Introduction

- Moore's Law enabled:
  - Deep memory hierarchy
  - Wide SIMD units
  - Deep pipelines
  - Branch prediction
  - Out-of-order execution
  - Speculative prefetching
  - Multithreading
  - Multiprocessing

Whats the big deal ?

Figure 1. The historical virtuous cycle of universal processers (a) is turning into a fragmentation cycle (b).

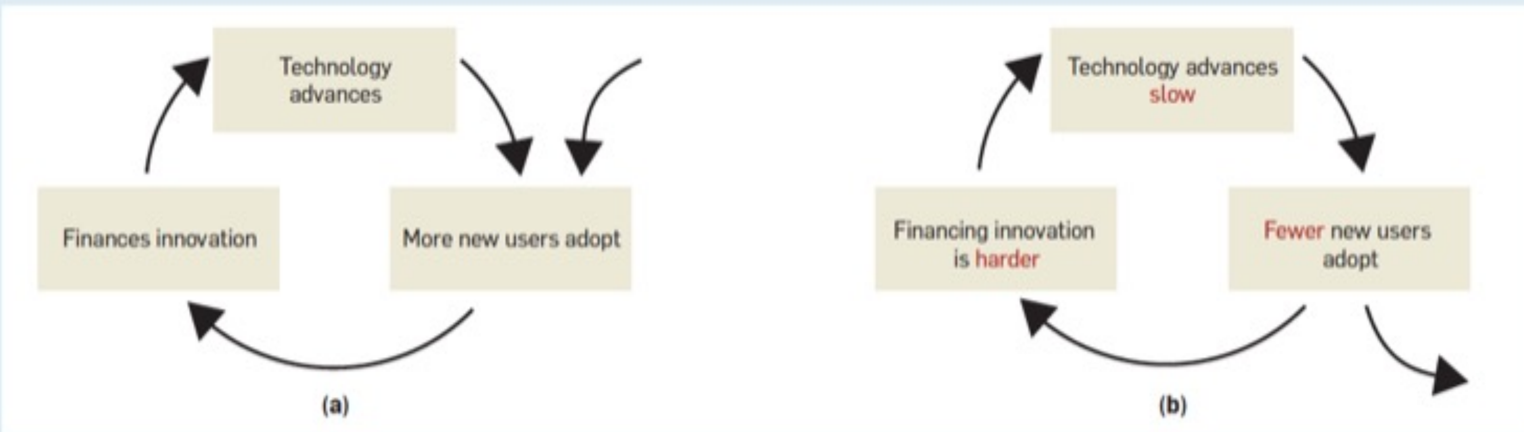
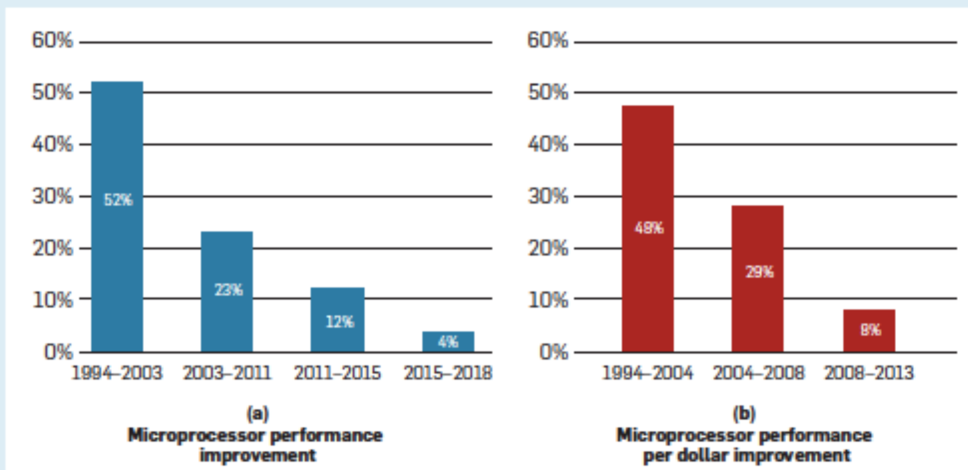


Figure 2. Rate of improvement in microprocessors, as measured by (a) Annual performance improvement on the SPECint benchmark,[7appx] and (b) Annual quality-adjusted price decline.[1appx]



N. Thompson, S. Spanuth, Decline of Computers as a General Purpose Technology, Comm of the ACM March 2021

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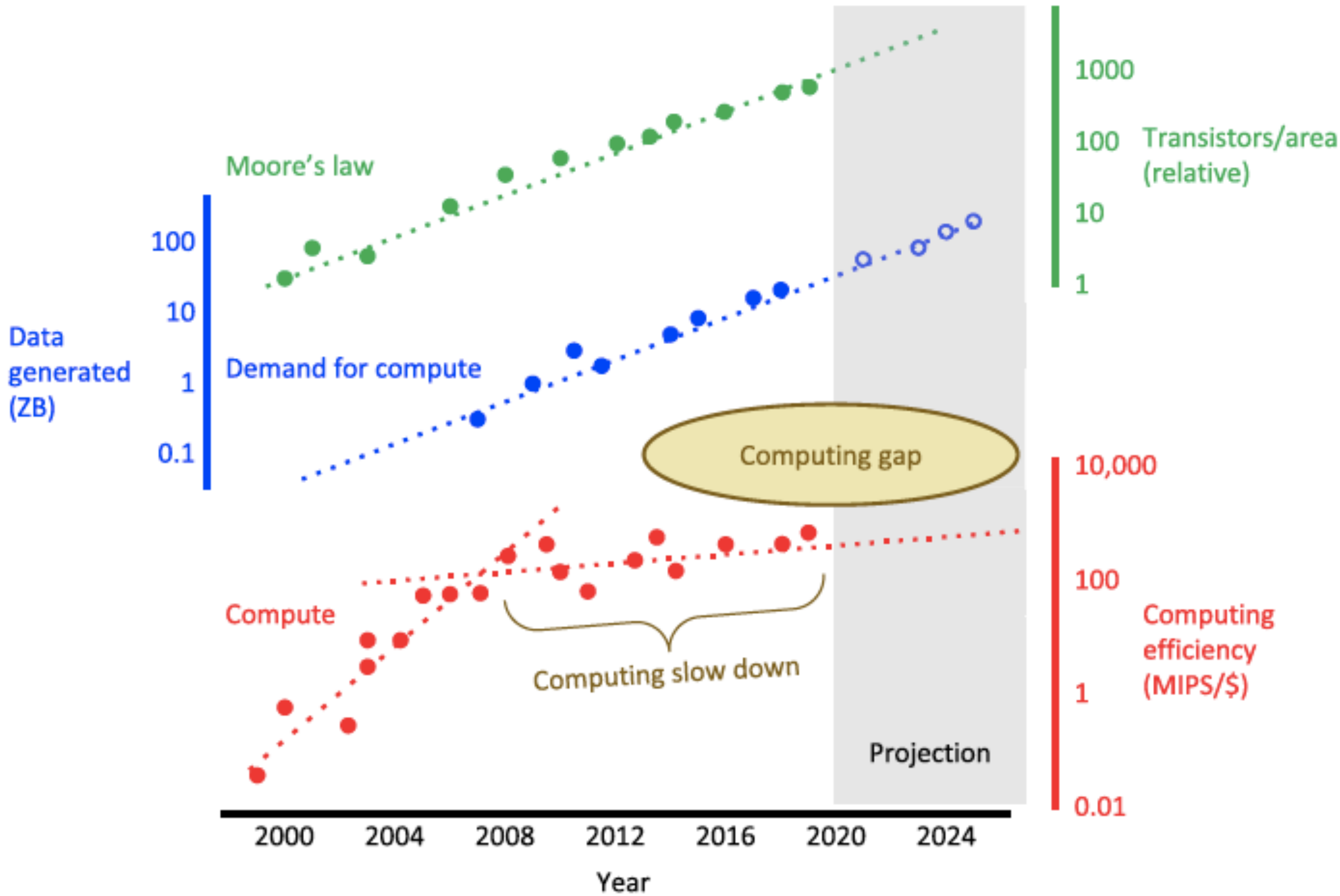

J. Kendall, S. Kumar, The Building Blocks of a Brain-Inspired Computer, Applied Physics Reviews, Sept. 2019

DSA Philosophy 101.....

- Use dedicated memories to minimize data movement
- Invest resources into more arithmetic units or bigger memories
- Use the easiest form of parallelism that matches the domain
- Reduce data size and type to the simplest needed for the domain
- Use a domain-specific programming language

Examples from Textbook

Guideline	TPU	Catapult	Crest	Pixel Visual Core
Design target	Data center ASIC	Data center FPGA	Data center ASIC	PMD ASIC/SOC IP
1. Dedicated memories	24 MiB Unified Buffer, 4 MiB Accumulators	Varies	N.A.	Per core: 128 KiB line buffer, 64 KiB P.E. memory
2. Larger arithmetic unit	65,536 Multiply-accumulators	Varies	N.A.	Per core: 256 Multiply-accumulators (512 ALUs)
3. Easy parallelism	Single-threaded, SIMD, in-order	SIMD, MISD	N.A.	MPMD, SIMD, VLIW
4. Smaller data size	8-Bit, 16-bit integer	8-Bit, 16-bit integer 32-bit Fl. Pt.	21-bit Fl. Pt.	8-bit, 16-bit, 32-bit integer
5. Domain-specific lang.	TensorFlow	Verilog	TensorFlow	Halide/TensorFlow

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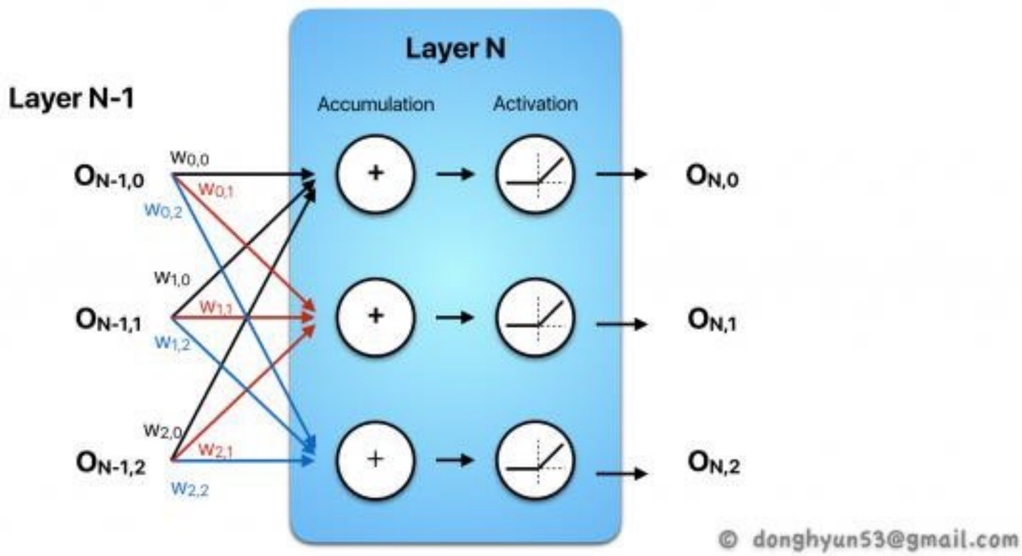
DNN's: Todays Driving Application

- Inpired by neuron of the brain
- Computes non-linear "activiation" function of the weighted sum of input values
- Neurons arranged in layers

Name	DNN layers	Weights	Operations/Weight
MLP0	5	20M	200
MLP1	4	5M	168
LSTM0	58	52M	64
LSTM1	56	34M	96
CNN0	16	8M	2888
CNN1	89	100M	1750

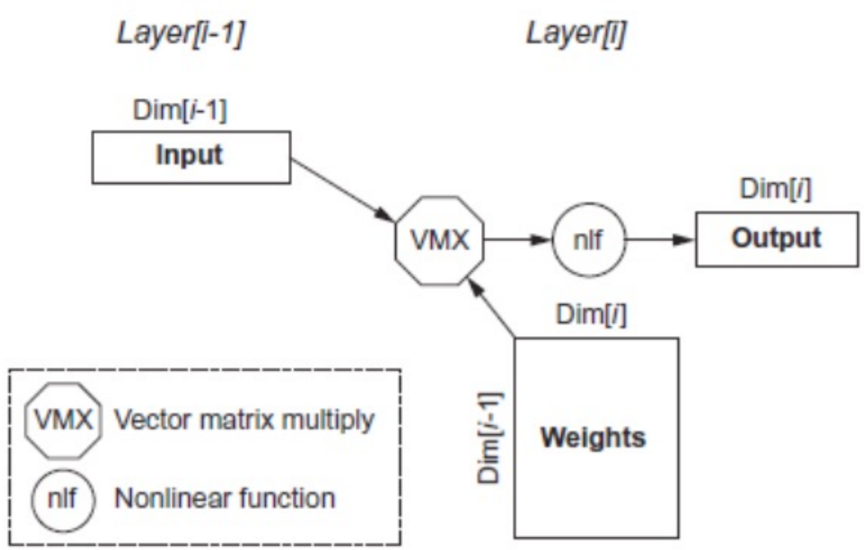
Multi-Layer Perceptrons



$$max\left(0, \begin{bmatrix} O_{N-1,0} & O_{N-1,1} & O_{N-1,2} \end{bmatrix} \bullet \begin{bmatrix} W_{0,0} & W_{0,1} & W_{0,2} \\ W_{1,0} & W_{1,1} & W_{1,2} \\ W_{2,0} & W_{2,1} & W_{2,2} \end{bmatrix}\right) = \begin{bmatrix} O_{N,0} & O_{N,1} & O_{N,2} \end{bmatrix}$$

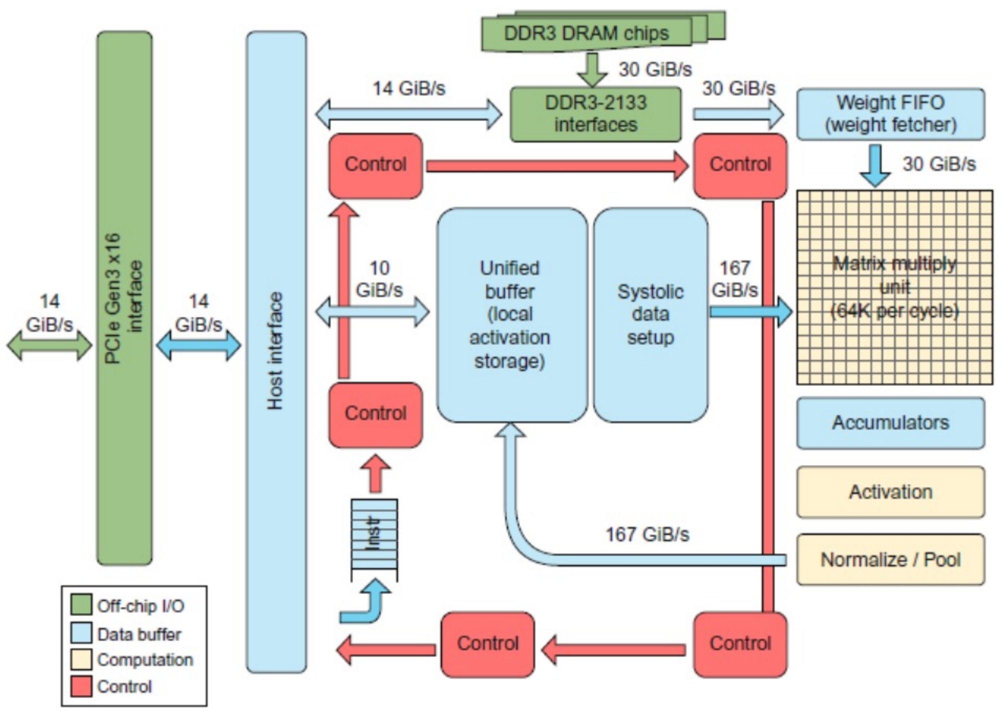
Multi-Layer Perceptrons

- Parameters:
  - Dim[i]: number of neurons
  - Dim[i-1]: dimension of input vector
  - Number of weights: Dim[i-1] x Dim[i]
  - Operations: 2 x Dim[i-1] x Dim[i]
  - Operations/weight: 2



Tensor Processing Unit

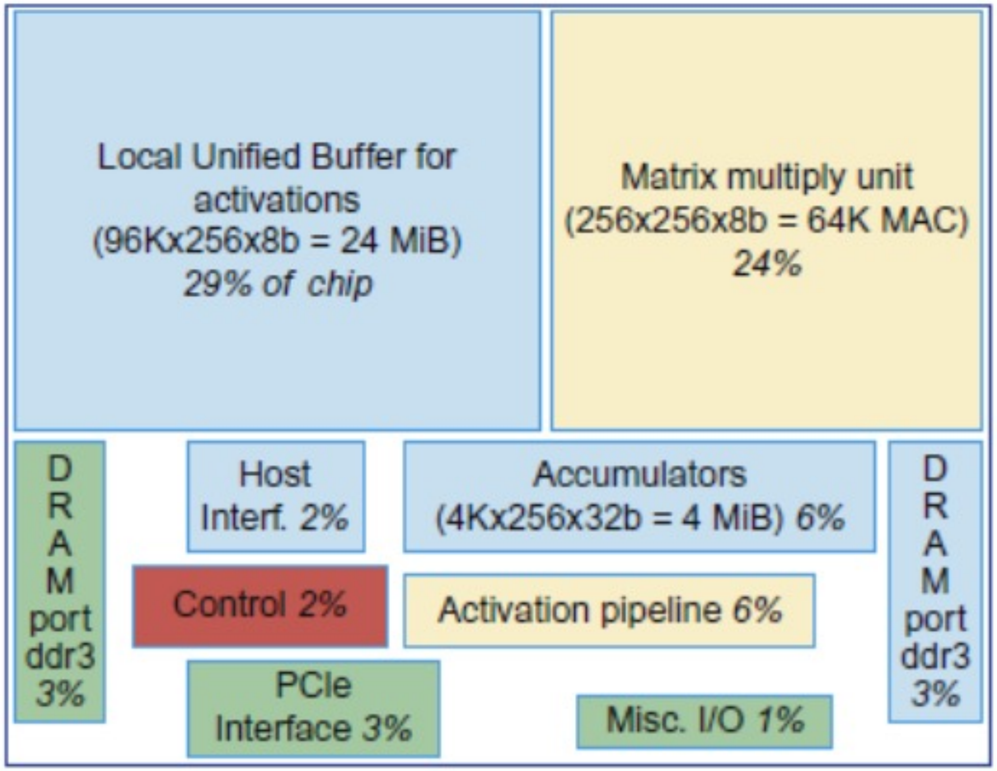
- Google's DNN ASIC
- 256 x 256 8-bit matrix multiply unit
- Large software-managed scratchpad
- Coprocessor on the PCIe bus



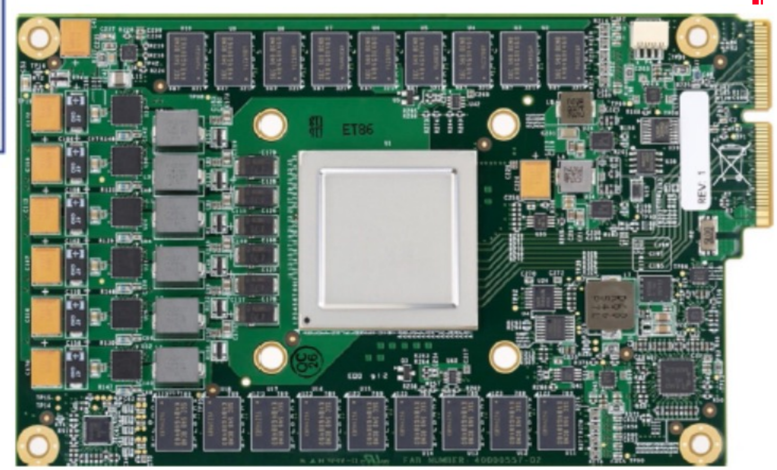
TPU ISA

- Read_Host_Memory
  - Reads memory from the CPU memory into the unified buffer
- Read_Weights
  - Reads weights from the Weight Memory into the Weight FIFO as input to the Matrix Unit
- MatrixMatrixMultiply/Convolve
  - Perform a matrix-matrix multiply, a vector-matrix multiply, an element-wise matrix multiply, an element-wise vector multiply, or a convolution from the Unified Buffer into the accumulators
  - takes a variable-sized B*256 input, multiplies it by a 256x256 constant input, and produces a B*256 output, taking B pipelined cycles to complete
- Activate
  - Computes activation function
- Write_Host_Memory
  - Writes data from unified buffer into host memory

TPU ISA



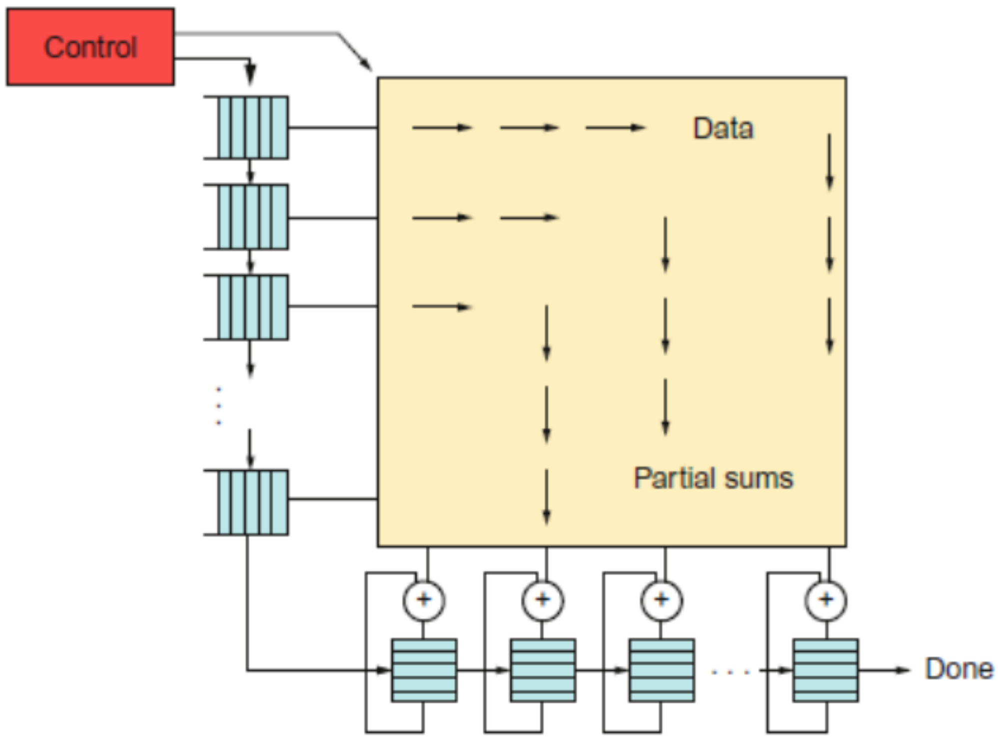
Local Unified Buffer for activations (96Kx256x8b = 24 MiB) *29% of chip*
Matrix multiply unit (256x256x8b = 64K MAC) *24%*
DRAM port ddr3 3%
Host Interf. 2%
Accumulators (4Kx256x32b = 4 MiB) 6%
DRAM port ddr3 3%
Control 2%
Activation pipeline 6%
PCIe Interface 3%
Misc. I/O 1%

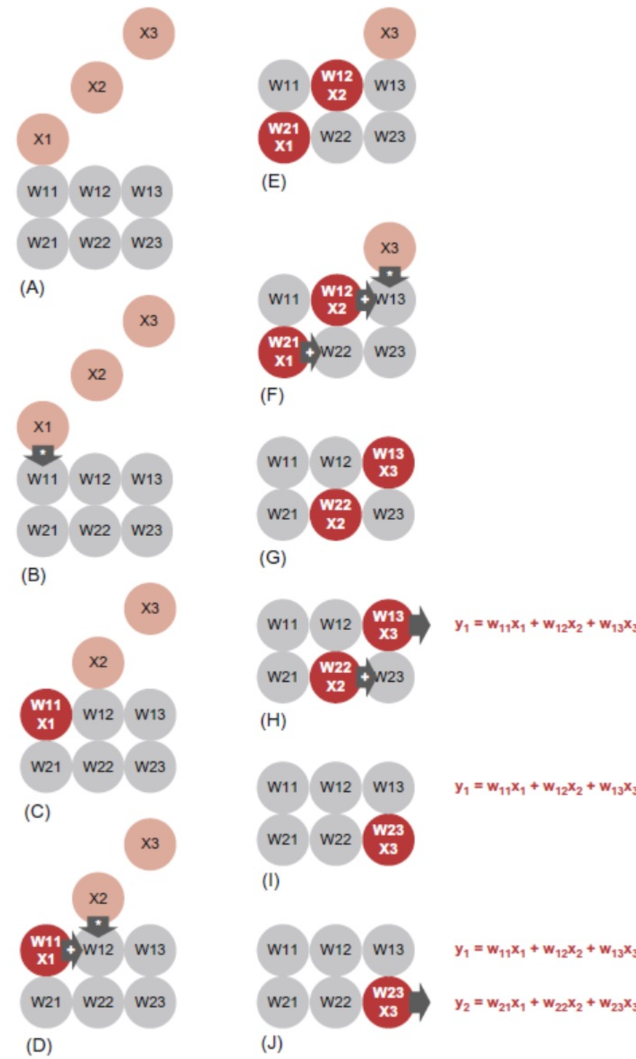


TPU ISA

- Matrix Multiply Unit (MPU) is a heart of TPU.
  - It contains 256x256 MACs(Multiply ACcumulate unit).
    - Performing 8-bit multiply and adds on signed or unsigned integers.
      - Output is 16-bit data.
  - 16-bit products are collected in the 4MiB of 32-bit accumulators.
  - The 4MiB represents 4096 node.
    - Each node has 256-element of 32-bit accumulators.
  - The matrix unit produces one 256-element partial sum per clock cycle
  - The matrix unit holds one 64KiB tile of weights plus one for double buffering. (To hide the 256 cycles it takes to shit a tile in)
    - Single weight is 8-Bit.

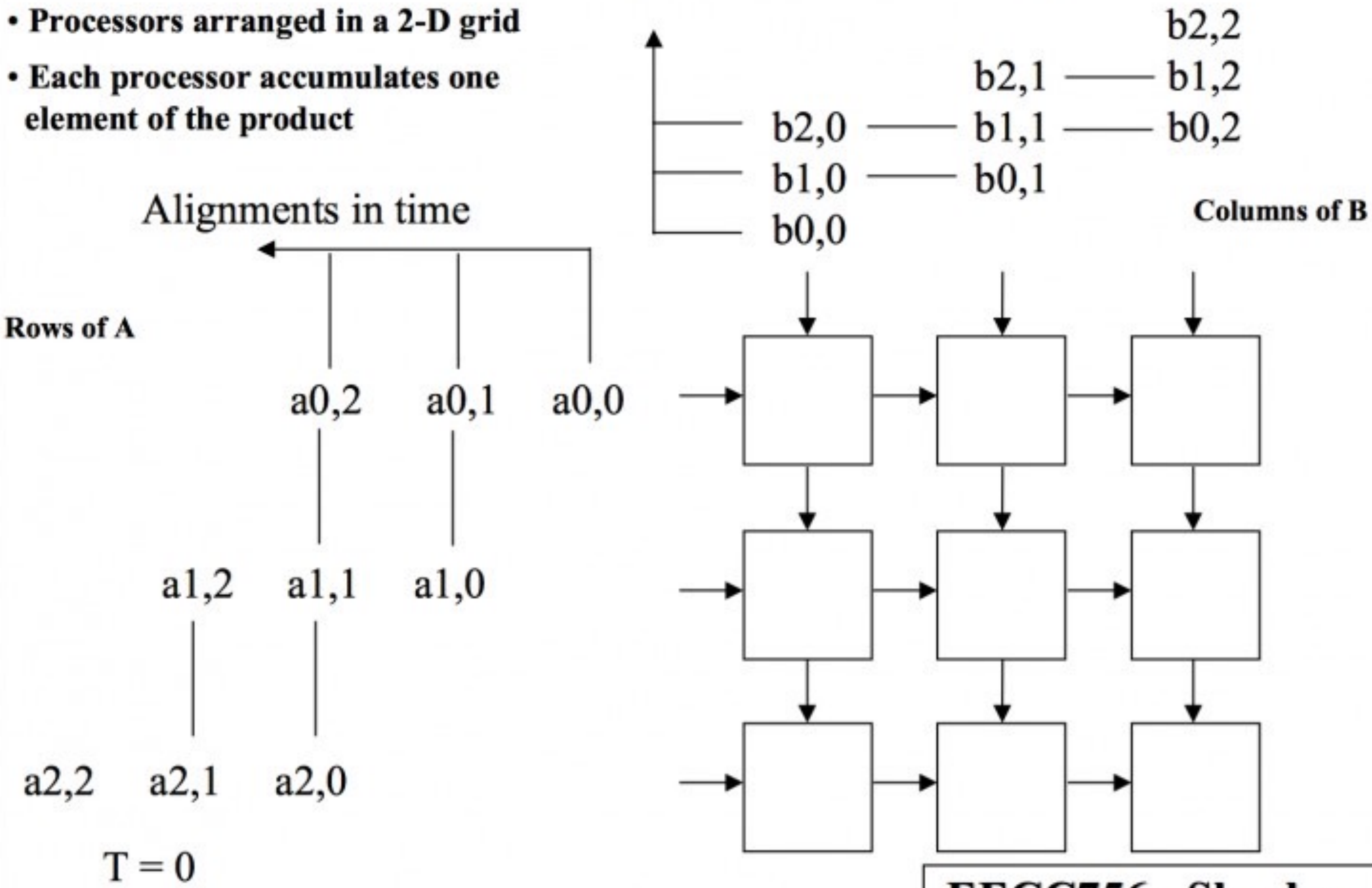
Structured as a Systolic Array





Systolic Array Example:
3x3 Systolic Array Matrix Multiplication

- **Processors arranged in a 2-D grid**
- **Each processor accumulates one element of the product**



Example source: http://www.cs.hmc.edu/courses/2001/spring/cs156/

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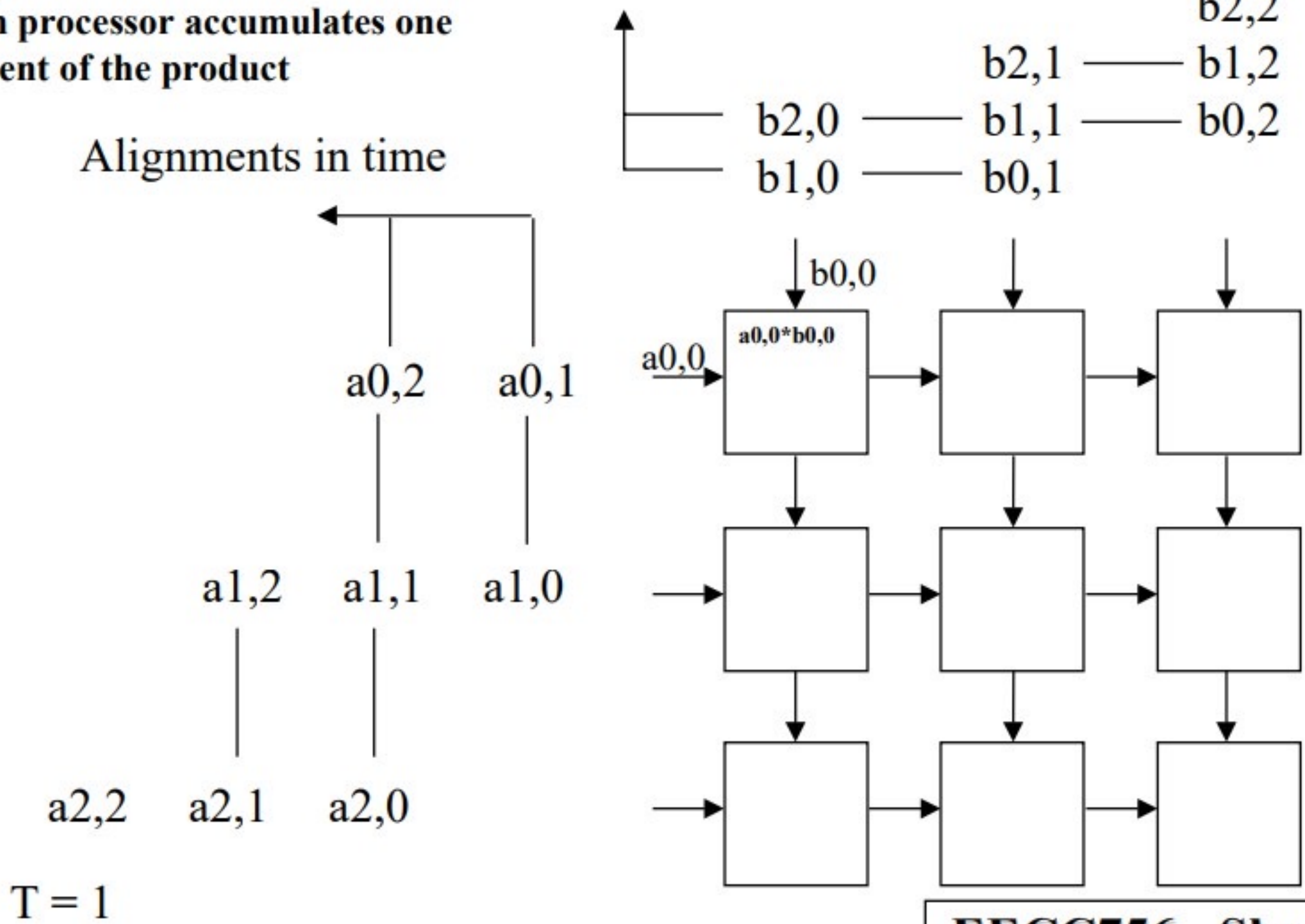

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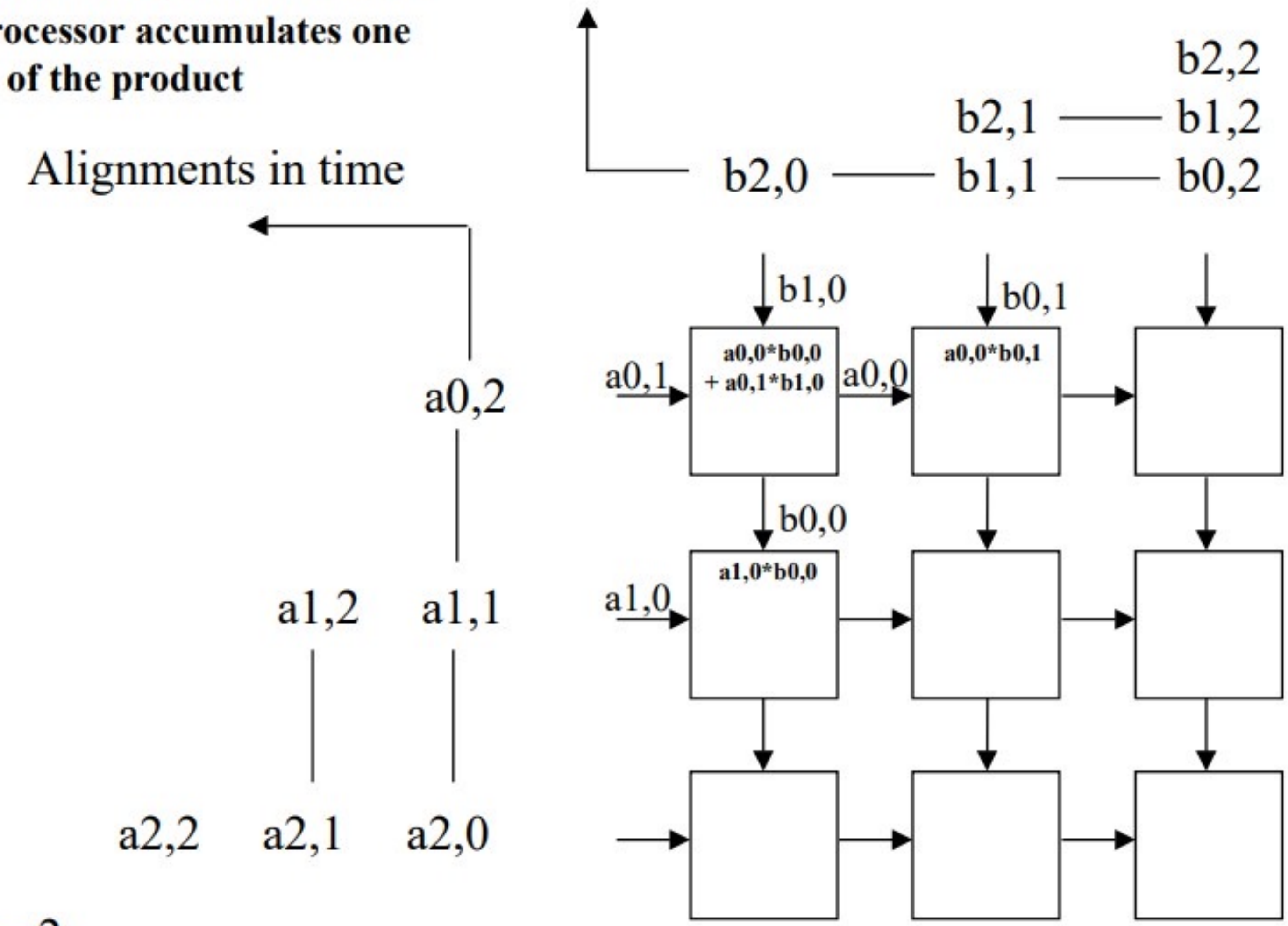

T = 2

Example source: http://www.cs.hmc.edu/courses/2001/spring/cs156/

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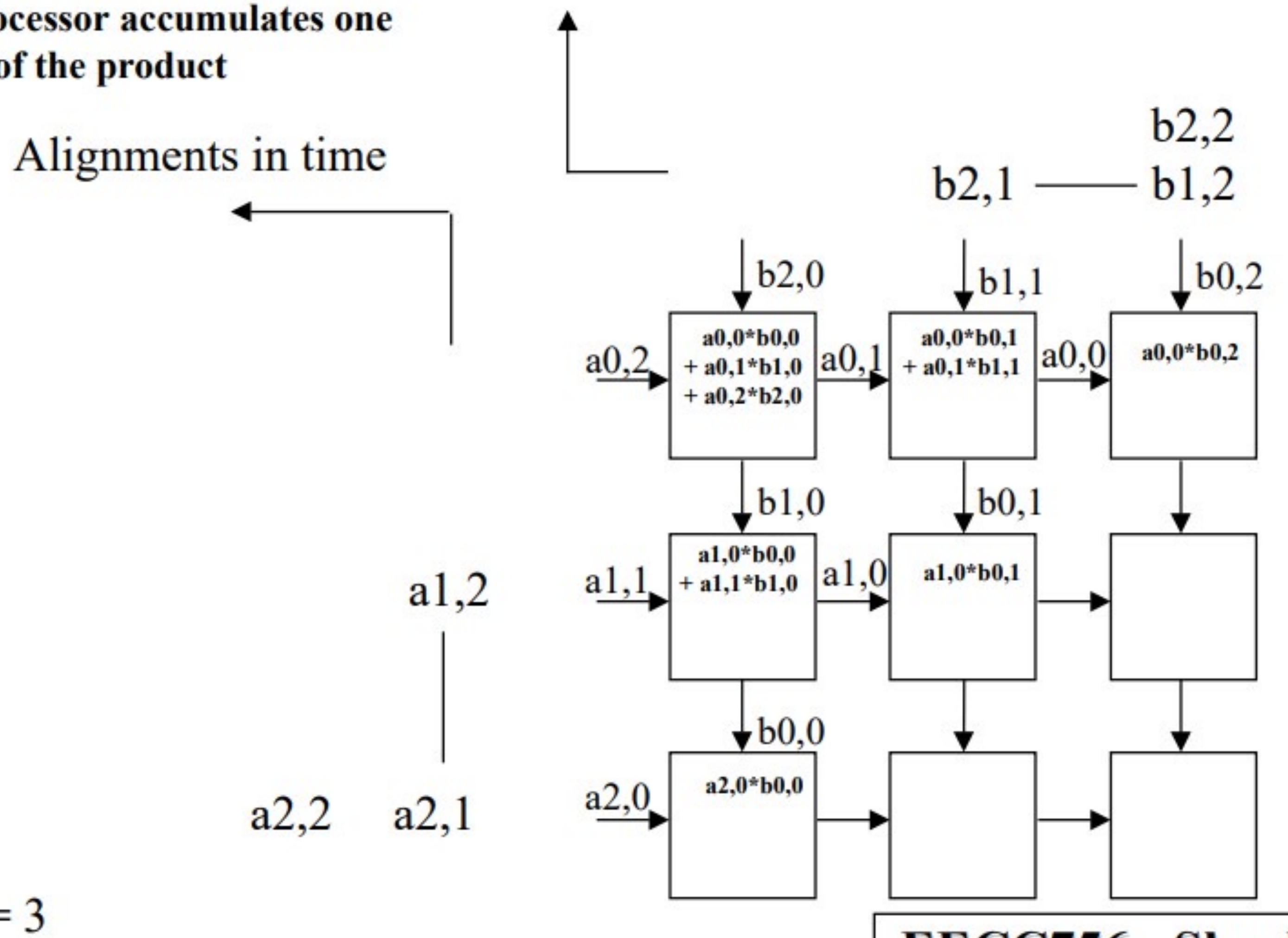

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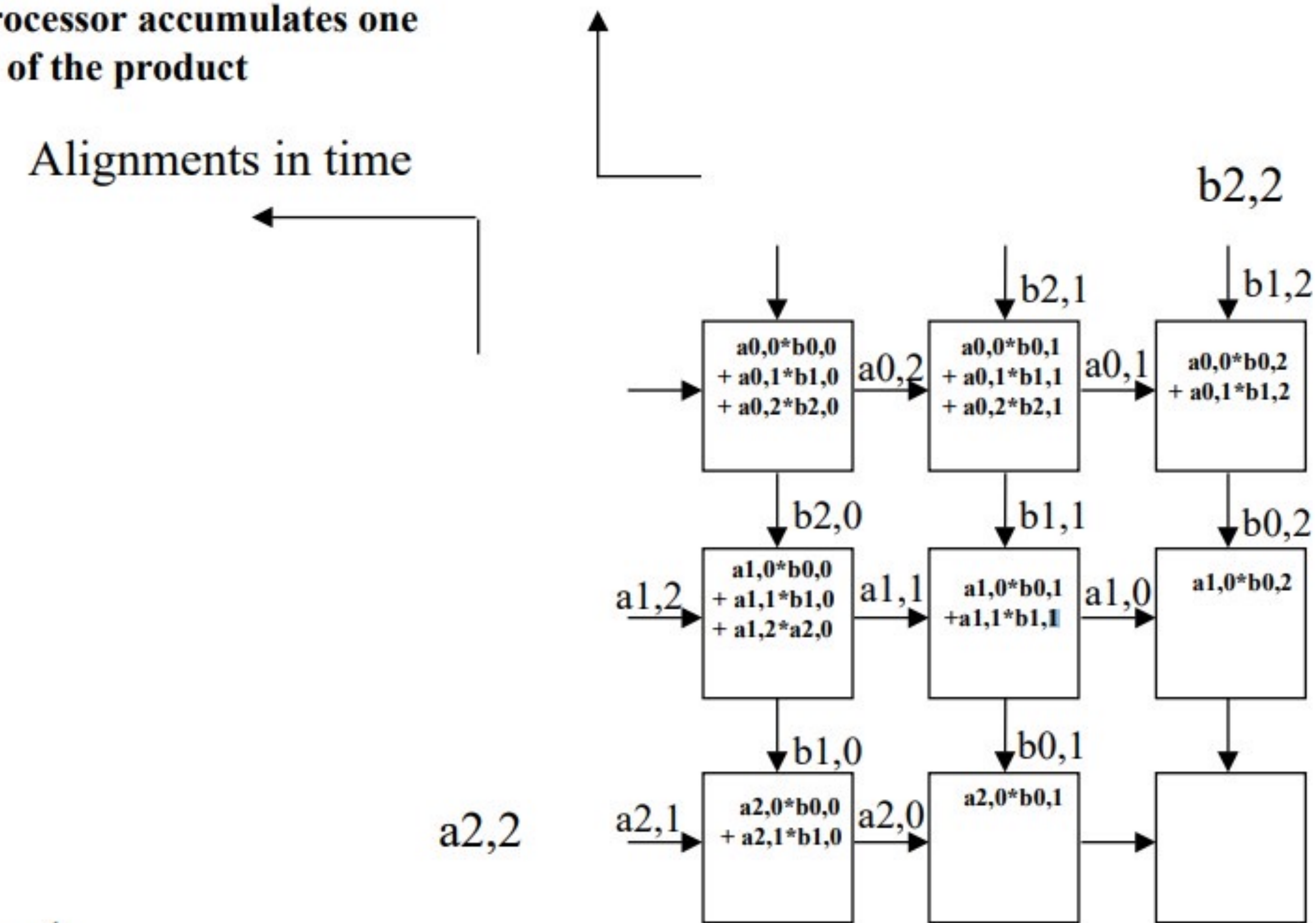

T = 4

Example source: http://www.cs.hmc.edu/courses/2001/spring/cs156/

Systolic Array Example:
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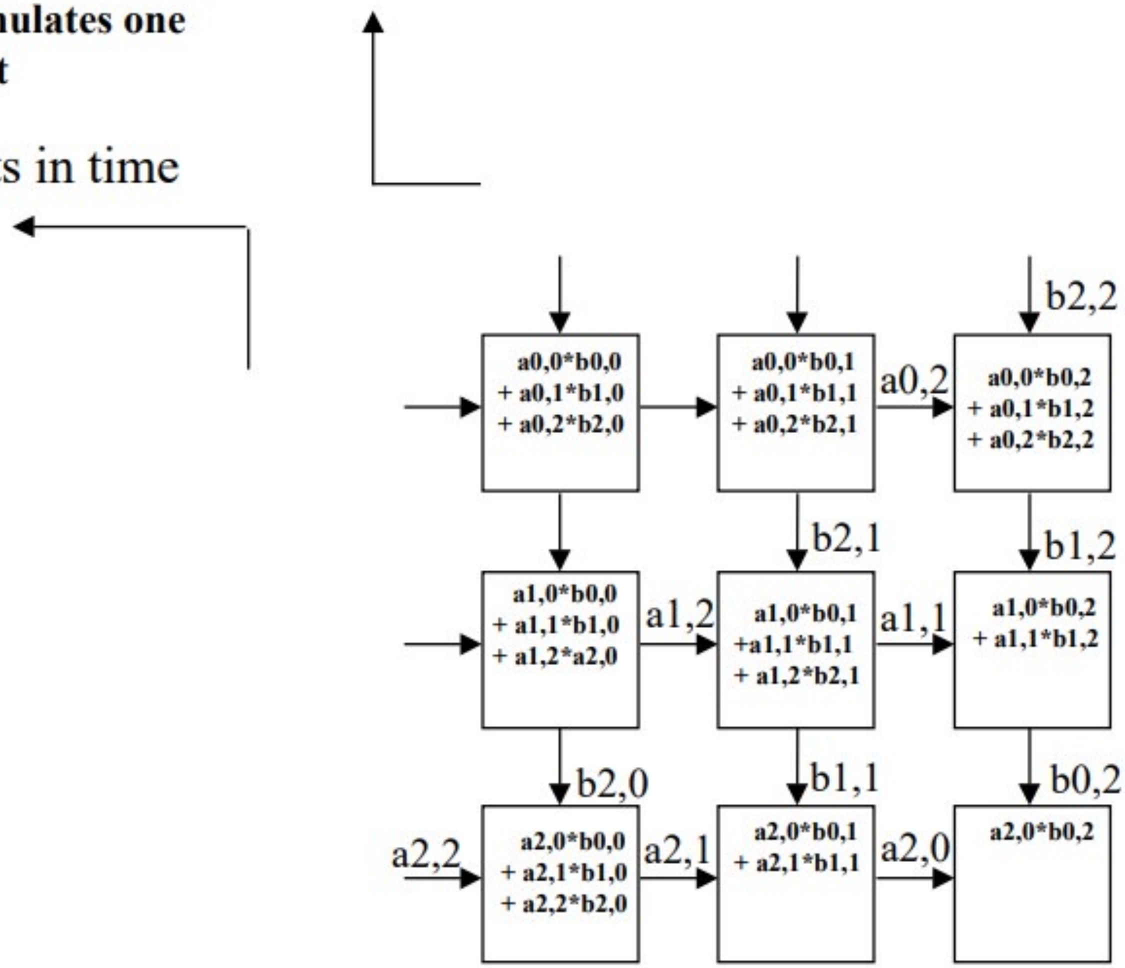
Alignments in time



T = 5

EECC756 - Shaaban

Example source: http://www.cs.hmc.edu/courses/2001/spring/cs156/

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3x3 Systolic Array Matrix Multiplication

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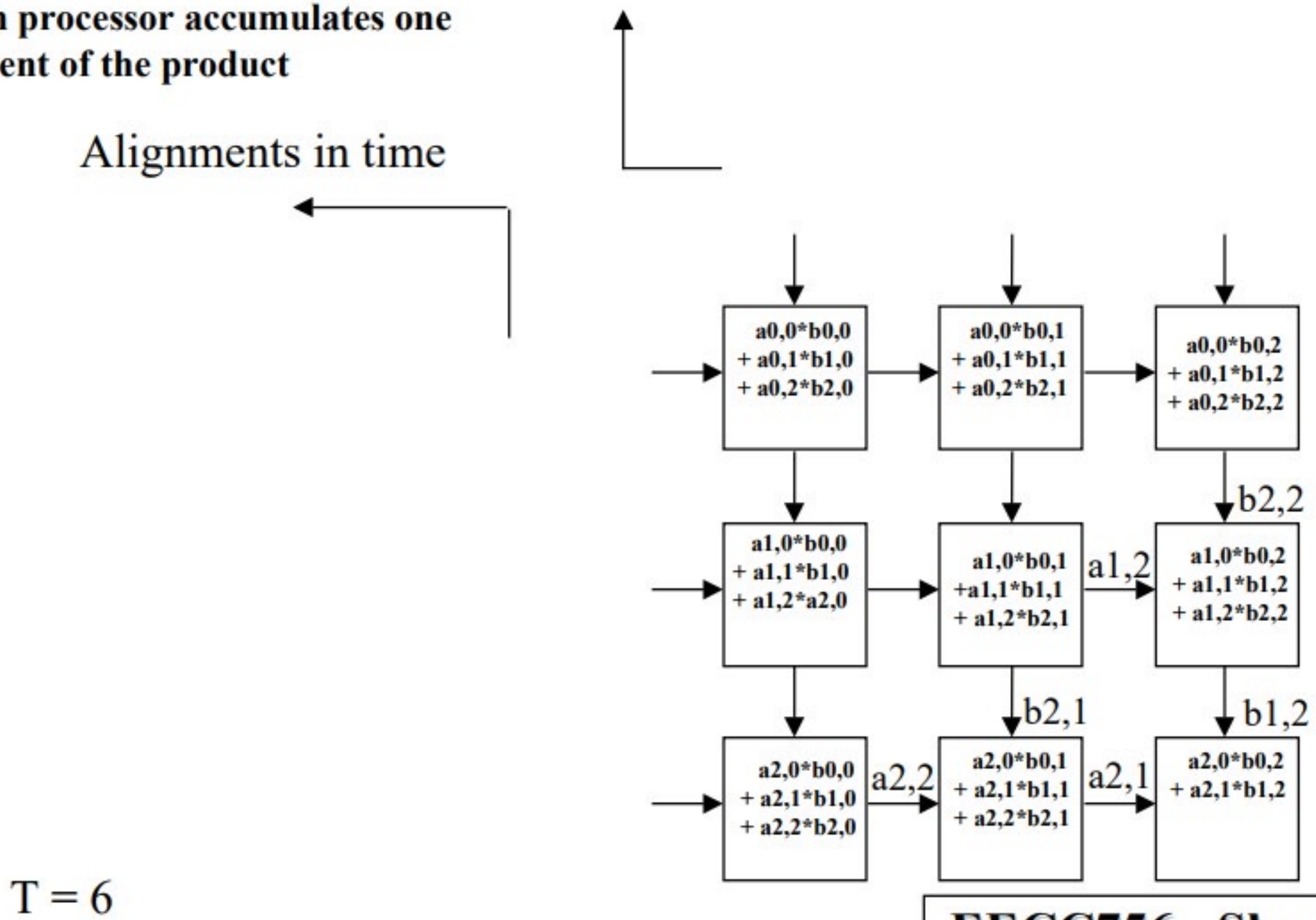

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Systolic Array Example:
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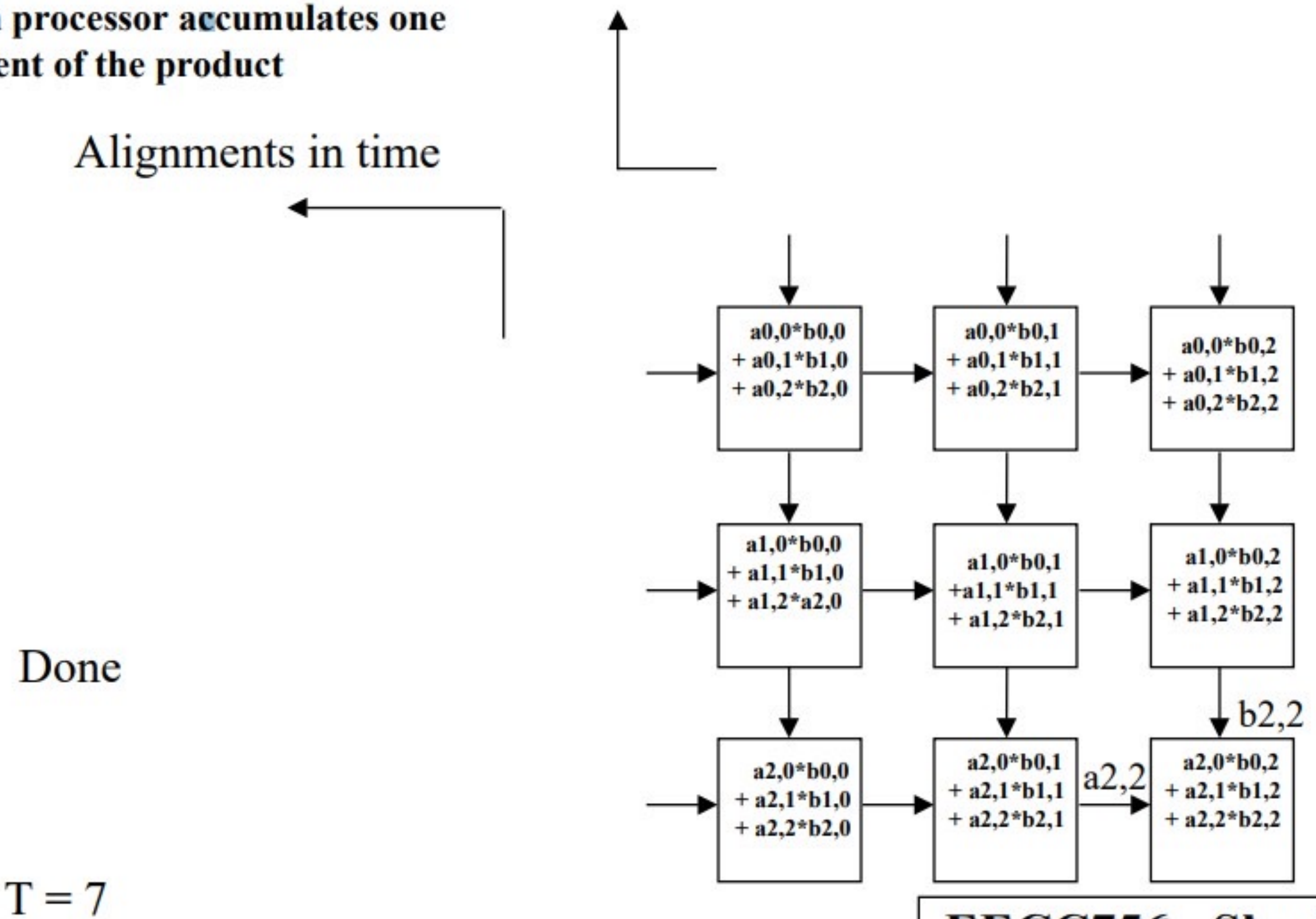

Example source: http://www.cs.hmc.edu/courses/2001/spring/cs156/

The TPU and the Guidelines

- Use dedicated memories
  - 24 MiB dedicated buffer, 4 MiB accumulator buffers
- Invest resources in arithmetic units and dedicated memories
  - 60% of the memory and 250X the arithmetic units of a server-class CPU
- Use the easiest form of parallelism that matches the domain
  - Exploits 2D SIMD parallelism
- Reduce the data size and type needed for the domain
  - Primarily uses 8-bit integers
- Use a domain-specific programming language
  - Uses TensorFlow