

IR.3504 Convergent Services and Technologies

IT/Virtualization Basics

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Summary

At the end of this talk, you should be able to answer the following questions:

- ☐ What are the basic IT components that compose any organization ?
- ☐ What are the main application architectures that we see in the enterprise world ?
- ☐ Who are the main actors of the application ecosystem ?
- ☐ What is an VNF ? How is it different from SDN ? Who decides how it's made ?

Summary

➤ IT Hardware components

- Servers,
- Data Storage,
- Archival Disk
- Backup Disk

➤ Client / Server Architecture

- Main Frame
- Centralized
- Multi-tiers

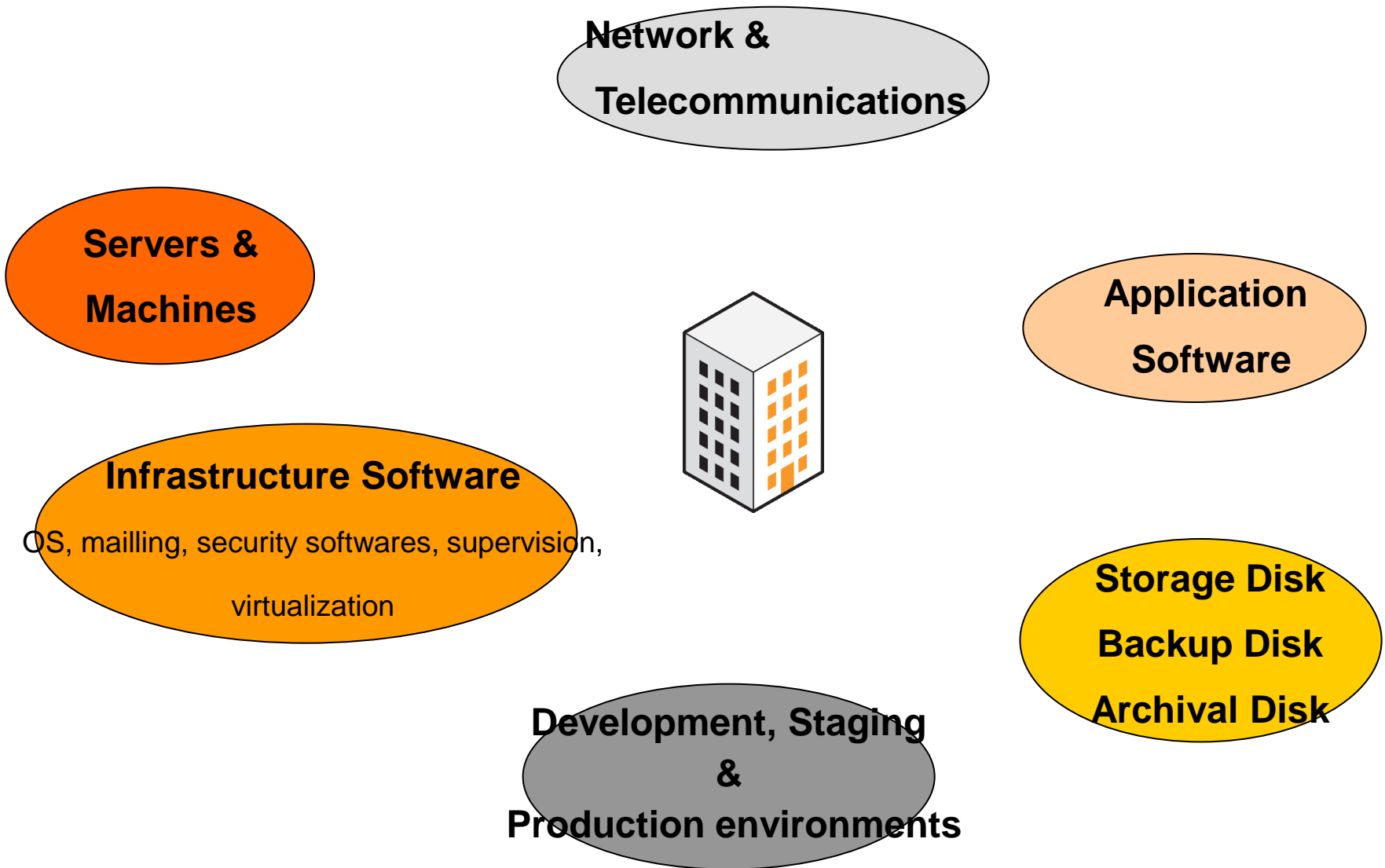
➤ Applications

- Ecosystem and Licenses

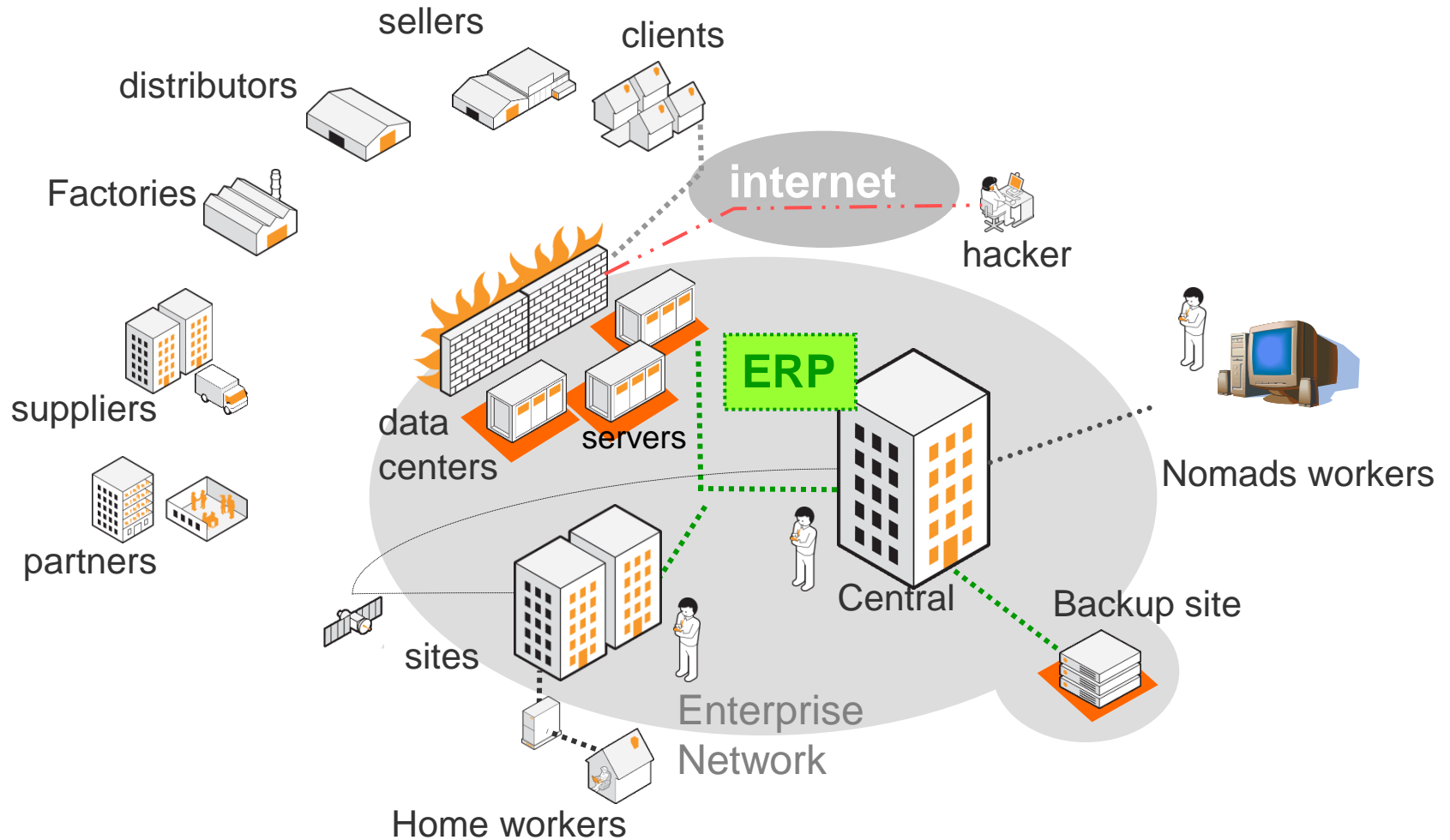
➤ Network Function Virtualization

- ETSI Management And Orchestration model (MANO)
- The VNF world: Baremetal, VM, Docker

The enterprise environment

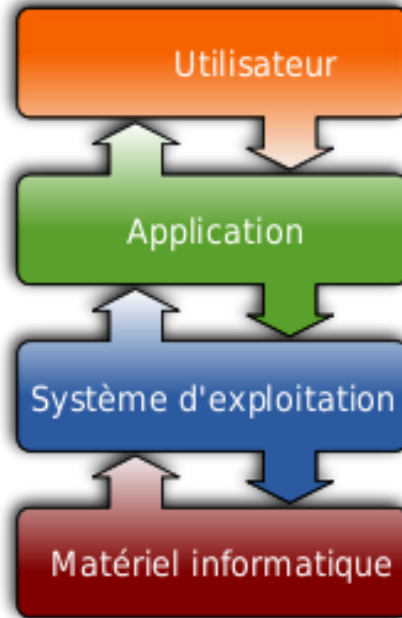


Enterprise Environment



Hardware Equipments

Servers



- ☐ Fujitsu-Siemens
- ☐ HP DL380, 580
- ☐ SUN : E25K
- ☐ AS 400
- ☐ NEC



Clusters

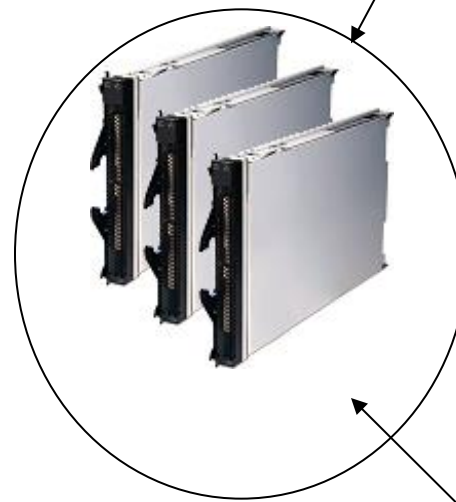
➤ Server Group, linked and contacted as a single server :

- Fault Tolerance
- Load balancing

Several
Rack
Servers



1 Cluster of 3 Nodes



3 Blades
= 3 Servers with CPU and RAM



SAN Racks
With Disks



Blades

➤ **Blades or Server Card**

- ☐ Small Dimensions
- ☐ Electric Power, Air conditioning, Network access, connectors on same frame
- ☐ Reliability
- ☐ Mutualized supervision equipments

➤ **Issues**

- ☐ Warmth release
- ☐ Electric Connector



Servers usages

- **Application servers (ERP, ...)**
 - ❑ Systems (Mainframe IBM, BULL, ...)
 - ❑ UNIX Servers
 - ❑ Mini systems (AS 400)
 - ❑ Windows servers
- **Office & Architecture Servers**
 - ❑ Messaging servers (Lotus Notes, Exchange, ..)
 - ❑ Printing servers
 - ❑ Database & Files Servers
 - ❑ Citrix Servers
- **Backup servers**
 - ❑ Servers with central software planning
 - ❑ Backup Drivers
 - Mutualization
 - High availability up to 100%

Operating Systems

➤ Windows

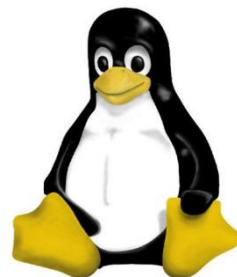
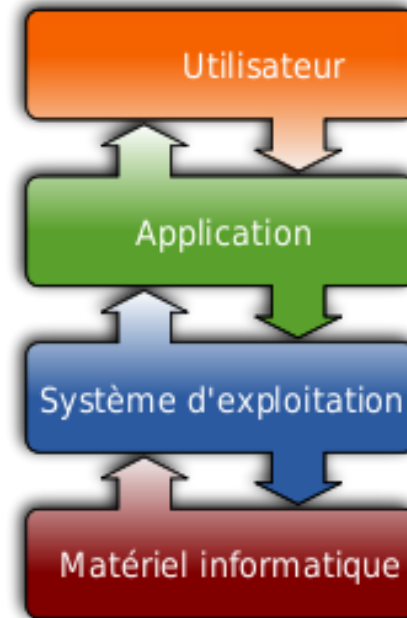
➤ Unix:

❑ SUN : Solaris

❑ HP: UX

❑ IBM: AIX

➤ Linux



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Storage and Archival solutions

- **Data Storage**
- **Data Backup**
- **Data Archival**

Data Bases

➤ **Data Base is the main element of storage inside the enterprise :**

- ❑ Clients, Billing, Finance, stocks ...

➤ **Different applications to manage storage :**

- ❑ Databases : Oracle, My SQL, Informix, DB2,

- ❑ Database is based on Files, Tables and index : DB is managing consistency between data stored :

- Data Format
- Authorized Values
- Low Level constituency

Storage types

➤ **Storage Servers : NAS = Network Attached Storage**

❑ Storage Racks : Disk Storage Solution

- Data secured
- External Data system (out of servers)
- Mutualized Storage for several application servers
- High availability up to 100%
- 150 € for 900 Go

➤ **Storage Network : SAN = Storage Area Network**

❑ SAN is a complete architecture :

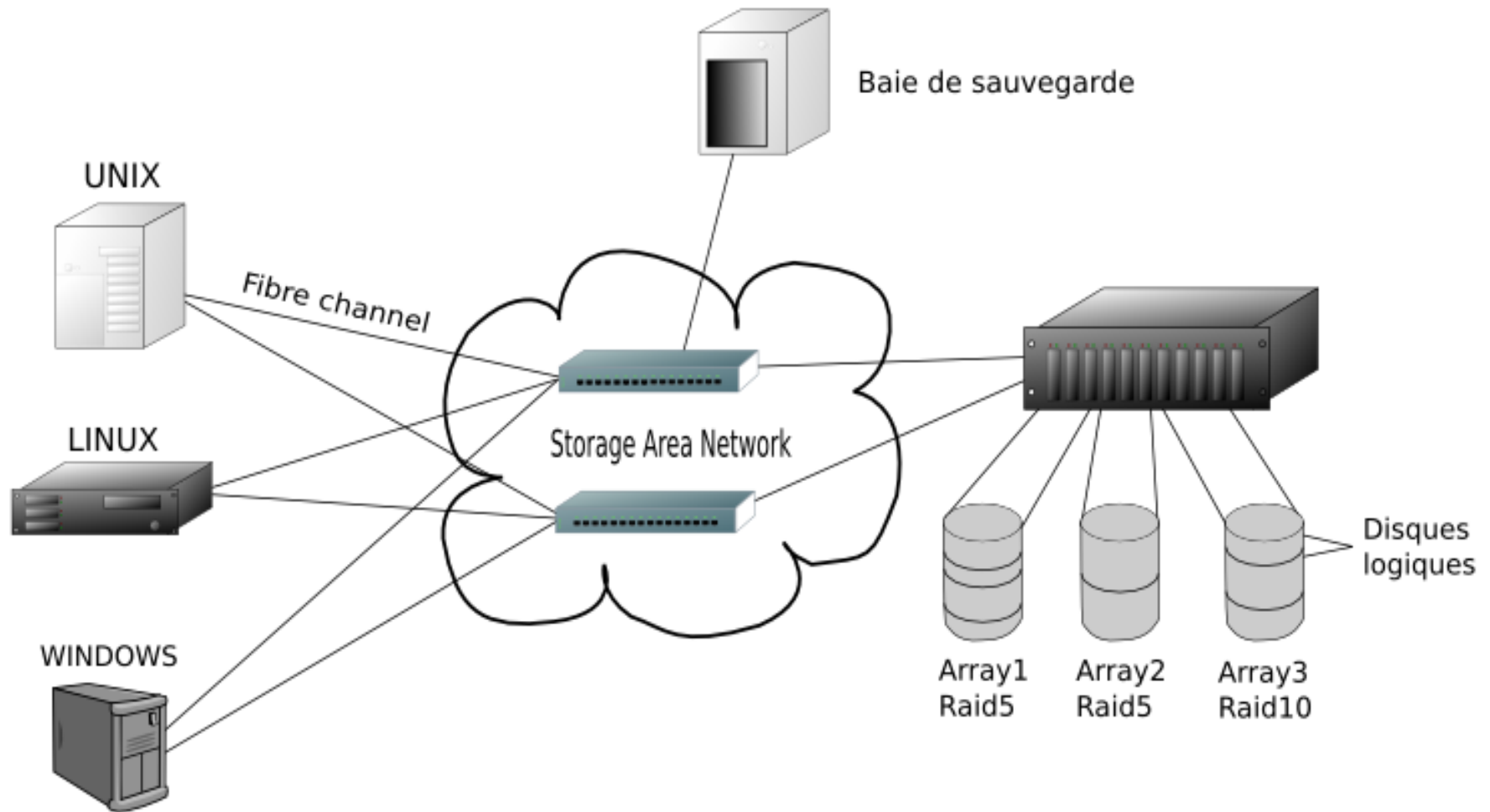
- Very High Speed Fiber Network
- Dedicated interconnection equipments
- Command Servers

➤ **DAS = Direct Attachment Storage**

❑ Disk connected directly to the application server

- Quick response
- Dedicated access to a single server. No Data sharing with other servers
- In case of server failure, no Data access

SAN : Storage Area Network



Storage : for what enterprise needs ?

➤ Why backup solutions ?

- ☐ Vital information security (restored in case of disaster or system failure)
- ☐ Legal constraints
- ☐ Backup Solution architecture : backup servers, storage racks, robots, mutualization, backup software

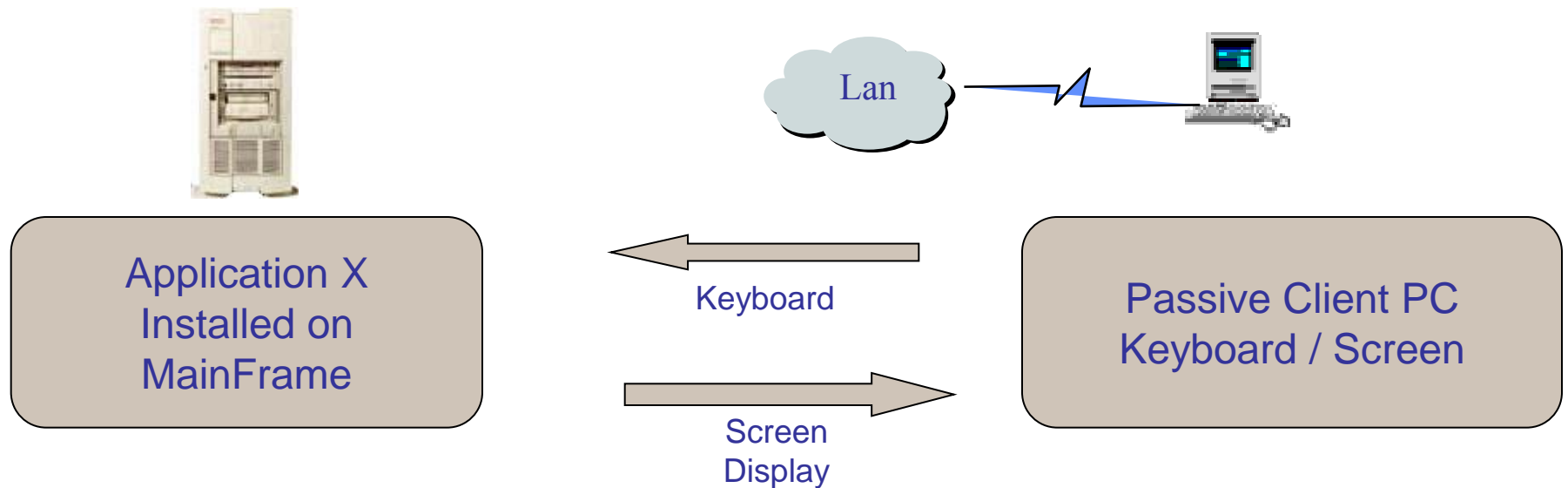
➤ Why Archival solutions ?

- ☐ Legal constraints
 - Controls
 - Archival Data cannot be destroyed or modified
 - Sarbanes Oxley (SOX-LSF)
- ☐ Specific needs : Payslip, financial data

Application Architectures

architecture : MainFrame

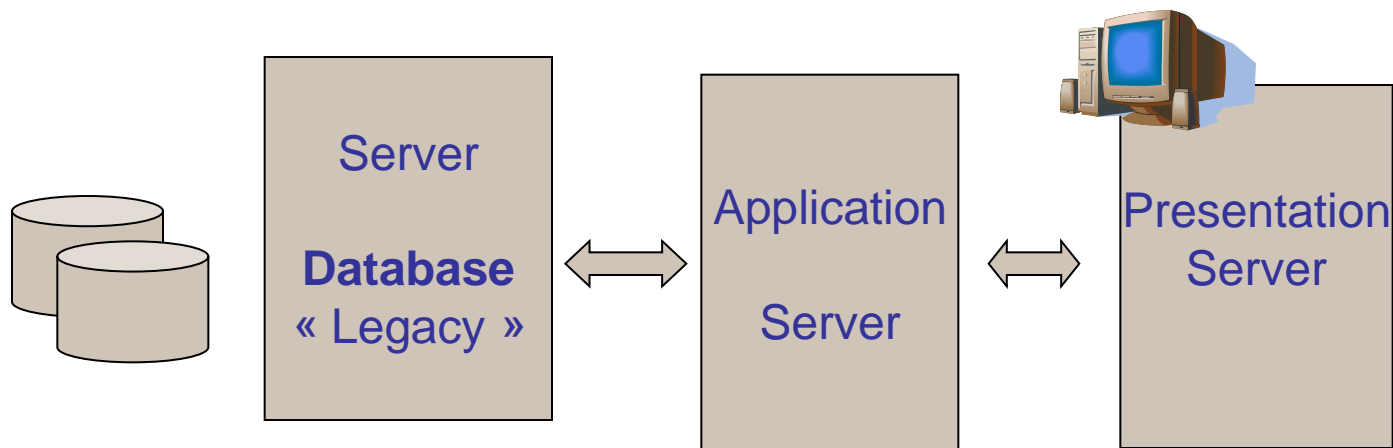
- **Mainframes are former first machines used in IT production**
- **Mainframe concept is to centralize all applications on single server, and to send information to final users on their passive devices (screen display)**



3-Tier architecture

➤ **Data processing production has evolved from Mainframe architecture to 3-Tier which allows processing sharing to optimize communication flows**

- Database Server (storage, updates,...)
- Application Server hosting (logic application)
- User computer participate to part of the processing



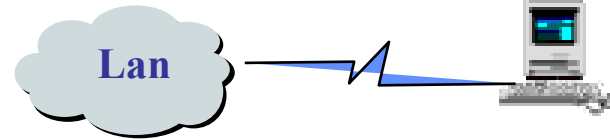
« Heavy Client » Architecture

- **Application / Software is installed on the server & on the client PC**

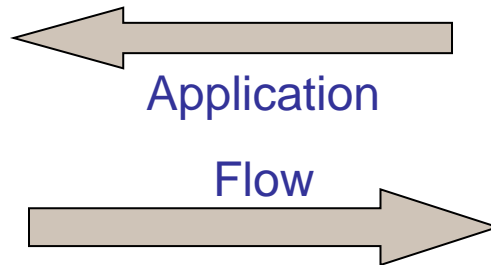
Server



Client PC



**Application X
Installed on the server**



**Application X
Installed on client PC**

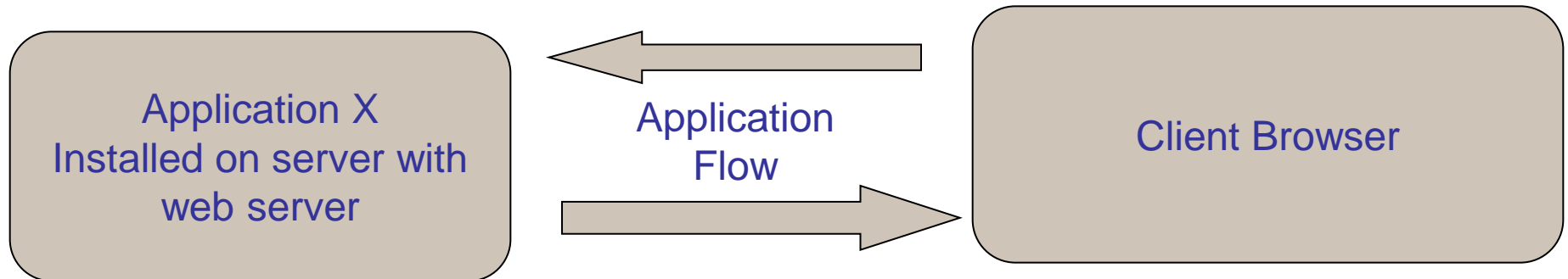
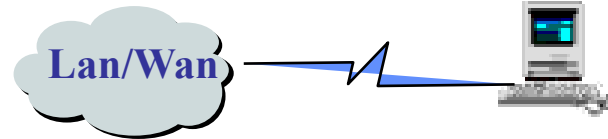
Thin Client architecture

- Access to the application is done through web interface (HTML) with client browser (IE, Firefox, Opera...)

Web
Server

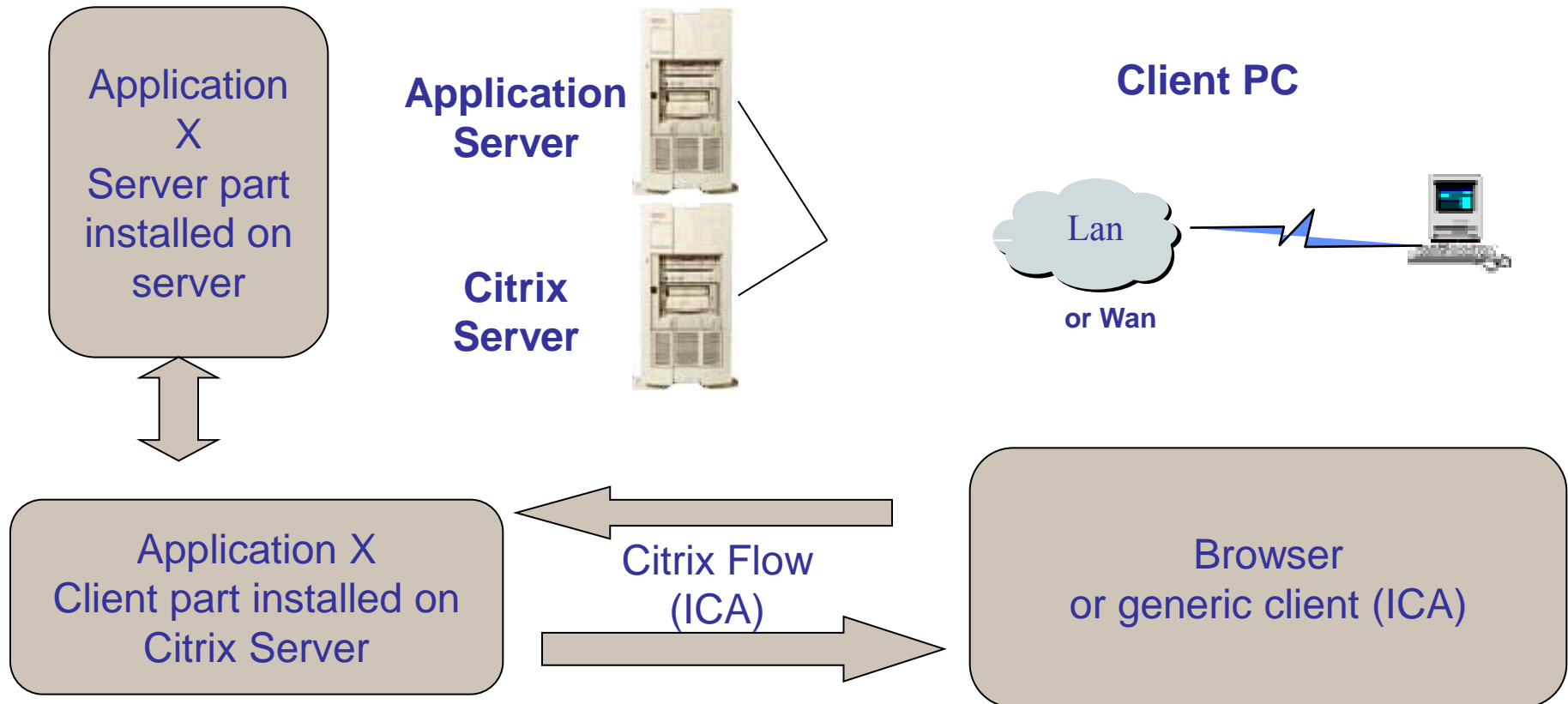


Client PC

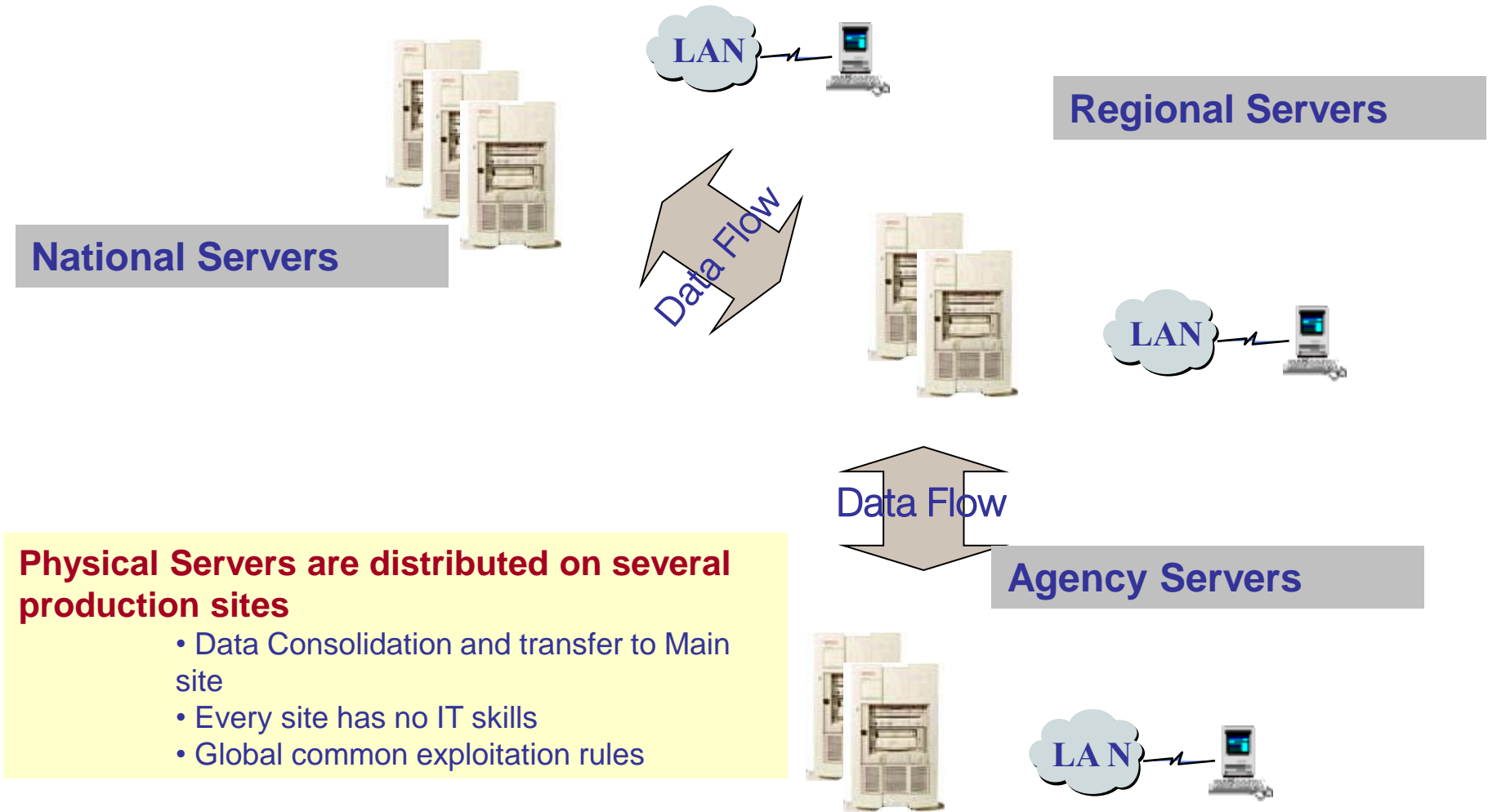


Citrix architecture

- ❑ « Heavy client » is installed on Citrix Server, accessed with ICA flows from client



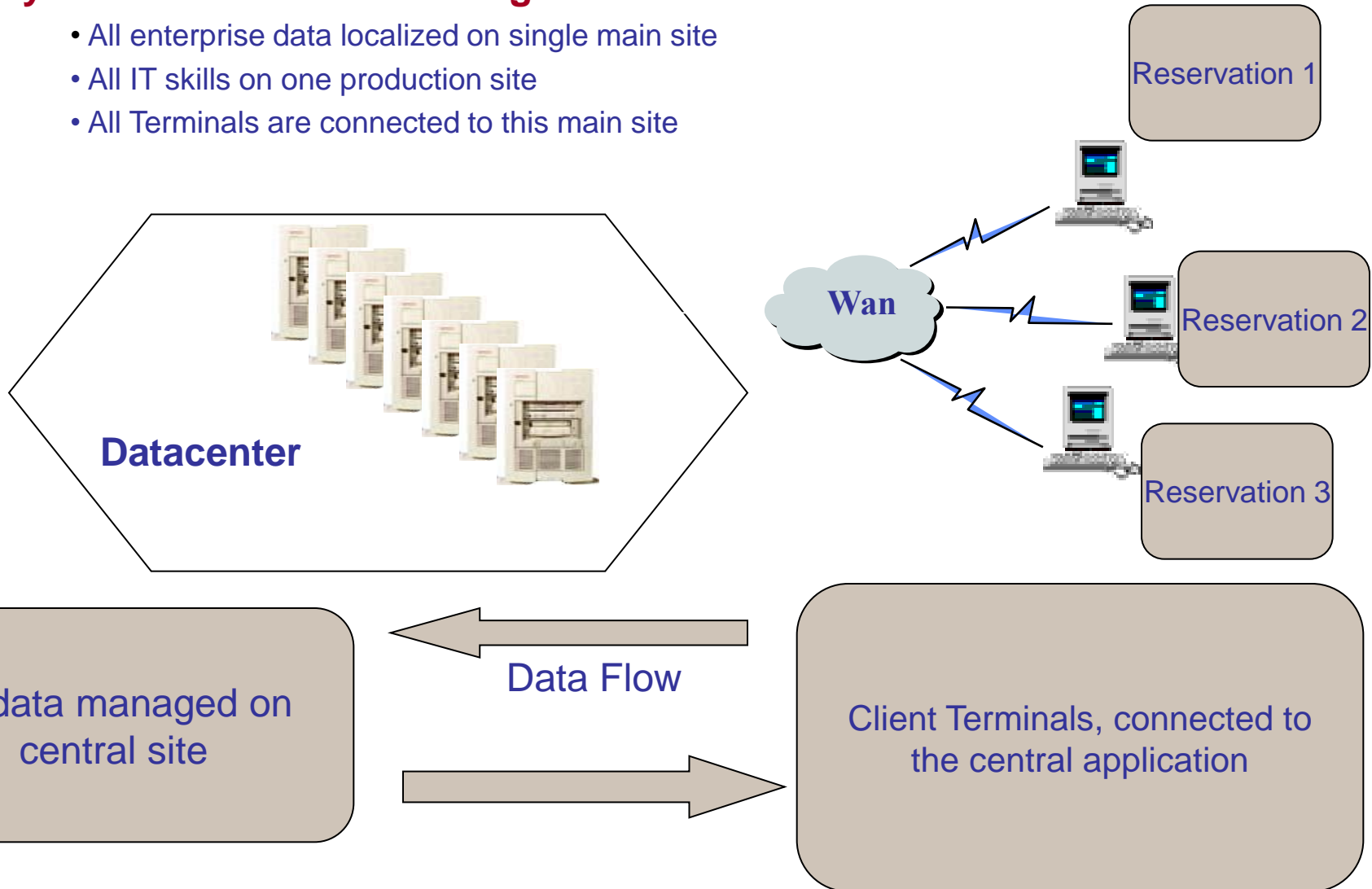
Distributed architecture



Centralized architecture

All physical servers are on a single site

- All enterprise data localized on single main site
- All IT skills on one production site
- All Terminals are connected to this main site



Client/Server architecture : trends

➤ **Trend is migration from heavy client => thin client**

☐ Web Client

- Application migration to new version compatible with web client

☐ Thin Citrix Client

- Few application modifications : heavy client is installed on the server side (instead of PC client)

➤ **Trends to centralization**

➤ **Trends to virtualization**

☐ Desktops

☐ Servers

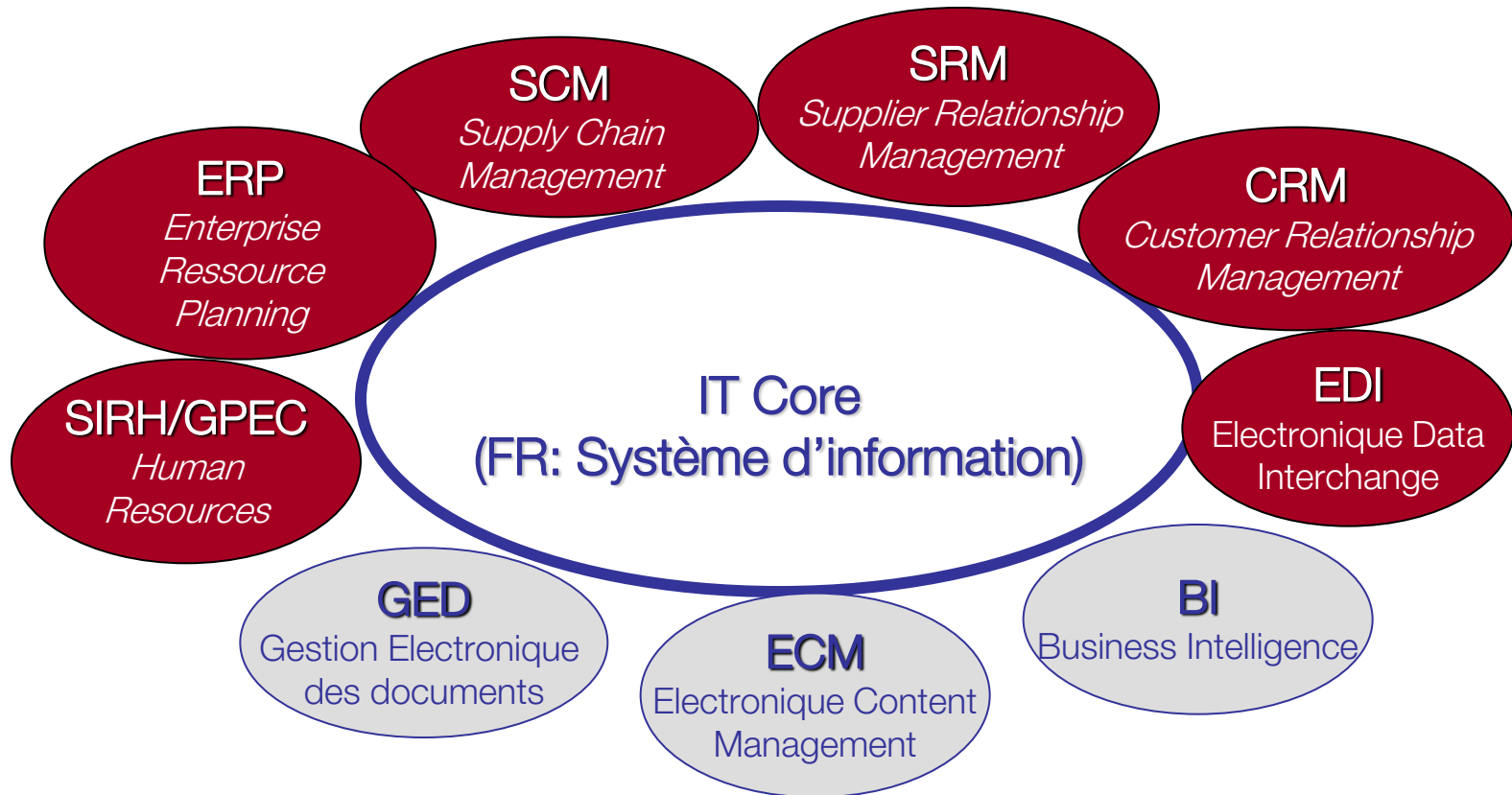
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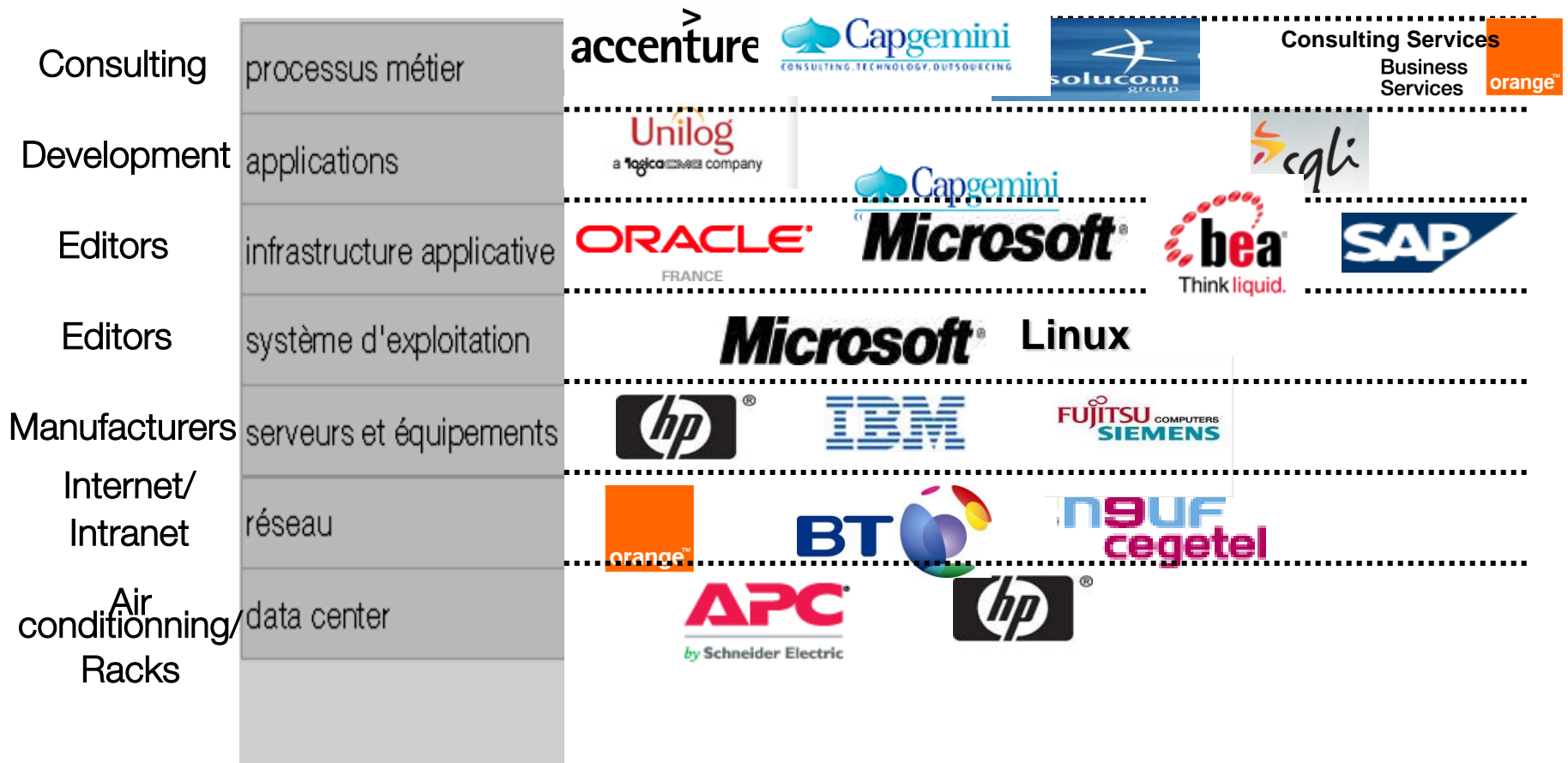
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Applications

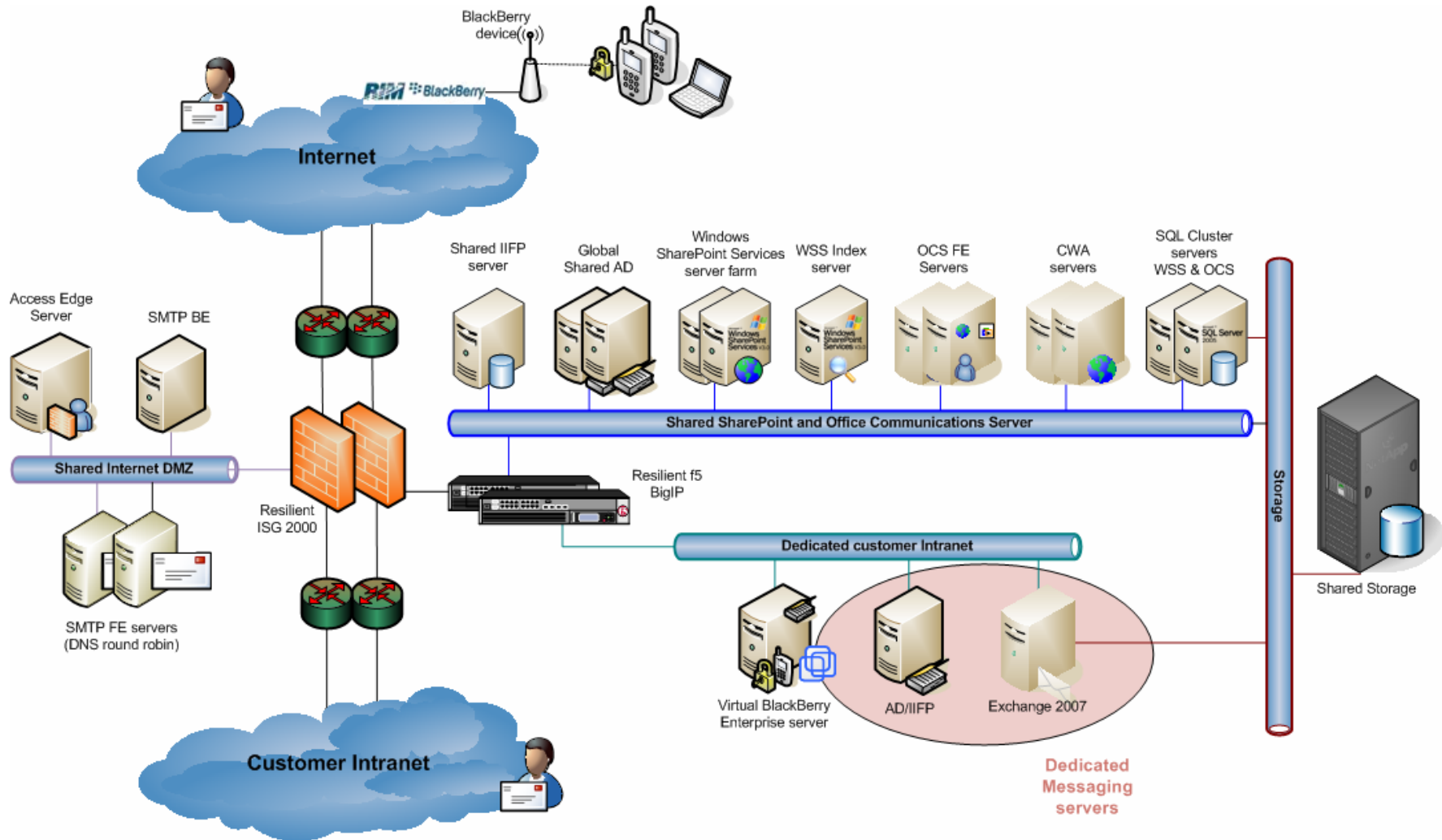
Applications of enterprises



Application infrastructure ecosystem



Office system applications architecture



Licenses

- **Commercial (Oracle, SAP, ...)**
- **Different calculation modes (users number, simultaneous or not, servers number, server processing)**
- **Shareware : free try**
- **Freeware : free**
- **Open source**
 - ☐ Author does not demand royalties
 - ☐ Source code access
 - ☐ Improvement from user community

TMA : Tierce maintenance applicative

TPM : Third Party Maintenance

➤ **Application maintenance :**

- ☐ Debugging
- ☐ Features evolutions :
 - Compulsory (legal) so priority !
 - Asked by users to responds to business issues

➤ **TMA is Third Party application maintenance**

- ☐ Application developer
- ☐ Hosting provider
- ☐ Consulting services

ASP : Application Service Provider

➤ **ASP :**

- ☐ Application access with web client or thin client
- ☐ Generic applications (CRM : Customer Relationship Management or Client Database)

➤ **Different billing processes**

- ☐ Per transactions
- ☐ Per users access
- ☐ Monthly revenue

➤ **Nowadays : SAAS (Software as a Service)**

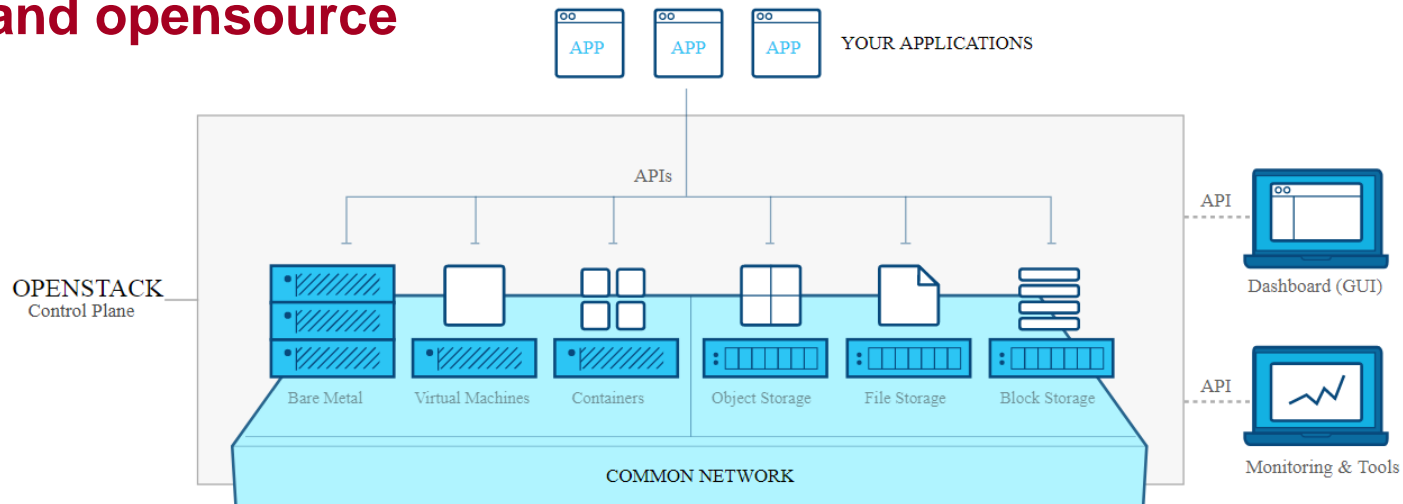
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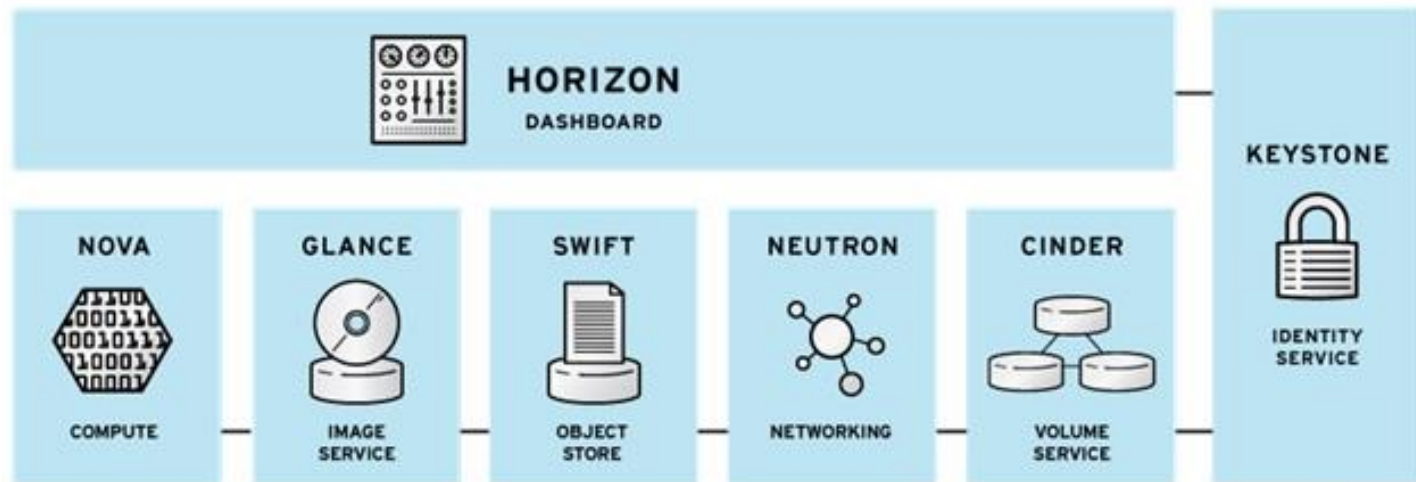
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Virtualization

➤ Infrastructure as a Service, just like Amazon, for everyone and opensource



➤ Basic openstack components



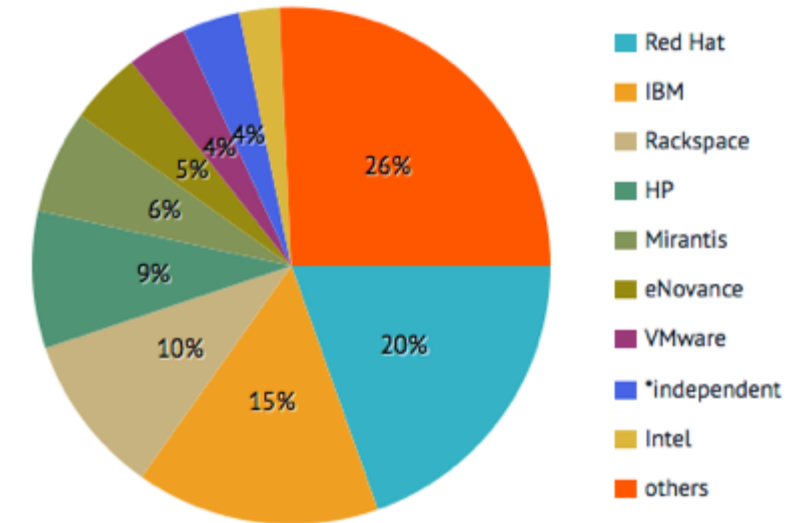
Openstack



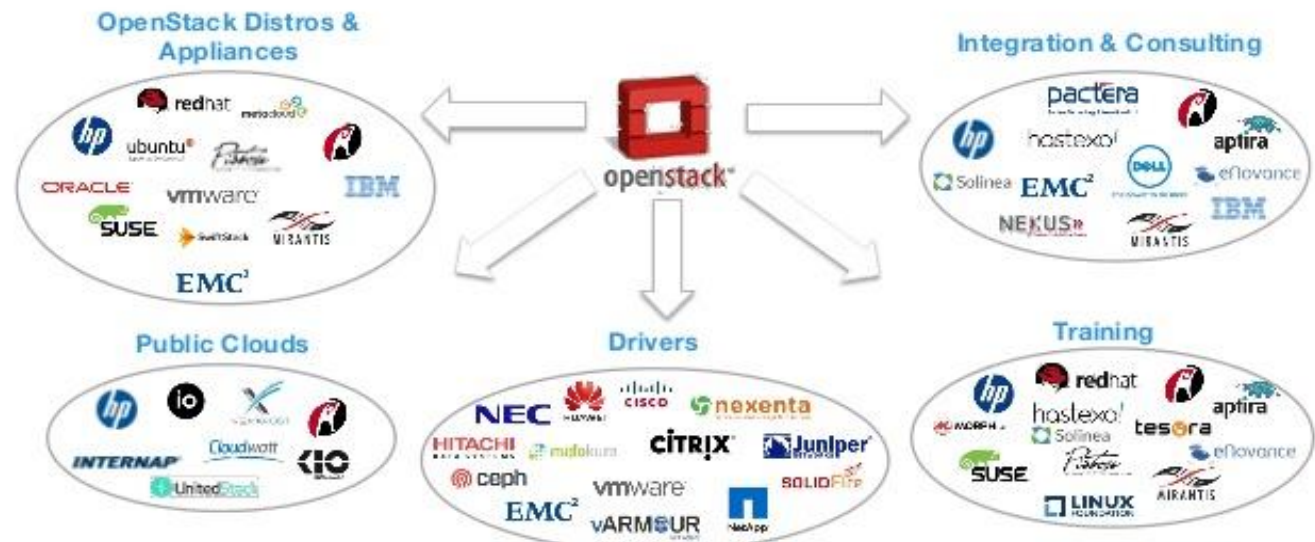
➤ Companies contribute to different openstack projects according to their interest, strategy, and future

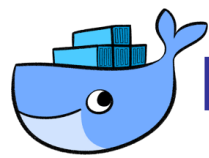
- ❑ They may patent some innovations
- ❑ They can market some components, drivers
- ❑ They develop expertise and influence

Contribution by companies



VIBRANT OPEN CLOUD ECOSYSTEM

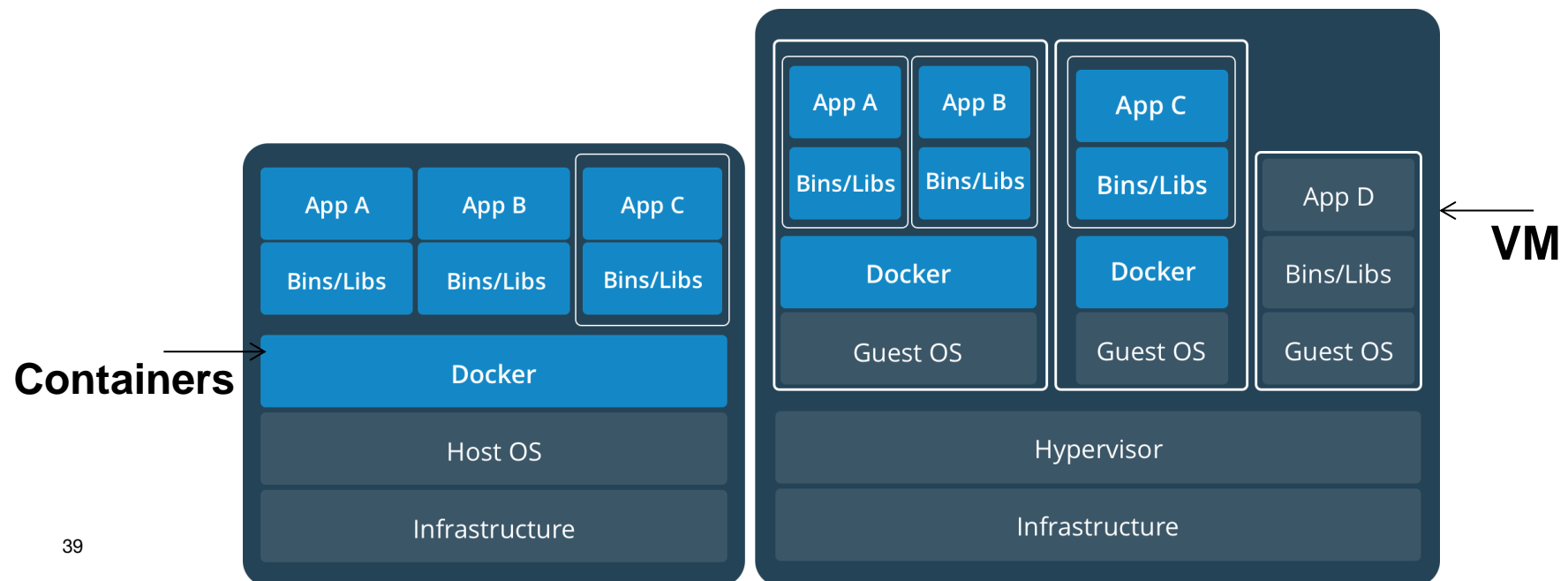




Docker (and containers in general)

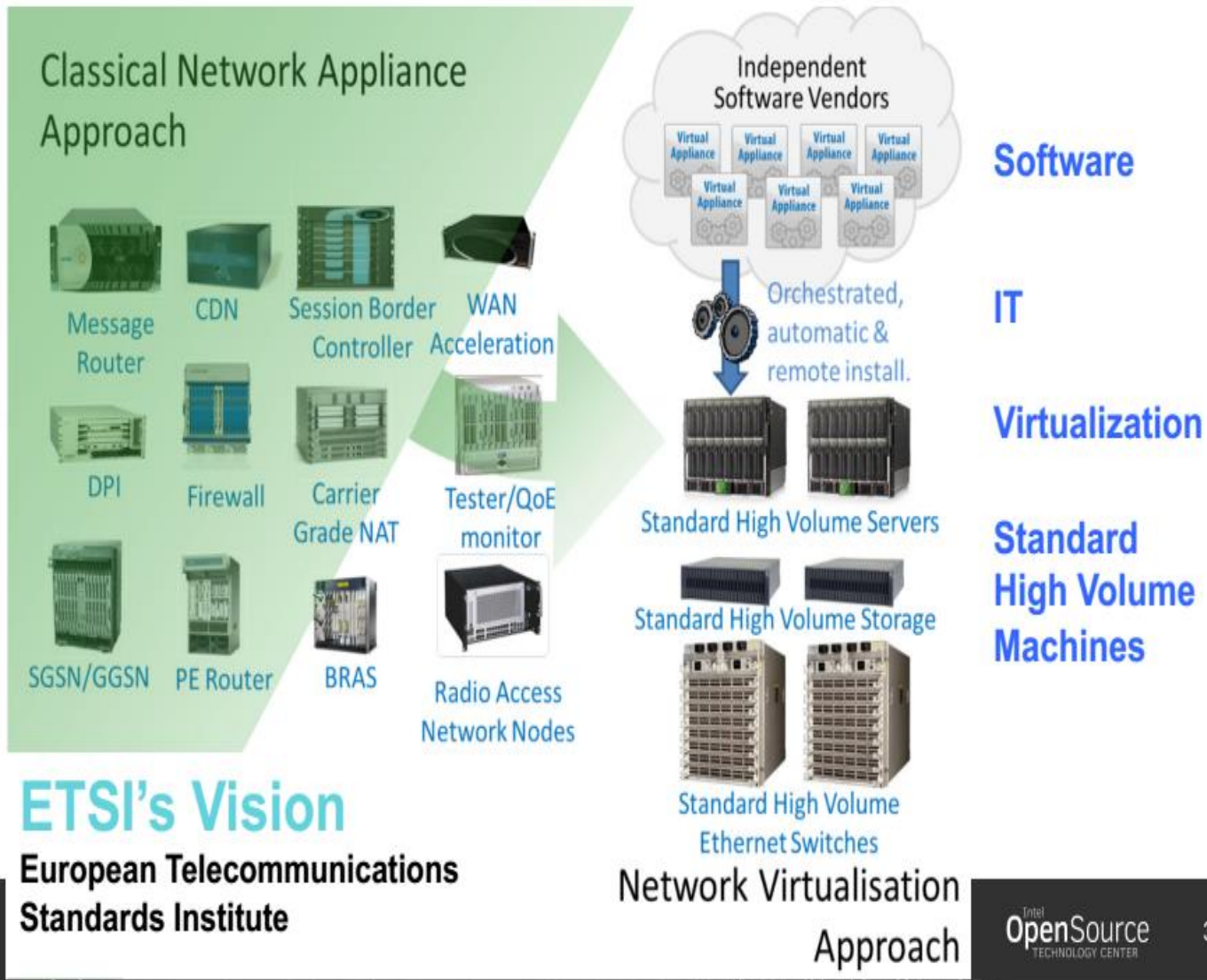
➤ Containers are the current application deployment format

- ❑ It is also free and opensource
- ❑ It can be used to “contain” almost any application and be deployed on a windows, linux, or Mac
- ❑ It is lightweight and highly composable



Network Function Virtualization

From dedicated HW appliance to Virtualized functions



NFV Today

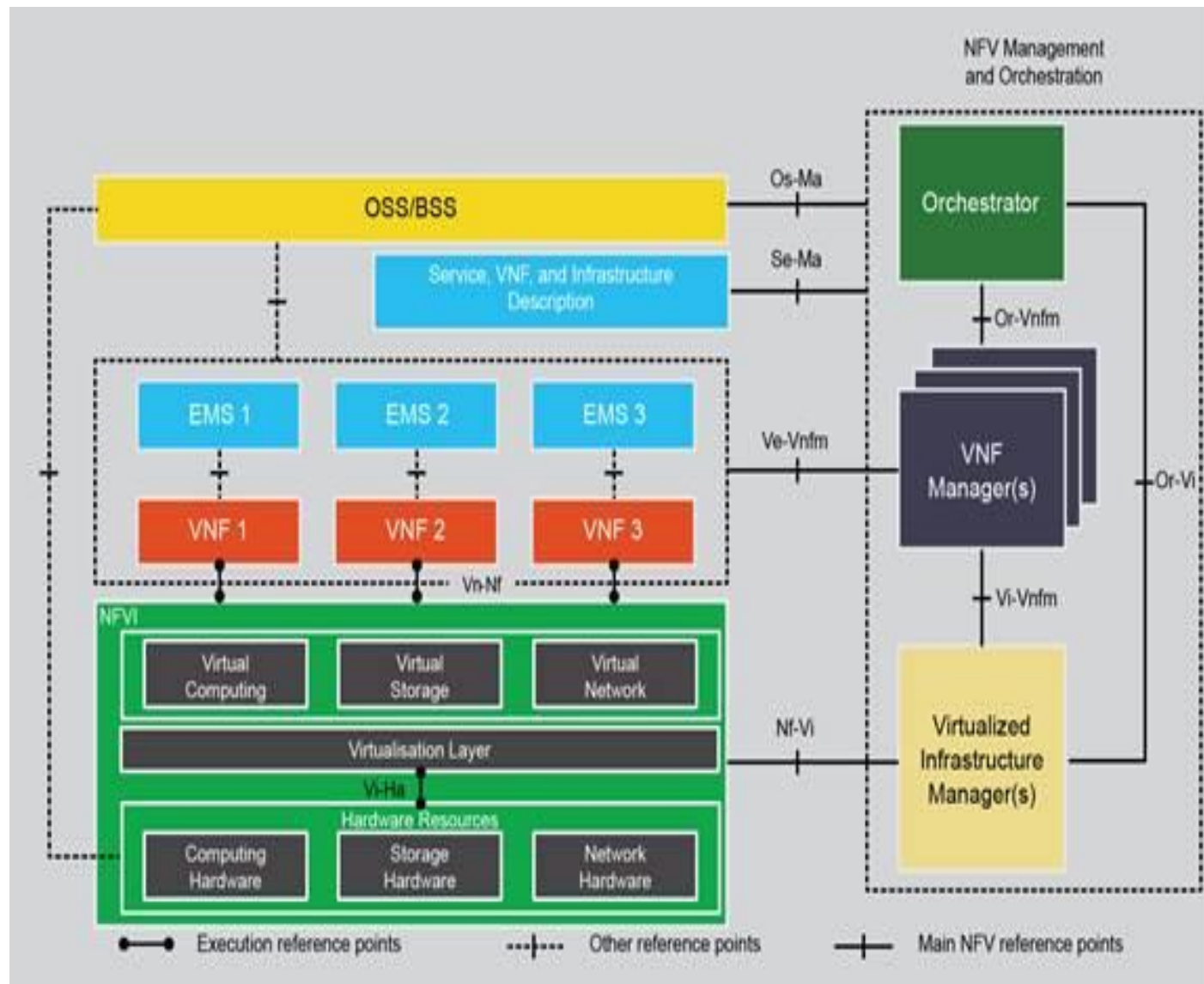
➤ Today

- ❑ Network functions live in their dedicated physical appliances
- ❑ Existing standardization efforts (at ETSI/NFV) define how to deploy network functions on a cloud infrastructure. ETSI/NFV includes the automation of VNF lifecycle under the MANO block (Management and Orchestration).
- ❑ Main focus on VM-oriented infrastructure

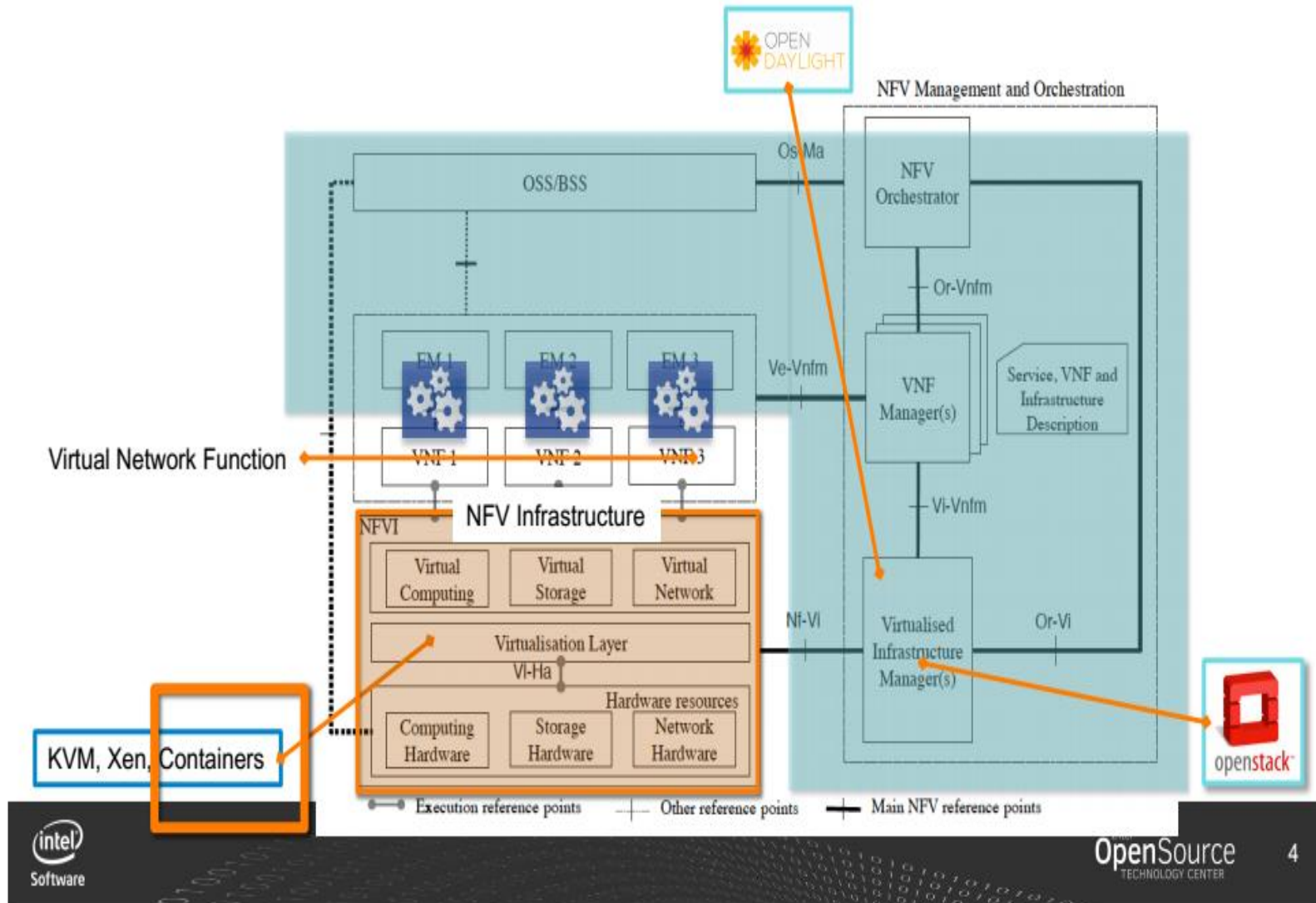
➤ Potential limitations

- ❑ The VM-oriented approach may not be optimized for some VNFs
- ❑ B2C use cases: Dense/rapid deployments, performance-critical, other.
- ❑ B2B use cases: Diversity of VNFs and business offers/plans

ETSI MANO model



ETSI MANO model



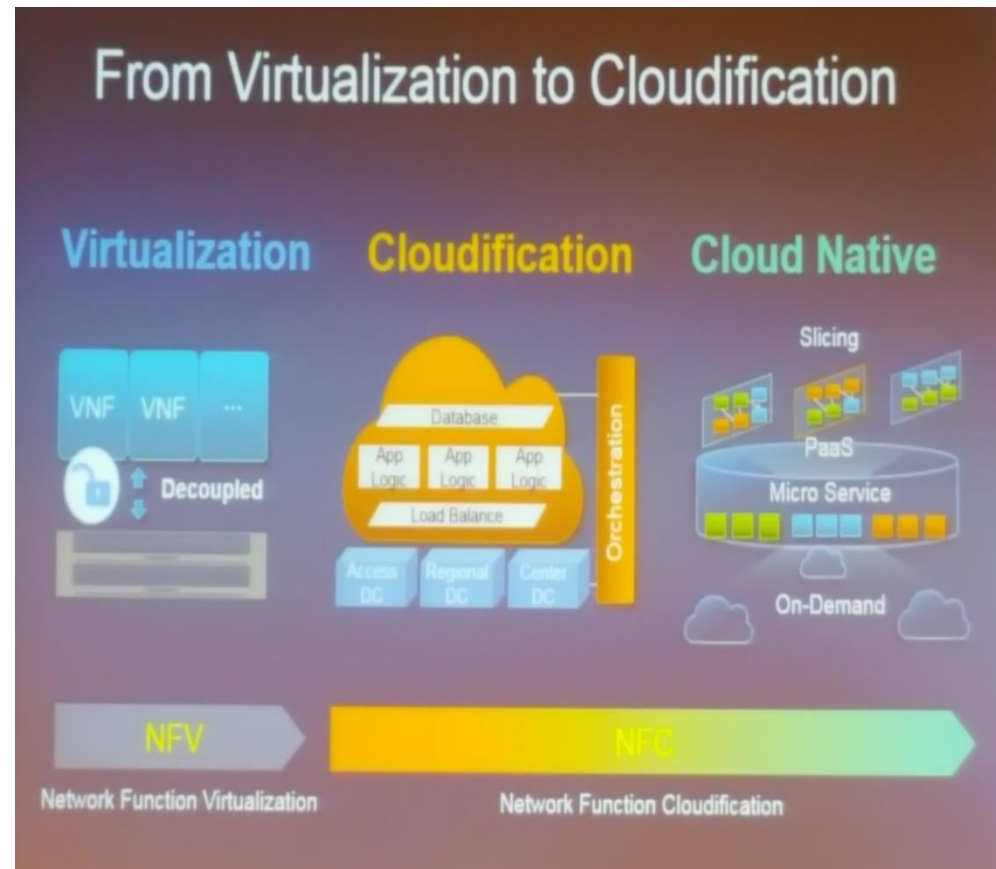
Vendor VNF solutions state-of-the art

➤ A 3 step approach for existing VNF

- ❑ Virtualisation: Code just extracted from legacy hardware (existing)
- ❑ Cloudification: Software redesigned to be adapted to a cloud infra (on-going)
- ❑ Cloud native: towards a micro-service approach using containers (in labs)

➤ Some new actors started to design VNF to become cloud-ready

➤ No commercial VNF yet aligned with phase 3 (true for all main VNF vendors)



Critical aspects to consider for production

- **Docker (and containers) are an enabling technology. The global mission to deploy an application/VNF remains unchanged.**
- **Security**
 - ❑ Containers may be considered as VRF in existing legacy equipments
 - ❑ What threat model ? What changes compared to VMs/VNFs ?
- **Networking**
 - ❑ Containers may require multiple interfaces in the context of NFV
- **Tools/Ecosystem**
 - ❑ Separate set of specialized tools for VMs and Containers ?
 - ❑ Orchestration/MANO impact mainly when not using containers on bare metal
- **Is your VNF Cloud native ?**
 - ❑ No « complex » VNF is currently cloud native (in particular, 12 FA compliant).
 - ❑ Docker pledges for cloud native and considers cattle-type deployment (short-lived containers, denser deployments, compliant with various orchestrators/VIMs)

NFV Tomorrow

➤ Alternative

- ☐ Use containers if/when possible
- ☐ The application must be cloud-ready (native) to benefit from the container technology

➤ Key messages

- ☐ Containers are an enabling technology, relevant for VNFs deployment use cases
- ☐ 2017 Cloud-native VNFs, 2019 for deployable solutions handled by Orchestrator Engines (ex. Kubernetes)
- ☐ The ecosystem around containers is the most important aspect of it
- ☐ This is why Docker thrives, while other alternatives try to follow and imitate
- ☐ Security, lifecycle, workflow, and other critical aspects should be studied in the case of Container-centric deployment then in a heterogeneous deployment context (VM, containers, unikernels?)
- ☐ Open question: should B2C and B2B use cases converge or diverge on the adopted approach ?

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