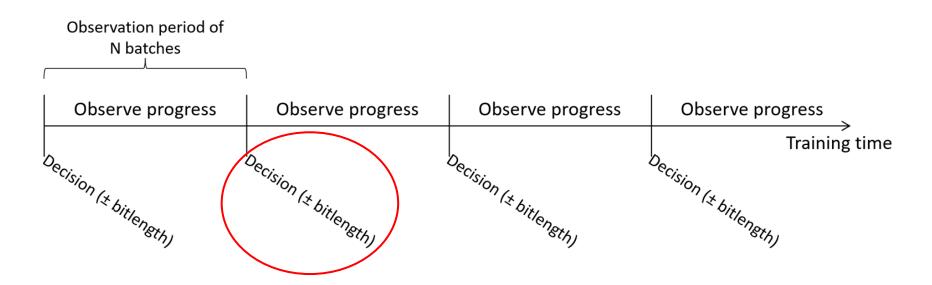
Datatype – Does it work?



Datatype – Does it work?



BitChop



BitChop - Moving Average Policy

Exponential decay factor and dynamic threshold:

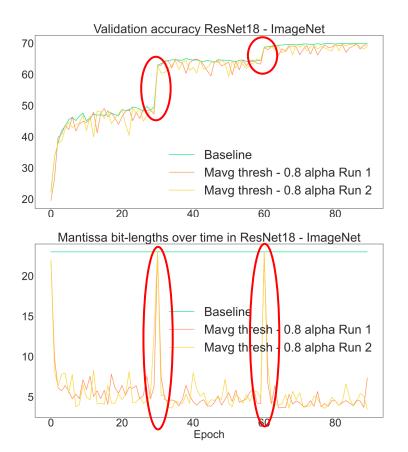
$$Mavg_{i+1} = Mavg_i + \alpha \times (L_i - Mavg_i)$$

- Full precision on learning rate change
- 4 bits mantissa on average
 - Slight volatility in accuracy
- 75% mantissa footprint reduction on average

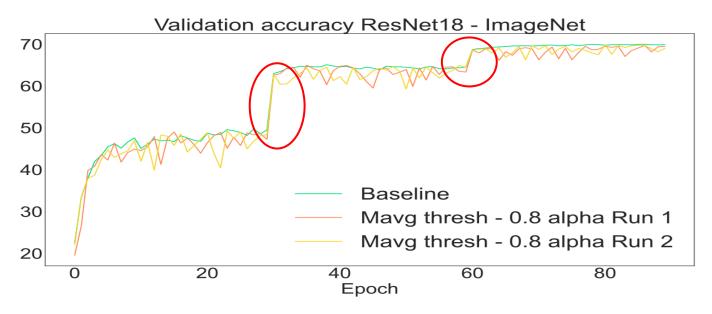
$$ErrAvg_i = \frac{\sum_{n=i-N}^{i-1} \frac{|Mavg_n - L_n|}{L_n}}{N}$$

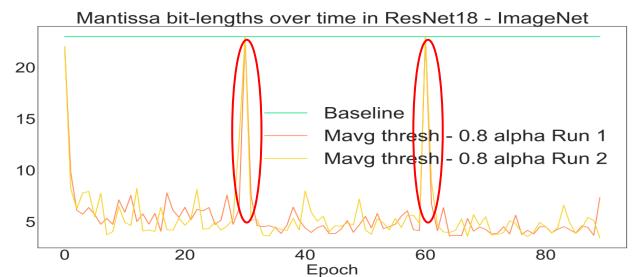
$$\epsilon_i = Mavg_i \times ErrAvg_i$$

$$bitlength_{i+1} = \begin{cases} bitlength_i - 1, & \text{when } Mavg_i > L_i + \epsilon \\ bitlength_i, & \text{when } L_i - \epsilon_i \leq Mavg_i \leq L_i + \epsilon_i \\ bitlength_i + 1, & \text{when } Mavg_i < L_i - \epsilon \end{cases}$$



BitChop - Moving Average Policy





Datatype – Does it work?

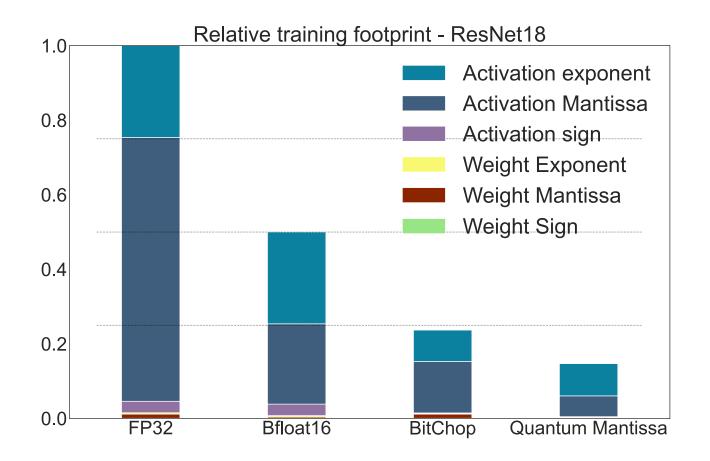


Table 2: Performance and Energy Efficiency gains in comparison w/ FP32

	Performance			Energy Efficiency		
Network	Bfloat 16	$SFP_{\mathbf{Q}M}$	SFP_{BC}	Bfloat 16	SFP_{QM}	SFP_{BC}
ResNet18	$1.53 \times$	$2.30 \times$	$2.09 \times$	2.00×	$6.12 \times$	$4.22 \times$
MobileNet V3 Small	$1.72 \times$	$2.37 \times$	$2.14 \times$	$2.00 \times$	$3.95 \times$	$3.60 \times$

Summary

- HW and SW that improves performance and energy efficiency
- w/o requiring any changes to the models
- Rewards further optimizations
- Apack
- Mokey
- Schrödinger's FP