Design of Parallel and High-Performance Computing

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Lecture: Roofline

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Operational Intensity

- **Definition: Given a program P, assume cold (empty) cache**

$$\textit{Operational intensity: } I(n) = \frac{W(n)}{Q(n)}$$

W(n): #flops (input size n)

Q(n): #bytes transferred cache ↔ memory (for input size n)

- **Examples: Determine asymptotic bounds on I(n)**
  - Vector sum: y = x + y **O(1)**
  - Matrix-vector product: y = Ax **O(1)**
  - Fast Fourier transform **O(log(n))**
  - Matrix-matrix product: C = AB + C **O(n)**

Example MVM: $y = Ax + y$

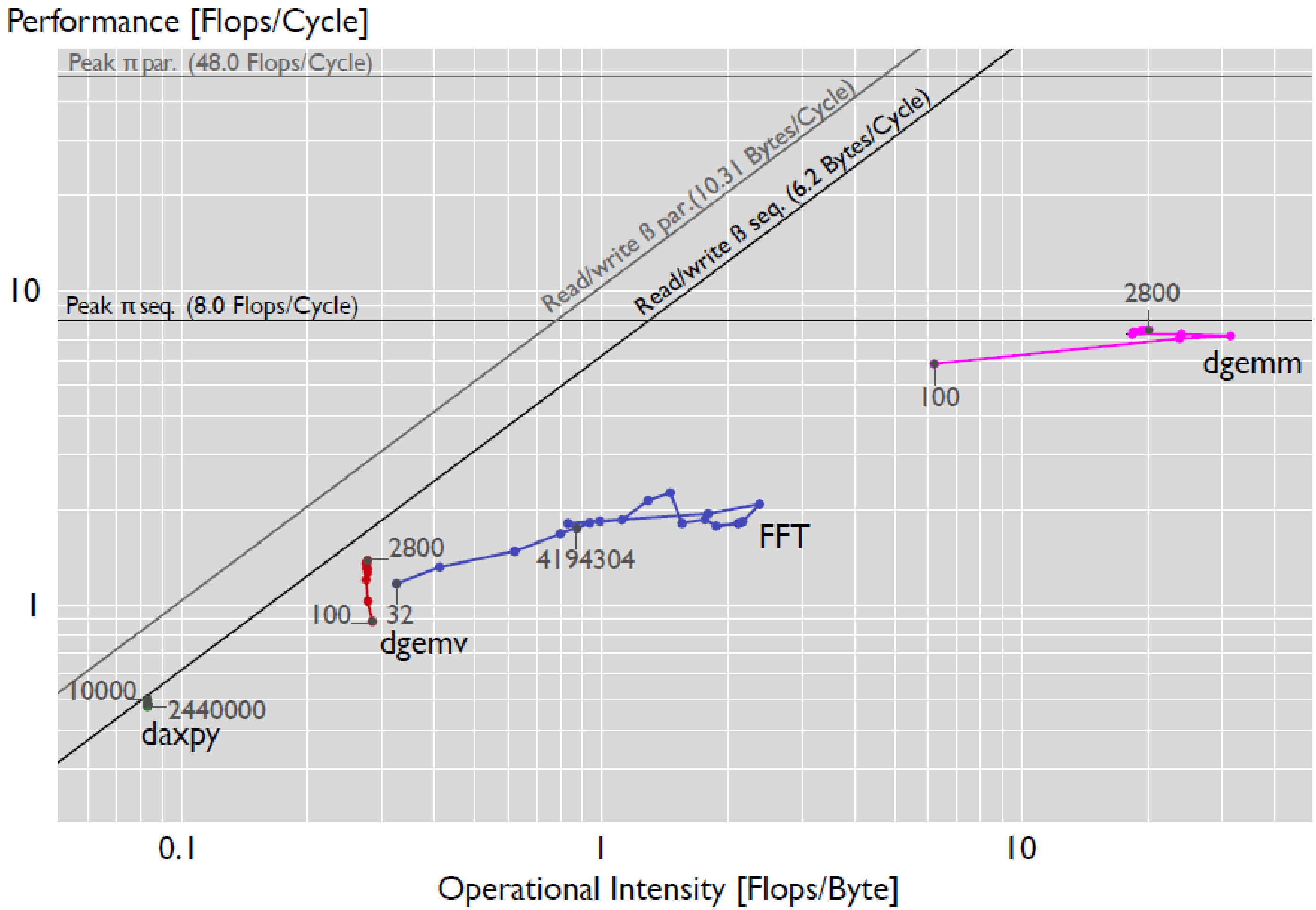
- **Number of flops?**
- **Number of compulsory misses (cold cache)?**
- **Upper bound on the operational intensity?**

Roofline Measurements

- **Tool developed in our group**
  (G. Ofenbeck, R. Steinmann, V. Caparros-Cabezas, D. Spampinato)
- **Example plots follow**
- **Get bounds on I:**
  - daxpy: $y = \alpha x + y$
  - dgemv: $y = Ax + y$
  - dgemm: $C = AB + C$
  - FFT

Roofline Measurements

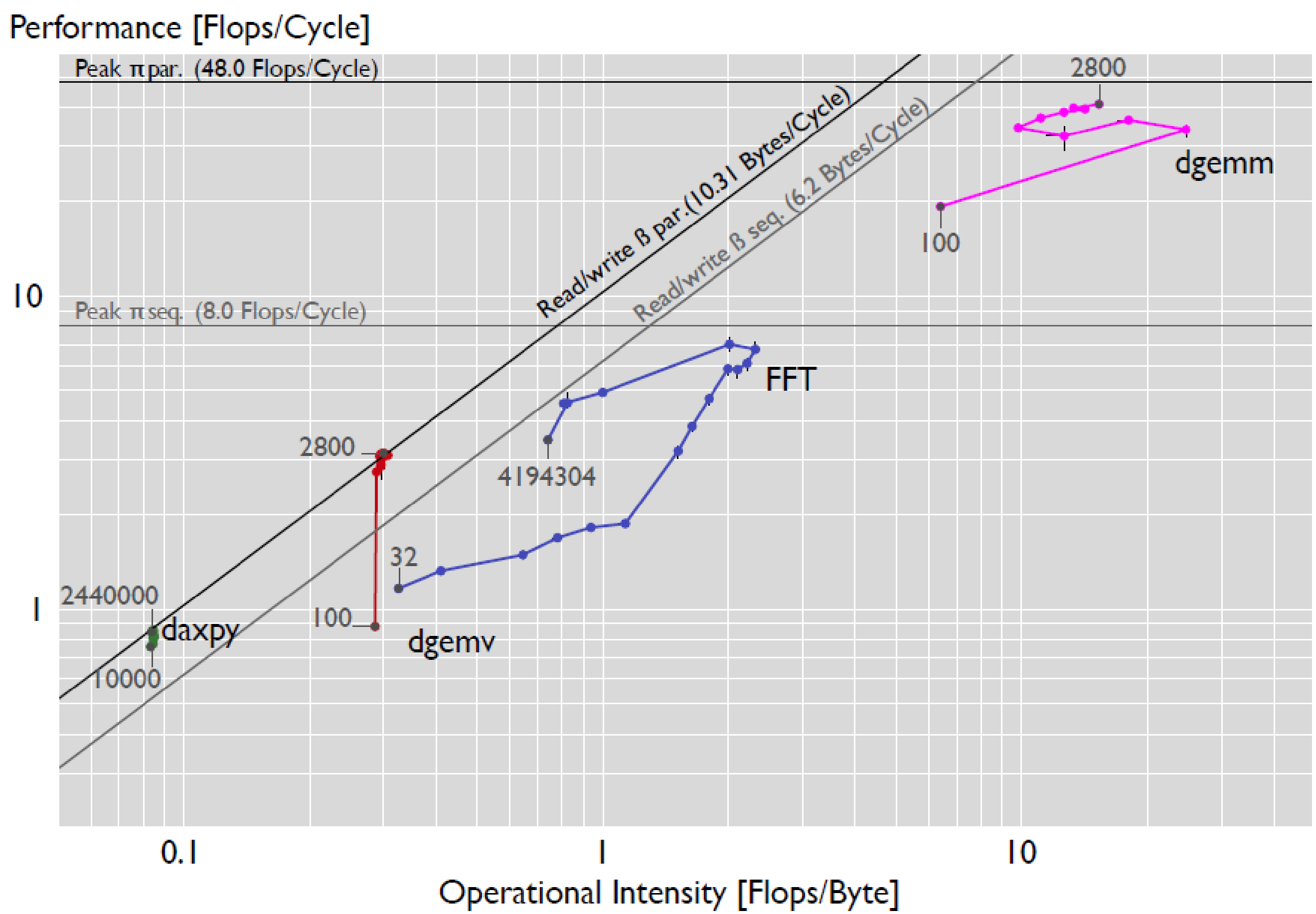
Core i7 Sandy Bridge, 6 cores
Code: Intel MKL, ***sequential***
Cold cache



What happens when we go to parallel code?

Roofline Measurements

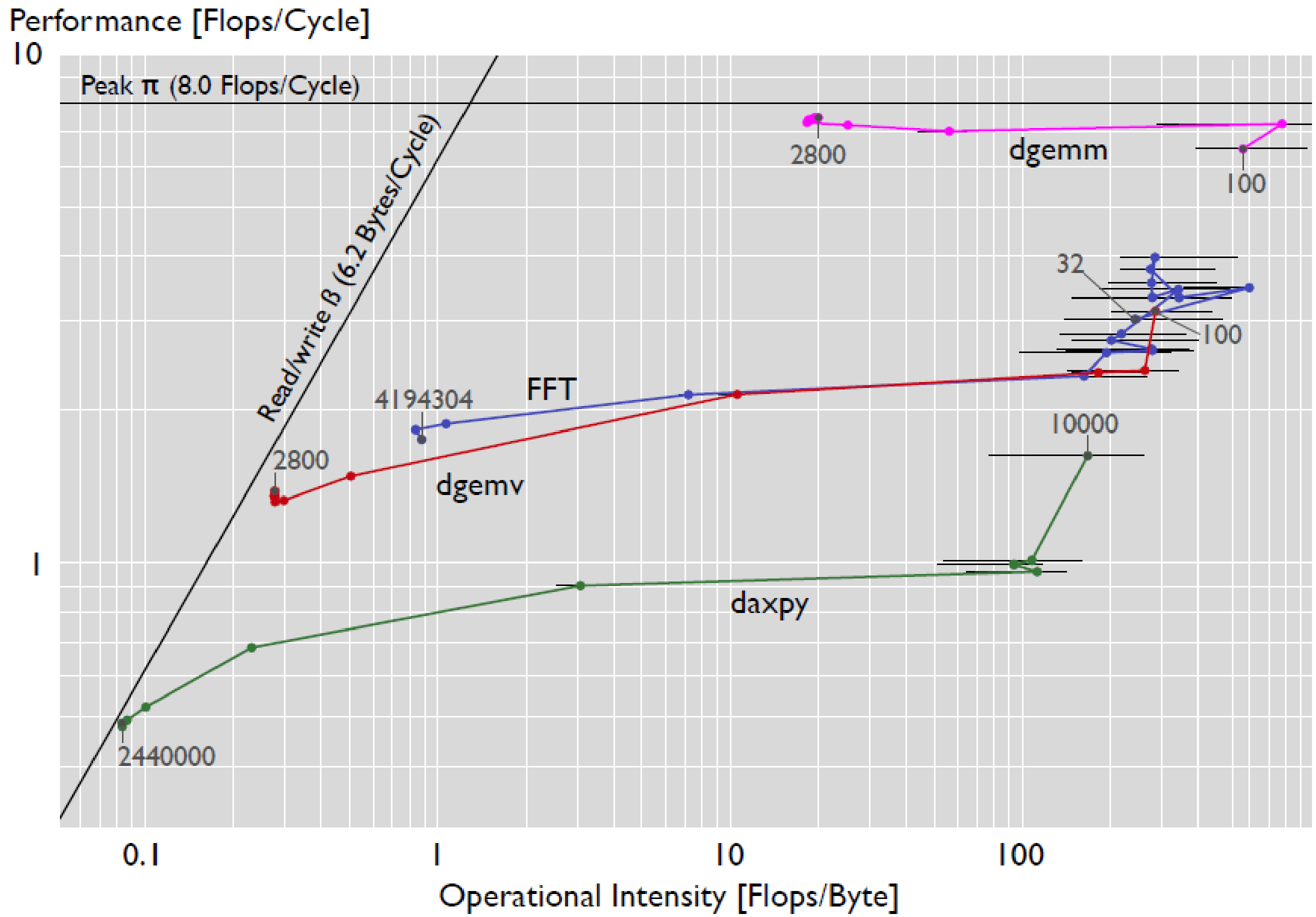
Core i7 Sandy Bridge, 6 cores
*Code: Intel MKL, **parallel***
Cold cache



What happens when we go to warm cache?

Roofline Measurements

Core i7 Sandy Bridge, 6 cores
*Code: Intel MKL, **sequential***
Warm cache



Summary

- **Roofline plots distinguish between memory and compute bound**
- **Can be used on paper**
- **Measurements difficult (performance counters) but doable**