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## The Systolic Ring: A Scalable Dynamically Reconfigurable Core for Embedded Systems

Pascal Benoit, Gilles Sassatelli, Michel Robert, Lionel Torres, Gaston Cambon, Thierry Gil

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Submitted on 10 Oct 2023

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# Application example - DCT 2D 8\*8

## 64\*64 image example - Comparisons

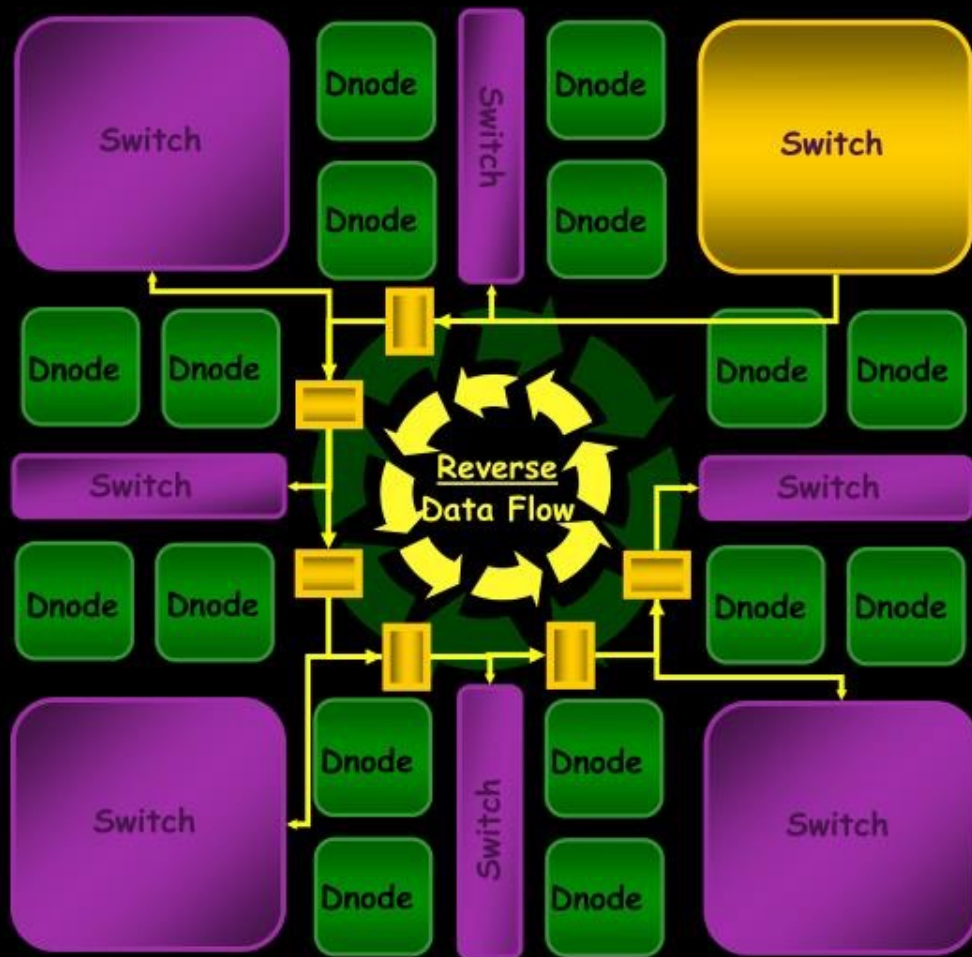
	<b>Pentium IV</b> Intel	<b>DCT Core</b> Xilinx	<b>TMS320C62</b> TI	<b>RING-16</b>	<b>RING-64</b>
<b>Cycles #</b>	21248	<b>4171</b>	10240	<b>5120</b>	<b>1280</b>
<b>f (MHz)</b>	1200	80*	300	200	200
<b>Proc. Time (μs)</b>	<b>17.7</b>	52.1	<b>34.1</b>	<b>12.8</b>	<b>6.4</b>
<b>Comment</b>	SSE2	*Device dependant	Matrix	Even-Odd decomposition	
<b>Type</b>	Super scalar	Fine Grain Reconfigurable	VLIW	Coarse Grain Reconfigurable	



**Only Processing time !!**

# The Systolic Ring - Operative Layer Topology

## Data Flows



### Forward Data Flow

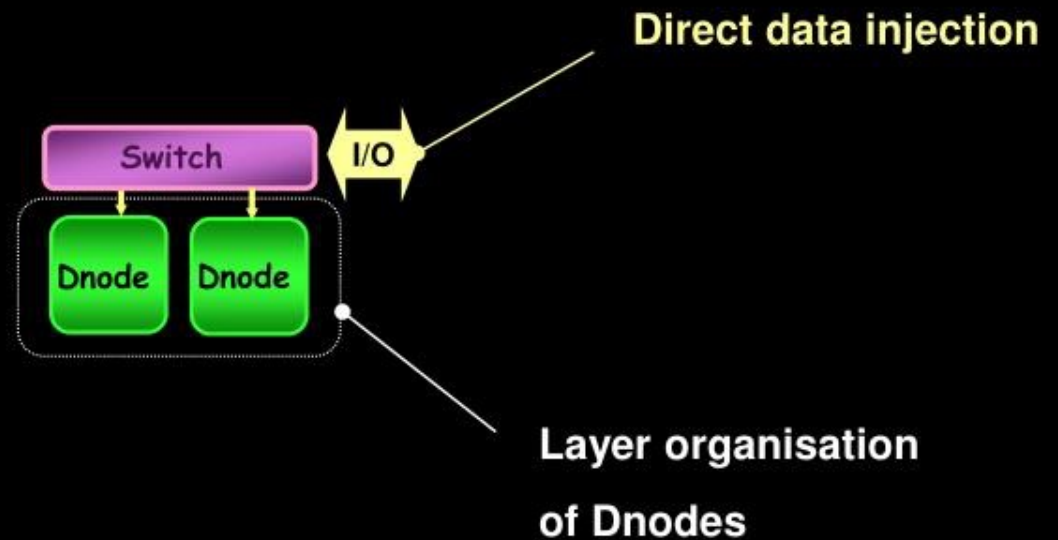
Unidirectional data transit between successive layers (circular pipeline

### Reverse Data Flow

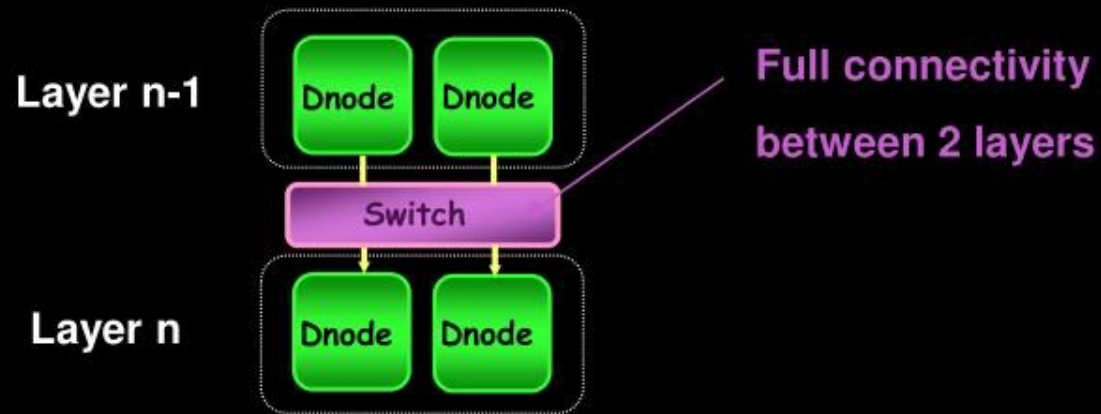
Feedback pipeline network for recursive algorithms

# The Systolic Ring - Dnode Clusters

## Macro Node



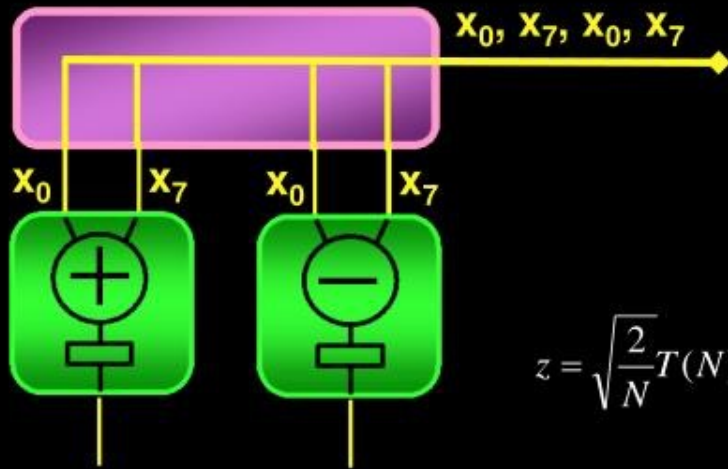
# The Systolic Ring - Switch components





**Thank You**

# Application example - 8\*8 2D DCT



Cycle 0

$$z = \sqrt{\frac{2}{N}} T(N)x$$

$$\begin{cases} \begin{bmatrix} z_0 \\ z_2 \\ z_4 \\ z_6 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1/\sqrt{8} & 1/\sqrt{8} & 1/\sqrt{8} & 1/\sqrt{8} \\ \beta & \delta & -\delta & -\beta \\ \alpha & -\alpha & -\alpha & \alpha \\ \delta & -\beta & \beta & -\delta \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_0 + x_7 \\ x_1 + x_6 \\ x_2 + x_5 \\ x_3 + x_4 \end{bmatrix} \\ \begin{bmatrix} z_1 \\ z_3 \\ z_5 \\ z_7 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda & \gamma & \mu & \nu \\ \gamma & -\nu & -\lambda & -\mu \\ \mu & -\lambda & \nu & \gamma \\ \nu & -\mu & \gamma & -\lambda \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_0 - x_7 \\ x_1 - x_6 \\ x_2 - x_5 \\ x_3 - x_4 \end{bmatrix} \end{cases}$$

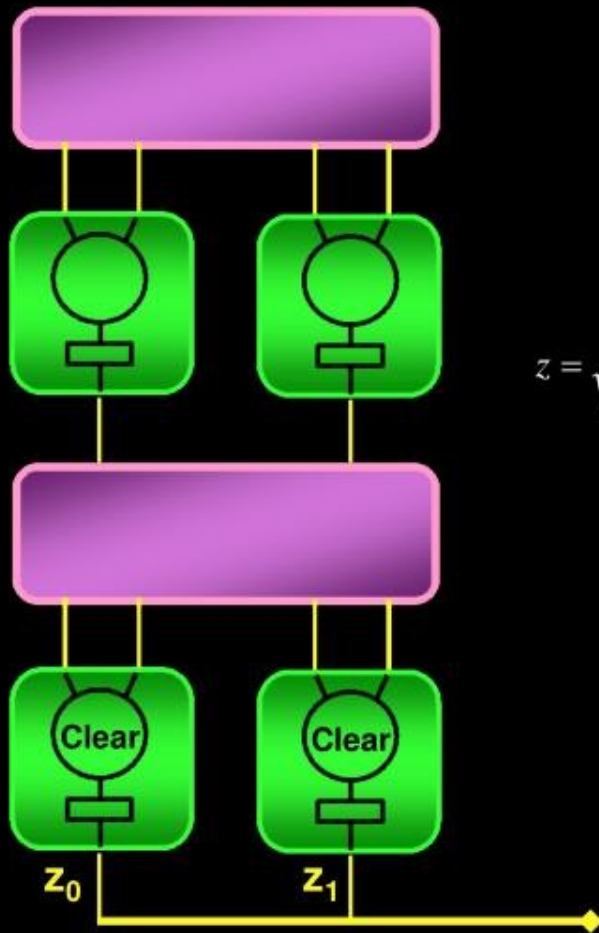
$$\begin{cases} \alpha = 1/2 \cos(\pi/4) \\ \beta = 1/2 \cos(\pi/8) \\ \delta = 1/2 \sin(\pi/8) \\ \lambda = 1/2 \cos(\pi/16) \\ \gamma = 1/2 \cos(3\pi/16) \\ \mu = 1/2 \sin(3\pi/16) \\ \nu = 1/2 \sin(\pi/16) \end{cases}$$



# Application example - 8\*8 2D DCT



**Cycle 5**



$$z = \sqrt{\frac{2}{N}} T(N)x$$

$$\begin{cases} \begin{bmatrix} z_0 \\ z_2 \\ z_4 \\ z_6 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1/\sqrt{8} & 1/\sqrt{8} & 1/\sqrt{8} & 1/\sqrt{8} \\ \beta & \delta & -\delta & -\beta \\ \alpha & -\alpha & -\alpha & \alpha \\ \delta & -\beta & \beta & -\delta \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_0 + x_7 \\ x_1 + x_6 \\ x_2 + x_5 \\ x_3 + x_4 \end{bmatrix} \\ \begin{bmatrix} z_1 \\ z_3 \\ z_5 \\ z_7 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda & \gamma & \mu & \nu \\ \gamma & -\nu & -\lambda & -\mu \\ \mu & -\lambda & \nu & \gamma \\ \nu & -\mu & \gamma & -\lambda \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_0 - x_7 \\ x_1 - x_6 \\ x_2 - x_5 \\ x_3 - x_4 \end{bmatrix} \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{cases} \alpha = 1/2 \cos(\pi/4) \\ \beta = 1/2 \cos(\pi/8) \\ \delta = 1/2 \sin(\pi/8) \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{cases} \lambda = 1/2 \cos(\pi/16) \\ \gamma = 1/2 \cos(3\pi/16) \\ \mu = 1/2 \sin(3\pi/16) \\ \nu = 1/2 \sin(\pi/16) \end{cases}$$

**2 transformed samples  
computed each 5 clock cycles**



**8\*8 2D transformed samples each 320 clock cycles**



# Conclusion



## ■ DESIGN

- Reconfigurable IP Core for SoC
- Assembling Software
- RING-8 prototype

## ■ FEATURES

- Customisable IP Core
- Good performance / area trade-off : *Ring-8@200MHz (0.18 $\mu$ )*

3.3 mm<sup>2</sup>

1600 MIPS

Results for DCT, Wavelet Transform, Motion Estimation

# Application example - 8\*8 2D DCT



## Even-Odd frequency decomposition

$$z = \sqrt{\frac{2}{N}} T(N) x$$

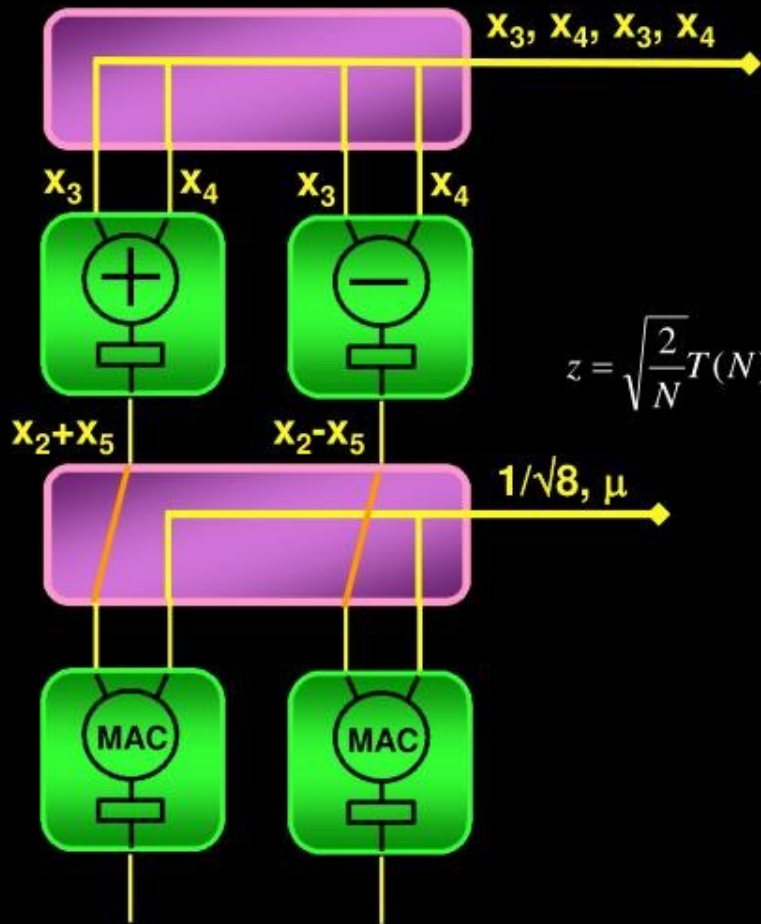
$$\begin{cases} \begin{bmatrix} z_0 \\ z_2 \\ z_4 \\ z_6 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1/\sqrt{8} & 1/\sqrt{8} & 1/\sqrt{8} & 1/\sqrt{8} \\ \beta & \delta & -\delta & -\beta \\ \alpha & -\alpha & -\alpha & \alpha \\ \delta & -\beta & \beta & -\delta \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_0 + x_7 \\ x_1 + x_6 \\ x_2 + x_5 \\ x_3 + x_4 \end{bmatrix} \\ \begin{bmatrix} z_1 \\ z_3 \\ z_5 \\ z_7 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda & \gamma & \mu & \nu \\ \gamma & -\nu & -\lambda & -\mu \\ \mu & -\lambda & \nu & \gamma \\ \nu & -\mu & \gamma & -\lambda \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_0 - x_7 \\ x_1 - x_6 \\ x_2 - x_5 \\ x_3 - x_4 \end{bmatrix} \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{cases} \alpha = 1/2 \cos(\pi/4) \\ \beta = 1/2 \cos(\pi/8) \\ \delta = 1/2 \sin(\pi/8) \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{cases} \lambda = 1/2 \cos(\pi/16) \\ \gamma = 1/2 \cos(3\pi/16) \\ \mu = 1/2 \sin(3\pi/16) \\ \nu = 1/2 \sin(\pi/16) \end{cases}$$

Independent Matrix Products (//)

# Application example - 8\*8 2D DCT



Cycle 3

$$z = \sqrt{\frac{2}{N}} T(N) x$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} z_0 \\ z_2 \\ z_4 \\ z_6 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1/\sqrt{8} & 1/\sqrt{8} & 1/\sqrt{8} & 1/\sqrt{8} \\ \beta & \delta & -\delta & -\beta \\ \alpha & -\alpha & -\alpha & \alpha \\ \delta & -\beta & \beta & -\delta \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_0 + x_7 \\ x_1 + x_6 \\ x_2 + x_5 \\ x_3 + x_4 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} z_1 \\ z_3 \\ z_5 \\ z_7 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda & \gamma & \mu & \nu \\ \gamma & -\nu & -\lambda & -\mu \\ \mu & -\lambda & \nu & \gamma \\ \nu & -\mu & \gamma & -\lambda \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_0 - x_7 \\ x_1 - x_6 \\ x_2 - x_5 \\ x_3 - x_4 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{cases} \alpha = 1/2 \cos(\pi/4) \\ \beta = 1/2 \cos(\pi/8) \\ \delta = 1/2 \sin(\pi/8) \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{cases} \lambda = 1/2 \cos(\pi/16) \\ \gamma = 1/2 \cos(3\pi/16) \\ \mu = 1/2 \sin(3\pi/16) \\ \nu = 1/2 \sin(\pi/16) \end{cases}$$

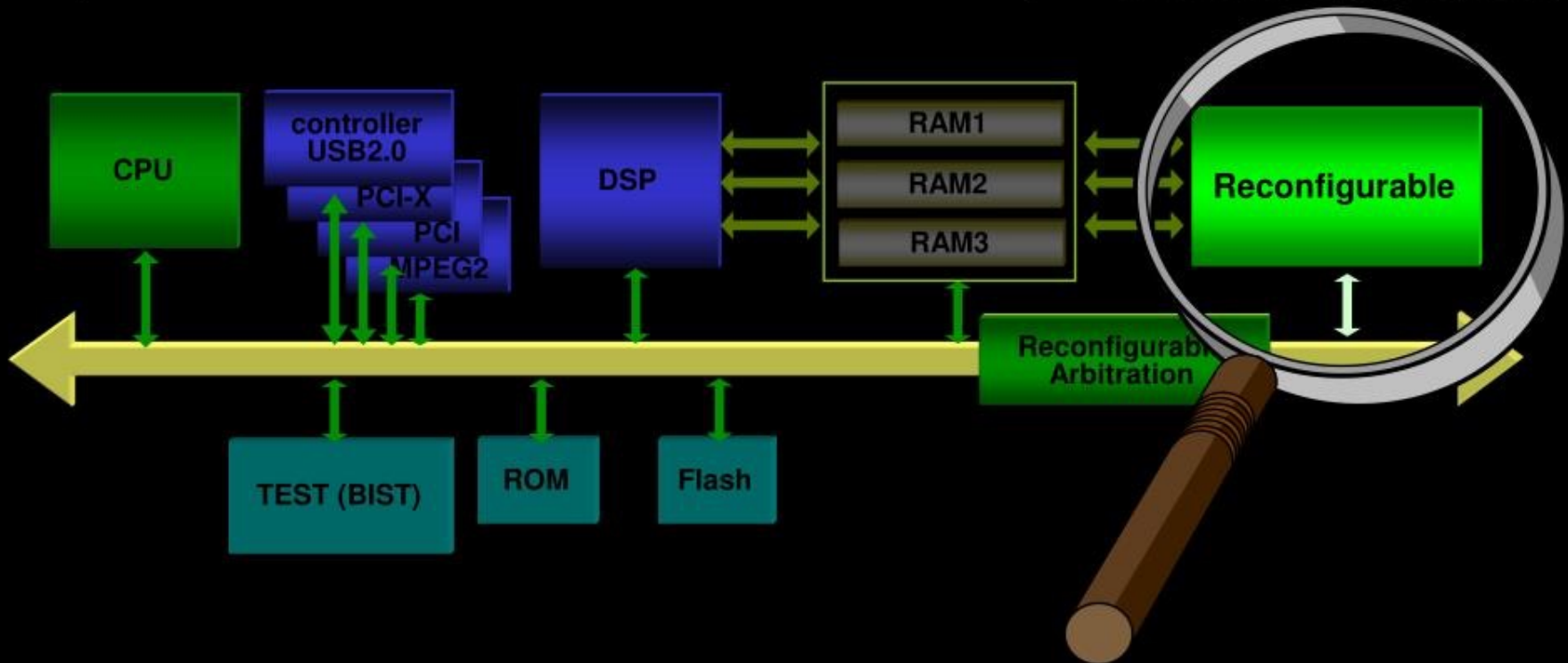
# Introduction



**Multimedia**  
Data flow oriented applications



**RECONFIGURATION**  
HARDWARE Static / Dynamic



# Introduction

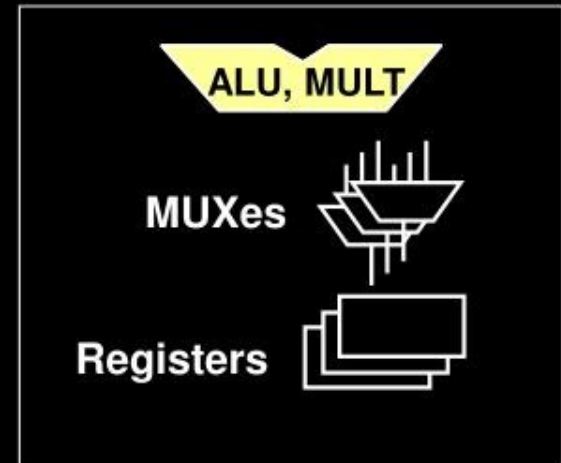
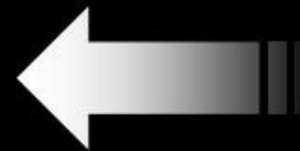
What kind of base block is suitable for Multimedia?

- **Coarse Grain:**

- Granularity: WORD

- adapted to DSP, data flow oriented processing

**SYSTOLIC  
RING**



Coarse Grain

Dynamically Reconfigurable  
Architecture

- Low reconfiguration over-cost
- High level of performances

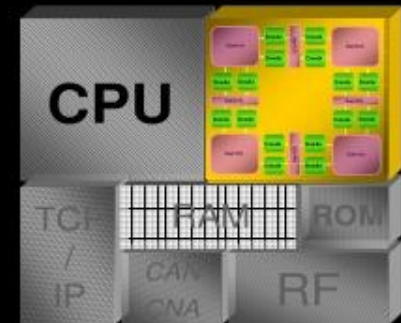


# Outline

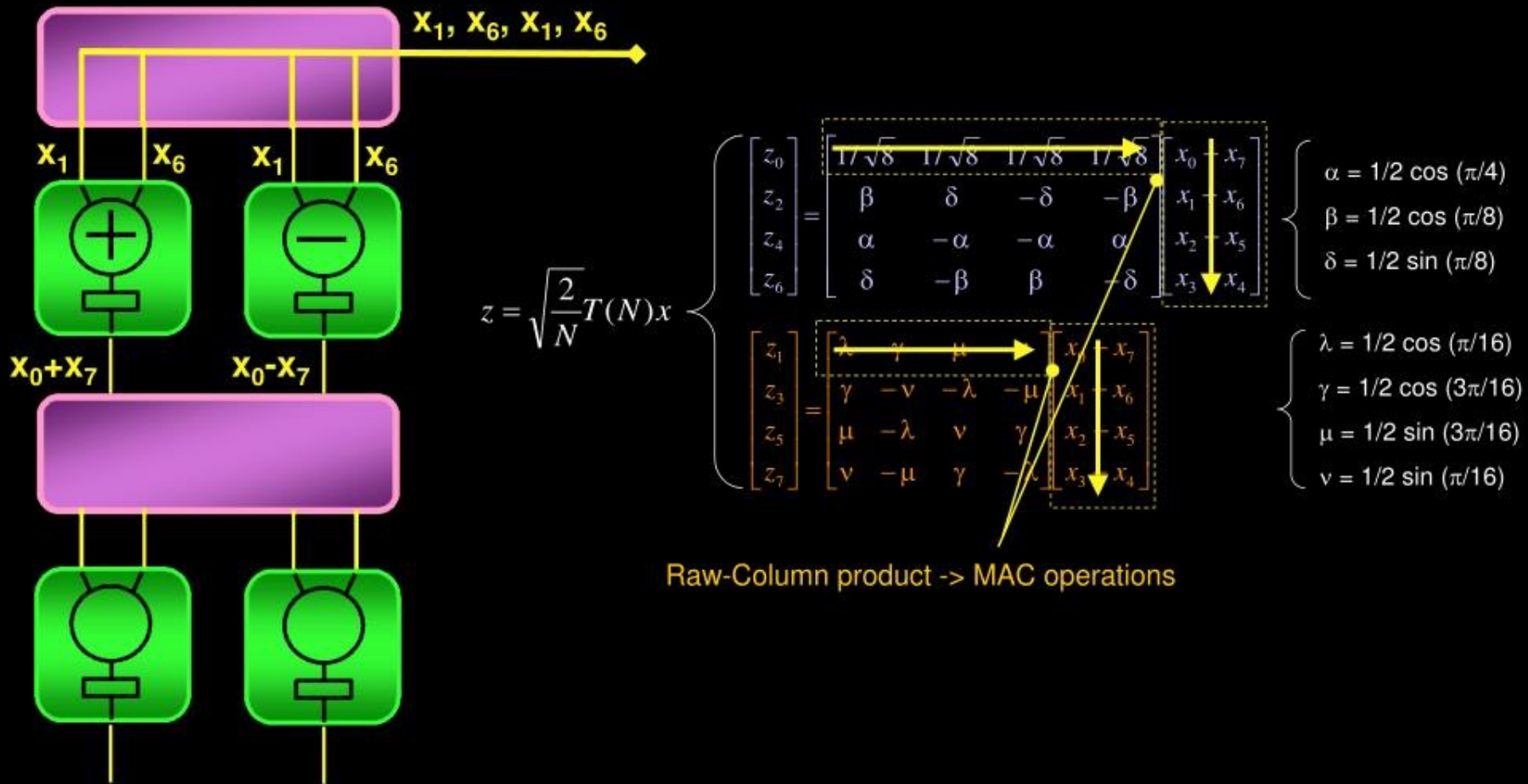


## The Systolic Ring : A Scalable Dynamically Reconfigurable Core for Embedded Systems

- **The Systolic Ring**
  - Building Block
  - Operative Layer Topology
  - System Overview
  - Features
- **Application Example**
  - 8\*8 2D DCT
  - Structural Mapping
  - Performance Comparisons
- **Conclusion**

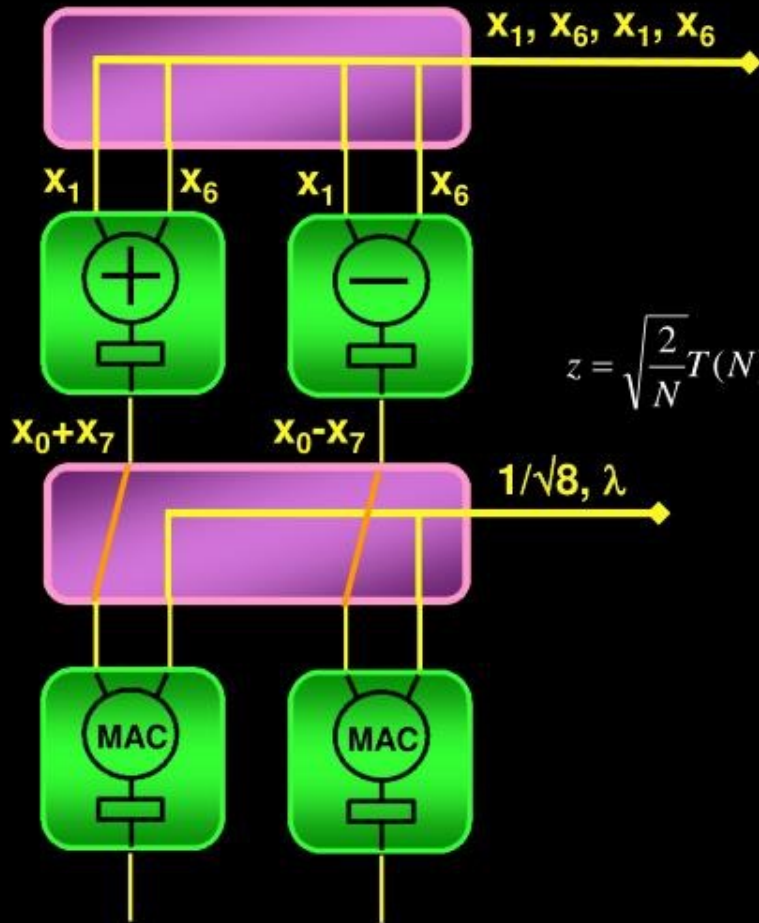


# Application example - 8\*8 2D DCT





# Application example - 8\*8 2D DCT



Cycle 1

$$z = \sqrt{\frac{2}{N}} T(N)x$$

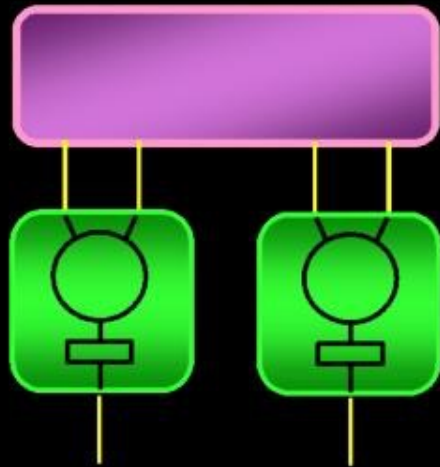
$$\begin{bmatrix} z_0 \\ z_2 \\ z_4 \\ z_6 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1/\sqrt{8} & 1/\sqrt{8} & 1/\sqrt{8} & 1/\sqrt{8} \\ \beta & \delta & -\delta & -\beta \\ \alpha & -\alpha & -\alpha & \alpha \\ \delta & -\beta & \beta & -\delta \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_0+x_7 \\ x_1+x_6 \\ x_2+x_5 \\ x_3+x_4 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} z_1 \\ z_3 \\ z_5 \\ z_7 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda & \gamma & \mu & \nu \\ \gamma & -\nu & -\lambda & -\mu \\ \mu & -\lambda & \nu & \gamma \\ \nu & -\mu & \gamma & -\lambda \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_0-x_7 \\ x_1-x_6 \\ x_2-x_5 \\ x_3-x_4 \end{bmatrix}$$

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# Application example - 8\*8 2D DCT



Addition & Subtraction of image samples

$$z = \sqrt{\frac{2}{N}} T(N)x$$

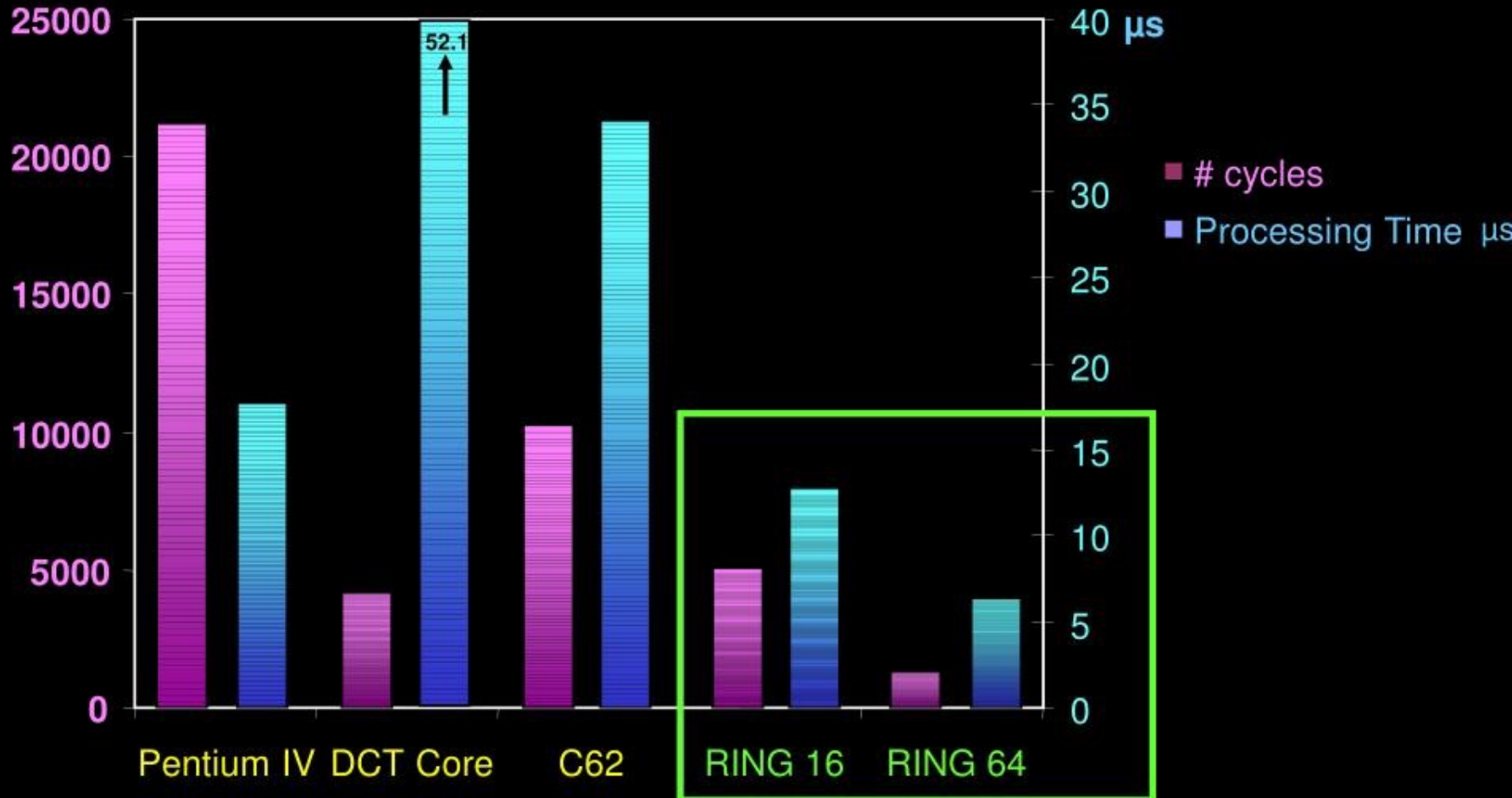
$$\begin{cases} \begin{bmatrix} z_0 \\ z_2 \\ z_4 \\ z_6 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1/\sqrt{8} & 1/\sqrt{8} & 1/\sqrt{8} & 1/\sqrt{8} \\ \beta & \delta & -\delta & -\beta \\ \alpha & -\alpha & -\alpha & \alpha \\ \delta & -\beta & \beta & -\delta \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_0 + x_7 \\ x_1 + x_6 \\ x_2 + x_5 \\ x_3 + x_4 \end{bmatrix} \\ \begin{bmatrix} z_1 \\ z_3 \\ z_5 \\ z_7 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda & \gamma & \mu & \nu \\ \gamma & -\nu & -\lambda & -\mu \\ \mu & -\lambda & \nu & \gamma \\ \nu & -\mu & \gamma & -\lambda \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_0 - x_7 \\ x_1 - x_6 \\ x_2 - x_5 \\ x_3 - x_4 \end{bmatrix} \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{cases} \alpha = 1/2 \cos(\pi/4) \\ \beta = 1/2 \cos(\pi/8) \\ \delta = 1/2 \sin(\pi/8) \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{cases} \lambda = 1/2 \cos(\pi/16) \\ \gamma = 1/2 \cos(3\pi/16) \\ \mu = 1/2 \sin(3\pi/16) \\ \nu = 1/2 \sin(\pi/16) \end{cases}$$

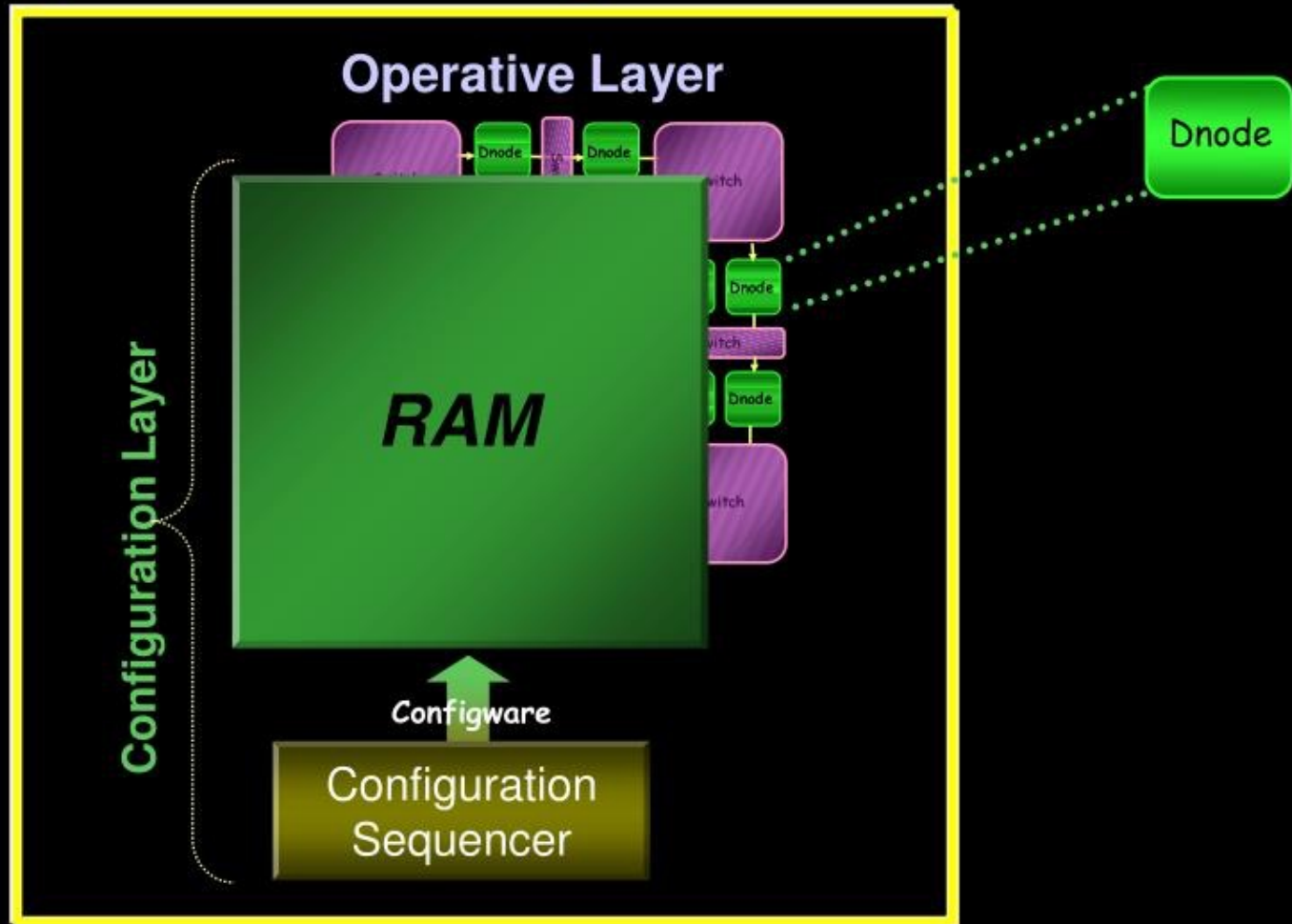
# Application example - DCT 2D 8\*8

## 64\*64 image example - Comparisons



# The Systolic Ring - System Overview

Two-layers based reconfigurable architecture

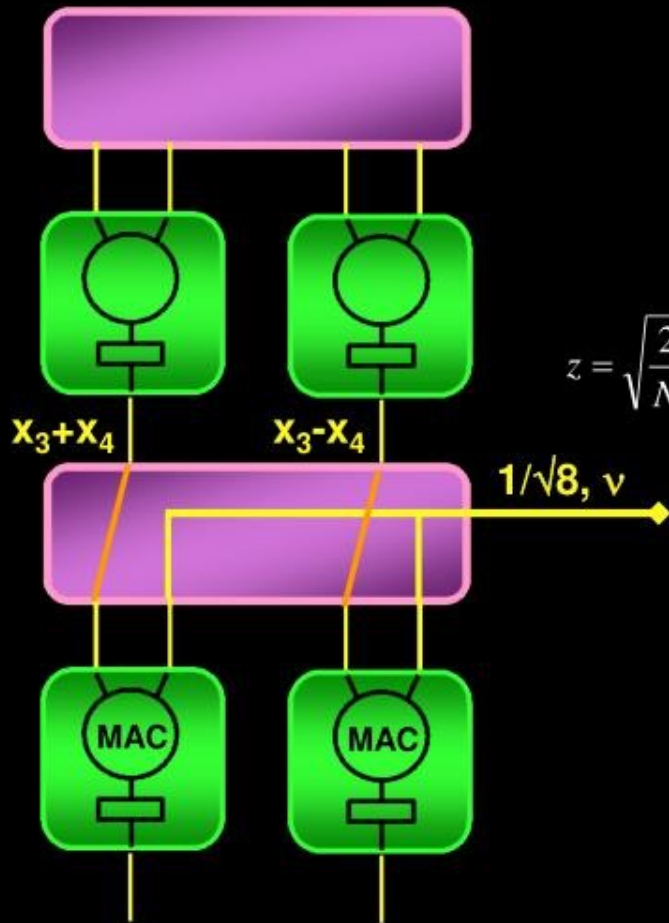


Coarse Grain Dynamically Reconfigurable Architecture

# Application example - 8\*8 2D DCT



## Cycle 4



$$z = \sqrt{\frac{2}{N}} T(N)x$$

$$\begin{cases} \begin{bmatrix} z_0 \\ z_2 \\ z_4 \\ z_6 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1/\sqrt{8} & 1/\sqrt{8} & 1/\sqrt{8} & 1/\sqrt{8} \\ \beta & \delta & -\delta & -\beta \\ \alpha & -\alpha & -\alpha & \alpha \\ \delta & -\beta & \beta & -\delta \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_0 + x_7 \\ x_1 + x_6 \\ x_2 + x_5 \\ x_3 + x_4 \end{bmatrix} \\ \begin{bmatrix} z_1 \\ z_3 \\ z_5 \\ z_7 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda & \gamma & \mu & v \\ \gamma & -v & -\lambda & -\mu \\ \mu & -\lambda & v & \gamma \\ v & -\mu & \gamma & -\lambda \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_0 - x_7 \\ x_1 - x_6 \\ x_2 - x_5 \\ x_3 - x_4 \end{bmatrix} \end{cases}$$

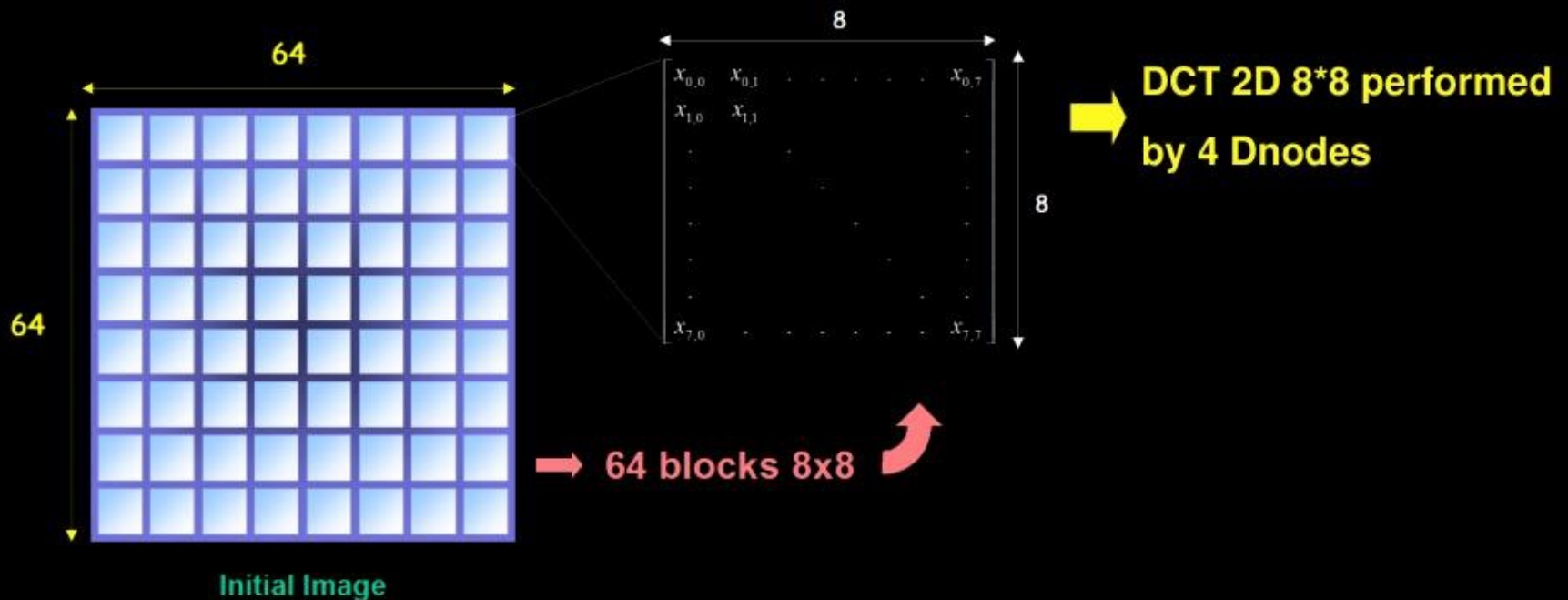
$$\begin{cases} \alpha = 1/2 \cos(\pi/4) \\ \beta = 1/2 \cos(\pi/8) \\ \delta = 1/2 \sin(\pi/8) \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{cases} \lambda = 1/2 \cos(\pi/16) \\ \gamma = 1/2 \cos(3\pi/16) \\ \mu = 1/2 \sin(3\pi/16) \\ v = 1/2 \sin(\pi/16) \end{cases}$$



# Application example - DCT 2D 8\*8

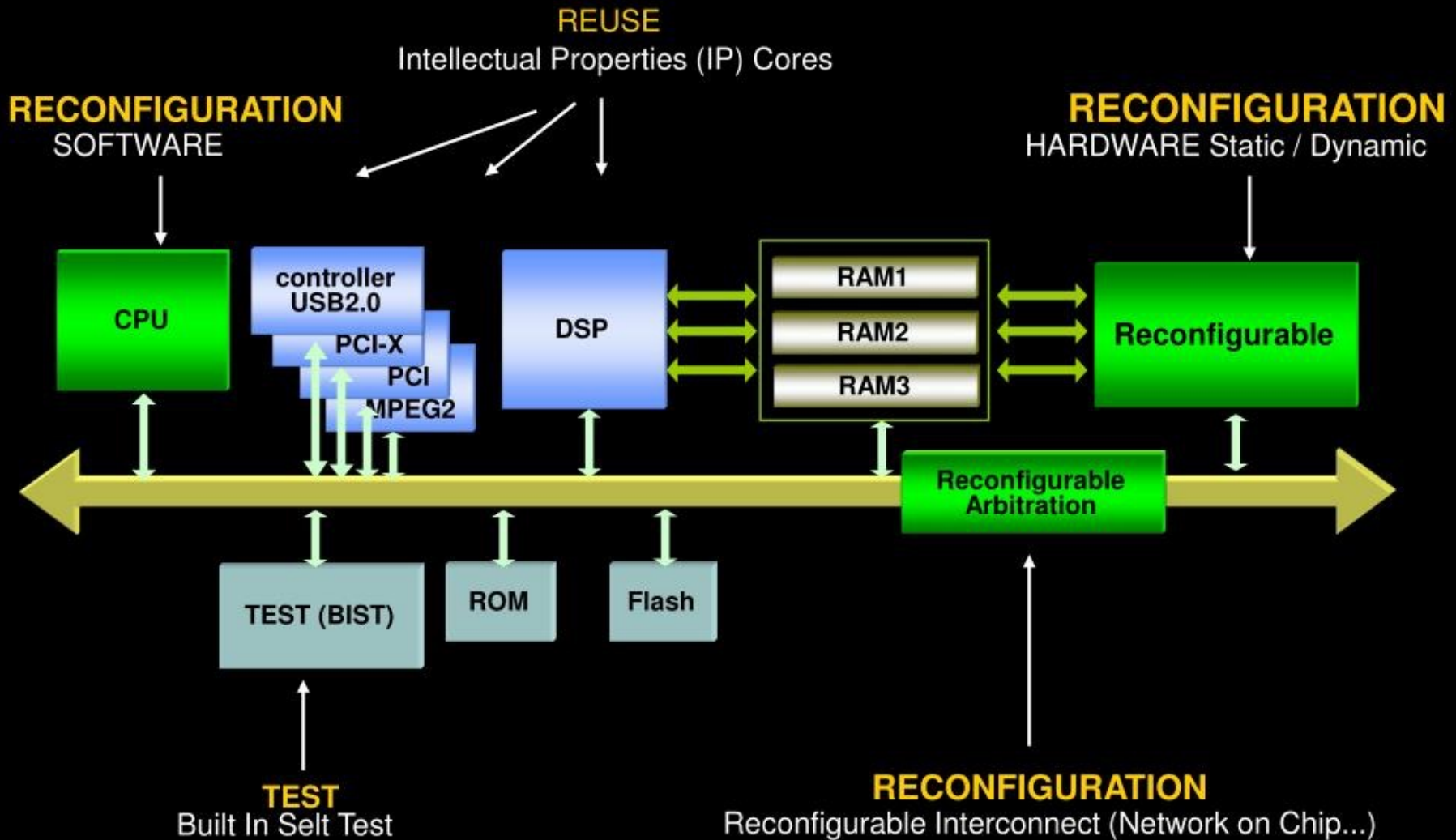
64\*64 image example



# computation clock cycles = 320 . (# of 8 - points 2D blocks).  $\frac{4}{N}$

RING-N implementation ( N Dnodes)

# Introduction - SoC architectures







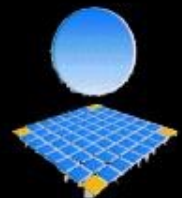
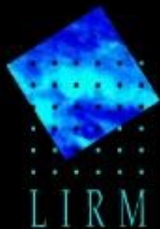
Sophia Antipolis  
9-10 Oct 2002

# System on a Chip

## The Systolic Ring : A Scalable Dynamically Reconfigurable Core for Embedded Systems

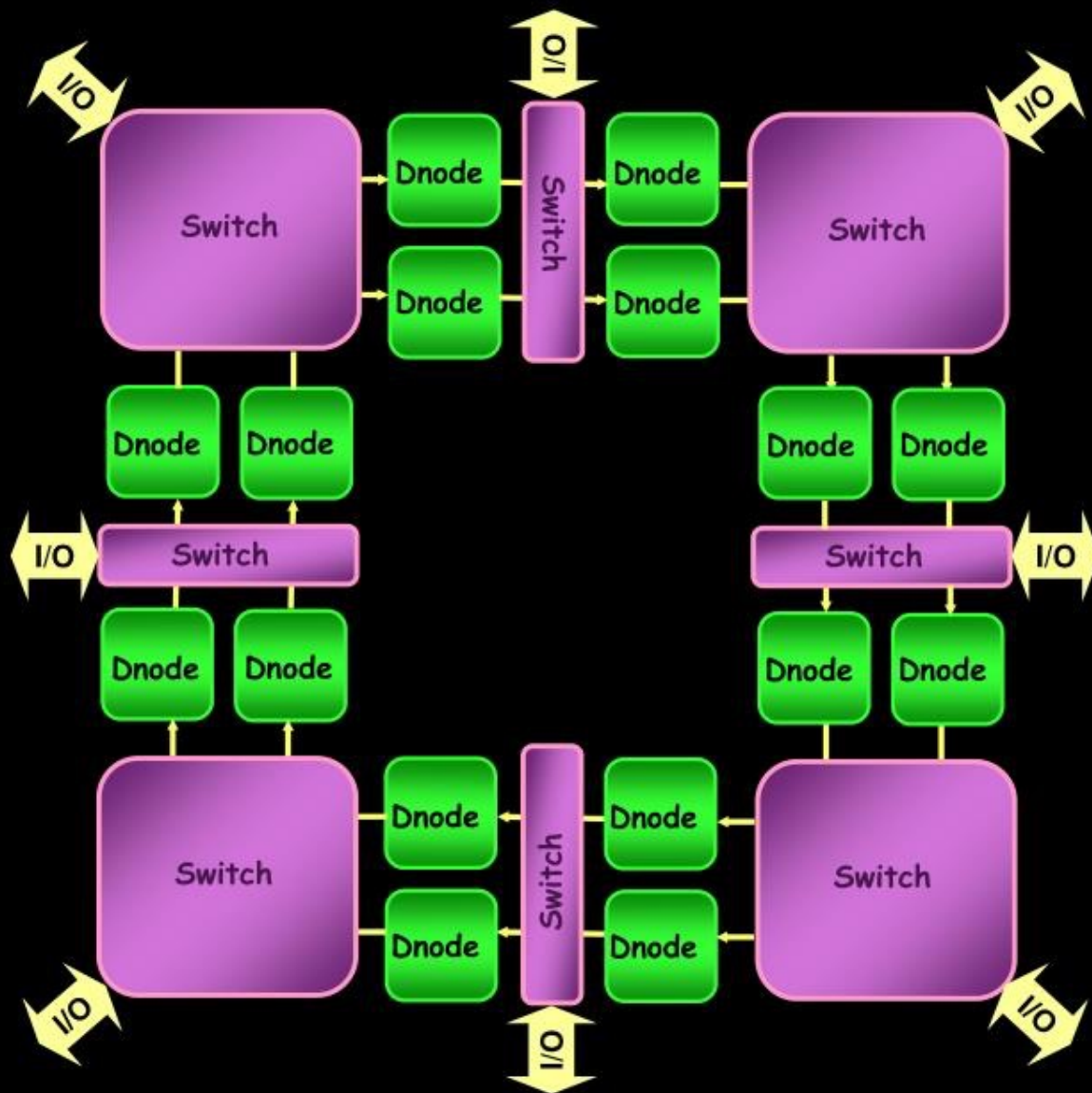
Pascal BENOIT,

G. SASSATELLI, M. ROBERT, L. TORRES, G. CAMBON, T. GIL



UNIVERSITE MONTPELLIER II  
SCIENCES ET TECHNIQUES DU LANGUEDOC

# The Systolic Ring - Operative Layer Topology



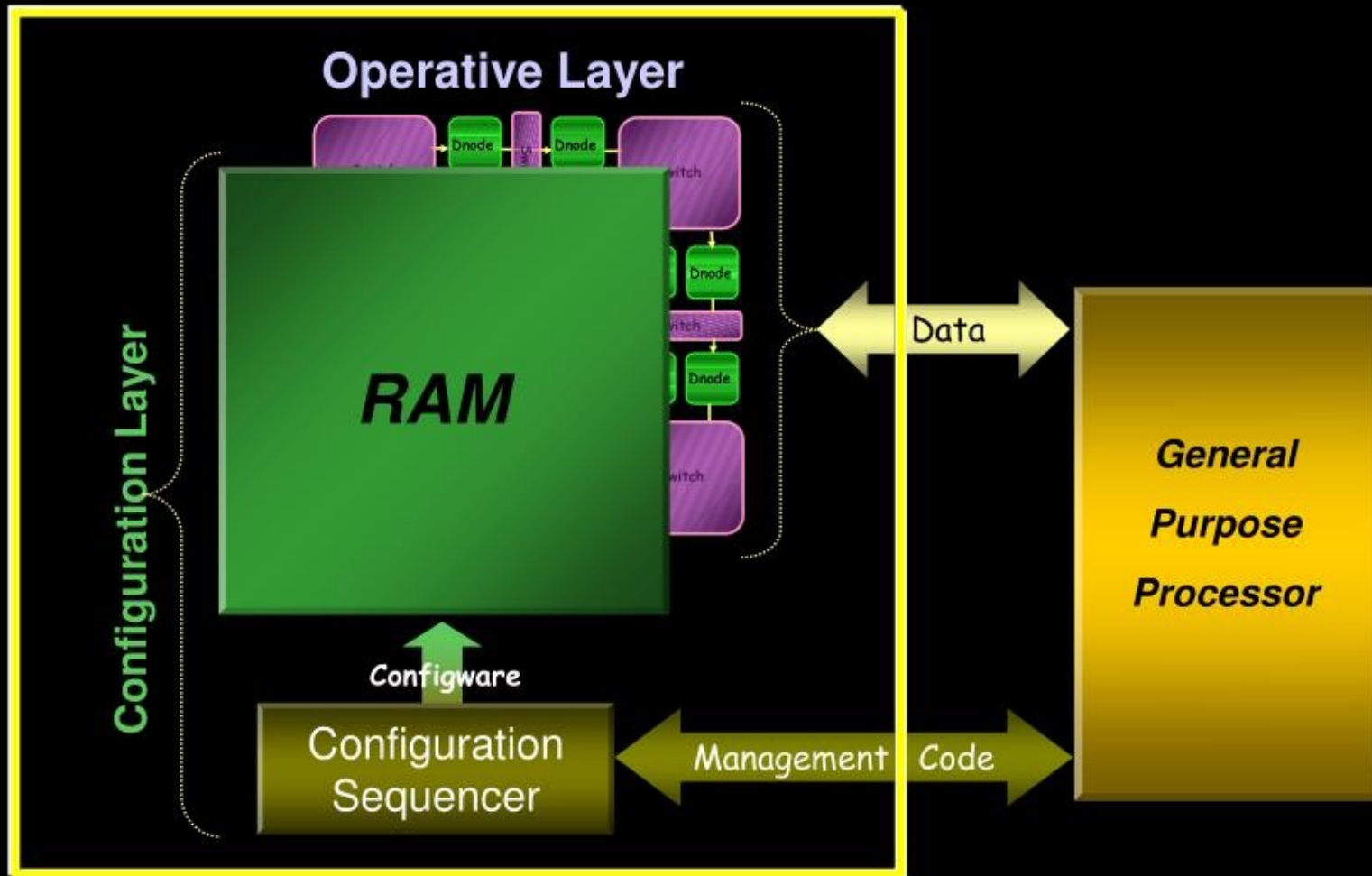
**Ring  
Structure**



**Customisable...**

# The Systolic Ring - System Overview

Not a stand-alone solution

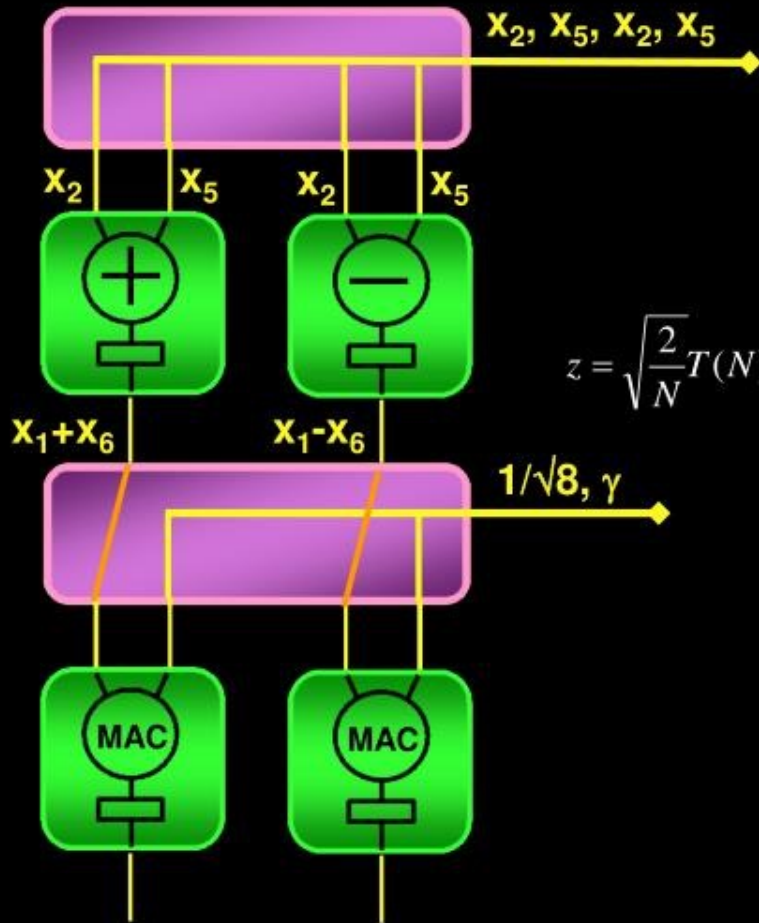


Coprocessor for data flow oriented applications

# Application example - 8\*8 2D DCT



Cycle 2



$$z = \sqrt{\frac{2}{N}} T(N)x$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} z_0 \\ z_2 \\ z_4 \\ z_6 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1/\sqrt{8} & 1/\sqrt{8} & 1/\sqrt{8} & 1/\sqrt{8} \\ \beta & \delta & -\delta & -\beta \\ \alpha & -\alpha & -\alpha & \alpha \\ \delta & -\beta & \beta & -\delta \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_0 + x_7 \\ x_1 + x_6 \\ x_2 + x_5 \\ x_3 + x_4 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{cases} \alpha = 1/2 \cos(\pi/4) \\ \beta = 1/2 \cos(\pi/8) \\ \delta = 1/2 \sin(\pi/8) \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} z_1 \\ z_3 \\ z_5 \\ z_7 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda & \gamma & \mu & \nu \\ \gamma & -\nu & -\lambda & -\mu \\ \mu & -\lambda & \nu & \gamma \\ \nu & -\mu & \gamma & -\lambda \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_0 - x_7 \\ x_1 - x_6 \\ x_2 - x_5 \\ x_3 - x_4 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{cases} \lambda = 1/2 \cos(\pi/16) \\ \gamma = 1/2 \cos(3\pi/16) \\ \mu = 1/2 \sin(3\pi/16) \\ \nu = 1/2 \sin(\pi/16) \end{cases}$$



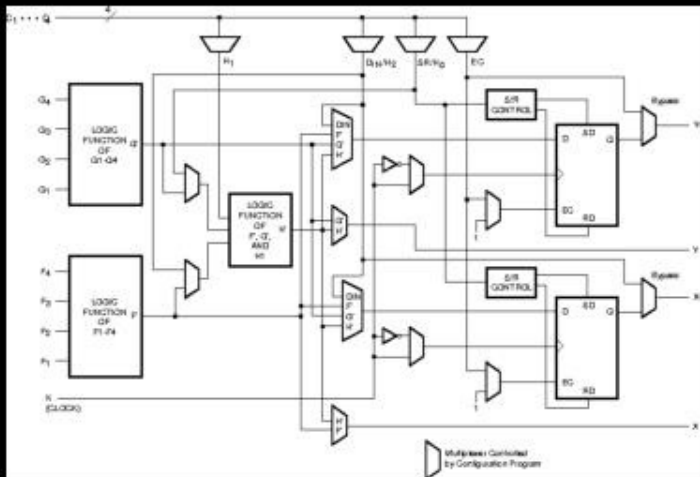
# Introduction

## What kind of base block is suitable for Multimedia?

### ■ Fine grain:

→ Granularity: BIT

adapted to Prototyping, Encryption

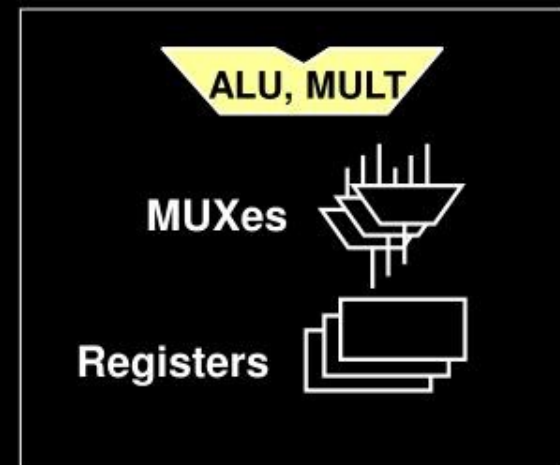
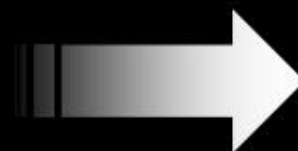


- High reconfiguration over-cost
- Low Functional frequencies

### ■ Coarse Grain:

→ Granularity: WORD

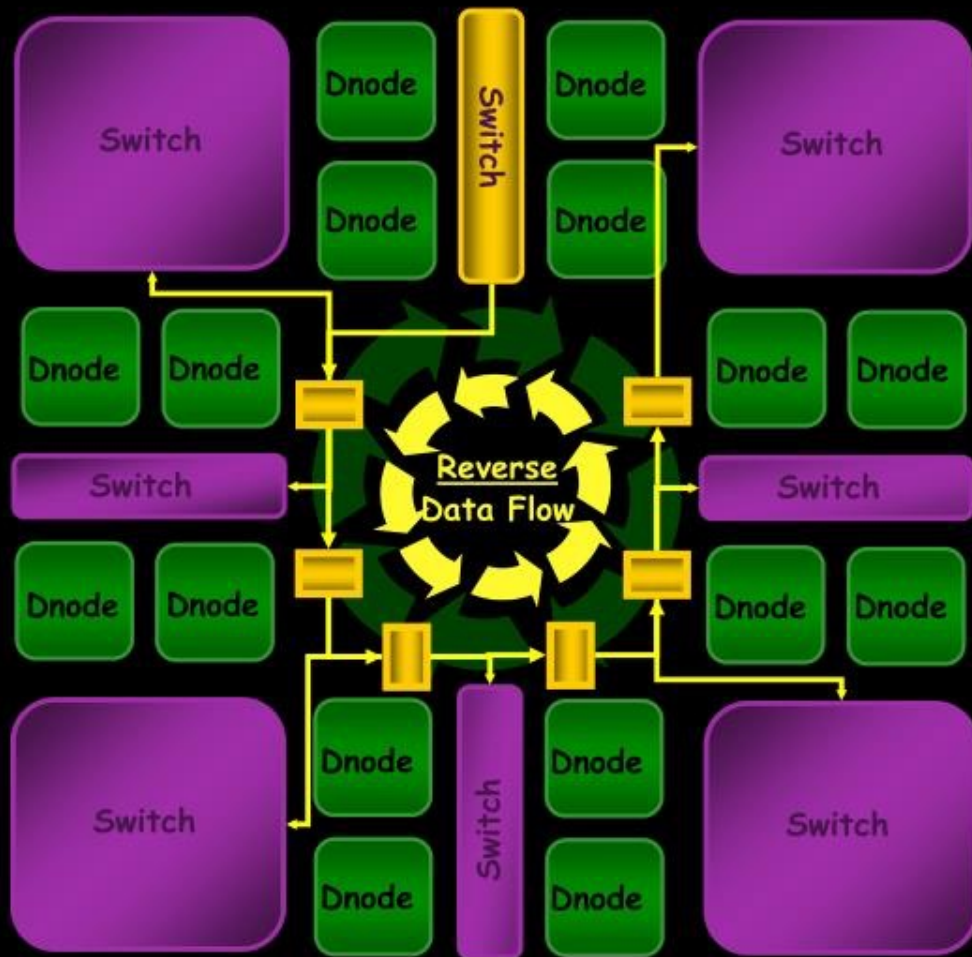
adapted to DSP, data flow oriented processing



- Low reconfiguration over-cost
- High level of performances

# The Systolic Ring - Operative Layer Topology

## Data Flows



### Forward Data Flow

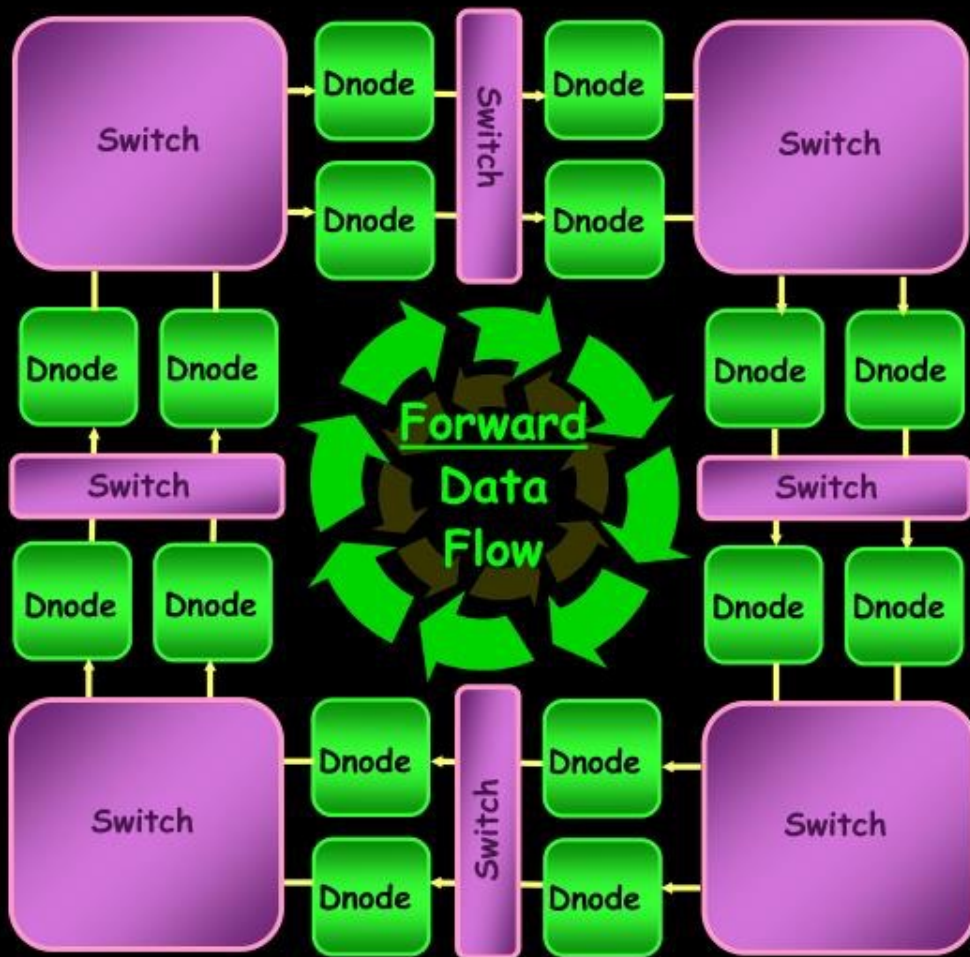
Unidirectional data transit between successive layers (circular pipeline)

### Reverse Data Flow

Feedback pipeline network for recursive algorithms

# The Systolic Ring - Operative Layer Topology

## Data Flows



### Forward Data Flow

Unidirectional data transit between successive layers (circular pipeline)

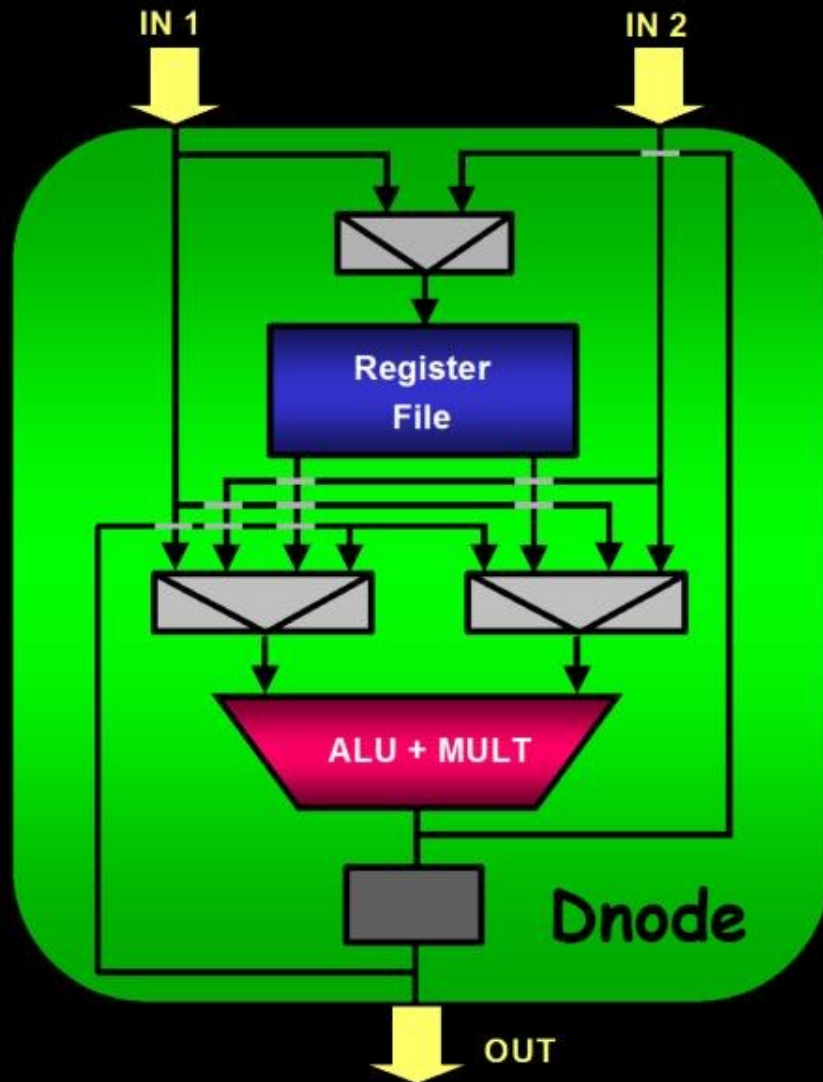
### Reverse Data Flow

Feedback pipeline network  
for recursive algorithms



# The Systolic Ring - Building block

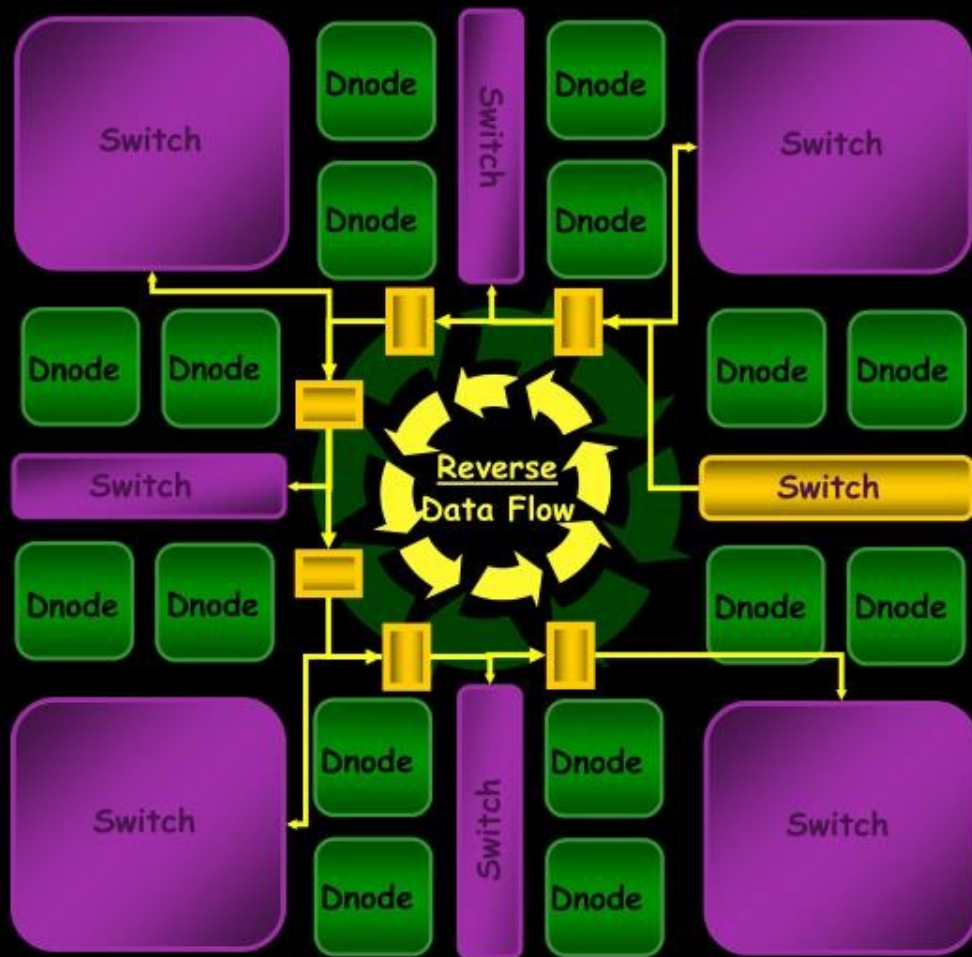
## DNODE (Data Node)



- **Data processing oriented block**
  - ALU + Multiplier (MAC)
- **Programmable component**
  - Local Sequencer
    - Dynamic and autonomous configuration management
  - *one instruction per cycle*

# The Systolic Ring - Operative Layer Topology

## Data Flows



### Forward Data Flow

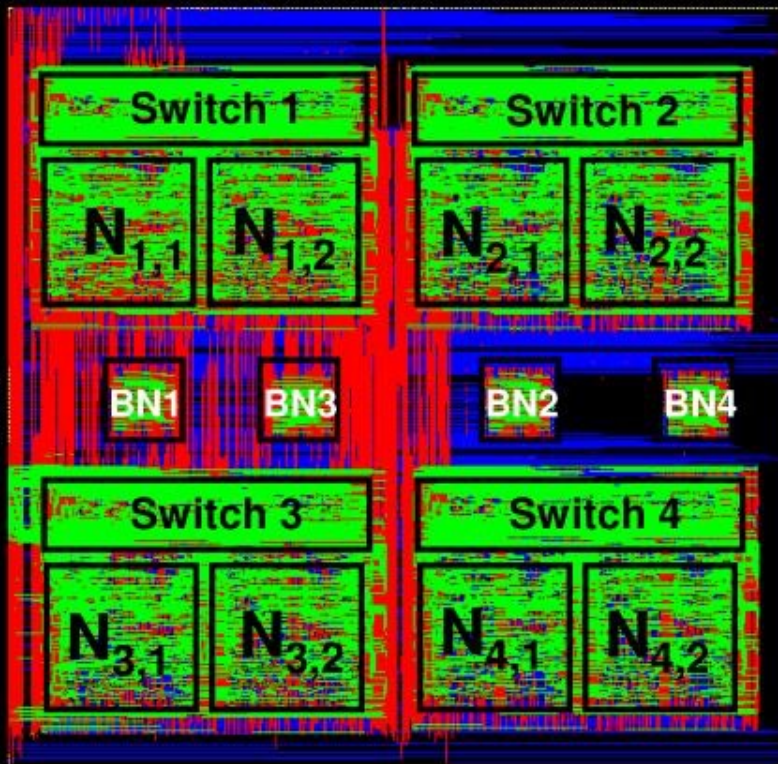
Unidirectional data transit between successive layers (circular pipeline

### Reverse Data Flow

Feedback pipeline network for recursive algorithms

# The Systolic Ring

## Systolic Ring Features



*Operative Layer Layout*

### ■ RING-8 (8 Dnodes)

→ 0.18 $\mu$  technology

3.3 mm<sup>2</sup>

200 MHz

1600 MIPS

1600 MMACs / s

Process geometry dropping  $\Rightarrow$  increase Dnode #