

OrthrusPE: Runtime Reconfigurable Processing Elements for Binary Neural Networks

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Outline

- Optimization of Convolutional Neural Networks
- Challenges of Binary Neural Networks
- Motivation for Runtime Reconfigurable BNN Processing Elements
- OrthrusPE: Dual Modes
- Experimentation and Results

Optimization of Convolutional Neural Networks

Structural

Algorithmic

Hardware

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Optimization of Convolutional Neural Networks



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Optimization of Convolutional Neural Networks



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- Binary Weights
- Binary Activations
- Binary Weights AND Activations



- Binary Weights
- Binary Activations
- Binary Weights AND Activations —>Replace Multiplications by XNOR ops Replace Accumulations by Popcount ops





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→ Reduce Memory requirements (1/16 of FP-16)



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Overview of Binary Neural Networks

- Binary Weights
- Binary Activations
- Binary Weights AND Activations

Replace Multiplications by XNOR ops Replace Accumulations by Popcount ops

→ Reduce Memory requirements (1/16 of FP-16)







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Overview of Binary Neural Networks

- Binary Weights
- Binary Activations
- Binary Weights AND Activations Replace Multiplications by XNOR ops • Replace Accumulations by Popcount ops Reduce Memory requirements (1/16 of FP-16) Severe Information Loss MNIST, CIFAR-10, SVHN 📈 📈 ImageNet X





Naïve Binarization



Severe information loss: 10 and 0.1 have the same effect on the network.

$$sign(x) = \begin{cases} 0, & x < 0\\ 1, & x \ge 0 \end{cases}$$

Approximation through binary bases







Approximation through binary bases



Captured Information:

0.1 is less positive than 10



Approximation through binary bases



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4 and 3 lie between 10 and 0.1



Approximation through binary bases



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4 and 3 are single unit away from each other



Approximation through binary bases



Captured Information:

0.1 is less positive than 10

4 and 3 lie between 10 and 0.1

4 and 3 are single unit away from each other

Information can be extracted for negative numbers, e.g. sign(x + 3)



Approximation through binary bases



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[1] X. Lin et al., "Towards accurate binary convolutional neural network," NIPS, 2017.



Approximation through binary bases



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 $A^l = Conv(W^l, A^{l-1})$



 $A^l = Conv(W^l, A^{l-1})$

$$\mathbb{B} = \{0,1\}$$

















More FP in Binary Neural Networks

- Binary Weight and Activation Bases (Scale/Shift)
- First Layer Remains Non-Binarized
- Batch Normalization



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OrthrusPE: Runtime Reconfigurable PEs for BNNs



Dual Modes

- Fixed-precision mode: First layer, Batch-norm, Scale and Shift Operations
- Binary mode: SIMD Binary Hadamard Products and Popcounts
- Achieved with high resource reuse

OrthrusPE: Binary Mode

Efficient SIMD Binary Hadamard Product Execution

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Kernel:
$$b^l \subset B_m^{\ l}$$

1 0 **1**
1 0 **1**
1 0 **1**

OrthrusPE: Binary Mode

Efficient SIMD Binary Hadamard Product Execution



OrthrusPE: Binary Mode

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Efficient SIMD Binary Hadamard Product Execution





Runtime Reconfigurability



*These signals are dedicated routing paths internal to the DSP48E1 column. They are not accessible via fabric routing resources.



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Synthesized Four Throughput-Equivalent Configurations:

- OrthrusPE
- OrthrusPE-DS (Dual-Static): SIMD Binary Hadamard Products on Static DSP
- Hybrid (Common): Binary operations on LUTs, FP operations on DSP
- All-LUT: Execution restricted to LUTs



Resource Utilization

 OrthrusPE and OrthrusPE-DS are more resource efficient across all target accelerator frequencies.

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				De	sign	Targ	get F	reque	ncy (1	MHz)			
-	– All-	LU	Т	-	Hy	brid	 ×	- Orth	rusPE	E 🔶	Orthr	usPE-I)S

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Implementation	F=	770MH	z	F=160MHz			
F	LUTs	FF	DSP	LUTs	FF	DSP	
All-LUT	559	160	0	516	160	0	
Hybrid (Common)	230	253	1	166	253	1	
OrthrusPE	165	210	1	111	210	1	
OrthrusPE-DS	120	229	2	87	229	2	

Resource Utilization

- OrthrusPE's closest FINN configuration @200MHz
 - 16 Extra Bit Accumulations
 - 3 MACs (through reconfigurability)
 - 32% fewer LUTs







Dynamic Power Estimation

- OrthrusPE more efficient across all frequencies
- Results scale as accelerators use 100-1000s of PEs



Conclusion and Future Work



- Accurate BNNs cannot be achieved without fixed-point operations and reliance on DSP blocks.
- OrthrusPE improves the efficiency of computation by executing both fixed-point and binary ops on FPGA hard blocks.
- Accurate BNNs solve many of the computation and memory challenges for deep neural network workloads on edge devices.



Thank you for your attention