

Very Large Scale Disintegration

Adrian Sampson
Cornell & Google

1

computing's carbon footprint

Carbon footprint papers at ASPLOS 2023

Ecovisor: A Virtual Energy System for Carbon-Efficient Applications

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ABSTRACT

Cloud platforms' rapid growth is raising significant concerns about their carbon emissions. To reduce carbon emissions, future cloud platforms will need to increase their reliance on renewable energy

for Carbon-Efficient
Virtualization Conferenc
Operating Systems
BC, Canada. ACM

Carbon Explorer: A Holistic Framework for Designing Carbon Aware Datacenters

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ABSTRACT

1.5 billion smartphones are sold annually, and most are decommissioned less than two years later. Most of these unwanted smartphones are neither discarded nor recycled but languish in junk drawers and storage units. This computational stockpile represents a substantial wasted potential: modern smartphones have increasingly performant and energy-efficient processors, extensive networking capabilities, and reliable built-in power supplies. This project studies the ability to repurpose these unwanted smartphones as “junkyard computers.” Junkyard computers grow global compute capacity by extending device lifetimes, and save carbon by supplanting the manufacture of new devices. We show that the capabilities of even decade-old smartphones are within those demanded by modern cloud microservices, and discuss how to combine phones to perform increasingly complex tasks. We describe operation-focused metrics that capture the actual performance of a smartphone and balances the

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1 INTRODUCTION

Manufacturing electronic devices is an energy-intensive process. For devices with lower utilization, such as consumer-class electronics or over-provisioned servers, manufacturing dominates the lifetime carbon footprint [17]. This is especially true in devices which are discarded each year, amounting to one phone discarded per person every two years [8]. As a result, manufacturing accounts for 70 – 85% of the lifetime carbon footprint of a smartphone [17].

Consumer electronics are also becoming increasingly powerful, the performance of recent smartphones rivals or exceeds that of Intel Core-i3 processor (Figure 1). Yet, phones are often discarded despite being completely (or partially) operational. Otherwise, traditional electronic devices are retired prematurely due to obsolescence, style, or planned obsolescence [33]. Compare this to other priced devices with entire ecosystems of functional obsolescence, e.g., cars, which are resold until they are “driven into the ground.”

Of course, the performance of computing devices improves faster than that of a modern automobile. What should the industry do? Should we also run every electronic device until it

Support for Programming Languages and Operating Systems, Volume 2 (ASPLOS '23), March 25–29, 2023, Vancouver, BC, Canada. ACM, New York, NY, USA, 15 pages. <https://doi.org/10.1145/3575693.3575754>

1 INTRODUCTION

Carbon-free energy is essential for

Cloud platforms' rapid growth is raising significant concerns about their carbon emissions. To reduce carbon emissions, future cloud

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Facebook's datacenter carbon footprint over time

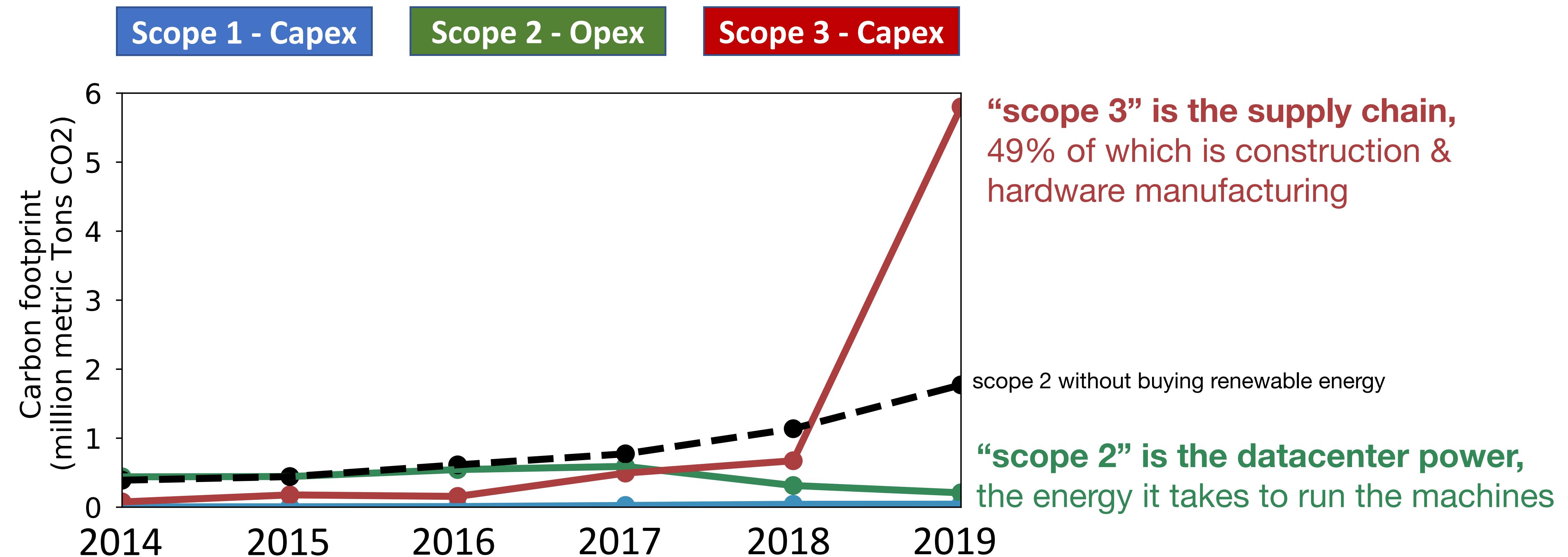
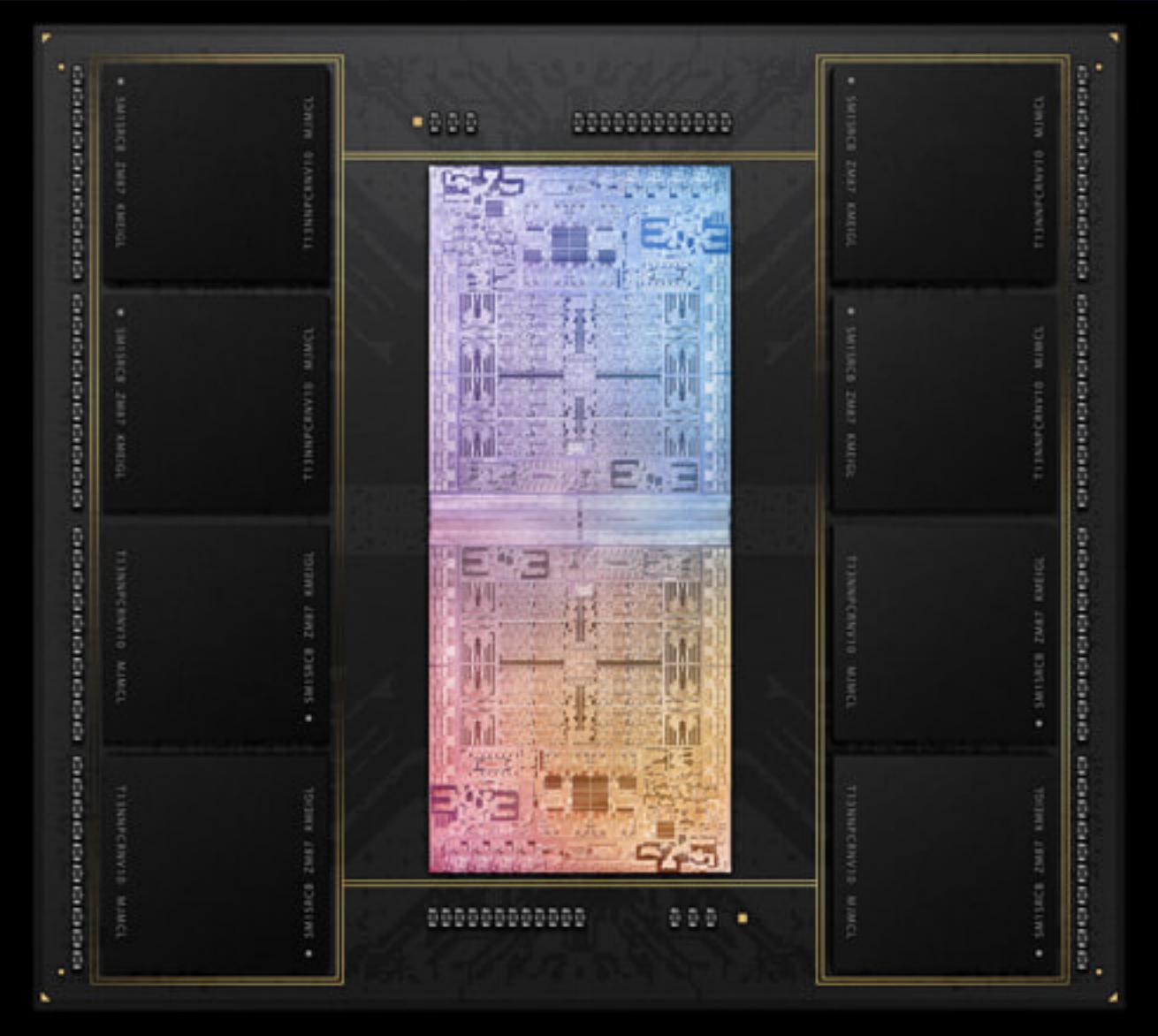


Figure from *Chasing Carbon*, Gupta, Kim, Lee, Tse, Lee, Wei, Brooks, and Wu; HPCA 2021



the chiplet revolution



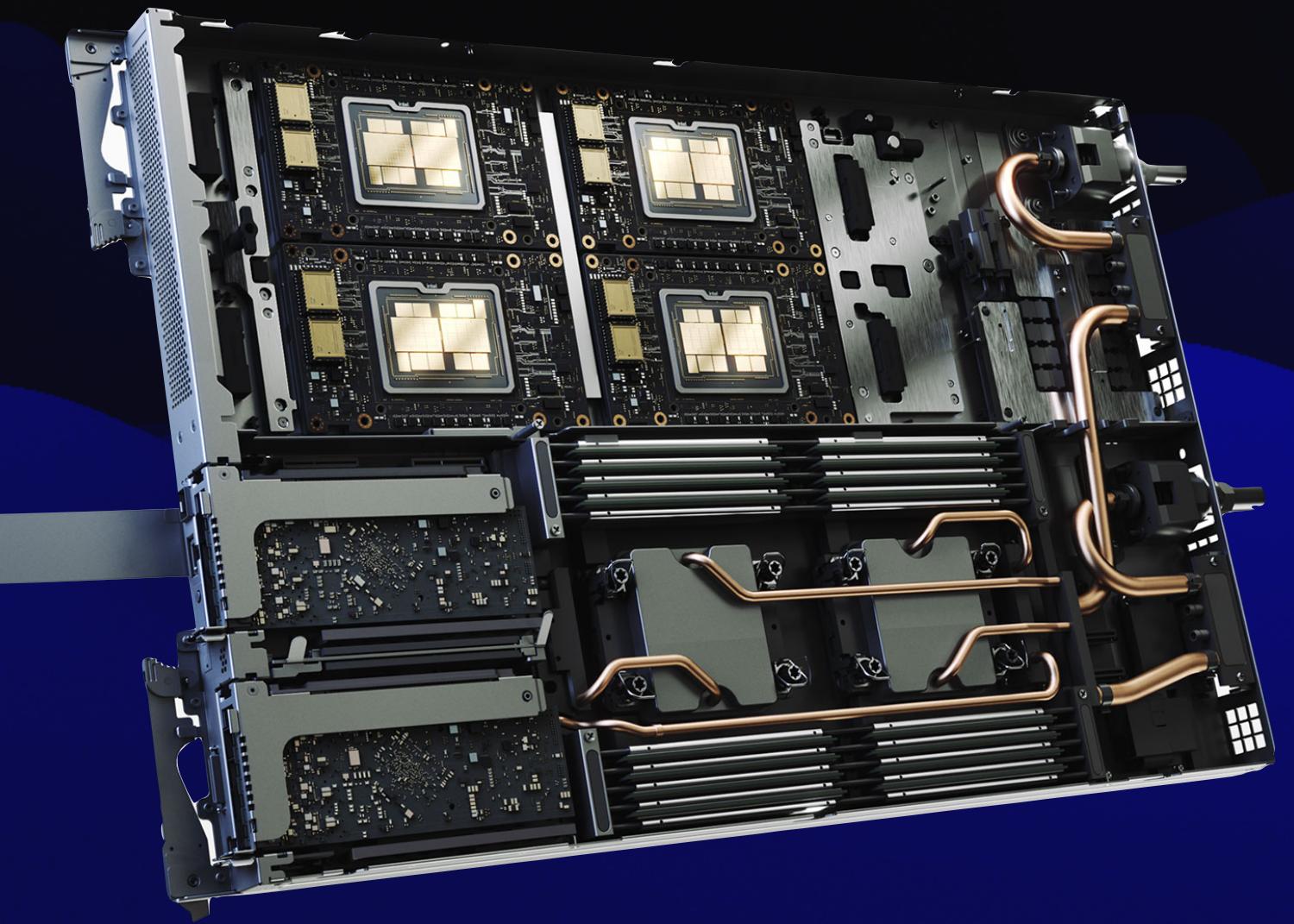
Apple M1 Ultra

2 dies



Ryzen Threadripper PRO 5995WX

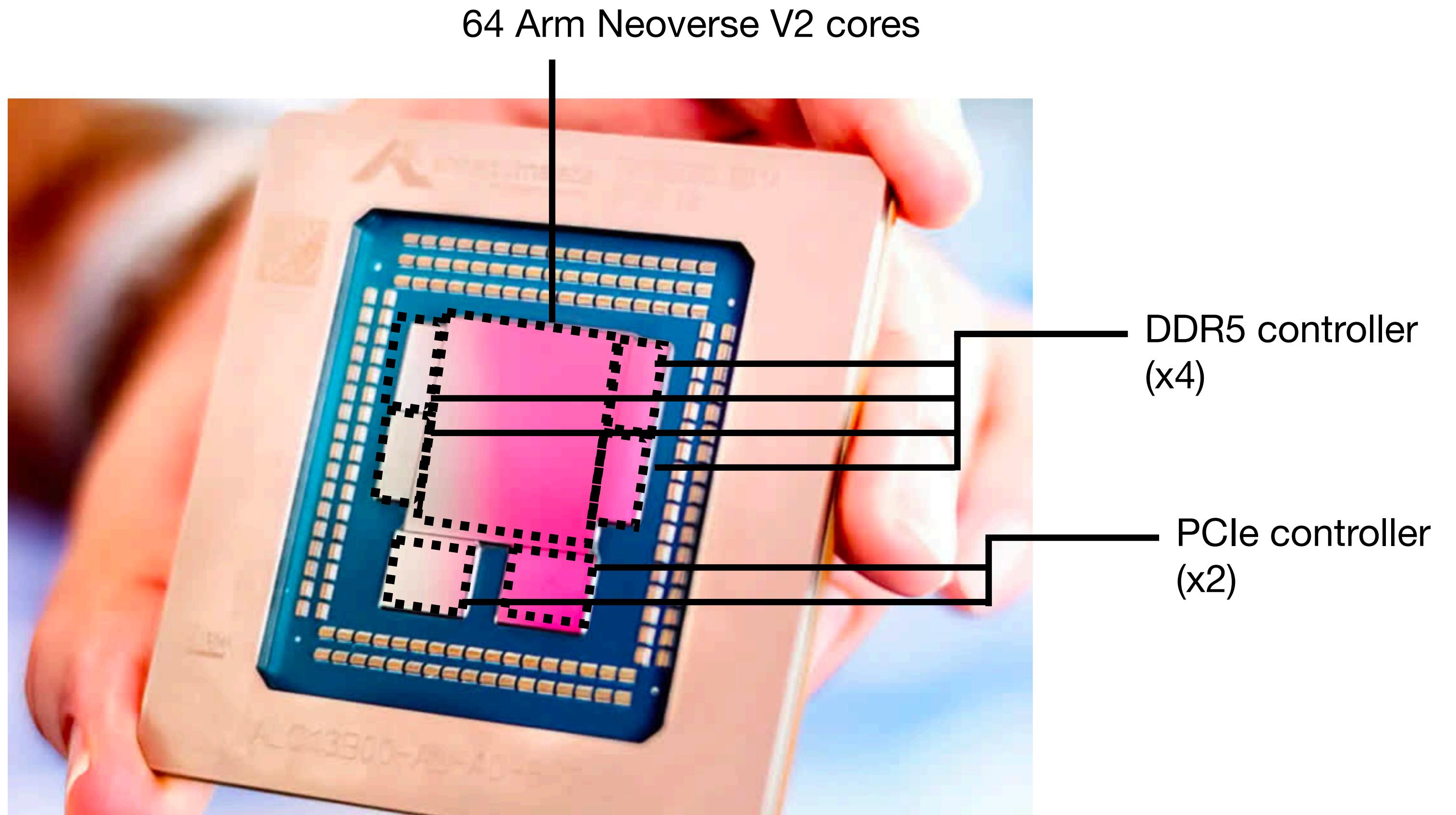
9 dies



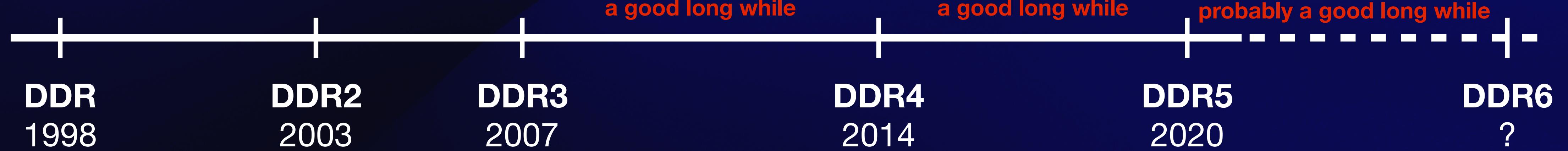
Intel Ponte Vecchio GPU

47 dies

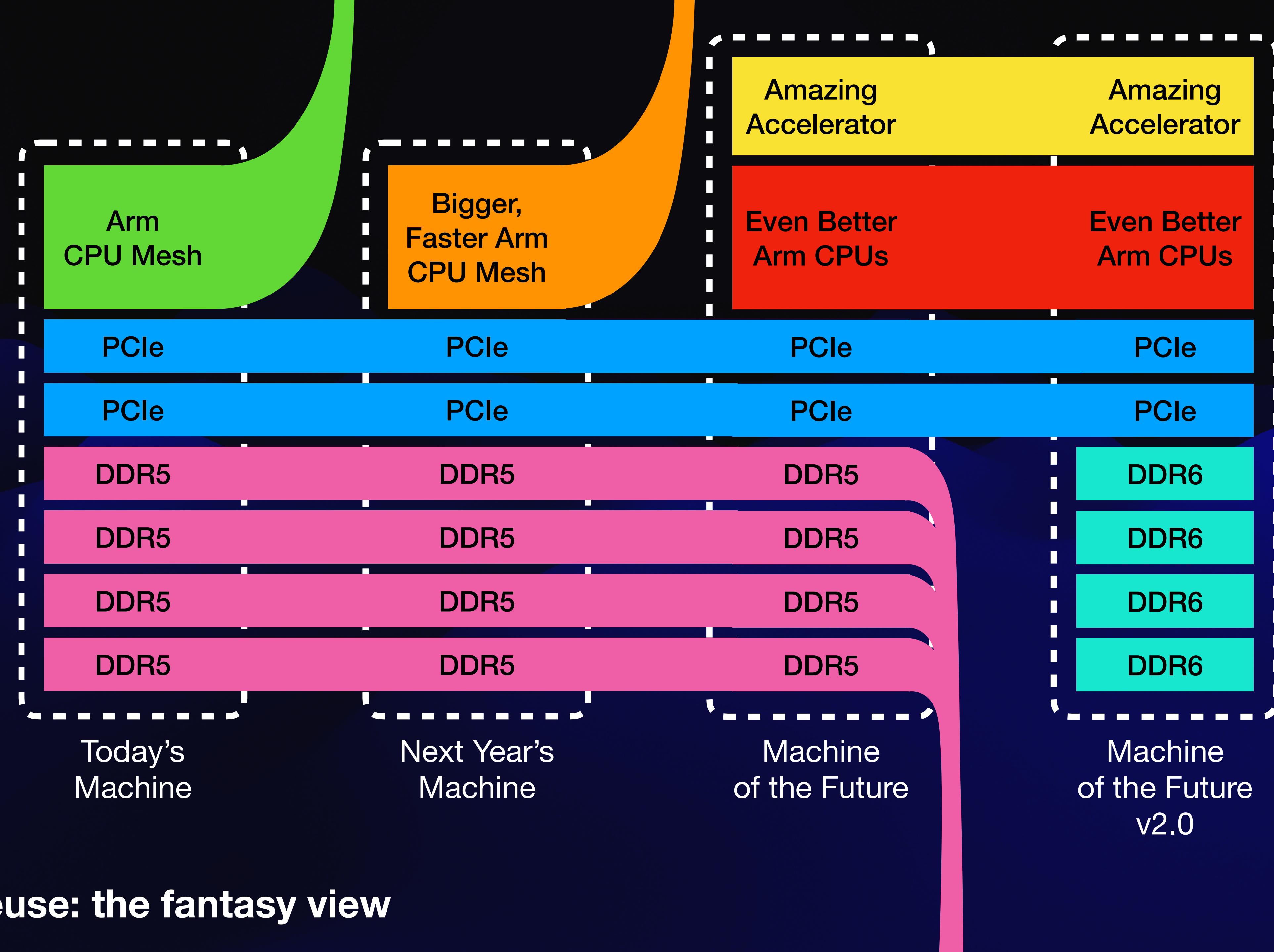
Multi-chip modules are suddenly everywhere

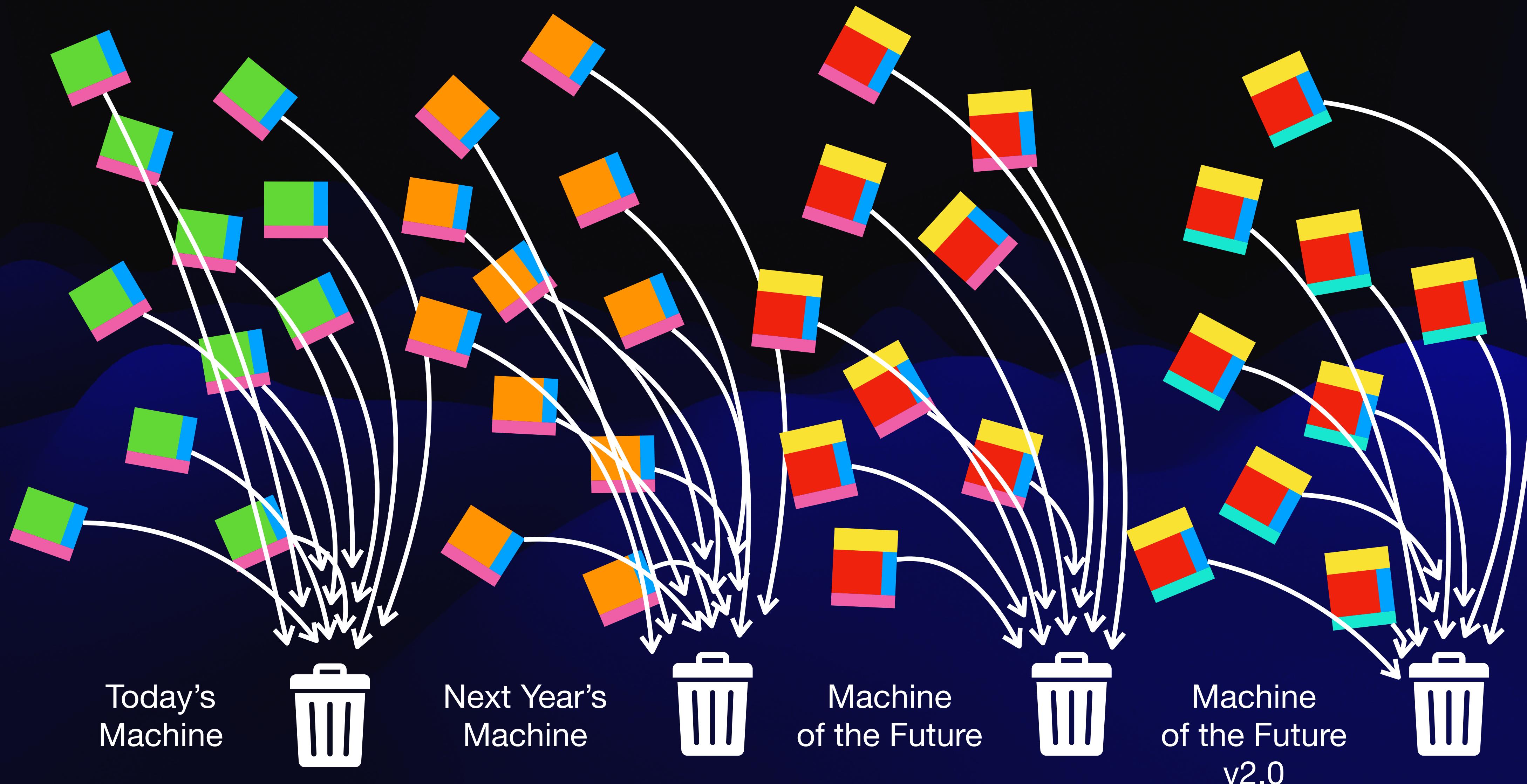


AWS Graviton3 Multi-Chip Module (2022)



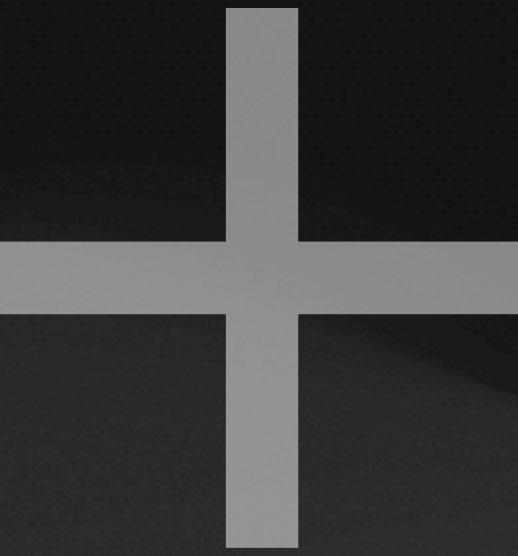
DDR SDRAM standards tend to last for a good long while



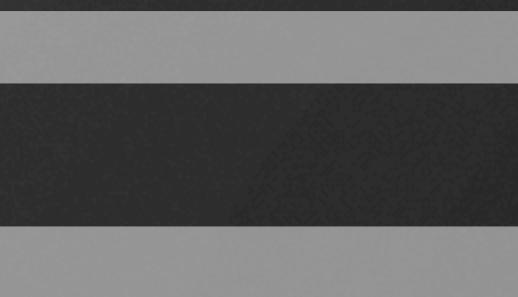


Design reuse: in the real world

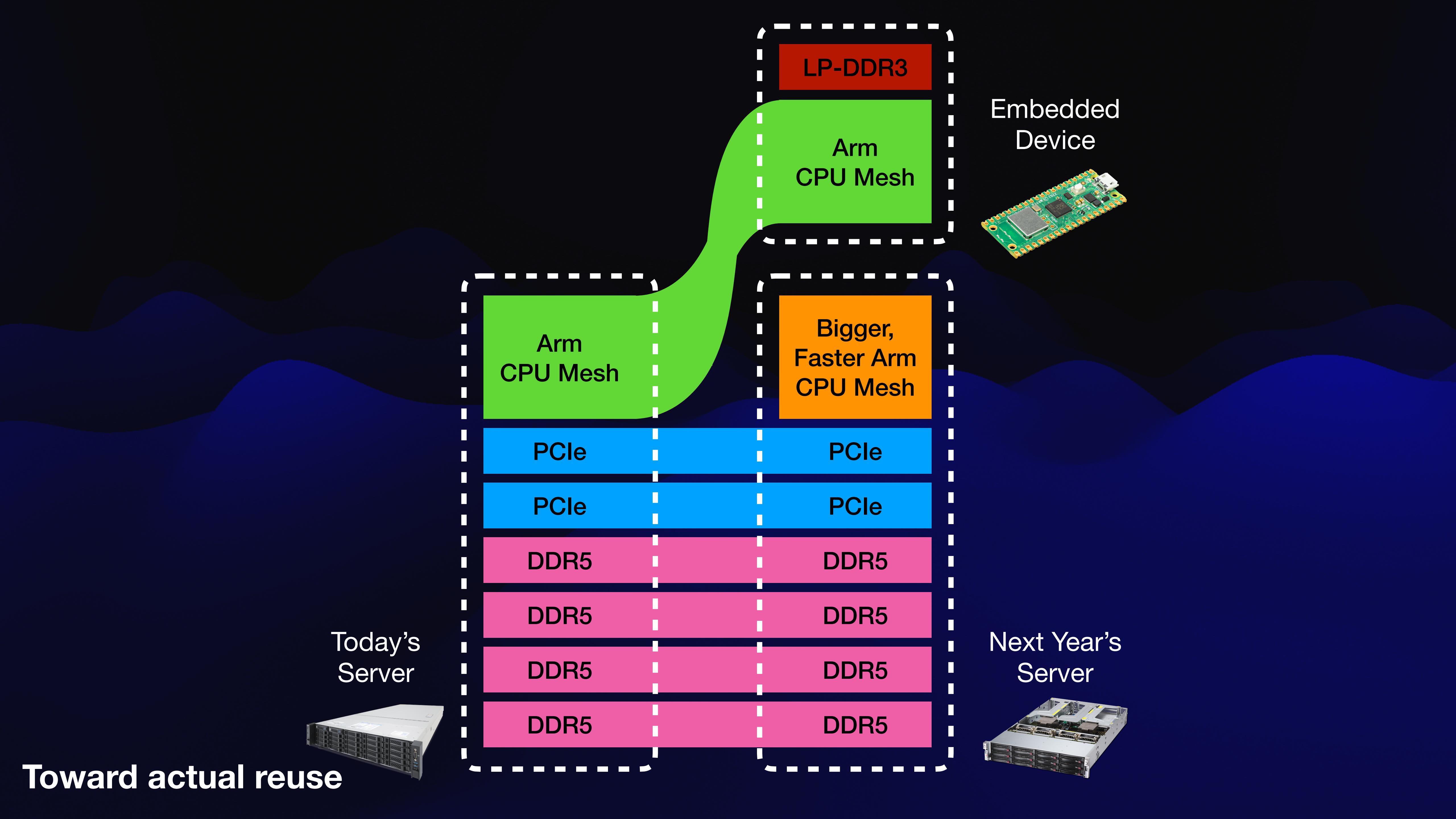
computing's carbon footprint

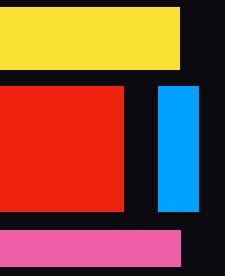


the chiplet revolution



silicon recycling





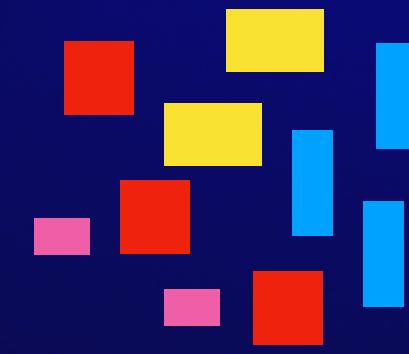
Disintegrate

Retire



silicon
recycling

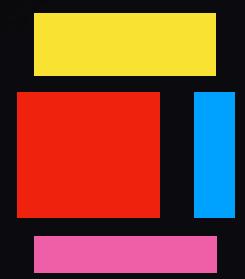
Manufacture



Package

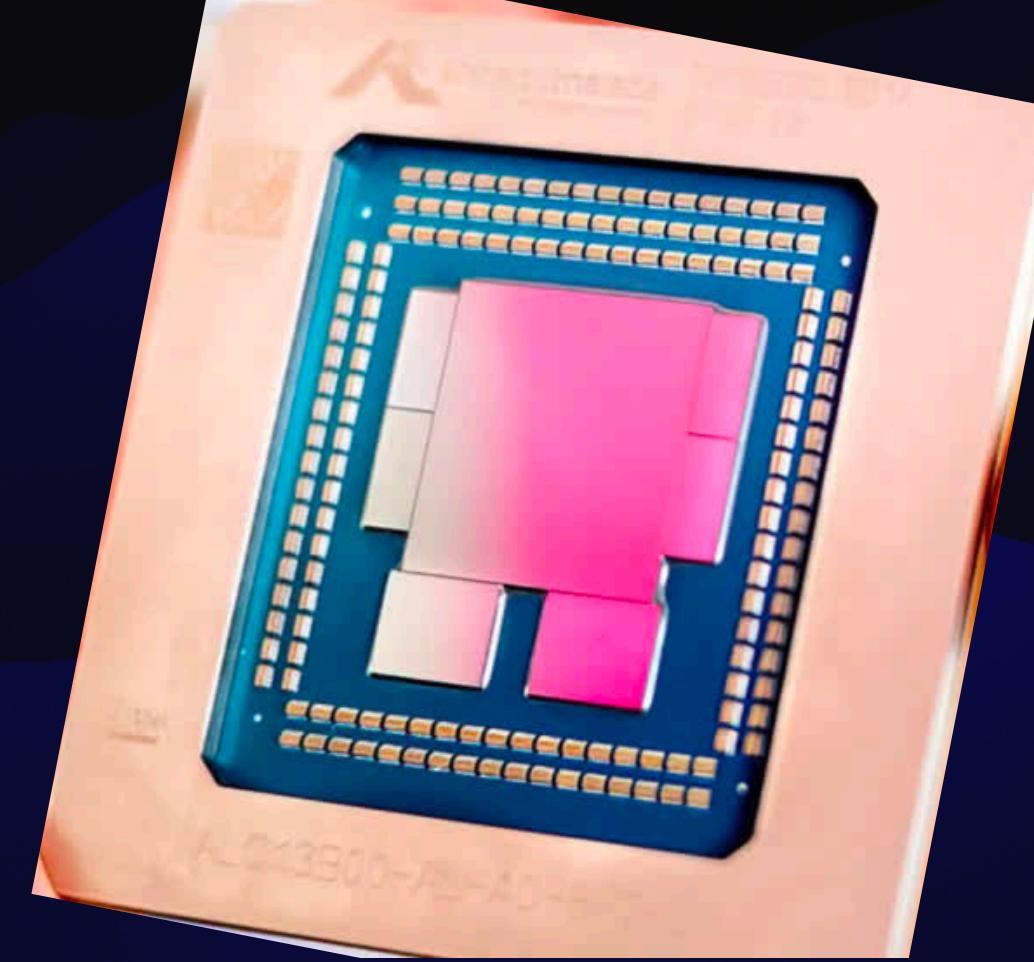
Deploy



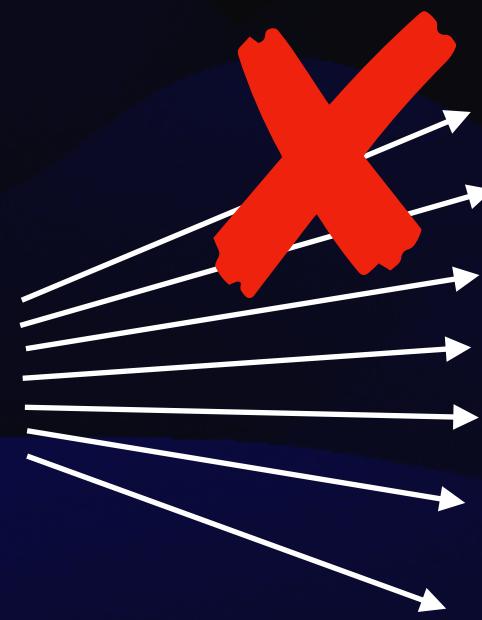


Disintegrate





multi-chip module



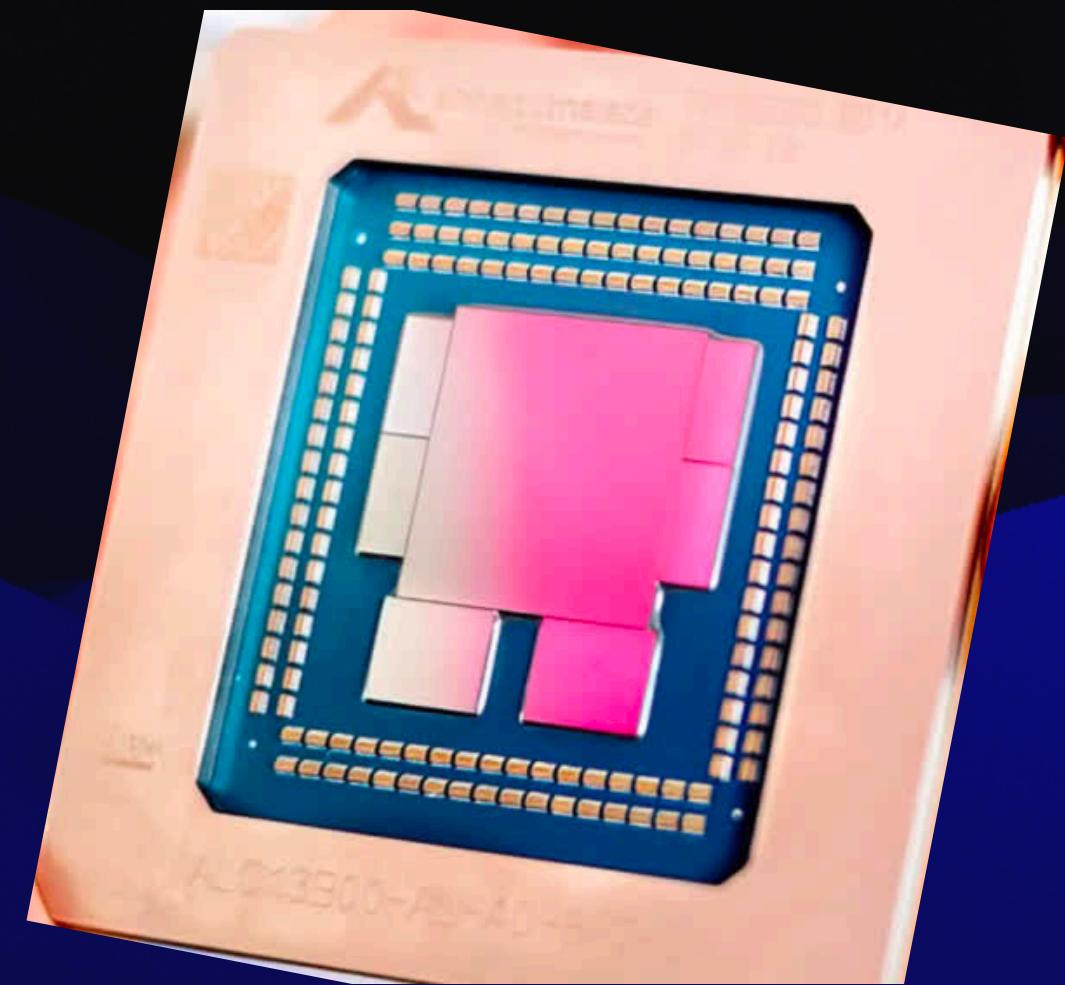
disintegration



chiplets



packaging



multi-chip module

Chiplet disintegration

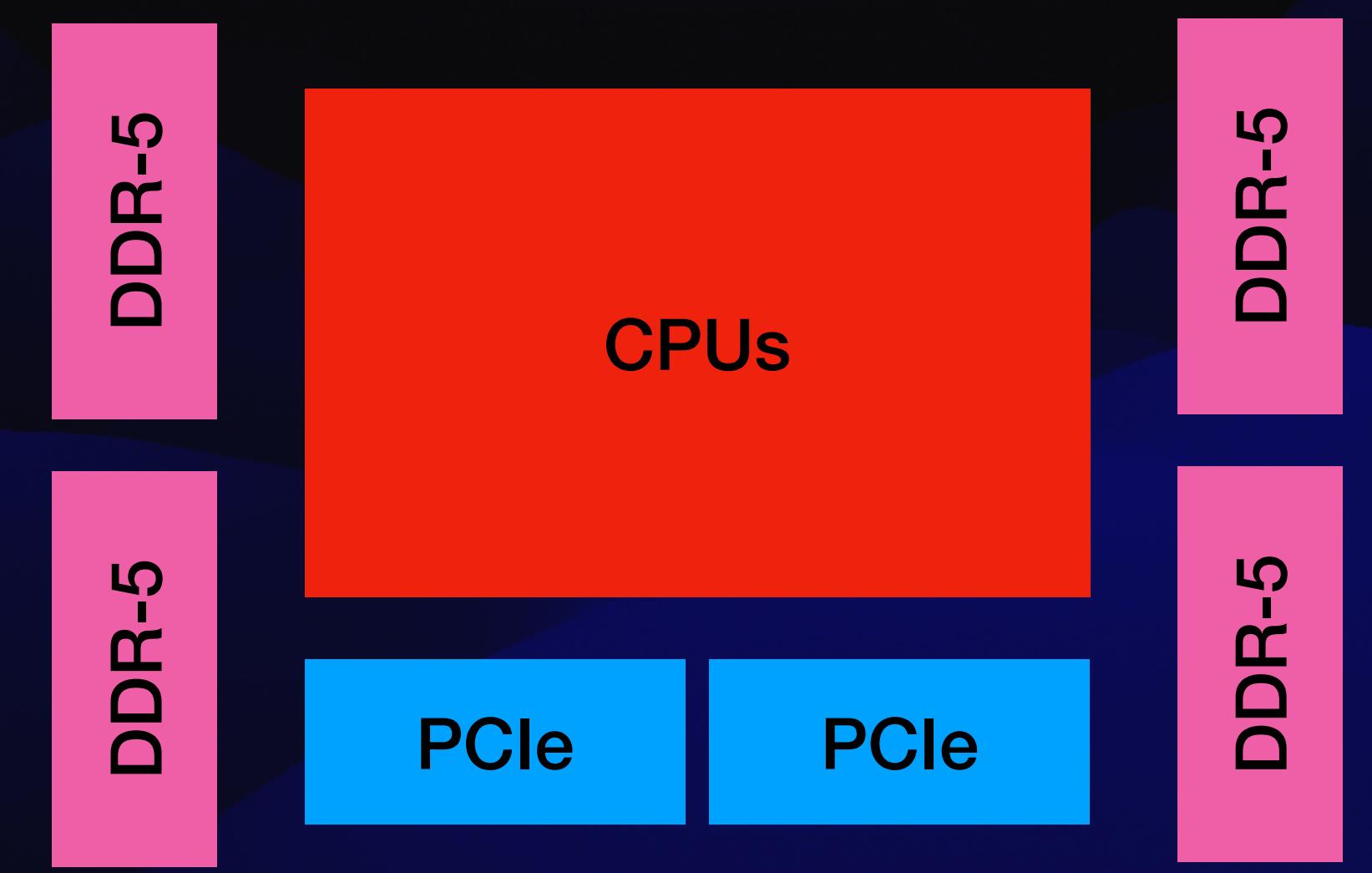
Reasons to be excited about silicon recycling



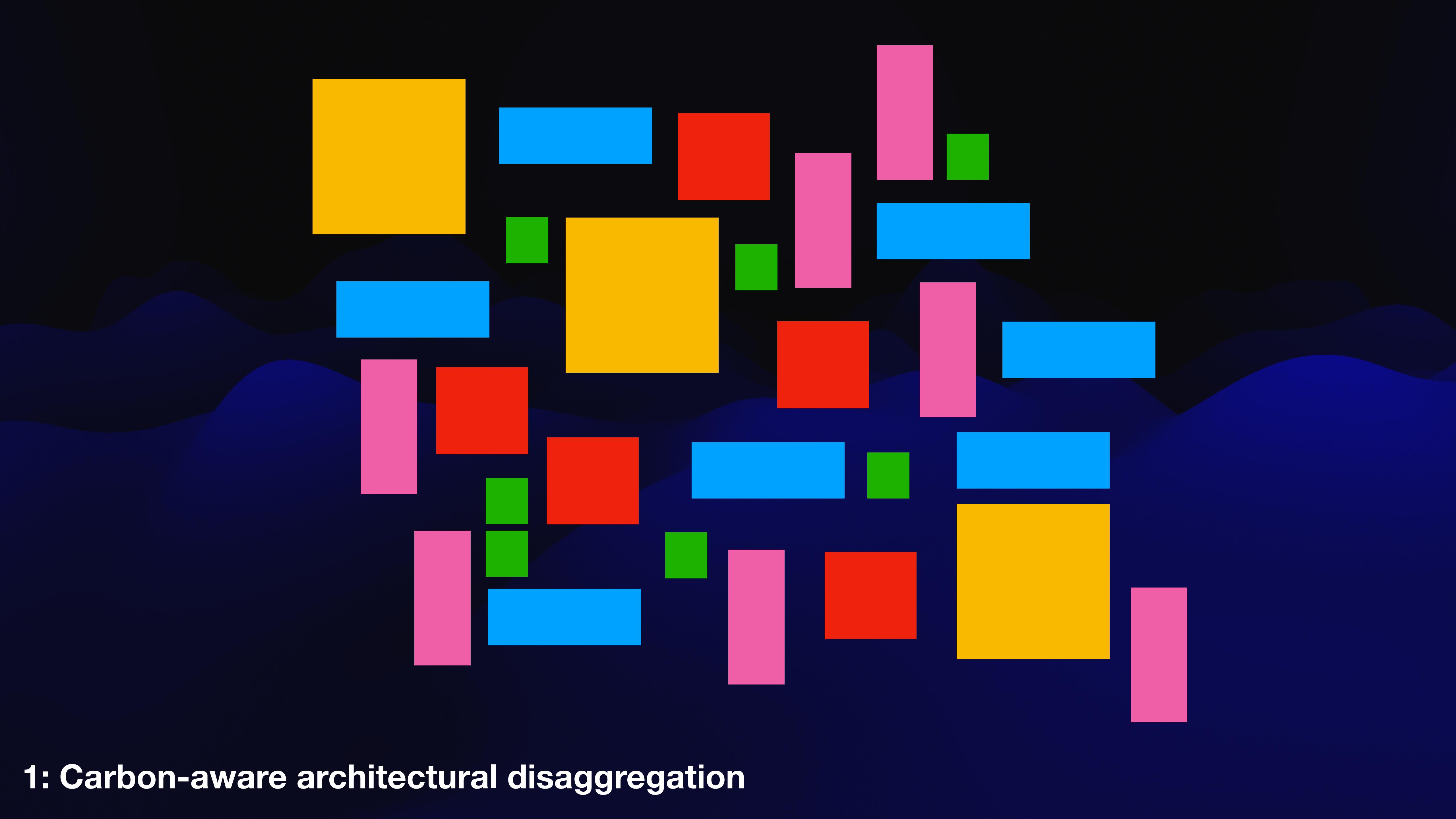
Make computers cheaper

Reduce computing's embodied carbon footprint, thereby helping address the most urgent problem that humanity will grapple with in any of our lifetimes

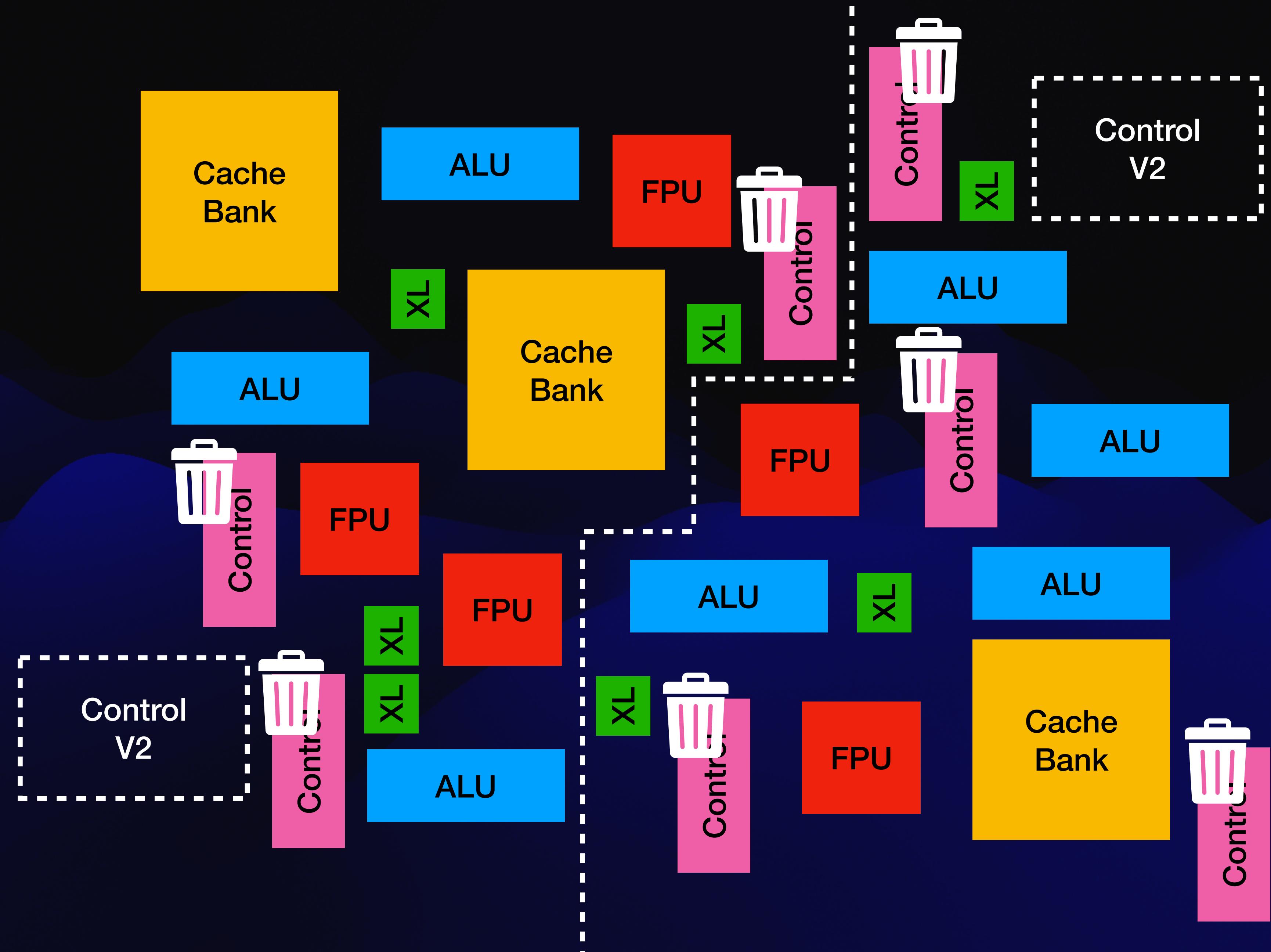
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1: Carbon-aware architectural disaggregation



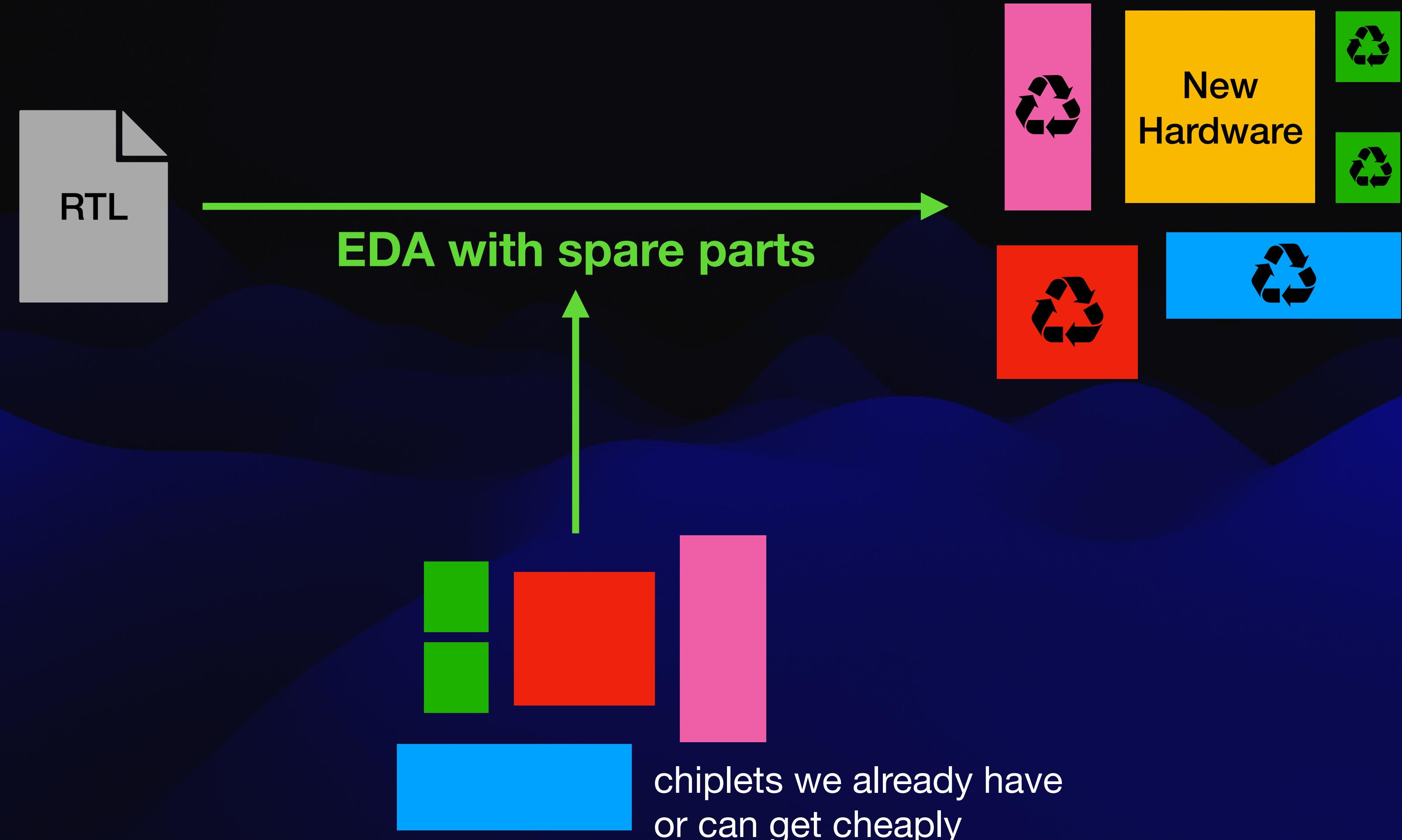
1: Carbon-aware architectural disaggregation



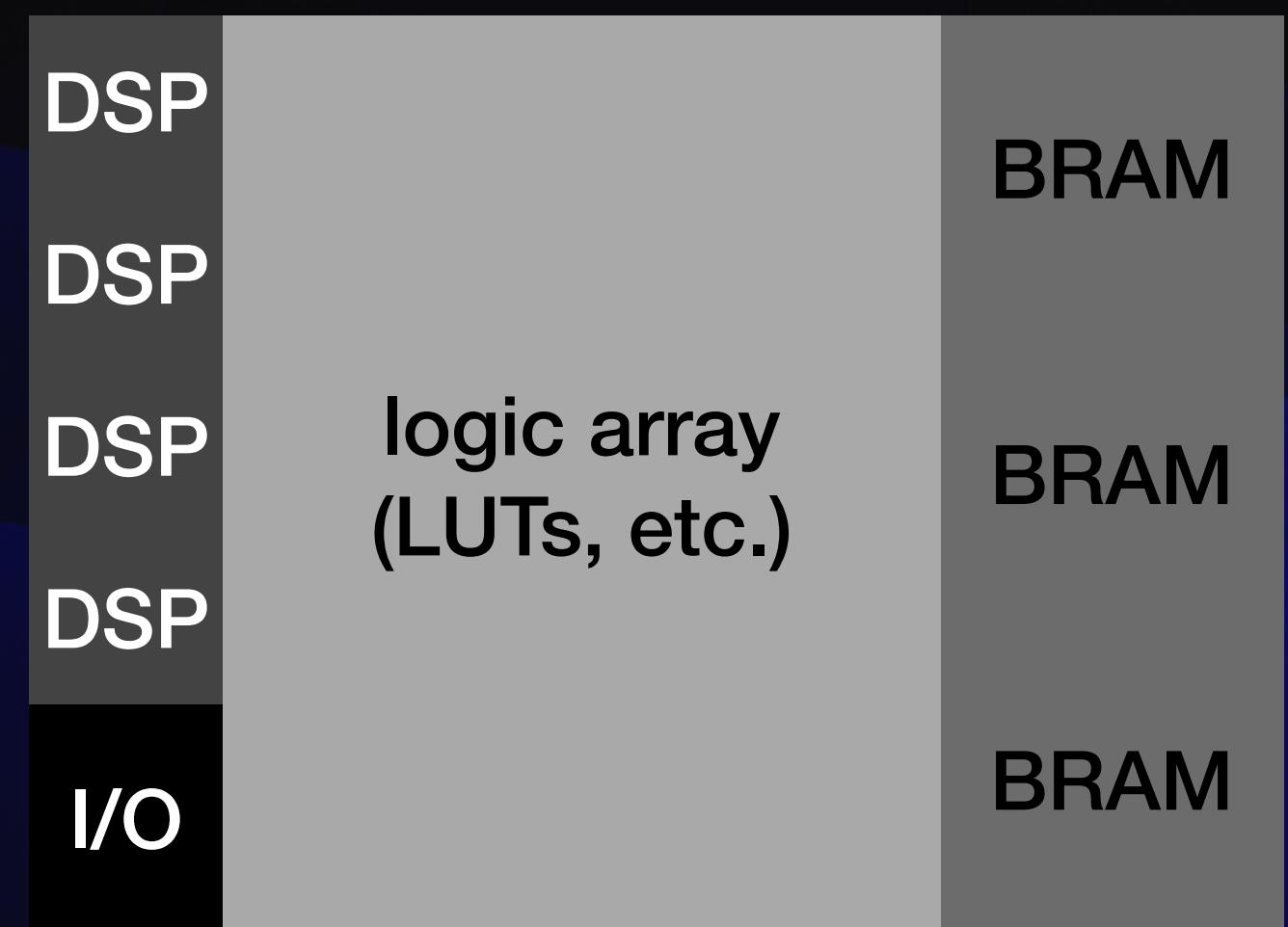
1: Carbon-aware architectural disaggregation



2: Design tools for spare-parts synthesis

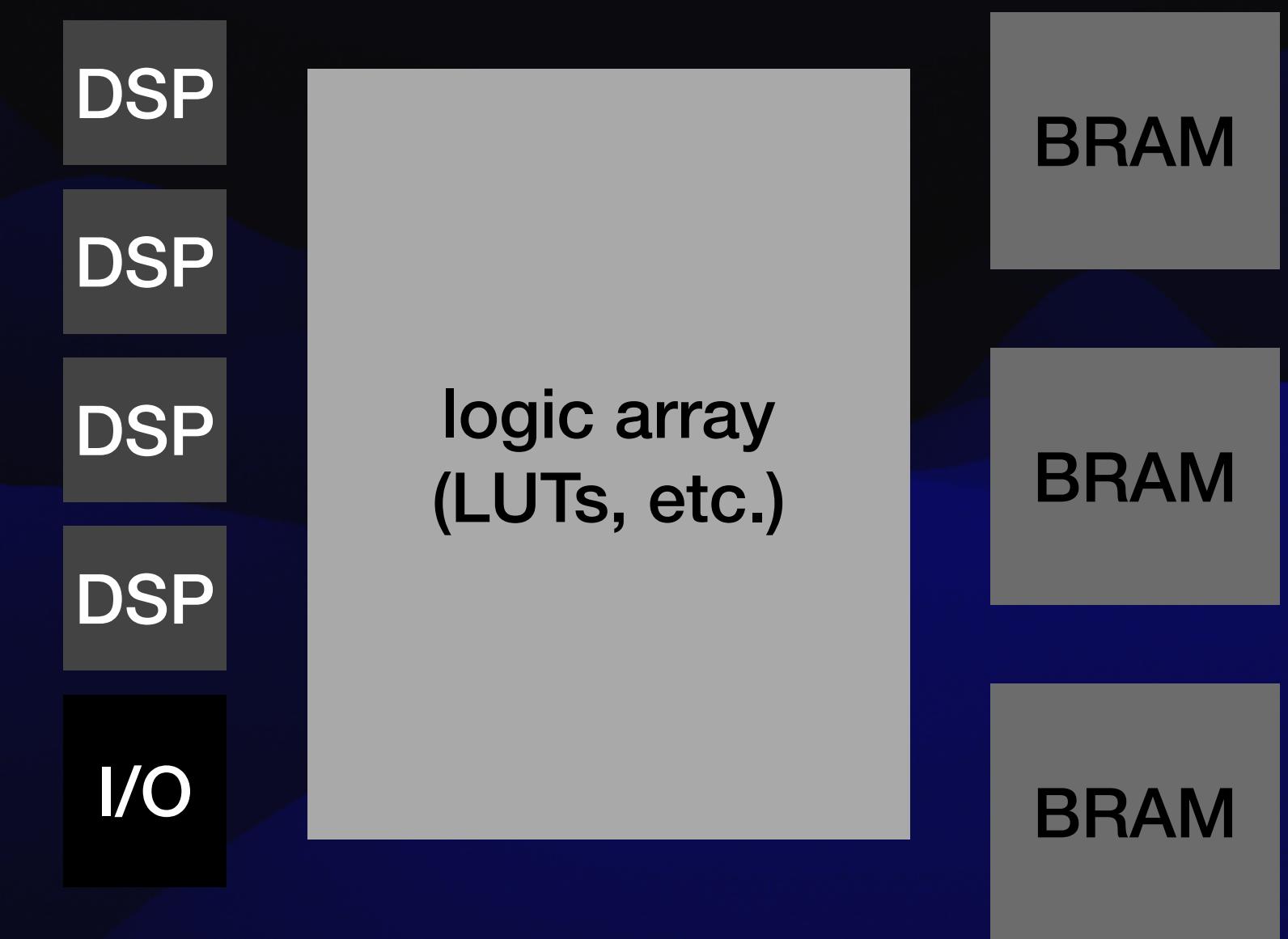


2: Design tools for spare-parts synthesis



a current FPGA
(hilariously oversimplified)

3: Physically reconfigurable fabrics



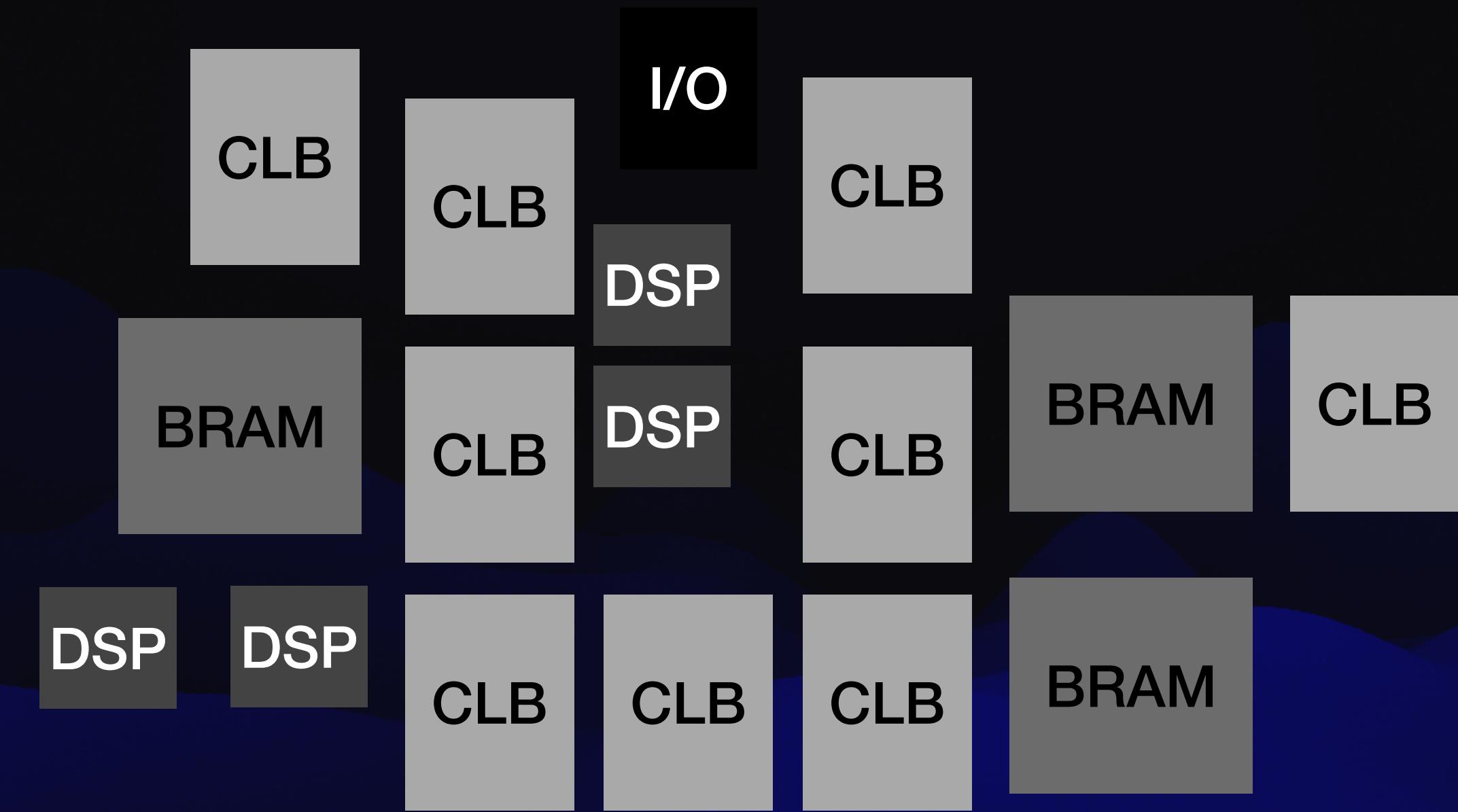
a physically reconfigurable FPGA

3: Physically reconfigurable fabrics



a physically reconfigurable FPGA

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a physically reconfigurable FPGA

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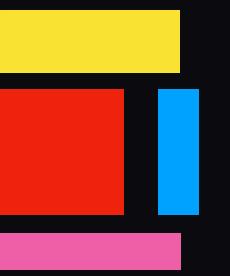
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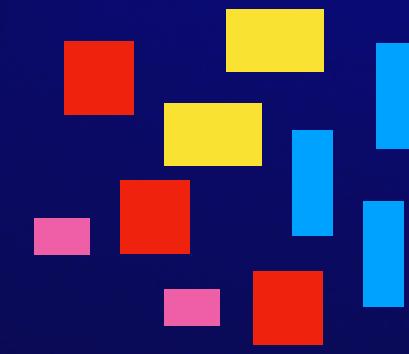
Disintegrate

Retire



silicon
recycling

Manufacture



Package

Deploy



amazing ASPLoS research reveals the incredible system-level potential of silicon recycling



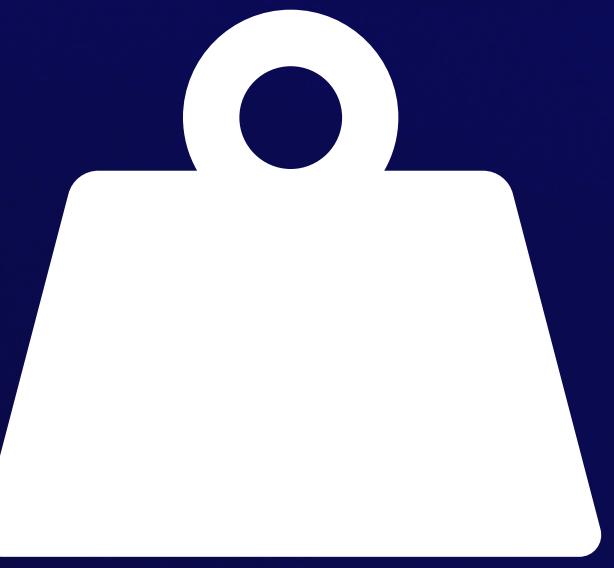
silicon recycling seems cool
and could help address
computation's carbon cost



chiplet disintegration
is not realistic



amazing ASPLOS research reveals
the incredible system-level
potential of silicon recycling



*incentive drives innovation in
silicon recycling technology*

chiplet disintegration
is ~~not~~ realistic



silicon recycling seems cool
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