

Sasank Chilamkurthy

Open Source GPU Stacks

In the era of proprietary dominance

Outline

- Proprietary dominance
- Computers
- Break the wall

A dark, grainy photograph of a subway interior. The scene is mostly in shadow, with bright, overexposed areas where light is coming from the windows and the platform outside. Several blurred figures of passengers are visible, some standing near the front and others further back. A train is passing by on the right side of the frame, its side visible with some text and numbers. The overall atmosphere is hazy and suggests motion.

Proprietary dominance

465.07 USD

+402.04 (637.85%) ↑ past 5 years

Closed: Aug 1, 7:59 PM EDT • Disclaimer

After hours 461.95 -3.12 (0.67%)

1D

5D

1M

6M

YTD

1Y

5Y

Max



Open

464.60

Mkt cap

1.15T

CDP score

B

High

469.00

P/E ratio

241.70

52-wk high

480.88

Low

460.27

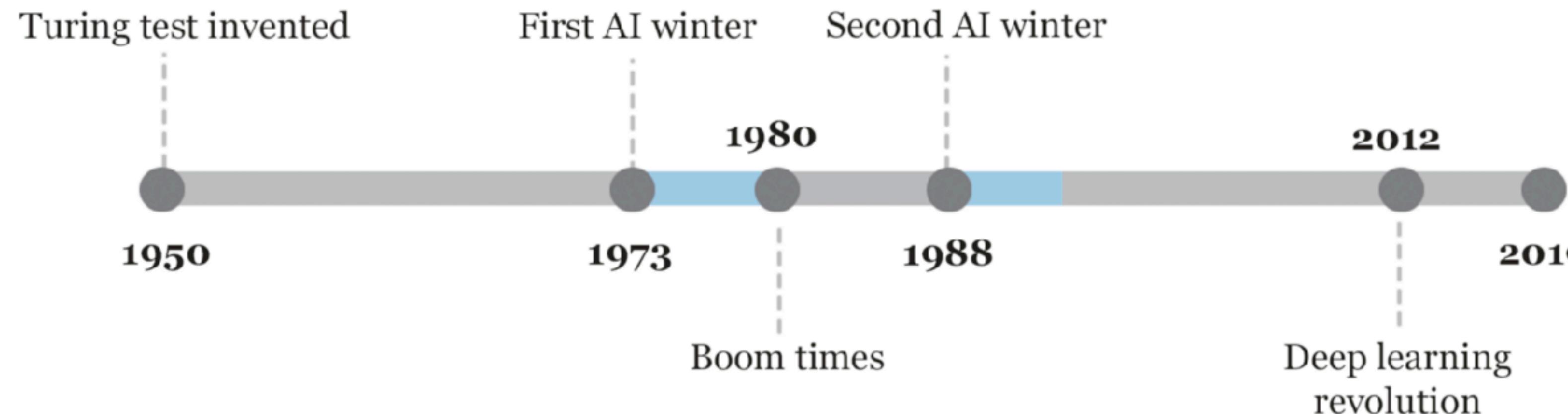
Div yield

0.034%

52-wk low

108.13

History of AI



| | |
|---|----------------------|
| Open research and open source code | Well, this hackathon |
| Huge amount of data | Opensource ImageNet |
| Huge amount of compute | GPUs |

It all started with AlexNet

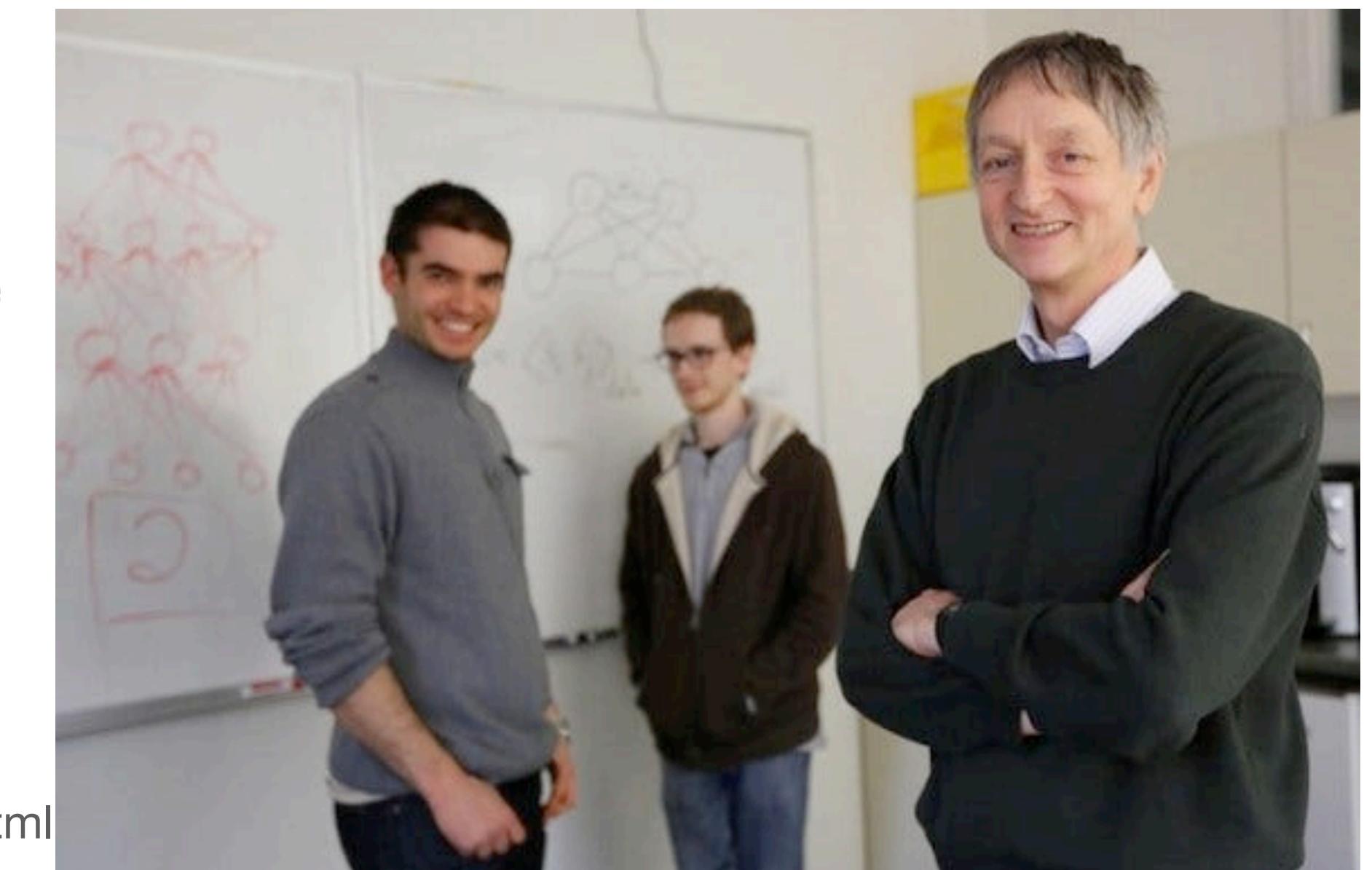
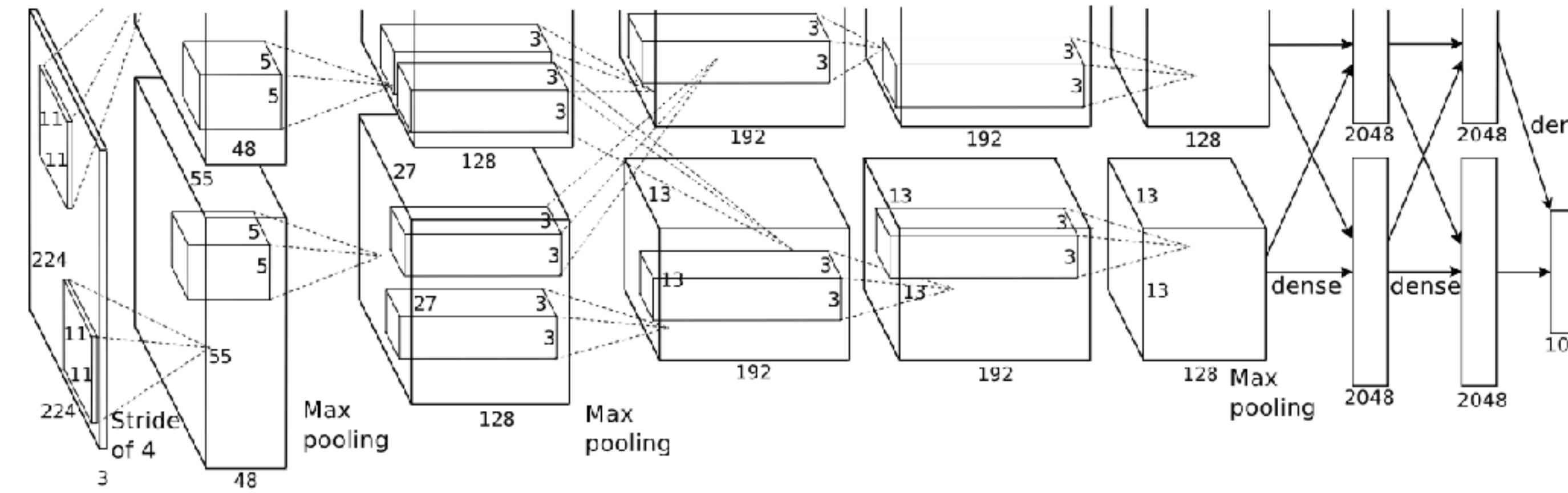
Abstract

Neural Information Processing Systems
<https://proceedings.neurips.cc/paper/4824.pdf>

ImageNet Classification with Deep Convolutional Neural ...

by A Krizhevsky · Cited by 119294 — We trained a large, deep convolutional neural network to classify the 1.2 million high-resolution images in the ImageNet LSVRC-2010 contest into the...
9 pages

**Year 2012
100k citations!**



AI runs on GPUs

- AI = matrix multiplications, which is massively parallelizable
- GPUs are great at parallel programming
- CPU < 32 cores/threads, GPU > 4000 cores/threads!
- CPU is 10x slower, at least
- Impractical to train or even run any reasonable AI model outside GPUs and ASICs

CUDA is de facto standard

- CUDA is C-like language to program a GPU
- All AI programs are written in Nvidia's GPGPU language CUDA
- Works only on Nvidia GPUs
- Therefore AI stuff runs only on Nvidia GPUs
- AI hardware is **monopoly** because of lack of good compilers!

AlexNet was done in CUDA of course

contain enough labeled examples to train such models without severe overfitting.

The specific contributions of this paper are as follows: we trained one of the largest convolutional neural networks to date on the subsets of ImageNet used in the ILSVRC-2010 and ILSVRC-2012 competitions [2] and achieved by far the best results ever reported on these datasets. We wrote a highly-optimized GPU implementation of 2D convolution and all the other operations inherent in training convolutional neural networks, which we make available publicly¹. Our network contains a number of new and unusual features which improve its performance and reduce its training time, which are detailed in Section 3. The size of our network made overfitting a significant problem, even with 1.2 million labeled training examples, so we used several effective techniques for preventing overfitting, which are described in Section 4. Our final network contains five convolutional and three fully-connected layers, and this depth seems to be important: we found that removing any convolutional layer (each of which contains no more than 1% of the model’s parameters) resulted in inferior performance.

In the end, the network’s size is limited mainly by the amount of memory available on current GPUs

Project



Source

Issues

Wikis

Downloads

cuda-convnet

High-performance C++/CUDA implementation of convolutional neural networks

Note July 18, 2014: * I've released an update to [cuda-convnet](#), called [cuda-convnet2](#). The two main new features are faster training on Kepler-generation GPUs and support for multi-GPU training.

This is a fast C++/CUDA implementation of convolutional (or more generally, feed-forward) neural networks. It can model arbitrary layer connectivity and network depth. Any directed acyclic graph of layers will do. Training is done using the back-propagation algorithm.

Fermi-generation GPU (GTX 4xx, GTX 5xx, or Tesla equivalent) required.

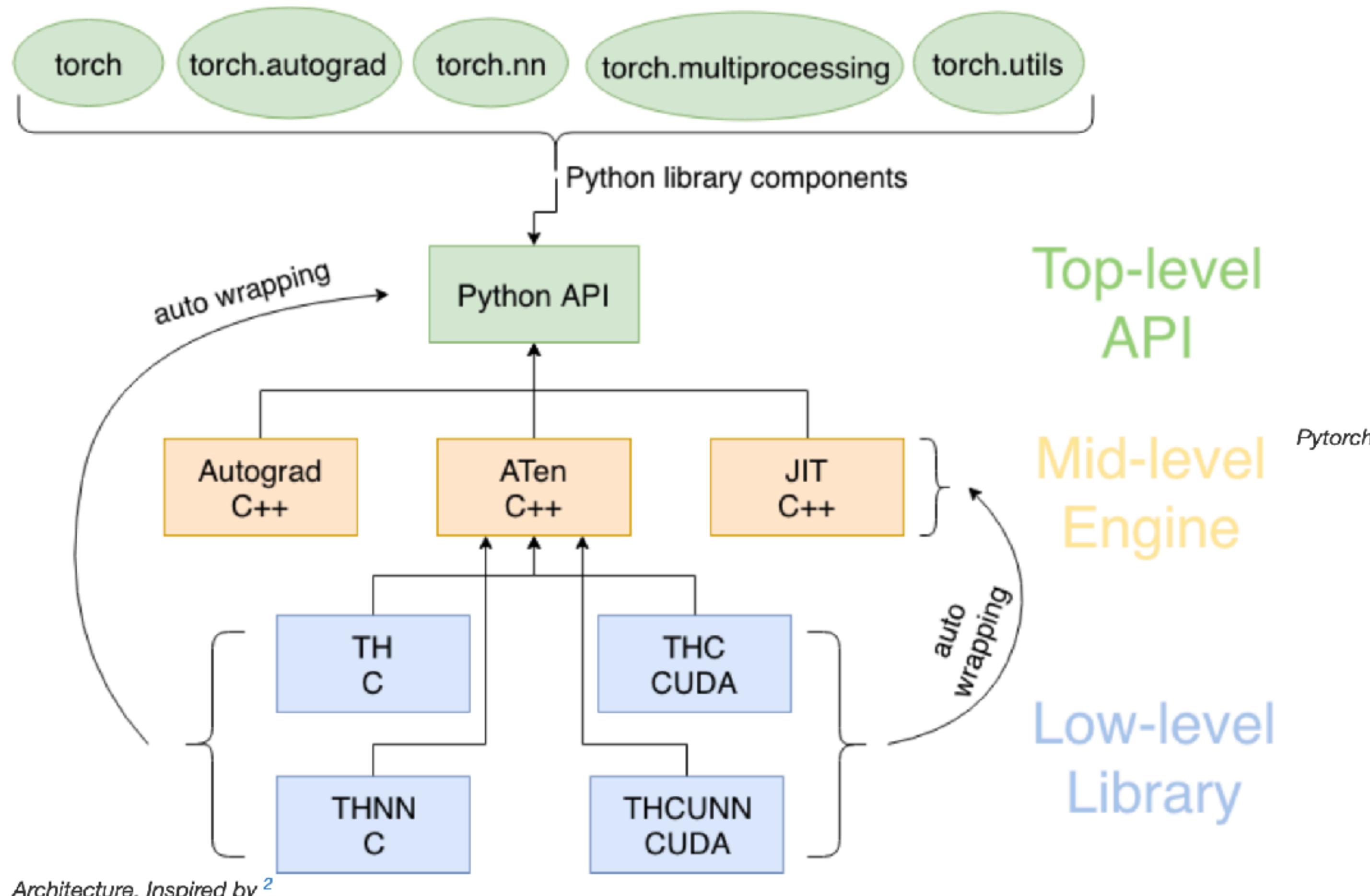
Documentation

- Compiling – how to check out and compile this code.
- Data -- what kind of data this net can train on.
- LayerParams – how to specify an architecture for the net.
- NeuronTypes – types of hidden unit nonlinearities.
- TrainingNet – how to train the net.
- Options – the command-line arguments that the net takes.
- ViewingNet -- how to look inside the checkpoints saved by the net.
- CheckingGradients -- how to numerically test the gradients for correctness.

PyTorch dominates AI frameworks

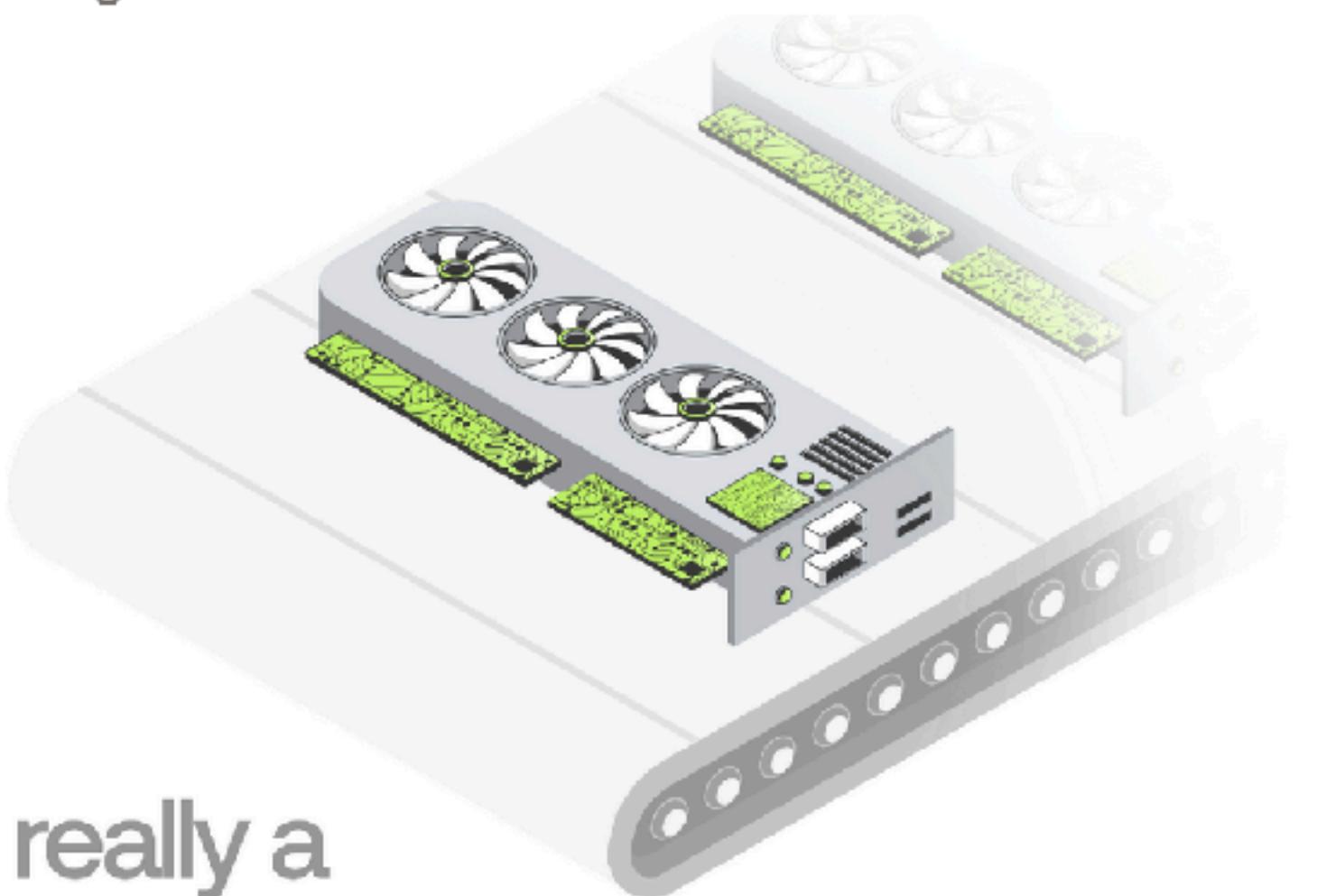
Written in C++ & CUDA but with Python API

The main structure of PyTorch in a architectural view is shown in the figure below.



Nvidia H100 GPUs: Supply and Demand

July 2023 • Updated: August 2023



Is there really a
Bottleneck?

How Many GPUs Are Needed?

- GPT-4 was likely trained on somewhere between 10,000 to 25,000 A100s.²⁰
- Meta has about 21,000 A100s, Tesla has about 7,000 A100s, and Stability AI has about 5,000 A100s.²¹
- Falcon-40B was trained on 384 A100s.²²
- Inflection used 3,500 H100s for their GPT-3.5 equivalent model.²³

Specifications

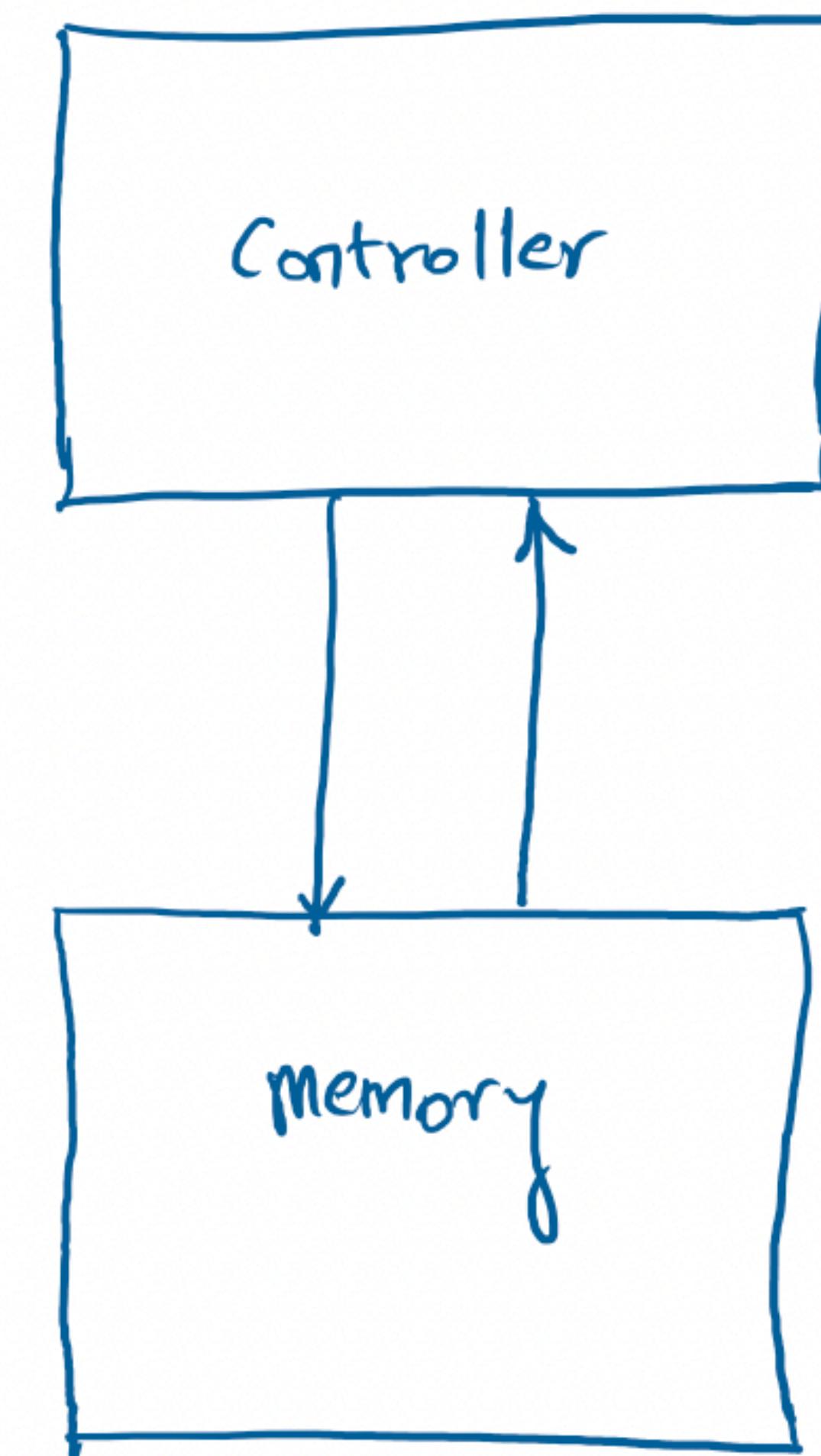
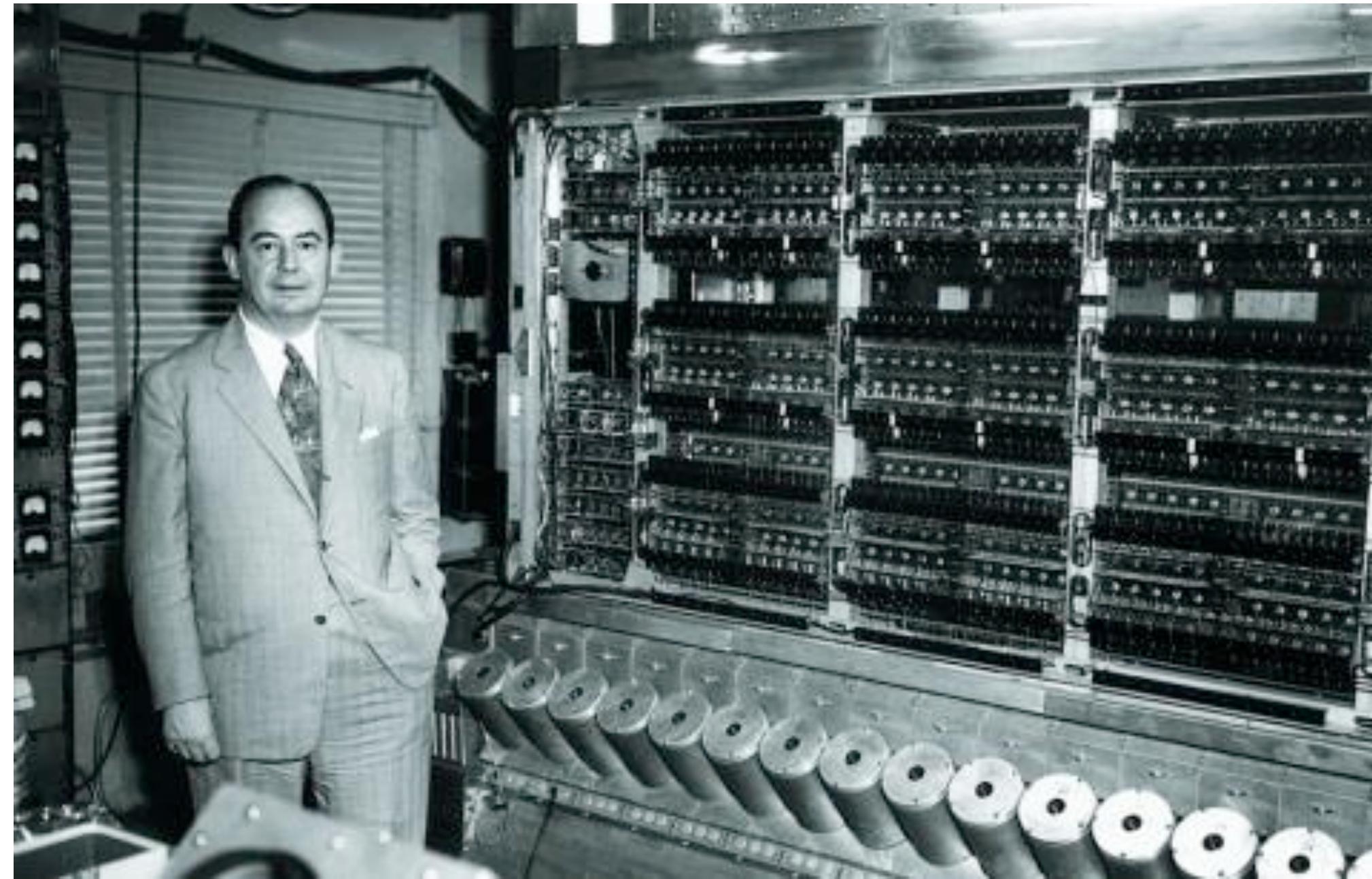
| | |
|---------------------------|---|
| GPU | 8x NVIDIA H100 Tensor Core GPUs |
| GPU memory | 640GB total |
| Performance | 32 petaFLOPS FP8 |
| NVIDIA® NVSwitch™ | 4x |
| System power usage | 10.2kW max |
| CPU | Dual Intel® Xeon® Platinum 8480C Processors 112 Cores total, 2.00 GHz (Base), 3.80 GHz (Max Boost) |
| System memory | 2TB |
| Networking | 4x OSFP ports serving 8x single-port NVIDIA ConnectX-7 VPI <ul style="list-style-type: none">➢ Up to 400Gb/s InfiniBand/Ethernet 2x dual-port QSFP112 NVIDIA ConnectX-7 VPI <ul style="list-style-type: none">➢ Up to 400Gb/s InfiniBand/Ethernet |
| Management network | 10Gb/s onboard NIC with RJ45 100Gb/s Ethernet NIC Host baseboard management controller (BMC) with RJ45 |
| Storage | OS: 2x 1.92TB NVMe M.2 |
| Internal storage: | 8x 3.84TB NVMe U.2 |

**500k USD / DGX H100
30k USD/Card
Almost a million H100s ordered
for the next year**

Computer Architecture



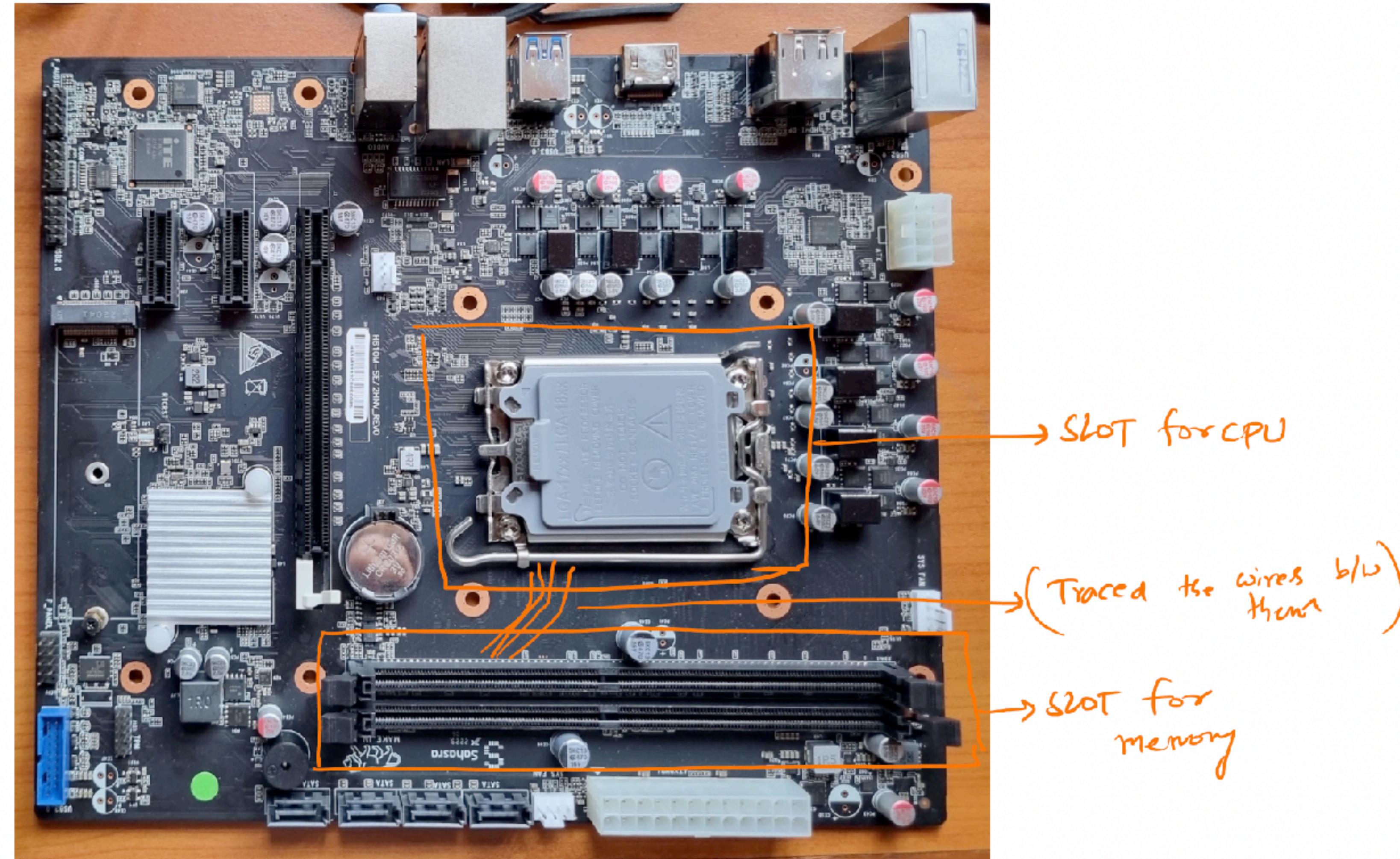
von Neumann architecture



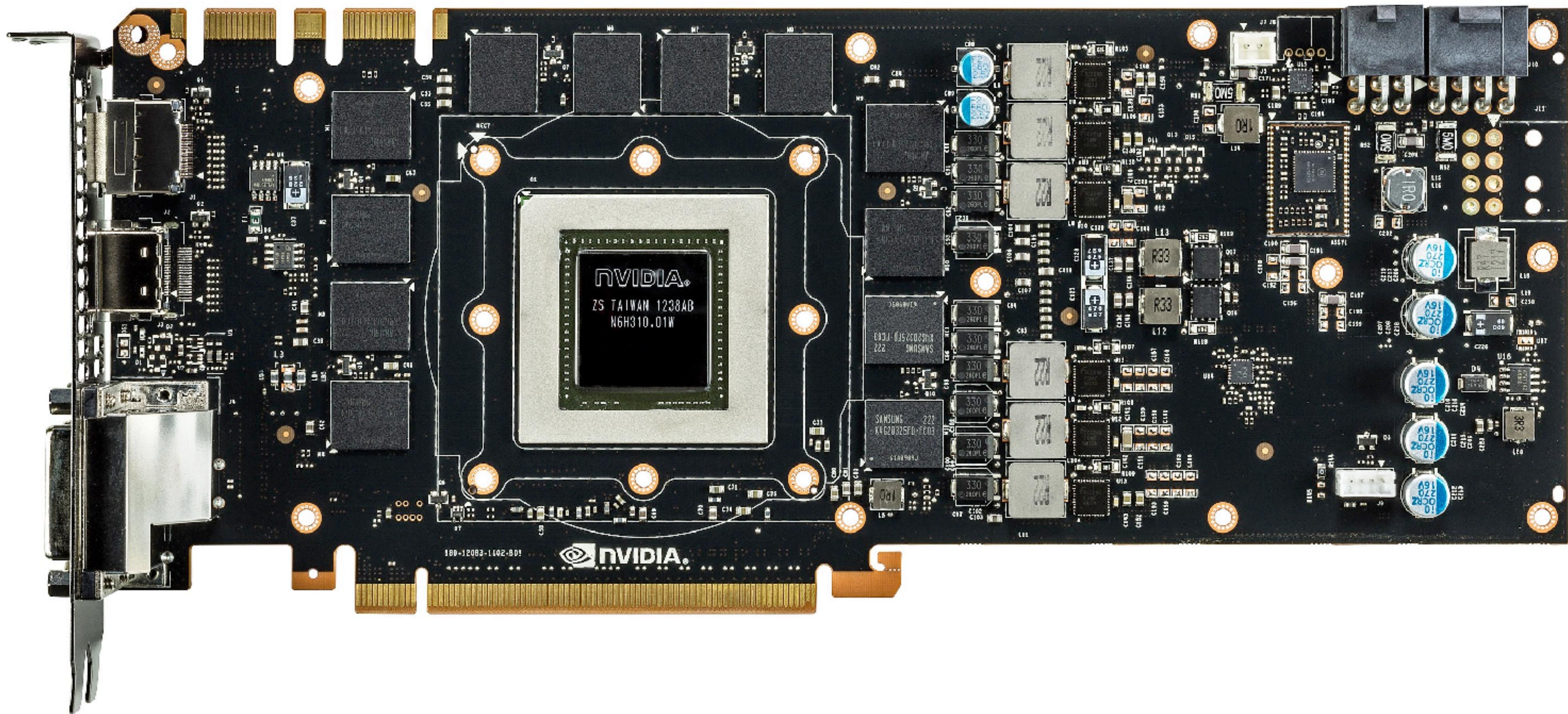
Interprets part of memory as program and executes it on data

Both program and data is stored together

Basis of all Computers

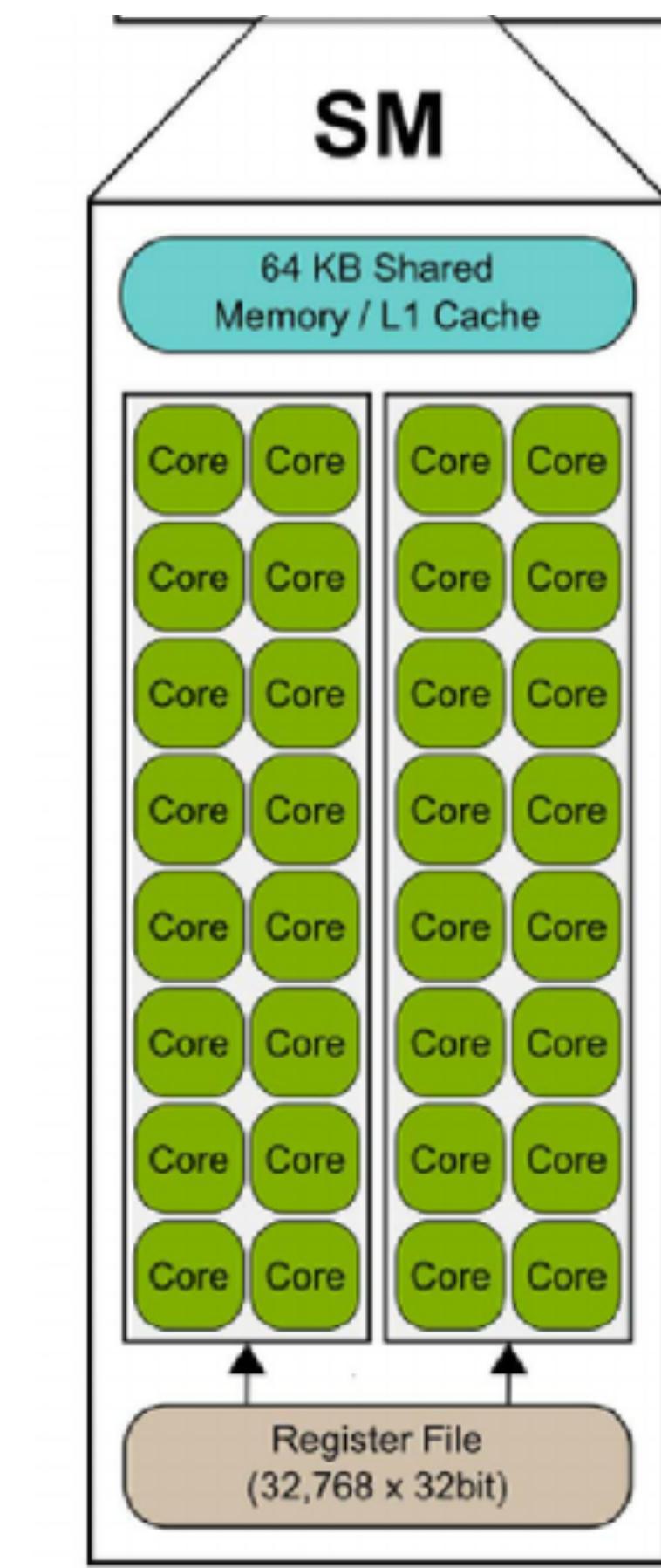
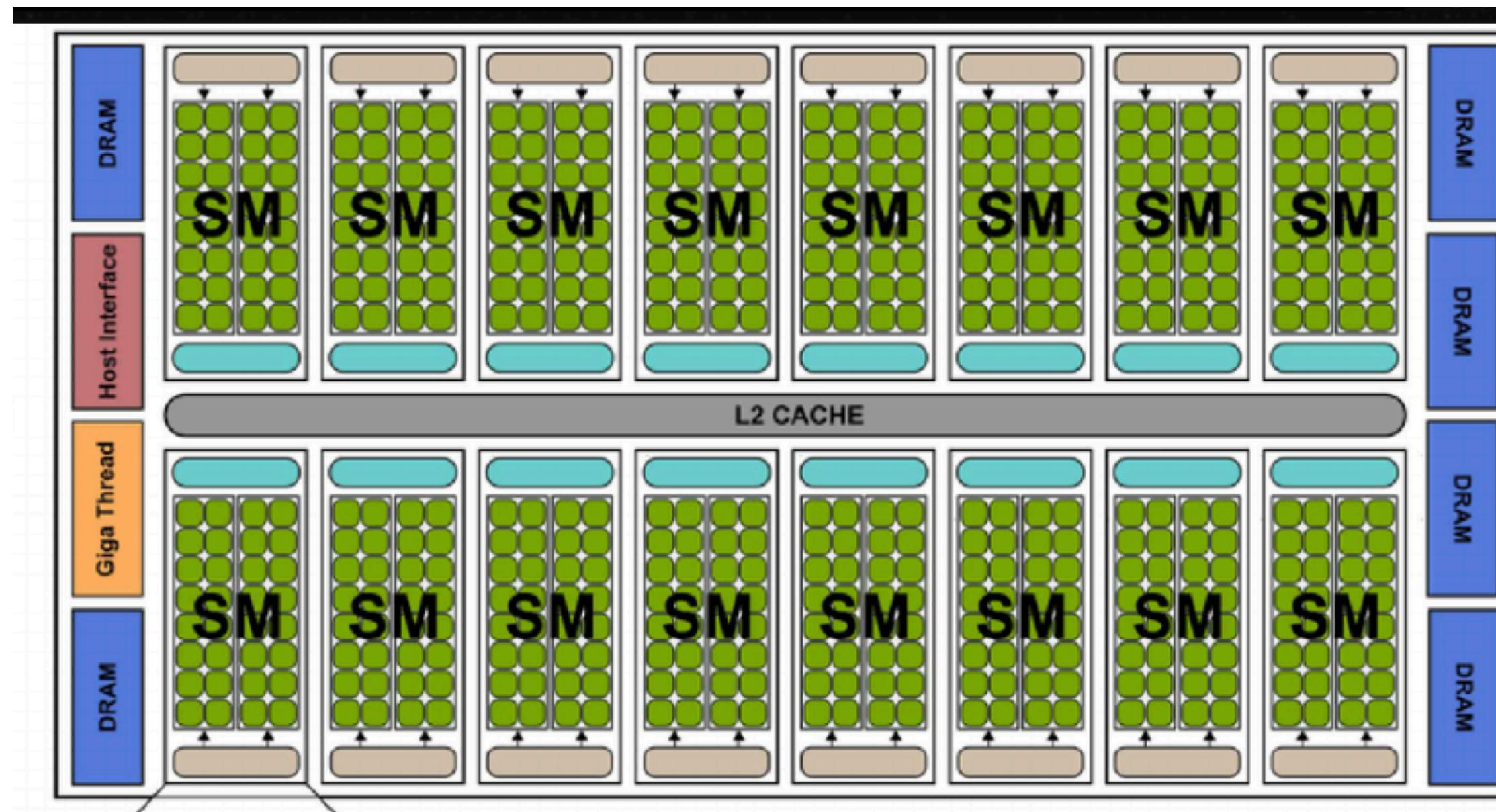


Basis of all GPUs

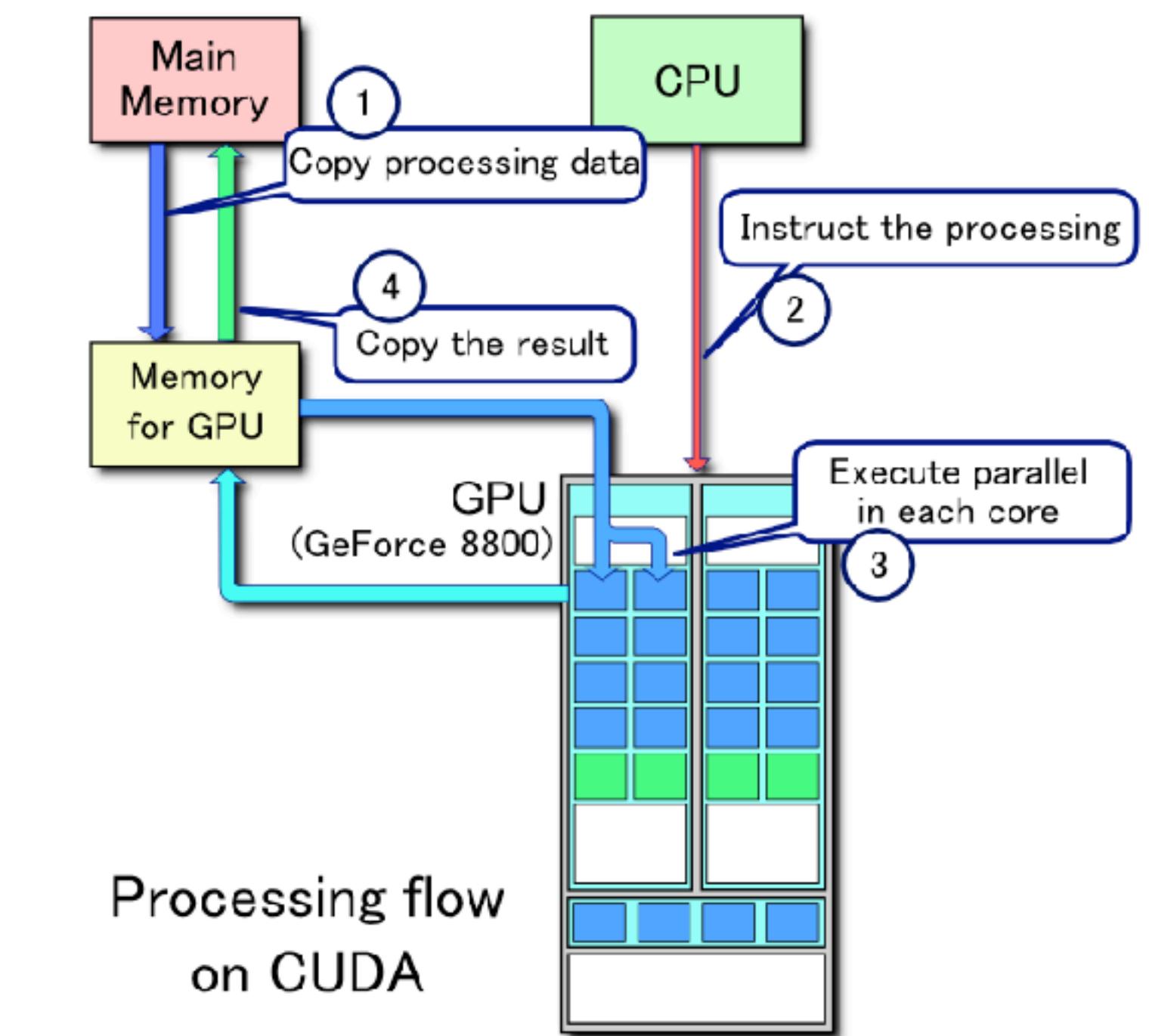


GPU Architecture

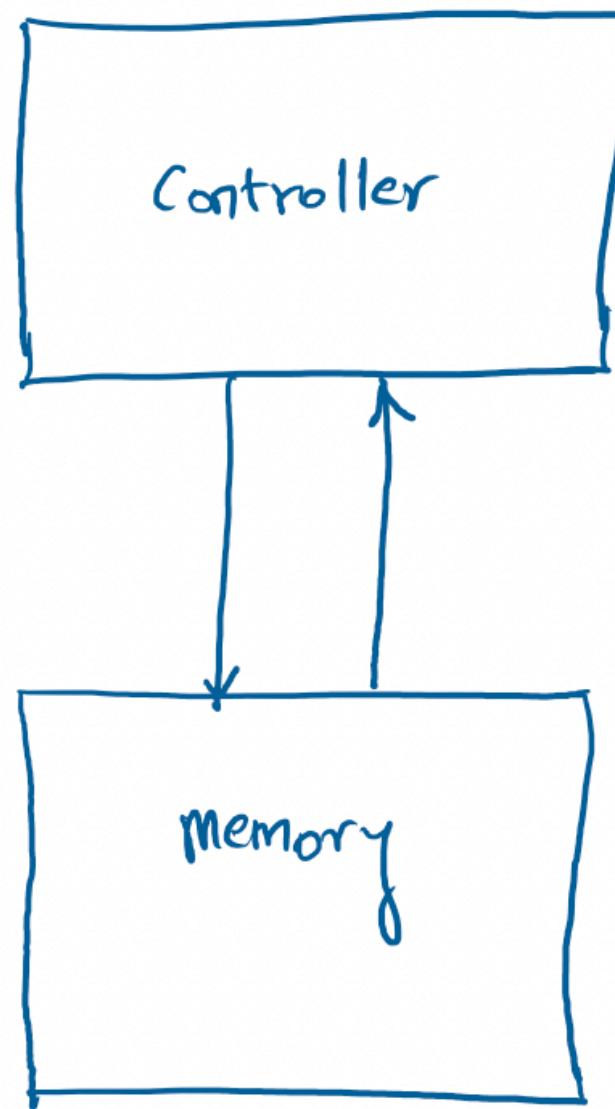
GPU = Multi core processors with support for hardware support for multi threading



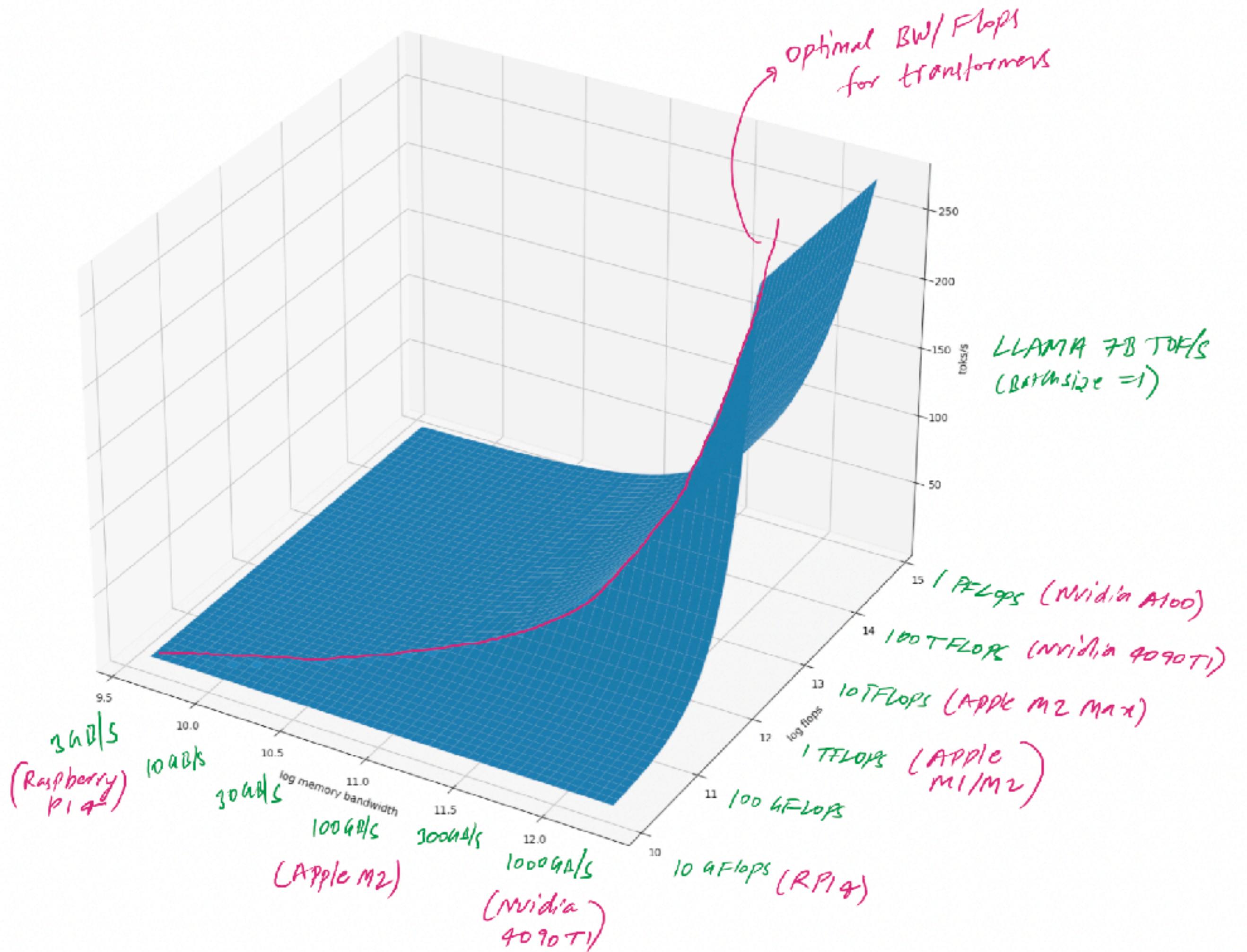
Note Memory Hierarchy



Optimal hardware design



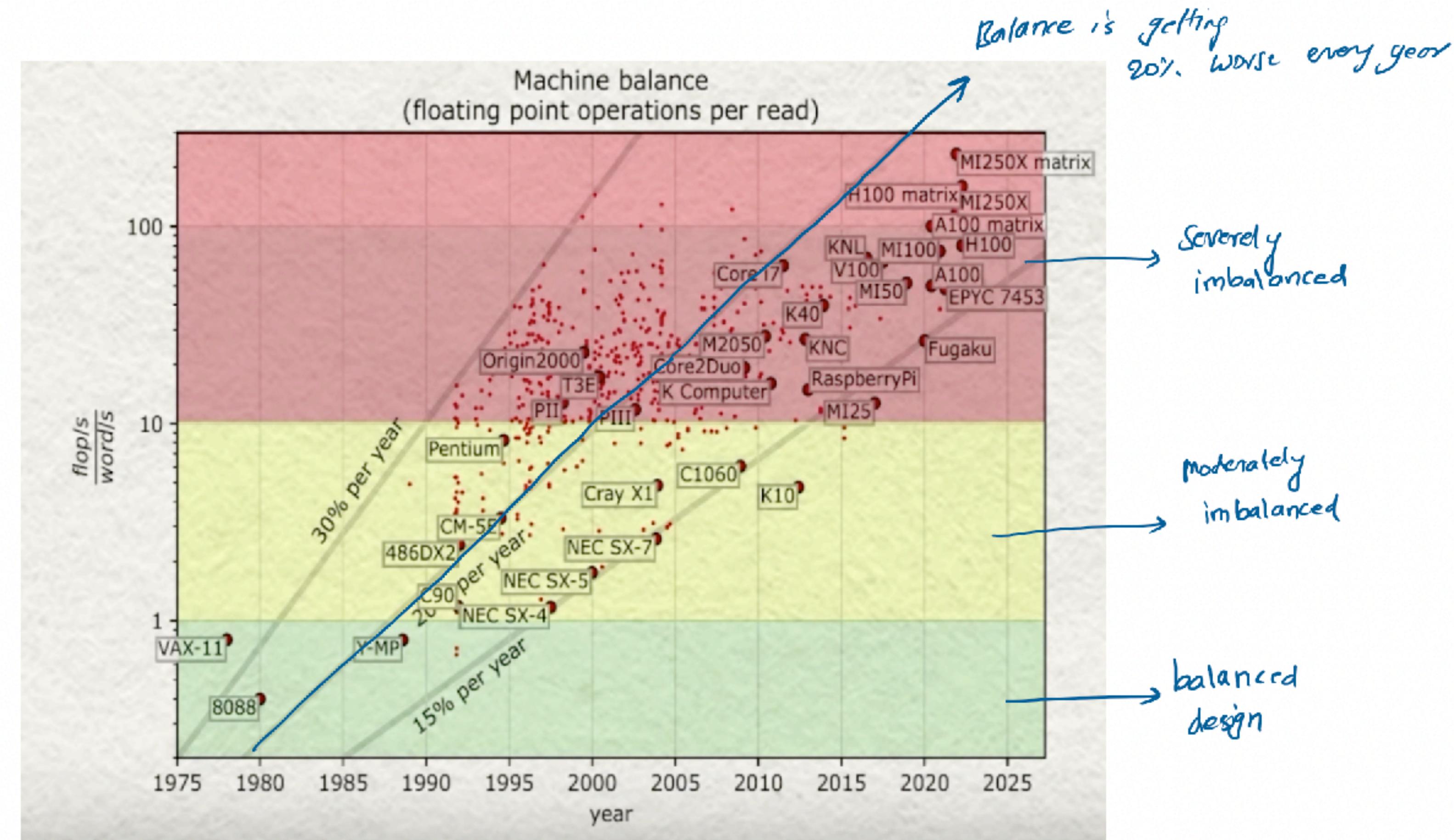
Interprets part of memory as program and executes it on data



Optimal FLOPs/BW = Batch Size

FLOPs/BW is getting worse

We need newer designs for inference



AI Chips

Cambrian Explosion



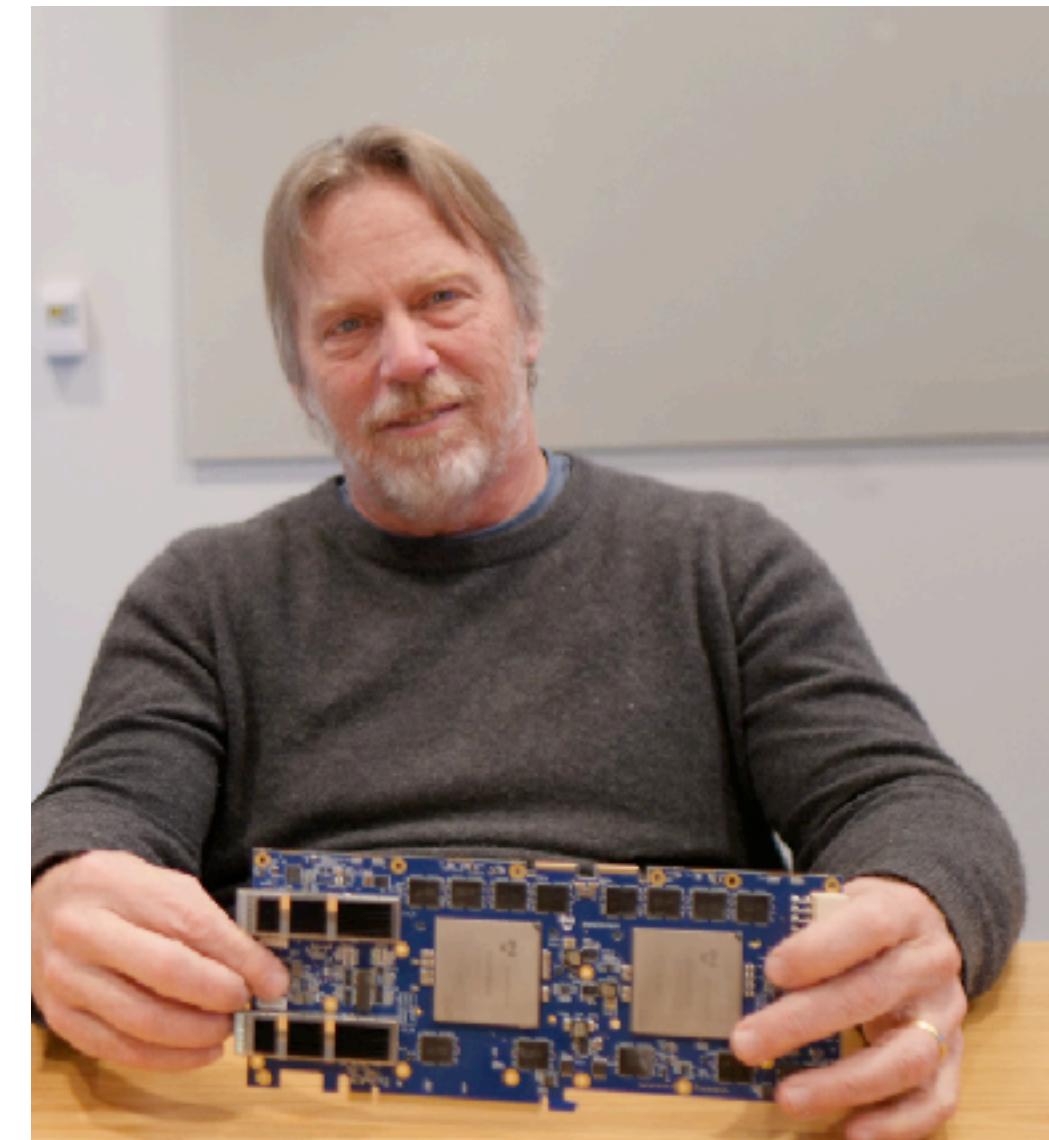
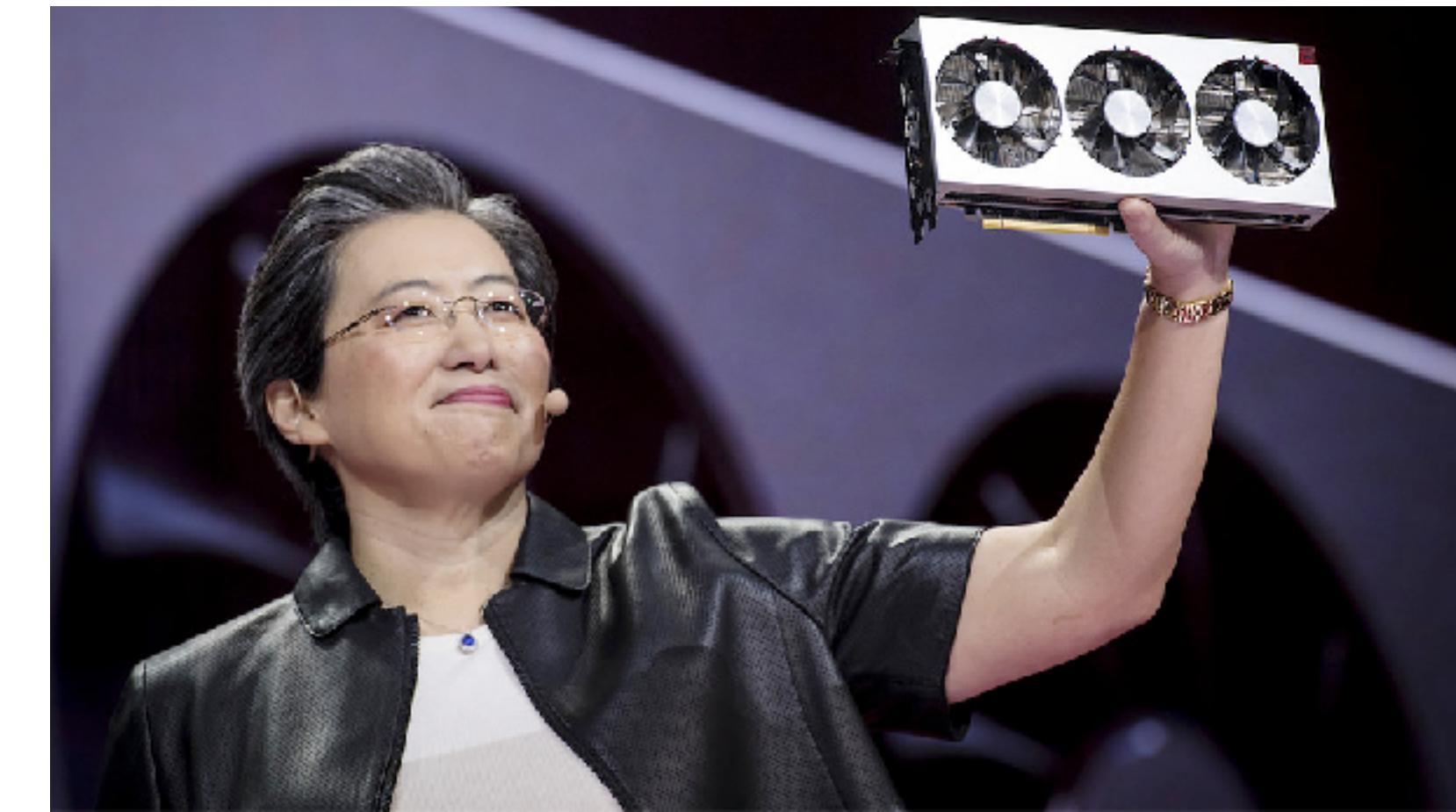
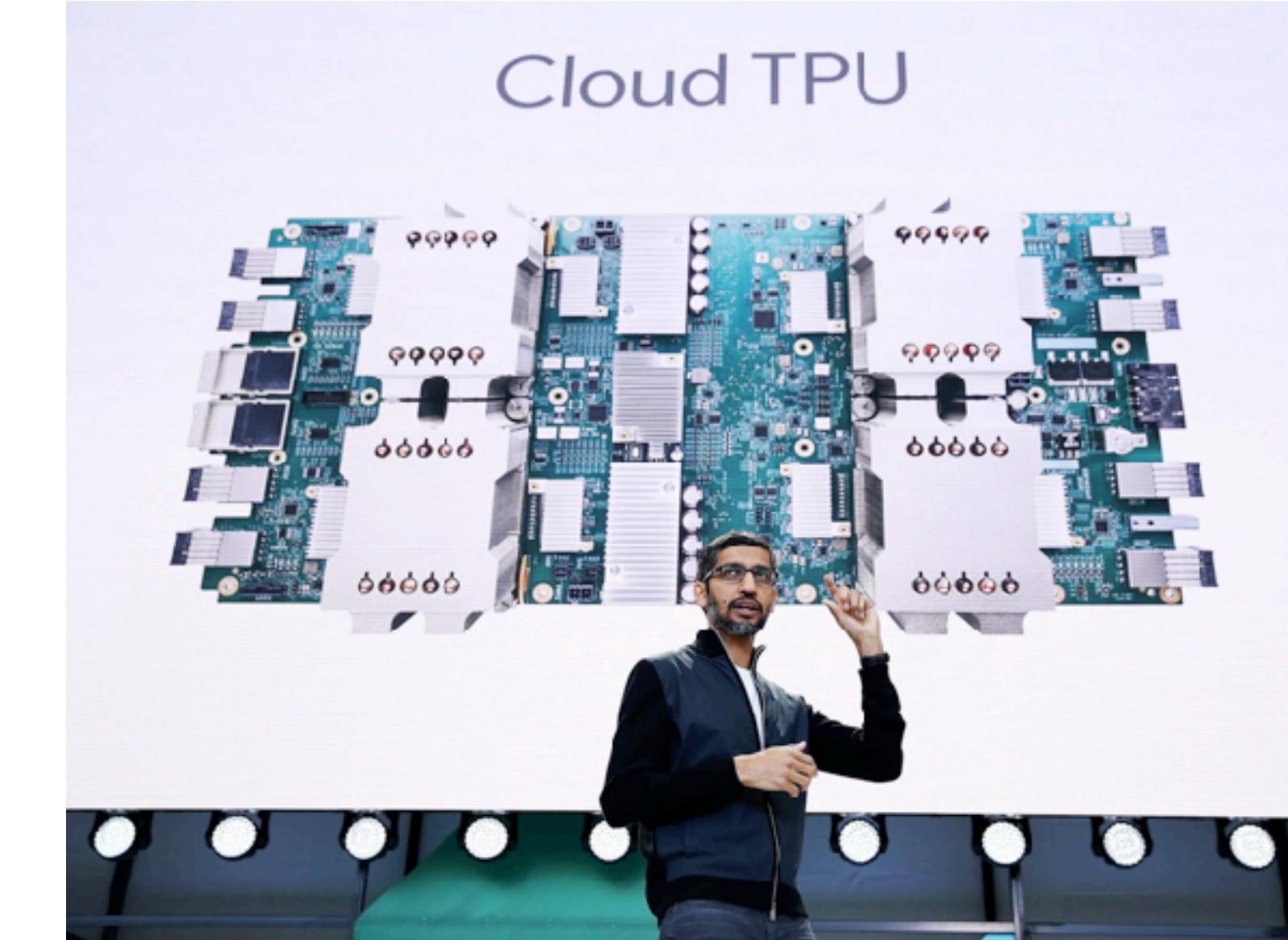
Sasank Chilamkurthy
@sasank51

Edge vs Cloud.
Open vs Closed.



Nathan Odle ✅ @mov_axbx · Apr 10

Caption Contest



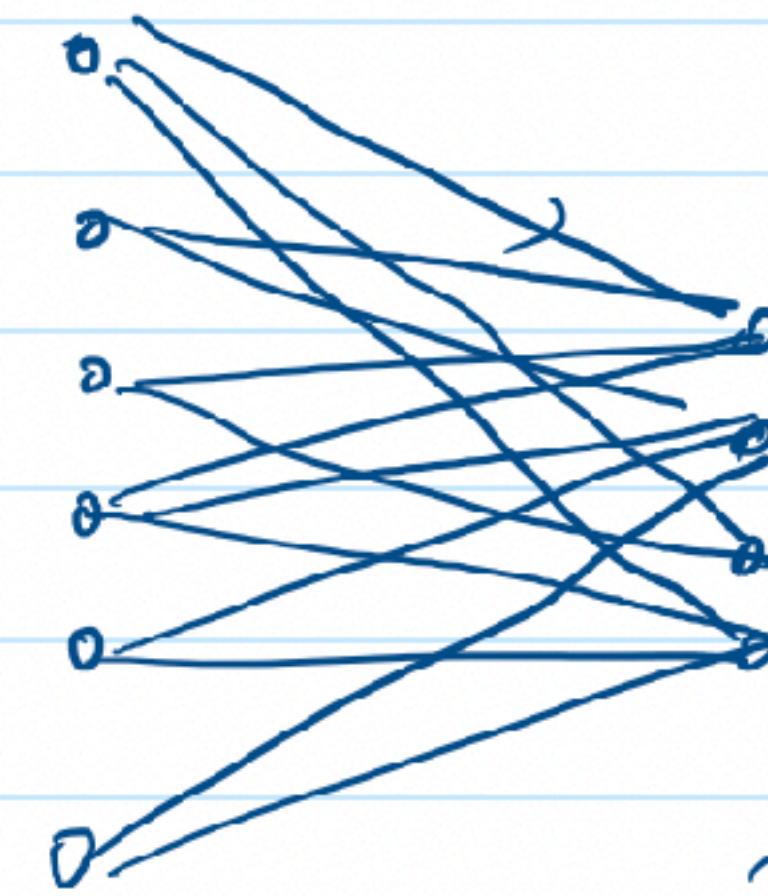


Break the wall

How to support newer architectures?

Common intermediate representation for all programming languages and hardware

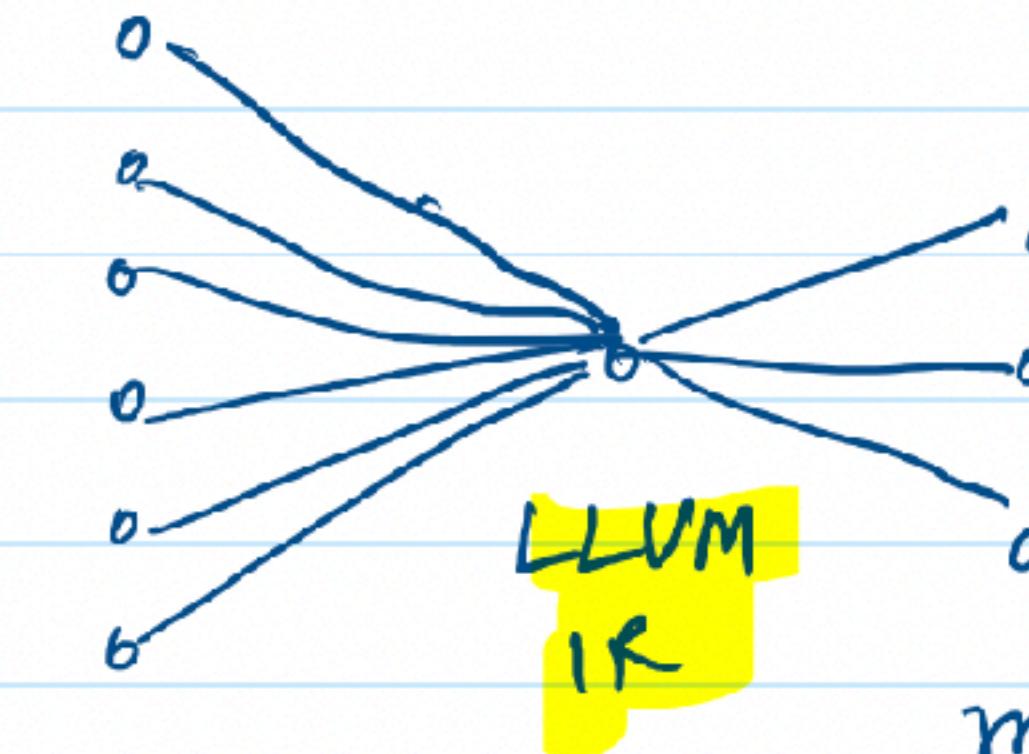
Before LLVM



n programming languages
 m hardware architectures

$n \times m$ compilers required

with LLVM

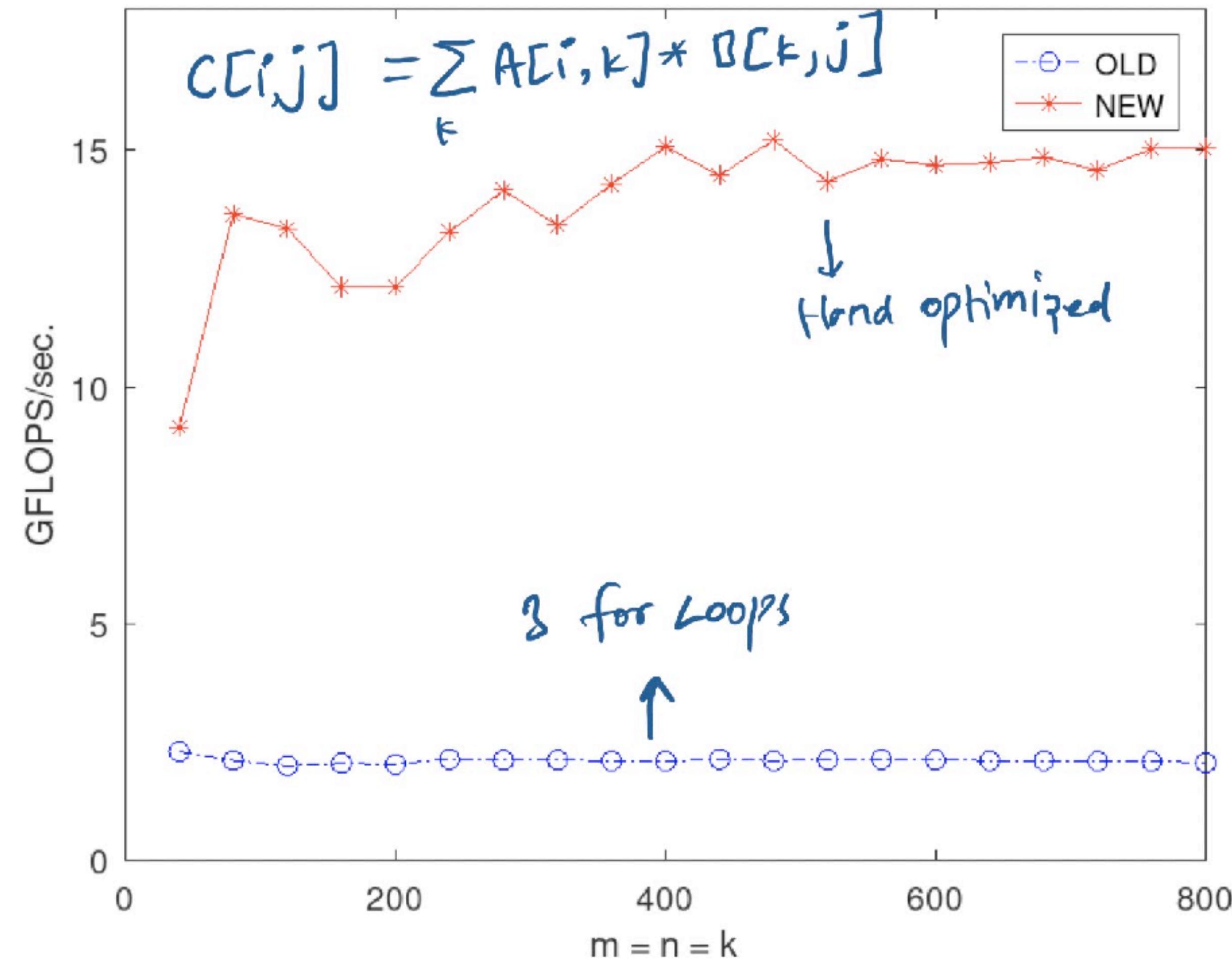


n programming languages
 m hardware architectures

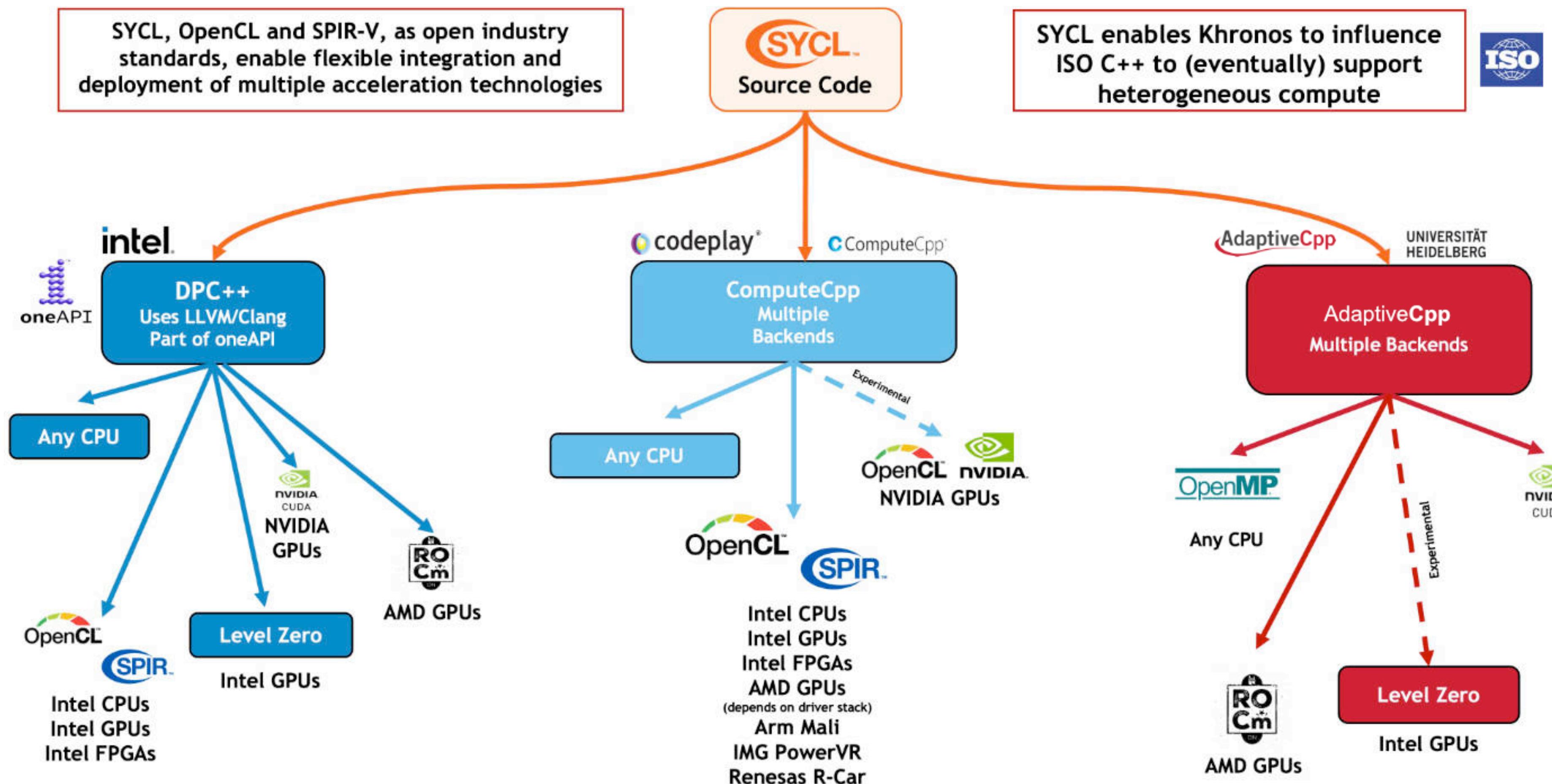
only $n+m$ compilers
are enough

Kernels are hard

Another point of lock-in



SYCL: A Portable Alternative to CUDA



SYCL Works Great

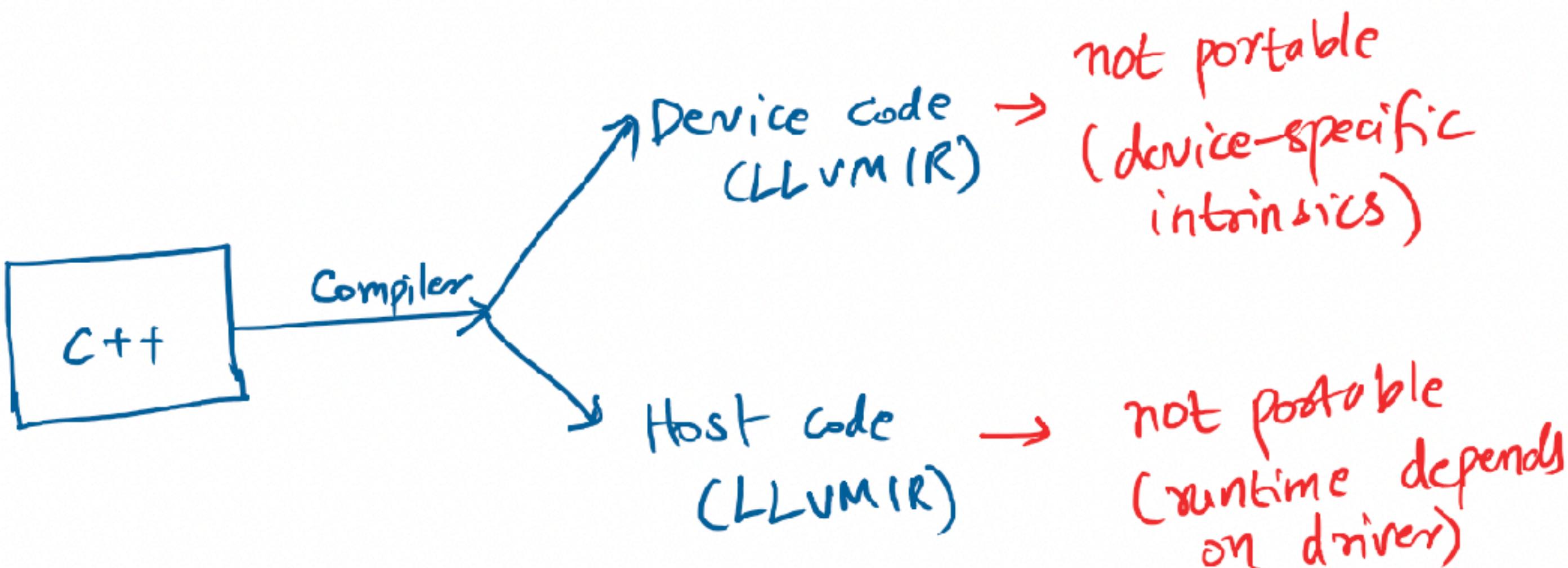
| GPU | Matrix Size | PortBlas GFLOP/s | Vendor Libraries GLOP/s | PortBlas/Vendor |
|------------------|-------------|------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|
| Nvidia GTX 1650M | 1024 | 1284 | 1483 | 87% |
| | 2048 | 2299 | 2700 | 85% |
| | 4096 | 2475 | 1889 | 131% |
| AMD Van Gogh | 1024 | 451 | 889 | 51% |
| | 2048 | 911 | 689 | 132% |
| | 4096 | 989 | 1199 | 82% |
| Intel Arc 770 | 1024 | 7210 | 5271 | 137% |
| | 2048 | 8473 | 1511 | 561% |
| | 4096 | 8408 | 16425 | 51% |



Sasank Chilamkurthy
@sasank51

...

LLVM IR doesn't work For GPUs



In search for portable CUDA alternative, I found that LLVM doesn't really cut it as intermediate representation. Read why in my latest post: chsasank.com/intermediate-r...

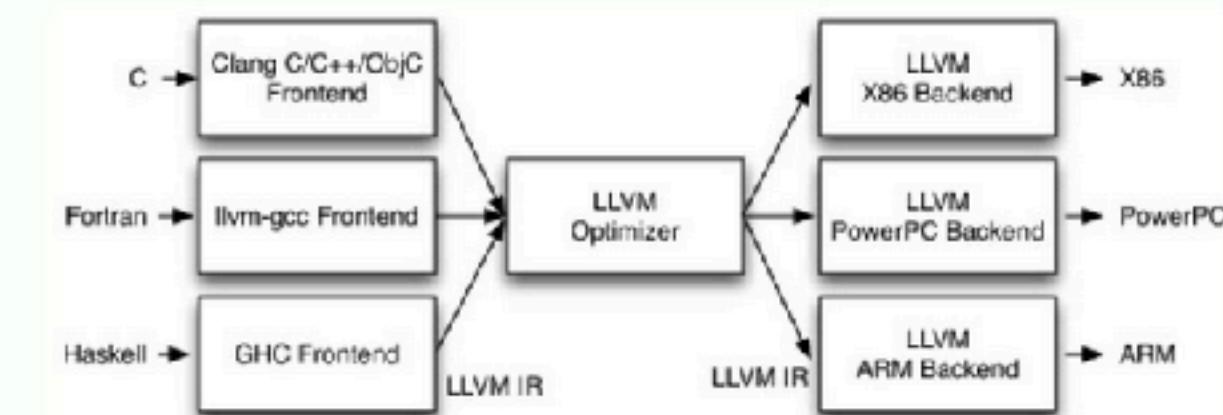
Intermediate Representations for GPUs: LLVM Does Not Cut it

Sasank Chilamkurthy | 05 April 2024 | 11 minutes to read.

- Compilers are like dragons, and wrapping my head around their complexity has been challenging. Adding to the challenge, I've chosen a particularly tough topic within this complexity: AI compilers. What sets AI apart are GPUs and matrix multiplication kernels. In this post, I will talk about compilers for GPUs and will leave matrix multiplication kernels to another post. In this post, we will examine LLVM compiler framework for CPUs and contrast it with for GPUs. We'll show that LLVM is not a reasonable IR for GPU.

How LLVM works

A good review of architecture of LLVM can be found in the book [The Architecture of Open Source Applications](#). I reproduce a key diagram from the [LLVM chapter](#) below for reference:



3:31 PM · Apr 5, 2024 · 29.3K Views

[View post engagements](#)

11

53

272

215



GPL License

Free the software



<https://twitter.com/elonmusk/status/1765387202953937224>

10:19 98%

Compiler Discussion +1 (315) 706-2771, +91 72767 78292, ...

Manasij Mukherjee PhD
I guess more than gains it enables you to keep software portable and programming to familiar paradigms instead of having to learn new vect...
12:25 ✓/✓

Potability was one of the main reason why programing languages were originally invented.
12:25 ✓/✓

I think we're in Fortran days again. We don't have software portability for AI chips yet.
12:27 ✓/✓

~ Vedant Paranjape +91 70204 02120
You
I think we're in Fortran days again. We don't have software portability for AI chips yet.
MLIR is trying to solve that problem.
12:28

Manasij Mukherjee PhD
~ Vedant Paranjape +91 70204 02120
MLIR is trying to solve that problem.
It feels like all the interesting users of MLIR are closed source.
12:28

Manasij Mukherjee PhD
It feels like all the interesting users of MLIR are closed source.
This is why GPL is important I guess :
(
12:29

3

Message



**"People who are really serious about software
should make their own hardware."**

– Alan Kay



I build hardware





VON NEUMANN
AI