

# Flipping Bits in Memory Without Accessing Them:

## DRAM Disturbance Errors

Yoongu Kim

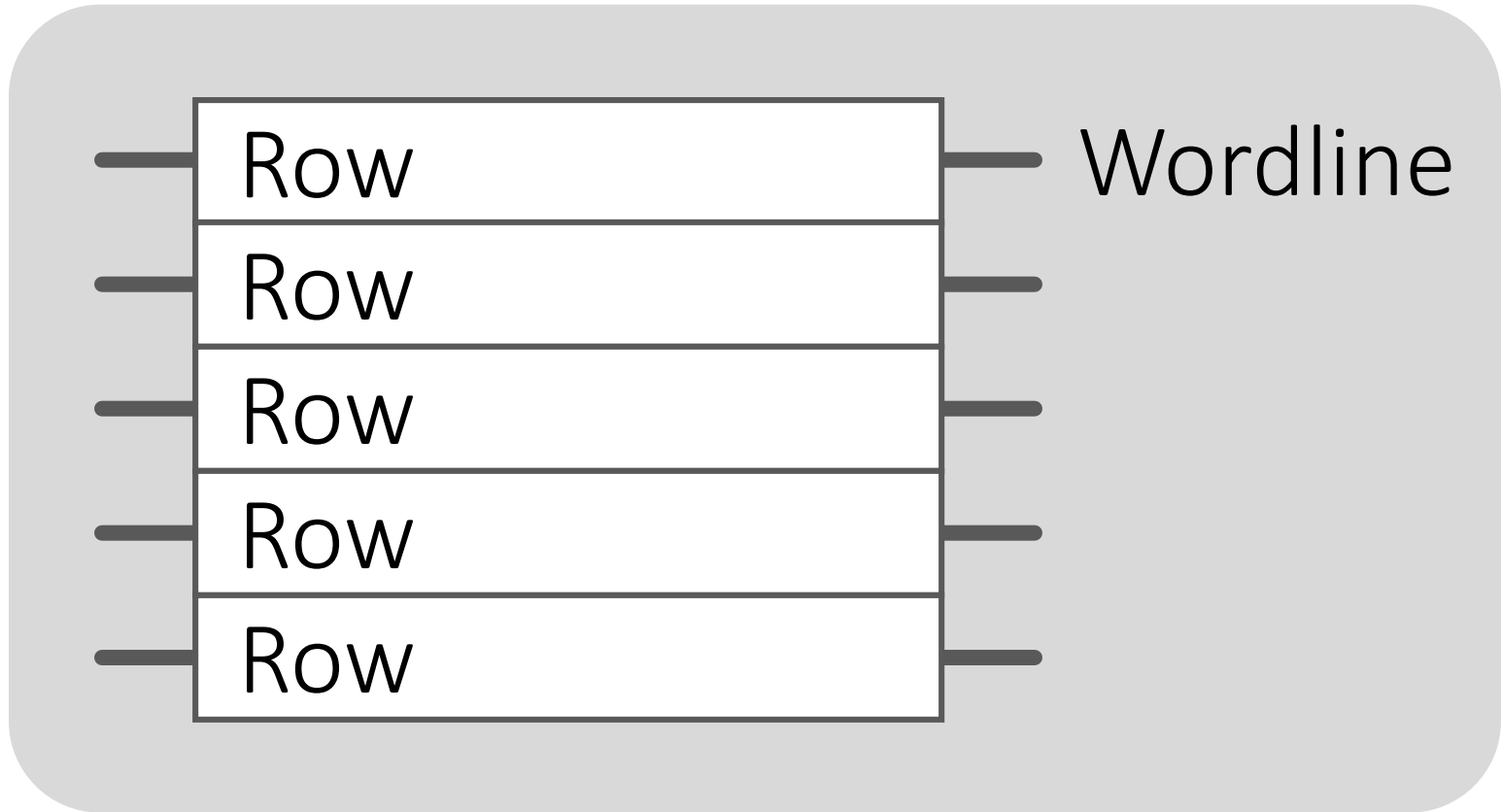
Ross Daly, Jeremie Kim, Chris Fallin, Ji Hye Lee,  
Donghyuk Lee, Chris Wilkerson, Konrad Lai, Onur Mutlu

**Carnegie Mellon**

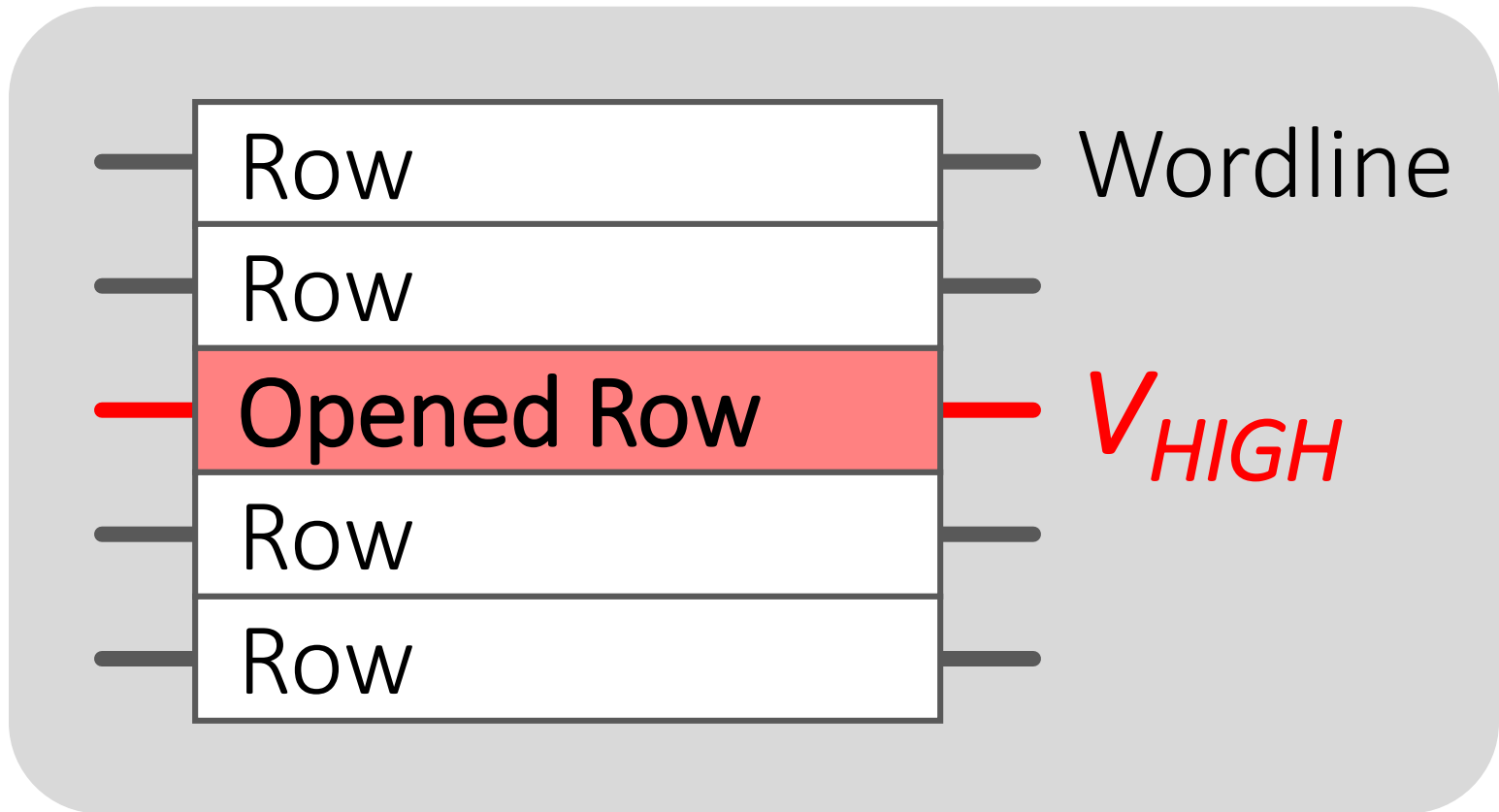
**SAFARI**



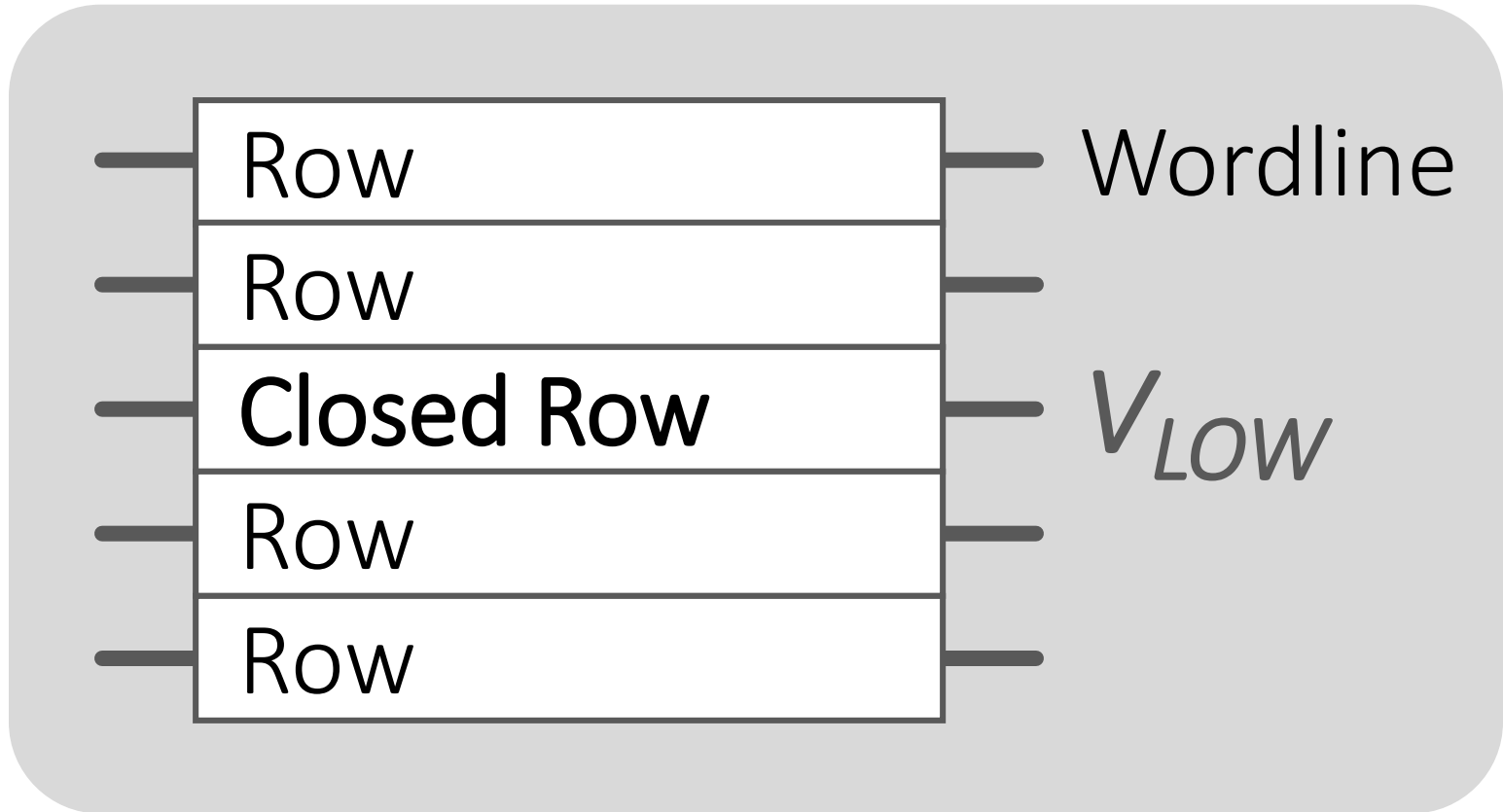
# DRAM Chip



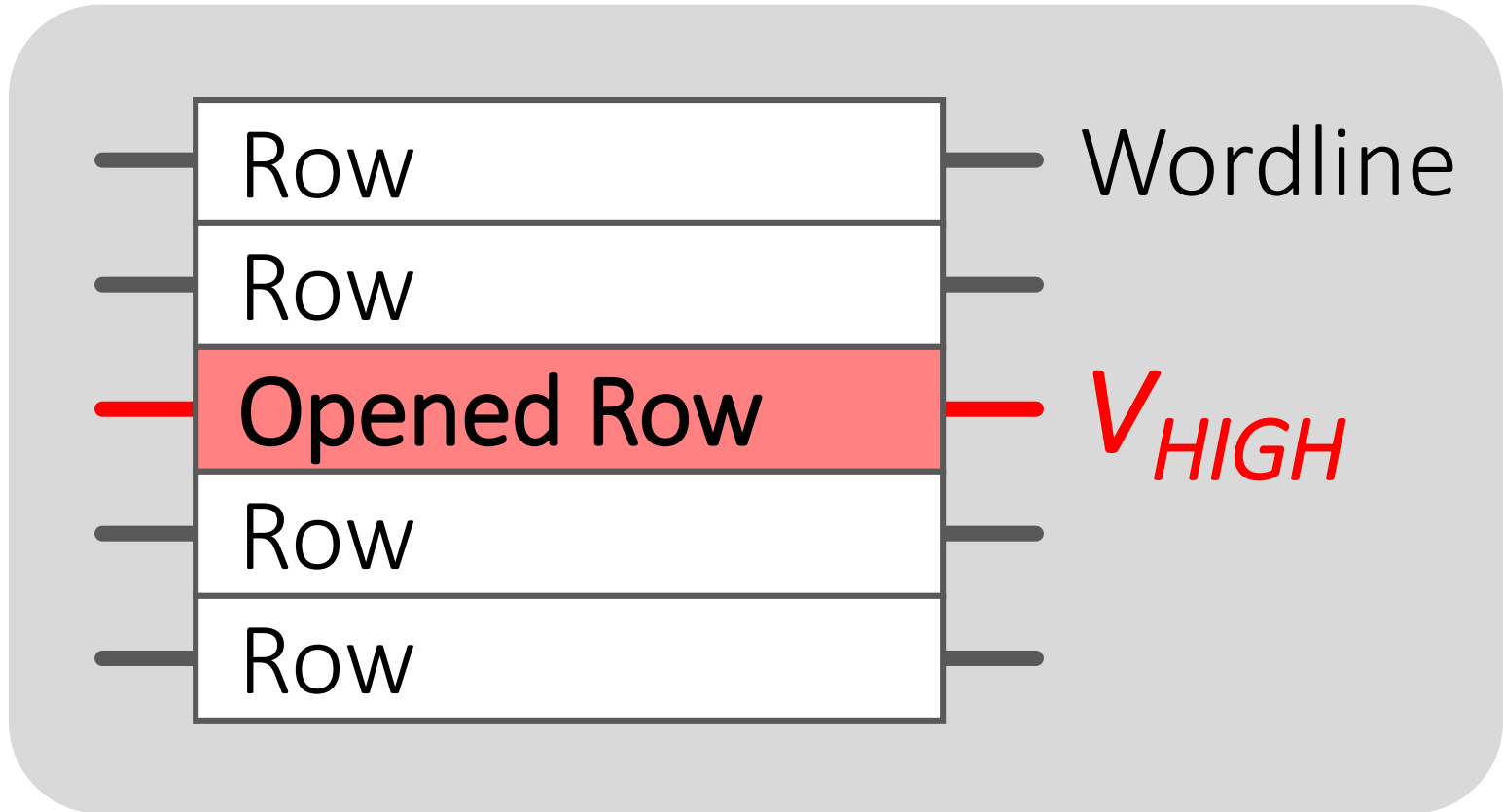
# DRAM Chip



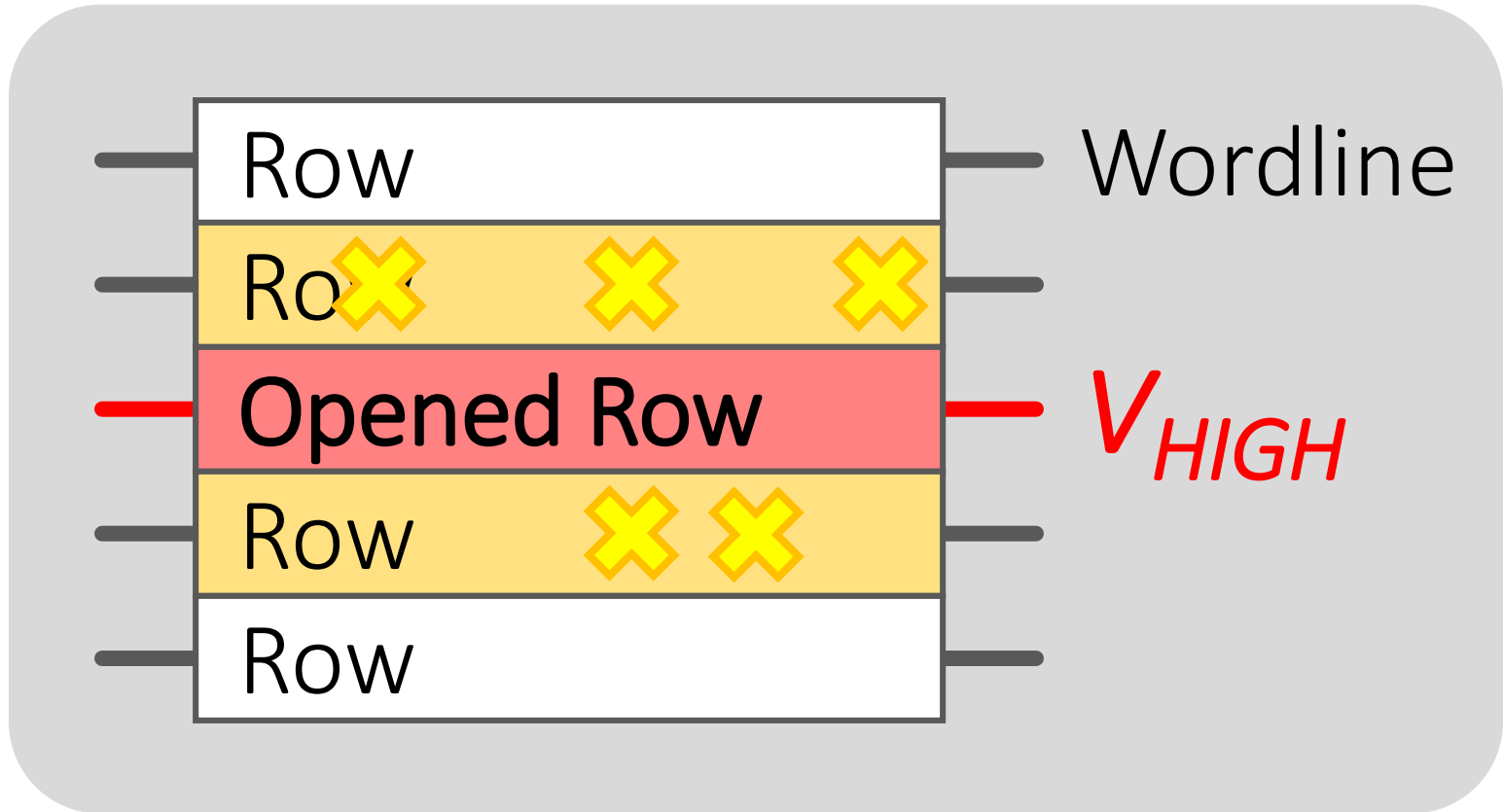
# DRAM Chip



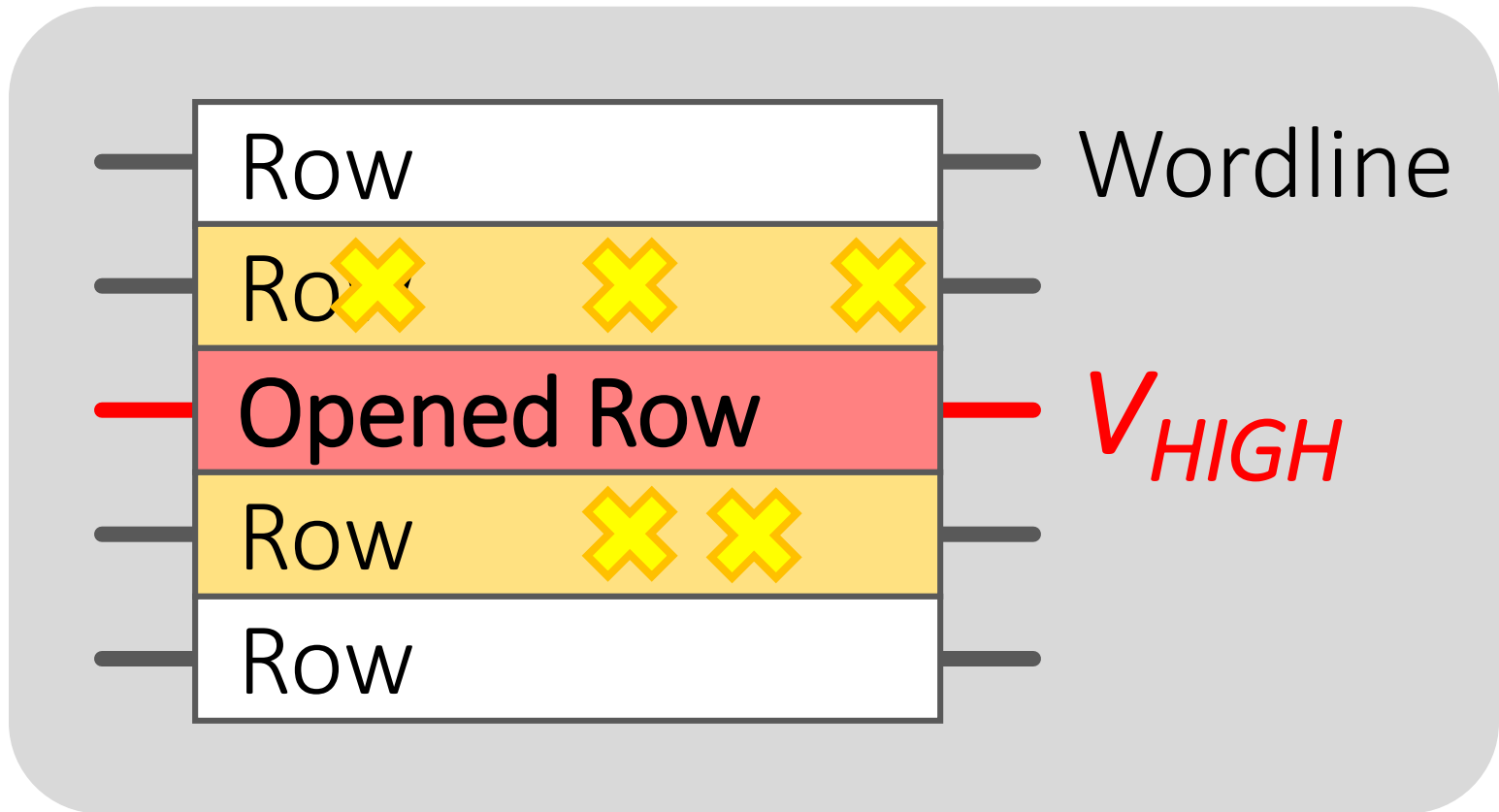
# DRAM Chip



# DRAM Chip

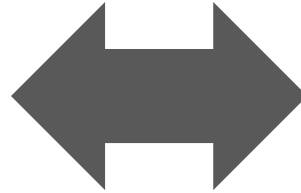
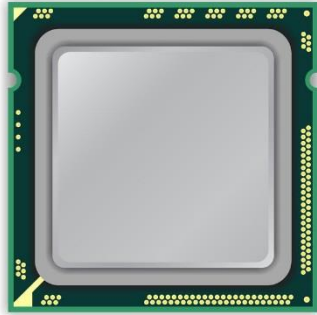


# DRAM Chip

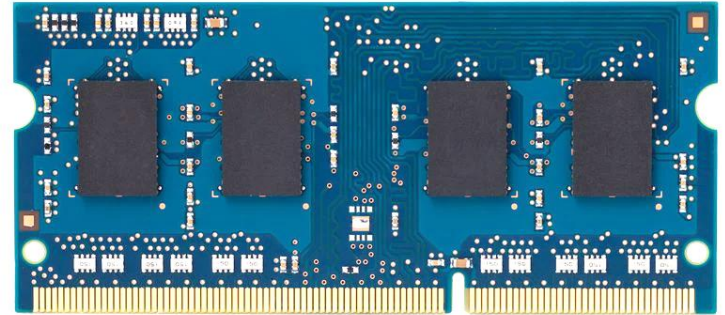


*Repeatedly opening and closing a row induces **disturbance errors** in adjacent rows*

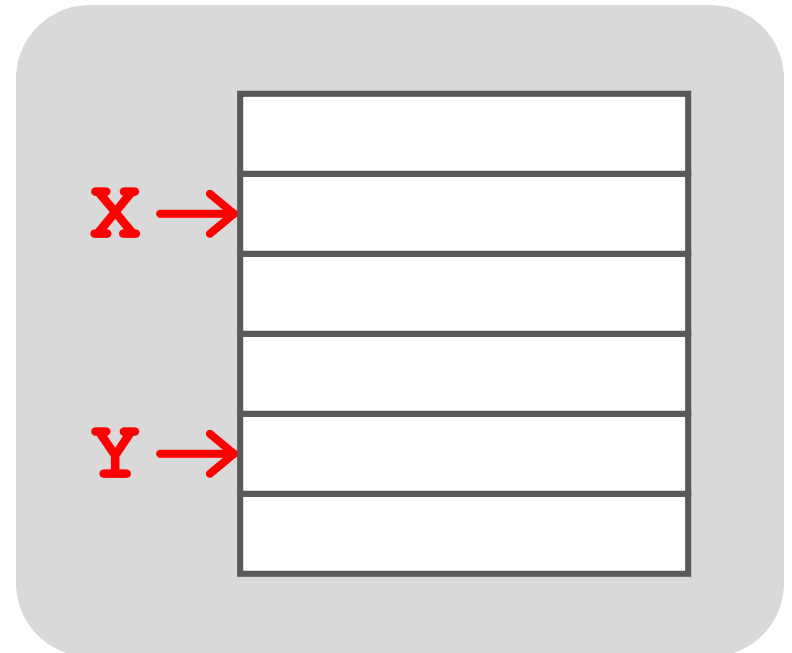
# x86 CPU



# DRAM Module

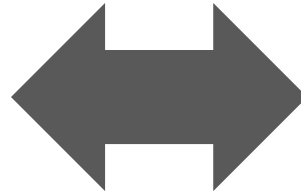
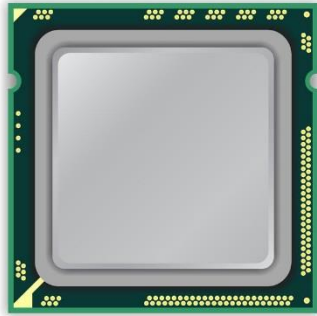


```
loop:  
  mov (X), %eax  
  mov (Y), %ebx  
  clflush (X)  
  clflush (Y)  
  mfence  
  jmp loop
```





# x86 CPU



# DRAM Module



loop:

```
mov (X), %eax
```

```
mov (Y), %ebx
```

```
clflush (X)
```

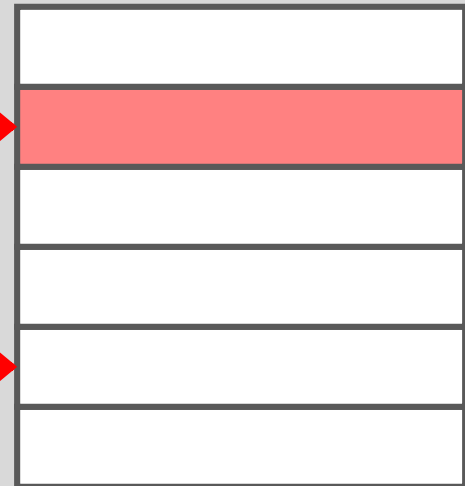
```
clflush (Y)
```

```
mfence
```

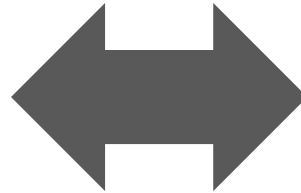
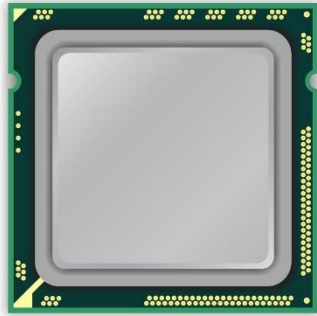
```
jmp loop
```

X →

Y →



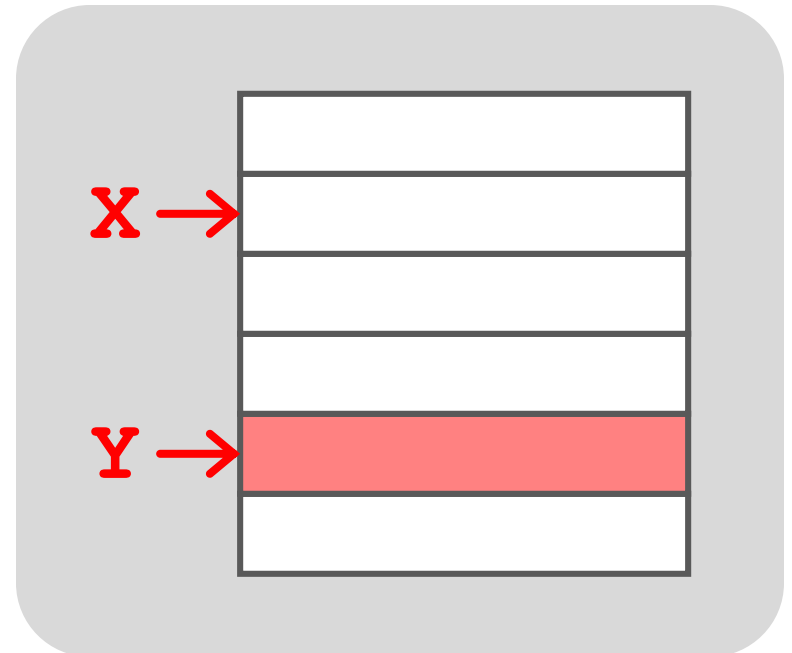
# x86 CPU



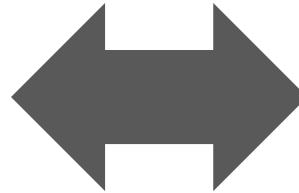
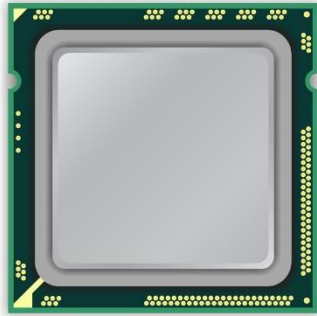
# DRAM Module



```
loop:  
  mov (X), %eax  
  mov (Y), %ebx  
  clflush (X)  
  clflush (Y)  
  mfence  
  jmp loop
```



# x86 CPU



# DRAM Module



loop:

```
mov (X), %eax
```

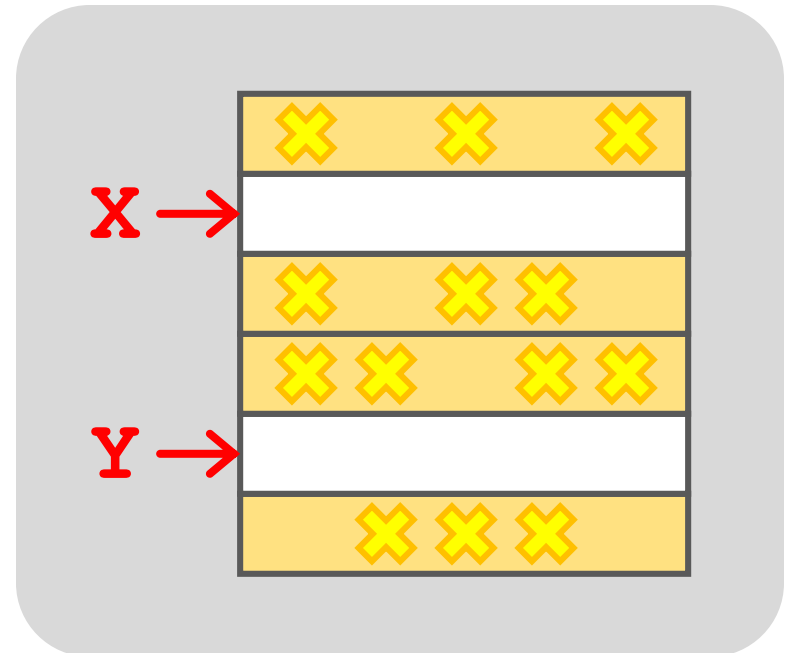
```
mov (Y), %ebx
```

```
clflush (X)
```

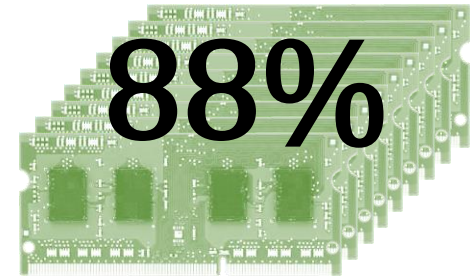
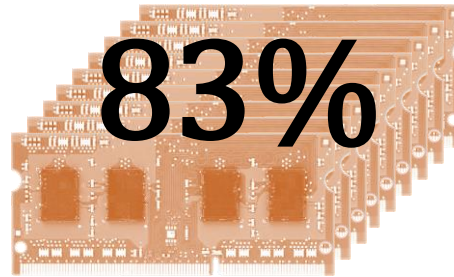
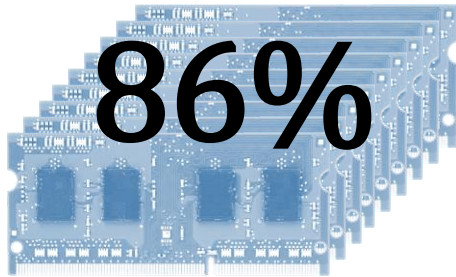
```
clflush (Y)
```

```
mfence
```

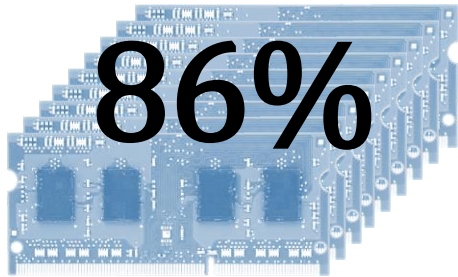
```
jmp loop
```



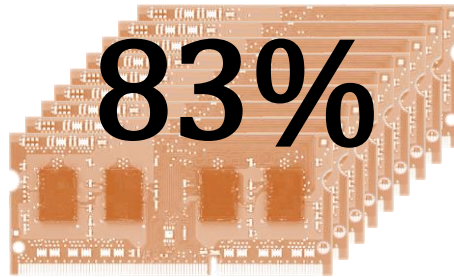
# Most Modules At Risk



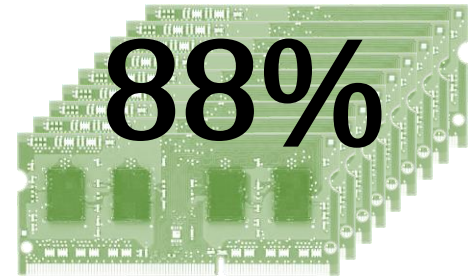
# Most Modules At Risk



*After*  
**2010**

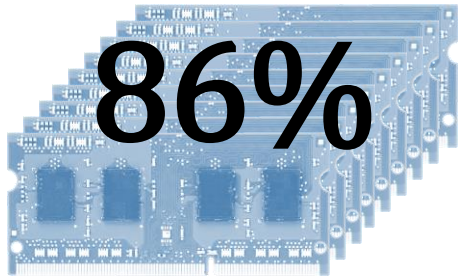


*After*  
**2010**



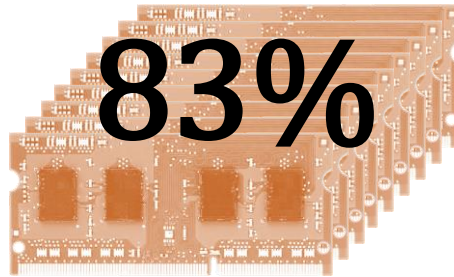
*After*  
**2009**

# Most Modules At Risk



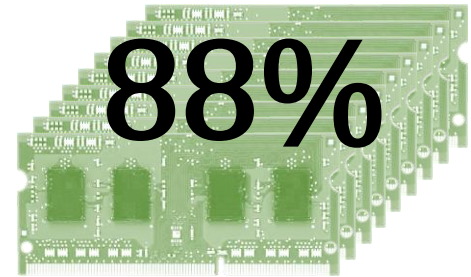
*After*  
**2010**

**$10^7$**   
*Errors*



*After*  
**2010**

**$10^6$**   
*Errors*



*After*  
**2009**

**$10^5$**   
*Errors*

Flipping Bits in Memory  
Without Accessing Them:

DRAM Disturbance Errors

4:30 PM

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