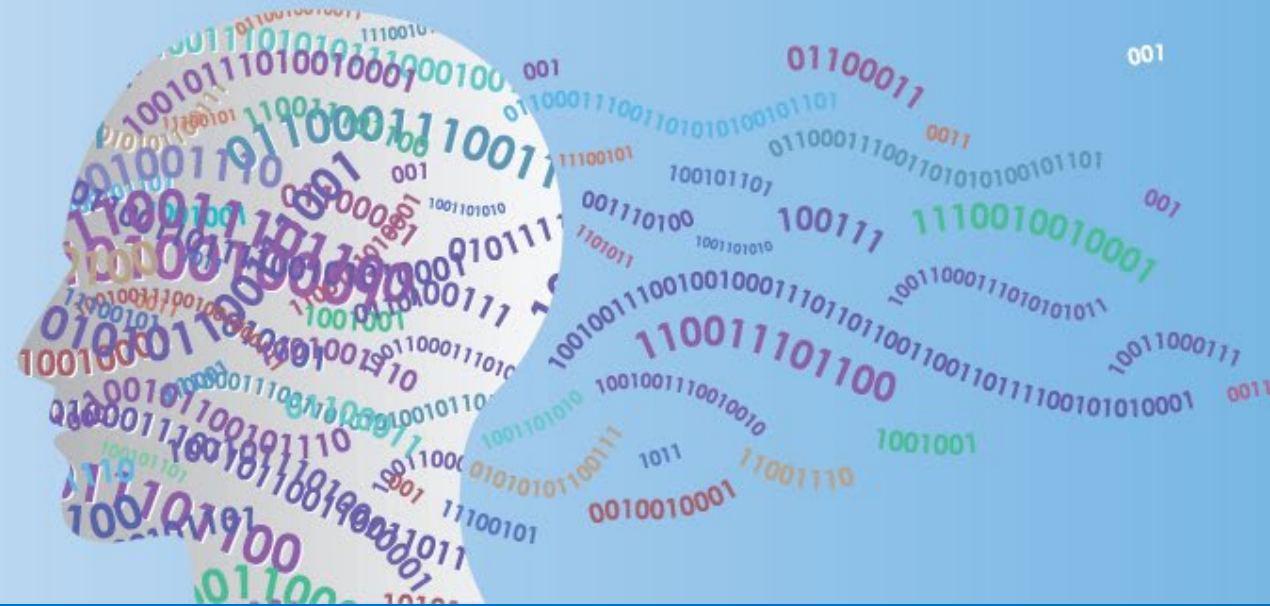




SNIA

# PERSISTENT MEMORY + SUMMIT 2021 COMPUTATIONAL STORAGE

FROM DATACENTER TO EDGE : VIRTUAL EVENT  
APRIL 21-22, 2021

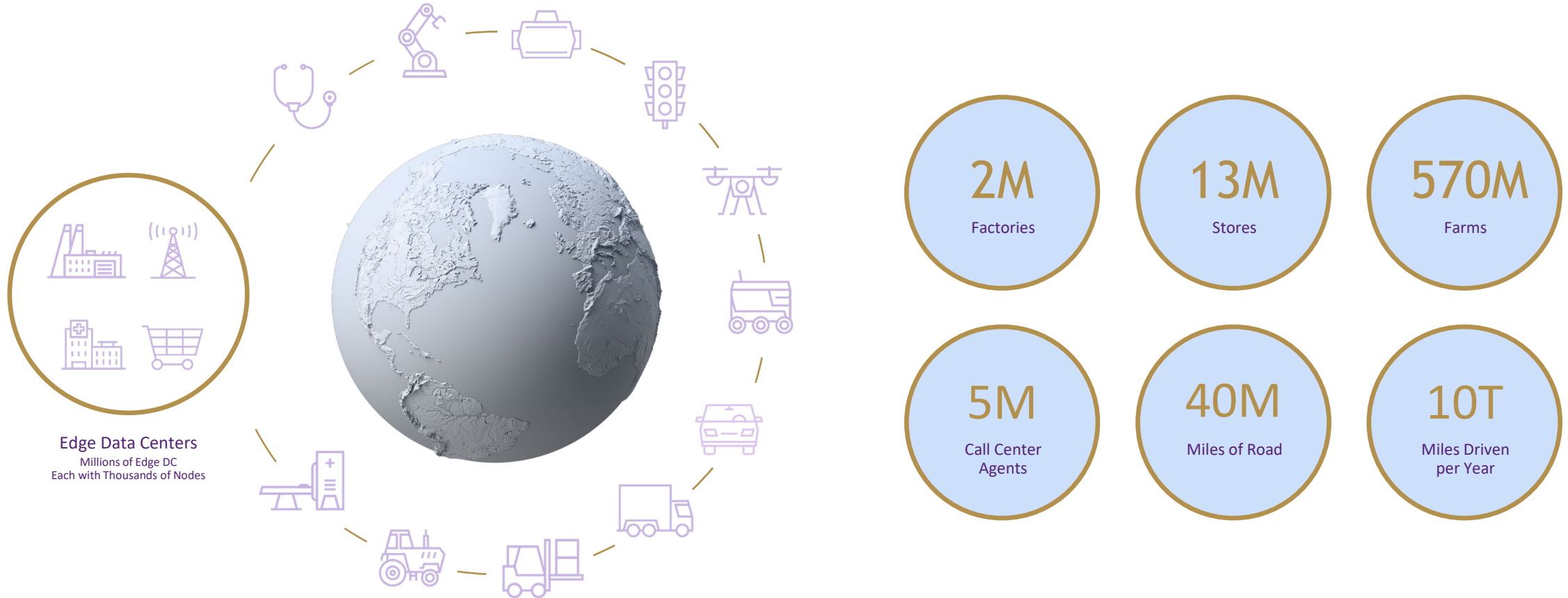


## Distributed AI and Computational Storage

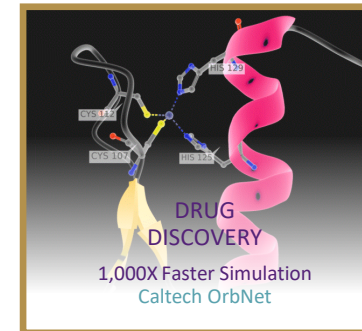
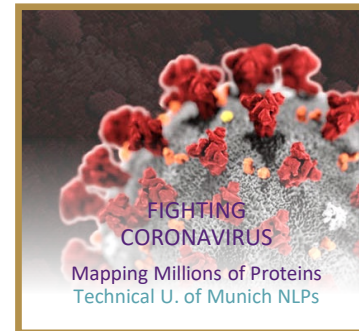
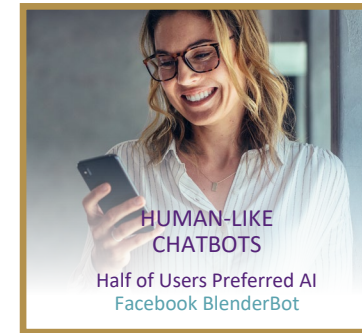
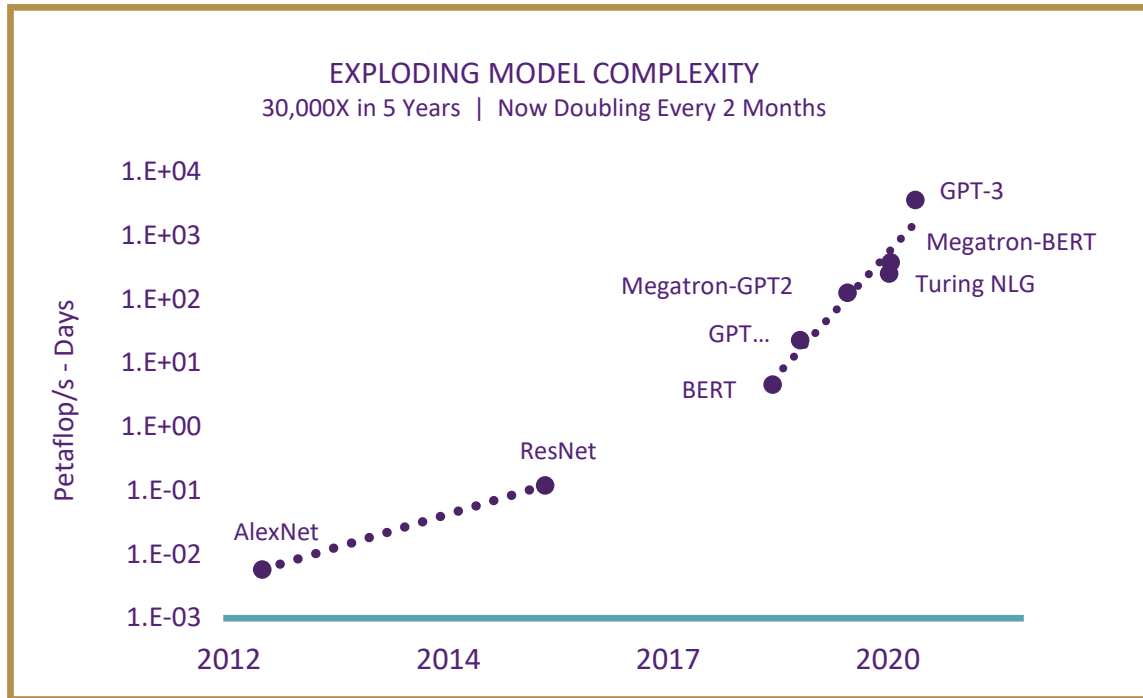
Michael Kagan  
CTO, NVIDIA

# The New Age of AI

Everything is Connected. Data Generated and Consumed Everywhere

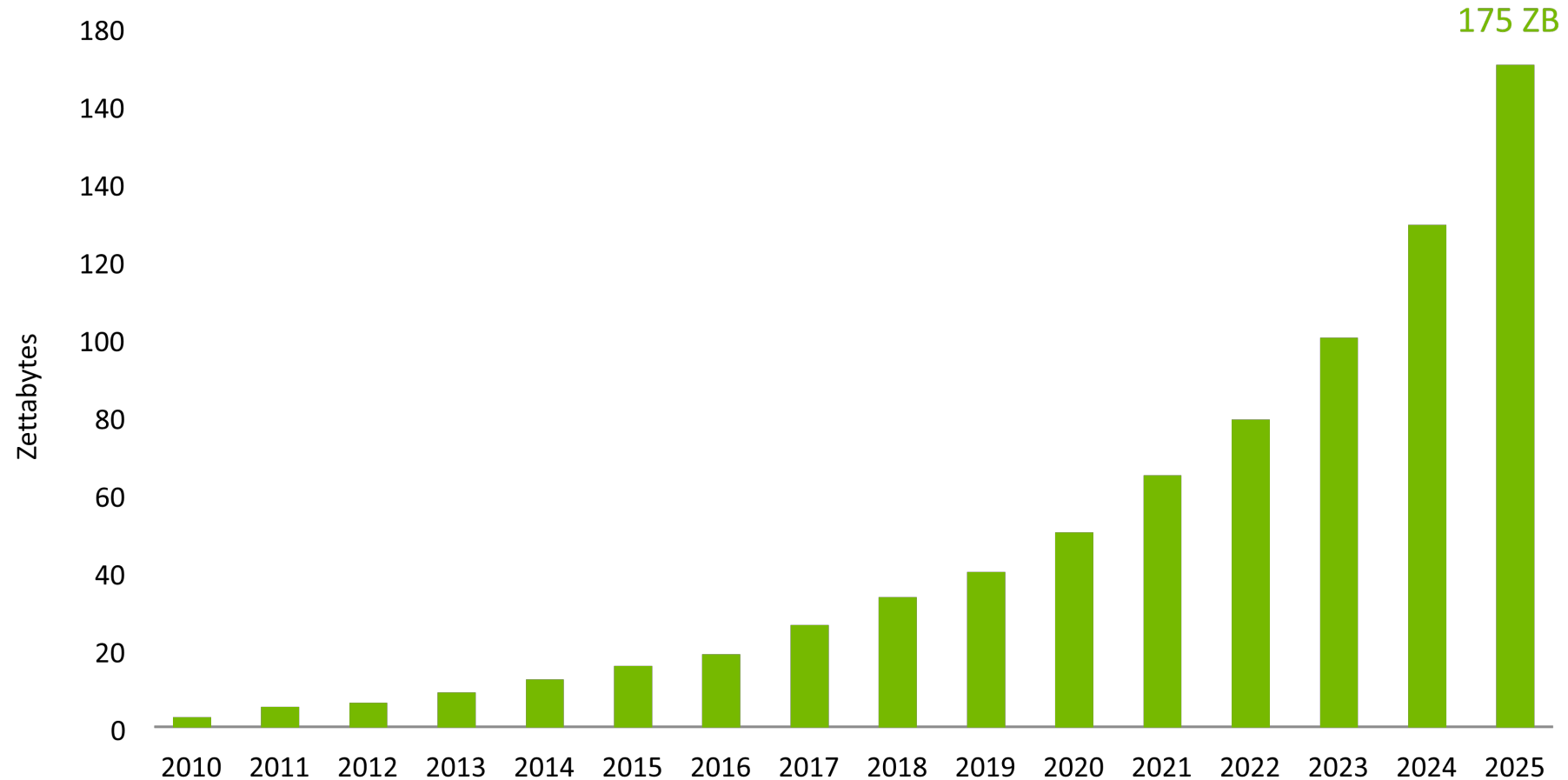


# Exponential Growth in AI Model Complexity



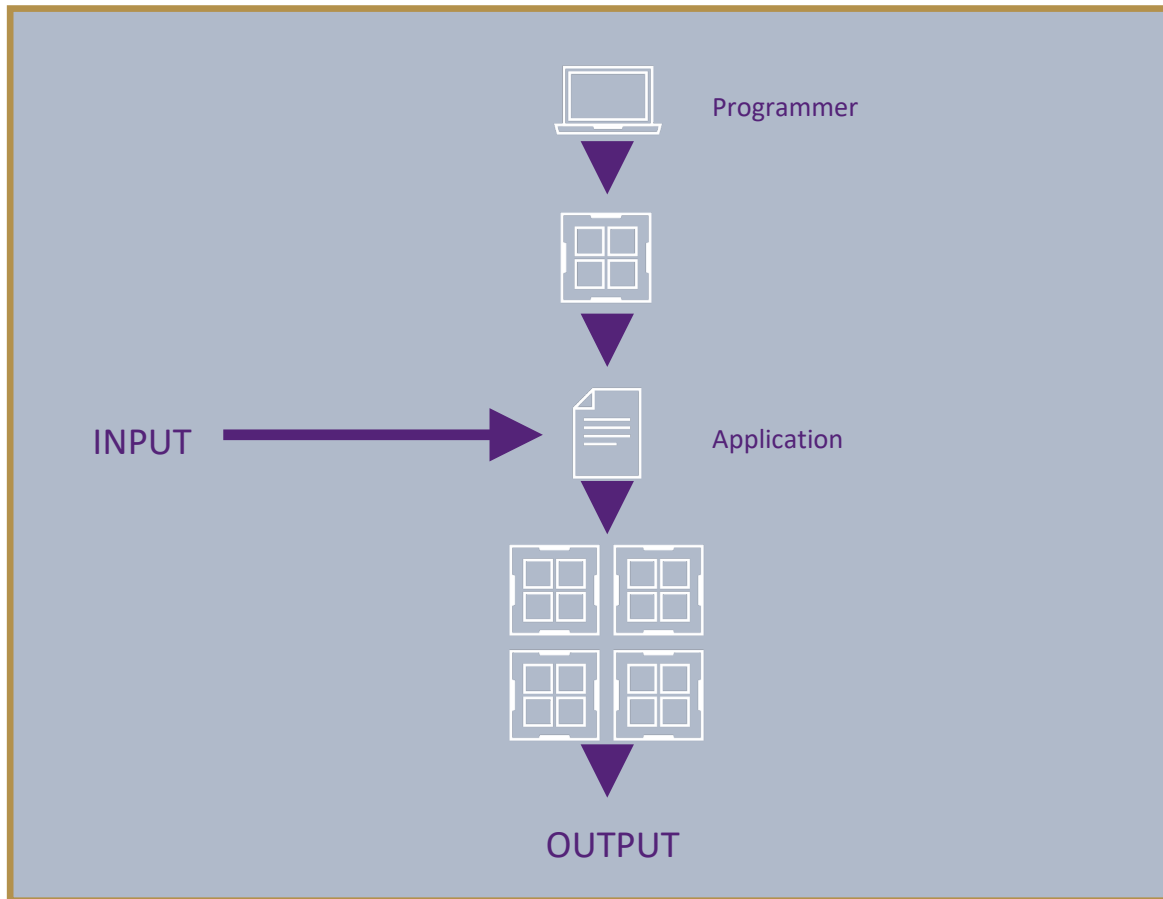
# Data Grows Exponentially

More Data → New Models → New Applications → Even More Data

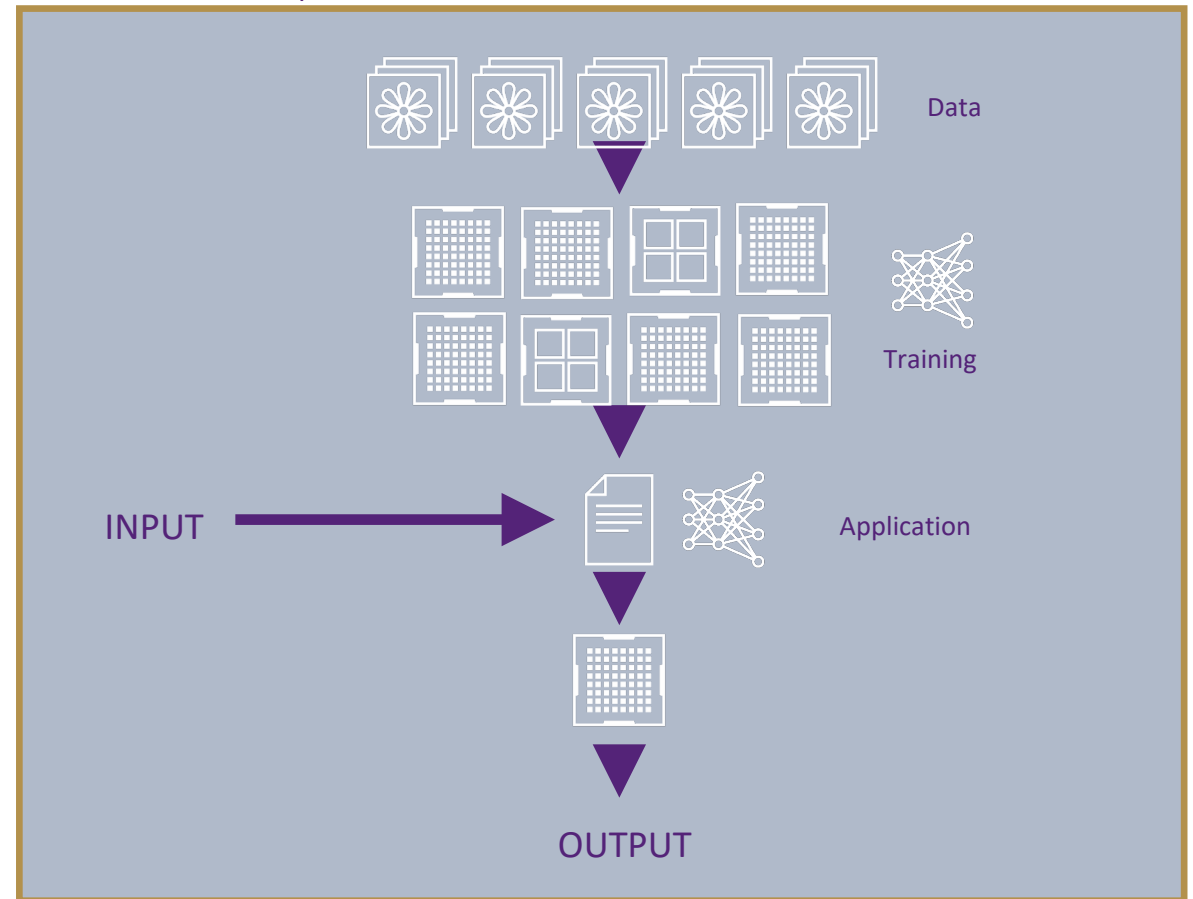


# Software Writes Software

Traditional Model: Programmer uses small computer to create an application that runs on a large centralized computer

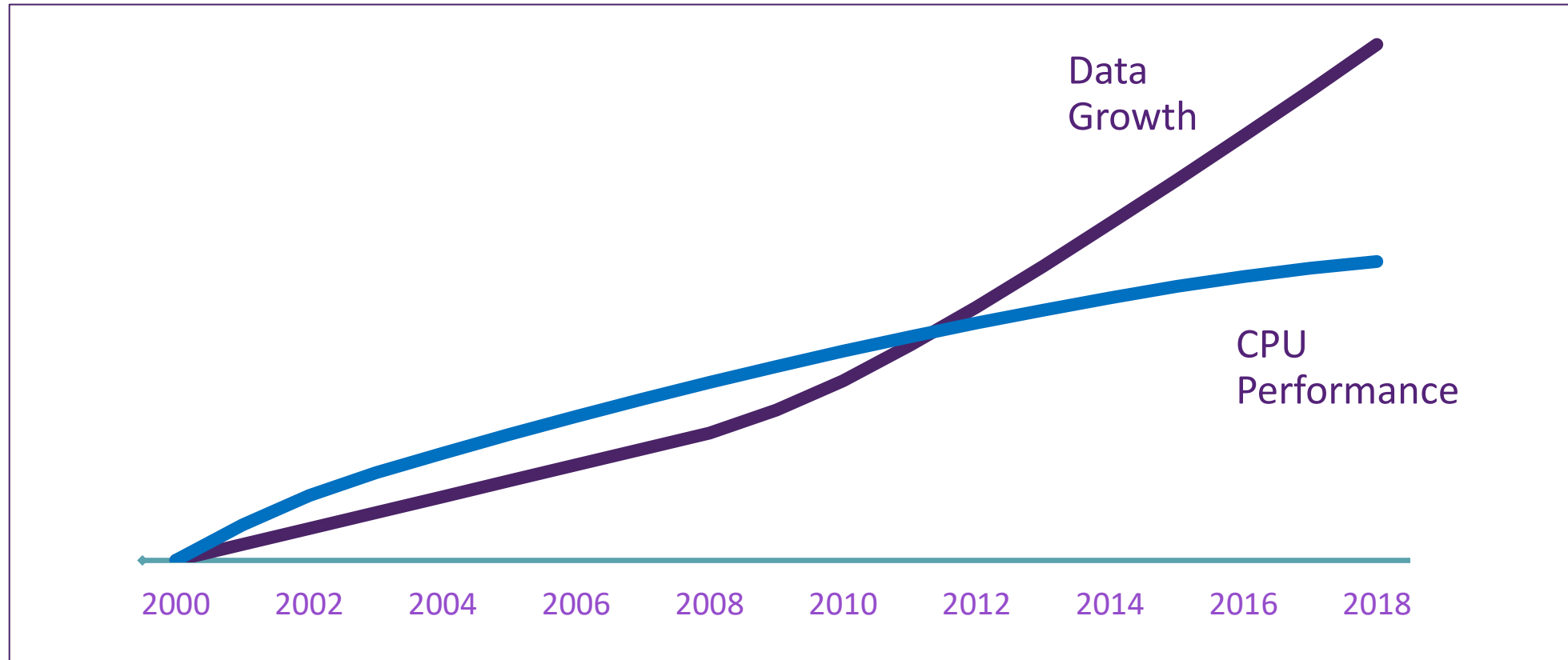


New AI Model: A large computer uses data to train applications that run on distributed small computers



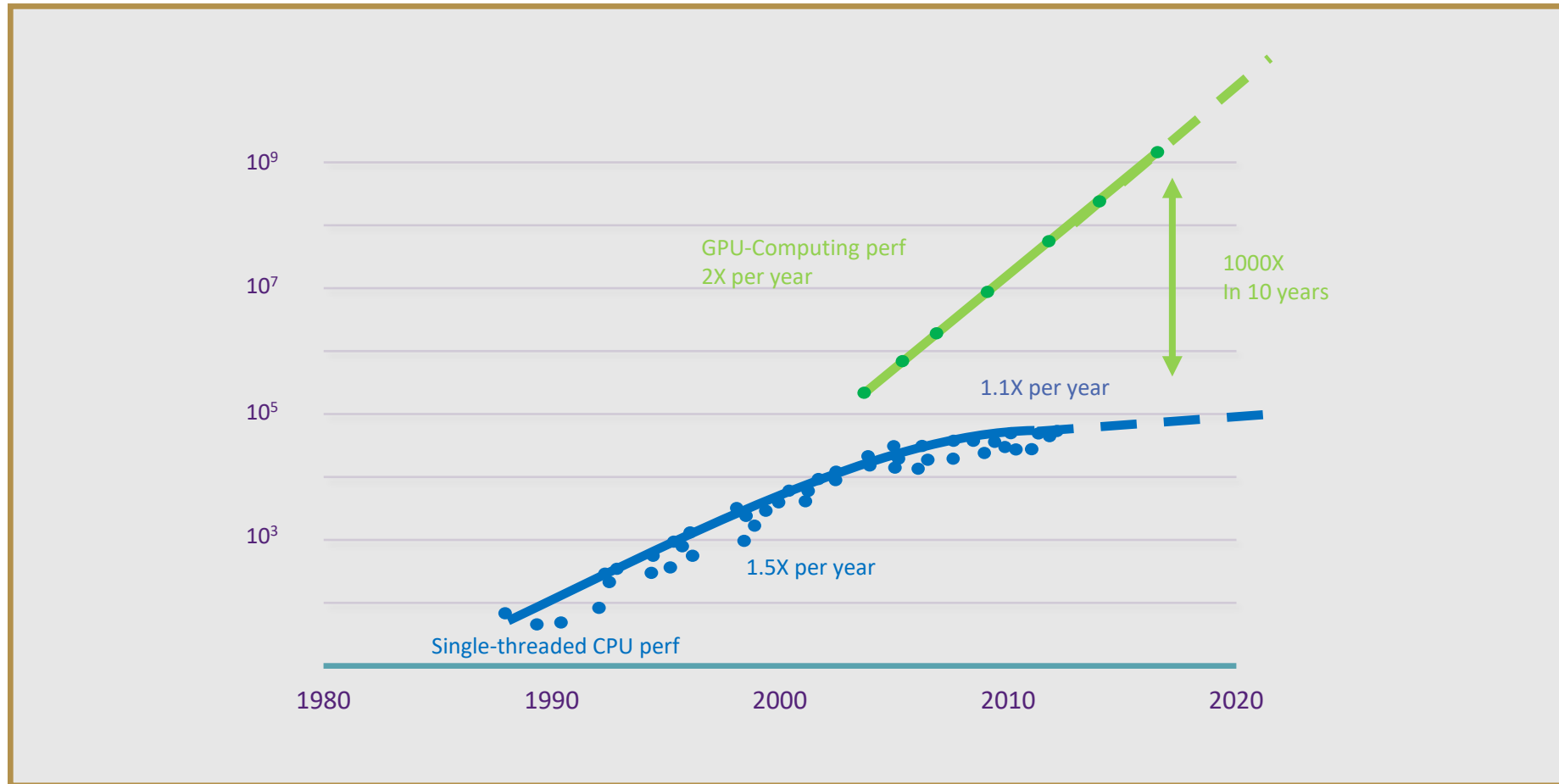
# Now Moore's Law Is Slowing Down

Fails to Keep up with Data Growth, Model Complexity, Memory Speeds, etc.

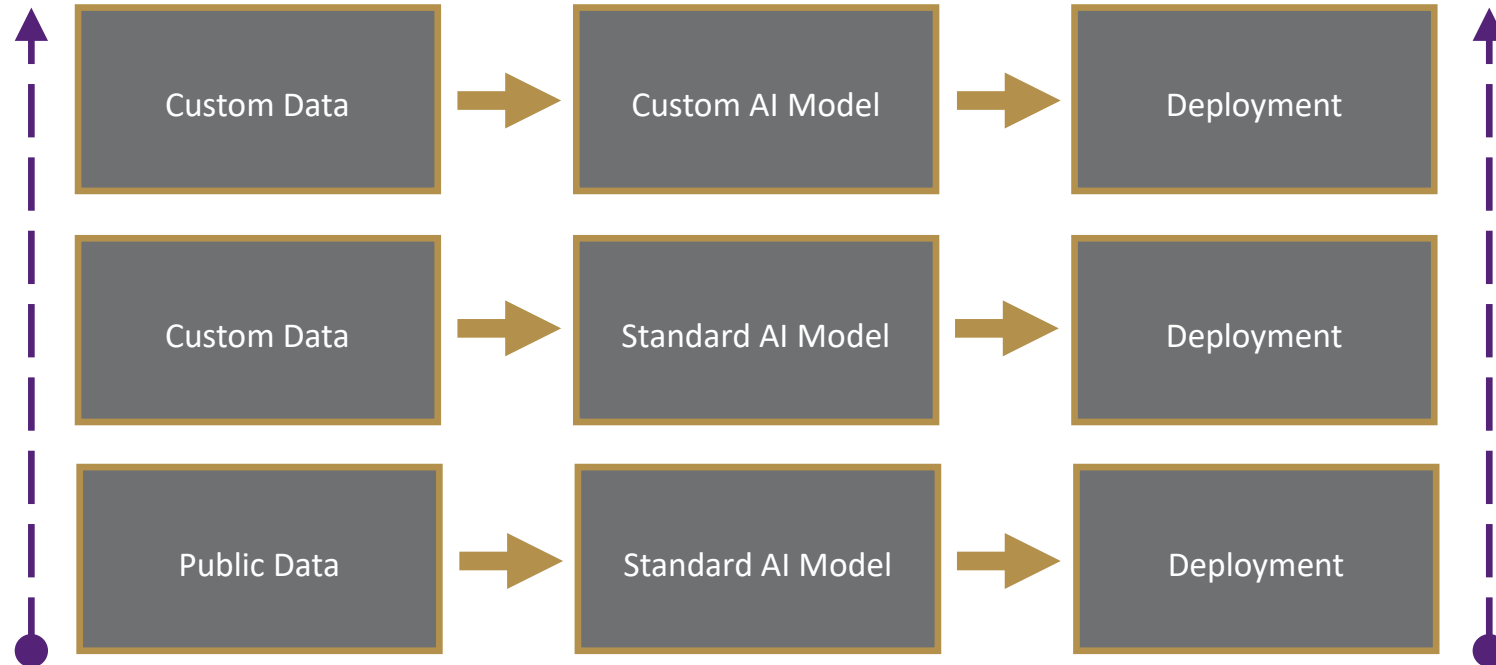


# New Compute Growth Engines

GPU Becomes the General Processing Unit

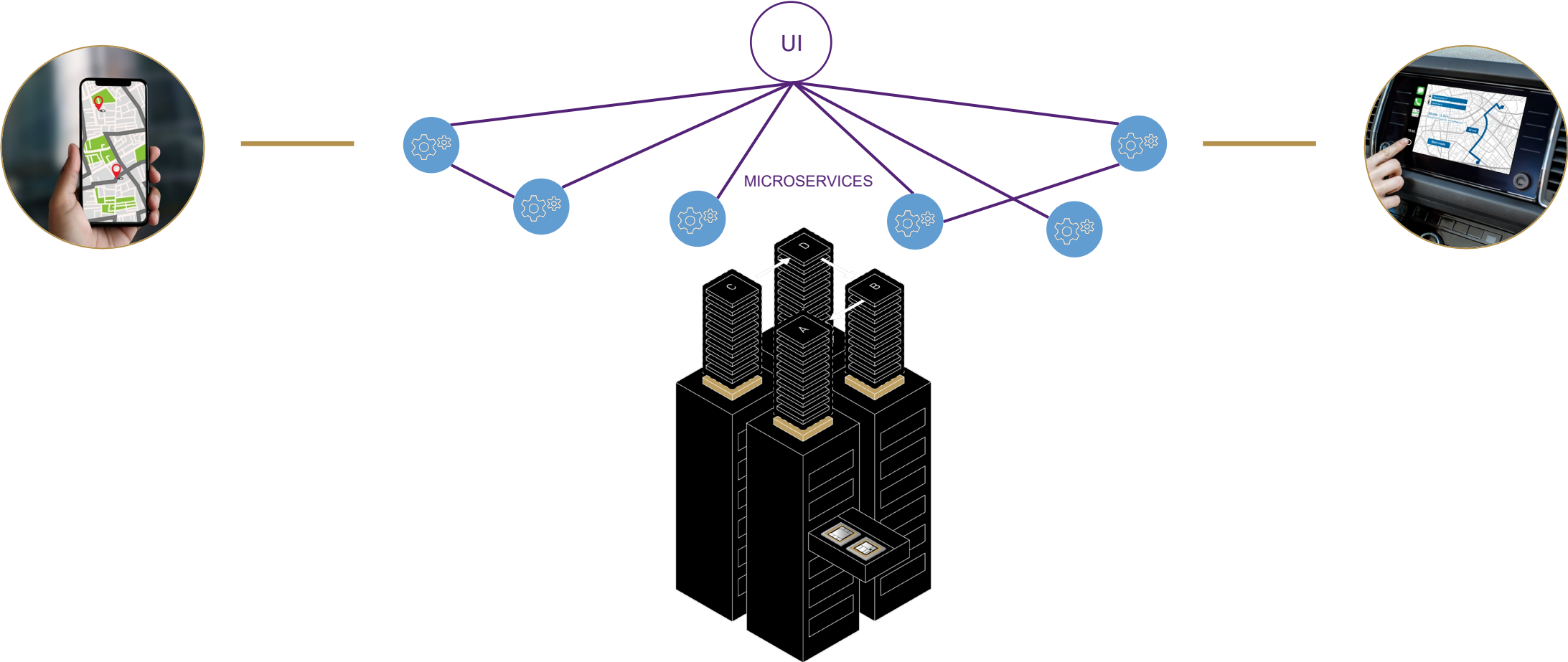


# Democratization of AI



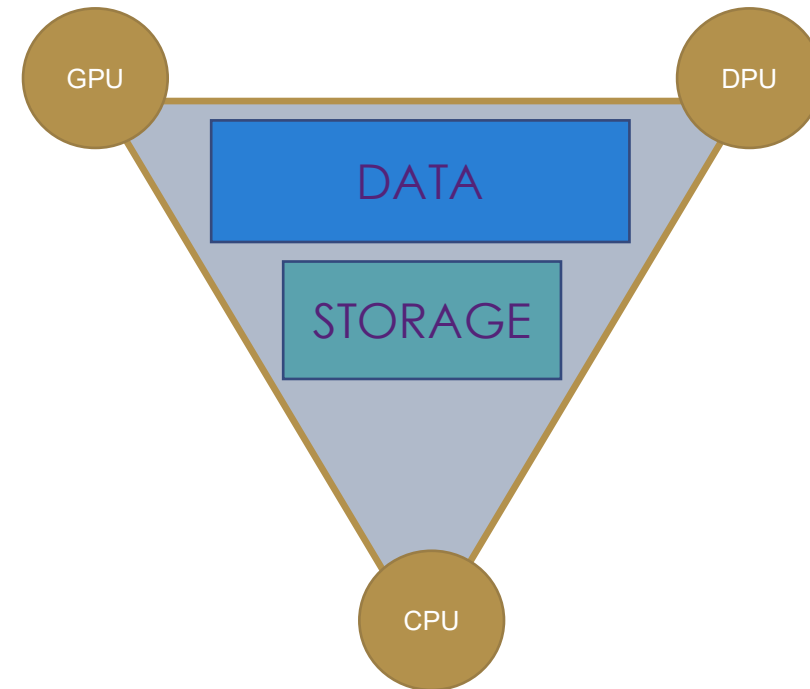
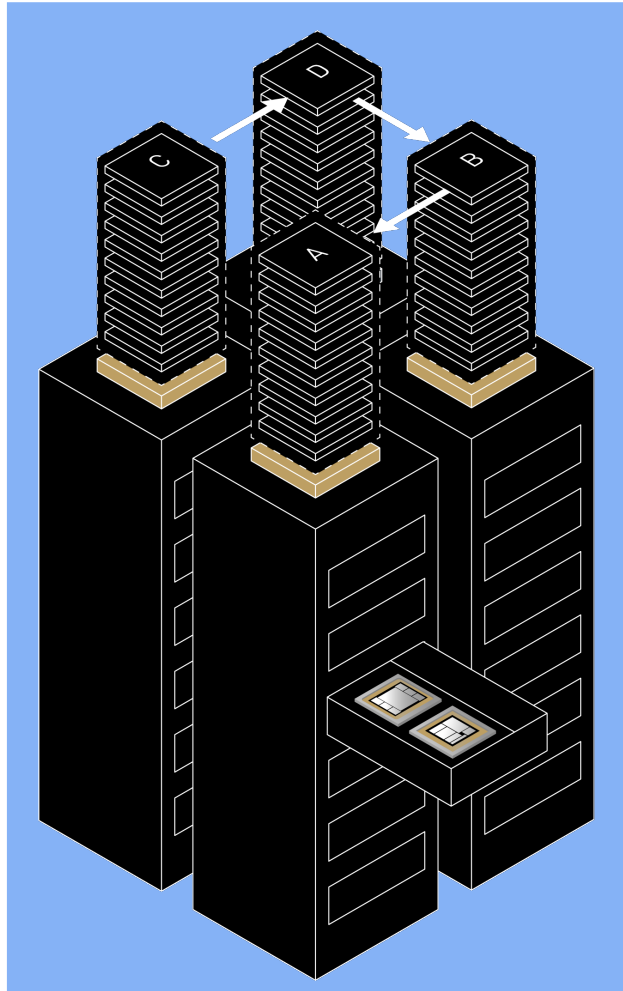
# Data Center Is the New Unit of Computing

Distributed Compute with Scale-Out Microservices



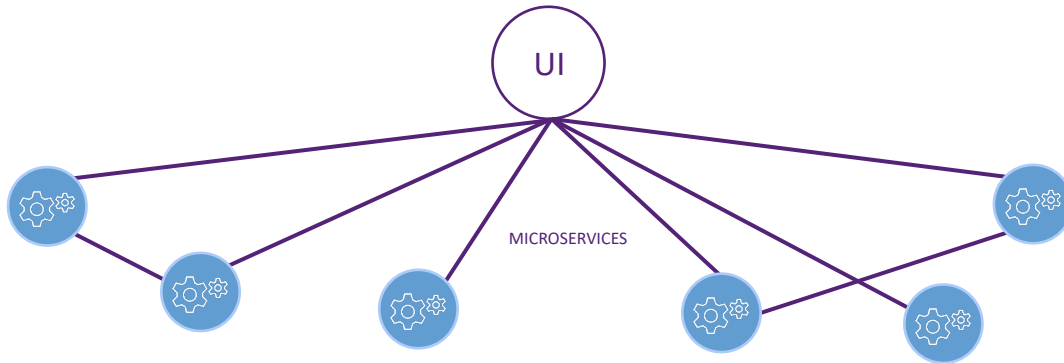
# Powering the New Unit of Computing

GPU, CPU and DPU are the Engines; Data is the Fuel

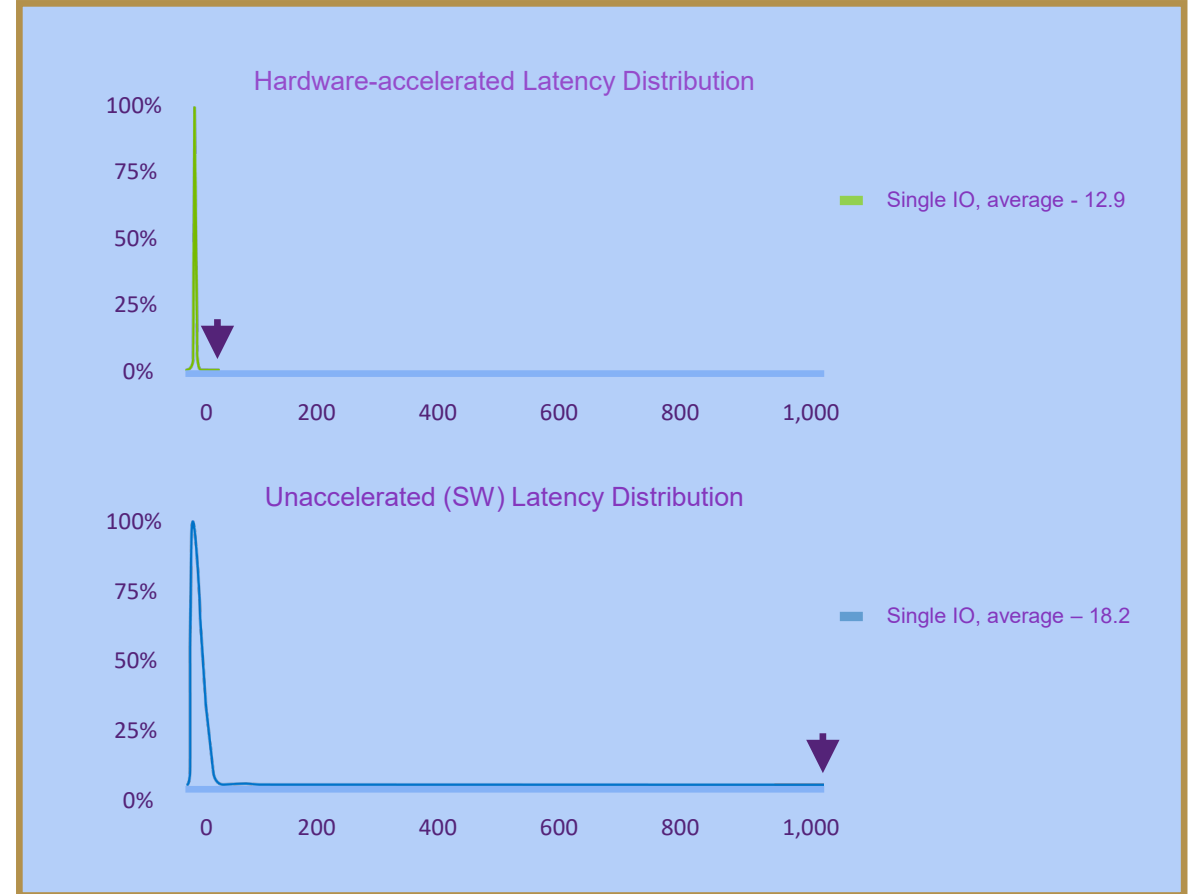


# Latency Challenge for Distributed Computing

Average Latencies are Misleading

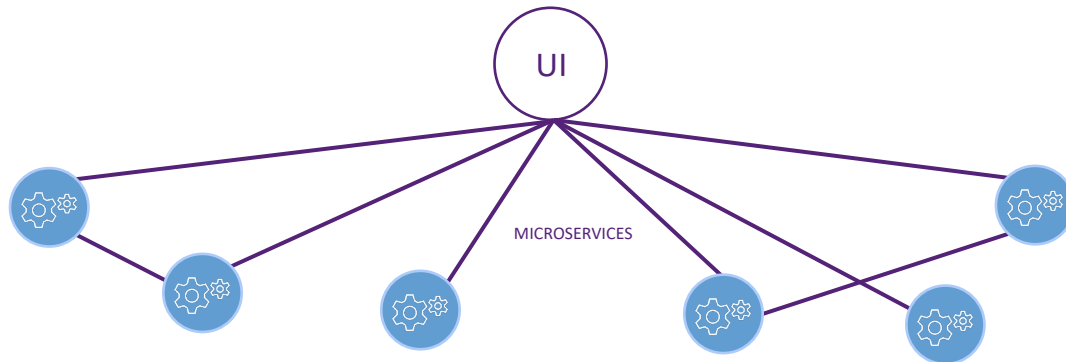


Storage Tail Latency Can be Much Higher than Average Latency When Microservices and Infrastructure Tasks Run Entirely in Software

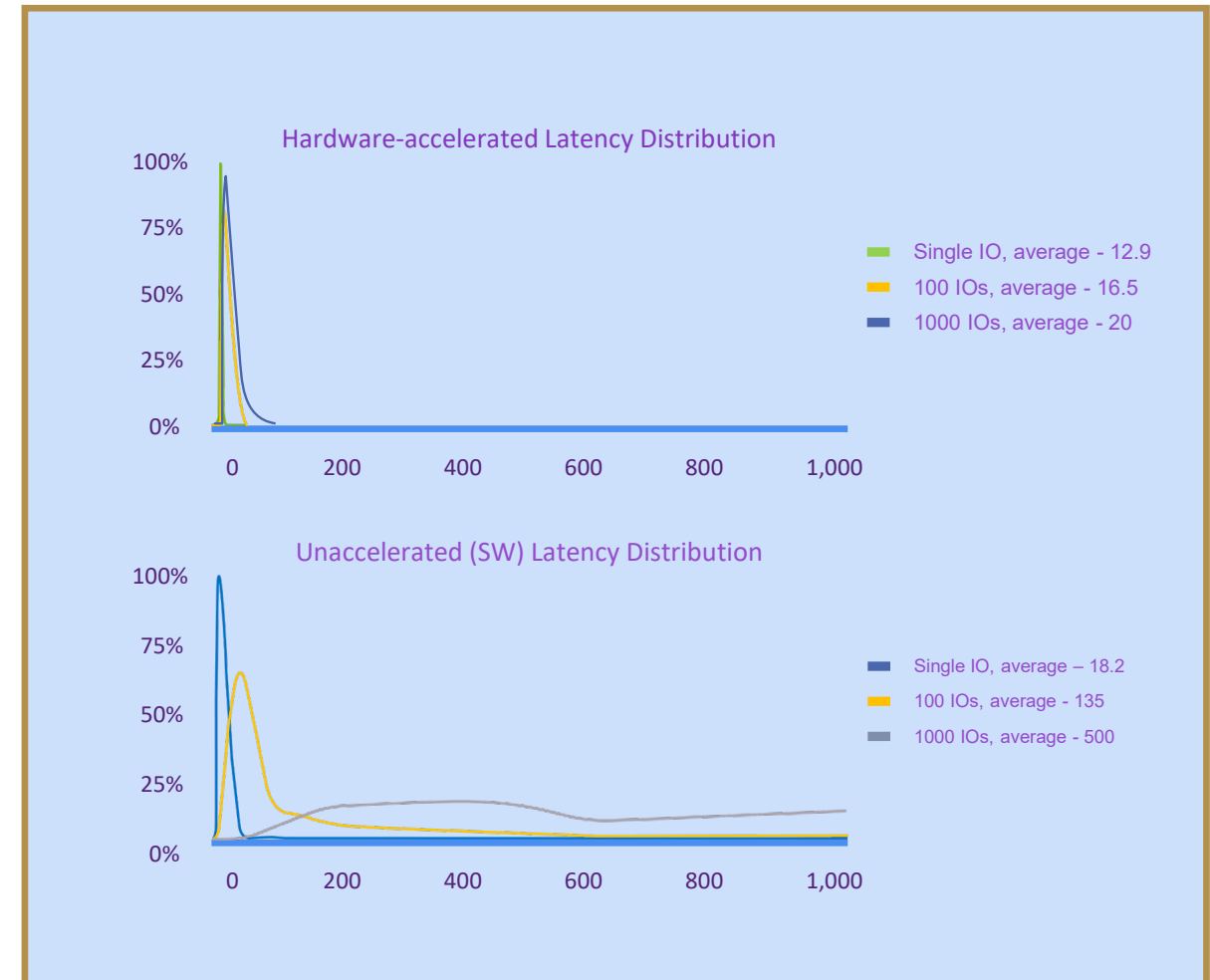


# The Tail at Scale

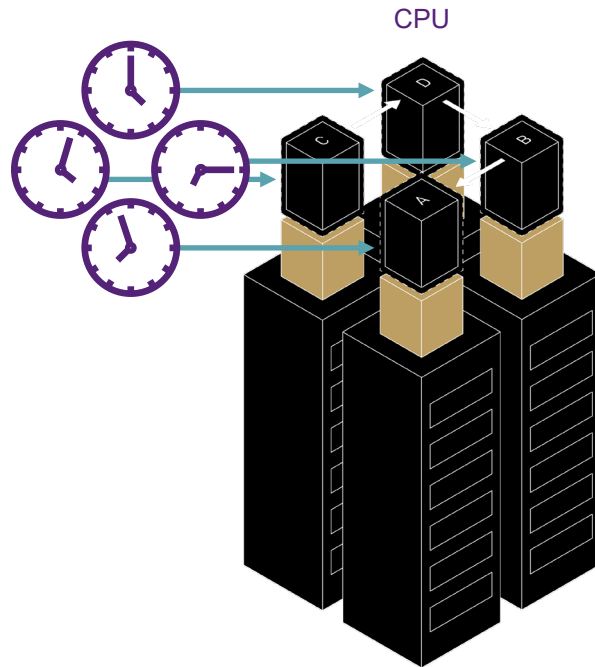
Distributed Application Response Time Limited by Tail Latency of the Slowest Microservice



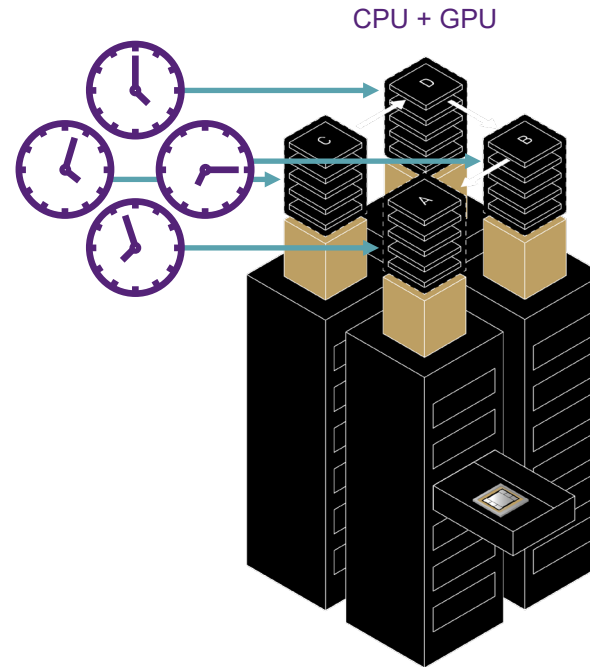
Hardware Accelerations Cuts Storage Tail Latency so Distributed Applications Can Meet SLAs



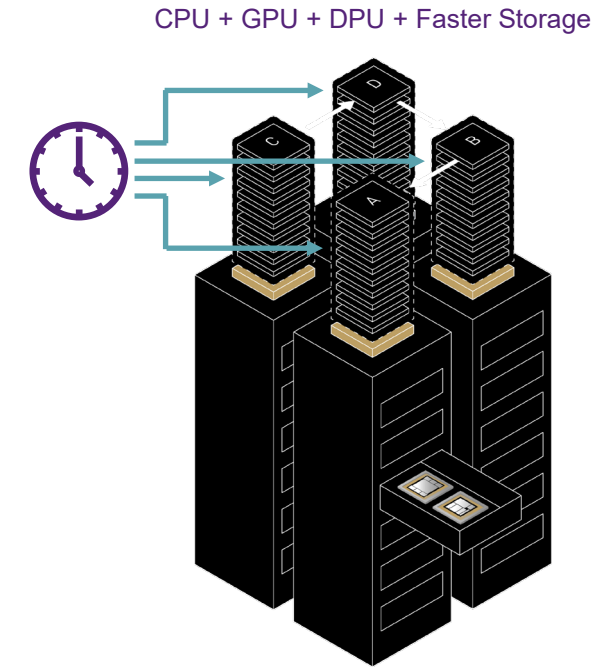
# Accelerating Compute, Infrastructure, Storage



Disaggregated,  
Microservices, Scaled Out



GPU-Accelerated  
Computing



GPU- and DPU-Accelerated  
Data Center Also Needs Accelerated  
Storage Access

# Must Bring Compute and Data Closer Together

## AI Challenges

- More data, more complex models
- AI growth, End of Moore's Law
- Hungry CPUs and GPUs
- Tail latency, Distributed compute

## Data Solutions

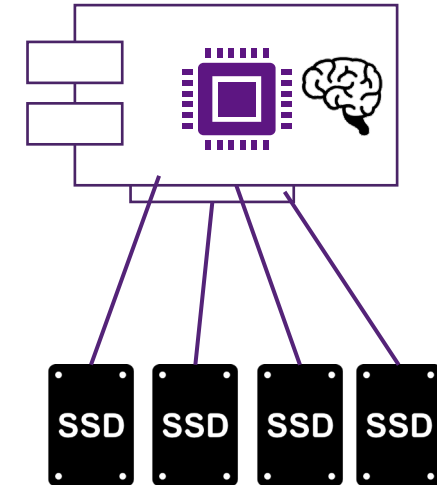
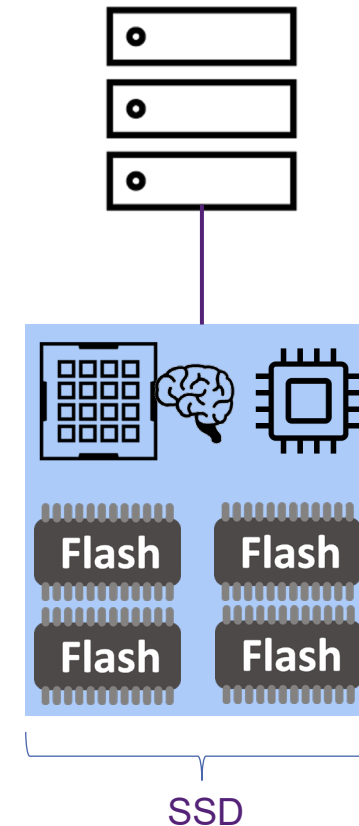
- Computational storage devices
- Smarter storage controllers
- Faster interconnects
- In-network computing

# Computational Storage Devices

- Storage device with embedded compute
- Move results instead of moving data
- Details in earlier sessions

Energy-efficient Arm CPUs make it easier to distribute compute

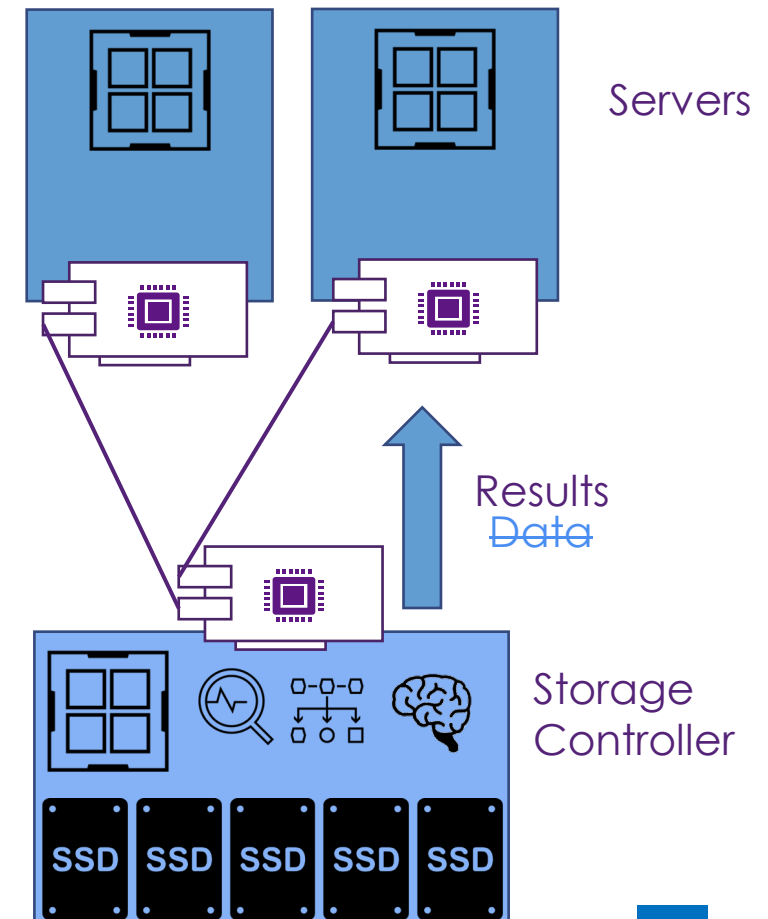
DPU can control SSDs directly



# Adding Intelligence to Storage Controllers

- Storage controllers perform application compute
  - Not just storage task compute
  - Return results/analysis, not just data
- It moves compute closer to storage
  - Distributing computing to the storage
  - Can debate if it's truly computational storage
  - Solves part of the distributed AI problem

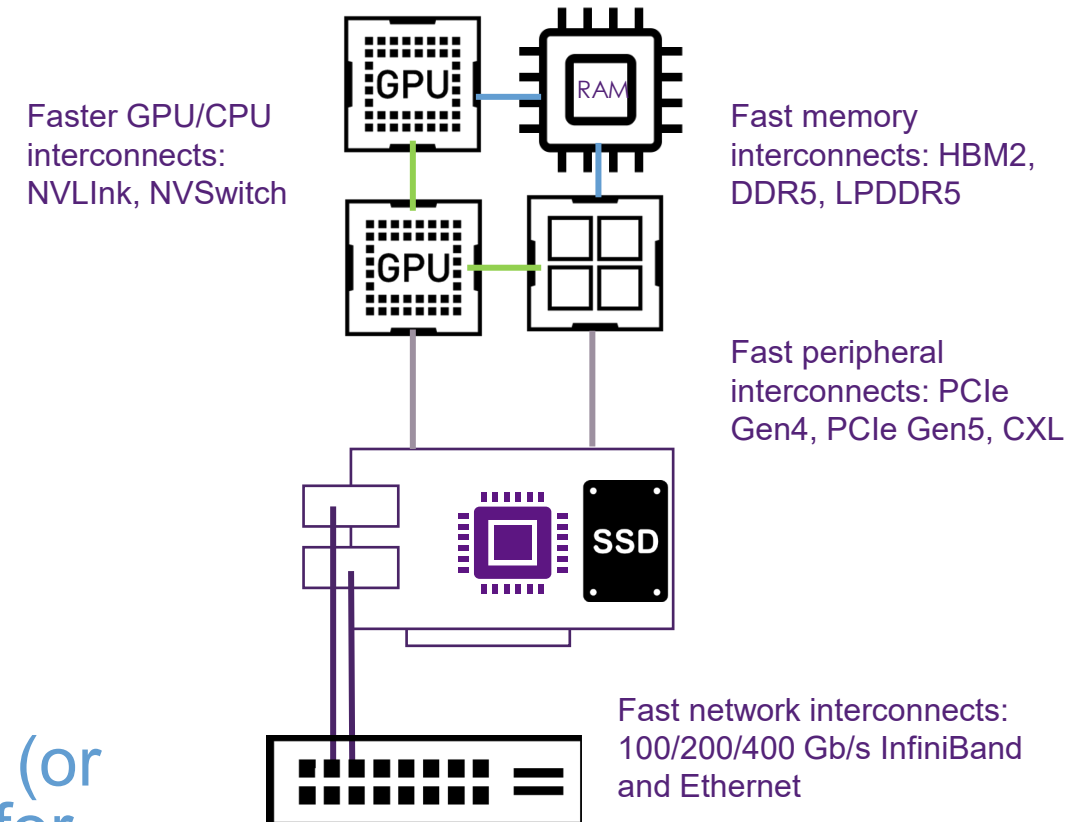
Data Processing Units (DPUs) add compute to storage controllers



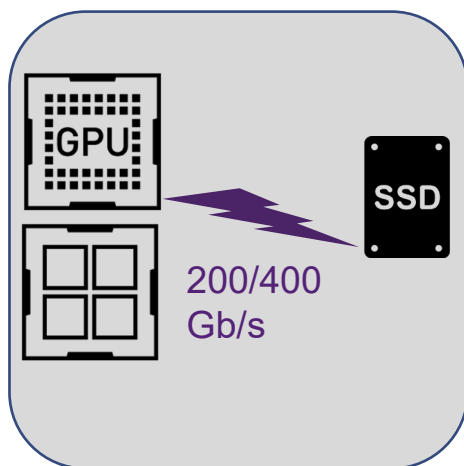
# Faster Interconnects Remove Data Bottlenecks

- CPU-to-GPU, GPU-to-GPU
- Memory
- Peripherals
- Networking
- Converged hardware
  - CPU + GPU in one package
  - DPU + Flash in one card

Faster connections from compute to storage (or persistent memory) create distributed proxy for computational storage



# In-Network Computing



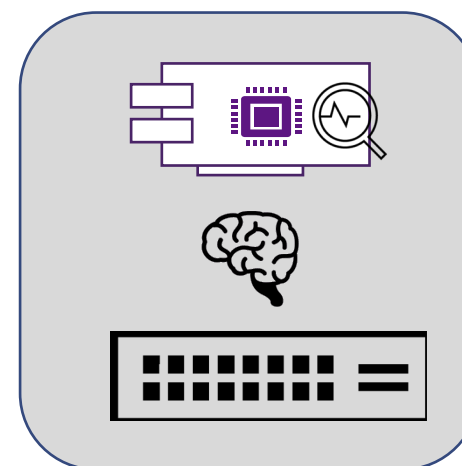
Network moves  
data faster

Faster data access  
for CPUs, GPUs  
and storage



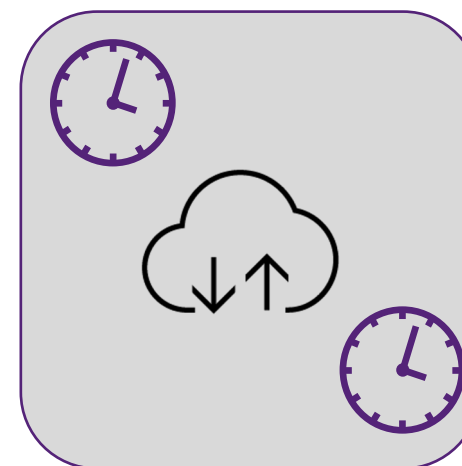
DPU accelerates  
infrastructure

Improved efficiency  
and security with  
reduced tail latency



Network Performs  
Compute

Faster AI / ML / HPC  
problem solving;  
reduced tail latency



Time-Synchronized  
Datacenter

Faster distributed  
compute; improved  
telemetry & security

# Key Takeaways

- AI is everywhere and requires more data
- Data growing faster than CPU power
- New data center distributes compute
- Reducing tail latency becomes critical
- Move compute and storage closer together
  - Add compute to storage devices or controllers
  - Accelerate storage access
  - Compute in the storage network

Distributed application  
performance



# Thank You

Please visit [www.snia.org/pm-summit](http://www.snia.org/pm-summit) for presentations



# Title and Abstract

- **Date:** Thursday April 22, 11:15-11:45am
- **Title:** Why Distributed AI Needs Computational Storage
- **Abstract:** Artificial Intelligence is increasingly being used in every type of business and industry vertical including finance, telco, healthcare, manufacturing, automotive, and retail. The nature of AI is becoming distributed across multiple nodes in the data center but also across the cloud and edge. Traditional local and networked storage solutions often struggle to meet the needs of AI running on many different types of devices in various locations. Computational storage can solve the challenge of data locality for distributed AI. These solutions include smart storage devices, adding data processing to storage arrays, and deploying new types of compute processors in the storage, next to the storage, or even in the storage network.