

Increasing Dynamism in Plasticine

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— Background —

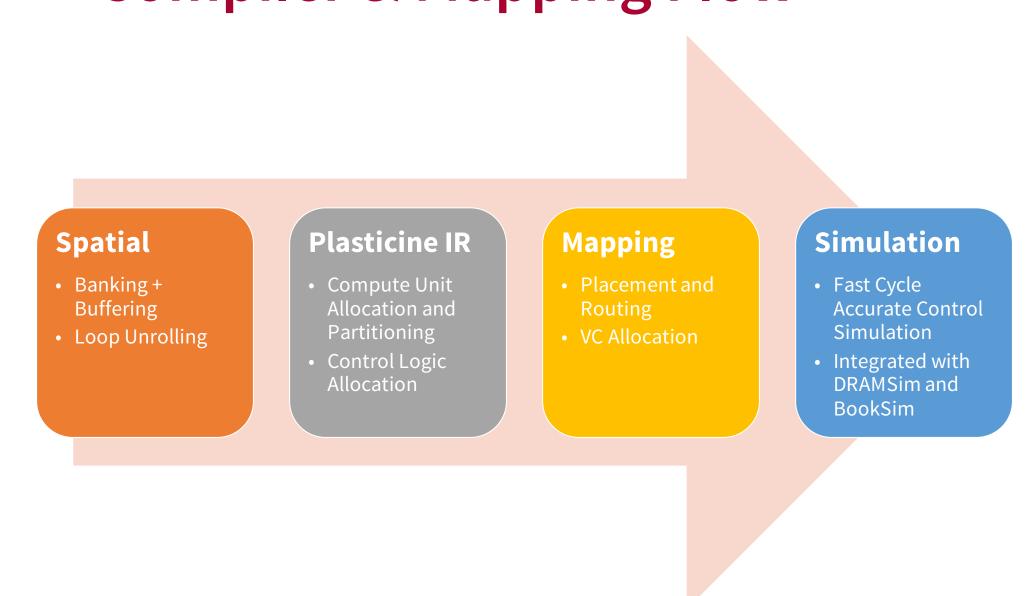
Plasticine is a vector Coarse-Grained Reconfigurable Array:

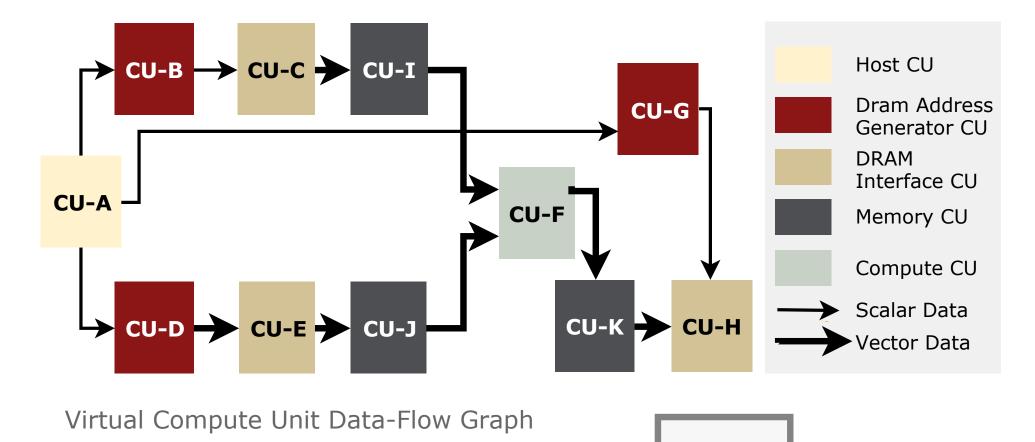
- 6-stage, 16-lane 32-bit floating point SIMD pipelines
- Distributed 256-kByte memories
- Memory controllers support dense and sparse DRAM access

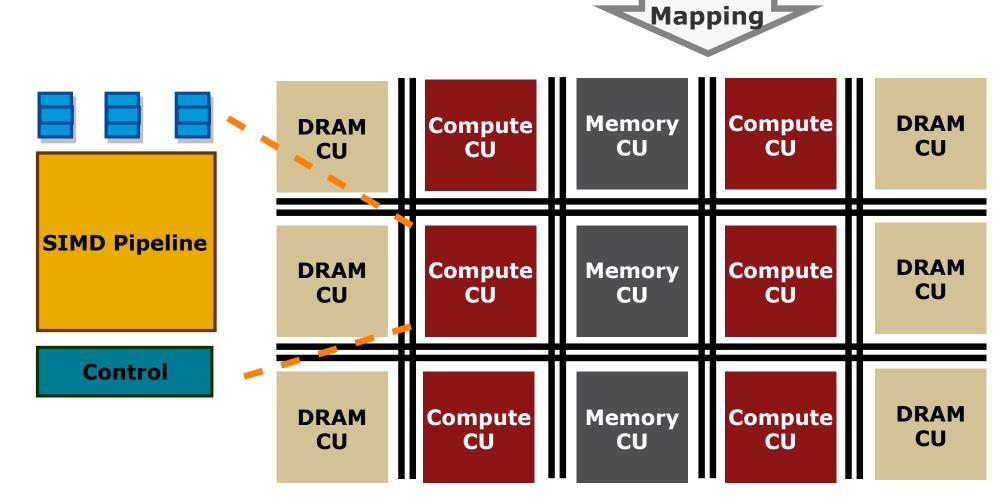
Plasticine demonstrated up to 95x speedup and 77x performance per watt vs. a Stratix V FPGA.

How can we retain Plasticine's performance and efficiency while enabling new applications?

— Compiler & Mapping Flow ———



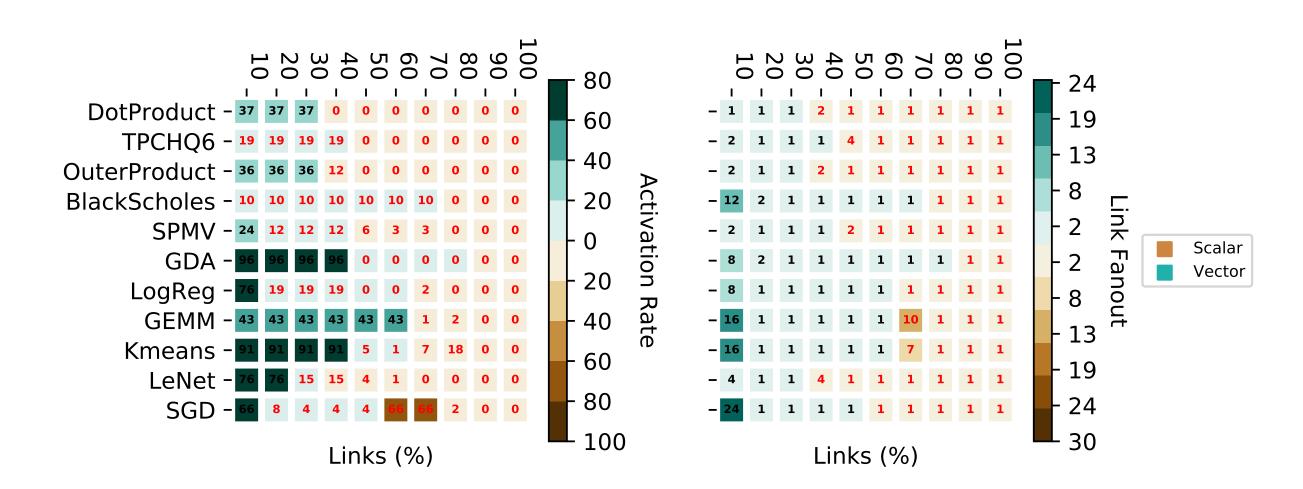




Physical Compute Unit

— Hybrid Networks –

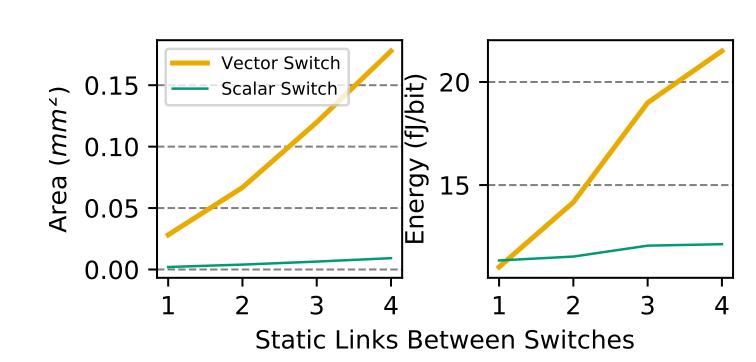
Different applications have different link activation rates and fanouts:



How can we improve link utilization?

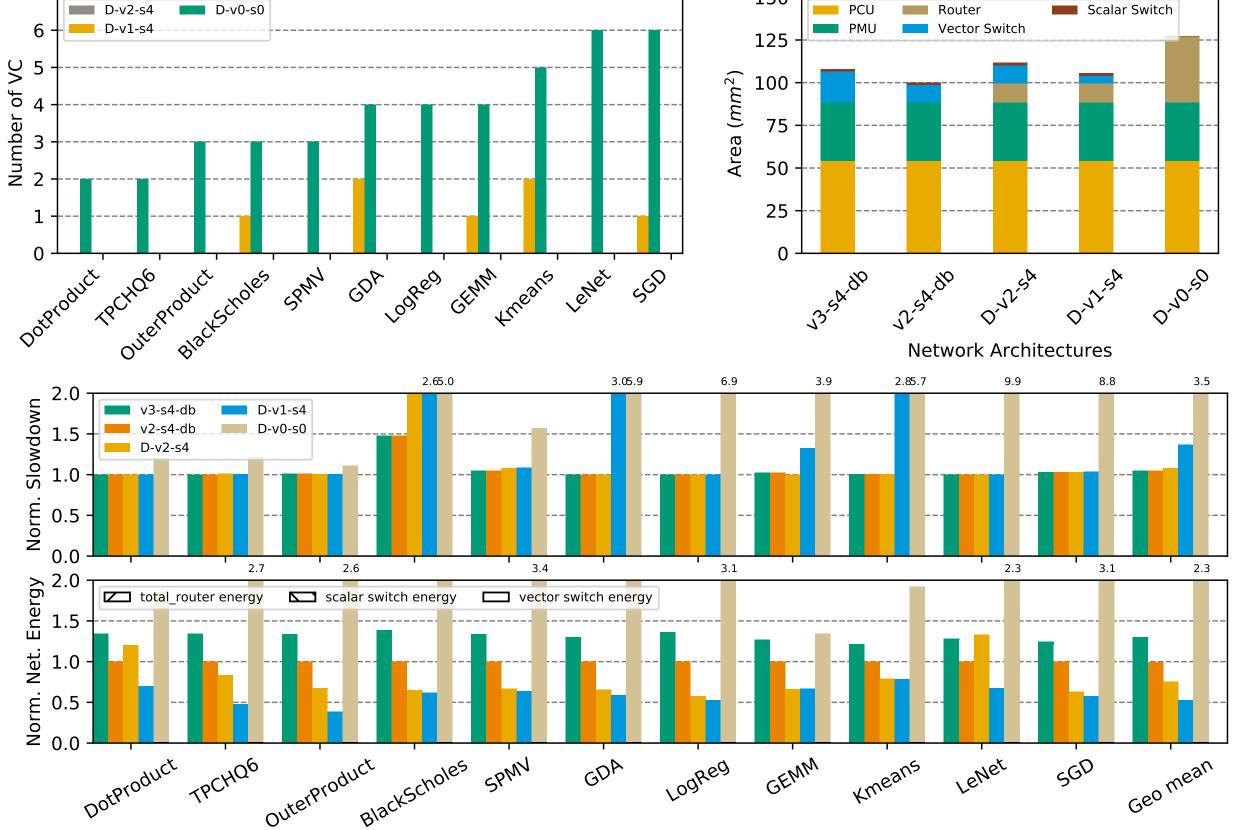
- Use static network for high-bandwidth and broadcast links
- Use dynamic network to encourage link sharing on low-activation links
- Specialize networks at different granularities

Area and energy scaling for switch and router on 28nm technology:



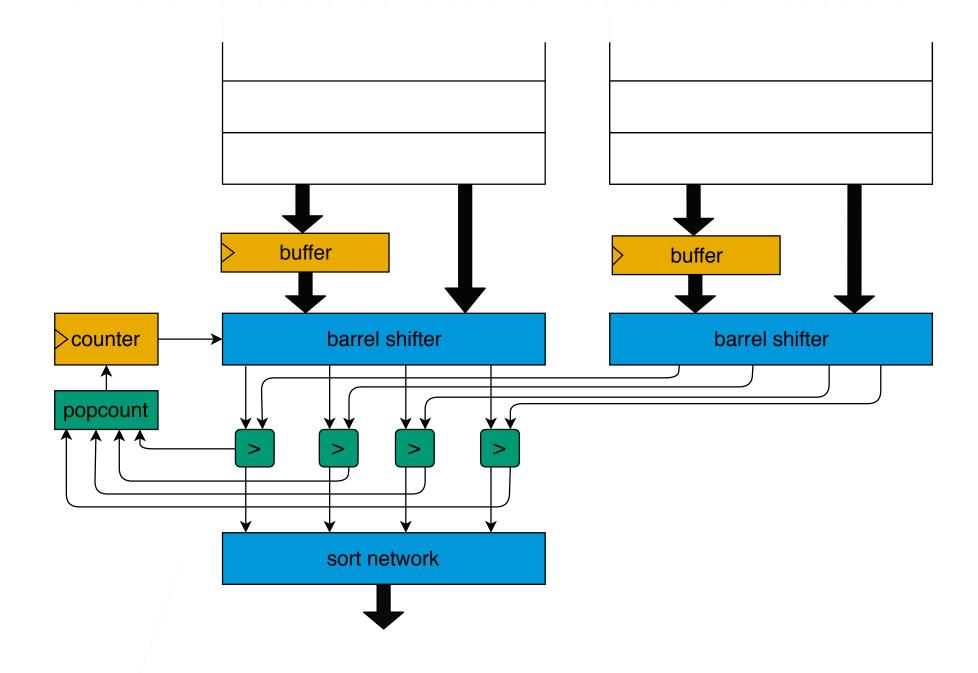
| #VC | Buffer Slots | Area (μm^2) | Energy(fJ/bit) |
|-----|--------------|--------------------|----------------|
| 4 | 2 | 72426.39 | 31.19 |
| 2 | 4 | 70390.01 | 28.44 |
| 4 | 4 | 127695.32 | 36.11 |
| 8 | 4 | 241833.85 | 52.47 |
| | | | |



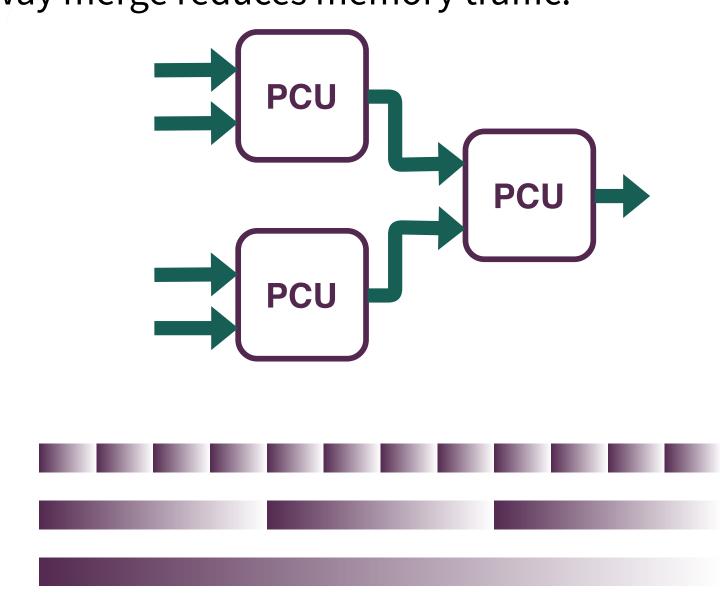


— Future Work —

Minor hardware additions to the PCU to allow fast sort:



Multi-way merge reduces memory traffic:



What's the next class of applications to target?

- Transactional/online applications?
- Streaming data analytics and networking?
- Graph analytics?

What advances will be necessary to target these applications?

Improve achieved density for generic control constructs:

- Data-dependent conditionals
- Finite state machine-based control
- Parsing support
- Support for more complicated data structures