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INNOVATION
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**DESIGN
AUTOMATION
CONFERENCE**

JULY 9-13, 2023

**MOSCONE WEST CENTER
SAN FRANCISCO, CA, USA**





Tutorial: A Journey to Optical Computing: From Physics Fundamentals to Hardware-Software Co-Design, Automation, and Application

Organizers: Jiaqi Gu^{1,2}, Ulf Schlichtmann³, Zhengqi Gao⁴, Cunxi Yu⁵

Presenters: Jiaqi Gu^{1,2}, Chenghao Feng^{1,6}, Ulf Schlichtmann³, Zhengqi Gao⁴, Cunxi Yu⁵

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Outline of Tutorial

- Tutorial I: Fundamentals of Optical Computing and Integrated Photonics for High-Performance Digital Logic and Efficient Machine Learning
 - Jiaqi Gu, Chenghao Feng (UT Austin, Arizona State University)
- Tutorial II: LightRidge: An End-to-end Agile Design Framework for Diffractive Optical Neural Networks
 - Yingjie Li, Cunxi Yu (University of Utah)
- Tutorial III: Topology and Physical Layout Optimization of Photonic Networks-on-Chip and PIC Variation Analysis
 - Ulf Schlichtmann (Technical University of Munich)
- Tutorial IV: Integrated Programmable Photonic Circuits
 - Zhengqi Gao (MIT)





Tutorial I: Fundamentals of Optical Computing and Integrated Photonics for High-Performance Digital Logic and Efficient Machine Learning

Presenters: Jiaqi Gu^{1,2}, Chenghao Feng^{1,3}

Contributors: Hanqing Zhu¹, Zhoufeng Ying¹, Zheng Zhao¹, Ray T. Chen¹, David Z. Pan¹

¹The University of Texas at Austin, ²Arizona State University, ³Alpine Optoelectronics

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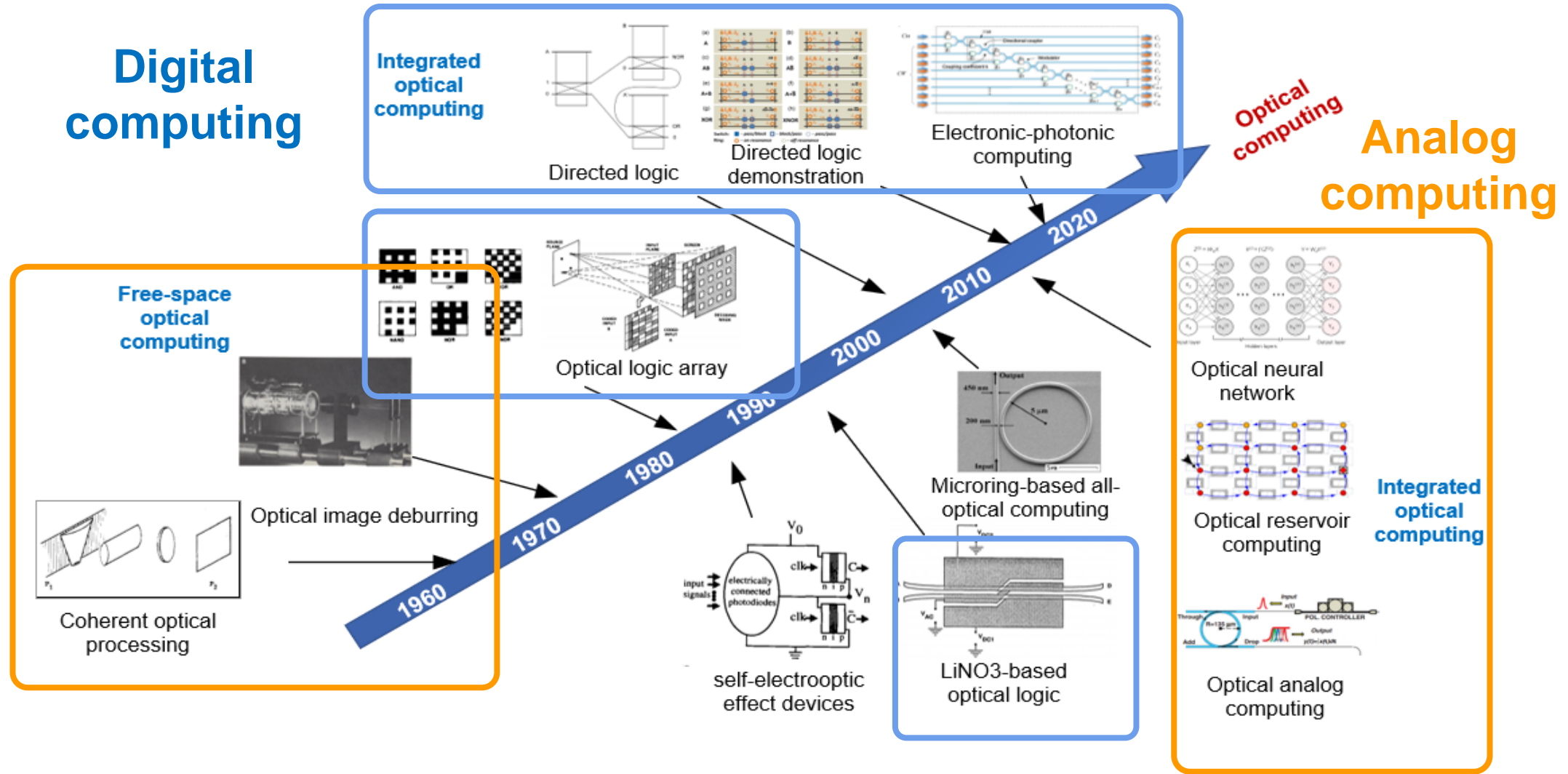
Outline of Tutorial I

- Introduction to Optical Computing
- Design and Demonstration of Electronic-Photonic Digital Computing
- Analog Photonic Computing for Optical Neural Networks
 - Coherent Photonic Tensor Core
 - Incoherent Photonic Tensor Core

Outline of Tutorial I

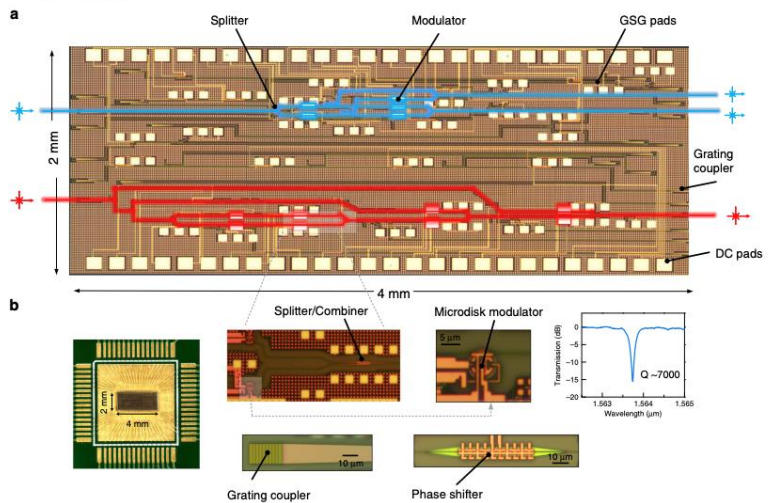
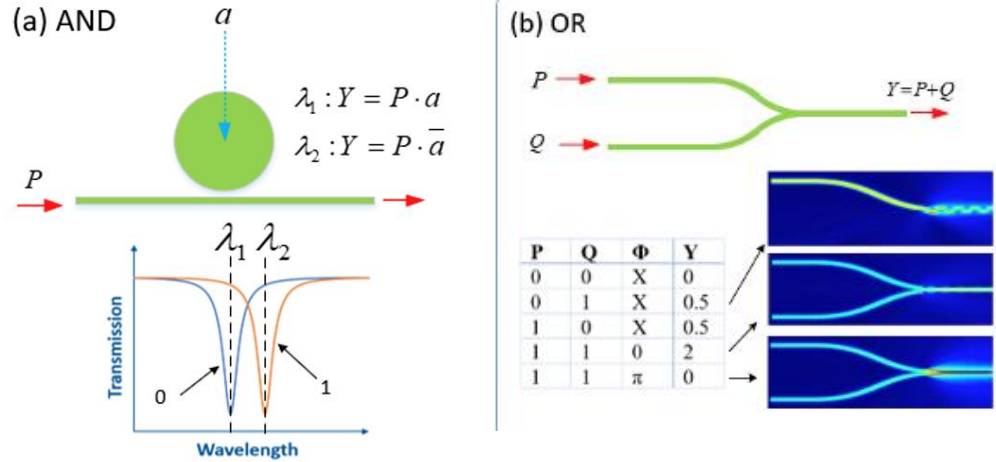
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The Timeline of Optical Computing



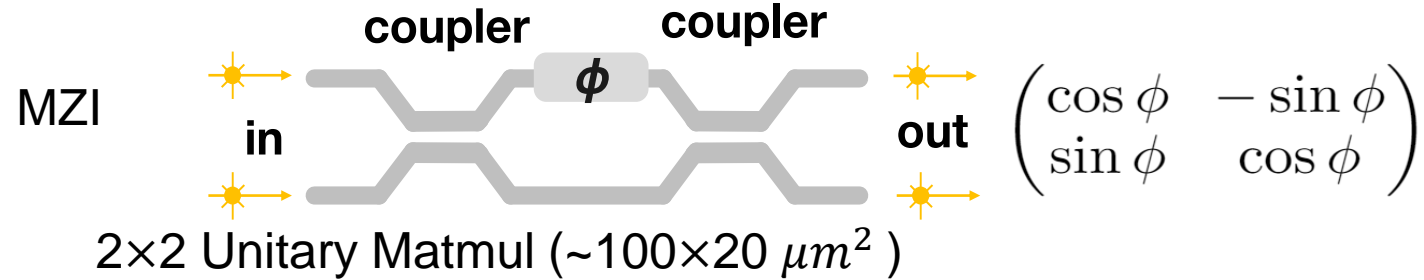
Digital vs. Analog Photonic Computing

Digital computing (Logic, ALU, Control)

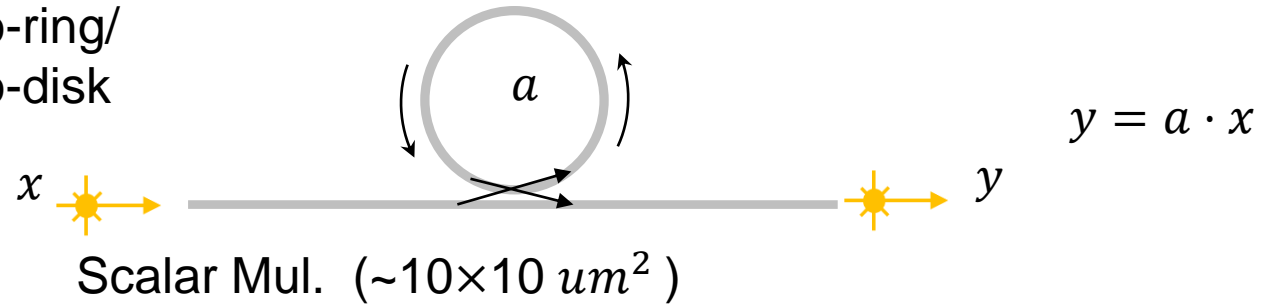


[Ying et al, Nature Comm. 2020]

Analog computing (ML, Optimization, Linear Algebra)



Micro-ring/ Micro-disk



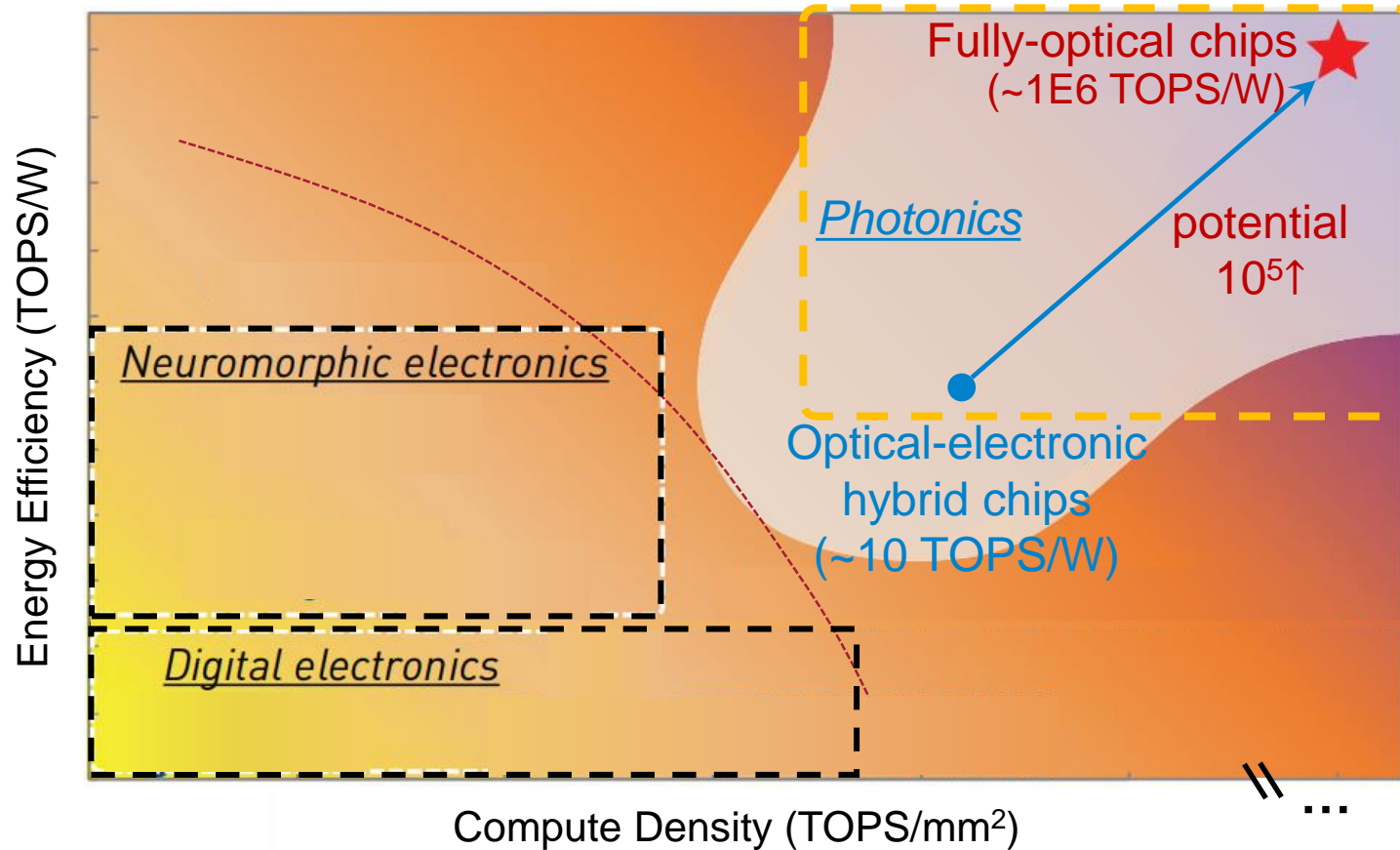
WDM+PD



Photonic Computing Chips

- Evolve from electronics to integrated photonics

What is unique about photonics?



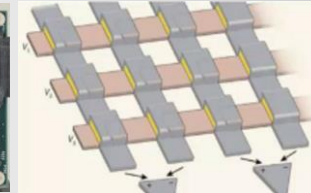
Nanophotonic ASIC



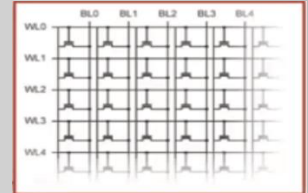
Analog neuromorphic electronics



IBM TrueNorth



Memristor



Flash

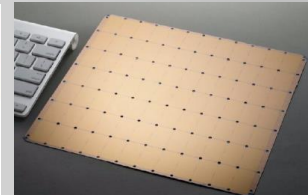
Digital electronics



NVIDIA GPU



Google TPU

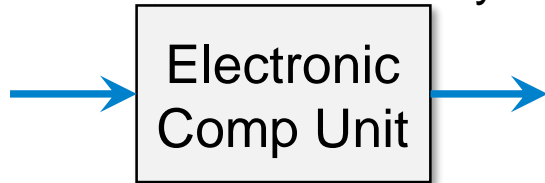


Cerebras ASIC

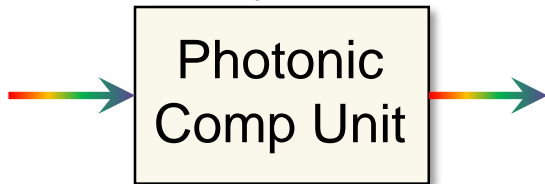
Electrical Computing vs **Photonic** Computing

High speed

Delay $100\text{ ns} \sim 1\ \mu\text{s}$
A few hundred clock cycles

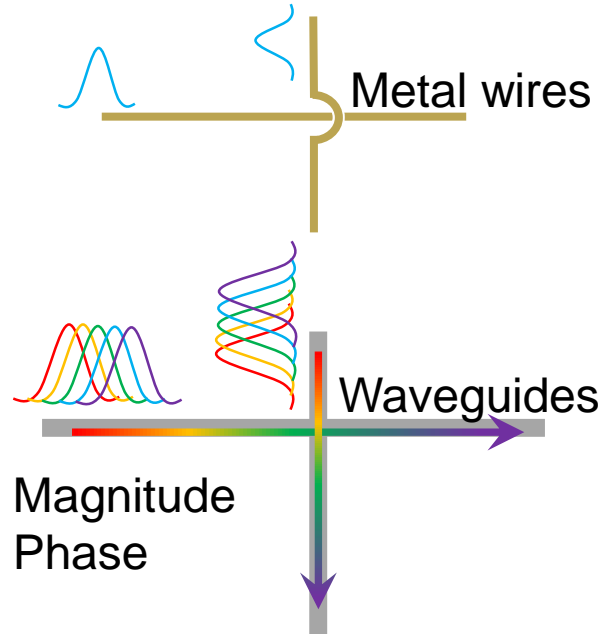


Delay $\ll 1\text{ ns}$



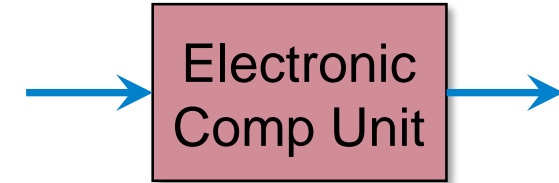
Computing as light propagate

Massive parallelism



Light propagate in parallel

High energy efficiency



Passive circuits consumes near zero static power



Application Potentials of Photonic Computing

- **Ultra-fast, efficient** digital control / ALU
- **Energy-efficient, real-time** machine intelligence

Fast edge/mobile processing



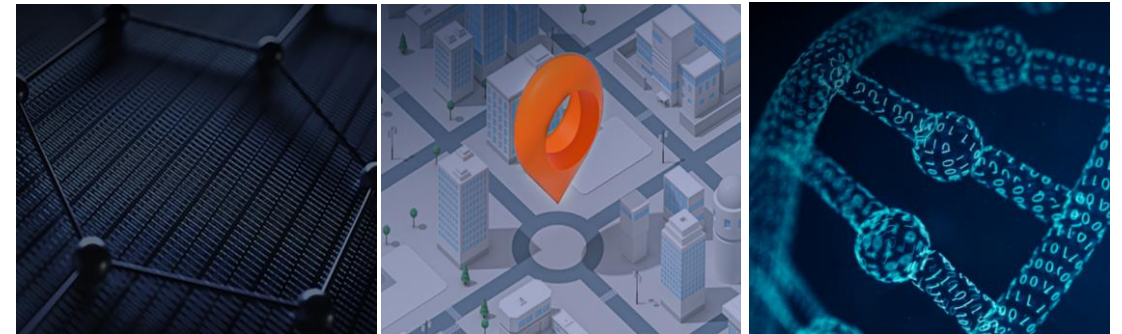
High-throughput datacenter processing



Smart commun. network, distributed computing



Scientific comp., optimization, bio / material..



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Progress in Optical Digital Computing

Arithmetic operations

Full adder (2020)
Comparator (2021)

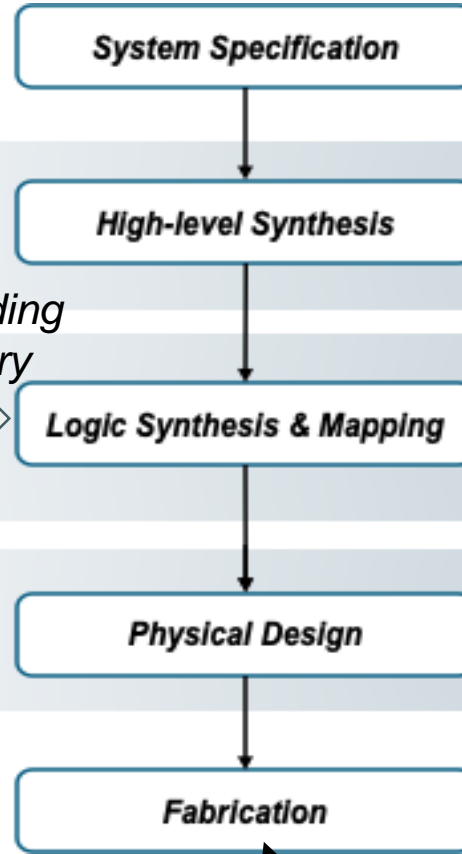
Control circuits

Parity checker (2018)
Decoder and multiplexer (2020)

Bitwise Logic operations

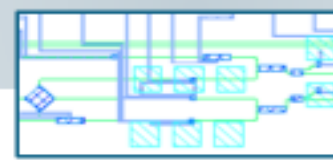
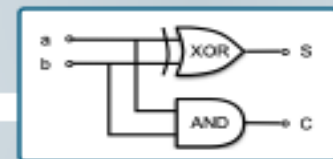
NOR gate (2011) XOR gate (2012)
Multi-operand (2019)

Optical building block library



```

module adder;
input a, b;
input cin;
....
endmodule
  
```



Relatively mature EDA tools



BDD-based Synthesis (2016~)

Power Efficient Synthesis (2018~)

WDM Synthesis (2019)

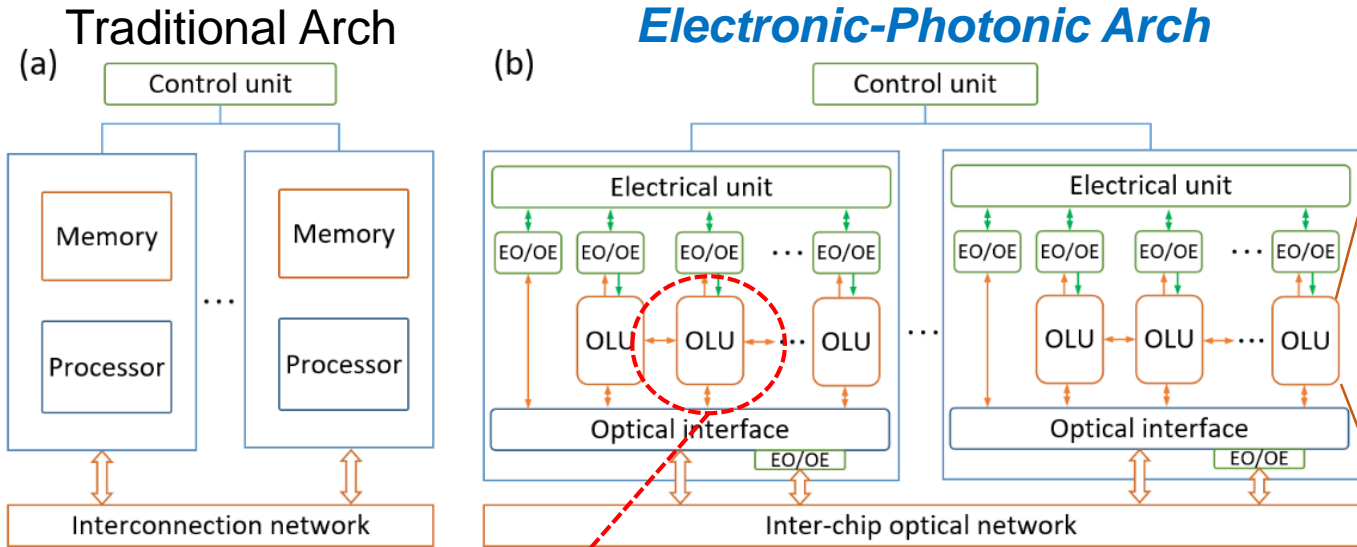
Preliminary EPDA tools



Optical Interconnect Synthesis (2016~)



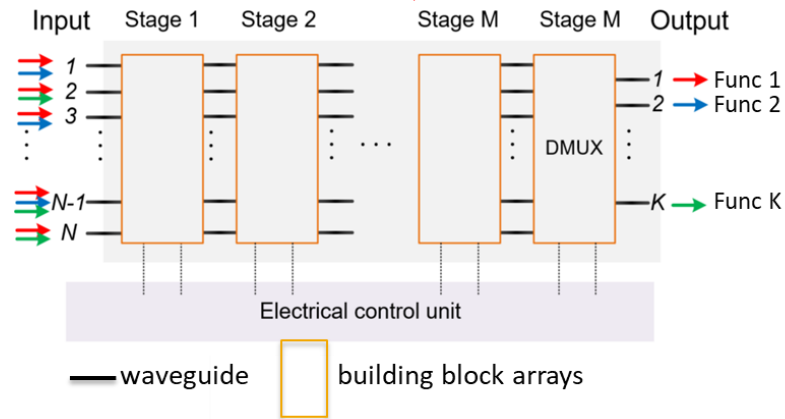
WDM-based Electronic-Photonic Computing Circuits



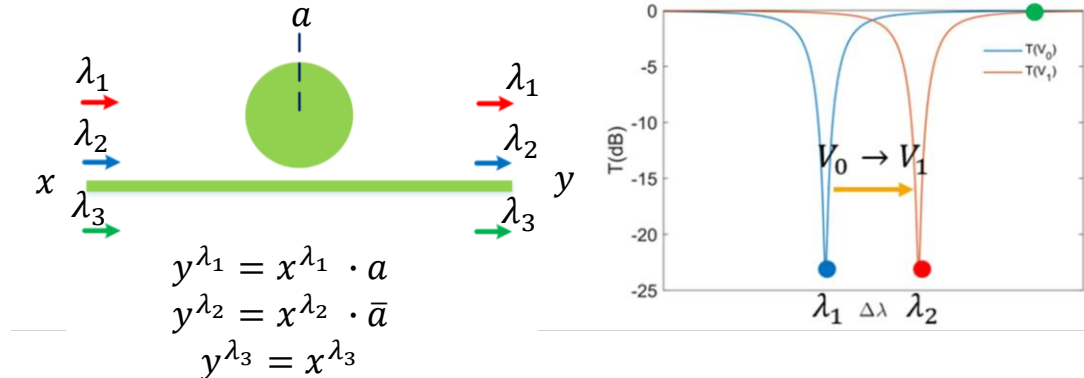
OLU Features

- Inheritance: light in and light out
- Continuity: no OE/EO conversion
- Independence: no product between two optical basis
- Parallelism: multiple input λ s, multiple logic functions

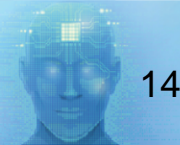
Multiple wavelengths reuse the same unit !



(c) WDM-based Optical logic unit [2]

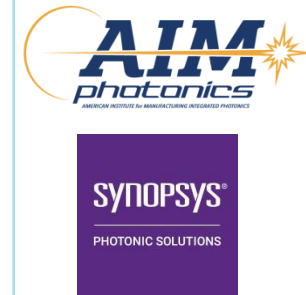
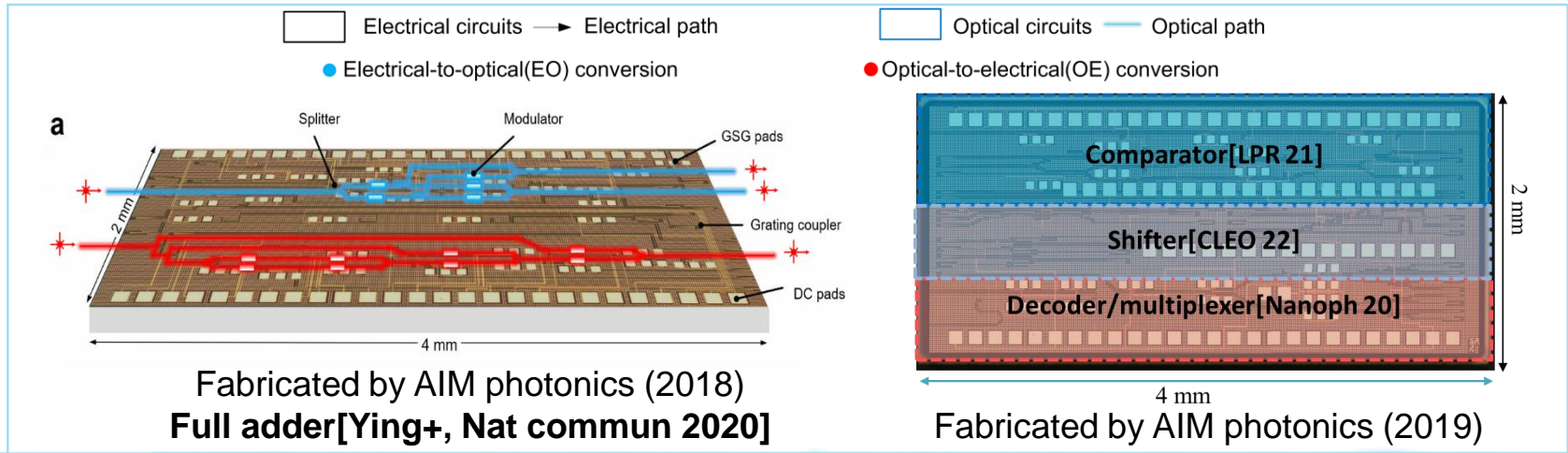
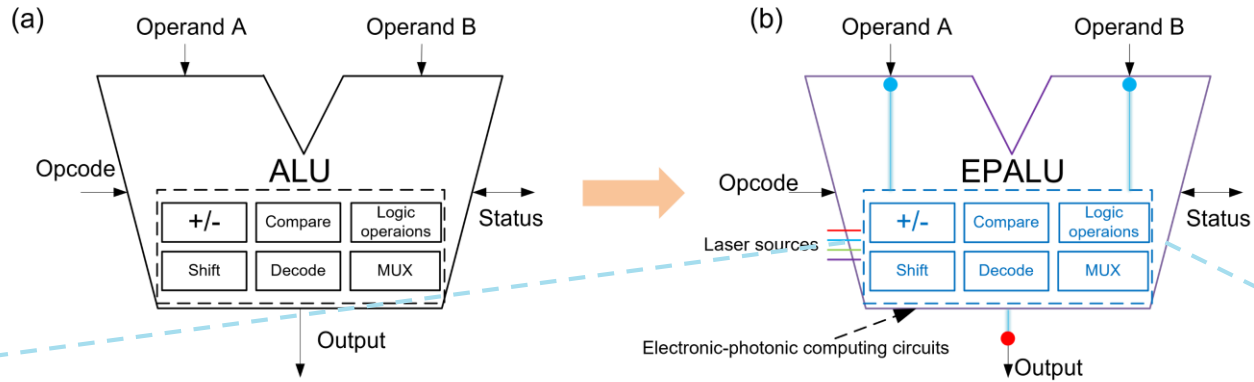


(d) Hardware efficiency improvement of electrooptic (EO) logic gates using wavelength division multiplexing (WDM)



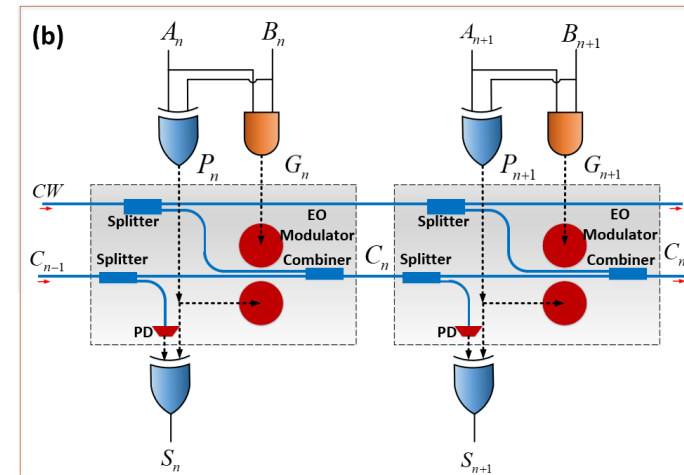
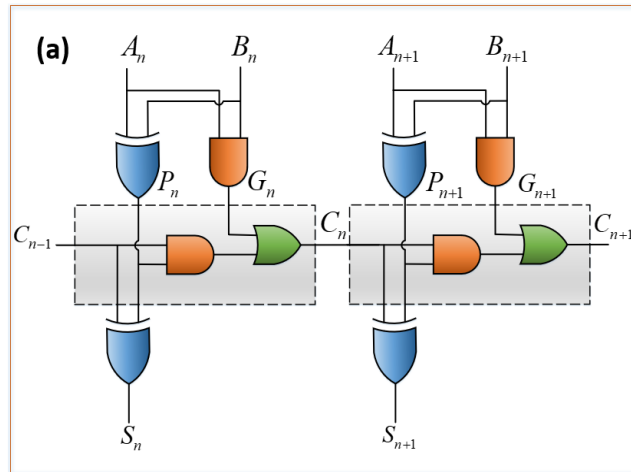
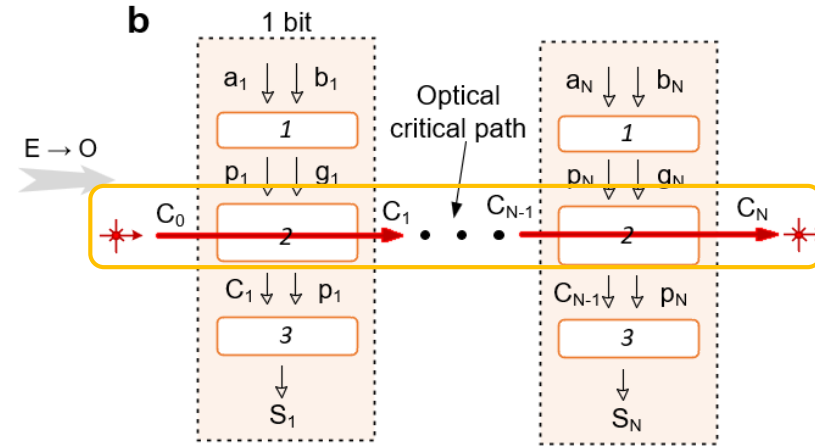
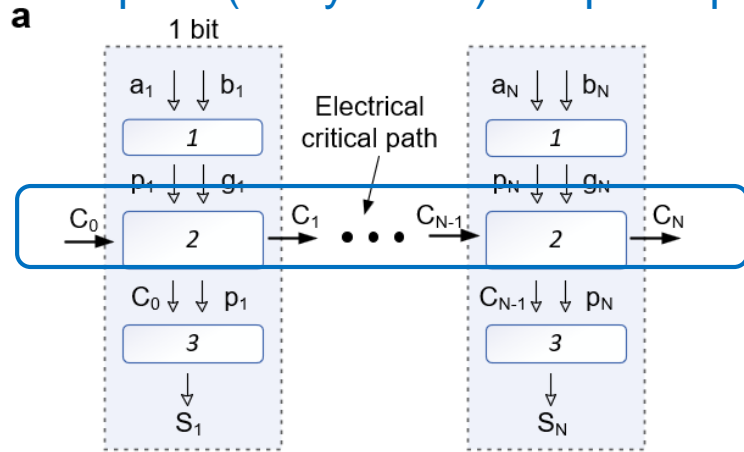
Photonic-Electronic Arithmetic Logic Unit (ALU)

- From electrical ALU to high-speed and energy-efficient photonic-electronic ALU
- We demonstrate 20Gb/s photonic-electronic digital computing chips
- For general-purpose digital computing



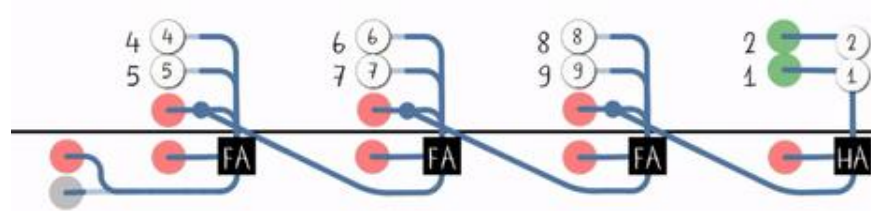
WDM-based Electronic Photonic Carry-Select Adder

Replace electrical path (carry chain) to optical path

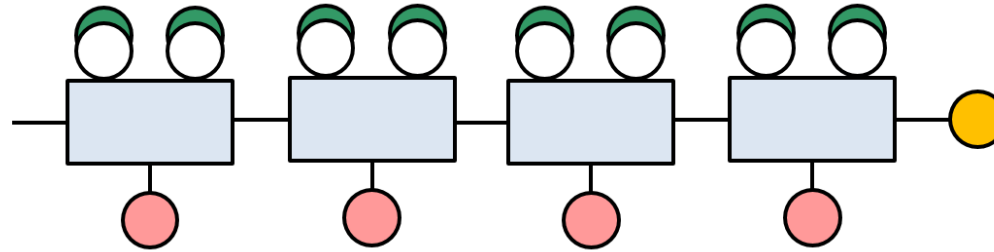


Advantages of Using Optics to Implement Additions

Electrical full adder



Optical full adder



Latency of electrical full adder

$$T = T_{p,g} + T_{epb} \times n$$

Reduced to

$$T_{opb} \ll T_{epb}$$

Latency of optical full adder

$$T = T_{p,g} + T_{sw} + T_{opb} \times n$$

Delay for generating P and G

$$T_{p,g}$$

Switch time of modulators

$$T_{sw}$$

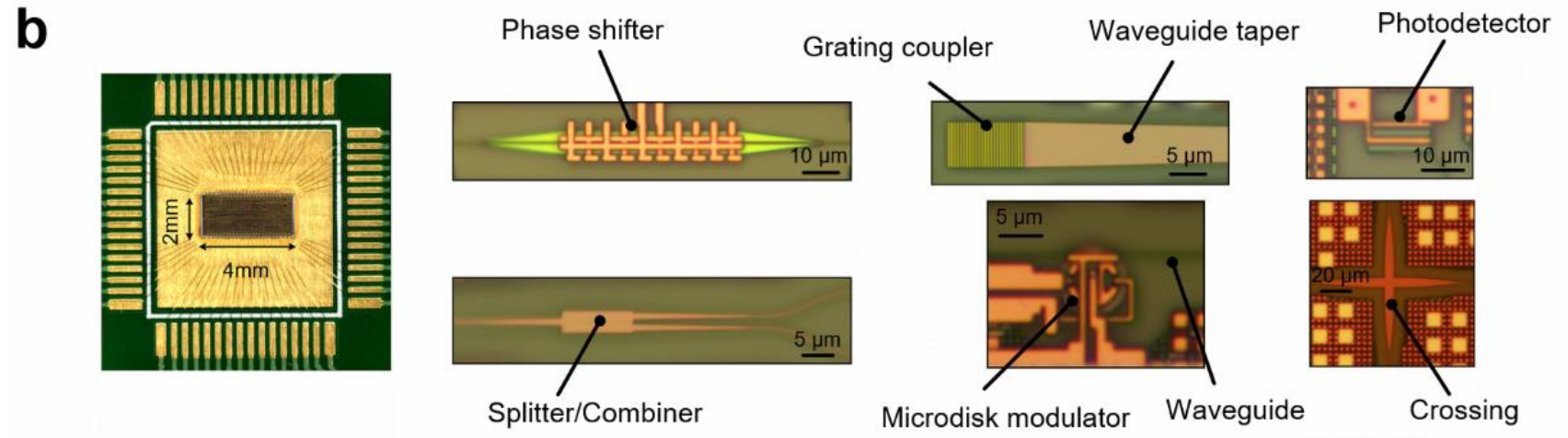
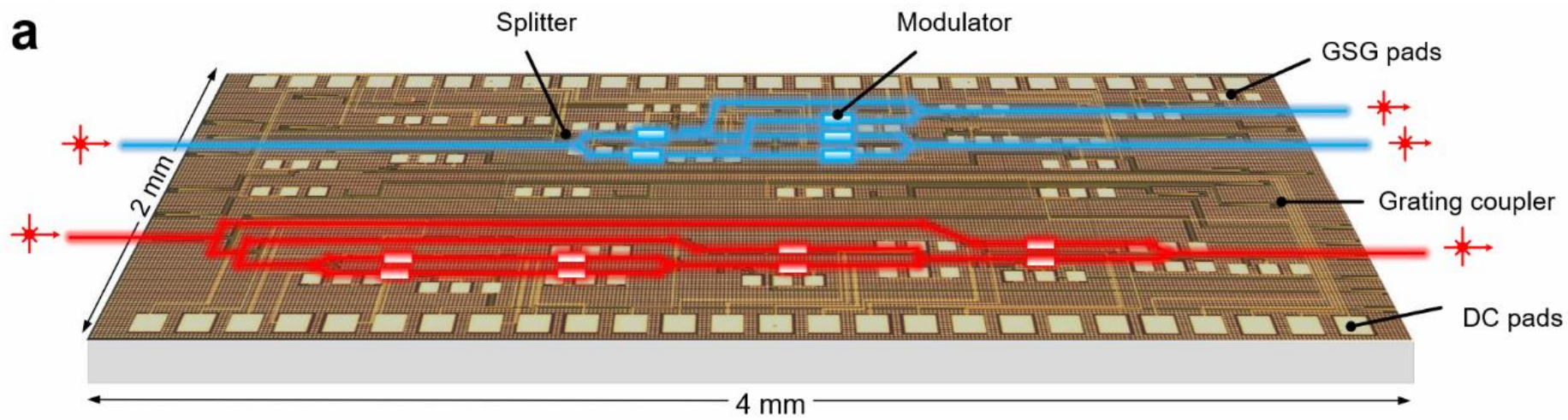
Optical propagation delay per bit

$$T_{opb}$$

Electrical delay per bit

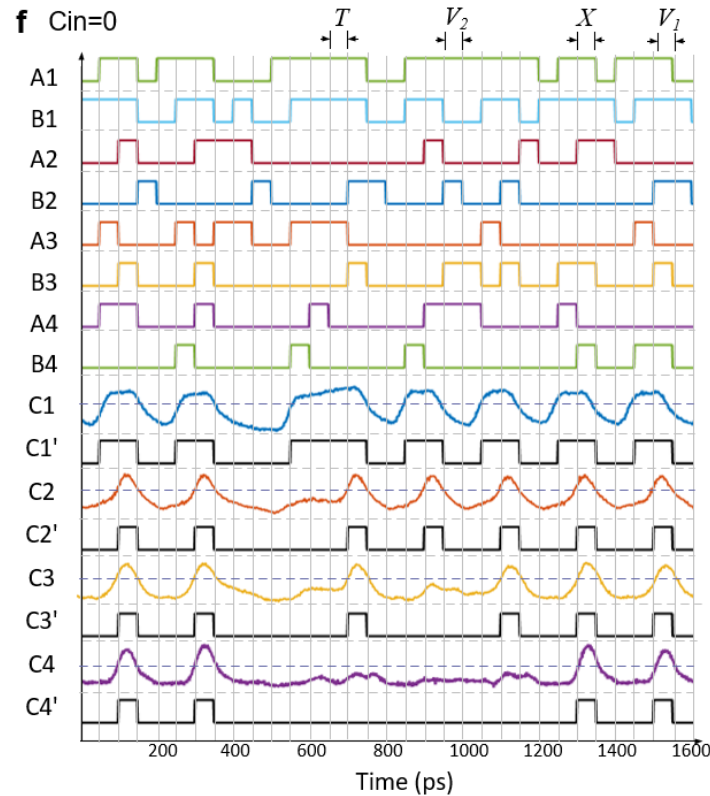
$$T_{epb}$$

Chip Layout of the Electronic Photonic Full Adder



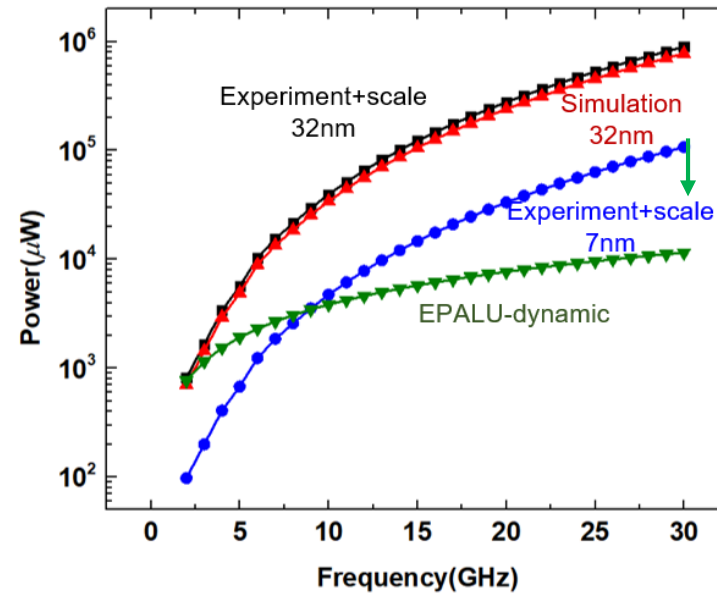
Comparison with the State-of-the-art Transistors

- Compared to 32 nm / 7nm (scaling) from Intel
- 4× faster (20 GHz vs 5 GHz)
- >10× more energy-efficient

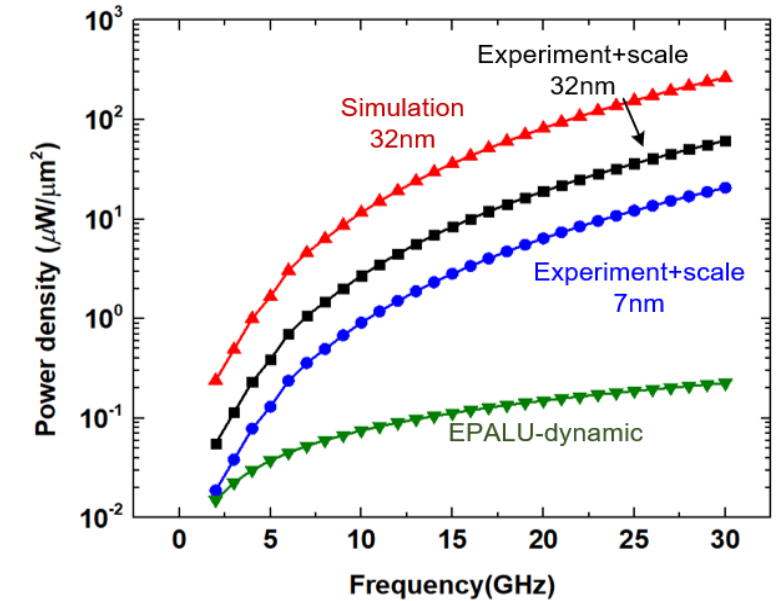


20 Gb/s

**10× Low power than
7nm @20 GHz**

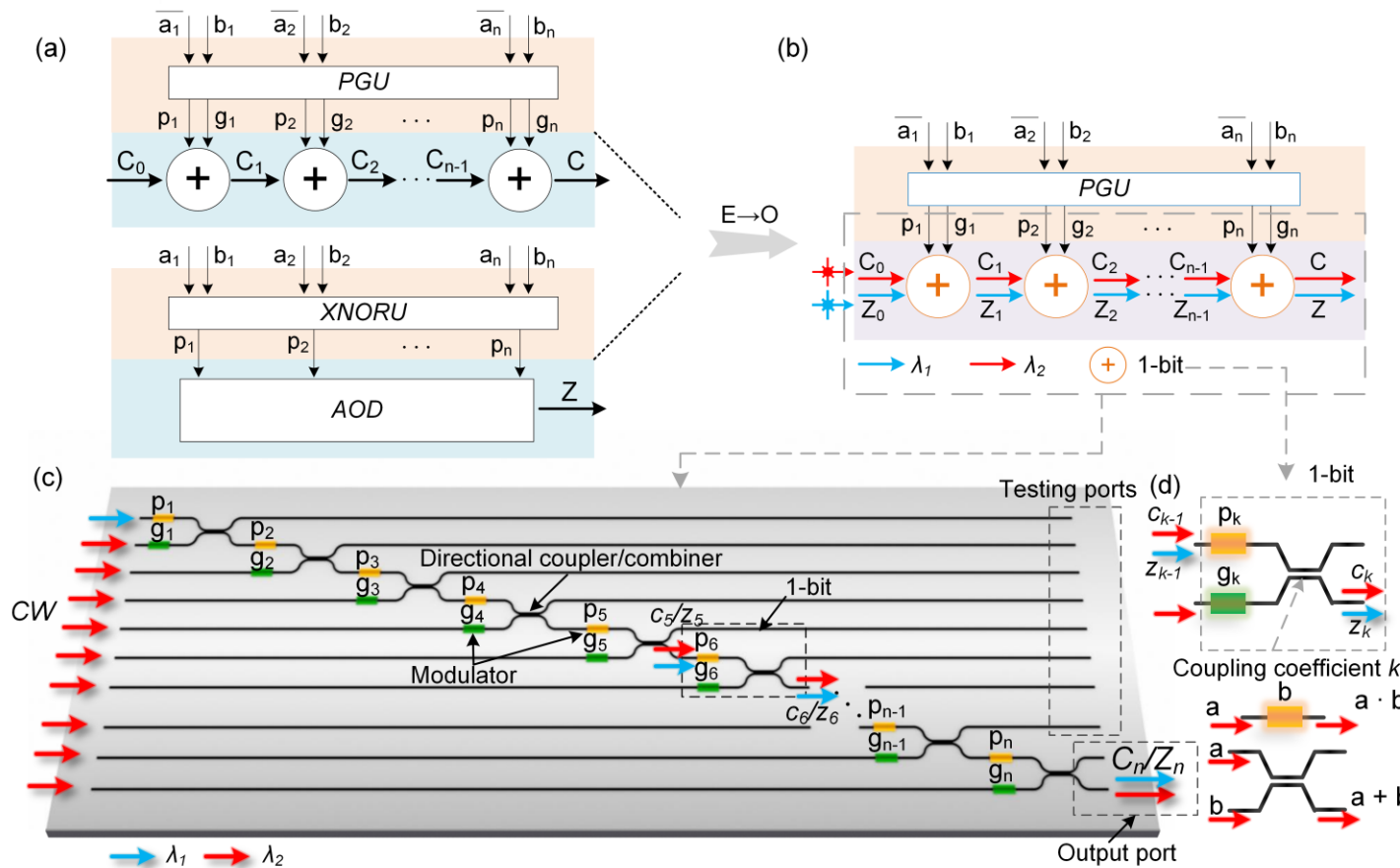


**>70× Low power density
than 7 nm @ 20 GHz**



WDM-based Photonic-Electronic Unsigned Comparator

WDM-based comparator: Different λ s, different functions



$C: A < B?$
 $Z: A = B?$

Truth table

C	Z	Result
0	1	A=B
0	0	A>B
1	0	A<B

$$p_k = a_k \otimes b_k$$

$$g_k = a_k \cdot \overline{b_k}$$

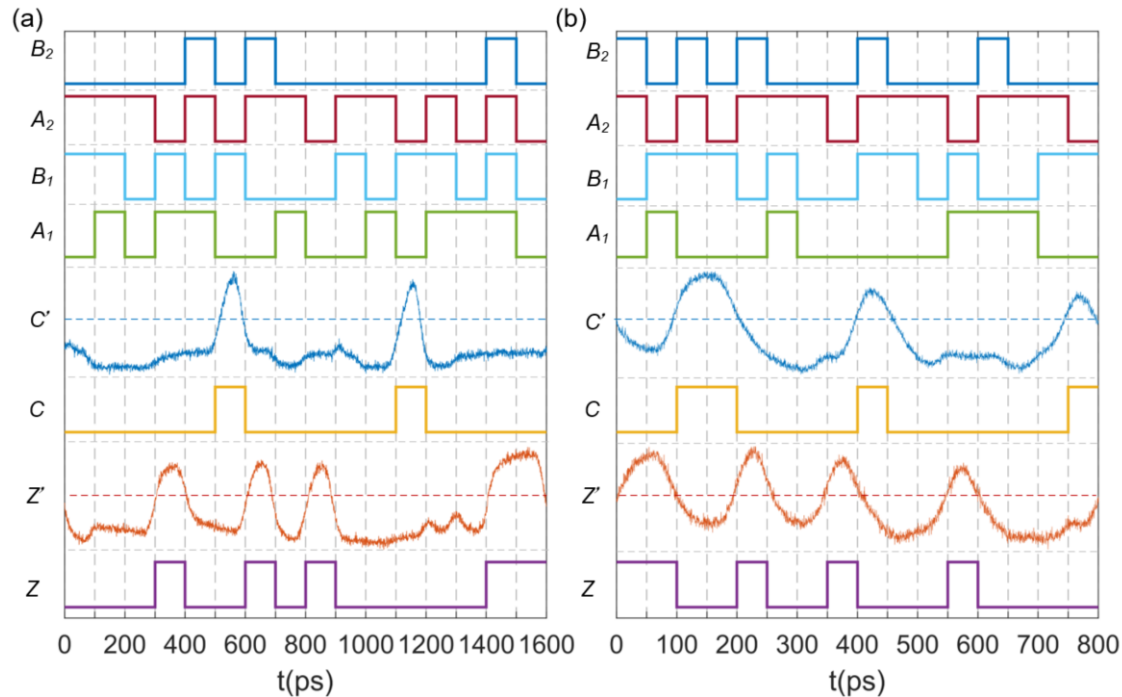
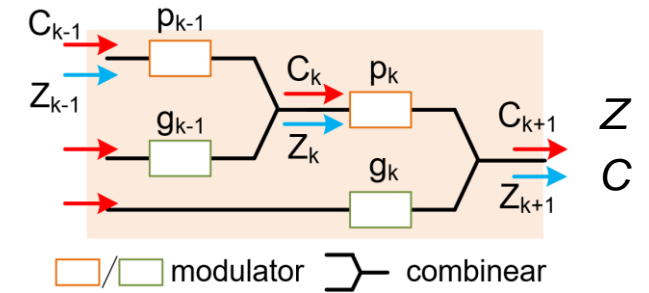
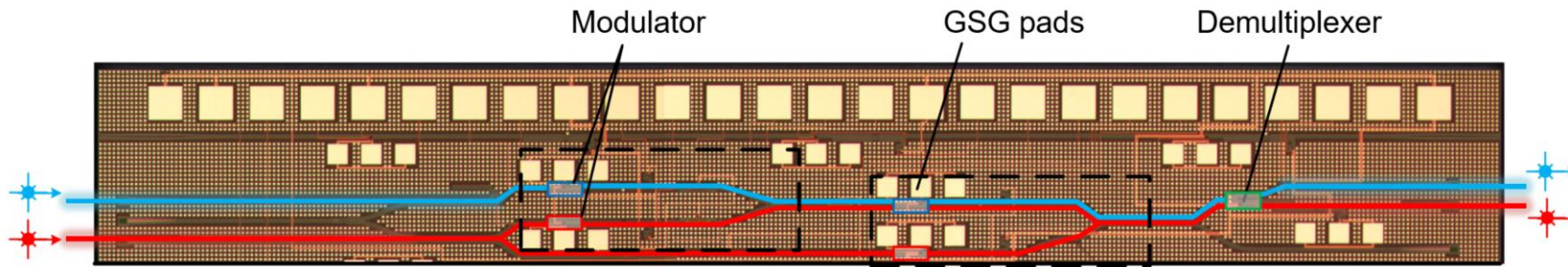
$$C_k = p_k \cdot C_{k-1} + g_k$$

$$Z_k = p_k \cdot Z_{k-1}$$

[Feng C. et al., Laser & Photonics Reviews, 2021]



Experimental Results (2-bit unsigned comparator)



@10 Gb/s

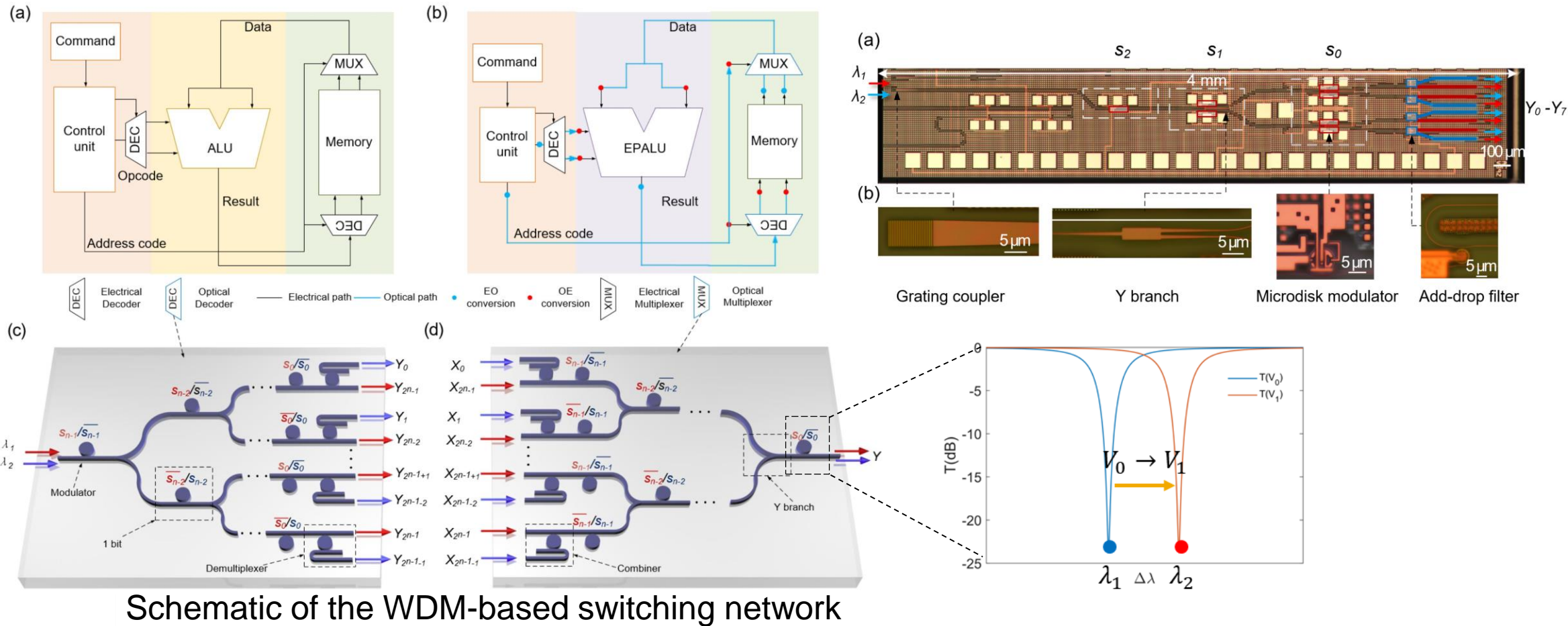
@20 Gb/s

C	Z	Result
0	1	A=B
0	0	A>B
1	0	A<B

Truth table

WDM-based Electronic-Photonic Switching Network

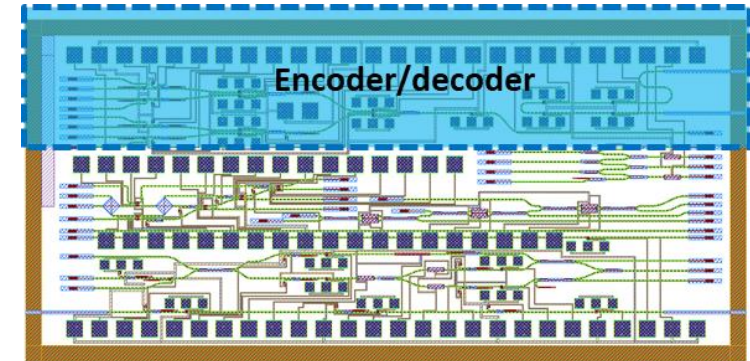
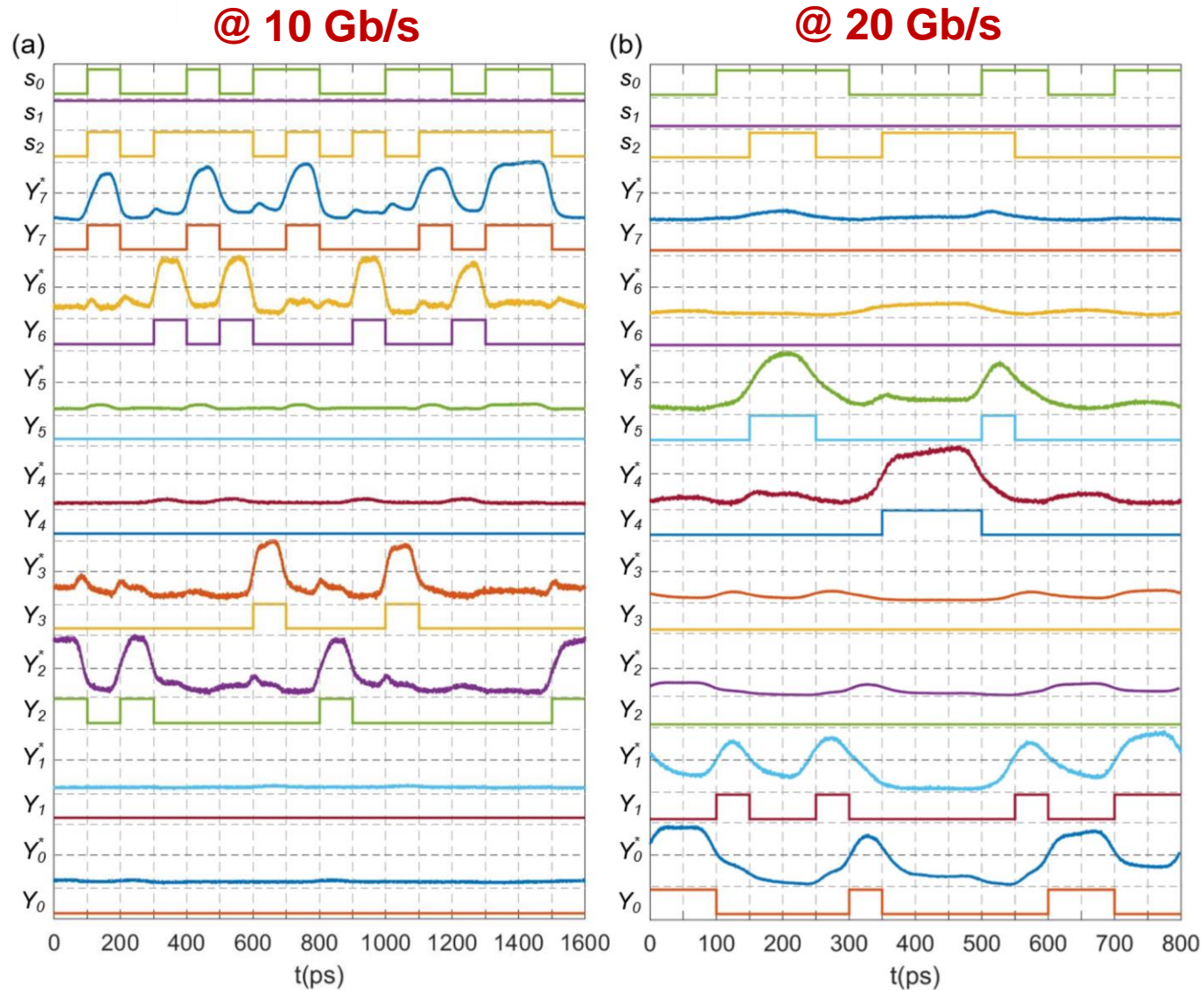
- Applications: decoder, multiplexer, demultiplexer



Schematic of the WDM-based switching network

[Feng C. *et al.*, *Nanophotonics*, 2020]

Experimental Results of the 3-8 Optical Decoder



Output	Input
Y_7	$X_3X_2X_1$
Y_6	$X_3X_2\bar{X}_1$
Y_5	$X_3\bar{X}_2X_1$
Y_4	$X_3\bar{X}_2\bar{X}_1$
Y_3	$\bar{X}_3X_2X_1$
Y_2	$\bar{X}_3X_2\bar{X}_1$
Y_1	$\bar{X}_3\bar{X}_2X_1$
Y_0	$\bar{X}_1\bar{X}_2\bar{X}_3$

Truth table

Outline of Tutorial I

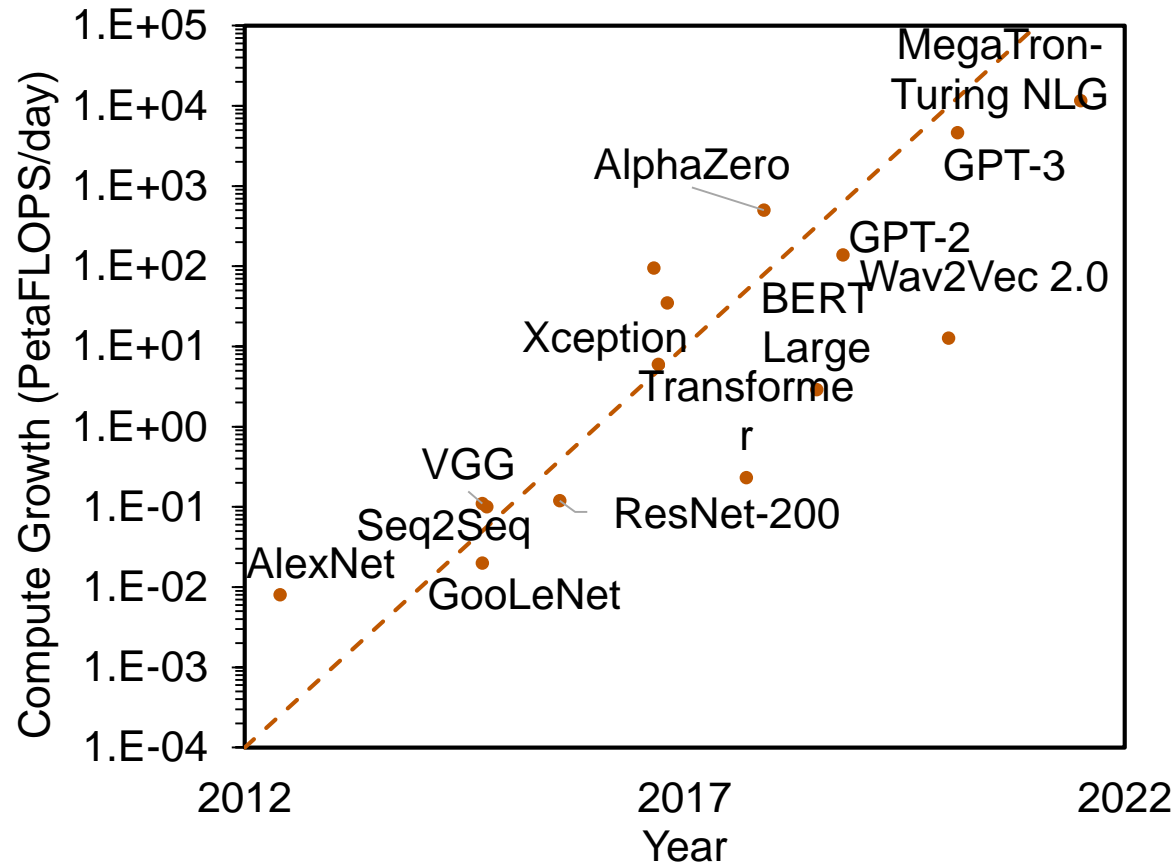
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Hardware Limits in Machine Learning

ML Compute
×2 every 3.5 months

~5× the doubling rate

Moore's Law
×2 every 18 months

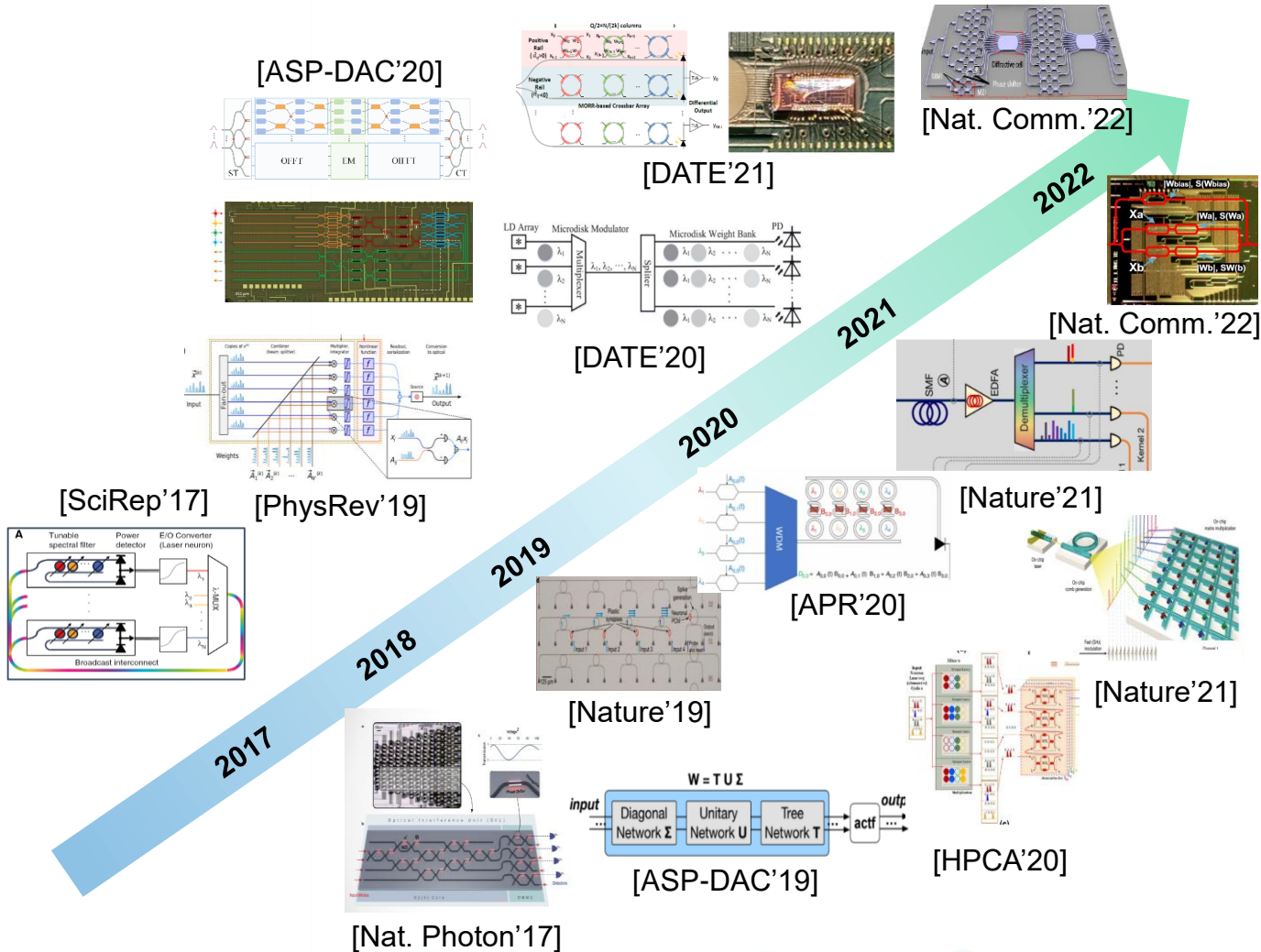


Need specialized / domain-specific computing hardware for speed and efficiency breakthrough



Photonic AI is Booming

Photonic Neural Network Trends in Academia

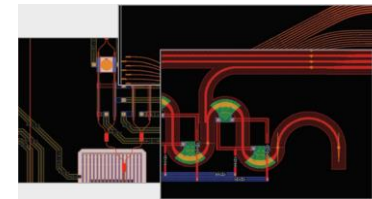


Foundry / EPDA Support in Industry

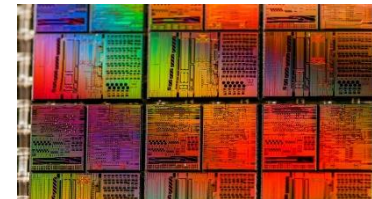
Photonic Computing Chip Designs



Electronic-Photonic Design Automation Tools


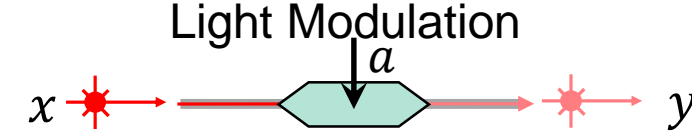
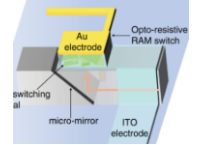
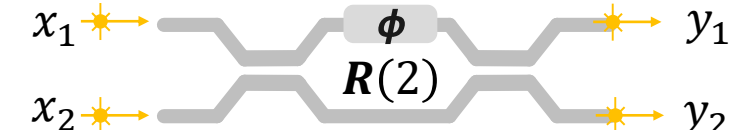
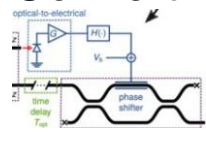
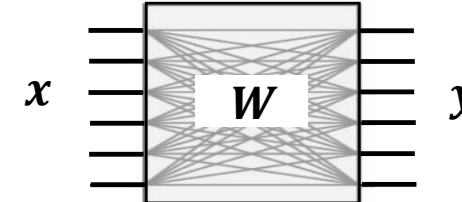
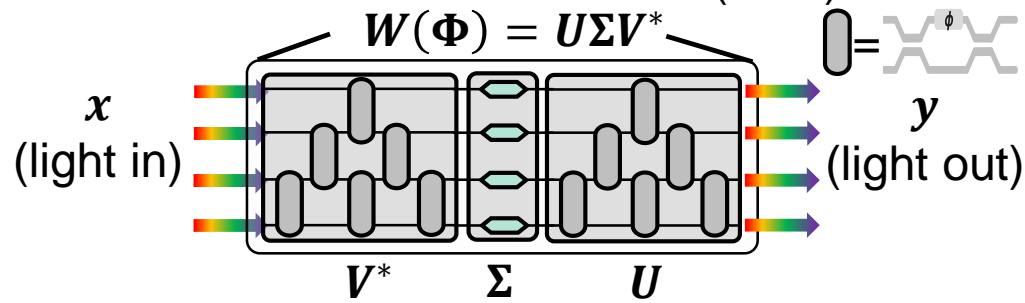


PDK / Tape-out / Packaging Support



Photonic AI Computing Basics

- Principle: light modulation, interference, photodetection
- Good at **ultra-fast, parallel linear operations** in the *analog* domain

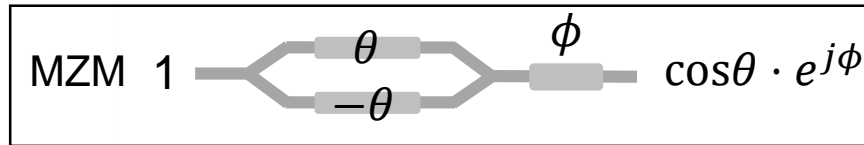
	Computing Primitives	Photonic Implementation
<p>Nonlinear Absorber</p> 	<p>Scalar Multiply</p> $y = a \cdot x$	<p>Light Modulation</p> 
<p>Optical RRAM</p> 	<p>2x2 Unitary Matrix Multiply</p> $y = R(2) \times x$ $R(2) = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \phi & -\sin \phi \\ \sin \phi & \cos \phi \end{pmatrix}$	<p>Mach-Zehnder Interferometer (MZI)</p> 
<p>E/O Convert</p>  <p>...</p>	<p>Matrix-Vector Multiply (MVM)</p> $y = W \times x$ 	<p>Photonic Tensor Core (PTC)</p> $W(\Phi) = U \Sigma V^*$ 

One-shot computing at speed-of-light!

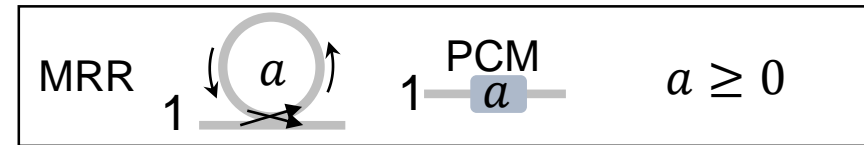
Photonic Tensor Core (PTC) Categories

Encoding

Coherent $|x|e^{j\phi(x)}$: magnitude + phase

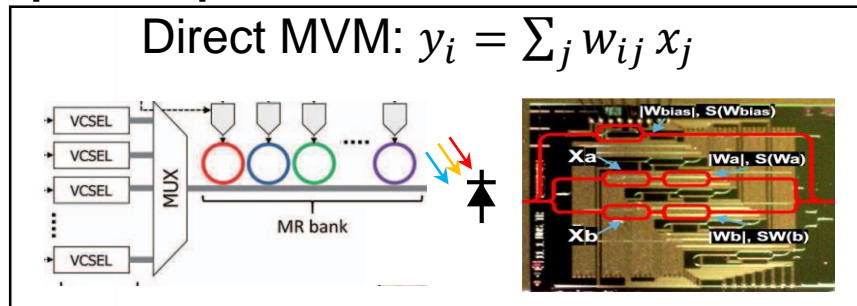


Incoherent $|x|$: magnitude-only

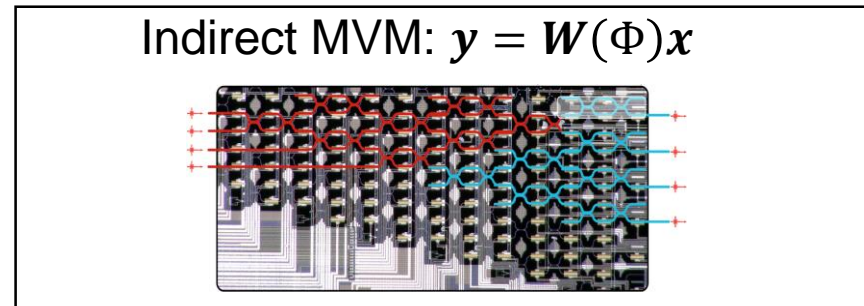


MVM principle

Direct MVM: $y_i = \sum_j w_{ij} x_j$

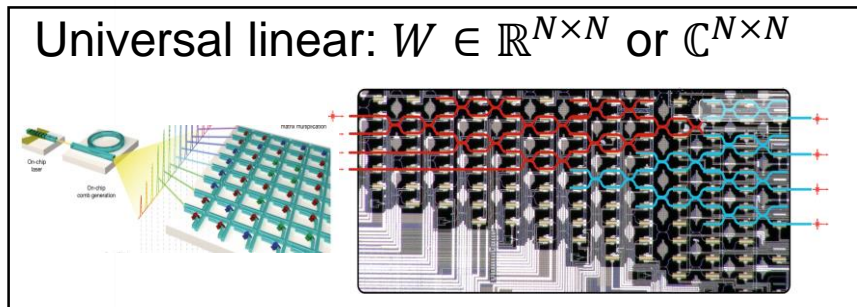


Indirect MVM: $y = W(\Phi)x$

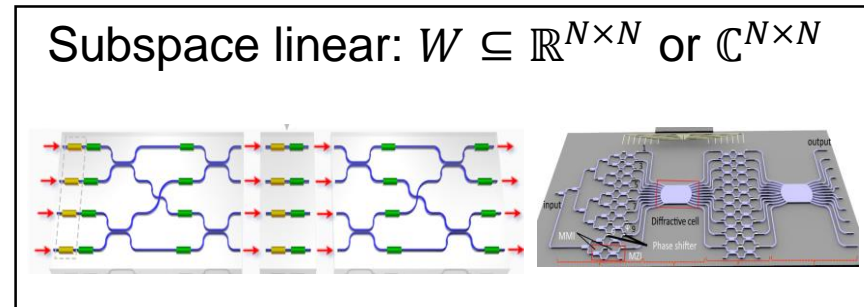


Matrix Expressivity

Universal linear: $W \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times N}$ or $\mathbb{C}^{N \times N}$



Subspace linear: $W \subseteq \mathbb{R}^{N \times N}$ or $\mathbb{C}^{N \times N}$



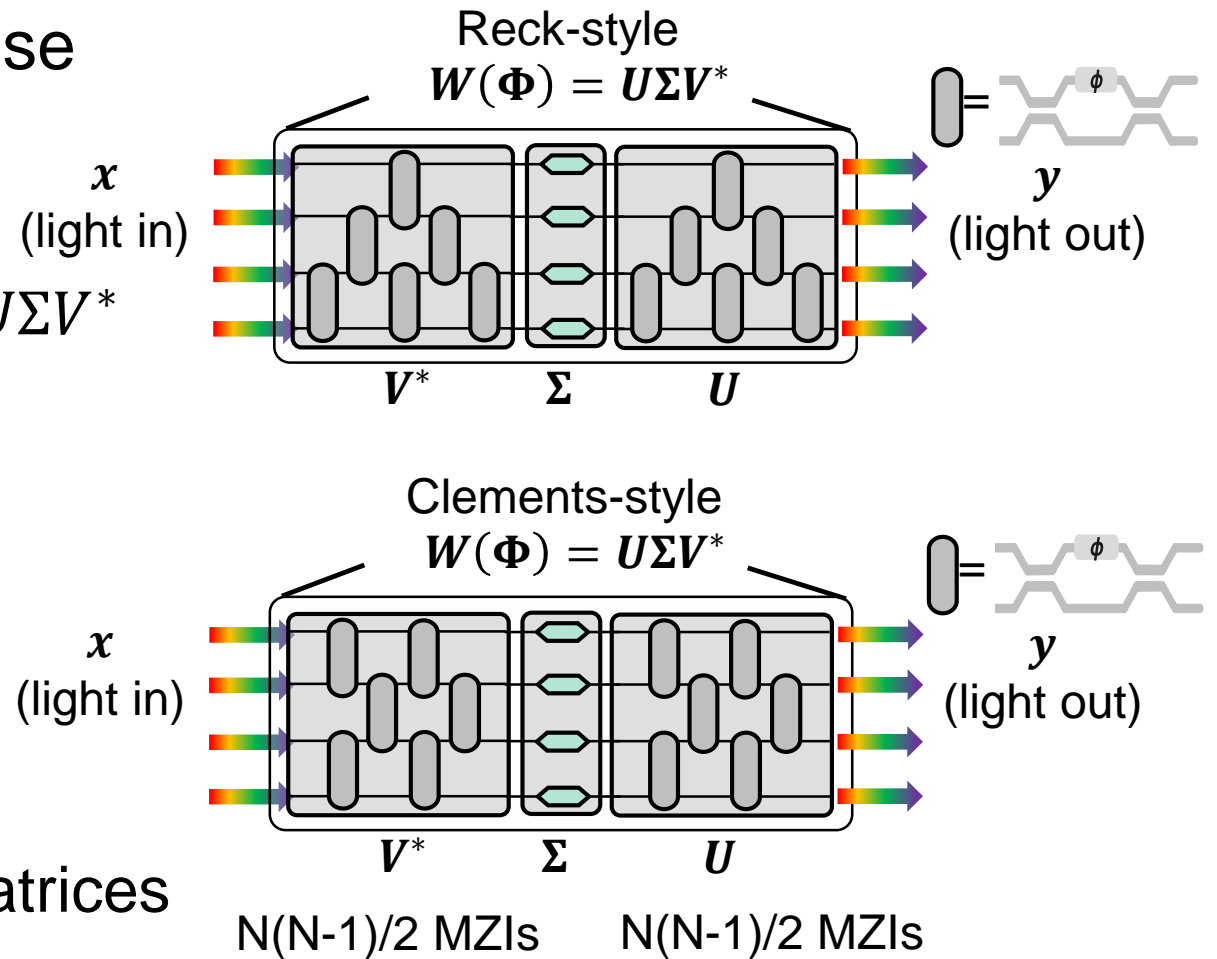
Coherent ONN Architectures

- Encoding: $|x|e^{j\phi(x)}$ magnitude + phase
- Computing: interference (indirect)
- MZI array [Shen+, Nat. Photon'17]
 - Singular value decomposition $W = U\Sigma V^*$
 - Phase decomposition

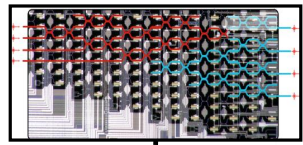
$$U(N) = D \prod_{i=N}^2 \prod_{j=1}^{i-1} R_{ij}(\phi_{ij})$$

$$R(2) = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \phi & -\sin \phi \\ \sin \phi & \cos \phi \end{pmatrix}$$

- Universal linear units for arbitrary matrices



Universal vs. Specialized Photonic Tensor Cores



[Nat. Photon.'17]

Universal Linear

**Trade off
expressivity vs.
efficiency**

**Specialized Hardware
for Subspace Linear**

[APL'19]	[Nature'21]	[Nature'22]	...
			...
[SciRep'17]	[DATE'19]	[Nature'21]	...
			...
[Nat. Comm.'22]	[APL Photon.'21]	[ACS Photon.'22]	...
			...
[DATE'21, TCAD'22]	[ASP-DAC'22]	[DAC'22]	...
			...
[ICCV'21]	[ICCAD'21]	[HPCA'23]	...
			...

**Cross-disciplinary
Research**

Photonics

**Design
Automation**

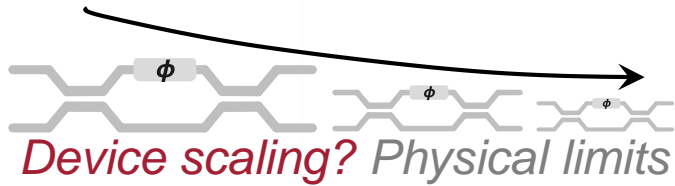
**ML /
Architecture**

Specialized Coherent ONN Architectures

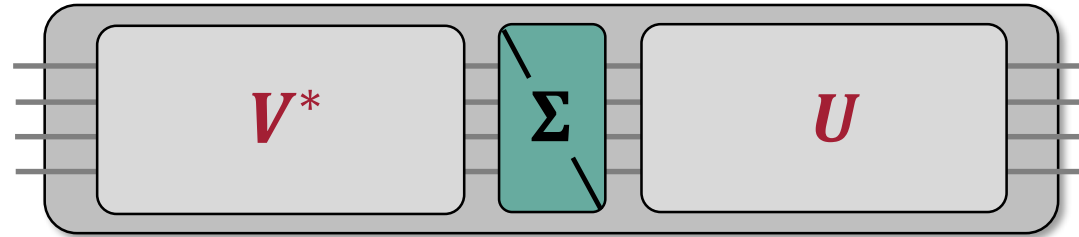
- Leverage the matrix redundancy \rightarrow reduce hardware cost \rightarrow subspace linear

Universal Linear Op

Bulky



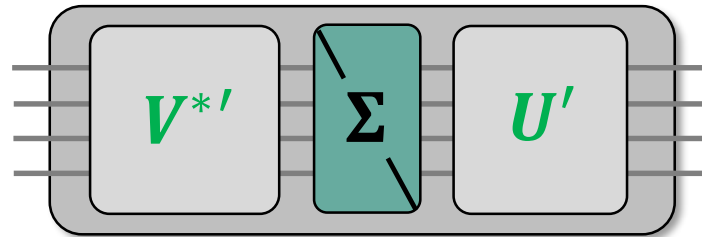
Large MZI array $\mathcal{O}(n^2)$ MZIs



Instead of having general matrices...

Compress

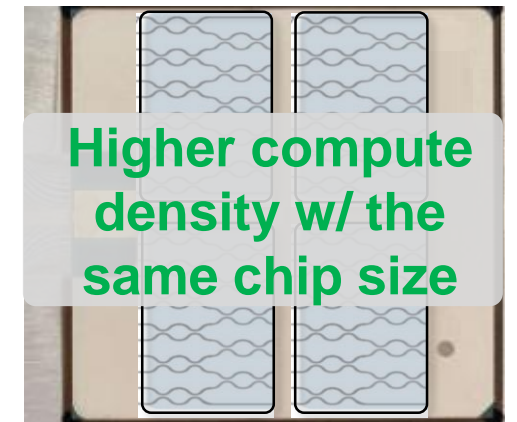
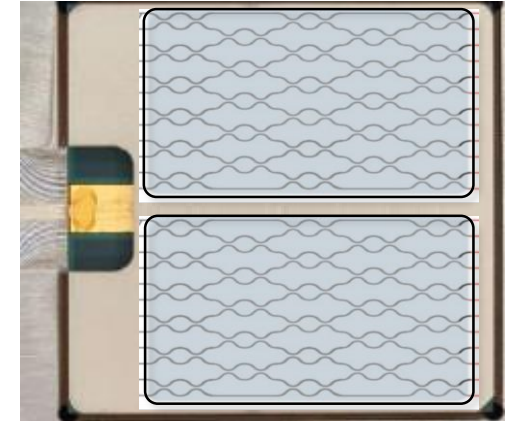
Subspace matrices



Compact photonic structure

Specialized Linear Op

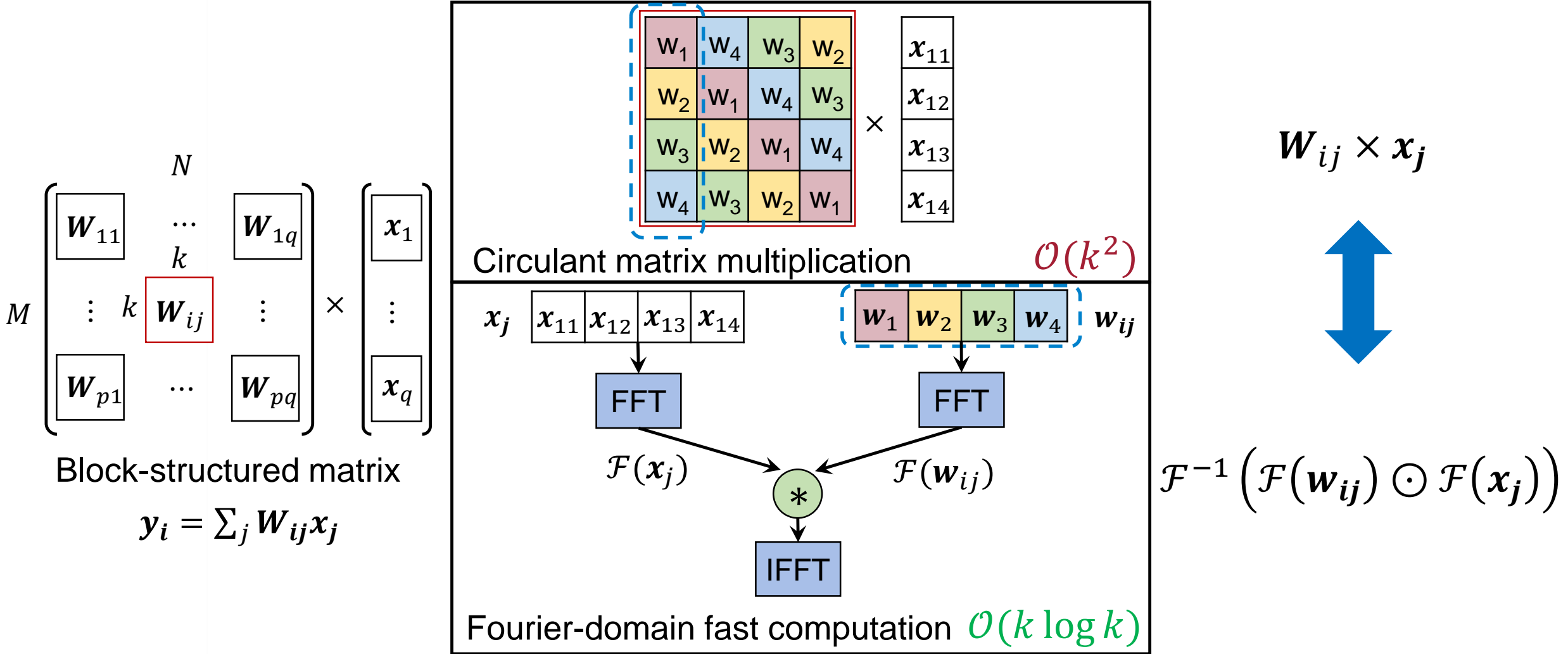
Compact



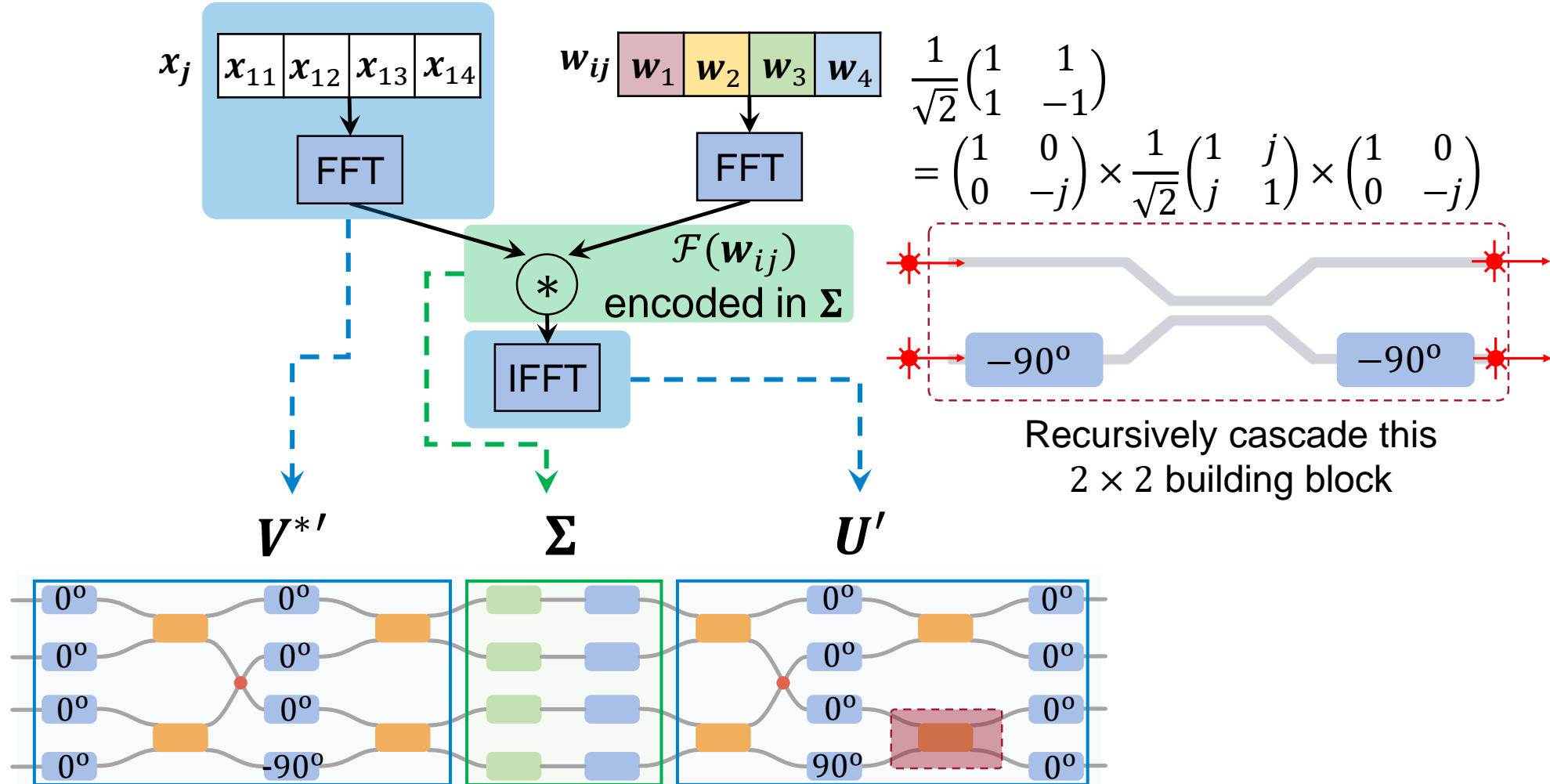
Higher compute density w/ the same chip size

Butterfly-style Photonic Tensor Core

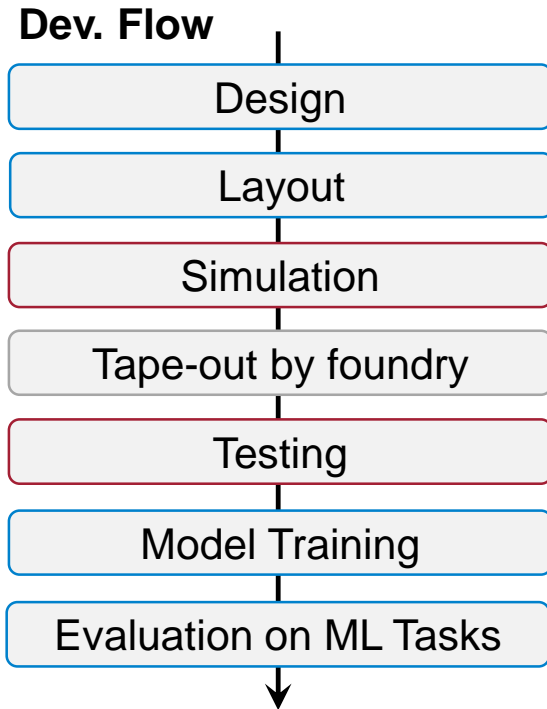
- Efficient circulant matrix multiplication in Fourier domain



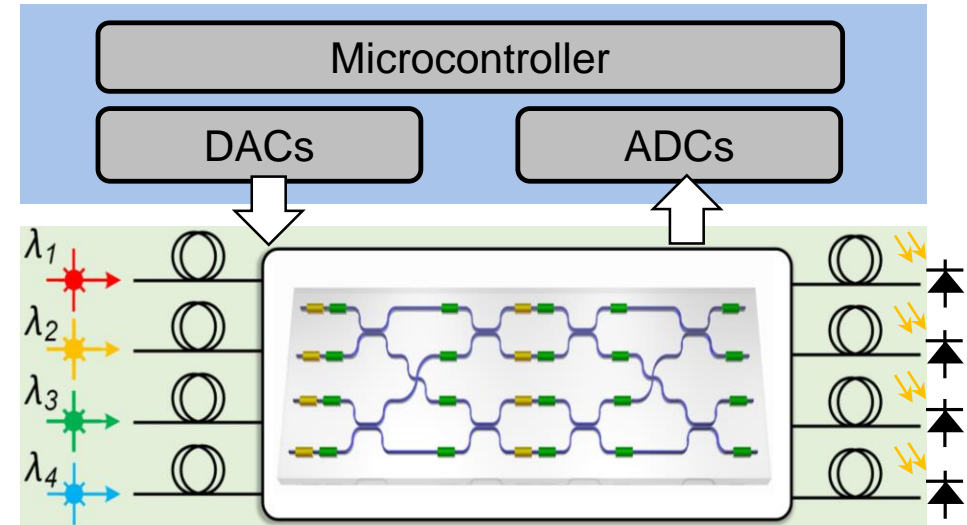
Butterfly Photonic Mesh for Circulant MVM



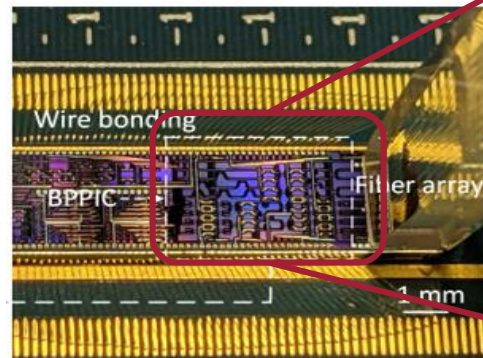
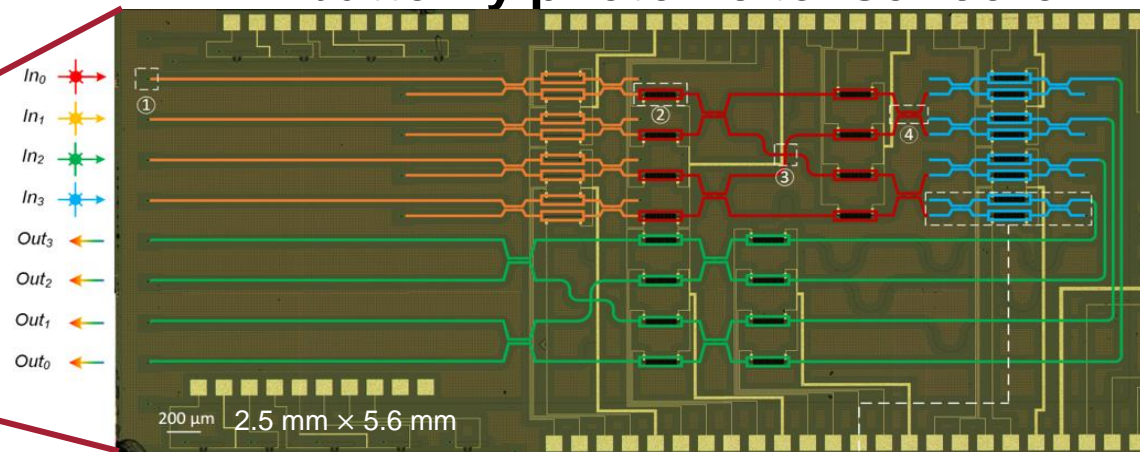
Photonic Neural Chip Tapeout & Demonstration



Electronic-photonic computing platform



4x4 butterfly photonic tensor core

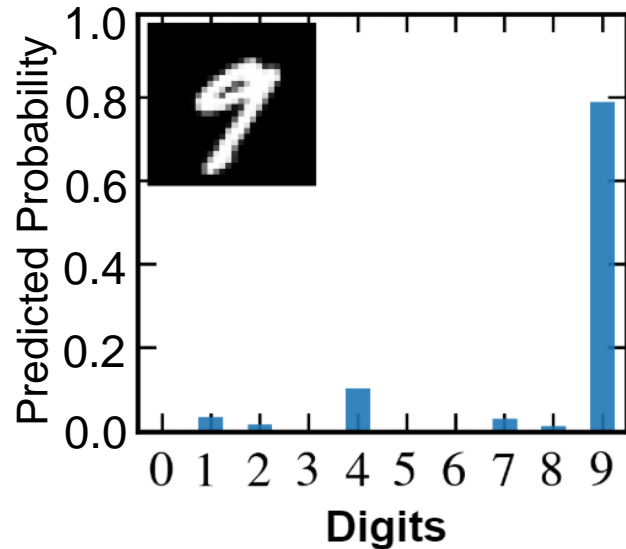


Evaluate on ML Tasks & Efficiency

>94% accuracy

2-layer CNN (1.6k #params)
MNIST

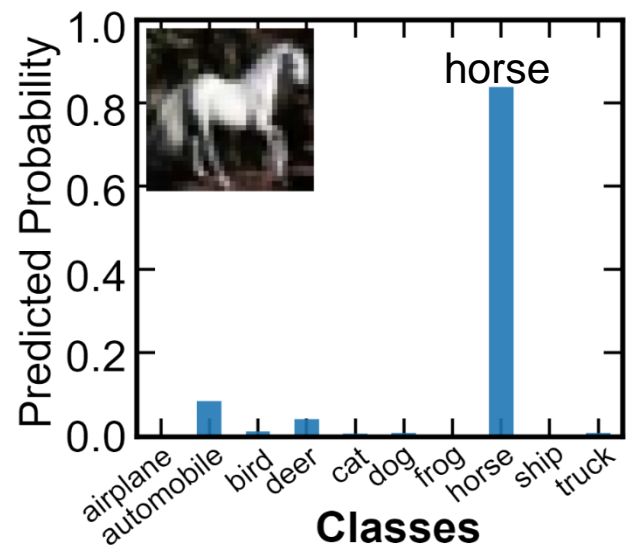
3-bit weight resolution
Fixed butterfly transform



>85% accuracy

ResNet-20 (0.27M #param)
CIFAR-10

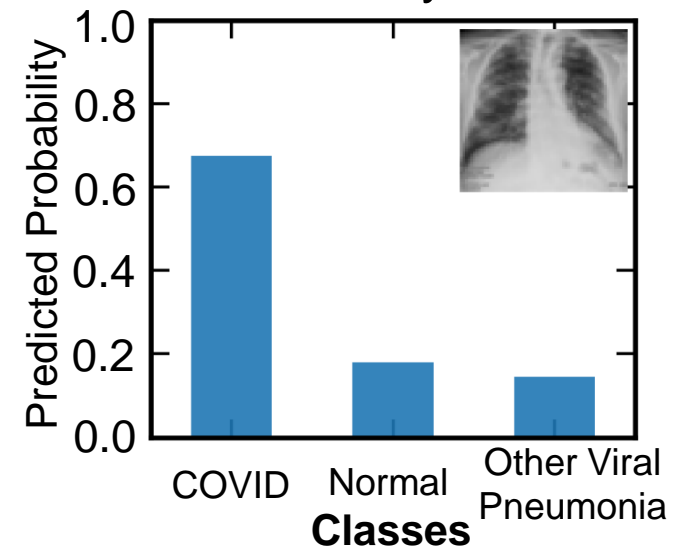
3-bit weight resolution
Fixed butterfly transform



96.5% accuracy

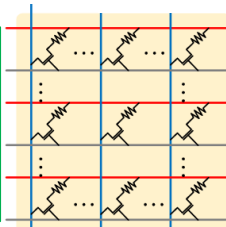
VGG8 (4M #params)
COVID Chest X-ray

3-bit weight resolution
Fixed butterfly transform



225 TOPS/mm²

2-4× smaller area & **5-13×** less optical delay than MZI-ONN [Nat. Photon.'17]



*Reference accuracy **85.6%**

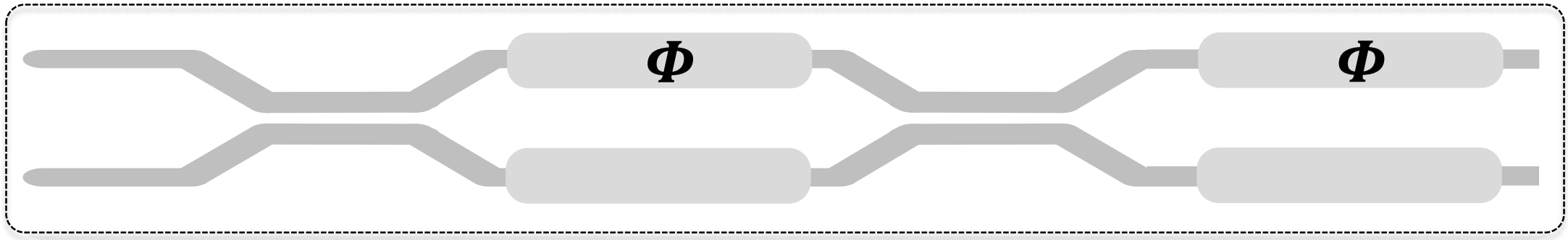
ResNet-20 CIFAR-10

ReRAM Crossbar **4-bit** weight (GEMM)

[Wan *et al.*, **Nature**, Aug. 2022]

Outline of Tutorial I

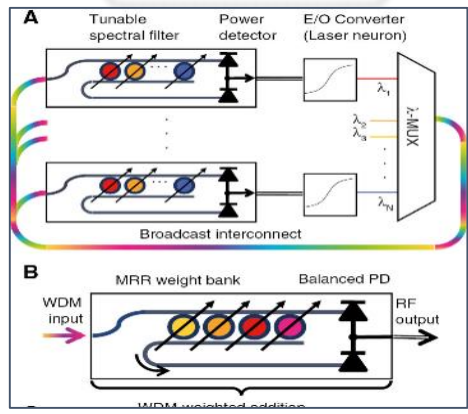
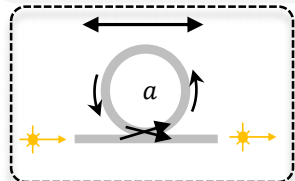
- Introduction to Optical Computing
- Design and Demonstration of Electronic-Photonic Digital Computing
- Analog Photonic Computing for Optical Neural Networks
 - Coherent Photonic Tensor Core
 - Incoherent Photonic Tensor Core



200-400 μm

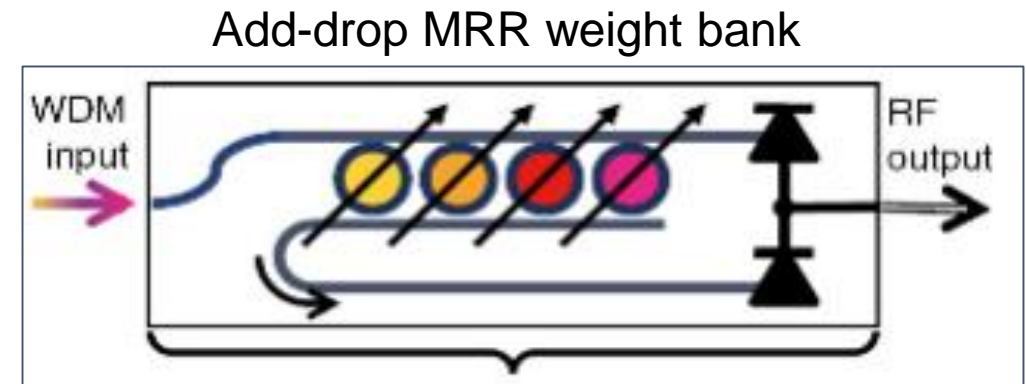
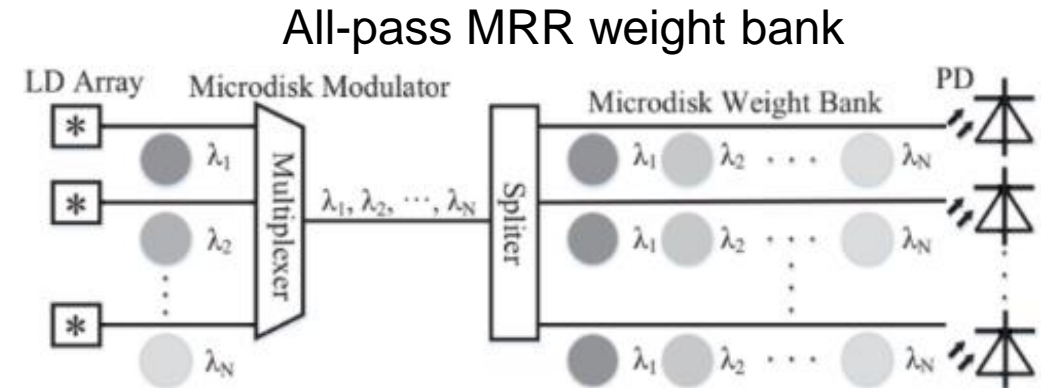


$\sim 10 \mu\text{m}$



Incoherent ONN Architectures

- Encoding: $|x|$
- Computing: Multi-wavelength modulation + photodetection
- Microring resonator (MRR) weight bank
- $y = w_1x_1 + w_2x_2 + w_3x_3 + \dots + w_nx_n$
- All-pass MRR weight bank
 - $w_i = a_i \in [0, 1]$
- Add-drop MRR weight bank
 - $w_i = a_i - (1 - a_i) = 2a_i - 1 \in [-1, 1]$
- Compact in size
- Can we do it better?
 - Bottleneck by 1 Op/device



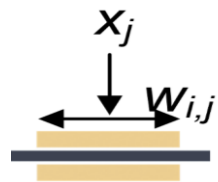
Customized Incoherent ONN Architectures

- **Multi-operand** optical neuron (MOON):
 - **Single**-device to implement **vector-vector multiplications** (beyond 1 OP/device)
- Built-in non-linear transfer function $T(\cdot)$:

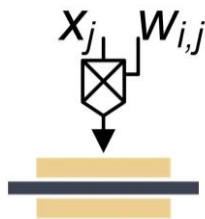
$$y_i = T \left(\sum_j \left(\phi_j(V_j) \right) \right)$$

$$V_j = w_j \cdot x_j \text{ or } \phi_j = w_j \cdot x_j \dots$$

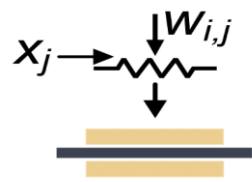
- Weight (w) and input (x) encoding:



Fixed weight

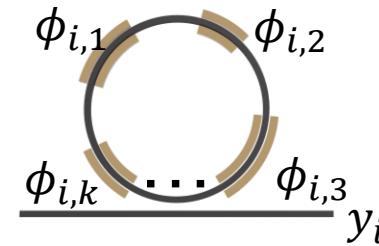


Map product

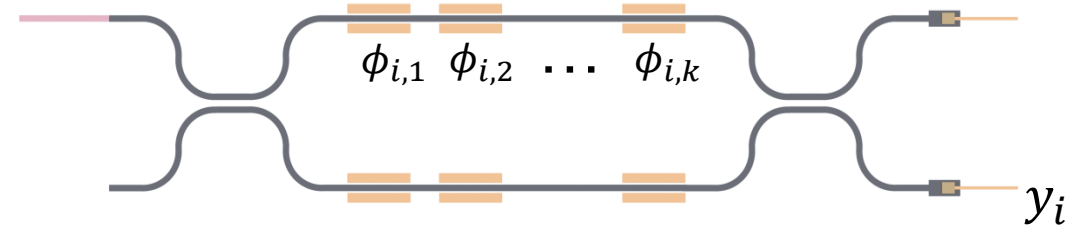


Programmable weight

$k \times$ higher compute density at the same cost



(a) Multi-operand microring



(b) Multi-operand MZI

(MOON) Multi-Operand Ring Resonators

- **MORR**: *k*-segment controllers on one micro-ring
- Single-device length-*k* **vector dot-product**

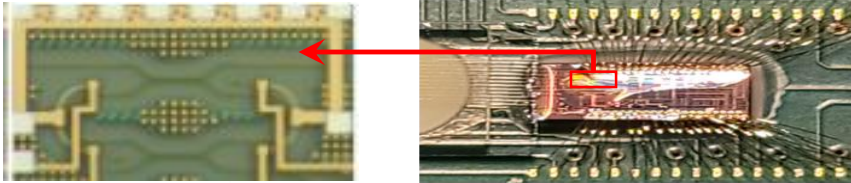
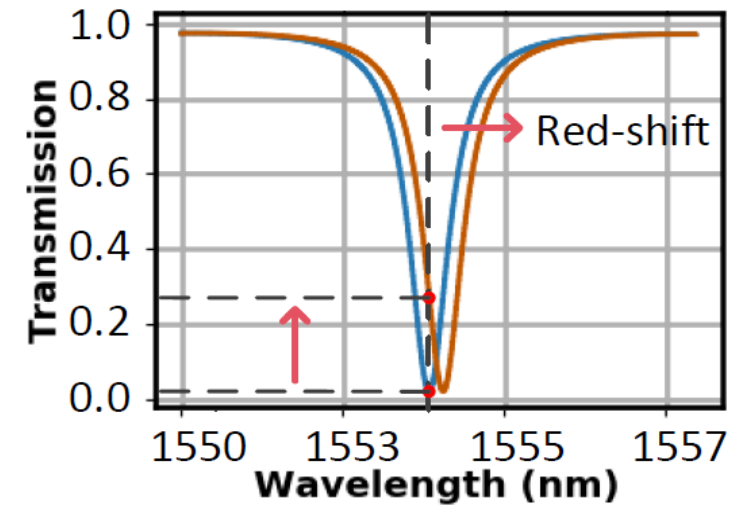
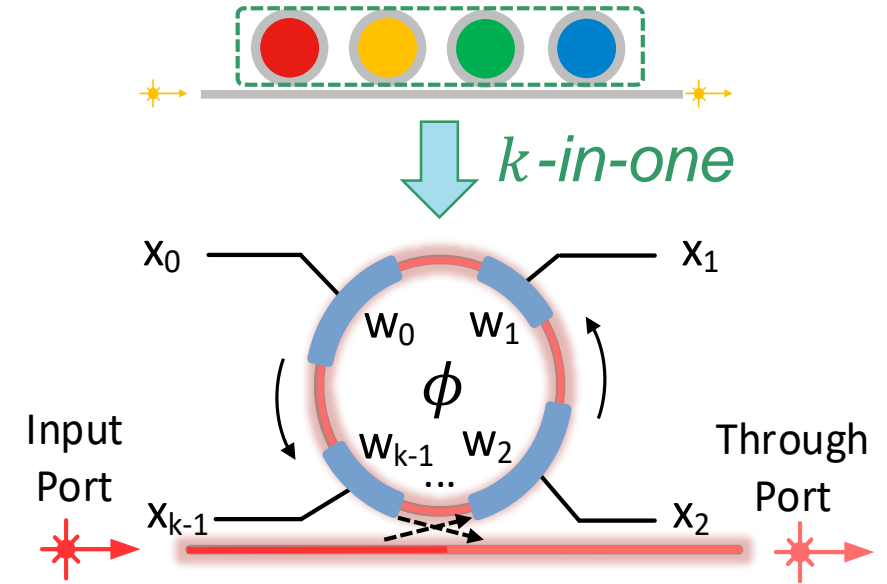
$$\text{Round-trip phase: } \phi \propto \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} w_i x_i^2$$

- Built-in **nonlinearity**

- Half-Tanh-like nonlinear activation $f(\cdot) \in (0, 1)$
- Tunable smoothness (r, a)

$$f(\phi) = \left| \frac{r - a e^{-j\phi}}{1 - ra e^{-j\phi}} \right|^2$$

$$OUT = f(\phi) \cdot in \propto f\left(\sum_{i=0}^{k-1} w_i x_i^2\right) \cdot IN$$



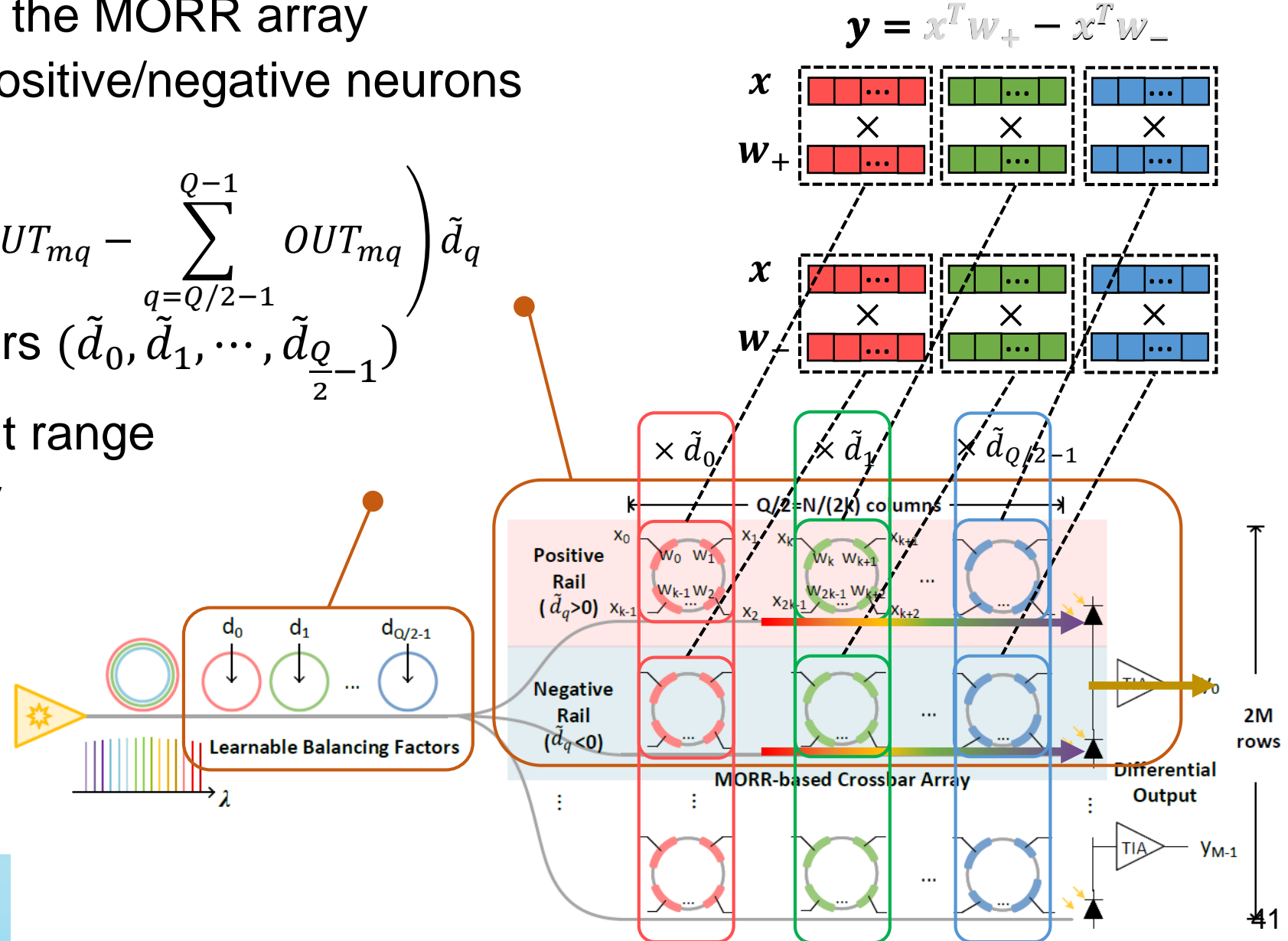
MORR-based ONN: SqueezeLight [Gu+, DATE'21, TCAD'22]

- **MatMul + Nonlinearity** in the MORR array
- Differential rails support positive/negative neurons

$$y_m = \left(\sum_{q=0}^{Q/2-1} OUT_{mq} - \sum_{q=Q/2-1}^{Q-1} OUT_{mq} \right) \tilde{d}_q$$

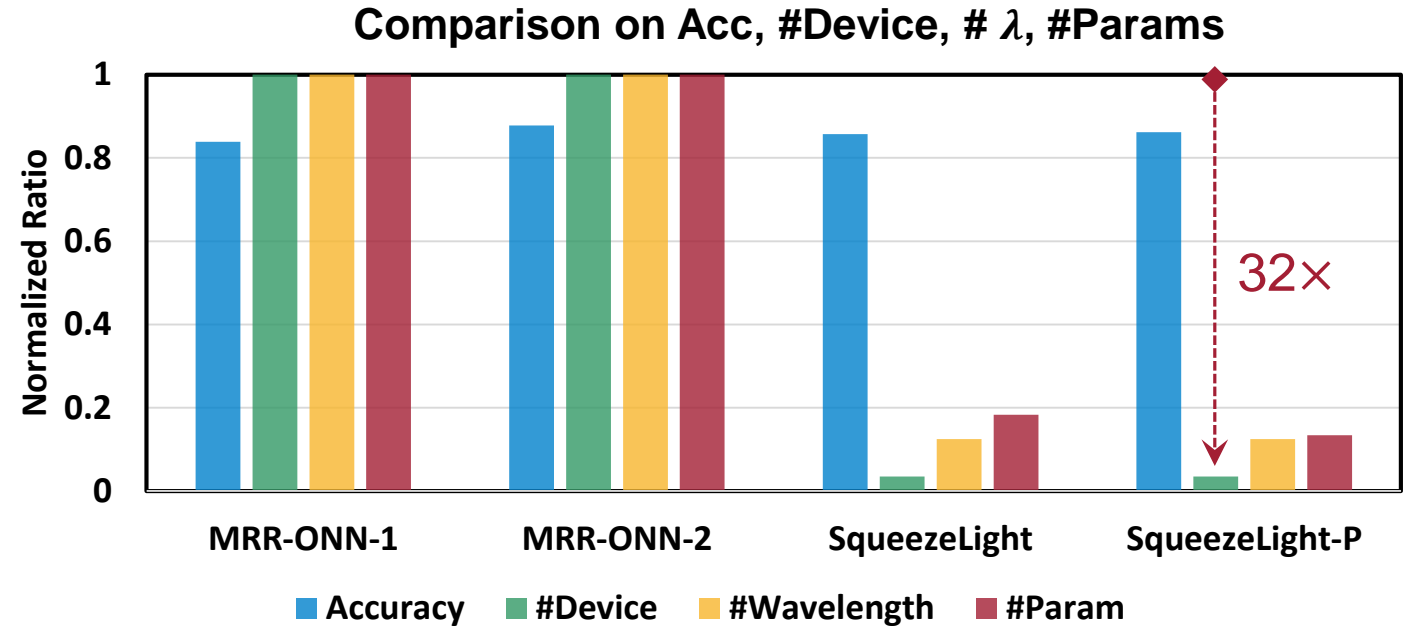
- Learnable balancing factors $(\tilde{d}_0, \tilde{d}_1, \dots, \tilde{d}_{\frac{Q}{2}-1})$

- Adaptive MORR output range
- Enhanced expressivity



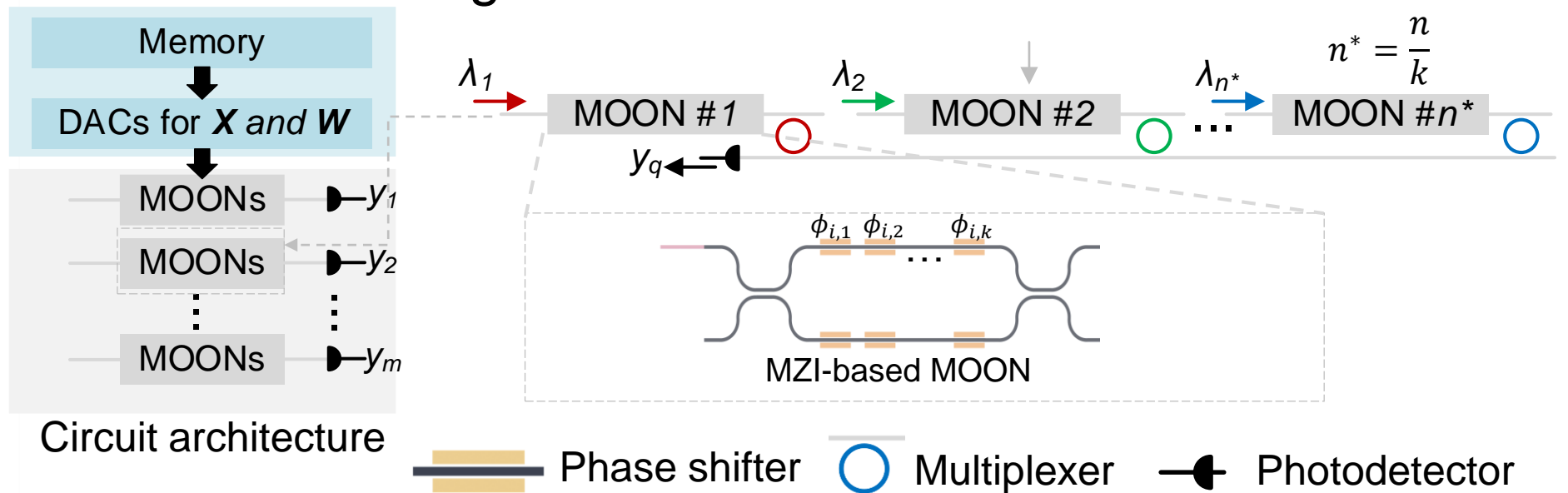
Cross-layer Scalability Evaluation

- Compare with SoTA MRR-ONNs on MNIST, FMNIST, CIFAR-10
- **23×-32×** less device usage
- **8×** fewer wavelength usage
- **MORR array** vs MRR array
 - w/ same area budget
 - **5.3×** higher TOPS/mm²
 - **9.8×** higher TOPS/W
 - **63.5%** system energy reduction
- Good expressivity & training scalability
- Robust to crosstalk/noises with special robustness optimization



(MOON) Multi-Operand MZI

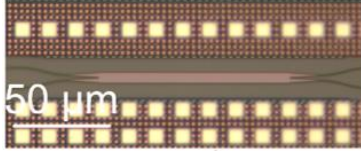
- Partition MZI controllers into k segments
- Dot-product + nonlinearity: $y = \cos(\sum_i w_i x_i)$
- Scale up to larger vectors with WDM
- Fewer cascaded device \rightarrow lower insertion loss and delay
- Same power/area as a single MZI



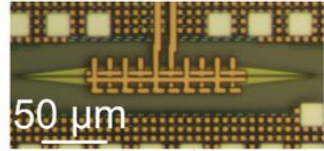
of operands k depends on controlling/fabrication precision and chip layout: 4/8/16/...

MOMZI Chip Layout (4-op MOMZI)

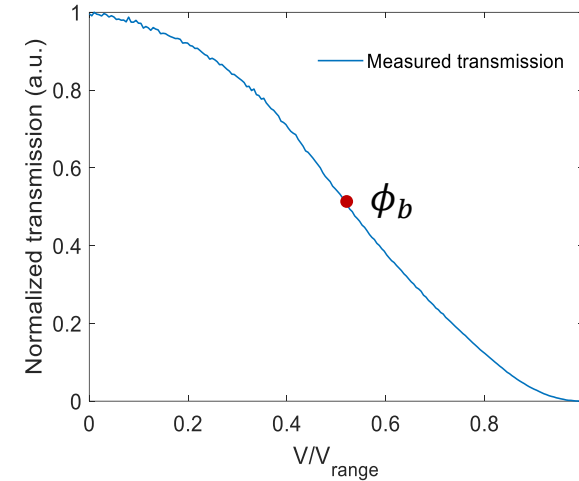
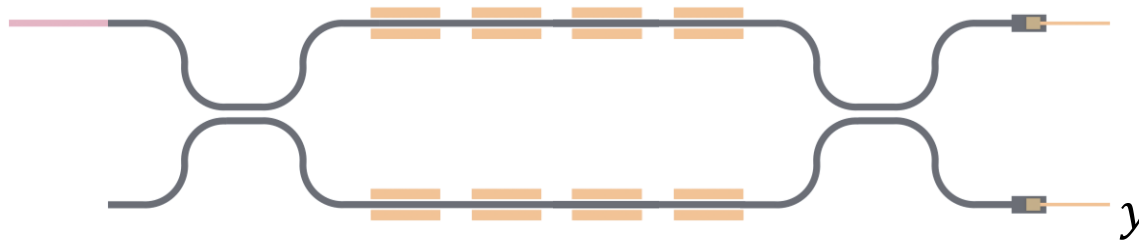
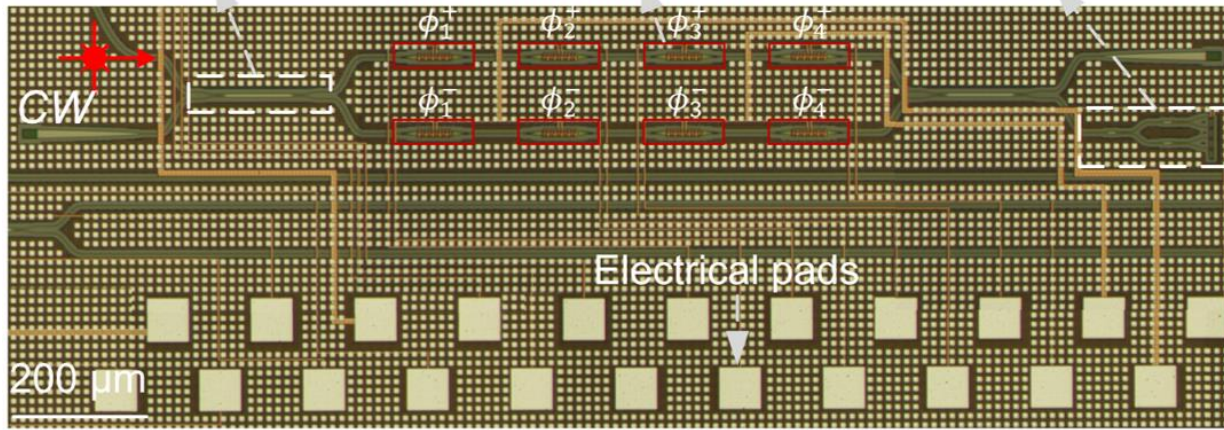
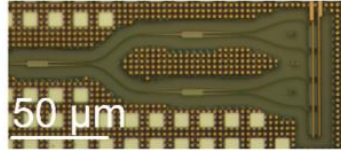
50/50 4-port MMI



Phase shifter



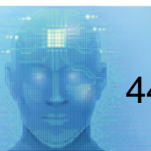
Photodetector



Biased in the middle
Full-range output

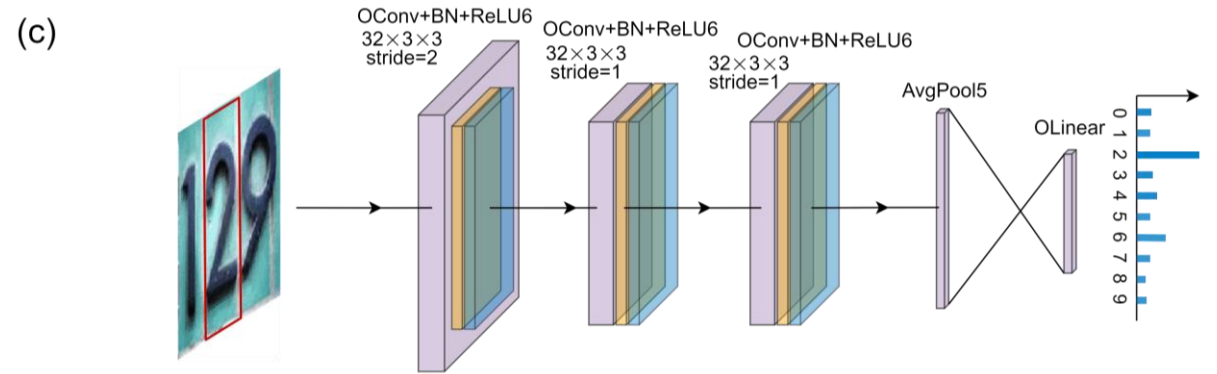
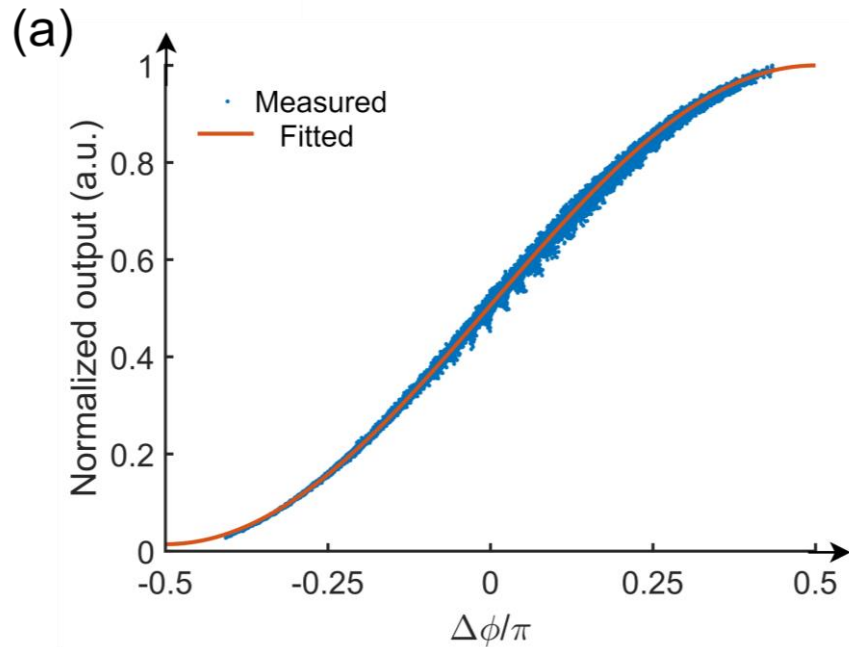
$$y = \frac{I_{in}}{2} \sum_i \cos(\sum w_i x_i + \phi_b)$$

$$\phi_b \cong \frac{\pi}{2}$$



Evaluation Results

- Robust output with small noises ($\sim 0.5\%$)
- $\sim 86\%$ measured acc on 4-layer CNN SVHN
- 4-bit voltage control precision



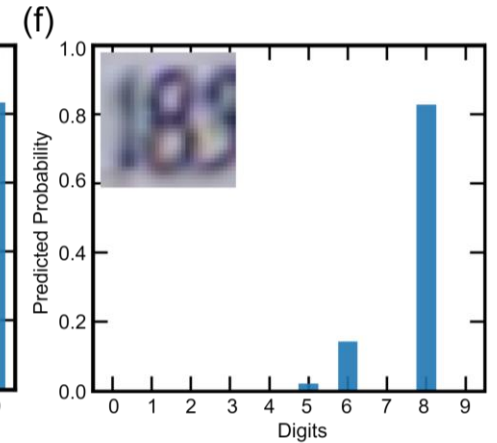
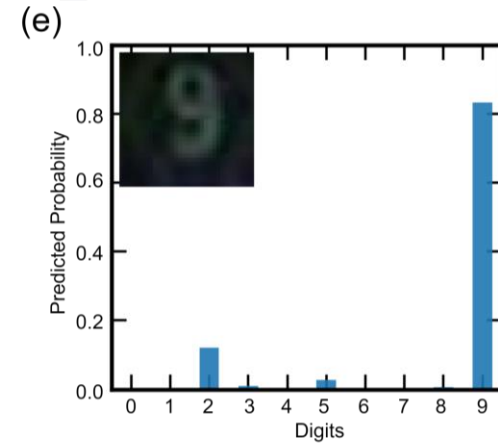
(d)

0	85.4	2.5	1.9	1.1	0.6	0.2	4.1	0.5	1.2	2.5
1	1.1	93.7	0.7	0.8	1.6	0.3	0.3	0.9	0.3	0.2
2	0.2	1.8	91.4	2.6	1.0	0.3	0.2	1.1	0.7	0.8
3	0.6	3.7	2.7	81.7	0.8	2.9	1.2	0.7	1.7	3.9
4	0.6	5.1	1.8	1.7	87.0	0.6	1.2	0.3	0.4	1.2
5	0.2	1.7	1.2	7.6	1.4	82.0	3.4	0.3	1.0	1.4
6	2.2	2.8	1.1	3.5	3.5	3.6	79.7	0.3	2.1	1.3
7	0.5	6.5	3.3	0.8	0.6	0.4	0.3	86.7	0.1	0.6
8	1.9	2.0	2.7	5.5	1.7	2.0	8.3	0.3	71.7	3.9
9	3.1	2.3	5.6	2.6	1.1	1.6	1.1	1.1	1.3	80.3
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

True Digits

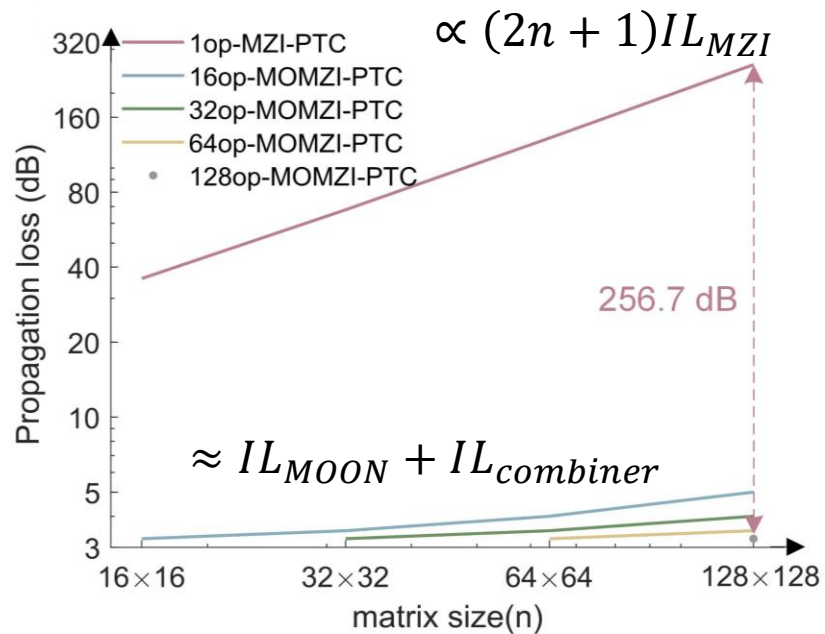
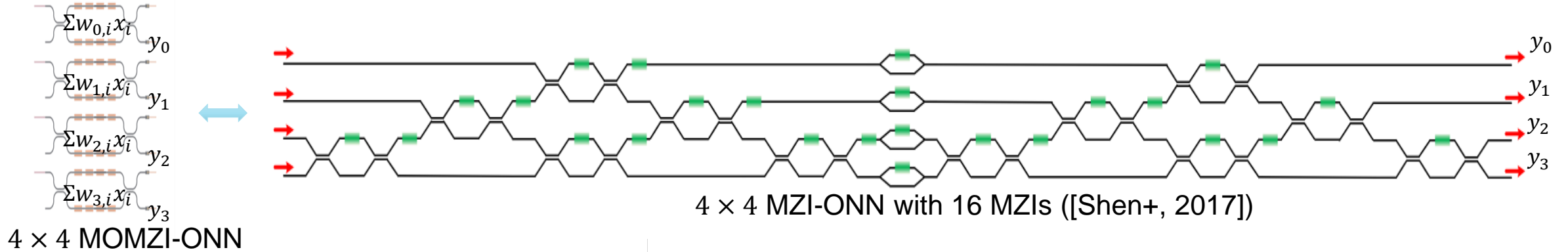
Predicted Digits

Acc: 85.89%

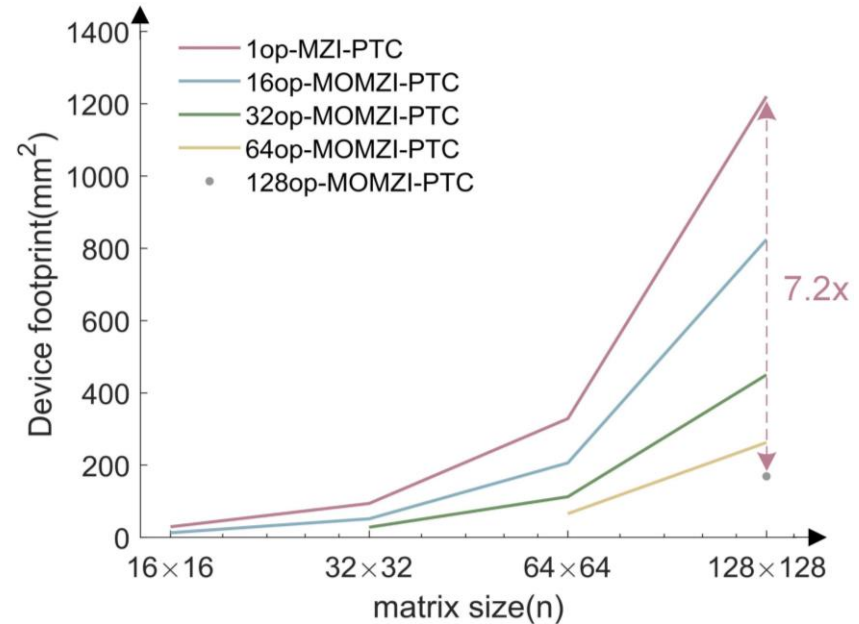


Performance Analysis

>100 dB smaller insertion loss and **7.2x** smaller footprint



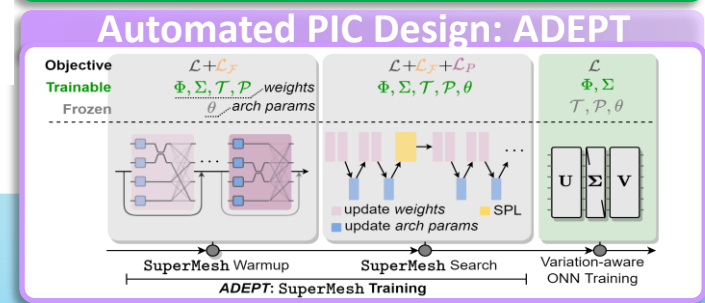
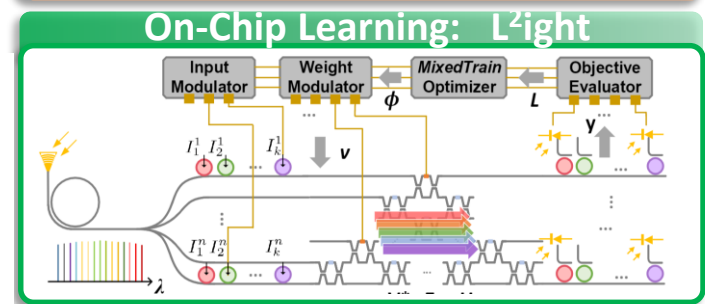
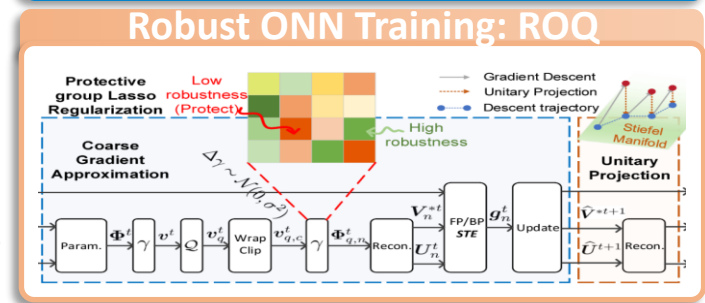
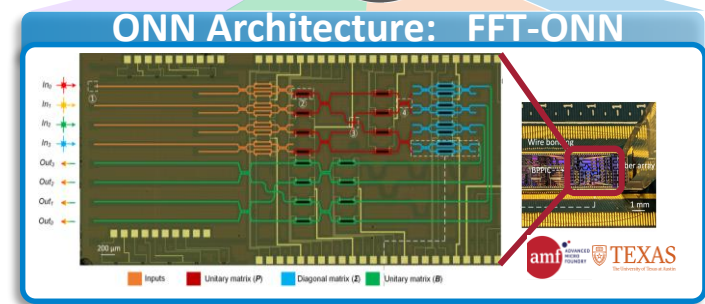
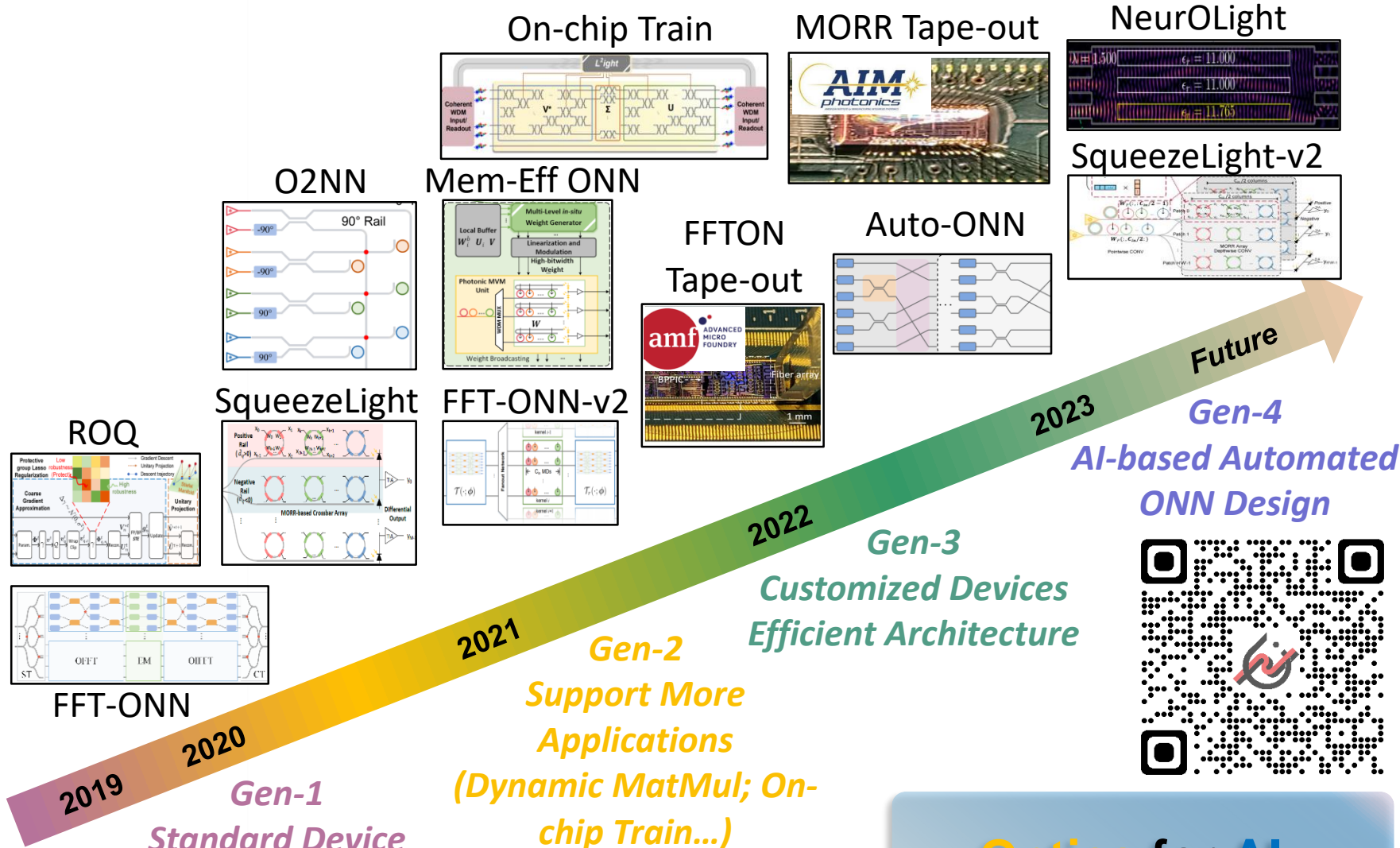
(a) Propagation loss comparison



(b) Footprint comparison

Results based on AIM photonics PDK, For MZI-ONN, we use thermo-optical MZI switch for weight programming

Open-Source Photonic AI: TorchONN



Optics for AI
AI for Optics



Photonic AI Library TorchONN

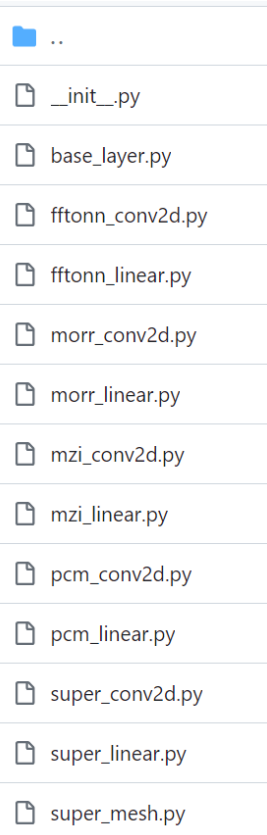
- **Construction**: customized optical Conv/Linear layers
 - Modeling of various devices
 - PCM, MZI, MRR, MORR, ...
 - Support various tensor core designs
 - MRR weight bank / MORR / MZI / FFT array...
 - CUDA backend for customized operators...
- **Mapping**: convert from electrical to optical
 - Decomposition or optimization-based map
- **Co-design** infrastructure
 - Device quantization & QAT
 - Noise injection & NAT
 - Circuit pruning & PAT
 - On-chip training support
 - Zeroth-order optimization
 - Circuit topology search (*SuperMesh*)



A PyTorch Library for Photonic Integrated Circuit Simulation
and Photonic AI Computing

```
import torchonn as onn
from torchonn.models import ONNBaseModel

class ONNModel(ONNBaseModel):
    def __init__(self, device=torch.device("cuda:0")):
        super().__init__(device=device)
        self.conv = onn.layers.MZIBlockConv2d(
            in_channels=1,
            out_channels=8,
            kernel_size=3,
            stride=1,
            padding=1,
            dilation=1,
            bias=True,
            miniblock=4,
            mode="usv",
            decompose_alg="clements",
            photodetect=True,
            device=device,
        )
```





Tutorial II: LightRidge: An End-to-end Agile Design Framework for Diffractive Optical Neural Networks

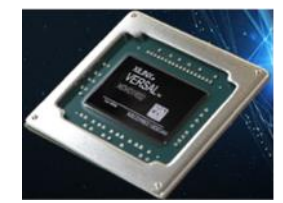
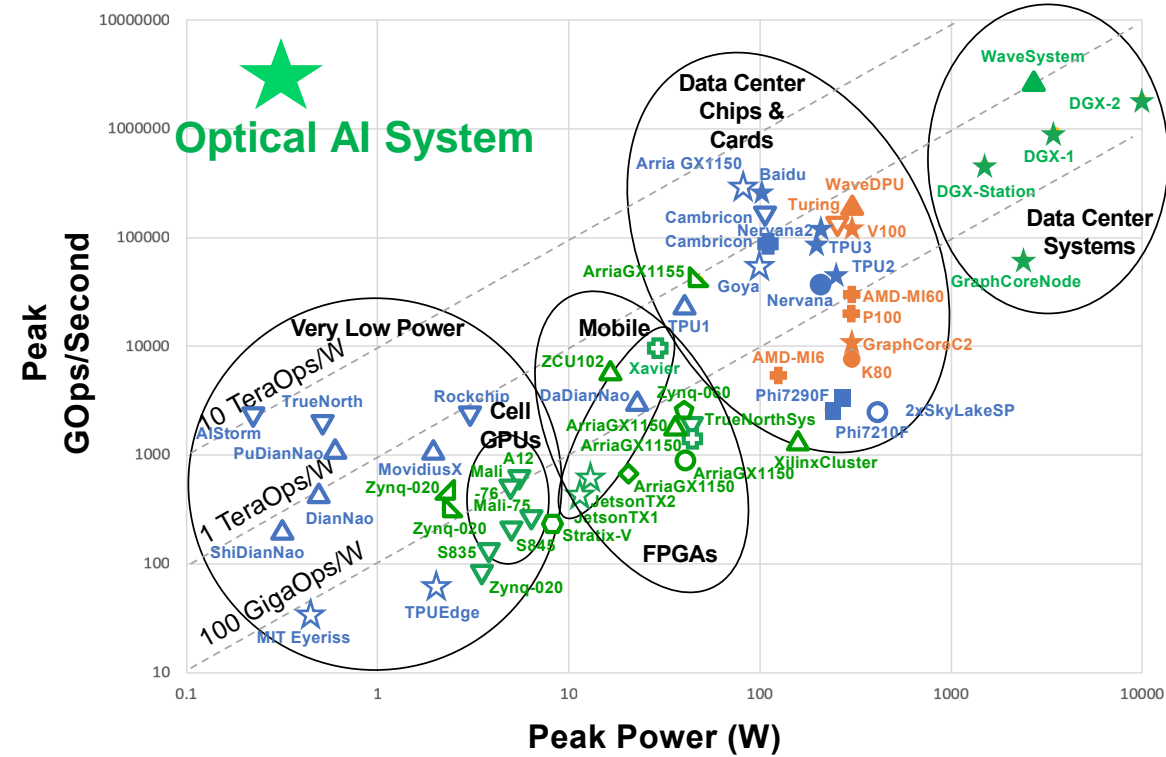
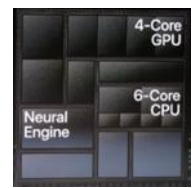
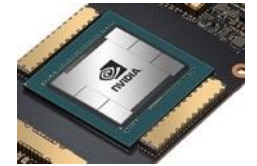
Yingjie Li, Ruiyang Chen, Minhan Lou, Berardi Sensale-
Rodriguez, Weilu Gao, Cunxi Yu

University of Utah



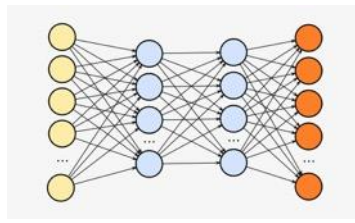
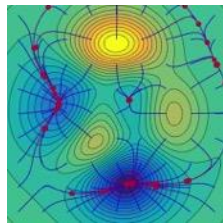
New Trends of Computing

- ▶ AI's impacts in hardware system design
 - The raise of domain-specific computing
 - Beaten the trend of *Moore's Law* (R.I.P Dr. Moore)
 - Doubling every **3.5 months** (18 months)

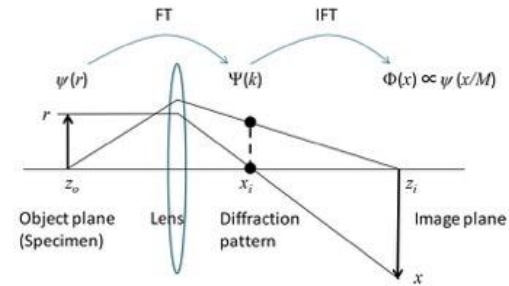


Challenges in Optical AI System Design

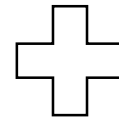
- A Computer Engineering journey to Optical AI System
 - **Challenge 1:** Cross-disciplinary domain knowledge barriers



ML Algorithms & Neural Nets

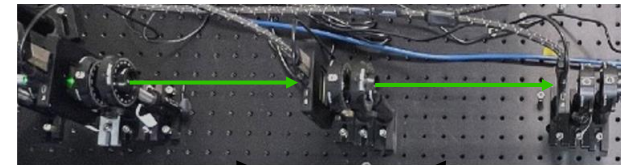


Optics



```
#define NX 256
#define BATCH 10
#define RANK 1
...
{
  cufftHandle plan;
  cufftComplex *data;
  ...
  cudaMalloc((void**)&data, sizeof(cufftComplex)*NX*BATCH);
  cufftPlanMany(&plan, RANK, NX, &embed, istride, idist,
               &embed, ostride, odist, CUFFT_C2C, BATCH);
}
```

High Performance Programming

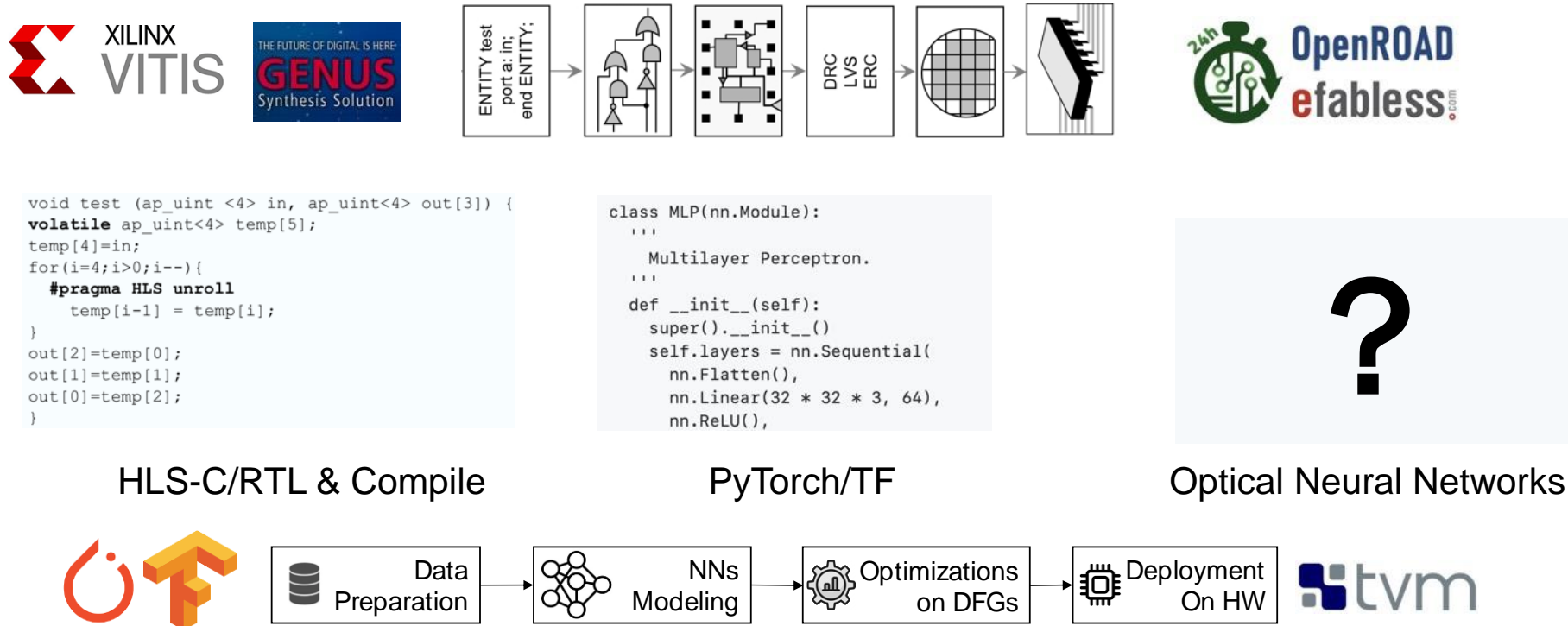


HW-SW Co-design



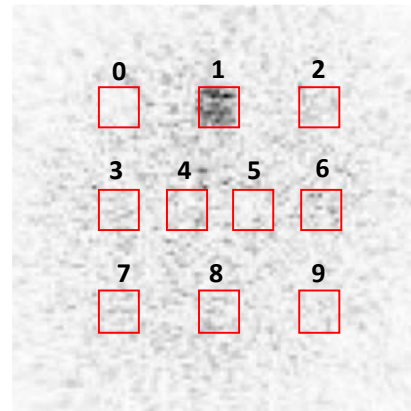
Challenges in Optical AI System Design

- A Computer Engineering journey to Optical AI System
 - **Challenge 1:** Cross-disciplinary domain knowledge barriers
 - **Challenge 2:** Lacks high-performance infrastructures for programming, modeling, training, exploration, fabrication, etc.

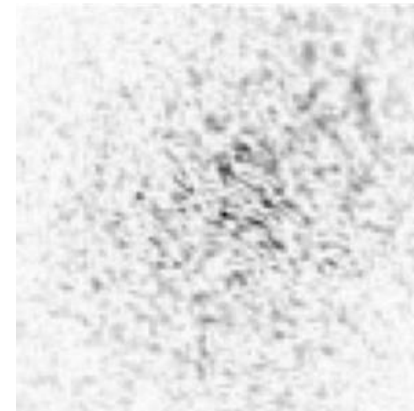


Challenges in Optical AI System Design

- A *Computer Engineering* journey to Optical AI System
 - **Challenge 1:** Cross-disciplinary domain knowledge barriers
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 - **Challenge 3:** Limited studies of physics-to-system co-design to enable seamless design-to-deployment



Numerical Emulation

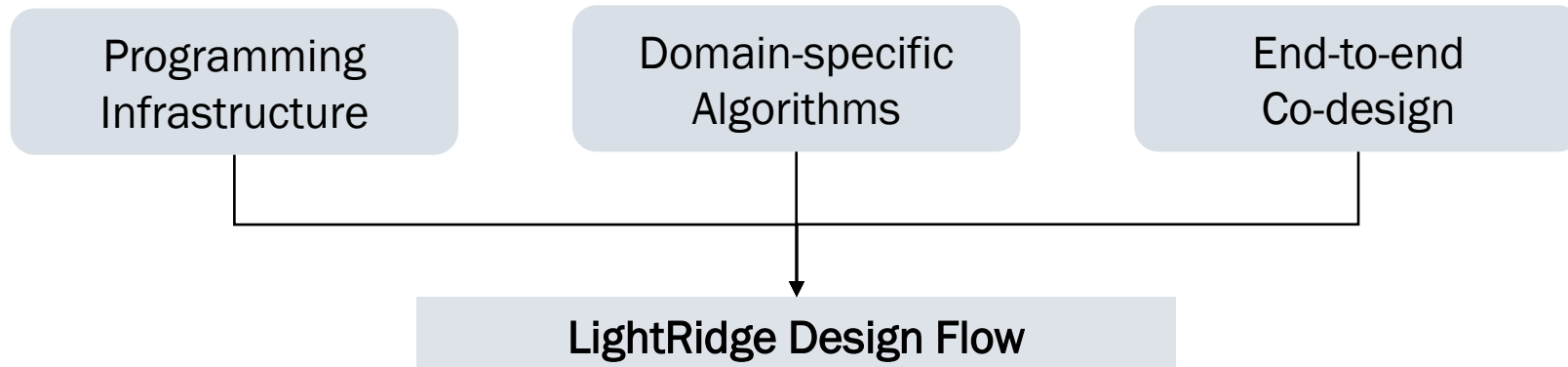


Physical Measurement

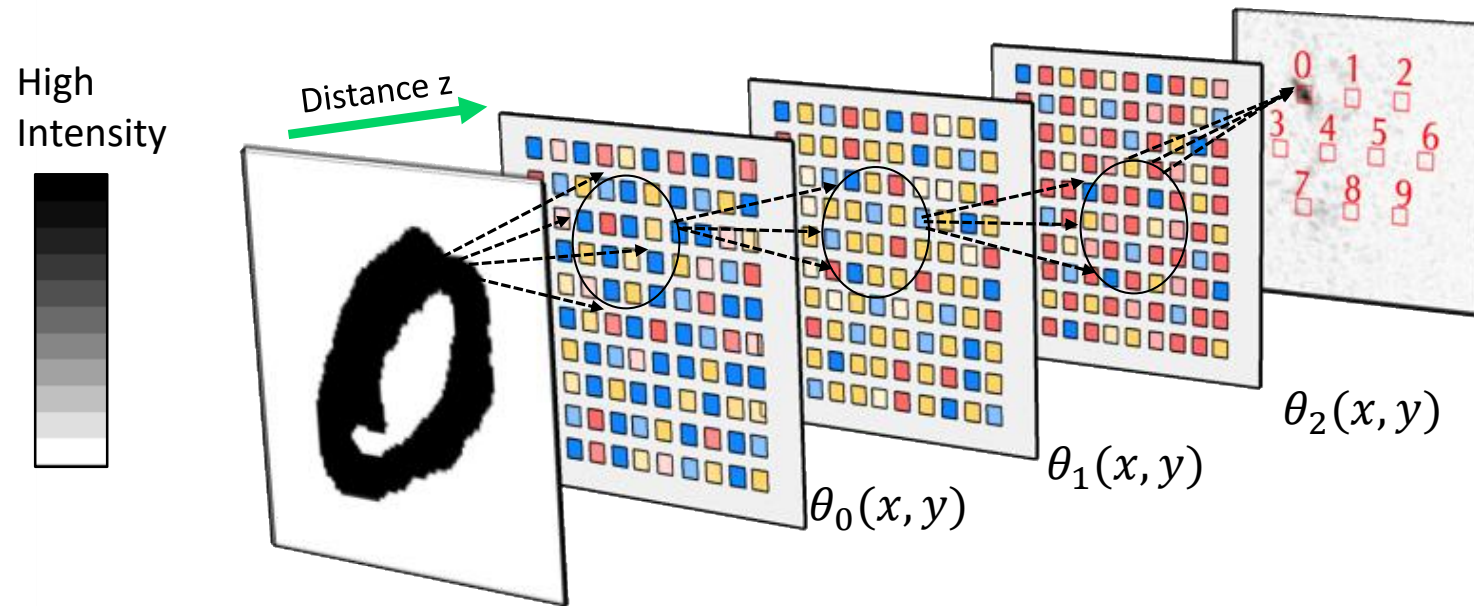


Challenges in Optical AI System Design

- A *Computer Engineering* journey to **Diffraction Optical Neural Networks**
 - **Challenge 1:** Cross-disciplinary domain knowledge barriers
 - **Challenge 2:** Lacks high-performance infrastructures for programming, modeling, training, exploration, fabrication, etc.
 - **Challenge 3:** Limited studies of physics-to-system co-design to enable seamless design-to-deployment



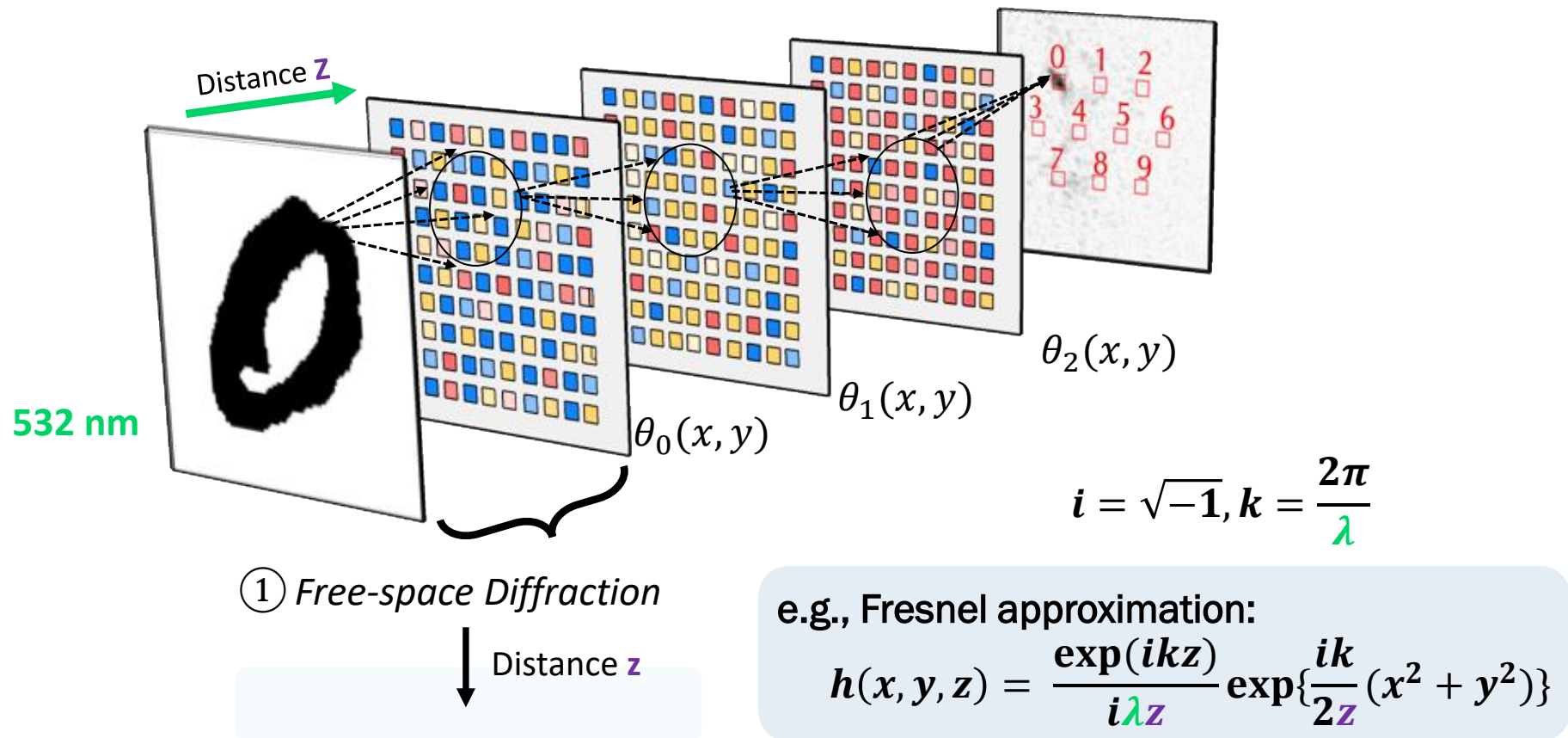
Background: Diffractive Neural Networks



	Conventional NNs	Diffractive NNs
Input	Images (Real)	Light (Complex)
Operator	Conv, Dense, Pool, ...	Light Diffraction and Phase Mod
Propagation	Digital Computing	Light Propagation (Complex)
Output	Digital Output (Real)	Light Intensity (CPLEX-2-Real)



Background: Diffractive Neural Networks

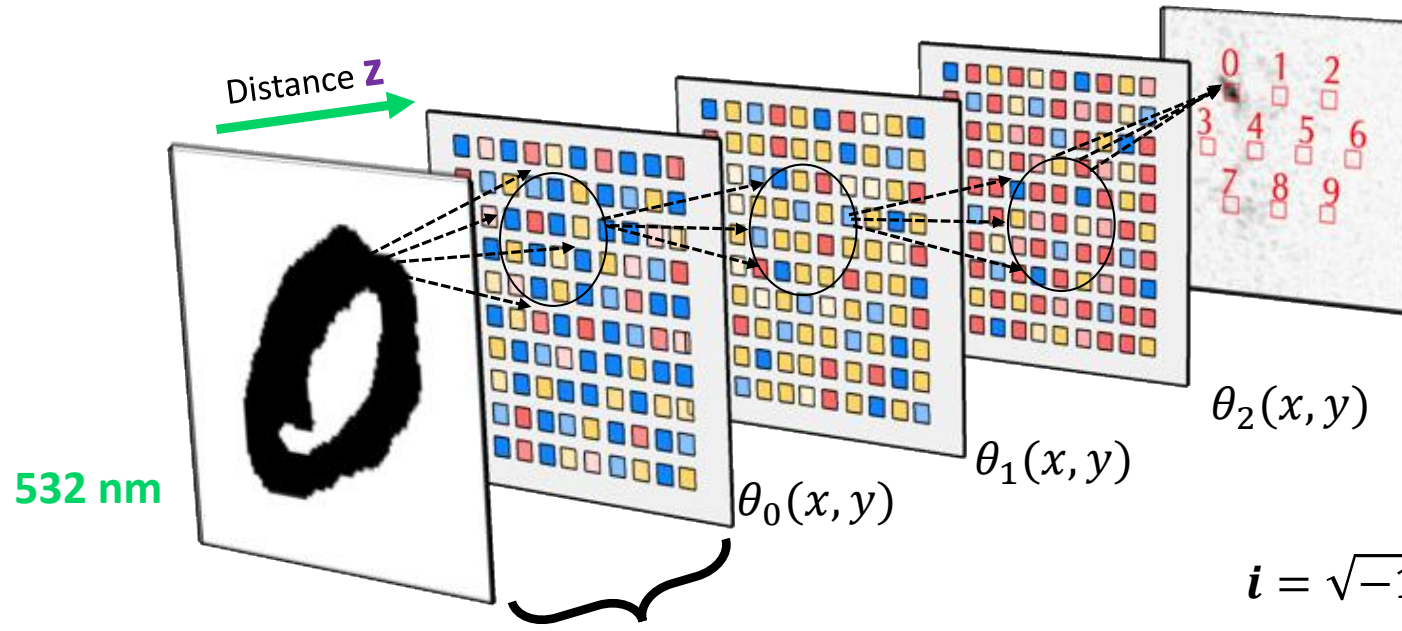


$$\text{DiffMod}(X_c(x, y), \theta_0) = \text{iFFT}_{2D} \left(\text{FFT}_{2D}(X_c(x, y)) \times \text{FFT}_{2D}(h(x, y, z)) \right)$$

① Light Diffraction



Background: Diffractive Neural Networks



$$i = \sqrt{-1}, k = \frac{2\pi}{\lambda}$$

① Free-space Diffraction

Distance z

② Phase modulation

θ Trainable parameters

e.g., Fresnel approximation:

$$h(x, y, z) = \frac{\exp(ikz)}{i\lambda z} \exp\left\{\frac{ik}{2z}(x^2 + y^2)\right\}$$

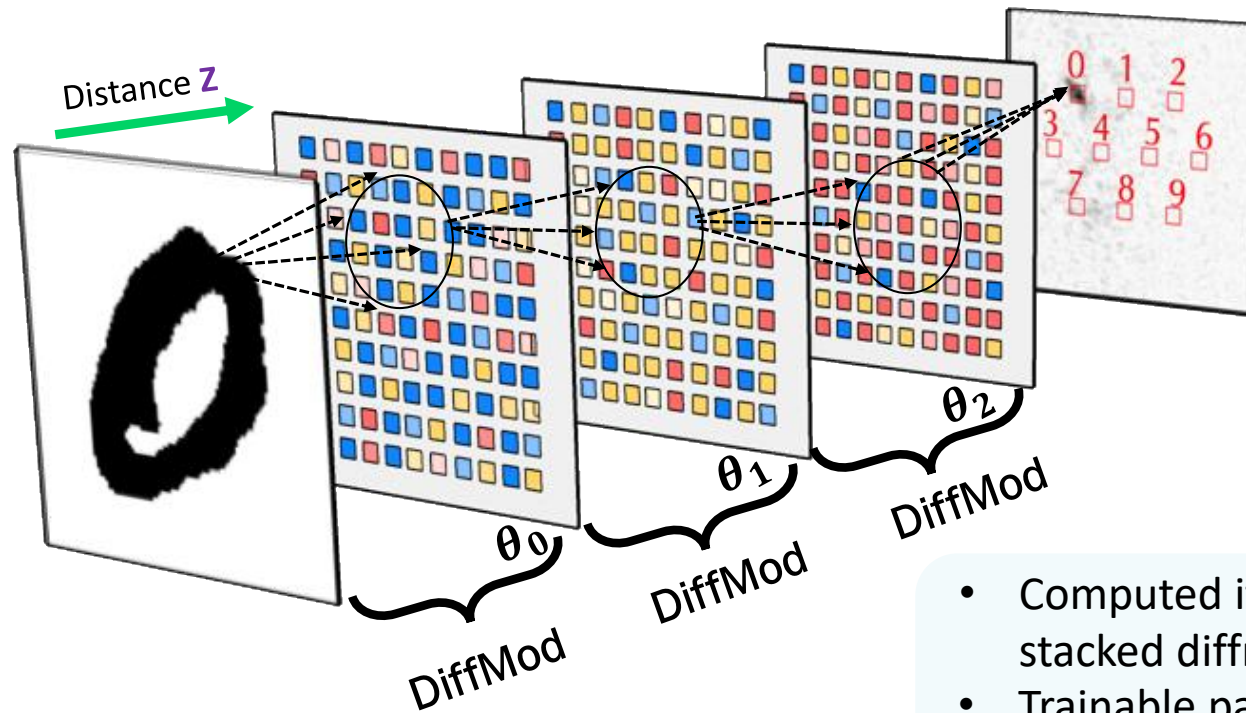
② Phase modulation

$$\text{DiffMod}(X_c(x, y), \theta_0) = \text{Light Diffraction} \times (\cos \theta_0(x, y) + i \cdot \sin \theta_0(x, y))$$

Complex MatMul



Background: Diffractive Neural Networks



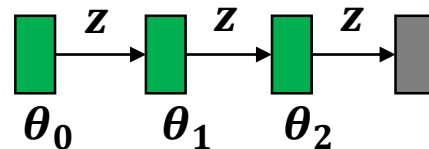
$$X_c = A + i \cdot B$$

$$I(X_c) = \sqrt{A^2 + B^2}$$

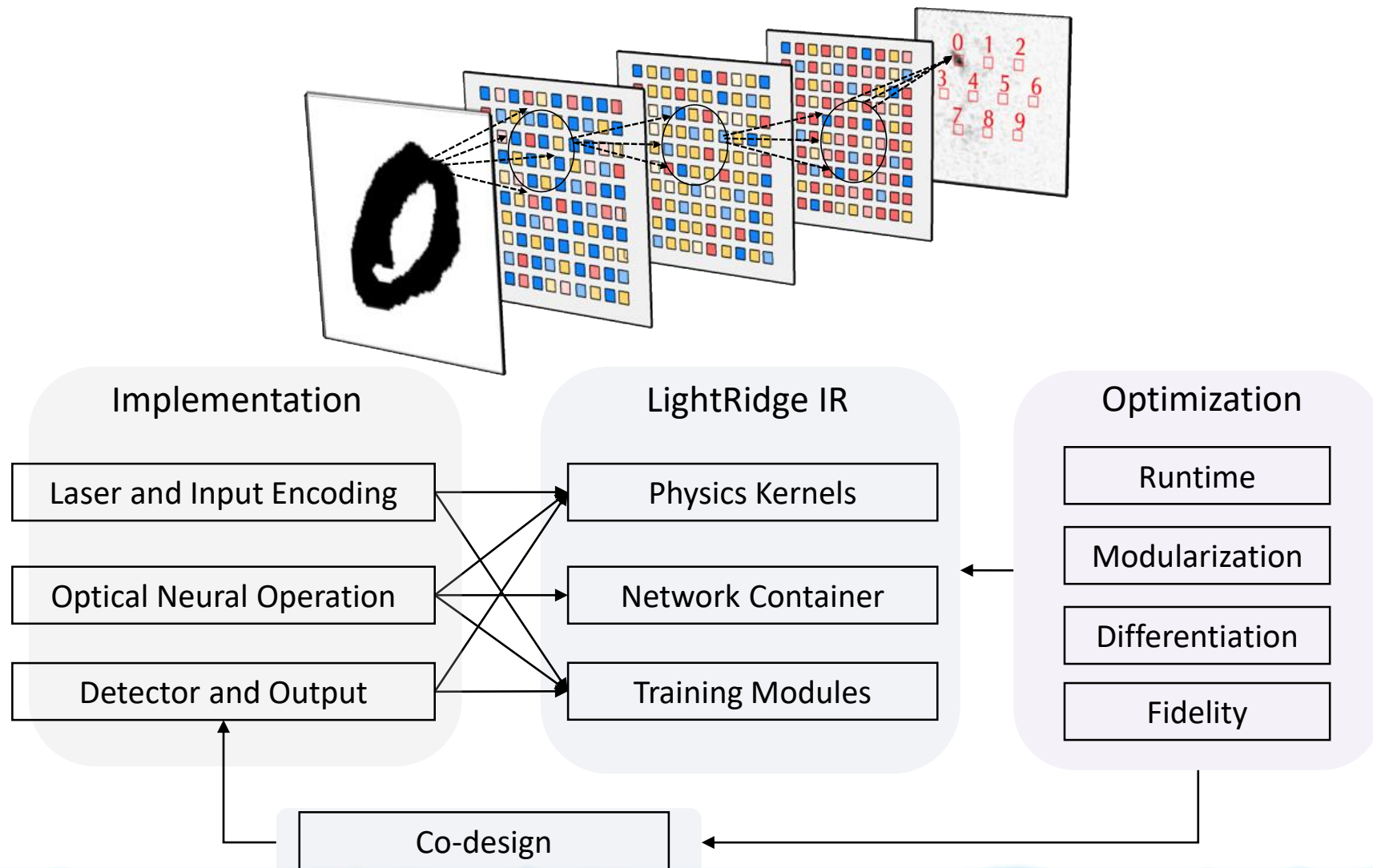
- Computed iteratively for all stacked diffractive layers
- Trainable parameters $\theta = \{\theta_0, \theta_1, \theta_2\}$

For example, 3-layer forward function:

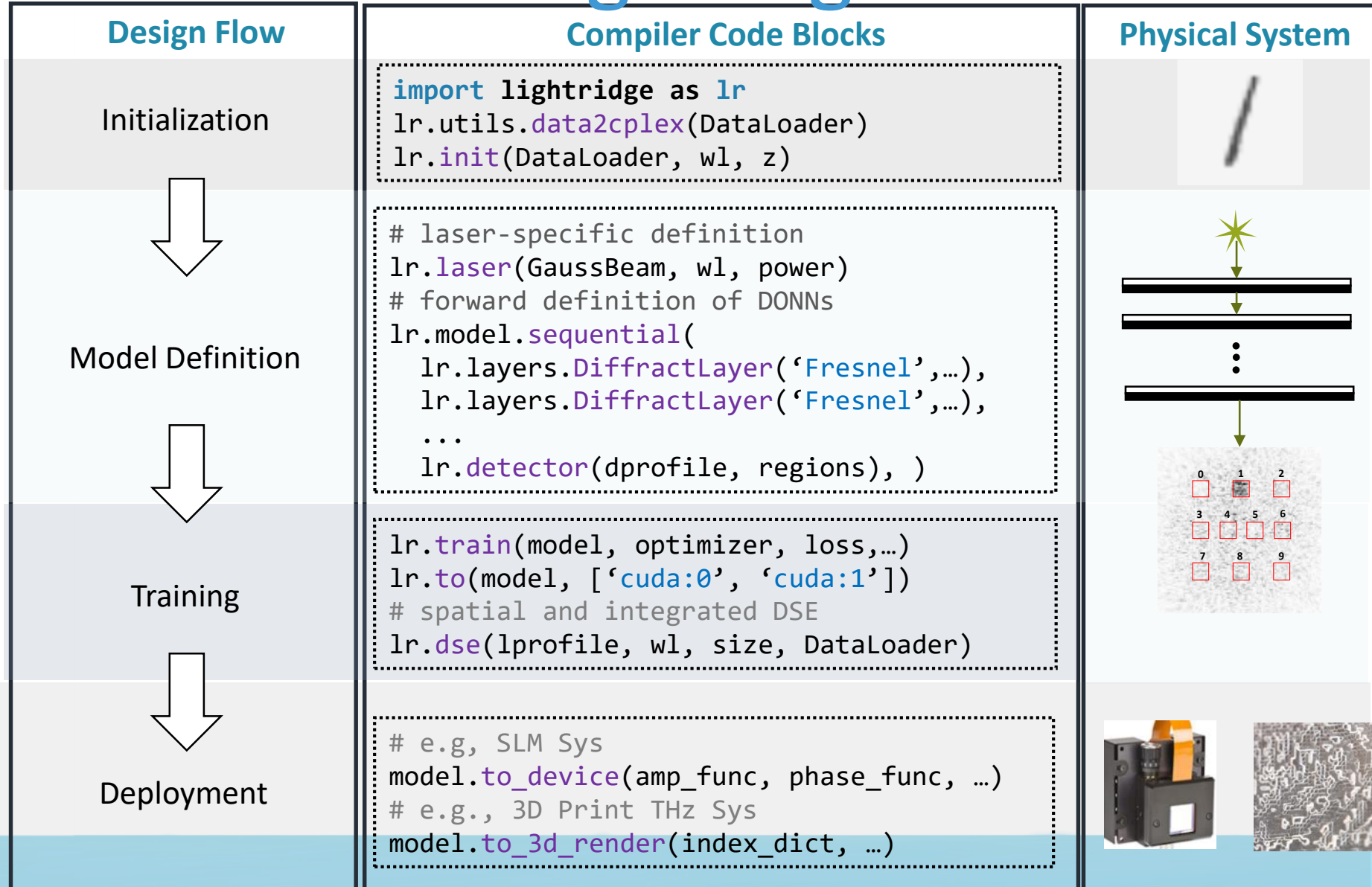
$$I(X_c, \theta) = \text{DiffMod} (\text{DiffMod} (\text{DiffMod} (X_c(x, y), \theta_0), \theta_1), \theta_2)$$



Overview of LightRidge Framework



Overview of LightRidge Framework



LightRidge API Example: DiffractiveLayer()

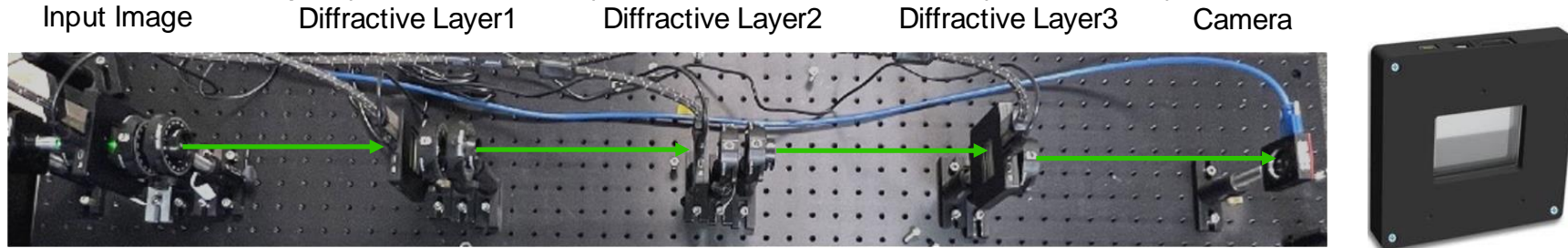
```
class DiffractiveLayer(torch.nn.Module):
    """ Implementation of diffractive layer via co-design.
    Args:
        - phase_func/intensity_fun: Callable device's phase/intensity response
        - wavelength: Float representing the wavelength of the laser source
        - pixel_size: Float representing the size of each pixel in the diffractive layer
        - resolution: Integer representing number of pixels
        - distance: Float representing the propagation distance between layers
        - amplitude_factor: Float the scaling factor in complex regularization
        - mesh_size: Integer specifying the mesh size used for diffraction approximation
        - name: String representing the name of the diffractive layer
        - approx: Callable for approximation method (default: lr.kernel.Fresnel)
            - (Options: lr.kernel.Fraunhofer, lr.kernel.Sommerfeld, lr.kernel.verify)
        - phase_mod: Boolean indicating phase modulation on or off (default: True)

    Shape:
        - Input: :math:`(*)`. Input can be of any shape
        - Output: :math:`(*)`. Output is of the same shape as input
    """
    def __init__(self, phase_func, intensity_func, wavelength,
                 pixel_size, resolution, distance, amplitude_factor,
                 name, approx=lr.kernel.Fresnel, phase_mod=True):
        super(DiffractiveLayer, self).__init__()
```



LightRidge API Example: *Forward Function*

- Example hardware-specific DONNs modeling
 - w.r.t 532 nm setups (z =11 inches) and LC 2012 SLMs (HOLOEYE)



```
self.layers[1] = lr.layer.DiffractiveLayer(SLM1_phase, SLM1_amp,  
    wavelength=5.32e-7, pixel_size=3.6e-5, resolution=100, distance=0.2794,  
    amplitude_factor=5, name='Diffractive_Layer1')
```

...

a virtual layer for diffraction (w/o phase mod) before detector

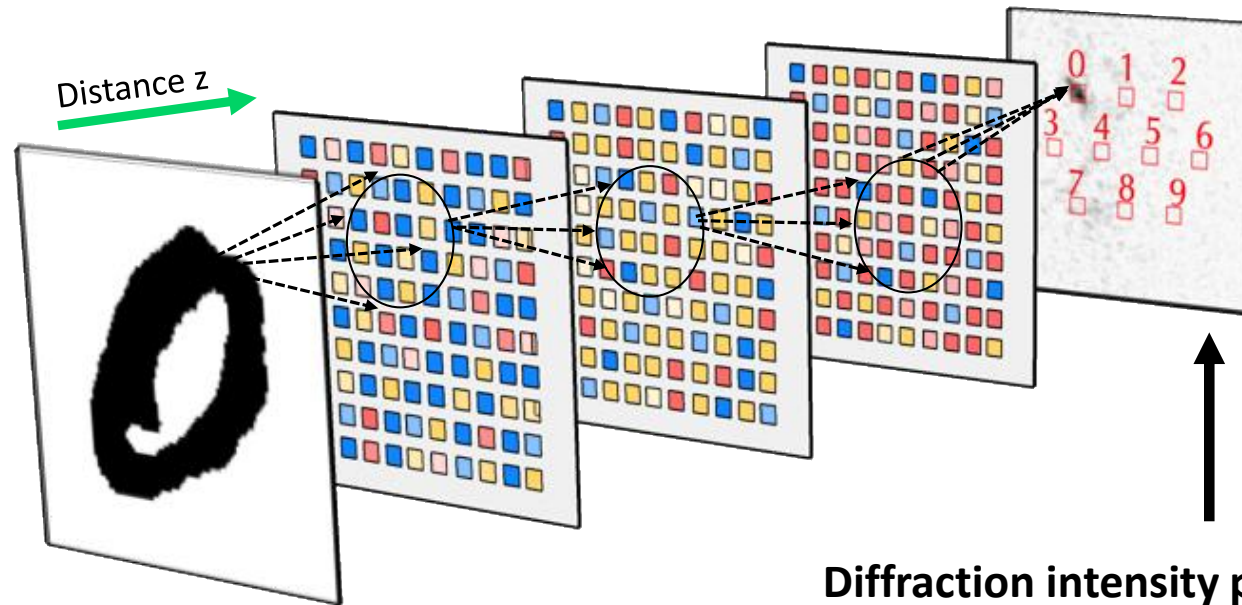
```
self.layers[4] = lr.layer.DiffractiveLayer(self, ..., name='Last_Diffraction',  
    ... phase_mod = False)
```

forward example of chain topology of DONNs

```
def forward(self, x):  
    for index, layer in enumerate(self.layers):  
        x = layer(x)  
    output = self.detector(x)
```



Training – Example of Classification



- ▶ Training via Backprop works!
 - Fully **tensorized** and **differentiable physics** kernels (Autograd)
 - Customizable loss w.r.t applications
 - e.g., classification, segmentation, etc.

Diffraction intensity pattern captured

Pre-defined detector region

Ground truth label t

Loss function \mathcal{L}

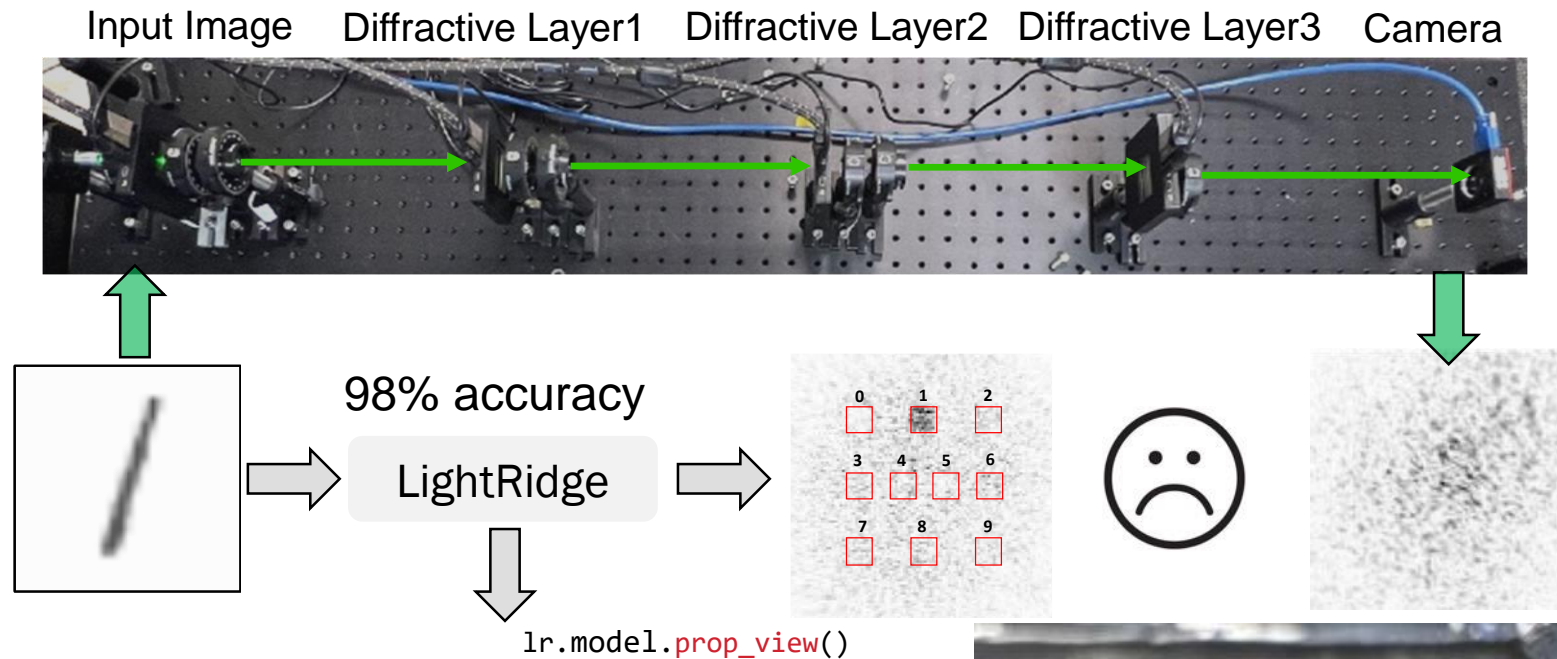
Normalized Light intensity
[0.7, 0.05, ..., 0.03, 0.1]

argmax = 0

[1 , 0 , ..., 0 , 0]



Miscorrelation in Experimental Measurements



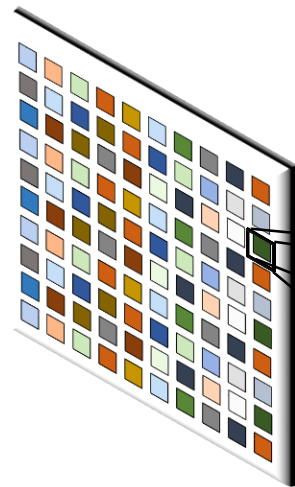
► **Issue**

- Cc
- Unique behaviors for each device
- Varies from device-to-device, wavelengths, environment, etc.



Co-design Formulation

- The formal view of co-design challenges
 - Most challenging scenarios
 - Coupled or not coupled response (phase only)
 - Individual response for different layer or every pixel

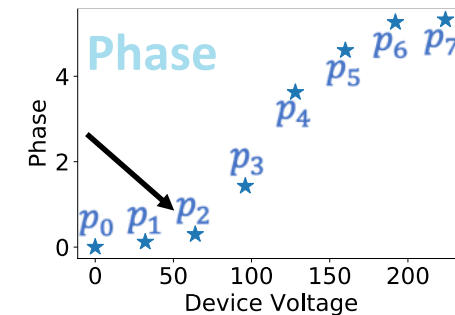
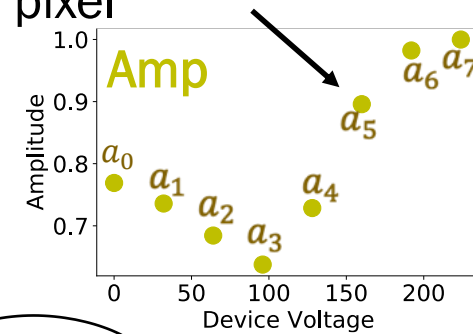


$X_C(x,y)$

$$= A \cos(\theta(x, y)) + 1A \sin(\theta(x, y))$$

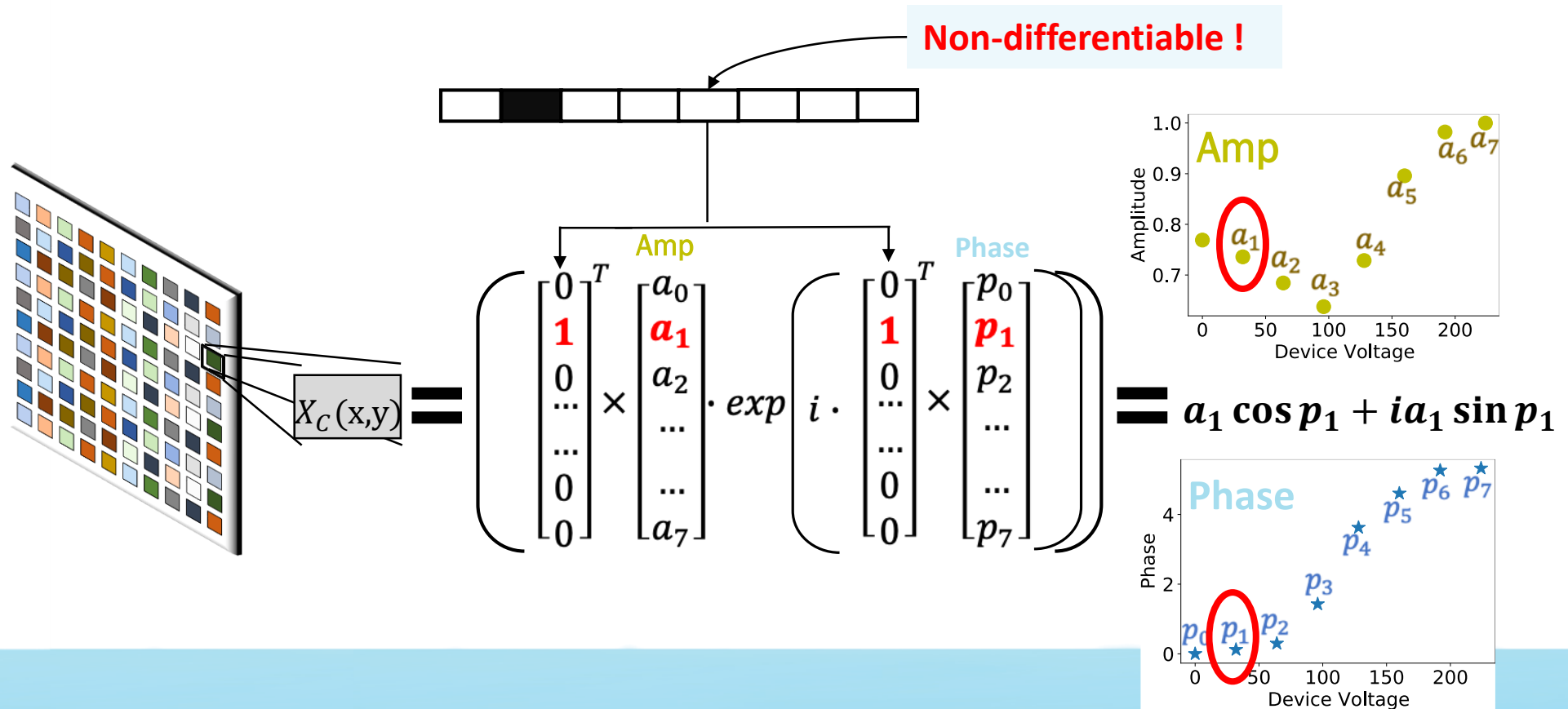
Phase modulation

$$A = 0.9, \theta = 0.3\pi (0.94)$$



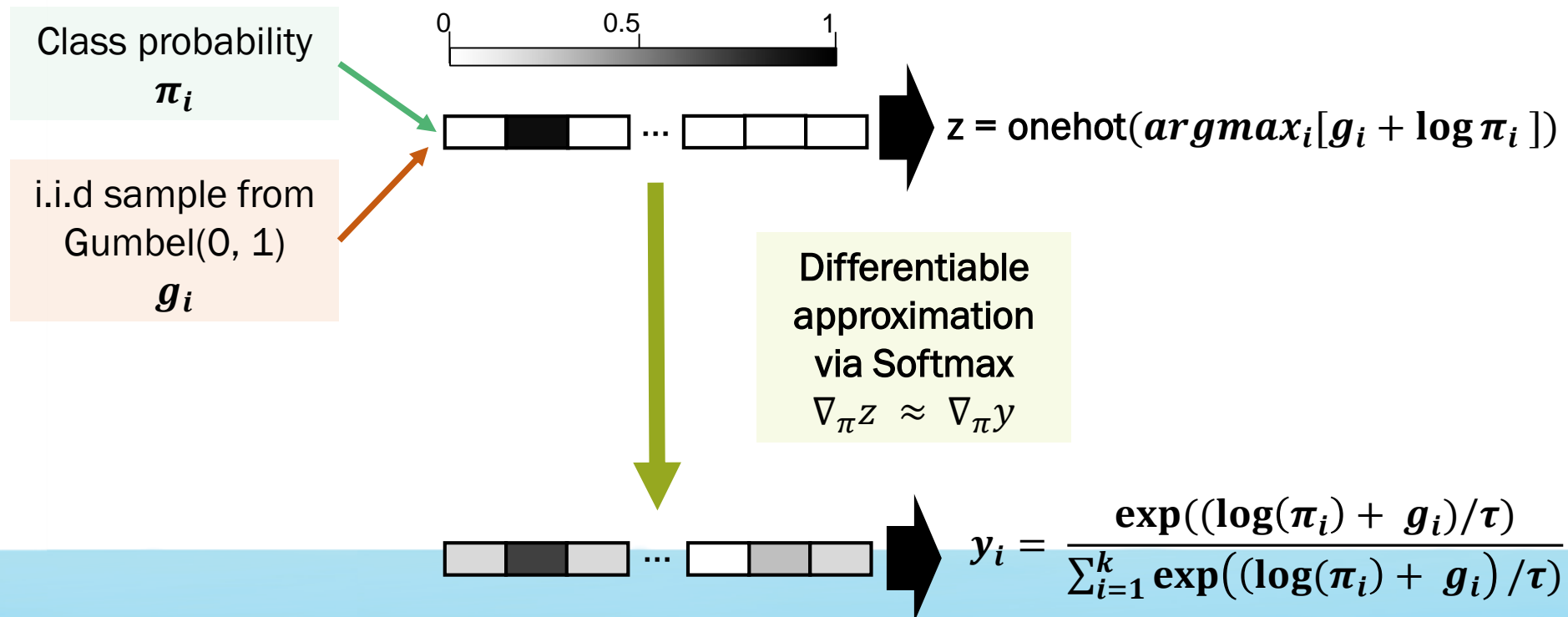
Co-design Formulation

- Discrete “trainable” parameters
 - Discrete parameters directly selects voltage index
 - Loss function remains unchanged



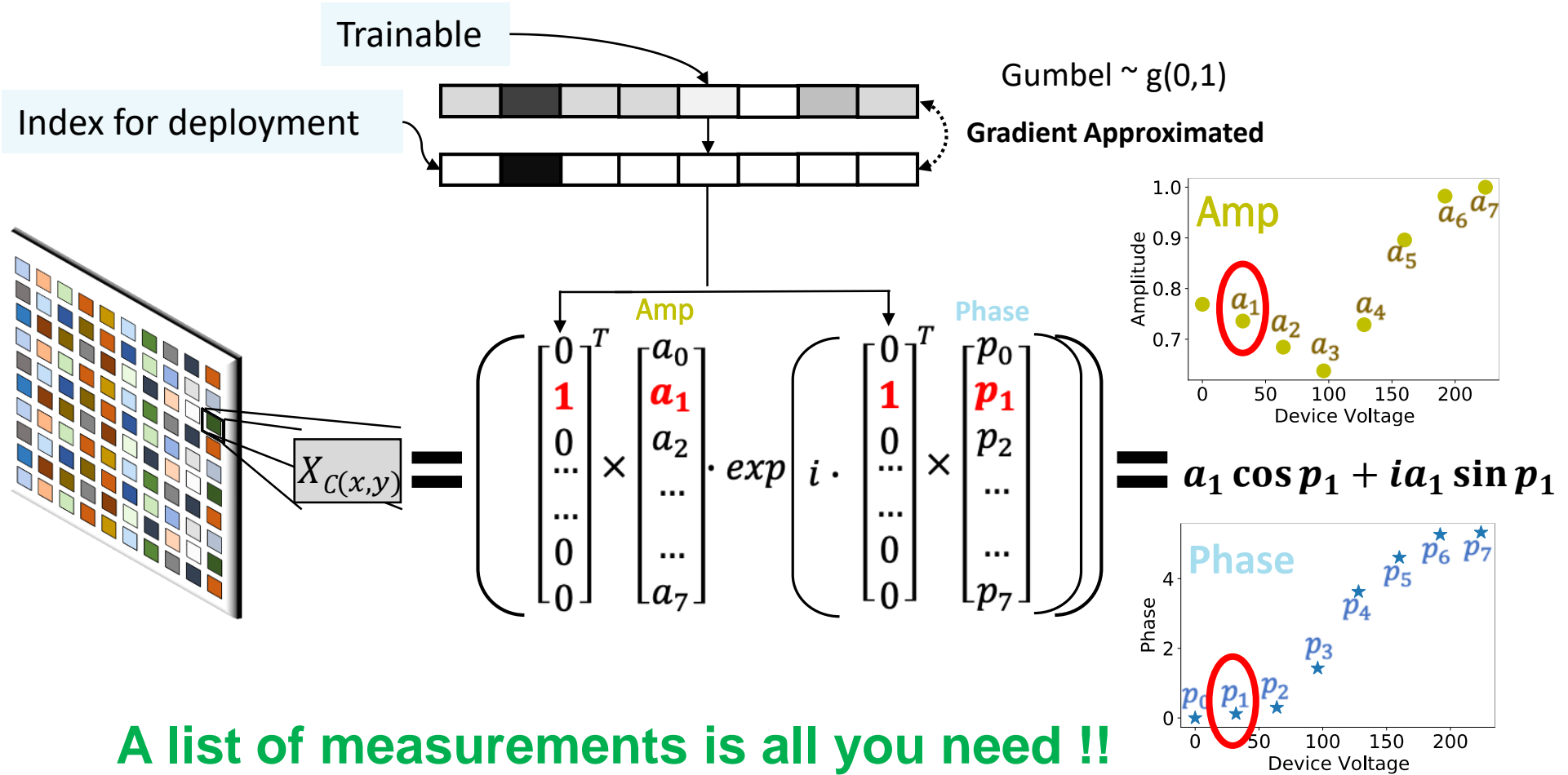
Gumbel-Softmax

- *Gumbel-Softmax* (GS) for physics-aware discrete training
 - A differentiable approximation to sampling **discrete** data
 - **Straight-through GS** (STGS) for differentiable discrete sampling
 - Discretize GS sample back with `argmax` in the **forward pass**
 - GS sample in the **backward pass** to approximate the gradients



Co-design Formulation

- Refine the formulation via Gumbel-Softmax

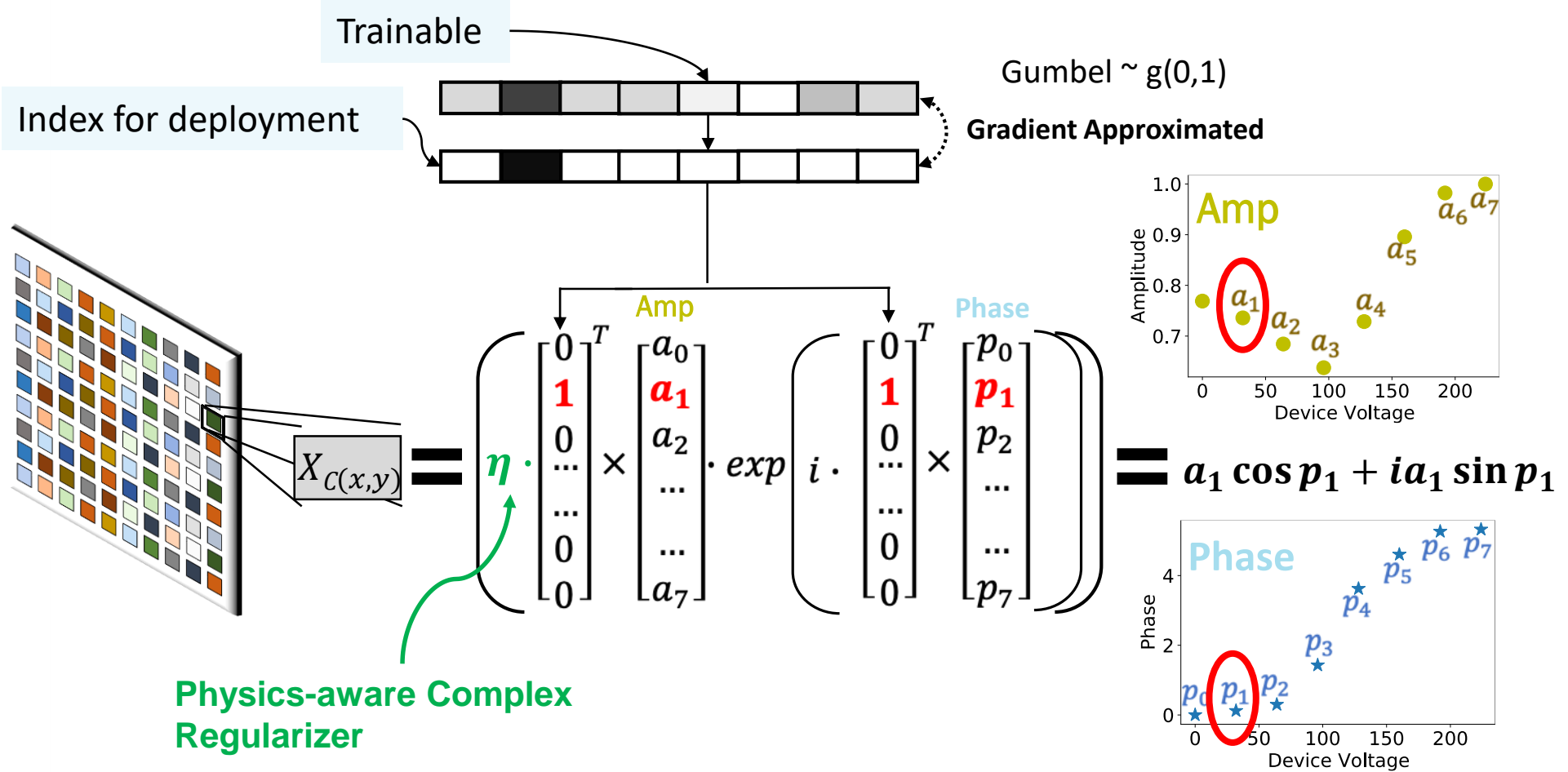


A list of measurements is all you need !!



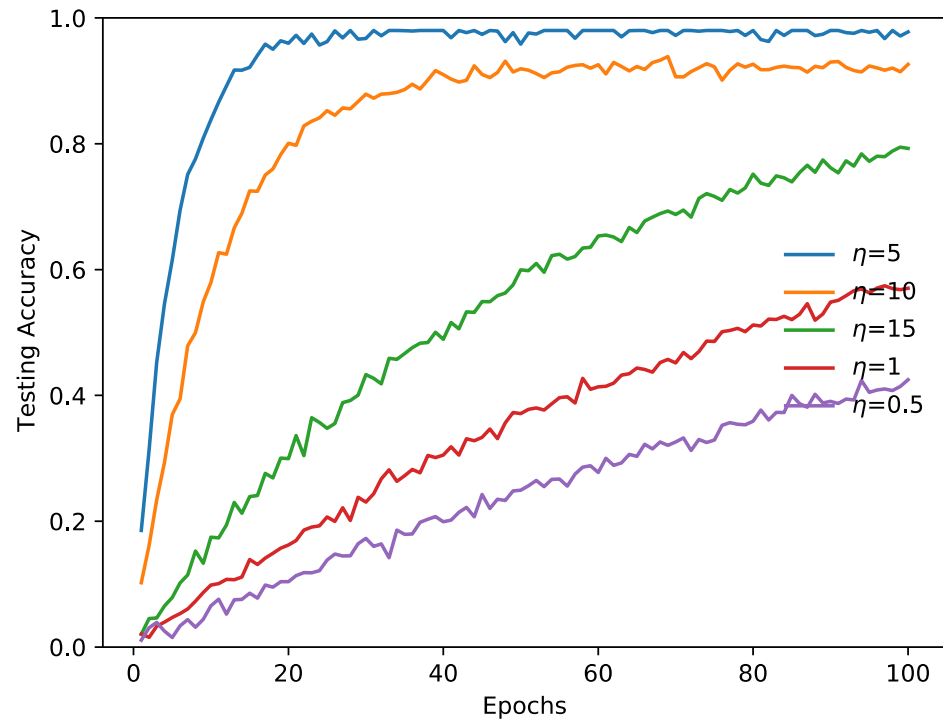
Domain-specific Complex Regularization

- Discrete training via Gumbel-Softmax



Domain-specific Complex Regularization

- Regularization is a new hyperparameter
 - Varies for different wavelength, depth, and distance
 - Tuning needs to combine Gumbel-Softmax temperature schedule



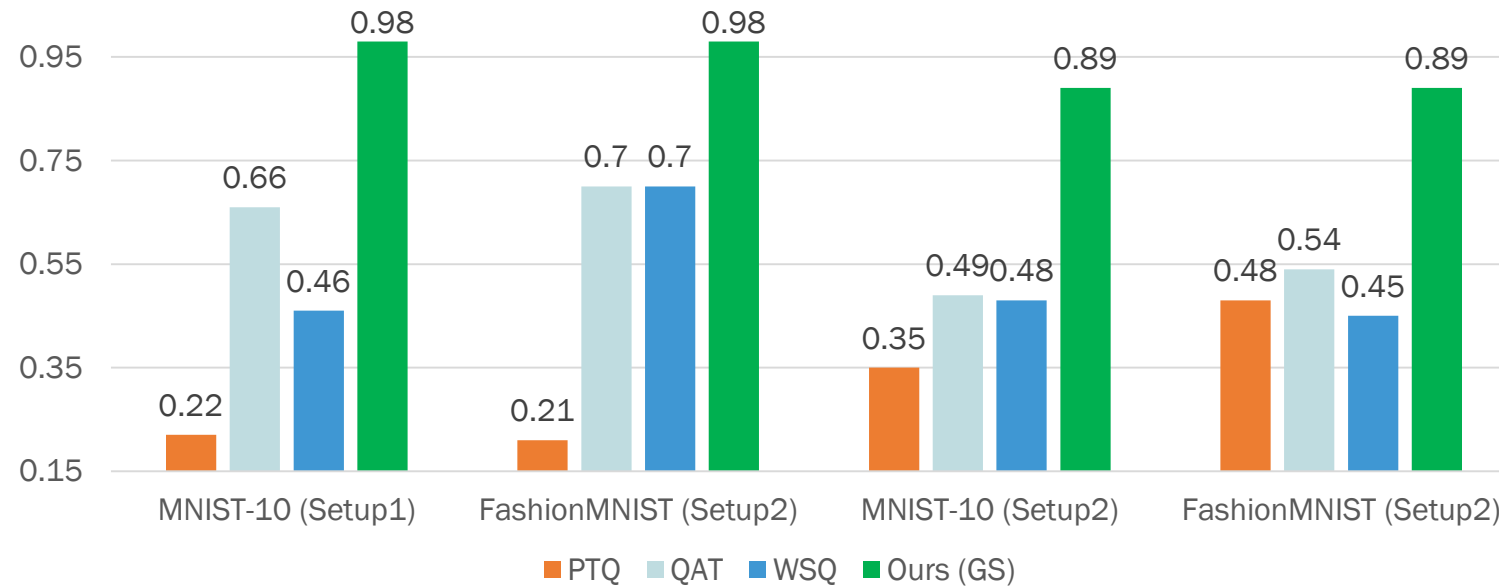
Comparisons with quantization methods

- Comparisons trained with a fitted continuous curve from a multi-polynomial regression model

	Post-training quantization (PTQ)	Quantization-aware training (QAT)	Weights sharing quantization (WSQ)
Pre-trained model (float32)	X	X	✓
Quantization method	Round after training	Hardware-aware training loss with minibatch clipping	Weights sharing with KMeans clustering



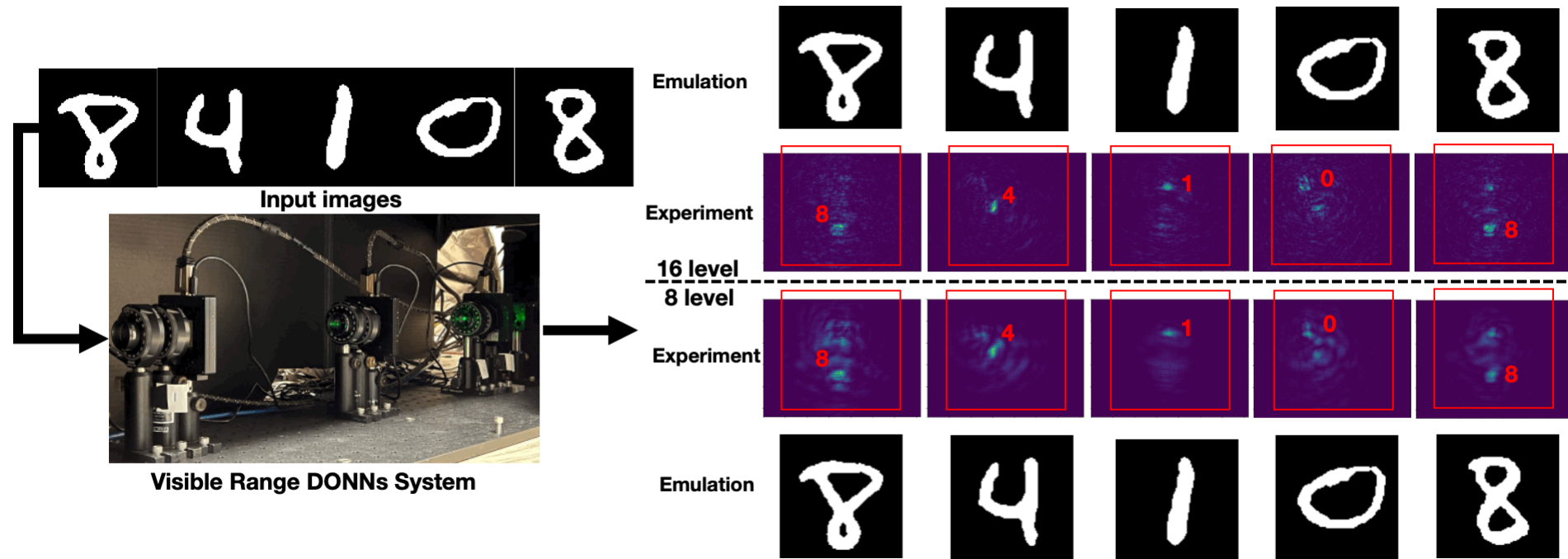
Comparisons with quantization methods



```
# file.csv includes amplitude/phase response in two rows
SLM1_amp, SLM1_phase, ... = lr.utils.load_device([slm1.csv, slm2.csv,])
# plug-in in the layer definition
lr.layer.DiffractiveLayer(SLM1_phase, SLM1_amp, wavelength, ...)
lr.layer.DiffractiveLayer(SLM2_phase, SLM2_amp, wavelength, ...)
```



Experiments – Visible Range



- ▶ Training and hardware setups

- 10 min training on RTX 3090 Ti and straight out-of-box deployment
- 98% accuracy in experimental evaluation on MNIST-10
 - Match LightRidge emulation results

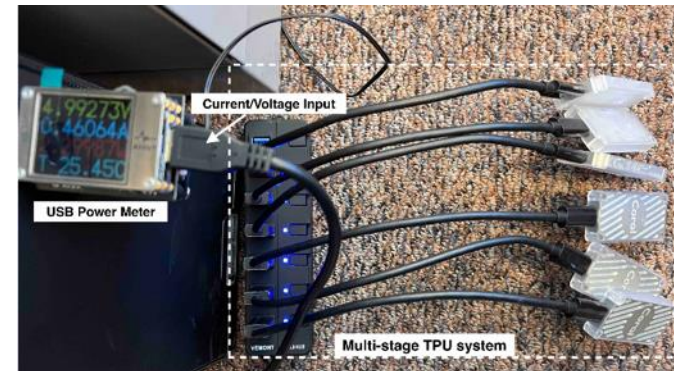
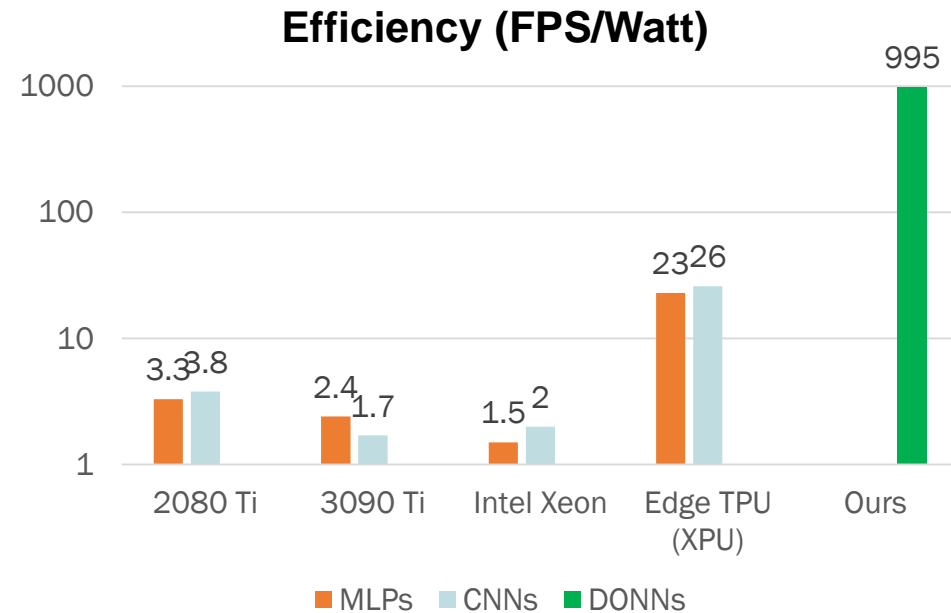


Experimental Energy Efficiency

- ▶ FPS/Watt at inference
 - Batch = 1
 - 3 orders vs GPPs
 - 50X vs XPU
 - CNNs/MLPs acc = 0.99
 - DONNs = 0.98
- ▶ Can be further optimized with monolithic fabrication and advance setups



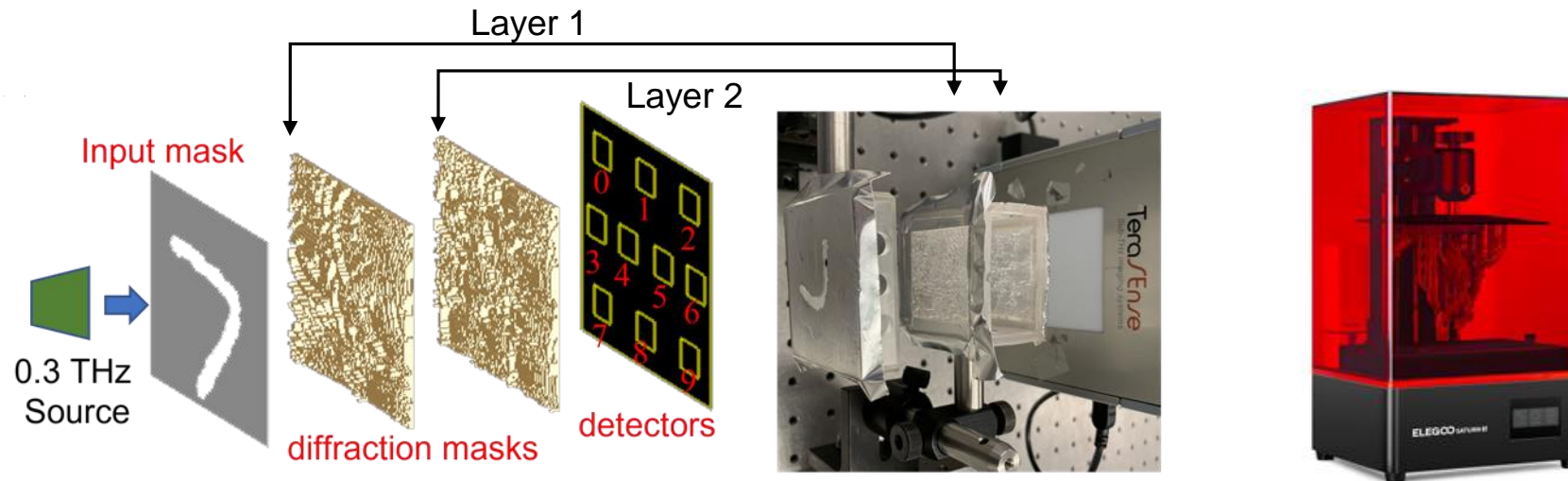
APC Metered Rack Supply PDU
(CPU/GPU/DONNs measurement)



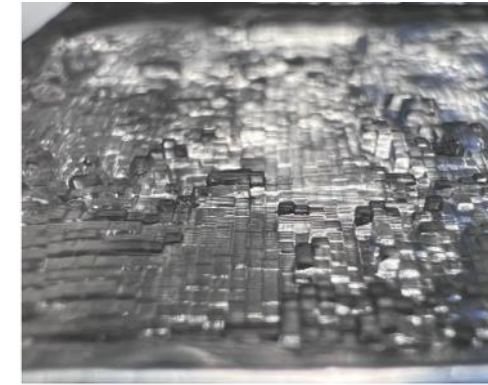
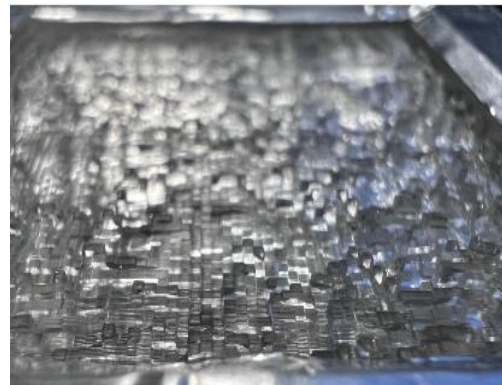
Google Edge TPU Setup



Experiments – THz Range



- ▶ THz hardware setups
 - Laser source 0.3 THz
 - 3D printed diffractive layers
 - Pixel dimension 0.5 mm
 - 93% accuracy in MNIST-10
 - *Physical sparsity*

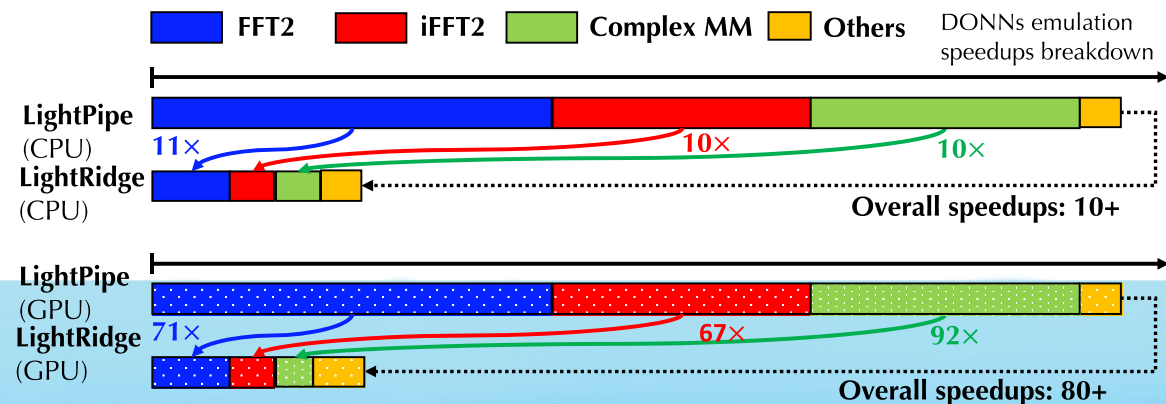
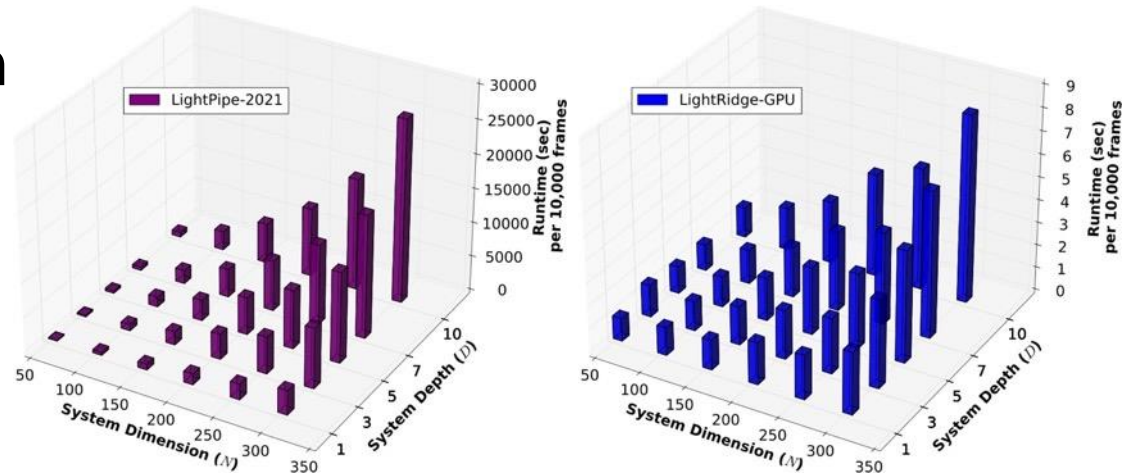


LightRidge Runtime Speedups

- ▶ LightRidge offers **orders of magnitude** speedups
 - Baseline: LightPipes(2021) and SOTAs [Science'18, Nature Photonics'21]
 - SOTAs reported **3-4 days** training time for 5-layer DONNs

- ▶ Speedups breakdown

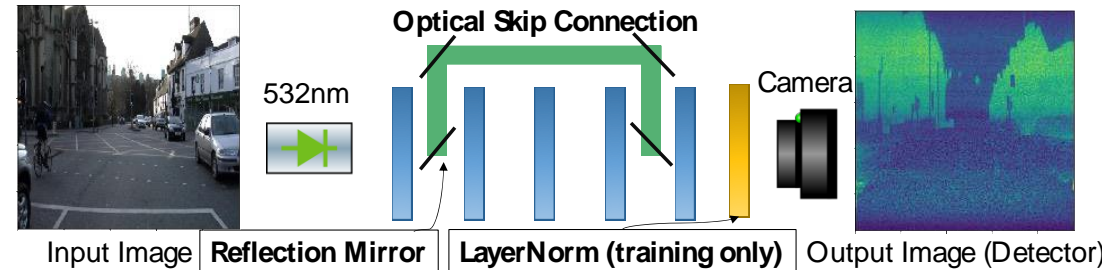
- DiffractMod are the most critical
- Deployment of cuFFTC2C and cache planning on h



Advanced Architecture – All-Optical Segmentation

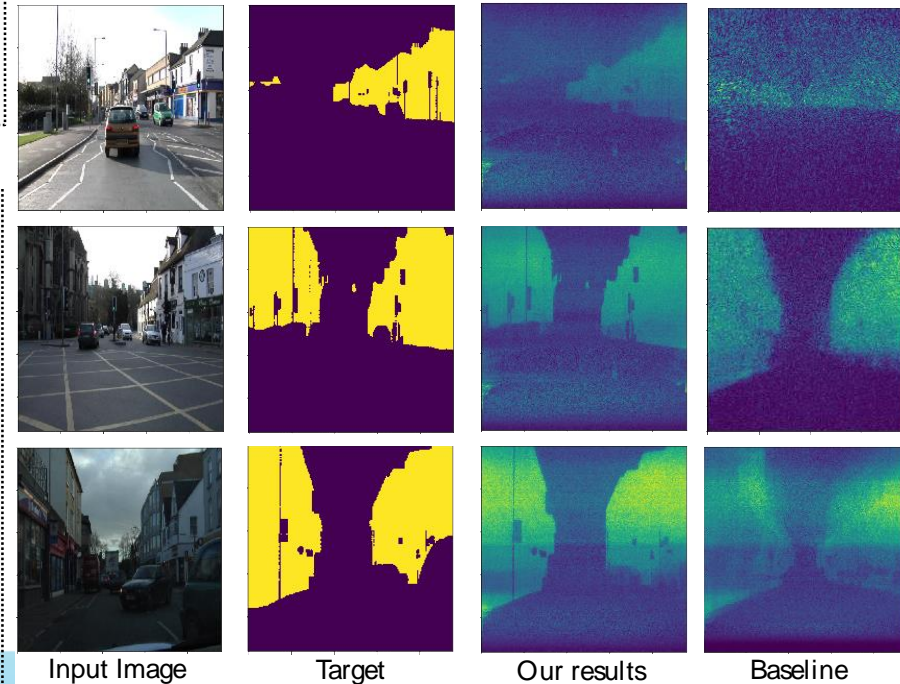
► All-optical segmentation task

- *CityScape* dataset
- “Optical skips”
 - Better gradient flow
- *BCELoss*



```
for i in range(6)
    self.layers[i] = lr.layer.DiffractiveLayer()
self.layers[5].phase_mode = False
```

```
# optical 'skip connection'
def forward(self, x):
    x0 = self.layers[0](x)
    x1 = self.layers[1](x0)
    x2 = self.layers[2](x1)
    x3 = self.layers[3](x2)
    # the skip
    x4 = self.layers[4](x3) + x0
    x = self.layers[5](x4)
    ln = torch.nn.LayerNorm()
    output = self.detector(ln(x))
```

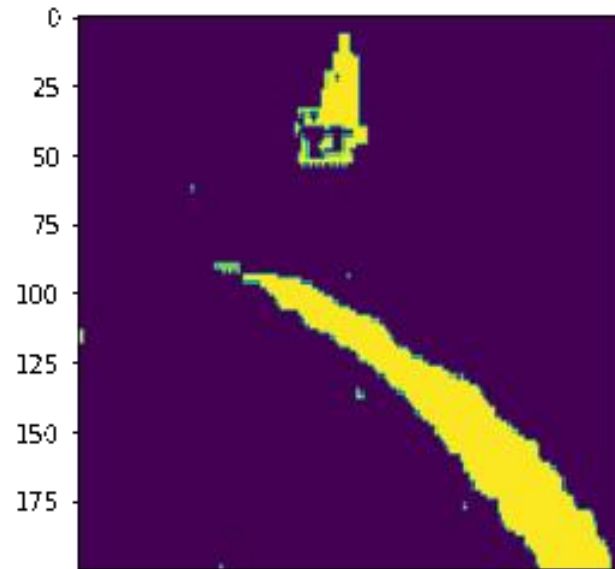


Advanced Architecture – All-Optical Segmentation

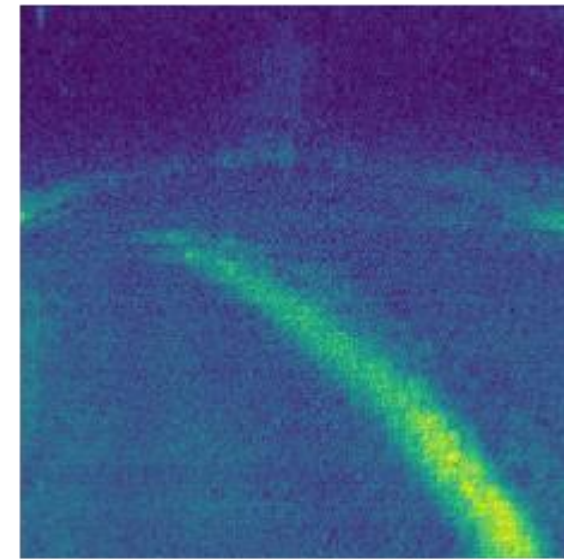
- ▶ Preliminary of all-optical autonomous driving
 - In-door lane following
 - Same architecture as segmentation task



Input



Label

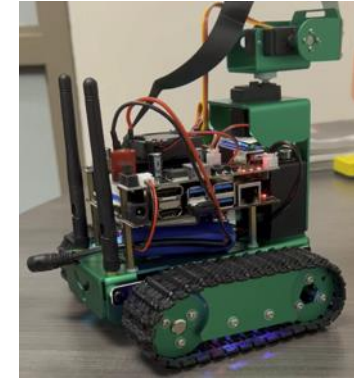


DONNs

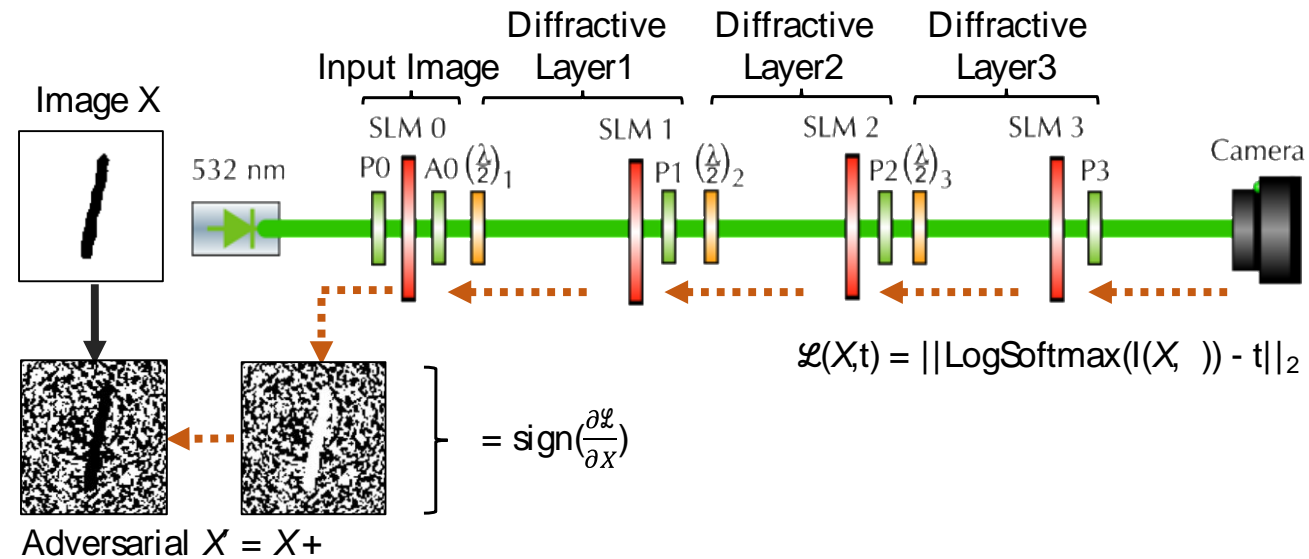


Advanced Architecture – All-Optical Segmentation

- ▶ Preliminary of all-optical autonomous driving
 - Out-door autonomous driving
 - University campus road (summer)
 - Same architecture as segmentation task



Adversaries of Light



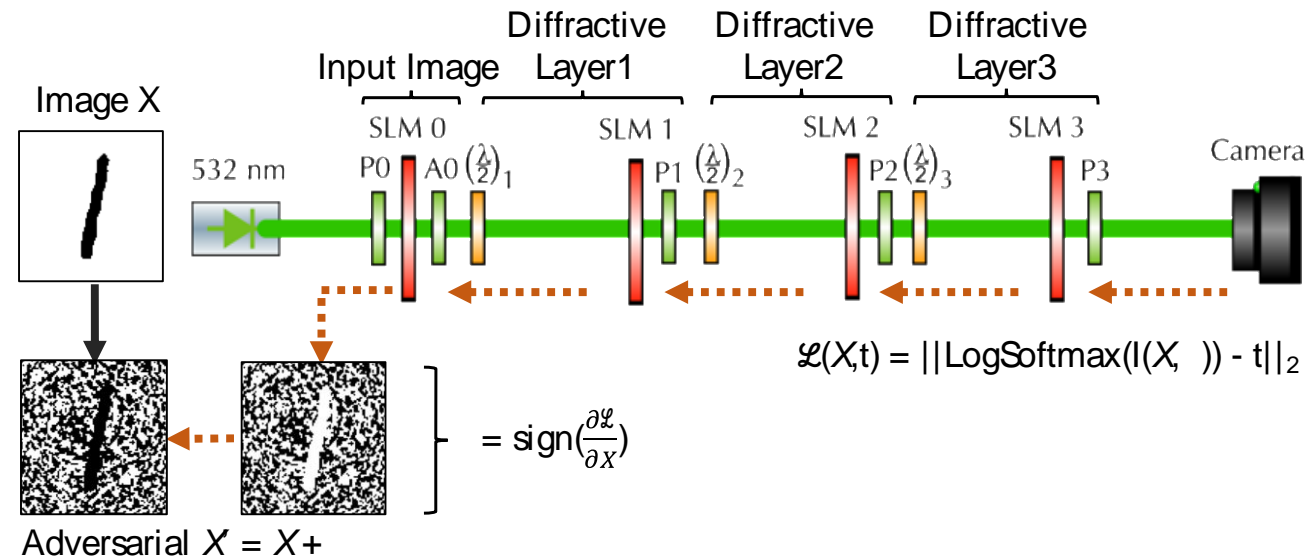
- The space of the adversaries in DONNs

Attack Types	HW System	Numerical
Real	Amplitude attack	$(A + \mathbf{p})e^{i\theta} = (A + \mathbf{p}) \cos \theta + i \cdot (A + \mathbf{p}) \sin \theta$
Complex	Phase attack	$Ae^{i(\theta+\mathbf{p})} = A \cos(\theta + \mathbf{p}) + i \cdot A \sin(\theta + \mathbf{p})$

Adversarial Perturbation \mathbf{p}



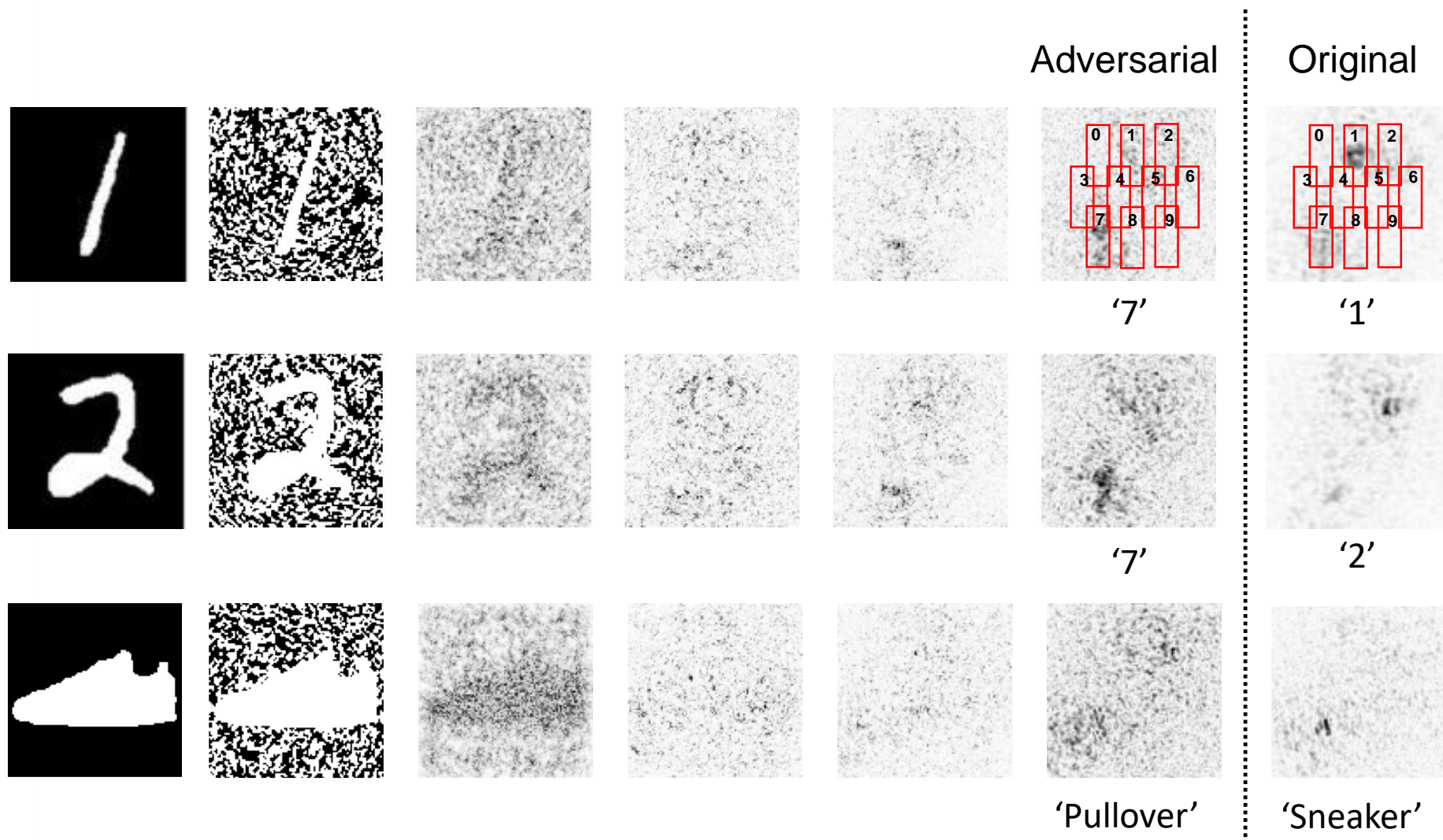
Adversaries of Light



- ▶ Domain-specific generation of adversarial examples
 - Restricted space w.r.t physics meanings
 - Perturbation engineering needs to be considered in the attack phase
- ▶ **C-FGSM**: Complex fast-gradient-signed-method
 - Gumbel-Softmax guided co-design and perturbation engineering



Evaluations of C-FGSM



Physical Experimental Validation

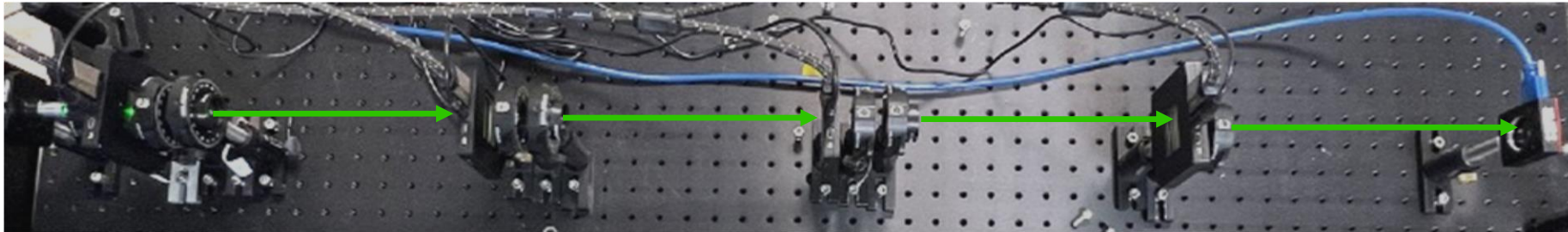
Input Image

Diffractive Layer1

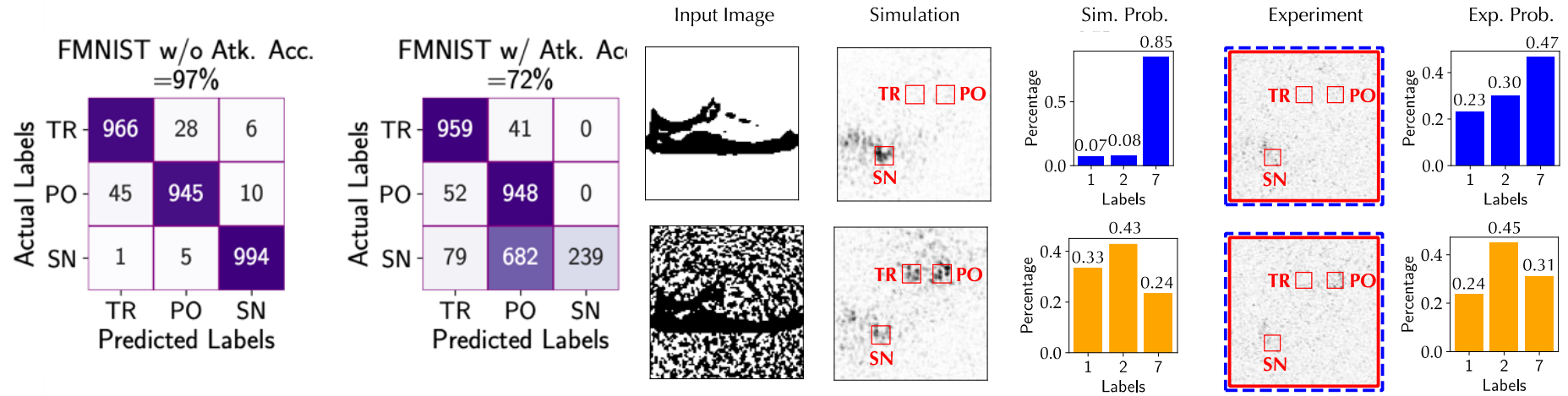
Diffractive Layer2

Diffractive Layer3

Camera

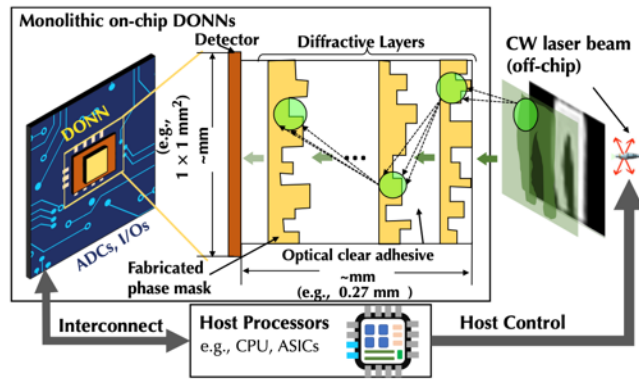


- Vulnerability exist and experimentally demonstrated
 - **Natural counter-measurements - the miscorrelation and device noise**

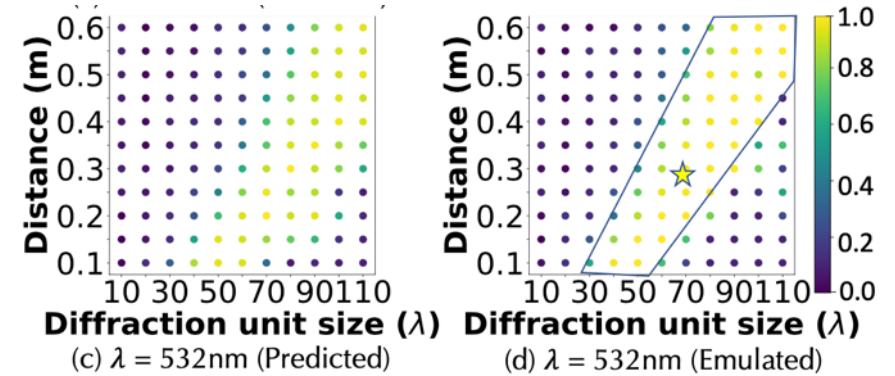
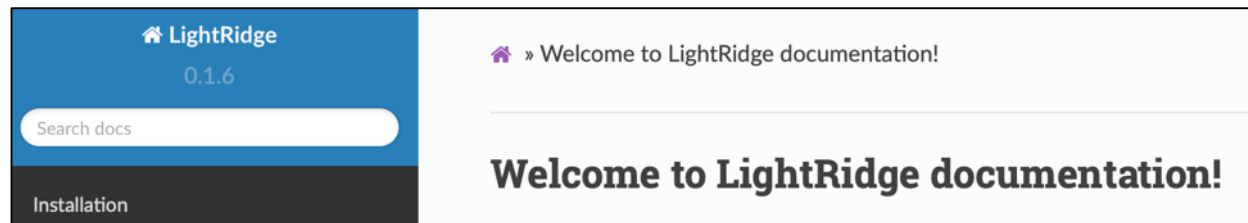


Other Features

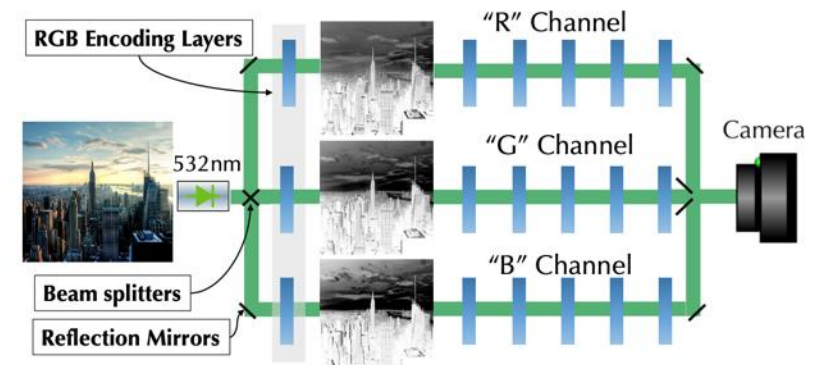
ML-assisted DSE



Advanced Architectures & Multi-task Learning

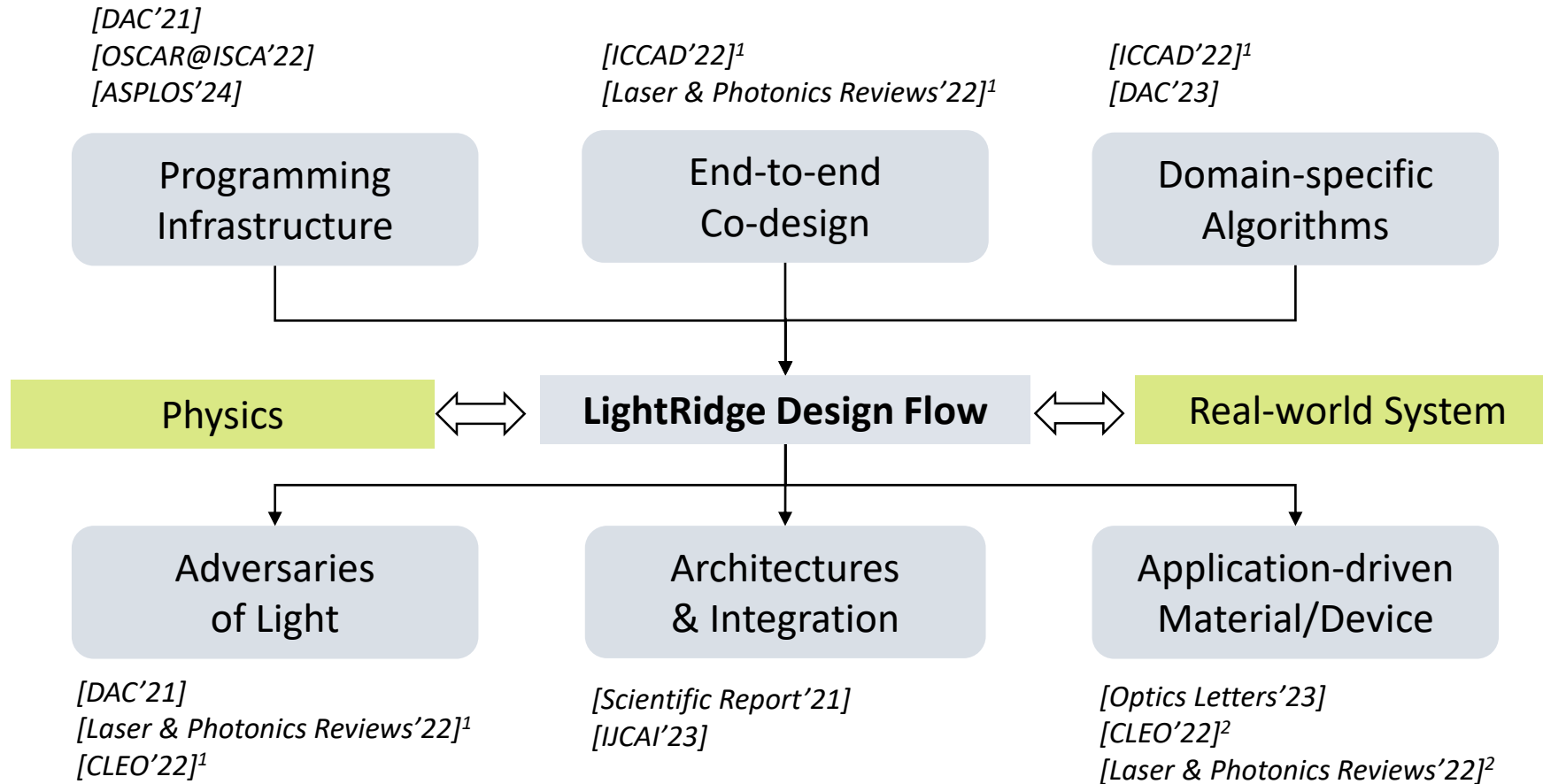


Monolithic Integration



Conclusions

- A Computer Engineering journey to **Diffraction Optical Neural Networks**



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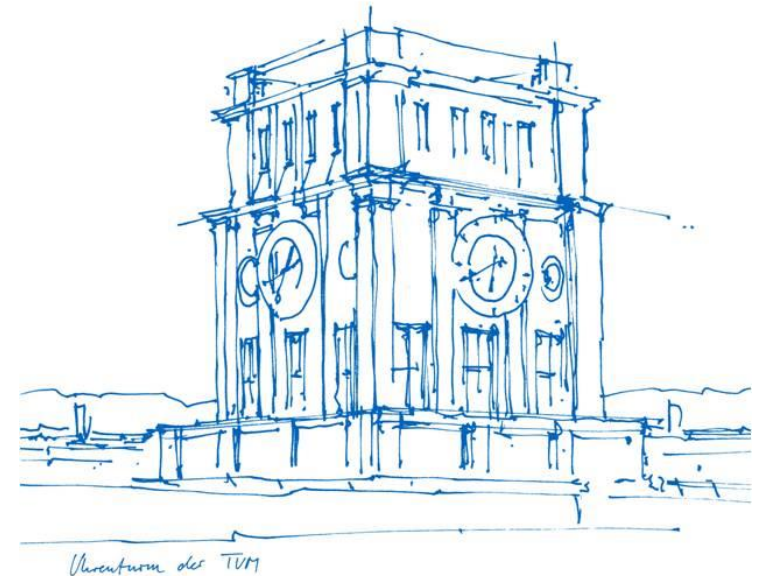
Tutorial III: Topology and physical layout optimization of photonic networks-on-chip and PIC variation analysis

Ulf Schlichtmann,

Technical University of Munich



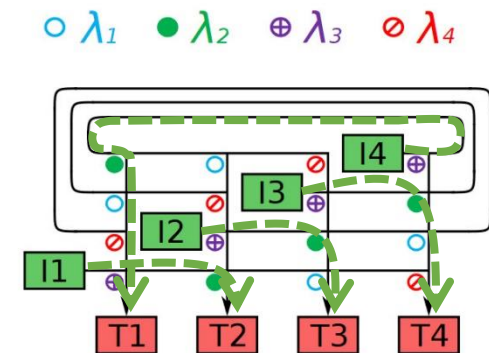
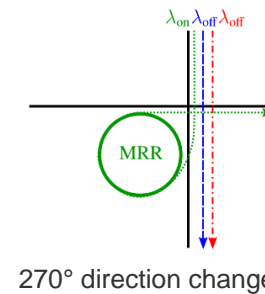
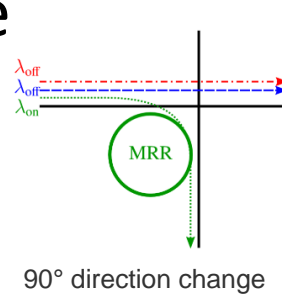
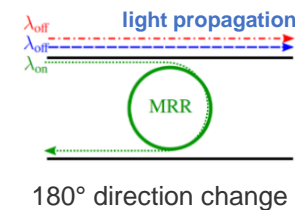
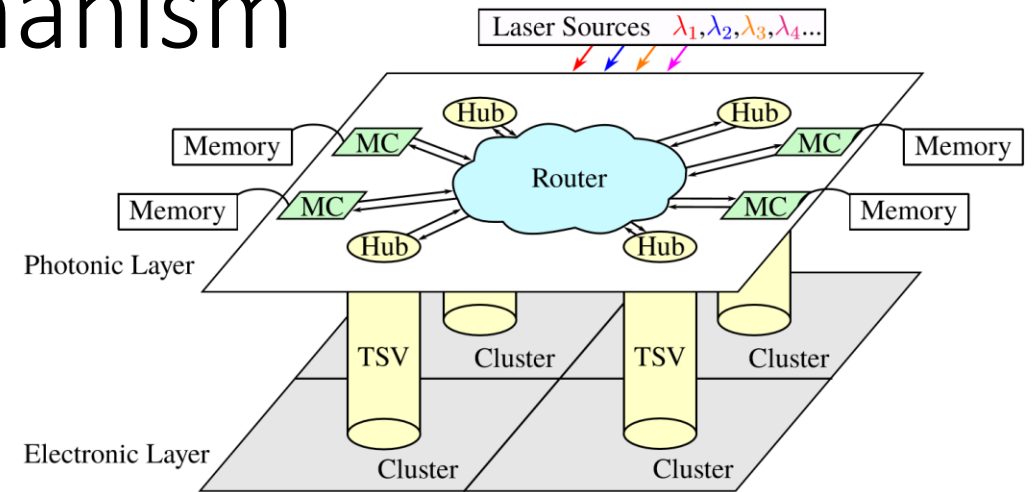
Topology and physical layout optimization of photonic networks-on-chip



WRONoC – Wavelength-Routed ONoC

WRONoC Working Mechanism

- Usage of microring resonators (MRRs) for **multiplexing** and **demultiplexing**
- Dedicated signal path **determined in design phase** for each tuple (initiator, target, wavelength)
- Main constraint: No path overlap between signals with the same wavelength



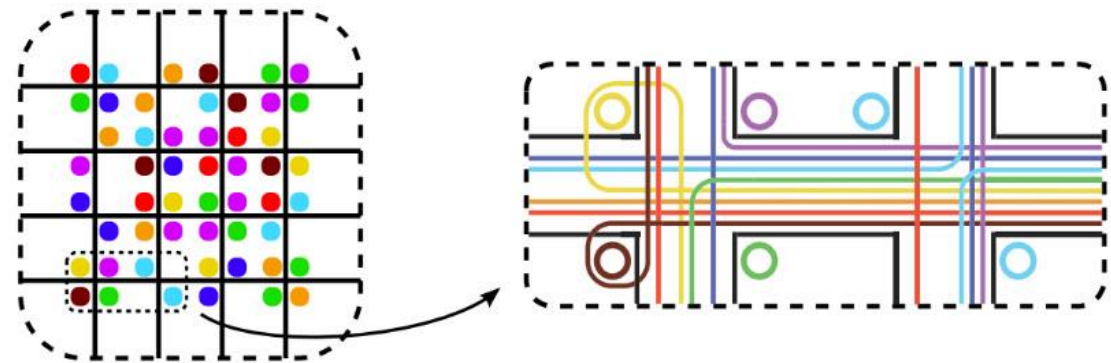
WRONoC Pros and Cons

- Advantages:

- No control resource
- No scheduling effort
- No congestion control
- No signal path construction → no uncertain signal delay

- Disadvantages:

- Extensive usage of MRRs (1 MRR serves constant #paths) → **Scalability issue!** → suitable for application-specific usage → need design optimization to save resources



WRONoC Design Features

Topological features:

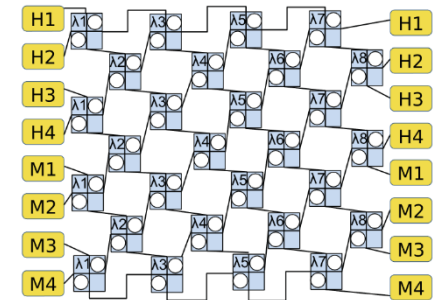
- Waveguide connection structure
- MRR topological locations
- MRR resonant wavelengths
- Signal wavelength assignment
- Signal path routing
- All these need to be done during the design phase

→ **Challenges of efficiency! & beyond human capability!**

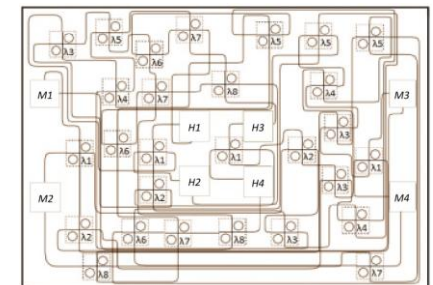
Physical design features:

- Waveguide routing
- MRR placement

Manual topology



Manual layout



Sources:

- 1) *Engineering a Bandwidth-Scalable Optical Layer for a 3D Multi-core Processor with Awareness of Layout Constraints*, NOCS'12, Luca Ramini et al.

WRONoC Research at TUM — Since 2018

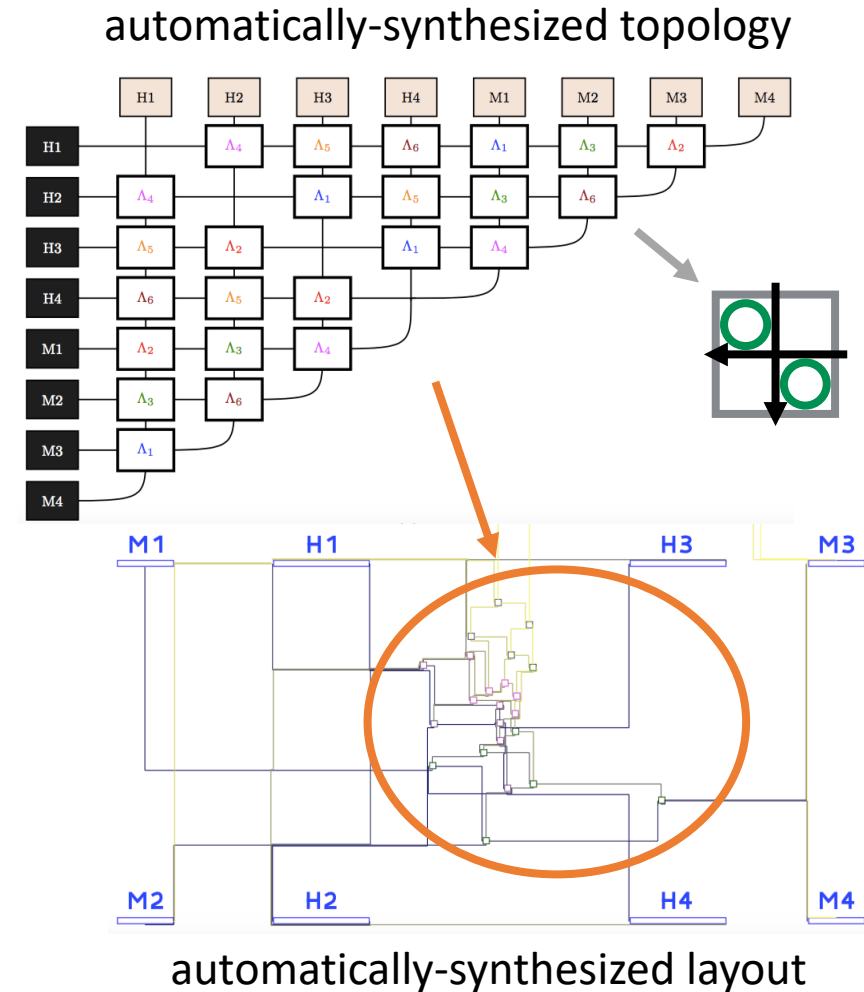
- Router design and synthesis:
 - Topology synthesis
 - *CustomTopo* (ICCAD'18)
 - *FAST* (DATE'21, TCAD'22)
 - Topology design
 - *Light* (ASP-DAC'21)
 - Physical synthesis
 - *ToPro* (ICCAD'21)
 - Topology synthesis + physical synthesis
 - *PSION* (ISPD'19, TCAD'20, ICCAD'20)
- Bandwidth maximization: *MaxBW* (ASP-DAC'20)

WRONoC Research at TUM

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 - **Topology synthesis + physical synthesis**
 - *PSION (ISPD'19, TCAD'20, ICCAD'20)*
- **Bandwidth maximization: *MaxBW (ASP-DAC'20)***

Separate Design Steps

- Topology generation and then physical design
- Advantages:
 - Natural problem partitioning
 - Observable intermediate solution, i.e. topology
 - Fast
- Disadvantages:
 - Node position not considered → long waveguide detours and crossings

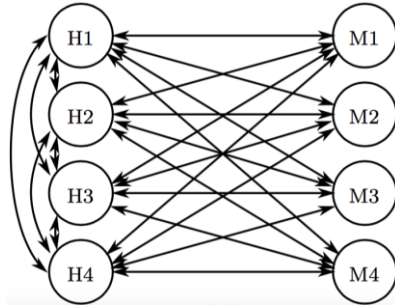


Sources:

1) *CustomTopo: A Topology Generation Method for Application-Specific Wavelength-Routed Optical NoCs*, ICCAD'18, Mengchu Li et al.

Topology Synthesis by CustomTopo

Input: communication graph



communication matrix

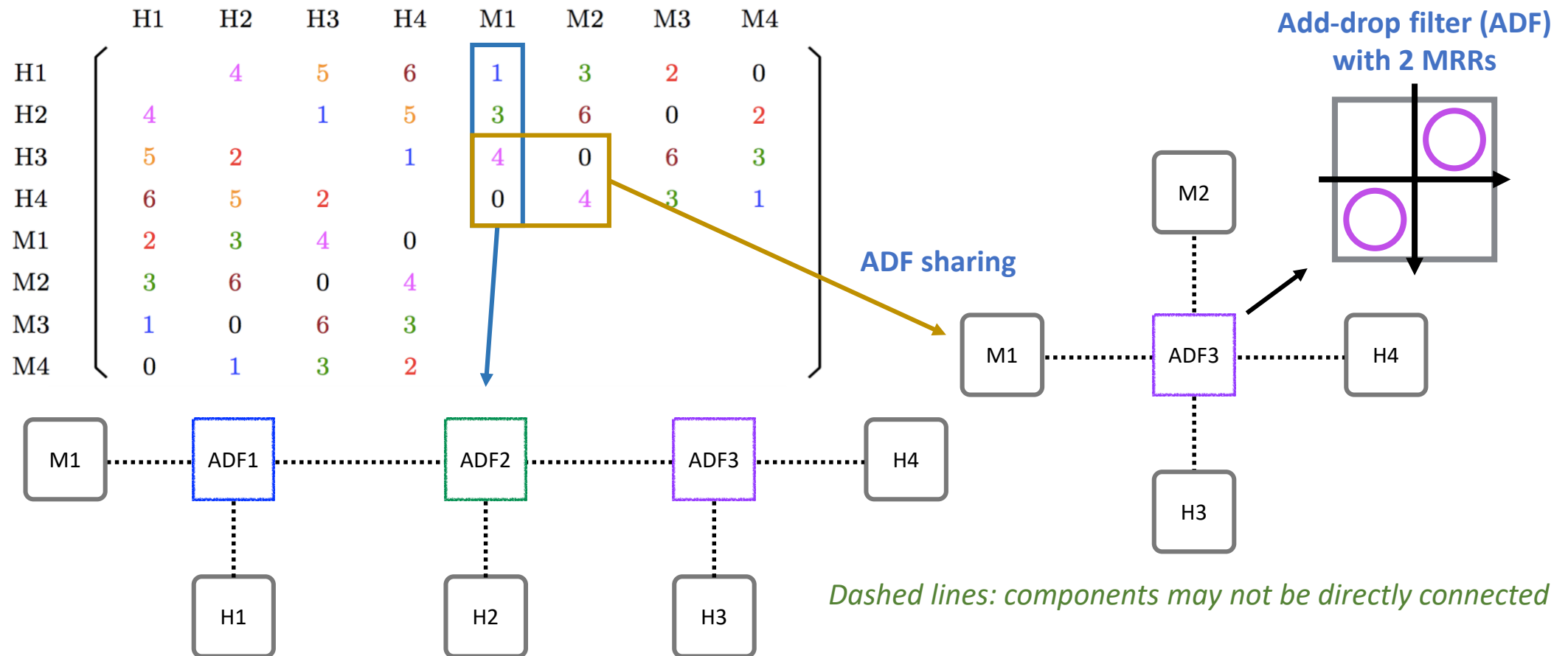
	H1	H2	H3	H4	M1	M2	M3	M4
H1		4	5	6	1	3	2	0
H2	4		1	5	3	6	0	2
H3	5	2		1	4	0	6	3
H4	6	5	2		0	4	3	1
M1	2	3	4	0				
M2	3	6	0	4				
M3	1	0	6	3				
M4	0	1	3	2				

wavelength for each message determined
wavelength for each ADF determined
#ADF-sharing structures maximized

Sources:

- 1) *CustomTopo: A Topology Generation Method for Application-Specific Wavelength-Routed Optical NoCs, ICCAD'18, Mengchu Li et al.*

Information in the Communication Matrix

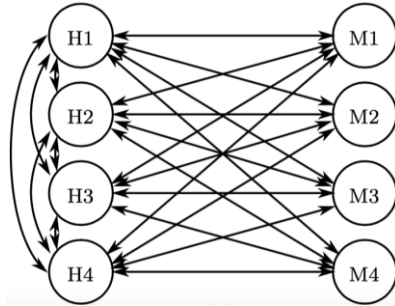


Sources:

- 1) CustomTopo: A Topology Generation Method for Application-Specific Wavelength-Routed Optical NoCs, ICCAD'18, Mengchu Li et al.

Topology Synthesis by CustomTopo

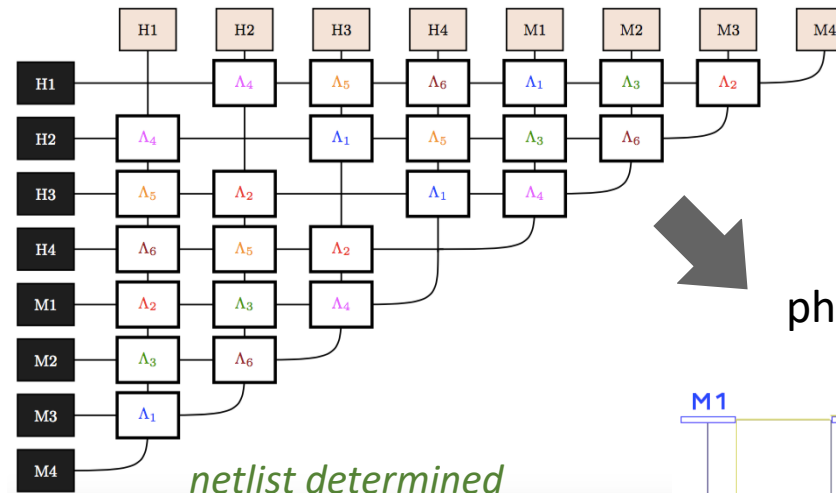
Input: communication graph



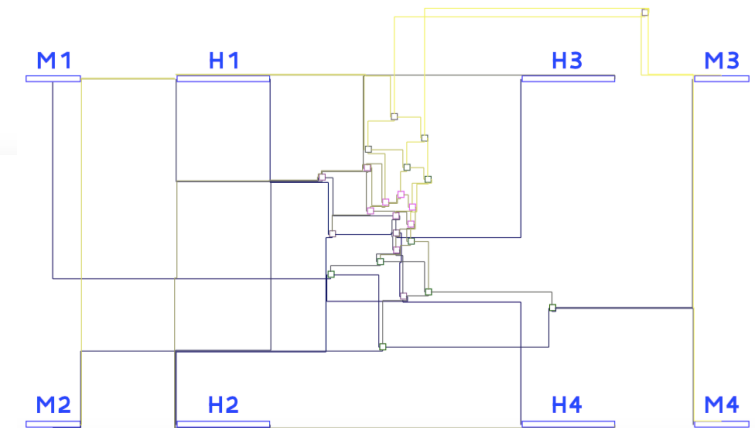
communication matrix

	H1	H2	H3	H4	M1	M2	M3	M4
H1		4	5	6	1	3	2	0
H2	4		1	5	3	6	0	2
H3	5	2		1	4	0	6	3
H4	6	5	2		0	4	3	1
M1	2	3	4	0				
M2	3	6	0	4				
M3	1	0	6	3				
M4	0	1	3	2				

topology



physical design (by PROTON)



wavelength for each message determined
wavelength for each ADF determined
#ADF-sharing structures maximized

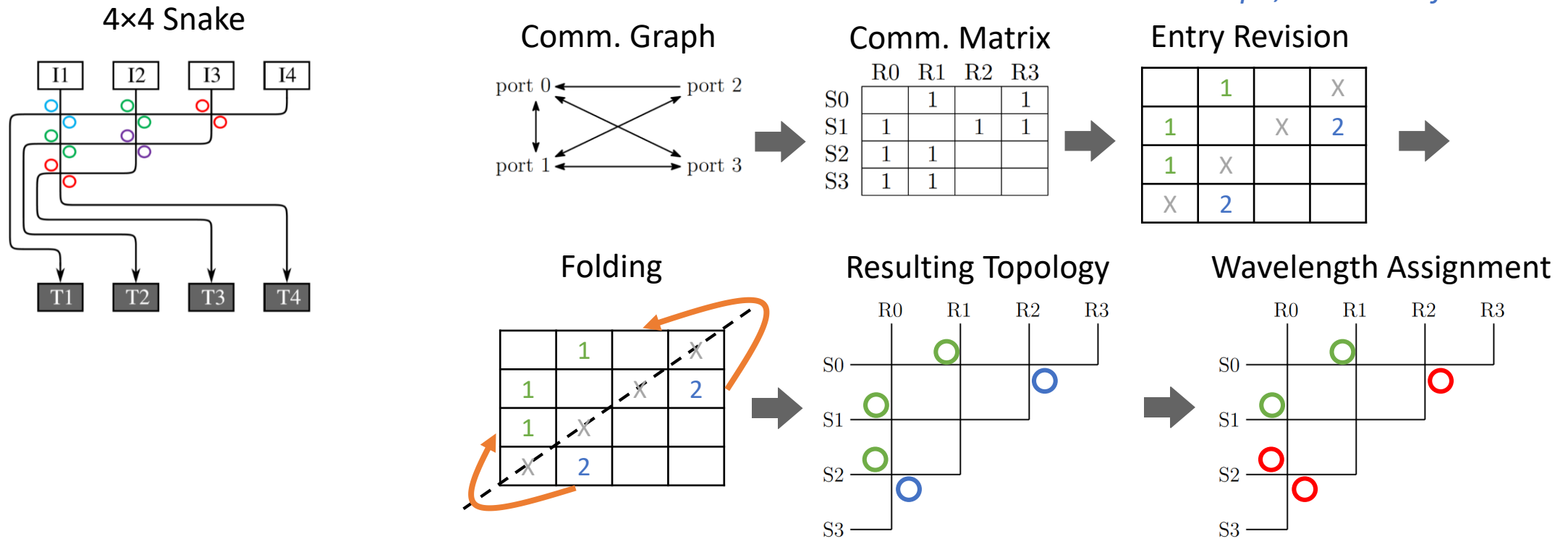
Sources:

- 1) CustomTopo: A Topology Generation Method for Application-Specific Wavelength-Routed Optical NoCs, ICCAD'18, Mengchu Li et al.
- 2) PROTON+: A Placement and Routing Tool for 3D Optical Networks-on-Chip with a Single Optical Layer, JETC'15, Anja von Beuningen et al.

Topology Synthesis by FAST

- Reduced from Snake topology

Results comparable with CustomTopo, but much faster



Sources:

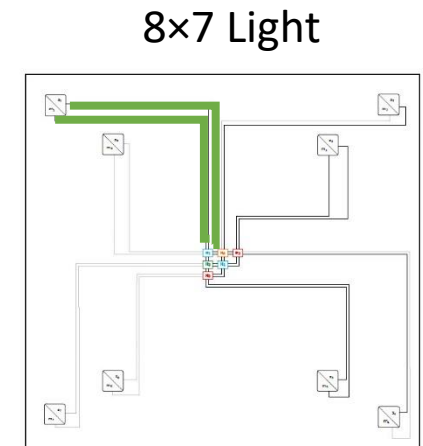
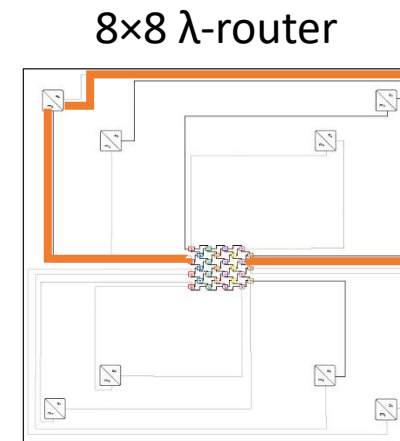
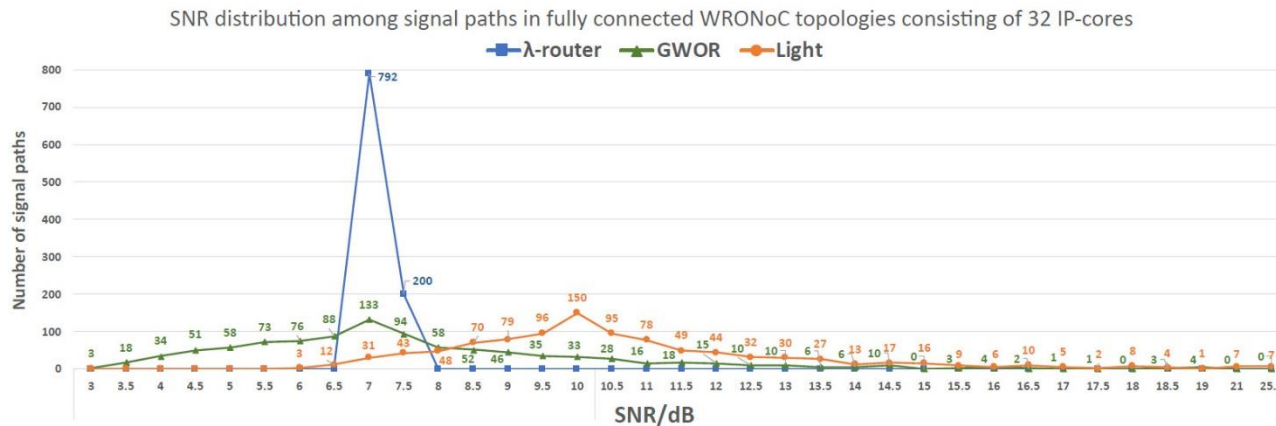
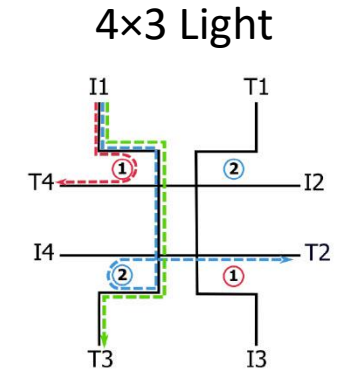
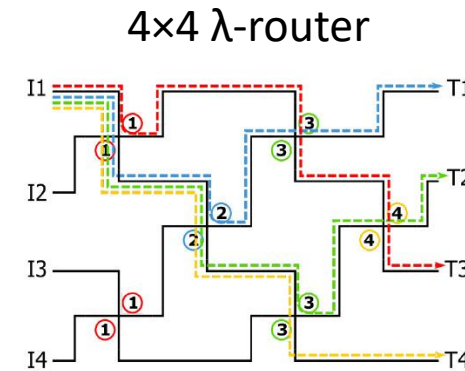
- 1) *Contrasting Wavelength-Routed Optical NoC Topologies for Power-Efficient 3D-stacked Multicore Processors using Physical-Layer Analysis*, DATE'13, Luca Ramini et al.
- 2) *FAST: A Fast Automatic Sweeping Topology Customization Method for Application-Specific Wavelength-Routed Optical NoCs*, DATE'21, Moyuan Xiao et al.
- 3) *Crosstalk-Aware Automatic Topology Customization and Optimization for Wavelength-Routed Optical NoCs*, IEEE TCAD'22, Moyuan Xiao et al.

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 - Physical synthesis
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 - *PSION (ISPD'19, TCAD'20, ICCAD'20)*
- Bandwidth maximization: *MaxBW (ASP-DAC'20)*

Light: $n \times (n - 1)$ WRONoC Router

- Physical-design-aware
- A wide range of signal-to-noise ratio (SNR) distribution — good potential for signal path binding

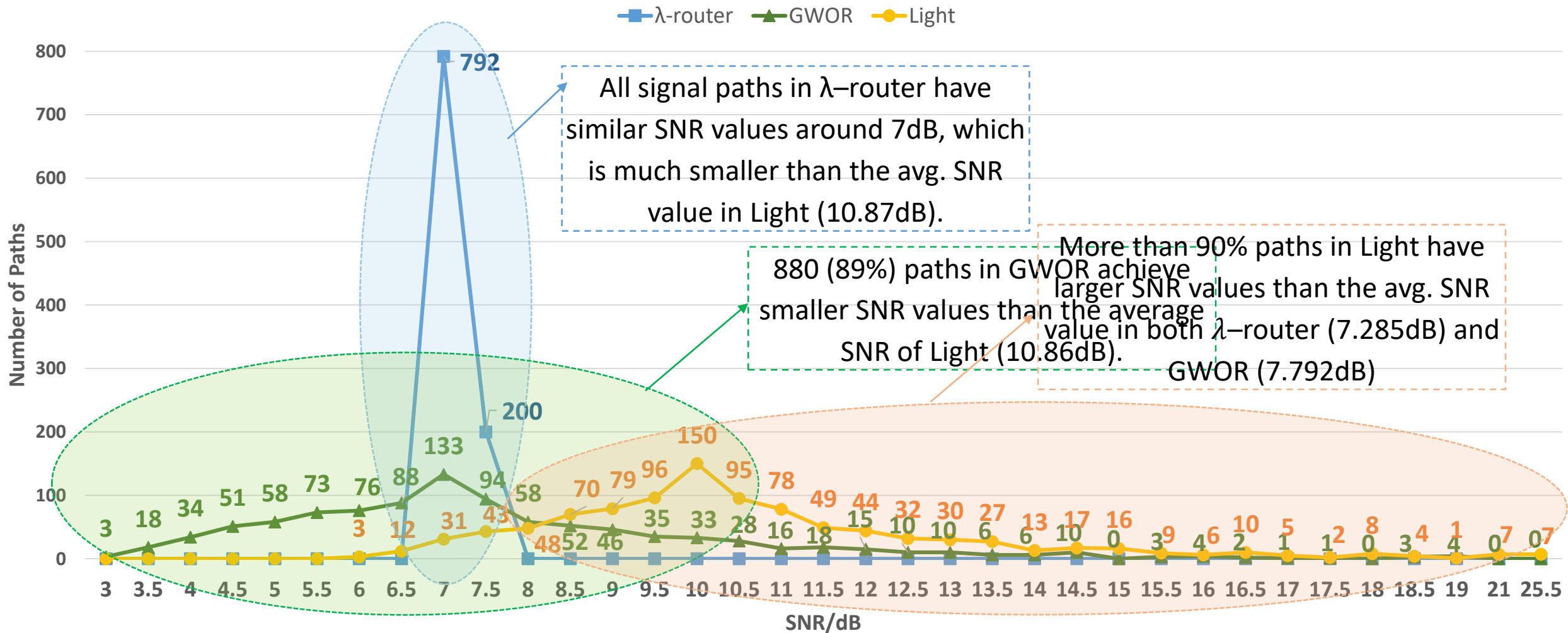


Sources:

1) *Light: A Scalable and Efficient Wavelength-Routed Optical Networks-On-Chip Topology*, ASP-DAC'21, Zhidan Zheng et al.

Light: Results in detail

Number of paths and their SNR values for different WRONoC topologies supporting 32 IP-Cores



WRONoC Research at TUM

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ToPro: Waveguide Router

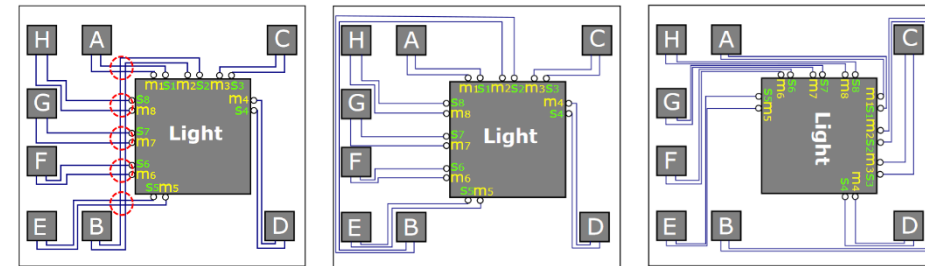
- Steps:

1. Project a physical-design-aware topology, e.g. Light, onto the center of the routing plane
2. Route shortest paths
3. Crossing resolution by path pushing

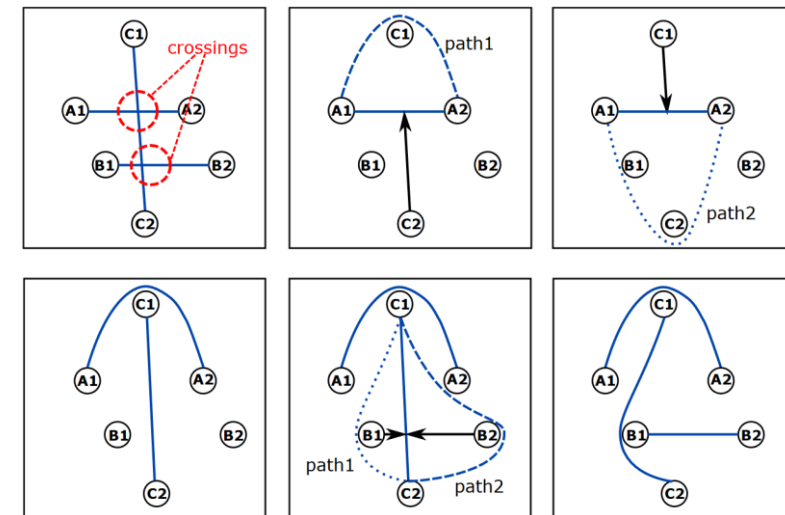
- Zero-crossing waveguide routing from router to nodes

- Minimize insertion loss & Maximize SNR

Router rotation and flip



Crossing resolution by path pushing



Sources:

- 1) ToPro: A Topology Projector and Waveguide Router for Wavelength-Routed Optical Networks-on-Chip, ICCAD'21, Zhidan Zheng et al.
- 2) Topological routing to maximize routability for package substrate, DAC'08, Shenghua Liu et al.

WRONoC Research at TUM

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 - *FAST (DATE'21, TCAD'22)*
 - Topology design
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 - Physical synthesis
 - *ToPro (ICCAD'21)*
 - **Topology synthesis + physical synthesis**
 - *PSION (ISPD'19, TCAD'20, ICCAD'20)*
- Bandwidth maximization: *MaxBW (ASP-DAC'20)*

PSION: Template-Based Synthesis

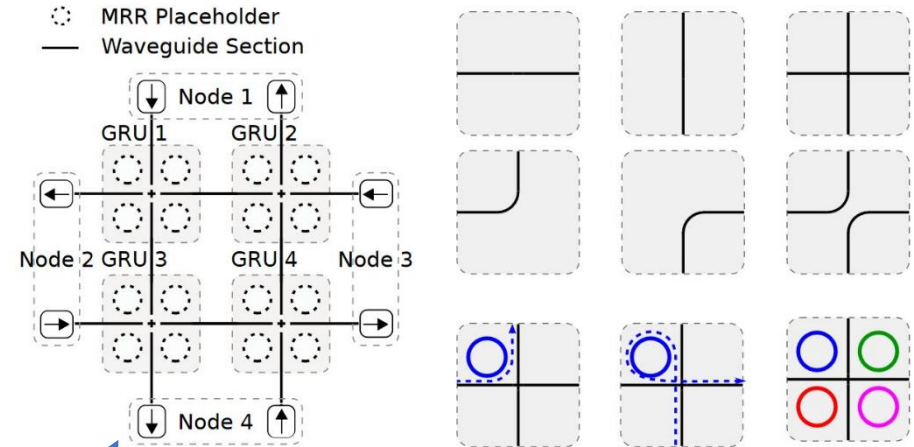
Topological features:

- Waveguide connection structure
- MRR topological locations
- MRR resonant wavelengths
- Signal wavelength assignment
- Signal path routing

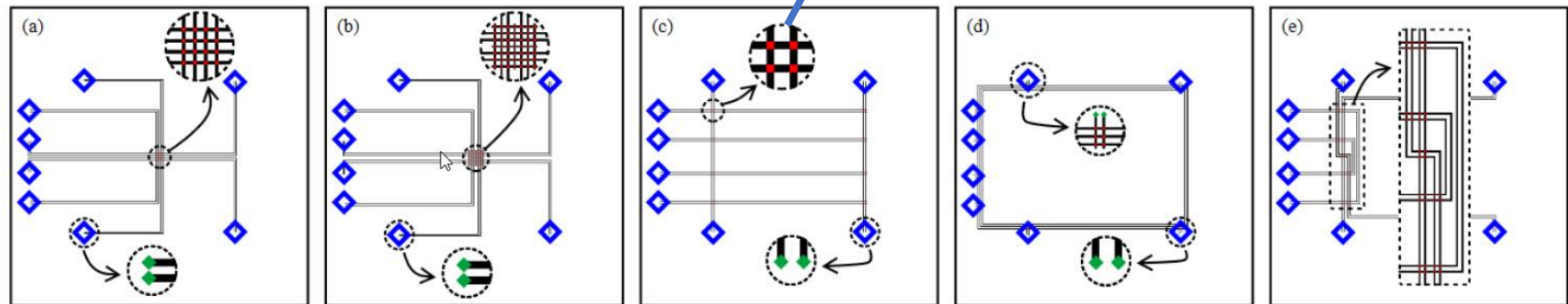
to be determined

Physical design features:

- Waveguide routing *fixed*
- MRR placement *placeholders*



— Waveguide ◆ Node ■ GRU ◆ Endpoint

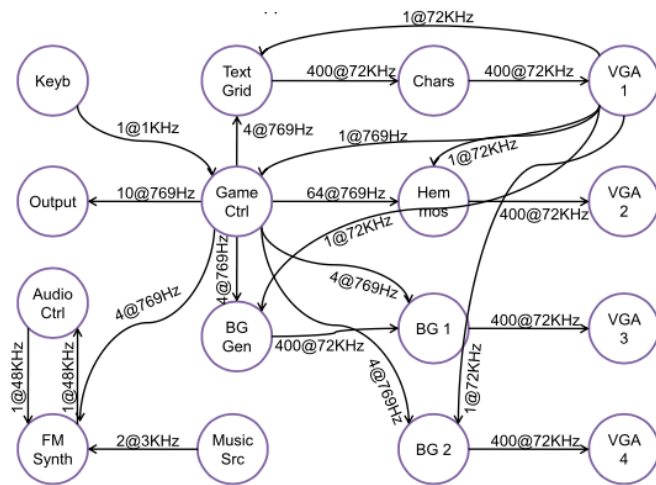


Sources:

- 1) PSION: Combining logical topology and physical layout optimization for Wavelength-Routed ONoCs, ISPD'19, Alexandre Truppel et al.
- 2) PSION+: Combining logical topology and physical layout optimization for Wavelength-Routed ONoCs, IEEE TCAD 39(12) 2020, Alexandre Truppel et al.
- 3) PSION 2: Optimizing Physical Layout of Wavelength-Routed ONoCs for Laser Power Reduction, Alexandre Truppel et al.

WRONoC Synthesis by PSION

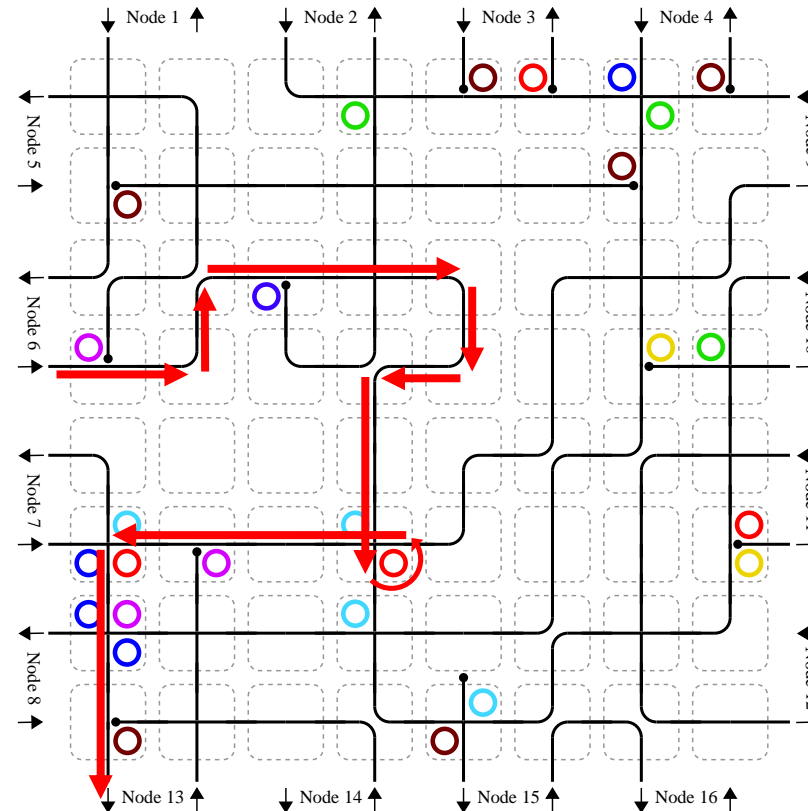
a “Screen Savor” multimedia application



16 nodes, 22 messages

- Full CM would have 240 messages, **240 MRRs** required for Lambda-router
- Here only **27 MRRs** are used

WRONoC router synthesized by PSION



Message list:

1 → 6	2 → 3
4 → 10	4 → 15
6 → 11	6 → 13
11 → 12	13 → 9
15 → 16	14 → 13
3 → 4	4 → 2
6 → 5	6 → 2
6 → 15	7 → 8
4 → 6	4 → 7
6 → 7	6 → 10
9 → 13	10 → 11

Message with the highest insertion loss

Sources:

- 1) PSION: Combining logical topology and physical layout optimization for Wavelength-Routed ONoCs, ISPD'19, Alexandre Truppel et al.
- 2) A scalable, non-interfering, synthesizable Network-on-chip monitor — extended version, Microprocessors and Microsystems'13, Antti Alhonen et al.

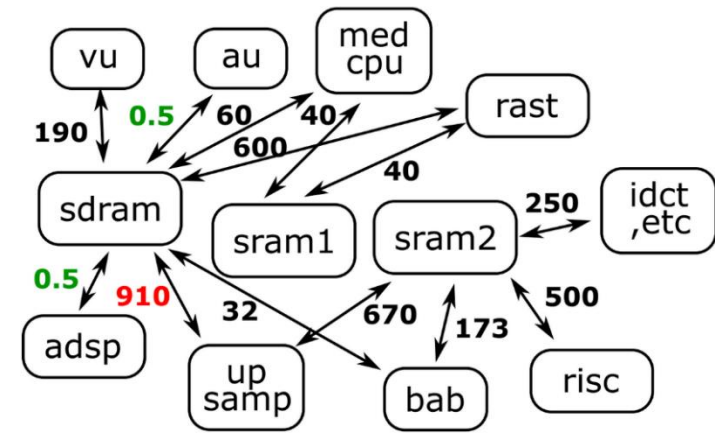
WRONoC Research at TUM

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 - *ToPro (ICCAD'21)*
 - Topology synthesis + physical synthesis
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- **Bandwidth maximization: *MaxBW (ASP-DAC'20)***

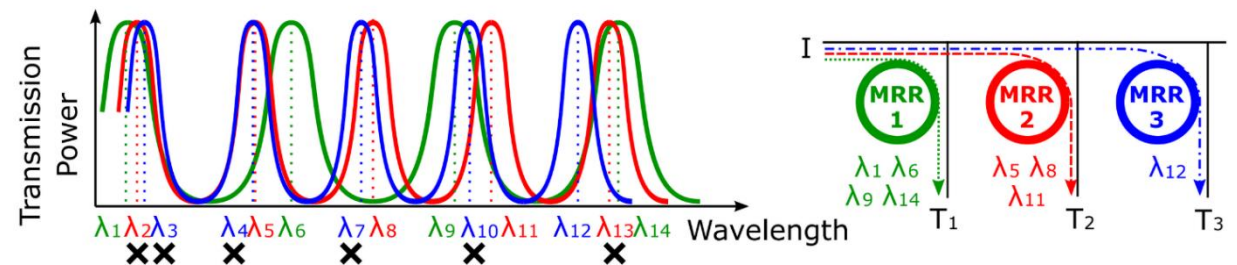
Bandwidth Maximization

- Convention: “1-bit communication”
- Periodic transmission spectrum of microring resonators
- Input: a WRONoC topology
- Output: the same topology with maximized communication parallelism

Bandwidth requirement (unit: MB/s) of an MPEG-4 decoder application



Transmission spectra of three MRRs.



Sources:

- 1) *Maximizing the Communication Parallelism for Wavelength-Routed Optical Networks-on-Chips*, ASP-DAC'20, Mengchu Li et al.
- 2) *NoC synthesis flow for customized domain specific multiprocessor systems-on-chip*, IEEE TPDS 16(2) 2008, Davide Bertozzi et al.

WRONoC Research at TUM — Since 2018

- Router design and synthesis:
 - Topology synthesis
 - *CustomTopo (ICCAD'18)*
 - *FAST (DATE'21, TCAD accepted)*
 - Topology design
 - *Light (ASP-DAC'21)*
 - Physical synthesis
 - *ToPro (ICCAD'21)*
 - Topology synthesis + physical synthesis
 - *PSION (ISPD'19, TCAD'20, ICCAD'20)*
- Bandwidth maximization: *MaxBW (ASP-DAC'20)*

Many thanks to the researchers and students working with me:

*Tsun-Ming Tseng,
Mengchu Li, Alexandre Truppel,
Zhidan Zheng, Moyuan Xiao*

and to my collaborators:

- *Prof. Davide Bertozzi (University of Ferrara, Italy)*
- *Dr. Mahdi Tala (University of Ferrara, Italy)*
- *Prof. Mahdi Nikdast (Colorado State University, USA)*

PIC variation analysis

Thanks to

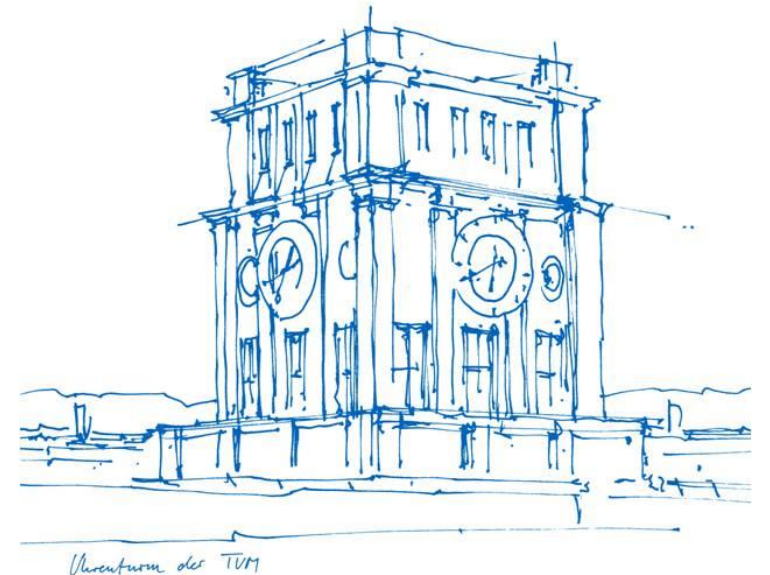
Ying Zhu, Bing Li, Grace Li Zhang (TUM)

and to our collaborators

Xunzhao Yin, Cheng Zhuo (Zhejiang),

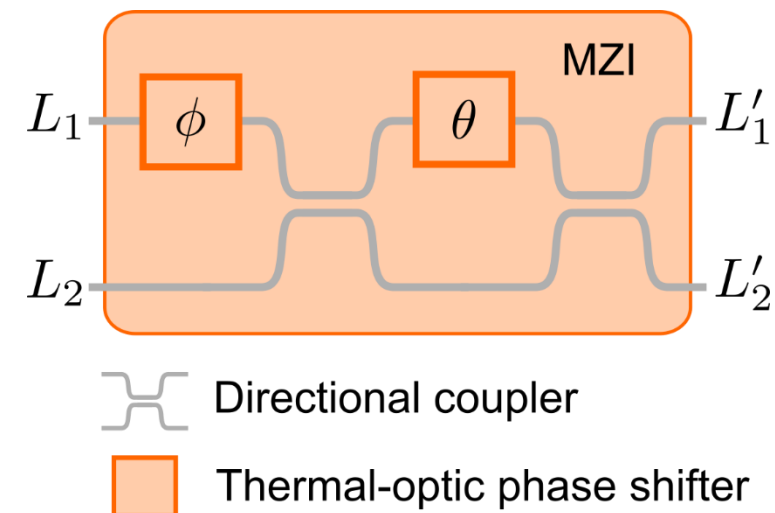
Huaxi Gu (Xidian),

Tsung-Yi Ho (CUHK)



Mach-Zehnder Interferometer (MZI)

- Component for light signal transformation
- Behavior of optical signals:
 - Directional coupler (beam splitter): split signal by 50:50; append $\pi/2$ in phases of diagonal transmission
 - Phase shifter: thermally controllable phases for programming



transformation matrices
of phase shifters

$$\begin{bmatrix} L_1^c \\ L_2^c \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & \frac{i}{\sqrt{2}} \\ \frac{i}{\sqrt{2}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} e^{i\theta} & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & \frac{i}{\sqrt{2}} \\ \frac{i}{\sqrt{2}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} e^{i\phi} & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} L_1^c \\ L_2^c \end{bmatrix} = ie^{i\theta/2} \begin{bmatrix} e^{i\phi} \sin \frac{\theta}{2} & \cos \frac{\theta}{2} \\ e^{i\phi} \cos \frac{\theta}{2} & -\sin \frac{\theta}{2} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} L_1^c \\ L_2^c \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{T} \begin{bmatrix} L_1^c \\ L_2^c \end{bmatrix}$$

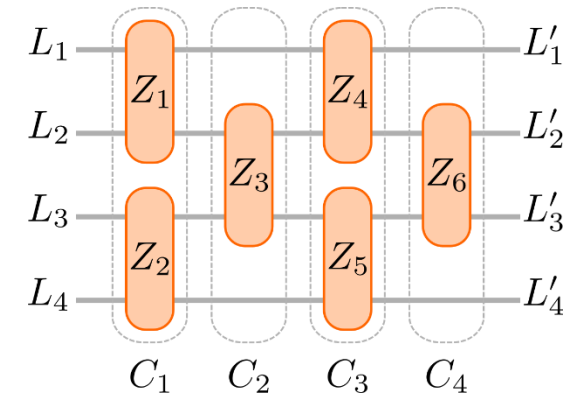
matrix-vector multiplication

transformation matrices
of directional couplers

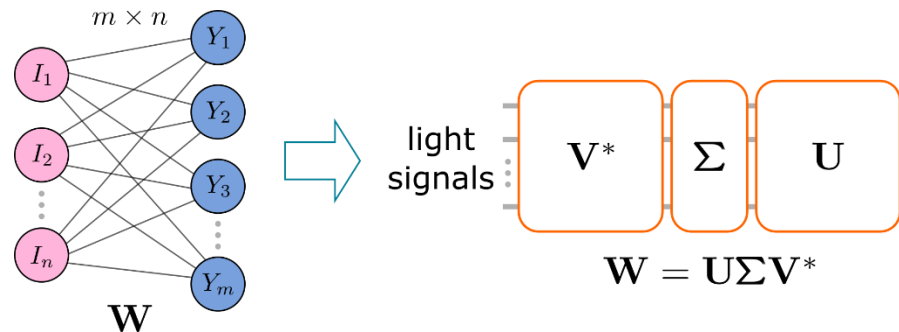
MZI Network as Neural Network

- MZIs can be connected to transform more signals simultaneously

$\mathbf{T} = \mathbf{T}_{C_4} \mathbf{T}_{C_3} \mathbf{T}_{C_2} \mathbf{T}_{C_1}$: multiplication of column matrices formed from the matrices of MZIs

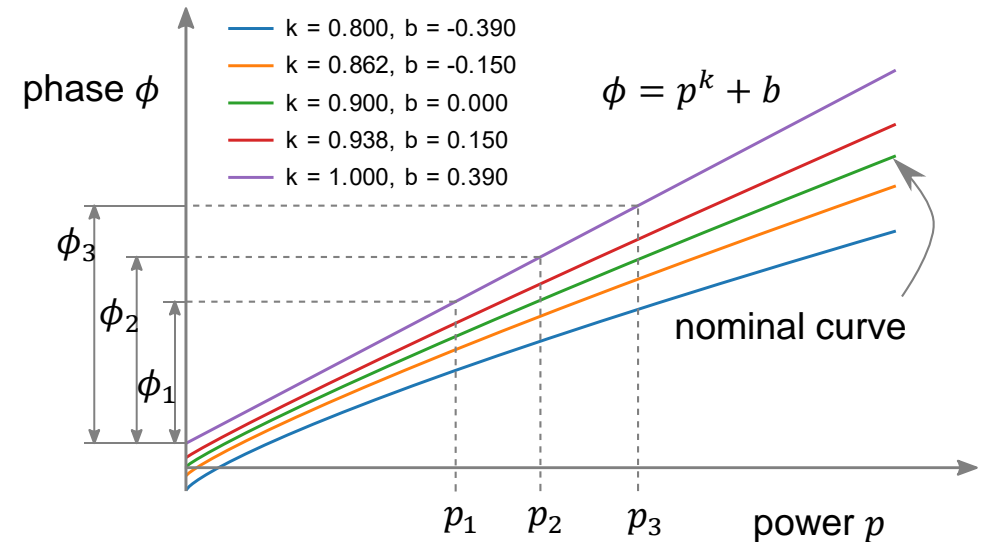


- Neural networks can be mapped onto MZI networks by matrix decomposition



Process Variations of MZIs

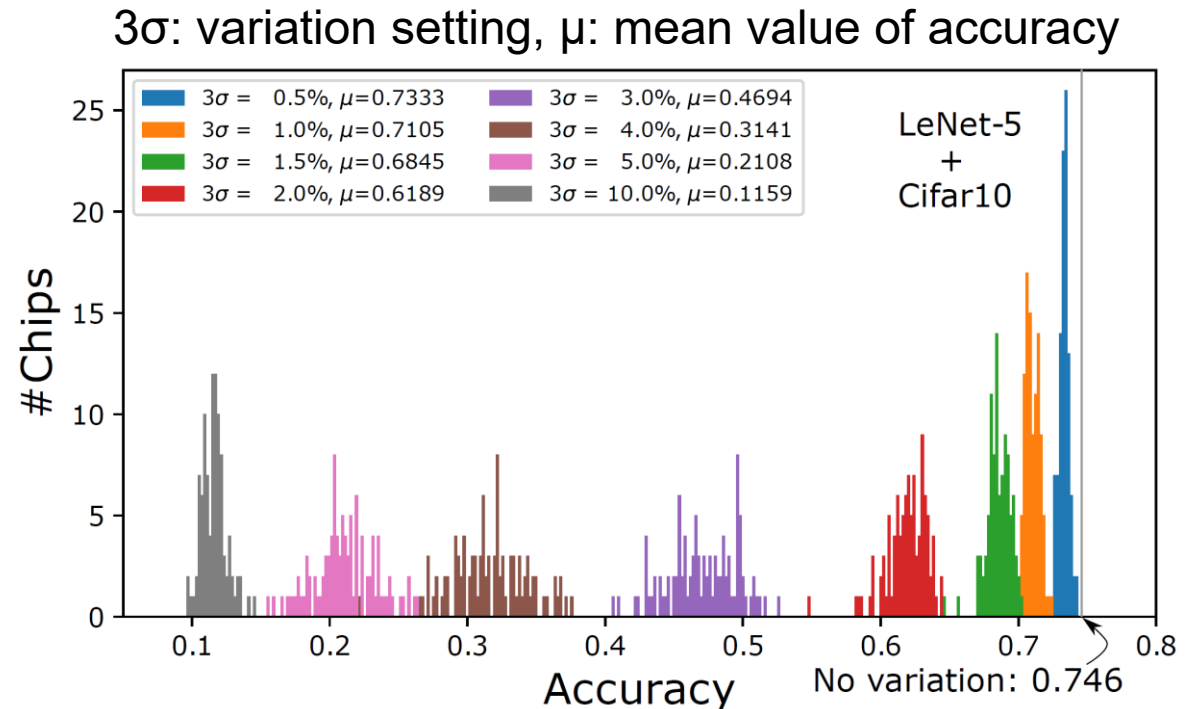
- Same thermal power results in different phase changes in different MZIs due to process variations
- Smaller MZI phases have smaller deviations.



Phase changes vs applied power:
characteristic curves of five MZIs under
process variations

Accuracy Degradation of Neural Networks due to Process Variations

- LeNet-5 + Cifar10
- Obvious accuracy drop with 0.5%–1% random variations in the MZI phases
- With beyond 3% variations the optical network becomes unusable.



Variation Extraction from MZI Network

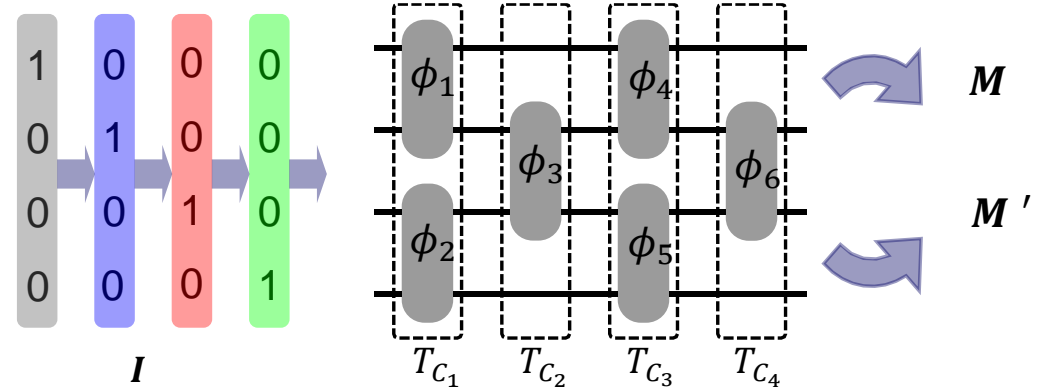
- Input test pattern:
Identity matrix I

$$\rightarrow M = T_{C_4} T_{C_3} T_{C_2} T_{C_1} I$$

- Change MZI phases in column four

$$\rightarrow M' = T'_{C_4} T_{C_3} T_{C_2} T_{C_1} I$$

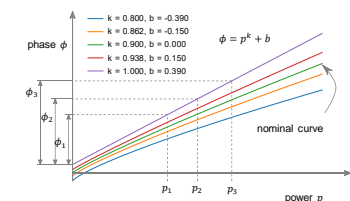
- Determine MZI variations by curve matching and column-wise iterative test



$$M' M^{-1} = (T'_{C_4} T_{C_3} T_{C_2} T_{C_1}) (T_{C_4} T_{C_3} T_{C_2} T_{C_1})^{-1} = T'_{C_4} T_{C_4}^{-1}$$

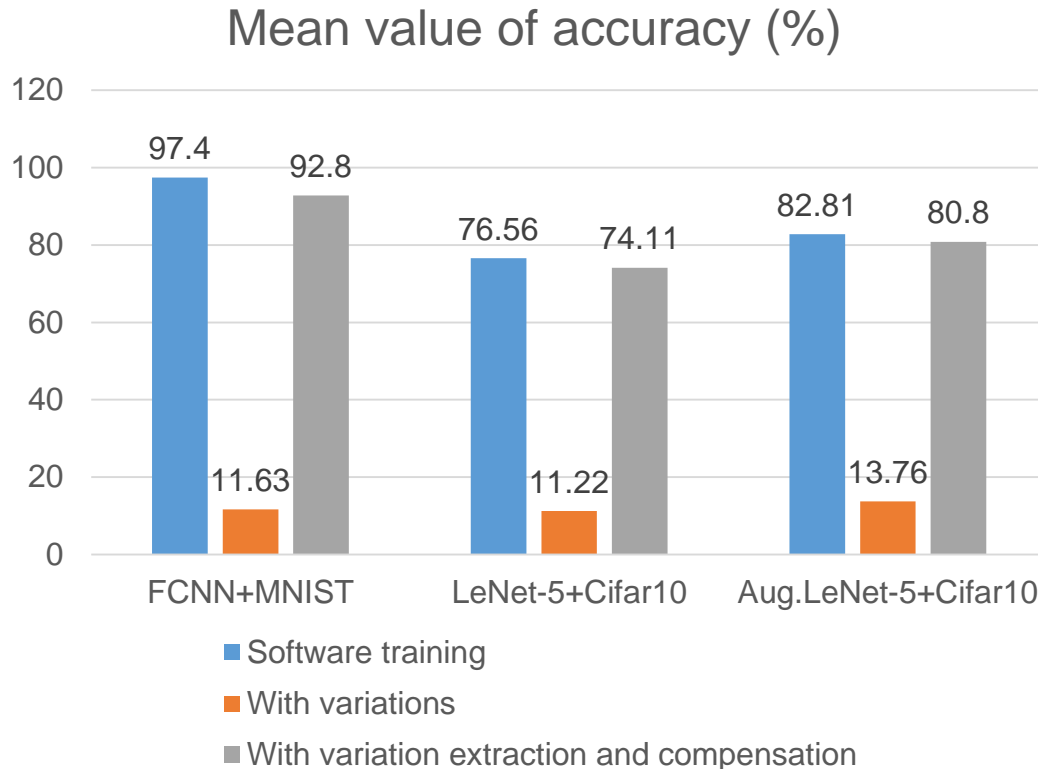
$$= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \mathbf{0} & 0 \\ \mathbf{0} & T'_6 & \mathbf{0} \\ 0 & \mathbf{0} & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \mathbf{0} & 0 \\ \mathbf{0} & T_6^* & \mathbf{0} \\ 0 & \mathbf{0} & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \mathbf{0} & 0 \\ \mathbf{0} & T'_6 T_6^* & \mathbf{0} \\ 0 & \mathbf{0} & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Phase changes in the corresponding MZI



Curve matching to determine variations

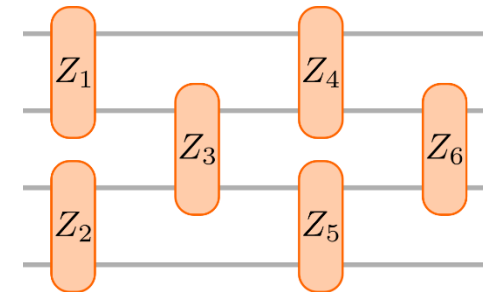
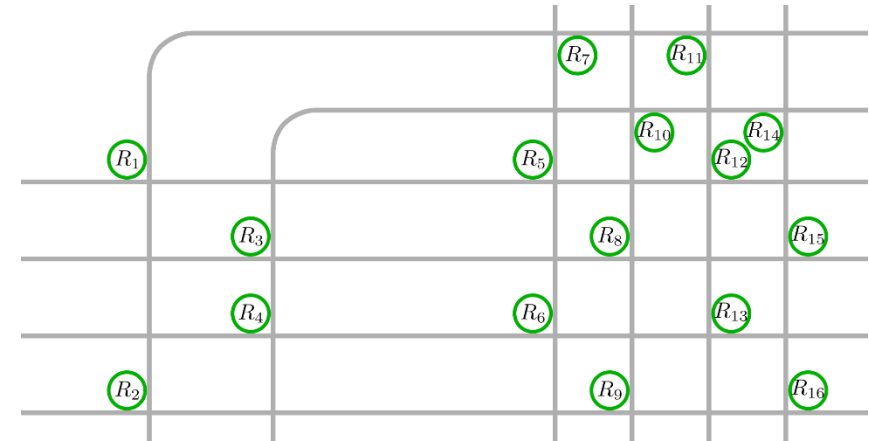
Accuracy Enhancement in Variation-aware Design



#sampled ONNs: 100; 3σ of the phases at 2π : 20%; Aug. LeNet-5: LeNet-5 with more convolutional layers

Future Challenges of Optical Systems

- Design and test of optical networks
 - Fault test
 - Variation characterization of complex MRR and MZI networks
- Fusion of optical interconnects and computing components
 - Optical interconnects can create test paths and enable fault tolerance.
 - Overlapped design allows more flexible MZI network structures.
- Computing in the optical domain
 - More functions can be integrated into the optical domain → optic-electro conversion as late as possible
 - Codesign of optical and electrical systems





Tutorial IV: Integrated Programmable Photonic Circuits

Zhengqi Gao, Duane S. Boning

Department of EECS, MIT

July 10th, San Francisco



Terminology

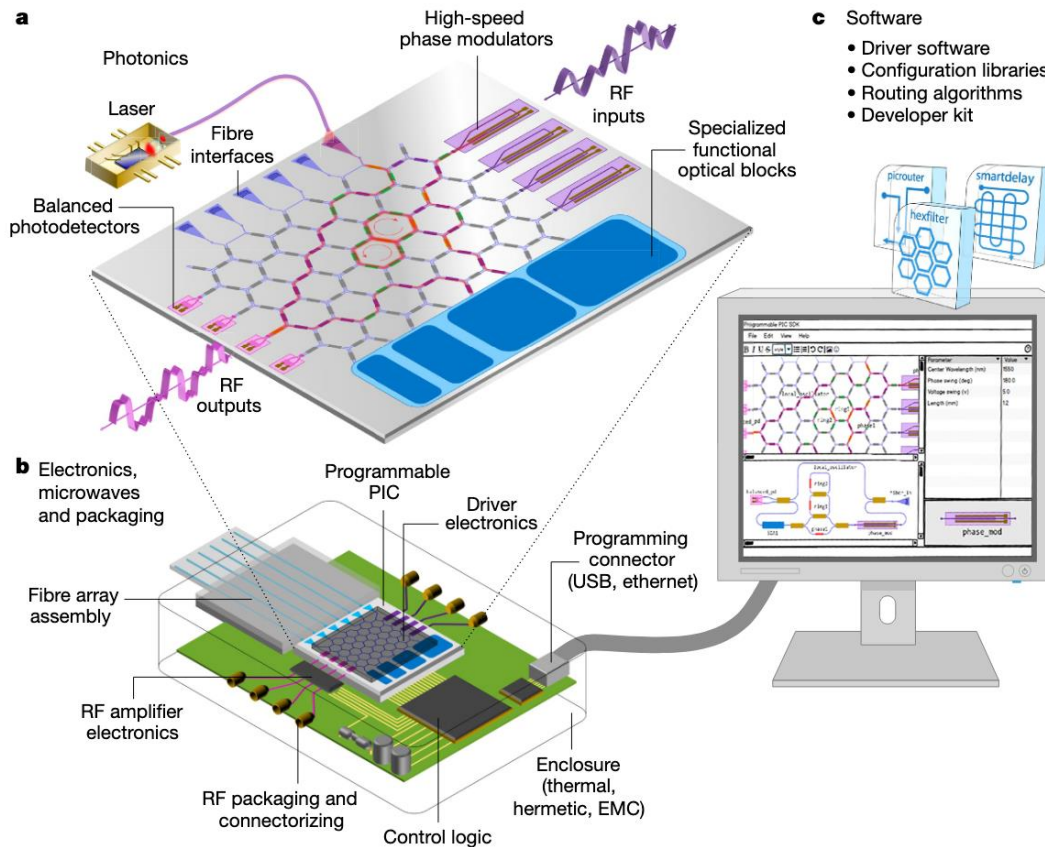


Figure credit: Wim Bogaerts et al., *Nature*, 2020.

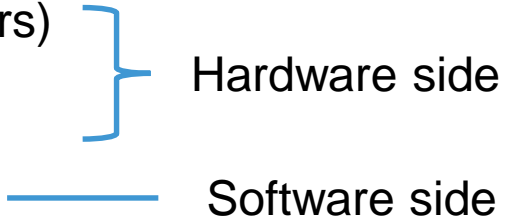
- Contrast to bulk optics (which are individual, discretized)
- Integrate multiple optical functions onto a single chip
- Several platforms, mostly used: silicon-based CMOS

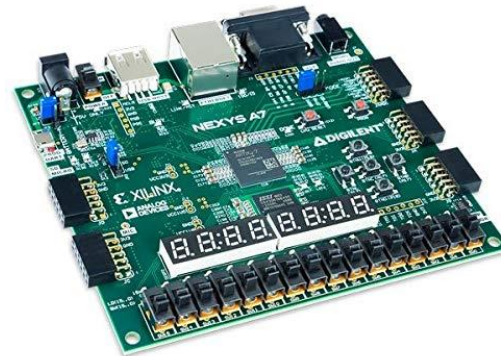
Integrated Programmable Photonic Circuit

- Active photonic devices (thermal-optic phase shifter)
 - Exploit run-time reconfigurability
 - Analogy to the concept of FPGA
-
- Manipulate light (EM wave), instead of electric signal
 - Physical abstraction is $\{\mathbf{E}, \mathbf{H}\}$, instead of $\{\mathbf{I}, \mathbf{V}\}$.
 - Simulation more complicated (PDE, Maxwell Equations)



FPGA Reconfigurability

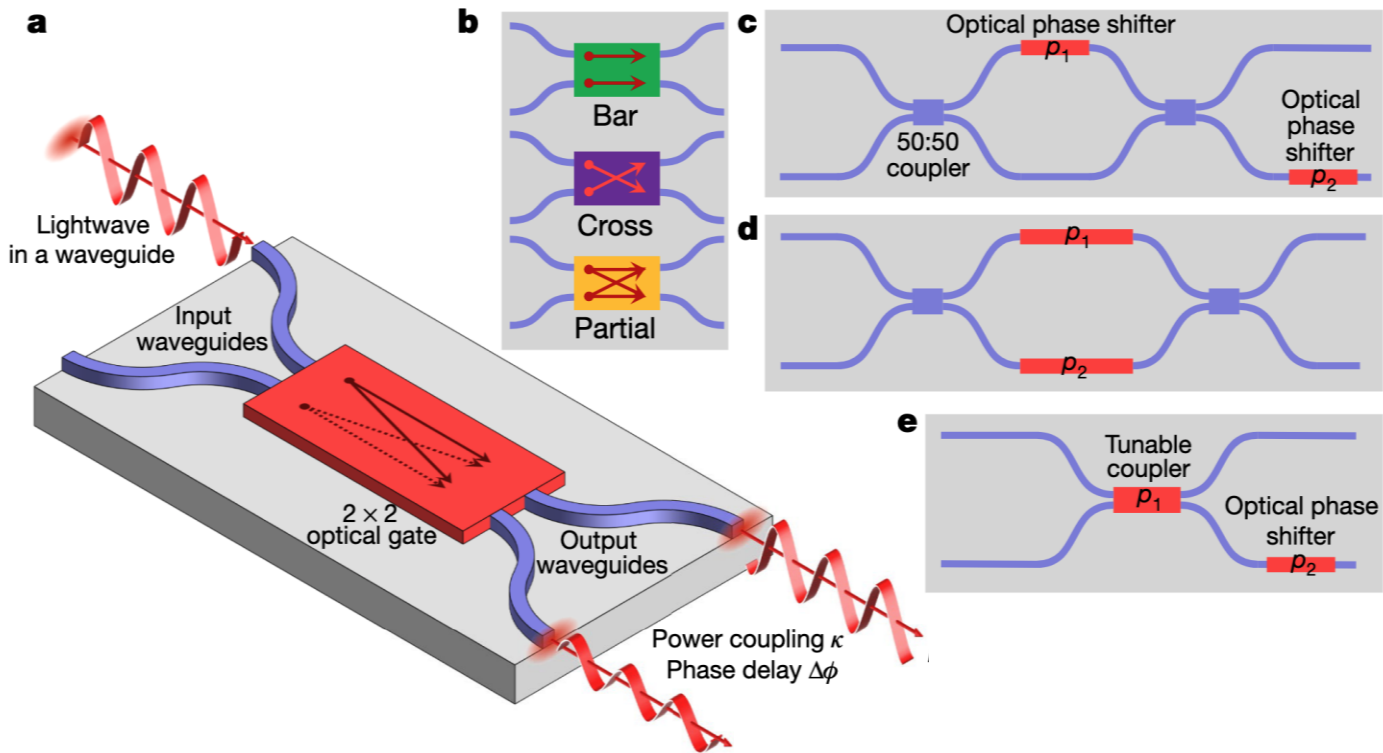
- A large number of logic blocks (e.g., lookup tables, flip-flops, multiplexers)
 - An interconnect routing network, which can be programmed
 - Program FPGA with HDL (e.g., VHDL, Verilog)
- 



What about an integrated programmable photonic circuit?



Hardware Side



Tunable Basic Unit (TBU)

- An active 2x2 MZI device
- Two degrees of freedom
- Thermal/electric-optical phase shifters
- Three states: bar, cross, partial
- Several implementations (figs. c, d, e)

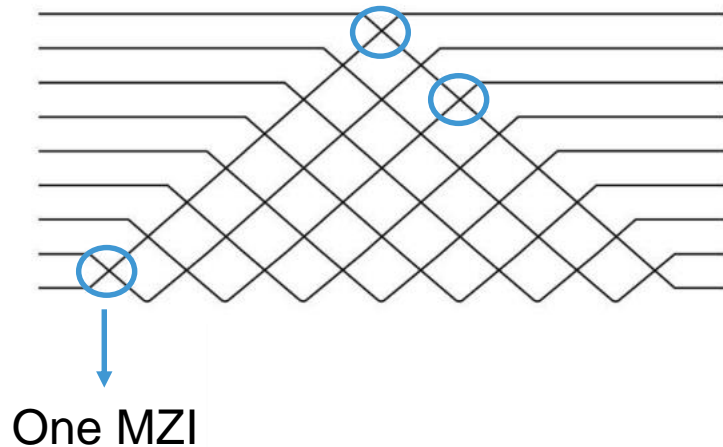
Remarks: (i) analog computing, (ii) topology difference

Figure credit: Wim Bogaerts et al., *Nature*, 2020.



Topology I: Feedforward Mesh

Reck's design



VOLUME 73, NUMBER 1

PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS

4 JULY 1994

Experimental Realization of Any Discrete Unitary Operator

Michael Reck and Anton Zeilinger

Institut für Experimentalphysik, Universität Innsbruck, Technikerstrasse 25, A-6020 Innsbruck, Austria

Herbert J. Bernstein and Philip Bertani

Hampshire College and ISIS, Amherst, Massachusetts 01002

(Received 11 February 1994)

An algorithmic proof that any discrete finite-dimensional unitary operator can be constructed in the laboratory using optical devices is given. Our recursive algorithm factorizes any $N \times N$ unitary matrix into a sequence of two-dimensional beam splitter transformations. The experiment is built from the corresponding devices. This also permits the measurement of the observable corresponding to any discrete Hermitian matrix. Thus optical experiments with any type of radiation (photons, atoms, etc.) exploring higher-dimensional discrete quantum systems become feasible.

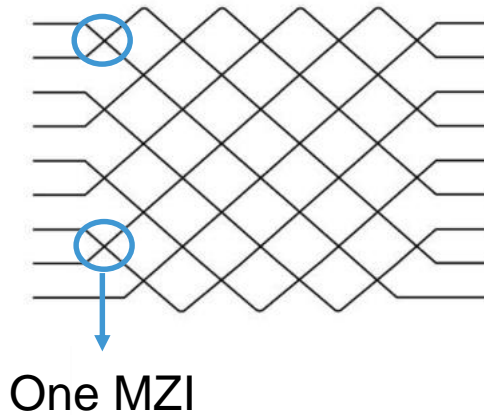
Remarks: (i) Reck's design could implement any complex unitary N -by- N matrix with $N(N-1)/2$ MZIs.

(ii) Feedforward: light only propagate from left to right, or vice versa; no loops.



Topology I: Feedforward Mesh

Clement's design



Optimal design for universal multiport interferometers

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Universal multiport interferometers, which can be programmed to implement any linear transformation between multiple channels, are emerging as a powerful tool for both classical and quantum photonics. These interferometers are typically composed of a regular mesh of beam splitters and phase shifters, allowing for straightforward fabrication using integrated photonic architectures and ready scalability. The current, standard design for universal multiport interferometers is based on work by Reck *et al.* [Phys. Rev. Lett. 73, 58 (1994)]. We demonstrate a new design for universal multiport interferometers based on an alternative arrangement of beam splitters and phase shifters, which outperforms that by Reck *et al.* Our design requires half the optical depth of the Reck design and is significantly more robust to optical losses.

Remarks: (i) Similar to Reck's: $N(N-1)/2$ MZIs needed; feedforward.

(ii) Difference: better tolerance to error; more compact.



Topology I: Feedforward Mesh

Singular value decomposition (SVD): $M = U\Sigma V$

M is a complex (real) matrix $\Rightarrow U$ and V are unitary (orthogonal) matrices

Motivates a novel DL hardware accelerator: **Optical Neural Network**

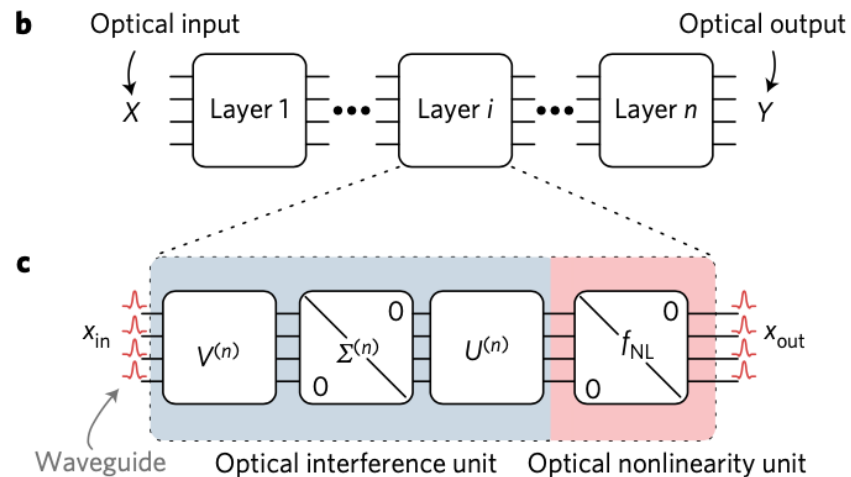


Figure credit: Yichen Shen et al., *Nature*, 2017.

LIGHTMATTER



LIGHTELLIGENCE

Lightmatter's photonic AI ambitions light up an \$80M B round

Devin Coldewey @techcrunch / 9:01 AM CDT • May 6, 2021

Comment



Topology I: Feedforward Mesh

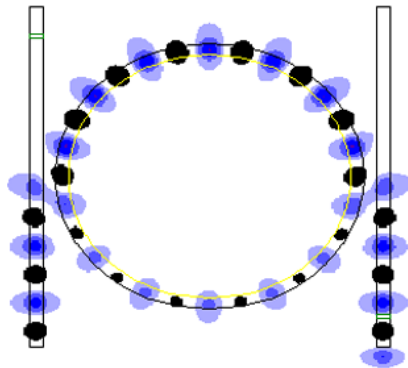
Q1: Let's implement an optical ring resonator on a feedforward mesh!

---- We cannot... No closed loops.

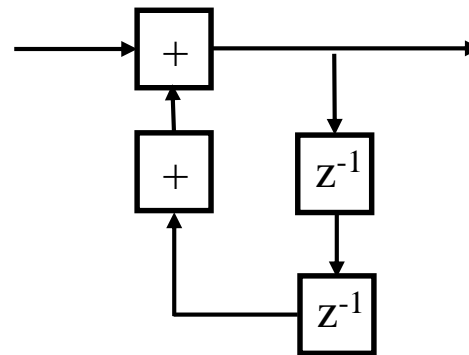
Q2: Let's implement an IIR filter on a feedforward mesh!

---- Again, we cannot... No closed loops.

Remark: Feedforward mesh is thus more specialized as DL accelerator.



Ring resonator



IIR filter



For a general optical application?



Topology II: Recirculating Mesh (Main Focus)

Common realizations: Square, hexagonal, triangular mesh

A “photonic FPGA”: Fast prototyping integrated silicon photonic circuits

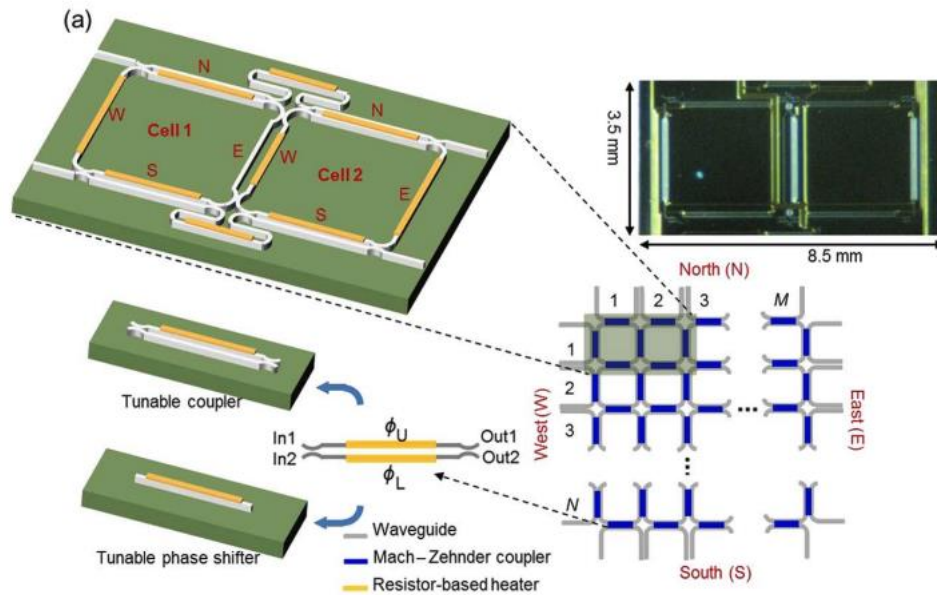


Figure credit: Leimeng Zhuang et al., *Optica*, 2015.

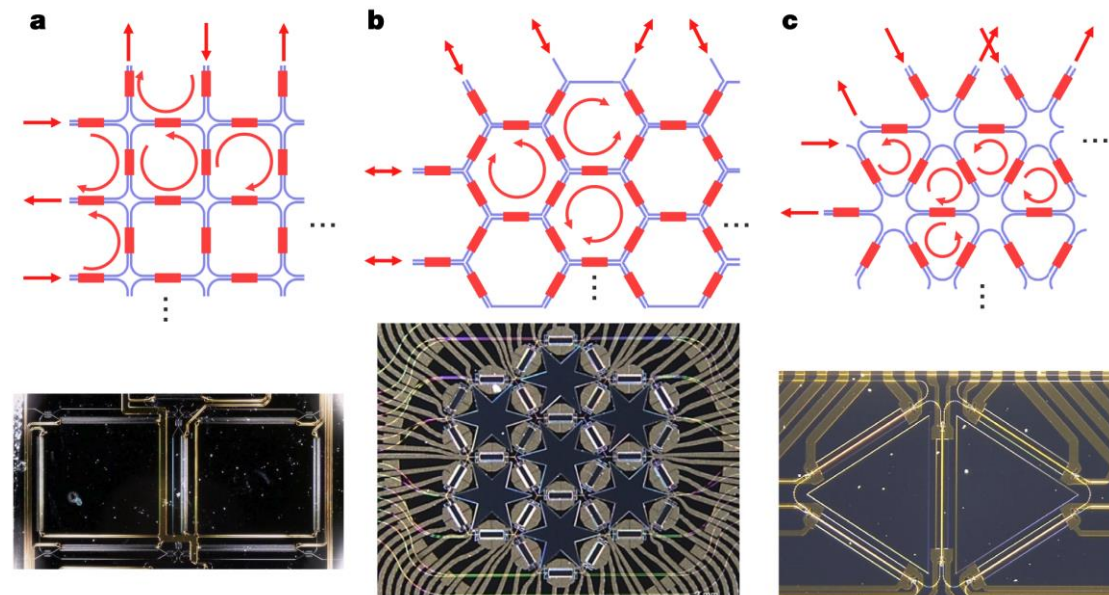


Figure credit: Wim Bogaerts et al., *Nature*, 2020.



Go back to Software Side

- How do we program it?
 - Recall: mature tools for electronic FPGA; digital.
 - But for programmable photonic circuits, it's analog computing.
- Feedforward mesh (Reck's and Clement's) has analytical solution
- This tutorial will focus on recirculating mesh (less touched)
 - No analytical solution available
 - Take mathematical and algorithmical perspectives

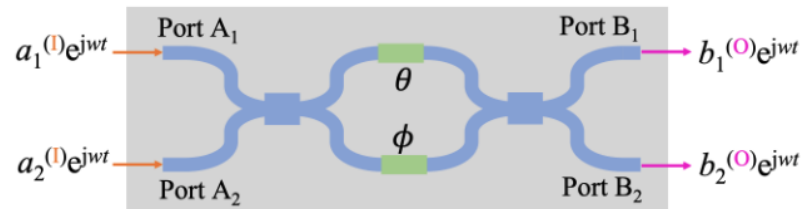
Remark: In a nutshell, we are doing synthesis.



Modeling and Simulation

A time-harmonic chromatic optical signal is represented by: $ae^{j\omega t}$ (a is complex)

Scattering matrix relation for a TBU

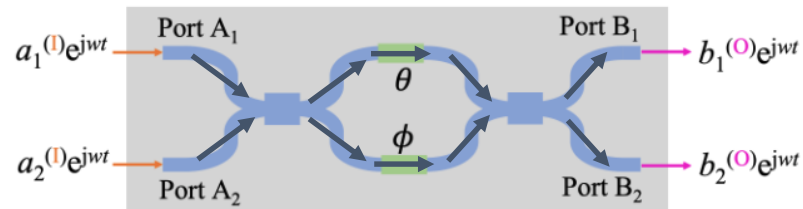


$$\begin{bmatrix} b_1^{(O)} \\ b_2^{(O)} \end{bmatrix} \stackrel{?}{=} \begin{bmatrix} a_1^{(I)} \\ a_2^{(I)} \end{bmatrix}$$

Modeling and Simulation

A time-harmonic chromatic optical signal is represented by: $ae^{j\omega t}$ (a is complex)

Scattering matrix relation for a TBU



$$\begin{bmatrix} b_1^{(O)} \\ b_2^{(O)} \end{bmatrix} = \underbrace{\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -j \\ -j & 1 \end{bmatrix}}_{\text{right DC}} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} e^{-j\theta} & 0 \\ 0 & e^{-j\phi} \end{bmatrix}}_{\text{PSs}} \underbrace{\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -j \\ -j & 1 \end{bmatrix}}_{\text{left DC}} \begin{bmatrix} a_1^{(I)} \\ a_2^{(I)} \end{bmatrix}$$

Remarks: (i) This is the form usually used in a feedforward case

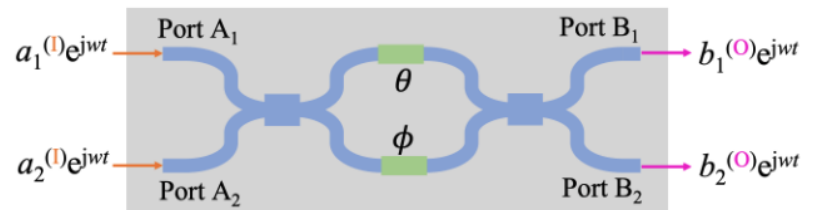
(ii) But more careful treatment needs to be done in a recirculating case



Modeling and Simulation

A time-harmonic chromatic optical signal is represented by: $ae^{j\omega t}$ (a is complex)

Scattering matrix relation for a TBU



$$\begin{bmatrix} b_1^{(O)} \\ b_2^{(O)} \end{bmatrix} = \underbrace{\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -j \\ -j & 1 \end{bmatrix}}_{\text{right DC}} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} e^{-j\theta} & 0 \\ 0 & e^{-j\phi} \end{bmatrix}}_{\text{PSs}} \underbrace{\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -j \\ -j & 1 \end{bmatrix}}_{\text{left DC}} \begin{bmatrix} a_1^{(I)} \\ a_2^{(I)} \end{bmatrix}$$

Further take waveguide into consideration:

$$\begin{bmatrix} b_1^{(O)} \\ b_2^{(O)} \end{bmatrix} = \underbrace{\alpha \cdot e^{-j\omega \frac{n_{\text{eff}}L}{c}}}_{\text{waveguide}} \underbrace{\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -j \\ -j & 1 \end{bmatrix}}_{\text{right DC}} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} e^{-j\theta} & 0 \\ 0 & e^{-j\phi} \end{bmatrix}}_{\text{PSs}} \underbrace{\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -j \\ -j & 1 \end{bmatrix}}_{\text{left DC}} \begin{bmatrix} a_1^{(I)} \\ a_2^{(I)} \end{bmatrix}$$

$\{\theta, \phi\}$: tunable phase shifts (design variable)

c : light speed in vacuum

$n_{\text{eff}}(\omega)$: effective index of propagating mode

α : tunable basic unit (TBU) loss

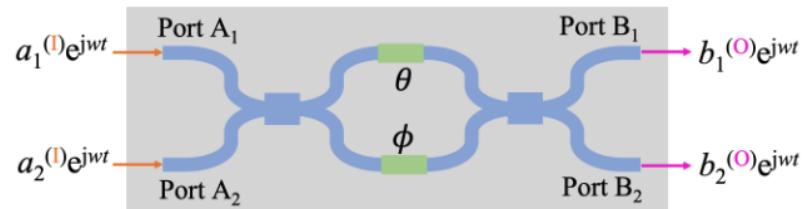
L : length of waveguide in the TBU



Modeling and Simulation

A time-harmonic chromatic optical signal is represented by: $ae^{j\omega t}$ (a is complex)

Scattering matrix relation for a TBU



$$\begin{bmatrix} b_1^{(O)} \\ b_2^{(O)} \end{bmatrix} = \underbrace{\alpha \cdot e^{-j\omega \frac{n_{\text{eff}}L}{c}}}_{\text{waveguide}} \underbrace{\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -j \\ -j & 1 \end{bmatrix}}_{\text{right DC}} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} e^{-j\theta} & 0 \\ 0 & e^{-j\phi} \end{bmatrix}}_{\text{PSs}} \underbrace{\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -j \\ -j & 1 \end{bmatrix}}_{\text{left DC}} \begin{bmatrix} a_1^{(I)} \\ a_2^{(I)} \end{bmatrix}$$

Remark 1: Bar, cross, and partial state

Bar state: $|\theta - \phi| = \pi$

Example: $\theta = 0, \phi = \pi$



$$\begin{bmatrix} b_1^{(O)} \\ b_2^{(O)} \end{bmatrix} = \alpha e^{-j\omega \frac{n_{\text{eff}}L}{c}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a_1^{(I)} \\ a_2^{(I)} \end{bmatrix}$$

Cross state: $\theta = \phi$

Example: $\theta = \phi = -0.5\pi$



$$\begin{bmatrix} b_1^{(O)} \\ b_2^{(O)} \end{bmatrix} = \alpha e^{-j\omega \frac{n_{\text{eff}}L}{c}} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a_1^{(I)} \\ a_2^{(I)} \end{bmatrix}$$

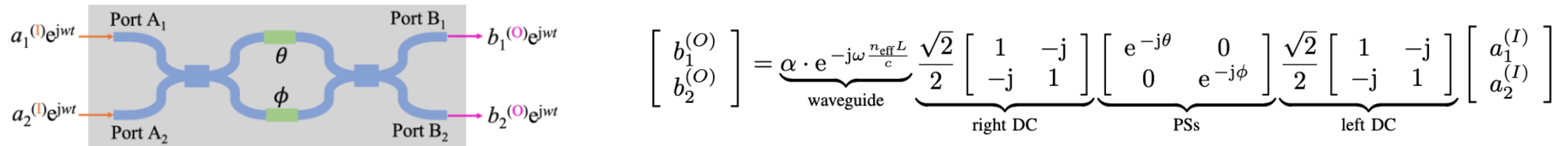
Other cases are referred to as the partial state



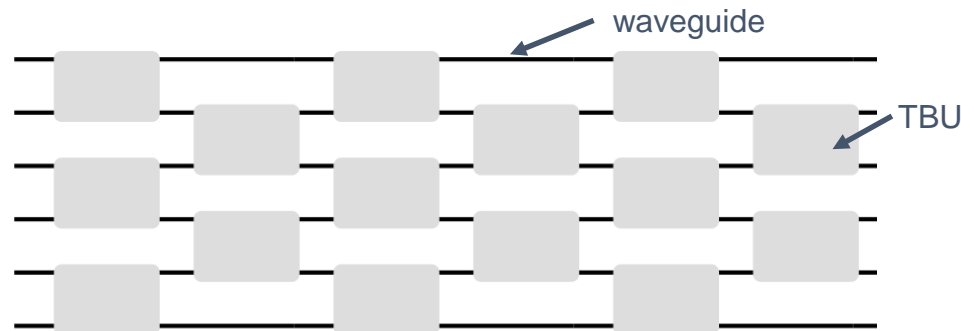
Modeling and Simulation

A time-harmonic chromatic optical signal is represented by: $ae^{j\omega t}$ (a is complex)

Scattering matrix relation for a TBU



Remark II: Why it doesn't matter in a feedforward case?



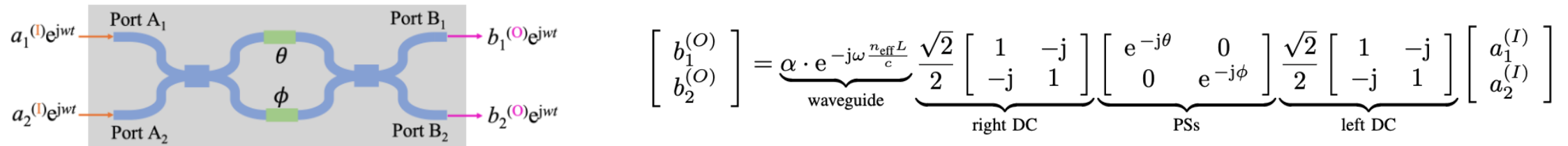
Credit: Saumil Bandyopadhyay et al., *Optica*, 2021.



Modeling and Simulation

A time-harmonic chromatic optical signal is represented by: $ae^{j\omega t}$ (a is complex)

Scattering matrix relation for a TBU



Remark II: Why it doesn't matter in a feedforward case?

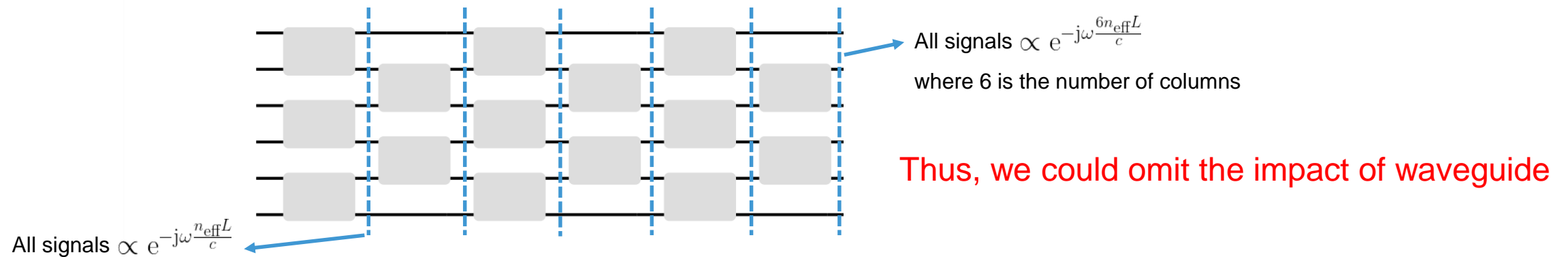


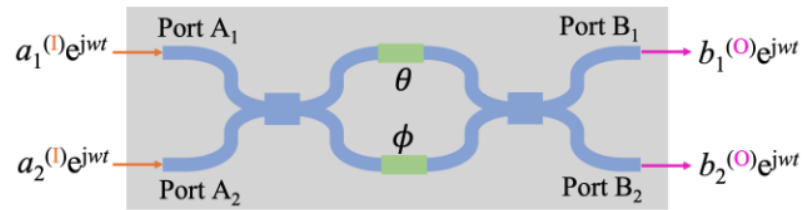
Figure credit: Saumil Bandyopadhyay et al., *Optica*, 2021.



Modeling and Simulation

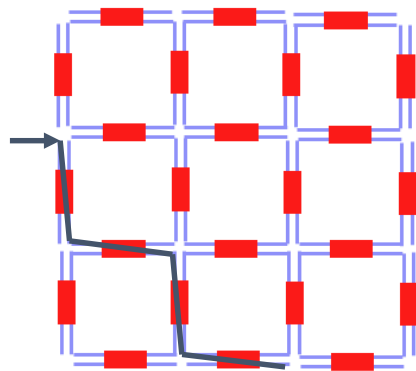
A time-harmonic chromatic optical signal is represented by: $ae^{j\omega t}$ (a is complex)

Scattering matrix relation for a TBU

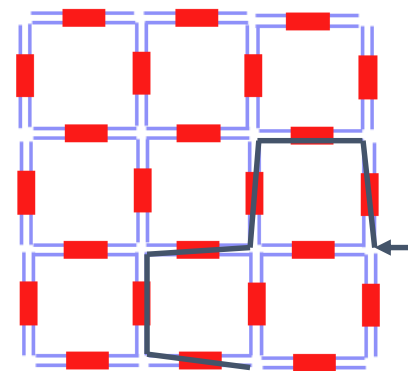


$$\begin{bmatrix} b_1^{(O)} \\ b_2^{(O)} \end{bmatrix} = \underbrace{\alpha \cdot e^{-j\omega \frac{n_{\text{eff}}L}{c}}}_{\text{waveguide}} \underbrace{\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -j \\ -j & 1 \end{bmatrix}}_{\text{right DC}} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} e^{-j\theta} & 0 \\ 0 & e^{-j\phi} \end{bmatrix}}_{\text{PSs}} \underbrace{\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -j \\ -j & 1 \end{bmatrix}}_{\text{left DC}} \begin{bmatrix} a_1^{(I)} \\ a_2^{(I)} \end{bmatrix}$$

Remark III: Why it **does** matter in a recirculating case?



$$e^{-j\omega \frac{4n_{\text{eff}}L}{c}} \text{ dependence}$$



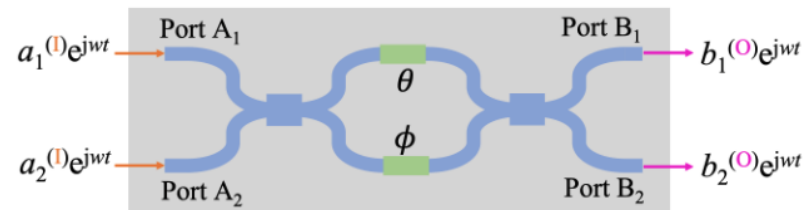
$$e^{-j\omega \frac{6n_{\text{eff}}L}{c}} \text{ dependence}$$



Modeling and Simulation

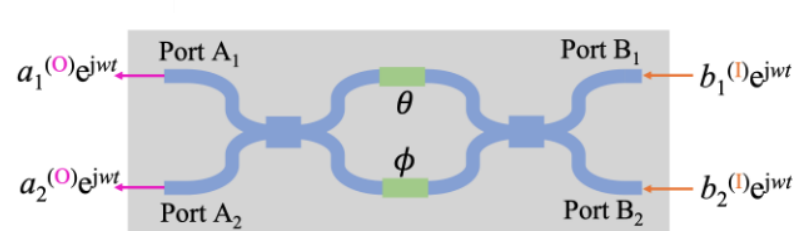
A time-harmonic chromatic optical signal is represented by: $ae^{j\omega t}$ (a is complex)

Scattering matrix relation for a TBU



$$\begin{bmatrix} b_1^{(O)} \\ b_2^{(O)} \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{F} \begin{bmatrix} a_1^{(I)} \\ a_2^{(I)} \end{bmatrix} = \underbrace{\alpha \cdot e^{-j\omega \frac{n_{\text{eff}} L}{c}}}_{\text{waveguide}} \underbrace{\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -j \\ -j & 1 \end{bmatrix}}_{\text{right DC}} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} e^{-j\theta} & 0 \\ 0 & e^{-j\phi} \end{bmatrix}}_{\text{PSs}} \underbrace{\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -j \\ -j & 1 \end{bmatrix}}_{\text{left DC}} \begin{bmatrix} a_1^{(I)} \\ a_2^{(I)} \end{bmatrix}$$

Remark IV: TBU is a bi-directional device:



$$\begin{bmatrix} b_1^{(O)} \\ b_2^{(O)} \\ a_1^{(O)} \\ a_2^{(O)} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{F} & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{F} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a_1^{(I)} \\ a_2^{(I)} \\ b_1^{(I)} \\ b_2^{(I)} \end{bmatrix}$$

$\{\theta, \phi\}$: tunable phase shifts (design variable)

c : light speed in vaccum

$n_{\text{eff}}(\omega)$: effective index of propogating mode

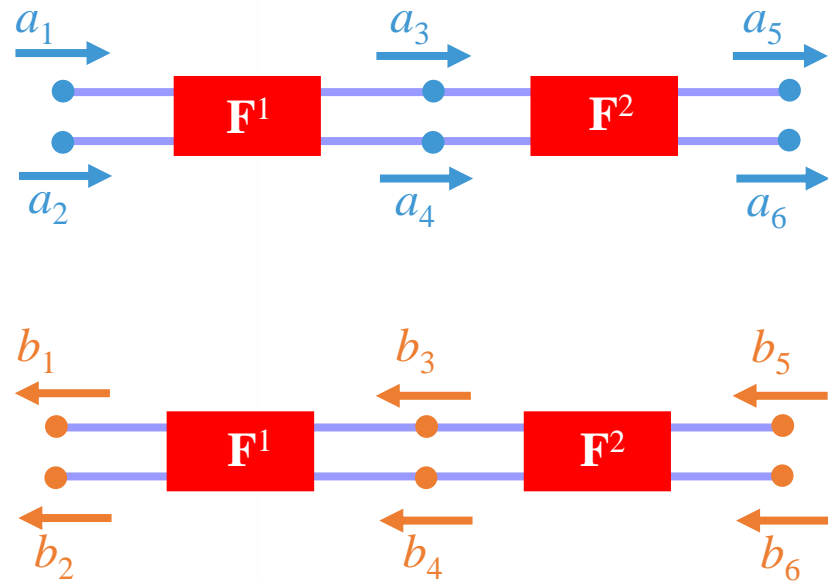
α : tunable basic unit (TBU) loss

L : length of waveguide in the TBU



Modeling and Simulation

Frequency-domain scattering matrix simulation



$$\begin{bmatrix} a_3 \\ a_4 \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{F}^1 \begin{bmatrix} a_1 \\ a_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} F_{11}^1 & F_{12}^1 \\ F_{21}^1 & F_{22}^1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a_1 \\ a_2 \end{bmatrix}$$



$$F_{11}^1 b_3 + F_{12}^1 b_4 - b_1 = 0$$

$$F_{21}^1 b_3 + F_{22}^1 b_4 - b_2 = 0$$

$$F_{11}^1 a_1 + F_{12}^1 a_2 - a_3 = 0$$

$$F_{21}^1 a_1 + F_{22}^1 a_2 - a_4 = 0$$



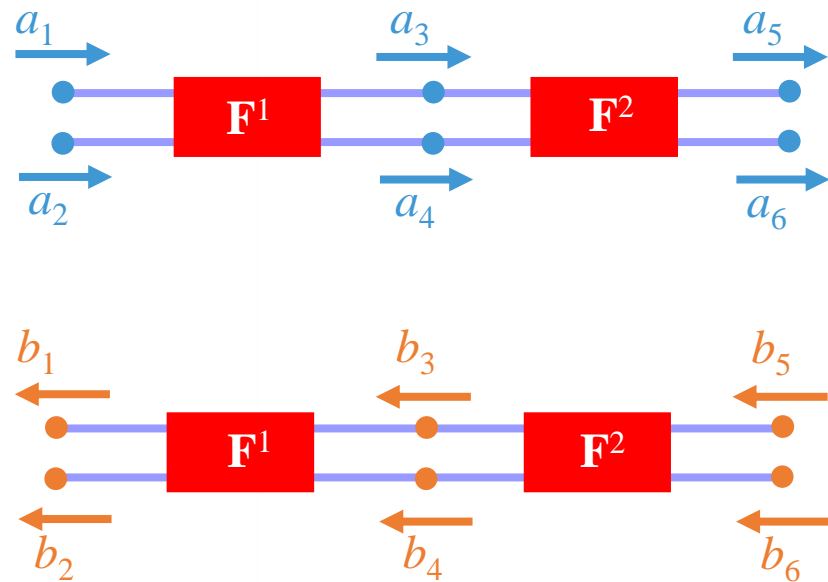
$$\begin{bmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{F}^1 \begin{bmatrix} b_3 \\ b_4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} F_{11}^1 & F_{12}^1 \\ F_{21}^1 & F_{22}^1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} b_3 \\ b_4 \end{bmatrix}$$

A system of linear equations!



Modeling and Simulation

Frequency-domain scattering matrix simulation



$$F_{11}^1 a_1 + F_{12}^1 a_2 - a_3 = 0$$

$$F_{21}^1 a_1 + F_{22}^1 a_2 - a_4 = 0$$

$$F_{11}^1 b_3 + F_{12}^1 b_4 - b_1 = 0$$

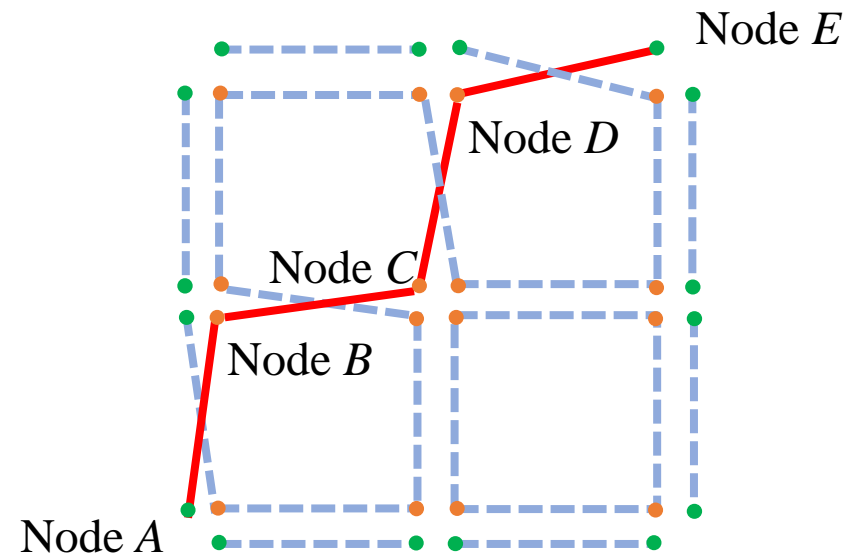
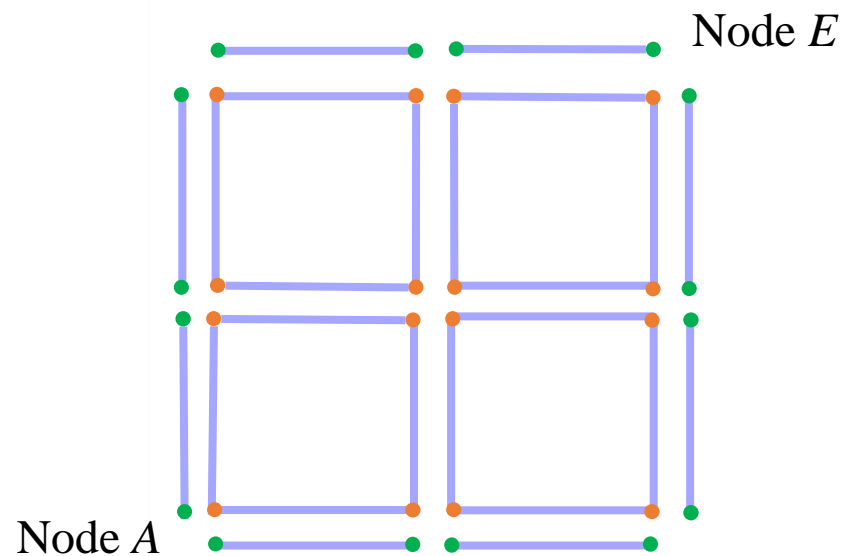
$$F_{21}^1 b_3 + F_{22}^1 b_4 - b_2 = 0$$

$$\begin{bmatrix}
 F_{11}^1 & 0 & F_{12}^1 & 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots \\
 F_{21}^1 & 0 & F_{22}^1 & 0 & 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 & \dots \\
 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & F_{11}^1 & 0 & F_{12}^1 & \dots \\
 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 & 0 & F_{21}^1 & 0 & F_{22}^1 & \dots \\
 \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots
 \end{bmatrix}
 \begin{bmatrix}
 a_1 \\
 b_1 \\
 a_2 \\
 b_2 \\
 a_3 \\
 b_3 \\
 a_4 \\
 b_4 \\
 \vdots
 \end{bmatrix}
 =
 \begin{bmatrix}
 0 \\
 0 \\
 0 \\
 0 \\
 \vdots \\
 \mathbf{u}
 \end{bmatrix}$$



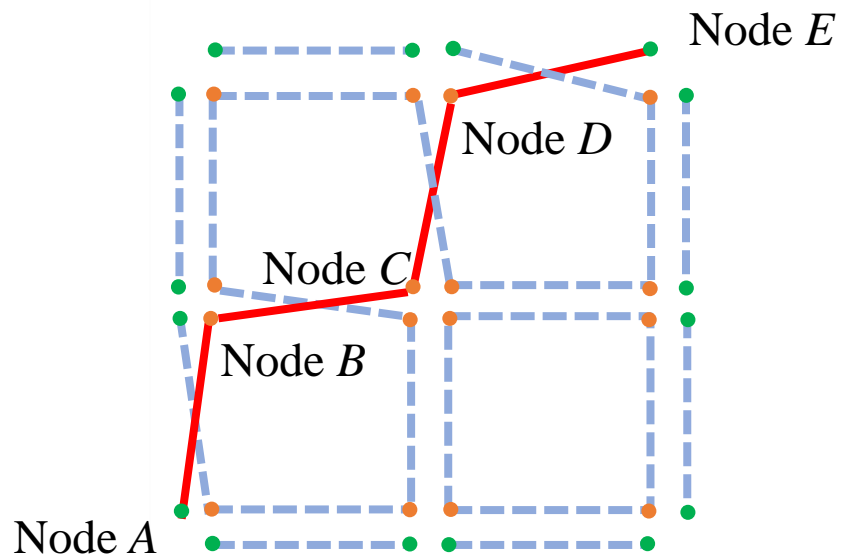
Routing Analysis

- Reasonable assumption: all TBUs in bar or cross states because of 'routing'.
- Example: How to route an optical signal from node A to node E? -- Fairly easy



Routing Analysis

- Reasonable assumption: all TBUs in bar or cross states because of 'routing'.
- Example: How to route an optical signal from node A to node E? -- Fairly easy



Recall the S-matrix of a TBU in bar/cross state:

$$\begin{bmatrix} b_1^{(O)} \\ b_2^{(O)} \end{bmatrix} = \alpha e^{-j\omega \frac{n_{\text{eff}}L}{c}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a_1^{(I)} \\ a_2^{(I)} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} b_1^{(O)} \\ b_2^{(O)} \end{bmatrix} = \alpha e^{-j\omega \frac{n_{\text{eff}}L}{c}} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a_1^{(I)} \\ a_2^{(I)} \end{bmatrix}$$

The frequency response of is: $(\alpha e^{-j\omega \frac{n_{\text{eff}}L}{c}})^4$

'4' represents the number of TBUs the trajectory bypasses



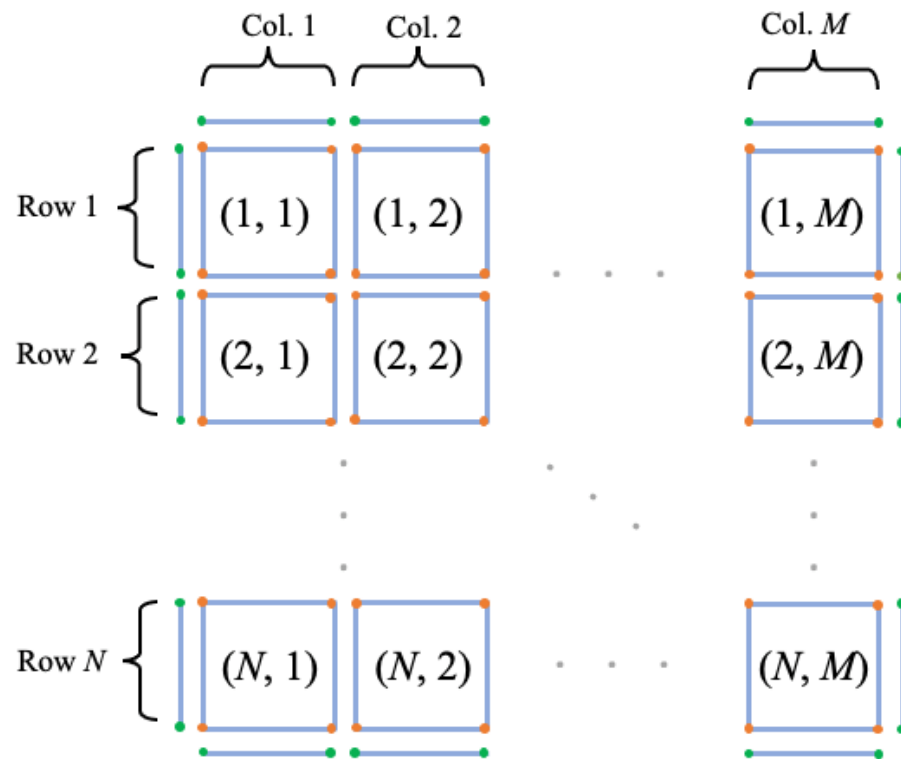
Routing Analysis

- Reasonable assumption: all TBUs in bar or cross states because of 'routing'.
- Define Path length = #TBUs bypassed
- Analyzing path length is very important
 - It determines the frequency response (previous page)
 - Application I: N signals, goes through the programmable photonic circuit, maintaining phases
 - Realize N paths with the same path length.
 - Application II: Work as time delay element for filtering
 - Realize paths with length constructing arithmetic sequence, e.g., $\{1,3,5,7,\dots\}$.



Routing Analysis

Conclusion I (warm up)



$$\# \text{ TBUs} = N(M + 1) + M(N + 1)$$

$$\# \text{ Configs} = 2^{N(M + 1) + M(N + 1)}$$

$$\# \text{ floating nodes} = 4N + 4M$$

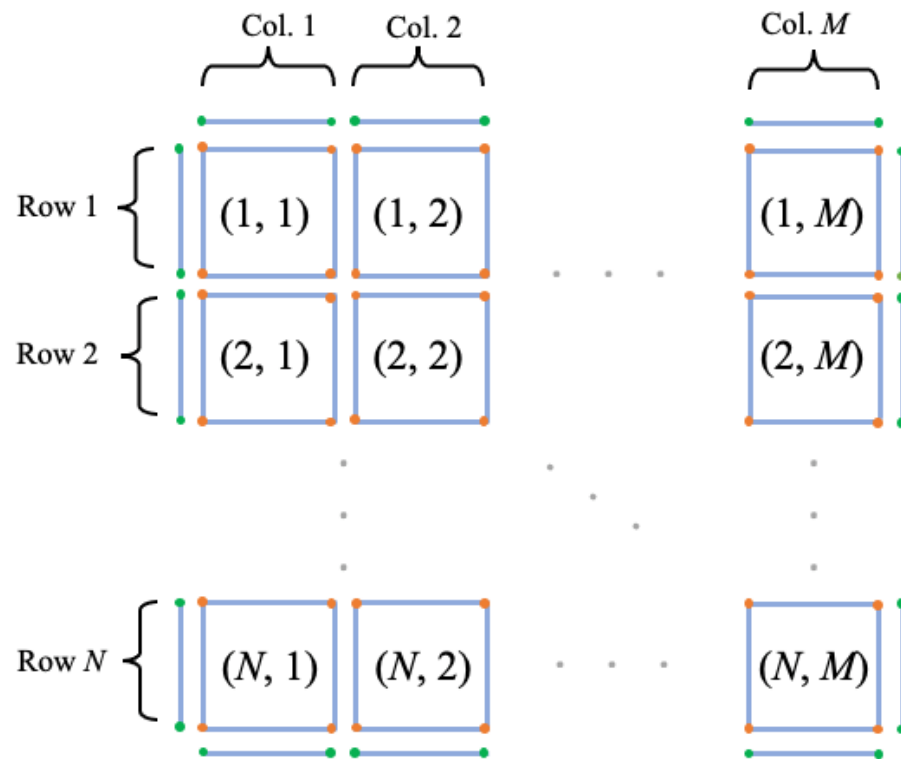
$$\# \text{ non-floating nodes} = 4NM$$

$$\# \text{ undirected optical path} = 2N + 2M$$



Routing Analysis

Conclusion II: maximum path length = $4NM + 1$



Intuition: a path starts and ends both at a floating node, with non-floating nodes in the middle.

$$\text{Path length} = \text{\#Nodes} - 1$$

where $\text{\#Nodes} = 2 + \text{\#Non-floating Nodes}$

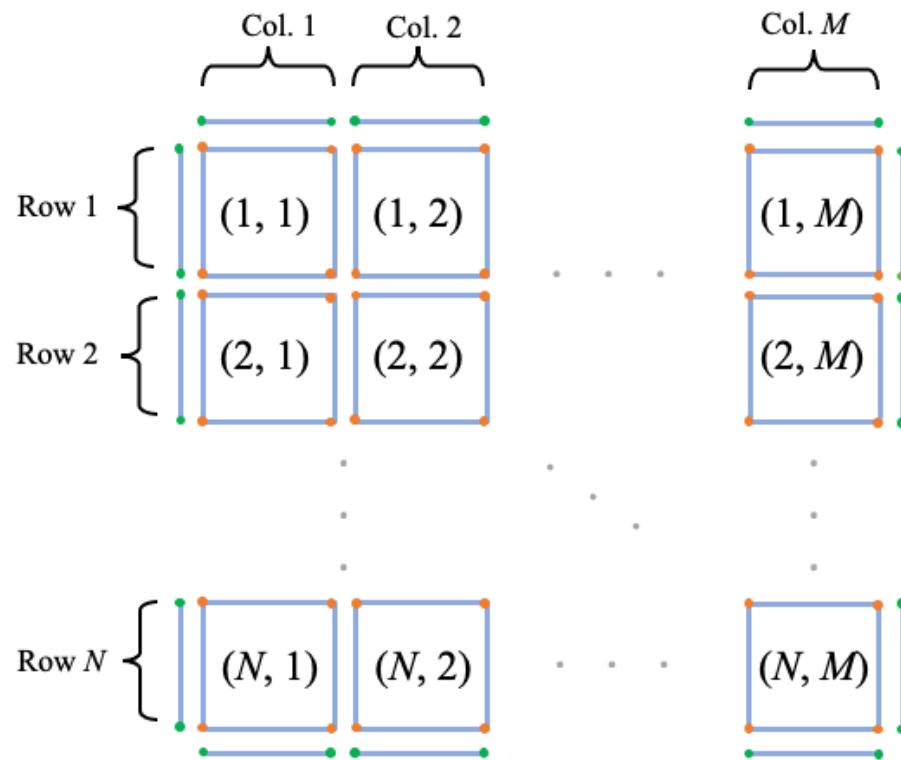
$$\Rightarrow \text{Max \#Nodes} = 4NM + 2$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{Max Path length} = 4NM + 1$$

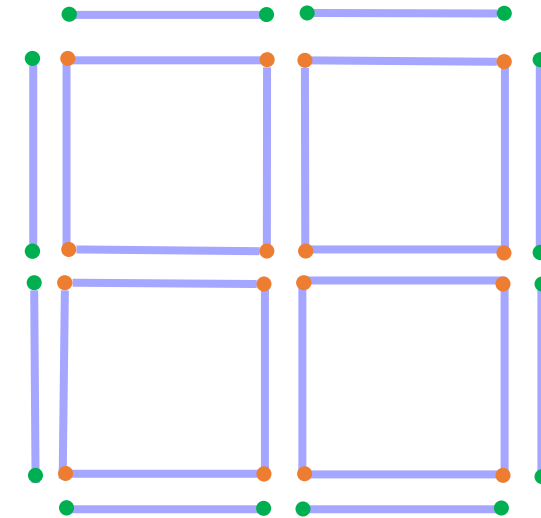


Routing Analysis

Conclusion III: Is any path length x in $[1, 4NM+1]$ realizable on a N -by- M square mesh? **Unluckily, no....**



Example: Try $x = 3$ on this 2-by-2 square mesh



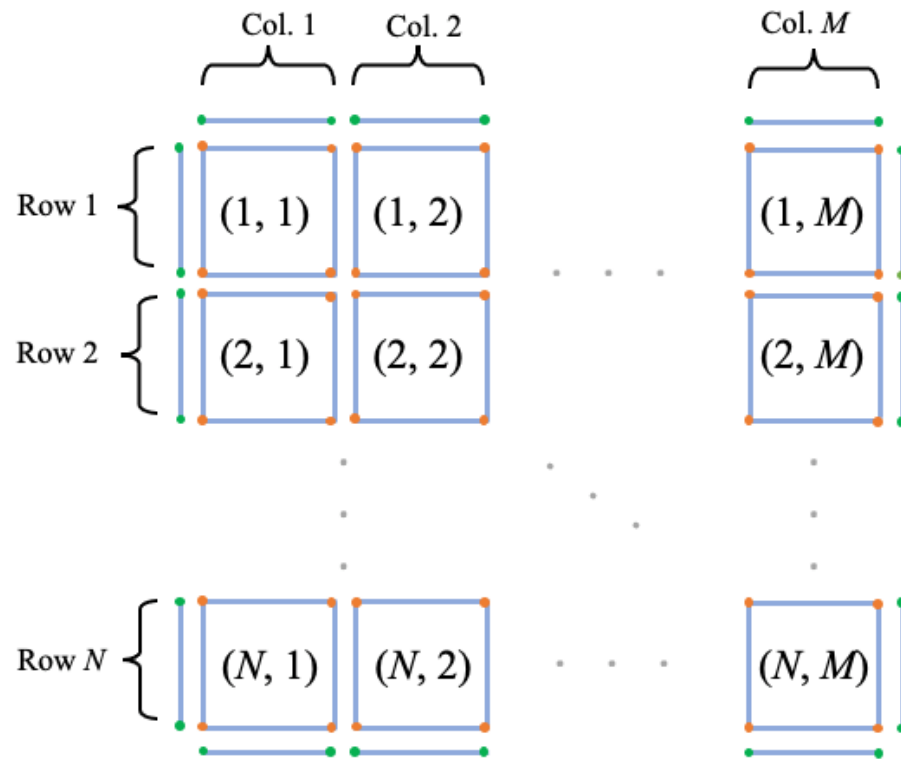
Our finding: If both N and M are even,

Any $x = 0, 1, 2 \pmod{4}$ in $[1, 4NM+1]$ is realizable



Routing Analysis

Conclusion III: Is any path length x in $[1, 4NM+1]$ realizable on a N -by- M square mesh?



Our findings:

If both N and M are even,

Any $x = 0, 1, 2 \pmod{4}$ in $[1, 4NM+1]$ is realizable

If both N is even and M is odd,

Any $x = 0, 1, 2 \pmod{4}$ in $[1, 4NM+1]$ is realizable

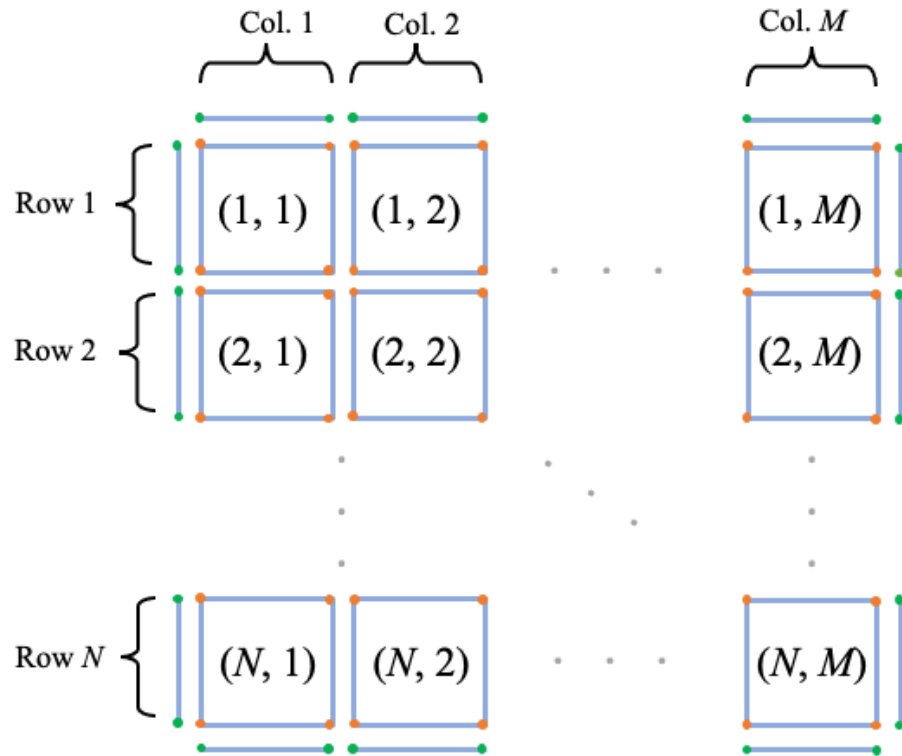
Any $x = 3 \pmod{4}$ in $[2M + 1, 4NM+1 - 2M]$ is realizable

Other cases....

Single path realizability



Routing Analysis



Other questions when multiple paths considered:

- Recall there are $(2N + 2M)$ paths in total, what are their sum and standard deviation?
- Given a N -by- M square mesh, and a desired path length x , how many paths could we realize?

Refer to: <https://arxiv.org/abs/2306.12607>

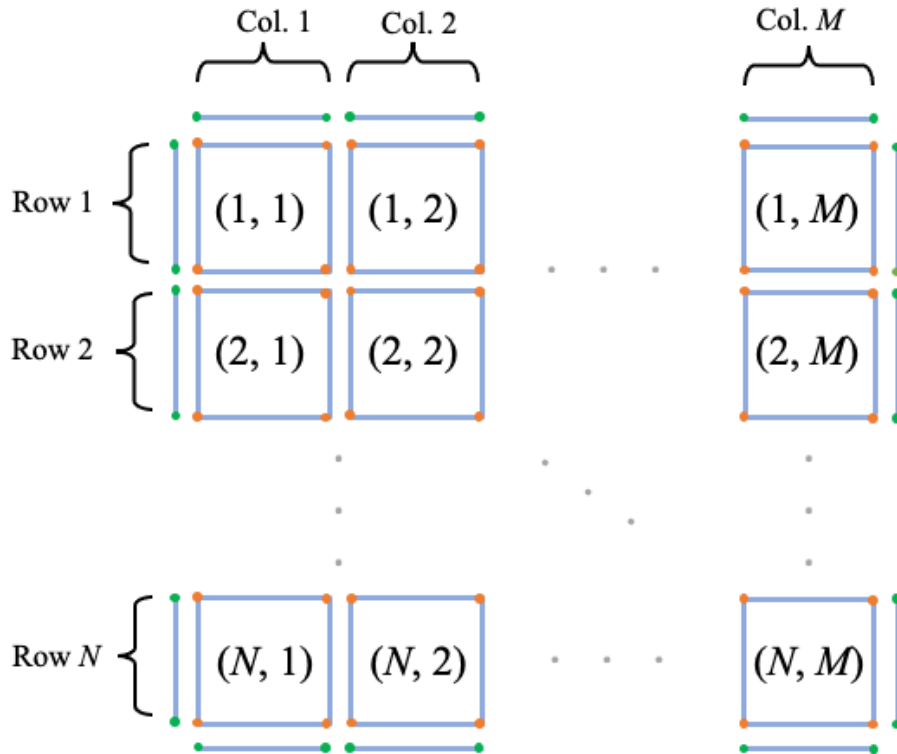


Functional Synthesis

- Route several signals on this programmable photonic circuits?
 - Preliminary investigation published in the literature (See Aitor Lopez et al., OE, 2020)
 - Our view: still an open problem, missing strict analysis
 - Graph theory might be helpful
- Besides routing, we also want other functions, e.g., splitting, filtering, WDM
 - Most demos are hand crafted: X size goes up, realize several functions.
 - Can we automatically synthesize light processing function?
 - Use analytical synthesis? --- No closed form for recirculating structure



Functional Synthesis



$$\# \text{ TBUs} = N(M + 1) + M(N + 1)$$

$$\# \text{ Phase shifts} = 2N(M + 1) + 2M(N + 1) \sim 4NM$$

We want to adjust phase shifts, to realize a desired function.

Formulate as an optimization problem!

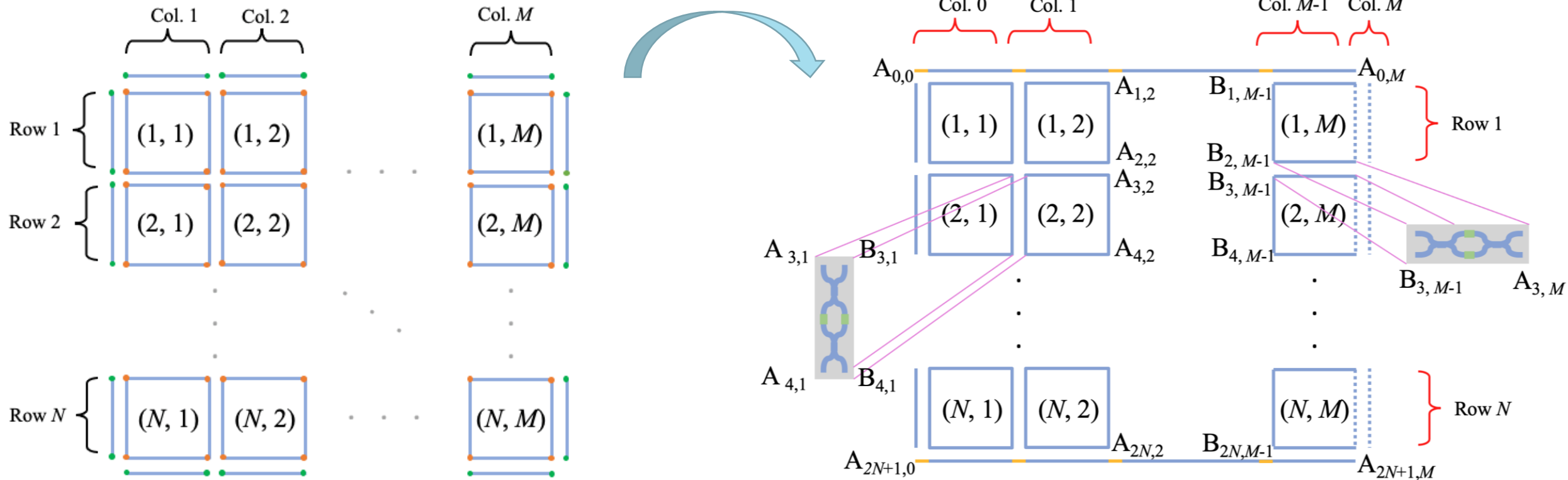
Challenge: high-dimensional space

Efficient solution: Gradient descent w/ analytical gradients



Functional Synthesis

We do a simplification

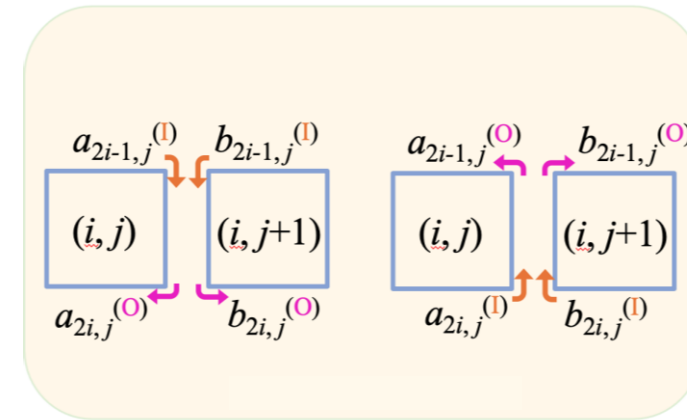
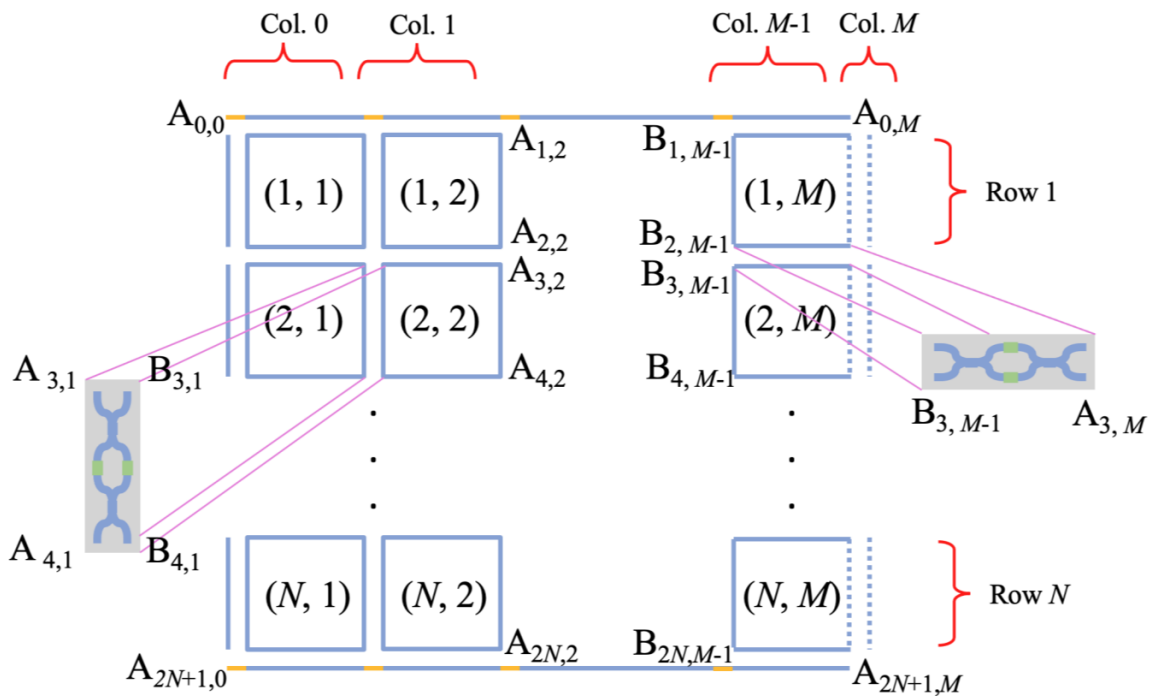


Remark: We consider this simplified case, so that we could derive the transfer function analytically



Functional Synthesis

V matrix: Scattering matrix relation for a **vertical** TBU

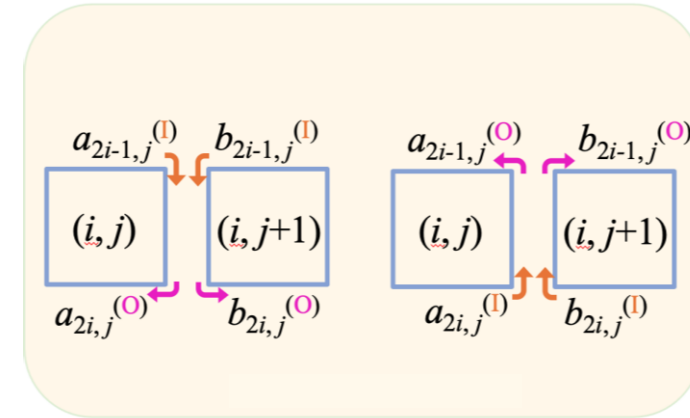
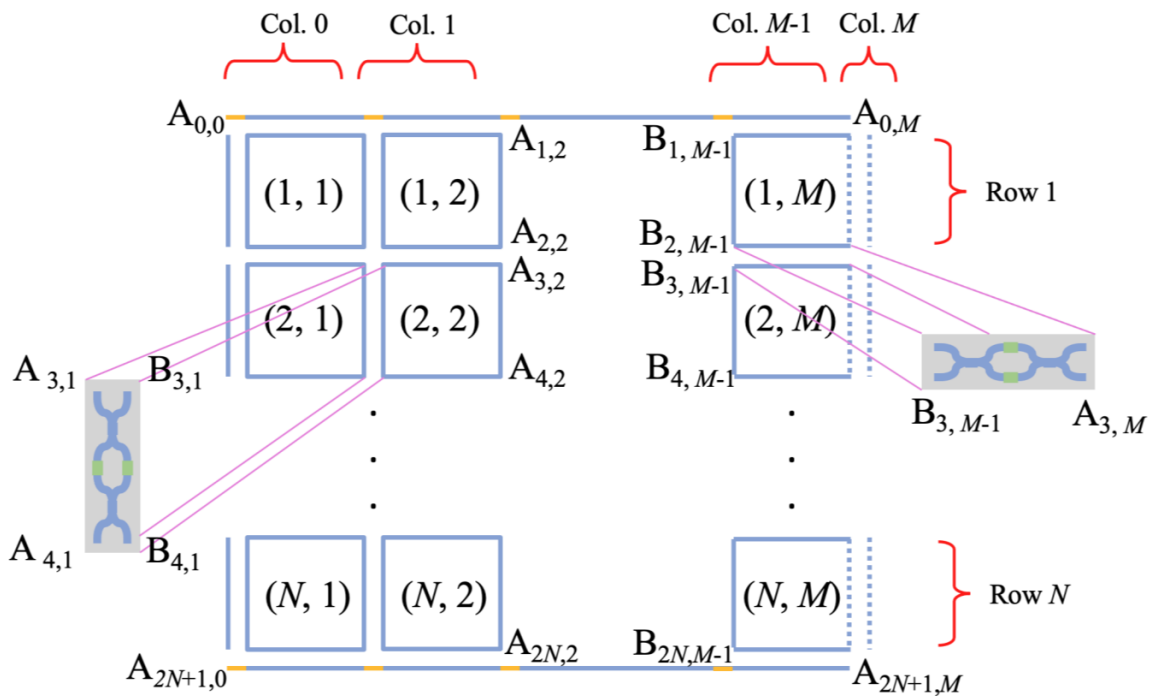


$$\begin{bmatrix} a_{2i,j}^{(O)} \\ b_{2i,j}^{(O)} \\ a_{2i-1,j}^{(O)} \\ b_{2i-1,j}^{(O)} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{F} & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{F} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a_{2i-1,j}^{(I)} \\ b_{2i-1,j}^{(I)} \\ a_{2i,j}^{(I)} \\ b_{2i,j}^{(I)} \end{bmatrix}$$



Functional Synthesis

V matrix: Scattering matrix relation for a **vertical** TBU



$$\begin{bmatrix} a_{2i,j}^{(O)} \\ b_{2i,j}^{(O)} \\ a_{2i-1,j}^{(O)} \\ b_{2i-1,j}^{(O)} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{F} & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{F} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a_{2i-1,j}^{(I)} \\ b_{2i-1,j}^{(I)} \\ a_{2i,j}^{(I)} \\ b_{2i,j}^{(I)} \end{bmatrix} \longrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} b_{2i-1,j}^{(I)} \\ b_{2i-1,j}^{(O)} \\ b_{2i,j}^{(I)} \\ b_{2i,j}^{(O)} \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{V} \begin{bmatrix} a_{2i-1,j}^{(I)} \\ a_{2i-1,j}^{(O)} \\ a_{2i,j}^{(I)} \\ a_{2i,j}^{(O)} \end{bmatrix}$$



Functional Synthesis

Build the overall scattering matrix iteratively (the j-th to the j+1-th column)

$$\begin{bmatrix} a_{2i,j+1}^{(I)} \\ a_{2i,j+1}^{(O)} \\ a_{2i+1,j+1}^{(I)} \\ a_{2i+1,j+1}^{(O)} \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{H} \begin{bmatrix} b_{2i,j}^{(I)} \\ b_{2i,j}^{(O)} \\ b_{2i+1,j}^{(I)} \\ b_{2i+1,j}^{(O)} \end{bmatrix} \quad \begin{bmatrix} b_{2i-1,j}^{(I)} \\ b_{2i-1,j}^{(O)} \\ b_{2i,j}^{(I)} \\ b_{2i,j}^{(O)} \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{V} \begin{bmatrix} a_{2i-1,j}^{(I)} \\ a_{2i-1,j}^{(O)} \\ a_{2i,j}^{(I)} \\ a_{2i,j}^{(O)} \end{bmatrix}$$



$$\Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} a_{0,j+1}^{(I)} \\ a_{0,j+1}^{(O)} \\ \vdots \\ a_{2N+1,j+1}^{(I)} \\ a_{2N+1,j+1}^{(O)} \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{T}^j \begin{bmatrix} a_{0,j}^{(I)} \\ a_{0,j}^{(O)} \\ \vdots \\ a_{2N+1,j}^{(I)} \\ a_{2N+1,j}^{(O)} \end{bmatrix}$$

where

$$\mathbf{T}^j = \text{Diag}(\overbrace{\mathbf{H}, \dots, \mathbf{H}}^{(N+1)}) \times \text{Diag}\left(\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \underbrace{\mathbf{V}, \dots, \mathbf{V}}_N, \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \right)$$



Functional Synthesis

Build the overall scattering matrix iteratively (the 0-th to the M-th column)

$$\begin{bmatrix} a_{2i,j+1}^{(I)} \\ a_{2i,j+1}^{(O)} \\ a_{2i+1,j+1}^{(I)} \\ a_{2i+1,j+1}^{(O)} \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{H} \begin{bmatrix} b_{2i,j}^{(I)} \\ b_{2i,j}^{(O)} \\ b_{2i+1,j}^{(I)} \\ b_{2i+1,j}^{(O)} \end{bmatrix} \quad \begin{bmatrix} b_{2i-1,j}^{(I)} \\ b_{2i-1,j}^{(O)} \\ b_{2i,j}^{(I)} \\ b_{2i,j}^{(O)} \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{V} \begin{bmatrix} a_{2i-1,j}^{(I)} \\ a_{2i-1,j}^{(O)} \\ a_{2i,j}^{(I)} \\ a_{2i,j}^{(O)} \end{bmatrix}$$



$$\Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} a_{0,j+1}^{(I)} \\ a_{0,j+1}^{(O)} \\ \vdots \\ a_{2N+1,j+1}^{(I)} \\ a_{2N+1,j+1}^{(O)} \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{T}^j \begin{bmatrix} a_{0,j}^{(I)} \\ a_{0,j}^{(O)} \\ \vdots \\ a_{2N+1,j}^{(I)} \\ a_{2N+1,j}^{(O)} \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} a_{0,M}^{(I)} \\ a_{0,M}^{(O)} \\ \vdots \\ a_{2N+1,M}^{(I)} \\ a_{2N+1,M}^{(O)} \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{T} \begin{bmatrix} a_{0,0}^{(I)} \\ a_{0,0}^{(O)} \\ \vdots \\ a_{2N+1,0}^{(I)} \\ a_{2N+1,0}^{(O)} \end{bmatrix}$$

where

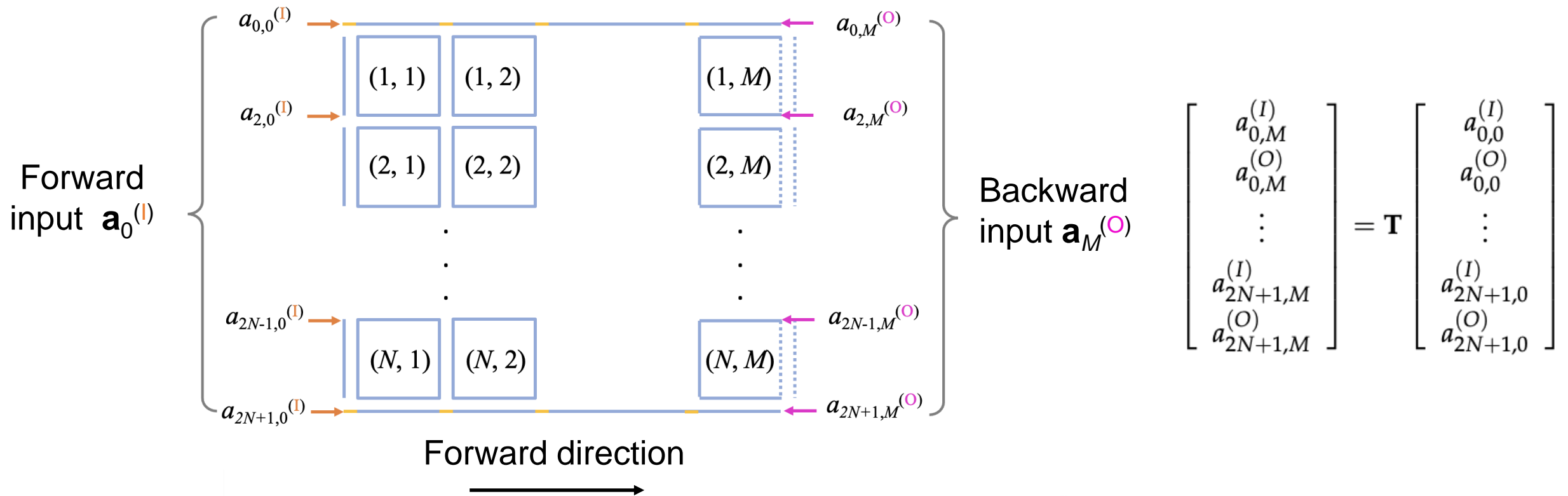
$$\mathbf{T} = \mathbf{T}^{M-1} \dots \mathbf{T}^1 \mathbf{T}^0$$



Functional Synthesis

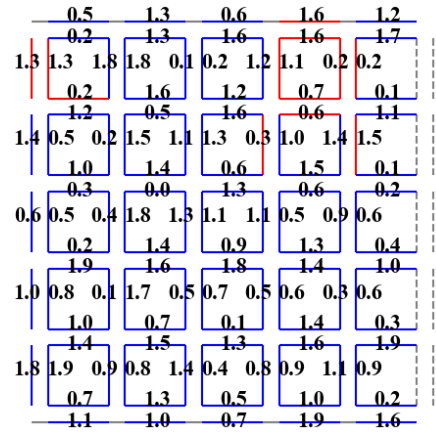
We know how to build matrix \mathbf{T} , and all operations involved are differentiable

Define input and output and use a cost function:

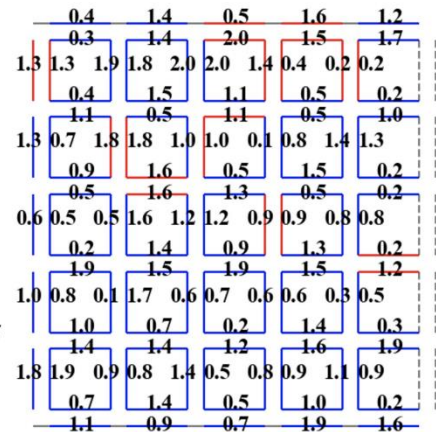
$$Cost_{LogMag} = \sum_{k=1}^{N_{grid}} \sum_{n=1}^N r_k \left| \ln |a_{2n,M}^{(I)}(\omega_k)| - \ln U_n(\omega_k) \right|^2$$


Functional Synthesis

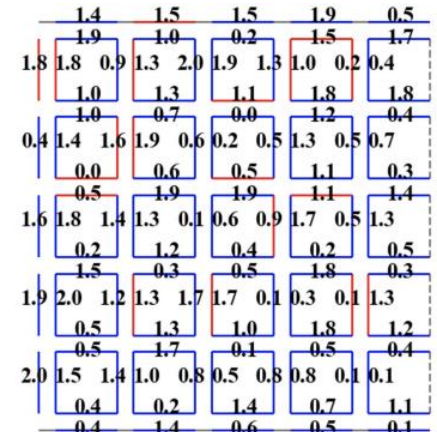
Routing



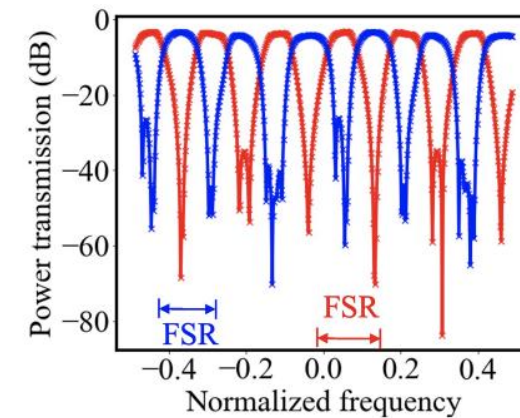
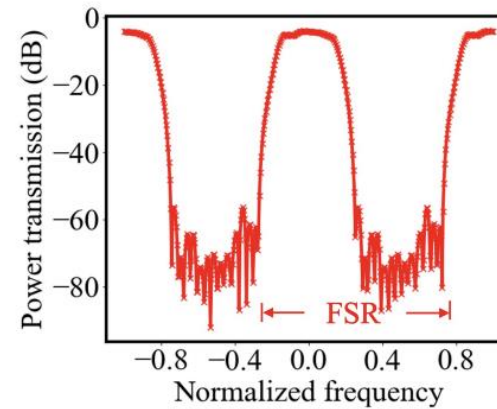
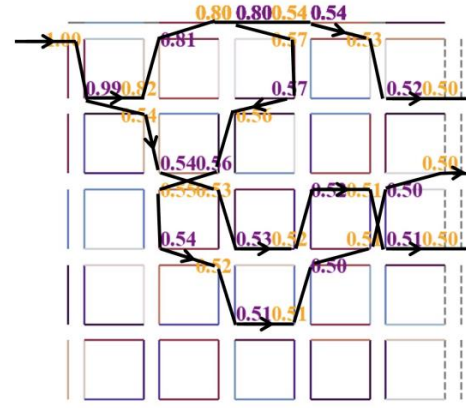
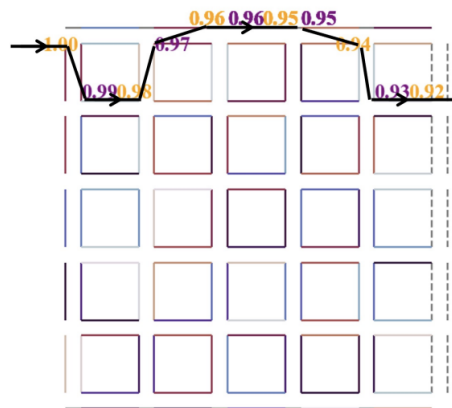
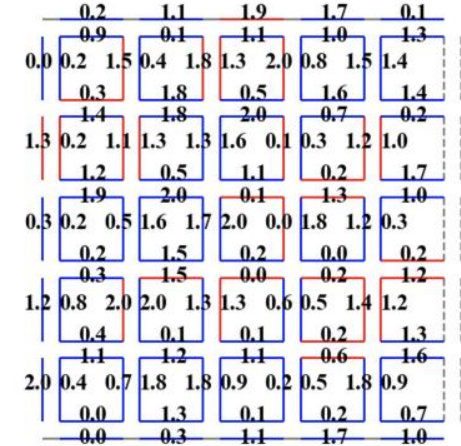
Splitting



Filtering

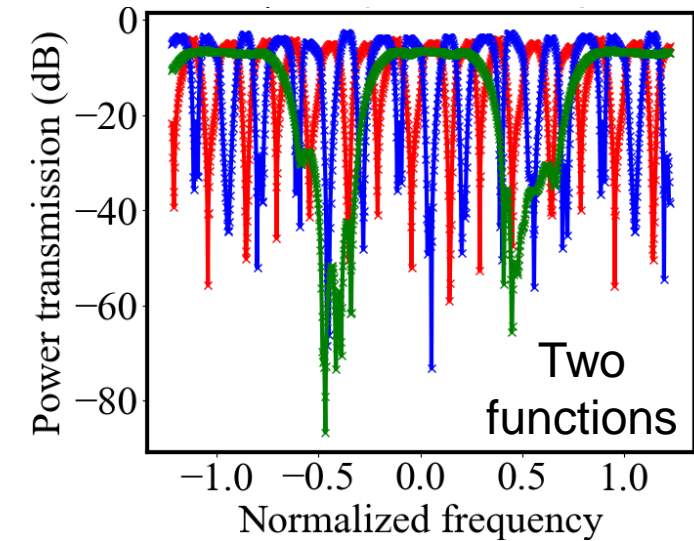
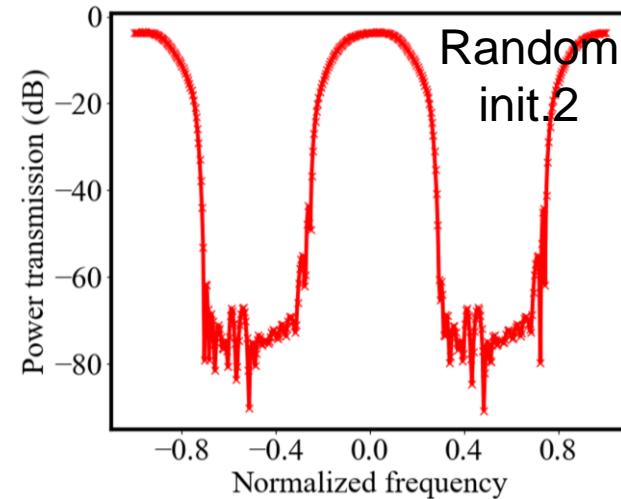
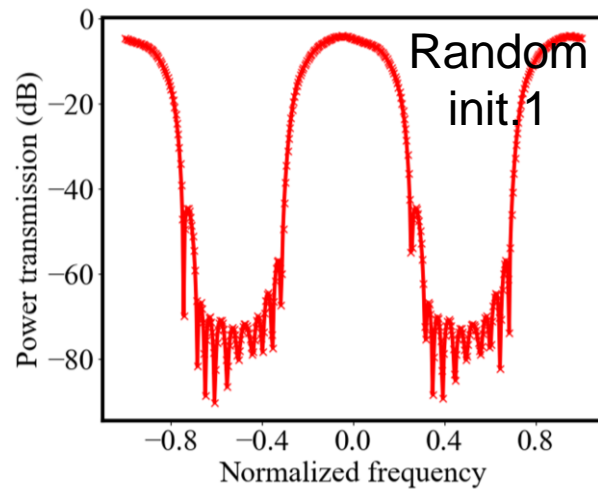


WDM



Functional Synthesis

- Local minimum is acceptable
- Random initialization doesn't impact the synthesized results much
- Even could realize two functions at the same time



Ref: Zhengqi Gao et al., *Photonics Res.* 2023. (highlighted as Editor's pick)



Online Demo

In previous page, we show how to derive gradients analytically in a simplified square mesh

What about gradient calculation in any topology (hexagonal, triangular, even mix)?

=> A **light-weight** Python package, Spode, specialized for programmable photonic circuit

SPODE

*A simulator with programmable photonics and
differentiability emphasis*

<https://colab.research.google.com/drive/1Lw5831I-cmhHSIQOWGuc7vPmQEsNKoq?usp=sharing>

Remark: The package is for ease of research; integrate simulation, visualization, circuit generator.



Discussions and Future Directions

- Impact of the photodetector
- Error cascading (See Saumil's Optica 2021 paper)
- Provable routing algorithm
- Hardware demonstration



Further Reading

1. Wim Bogaerts, 'Tutorial: Programmable Phototonics,' *OFC*, 2021.
2. Wim Bogaerts et al., 'Programmable Photonic Circuits,' *Nature*, 2020.
3. Zhengqi Gao et al., 'Automatic synthesis of light-processing functions for programmable photonics: theory and realization,' *Photonics Res.*, 2020.
4. Saumil Bandyopadhyay et al., 'Hardware error correction for programmable photonics,' *Optica*, 2021.
5. Daniel Perez-Lopez et al., 'Multipurpose self-configuration of programmable photonic circuits', *Nat. Comm.*, 2020.
6. William R. Clements et al., "Optimal design for universal multiport interferometers,' *Optica*, 2016.
7. Aitor Lopez, et al., 'Auto-routing algorithm for field-programmable photonic gate arrays,' *Optica Express*, 2020.
8. Michael Reck et al., 'Experimental realization of any discrete unitary operator,' *Phys. Rev. Lett.*, 1994,

