



COMPUTER ARCHITECTURE THROUGH THE LOOKING GLASS

A talk by Nick Macias

Tuesday, 4 Nov 2025

12:00 pm-1:00 pm

WSU Vancouver

VLSB 206

Alice famously tumbled down a rabbit hole, finding herself in a fantastical world of absurdities. She eventually returned home to her familiar world; but what if she hadn't? What if, instead, she followed a different path, digging her way up to the surface of a very different world?

In this talk, we'll venture down a rabbit hole to see an absurd computer architecture. But then, instead of coming back to the river bank, we'll keep pushing the boundaries of what a computer is, how it works, and what properties it must have, until we reach something new: a computing system that shows great potential for learning, yet is so bizarre that there is still no known way to explicitly program it.



J.R.