

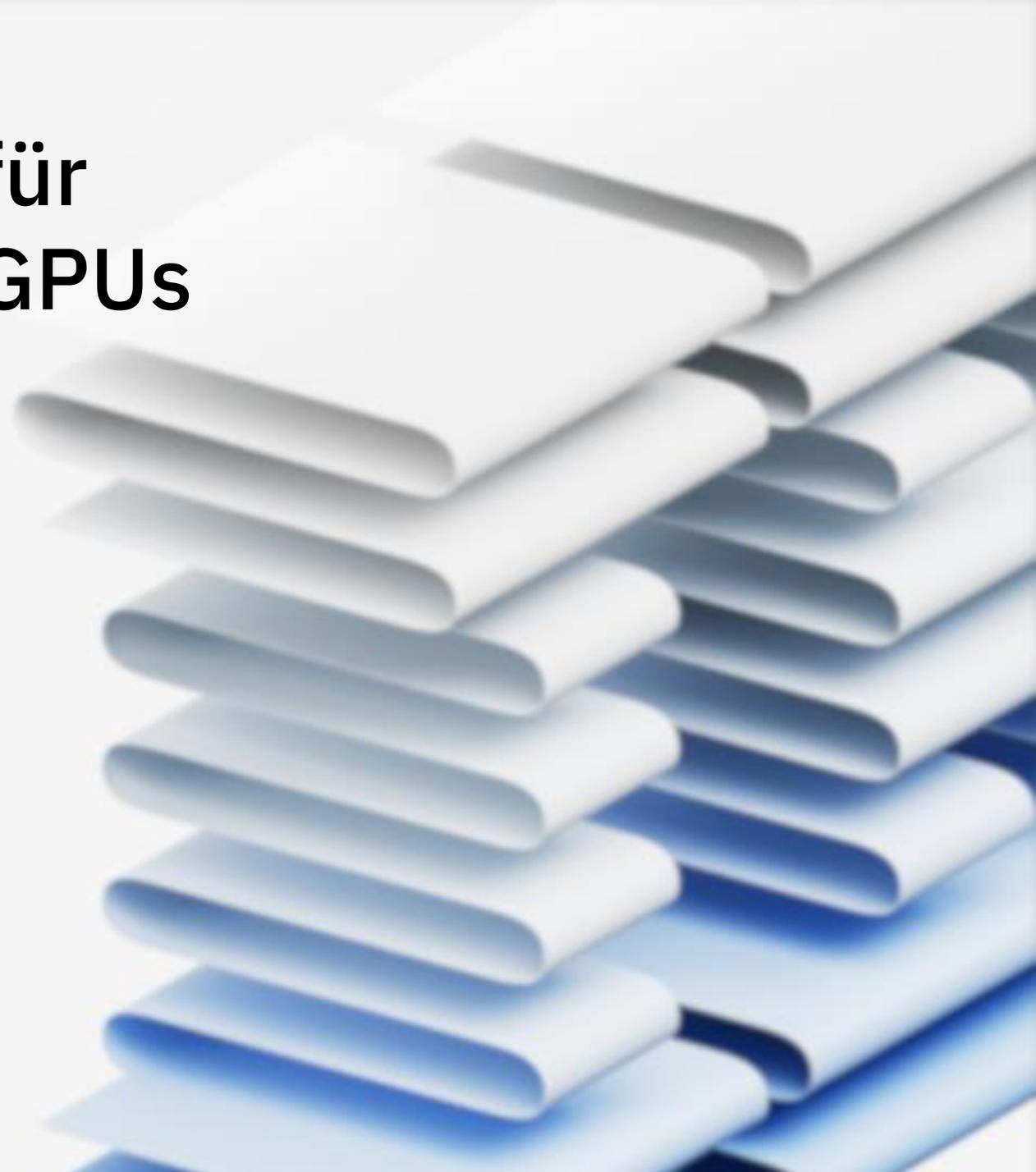
E06: IBM Storage Scale für Daten und AI & NVIDIA GPUs

IBM Storage Scale Days 2025 DE

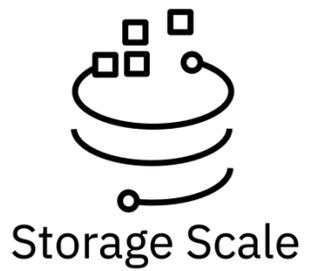
March 18th – 20th, 2025 | Heidelberg, Germany

Frank Kraemer (IBM)

<mailto:kraemerf@de.ibm.com>



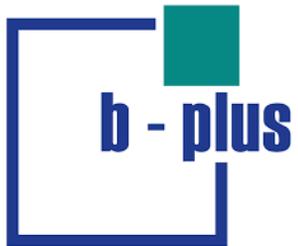
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The AI “Data Vulcan”

Data is crucial for **training** AI models. The quality and quantity of training data sets are crucial to the accuracy and effectiveness of machine learning models. The more diverse and representative the data is, the better the model can generalize and perform on new, unseen data.





Source: Mercedes-Benz



Source: TORC



Source: Digital Railways



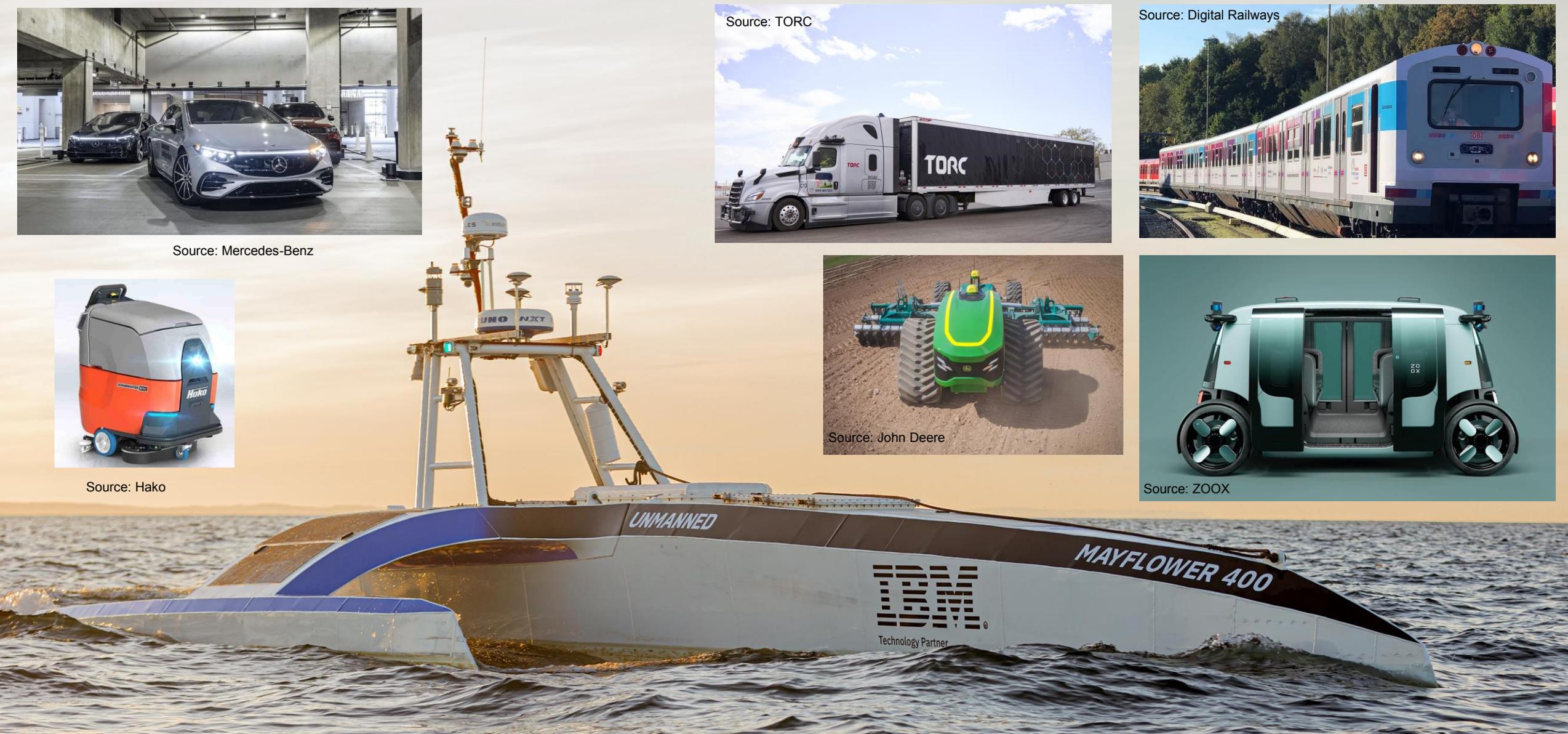
Source: Hako



Source: John Deere



Source: ZOOX



Autonomous Systems (AS) are everywhere impacting how we live, work, play, purchase goods and services, how we socialize, and even our commutes.

AV Data Management Challenges for AI and Hybrid Cloud

- ➔ Data ingest and preparation cycles are too time consuming
- ➔ Many silos of infrastructure for various analytics use cases
- ➔ Multiple copies of the same data without a single source of truth
- ➔ Need to securely manage and protect data provenance for repeatability
- ➔ Need for global accessibility (hybrid cloud) and collaboration

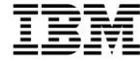
Reproducible + Efficient + Resilient



Development and Testing Autonomous Vehicles at Scale



Frank Kraemer (kraemerf@de.ibm.com)



On-Road Mass Data Recording



- Smart Data Logger Technology (AI triggered).
- Visualization & Data analysis.
- Fast data cleaning.
- Data enrichment & Pre-annotation.



Cloud Adjacent Data Ingest @Colocation

- Significantly increase data ingest and pre-processing.
- Lower costs to move data in and out of cloud.
- Low-latency access to data between clouds.



OPENSIFT

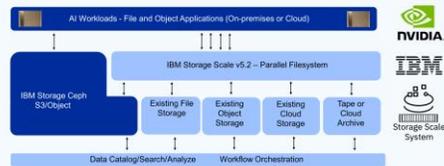


IBM Ceph



Highspeed Data Services for AI training with NVIDIA SuperPOD

- Global Data Platform for large AI workflows.
- NVIDIA GPUDirect Support.
- Parallel Access to all data (Infiniband & RoCE).
- Ultimate Performance (310 GB/sec read per node).
- Client-side direct access.
- Automated data acceleration and remote data access.
- Multi-site/Multi-vendor Caching Services.
- Policy based data placement and reduction.
- Engineered for performance and efficiency.



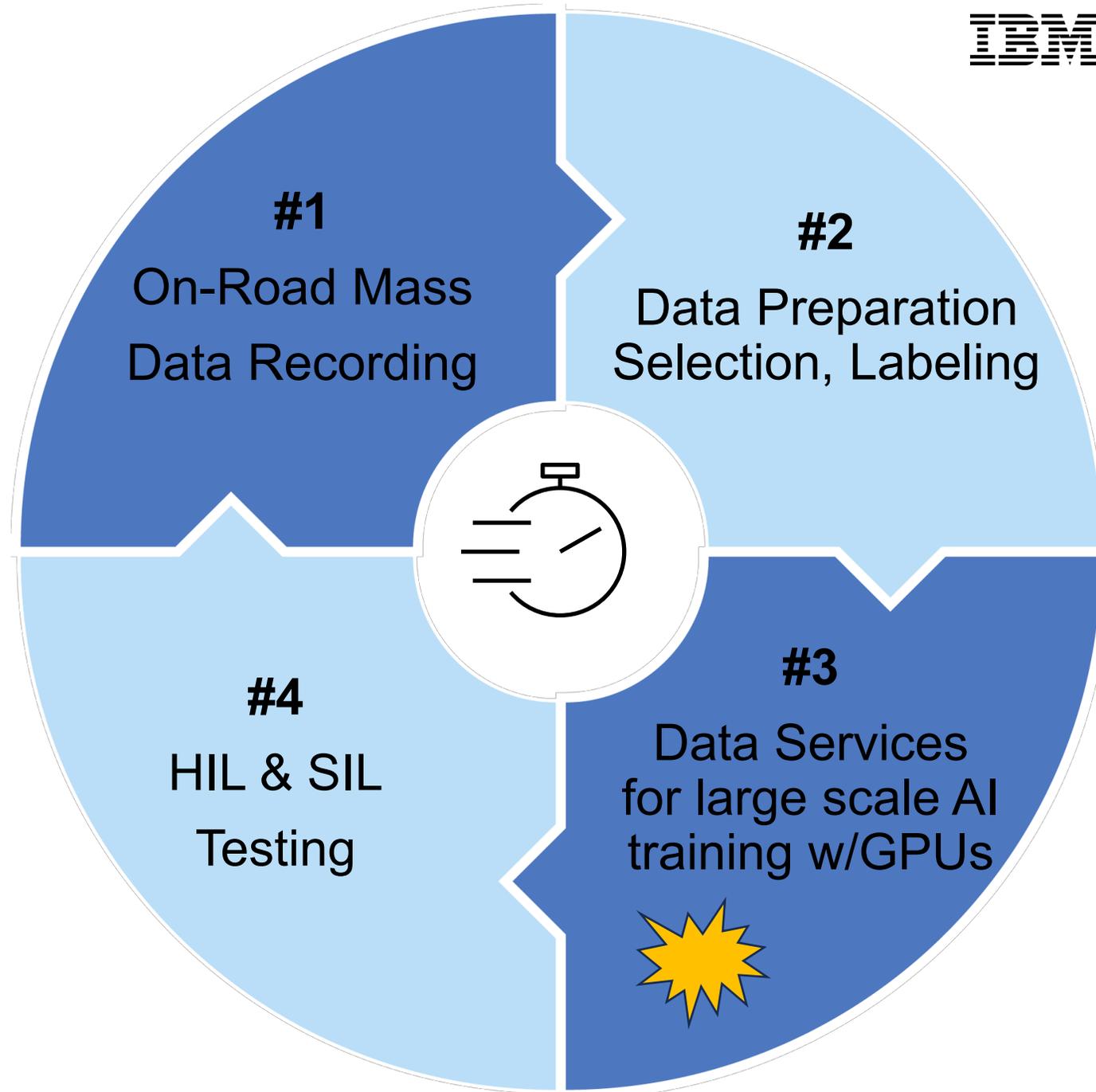
Data for Hardware-in-the-Loop (HIL) Testing dSPACE

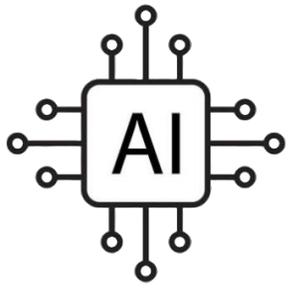
- Optimize Test Case Execution with minimal cloud egress fees.
- Support many communication protocols to connect.
- Optimized for comprehensive and scalable testing.



Long Term Data Archiving

- Secure and durable S3 object storage classes.
- Low cost and low energy archive of data.
- Long term retention, compliance, and digital preservation.



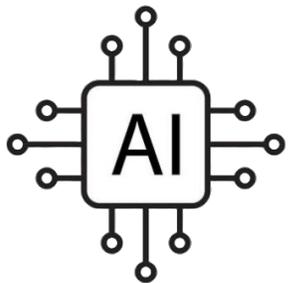


Q: How long will it take to train an LLM model like GPT-3 ?

A: See Paper <https://arxiv.org/pdf/2005.14165.pdf>

How much memory is required? GPT-3 requires **175 billion** parameters.

- Two bytes per parameter (**FP16**) means the total memory required is **350 GB**.
- Four bytes per parameter (**FP32**) means we need **700 GB** of memory.



Training LLMs is computationally intensive

GPT-3 Training Time on NVIDIA A100 GPUs



	Time to train 300B tokens in days (A100) – BF16			
	800 GPUs (5x DGX SuperPod)	480 GPUs (3x DGX SuperPod)	160 GPUs (1x DGX SuperPod)	64 GPUs (8x DGX A100)
GPT-3: 126M	0.07	0.12	0.37	0.92
GPT-3: 5B	0.8	1.3	3.9	9.8
GPT-3: 20B	3.6	6	18.1	45.3
GPT-3: 40B	6.6	10.9	32.8	82
GPT-3: 175B	28	46.7	140	349.9

x days (24h) A blue arrow pointing to the right, indicating the duration of the training process.

Dev Teams are faced with **data challenges** to scale AI



1 - There's more data

Exploding data growth

The aggregate volume of data stored is set to **grow over 250%** in the next 5 years.



2 - In more locations

Multiple locations, clouds, applications and silos

82% of enterprises are inhibited by data silos.



3 - In more formats

Documents, images, video

80% of time is spent on data cleaning, integration and preparation.



4 - With less quality

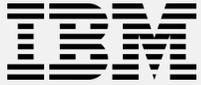
Stale and inconsistent

82% of enterprises say data quality is a barrier on their data integration projects.

IBM Global Data Platform helps to unlock the full potential of AI



Storage Scale & Storage Scale Systems

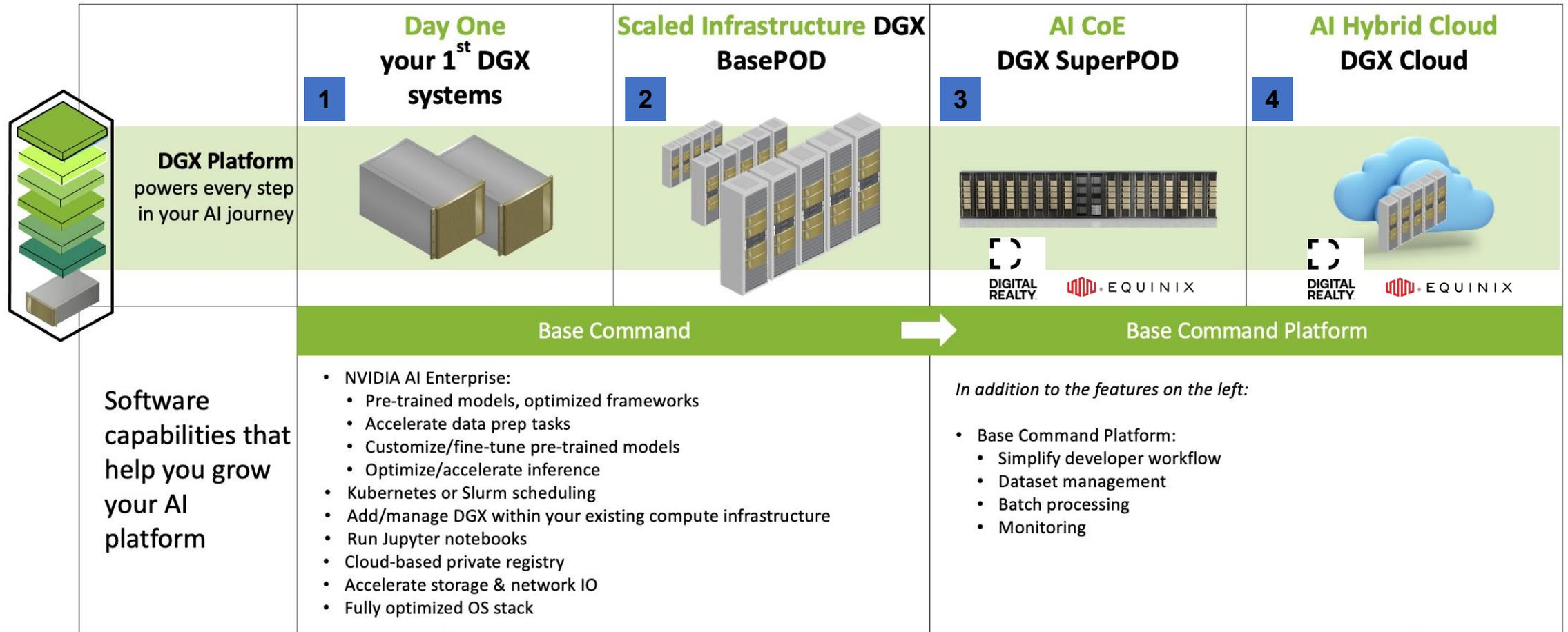


NVIDIA DGX BasePOD validated storage partner

- NVIDIA Base Command supported, includes Kubernetes (K8) platform (static/dynamic storage provision).
- Simple building blocks – scalable seamless storage upgrade path as needs grow from 1st DGX to AI CoE DGX SuperPOD
- NVIDIA MagnumIO (GDS) acceleration
- Faster, simplified deployments and upgrades with Ansible automation.

NVIDIA DGX SuperPOD validated storage partner

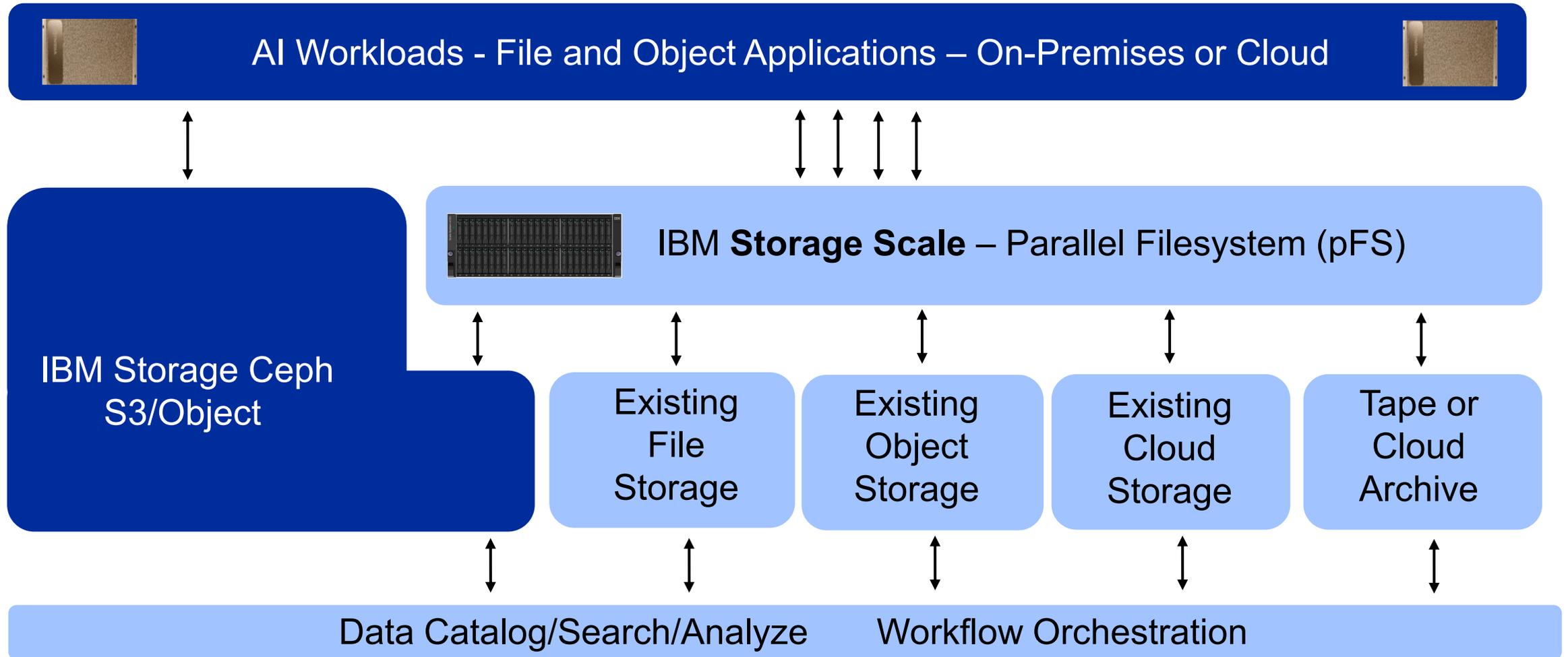
- Leading parallel performance on enterprise storage (6-9s availability)
- Global Data Platform: automate AI workflows: ingest to inference, high-performance object, multi-site, multi-vendor & hybrid cloud
- Data Economics – Eliminate copies and transparently tier
- Trusted, global enterprise level support and services.
- Successful deployments across the globe



IBM Global Data Platform (GDP) based on Storage Scale



Unifying Unstructured Data for AI workloads

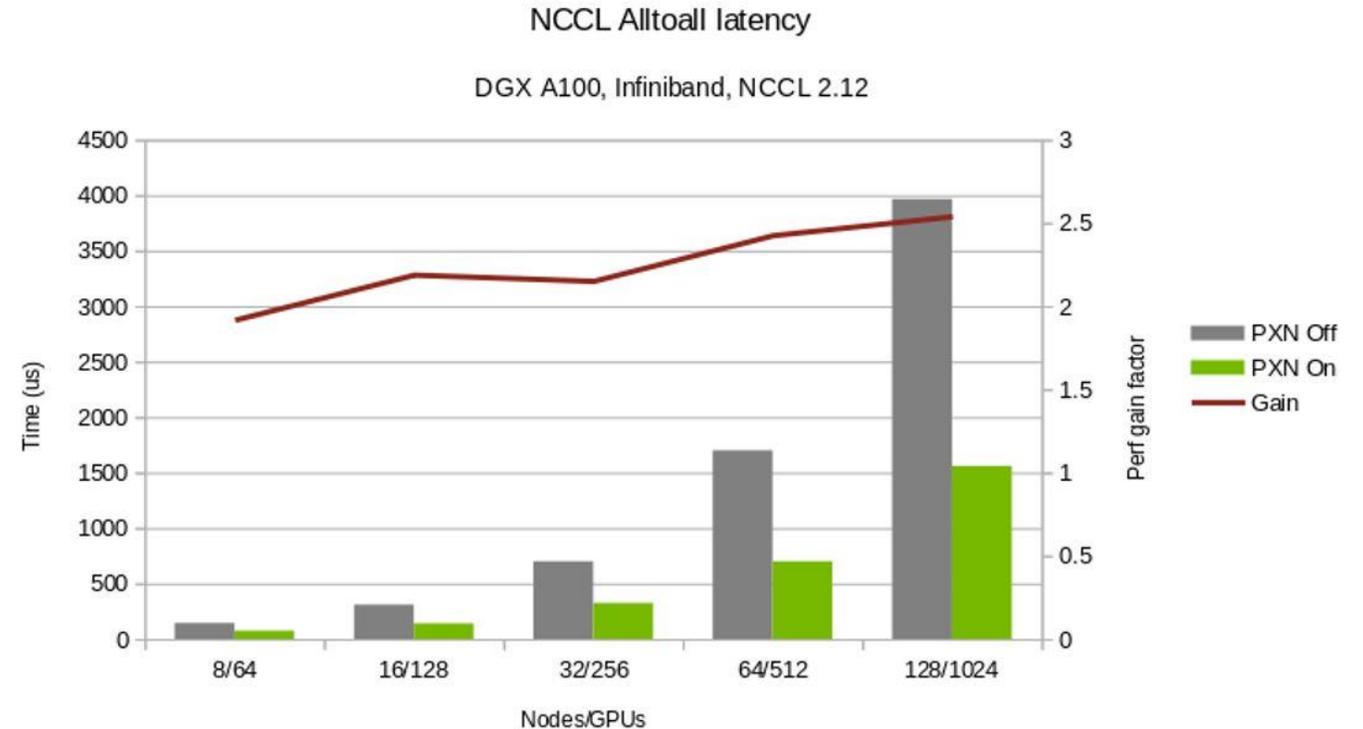
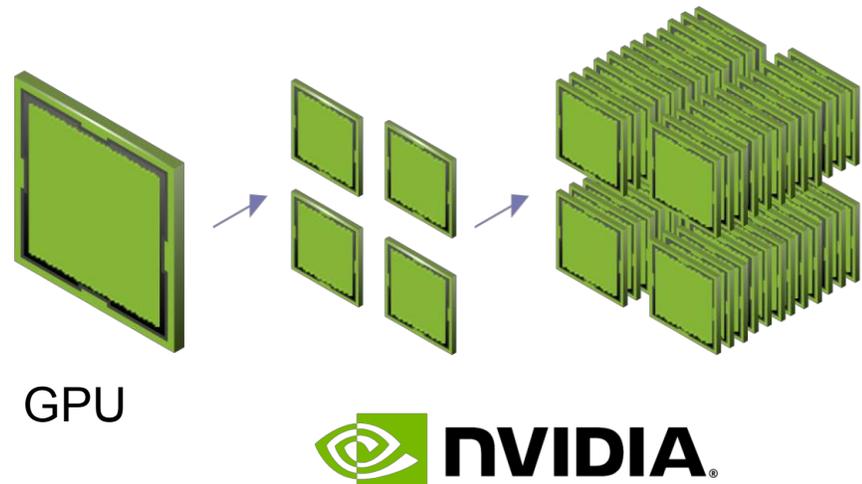


NVIDIA Collective Communications Library (NCCL)

NCCL provides fast collectives over multiple GPUs

The NVIDIA Collective Communication Library (NCCL) implements multi-GPU and multi-node communication primitives optimized for NVIDIA GPUs and Networking. NCCL provides routines such as **all-gather, all-reduce, broadcast, reduce, reduce-scatter** as well as **point-to-point send and receive** that are optimized to achieve high bandwidth and low latency over PCIe and NVLink high-speed interconnects within a node and over NVIDIA Mellanox Network across nodes.

<https://developer.nvidia.com/nccl>



NVIDIA GPUDirect RDMA and GPUDirect Storage



Enhancing Data Movement and Access for GPUs

GPUDirect RDMA is a technology in NVIDIA GPUs that enables direct data exchange between GPUs and a third-party peer device using PCI Express.

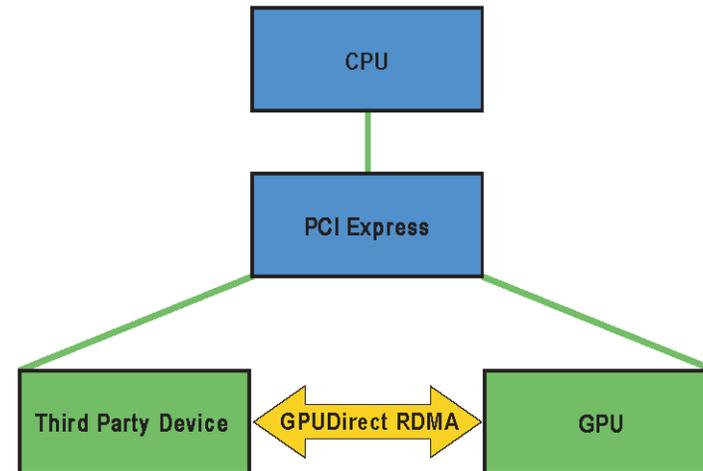
GPUDirect Storage (GDS) enables a direct data path between local or remote storage. GDS leverages direct memory access (DMA) transfers between GPU memory and storage, which avoids a bounce buffer through the CPU. This direct path increases system bandwidth and decreases the latency and utilization load on the CPU. To support GPUDirect RDMA, a user space CUDA APIs and kernel mode drivers are required.

<https://docs.nvidia.com/cuda/gpudirect-rdma/>

IBM 6000 GPUDirect Storage



NVIDIA-Certified Systems



A100 / H100 / GH200 / GB200

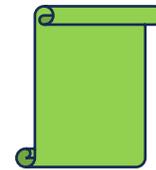


Nvidia DGX SuperPOD & DGX BasePOD

Enhancing Data Movement and Access for GPUs

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** offers leadership-class accelerated infrastructure and scalable performance for the most challenging AI workloads, with industry-proven results.

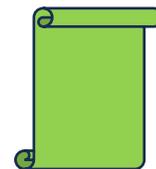
<https://www.nvidia.com/en-us/data-center/dgx-superpod/>



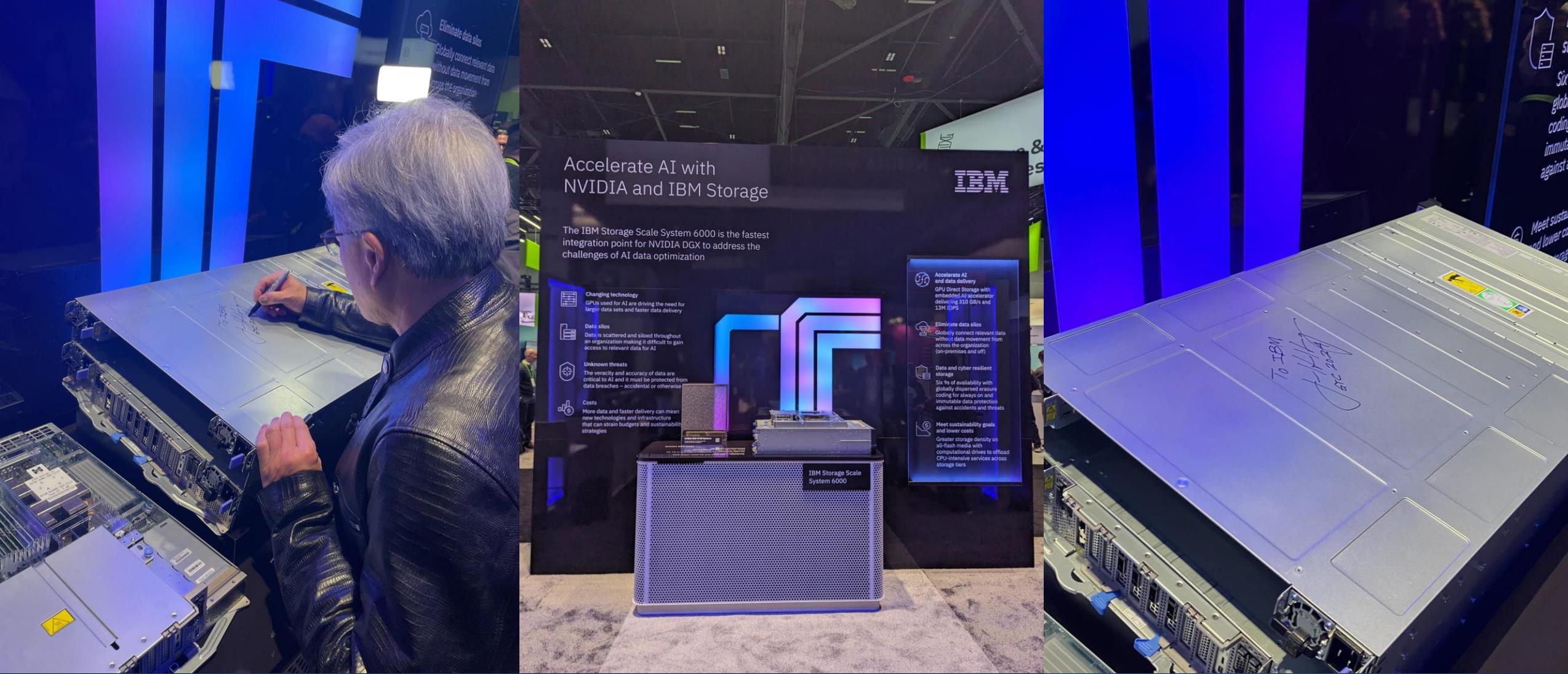
NVIDIA-Certified Systems

NVIDIA DGX BasePOD AI is powering mission-critical use cases in every industry—from healthcare to manufacturing to financial services. As part of the NVIDIA DGX platform, **NVIDIA DGX BasePOD** provides the critical foundation on which business transformation is realized and AI applications are born.

<https://www.nvidia.com/en-us/data-center/dgx-basepod/>



NVIDIA-Certified Systems



Accelerate AI with NVIDIA and IBM Storage



The IBM Storage Scale System 6000 is the fastest integration point for NVIDIA DGX to address the challenges of AI data optimization

- Changing technology**
GPUs used for AI are driving the need for larger data sets and faster data delivery.
- Data silos**
Data is scattered and siloed throughout an organization making it difficult to gain access to relevant data for AI.
- Unknown threats**
The veracity and accuracy of data are critical to AI and it must be protected from data breaches – accidental or otherwise.
- Costs**
More data and faster delivery can mean new technologies and infrastructure that can strain budgets and sustainability strategies.

- Accelerate AI and data delivery**
GPU Direct Storage with embedded AI accelerator delivering 110 GB/s and 13M IOPS.
- Eliminate data silos**
Globally connect relevant data without data movement from across the organization (on-premises and off).
- Data and cyber resilient storage**
Six 9s of availability with globally dispersed erasure coding for always on and immutable data protection against accidents and threats.
- Meet sustainability goals and lower costs**
Increase storage density on all-flash media with computational drives to offload CPU-intensive services across storage tiers.

Jensen @ IBM booth Nvidia GTC 2024 with IBM 6000

IBM Blue Vela AI Supercomputer (Compute)

Blue Vela AI supercomputer is based on NVIDIA reference HGX Platform guidelines. Dell PowerEdge XE9680 nodes each with 8x NVIDIA H100 GPUs (80 GB HBM)



IBM's AI supercomputer:

<https://research.ibm.com/blog/vela-ai-supercomputer-updates>

The infrastructure powering IBM's Gen AI model development

Talia Gershon* Seetharami Seelam* Brian Belgodere* Milton Bonilla* Lan Hoang Danny Barnett I-Hsin Chung Apoorve Mohan Ming-Hung Chen Lixiang Luo Robert Walkup Constantinos Evangelinos Shweta Salaria Marc Dombrowa Yoonho Park Apo Kayi Liran Schour Alim Alim Ali Sydney Pavlos Maniotis Laurent Schares Bernard Metzler Bengi Karacali-Akyamac Sophia Wen Tatsuhiro Chiba Sunyanan Choochoatkaew Takeshi Yoshimura Claudia Misale Tonia Elengikal Kevin O'Connor Zhuoran Liu Richard Molina Lars Schneidenbach James Caden Christopher Laibinis Carlos Fonseca Vasily Tarasov Swaminathan Sundararaman Frank Schmuck Scott Guthridge Jeremy Cohn Marc Eshel Paul Muench Runyu Liu William Pointer Drew Wyskida Bob Krull Ray Rose Brent Wolfe William Cornejo John Walter Colm Malone Clifford Perucci Frank Franco Nigel Hinds Bob Calio Pavel Druyan Robert Kilduff John Kienle Connor McStay Andrew Figueroa Matthew Connolly Edie Fost Gina Roma Jake Fonseca Ido Levy Michele Payne Ryan Schenkel Amir Malki Lion Schneider Aniruddha Narkhede Shekeba Moshref Alexandra Kisin Olga Dodin Bill Rippon Henry Wrieth John Ganci Johnny Colino Donna Habeger-Rose Rakesh Pandey Aditya Gidh Aditya Gaur Dennis Patterson Samsuddin Salmani Rambilas Varma Rumana Rumana Shubham Sharma Aditya Gaur Mayank Mishra Rameswar Panda Aditya Prasad Matt Stallone Gaoyuan Zhang Yikang Shen David Cox Ruchir Puri Dakshi Agrawal IBM Research

Drew Thorstensen Joel Belog Brent Tang Saurabh Kumar Gupta Amitabha Biswas Anup Maheshwari Eran Gampel Jason Van Patten Matthew Runion Sai Kaki Yigal Bogin Brian Reitz Steve Pritko Shahan Najam Surya Nambala Radhika Chirra Rick Welp Frank DiMitti Felipe Telles Amilcar Arvelo King Chu Ed Seminario Andrew Schram Felix Eickhoff William Hanson Eric McKeever Dinakaran Joseph Piyush Chaudhary Piyush Shivam Puneet Chaudhary Wesley Jones Robert Guthrie Chris Bostic Rezaul Islam Steve Duersch Wayne Sawdon John Lewars Matthew Klos Michael Spriggs Bill McMillan George Gao IBM Infrastructure

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Abstract

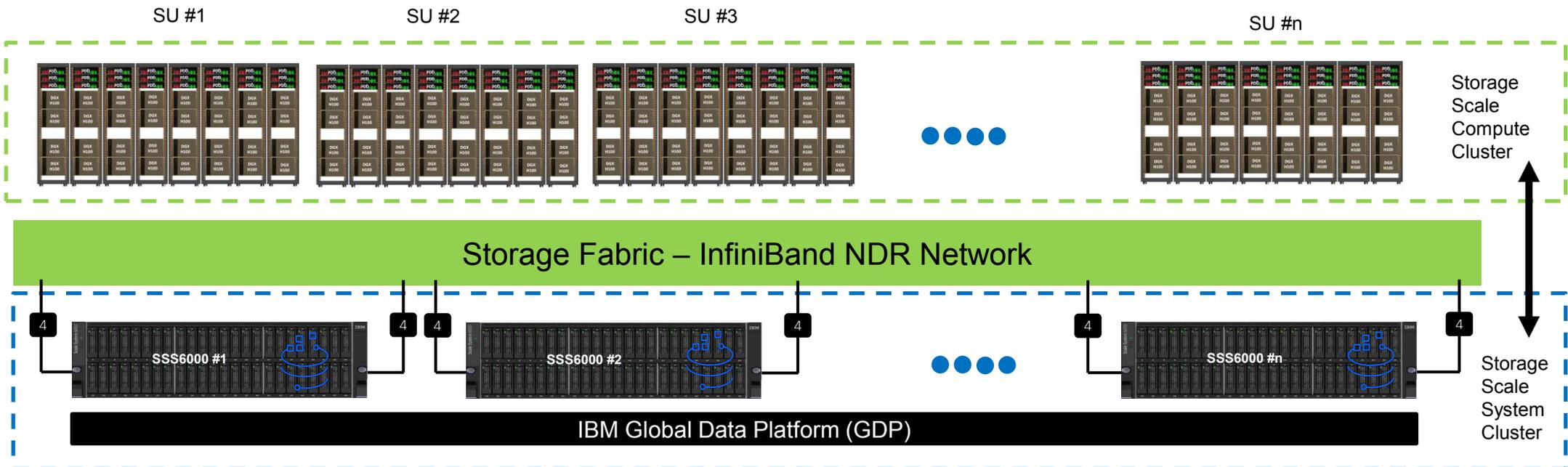
AI Infrastructure plays a key role in the speed and cost-competitiveness of developing and deploying advanced AI models. The current demand for powerful AI infrastructure for model training is driven by the emergence of generative AI and foundational models, where on occasion thousands of GPUs must cooperate on a single training job for the model to be trained in a reasonable time. Delivering efficient and high-performing AI training requires an end-to-end solution that combines hardware, software and holistic telemetry to cater for multiple types of AI workloads. In this report, we describe IBM's hybrid cloud infrastructure that powers our generative AI model development. This infrastructure includes (1)

IBM Blue Vela AI Supercomputer (Storage)

- AI Supercomputer scalable up to 5000 H100 HGX Systems
- Phase #2 will have 20 Scalable Units (SU)
- 32x SSS6000 planned for Phase #2
- NVIDIA NDR Network Fabric for both Compute and Storage
- Enterprise AI Service
- Training LLM Models with 100B+ Parameters
- Linear scaling of performance and capacity

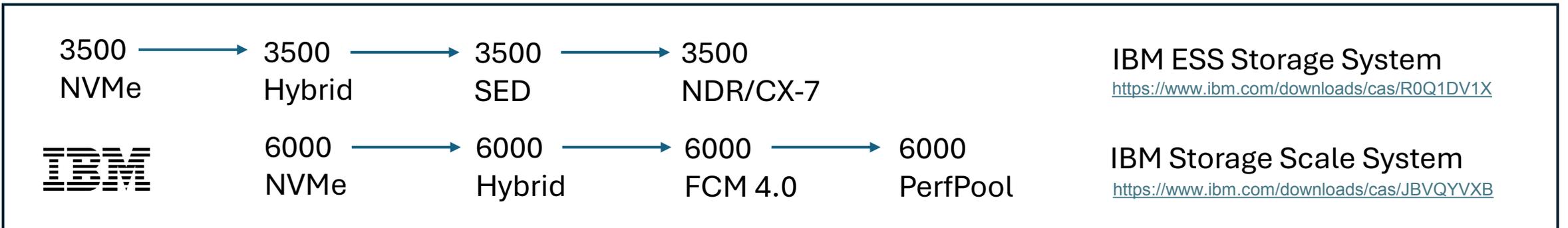
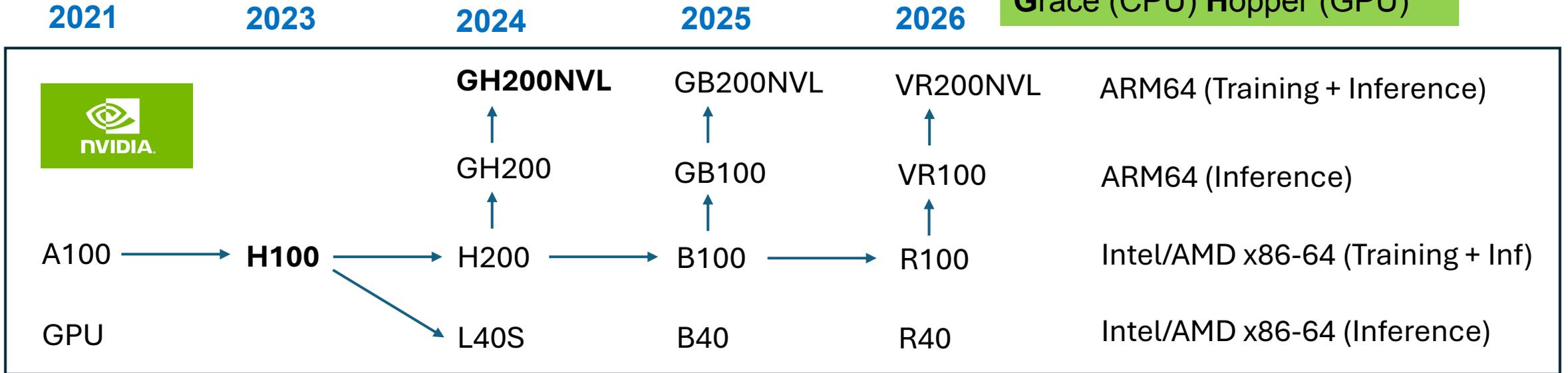
The key I/O operation in AI training is **re-read**. It is not just that data is read, but it must be reused again and again due to the iterative nature of AI training.

Write performance is important as AI models grow and time-to-train, writing checkpoints is necessary for fault tolerance. The size of checkpoint files can be terabytes in size.

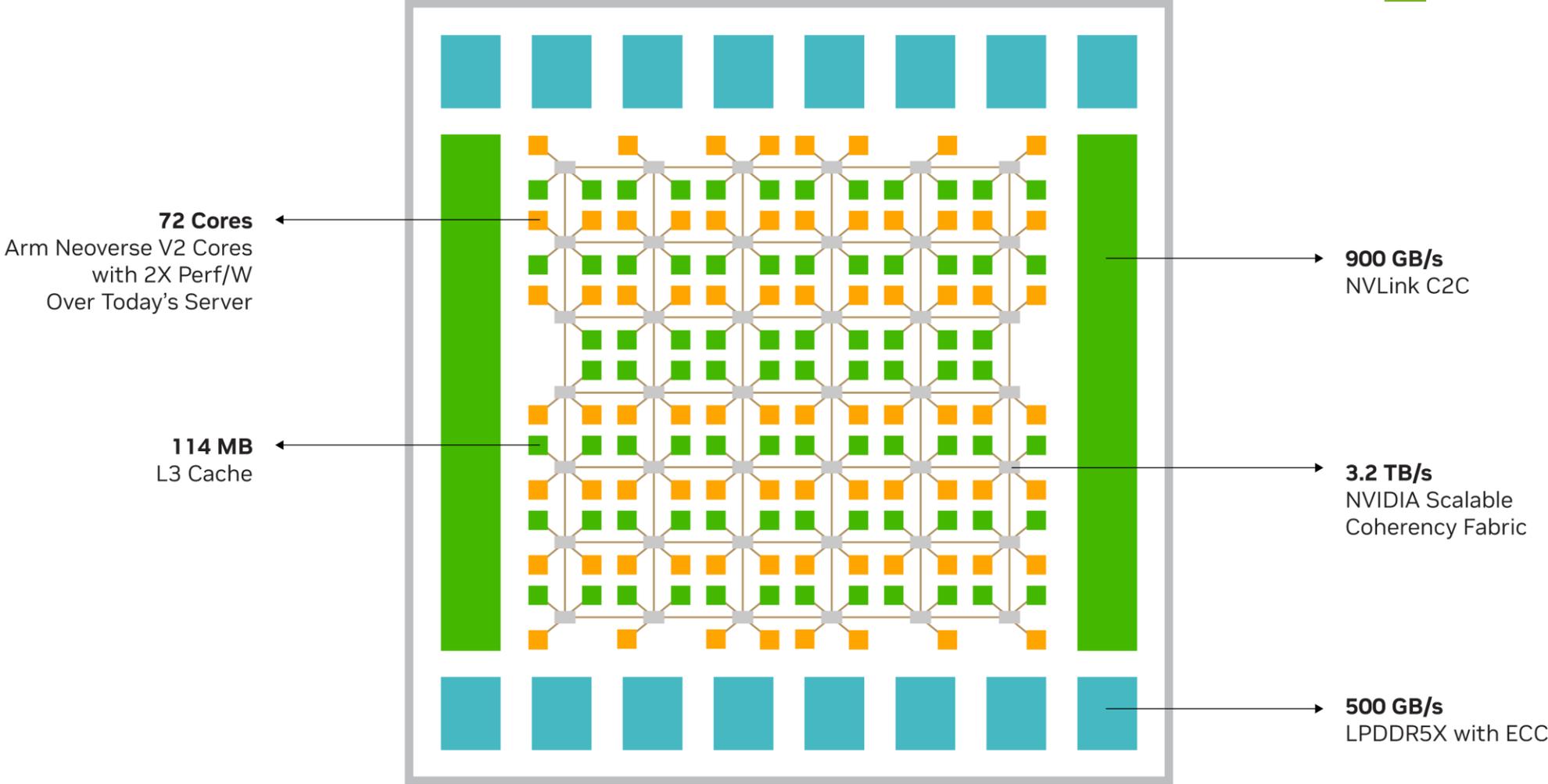


NVIDIA GPU Family + Networking + Storage4AI

x64 (CPU) Hopper (GPU)
Grace (CPU) Hopper (GPU)

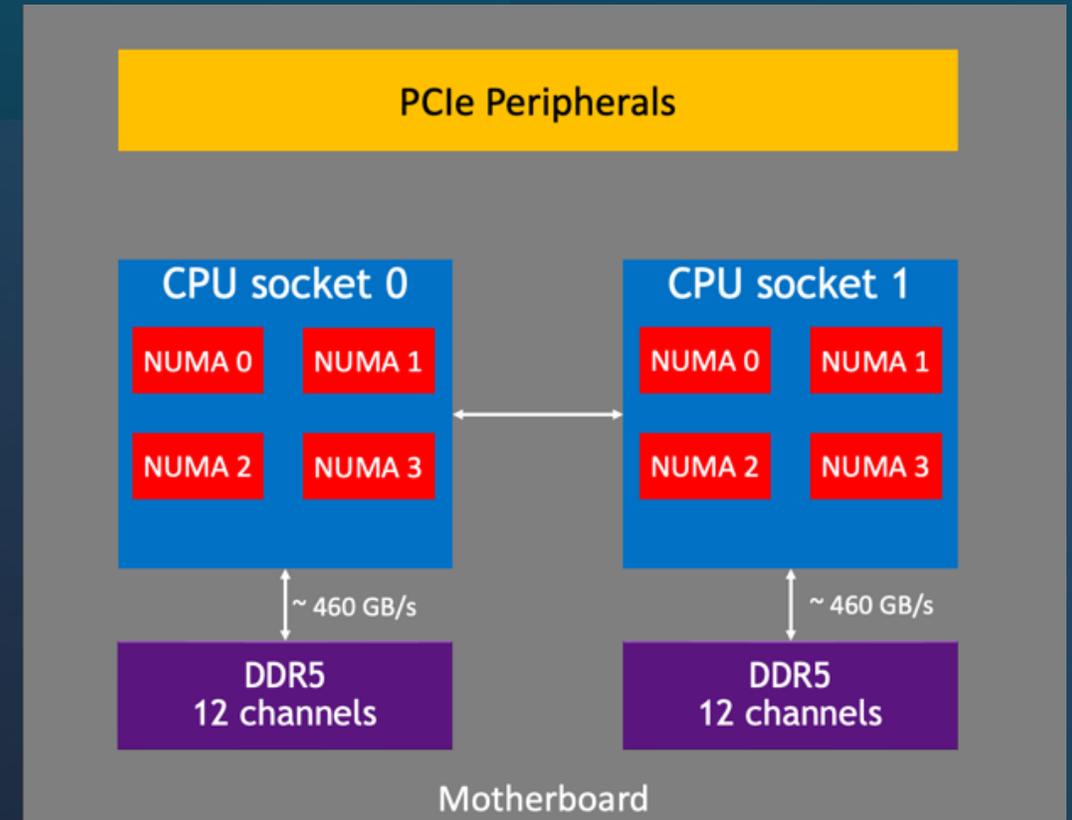
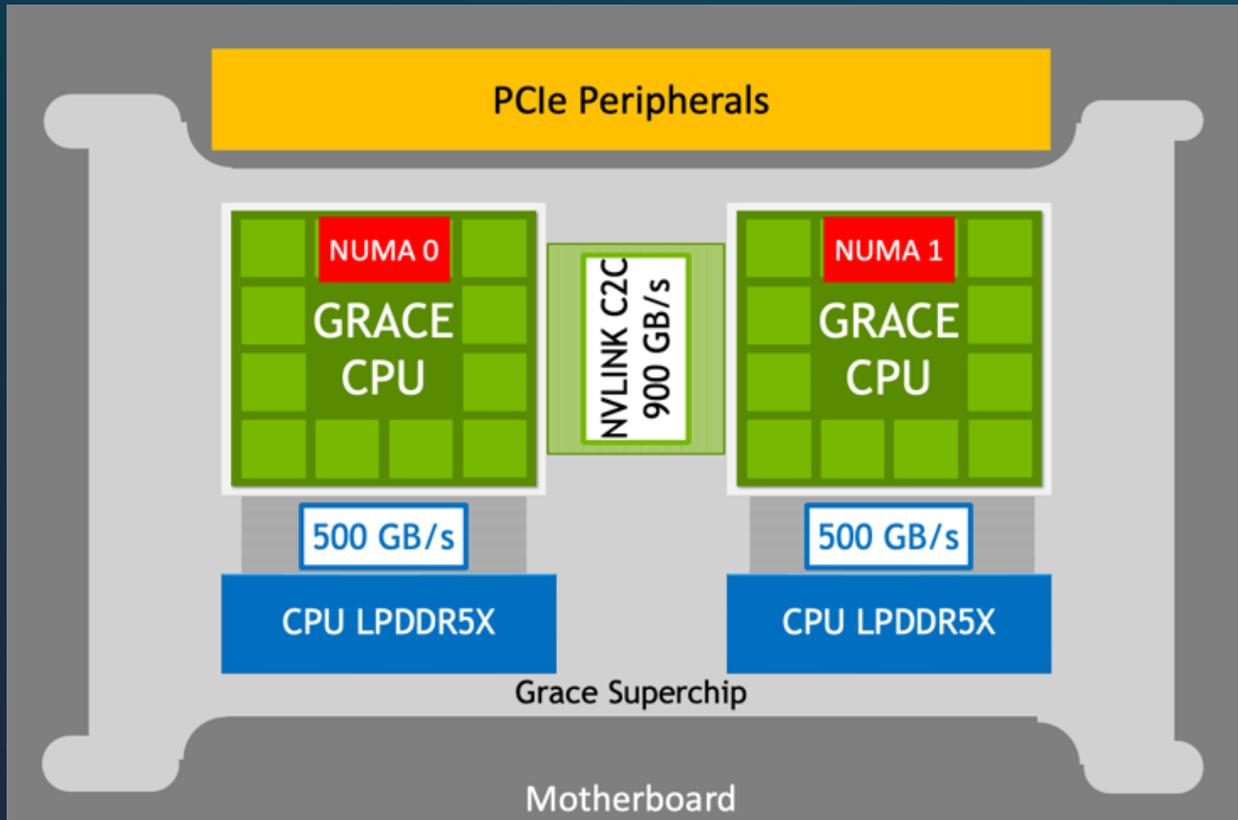


NVIDIA GRACE CPU Architecture



<https://developer.nvidia.com/blog/nvidia-grace-cpu-integrates-with-the-arm-software-ecosystem/>

NVIDIA GRACE SuperChip



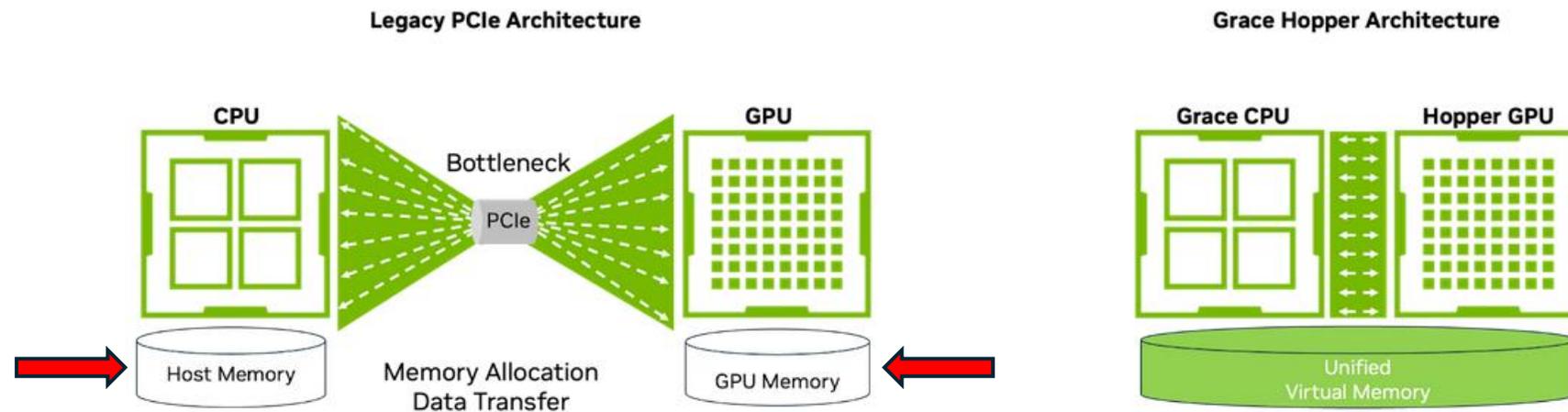
NVIDIA GH200 Grace Hopper (GH) Architecture



Grace CPU optimized for massive memory bandwidth and efficiency. It's based on **ARM** architecture and designed to work closely with the Hopper GPU.

Hopper GPU is designed for AI and HPC, featuring advanced capabilities like support for the new Transformer Engine, which is crucial for training large AI models.

The architecture uses NVLink-C2C technology to connect the Grace CPU and Hopper GPU directly, allowing them to **share memory and data** seamlessly. This tight integration leads to significant improvements in performance, efficiency, and scalability, especially for data-intensive applications like AI model training and scientific simulations.



NVIDIA's **NVLink-C2C** (Chip-to-Chip) is a high-speed, low-latency interconnect technology designed to link multiple chips directly, such as GPUs, CPUs, or custom accelerators, on the same board. It enables faster communication between these components, reducing bottlenecks and improving overall system performance, particularly in high-performance computing and AI workloads.



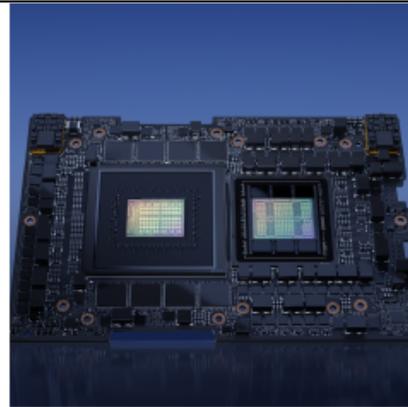
NVIDIA GH200 Grace Hopper Superchip

The breakthrough accelerated CPU for large-scale AI and high-performance computing (HPC) applications.

The World's Most Versatile Computing Platform

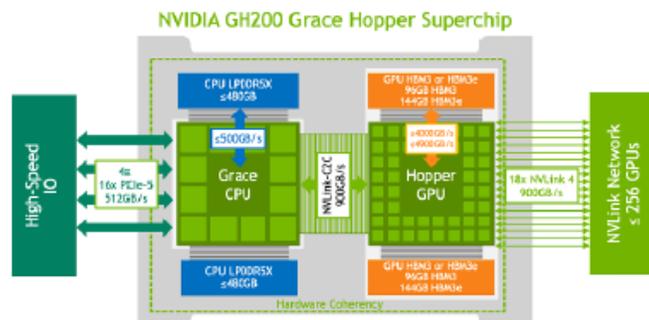
The NVIDIA Grace Hopper™ architecture brings together the groundbreaking performance of the NVIDIA Hopper™ GPU with the versatility of the NVIDIA Grace™ CPU in a single superchip, connected with the high-bandwidth, memory-coherent NVIDIA® NVLink® Chip-2-Chip (C2C) interconnect.

NVIDIA NVLink-C2C is a memory-coherent, high-bandwidth, and low-latency interconnect for superchips. The heart of the GH200 Grace Hopper Superchip, it delivers up to 900 gigabytes per second (GB/s) of total bandwidth, which is 7X higher than PCIe Gen5 lanes commonly used in accelerated systems. NVLink-C2C enables applications to oversubscribe the GPU's memory and directly utilize NVIDIA Grace CPU's memory at high bandwidth. With up to 480GB of LPDDR5X CPU memory per GH200 Grace Hopper Superchip, the GPU has direct access to 7X more fast memory than HBM3 or almost 8X more fast memory with HBM3e. GH200 can be easily deployed in standard servers to run a variety of inference, data analytics, and other compute and memory-intensive workloads. GH200 can also be combined with the NVIDIA NVLink Switch System, with all GPU threads running on up to 256 NVLink-connected GPUs and able to access up to 144 terabytes (TB) of memory at high bandwidth.



Key Features

- > 72-core NVIDIA Grace CPU
- > NVIDIA H100 Tensor Core GPU
- > Up to 480GB of LPDDR5X memory with error-correction code (ECC)
- > Supports 96GB of HBM3 or 144GB of HBM3e
- > Up to 624GB of fast-access memory
- > NVLink-C2C: 900GB/s of coherent memory



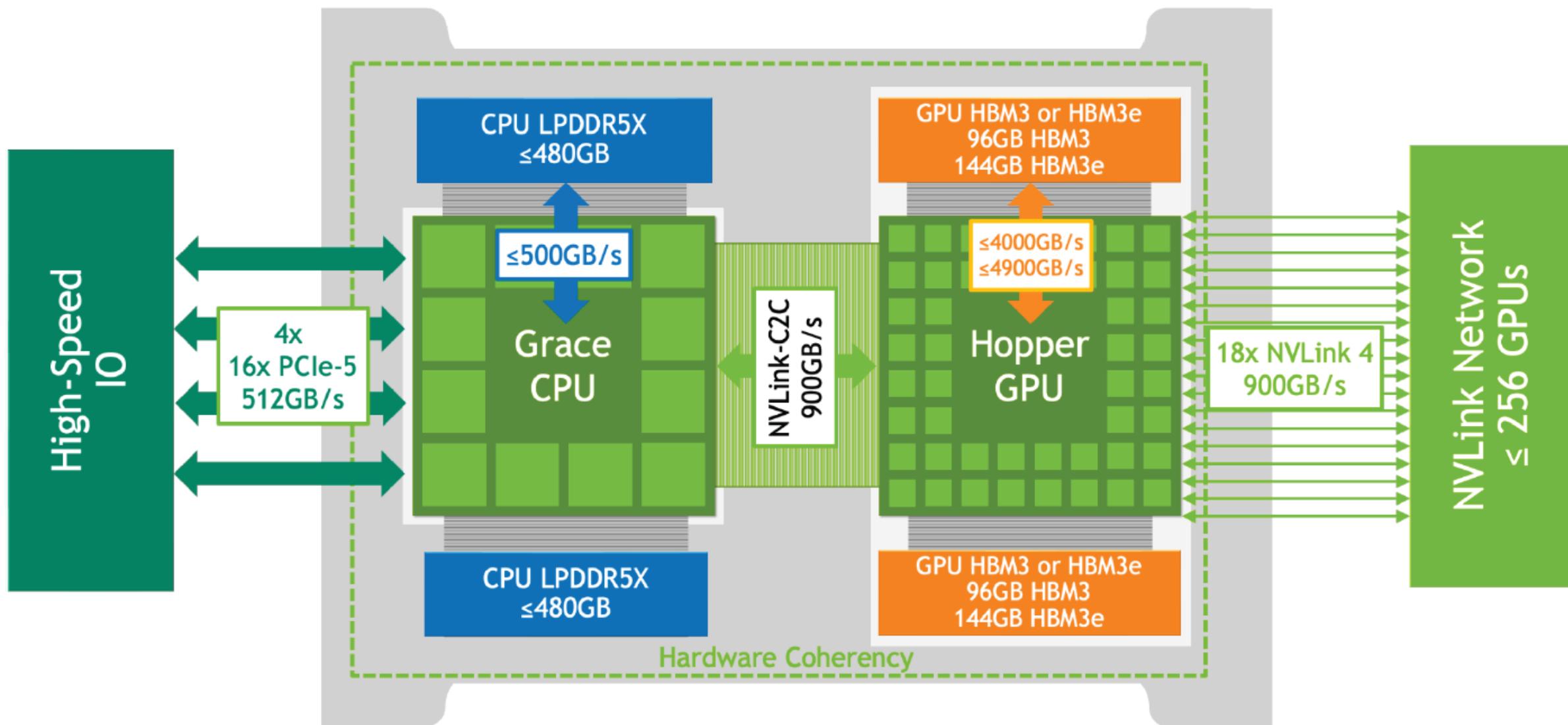
NVIDIA Grace Hopper GH200 Superchip Architecture

The NVIDIA Grace Hopper Superchip architecture brings together the performance of the **NVIDIA Hopper GPU** with the of the **NVIDIA Grace CPU**, connected with a high bandwidth and memory coherent NVIDIA NVLink Chip-2-Chip (C2C) interconnect in a single chip, and support for the new NVIDIA NVLink Switch System.

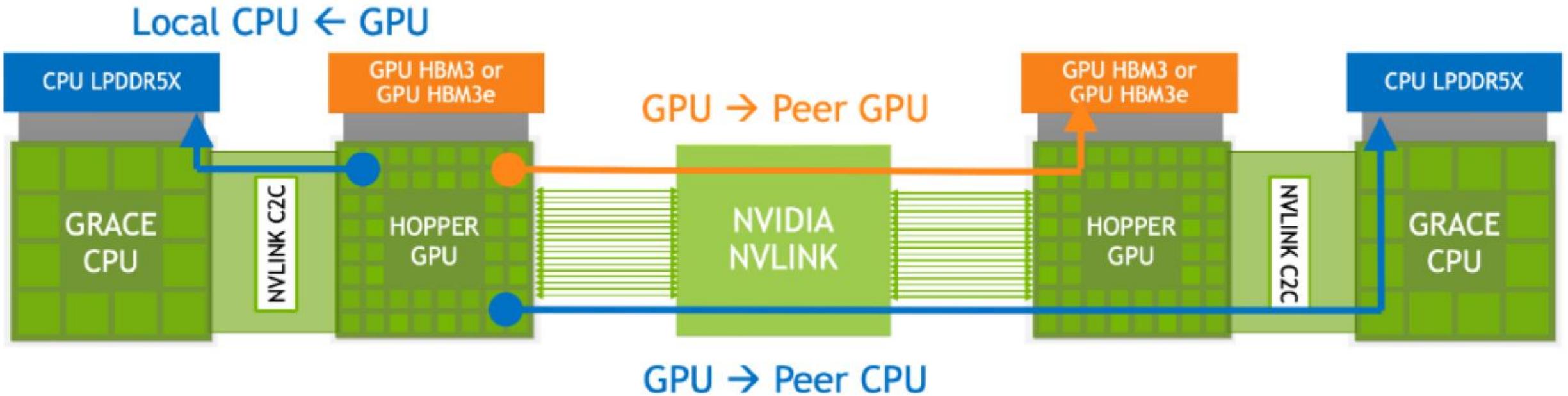
NVLink-C2C enables applications to oversubscribe the GPU's memory and directly utilize NVIDIA Grace CPU's memory at high bandwidth. With up to **512 GB of LPDDR5X CPU** memory per Grace Hopper Superchip, the GPU has direct high-bandwidth access to 4x more memory than what is available with HBM. Combined with the NVIDIA NVLink Switch System, all GPU threads running on up to 256 NVLink-connected GPUs can now access up to 150 TB of memory at high bandwidth. Fourth-generation NVLink enables accessing peer memory using direct loads, stores, and atomic operations, enabling accelerated applications to solve larger problems.

<https://resources.nvidia.com/en-us-grace-cpu/nvidia-grace-hopper-2>

NVIDIA GH200 Grace Hopper Superchip

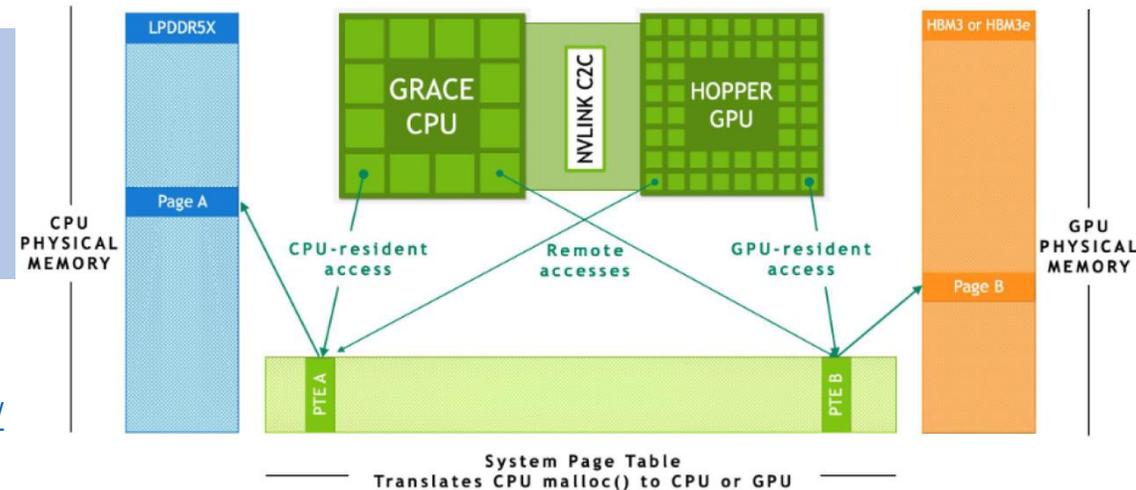


Accelerating AI Applications with Extended GPU Memory



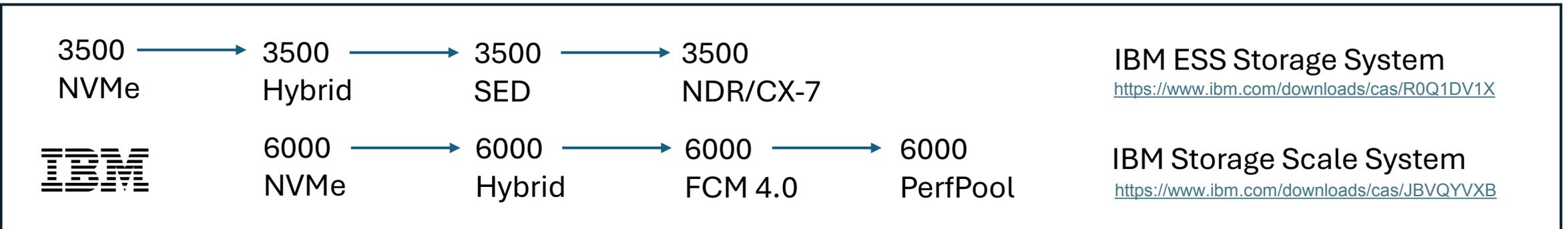
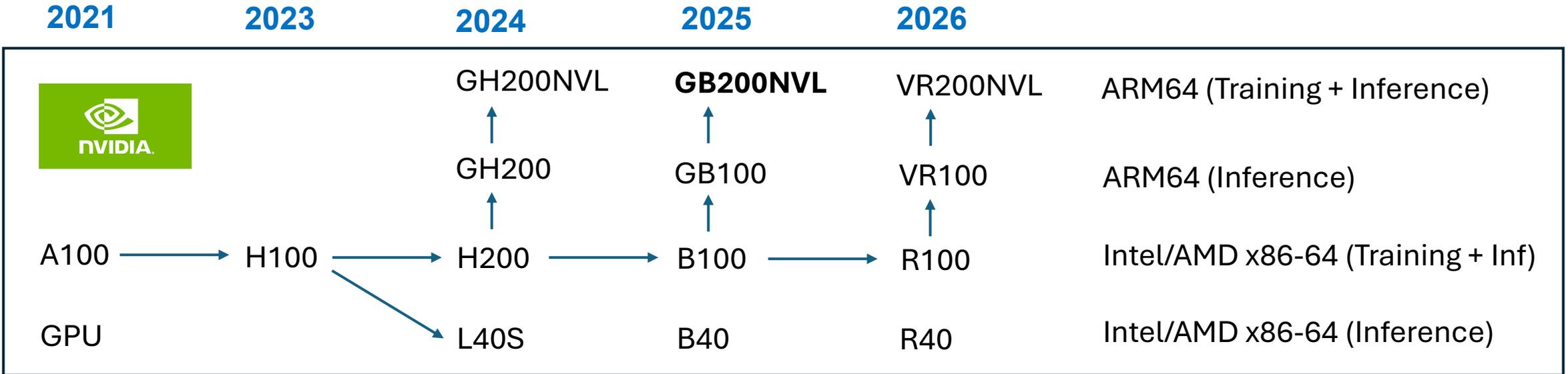
The Extended GPU Memory (EGM) feature over the high-bandwidth NVLink-C2C enables GPUs to access all the system memory efficiently. EGM provides up to 19.5 TBs system memory in a multi-node NVSwitch-connected system.

Source: <https://developer.nvidia.com/blog/nvidia-grace-hopper-superchip-architecture-in-depth/>



NVIDIA GPU Family + Networking + Storage4AI

Grace (CPU) Blackwell (GPU)
Vera (CPU) Rubin (GPU)





NVIDIA Blackwell

The engine of the new industrial revolution.



Breaking Barriers in Accelerated Computing

The NVIDIA Blackwell architecture introduces groundbreaking advancements for generative AI and accelerated computing. The incorporation of the second-generation Transformer Engine, alongside the faster and wider NVIDIA NVLink™ interconnect, propels the data center into a new era, with orders of magnitude more performance compared to the previous architecture generation. Further advances in NVIDIA Confidential Computing technology raise the level of security for real-time LLM inference at scale without performance compromise. And Blackwell's new decompression engine combined with Spark RAPIDS™ libraries deliver unparalleled database performance to fuel data analytics applications. Blackwell's multiple advancements build upon generations of accelerated computing technologies to define the next chapter of generative AI with unparalleled performance, efficiency, and scale.

NVIDIA GB200 NVL72

Powering the New Era of Computing



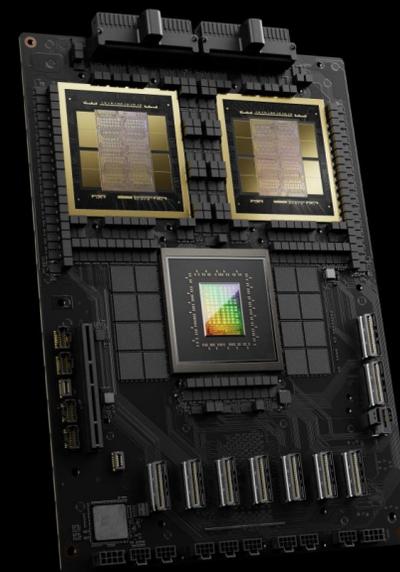
Key Offerings

- > NVIDIA GB200 NVL72
- > NVIDIA HGX B200

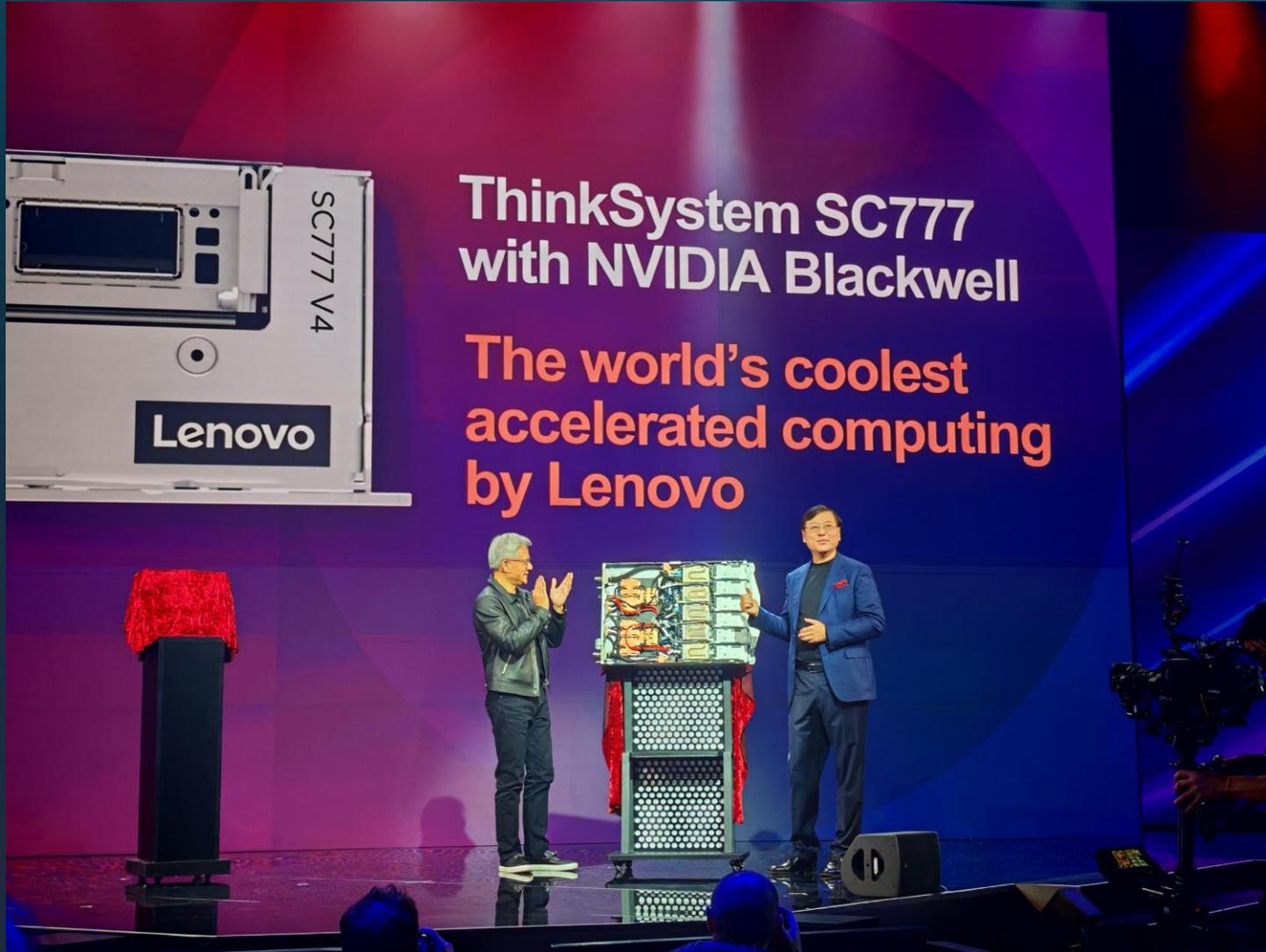


NVIDIA Grace Blackwell GB200 Superchip Architecture

The NVIDIA GB200 NVL72 connects 36 GB200 Grace Blackwell Superchips with 36 Grace CPUs and 72 Blackwell GPUs in a rack-scale design. The GB200 NVL72 is a liquid-cooled solution with a 72-GPU NVLink domain that acts as a single massive GPU—delivering 30X faster real-time inference for trillion-parameter large language models.

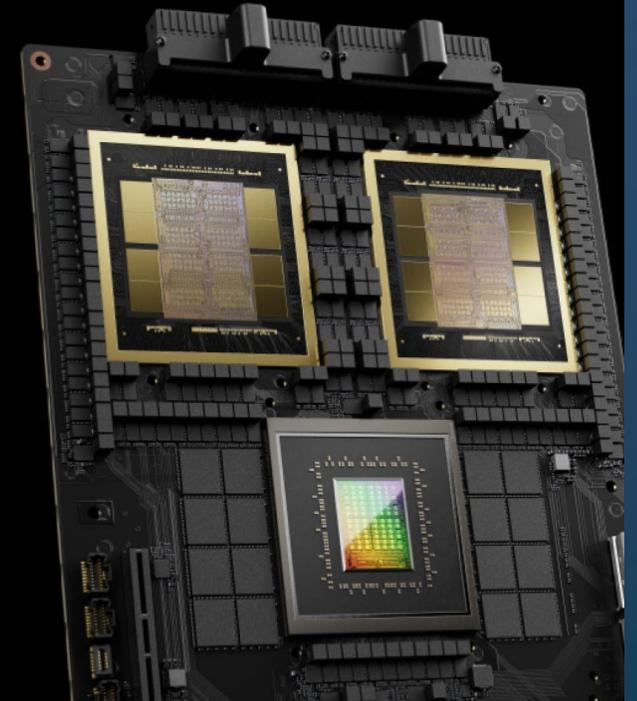


NVIDIA GB200 Grace Blackwell Superchip

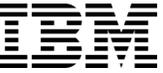


New AI Supercomputer to
Accelerate Model Training

NVIDIA GB200 NVL72
+ IBM Storage Scale



CoreWeave Partners with IBM to Deliver New AI Supercomputer for IBM Granite Models



YORKTOWN HEIGHTS, N.Y. – **January 15, 2025** – CoreWeave, the AI Hyperscaler, today announced its plans to deliver one of the first NVIDIA GB200 Grace Blackwell Superchip-enabled AI supercomputers to IBM, equipped with **NVIDIA GB200 NVL72** systems, interconnected with NVIDIA Quantum-2 InfiniBand networking. IBM will use CoreWeave’s highly performant, reliable, and resilient cloud platform to train the next generations of its Granite models, IBM’s open source, enterprise-ready series of AI models that deliver state-of-the-art performance relative to model size while maximizing safety, speed, and cost-efficiency for enterprise use cases.

The supercomputer will leverage **IBM Storage Scale System 6000**, which is combined with NVMe flash technology to deliver high-performance storage for AI, data analytics, and other demanding workloads. As part of this agreement, CoreWeave customers can access the IBM Storage platform within CoreWeave’s dedicated environments and AI cloud platform.

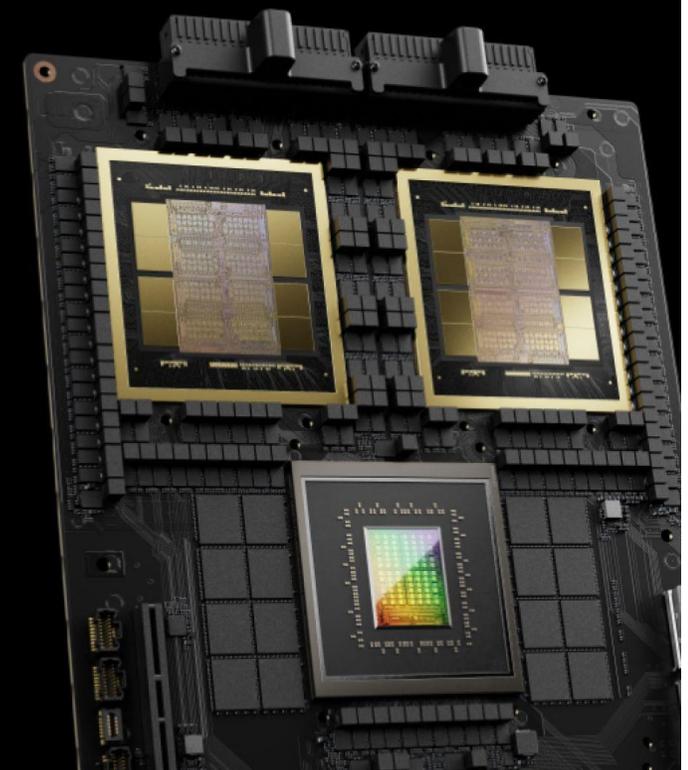
<https://newsroom.ibm.com/2025-01-15-coreweave-partners-with-ibm-to-deliver-new-ai-supercomputer-for-ibm-granite-models>
<https://www.coreweave.com/blog/coreweave-becomes-the-first-cloud-provider-with-generally-available-nvidia-gb200-nvl72-instances>



IBM Storage Scale System 6000
GPUDirect enabled NVMe Storage

New AI Supercomputer to Accelerate **Model Training**

NVIDIA GB200 NVL72
+ IBM Storage Scale



Redpaper:

IBM Storage Scale System 6000 with NVIDIA DGX SuperPOD **Deployment Guide**

IBM Redbook REDP-5746-00

Authors: Chris Maestas, Ana Gabriela Iturbe Desentis, Phillip Gerrard, Kiran Ghag, Nikhil Khandelwal, Matthew Klos, John Lewars, Jesus Daniel Munoz Lopez, Roger E. Sanders, Sanjay Sudam, Lindsay Todd and Joanna Wong

<https://www.redbooks.ibm.com/redpapers/pdfs/redp5746.pdf>

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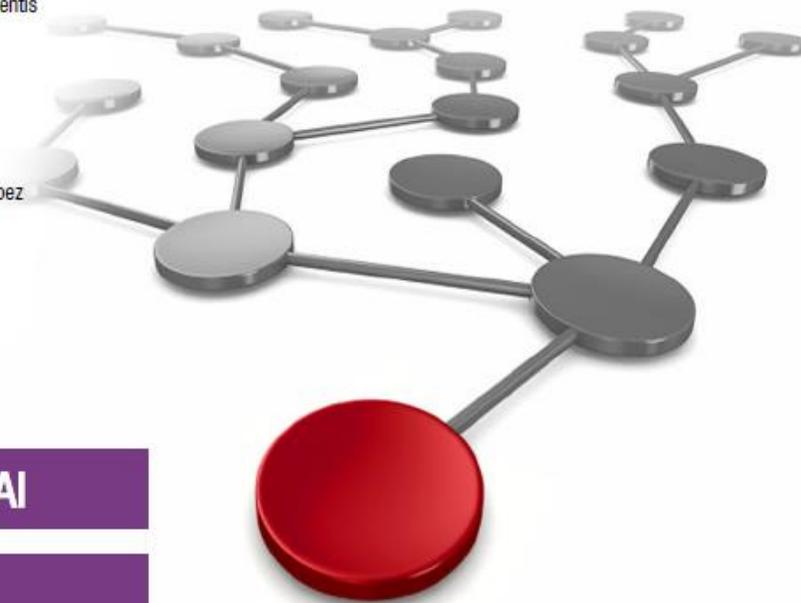
- Chapter 1. Introduction and technical overview
- Chapter 2. Architecture
- Chapter 3. Deployment
- Chapter 4. Server tuning

Appendix A. IBM Storage Scale System 6000 hosts file for NVIDIA DGX SuperPOD
Appendix B. IBM Storage Scale System NVIDIA DGX SuperPOD Solution Network Installation Worksheet



IBM Storage Scale System 6000 with NVIDIA DGX SuperPOD Deployment Guide

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Data and AI

Storage

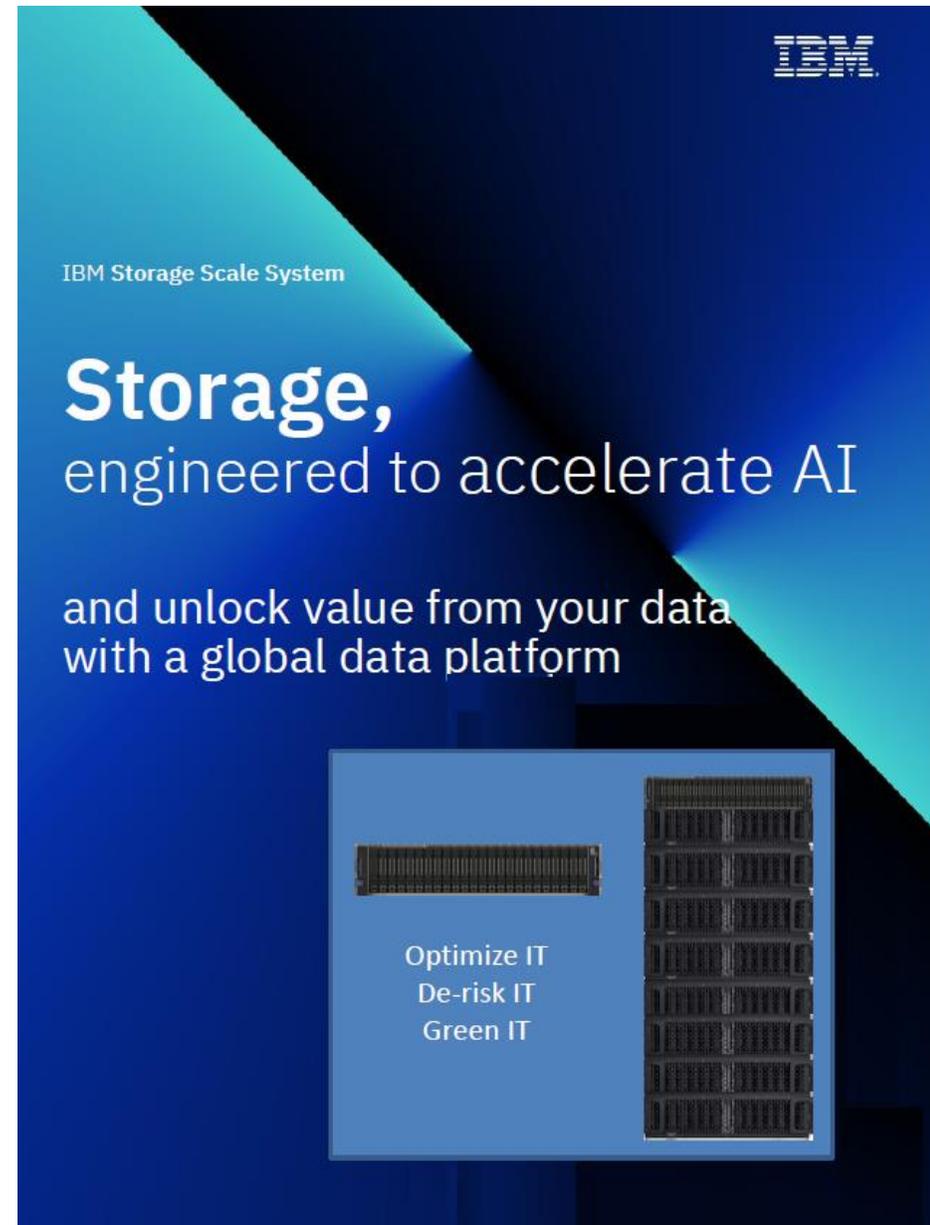
IBM

Redpaper

IBM Global Data Platform (GDP) for AI

<https://www.ibm.com/downloads/cas/NO6AGVVK>

- Data Access Services (DAS) with multi-protocol performance that connects directly to your file and object applications with multiple parallel paths.
- Data Caching or Core Services (AFM) that provide global connectivity from multiple data sources and multiple locations to bring together data from IBM and non-IBM storage environments.
- Data Management Services with policy automation that transparently helps manage the flow of data and take much of the complexity out of day-to-day data management.
- Data Security Services that provide cyber secure automation to ensure your data is protected and safe and quickly recoverable when needed.



IBM

IBM Storage Scale System

Storage,
engineered to accelerate AI

and unlock value from your data
with a global data platform

Optimize IT
De-risk IT
Green IT

The graphic features a dark blue background with a light blue diagonal stripe. It includes the IBM logo in the top right corner. The main text is centered and reads 'Storage, engineered to accelerate AI' and 'and unlock value from your data with a global data platform'. Below this, there is a smaller image of a server rack with the text 'Optimize IT', 'De-risk IT', and 'Green IT' overlaid on it.

IBM Storage Scale System is designed to optimize, secure and unlock AI data

Why IBM Storage for AI?

 Reliability & Data Durability. Zero Data loss. Self-healing. Autonomic failure domains.

 Data Security & Governance. Encryption. Regulatory compliance.

 Scalability. On-demand horizontal scaling. Autonomic re-balancing. Non-disruptive. Tiering support.

 CapEx Efficiency. Runs on low-cost standard technology servers. NVMe and/or HDDs.

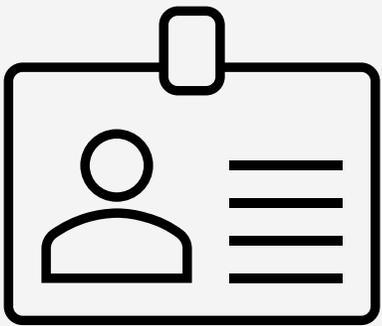
 OpEx Efficiency. Easy deployment, upgrades and maintenance via Ansible automation.

 Flexibility & Universal. Object, File, and Block access protocols.

 Hybrid Cloud. Having seamless access to data on-prem and on-cloud providers.



Thank you

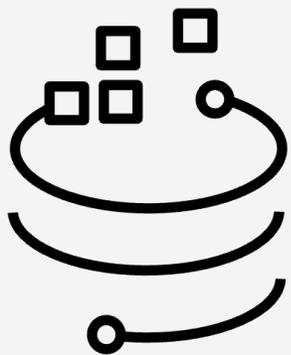


Frank Kraemer (IBM)

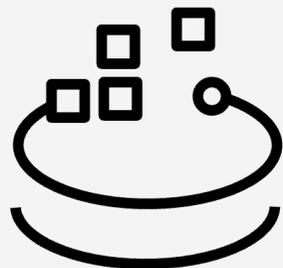
<mailto:kraemerf@de.ibm.com>



Thank you for using



Storage Scale



Storage Scale

System

