

Implementation of the Elliptic Curve Method of Factoring in Reconfigurable Hardware

Kris Gaj

Soonhak Kwon

Patrick Baier

Paul Kohlbrenner

Hoang Le

Khaleeluddin Mohammed

Ramakrishna Bachimanchi

George Mason University

GMU Team

Mathematicians/ Cryptographers

Software experiments



Soonhak Kwon

Ph.D in Mathematics,
Johns Hopkins University
Maryland, U.S
Visiting professor at GMU
on leave from
Sungkyunkwan
University, Suwon, Korea

Patrick Baier

D. Phil. in
Mathematics,
Oxford University
Oxford, U.K
Affiliated with George
Washington Univeristy

Paul Kohlbrenner

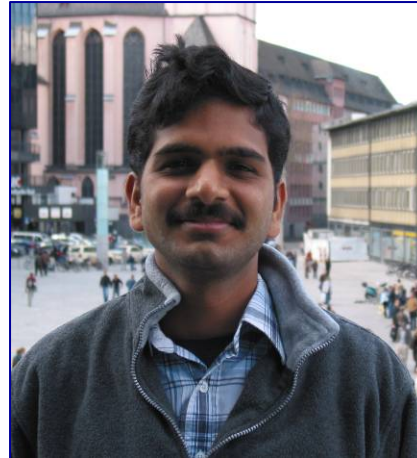
Ph.D student,
ECE Department
George Mason University
Virginia, U.S

GMU Team

Hardware design



Hoang Le



Ramakrishna Bachimanchi



Khaleeluddin Mohammed

MS in Computer Engineering students
ECE Department
George Mason University
Virginia, U.S.A.

Objectives

- **Efficient & portable hardware implementation of Elliptic Curve Method** of factoring with an application to the relation collection step of NFS
- **Comparison among** FPGA, ASIC and microprocessor technologies
- Initial study on **porting ECM to** existing general-purpose & special-purpose **reconfigurable computers**

Outline

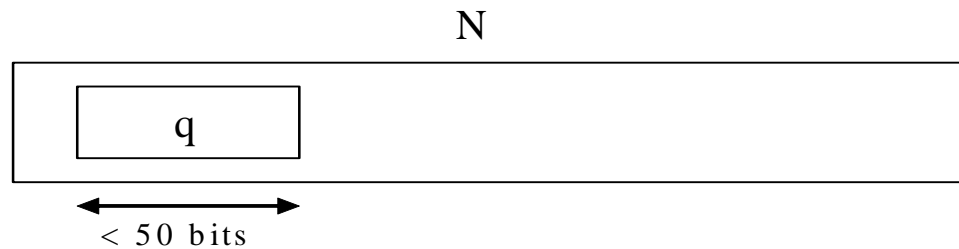
- **ECM 101**
- **Hardware Architecture**
- **Results**
- **Comparison among FPGAs, Microprocessors & ASICs**
- **RCM 101**
(Reconfigurable Computing Machines)
- **Conclusions**

ECM 101

What is ECM?

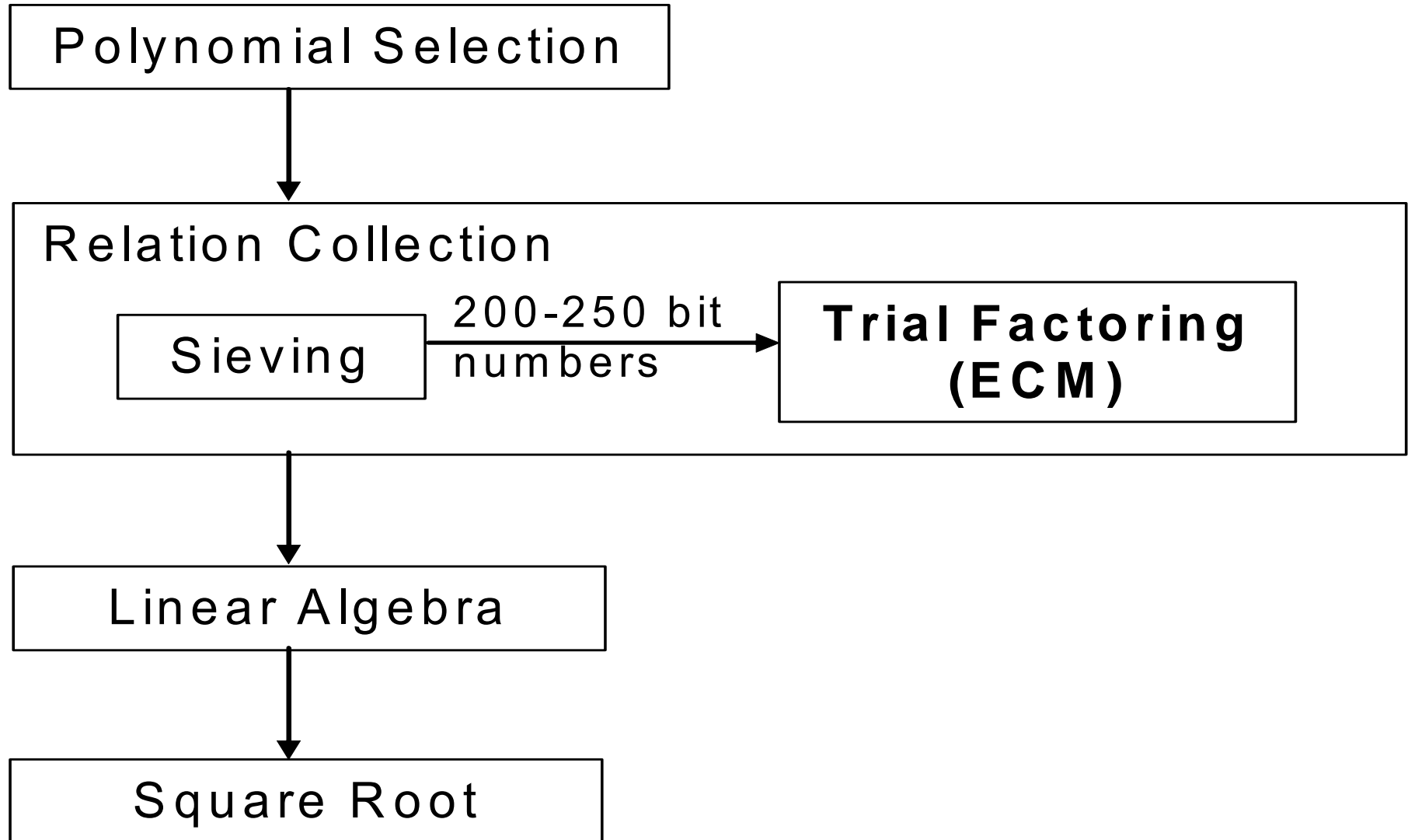
Elliptic Curve Method of Factoring

Lenstra	1985	Phase 1
Brent, Montgomery	1986-87	Phase 2



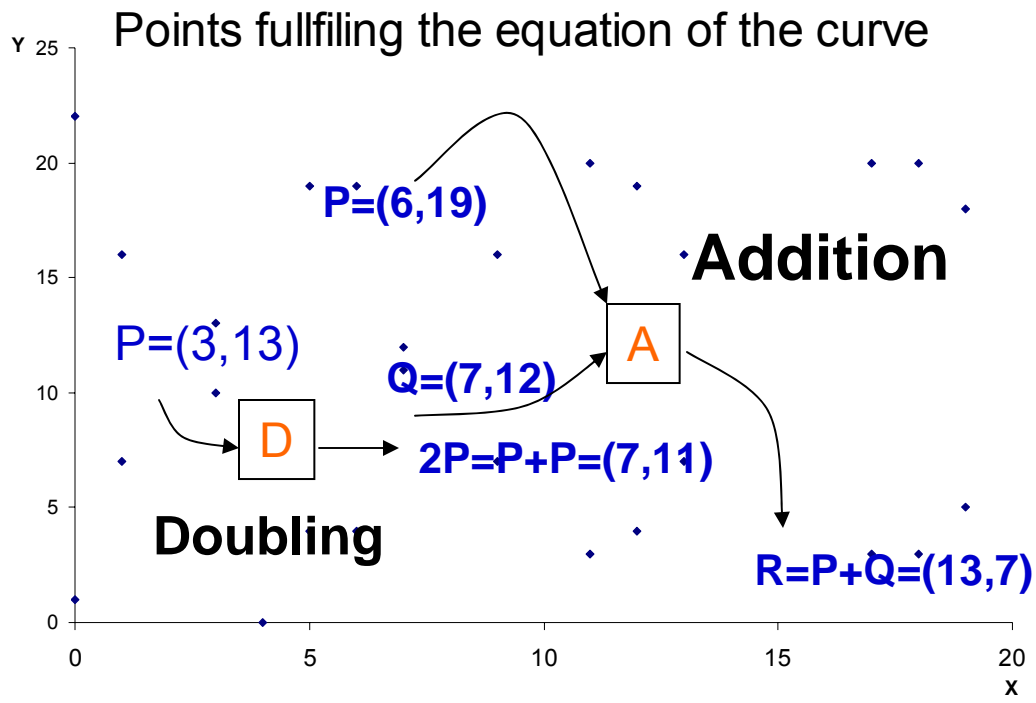
Factoring time depends mainly on the size of factor q

ECM in the Number Field Sieve (NFS)



Elliptic Curve

$$Y^2 = X^3 + A \cdot X + B \pmod{p} \quad (p = 23)$$



+ special point \mathcal{O}
 (point at infinity)
 such that:
 $P + \mathcal{O} = \mathcal{O} + P = P$

$$\underbrace{P, 2P, 3P, \dots, nP = \mathcal{O}, (n+1)P = P, 2P}_{\text{all points of the curve}}$$

Projective vs. Affine coordinates

- affine coordinates

$$P_a = (X_P, Y_P)$$

- addition and doubling **require inversion**

- projective coordinates

$$P_p = (X_P, Y_P, Z_P)$$

- addition and doubling can be done **without inversion**

- projective coordinates for Montgomery form of the curve

- addition and doubling **do not require y coordinate**

(y coordinate can be recovered from x and z at the end of a long chain of computations)

$$P_{pM} = (X_P : : Z_P)$$

$$\mathcal{O} = (0 : : 0)$$

Scalar Multiplication

$$Q = k \cdot P = \underbrace{P + P + P + \dots + P}_{k\text{- times}}$$

point number (scalar) point

ECM Algorithm

Inputs :

- N – number to be factored
- P_0 – point of a curve E : initial point
- B_1 – smoothness bound for Phase1
- B_2 – smoothness bound for Phase2

Outputs:

- q - factor of N, $1 < q \leq N$
or FAIL

ECM algorithm – Phase 1

1: $k \leftarrow \prod_{p_i} p_i^{e_i}$ such that p_i - consecutive primes $< B_1$

e_i - largest exponent such that $p_i^{e_i} \leq B_1$

2: $Q_0 \leftarrow kP_0 = (x_{Q_0} : : z_{Q_0})$

3: $q \leftarrow \gcd(z_{Q_0}, N)$

4: if $q > 1$

5: return q (factor of N)

6: else

7: go to Phase 2

8: end if

ECM algorithm – Phase 2

```
09:  $d \leftarrow 1$ 
10: for each prime  $p = B_1$  to  $B_2$  do
11:    $(x_{pQ_0}, y_{pQ_0}, z_{pQ_0}) \leftarrow pQ_0$ 
12:    $d \leftarrow d \cdot z_{pQ_0} \pmod{N}$ 
13: end for
14:  $q \leftarrow \gcd(d, N)$ 
15: if  $q > 1$  then
16:   return  $q$ 
17: else
18:   return FAIL
19: end if
```

Phase 1 – Numerical example

$$N = 1\,740\,719 = 1279 \cdot 1361$$

$$E : y^2 = x^3 + 14x + 1 \pmod{1\,740\,719}$$

$$P_0 = (5 : : 1)$$

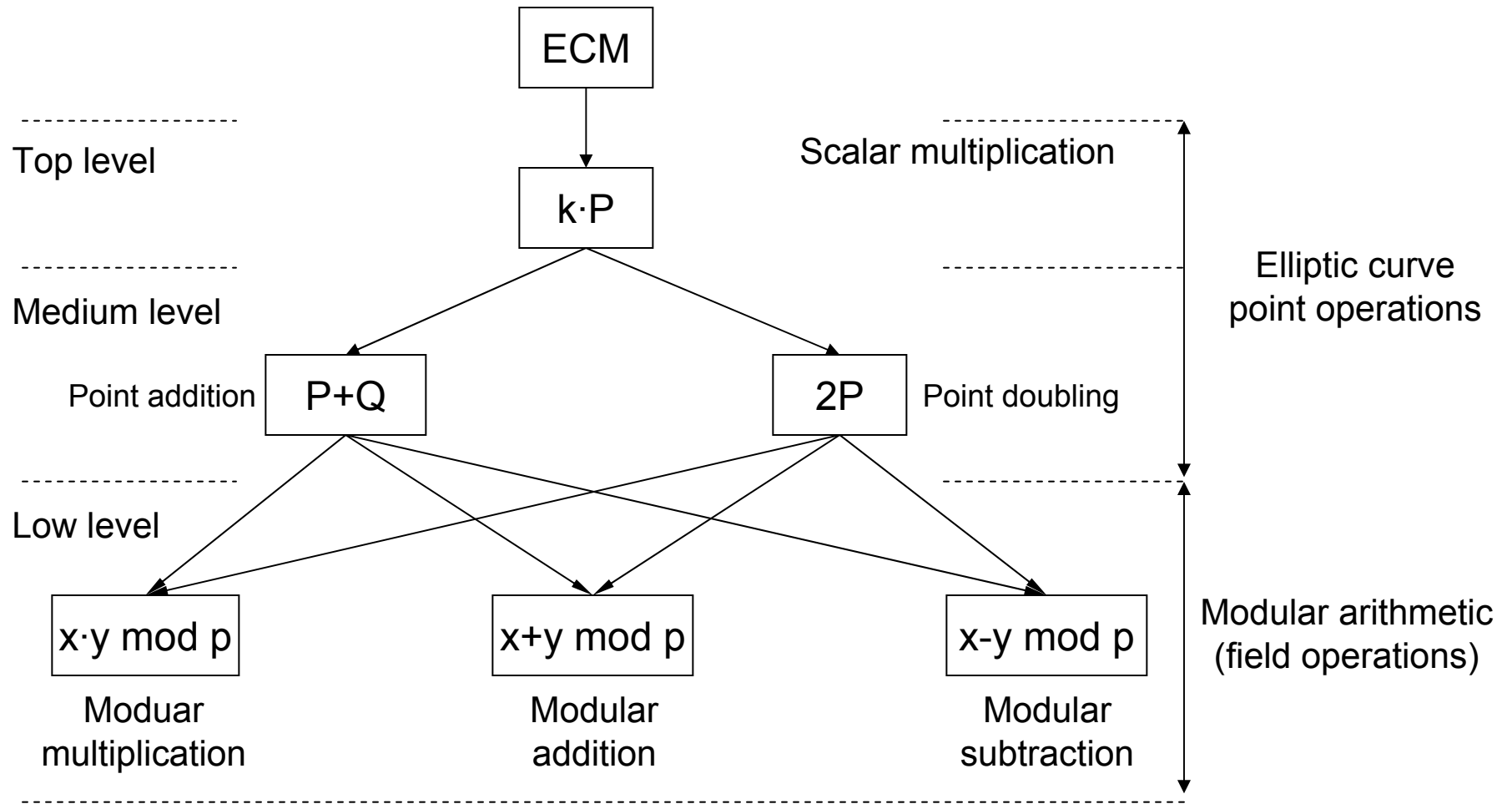
$$B_1 = 20$$

$$k = 2^4 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 13 \cdot 17 \cdot 19 = 232\,792\,560$$

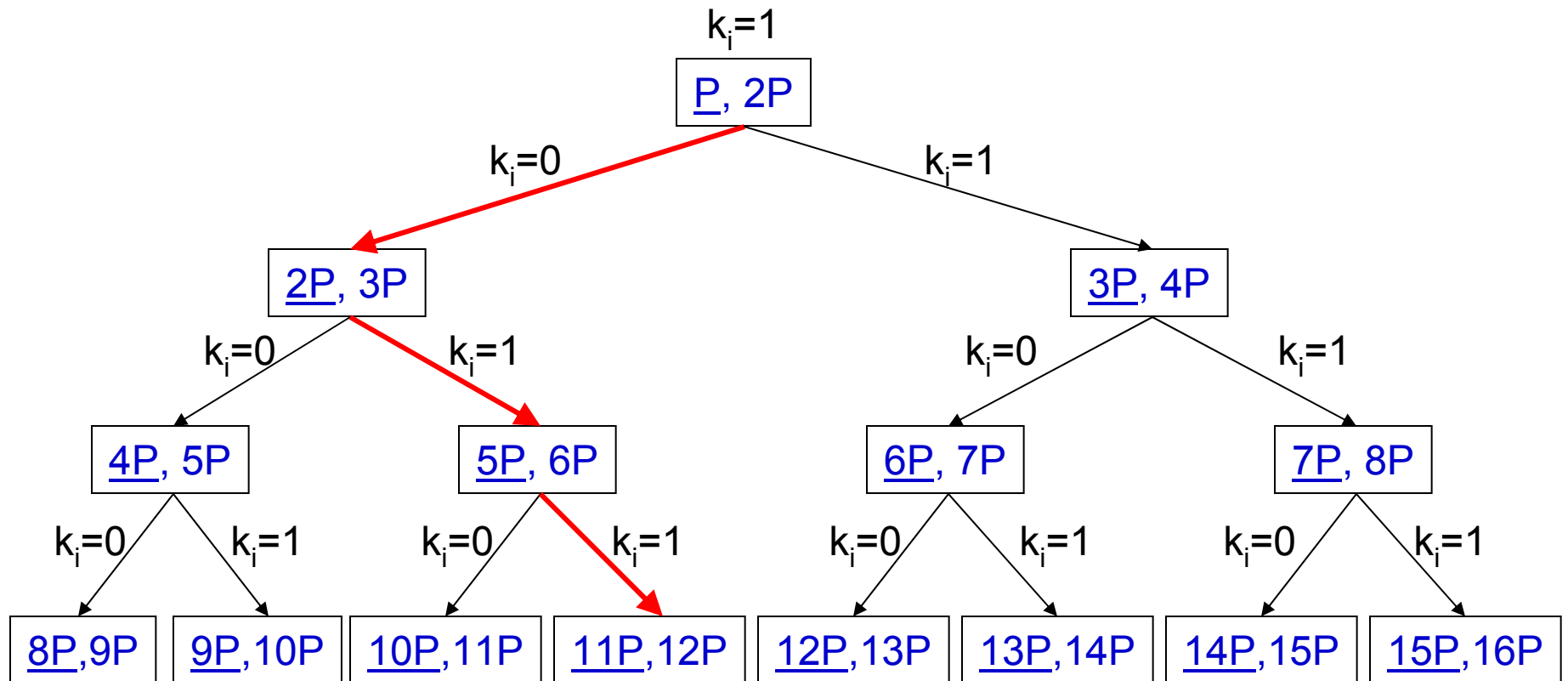
$$kP_0 = (707\,838 : : 1\,686\,279)$$

$$\gcd(1\,686\,279, 1\,740\,719) = \mathbf{1361}$$

Hierarchy of Elliptic Curve Operations



Top level : scalar multiplication Montgomery ladder - concept



$$11 = 1011_2$$

Top Level : Scalar multiplication Montgomery ladder – pseudo code

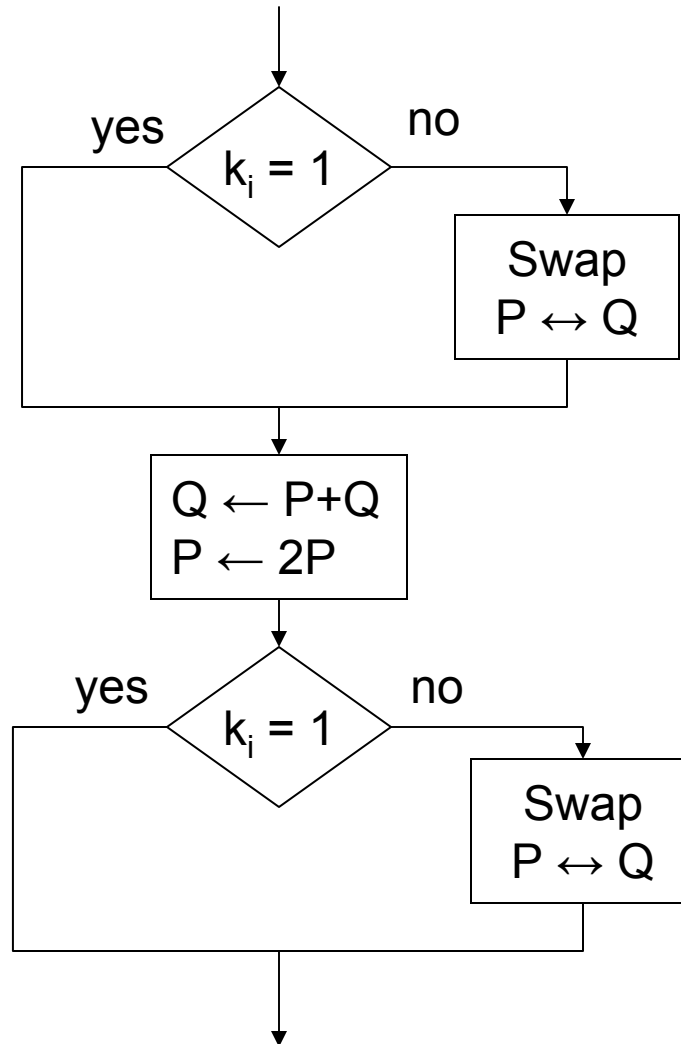
Input : $P_0 \in E$ ($x_0 \neq 0$), $k = (k_{s-1}, k_{s-2}, \dots, k_1, k_0)_2$ $k_{s-1} = 1$

Output : kP_0

```
1:  $Q \leftarrow P_0, P \leftarrow 2P_0$ 
2: for  $i = s - 2$  downto 0 do
3:   if  $k_i = 1$  then
4:      $Q \leftarrow P + Q, P \leftarrow 2P$ 
5:   else
6:      $Q \leftarrow 2Q, P \leftarrow P + Q$ 
7:   end if;
8: end for
9: return  $Q$ 
```

Montgomery ladder algorithm

Basic step



Medium level

Point addition & doubling

Input $P = (x_P : : z_P)$ $Q = (x_Q : : z_Q)$ $P - Q = (x_{P-Q} : : z_{P-Q})$ $P, Q, P - Q \in E$

$$a_{24} = \frac{a+2}{4} \text{ where } a \text{ is a parameter of the curve } E$$

Output $P + Q = (x_{P+Q} : : z_{P+Q})$ $2P = (x_{2P} : : z_{2P})$

$$x_{P+Q} = z_{P-Q} \left((x_P - z_P)(x_Q + z_Q) + (x_P + z_P)(x_Q - z_Q) \right)^2$$

$$z_{P-Q} = x_{P-Q} \left((x_P - z_P)(x_Q + z_Q) - (x_P + z_P)(x_Q - z_Q) \right)^2$$

$$4x_P z_P = (x_P + z_P)^2 - (x_P - z_P)^2$$

$$x_{2P} = (x_P + z_P)^2 (x_P - z_P)^2$$

$$z_{2P} = 4x_P z_P \left((x_P - z_P)^2 + a_{24} \cdot (4x_P z_P) \right)$$

Point addition

6 multiplications when $z_{P-Q} \neq 1$
5 multiplications when $z_{P-Q} = 1$

Point doubling

5 multiplications

Low level : Montgomery Multiplication

$$Z = X \cdot Y \pmod{N} \quad \text{requires division}$$

Ordinary domain **Montgomery domain**

$$X \rightarrow X' = X \cdot 2^n \pmod{N} \quad \text{where } n = \lfloor \log_2 N \rfloor + 2$$

$$Y \rightarrow Y' = Y \cdot 2^n \pmod{N} \quad \text{and } N \text{ odd}$$

$$Z = X \cdot Y \pmod{N} \leftarrow Z' = (X \cdot Y)' = \text{MP}(X', Y', N) = X \cdot Y \cdot 2^n \pmod{N}$$

$$\text{MP}(X', Y', N) \equiv \frac{X' \cdot Y' \cdot 2^{-n} \pmod{N}}{\phantom{X' \cdot Y' \cdot 2^{-n} \pmod{N}}} \equiv (X \cdot 2^n) (Y \cdot 2^n) \cdot 2^{-n} \pmod{N}$$
$$\equiv X \cdot Y \cdot 2^n \pmod{N}$$

does not require division

→ faster than ordinary modular multiplication

In ECM we can do all computations in Montgomery domain because

$$\gcd(z, N) = \gcd(z' = z \cdot 2^n \pmod{N}, N) \text{ for any odd } N$$

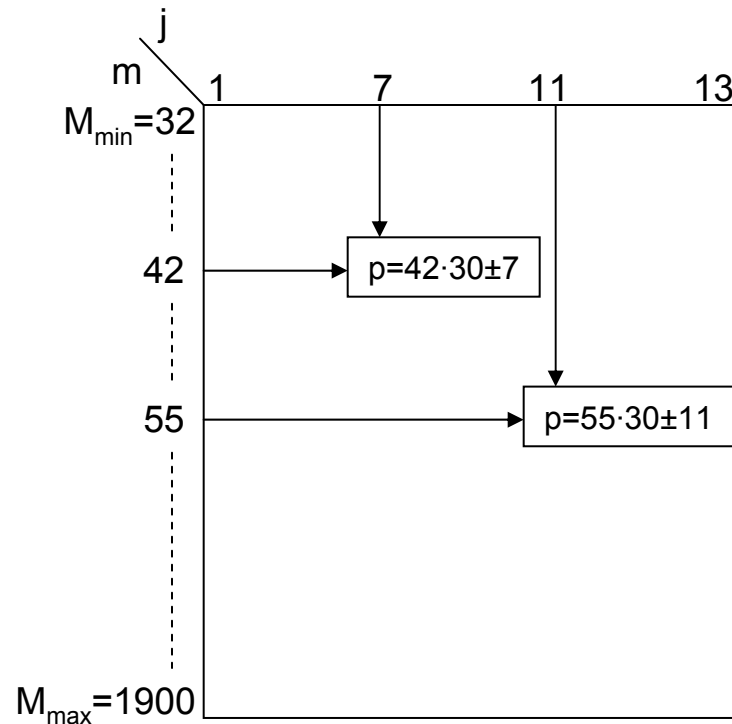
Phase 2 : Standard continuation algorithm – Basic concept (Step 1)

We express all primes $B_1 < p < B_2$ in the form

$$p = m \cdot D \pm j \quad \text{where} \quad 1 \leq j \leq \frac{D}{2} \quad \text{and} \quad \gcd(j, D) = 1$$

For example $D = 30$

$$B_1 = 960 \quad B_2 = 57000 \rightarrow 1 \leq j \leq 15 \quad \text{and} \quad \gcd(j, 30) = 1$$



Phase 2 : Standard continuation algorithm – Basic concept (Step 2)

$$p \cdot Q_0 = \mathcal{G} \pmod{q}$$

$$\Rightarrow (m \cdot D \pm j) Q_0 = \mathcal{G}$$

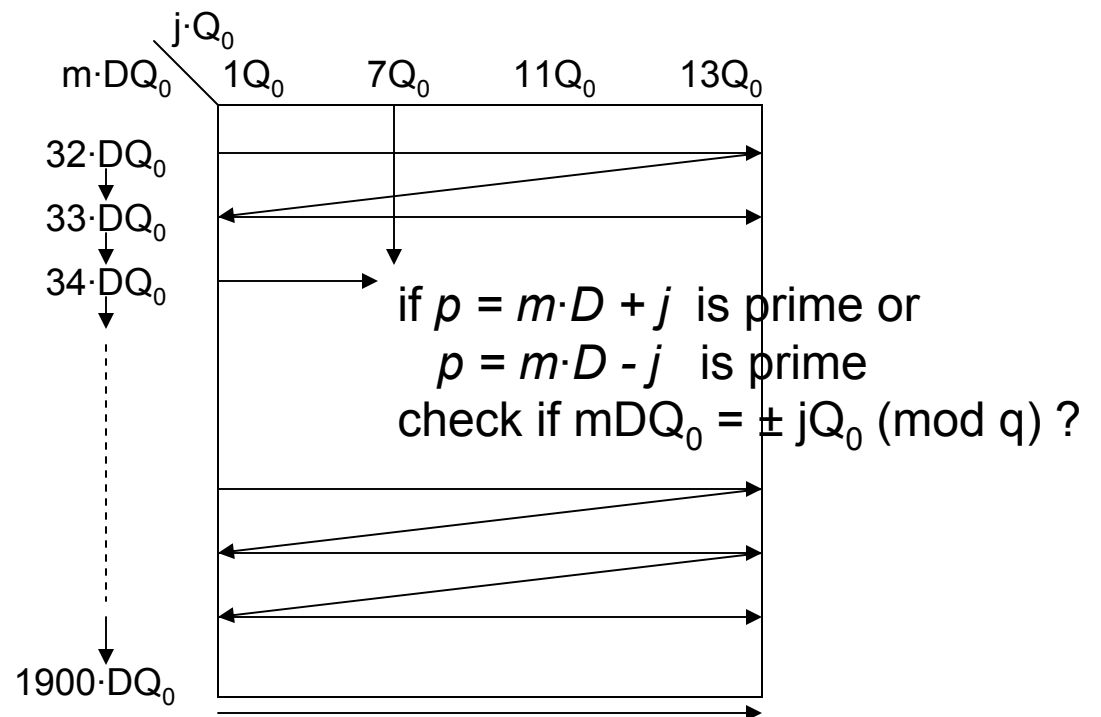
$$\Rightarrow m \cdot D Q_0 = \pm j \cdot Q_0$$

We sequentially compute

$$m \cdot D Q_0$$

for $M_{min} \leq m \leq M_{max}$

We pre-compute jQ_0



Phase 2 : Standard continuation algorithm – Basic concept (Step 3)

$$pQ_0 = \mathcal{G} \pmod{q}$$

$$\Rightarrow mDQ_0 = \pm jQ_0$$

$$(x_{mDQ_0} : : z_{mDQ_0}) = c \cdot (x_{jQ_0} : : z_{jQ_0}) \pmod{q} \quad \text{where} \quad \begin{cases} x_{-jQ_0} = x_{+jQ_0} \\ z_{-jQ_0} = z_{+jQ_0} \end{cases}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{x_{mDQ_0}}{x_{jQ_0}} = \frac{z_{mDQ_0}}{z_{jQ_0}} \pmod{q}$$

$$\Rightarrow x_{mDQ_0} \cdot z_{jQ_0} = x_{jQ_0} \cdot z_{mDQ_0} \pmod{q}$$

$$\Rightarrow q \mid (x_{mDQ_0} \cdot z_{jQ_0} - x_{jQ_0} \cdot z_{mDQ_0})$$

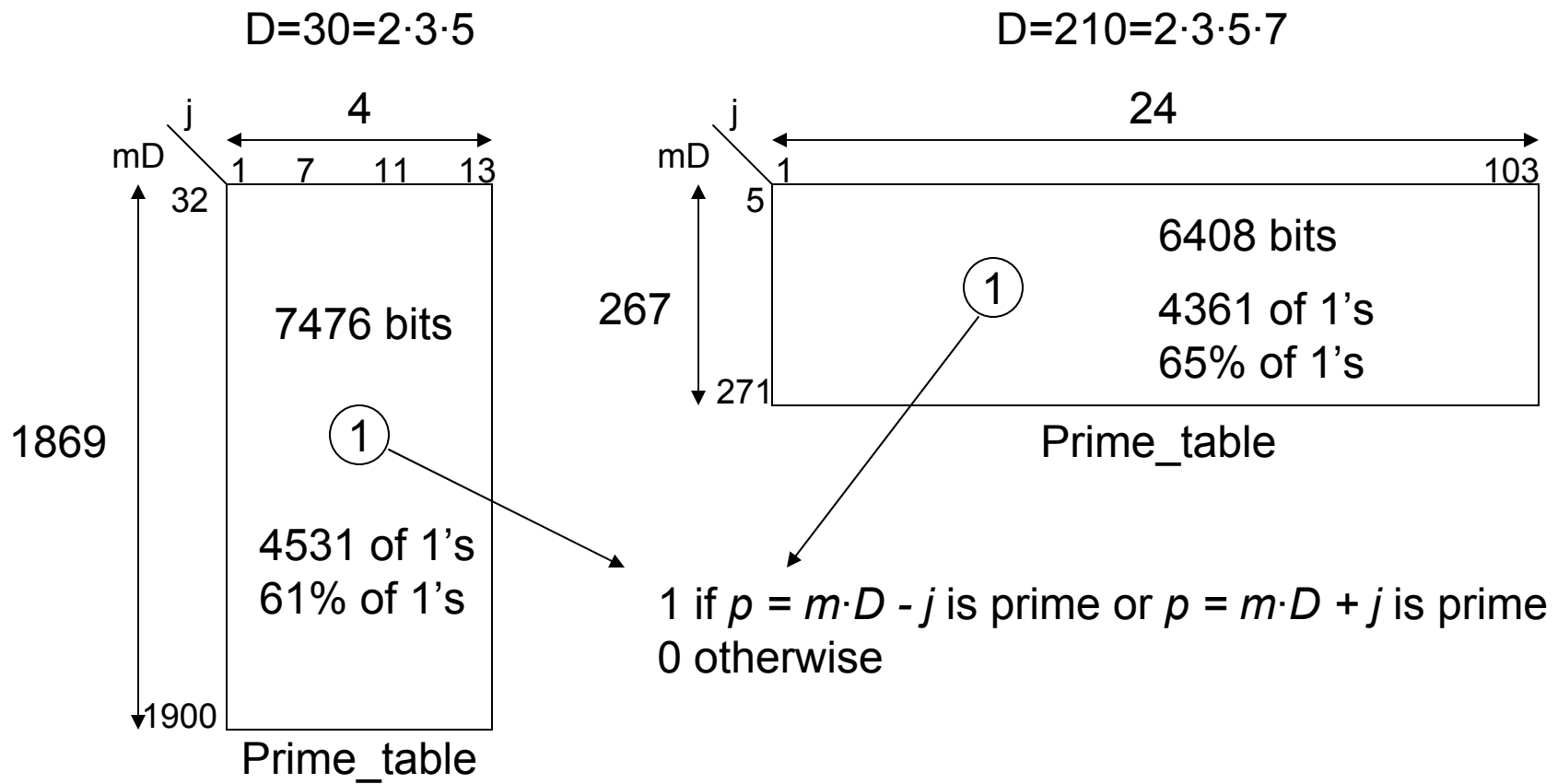
$$q \mid d = \prod_{\substack{p = m \cdot D \pm j \\ B_1 < p \leq B_2}} (x_{mDQ_0} \cdot z_{jQ_0} - x_{jQ_0} \cdot z_{mDQ_0}) \wedge q \mid N$$

$$\Rightarrow q \mid \gcd(d, N)$$

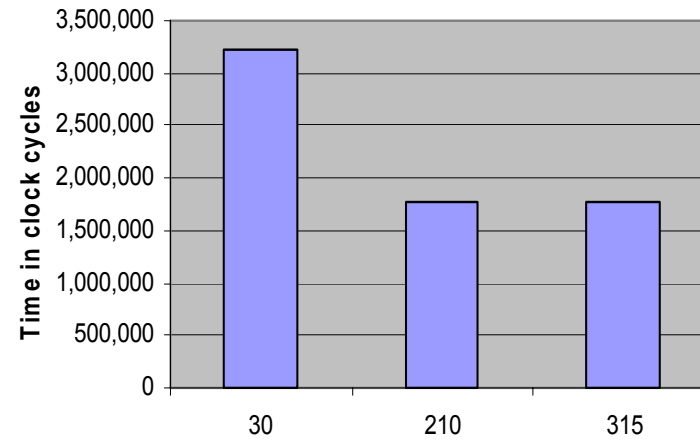
Choice of D

$$B_1=960$$

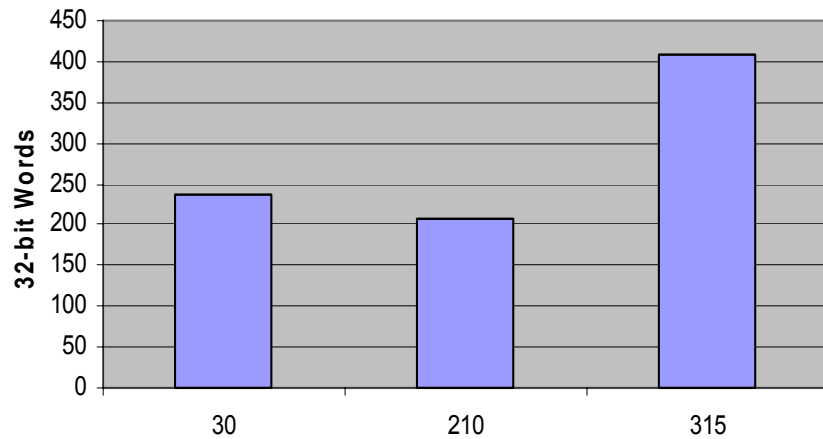
$$B_2=57,000$$



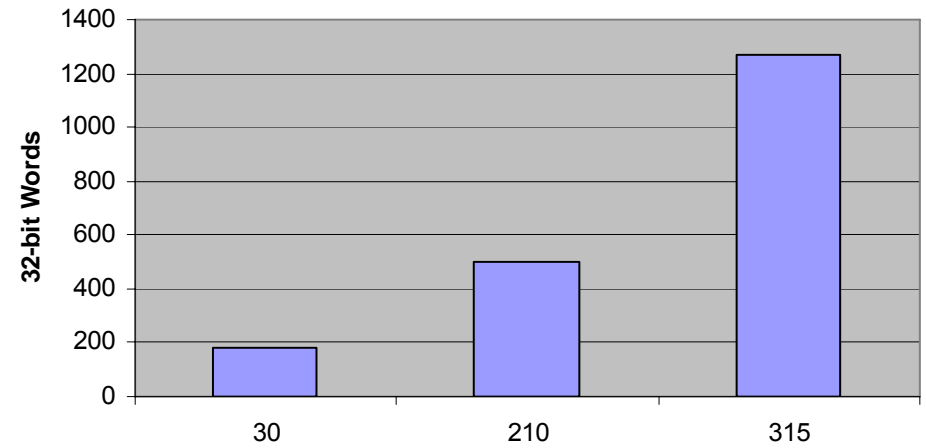
Phase 2: Time and Memory Usage as a function of D



Phase 2 Time



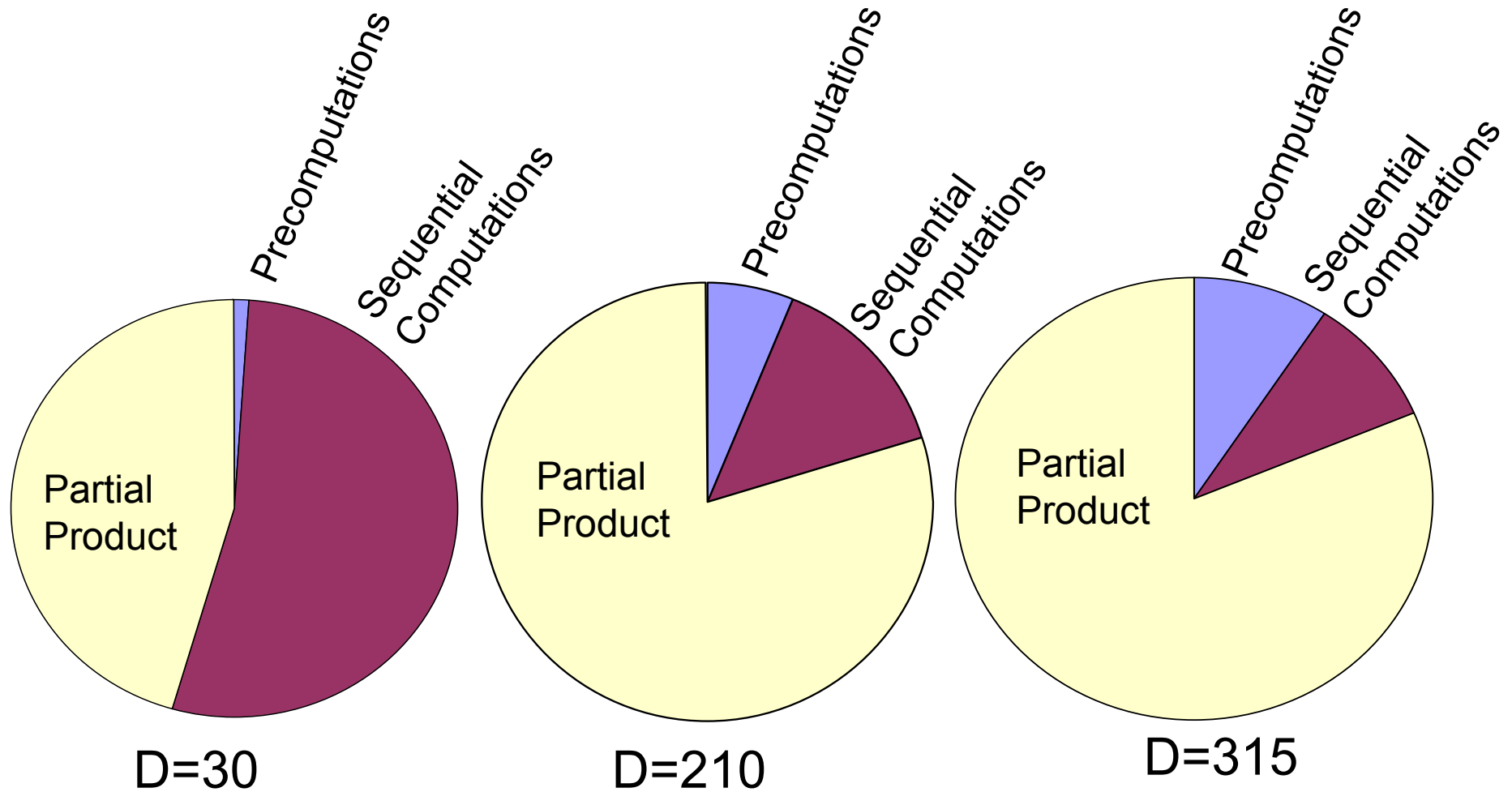
Phase 2 Global Memory



Phase 2 Local Memory

Time of Phase 2

Contributions of Various Phases of Computations



Phase 2 : Standard continuation algorithm – Basic concept (Step 2)

$$p \cdot Q_0 = \mathcal{G} \pmod{q}$$

$$\Rightarrow (m \cdot D \pm j) Q_0 = \mathcal{G}$$

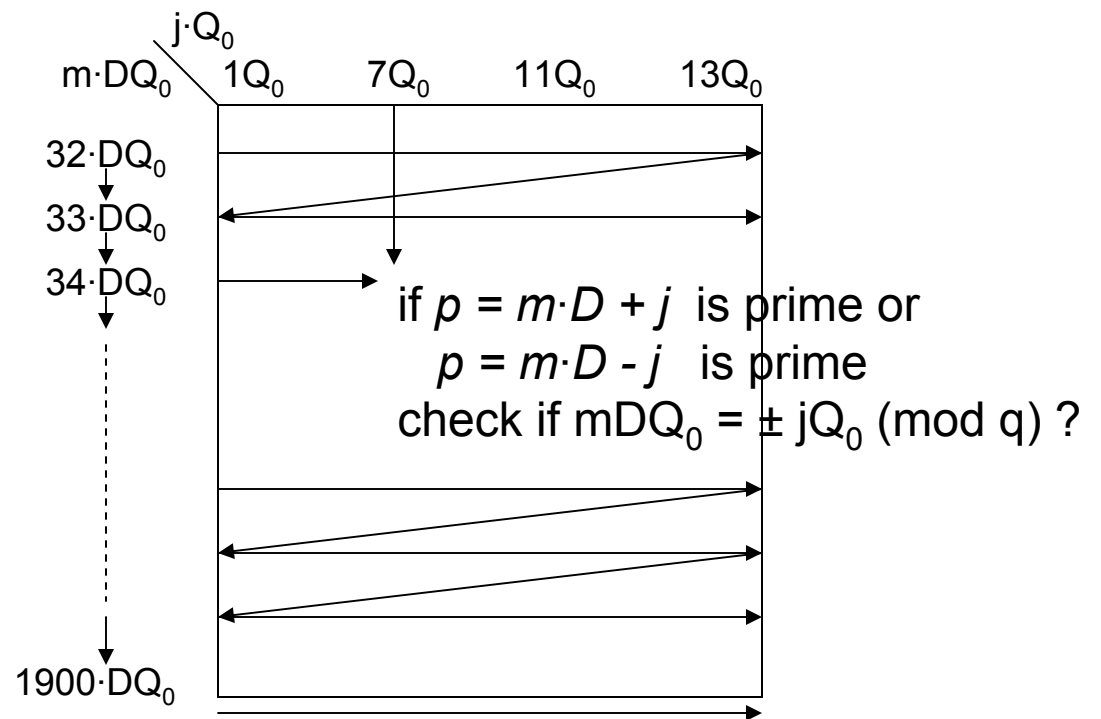
$$\Rightarrow m \cdot D Q_0 = \pm j \cdot Q_0$$

We sequentially compute

$$m \cdot D Q_0$$

for $M_{min} \leq m \leq M_{max}$

We pre-compute jQ_0



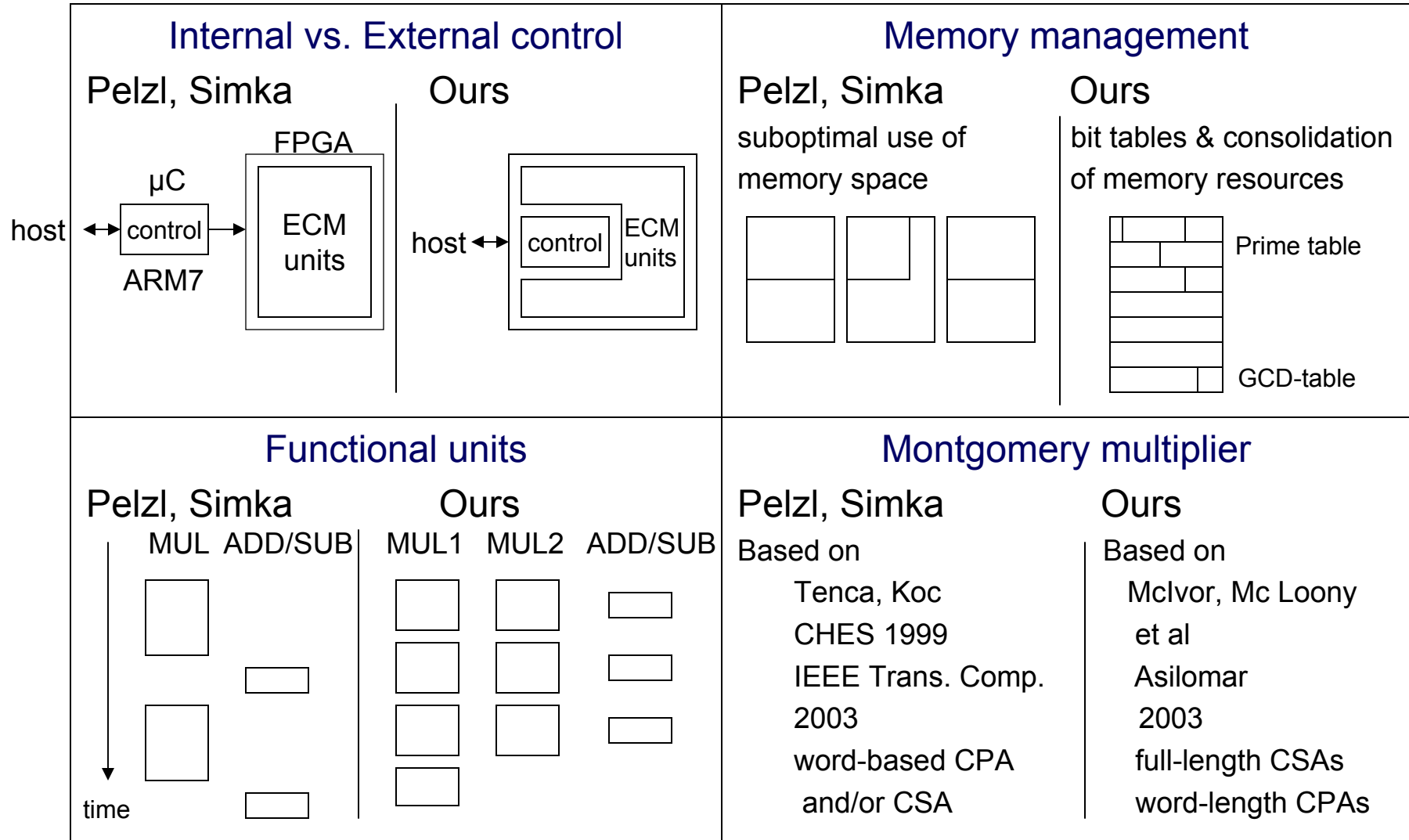
ECM IN HARDWARE

ECM in Hardware

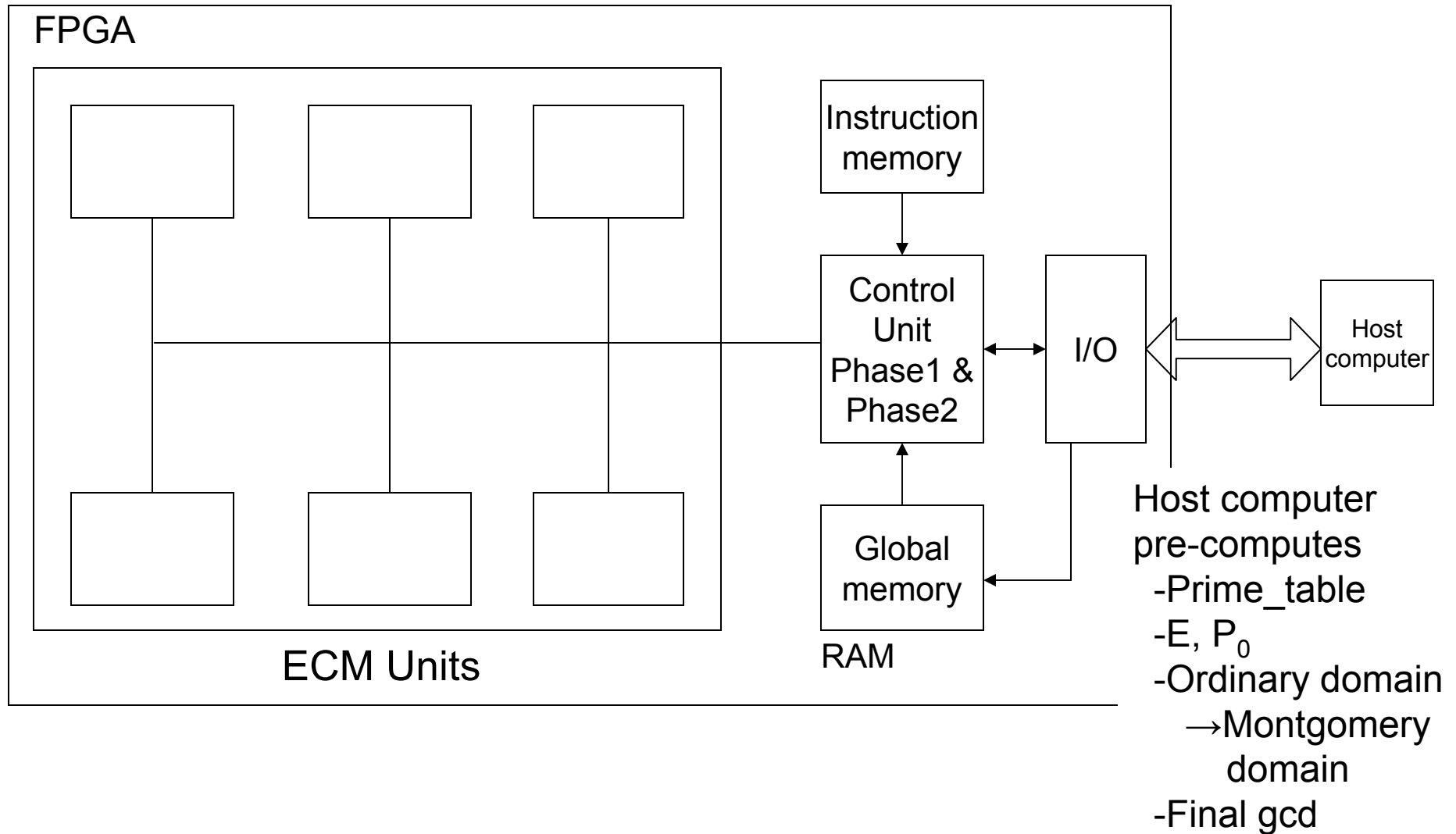
Previous Proof-of-Concept Design

Pelzl, Šimka,	SHARCS	Feb 2005
Kleinjung, Franke,	FCCM	Apr 2005
Priplata, Stahlke,	IEE Proc.	Oct 2005
Drutarovský, Fischer, Paar		

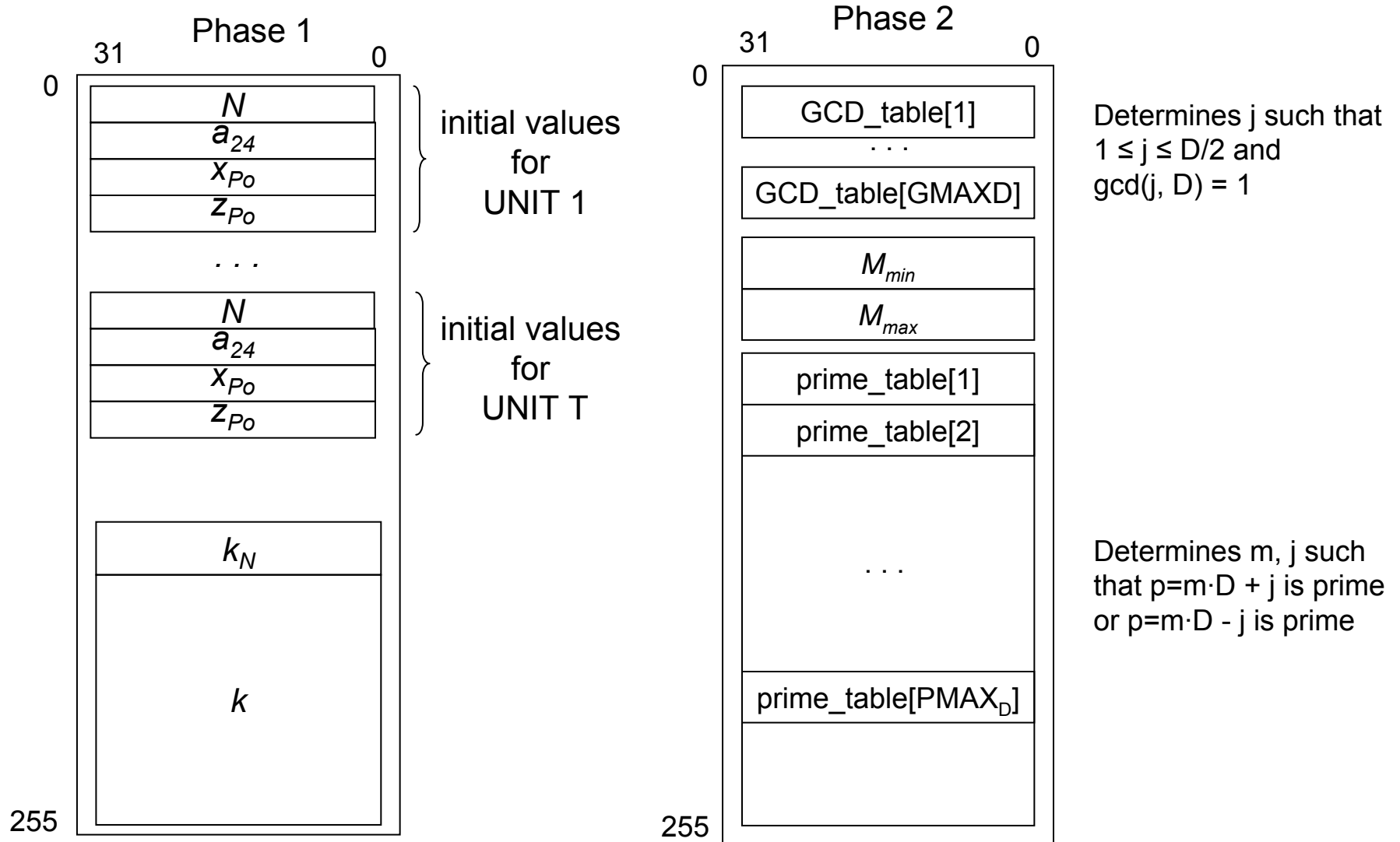
Modifications compared to Pelzl, Simka



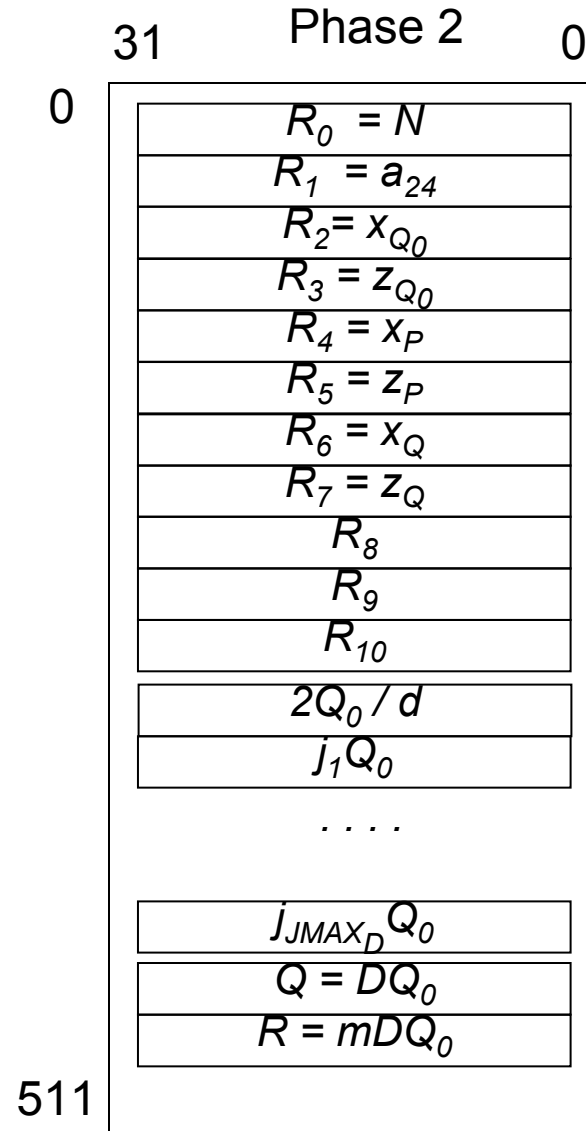
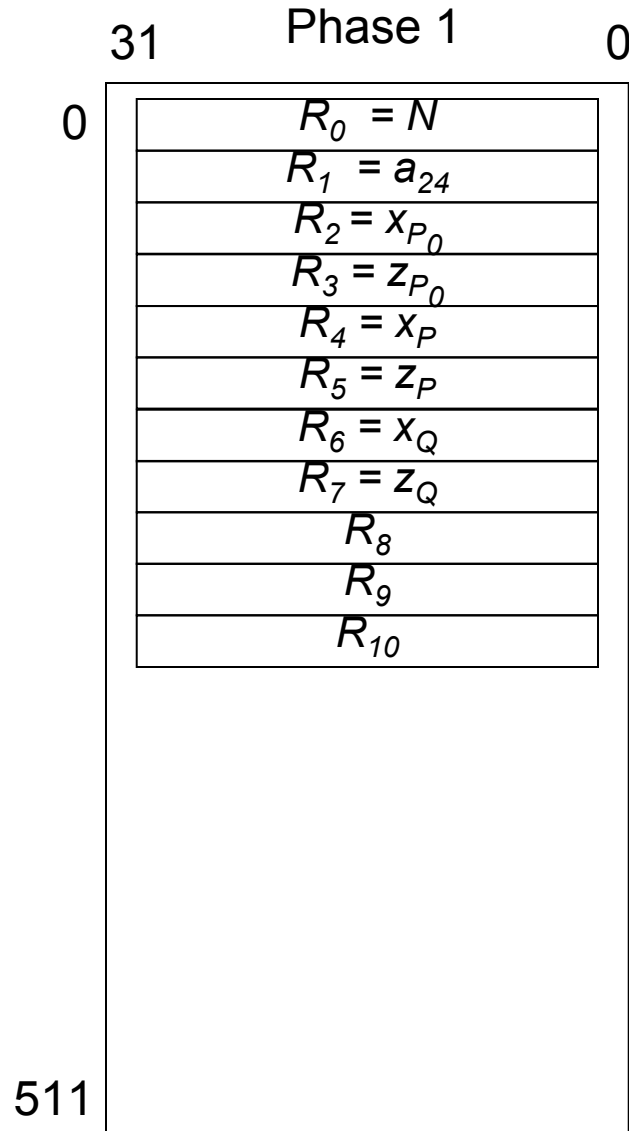
Our architecture : Top-level view



Global Memory



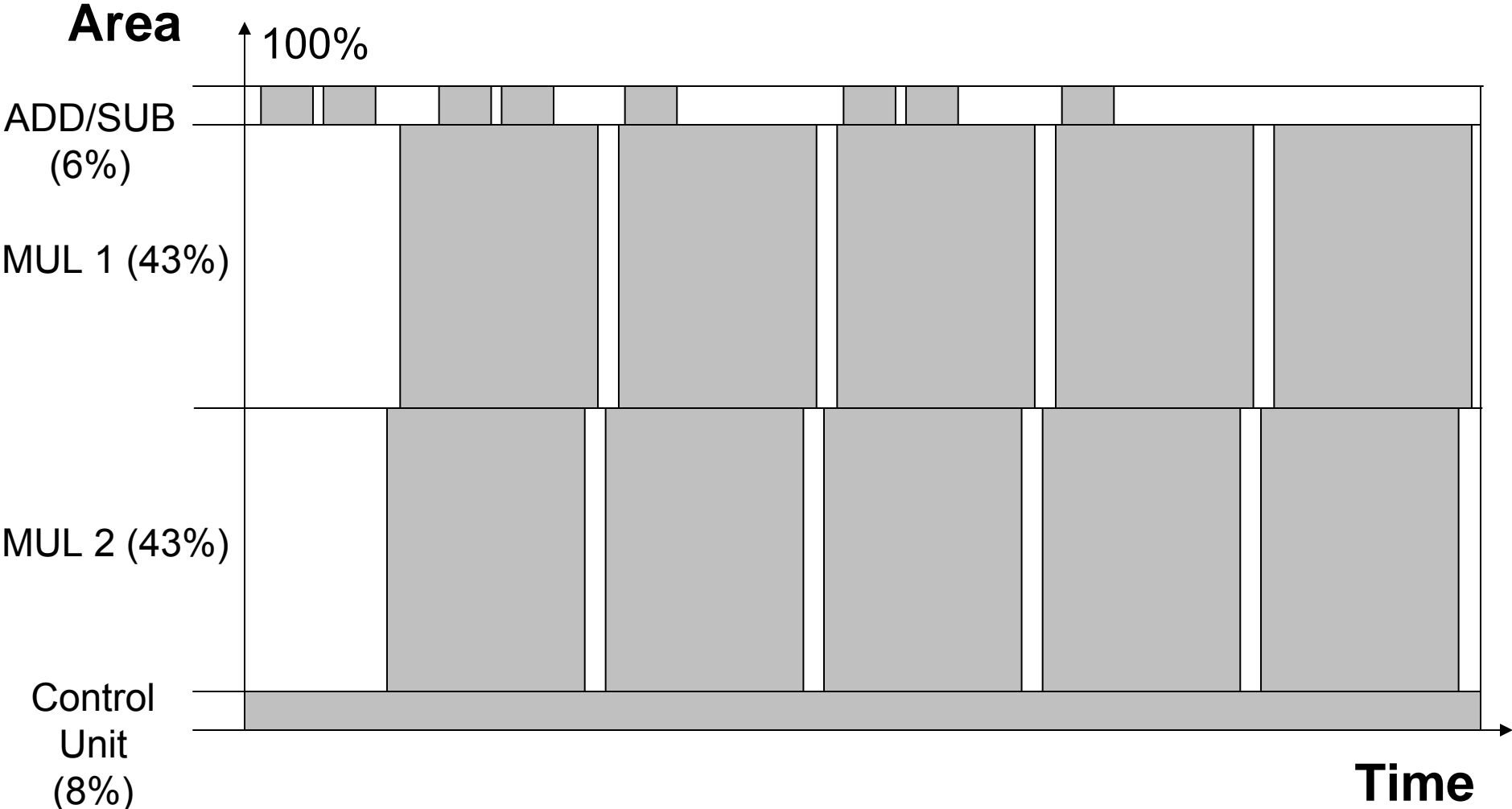
Local Memory



Computation Flow for Scalar Multiplication ($Z_{P-Q} = 1$)

Adder/Subtractor	Multiplier 1	Multiplier 2
A/D: $a_1 = x_P + z_P$ A/D: $s_1 = x_P - z_P$		
A/D: $a_2 = x_Q + z_Q$ A/D: $s_2 = x_Q - z_Q$	D: $m_1 = s_1^2$	D: $m_2 = a_1^2$
D: $s_3 = m_2 - m_1$	A: $m_3 = s_1 \cdot a_2$	A: $m_4 = s_2 \cdot a_1$
A: $a_3 = m_3 + m_4$ $s_4 = m_3 - m_4$	D: $x_{2P} = m_5 = m_1 \cdot m_2$	D: $m_6 = s_3 \cdot A_{24}$
D: $a_4 = m_1 + m_6$	A: $x_{P+Q} = m_7 = a_3^2$	A: $m_8 = s_4^2$
	A: $z_{P+Q} = m_9 = m_8 \cdot x_{P-Q}$	D: $z_{2P} = m_{10} = s_3 \cdot a_4$

Resources utilization in time – Phase 1



RESULTS

Choice of parameters

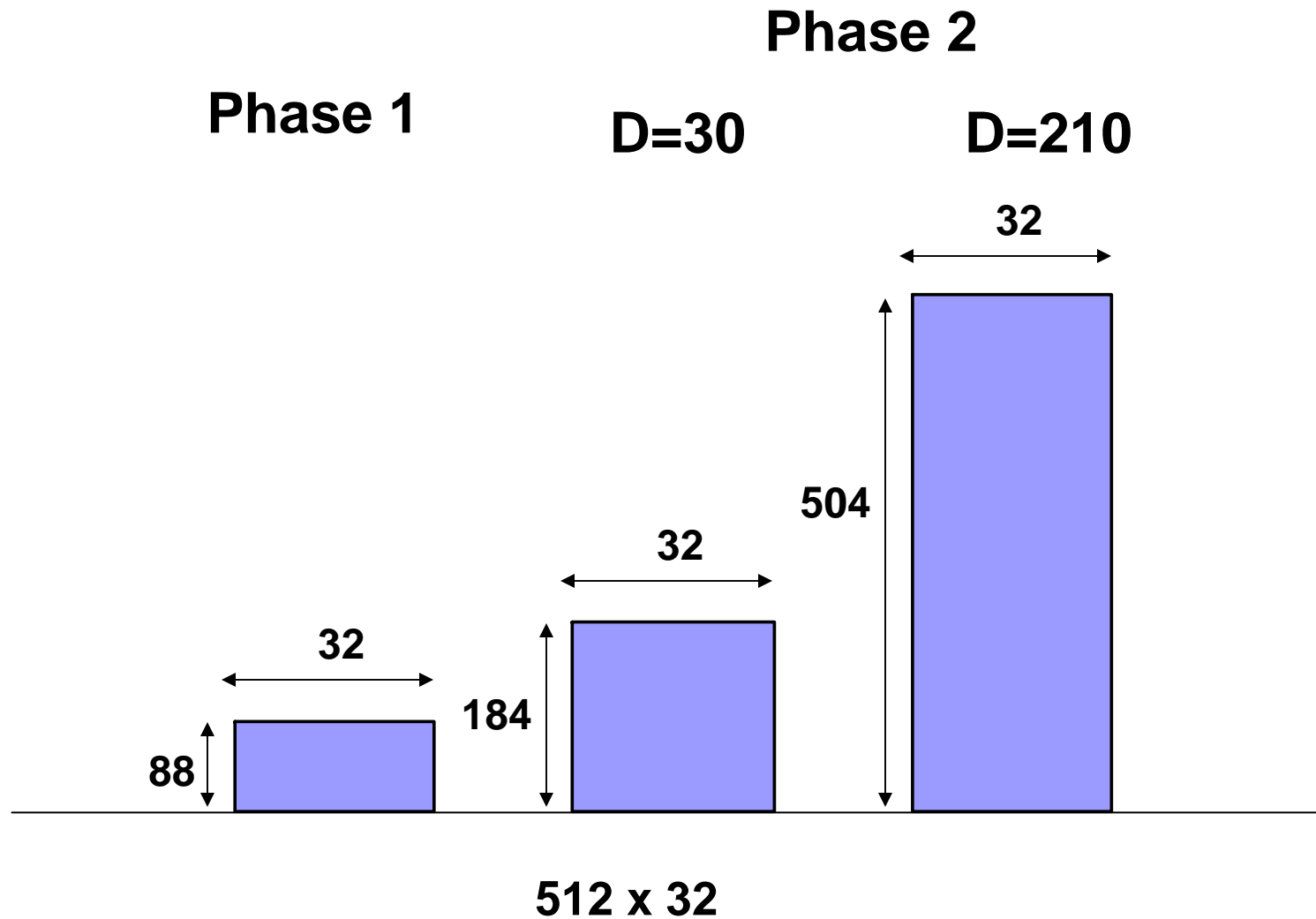
N: 198 – bit number

$B_1 = 960$

$B_2 = 57,000$

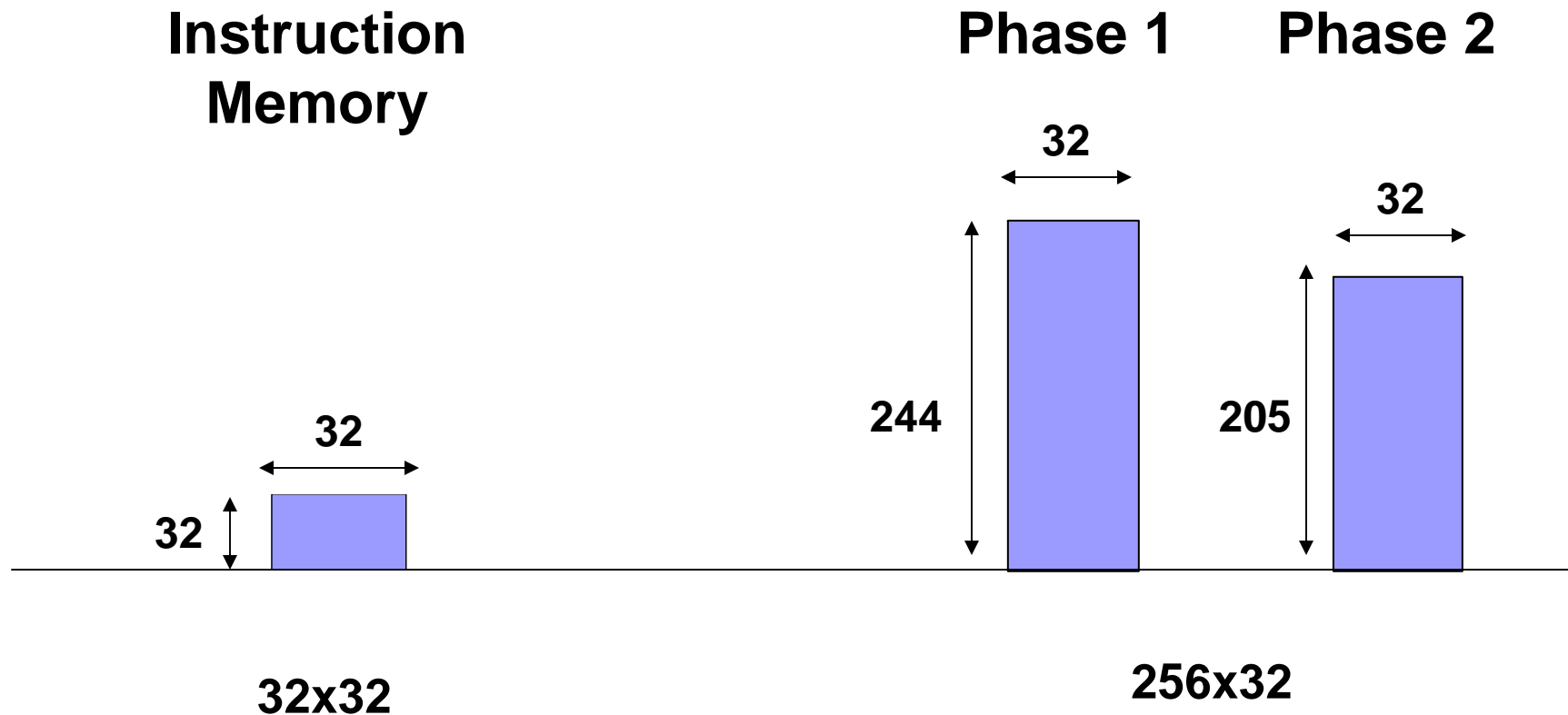
Memory Requirements

Local Memory



Memory Requirements

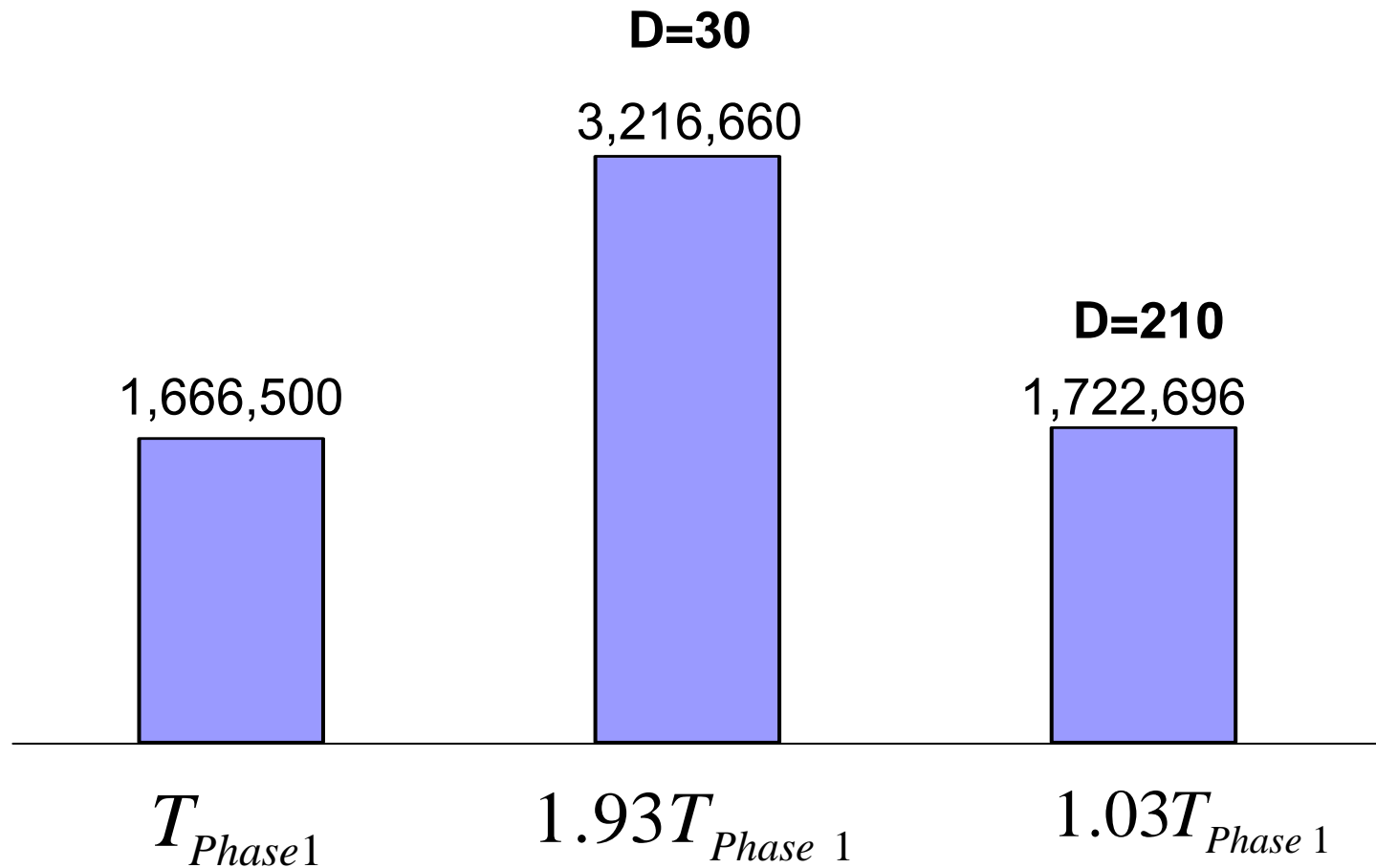
Global Memory



Execution Time in Clock Cycles

Phase 1

Phase 2

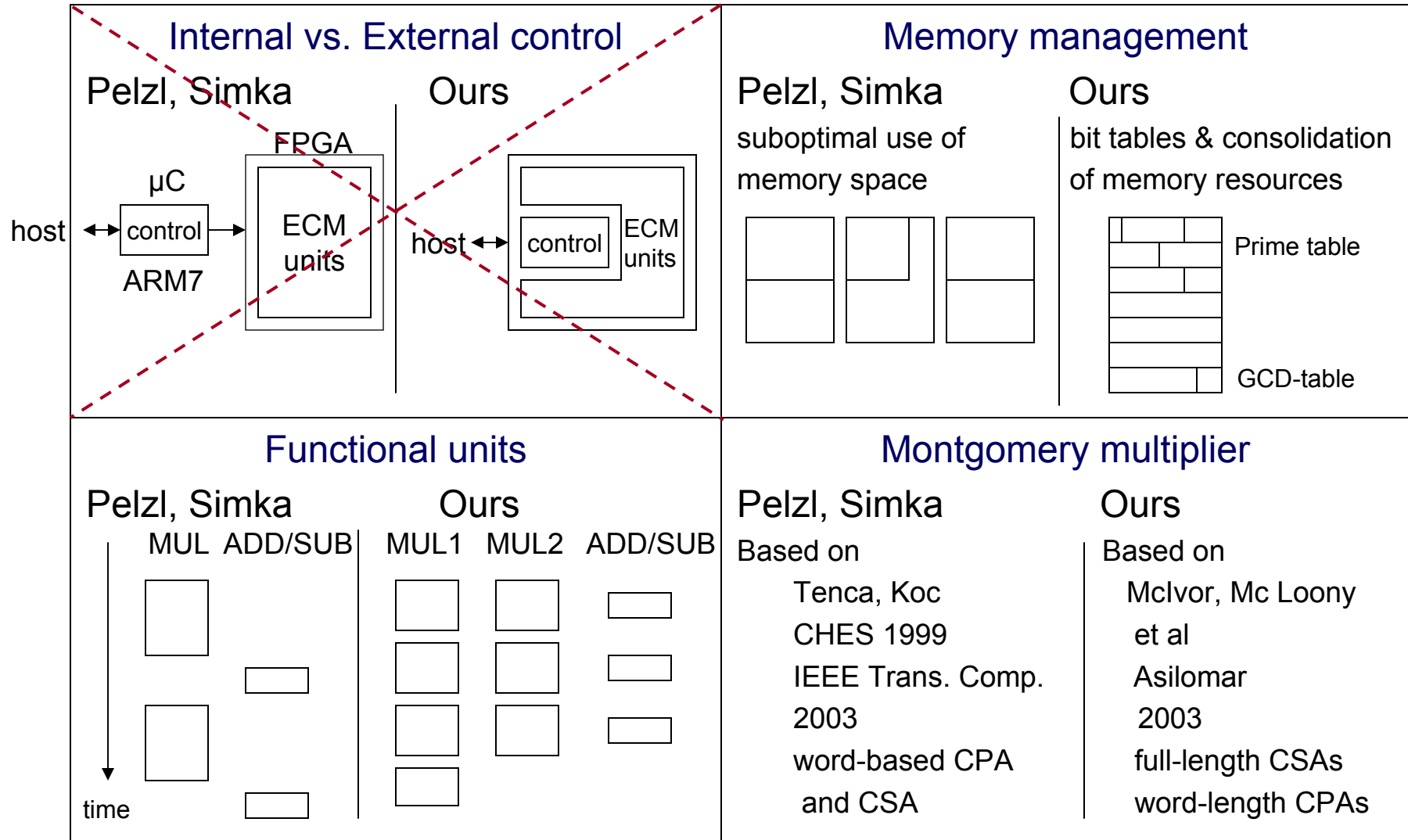


Comparison with the Proof-of-Concept Design by Pelzl and Šimka Equalizing Measures

- Use the same FPGA device (Xilinx Virtex 2000E-6)
- Pelzl and Šimka design assumed to be redesigned to include an internal controller.

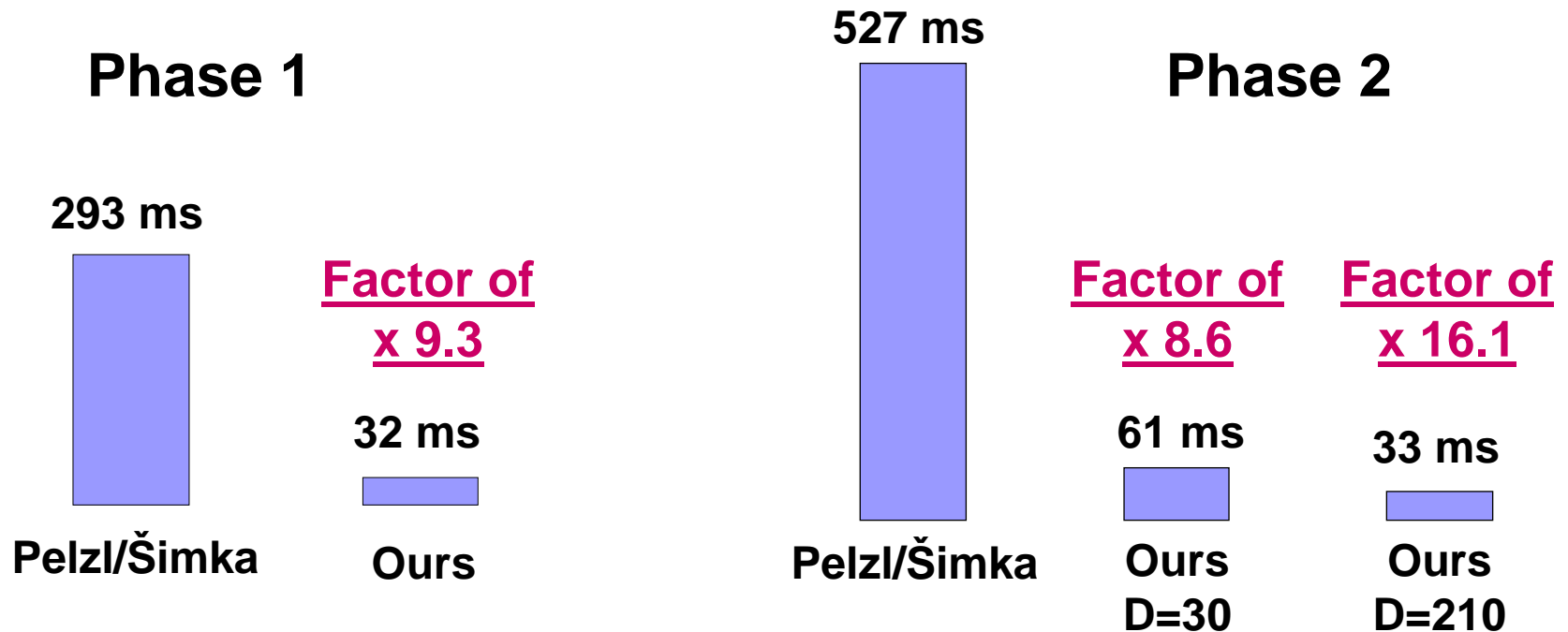
Execution times recalculated based on the limitations of the ECM unit only.

Modifications compared to Pelzl, Simka



Comparison with the Proof-of-Concept Design by Pelzl and Šimka

Timing



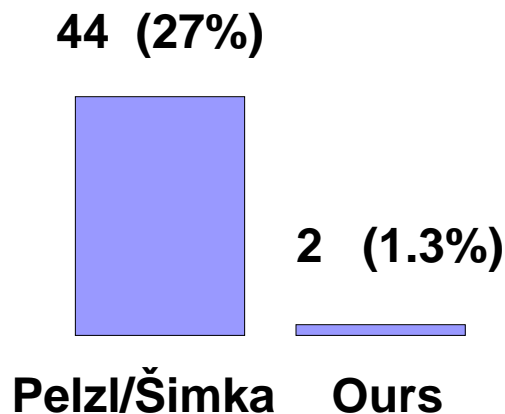
Major Contributors to the speed up:

- Different design for the multiplier (x 5)
- Two multipliers working in parallel (x 1.9)
- Different D (x 1.9)

Comparison with the Proof-of-Concept Design by Pelzl and Šimka

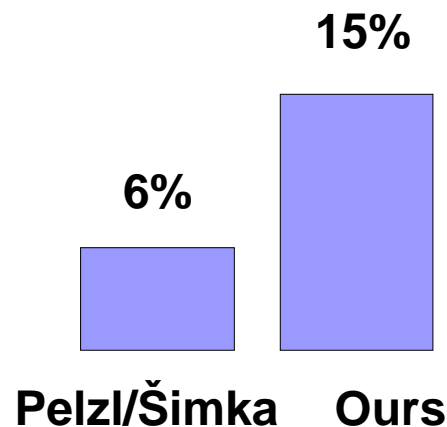
Resources

Memory (BRAMs)



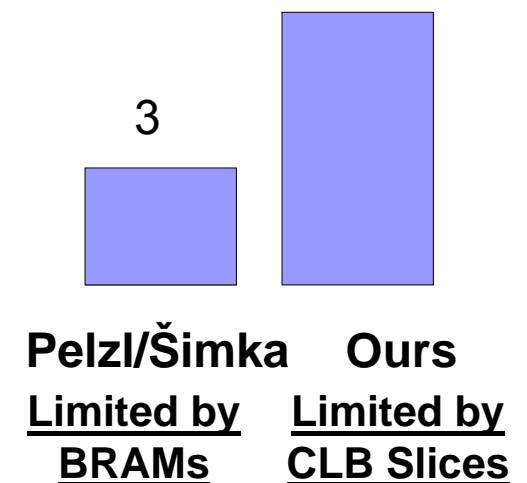
Factor of
x 22

Area (CLB Slices)



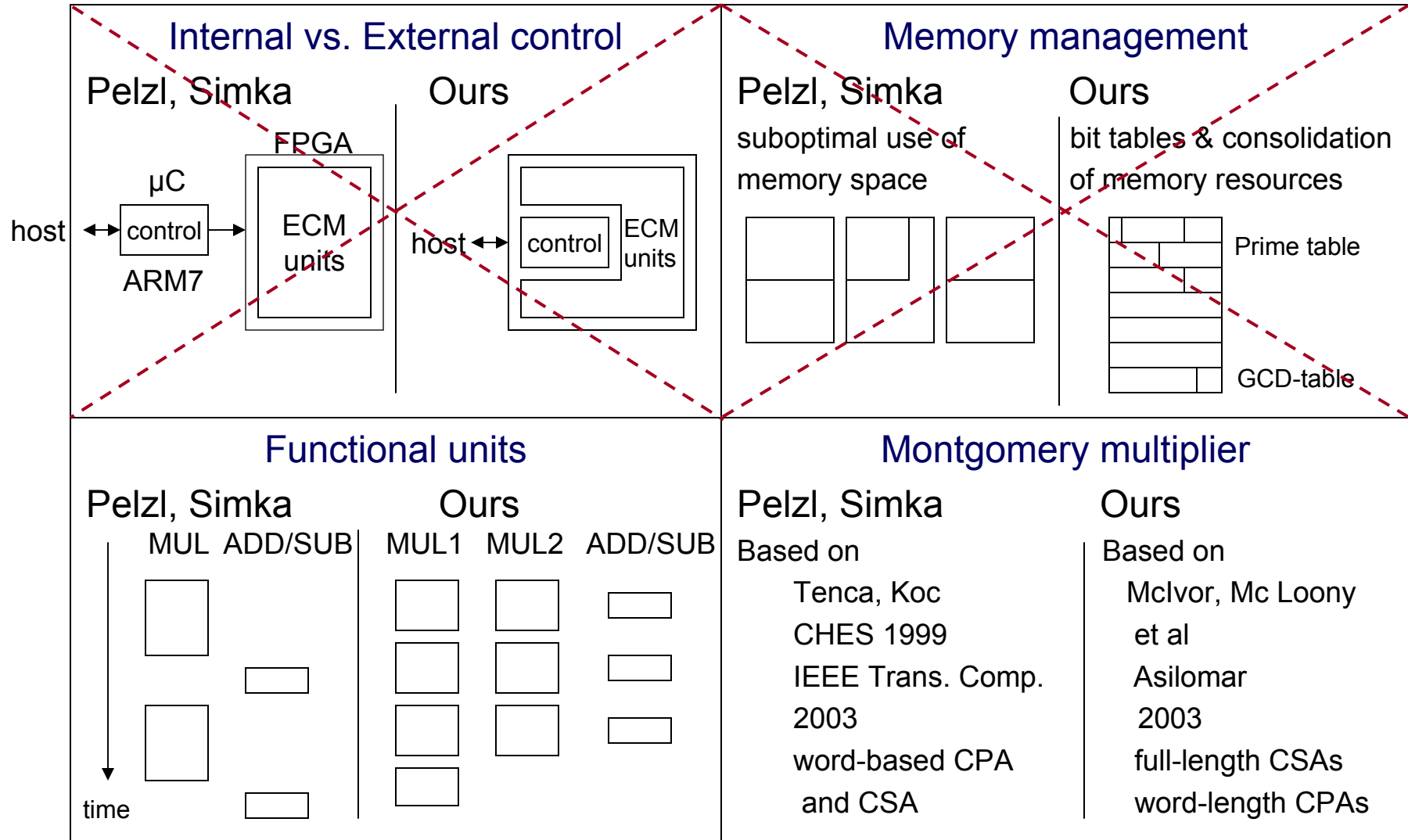
Factor of
x 2.5

ECM Units / Virtex 2000E FPGA



Factor of
x 2.33

Modifications compared to Pelzl, Simka



Comparison with the Proof-of-Concept Design by Pelzl and Šimka

Time x Area Product

Assuming the same memory management

(i.e., improved memory management in Pelzl/Šimka):

Improvement

Phase 1

x 3.7

Phase 2

x 6.4

**COMPARISON
AMONG
TECHNOLOGIES**

Families of Xilinx FPGA Devices

Low-cost

Spartan 3
($< \$130^*$)

High-performance

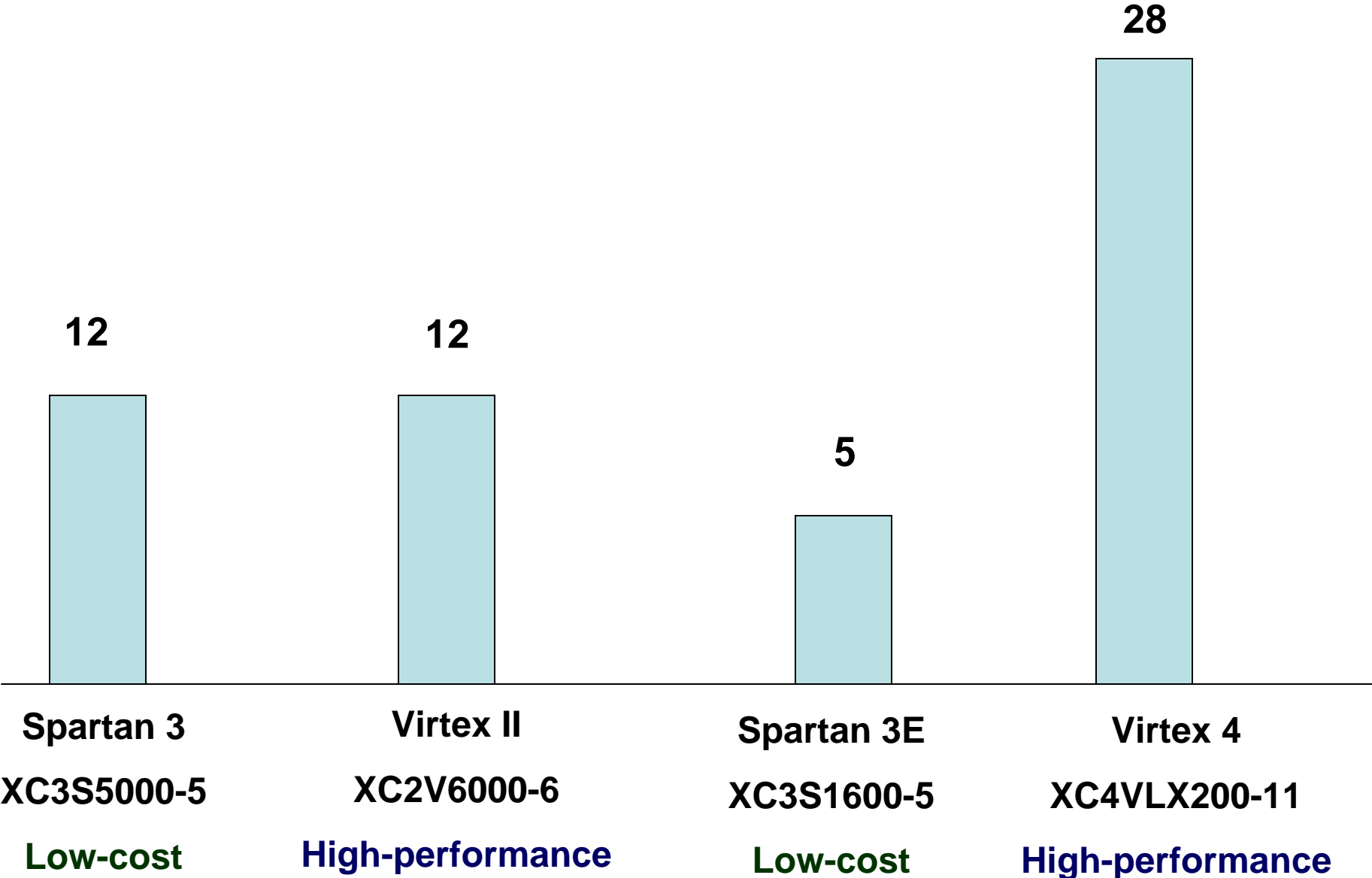
Virtex II
($< \$2,700^*$)

Spartan 3E
($< \$35^*$)

Virtex 4
($< \$3,000^*$)

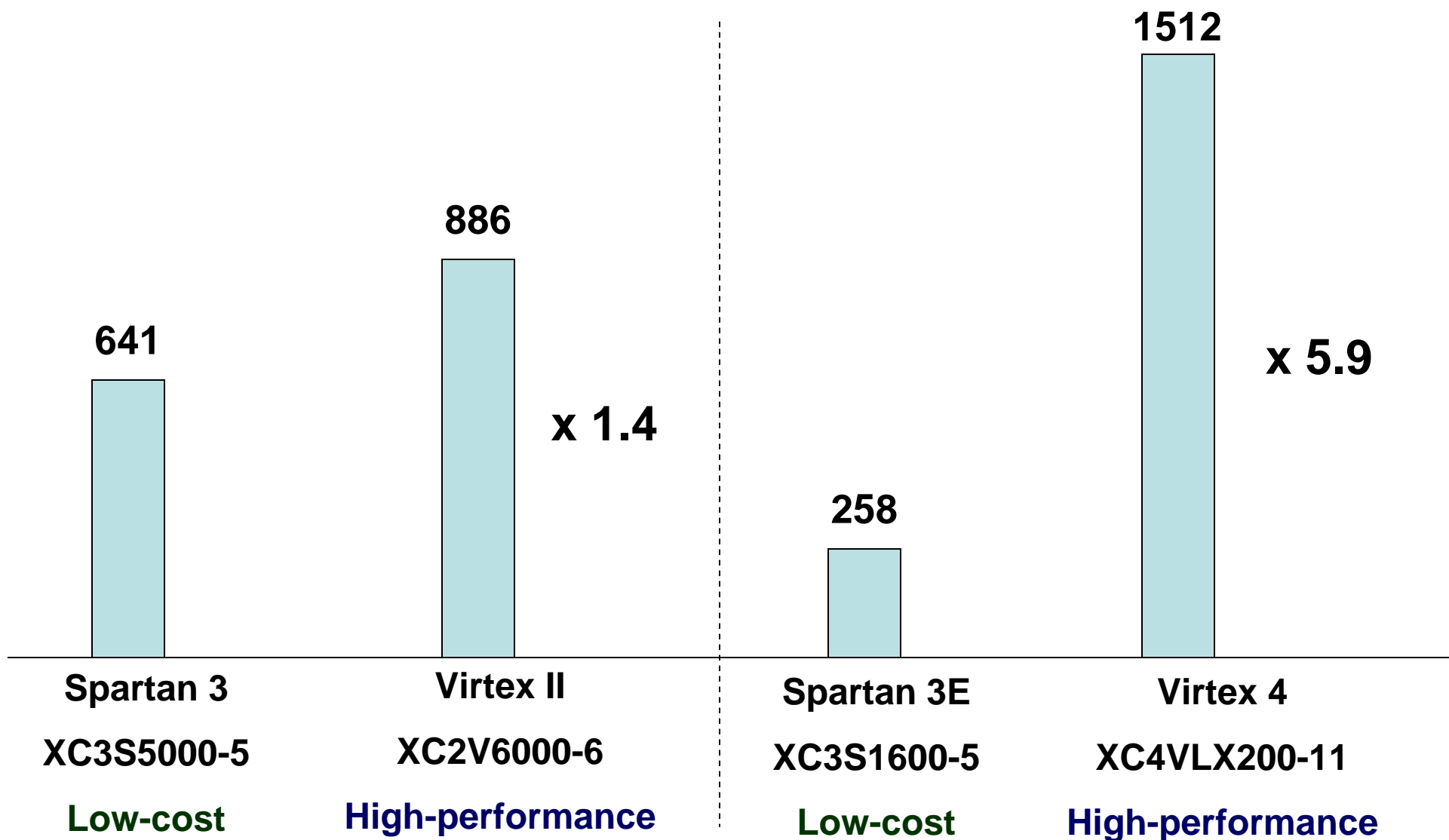
- approximate cost of the largest device per unit for a batch of 10,000 units

Number of ECM units per FPGA device



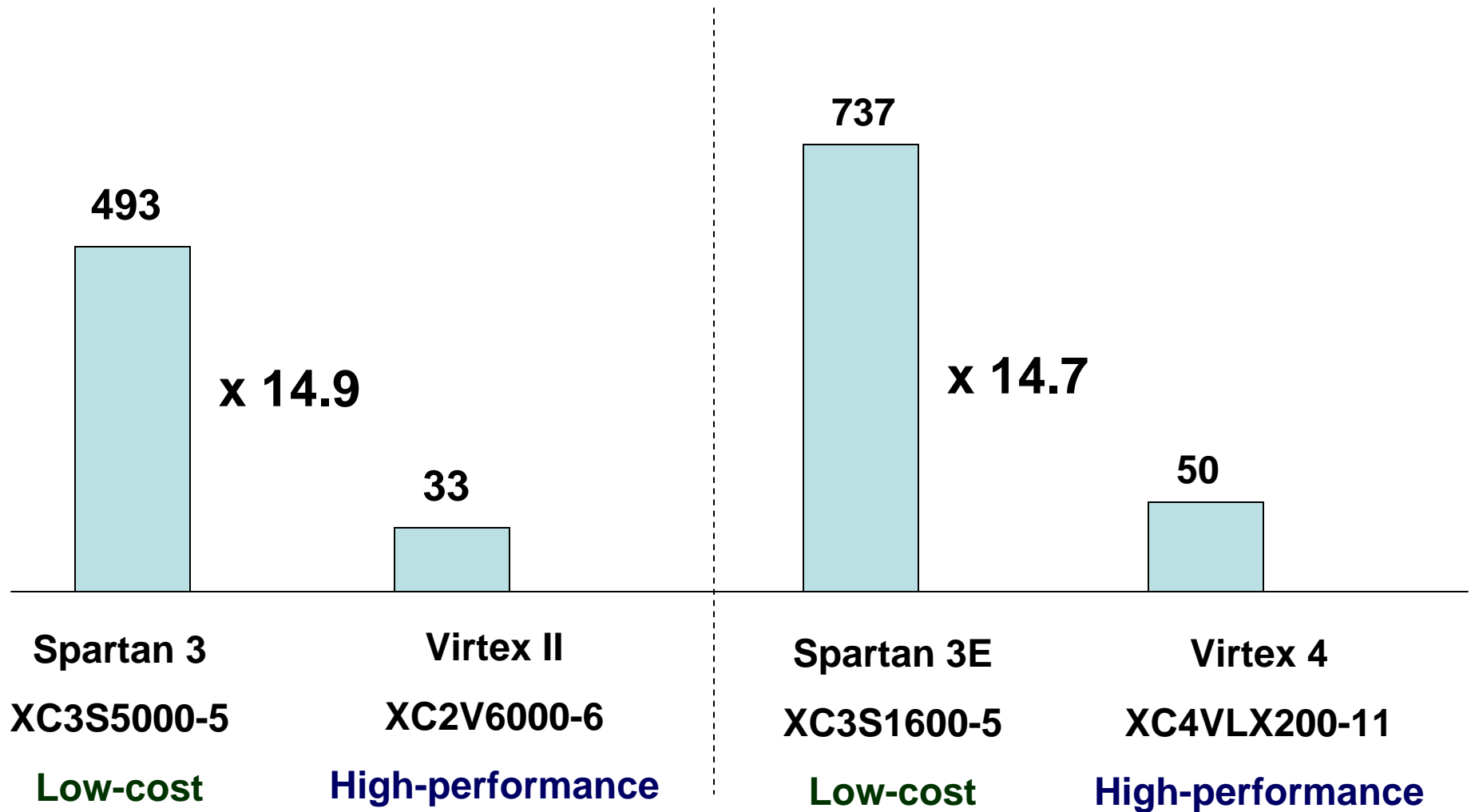
Performance

Number of Phase 1 operations per second



Performance to cost ratio

Number of Phase 1 operations per second per \$100



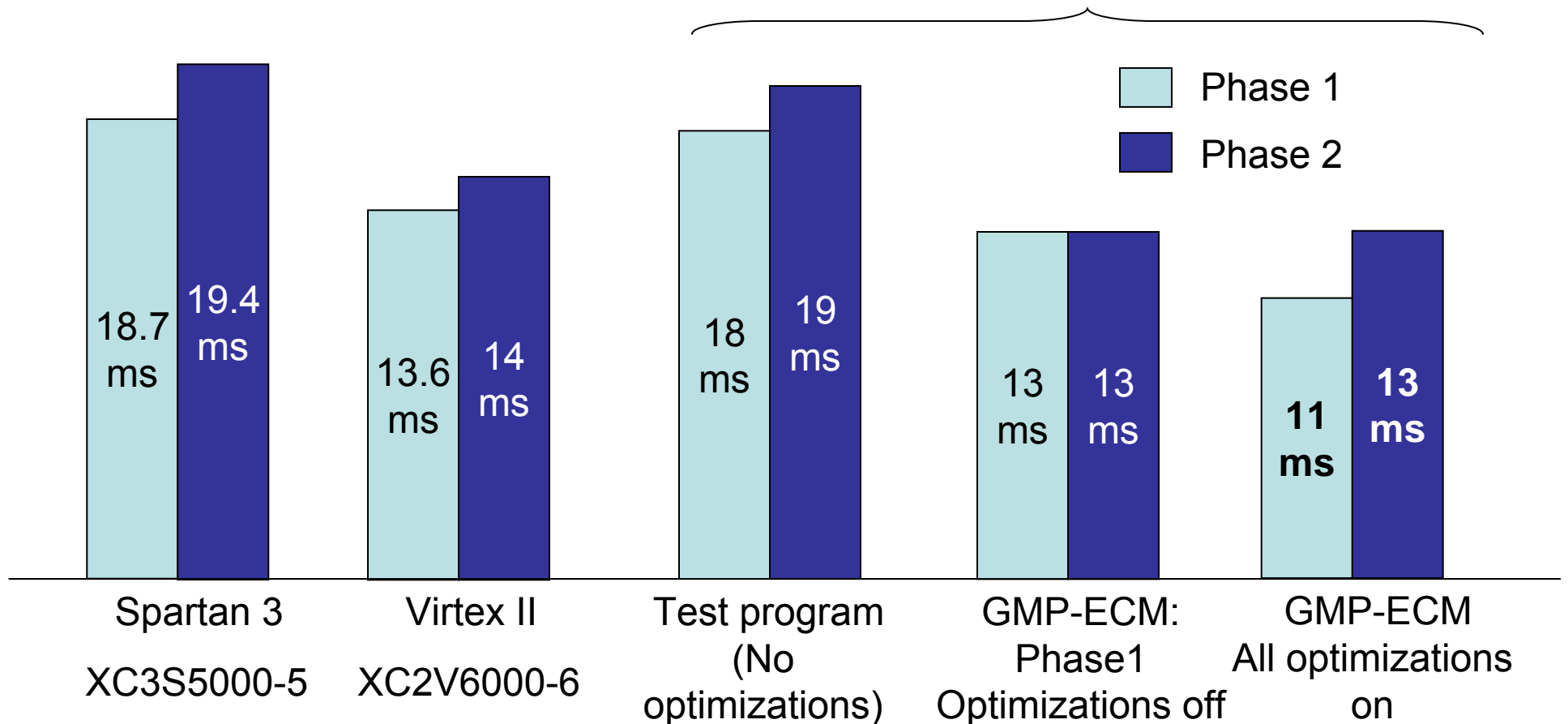
Software Implementation

GMP-ECM running on Pentium4 Xeon 2.8GHz

	Phase 1	Phase 2
Elliptic Curve	Montgomery form: $by^2z = x^3+ax^2z+xz^2$	Weierstrass form: $Y^2 = X^3+AX+B$
Coordinate	Projective	Affine
Optimization Techniques (Reducing Time)	Lucas chain (PRAC algorithm)	Fast polynomial multiplication Montgomery's D_1D_2 method
Optimization Techniques (Increasing Probability)		Brent-Suyama extension
Porting Optimizations To Hardware	Possible with pre-computations in software	Inverter required. Large amounts of memory required

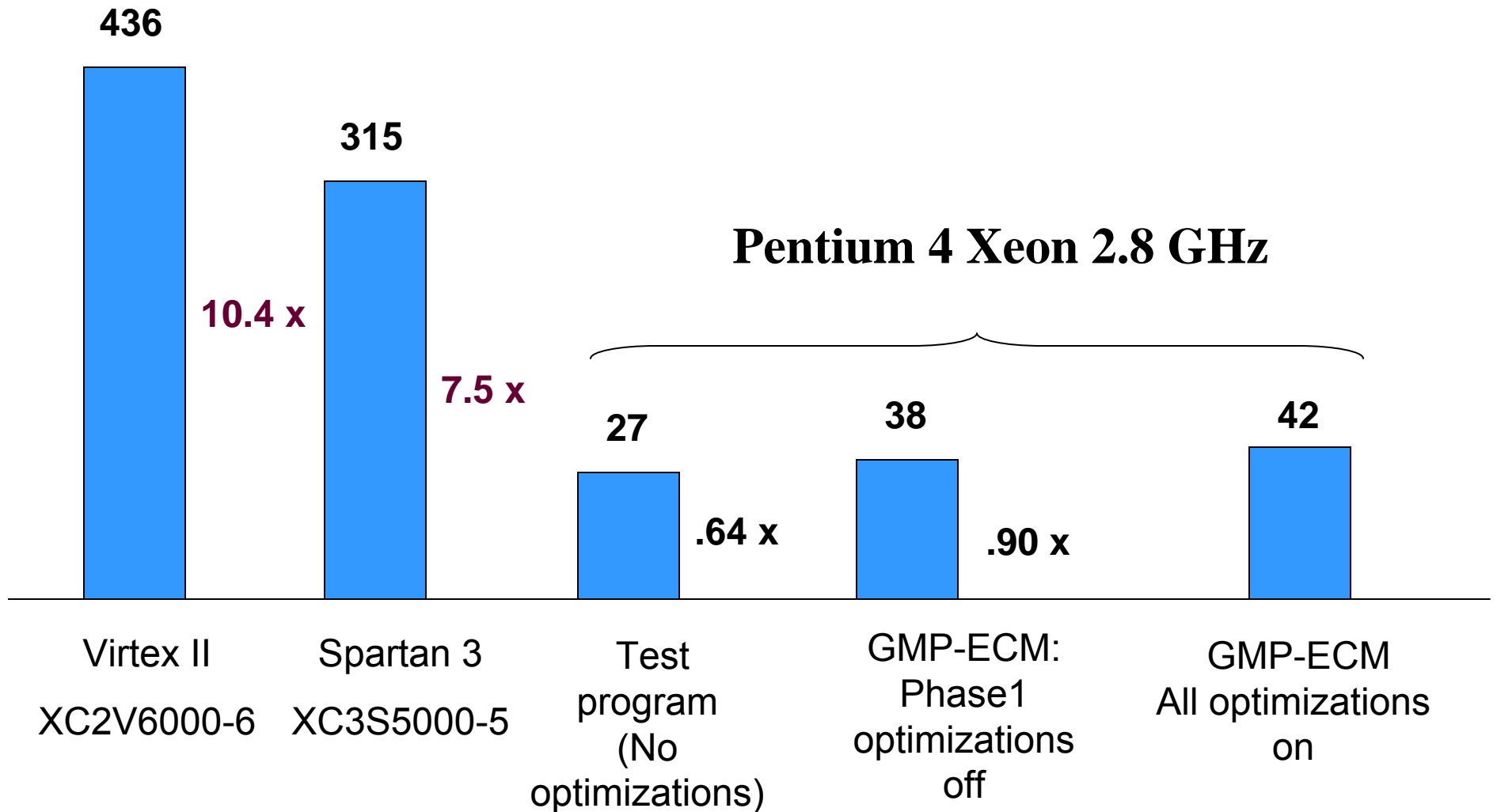
FPGAs vs. Microprocessor Execution Time

Pentium 4 Xeon 2.8 GHz



FPGAs vs Microprocessors

Phase 1 & Phase 2 computations per second



ASIC vs. FPGA

- 3–4 times improvement in clock frequency
(~300 MHz vs. 80-100 MHz)
- 8–10 times improvement in circuit area
(# ECM units per device (96-120 vs. 12))
- 2–3 times improvement in recurring fabrication & testing cost
(~\$40 vs. \$130)

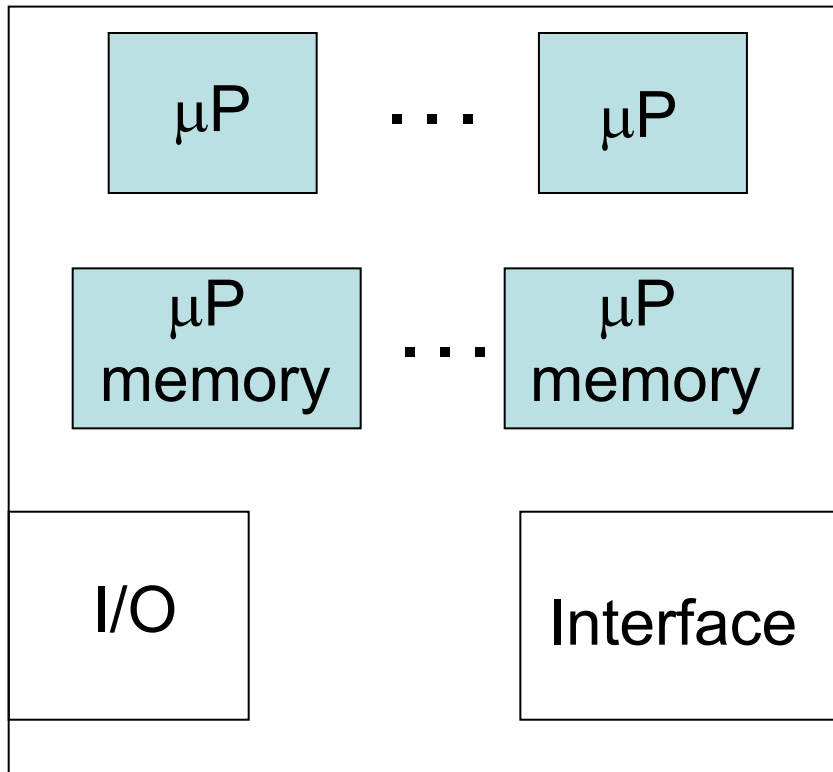
~50-120 times improvement in performance to recurring cost ratio,

but about \$1,000,000 of one-time non-recurring costs needed for the back-end design & preparation of masks for fabrication

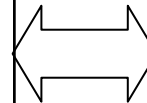
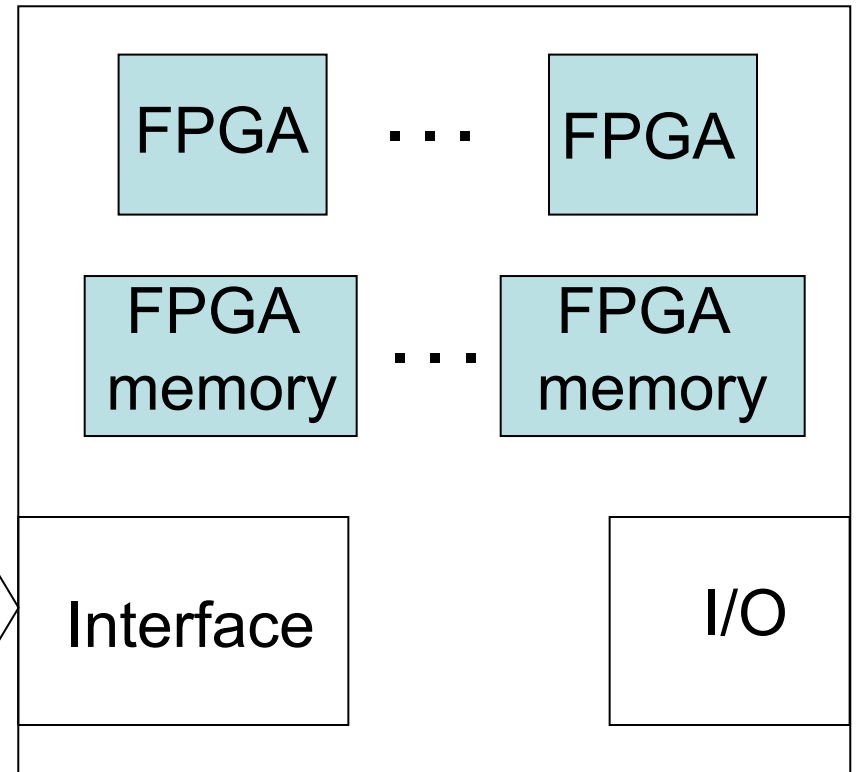
RCM 101 & Future work

What is a Reconfigurable Computing Machine (RCM)?

Microprocessor system



Reconfigurable system



Prototyping with a general-purpose reconfigurable computing machine

- + can be programmed using high-level programming languages, such as C, by mathematicians & cryptographers themselves
 - + facilitates hardware/software co-design
 - + shortens development time, encourages experimentation and complex optimizations
 - + allows sharing costs among users of various applications
-
- high entry cost (~\$100,000)
 - hardware aware programming
 - limited portability
 - limited availability of libraries
 - limited maturity of tools.

Most advanced reconfigurable computing machines currently on the market

Machine	Released
SRC 6 from SRC Computers	2002
Cray XD1 from Cray	2005
SGI Altix from SGI	2005
SRC 7 from SRC Computers, Inc,	2006



Two major high-level language (HLL) programming models

SRC 6 & SRC 7 from
SRC Computers

SRC MAP C programming model

Cray XD1 from
from Cray

SGI Altix from
SGI

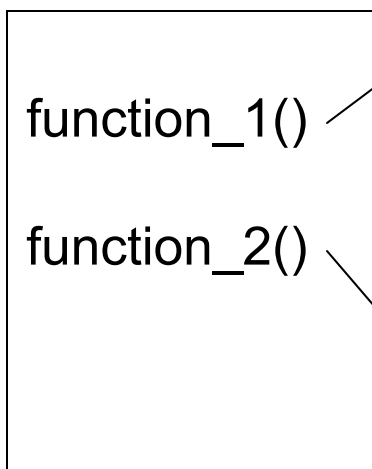
Mitrion-C programming model

SRC Programming Model

Microprocessor

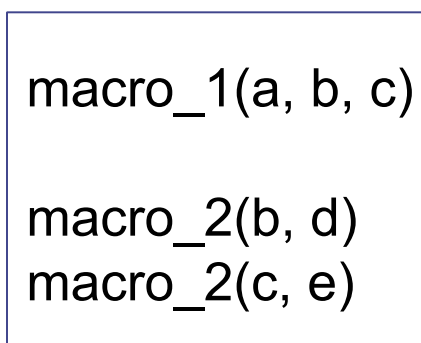
FPGA

main.c

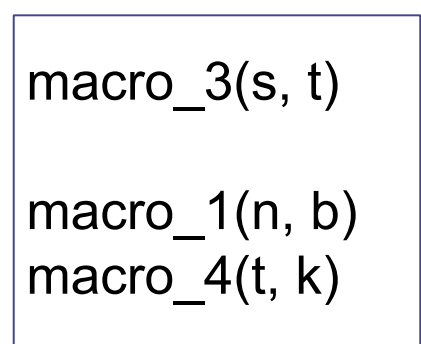


ANSI C

function_1

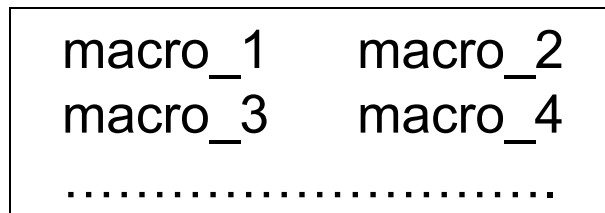


function_2



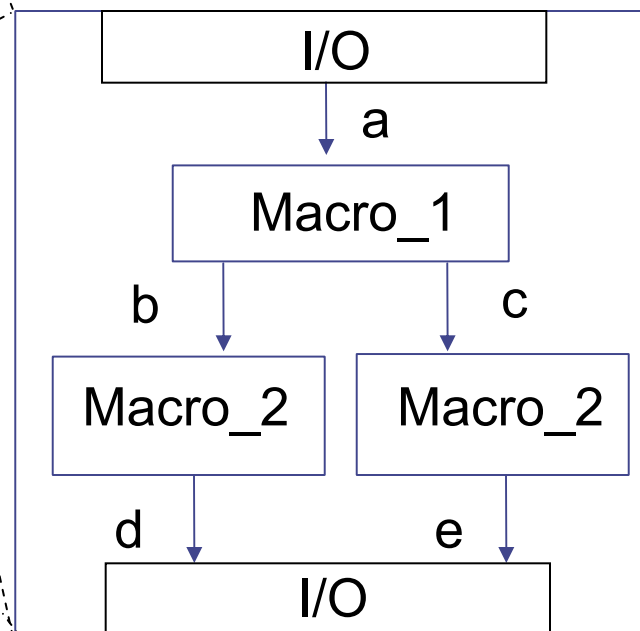
MAP C
(subset of ANSI C)

Libraries of macros



VHDL

FPGA



SRC Libraries of Hardware Macros

Vendor libraries of hardware macros

- basic integer and floating-point arithmetic
- digital signal processing

User libraries of hardware macros

developed by GWU/GMU/USC 2002-2006

- Secret-key cipher encryption & breaking
 - Binary Galois Field arithmetic
(polynomial basis & normal basis representation)
 - Elliptic Curve Arithmetic
 - Long integer modular arithmetic (RSA)
 - Sorting
-
- Image processing
 - Bioinformatics

SRC Programming Environment

- + very easy to learn and use
 - + standard ANSI C
 - + hides implementation details
 - + very well integrated environment
 - + mature - in production use for over 3 years with constant improvements
-
- subset of C
 - legacy C code requires rewriting
 - C limitations in describing HW (paralellism, data types)
 - closed environment, limited portability of code to HW platforms other than SRC

Mitron-C Programming Model for Cray & SGI

Microprocessor

FPGA

main.c

```
function_1(in1)
start_fpga()

function_1(in2)
start_fpga()
```

**ANSI C
based on
Mitron
API**

Application
code
(platform
independent)

Mitron-C

Mitron Distributed
Processor Architecture
(platform dependent)

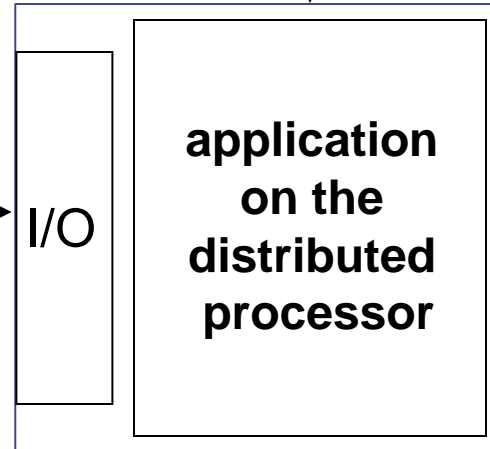
VHDL

Mitron Compiler
& Configurator

FPGA

RAM

Input &
output



Mitrion-C

high-level parallel programming language
for high-performance reconfigurable computers

+ arbitrary sizes of operands

e.g.,

int:24

uint:256

+ parallel execution of instructions limited only by
data dependencies and limited available area

+ focus on the area * time space utilization

Mittrion-C Environment for Cray and SGI

- + easy to learn by high-performance computing (HPC) programmers
- + small amount of Mittrion-C generates large number of lines of HDL code
- + suitable for describing classical complex HPC problems
- + portable application codes

- new and yet untested
- non-standard, no support for legacy codes
- language describes only what happens in a single FPGA
- currently, no mechanisms to use HDL macros

Our near-future experiment



**Improvement in
development
time?**

VHDL model
development
time

**Improvement in
development
time?**

ECM
in
**SRC
MAP C**

ECM
in
VHDL

ECM
in
**Mitrion
C**

**Performance
penalty?**

**Performance
penalty?**

Summary & conclusions

Summary

ECM case study

**Hardware implementations provide
a substantial improvement
vs. optimized software implementations
in terms of the performance to cost ratio**

- **low-cost FPGAs vs. microprocessors** > 10 x
- **ASICs vs. low-cost FPGAs** ~ 50-120
(only for high-volume production > 10,000 chips)

Conclusions

**Best environment for prototyping
of hardware implementations of codebreakers**

- **general-purpose reconfigurable computers**

**Best environment for the final design
of the cost-optimized cipher breaker**

- **special-purpose machines based on**
 - **low-cost FPGAs**
(or ASICs \$\$\$)

Thank you!



Questions???

BACK-UP SLIDES

Why does ECM work ?

$N = q \cdot N'$ where q is a prime

$n_{E_q} \cdot P_0 = \mathcal{O} \pmod{q}$ where n_{E_q} - number of points on the curve E

with computations mod q

if $n_{E_q} \mid k = p_1^{e_1} \cdot p_2^{e_2} \cdot p_3^{e_3} \dots p_t^{e_t}$ where $p_i^{e_i} \leq B_1$

$$k \cdot P_0 = l \cdot n_{E_q} \cdot P_0 = l \cdot (n_{E_q} \cdot P_0) = l \cdot \mathcal{O} = \mathcal{O}$$

$$k \cdot P_0 = (x_{kP_0} : y_{kP_0} : z_{kP_0}) = (0 : 0 : 0) \pmod{q}$$

$$q \mid z_{kP_0}$$

$$q \mid N$$

$$q \mid \gcd(z_{kP_0}, N)$$

Why does ECM work ? (cont.)

$N = q \cdot N'$ where q is a prime

$$n_{E_q} \cdot P_0 = \mathcal{G} \pmod{q}$$

$$n_{E_q} \mid p \cdot k \quad \text{where } k = p_1^{e_1} \cdot p_2^{e_2} \cdot p_3^{e_3} \cdots p_t^{e_t}, \quad p_i^{e_i} \leq B_1$$

$$B_1 < p < B_2$$

$$p \cdot k \cdot P_0 = l \cdot n_{E_q} \cdot P_0 = l \cdot \mathcal{G} = \mathcal{G}$$

$$p \cdot Q_0 = \mathcal{G}$$

$$p \cdot Q_0 = (x_{pQ_0} \quad : \quad : z_{pQ_0}) = (0 \quad : \quad : 0) \pmod{q}$$

$$q \mid z_{pQ_0}$$

$$q \mid N$$

$$q \mid \gcd(z_{pQ_0}, N)$$