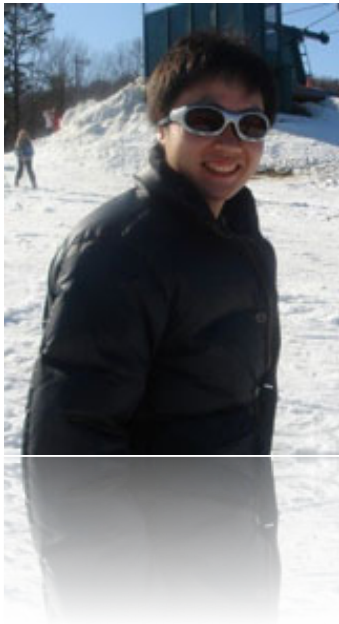


# **Comprehensive Evaluation of High-Speed and Medium-Speed Implementations of Five SHA-3 Finalists Using Xilinx and Altera FPGAs**



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Ekawat Homsirikamol,  
Marcin Rogawski,  
Rabia Shahid,  
Malik Umar Sharif  
George Mason University  
U.S.A.**

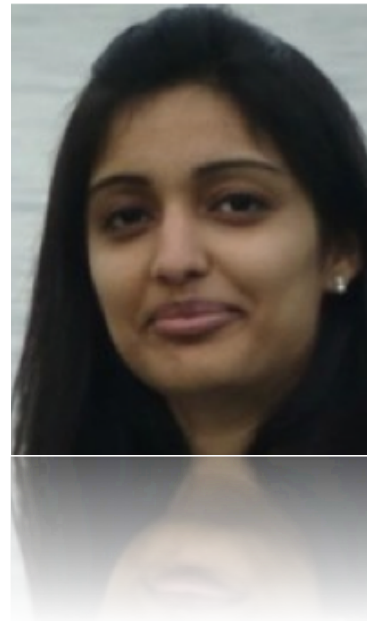
# Co-Authors



**Ekawat "Ice"  
Homsirikamol**



**Marcin  
Rogawski**

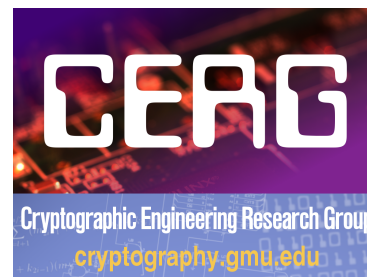


**Rabia  
Shahid**



**Malik Umar  
Sharif**

**PhD Students,  
Members of**



# Focus of This Talk

	FPGA	ASIC
High-speed	<b>GMU</b> Gaj et al.	
Low-area		



# **Motivation & Highlights**

# Advantages of Benchmarking using FPGAs

- **Short development time**
- **Accurate post-place & route results**
- **Existence of tools for optimization of program options**
- **Relatively small number of vendors and device families that dominate the market**



# Highlights

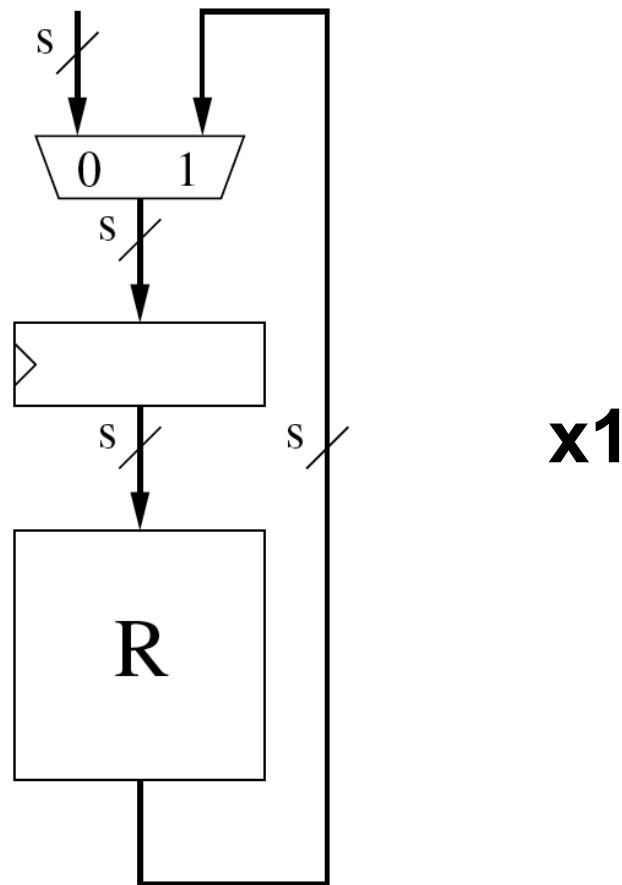
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- **5 to 10 different architectures per algorithm**
- **Two variants, with a 256-bit and a 512-bit output**
- **Realistic FIFO-based interface**
- **Padding unit for arbitrary size messages**
- **VHDL codes portable among FPGA families**
- **Two primary designers**
- **600+ results for 4 modern FPGA families**
- **Result replication scripts**
- **All source codes available for public scrutiny**



**Investigated  
Hardware  
Architecture**

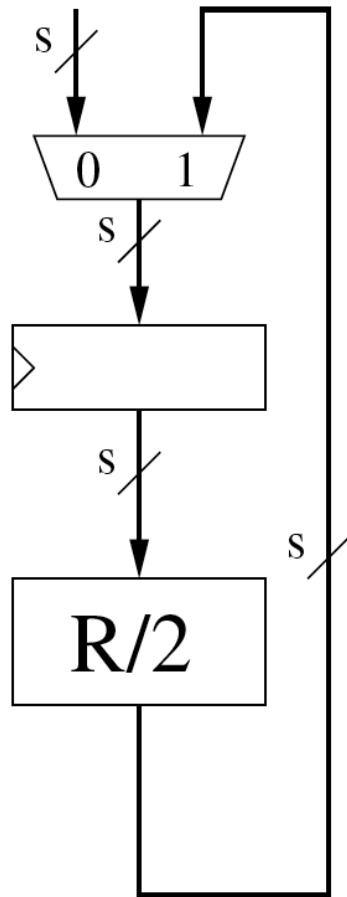
# Basic Iterative Architecture



*Currently, most common architecture used to implement SHA-1, SHA-2, and many other hash functions.*

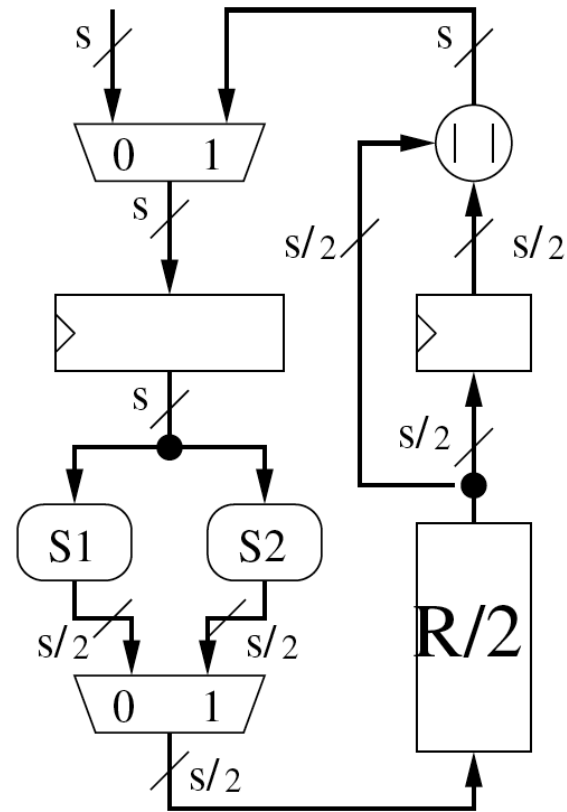


# Folded Architectures



**/2(h)**

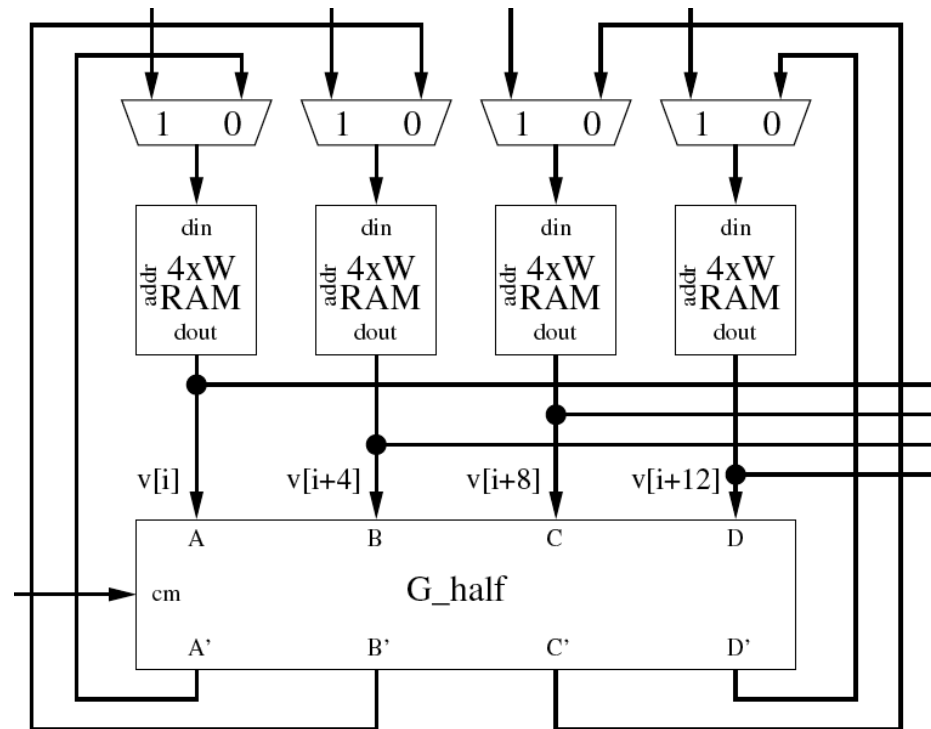
**Folded Horizontally**



**/2(v)**

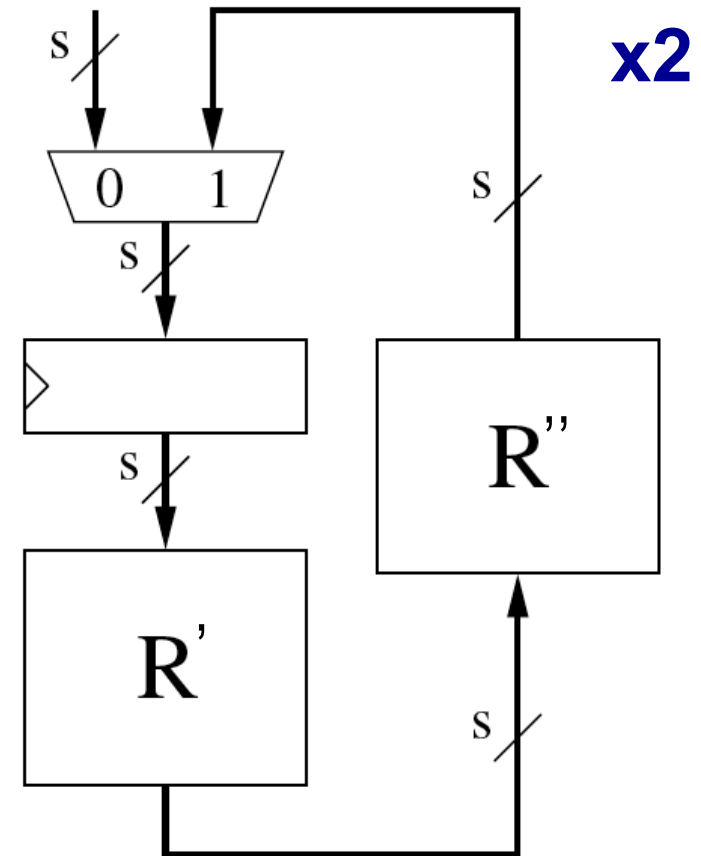
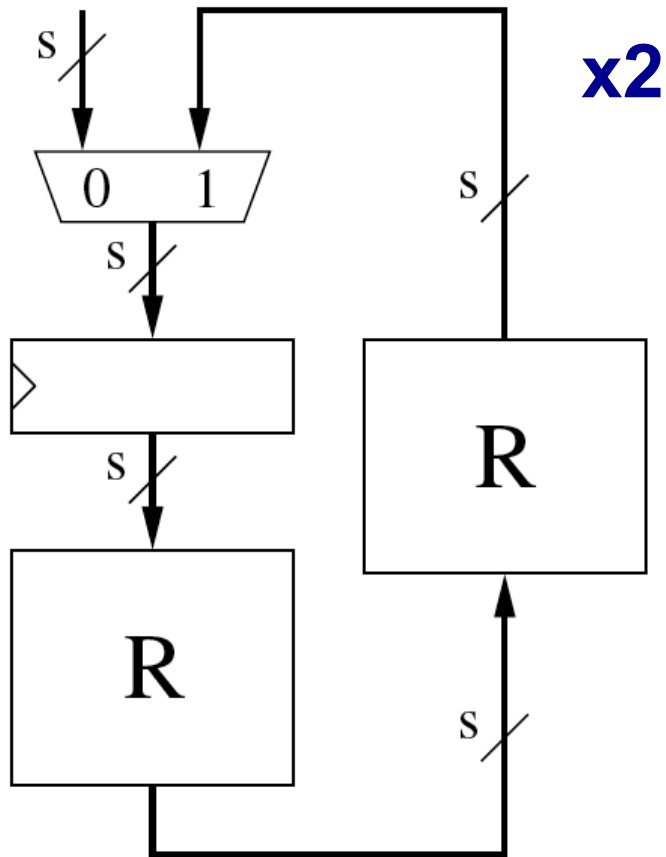
**Folded Vertically**

# Folded Architectures with the State Kept in Memory



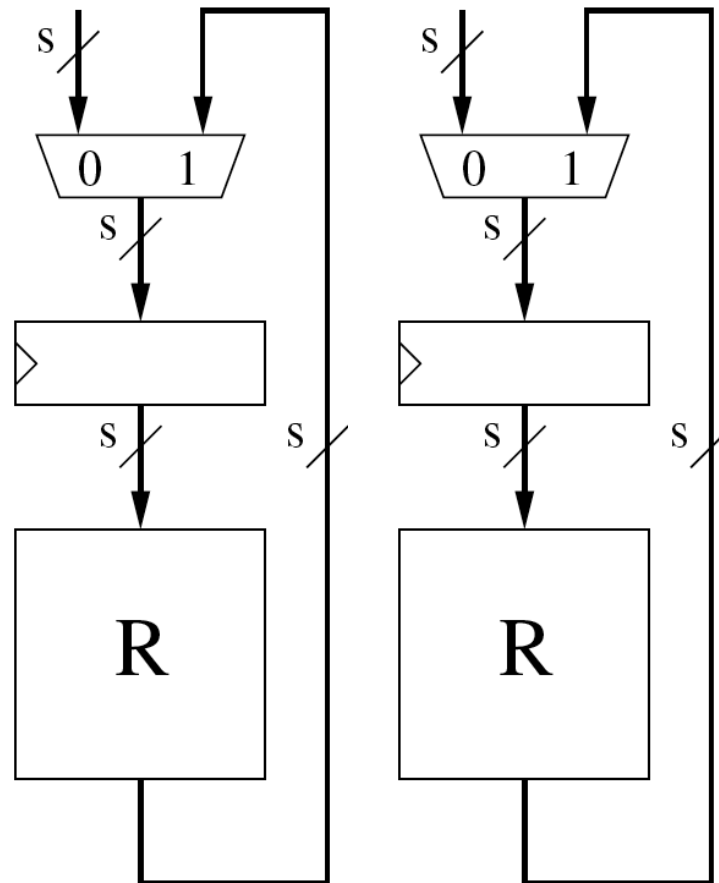
$/4(h)/4(v)-m$

# Unrolled Architectures

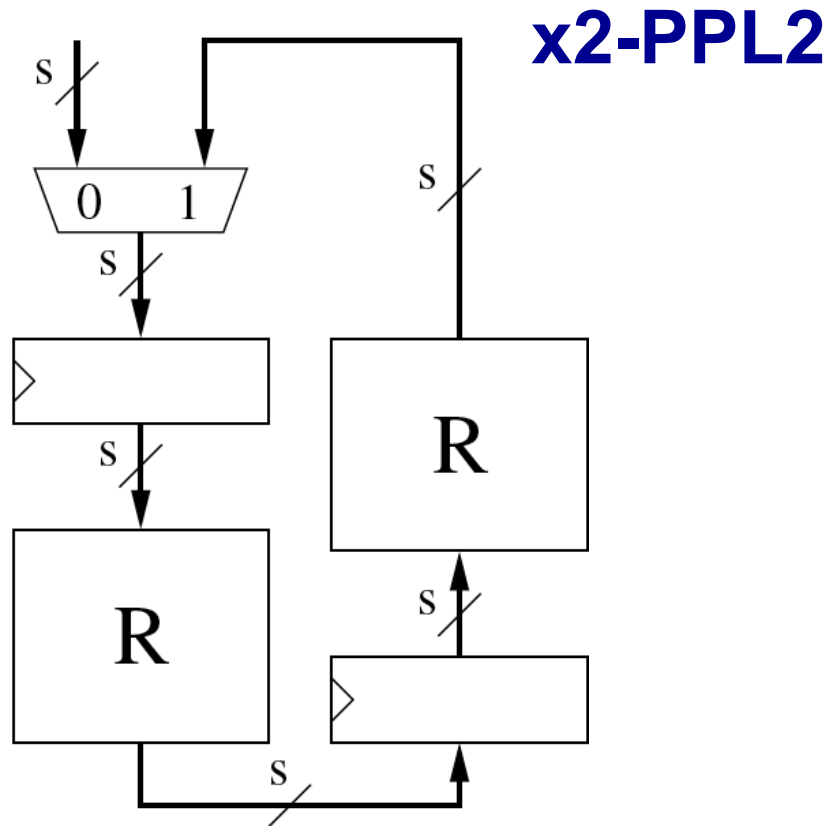


# Multi-Unit Architecture

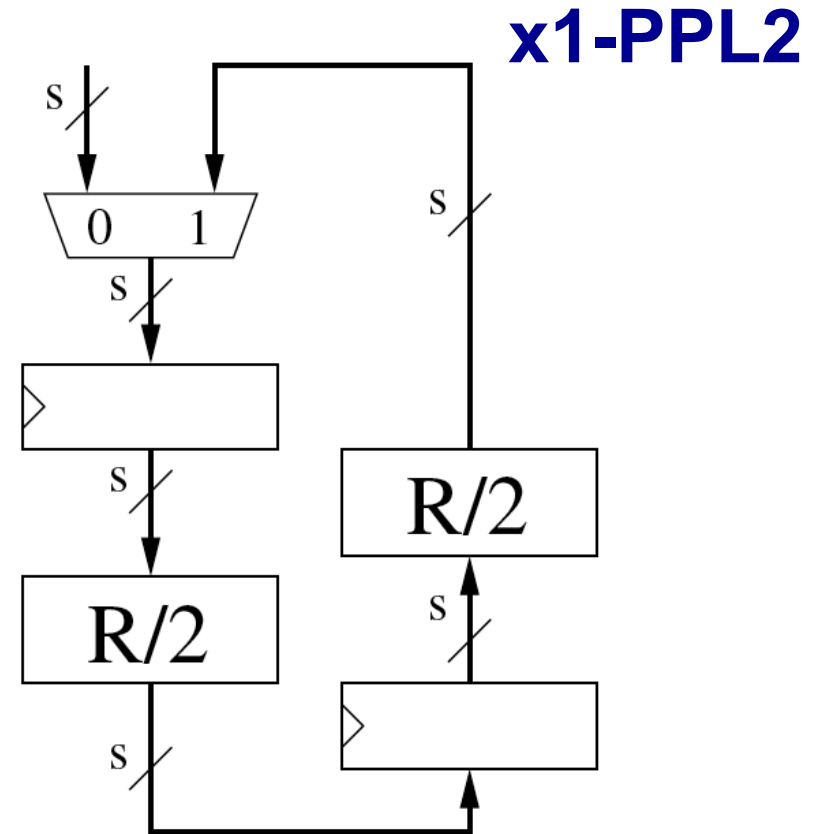
MU2



# Pipelined Architectures



Unrolled architecture with  
2 Pipeline Stages



Basic architecture with  
2 Pipeline Stages

# FPGA Families

# FPGA Families

- two major vendors: Altera and Xilinx (~90% of the market)
- two most recent high-performance families

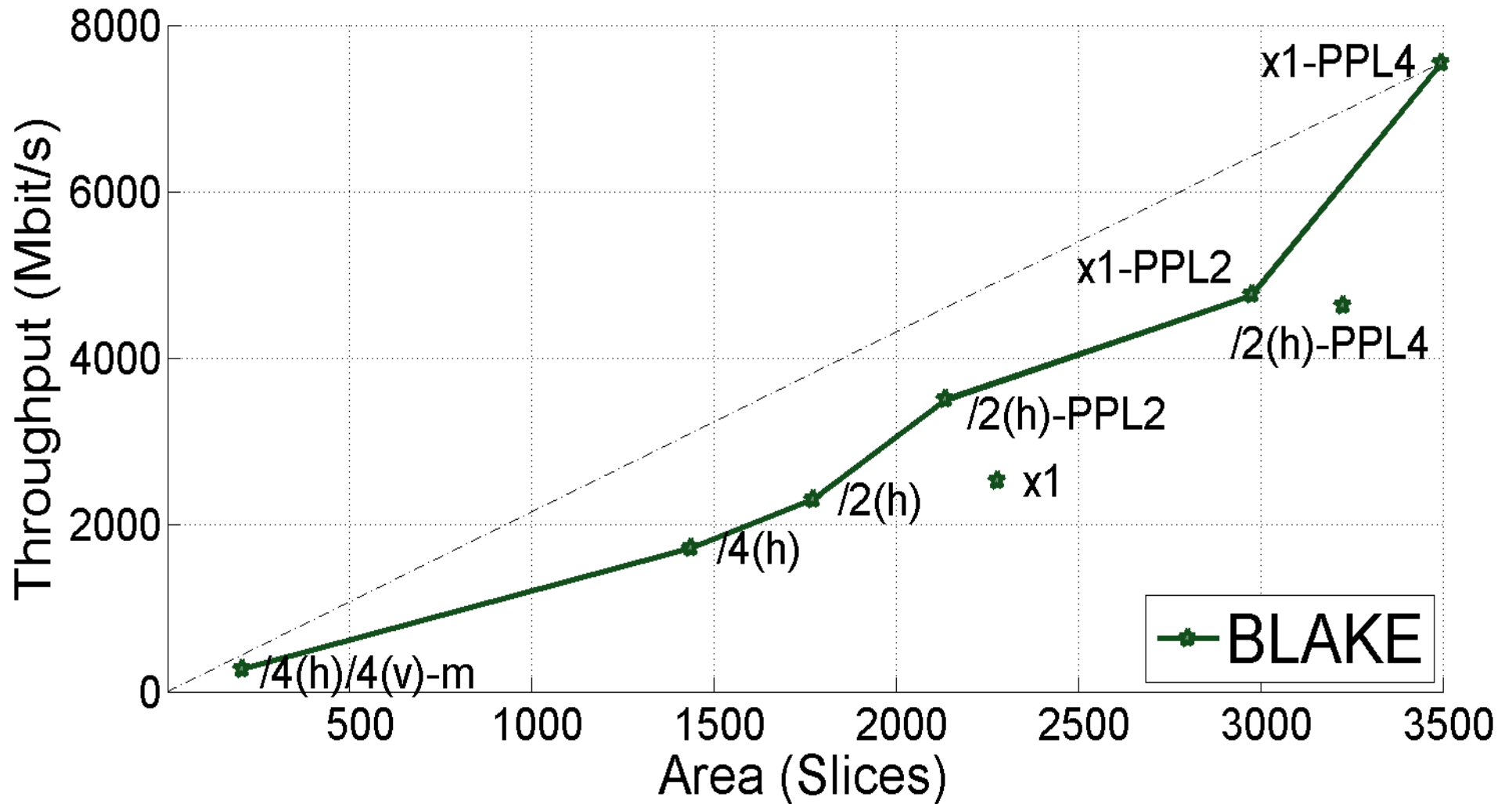
	Altera		Xilinx	
Technology	Low-cost	High-performance	Low-cost	High-performance
90 nm	Cyclone II	Stratix II	Spartan 3	Virtex 4
65 nm	Cyclone III	Stratix III		Virtex 5
40-60 nm	Cyclone IV	Stratix IV	Spartan 6	Virtex 6



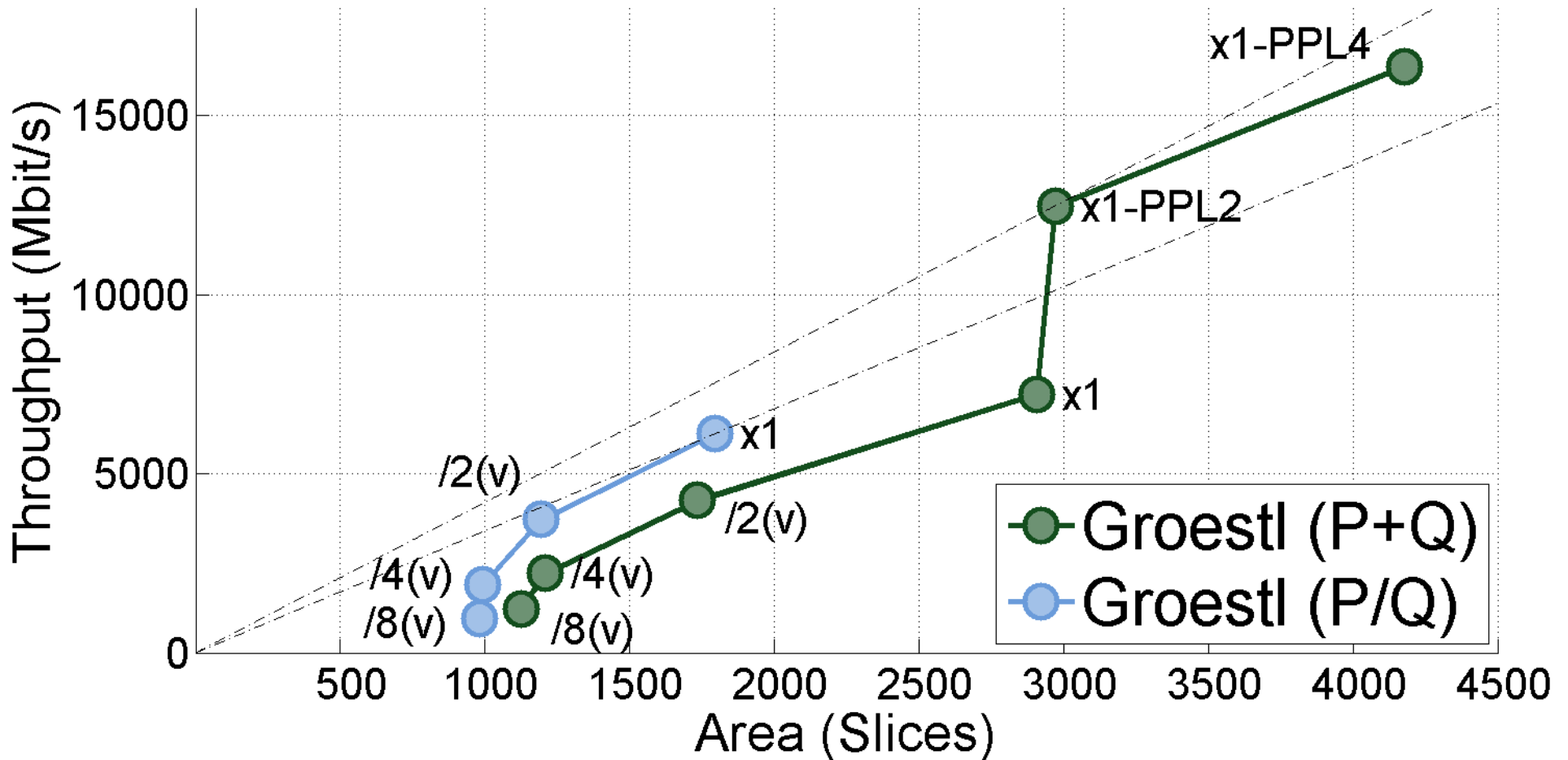
**Results for Altera &  
Xilinx FPGAs**



# BLAKE-256 in Virtex 5



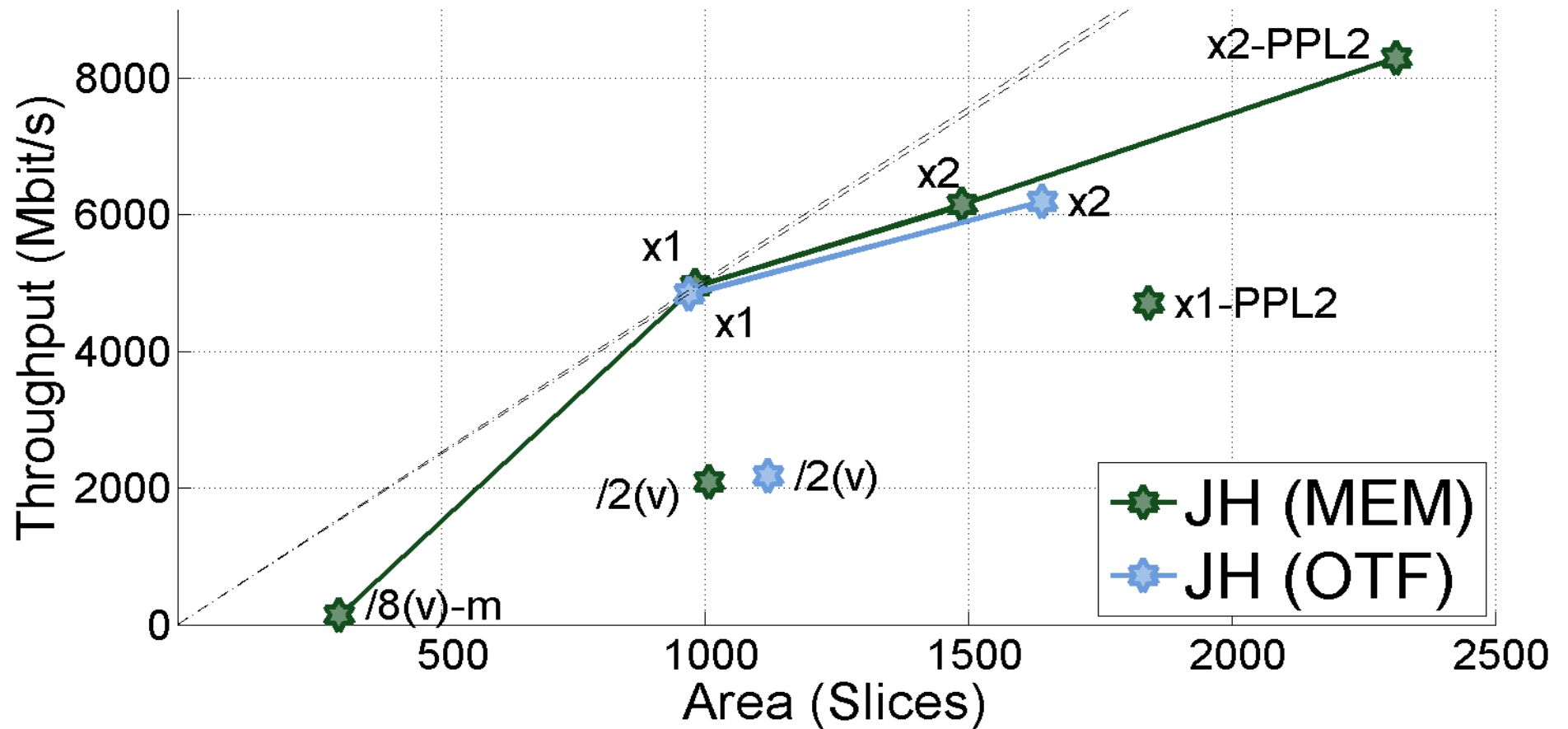
# Groestl-256 in Virtex 5



Groestl P+Q – parallel architecture; two independent units for P and Q

Groestl P/Q – quasi-pipelined architecture; one unit shared between P and Q

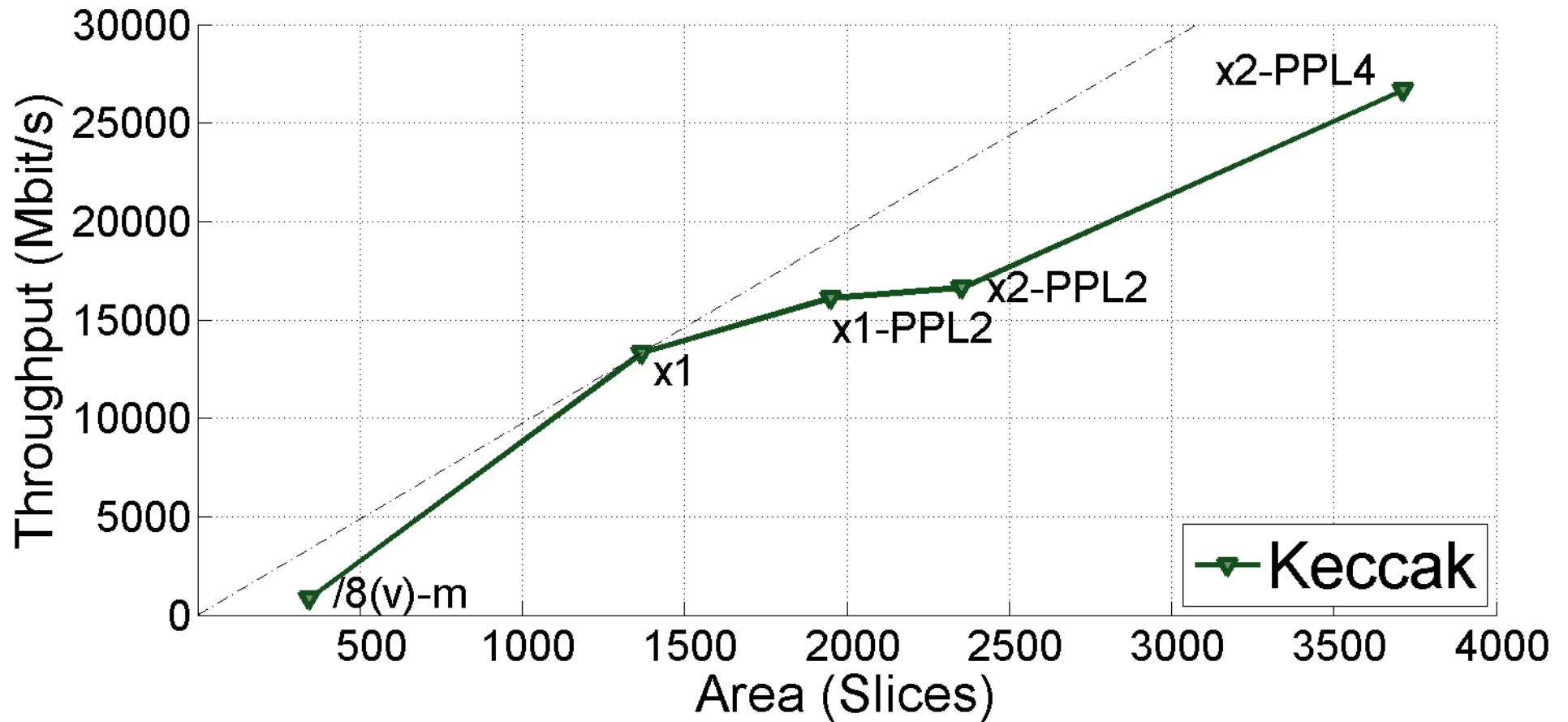
# JH-256 in Virtex 5



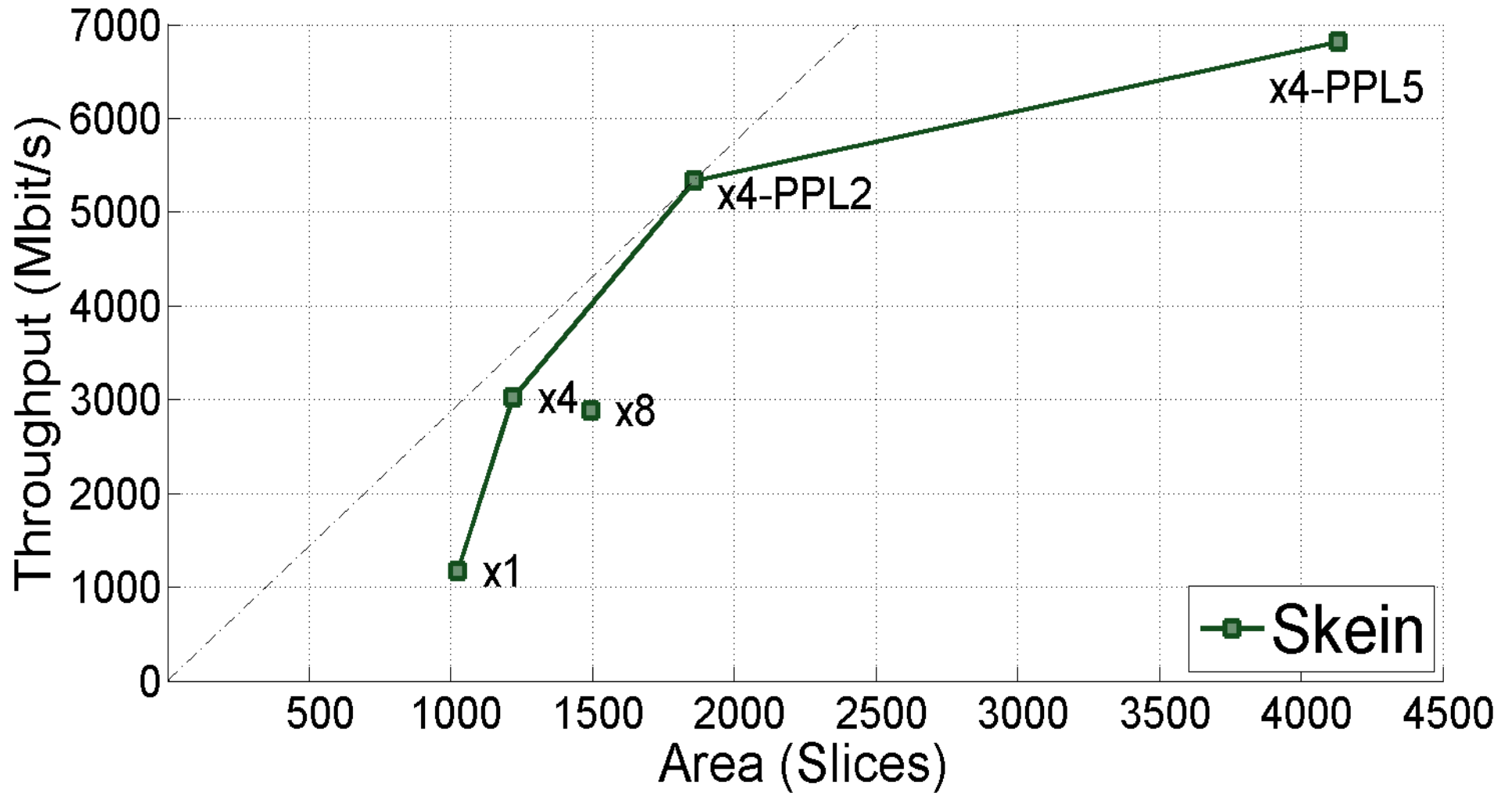
JH MEM – round constants stored in memory

JH OTF – round constants computed on-the-fly

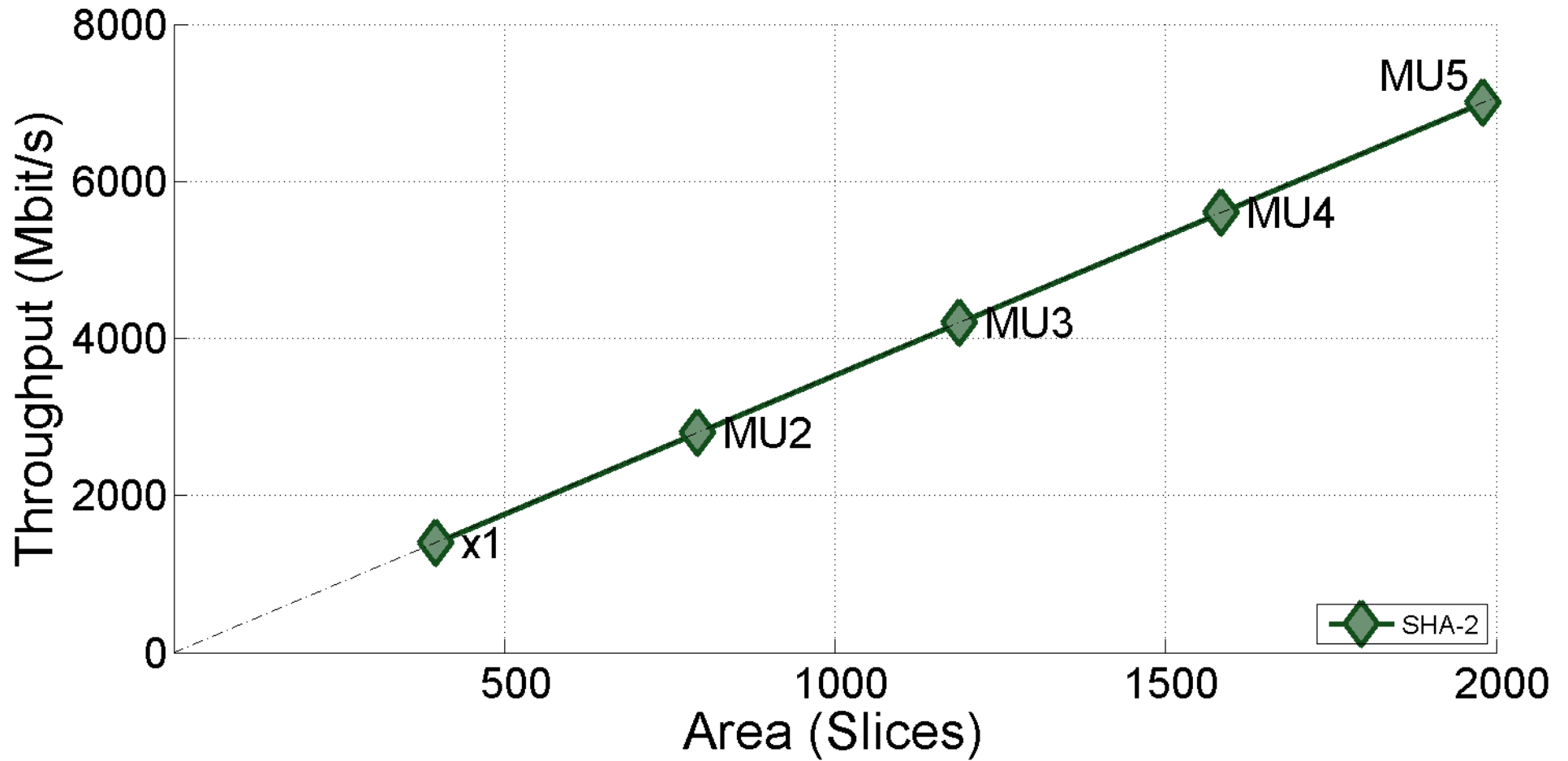
# Keccak-256 in Virtex 5



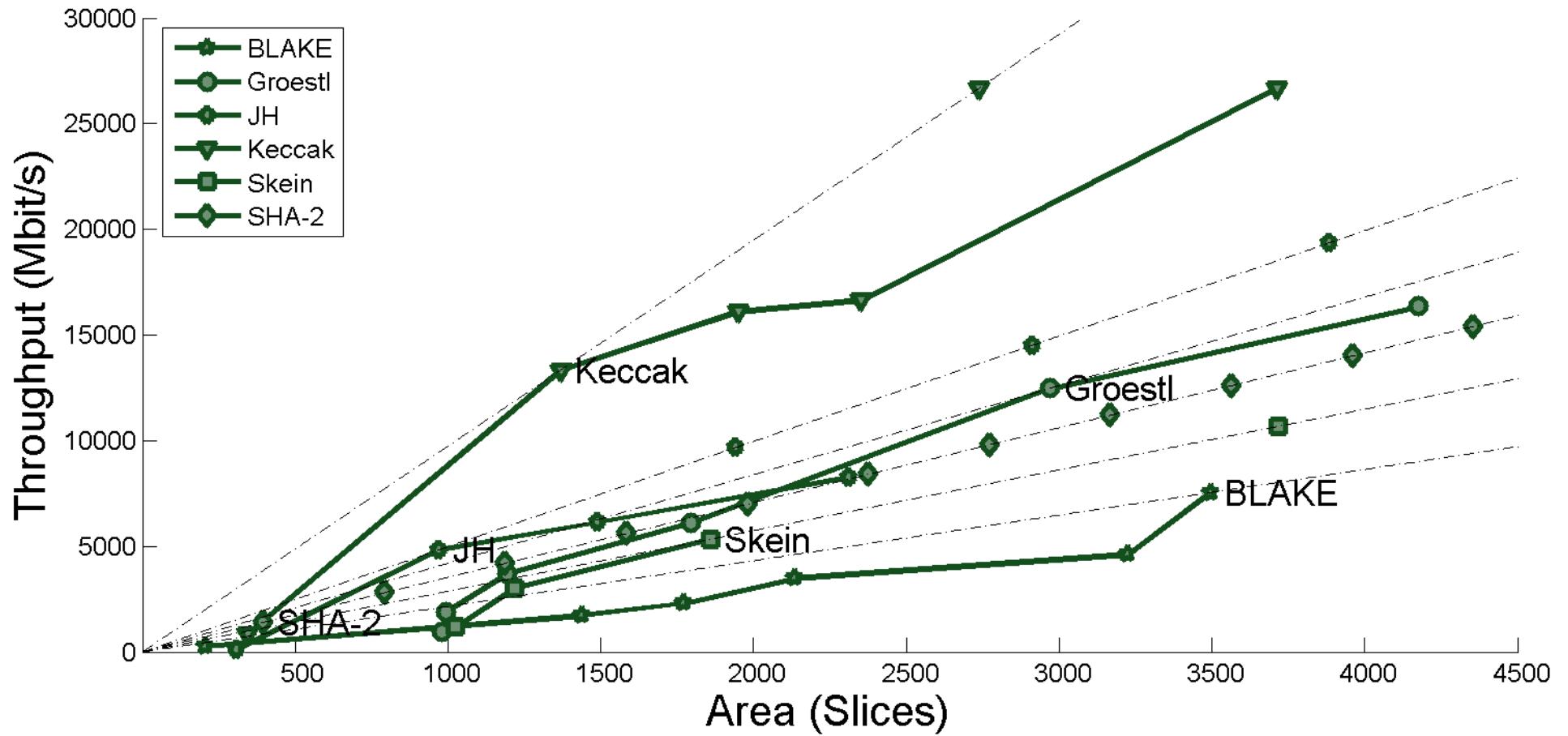
# Skein-256 in Virtex 5



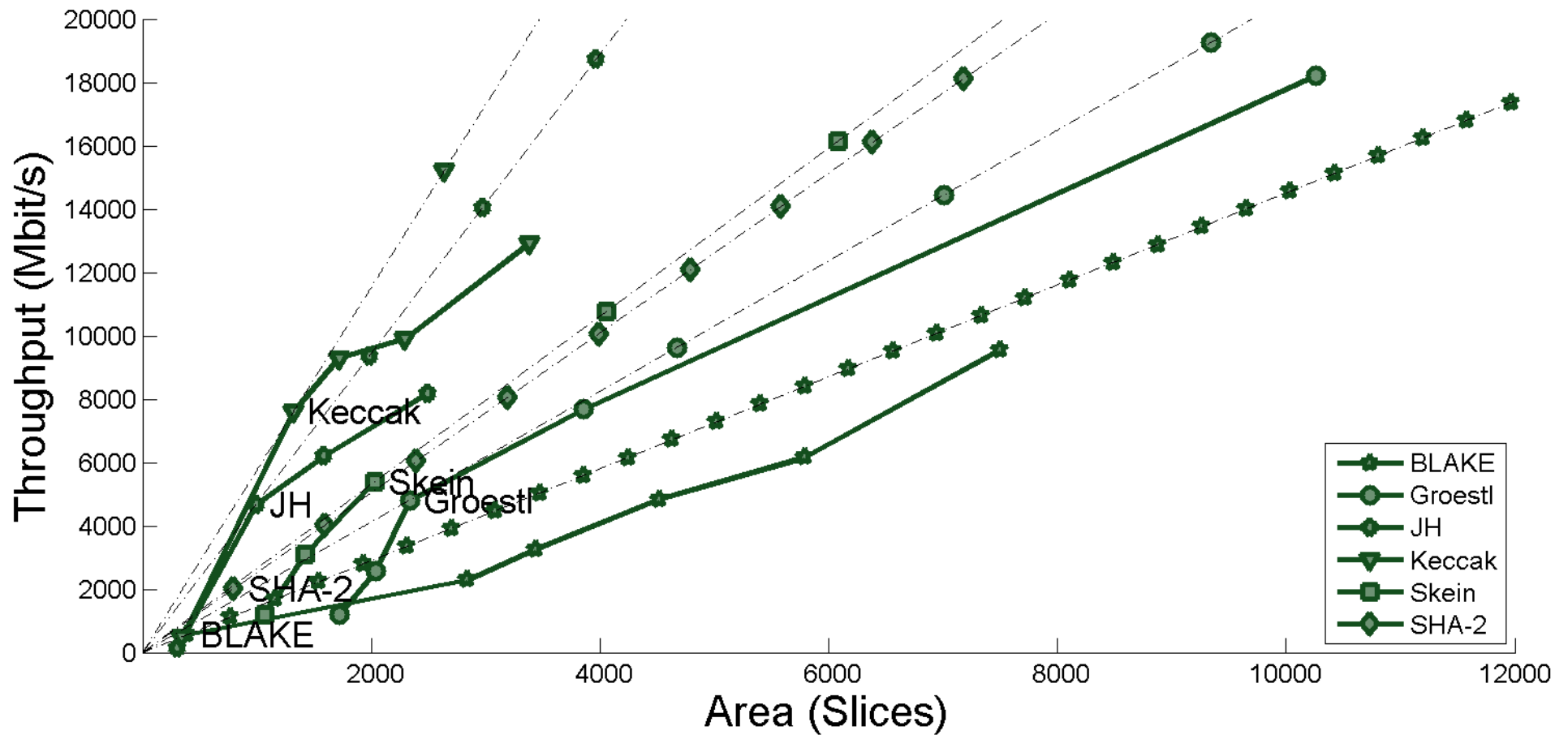
# SHA-256 in Virtex 5



# 256-bit variants in Virtex 5

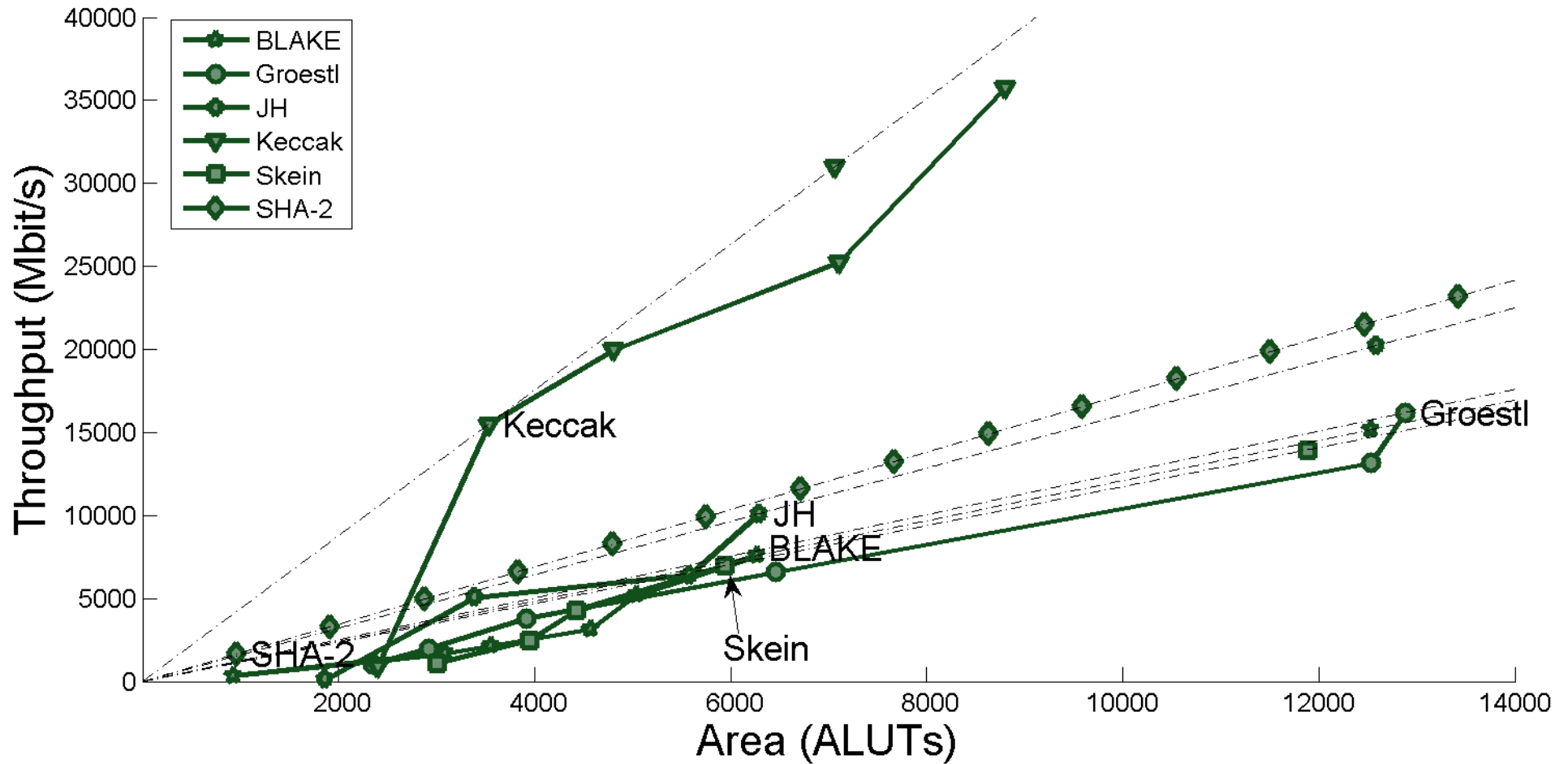


# 512-bit variants in Virtex 5

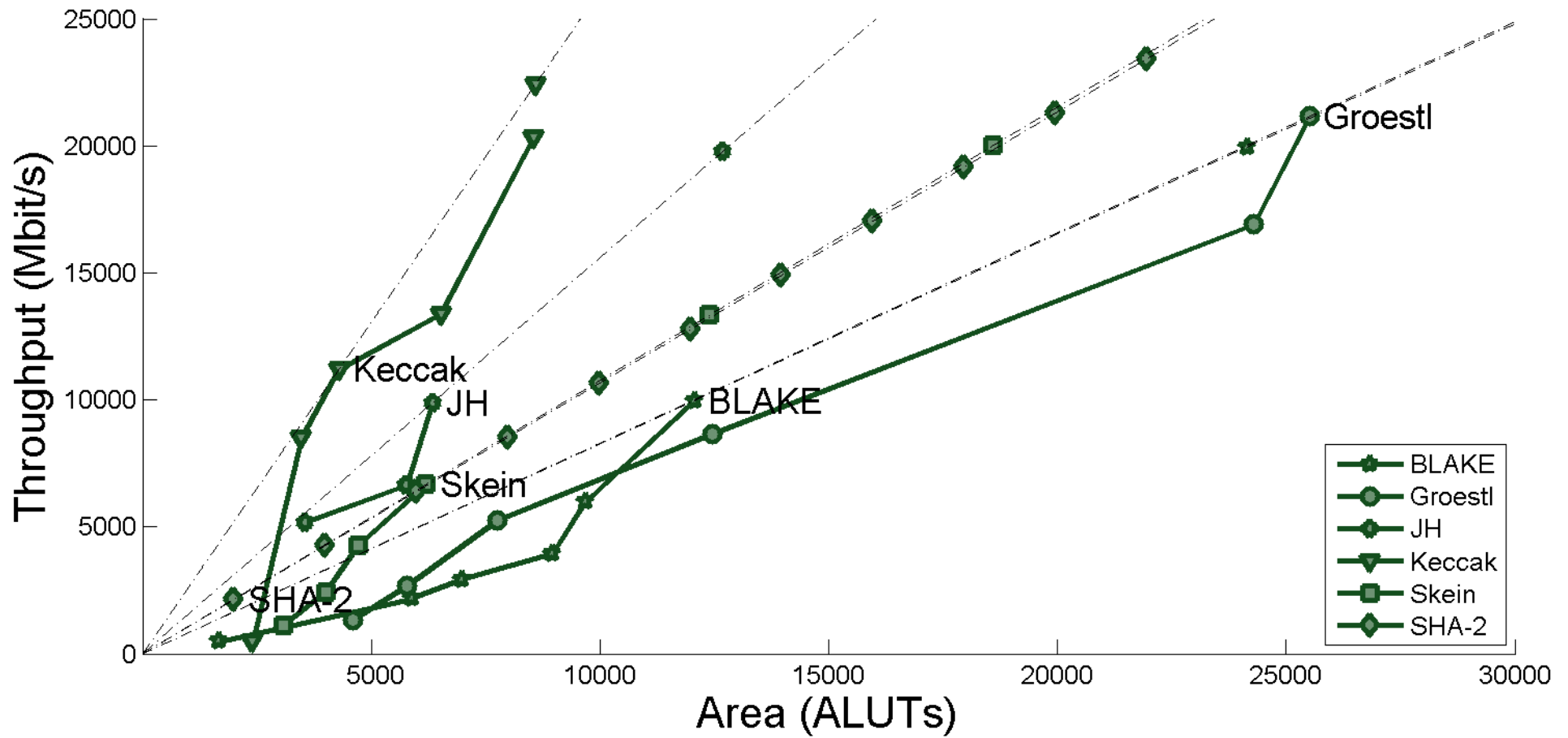




# 256-bit variants in Stratix III



# 512-bit variants in Stratix III



# Flexibility of SHA-3 Finalists

Algorithm	Iterative	Folded			Pipelined			Efficient Unrolled
		Horizontally	Vertically	Mixed	Unrolled	Basic	Folded	
BLAKE	x1	/2(h), /4(h)		/4(h)/4(v)- m*		x1-PPL2, x1-PPL4	/2(h)- PPL2, /2(h)- PPL4	
Groestl	x1*		/2(v), /4(v), /8(v)			x1-PPL2, x1-PPL7		
JH	x1*		/2(v)	/8(v)-m	x2-PPL2			
Keccak	x1*			/8(v)-m		x1-PPL2		
Skein	x1				x4-PPL2, x4-PPL5			x4*

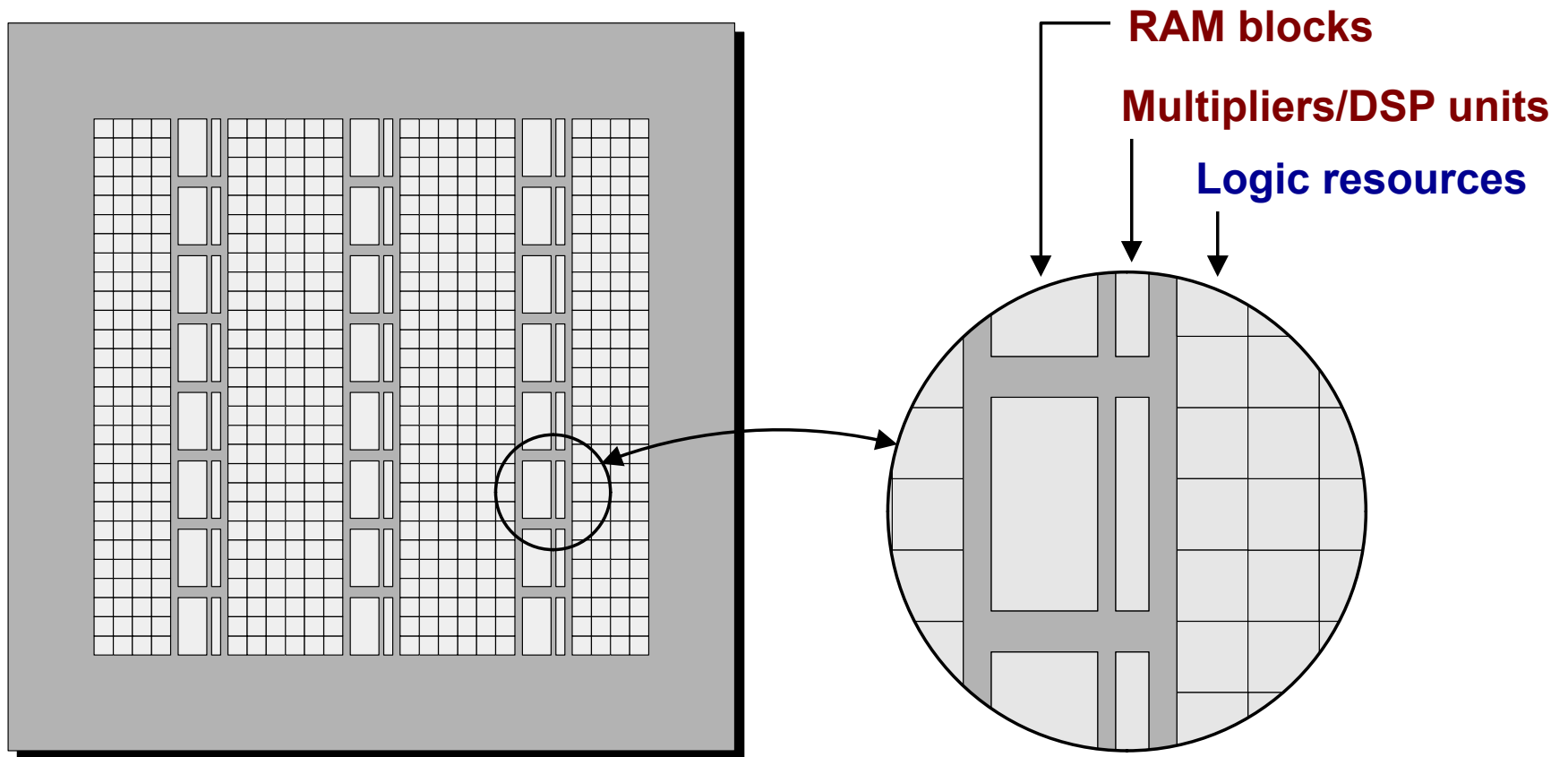
**ARCH\_SYMBOL\*** - the best non-pipelined architecture

**BLAKE** – most flexible, Keccak, JH – least flexible



# **Architectures Based on Embedded Resources**

# Implementations Based on the Use of Embedded Resources in FPGAs

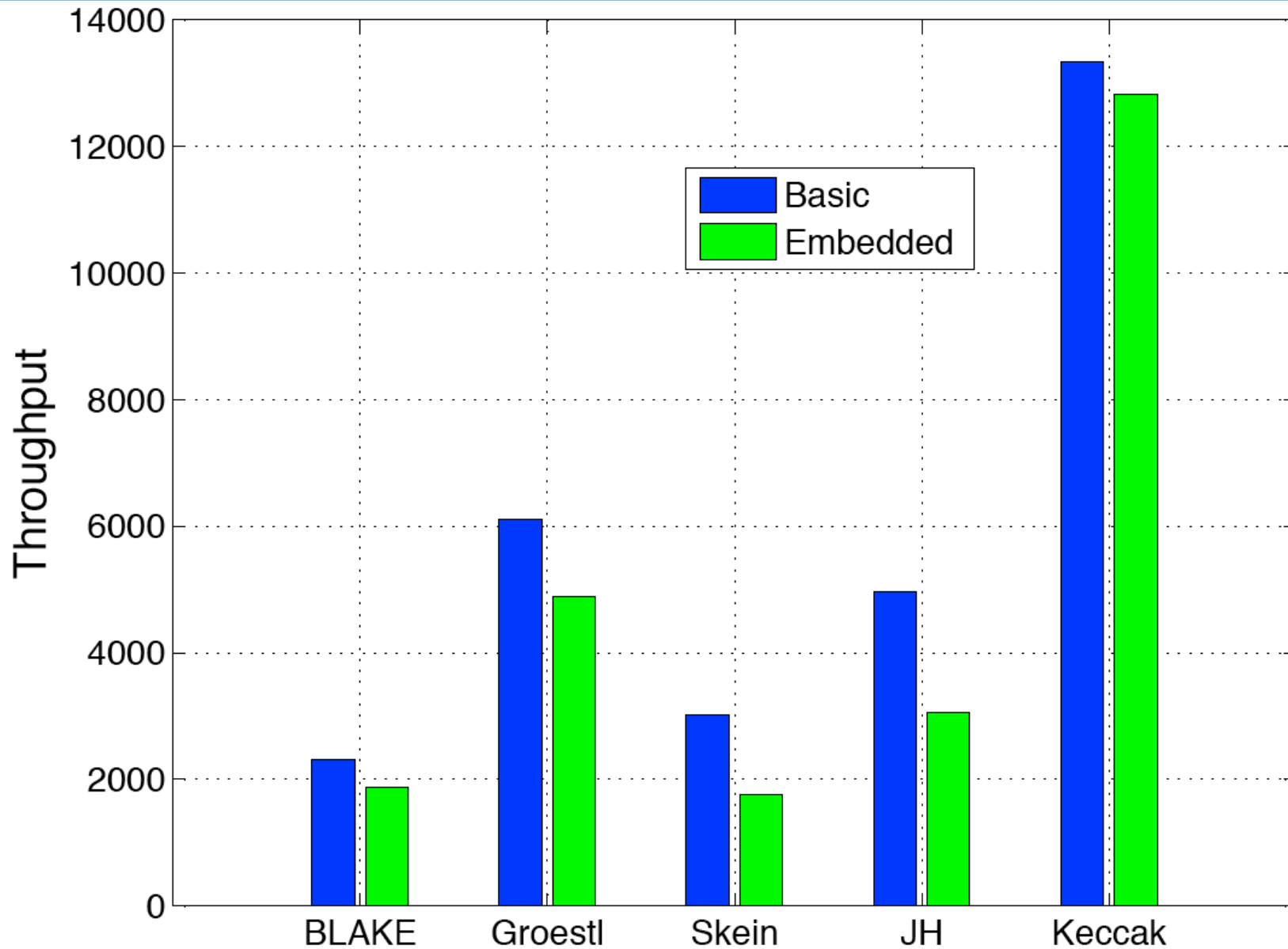


**(#Logic resources, #Multipliers/DSP units, #RAM\_blocks)**

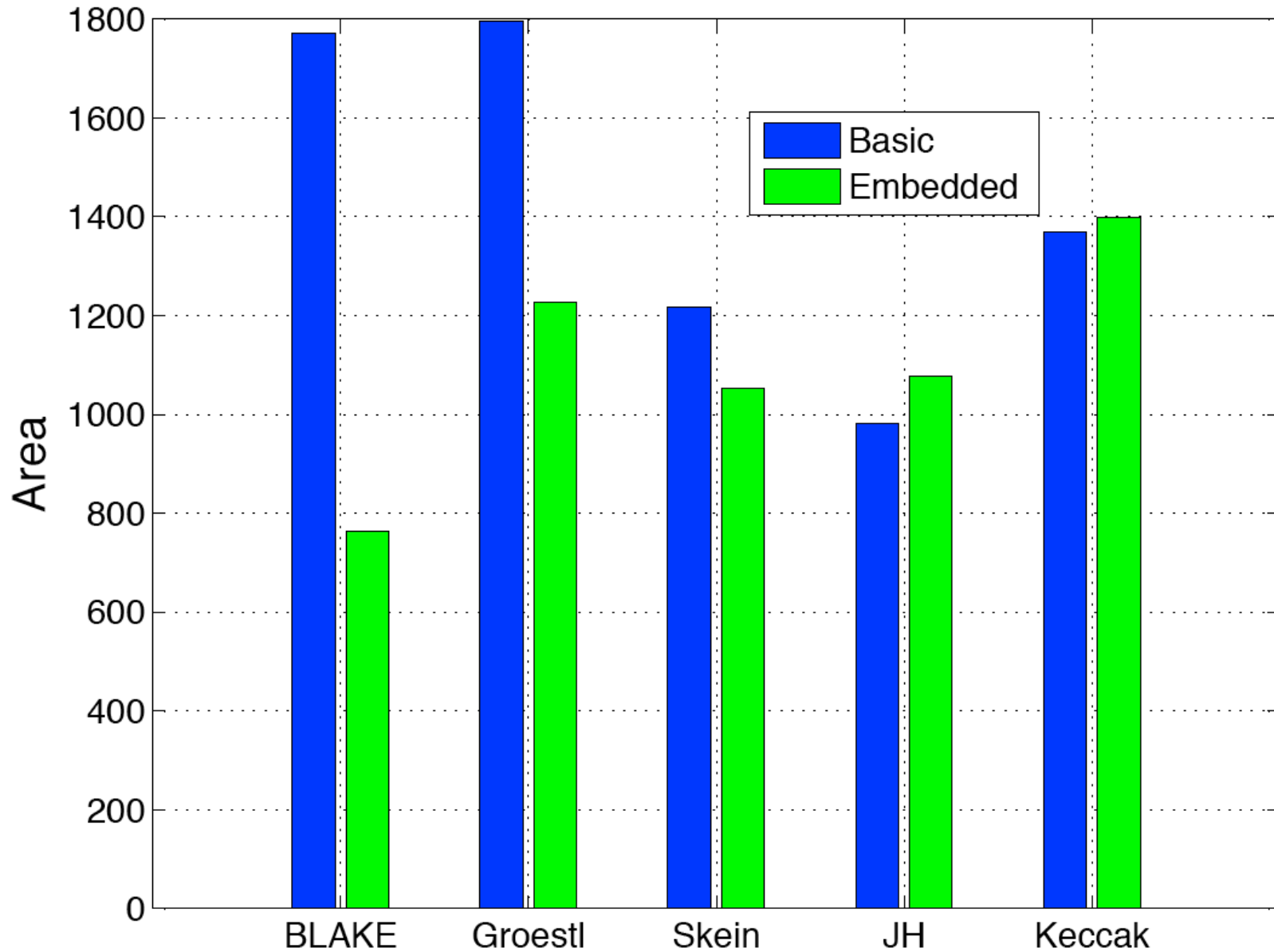
Graphics based on The Design Warrior's Guide to FPGAs  
Devices, Tools, and Flows. ISBN 0750676043  
Copyright © 2004 Mentor Graphics Corp. (www.mentor.com)

# Throughput

## Best Non-pipelined Architectures in Virtex 5

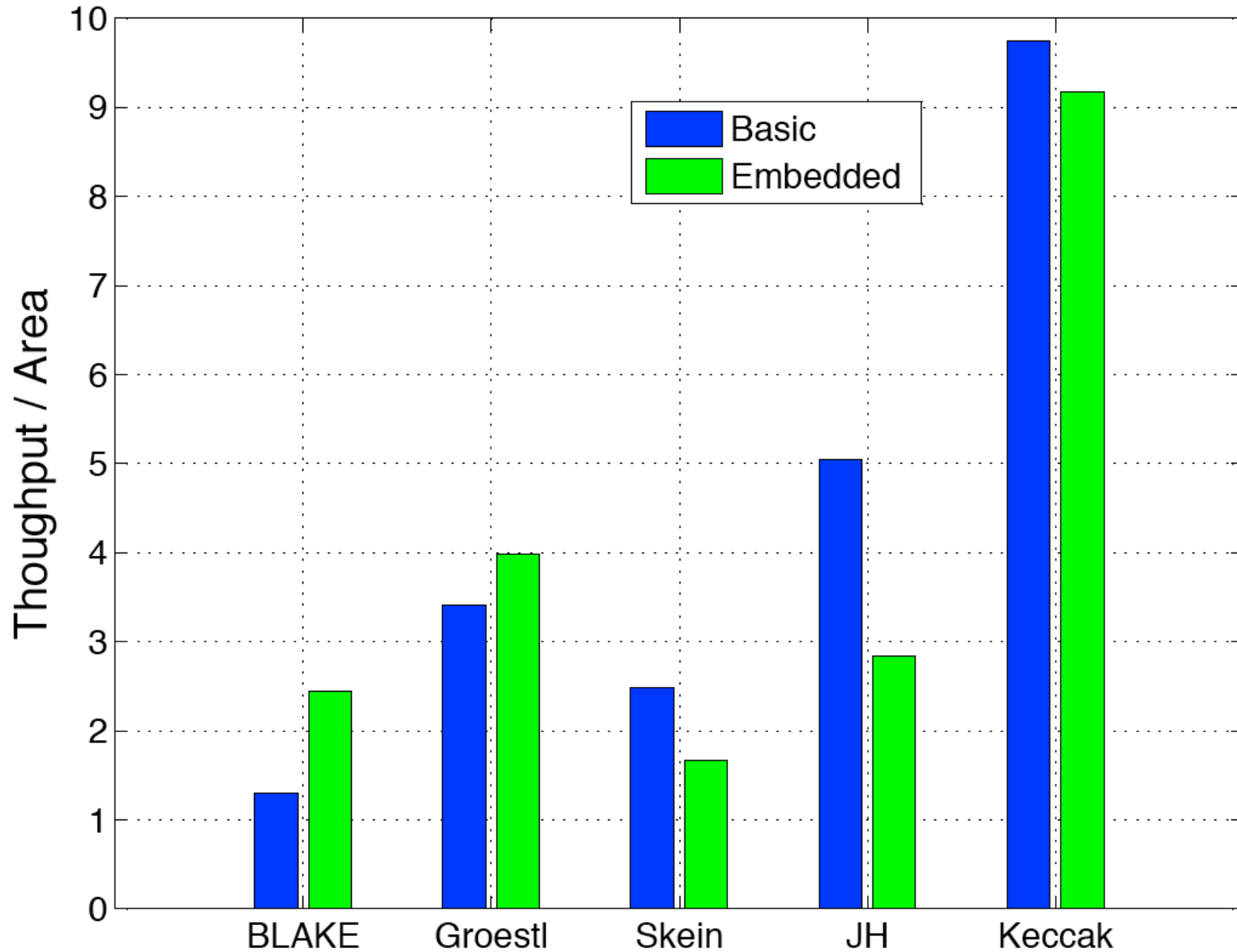


# Logic Resources: Best Non-pipelined Architectures in Virtex 5



# Throughput / #Logic Resources


## Best Non-pipelined Architectures in Virtex 5





# Architectures with Embedded Resources - Summary

- No or marginal improvement in Throughput.
- **Significant savings in the amount of Logic Resources** obtained for functions based on large look-up tables:  
**BLAKE and Groestl**
- **Improvement in the Throughput to #Logic Resources ratio for BLAKE and Groestl**
- **No change in ranking based on the Throughput/#Logic Resources ratio**
- **Limited advantage of using DSP units**



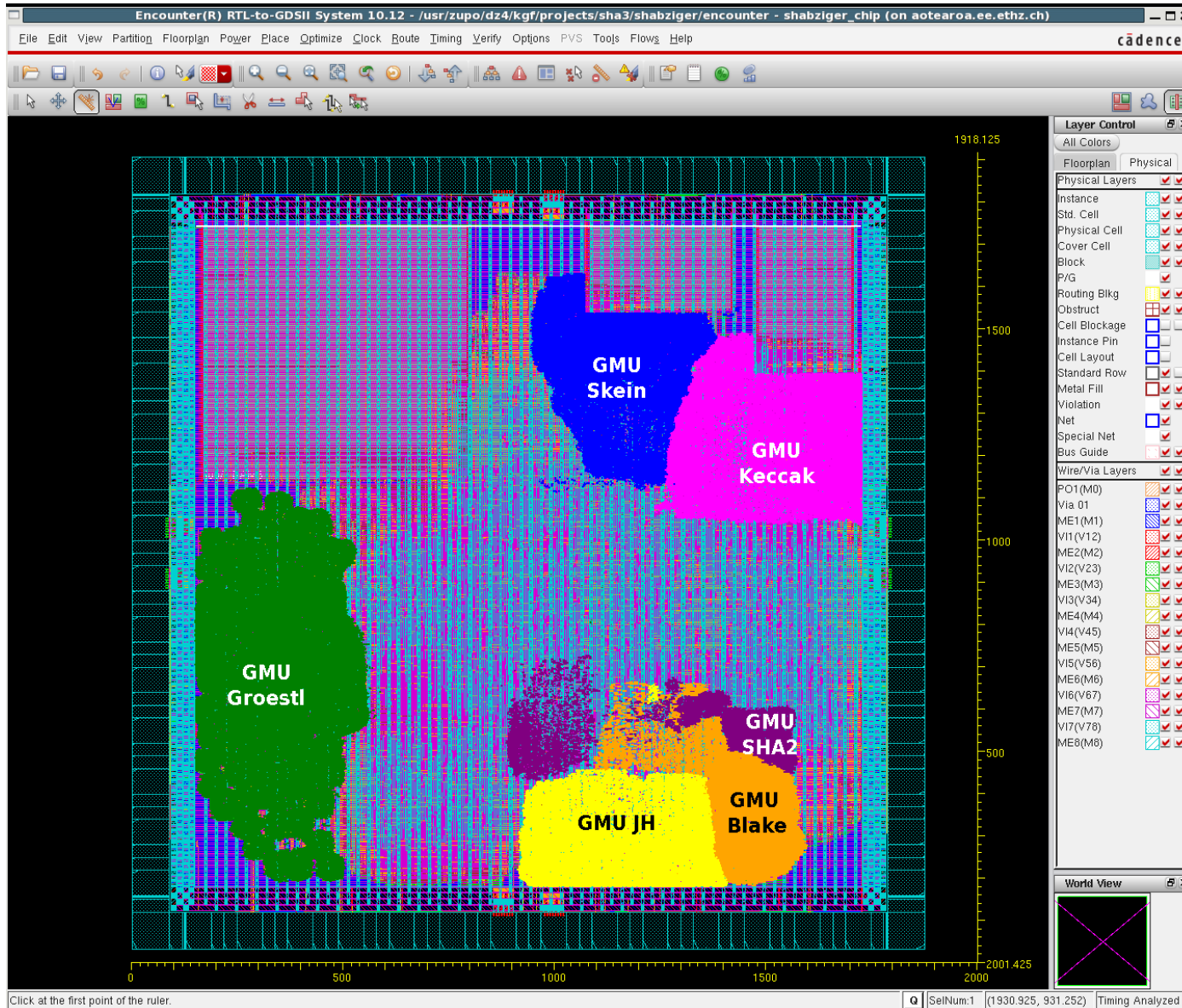
**Correlation Between  
FPGA Results and  
ASIC Results**

# Assumptions

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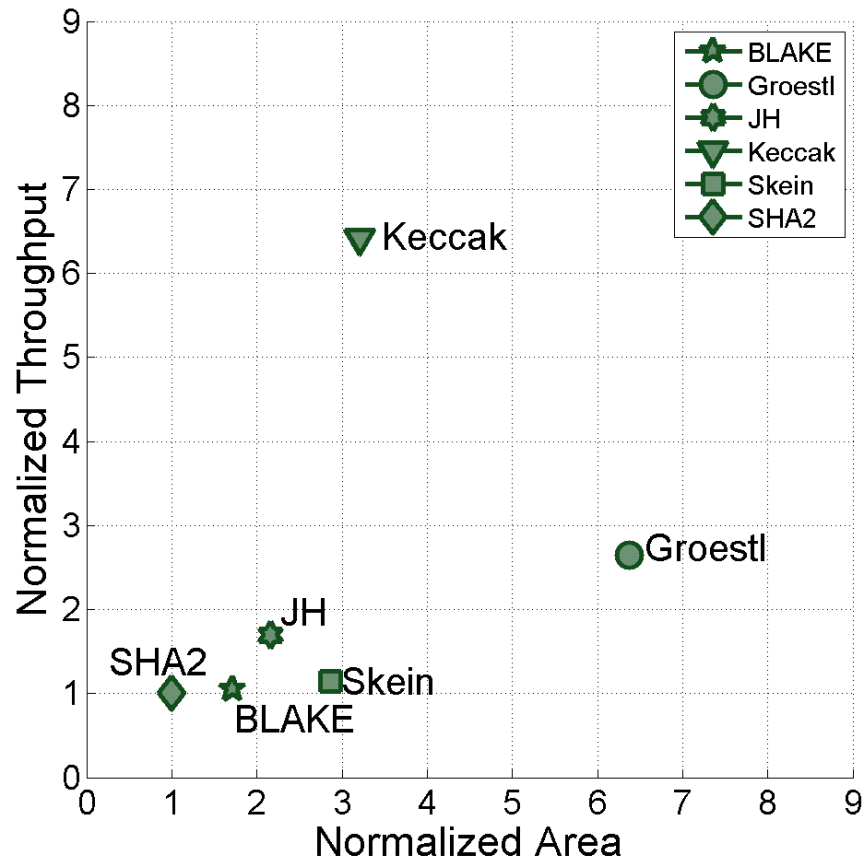
- **ASIC Chip developed in collaboration with ETHZ Zurich, including**
  - **6 GMU Cores optimized for the maximum Throughput/Area ratio for single-message (non-pipelined) architectures**
- **256-bit variants of algorithms**
- **No padding units**
- **Wide infinite bandwidth input/output interface**
- **standard-cell CMOS 65nm UMC ASIC technology (UMC65LL) offered through Europractice MPW services**
- **65nm technology used to manufacture our ASIC and Altera Stratix III FPGAs**

# Layout of the GMU Cores

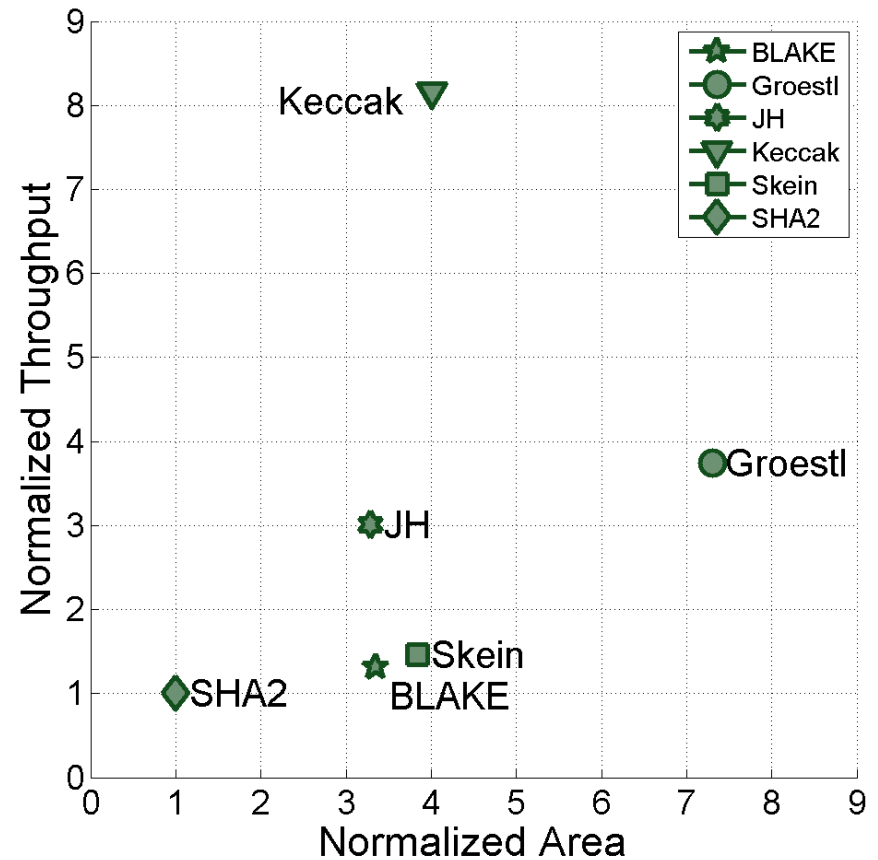


# Correlation Between ASIC Results and FPGA Results

## ASIC

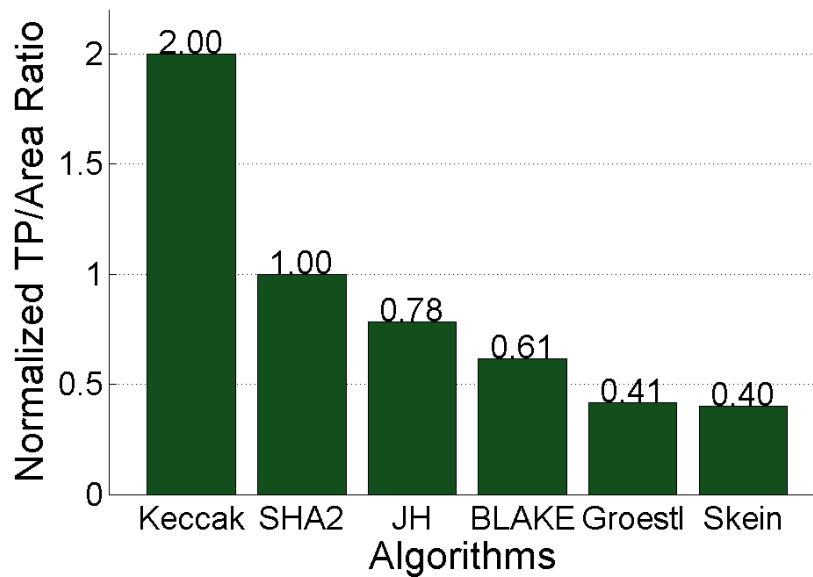


## Stratix III FPGA

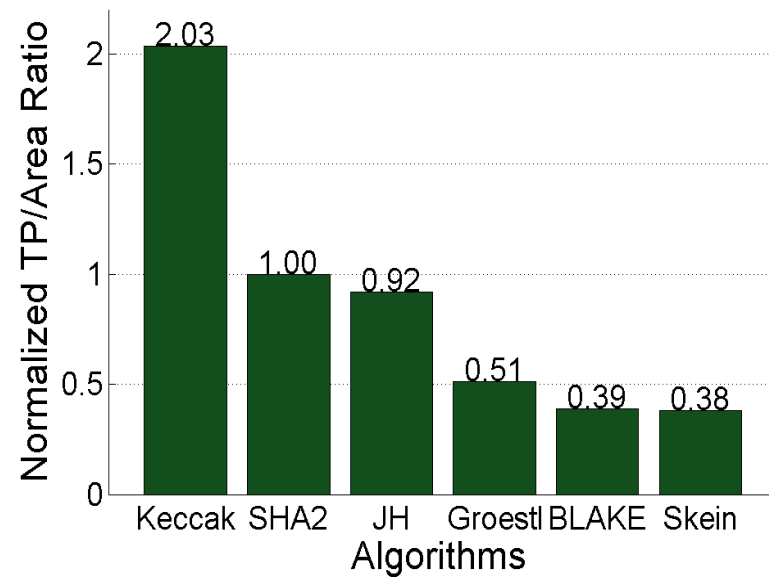


# Correlation Between ASIC Results and FPGA Results

## ASIC



## Stratix III FPGA





**Inherent Features of all  
SHA-3 Finalists**

# Summary

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- Keccak** – consistently outperforms SHA-2; front runner for high-speed implementations, but not very suitable for folding
- JH** – performs better than SHA-2 most of the time, not very suitable for folding or inner-round pipelining
- Groestl** – better than SHA-2 for only one out of four FPGA families, and only with relatively large area; suitable for vertical folding
- Skein** – the only candidate benefiting from unrolling; easy to pipeline after unrolling
- BLAKE** – most flexible; can be folded horizontally and vertically, can be effectively pipelined, however relatively slow compared to other candidates.



# Conclusions

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- Using multiple architectures provides a more comprehensive view of the algorithms
- Algorithms differ substantially in terms of their flexibility and suitability for folding, unrolling, and pipelining
- Optimum architecture (including an optimum number of pipeline stages) may depend on FPGA family
- **Two front-runners:** **Keccak, JH**



**Reproducibility  
of  
Results**

# GMU Source Codes and Block Diagrams

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**GMU Source Codes for**

**all Round 3 SHA-3 Candidates & SHA-2**

**made available at the ATHENa website at:**

**<http://cryprography.gmu.edu/athena>**

**Majority of codes accompanied by  
hierarchical block diagrams.**

# Details of Results and Replication Scripts

- Currently available in the **ATHENa database** at <http://cryptography.gmu.edu/athena>
  - 600+ optimized results**
  - for**
  - 16 hash functions**
  - 50+ designs**
  - 11 FPGA families**
- **Scripts and configuration files sufficient to easily reproduce all results (without repeating optimizations)**
- **Automatically created by ATHENa and stored in ATHENa Database**



# Generation of Results Facilitated by ATHENa



**ATHENa – Automated Tool for Hardware Evaluation**  
Benchmarking tool developed at GMU since 2009

- batch mode of FPGA tools



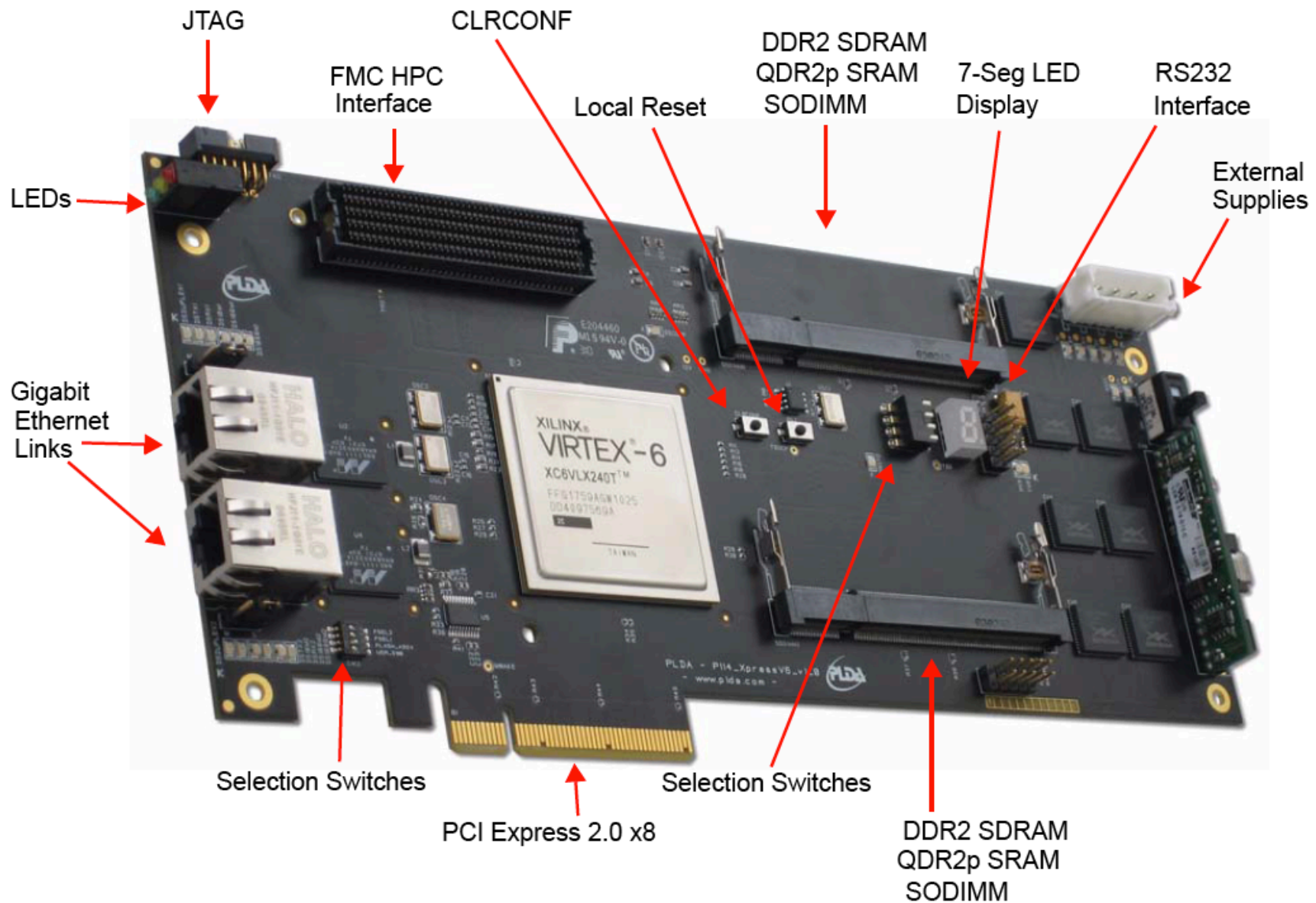
vs.



- ease of extraction and tabulation of results (Excel, CSV)
- optimized choice of tool options

# Future Work

# Experimental Testing using PCI Express Boards





# Thank you!

Questions?



Questions?

**CERG:** <http://cryptography.gmu.edu>

**ATHENa:** <http://cryptography.gmu.edu/athena>