

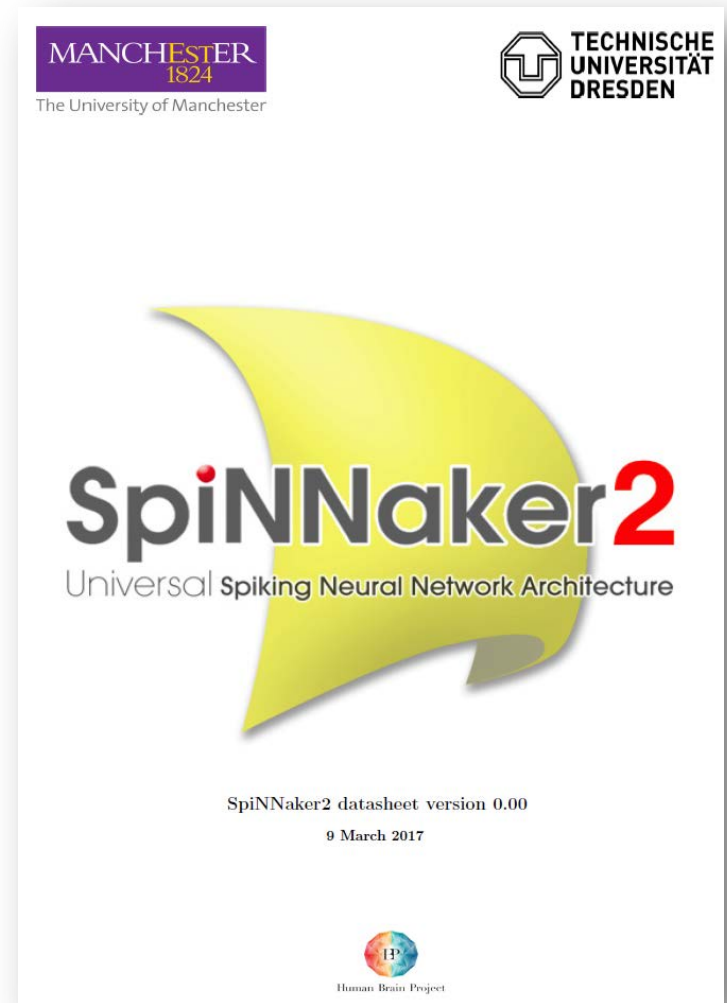
SpiNNaker2 - An Energy
efficient realtime
neuromorphic compute system
in 22FDX technology

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Outline

- SpiNNaker Overview
- SpiNNaker2 Hardware
- SpiNNaker2 Application Examples
- Conclusion



Neural Computation

To compute we need:

Processing

Synaptic Updates
Neuron Computation

Communication

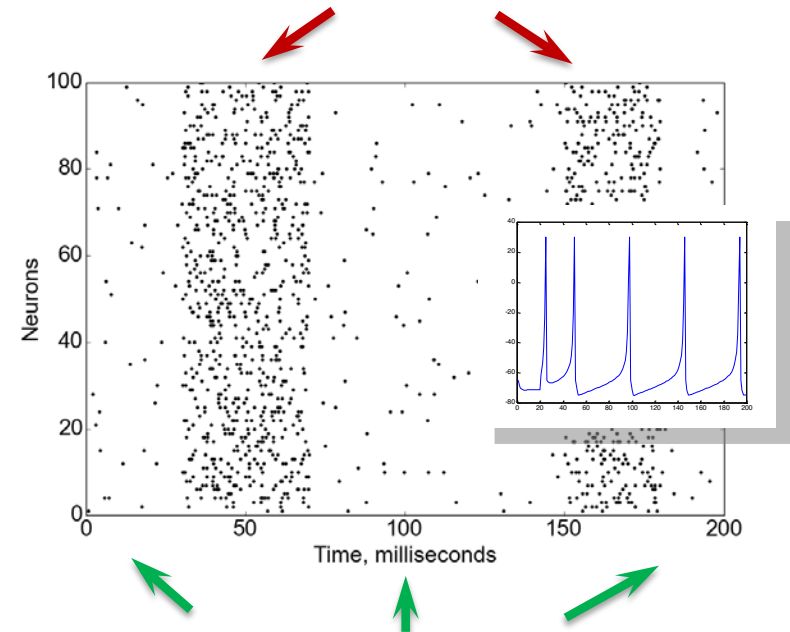
Asynchronous Spike Communication
'Address Event' Representation (AER)

Storage

Synaptic weights
Axon 'delay lines'
Neuron states



- High update rates
 - Peak processing load and spike communication bandwidth

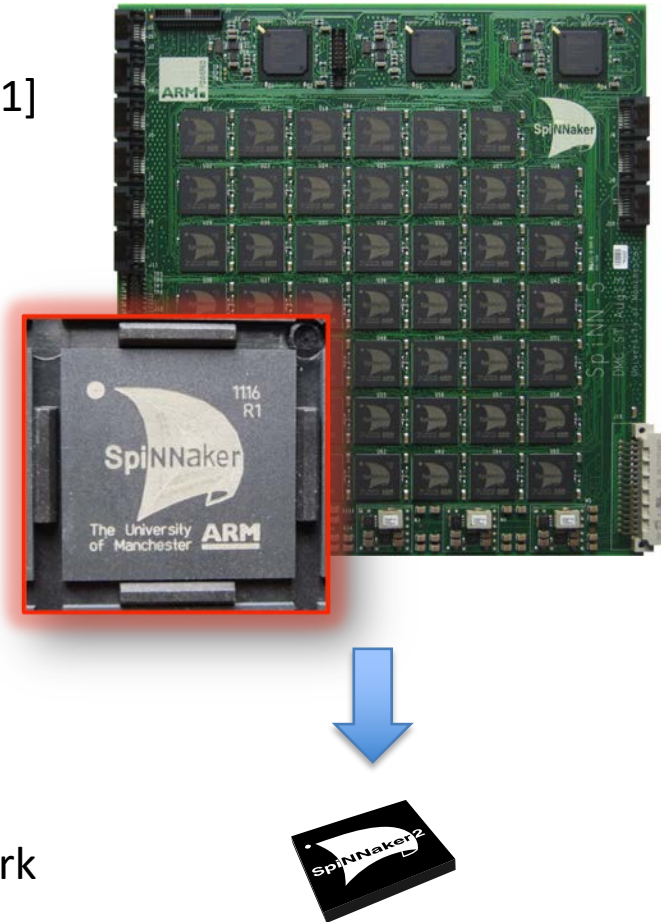


- Low update rates
 - Relaxed processing load and spike communication bandwidth

Latency requirements <1ms for processing and communication

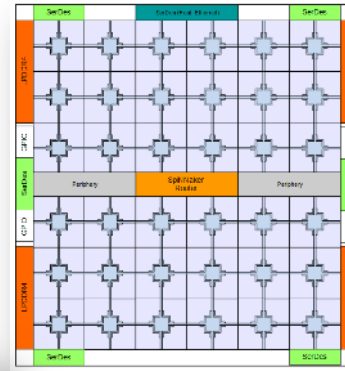
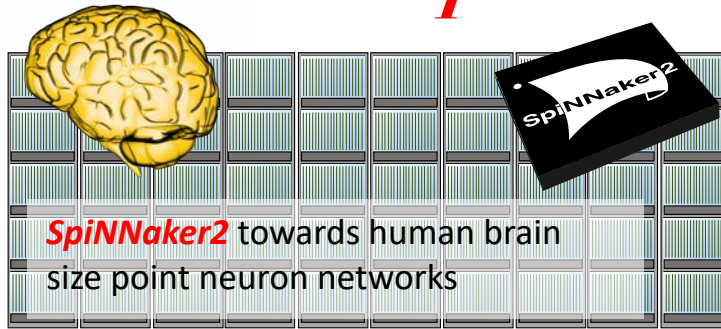
SpiNNaker

- Communication and memory centric architecture for efficient real-time simulation of spiking neural networks [1]
- Many-core (Arm based) architecture, 18 cores per chip
- **SpiNNaker** has a broad user base
 - ~40 systems in use around the world
 - Flexibility: adaptable network, neuron model & plasticity
 - Real-time: suits robotics & faster than HPC
 - System capacity of 10^9 neurons and 10^{12} synapses
 - Energy per synaptic event 10^{-8} J (HPC: 10^{-4} J)
- SpiNNaker uses 130nm CMOS technology
- Scope for improvement
 - on modern process ([22FDX](#)) [2]
 - Innovative circuit techniques to enhance throughput and energy efficiency for computation and communication
- SpiNNaker2 target: Enhance capacity for brain size network simulation in real time at >10x better efficiency



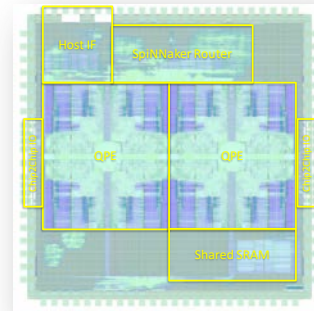
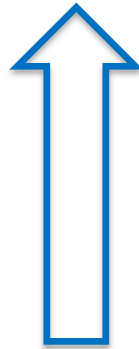
HBP *SpiNNaker2* Roadmap

2023
2022
2021
2020
2019
2018
2017
2016
2015
2014
2013



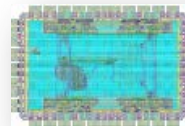
SpiNNaker2

- **144 Arm Cortex-M4F**
- power management
- SpiNNaker router
- low swing serial I/O
- 4x LPDDR4 memory IF
- 8GByte LPDDR4 PoP
- **22FDX CMOS**



JIB1

- **8 Arm Cortex-M4F**
- SpiNNaker router,
- low swing serial I/O
- **22FDX CMOS**

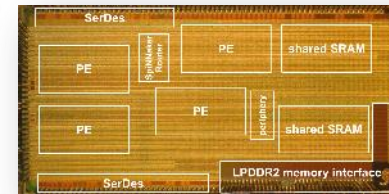


NanoLink28

- SerDes Transceiver
- 28nm CMOS

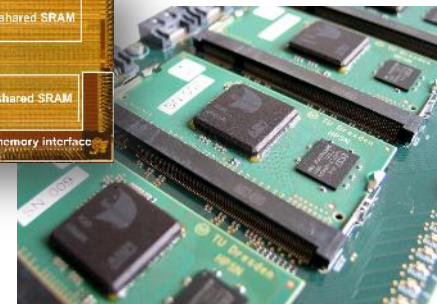


JIB2



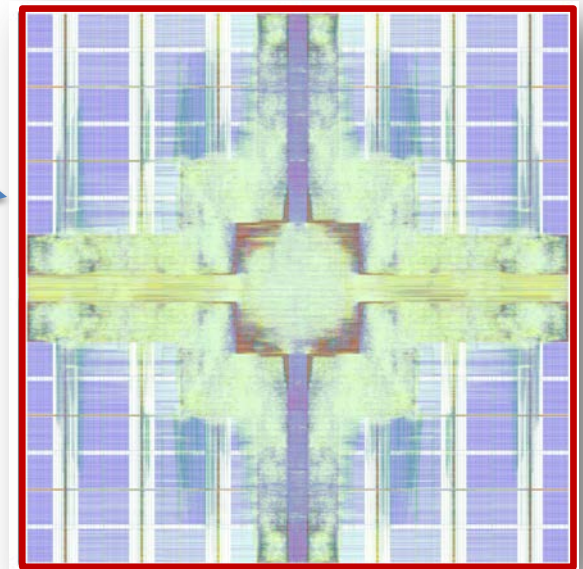
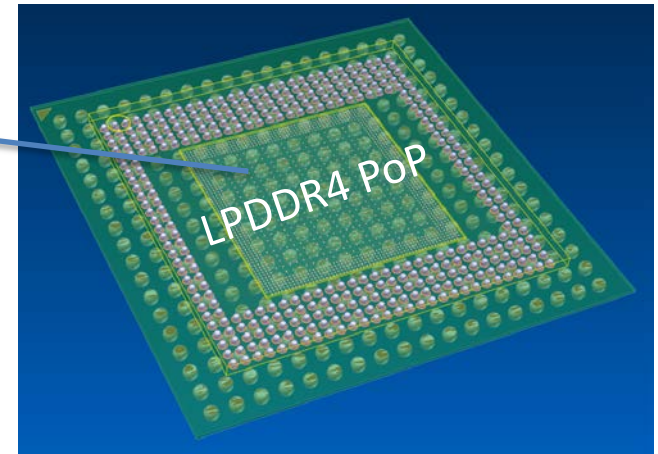
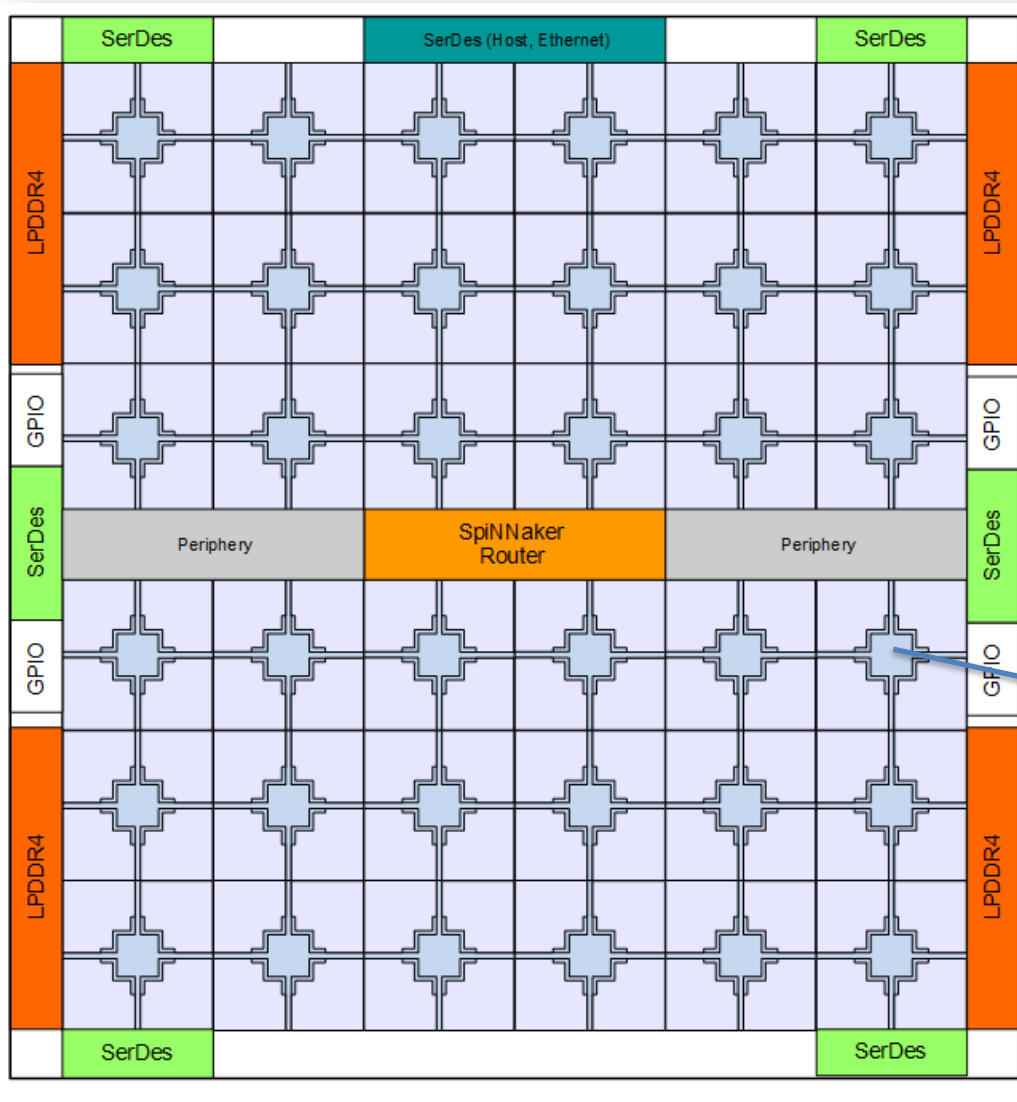
Santos28

- **4 Arm Cortex-M4F**
- Power management
- SpiNNaker router with SerDes
- LPDDR2 Memory Interface
- 28nm CMOS

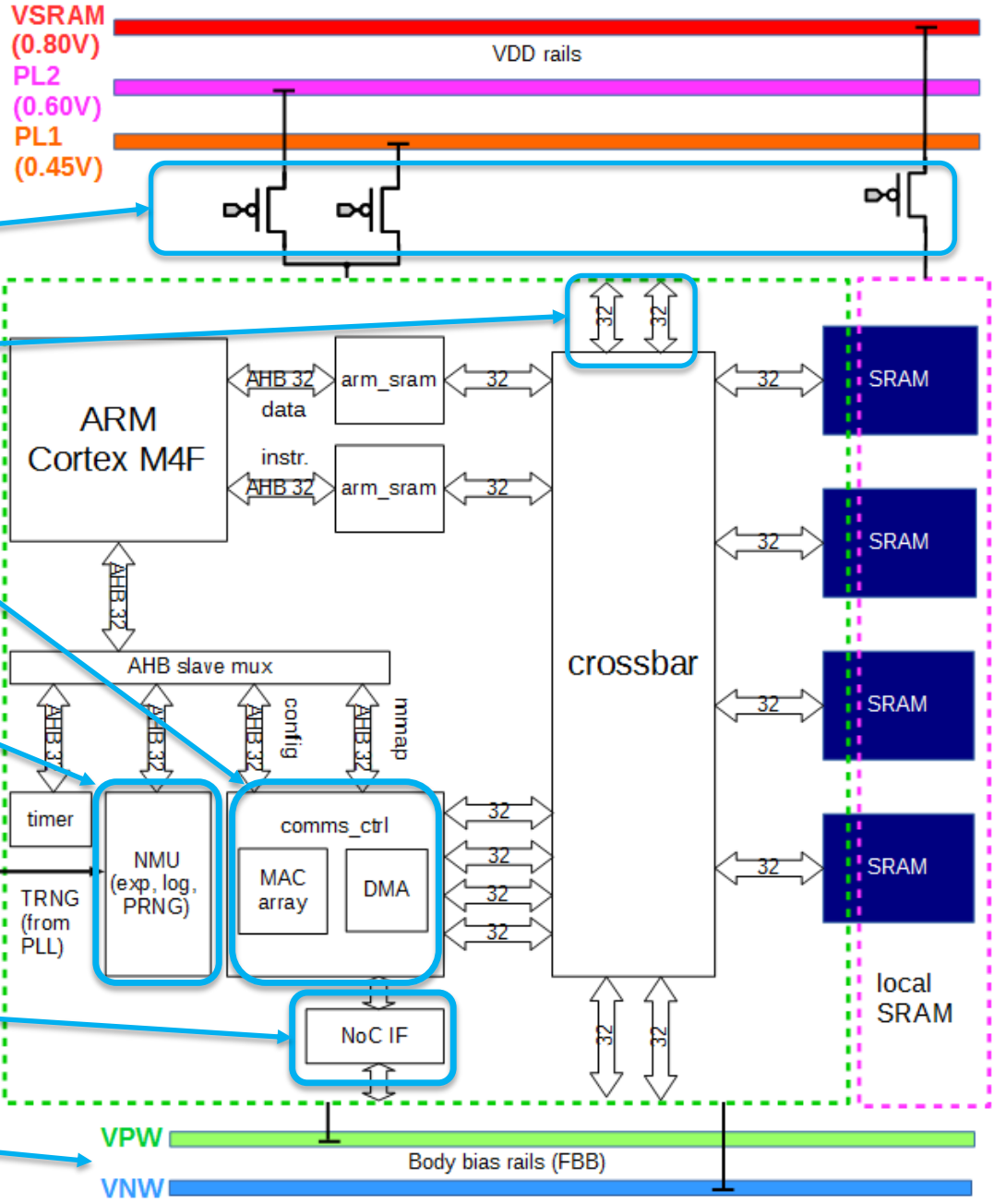


SpiNNaker2 Hardware

SpiNNaker2 Chip Overview



Processing Element



Dynamic Power Management

- DVFS and PSO [3]

Memory sharing

- Synchronous access to neighbor PEs

Multiply-Accumulate accelerator

- MAC array with DMA

Neuromorphic accelerators

- Exp/log [4,7]
- Random numbers (PRNG, TRNG from ADPLL noise) [5]

Network-on-Chip

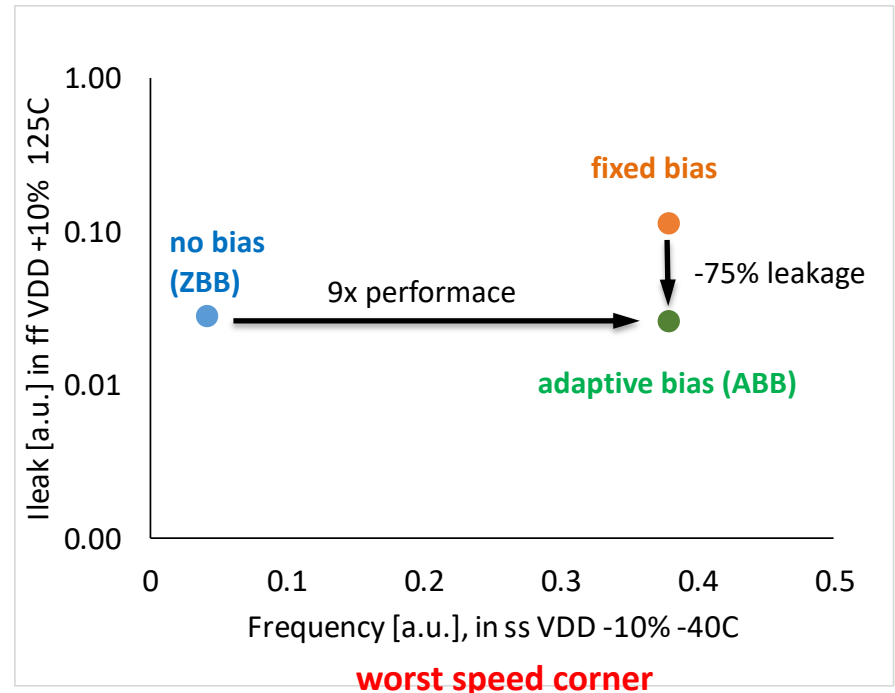
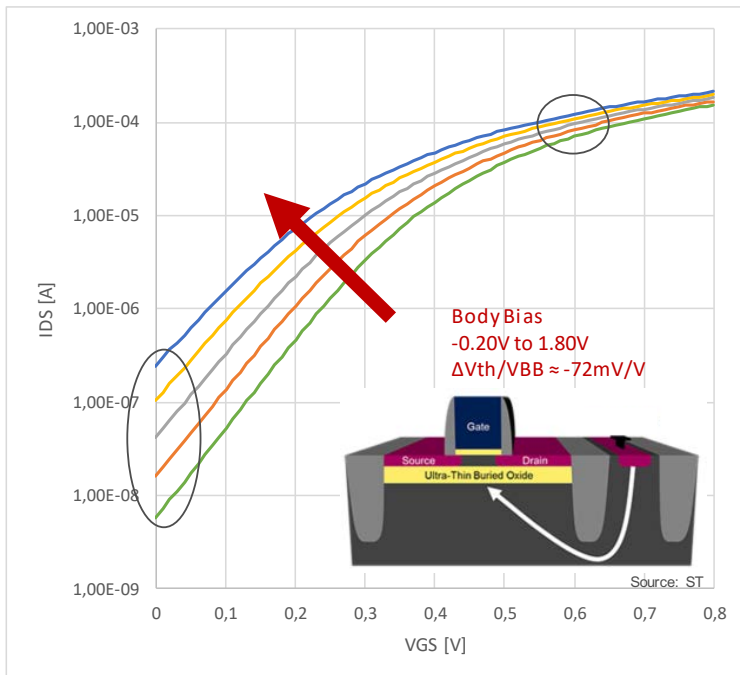
- On- and off-chip memory access
- SpiNNaker packet (spike) handling

Adaptive Body Biasing

Ultra-Low-Voltage Design Enabled by ABB



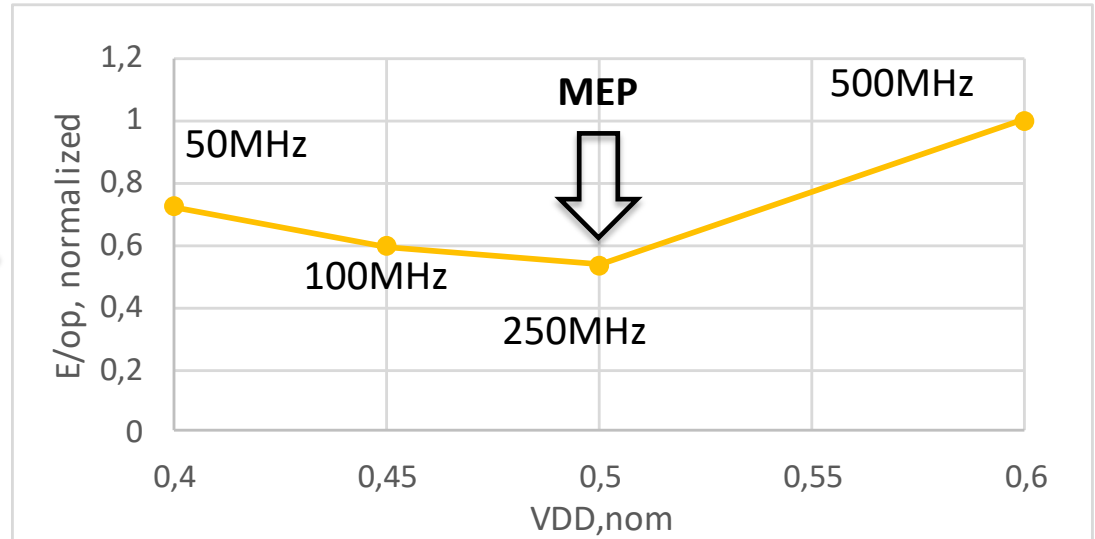
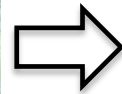
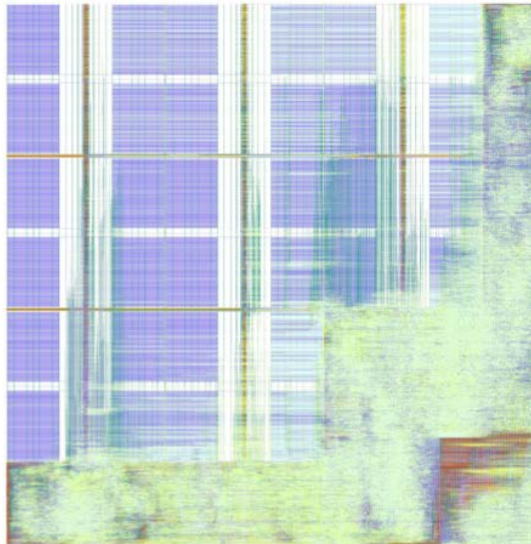
- GLOBALFOUNDRIES 22FDX (FDSOI) technology [2]
- Adaptive body biasing (ABB) solution and foundation IP by Racyics [8]
- Enables ultra-low voltage operation down to 0.40V (0.36V worst-case) with guaranteed timing and power over PVT



source: Racyics GmbH

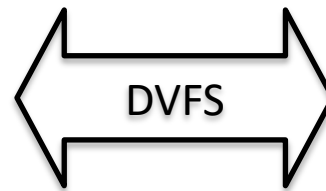
PE Physical Implementation Strategy

- Synthesis and P&R studies and power-analysis for neuromorphic application scenario



Low-performance level (PL1)

- Operate at **Minimum Energy Point** (250MHz at 0.50V) or at ultra-low power mode (100MHz at 0.45V)

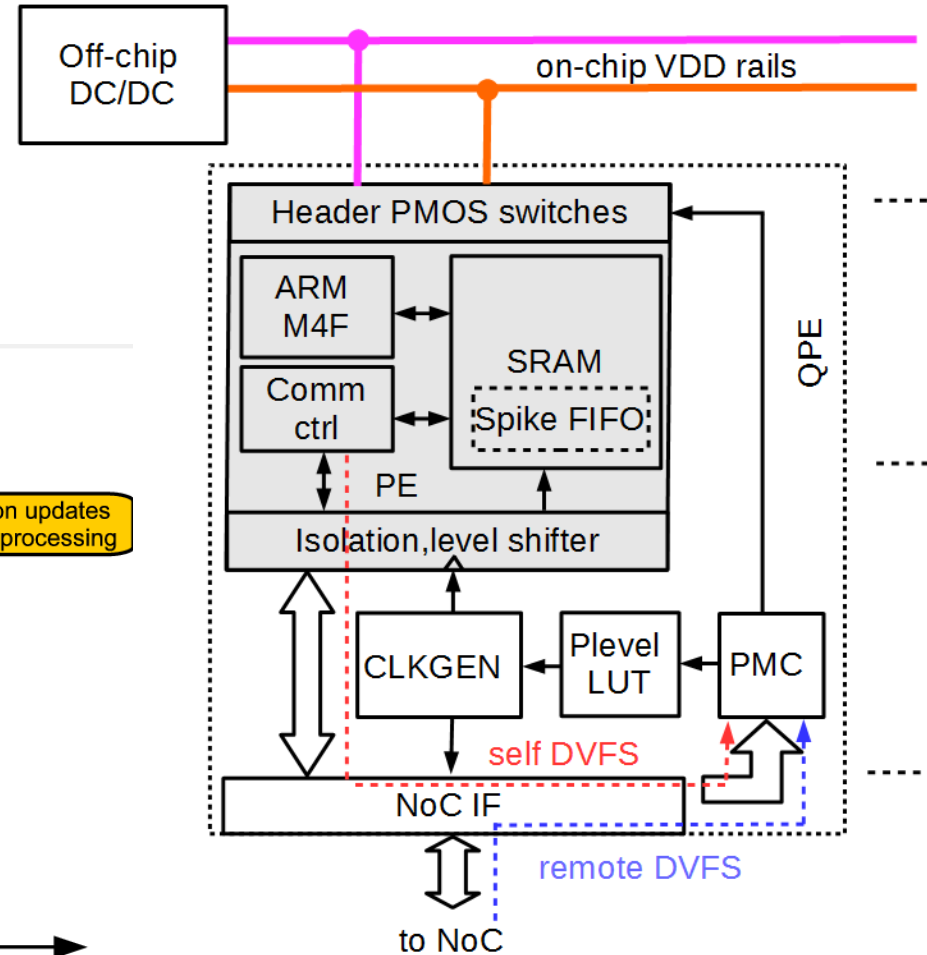
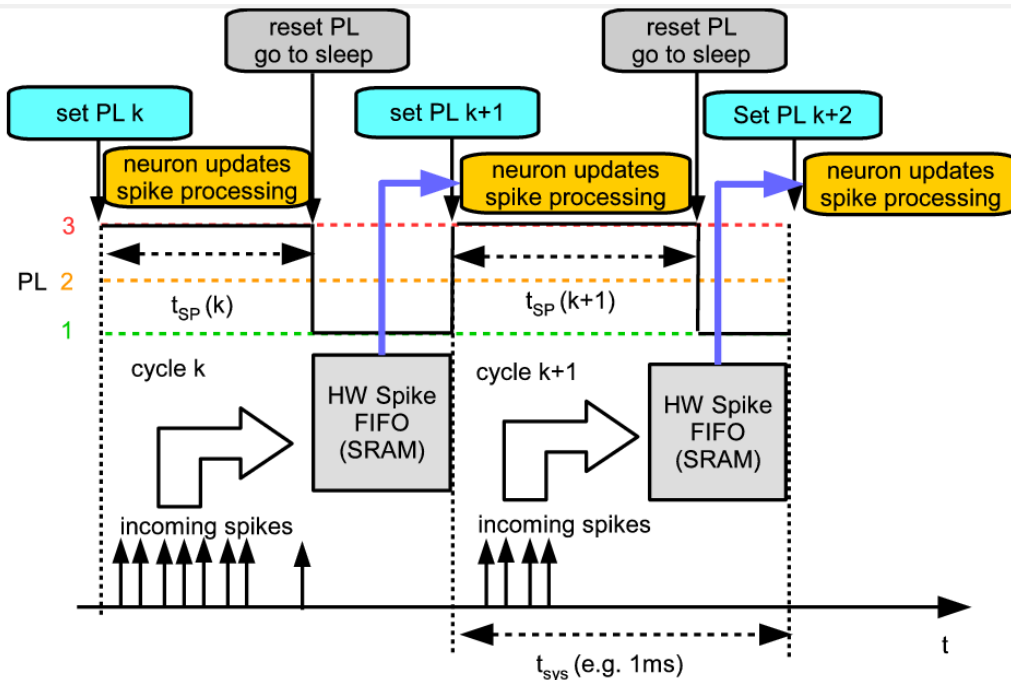


High-performance level (PL2)

- Operate at 500MHz at 0.60V for maximum peak performance for neuromorphic simulations

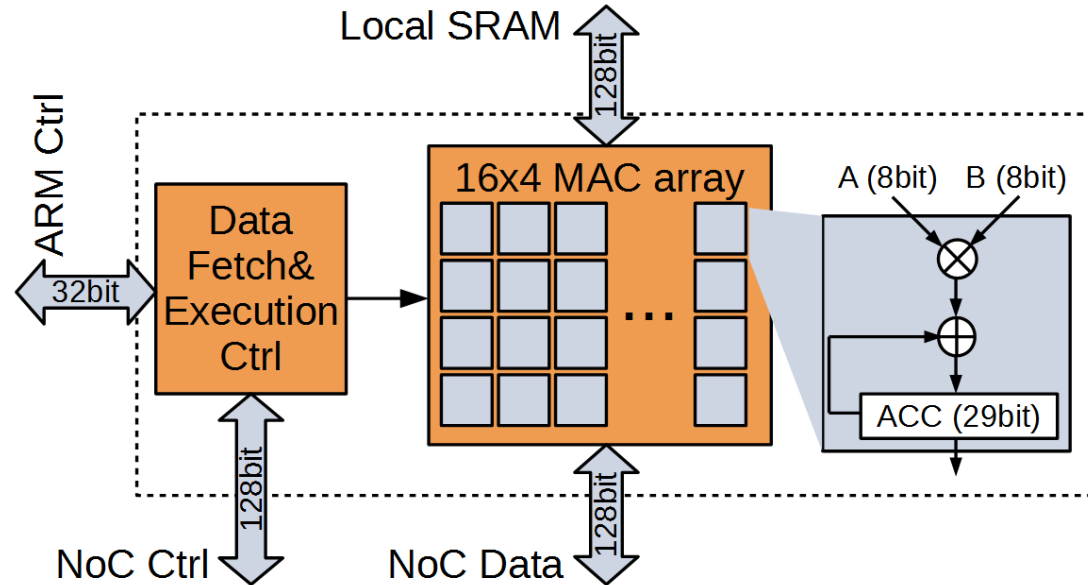
Neuromorphic Power Management

- **Dynamic Voltage and Frequency Scaling**
- **Fine-grained** (individually per PE)
- **Fast DVFS** (<100ns) PL change time [6]
- **Self-DVFS** PL change from software based on neuromorphic workload



Integrated MAC Accelerator

- 16x4 MAC array per PE
- Access local-SRAM and NoC
- Offloading matrix multiplication and convolution from the CPU
- Remote controlled operation possible



- Peak performance @250MHz:
 - 0.032 TOPS/PE \rightarrow 4.6TOPS on *SpiNNaker2* at \approx 0.72W PE power consumption \rightarrow **6.4TOPS/W**

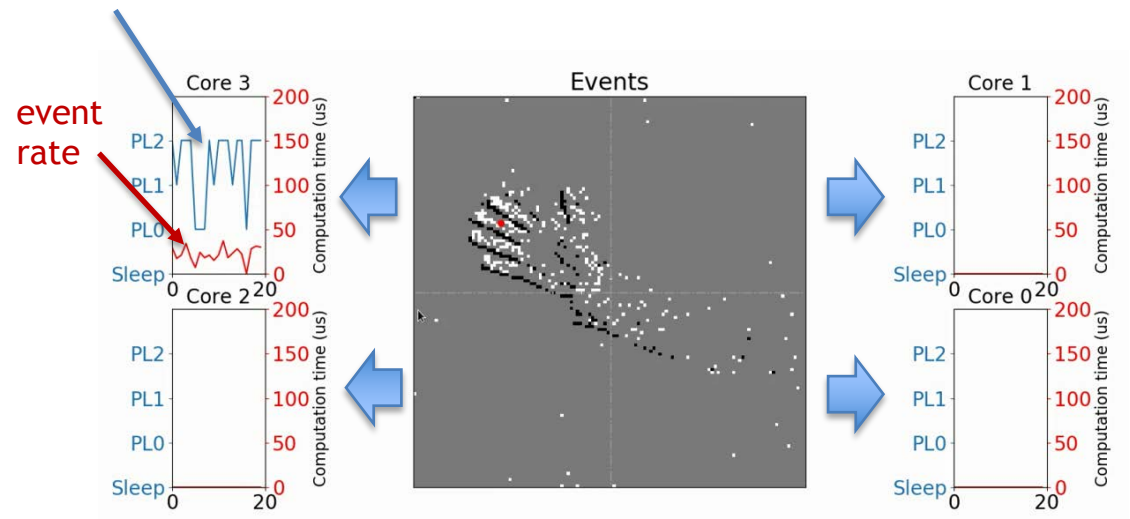
SpiNNaker2 Applications

Demo: DVS with DVFS



- Dynamic Vision Sensor (DVS) with Dynamic Voltage and Frequency Scaling (DVFS)
- Object tracking example mapped to 4 processors
- 0.2ms processing time steps with performance level adjustment per-step

performance level

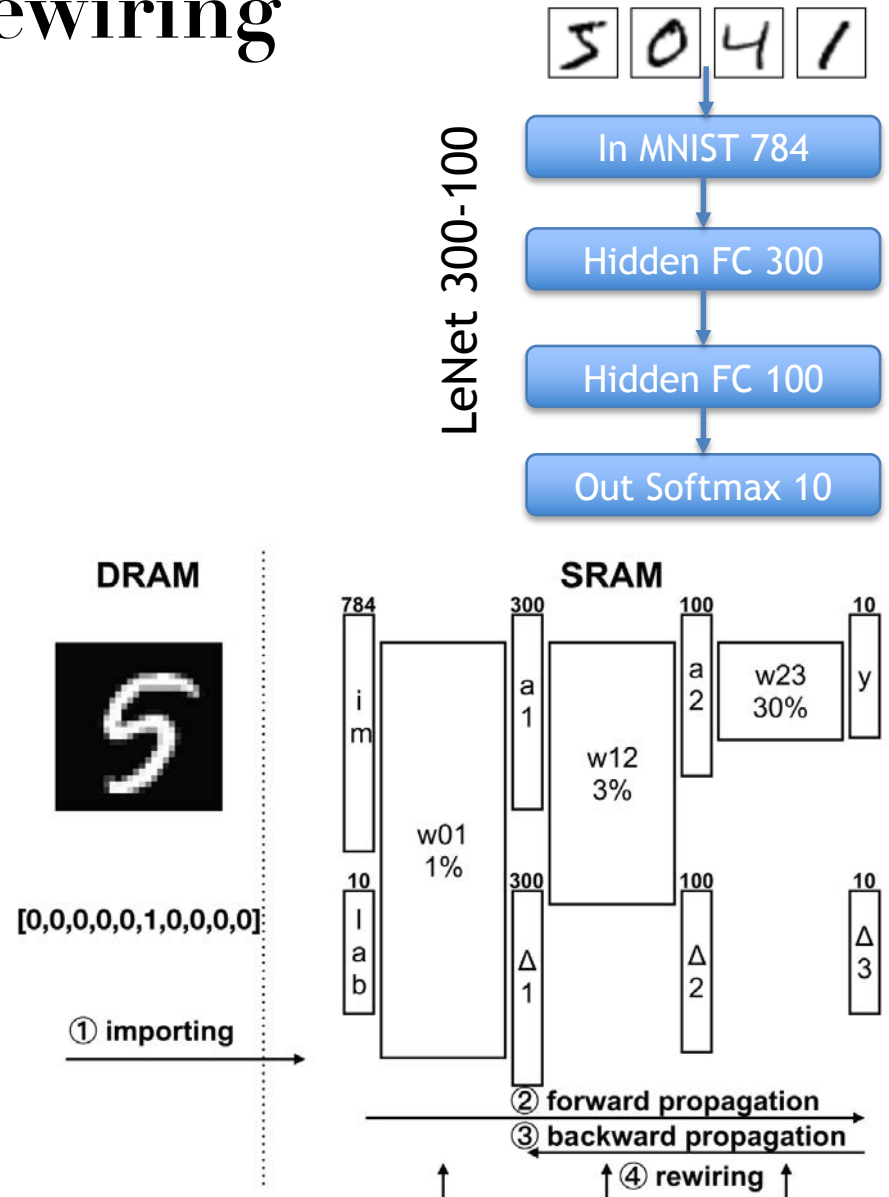


- DVFS results in > x4 power consumption reduction

Deep Rewiring

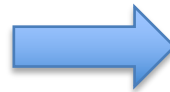
- Synaptic sampling as dynamic rewiring for rate-based neurons (deep networks)
- Ultra-low memory footprint even during learning
- Uses PRNG/TRNG, FPU, exp
 - → **speed-up 1.5**
- Example: **LeNet 300-100**
 - 1080 KB → 36 KB
 - training on local SRAM possible
 - ≈ 100x energy reduction for training on SpiNNaker2 prototype (28nm) compared to X86 CPU
 - → **96.2% MNIST accuracy for 0.6% connectivity**

→ Details in [10,11]



Conclusion

- Energy efficient digital many core approach for neuromorphics
- Motivated by advantages of a mix of current approaches:
 - Processor based → flexibility
 - Fixed digital functionality as accelerators → performance
 - Low voltage (near threshold) operation enabled by 22FDX and ABB → energy efficiency
 - Event driven operation with fine-grained DVFS and energy proportional chip-2-chip links → workload adaptivity
- Integrate a SpiNNaker 1 48 node board inside a single chip module



Acknowledgment

The ***SpiNNaker2*** team

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GLOBALFOUNDRIES®

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Thanks for your attention