

# Unleashing the benefits of GPU Computing with ARM Mali

– Practical applications and use-cases –

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# Today's Computational Challenges

## ■ Trends

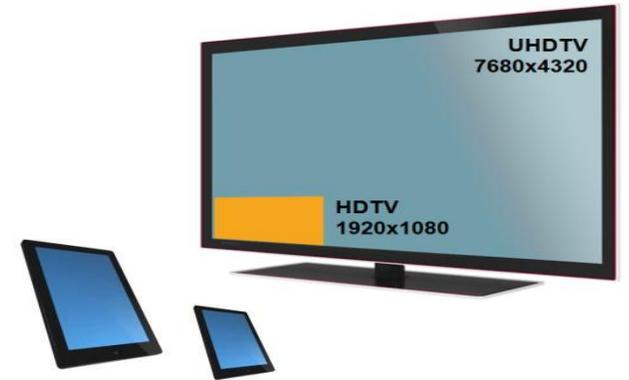
- Growing display sizes and resolutions, richer content, novel applications
- Continual users' expectation for improved experience
- Increasing computational power requirements

## ■ Limitations

- Restricted energy and thermal budgets
- In mobile, processing power greatly outgrowing battery capacity
- Traditional scaling solutions not sustainable

## ■ Necessity

- Increase computational efficiency of processing platforms
- Leverage on heterogeneous and parallel computing
- Utilize the right processor for the task



# Efficient Heterogeneous Computing

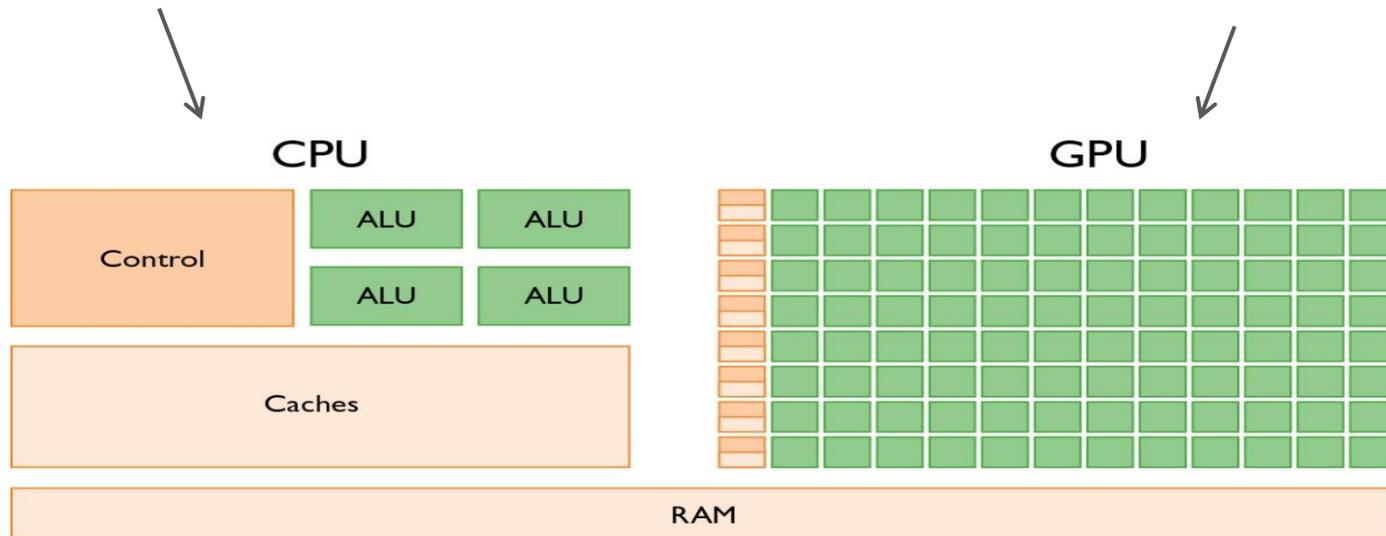
- Parallel compute is established in processor design
  - Microarchitecture and instruction sets
  - Multicore
  - Multiprocessor and System-on-Chip
- Different codes/algorithms suit different approaches
  - Fine-grained, coarse-grained, and embarrassing parallelism
  - Data parallelism, Task parallelism
  - Multi-threading, Multi-programming, SIMD
- Modern SoCs also feature GPU capable of accelerating non-graphical tasks

# The Right Processor for the Task

Operating System  
Most application processing

Programmable through C-like  
languages and APIs

Cost effective, efficient, great  
floating point performance



GPU can be used as computational  
accelerators or companion  
processor

2D/3D graphics  
Advanced Image Processing  
Accelerate/Complement ISP functionality  
Offload video codec blocks  
Accelerate physics computation

# Benefits of GPU Compute

- Acceleration of embarrassing parallel workloads
- Better load-balance across system resources through the use of compute APIs designed for concurrency
- Increased system-level energy efficiency using the best processor for the job
- Free up CPU resource by offloading to GPU
- Enable offload of traditional hardware accelerated functions
- Portability and programmability

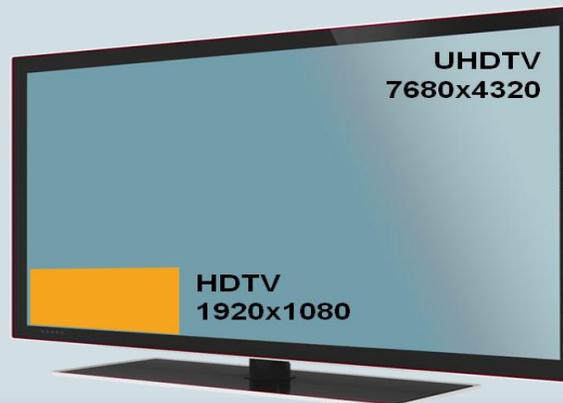
# Example GPU Compute Use Cases

## Mobile

- Computational photography
- Moving and still image real-time stabilization
- Information extraction: object detection, classification and tracking
- Imaging: correction, improvement, consolidation
- Content and context understanding
- ISP pre- and post-processing
- Augmented reality
- Physics in games
- HEVC

## DTV/STB

- 2D to 3D conversion
- Super resolution
- Video pre- and post-processing
- Camera based gesture UIs
- Trans-coding
- Information extraction and superimposition



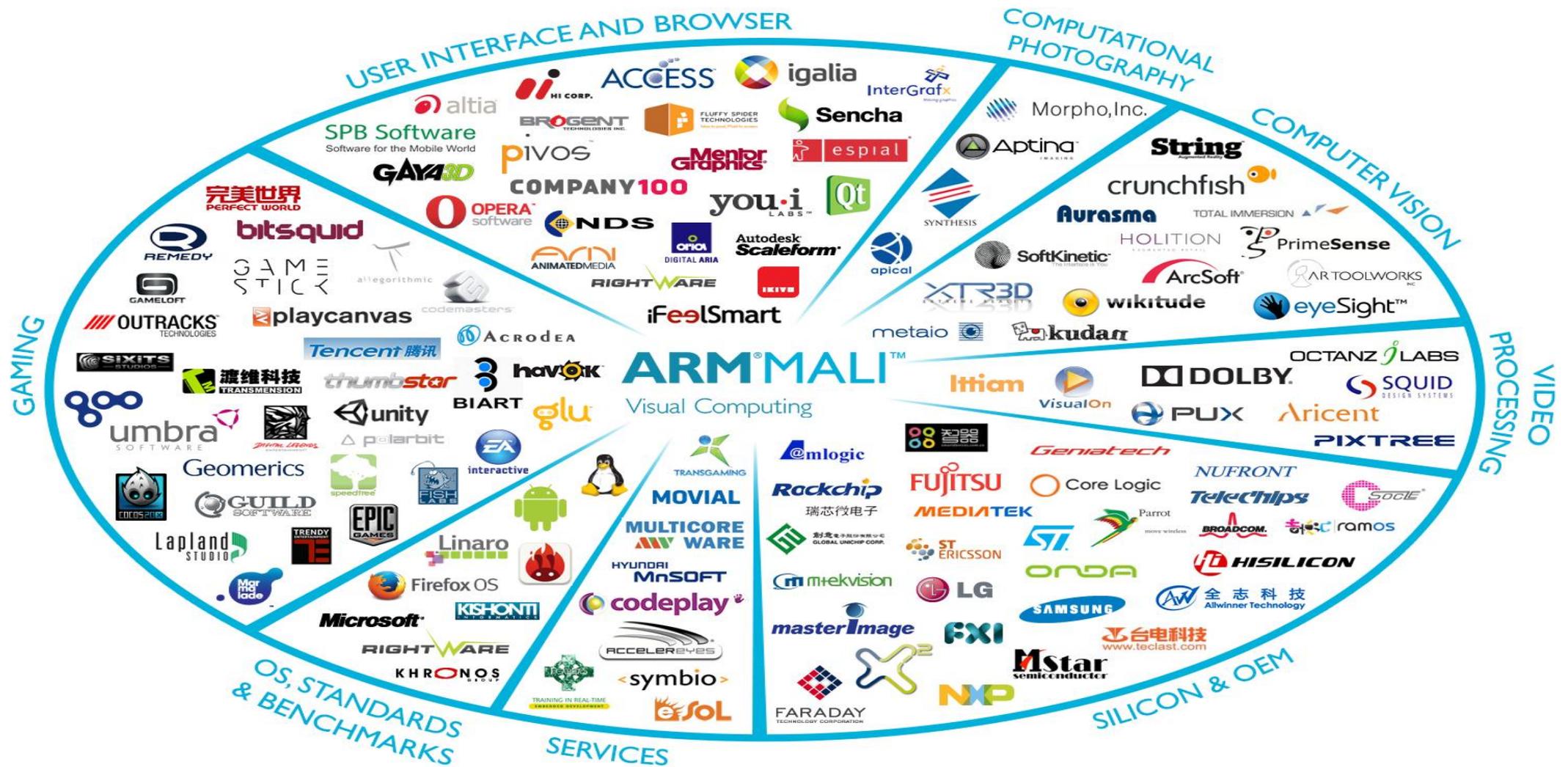
## Automotive

- Lane detection
- Smart head-light
- Road sign recognition
- Night vision
- Object classification
- Pedestrian, vehicle and collision detection
- Vehicle detection
- Dynamic cruise control



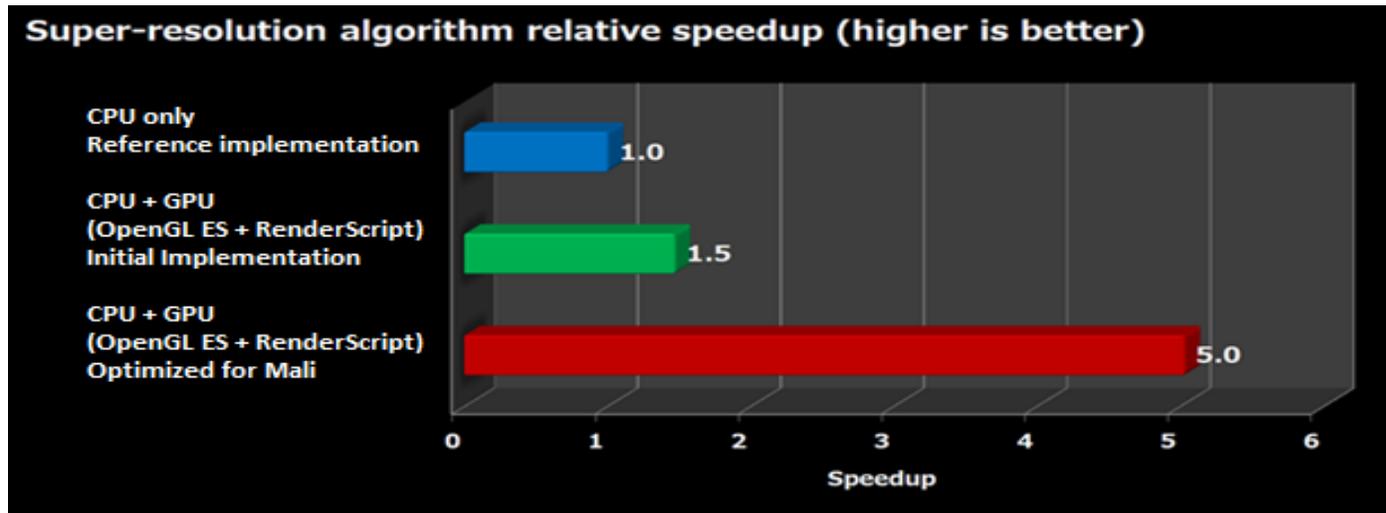
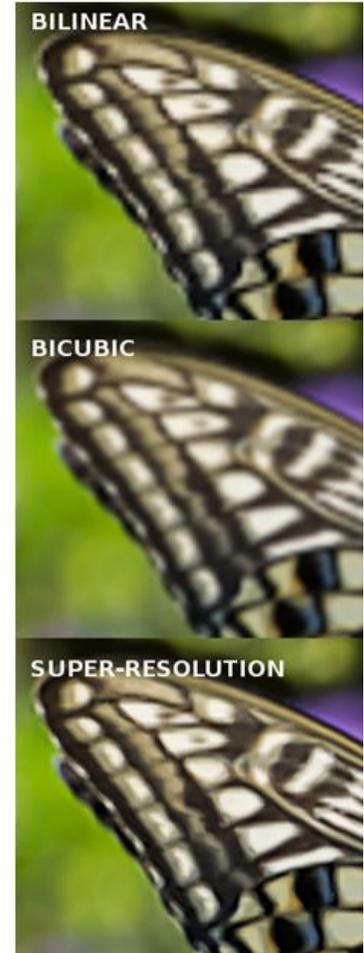
100s GFLOPs of efficient processing power: improve existing use-cases, enable next generation use-cases

# The Mali Ecosystem



# Super-Resolution

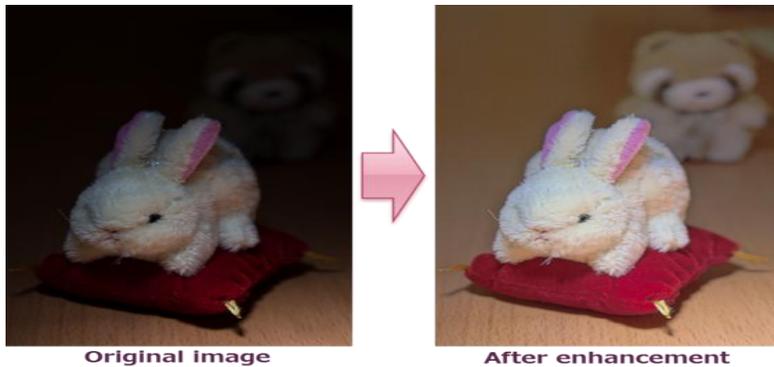
- Super-resolution techniques aim to increase resolution of imaging systems
  - Synthesis' proprietary algorithm delivers sharper and artefact-free edge interpolation
  - Implemented in OpenGL<sup>®</sup> ES and RenderScript for ARM Mali™-T600 family
  - Demonstrated publically on Google Nexus I0 (ARM Mali-T604 GPU) since MWC 13



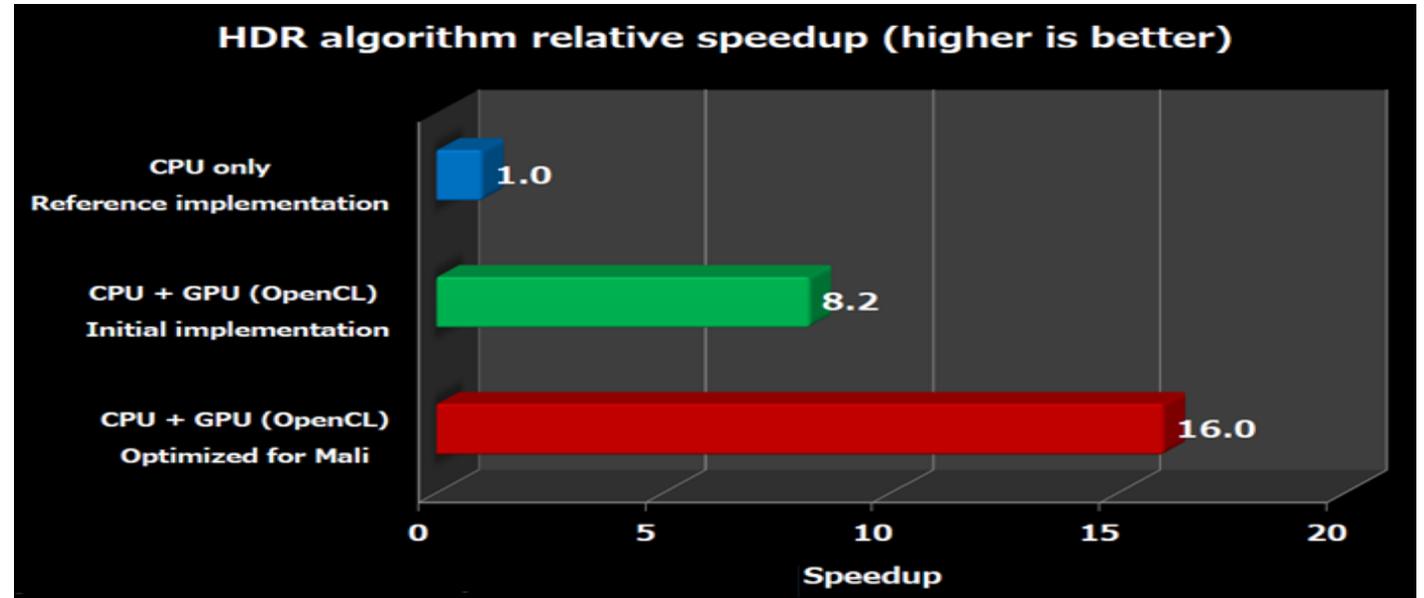
SOURCE: SYNTHESIS CORPORATION

# High Dynamic Range Imaging

- Adaptive luminance/dynamic range enhancement algorithm
  - Increases the visible dynamic range of an image by adaptively enhancing the darkest areas
  - Unlike traditional gamma/tone-curve editing, only selected areas are computed, avoiding over-saturation
  - Optimized for ARM Mali-T600 family using OpenCL, demonstrated on InSignal Arndale Linux



SOURCE: SYNTHESIS CORPORATION



# Advanced Image Processing

- Image processing greatly accelerated through GPU Compute
  - RenderScript enables GPU Compute on Android
  - First supported with ARM Mali-T604 GPU
  - Mali GPU Compute proven to deliver major and consistent speed-up



The screenshot shows the 'Batch Mode' interface for MulticoreWare ARM Mali. It displays a list of filters with their respective CPU and GPU times, and an X-Factor. The X-Factor values are highlighted in a red box. The filters and their X-Factors are: MotionBlur (3.532), Cloud (4.212), Labyrinth (3.798), TitleReflection (7.271), WhirlPinch (3.620), Wave (7.040), and Bicubic (15.392). The interface also includes a 'Back' button, a 'Report' button, and a timer showing 'Time remaining until next run: 27 seconds.'

Filter Name:	CPU Time (ms):	GPU Time (ms):	X-Factor:
MotionBlur	3317.250	939.250	3.532
Cloud	3301.250	783.750	4.212
Labyrinth	2898.750	763.250	3.798
TitleReflection	10588.250	1456.250	7.271
WhirlPinch	1244.500	343.750	3.620
Wave	1358.750	193.000	7.040
Bicubic	3282.250	213.250	15.392

Filter	Speed-up [1]
MotionBlur	3.5x
Cloud	4.2x
Labyrinth	3.8x
TitleReflection	7.3x
WhirlPinch	3.6x
Wave	7.0x
Bicubic	15.4x

[1] Acceleration compares RenderScript compiled on device (LLVM) on Dual-core ARM Cortex™-A15 CPU and ARM Mali-T604 GPU on a stock Google Nexus 10 device

SOURCE: MULTICOREWARE INC.

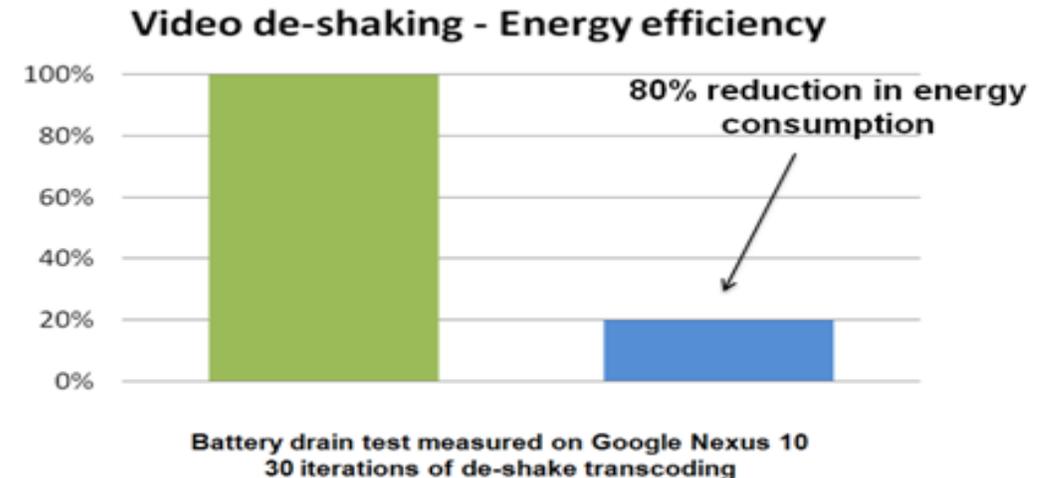
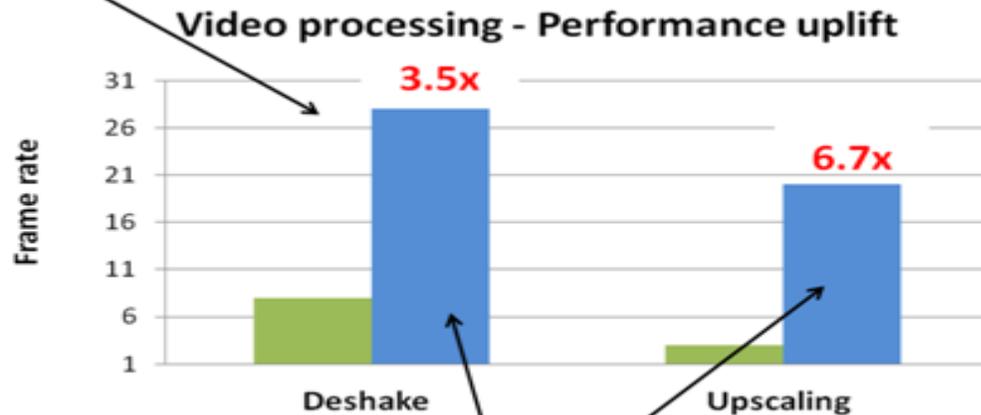


# Video Pre and Post Processing

- GPU Compute improving video pre-/post-processing
  - MulticoreWare transcoding Android application
  - Video processing plug-ins written in RenderScript
  - Optimized for ARM Mali-T600 family, leveraging both CPU and GPU
  - Proven performance and power benefits, on a real device



Using GPU Compute enables real-time use case



Major performance uplift when using GPU Compute

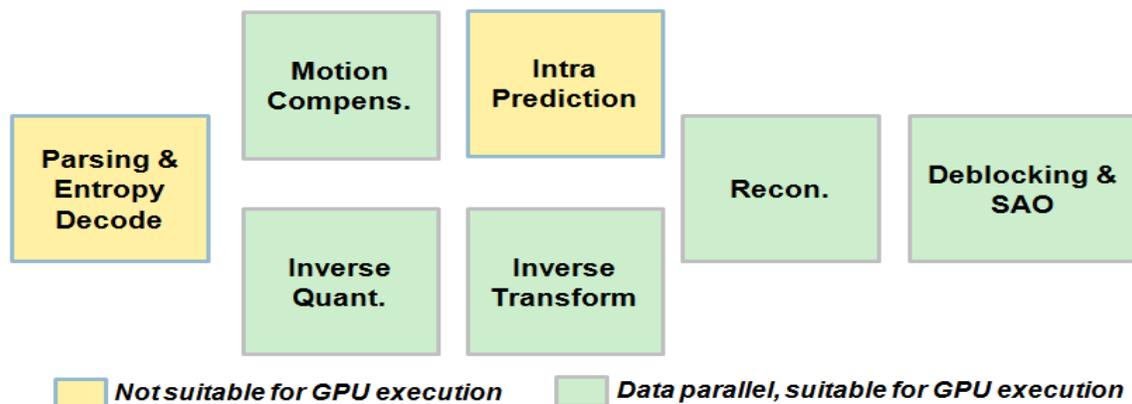
■ CPU Only    ■ CPU plus Mali-T600 GPU

SOURCE: MULTICOREWARE INC.



# Why GPU Compute for HEVC Decode?

- Mass-market deployment of new codecs brings challenges
  - Early adoption of hardware codecs carries some risk
  - High performance software implementations become cardinal to the success of HEVC
- Combining CPU and GPU Compute enable most efficient HEVC decode
  - High resolution HEVC decoding on CPU-only creates high loading
  - GPUs are traditionally idle during video playback
  - GPU architecture suits acceleration of parallel codec blocks
  - Offloading computation to the GPU enables CPU to perform other tasks



*“Mali GPUs are well suited for video acceleration with significant power/performance benefits”*

*“Mali acceleration opens up the possibility of 1080p @ 60 fps and 4K x 2K @ 30 fps HEVC decode on mobile devices without dedicated HW”*

Source: Ittiam Systems

# HEVC decode using OpenCL on Mali

- ARM is collaborating with several codec vendors
  - Ensuring widest availability of HEVC across multiple ARM platforms
  - Enabling HEVC early, in software, through ARM NEON™ and GPU Compute
  - Multiple partners developing OpenCL-enabled HEVC codecs for Mali-T600

Ittiam

SQUID  
DESIGN SYSTEMS

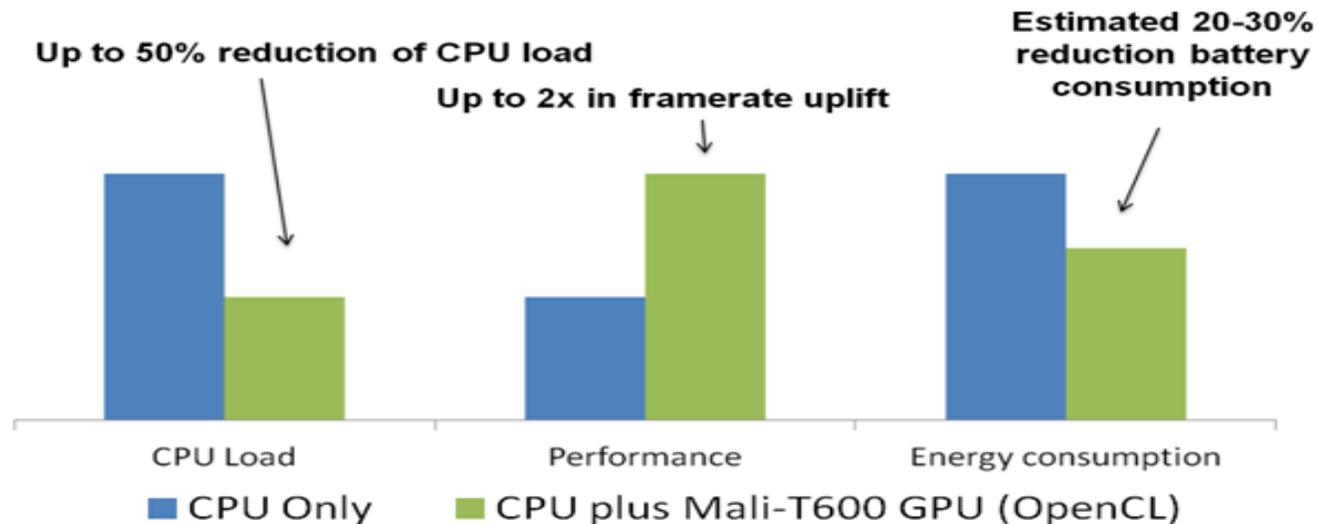
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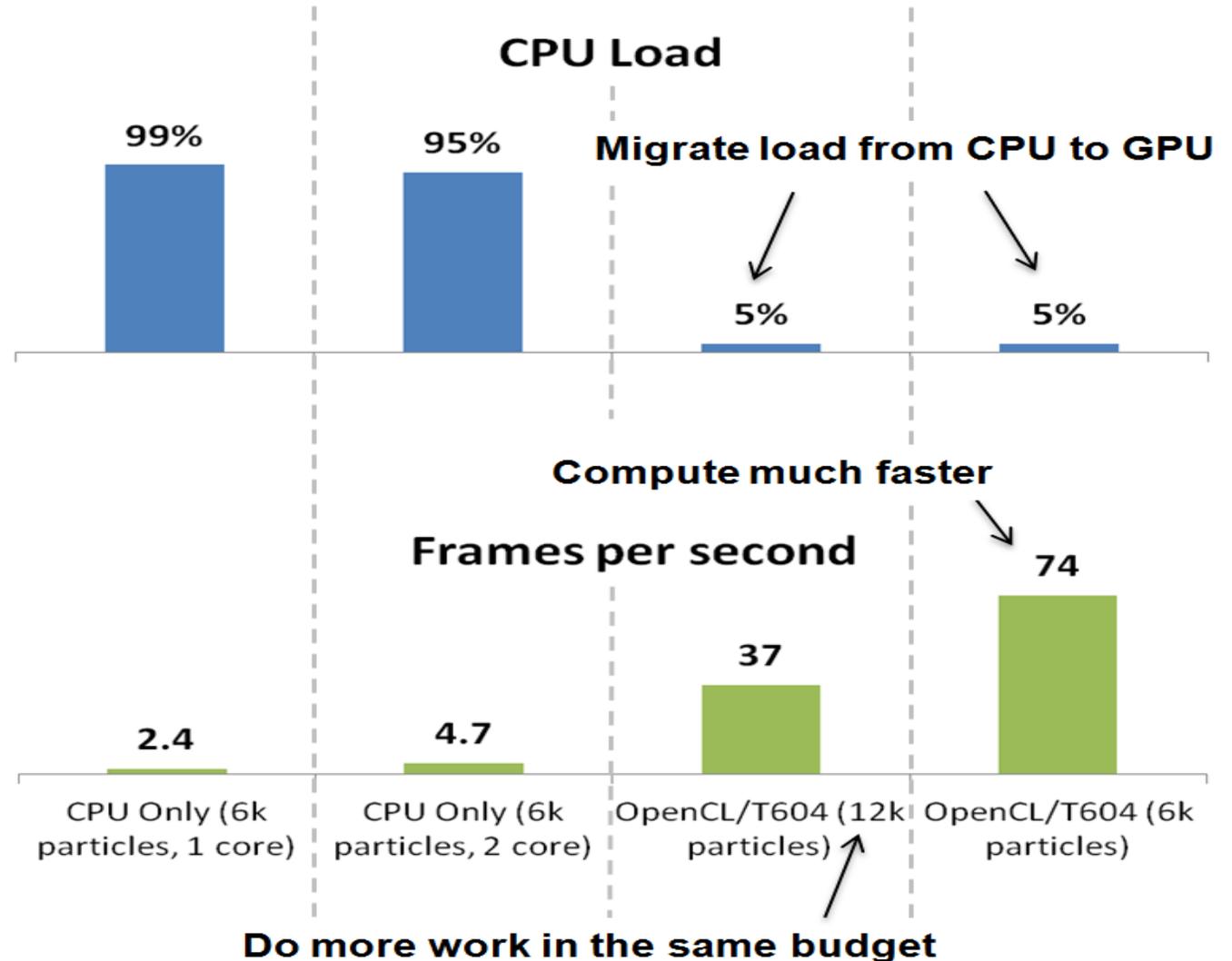
ArcSoft®

VisualOn



# Physics (cloth simulation)

- In-house physics engine
- InSignal Arndale platform
- OpenCL/Linux on ARM Mali-T604



# ISP Pipeline Offload to GPU (OpenCL)

- OpenCL API enables offload/acceleration on ARM Mali-T604 GPU
- Software solution gives more flexibility and enables algorithm modifications right up to consumer device release
- Sensor and camera module vendors can invest in optimized portable software libraries instead of hardware
- SoC implementers can reduce device costs by offloading ISP blocks to the GPU

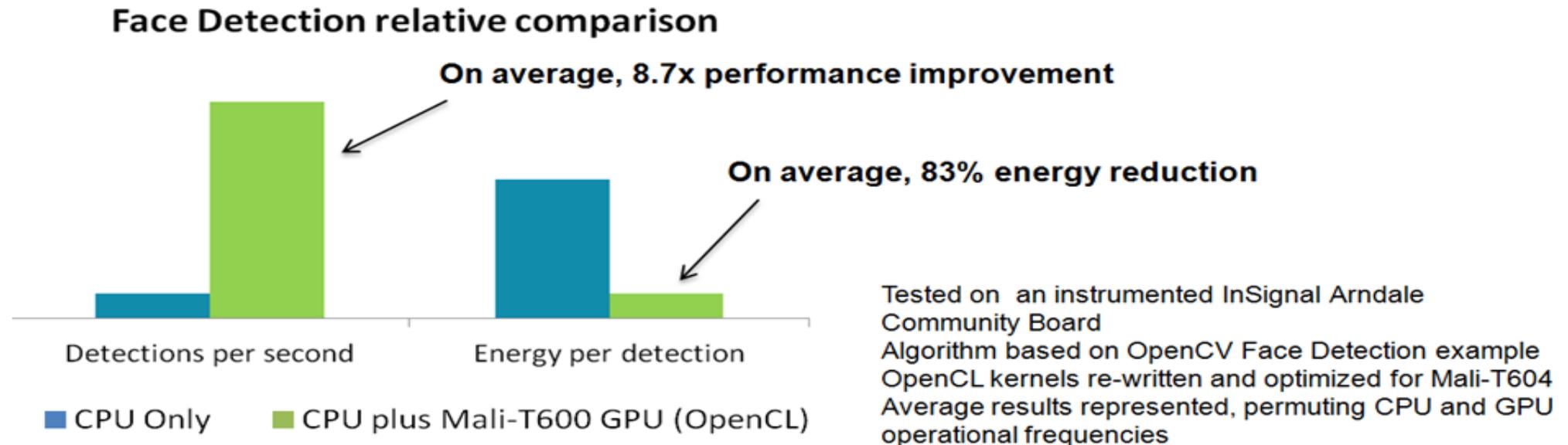


Entire ISP pipeline for HDR imaging demonstrated running on ARM Mali-T604 GPU (InSignal Arndale, Samsung Exynos 5 Duo) using OpenCL



# Computer Vision Based Applications

- Computer Vision entails the acquisition, processing, analysis and understanding of sensor data (images), in order to derive information to enable decisions to be made
  - GPU Compute is particularly suited for the acceleration of Computer Vision
  - Face detection study demonstrated significant performance and energy benefits with ARM Mali-T604 GPU



# Conclusions

- Modern compute APIs enable efficient and portable heterogeneous computing
  - Use the best processor for the task
  - Balance workload across system resources
  - Offload heavy parallel computation to the GPU
- GPU Computing with ARM Mali-T600 GPUs is proven to deliver benefits for real world applications
  - Advanced imaging, computer vision, computational photography and media codecs
  - Improved performance and energy efficiency measured on consumer devices
- The Mali Ecosystem is making GPU Compute a reality today
  - Industry leaders take advantage of ARM Mali-T600 capabilities to innovate and deliver
  - Be one of them!