



Redwood: Flexible and Portable Heterogeneous Tree Traversal Workloads

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Highlights

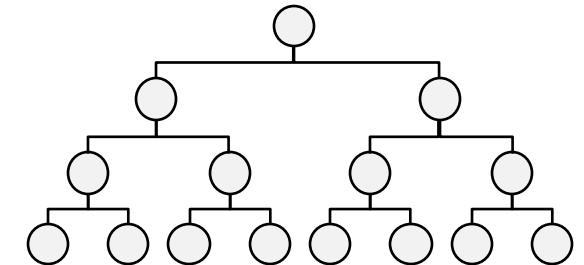
Many applications in edge computing can utilize tree data structures to accelerate their workloads

Developed a framework, ***Redwood***, for writing a special class of tree algorithms, which we call *traverse-compute*

Evaluated 5 shared memory heterogeneous systems using ***Grove***, a suite of 9 heterogeneous traverse-compute workloads

Achieved speedups up to

- **8.12x** on commodity systems
- **13.53x** on academic system



Insight: Traverse-compute workload has natural heterogeneous decompositions on modern shared memory system-on-chips

Motivation: Accelerating Computations at Edge

Edge computing are getting popular ...

But they has **constraints**

- *e.g., energy or latency requirement*

Application of edge computing

- *Surveillance cameras*
- *Autonomous vehicles*
- *Mobile gaming*



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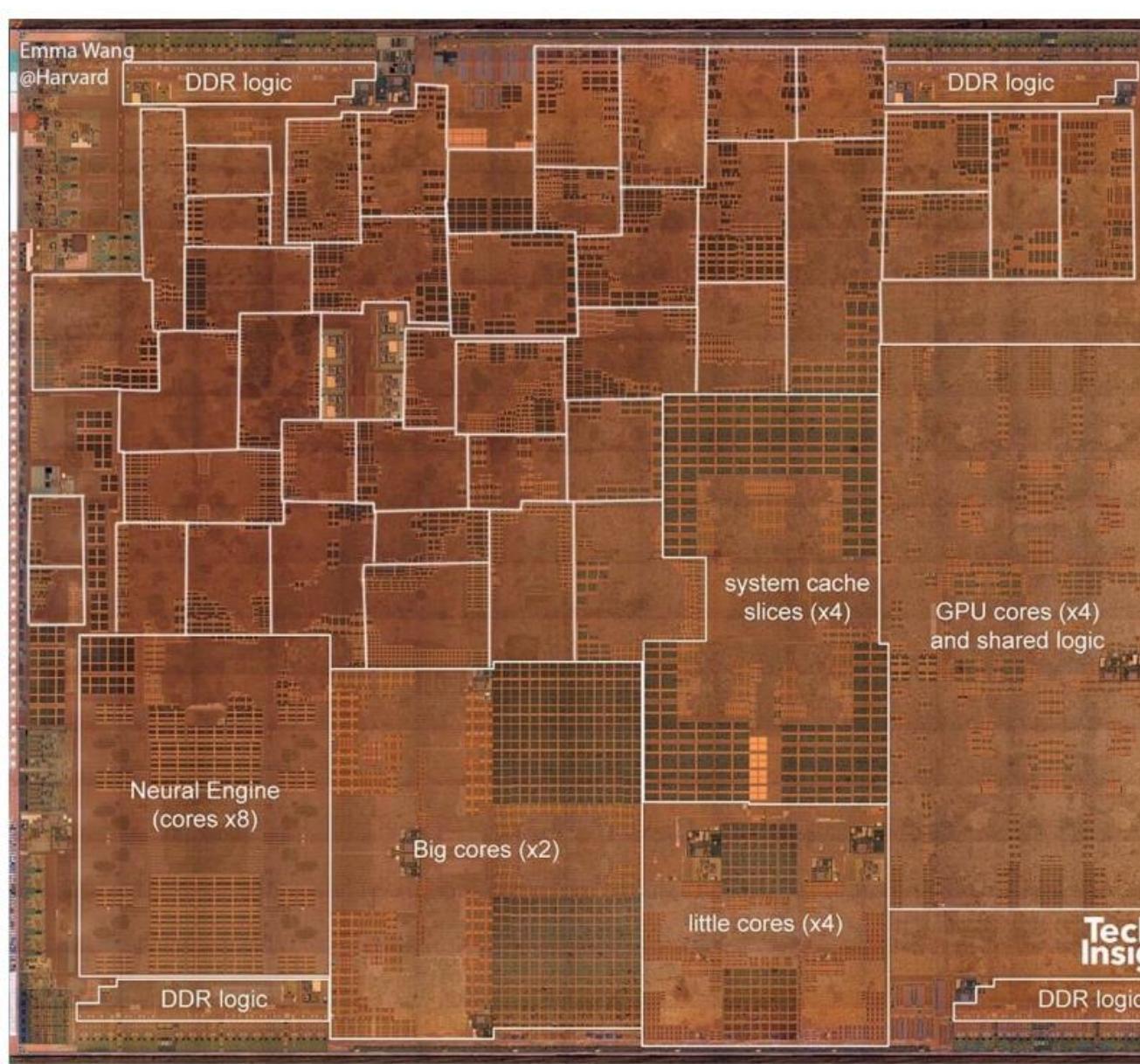
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Modern edge devices are becoming increasingly heterogeneous

- w/ specialized *Processing Units* (PUs)

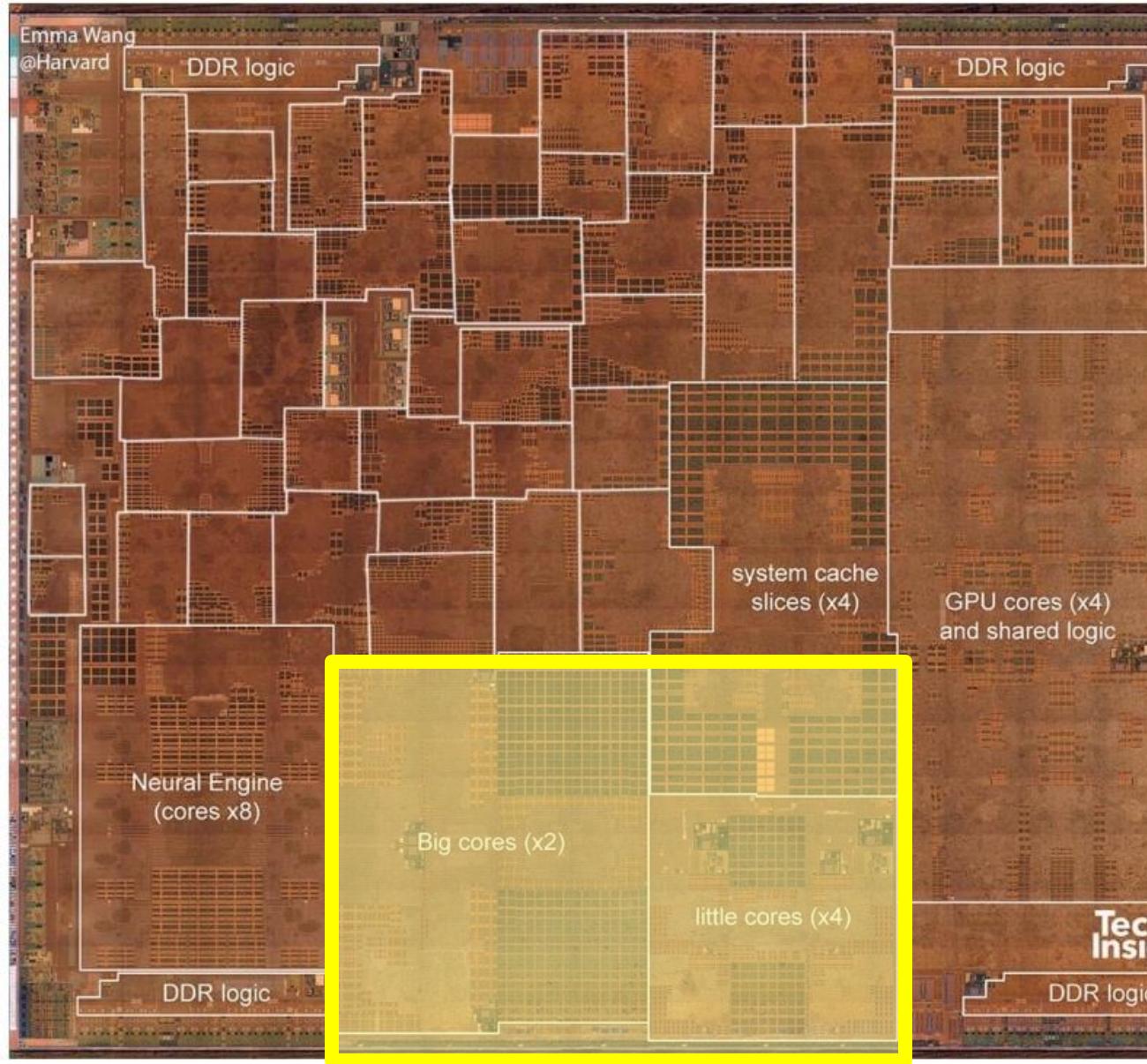


We need to efficiently utilize these available system resources



What do we mean by resources?

From David Brooks lab at Harvard:
<https://vlsiarch.eecs.harvard.edu/research/accelerators/die-photo-analysis>

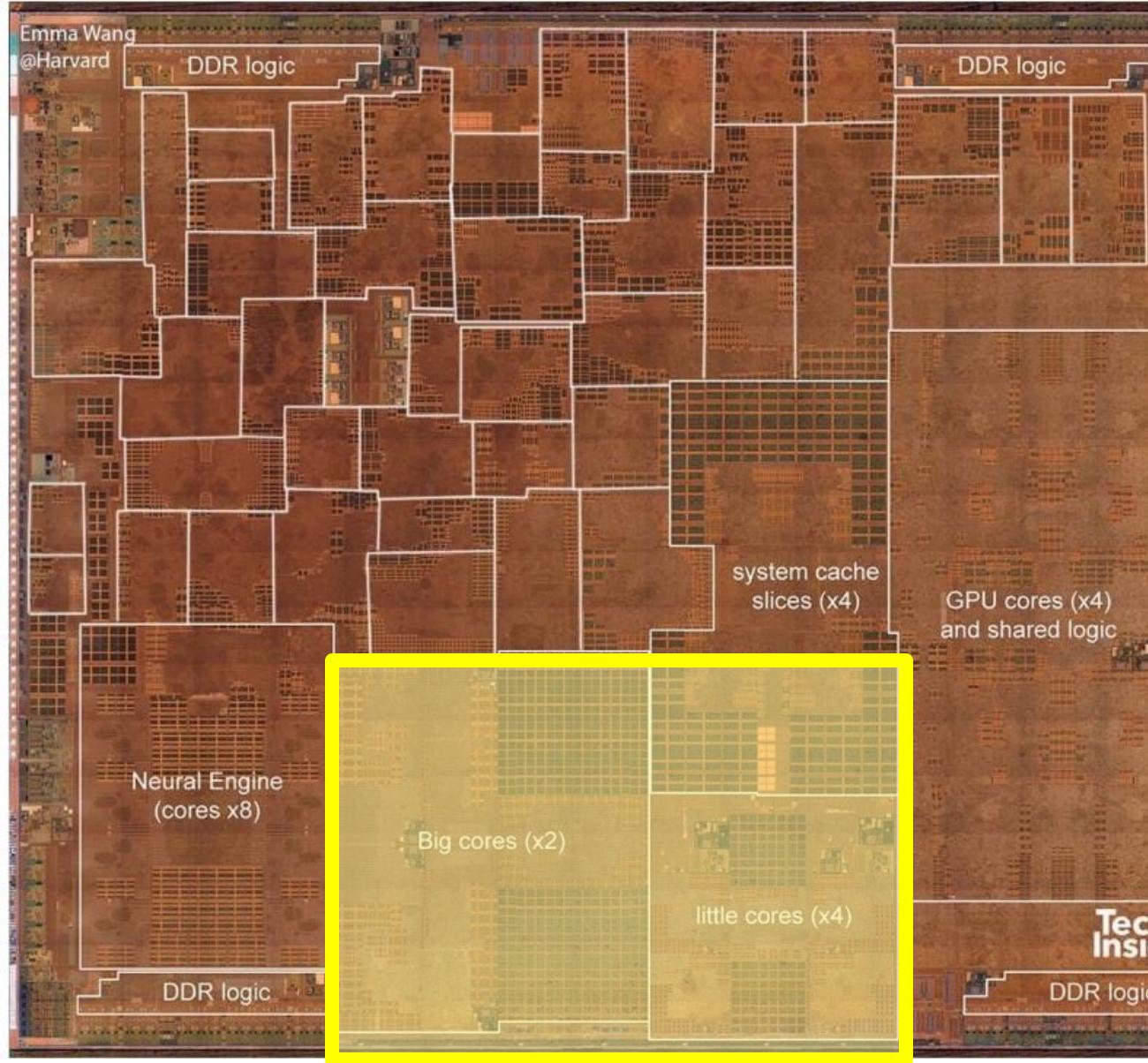


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What do we mean by resources?

- E.g., less than **20%** of the die area of an iPhone contains the CPU
- The rest contains specialized *Programmable Accelerating PUs (PAPU)*
 - e.g., integrated GPUs, FPGAs
 - Interconnected to a shared memory hierarchy
- *Shared Memory Heterogeneous System (SMHS)* enables efficient communication between PUs



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How does workloads utilize each PU?

Processing Units (PU) Characteristics

CPU

Features: High-performance cores, reorder buffer, load store queue, ...

- + Latency optimized
- Limited throughput

Good for **irregular** programs

Programmable Accelerating PUs (PAPU)

GPU

Features: SIMD (*Single Instruction, Multiple Threads*) execution, coalesced memory access

- + Throughput optimized
- Warp Divergence

FPGA

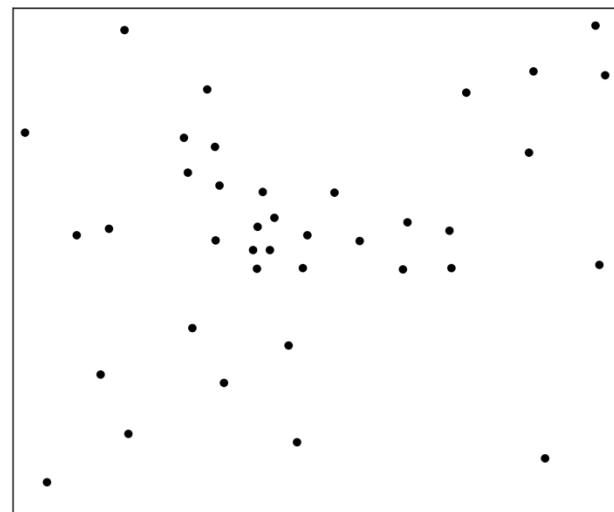
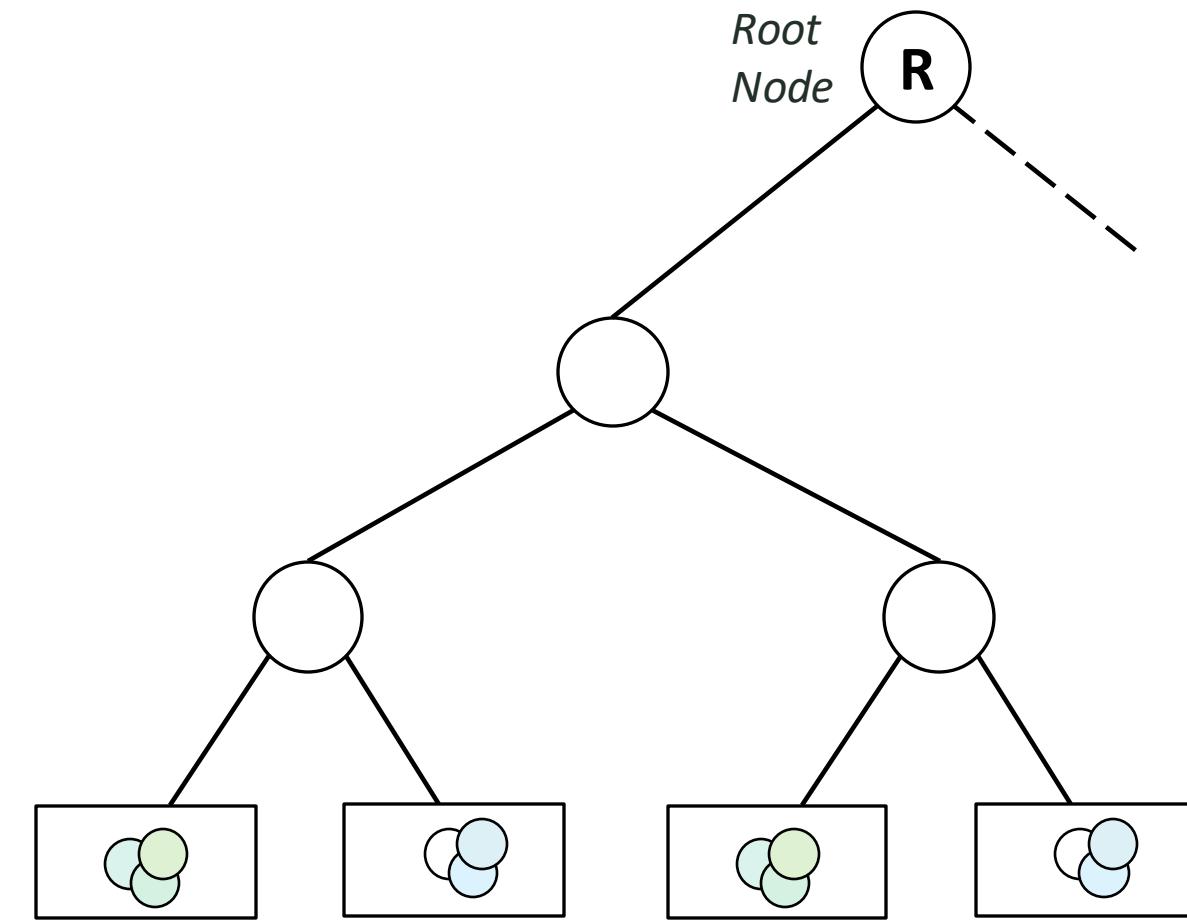
Features: Specialized tasks, Pipeline parallelism

- + Close to ASIC performance
- Orders-of-magnitude harder to program

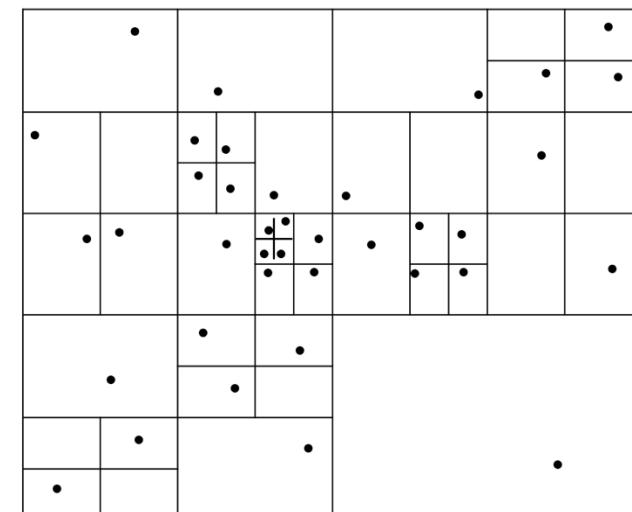
Good for accelerating **compute-intensive** programs

Trees on the edge

- Edge applications process a large amount of data
- They can utilize **tree structures** and traversals to perform edge tasks
 - E.g., *in classifications and security*



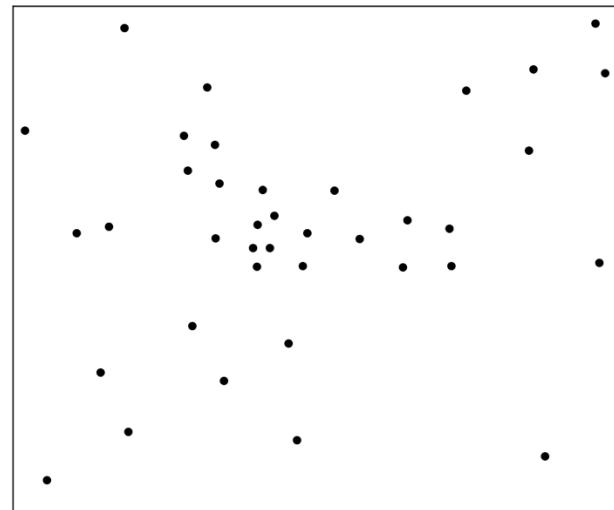
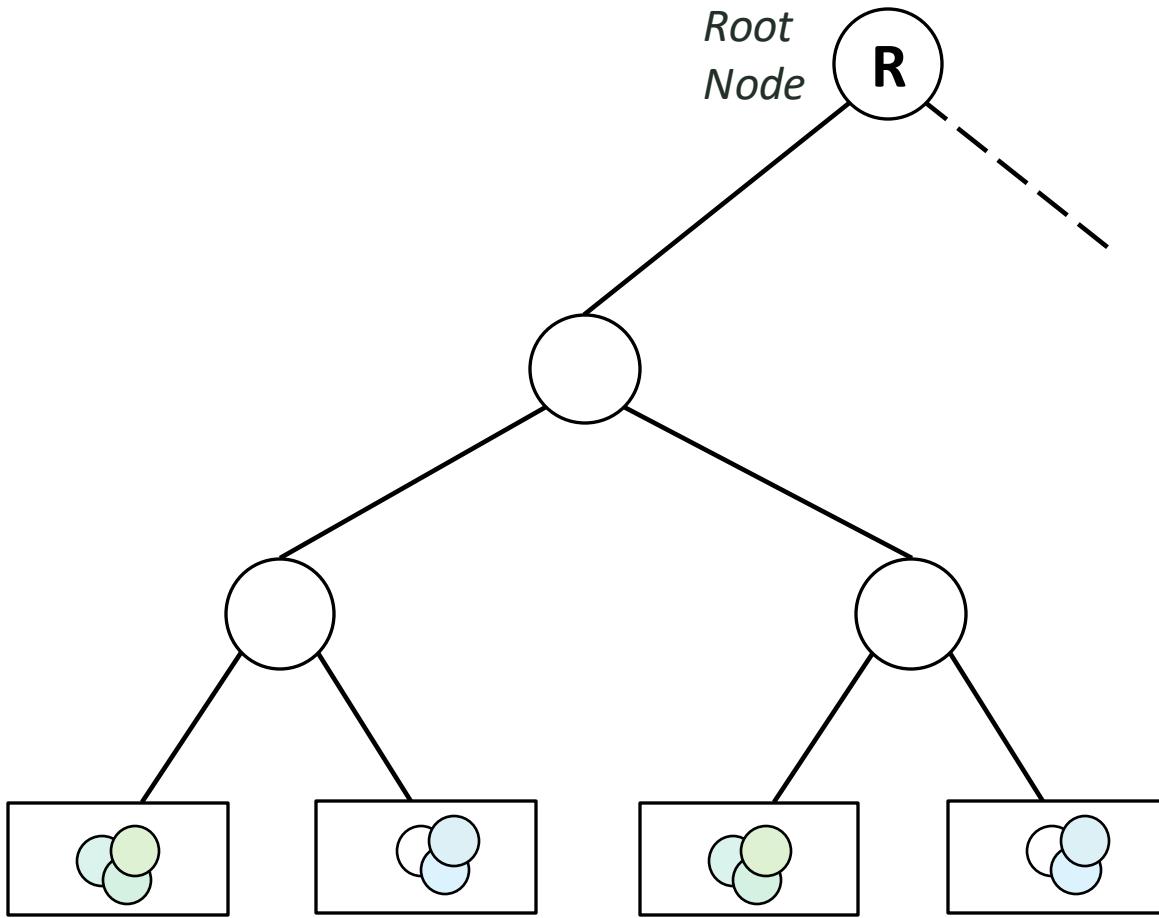
Input data



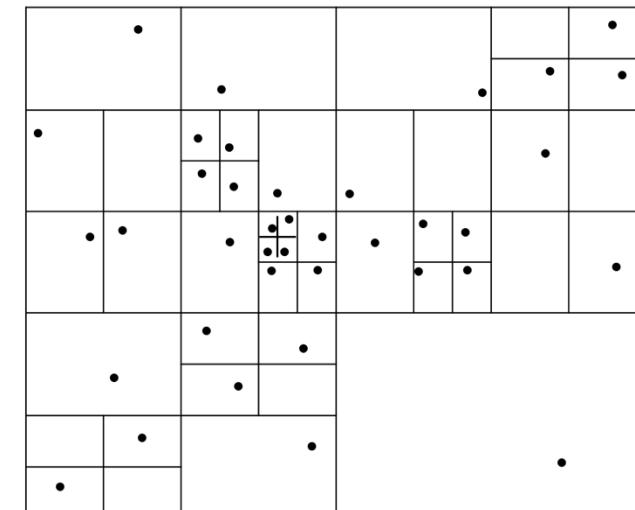
Spatial Partition

Trees on the edge

- Edge applications process a large amount of data
- They can utilize **tree structures** and traversals to perform edge tasks
 - E.g., *in classifications and security*
- The dataset are organized into a hierarchical tree structure, allowing data to be **efficiently** searched from $O(n)$ to $O(\log n)$



Input data



Spatial Partition

Traverse-Compute Workloads

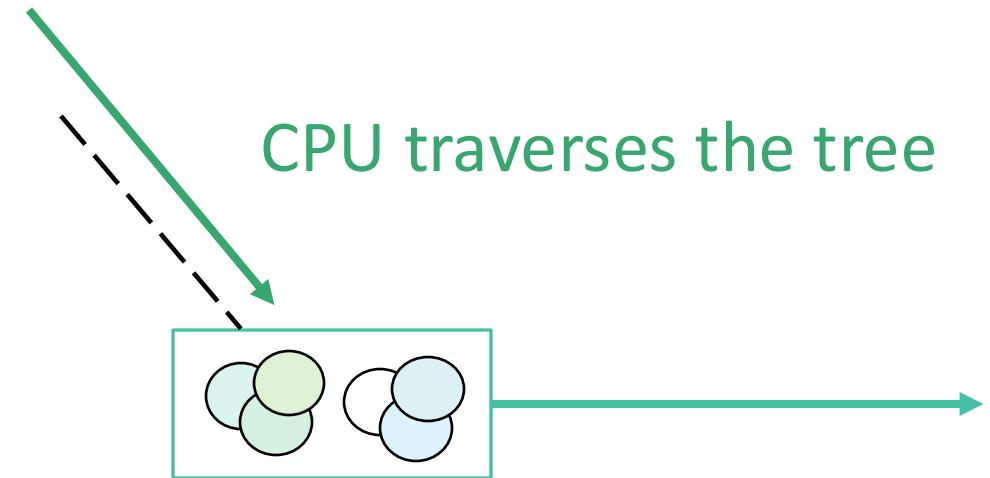
- Repeatedly traversing a sparse tree structure
 - Each traversal consists of
 - Indirect memory loads at branch nodes (**Red box**)
 - Dense data to be processed at leaf nodes visited (**Orange box**)
 - Computing pairwise interactions (e.g., Euclidean distance)
 - Reductions (e.g., sum, min)
 - Example workloads:
 - Barnes-hut Algorithm (octree)
 - Nearest Neighbor Search (k-dimensional tree)
 - Ray Tracing (bounding volume hierarchy)
- Irregular Memory Accesses at branch nodes*
-
- ```
graph TD; R((R)) --- N1(()); N1 --- N2(()); N1 --- N3(()); N2 --- L1[" "]; N2 --- L2[" "]; N3 --- L3[" "]; N3 --- L4[" "];
```
- Dense Computations at leaf nodes*

# Decomposing Traverse Compute Workloads

**CPUs** are good at handling dynamic control flows and tolerating indirect memory loads

**PAPUs** are good at accelerating dense, compute-intense operations

A natural Heterogeneous Approach is to

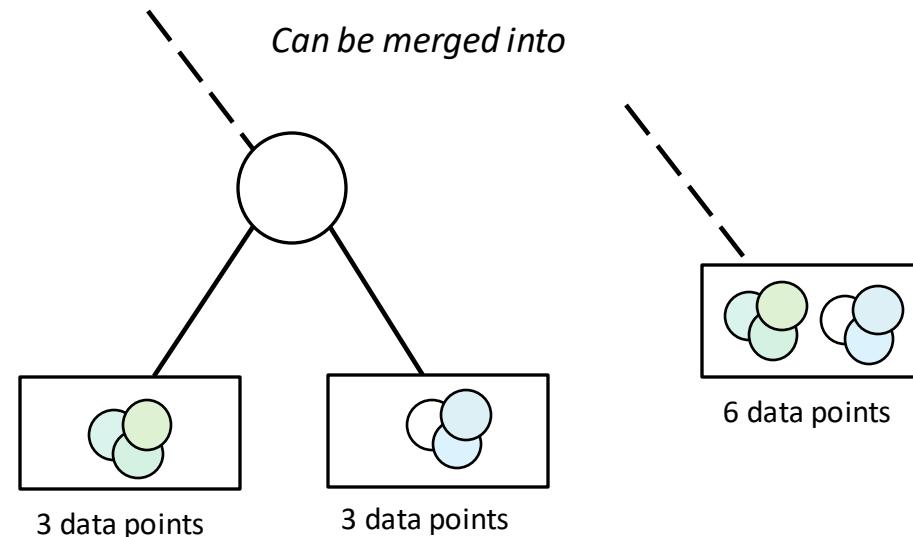


CPU traverses the tree

Computation at leaf nodes  
is offloaded to accelerator

# Accelerating Traverse-compute workloads on SMHSs

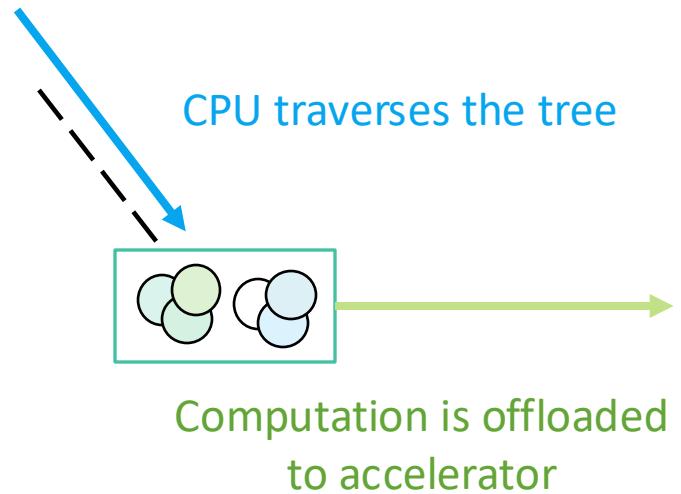
- The tree can be **parameterized** by how many data points exist on the leaf nodes.



## Larger node sizes tradeoffs

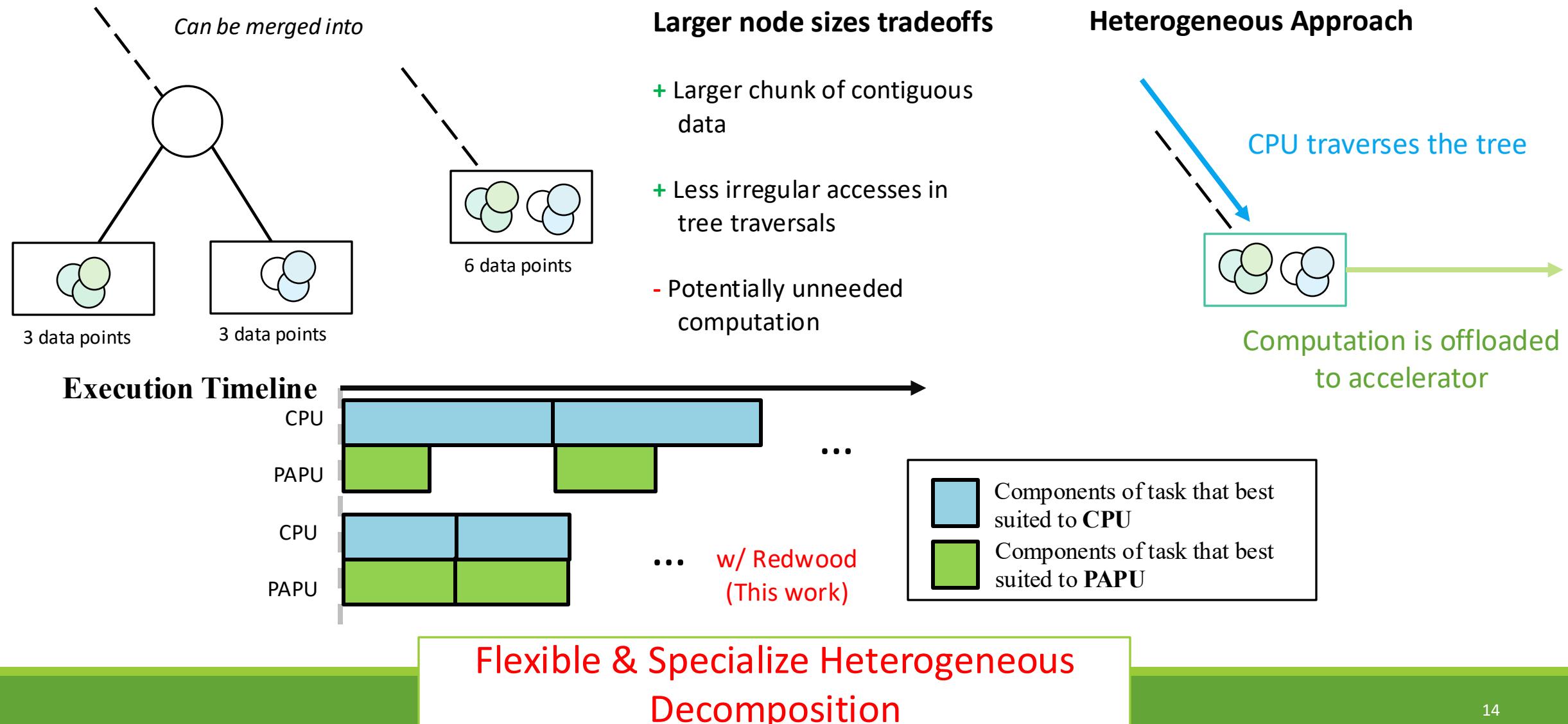
- + Larger chunk of contiguous data
- + Less irregular accesses in tree traversals
- Potentially unneeded computation

## Heterogeneous Approach



# Accelerating Traverse-compute workloads on SMHSs

- The tree can be **parameterized** by how many data points exist on the leaf nodes.



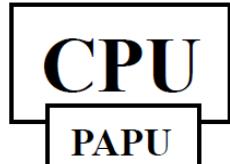
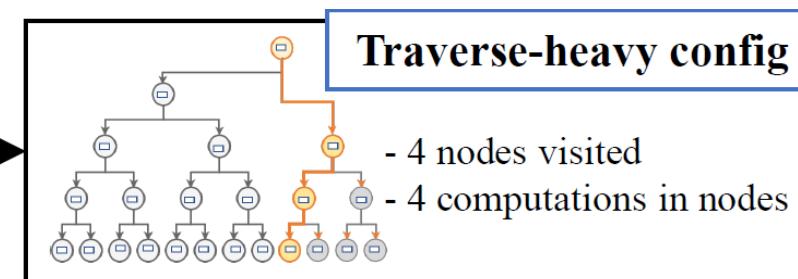
# This Work: Redwood Overview

## Redwood APIs

```
void Traverse (Node node, Point q)
{
 if(node.IsLeaf())
 result += Compute(node.data, q);
 else
 for(child in node.children)
 Traverse(child, q);
}
```

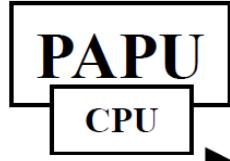
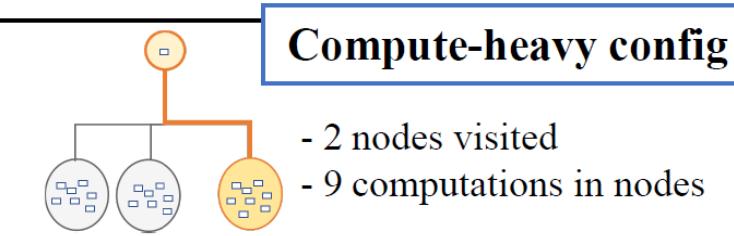
Traverse-Compute  
Workloads

Flexible  
Decomposition



Intel i5-10210U CPU @ 1.60GHz  
Intel UHD Graphics 620

Nearest Neighbor **3.36x faster**  
at optimal leaf node size 256



ARM Cortex-A57 CPU @ 1.43 GHz  
NVIDIA Maxwell

Nearest Neighbor **8.12x faster**  
at optimal leaf node size 1024

*Users implement tree applications using our APIs*



*Target systems w/ different CPU/PAPU throughputs*



Intel SoCs



Nvidia SoCs



# Redwood: APIs and Data Structures

CPU Sequential Code (NN)

```
tree = KDTree()
min_dist = 99999.9999
def traverse(node, q):
 if is_leaf(node):

 # Reduce Leaf Node
 for i in range(node.leaf_size):
 kernel_func(q, node.data[i])

 else:
 dist = compute_dist(q, node.data[0])
 min_dist = min(min_dist, dist)
 traverse(node.leaf_child)
 if check_other_side(dist):
 traverse(node.right_child)
```

*Implemented  
using:*

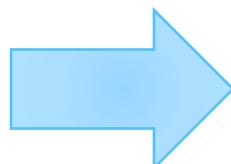
w/ Redwood API

```
tree = KDTree(leaf_size=32)
redwood_set_query(q)

def traverse(node, q):

 if is_leaf(node):
 redwood_compute_leaf(node.data())

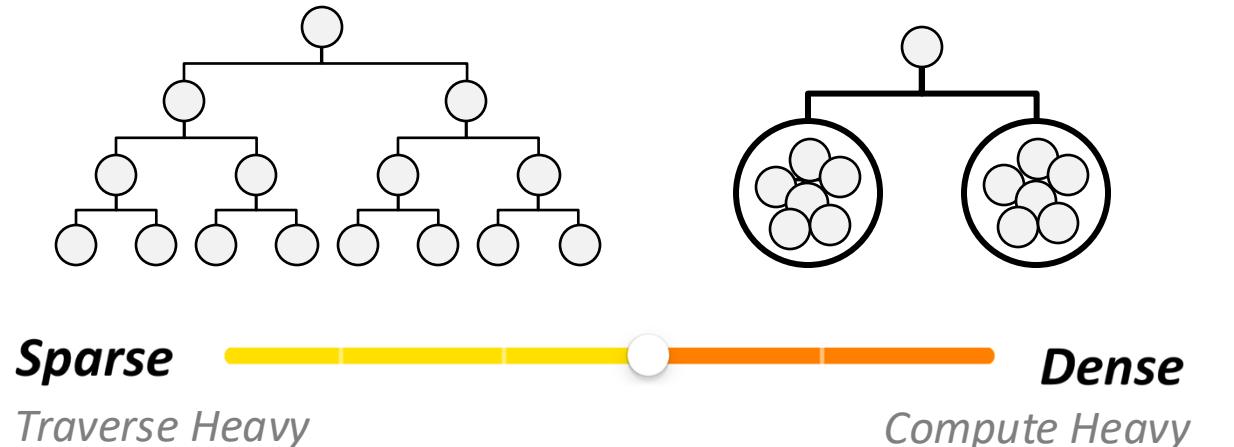
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# Redwood Heterogenous Optimizations

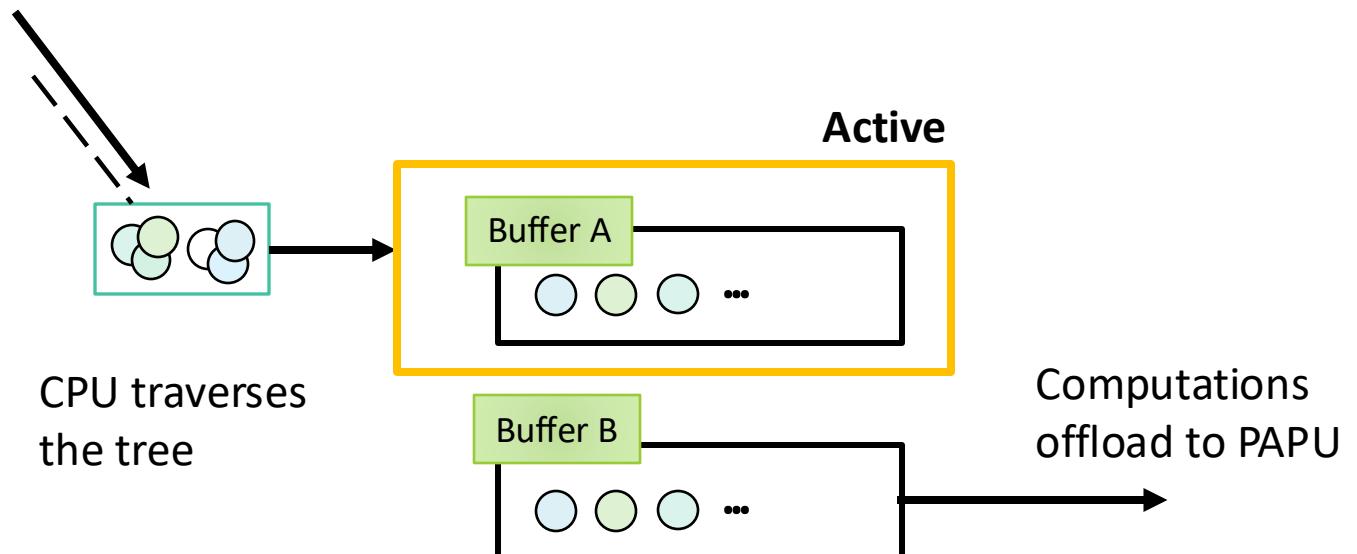
## Flexible Leaf Size Configuration

- Adapt to various heterogeneous systems with different relative throughput between the CPU and the PAPU



## Automatic Batching & Ping-pong Buffering

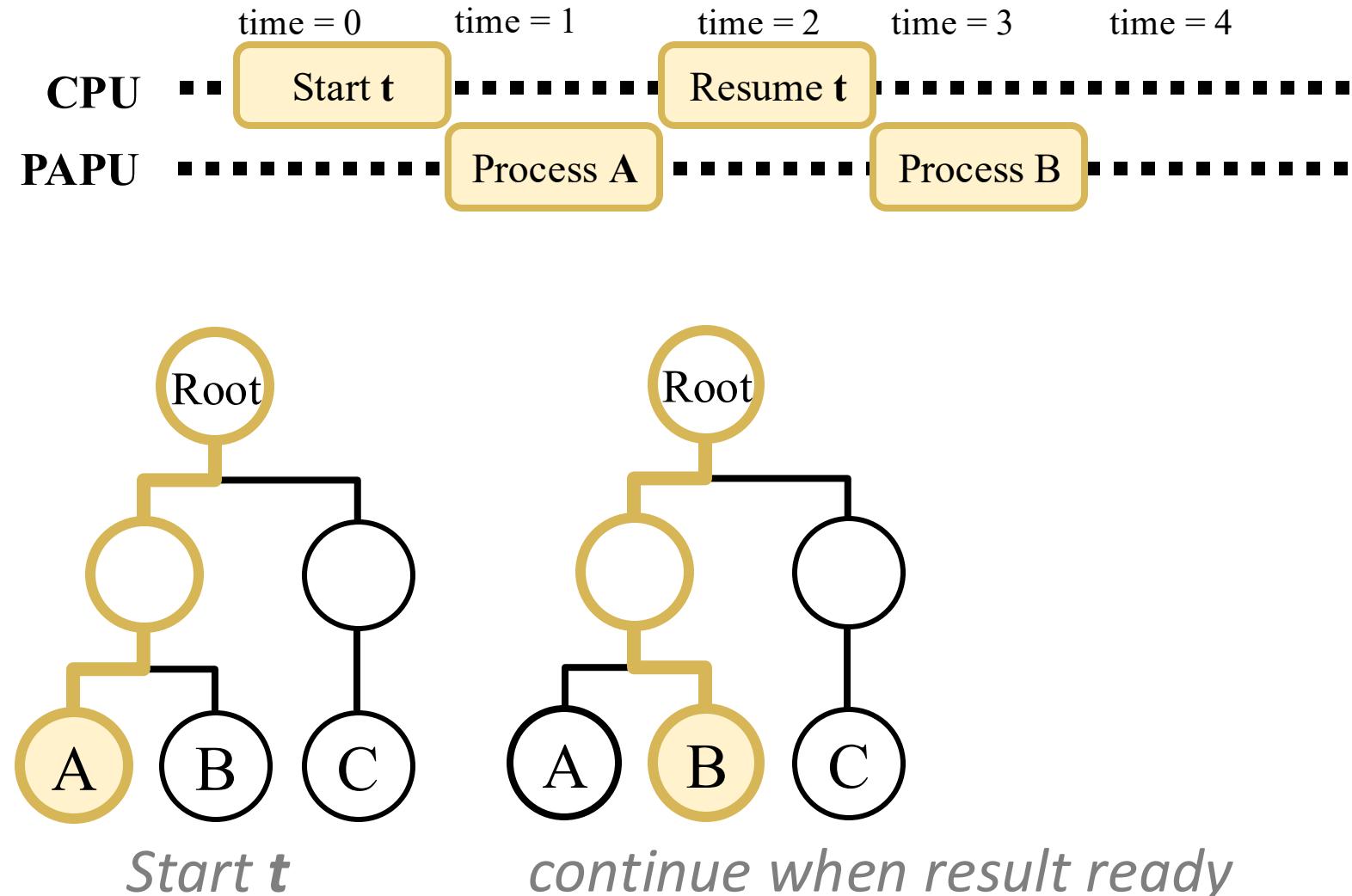
- Fuse multiple small computations to a larger GPU kernel
- Overcome overheads related to GPU kernel launching & synchronization



# Redwood Heterogenous Optimizations

## Traverser Runtime

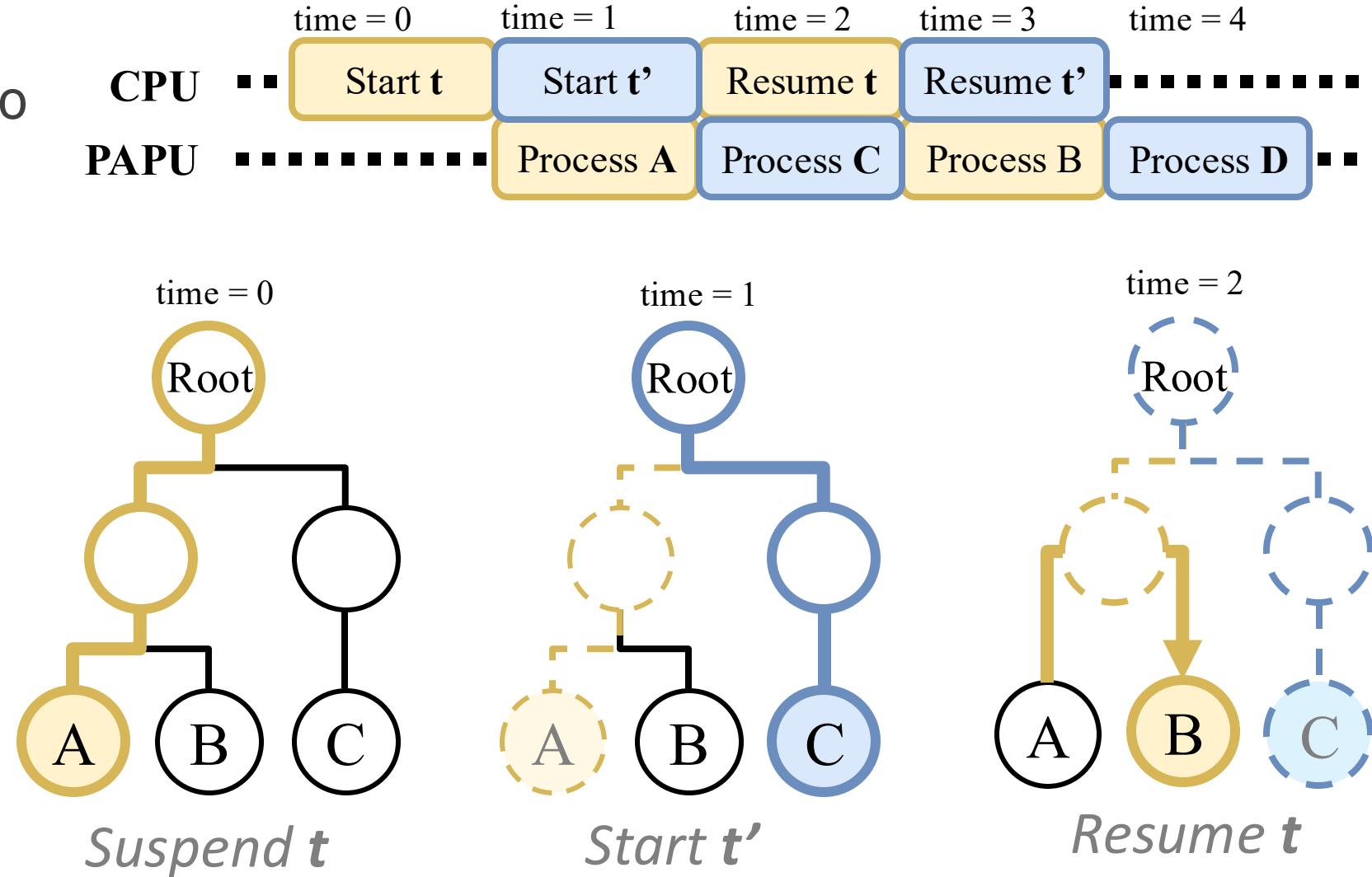
- Allow a single CPU thread to execute many traversals concurrently to **avoid stalling** when a traversal depends on a PAPU accelerated value



# Redwood Heterogenous Optimizations

## Traverser Runtime

- Allow a single CPU thread to execute many traversals concurrently to **avoid stalling** when a traversal depends on a PAPU accelerated value
- Light weight Coroutine*
  - Suspend**
  - Resume**



# Grove Benchmark Suite for SMHS

Grove contains **9** traverse-compute workloads

Can be found in many applications

- *Facial recognition*
- *Anomaly detection*
- *Outlier detection*
- *Particle simulation*

Tree Structures

- Octree/quadtree
- k-d tree

Three Algorithms

- Barnes Hut
- Nearest Neighbor
- k Nearest Neighbor

Computation Patterns

- Aggregation (*sum*)
- Reduction (*e.g., min*)
- Sorting

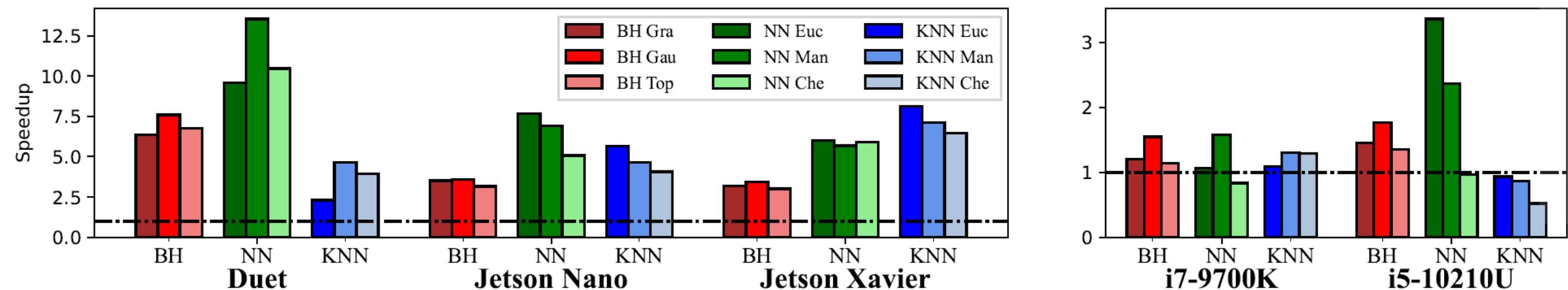
Various Distance Metrics

- Euclidean
- Manhattan
- Chebyshev

# Platforms Evaluated

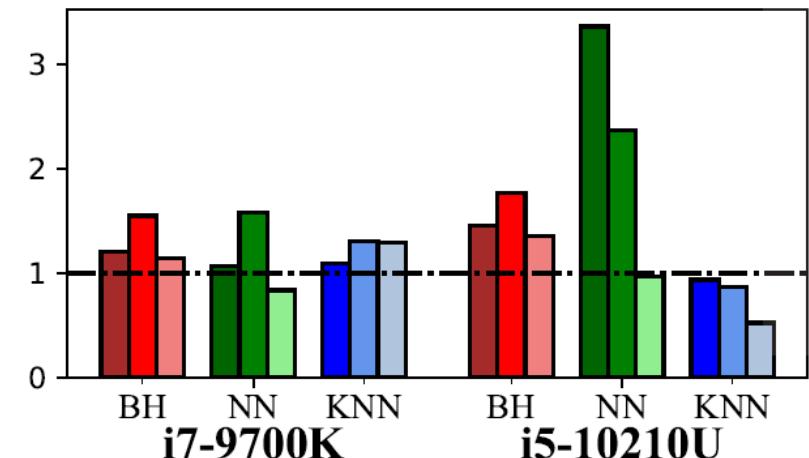
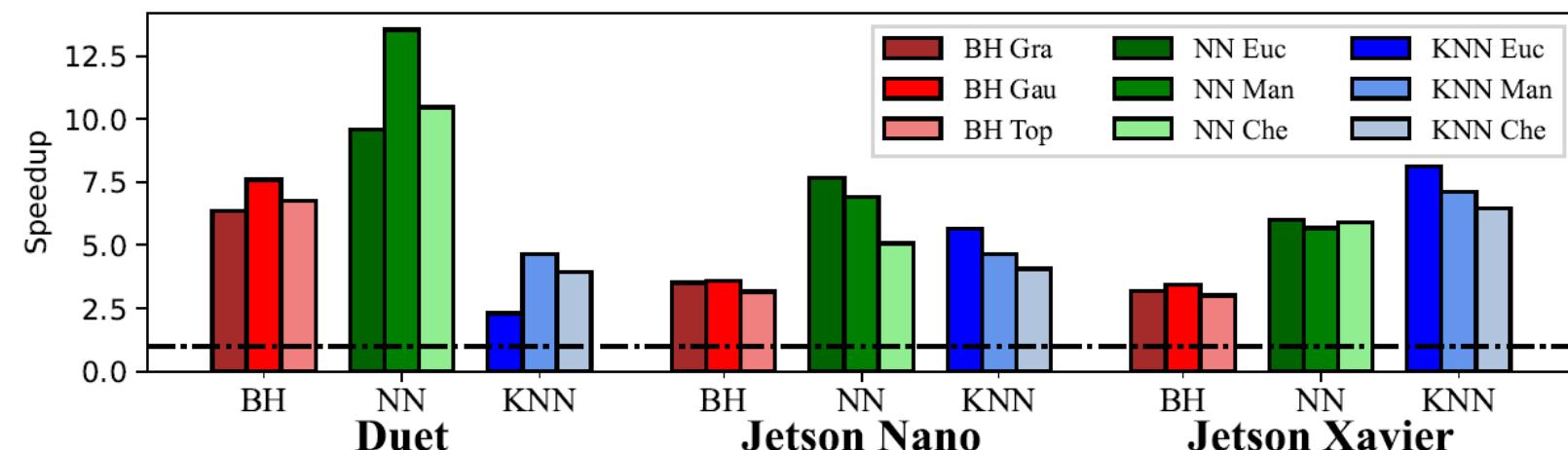
|                                                         | Platform                                      | Backend | CPU                           | CPU Frequency         | Accelerator                   | Accelerator frequency |
|---------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|---------|-------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Powerful NVIDIA GPUs<br>+<br>Little ARM CPUs            | <b>NVIDIA Jetson Nano</b>                     | CUDA    | ARM Cortex-A57                | 1.43 GHz              | 128-core Maxwell              | 921 Mhz               |
|                                                         | <b>NVIDIA Jetson Xavier NX</b>                | CUDA    | Carmel ARMv8.2                | 1.5 GHz               | 384-core Volta                | 1.21 GHz              |
| Little Intel GPUs<br>+<br>Powerful Intel CPUs           | <b>Intel i7-9700K</b>                         | SYCL    | i7-9700K                      | 3.60 GHz/<br>4.20 GHz | Intel UHD Graphics,<br>24 EUs | 350 MHz/<br>1.20 GHz  |
|                                                         | <b>Intel i5-10210U</b>                        | SYCL    | i5-10210U                     | 1.60 GHz/<br>4.90 GHz | Intel UHD Graphics,<br>24 EUs | 300 MHz/<br>1.10 GHz  |
| Tiny in-order CPUs<br>w/ Efficient eFPGA<br>integration | <b>Duet [1]</b><br><i>(simulated in gem5)</i> | HLS     | RISC-V<br>TimingSimpleCP<br>U | 1.5 GHz               | Duet<br>eFPGA                 | 333MHz                |

# Grove Results Overview



Speedups of the best heterogeneous configuration vs. the best homogeneous configuration of Grove.

# Grove Results Overview



## Highlights

**Duet**  
highest **13.53x**  
geomean **6.43x**

**Xavier**  
highest **8.12x**  
geomean **5.13x**

**Nano**  
highest **6.9x**  
geomean **4.71x**

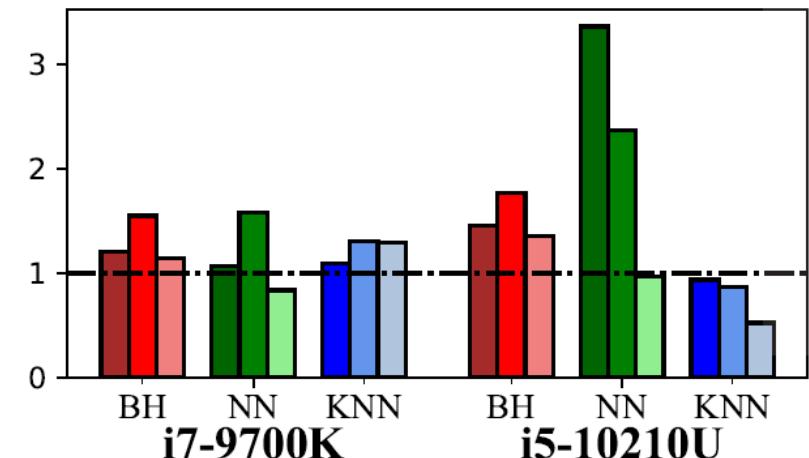
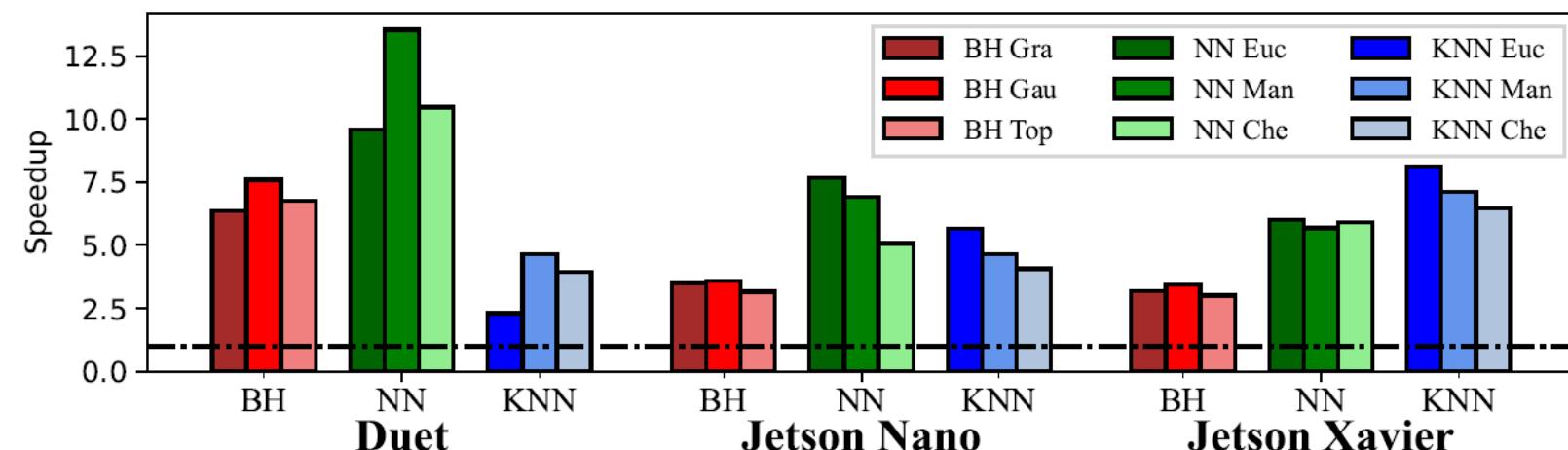
**Intels**  
highest **3.36x**  
**even has slow downs**

*With minimal kernel launching overhead*

*Powerful NVIDIA GPUs  
But has small CPUs*

*Intel OoO is already fast,  
but has small GPUs*

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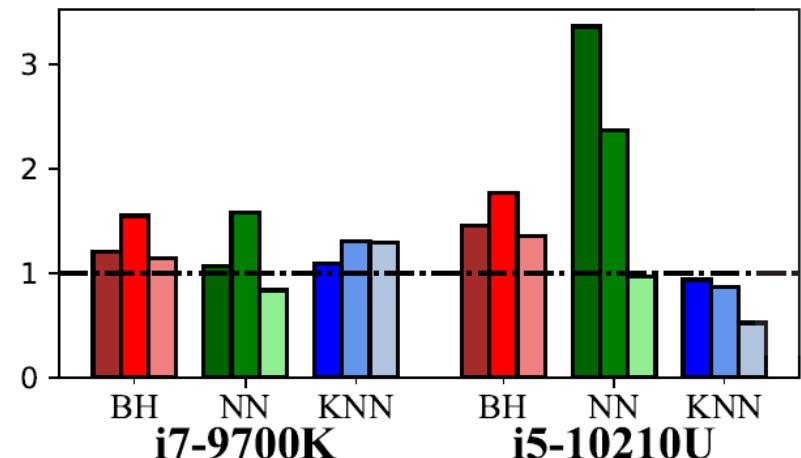
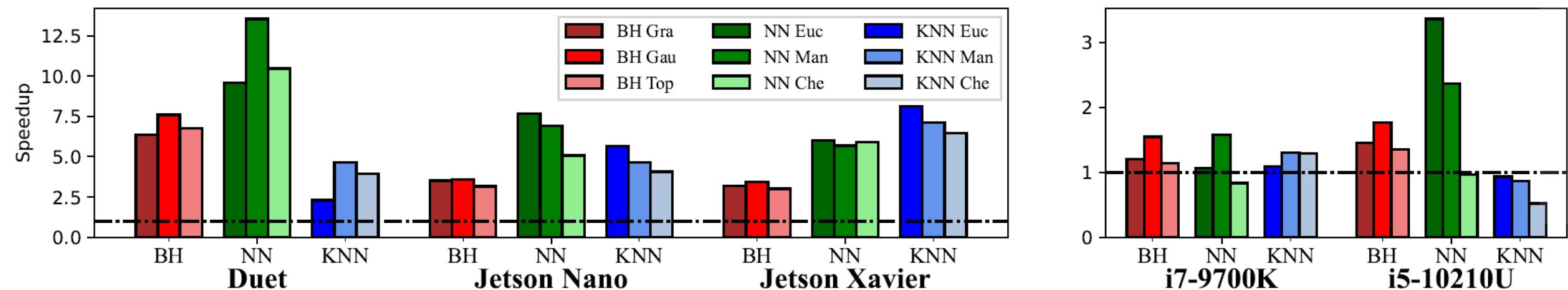
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**even has slow downs**

Original Duet Paper[1] reported **~3x** speedup in BH algorithm. With Redwood's flexible task decomposition, we achieved **~6x** speedup

*Intel OoO is already fast,  
but has small GPUs*

# Grove Results Overview



**With Powerful Accelerators, more leaf node computations can be offloaded to GPU/FPGAs.**

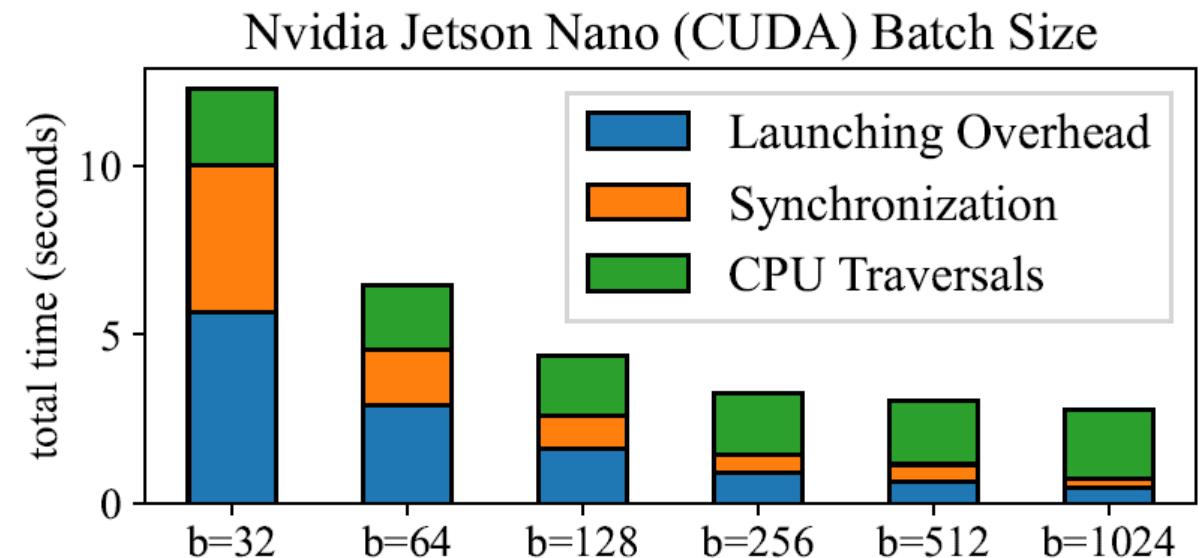
|                | BH Gra       | BH Gau       | BH Top       | NN Euc         | NN Man         | NN Che        | KNN Euc       | KNN Man       | KNN Che       | Average       | Ratio       |
|----------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|----------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|-------------|
| Jetson Nano    | 256/8        | 256/8        | 128/8        | 512/256        | 512/256        | 512/256       | 256/128       | 256/128       | 256/256       | 327/115       | 2.26        |
| Jetson Xavier  | 128/16       | 128/8        | 128/8        | 1024/128       | 1024/256       | 512/64        | 512/64        | 512/64        | 512/64        | 498/75        | 6.67        |
| i7-9700k       | 64/8         | 128/8        | 128/8        | 256/64         | 256/64         | 128/64        | 64/64         | 64/64         | 64/64         | 128/45        | 2.82        |
| i5-10210U      | 64/8         | 64/8         | 64/8         | 256/64         | 256/64         | 256/64        | 32/64         | 32/64         | 32/64         | 117/45        | 2.59        |
| Duet           | 512/4        | 512/2        | 512/4        | 512/32         | 512/32         | 256/16        | 128/16        | 128/32        | 128/32        | 355/19        | 18.82       |
| <b>Average</b> | <b>205/9</b> | <b>218/7</b> | <b>192/7</b> | <b>512/109</b> | <b>512/134</b> | <b>333/93</b> | <b>198/67</b> | <b>198/70</b> | <b>198/96</b> | <b>285/66</b> | <b>4.33</b> |

Optimal leaf node size for heterogeneous (left) vs homogeneous (right) for each workload and platform

# We have several insights in the paper

## Kernel Submission Cost

- Traverse-compute applications **frequently** invoke small kernels
- Useful works are shown in **Green**
- **Orange/Blue** are overheads
- Low-cost kernel submission is important for accelerating applications on edge devices



Batching multiple GPU kernels into a single/larger kernel helps amortizing kernel launching overhead

## Future work

- We are exploring more efficient CPU-PAPU communication methods

# Conclusion

- ✓ We identify a class of applications, *traverse-compute* applications, that are ideal for shared memory heterogeneous systems
- ✓ We present Redwood: a framework for writing heterogeneous traverse-compute workloads
- ✓ Using Redwood, we implemented Grove, a benchmark suite contains 9 traverse-compute applications
- ✓ Finally evaluated 5 systems, achieving up to **13.53x** speedups (geomean of **3.01x**)



UC Santa Cruz Redwood Grove

## Team

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## Open-Source Repo

Redwood & Grove at

<https://github.com/xuyanwen2012/redwood-rt>

