# MELTDOWN

Meltdown basically works like this:

■ READ secret from forbidden address

■ Stash away secret before CPU detects wrongdoing

■ Retrieve secret

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"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