

Computer Architecture: Memory Interference and QoS (Part I)

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Memory Interference and QoS Lectures

- These slides are from a lecture delivered at INRIA (July 8, 2013)
- Similar slides were used at the ACACES 2013 course
 - <http://users.ece.cmu.edu/~omutlu/acaces2013-memory.html>

QoS-Aware Memory Systems

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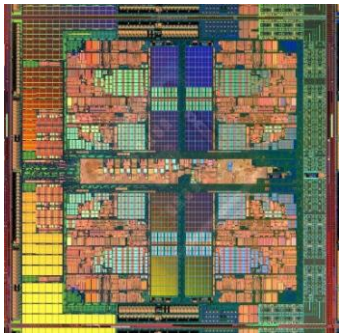
July 8, 2013

INRIA

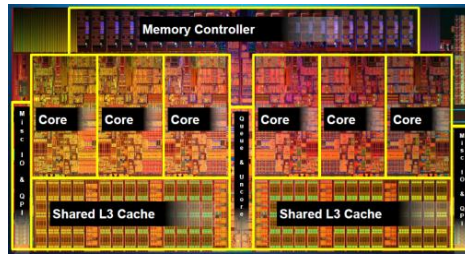
Carnegie Mellon

Trend: Many Cores on Chip

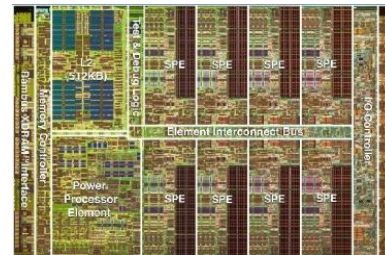
- Simpler and lower power than a single large core
- Large scale parallelism on chip



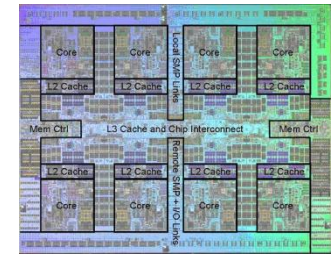
AMD Barcelona
4 cores



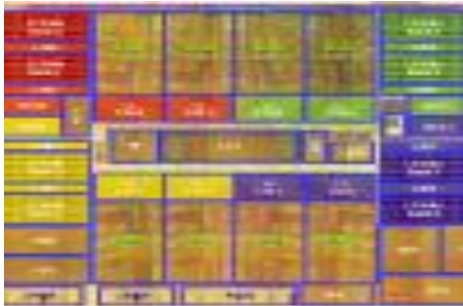
Intel Core i7
8 cores



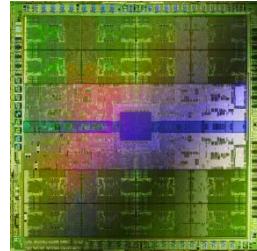
IBM Cell BE
8+1 cores



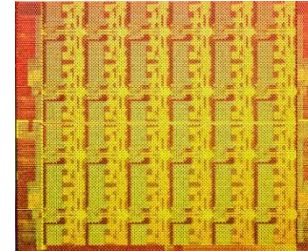
IBM POWER7
8 cores



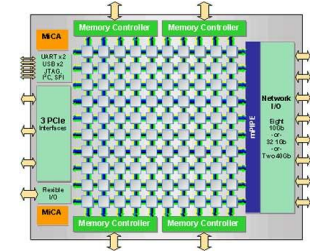
Sun Niagara II
8 cores



Nvidia Fermi
448 "cores"



Intel SCC
48 cores, networked

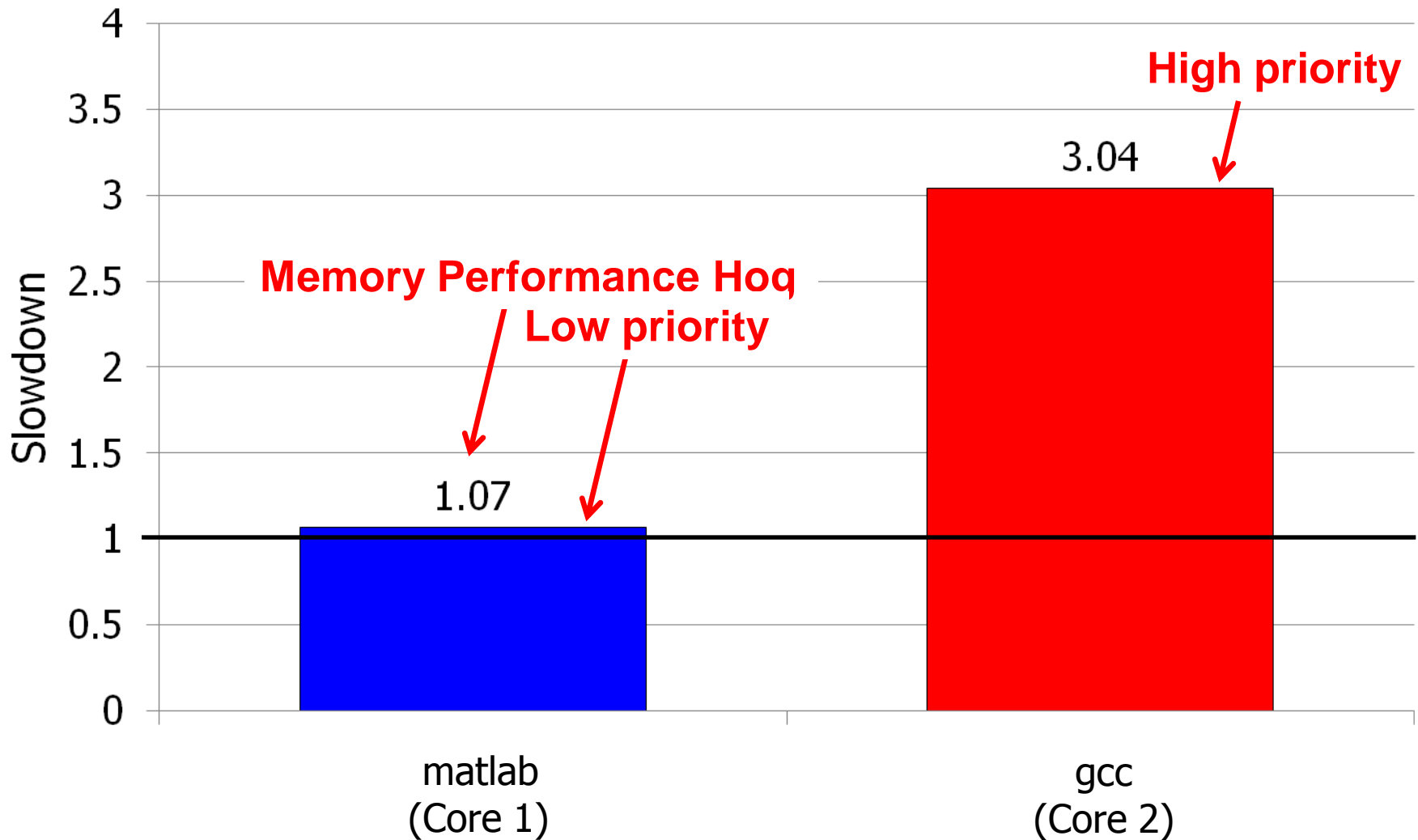


Tiler TILE Gx
100 cores, networked

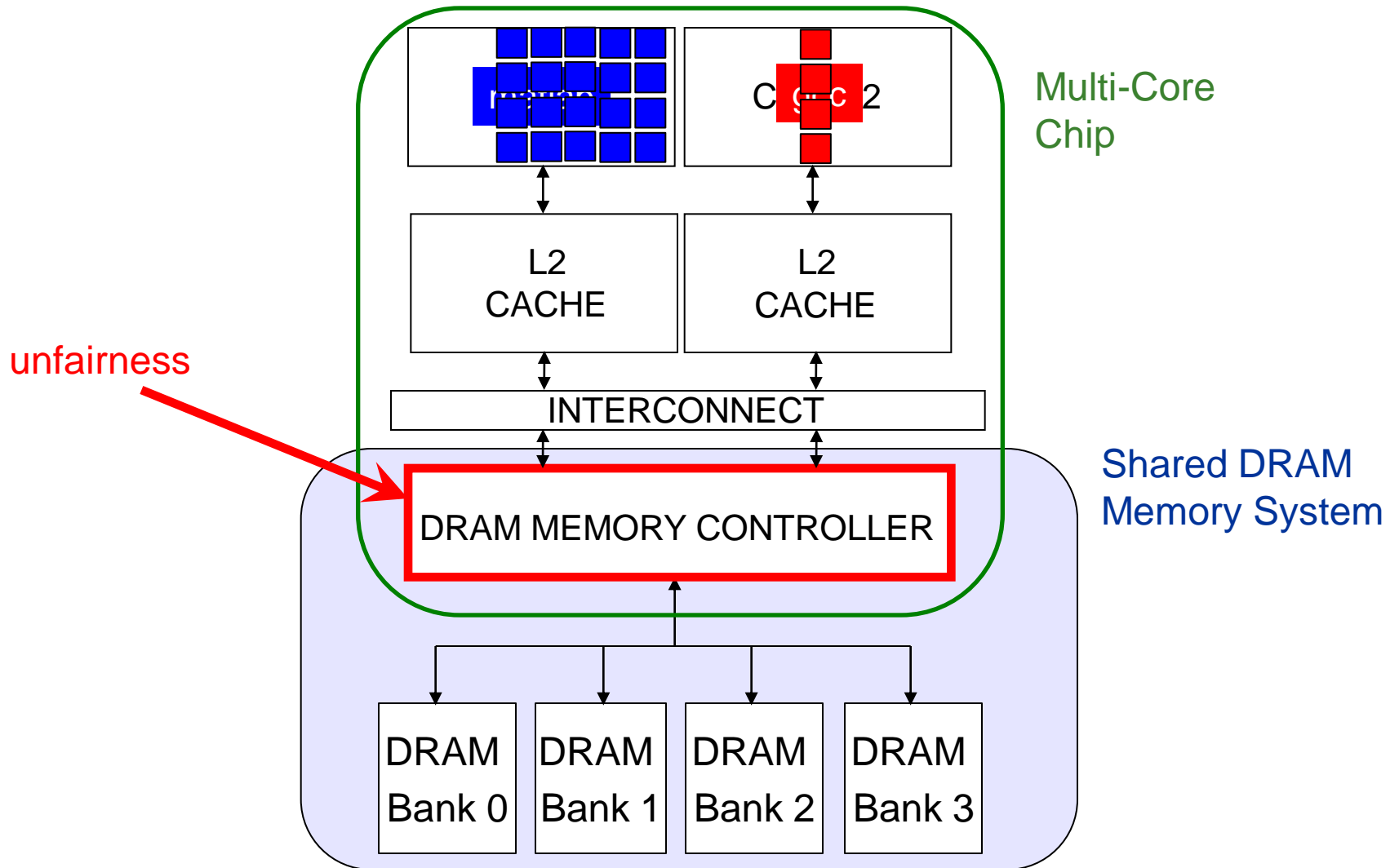
Many Cores on Chip

- What we want:
 - N times the system performance with N times the cores
- What do we get today?

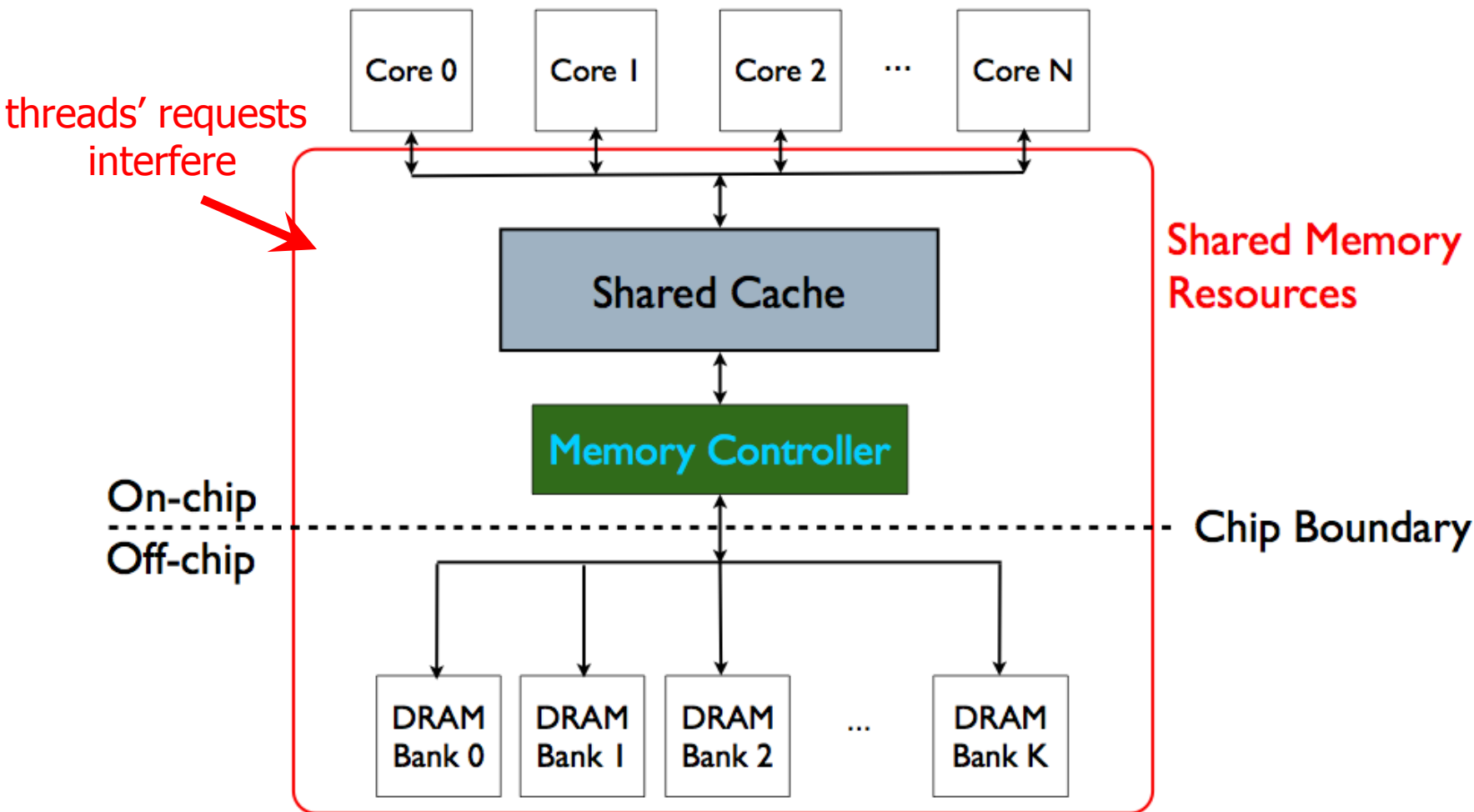
Unfair Slowdowns due to Interference



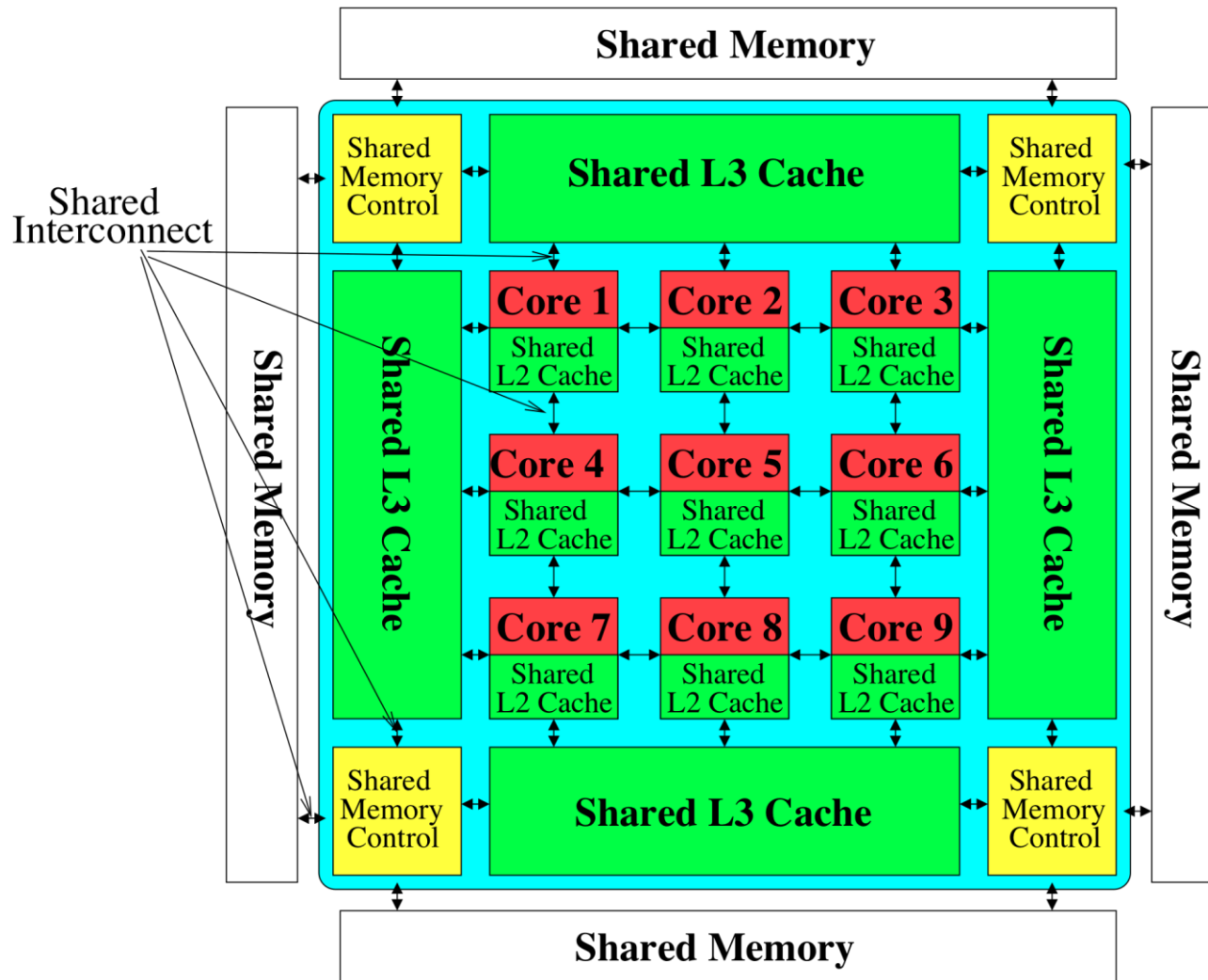
Uncontrolled Interference: An Example



Memory System is the Major Shared Resource



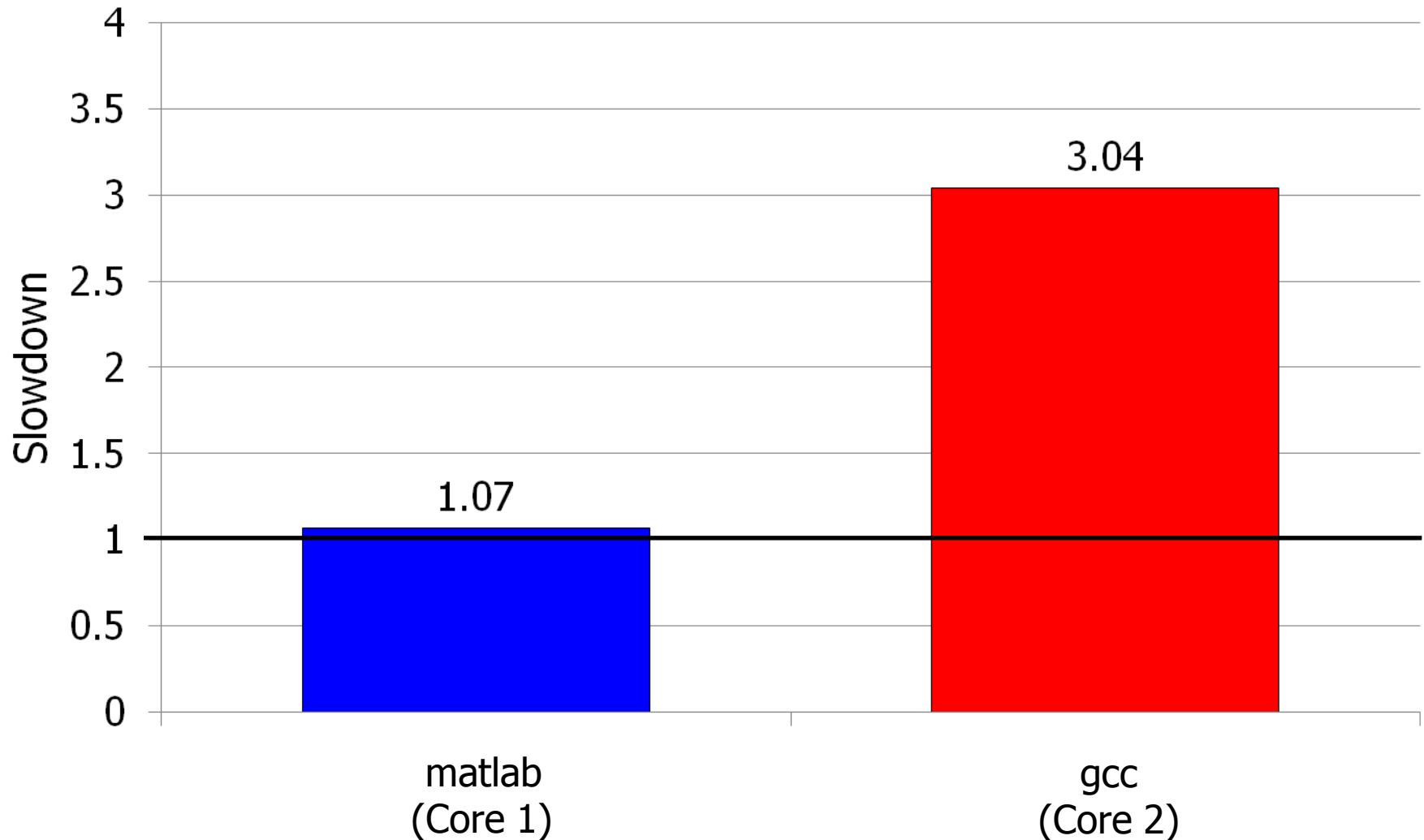
Much More of a Shared Resource in Future



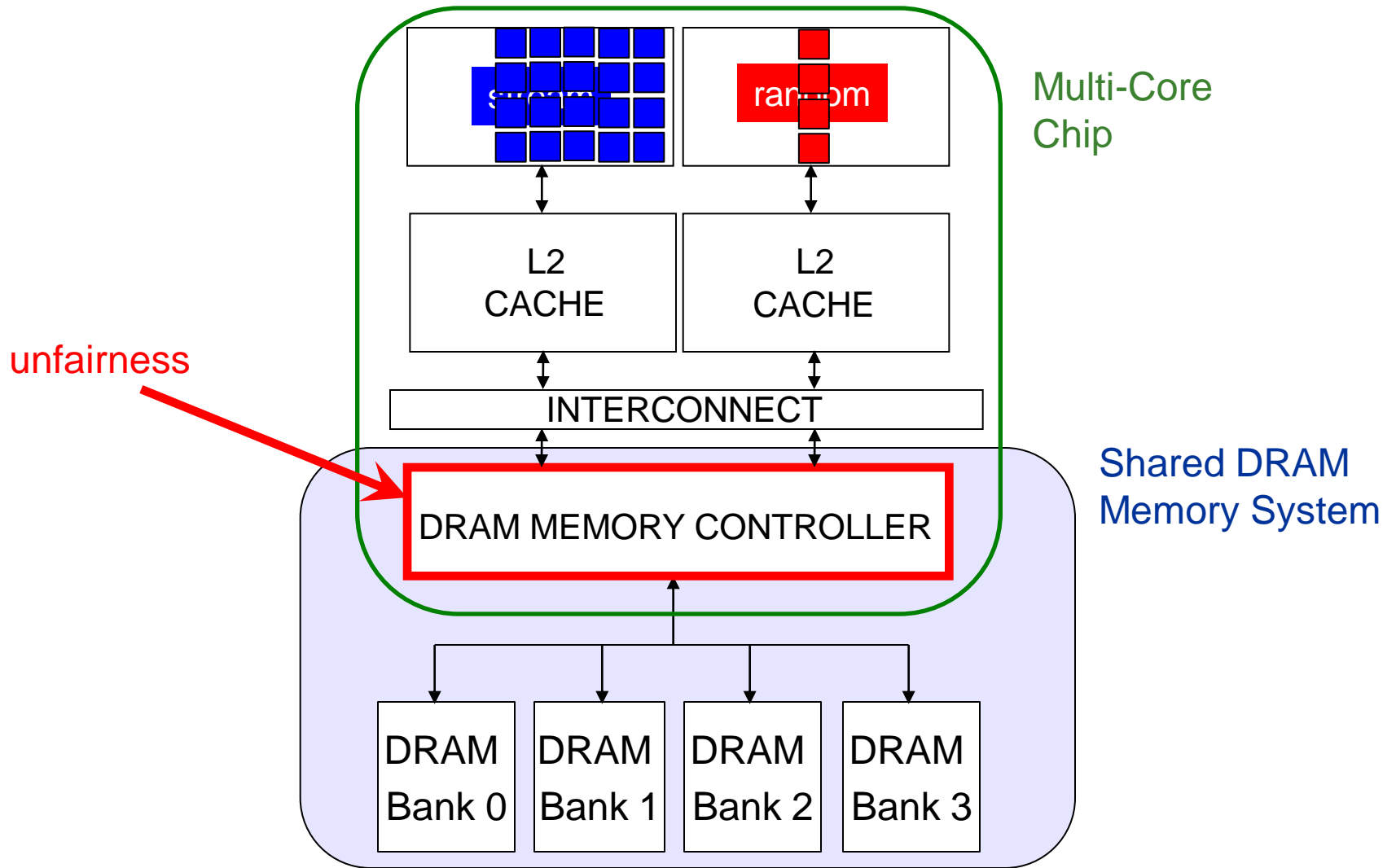
Inter-Thread/Application Interference

- Problem: Threads share the memory system, but memory system does not distinguish between threads' requests
- Existing memory systems
 - Free-for-all, shared based on demand
 - Control algorithms thread-unaware and thread-unfair
 - Aggressive threads can deny service to others
 - Do not try to reduce or control inter-thread interference

Unfair Slowdowns due to Interference



Uncontrolled Interference: An Example



A Memory Performance Hog

```
// initialize large arrays A, B
for (j=0; j<N; j++) {
    index = j*linesize; streaming
    A[index] = B[index];
    ...
}
```

STREAM

- Sequential memory access
- Very high row buffer locality (96% hit rate)
- Memory intensive

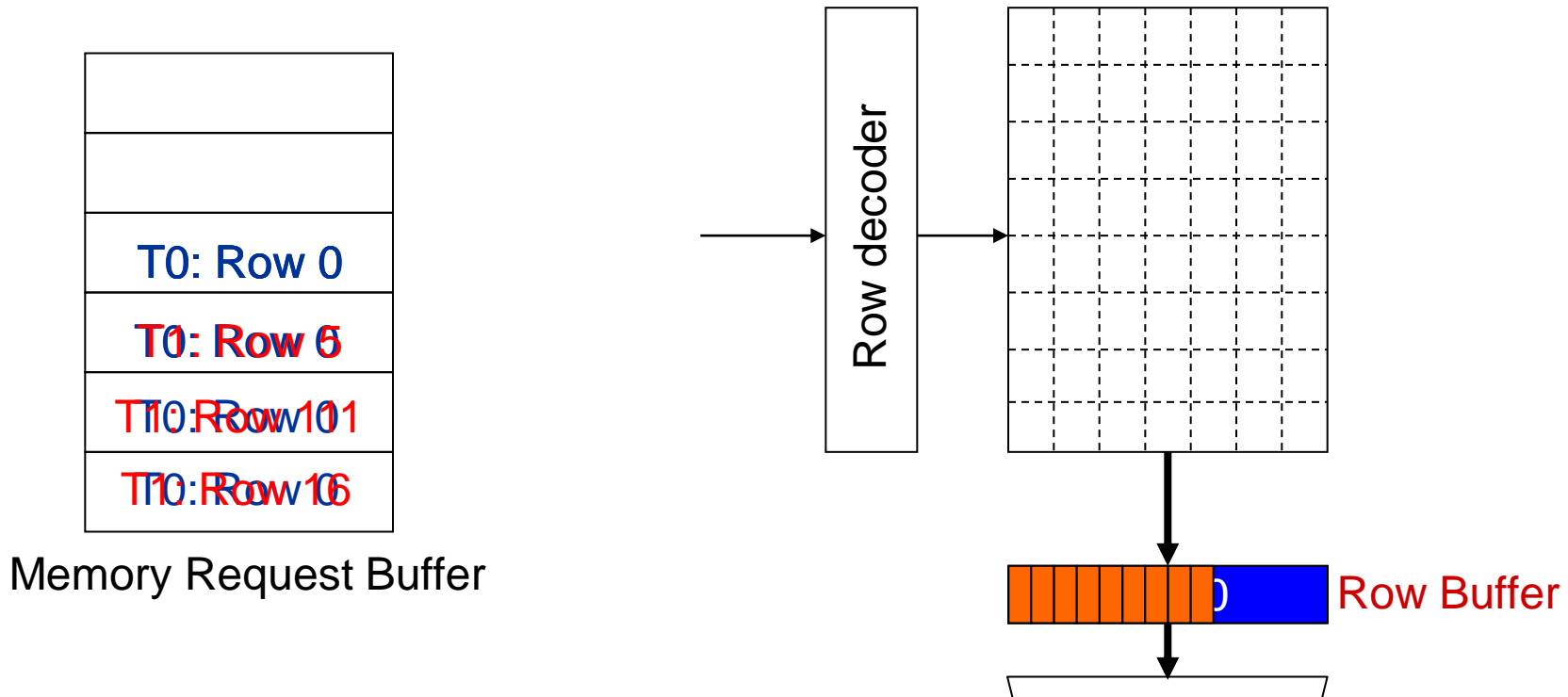
```
// initialize large arrays A, B
for (j=0; j<N; j++) {
    index = rand(); random
    A[index] = B[index];
    ...
}
```

RANDOM

- Random memory access
- Very low row buffer locality (3% hit rate)
- Similarly memory intensive

Moscibroda and Mutlu, “[Memory Performance Attacks](#),” USENIX Security 2007.

What Does the Memory Hog Do?



Row size: 8KB, cache block size: 64B

128 (8KB/64B) requests of T0 serviced before T1

Moscibroda and Mutlu, “[Memory Performance Attacks](#),” USENIX Security 2007.

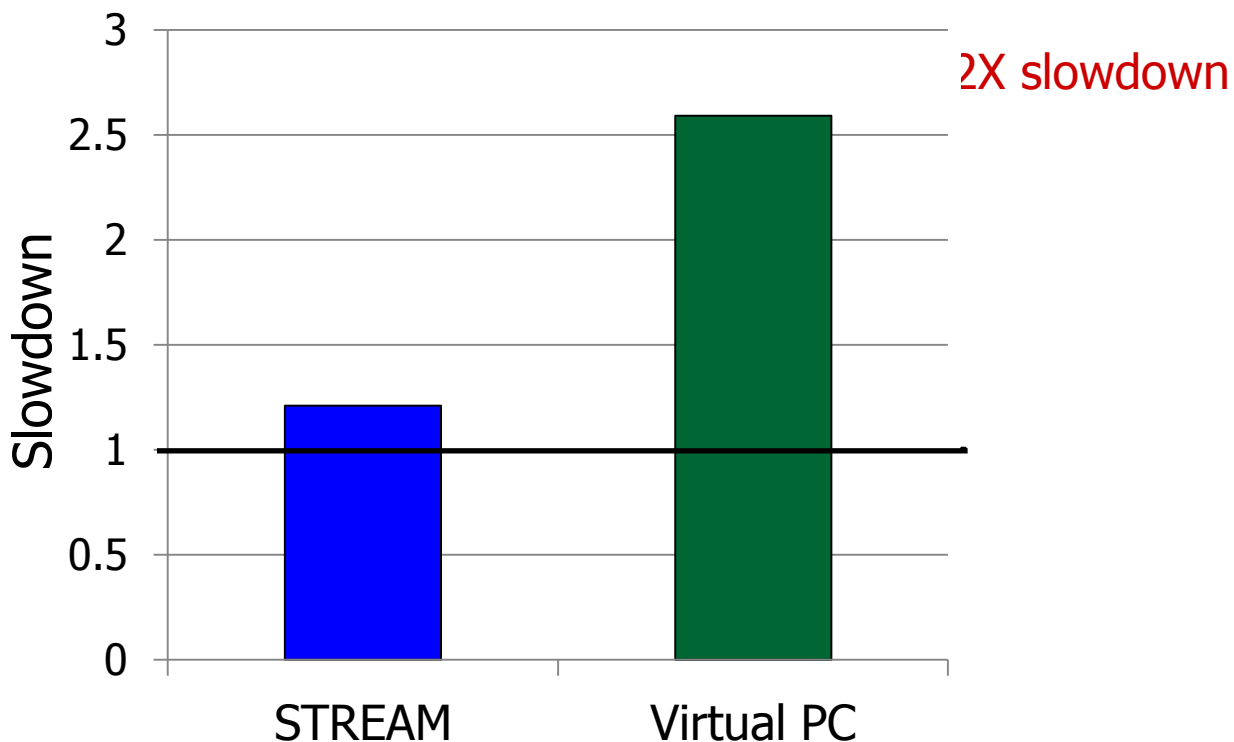
DRAM Controllers

- A row-conflict memory access takes significantly longer than a row-hit access
- Current controllers take advantage of the row buffer
- Commonly used scheduling policy (FR-FCFS) [Rixner 2000]*
 - (1) **Row-hit first:** Service row-hit memory accesses first
 - (2) **Oldest-first:** Then service older accesses first
- This scheduling policy aims to maximize DRAM throughput
 - **But, it is unfair when multiple threads share the DRAM system**

*Rixner et al., “Memory Access Scheduling,” ISCA 2000.

*Zuravleff and Robinson, “Controller for a synchronous DRAM ...,” US Patent 5,630,096, May 1997.

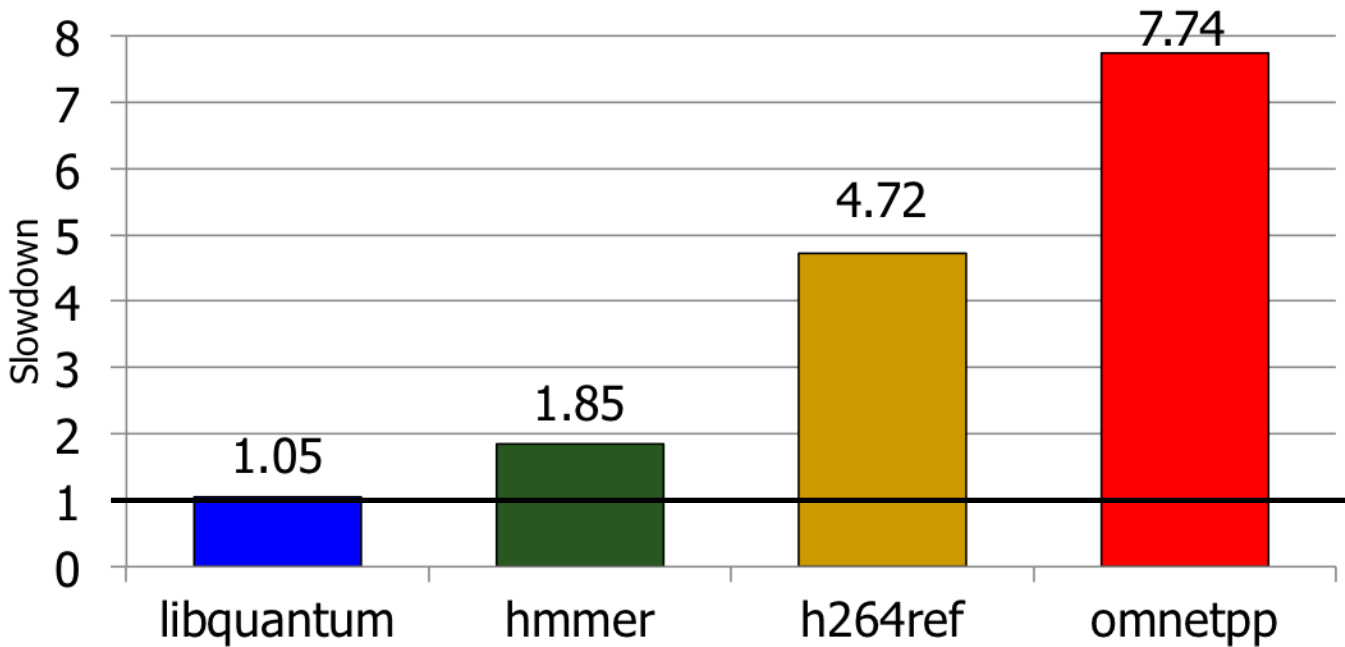
Effect of the Memory Performance Hog



Results on Intel Pentium D running Windows XP
(Similar results for Intel Core Duo and AMD Turion, and on Fedora Linux)

Moscibroda and Mutlu, “[Memory Performance Attacks](#),” USENIX Security 2007.

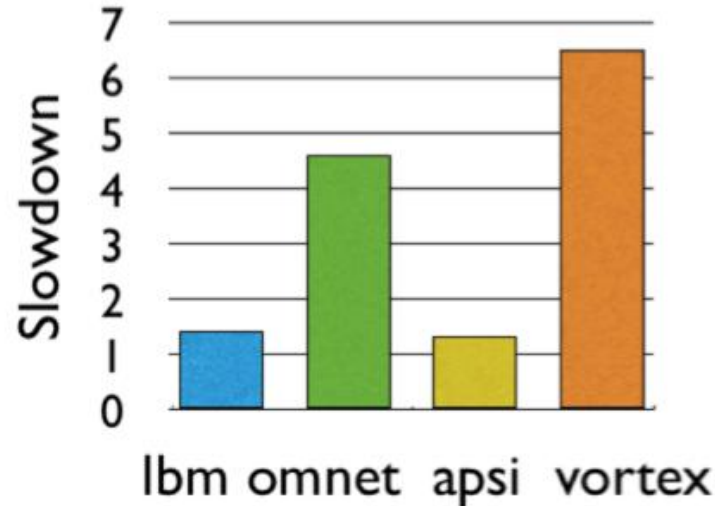
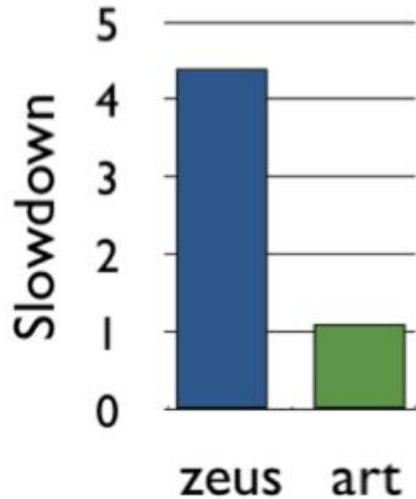
Greater Problem with More Cores



- Vulnerable to denial of service (DoS)
- Unable to enforce priorities or SLAs
- Low system performance

Uncontrollable, unpredictable system

Greater Problem with More Cores



- Vulnerable to denial of service (DoS) [Usenix Security'07]
- Unable to enforce priorities or SLAs [MICRO'07,'10,'11, ISCA'08'11'12, ASPLOS'10]
- Low system performance [IEEE Micro Top Picks '09,'11a,'11b,'12]

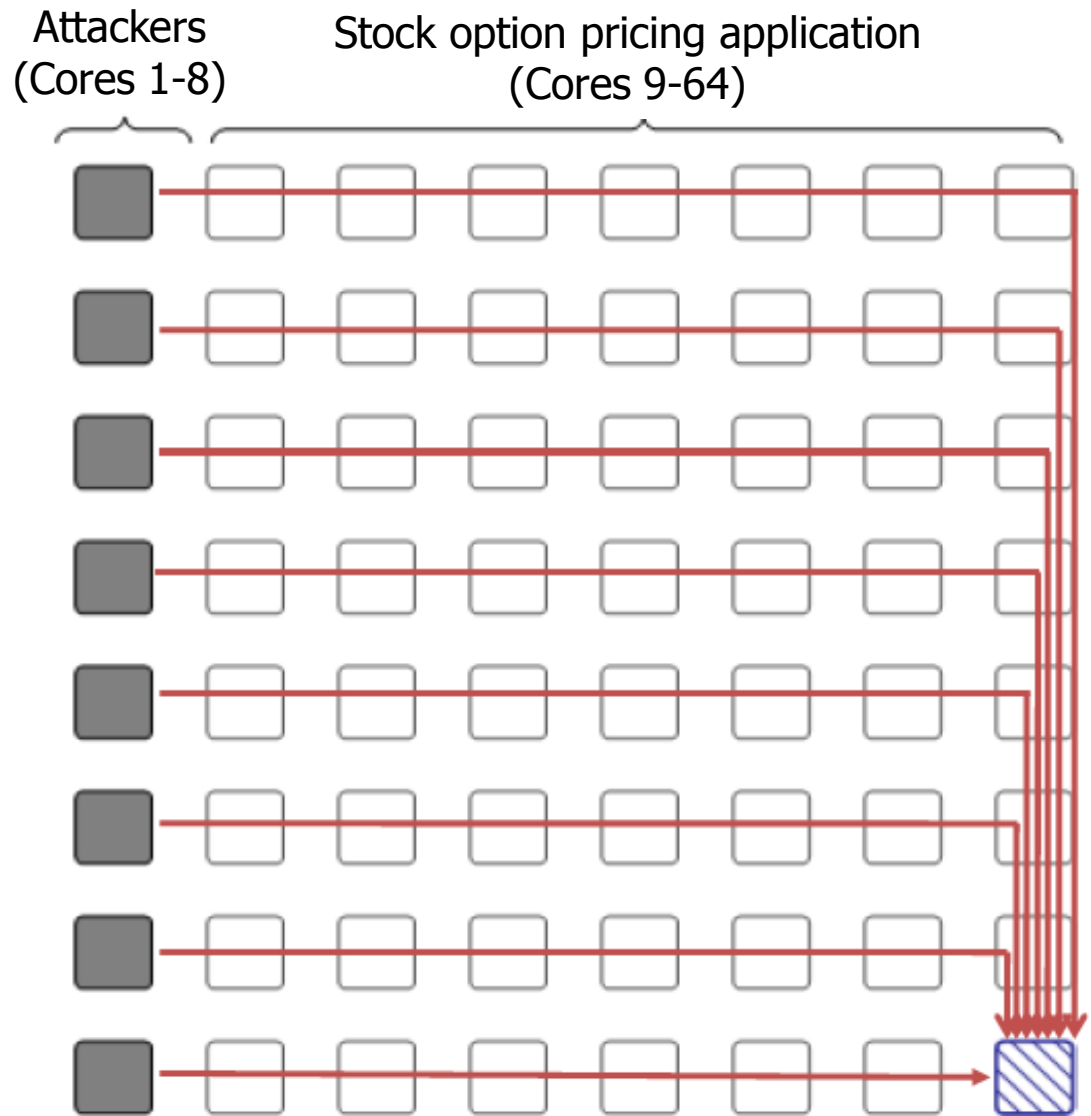
Uncontrollable, unpredictable system

Distributed DoS in Networked Multi-Core Systems

Cores connected via packet-switched routers on chip

~5000X latency increase

Grot, Hestness, Keckler, Mutlu, "Preemptive virtual clock: A Flexible, Efficient, and Cost-effective QOS Scheme for Networks-on-Chip," MICRO 2009.



How Do We Solve The Problem?

- Inter-thread interference is uncontrolled in all memory resources
 - Memory controller
 - Interconnect
 - Caches
- We need to control it
 - i.e., design an interference-aware (QoS-aware) memory system

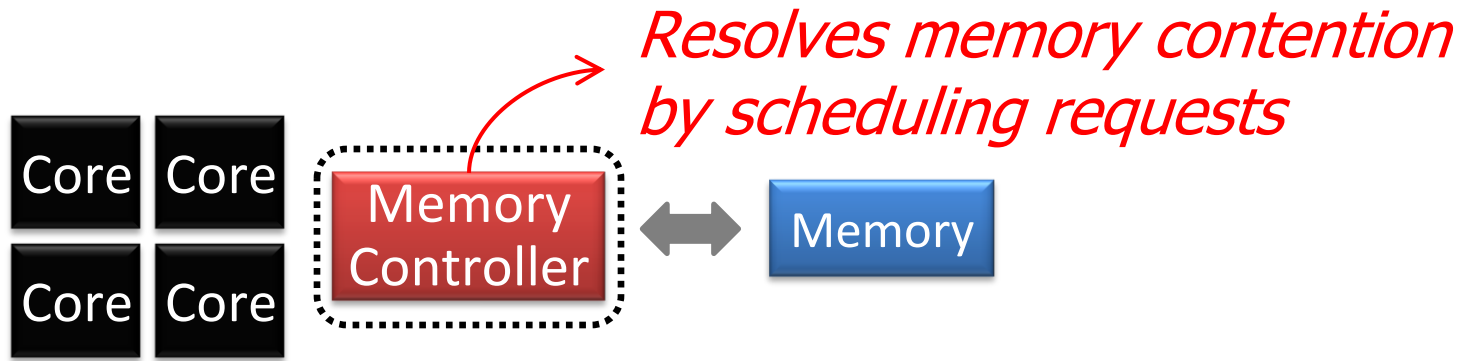
QoS-Aware Memory Systems: Challenges

- How do we **reduce inter-thread interference**?
 - Improve system performance and core utilization
 - Reduce request serialization and core starvation
- How do we **control inter-thread interference**?
 - Provide mechanisms to enable system software to enforce QoS policies
 - While providing high system performance
- How do we **make the memory system configurable/flexible**?
 - Enable flexible mechanisms that can achieve many goals
 - Provide fairness or throughput when needed
 - Satisfy performance guarantees when needed

Designing QoS-Aware Memory Systems: Approaches

- **Smart resources:** Design each shared resource to have a configurable interference control/reduction mechanism
 - **QoS-aware memory controllers** [Mutlu+ MICRO'07] [Moscibroda+, Usenix Security'07] [Mutlu+ ISCA'08, Top Picks'09] [Kim+ HPCA'10] [Kim+ MICRO'10, Top Picks'11] [Ebrahimi+ ISCA'11, MICRO'11] [Ausavarungnirun+, ISCA'12][Subramanian+, HPCA'13]
 - QoS-aware interconnects [Das+ MICRO'09, ISCA'10, Top Picks '11] [Grot+ MICRO'09, ISCA'11, Top Picks '12]
 - QoS-aware caches
- **Dumb resources:** Keep each resource free-for-all, but reduce/control interference by injection control or data mapping
 - Source throttling to control access to memory system [Ebrahimi+ ASPLOS'10, ISCA'11, TOCS'12] [Ebrahimi+ MICRO'09] [Nychis+ HotNets'10] [Nychis+ SIGCOMM'12]
 - QoS-aware data mapping to memory controllers [Muralidhara+ MICRO'11]
 - QoS-aware thread scheduling to cores [Das+ HPCA'13]

QoS-Aware Memory Scheduling



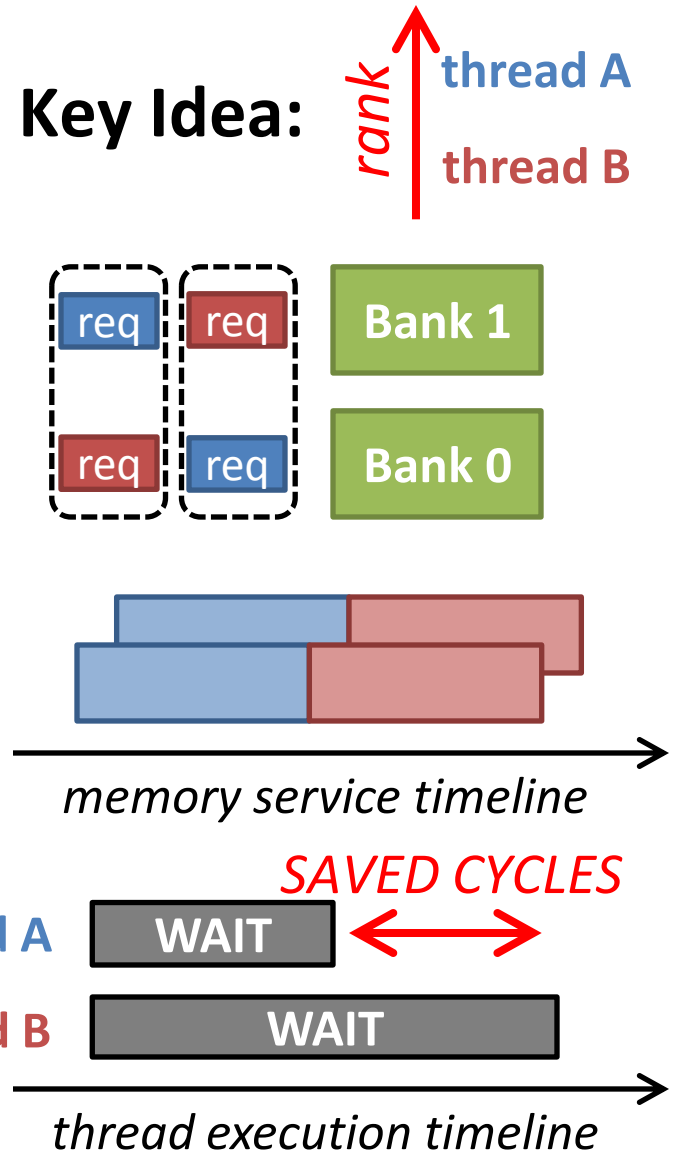
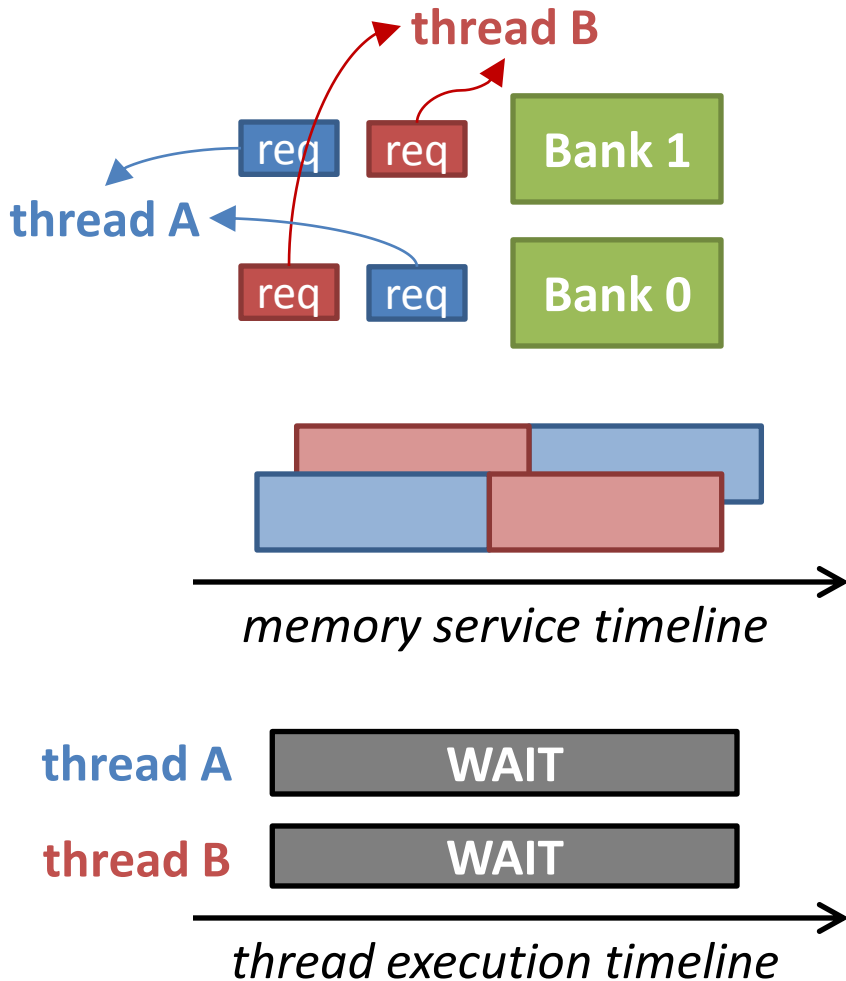
- How to schedule requests to provide
 - High system performance
 - High fairness to applications
 - Configurability to system software
- Memory controller needs to be aware of threads

QoS-Aware Memory Scheduling: Evolution

QoS-Aware Memory Scheduling: Evolution

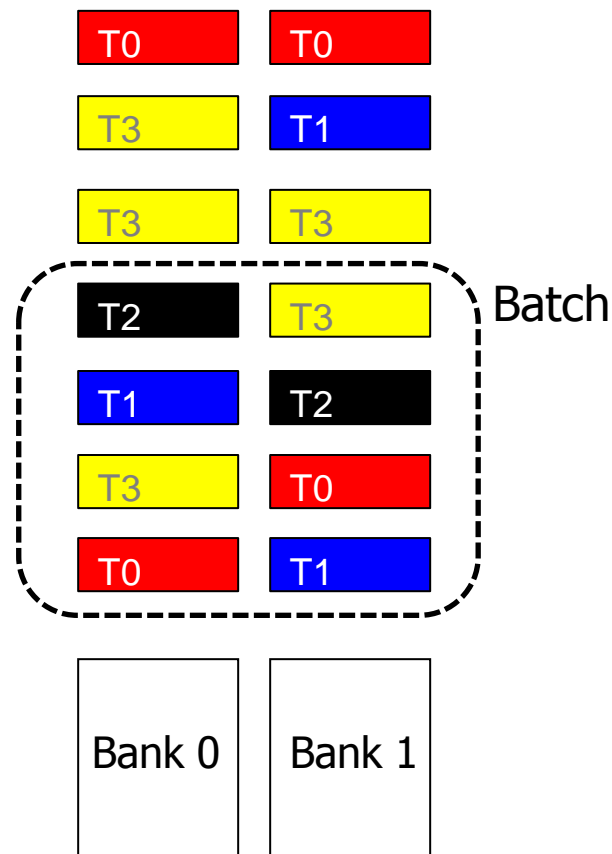
- **Stall-time fair memory scheduling** [Mutlu+ MICRO'07]
 - Idea: Estimate and balance thread slowdowns
 - Takeaway: **Proportional thread progress improves performance, especially when threads are "heavy"** (memory intensive)
- **Parallelism-aware batch scheduling** [Mutlu+ ISCA'08, Top Picks'09]
 - Idea: Rank threads and service in rank order (to preserve bank parallelism); batch requests to prevent starvation
- **ATLAS memory scheduler** [Kim+ HPCA'10]

Within-Thread Bank Parallelism



Parallelism-Aware Batch Scheduling [ISCA'08]

- Principle 1: Schedule requests from a thread back to back
 - Preserves each thread's bank parallelism
 - But, this can cause starvation...
- Principle 2: Group a fixed number of oldest requests from each thread into a "batch"
 - Service the batch before all other requests
 - Form a new batch when the current batch is done
 - Eliminates starvation, provides fairness



QoS-Aware Memory Scheduling: Evolution

- **Stall-time fair memory scheduling** [Mutlu+ MICRO'07]
 - Idea: Estimate and balance thread slowdowns
 - Takeaway: **Proportional thread progress improves performance, especially when threads are "heavy"** (memory intensive)
- **Parallelism-aware batch scheduling** [Mutlu+ ISCA'08, Top Picks'09]
 - Idea: Rank threads and service in rank order (to preserve bank parallelism); batch requests to prevent starvation
 - Takeaway: **Preserving within-thread bank-parallelism improves performance**; request batching improves fairness
- **ATLAS memory scheduler** [Kim+ HPCA'10]
 - Idea: Prioritize threads that have attained the least service from the memory scheduler
 - Takeaway: **Prioritizing "light" threads improves performance**

QoS-Aware Memory Scheduling: Evolution

- **Thread cluster memory scheduling** [Kim+ MICRO'10]
 - Idea: Cluster threads into two groups (latency vs. bandwidth sensitive); prioritize the latency-sensitive ones; employ a fairness policy in the bandwidth sensitive group
 - Takeaway: **Heterogeneous scheduling policy that is different based on thread behavior maximizes both performance and fairness**
- **Integrated Memory Channel Partitioning and Scheduling** [Muralidhara+ MICRO'11]
 - Idea: Only prioritize very latency-sensitive threads in the scheduler; mitigate all other applications' interference via channel partitioning
 - Takeaway: **Intelligently combining application-aware channel partitioning and memory scheduling provides better performance than either**

QoS-Aware Memory Scheduling: Evolution

- **Parallel application memory scheduling** [Ebrahimi+ MICRO'11]
 - Idea: Identify and prioritize limiter threads of a multithreaded application in the memory scheduler; provide fast and fair progress to non-limiter threads
 - Takeaway: **Carefully prioritizing between limiter and non-limiter threads of a parallel application improves performance**
- **Staged memory scheduling** [Ausavarungnirun+ ISCA'12]
 - Idea: Divide the functional tasks of an application-aware memory scheduler into multiple distinct stages, where each stage is significantly simpler than a monolithic scheduler
 - Takeaway: **Staging enables the design of a scalable and relatively simpler application-aware memory scheduler that works on very large request buffers**

QoS-Aware Memory Scheduling: Evolution

- **MISE** [Subramanian+ HPCA'13]
 - Idea: Estimate the performance of a thread by estimating its change in memory request service rate when run alone vs. shared → use this simple model to estimate slowdown to design a scheduling policy that provides predictable performance or fairness
 - Takeaway: Request service rate of a thread is a good proxy for its performance; alone request service rate can be estimated by giving high priority to the thread in memory scheduling for a while

QoS-Aware Memory Scheduling: Evolution

- **Prefetch-aware shared resource management** [Ebrahimi+ ISCA'12] [Ebrahimi+ MICRO'09] [Lee+ MICRO'08]
 - Idea: Prioritize prefetches depending on how they affect system performance; even accurate prefetches can degrade performance of the system
 - Takeaway: **Carefully controlling and prioritizing prefetch requests improves performance and fairness**
- **DRAM-Aware last-level cache policies** [Lee+ HPS Tech Report'10] [Lee+ HPS Tech Report'10]
 - Idea: Design cache eviction and replacement policies such that they proactively exploit the state of the memory controller and DRAM (e.g., proactively evict data from the cache that hit in open rows)
 - Takeaway: **Coordination of last-level cache and DRAM policies improves performance and fairness**

Stall-Time Fair Memory Scheduling

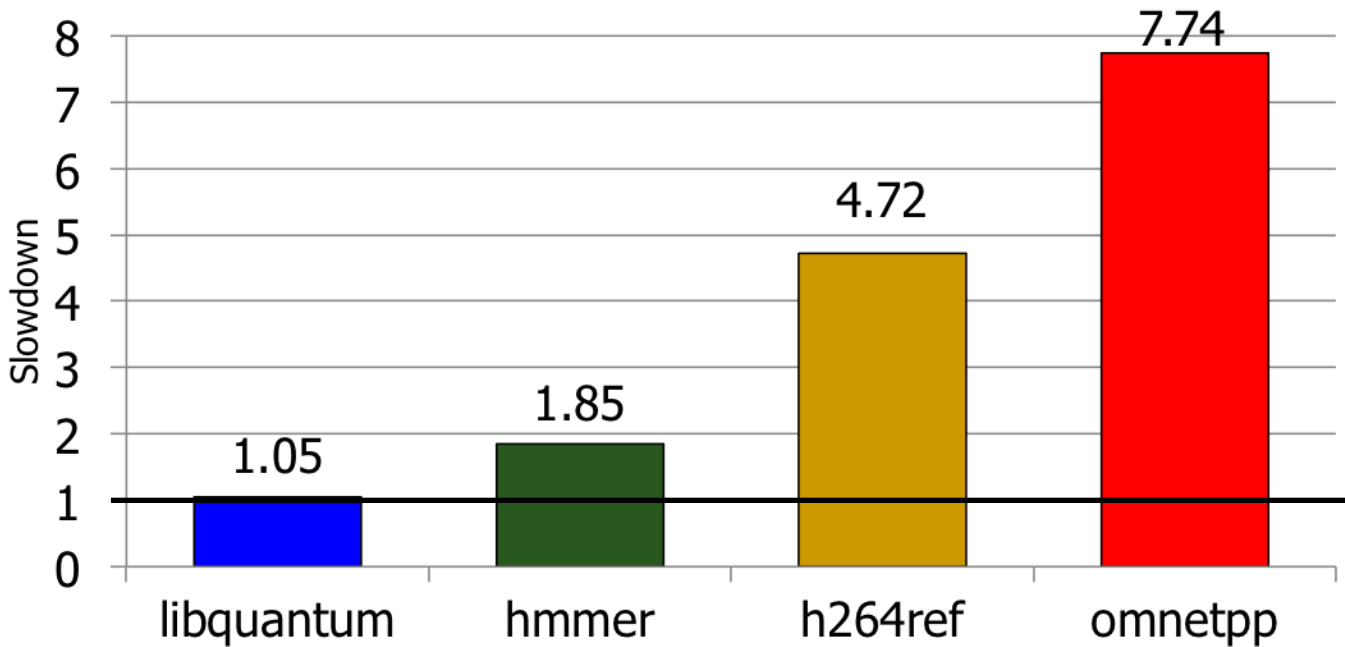
Onur Mutlu and Thomas Moscibroda,

"Stall-Time Fair Memory Access Scheduling for Chip Multiprocessors"

40th International Symposium on Microarchitecture (MICRO),

pages 146-158, Chicago, IL, December 2007. [Slides \(ppt\)](#)

The Problem: Unfairness



- Vulnerable to denial of service (DoS) [Usenix Security'07]
- Unable to enforce priorities or SLAs [MICRO'07,'10,'11, ISCA'08'11'12, ASPLOS'10]
- Low system performance [IEEE Micro Top Picks '09,'11a,'11b,'12]

Uncontrollable, unpredictable system

How Do We Solve the Problem?

- **Stall-time fair memory scheduling** [Mutlu+ MICRO'07]
- Goal: Threads sharing main memory should experience similar slowdowns compared to when they are run alone → fair scheduling
 - Also improves overall system performance by ensuring cores make “proportional” progress
- Idea: Memory controller estimates each thread’s slowdown due to interference and schedules requests in a way to balance the slowdowns
- Mutlu and Moscibroda, “**Stall-Time Fair Memory Access Scheduling for Chip Multiprocessors,**” MICRO 2007.

Stall-Time Fairness in Shared DRAM Systems

- A DRAM system is fair if it equalizes the slowdown of equal-priority threads relative to when each thread is run alone on the same system
- DRAM-related stall-time: The time a thread spends waiting for DRAM memory
- ST_{shared} : DRAM-related stall-time when the thread runs with other threads
- ST_{alone} : DRAM-related stall-time when the thread runs alone
- **Memory-slowdown = $ST_{\text{shared}}/ST_{\text{alone}}$**
 - Relative increase in stall-time
- *Stall-Time Fair Memory scheduler (STFM)* aims to equalize **Memory-slowdown** for interfering threads, without sacrificing performance
 - Considers inherent DRAM performance of each thread
 - Aims to allow proportional progress of threads

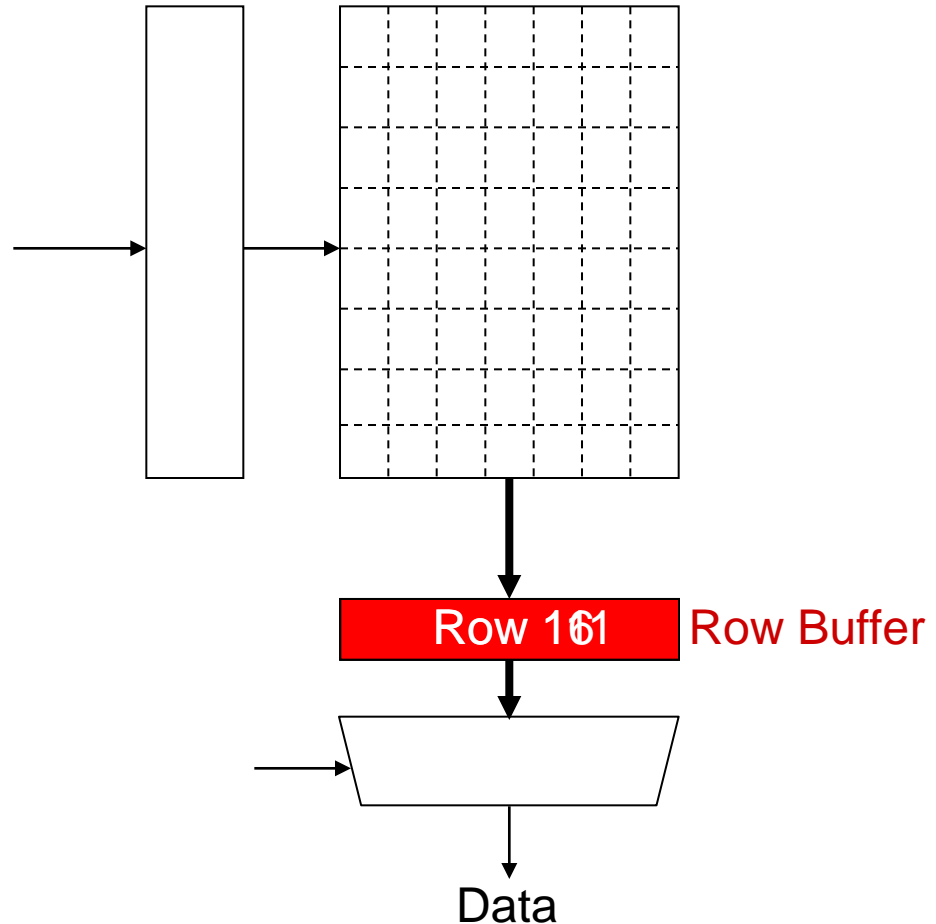
STFM Scheduling Algorithm [MICRO' 07]

- For each thread, the DRAM controller
 - Tracks ST_{shared}
 - Estimates ST_{alone}
- Each cycle, the DRAM controller
 - Computes $\text{Slowdown} = ST_{\text{shared}}/ST_{\text{alone}}$ for threads with legal requests
 - Computes **unfairness = MAX Slowdown / MIN Slowdown**
- If $\text{unfairness} < \alpha$
 - Use DRAM throughput oriented scheduling policy
- **If unfairness $\geq \alpha$**
 - Use fairness-oriented scheduling policy
 - **(1) requests from thread with MAX Slowdown first**
 - (2) row-hit first , (3) oldest-first

How Does STFMs Prevent Unfairness?

T0: Row 0
T1: Row 5
T0: Row 0
T1: Row 111
T0: Row 0
T0: Row 06

T0 Slowdown	1.00
T1 Slowdown	1.00
Unfairness	1.00
α	1.05



STFM Pros and Cons

- Upsides:
 - ❑ Identifies fairness as an issue in multi-core memory scheduling
 - ❑ Good at providing fairness
 - ❑ Being fair improves performance

- Downsides:
 - ❑ Does not handle all types of interference
 - ❑ Somewhat complex to implement
 - ❑ Slowdown estimations can be incorrect

Parallelism-Aware Batch Scheduling

Onur Mutlu and Thomas Moscibroda,

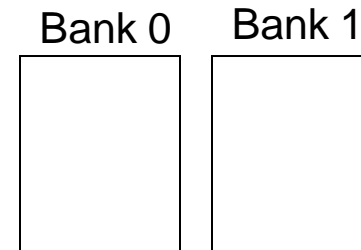
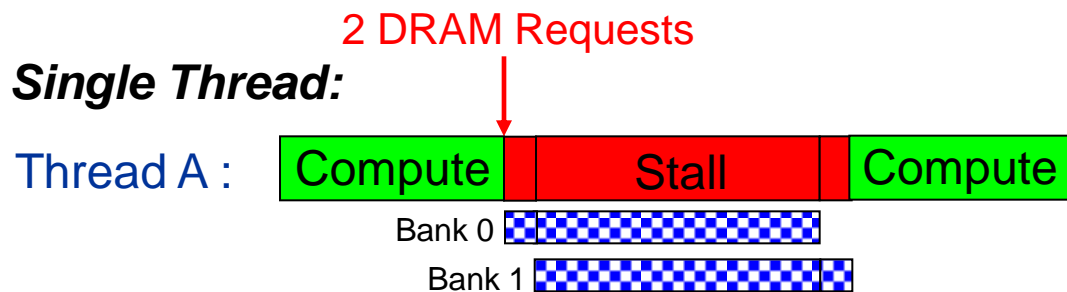
**"Parallelism-Aware Batch Scheduling: Enhancing both
Performance and Fairness of Shared DRAM Systems"**

35th International Symposium on Computer Architecture (ISCA),
pages 63-74, Beijing, China, June 2008. [Slides \(ppt\)](#)

Another Problem due to Interference

- Processors try to tolerate the latency of DRAM requests by generating multiple outstanding requests
 - Memory-Level Parallelism (MLP)
 - Out-of-order execution, non-blocking caches, runahead execution
- Effective only if the DRAM controller actually services the multiple requests in parallel in DRAM banks
- Multiple threads share the DRAM controller
- DRAM controllers are not aware of a thread's MLP
 - Can service each thread's outstanding requests serially, not in parallel

Bank Parallelism of a Thread



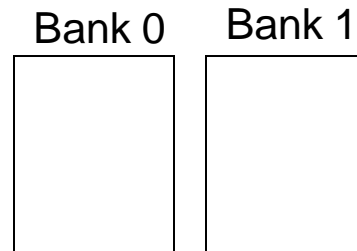
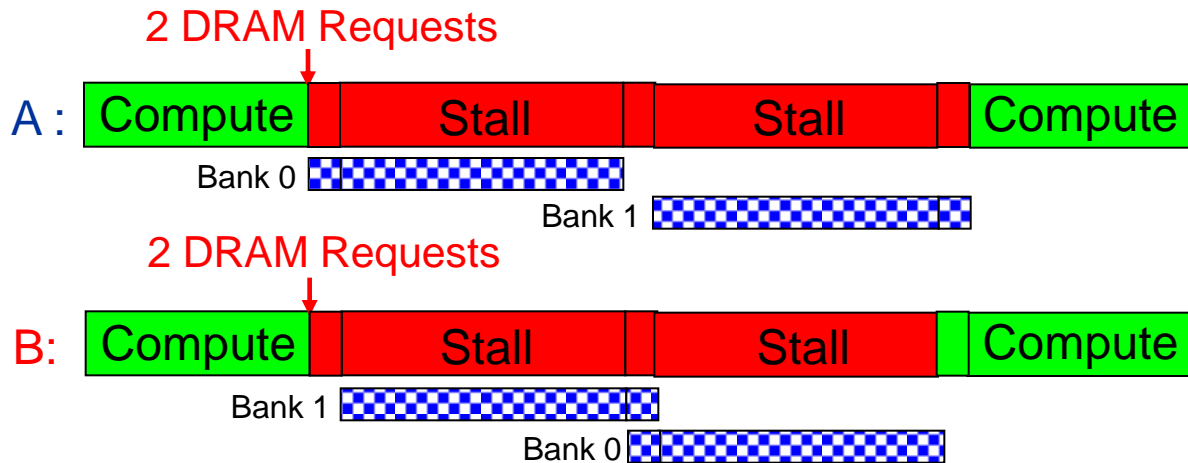
Thread A: Bank 0, Row 1

Thread A: Bank 1, Row 1

Bank access latencies of the two requests overlapped
Thread stalls for ~ONE bank access latency

Bank Parallelism Interference in DRAM

Baseline Scheduler:

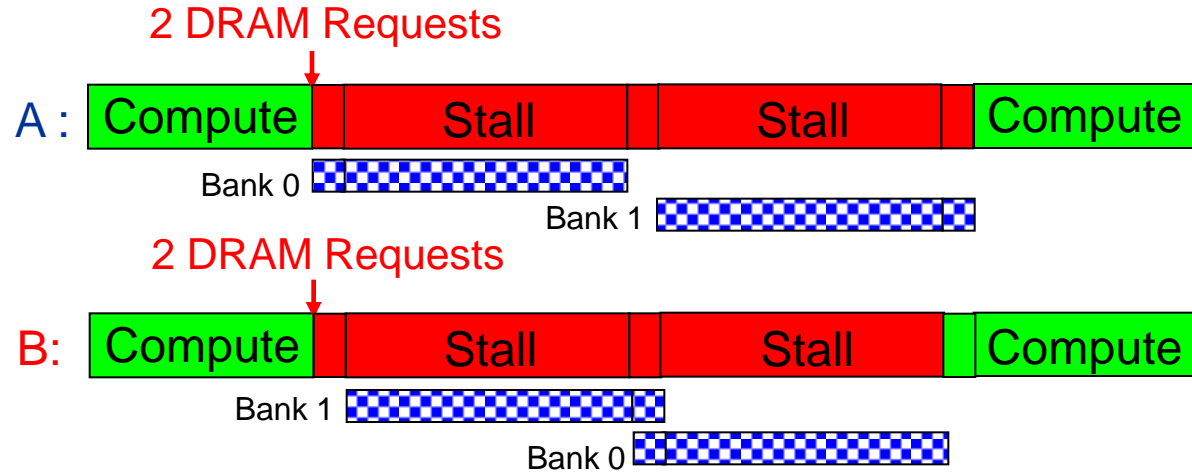


- Thread A: Bank 0, Row 1
- Thread B: Bank 1, Row 99
- Thread B: Bank 0, Row 99
- Thread A: Bank 1, Row 1

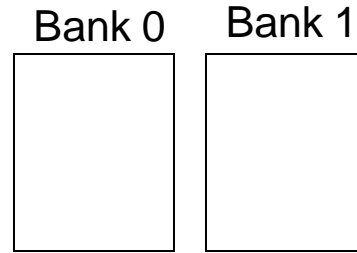
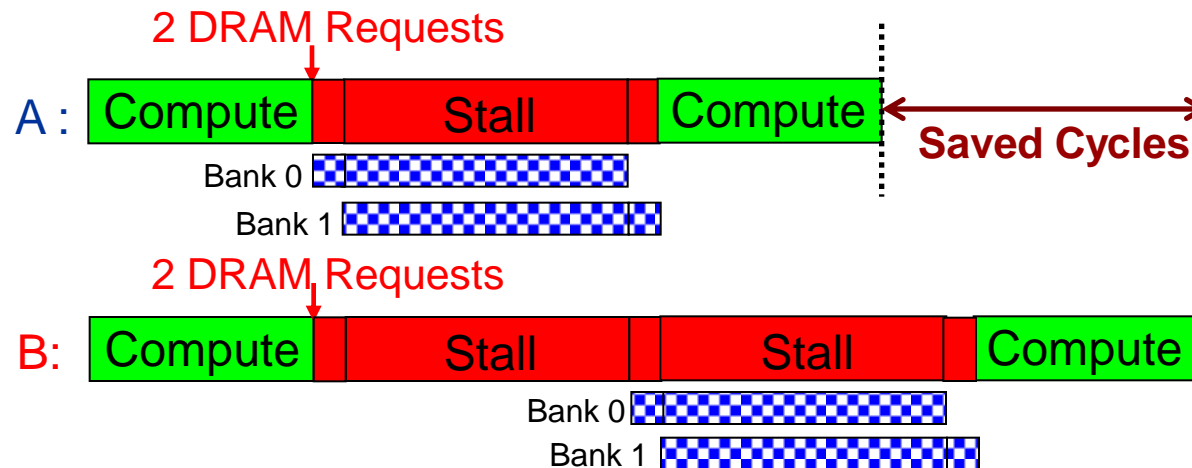
Bank access latencies of each thread serialized
Each thread stalls for ~TWO bank access latencies

Parallelism-Aware Scheduler

Baseline Scheduler:



Parallelism-aware Scheduler:



Thread A: Bank 0, Row 1

Thread B: Bank 1, Row 99

Thread B: Bank 0, Row 99

Thread A: Bank 1, Row 1

**Average stall-time:
~1.5 bank access
latencies**

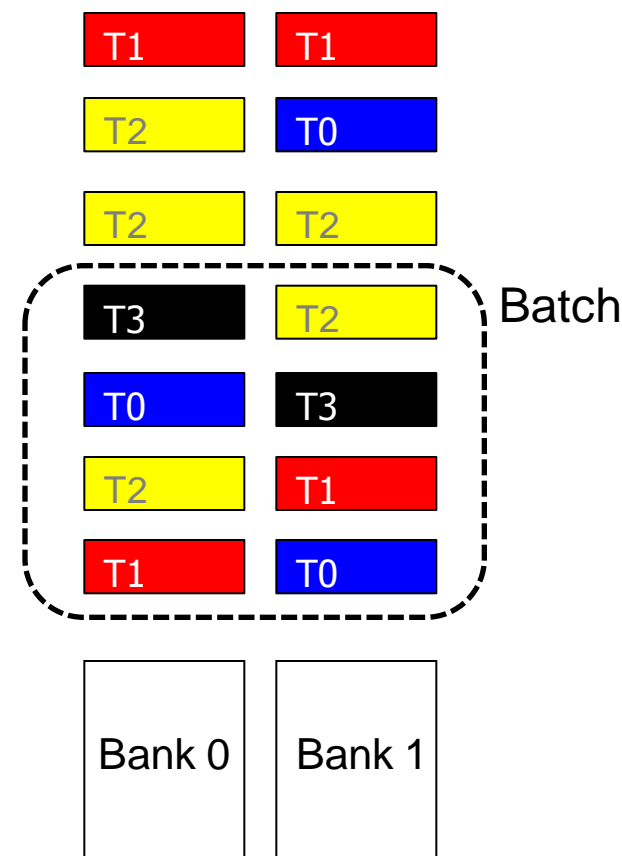
Parallelism-Aware Batch Scheduling (PAR-BS)

■ Principle 1: Parallelism-awareness

- ❑ Schedule requests from a thread (to different banks) back to back
- ❑ Preserves each thread's bank parallelism
- ❑ But, this can cause starvation...

■ Principle 2: Request Batching

- ❑ Group a fixed number of oldest requests from each thread into a "batch"
- ❑ Service the batch before all other requests
- ❑ Form a new batch when the current one is done
- ❑ Eliminates starvation, provides fairness
- ❑ Allows parallelism-awareness within a batch



PAR-BS Components

- Request batching
- Within-batch scheduling
 - Parallelism aware

Request Batching

- Each memory request has a bit (*marked*) associated with it
- Batch formation:
 - Mark up to *Marking-Cap* oldest requests per bank for each thread
 - Marked requests constitute the batch
 - Form a new batch when no marked requests are left
- Marked requests are prioritized over unmarked ones
 - No reordering of requests across batches: **no starvation, high fairness**
- **How to prioritize requests within a batch?**

Within-Batch Scheduling

- Can use any existing DRAM scheduling policy
 - FR-FCFS (row-hit first, then oldest-first) exploits row-buffer locality
- But, we also want to preserve intra-thread bank parallelism
 - Service each thread's requests back to back

HOW?

- Scheduler **computes a ranking of threads** when the batch is formed
 - Higher-ranked threads are prioritized over lower-ranked ones
 - Improves the likelihood that requests from a thread are serviced in parallel by different banks
 - Different threads prioritized in the same order across ALL banks

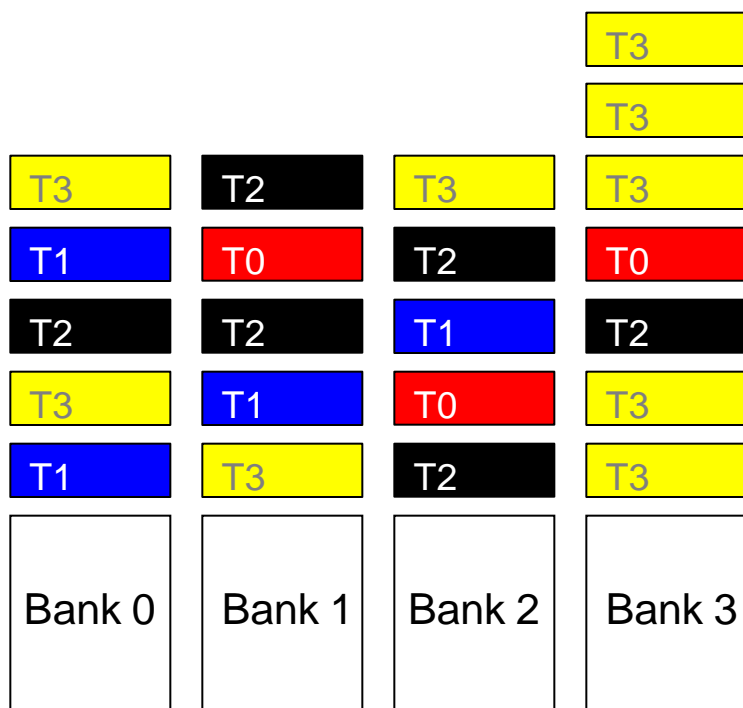
How to Rank Threads within a Batch

- Ranking scheme affects system throughput and fairness
- Maximize system throughput
 - Minimize average stall-time of threads within the batch
- Minimize unfairness (Equalize the slowdown of threads)
 - Service threads with inherently low stall-time early in the batch
 - Insight: delaying memory non-intensive threads results in high slowdown
- Shortest stall-time first (shortest job first) ranking
 - Provides optimal system throughput [Smith, 1956]*
 - Controller estimates each thread's stall-time within the batch
 - Ranks threads with shorter stall-time higher

* W.E. Smith, "Various optimizers for single stage production," Naval Research Logistics Quarterly, 1956.

Shortest Stall-Time First Ranking

- Maximum number of marked requests to any bank (max-bank-load)
 - Rank thread with lower max-bank-load higher (~ low stall-time)
- Total number of marked requests (total-load)
 - Breaks ties: rank thread with lower total-load higher

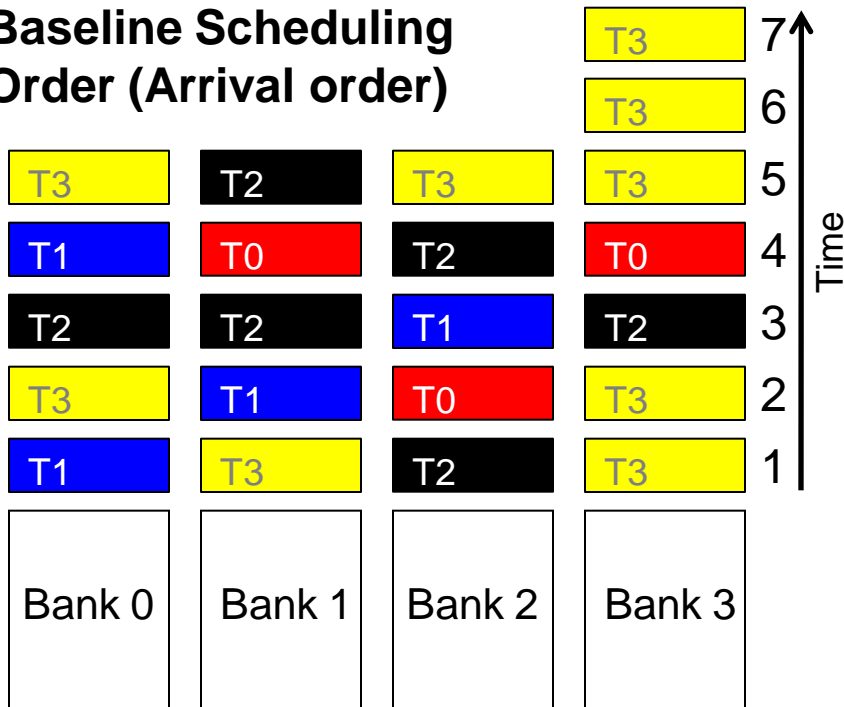


	max-bank-load	total-load

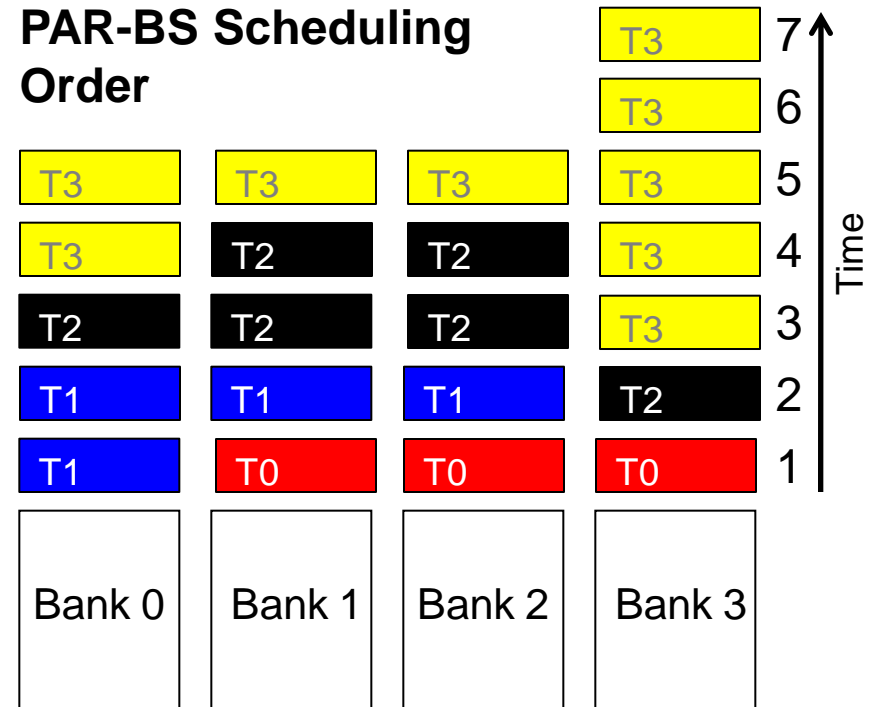
Ranking:
T0 > T1 > T2 > T3

Example Within-Batch Scheduling Order

Baseline Scheduling Order (Arrival order)



PAR-BS Scheduling Order



Ranking: T0 > T1 > T2 > T3

Stall times

	T0	T1	T2	T3

AVG: 5 bank access latencies

Stall times

	T0	T1	T2	T3

AVG: 3.5 bank access latencies

Putting It Together: PAR-BS Scheduling Policy

■ PAR-BS Scheduling Policy

(1) Marked requests first

Batching

(2) Row-hit requests first

(3) Higher-rank thread first (shortest stall-time first)

Parallelism-aware
within-batch
scheduling

(4) Oldest first

■ Three properties:

- Exploits row-buffer locality **and** intra-thread bank parallelism
- Work-conserving
 - Services unmarked requests to banks without marked requests
- Marking-Cap is important
 - Too small cap: destroys row-buffer locality
 - Too large cap: penalizes memory non-intensive threads

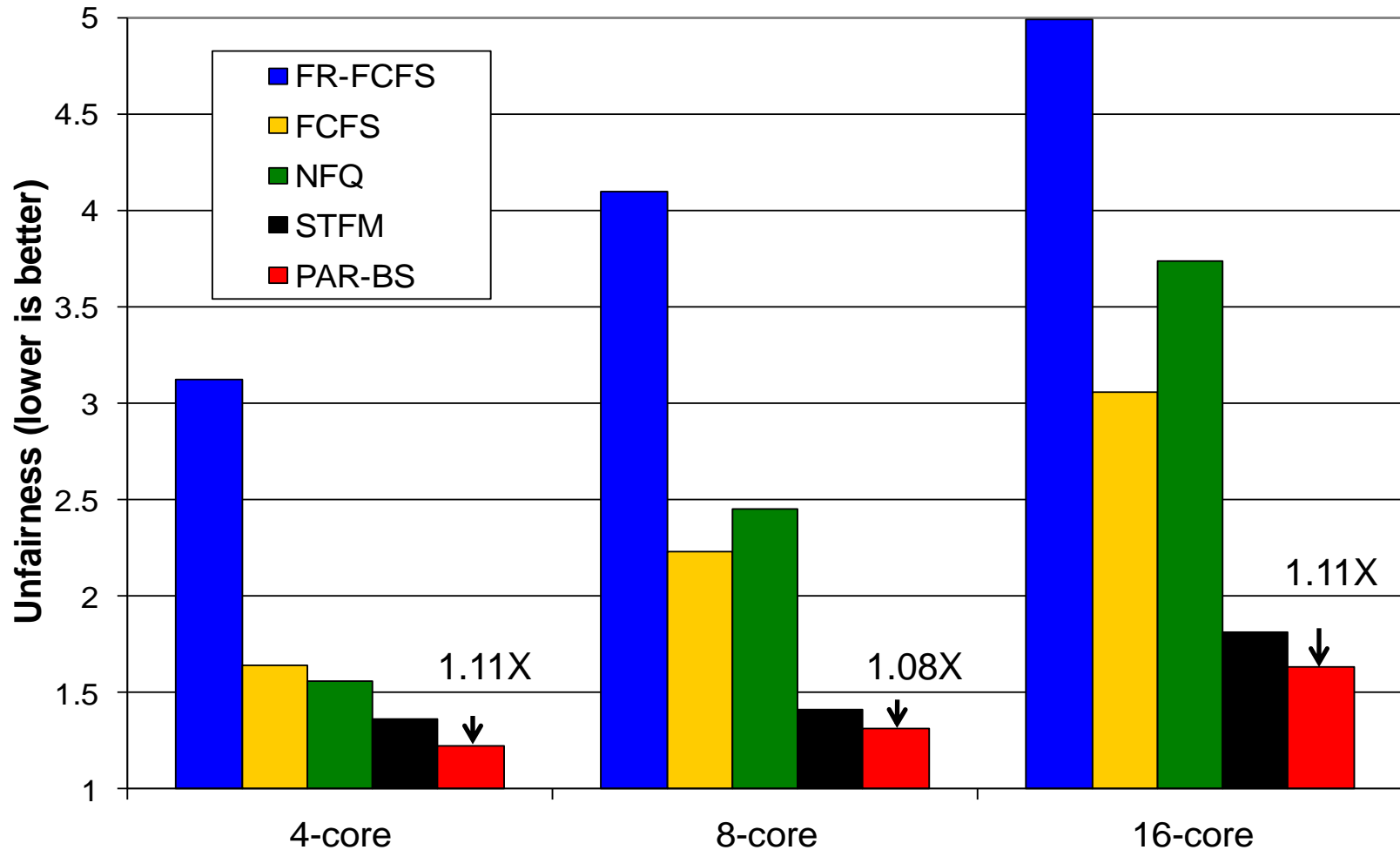
■ Many more trade-offs analyzed in the paper

Hardware Cost

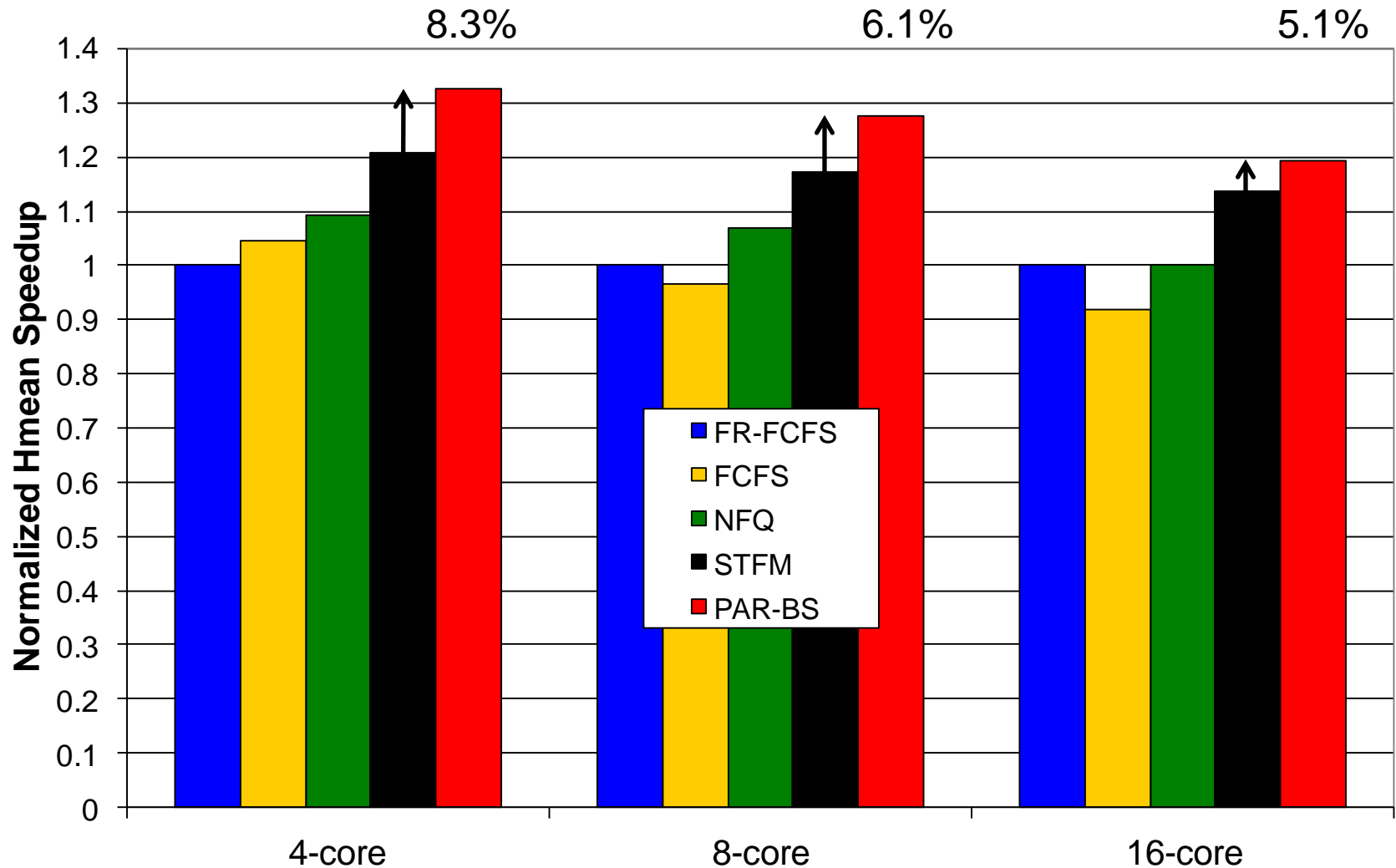
- <1.5KB storage cost for
 - 8-core system with 128-entry memory request buffer
- No complex operations (e.g., divisions)
- Not on the critical path
 - Scheduler makes a decision only every DRAM cycle

Unfairness on 4-, 8-, 16-core Systems

Unfairness = MAX Memory Slowdown / MIN Memory Slowdown [MICRO 2007]



System Performance (Hmean-speedup)



PAR-BS Pros and Cons

- Upsides:
 - Identifies the problem of bank parallelism destruction across multiple threads
 - Simple mechanism
- Downsides:
 - Does not always prioritize the latency-sensitive applications → lower overall throughput
 - Implementation in multiple controllers needs coordination for best performance → too frequent coordination since batching is done frequently

ATLAS Memory Scheduler

Yoongu Kim, Dongsu Han, Onur Mutlu, and Mor Harchol-Balter,

"ATLAS: A Scalable and High-Performance

Scheduling Algorithm for Multiple Memory Controllers"

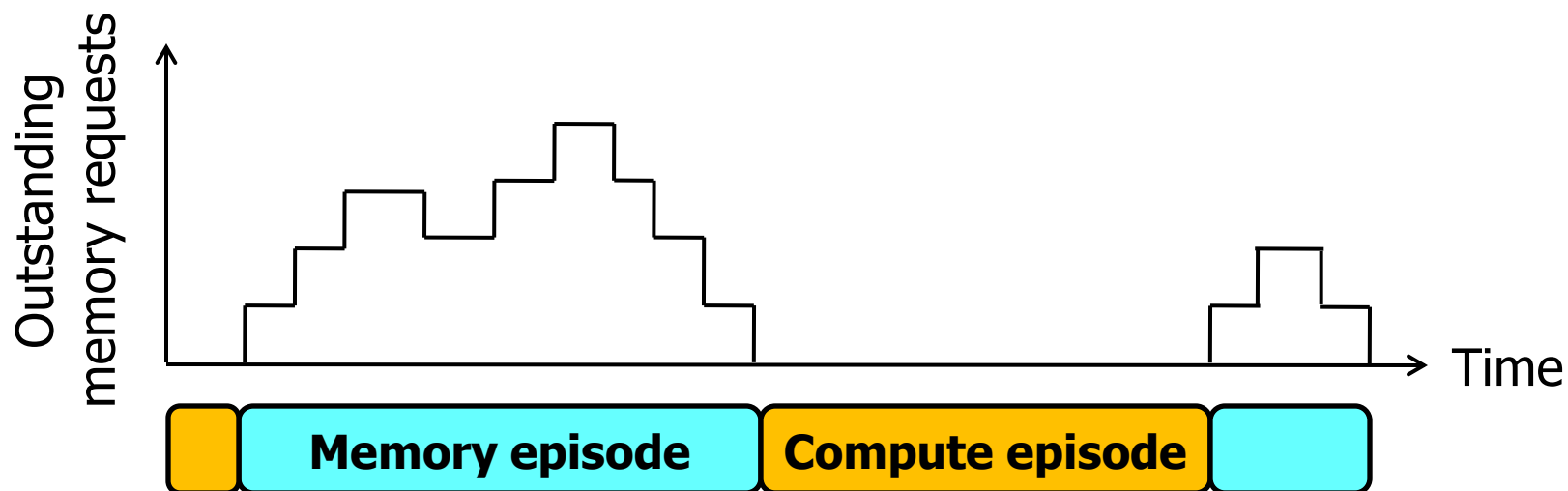
16th International Symposium on High-Performance Computer Architecture (HPCA),

Bangalore, India, January 2010. Slides (pptx)

Rethinking Memory Scheduling

A thread alternates between two states (episodes)

- **Compute episode:** Zero outstanding memory requests → **High IPC**
- **Memory episode:** Non-zero outstanding memory requests → **Low IPC**



Goal: Minimize time spent in memory episodes

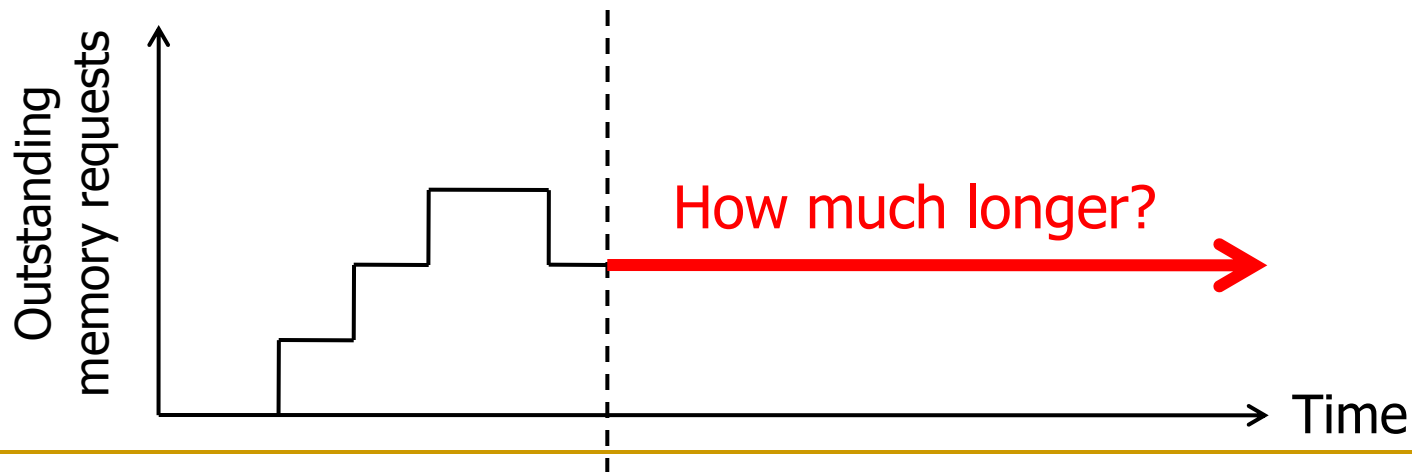
How to Minimize Memory Episode Time



Prioritize thread whose memory episode will end the soonest

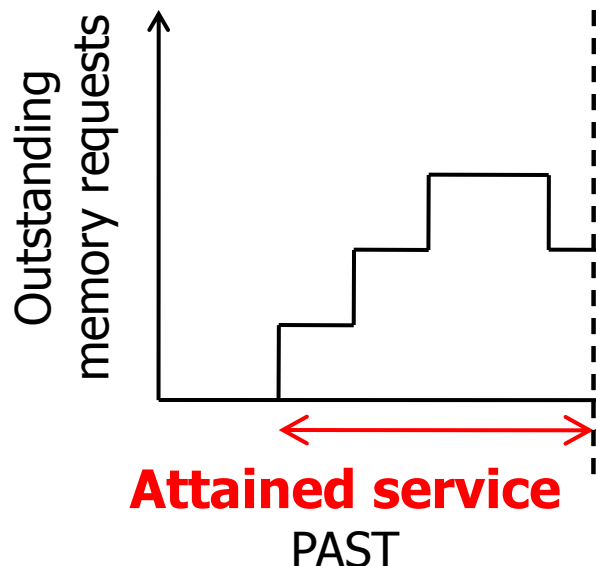
- Minimizes time spent in memory episodes across all threads
- Supported by queueing theory:
 - **Shortest-Remaining-Processing-Time** scheduling is optimal in single-server queue

Remaining length of a memory episode?



Predicting Memory Episode Lengths

We discovered: past is excellent predictor for future

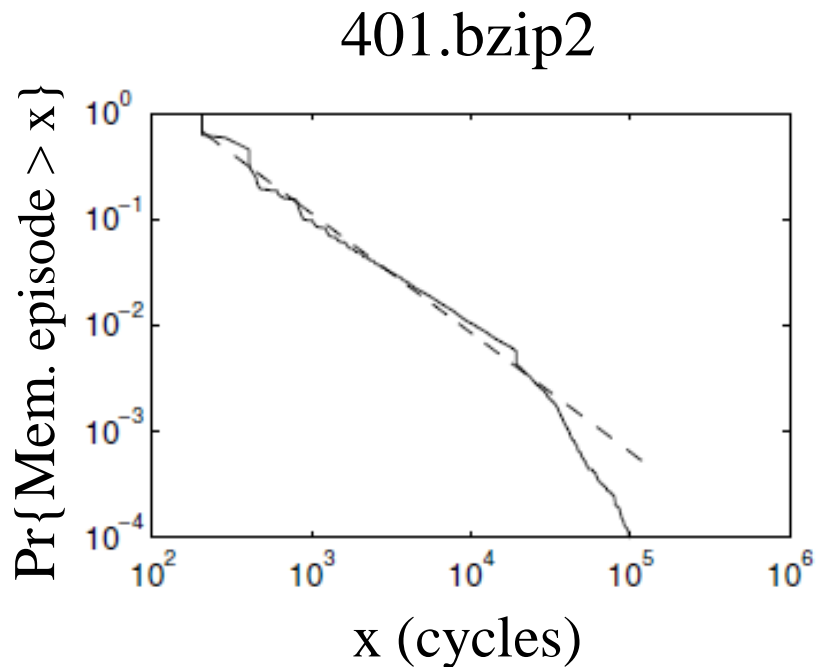


Large **attained service** → Large expected **remaining service**

Q: Why?

A: Memory episode lengths are **Pareto distributed...**

Pareto Distribution of Memory Episode Lengths



Memory episode lengths of
SPEC benchmarks

Pareto distribution

The longer an episode has lasted
→ The longer it will last further

Attained service correlates with
remaining service

Favoring **least-attained-service** memory episode
= Favoring memory episode which will **end the soonest**

Least Attained Service (LAS) Memory Scheduling

Our Approach

Prioritize the memory episode with least-**remaining**-service

- Remaining service: Correlates with attained service
- Attained service: Tracked by per-thread counter

Prioritize the memory episode with least-**attained**-service

Least-attained-service (LAS) scheduling:
Minimize memory episode time

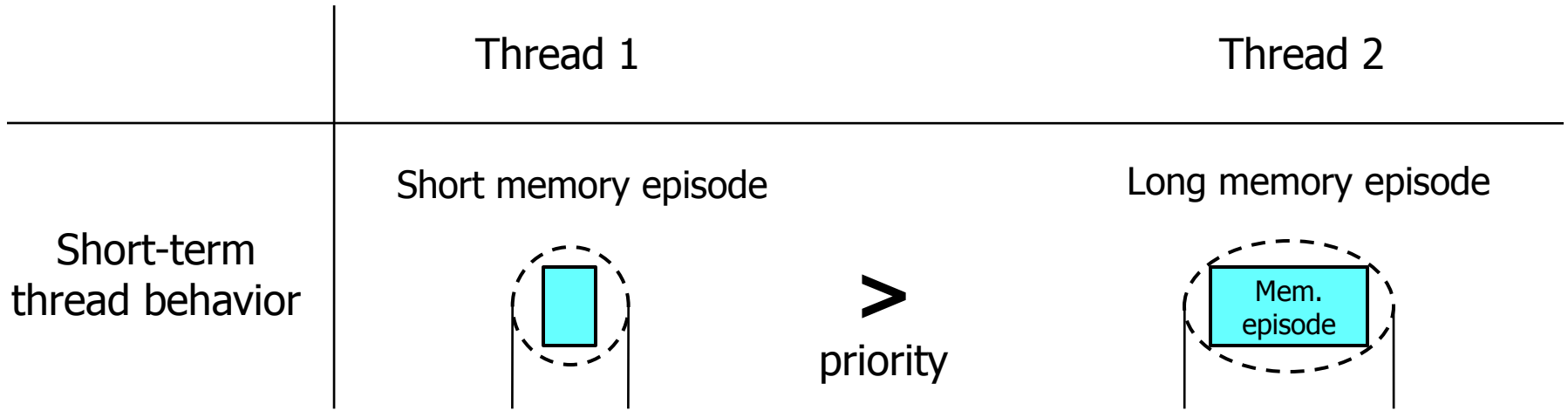
Queueing Theory

Prioritize the job with shortest-remaining-processing-time

Provably optimal

However, LAS does not consider long-term thread behavior

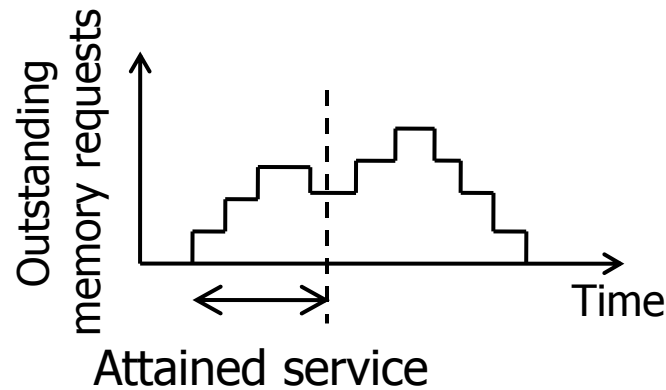
Long-Term Thread Behavior



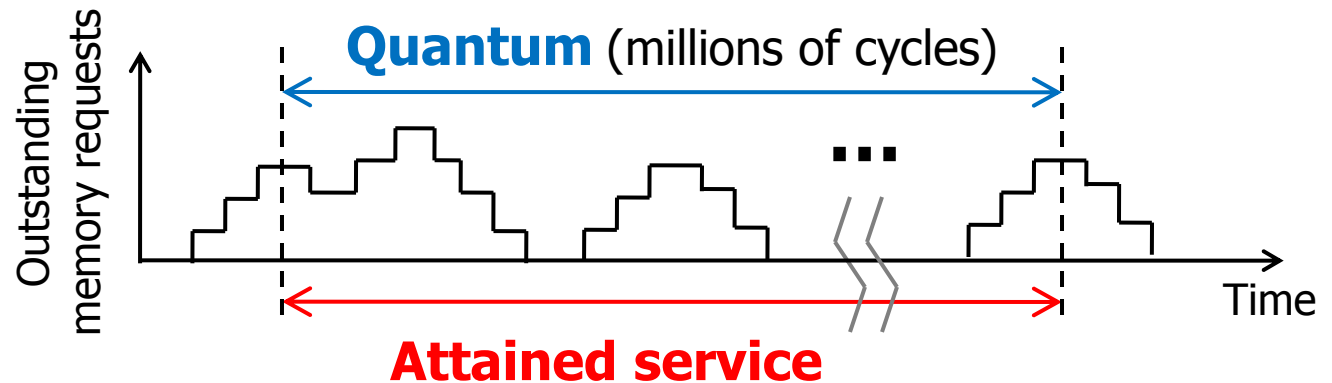
Prioritizing Thread 2 is more beneficial:
results in very long stretches of compute episodes

Quantum-Based Attained Service of a Thread

Short-term
thread behavior



Long-term
thread behavior



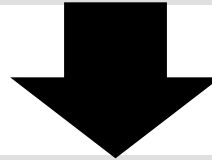
We divide time into large, fixed-length intervals:
quanta (millions of cycles)

LAS Thread Ranking

During a quantum

Each thread's attained service (AS) is tracked by MCs

$AS_i = A \text{ thread's AS during only the } i\text{-th quantum}$



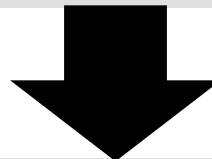
End of a quantum

Each thread's **TotalAS** computed as:

$$TotalAS_i = \alpha \cdot TotalAS_{i-1} + (1 - \alpha) \cdot AS_i$$

High $\alpha \rightarrow$ More bias towards history

Threads are ranked, favoring threads with lower TotalAS



Next quantum

Threads are serviced according to their ranking

ATLAS Scheduling Algorithm

ATLAS

- **A**daptive per-**T**hread **L**east **A**ttained **S**ervice
- Request prioritization order

1. **Prevent starvation**: Over threshold request

2. **Maximize performance**: Higher LAS rank

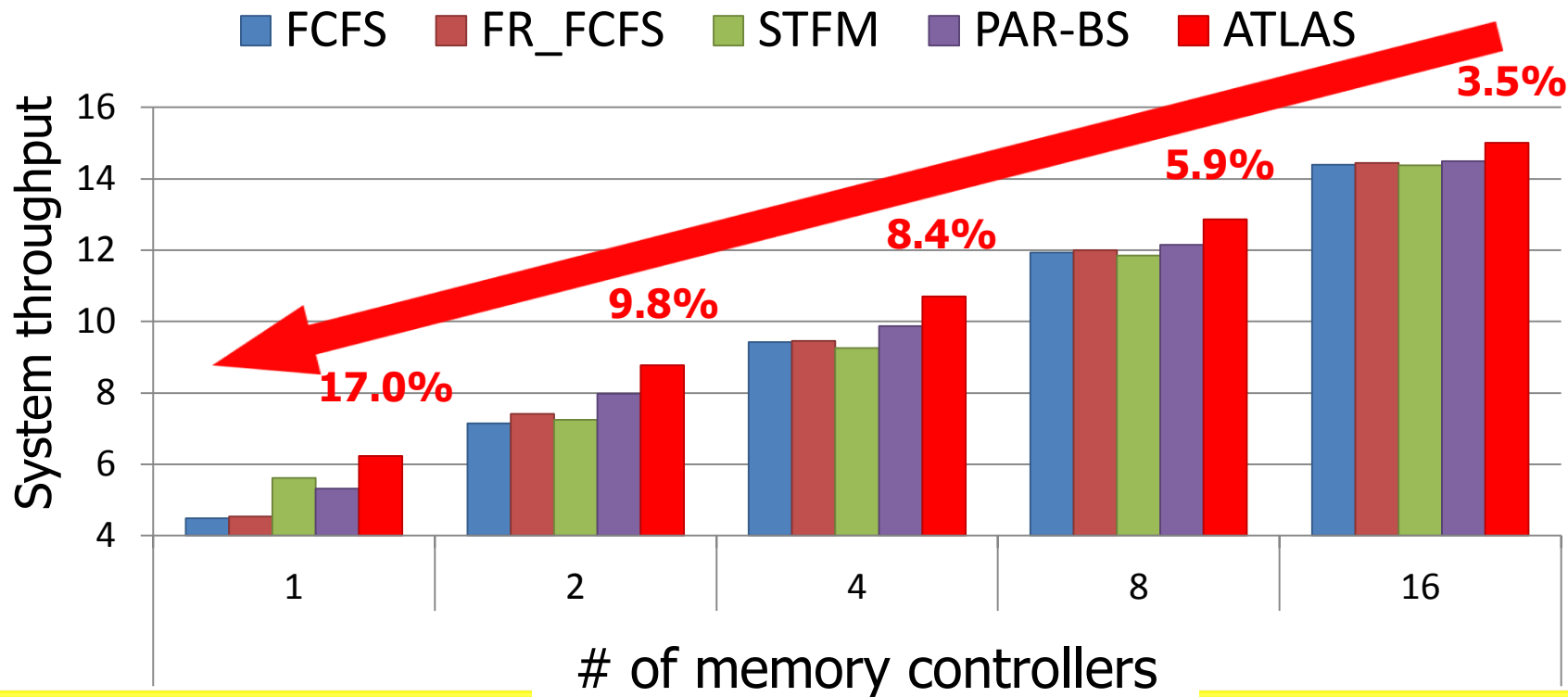
3. **Exploit locality**: Row-hit request

4. **Tie-breaker**: Oldest request

How to coordinate MCs to agree upon a consistent ranking?

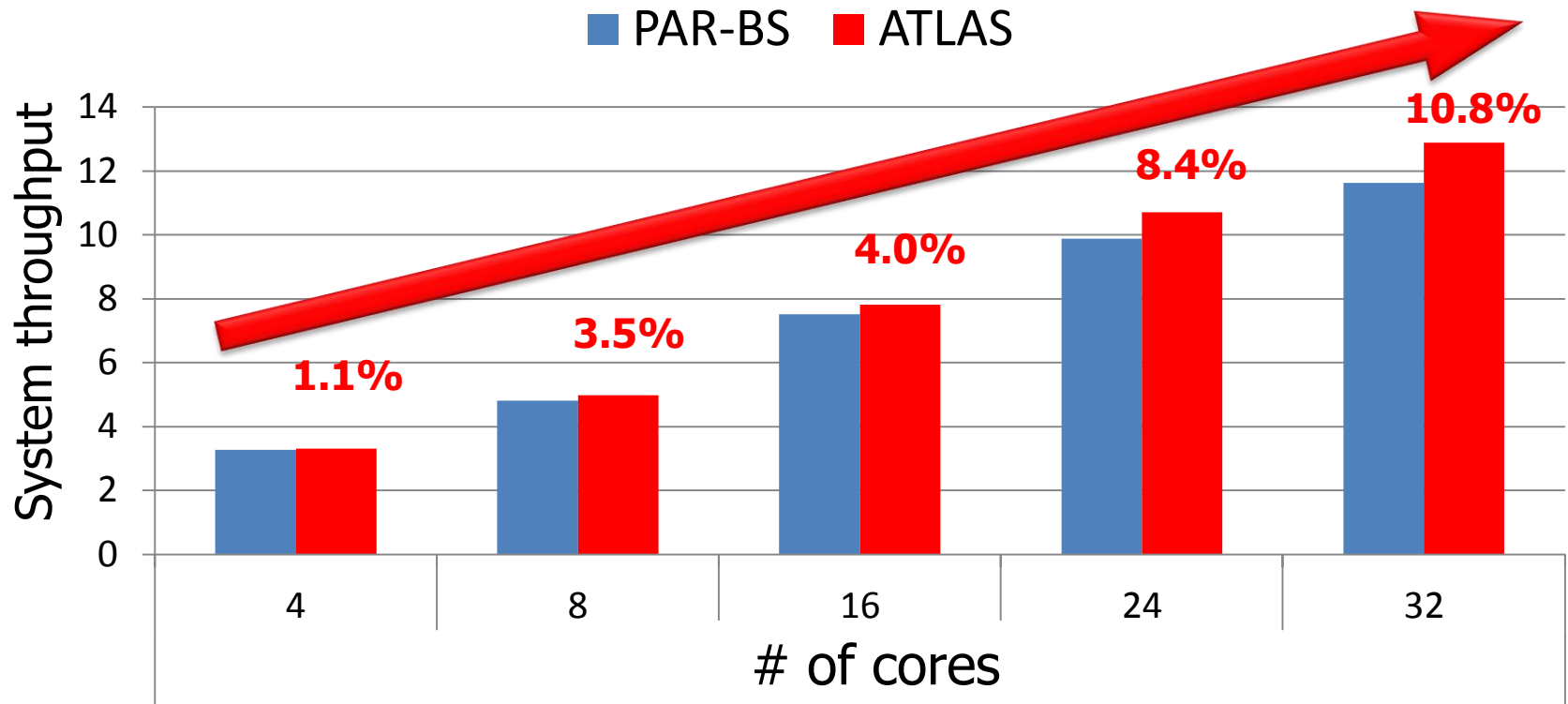
System Throughput: 24-Core System

$$\text{System throughput} = \sum \text{Speedup}$$



ATLAS consistently provides higher system throughput than all previous scheduling algorithms

System Throughput: 4-MC System



of cores increases → ATLAS performance benefit increases

Properties of ATLAS

Goals

- Maximize system performance
- Scalable to large number of controllers
- Configurable by system software

Properties of ATLAS

- LAS-ranking
- Bank-level parallelism
- Row-buffer locality
- Very infrequent coordination
- Scale attained service with thread weight (in paper)
- **Low complexity:** Attained service requires a single counter per thread in each MC

ATLAS Pros and Cons

- Upsides:
 - Good at improving overall throughput (compute-intensive threads are prioritized)
 - Low complexity
 - Coordination among controllers happens infrequently
- Downsides:
 - Lowest/medium ranked threads get delayed significantly → high unfairness

TCM: Thread Cluster Memory Scheduling

Yoongu Kim, Michael Papamichael, Onur Mutlu, and Mor Harchol-Balter,
**"Thread Cluster Memory Scheduling:
Exploiting Differences in Memory Access Behavior"**
43rd International Symposium on Microarchitecture (MICRO),
pages 65-76, Atlanta, GA, December 2010. [Slides \(pptx\)](#) [\(pdf\)](#)

Computer Architecture: Memory Interference and QoS (Part I)

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