

CS 470 Spring 2026

Mike Lam, Professor



Frontier supercomputer, Oak Ridge

Novel Systems

System architectures

- Shared memory
 - Primary goal: **make faster computers**
 - Programming paradigm: threads
 - Technologies: **Pthreads**, **OpenMP**, **CUDA**
- Distributed memory
 - Primary goal: **add more computers**
 - Programming paradigm: message passing
 - Technologies: **MPI**, **SLURM**

Where do we go from here?

Hybrid HPC architectures

- Massive parallelism on the node
 - Hardware: CPU w/ accelerators
 - GPUs or manycore processors
 - Technologies: [OpenMP](#), [CUDA](#), [OpenACC](#), [OpenCL](#)
- Distributed between massive number of nodes
 - Hardware: fast interconnect and distributed FS
 - Technologies: [MPI](#), [Infiniband](#), [Lustre](#), [HDFS](#)

Summit, Oak Ridge National Lab, USA



Fugaku (富岳), Riken Center, Japan



Sunway TaihuLight (神威·太湖之光),
National Supercomputing Center in Wuxi, China



Top10 systems (Spring 2016)

RANK	SITE	SYSTEM	CORES	RMAX (TFLOP/S)	RPEAK (TFLOP/S)	POWER (KW)
1	National Super Computer Center in Guangzhou China	Tianhe-2 (MilkyWay-2) - TH-IVB-FEP Cluster, Intel Xeon E5-2692 12C 2.200GHz, TH Express-2, Intel Xeon Phi 31S1P NUDT	3,120,000	33,862.7	54,902.4	17,808
2	DOE/SC/Oak Ridge National Laboratory United States	Titan - Cray XK7, Opteron 6274 16C 2.200GHz, Cray Gemini interconnect, NVIDIA K20x Cray Inc.	560,640	17,590.0	27,112.5	8,209
3	DOE/NNSA/LLNL United States	Sequoia - BlueGene/Q, Power BQC 16C 1.60 GHz, Custom IBM	1,572,864	17,173.2	20,132.7	7,890
4	RIKEN Advanced Institute for Computational Science (AICS) Japan	K computer , SPARC64 VIIIfx 2.0GHz, Tofu interconnect Fujitsu	705,024	10,510.0	11,280.4	12,660
5	DOE/SC/Argonne National Laboratory United States	Mira - BlueGene/Q, Power BQC 16C 1.60GHz, Custom IBM	786,432	8,586.6	10,066.3	3,945
6	DOE/NNSA/LANL/SNL United States	Trinity - Cray XC40, Xeon E5-2698v3 16C 2.3GHz, Aries interconnect Cray Inc.	301,056	8,100.9	11,078.9	
7	Swiss National Supercomputing Centre (CSCS) Switzerland	Piz Daint - Cray XC30, Xeon E5-2670 8C 2.600GHz, Aries interconnect, NVIDIA K20x Cray Inc.	115,984	6,271.0	7,788.9	2,325
8	HLRS - Höchstleistungsrechenzentrum Stuttgart Germany	Hazel Hen - Cray XC40, Xeon E5-2680v3 12C 2.5GHz, Aries interconnect Cray Inc.	185,088	5,640.2	7,403.5	
9	King Abdullah University of Science and Technology Saudi Arabia	Shaheen II - Cray XC40, Xeon E5-2698v3 16C 2.3GHz, Aries interconnect Cray Inc.	196,608	5,537.0	7,235.2	2,834
10	Texas Advanced Computing Center/Univ. of Texas United States	Stampede - PowerEdge C8220, Xeon E5-2680 8C 2.700GHz, Infiniband FDR, Intel Xeon Phi SE10P Dell	462,462	5,168.1	8,520.1	4,510

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Top10 systems (Spring 2017)

Rank	Site	System	Cores	Rmax (TFlop/s)	Rpeak (TFlop/s)	Power (kW)
1	National Supercomputing Center in Wuxi China	Sunway TaihuLight - Sunway MPP, Sunway SW26010 260C 1.45GHz, Sunway NRCCPC	10,649,600	93,014.6	125,435.9	15,371
2	National Super Computer Center in Guangzhou China	Tianhe-2 (MilkyWay-2) - TH-IVB-FEP Cluster, Intel Xeon E5-2692 12C 2.200GHz, TH Express-2 Intel Xeon Phi 31S1P NUDT	3,120,000	33,862.7	54,902.4	17,808
3	DOE/SC/Oak Ridge National Laboratory United States	Titan - Cray XK7, Opteron 6274 16C 2.200GHz, Cray Gemini interconnect, NVIDIA K20x Cray Inc.	560,640	17,590.0	27,112.5	8,209
4	DOE/NNSA/LLNL United States	Sequoia - BlueGene/Q, Power BQC 16C 1.60 GHz, Custom IBM	1,572,864	17,173.2	20,132.7	7,890
5	DOE/SC/LBNL/NERSC United States	Cori - Cray XC40, Intel Xeon Phi 7250 80C 1.4GHz, Aries interconnect Cray Inc.	622,336	14,014.7	27,880.7	3,939
6	Joint Center for Advanced High Performance Computing Japan	Oakforest PACS - PRIMERGY CX1640 M1, Intel Xeon Phi 7250 80C 1.4GHz, Intel Omni-Path Fujitsu	556,104	13,554.6	24,913.5	2,719
7	RIKEN Advanced Institute for Computational Science (AICS) Japan	K computer, SPARC64 VIIIfx 2.0GHz, Tofu interconnect Fujitsu	705,024	10,510.0	11,280.4	12,660
8	Swiss National Supercomputing Centre (CSCS) Switzerland	Piz Daint - Cray XC50, Xeon E5-2690v3 12C 2.6GHz, Aries interconnect, NVIDIA Tesla P100 Cray Inc.	206,720	9,779.0	15,988.0	1,312
9	DOE/SC/Argonne National Laboratory United States	Mira - BlueGene/Q, Power BQC 16C 1.60GHz, Custom IBM	786,432	8,586.6	10,066.3	3,945
10	DOE/NNSA/LANL/SNL United States	Trinity - Cray XC40, Xeon E5-2698v3 16C 2.3GHz, Aries interconnect Cray Inc.	301,056	8,100.9	11,078.9	4,233

Top10 systems (Spring 2018)

Rank	System	Cores	Rmax (TFlop/s)	Rpeak (TFlop/s)	Power (kW)
1	Sunway TaihuLight - Sunway MPP, Sunway SW26010 260C 1.45GHz, Sunway, NRCPC National Supercomputing Center in Wuxi China	10,649,600	93,014.6	125,435.9	15,371
2	Tianhe-2 (MilkyWay-2) - TH-IVB-FEP Cluster, Intel Xeon E5-2692 12C 2.200GHz, TH Express-7, Intel Xeon Phi 31S1P, NJDT National Super Computer Center in Guangzhou China	3,120,000	33,862.7	54,902.4	17,808
3	Piz Daint - Cray XC50, Xeon E5-2690v3 12C 2.6GHz, Aries interconnect, NVIDIA Tesla P100, Cray Inc. Swiss National Supercomputing Centre (CSCS) Switzerland	361,760	19,590.0	25,326.3	2,272
4	Gyokou - ZettaScaler-2.2 HPC system, Xeon D-1571 16C 1.3GHz, Infiniband EDR, PEZY-SC2 700Mhz, ExaScaler Japan Agency for Marine-Earth Science and Technology Japan	19,860,000	19,135.8	28,192.0	1,350
5	Titan - Cray XK7, Opteron 6274 16C 2.200GHz, Cray Gemini interconnect, NVIDIA K20x, Cray Inc. DOE/SC/Oak Ridge National Laboratory United States	560,640	17,590.0	27,112.5	8,209
6	Sequoia - BlueGene/Q, Power BQC 16C 1.60 GHz, Custom, IBM DOE/NNSA/LLNL United States	1,572,864	17,173.2	20,132.7	7,890
7	Trinity - Cray XC40, Intel Xeon Phi 7250 68C 1.4GHz, Aries interconnect, Cray Inc. DOE/NNSA/LANL/SNL United States	979,968	14,137.3	43,902.6	3,844
8	Cori - Cray XC40, Intel Xeon Phi 7250 68C 1.4GHz, Aries interconnect, Cray Inc. DOE/SC/LBNL/NERSC United States	622,336	14,014.7	27,880.7	3,939
9	Oakforest-PACS - PRIMERGY CX1640 M1, Intel Xeon Phi 7250 68C 1.4GHz, Intel Omni-Path, Fujitsu Joint Center for Advanced High Performance Computing Japan	556,104	13,554.6	24,913.5	2,719
10	K computer , SPARC64 VIIIfx 2.0GHz, Tofu interconnect, Fujitsu RIKEN Advanced Institute for Computational Science (AICS) Japan	705,024	10,510.0	11,280.4	12,660

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Top10 systems (Spring 2019)

Rank	System	Cores	Rmax (TFlop/s)	Rpeak (TFlop/s)	Power (kW)
1	Summit - IBM Power System AC922, IBM POWER9 22C 3.07GHz, NVIDIA Volta GV100, Dual-rail Mellanox EDR Infiniband , IBM DOE/SC/Oak Ridge National Laboratory United States	2,397,824	143,500.0	200,794.9	9,783
2	Sierra - IBM Power System S922LC, IBM POWER9 22C 3.1GHz, NVIDIA Volta GV100, Dual-rail Mellanox EDR Infiniband , IBM / NVIDIA / Mellanox DOE/NNSA/LLNL United States	1,572,480	94,640.0	125,712.0	7,438
3	Sunway TaihuLight - Sunway MPP, Sunway SW26010 260C 1.75GHz, Sunway , NRCPC National Supercomputing Center in Wuxi China	10,649,600	93,014.6	125,435.9	15,371
4	Tianhe-2A - TH-16B-FEP Cluster, Intel Xeon E5-2692v2 12C 2.2GHz, TH Express-2, Matrix-2000 , NJDT National Super Computer Center in Guangzhou China	4,981,760	61,444.5	100,678.7	18,482
5	Piz Daint - Cray XC50, Xeon E5-2690v3 12C 2.6GHz, Aries interconnect , NVIDIA Tesla P100 , Cray Inc. Swiss National Supercomputing Centre (CSCS) Switzerland	387,872	21,230.0	27,154.3	2,384
6	Trinity - Cray XC40, Xeon E5-2698v3 16C 2.3GHz, Intel Xeon Phi 7250 68C 1.4GHz, Aries interconnect , Cray Inc. DOE/NNSA/LANL/SNL United States	979,072	20,158.7	41,461.2	7,578
7	AI Bridging Cloud Infrastructure (ABCI) - PRIMERGY CX2570 M4, Xeon Gold 6148 20C 2.4GHz, NVIDIA Tesla V100 SXM2, Infiniband EDR , Fujitsu National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology (AIST) Japan	391,680	19,880.0	32,576.6	1,649
8	SuperMUC-NG - ThinkSystem SD530, Xeon Platinum 8174 24C 3.1GHz, Intel Omni-Path , Lenovo Leibniz Rechenzentrum Germany	305,856	19,476.6	26,873.9	
9	Titan - Cray XK7, Opteron 6274 16C 2.200GHz, Cray Gemini interconnect, NVIDIA K20x , Cray Inc. DOE/SC/Oak Ridge National Laboratory United States	560,640	17,590.0	27,112.5	8,209
10	Sequoia - BlueGene/Q, Power BQC 16C 1.60 GHz, Custom , IBM DOE/NNSA/LLNL United States	1,572,864	17,173.2	20,132.7	7,890

Top10 systems (Spring 2021)

Rank	System	Cores	Rmax (TFlop/s)	Rpeak (TFlop/s)	Power (kW)
1	Supercomputer Fugaku - Supercomputer Fugaku, A64FX 48C 2.2GHz, Tofu interconnect D, Fujitsu RIKEN Center for Computational Science Japan	7,630,848	442,010.0	537,212.0	29,899
2	Summit - IBM Power system AC922, IBM POWER9 22C 3.07GHz, NVIDIA Volta GV100, Dual-rail Mellanox EDR Infiniband, IBM DOE/SC/Oak Ridge National Laboratory United States	2,414,592	148,600.0	200,794.9	10,096
3	Sierra - IBM Power System AC922, IBM POWER9 22C 3.1GHz, NVIDIA Volta GV100, Dual-rail Mellanox EDR Infiniband, IBM / NVIDIA / Mellanox DOE/NNSA/LLNL United States	1,572,480	94,640.0	125,712.0	7,438
4	Sunway TaihuLight - Sunway MPP, Sunway SW26010 260C 1.45GHz, Sunway, NRCP National Supercomputing Center in Wuxi China	10,649,600	93,014.6	125,435.9	15,371
5	Stetini - NVIDIA DGX A100, AMD EPYC 7742 64C 2.25GHz, NVIDIA A100, Mellanox HDR Infiniband, Nvidia NVIDIA Corporation United States	555,520	63,460.0	79,215.0	2,646
6	Tianhe-2A - TH-IVB-FEP Cluster, Intel Xeon E5-2692v2 12C 2.2GHz, TH Express-2, Matrix-2000, NUDT National Super Computer Center in Guangzhou China	4,981,760	61,444.5	100,678.7	18,482
7	JUWELS Booster Module - Bull Sequoia XH2000, AMD EPYC 7402 24C 2.8GHz, NVIDIA A100, Mellanox HDR InfiniBand/ParTec Parallel Station Cluster Suite, Atos Forschungszentrum Juelich (FZJ) Germany	449,280	44,120.0	70,980.0	1,764
8	HPCs - PowerEdge C6140, Xeon Gold 6252 24C 2.1GHz, NVIDIA Tesla V100, Mellanox HDR Infiniband, Dell EMC Pci S.p.A. Italy	669,760	35,450.0	51,720.8	2,252
9	Frontera - Dell C6420, Xeon Platinum 8280 28C 2.7GHz, Mellanox InfiniBand HDR, Dell EMC Texas Advanced Computing Center/Univ. of Texas United States	448,448	23,516.4	38,745.9	
10	Dammam 7 - Dell C6420, Xeon Gold 6248 20C 2.5GHz, NVIDIA Tesla V100 SXM2, InfiniBand HDR 100, HPE Saudi Aramco Saudi Arabia	672,520	22,400.0	55,423.6	

Top10 systems (Spring 2022)

Rank	System	Cores	Rmax (TFlop/s)	Rpeak (TFlop/s)	Power (kW)
1	Supercomputer Fugaku - Supercomputer Fugaku, A64FX 48C 2.2GHz, Tofu interconnect D, Fujitsu RIKEN Center for Computational Science Japan	7,630,848	442,010.0	537,212.0	29,899
2	Summit - IBM Power System AC922, IBM POWER9 22C 3.07GHz, NVIDIA Volta GV100, Dual-rail Mellanox EDR Infiniband, IBM DOE/SC/Oak Ridge National Laboratory United States	2,414,592	148,600.0	200,794.9	10,096
3	Sierra - IBM Power System AC922, IBM POWER9 22C 3.1GHz, NVIDIA Volta GV100, Dual-rail Mellanox EDR Infiniband, IBM / NVIDIA / Mellanox DOE/NNSA/LLNL United States	1,572,480	94,640.0	125,712.0	7,438
4	Sunway TaihuLight - Sunway MPP, Sunway SW26010 260C 1.45GHz, Sunway, NRCPC National Supercomputing Center in Wuxi China	10,649,600	93,014.6	125,435.9	15,371
5	Perlmutter - HPE Cray EX235m, AMD EPYC 7763 64C 2.45GHz, NVIDIA A100 SXM4 40 GB, Hingshot-10, HPE DOE/SC/LBNL/NERSC United States	761,856	70,870.0	93,750.0	2,589
6	Selene - NVIDIA DGX A100, AMD EPYC 7742 64C 2.25GHz, NVIDIA A100, Mellanox HDR Infiniband, Nvidia NVIDIA Corporation United States	555,520	63,460.0	79,215.0	2,646
7	Tianhe-2A - TH-IVB-FEP Cluster, Intel Xeon E5-2692v2 12C 2.2GHz, TH Express-C2, Matrix-2000, NUDT National Super Computer Center in Guangzhou China	4,981,760	61,444.5	100,678.7	18,482
8	JUWELS Booster Module - Bull Sequana XH2000, AMD EPYC 7402 24C 2.3GHz, NVIDIA A100, Mellanox HDR InfiniBand/ParTec ParaStation Cluster Suite, Atos Forschungszentrum Juelich [FZJ] Germany	449,280	44,120.0	70,980.0	1,764
9	HP5 - PowerEdge C4140, Xeon Gold 6252 24C 2.1GHz, NVIDIA Tesla V100, Mellanox HDR Infiniband, DELL EMC EMI S.p.A Italy	669,760	35,450.0	51,720.8	2,252
10	Voyager-EUS2 - ND7000SL-A100 v4, AMD EPYC 7V12 48C 2.35GHz, NVIDIA A100 80GB, Mellanox HDR Infiniband, Microsoft Azure Azure East US 2 United States	253,440	30,050.0	39,531.2	

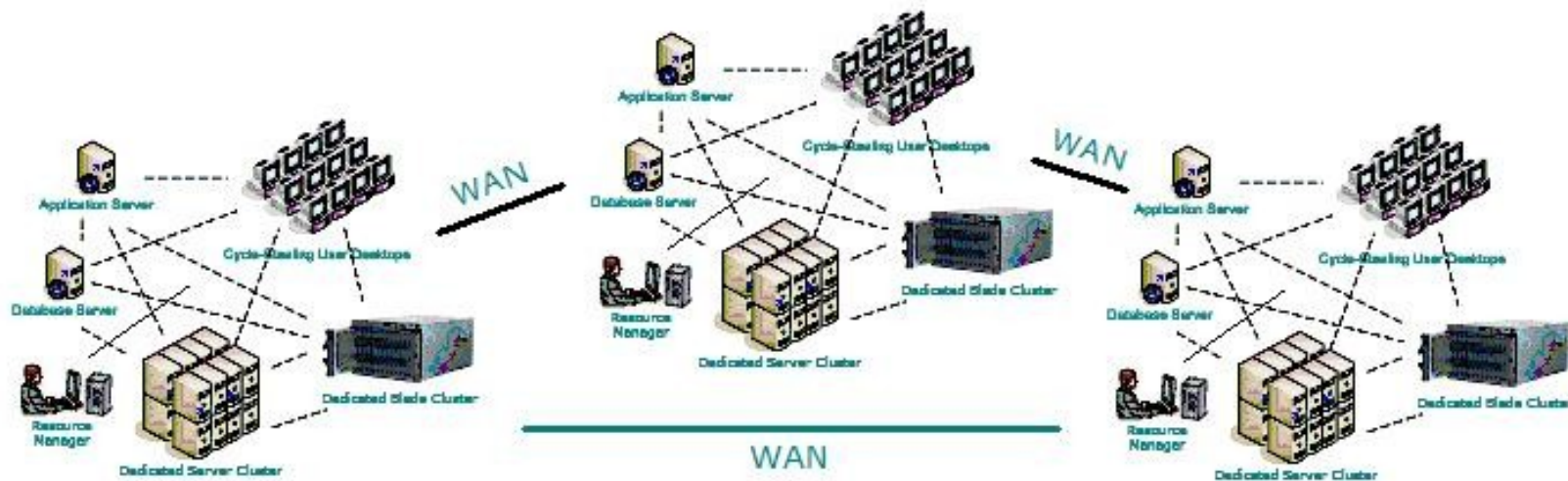
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What's next?

- What's even **more** parallel and/or distributed than these hybrid systems?

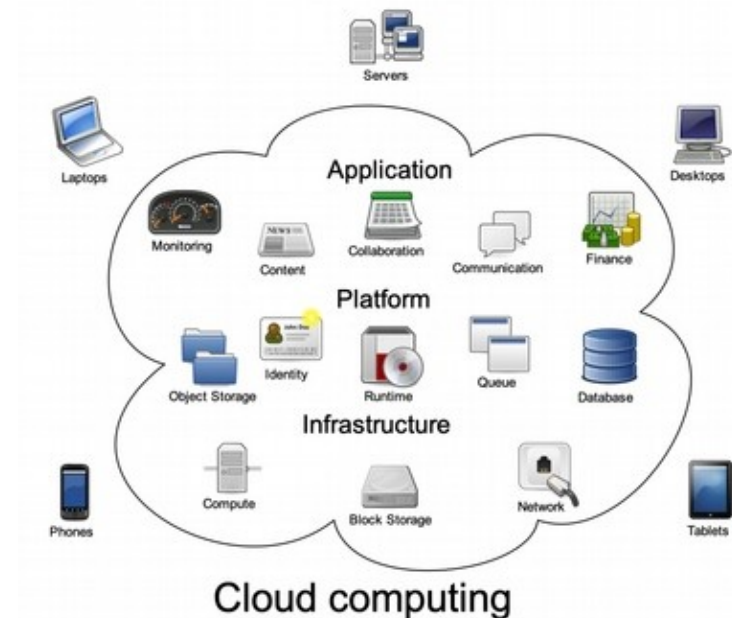
Grid computing

- Heterogenous nodes in disparate physical locations
 - Solving problems or performing tasks of interest to a large number of diverse groups
 - Hardware: different CPUs, GPUs, memory layouts, etc.
 - Software: different OSES, [Folding@Home](#), [Condor](#), [GIMPs](#), etc.



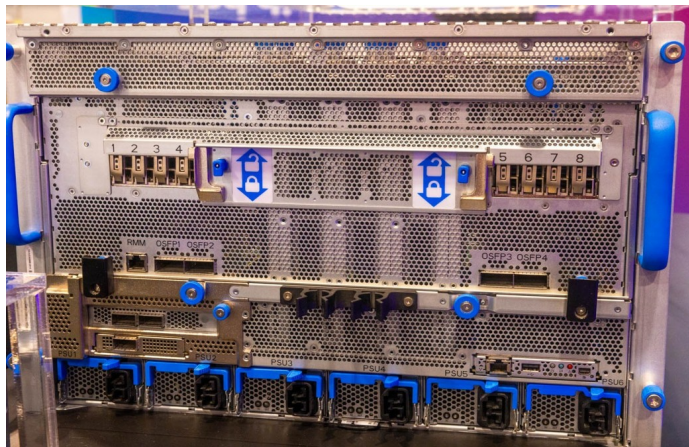
Cloud computing

- Homogenous centralized nodes
 - **Infrastructure as a Service** (IaaS) and **Software as a Service** (SaaS)
 - Hardware: large data centers with thousands of servers and a high-speed internet connection
 - Software: virtualized OS and custom software (**Docker**, etc.)



Cloud computing

- Surprise #3 ranked result in Top500 list revealed by **Microsoft** at SC23 in November 2023
 - Intel Xeon Platinum 8480C CPUs and Nvidia H100 GPUs
 - 1.1M cores total, sustaining 561 petaflops on HPL
 - Infiniband interconnect w/ direct GPU-to-GPU links
 - As of 2026, called “Eagle” w/ >2 million cores



Dulles Technology Corridor

- Business cluster in Northern Virginia
 - Ashburn to Tysons Corner, along VA 7 and VA 267
 - In 2009, over 50% of all US-based Internet traffic was routed through data centers in this region
 - Home of AWS “US East” region, hosting ~70% of AWS IP addresses
 - <https://www.datacentermap.com/usa/virginia/>

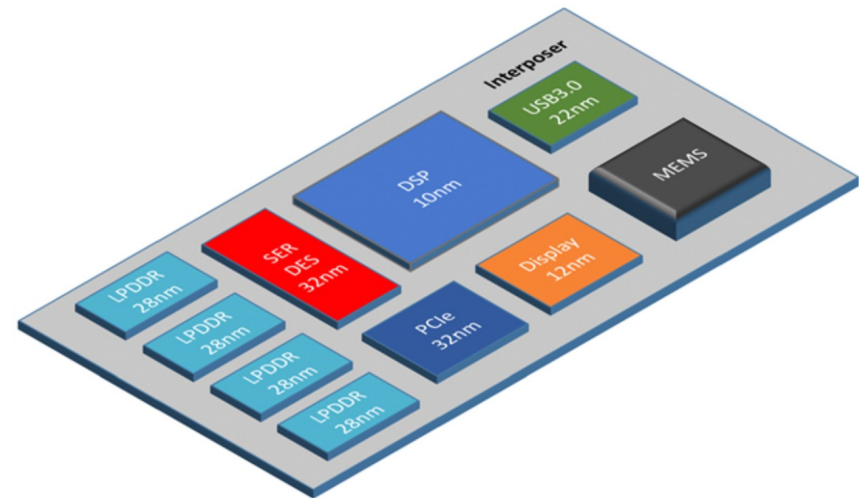
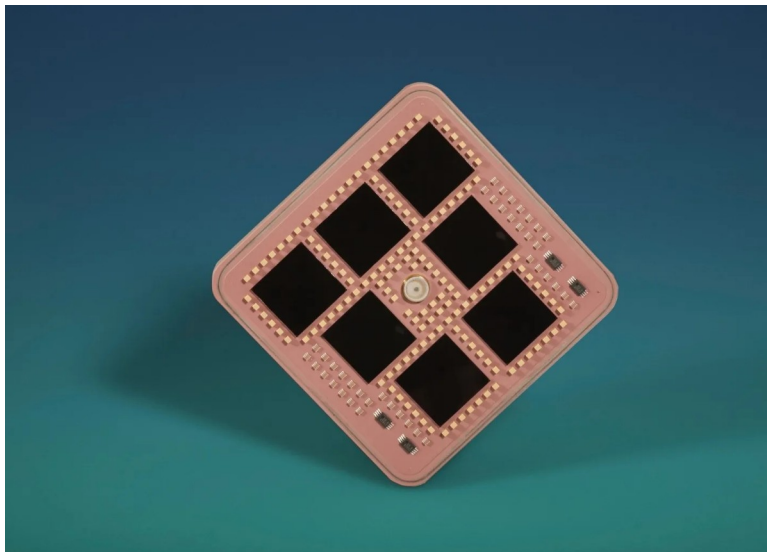


What's next?

- What's on the horizon?

Novel technologies

- **Chiplet**: small integrated circuit
 - Optimized for a specific functional purpose
 - Combined with other chiplets in a single **multi-chip module**
 - Easier to replace faulty chips during manufacturing



<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chiplet>

<https://www.eetimes.com/chiplets-a-short-history/>

https://semiengineering.com/knowledge_centers/packaging/advanced-packaging/chiplets/

Apple Silicon

M5 Pro and M5 Max are surprisingly big departures from older Apple Silicon

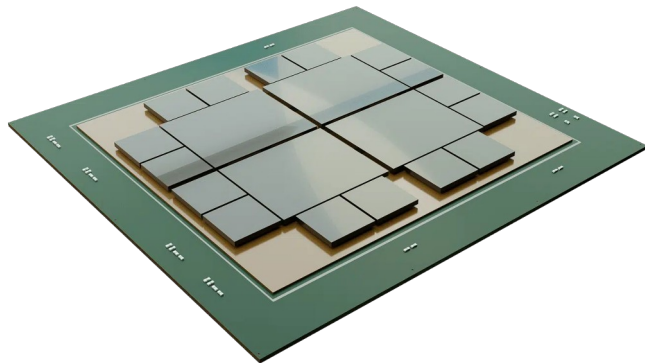
Apple is using more chiplets and three types of CPU cores to make the M5 family.

ANDREW CUNNINGHAM - MAR 3, 2026 1:41 PM | 148

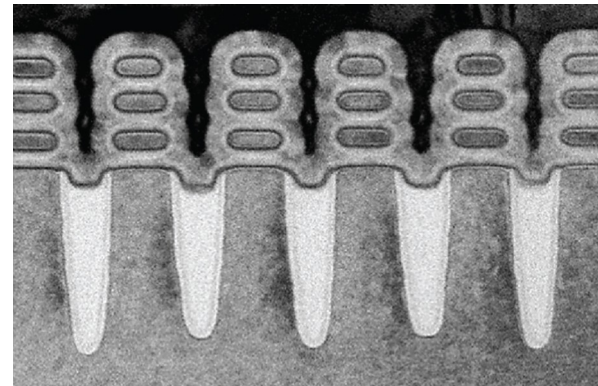


Novel technologies

- **Optical**
 - Use photon waves instead of electrons for visual AI, pattern recognition, and cryptography (recent emphasis on fully-homomorphic encryption)
 - Example: **Optalysis Enable** etile
- **Nanosheet transistors**
 - Vertical stacking technology that promises 40% performance boost and 75% power reduction over traditional transistors
 - Samsung started commercial production in 2022 (SF3)

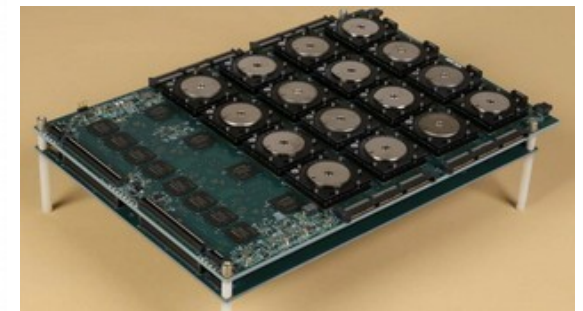
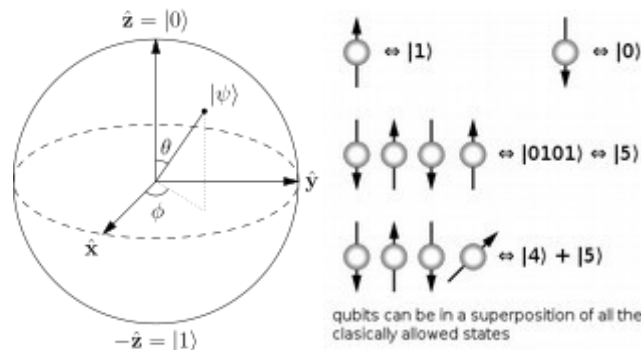


Optalysis Enable



Novel architectures

- **Memory-centric**
 - Fast memory fabrics w/ in-chip processing
 - Example: [HPE The Machine](#) (announced in 2014)
- **Quantum**
 - Leverage quantum superposition and entanglement (qubits)
 - Example: [D-Wave 2000Q](#) (2048 qubits) and [IBM QX](#) (5 and 16 qubits)
- **Neuromorphic**
 - Specialized, low-power hardware that emulates neural networks
 - Example: [IBM TrueNorth](#) released in 2014 (4096 cores, 1 million neurons)



Quantum computing

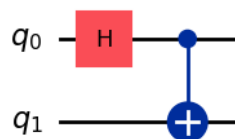
- IBM Quantum System Two

- Three 133-qubit Heron processors
- Similar capabilities available on IBM Cloud for free (10 minutes per month) or \$96/minute pay-as-you-go

```
# Create a new circuit with two qubits  
qc = QuantumCircuit(2)
```

```
# Add a Hadamard gate to qubit 0  
qc.h(0)
```

```
# Perform a controlled-X gate on qubit 1,  
# controlled by qubit 0  
qc.cx(0, 1)
```



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qndz54SGCAs>

Neuromorphic computing

- April 2024: Intel Hala Point (Sandia)

Hala Point, the world's largest neuromorphic system

Largest capacity: 1.15 billion neurons and 128 billion synapses

Scalable: 1,152 Loihi 2 processors with 140,544 neuromorphic cores and 2,304 x86 cores



Fast: 380 trillion synaptic operations per second, 240 trillion neuron operations per second, 16 petabytes per second of memory bandwidth

Efficient: 15 TOPS/W executing sparse deep neural networks with an equivalent 30 quadrillion 8-bit operations per second*

Introducing Intel's most advanced neuromorphic system to date, code-named Hala Point. This system demonstrates state-of-the-art computational efficiencies for more efficient and sustainable AI.

Hala Point could enable advancements in future real-time continual learning, inference, and optimization for applications like science and engineering problem-solving, logistics, smart city infrastructure management, large language models (LLMs) and AI agents.

*Characterization performed with a multi-layer perceptron (MLP) network with 14,784 layers, 2048 neurons per layer, 8-bit weights stimulated with random noise. The Hala Point implementation of the MLP network is pruned to 10:1 sparsity with sigma-delta neuron models providing 10% activation rate. Results as of testing in April 2024. Results may vary.

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intel.

HPC + AI

AI is Changing HPC – and HPC is Changing AI

The convergence of HPC and AI: Driving innovation at speed

Explore the Future of HPC & AI at SC25 Invited Talks

OCTOBER 15, 2025

HPC Solutions

AI for Science

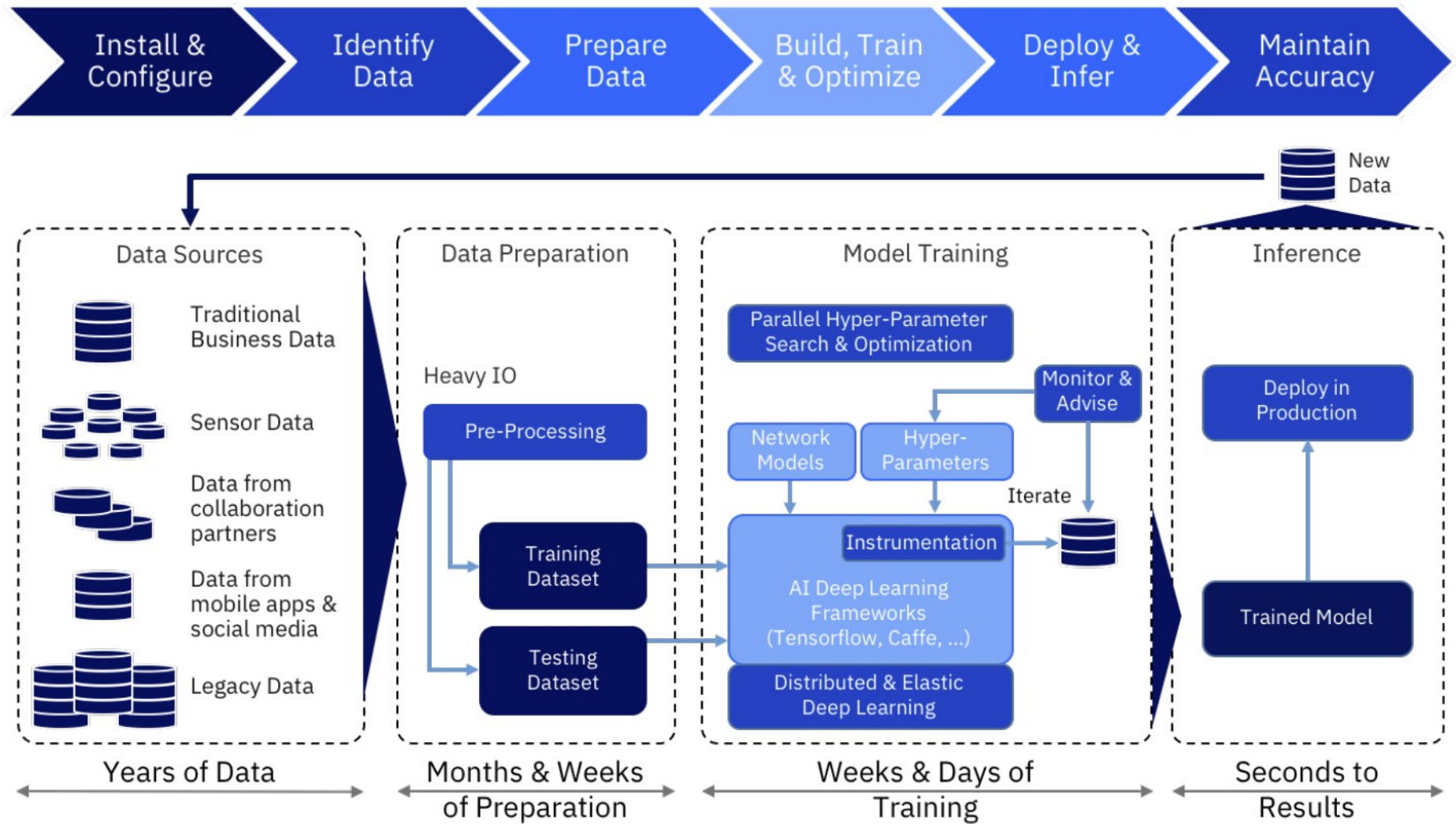
Harnessing AI to transform scientific discovery.

AI supercomputing

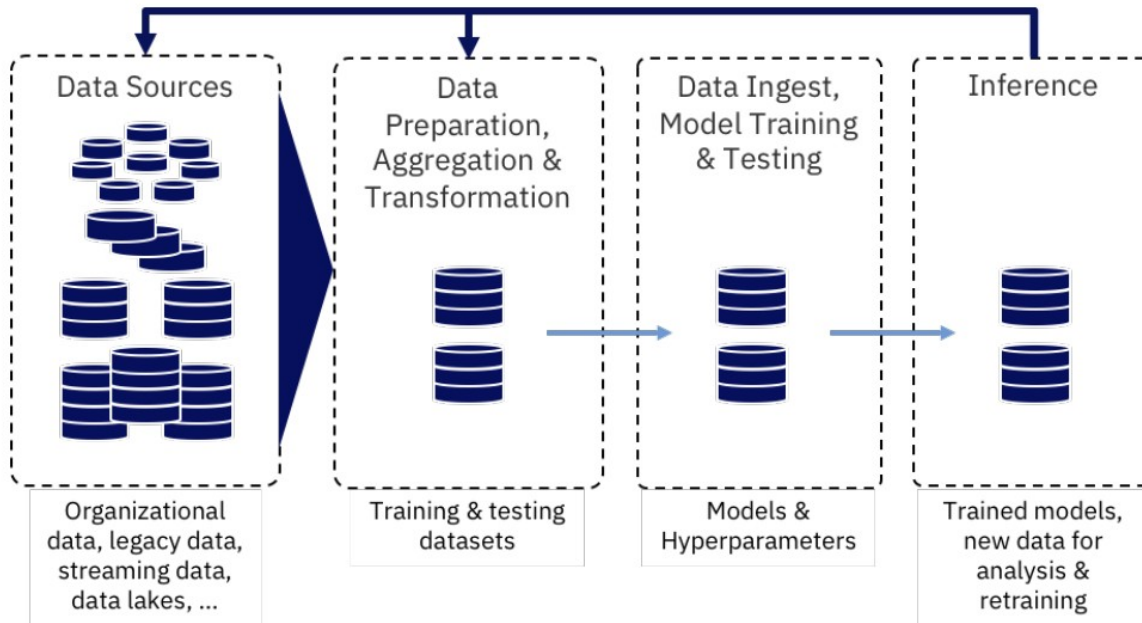
What is AI supercomputing?

Leading the Charge in AI Supercomputing, Innovation and Initiatives

Machine Learning



Machine Learning



High bandwidth and low latency between the storage and compute nodes is absolutely critical, and sufficient bandwidth between the nodes needs to also be considered for data ingest and transformation phase of the workflow. Performance is key when training models to make sure sufficient data is delivered to the systems to keep the GPUs running at capacity, so a high-speed network subsystem is needed for the training cluster (i.e., Fast ethernet and InfiniBand).

Novel HPC Architectures for AI

NVIDIA DGX SuperPOD

Purpose-built for the unique demands of AI.



The World's First Turnkey AI Data Center

NVIDIA DGX SuperPOD™ is AI data center infrastructure that enables IT to deliver performance—without compromise—for every user and workload. As part of the **NVIDIA DGX™ platform**, DGX SuperPOD supports hybrid deployments and offers leadership-class accelerated infrastructure and scalable performance for the most challenging AI workloads, with industry-proven results.

AI Factories

NVIDIA NVLink and NVLink Switch

Scale-up networking fabric with high-bandwidth GPU-to-GPU communications for AI training, inference, and other demanding rack-scale GPU-accelerated workloads.

Compute Express Link (CXL) is an [open standard](#) interconnect for high-speed, high capacity CPU-to-device and CPU-to-memory connections, designed for high performance [data center](#) computers.^{[1][2][3][4]} CXL is built on the [serial PCI Express](#) (PCIe) physical and electrical interface and includes PCIe-based block [input/output](#) protocol (CXL.io) and new [cache-coherent](#) protocols for accessing [system memory](#) (CXL.cache) and [device memory](#) (CXL.mem). The serial communication and [pooling](#) capabilities allows CXL memory to overcome performance and socket packaging limitations of common [DIMM](#) memory when implementing high storage capacities.^{[5][6]}

AI factory at scale

In early 2026, the Grenoble lab will be enhanced with a brand-new, dedicated AI Factory at-scale system, jointly financed by HPE and NVIDIA. Purpose-built to accelerate customer immersions, the new platform will be equipped with the latest HPE and NVIDIA AI-optimized technologies — next-generation NVIDIA HGX accelerated servers, and high-bandwidth networking — to provide a production-class environment for hands-on validation, large-scale training and governance testing.

This investment expands our sovereign, Grenoble-based infrastructure and enables longer, more representative customer engagements where teams can co-design, validate and operationalize AI Factory solutions tailored to their production requirements.

Component	Configuration
Servers	8x HPE Compute XD690
Processors	16x Intel® Xeon® 6776P 2.3 GHz 64-core 350W processors
GPUs	64x NVIDIA HGX B300 288GB
Memory	16TB Dual Rank x4 DDR5-6400
Network	64x NVIDIA InfiniBand XDR/Ethernet 800GbE
Storage	1.1PB NVMe local/ 3.3PB Lustre on ClusterStor E1000/ 600TB DAOS

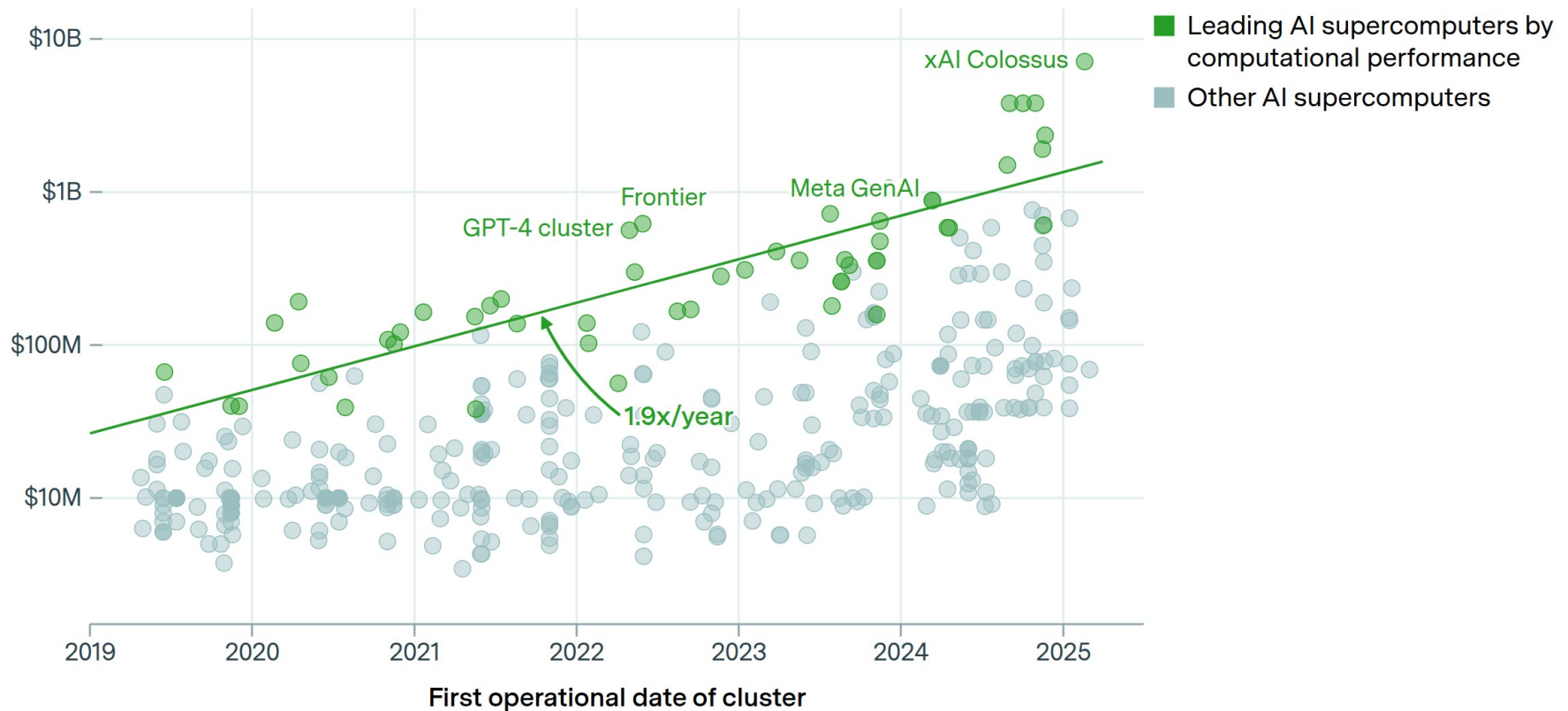
<https://www.nvidia.com/en-us/data-center/nvlink/>
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Compute_Express_Link
<https://hpe.com>

AI trends

The hardware cost of leading AI supercomputers has doubled every year



Hardware cost (2025 USD)



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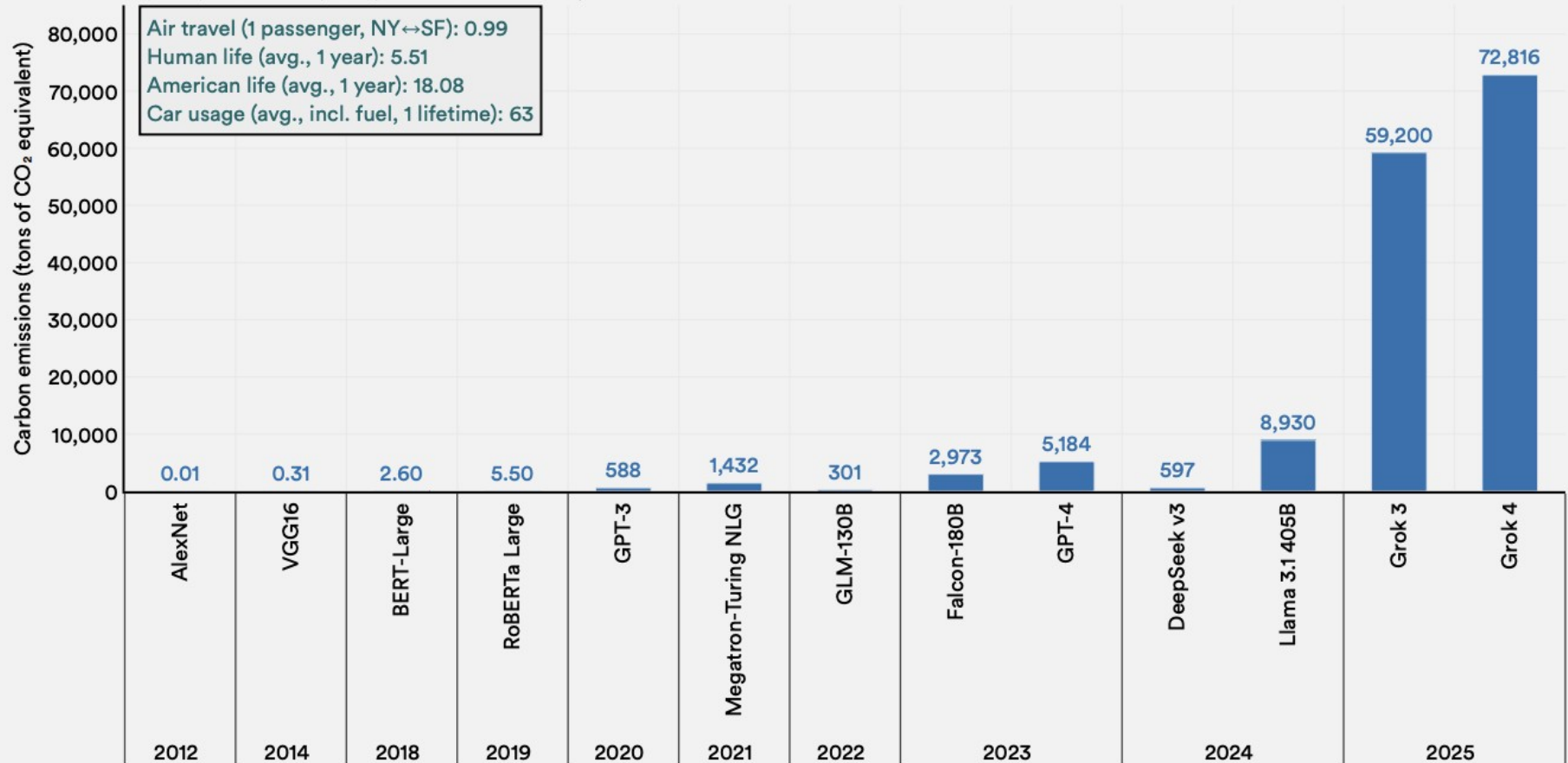
epoch.ai

<https://epoch.ai/blog>

AI costs

Estimated carbon emissions from training select AI models and real-life activities, 2012–25

Source: AI Index, 2026; Strubell et al., 2019 | Chart: 2026 AI Index report



Top10 systems (Spring 2024)

Microsoft

Rank	System	Cores	Rmax (PFlop/s)	Rpeak (PFlop/s)	Power (kW)
1	Frontier - HPE Cray EX235a, AMD Optimized 3rd Generation EPYC 64C 2GHz, AMD Instinct MI250X, Slingshot-11, HPE DOE/SC/Oak Ridge National Laboratory United States	8,699,904	1,194.00	1,679.82	22,703
2	Aurora - HPE Cray EX - Intel Exascale Compute Blade, Xeon CPU Max 9470 52C 2.4GHz, Intel Data Center GPU Max, Slingshot-11, Intel DOE/SC/Argonne National Laboratory United States	4,742,808	585.34	1,059.33	24,687
3	Eagle - Microsoft NDv5, Xeon Platinum 8480C 48C 2GHz, NVIDIA H100, NVIDIA Infiniband NDR, Microsoft Microsoft Azure United States	1,123,200	561.20	846.84	
4	Supercomputer Fugaku - Supercomputer Fugaku, A64FX 48C 2.2GHz, Tofu Interconnect D, Fujitsu RIKEN Center for Computational Science Japan	7,630,848	442.01	537.21	29,899
5	LUMI - HPE Cray EX235a, AMD Optimized 3rd Generation EPYC 64C 2GHz, AMD Instinct MI250X, Slingshot-11, HPE EuroHPC/CSC Finland	2,752,704	379.70	531.51	7,107
6	Leonardo - BullSequana XH2000, Xeon Platinum 8358 32C 2.6GHz, NVIDIA A100 SXM4 64 GB, Quad-rail NVIDIA HDR100 Infiniband, EVIDEN EuroHPC/CINECA Italy	1,824,768	238.70	304.47	7,404
7	Summit - IBM Power System AC922, IBM POWER9 22C 3.07GHz, NVIDIA Volta GV100, Dual-rail Mellanox EDR Infiniband, IBM DOE/SC/Oak Ridge National Laboratory United States	2,414,592	148.60	200.79	10,096
8	MareNostrum 5 ACC - BullSequana XH3000, Xeon Platinum 8460Y+ 40C 2.3GHz, NVIDIA H100 64GB, Infiniband NDR200, EVIDEN EuroHPC/BSC Spain	680,960	138.20	265.57	2,560
9	Eos NVIDIA DGX SuperPOD - NVIDIA DGX H100, Xeon Platinum 8480C 56C 3.8GHz, NVIDIA H100, Infiniband NDR400, Nvidia NVIDIA Corporation United States	485,888	121.40	188.65	
10	Sierra - IBM Power System AC922, IBM POWER9 22C 3.1GHz, NVIDIA Volta GV100, Dual-rail Mellanox EDR Infiniband, IBM / NVIDIA / Mellanox DOE/NNSA/LLNL United States	1,572,480	94.64	125.71	7,438

NVIDIA

Top10 systems (Spring 2025/6)

Rank	System	Cores	Rmax (PFlop/s)	Rpeak (PFlop/s)	Power (kW)
1	El Capitan - HPE Cray EX255a, AMD 4th Gen EPYC 24C 1.8GHz, AMD Instinct MI300A, Slingshot-11, TOSS, HPE DOE/NNSA/LLNL United States	11,039,616	1,742.00	2,746.38	29,581
2	Frontier - HPE Cray EX235a, AMD Optimized 3rd Generation EPYC 64C 2GHz, AMD Instinct MI250X, Slingshot-11, HPE Cray OS, HPE DOE/SC/Oak Ridge National Laboratory United States	9,066,176	1,353.00	2,055.72	24,607
3	Aurora - HPE Cray EX - Intel Exascale Compute Blade, Xeon CPU Max 9470 52C 2.4GHz, Intel Data Center GPU Max, Slingshot-11, Intel DOE/SC/Argonne National Laboratory United States	9,264,128	1,012.00	1,980.01	38,698
4	Eagle - Microsoft NDv5, Xeon Platinum 8480C 48C 2.6GHz, NVIDIA H100, NVIDIA Infiniband NDR, Microsoft Azure Microsoft Azure United States	2,073,600	561.20	846.84	
5	HPC6 - HPE Cray EX235a, AMD Optimized 3rd Generation EPYC 64C 2GHz, AMD Instinct MI250X, Slingshot-11, RHEL 8.9, HPE Eni S.p.A. Italy	3,143,520	477.90	606.97	8,461
6	Supercomputer Fugaku - Supercomputer Fugaku, A64FX 48C 2.2GHz, Tofu interconnect D, Fujitsu RIKEN Center for Computational Science Japan	7,630,848	442.01	537.21	29,899
7	Alps - HPE Cray EX254n, NVIDIA Grace 72C 3.1GHz, NVIDIA GH200 Superchip, Slingshot-11, HPE Cray OS, HPE Swiss National Supercomputing Centre (CSCS) Switzerland	2,121,600	434.90	574.84	7,124
8	LUMI - HPE Cray EX235a, AMD Optimized 3rd Generation EPYC 64C 2GHz, AMD Instinct MI250X, Slingshot-11, HPE EuroHPC/CSC Finland	2,752,704	379.70	531.51	7,107
9	Leonardo - BullSequana XH2000, Xeon Platinum 8358 32C 2.6GHz, NVIDIA A100 SXM4 64 GB, Quad-rail NVIDIA HDR100 Infiniband, EVIDEN EuroHPC/CINECA Italy	1,824,768	241.20	306.31	7,494
10	Tuolumne - HPE Cray EX255a, AMD 4th Gen EPYC 24C 1.8GHz, AMD Instinct MI300A, Slingshot-11, TOSS, HPE DOE/NNSA/LLNL United States	1,161,216	208.10	288.88	3,387

Microsoft

Eni
(Italian energy company)

NVIDIA
(fallen to 12th)

What's next?

- In some sense, it's up to you!
- Remember, computer systems serve **people**
- Keep the [ACM Code of Ethics](#) in mind
- Communicate technical topics clearly and advocate for best practices
- As your career advances, take advantage of opportunities to “move the dial” towards ethical systems
- Never stop learning!

