

Accelerated Real-Time Processing of Radio Telescope data

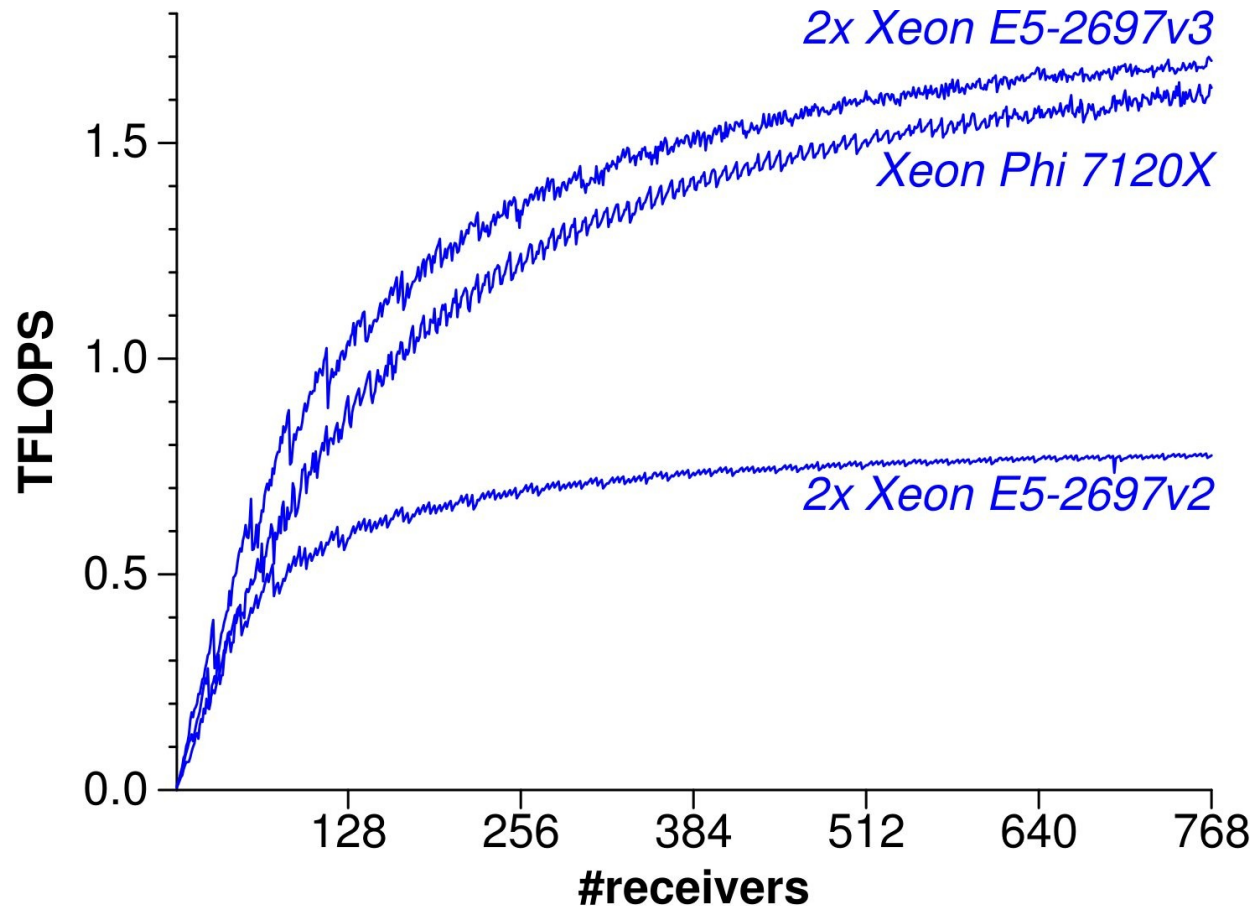
John Romein

**ASTRON (Netherlands Institute for Radio Astronomy)
the Netherlands**

What's unique about my tuning work

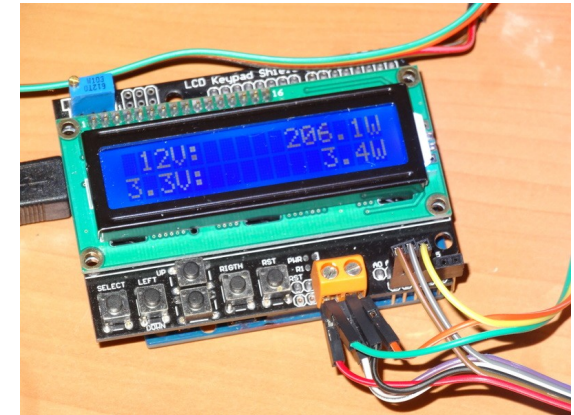
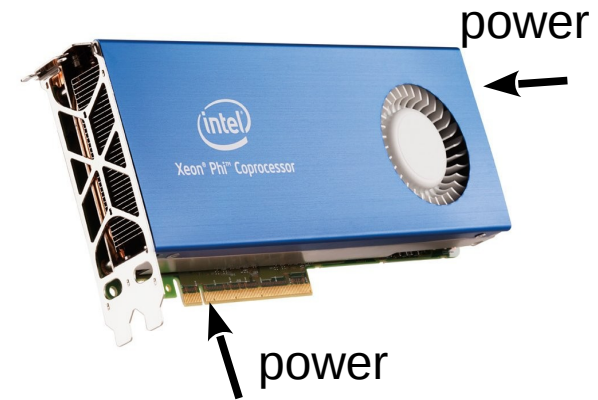
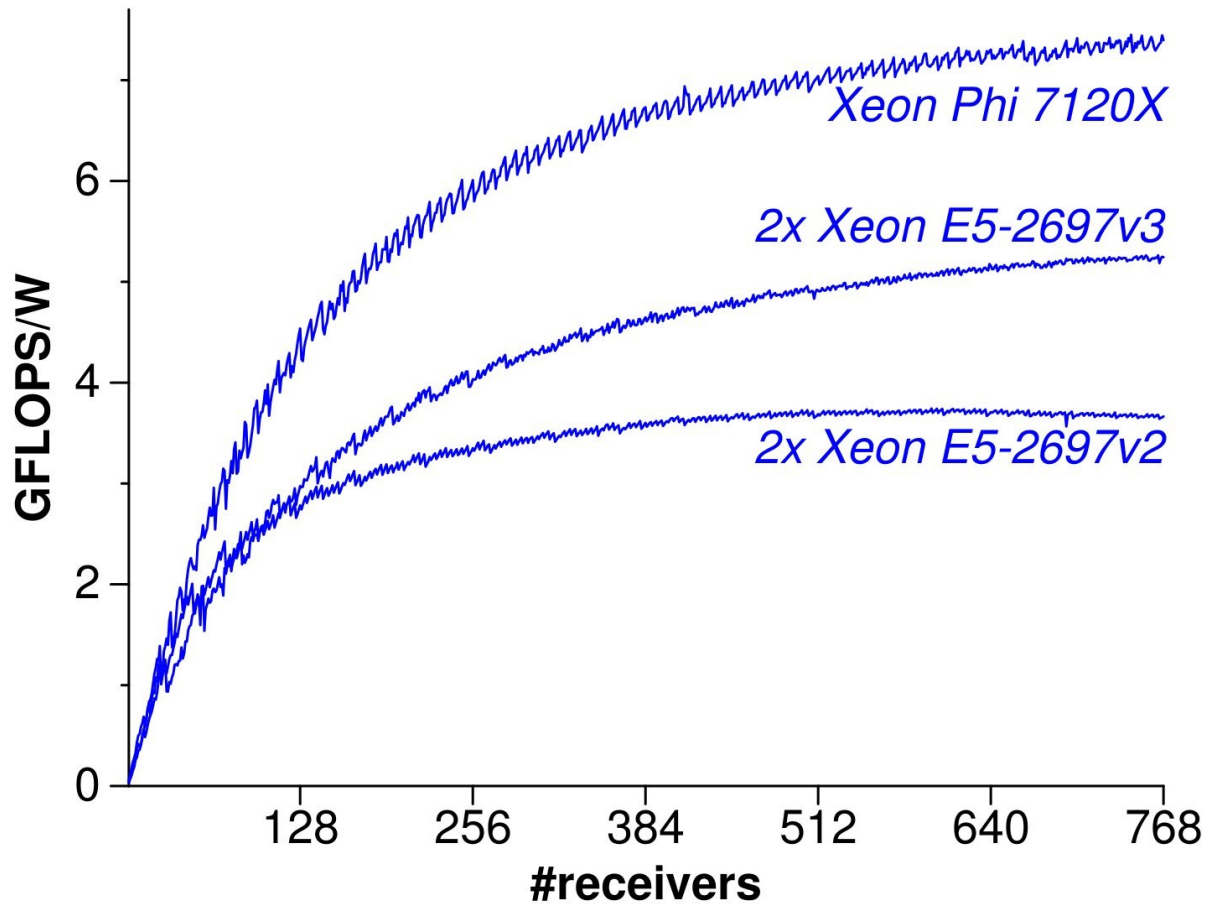
- correlator
 - combines data from radio telescopes
- signal processing
 - *FIR filter, FFT, source tracking, bandpass correction, correlate*
- compare *Xeon, Xeon Phi, AMD & NVIDIA GPUs, TI DSP*
- offload mode
 - external I/O too slow in native mode
- tools
 - vtune amplifier, disassembler, gdb
- custom-built power monitor
 - millisecond accurate
 - application measures per-kernel energy efficiency

Performance



- optimizations:
 - intrinsics
 - prefetch; unordered streaming writes

Energy Efficiency



- Xeon: package power + DRAM
- Xeon Phi: whole board

Insights

- non-contiguous memory access on Xeon Phi much more problematic than on Xeon (TLB misses)
- some kernels: parallelized differently on Xeon Phi
 - cannot predict in advance what works better
- autovectorization not always efficient (→ use intrinsics)
- larger (32x16) register file of Xeon Phi minimizes spilling
- AVX2 FMA (Haswell): ~2x performance over Ivy Bridge