

Semiconductor Software Strategy

by *Gerrit Muller* Buskerud University College

e-mail: gaudisite@gmail.com

www.gaudisite.nl

Abstract

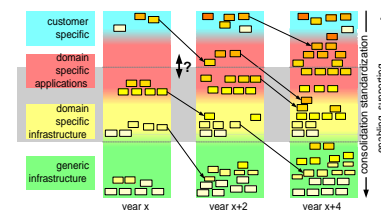
Philips Research is looking for ways to improve the software productivity. The business rationale for this research are the needs of semiconductor customers, the creators of consumer appliances. Technological developments, such as miniaturization and convergence have a strong impact on the form, function and content of consumer appliances. The appliance makers are struggling with the consequences, especially with the exponential increasing SW effort.

The customer and the semiconductor viewpoint are shown. Strategic questions for semiconductors are identified and discussed, such as the need for architecture, legacy and scoping.

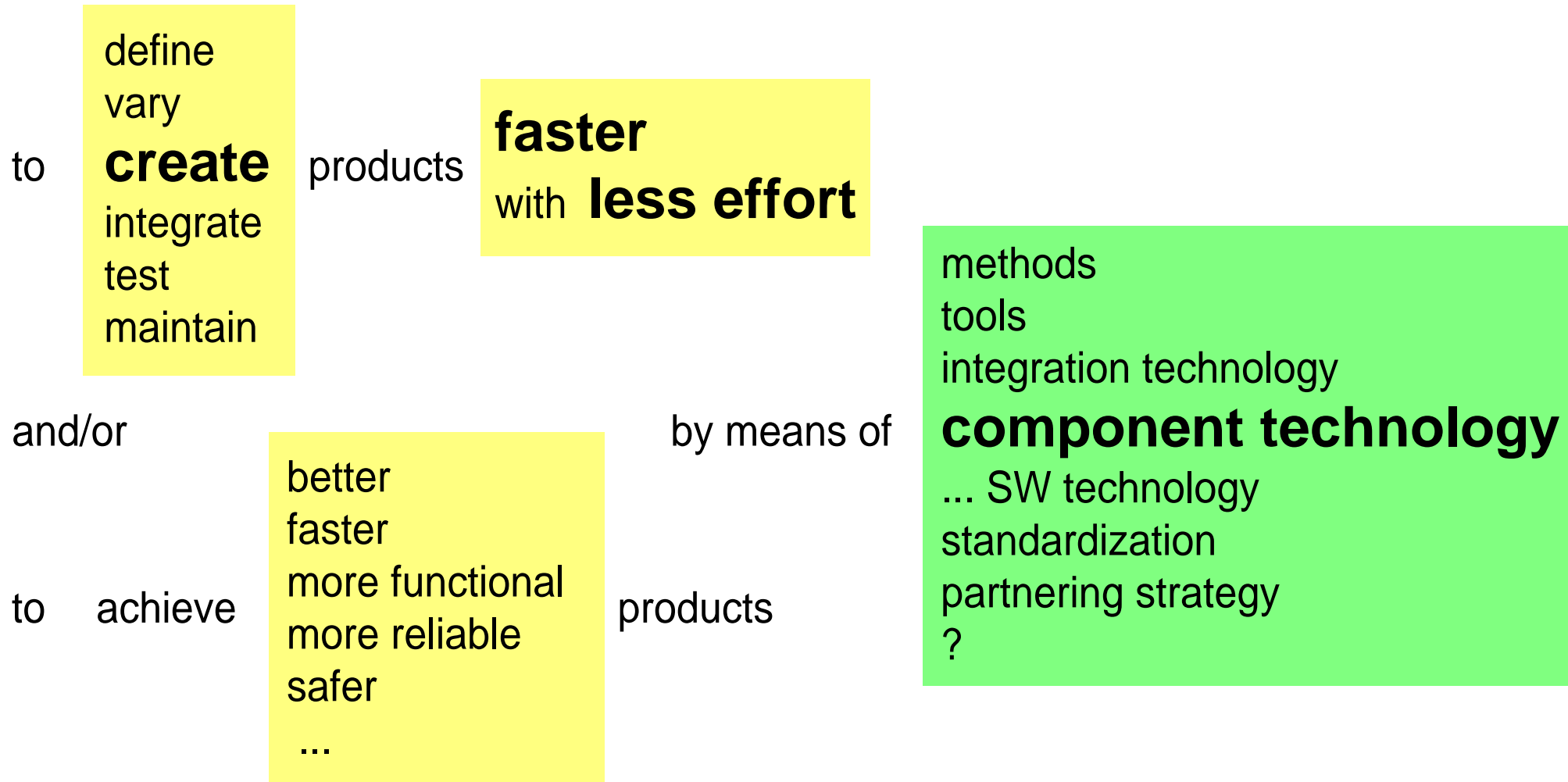
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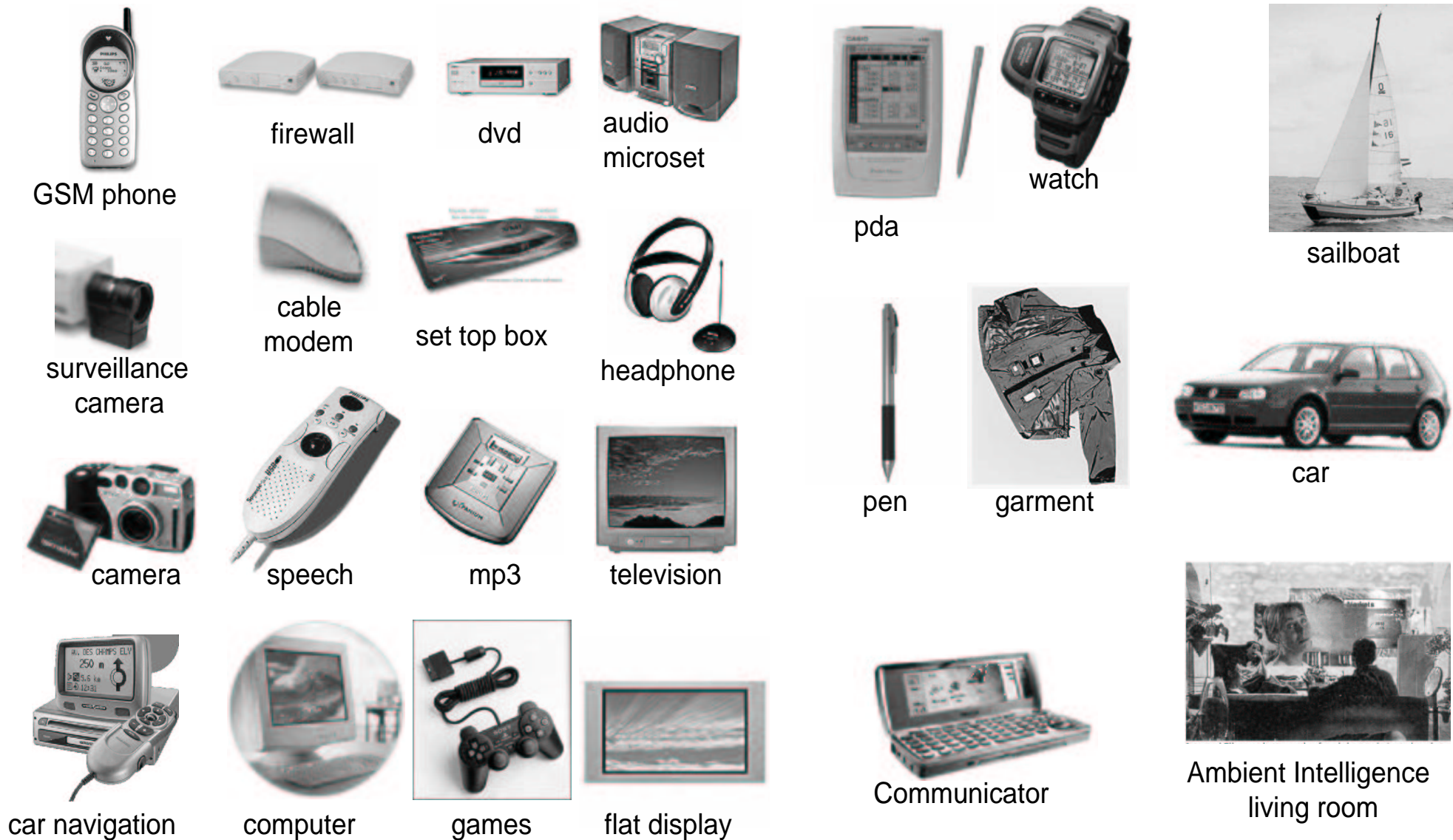


Software productivity and components research goals



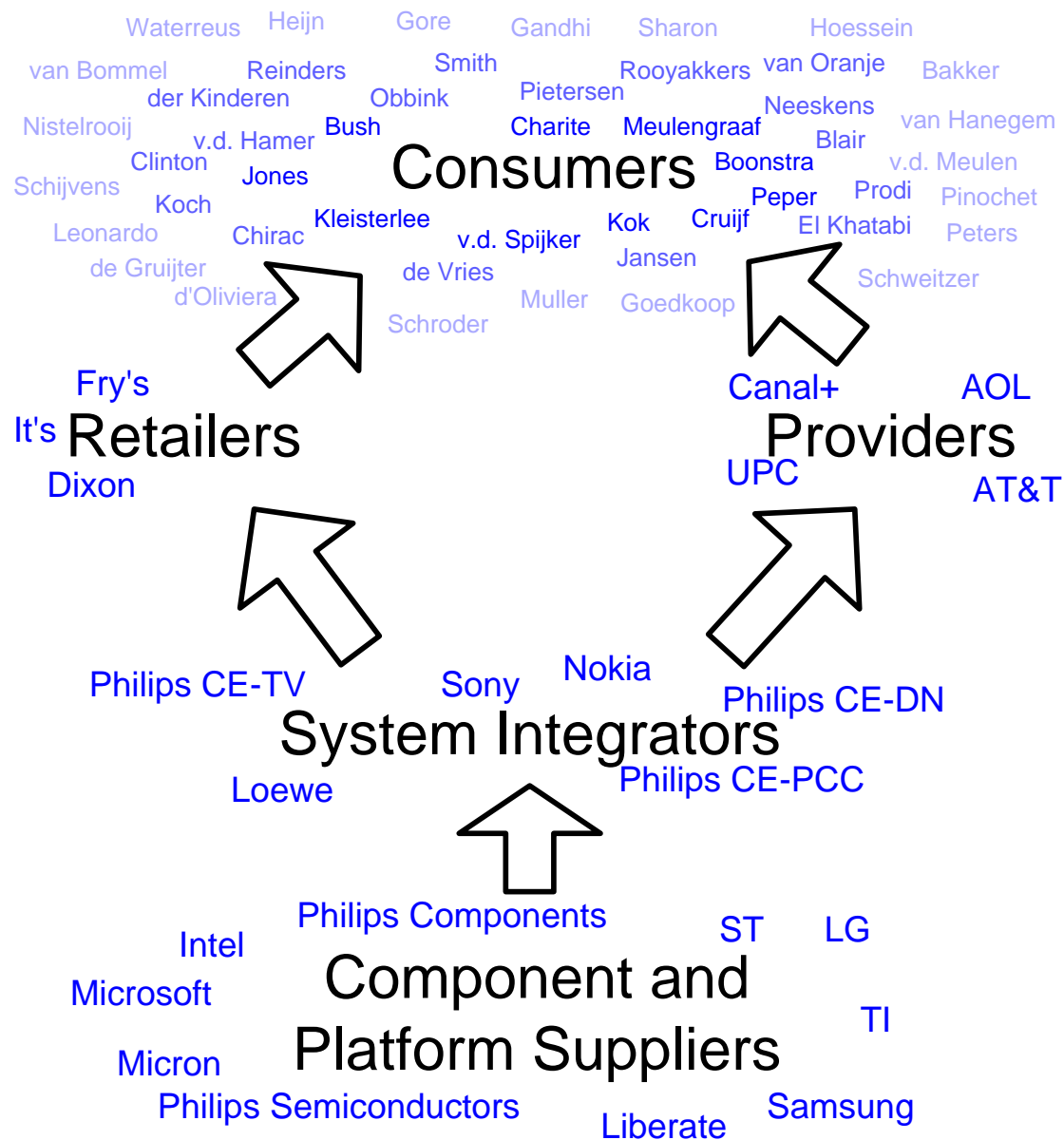
Customer viewpoint

Convergence -> Integration and Diversity



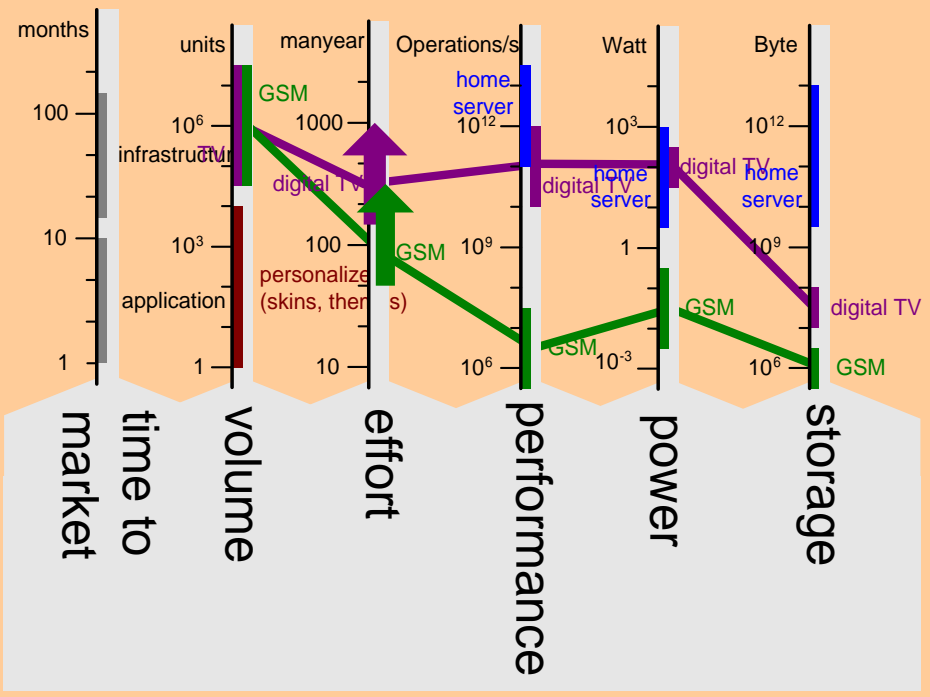
from PSAVAT 2001; "Light Weight Architectures; The way of the future? "

Value chain



Exploring problem space and solution ingredients

Problem space



Technologies	MIPS	TriMedia	MPEG decoder	ARM	Real	GSM	RF amp	Bluetooth	TCP/IP	MP3	pSOS	WinCE	1394	GPS
watch				●	○	○	○	●	○	○	●	○		○
communicator	○	○	○	●	●	●	●	○	●	○	●	○		○
digital TV	●	●	●					○	○	○	●	○	●	
set top box	●	●	●					○	●	○	●	○	●	
pda	○	○	○	●	○	○	○	○	●	○		●		○
camcorder	●	●	●			○	○	○	○	○	●		●	○

Composable Architecture

Family of products

● required
○ optional

Programmability, flexibility

Increase supplier content

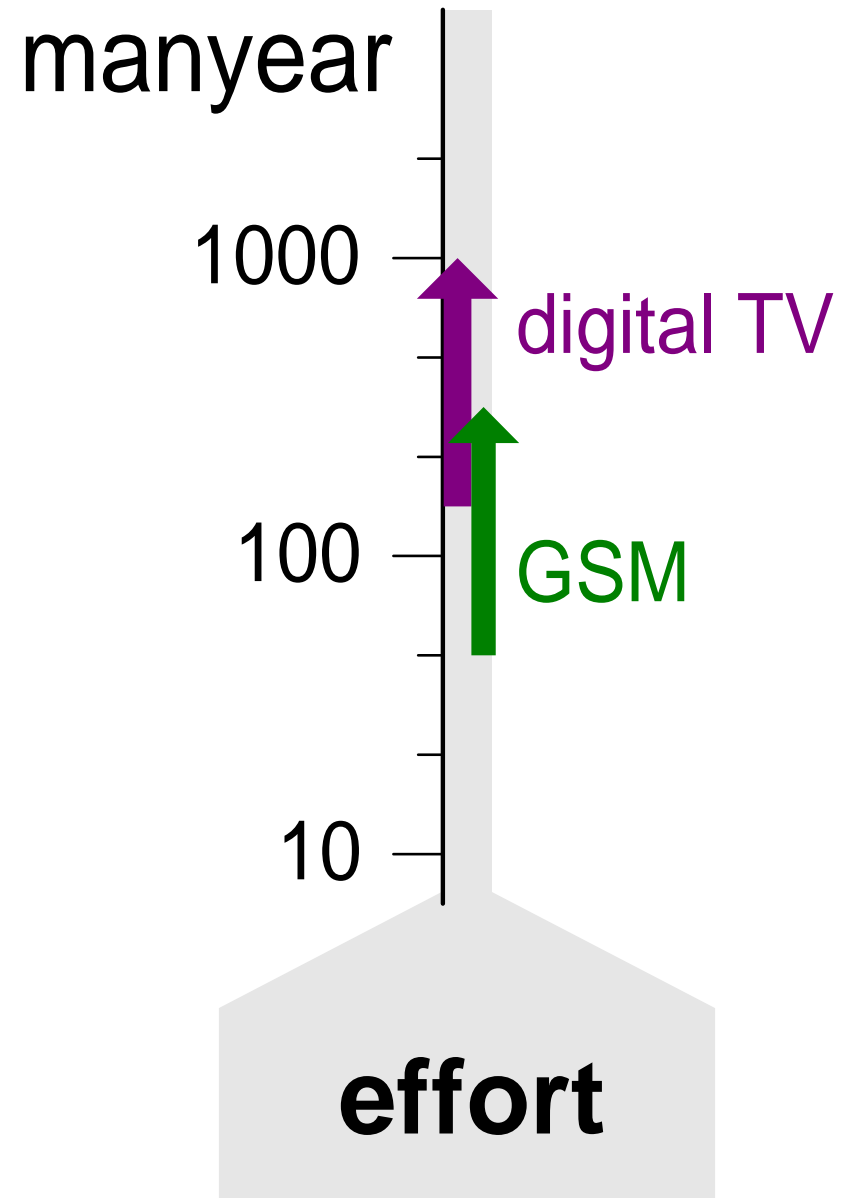
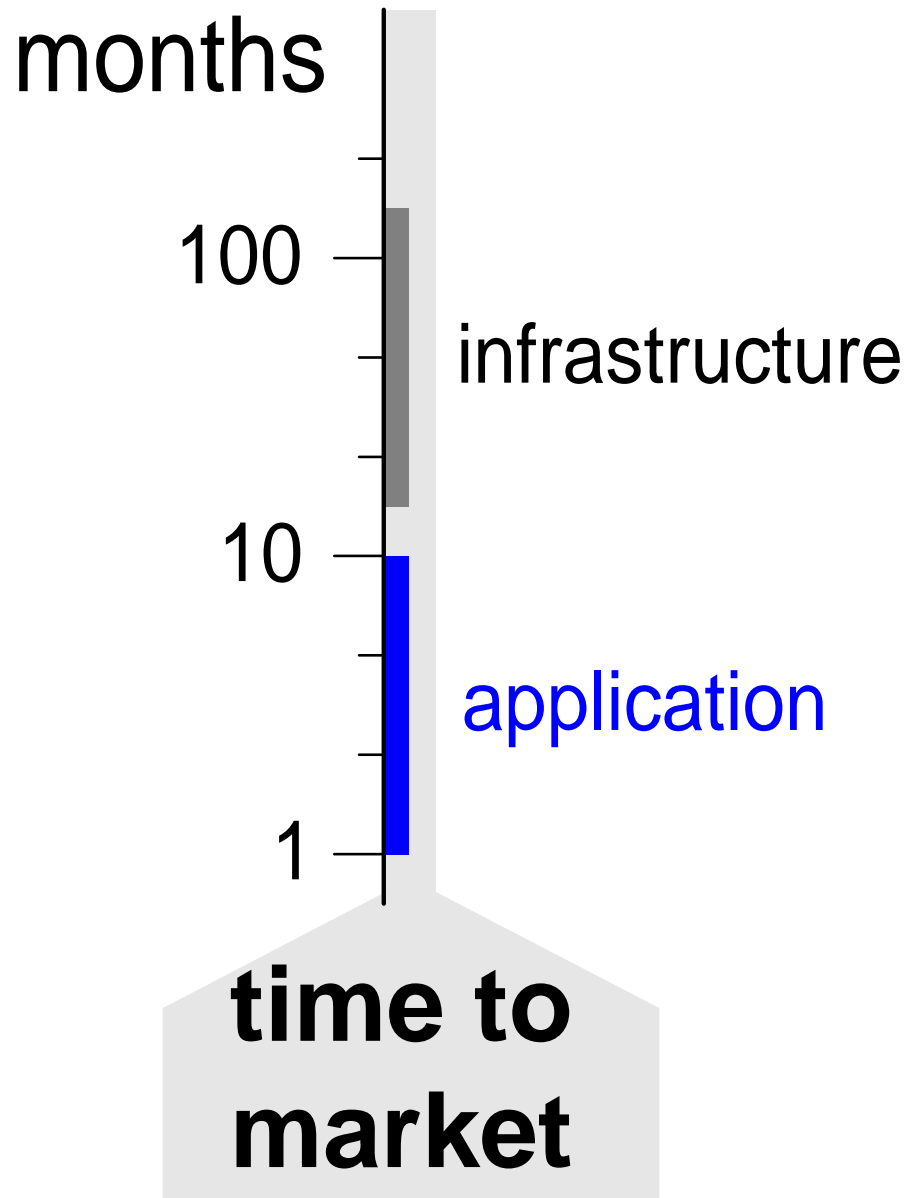
Competitive Performance / cost / power

Solution ingredients

Configurability

from PSAVAT 2001; "Light Weight Architectures; The way of the future? "

Dominant customer concerns



Trends in hardware and software

direct product costs mostly determined by hardware
how about software license costs?

development costs : software becomes more expensive than hardware

time to market : software is limiting factor

software often synonymous with integration

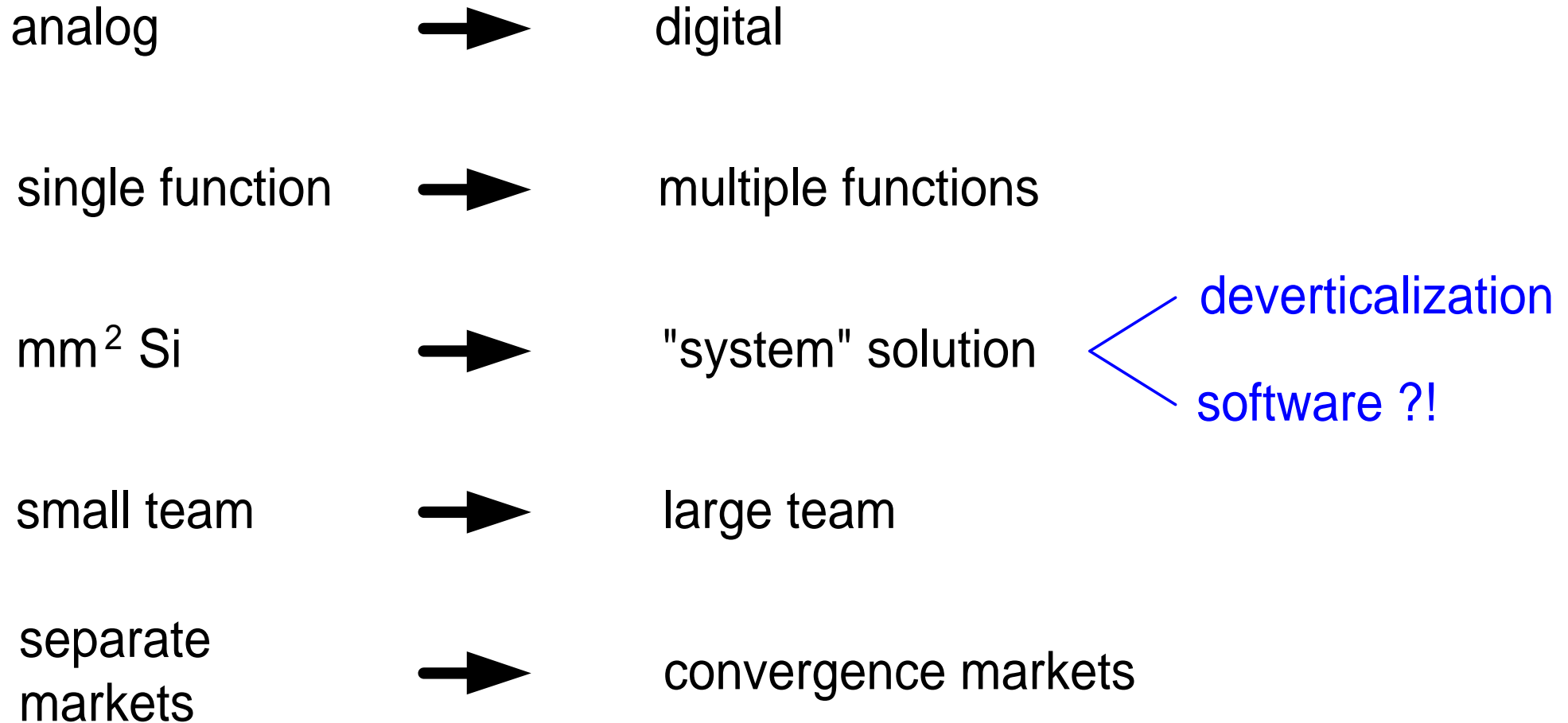
product value mostly determined by software

SW is integrating technology

SW implements functional behavior

Semiconductor viewpoint

Changes in semiconductor country in the last decade



Strategic questions for Semiconductor company

How to protect customers SW investments?

How to enable SW application reuse across domain boundaries?

Which software architecture?

which hardware architecture

Which software to make?

How and with whom to partner?

which hardware IP

How to do all of this fast enough?

Thomson, TI, Intel, Samsung, ...

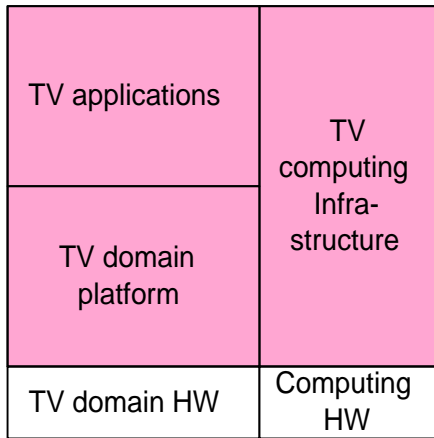
Which architecture?

How to protect customers software investments?

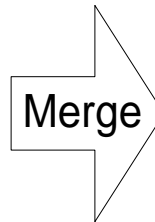
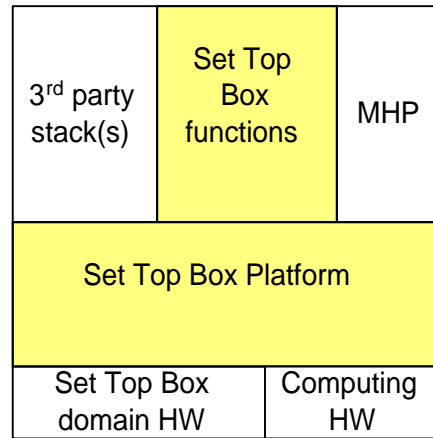
How to enable application reuse across domain boundaries?

Simplistic Architecting: Digital TV

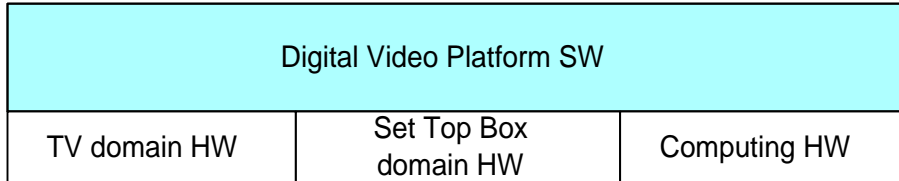
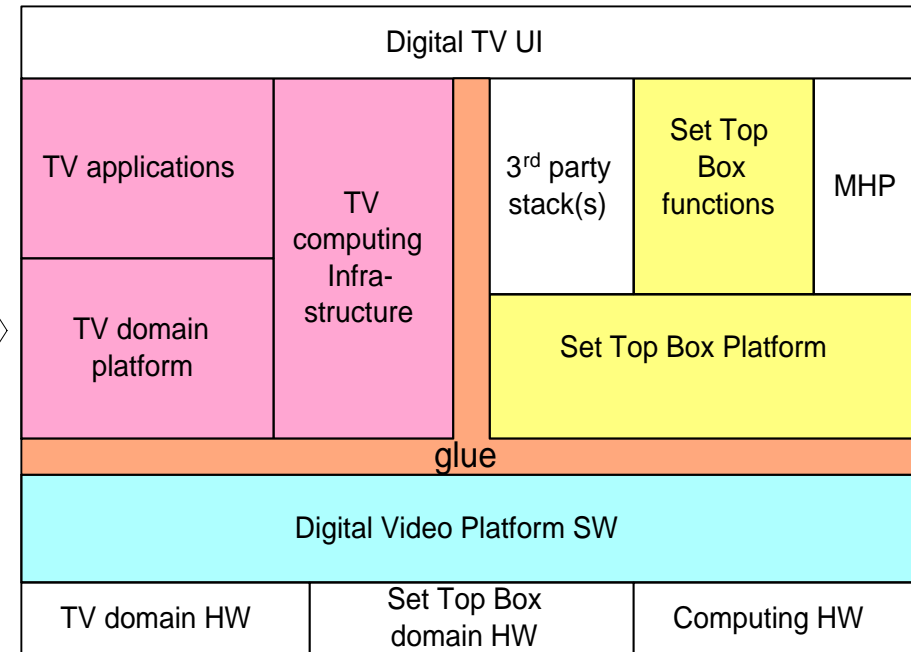
analog TV



Set top box

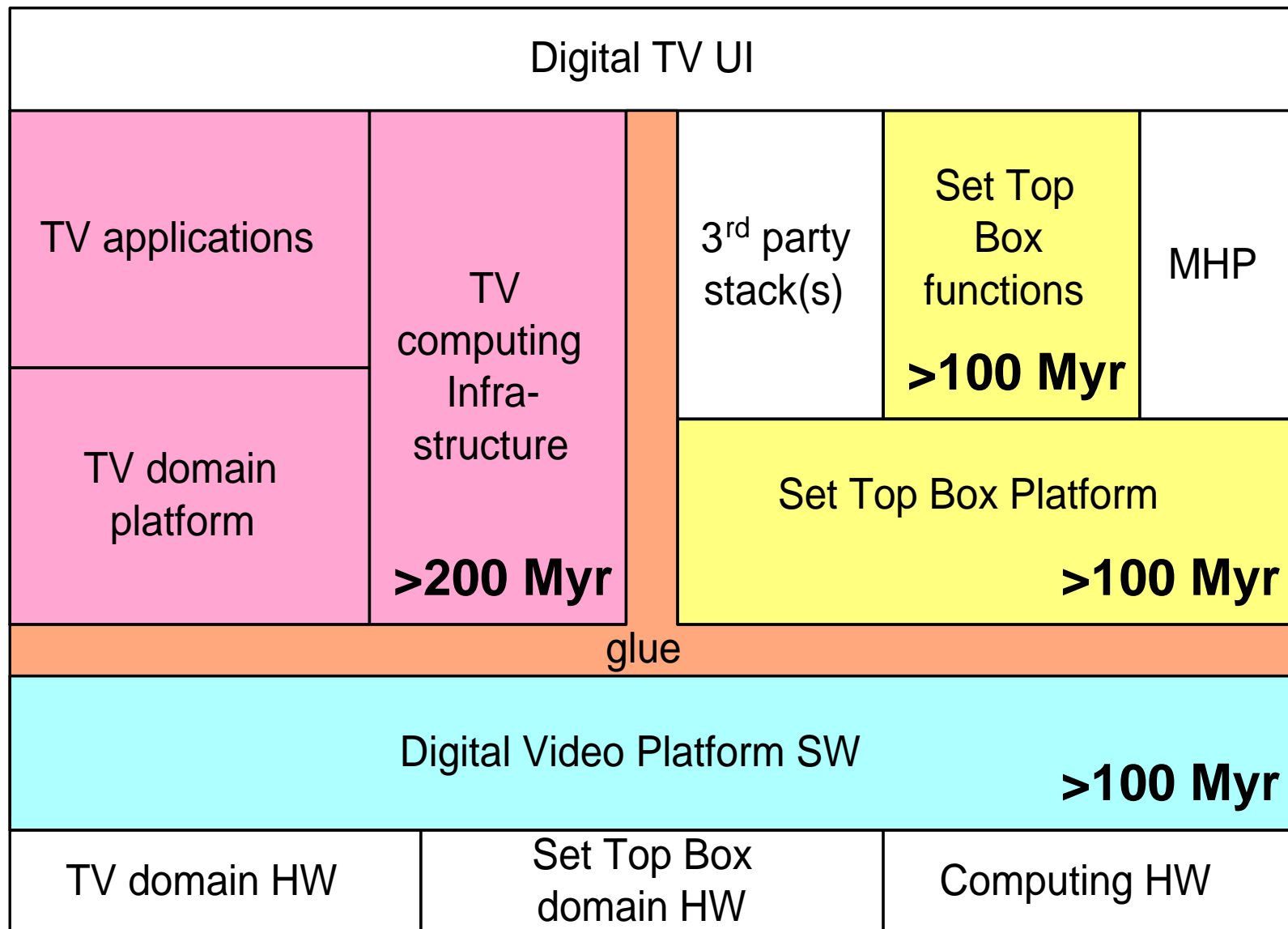


Digital TV



Digital Video Platform

Available Code Assets



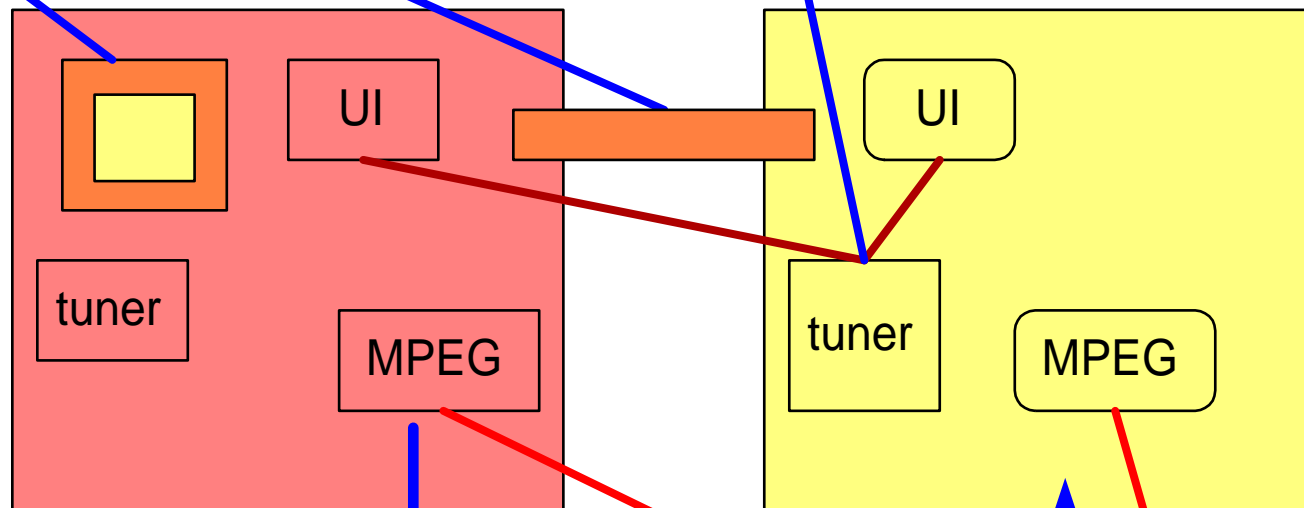
"Legacy" code > 500 Myr

Merge problems

Architectural mismatch :

wrappers, translators, conflicting controls

additional code
and complexity,
no added value

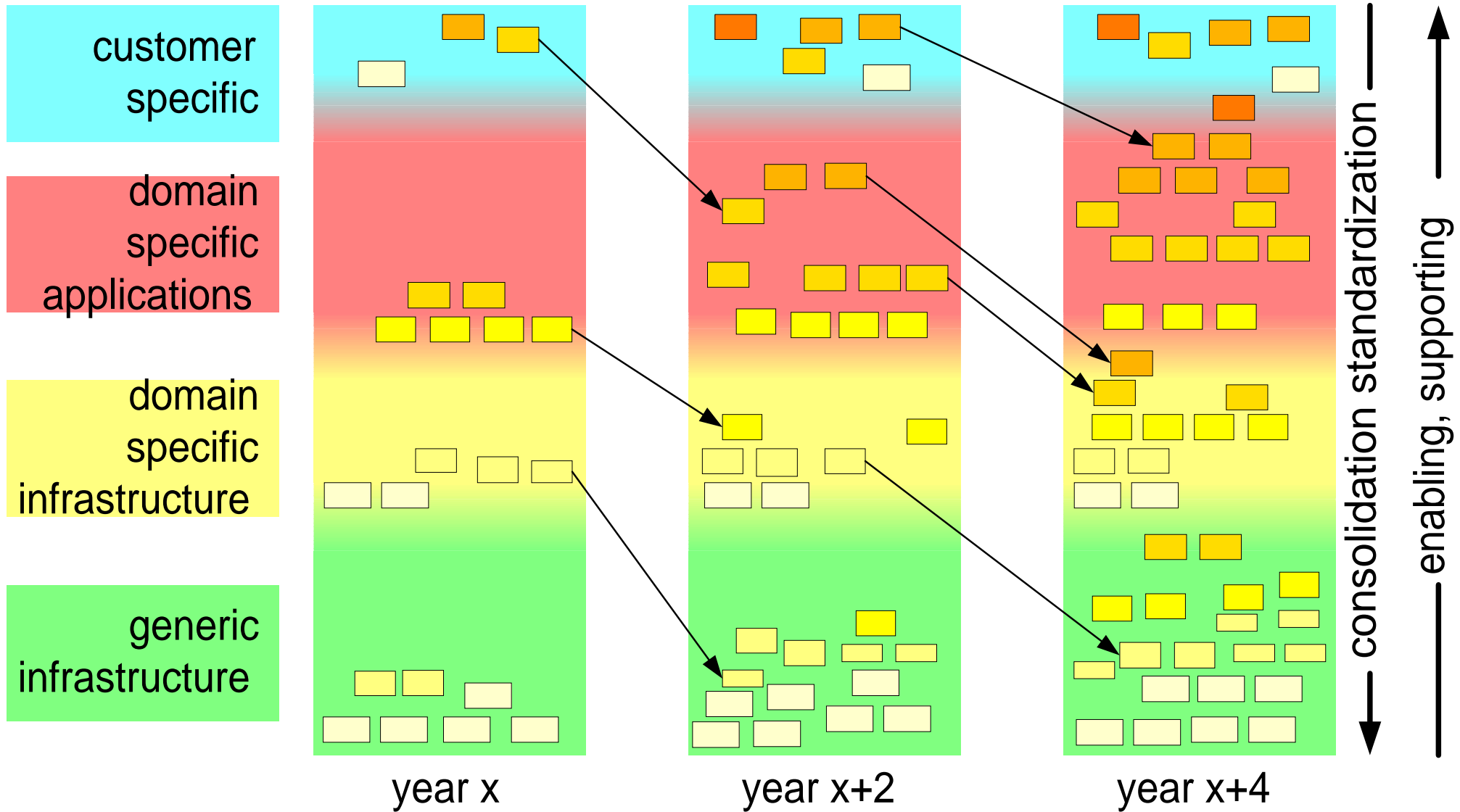


Poor performance;
additional resource usage

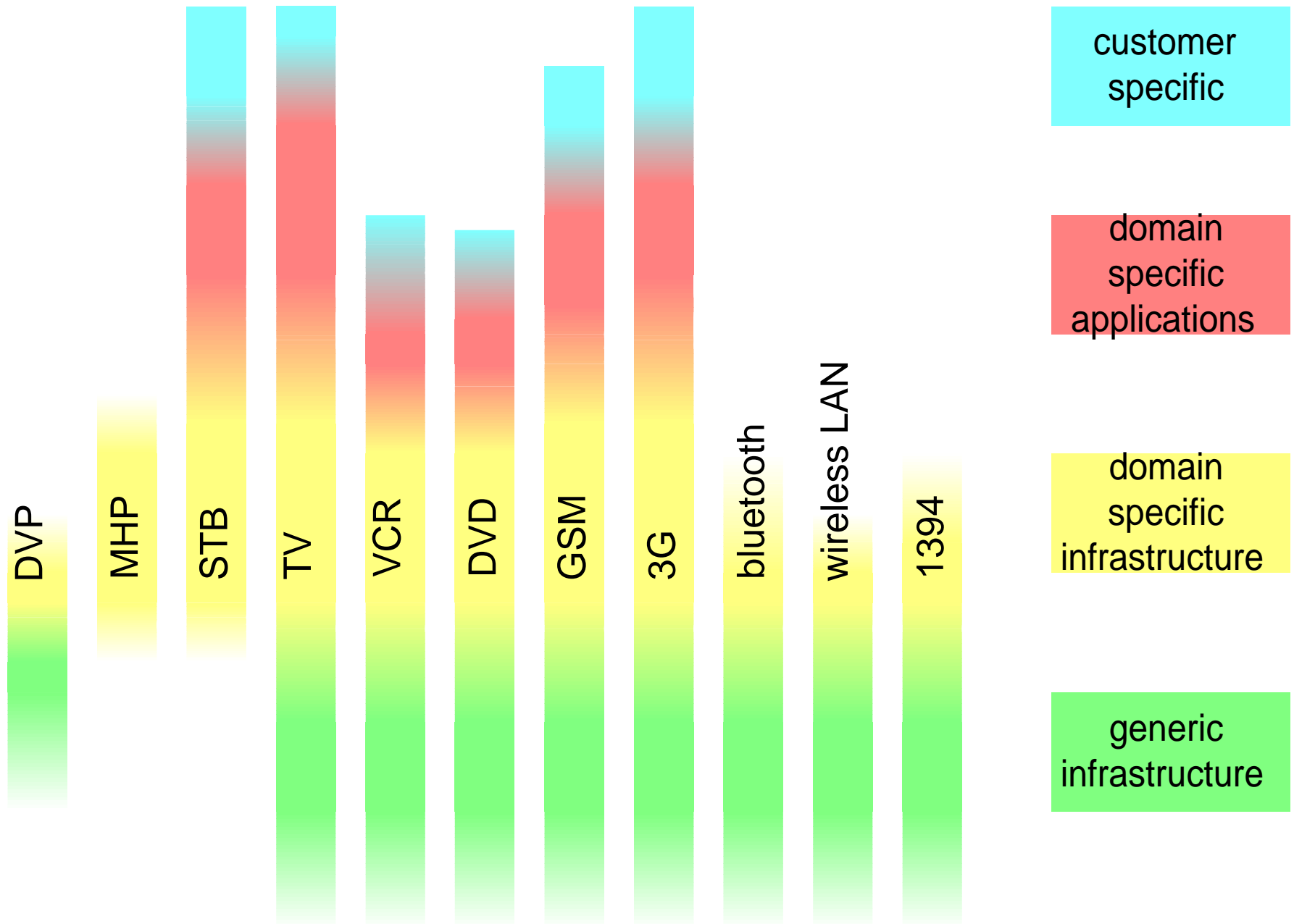
Duplication

Problems ← Architecture — Reuse → non problem

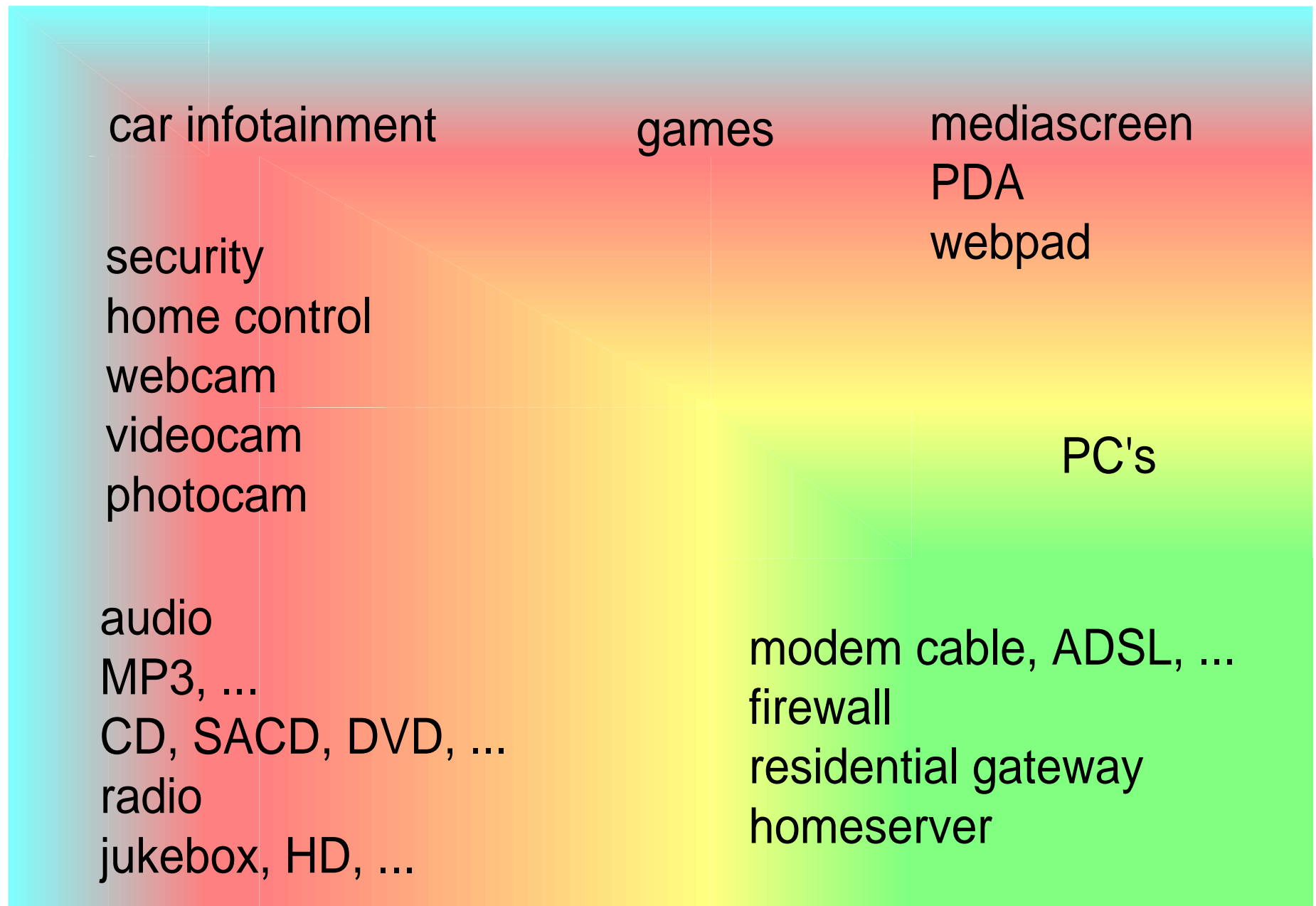
Evolution of functionality



Existing SW stacks

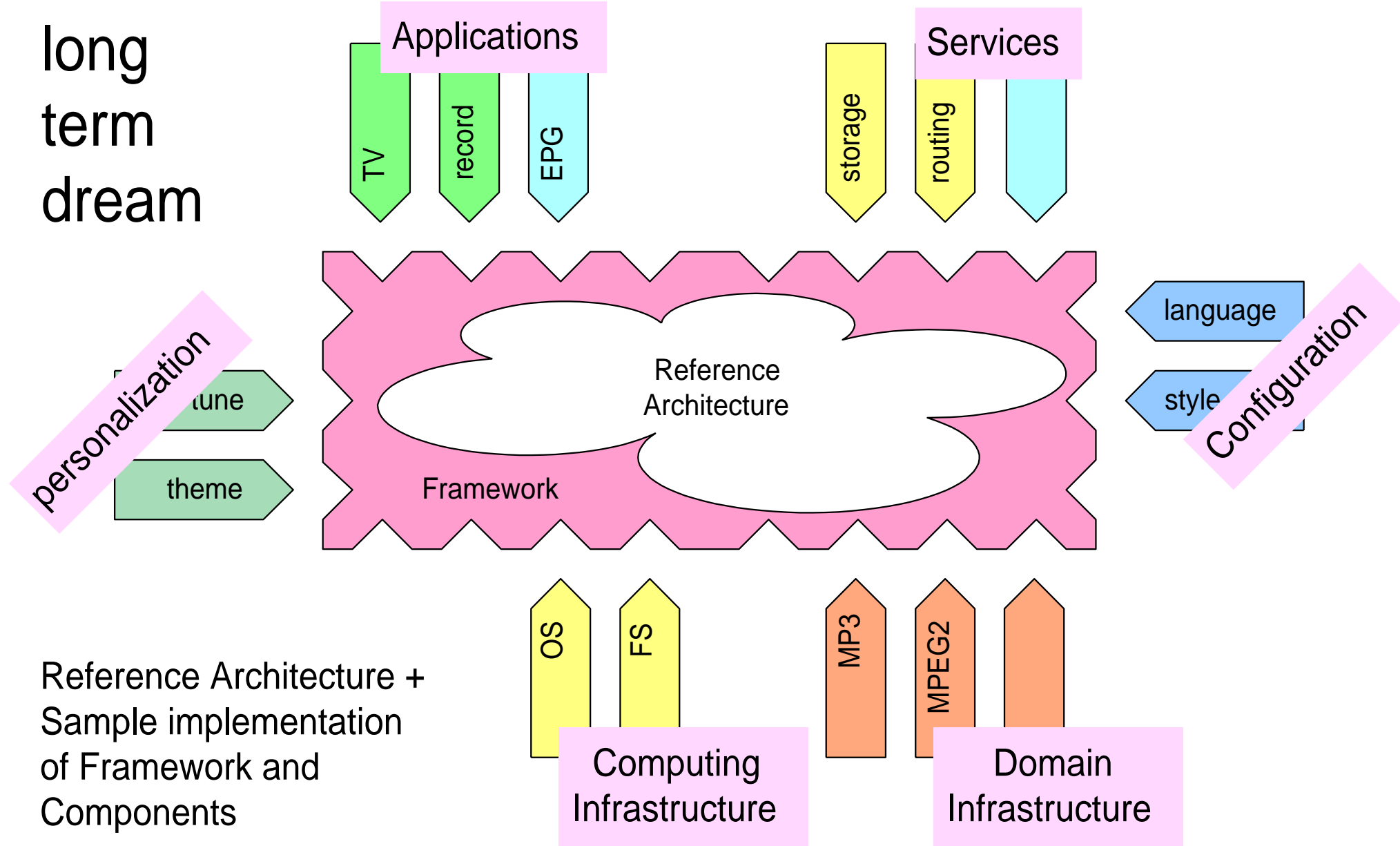


But there are much more domains and stacks



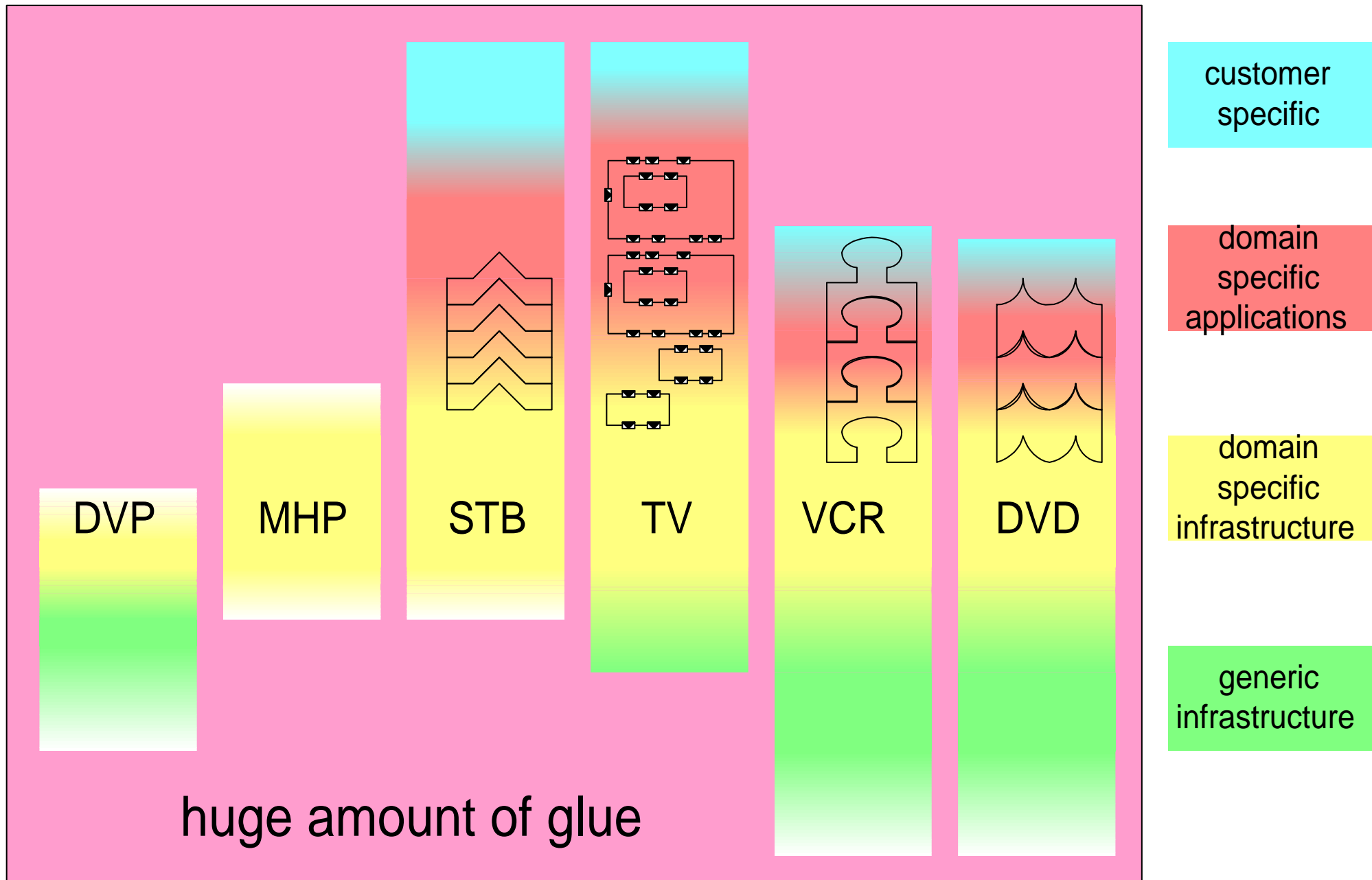
Ideal homogeneous situation?

long
term
dream

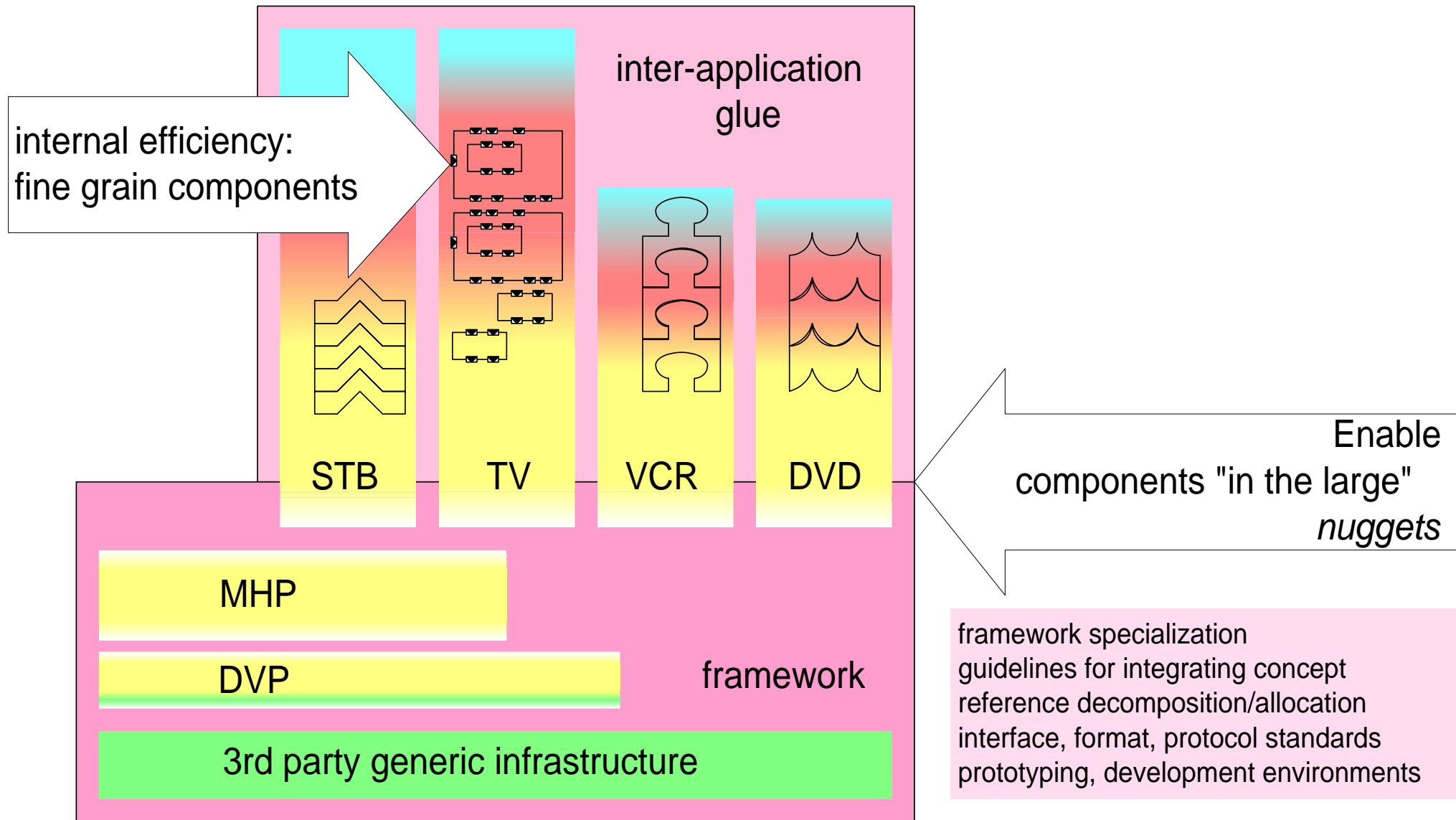


Reference Architecture +
Sample implementation
of Framework and
Components

Today's reality?

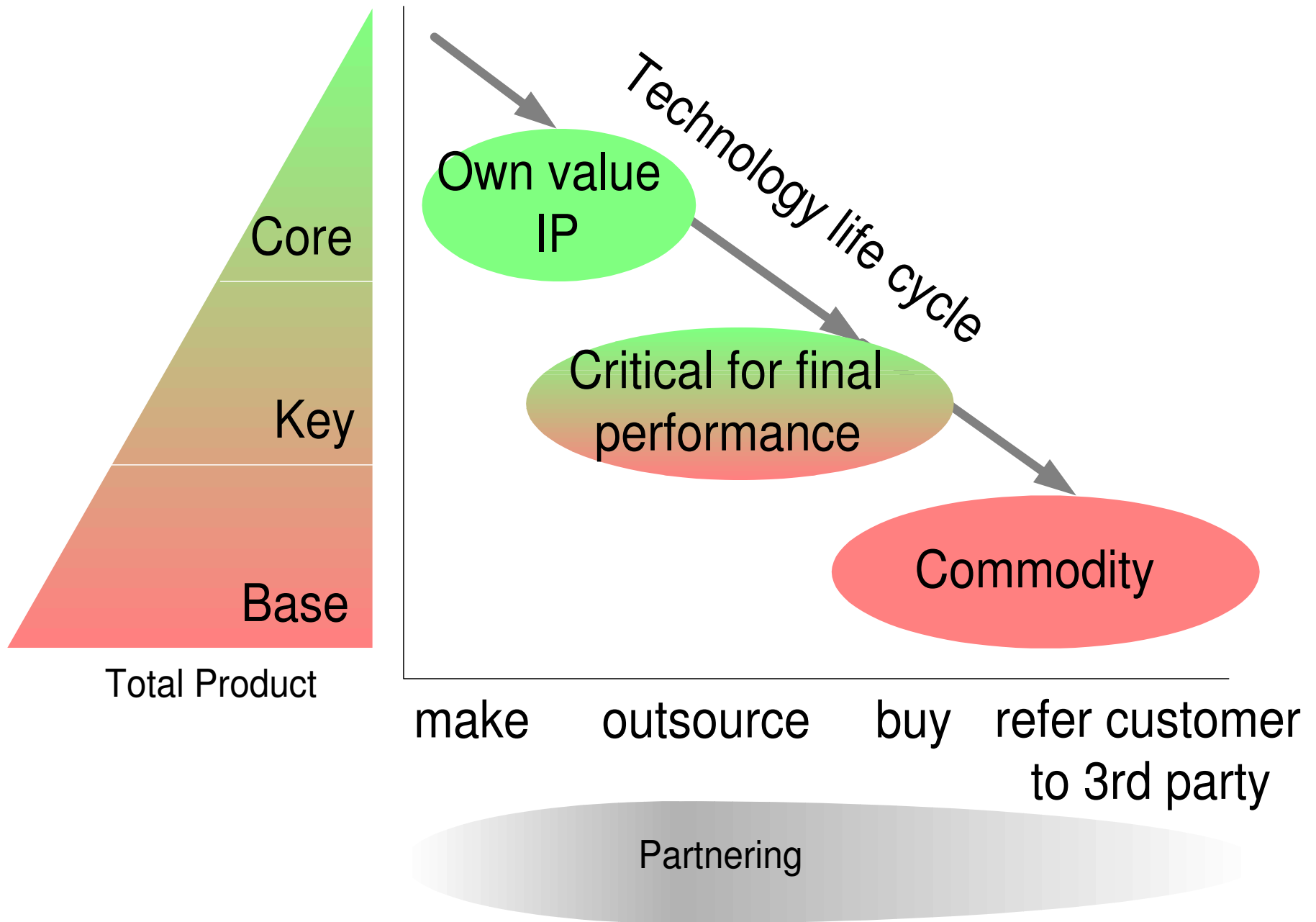


Achievable solution?



Which software to make?

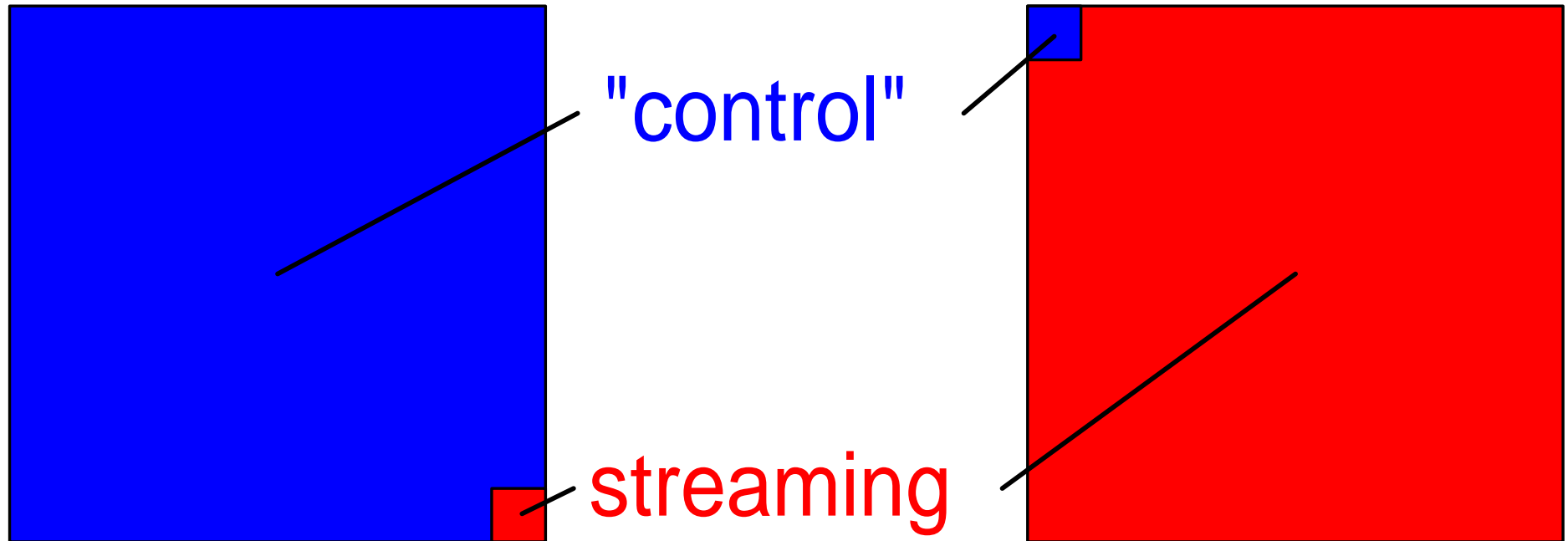
Core, key or base technology?



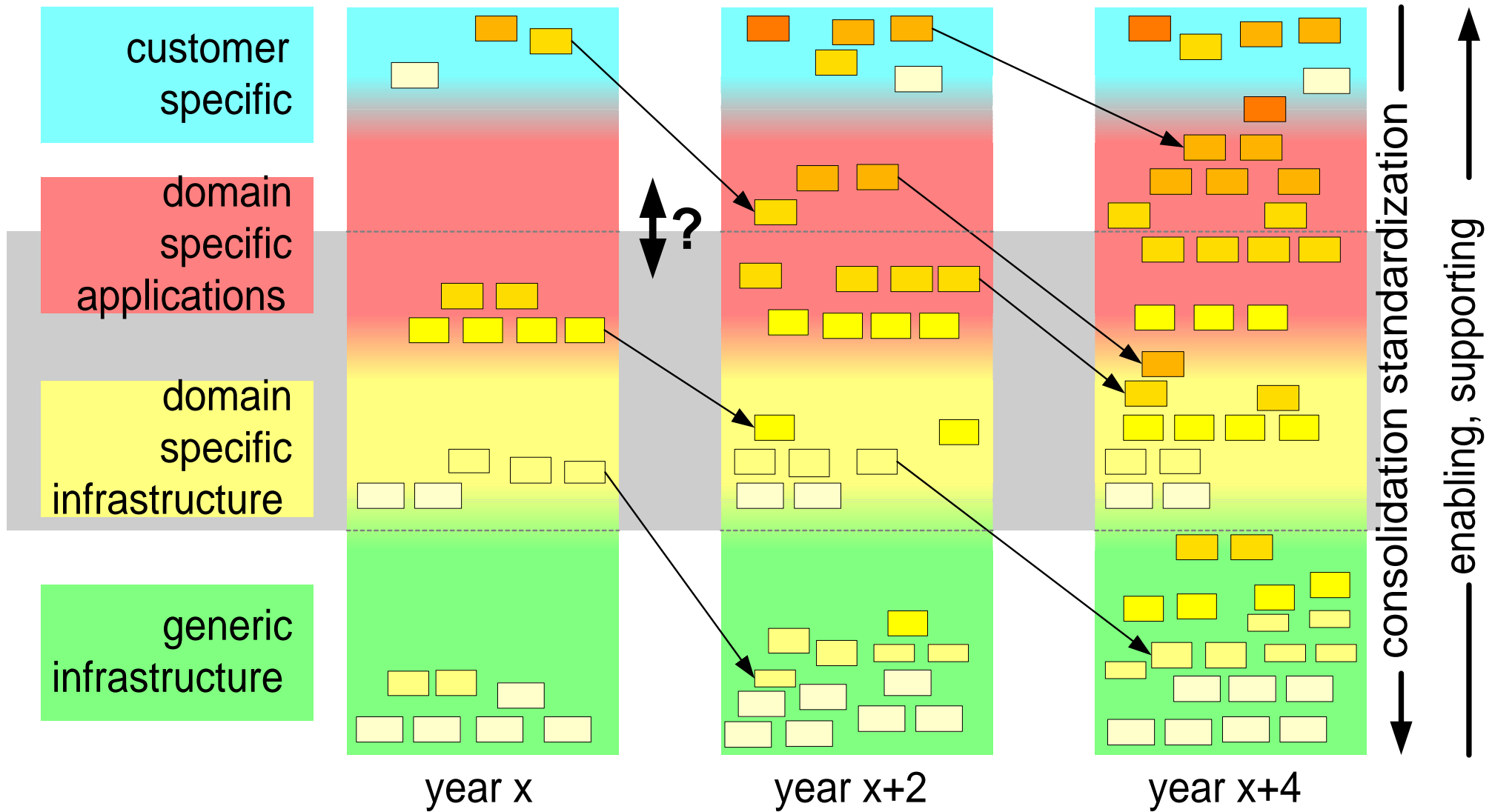
Streaming: one of Philips' core strengths

Software size

number crunching
operations/sec



Our territory?



Summary

