

**Volume I**  
**Technical and Management Proposal**

**Title:** Energy-Efficient Butterfly FPGA Hardware and Programming Tools

A proposal submitted to  
**Dr. William Harrod, DARPA/TCTO**  
in response to

**DARPA-BAA 10-78:** Omnipresent High Performance Computing (OHPC)

**Technical Area:** Energy Efficient Computing

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**Type of Business:** Other Educational

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**UCLA**

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**Table of Contents**

Executive Summary	3
Section II – Technical Details	5
2.1. PowerPoint Summary Chart	5
2.2. Innovative Claims for the Proposed Research	6
Problem Description	6
Research Goals	6
Expected Impact	7
2.3. Proposal Roadmap	8
2.4. Technical Approach	10
2.4.1. Network Architecture and Routing Tools	14
2.4.2. Hardware Design	15
2.4.3. Hardware Mapping	19
Demonstrations and Technology Transition	22
2.5. Statement of Work	24
2.6. Intellectual Property	26
2.7. Management Plan	28
2.8. Schedule and Milestones	30
2.8.1. Schedule Graphic	30
2.8.2. Detailed Task Description	31
2.8.3. Project Management and Interaction Plan	33
2.9. Personnel, Qualifications, and Commitments	34
2.10. Organizational Conflict of Interest Affirmations and Disclosure	36
2.11. Human Use	39
2.12. Animal Use	38
2.13. Statement of Unique Capability Provided by Government or Government-Funded Team Member	39
2.14. Government or Government-funded Team Member Eligibility	40
2.15. Facilities	41
References	42
BEEcube Support Letter	43

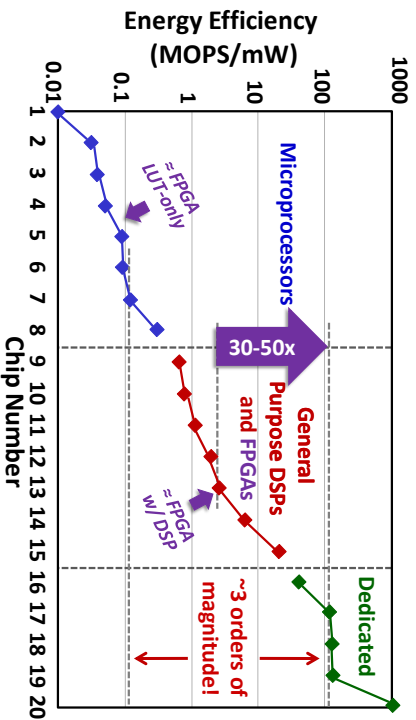
### **Executive Summary**

UCLA offers to perform research on a revolutionary new FPGA technology consisting of FPGA hardware and supporting mapping tools. We will design, fabricate, and test hierarchical FPGA interconnect network to demonstrate FPGA technology that is 15x more energy-efficient than existing FPGAs. The new interconnect architecture allows for significant reduction in the number of switch points, buffers, and wire length in comparison to standard 2D-mesh architecture used by existing FPGAs. The proposed technology is a radical departure from 2D-mesh design, which for N logic blocks has complexity  $O(N^2)$ , incomplete and heuristic routing. The proposed technology has only  $O(N \cdot \log_2 N)$  complexity, complete and fully deterministic routing. The proposed technology has significant benefits: 15x lower power, 3x lower area, 2x higher performance compared to existing FPGA technology. The new FPGA technology will be used to demonstrate HPC benchmarks with a 15x higher power efficiency for DOD and commercial users. The PI has established interactions with industrial partners that will lead to the transition of ideas into the commercial space.

# Energy-Efficient Butterfly FPGA Hardware and Programming Tools

## Technical Challenge and Objective

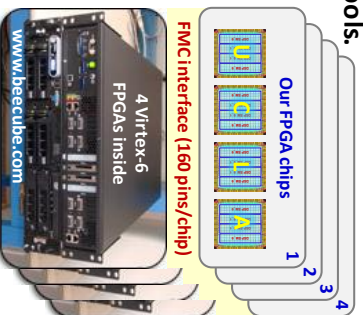
- **Problem:** Presently, FPGA chips use 2D-mesh architecture, which is very complex (over 75% of chip area is interconnect). Interconnect results in **energy-inefficient computations!**



- **Objective:** significantly improve energy efficiency of FPGAs.

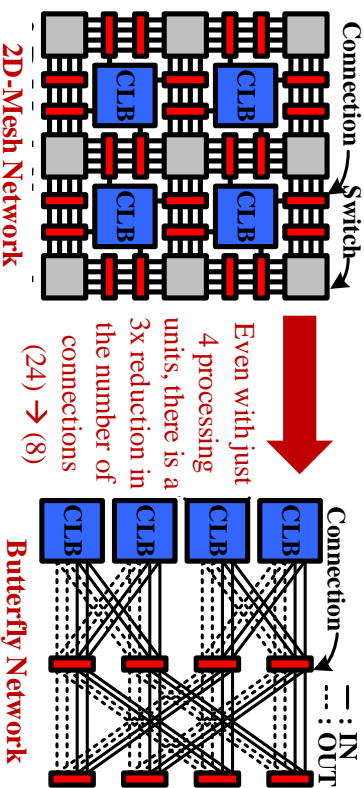
## Expected Impact

- New FPGA hardware and mapping tools.
- With significant improvements:
  - Power (15x)
  - Area (3x)
  - Performance (2x)
- To demonstrate HPC benchmarks with **15x higher power efficiency.**
- For DOD and commercial apps.



## Key Innovations

- Our hierarchical butterfly interconnect scheme significantly reduces interconnect complexity.



Number of connections in 2D-Mesh and Hierarchical networks

Number of LUTs	2D-Mesh	Hierarchical	Savings factor
N = 1 k	1 M	9,97 k	100x
N = 100 k	10 B	1.66 M	6,200x

- Ideas verified on chip (**3x reduction in interconnect area**).



- Key proposed innovations:
  - Interconnect architecture optimization.
  - Hardware demonstrations of area, power, and performance.
  - Mapping tools for the new FPGA architecture.
  - Demonstrations of HPC benchmarks.

PI: Dejan Markovic (UCLA)

## Section II - Technical Details

### 2.1. PowerPoint Summary Chart

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