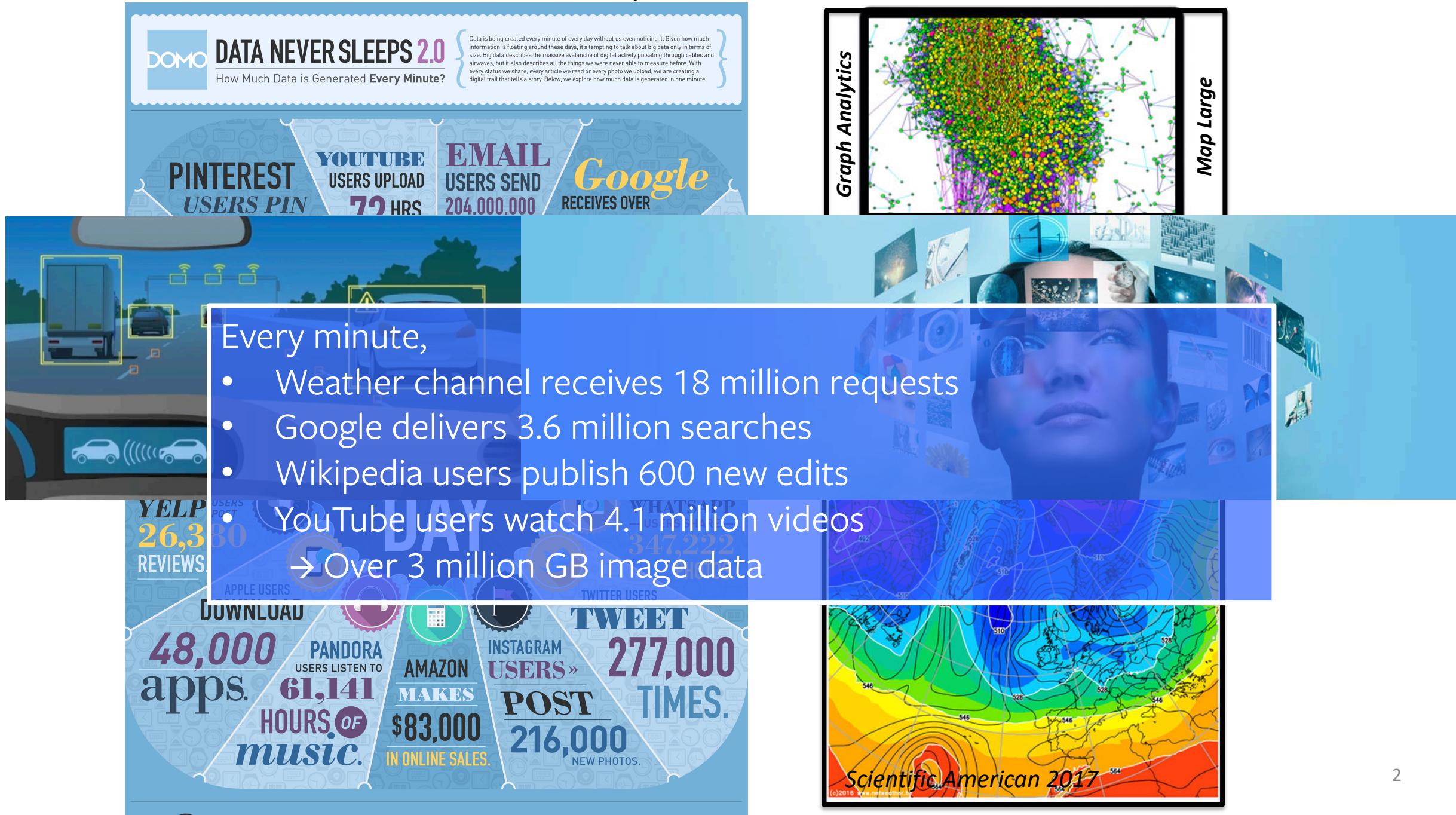


# Machine Learning @ Scale

## Understanding Inference at the Edge

Carole-Jean Wu  
AI INFRA RESEARCH, FACEBOOK

## Mobile Industry News



# Machine Learning at Facebook

**Ranking of posts in news feeds**

**Content understanding**

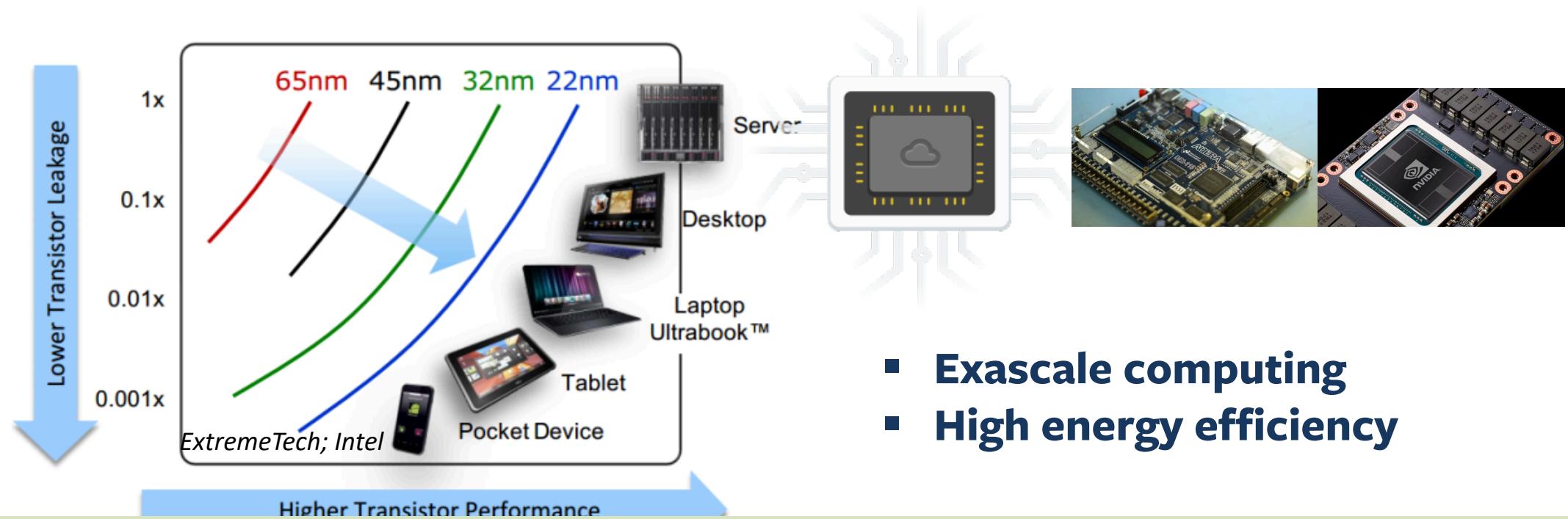
**Object detection, segmentation, and tracking**

**Speech recognition / translation**

**And Many More!**

- Objectionable content detection
- Fraudulent account detection
- Content integrity
- Sentiment analysis

# Deep Learning is Fueling the Hardware Renaissance



- [MICRO-2011] C.-J. Wu, A. Jaleel, M. Martonosi, S. Steely Jr., and J. Emer, “PACMan: Prefetch-Aware Cache Management for High Performance Caching.”
- [MICRO-2011] C.-J. Wu, A. Jaleel, W. Hasenplaugh, M. Martonosi, S. Steely Jr., and J. Emer, “SHiP: Signature-Based Hit Predictor for High Performance Caching.”
- [PACT-2014] S.-Y. Lee and C.-J. Wu, “CAWS: Criticality-Aware Warp Scheduling for GPGPU Workloads.”
- [ISCA-2015] S.-Y. Lee, A. Arunkumar, and C.-J. Wu, “CAWA: Coordinated Warp Scheduling and Cache Prioritization for Critical Warp Acceleration for GPGPU Workloads.”
- [ISCA-2017] A. Arunkumar et al., “MCM-GPU: Multi-Chip-Module GPUs for Continued Performance Scalability.”
- [HPCA-2018] A. Arunkumar, S.-Y. Lee, V. Soundararajan, and C.-J. Wu, “LATTE-CC: Latency Tolerance Aware Adaptive Cache Compression Management for Energy Efficient GPUs.”
- [HPCA-2019] A. Arunkumar, E. Bolotin, D. Nellans, and C.-J. Wu, “Understanding the Future of Energy Efficiency in Multi-Module GPUs.”

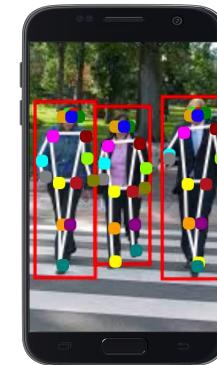
# From Cloud to the Edge

- Minimizing network bandwidth
- Reducing response latency
- Improving user data privacy
- Exploiting features available only at the edge



*Keypoints  
Segmentation*

*Augmented Reality  
with Smart Camera*

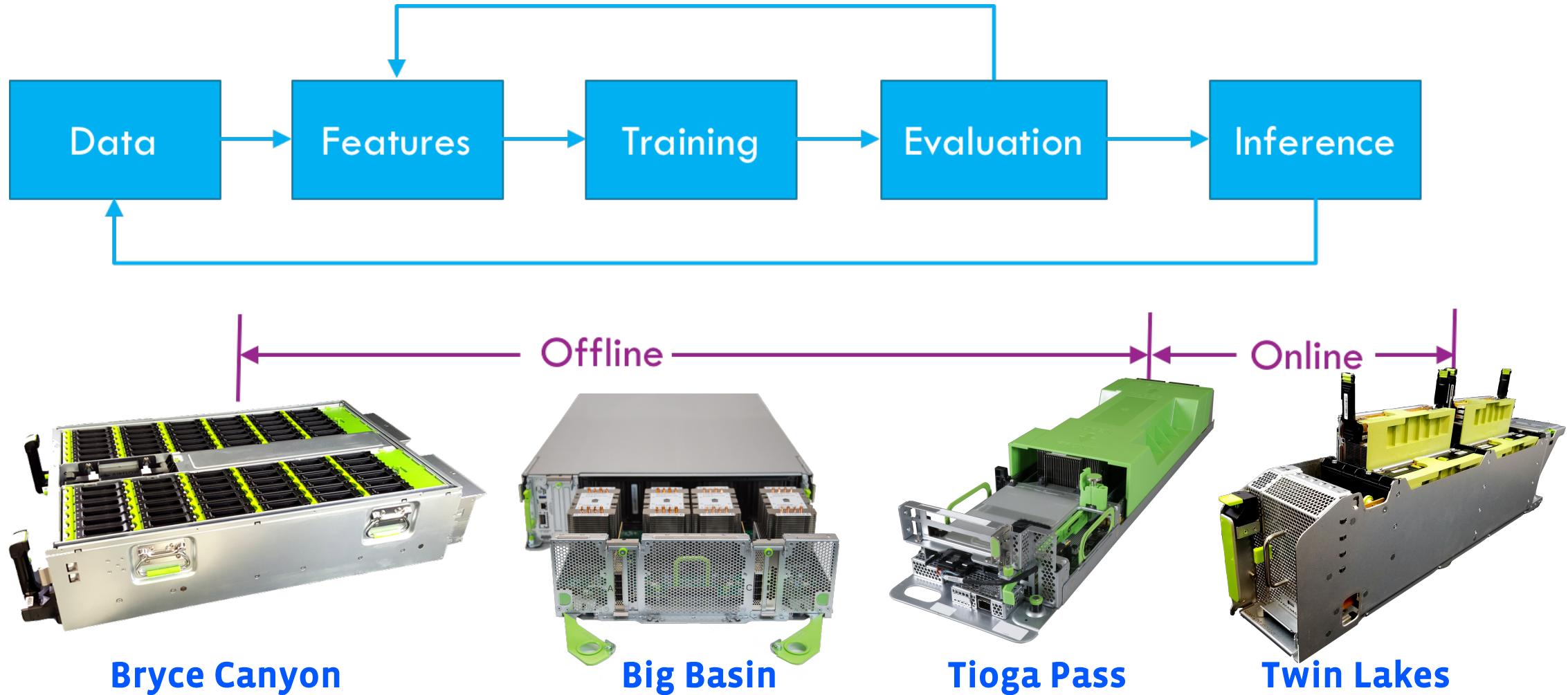


K. Hazelwood et al., “Applied Machine Learning at Facebook: A Datacenter Infrastructure Perspective”, HPCA 2018.

C.-J. Wu et al., “Machine Learning at Facebook: Understanding Inference at the Edge”, HPCA 2019.



# Facebook Machine Learning Execution Flow



# What We Are Doing at AI Infrastructure Research

## Applied Machine Learning at Facebook: A Datacenter Infrastructure Perspective

Kim Hazelwood, Sarah Bird, David Brooks, Soumith Chintala, Utku Diril, Dmytro Dzhulgakov,  
Mohamed Fawzy, Bill Jia, Yangqing Jia, Aditya Kalro, James Law, Kevin Lee, Jason Lu,  
Pieter Noordhuis, Misha Smelyanskiy, Liang Xiong, Xiaodong Wang

[Hazelwood, HPCA'18]

*Facebook. Inc.*

## Machine Learning at Facebook: Understanding Inference at the Edge

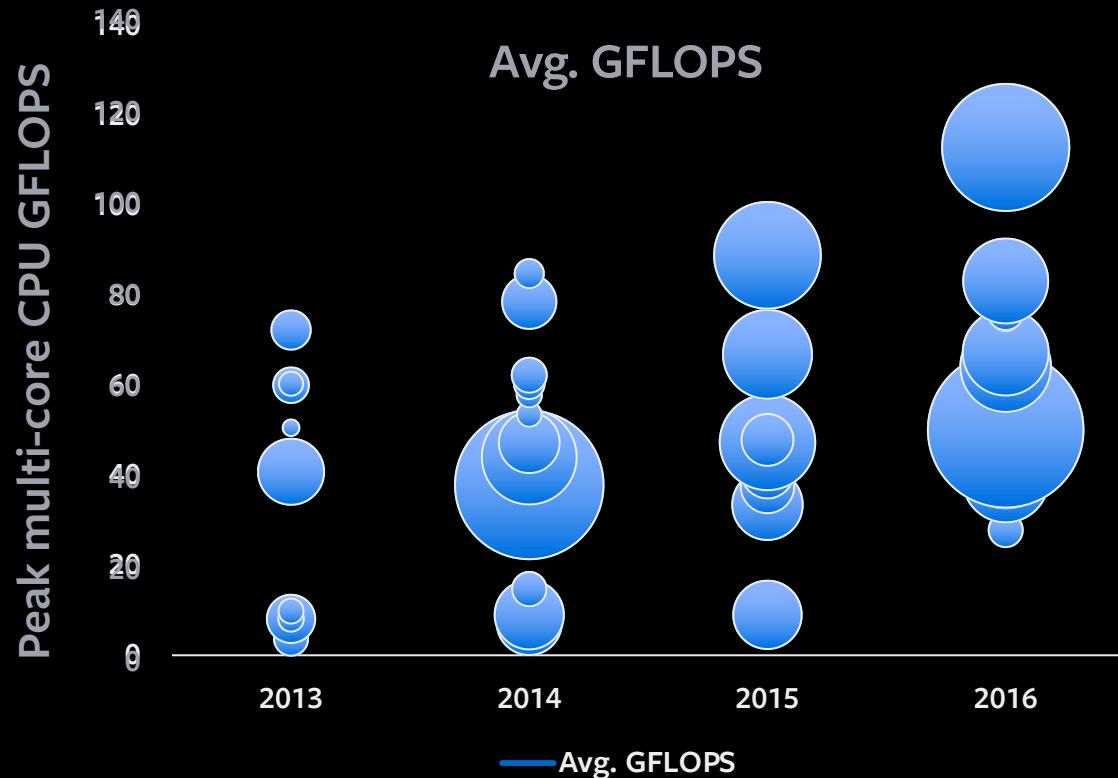
Carole-Jean Wu, David Brooks, Kevin Chen, Douglas Chen, Sy Choudhury, Marat Dukhan,  
Kim Hazelwood, Eldad Isaac, Yangqing Jia, Bill Jia, Tommer Leyvand, Hao Lu, Yang Lu, Lin Qiao,  
Brandon Reagen, Joe Spisak, Fei Sun, Andrew Tulloch, Peter Vajda, Xiaodong Wang,  
Yanghan Wang, Bram Wasti, Yiming Wu, Ran Xian, Sungjoo Yoo\*, Peizhao Zhang

Facebook, Inc.

[Wu, HPCA'19]

# Unique Challenges for Edge Inference

- | Feature-rich edge inference is enabled by the ever increasing mobile performance
- | Increasing core counts leads to theoretical peak performance increase. But, when looking at the entire ecosystem, the **theoretical peak performance is a widespread**.



DELIVERING CONSISTENT INFERENCE PERFORMANCE IS CHALLENGING



# Unique Challenges for Edge Inference

The **Diversity of Mobile Hardware and Software is Not Found in the Controlled Datacenter Environment.**

2 MAJOR MOBILE OS | 3 MAJOR GRAPHICS APIs | 20+ MAJOR CHIPSET VENDORS | 20+ MAJOR CPU UARCH | 10+ MAJOR GPU UARCH



How do we optimize  
system designs for  
real-time ML  
inference?

FRAGMENTED SMARTPHONE ECOSYSTEM POSES UNIQUE CHALLENGES FOR EDGE INFERENCE



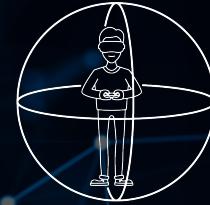
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Machine Learning @ FB  
& Unique Challenges for  
Edge Inference



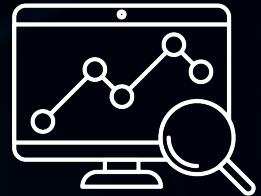
Lay of the Land:  
Closer Look at  
Smartphones that FB  
Runs on



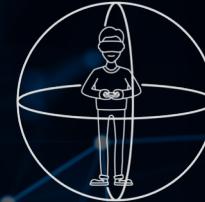
Horizontal Integration:  
Making Inference on  
Smartphones



Vertical Integration:  
Processing Inference for  
Oculus VR



Inference in the Wild:  
Performance  
Variability



Introduction:  
Machine Learning @ FB  
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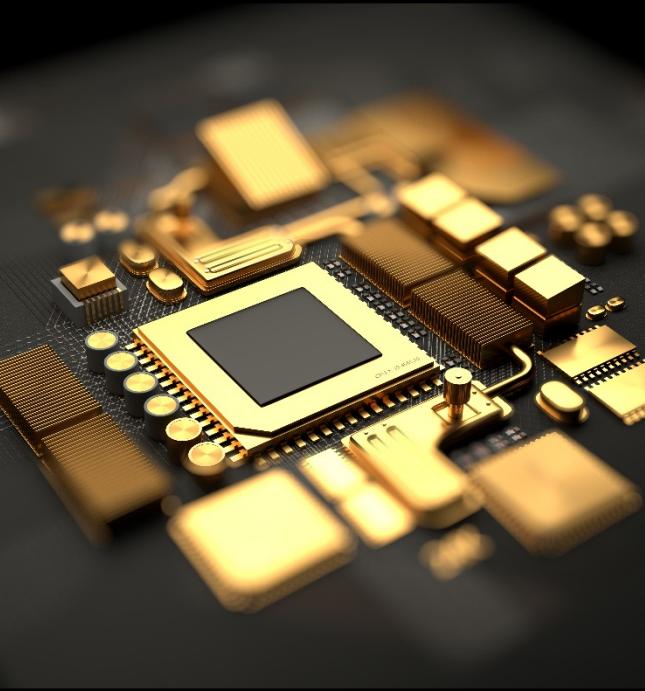
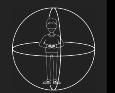
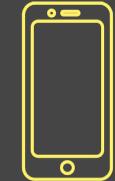
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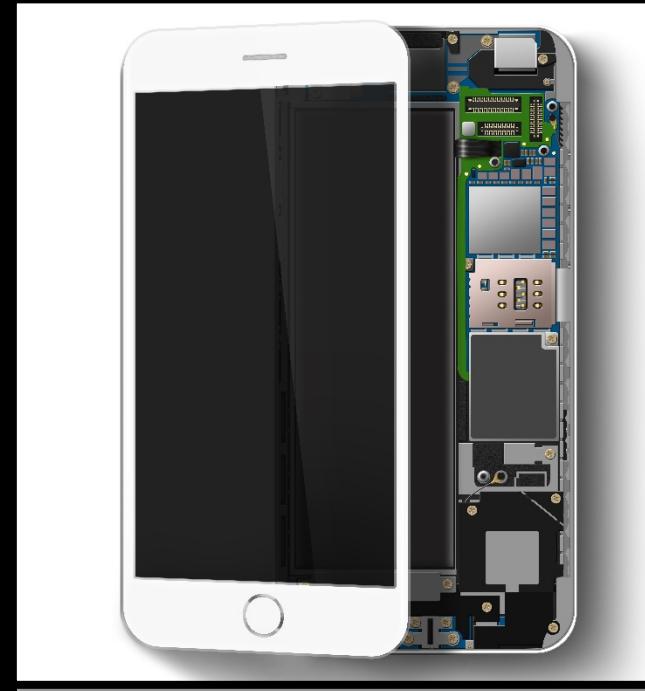
Inference in the Wild:  
Performance  
Variability

# What is Challenging for Mobile Inference?



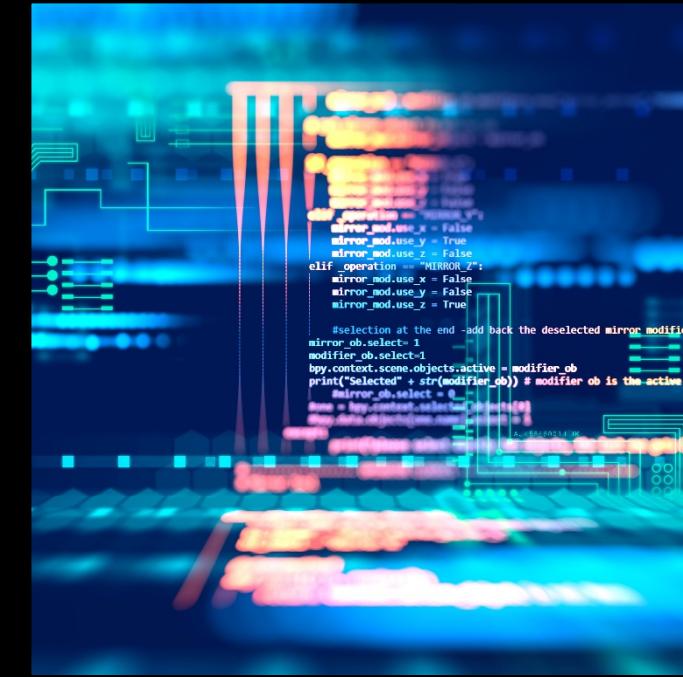
## Fragmentation

There is no standard mobile SoC  
to optimize for.  
Mobile CPUs Show Little Diversity



## Performance

The Performance Difference  
between a Mobile CPU and GPU is  
Narrow



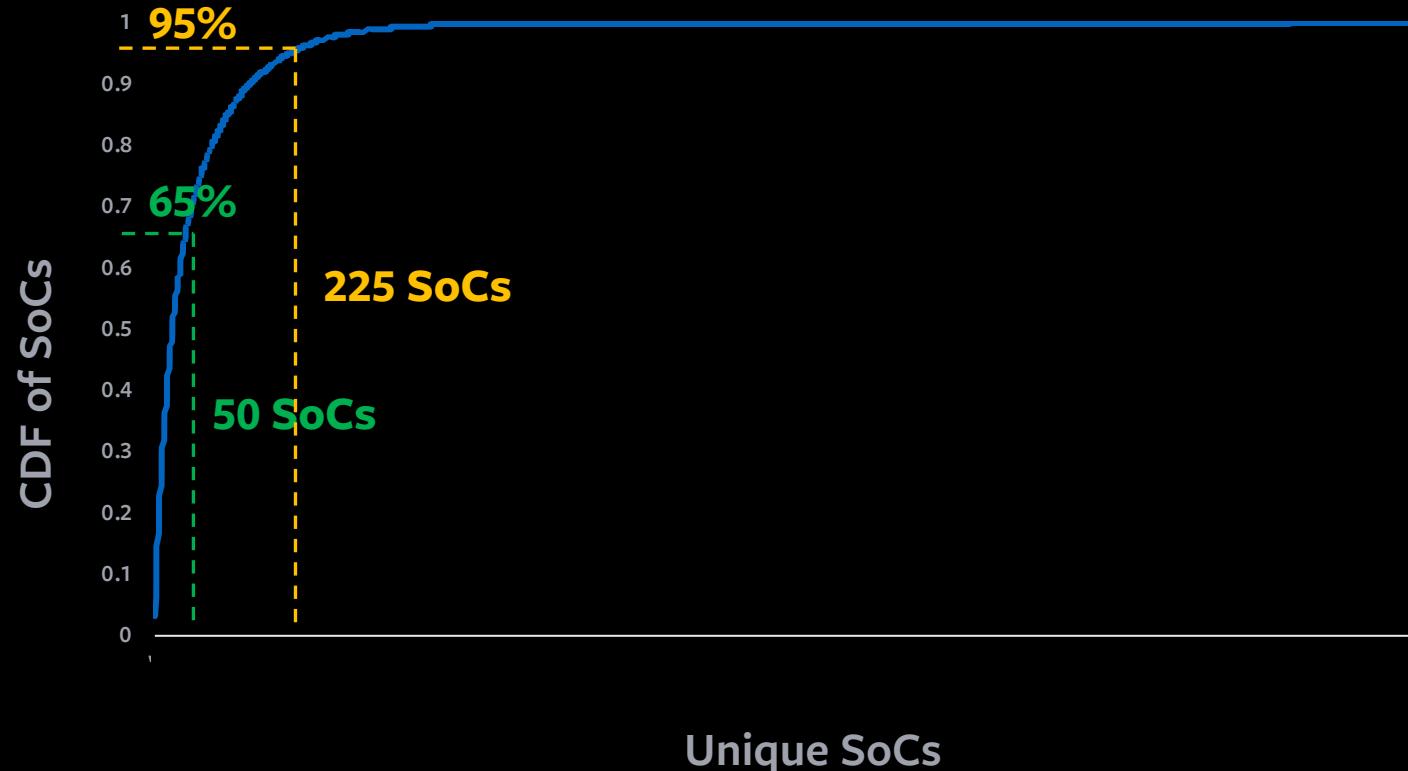
## Programmability

Programmability is a Primary  
Roadblock for Using Mobile Co-  
processors

# Lay of the Land

FRAGMENTATION

## Taking a Closer Look at Smartphones Facebook Runs on



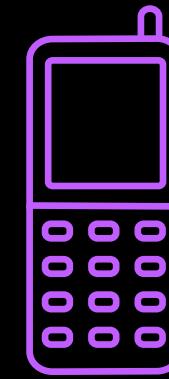
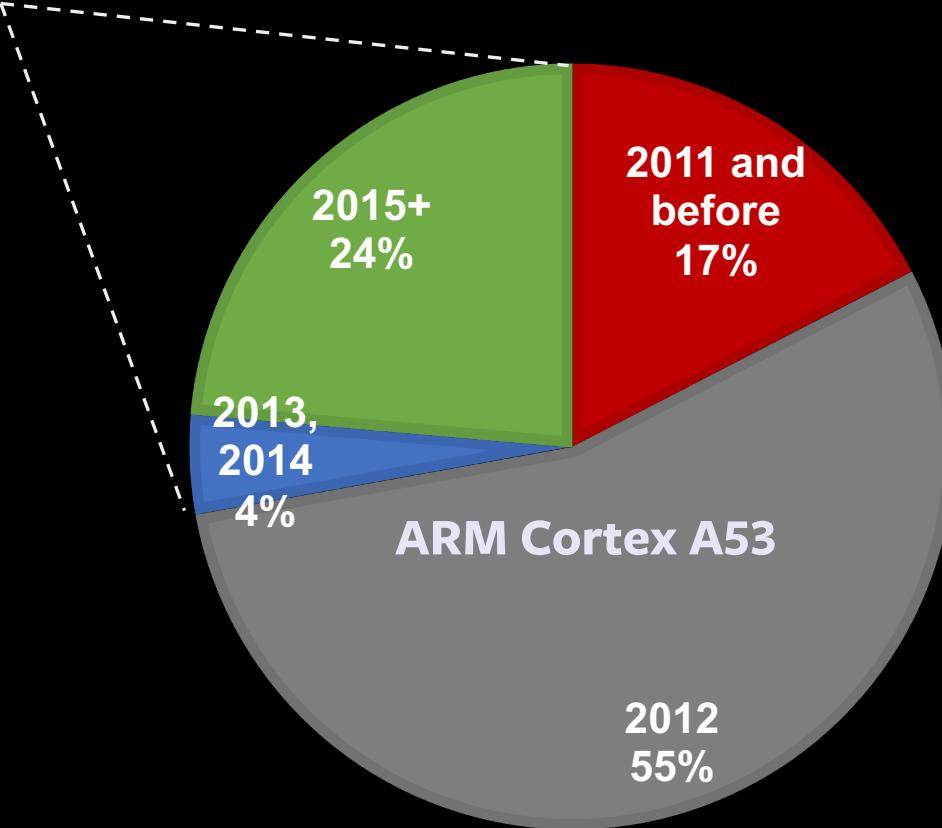
- Qualcomm Snapdragon
- Samsung Exynos
- MediaTek Helio
- HiSilicon Kirin et al.

THERE IS NO STANDARD SOC TO OPTIMIZE FOR

# Lay of the Land

FRAGMENTATION

In 2018, ~28% of SoCs Use CPUs Designed in 2013 or Later



72%

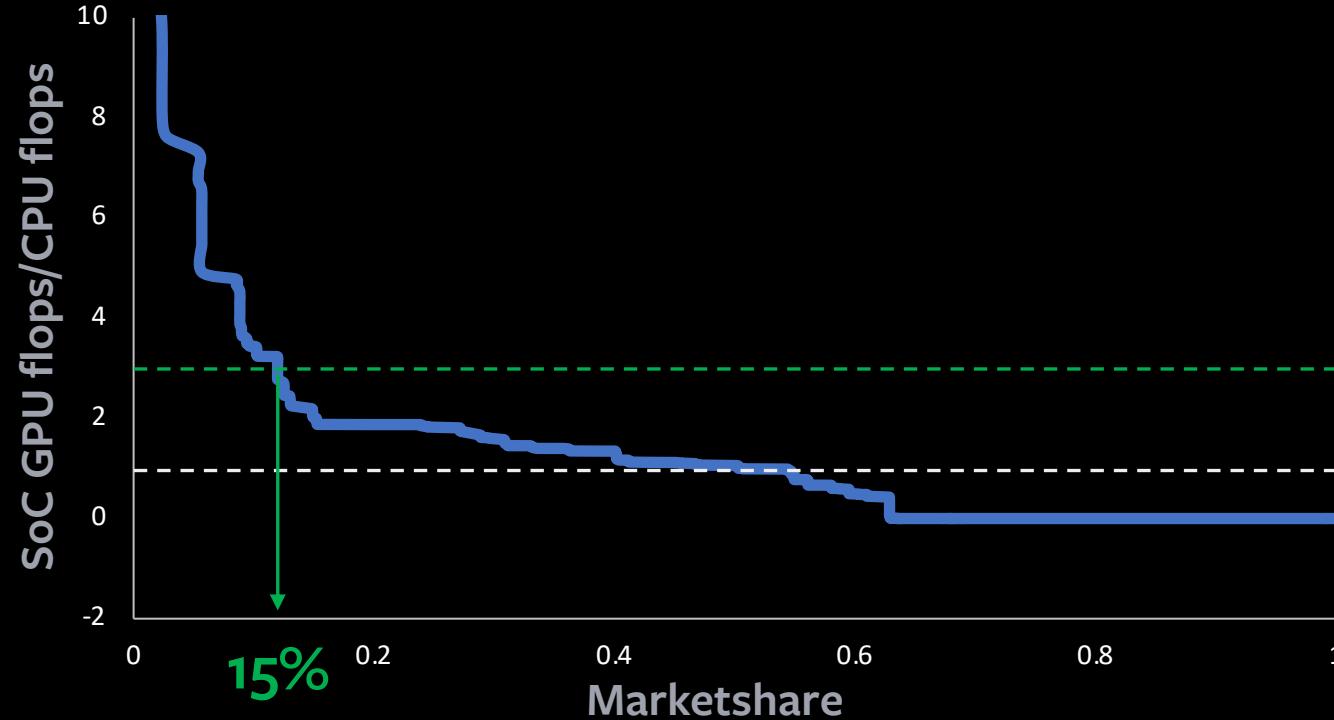
OF THE WORLD'S CELL PHONES  
ARE MORE THAN 7 YEARS OLD

MOBILE CPUS SHOW LITTLE DIVERSITY

# Lay of the Land

PERFORMANCE

The Performance Difference between a Mobile CPU and GPU is Narrow



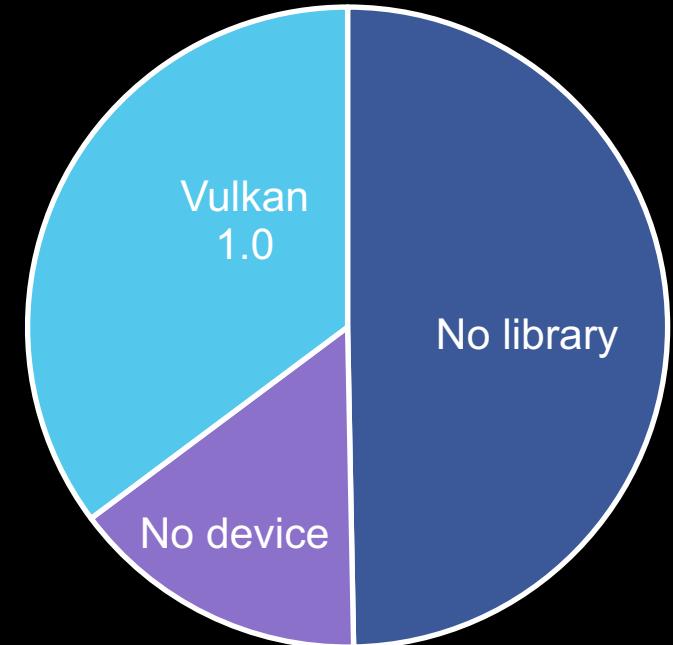
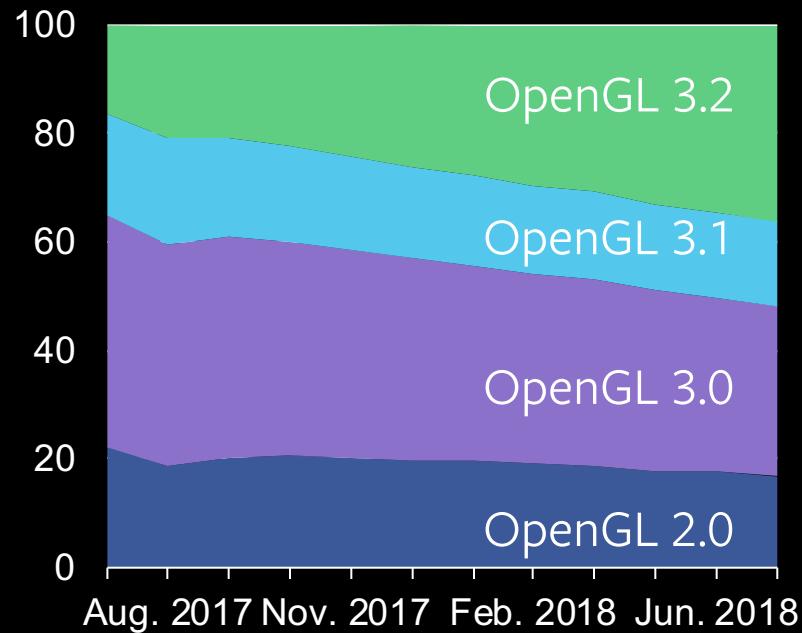
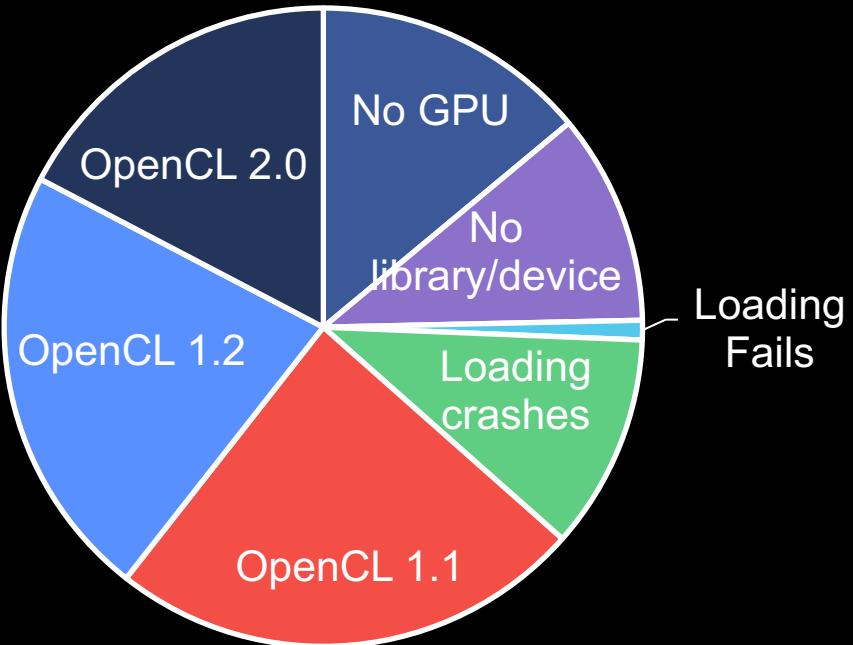
ON A MEDIAN SMARTPHONE, THE GPU PROVIDES AS MUCH THEORETICAL PEAK PERFORMANCE AS ITS CPU

LESS THAN 15% SMARTPHONES HAVE A GPU THAT IS 3 TIMES AS POWERFUL AS ITS CPU

# Lay of the Land

PROGRAMMABILITY

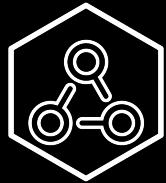
- | **Programmability is a Primary Roadblock for Using Mobile Co-processors**
  - OpenCL, OpenGL ES, Vulkan for Android GPUs



**ANDROID GPUS HAVE FRAGILE USABILITY AND POOR PROGRAMMABILITY WHILE IOS HAS BETTER SUPPORT WITH METAL**

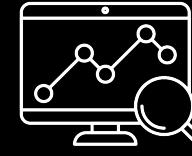
# Quantitative Approach to Mobile Inference Designs

## | State of the Practice for Mobile Inference is Using **CPUs**



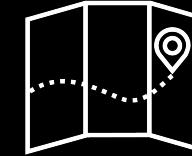
### FRAGMENTATION

- There are more than **2000+** **different SoCs** but mobile CPUs show little diversity with ARM's Cortex A53 dominating the market



### PERFORMANCE

- Performance difference between mobile **CPUs** and **GPUs** is narrow



### PROGRAMMABILITY

- Programmability is a major road block for **co-processors** (e.g. Android GPUs)

**MOBILE INFERENCE OPTIMIZATION IS TARGETED FOR THE COMMON DENOMINATOR OF THE FRAGMENTED SOC ECOSYSTEM**



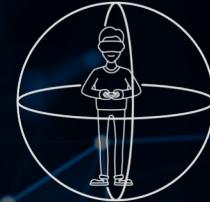
Introduction:  
Machine Learning @ FB  
& Unique Challenges for  
Edge Inference



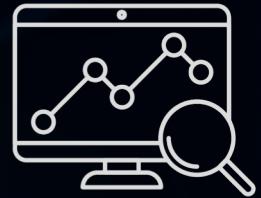
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Runs on



**Horizontal Integration:**  
Making Inference on  
Smartphones



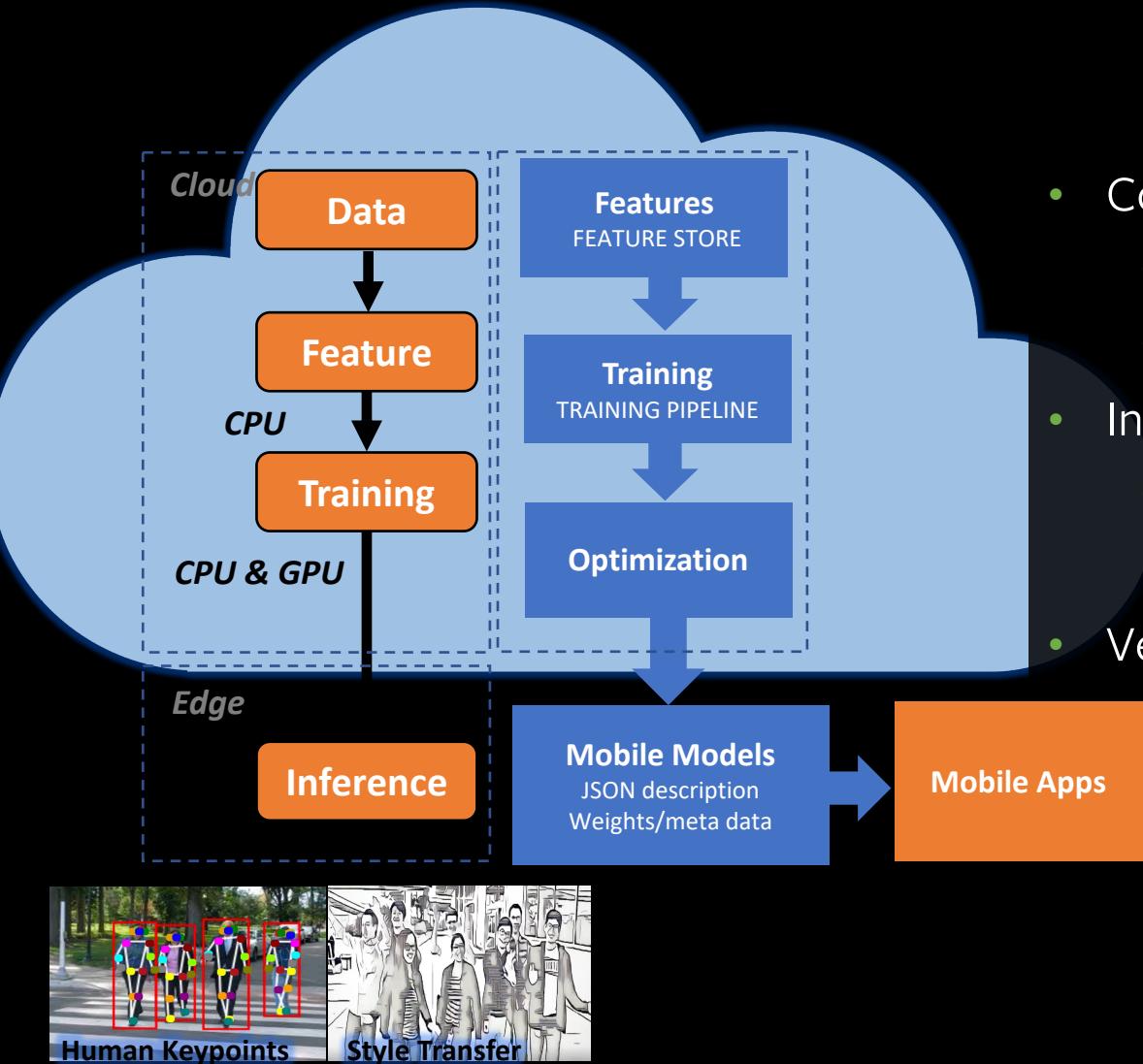
Vertical Integration:  
Processing Inference for  
Oculus VR



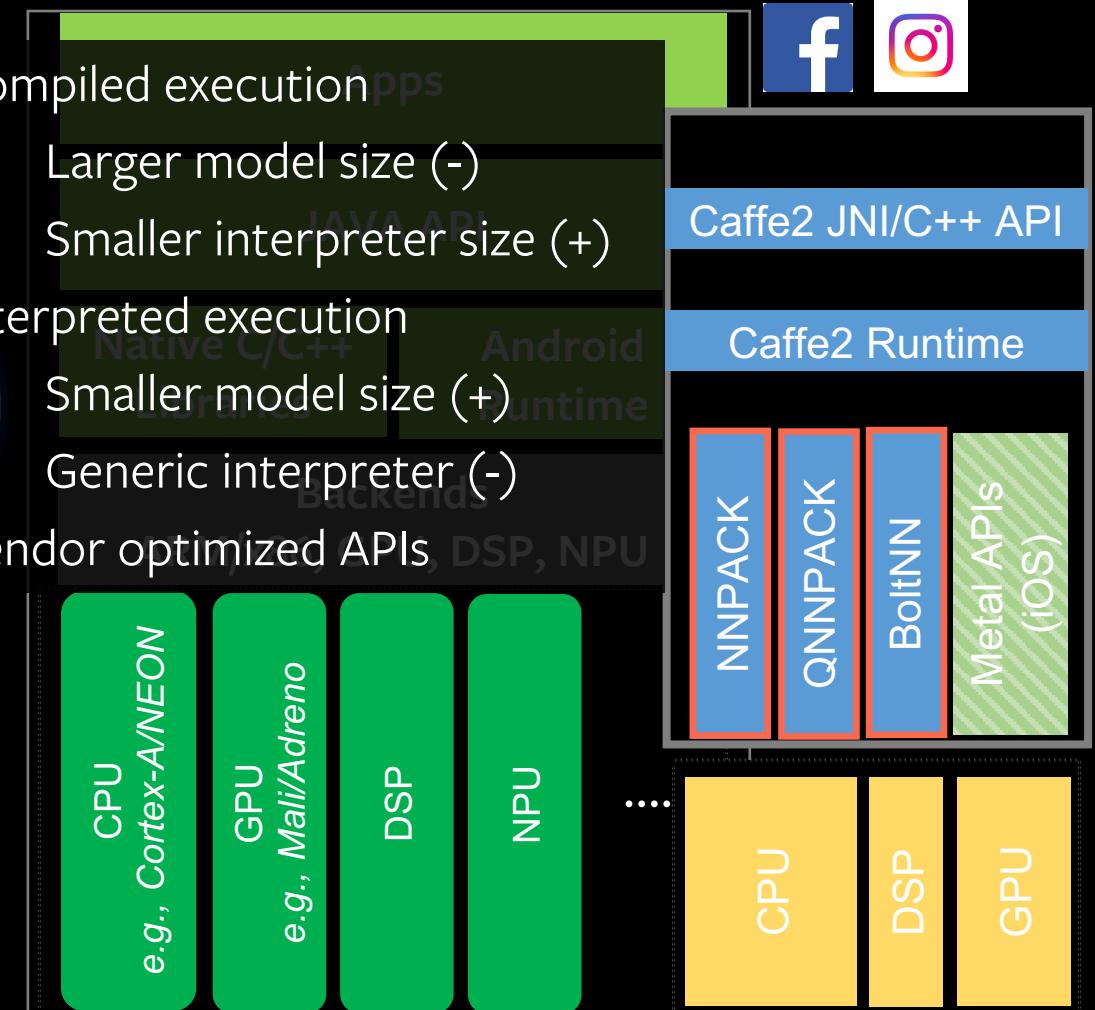
Inference in the Wild:  
Performance  
Variability

# Horizontal Integration

## Making Inference on Smartphones in the Wild



- Compiled execution apps
  - Larger model size (-)
  - Smaller interpreter size (+)
- Interpreted execution
  - Smaller model size (+)
  - Generic interpreter (-)
- Vendor optimized APIs, DSP, NPU





# Horizontal Integration

## Backend Neural Network Libraries in Caffe2 Runtime



### NNPACK

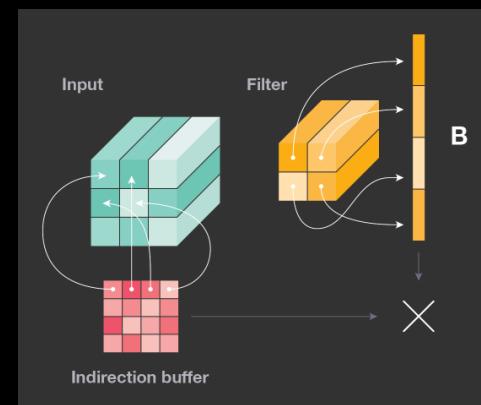
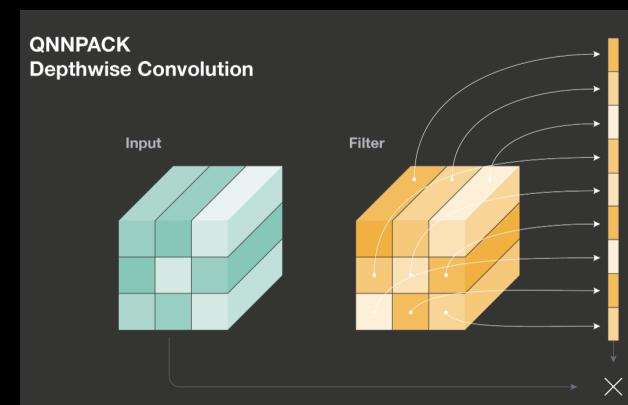
#### (32-BIT FLOATING POINT)

- Optimized convolution implementation using **Winograd** and **FFT**
- Best for NN with 3x3, 5x5 or larger convolutions

### QNNPACK/QUANTIZED NNPACK

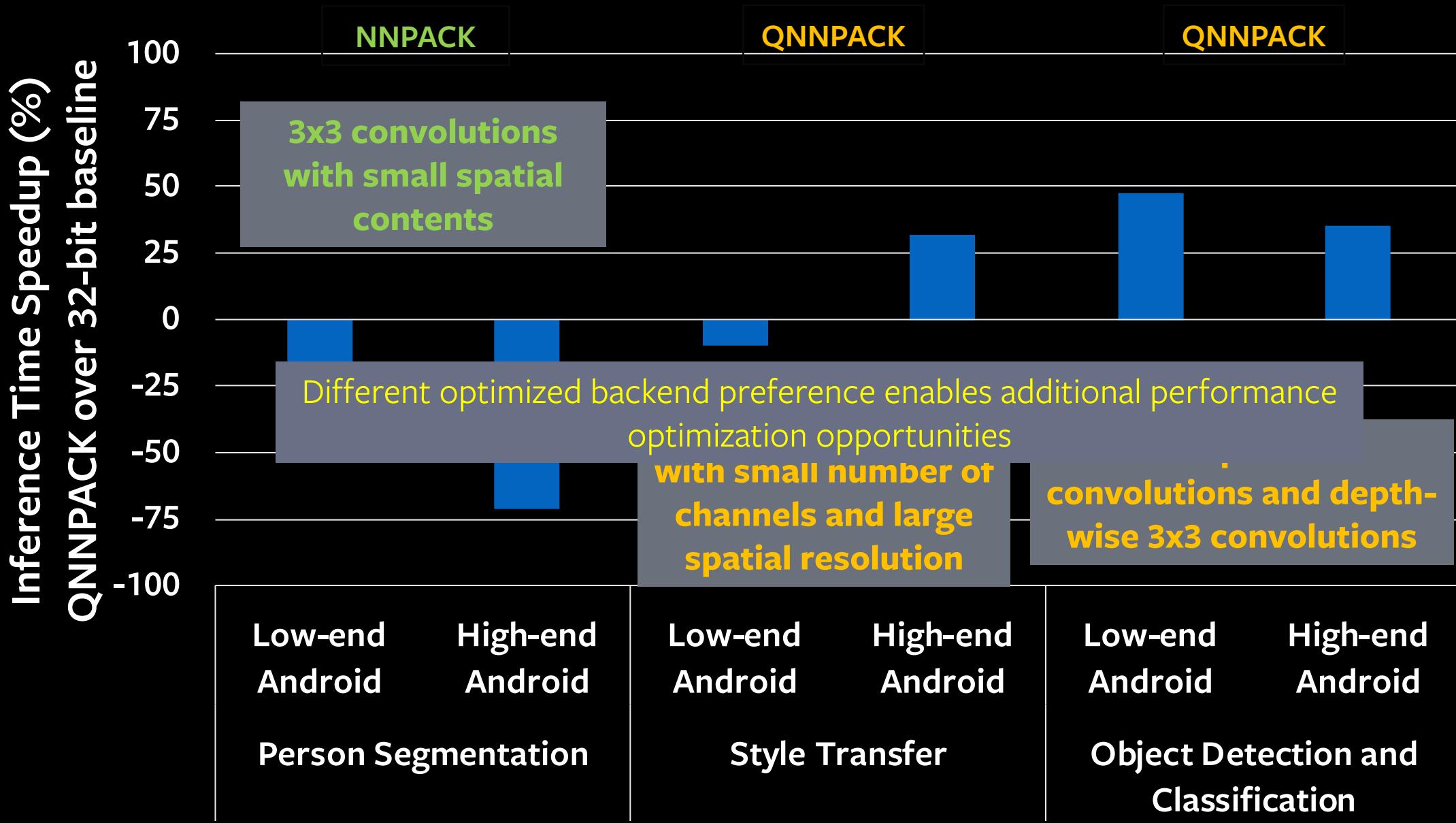
#### (8-BIT FIXED POINT)

- Optimized direct convolution implementation
- Best for low-intensity convolutions
- Grouped, depth-wise, dilated convolutions
- Eliminate the overhead of im2col and other memory layout transformation



# Horizontal Integration

## | QNNPACK Performance Evaluation





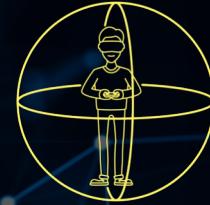
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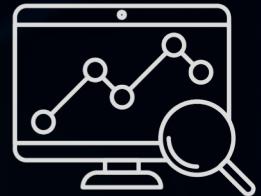
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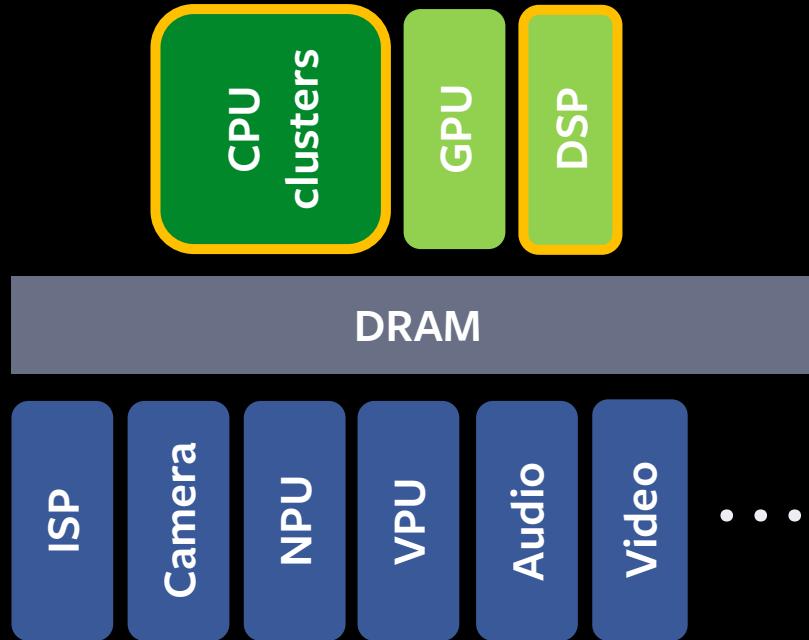
**Vertical Integration:**  
Processing Inference for  
Oculus VR



Inference in the Wild:  
Performance  
Variability

# Vertical Integrated Systems

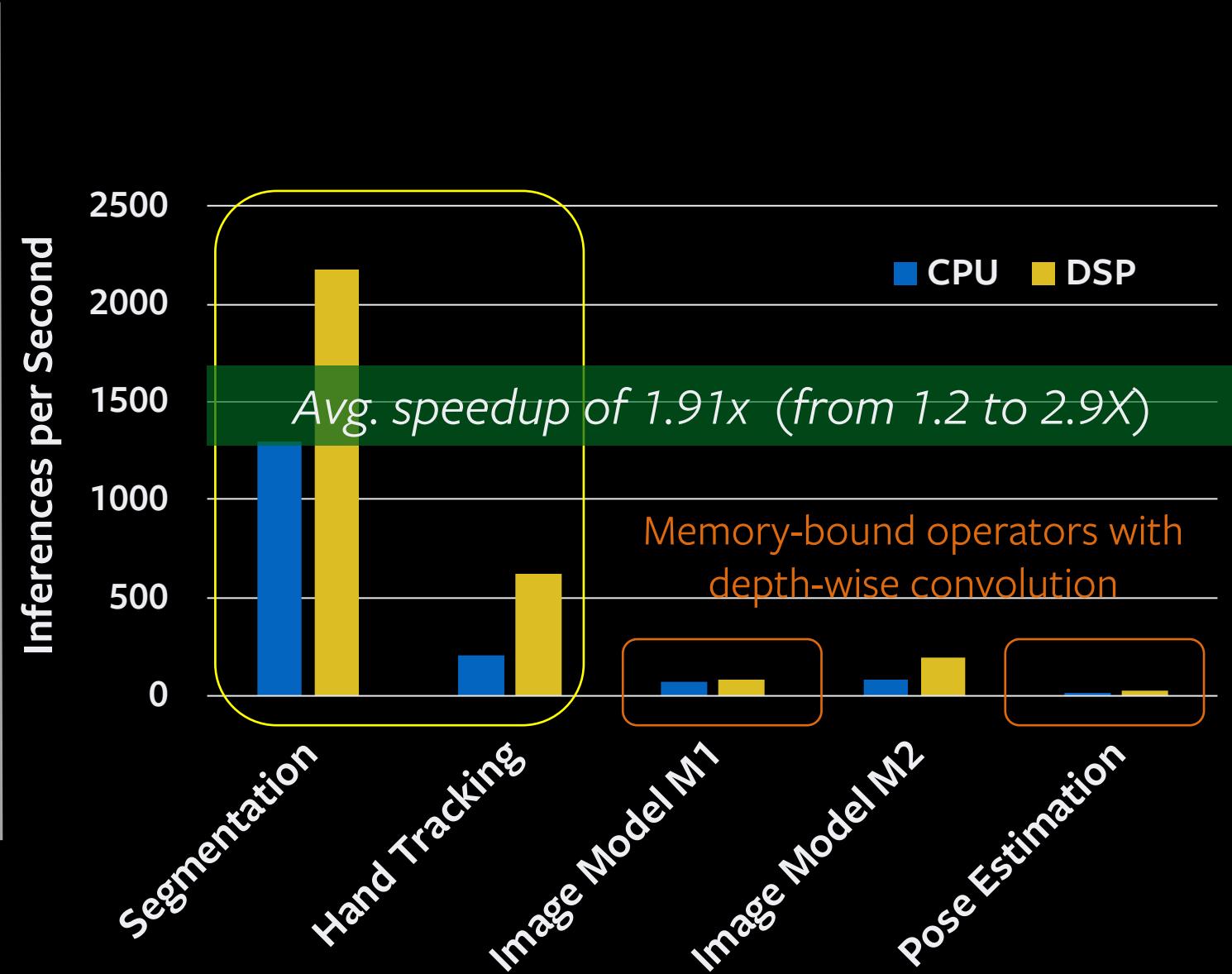
## Processing Inference for Oculus VR



# Vertical Integrated Systems

## Performance Acceleration with Co-processors

DNN Features	MACs	Weights
Segmentation	1X	1.5X
Hand Tracking	10X	1X
Image Model 1	10X	2X
Image Model 2	100X	1X
Pose Estimation	100X	4X

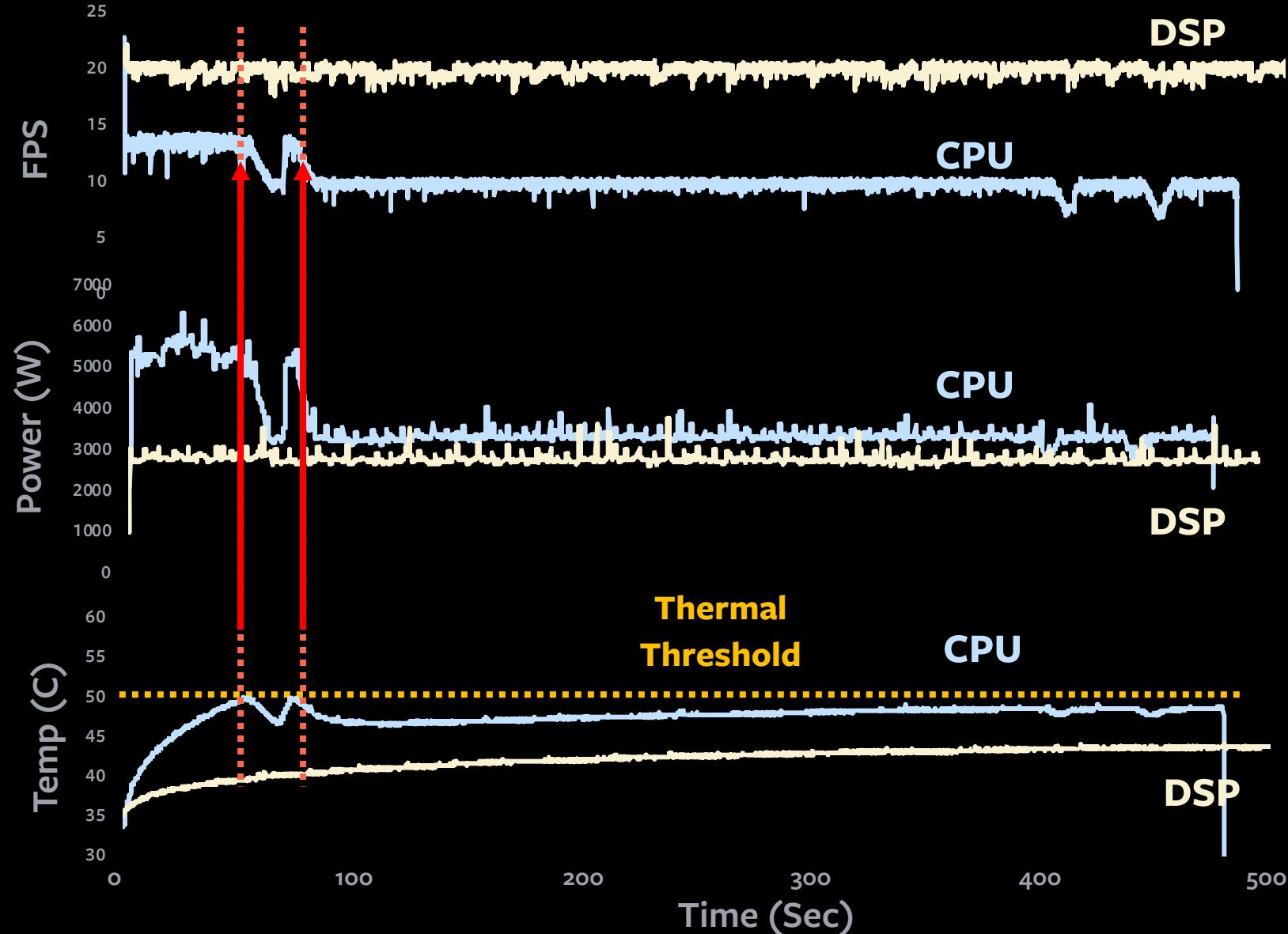


# Vertical Integrated Systems

## Making Inference on DSPs Leads to Consistent Performance

CPU thermal throttling causes sudden **FPS drop**

The primary reason for using co-processors and accelerators are for **lower power** and **more stable performance**



# Computing Platforms at the Edge



Baseline - Poor      OPUS - Good

## Workload Characterization

MobileBench [IISWC-2013]

Joule/Instruction [IISWC-2014]

TLP for Mobile [ISPASS-2015]

Multitasking for Mobile [IISWC-2015]

## Energy Efficiency Optimization

STEAM [TECS-2014]

Statistical PPW Optimization  
[HPCA-2016] [TMC-2018]

DORA [ISPASS-2018]

## Temperature Management

Thermal Modeling  
[IISWC-2017] [ITHERM-2018\*]

Hybrid Cooling Technologies

Near Sensor Processing

We use the rigorous workload characterization results to guide designs tailored for mobile

Updated power/temperature

We propose a family of algorithms that maximize smartphone energy efficiency subject to various dynamic execution scenarios

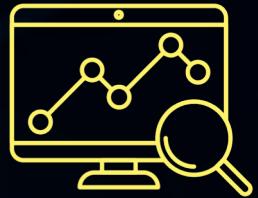
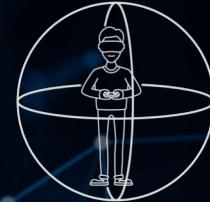
Workload characteristics



We design a collection of temperature-aware optimization:  
Floor-planning;  
Advanced cooling technologies for mobile (TEC/PCM);  
Near sensor processing

Temperature

Surface



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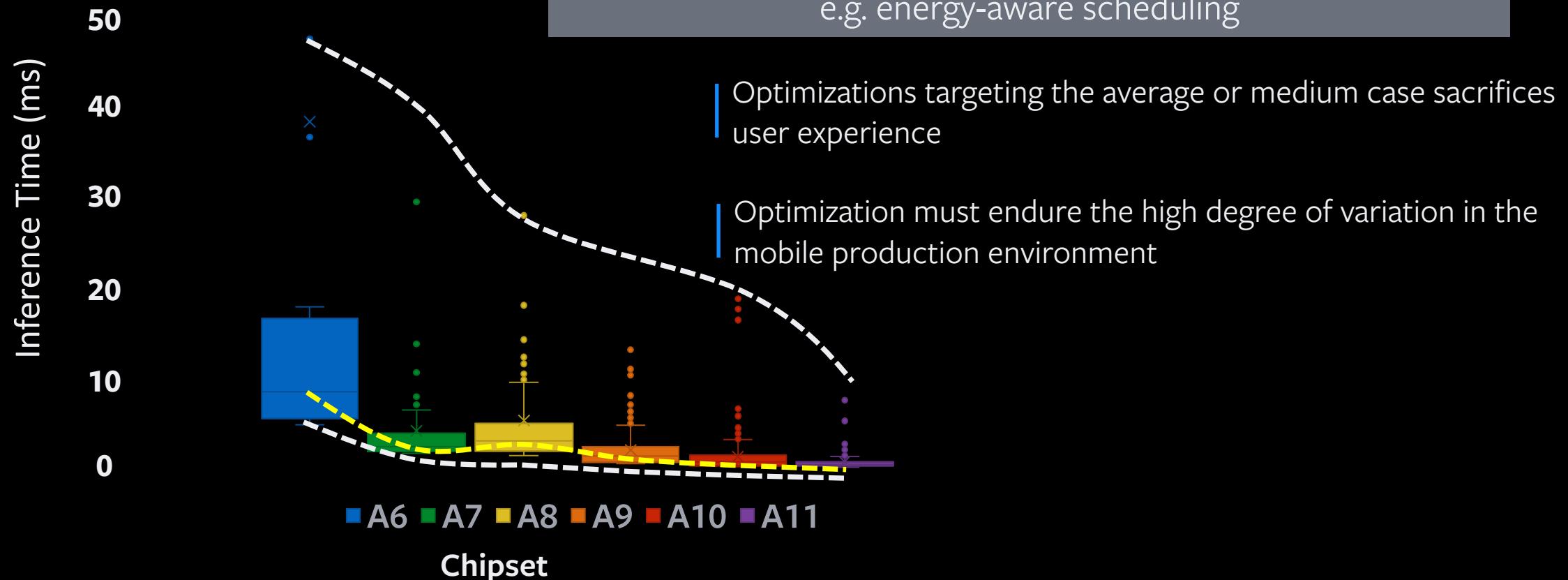
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Inference in the Wild:  
Performance  
Variability

# Inference in the Wild

## Making “Efficient” Inference in the Wild Requires Developers to Deal with Performance Variability

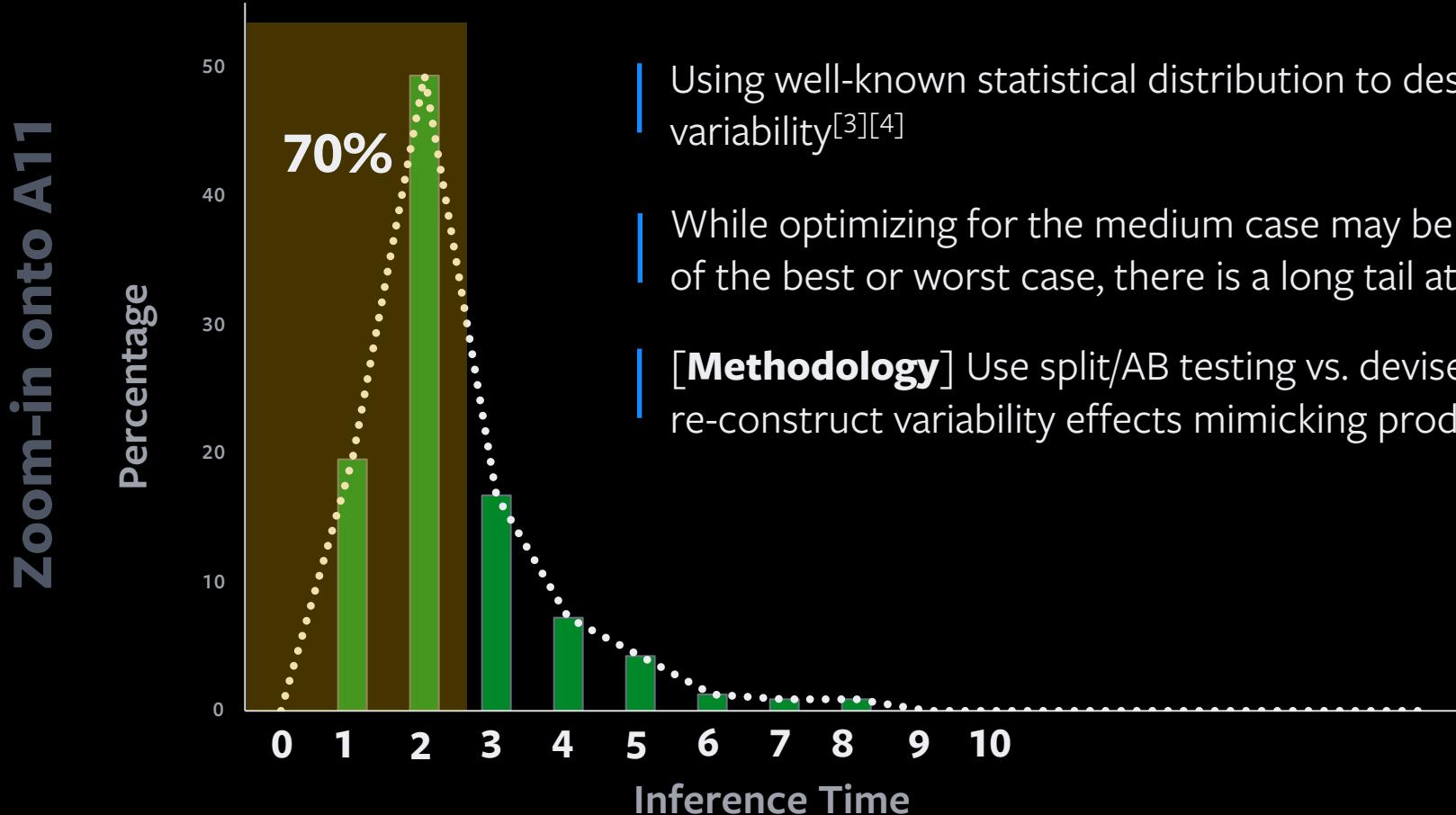


[3] Improving Smartphone User Experience by Balancing Performance and Energy with Probabilistic Guarantee. Gaudette, Wu, and Vrudhula, HPCA-2016.

IS THE PERFORMANCE VARIABILITY PATTERN PREDICTABLE?

# Inference in the Wild

## Does the Performance Variability Follow Certain Statistical Distributions?



Using well-known statistical distribution to describe performance variability<sup>[3][4]</sup>

While optimizing for the medium case may be more representative than that of the best or worst case, there is a long tail at each direction

**[Methodology]** Use split/AB testing vs. devise systematic benchmarking to re-construct variability effects mimicking production environment is needed

[3] Improving Smartphone User Experience by Balancing Performance and Energy with Probabilistic Guarantee. Gaudette, Wu, and Vrudhula. HPCA-2016.

[4] Optimizing User Satisfaction of Mobile Workloads Subject to Various Sources of Uncertainties. Gaudette, Wu, and Vrudhula.. TMC-2018.

# Energy Efficiency Optimization with Stochastic Assumption

Average Web Page Load

15

Average Web Page Time (s)

2.5  
2  
1

95.48%

deadline

We can leverage application characteristics and the observed non-deterministic behavior to predict optimal energy efficiency states: **29% power savings** over Android while maintaining an average web page load time of 2 seconds with a likelihood of 90%

Average Web Page Load

0

0.2

0.7

1.2

1.7

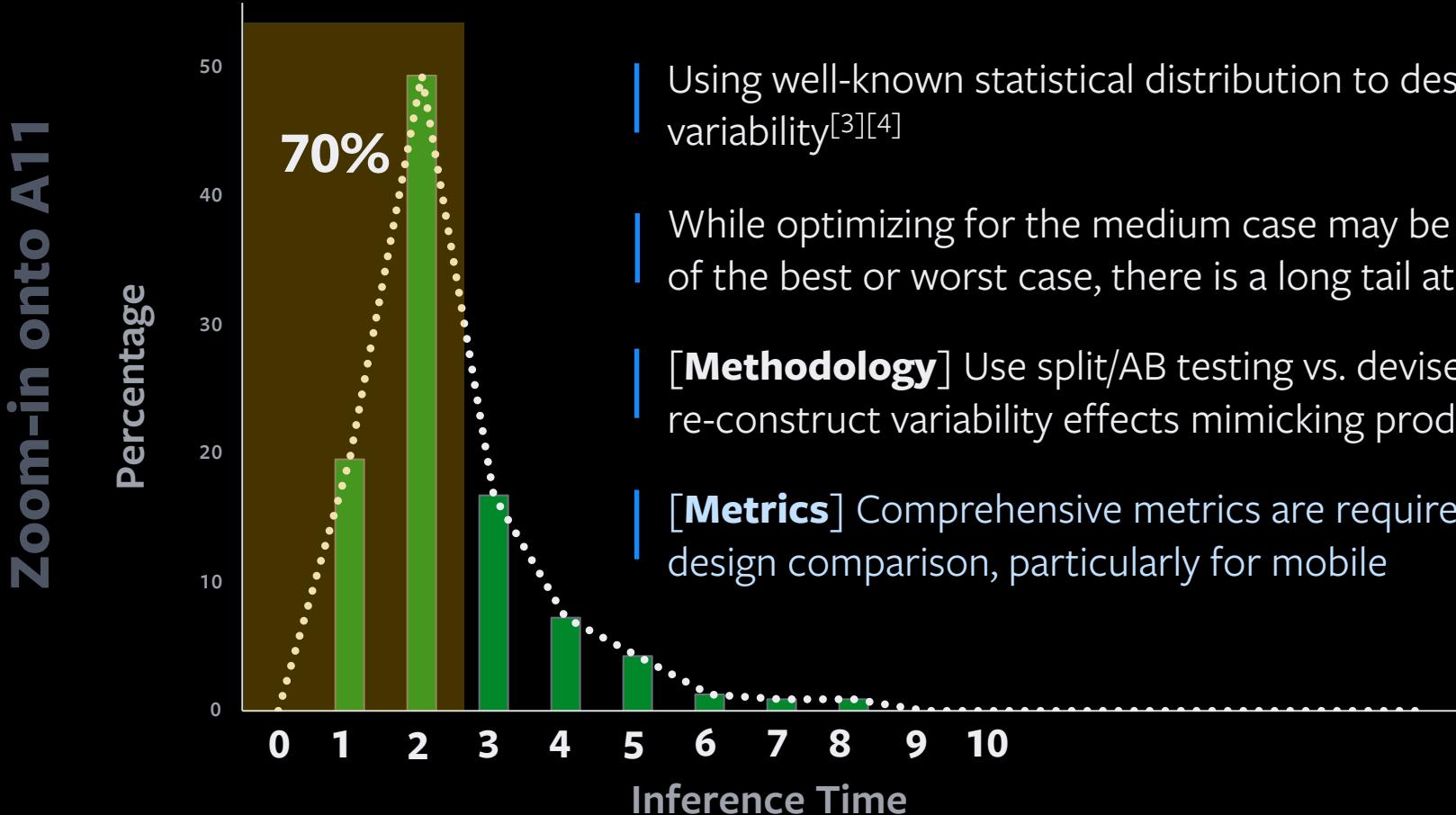
2.2

Frequency (GHz)

deadline

# Inference in the Wild

## Does the Performance Variability Follow Certain Statistical Distributions?



Using well-known statistical distribution to describe performance variability<sup>[3][4]</sup>

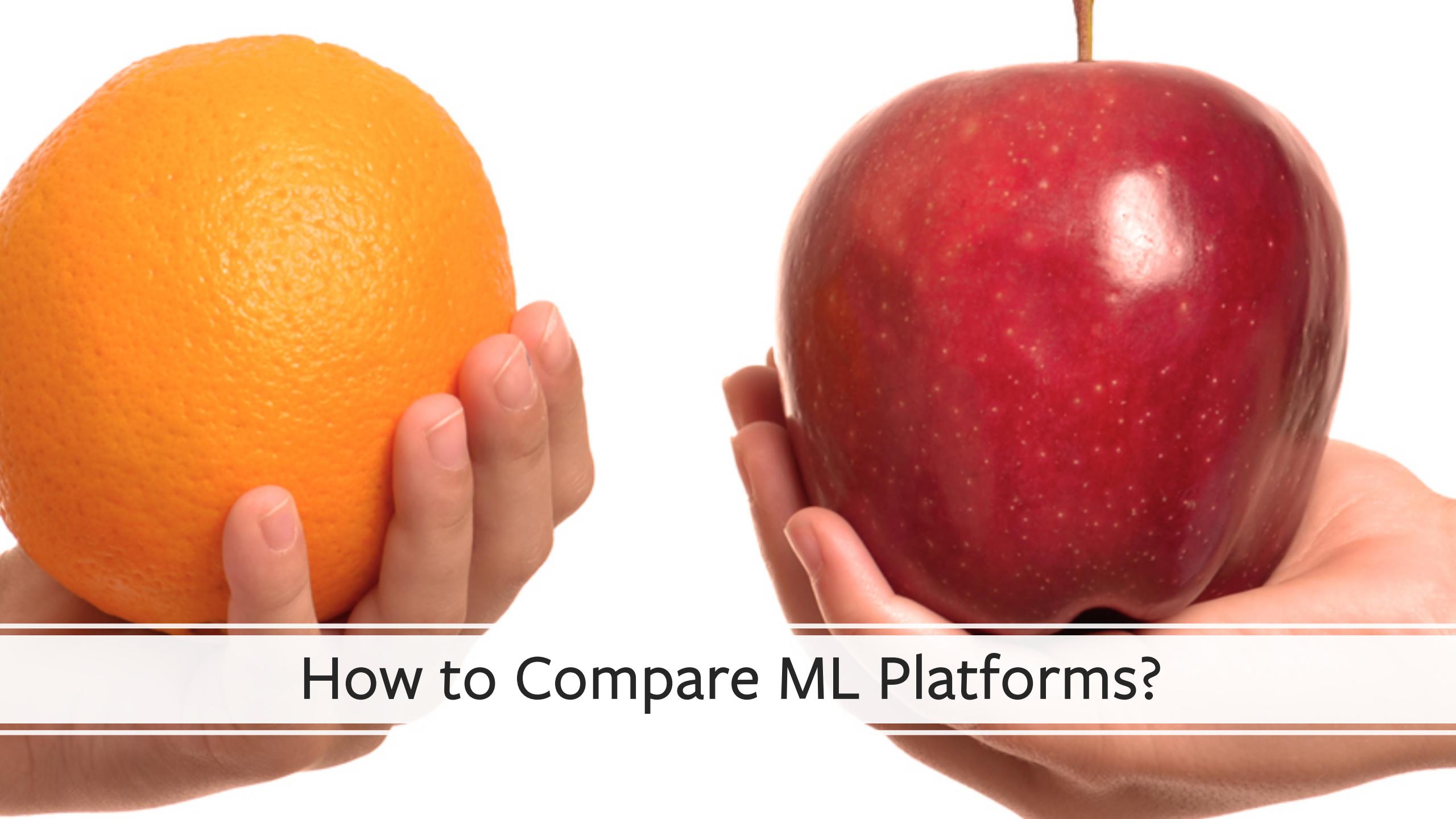
While optimizing for the medium case may be more representative than that of the best or worst case, there is a long tail at each direction

**[Methodology]** Use split/AB testing vs. devise systematic benchmarking to re-construct variability effects mimicking production environment is needed

**[Metrics]** Comprehensive metrics are required for fair, representative design comparison, particularly for mobile

[3] Improving Smartphone User Experience by Balancing Performance and Energy with Probabilistic Guarantee. Gaudette, Wu, and Vrudhula. HPCA-2016.

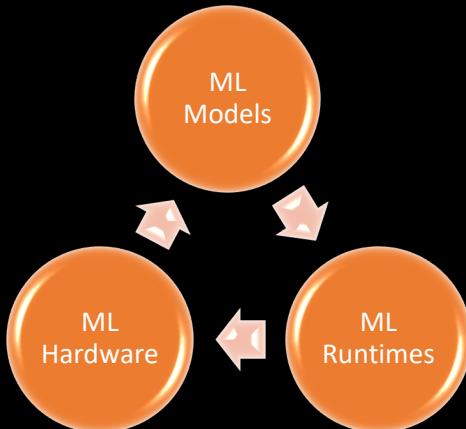
[4] Optimizing User Satisfaction of Mobile Workloads Subject to Various Sources of Uncertainties. Gaudette, Wu, and Vrudhula.. TMC-2018.



How to Compare ML Platforms?



[www.mlperf.org](http://www.mlperf.org)



Accelerate progress in ML via **fair and useful measurement**



Serve both the **commercial and research community**



**Encourage innovation** to improve the state-of-the-art of ML



**Enforce replicability** to ensure reliable results



Use **representative workloads**, reflecting production use cases



Keep **benchmarking affordable**

# MLPerf Inference Benchmark v0.5

## Open Challenges & Issues

- Large and high-quality data sets
- Diversity in machine learning models/use cases

### ○ Metrics

- Performance: how fast is a model for inference ?
- Quality: prediction accuracy ?

Area	Benchmark	Dataset	Model
Vision	Image classification	ImageNet	MobileNet v1
	Object detection	MS-COCO 2017	ResNet-50
Language	Translation	Google NMT	SSD-MobileNet v1
			SSD-ResNet-34
			WMT Eng-Germ

# How to bridge from node to scale?

It is important to consider full-picture and system effects for efficient, practical edge inference designs

K. Hazelwood et al., “**Applied Machine Learning at Facebook: A Datacenter Infrastructure Perspective**”, HPCA 2018.

C.-J. Wu et al., “**Machine Learning at Facebook: Understanding Inference at the Edge**”, HPCA 2019.

# QUESTIONS?



**facebook**  
[f](#) [i](#) [m](#) [q](#) [a](#) [w](#)