

# Real Processing in the Memory with Memristive Memory Processing Unit

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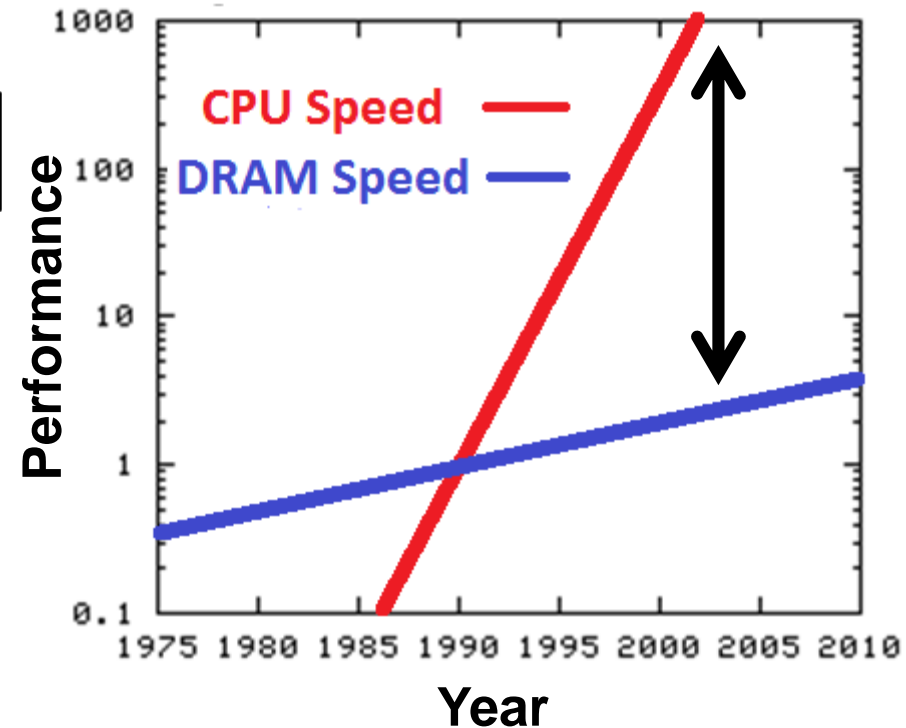
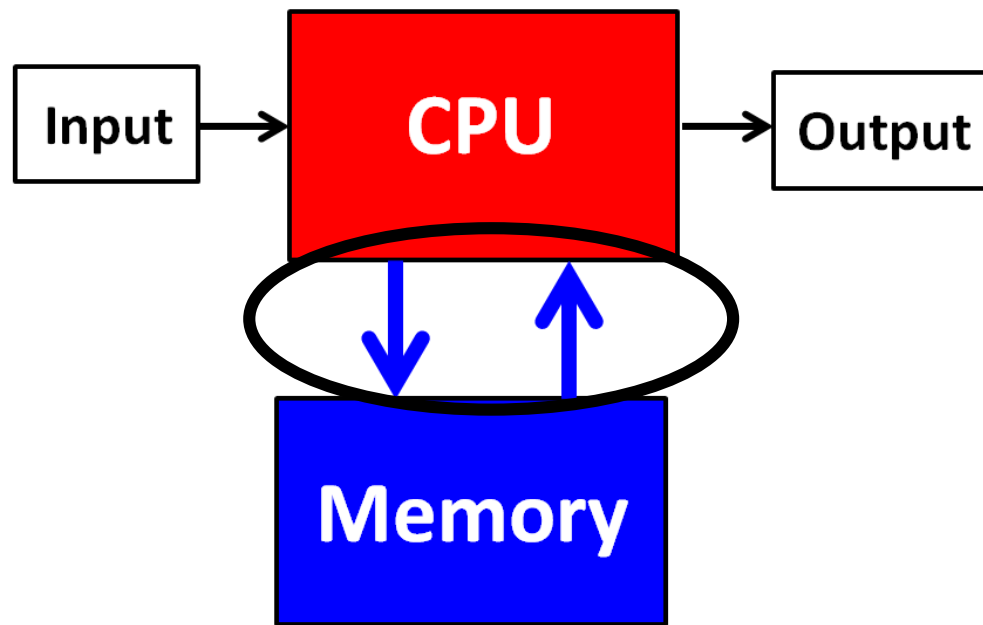
July 2019





**TECHNION**  
Israel Institute  
of Technology

# The External Memory Wall Problem von Neumann (Architecture) Bottleneck

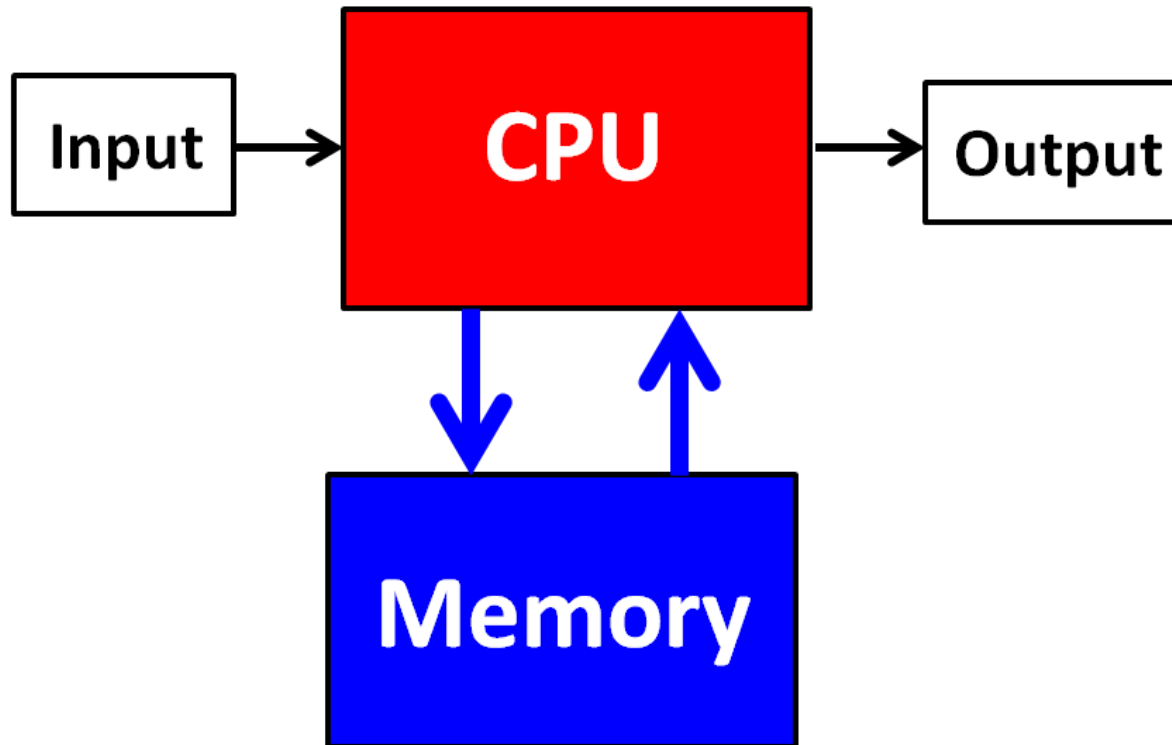


# And a Huge Energy Bottleneck

<b>Operation</b> (16-bit operand)	<b>Energy/Op</b> (45 nm)	<b>Cost</b> (vs. Add)
Add operation	0.18 pJ	1X
Load from on-chip SRAM	11 pJ	61X
<b>Send to off-chip DRAM</b>	<b>640 pJ</b>	<b>3,556X</b>

>1000X more energy to go to memory

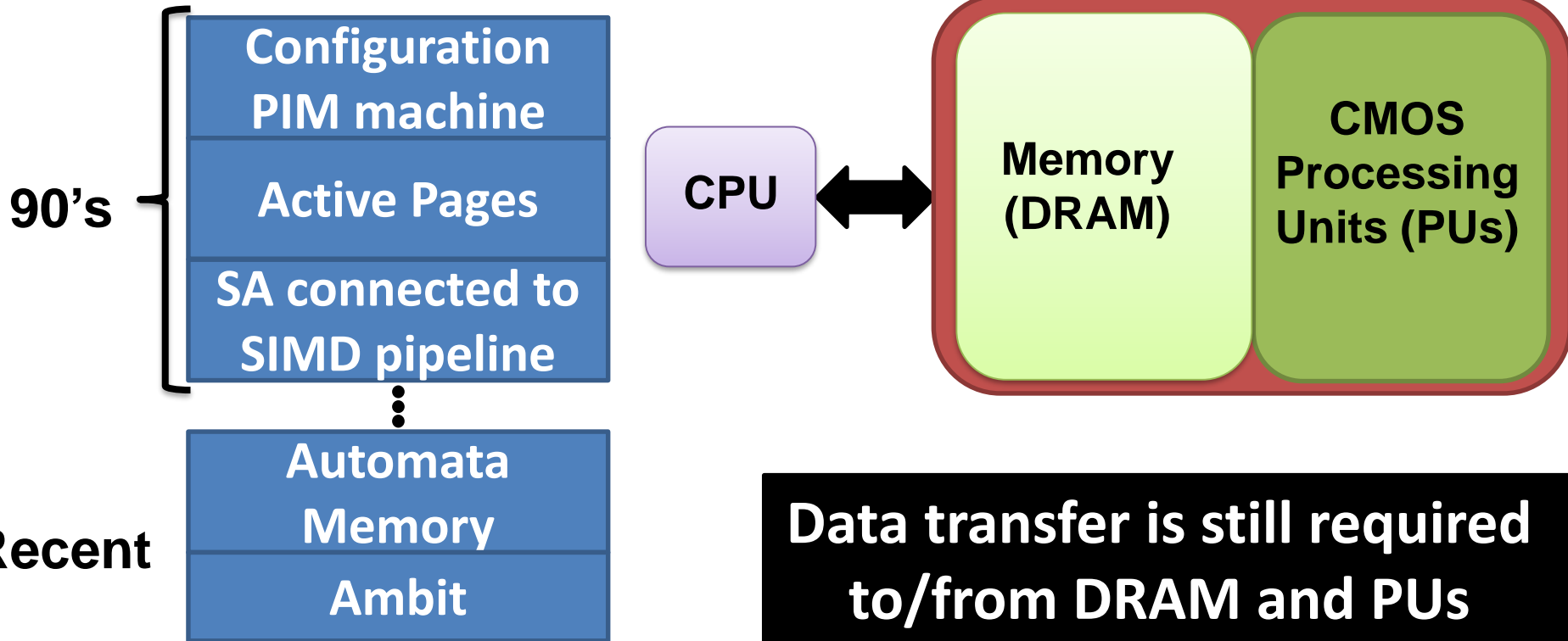
# Moving Computation to Memory



# Processing “In-Memory” (PIM)

## Reducing Data Movement

### Prior Art



H. S. Stone, “A Logic-in-Memory Computer,” *IEEE Transactions on Computers*, January 1970

M. Gokhale *et al.*, “Processing in memory: the Terasys massively parallel PIM array,” *Computer*, 1995

M. Oskin *et al.*, “Active pages: A computation model for intelligent memory,” *Comput. Archit. News*, 1998

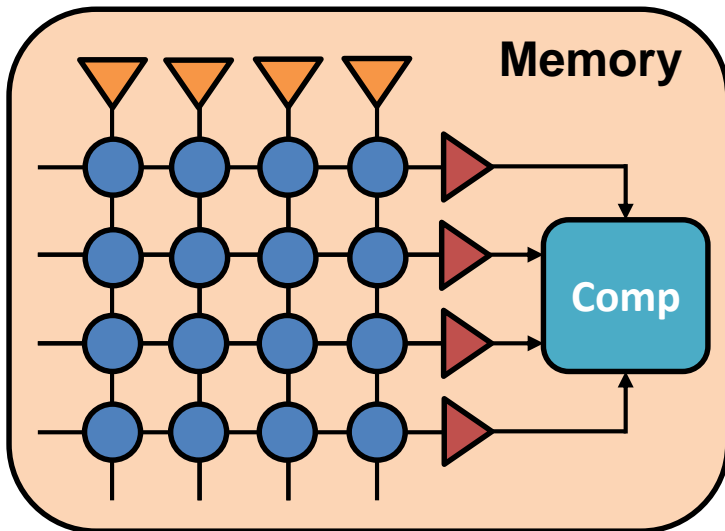
D. Elliott *et al.*, “Computational ram: Implementing processors in memory,” *IEEE Des. Test*, 1999

P. Dlugosch *et al.*, “An Efficient and Scalable Semiconductor Architecture for Parallel Automata Processing,” *IEEE TPDS*, 2014

V. Seshadri *et al.*, “Ambit: In-Memory Accelerator for Bulk Bitwise Operations Using Commodity DRAM Technology,” *MICRO* 2017

# Alleviating the Data Transfer Problem

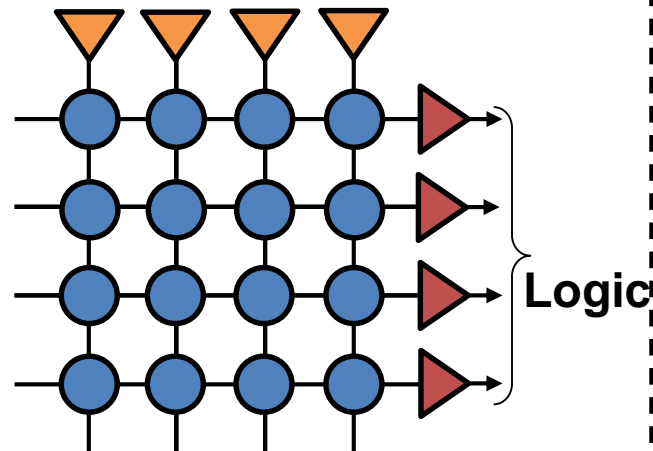
Computation  
using logic blocks



Dlugosch et al., *IEEE TPDS*, 2014  
Oskin et al., *Comput. Archit. News*, 1998  
Elliott et al., *IEEE Des. Test*, 1999  
Gokhale et al., *Computer*, 1995

**OUT-**

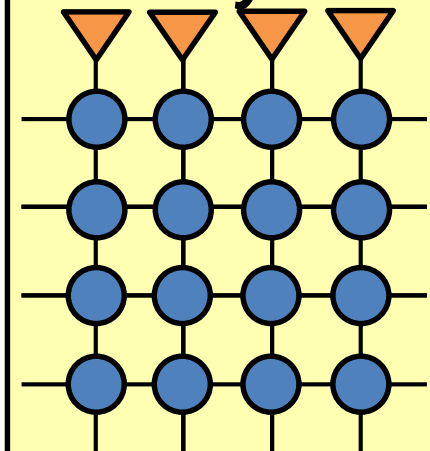
Computation  
using peripheral  
circuit



Li et al., *DAC*, 2016  
Seshadri et al., *MICRO* 2017  
Aga et al. *HPCA* 2017  
Eckert et al. *ISCA* 2018

**NEAR-**

Computation  
*using*  
*memory cells*

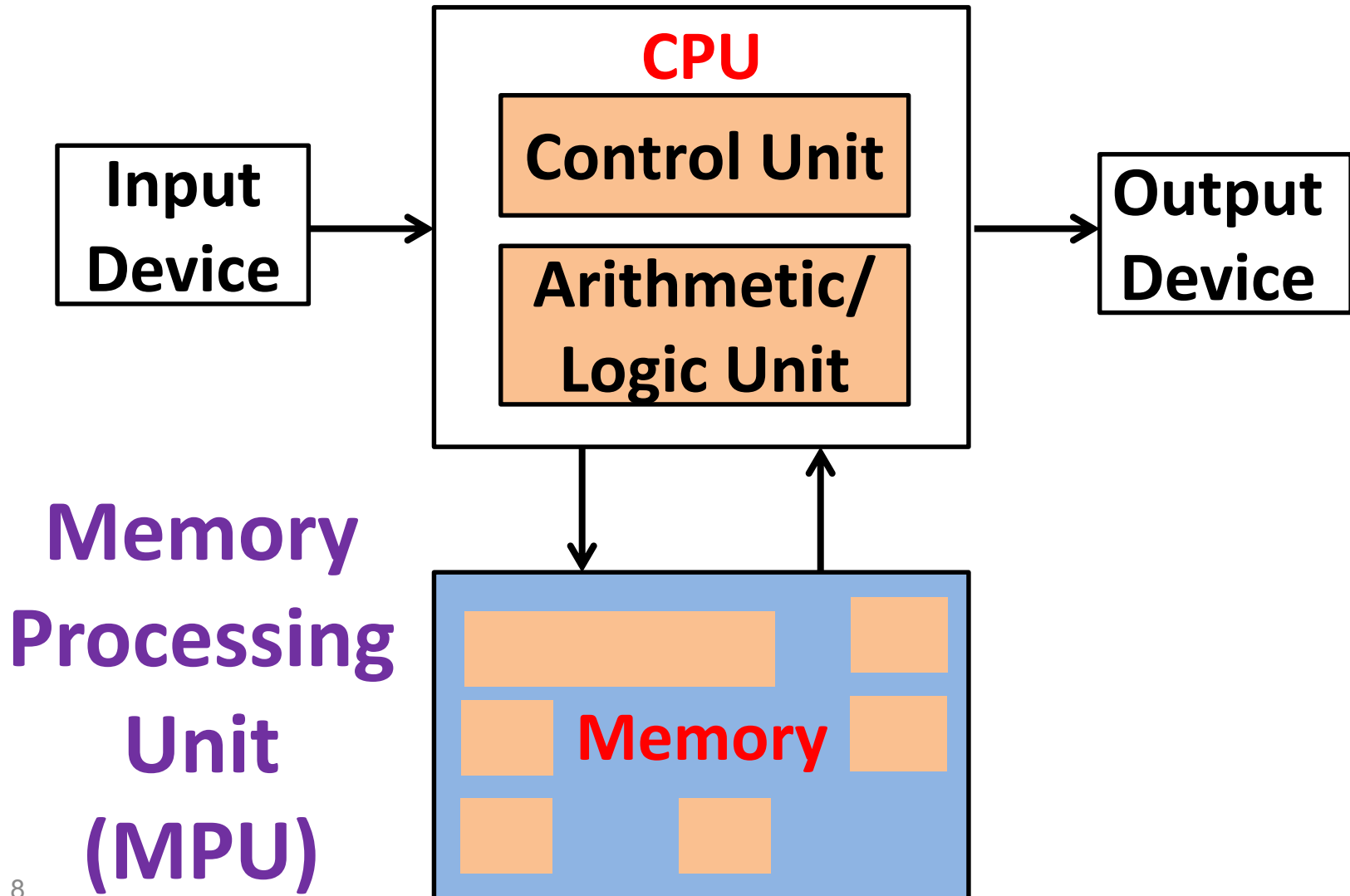


Kvatinsky et al., *TCAS-II*,  
2014  
Talati et al., *TNANO* 2016

**IN-**

# Real Computing within the Memory

## Beyond von Neumann Architecture

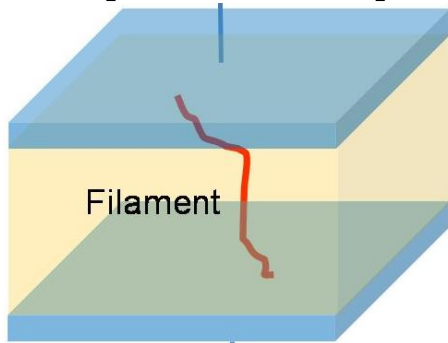




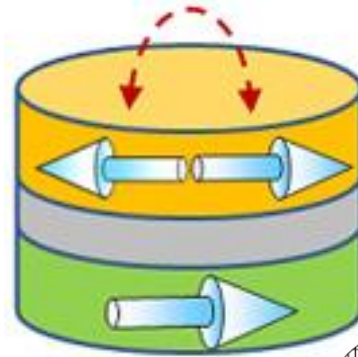
# Memristors

## Emerging Nonvolatile Memory Technologies

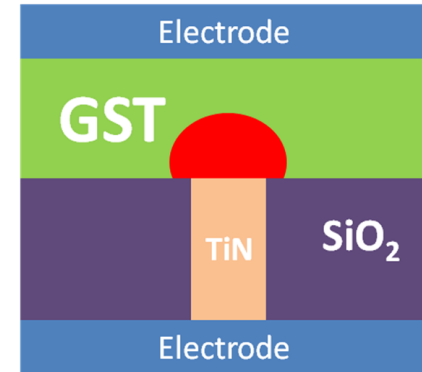
### Resistive RAM (RRAM)



### STT MRAM



### Phase Change Memory (PCM)



SONY



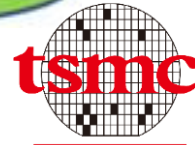
SAMSUNG

Panasonic



TOSHIBA

Crossbar



HITACHI



GLOBAL FOUNDRIES



CROCUS Technology  
Blossoming future

TOSHIBA

QUALCOMM

SAMSUNG



SAMSUNG

IBM

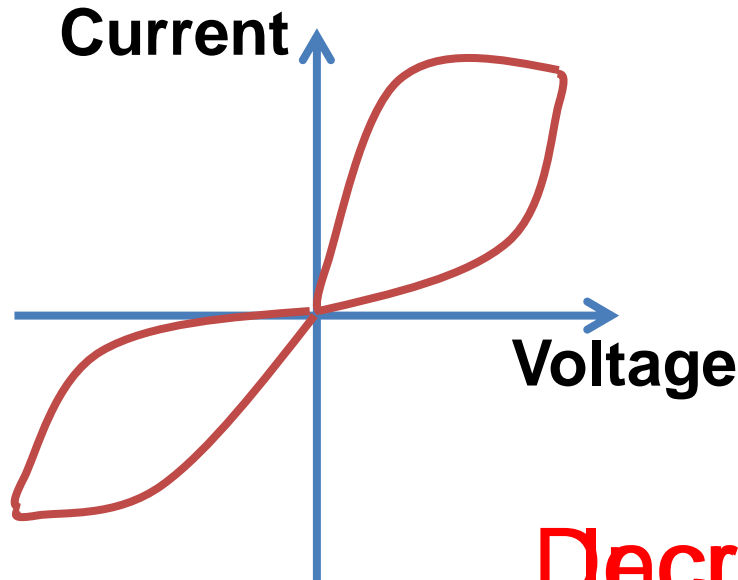
SK hynix



Micron

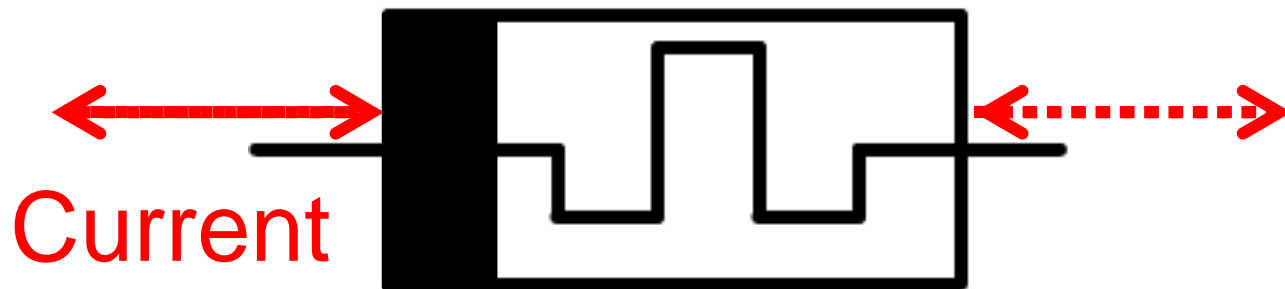
# Memristor – Memory Resistor

## Resistor with Varying Resistance



High resistive state  
( $R_{OFF}$ , LRS)

Decrease resistance



Memristor

# Attractive for Memory!

CMOS compatible

Rad hard

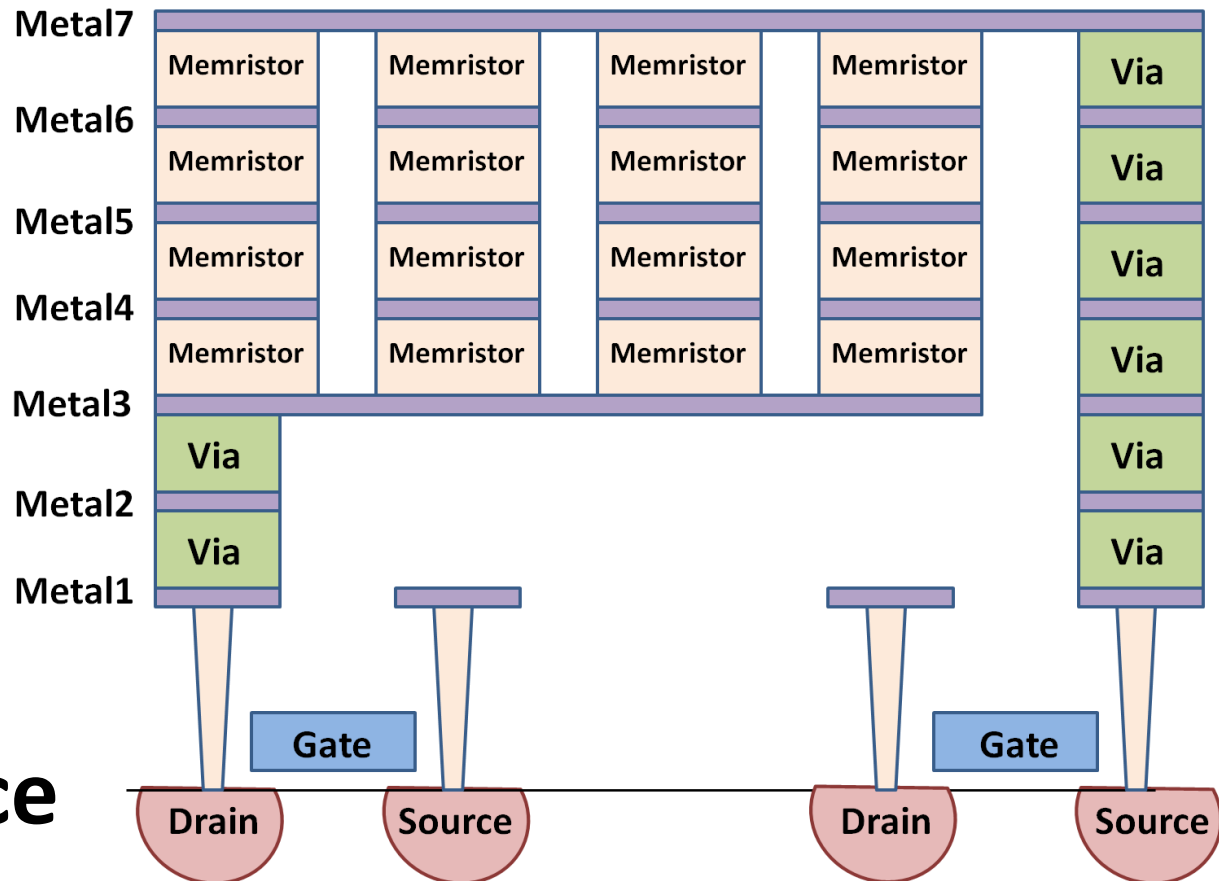
Dense

Nonvolatile

Fast

Low power

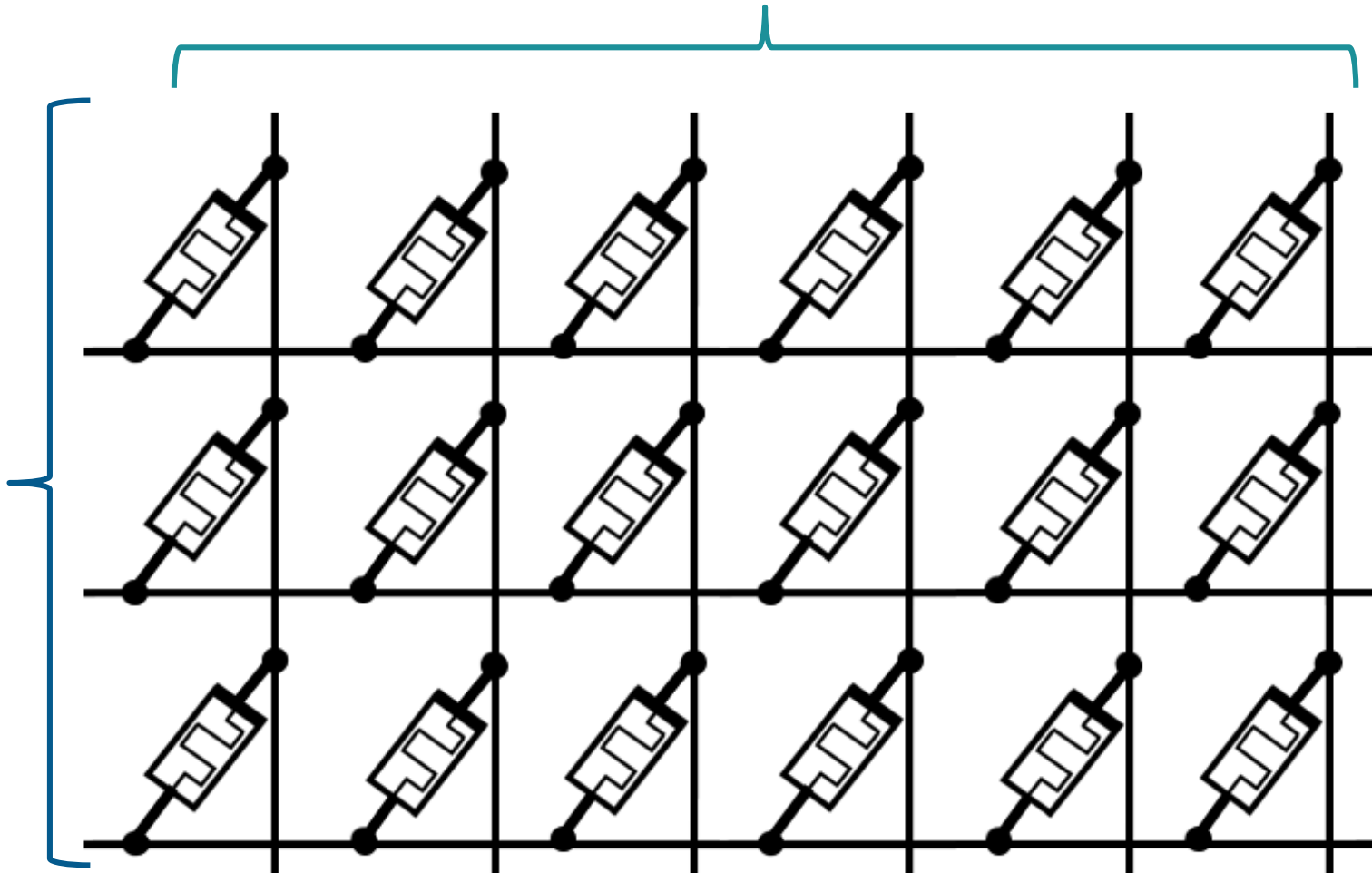
High endurance



# We Want to Compute within the Memristive Crossbar Memory

Bitlines

Wordlines

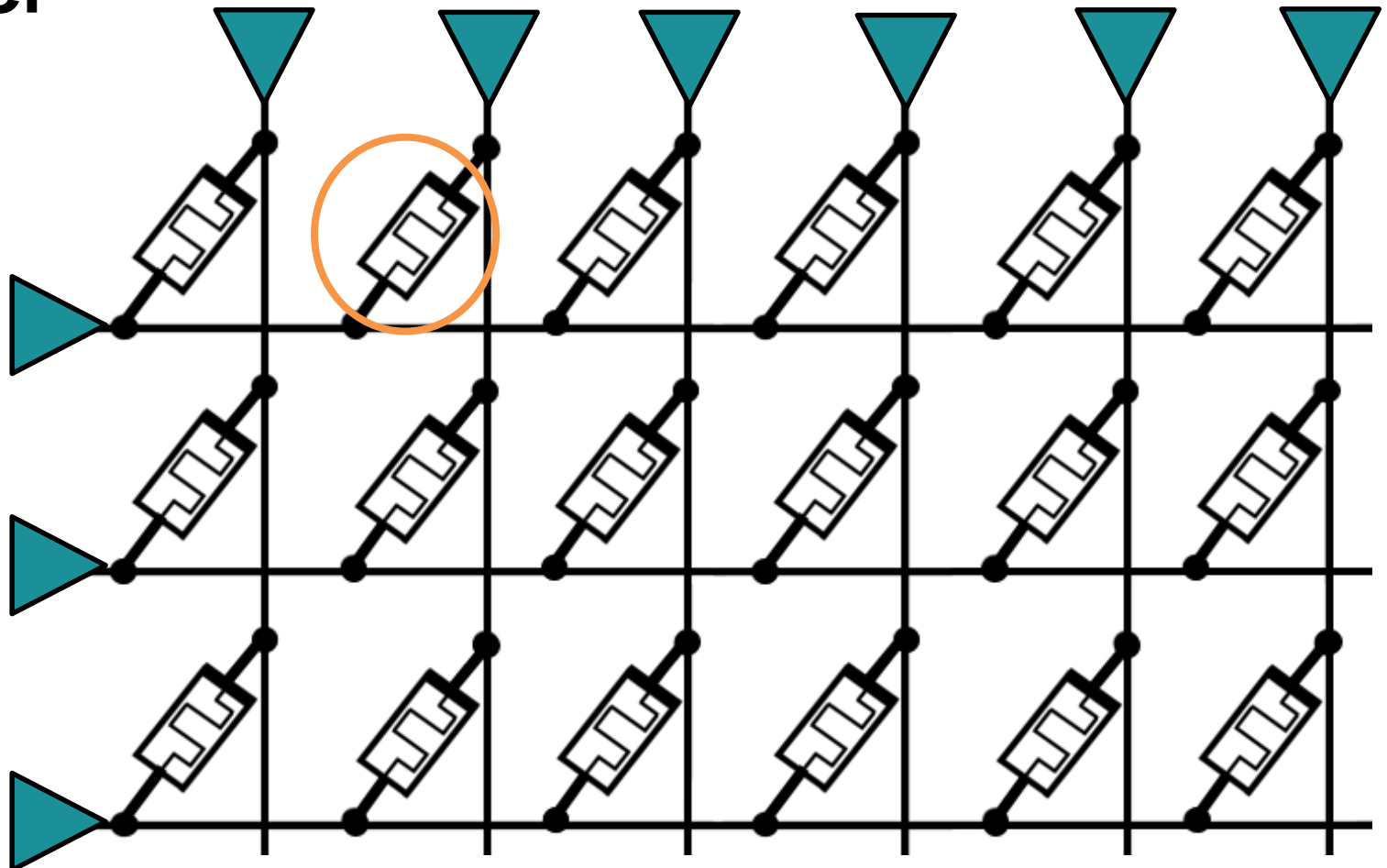


# Write Operation in the Memristive Memory

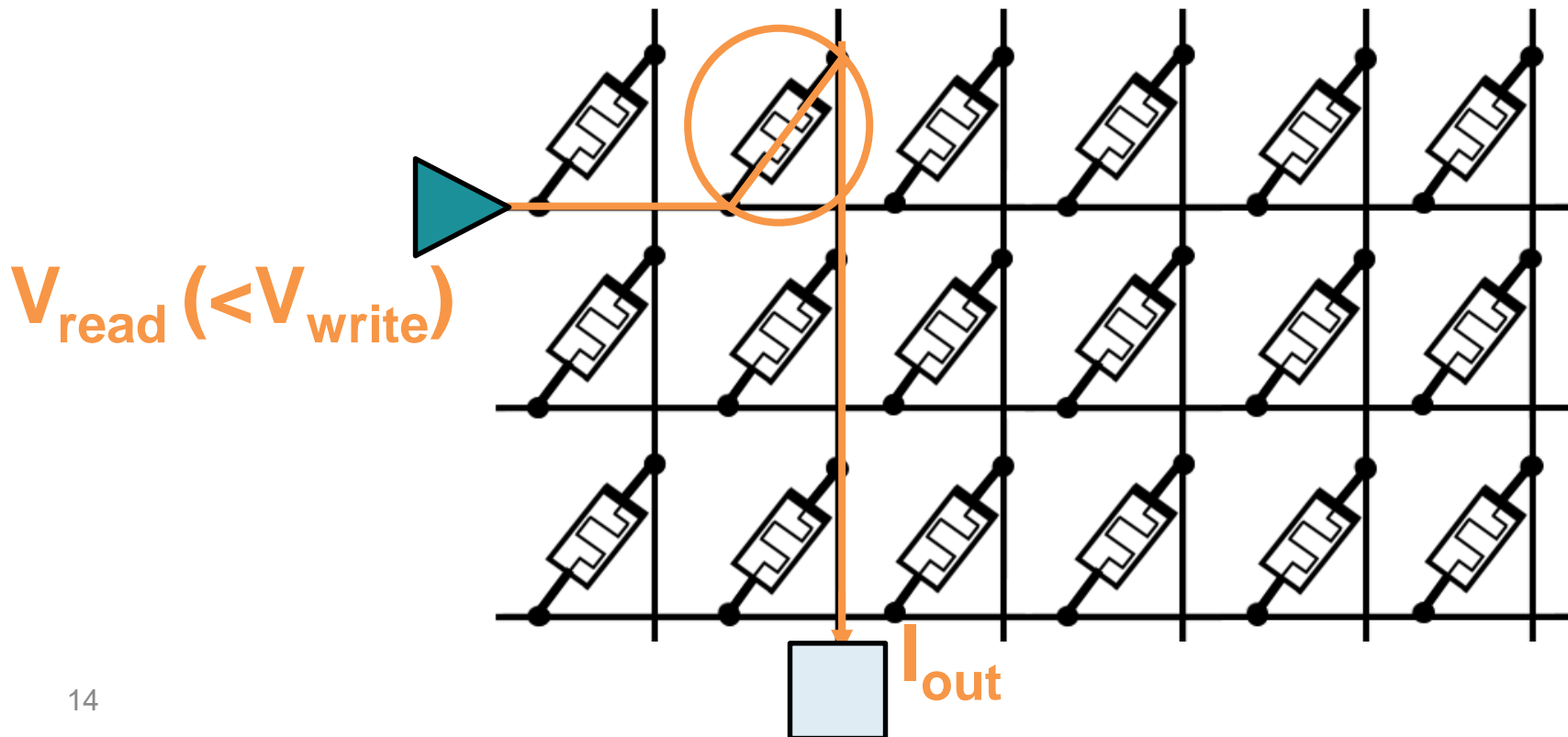
 Voltage Driver

 Ground

$V_{\text{write}}$

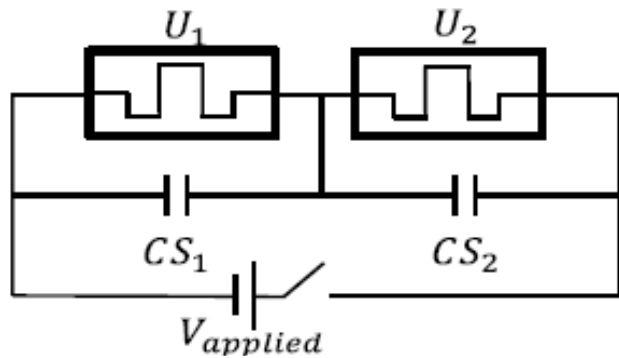


# Read Operation in the Memristive Memory



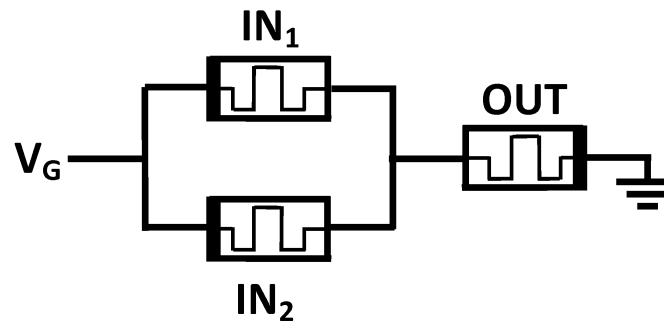
# Processing In-Memory with Memristors

## Logic Families



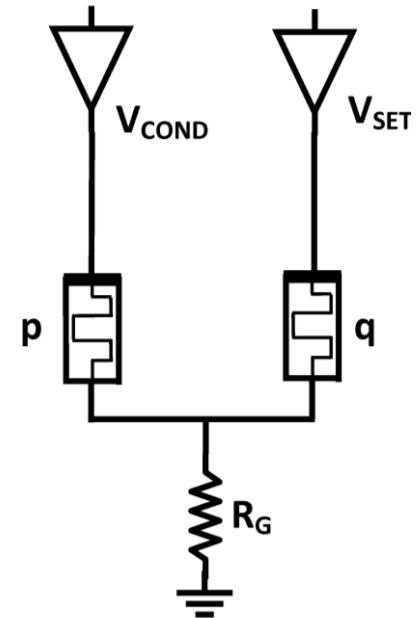
### Unipolar logic

Amrani *et al.*, VLSI-SoC 2016



### MAGIC

Kvatinsky *et al.*, TCAS-II 2014



### IMPLY

Borghetti *et al.*, Nature 2010

# MAGIC – Memristor Aided LoGIC

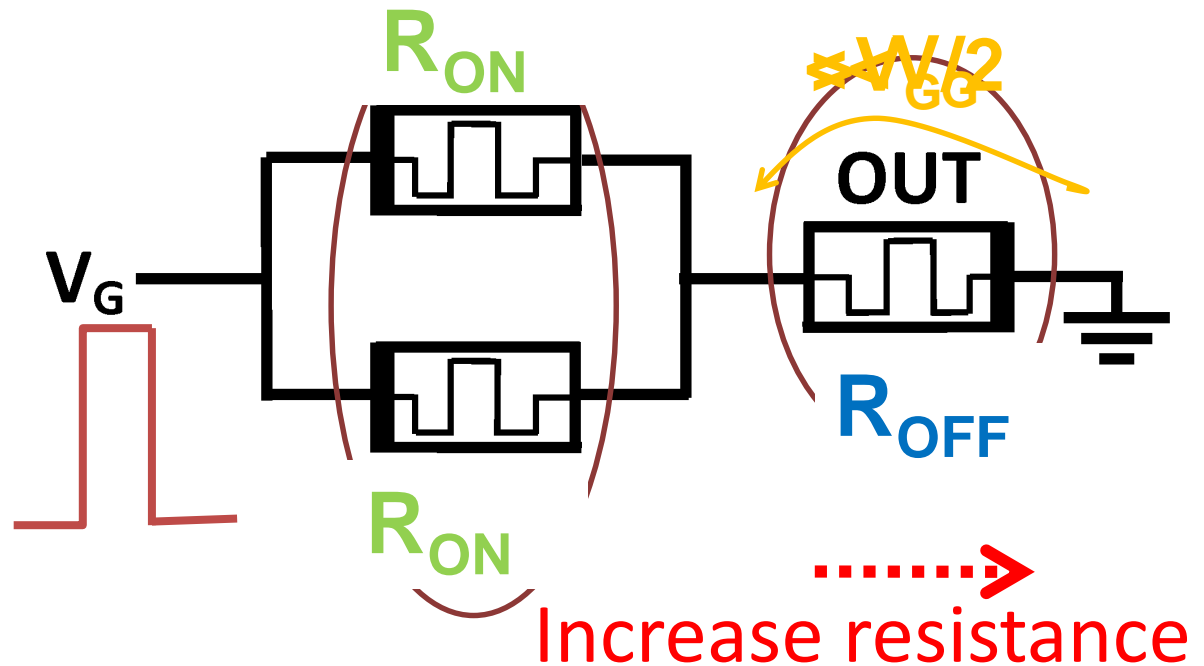
## Example of MAGIC NOR

Initialize OUT to  $R_{ON}$

$R_{OFF} \gg R_{ON}$

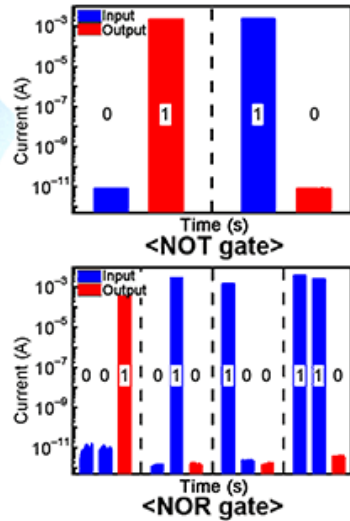
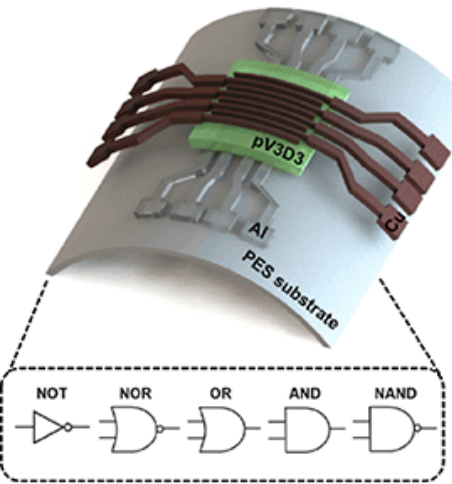
$R_{ON}$  = Logic '1'  
 $R_{OFF}$  = Logic '0'

IN <sub>1</sub>	IN <sub>2</sub>	NOR
0	0	1
0	1	0
1	0	0
1	1	0

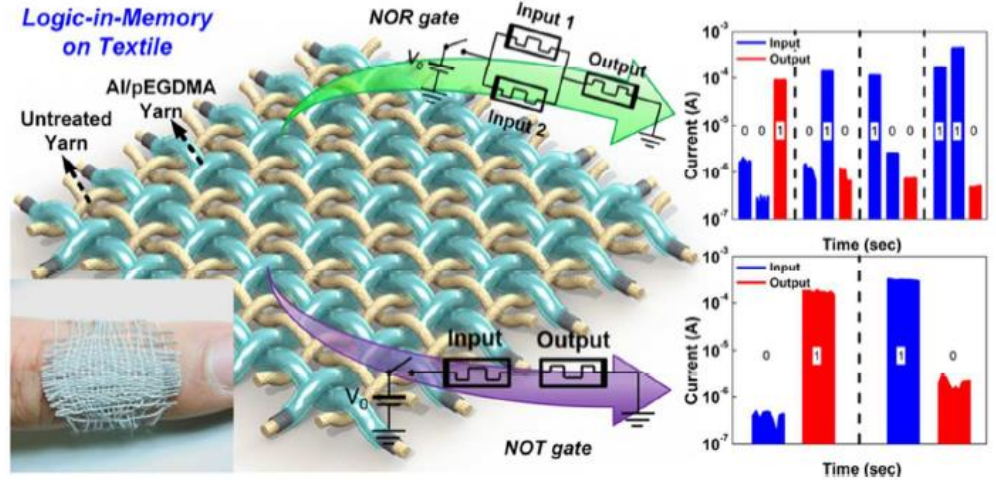




# Real MAGIC

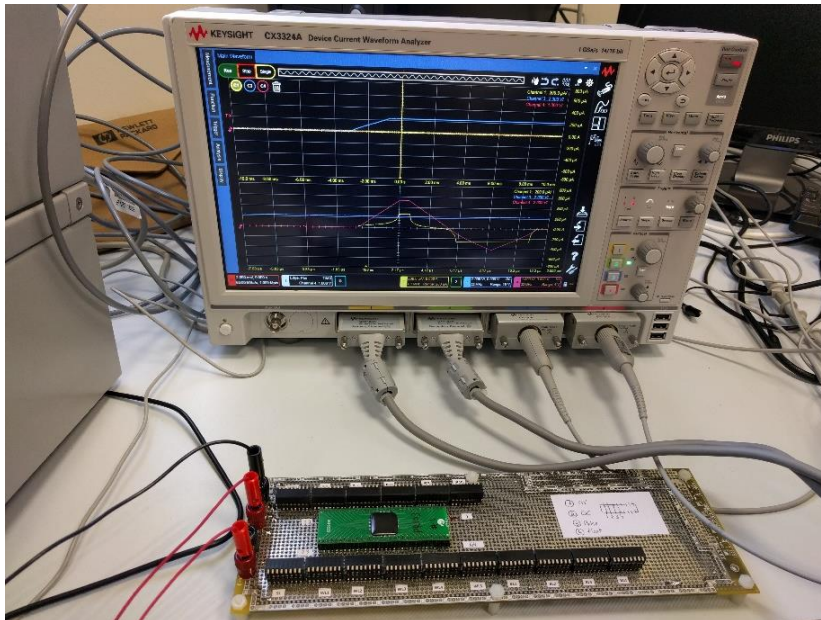


Logic-in-Memory on Textile



Jung et al., Nano Research, July 2017

Bae et al., Nano Letters, Oct. 2017



ASIC<sup>2</sup> *winbond*  
Our lab (HfOx based)

# Lab Demonstration

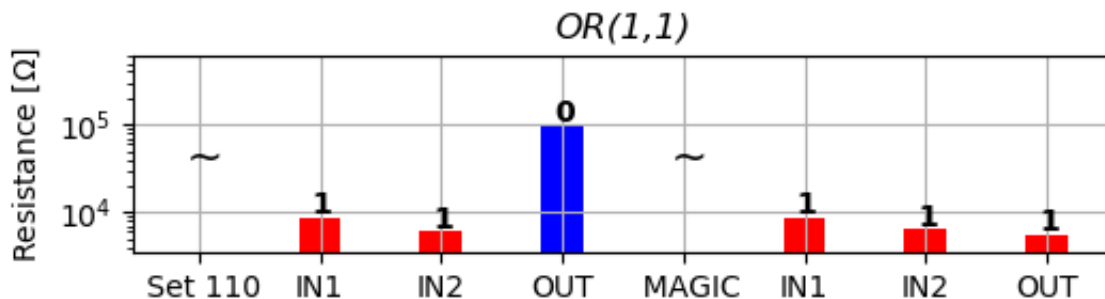
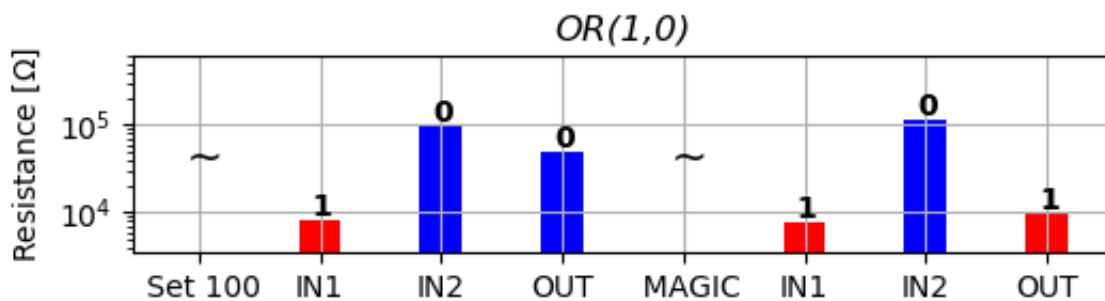
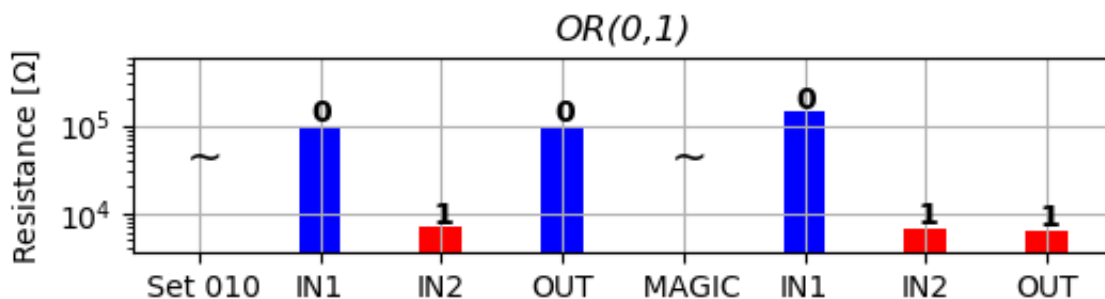
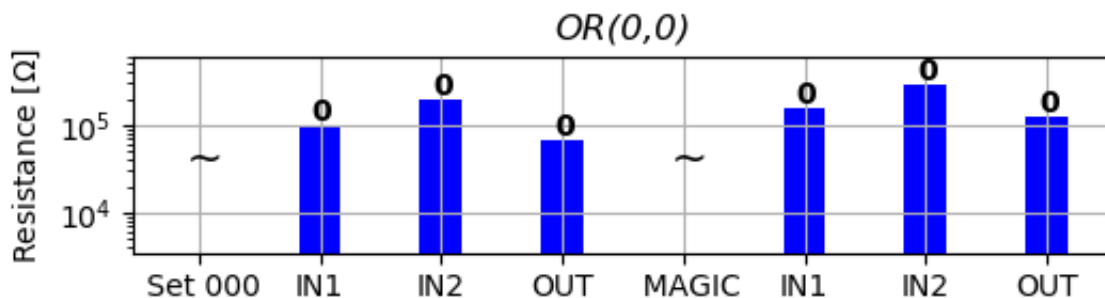
TaOx memristors

Fabricated by

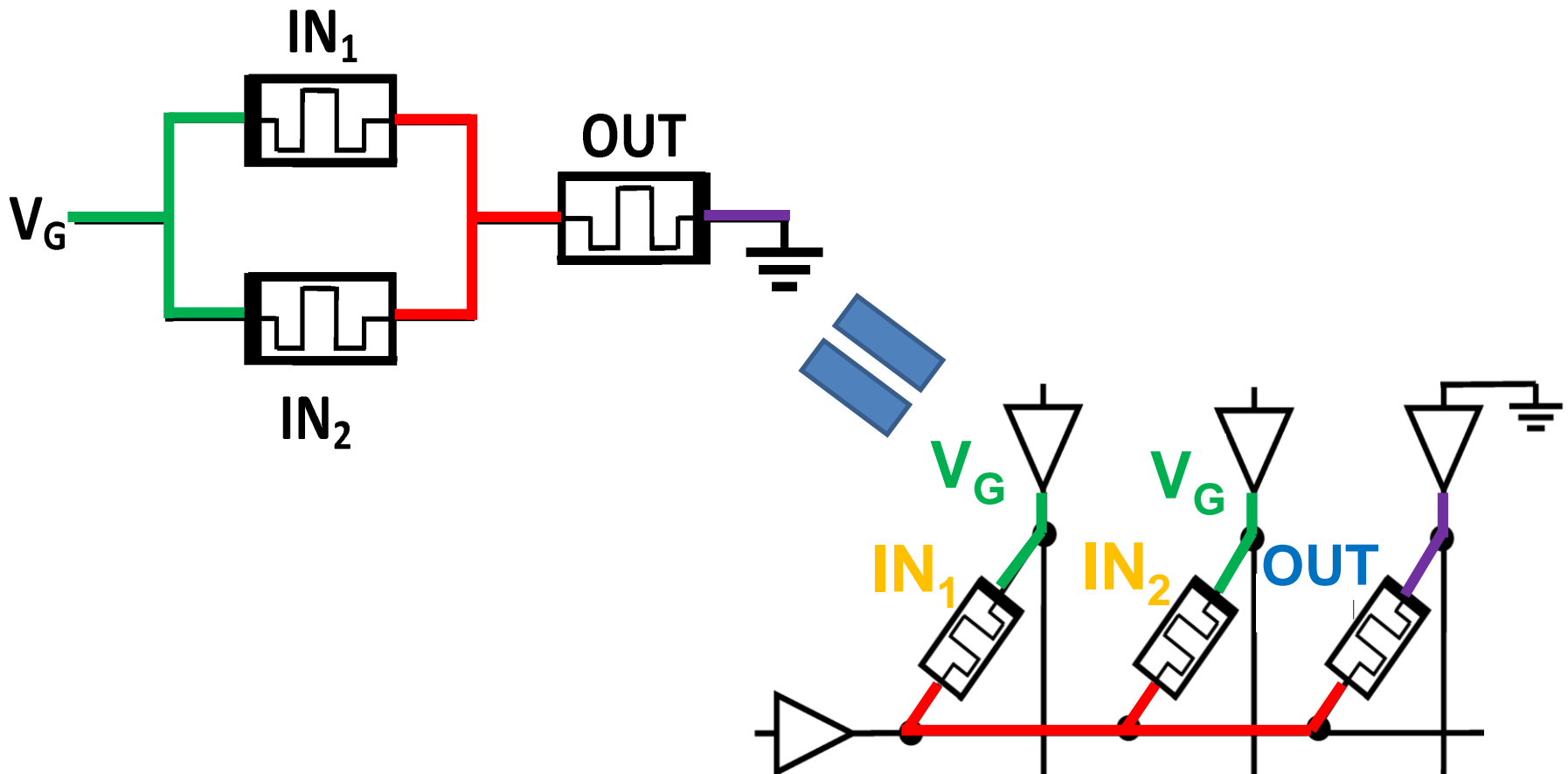
Vikas Rana (Julich)

Tested by Barak  
Hoffer (Technion)

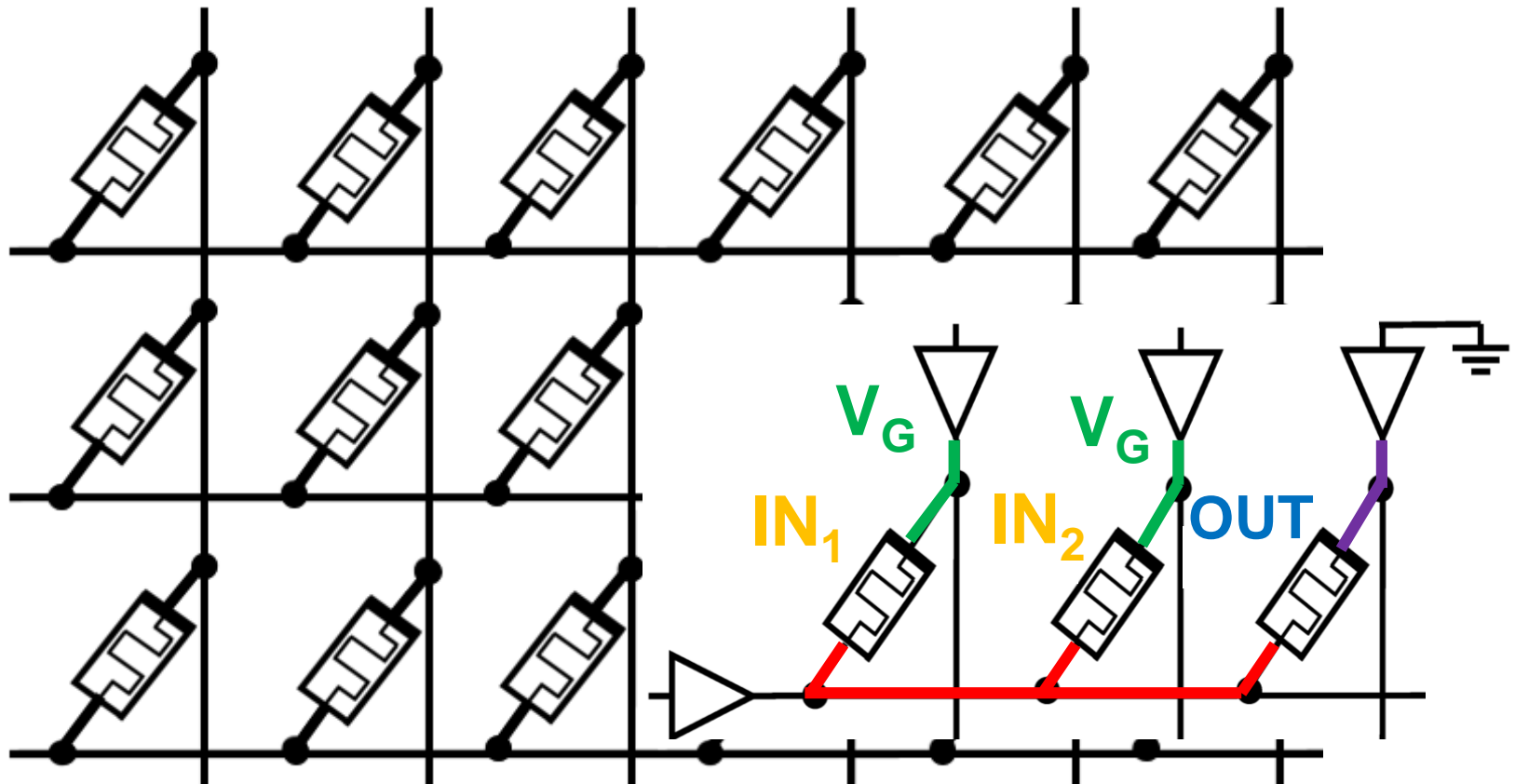
(Unpublished)



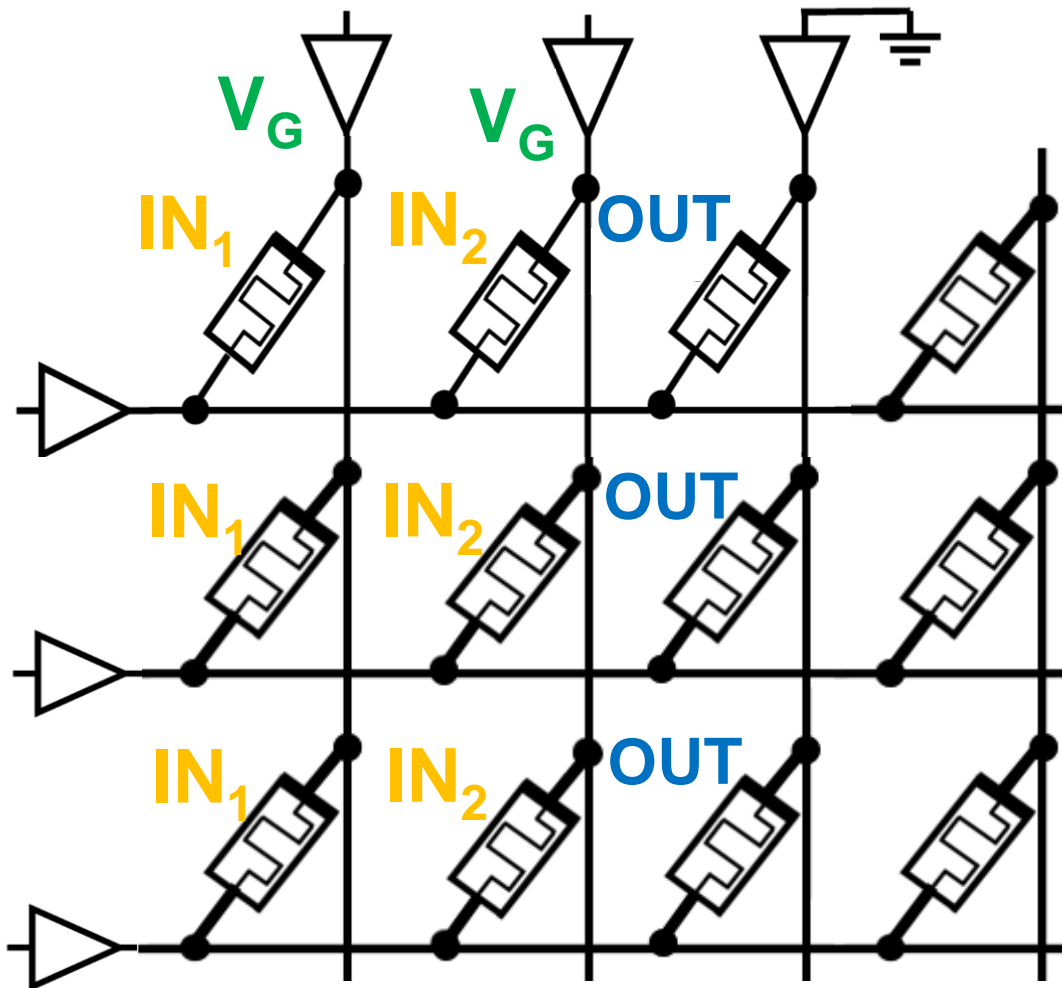
# MAGIC NOR in a Crossbar



# MAGIC NOR in a Crossbar



# MAGIC NOR in a Memristive Memory

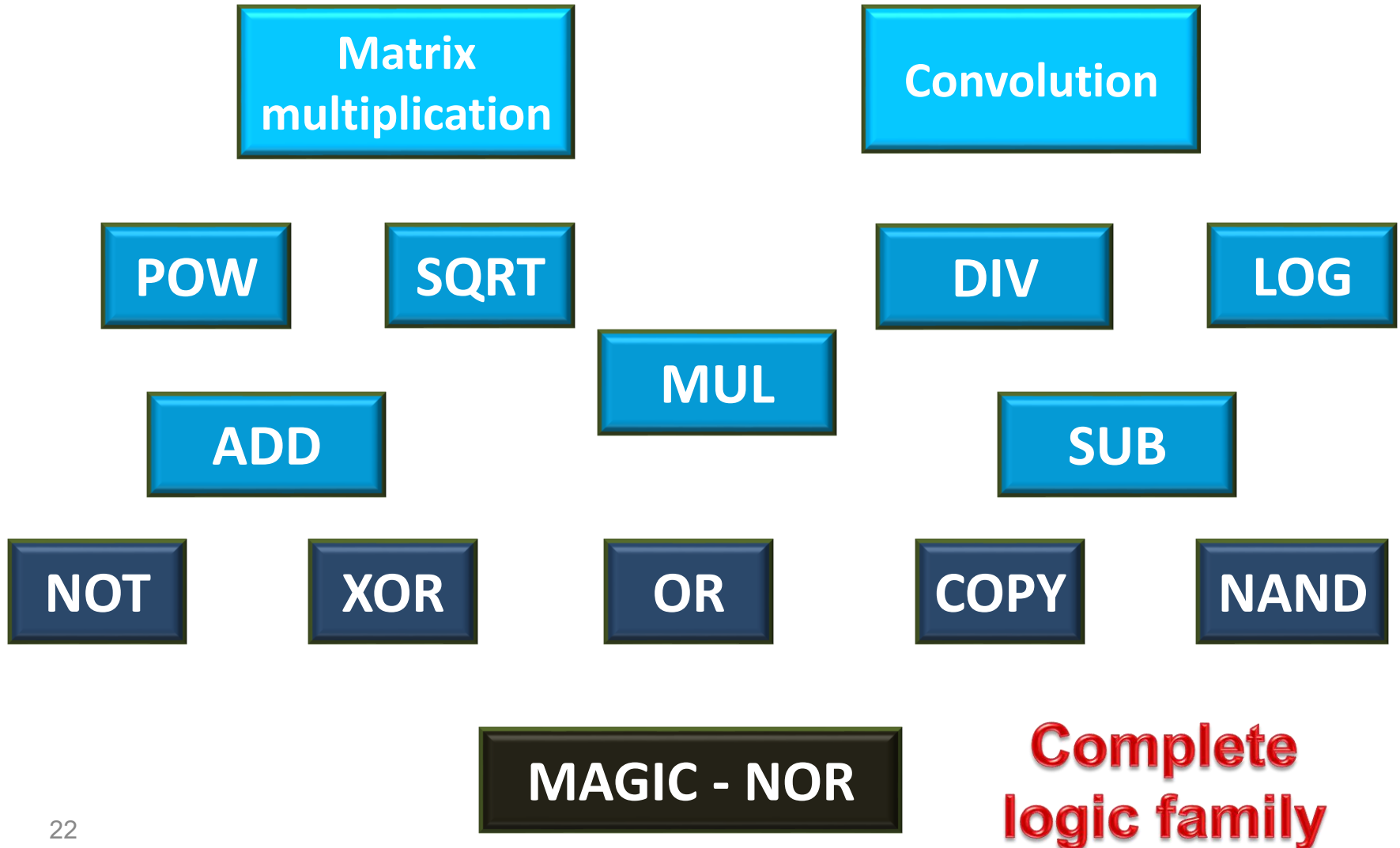


**Parallelism**

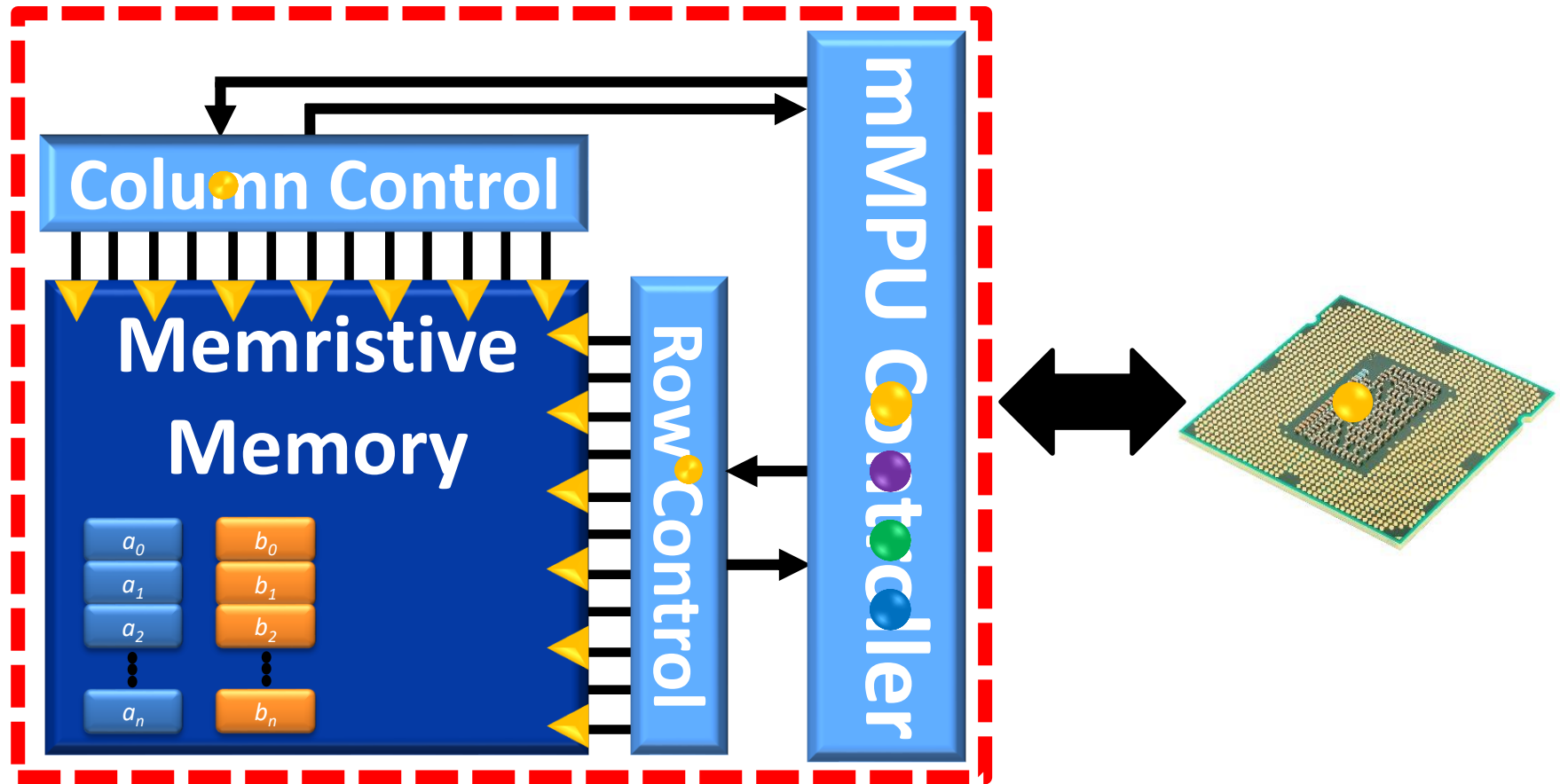


**SIMD**

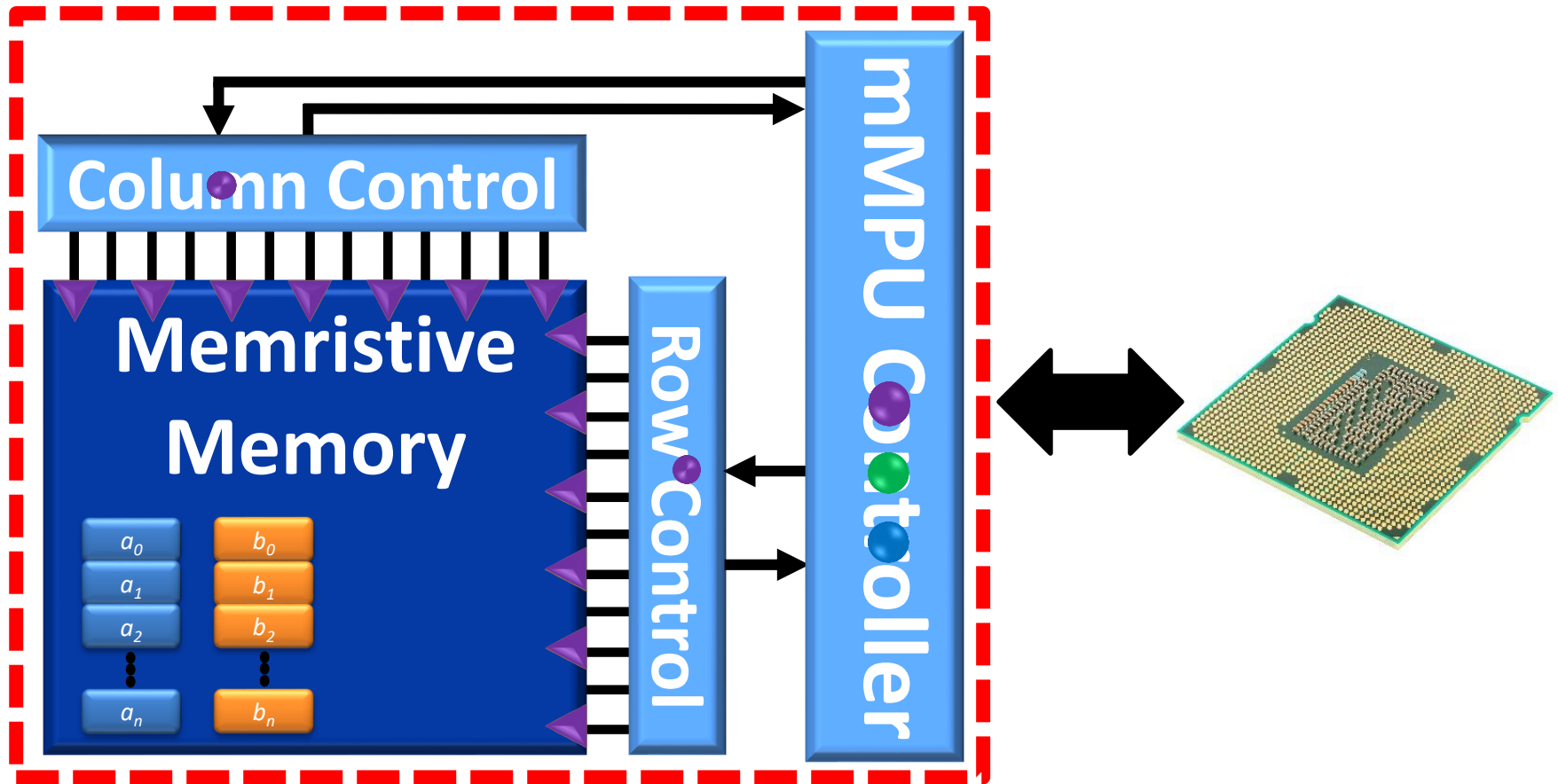
# Hierarchy of Logical Functions



# mMPU $\mu$ Architecture

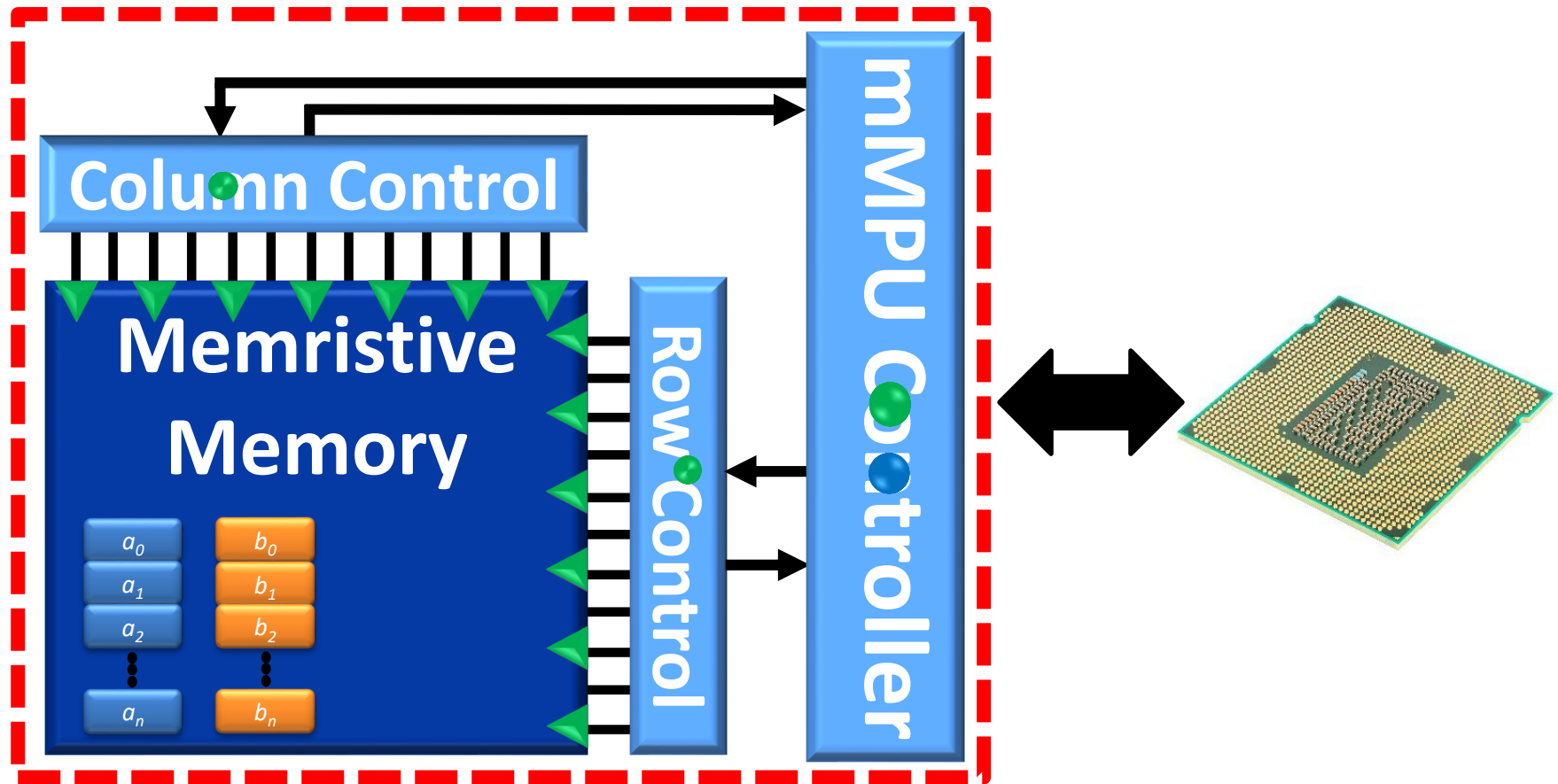


# mMPU $\mu$ Architecture

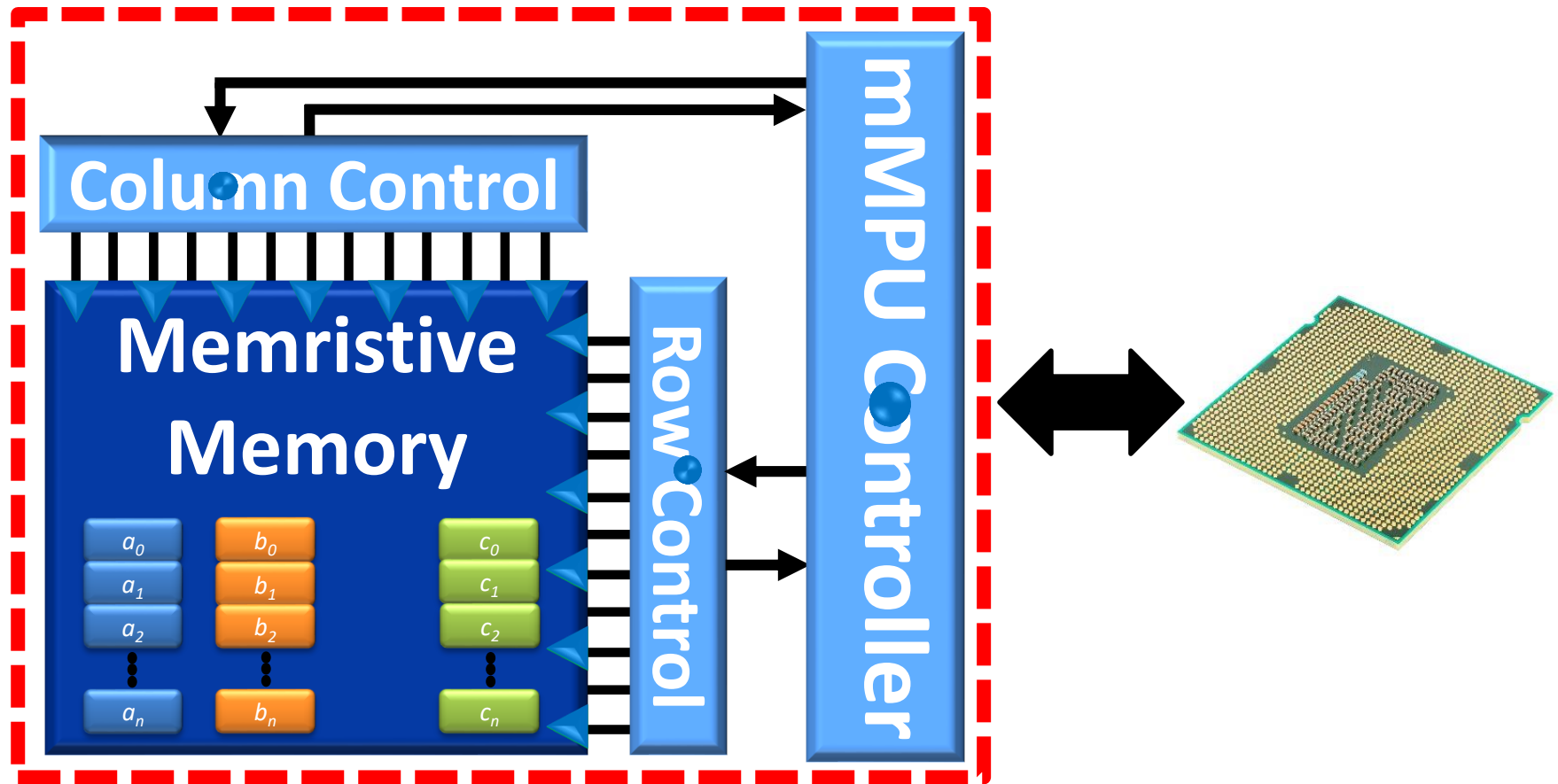




# mMPU $\mu$ Architecture

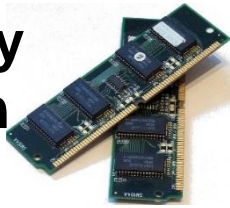


# mMPU $\mu$ Architecture

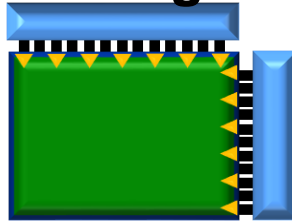


# Issues Involved in mMPU System

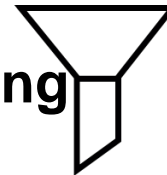
Memory Design



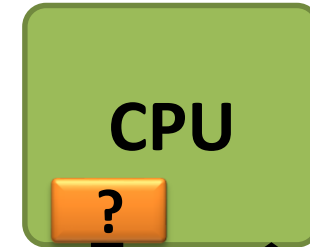
Peripheral Design



Programming Model

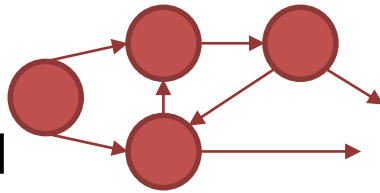


mMPU System

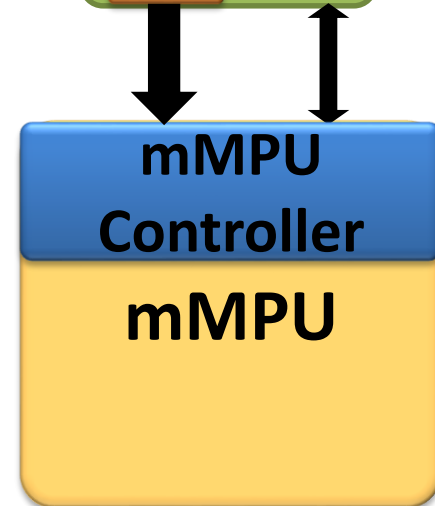


```
01110011 01100101 01110010 01
01100101 01110010 00100000 01
01101000 01100001 01110100 00
01100100 01101001 01110011 01
01110010 01101001 01100010 01
01110100 01100011 01110011 00
01100001 01101110 01111001 00
01110001 01101110 01100011 01
01101101 01101001 01101110 01
00100000 01101101 01100101 01
01110011 01100001 01100111 01
01110011 00100000 01110100 01
00100000 01100001 01101100 01
00001101 00001010 00100000 00
```

mMPU Controller Design and Optimization

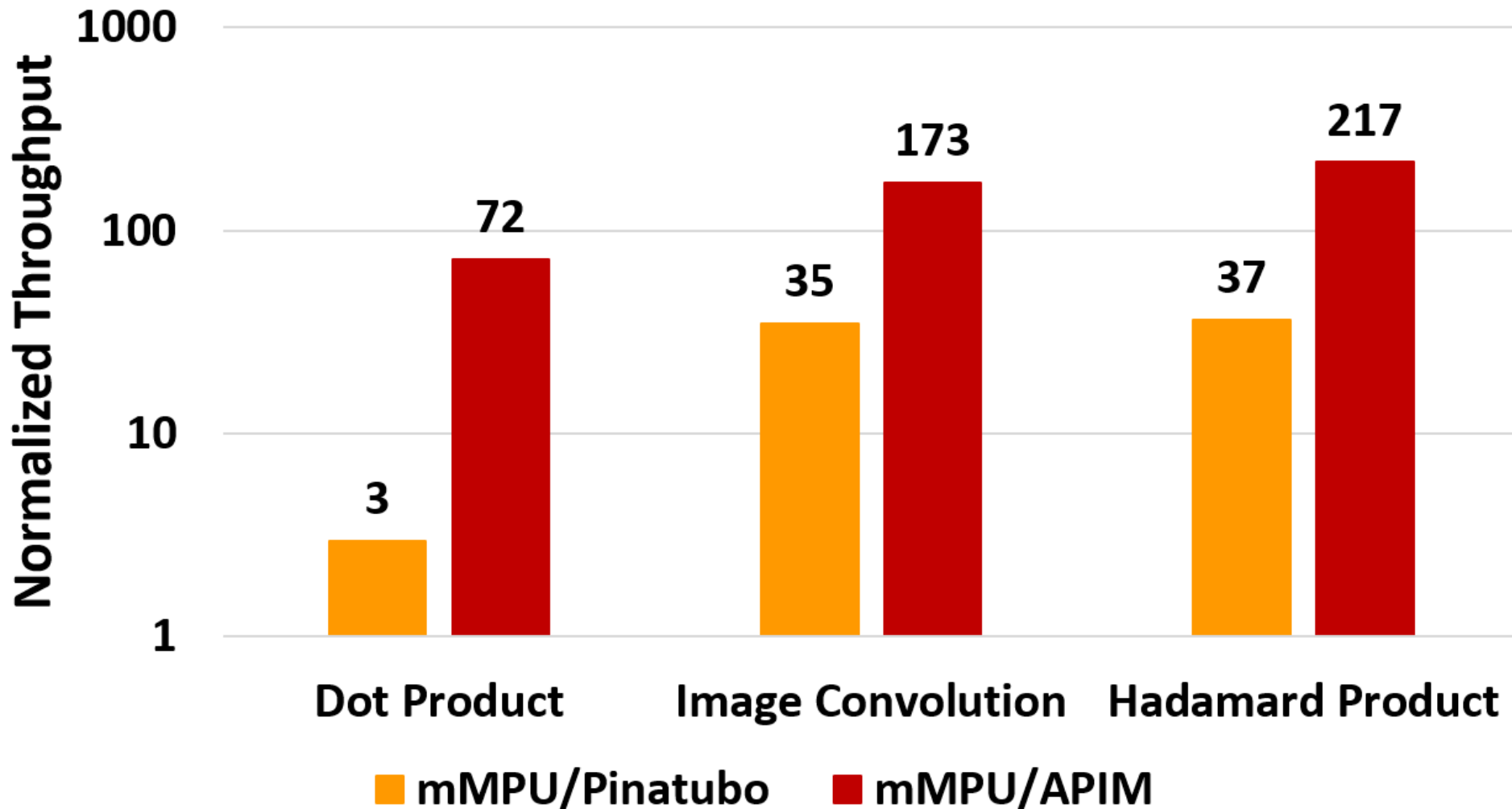


Software



Applications

# mMPU Performance Potential



A. Haj-Ali *et al.*, "IMAGING - In-Memory ALGORITHMS for Image processing," IEEE TCAS I, December 2018

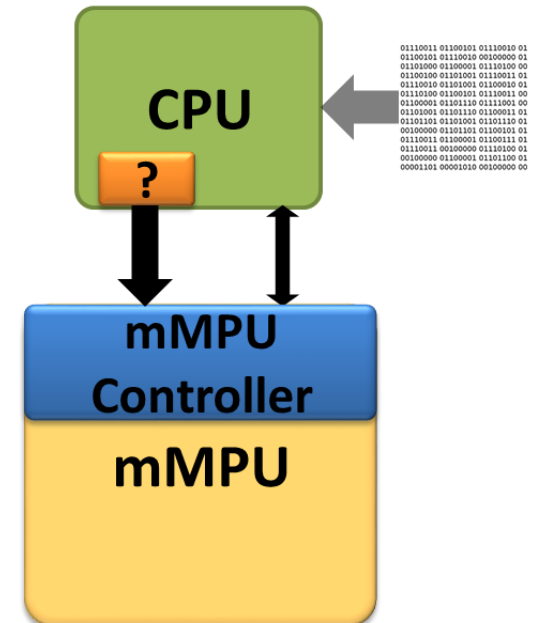
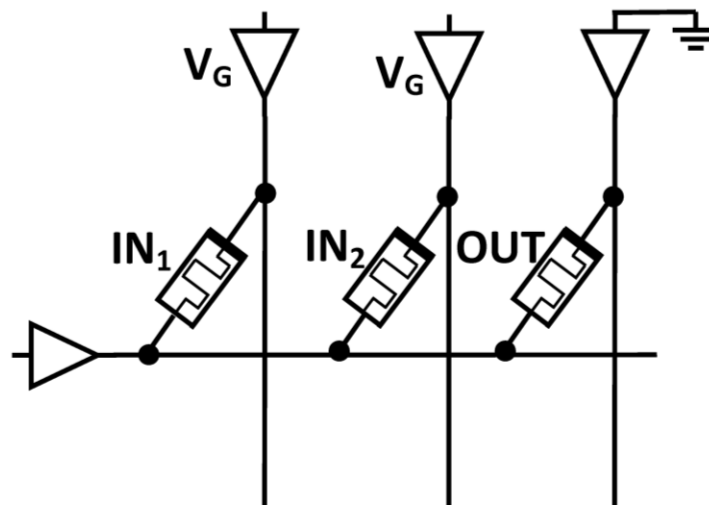
A. Haj-Ali *et al.*, "Not in Name Alone: a Memristive Memory Processing Unit for Real In-Memory Processing," IEEE Micro, October 2018

S. Li *et al.*, "Pinatubo: A Processing-in-Memory Architecture for Bulk Bitwise Operations in Emerging Non-volatile Memories," DAC 2016

M. Imani *et al.*, "Ultra-Efficient Processing In-Memory for Data Intensive Applications," DAC 2017

# mMPU – Huge Potential

- Memristors enable non-von Neumann machines to overcome the memory wall
- mMPU – **real** processing in memory  
→ new computing paradigm
- Our aim is to develop a working end-to-end mMPU system



# Thanks!

**ASIC<sup>2</sup>** ARCHITECTURES  
SYSTEMS  
INTELLIGENT COMPUTING  
INTEGRATED CIRCUITS



Prime Minister's Office  
National Cyber Bureau



משרד המדע  
והטכנולוגיה

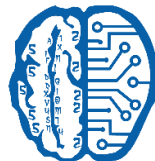
Israel Ministry of  
Science and  
Technology



Hiroshi Fujiwara  
Cyber Security  
Research Center



technion computer engineering center



**ICRI-CI**  
Intel Collaborative Research Institute  
Computational Intelligence

Advanced Circuit  
Research Center **ACRC**



European  
Research  
Council



רשות החדשנות  
Israel Innovation  
Authority



United States-Israel  
Binational Science Foundation