

Meltdown, Spectre, ZombieLoad

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October 1, 2019

Graz University of Technology

amazon.com
Prime+Probe

ROWHAMMER IS ANOTHER FLIP IN THE ROW



FANTASTIC TIMERS

AND WHERE
TO FIND THEM

HIGH-RESOLUTION MICROARCHITECTURAL
ATTACKS IN JAVASCRIPT



JavaScript
zero

REAL
JavaScript
AND ZERO
SIDE-CHANNEL
ATTACKS







side channel
= obtaining meta-data and
deriving secrets from it

CHANGE MY MIND

Intel Analysis of Speculative Execution Side Channels

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1

of 12

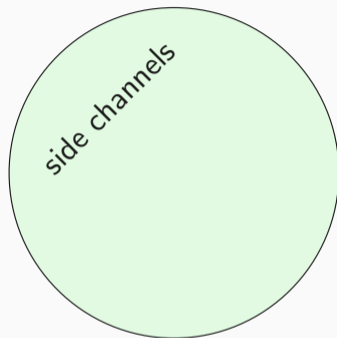


100%

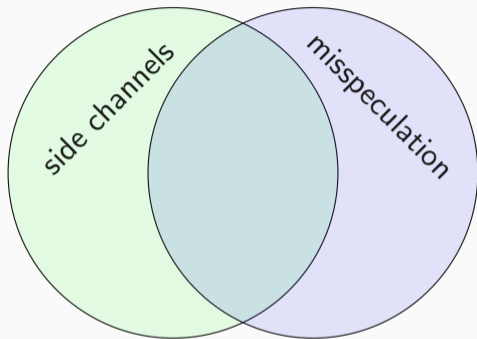


Intel Analysis of Speculative Execution Side Channels

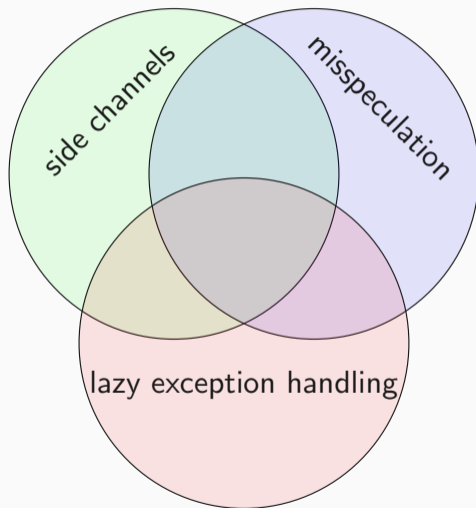
White Paper



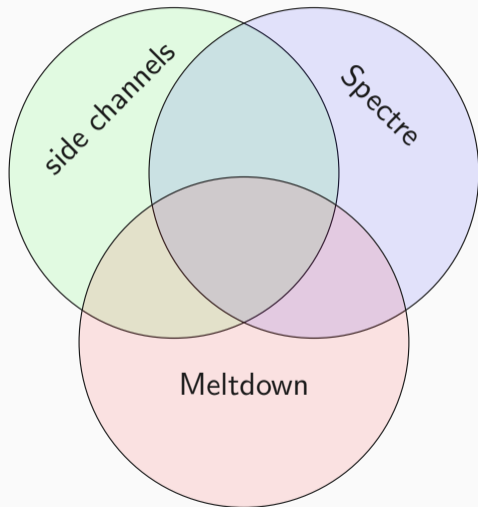
- traditional cache attacks (crypto, keys, etc)



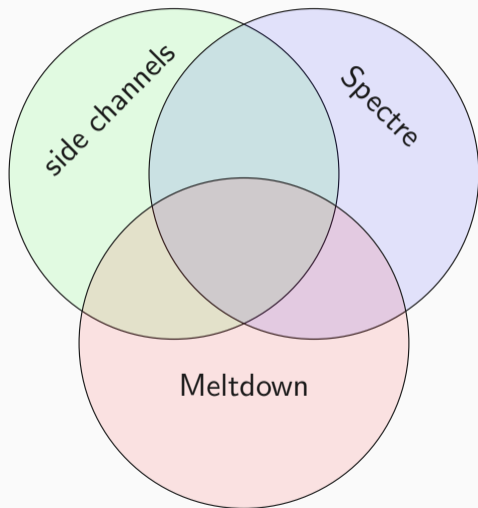
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- actual misspeculation (e.g., branch misprediction)



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- traditional cache attacks (crypto, keys, etc)
- actual misspeculation (e.g., branch misprediction)
- Meltdown, Foreshadow, ZombieLoad, etc
- **Let's avoid the term Speculative Side-Channel Attacks**









1337 4242

FOOD CACHE

Revolutionary concept!

Store your food at home,
never go to the grocery store
during cooking.

Can store **ALL** kinds of food.

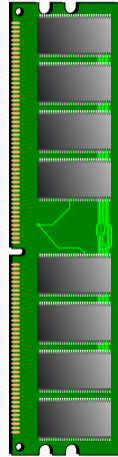
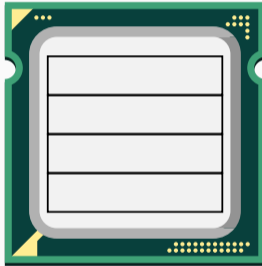
ONLY TODAY INSTEAD OF ~~\$1,300~~

\$1,299

ORDER VIA PHONE: +555 12345

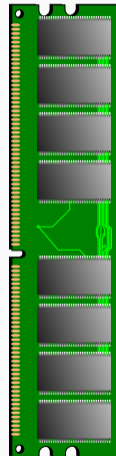
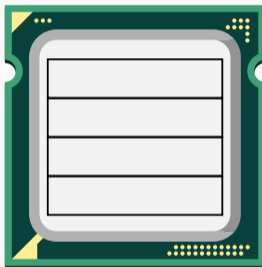


```
printf("%d", i);  
printf("%d", i);
```



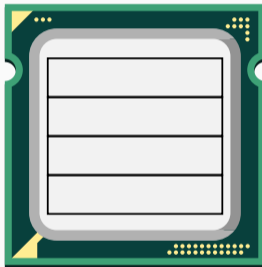
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Cache miss

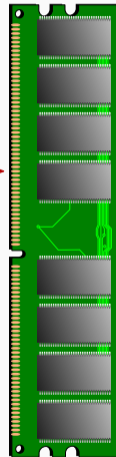


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Cache miss

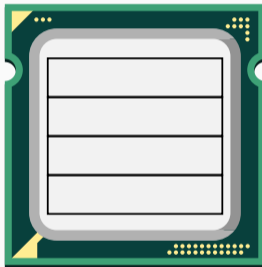


Request



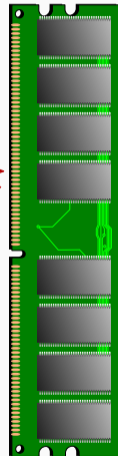
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Cache miss



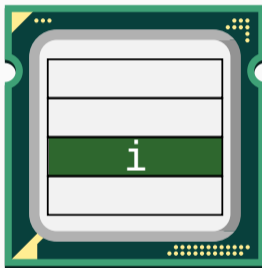
Request

Response



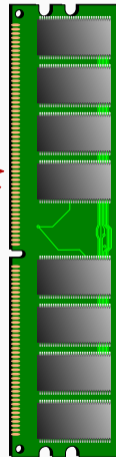

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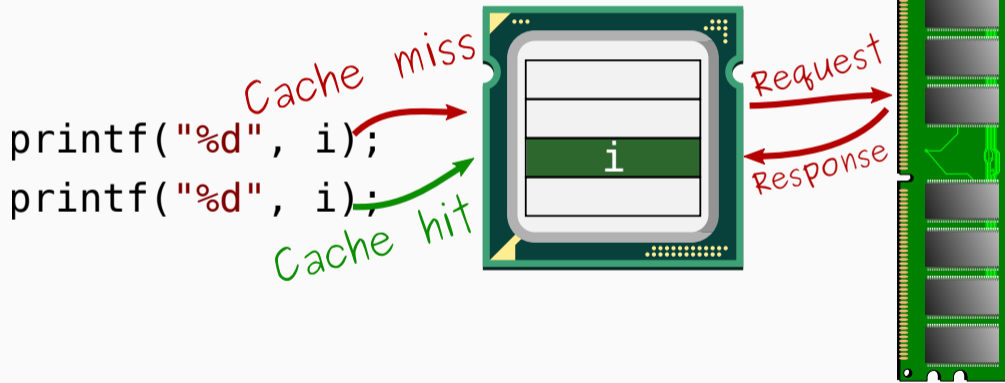
Cache miss



Request

Response





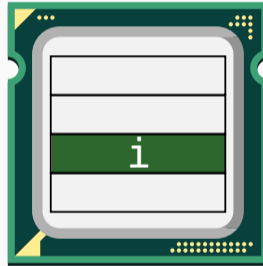
DRAM access,
slow

```
printf("%d", i);
```

```
printf("%d", i);
```

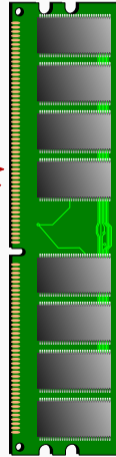
Cache miss

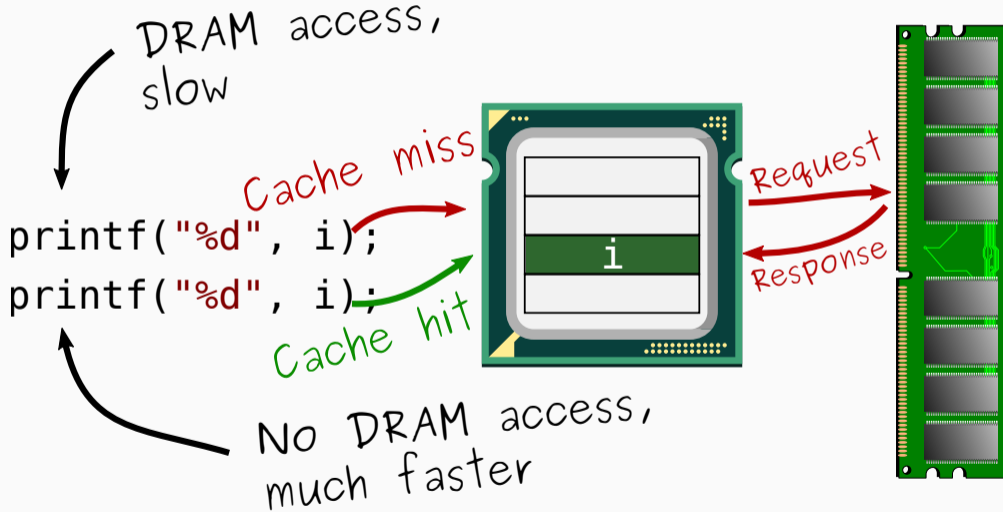
Cache hit

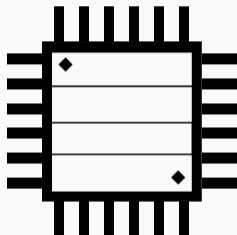


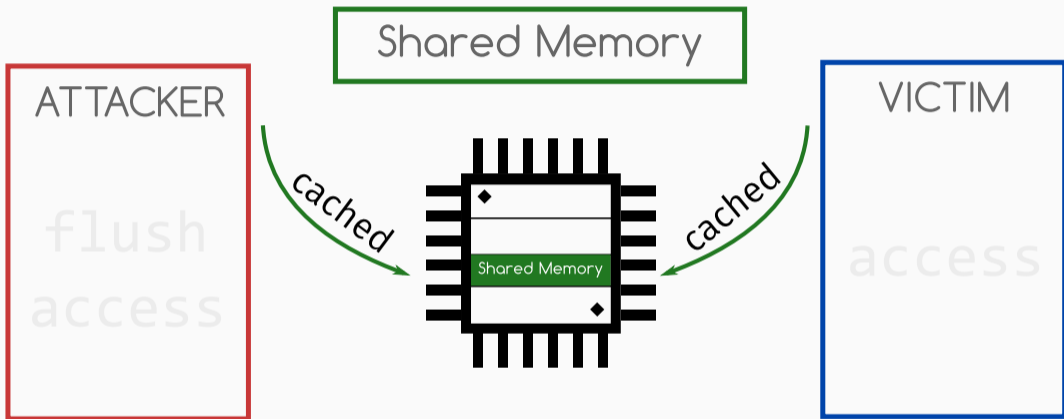
Request

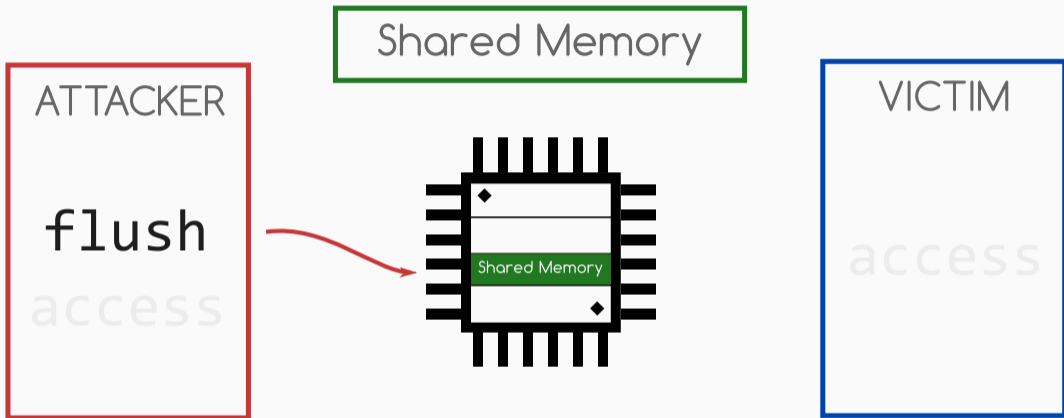
Response

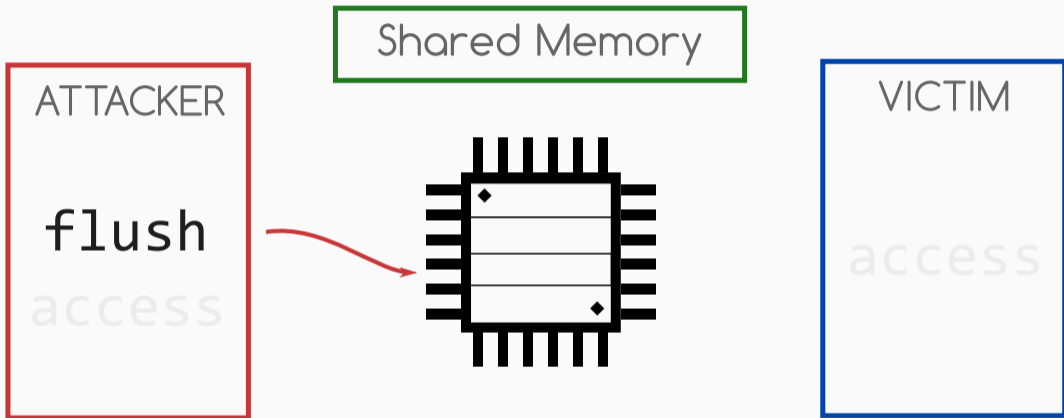


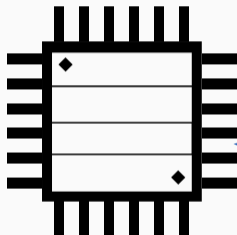


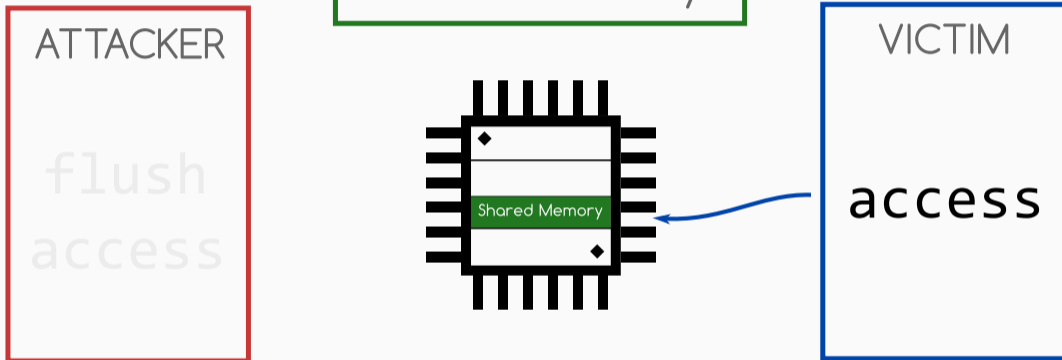


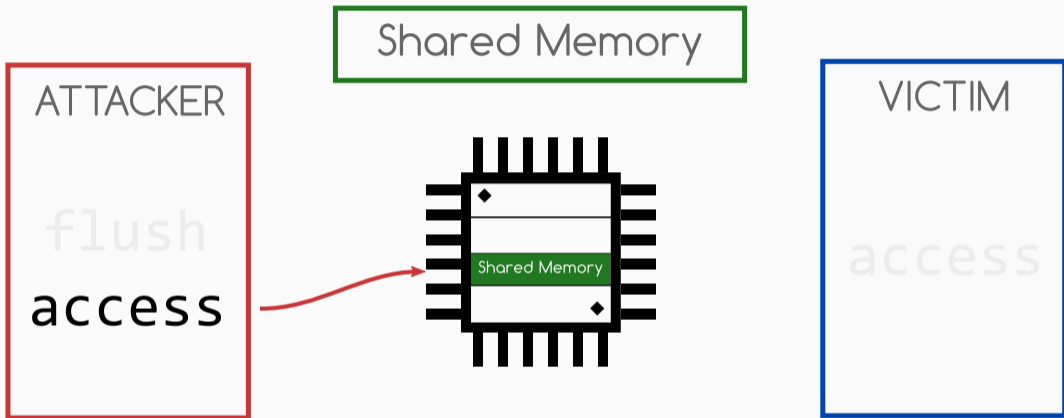


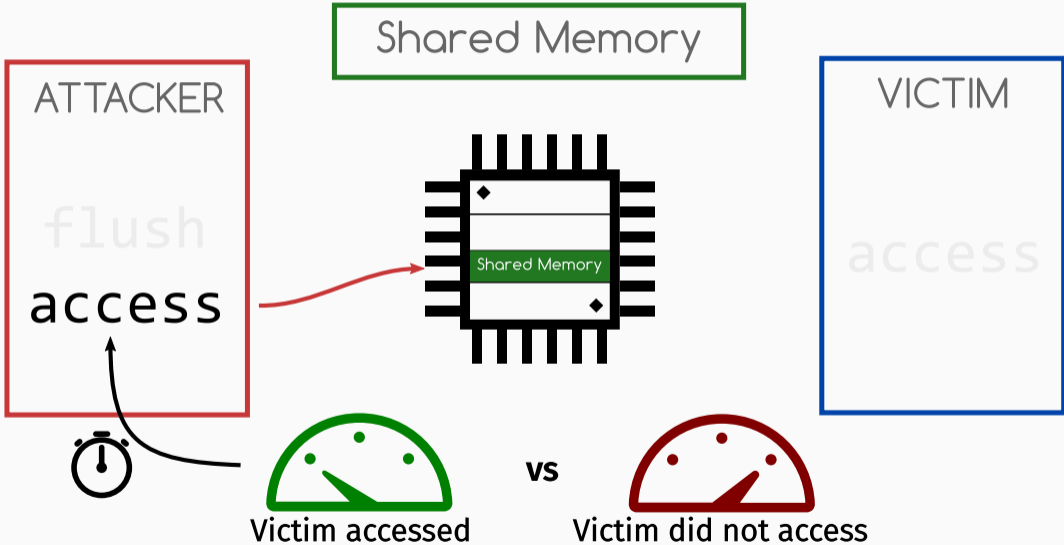












- use pseudo-serializing instruction `rdtscp` (recent CPUs)

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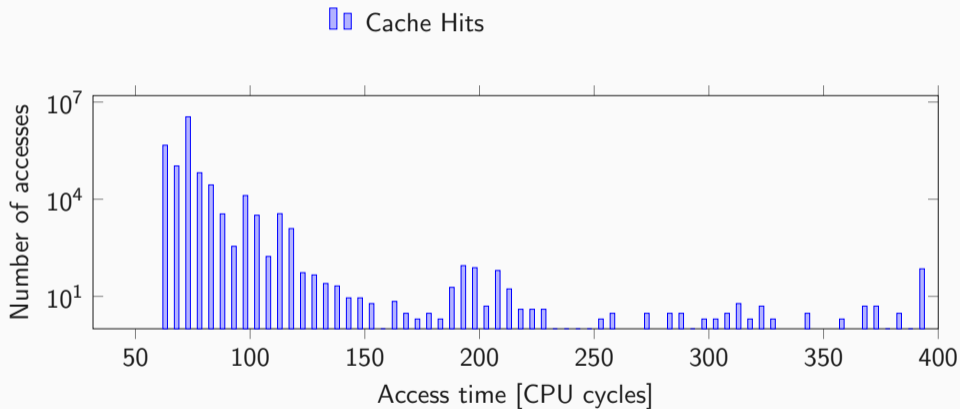
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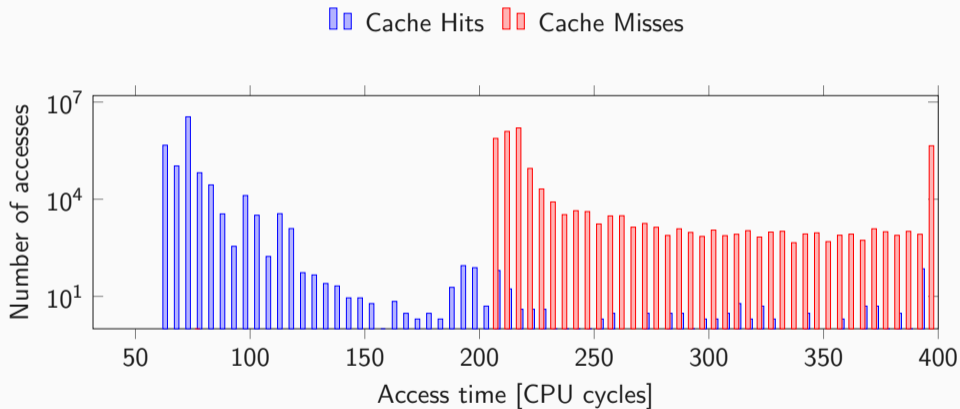
Intel, *How to Benchmark Code Execution Times on Intel IA-32 and IA-64 Instruction Set Architectures White Paper*, December 2010.

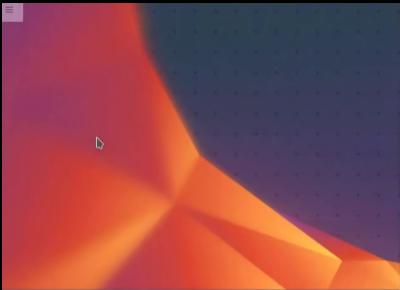
AUGUST 22, 2018 BY BRUCE

Intel Publishes Microcode Security Patches, No Benchmarking Or Comparison Allowed!

UPDATE: **Intel has resolved their microcode licensing issue which I complained about in this blog post.** The new license text is [here](#).







local -- Konsole

File Edit View Bookmarks Settings Help

```
michael@michael-tp ~ %
```

```
sender (ec2) -- Konsole
```

```
File Edit View Bookmarks Settings Help
```

```
Abent@ip-172-31-51-32 ~ %
```

sender (ec2)

```
sender (ec2) -- Konsole <2>
```

```
File Edit View Bookmarks Settings Help
```

```
-- slurm 0.4.3 on ip-172-31-51-32 --
```

```
x
x
xxx
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
xx
xx
x
x
```

Active Interface: eth0	Interface Speed: unknown
Current RX Speed: 0.05 KB/s	Current TX Speed: 0.33 KB/s
Graph Top RX Speed: 0.98 KB/s	Graph Top TX Speed: 2.64 KB/s
Overall Top RX Speed: 0.98 KB/s	Overall Top TX Speed: 2.64 KB/s
Received Packets: 84	Transmitted Packets: 82
MBytes Received: 0.005 MB	MBytes Transmitted: 0.019 MB
Errors on Receiving: 0	Errors on Transmission: 0

sender (ec2)

```
receiver (ec2) -- Konsole
```

```
File Edit View Bookmarks Settings Help
```

```
Abent@ip-172-31-58-32 ~ %
```

receiver (ec2)

```
receiver (ec2) -- Konsole <2>
```

```
File Edit View Bookmarks Settings Help
```

```
-- slurm 0.4.3 on ip-172-31-58-32 --
```

```
x
x
xxx
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
xx
xx
x
x
```

Active Interface: eth0	Interface Speed: unknown
Current RX Speed: 0.05 KB/s	Current TX Speed: 0.29 KB/s
Graph Top RX Speed: 0.36 KB/s	Graph Top TX Speed: 0.84 KB/s
Overall Top RX Speed: 0.36 KB/s	Overall Top TX Speed: 0.84 KB/s
Received Packets: 38	Transmitted Packets: 36
MBytes Received: 0.002 MB	MBytes Transmitted: 0.010 MB
Errors on Receiving: 0	Errors on Transmission: 0

receiver (ec2)

HELLO FROM THE OTHER SIDE (DEMO):
VIDEO STREAMING OVER CACHE COVERT CHANNEL



Back to Work

6. Cook everything until
vegetables are soft

6. Add green to soup
and let it simmer

7. *Serve with cooked
and peeled potatoes*





Wait for an hour



Wait for an hour



LATENCY

1. Wash and cut
vegetables

2. Pick the basil leaves
and set aside

3. Heat 2 tablespoons of
oil in a pan

4. Fry vegetables until
golden and softened



Dependency

1. Wash and cut vegetables

2. Pick the basil leaves and set aside

3. Heat 2 tablespoons of oil in a pan

4. Fry vegetables until golden and softened

Parallelize



```
int width = 10, height = 5;

float diagonal = sqrt(width * width
                      + height * height);
int area = width * height;

printf("Area %d x %d = %d\n", width, height, area);
```

Parallelize

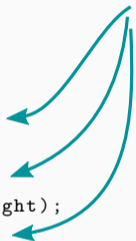
Dependency

```
int width = 10, height = 5;

float diagonal = sqrt(width * width
                      + height * height);

int area = width * height;

printf("Area %d x %d = %d\n", width, height, area);
```





```
*(volatile char*) 0;  
array[84 * 4096] = 0;
```



- Flush+Reload over all pages of the array





- Flush+Reload over all pages of the array



- “Unreachable” code line was **actually executed**



- Flush+Reload over all pages of the array



- “Unreachable” code line was **actually executed**
- Exception was only thrown **afterwards**



- Out-of-order instructions **leave microarchitectural traces**



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 - We can see them for example through the cache



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- Give such instructions a name: **transient instructions**



- Out-of-order instructions **leave microarchitectural traces**
 - We can see them for example through the cache
- Give such instructions a name: **transient instructions**
- We can indirectly observe the **execution of transient instructions**



- Add another **layer of indirection** to test

```
char data = *(char*) 0xffffffff81a000e0;  
array[data * 4096] = 0;
```



- Add another **layer of indirection** to test

```
char data = *(char*) 0xffffffff81a000e0;  
array[data * 4096] = 0;
```

- Then check whether any part of array is **cached**



- Flush+Reload over all pages of the array



- **Index** of cache hit reveals **data**



- Flush+Reload over all pages of the array

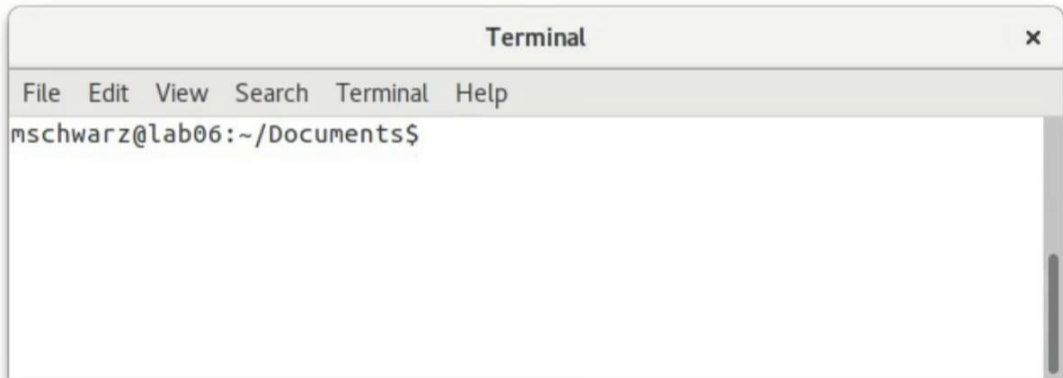
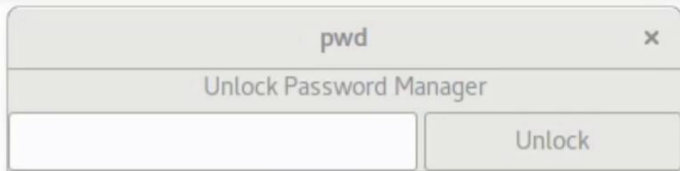


- **Index** of cache hit reveals **data**
- **Permission check** is in some cases **not fast enough**

I SHIT YOU NOT

**THERE WAS KERNEL MEMORY ALL
OVER THE TERMINAL**









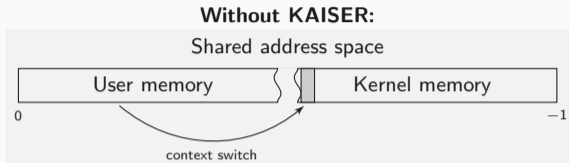
Kernel **A**ddress **I**solation to have **S**ide channels **E**fficiently **R**emoved

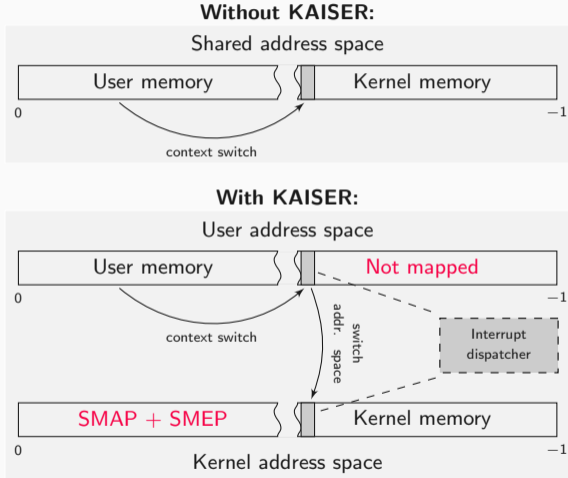
KAISER /'kAIZə/

1. [german] Emperor, ruler of an empire
2. largest penguin, emperor penguin

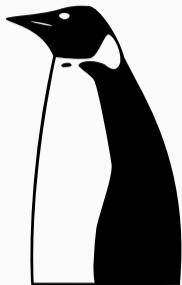


Kernel **A**ddress **I**solation to have **S**ide channels **E**fficiently **R**emoved

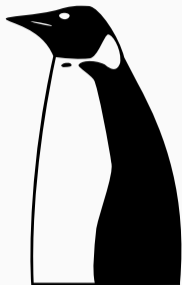




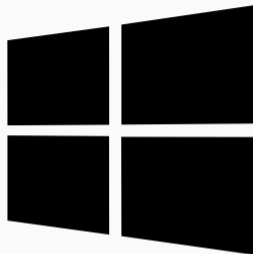




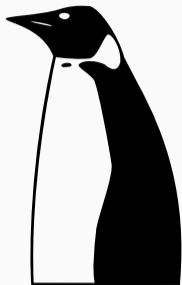
- Our patch
- Adopted in Linux



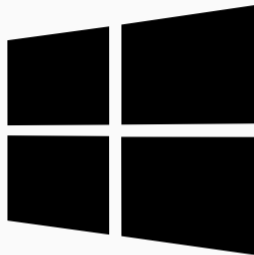
- Our patch
- Adopted in Linux



- Adopted in Windows



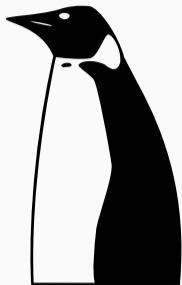
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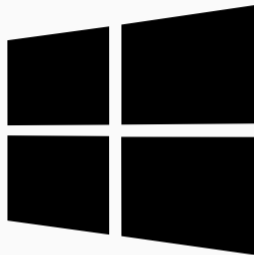
- Adopted in Windows



- Adopted in OSX/iOS



- Our patch
- Adopted in Linux



- Adopted in Windows



- Adopted in OSX/iOS

→ **now in every computer**

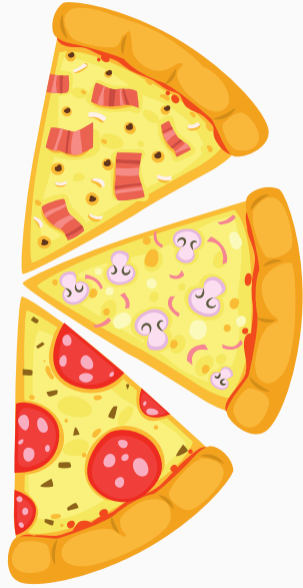


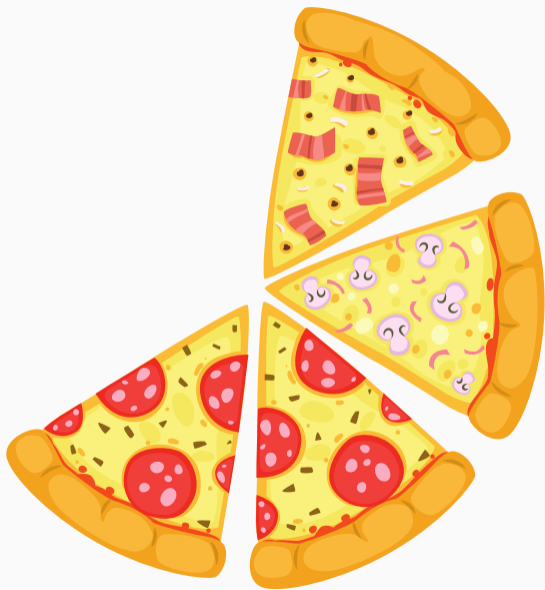
PIZZA

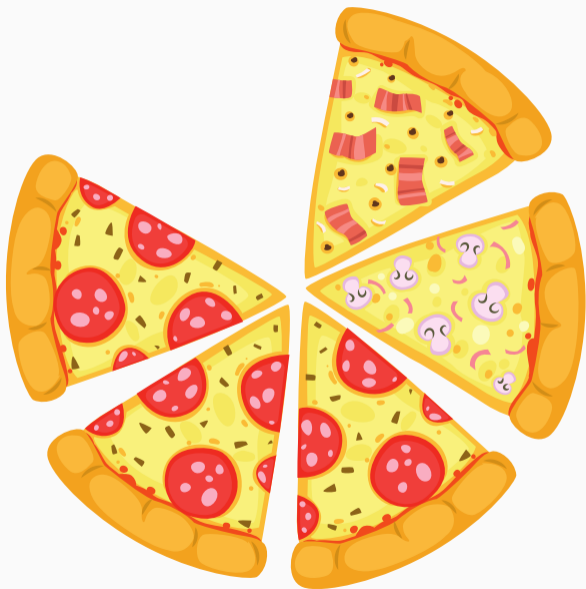
SPECIAL RECIPES













»A table for 6 please«





Speculative Cooking



»A table for 6 please«





PIZZA

SPECIAL RECIPES



PIZZA

SPECIAL RECIPES

PIZZA



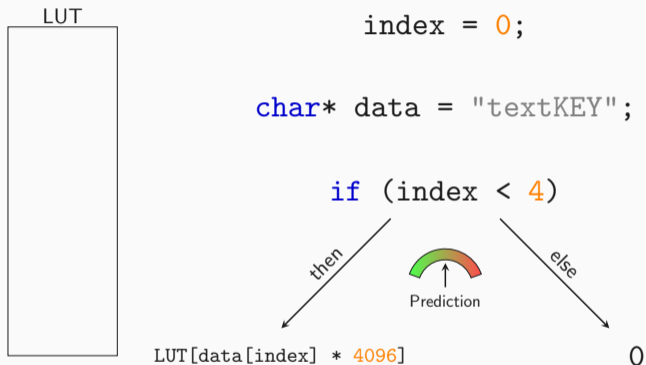


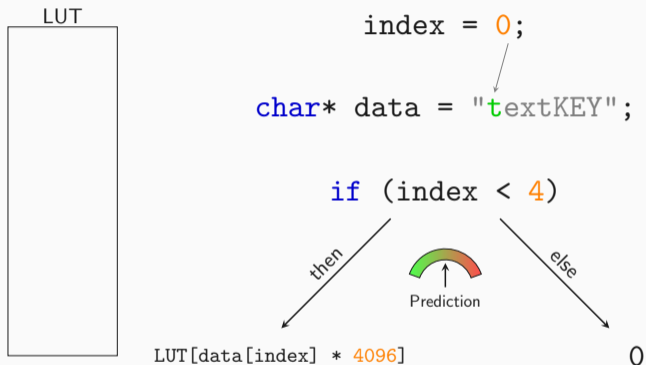


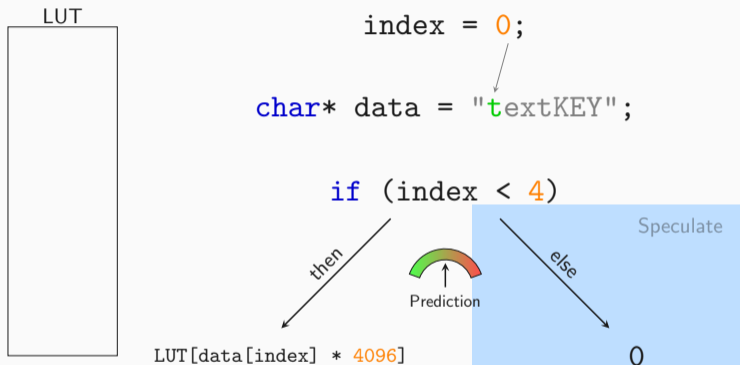
PIZZA

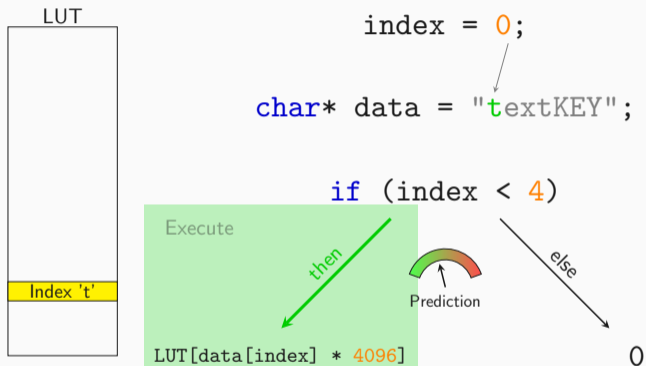
SPECIAL RECIPES

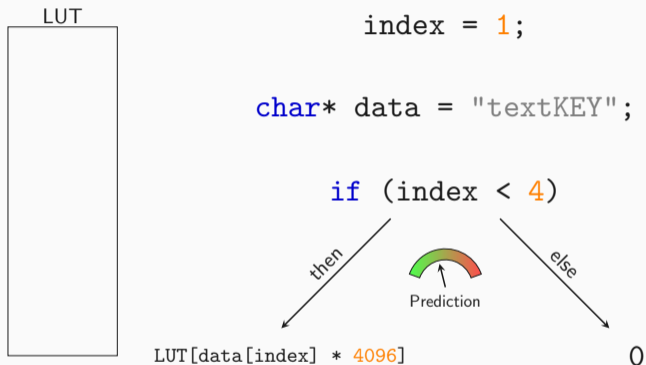


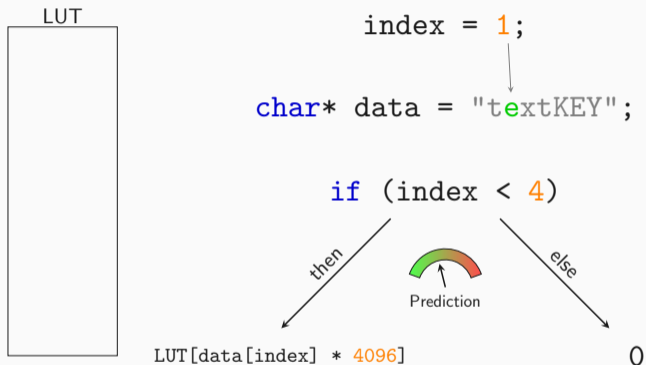


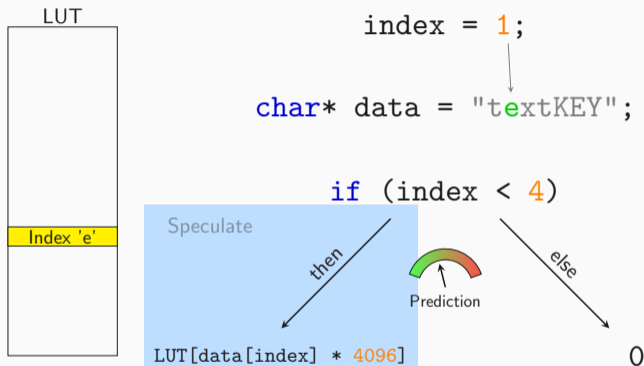


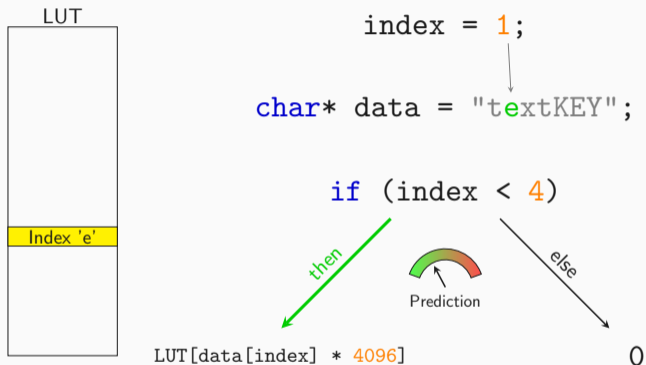


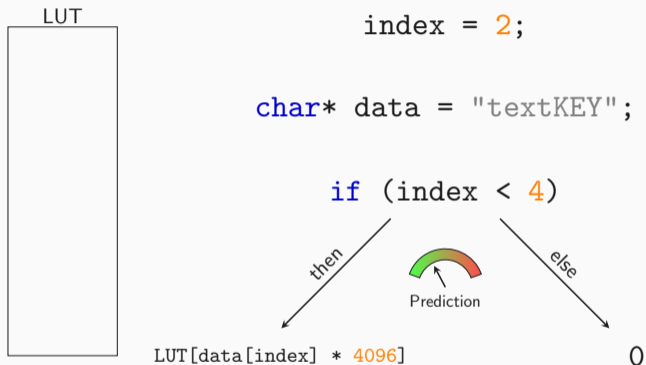


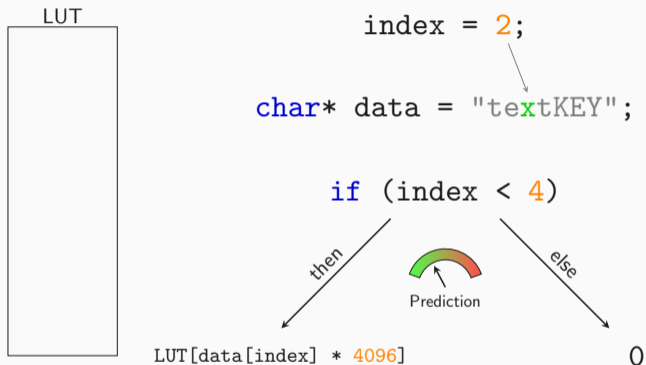


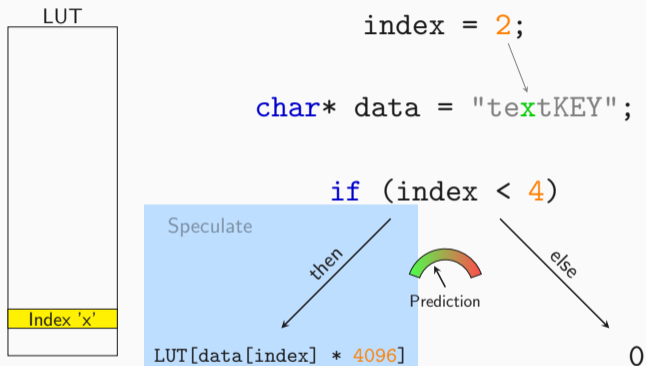


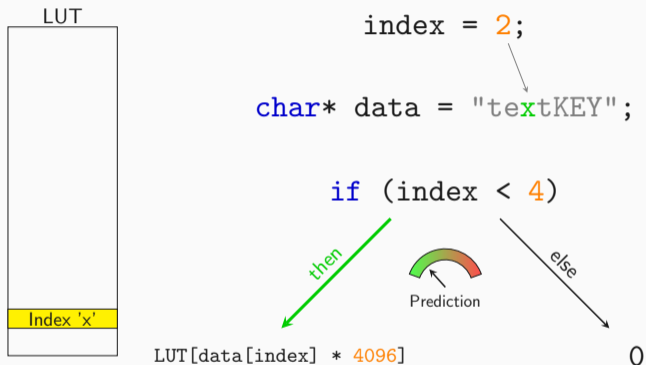


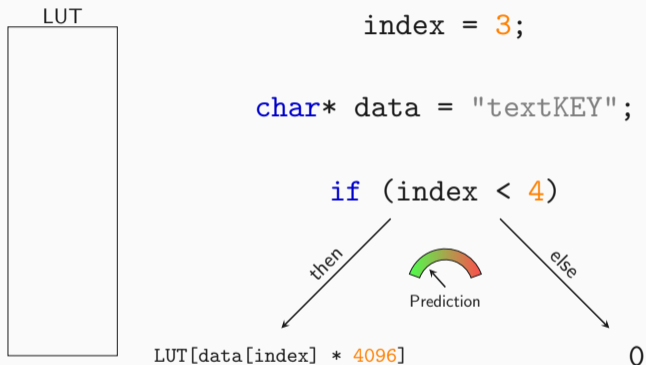


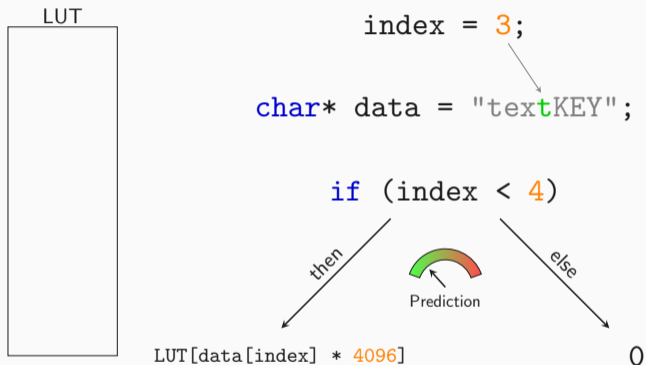


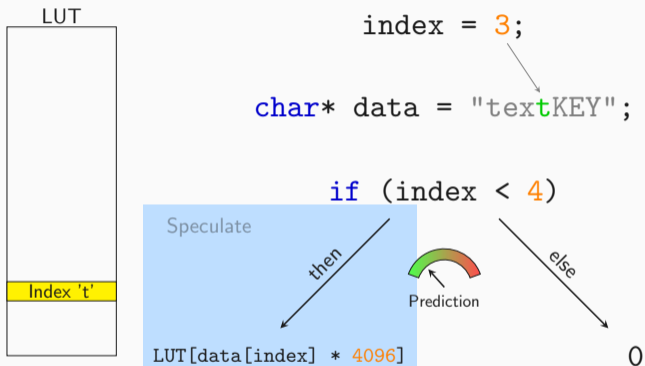


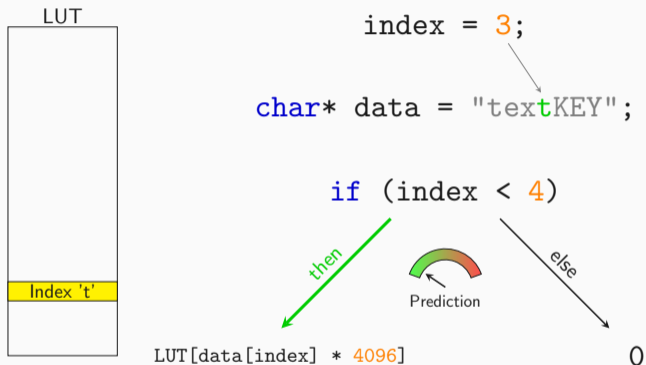


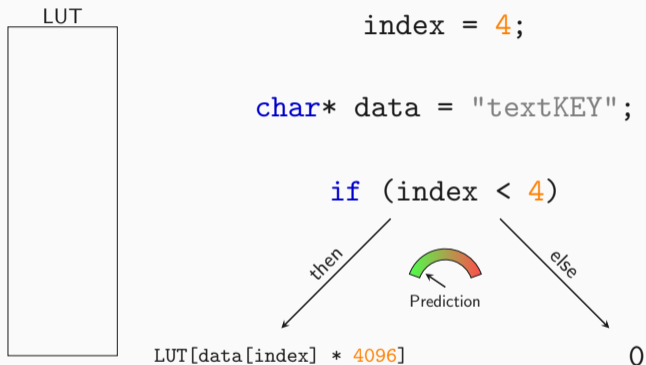


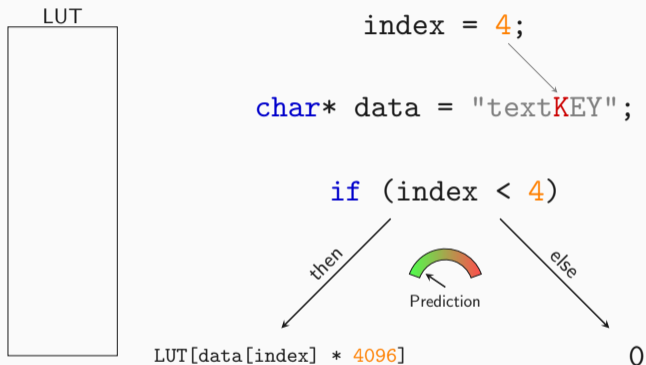


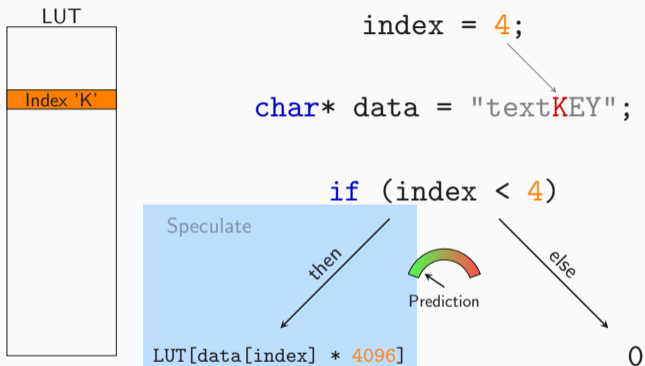


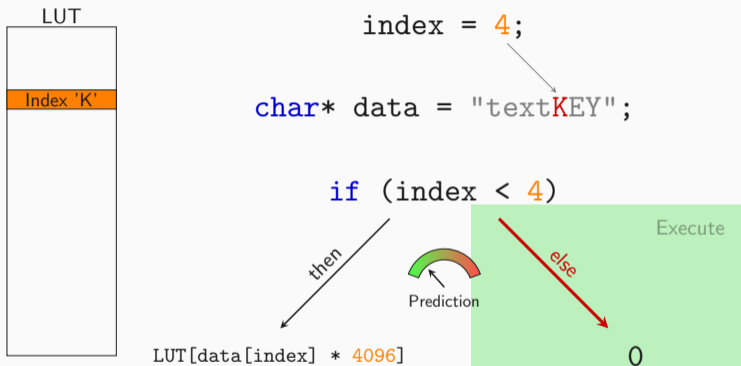


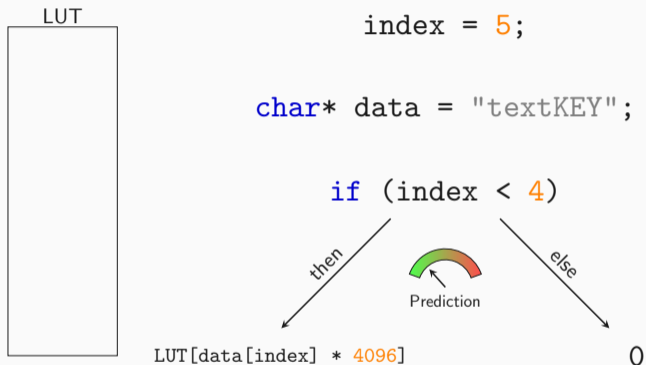


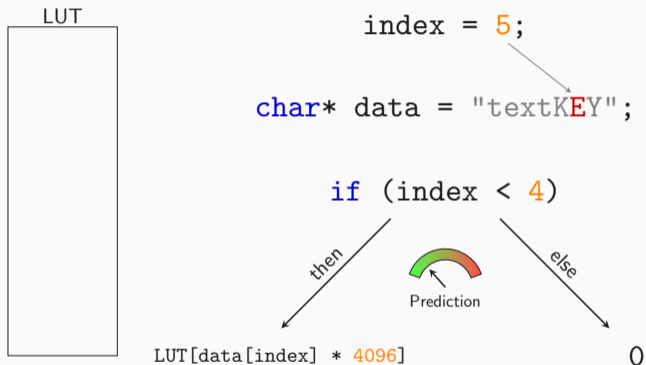


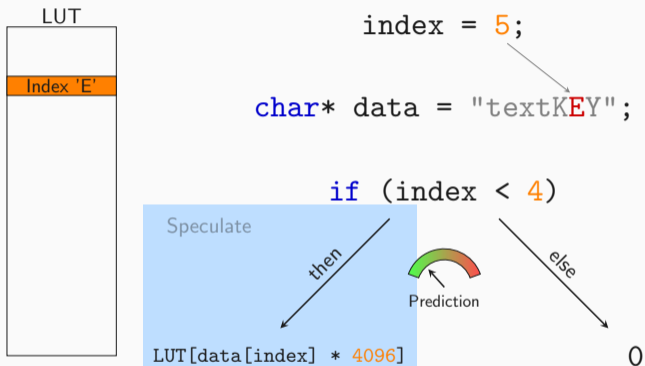


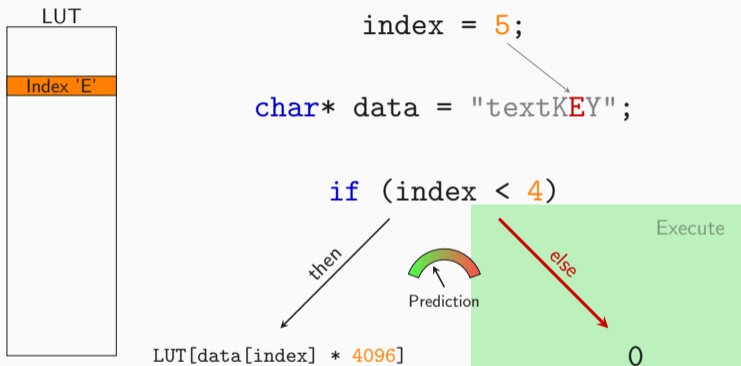


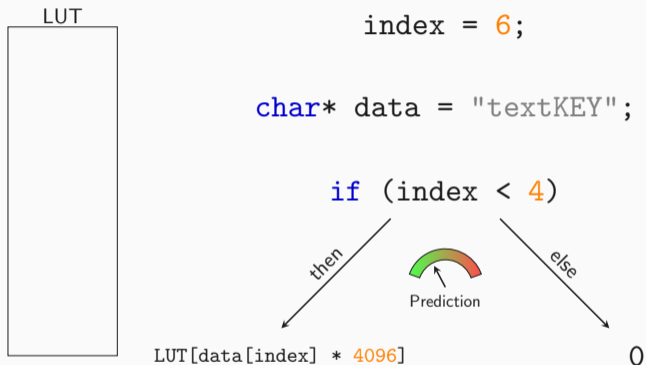


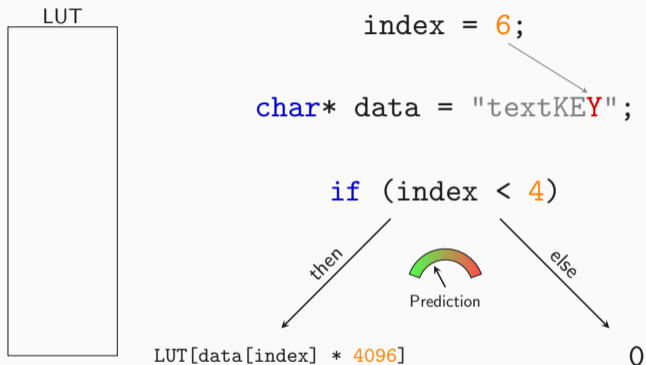


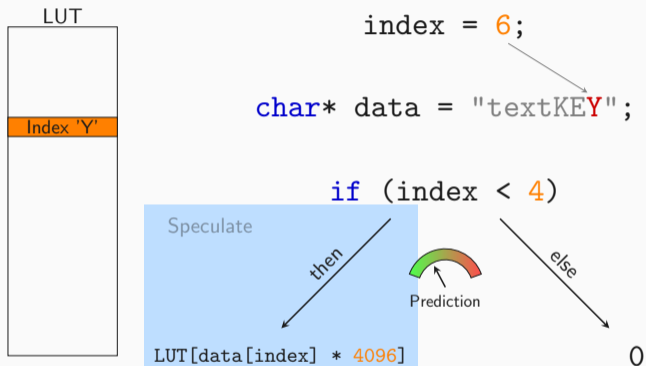


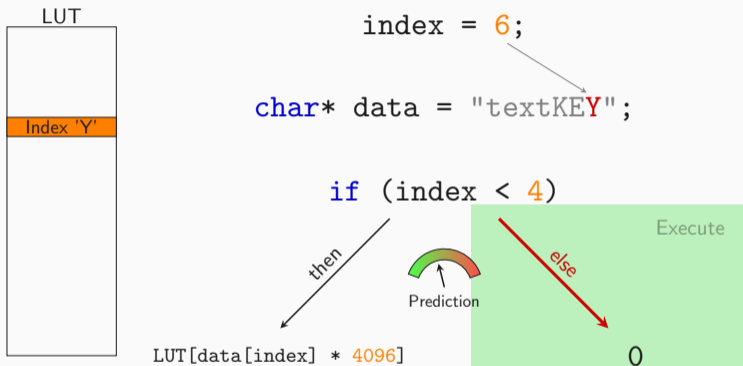


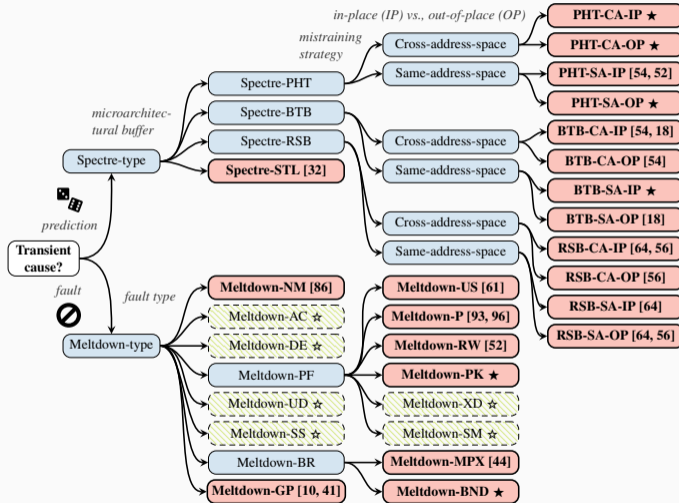













Mitigations?



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Computer Architecture Today

Informing the broad computing community about current activities, advances and future directions in computer architecture.

Let's Keep it to Ourselves: Don't Disclose Vulnerabilities

by Gus Uht on Jan 31, 2019 | Tags: Opinion, Security



CONTRIBUTE

Editor: Alvin R. Lebeck

Associate Editor: Vijay Janapa Reddi

Contribute to Computer
Architecture Today

Table 1: Spectre-type defenses and what they mitigate.

Attack \ Defense		InvisiSpec	SafeSpec	DAWG	RSB Stuffing	Retpoline	Poison Value	Index Masking	Site Isolation	SLH	YSMB	IBRS	STIPB	IBPB	Serialization	Taint Tracking	Timer Reduction	Sloth	SSBD/SSBB
		Intel	Spectre-PHT	□	□	◇	◇	●	◐	◐	●	○	◇	◇	◇	◇	◐	■	◐
Spectre-BTB	□	□	◇	●	◇	◇	◐	◇	◇	◇	●	◐	◇	◇	■	◐	◇	◇	◇
Spectre-RSB	□	□	◐	◇	◇	◇	◐	◇	◇	◇	◇	◇	◇	◇	■	◐	◇	◇	◇
Spectre-STL	□	□	◇	◇	◇	◇	◐	◇	◇	◇	◇	◇	◇	◇	■	◐	■	●	◇
ARM	Spectre-PHT	□	□	◇	◇	●	◐	◐	●	○	◇	◇	◇	◇	◐	■	◐	■	◇
Spectre-BTB	□	□	◇	●	◇	◐	◇	◇	◇	◇	◇	◇	◇	◇	■	◐	◇	◇	◇
Spectre-RSB	□	□	◐	◇	◇	◐	◇	◇	◇	◇	◇	◇	◇	◇	■	◐	◇	◇	◇
Spectre-STL	□	□	◇	◇	◇	◐	◇	◇	◇	◇	◇	◇	◇	◇	■	◐	■	●	◇
AMD	Spectre-PHT	□	□	◇	◇	●	◐	◐	●	○	◇	◇	◇	◇	◐	■	◐	■	◇
Spectre-BTB	□	□	◇	●	◇	◐	◇	◇	◇	■	■	■	◇	■	◐	◇	◇	◇	◇
Spectre-RSB	□	□	◐	◇	◇	◐	◇	◇	◇	◇	◇	◇	■	◇	■	◐	◇	◇	◇
Spectre-STL	□	□	◇	◇	◇	◐	◇	◇	◇	◇	◇	◇	◇	◇	■	◐	■	●	◇

Symbols show if an attack is mitigated (●), partially mitigated (◐), not mitigated (○), theoretically mitigated (■), theoretically impeded (▣), not theoretically impeded (□), or out of scope (◇).

Table 2: Reported performance impacts of countermeasures

Defense \ Impact	Performance Loss	Benchmark
InvisiSpec	22%	SPEC
SafeSpec	3% (improvement)	SPEC2017 on MARSSx86
DAWG	2–12%, 1–15%	PARSEC, GAPBS
RSB Stuffing	no reports	
Retpoline	5–10%	real-world workload servers
Site Isolation	only memory overhead	
SLH	36.4%, 29%	Google microbenchmark suite
YSNB	60%	Phoenix
IBRS	20–30%	two sysbench 1.0.11 benchmarks
STIPB	30– 50%	Rodinia OpenMP, DaCapo
IBPB	no individual reports	
Serialization	62%, 74.8%	Google microbenchmark suite
SSBD/SSBB	2–8%	SYSmark®2014 SE & SPEC integer
KAISER/KPTI	0–2.6%	system call rates
L1TF mitigations	-3–31%	various SPEC



How to find the next big thing ;)

they become the target of the doll-maker's possessed creation, Annabelle.

Director: [David F. Sandberg](#) | Stars: [Anthony LaPaglia](#), [Samara Lee](#), [Miranda Otto](#), [Brad Greenquist](#)

Votes: 92,806 | Gross: \$102.09M



29. **Zombieland: Double Tap** (2019)



Action, Comedy, Horror | **Post-production**

Columbus, Tallahassee, Wichita, and Little Rock move to the American heartland as they face off against evolved zombies, fellow survivors, and the growing pains of the snarky makeshift family.

Director: [Ruben Fleischer](#) | Stars: [Emma Stone](#), [Zoey Deutch](#), [Woody Harrelson](#), [Abigail Breslin](#)



30. **Love, Death & Robots** (2019-)



TV-MA | 15 min | Animation, Short, Comedy

★ 8.7 ☆ [Rate this](#)

A collection of animated short stories that span various genres including science fiction, fantasy, horror and comedy.

Stars: [Scott Whyte](#), [Nolan North](#), [Matthew Yang King](#), [Michael Benyaer](#)

Votes: 58,780



31. **iZombie** (2015-)



TV-14 | 42 min | Comedy, Crime, Drama

★ 7.9 ☆ [Rate this](#)

A medical resident finds that being a zombie has its perks, which she uses to assist the police.

Stars: [Rose McIver](#), [Malcolm Goodwin](#), [Rahul Kohli](#), [Robert Buckley](#)

Votes: 54,215

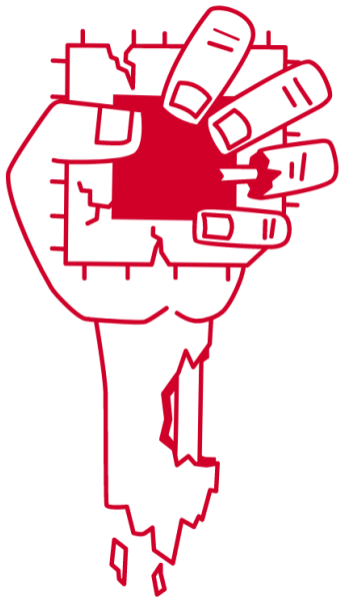
WOODY HARRELSON JESSE EISENBERG EMMA STONE ABIGAIL BRESLIN

ZOMBIELAND

NUT UP OR SHUT UP



SCOLUMBIA PICTURES PRESENTS IN ASSOCIATION WITH RELATIVITY MEDIA A PARIAM PRODUCTION "ZOMBIELAND" BY ROYAL DOBSON
WRITTEN BY ROBERT WEISS & PAUL WERNICK PRODUCED BY MICHAEL BERRYMAN
DIRECTED BY ROYAL DOBSON CASTING BY DANIEL COYNE
EDITED BY ROBERT WEISS & PAUL WERNICK EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS
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DISTRIBUTED BY PICTURES
IN THEATERS OCTOBER 9
Follow us @Zombieland on Twitter



ZOMBIELOAD ATTACK

← → ↻ 🏠 ⓘ 🔒 <https://meltdownattack.com/meltdown> ⋮ 🛡️ ☆ ☰

📄 ⬆️ | ⬇️ | 8 of 18 | - | + | 150% ▾ 🔊

etermine the
tored at the

y locations,
cluding the

When the kernel address is loaded in line 4, it is likely that the CPU already issued the subsequent instructions as part of the out-of-order execution, and that their corresponding μ OPs wait in the reservation station for the content of the kernel address to arrive. As soon as the



fault occurs load operation completed? "intel corp"



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Ungefähr 111 000 Ergebnisse (0,42 Sekunden)

Toshiba Boot Error - TechRepublic

<https://www.techrepublic.com/.../toshiba-boot-error/> [Diese Seite übersetzen](#)

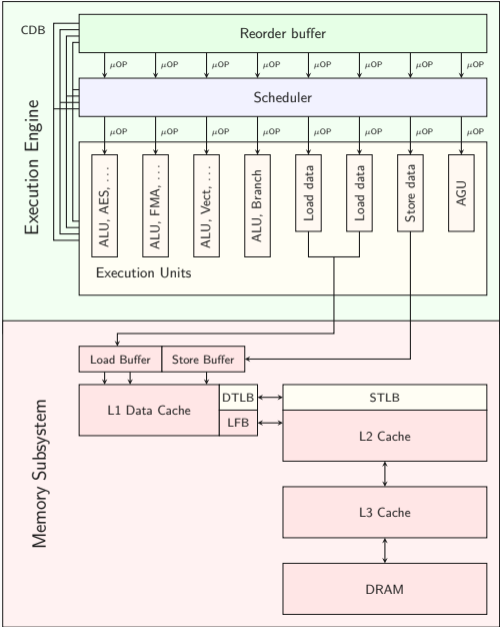
19.05.2007 - by CaptBilly1Eye · 12 years ago In reply to Toshiba Boot Error ... partition on the floppy disk, hard drive or a CD ROM to load the operating system. ... prior to this situation starting to occur, or if you find that the boot sequence already has the ... Leave the notebook plugged in and undisturbed until completed.

US5751983A - Out-of-order processor with a memory ...

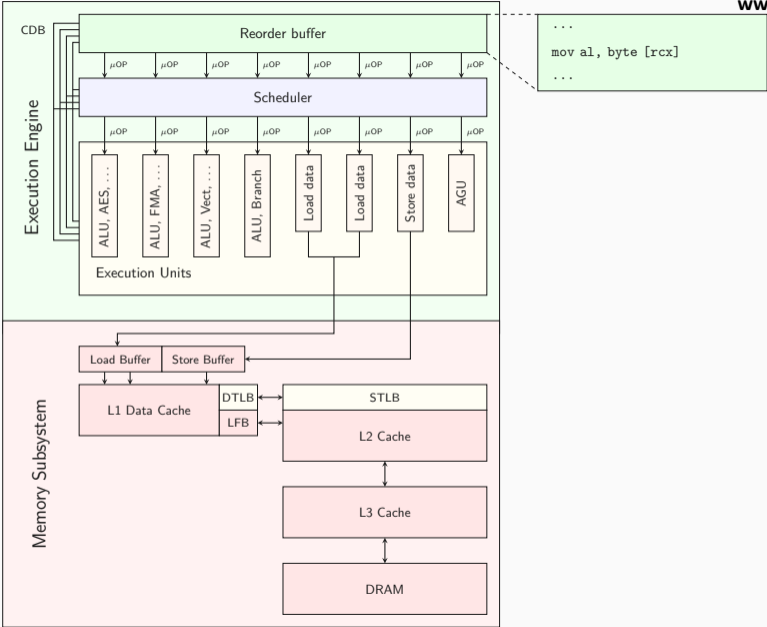
www.google.com/patents/US5751983 - [Diese Seite übersetzen](#)

Application filed by Intel Corp ... Hence, a functional unit may often complete a first instruction (which logically precedes a second instruction in the If a fault occurs with respect to the LOAD operation, it is marked as valid and completed.

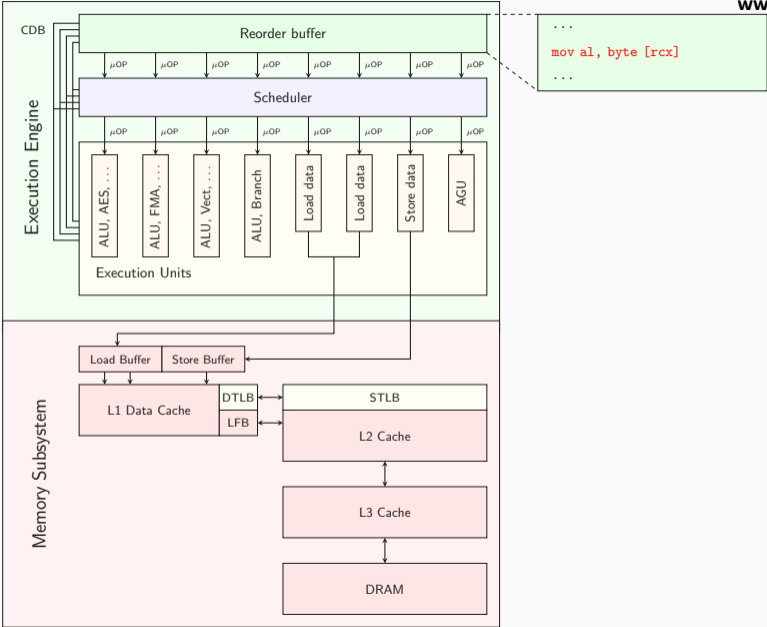
Meltdown



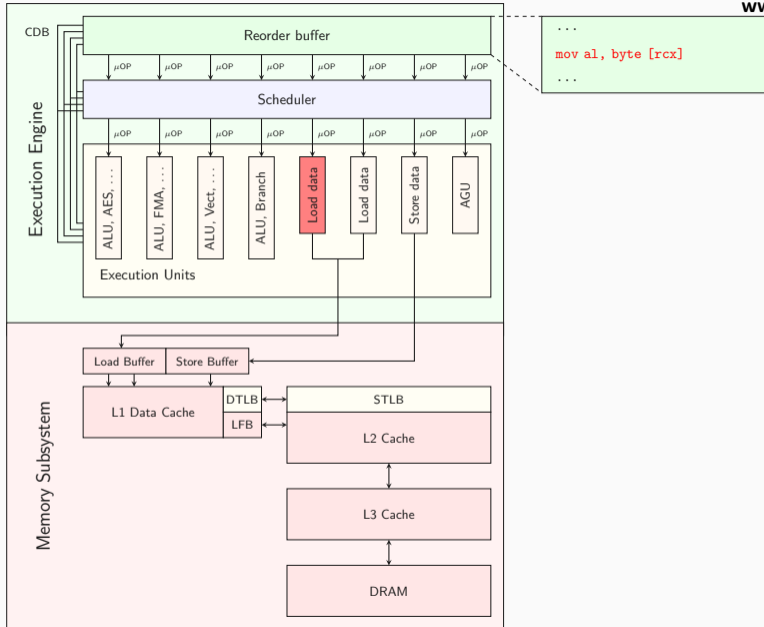
Meltdown



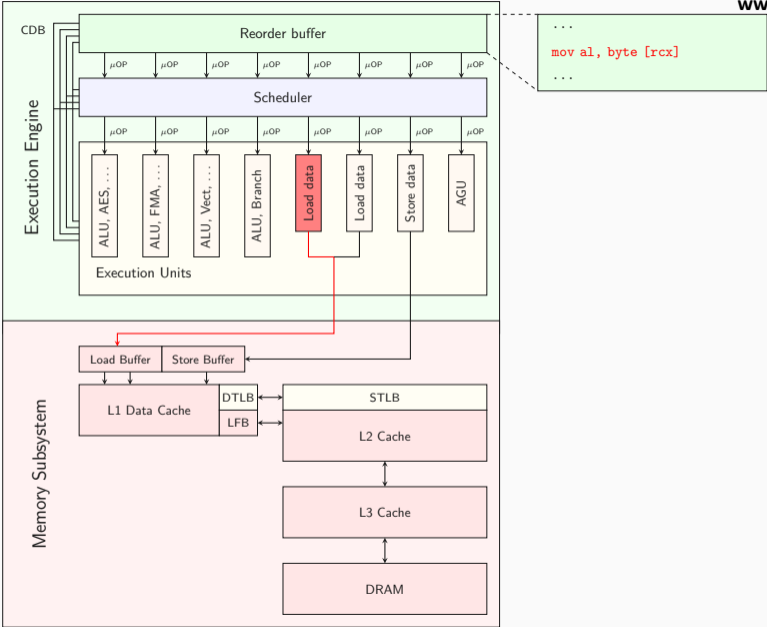
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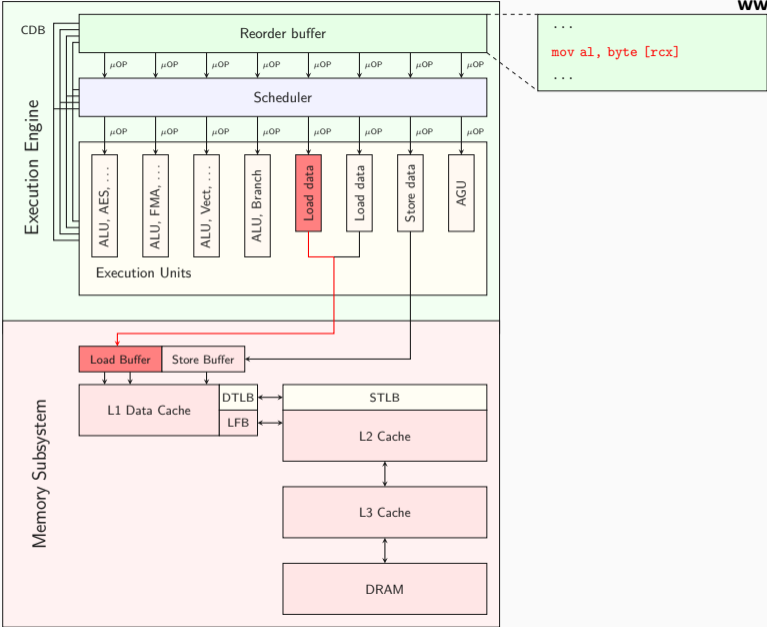
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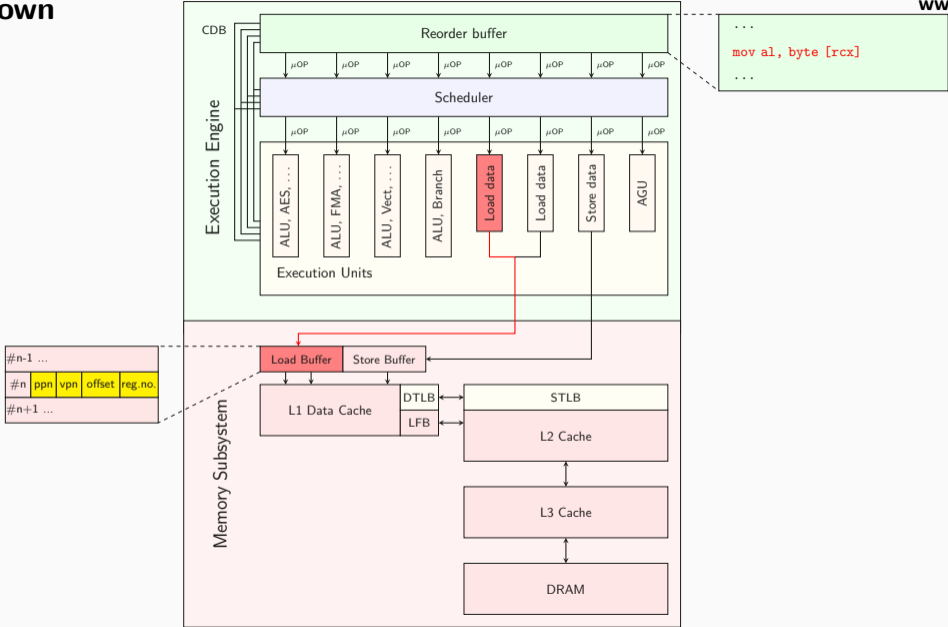
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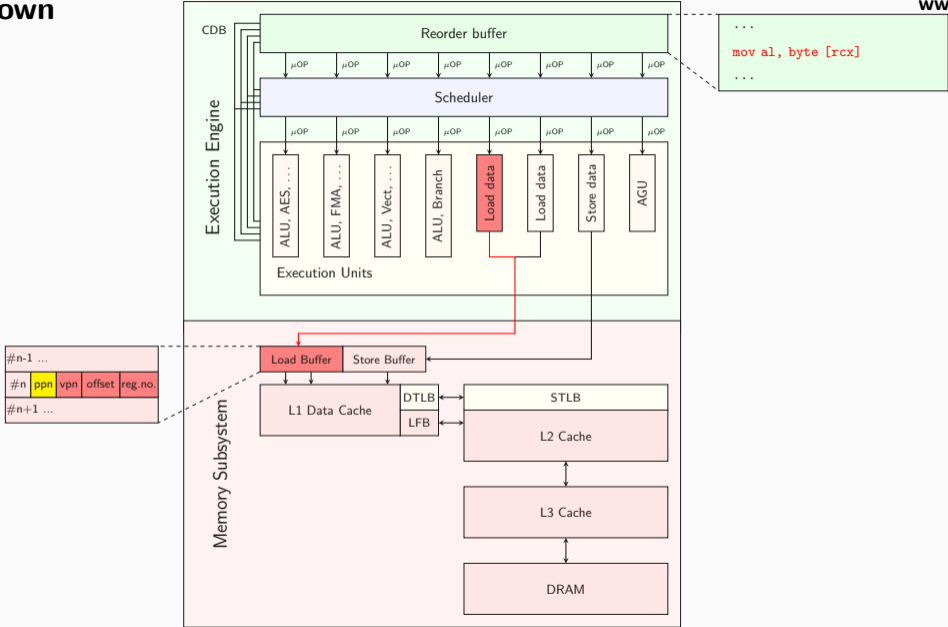
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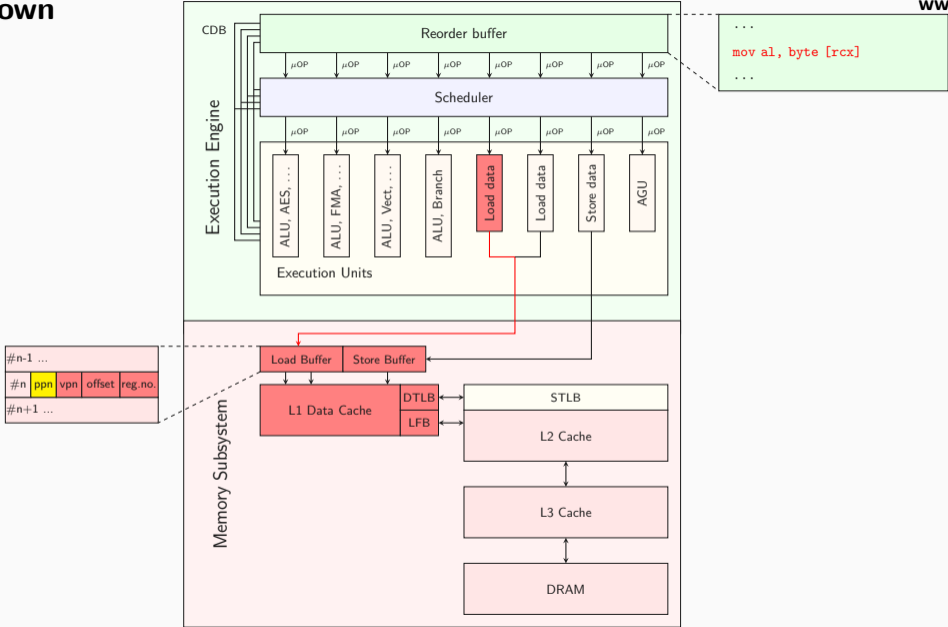
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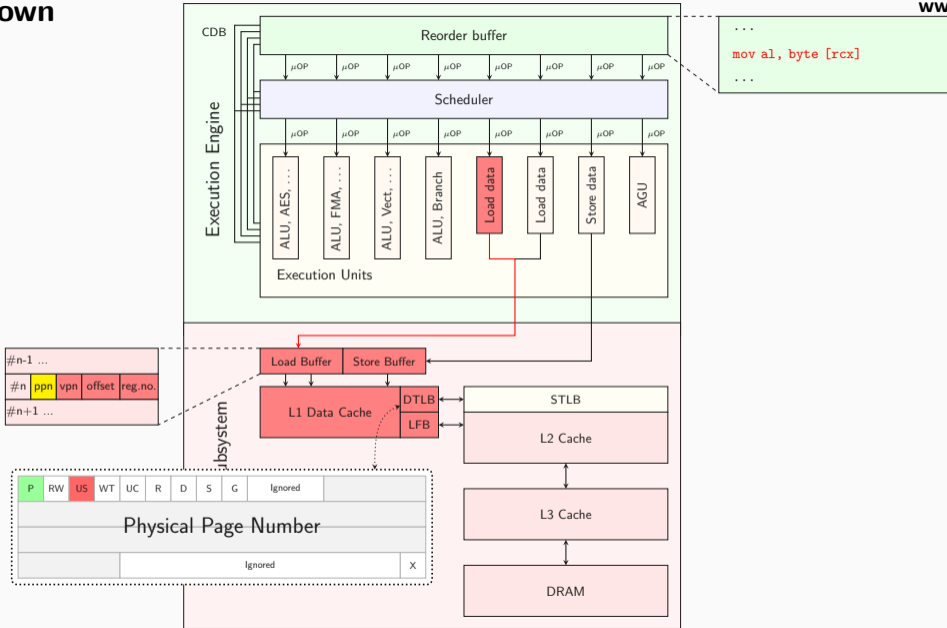
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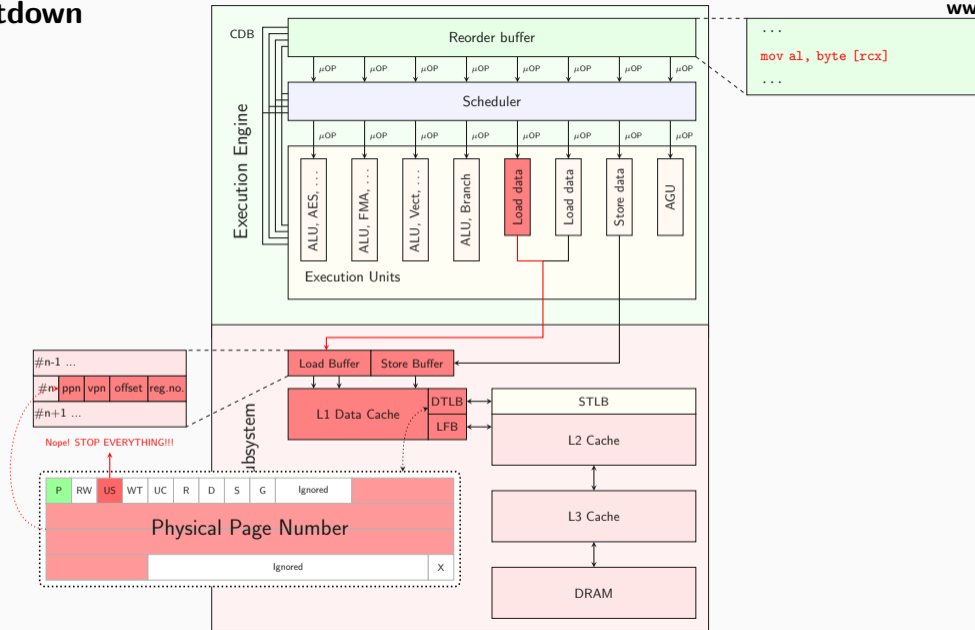
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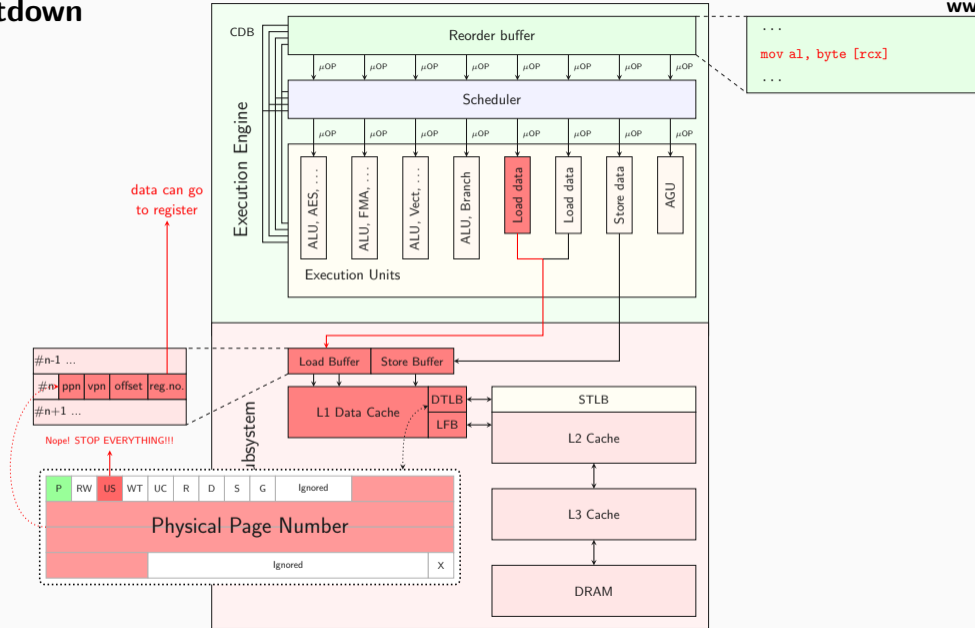
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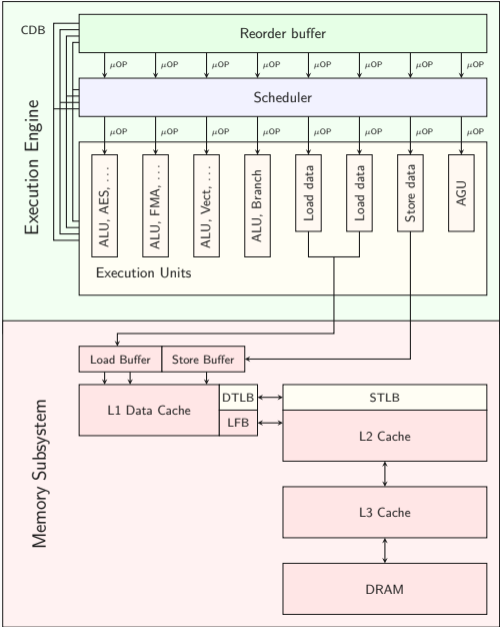
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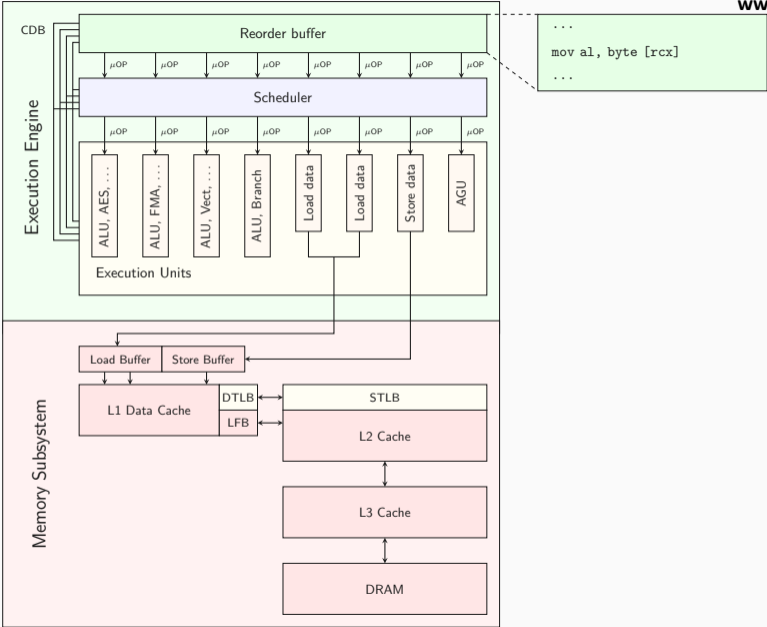
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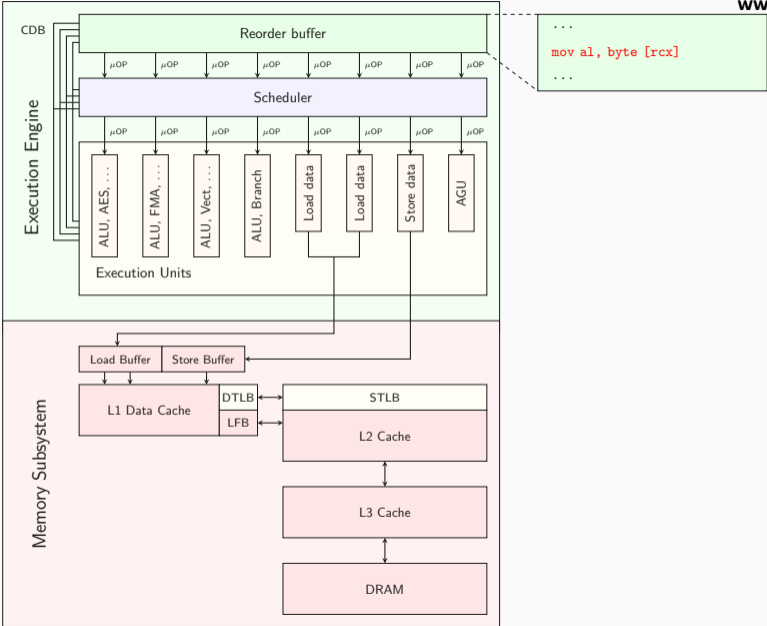
Foreshadow-VMM



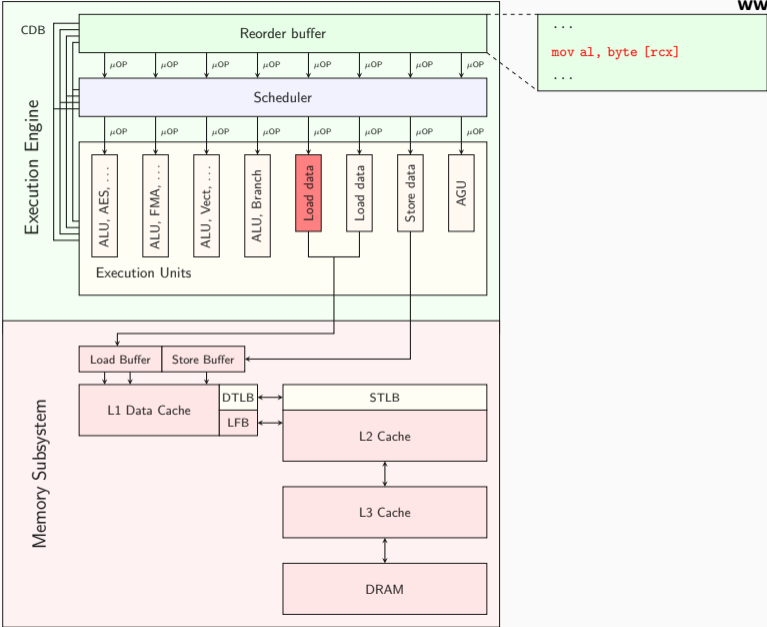
Foreshadow-VMM



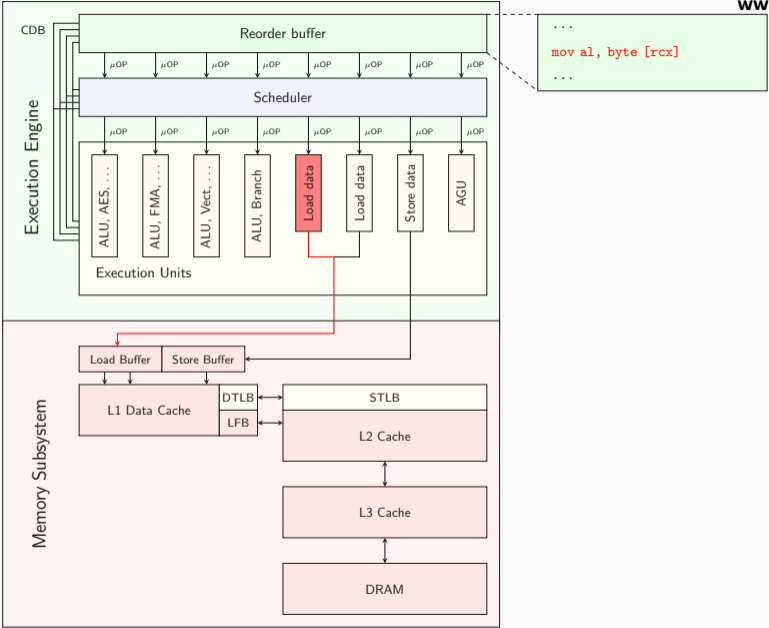
Foreshadow-VMM



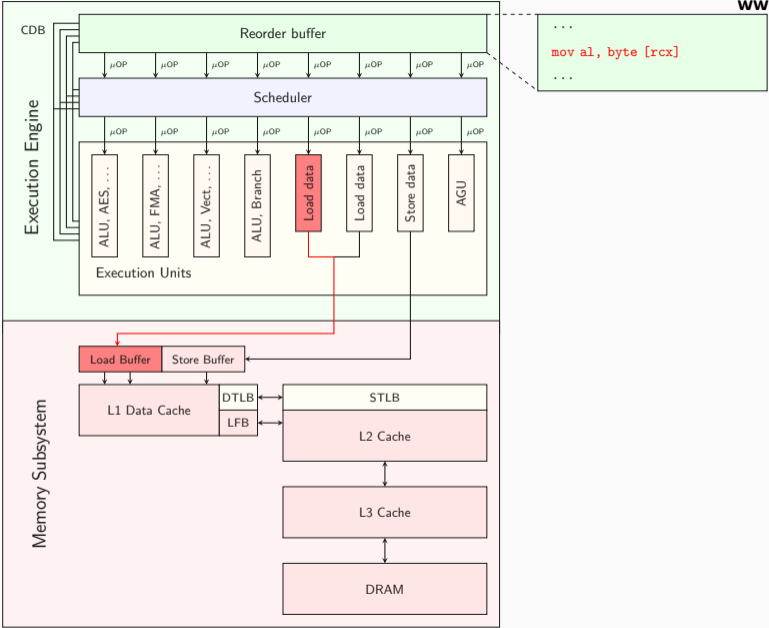
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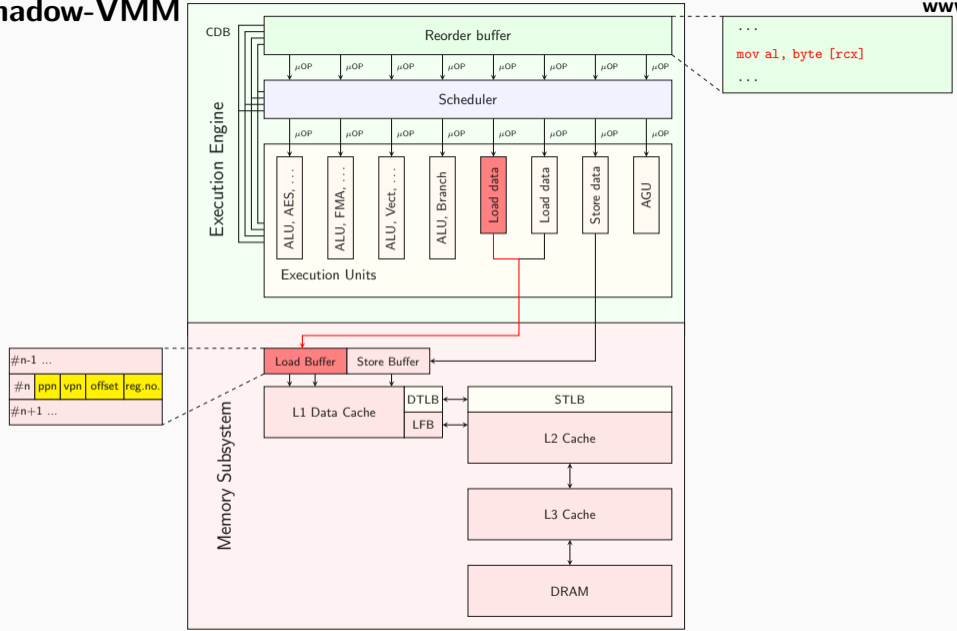
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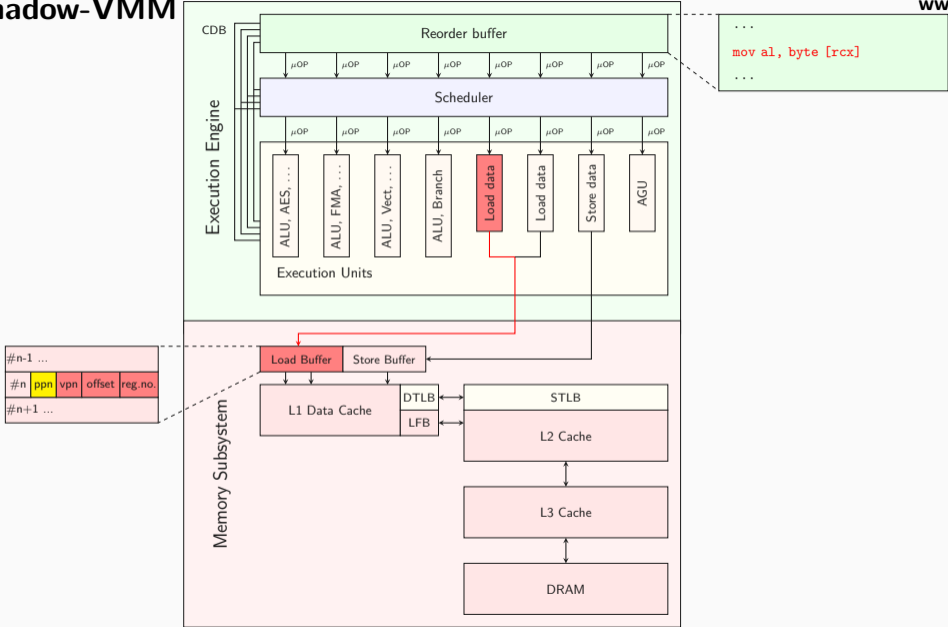
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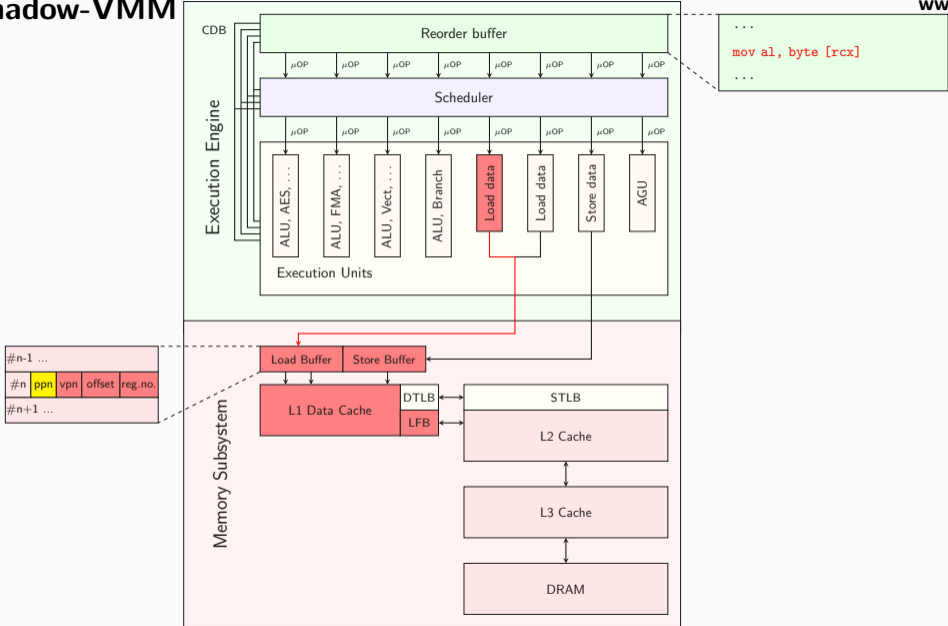
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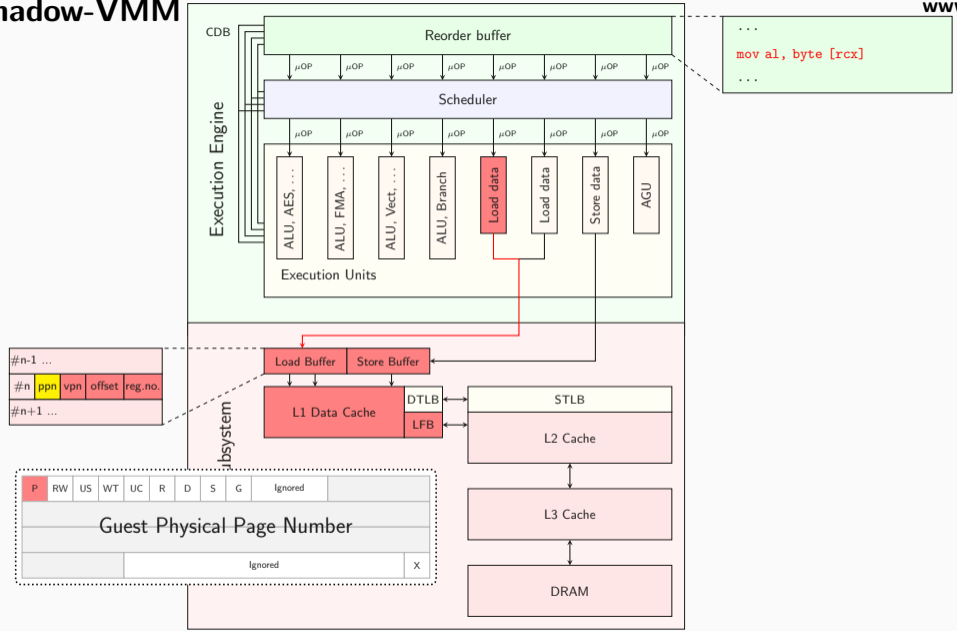
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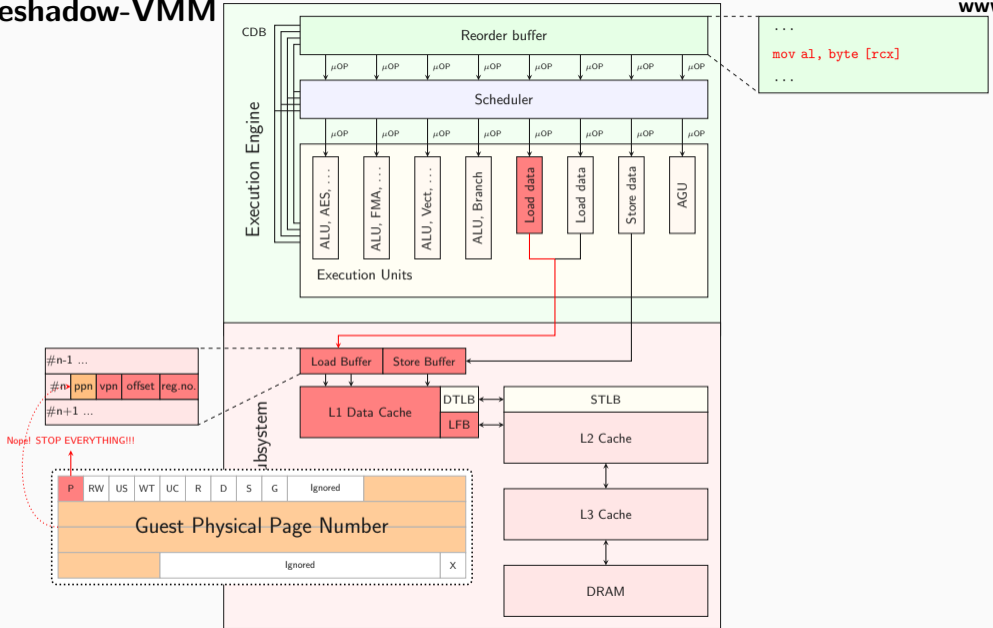
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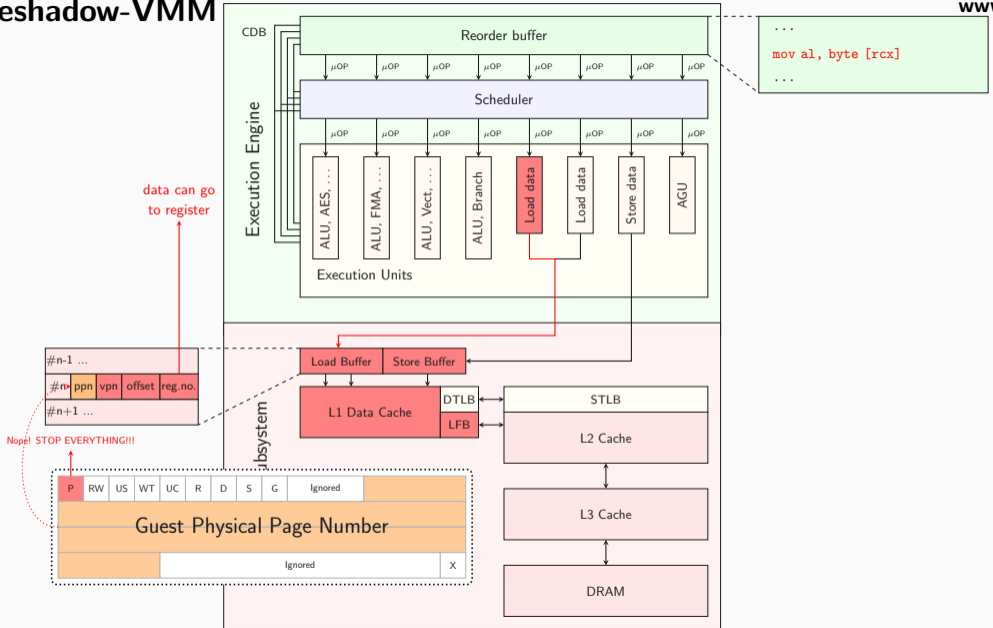
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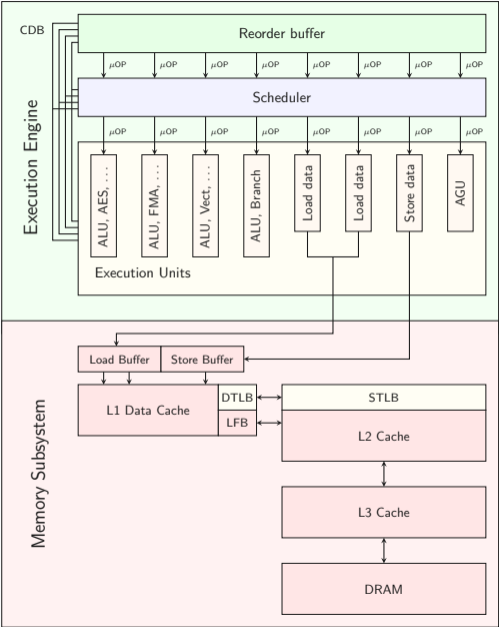
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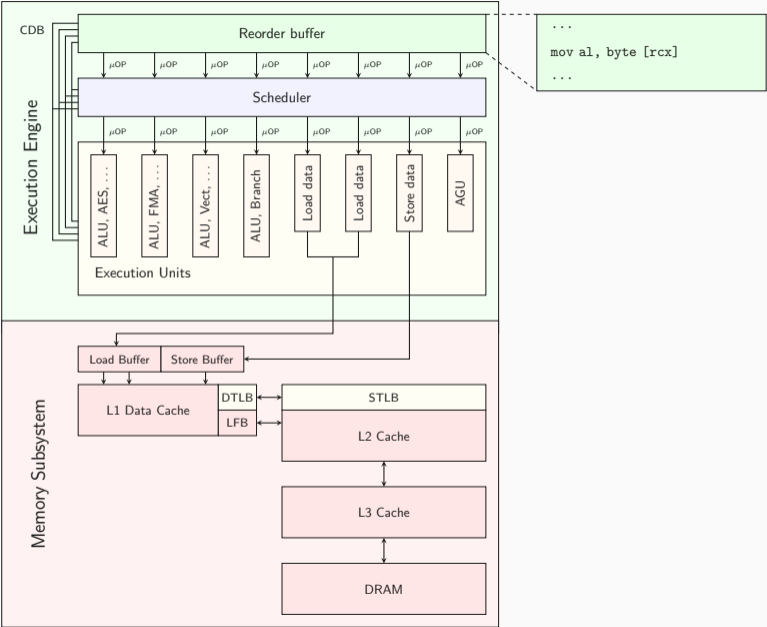
Foreshadow-VMM



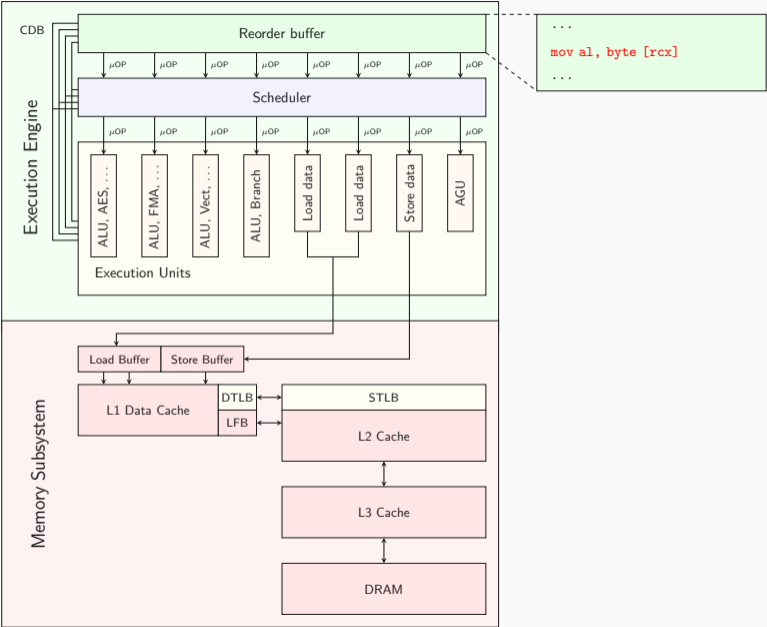
ZombieLoad



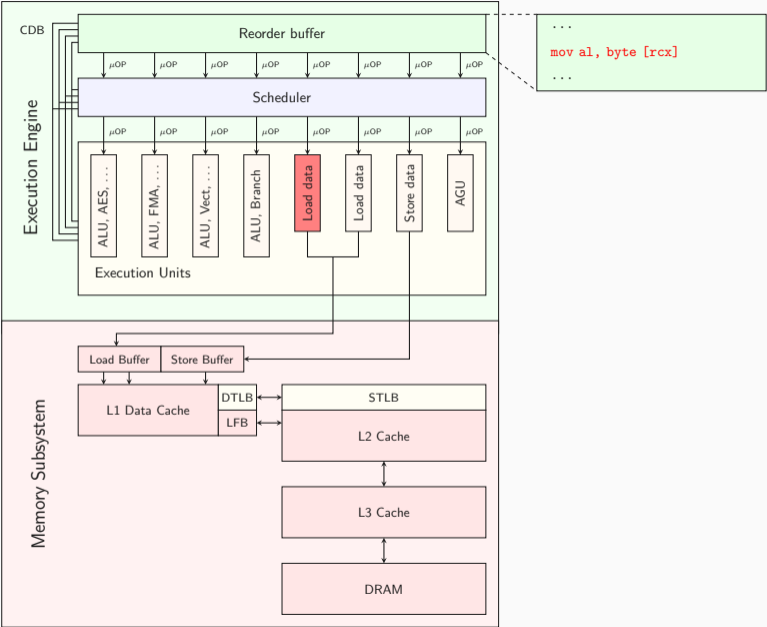
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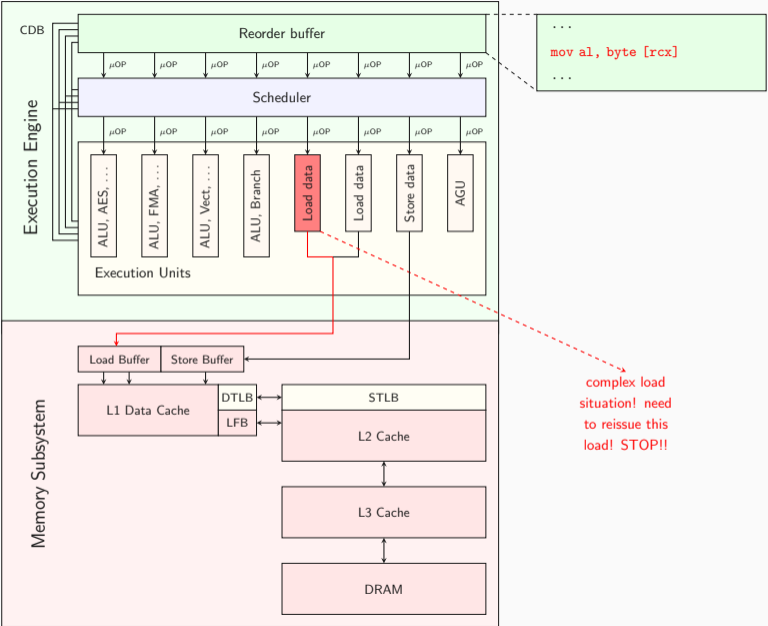
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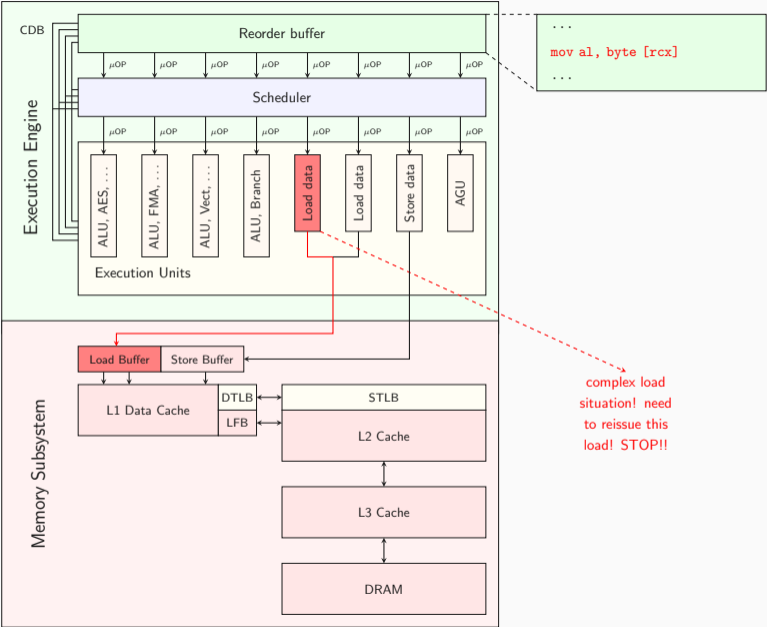
ZombieLoad



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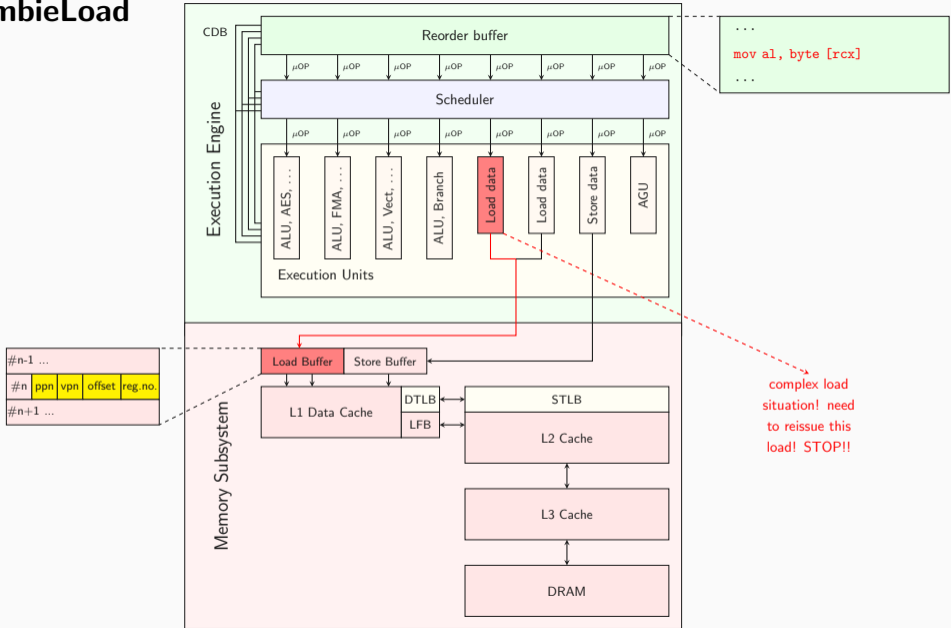
ZombieLoad



```
...  
mov al, byte [rcx]  
...
```

complex load situation! need to reissue this load! STOP!!

ZombieLoad

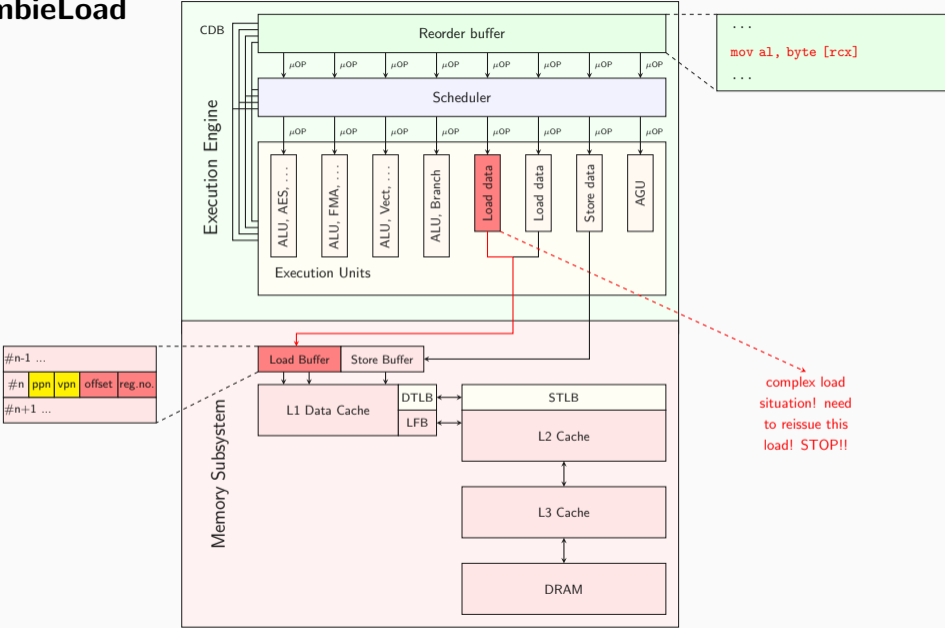


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```

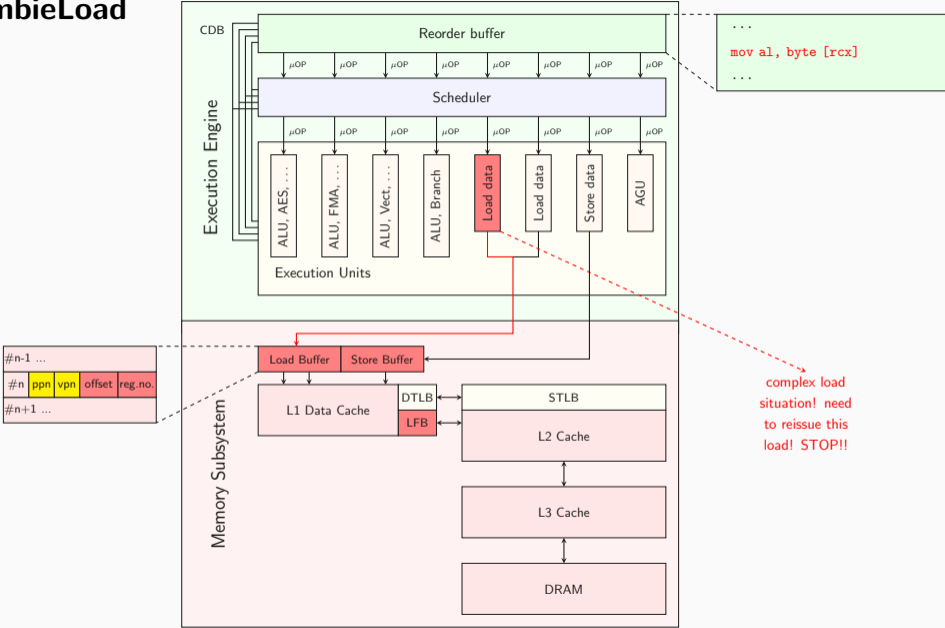
complex load situation!
need to reissue this load!
STOP!!

#n-1 ...
#n ppn vpn offset reg.no.
#n+1 ...

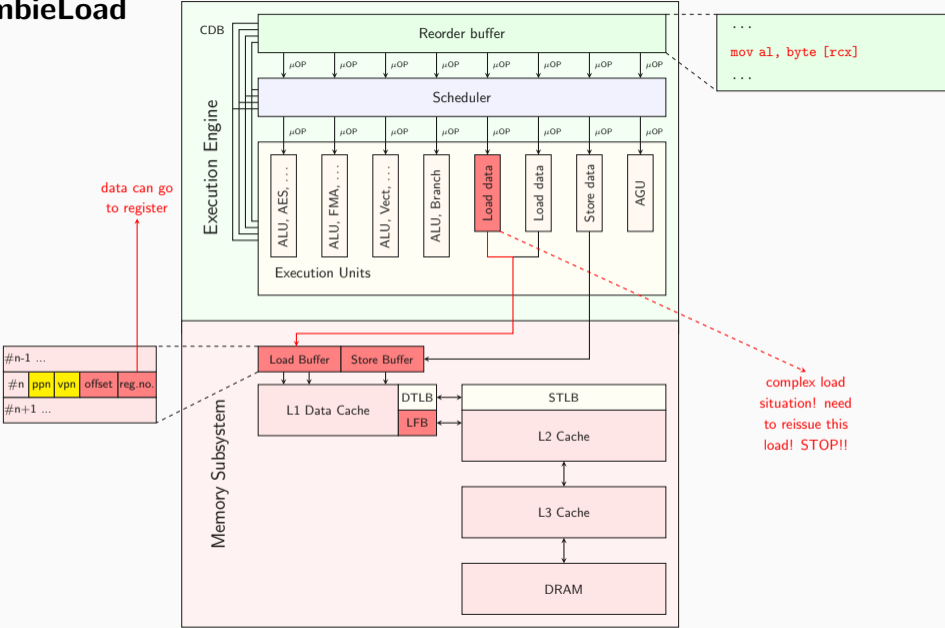
ZombieLoad



ZombieLoad



ZombieLoad









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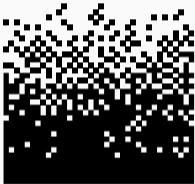
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 - “can’t reproduce”
- works with uncacheable
 - PoC → Intel - March 2018
- “It’s the LFB” → Intel - May 2018







- Meltdown has noise

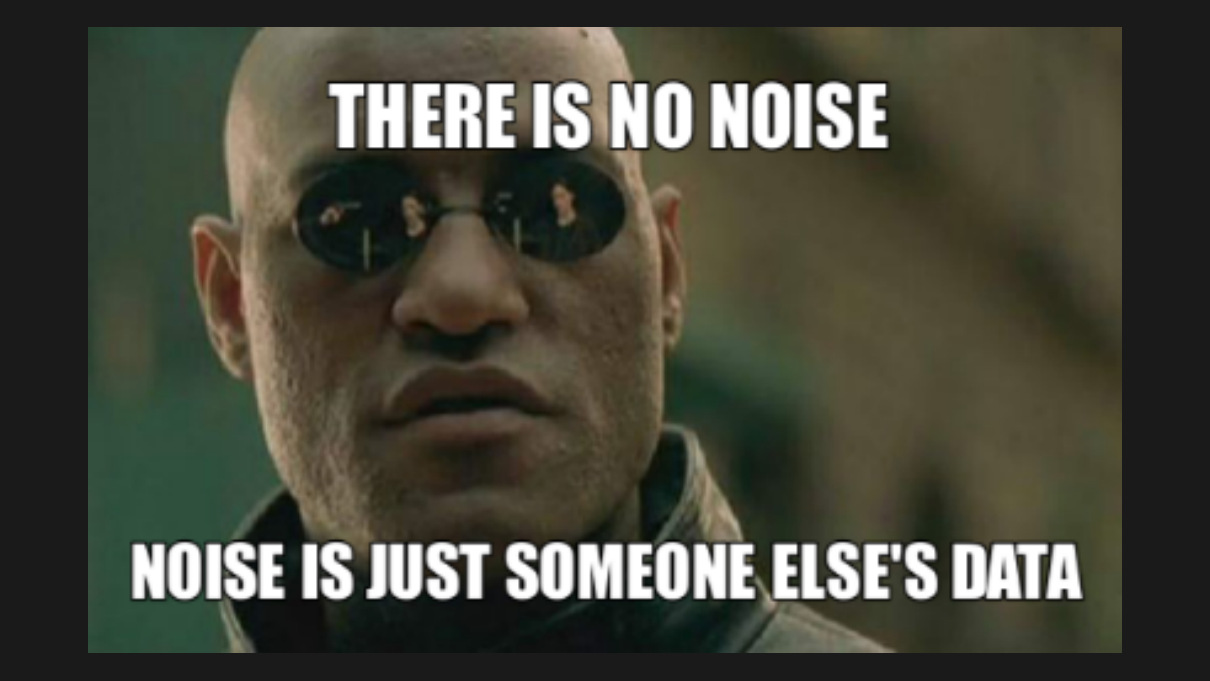


- Meltdown has noise
- Uncacheable \rightarrow lower signal to noise ratio



NOISE!?

**ON A COMPLETELY
DETERMINISTIC SYSTEM!?**

A close-up shot of Morpheus from the movie The Matrix. He is bald, wearing dark sunglasses, and has a serious expression. The background is blurred. The text is overlaid on the image in a white, bold, sans-serif font.

THERE IS NO NOISE

NOISE IS JUST SOMEONE ELSE'S DATA


```
michael@hp /tmp/zombieload %
```

```
michael@hp /tmp/zombieload %
```



Unix - Frequently Asked Questions (3/7)

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that persevere?

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We have ignored microarchitectural attacks for many years:





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- attacks on crypto



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- attacks on ASLR → “ASLR is broken anyway”
- attacks on SGX and TrustZone



We have ignored microarchitectural attacks for many years:

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- attacks on ASLR → “ASLR is broken anyway”
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- Rowhammer → “only affects cheap sub-standard modules”

→ for years we solely optimized for performance



- new class of software-based attacks



- new class of software-based attacks
- many problems to solve around microarchitectural attacks and especially transient-execution attacks



- new class of software-based attacks
- many problems to solve around microarchitectural attacks and especially transient-execution attacks
- dedicate more time into identifying problems and not solely in mitigating known problems

Meltdown, Spectre, ZombieLoad

Daniel Gruss, Moritz Lipp, Michael Schwarz

October 1, 2019

Graz University of Technology