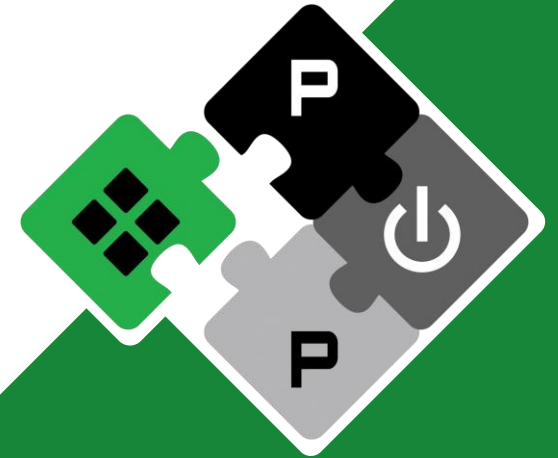


# SoftHier Progress Update

**Chi Zhang**    [chizhang@iis.ee.ethz.ch](mailto:chizhang@iis.ee.ethz.ch)

**PULP Platform**

Open Source Hardware, the way it should be!



@pulp\_platform 

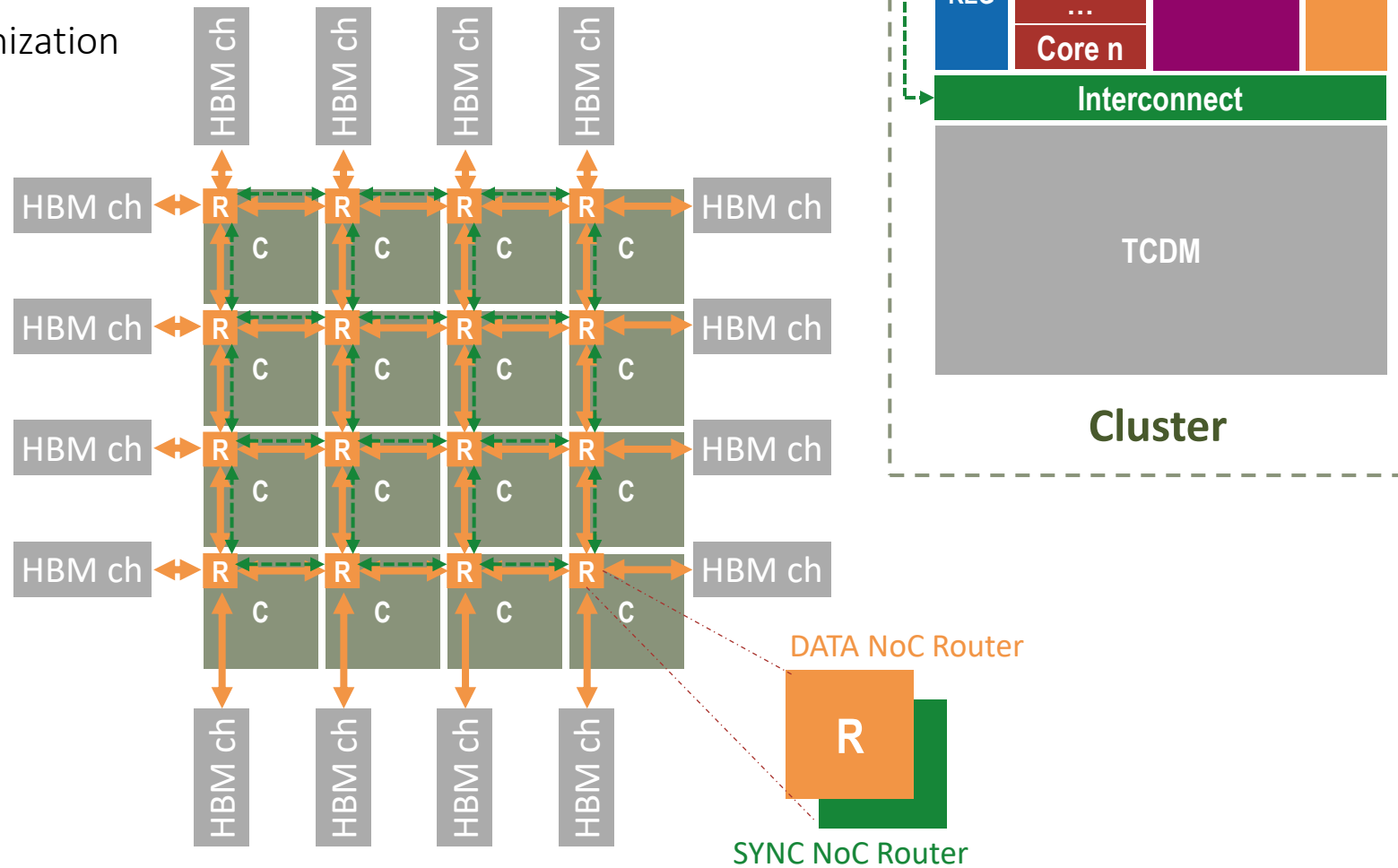
pulp-platform.org 

youtube.com/pulp\_platform 

# SoftHier: Parameterizable NoC-Based Scalable System

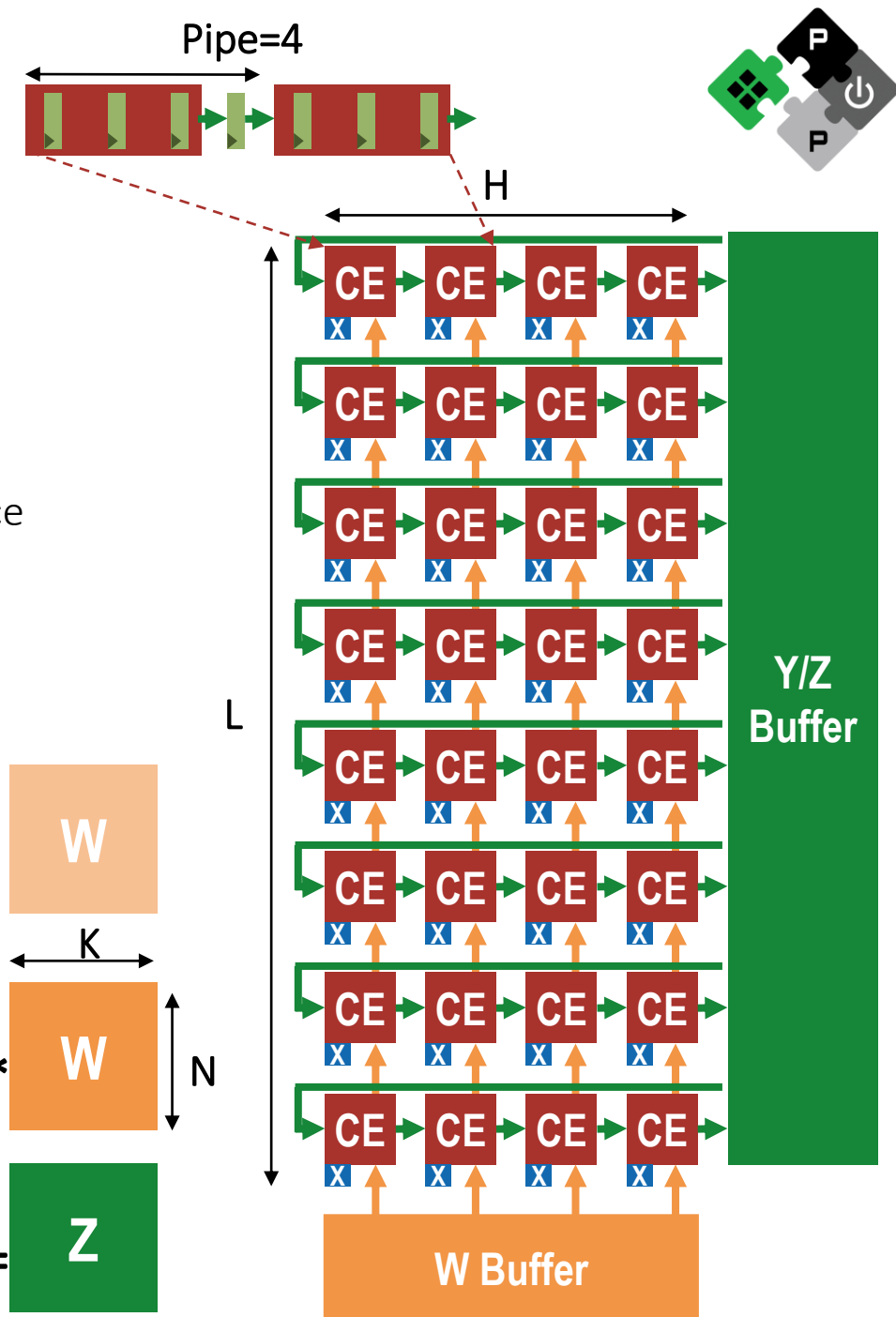
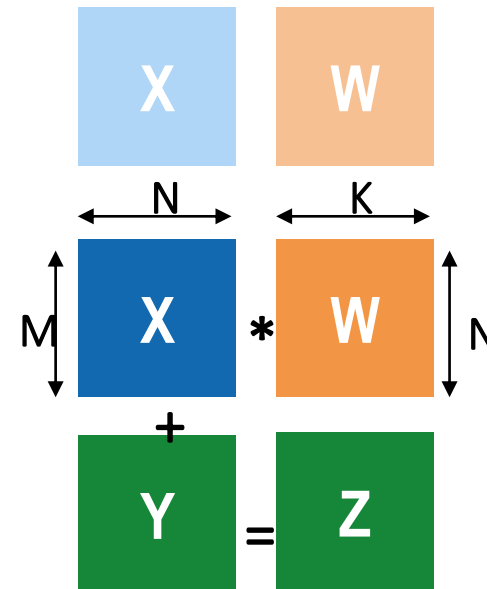


- Features
  - Two separate NoC bus
    - DATA NoC: wide link, transfer bulk data
    - SYNC NoC: narrow link, cluster synchronization
  - Infinite Instruction memory
    - Ignore I\$ fetch overhead
- Fully Parameterizable
  - Configure file and push button
    - #Cores, RedMule config
    - L1 (TCDM) size & BW
    - #Clusters (#row, #col)
    - #HBM channels and placement
    - NoC link BW
- SW stack ready



# Design Space Exploration of RedMule

- Goal: We Want to Know
  - What is **optimal MatMul problem size** (M-N-K) to reach the best efficiency of RedMule in a Cluster: the **Optimal Efficiency Point**
    - When Matrix too small -> low RedMule utilization
    - When Matrix too large -> we introduce large and redundant TCDM space
    - We are seeking for **best MACs/SRAM in a CLuster**
  - What is the BW needed for RedMule at **Optimal Efficiency Point**
- Design Space Exploration Constraints
  - RedMule CE array constraint:  $L = H * \text{Pipe}$ , CE Pipe=4
- Key Metric
  - Efficiency Metric:
 
$$\frac{\text{Effective FLOP/Cycle}}{\text{TCDM Occupied Area}} = \frac{\text{RedMule Utilization} * 2 * \#CEs}{\text{Elem Size} * 2 * (MN + NK + MK)}$$

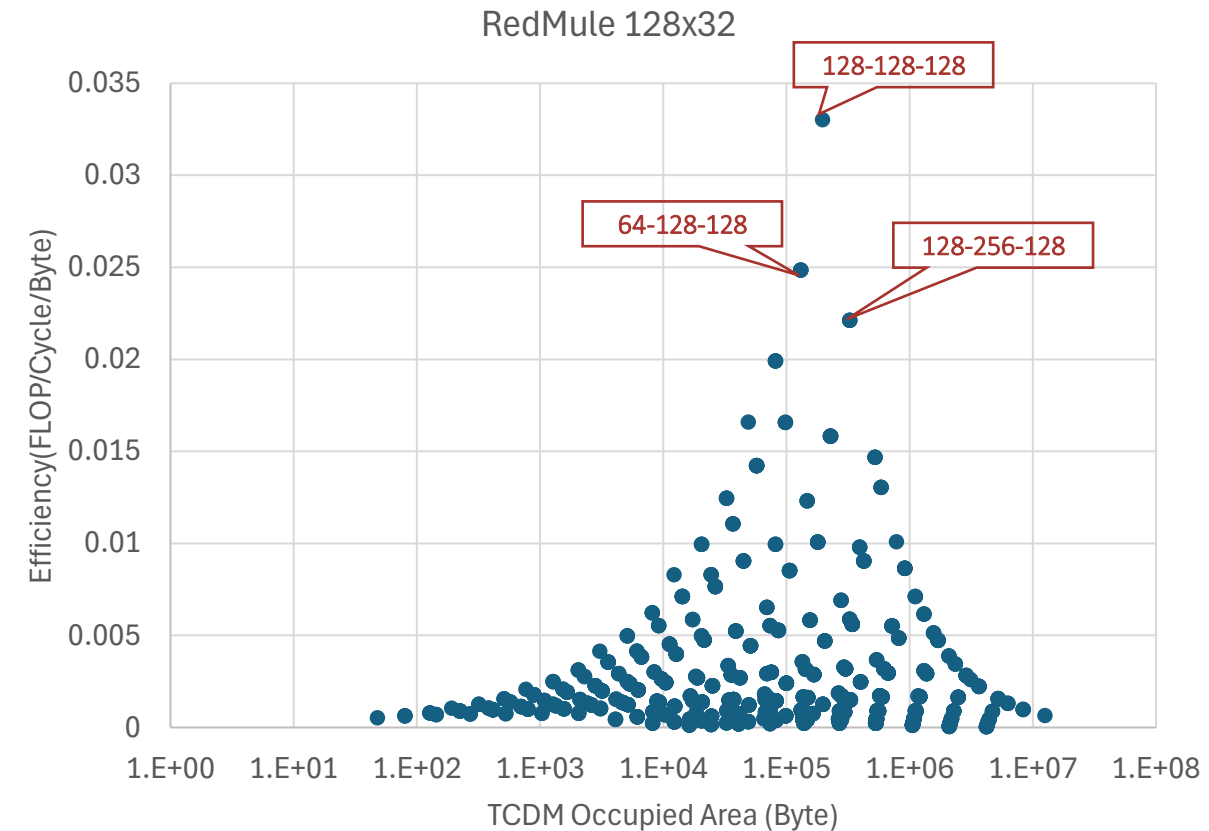


# Find Optimal GEMM Size(M-N-K) for RedMule (@ saturated BW)



- GEMM Dimension
  - $M \in [8, 16, 32, 64, 128, 256, 512]$
  - $N \in [8, 16, 32, 64, 128, 256, 512]$
  - $K \in [8, 16, 32, 64, 128, 256, 512]$
- RedMule Config
  - CE array = 128x32
  - TCDM BW = 1024 Elem/Cycle
  - Element = FP16
- Run GEMM on One Cluster with One RedMule
- Collect Data
  - Efficiency Metric:

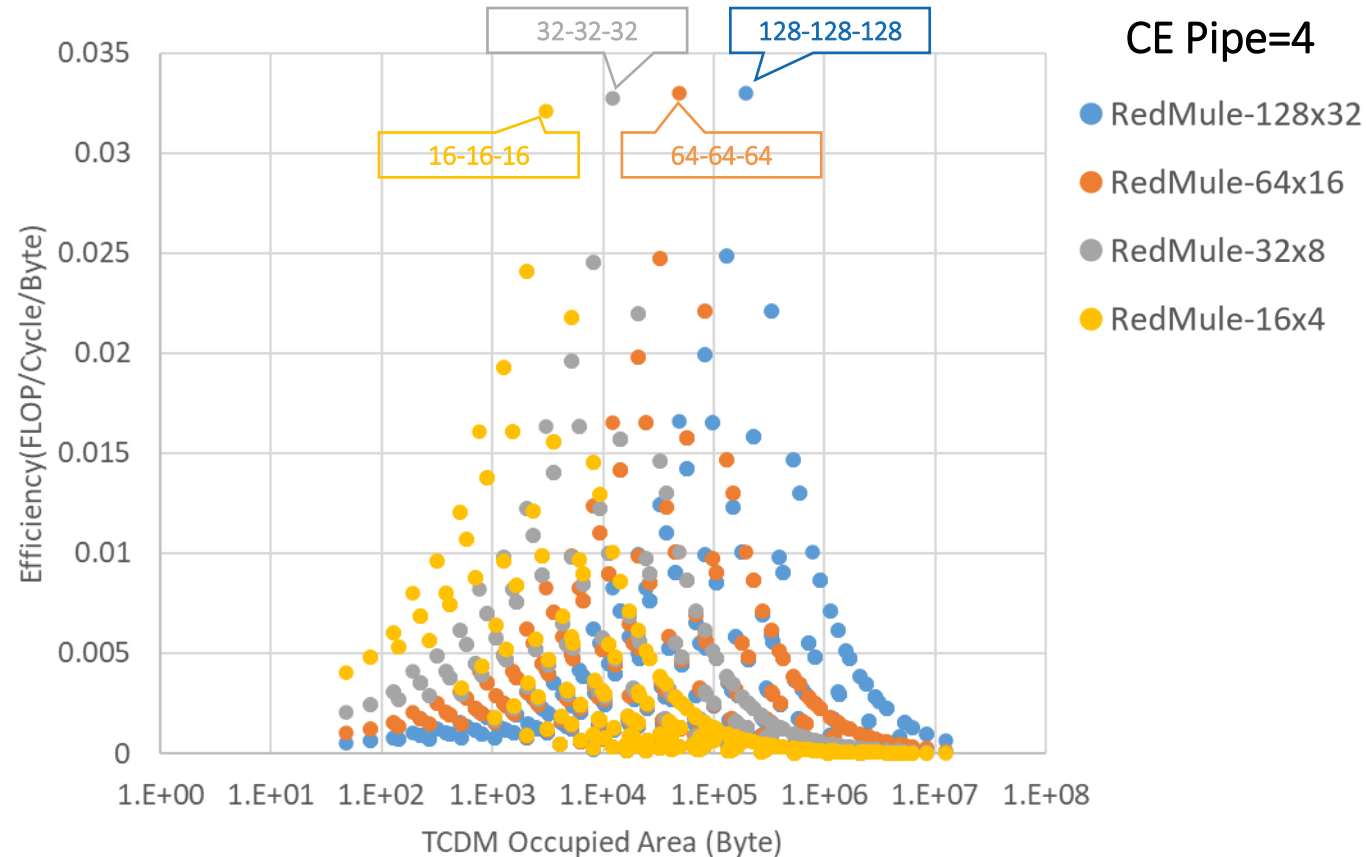
$$\bullet \frac{\text{Effective FLOP/Cycle}}{\text{TCDM Occupied Area}} = \frac{\text{RedMule Utilization} * 2 * \#CEs}{\text{Elem Size} * 2 * (MN + NK + MK)}$$



# Find Optimal GEMM Size (M-N-K) for RedMule (@ saturated BW)



- At RedMule Constraints: CE array constraint:  $L = H * \text{Pipe}$



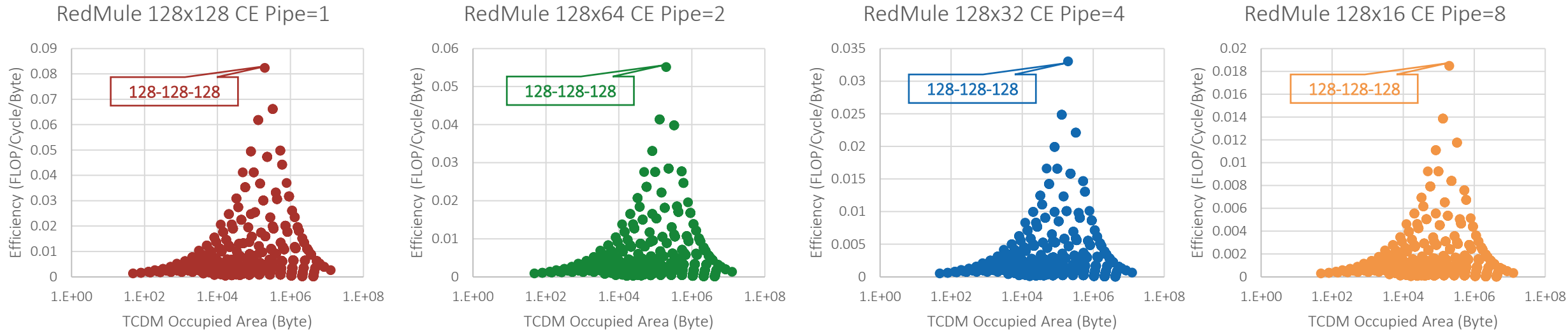
**To use RedMule at best efficiency (Optimal Efficiency Point)**

$$M = N = K = \sqrt{\text{CE array} * \text{CE Pipeline}} = L$$

# Find Optimal GEMM Size (M-N-K) for RedMule (@ saturated BW)



- At RedMule Constraints: CE array constraint:  $L = H * \text{Pipe}$



**To use RedMule at best efficiency (Optimal Efficiency Point)**

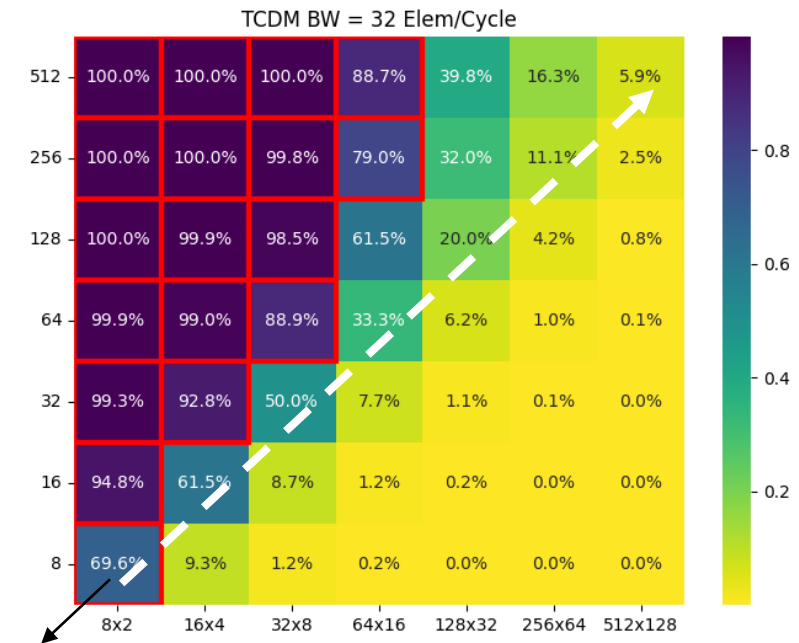
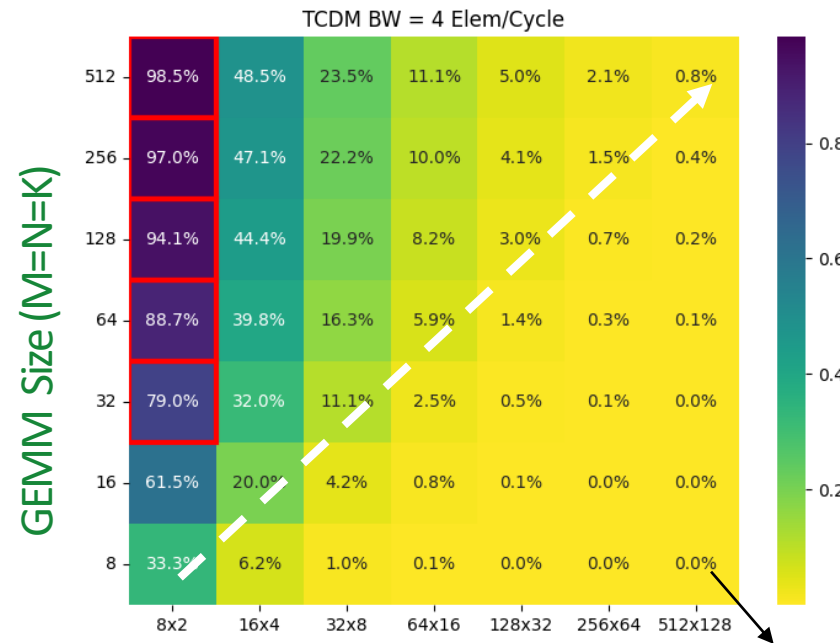
$$M = N = K = \sqrt{CE \text{ array} * CE \text{ Pipeline}} = L$$

# TCDM Bandwidth Requirement

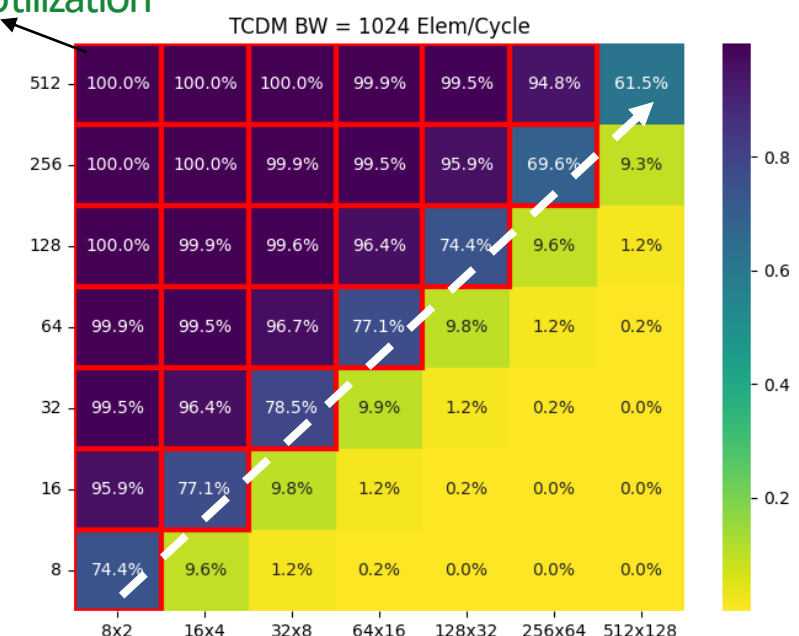
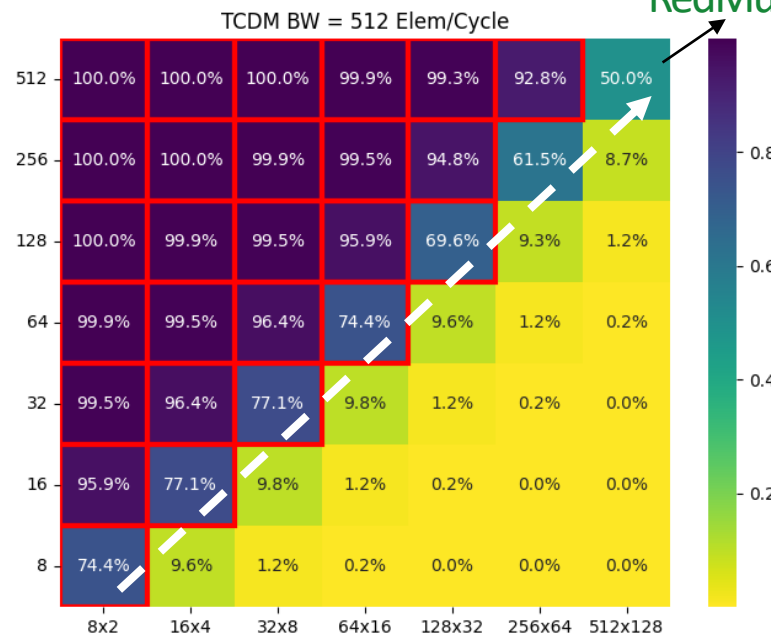
- RedMule Utilization Heatmap
- GEMM Size vs RedMule CE array
- Vary TCDM BW
- We're satisfied at > 69% uti

**To feed RedMule efficiently  
TCDM Bandwidth  
(elem per cycle):**

$$BW \geq 4\sqrt{CE\ array} * CE\ Pipeline = 4L$$



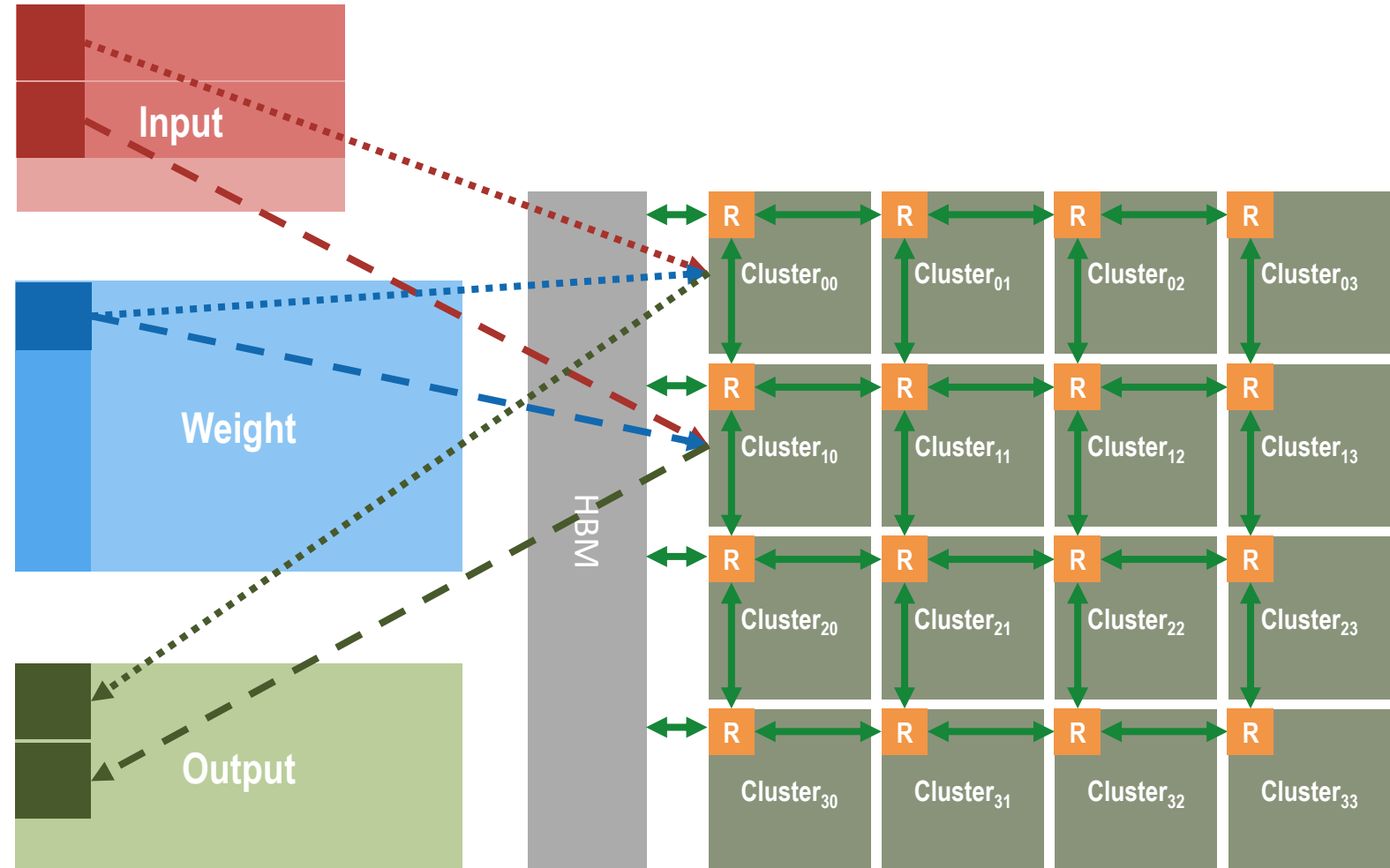
RedMule Utilization



# For Large GEMM: Enable Cluster-to-Cluster Comm or Not?



- No Cluster-to-Cluster Comm.
  - Each clusters take care of different output tiles (384x384).
  - iDMA transfers input matrix tile + weight matrix tile **from HBM**
  - **No inter-cluster tile reuses**

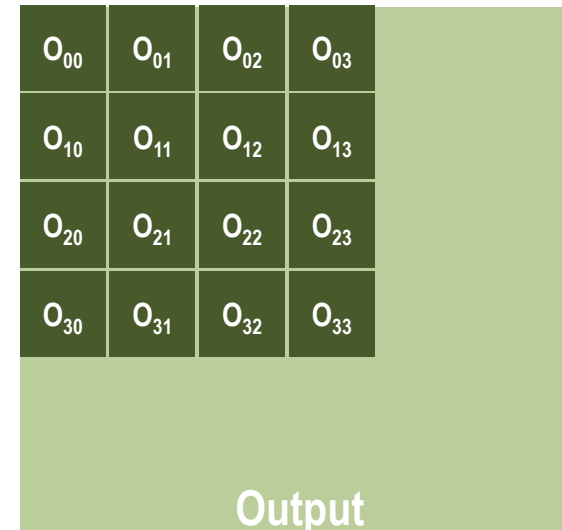
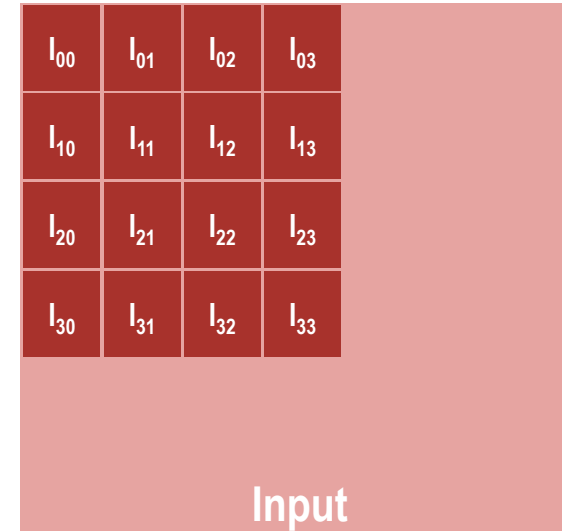
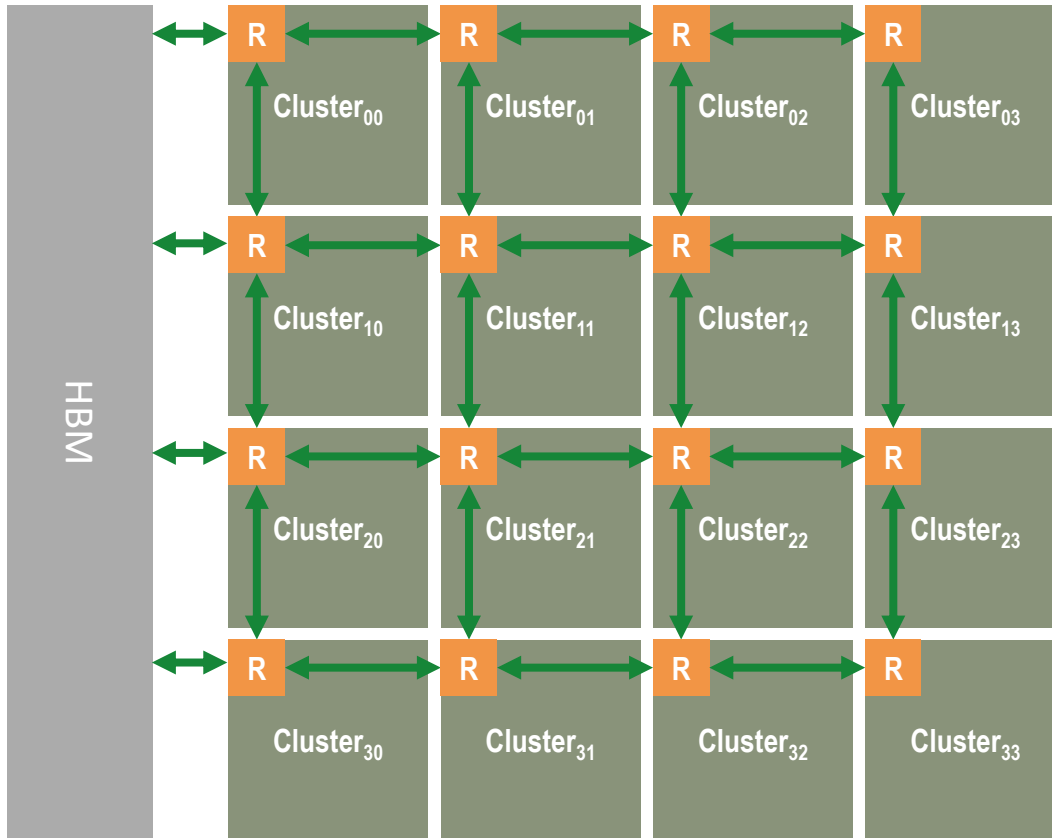




# For Large GEMM: Enable Cluster-to-Cluster Comm or Not?



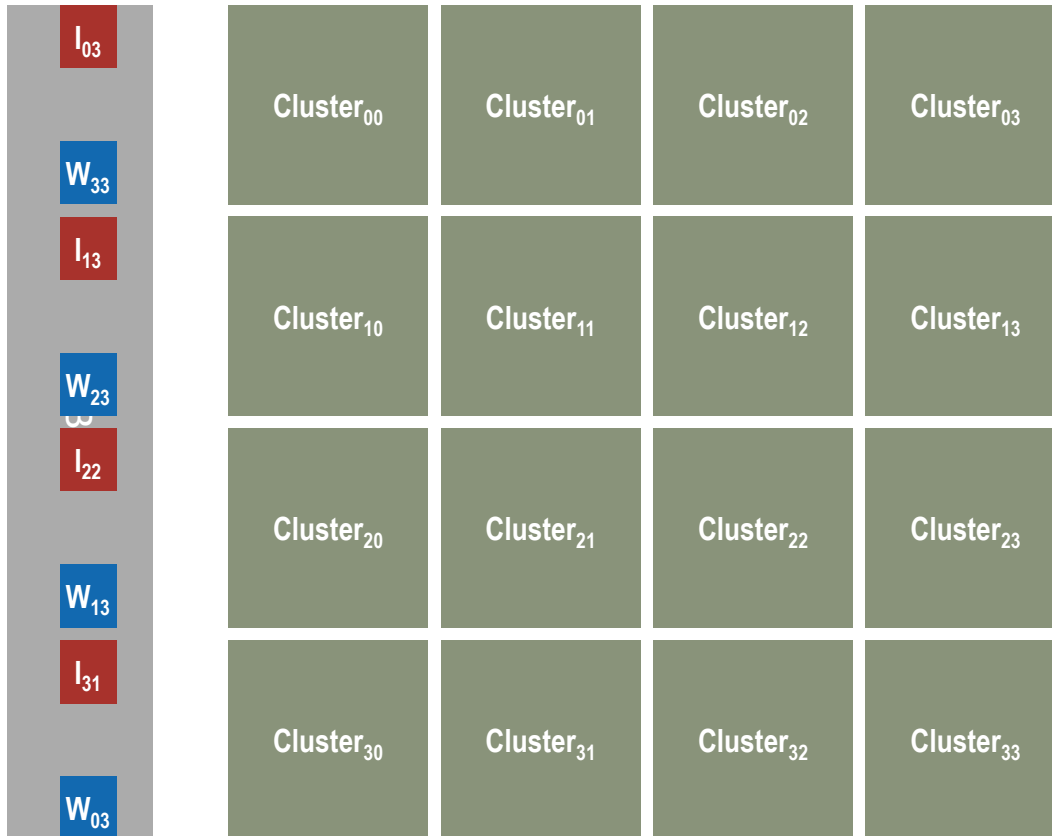
- Leverage Cluster-to-Cluster Comm.
  - Reuse tiles, reduce HBM accesses, save BW limitation
  - Need “smart” tile mapping and scheduling



# Example Solution for GEMM: Step1 Distribute Tiles to Clusters



- Load All (16 Input tiles, 16 weight tiles) from HBM
- Cluster contain different tiles from each other

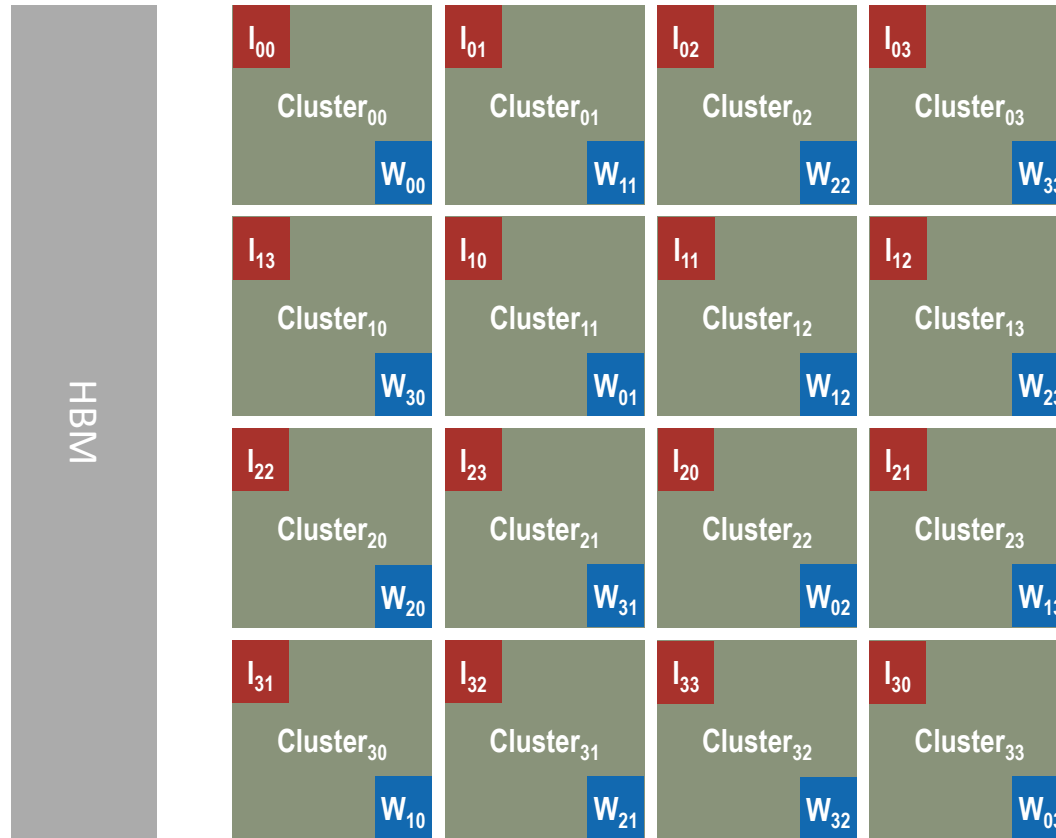


$$\begin{aligned}
 O_{00} &= I_{00} \cdot W_{00} + I_{01} \cdot W_{10} + I_{02} \cdot W_{20} + I_{03} \cdot W_{30} \\
 O_{01} &= I_{00} \cdot W_{01} + I_{01} \cdot W_{11} + I_{02} \cdot W_{21} + I_{03} \cdot W_{31} \\
 O_{02} &= I_{00} \cdot W_{02} + I_{01} \cdot W_{12} + I_{02} \cdot W_{22} + I_{03} \cdot W_{32} \\
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 \end{aligned}$$

# Example Solution for GEMM: Step1 Distribute Tiles to Clusters

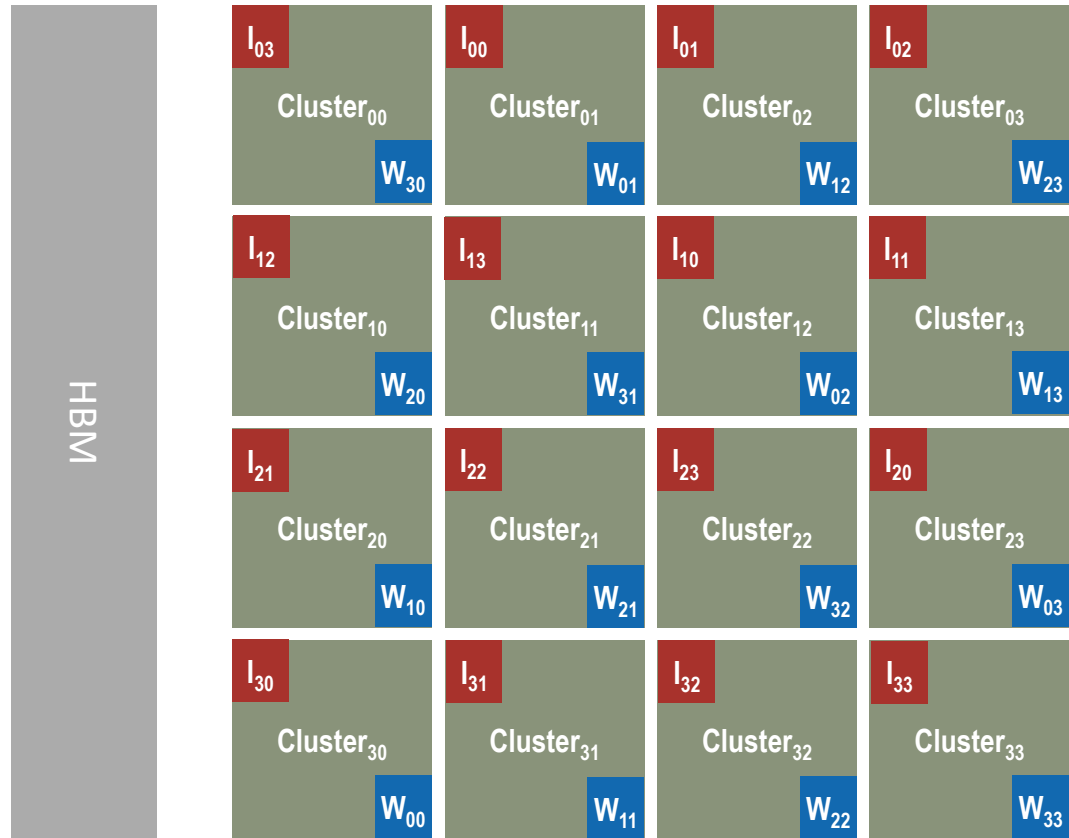


- Load All (16 Input tiles, 16 weight tiles) from HBM
- Cluster contain different tiles from each other



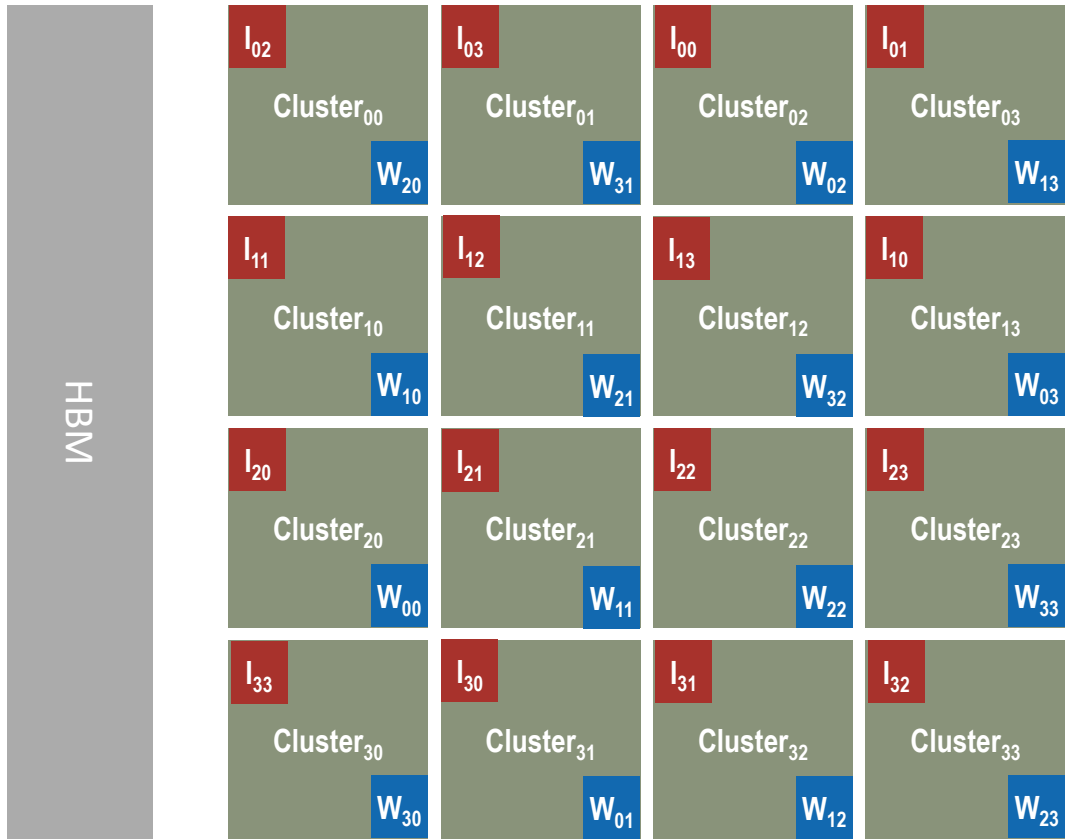
$$\begin{aligned}
 O_{00} &= I_{00} \cdot W_{00} + I_{01} \cdot W_{10} + I_{02} \cdot W_{20} + I_{03} \cdot W_{30} \\
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 O_{02} &= I_{00} \cdot W_{02} + I_{01} \cdot W_{12} + I_{02} \cdot W_{22} + I_{03} \cdot W_{32} \\
 O_{03} &= I_{00} \cdot W_{03} + I_{01} \cdot W_{13} + I_{02} \cdot W_{23} + I_{03} \cdot W_{33} \\
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 O_{30} &= I_{30} \cdot W_{00} + I_{31} \cdot W_{10} + I_{32} \cdot W_{20} + I_{33} \cdot W_{30} \\
 O_{31} &= I_{30} \cdot W_{01} + I_{31} \cdot W_{11} + I_{32} \cdot W_{21} + I_{33} \cdot W_{31} \\
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 O_{33} &= I_{30} \cdot W_{03} + I_{31} \cdot W_{13} + I_{32} \cdot W_{23} + I_{33} \cdot W_{33}
 \end{aligned}$$

# Example Solution for GEMM: Step2 Inter-Cluster Tile Exchanging



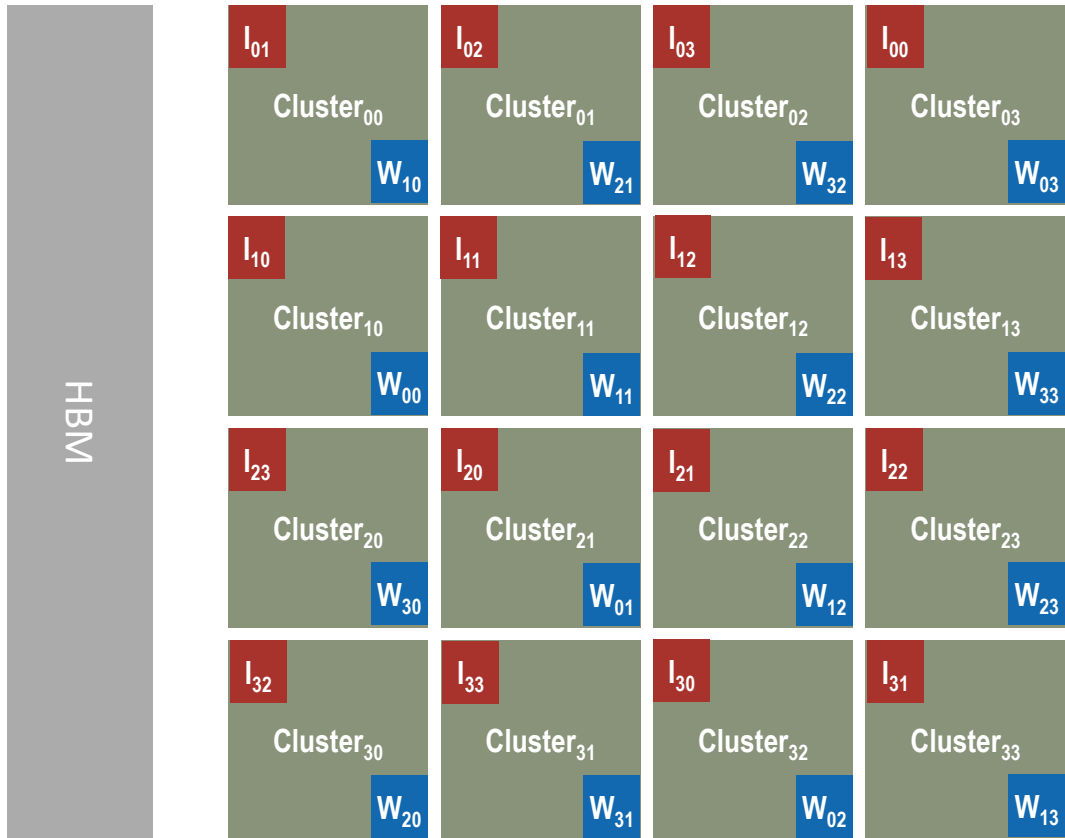
$$\begin{aligned}
 O_{00} &= I_{00} \cdot W_{00} + I_{01} \cdot W_{10} + I_{02} \cdot W_{20} + I_{03} \cdot W_{30} \\
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 O_{02} &= I_{00} \cdot W_{02} + I_{01} \cdot W_{12} + I_{02} \cdot W_{22} + I_{03} \cdot W_{32} \\
 O_{03} &= I_{00} \cdot W_{03} + I_{01} \cdot W_{13} + I_{02} \cdot W_{23} + I_{03} \cdot W_{33} \\
 O_{10} &= I_{10} \cdot W_{00} + I_{11} \cdot W_{10} + I_{12} \cdot W_{20} + I_{13} \cdot W_{30} \\
 O_{11} &= I_{10} \cdot W_{01} + I_{11} \cdot W_{11} + I_{12} \cdot W_{21} + I_{13} \cdot W_{31} \\
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 O_{30} &= I_{30} \cdot W_{00} + I_{31} \cdot W_{10} + I_{32} \cdot W_{20} + I_{33} \cdot W_{30} \\
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 O_{33} &= I_{30} \cdot W_{03} + I_{31} \cdot W_{13} + I_{32} \cdot W_{23} + I_{33} \cdot W_{33}
 \end{aligned}$$

# Example Solution for GEMM: Step2 Inter-Cluster Tile Exchanging



$$\begin{aligned}
 O_{00} &= I_{00} \cdot W_{00} + I_{01} \cdot W_{10} + I_{02} \cdot W_{20} + I_{03} \cdot W_{30} \\
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 O_{30} &= I_{30} \cdot W_{00} + I_{31} \cdot W_{10} + I_{32} \cdot W_{20} + I_{33} \cdot W_{30} \\
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 O_{32} &= I_{30} \cdot W_{02} + I_{31} \cdot W_{12} + I_{32} \cdot W_{22} + I_{33} \cdot W_{32} \\
 O_{33} &= I_{30} \cdot W_{03} + I_{31} \cdot W_{13} + I_{32} \cdot W_{23} + I_{33} \cdot W_{33}
 \end{aligned}$$

# Example Solution for GEMM: Step2 Inter-Cluster Tile Exchanging

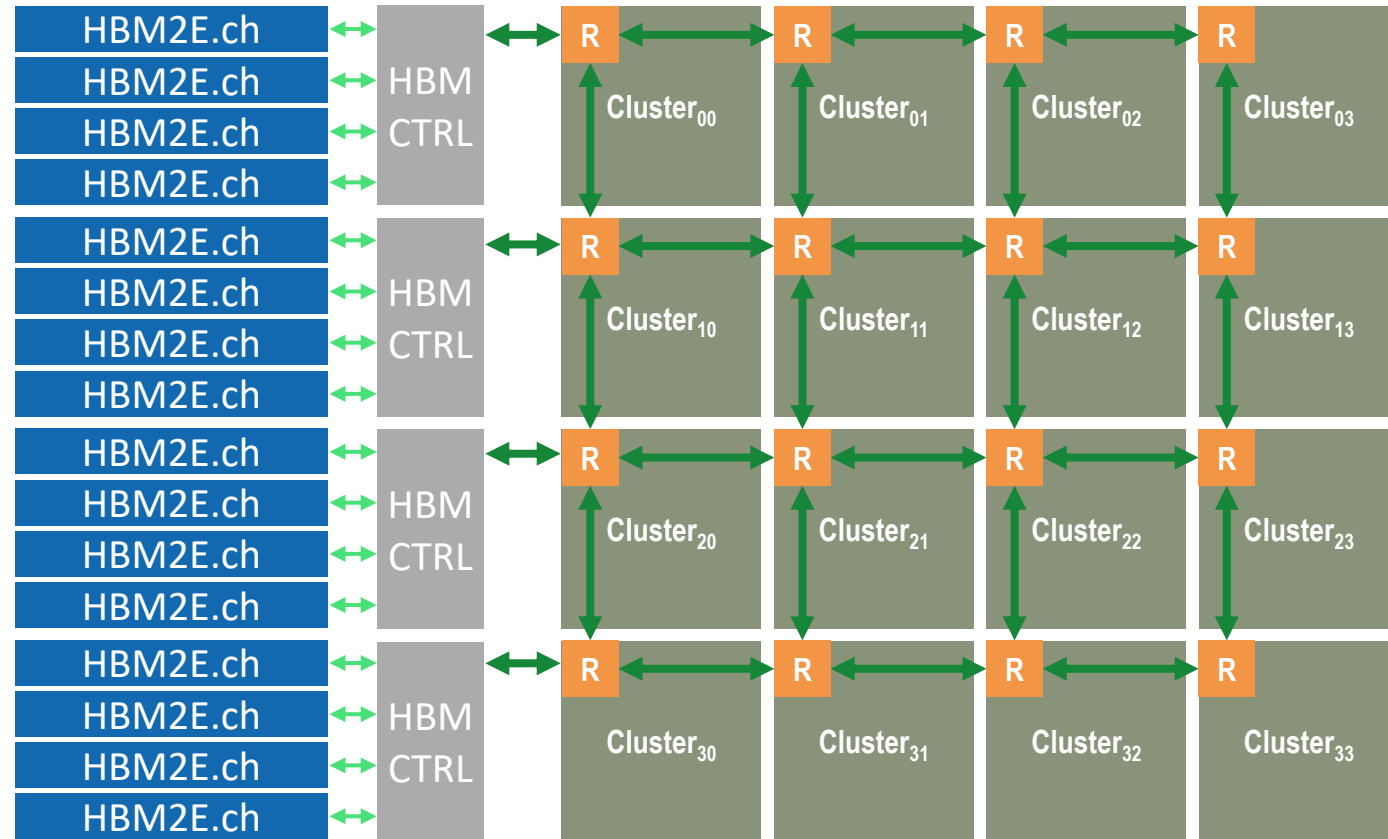


$$\begin{aligned}
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 O_{31} &= I_{30} \cdot W_{01} + I_{31} \cdot W_{11} + I_{32} \cdot W_{21} + I_{33} \cdot W_{31} \\
 O_{32} &= I_{30} \cdot W_{02} + I_{31} \cdot W_{12} + I_{32} \cdot W_{22} + I_{33} \cdot W_{32} \\
 O_{33} &= I_{30} \cdot W_{03} + I_{31} \cdot W_{13} + I_{32} \cdot W_{23} + I_{33} \cdot W_{33}
 \end{aligned}$$

# Experiment Setup: Enable Cluster-to-Cluster Comm or Not?



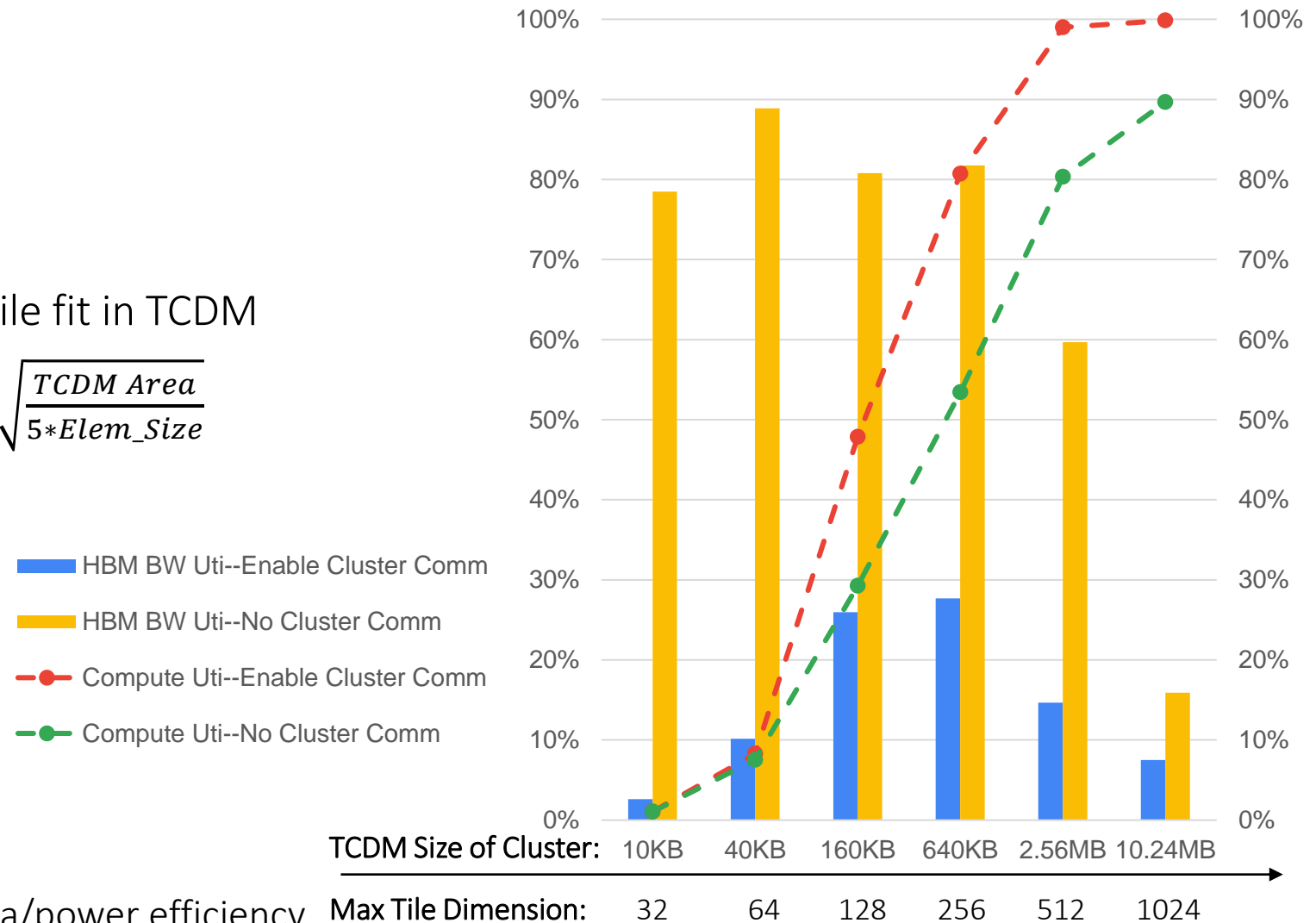
- RedMule
  - Each Cluster has One RedMule
  - RedMule CE array 128x32 (8TFLOPs @1GHz)
  - TCDM BW = 1024 GB/s
- HBM
  - Place HBM on left side
  - Each HBM CTRL manage 4 HBM2E channel
    - 256Byte address interleaving
    - Each HBM CTRL provide Max.BW = 205 GB/s
- NoC
  - Mesh 4x4
  - NoC link width = 2048 bits
    - Link BW = 256GB/s



# Experiment Result: Enable Cluster-to-Cluster Comm or Not?



- Benchmark GEMM
  - 16384 x16384 x16384
  - GEMM Elem Size = FP16
  - RedMule 128x32
- Varying Cluster TCDM Size
  - Tiling strategy: Max possible tile fit in TCDM
    - Tile dimension  $M = N = K = \sqrt{\frac{TCDM\ Area}{5 * Elem\_Size}}$
- Results
  - No inter-cluster comm
    - HBM BW limited
    - Need 4x more TCDM size to saturate compute power
  - Enable inter-cluster comm
    - Reduce HBM traffic, better area/power efficiency

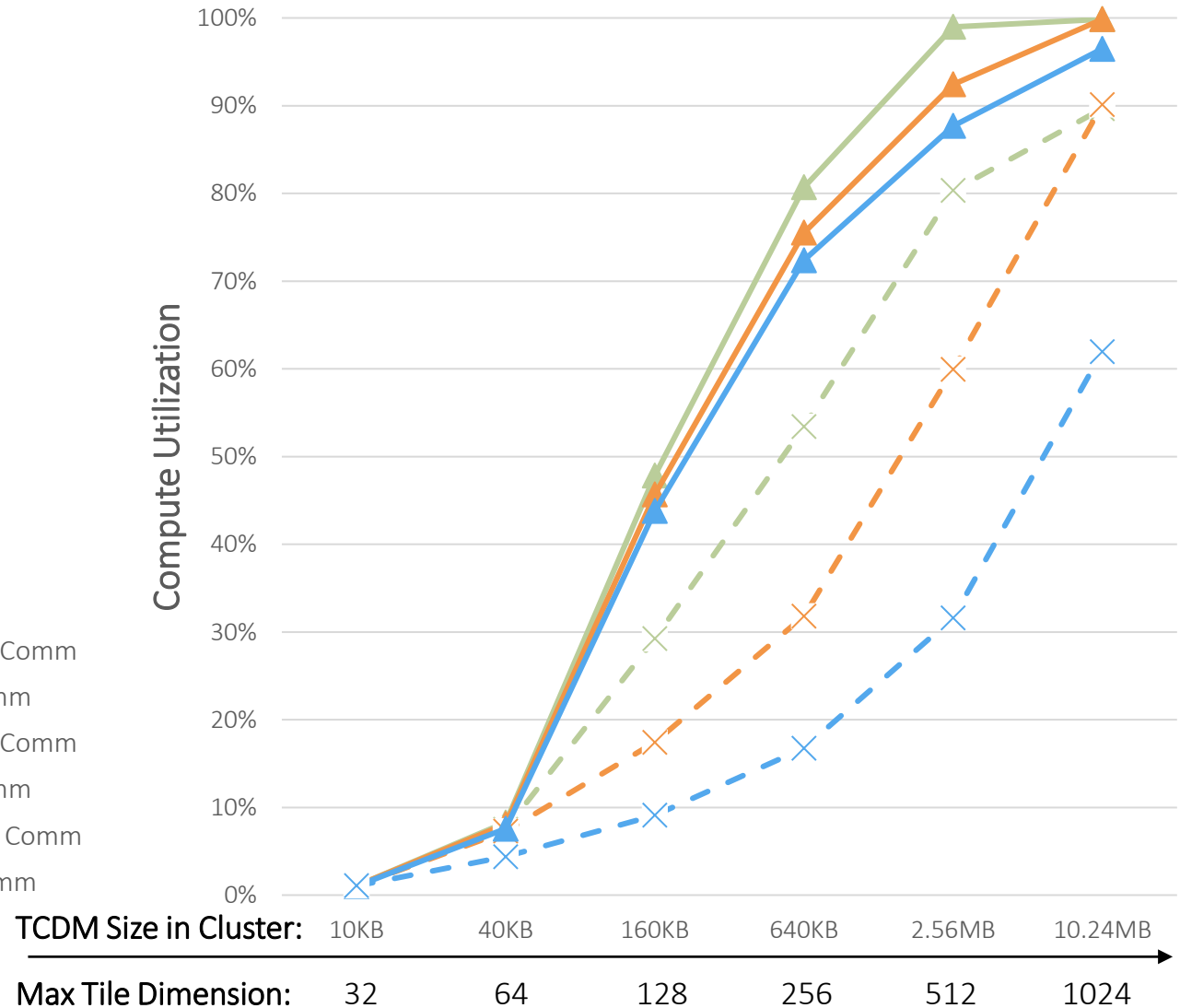
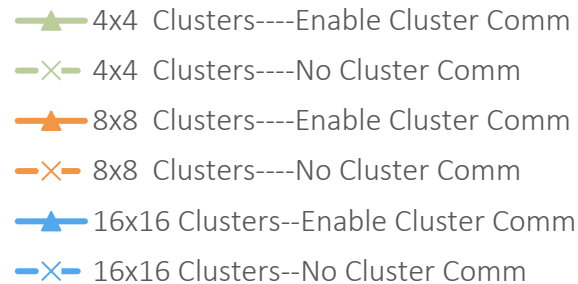




# Enable Cluster-to-Cluster Comm is Scalable



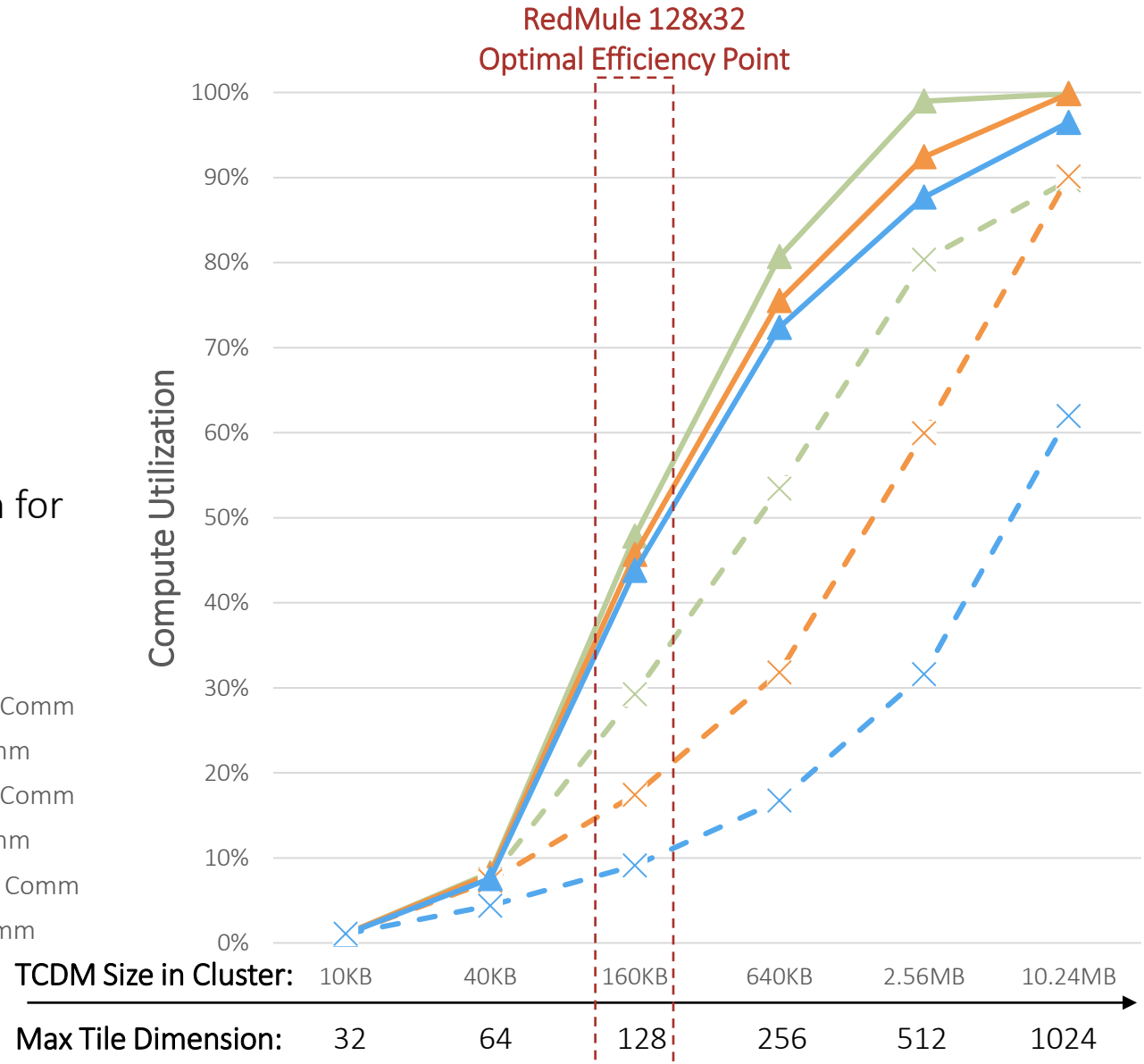
- Benchmark GEMM
  - 16384 x16384 x16384
  - GEMM Elem Size = FP16
  - RedMule 128x32
- Scale-out SoftHier System
  - 4x4 Clusters + 16 HBM2E channels
  - 8x8 Clusters + 32 HBM2E channels
  - 16x16 Clusters + 64 HBM2E channels
    - 2048 TFLOPS @FP16
    - 3.2 TB/s HBM BW



# Further Discussion ...

- New Questions Comes Out
  - @ RedMule optimal efficiency point
    - RedMule in cluster reaches 70% comp uti
    - But end-to-end the system shows 44% uti
    - Why? How can we optimize this?
  - Tile mapping and inter-cluster scheduling scheme
    - Is there any more schemes for large GEMM
    - How can we also leverage inter-cluster comm for MHA?
  - Inter-cluster comm vs multi-broadcasting
    - Which one is better?

—▲— 4x4 Clusters---Enable Cluster Comm  
—X— 4x4 Clusters---No Cluster Comm  
—▲— 8x8 Clusters---Enable Cluster Comm  
—X— 8x8 Clusters---No Cluster Comm  
—▲— 16x16 Clusters--Enable Cluster Comm  
—X— 16x16 Clusters--No Cluster Comm

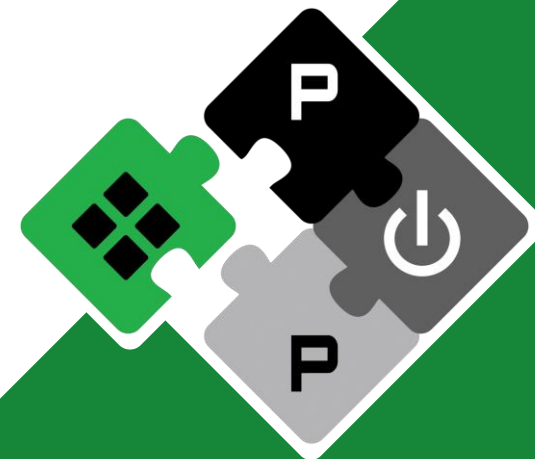


# SoftHier Progress Update

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- Various contributions and bugfixes merged in iDMA
  - Detailed tracer will soon be enabled in Snitch (port to GVSoC pending)
  - Release early next week
- Transposition engine implemented by student overhauled
  - Support for packed SIMD types is still ongoing effort
  - Update in Snitch is ongoing

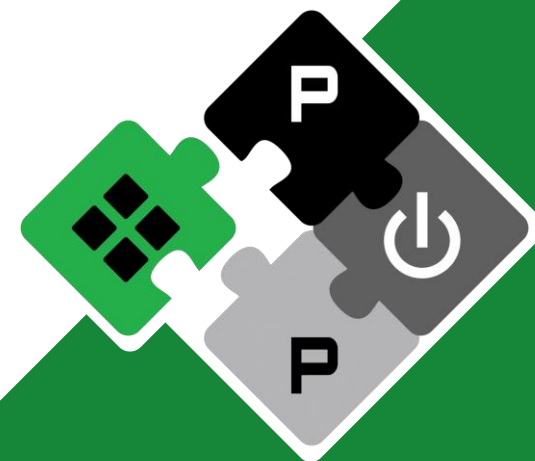
# SoftHier Progress Update

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# Snitch cluster



- A lot of maintenance work:
  - Merged PRs: [#165](#), [#163](#), [#161](#)
  - WIP PRs: [#115](#), [#71](#), [#158](#)
- Implemented MHA and MLP layers for Snitch/Occamy [\[Link\]](#)
  - Work on streamlining data generation functions and scripts, to reuse base layer functions (e.g. GEMM, Layernorm) in composite layers (e.g. MHA, MLP)
  - Set up a proper Python package infrastructure to cross-reference these functions
- WIP on full encoder block