

## Thierry Tambe

CONTACT	Paul G. Allen Building 330 Jane Stanford Way Stanford, CA 94305	Web: <a href="https://thierrytambe.com">https://thierrytambe.com</a> E-mail: <a href="mailto:ttambe@stanford.edu">ttambe@stanford.edu</a>
RESEARCH INTERESTS	<i>I work at the intersection of VLSI design, computer architecture, and machine learning to co-design solutions across the hardware-software computing stack with the goal of overcoming fundamental limitations we now face due to the end of Dennard Scaling — and validating these proof-of-concepts in ASIC chip tape-outs. I am interested in developing novel algorithms, memory systems, specialized hardwares, and scalable silicon systems for emerging computation- and memory-intensive applications, while tuning their designs and inter-dependencies to promote greater performance, efficiency, reliability, and TCO.</i>	
EDUCATION	<b>Harvard University</b> , Cambridge, MA Ph.D., Electrical Engineering 2023 Thesis Title: <i>Architecting High Performance Silicon Systems for Accurate and Efficient On-Chip Deep Learning.</i>  <b>Texas A&amp;M University</b> , College Station, TX M.Eng., Electrical Engineering 2012 B.S., Electrical Engineering 2010	
AWARDS AND HONORS	NVIDIA Graduate Fellowship 2021 - 2022 IEEE SSCS Predoctoral Achievement Award 2021 - 2022 IEEE MICRO Top Picks Honorable Mention 2022 Finalist for the Lemelson-MIT Student Prize 2021 ACM SIGDA Research Highlights Nominee 2021 Best Paper Award at ACM/IEEE Design Automation Conference (DAC) 2020	
PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE	<b>Stanford University</b> , Stanford, CA <i>Assistant Professor, Department of Electrical Engineering</i> 2024 - Present  <b>NVIDIA</b> , Santa Clara, CA <i>Visiting Research Scientist, Accelerators &amp; VLSI Research Group</i> 2023 - 2024  <b>Harvard University</b> , Cambridge, MA <i>Graduate Researcher, Harvard Architecture, Circuits, and Compilers Group</i> 2018 - 2023 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investigating and building cross-stack solutions (algorithms, hardware architectures, emerging memories, real-time systems, and silicon tape-outs) for on-chip machine learning and emerging computation- and memory-intensive applications.</li> <li>Advisors: Prof. Gu-Yeon Wei, Prof. David Brooks</li> </ul> <b>NVIDIA</b> , Virtual <i>Research Intern, ASIC &amp; VLSI Research Group</i> 2021 - 2021 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investigated the software/hardware co-design space of various numerical data types for optimality in machine learning training.</li> <li>Proposed, and prototyped a novel custom data type for efficient deep learning training. (<i>patent application submitted</i>)</li> </ul> <b>Intel</b> , Hillsboro, OR <i>Senior Design Engineer, Scalable Perf. CPU Development Group</i> 2012 - 2017	

- Owned the path-finding, architecture and design of a portfolio of mixed-signal circuits (high-speed receivers and transmitters, voltage regulators, clocking) for High Bandwidth Memory (HBM), successfully proven on mass-produced 14nm Xeon and Xeon-Phi server CPU chips.
- Chaired the *Simulation and Methodology Tech. Work Group* which standardized circuit simulation methodologies across Intel for reliable PVT, timing, variation, and aging analyses.

**Intel**, Hillsboro, OR

*Graduate Intern, Converged Core Development Organization*

2011 - 2011

- Developed scripted utilities to automate the verification process of Haswell processor mixed-signal circuits.

**Biotronik**, Sugar Land, TX

*IC Design Intern, Texas Design Center*

2010 - 2010

- Designed ultra-low power analog circuits over and near subthreshold region for implantable cardiovascular devices.

## CONFERENCE PUBLICATIONS

1. **A 12nm 18.1TFLOPs/W Sparse Transformer Processor with Entropy-Based Early Exit, Mixed-Precision Predication and Fine-Grained Power Management**  
**Thierry Tambe**, Jeff Zhang, Coleman Hooper, Tianyu Jia, Paul N. Whatmough, Joseph Zuckerman, Maico Cassel Dos Santos, Erik Jens Loscalzo, Davide Giri, Kenneth Shepard, Luca Carloni, Alexander Rush, David Brooks, Gu-Yeon Wei.  
International Solid-State Circuits Conference, 2023. (**ISSCC'23**).
2. **ASAP: Automatic Synthesis of Area-Efficient and Precision-Aware CGRAs**  
Chen Tan, **Thierry Tambe**, Jeff Zhang, Bo Fang, Tong Geng, Gu-Yeon Wei, David Brooks, Antonino Tumeo, Ganesh Gopalakrishnan, Ang Li.  
ACM International Conference on Supercomputing, 2022. (**ICS'22**).
3. **GoldenEye: A Platform for Evaluating Emerging Data Formats in DNN Accelerators**  
Abdulrahman Mahmoud, **Thierry Tambe**, Tarek Aloui, David Brooks, Gu-Yeon Wei.  
IEEE International Conference on Dependable Systems and Networks, 2022. (**DSN'22**).  
Code available on [GitHub](#).
4. **EdgeBERT: Sentence-Level Energy Optimizations for Latency-Aware Multi-Task NLP Inference**  
**Thierry Tambe**, Coleman Hooper, Lillian Pentecost, Tianyu Jia, En-Yu Yang, Marco Donato, Victor Sanh, Paul Whatmough, Alexander Rush, David Brooks, Gu-Yeon Wei.  
International Symposium on Microarchitecture, 2021. (**MICRO'21**).  
**Artifact Badges: [Available](#), and [Functional](#)**
5. **A 25mm<sup>2</sup> SoC for IoT Devices with 18ms Noise Robust Speech-to-Text Latency via Bayesian Speech Denoising and Attention-Based Sequence-to-Sequence DNN Speech Recognition in 16nm FinFET.**  
**Thierry Tambe**, En-Yu Yang, Glenn G. Ko, Yuji Chai, Coleman Hooper, Marco Donato, Paul Whatmough, Alexander Rush, David Brooks, Gu-Yeon Wei.  
International Solid-State Circuits Conference, 2021. (**ISSCC'21**).  
Code available on [GitHub](#).

6. **Robomorphic Computing: A Design Methodology for Domain-Specific Accelerators Parameterized by Robot Morphology**  
 Sabrina M. Neuman, Brian Plancher, Thomas Bourgeat, **Thierry Tambe**, Srinivas Devadas, Vijay Janapa Reddi.  
 International Conference on Architectural Support for Programming Languages and Operating Systems, 2021. (ASPLOS'21).  
**IEEE MICRO Top Picks Honorable Mention**
7. **A Scalable Bayesian Inference Accelerator for Unsupervised Learning**  
 Glenn G. Ko, Yuji Chai, Marco Donato, Paul Whatmough, **Thierry Tambe**, Rob A. Rutenbar, David Brooks, Gu-Yeon Wei.  
 IEEE Hot Chips Symposium, 2020. (Hot Chips'20).
8. **A 3mm<sup>2</sup> Programmable Bayesian Inference Accelerator for Unsupervised Machine Perception using Parallel Gibbs Sampling in 16nm**  
 Glenn G. Ko, Yuji Chai, Marco Donato, Paul Whatmough, **Thierry Tambe**, Rob A. Rutenbar, David Brooks, Gu-Yeon Wei.  
 Symposia on VLSI Technology and Circuits, 2020. (VLSI'20).
9. **Algorithm-Hardware Co-design of Adaptive Floating-Point Encodings for Resilient Deep Learning Inference**  
**Thierry Tambe**, En-Yu Yang, Zishen Wang, Yuntian Deng, Vijay Janapa Reddi, Alexander Rush, David Brooks, Gu-Yeon Wei.  
 ACM/IEEE Design Automation Conference, 2020. (DAC'20).  
**Best Paper Award**  
**Nominee for ACM SIGDA Research Highlights**
10. **MASR: A Modular Accelerator for Sparse RNNs**  
 Udit Gupta, Brandon Reagen, Lillian Pentecost, Marco Donato, **Thierry Tambe**, Alexander Rush, Gu-Yeon Wei, David Brooks  
 International Conference on Parallel Architectures and Compilation Techniques, 2019. (PACT'19).  
**Best Paper Nominee**

#### JOURNAL PUBLICATIONS

1. **A 16-nm SoC for Noise-Robust Speech and NLP Edge AI Inference With Bayesian Sound Source Separation and Attention-Based DNNs**  
**Thierry Tambe**, En-Yu Yang, Glenn G. Ko, Yuji Chai, Coleman Hooper, Marco Donato, Paul Whatmough, Alexander Rush, David Brooks, Gu-Yeon Wei.  
 IEEE Journal of Solid-State Circuits, 2022. (JSSC'22).

#### WORKSHOP PUBLICATIONS

1. **Learnings from a HLS-based High-Productivity Digital VLSI Flow**  
**Thierry Tambe**, David Brooks, Gu-Yeon Wei.  
 Workshop on Languages, Tools, and Techniques for Accelerator Design, 2022. (LATTE'22).
2. **From DSLs to Accelerator-rich Platform Implementations: Addressing the Mapping Gap**  
 Bo-Yuan Huang\*, Steven Lyubomirsky\*, **Thierry Tambe\***, Yi Li, Mike He, Gus Smith, Gu-Yeon Wei, Aarti Gupta, Sharad Malik, and Zachary Tatlock.

Workshop on Languages, Tools, and Techniques for Accelerator Design, 2021. (LATTE'21).

ARXIV  
PUBLICATIONS

1. **CAMEL: Co-Designing AI Models and Embedded DRAMs for Efficient On-Device Learning**  
Sai Qian Zhang\*, **Thierry Tambe\***, Nestor Cuevas, Gu-Yeon Wei, and David Brooks.  
arXiv:2305.03148, 2023.
2. **Specialized Accelerators and Compiler Flows: Replacing Accelerator APIs with a Formal Software/Hardware Interface**  
Bo-Yuan Huang, Steven Lyubomirsky, Yi Li, Mike He, **Thierry Tambe**, Gus Henry Smith, Akash Gaonkar, Vishal Canumalla, Gu-Yeon Wei, Aarti Gupta, Zachary Tatlock, Sharad Malik.  
arXiv:2203.00218, 2022.
3. **AdaptivFloat: A Floating-Point based Data Type for Resilient Deep Learning**  
**Thierry Tambe**, En-Yu Yang, Zishen Wang, Yuntian Deng, Vijay Janapa Reddi, Alexander Rush, David Brooks, Gu-Yeon Wei.  
arXiv:1909.13271, 2019.  
Code available on [GitHub](#).

CHIP TAPEOUTS

1. **A 12nm 18.1TFLOPs/W Sparse Transformer Processor with Entropy-Based Early Exit, Mixed-Precision Predication and Fine-Grained Power Management**  
*A 4.60mm<sup>2</sup> sparse Transformer processor that dynamically tailors its energy and latency expenditures according to the complexity of the input query it processes.*  
Process technology: GlobalFoundries 12LP  
Tapeout date: October 2021  
Publication: ISSCC 2023
2. **A 16-nm SoC for Noise-Robust Speech and NLP Edge AI Inference With Bayesian Sound Source Separation and Attention-Based DNNs**  
*A 25mm<sup>2</sup> many-accelerators IoT SoC with specialized processing of attention-based DNNs and Bayesian workloads.*  
Process technology: TSMC 16FFC  
Tapeout date: June 2019  
Publication: JSSC 2022, ISSCC 2021
3. **A Scalable Bayesian Inference Accelerator for Unsupervised Learning**  
*A 3mm<sup>2</sup> programmable processor for unsupervised probabilistic machine perception tasks.*  
Process technology: TSMC 16FFC  
Tapeout date: May 2018  
Publication: Hot Chips 2020, VLSI 2020

SEMINAR AND  
INVITED TALKS

1. *Effective SW/HW Co-Design of Specialized ML Accelerators using HLS*
  - [Invited webinar](#), Siemens (*1500+ attendees, a Siemens webinar record!*) Feb 2022

2. *SM6: A 16nm System-on-Chip for Accurate and Noise-Robust Attention-Based NLP Applications*
  - Poster, Hot Chips' 33. Aug 2021
  - Poster, Arm Research Summit, Austin, TX. Sep 2019
  - Invited talk, Samsung Adv. Inst. of Tech., Suwon, South Korea Jul 2019
3. *Algorithms, Architectures, and Prototypes for Accurate and Noise-Robust Speech and Natural Language Processing Inference*
  - Invited talk, Cornell Computer Systems Laboratory (CSL) Apr 2021
  - Invited talk, IBM 5<sup>th</sup> Workshop on the Future of Computing Arch. Nov. 2020
4. *AdaptivFloat: A Data Type for Resilient Deep Learning Inference*
  - Invited talk, FPTalks Jun 2020
5. *Closing the algorithm/hardware design and verification loop with speed via high-level synthesis*
  - Invited talk, CHIPKIT Tutorial at ISCA'20 May 2020
6. *Open Edge Hardware and Software for Natural Language Translation and Understanding*
  - Invited talk, FOSDEM, Brussels, Belgium Feb 2020
7. *Adaptive Quantization of Deep Neural Networks*
  - Poster, Computing Research Assoc. URMD, Waikoloa, Hawaii Mar 2019

#### STUDENTS MENTORED

- **Alicia Golden** (1<sup>st</sup> year PhD student) Sep 2022 - Present  
*Evaluating scaling trends and timing critical paths in ARM CPUs.*
- **Nestor Cuevas** (2<sup>nd</sup> year PhD student) Nov 2021 - Present  
*Design and Characterization of Embedded DRAM Memories for Efficient ML Training.*
- **Coleman Hooper** (4<sup>th</sup> year undergrad student) Feb 2020 - May 2022  
*Hardware-Software Co-Design for Energy-Efficient Deployment of Transformer-Based Speech Recognition Models on Edge Devices.*
- **Maria Sturzu** (4<sup>th</sup> year undergraduate student) Mar 2020 - Aug 2020  
*FPGA Prototyping of HLS-based Machine Learning Accelerators.*
- **Zishen Wan** (2<sup>nd</sup> year Master student) Jan 2019 - Dec 2019  
*Study of Posit Numeric in Speech Recognition Neural Inference.*

#### TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- EE271 – Introduction to VLSI Design Autumn 2024  
 EE180 – Digital Systems Architecture Winter 2024  
**Graduate Teaching Fellow** Harvard University, Cambridge, MA  
 CS248 – Advanced Design of VLSI Circuits and Systems Spring 2020
- *Designed lab materials on designing HLS-based AI hardware accelerators.*
  - *Hosted recitation sections, office hours, and graded students' problem sets and lab assignments.*
- MIT ESP Spark Educational Outreach** Mar 2021
- *Taught a course on the basics of chip development for AI to Greater Boston middle schoolers.*

ACADEMIC  
SERVICE

**Organizing Committee**

- MICRO Workshop and Tutorial Committee Co-Chair 2024
- DAC Session Co-Chair 2024
- The NOPE Workshop @ASPLOS 2022

**Technical Program Committee**

- ASPLOS 2025
- ISCA, HPCA, DAC, ISLPED 2024
- ML Commons Rising Stars, YArch Workshop 2024

**Invited Reviewer**

- IEEE Journal of Solid-State Circuits (JSSC) 2024
- IEEE International Solid-State Circuits Conference (ISSCC) 2024
- IEEE Transactions on CAD of Integrated Circuits and Systems 2023
- Design Automation Conference (DAC) 2022
- IEEE Transactions on Neural Networks and Learning Systems, 2021

**Stanford University**

- Electrical Engineering Department Student Life Committee 2024 - 2025

OTHER  
INFORMATION

Languages: English (fluent), French (native), Spanish (conversational)