

Optimizations

- Compilation for Embedded Processors -

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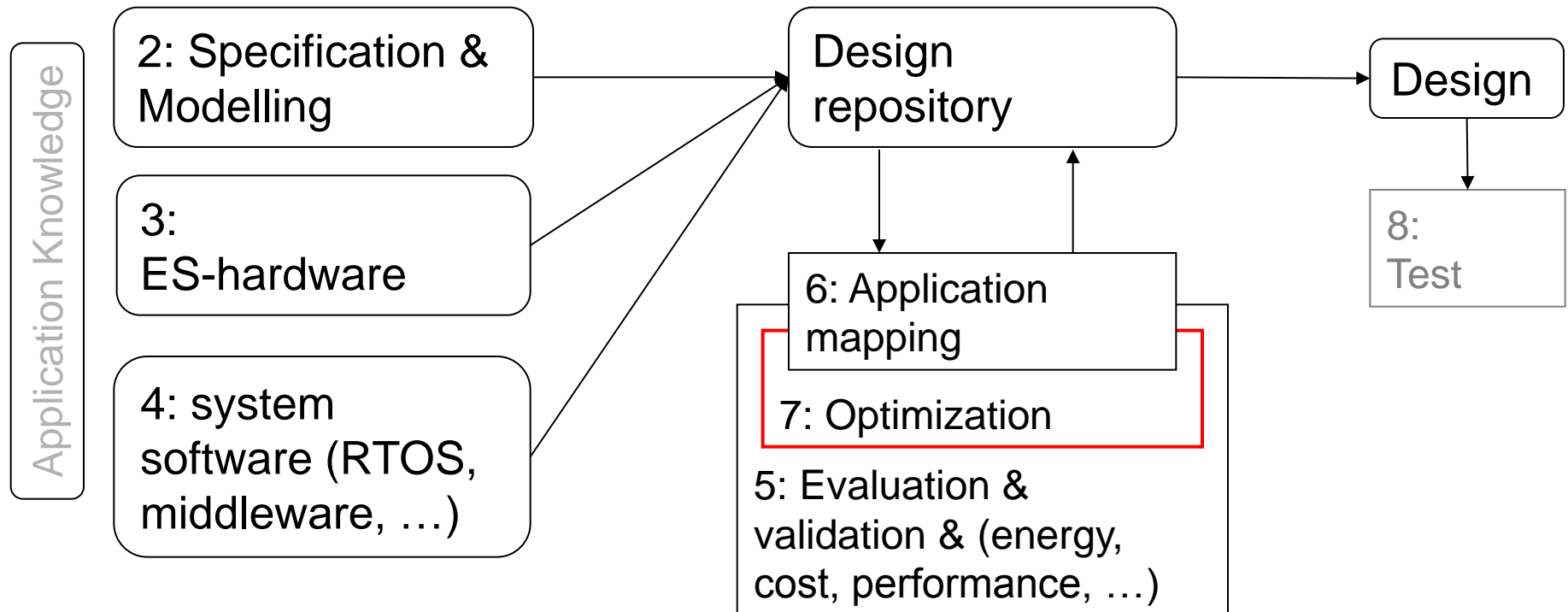


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Structure of this course



Numbers denote sequence of chapters

Compilers for embedded systems

Book section 7.3

- Introduction
- {
 - Energy-aware compilation
 - Memory-architecture-aware compilation
- Reconciling compilers and timing analysis
- Compilation for digital signal processors
- Compilation for VLIW processors
- Compiler generation, retargetable compilers, design space exploration

SPM+MMU (1)

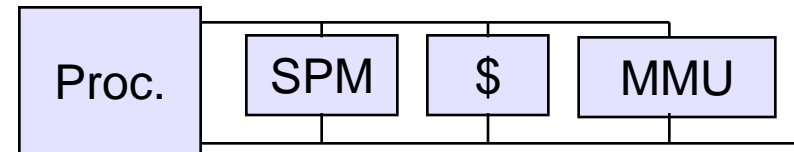
How to use SPM in a system with virtual addressing?

- **Virtual SPM**

Typically accesses MMU

+ SPM in parallel

☞ not energy efficient



- **Real SPM**

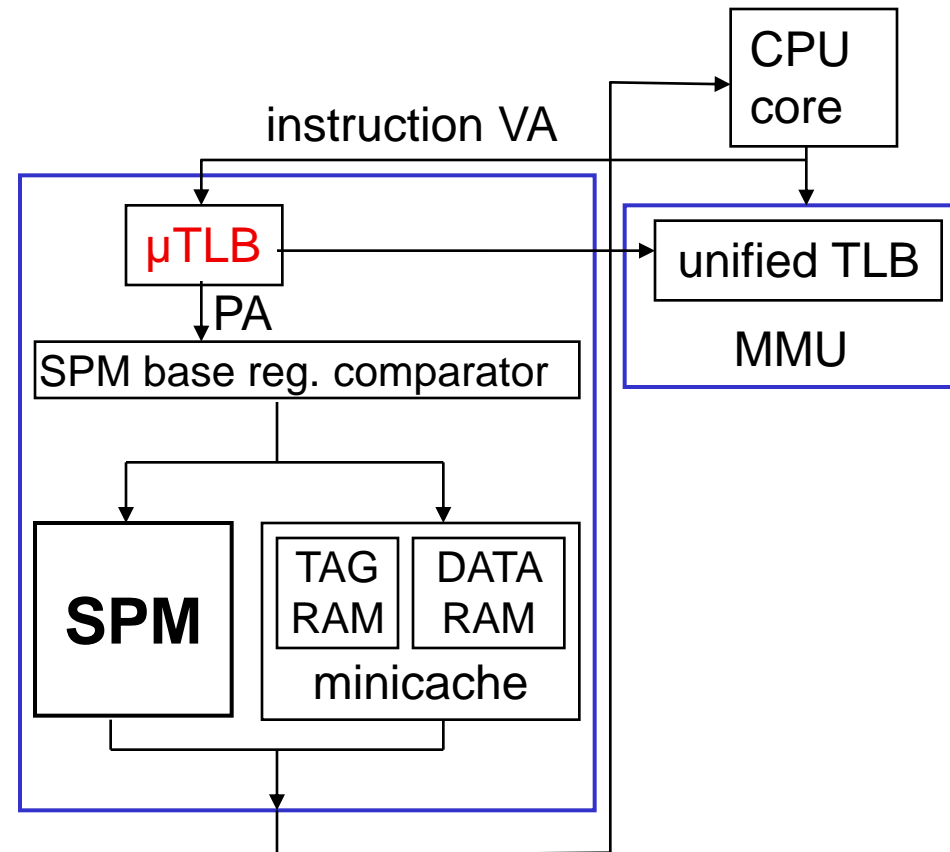
☞ suffers from potentially long VA translation

- Egger, Lee, Shin (Seoul Nat. U.):
Introduction of small **μTLB** translating recent addresses fast.

[B. Egger, J. Lee, H. Shin: Scratchpad memory management for portable systems with a memory management unit, CASES, 2006, p. 321-330 (best paper)]

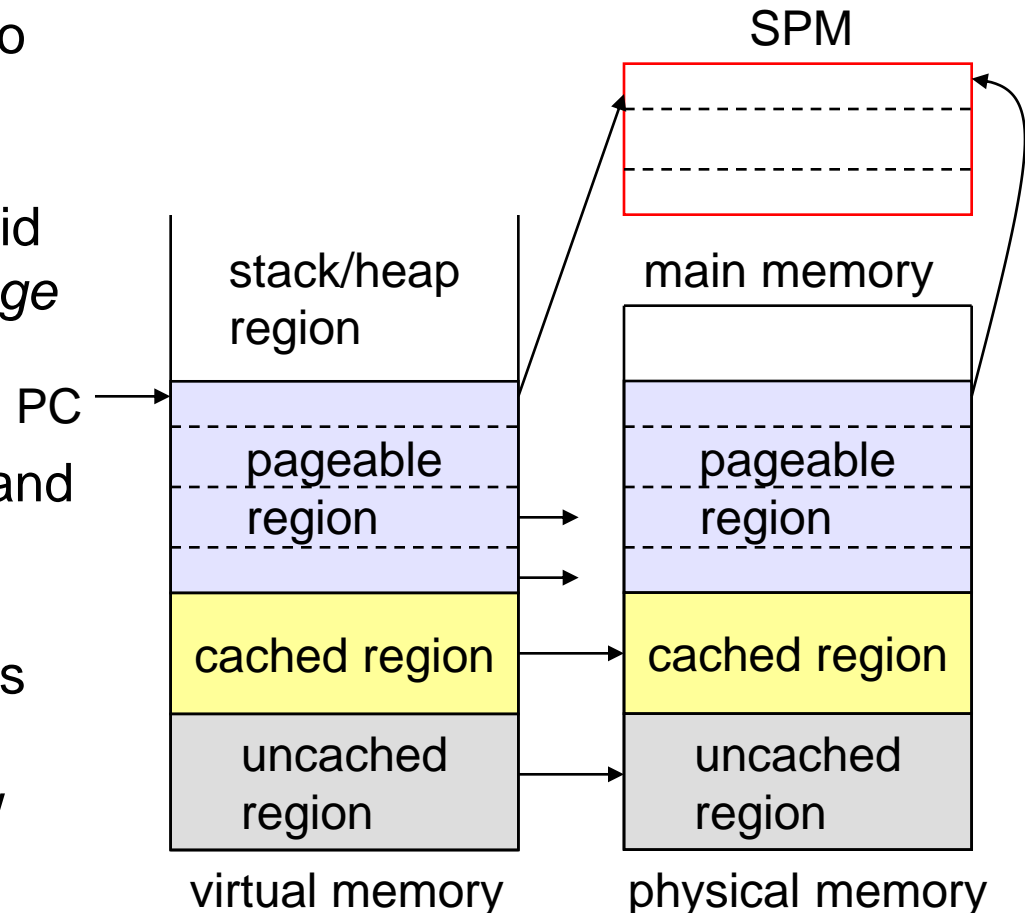
SPM+MMU (2)

- μ TLB generates physical address in 1 cycle
- if address corresponds to SPM, it is used
- otherwise, mini-cache is accessed
- Mini-cache provides reasonable performance for non-optimized code
- μ TLB miss triggers main TLB/MMU
- SPM is used only for instructions
- instructions are stored in pages
- pages are classified as cacheable, non-cacheable, and “pageable”
(= suitable for SPM)

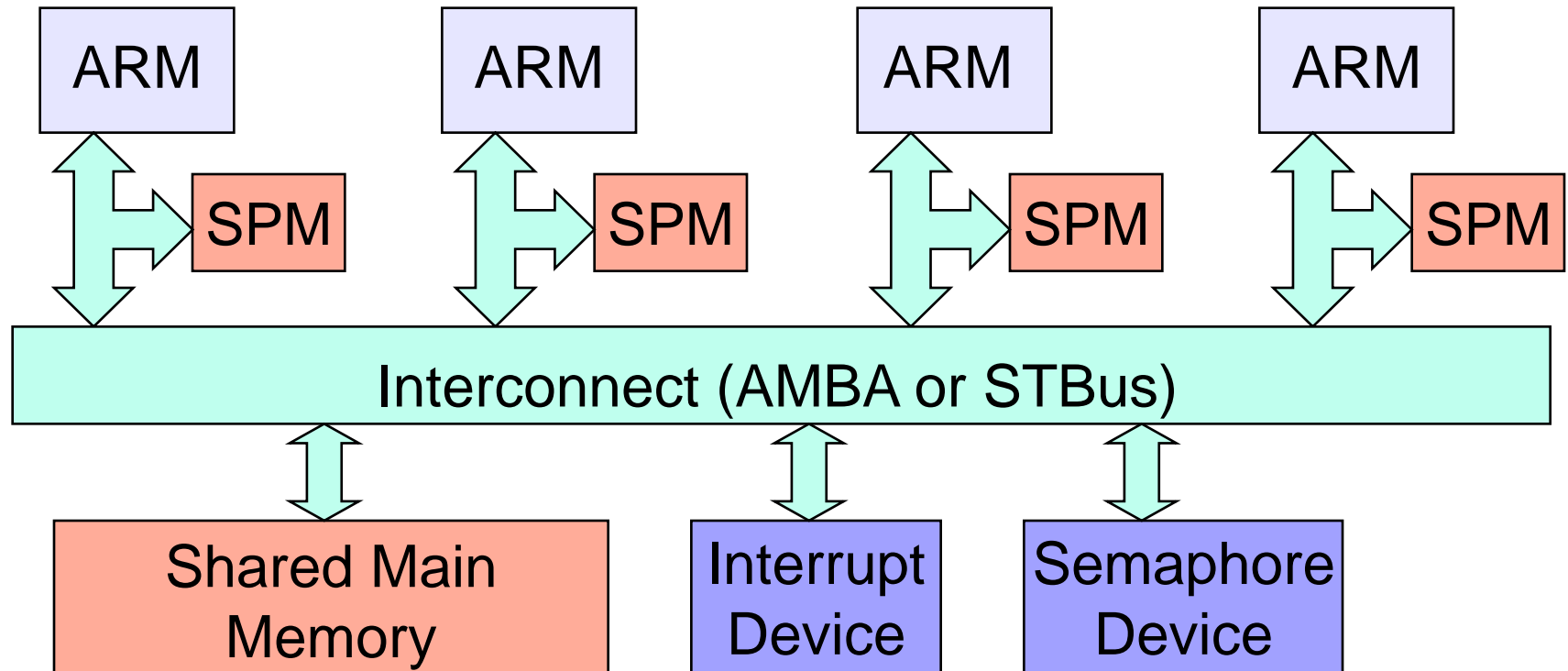


SPM+MMU (3)

- Application binaries are modified: frequently executed code put into pageable pages.
- Initially, page-table entries for pageable code are marked invalid
- If invalid page is accessed, a *page table exception* invokes SPM manager (SPMM).
- SPMM allocates space in SPM and sets page table entry
- If SPMM detects more requests than fit into SPM, SPM eviction is started
- Compiler does not need to know SPM size

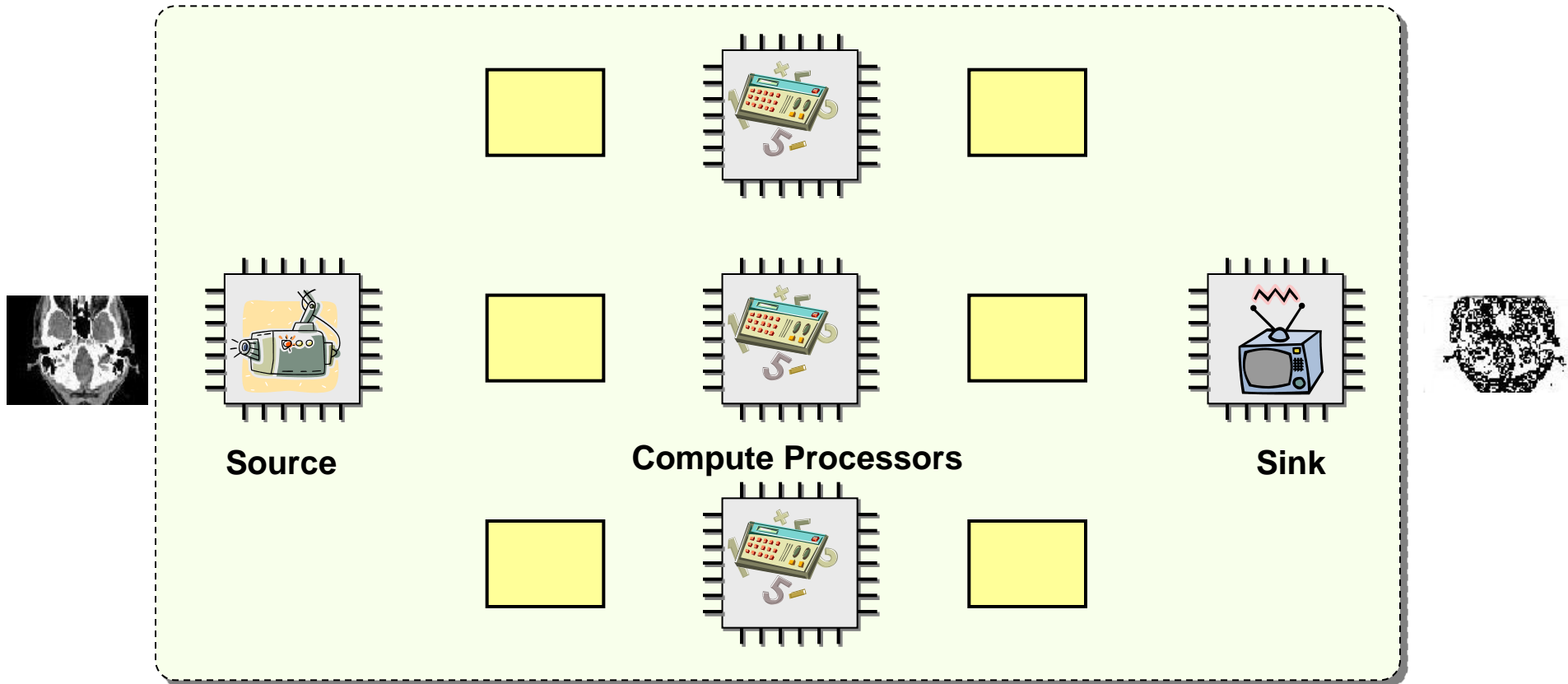


Multi-processor ARM (MPARM) Framework



- Homogenous SMP ~ CELL processor
- Processing Unit : ARM7T processor
- Shared Coherent Main Memory
- Private Memory: Scratchpad Memory

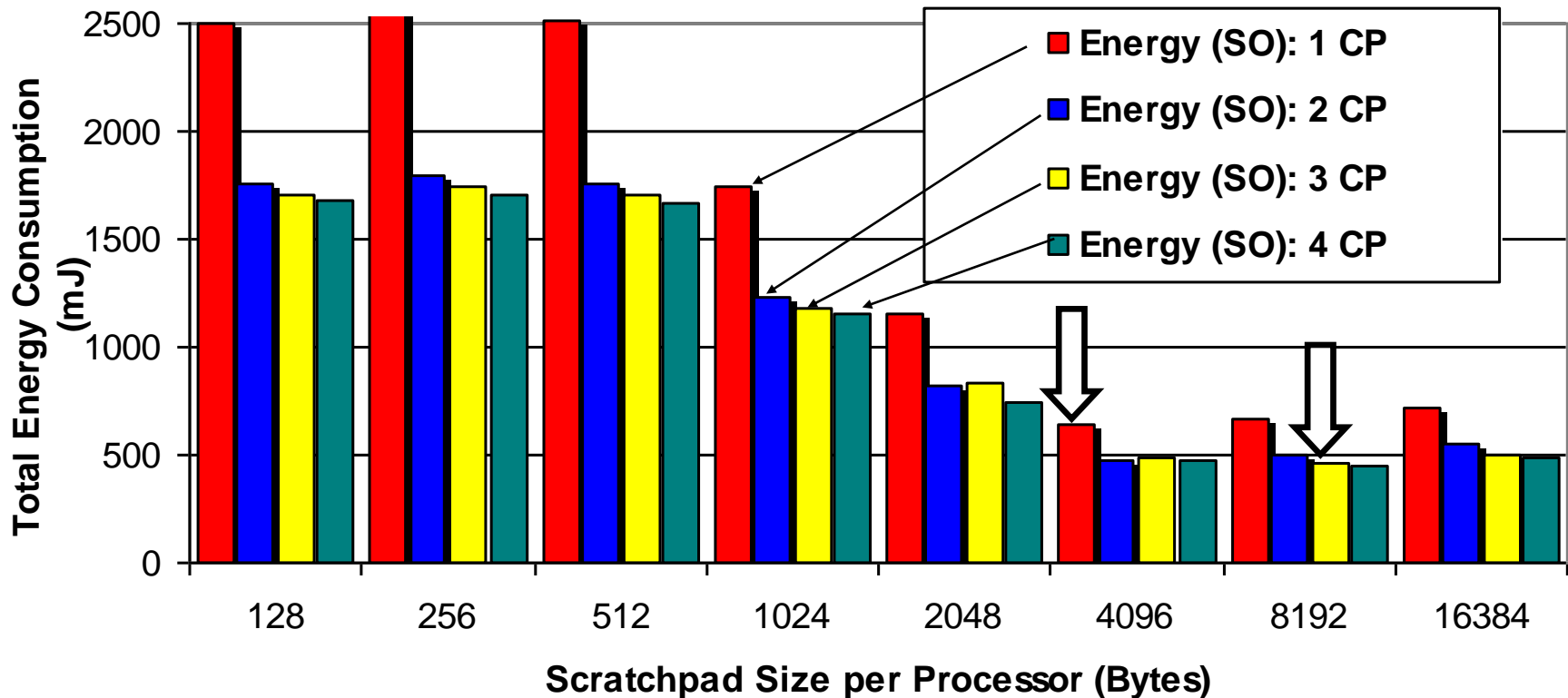
Application Example: Multi-Processor Edge Detection



- Source, sink and n compute processors
- Each image is processed by an independent compute processor
 - Communication overhead is minimized.

Results:

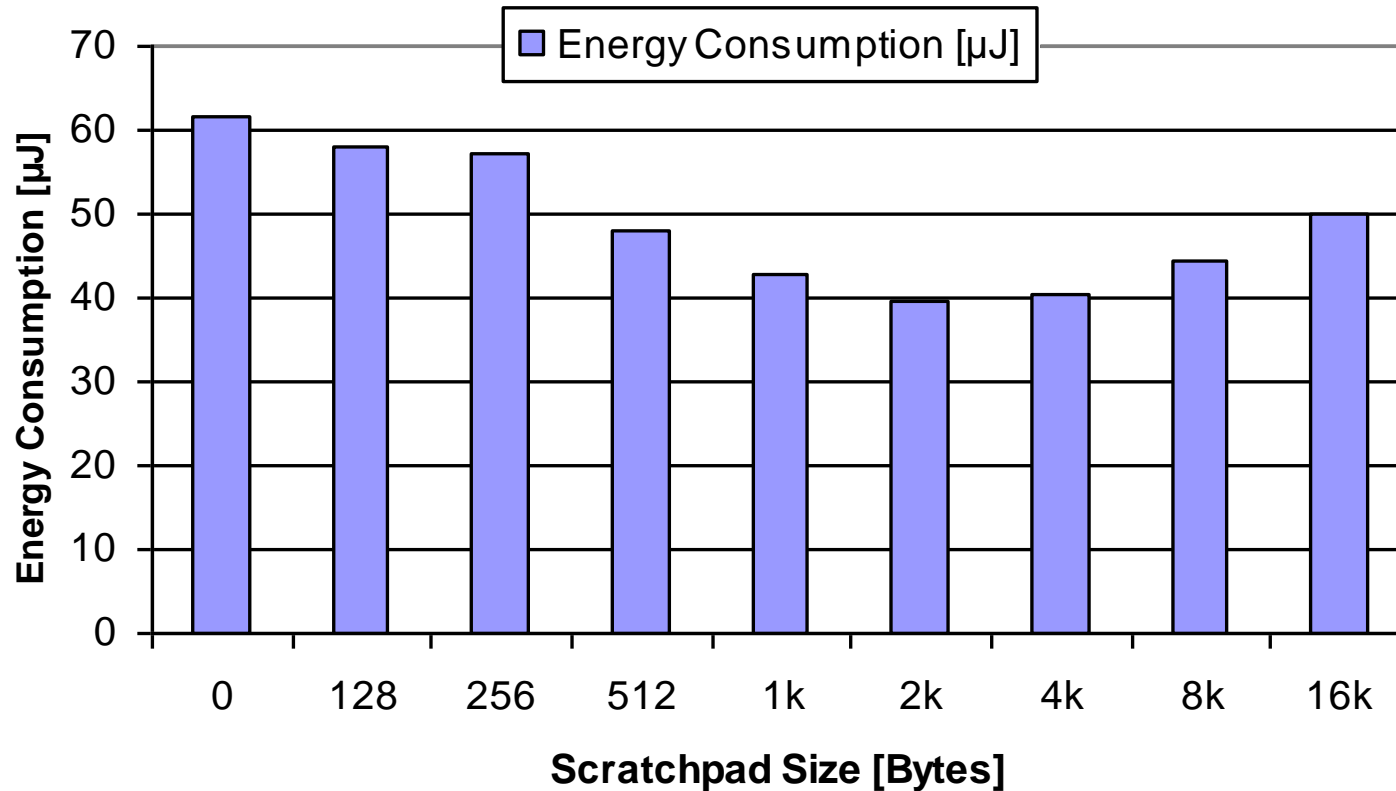
Scratchpad Overlay for Edge Detection



- 2 CPs are better than 1 CP, then energy consumption stabilizes
- Best scratchpad size: 4kB (1CP& 2CP) 8kB (3CP & 4CP)

Results

DES-Encryption



DES-Encryption: 4 processors: 2 Controllers+2 Compute Engines

Energy values from ST
Microelectronics

Result of cooperation between U. Bologna and TU
Dortmund supported by ARTIST2 network of excellence.

Compilers for embedded systems

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Code Layout Transformations (1)

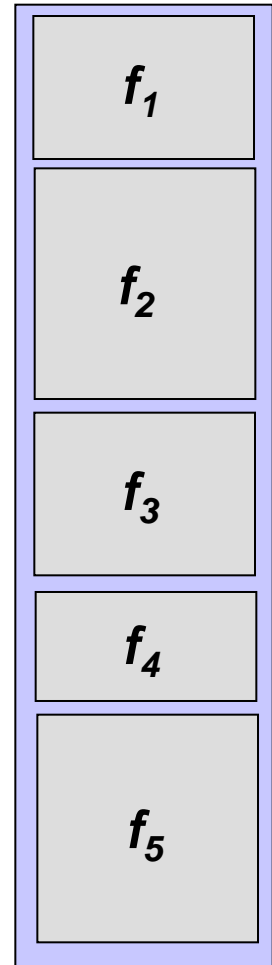
Execution counts based approach:

- Sort the functions according to execution counts (1100)
 $f_4 > f_1 > f_2 > f_5 > f_3$
- Place functions in decreasing order of execution counts (900)

(400)

(2000)

(700)



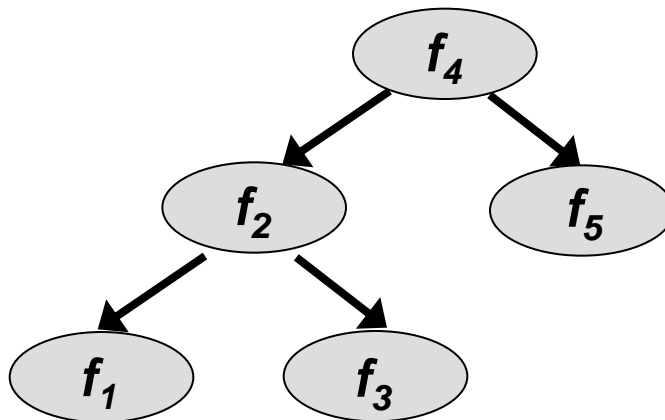
[S. McFarling: Program optimization for instruction caches, 3rd International Conference on Architecture Support for Programming Languages and Operating Systems (ASPLOS), 1989]

Code Layout Transformations (2)

Execution counts based approach:

- Sort the functions according to execution counts
 $f_4 > f_1 > f_2 > f_5 > f_3$
- Place functions in decreasing order of execution counts

Transformation increases spatial locality.
Does not take in account calling order



(2000)

f_4

(1100)

f_1

(900)

f_2

(700)

f_5

(400)

f_3

Code Layout Transformations (3)

Call-Graph Based Algorithm:

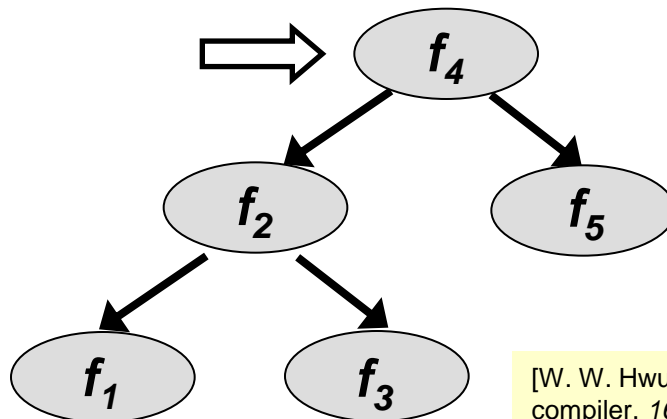
- Create weighted call-graph.
- Place functions according to weighted depth-first traversal.

$$f_4 > f_2 > f_1 > f_3 > f_5$$

Increases spatial locality.

(2000)

f_4



[W. W. Hwu et al.: Achieving high instruction cache performance with an optimizing compiler, 16th Annual International Symposium on Computer Architecture, 1989]

Code Layout Transformations (3)

Call-Graph Based Algorithm:

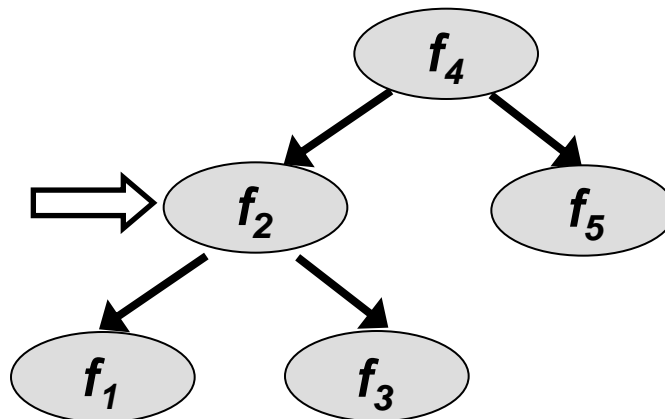
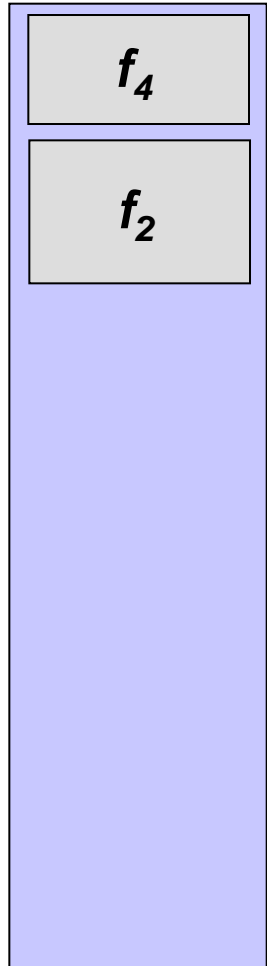
- Create weighted call-graph.
- Place functions according to weighted depth-first traversal.

$$f_4 > f_2 > f_1 > f_3 > f_5$$

Increases spatial locality.

(2000)

(900)



Code Layout Transformations (4)

Call-Graph Based Algorithm:

- Create weighted call-graph.
- Place functions according to weighted depth-first traversal.

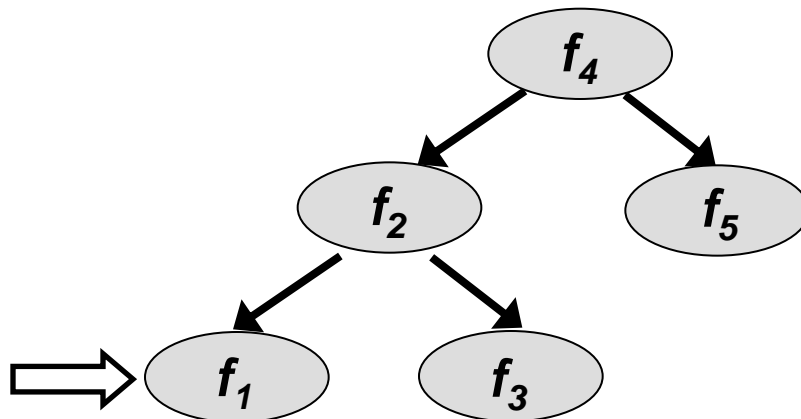
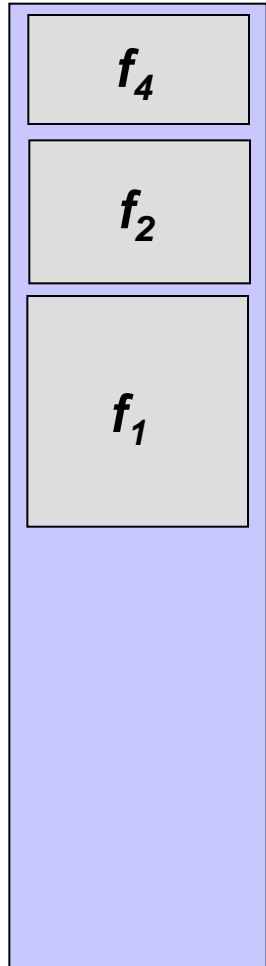
$$f_4 > f_2 > f_1 > f_3 > f_5$$

Increases spatial locality.

(2000)

(900)

(1100)



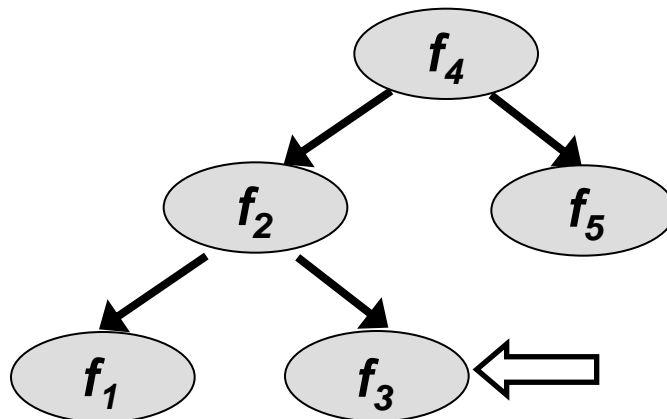
Code Layout Transformations (5)

Call-Graph Based Algorithm:

- Create weighted call-graph.
- Place functions according to weighted depth-first traversal.

$$f_4 > f_2 > f_1 > f_3 > f_5$$

Increases spatial locality.



(2000)

f_4

(900)

f_2

(1100)

f_1

(400)

f_3

Code Layout Transformations (6)

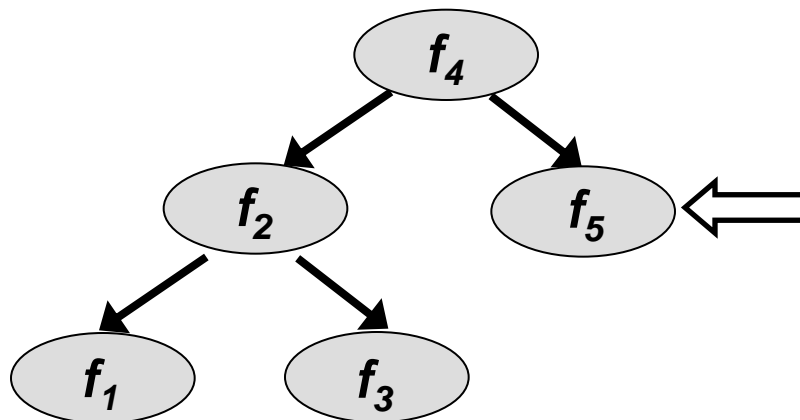
Call-Graph Based Algorithm:

- Create weighted call-graph.
- Place functions according to weighted depth-first traversal.

$$f_4 > f_2 > f_1 > f_3 > f_5$$

- Combined with placing frequently executed traces at the top of the code space for functions.

Increases spatial locality.



(2000)

f_4

(900)

f_2

(1100)

f_1

(400)

f_3

(700)

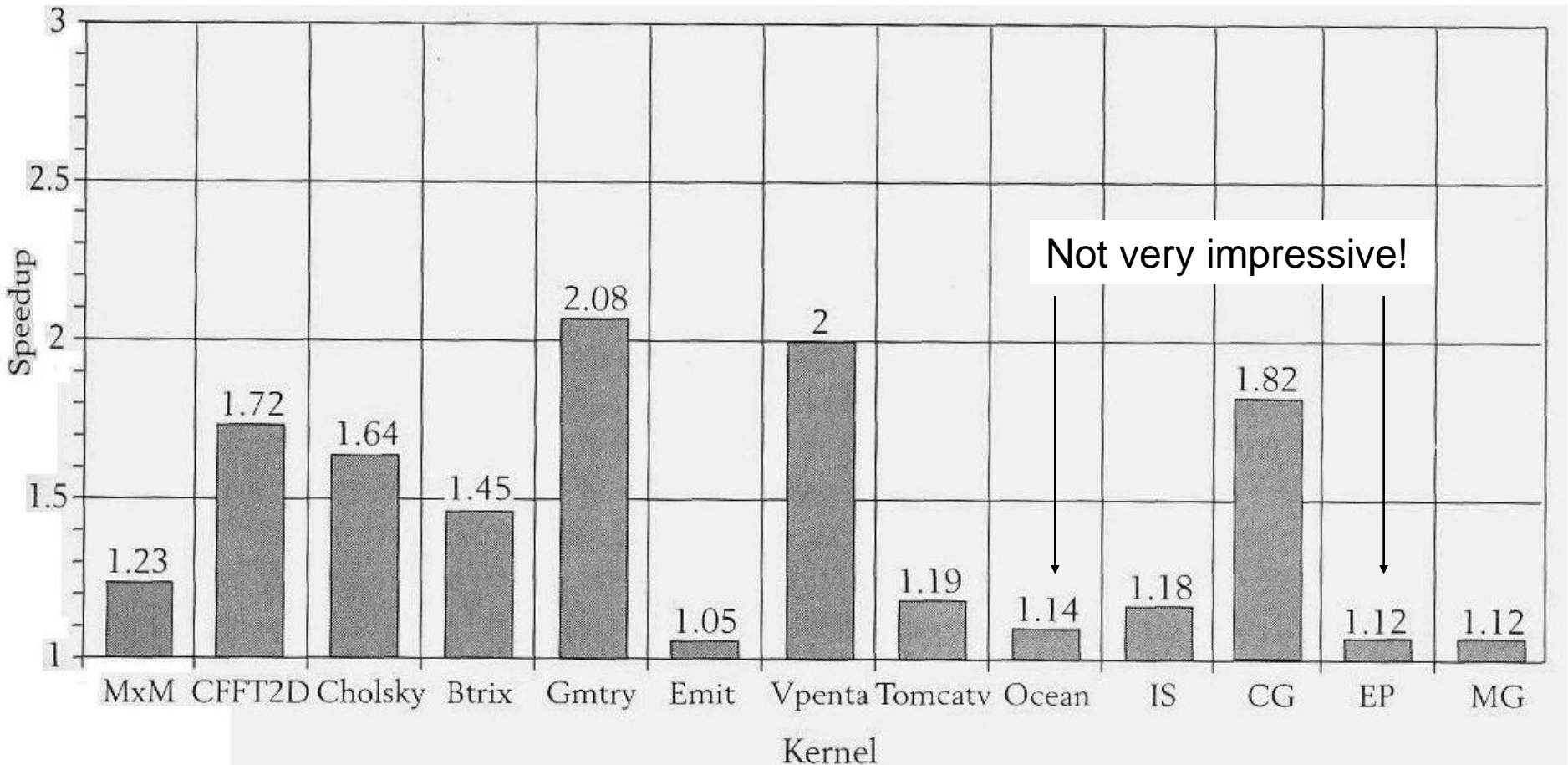
f_5

Prefetching

- Prefetch instructions load values into the cache
Pipeline not stalled for prefetching
- Prefetching instructions introduced in ~1985-1995
- Potentially, all miss latencies can be avoided
- Disadvantages:
 - Increased # of instructions
 - Potential premature eviction of cache line
 - Potentially pre-loads lines that are never used
- Steps
 - Determination of references requiring prefetches
 - Insertion of prefetches (early enough!)

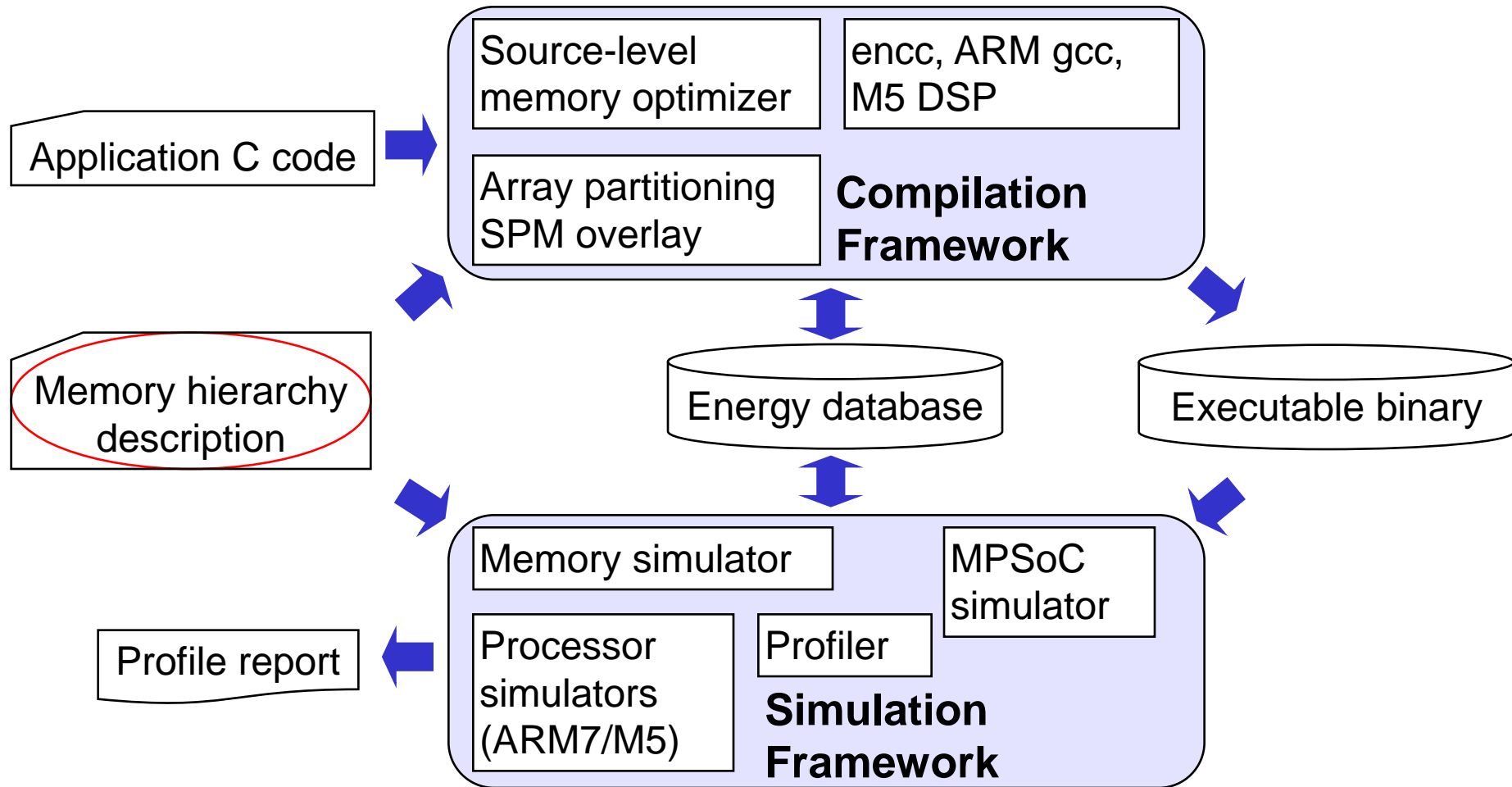
R. Allen, K. Kennedy: Optimizing Compilers for Modern Architectures, *Morgan-Kaufman*, 2002

Results for prefetching



Mowry, as cited by R. Allen & K. Kennedy

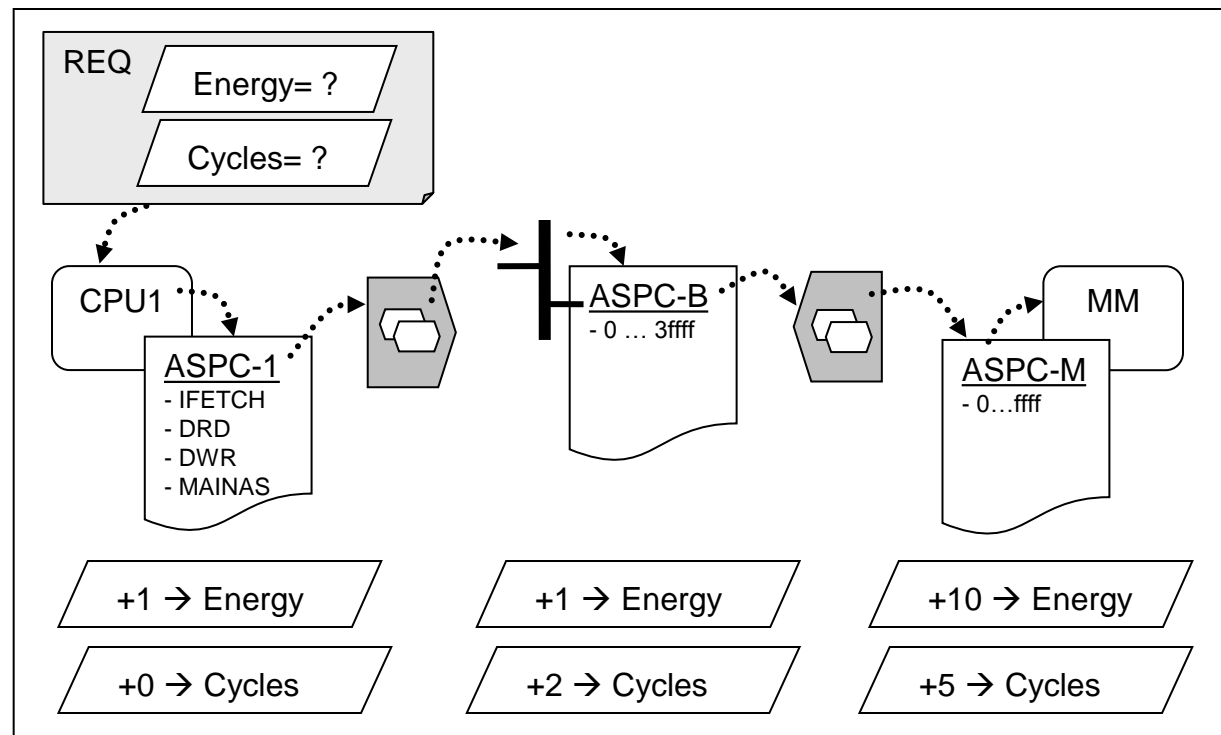
Memory Aware Compilation and Simulation Framework (for C) MACC



M. Verma, L. Wehmeyer, R. Pyka, P. Marwedel, L. Benini: Compilation and Simulation Tool Chain for Memory Aware Energy Optimizations, *Workshop on Embedded Computer Systems: Architectures, Modeling, and Simulation (SAMOS VI)*, 2006

Memory architecture description @ MACCv2

- Query can include address, time stamp, value, ...
- Query can request energy, delay, stored values
- Query processed along a chain of HW components, incl. busses, ports, address translations etc., each adding delay & energy
- API query to model simplifies integration into compiler
- External XML representation

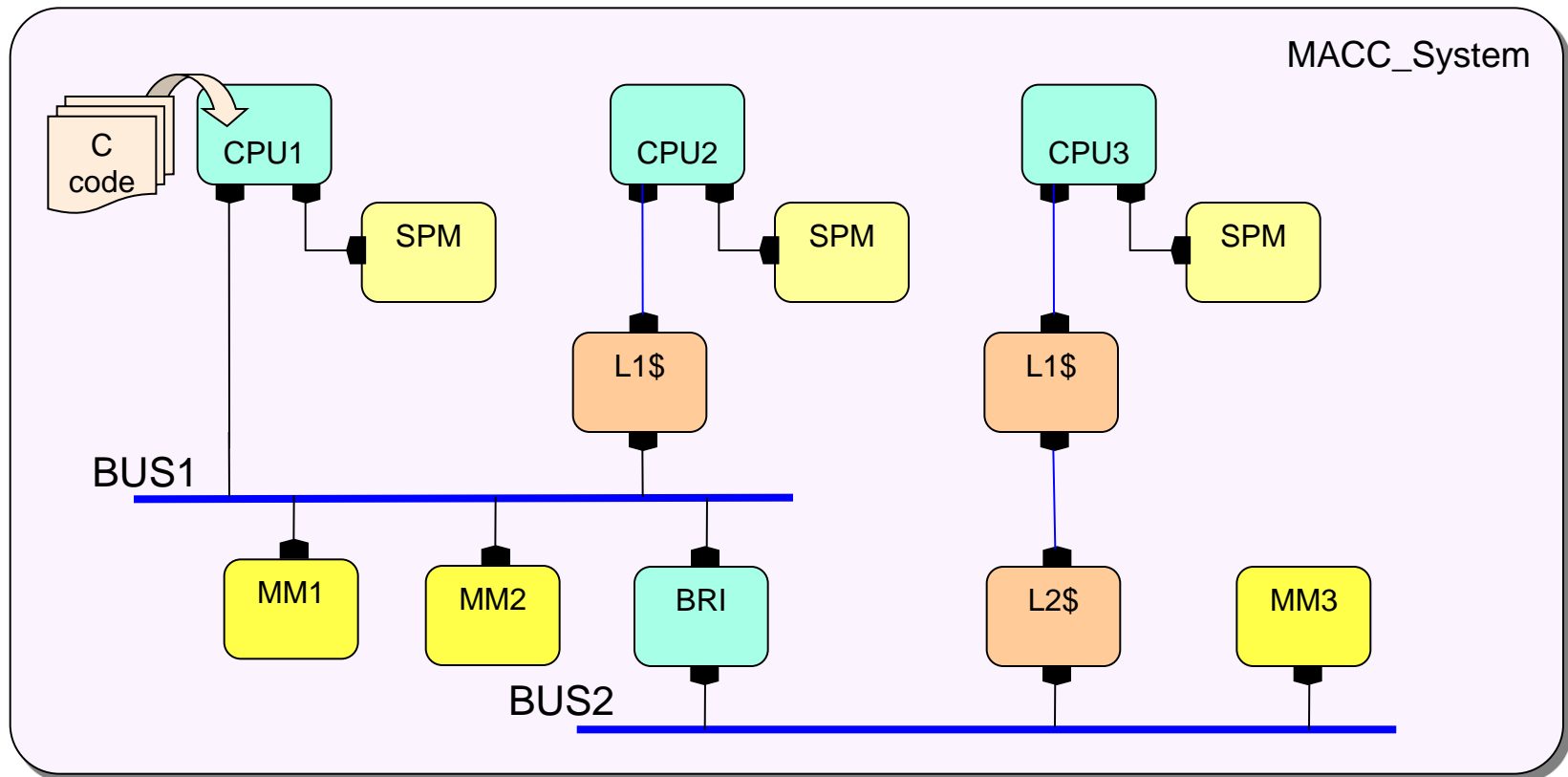


R. Pyka et al.: Versatile System level Memory Description Approach for embedded MPSoCs, *University of Dortmund, Informatik 12, 2007*

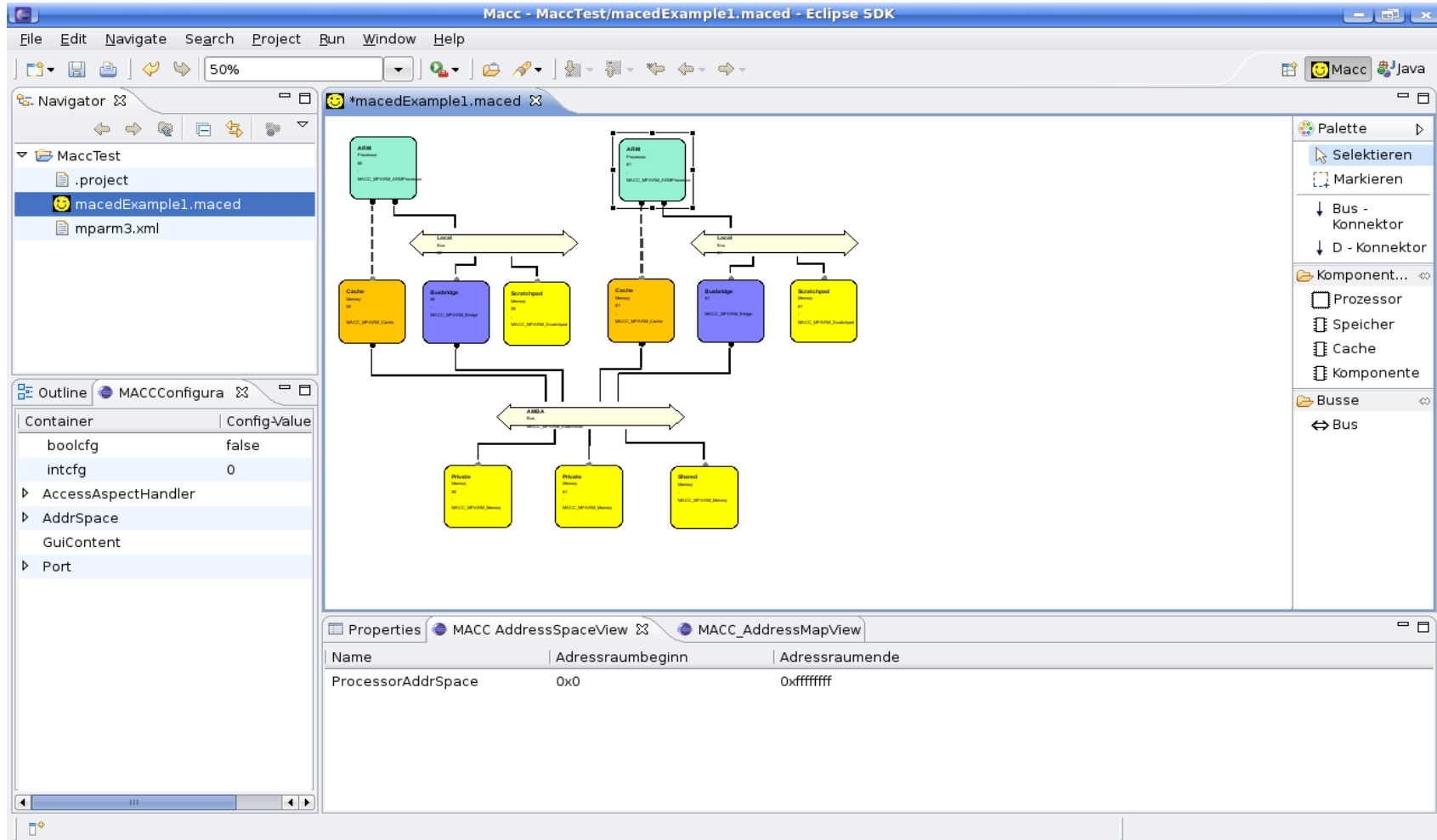
Introduction of Memory Architecture-Aware Optimization

The MACC PMS (Processor/ Memory/Switch) Model

- Explicit memory architecture
- API provides access to memory information



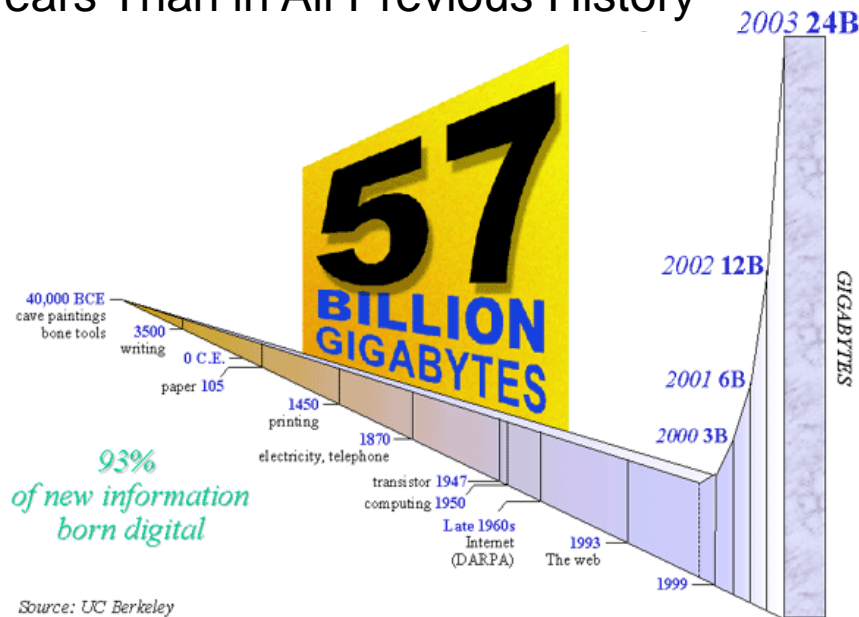
MaCC Modeling Example via GUI



Memory hierarchies beyond main memory

- Massive datasets are being collected everywhere
- Storage management software is billion-\$ industry

More New Information Over Next 2 Years Than in All Previous History



Source: UC Berkeley
EMC Copyright 2001

Examples (2002):

Phone: AT&T 20TB phone call database, wireless tracking

Consumer: WalMart 70TB database, buying patterns

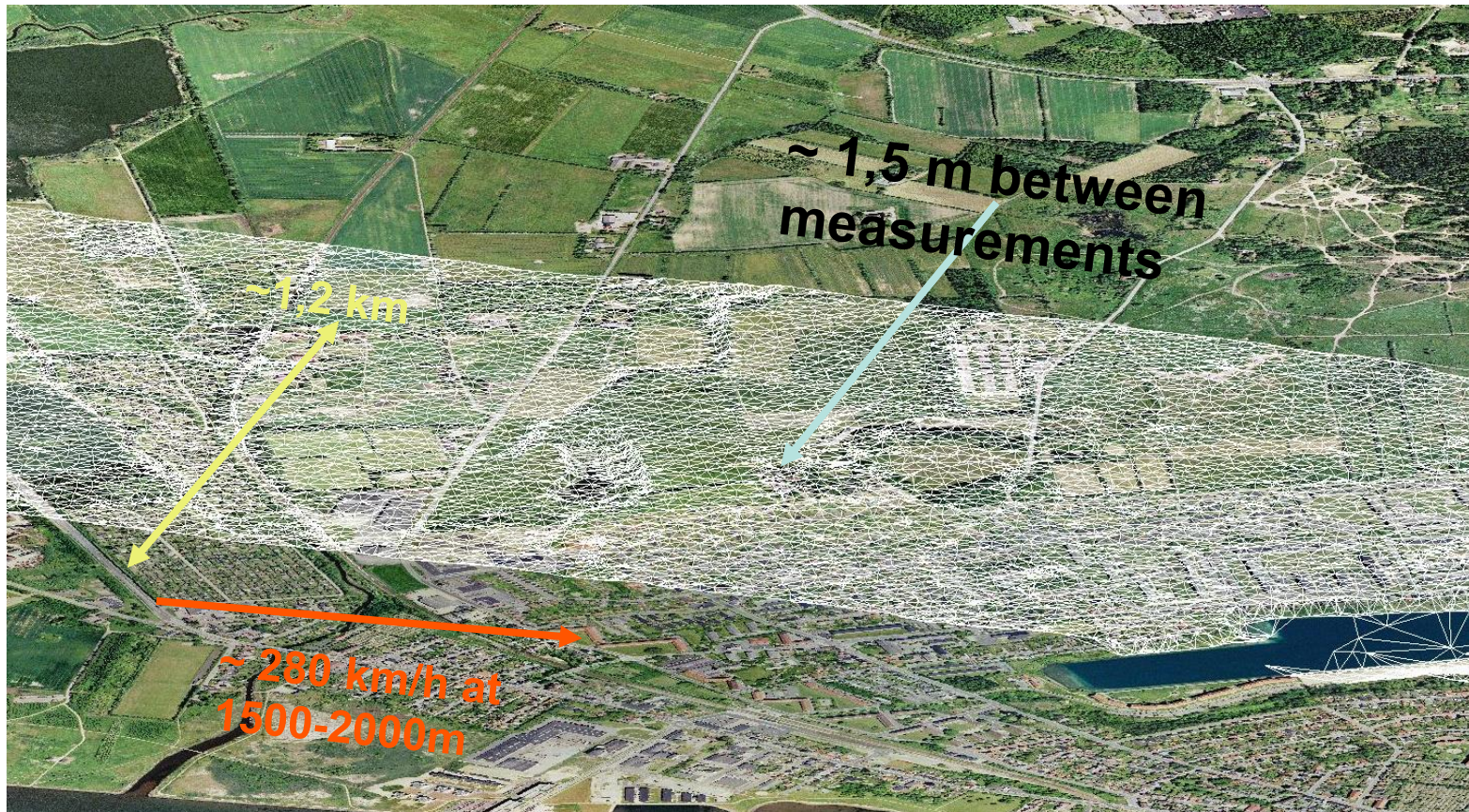
WEB: Web crawl of 200M pages and 2000M links, Akamai stores 7 billion clicks per day

Geography: NASA satellites generate 1.2TB per day

[© Larse Arge, I/O-Algorithms, <http://www.daimi.au.dk/~large/ioS07/>]

Example: LIDAR Terrain Data

COWI A/S (and others) is currently scanning Denmark



[© Larse Arge, I/O-Algorithms, <http://www.daimi.au.dk/~large/ioS07/>]

Application Example: Flooding Prediction



[© Larse Arge, I/O-Algorithms, <http://www.daimi.au.dk/~large/ioS07/>]

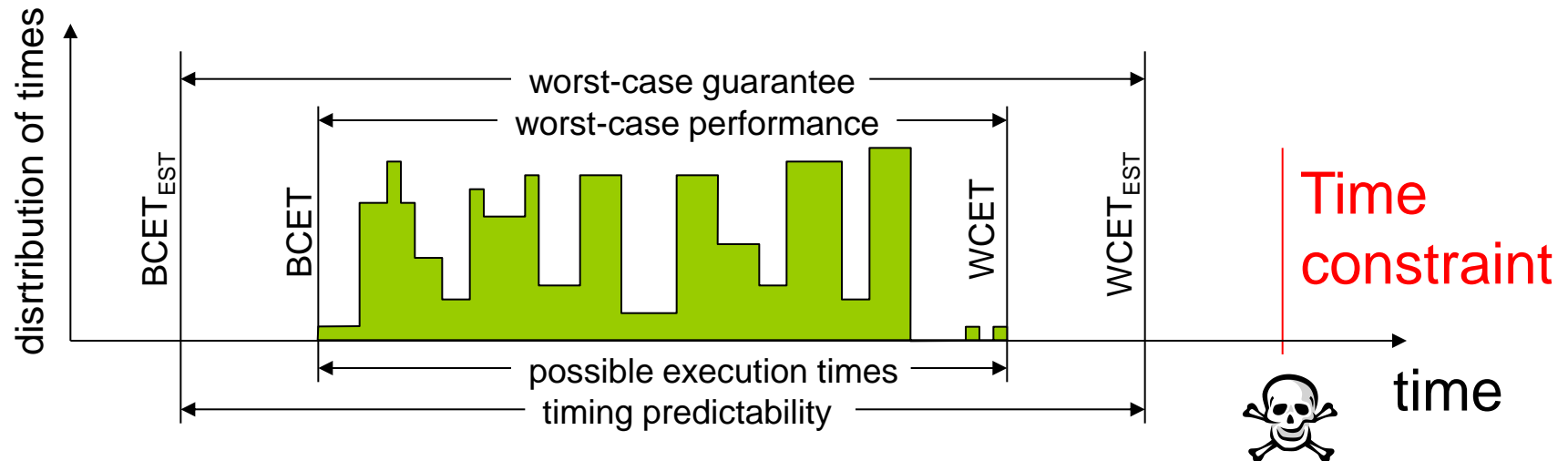
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Worst case execution time (1)

Definition of worst case execution time:



$WCET_{EST}$ must be

1. safe (i.e. $\geq WCET$) and
2. tight ($WCET_{EST} - WCET \ll WCET_{EST}$)

© Graphics: adopted from
R. Wilhelm + Microsoft Cliparts

Current Trial-and-Error Based Development

1. Specification of CPS/ES system
2. Generation of Code (ANSI-C or similar)
3. Compilation of Code
4. Execution and/or simulation of code, using a (e.g. random) set of input data
5. Measurement-based computation of “estimated worst case execution time” ($WCET_{meas}$)
6. Adding safety margin m on top of $WCET_{meas}$:
 $WCET_{hypo} := (1 + m) * WCET_{meas}$
7. If “ $WCET_{hypo}$ ” > deadline: change some detail, go back to 1 or 2.

Problems with this Approach

Dependability

- Computed “WCET_{hypo}” not a safe approximation
- ☞ Time constraint may be violated

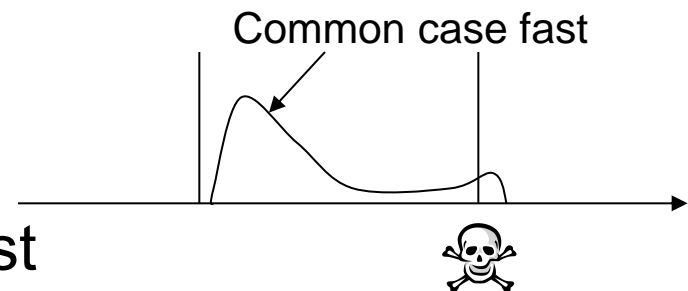
Design time

- How to find necessary changes?
- How many iterations until successful?

“Make the common case fast” a wrong approach for RT-systems

- Computer architecture and compiler techniques focus on average speed
- Circuit designers know it's wrong
- Compiler designers (typically) don't

“Optimizing” compilers unaware of cost functions other than code size

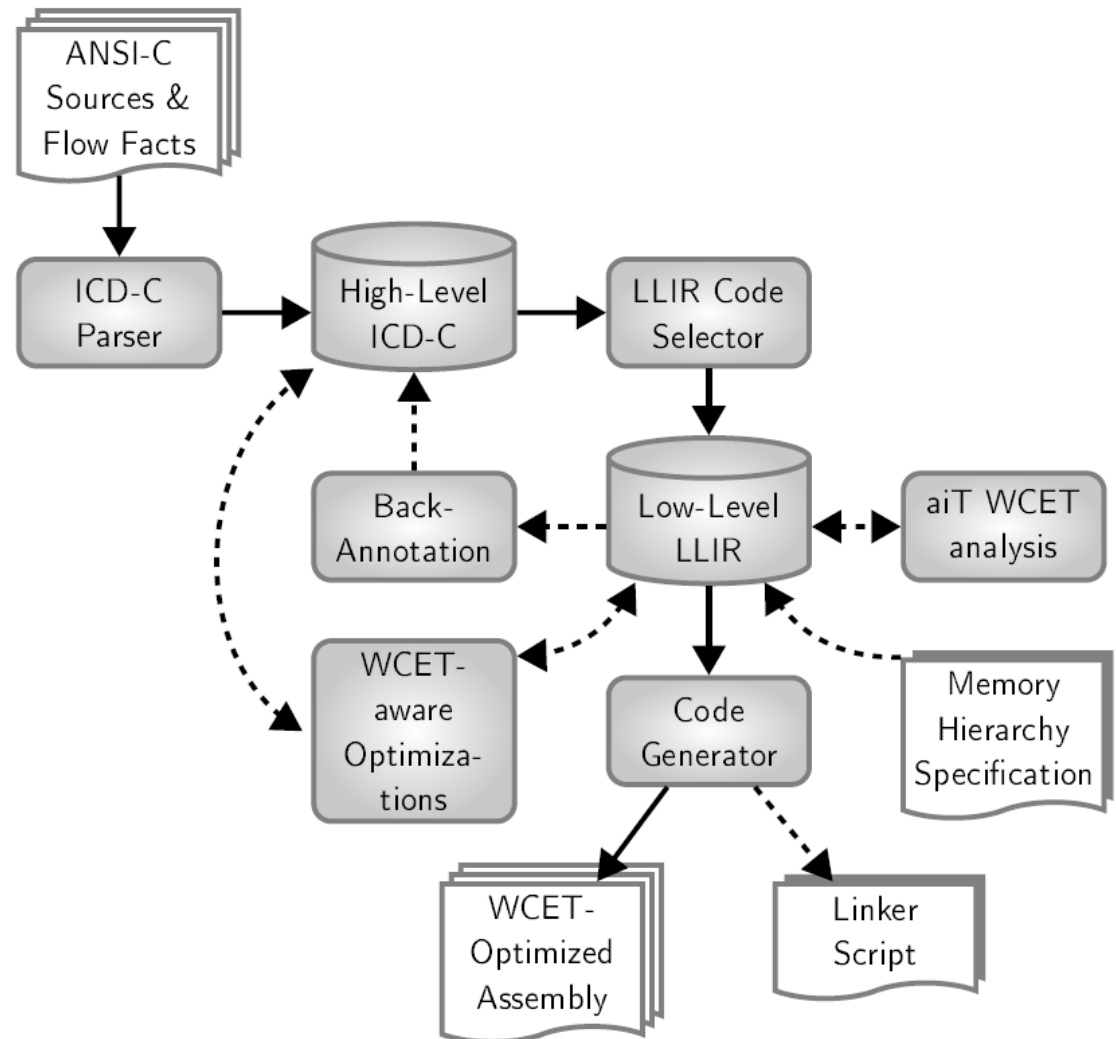


Integration of WCET estimation and compilation

Computing $WCET_{EST}$ **after** code generation is too late.

Why not consider $WCET_{EST}$ as an objective function already in the compiler?

☞ Integration of aiT and compiler



Challenges for $WCET_{EST}$ -Minimization

Worst-Case Execution Path (WCEP)

- $WCET_{EST}$ of a program = Length of longest execution path (WCEP) in that program
 - $WCET_{EST}$ -Minimization:
Reduction of the longest path
 - Other optimizations do not result
in a reduction of $WCET_{EST}$
- 👉 Optimizations need to know the WCEP



WCET-oriented optimizations

- Extended loop analysis (CGO 09)
- Instruction cache locking (CODES/ISSS 07, CGO 12)
- Cache partitioning (WCET-Workshop 09)
- Procedure cloning (WCET-WS 07, CODES 07, SCOPES 08)
- Procedure/code positioning (ECRTS 08, CASES 11 (2x))
- Function inlining (SMART 09, SMART 10)
- Loop unswitching/invariant paths (SCOPES 09)
- ➡ ■ Loop unrolling (ECRTS 09)
- Register allocation (DAC 09, ECRTS 11))
- Scratchpad optimization (DAC 09)
- Extension towards multi-objective optimization (RTSS 08)
- Superblock-based optimizations (ICESS 10)
- Surveys (Springer 10, Springer 12)



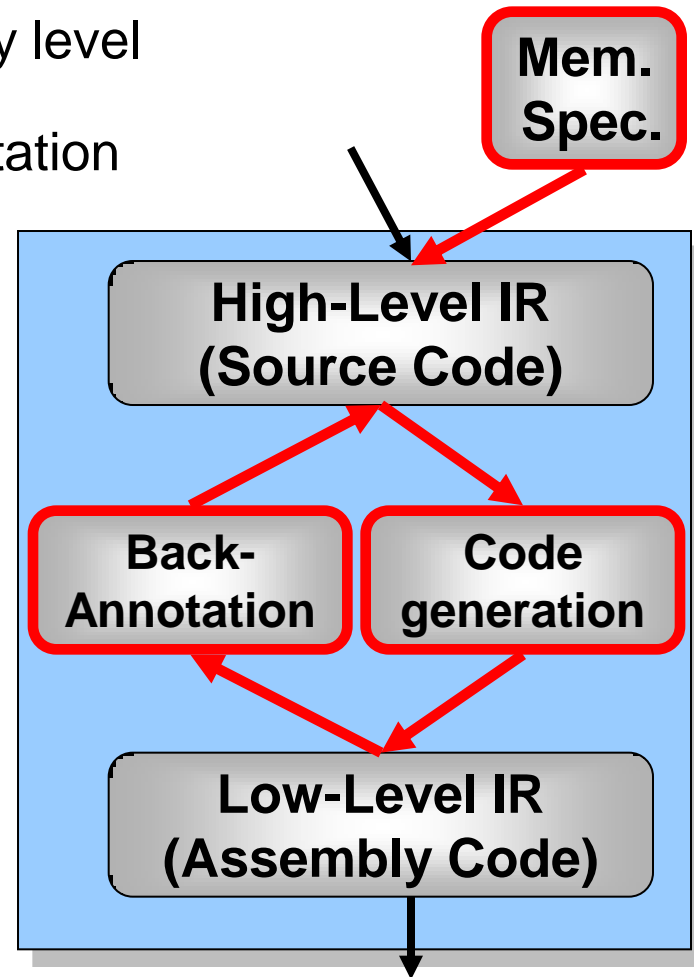
Loop Unrolling as an Example

- Unrolling replaces the original loop with several instances of the loop body
- **Positive Effects**
 - Reduced overhead for loop control
 - Enables instruction level parallelism (ILP)
 - Offers potential for following optimizations
- Unroll *early* in optimization chain
- **Negative Effects**
 - Aggressive unrolling leads to I-cache overflows
 - Additional spill code instructions
 - Control code may cancel positive effects

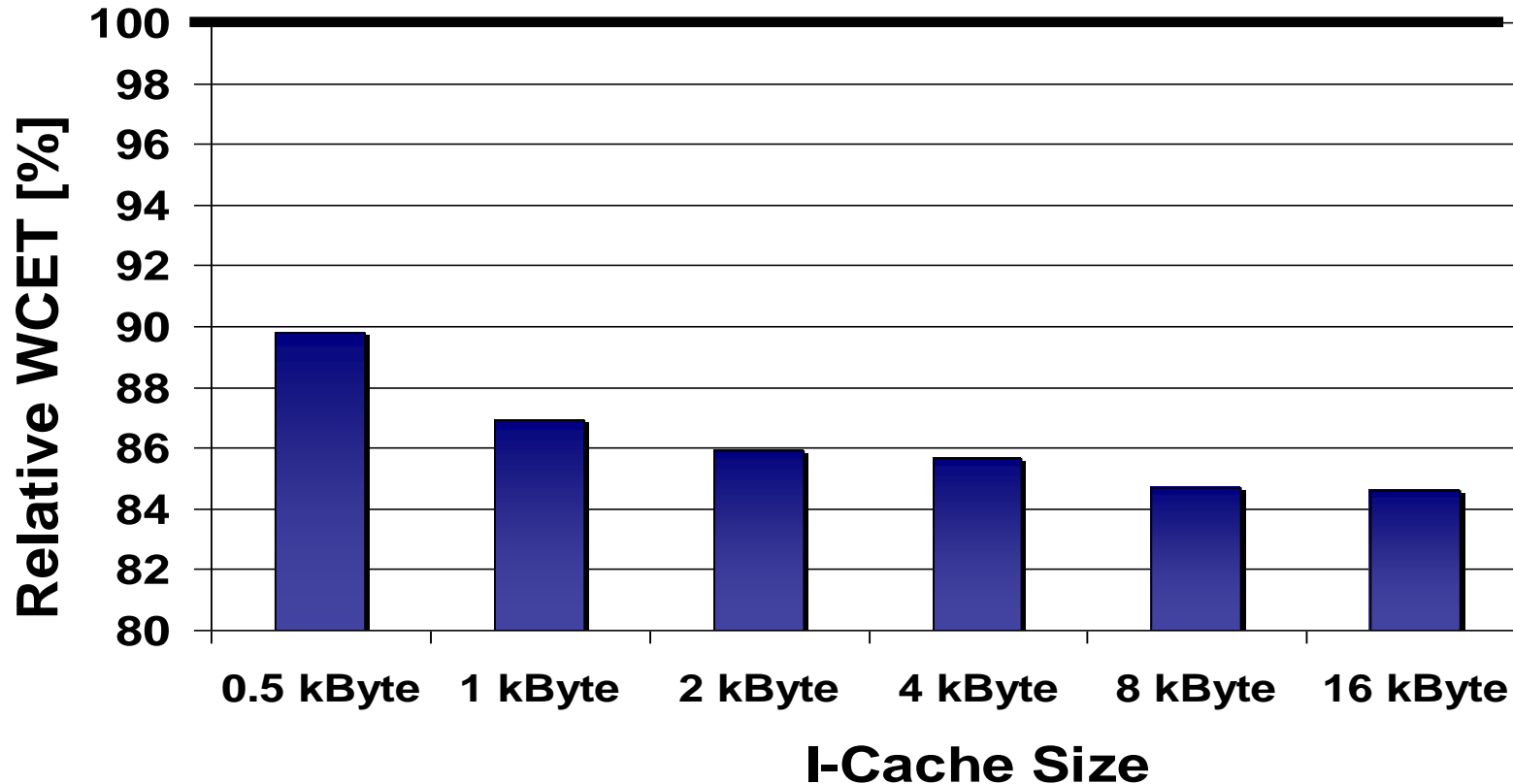
Consequences of transformation hardly known

WCET_{EST}-aware Loop Unrolling via Back-annotation

- WCET_{EST}-information available at assembly level
- Unrolling to be applied at internal representation of source code
- Solution: Back-annotation:
Experimental WCET_{EST}-aware compiler WCC allows copying information:
assembly code → source code
 - WCET_{EST} data
 - Assembly code size
 - Amount of spill code
- Memory architecture info available



Results for unrolling: $WCET_{EST}$



100%: Avg. $WCET_{EST}$ for all benchmarks with $-O3$ & no unrolling

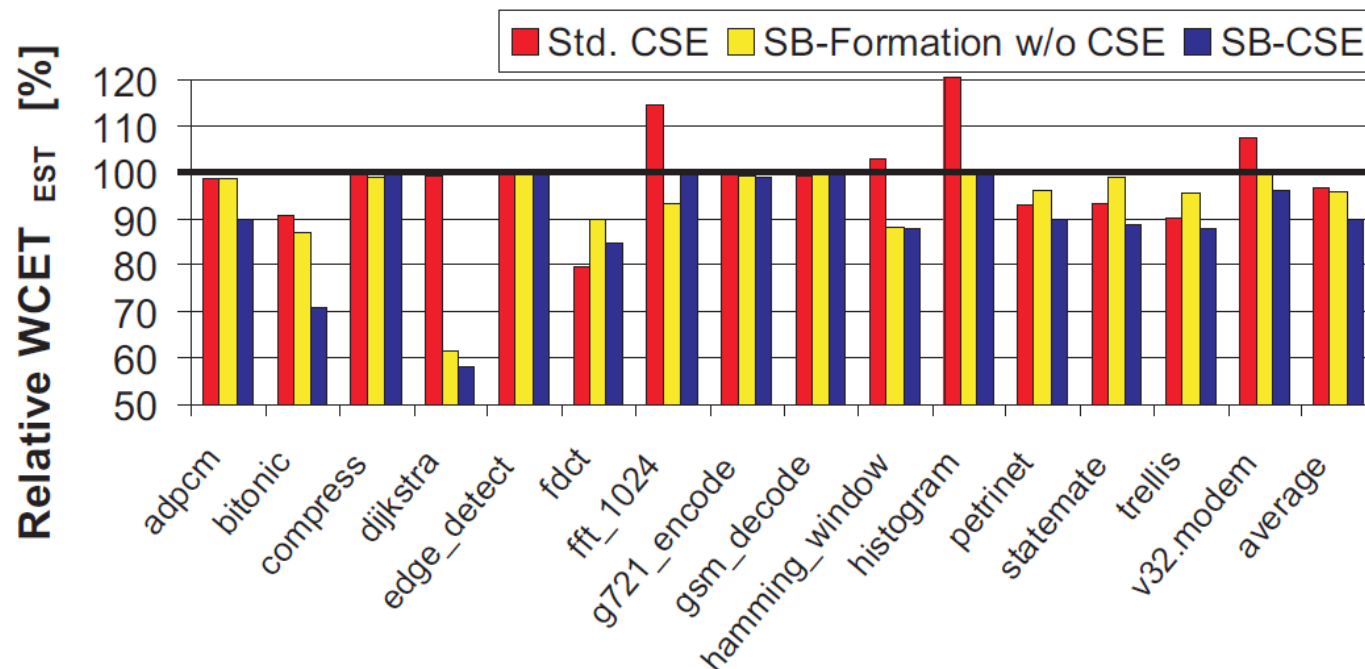
$WCET_{EST}$ reduction between **10.2% and 15.4%**

$WCET_{EST}$ -driven unrolling outperforms standard unrolling by **13.7%**

WCET_{EST}-aware superblock optimizations

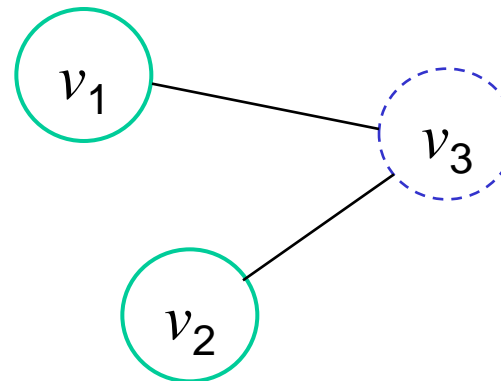
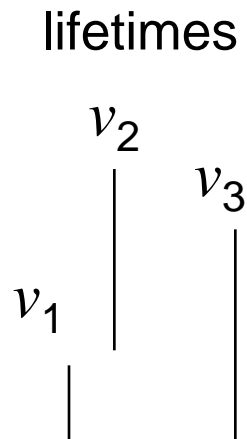
WCET-aware superblock optimizations

- **WCC's superblocks:** proposed 1st time at ANSI-C code level, rely on WCET_{EST} timing data
- **WCET_{EST}-aware superblock optimizations:** Common Subexpression Elimination (CSE) and Dead Code Elimination (DCE) ported to WCC

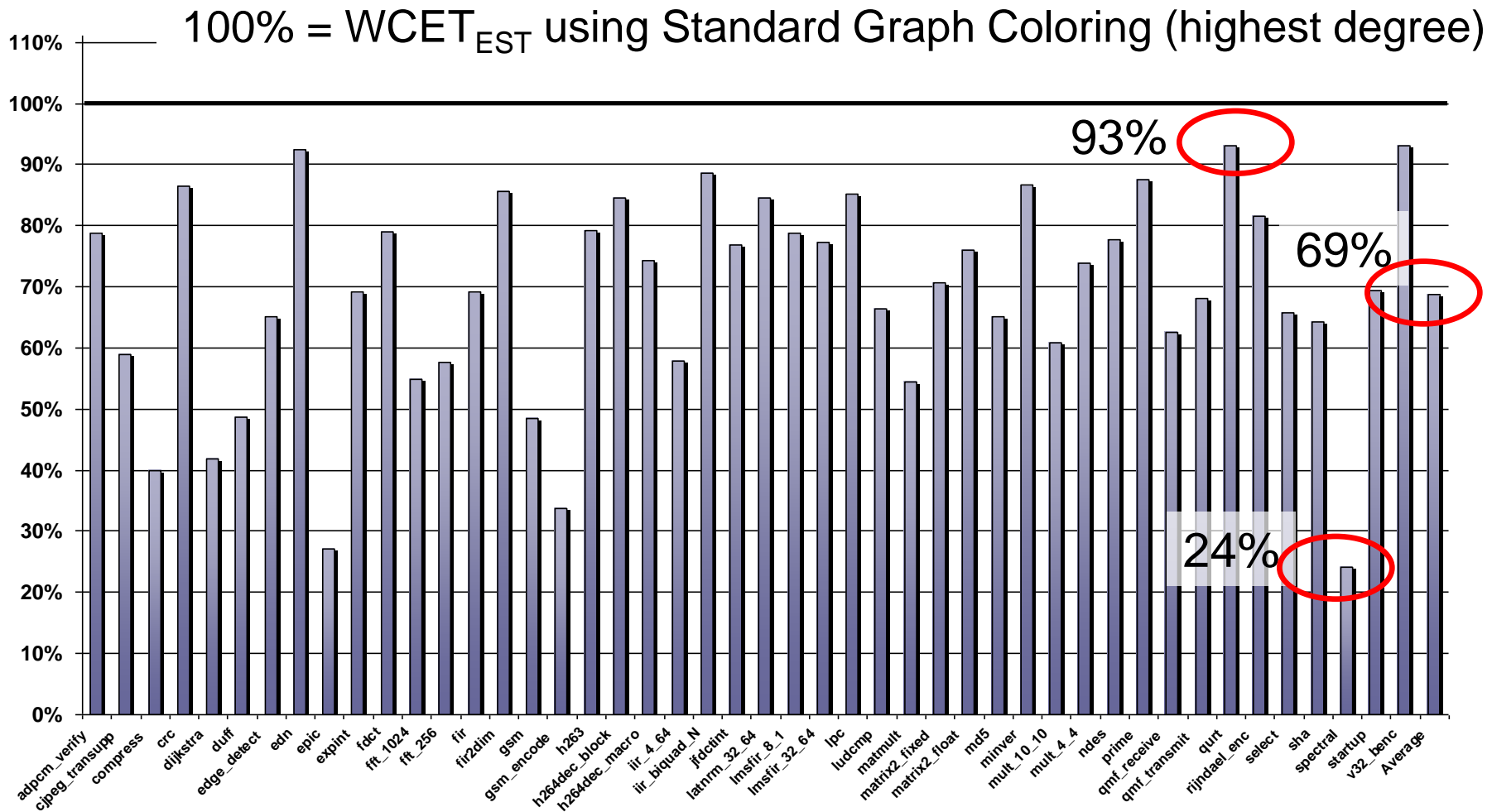


Results: Register allocation

- Registers = fastest level in the memory hierarchy
- ☞ Interest in good global register allocation techniques
- Frequently based on coloring of interference graph



Register Allocation



Improving predictability for caches

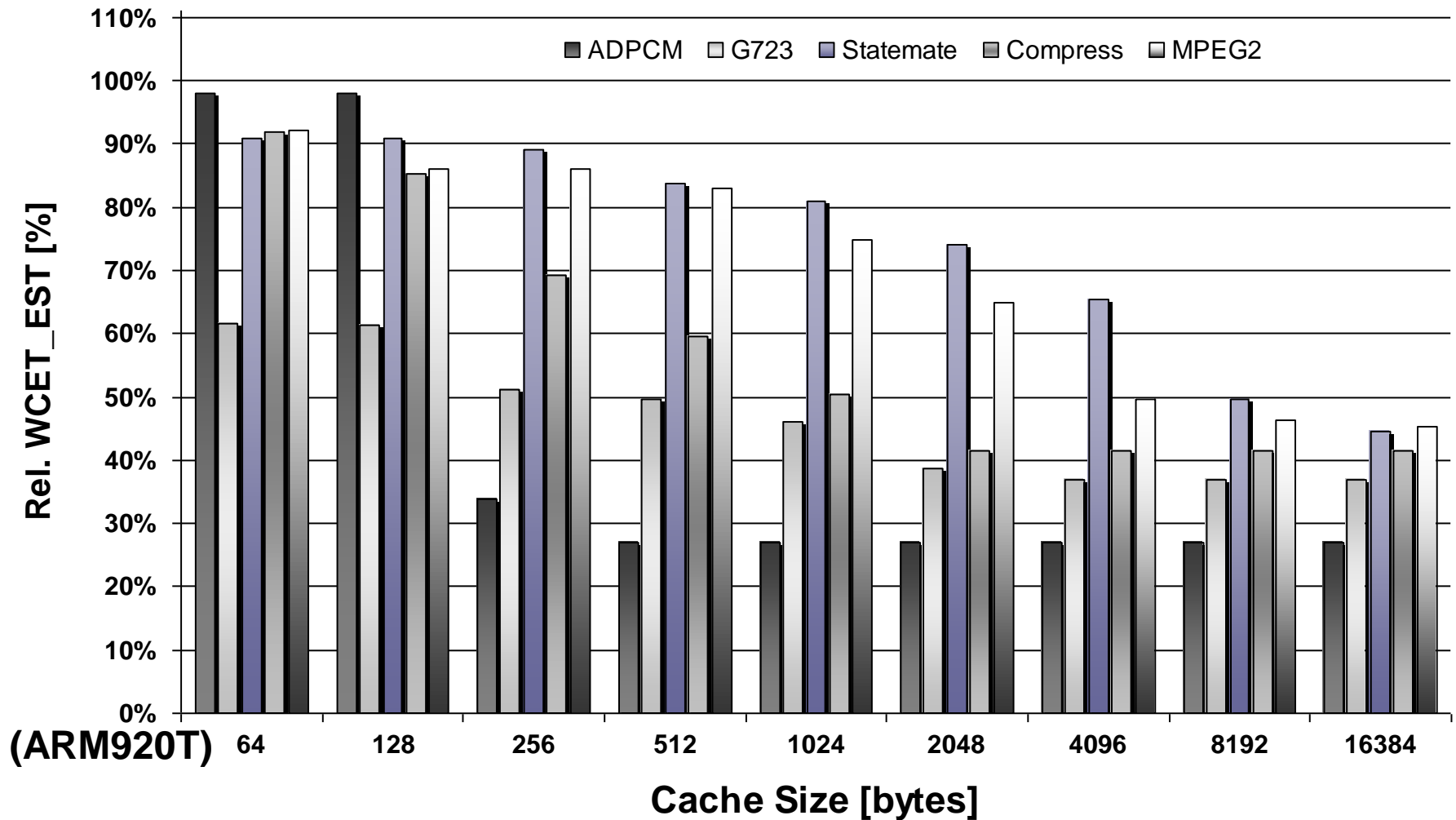
- Loop caches
- Mapping code to less used part(s) of the index space
- Cache locking/freezing
- Changing the memory allocation for code or data
- Mapping pieces of software to specific ways

Methods:

- Way prediction in hardware
- Generating appropriate way in software
- Allocation of certain parts of the address space to a specific way
- Including way-identifiers in virtual to real-address translation

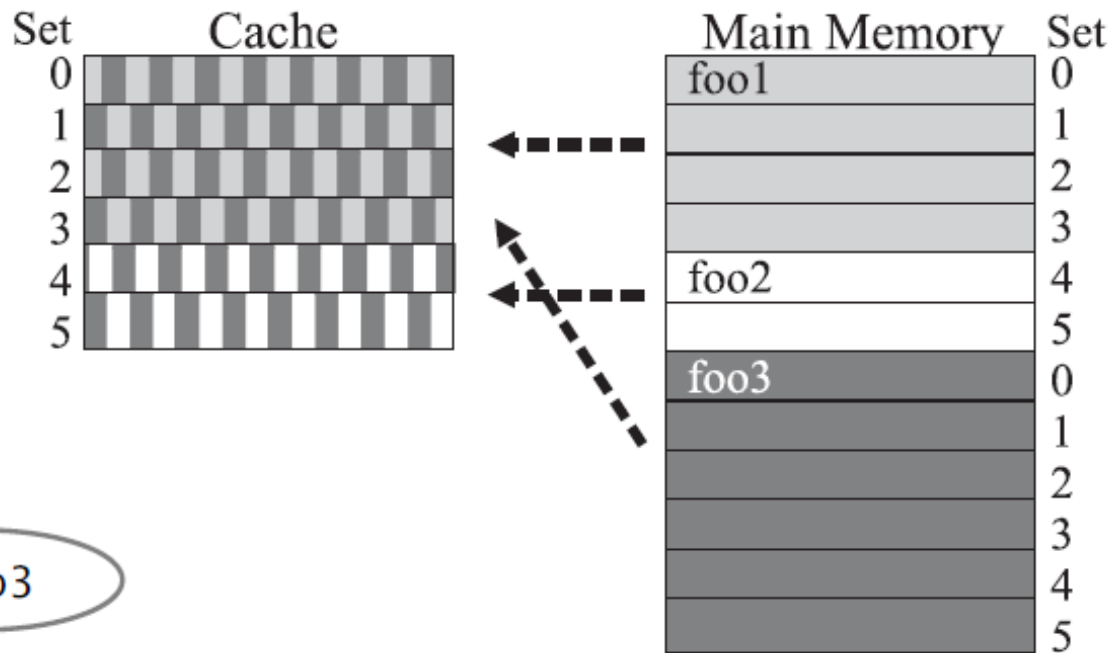
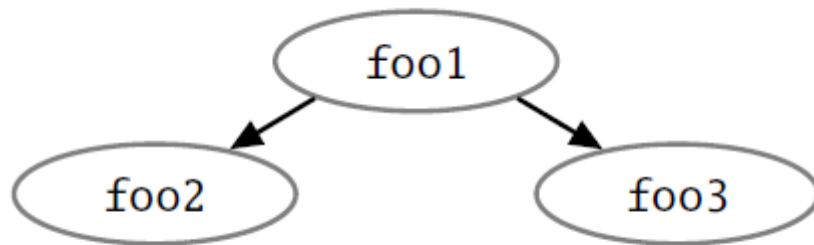
Relative WCET_{EST} with I-Cache Locking

5 Benchmarks/ARM920T/Postpass-Opt



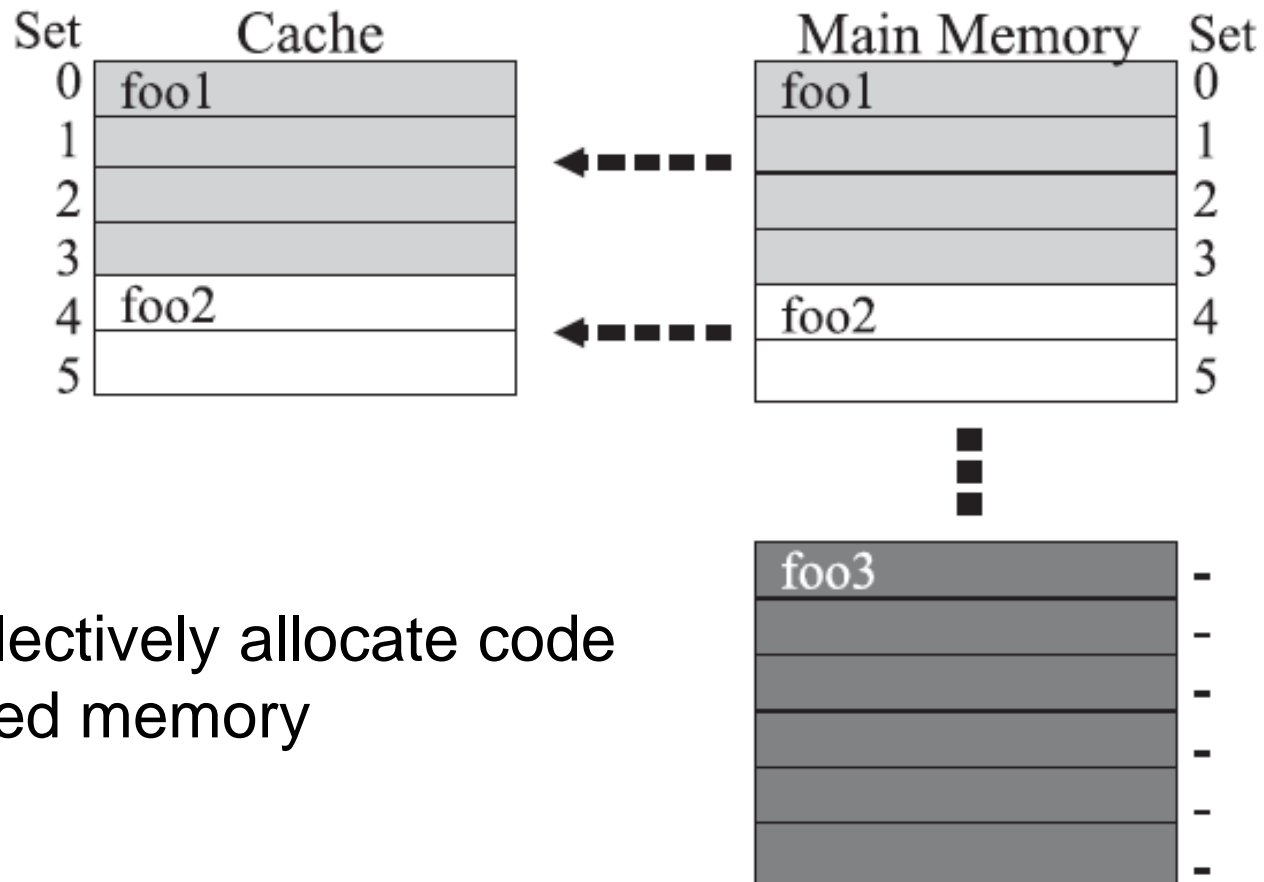
Potential cache thrashing

```
void foo1() {  
    for(i=0; i<10; i++) {  
        foo2();  
        foo3();  
    }  
    ...  
}
```



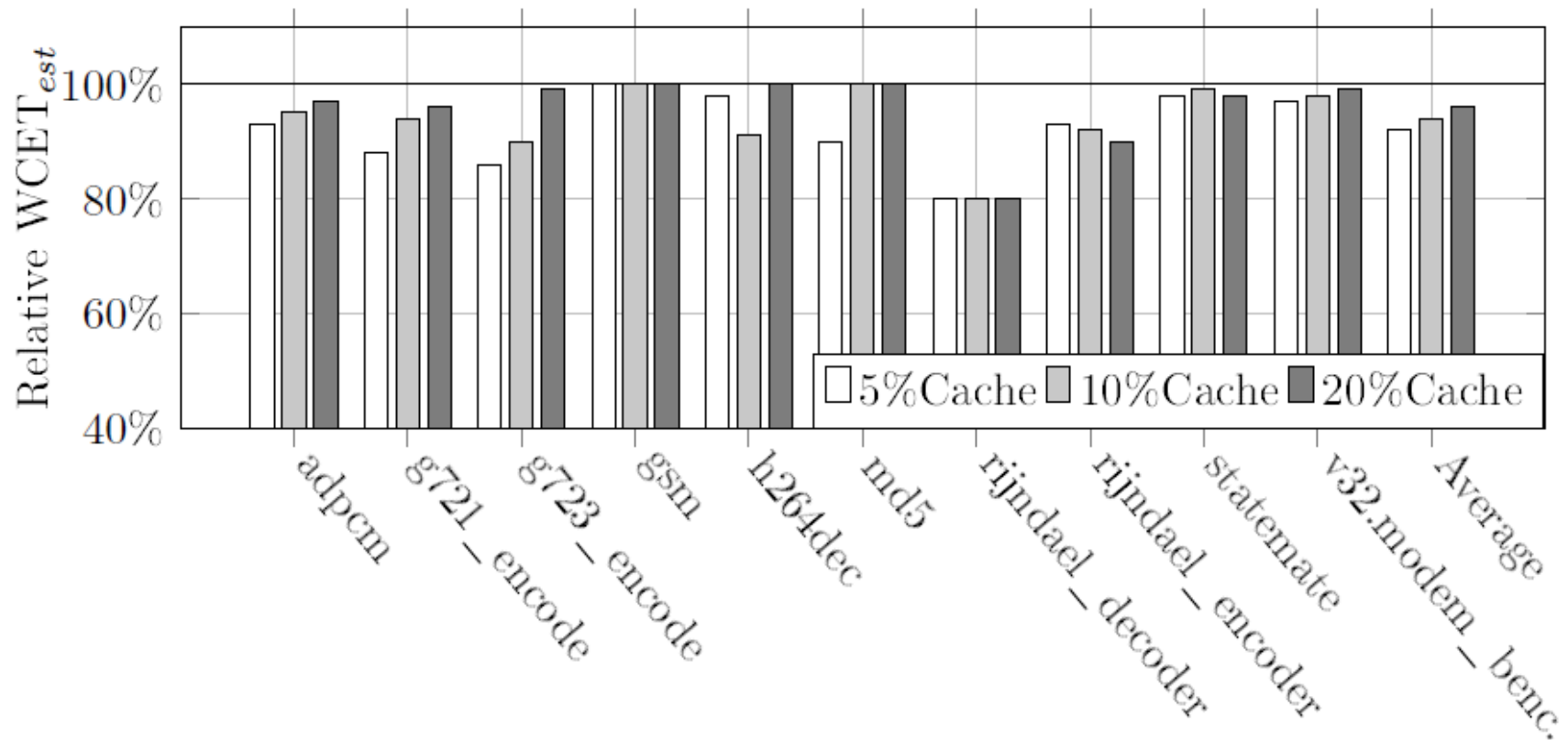
[S. Plazar: Memory-based Optimization Techniques for Real-Time Systems, PhD thesis, TU Dortmund, June 2012]

Avoiding cache thrashing



Key idea: selectively allocate code to uncached memory

Results

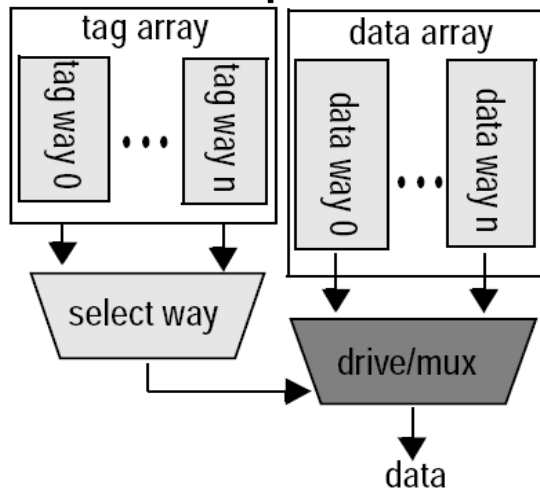


S. Plazar: Memory-based Optimization Techniques for Real-Time Systems, PhD thesis, TU Dortmund, June 2012

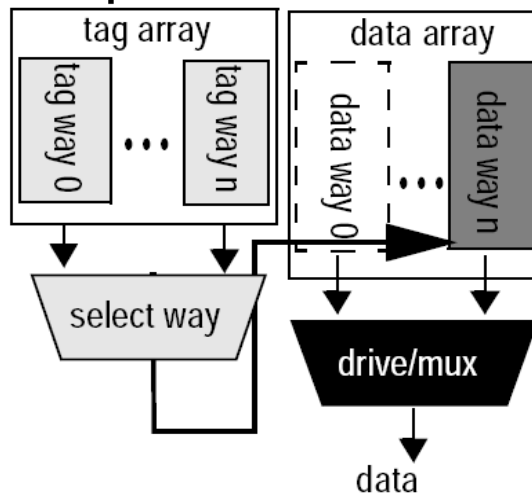
Way prediction/selective direct mapping

Timing order: 1st step 2nd step 3rd step No activity

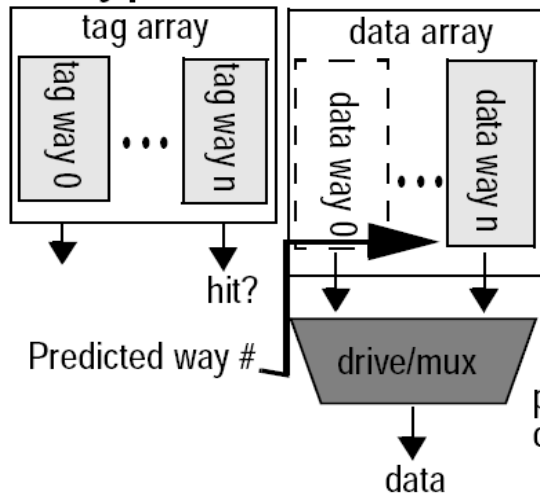
a: Conventional parallel access



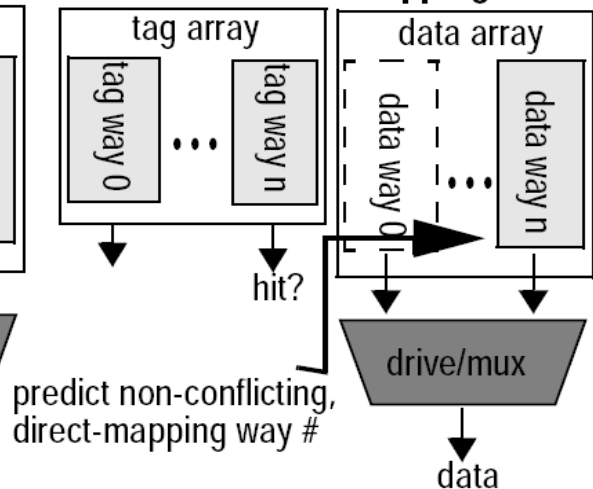
b: Sequential access



c: Way-prediction

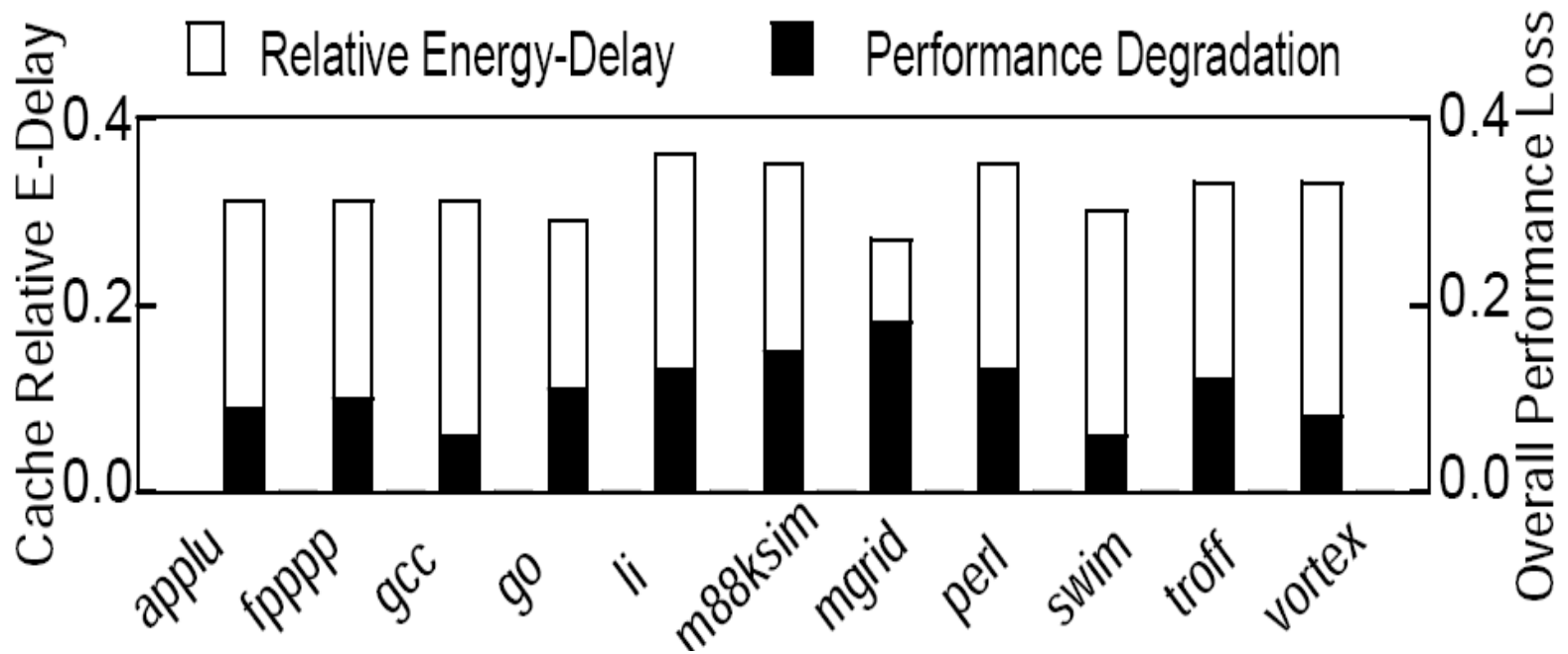


d: Selective direct-mapping



[M. D. Powell, A. Agarwal, T. N. Vijaykumar, B. Falsafi, K. Roy: Reducing Set-Associative Cache Energy via Way-Prediction and Selective Direct-Mapping, *MICRO-34*, 2001]

Results for the paper on way prediction (2)



Conclusion

- SPM allocation:
 - MMUs
 - multi-cores
- Code-Layout-Transformations
- Prefetching
- Reconciling Compilers and Timing Analysis
- Improving Timing Predictability