

Team: ParaGatoLabs
GINGER-V:
Taming Genomic Basecalling for the Edge

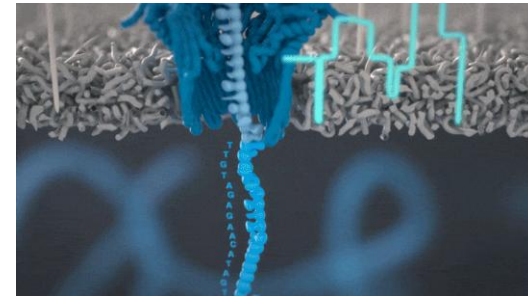


PROBLEM STATEMENT AND APPROACH

- Basecalling decodes nanopore ionic current signals (“squiggles”) into DNA/RNA sequences using DNNs.
- Edge deployments of basecalling require: low power, tight memory budgets, sustained throughput matching signal generation rate.
- Key question:
When and how can genomic basecalling workloads be efficiently executed on FPGAs?

Workload: DNN-based nanopore basecalling models inspired by edge-feasible architectures.

- Acceleration strategy:
 - GEMM-dominant kernels → **RedMule [1] systolic accelerator** (leveraged from prior work)
 - Non-GEMM operations (control, activations, decoding) → **RISC-V core + custom instructions**
- Methodology:
 - Memory- and throughput-driven **design space exploration**.
 - Analyse tiling, memory traffic, and arithmetic intensity.
- Evaluation metric:
 - Sustained inference throughput vs nanopore signal rate (real-time feasibility).



PROGRESS & STATUS

Basecaller model selection



Identifying an edge-feasible CNN-based nanopore basecalling model.

ONNX -> C conversion



Using Deeploy [2] (prior work) for ONNX-to-C compilation for host-side execution.

RISC-V Host + RedMule



Validated heterogeneous execution with CV32E40X RISC-V core orchestrating RedMule GEMMs. (Simulation)

Profiling & Custom Instructions



Profiling non-GEMM kernels to identify candidates for RISC-V ISA extensions.

FPGA Deployment (ZCU104)



Adapting RedMule-based system for FPGA realization and integration.



● **Status:** On track - **accelerator and host validated via simulation**; model integration and FPGA realization in progress.