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Enabling a Software-Defined Automotive Edge with VirtIO based Device Virtualization

Sep 21, 2023

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Supervisor

Panasonic Automotive Systems Co., Ltd.

Heartmotive

Who am I ?

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- ✓ Born in Tianjin, China
- ✓ University in Hong Kong
  - Bachelor of Engineer in Industrial Engineering in HKU
- ✓ Work in Japan
  - Panasonic Automotive Systems Co., Ltd. since 2017
- ✓ Focusing on SDV related advanced engineering including virtualization and cloud-native.
  Representatives of company in multiple OSS initiatives
  - Expert Group Leader of Automotive Grade Linux (AGL) Software-Defined Vehicle Expert Group (SDV-EG)
  - SOAFEE activities (e.g. TSC)
- ✓ Hobby: Travel, Tea, Game

Background: Why SDV is Needed and How Device Virtualization Enables it

Tide of shifting to Software-Defined Vehicles (SDV)

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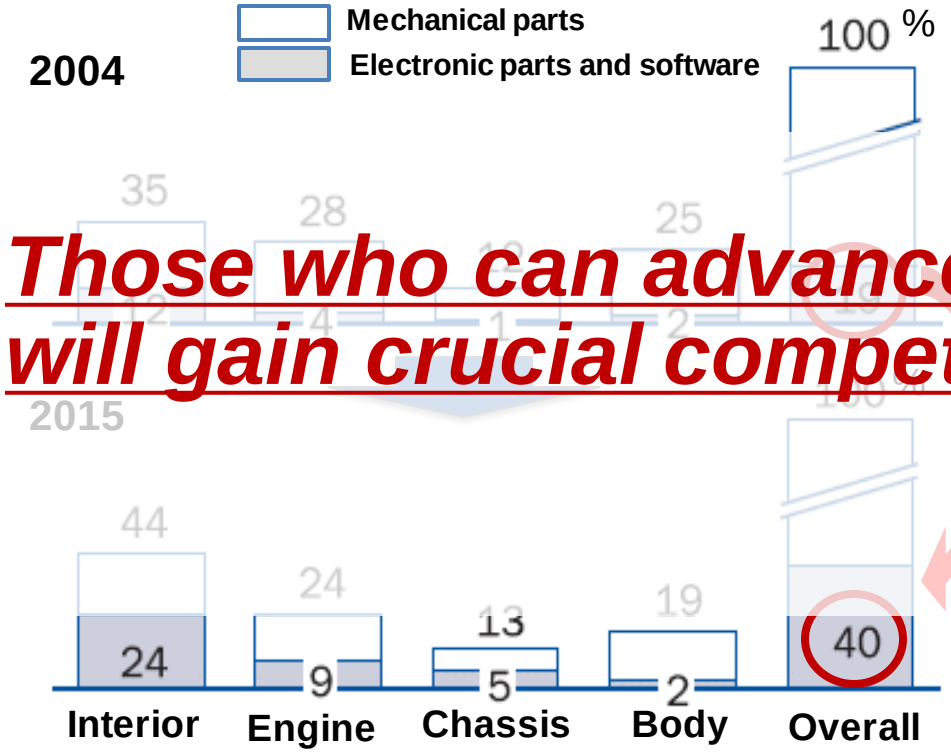
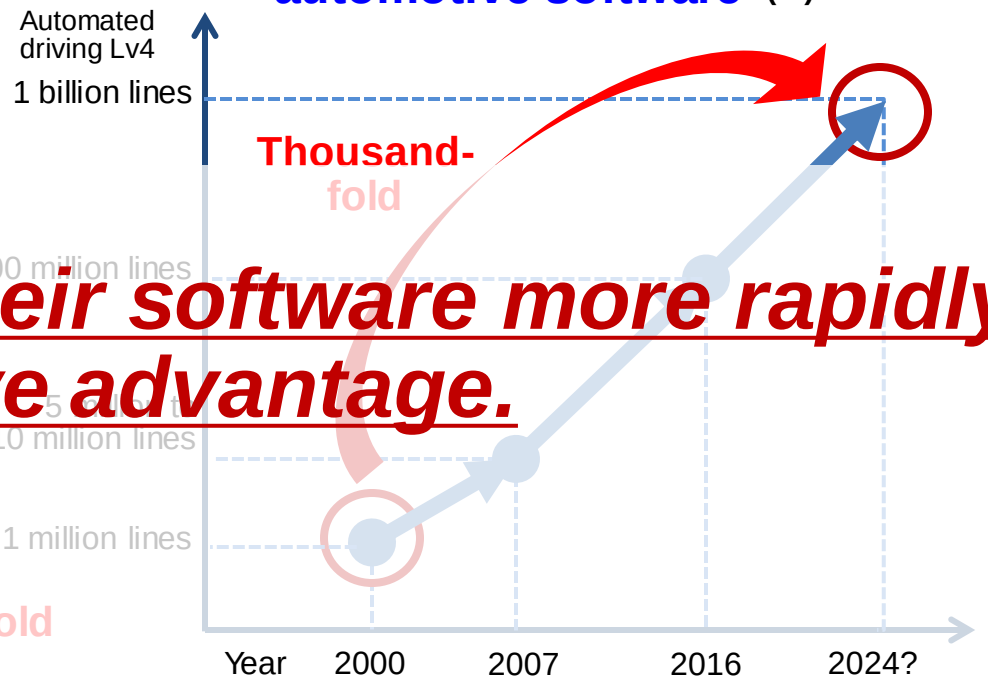
Most explosive evolutions are happening by DIGITAL and SOFTWARE.

Electronic parts and software ratio has doubled in ten years. (*1)



*1: Source: McKinsey "Managing innovations on the road"

More complicated automotive software (*2)



[Reference: The number of source code lines of other products]
- Android OS:12 million lines
- F-35 combat aircraft: 24 million lines
- Microsoft Office 2013: 44 million lines

*2: Source: Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry "Toward acceleration of productivity improvement by IT" Mitsubishi UFJ Morgan Stanley Securities' materials, etc.

Those who can advance their software more rapidly will gain crucial competitive advantage.

Drastic Changes in Automotive Architecture

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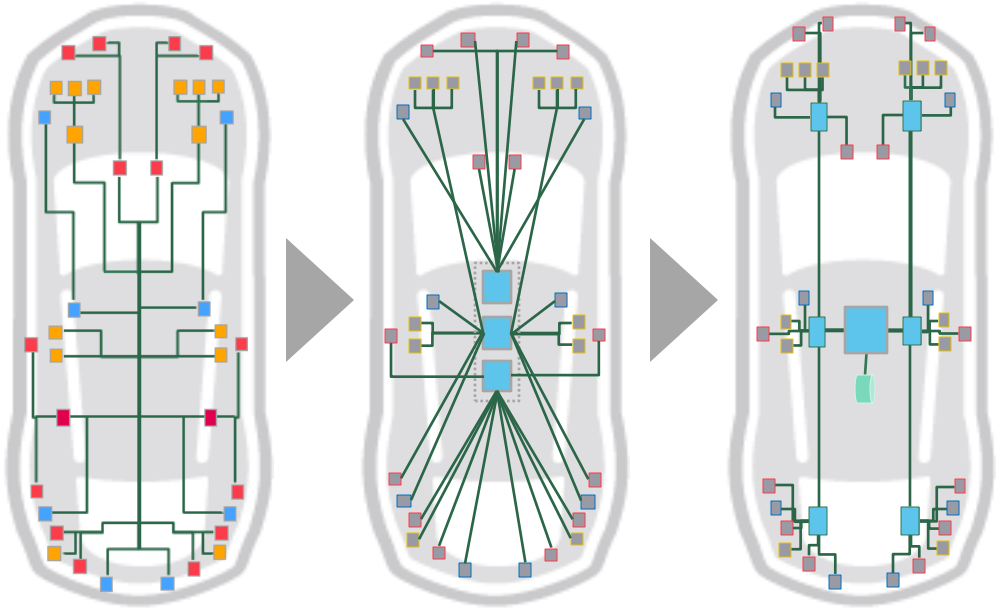
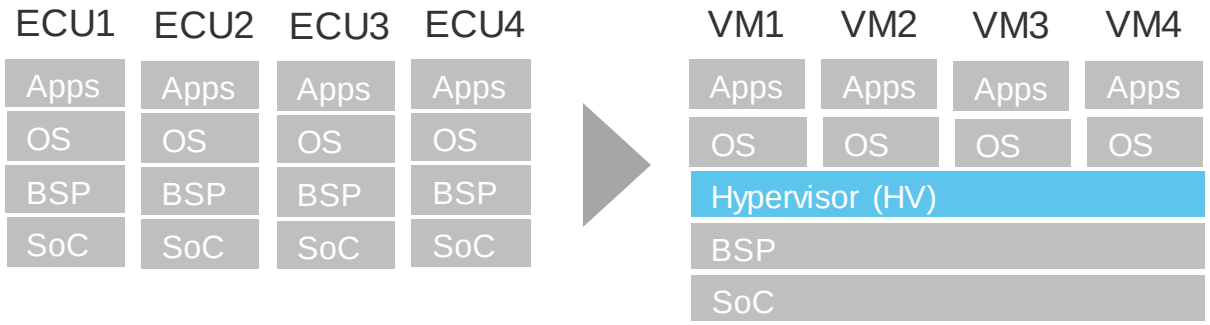
ECU Consolidation



Virtualization Platform



Shifting to SDVs - Changing the Mind of Vehicle Values

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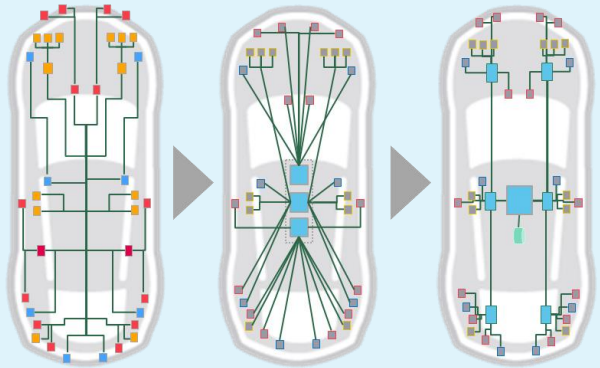
Drastic Changes in Architecture



Open source, de facto standard

AUTOMOTIVE GRADE LINUX

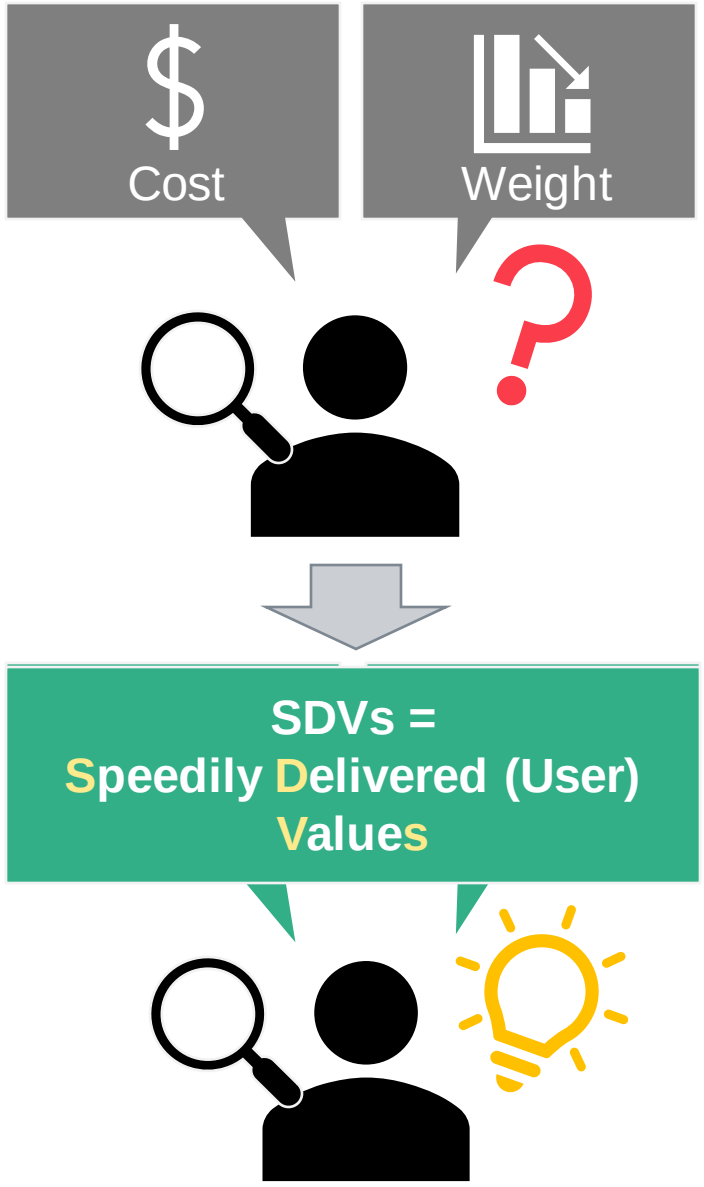
SOAFEE

The Best Stocker - stock.adobe.com

Connected and AI-powered

Big IT players

gguy - stock.adobe.com



Game Change in the Automotive Industry

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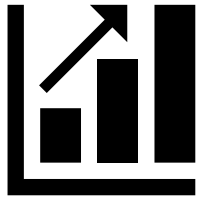
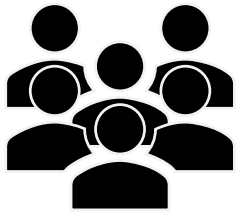
Those who can evolve software more rapidly will secure competitive advantages.

Key Strategies

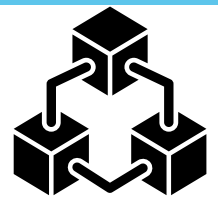


Maximizing LOC per man-month

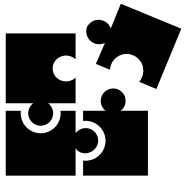


Possessing larger software team

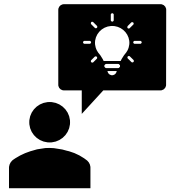
Key Strategies



Sophistication of architecture



Complementing with ecosystems



Rapid product discovery

Desirable Direction of Automotive System Architecture

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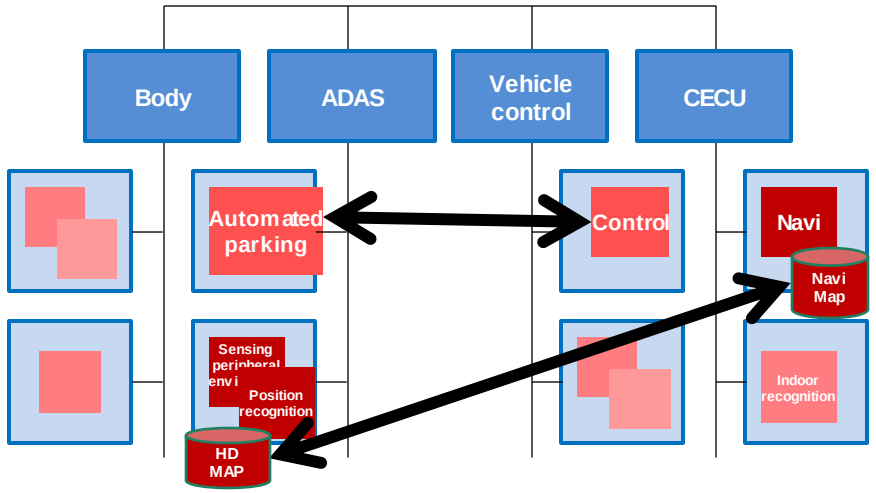
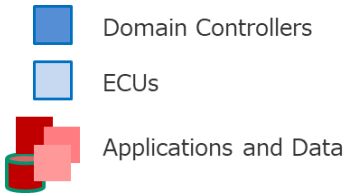
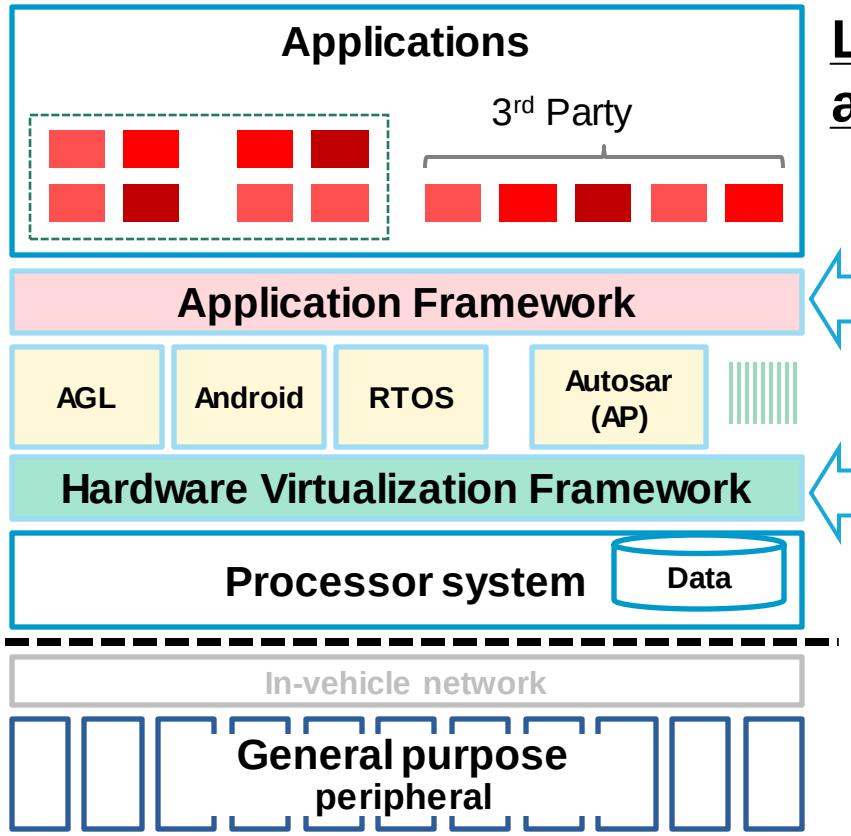
ECU consolidation is not a purpose but means --- The true purpose is to establish the optimal architecture for evolution of software.

"Those who can advance their software more rapidly will gain crucial competitive advantage."



Advancement of technology and updates are difficult. Overlap of computing resources is an issue also.





Logical architecture

Makes Apps code simple by hiding the detail of the underlying platform

Decouples software from underlying hardware

Historical Trend of General Computing Architecture (Distribution and Centralization)

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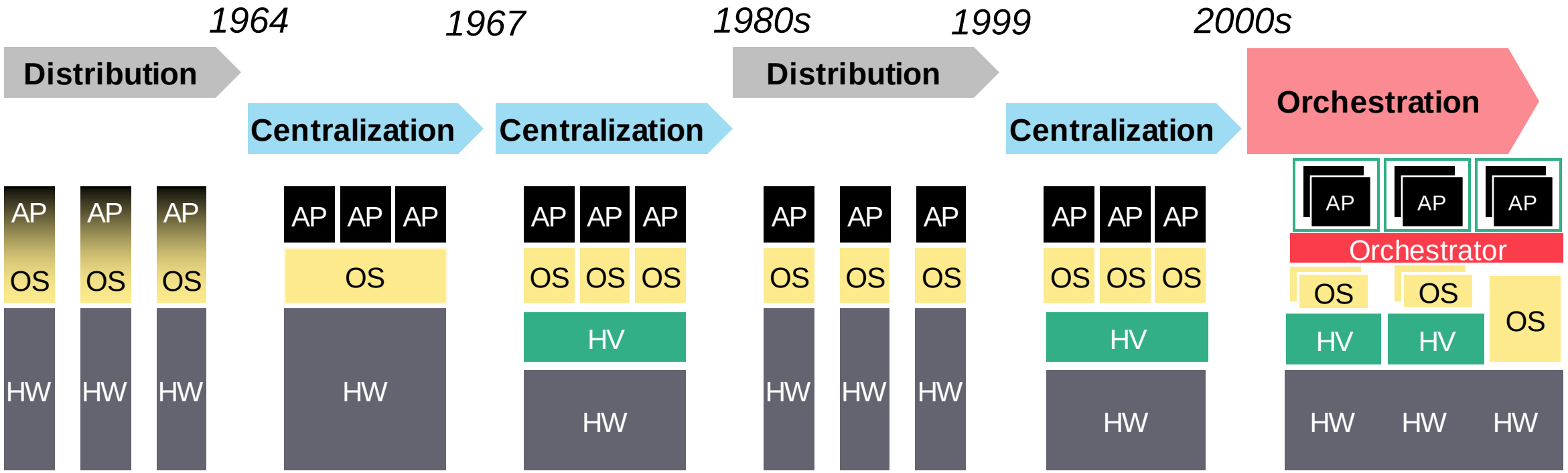
The history of general computing architecture is **repeating the cycle between centralization and distribution**, and the automotive industry is following a similar path.



Created by Panasonic Automotive Systems referring to ITmedia IT solution cram school [Graphic explanation] History of virtualization on a single sheet
https://blogs.itmedia.co.jp/itsolutionjuku/2015/06/post_90.html

Greater Complexity in Automotive to Determine Optimal Architecture

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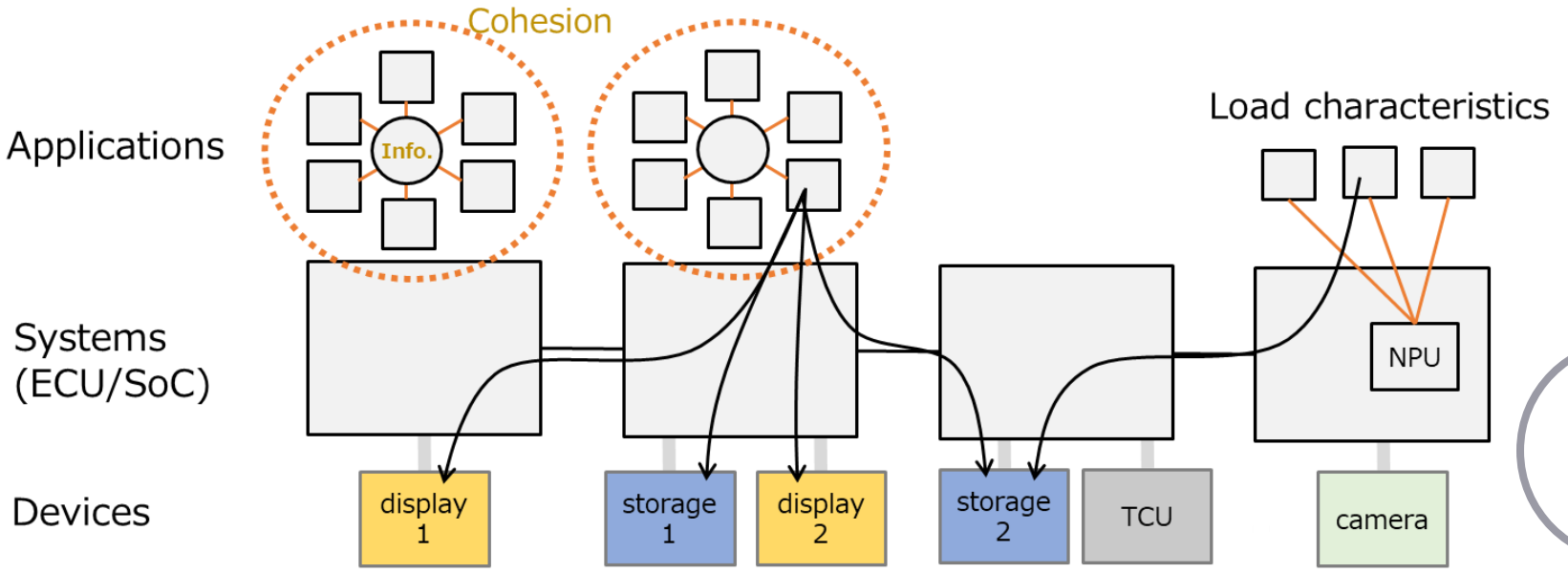
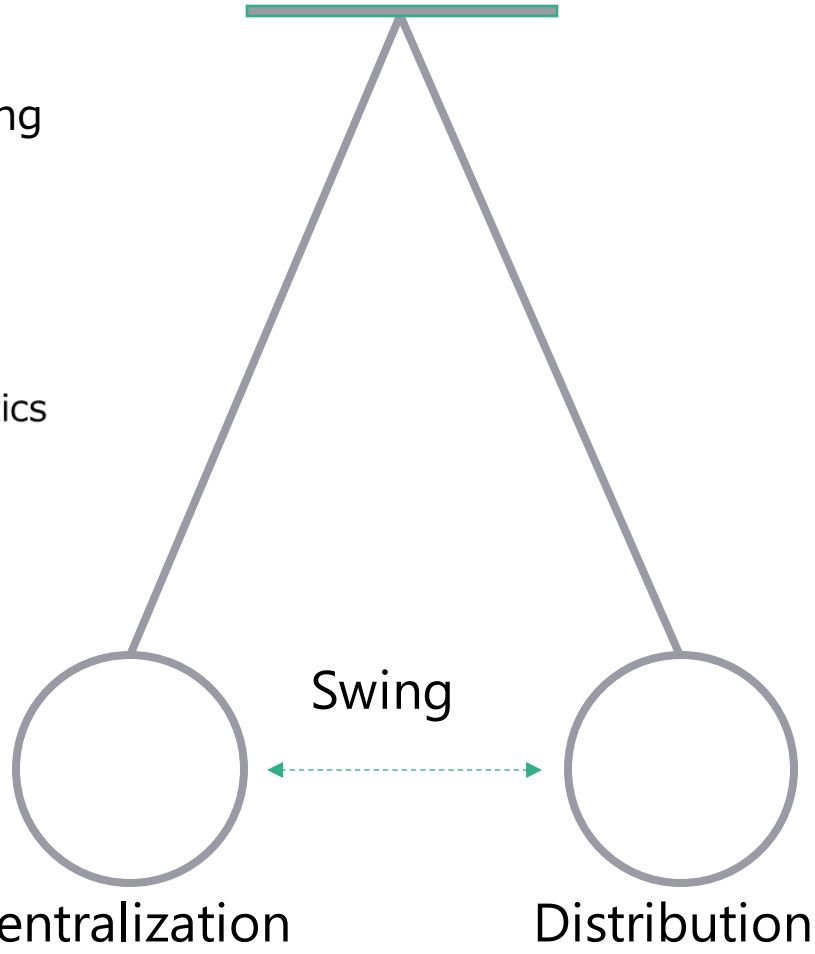
Complicated natures of both devices and applications make a greater complexity for automotive

- Diversity of Devices due to Various Car Models
- Allocation policies of applications and devices added difficulty in determining optimal system architecture whether distributed or centralized





Historical Trend of General Computing Architecture (Distribution and Centralization)

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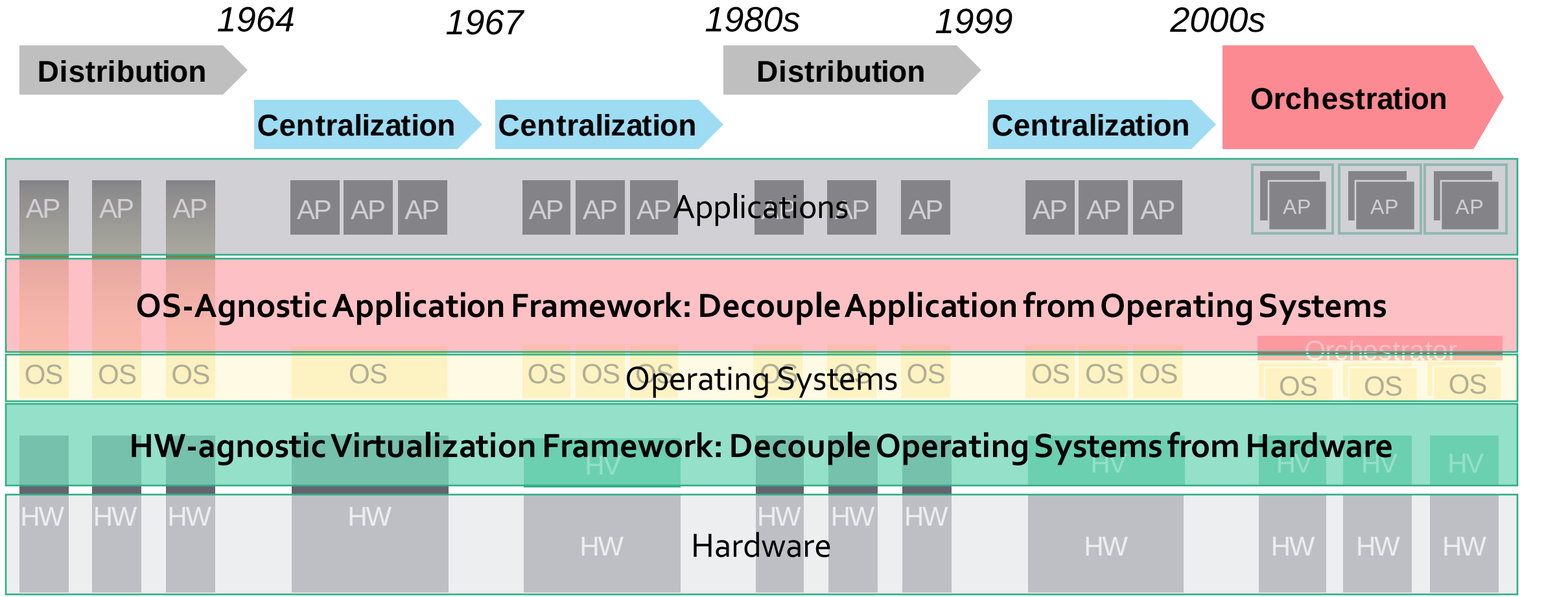
No matter how the underlaying computing architecture has changed, a consistent objective is to decouple apps (directly contributed to user values) from underlying computing architecture

→ An Operating-System-Agnostic Application Framework and a Hardware-Agnostic Abstraction Framework are continuously to be the key to drive industry shift from hardware-centric to software-defined



Today Focus: Device Virtualization – Key to SDV

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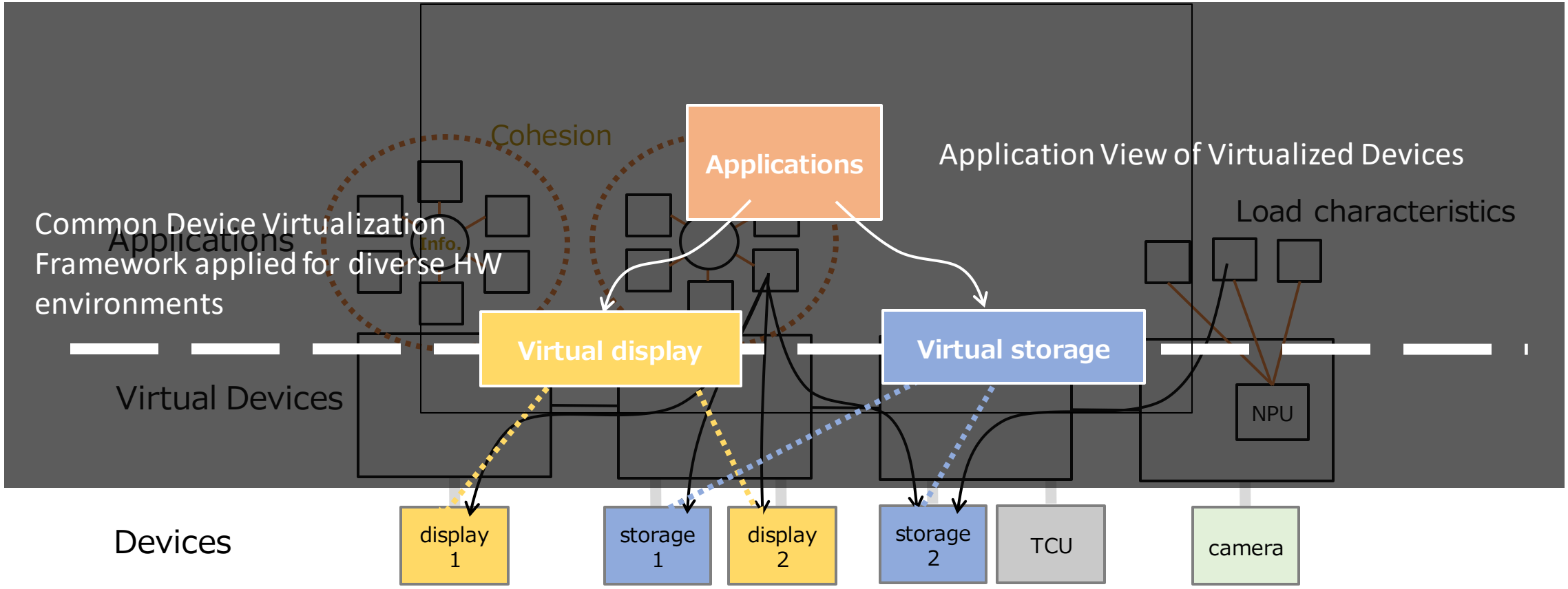
Software Defined Vehicle needs a common device virtualization framework to decouple software implementation from diverse hardware targets across vehicle variants/generations, architectures (single/multiple-ECU) and development environments (real/virtual ECU)



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Standard Device Virtualization Framework - VirtIO

Overview of Device Virtualization - Concept

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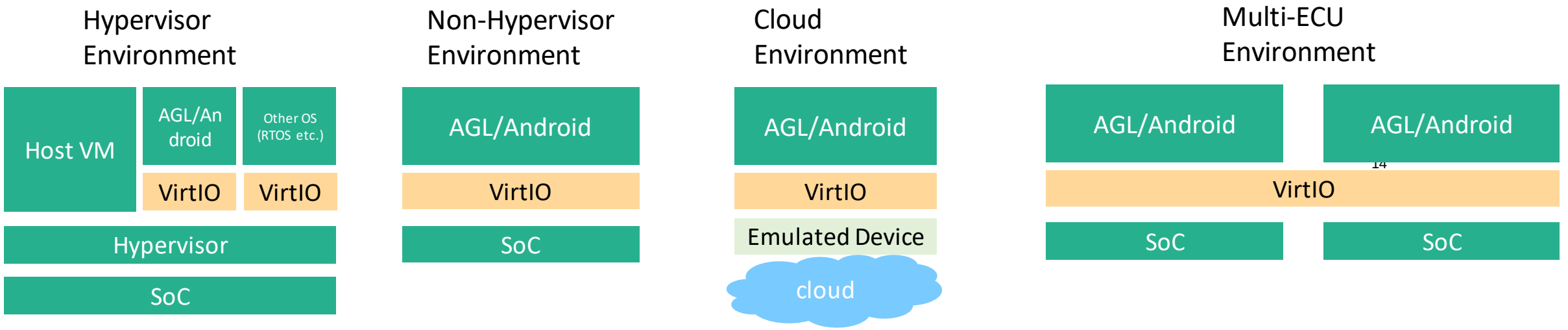
Device Virtualization with VirtIO benefits in establishing
a complete and healthy ecosystem for industry to enhance interchangeability and interoperability in various scenarios.



Pains around Virtualization in the Past

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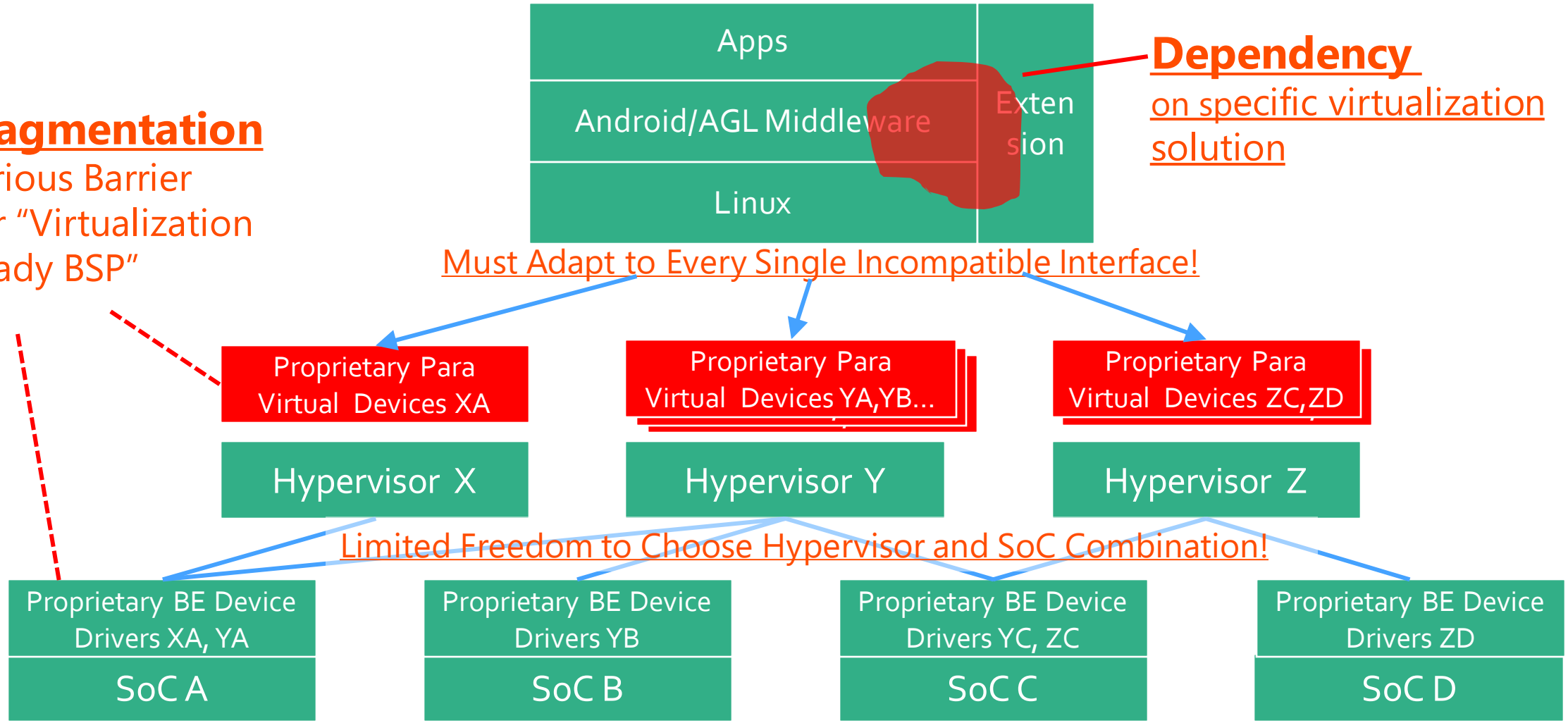
Fragmentation
Serious Barrier
For "Virtualization
Ready BSP"



Excerpt from Panasonic's Keynote Presentation at the AGL AMM July 2020

Enter Standard Virtualization Framework - VirtIO

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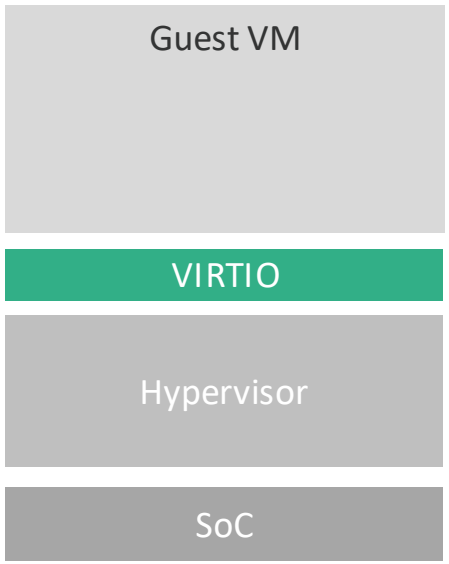
- Developed in 2008 as a hypervisor neutral way of accessing devices
- Provide virtual machines access to Input/Output
- A standardized interface for I/O between virtual machines and hypervisors
- Abstract device functionality instead of hardware
- Drivers are widely available in all major operating systems (Linux, Android, BSD, Windows, etc)
- Supported by all clouds and enterprise hypervisors



- Reliable and proven technology
- Versatile abstraction model
- Scalable and high performance
- Multiple interoperable implementations
- Broad ecosystem across multiple industries

Excerpt from AGL F2F OpenSynergy's Presentation on Oct 2022

VirtIO as a Common Device Virtualization Framework for Automotive

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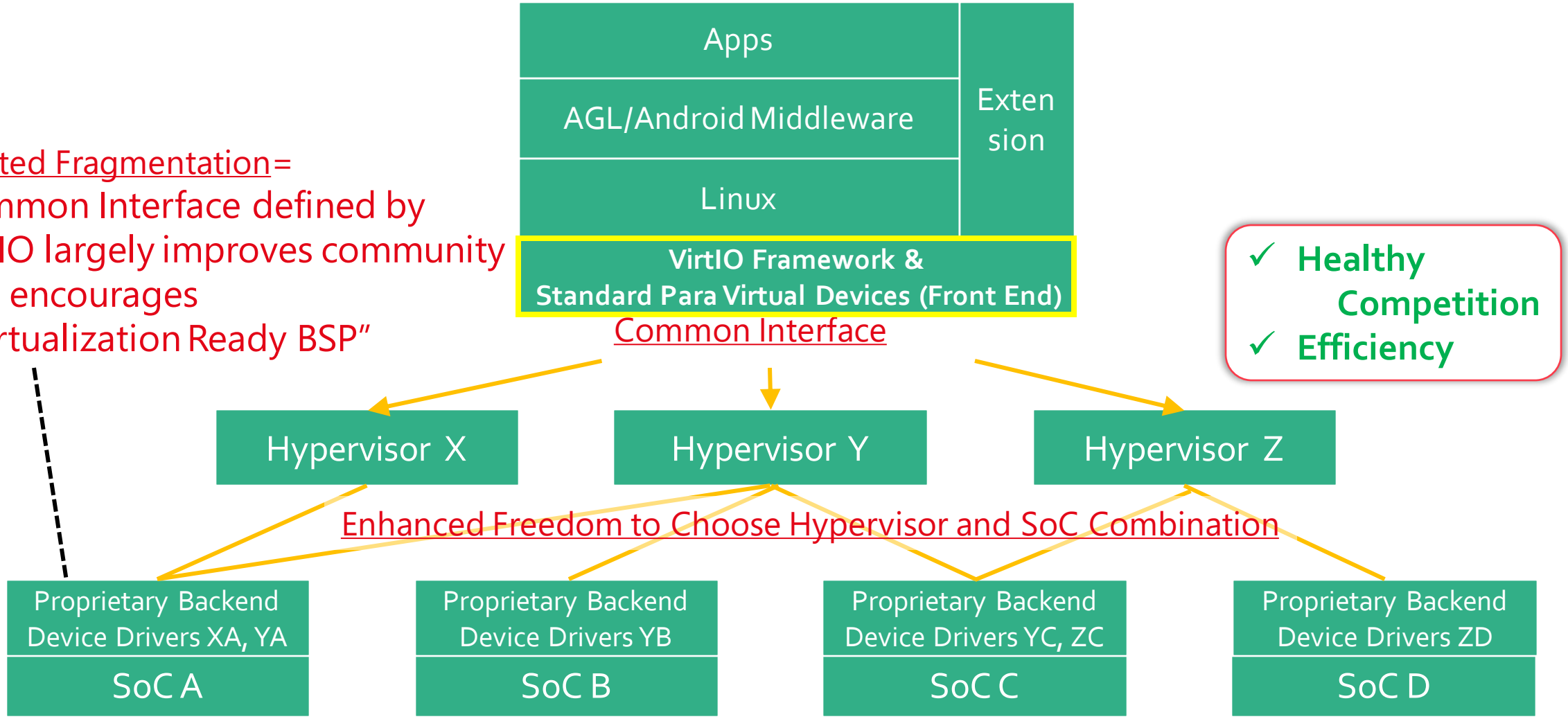
Limited Fragmentation=
Common Interface defined by VirtIO largely improves community and encourages "Virtualization Ready BSP"



✓ Healthy Competition
✓ Efficiency

Excerpt from Panasonic's Keynote Presentation at the AGL AMM July 2020

VirtIO as a Common Framework for Virtualized Automotive OS

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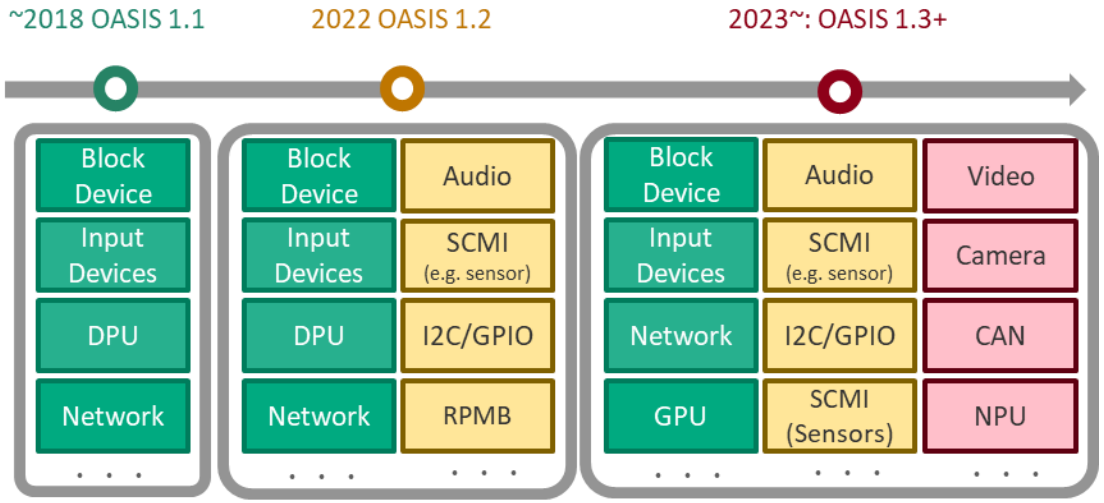
In parallel to steady progress of specification standardization, rapid implementation evolvement has been occurred in various OSS communities to fulfill most of fundamental automotive, indicating VirtIO as the de facto standard of automotive industry.

OASIS



SOAFEE

VirtIO

AUTOMOTIVE GRADE LINUX

VirtIO Beyond Traditional Hypervisor Virtualization

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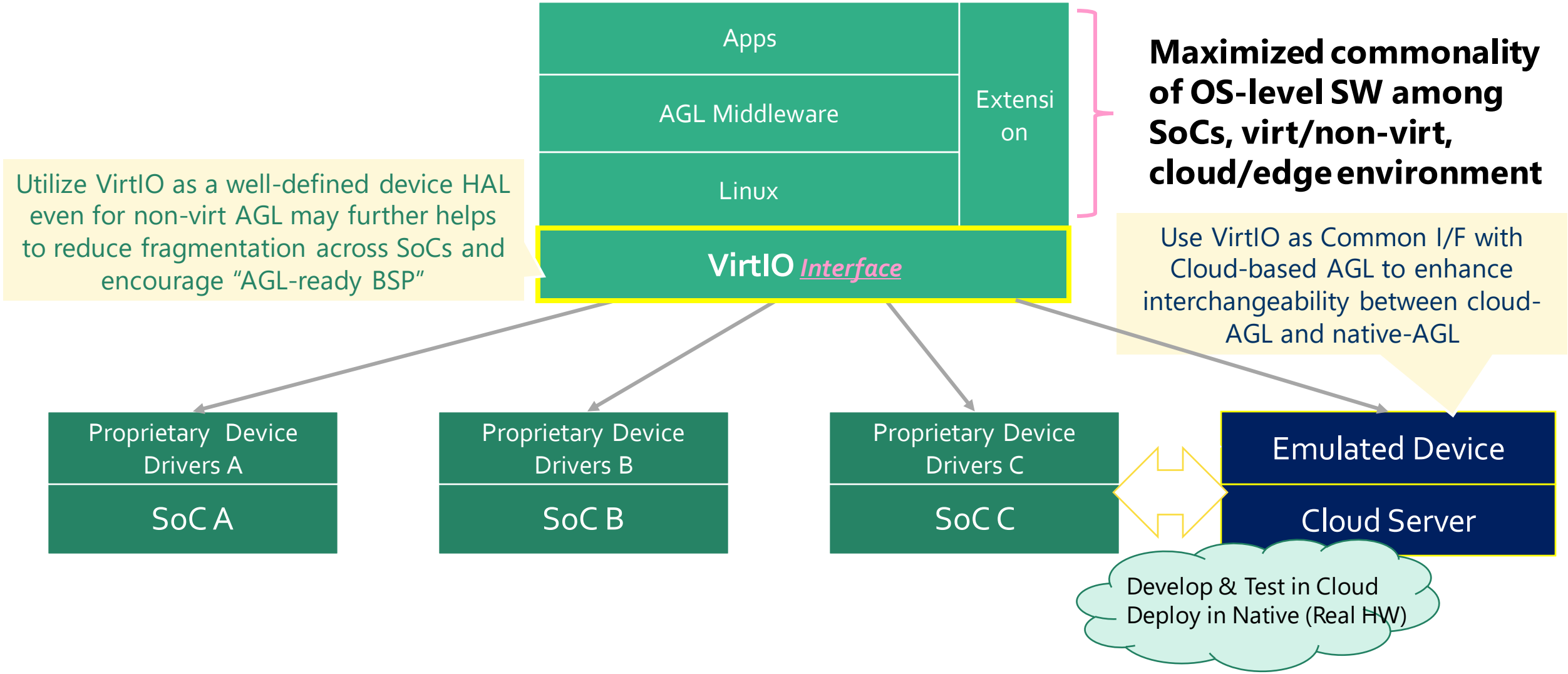

VirtIO Work for Non-Hypervisor Environment

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Non-Hypervisor Environment

Working together with AGL community members, Non-hypervisor VirtIO based virtualization has been in a steady progress.

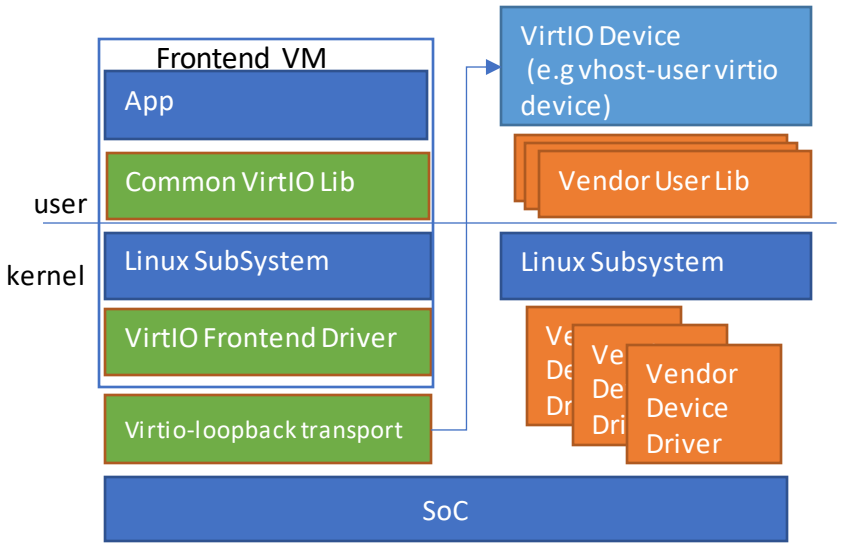
- Finished Design & Implementation of a common virtio-based HAL layer “virtio-loopback” portable to execute on both native and virtual environments with basic devices (blk, rng, input) support
- Continue next-step work to support more devices this year to enable a complete AGL UCB running on the top of virtio-loopback devices
- Plan to extend the use case from single-ECU to multi-ECU and cloud-native

Priority of Device Virtualization Voted by AGL Members (2021)

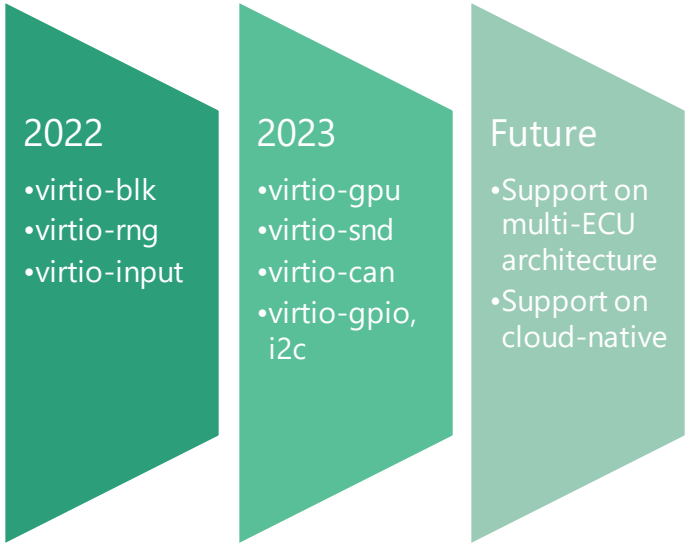
Device	Total Score	Priority
Input Device	29	1
Display	27	2
GPU	26	3
CAN bus	20	4
Block Device	19	5
Audio	18	6
Ethernet	11	7
Bluetooth	9	8
SPI	8	9
Serial console	8	9
SCMI	8	9

* Check more details about Non-hypervisor VirtIO at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Lfj3dYCAiik&list=PL6EdENMl-83iGkh4kpeWFclW5ULIJDqxs&index=23

High Level Architecture Design



Status and Future Plan



VirtIO Work for Cloud-Native Environment

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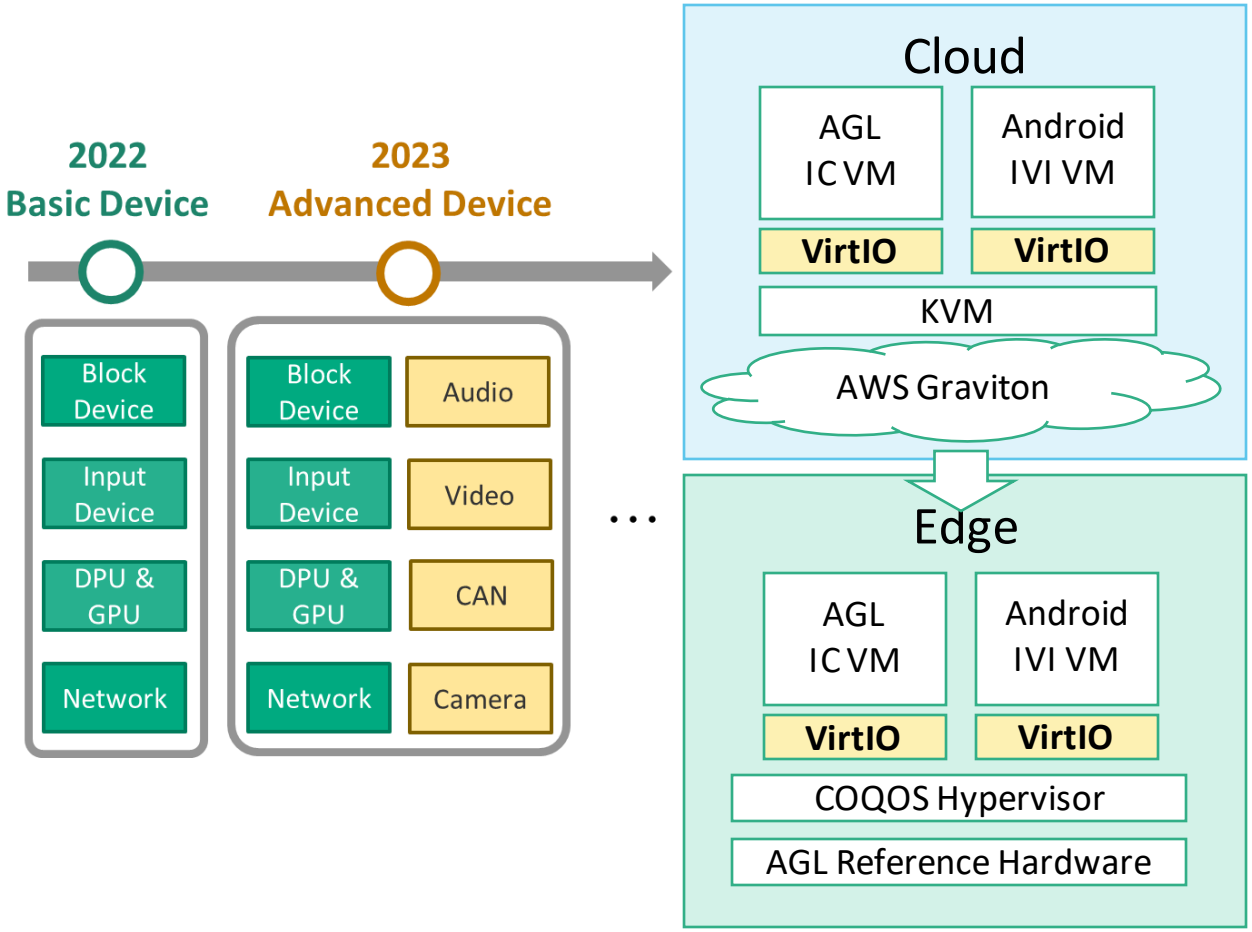
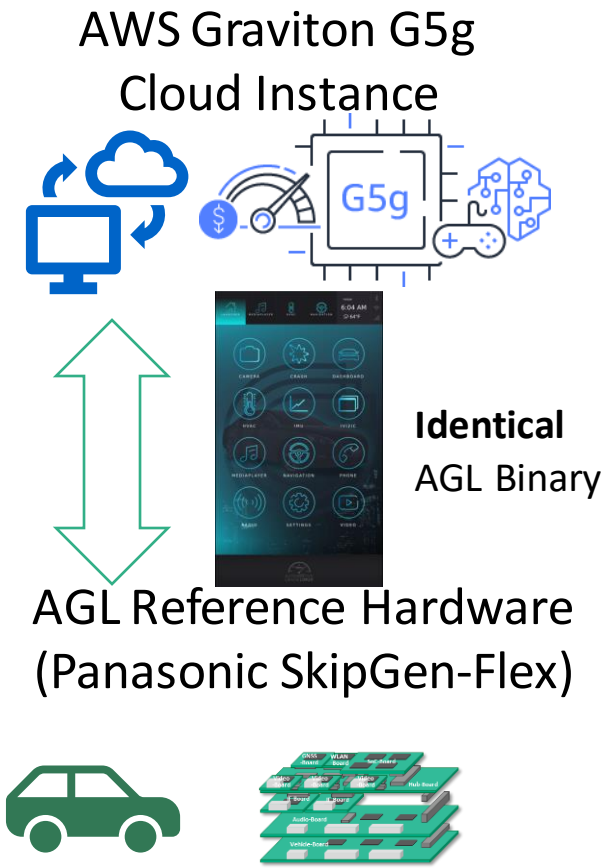
- Identical IVI binary can be run on both cloud and edge -> OS-level binary parity
- Same OS binary can be deployed to different automotive hardware -> SoC Agnostic





VirtIO Work for Cloud-Native Environment

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Advanced Use Case of VirtIO: Display Virtualization Enabling Software-Defined Architecture

Display Trends in the Automotive Industry

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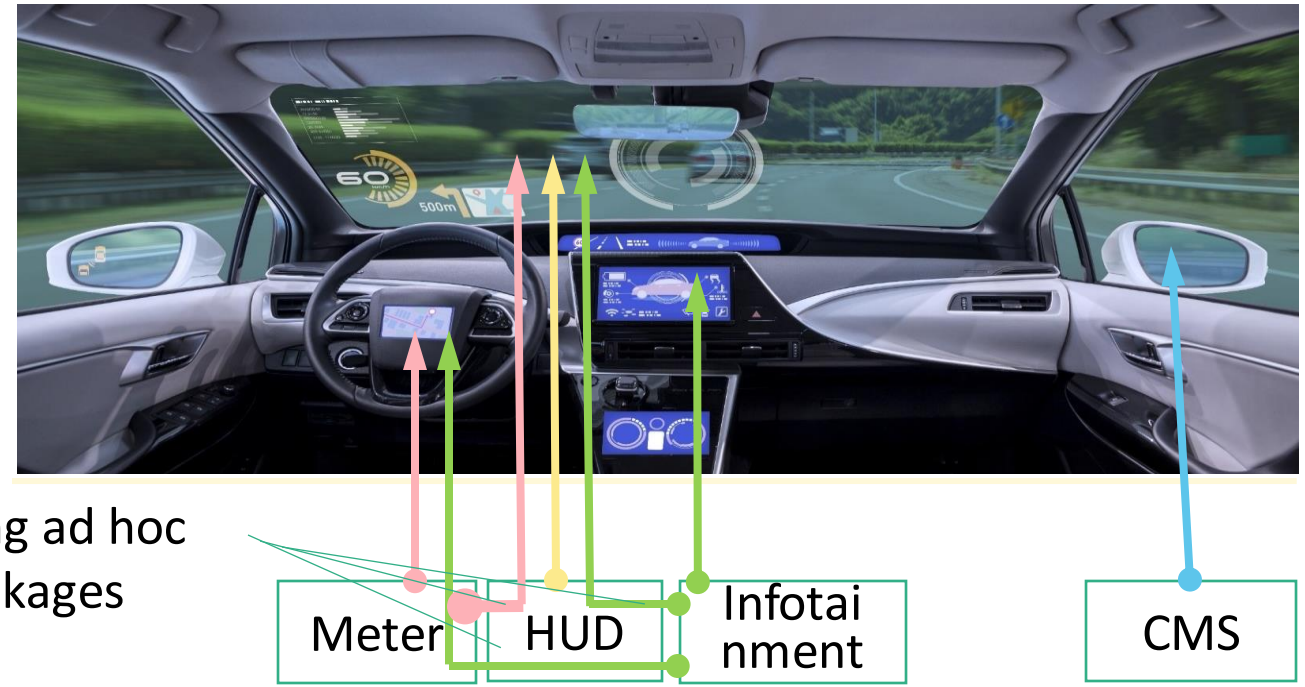
- The increasing number of in-vehicle displays has created a demand for flexible application display across multiple displays, introducing new UI/UX possibilities.
- However, developing this flexibility using existing graphic frameworks is costly.

=> Needs a "Software-Defined" display framework that separates software from hardware.



Software-Defined Display Virtualization Technology - Unified HMI

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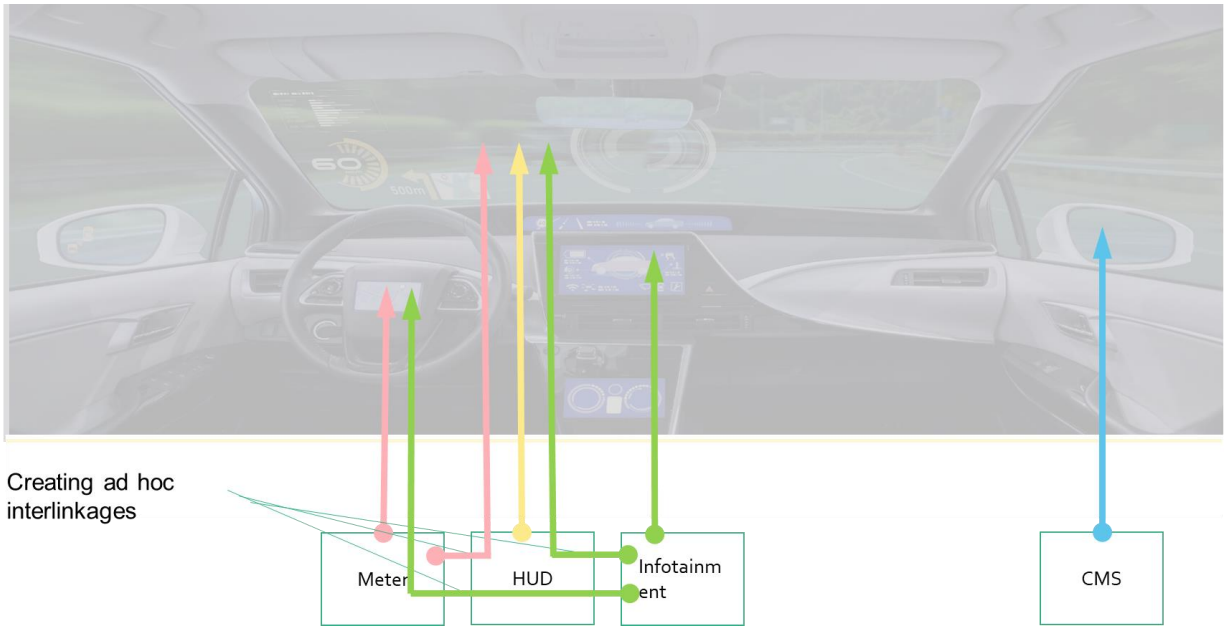
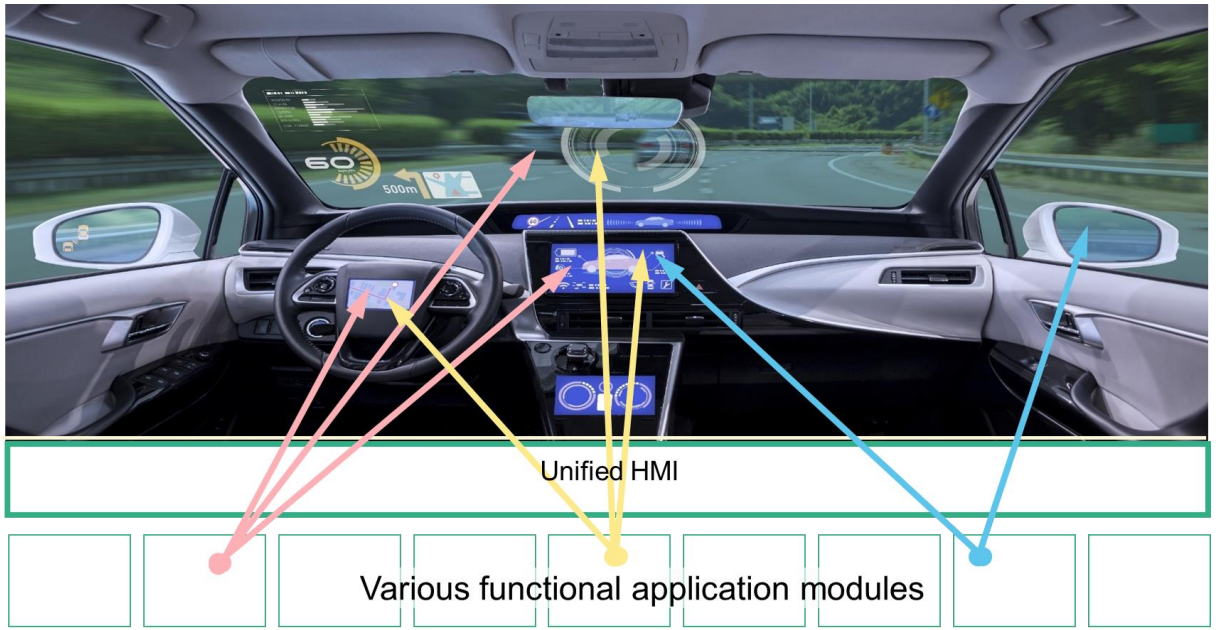
Legacy HMI System

Strict Restriction on ECU & Function-Display Relationship causing harmful Impediment for Cockpit UX



Unified HMI System

Full Flexibility on ECU & Function-Display Relationship for Cockpit UX Innovation



Software-Defined Display Virtualization Technology - Unified HMI

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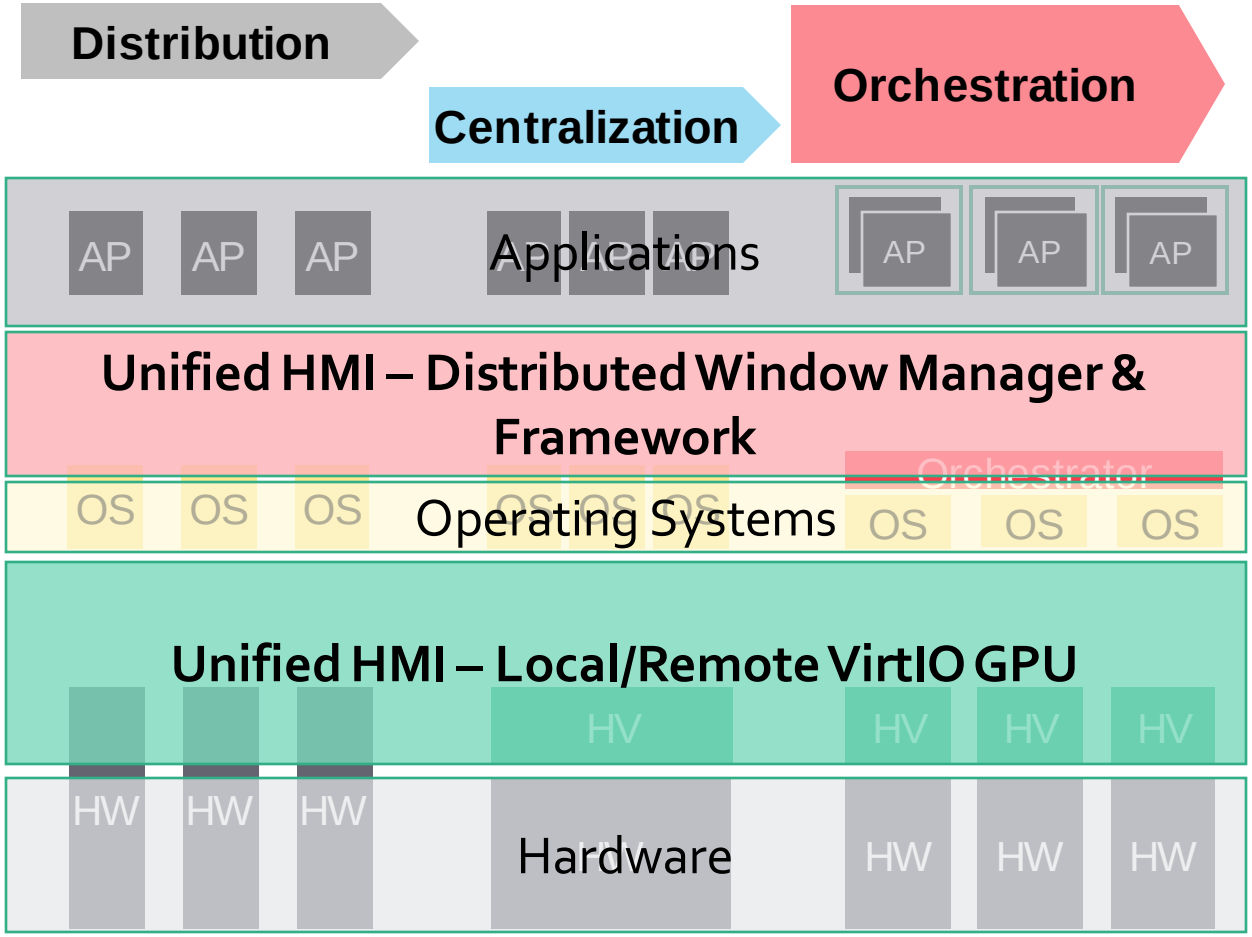
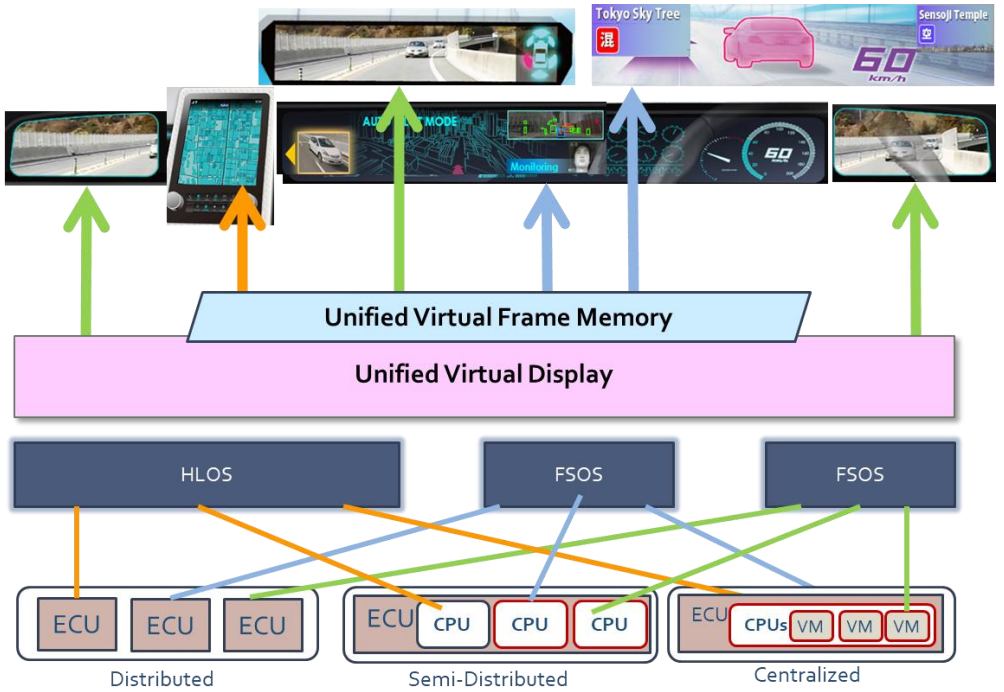
Unified HMI, as a virtual display technology, has been a good example of decoupling application implementation from underlying computing architecture, which enables a flexible, dynamic and fast-evolved Cockpit/Cabin UI/UX





Unified control of all physical displays by **mappig multiple physical displays** into a **single large virtual display**

Concept of Unified HMI

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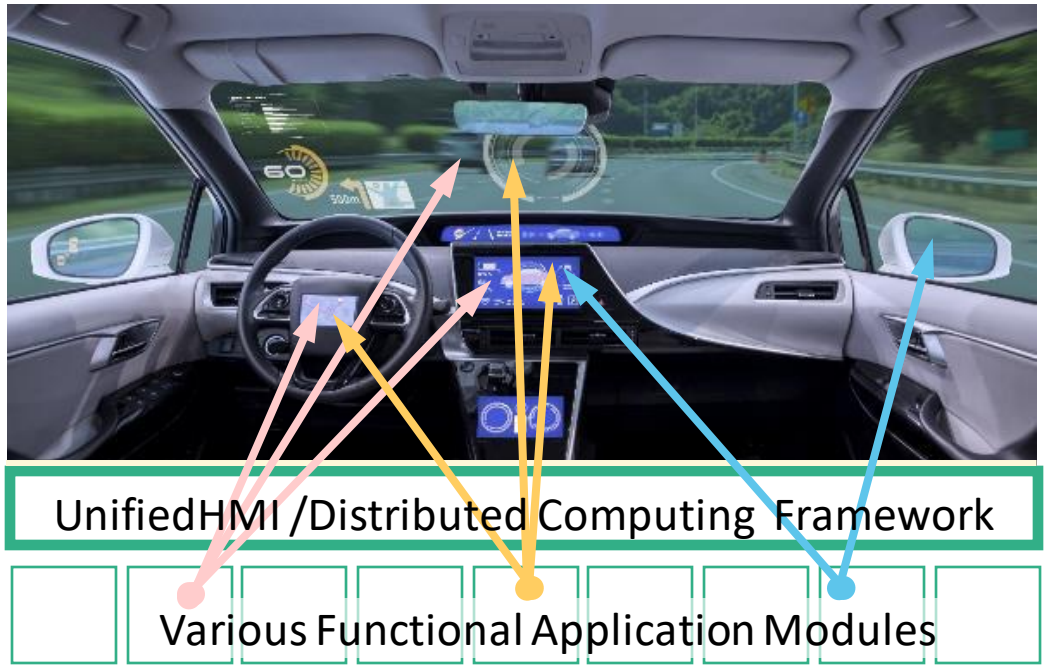
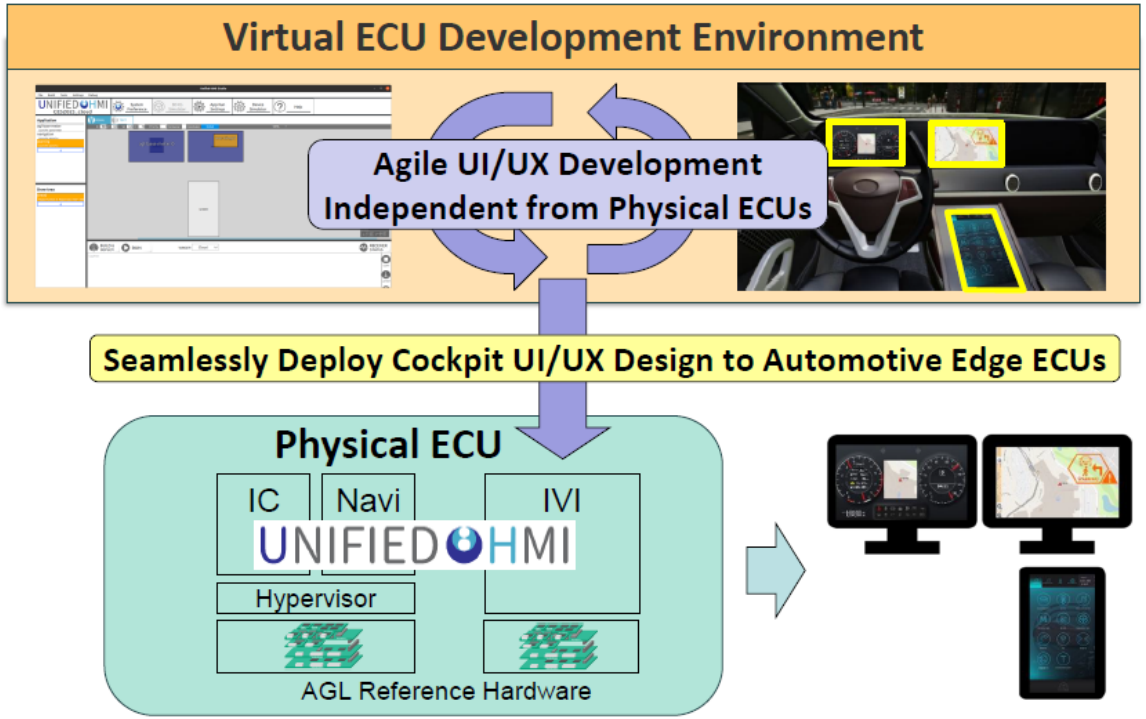
- Unified HMI is a "Software-Defined" display virtualization platform that allows for flexible development of the entire cockpit UI/UX across multiple displays **independent of hardware and OS configuration**.
- The entire cockpit UI/UX is developed using virtual ECU in the cloud and it can be seamlessly deployed to the physical ECU, enabling rapid development and deployment through OTA updates.





Unified HMI Schematic Architecture

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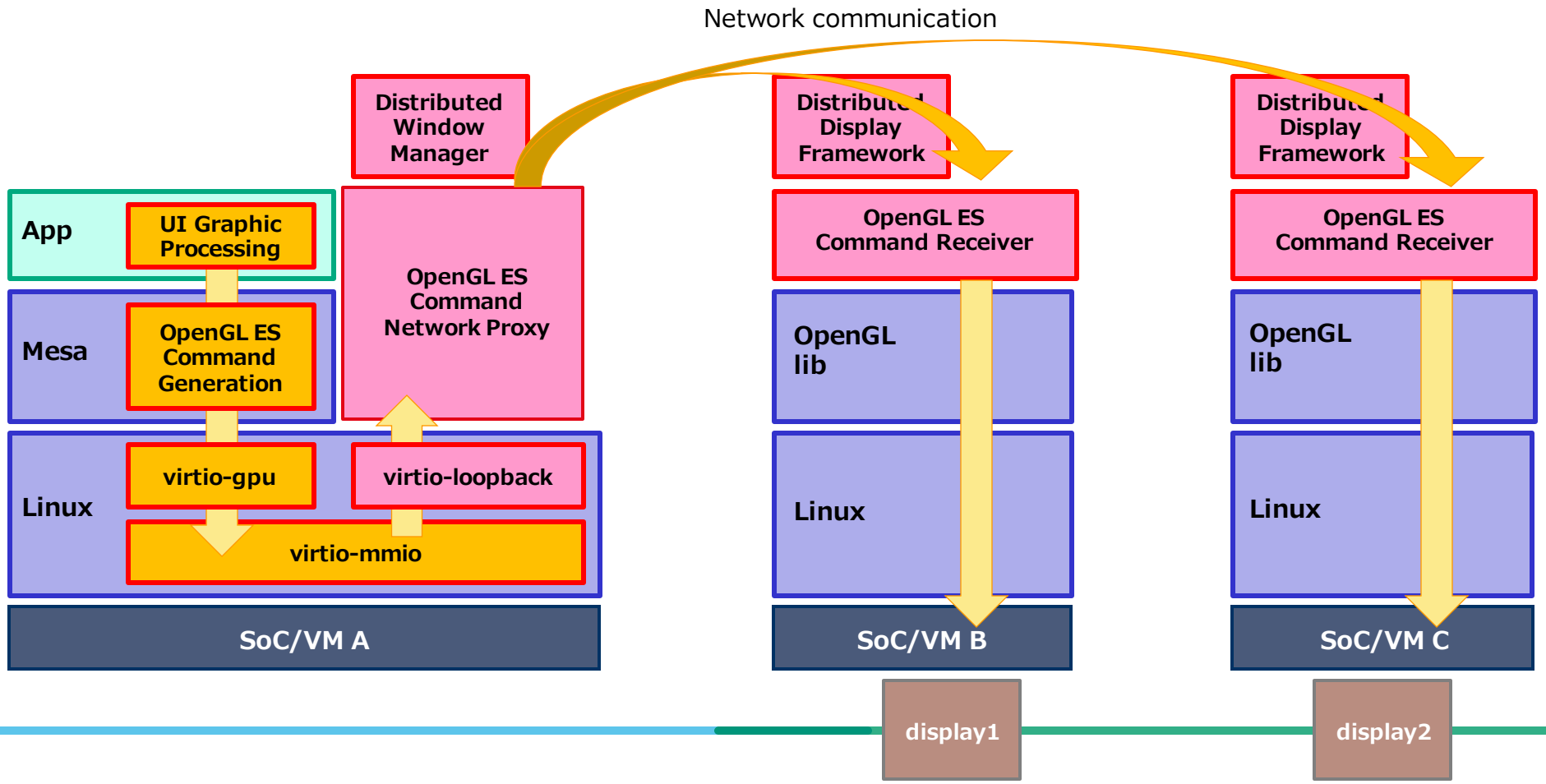
① Apps are rendered with virtual GPU (VirtIO-GPU)
② Graphics are drawn by remote system through proxy requests
③ Layouts are managed by the distributed window manager



Unified HMI Demo

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Value Unified HMI provides

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For Automotive Developers

Agile & Software-Defined Cockpit UI/UX Development

- Efficient and integrated cockpit UI/UX development & evaluation on virtual environment
- Scalable to deploy seamlessly to various car grades/models

For Automotive Users

Fast-evolving & Personalized Cockpit UI/UX Experience

- Upgraded customer experience from frequent OTAs on UI/UX improvements
- Flexible cockpit UI/UX able to be customized according to user preference no matter of car grades/models

Unified HMI OSS Activities

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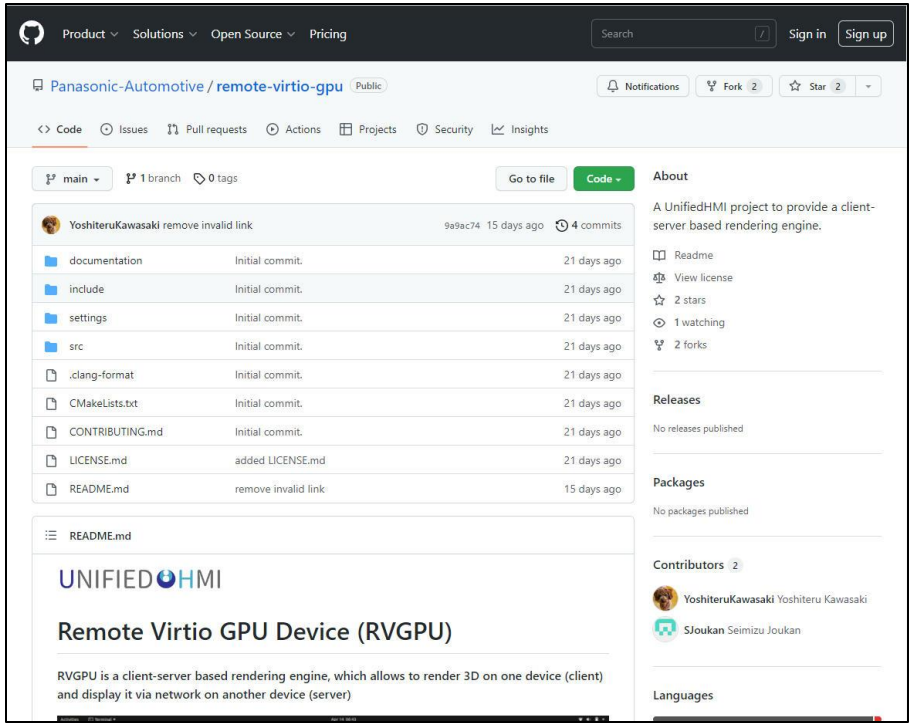
Unified HMI OSS Roadmap

Publish Unified HMI on GitHub* (2022.9)

Unified HMI Demo in CES (2023.1)

Apply Unified HMI to Latest AGL UCB Version PP (2023.7)

*) https://github.com/Panasonic-Automotive/remote-virtio-gpu



*)https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k_T2zbEjlA0&list=PL6EdENMl-83iGkh4kpeWFclW5ULIJDqxs&index=12

Achieving a Software-Defined Multi-Display System with Unified HMI - Kenta Murakami, Panasonic @AGL All Member Meeting 2023 Summer

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Moving Forwards: Constructing a Healthy Ecosystem around Device Virtualization

Ideal Device Virtualization Framework for Software Defined Vehicle

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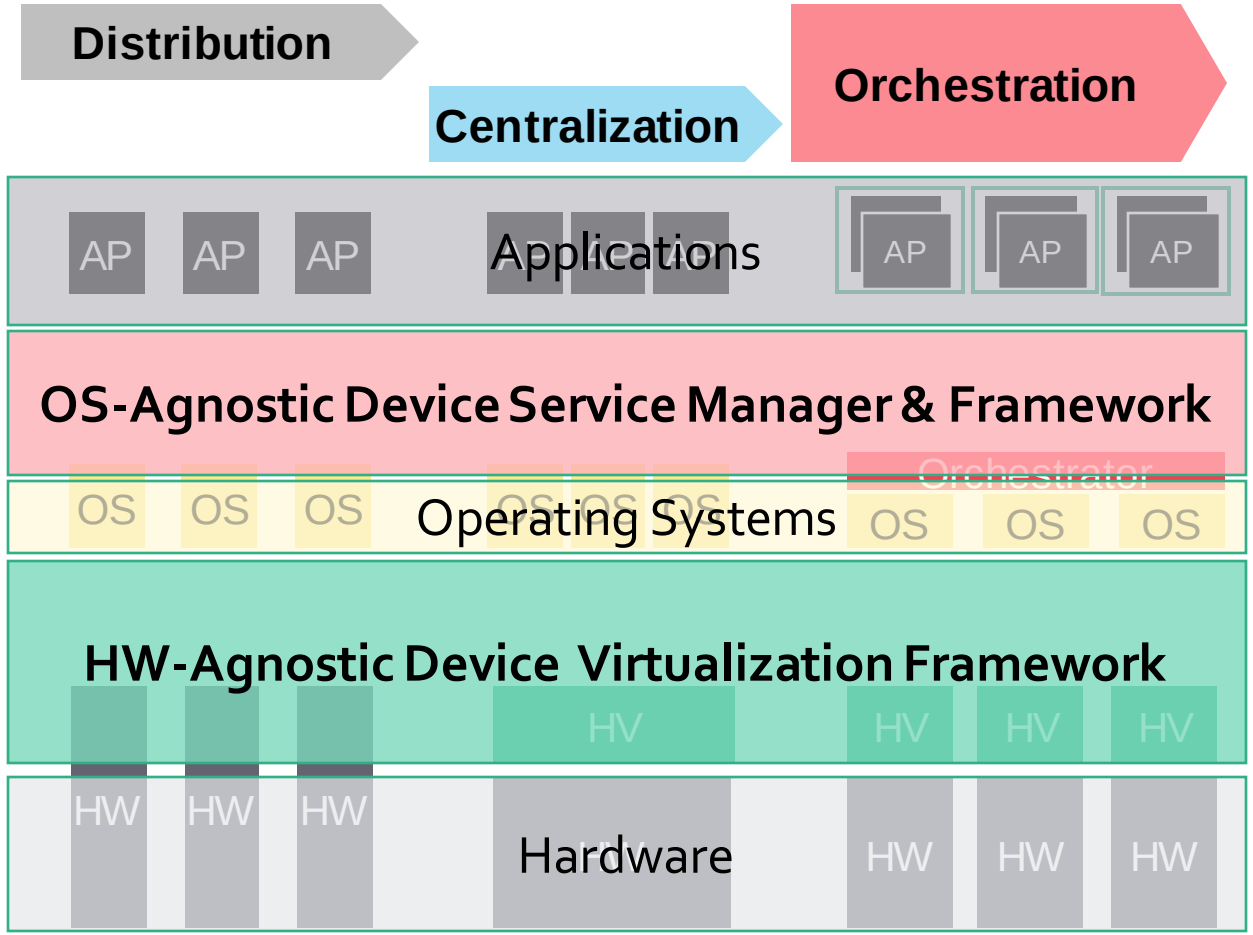

Scalable **O**pen **A**rchitecture **f**or **E**mbedded **E**dge

SOAFEE

Scalable, **O**pen, **A**utomotive, **F**lexible, **E**fficient, **E**ndurable

Ideal Device Virtualization Framework for Software Defined Vehicle

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Let's
Be Together & Be Open
in
Creating a Standard SDV Enabling Virtualization Framework

ge

Scalable, Open, Automotive, Flexible, Efficient, Endurable