
# Building Zynq Accelerators with Vivado High Level Synthesis

**Stephen Neuendorffer and Fernando Martinez-Vallina**

**FPGA 2013 Tutorial - Feb 11, 2013**

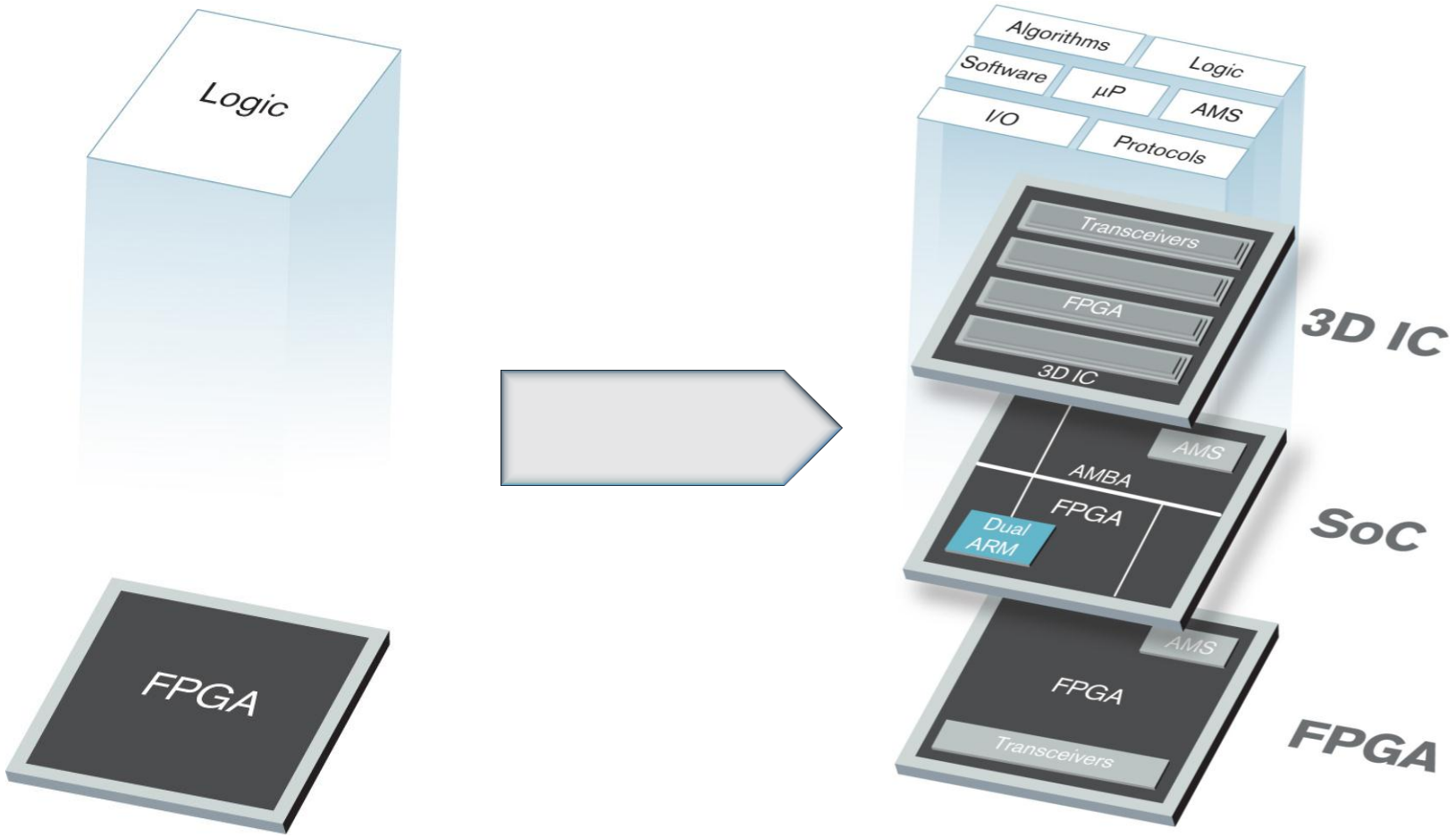
# Schedule

- Motivation for Zynq and HLS (5 min)
- Zynq Overview (45 min)
- HLS training (the condensed version)  (1.5 hours)
- Zynq Systems with HLS (45 min)

# Motivation

- **ASICs *are* being displaced by programmable platforms**
  - Packaging, verification costs dominate
  - FPGA/ASSP process advantage over commodity ASIC process
  - Full-/semi-custom design vs. standard cell ASIC
- **Lots of competing programmable platforms**
  - CPU+GPGPU
  - CPU+DSP+hard accelerators (e.g. OMAP, Davinci, etc.)
  - Multicore
  - FPGAs
- **From FPGAs to “All Programmable Devices”**
  - ‘Small' devices are very capable with increasing integration
  - 'Big‘ devices are getting REALLY big.

# Xilinx Technology Evolution

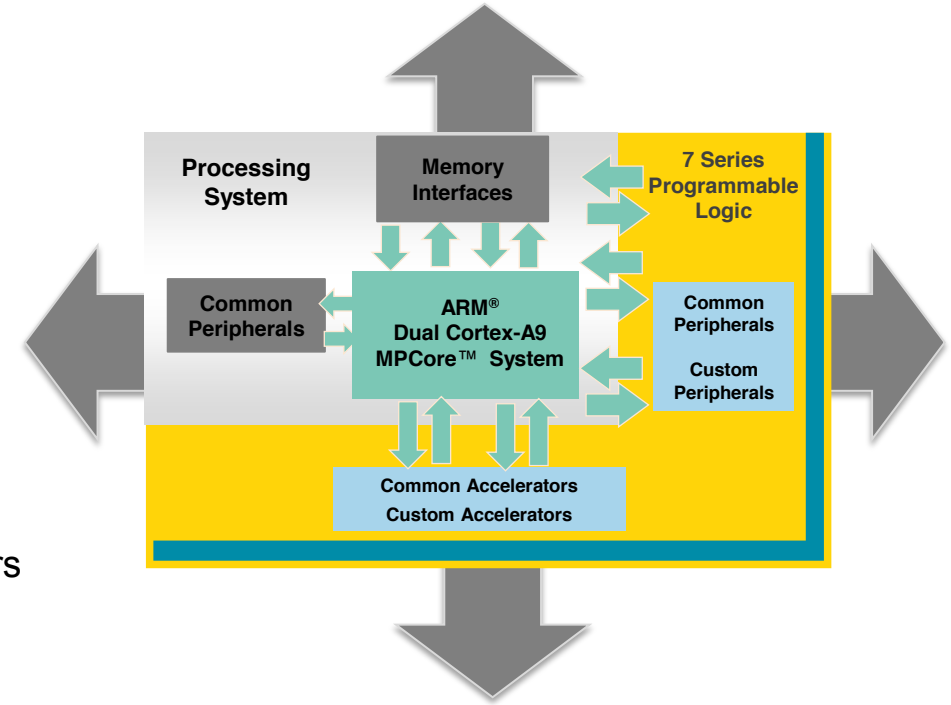



**Programmable Logic Devices**
**Enables Programmable "Logic"**

**All Programmable Devices**
**Enables Programmable "Systems Integration"**

# Zynq-7000 Family Highlights

- **Complete ARM®-based Processing System**
  - Dual ARM Cortex™-A9 MPCore™, processor centric
  - Integrated memory controllers & peripherals
  - Fully autonomous to the Programmable Logic
- **Tightly Integrated Programmable Logic**
  - Used to extend Processing System
  - High performance ARM AXI interfaces
  - Scalable density and performance
- **Flexible Array of I/O**
  - Wide range of external multi-standard I/O
  - High performance integrated serial transceivers
  - Analog-to-Digital Converter inputs



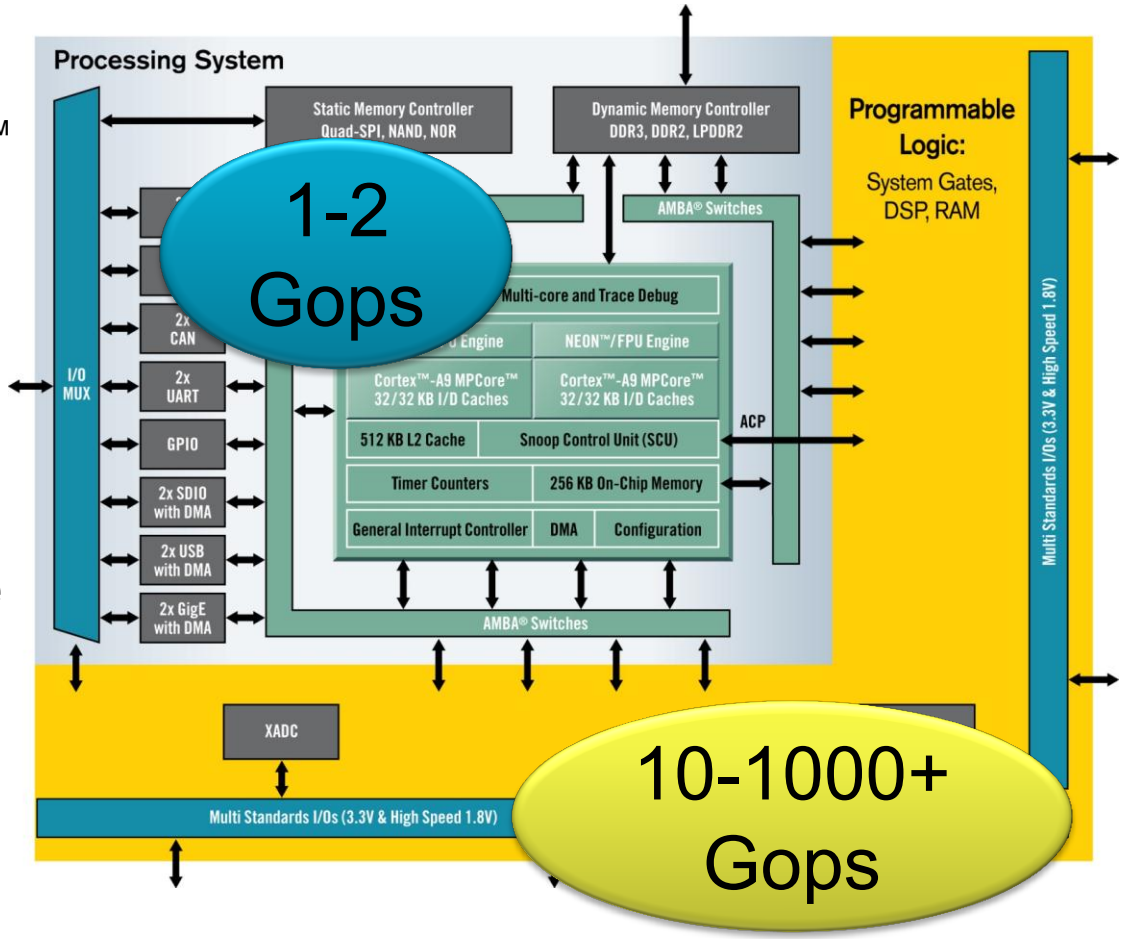
# Zynq-7000 AP SoC Applications Mapping

| CLUSTER | MARKET | KEY APPLICATIONS | SAME PROCESSING SYSTEM Different Programmable Logic Densities ● Optimal for application | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | Z-7010 | Z-7020 | Z-7030 | Z-7045 |
| Intelligent Video | Auto | Driver Assistance, Driver Info, Infotainment | ● | ● | | |
| | Consumer | Business-class Multi-function Printers | ● | ● | ● | |
| | ISM | IP & Smart Cameras | ● | ● | ● | |
| | | Medical Diagnostics, Monitoring and Therapy | ● | ● | | |
| | | Medical Imaging | ● | | ● | ● |
| | Broadcast | Prosumer / Studio Cameras, Transcoders | | ● | ● | ● |
| | A&D | Video / Night Vision Equipment | ● | ● | | |
| Comms | A&D | Milcomms, Cockpit & Instrumentation | | ● | ● | ● |
| | Wireless | LTE Radio, Baseband, Enterprise Femto | | ● | ● | ● |
| | Wired | Routers, Switches, Mulitplexers, Edge Cards | | | ● | ● |
| Control | ISM | Motor Control and Programmable Logic Controller (PLC) | ● | ● | ● | |
| | A&D | Missiles, Smart Munitions | | | ● | ● |
| Bridging | Broadcast | EdgeQAMs, Routers, Switchers, Encoders / Decoders | | | ● | ● |
| | ISM | Industrial Networking | ● | ● | ● | |

← 10X →

# Zynq-7000 Embedded Processing Platform

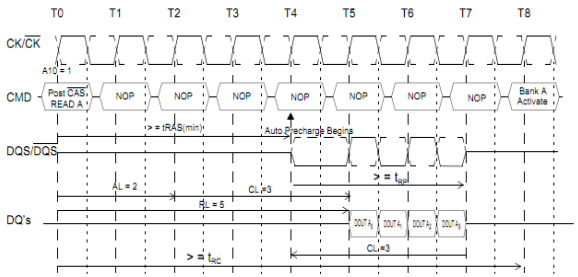
- **Processor core complex**
  - Two ARM® Cortex™-A9 with NEON™ extensions
  - Floating Point support
  - Up to 1 GHz operation
  - L2 Cache – 512KB Unified
  - On-Chip Memory of 256KB
  - Integrated Memory Controllers
  - Run full Linux
- **State-of-the-art programmable logic**
  - 28K-235K logic cells
  - High bandwidth AMBA interconnect
  - ACP port - cache coherency for additional soft processors




**How to Leverage the Compute Power of the Fabric?**

# Systems in FPGA: 3 independent pieces

- **Interface IP blocks (HDMI, Memory Controller)**
  - Everything within 1 or 2 cycles of IO, "glue logic"
  - Timing accurate
  - Structural RTL + constraints, Spice, IBIS models
- **Core IP (microblaze, NOC)**
  - Cycle accurate
  - Structural or synthesizable RTL
- **Application-specific IP**
  - Differentiation/added value
  - High level throughput/latency constraints
  - Synthesizable RTL or Algorithmic spec




| | cycle 1 | cycle 2 | cycle 3 | cycle4 | cycle5 | cycle6 | cycle7 | cycle8 | cycle9 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| instruction 1 | IF | OF | EX | MEM | WB | | | | |
| instruction 2 | | IF | OF | EX | MEM | MEM | MEM | WB | |
| instruction 3 | | | IF | OF | EX | Stall | Stall | MEM | WB |

**Summary of overall latency (clock cycles)**

- Best-case latency: 1
- Average-case latency: 1202026
- Worst-case latency: 4501354

**Summary of loop latency (clock cycles)**

**Loop 1**

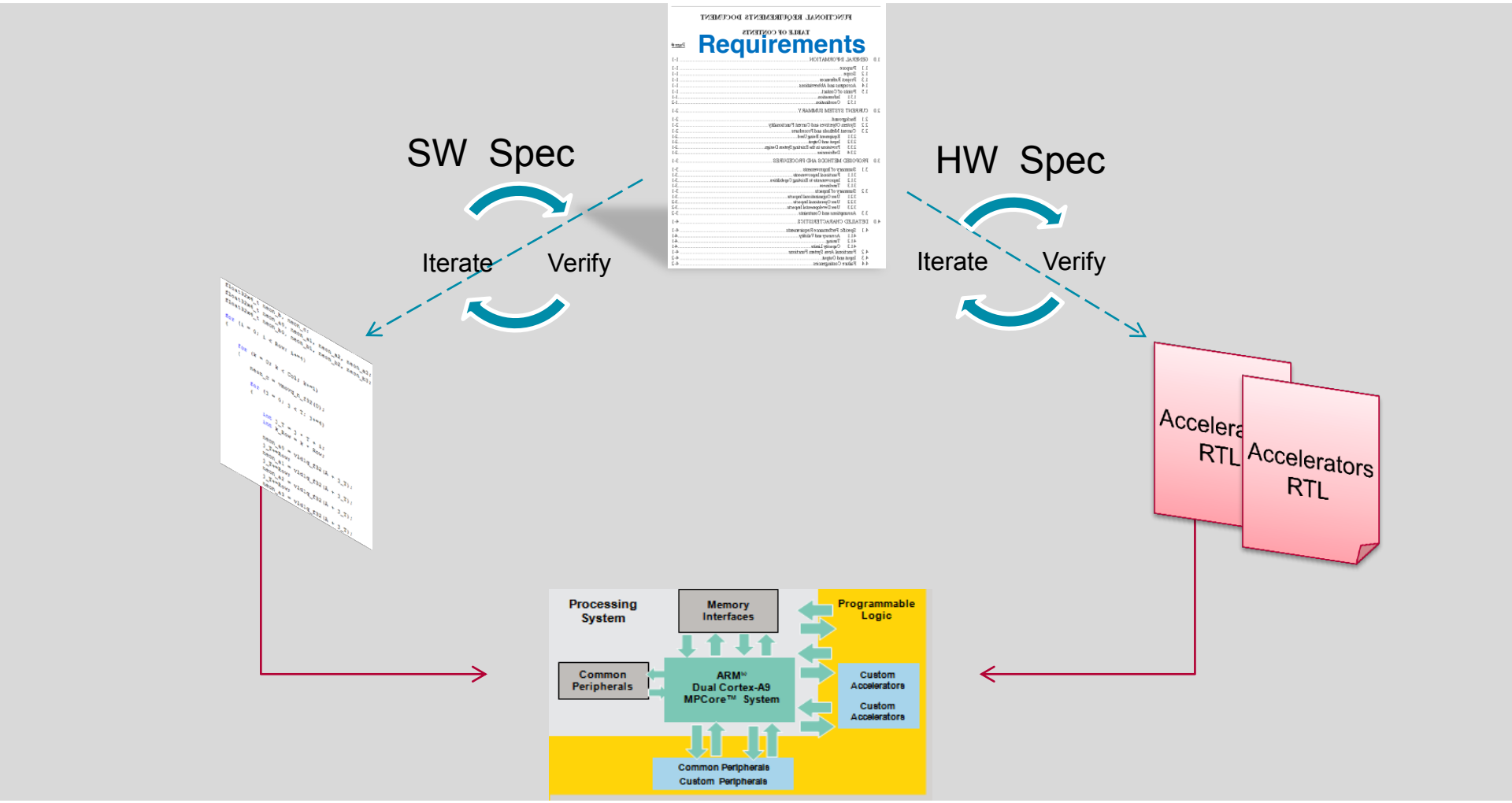
- # Trip count: 0 ~ 2047
- Latency: 0 ~ 4501353

# High Level Synthesis

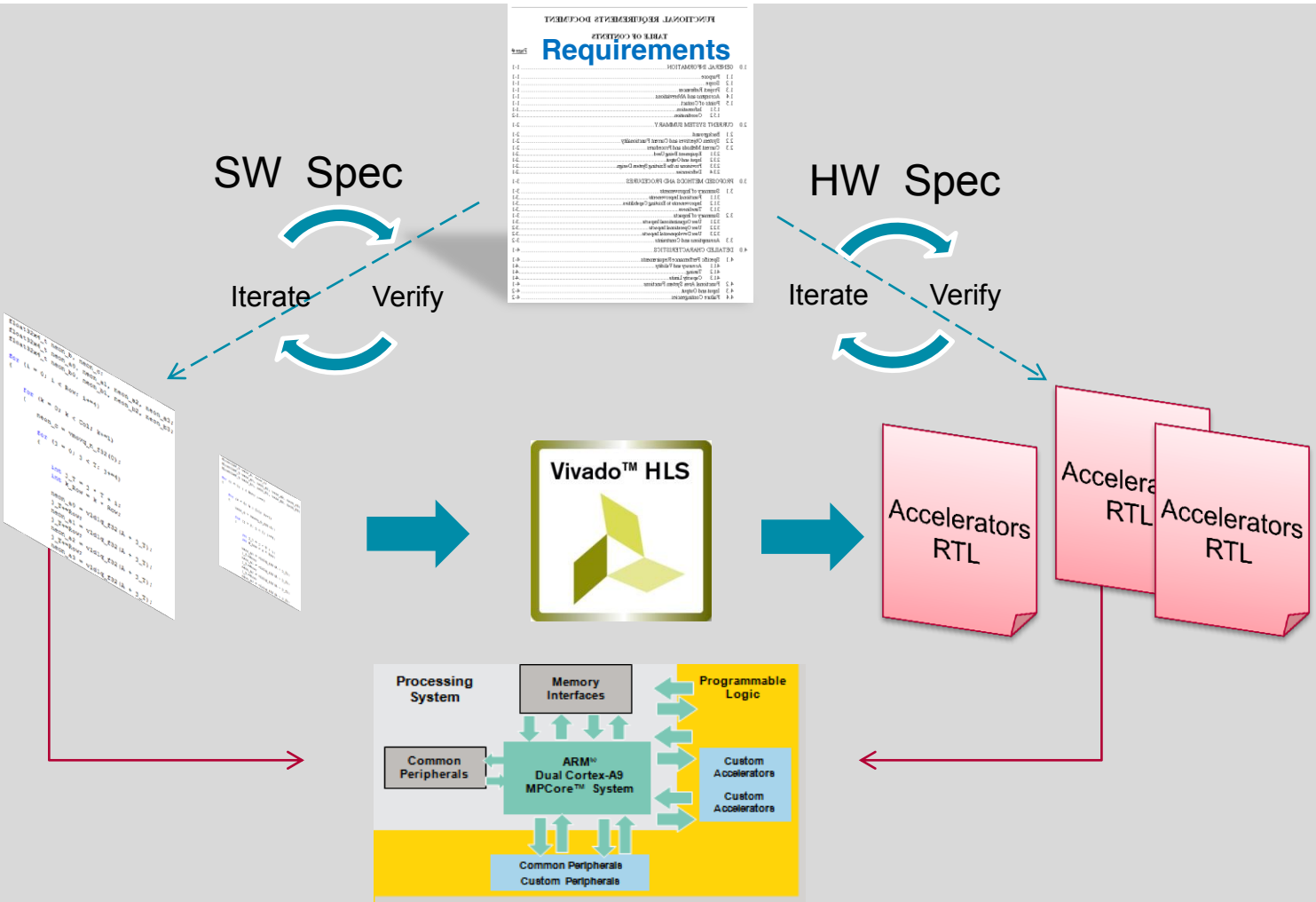
- **Generating Application-Specific IP from Algorithmic C specification**
  - Focus on Macro-architecture exploration… leave microarchitecture to tool

- **A few key problems**
  - Extracting lots of paralleliism
    - Statically scheduled Instruction-level parallelism (in loops)
    - Dynamically controlled task-level parallelism (between loops)
  - Analyzing pointer aliases
    - Most arrays map into BRAM, rather than global address space
  - Understanding performance
    - Good timing models for FPGA synthesis
    - Interval/Latency analysis

# All Programmable SOC Approach



# Vivado High-Level Synthesis




**Accelerates Algorithmic C to Co-Processing Accelerator Integration**


# Zynq Overview

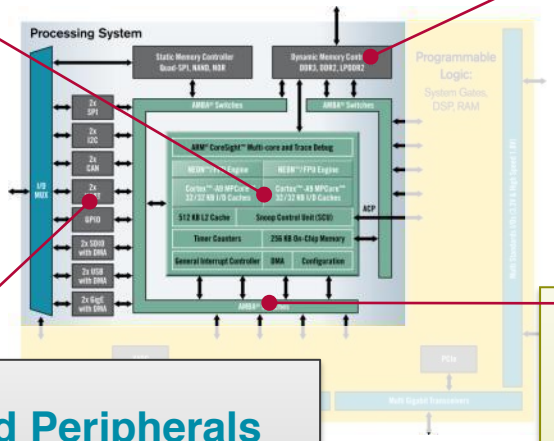
# Complete ARM-based Processing System

## Processor Core Complex

- Dual ARM Cortex-A9 MPCore with NEON™ extensions
- Single / Double Precision Floating Point support
- Up to 1 GHz operation

## High BW Memory

- Internal
  - L1 Cache – 32KB/32KB (per Core)
  - L2 Cache – 512KB Unified
- On-Chip Memory of 256KB
- Integrated Memory Controllers (DDR3, DDR2, LPDDR2, 2xQSPI, NOR, NAND Flash)




## Integrated Memory Mapped Peripherals

- 2x USB 2.0 (OTG) w/DMA
- 2x Tri-mode Gigabit Ethernet w/DMA
- 2x SD/SDIO w/DMA
- 2x UART, 2x CAN 2.0B, 2x I2C, 2x SPI, 32b GPIO

## AMBA Open Standard Interconnect

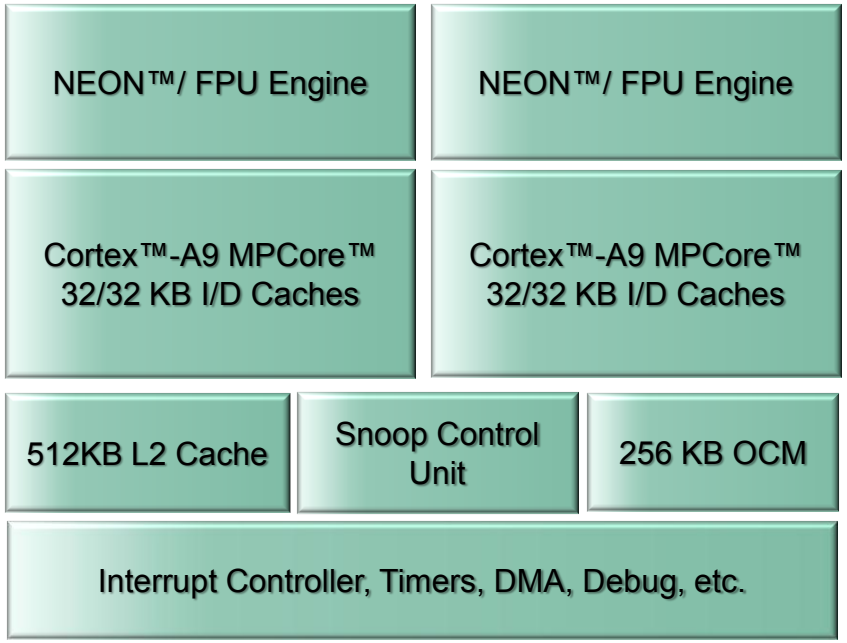
- High bandwidth interconnect between Processing System and Programmable Logic
- ACP port for enhanced hardware acceleration and cache coherency for additional soft processors

**Processing System Ready to Program**

# Powerful Application Processor at Heart

## *The Application Processor Unit (APU)*

- **Dual ARM Cortex-A9 MPCore with NEON extensions**
  - Up to 1 GHz operation (7030 & 7045)
  - Multi-issue (up to 4), Out-of-order, Speculative
  - Separate 32KB Instruction and Data Caches with Parity
- **Snoop Control Unit**
  - L1 Cache Snoop Control
    - Snoop filtering monitors cache traffic
    - Accelerator Coherency Port
- **Level 2 Cache and Controller**
  - Shared 512 KB Cache with parity
  - Lockable




- **On-Chip Memory (OCM)**
  - Dual-ported 256KB
  - Low-latency CPU access
  - Accessible by DMAs, Programmable Logic, etc.

# Processing System External Memories

## *Built-in Controllers and dedicated DDR Pins*

- **DDR controller**
  - DDR3 @ up to DDR1333
  - DDR2 @ up to DDR800
  - LPDDR2 @ up to DDR800
  - 16 bit or 32 bit wide; ECC on 16 bit
  - 73 dedicated DDR pins
- **Non-volatile memory (processor boot and FPGA configuration)**
  - NAND flash Controller (8 or 16 bit w/ ECC)
  - NOR flash/SRAM Controller (8 bit)
  - Quad SPI (QSPI) Controller

# Zynq OS Boot process

- **Multi-stage boot process**
  - Stage 0: Runs from ROM
    - loads FSBL from boot device to OCM
  - Stage 1 (FSBL): Runs from OCM
    - loads Uboot from boot device to DDRx memory
    - Initiates PS boot and PL configuration
  - Stage 2 (e.g. Uboot): runs from DDR
    - loads Linux kernel, initial ramdisk, and device tree from any location
    - May access FPGA
  - OS boot (e.g. Linux): runs from DDR
- **Supports 'secure boot' chain of trust**

# Typical Linux Boot from SD card

- Typical boot image (contents of BOOT.BIN)

```
the_ROM_image:
{
        [bootloader]zynq_fsbl.elf
        system.bit
        u-boot.elf
}
```

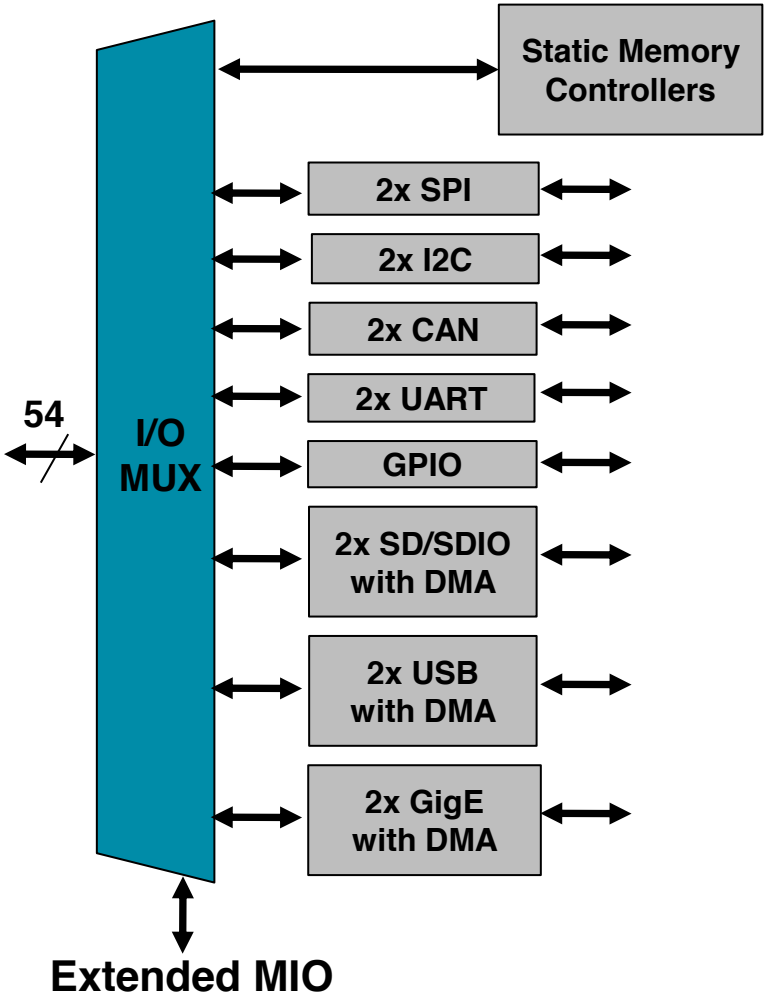
- Typical SD card contents

```
zynq> ls
devicetree.dtb
BOOT.bin
ramdisk8M.image.gz
uImage
```

# Comprehensive set of Built-in Peripherals

## *Enabling a wide set of IO functions*

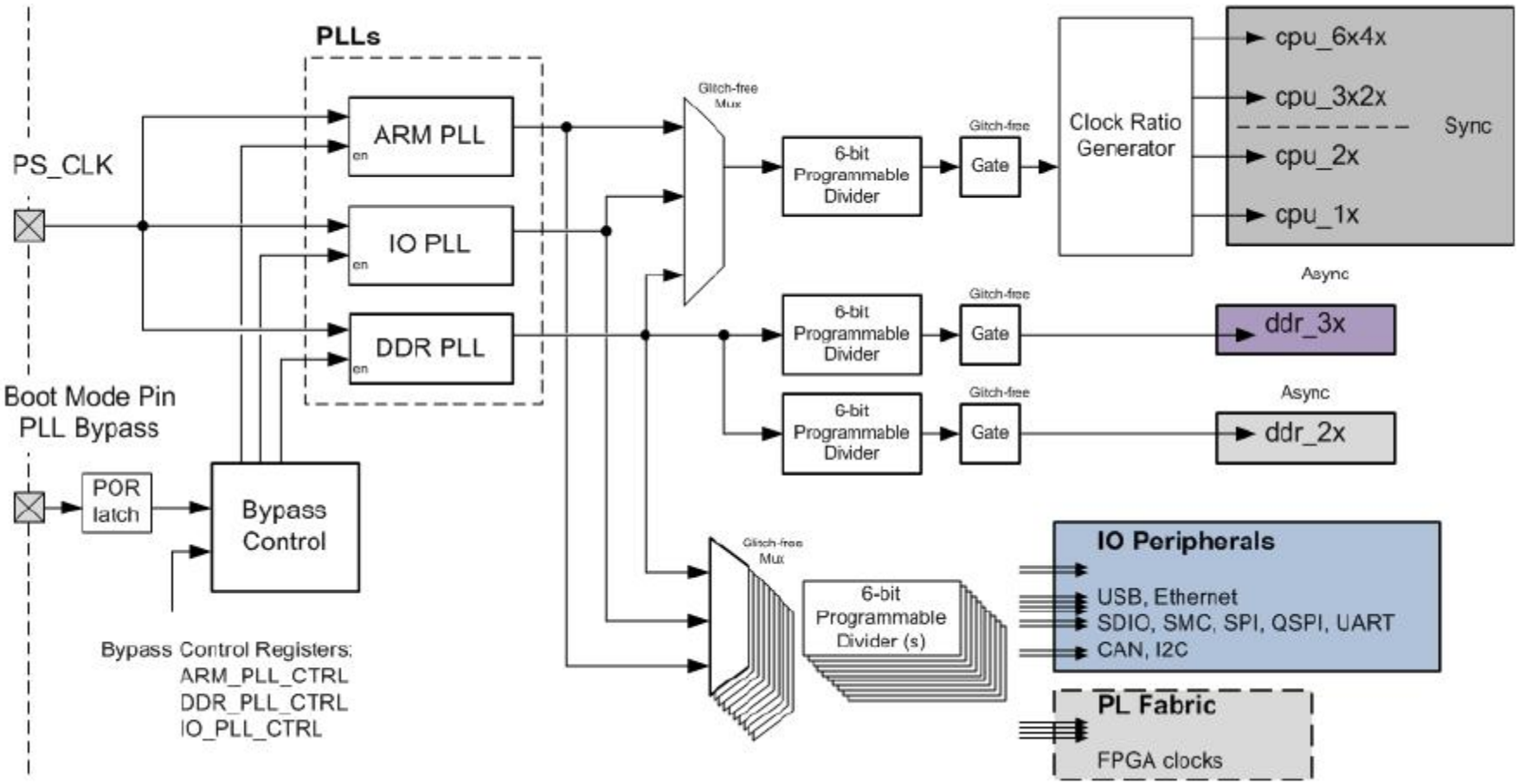
- Two USB 2.0 OTG/Device/Host
- Two Tri- Mode GigE (10/100/1000)
- Two SD/SDIO interfaces
- Two CAN 2.0B, SPI , I2C , UART
- Four GPIO 32bit Blocks
- Multiplexed Input/Output (MIO)
  - Multiplexed output of peripheral and static memories
  - Two I/O Banks: each selectable - 1.8V, 2.5V or 3.3V
- Extended MIO
  - Enables use of Select IO with PS peripherals
  - FPGA must be configured before using EMIO connections
  - EMIO connections use FPGA routing



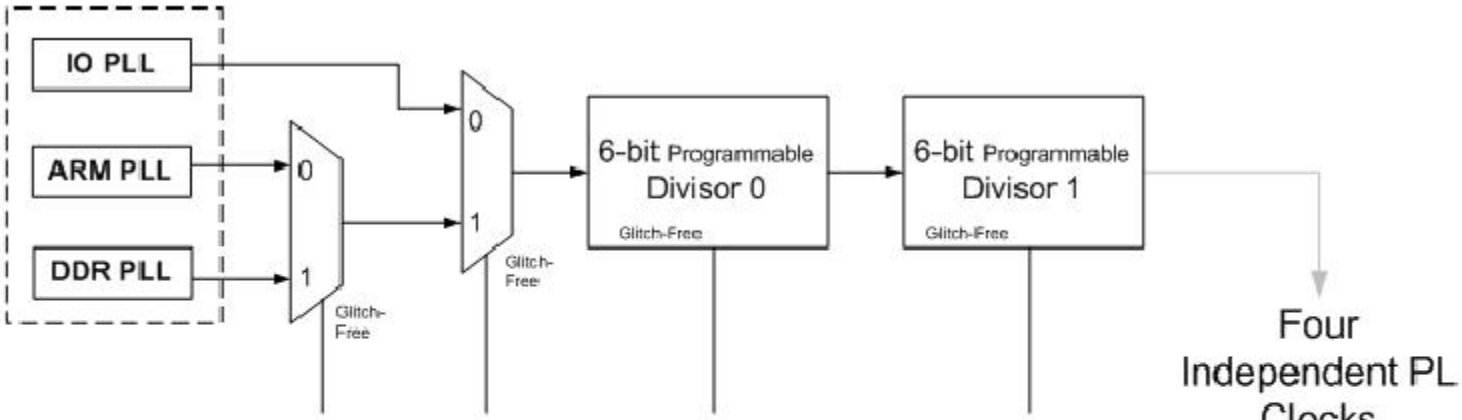
# Multiplexed I/O (MIO) Pinout

| IP | MIO | Extendable MIO in Programmable Logic |
|---|---|---|
| QSPI<br>NOR/SRAM<br>NAND | Yes | No |
| USB: 0,1 | Yes, Phy off chip | No |
| SDIO: 0,1 | Yes – 50MHz | Yes – 25MHz |
| SPI: 0,1<br>I2C: 0,1<br>CAN: 0,1<br>GPIO | Yes | Yes |
| GigE: 0,1 | RGMII v2.0 (HSTL)<br>Phy off chip | Supports GMII, RGMII v2.0 (HSTL), RGMII v1.3 (LVCMOS), RMII, MII, SGMII with wrapper in Programmable Logic |
| UART: 0,1 | Simple UART:<br>Only 2 pins (Tx & Rx) | Full UART (Tx, Rx, DTR, DCD, DSR, RI, RTS & CTS) either require:<br>• 2 Processing System pins (Rx & Tx) through MIO + 6 additional Programmable Logic pins<br>• 8 Programmable Logic pins |

# Clock Generator Block Diagram



# Clocking the PL




| PL Fabric Clock | Control Register | Mux Ctrl Field | Mux Ctrl Field | Divider 0 Ctrl Field | Divider 1 Ctrl Field |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| PL Fabric 0 | FPGA0_CLK_CTRL | SRCSEL, 4 | SRCSEL, 5 | DIVISOR 0, 13:8 | DIVISOR 1, 25:20 |
| PL Fabric 1 | FPGA1_CLK_CTRL | SRCSEL, 4 | SRCSEL, 5 | DIVISOR 0, 13:8 | DIVISOR 1, 25:20 |
| PL Fabric 2 | FPGA2_CLK_CTRL | SRCSEL, 4 | SRCSEL, 5 | DIVISOR 0, 13:8 | DIVISOR 1, 25:20 |
| PL Fabric 3 | FPGA3_CLK_CTRL | SRCSEL, 4 | SRCSEL, 5 | DIVISOR 0, 13:8 | DIVISOR 1, 25:20 |

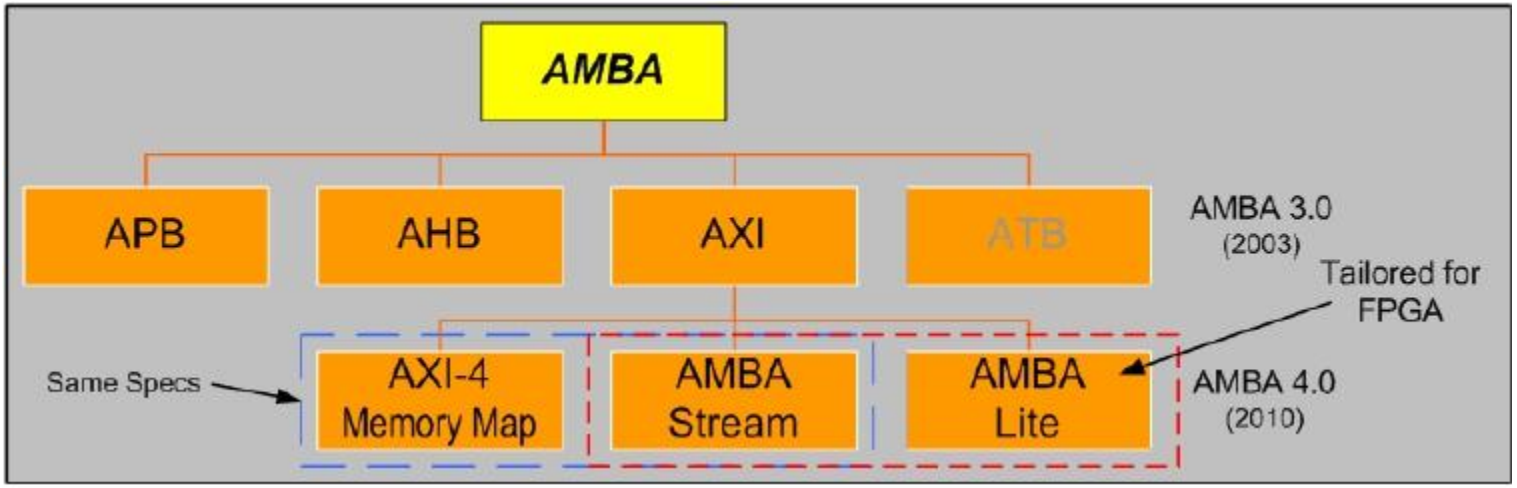
→ FCLKCLK0
→ FCLKCLK1
→ FCLKCLK2
→ FCLKCLK3

- **Other features:**
  - associated reset (FCLKRSTn)
  - software clock counter
  - clock pause trigger (FCLKCLKTRIGxN)

# Interrupts

- **16 peripheral interrupts from PL to PS**
  - Used for accelerators and peripherals in PL
- **4 processor-specific interrupts from PL to PS**
- **28 interrupts from PS peripherals to PL**
  - PS peripherals can be serviced from Microblaze in fabric

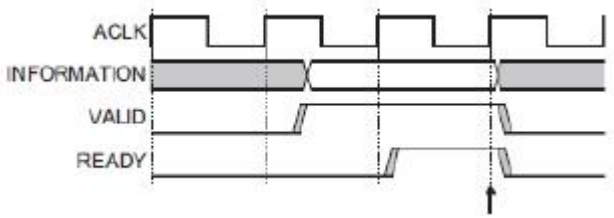
# AXI is Part of AMBA: Advanced Microcontroller Bus Architecture



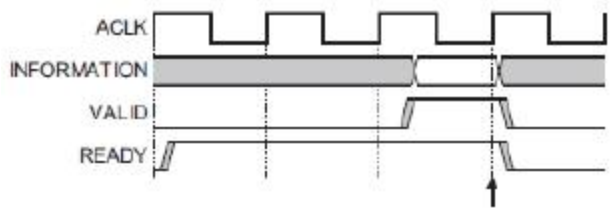

| Interface | Features | SimilarTo |
|---|---|---|
| MemoryMap/Full | Traditional address/data burst (single address,multiple data) | PLBv46,PCI |
| Streaming | Dataonly,burst | LocalLink/DSP interfaces/FIFO/FSL |
| Lite | Traditional address/data—no burst (single address,multiple data) | PLBv46single OPB |

# AXI Interface: Streaming

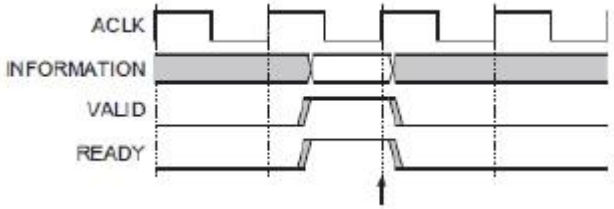
- **AXI Streams are fully handshaked**
  - Data is transferred when source asserts VALID and destination asserts READY
- **'Information' includes DATA and other side channel signals**
  - STRB
  - KEEP
  - LAST
  - ID
  - DEST
  - USER
- **Most of these are optional**




Inserting Wait States



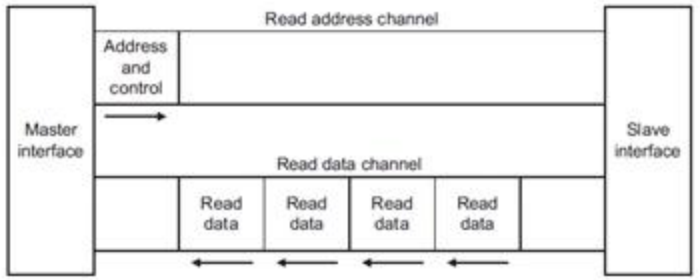

Always Ready



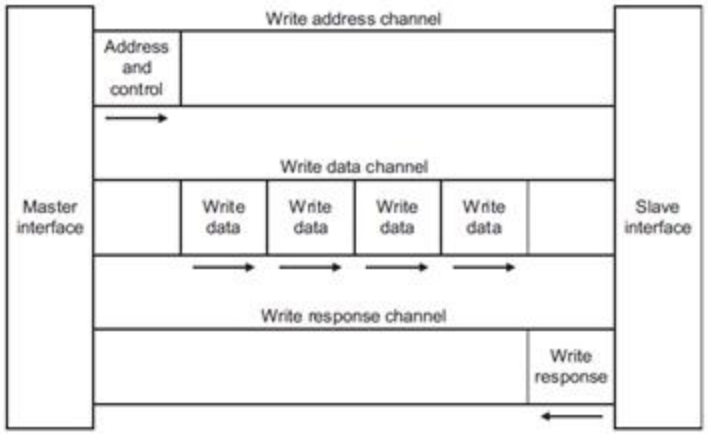

Same Cycle Acknowledge

# AXI Interface: AXI4

- **Memory mapped interfaces consist of 5 streams**
  - Read Address
  - Read Data
  - Write Address
  - Write Data
  - Write Acknowledge
- **Burst length limited to 256**
- **Data width limited to 256 bits for Xilinx IP**
- **AXI Lite is a subset**
  - no bursts
  - 32 bit data width only



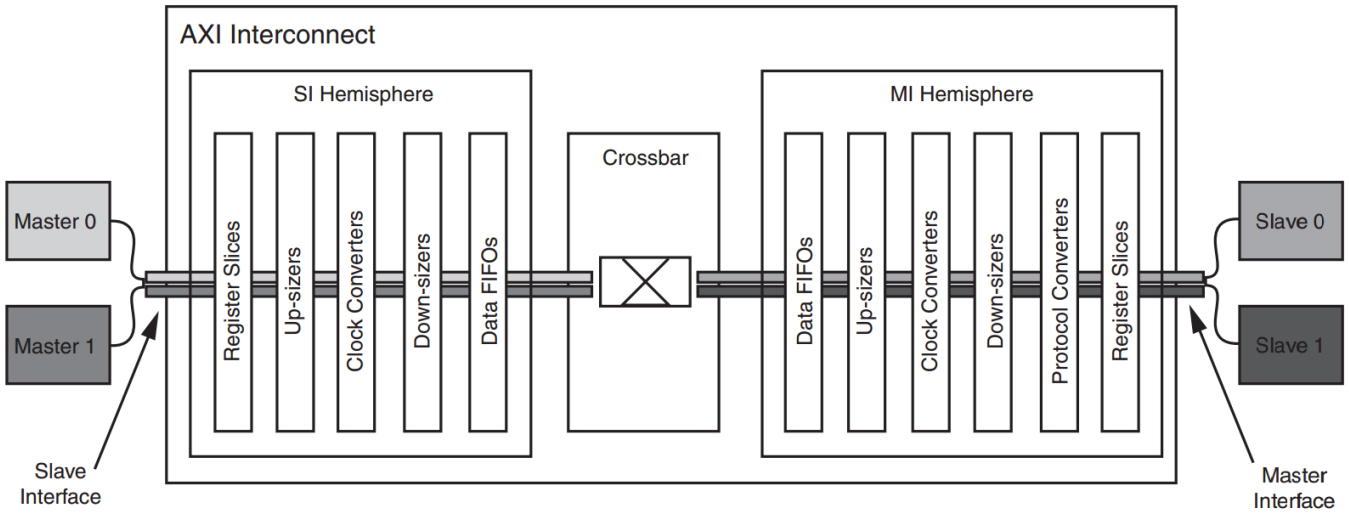

AXI4 READ




AXI4 Write

# AXI Interconnect IP in PS

- **Uses AXI4 Memory Mapped Interfaces**
  - Automatic width conversion
  - Automatic AXI3/AXI4 Lite protocol conversion
  - Automatic clock-domain crossing
- **Configurable sparse crossbar or shared bus**
- **Optional buffering fifos**
- **Optional timing isolation registers**

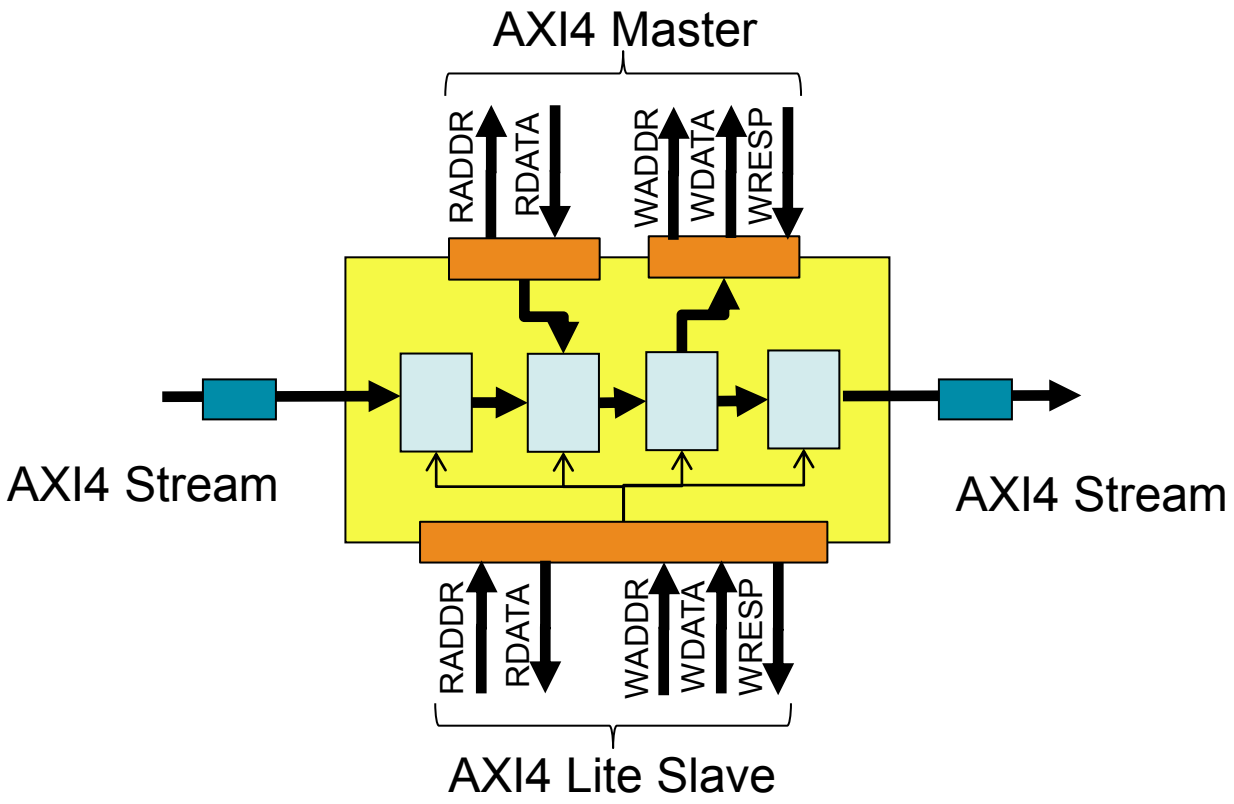


# AXI Interconnect IP Details

- **Centralized arbitration with parallel data**
  - Arbitration optimized for 3+ data beats per burst
- **Buffering allows address pipelining**
  - However, Masters and Slaves have practical limits on pipelining
  - Described using Master ISSUING and Slave ACCEPTANCE parameters
  - Arbitration uses these parameters to limit head-of-line blocking

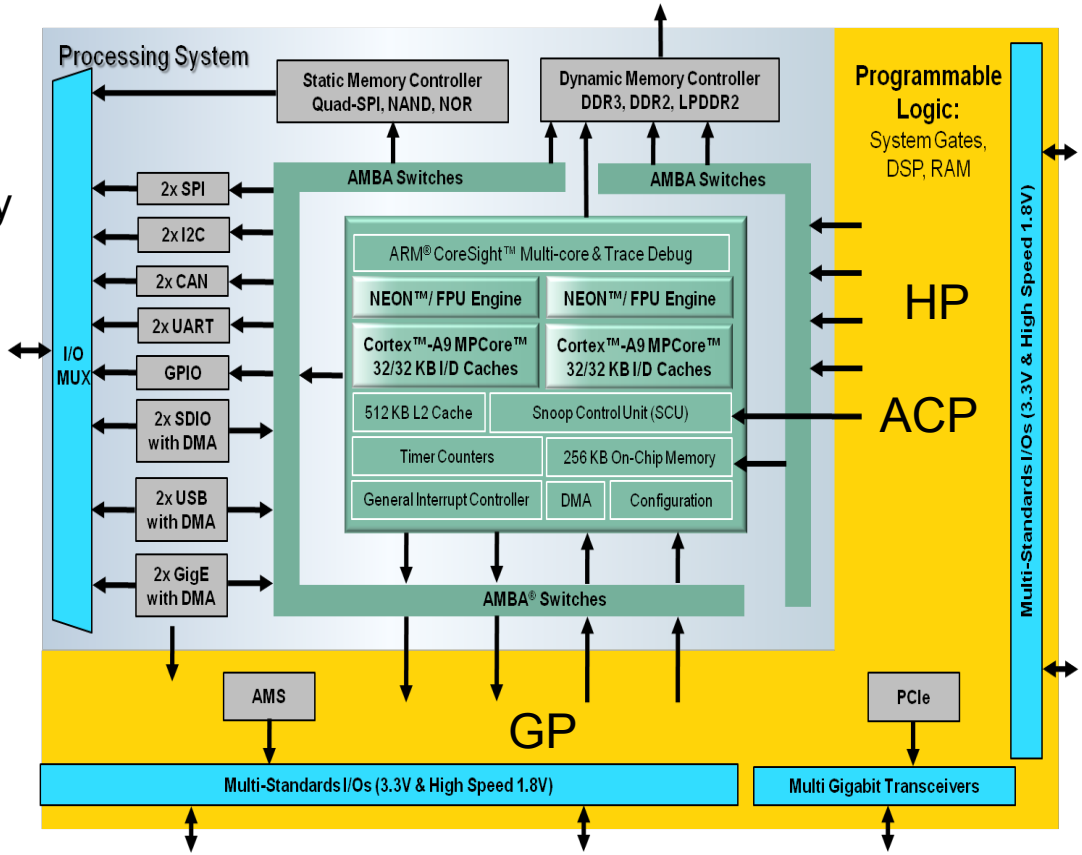
# AXI based accelerators

- HLS accelerators will combine lots of AXI interfaces



# Zynq AXI Interfaces

- **HP**
  - 4 x 64 bit Slave interfaces
    - Optimized for high bandwidth access from PL to external memory
- **GP**
  - 2 x 32 bit Slave interfaces
    - Optimized for access from PL to PS peripherals
  - 2 x 32 bit Master interfaces
    - Optimized for access from processors to PL registers
- **ACP**
  - 1 x 64 bit Slave interface
    - Optimized for access from PL to processor caches



# GP Port Summary

- GP ports are designed for maximum flexibility
- Allow register access from PS to PL or PL to PS

- Good for Synchronization
- Prefer ACP or HP port for data transport

# HP Port Summary

- HP ports are designed for maximum bandwidth access to external memory and OCM
- When combined can saturate external memory and OCM bandwidth
  - HP Ports : 4 * 64 bits * 150 MHz * 2 = 9.6 GByte/sec
  - external DDR: 1 * 32 bits * 1066 MHz * 2 = 4.3 GByte/sec
  - OCM : 64 bits * 222 MHz * 2 = 3.5 GByte/sec
- Optimized for large burst lengths and many outstanding transactions
- Large data buffers to amortize access latency
- Efficient upsizing/downsizing for 32 bit accesses

# ACP Port Summary

- **ACP allows limited support for Hardware Coherency**
  - Allows a PL accelerator to access cache of the Cortex-A9 processors
  - PL has access to through the same path as CPUs
    - including caches, OCM, DDR, and peripherals
  - Access is low latency (assuming data is in processor cache)
    - no switches in path
- **ACP does not allow full coherency**
  - PL is not notified of changes in processor caches (different from ACE)
  - Use “event bus” or register write of PL register for synchronization
- **ACP is compromise between bandwidth and latency**
  - Optimized for cache line length transfers
  - Low latency for L1/L2 hits
  - Minimal buffering to hide external memory latency
  - One shared 64 bit interface, limit of 8 masters

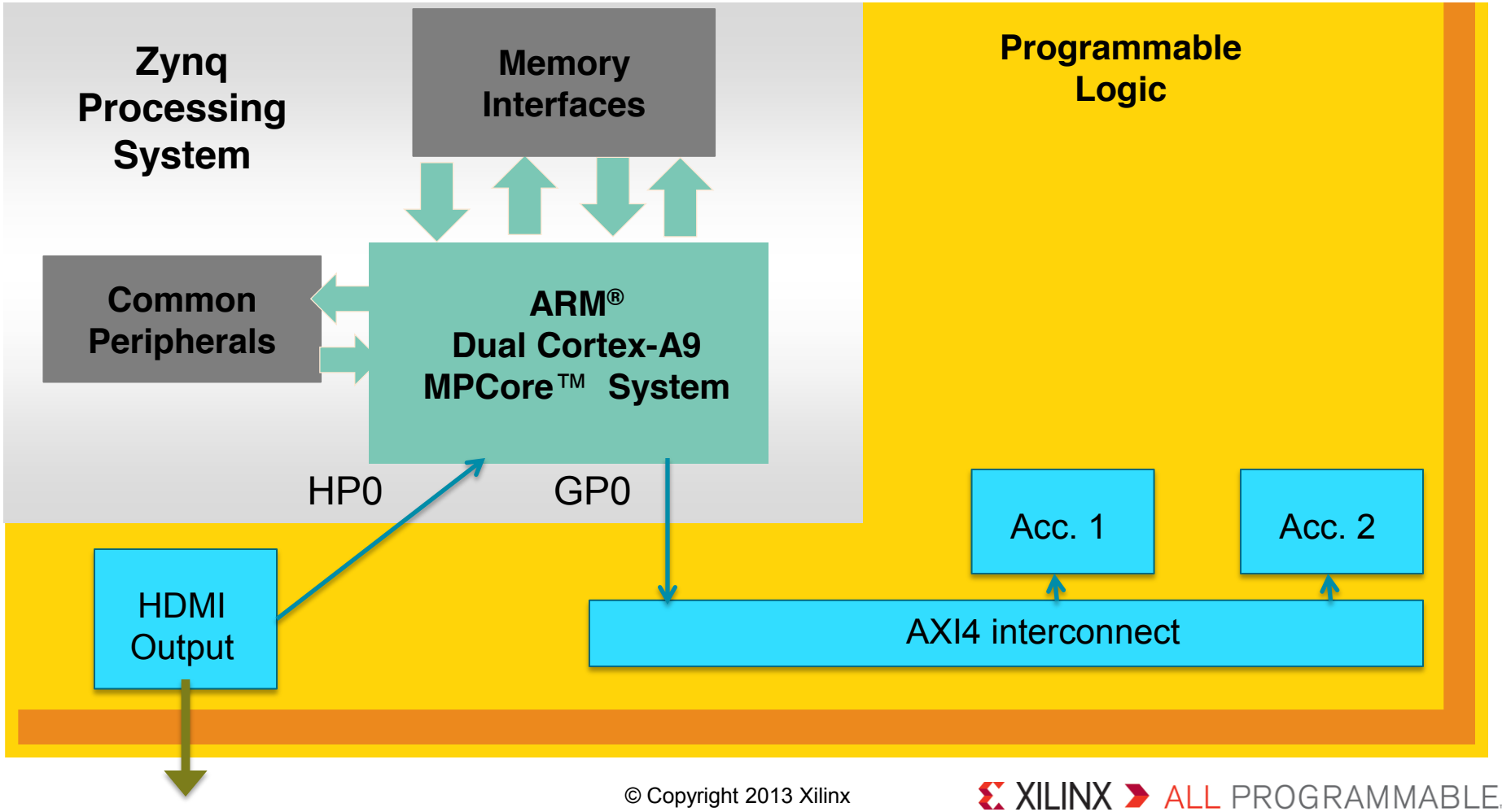
# ACP Details

- **Must access complete cache lines (32 bytes)**
  - LENGTH = 3 (i.e. 4 data beats)
  - SIZE = 3 (i.e. transfer 8 bytes per data beat)
  - STRB = 0xFF (i.e. all data will be read/written)
  - Proper address alignment
    - Incremental burst with 32 byte alignment
    - Wrapped burst with 8 byte alignment
- **USER[0] = 1 and CACHE[0] = 1 to hit in cache**

- http://infocenter.arm.com/help/index.jsp?topic=/com.arm.doc.ddi0407f/BABCDDIA.html

# Accelerator Architecture (With Bus Slave)

Pro: Simple System Architecture
Con: Limited communication bandwidth

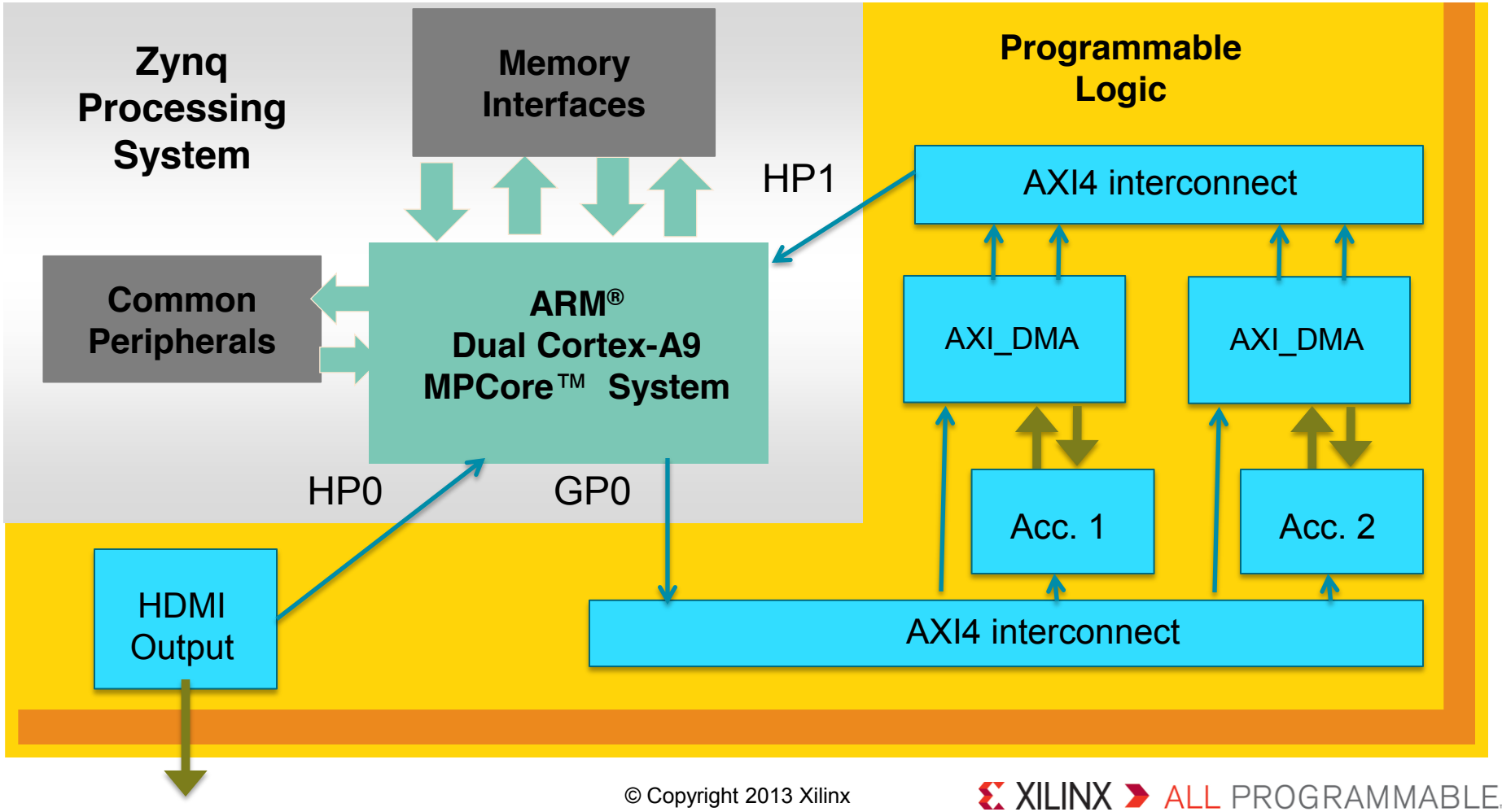


# Bus Slave Accelerator Communication

- **Write to Accelerator**
  - processor writes to uncached memory location
- **Read from Accelerator**
  - processor reads from uncached memory location

# Architecture (With DMA)

Pro: High Bandwidth Communication
Con: Complicated System Architecture, High Latency



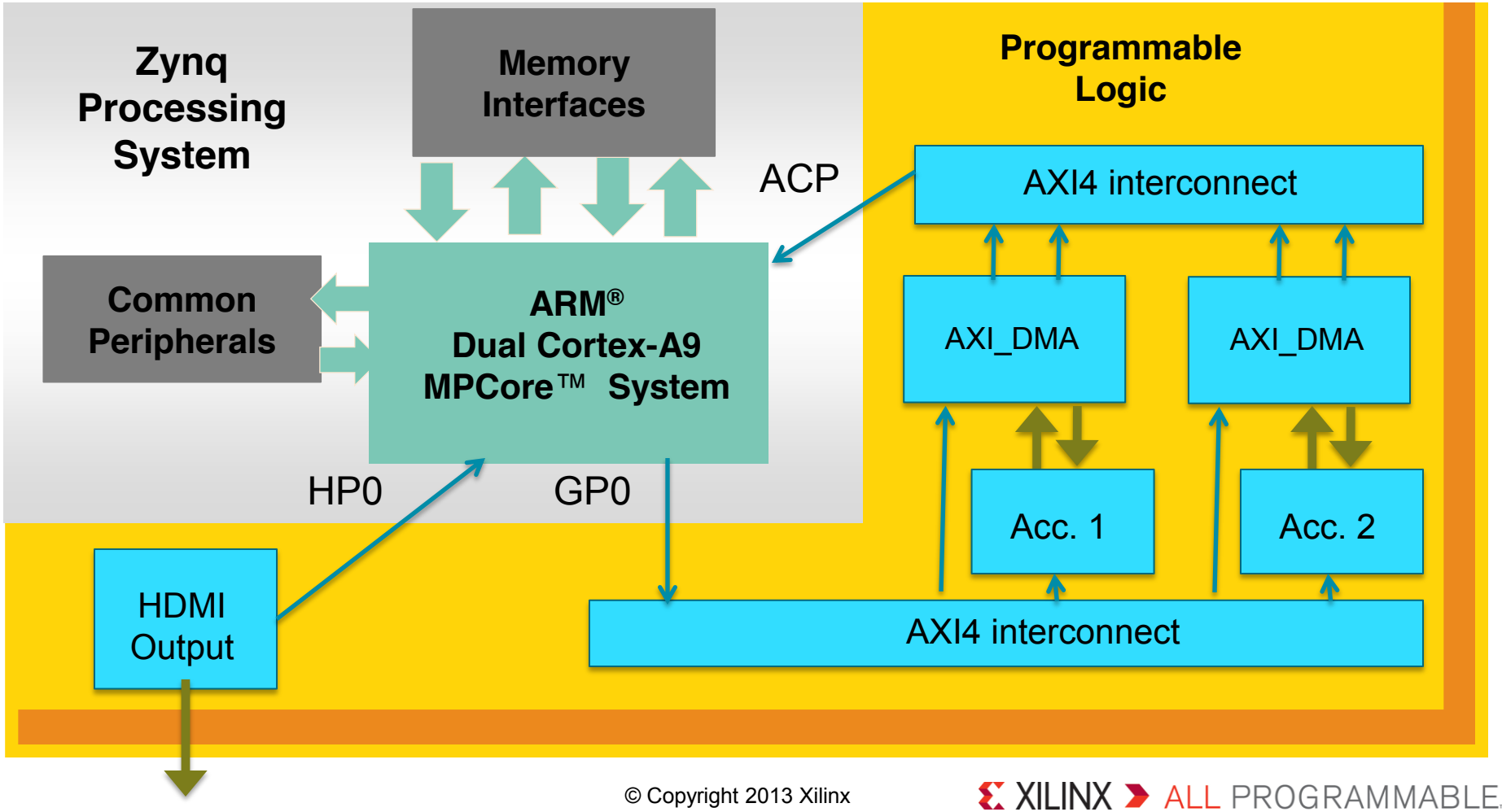
# AXI DMA-based Accelerator Communication

- **Write to Accelerator**
  - processor allocates buffer
  - processor allocates scatter-gather list
  - processor initializes scatter-gather list with physically continuous segments
  - processor writes data into buffer
  - processor flushes cache for buffer
  - processor pushes scatter-gather list to DMA register
- **Read from Accelerator**
  - processor allocates buffer
  - processor allocates scatter-gather list
  - processor initializes scatter-gather list with physically continuous segments
  - processor pushes scatter-gather list to DMA register
  - processor waits for DMA complete
  - processor invalidates cache for buffer
  - processor reads data from buffer

# Architecture (With Coherent DMA)

Pro: Low latency, high-bandwidth communication

Con: Complicated system architecture, Limited to data that fits in caches



# Coherent AXI DMA-based Accelerator Communication

- **Write to Accelerator**
  - processor allocates buffer
  - processor allocates scatter-gather list
  - processor initializes scatter-gather list with physically continuous segments
  - processor writes data into buffer
  - ~~processor flushes cache for buffer~~
  - processor pushes scatter-gather list to DMA register

- **Read from Accelerator**
  - processor allocates buffer
  - processor allocates scatter-gather list
  - processor initializes scatter-gather list with physically continuous segments
  - processor pushes scatter-gather list to DMA register
  - processor waits for DMA complete
  - ~~processor invalidates cache for buffer~~
  - processor reads data from buffer


# How Does HLS Work?

# How Does HLS Work?

- Overview of HLS
- HLS Coding and Design Capture
- Default Behaviors
- Performance Optimization
- Area Optimization
- Interface Definition


# Overview of HLS

# HLS Premise:
# 1 C Code – Multiple HW Implementations

One body of code:
Many hardware outcomes

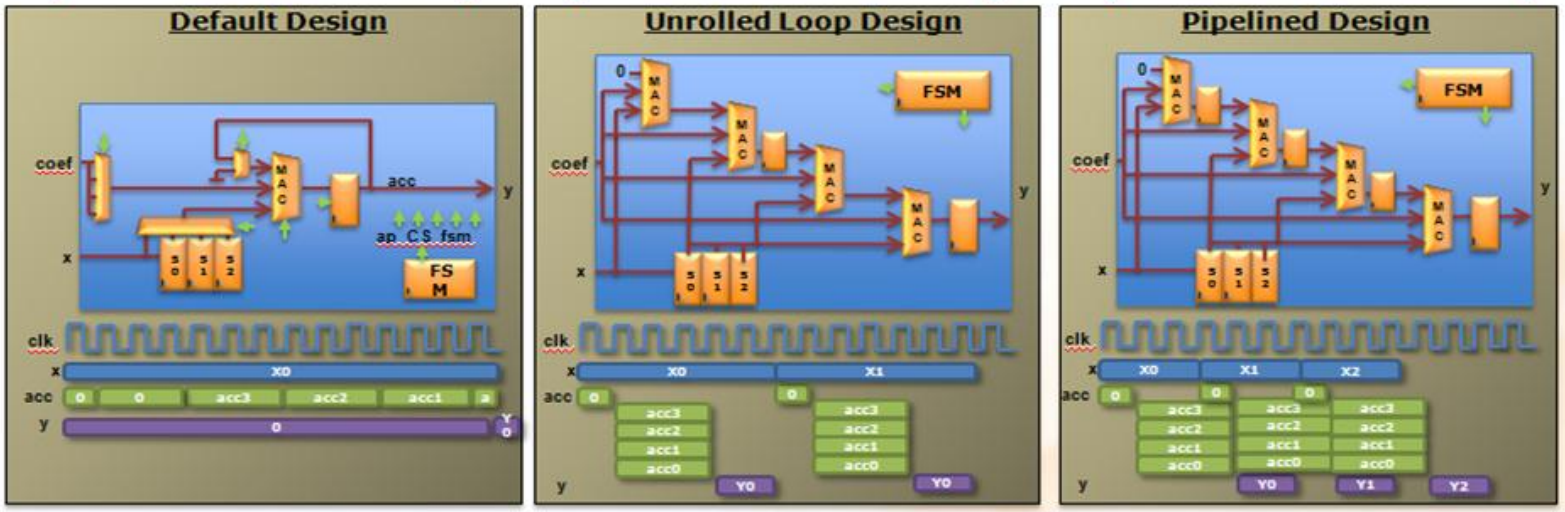
```
...
loop: for (i=3;i>=0;i--) {
  if (i==0) {
    acc+=x*c[0];
    shift_reg[0]=x;
  } else {
    shift_reg[i]=shift_reg[i-1];
    acc+=shift_reg[i]*c[i];
  }
} ....
```

Before going into details, let's look under the hood ....

The same hardware is used for each iteration of the loop:
- Small area
- Long latency
- Low throughput

Different hardware is used for each iteration of the loop:
- Higher area
- Short latency
- Better throughput

Different iterations are executed concurrently:
- Higher area
- Short latency
- Best throughput

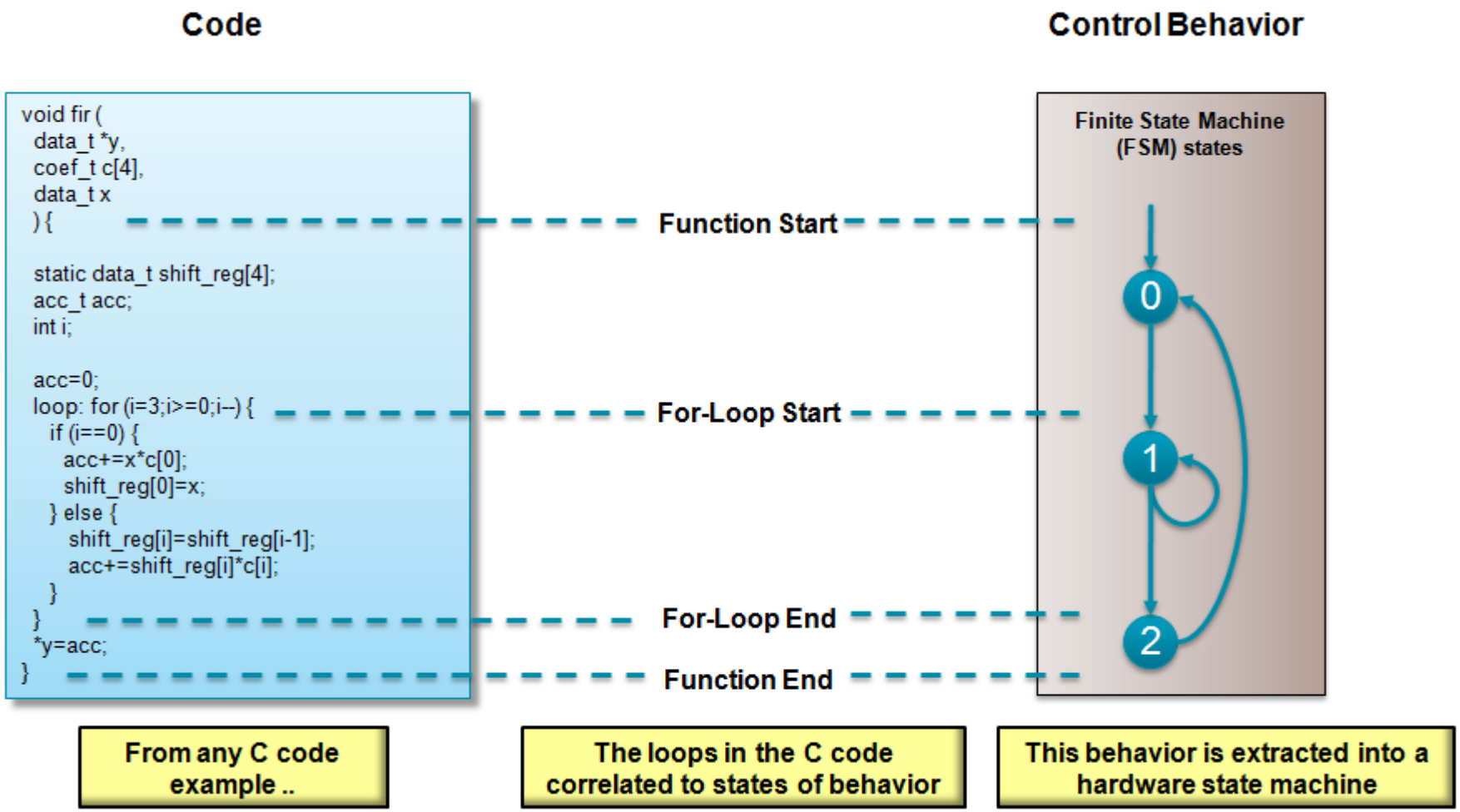


# Attributes of a Program for Synthesis

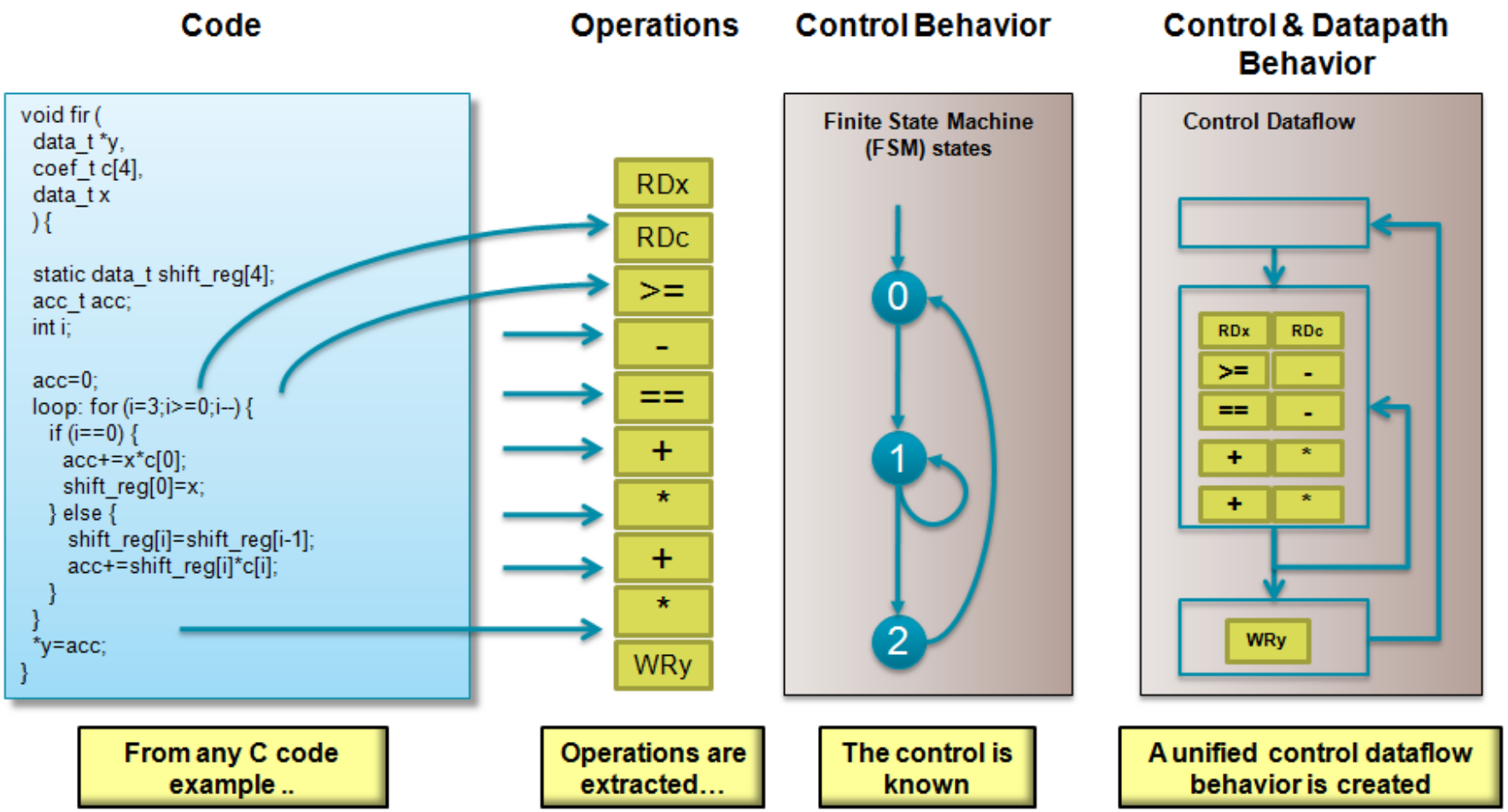
- **Functions**
  - Functions define hierarchy and control regions
- **Function Parameters:**
  - Define the RTL I/O Ports
- **Types:**
  - Data types define bitwidth requirements
  - HLS optimizes bitwidth except for function parameters
- **Loops:**
  - Define iterative execution regions that can share HW resources
- **Arrays:**
  - Main way of defining memory and data storage
- **Operators:**
  - Implementations optimized for performance
  - Automatically shared where possible to reduce area

```
void fir (
  data_t *y,
  coef_t c[4],
  data_t x
  ) {

  static data_t shift_reg[4];
  acc_t acc;
  int i;

  acc=0;
  loop: for (i=3;i>=0;i--) {
    if (i==0) {
      acc+=x*c[0];
      shift_reg[0]=x;
    } else {
      shift_reg[i]=shift_reg[i-1];
      acc+=shift_reg[i] * c[i];
}
  }
  *y=acc;
}
```

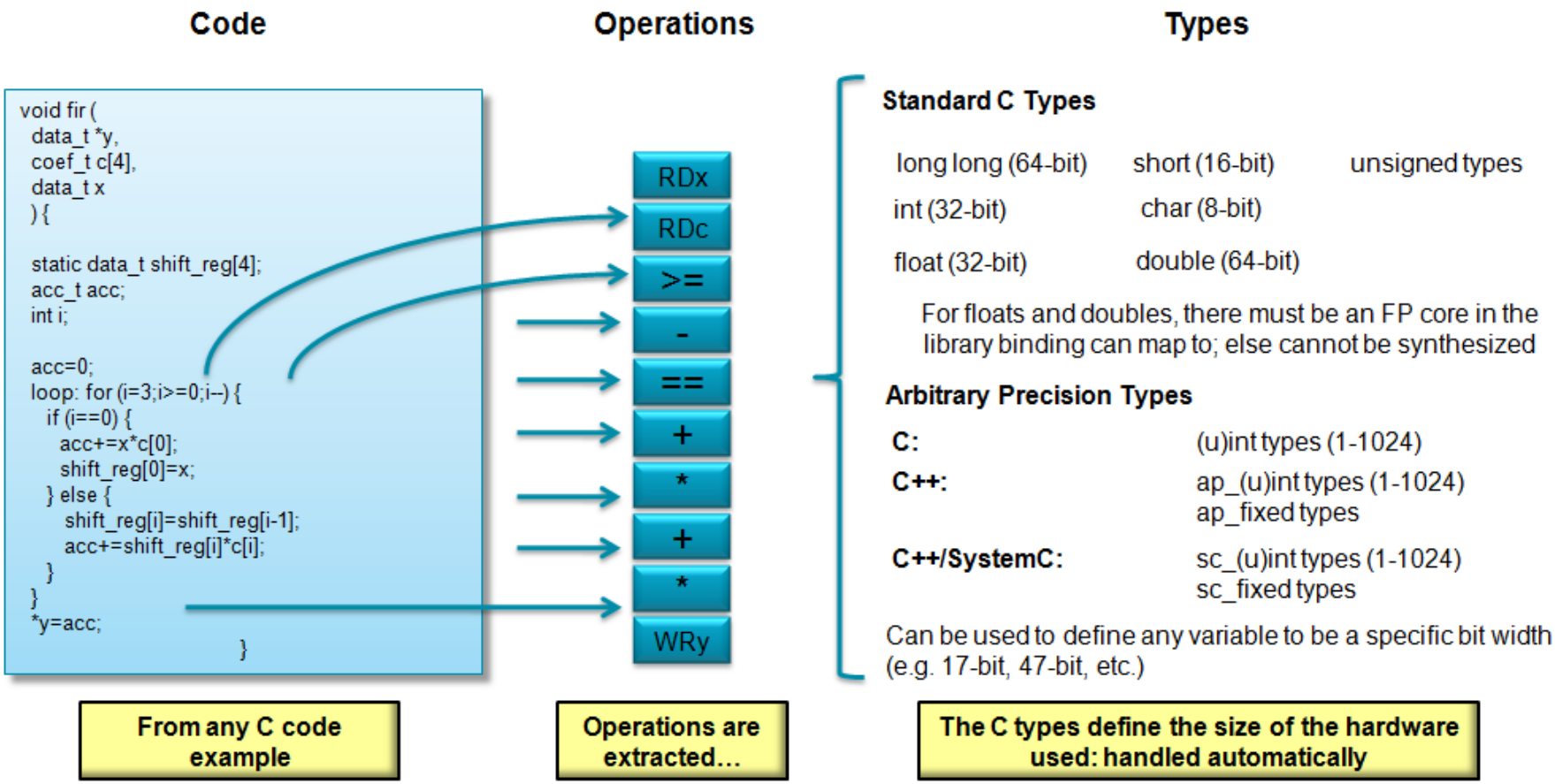
# Control Defined by a Program



# Combining Control and Operations



# Optimizing and Sizing Program Operations



# Program Functions and RTL Modules

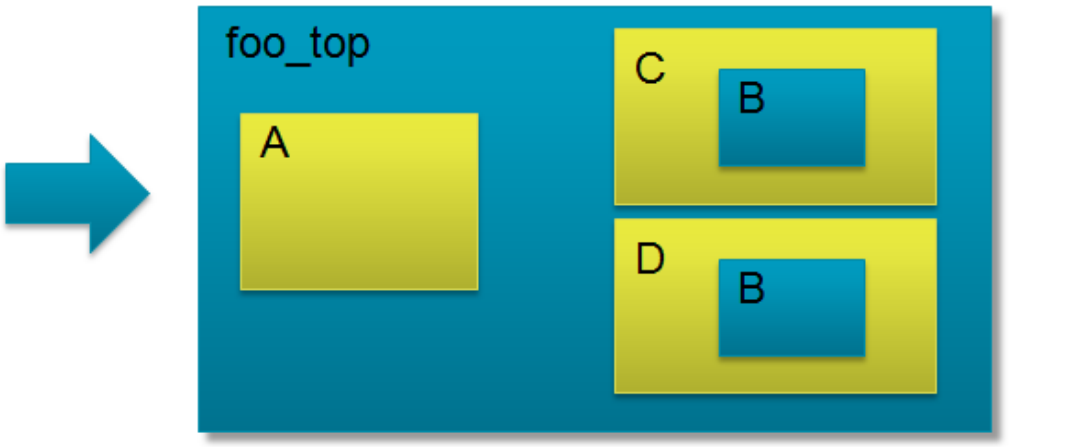
- Functions are by default converted into RTL modules
- Functions define hierarchy in RTL
- Functions at the same hierarchical level can be shared like any operator to reduce resource consumption
  - Performance requirements control the level possible sharing

**Source Code**

```
void A() { ..body A..}
void B() { ..body B..}
void C() {
        B();
}
void D() {
        B();
}

void foo_top() {
        A(…);
        C(…);
        D(…)
}
```

my_code.c

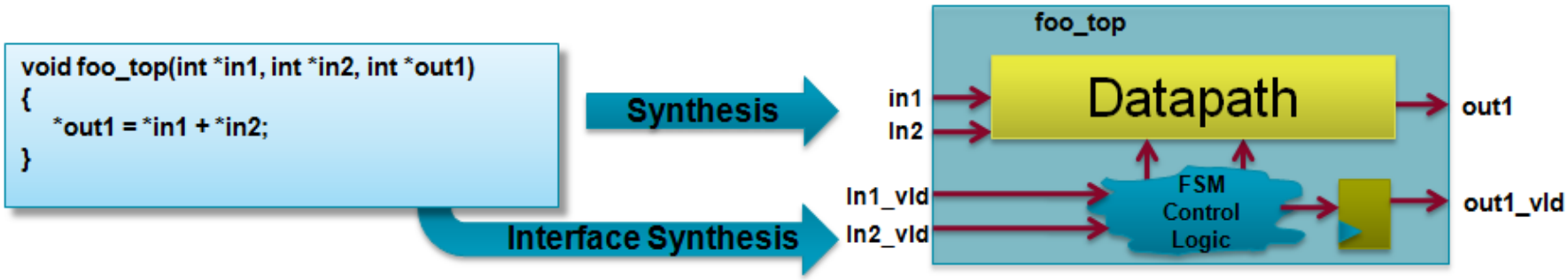
**RTL Hierarchy**




Each function/block can be shared like any other component (add, sub, etc) *provided it is not* in use at the same time

# Completing a Design – I/O Port Creation

- **Function parameters define data I/O ports and default protocols**
  - Pointers → AXI4-Master interface
  - Scalars → AXI4-Lite interface or raw wires
  - Arrays → AXI4-Lite or AXI4 stream interface
- **Protocol in generated HW are controlled through user directives**



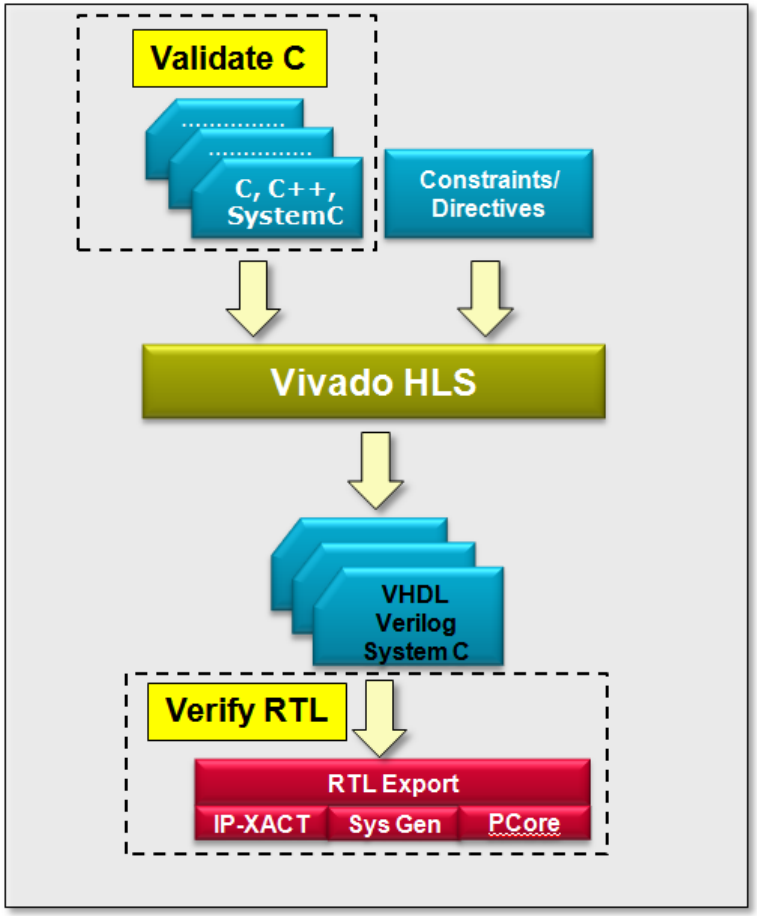

# HLS Coding and Design Capture

# Vivado HLS Development Environment

- **A complete C validation and verification environment**
  - Vivado HLS supports complete bit-accurate validation of the C model
  - Vivado HLS provides a productive C-RTL co-simulation verification solution
- **Vivado HLS supports C, C++, and SystemC**
  - Functions can be written in any version of C
  - Wide support for coding constructs in all three variants of C
- **Modeling with bit accuracy**
  - Supports arbitrary precision types for all input languages
  - Allows the exact bit widths to be modeled and synthesized
- **Floating-point support**
  - Support for the use of float and double in the code
- **Pointers and streaming-based applications**

# Vivado HLS Tiered Verification Flow

- **Two steps to verifying the design**
  - Pre-synthesis: C validation
  - Post-synthesis: RTL verification
- **C validation**
  - Fast and free verification on any Operating System
  - Prove algorithm correctness before RTL generation
- **RTL Verification**
  - RTL Co-Simulation against the original program testbench



# Coding Restrictions

- **Data Types**
  - Forward declared data types
  - Recursive type definitions
- **Pointers**
  - General casting between user defined data types
  - Pointers to dynamically allocated memory regions
- **System Calls**
  - Dynamic memory allocation – must be replaced with static allocation
  - Standard I/O and file I/O – automatically ignored by the compiler
  - System calls
    - i.e. time(), sleep()
- **Recursive functions that are not compile time bounded**
- **STL lib calls**
  - Not supported due to dynamic memory allocation
  - Have compile time unbounded recursion

# Arbitrary Precision Types

- **C and C++ standard types are supported but limit the hardware**
  - 8-bit, 16-bit, 32-bit boundaries
- **Real hardware implementations use a wide range of bitdwidths**
  - Tailored to reduce hardware resources
  - Minimum precision to keep algorithm correctness
- **HLS provides bit-accurate types in C and C++**
  - SystemC and HLS types supported to simulate hardware datapaths in C/C++

my_code.c

```
#include ap_cint.h

void foo_top (...) {

   int1                    var1;          // 1-bit
   uint1                   var1u;         // 1-bit
unsigned
   int2                    var2;          // 2-bit
   ...                     ...
   int1024     var1024;    // 1024-bit
   uint1024    var1024;    // 1024-bit unsigned

                           ...
```

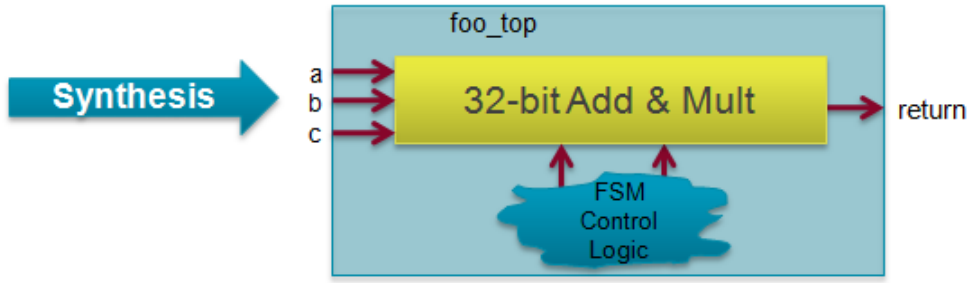
my_code.cpp

```
#include ap_int.h

void foo_top (...) {

   ap_int<1>               var1;                  // 1-
bit
   ap_uint<1>              var1u;                 // 1-
bit unsigned
   ap_int<2>               var2;                  // 2-
bit
   ...                                ...
   ap_int<1024>                       var1024;    //
1024-bit
   ap_int<1024>                       var1024u;   //
1024-bit unsigned

   ...
```

# Algorithm Modeling with Arbitrary Types

## Code using native C types

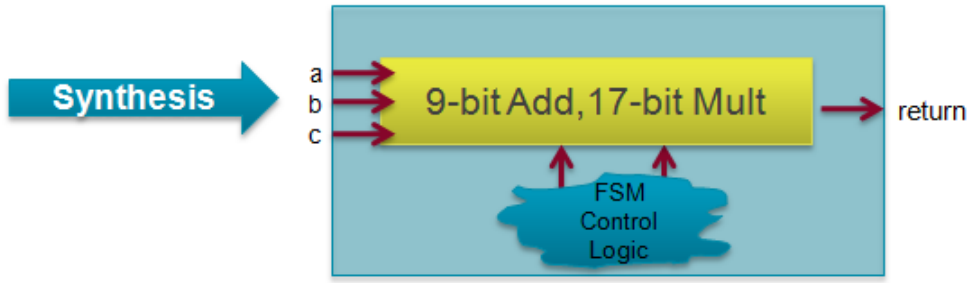
```
int foo_top(int a, int b, int c)
{
    int sum, mult;
    sum=a+b;
    mult=sum*c;
    return mult;
}
```




## Code using HLS types

- Software model matches hardware implementation
- C++ types can be compiled with both gcc and Visual Studio

```
int17 foo_top(int8 a, int8 b, int8 c)
{
    int9 sum;
    int17 mult;
    sum=a+b;
    mult=sum*c;
    return mult;
}
```

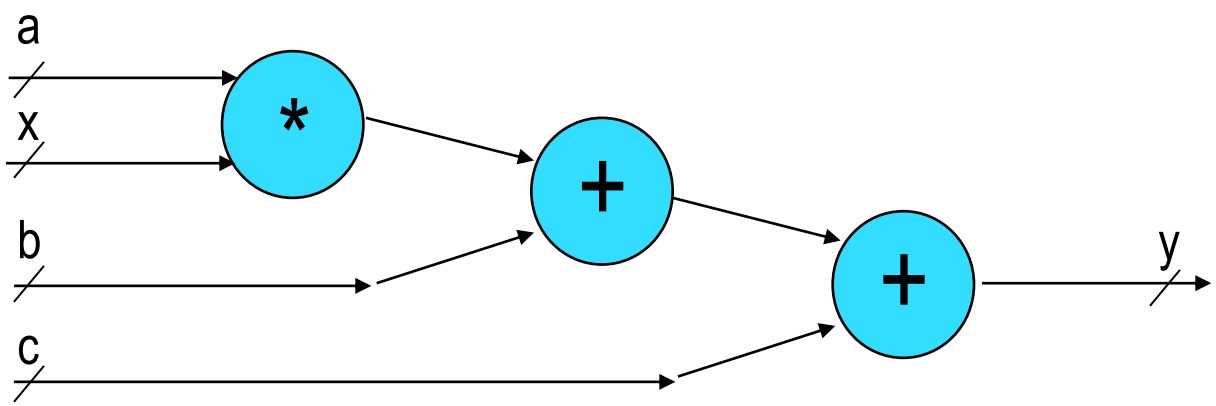



# Default Behavior

# Datapath Synthesis

- HLS begins by extracting a functional model of a C expression

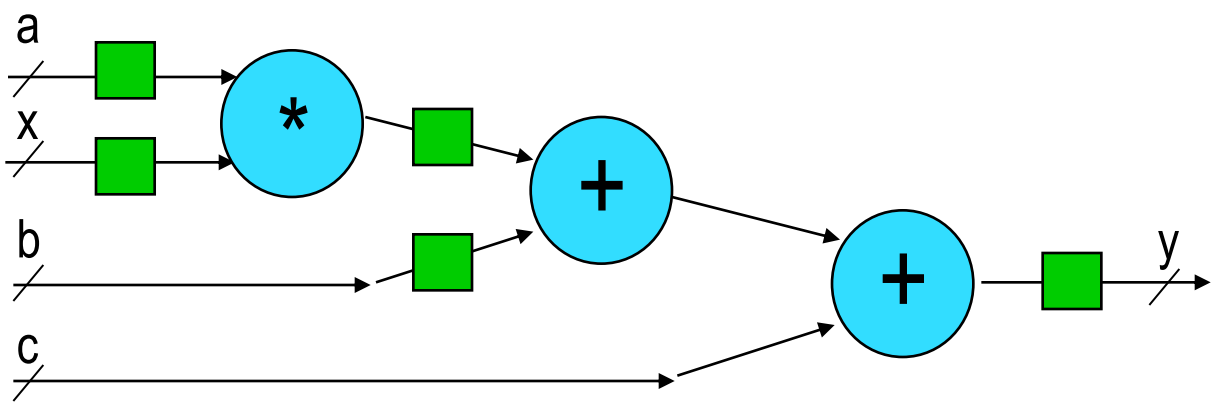
```
int a,b,c,x;
int y = a*x + b + c
```



# Datapath Synthesis - Pipelining

- HLS accounts for target frequency and device characteristics to determine minimum required pipelining
- Circuit will close timing but is not yet the optimal implementation

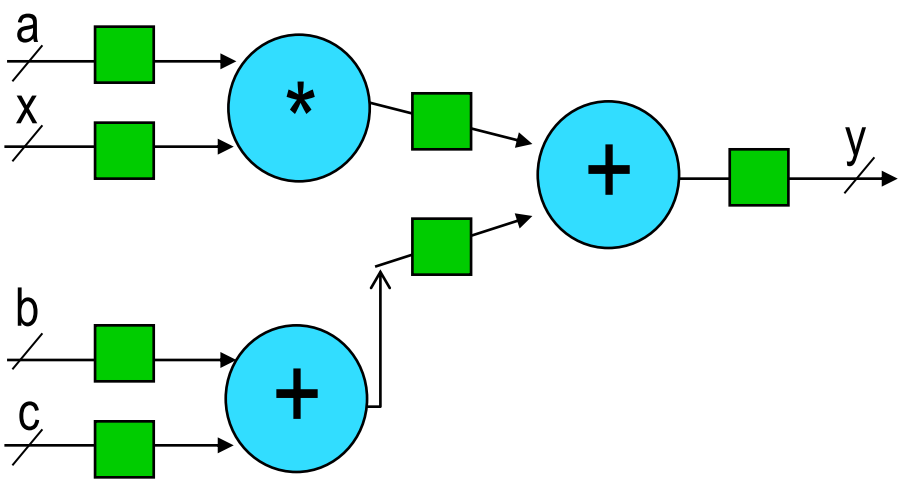
```
int a,b,c,x;
int y = a*x + b + c
```



# Datapath Synthesis - Optimization

- Automatic expression balancing for latency reduction
- Automatic restructuring to optimize use of FPGA fabric resources

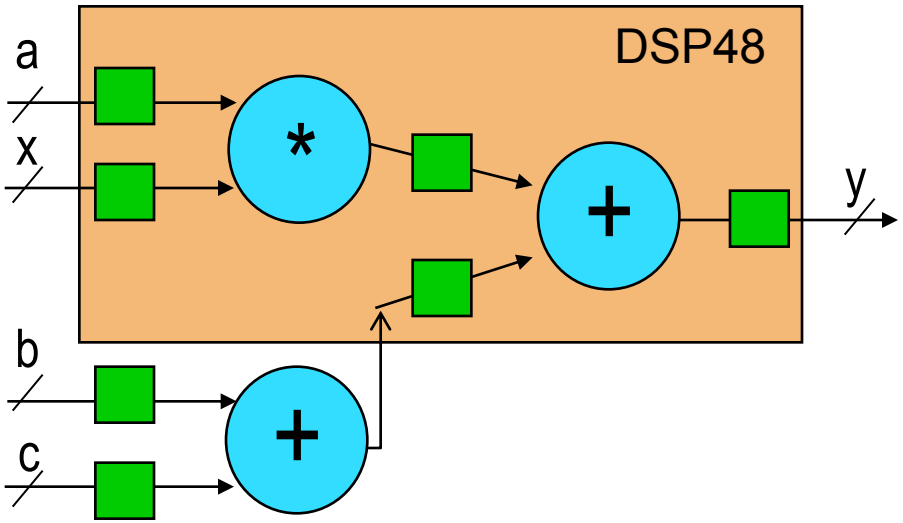
```
int a,b,c,x;
int y = a*x + b + c
```



# Datapath Synthesis – Predictable Implementation

- Restructuring from previous stage leads to optimized implementations using DSP48

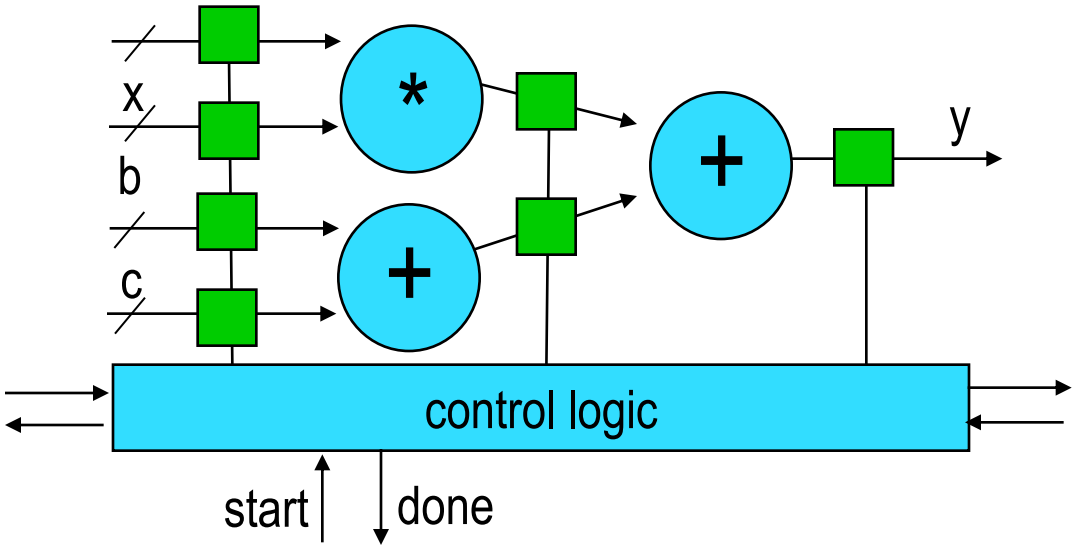
```
int a,b,c,x;
int y = a*x + b + c
```



# Datapath and Loops

- After a datapath is generated, loop control logic is added

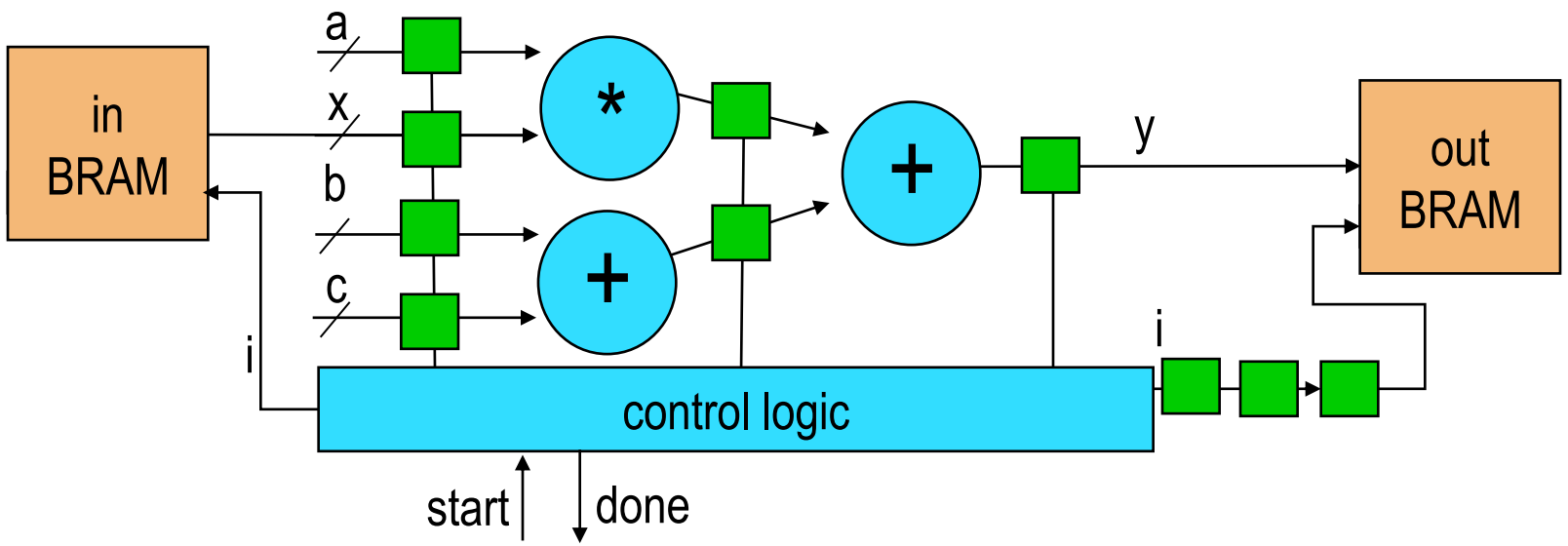
```
int a,b,c,x,y;
for(int i = 0; i < 20; i++) {
  x = get(); y = a*x + b + c; send(y);
}
```



# Defining Loop I/O with Arrays

- C arrays can be implemented as BRAMs or LUT-RAMs
- Default implementation depends on the depth and bitsize of the original C array

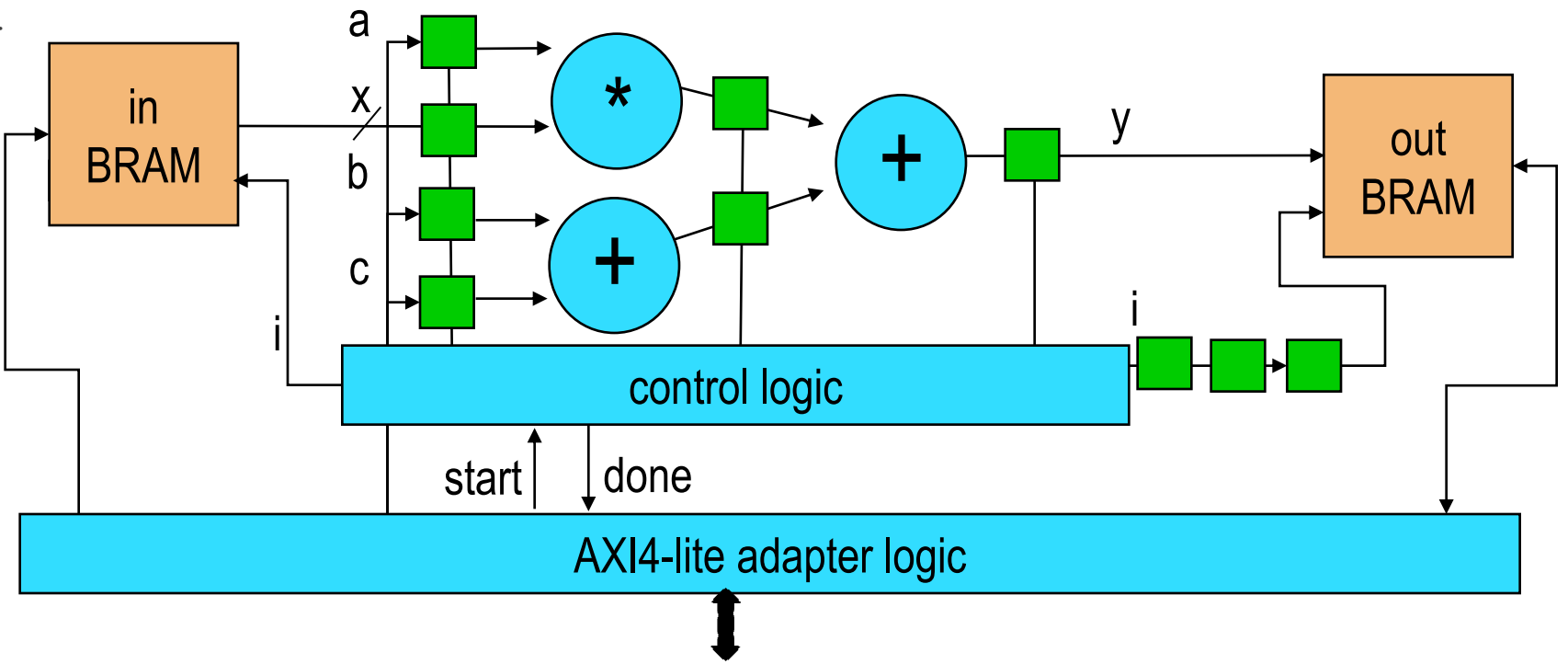
```
int a,b,c,x,y;
for(int i = 0; i < 20; i++) {
  x = in[i]; y = a*x + b + c; out[i] = y;
}
```



# Completing the Design – Interface Synthesis

- Function parameters become system level interfaces after HLS synthesis

```
f(int in[20], int out[20]) {
  int a,b,c,x,y;
  for(int i = 0; i < 20; i++) {
    x = in[i]; y = a*x + b + c; out[i] = y;
  }
}
```



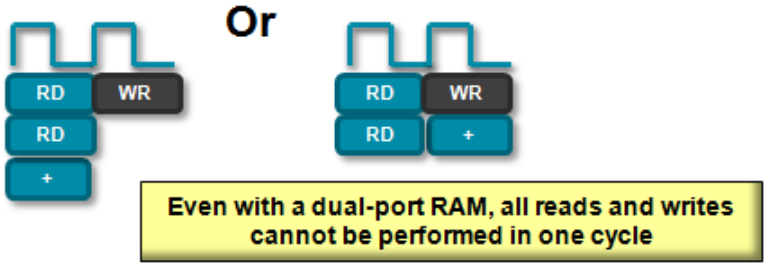

# Performance Optimization

## Arrays and Pointers

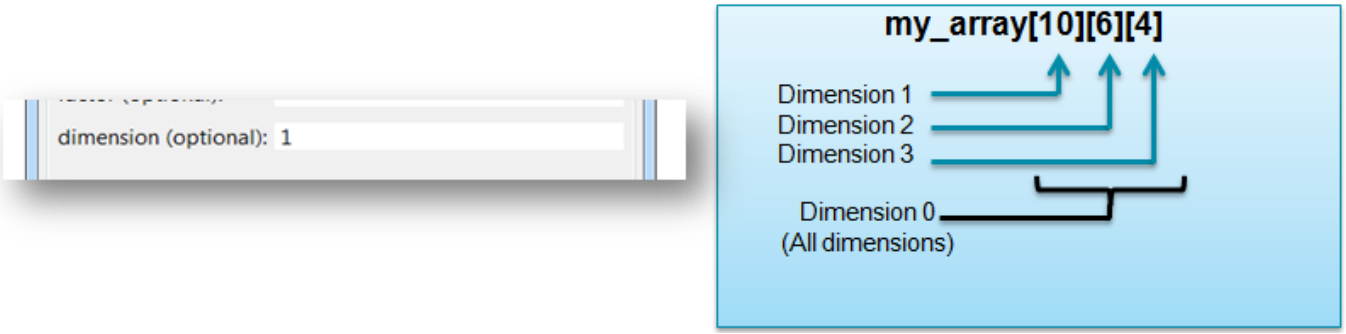
# Arrays and Memory Bottlenecks

- Arrays are the basic construct to express memory to HLS
- Default number of memory ports defined by
  - Number of usages in the algorithm
  - Target throughput
- HLS default memory model assumes 2-port BRAMs
- Arrays can be reshaped and partitioned to remove bottlenecks
  - Changes to array layout do not require changes to the original code

```
void foo_top (...) {
  ...
  for (i = 2; i < N; i++)
    mem[i] = mem[i-1] +mem[i-2];

  }

}
```

# Array Optimization - Dimensions




- Examples: C array and RTL implementation

my_array[10][6][4] → partition dimension 3 →

my_array_0[10][6]
my_array_1[10][6]
my_array_2[10][6]
my_array_3[10][6]

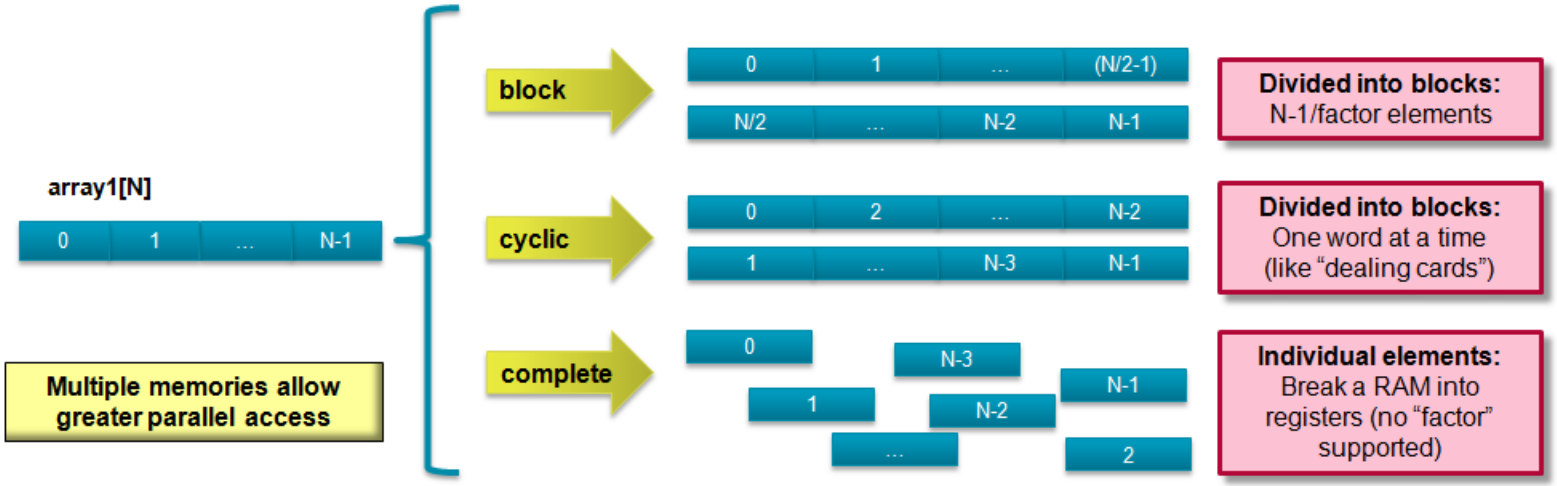
my_array[10][6][4] → partition dimension 1 →

my_array_0[6][4]
my_array_1[6][4]
my_array_2[6][4]
my_array_3[6][4]
my_array_4[6][4]
my_array_5[6][4]
my_array_6[6][4]
my_array_7[6][4]
my_array_8[6][4]
my_array_9[6][4]

my_array[10][6][4] → partition dimension 0 → 10x6x4 = 240 individual registers

# Array Optimization - Partitioning

- Partitioning splits arrays into independent memory banks in RTL
- Arrays can be partitioned on any dimension
  - Multi-dimension arrays can be partitioned multiple times
  - Dimension 0 applies a partitioning command to all dimensions

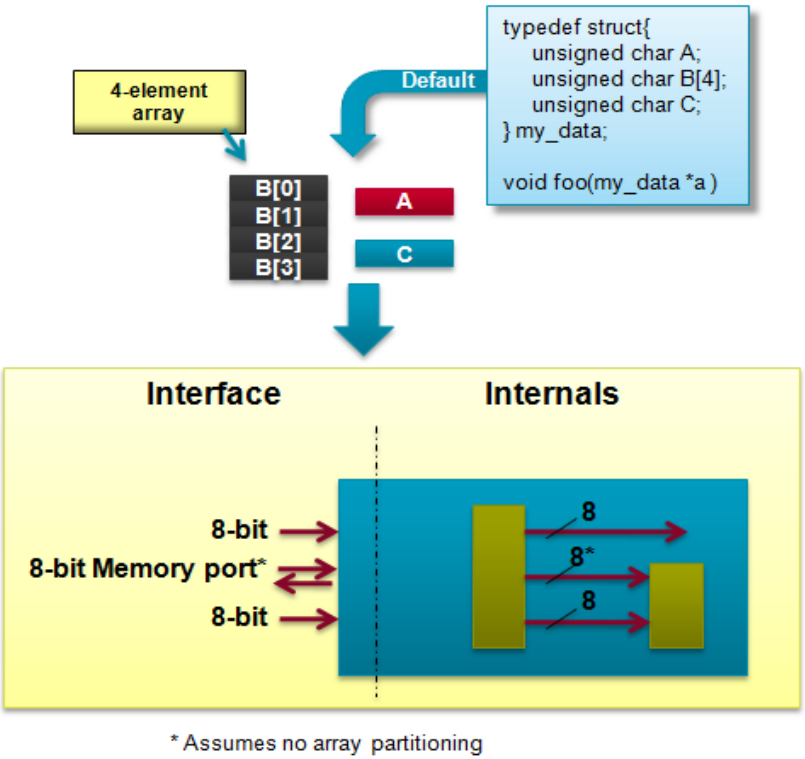


# Array Optimization - Reshaping

- **Reshaping combines**
  - Array entries into wider bitwidth containers
  - Different arrays into a single physical memory
- **New RTL level memories are automatically generated without changes to the C algorithm**

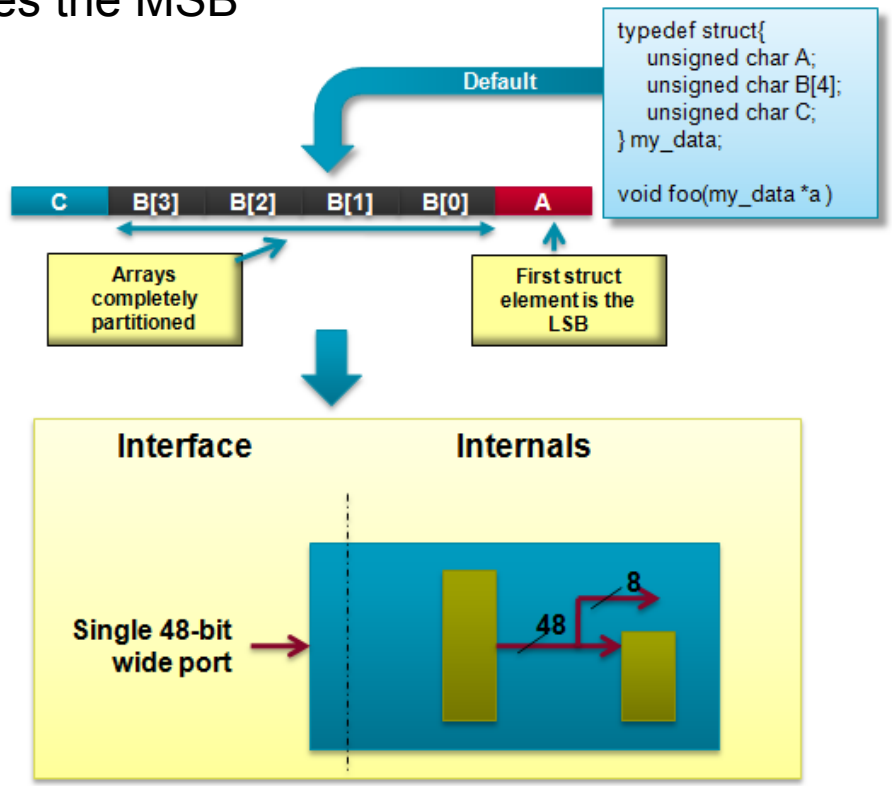
# Array Optimization – Structs

- Structs can contain any mix of arrays and scalar values
- Structs are automatically partitioned into individual elements
  - Each struct variable becomes a separate port or data bus
  - Independent control logic for each struct member



# Array Optimization – Structs and Data Packing

- Data packing creates a single wide bus for all struct members
- Bus Structure
  - First element in the struct becomes the LSB
  - Last element in the struct becomes the MSB
  - Arrays are partitioned completely



# Array Optimization - Initialization

- **Example array initialization**

```
int coeff[8] = {-2, 8, -4, 10, 14, 10, -4, 8, -2};
```


  - Implies coeff is initialized at the start of each function call
  - Every function call has an overhead in writing the contents of the coeff BRAM
- **Using static keyword moves initialization to bitstream**
  - Values of coeff are part of the FPGA configuration bitstream
  - No function initialization overhead

```
static int coeff[8] = {4, -2, 8, -4, 10, 14, 10, -4, 8, -2, 4};
```

# Pointer Optimization – Access Mode

- **Standard mode**
  - Each access results in a bus transaction
  - Read and write operations can be mapped into a single transaction

**Single read and write in standard mode**

```
void foo (int *d) {
  static int acc = 0;
  int i;

    acc += d[i];
    d[i] = acc;
}
```

**Multiple reads and writes in standard mode**

```
#include "bus.h"

void foo (int *d) {
  static int acc = 0;
  int i;

  for (i=0;i<4;i++) {
    acc += d[i];
    d[i] = acc;
  }
}
```

```
#include "bus.h"

void foo (int *d) {
  static int acc = 0;
  int i;

  for (i=0;i<4;i++) {
    acc += *(d+i);
    *(d+i) = acc;
  }
}
```

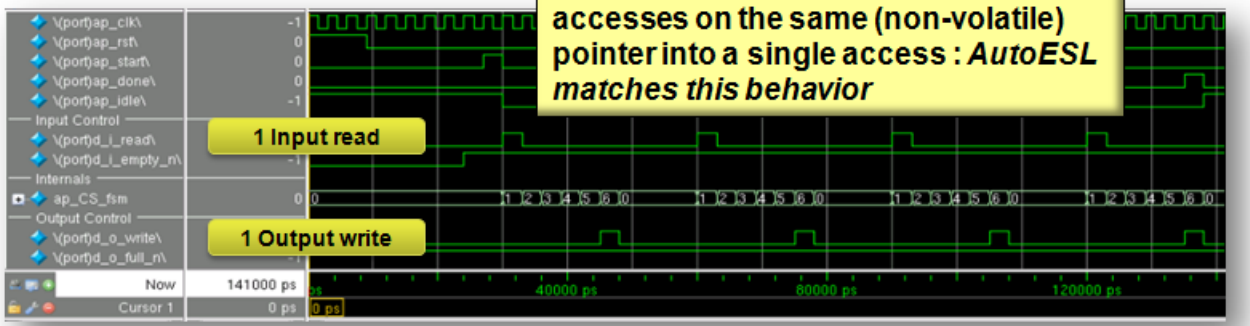
- **Burst mode**
  - Uses the C memcpy method
  - Requires a local array inside the HLS block
    - Stores data for the burst write transaction
    - Stores data from the burs read transaction

**Burst Mode**

```
void foo (int *d) {
  int buf1[4], buf2[4];
  int i;

  memcpy(buf1,d,4*sizeof(int));

  for (i=0;i<4;i++) {
    buf2[i] = buf1[3-i];
  }

  memcpy(d,buf2,4*sizeof(int));
}
```

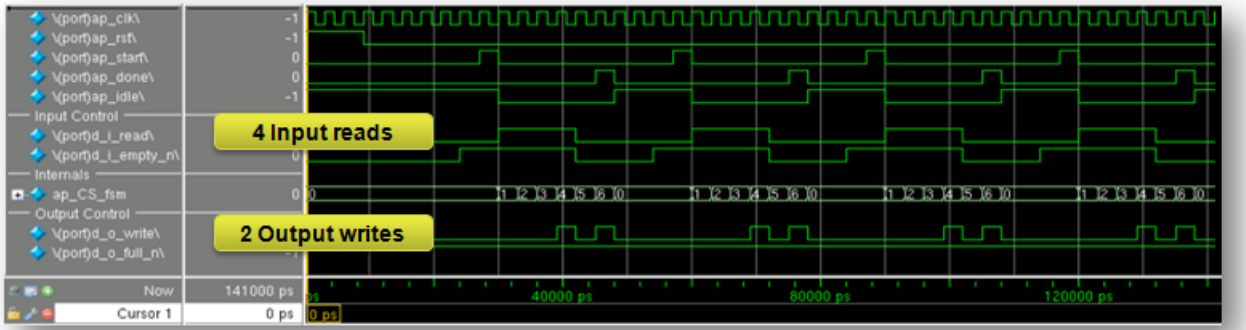
# Pointer Optimization – Multiple Access

```
void fifo (
                    int *d_o,
                    int *d_i
){
  static int acc = 0;
  int cnt;

    acc += *d_i;
    acc += *d_i;
    *d_o = acc;

    acc += *d_i;
    acc += *d_i;
    *d_o = acc;
}
```




**C compilers will optimize multiple accesses on the same (non-volatile) pointer into a single access : *AutoESL matches this behavior***

```
void fifo (
                    volatile int *d_o,
                    volatile int *d_i
){
  static int acc = 0;
  int cnt;

    acc += *d_i;
    acc += *d_i;
    *d_o = acc;

    acc += *d_i;
    acc += *d_i;
    *d_o = acc;
}
```




# Performance Optimization

## Loops

# Loops - Classification

- **Only perfect and semi-perfect loops are automatically optimized**
- **Perfect loops**
  - Computation expressed only in the inner most loop
  - No initializations between loop statements
  - Loop bounds are constant

```
Loop_outer: for (i=3;i>=0;i--) {
   Loop_inner: for (j=3;j>=0;j--) {
      [loop body]
   }
}
```

- **Semi-perfect loops**
  - Computation expressed only in the inner most loop
  - No initializations between loop statements
  - Loop bounds can be variable

```
Loop_outer: for (i=3;i>N;i--) {
   Loop_inner: for (j=3;j>=0;j--) {
      [loop body]
   }
}
```

- **Other types of loops**
  - User needs to convert the loop into perfect or semi-perfect loop

```
Loop_outer: for (i=3;i>N;i--) {
   [loop body]
   Loop_inner: for (j=3;j>=M;j--) {
      [loop body]
   }
}
```

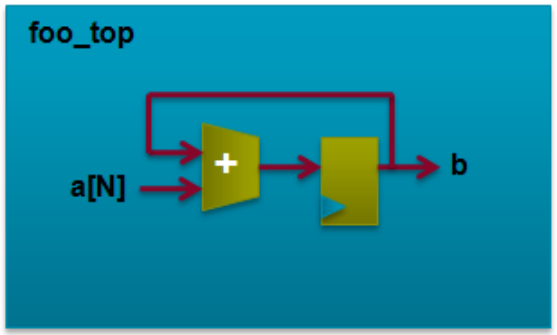
# Loop Default Behavior

- Each loop iteration runs in the same HW state
- Each loop iteration runs on the same HW resources

```
void foo_top (…) {
  ...
  Add: for (i=3;i>=0;i--) {
            b = a[i] + b;
  ...
  }
```

Loops require labels if they are to be referenced by Tcl directives (GUI will auto-add labels)

Synthesis




# Loops and Latency

- Loops enforce a minimum execution latency
- Incrementing the loop counter always consumes 1 clock cycle

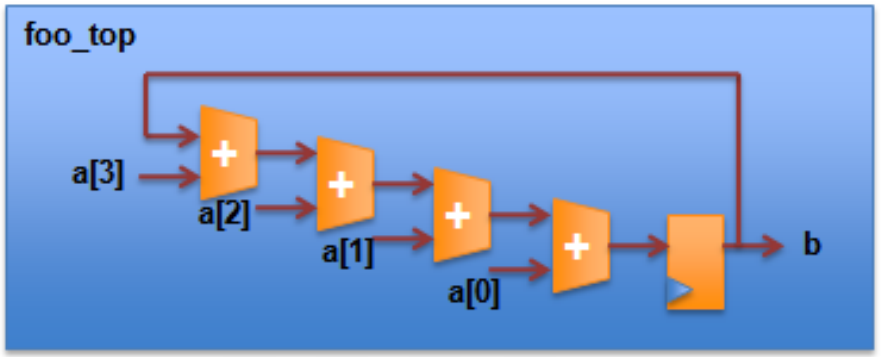
```
void foo_top (…) {
  ...
  Add: for (i=3;i>=0;i--) {
           b = a[i] + b;
  ...
  }
```


- Regardless of loop body, example will always take at least 4 clock cycles

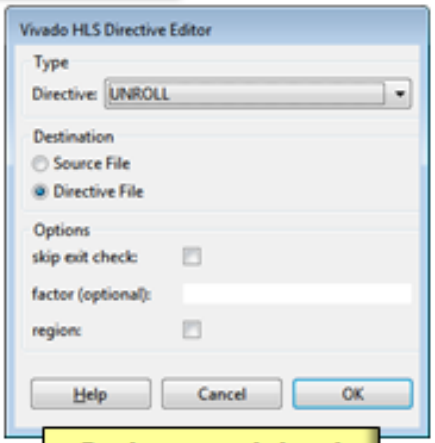
# Loops – Unrolling to Reduce Latency

```
void foo_top (…) {
  ...
  Add: for (i=3;i>=0;i--) {
      b = a[i] + b;
  ...
  }
```

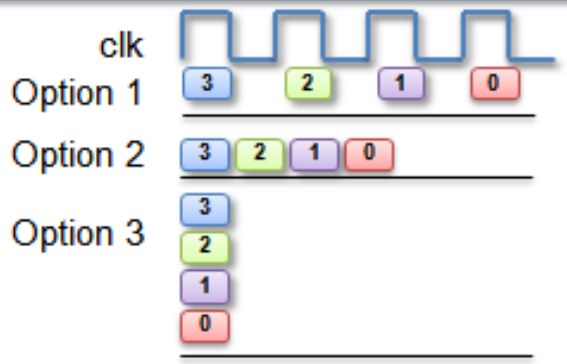
Unrolled




Select loop "Add" in the directives pane, right-click & Insert Directive then select unroll




Options explained on next slide




Unrolled loops allow greater option & exploration

Unrolled loops are likely to result in more hardware resources and higher area

# Loops – Partial Unrolling

- **HLS can unroll any loop by a factor**
- **Example shows unrolling by a factor of 2**
  - If N is not known, HLS inserts an exit check to maintain algorithm correctness
  - If N is known and fully divisible by the unrolling factor
    - Exit check is removed

```
Add: for(int i = 0; i < N; i++) {
  a[i] = b[i] + c[i];
}
```

```
Add: for(int i = 0; i < N; i += 2) {
  a[i] = b[i] + c[i];
  if (i+1 >= N) break;
  a[i+1] = b[i+1] + c[i+1];
}
```

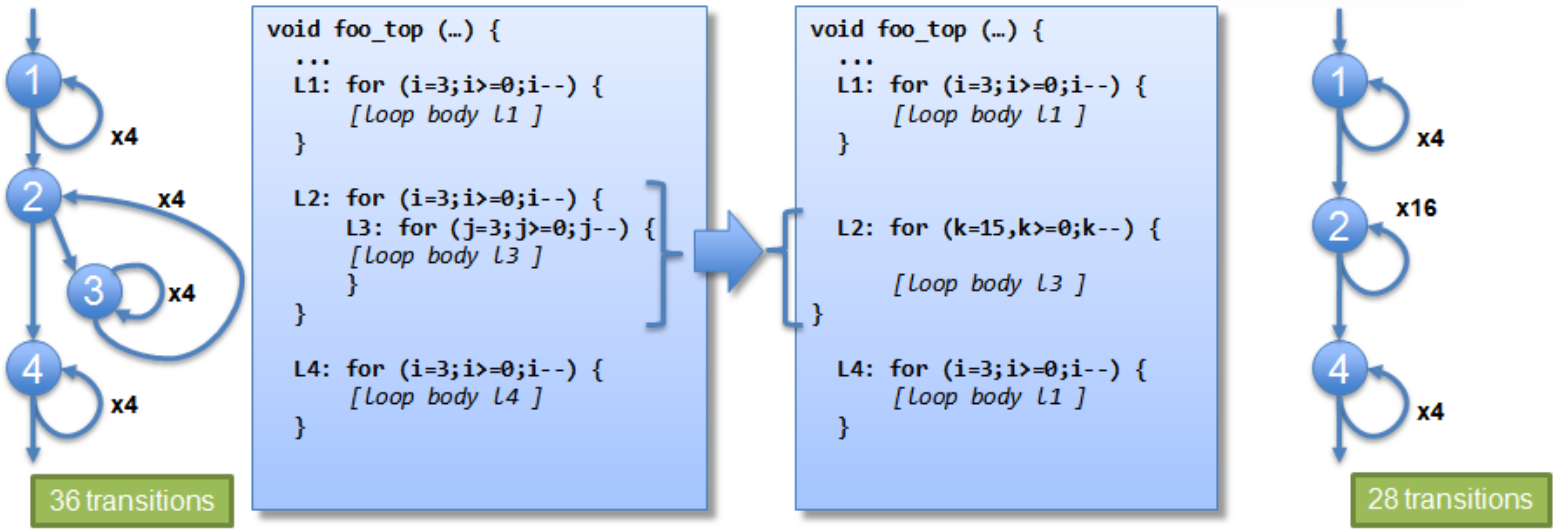
**Effective code after compiler transformation**

```
for(int i = 0; i < N; i += 2) {
  a[i] = b[i] + c[i];
  a[i+1] = b[i+1] + c[i+1];
}
```

**An extra adder for N/2 cycles trade-off**

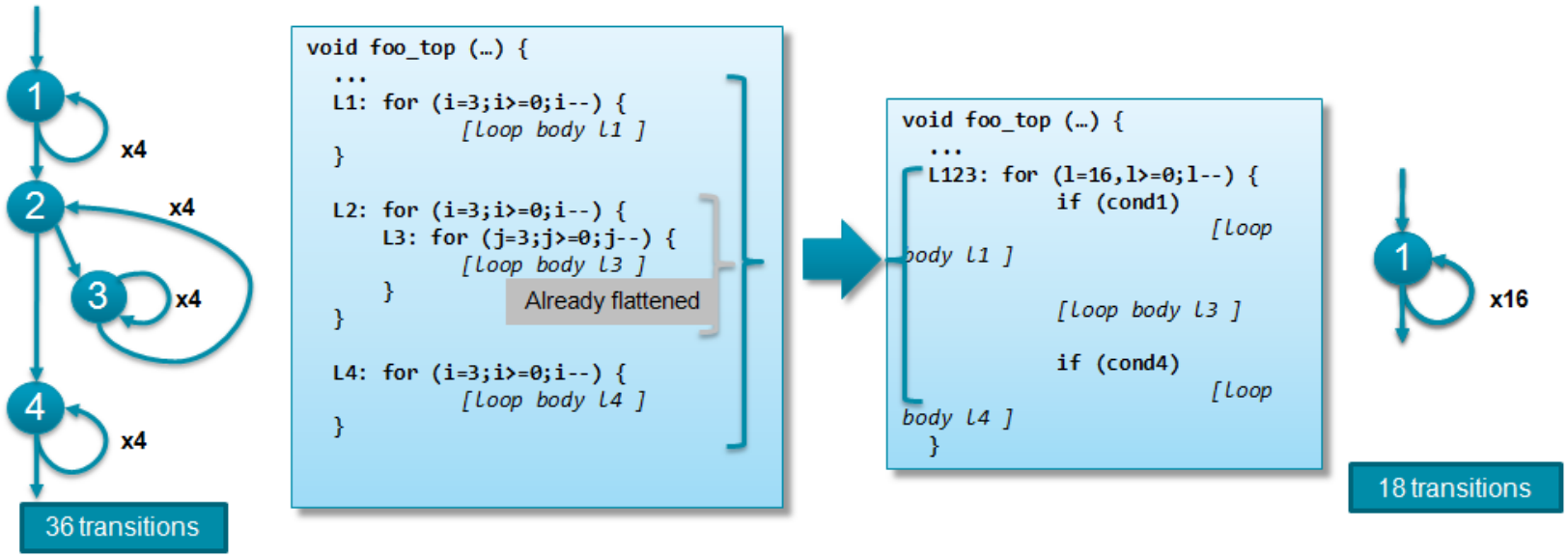
# Loops - Flattening

- **Perfect and semi-perfect loops are automatically flattened**
  - Flattening eliminates state transitions between loop hierarchy levels
  - A loop state transition (counter increment) takes 1 clock cycle
- **Automatic flattening can be turned off**



# Loops - Merging

- Loop merging reduces control regions in the generated RTL
- Does not require code changes as long as
  - All loops have either constant or variable bounds but not both
  - Loop body code always generates the same result regardless of how many times it is run
    - i.e A = B is always the same - A = A + 1 depends on the loop iteration count



# Loops – Merging Example

- Loop merging eliminates redundant computation
  - Reduces latency
  - Reduces resources

```
My_Region: {
#pragma AP merge loop
for (i = 0; i < N; ++i)
    A[i] = B[i] + 1;
for (i = 0; i < N; ++i)
    C[i] = A[i] / 2;
}
```


```
for (i = 0; i < N; ++i) {
    A[i] = B[i] + 1;
    C[i] = A[i] / 2;
}
```

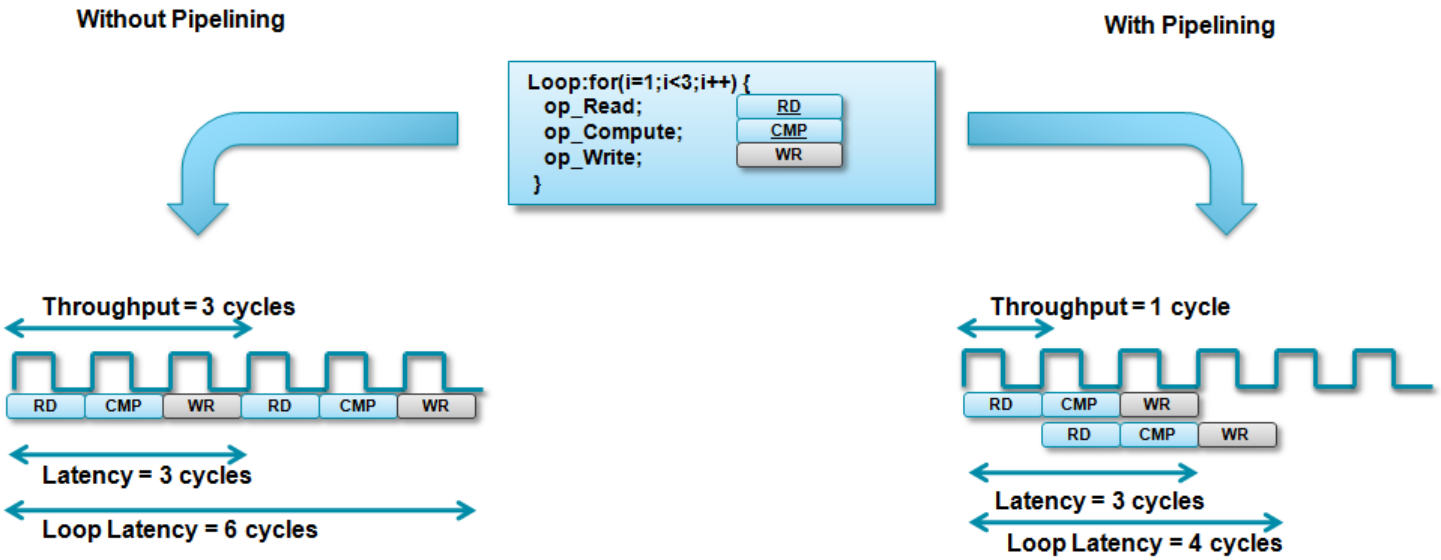
**Effective code after compiler transformation**

- Code implemented in RTL by HLS after merging

```
for (i = 0; i < N; ++i)
    C[i] = (B[i] + 1) / 2;
```

**Removes A[i], any address logic, and any potential memory accesses**

# Loops - Pipelining




- Loop iterations run sequentially
- Throughput = 3 clock cycles
- Latency
  - 3 cycles per iteration
  - 6 cycles for entire loop

- Loop iterations run in parallel
- Throughput = 1 clock cycle
- Latency
  - 3 cycles per iteration
  - 4 cycles for entire loop

# Loops - Initiation Interval (II)

- The number of clock cycles between start of new loop body.


- II=1: one loop body per clock cycle
  - a 'fully pipelined' datapath for the loop body

- II=2: one loop body every 2 clock cycles
  - Allows for resource sharing of operators.

# Loops – Hierarchy and II

- **II is expressed by the PIPELINE directive**
  - Default value for PIPELINE = 1
- **Can be applied to any level of a loop hierarchy**
  - Forces unrolling of any loop below the location of PIPELINE directive
  - Increases parallelism and resources in a generated implementation
  - Should be applied at a level that matches the input data rate of the design

```
void foo(in1[ ][ ], in2[ ][ ], ...) {
...
 L1:for(i=1;i<N;i++) {
   L2:for(j=0;j<M;j++) {
#pragma AP PIPELINE
      out[i][j] = in1[i][j] + in2[i][j];
   }
 }
}
```

**1adder, 3 accesses**

```
void foo(in1[ ][ ], in2[ ][ ], ...) {
...
 L1:for(i=1;i<N;i++) {
#pragma AP PIPELINE
   L2:for(j=0;j<M;j++) {
      out[i][j] = in1[i][j] + in2[i][j];
   }
 }
}
```

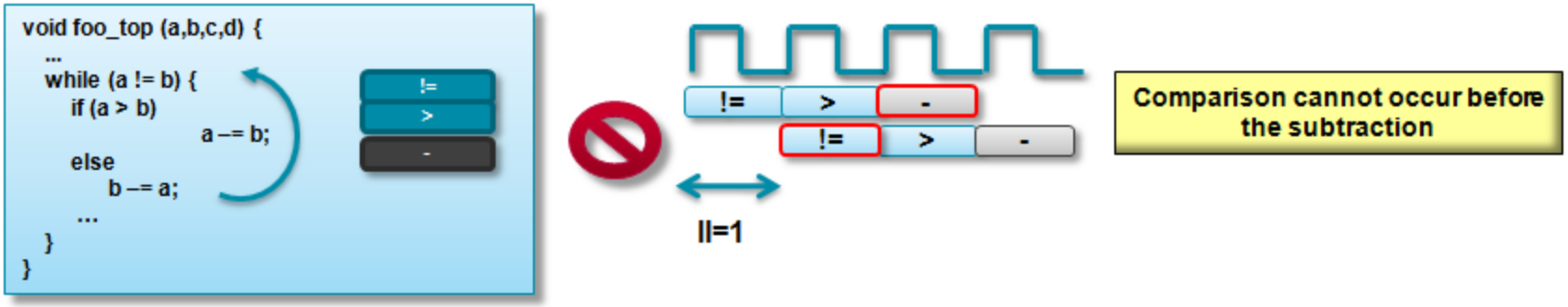
**Unrolls L2**
**M adders, 3M accesses**

```
void foo(in1[ ][ ], in2[ ][ ], ...) {
#pragma AP PIPELINE
 ...
 L1:for(i=1;i<N;i++) {
   L2:for(j=0;j<M;j++) {
      out[i][j] = in1[i][j] + in2[i][j];
   }
 }
}
```

**Unrolls L1 and L2**
**N*M adders, 3(N*M) accesses**

# Loops – II and Feedback

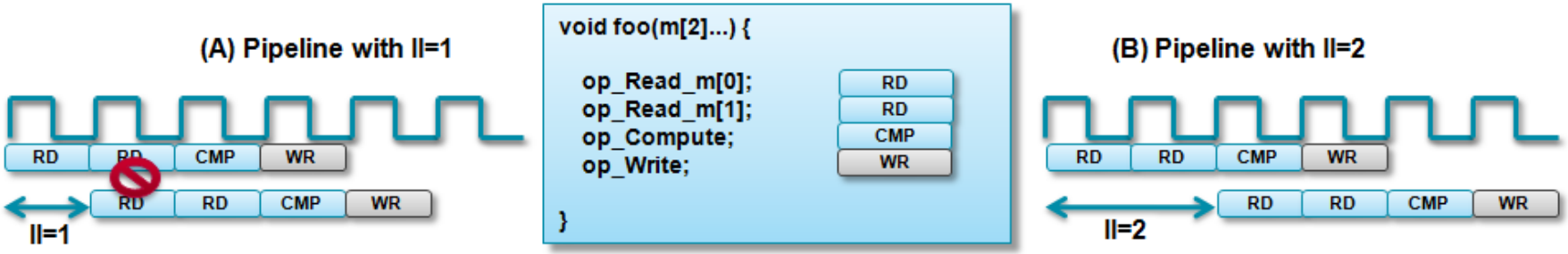
- Loop feedback is expressed as a dependence between iteration j to iteration j+1
- Type of dependence can limit pipelining
- If a dependence limits pipelining, HLS automatically relaxes the constraint




- User requested II = 1
- HLS generates II = 2 design due to dependence

# Loops – II and Resource Contention

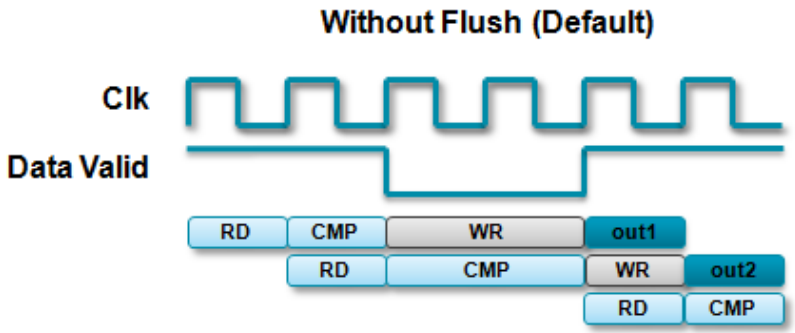
- HLS can instantiate all required resources to satisfy an II target within the boundaries of a generated module
- External ports can cause resource contention and are not automatically replicated
  - This type of contention can only be resolved by the user

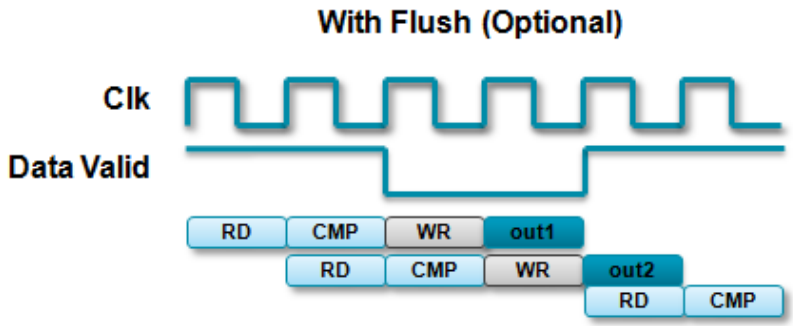



- Memory m is a top level port
  - HLS assumes only 1 port is available to function foo
  - Multiple read operations push II from 1 to 2

# Loops – Pipeline Behavior

- **HLS pipelines by default stall if the next input is not available**
  - For a loop, the next iteration doesn't start if the input data is not ready
  - Stall affects all iterations currently being processed
- **Default stall can be avoided with the flush option**
  - Flushing the pipeline allows iterations to finish execution regardless of the state of the next iteration



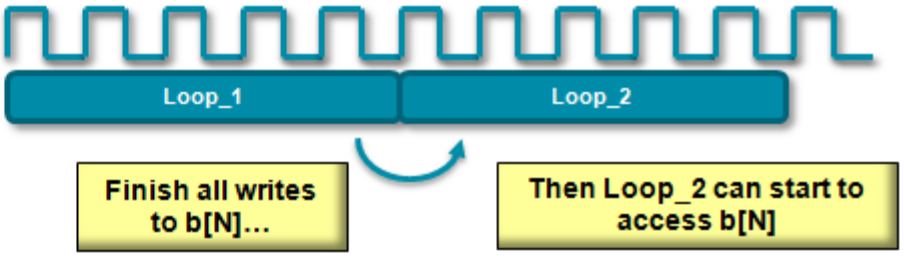
# Loops - Dataflow

- Dataflow is the parallel execution of multiple loops within a function
- Loops to run in parallel communicate through arrays

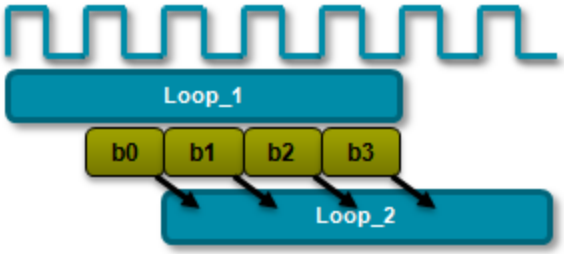
```
int a[N], b[N], c[N];

Loop_1: for (i=0;i<=N-1;i++) {
    b[i] = a[i] + in1;
}

Loop_2: for (i=0;i<=N-1;i++) {
    c[i] = b[i] * in2;
}
```

Loop_1

Loop_2




- Arrays are changed to FIFOs to allow concurrent execution of Loop_1 and Loop_2




# Performance Optimization

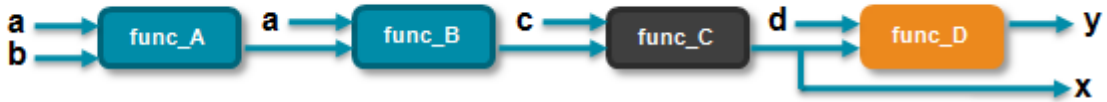
## Functions

# Functions

- For designs with multiple functions

```
void foo_top (a,b,c,d, *x, *y) {
        ...
        func_A(a,b,t1);
        func_B(a,t1,t2);
        func_C(c,t2,&x)
        func_D(d,x,&y)
}
```

func_A
func_B
func_C
func_D

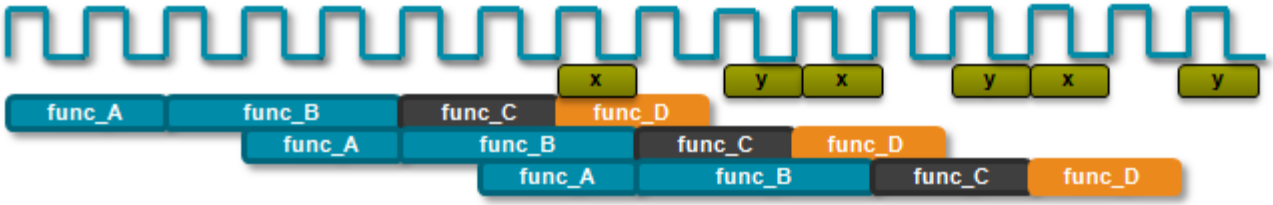



- Default scheduling


The latency is 9 cycles

The throughput is also 9 cycles

- Functions can also be dataflowed like in the case of loops




The latency is still 9 cycles

The throughput is now 3


# Area Optimization

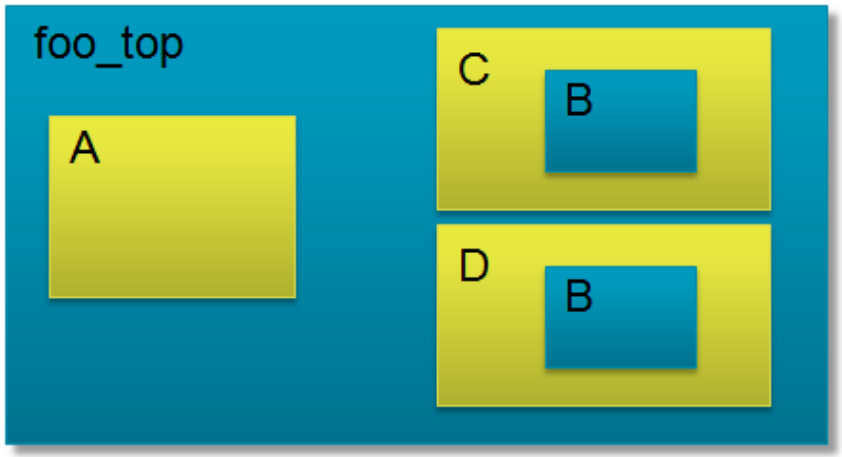
# Functions and RTL Hierarchy

**Source Code**

```
void A() { ..body A..}
void B() { ..body B..}
void C() {
        B();
}
void D() {
        B();
}


void foo_top() {
        A(…);
        C(…);
        D(…)
}
```

my_code.c

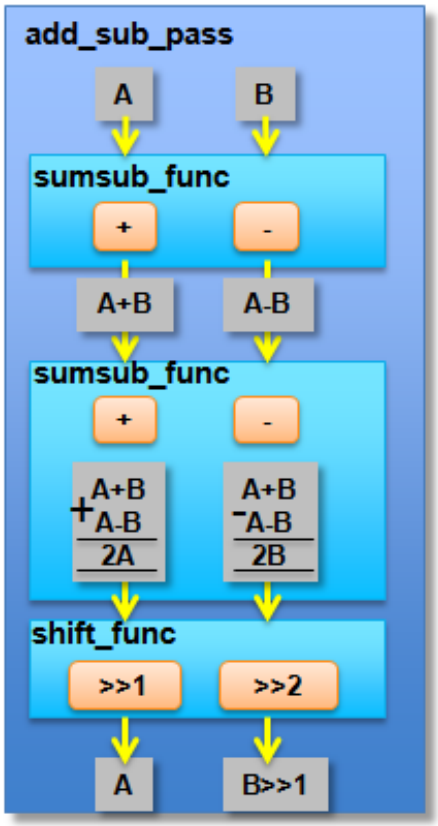
**RTL Hierarchy**




**Functions can be inlined – the hierarchy was removed and the function dissolved into the surrounding function**

# Function Inlining

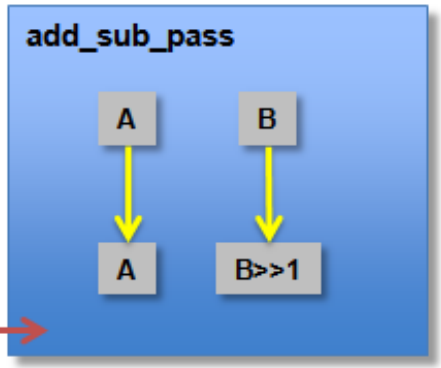
## No Inlining




```
int sumsub_func (int *in1, int *in2, int *outSum, int *outSub) {
*outSum = *in1 + *in2;
*outSub = *in1 - *in2;
}

int shift_func (int *in1, int *in2, int *outA, int *outB) {
   *outA = *in1 >> 1;
   *outB = *in2 >> 2;
}

void add_sub_pass(int A, int B, int *C, int *D) {
   int apb, amb;
   int a2, b2;

   sumsub_func(&A,&B,&apb,&amb);
   sumsub_func(&apb,&amb,&a2,&b2);
   shift_func(&a2,&b2,C,D);

}
```

Zero Area

## Inlining

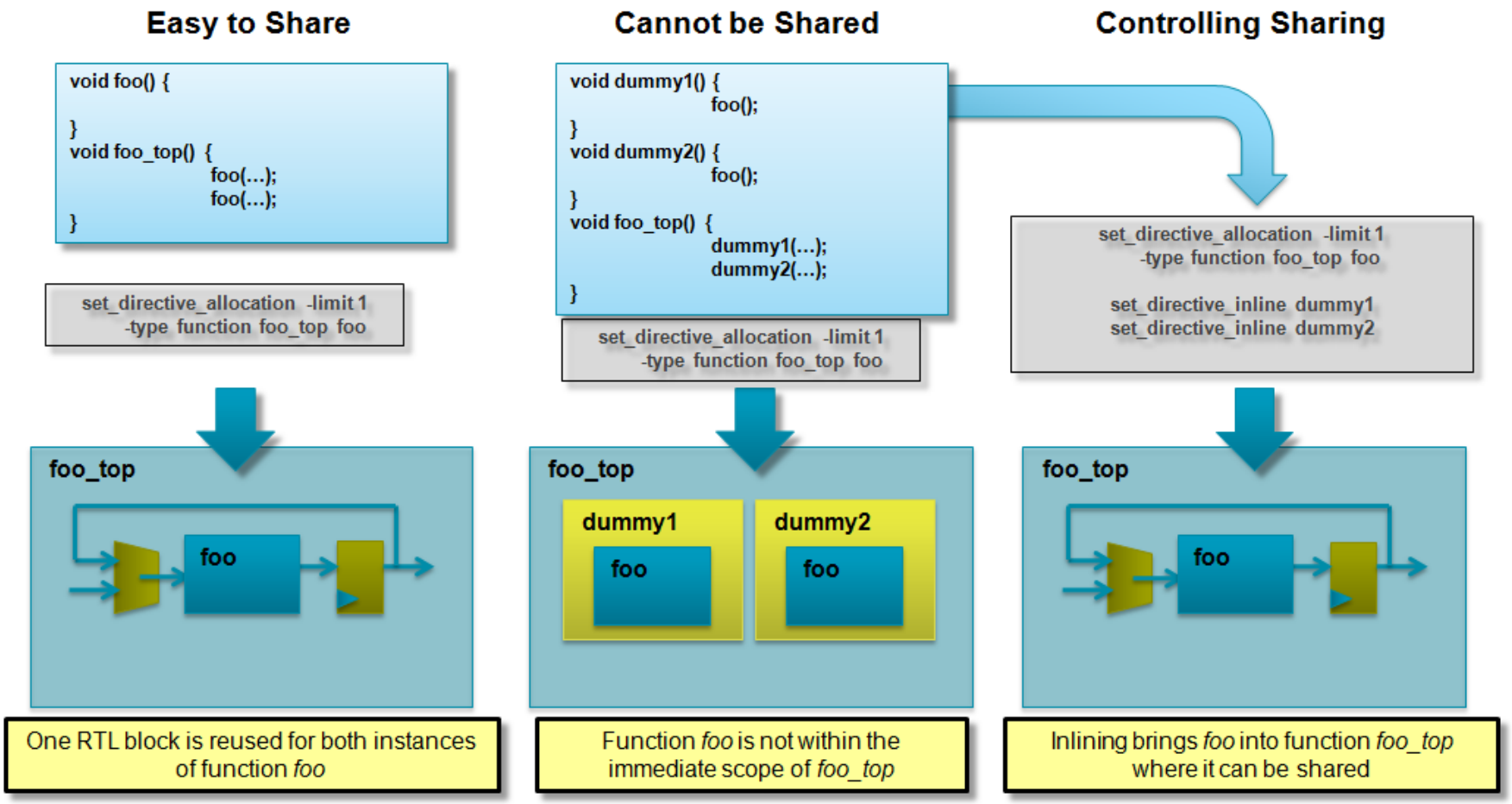



2 Adders
2 Subtractors

**Inlining allows optimization to be performed across function hierarchies**

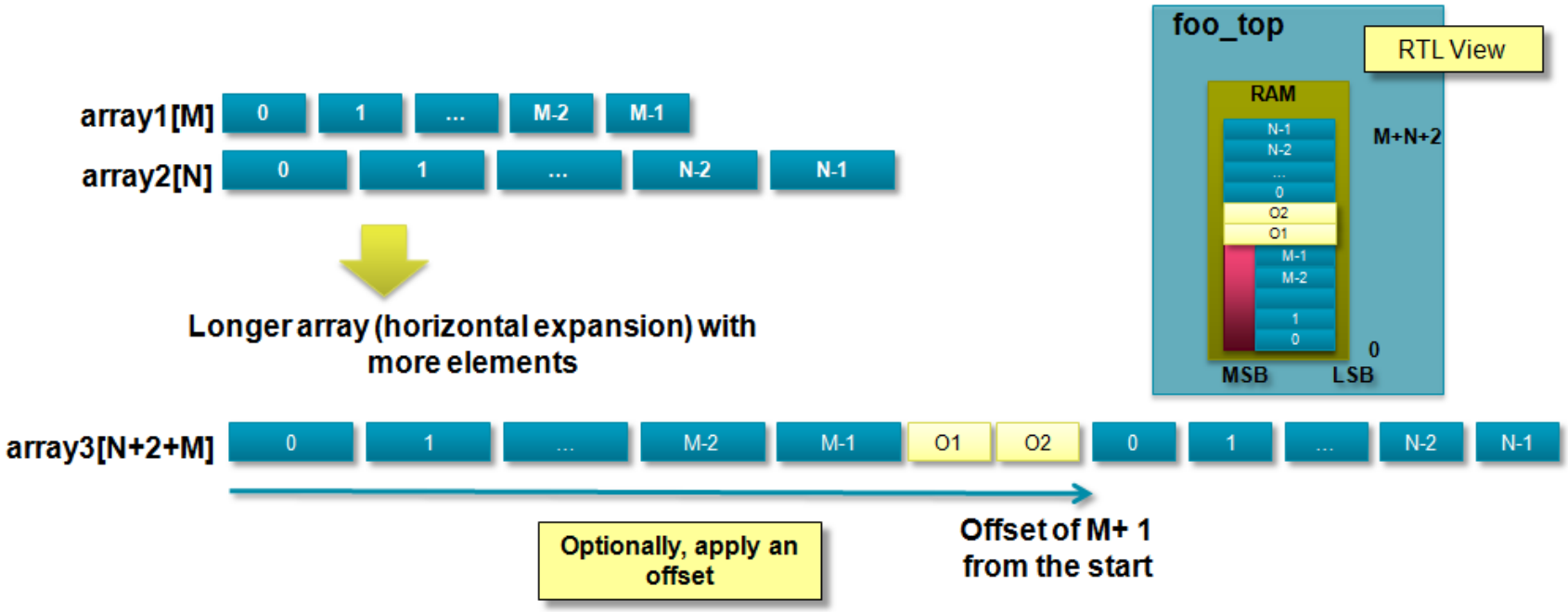
**Like RTL ungrouping, too much inlining can create a lot of logic and slow runtime**

# Function Inlining and Allocation



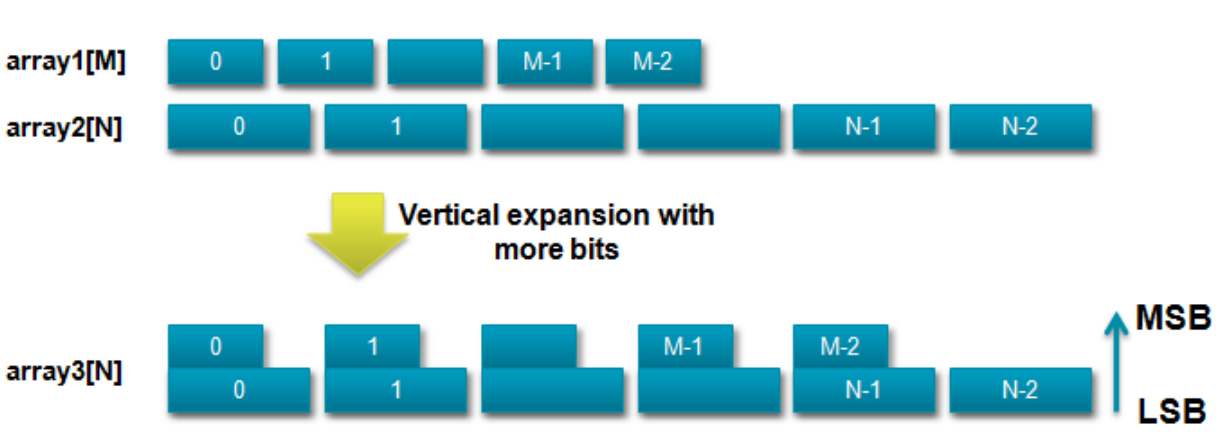
# Array Mapping - Horizontal

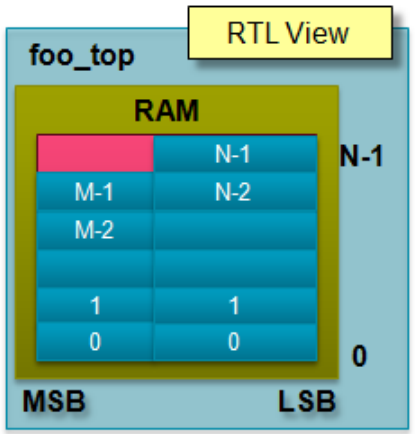
- Combine multiple C arrays into 1 deeper memory
- Default is to concatenate arrays one after the other
  - User can introduce an offset to account for a system address map if the combined memories are top level ports



# Array Mapping - Vertical

- Combine multiple C arrays into 1 wider memory
- Arrays use the same ordering as structs for packing
  - First array represents the LSB bits of the wider memory

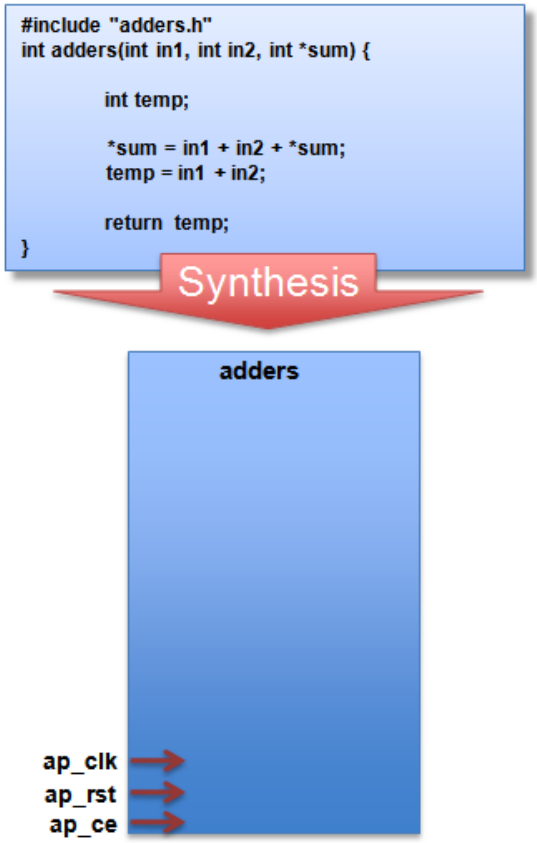



# Interface Definition

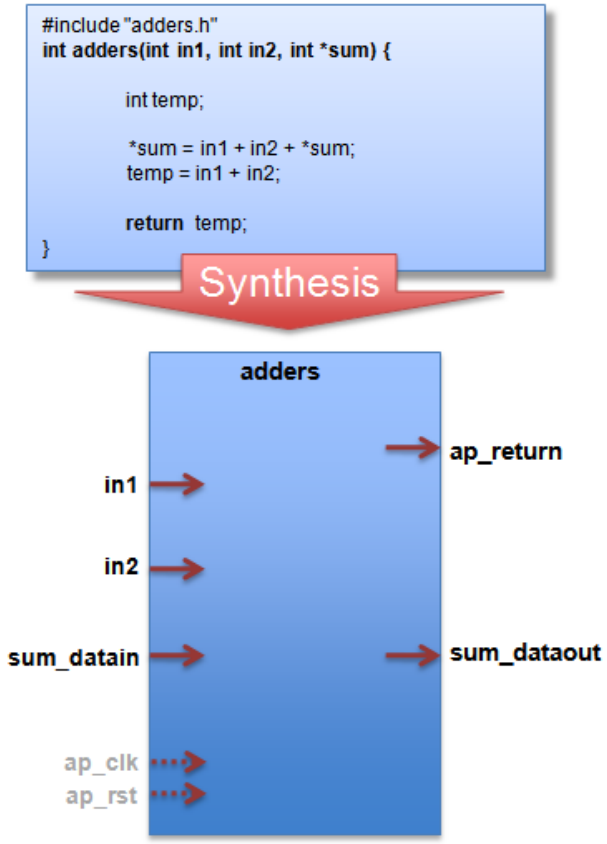
# Default Ports

- **Clock**
  - One clock per C/C++ design
  - Multiple clocks possible for SystemC designs
- **Reset**
  - Applies to FSM and variables initialized in the C algorithm
- **Clock Enable**
  - Optional port
  - One clock enable per design
  - Attached to all modules within an HLS generated design



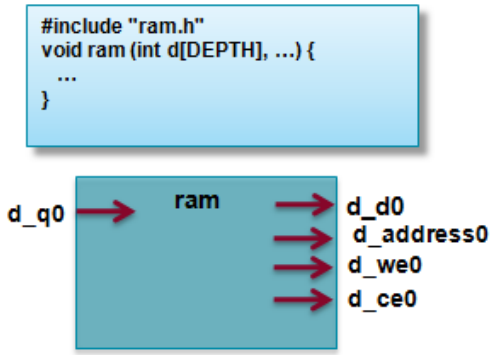
# Function Parameters

- **Function parameters**
  - Data ports for RTL I/O
- **Function return**
  - 1 per HLS design
  - Valid at the end of the C function call
- **Pointers**
  - Can be implemented as both input and output
  - Transformed into separate ports for each direction

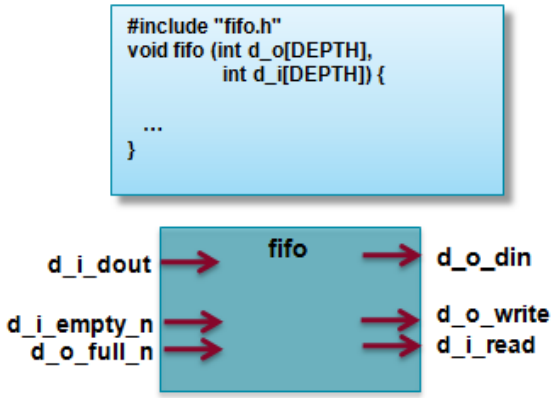


# Function Parameters - Arrays

- **RAM ports**
  - Default port for an array
  - Assumes only 1 port connected to the HLS block
  - Automatic generation of address and data ports

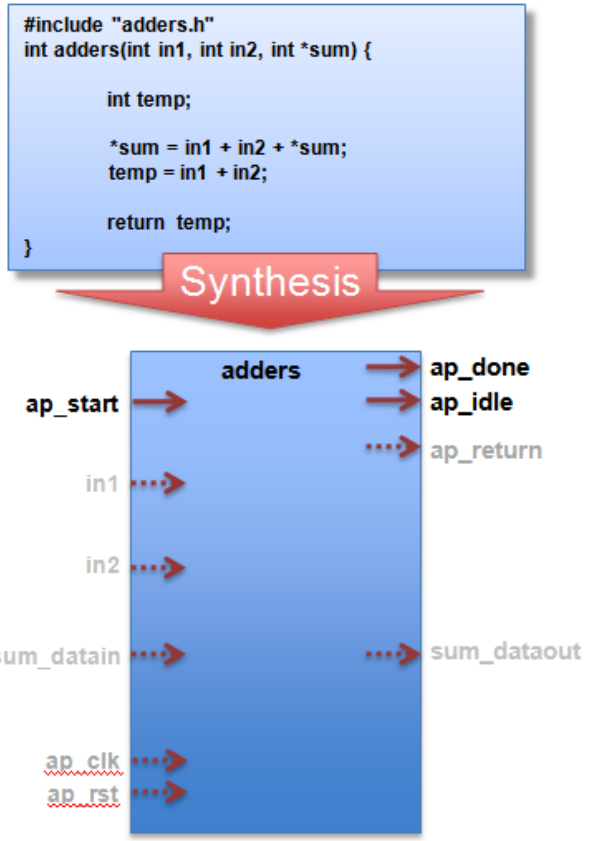



- **FIFO ports**
  - Example of streaming I/O
  - Assumes array is accessed in sequential order



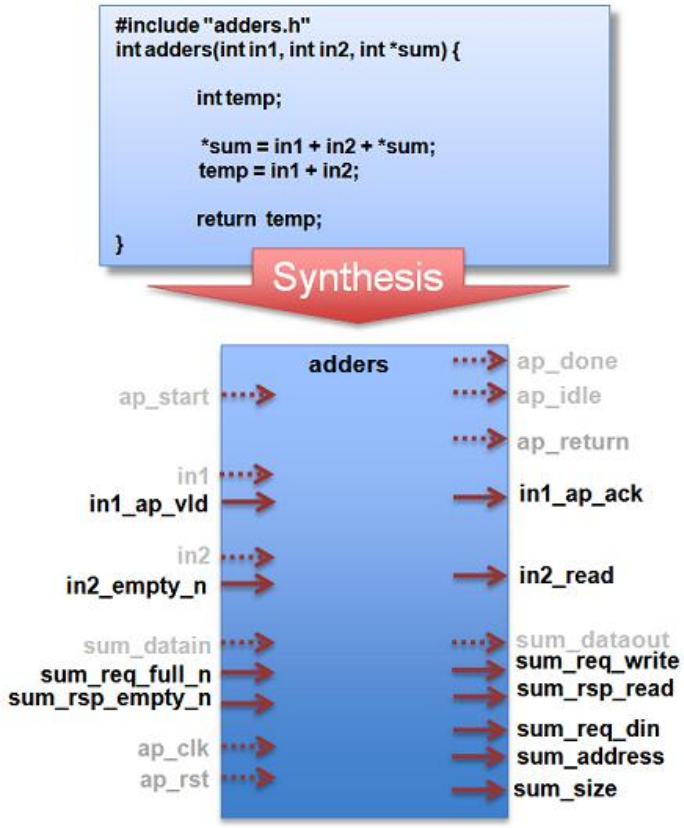
# Block-Level Protocol

- By default all HLS generated designs have a master control interface
- ap_start
  - Starts the RTL module, same as starting a function call in C
- ap_idle
  - RTL module is idle
- ap_done
  - RTL module completed a function call
  - The data in the ap_return port is valid
- ap_ready (not shown)
  - Only generated for designs with top level function pipelining
  - Allows a processor to launch a new function call

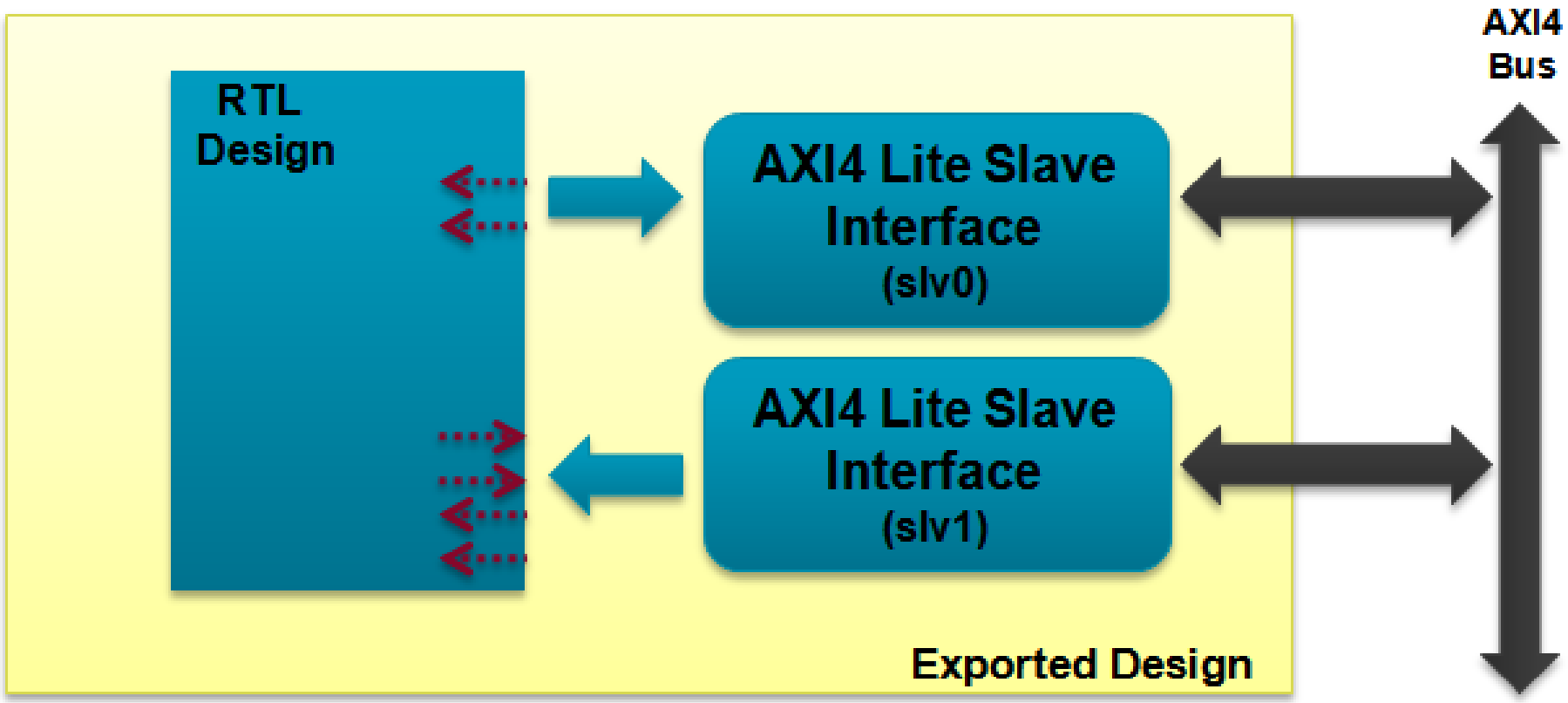


# I/O Data Transfer Protocols

- **Port I/O protocol**
  - Selected by the user to integrate the HLS generated block into a larger design
  - Control the sequencing of data on a per interface basis
- **Allows mapping to AXI and HLS provided protocols**
  - Interface synthesis in C and C++ designs
- **User can define their own interface protocol**
  - SystemC designs natively express all port interfaces



# Connecting to Standard Buses




## Let's try it out!

# 16x16 Matrix Multiply

# Basic AutoESL training in one slide

- **Pick good places to pipeline.**
  - `#pragma HLS pipeline`
- **Partition memories if needed.**
  - `#pragma HLS ARRAY_PARTITION variable=? complete dim=?`
- **Watch for recurrences**
  - Might need to rewrite code or pick a different algorithm
- **Use reduced-bitwidth operations.**
  - `ap_int<>, ap_uint<>, ap_fixed<>`

# Basic Matrix Multiply

```
void mm(int in_a[A_ROWS][A_COLS],
        int in_b[A_COLS][B_COLS],
        int out_c[A_ROWS][B_COLS])
{
  // matrix multiplication of a A*B matrix
  a_row_loop: for (int i = 0; i < A_ROWS; i++) {
    b_col_loop: for (int j = 0; j < B_COLS; j++) {
      int sum_mult = 0;
      a_col_loop: for (int k = 0; k < A_COLS; k++) {
        sum_mult += in_a[i][k] * in_b[k][j];
      }
      out_c[i][j] = sum_mult;
    }
  }
}
```

DSP48s: 3
Latency: 25121 clocks

# Pipelined Matrix Multiply

```
void mm_pipelined(int in_a[A_ROWS][A_COLS],
           int in_b[A_COLS][B_COLS],
           int out_c[A_ROWS][B_COLS])
{
  int sum_mult;

  // matrix multiplication of a A*B matrix
  a_row_loop: for (int i = 0; i < A_ROWS; i++) {
    b_col_loop: for (int j = 0; j < B_COLS; j++) {
      sum_mult = 0;
      a_col_loop: for (int k = 0; k < A_COLS; k++) {
        #pragma HLS pipeline
        sum_mult += in_a[i][k] * in_b[k][j];
      }
      out_c[i][j] = sum_mult;
    }
  }
}
```

DSP48s: 3
Latency: 6154 clocks
Loop II: 1

# Parallel Dot-Product Matrix Multiply

```
void mm_parallel_dot_product(int in_a[A_ROWS][A_COLS],
                             int in_b[A_COLS][B_COLS],
                             int out_c[A_ROWS][B_COLS])
{
#pragma HLS ARRAY_PARTITION DIM=2 VARIABLE=in_a complete
#pragma HLS ARRAY_PARTITION DIM=1 VARIABLE=in_b complete
  int sum_mult;

  // matrix multiplication of a A*B matrix
  a_row_loop: for (int i = 0; i < A_ROWS; i++) {
    b_col_loop: for (int j = 0; j < B_COLS; j++) {
      #pragma HLS pipeline
      sum_mult = 0;
      a_col_loop: for (int k = 0; k < A_COLS; k++) {
        sum_mult += in_a[i][k] * in_b[k][j];
      }
      out_c[i][j] = sum_mult;
    }
  }
}
```

DSP48s: 48
Latency: 263 clocks
Loop II: 1

# Pipelined Floating Point Matrix Multiply

```
void mm_pipelined_float(float in_a[A_ROWS][A_COLS],
                        float in_b[A_COLS][B_COLS],
                        float out_c[A_ROWS][B_COLS])
{
  float sum_mult;

  // matrix multiplication of a A*B matrix
  a_row_loop: for (int i = 0; i < A_ROWS; i++) {
    b_col_loop: for (int j = 0; j < B_COLS; j++) {
      sum_mult = 0.0;
      a_col_loop: for (int k = 0; k < A_COLS; k++) {
        #pragma HLS pipeline
        sum_mult += in_a[i][k] * in_b[k][j];
      }
      out_c[i][j] = sum_mult;
    }
  }
}
```

DSP48s: 1
Latency: 18453 clocks
Loop II: 4

# Pipelined Floating Point Matrix Multiply

```
void mm_pipelined_float_interchanged(float in_a[A_ROWS][A_COLS],
                                     float in_b[A_COLS][B_COLS],
                                     float out_c[A_ROWS][B_COLS])
{
  float sum_mult[B_COLS];

  // matrix multiplication of a A*B matrix
  a_row_loop: for (int i = 0; i < A_ROWS; i++) {
    a_col_loop: for (int k = 0; k < A_COLS; k++) {
      b_col_loop: for (int j = 0; j < B_COLS; j++) {
        #pragma HLS pipeline
        float last = (k==0) ? 0.0 : sum_mult[j];
        float result = last + in_a[i][k] * in_b[k][j];
        sum_mult[j] = result;
        if(k == (A_COLS-1)) out_c[i][j] = result;
      }
    }
  }
}
```

DSP48s: 1
BRAM: 1
Latency: 4105 clocks
Loop II: 1

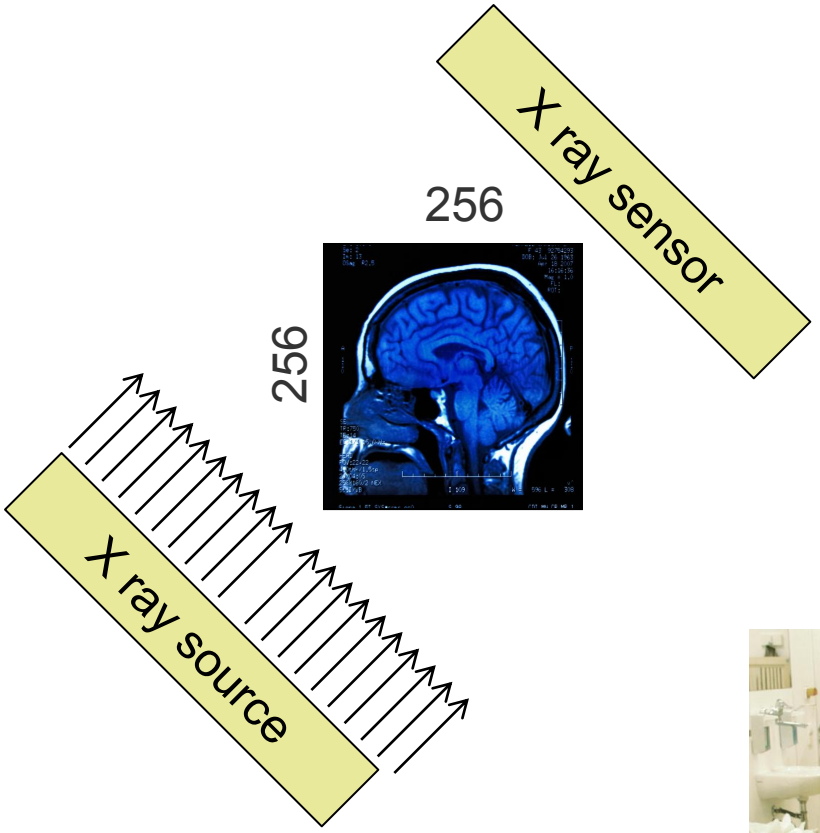
# 18-bit Parallel Dot-Product Matrix Multiply

```
#include <ap_int.h>
void mm_18_parallel_dot_product(ap_int<18> in_a[A_ROWS][A_COLS],
                                ap_int<18> in_b[A_COLS][B_COLS],
                                ap_int<18> out_c[A_ROWS][B_COLS])
{
#pragma HLS ARRAY_PARTITION DIM=2 VARIABLE=in_a complete
#pragma HLS ARRAY_PARTITION DIM=1 VARIABLE=in_b complete
  ap_int<18> sum_mult;

  // matrix multiplication of a A*B matrix
  a_row_loop: for (int i = 0; i < A_ROWS; i++) {
    b_col_loop: for (int j = 0; j < B_COLS; j++) {
      #pragma HLS pipeline
      sum_mult = 0;
      a_col_loop: for (int k = 0; k < A_COLS; k++) {
        sum_mult += in_a[i][k] * in_b[k][j];
      }
      out_c[i][j] = sum_mult;
    }
  }
}
```

DSP48s: 16
Latency: 260 clocks
Loop II: 1


# Zynq Accelerated Applications

# X-Ray Tomography Scanning




sinoSize = 256*sqrt(2)

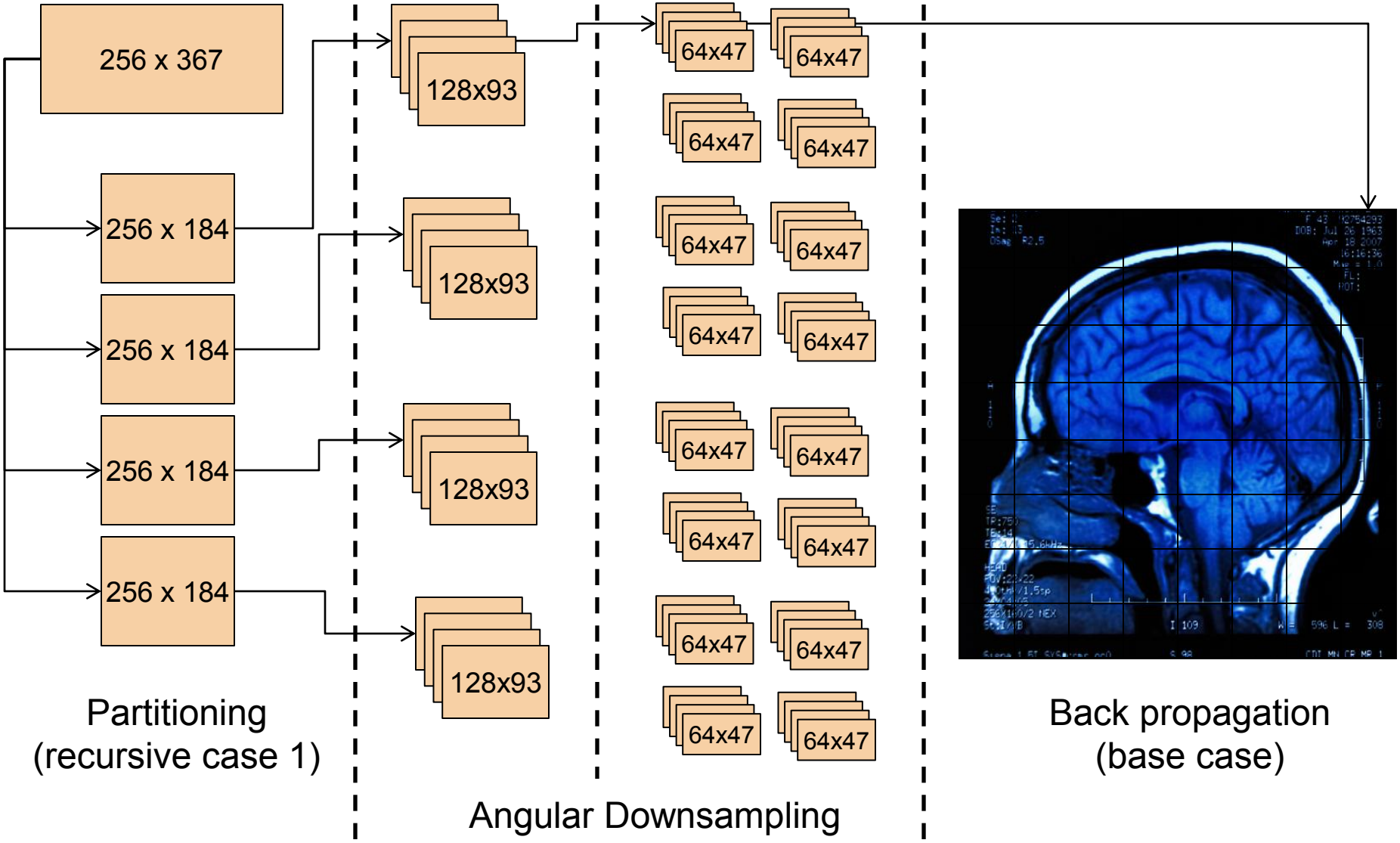
sinoNum = 256

angles = 256

256 x 367

Video

# Backprojection Algorithm structure



# Application characteristics

- **Total dataset will not easily fit in blockram or cache**
  - 256x367x32bit = 275 KByte
  - Recursive case 1 is 2x input size
  - Recursive case 2 is same as input size
- **Downsampling reduces overall operations**
  - Each downsampling stage reduces operations by factor 2.
- **Partitioning and Downsampling improves memory locality**
  - Output data sets are smaller
- **Partitioning and Downsampling partitions data sets**
  - Output data sets can be processed in parallel

# Backprojection Application

- **Open Source Linux-based Application**
  - Compiles directly on ARM/Zynq
  - Single-precision floating point
- **Lots of things that are not synthesizable**
  - Memory allocation
  - File I/O
  - Recursion

# Code Structure

```
bp(sino,size, tau,img)
  if(size < limit) {
    direct(sino, size, tau, img);          // Base case
  } else foreach quadrant {
    newSino = allocSino(newSinoSize, newNumSino);
    if(condition) {                        // With downsampling
      newSinoForNextIter(newSino, sino, newSinoSize);
    } else {                               // No downsampling
      newSinoForNextIter2(newSino, sino, newSinoSize);
    }
    subImage = getTile(img, quadrant);
    bp(newSino, newSize, tau, subImage); // Recursion
case
    freeSino(newSino);
}
```

# Code Structure: HLS limitations

- Pointers must point to statically allocated structures
- Pointers to pointers must be inlined

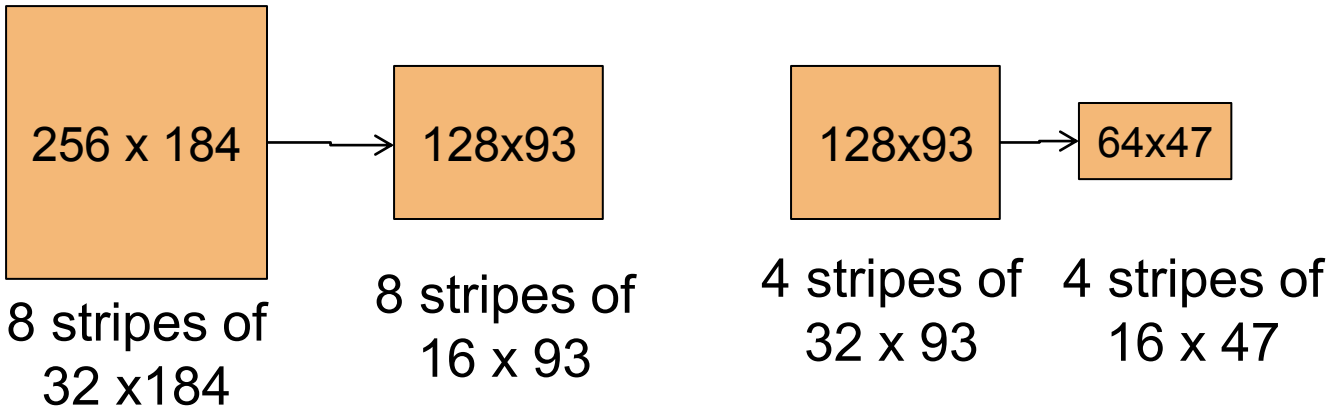
```
typedef struct{
  int size;
  myFloat **pixel; //[size][size]
} image;

typedef struct{
  int num;          // number of angles
  int size;         // length of each filtered sinograms
  myFloat T;
        myFloat **sino;   //[size][size];
        myFloat *sine;    //[size];
        myFloat *cosine;  //[size];
} sinograms;
```

# Acceleration Approach

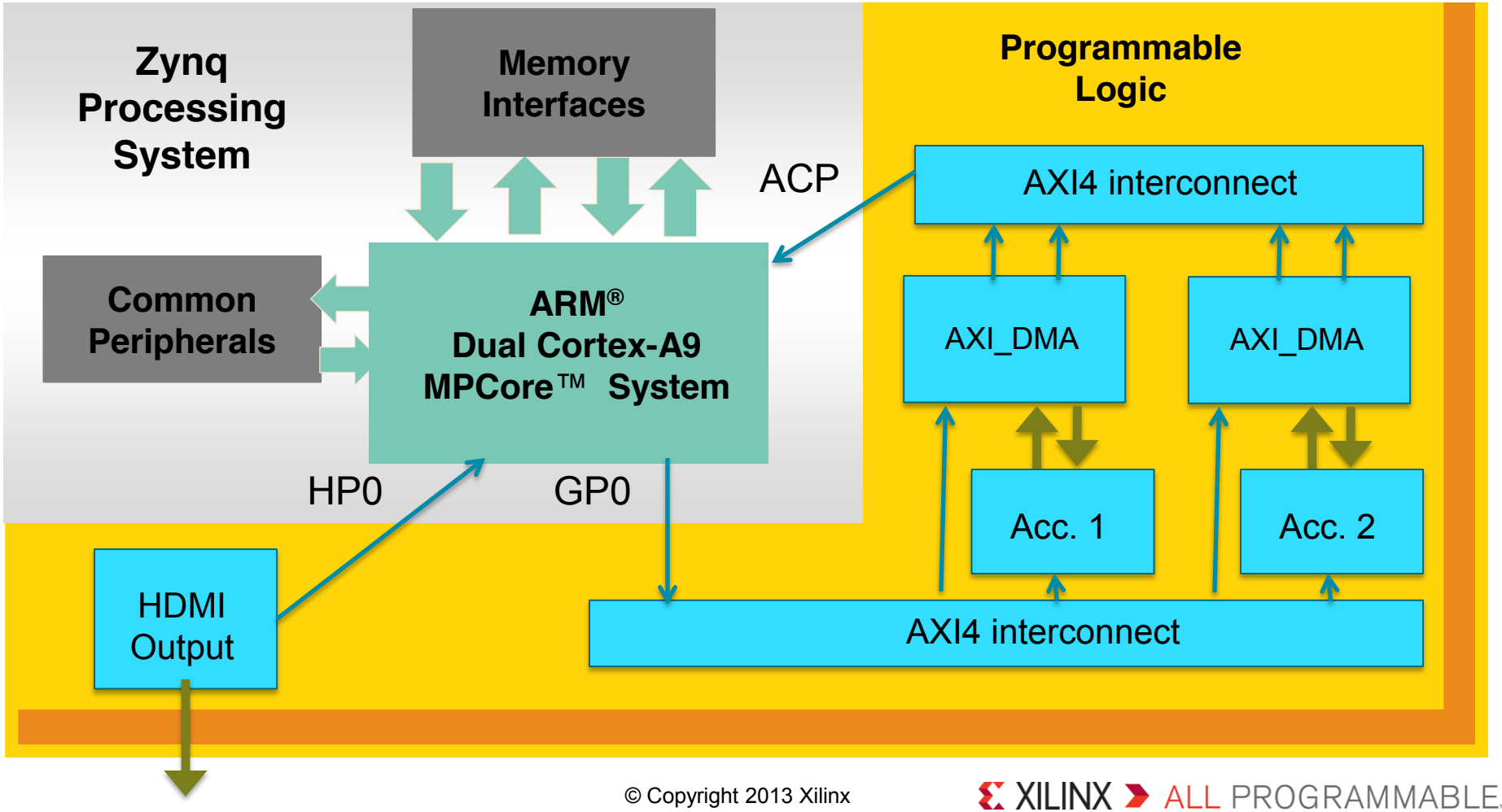
- **Two functions with HLS-generated accelerators**
  - ap_newSinoForNextIter
    - Decomposes a sinogram into smaller sinogram tiles, with angular downsampling
  - ap_direct
    - Computes result for a tile of the output image from a sinogram tile.
- **Most code runs on ARM**
  - Memory allocation
  - File I/O
  - Sinogram Decomposition without angular downsampling
- **Pipelined Coherent DMA**
  - Use good tile processing order for data locality

# Code Transformations

- **ap_direct: 1 hour**
  - Introduce statically allocated buffers to resolve pointers.
- **ap_newSinoForNextIter: 4 hours**
  - Introduce statically allocated buffers to resolve pointers.
  - Stripe-based processing of large data set (loop refactoring)

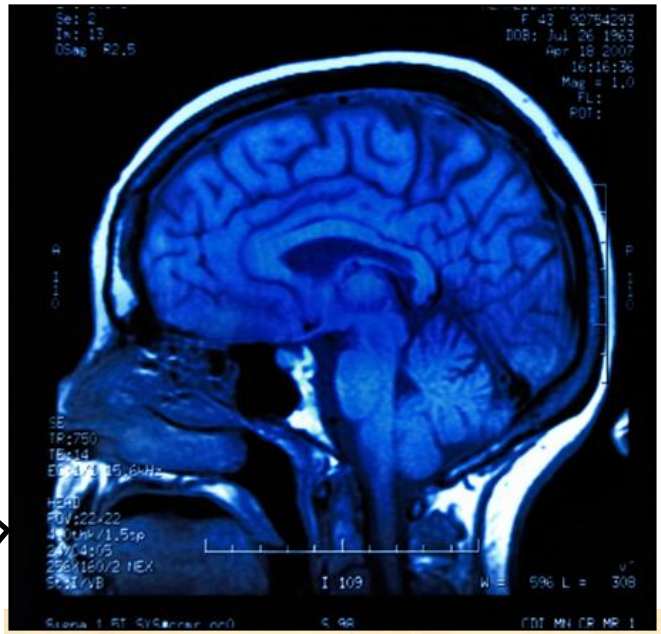


# Architecture (With Coherent DMA)



# Board + video

Left side of the screen:
SW running, ~ 1.5 fps



Right side of the screen:
SW+ HW running, ~ 10 fps

HMDI Out

# Intelligent Vision Applications for FPGAs

HD Surveillance

Driver Assistance

Video Conferencing

OpenCV

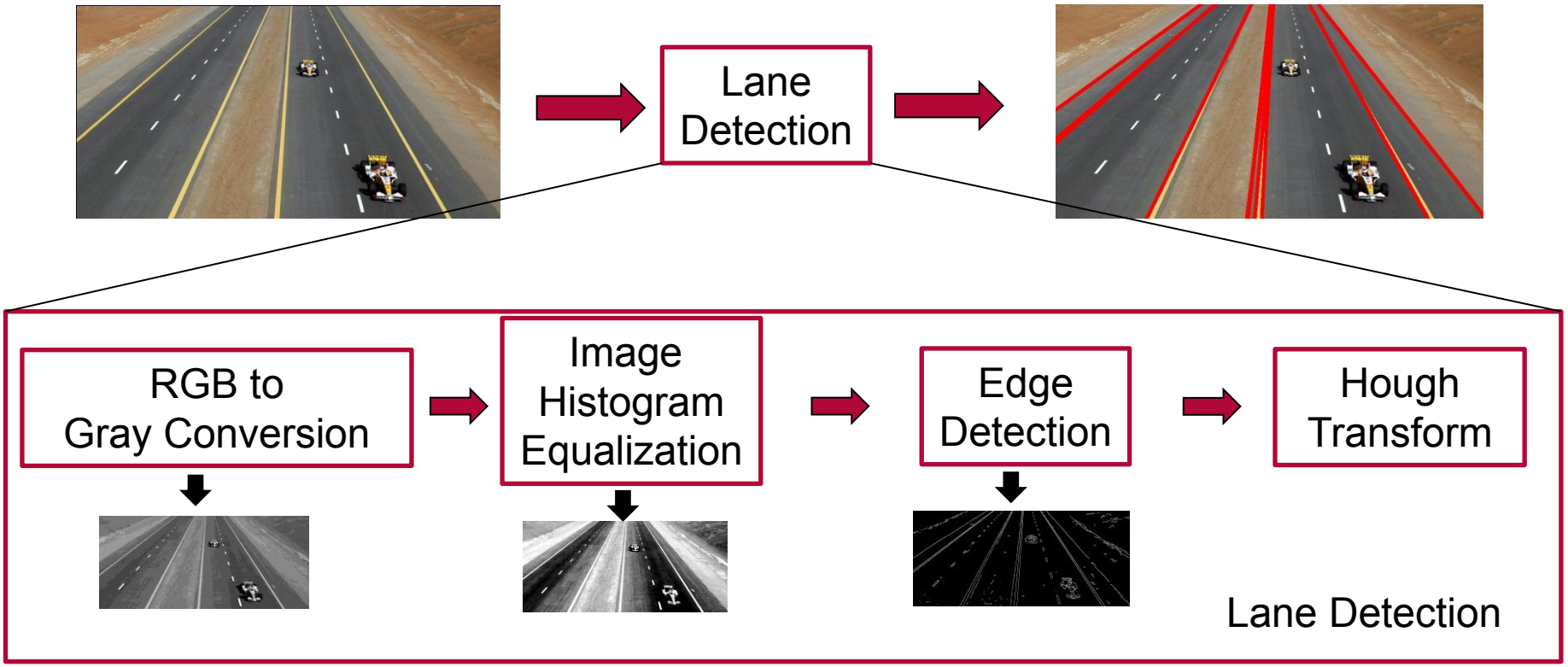
Machine Vision

A&D UAV

Office-class MFP

# Lane Detection – Algorithm Overview

- **Lane Detection**
  - Analyze a video frame to detect road lane markings



# Application characteristics

- **Total dataset will not easily fit in blockram or cache**
  - 1920x1080x32 bit = ~8 MB
- **Predictable access patterns and algorithms with high spatial locality**
  - line buffers and frame buffers
- **Applications are heterogeneous**
  - Pixel processing (good for FPGA)
  - Frame-level processing (good for processor)

# Acceleration Approach

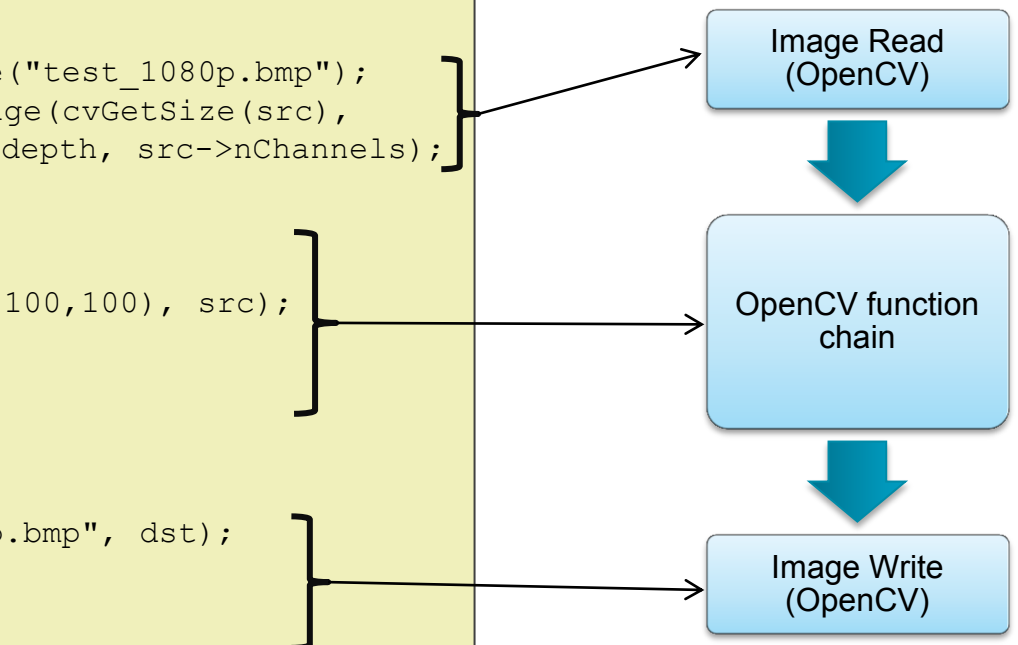
- **Pixel processing accelerators with deep dataflow pipelines**
  - Video Function library corresponding to OpenCV functions
  - Extract features from pixels
- **Frame rate processing runs on ARM**
  - UI
  - Feature matching
  - Decision Making
- **Pipelined High performance DMA for video**
- **Features through general purpose interfaces**

# OpenCV Code

- One image input, one image output
  - Processed by chain of functions sequentially

```
…
IplImage* src=cvLoadImage("test_1080p.bmp");
IplImage* dst=cvCreateImage(cvGetSize(src),
                    src->depth, src->nChannels);


cvSobel(src, dst, 1, 0);
cvSubS(dst, cvScalar(100,100,100), src);
cvScale(src, dst, 2, 0);
cvErode(dst, src);
cvDilate(src, dst);


cvSaveImage("result_1080p.bmp", dst);
cvReleaseImage(&src);
cvReleaseImage(&dst);
…
```

*test_opencv.cpp*



# Accelerated with Vivado HLS video library

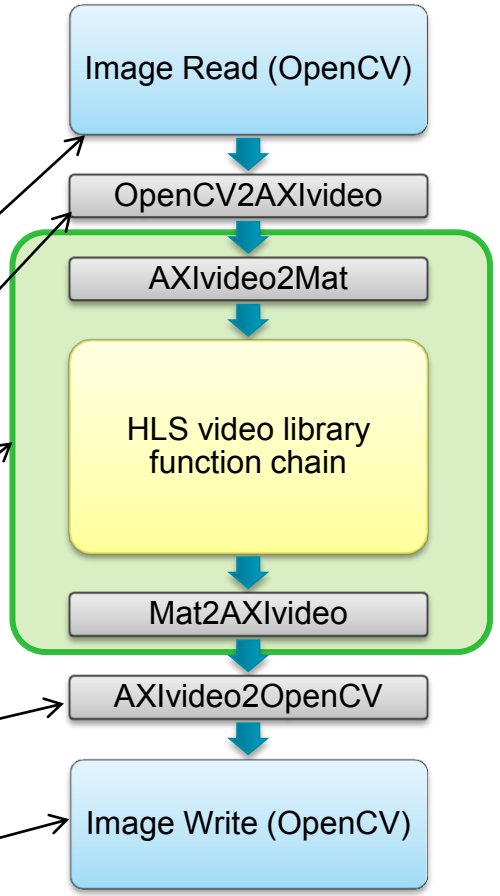
## Top level function extracted for HW acceleration

```
#include "hls_video.h"  // header file of HLS video library
#include "hls_opencv.h" // header file of OpenCV I/O

// typedef video library core structures
typedef hls::AXI_Base<32>                    AXI_PIXEL;
typedef hls::stream<AXI_PIXEL>               AXI_STREAM;
typedef hls::Scalar<3, uchar>                RGB_PIXEL;
typedef hls::Mat<1080,1920,HLS_8UC3>         RGB_IMAGE;

void top(AXI_STREAM& src_axi, AXI_STREAM& dst_axi,
         int rows, int cols);
```

top.h

```
#include "top.h"
…

IplImage* src=cvLoadImage("test_1080p.bmp");
IplImage* dst=cvCreateImage(cvGetSize(src),
                    src->depth, src->nChannels);

AXI_STREAM src_axi, dst_axi;
IplImage2AXIvideo(src, src_axi);

top(src_axi, dst_axi, src->height, src->width);

AXIvideo2IplImage(dst_axi, dst);

cvSaveImage("result_1080p.bmp", dst);
cvReleaseImage(&src);
cvReleaseImage(&dst);
```

test.cpp



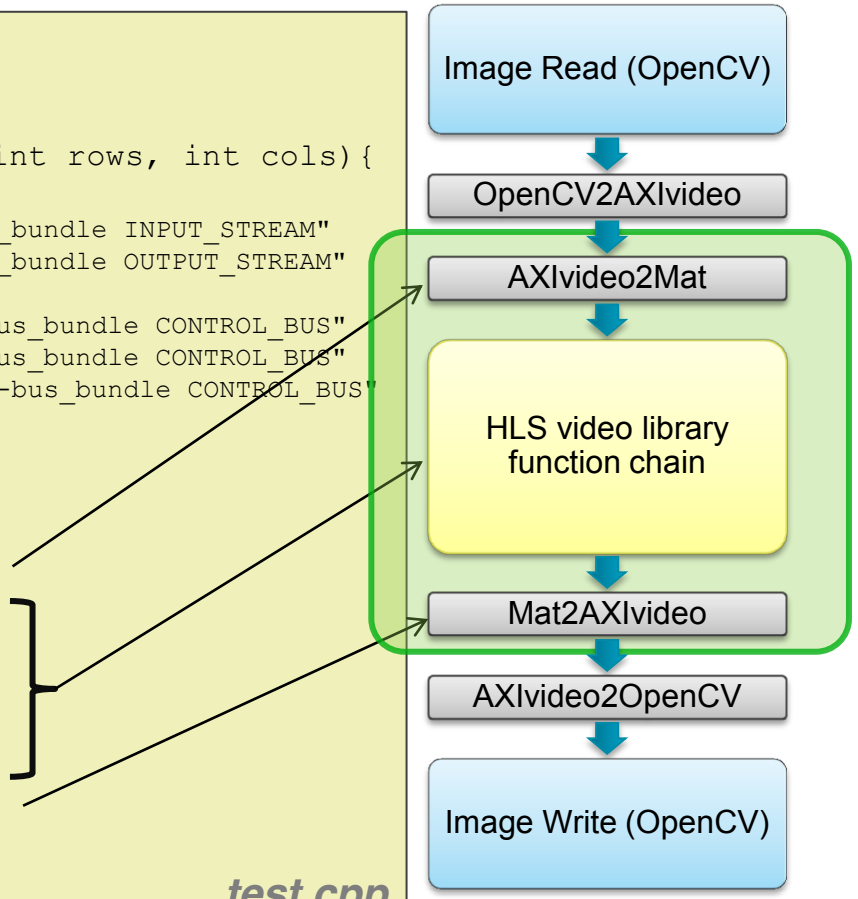
# Accelerated with Vivado HLS video library

## HW Synthesizable Block for FPGA acceleration

- Consists of video library function and interfaces
- Replace OpenCV function with similar function in hls namespace

```
#include "top.h"
#include "ap_interfaces.h"

void top(AXI_STREAM& src_axi, AXI_STREAM& dst_axi, int rows, int cols){
    //Create AXI streaming interfaces for the core
#pragma HLS RESOURCE core=AXIS variable=src_axi metadata="-bus_bundle INPUT_STREAM"
#pragma HLS RESOURCE core=AXIS variable=dst_axi metadata="-bus_bundle OUTPUT_STREAM"

#pragma HLS RESOURCE core=AXI_SLAVE variable=rows metadata="-bus_bundle CONTROL_BUS"
#pragma HLS RESOURCE core=AXI_SLAVE variable=cols metadata="-bus_bundle CONTROL_BUS"
#pragma HLS RESOURCE core=AXI_SLAVE variable=return metadata="-bus_bundle CONTROL_BUS"

    RGB_IMAGE img[6];
    RGB_PIXEL pix(100,100,100);
#pragma HLS dataflow
    hls::AXIvideo2Mat(src_axi, img[0]);
    hls::Sobel(img[0], img[1], 1, 0);
    hls::SubS(img[1], pix, img[2]);
    hls::Scale(img[2], img[3], 2, 0);
    hls::Erode(img[3], img[4]);
    hls::Dilate(img[4], img[5]);
    hls::Mat2AXIvideo(img[5], dst_axi);
}
```

*test.cpp*



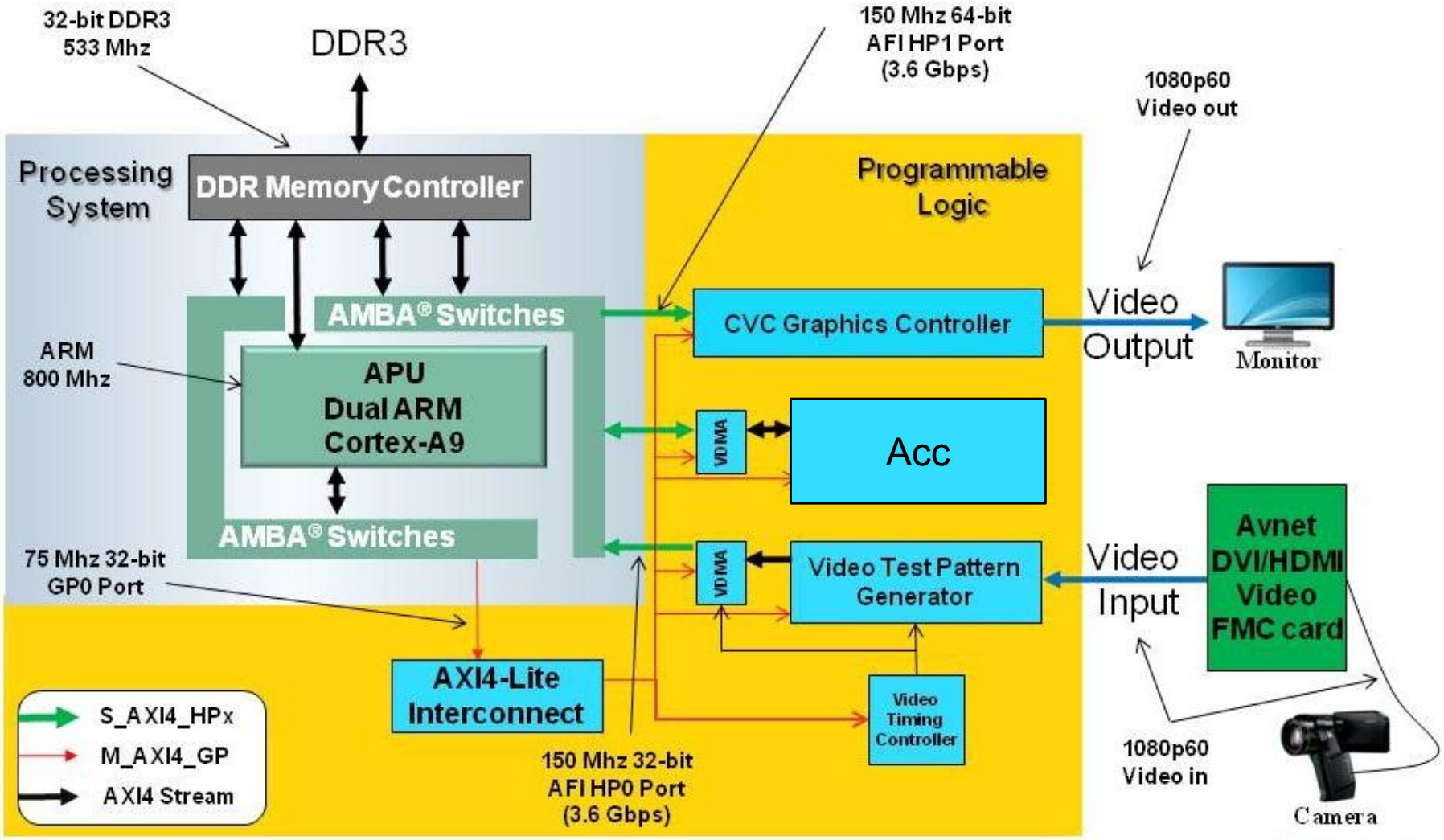
# 2012.4 Beta: Video Library Function List

| | |
|---|---|
| OpenCV I/O | cvMat2hlsMat<br>IplImage2hlsMat<br>CvMat2hlsMat |
| OpenCV I/O | hlsMat2cvMat<br>hlsMat2IplImage<br>hlsMat2CvMat |
| interfaces | hls::AXIvideo2Mat |
| interfaces | hls::Mat2AXIvideo |
| openCV basic function | hls::Filter2D |
| openCV basic function | hls::Erode |
| openCV basic function | hls::Dilate |
| openCV basic function | hls::Min |
| openCV basic function | hls::Max |
| openCV basic function | hls::MinS |
| openCV basic function | hls::MaxS |
| openCV basic function | hls::Mul |
| openCV basic function | hls::Zero |
| openCV basic function | hls::Avg |

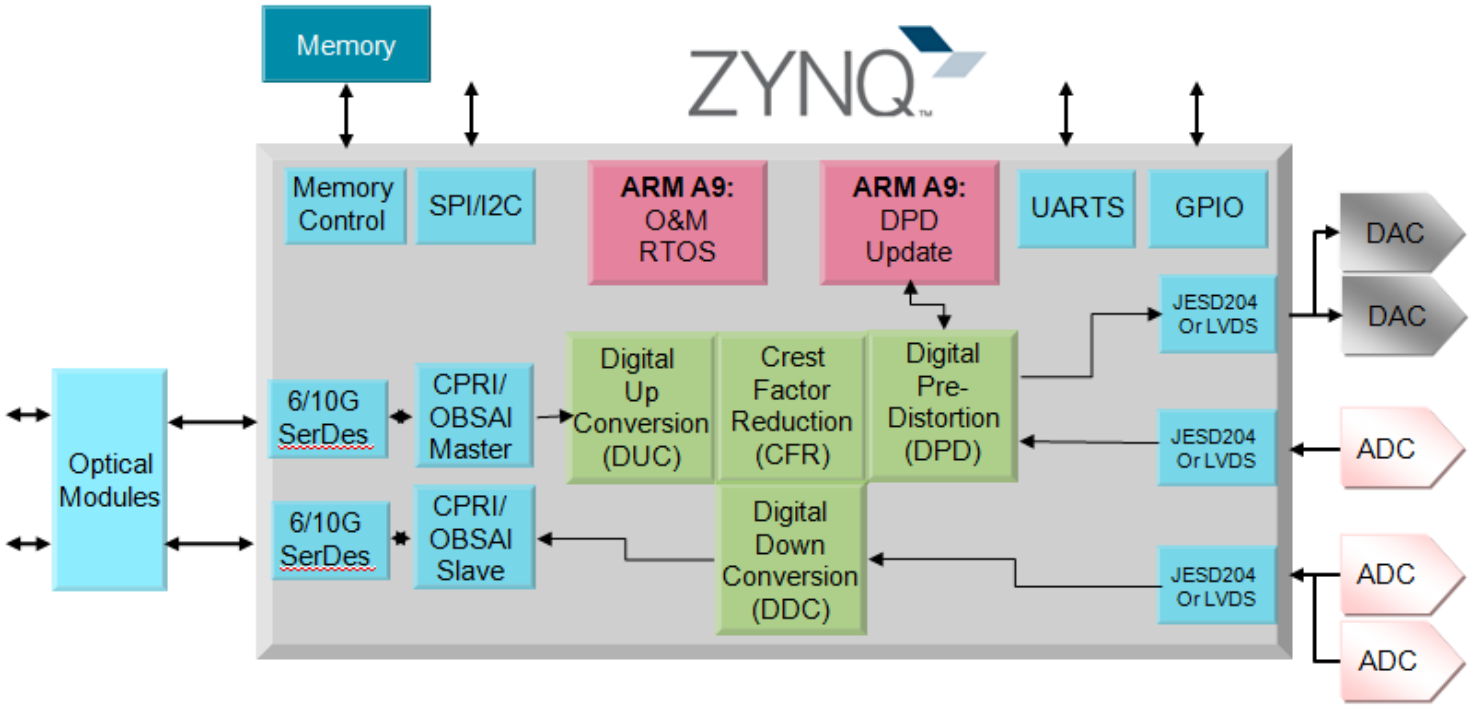
| | |
|---|---|
| openCV basic function | hls::AbsDiff |
| openCV basic function | hls::CmpS |
| openCV basic function | hls::Cmp |
| openCV basic function | hls::And |
| openCV basic function | hls::Not |
| openCV basic function | hls::AddS |
| openCV basic function | hls::AddWeighted |
| openCV basic function | hls::Mean |
| openCV basic function | hls::SubRS |
| openCV basic function | hls::SubS |
| openCV basic function | hls::Sum |
| openCV basic function | hls::Reduce |
| openCV basic function | hls::Scale |

- **For function signatures and descriptions, please refer to:**
  - Synthesizable functions in hls_video.h
  - Interface functions in hls_opencv.h

# Accelerator Architecture

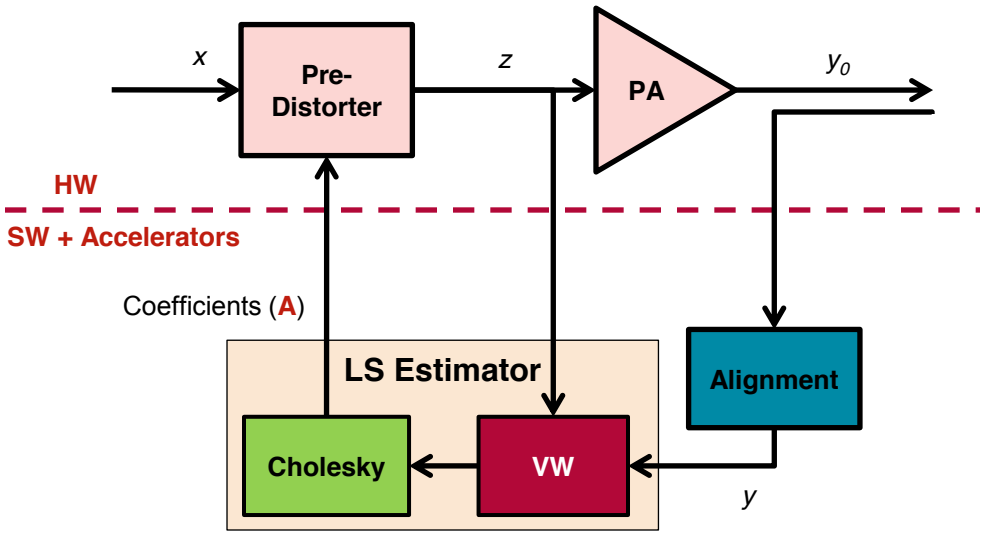


# LTE Radio Digital Front End: Digital Pre-Distortion

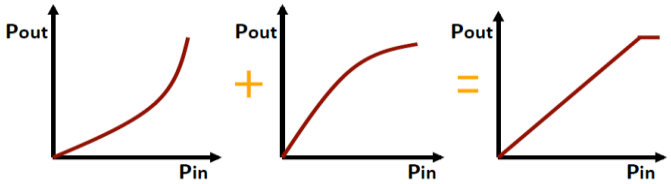



- Cost and power reduction by integrated solution
- Performance increase by exploiting the massive compute power of multi-core processors and programmable logic

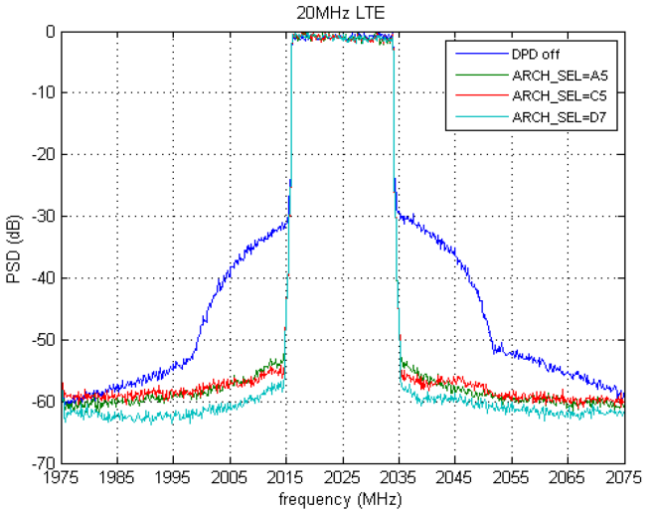
# Digital Pre-Distortion Functionality



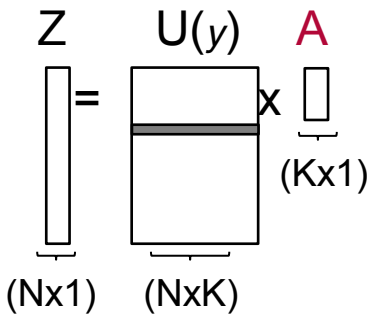

- **DPD negates PA non-linearity**
  - PAs consume massive static power
  - DPD improves PA efficiency by ~35-40%




- **Increase number of coefficients (K)**
  - Better linearization, higher complexity




- **Estimate pre-distorter coefficients (A):**



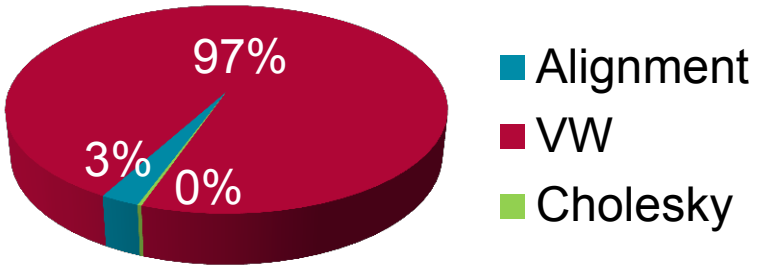

$$U^H Z = U^H U A$$

$$\mathbf{W} = \mathbf{V}A$$

$$\mathbf{V}^{-1}\mathbf{W} = A$$

# Application characteristics

- **Complex bare metal program**
  - Multiple loop nests, with no obvious bottleneck
  - Fixed and floating point
  - Complex numbers
- **Use software profiling**
  - Focus on VW functionality
- **Initial Target: K = 64**
  - Look for speedup with minimal hardware usage
- **More Speedup -> increase K**




**Target Update Time: 300ms (faster is better)**

| | x86 2GHz | Zynq 800MHz |
|---|---|---|
| *Original* | 0.66s | **1.20s** |

# Code Structure

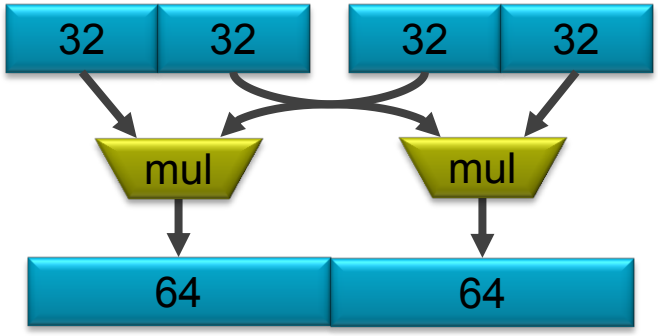
```
for (int i = 0; i < NumCoeffs; ++i)
{
#pragma HLS pipeline II=2

  W[i].real +=
      (INT64)u[i].real*tx.real
    + (INT64)u[i].imag*tx.imag;

  W[i].imag +=
      (INT64)u[i].real*tx.imag
    - (INT64)u[i].imag*tx.real;
}
```

```
create_clock -period 5
set_part xc7z020clg484-2
```

Multipliers: 2
Adders: 2

# Software Optimization

- **Use the right algorithm!**
  - Gains here are often easier than throwing hardware at the problem
- **Use ARM NEON function intrinsics**
  - Low-level ARM-A9 programming




**Target Update Time: 300ms (faster is better)**

| | x86 2GHz | Zynq 800MHz |
|---|---|---|
| *Original* | 0.66s | **1.20s** |
| *Optimized* | 0.22s | **0.54s** |
| *With NEON* | n/a | **0.25s** |

**Speed-up: 5x**

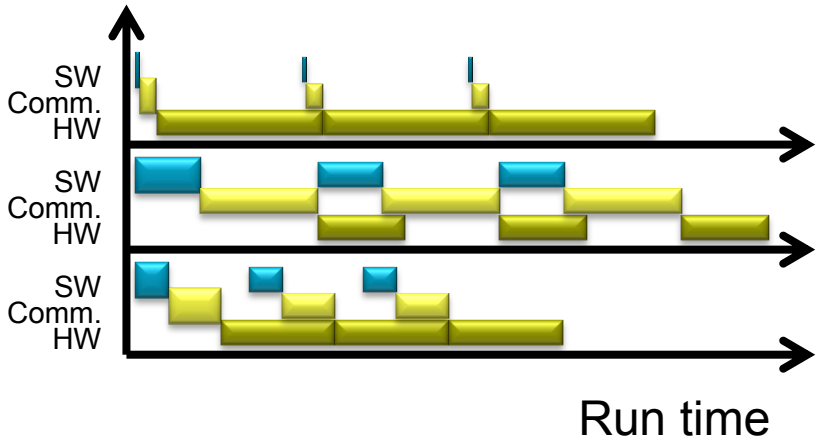
# Using NEON Instructions

```
W[i].real += (INT64)uRow[i].real*sample.real
           + (INT64)uRow[i].imag*sample.imag;
```

```
// load operands
int32x2_t   tr = vdup_n_s32(sample.real);
int32x2_t   ti = vdup_n_s32(sample.imag);
int32x2x2_t u  = vld2_s32((int32_t *)(uRow+i));
int64x2_t   w  = vld1q_s64((int64_t *)(W+i));

// do parallel computation
w = vmlal_s32(w,u.val[0],tr);
w = vmlal_s32(w,u.val[1],ti);

// store result
vst1q_s64((int64_t *)(W+i),w);
```

# Acceleration Approach

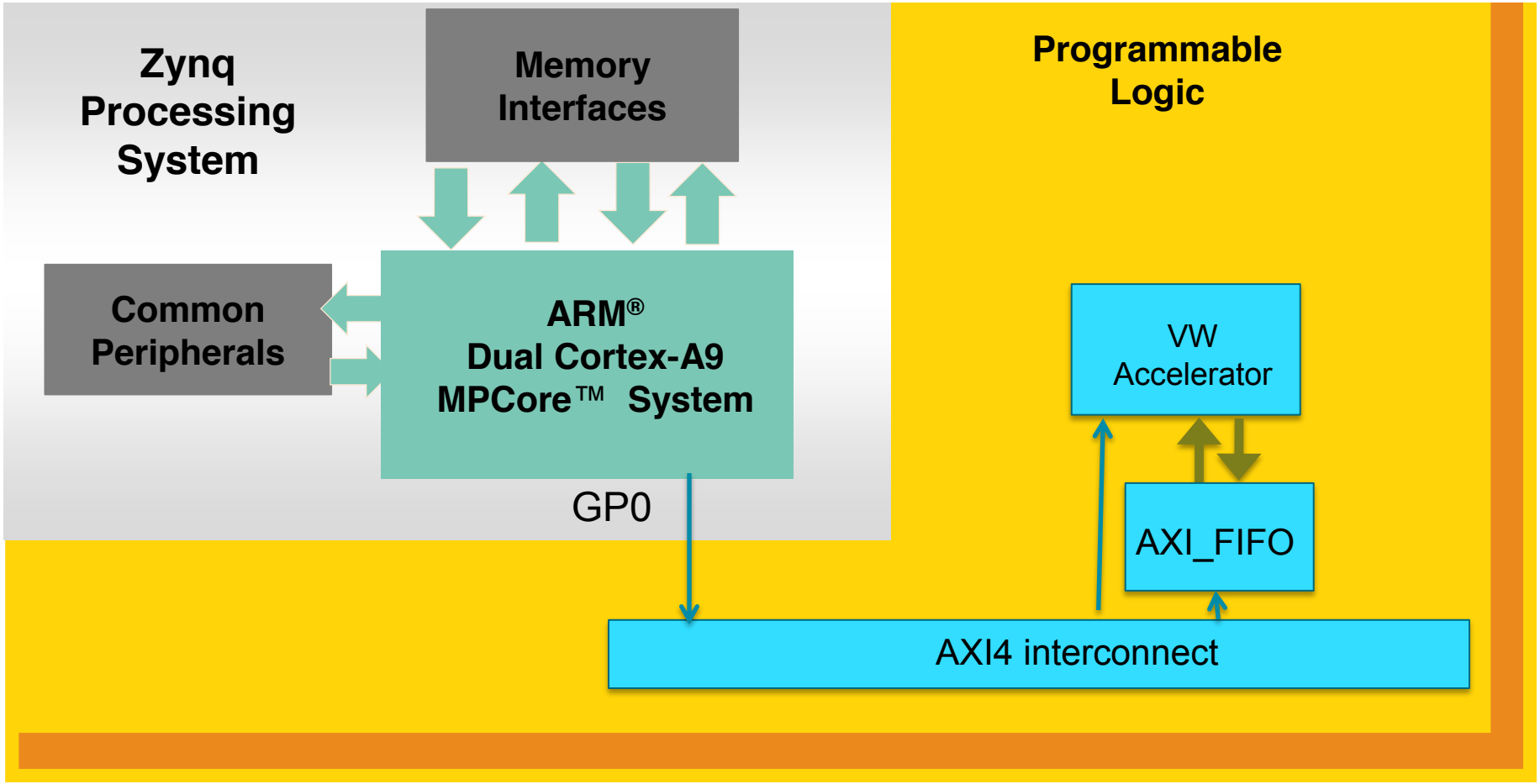
- **Neon intrinsics are OK, but HLS can do better**
  - with minimal code modification
- **Pick right partitioning between processor code and accelerator**
  - Focus on efficient use of generated hardware
  - Tradeoff overall time and resources
    - time = sw + communication + hw
    - resources = communication + hw



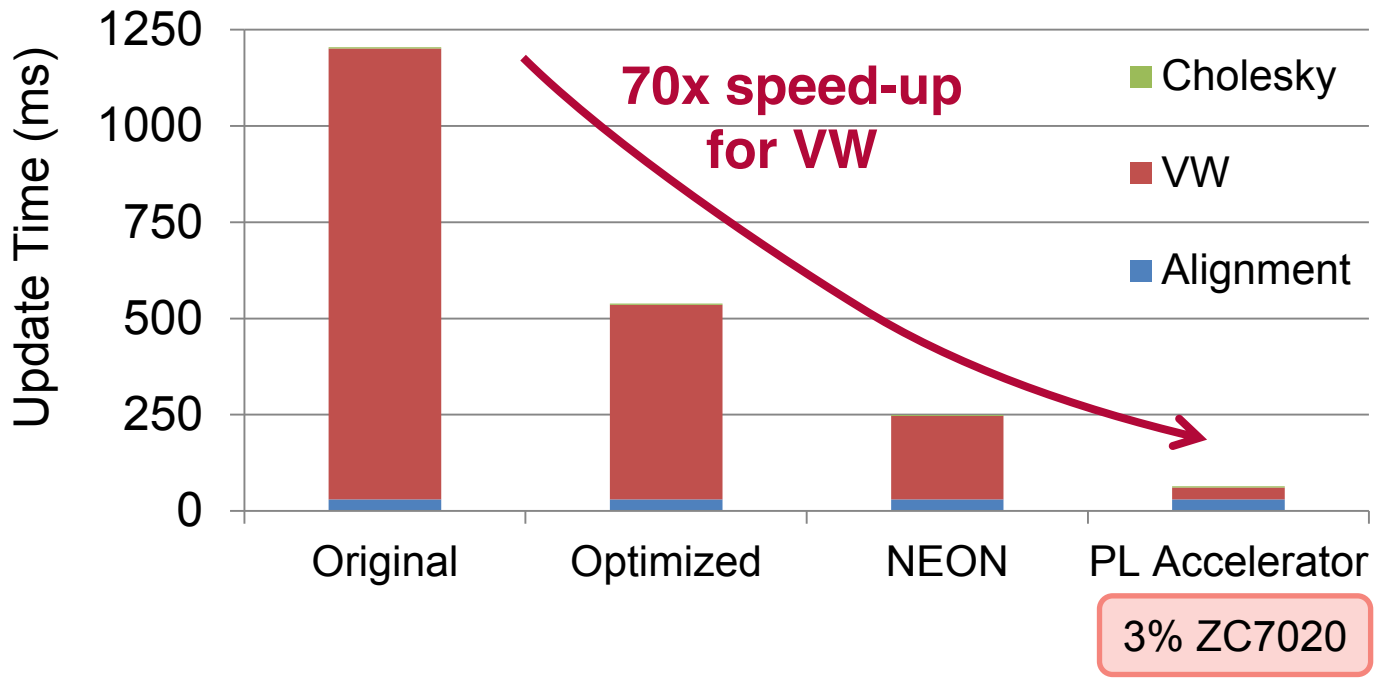

- **Efficient memory-mapped IO with fifo**
  - DMA resources not justified

# AXI FIFO Architecture

| | FF | LUT |
|---|---|---|
| AXI Infrastructure | ~300 | ~300 |
| Accelerator | 2552 | 2605 |



# Digital Pre-Distortion on Zynq from C/C++




- Significant speed-up for existing designs
- OR: use speedup to solve bigger problems in same amount of time

# Design exploration opportunities

- Maximize resource sharing

```
#pragma HLS allocation
\
  instances=mul limit=1 \
  operation
```

- Insert pipelines

```
#pragma HLS pipeline II=1
```

- Vary number of coefficients

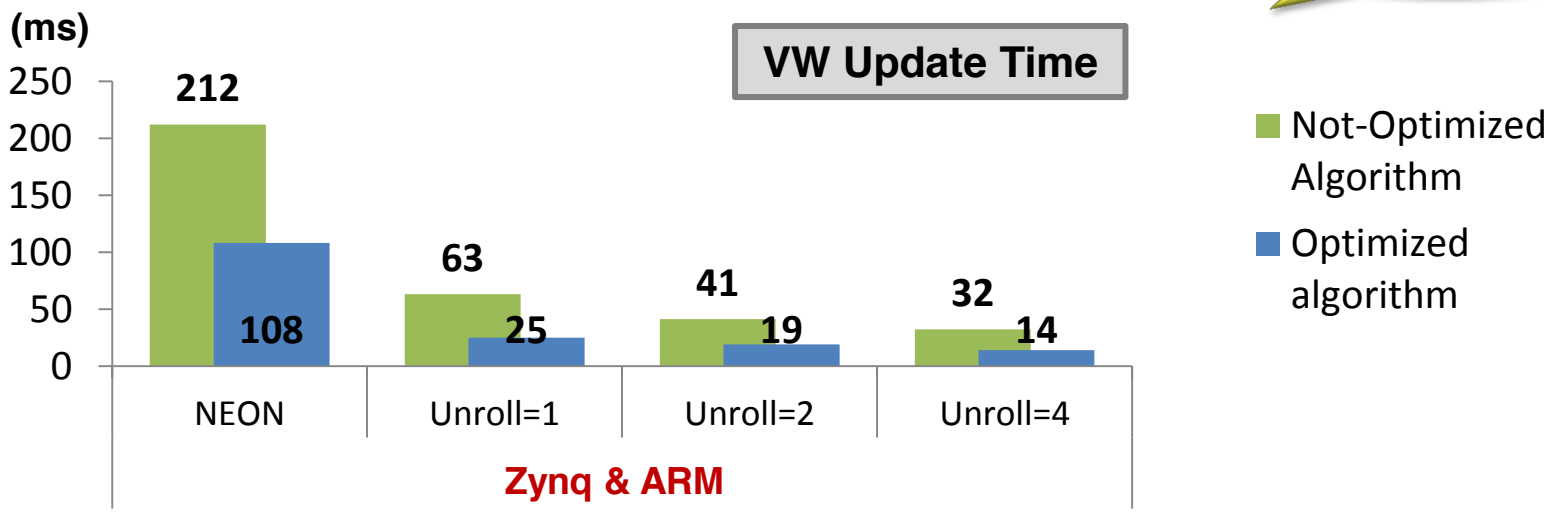
```
CINT64 W[MAX_COEFFS];
```

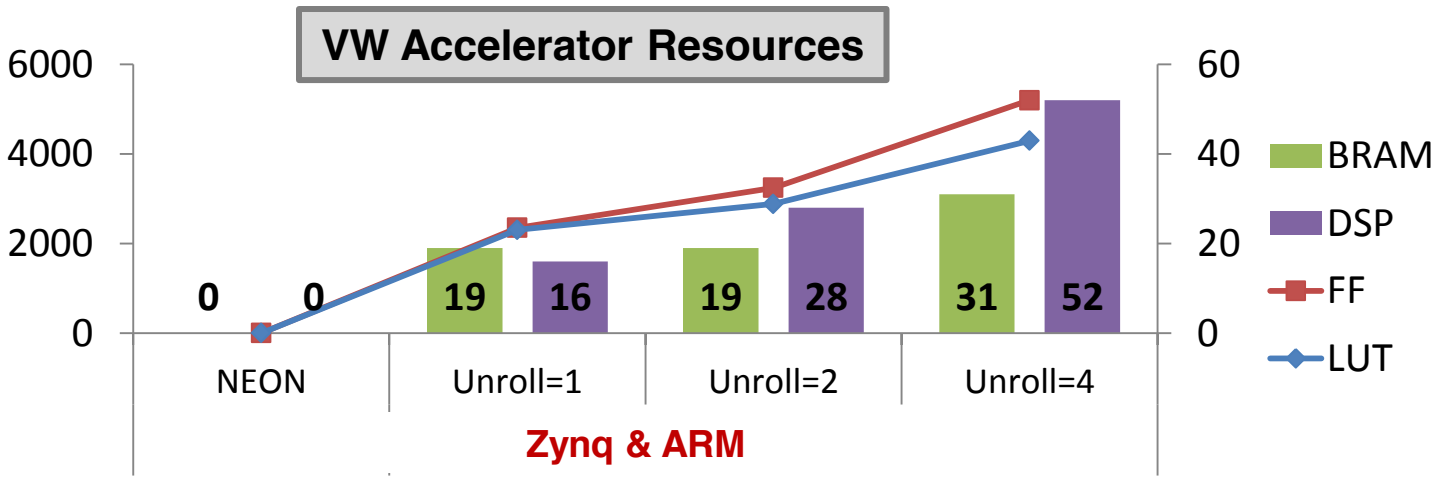
- Unroll loops to increase performance

```
#pragma HLS unroll \
  factor=UNROLL_FACTOR
```

# Accelerator Results

64 Coefficients



# Conclusion

- Go forth and build!

- Many thanks to:
  - Jan Langer
  - Baris Ozgul
  - Juanjo Noguera
  - Kees Vissers
  - Thomas Li
  - Devin Wang
  - Vinay Singh
  - Duncan Mackay
  - Dan Isaacs
  - *And many others*