XCORE.AI

THE FAST, FLEXIBLE, ECONOMICAL CROSSOVER PROCESSOR FOR THE AIoT

XCORE.AI is a cross-over processor for the AIoT, helping you to get to market fast, with products that stand out from the competition.

AIoT product proliferation creates an increasing demand for a flexible, performant processing core that offers short time-to-market. Demands around privacy and user-experience are pushing tasks from Cloud to Edge (on-device) processing and challenging the capabilities of traditional processors.

With xcore.ai, real-time inferencing, decisioning at the edge, signal processing, control and communications are wrapped up in a single chip. Which means Product Designers no longer need to rely on a costly applications processor or a microcontroller with additional components.

xcore.ai combines AI acceleration, powerful DSP, connectivity and general-purpose compute in a low eBOM solution - ideal for developers working on smart products that enhance our everyday living.

FEATURE HIGHLIGHTS

The device has two “tiles”. Each tile is a self-contained processor with 512 kByte single cycle SRAM. The tile has a scalar unit (up to 1600MIPS), a vector unit (up to 25,600 MMACS), and a floating point unit (up to 800 MFLOPS); 1 Mbyte tightly coupled SRAM, 3200 MIPS, 1600 MFLOPS, and 51,200 MMACCS across the tiles. The device has three integrated PHYs: a high-speed USB, a MIPI D-PHY receiver, and LPDDR1.

FLEXIBILITY

Supports 1.8V and 3.3V on each bank of I/O, allowing the exact mix of peripheral interfaces and connections for your system. With USB, MIPI RX and a software driven I/O structure supporting I2C, I2S, S/PDIF, SPI, UART, PWM, and many more, the xcore.ai offers a single chip solution (replacing the need for multi-components).

ON-DEVICE INTELLIGENCE

Convolutional (CNN) and Dense (DNN) Neural Network acceleration supports 32-bit 16-bit, 8-bit and 1-bit vector operations. Instructions loading a vector from memory, multiplication and accumulation occur in a single clock cycle (achieving 51.2 GMACC/s peak, and 30GMACC/s sustained 8-bit vector arithmetic).

TOOL CHAIN

Industry standard tools enable accelerated applications. xcore.ai is fully programmable in C and C++, with optimised libraries for rapid prototyping and development. FreeRTOS support and deep learning framework TensorFlow-Lite ensures developers will enjoy an easy familiarity with the programming model.

COMPUTE

With up to 3200MIPS of compute, the fast and predictable xcore.ai can handle the most challenging edge-AI operations. With up to 8 FIR taps (32’bit) per clock cycle and 1 million 512 FFTs per second, it’s ideal for voice and sensor processing applications.
DEVELOPMENT TOOLS

Standard programming tools:
- LLVM Compiler Suite
- GNU Debugger
- Make for building

Bespoke tools include:
- Mapper to link code and eliminate unused code
- Global Optimiser
- Programmer for Flash, OTP and volume programming

TensorFlow Lite for Microcontrollers enables high performance code for immediate compilation / modification to deliver optimised models.

BLOCK DIAGRAM

CROSSOVER PROCESSOR SPECIFICATION

PACKAGE
- 7x7mm, 60-pin QFN 0.4mm pitch
- 14x14mm, 265-pin BGA 0.8mm pitch

COMPUTE
- 16 real-time logical cores across 2 tiles

MEMORY
- 2 x 512KB on-chip SRAM, extendable through an LPDDR1 interface or external flash

CONNECTIVITY
- Up to 128 GPIO defined in software; port sampling rates up to 100MHz with respect to external clock; selectable I/O voltage 1V8-3V3 (package dependent)

AI
- Vector unit with 256bit wide registers; operates in 32/16/8bit integer mode. Binarised neural network (XNOR) support

DSP
- 32x32 bit complex vector arithmetic, 32x32 ->64bit MAC instructions, and single precision floating point

PERIPHERALS
- Built-in physical layers for high-speed USB PHY; Dual-lane MIPI D-PHY receiver; and PLL for application clock generation

SECURITY
- 8 kByte internal OTP

For further information, please visit xmos.ai/xcore-ai/
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