

# Memory Intensive Computing

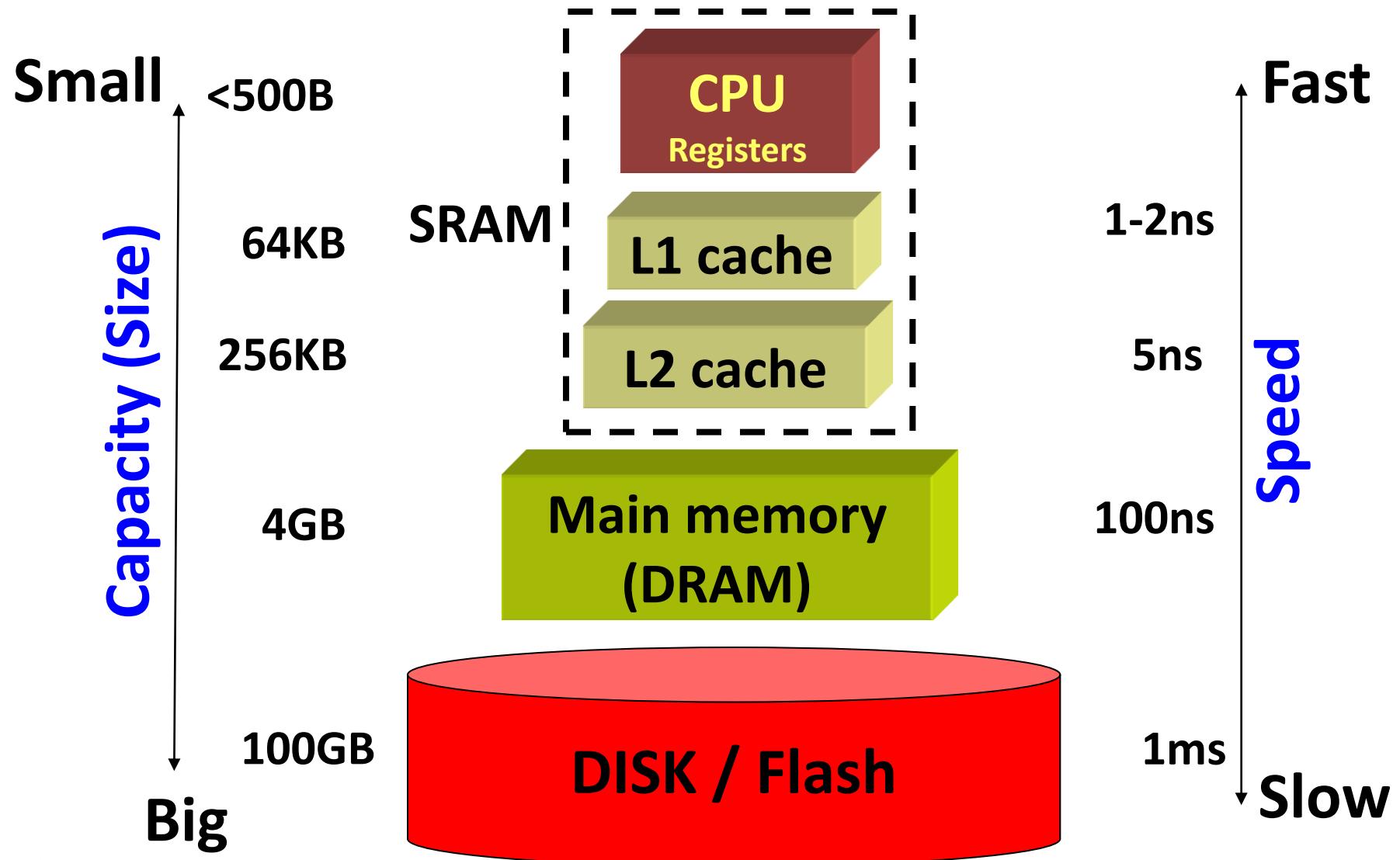
Shahar Kvatinsky

Advisors: Eby Friedman, Avinoam Kolodny,  
Uri Weiser

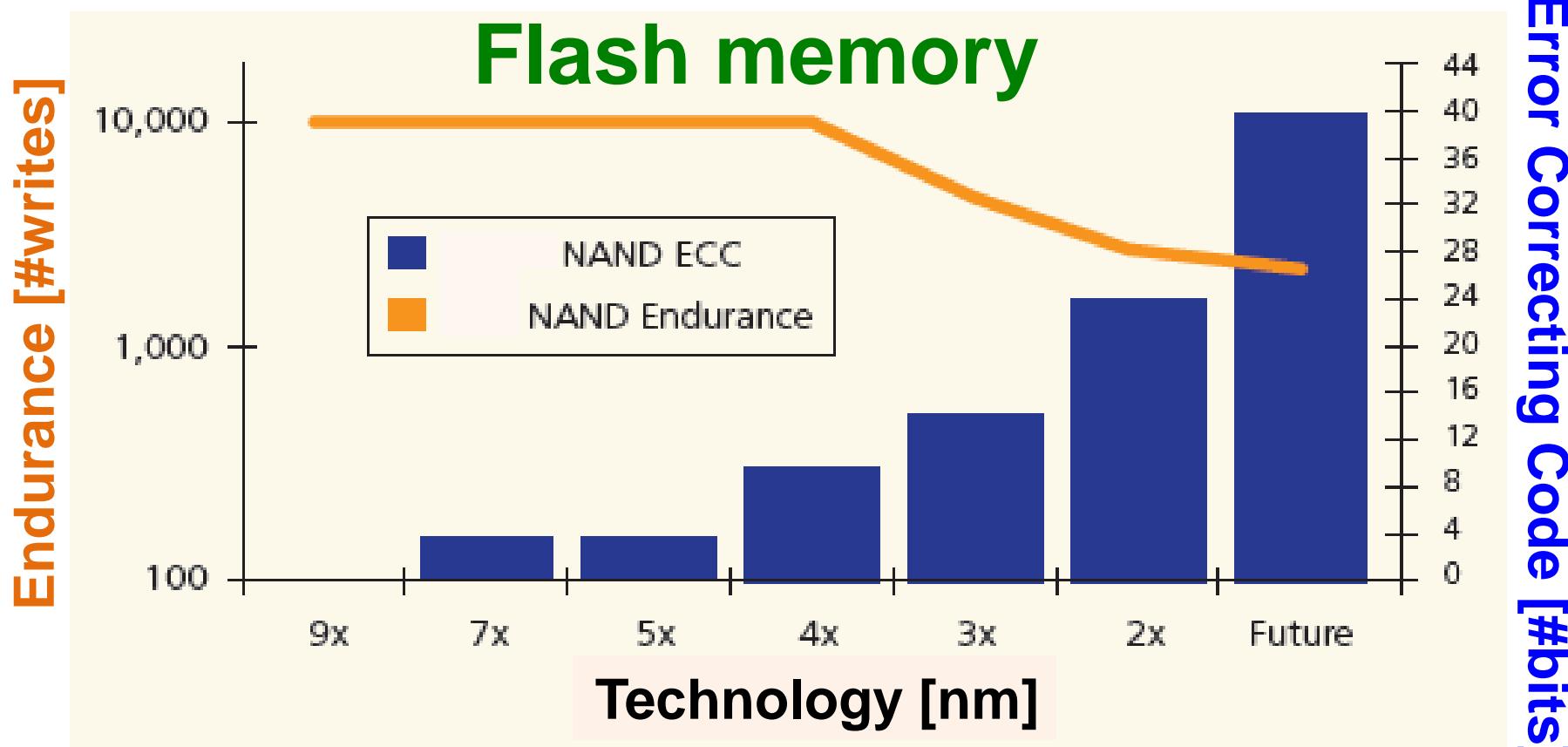


Technion – Israel Institute of Technology  
Electrical Engineering Department  
January 2014

# Memory Hierarchy



# Flash is Dead

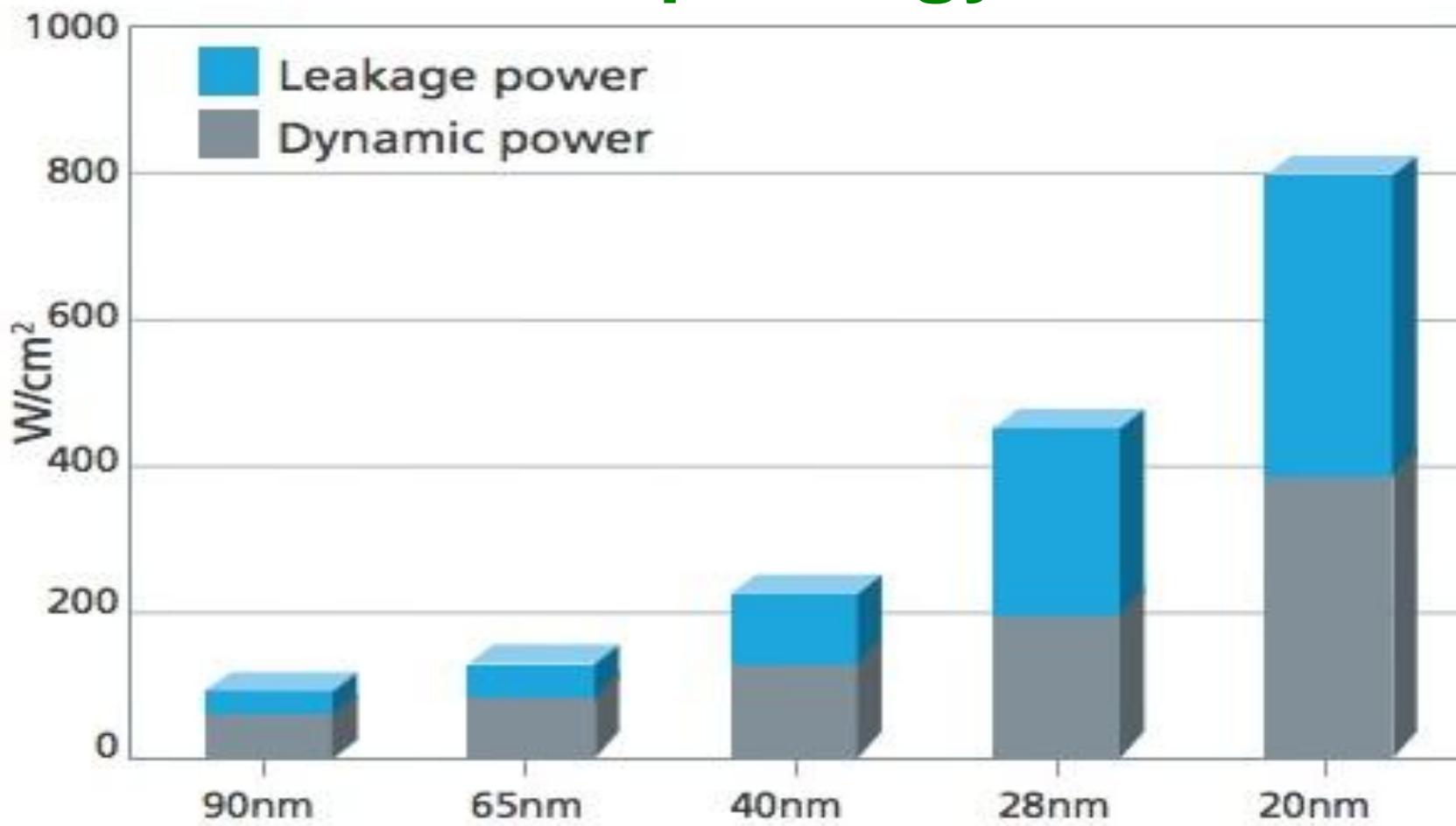


SanDisk's 1Y flash stays at 19-nm

Peter Clarke

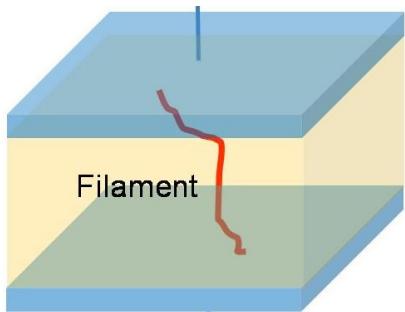
# High Leakage in Volatile Memories

## Chip energy

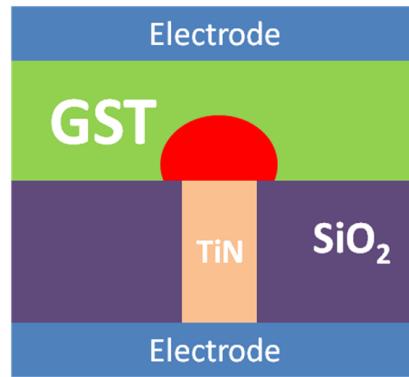


# Emerging Memory Technologies

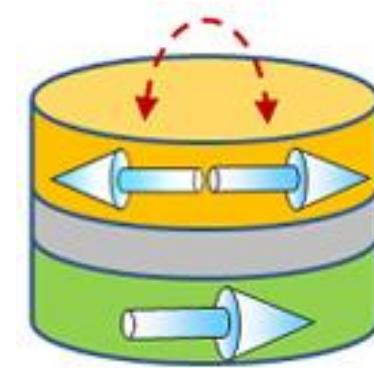
## All of Them are Memristors



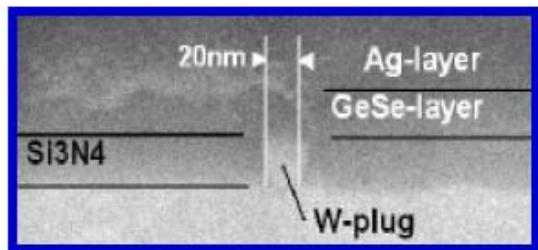
**Resistive RAM  
(RRAM)**



**Phase Change  
Memory  
(PCM)**



**STT MRAM**



**PMC/CBRAM**



**Carbon  
Nano Tubes**

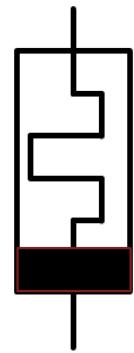
# Memristors are the Next Memory!

- Nonvolatile
- Low power
- High endurance
- Fast
- CMOS compatible
- Dense



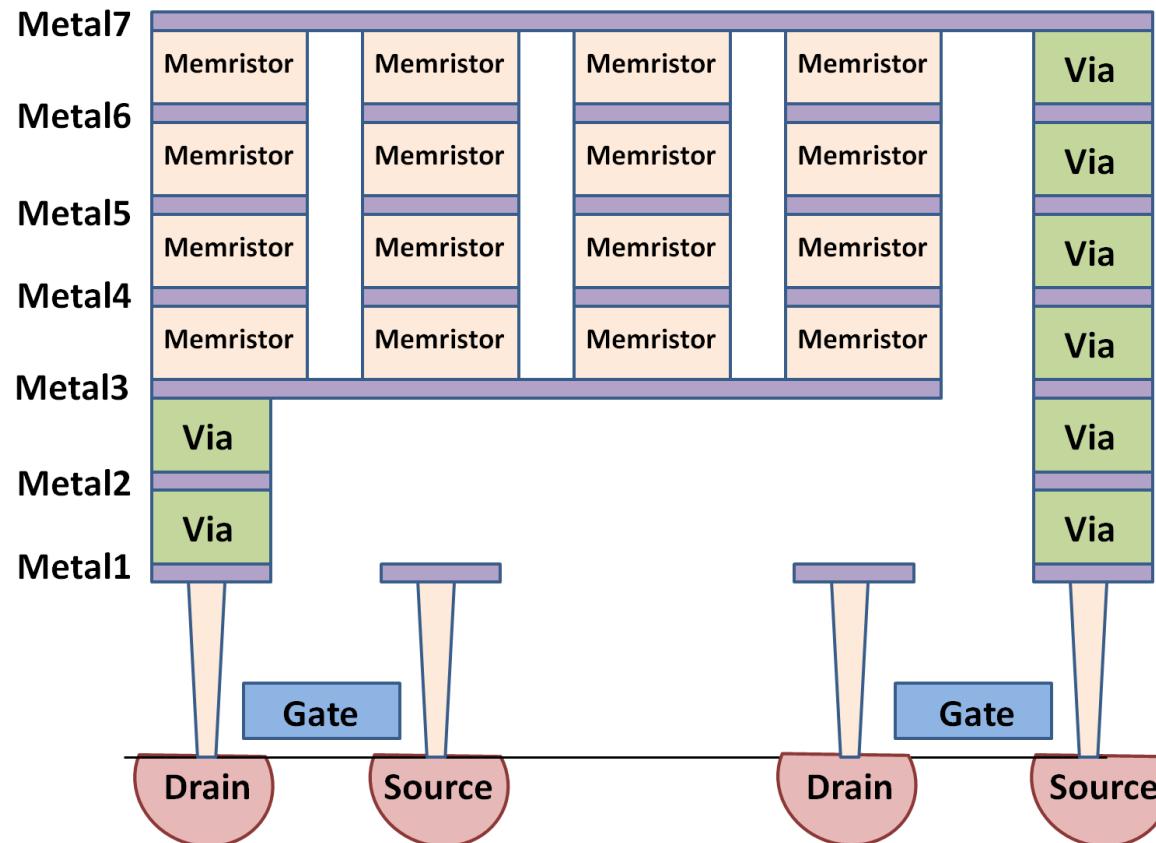
# Agenda

- Are memristors the next memory?
- **Memory intensive computing**
- Enhancing computation
  - Continuous Flow Multithreading (CFMT)
  - Memristor Ratioed Logic (MRL)
- Beyond von Neumann
  - Logic within memory
  - Neural networks
- Summary



# Memristors Add New Capabilities to CMOS

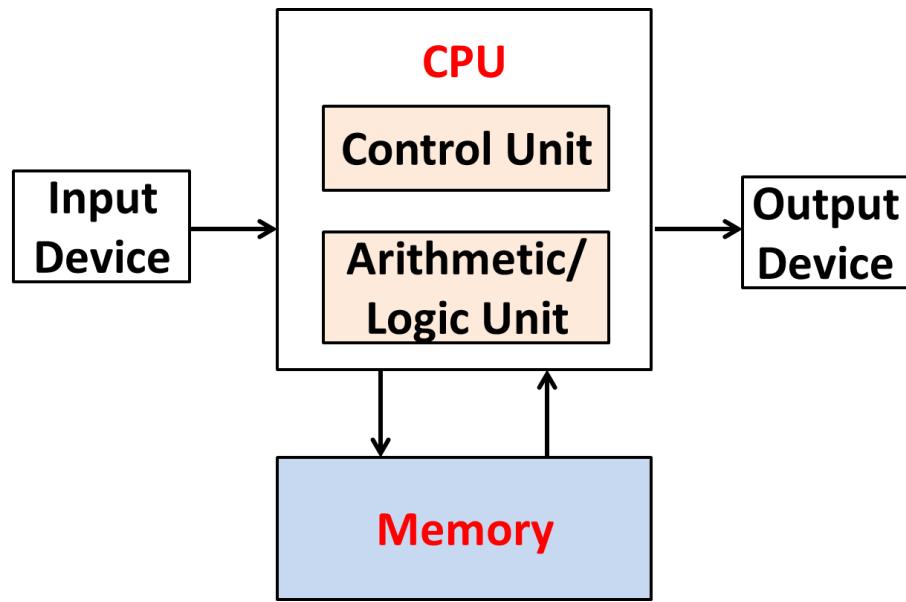
- Sea of memory above the logic



- Dense, fast, and CMOS compatible

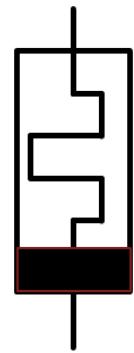
# Memory Intensive Architectures

- Combine memory and logic
  - Enhance computation
  - Processing within memory

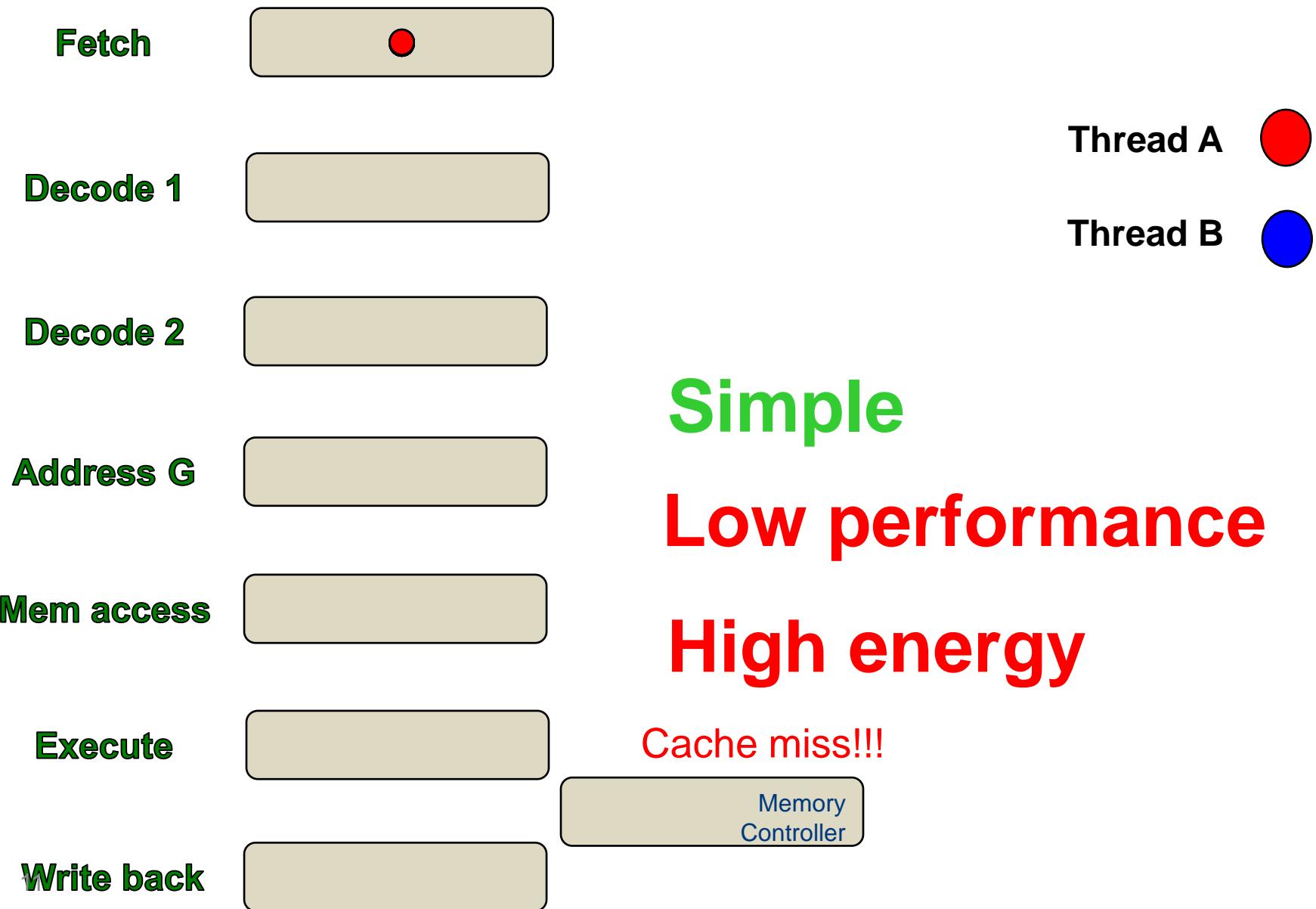


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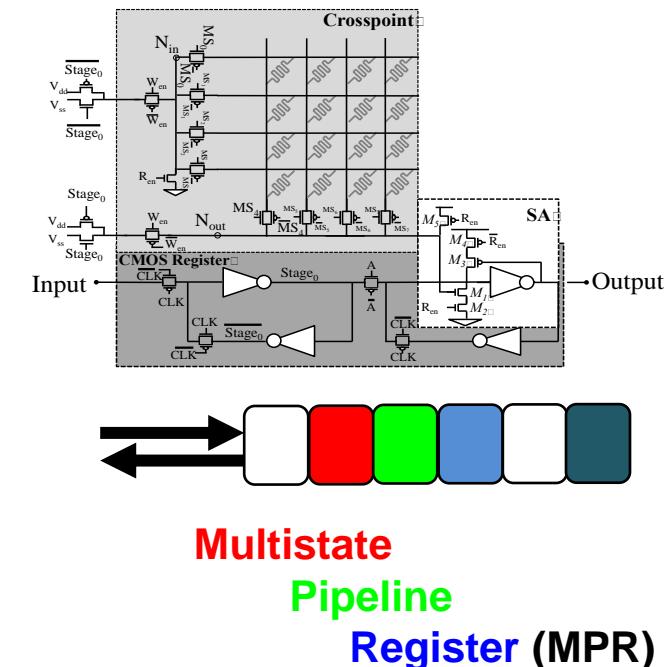
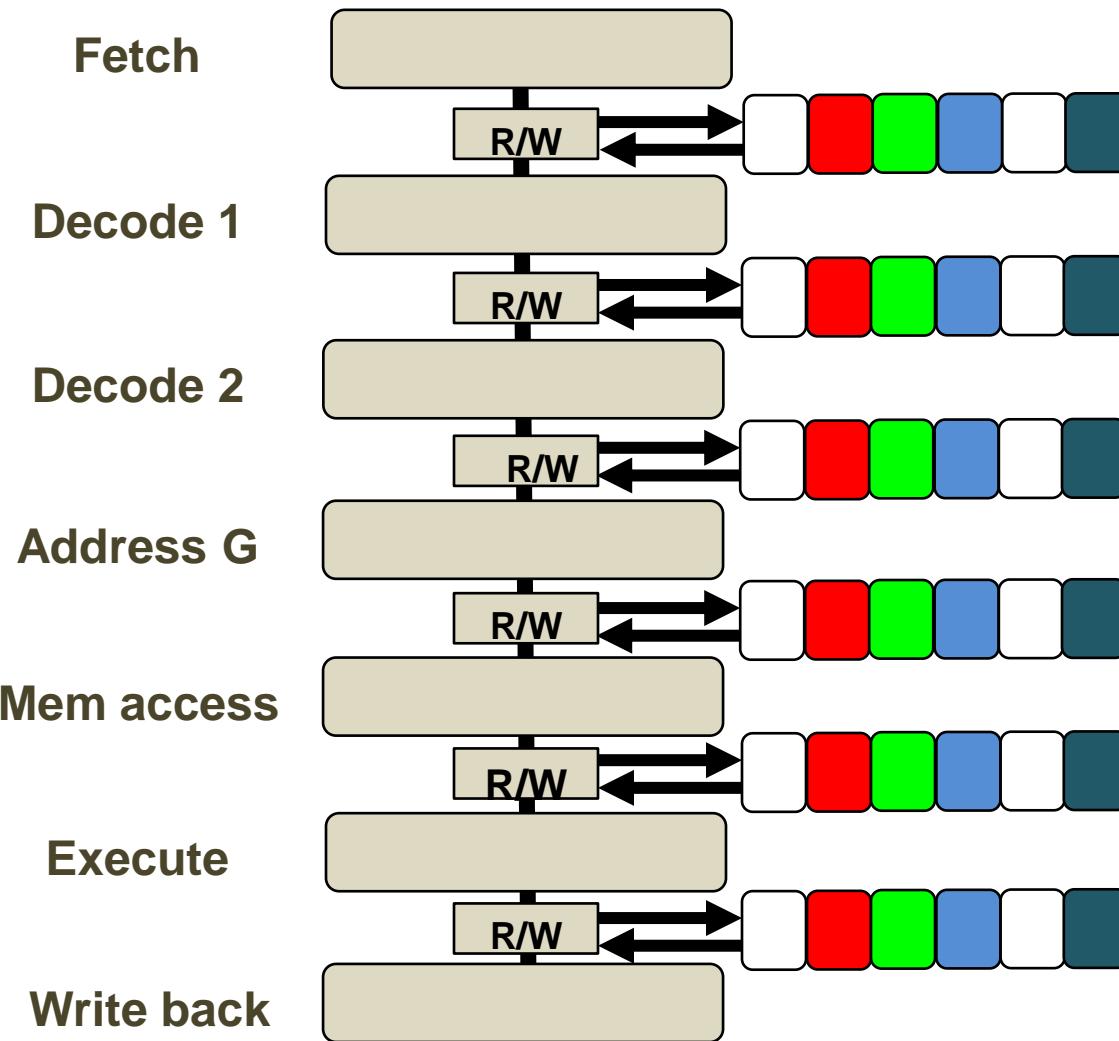


# Switch on Event Multithreading

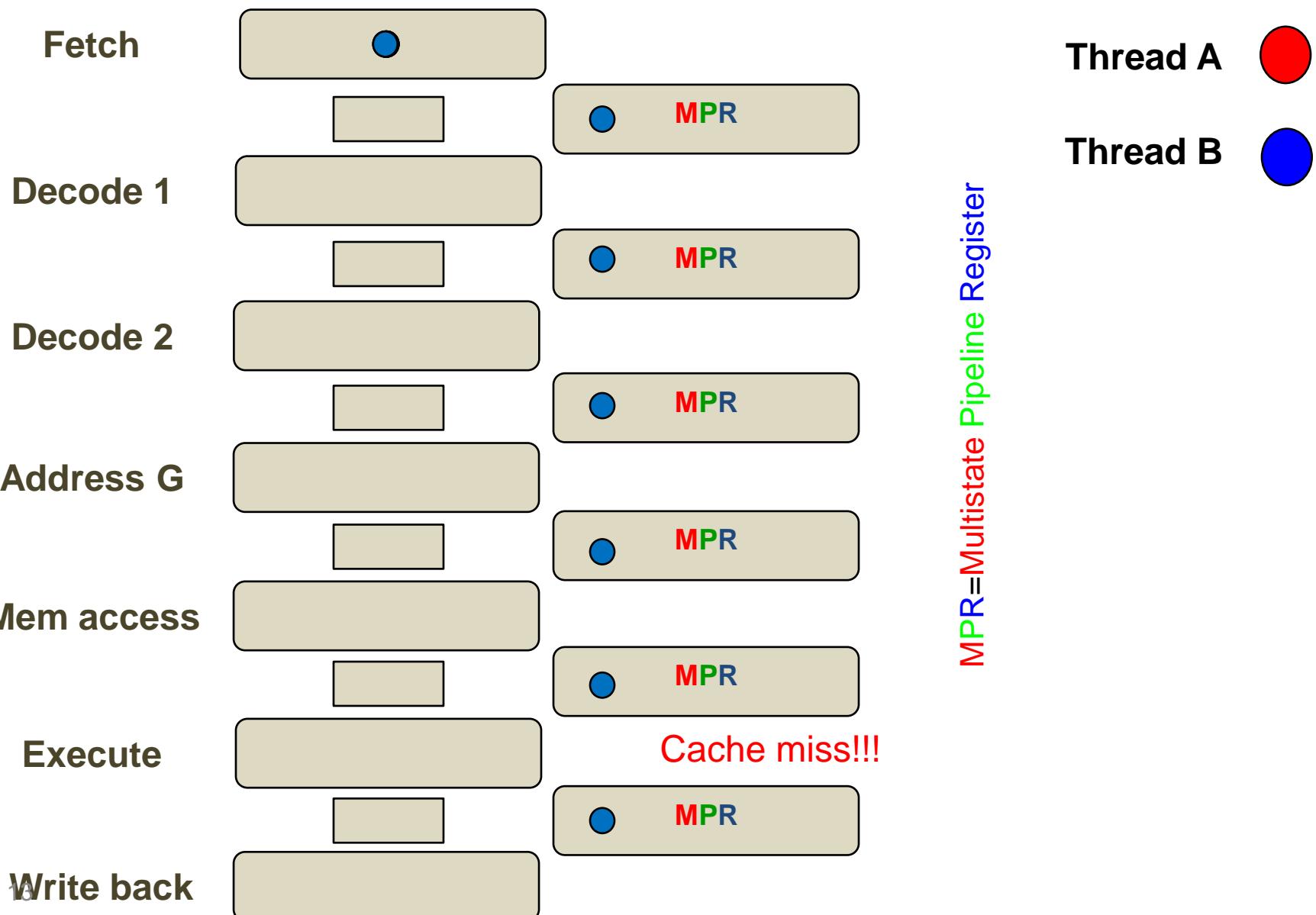


# Multistate Pipeline Register

## Novel Memory Structure

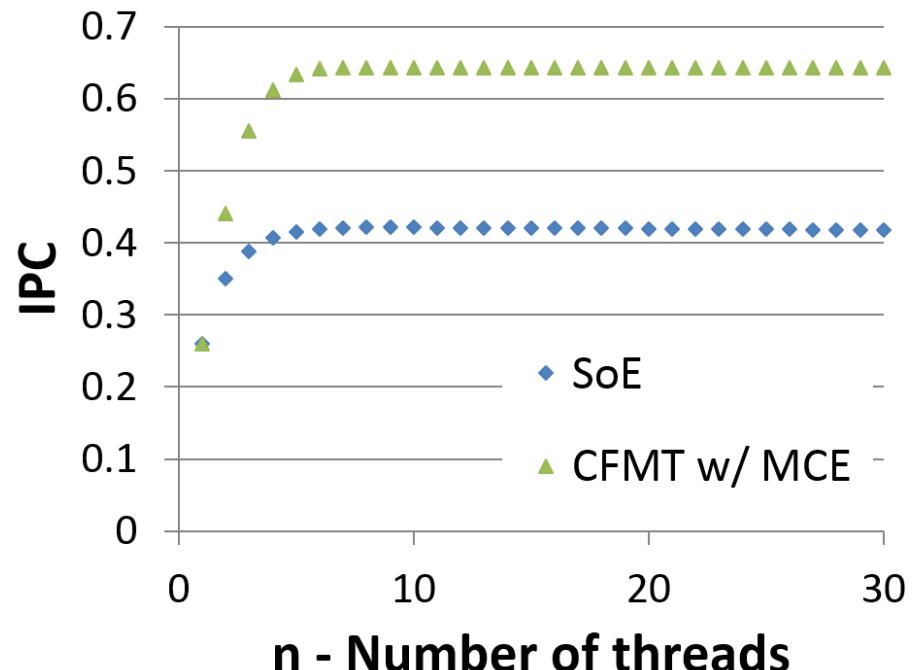


# Continuous Flow MT (CFMT)



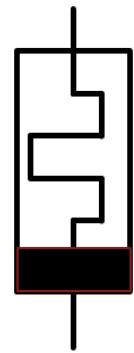
# CFMT – A Novel μArchitecture

- Simplicity of SoE MT
- Novel memory structure - MPR
- No pipeline flush
  - Enhance performance (40% avg. improvement)
  - Reduce energy (6.5% avg. reduction)



# Agenda

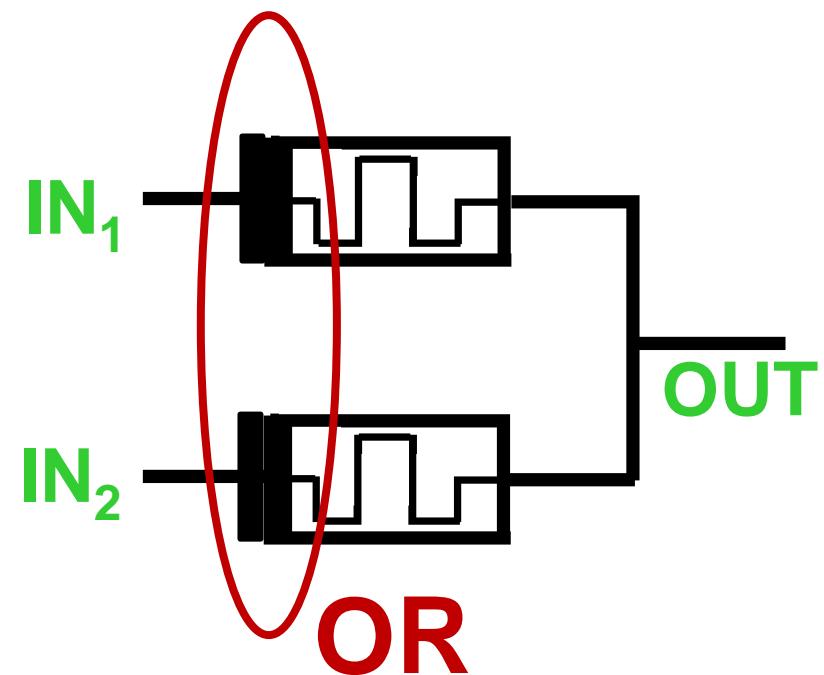
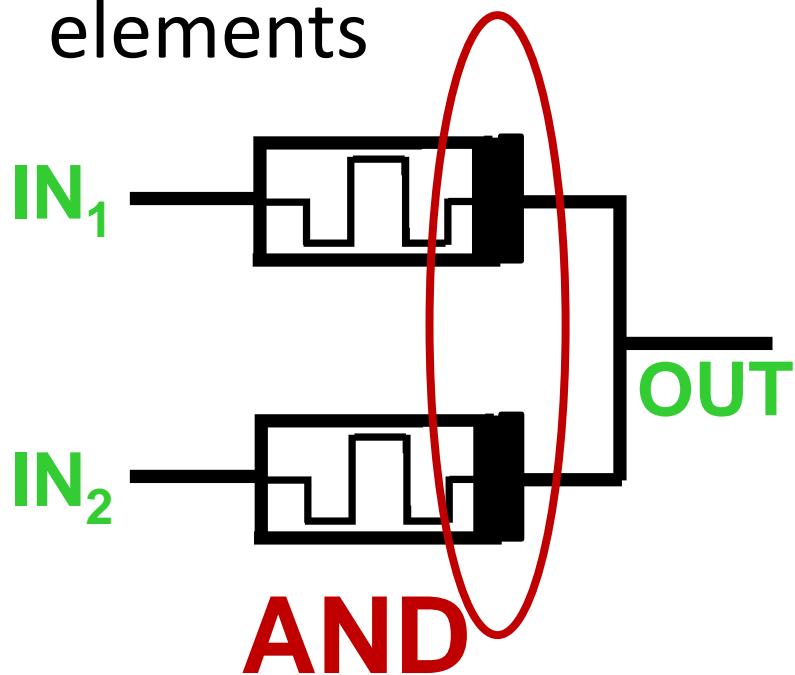
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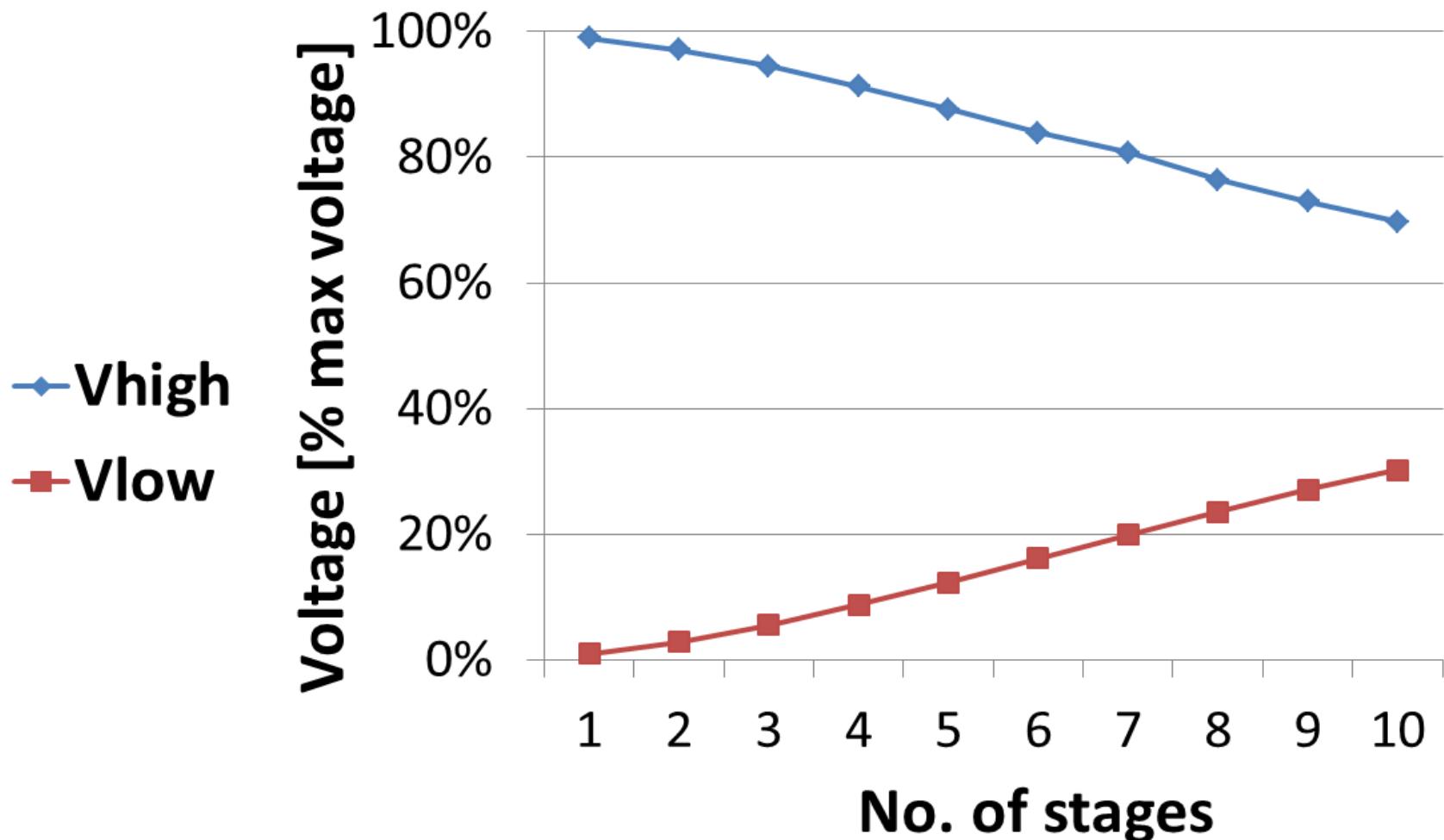
# Memristor Ratioed Logic (MRL)

## Enhancing computation

- Similar to CMOS logic
- Using CMOS for inversion and amplification
- Memristors operate only as computational elements

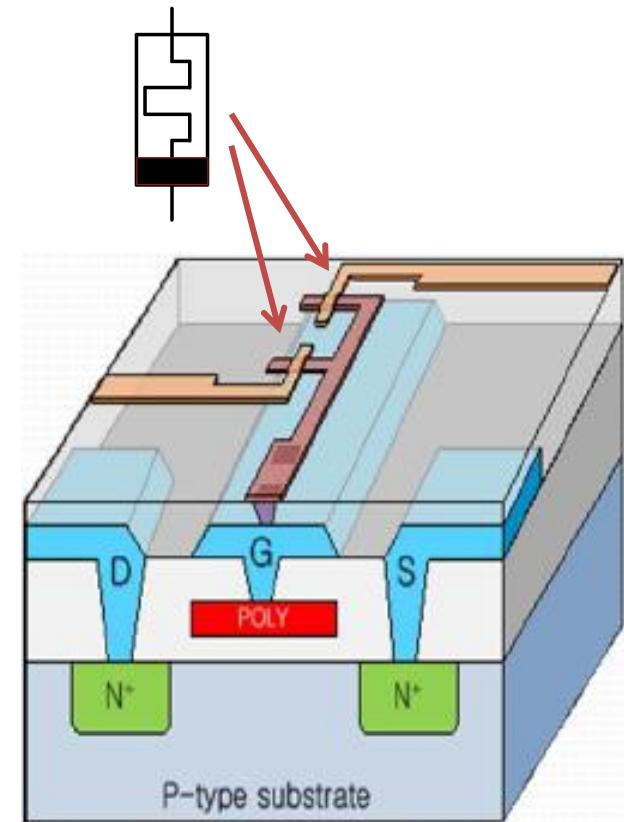
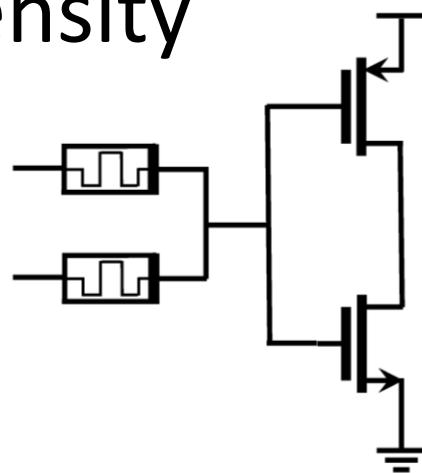


# Need for Amplification



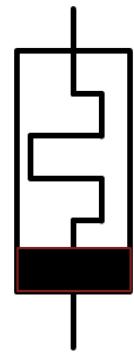
# Extending CMOS Technology

- Integrating MRL with CMOS logic:
  - Signal restoration
  - Inversion
- Increase logic density



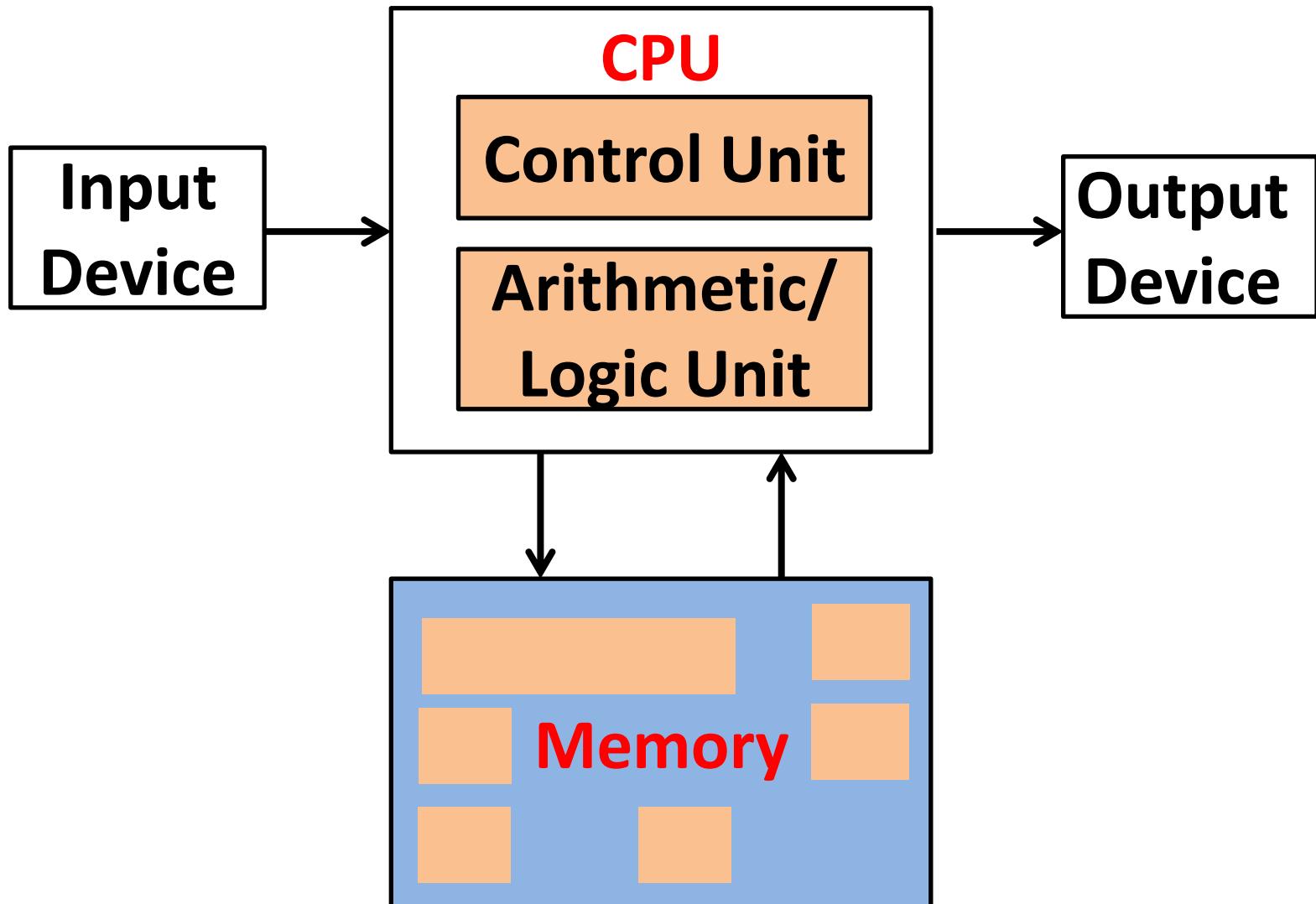
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# Logic within the Memory

## Beyond von Neumann Architecture



# Logic within the Memory

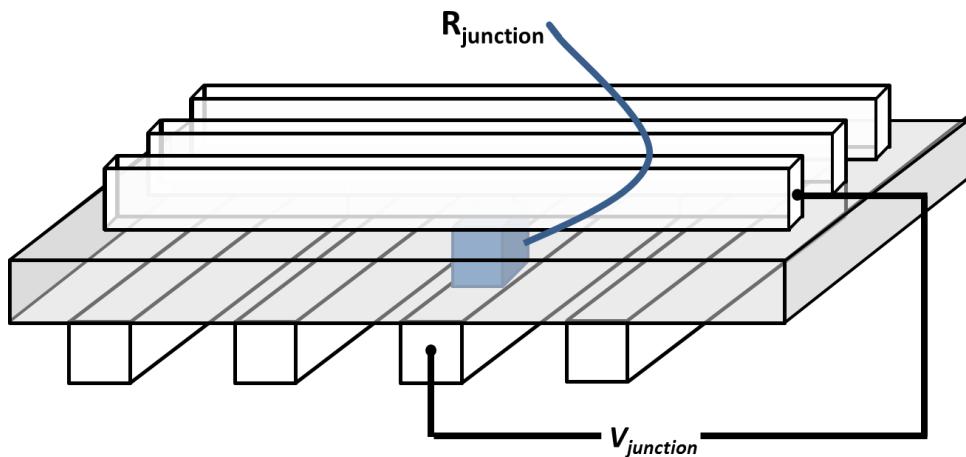
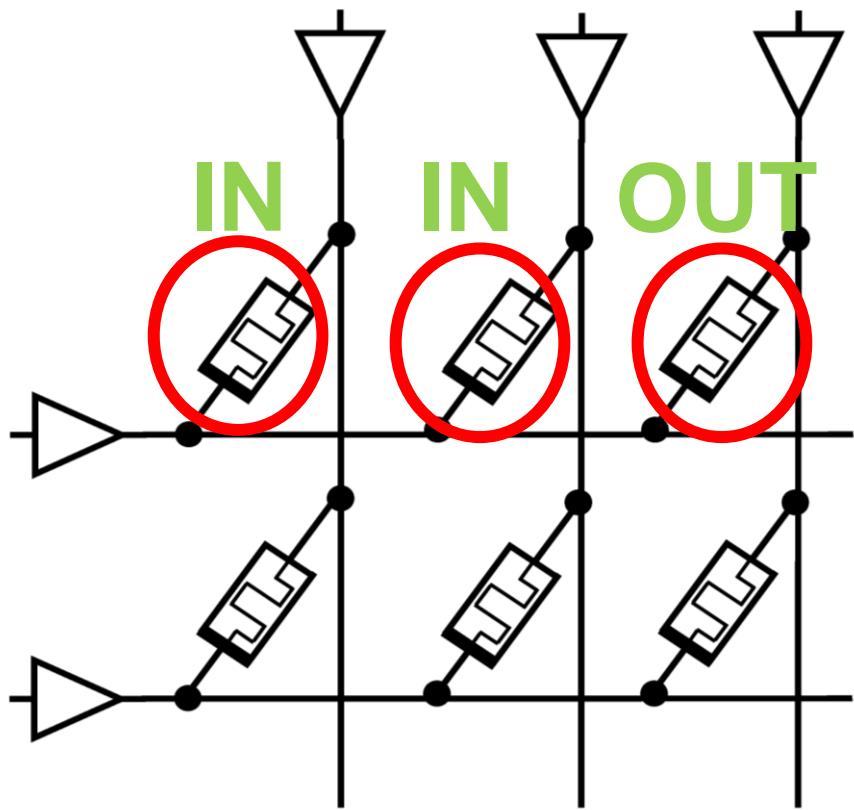
## Example – Image Processing

- CPU
- Accelerators – GPU
- Logic within the memory



# Logic within Memristor Memory

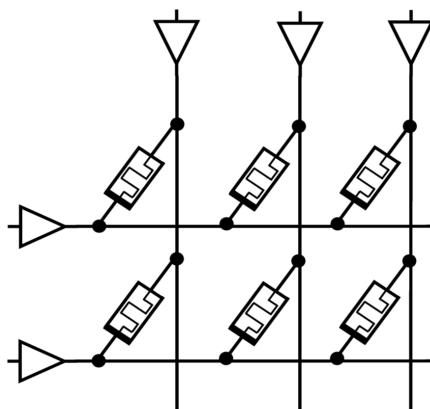
- Based on memristor-based crossbar memory
- $R_{ON} \rightarrow$  logical '1',  $R_{OFF} \rightarrow$  logical '0'



# Logic within Memory

## Our Contribution

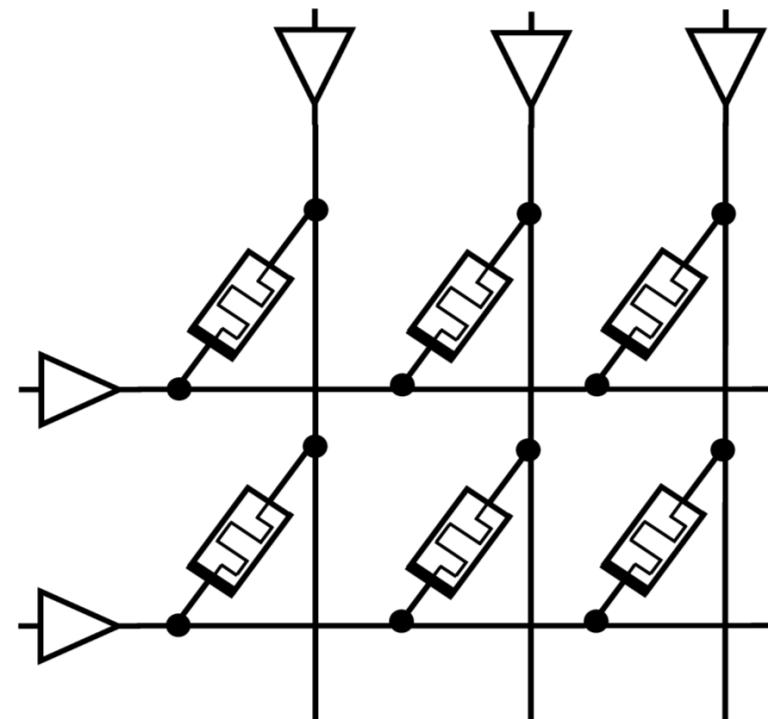
- Crossbar circuit analysis and design
- Coding for memristive crossbars
- Design methodology for material implication



# Logic within Memory

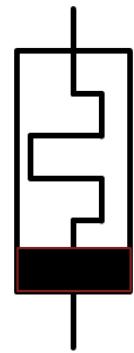
## Current Research

- Parallel and dynamic computation within memory
- New logic families
  - MAGIC
  - Systolic arrays



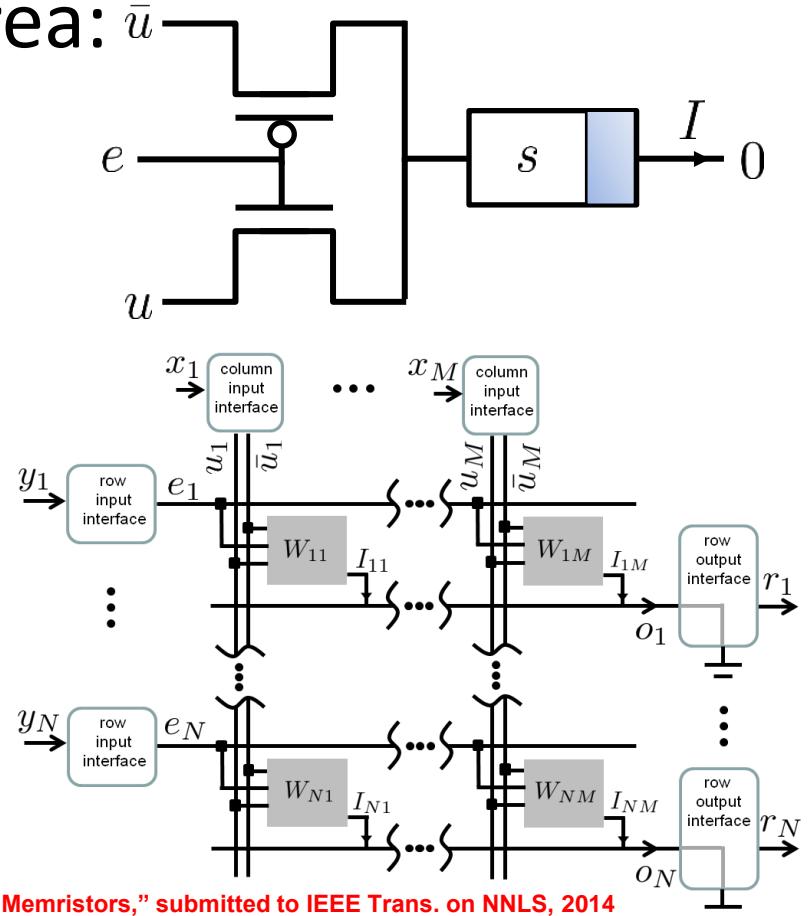
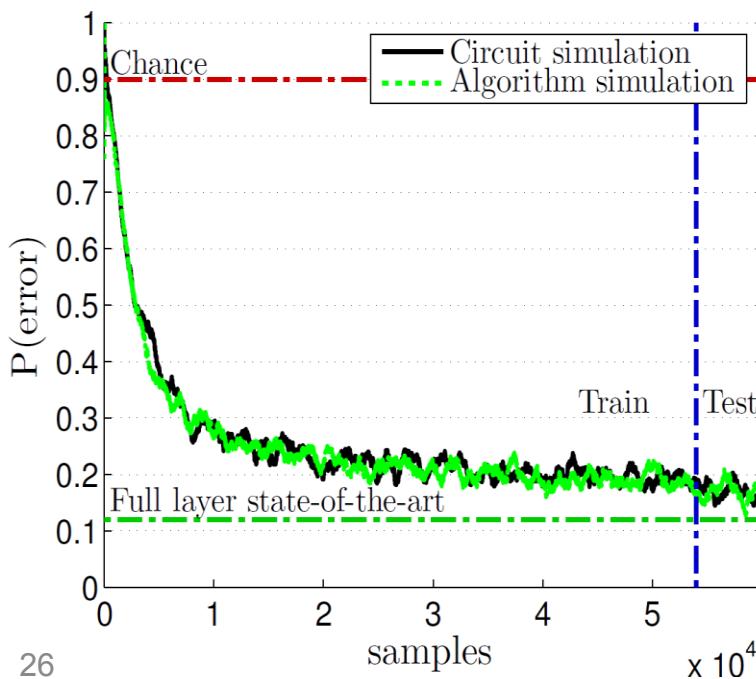
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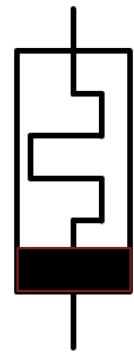
# Learning with Memristors

- Implementing many learning algorithms (gradient descent training)
- Significant reduction in area:
  - 3 components vs. 70



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# Summary

- Memristors are **not just** memory

Enhancing CPU performance

Beyond von Neumann

Memory Intensive

Hybrid CMOS-memristor logic

Logic within memory

Neuromorphic memory structures

# Thanks!

<http://memristor.shorturl.com>

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