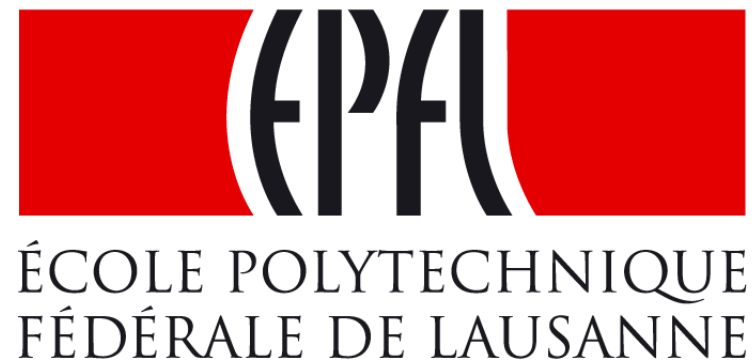


# Reliability in the Dark Silicon Era

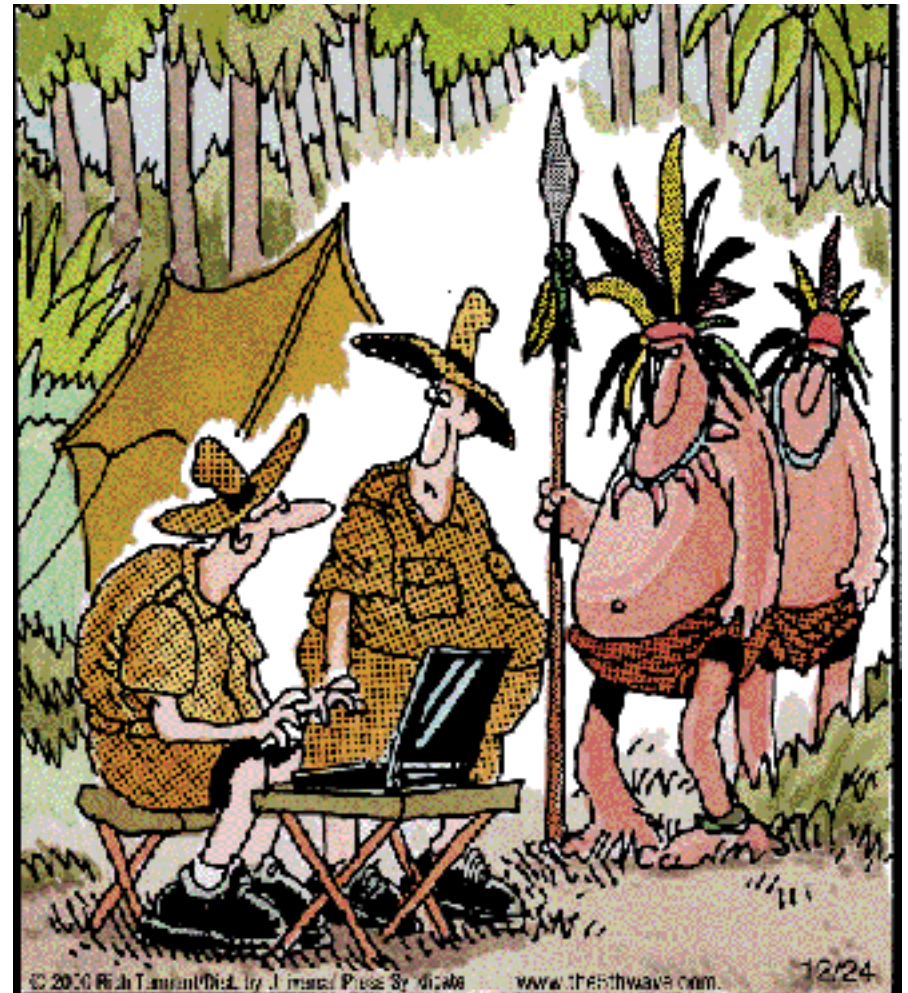
Babak Falsafi  
Director, EcoCloud  
ecocloud.ch



# IT is ever more **indispensable**

Our life w/o digital data  
is unimaginable as

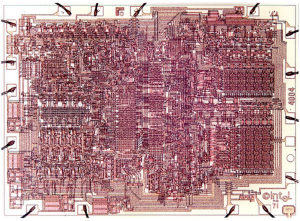
- Enterprises
- Scientists
- Governments
- Societies
- Individuals



**“He saw your laptop and wants to know if he can check his Hotmail.”**

# IT: An Exponential Growth

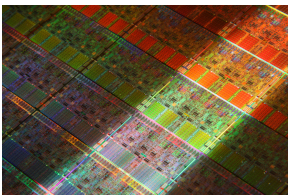
Intel 4004, 1971



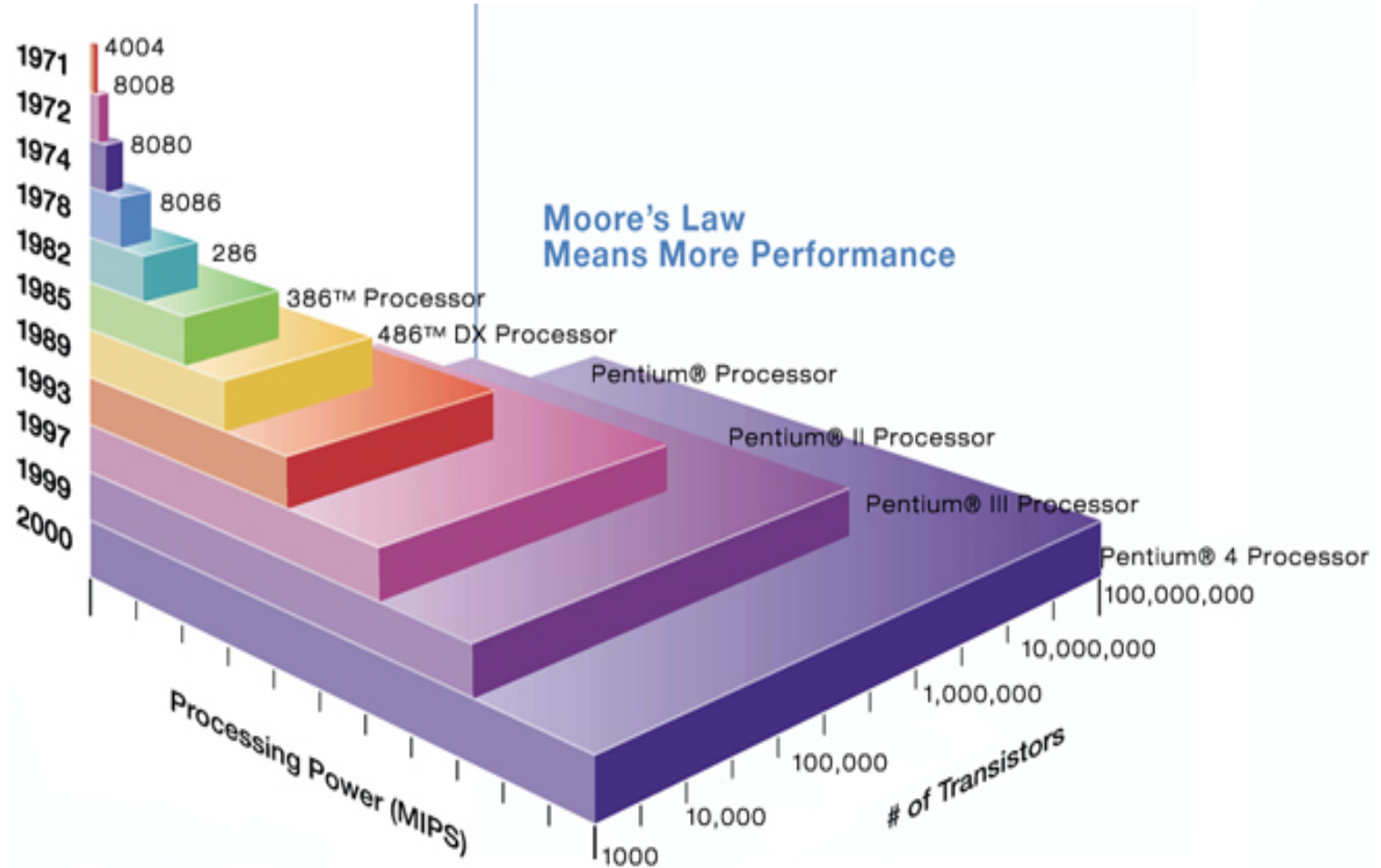
92,000 ops/second



Intel Nehalem, 2009



12,000,000,000 ops/second



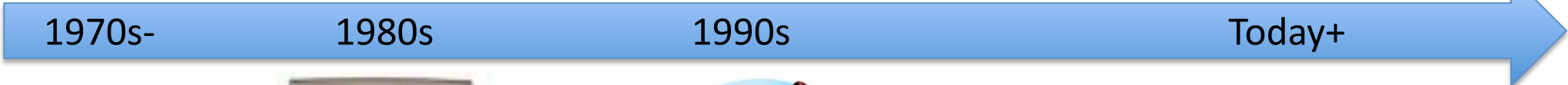
Four decades of digital platform proliferation  
Exponential increase in density & decrease in cost

# A Brief History of IT

Communication Era



Consumer Era



1970s-

1980s

1990s

Today+

Mainframes



PC Era



- From scientific instrument to commodity
- From product to service

# IT: The Consumer Era

Phenomenal change from decades ago:

- Instant connectivity
- Shopping now online
- Daily interaction > 300 people
- Augmented reality
- Streaming movies
- .....

IT is at core of everyone's life!

# Change in IT's Landscape

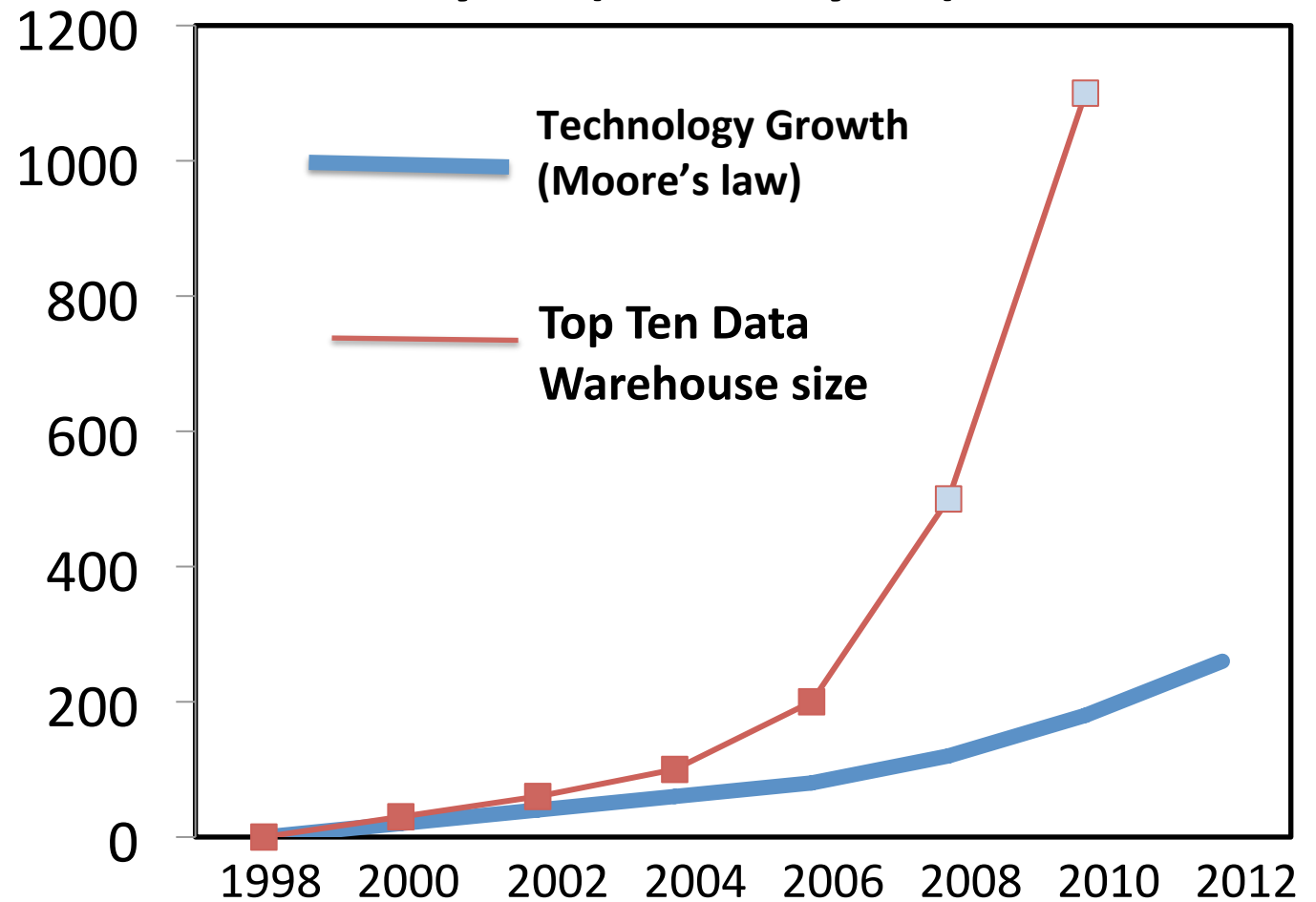
- **Emergence of Data-Centric Universe**
  - IT focus on massive data
- End of Dennard Scaling
  - Higher density → higher energy
- Data-Centric Universe meets Energy Wall

What are design implications?

# Our Data-Centric Universe: Data Growing faster than Technology

Terabytes (=  $10^{12}$  bytes) of Data

- Commerce entirely data-driven
- Science handling massive data
- Companies spending \$\$\$ to collect/analyze data
- Personalized computing



WinterCorp Survey, [www.wintercorp.com](http://www.wintercorp.com)

# Data Deluge: 1200 Exabytes in 2010

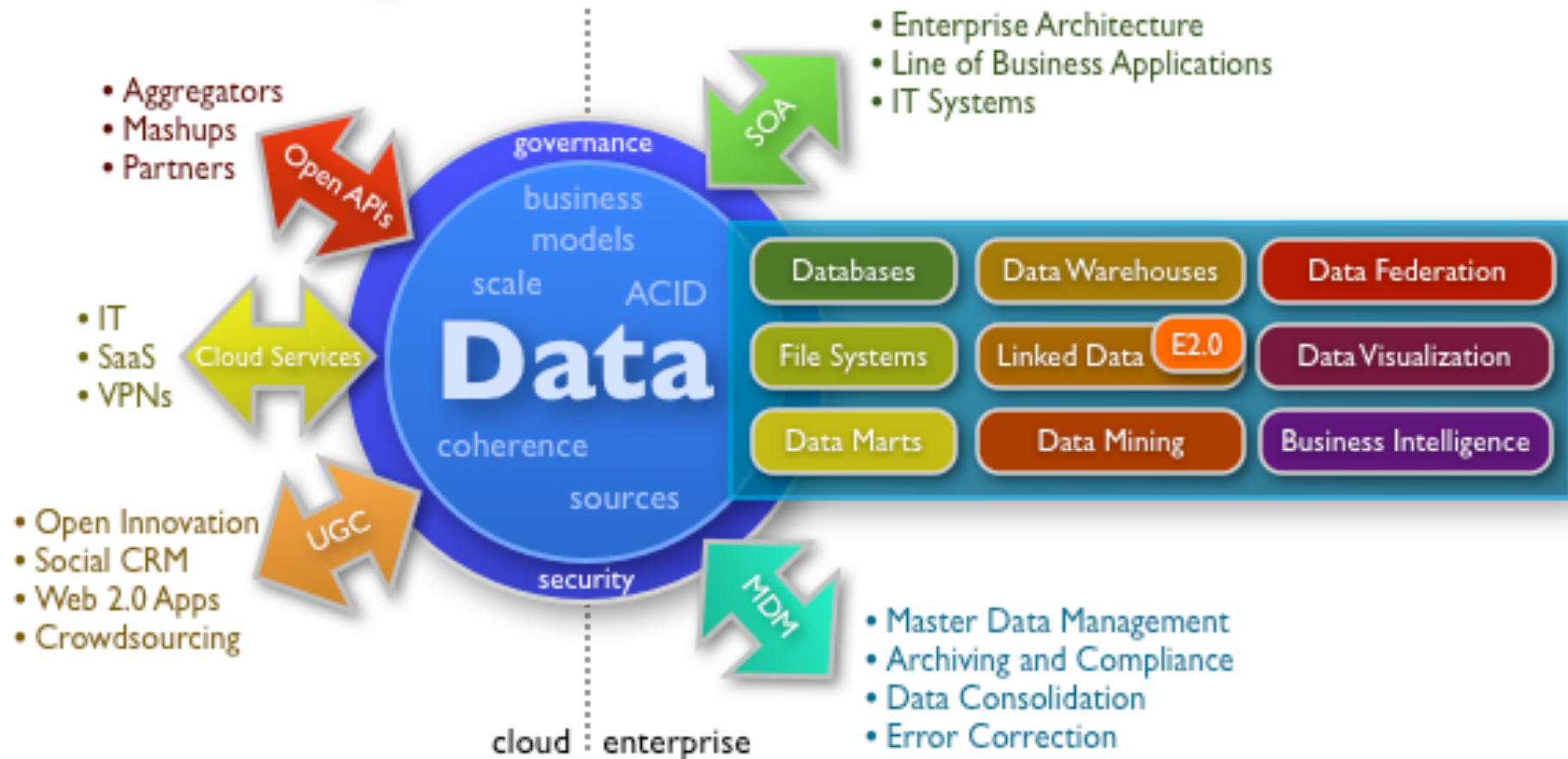
(Economist, Feb. 25<sup>th</sup> 2010)



- Only 150 Exabytes in 2005
- Supply-chain management, 10x increase in data in a year
- US aerial surveillance models 30x more data in 2011



# Anatomy of a Data-Centric Business

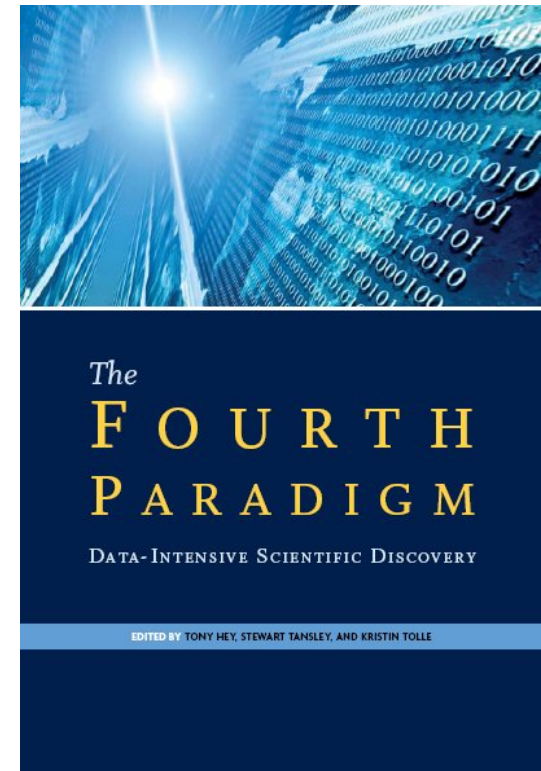


- Era of “knowledge economy”
- 50% of economic value in developed countries
- Dominant supply-chain component of products/services

# Data-Centric Science: “The Fourth Paradigm”

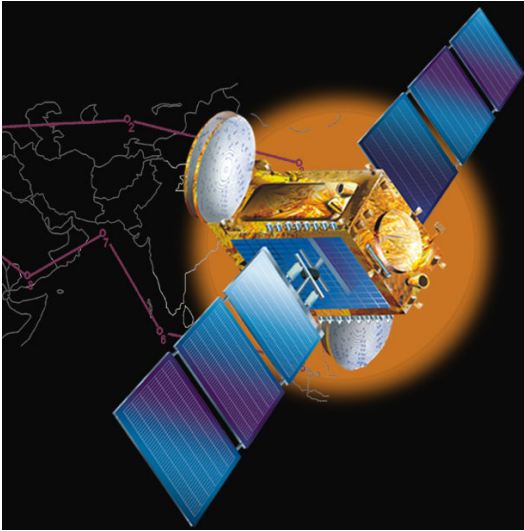
Mining data from:

- Archives
- Humans
- Sensors/instruments
- Simulations



Unifying theory, experimentation, simulation,  
analytics on massive data

# Data Comes in Various Flavors



**Satellite**



**Health**



**Entertainment**



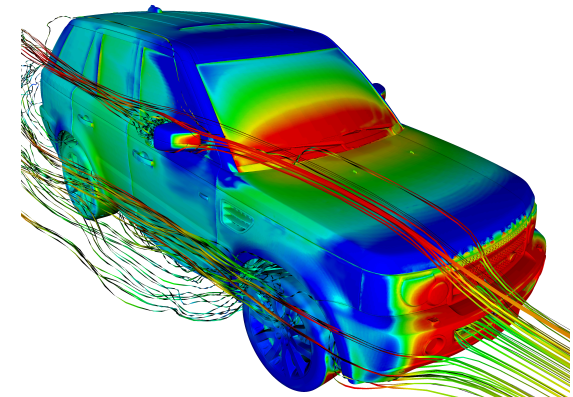
**Life**



**Commerce**



**Search**



**Simulation**

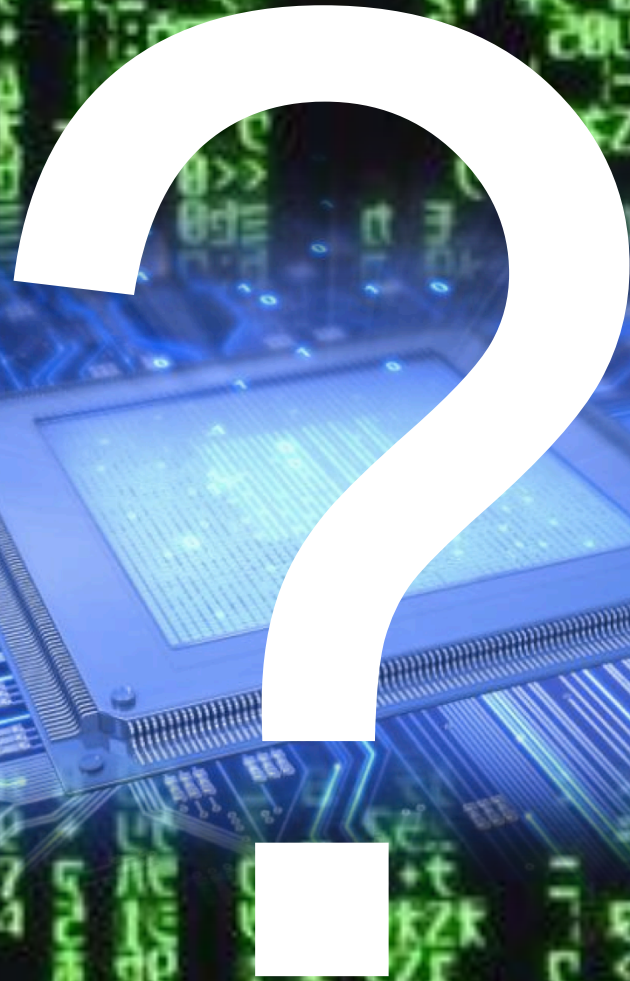
# It's all about Accessing Data!



## Cloud Computing

A computing paradigm shift to enable ubiquitous connectivity

# How to design for massive data



# Change in IT's Landscape

- Emergence of Digital Universe
  - IT focus on massive data
- End of “Free Energy”
  - Higher density → higher energy
- Data-centric Universe meets Energy Wall

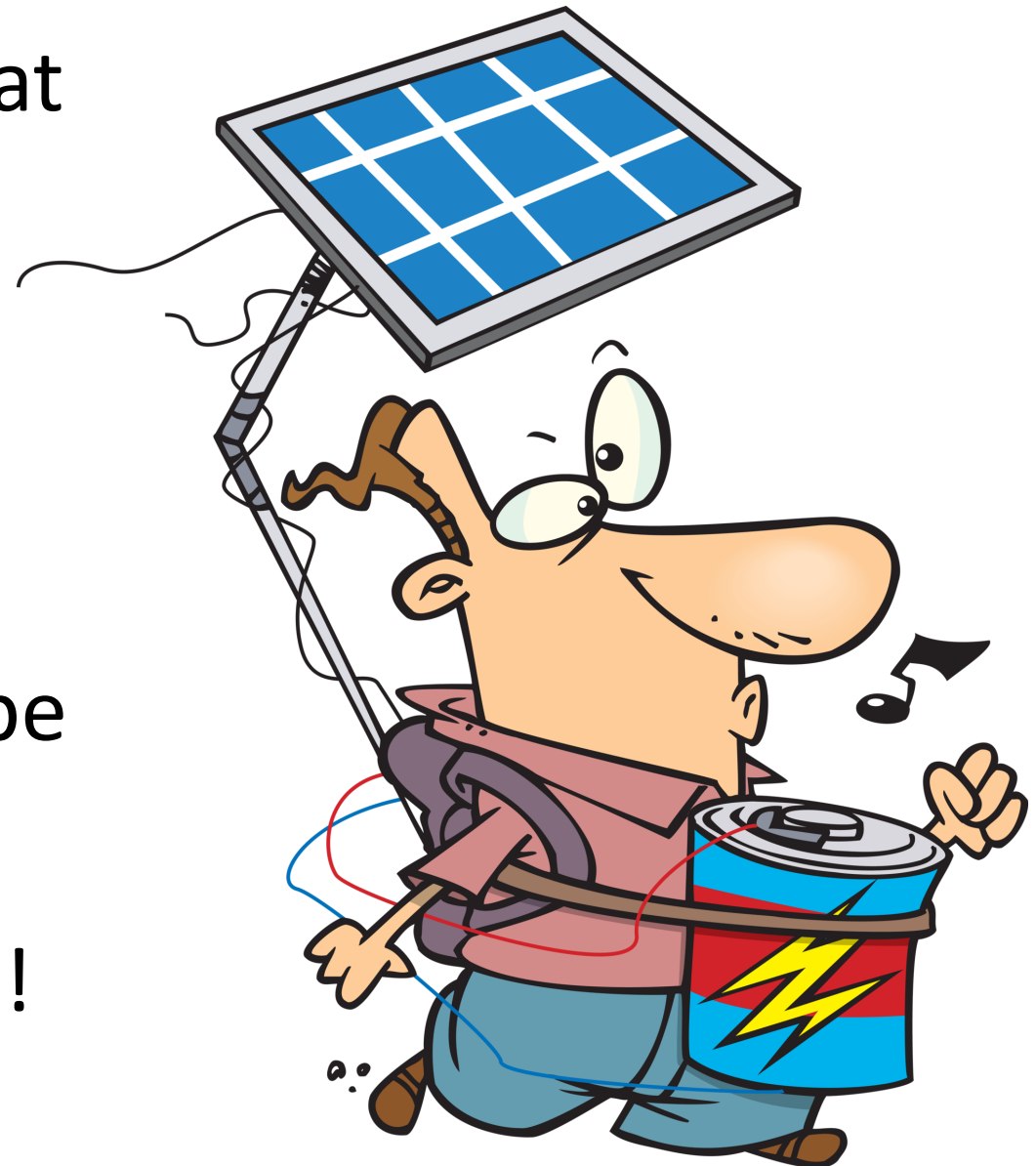
What are design implications?

# IT Energy is Shooting Up!

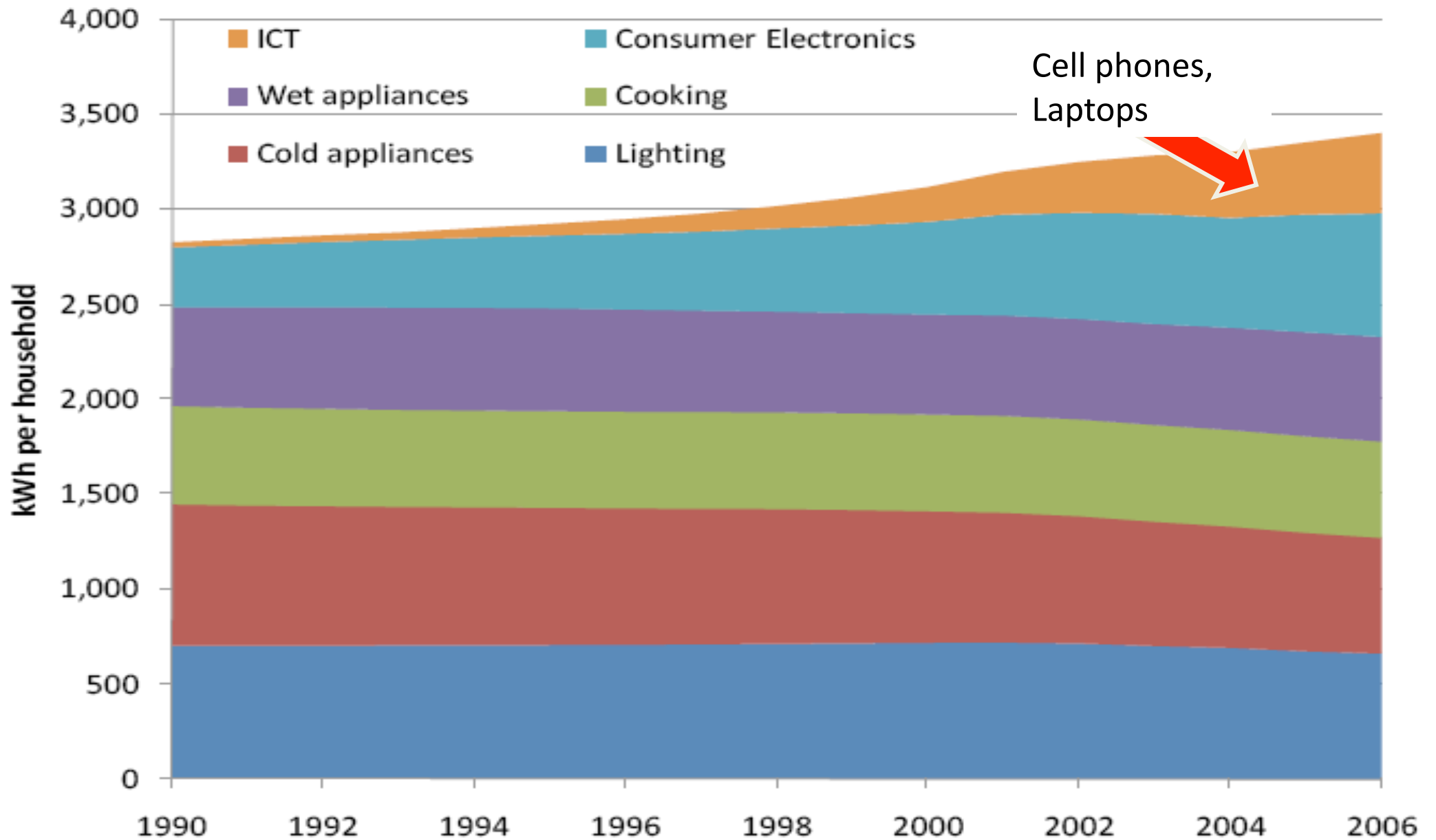
IT riding on technology that was energy-friendly

- Exponentially better performance, density
- Constant power envelope

But, energy is shooting up!



# Household Energy in the UK (UK BERR, 2008)

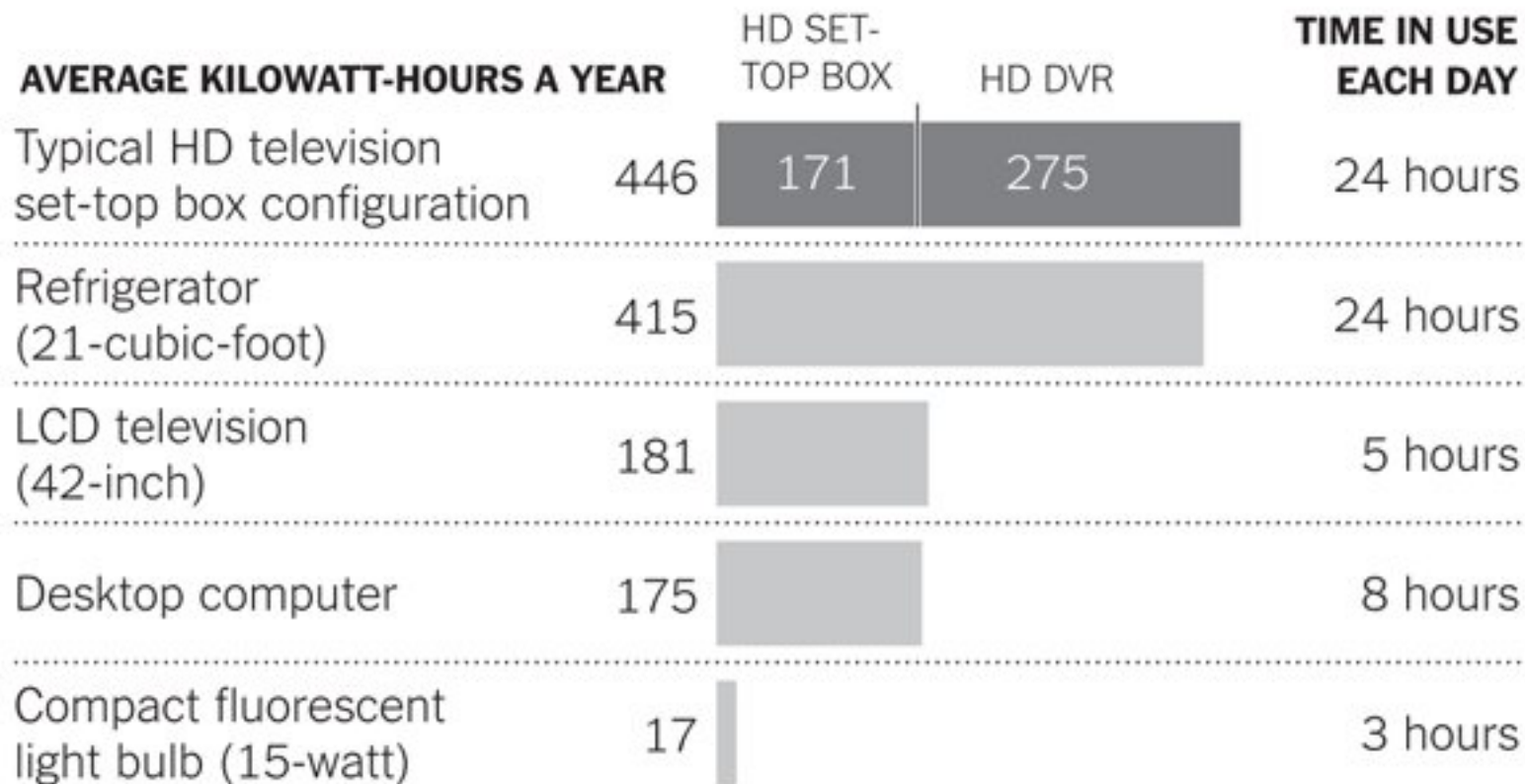




# Household Energy in the US (NY Times, 2011)

## Comparing Energy Use

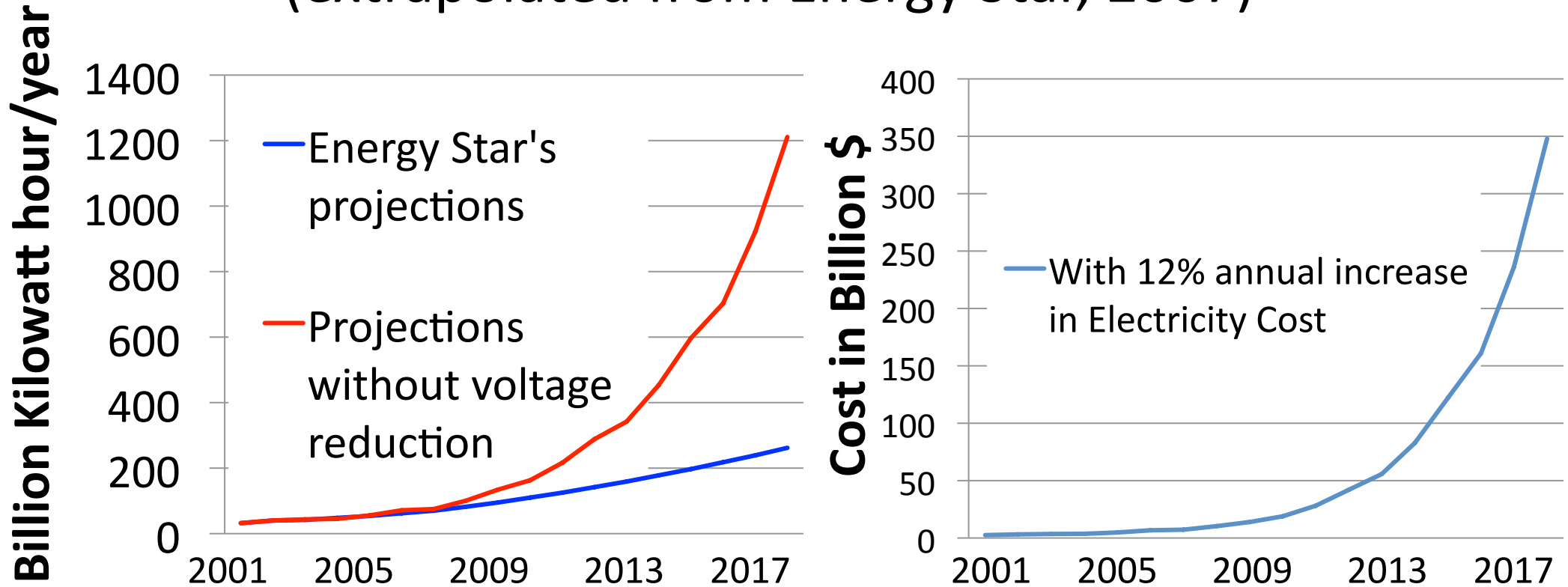
Comparison of a typical television set-top box configuration with Energy Star-rated appliances and devices.



Source: Natural Resources Defense Council

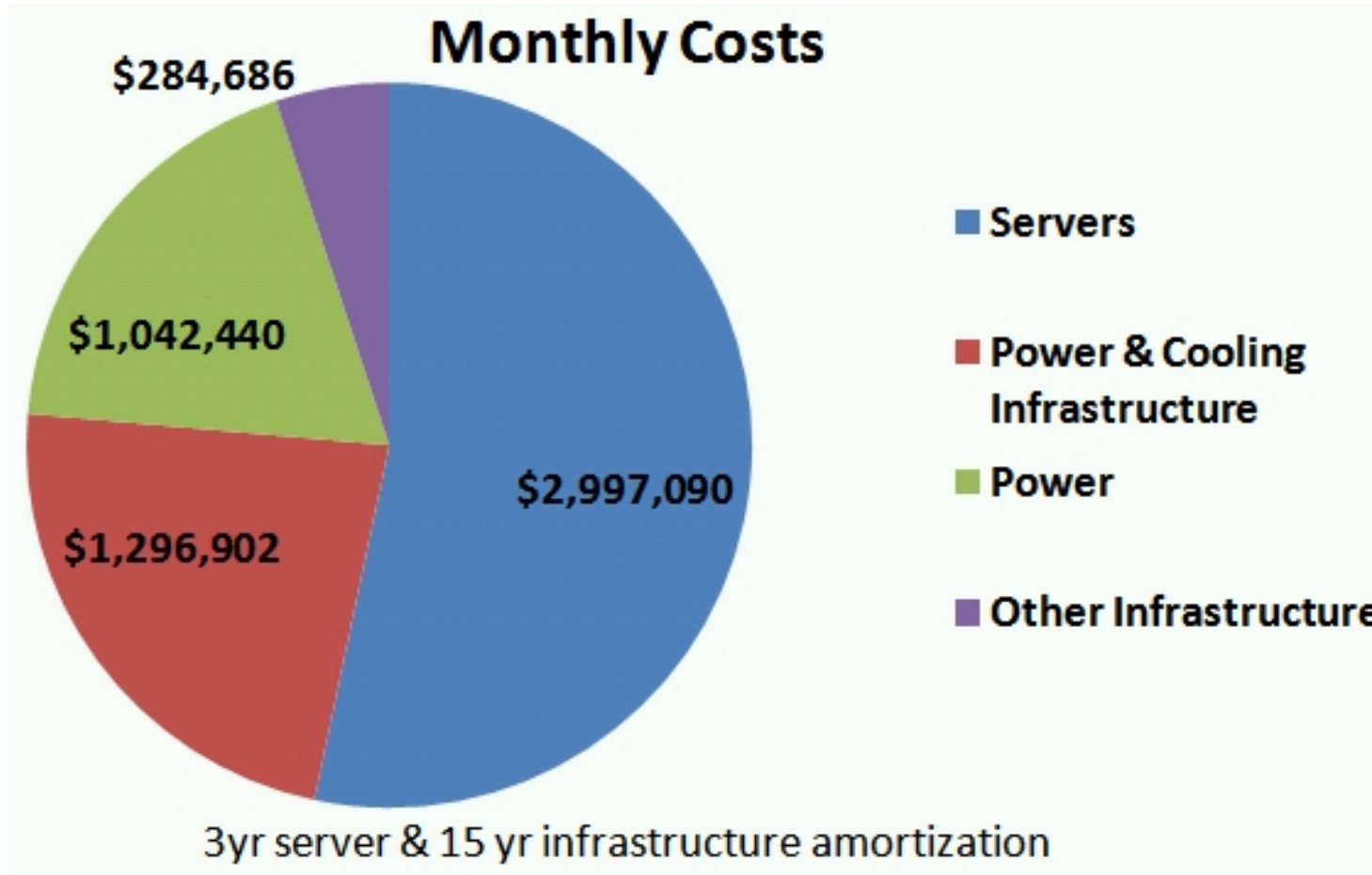
THE NEW YORK TIMES

# Data center Energy in the US (extrapolated from Energy Star, 2007)



- Exponential costs if not mitigated
- Today, carbon footprint of airline industry

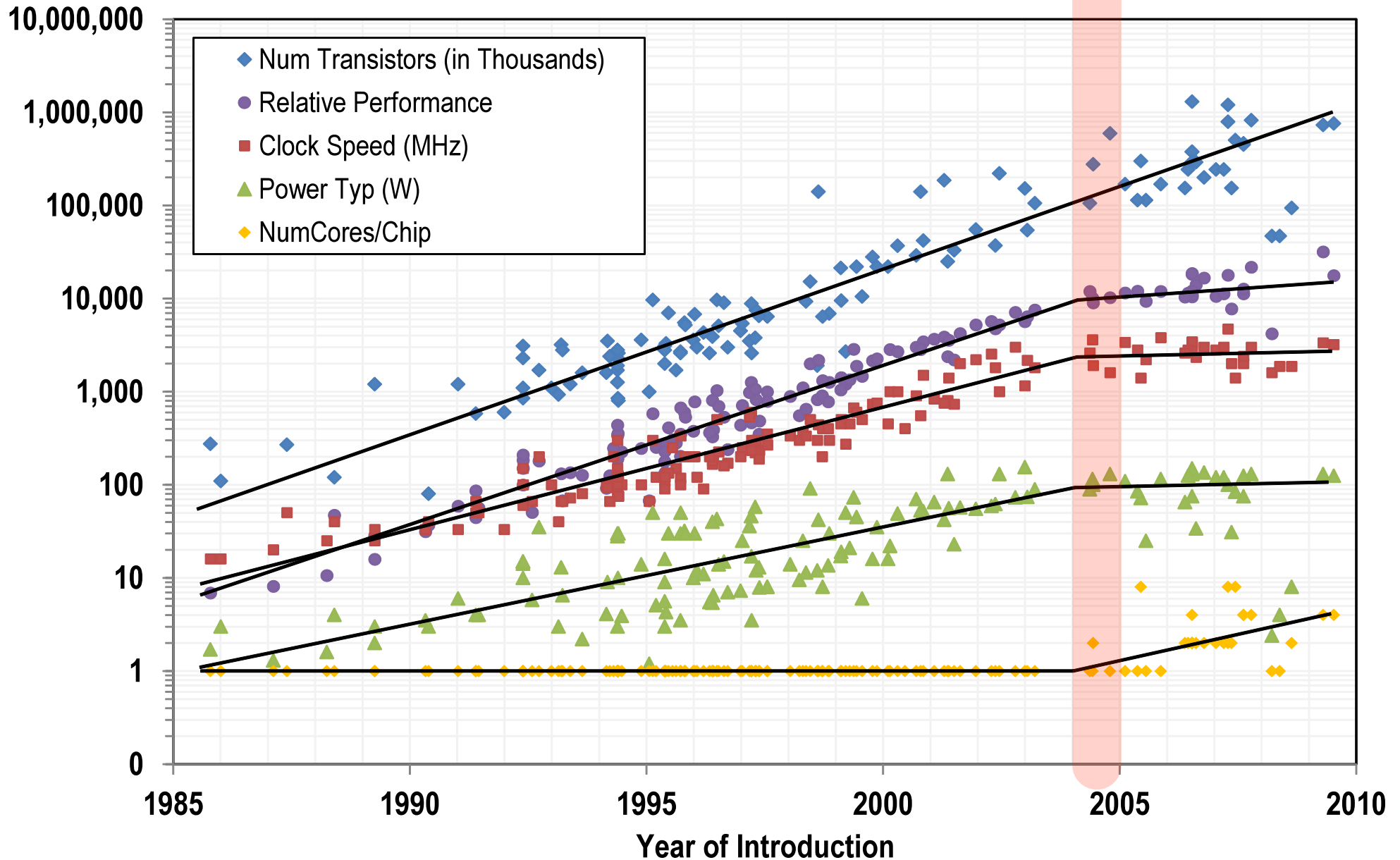
# Energy > Capital Cost



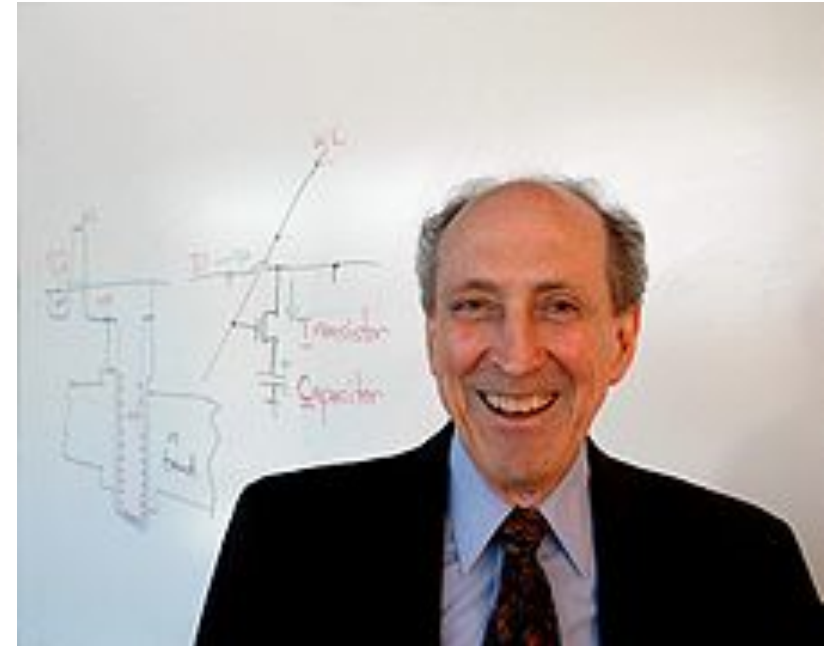
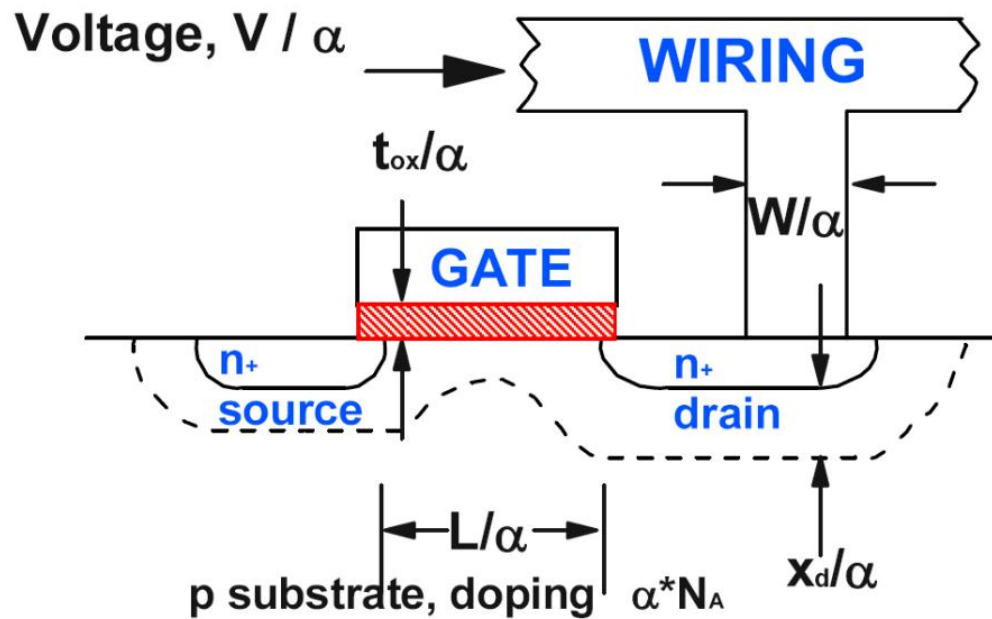
James Hamilton's Blog,  
mvdirona.com, 2008

- Servers are getting relatively cheaper
- Power is beginning to dominate cost

# Technology Inflection Point in 2004!



# Four decades of Dennard Scaling



Robert H. Dennard, picture from Wikipedia

Dennard et. al., 1974

- **$P = C V^2 f$**
- Increase in device count
- Lower supply voltages
- ➔ Constant power/chip

# Leakage Killed Dennard Scaling

Leakage:

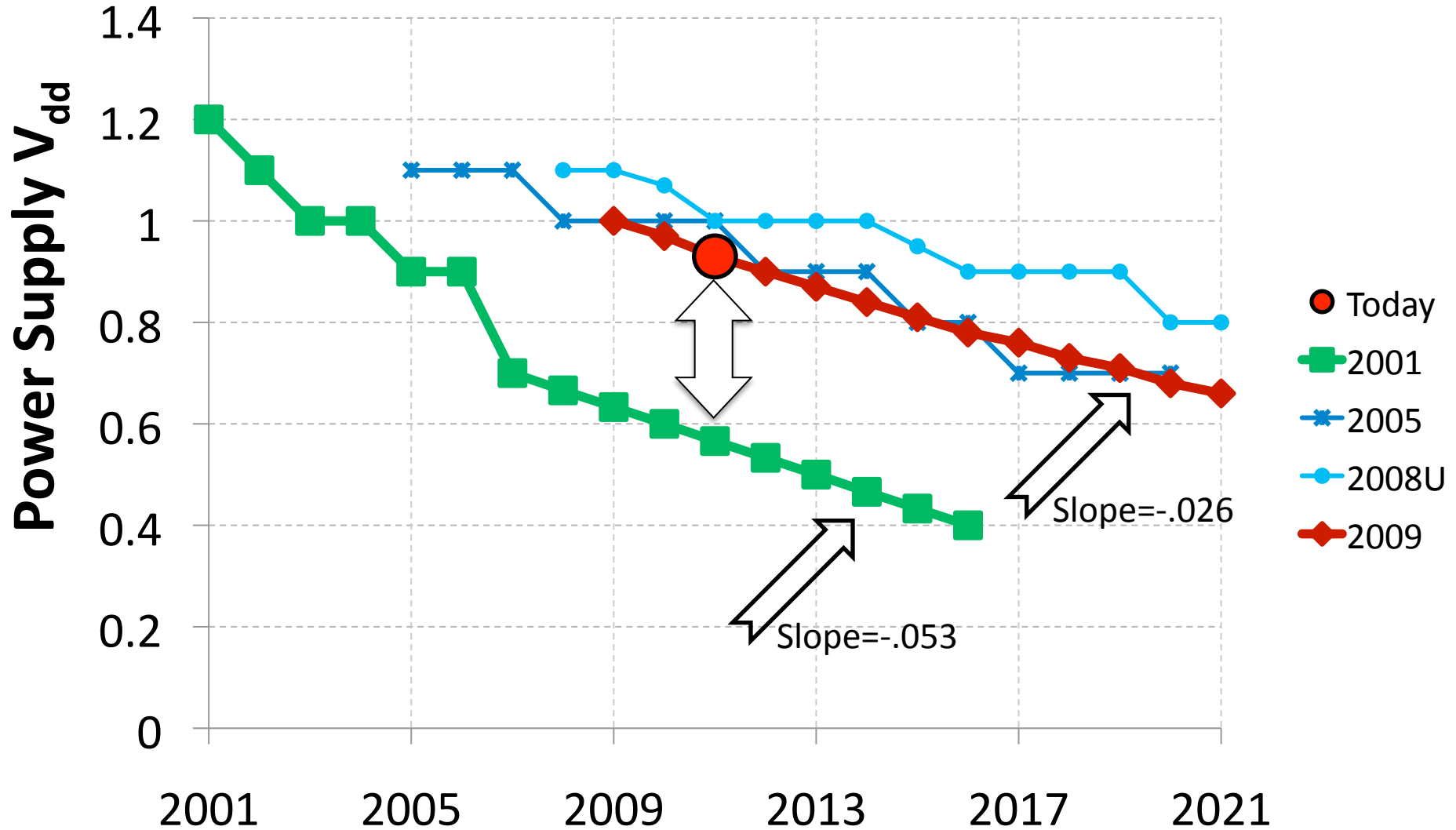
- Exponential in inverse of  $V_{th}$
- Exponential in temperature
- Linear in device count

To switch well

- must keep  $V_{dd}/V_{th} > 3$

→  $V_{dd}$  can't go down

# End of Dennard Scaling (ITRS)



Mike Ferdman, from ITRS pages, July 2011

Supply voltages going down at much lower rate!

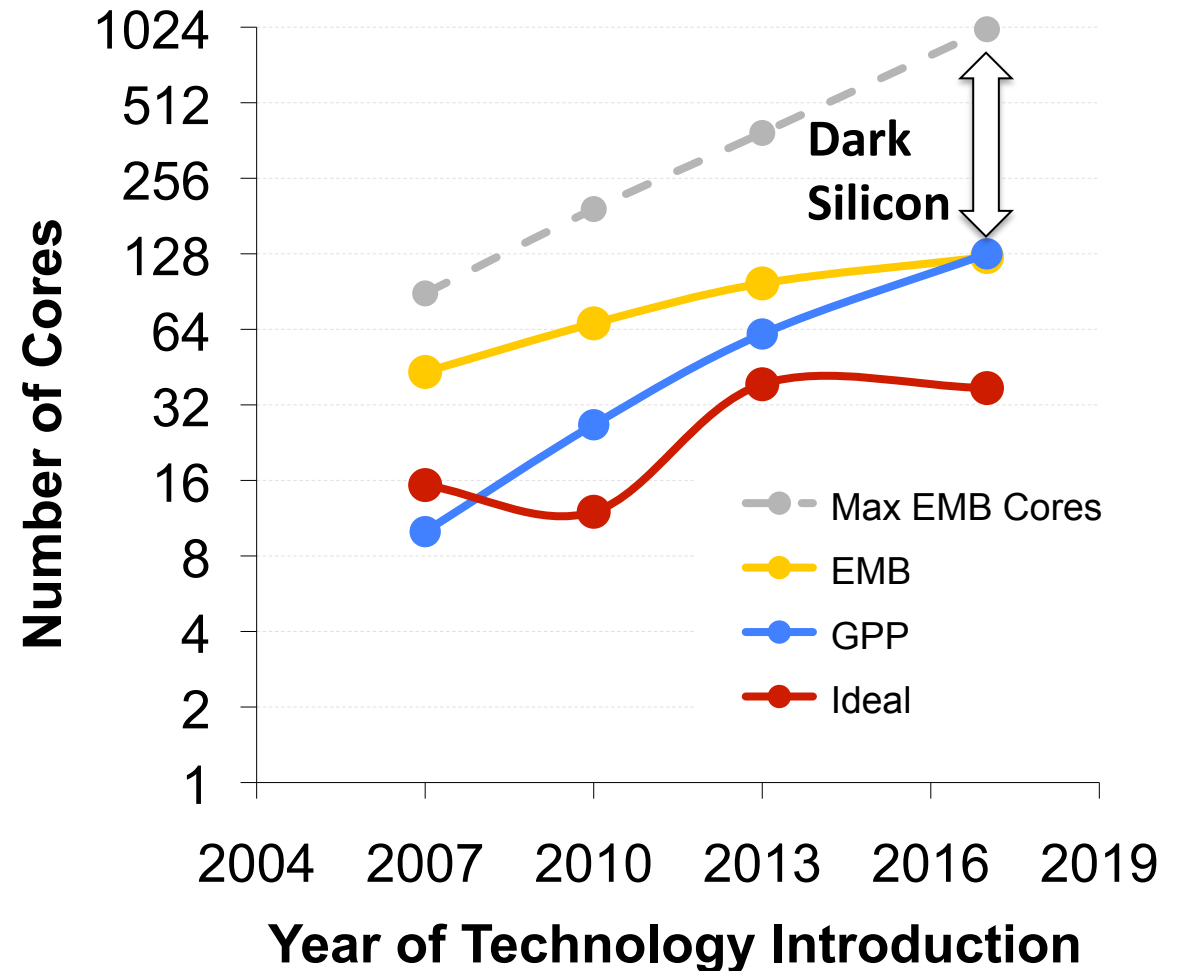
# Dark Silicon: End of Manycore Scaling

Can not power up chip

Parallelism has limits  
**even in Servers!**

Must:

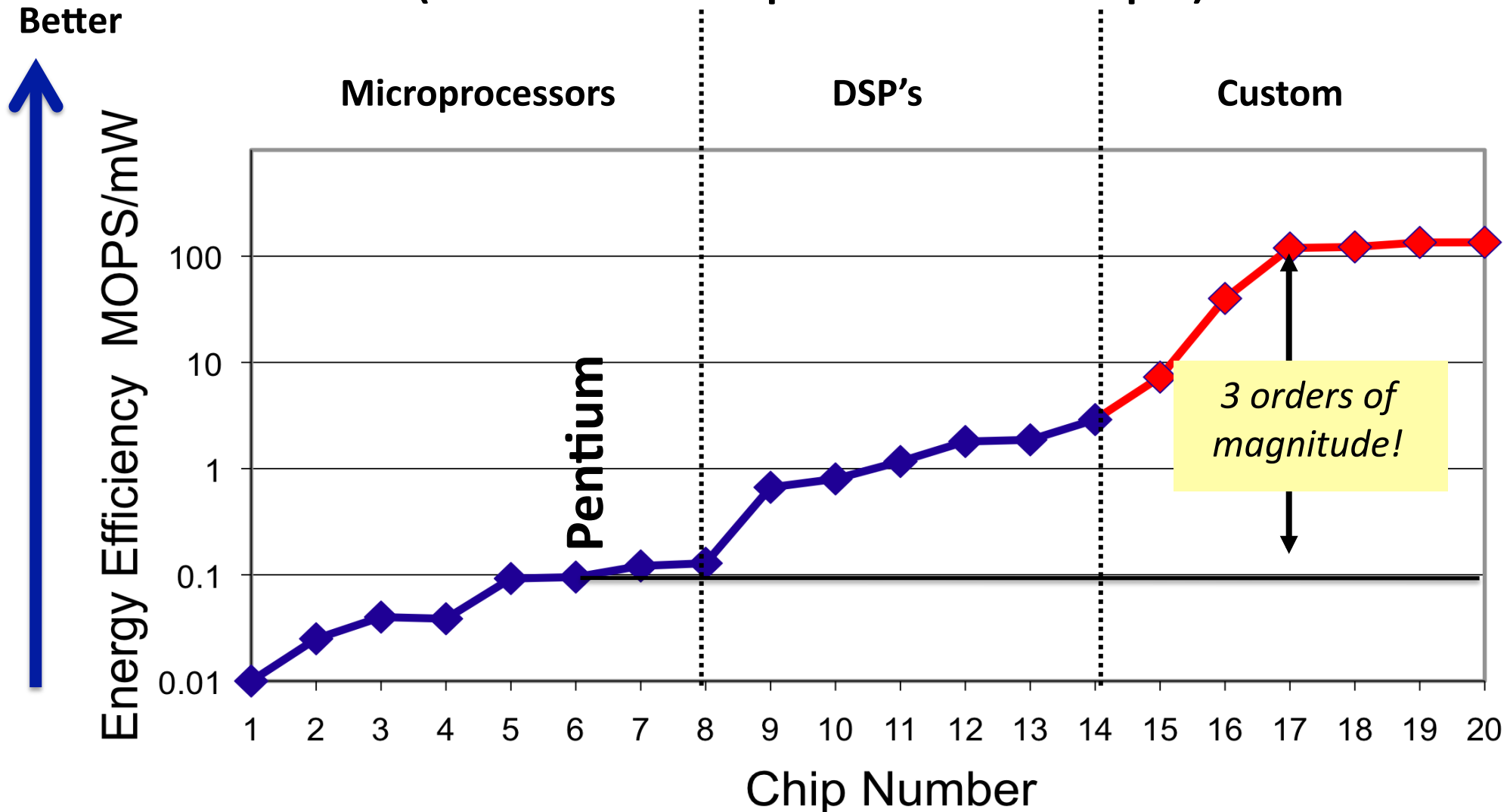
- specialize
- selectively power up



Hardavellas et. al., "Towards Dark Silicon in Servers", 2011



# Specialization can buy 1000x in Energy (from a sample of 20 chips)



Mihai Badiu, "On the Energy Efficiency of Computation", 2004

# Performance $\neq$ Energy

## Energy proportionality

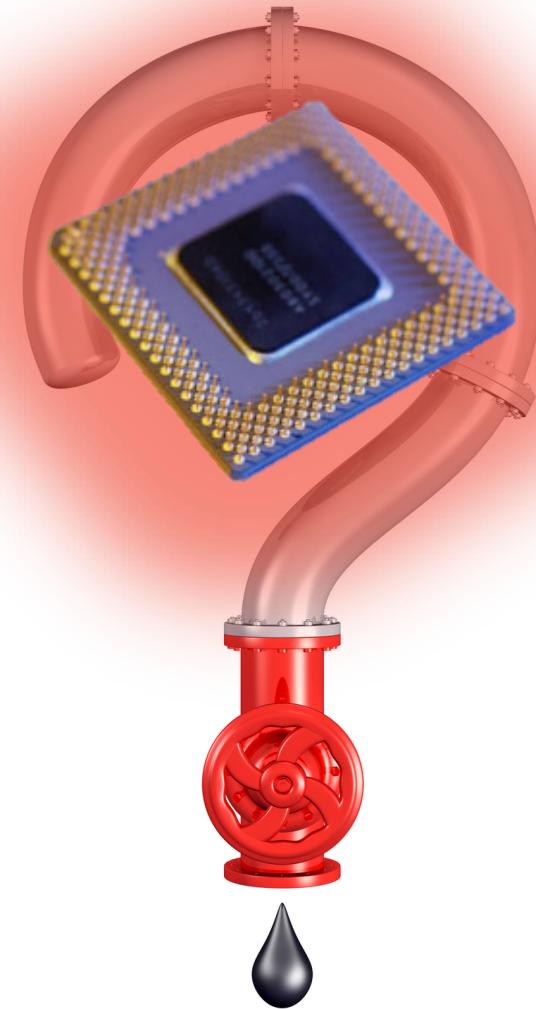
- Avoid idle energy (today 70% of peak in DC's)

## Energy minimization

- Perform same task with less energy
  - E.g., specialized hardware
- Exploit slack in energy  $\rightarrow$  Batch tasks/ops

Less energy, same performance

# Massive Data meets Energy Wall



# Change in IT's Landscape

- Emergence of Data-Centric Universe
  - IT focus on massive data
- End of “Free Energy”
  - Higher density → higher energy

→ Data-Centric Universe meets Energy Wall

What are design implications?

# What are the design implications?

Less energy for reliability:

- Trade off HW for less work/energy
- Let it die, detect it, deal with it in SW

Less energy for computation:

- Exploit approximation
- Exploit inherent resilience in data

# Temperatures in Datacenters up 30F!

Google, HP, Microsoft

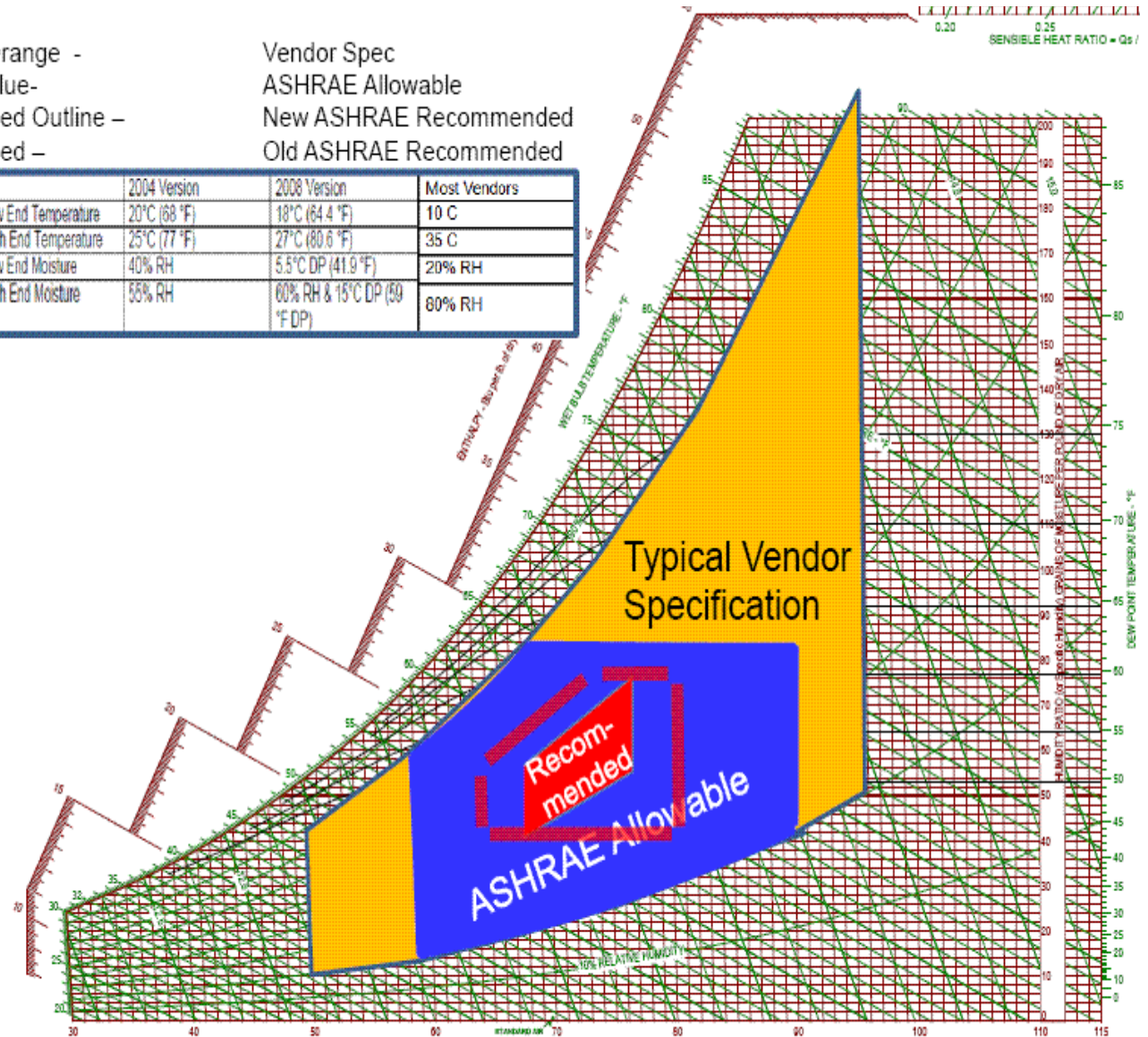
- Pushing temps up
- No perceived change in failure
- High cost reduction

Energy > capital cost:

- Detect failure
- SW fault tolerance takes center stage

Orange - Vendor Spec  
 Blue - ASHRAE Allowable  
 Red Outline - New ASHRAE Recommended  
 Red - Old ASHRAE Recommended

	2004 Version	2008 Version	Most Vendors
Low End Temperature	20°C (68 °F)	18°C (64.4 °F)	10 C
High End Temperature	25°C (77 °F)	27°C (80.6 °F)	35 C
Low End Moisture	40% RH	5.5°C DP (41.9 °F)	20% RH
High End Moisture	55% RH	60% RH & 15°C DP (59 °F DP)	60% RH



# Cheaper Reliability

## Processors:

- Lightweight detectors
- Fingerprinting, Argus, SWAT revisited for energy
- Sampling DMR

## Memory:

- 2D ECC
- Count-based ECC
- Virtualized ECC



# Dark Silicon & Reliability

Match made in heaven:

- Provide only necessary coverage
- Specialize reliability (with computation)

Dark silicon:

- Trade off real estate functionality for spare
- Trade off capacity for lower voltages



# Exact vs. Probabilistic

Much computation is error-resilient:

- Machine learning/analytics
- Image processing/visual computation
- Audio/speech
- Search

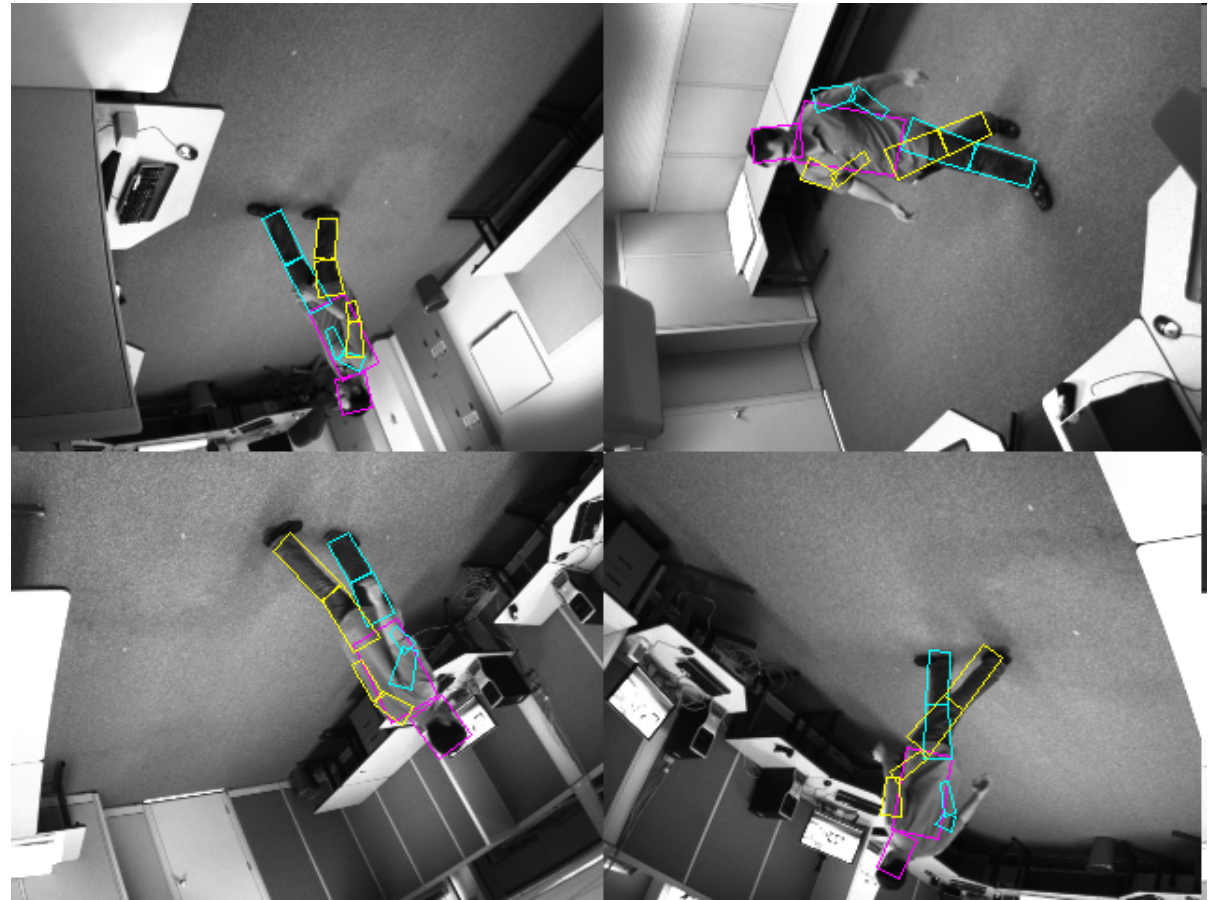
Similarly, two flavors of data

- Exact: affects functionality (pointer address)
- Probabilistic: affects quality (pixels in image)

# Perforated (Skipped) Computation

## bodytrack benchmark (PARSEC)

- Compiler-driven perforation
- Skip 40% of computation
- Maintains track on head, chest and legs



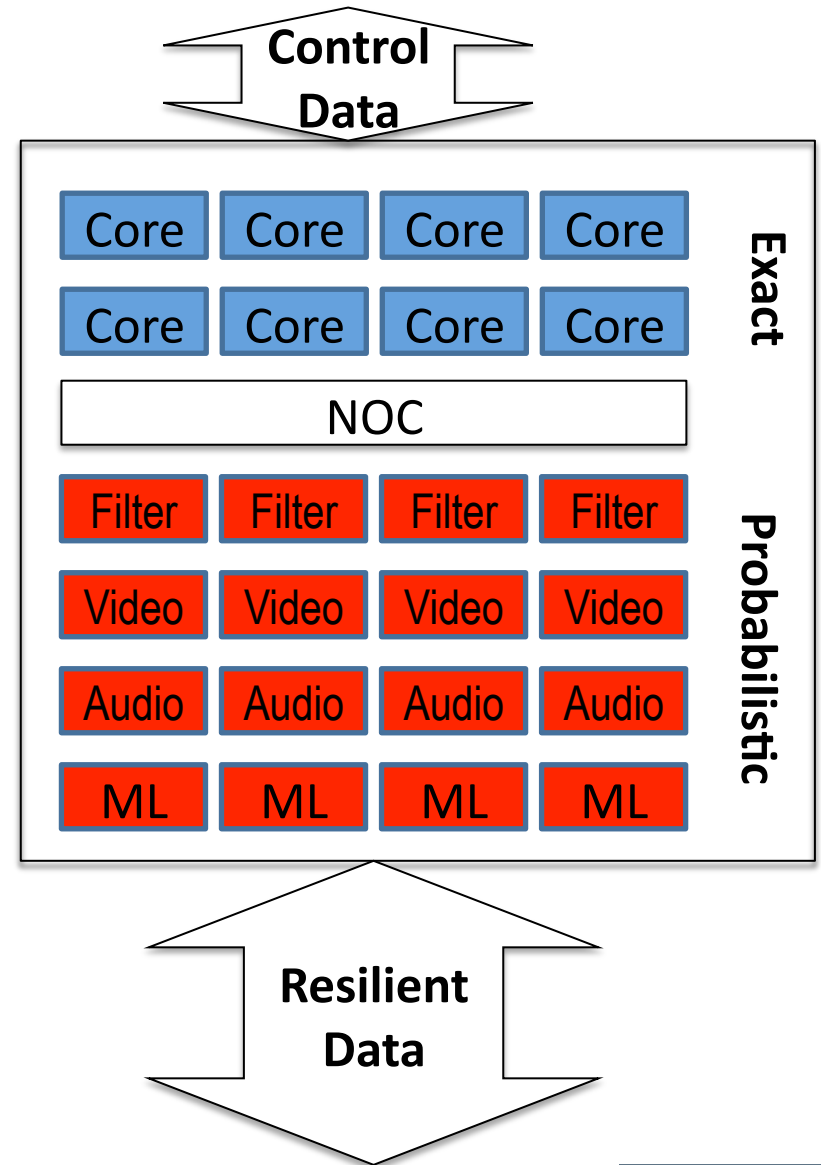
Computation does not  
have to be exact!

Hoffman et. al., “Using Loop Perforation to Dynamically Adapt Application Behavior to Meet Real-Time Deadlines”, 2010

# DeSyRe: Hybrid Reliability

Exploit resilience in computation & data

- Reliable + unreliable substrate
- Partition tasks according to resilience
- Maximize throughput with less energy



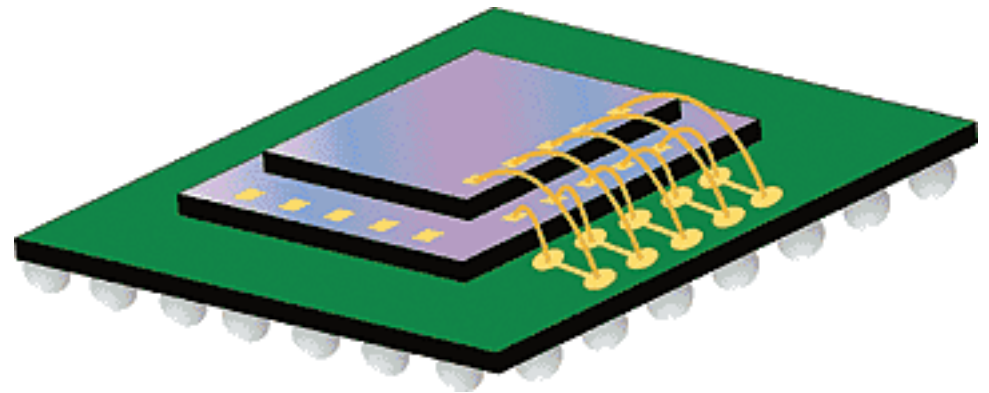
# Scaling in Third Dimension

Many technological  
challenges to overcome

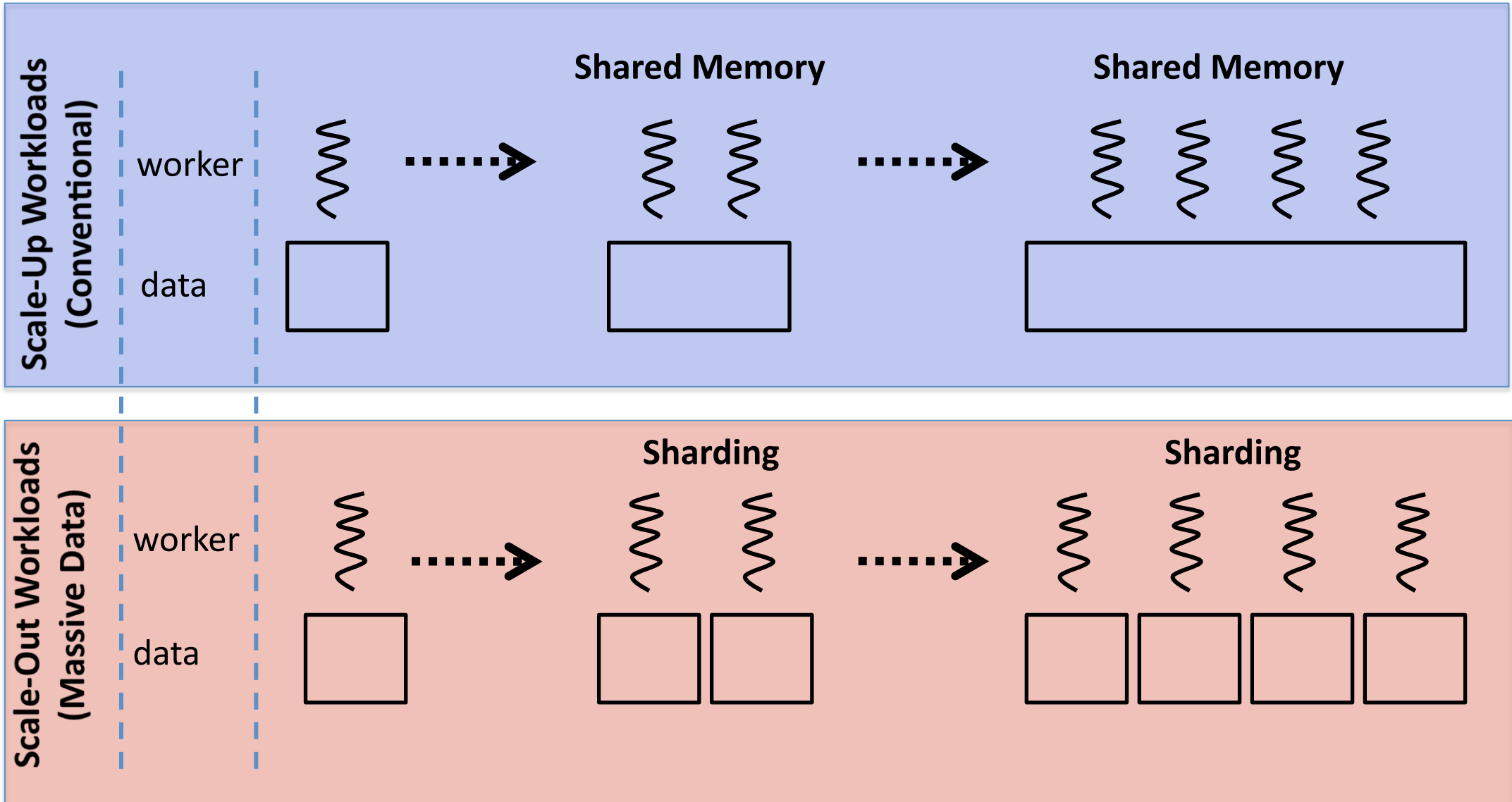
Worse thermal behavior

Great for massive data

- TB/sec bandwidth
- Reduces I/O energy



# Scale-Out vs. Scale-Up Workloads



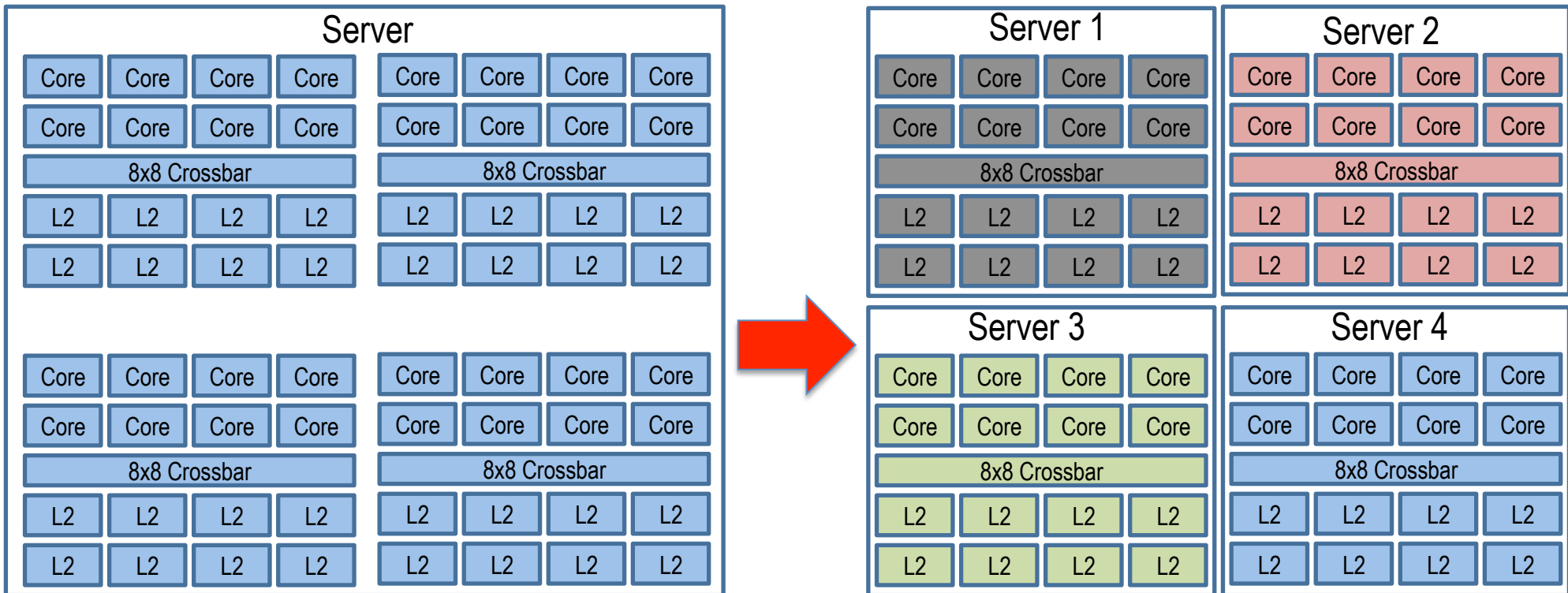
**Emerging workloads scale out!**

# Emerging Workloads are Scale-Out

## Examples:

- Data serving (YCSB)
- Streaming
- Search
- Analytics
- Web

# Scale-Out vs. Scale-Up Chips



**Scale-Up Chip: Conventional Shared Memory**

**Scale-Out Chip: Clustered Memory**

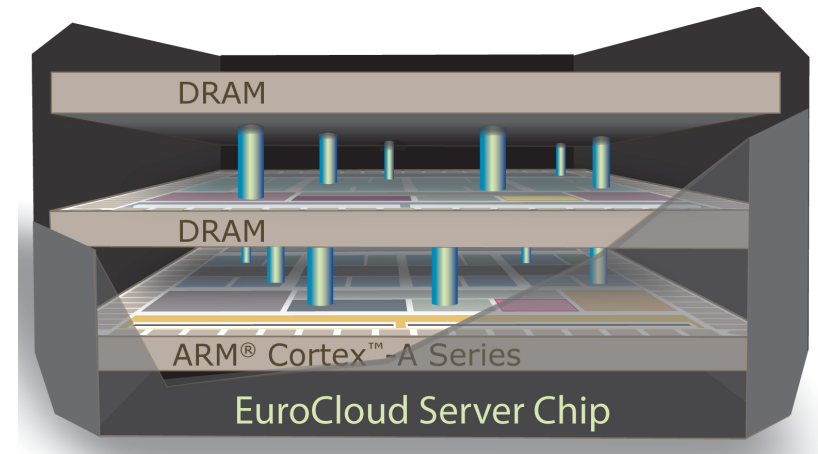
- Scaling out divides chip among **disconnected** servers
- Hardware isolation → improved reliability

# The EuroCloud Server: A Scale-Out Chip for Massive Data

([www.eurocloudserver.com](http://www.eurocloudserver.com))

## 3D SoC/DRAM:

- 1000x more connectivity
- 10x less system energy
- To run off-the-shelf cloud stack



Your Future 1-Watt  
Datacenter Chip



# Bringing it All Together

- IT is changing everything & itself changing
- Future: Plow massive data with minimal energy
- Our way of computing is inefficient
- Are our systems too exact, too robust?



# Thank You!

For more information please visit us at  
**ecocloud.ch**



ÉCOLE POLYTECHNIQUE  
FÉDÉRALE DE LAUSANNE