
Ethernet Applications & Standard Developments

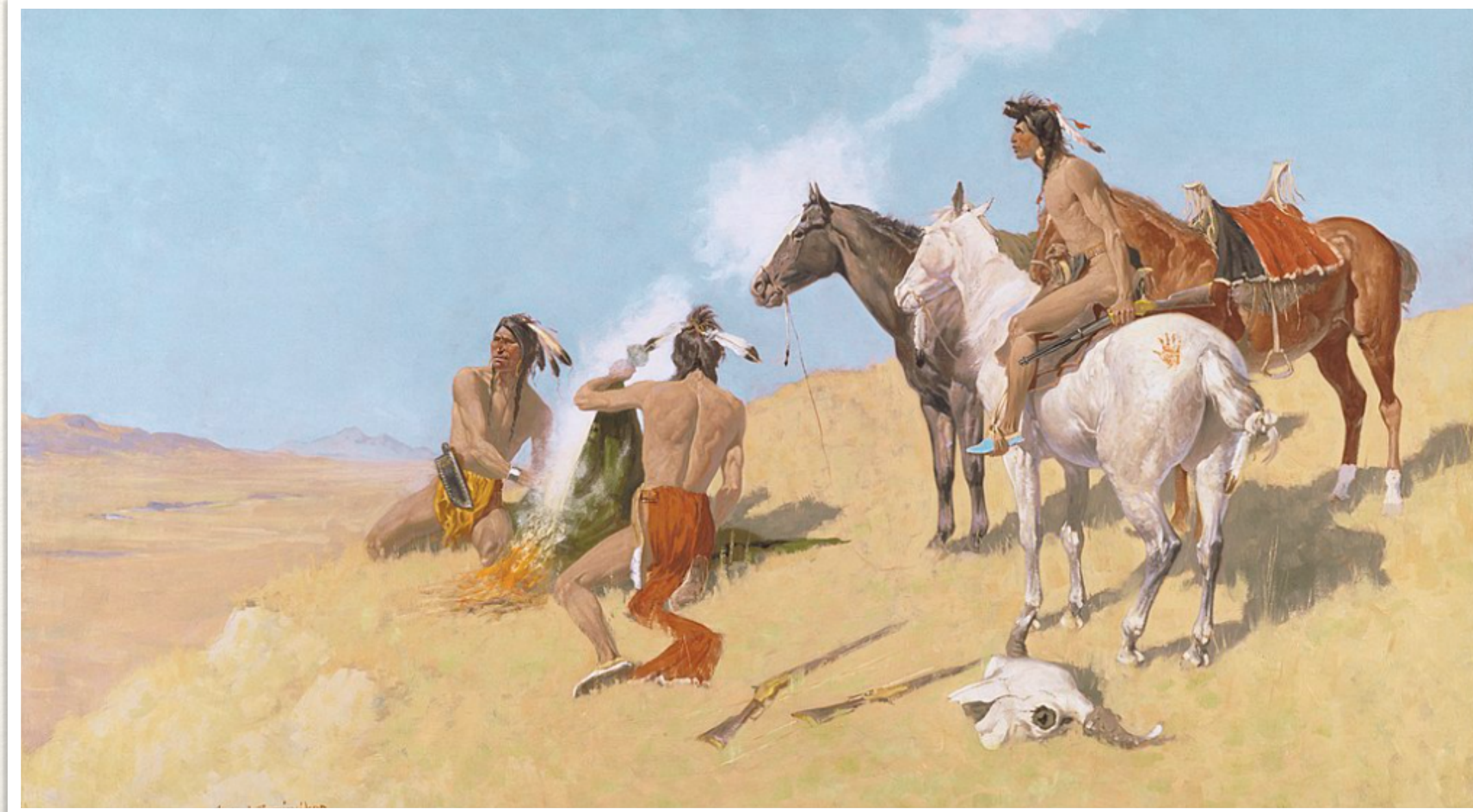
Mau-Lin Wu
2023/05/01



Outline

- ❖ Our daily life
- ❖ Ethernet applications
 - ❖ data center to automotive
- ❖ Ethernet technology - Optical to Electrical
 - ❖ Serdes & channel coding
- ❖ IEEE standard meeting
- ❖ Lessons learned
- ❖ Summary

Our Daily Life



Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Smoke_signal



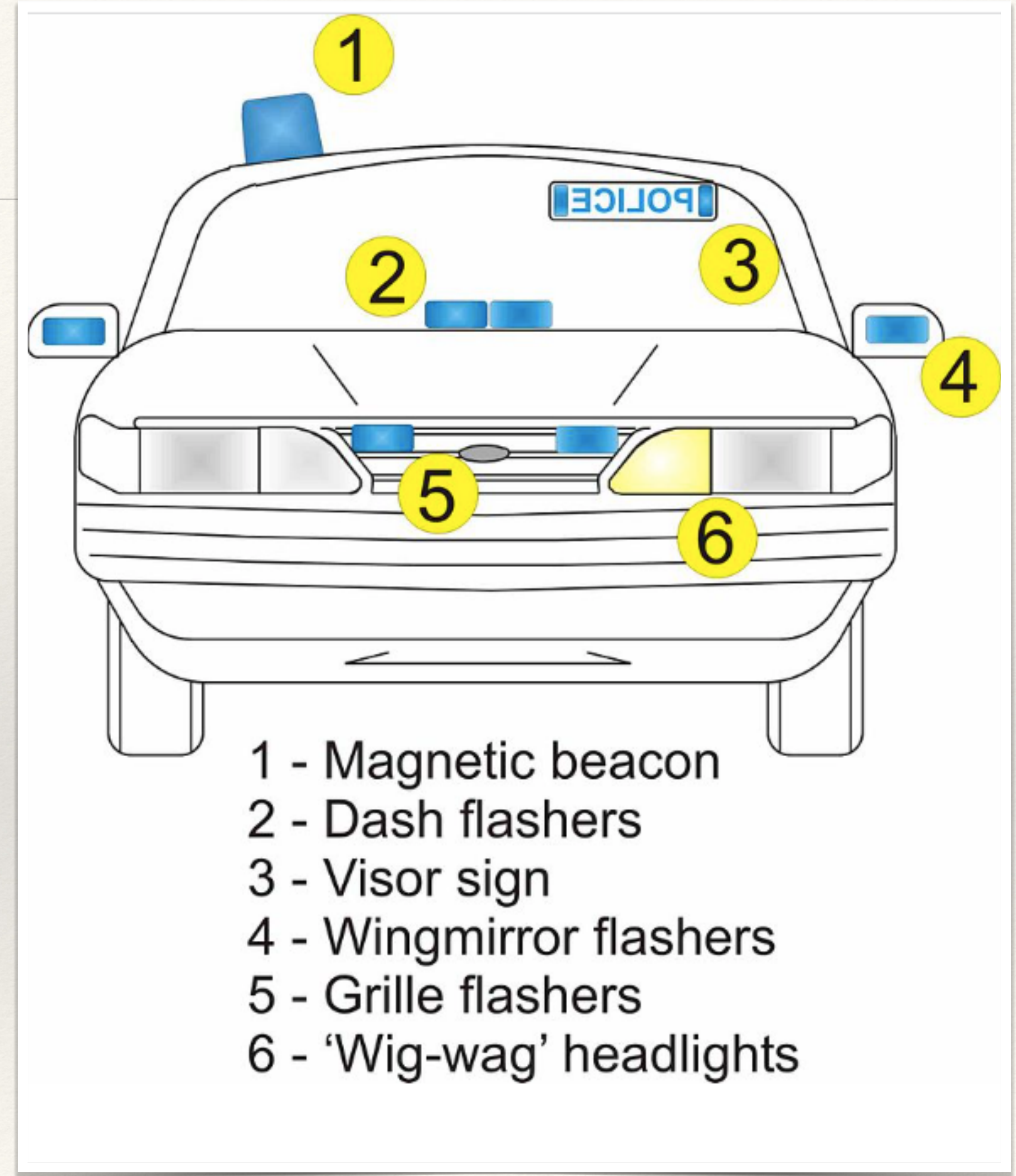
Source: <https://guardian.ng/life/the-importance-of-drums-in-african-tradition/>



Source: <https://zh.wikipedia.org/zh-tw/%E8%A4%92%E5%A7%92>

Telecommunication

- ❖ Why
 - ❖ National security (military)
 - ❖ Entertainment
- ❖ How
 - ❖ Human perception
 - ❖ Visual - smoke signals, beacons
 - ❖ Audio - drumbeats, horns, whistles
 - ❖ Electromagnetic wave





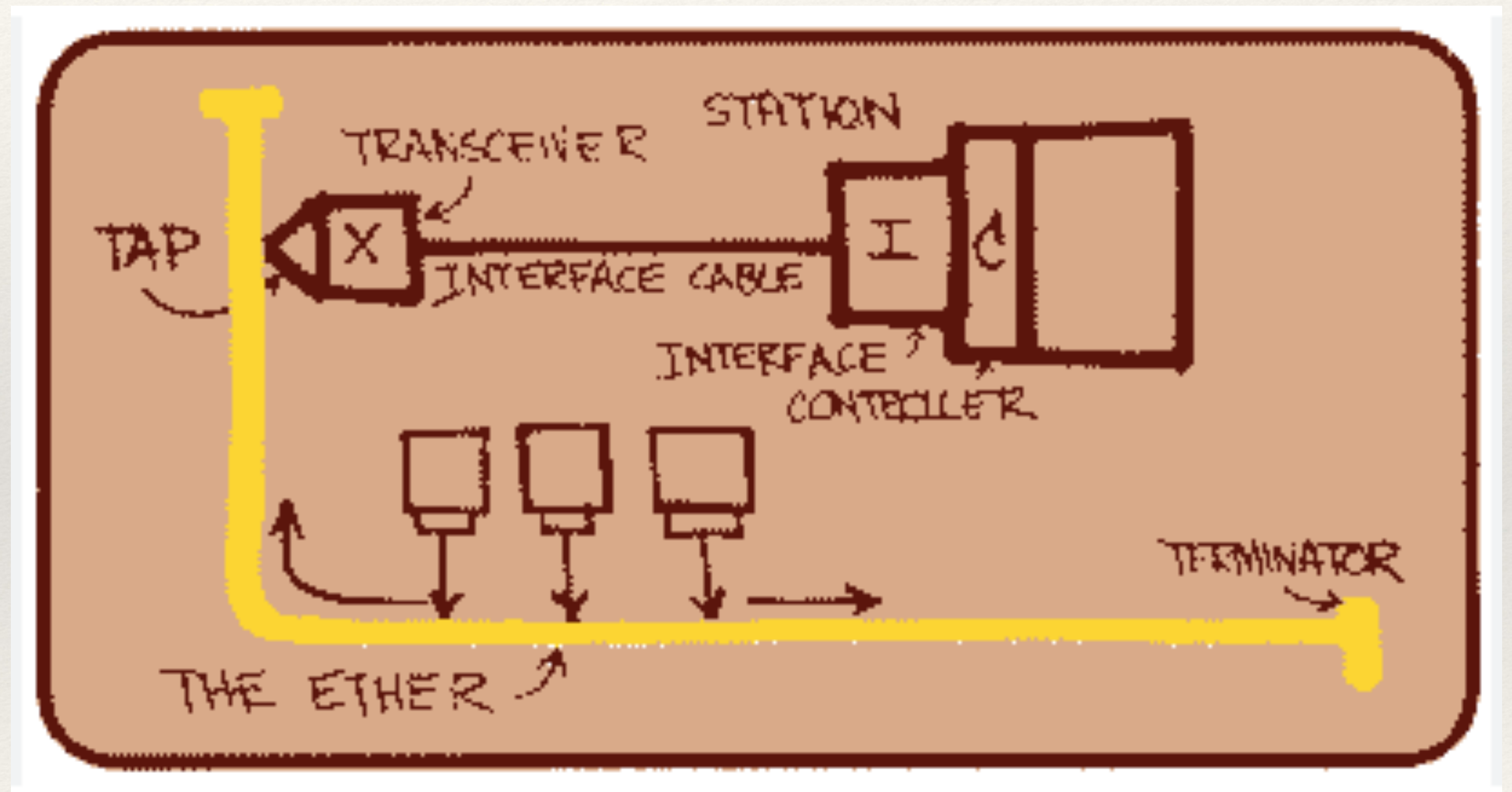
Infrastructures Enable What We Enjoy

- ❖ Data center
- ❖ Requirements
 - ❖ Power consumption
 - ❖ Throughput
 - ❖ Reliability - BER
 - ❖ Interaction - latency
- ❖ Ethernet - Local Area Network



Ethernet (Ether Network)

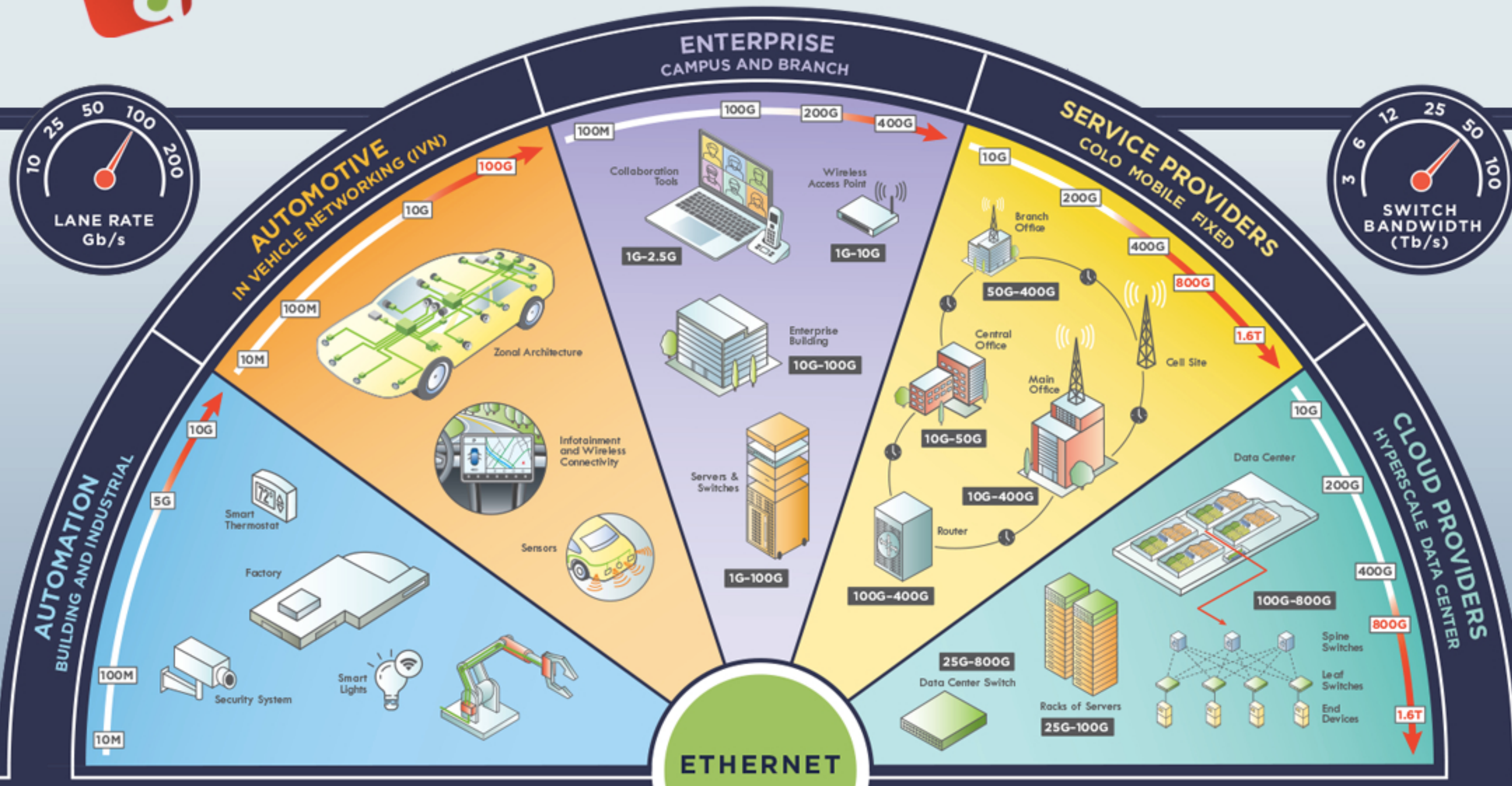
- ❖ Ether - 從“錯誤的理論”到“全球標準”
- ❖ 無所不在
- ❖ 無所不包
- ❖ IEEE 802.3 - 50th anniversary
- ❖ 802.3a —> 802.3dj



Ethernet Applications

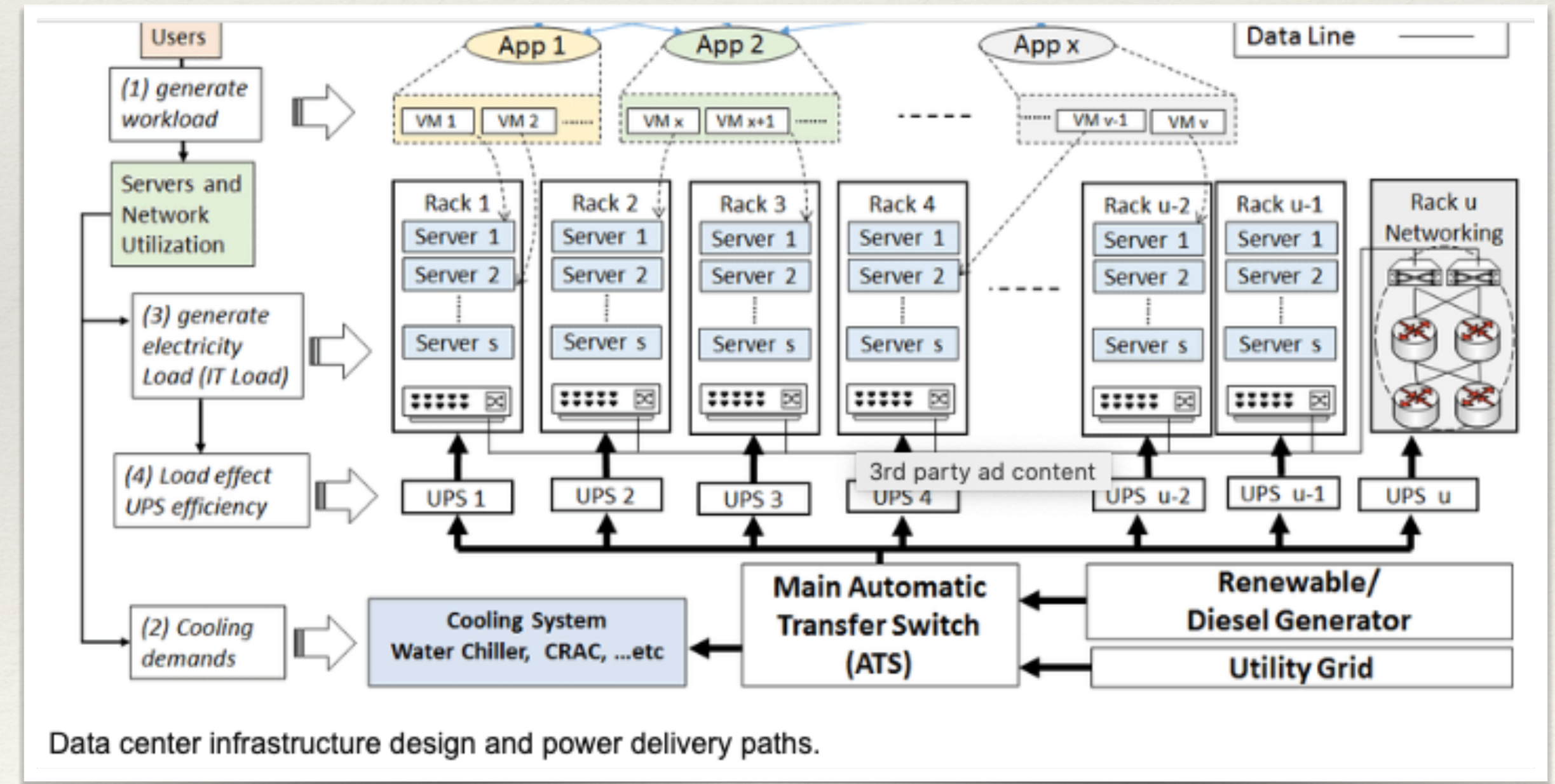
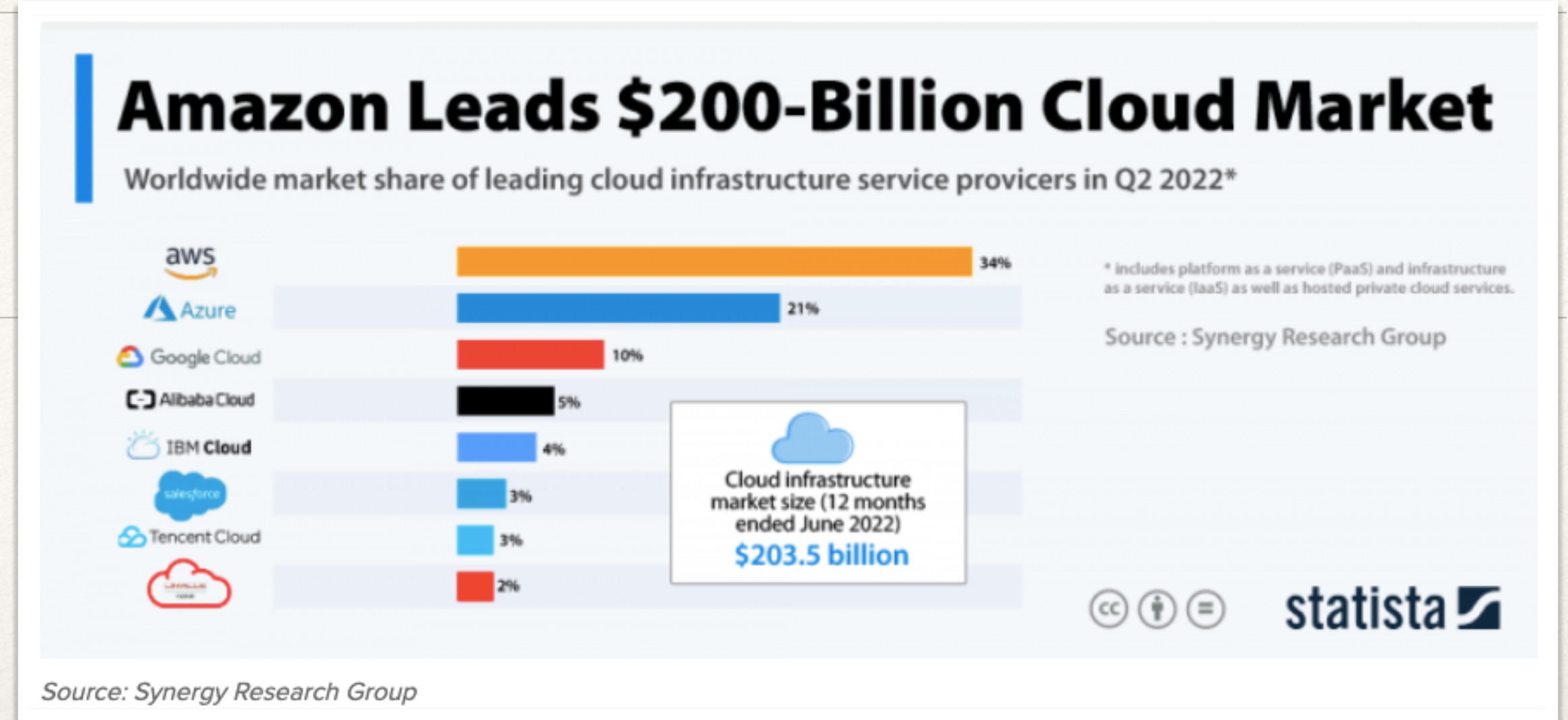


ethernet alliance 2023 ETHERNET ROADMAP



Data Center Functions

- ❖ Computing
 - ❖ Server (Intel, AMD)
 - ❖ xPU (nVidia, Google, AMD)
- ❖ Memory
 - ❖ SSD, DRAM (Samsung, Micron)
- ❖ Communication
 - ❖ Switch (Cisco, Broadcom, Marvell)





Intel Silicon Photonics
SPTSLP2SLCDF 收發器
模組 乙太網路 100Gbps
1311nm 3.3V LC 可插...

\$22,312

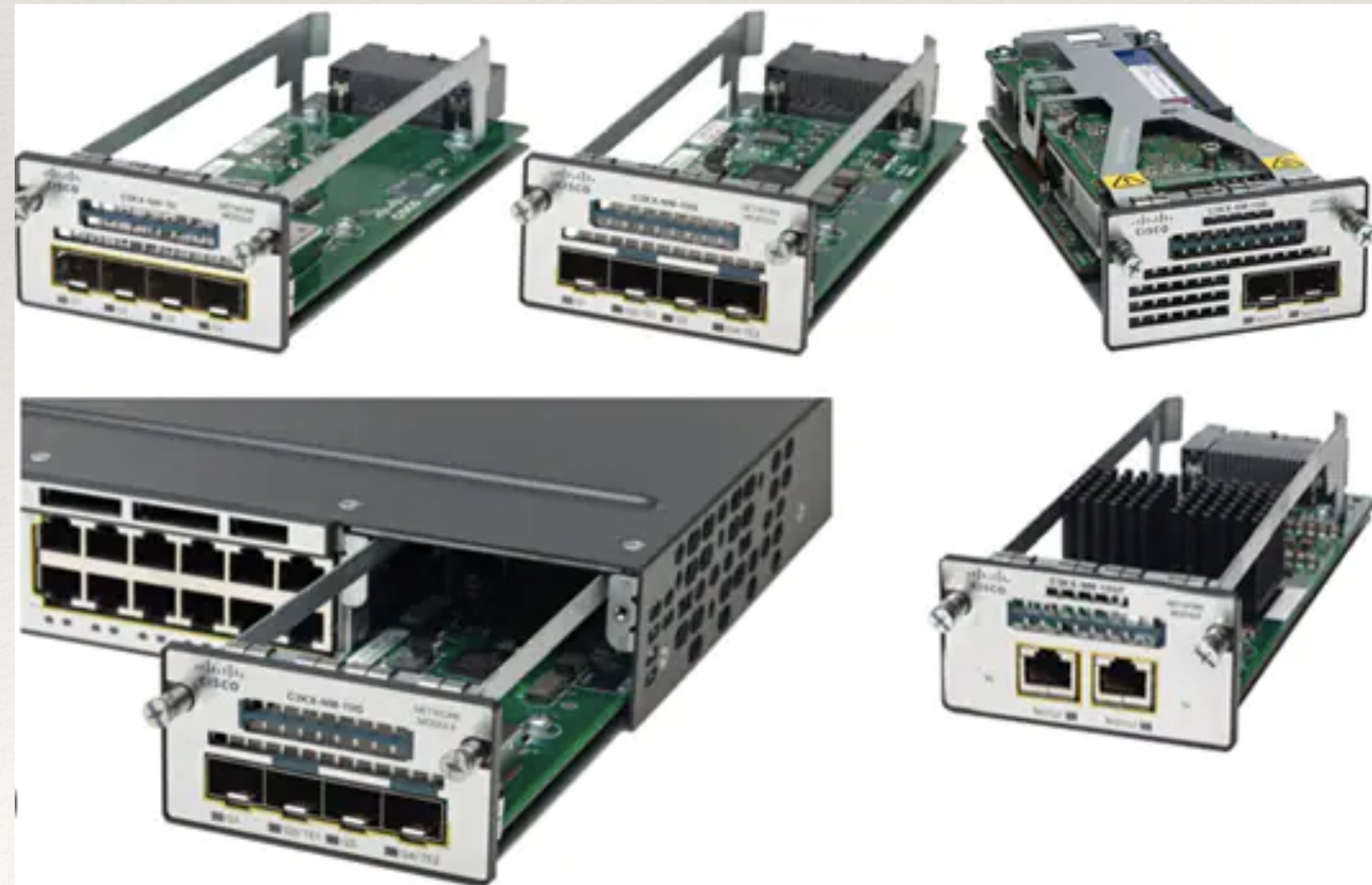
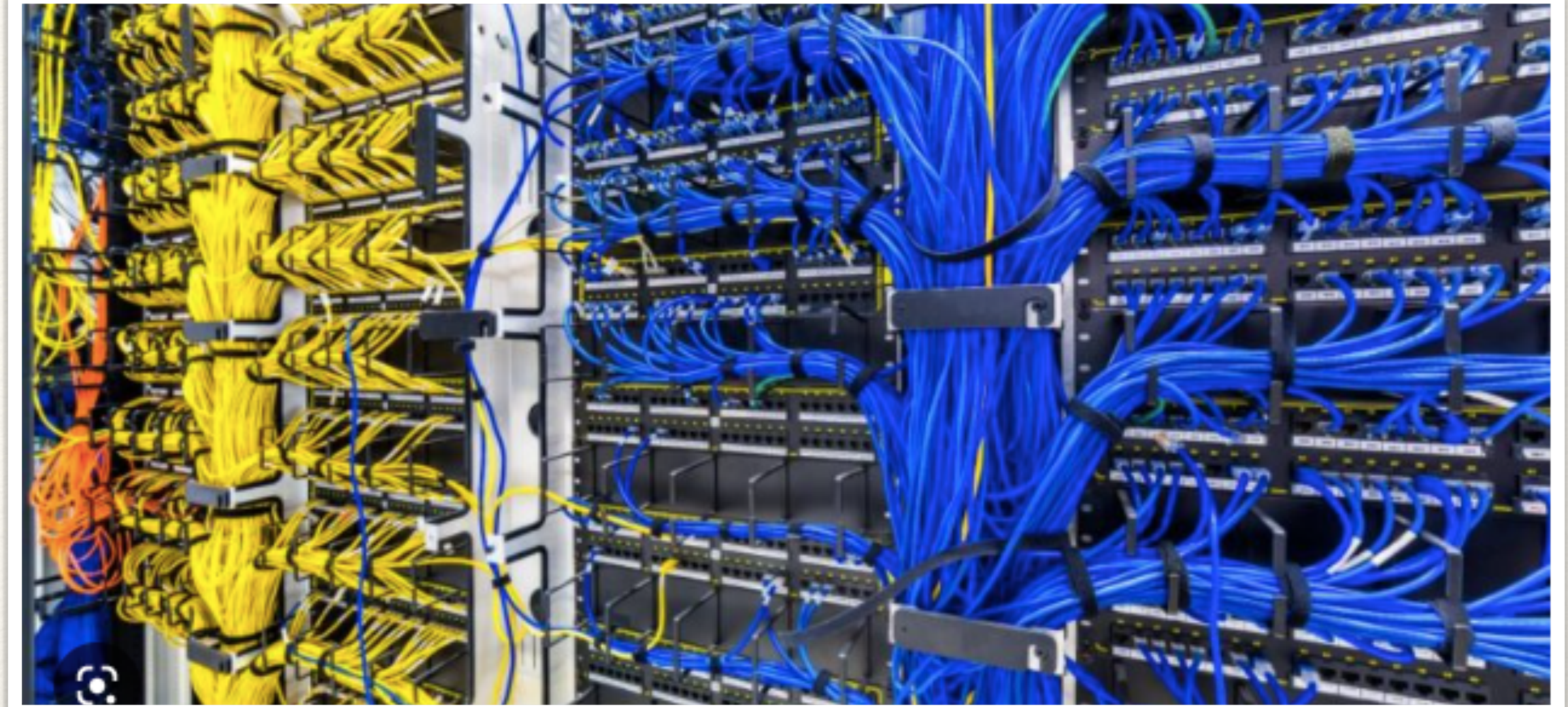
[Digi-Key Taiwan](#)

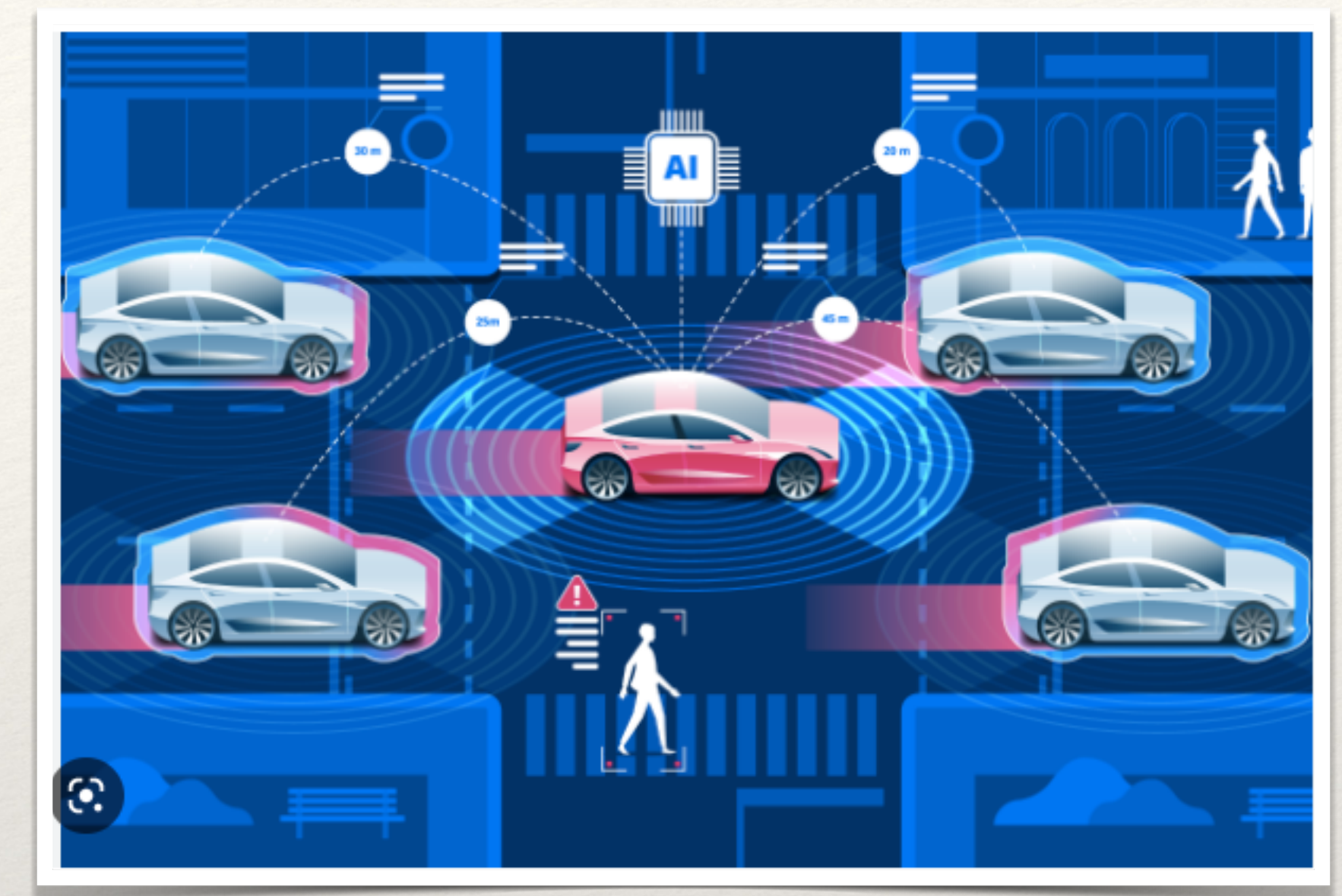
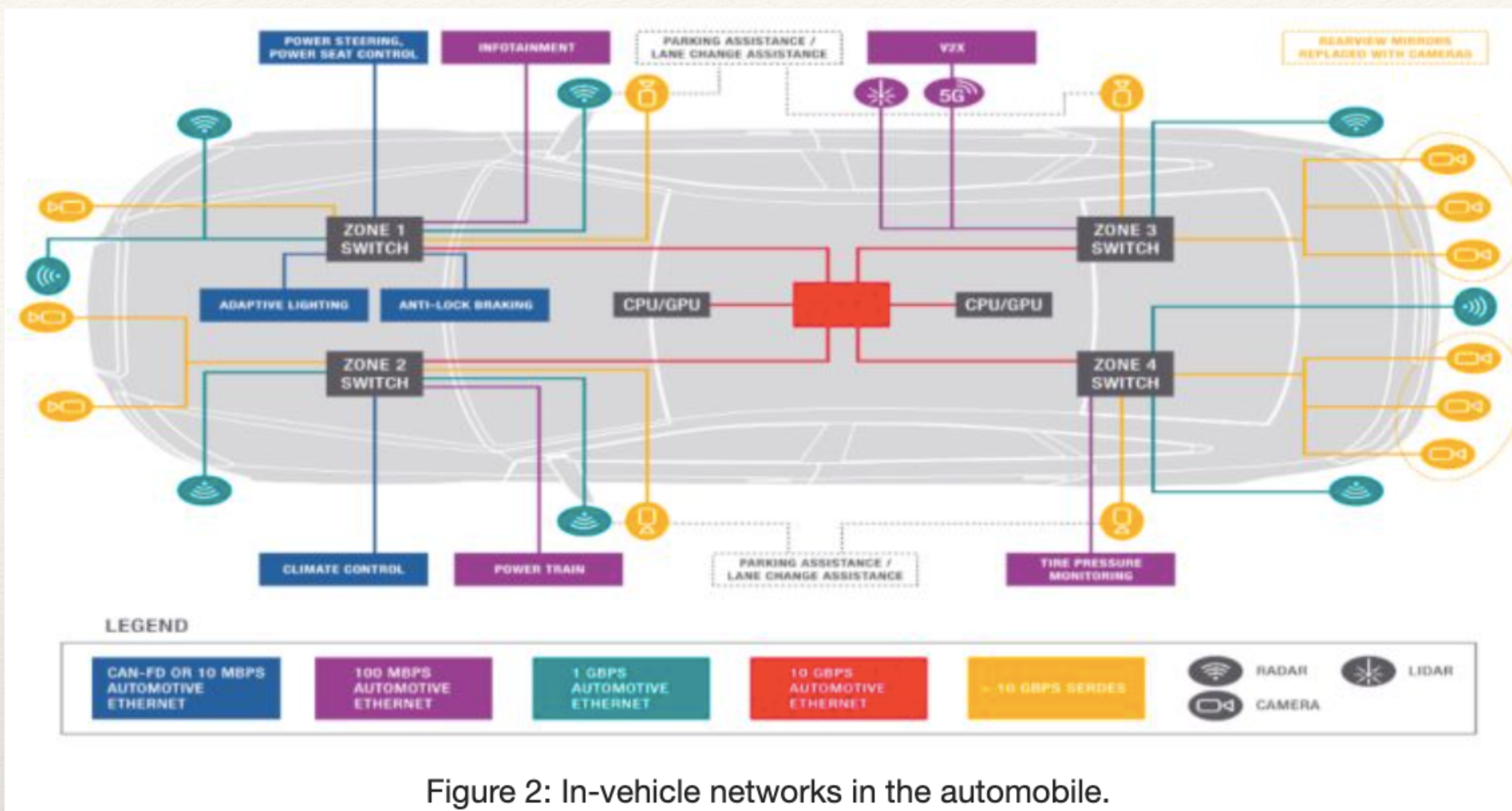


ATGBICS QFX-QSFP-
DACBO-15M-AOC-C 位置
QSFP+ 對 SFP+ (4) 插頭
對插頭 (4) 49.21'...

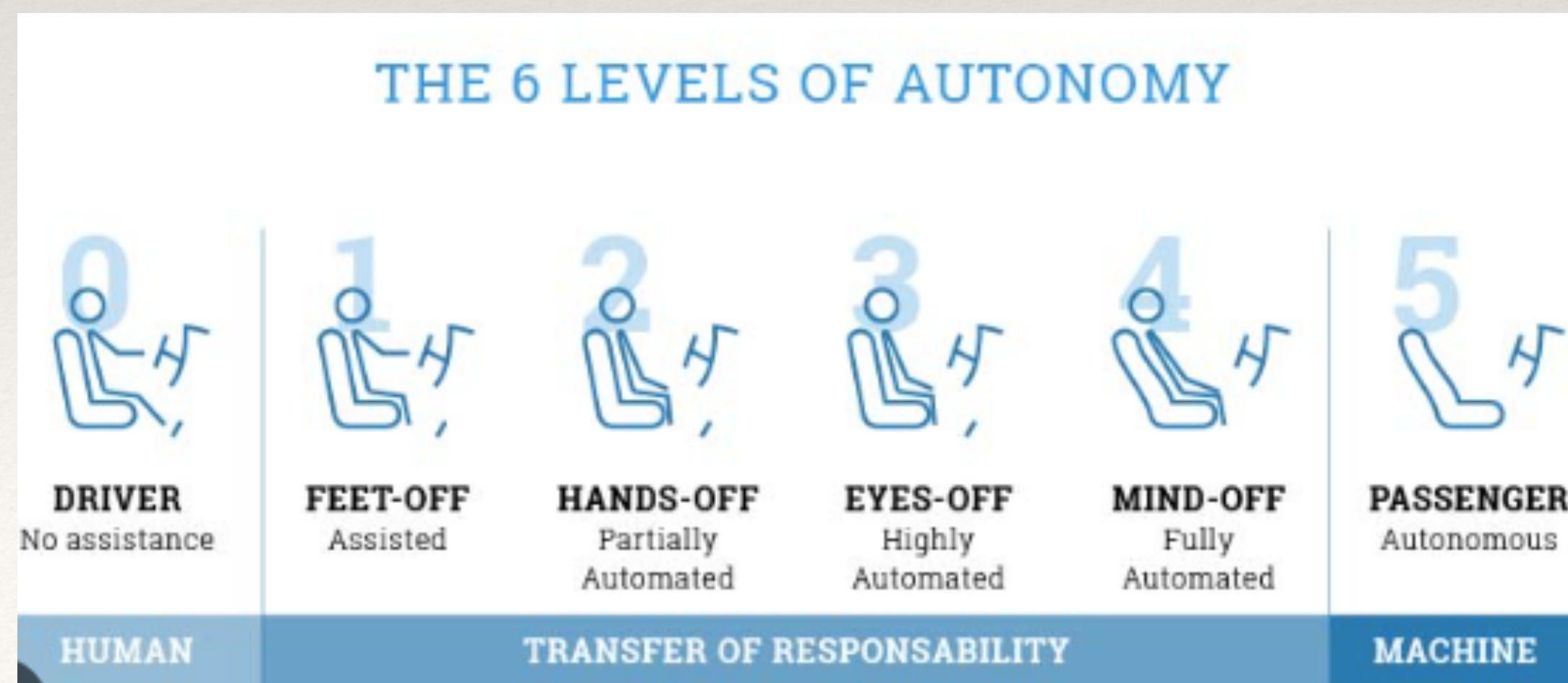
\$11,606

[Digi-Key Taiwan](#)





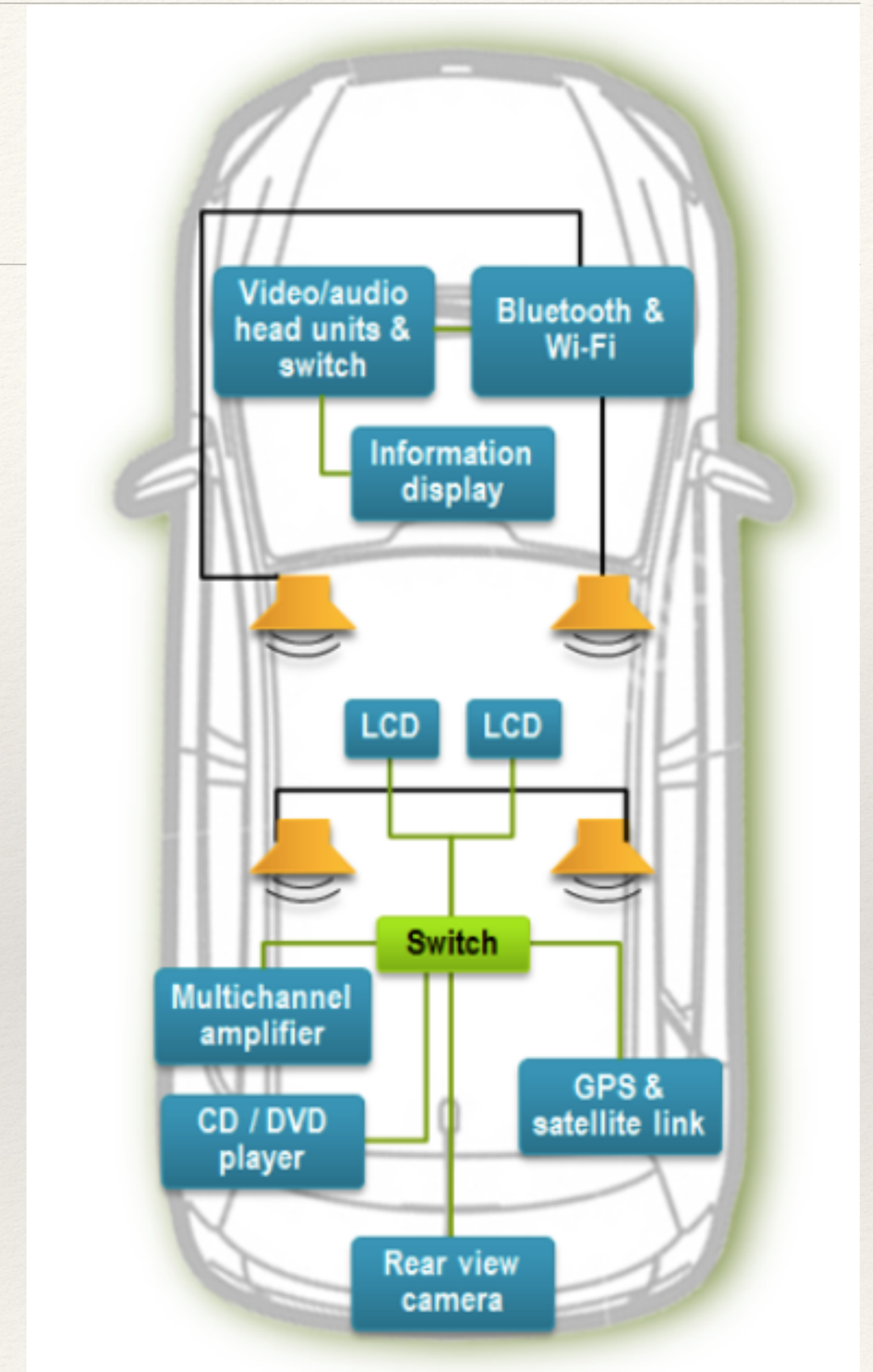
Source: <https://www.eetasia.com/automobile-in-vehicle-networks-ethernet-serdes-or-both/>



Could self-driving cars make crossings or traffic lights redundant?

Automotive Ethernet PHY

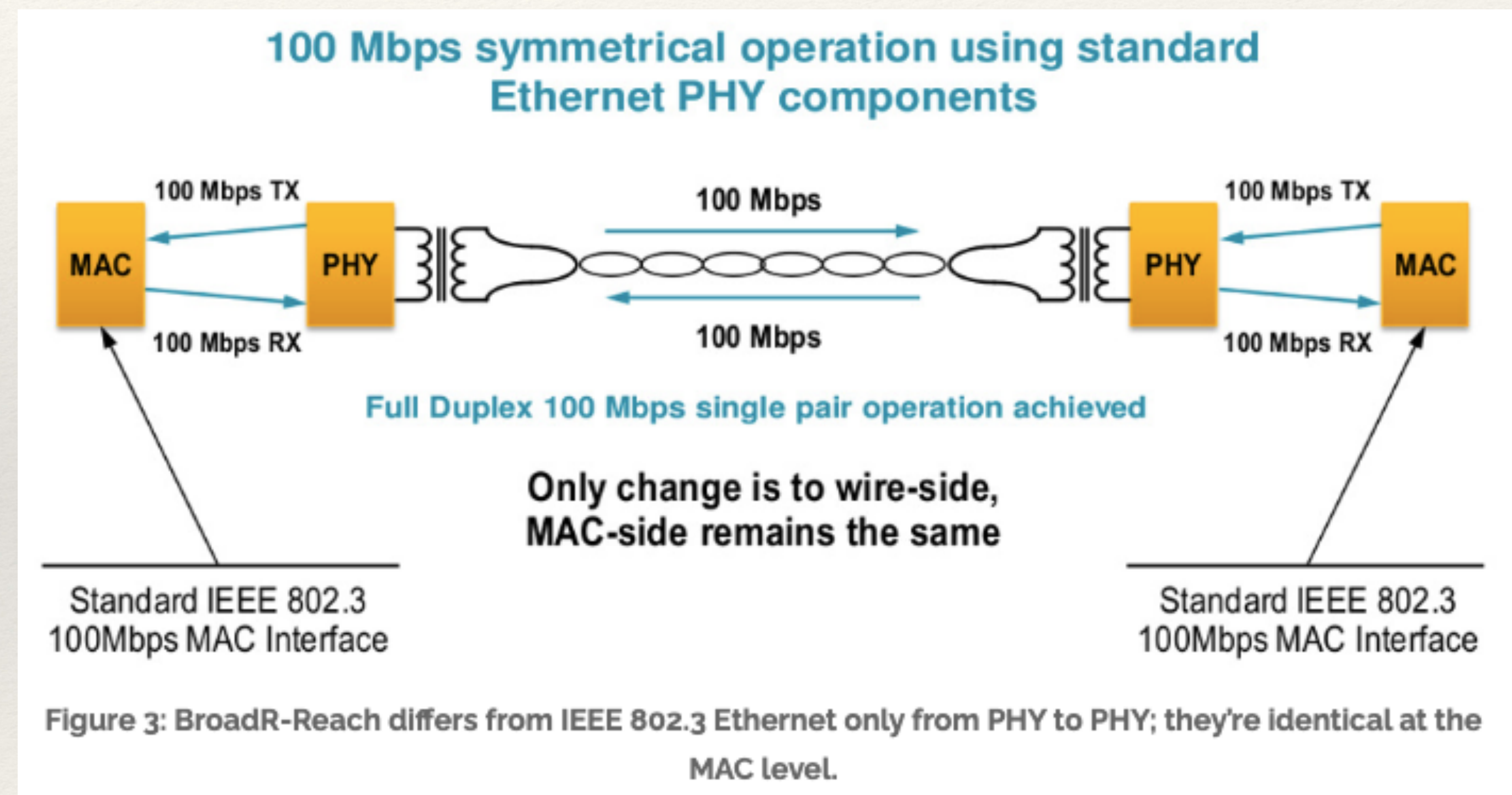
- ❖ What's differences in car?
 - ❖ A lot of connections
 - ❖ Various rates - from <1 Mbps to 10 Gbps
 - ❖ Extremely reliability - autonomous driving (human life)
- ❖ Challenges for automotive networking
 - ❖ Cable weighting
 - ❖ Electromagnetic interference



Source: <https://www.eeworldonline.com/an-inside-look-at-the-automotive-ethernet-protocol/>

Various Ethernet Standards for Automotive

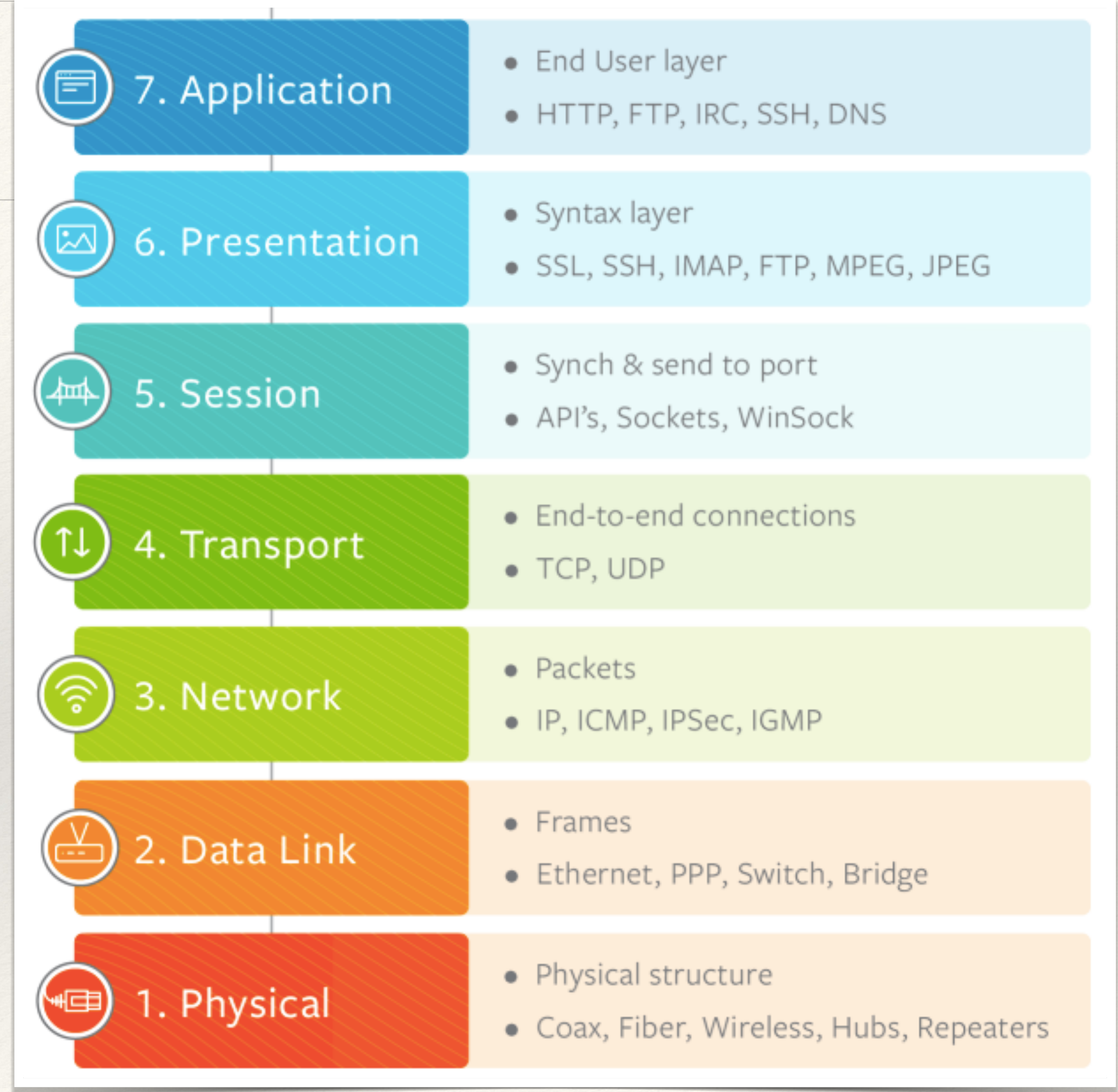
- ❖ Reach
 - ❖ 15m for passenger car
 - ❖ 40m for truck
- ❖ Medium
 - ❖ Single pair twisted pair cable
 - ❖ Plastic optical fiber
- ❖ Various standards are competing - Ethernet, MIPI, ASA
 - ❖ The winner is ...



Ethernet Technology

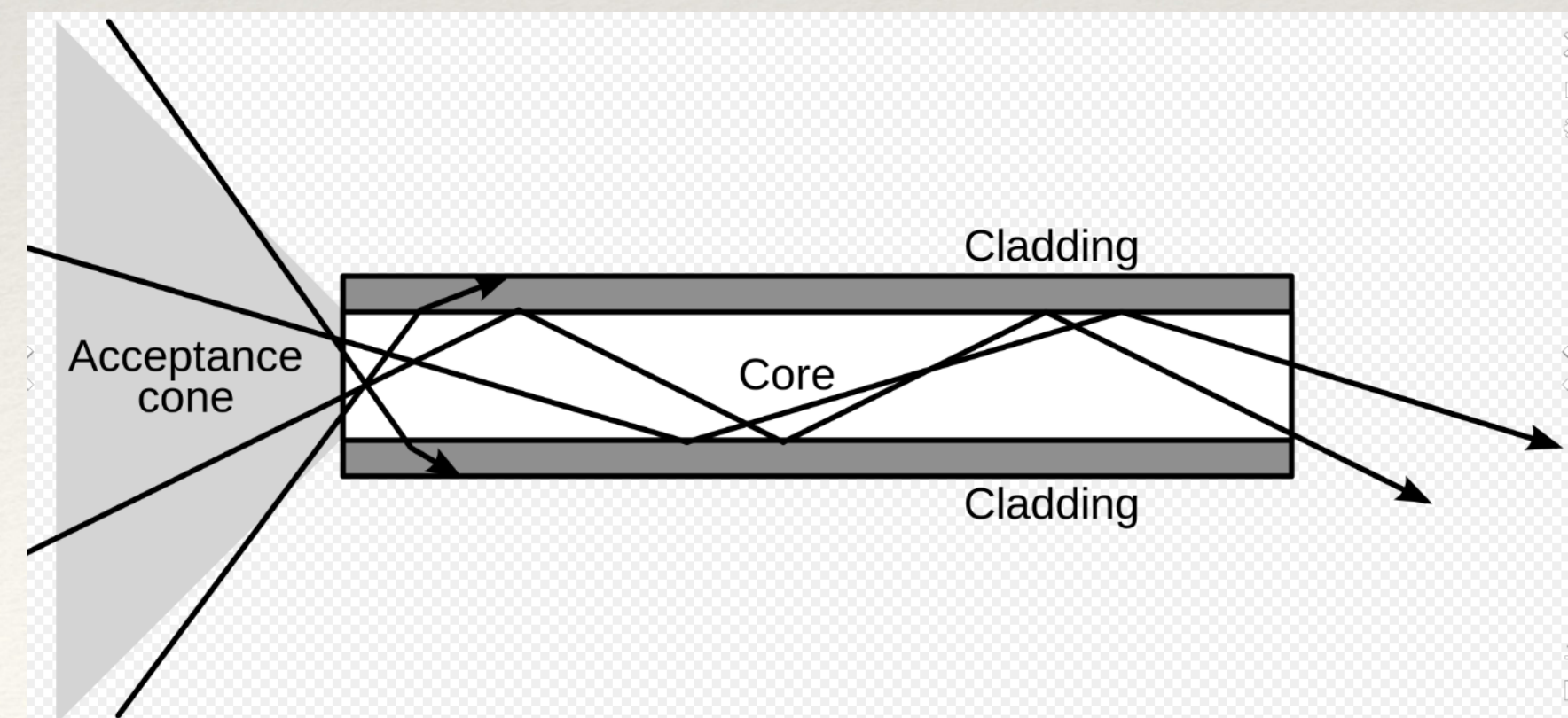
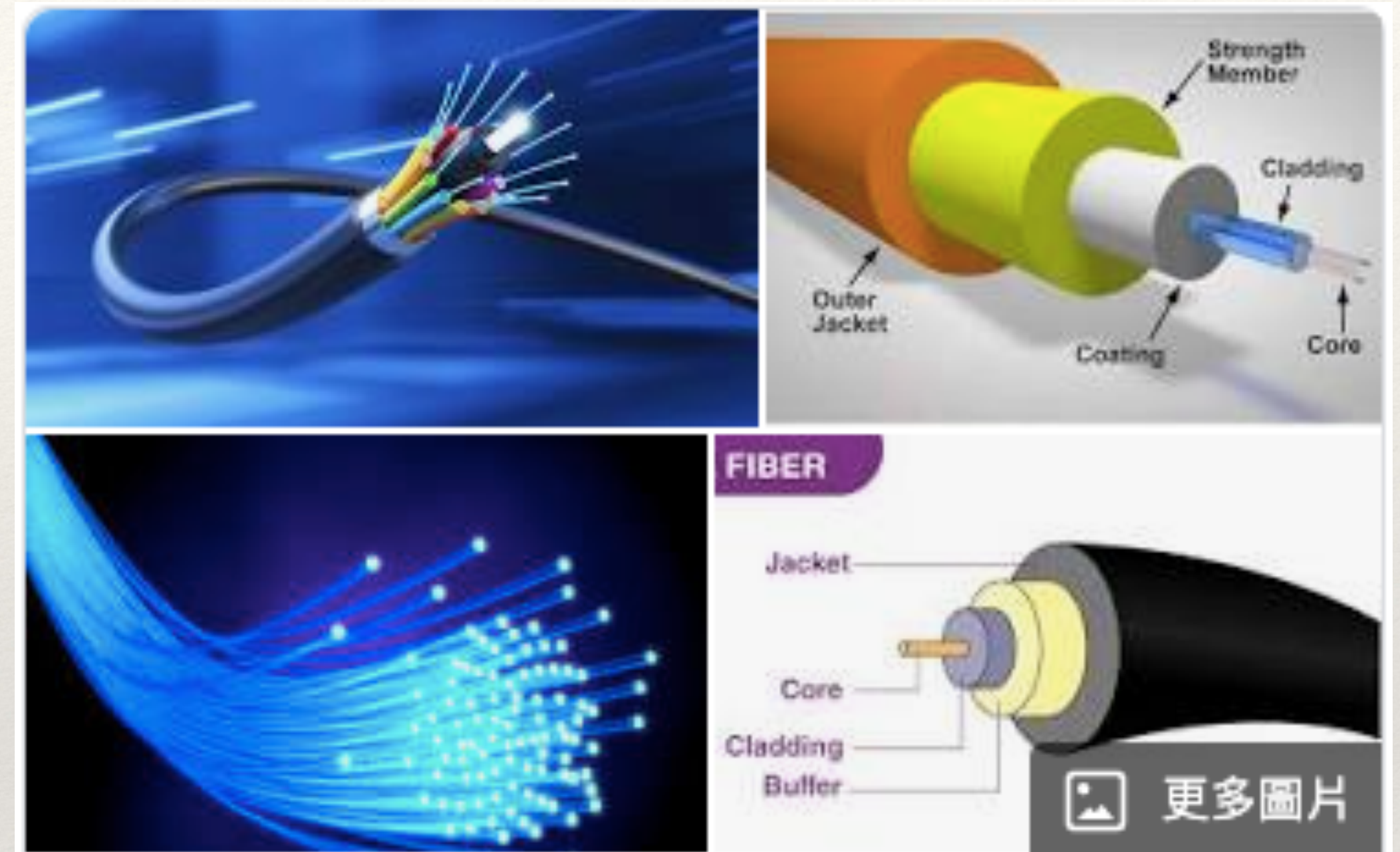
OSI 7 Layers

- ❖ For two computer to exchange message (packet)
- ❖ Physical (PHY)
 - ❖ Medium - cables, fibers, printed circuit board (PCB), inter-die connection
 - ❖ Rates - 10 Mbps, 100 Mbps, 1 Gbps, 10 Gbps, ..., 800 Gbps, 1.6 Tbps
 - ❖ BER - $1e-12 \sim 1e-13$
 - ❖ Latency - 10 ~ 200 ns



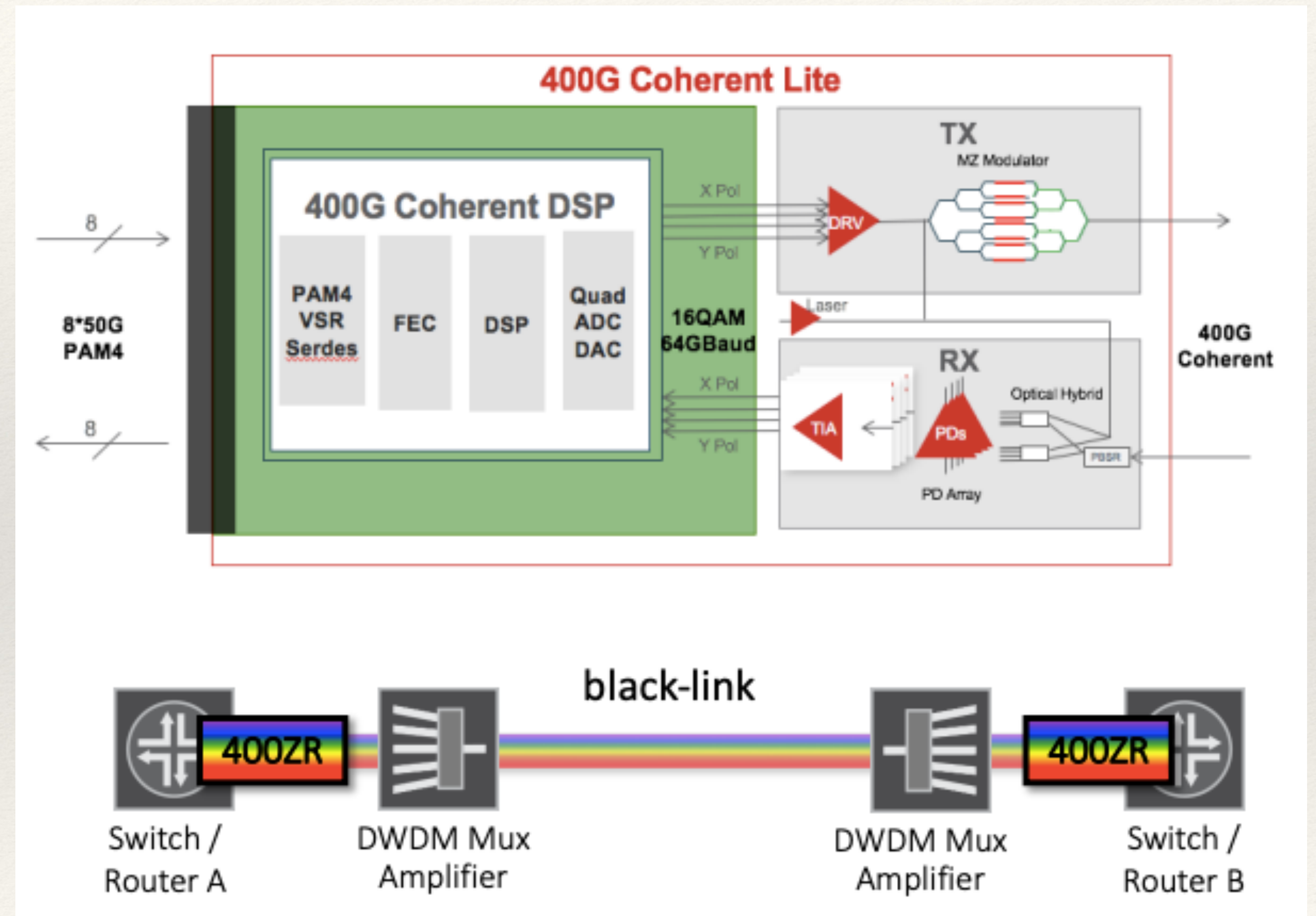
Optical Fiber Cable

- ❖ Long distance
 - ❖ Total reflection of laser light in fiber
 - ❖ Single Mode Fiber (SMF) & Multi Mode Fiber (MMF)
- ❖ High channel BW
 - ❖ Limitation at electric-to-optical & optical-to-electric components
- ❖ Aging is an issue
- ❖ Cost is much higher
 - ❖ Silicon photonics is trend



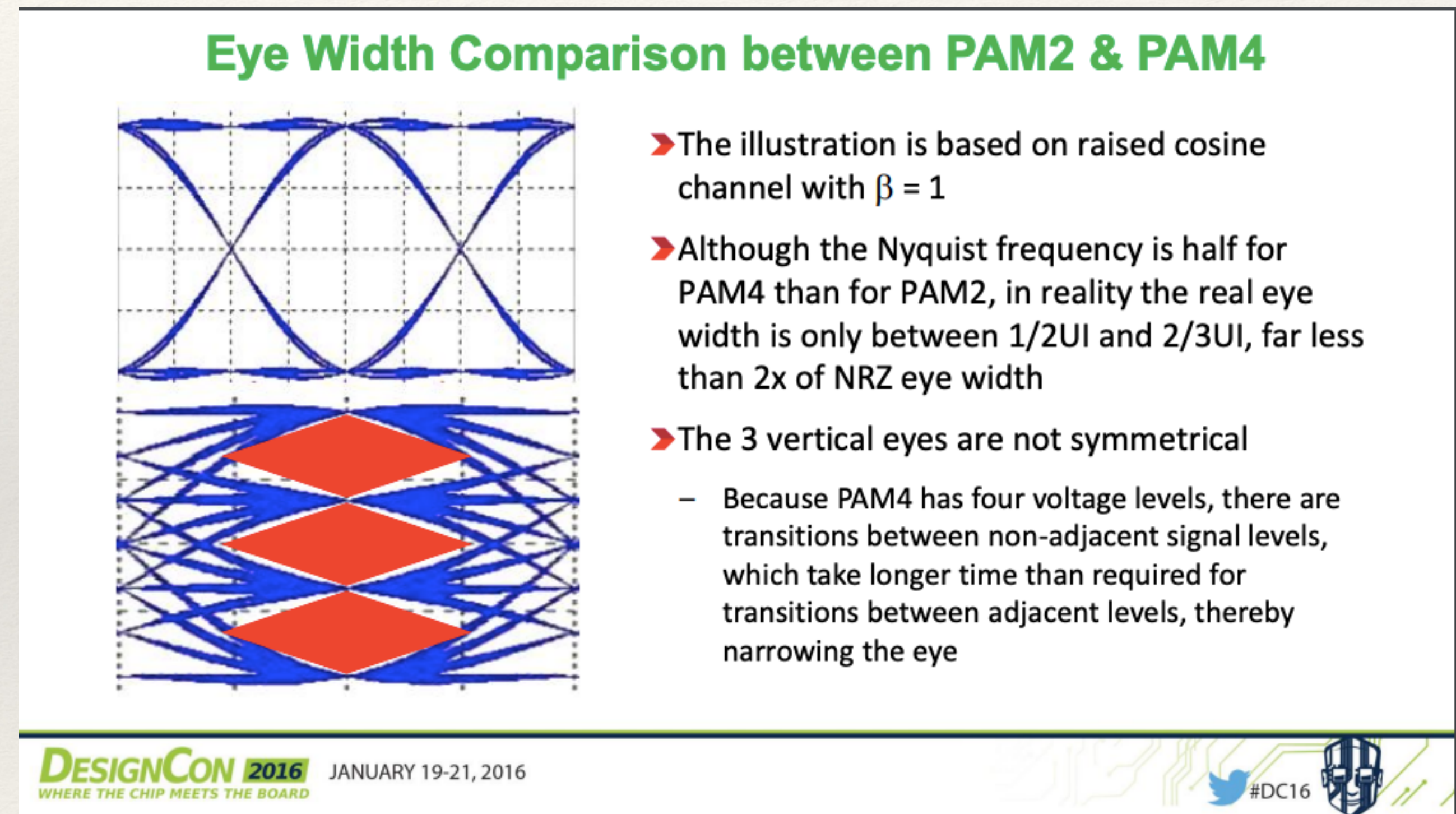
100Gbps/Lane PAM4 Optical PMD - Block Diagram

- ❖ Serdes - serializer & deserializer
 - ❖ High rate, but small pin count
- ❖ FEC - forward error correction
 - ❖ Channel coding
- ❖ DSP - digital signal processing
 - ❖ Clock recovery
 - ❖ Equalization
- ❖ ADC, DAC
 - ❖ Analog $\longleftrightarrow$ Digital
- ❖ Electrical $\longleftrightarrow$ Optical



How to Achieve Higher & Higher Throughput?

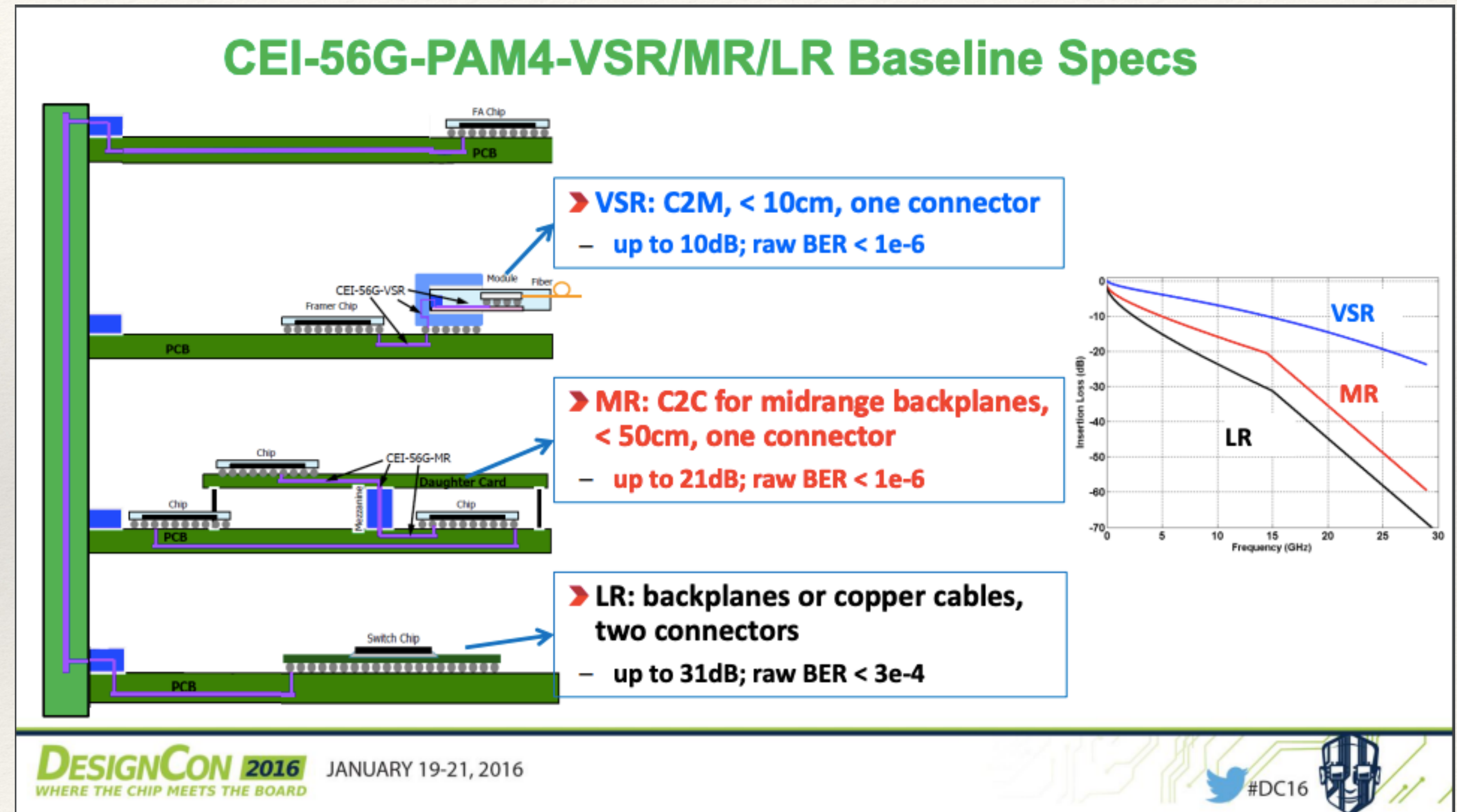
- ❖ Increase symbol rate
 - ❖ More and more challenging
- ❖ Increase modulation order
 - ❖ NRZ $\rightarrow$ PAM4 $\rightarrow$ PAM8 or PAM16
- ❖ Stronger channel coding
 - ❖ BER before FEC can be relaxed



Source: <https://www.xilinx.com/publications/events/designcon/2016/slides-pam4signalingfor56gserial-zhang-designcon.pdf>

50Gbps/Lane PAM4 Serdes - Channel

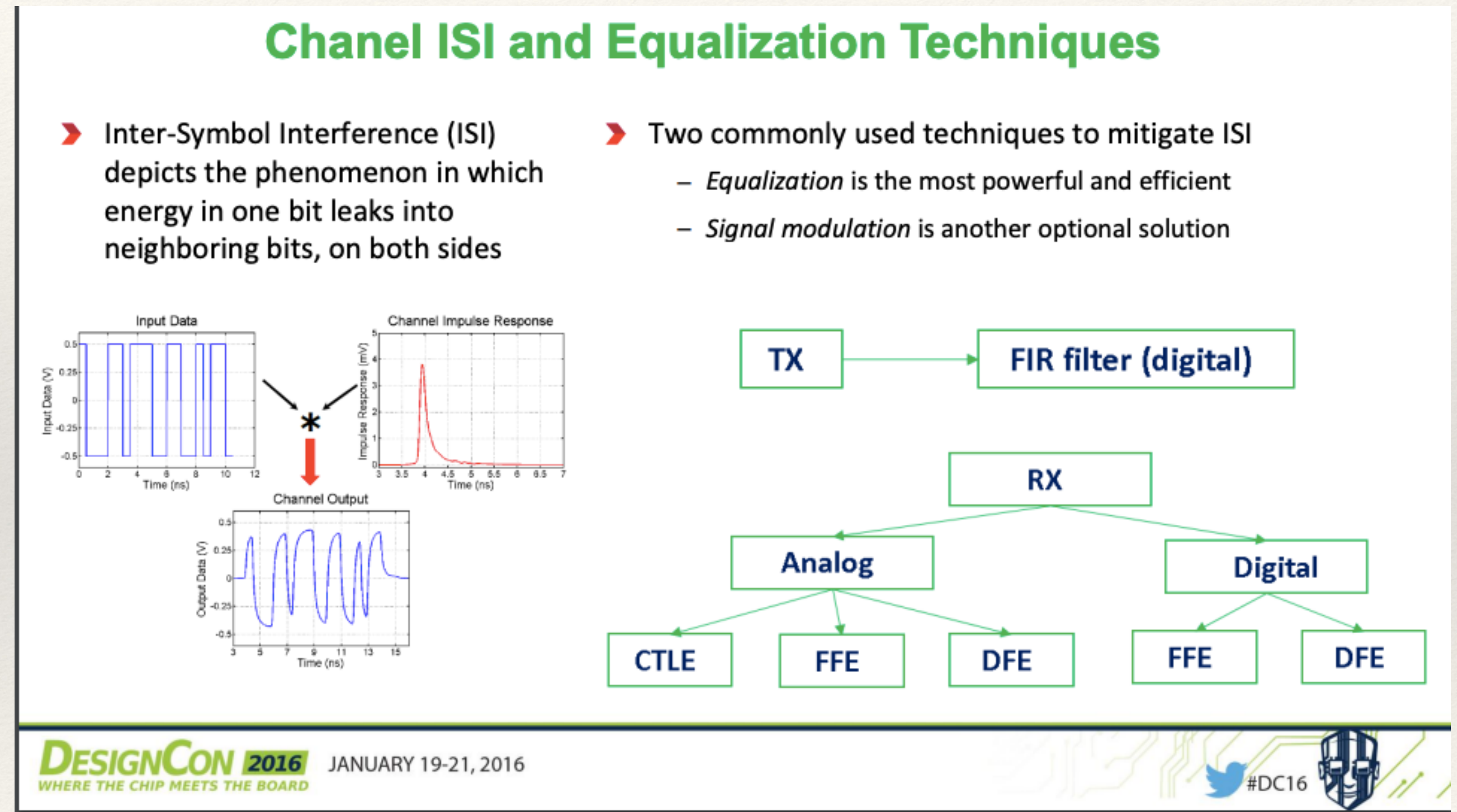
- ❖ SNR (signal to noise ratio)
- ❖ Signal - louder is better?
- ❖ Noise - uncorrelated to signal
 - ❖ white vs. narrow-band
- ❖ Channel
 - ❖ Path loss vs. insertion loss
 - ❖ ISI & echo - correlated to signal



Source: <https://www.xilinx.com/publications/events/designcon/2016/slides-pam4signalingfor56gserial-zhang-designcon.pdf>

50Gbps/Lane PAM4 Serdes - Inter-symbol Interference

- ❖ Symbol data rate > Channel BW
 - ❖ ISI is correlated signal
 - ❖ Compensation of channel —> Equalization
- ❖ TX vs. RX
- ❖ Inverse matrix vs. by training



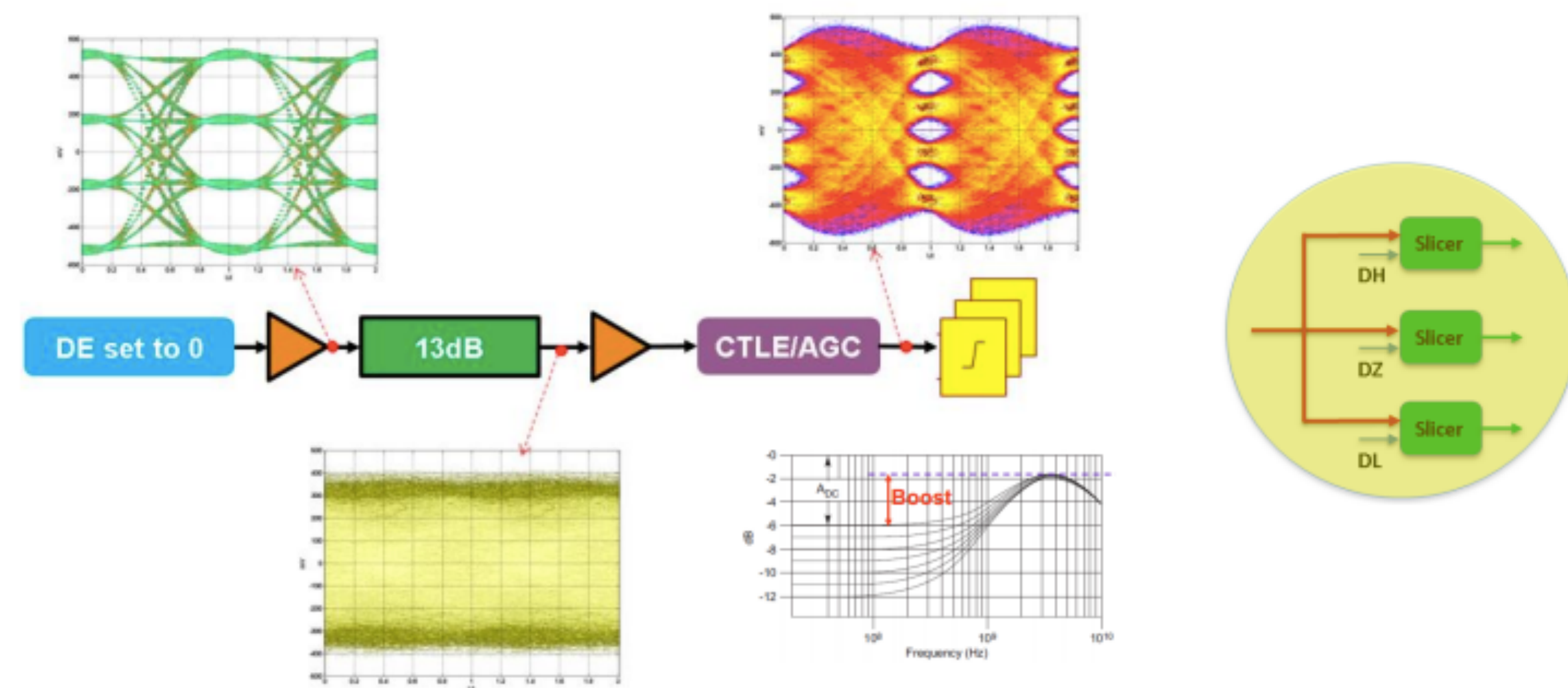
Source: <https://www.xilinx.com/publications/events/designcon/2016/slides-pam4signalingfor56gserial-zhang-designcon.pdf>

Equalization - RX CTLE

- ❖ Continuous-Time Liner Equalizer
- ❖ Low-power
- ❖ Noise enhance
- ❖ Difficult to have 20+ dB gain & high BW

Channel Equalization with CTLE Example

- The CTLE works the same for PAM4 as for NRZ signaling
- The CTLE is usually followed and/or preceded by AGC

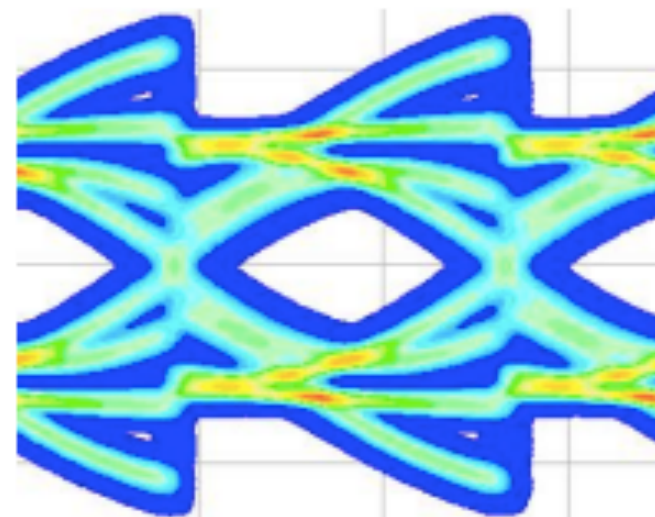
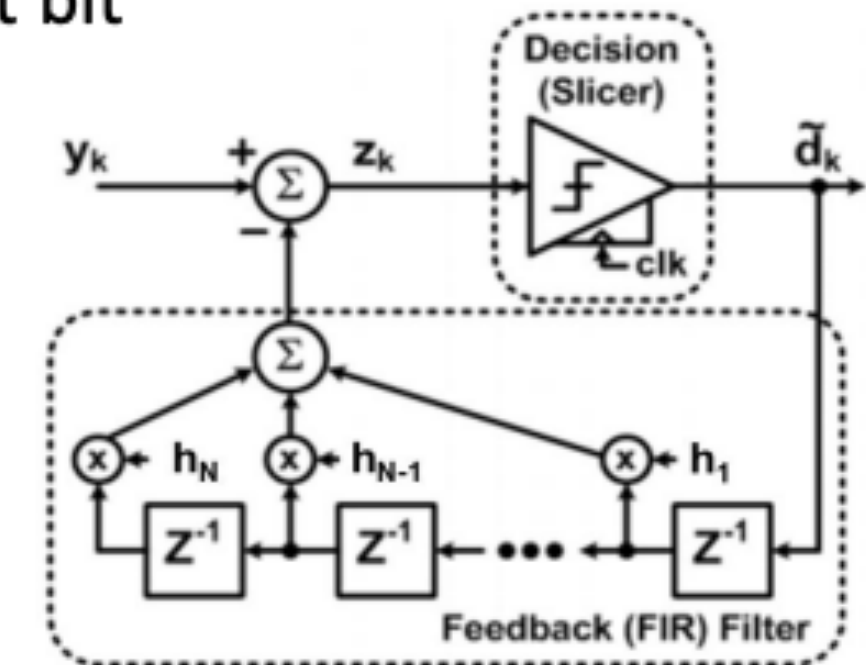
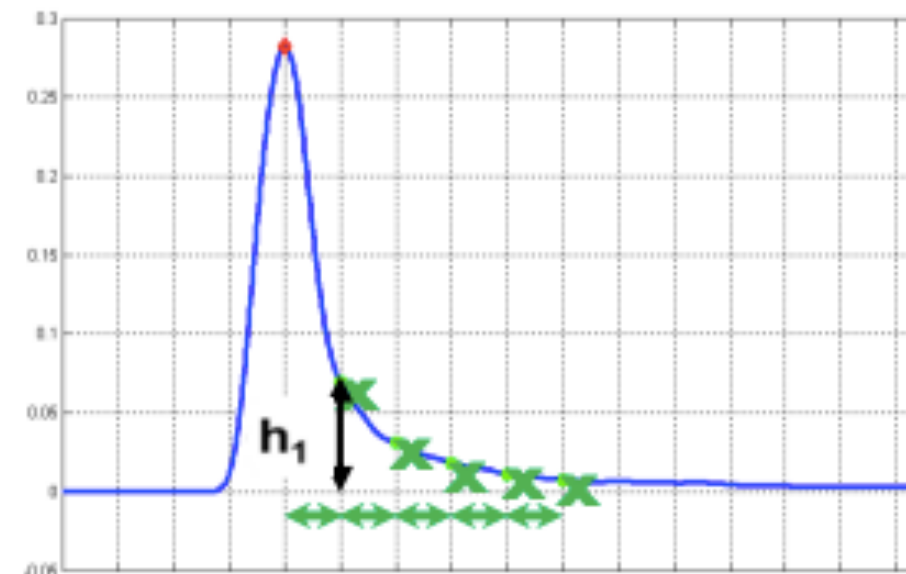


Equalization - RX DFE

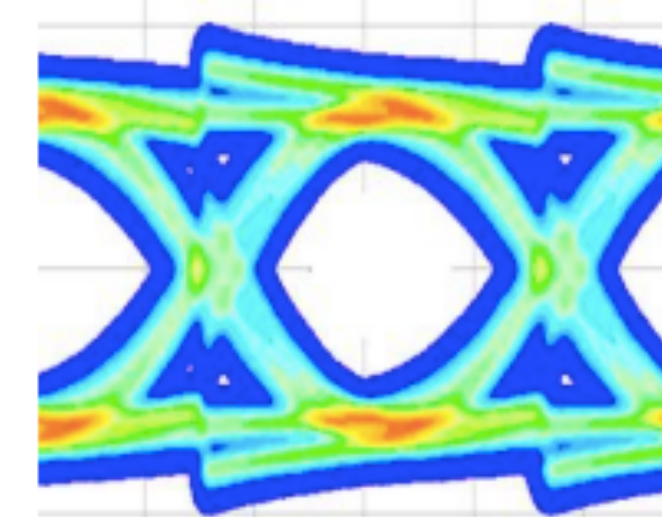
- ❖ Decision Feedback Equalizer
 - ❖ Prone to error propagation
- ❖ Challenging for high speed
- ❖ Q: Don't cancel ISI? —
 - > Yes. MLSD (Viterbi algorithm)

RX DFE for Removing Post-Cursor ISI

- DFE subtracts out channel impulse responses from the previous data bits so as to zero out post-cursor ISI contributions on the current bit



DFE tries to remove dominant positive ISI to open up the eye



DFE needs to counteract dominant negative ISI to open up the eye

DESIGNCON 2016
WHERE THE CHIP MEETS THE BOARD

JANUARY 19-21, 2016



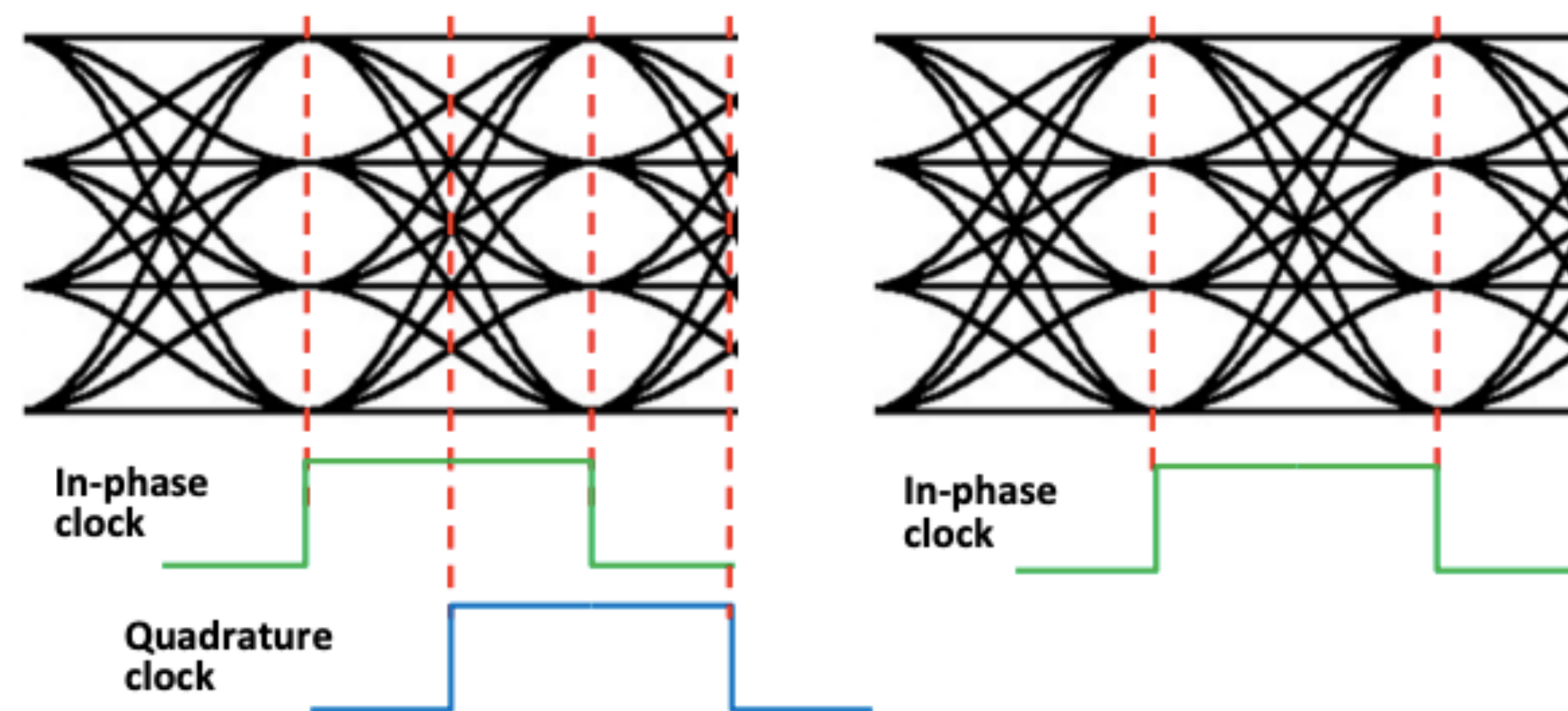
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50Gbps/Lane PAM4 Serdes - Clock Recovery

- ❖ Timing error —> correct sampling clock
- ❖ It's all about jitter
 - ❖ PLL
 - ❖ Clock recovery
 - ❖ Challenging in high clock rate

2x Oversampling Vs. Baud-Rate CDR

- Compared with the commonly used 2x oversampling Bang-Bang CDR, baud-rate CDR does not guarantee the sampling phase around the center of the symbol
- Baud rate CDR has less power consumption due to only one phase clock needed vs. two phase clocks for 2x oversampled CDR



50Gbps/Lane Serdes - Are we Good Enough?

- ❖ Eye Height
 - ❖ For 1e-6
- ❖ Eye Width
 - ❖ For 1e-6
- ❖ Pre-silicon verification is very challenging

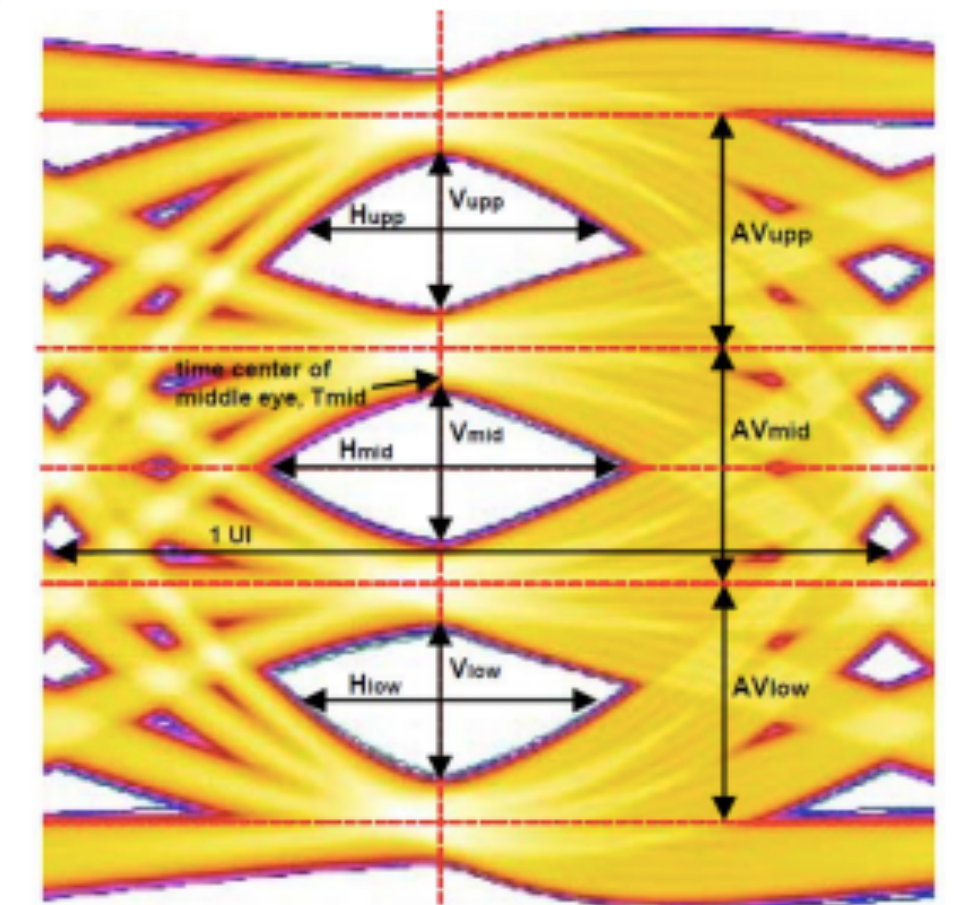
EH6 and EW6

- Since PAM4 is essentially a non-error-free system, eye metrics are defined in the VSR sped at BER = 1e-6
 - EH6 is the vertical distance across the BER = 1e-6 contour
 - EW6 is the horizontal distance across the BER = 1e-6 contour

➤ Vertical Eye Closure (VEC)

$$VEC = 20 \cdot \text{LOG} \left(\text{Min} \left(\left(\frac{AV_{\text{upp}}}{V_{\text{upp}}} \right), \left(\frac{AV_{\text{mid}}}{V_{\text{mid}}} \right), \left(\frac{AV_{\text{low}}}{V_{\text{low}}} \right) \right) \right)$$

- To support raw BER < 1e-6, instead of raw BER < -15
 - The BER is still dominantly affected by deterministic jitter and noise
 - May require redefining link budget to make trade-offs between performance, power consumption, and implementation cost



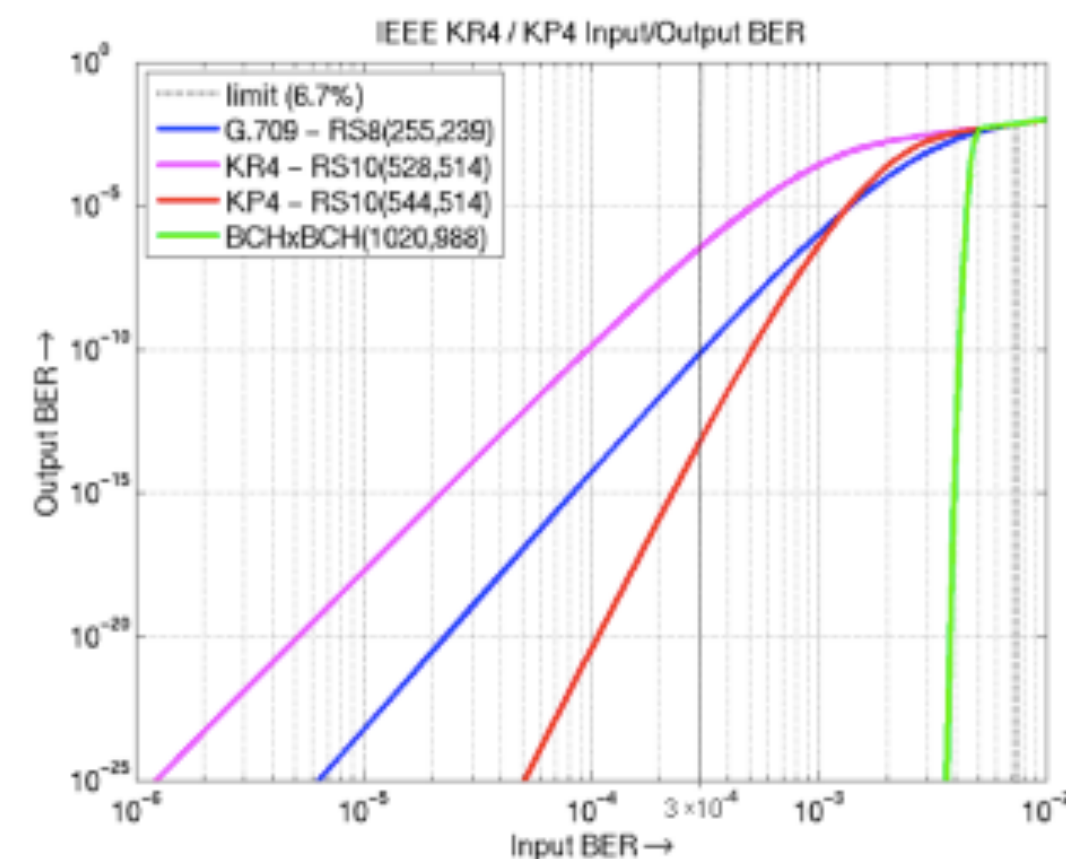
50Gbps/Lane Serdes - Help! Anybody?

- ❖ RX complexity vs. Coding
- ❖ Depends on implementation technology
- ❖ PAM4 needs help from FEC

FEC Error Correction Capability – Coding Gain

➤ The coding gain is the reduction in SNR (dB) that can be accommodated while still achieving the desired BER. Under normal link operation conditions, test from system houses showed that

- RS(528, 514) (KR4 FEC) presents about 5 – 6 dB coding gain
- RS(544, 514) (KP4 FEC) presents about 7 – 8 dB coding gain



The plot assumes normal, uniform random distribution (Additive White Gaussian Noise)

➤ Example of Input vs Output BER for several well known FEC codes:

- G.709: RS8 (255,239) 6.7%
- IEEE KR4: RS10 (528,514) 3.5%
- IEEE KP4: RS10 (544, 514) 5.8%
- BCH-BCH (1.9, G.975.1) : 6.7%
- Shannon limit for 6.7% OH (G.709 rate)

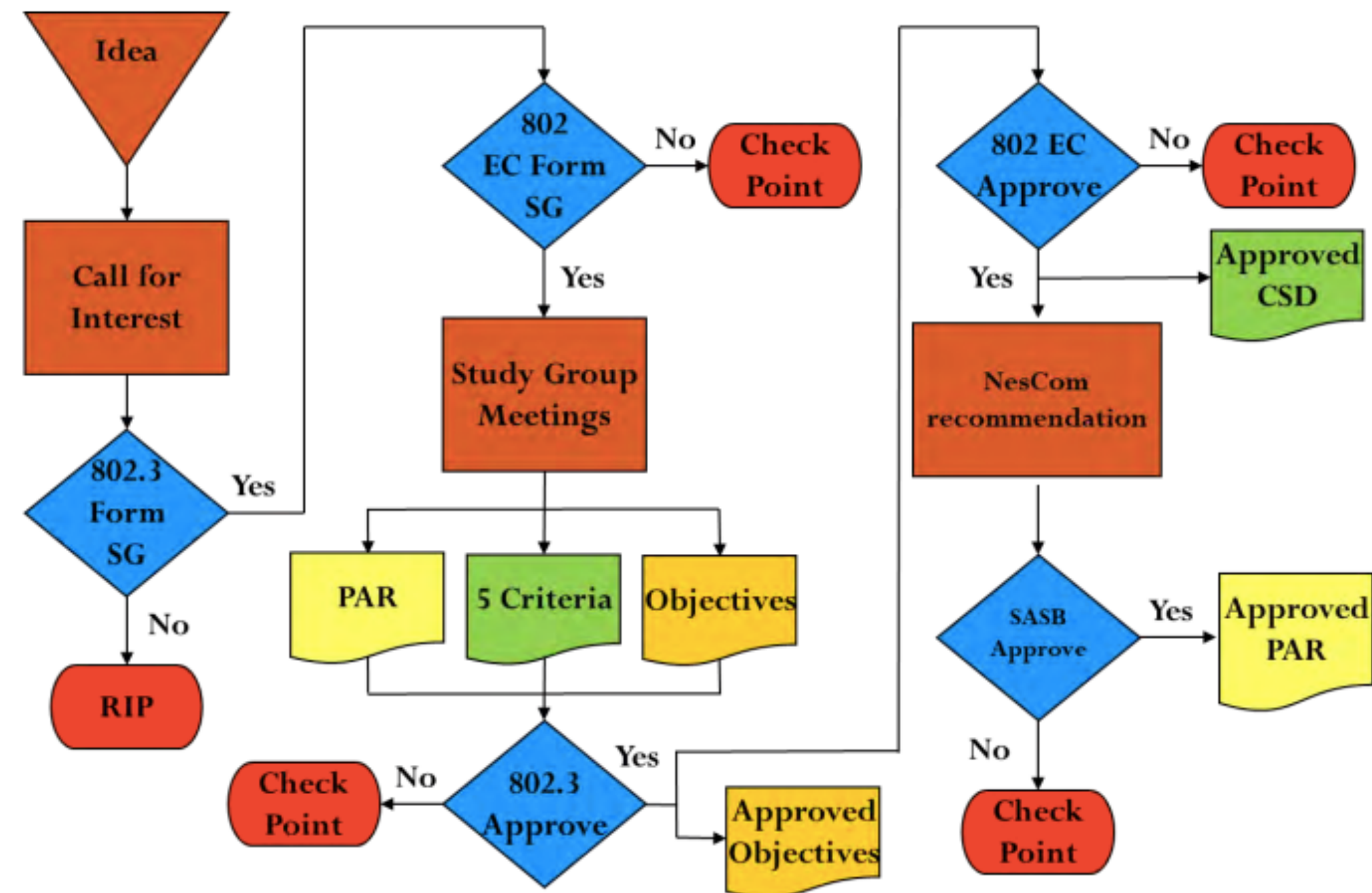
➤ Need to keep in mind the over-clocking induced SNR loss when using FEC

IEEE 802.3 Standard Meeting

IEEE 802.3 Standard Flow

- ❖ Call for interest
- ❖ Study Group
 - ❖ Objectives
- ❖ Task Force
 - ❖ Proposals to D1.0
 - ❖ Comments to D2.0
- ❖ Working Group
 - ❖ Comments to D3.0
- ❖ SA Ballot

Overview of IEEE 802.3 Standards Process (1/5)- Study Group Phase



Note: At "Check Point", either the activity is ended, or there may be various options that would allow reconsideration of the approval.

Summary Progress @ End of Meeting

Ethernet Rate	Assumed Signaling Rate	AUI	Cu Cable	SMF 500m	SMF 2km	SMF 10km	SMF 40km
200 Gb/s	200 Gb/s	200GAUI-1 C2C C2M	200GBASE-CR1	200GBASE-DR1	200GBASE-FR1		
400 Gb/s	200 Gb/s	400GAUI-2 C2C C2M	400GBASE-CR2	400GBASE-DR2	400GBASE-DR2-2*		
800 Gb/s	200 Gb/s	800GAUI-4 C2C C2M	800GBASE-CR4	800GBASE-DR4	1. 800GBASE-DR4-2 2. 800GBASE-FR4	800GBASE-LR4*	
	800 Gb/s					800GBASE-LR1*	
	TBD						Over single SMF in each direction IMDD Coherent
1.6 Tb/s	100 Gb/s	1.6TAUI-16 C2C C2M					
	200 Gb/s	1.6TAUI-8 C2C C2M	1.6TBASE-CR8	1.6TBASE-DR8	1.6TBASE-DR8-2		

Adopted baselines

Proposed Baselines

Pending approval of objectives by 802.3WG

Stories about Standards

- ❖ Bluetooth plugfest - Bluetooth vs. WiFi (diligent vs. leverage)
- ❖ 必也正名乎
- ❖ Uncertainty
- ❖ Consensus building
 - ❖ Talk to who don't support you
 - ❖ Equally unhappy
- ❖ 少數支持卻贏得勝利

Lessons Learned

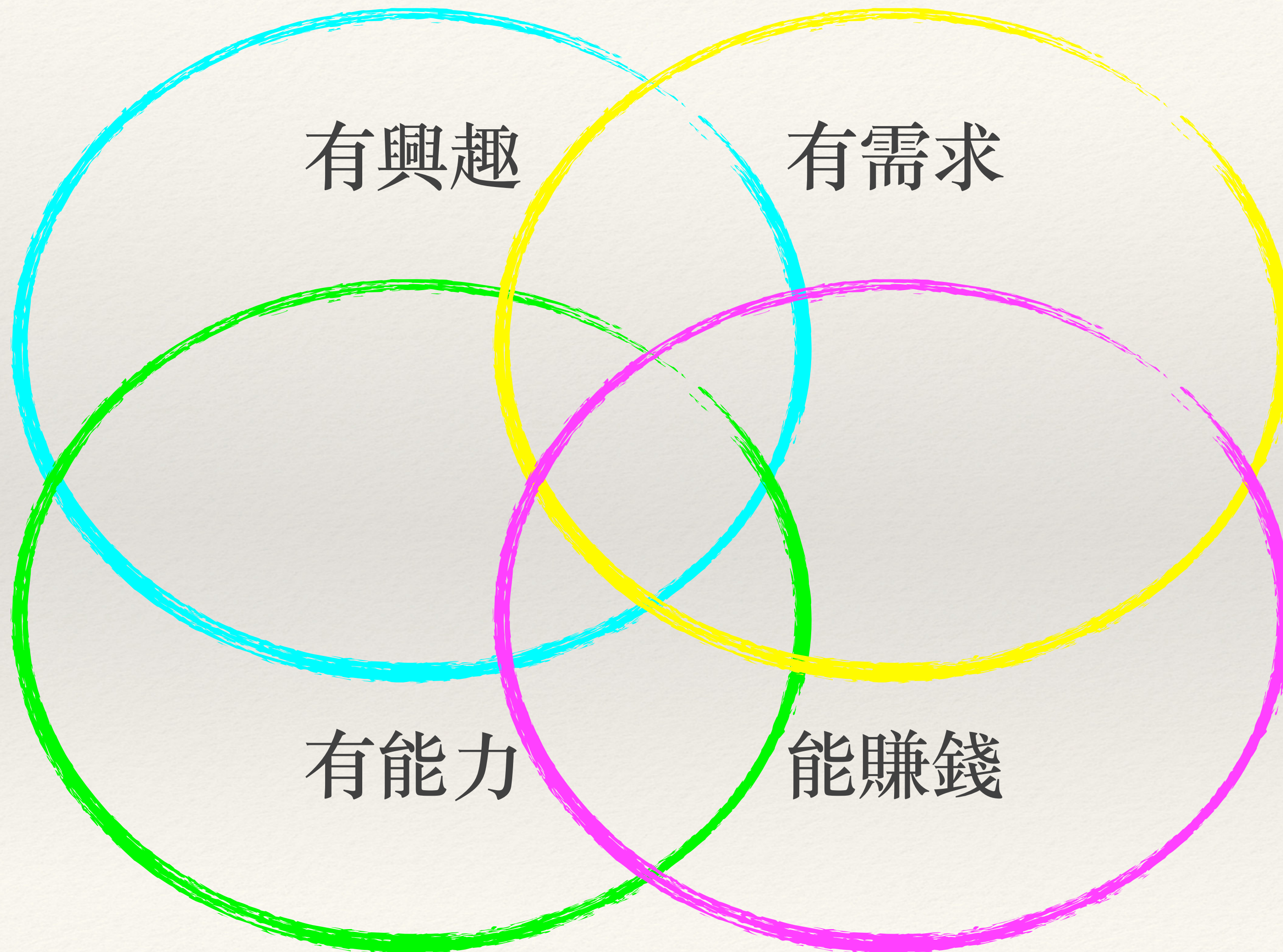
Learning

- ❖ When you're a student
 - ❖ 善加利用學校資源
 - ❖ 實體互動的機會 - 教授 & 同學
 - ❖ 把握“理論”學習的機會 - 別忘了“假設條件”！
- ❖ 終身學習
 - ❖ 結合你的興趣

能力的培養

- ❖ 收集資訊能力是基本，分析判斷才是功夫！
- ❖ 我都懂，我只是不太會表達？！
- ❖ 深入淺出才是融會貫通
- ❖ 無招勝有招

Career



- ❖ Curiosity
- ❖ Back to Basic
- ❖ Think out of the Box

Summary

- ❖ Ethernet
 - ❖ Everywhere, drive technology to the limit —> innovation —> money
- ❖ Think big —> work hard —> dreams come true
- ❖ 能力的提升 —> 選擇的自由 —> 快樂的人生