



**ecoCompute**

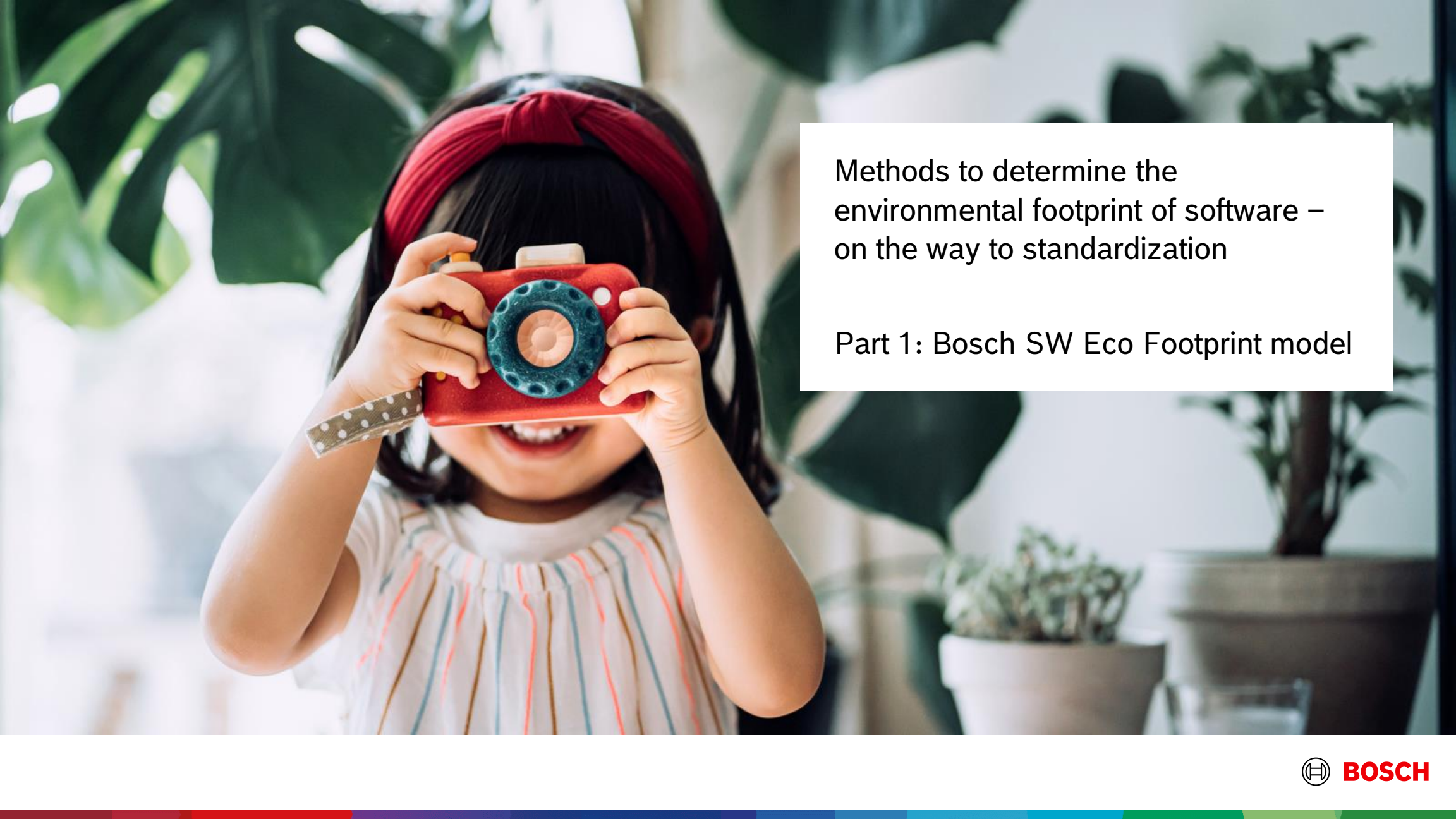
November 13, 2025



# **Methods to determine the environmental footprint of software – on the way to standardization**

Part I: Holger Smolinski – Bosch

Part II: Jens Gröger – Öko-Institut



Methods to determine the  
environmental footprint of software –  
on the way to standardization

Part 1: Bosch SW Eco Footprint model





# Invented for life





# Who we are

## Our business sectors



**Mobility**



**Industrial Technology**



**Consumer Goods**



**Energy and Building  
Technology**

# Sustainability at Bosch

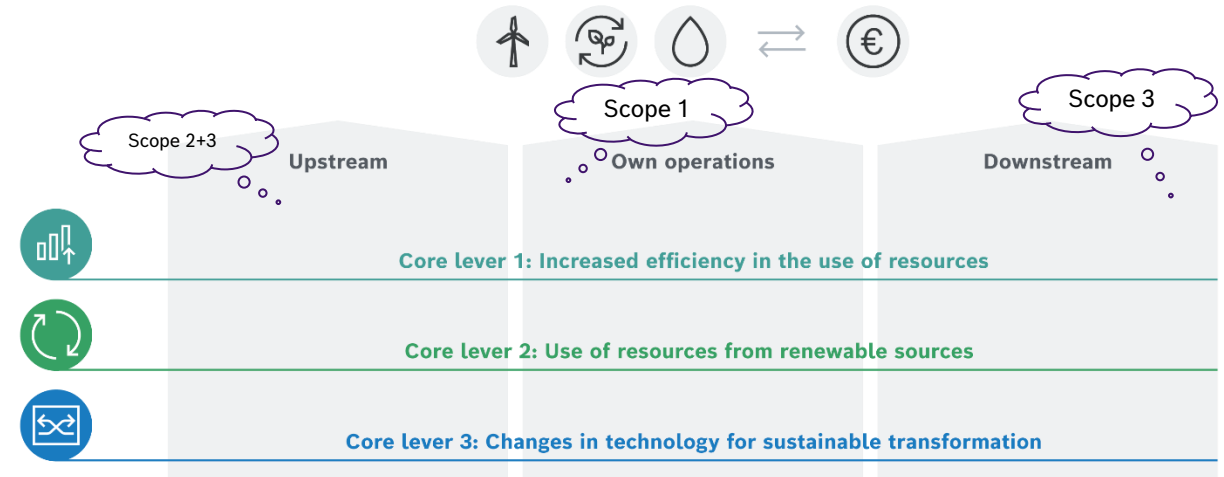
## Uniform sustainability methodology enables systematic control



The environmental dimensions of our vision for sustainability are underpinned by the same logic. This is characterized by **three core levers**, that can be applied along the value chain.

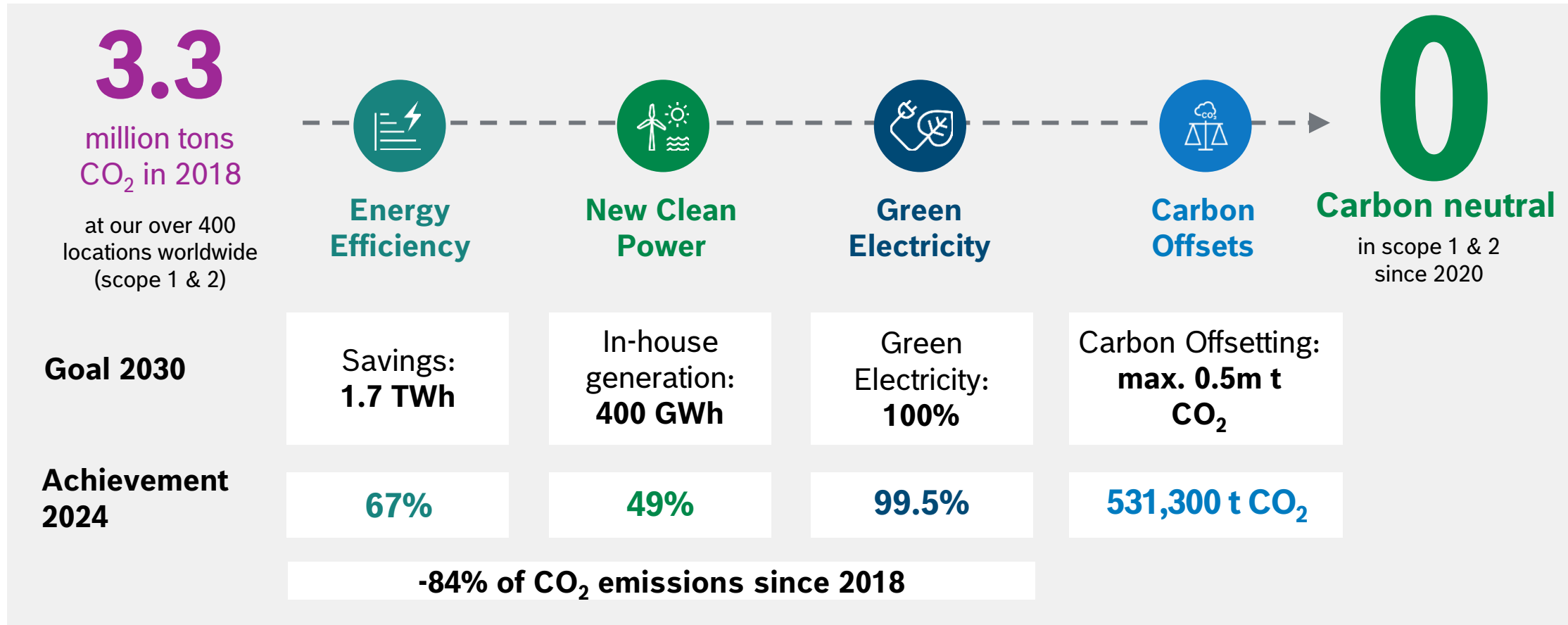
### Sustainability methodology

Core levers for improving sustainability performance along the value chain



# Climate action

## Carbon neutral in scope 1 & 2 since 2020





# Where we want to go

## Our sustainability targets



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**-30%**

absolute reduction in  
scope 3 carbon emissions  
by 2030\*

\*compared with 2018 baseline year





# Where we want to go

## Our sustainability targets



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**-25%**

absolute reduction in water  
withdrawal in regions with  
water scarcity by 2025\*

\*compared with 2017 baseline year

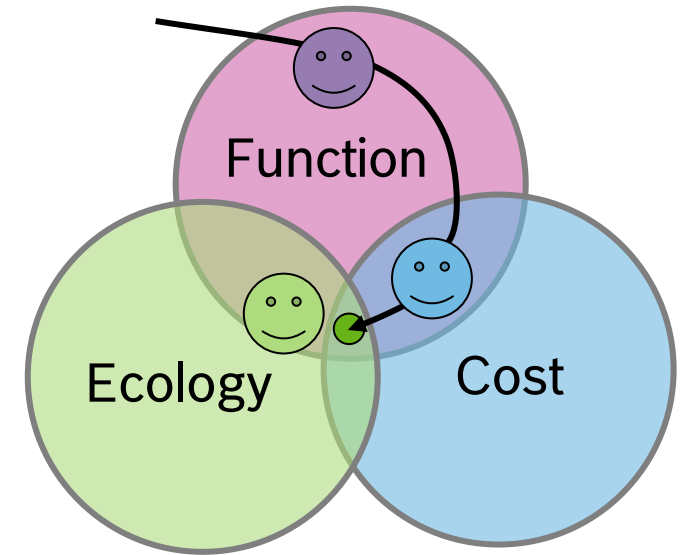


# Sustainability strategy of Bosch

## Design for Sustainability (Eco Design)



Reduce Ecological Footprint, especially Green House Gas emissions,  
during the **entire** product lifecycle  
by a **considerate product creation process**  
with a **Product Lifecycle** view.

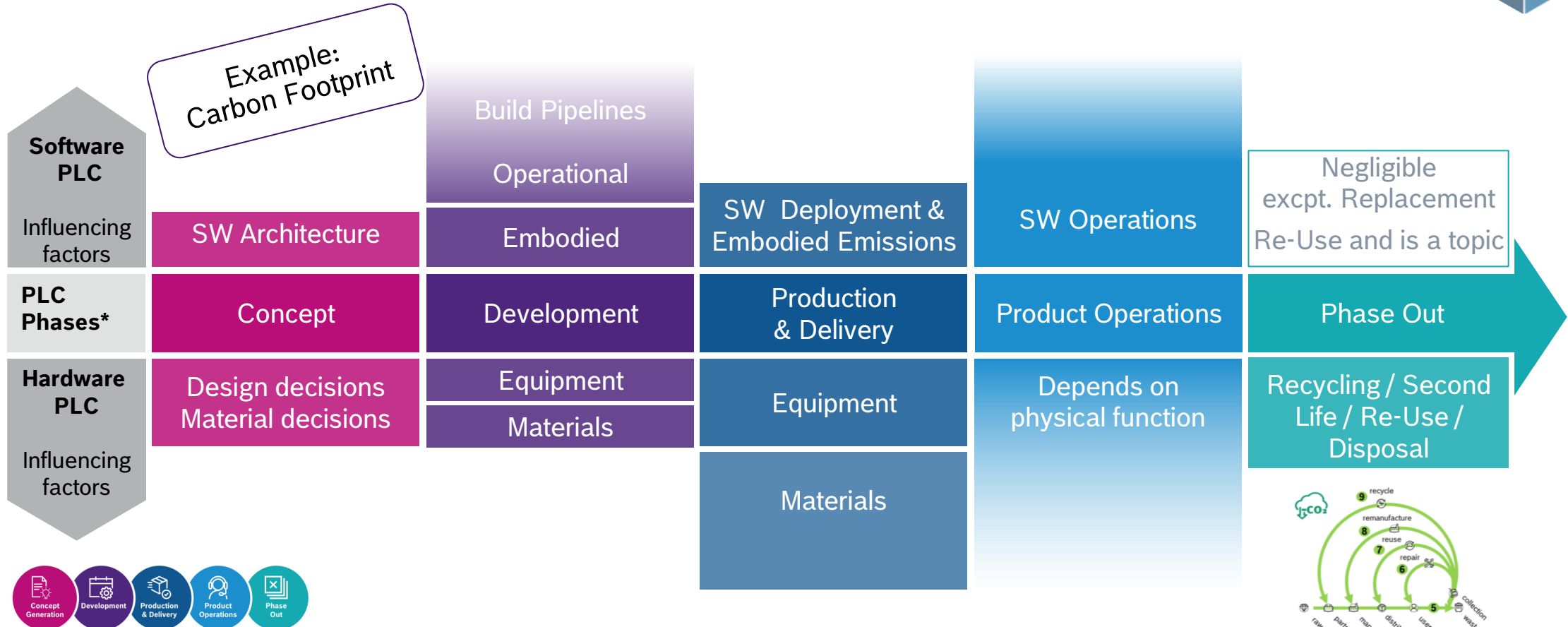


# Lifecycle Analysis of Software Eco Footprint

## SW has a different lifecycle profile than a typical HW



Example:  
Carbon Footprint



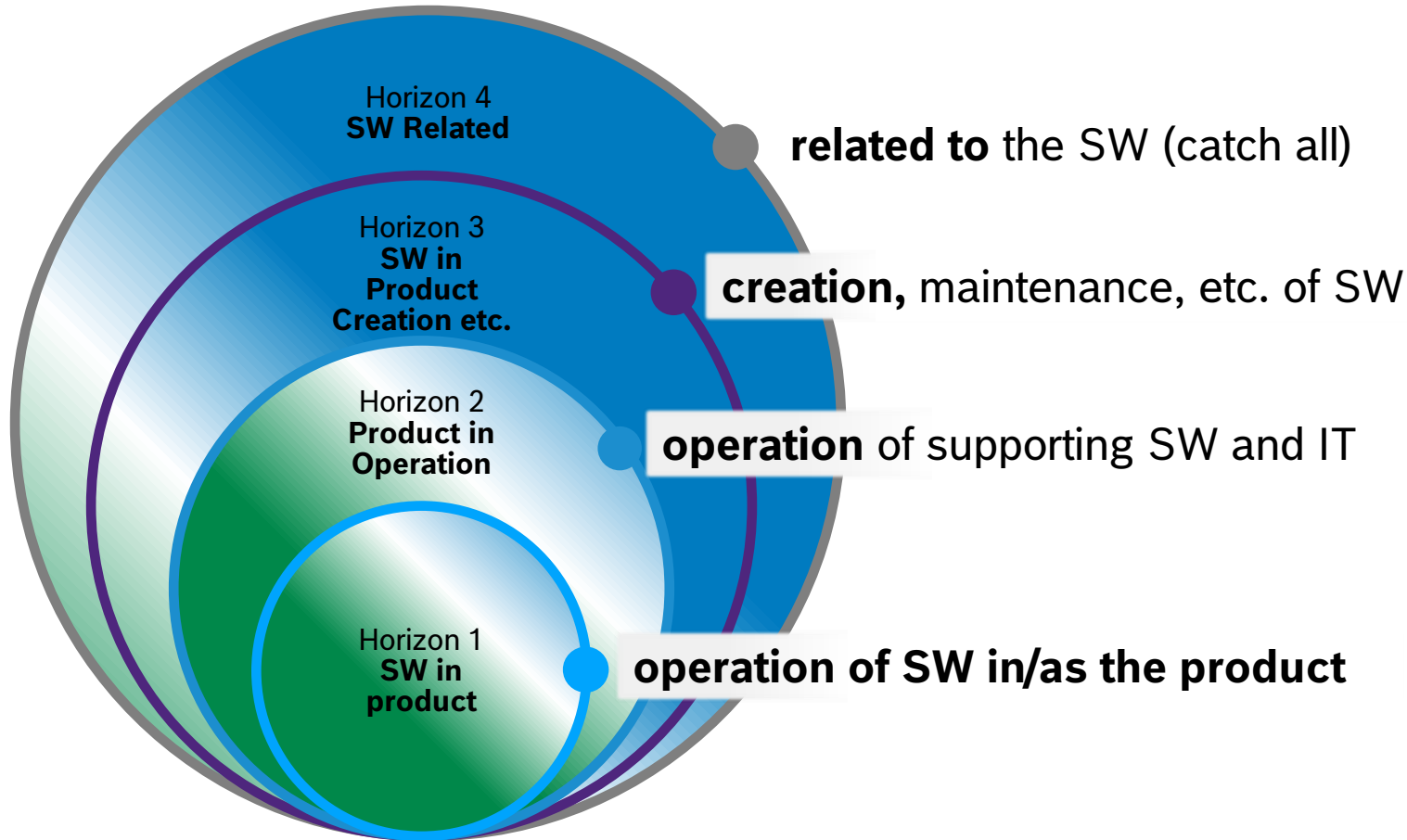
\* Product Lifecycle Phases (BES)

PLC = Product Lifecycle, BES = Bosch Engineering System



# The Bosch SW Eco Footprint model

## Four Horizons and two Perspectives of the eco Footprint



Perspective

Producer

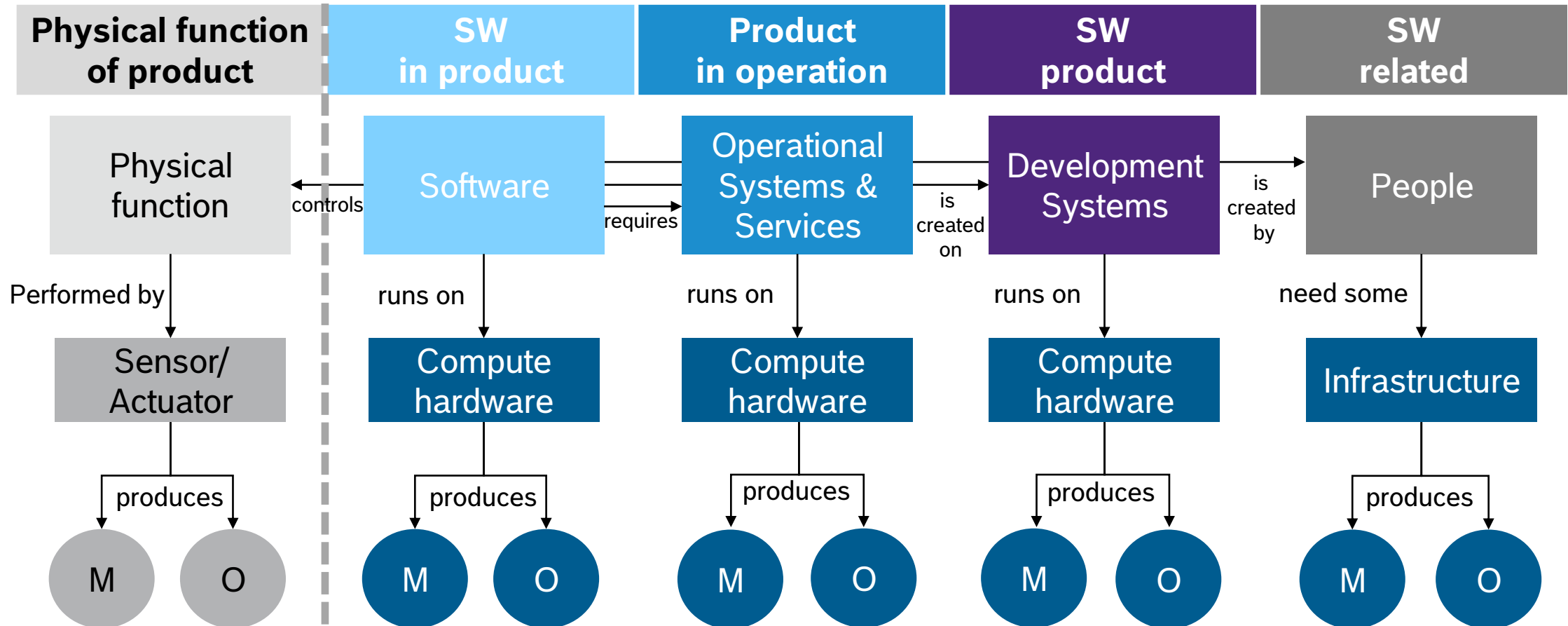
Operator





# The Bosch Eco Footprint model

## Big picture: The Software Boundary and Four Horizons of SW



M = embodied emissions, O = operational emissions, Derived from [SCIS](#): Software Carbon Intensity Specification

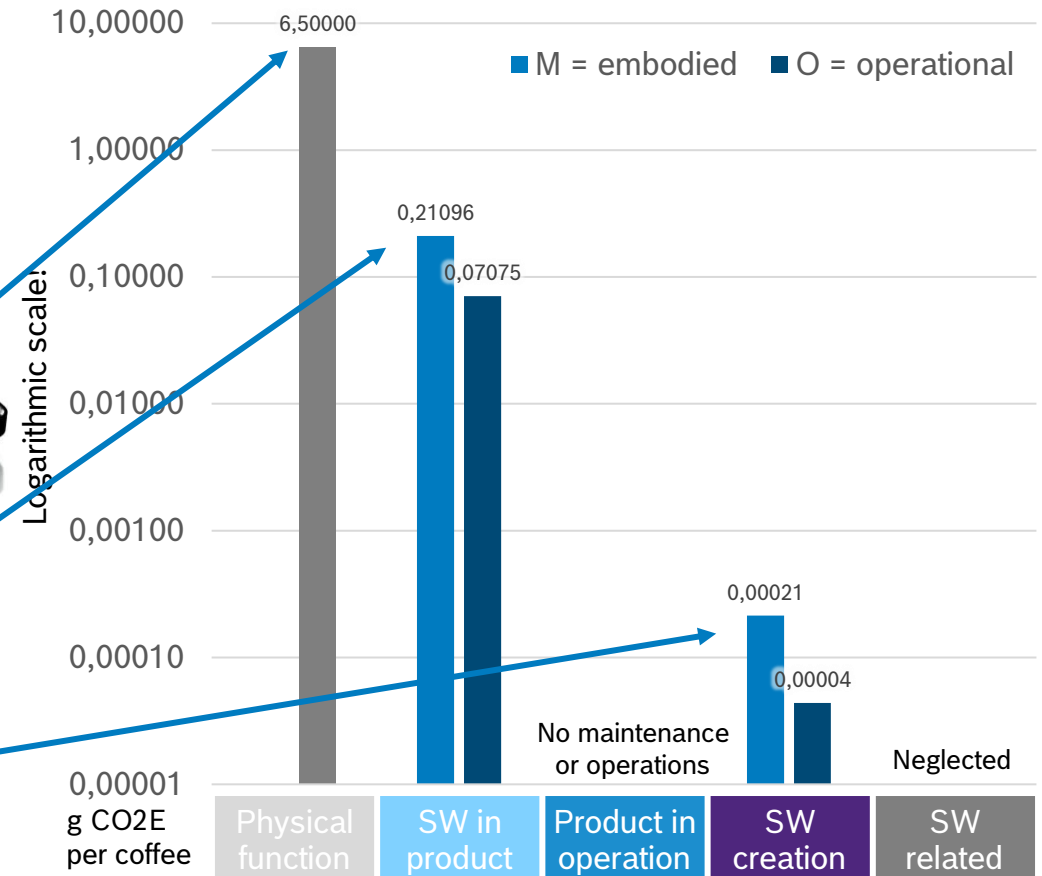
# Software PCF (SCF)

## Deep dive 1: Coffee maker (offline)

- Product function:  
Produce a cup of coffee
- Function of SW:  
Get user input, control coffee making process, display data.
- Functional unit for calculation:  
One cup of coffee
- Usage Profile:  
5 cups of coffee per day, 10 years usage



- Top levers of SCF:
  - Physical function. No real surprise.
  - $M_{\text{SW in product}} + O_{\text{SW in product}}$  less than 5%, ...
  - ...but similar order of magnitude
  - $M_{\text{SW in product}} > O_{\text{SW in product}}$
  - SW creation negligible



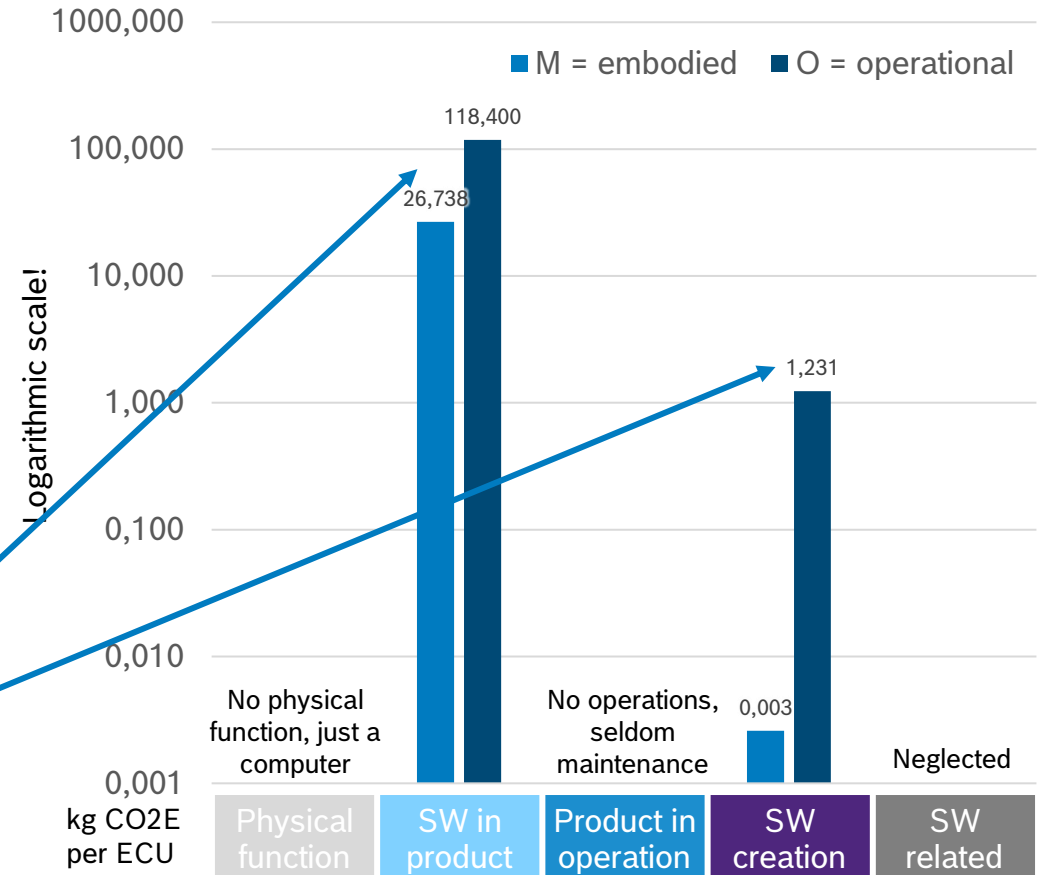
# Software PCF (SCF)

## Deep dive 2: Vehicle compute unit (VCU)

- Product function:  
Compute data, provide safety and comfort to driver.
- Function of SW:  
Collect sensor data, calculate driving trajectory based on environmental model.
- Functional unit for calc.:  
Lifetime of one ECU
- Assumptions, constraints (excerpt):  
1 million units, 100PB training data



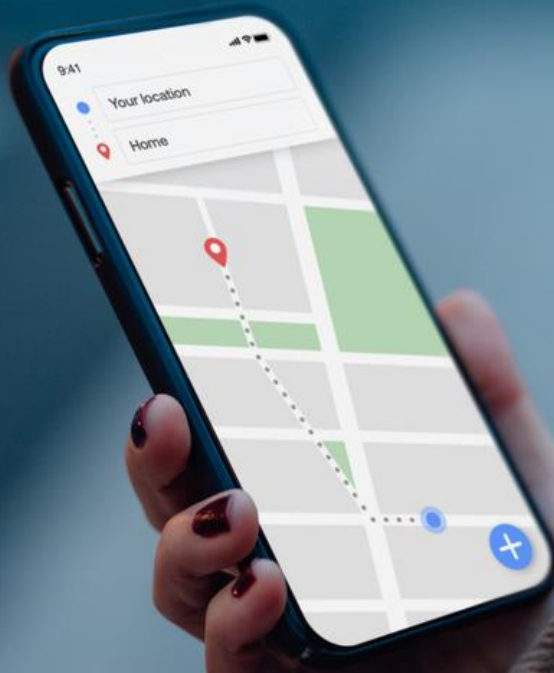
Symbolic picture



- Top levers of SCF:
  - $M_{\text{SW in product}} < O_{\text{SW in product}}$ , like any computer
  - SW creation negligible due to #units



Thanks for your interest  
in the Eco Footprint  
Lifecycle Analysis of Software



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