

## MELTDOWN



Meltdown basically works like this:

- READ secret from forbidden address
- Stash away secret before CPU detects wrongdoing
- Retrieve secret

## MELTDOWN



"Stashing" and "retrieving" the secret works via *side channels*.

Side channels are *observable side effects* of actions.

- READ secret from forbidden address
- Stash away secret by caching a memory location that depends on the secret
- Retrieve secret by finding which memory location is cached