Research Overview of Energy-Efficient Multimedia Systems Group

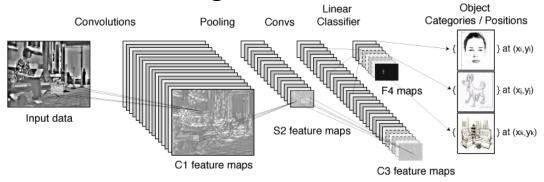
Vivienne Sze





Efficient Computing with Cross-Layer Design

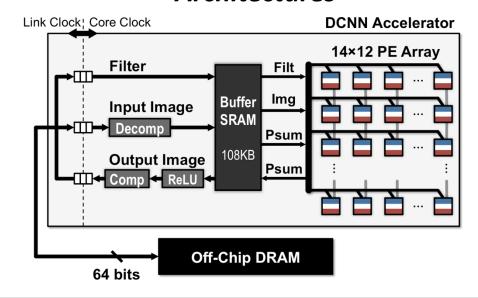
Algorithms



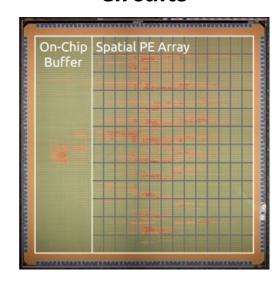
Systems



Architectures

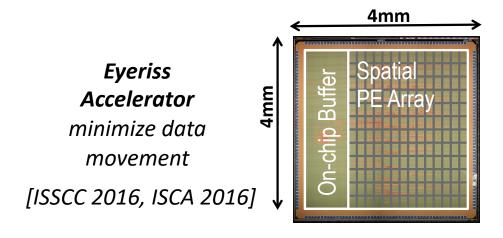


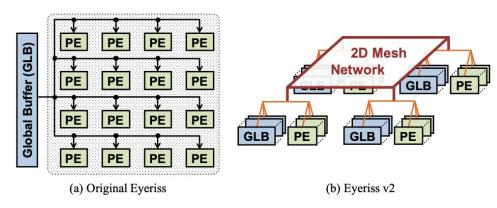
Circuits



Energy-Efficient Deep Neural Networks

Efficient and Flexible Hardware

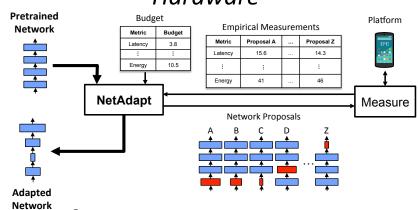




[JETCAS 2019]

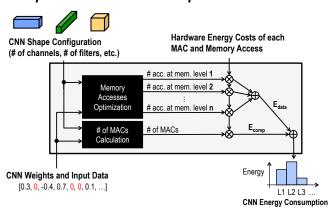
http://eyeriss.mit.edu

Co-Design of Algorithms and Hardware



[CVPR 2017, ECCV 2018, CVPR 2021]

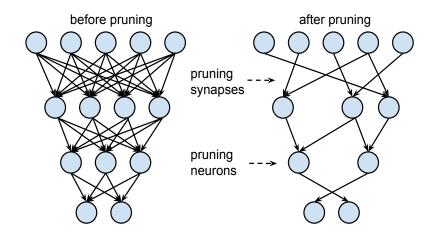
Energy Modeling for Design Exploration and Optimization



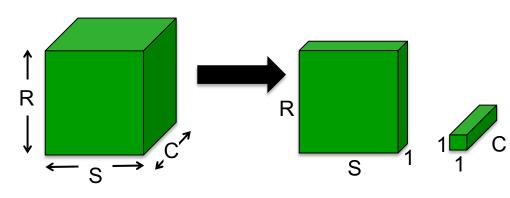
Design of Efficient DNN Algorithms

Popular efficient DNN algorithm approaches

Network Pruning



Efficient Network Architectures



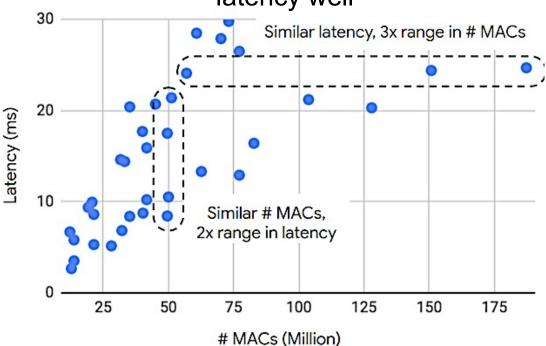
Examples: SqueezeNet, MobileNet

... also reduced precision

- Focus on reducing number of MACs and weights
- Does it translate to energy savings and reduced latency?

Number of MACs and Weights are Not Good Proxies

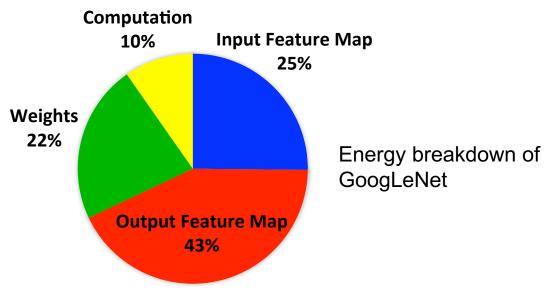
of operations (MACs) does not approximate latency well



Source: Google

(https://ai.googleblog.com/2018/04/introducing-cvpr-2018-on-device-visual.html)

of weights **alone** is not a good metric for energy (All data types should be considered)



https://energyestimation.mit.edu/

[**Yang**, *CVPR* 2017]



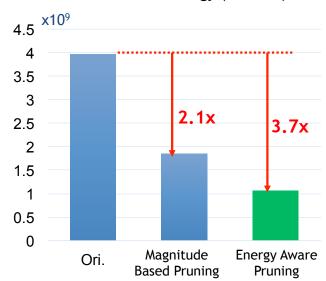
Design Hardware-Aware DNN Algorithms

Directly target energy and latency and incorporate it into the optimization of DNNs to provide better performance tradeoffs

Energy-Aware Pruning

Remove weights based on energy consumption

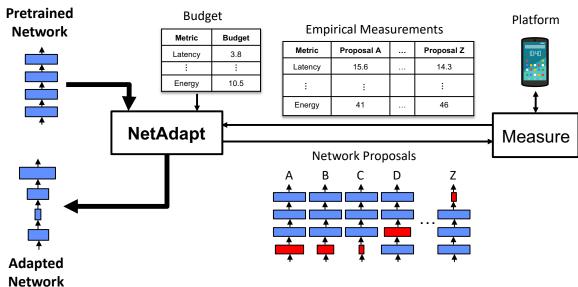
Normalized Energy (AlexNet)



[Yang, CVPR 2017]

NetAdapt: Platform-Aware DNN Adaptation

Automatically adapt DNN to reach target latency/energy



[Yang, *ECCV* 2018]

Code available at http://netadapt.mit.edu

NetAdapt v2: Reduce Adaption Time

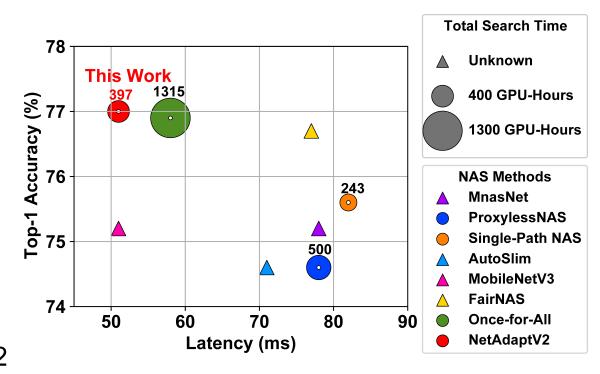
Reduce time to find efficient DNN that adapts to hardware by up to 5.8x

Typical Steps in Neural Architecture Search (NAS):

- 1) Train super-network (search space of DNNs)
- 2) Sample and evaluate different DNNs
- 3) Fine tune the final DNN

Contributions

- Ordered dropout: train multiple DNNs in single forward pass (reduce step 1)
- Channel-level bypass: merge layer depth and channel width into a single search dimension (reduce step 2)
- Multi-layer coordinate descent optimizer:
 consider joint effect of multiple layers (reduce step 2
 & support non-differentiable metrics, e.g., latency)

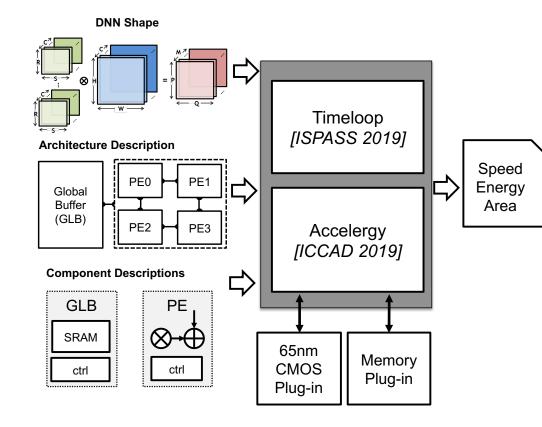


More info at http://netadapt.mit.edu



Energy Estimation for Accelerator Designs

- Accelergy is an architecture-level energy estimator framework
 - Early-stage energy estimation
 - Rapid design space exploration
 - e.g., evaluate and compare different deep learning accelerator designs → performance modeling with Timeloop
- Provides flexibility to
 - Describe a diverse range of accelerator designs
 - Support different technologies
 - · e.g., CMOS, RRAM, optical
- Validated on both digital and PIM based accelerators (95% accuracy)
- Bridge architecture, circuit and devices research



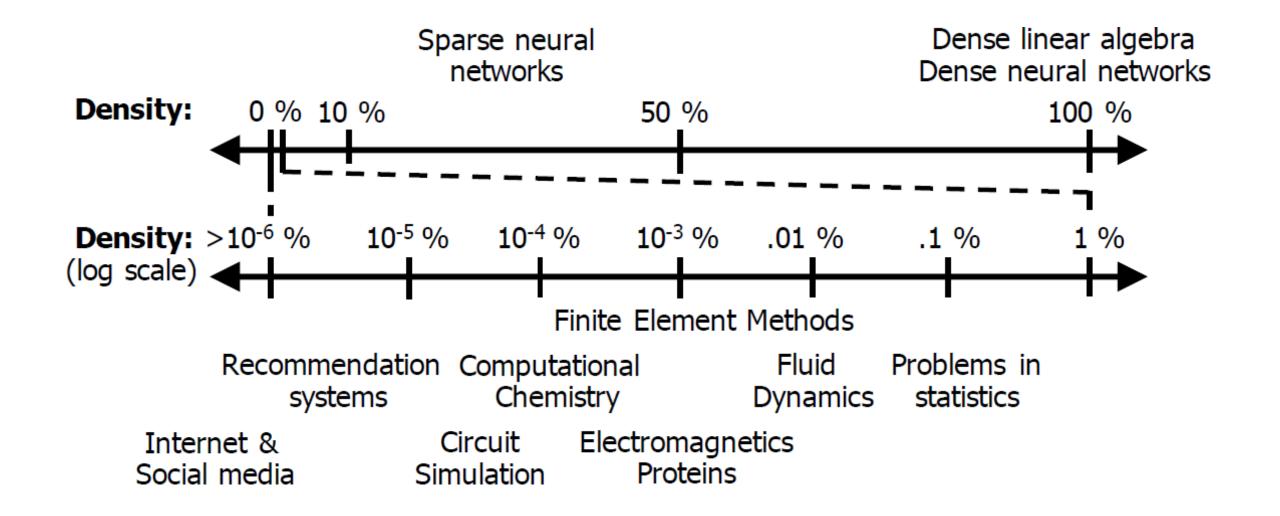
Open-source code available at:

http://accelergy.mit.edu

[**Wu**, *ICCAD* 2019], [**Wu**, *ISPASS* 2020]



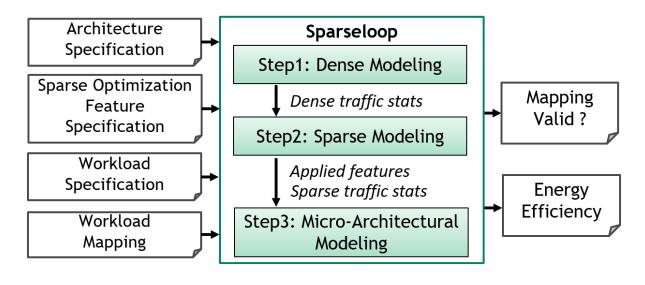
Applications that use Sparse Tensor



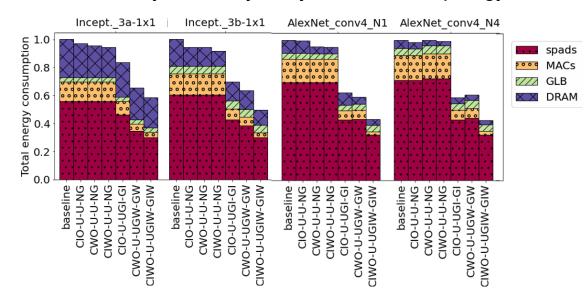
Sparseloop: Design Space Exploration for Sparse Tensor Accelerators

- An analytical design exploration framework that comprehends a wide range of
 - Sparse optimizations (e.g., zero-gating, zero-skipping, zero-compression)
 - Data representations (e.g., uncompressed, run length coding, bitmask)

Propose modularized three-step evaluation process



Energy impact of sparse optimizations at different levels of the memory hierarchy in Eyeriss-based topology



Tutorial at ISCA 2021 (June 19): http://accelergy.mit.edu/sparse_tutorial.html

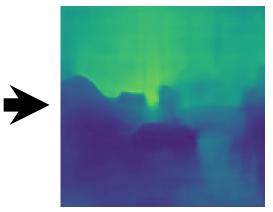


Efficient Computing for Autonomous Navigation

Monocular Depth Estimation with FastDepth

RGB Prediction



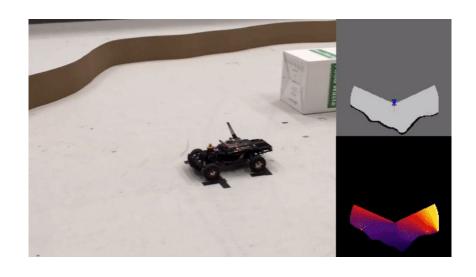


http://fastdepth.mit.edu

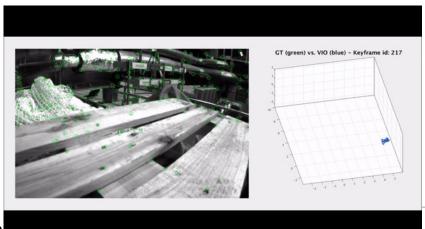


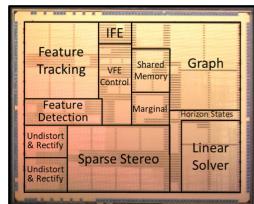
~40fps on an iPhone

Robot Exploration with Mutual Information

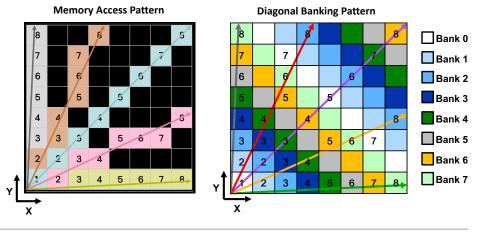


Visual Inertial Localization with Navion





http://navion.mit.edu





Low-Energy Autonomy and Navigation (LEAN) Group



A broad range of next-generation applications will be enabled by low-energy, miniature mobile robotics including insect-size flapping wing robots that can help with search and rescue, chip-size satellites that can explore nearby stars, and blimps that can stay in the air for years to provide communication services in remote locations. While the low-energy, miniature actuation, and sensing systems have already been developed in many of these cases, the processors currently used to run the algorithms for autonomous navigation are still energy-hungry. Our research addresses this challenge as well as brings together the robotics and hardware design communities.

We enable efficient computing on various key modules of other autonomous navigation systems including perception, localization, exploration and planning. We also consider the overall system by considering the energy cost of computing in conjunction with actuation and sensing.



Motion Planning

Many motion planning and control algorithms aim to design trajectories and controllers that minimize actuation energy. However, in low-energy robotics, computing such trajectories and controls themselves may consume a large amount of energy. We develop algorithms that optimize this trade-off.



Mutual Information for Exploration

Computing mutual information between the map and future measurements is critical to efficient exploration. Unfortunately, mutual information computation is computationally very challenging. We develop new algorithms and hardware for efficient computation of mutual information, and demonstrate real-time computation for the whole map in a reasonably-sized map.



Depth Sensing and Perception

Depth sensing is a critical function for robotic tasks such as localization, mapping and obstacle detection. State-of-the-art single-view depth estimation algorithms are based on fairly complex deep neural networks that are too slow for real-time inference on an embedded platform, for instance, mounted on a micro aerial vehicle. We address the problem of fast depth estimation on embedded systems.



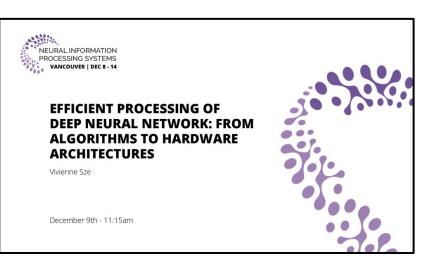
Localization and Mapping

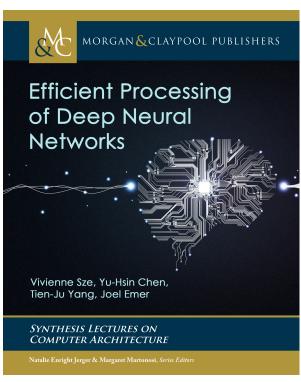
Autonomous navigation of miniaturized robots (e.g., nano/pico aerial vehicles) is currently a grand challenge for robotics research, due to the need for processing a large amount of sensor data (e.g., camera frames) with limited on-board computational resources. We focus on the design of a visual-inertial odometry (VIO) system in which the robot estimates its ego-motion (and a landmark-based map) from on-board camera and IMU data.



Group Website: http://lean.mit.edu

Resources on Efficient Processing of DNNs







http://eyeriss.mit.edu/tutorial.html



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