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# A Fast Analytical Model of Fully Associative Caches



# The Cost of Data Movement Depends on Global State and Does Not Compose

```
int N = 1000;
for(int i = 0; i < N; i++) {
    for(int j = 0; j < i; j++) {
        for(int k = 0; k < j; k++) {
            A[i][j] -= A[i][k] * A[j][k];
        }
        A[i][j] /= A[j][j];
    }
    for(int k = 0; k < i; k++) {
        A[i][i] -= A[i][k] * A[i][k];
    }
    A[i][i] = sqrt(A[i][i]);
}
```



percentage of cache misses?

L1 cache **1.6%**

L2 cache **1.4%**

most expensive memory access?

**A[j][k]**

amount of compulsory and capacity misses?

# compulsory misses **31,752**

# capacity misses **10,630,620**

# HayStack Output for Cholesky Factorization

relative number of cache misses (statement)

```
5  for (int i = 0; i < N; i++) {  
6      for (int j = 0; j < i; j++) {  
7          for (int k = 0; k < j; k++) {  
8              A[i][j] -= A[i][k] * A[j][k];
```

---

parameters:

- cache sizes (32k and 512k)
- cacheline size (64B)

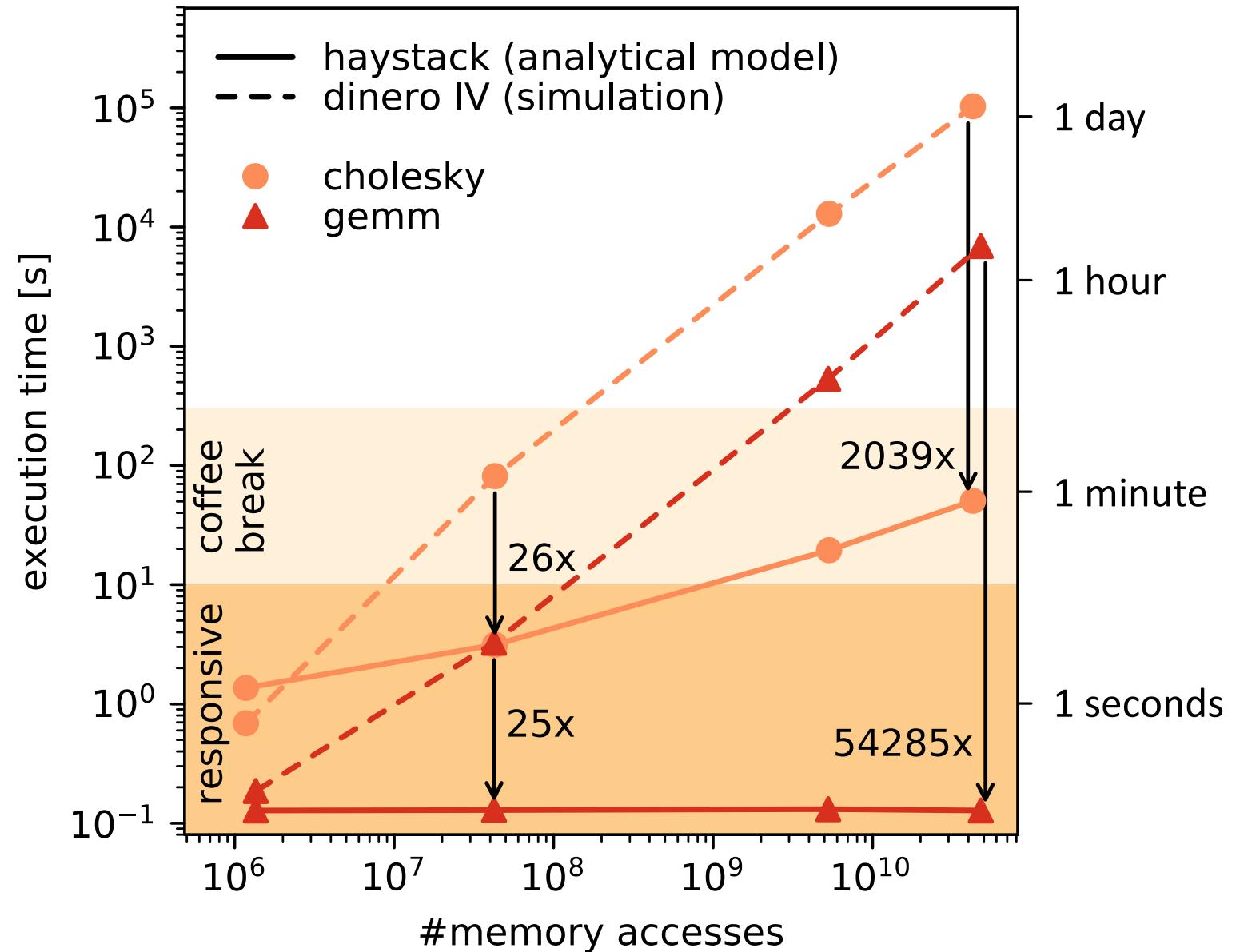
	ref	type	comp[%]	L1[%]	L2[%]	tot[%]	reuse[ln]
A[i][j]	rd		<b>0.00459</b>	0.00000	0.00000	24.86910	8,10
A[i][k]	rd		0.00000	0.00000	0.00000	24.86910	8,10
A[j][k]	rd		0.00000	<b>1.58635</b>	<b>1.38213</b>	24.86910	8,10,13,15
A[i][j]	wr		0.00000	0.00000	0.00000	24.86910	8

---

absolute number of cache misses (program)

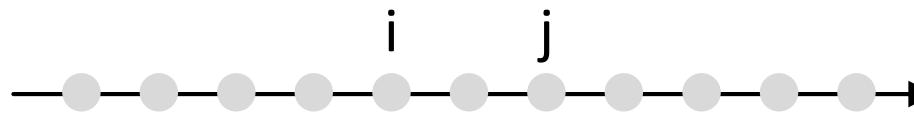
compulsory:	31'752
capacity (L1):	10'630'620
capacity (L2):	9'258'460
total:	668'166'500

# Comparison to Simulation



# Symbolic Counting Avoids the Explicit Enumeration

1d illustration



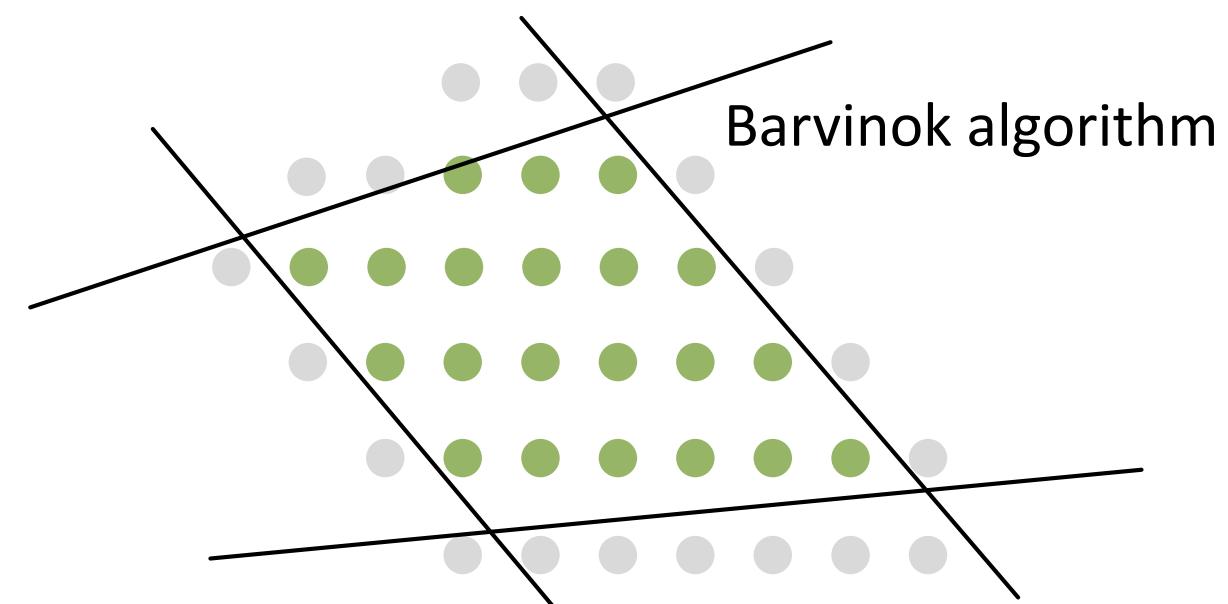
enumeration      #points = 3

symbolic      #points =  $j-i+1 = 3$



enumeration      #points = 9

symbolic      #points =  $j-i+1 = 9$



# The LRU Stack Distance Allows Us to Model Fully Associative Caches

example

```
int sum = 0;  
for(int i=0; i<4; ++i)  
S0:   M[i] = i;  
      for(int j=0; j<4; ++j)  
S1:   sum += M[3-j];
```

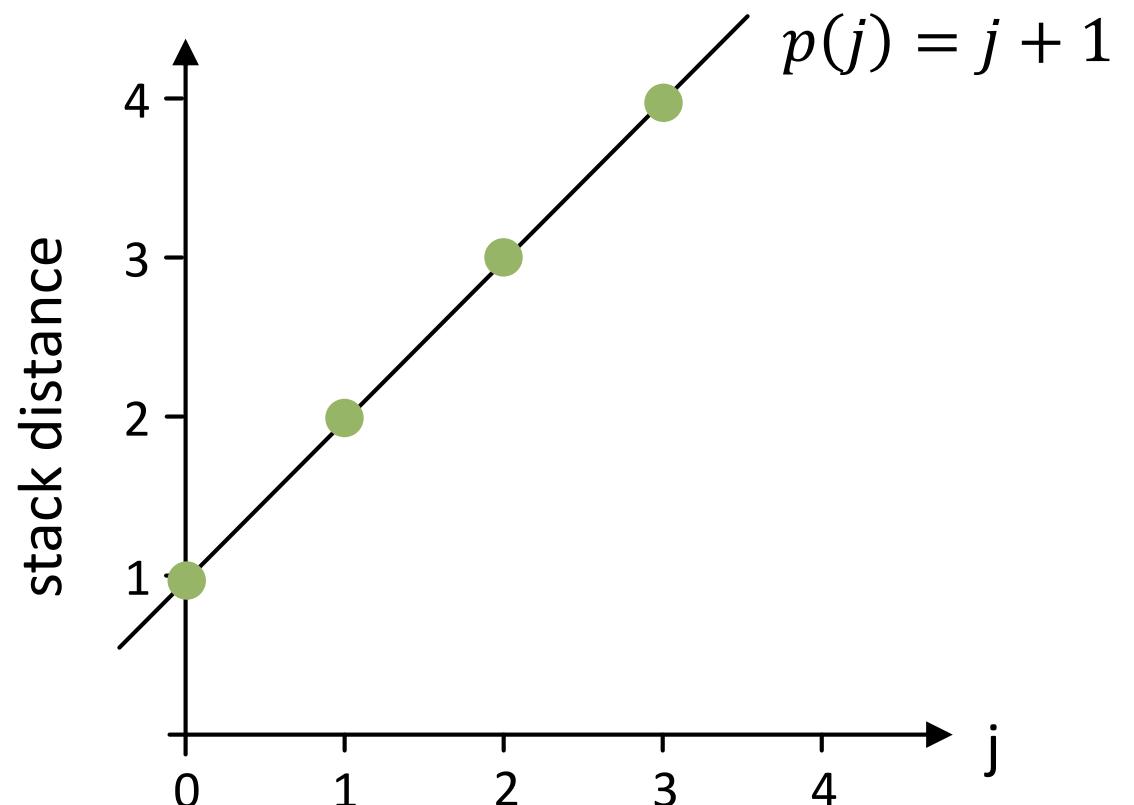
deliberately generic model

# Compute the LRU Stack Distance

example

```
int sum = 0;  
for(int i=0; i<4; ++i)  
S0:   M[i] = i;  
      for(int j=0; j<4; ++j)  
S1:   sum += M[3-j];
```

apply symbolic counting once



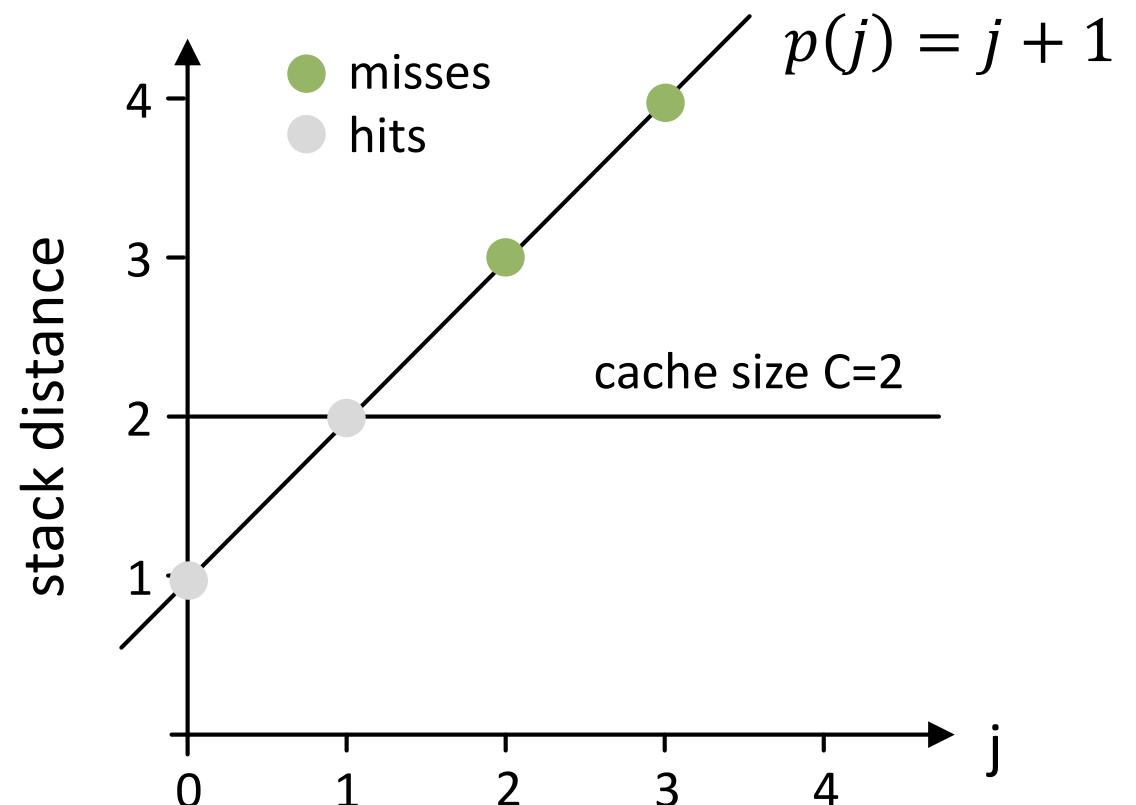
# Count the Cache Misses Given the LRU Stack Distance

example

```
int sum = 0;  
for(int i=0; i<4; ++i)  
S0:   M[i] = i;  
      for(int j=0; j<4; ++j)  
S1:   sum += M[3-j];
```

apply symbolic counting twice

many different pieces and  
sometimes non-affine polynomials



$$|\{j : p(j) > C \wedge 0 \leq j < 4\}| = 2$$

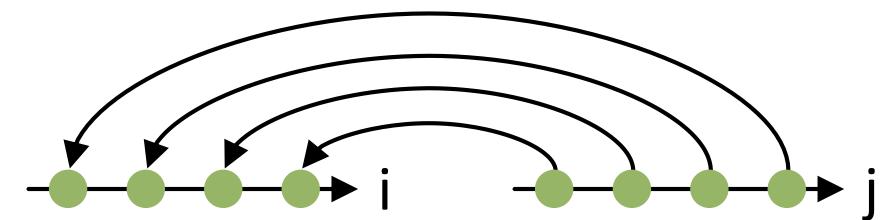
# Some Access Patterns Result in Non-Linearities

example

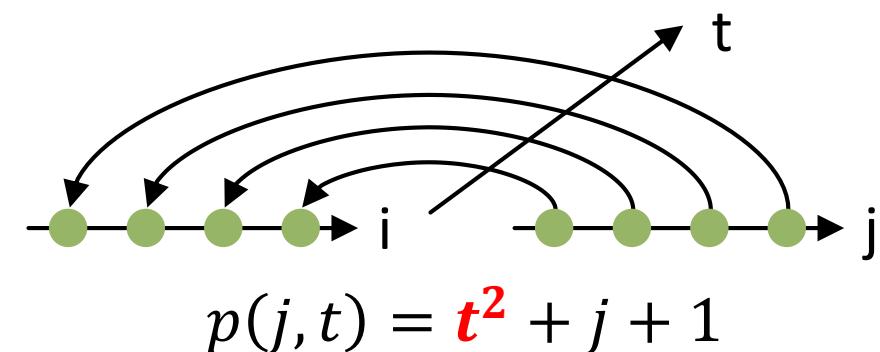
```
int sum = 0;  
for(int t=0; t<4; ++t) {  
    for(int i=0; i<4; ++i)  
S0:      M[i] = i;  
    for(int m=0; m<t; ++m)  
        for(int n=0; n<t; ++n)  
            N[m][n] = t;  
    for(int j=0; j<4; ++j)  
S1:      sum += M[3-j];  
}
```

partial enumeration

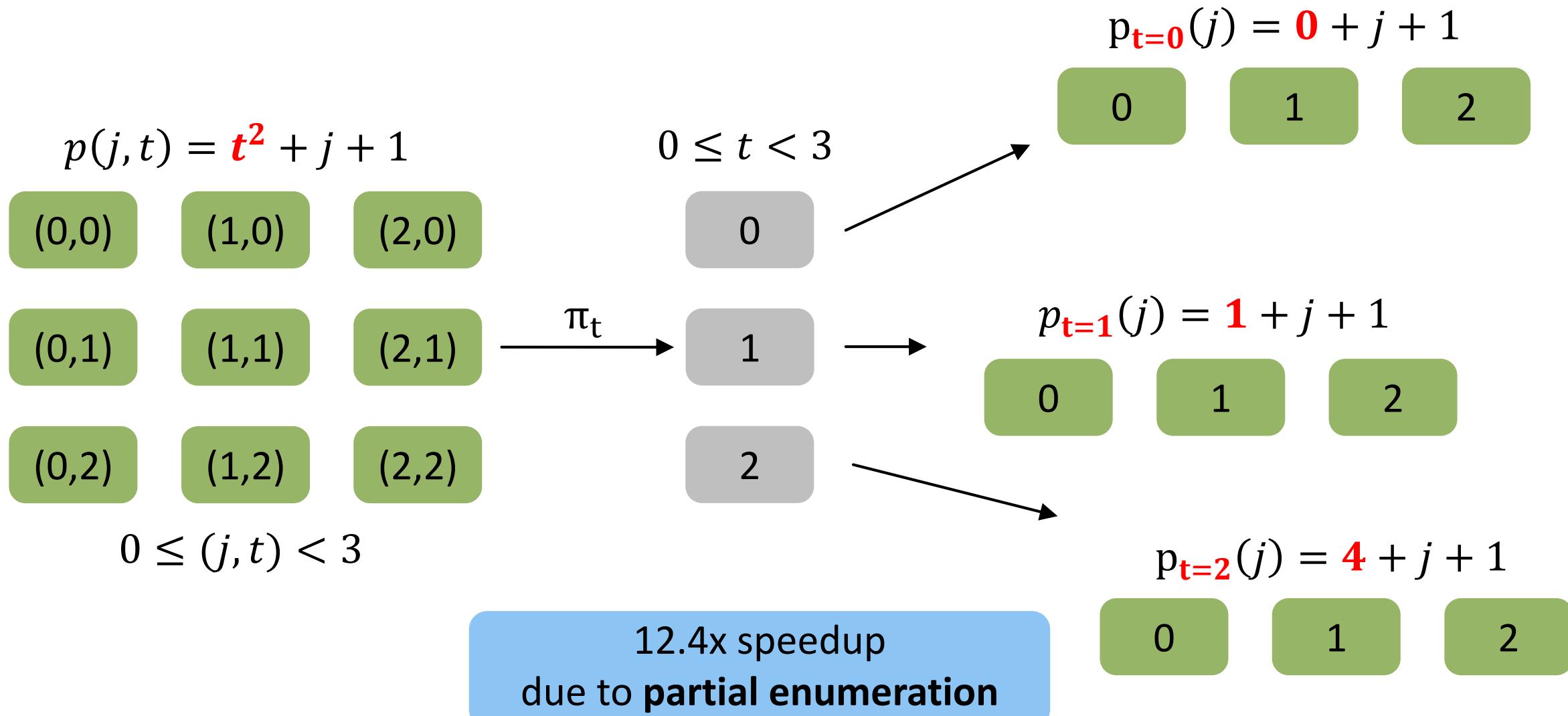
original



additional **time loop**



# Enumerate the Non-Affine Dimensions

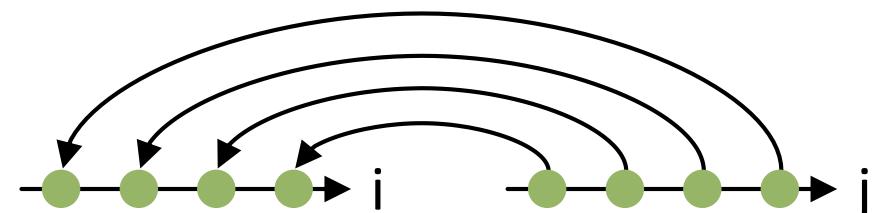


# Modelling Cache Lines Introduces Floor Terms

example

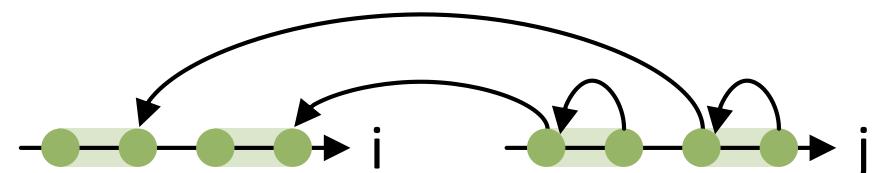
```
int sum = 0;  
for(int i=0; i<4; ++i)  
S0:   M[i] = i;  
      for(int j=0; j<4; ++j)  
S1:   sum += M[3-j];
```

original



$$p(j) = j + 1$$

modelling cache lines



$$p(j) = \frac{j}{2} \left( \left\lfloor \frac{j}{2} \right\rfloor - \left\lfloor \frac{j-1}{2} \right\rfloor \right) + 1$$

equalization and rasterization

## Split the Domain to Eliminate Floor Terms

$$p(j) = \frac{j}{2} \left( \left\lfloor \frac{j}{2} \right\rfloor - \left\lfloor \frac{j-1}{2} \right\rfloor \right) + 1$$

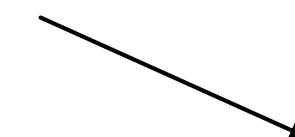


$$0 \leq j < 4$$

$$p(j)_{j \% 2 = 0} = \frac{j}{2} \mathbf{1} + 1$$

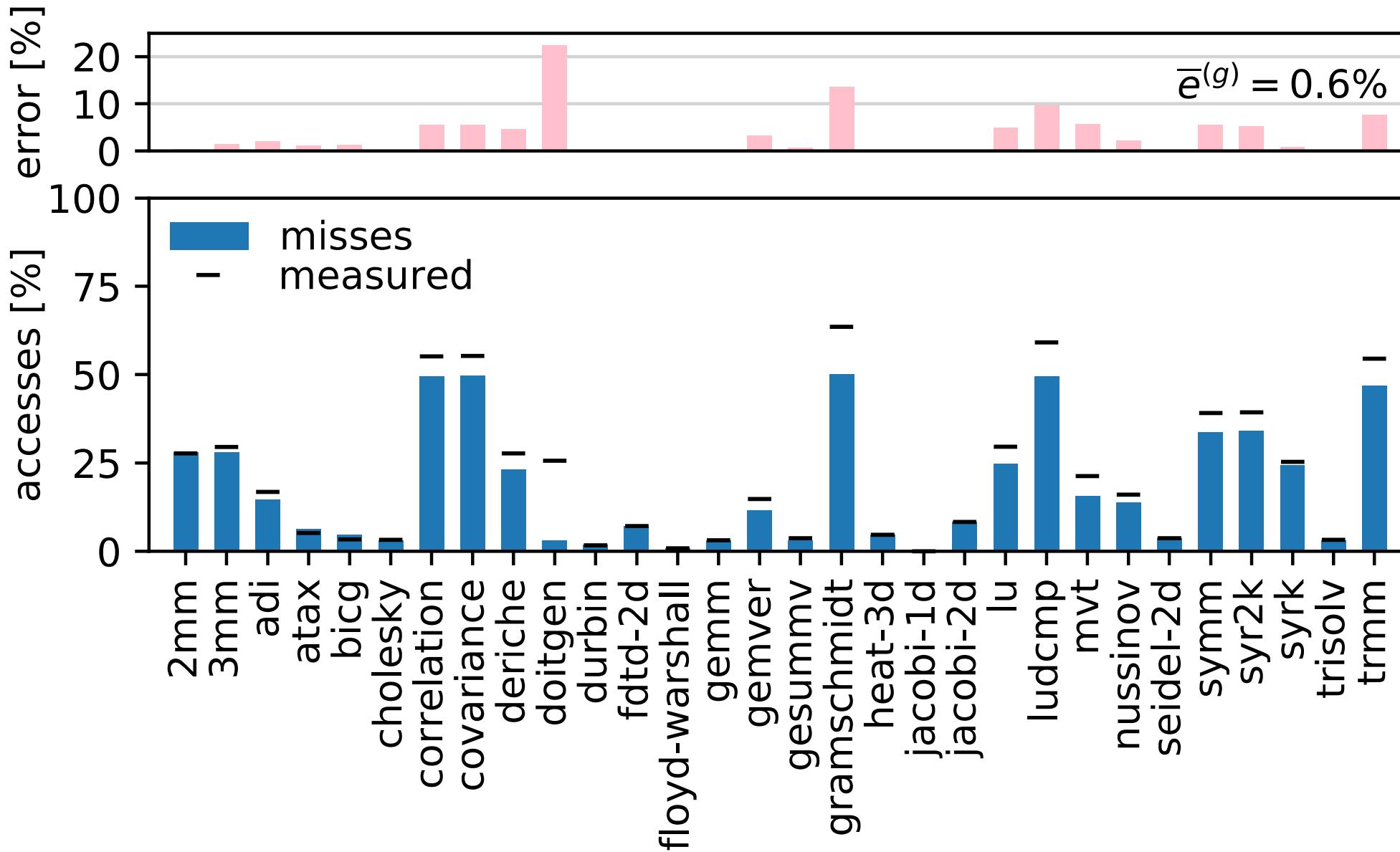


$$p(j)_{j \% 2 > 0} = \frac{j}{2} \mathbf{0} + 1$$



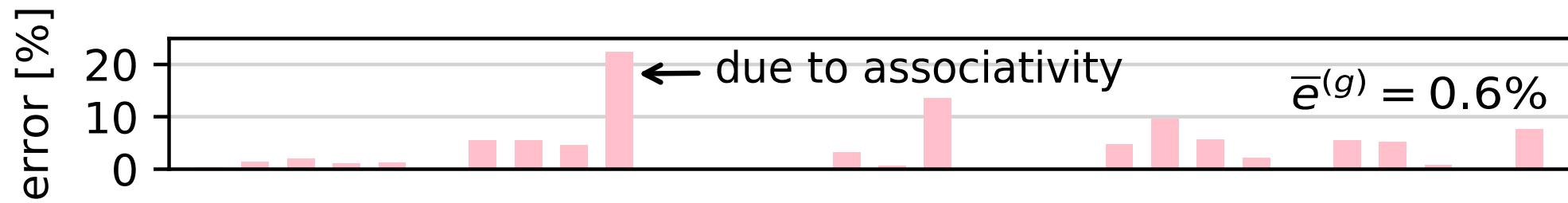
1.9x speedup  
due to **equalization**

# Accuracy of HayStack for the L1 Cache of Our Test System

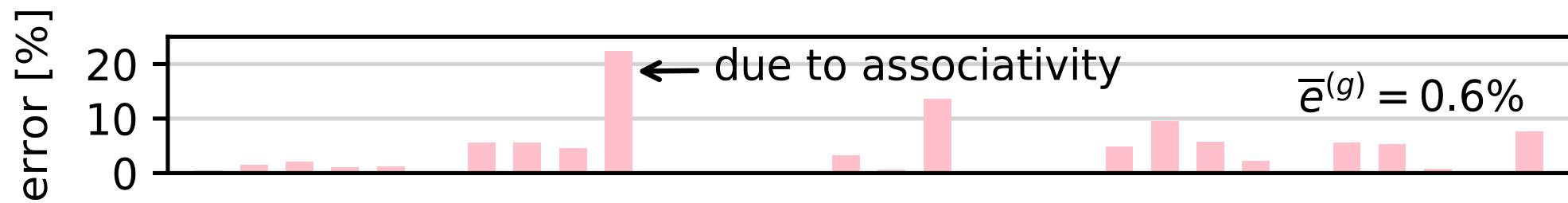


# Error of HayStack Compared to Simulation (Dinero IV)

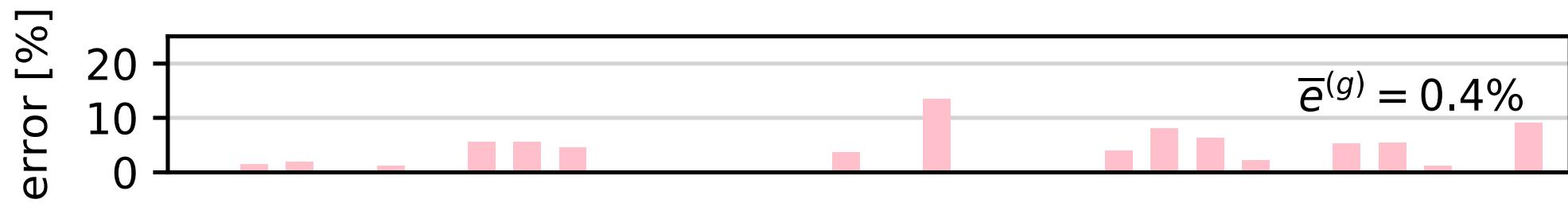
HayStack  
(fully associative)



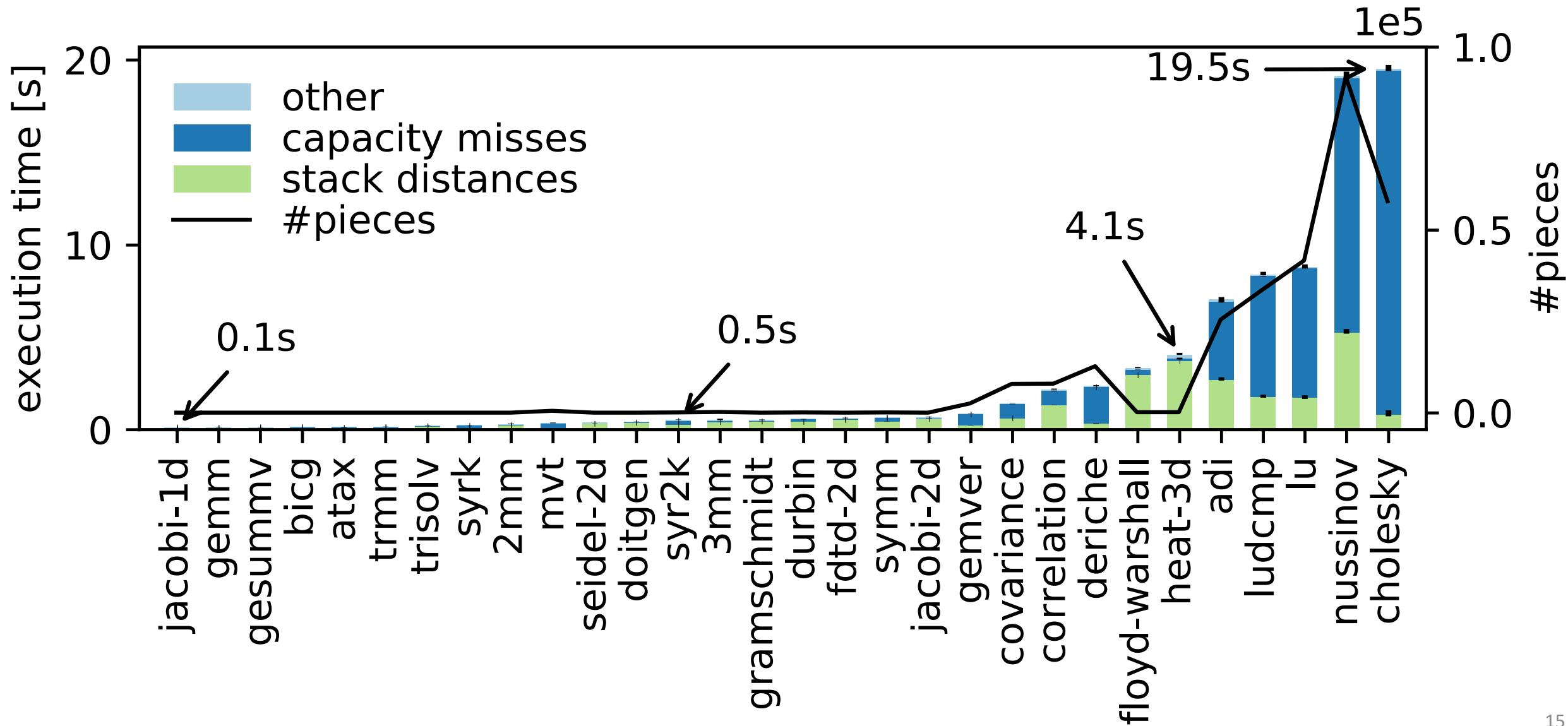
Dinero IV  
(fully associative)



Dinero IV  
(8-way associative)



# Performance of HayStack for the Large Problem Size of PolyBench

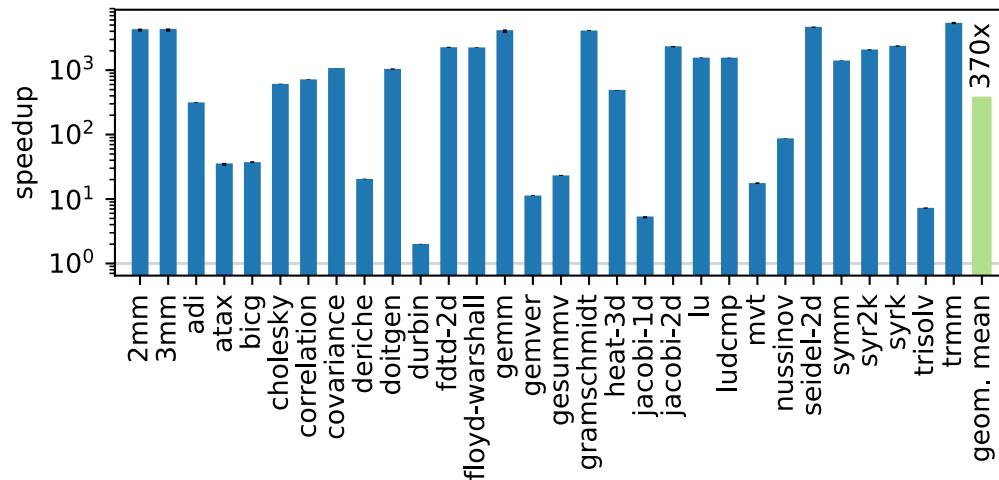


# Performance of HayStack Compared to PolyCache and Dinero

## Dinero IV

- simulator
- setup to simulate full associativity
- problem size dependent performance

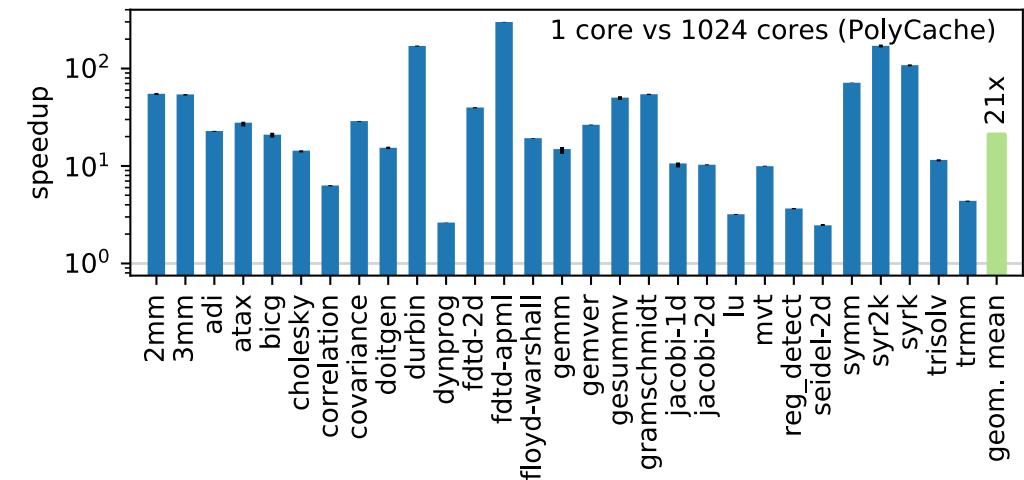
370x speedup



## PolyCache

- analytical cache model
- models set associativity
- one core per cache set

21x speedup



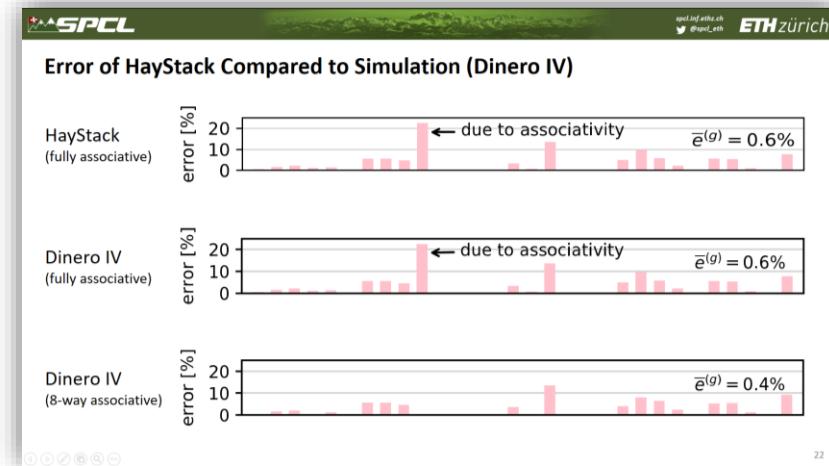
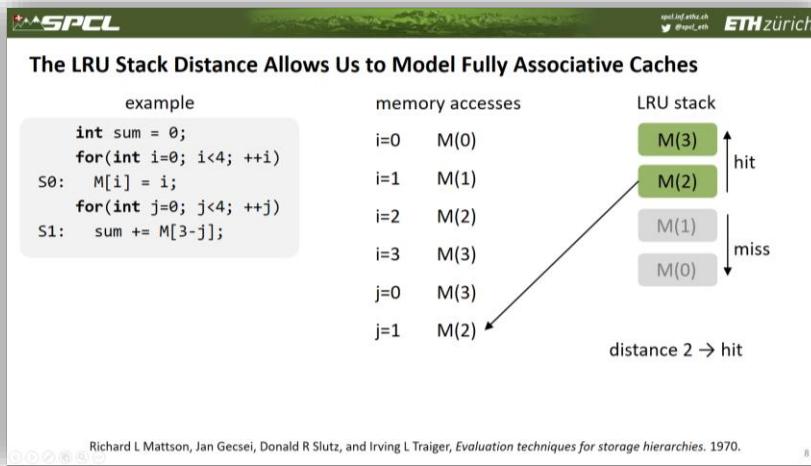
Jan Elder and Mark D. Hill, *Dinero IV Trace-Driven Uniprocessor Cache Simulator*. 2003.

Wenlei Bao, Sriram Krishnamoorthy, Louis-Noel Pouchet, and P Sadayappan, *Analytical modeling of cache behavior for affine programs*. 2017.

# Conclusion

## generic model of fully associative caches

**accurate results compared to measurements**



fast enough to provide **interactive feedback**

excellent performance compared to alternatives

