

NEPP Processor Efforts 2017

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Acronyms

AFRL	Air Force Research Laboratory
AMD	Advanced Micro Devices
ASU	Arizona State University
CMOS	Complimentary Metal Oxide Semiconductor
CPU	Central Processing Unit
DDR	Dual Data Rate
DIP	Dual Inline Package
DUT	Device Under Test
FET	Field Effect Transistor
FPGA	Field Programmable Gate Array
HPSC	High Performance Space Computer
GPU	Graphics Processing Unit
GSFC	Goddard Space Flight Center
ILP	Instruction-Level Parallelism
JPL	Jet Propulsion Laboratory
LANL	Los Alamos National Laboratory
LPP	Low Power Plus
MPSOC	Multiprocessor System on Chip
NASA	National Aeronautics and Space Administration
NEPP	NASA Electronic Parts and Packaging Program
NSWC	Naval Surface Warfare Center
OS	Operating System
POP	Package on Package
SBU	Single Bit Upset
SEE	Single Event Effects
SEL	Single Event Latchup
SOC	System on a Chip
SW	Software
TBD	To Be Determined
TID	Total Ionizing Dose



Outline

- **Intro/Processor Overview**
- **Processor & Microcontroller Tasks Review**
- **Partnering & Opportunities**
- **Trends and Test Methods**
- **Challenges**
- **Testing & Results – Snapdragon**
- **Testing & Results – P2020**
- **Other Results**
- **Future Directions...**
- **Summary**



What are we trying to do?

- **Primary Purpose**
 - Utilize processors as “bleeding edge” CMOS evaluations with goals of determining failure sensitivities and modes as well as to provide guidance for future flight project testing
 - Evaluate emerging architectures for radiation tolerance such as multi-core, etc...
 - Partner with NASA/Mil-Aero developments of processors to enhance qualification processes and provide independent assessments
 - Provide selective radiation evaluation of small mission (aka CubeSat) electronics



What are we trying to do?

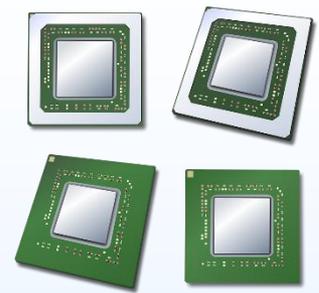
- **Secondary Purposes**
 - **Cross section vs. linear energy transfer (LET) information on device structures & Architectures**
 - Test and qualification methods for processors
 - Build knowledge base of processor architectures
 - **Provide total ionizing dose (TID) test data and parts program information**
 - **Gather information on various fabrication facilities**
 - CMOS Nodes
 - On-shore vs. off-shore fabrication
 - **Resilience of commercial processors**
 - Keep abreast of developing technology trends and how to perform appropriate radiation testing
 - **Device structure sensitivity to global device sensitivity**



Processors – Traditional and SOC

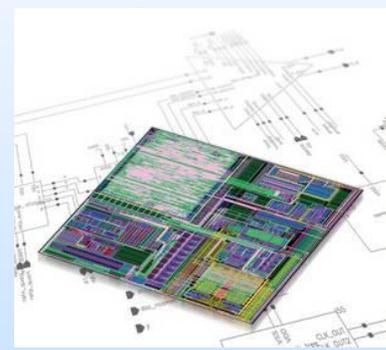
- **Microprocessors**

- Traditional central processing units – CPUs
- Modern desktop processors
- Phone/Mobile processors
- Kinda hard to find plain microprocessors these days



- **System on a Chip (SOC)**

- Almost all modern processors incorporate few to many heterogenous functions
- Not traditional SOC, but heading that way, and the definition of SOC is a disaster



- “Smartphones and tablet don’t just use “processors”, they use what’s called a System-on-a-Chip (or SoC).” - <http://www.ubergizmo.com/what-is/system-on-a-chip/>
- The multi-function chip in your phone is hijacking “SOC”

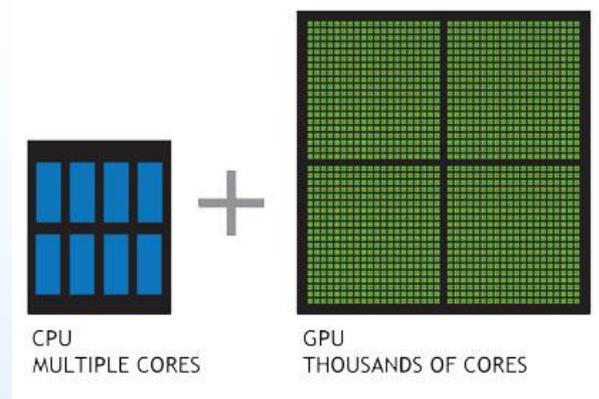
- **Hybrid Stuff...**

- FPGAs (field programmable gate arrays) with built-in processor systems



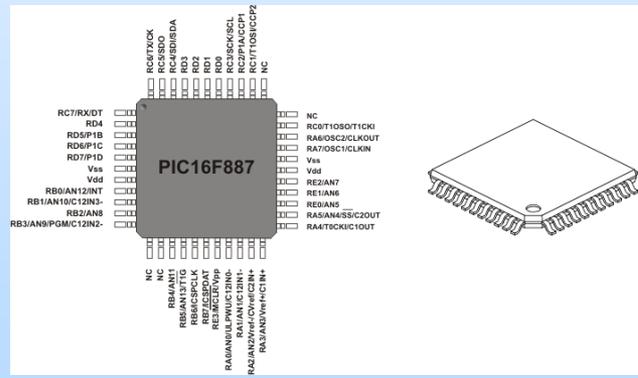
Processors – GPUs and Microcontrollers

- **Graphics Processing Units (GPUs) are high performance parallel processing machines**
 - Some GPUs are available as CPUs...



- **Microcontrollers**
 - We will cover CubeSat and 32-bit microcontrollers here
 - Also have looked at CubeSat microcontrollers

- **Where appropriate we are collaborating**
 - Target devices
 - Architectures
 - Technology goals
 - Crossover items



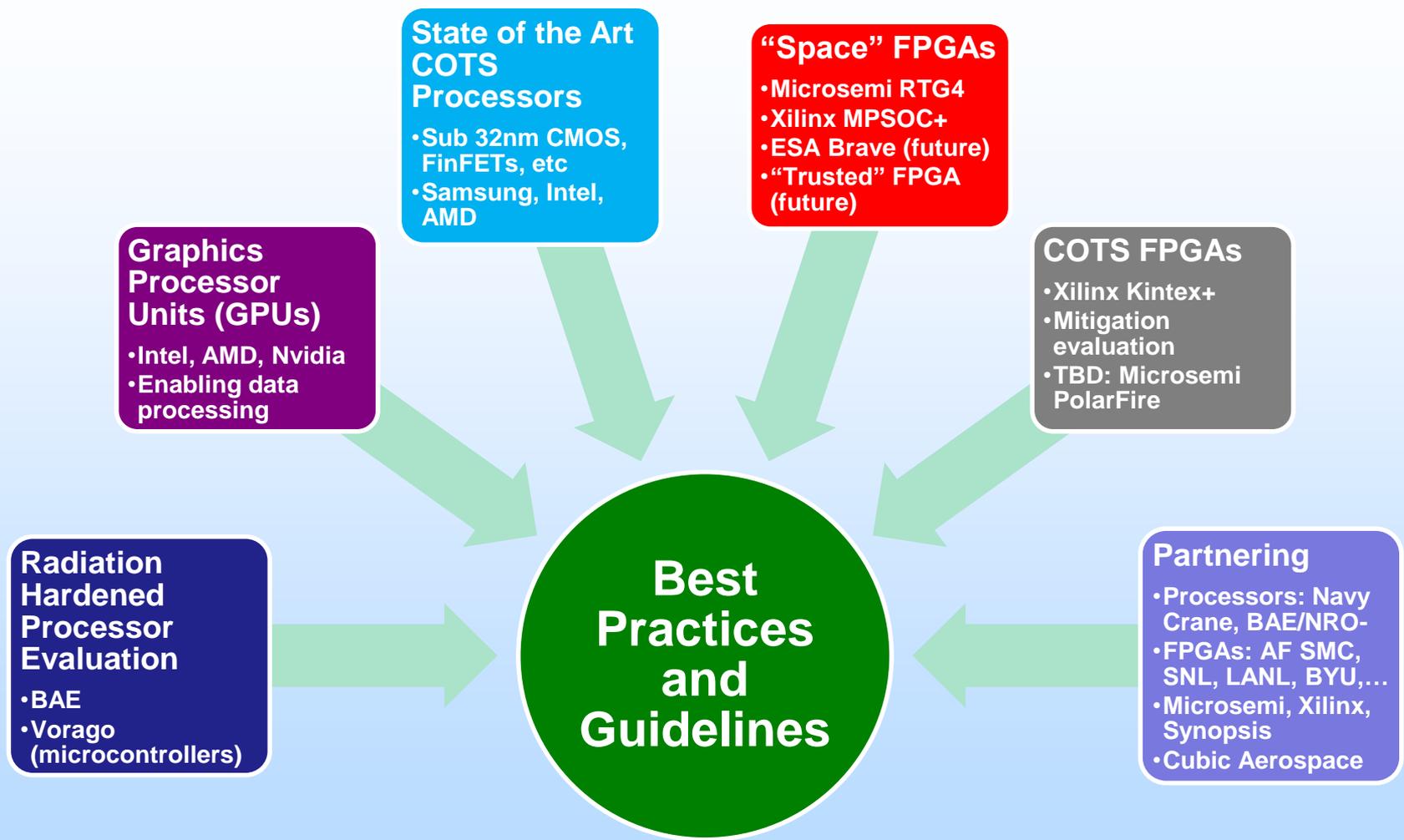


Task Partnering

- **Engaging in collaborative efforts:**
 - Adam Duncan & NSWC Crane folks
 - Carl Szabo, Ed Wywras, Ted Wilcox, and Ken LaBel, GSFC
 - Jeff George, Aerospace Corporation
 - Larry Clark, ASU
 - Heather Quinn, LANL, and other members of the Microprocessor and FPGA Mitigation Working Group
 - Sergeh Vartanian and Greg Allen, JPL
 - Vorago Technologies – collaborating on hardware/plans
 - Paolo Rech – GPU/Applications
 - Intel – informally
 - BAE Systems – team forming
 - Qualcomm Cybersecurity Solutions – team forming
- **Looking for additional collaborators**
 - Tester side – are you testing processors?
 - Manufacturer side – knowledge or hardware support
 - Application side – specific applications...



NEPP – Processors, Systems on a Chip (SOC), and Field Programmable Gate Arrays (FPGAs)



**Potential future task areas:
artificial intelligence (AI) hardware, Intel Stratix 10**



Advanced Processors

- collaborative with NSWC Crane, others

High Performance Space Processor (HPSC)

- Joint NASA-AFRL Program for RH multi-core processor



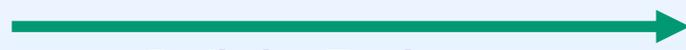
TBD – (track status)

14nm CMOS Processors (w/Navy Crane)

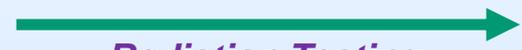
- Intel 14nm FinFET commercial
 - 5th and 6th generation
- Samsung 14nm LPP Snapdragon 820
- AMD Ryzen 14nm Global Foundries



Radiation Testing



Radiation Testing



Radiation Testing

10nm CMOS Processors

- Samsung 10nm Snapdragon 835
- Intel 10nm



Radiation Testing



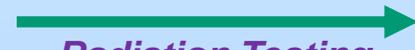
Radiation Testing

Freescale Processors

- P2020 Communication Processor (w/Air Force)
- P5040 Network Processor



Radiation Testing



Radiation Testing

RH Processor

- BAE Systems RAD5510/5545
 - Leverages P5040 architecture



Radiation Testing



FY15

FY16

FY17

FY18



Microcontrollers

- collaborative with Vorago, others

CubeSat Microcontrollers

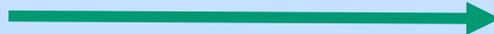
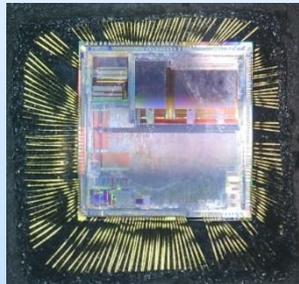
- MSP 430 w/Flash (1- and 5-) 
- PIC 24 & 33 
- Atmel AT91SAM9G20 
- MSP 430 w/FRAM 

Radiation Testing

32 – Bit Microcontrollers

Automotive-Grade Microcontrollers

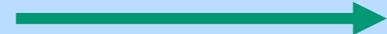
- NXP MPC5606B Power Architecture MCU



Radiation-Hardened Microcontrollers

- Vorago VA10820 ARM Cortex-M0 MCU
- Vorago M4

Radiation Testing



Radiation Testing

FY15

FY16

FY17

FY18



Justifications - Processors

- **Intel 14nm [broadwell & skylake] (10nm when available)**
 - Board computers going into CubeSats (installed as assemblies), higher risk designs. Very low power (without screen)
 - Collaborative work identified TID and SEE anomalies → skylake
 - Group of people looking at proton facilities: compare and contrast.
 - Some use of higher power – but to get architecture straightened out. (board fail due to bios)
- **AMD uP**
 - Similar to Intel, comparison case – to skylake 6600; uncertain how low-power stuff goes.
 - Obtain data on GlobalFoundries performance (16nm)
- **Freescale**
 - Architecture used in RAD750, Space Micro P400k-L, RAD55xx series
- **Snapdragon**
 - 14nm Samsung LPP data, and first look at 10nm Samsung
 - SOMs being used in board-level computers (installed as assemblies); and Smartphones in space



Justifications - Microcontrollers

- **Microcontrollers**
 - Earlier CubeSat devices – per devices used in CubeSat kits, and based on application suggestions
 - Advanced 32-bit microcontrollers are feature-packed:
 - 64kB (and up!) SRAM
 - 512kB (and up!) integrated Flash memory
 - 100 MHz+ operation
 - Large number of peripherals (interrupts, ADC/DAC, counters, clocks, CAN/SPI/I2C/Ethernet/USB controllers)
 - Multiple cores!
 - Targeted for specific niche markets
 - Easier OTS access to interesting test parts, like:
 - Automotive grade
 - » Overlaps with mil/aero interest in temperature & reliability
 - Rad-hard designs available



CubeSat Microcontroller Review

Device	Manufacturer	CubeSat Kit	NASA Sats	Others	2015 Tests	TID conditions	2016 Tests	TID conditions
MSP430F1611	TI	X			SEE/SEL/TID	Unbiased/biased, Dynamic, reprogramming		
MSP430F1612	TI	X			SEE/SEL/TID	Unbiased/biased, Dynamic, reprogramming		
MSP430F1618	TI	X						
MSP430F2619	TI		X					
MSP430FR5739	TI			X	SEE/SEL			
MSP430FR5739 non-EPI	TI			X			SEL/TID	Unbiased/biased, Dynamic, reprogramming
C8051F120	Silicon Labs	X						
PIC24FJ256GA110	Microchip	X			SEE/SEL/TID	Unbiased/biased, Dynamic, reprogramming		
dsPIC33FJ256GP710	Microchip	X			SEE/SEL/TID	Unbiased/biased, Dynamic, reprogramming		
AT91SAM9G20	Atmel	X	X		SEE/SEL			
AT91SAM7	Atmel	X						
ATMEGA1281	Atmel	X						
ATMEGA164P	Atmel		X					
ATMEGA32U/8	Atmel		X	X				
ATMEGA16U2	Atmel			X				
Cortex-M3 MCU	ARM/General	X						
Other ARM9	ARM/General		X	X				
PX32A	Parallax	X	X					
ColibriPXA270	Intel/Marvel			X				
Sitara AM3505	TI		X					
Sitara AM3703	TI		X	X				



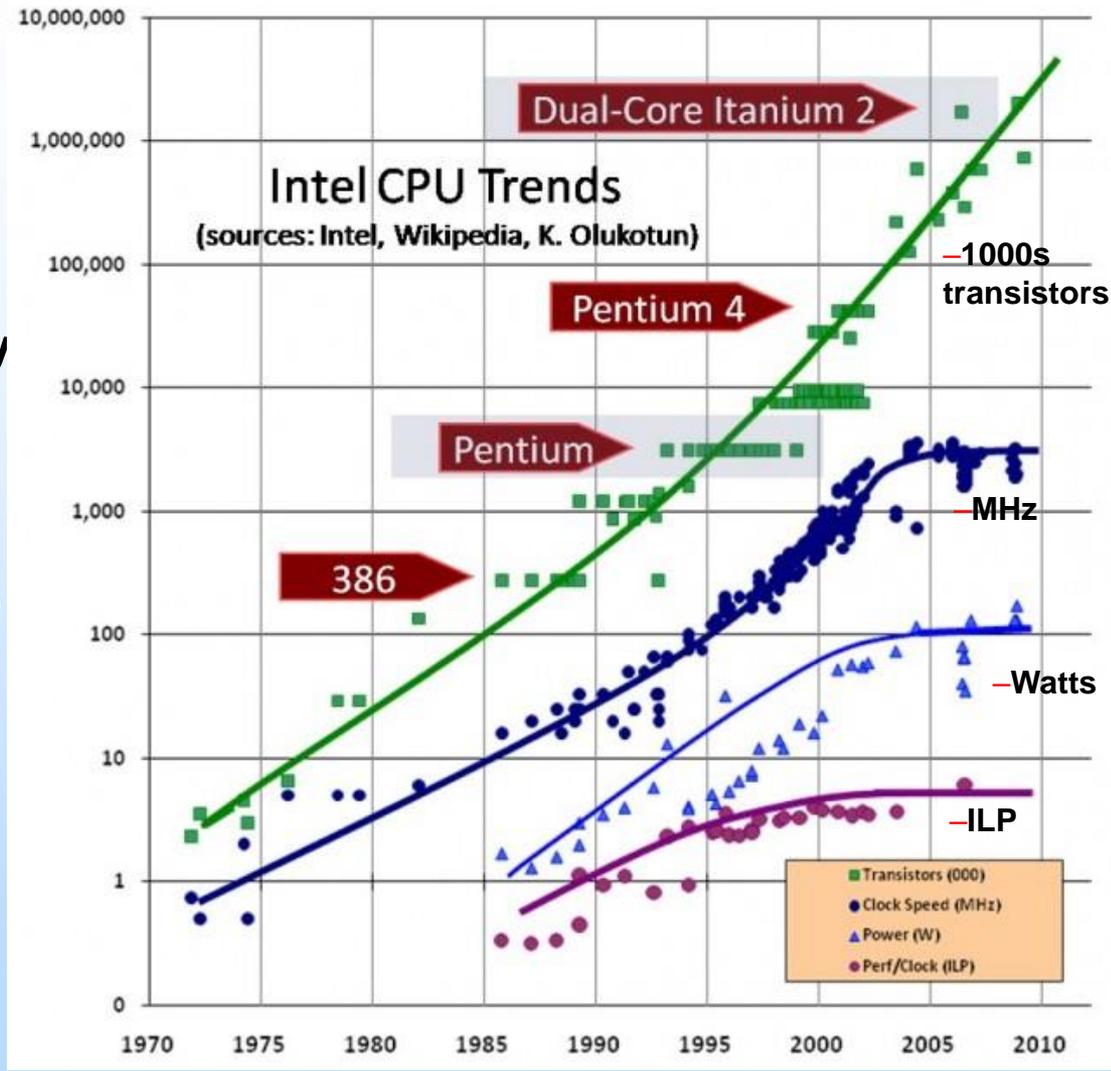
Deliverables

- **SOC Test Guideline – in final review at JPL (JPL handling release editing)**
 - Gathering materials for updated test guideline
- **Radiation test data/reports on:**
 - **P2020 – SEE (single event effects) – Heavy Ion & Proton**
 - **Intel 14nm – including power device SEE failure related to firmware**
 - **AMD Ryzen 16nm (details TBD)**
 - **Samsung 14nm LPP/Snapdragon 820 SEE – Heavy Ion & Proton**
 - **RAD55xx radiation data (details TBD)**
 - **Samsung 10nm/Snapdragon 835 SEE (details TBD)**
 - **Vorago VA10820**
 - **Processor trends document**



Commercial Trends

- Clarify what we're talking about
 - Shrinking features
 - Increasing complexity
- Recently, microprocessors are getting more complex, not faster, not higher power
- Homogeneous with many structures



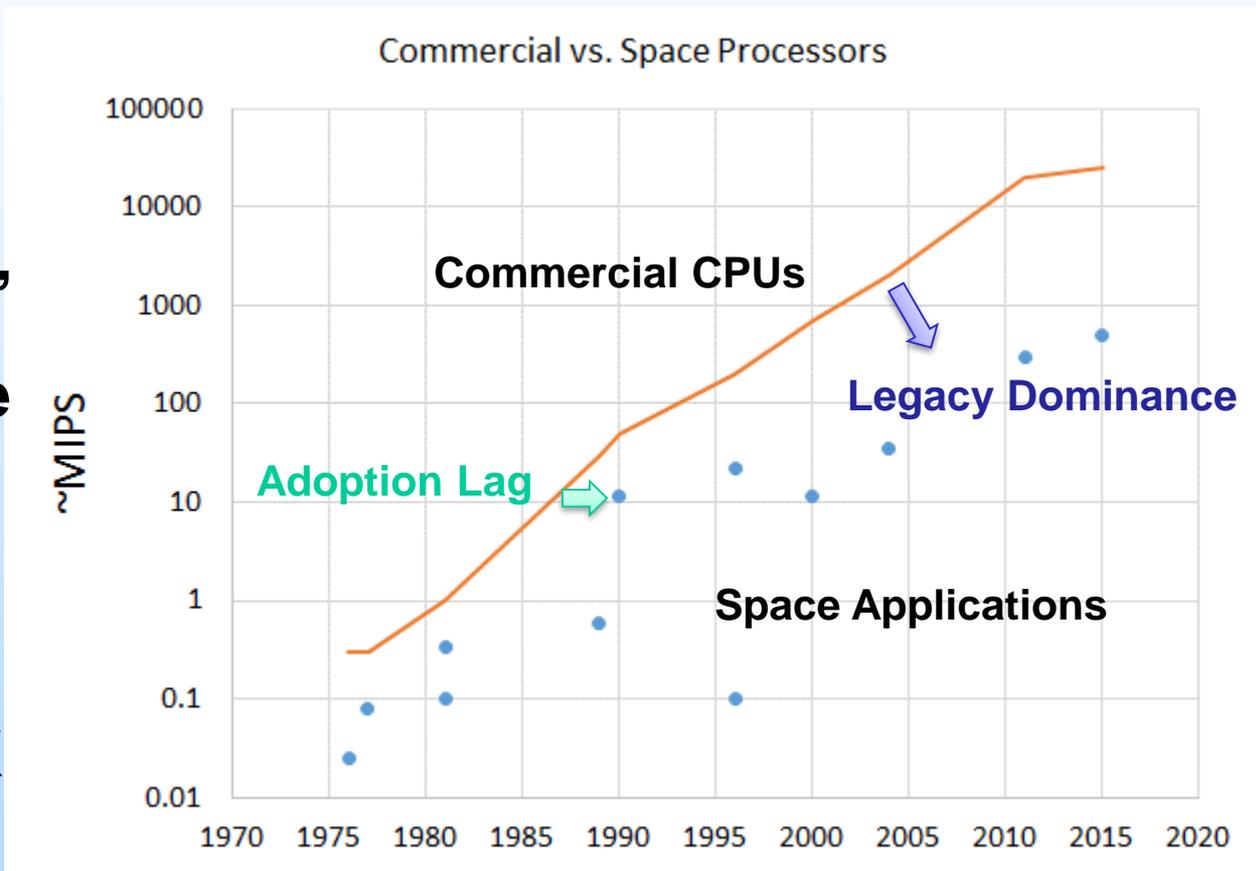
Hruska, 2012, *The death of CPU scaling: From one core to many — and why we're still stuck*, <http://www.extremetech.com/>



Microcontrollers and Microprocessors in Space

- **Performance**
 - Latest flattening due to focus on efficiency...
- **Until about 2000, space processors were “close” to commercial devices.**
- **BAE’s RAD55XX series will bump up a bit.**

Deployed devices in space missions



–Information adapted from www.cpushack.com



Fundamental Approaches

- **Ideal:**
 - Obtain SEE data on individual structures
 - By direct observation of N structures
 - In the same operating conditions as normal use
 - Utilizing debuggers or specialized test code
 - Divide out (normalize) any observations to the number of targets available
 - Maximize targets being tested
- **Non-Ideal:**
 - Run an operating system (OS) with a specified workload
 - Count events – beware normalization
 - Count crashes...
 - Run test software under an OS
 - Count events & crashes
 - Biggest issue is normalization
- **Flight Like:(???)**
 - This is something of a myth, because test conditions are not flight conditions... and you can't get flight code
 - Accelerated tests are not inherently “flight-like” (e.g. latent errors)



Challenges - Microprocessor

- **New hardware issues**
 - Package on Package
 - Dedicated power chips - complex
- **TID coming back**
 - Heterogenous structures
- **SEL (single event latchup) risks**
 - Mixed IO voltages due to “other functions”
- **SEE test problems due to**
 - Lack of documentation
 - Interference from other device structures (i.e. the main processors may interfere with testing the memory controller)



Challenges - Microcontroller

- **Many of the same capabilities (and thus issues) as CPU & GPU testing**
 - **Complex/opaque error signatures with integrated peripherals and integrated analog/power blocks**
 - **Non-ideal packaging for radiation test (high density ball grid array, flip chip, etc) – Not as much 48-DIP (dual inline package) anymore!**
 - **Potentially more direct low-level hardware access than CPU, but may require more custom test fixture hardware and software (SW) design work**
- **Need to correlate test results to real-world (flight) apps**
 - **High prevalence of “SEFI”-type (single event functional interrupt) events leads to a strong application-specific test result.**
 - **How will this perform with flight SW running inside OS?**



Eval Board Issues...

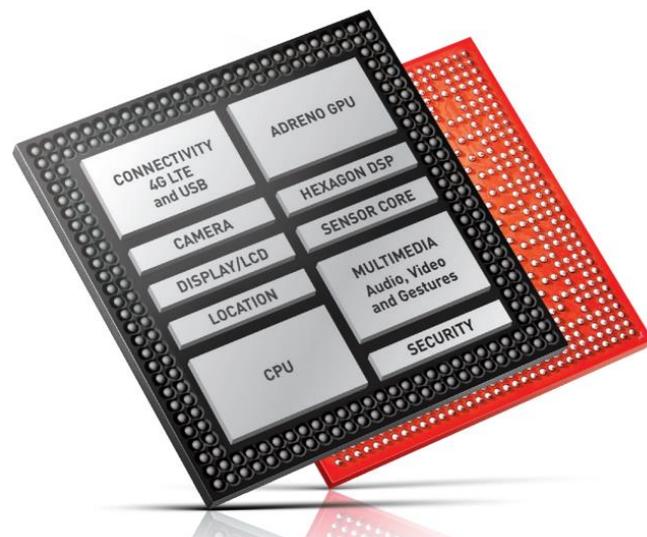
- Example is Snapdragon 800
- Package on package (POP) is a significant problem
- Semi-custom DDR4 device mounted to device under test (DUT)
- No datasheets





Snapdragon 820

- **Key Features:**
 - **Quad-core Kyro CPU**
 - Actually has ~9 distinct processors
 - big.LITTLE – 2 cores are faster, bigger, other two are smaller and slower
 - **Low power DDR4**
 - **Universal Flash Storage**
 - **Hexagon 680 DSP with isolated sensor power**
 - **Camera controller**
 - **Hardware multimedia encode & decode**





Background: Intrinsyc Open-Q 820

- Evaluation board for Snapdragon 820
- Hardware debug intentionally limited
- Uses system-on-module/carrier configuration
- 3GB DDR4 with POP setup





Background: Tests Performed

- **Heavy Ions @ TAMU**
 - Ion selection range limited...
 - Android & custom code

Beam	LET (MeV-cm ² /mg)	Exposure (cm ²)
N	1	1.2E+07
Ne	6	1.2E+04
Ar	15	4.1E+04

- **Protons @ MGH**
 - $\sim 1 \times 10^{10}$ /cm² with 100, and 200 MeV, 5×10^9 /cm² with 50 MeV
 - Android & custom code
- **Neutrons at LANSCE**
 - $\sim 1 \times 10^{11}$ /cm² with sea level neutron spectrum



Heavy Ion Setup - Device Stack Estimate

Item	Material	Range of Thicknesses	
		Low	High
Beam Port	Aramica	25.4 μm	
Air	Air	3 cm	
DDR3 Top Plastic	Plastic	100 μm (1.18 g/cm^3)	300 μm (1.85 g/cm^3)
DDR3 Die	Silicon	250 μm	400 μm
DDR3 Metalization	Aluminum	40 μm	60 μm
Air Gap	Air	100 μm (1.18 g/cm^3)	300 μm (1.85 g/cm^3)
Snapdragon Top Plastic	Plastic	100 μm	300 μm
Snapdragon Die	Silicon	500 μm	800 μm

- Using estimated thicknesses to get a range of estimated LETs
- Heavy ion testing (thus far) is general info, so it was most important to show chance of reaching sensitive region

	LET (MeV-cm ² /mg)		Range (μm Si)	
	Minimum	Maximum	Maximum	Minimum
N-40 MeV	0.74	1.2	1380	448
Ne-40 MeV	1.8	9	701	Out of Range
Ar-40 MeV	10	20	123	Out of Range



Observation: Crashes

- **Every operating condition had crashes**
 - Mostly these involved the test DUT no longer communicating
 - On later tests, we were able to use Android's exception handlers to get some indication what was going on
- **Required restarting the test after each crash**
 - We developed an automated system to do this at LANSCE
 - System conditions/handling was complex for the 8 states and possible errors coming from each
 - At LANSCE this all had to be done while being irradiated

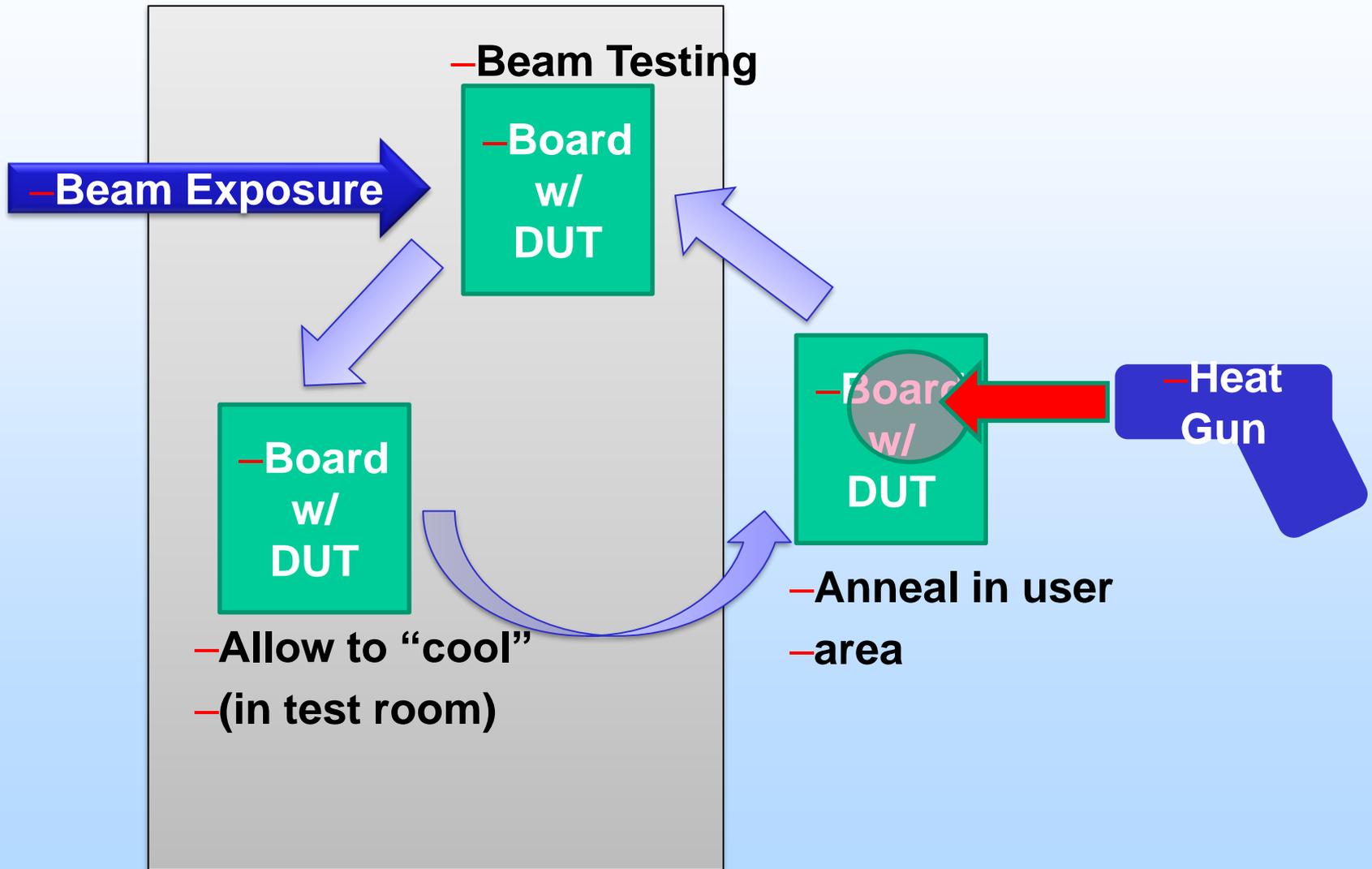


Observation: Stuck Bits

- **We targeted the DDR4 device for data, because it had to be exposed regardless**
 - This is frustrating because it really is not helpful to have two sources of errors
 - But the DDR4 device provided stuck bits as well as SBUs
- **Proton and neutron testing → about as many stuck bits as SBUs**
 - Stuck bits caused the DUTs to have trouble booting
 - Usually a reasonable chance to get a handful of detectable stuck bits before a DUT was unable to boot
 - Android appears to have a retry option on some memory allocation to allow it to avoid bad memory regions



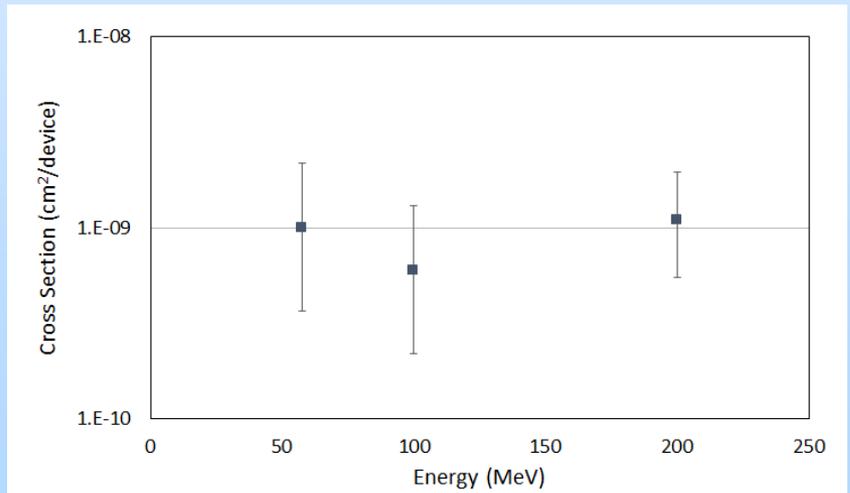
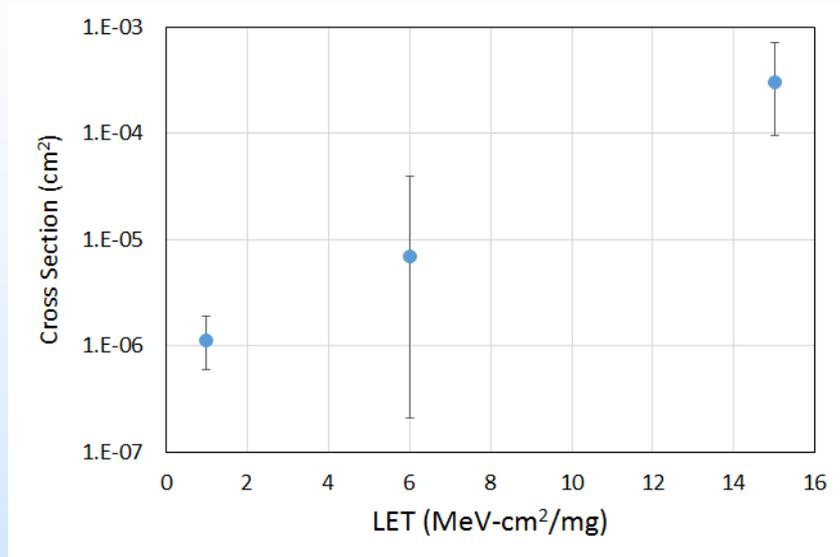
Stuck Bit Annealing





Results: Crashes

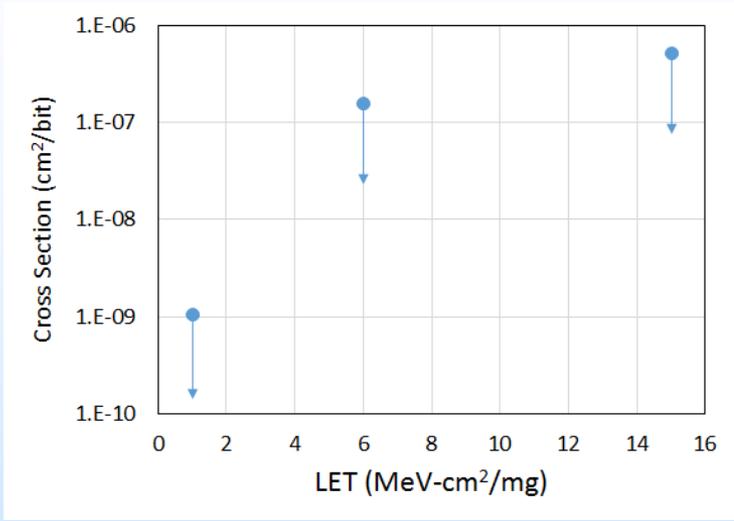
- Heavy Ions:
- Protons/Neutrons:
 - Proton curve →
 - Neutrons
 - $\sigma \sim 1 \times 10^{-8} / \text{cm}^2$





Results: SBUs & Stuck Bits

- Limiting σ for SBUs in Snapdragon:
- Stuck Bits during Boot & Anneal:
- Note also crunching data in memory region



Board	Incr. Neutron Exposure (/cm2)	Annealing		Stuck Bits - boot	
		Duration (mins)	Temp (C)	Before	After
2	2.52E+10	30	175	13	1
1	2.52E+10	15	175	14	3
1	0.00E+00	90	175	3	0
4	3.12E+09	120	175	3	0
5	2.81E+10	220	175	8	0



Future Work

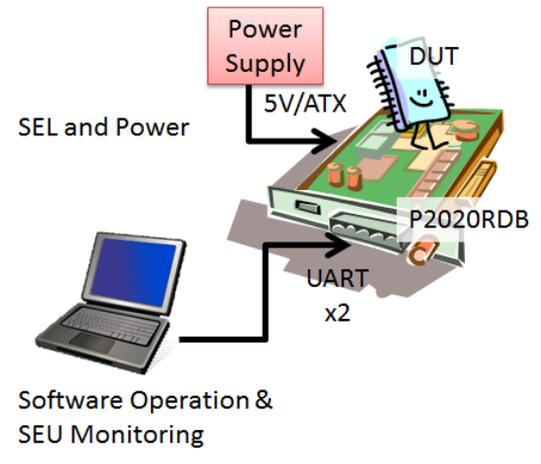
Heavy Ion Testing

- **Improved test system will enable testing with heavy ions**
 - Registers
 - Crashes (with capture of exceptions)
 - DDR4 Errors
- **Additional data on caches**
 - We have modified cache test code, but so far the L1 caches have not shown bit errors
 - May have ECC or parity masking the errors
- **Test code on all cores?**



P2020 - Test Setup: Hardware

- P2020RDB-PCA unit used for testing



- Two serial connections used – 1 for each CPU core
- Utilized U-Boot software to start up the DUTs
- Used power system on board, with power supply from unit - Earlier testing showed no risk of SEL
- Also used BDI3000 debug cable plugged into debug port to allow direct communication
 - Supported on-board flash programming
 - Allowed direct readout of registers



Testing/Details

- **Proton and Heavy Ion Testing**

- TRIUMF 11/2015
- MGH 12/2015
- LBL 12/2015 and 5/2016
- TAMU 5/2016

Board	Energy (MeV)	Proton Exposure
17	100	2.00E+10
44	100	3.30E+10
28	100	1.00E+10
14	100	2.10E+10
32	100	1.80E+10
32	200	9.10E+09

- **5 boards/DUTs tested with protons**

- **5 boards/DUTs tested with heavy ions**

# Boards	Ion	LET (MeV-cm ² /mg)	Fluence (#/cm ²)
5	N	1.2	3.84E+08
2	Ne	2.4	8.80E+07
3	Ne	2.8	4.50E+07
5	Ar	7.3	1.14E+08
1	Ar	8.6	5.89E+06
1	V	10.9	2.36E+07
3	Kr	25	6.43E+07
3	Kr	28.8	5.31E+05
1	Xe	49.3	9.98E+05
2	Xe	53.1	5.18E+05



Test Software

- 1) Register SBU – SBU in a processor register – also w/ external debugger
- 2) Register MBU – a register completely changes – also w/ debugger
- 3) L1 invalidates – an L1 cache line (with parity protection disabled) is lost
- 4) L1 SBU – this is a reported parity error when parity is enabled
- 5) L1 parity invalidations – parity-protected L1 cache loses valid line of data
- 6) L2 SBU – a SBU observed in L2 data (L2 tested w/ EDAC disabled)
- 7) External memory errors – not reported here
- 8) Watchdog – monitor the watchdog system for correct operation
- 9) Ethernet packet error – test for DUT packets received or transmitted
- 10) Flash Memory – errors reading or writing flash memory w/ external debug tools



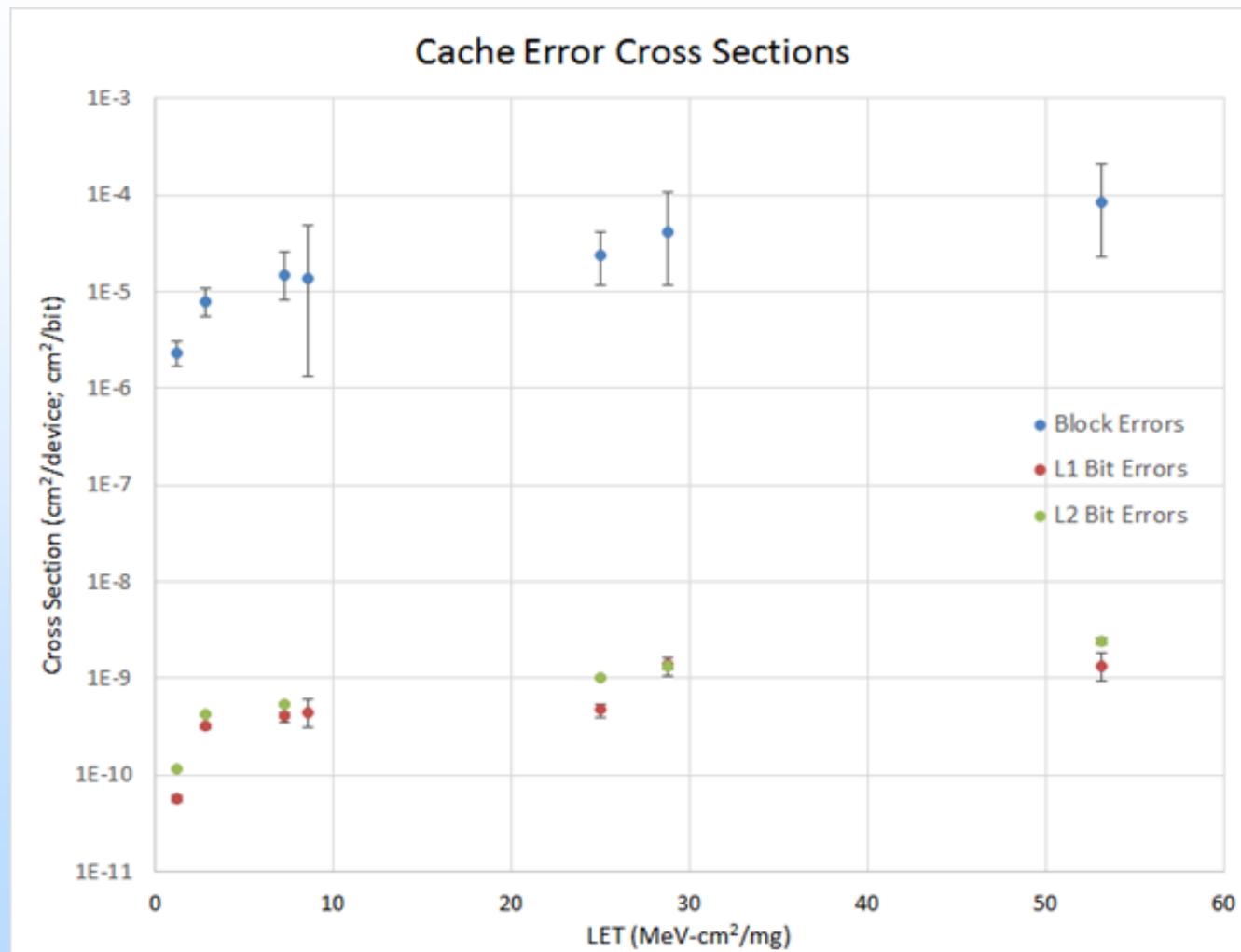
Results: Cache Errors

L1 Errors will cause app/OS crash unless in “write-through”

Bit errors are per-bit.

L1 bit errors are about 10x worse than block errors
- 5×10^5 bits
- L2 is 100x worse

L2 block errors not tested but bit errors are EDAC-protected



-Register sensitivity (per bit) is similar to L1 & L2 cache bit sensitivity...

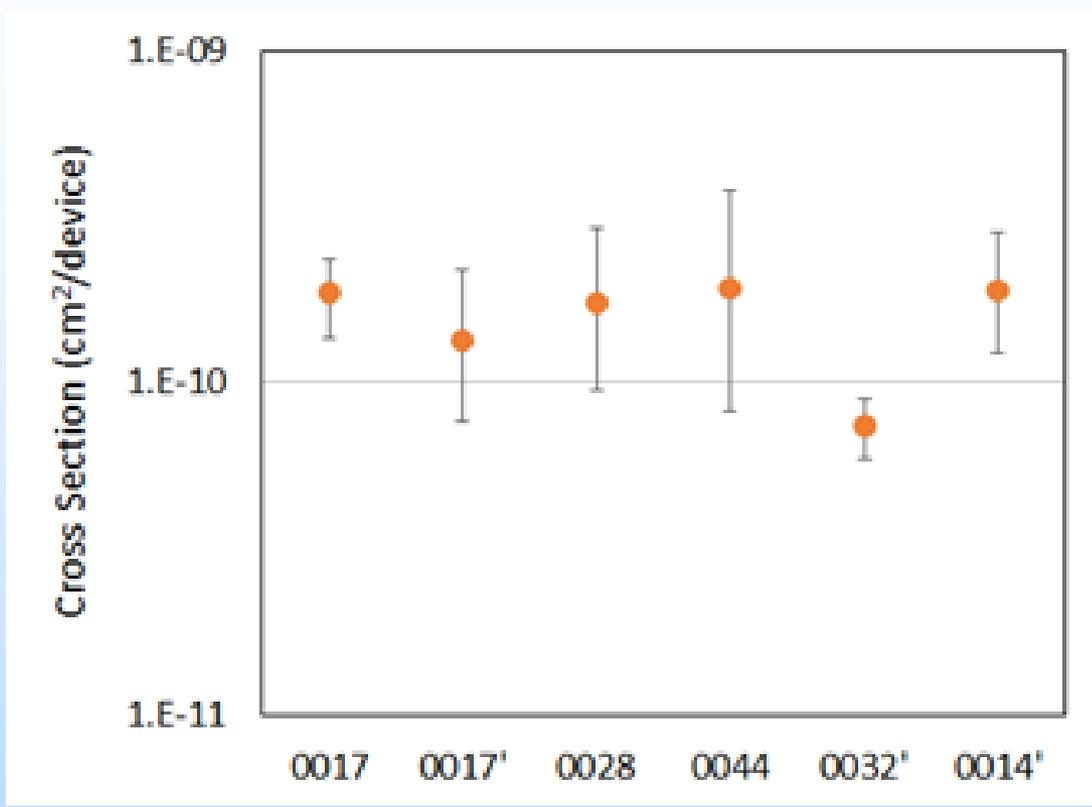


Proton Cache Errors

Block errors also occurred with proton exposures

Shows consistency across board-to-board results

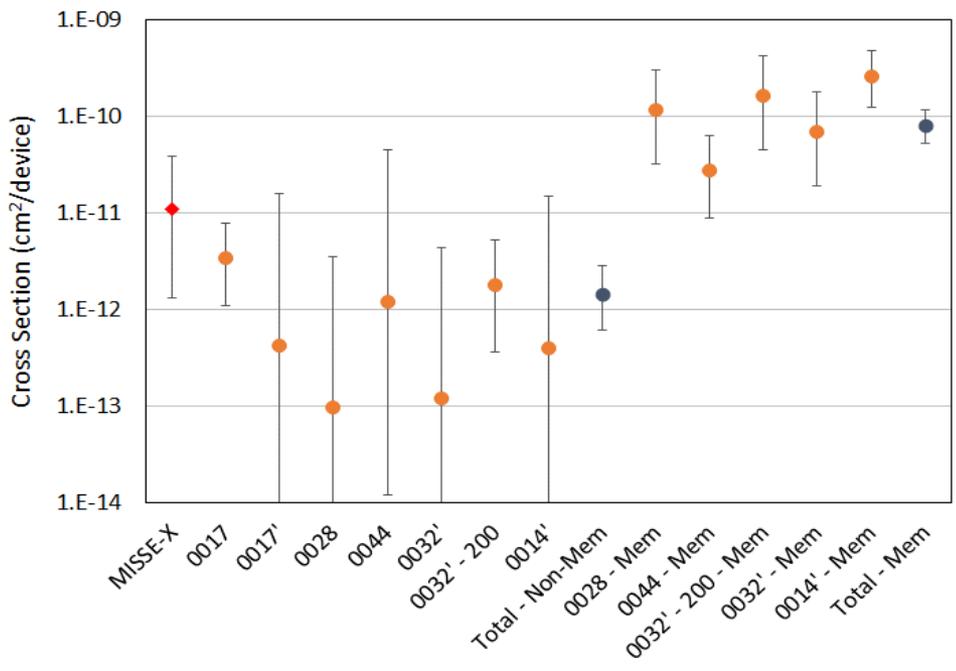
These errors would be silent even with parity protection.



-Block errors with 100 MeV protons across 5 DUTs and two test facilities.



Results: Crashes & Strange Events



- **Strange Events...**
 - Bit error in test control register
 - Latent error cause readout problem after run was over
 - Bit error in test compare register caused runaway error reports
 - CPU showed delay and eventually recovered (though possibly slower than before)

– Proton crash sensitivity – many parts/conditions

– - Consistent with older tests

– - Highlights that when using the

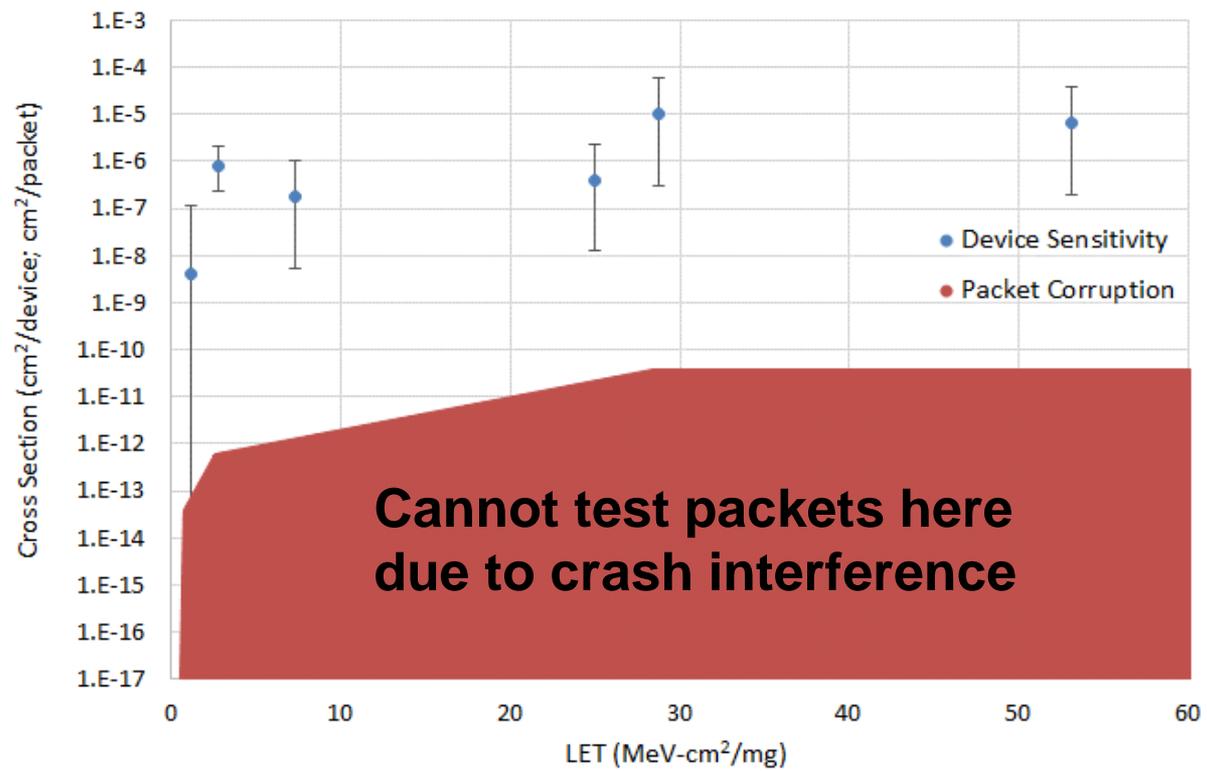
memory system, crash rate increases



Results: Ethernet Testing

- **No corrupt packets observed**
 - 768-byte payload
 - 44 Mbps rate
- **While testing for packet corruption, sensitivity limited by device crashes**
 - unrelated to Enet
- **Packet loss about the same in/out of beam ~ 0.01-0.1%**

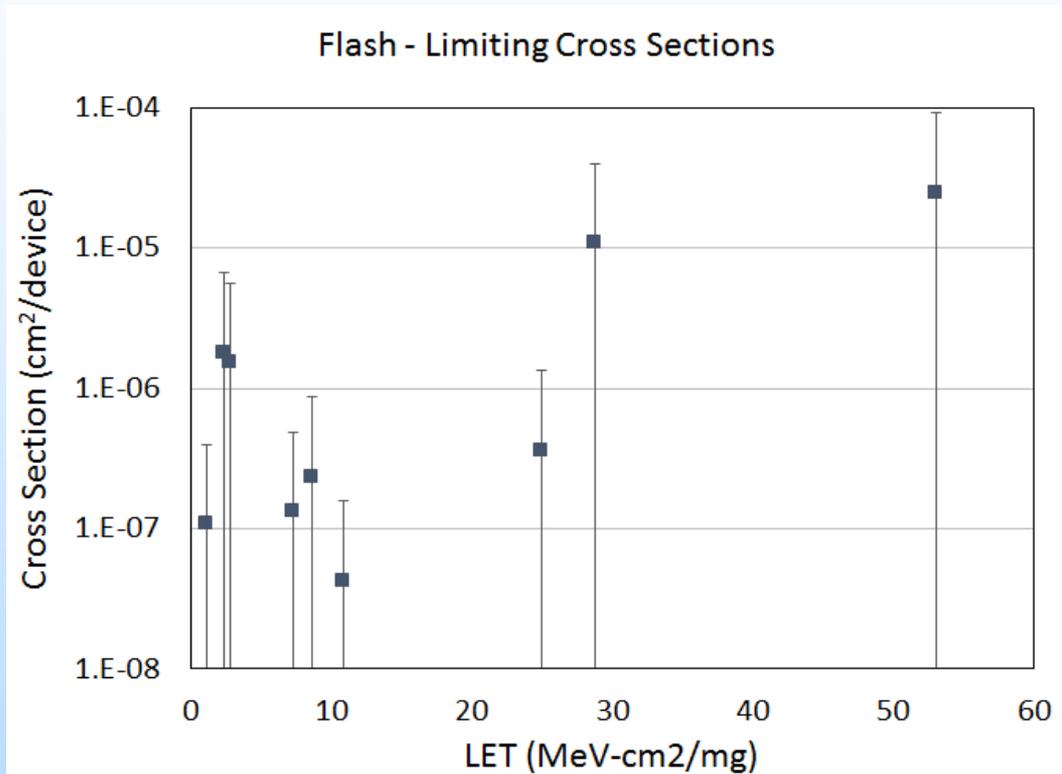
Ethernet Sensitivity - Crashes





Results: Flash Memory

- **Debugger was able to read and write during exposure**
- **Tested with the system suspended, just to check how the Flash interaction circuits responded**
- **Debugger connects through the processor flash memory interface (not directly to the Flash)**
- **Did not see evidence of any errors written or read from the Flash memory in any testing**



-Limiting cross section for Flash memory errors during heavy ion testing



Results: Watchdog

- **Monitored for correct change of states in the watchdog system**
 - Has multiple states it can get into – with different types of exceptions that are called
- **Tested for various LETs**
- **No indication, in all testing, of any error in watchdog system except:**
 - Some indication of register errors changing timeframes for watchdog behavior
 - But the event rate was consistent with register upsets, not indicative of true watchdog sensitivity
- **Highlights same problem as Ethernet – data limited by more common event types**



Future (/ Parallel) Efforts

- **The future is now! (At least for commercial parts)**
- **We are looking at forward “SOC” trends**
 - Integration of functions continues
 - Multiple, heterogenous processors
 - Dedicated power and other peripheral devices
 - Source/fabrication issues – fabless processors/SOCs
- **Specify desired interfaces for processor data collection, to improve manufacturer interaction**
- **Clarify test goals in the environment of limited device information**
- **Other processors, such as those embedded in the Xilinx MPSOC (multiprocessor SOC), are handled under the NEPP FPGA efforts**



Collaboration and Development

- **We prefer to test low-level structures and develop system-level rates**
 - Lack detail on applications to extrapolate to system-level (~application vulnerability factor [AVF])
 - Visibility on low-level structures is reducing
 - Newer devices are much more complex
- **Challenges:**
 - It is currently very difficult to get the right information for low-level tests (even with manufacturer support).
 - We cannot get flight-like software.
- **Alternate approaches:**
 - Estimated device usage for application – update/verify
 - White-paper indicating what information space users need to get the right data – without crossing NDA issues
 - I.e. need to know about hidden memories, but not why or how
 - Develop additional device-specific/architecture knowledge to enable improved low-level data
 - Use this along with device models to predict app sensitivity



Summary

- **Processor Effort Goal:**
 - Provide radiation performance information for relevant device families and technology nodes
 - Ultimate Goal: “To provide the information necessary to determine the SEE and TID risks for a program using a particular processor or processor-family”
- **Looking at Many Devices:**
 - Intel 14nm, AMD 16nm, Qualcomm (Samsung) 14nm and 10 nm, BAE RAD55xx, Freescale P2020,
- **Looking for additional collaborators**
 - Tester side – are you testing processors?
 - Manufacturer side – knowledge or hardware support
 - Application side – user input on where and how new can be used...