



The Frankenpredictor

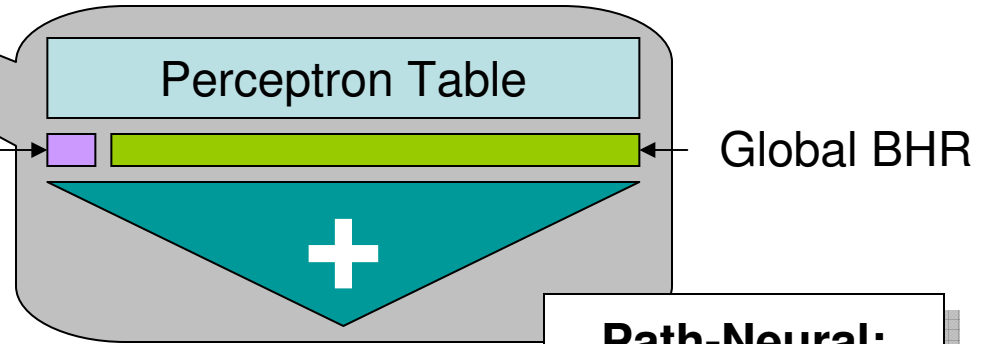
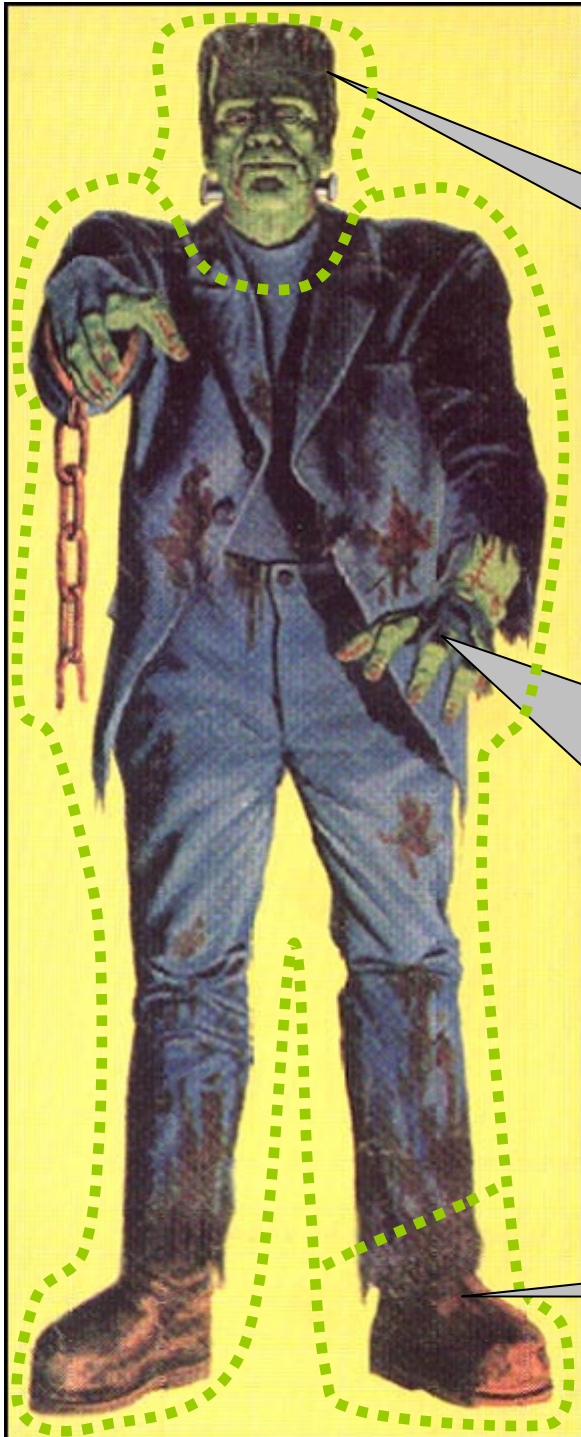
Gabriel H. Loh
Georgia Tech
College of Computing

CBP-1 @ MICRO
Dec 5, 2004

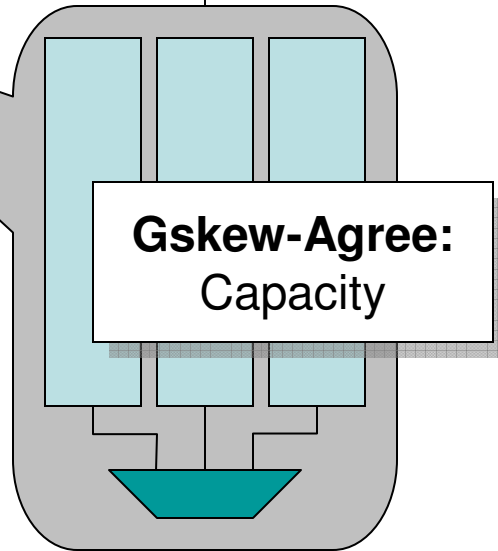
Design Objectives

- Capacity
 - SERV has large branch footprint
- Long history length correlation
 - INT and MM benefit from this
- 8KB makes interference a big issue
- ... and don't mess up FP

Overview



Path-Neural:
Long History
Fusion



Gskew-Agree:
Capacity

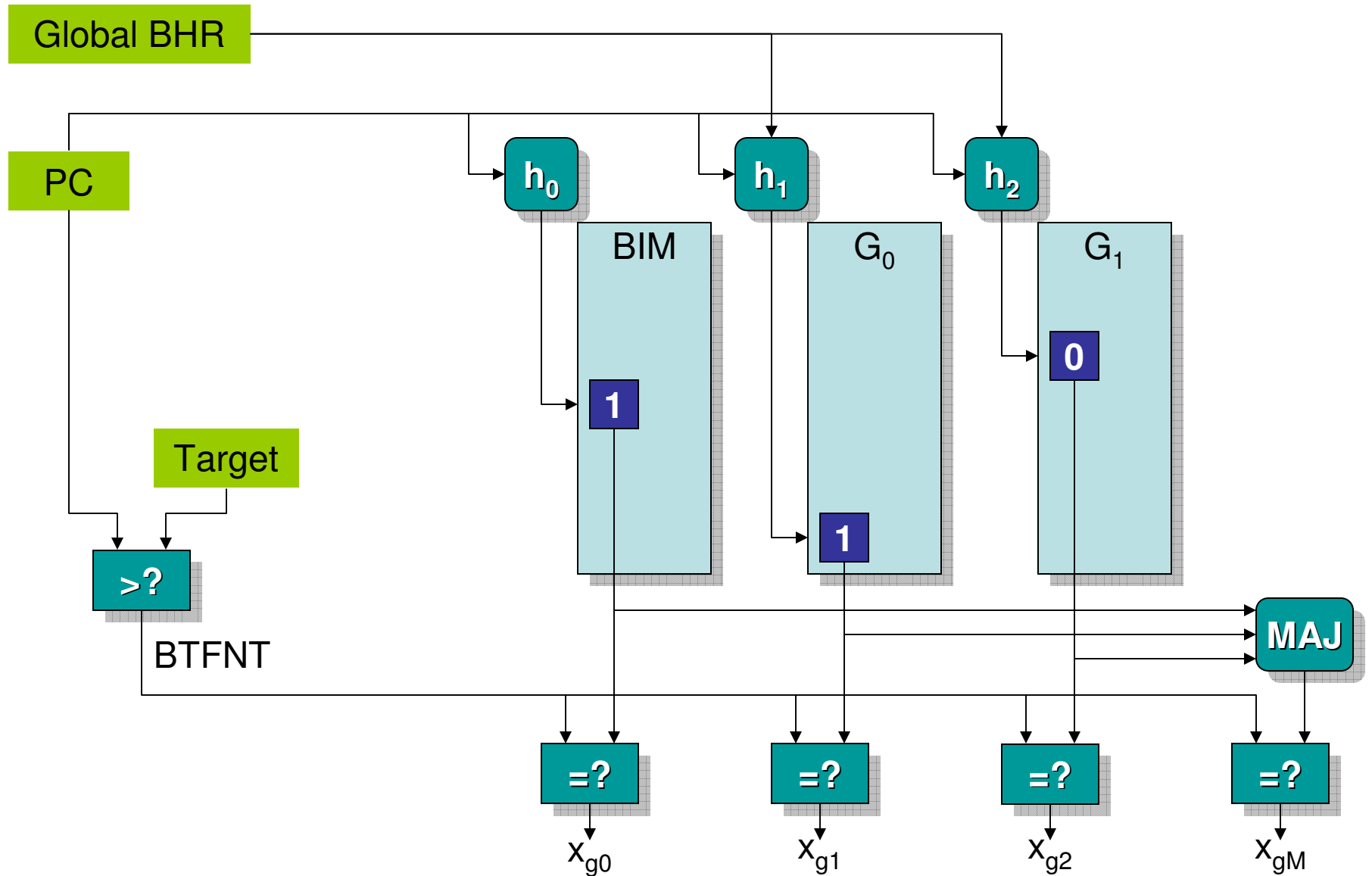
Misc Other Ideas

Ideas from:

static branch prediction,
gskewed, agree,
perceptron, path-based
neural, 2bcgskew,
fusion, MAC-RHSP,
machine learning



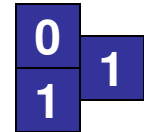
Gskew-Agree Lookup





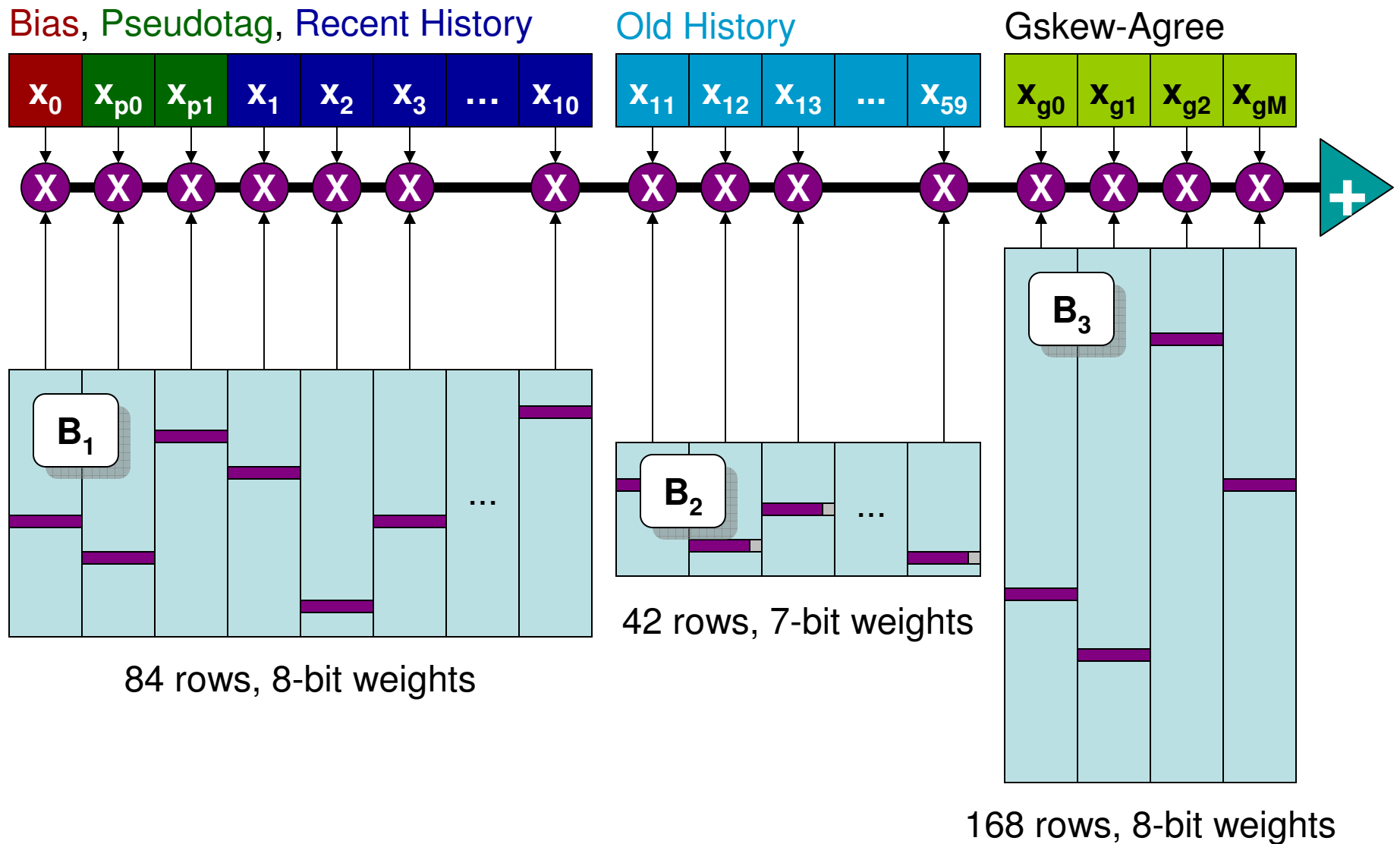
Gskew-Agree Update

- Shared Hysteresis
 - Every two counters share one hyst. bit
- Partial Update
 - Modified from 2bcgskew (no meta rules)
 - On mispred, update all three tables
 - If correct:
 - If all agree, do nothing
 - Else update the two correct tables



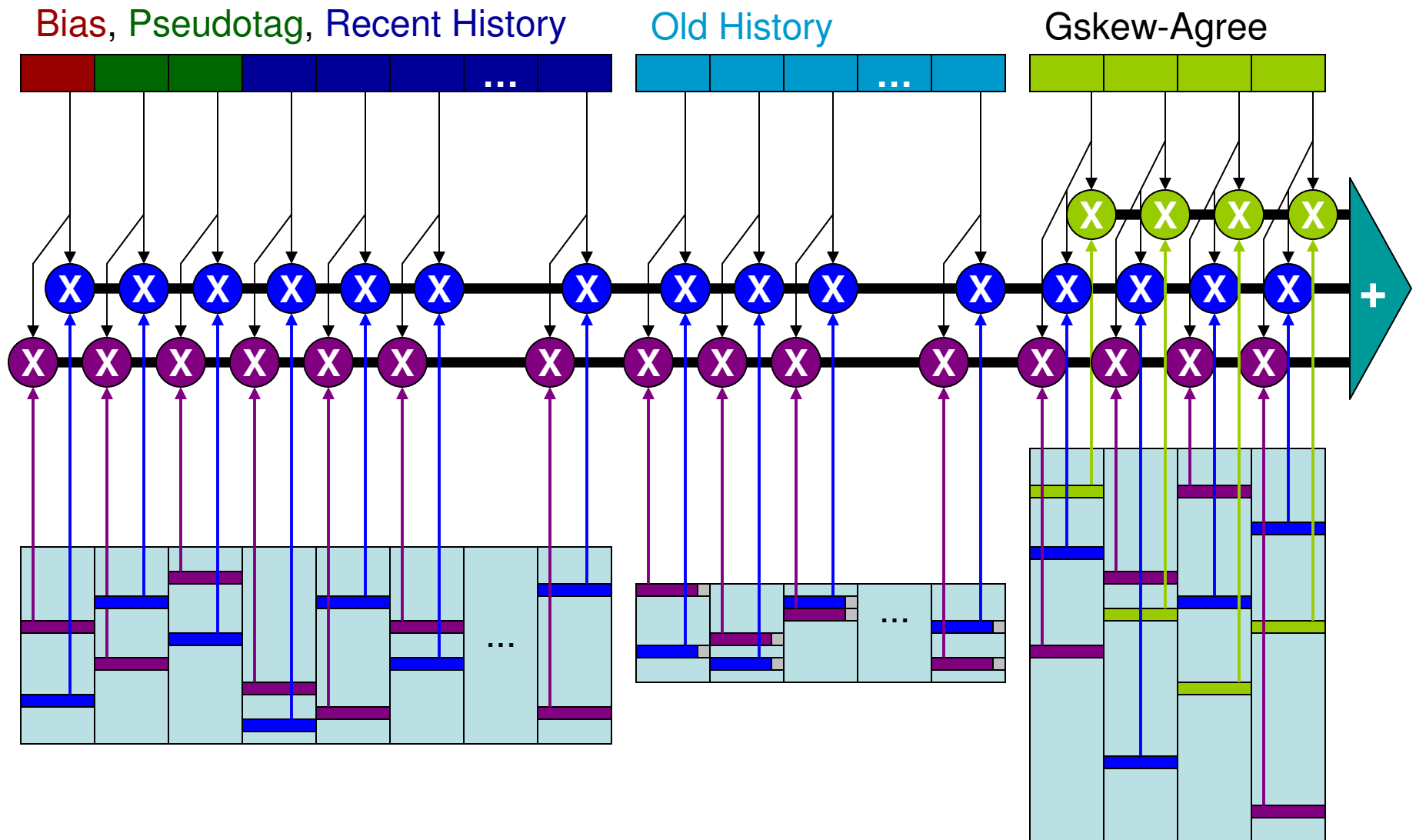


Path-Based Perceptron



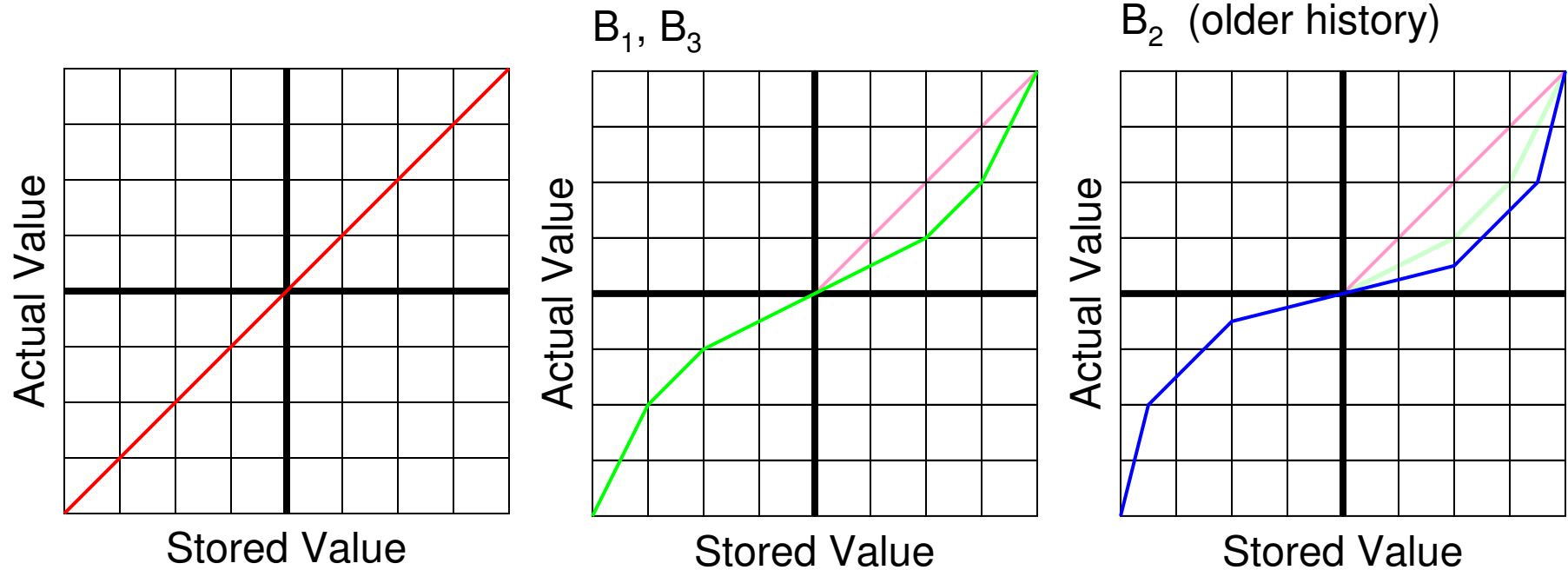


Redundant Indexing





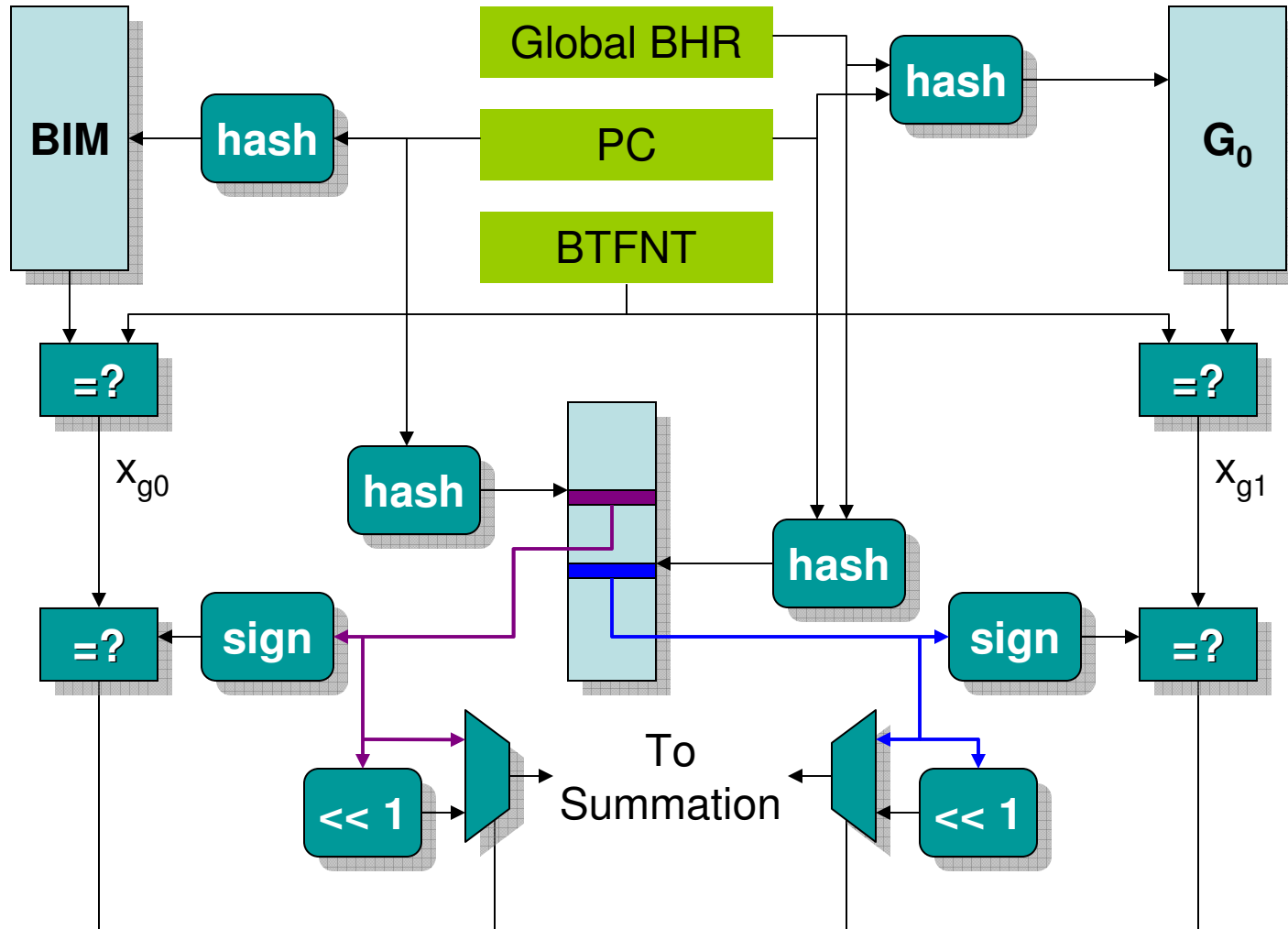
Non-Linear Learning Curves



- Slow start:
 - avoids transient/coincidental correlation
- Steep End:
 - quick unlearning



Synergistic Reinforcement



Notes on Initialization

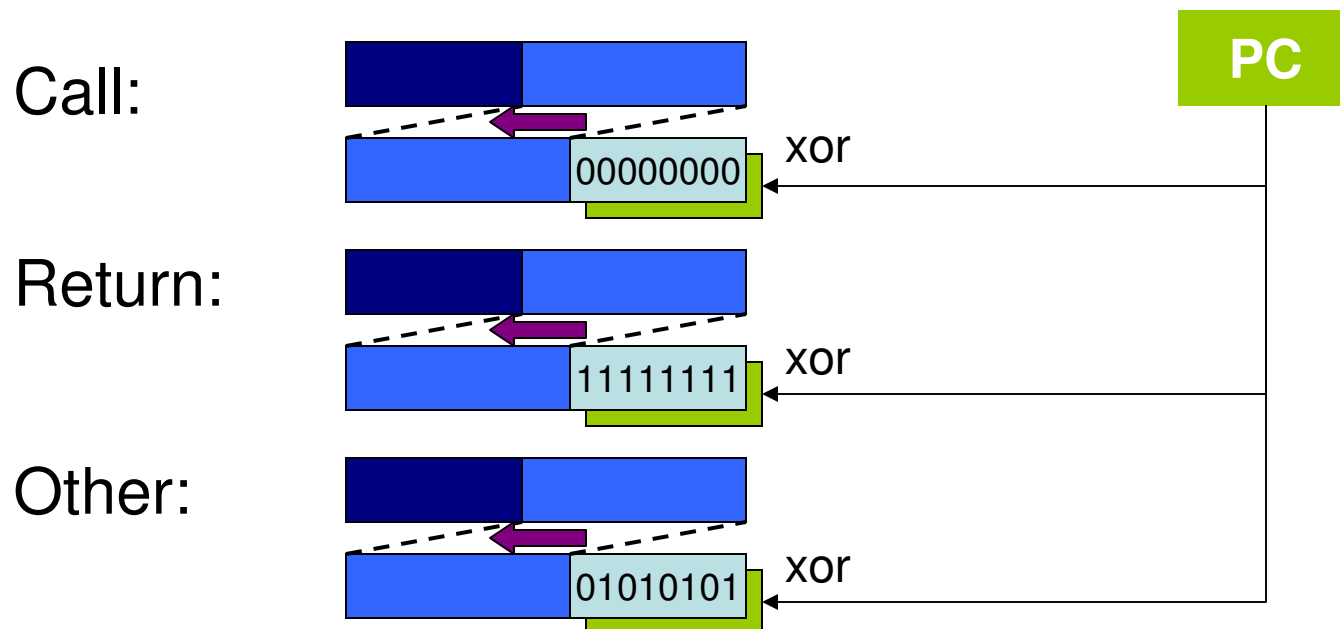


- All neural weights initialized to zero except those corresponding to x_{gM}
 - The perceptron will use the gskew-agree prediction until other correlations are established
- All PHT banks initialized to “Weakly Agree”
 - gskew-agree provides a BTFNT prediction at start of program



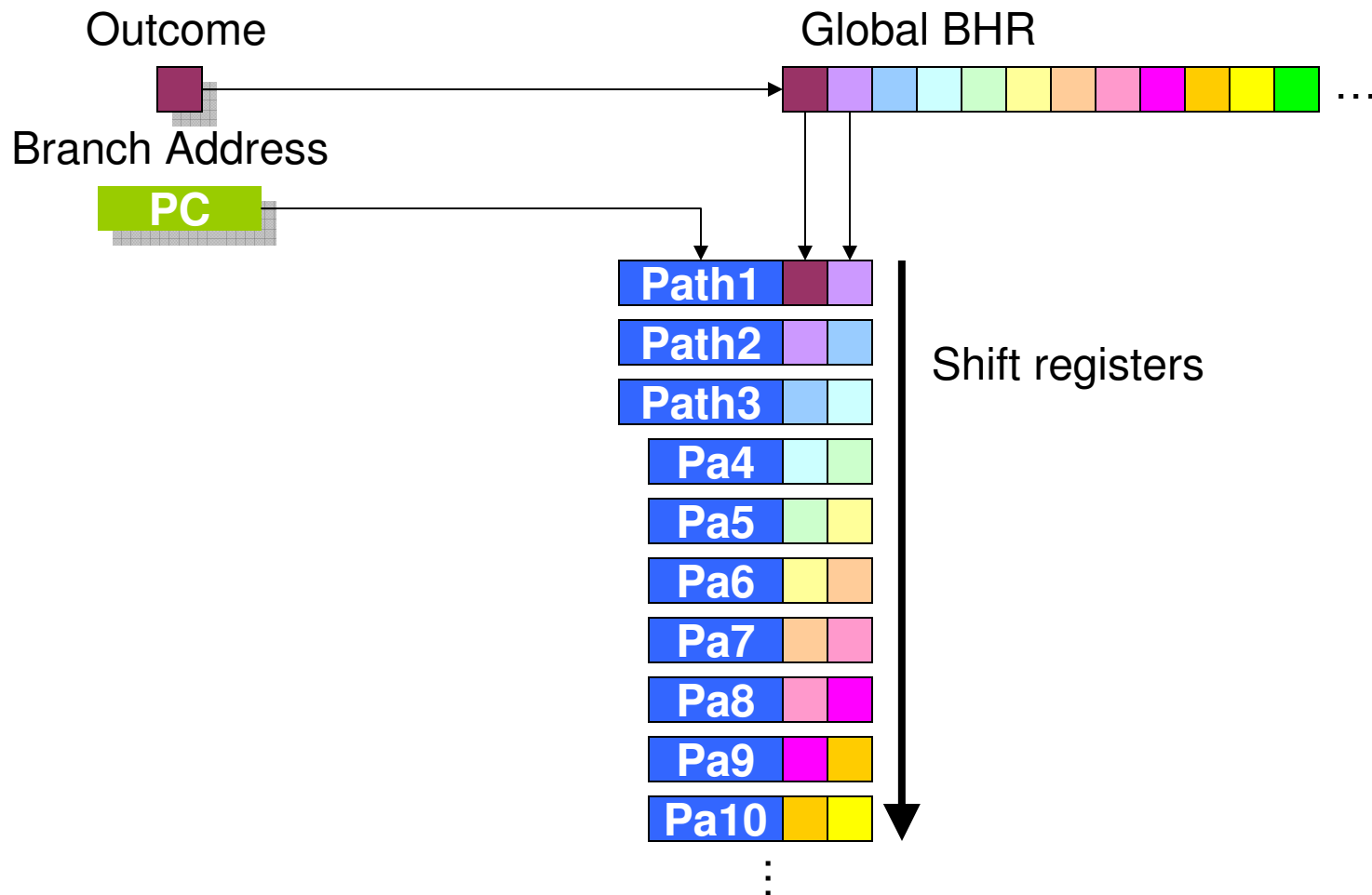
Unconditional Branches

- Always predict taken, of course
- No update to PHTs, neural weights, path
- Update global BHR:



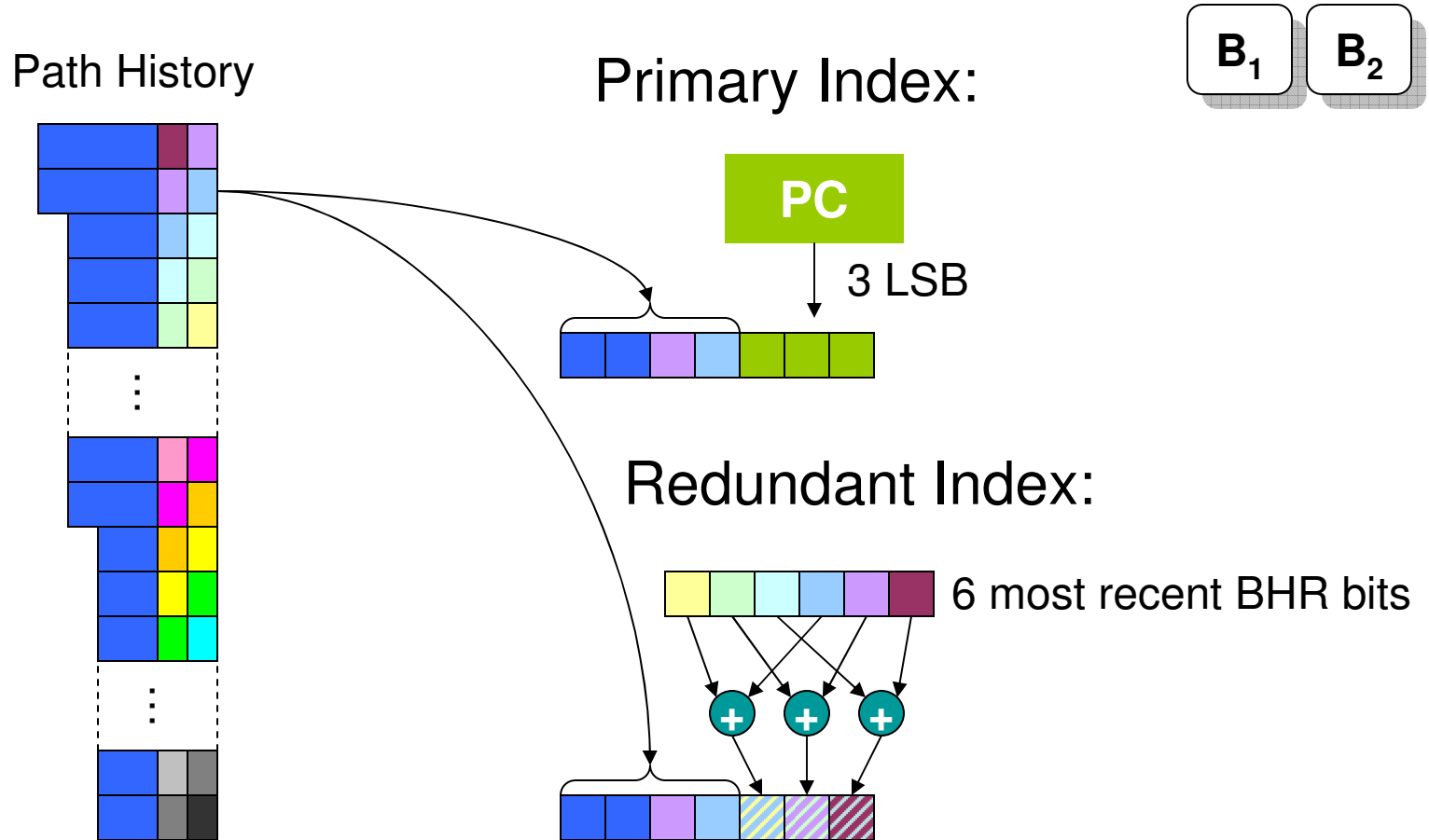


“Path” History Update





Index Generation




Implementation Issues

- Frankenpredictor optimized for state
- Neural table sizes not power-of-two
- Redundant indexing biggest challenge
 - Many hash functions
 - Many ports
 - Huge adder tree



Summary



- Gskew for capacity, Neural for long-history
 - Neural also for fusion
- Gskew-Agree
 - Skewing for interference-avoidance
 - Agree-prediction for interference-tolerance
- Contact: 
 - loh <at> cc.gatech.edu
 - <http://www.cc.gatech.edu/~loh>