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Neuromorphic Data Microscope

Information Assurance Symposium 2016

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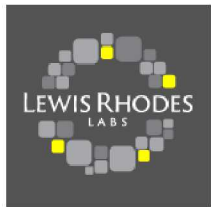
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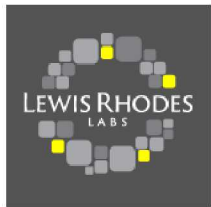
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Vision

Neuromorphic Processing Units (NPU's)
are stunningly power efficient
at pattern matching

Mission impact,
pervasive & profound



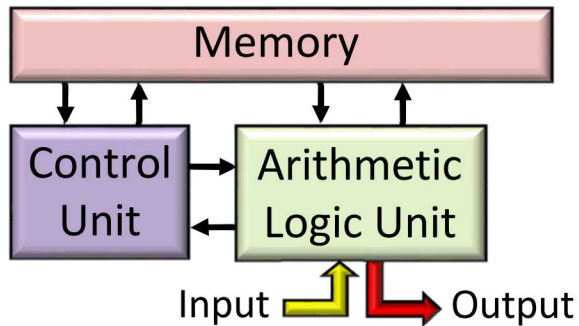
Imagine

- ❖ Orders of magnitude lower power, size, weight & cost
- ❖ Linearly scalable to arbitrary bandwidths
- ❖ Scalable to 10's of 1,000's of expressions
 - Efficient scaling with pattern complexity
- ❖ Deterministic; ie. robust to stream(s) content
- ❖ Scalable to millions of parallel contexts (sessions)
- ❖ Dynamically reconfigurable

Neuromorphic Processors are Disruptive

Neuromorphic is very Different

Legacy Von Neumann Architecture (CPU)

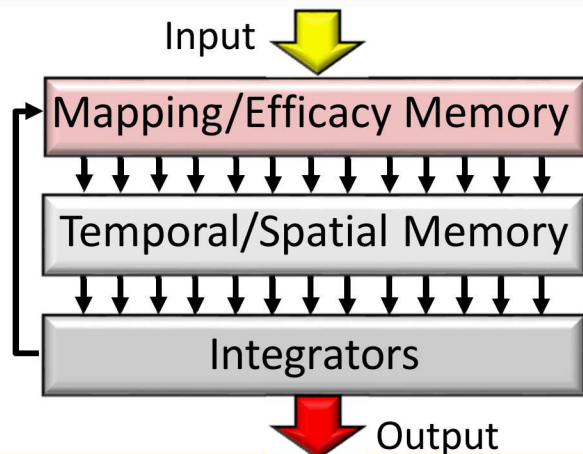


❖ Complex processor

- Extraordinarily flexible
- Data processing via sequential instructions

❖ Simple memory

Neuromorphic Processing Unit (NPU)



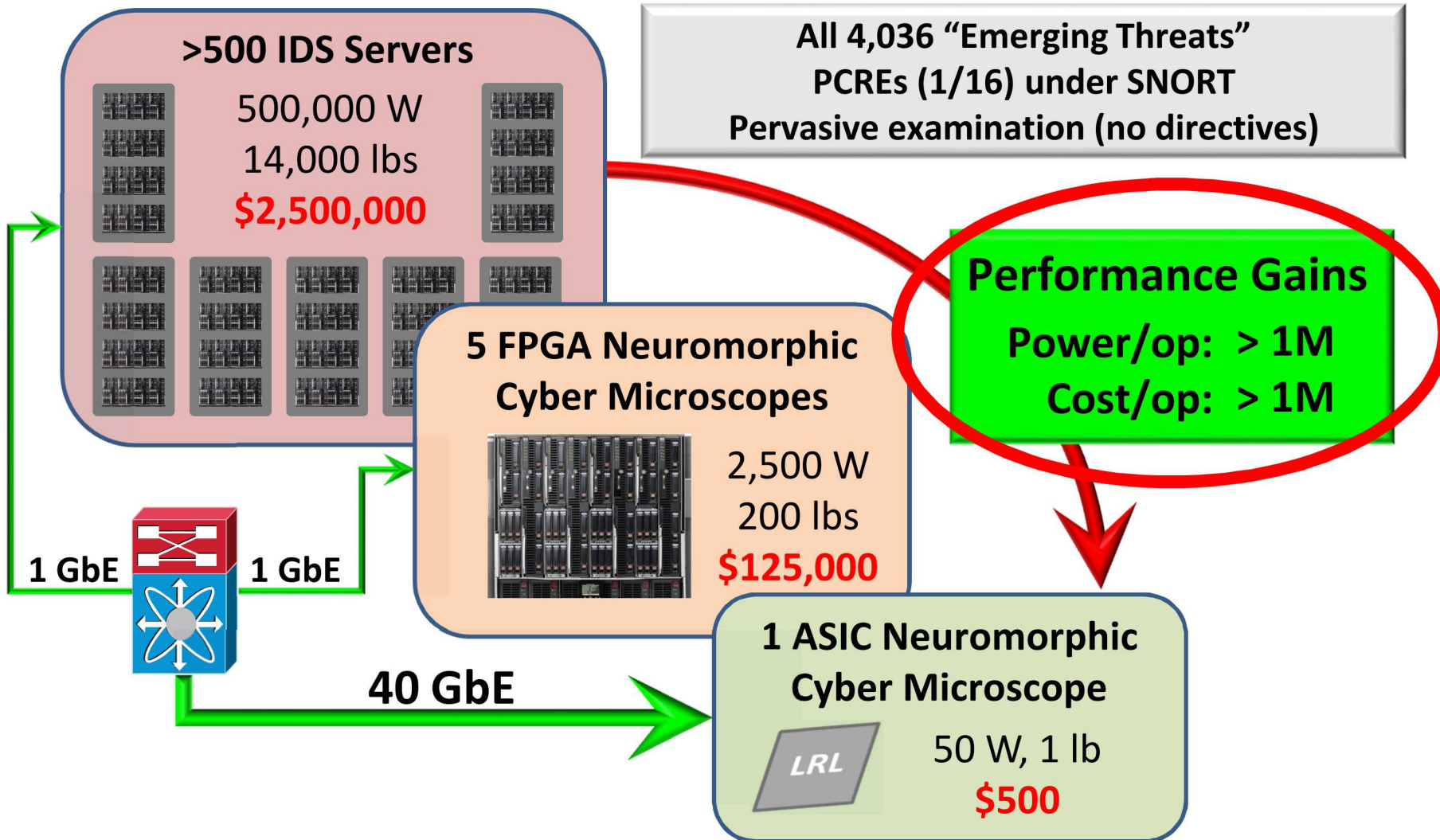
❖ Simple processor

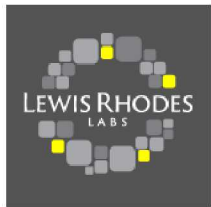
- Massively parallel integrators

❖ Complex memory

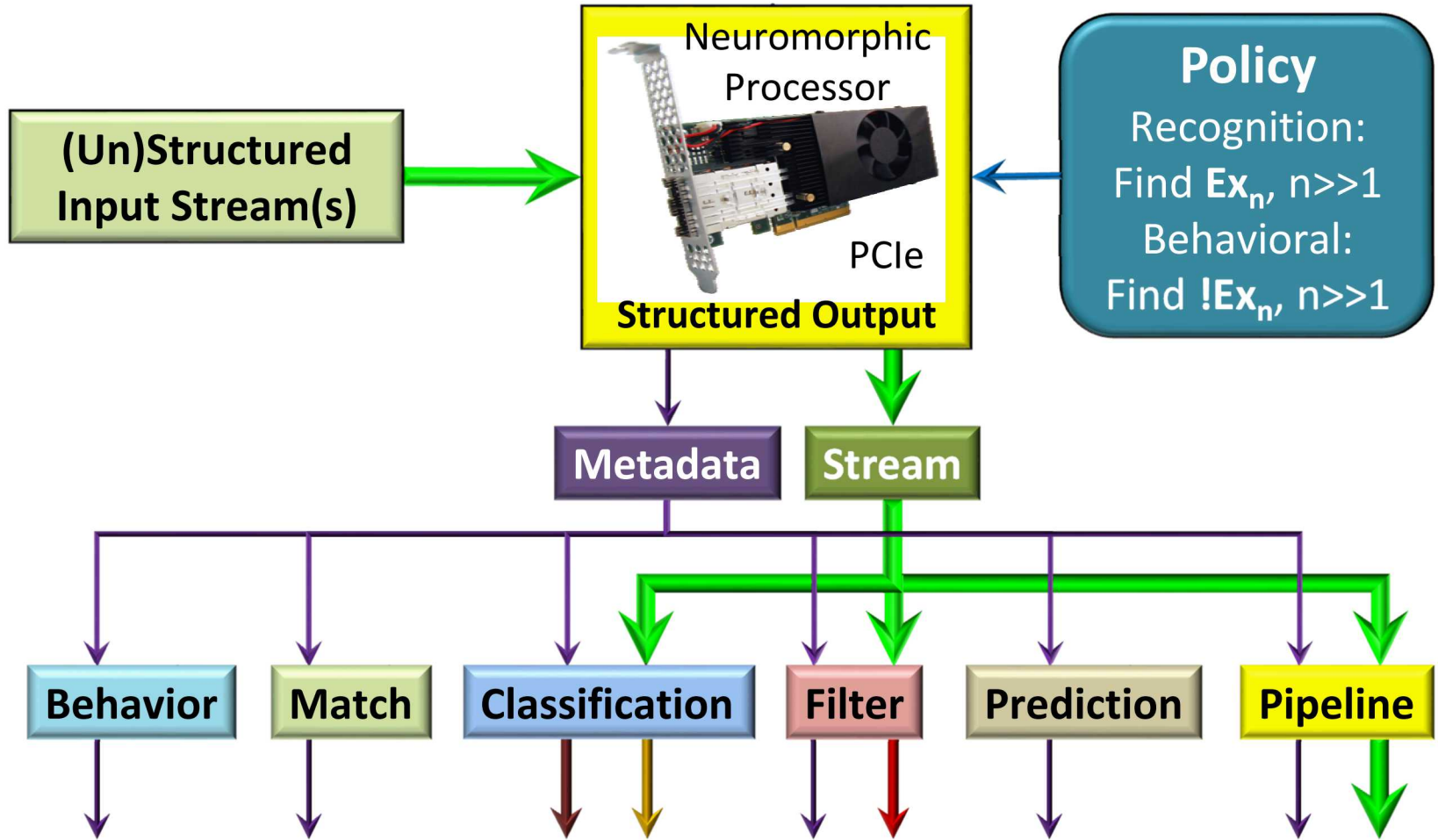
- Data processing via efficacy & temporal/spatial mapping
- Processing is multi-dimensional

Power/op & Cost/op

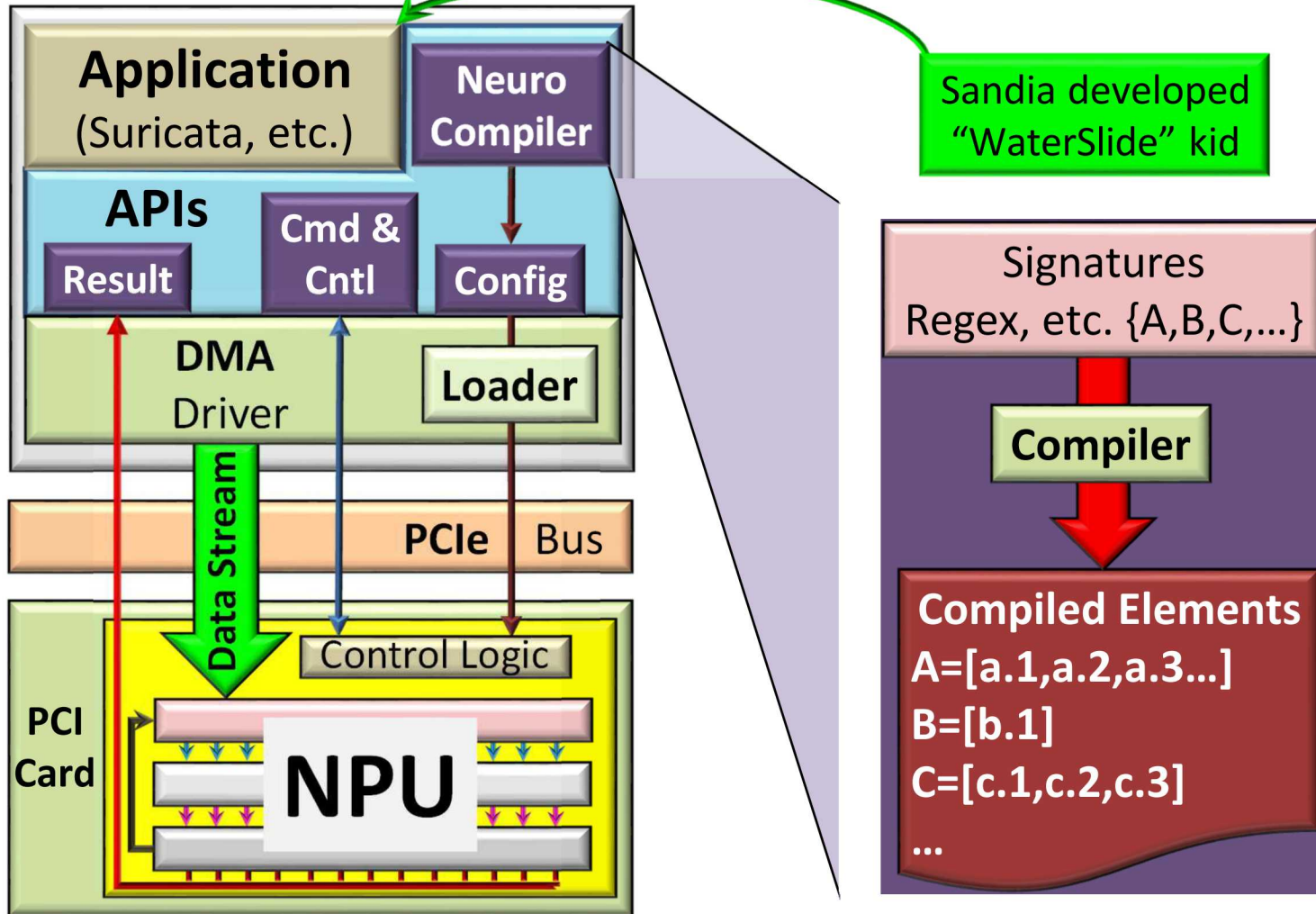




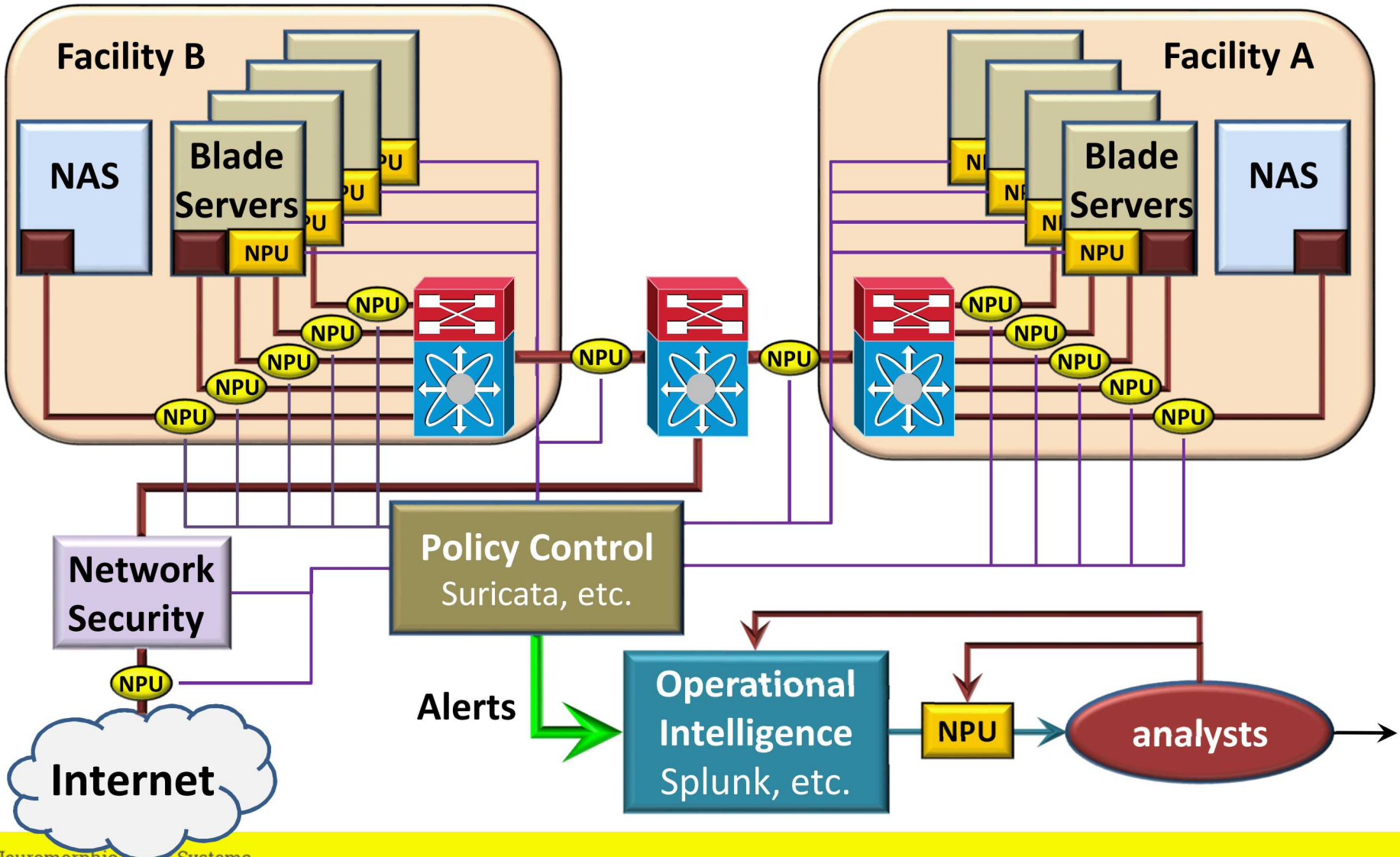
Neuromorphic Processors are Pattern Matchers



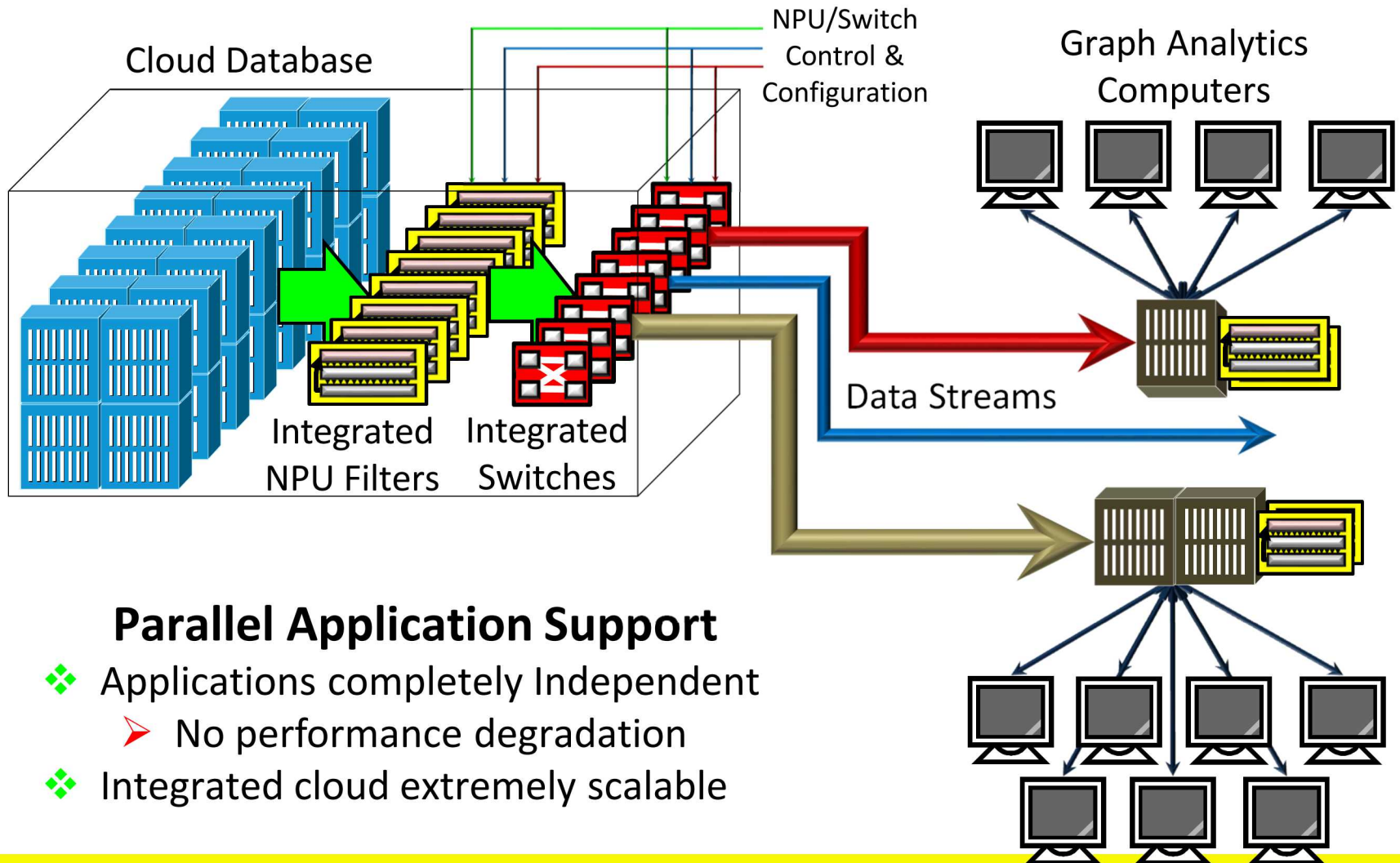
Highly Portable



Cyber Analytics Example



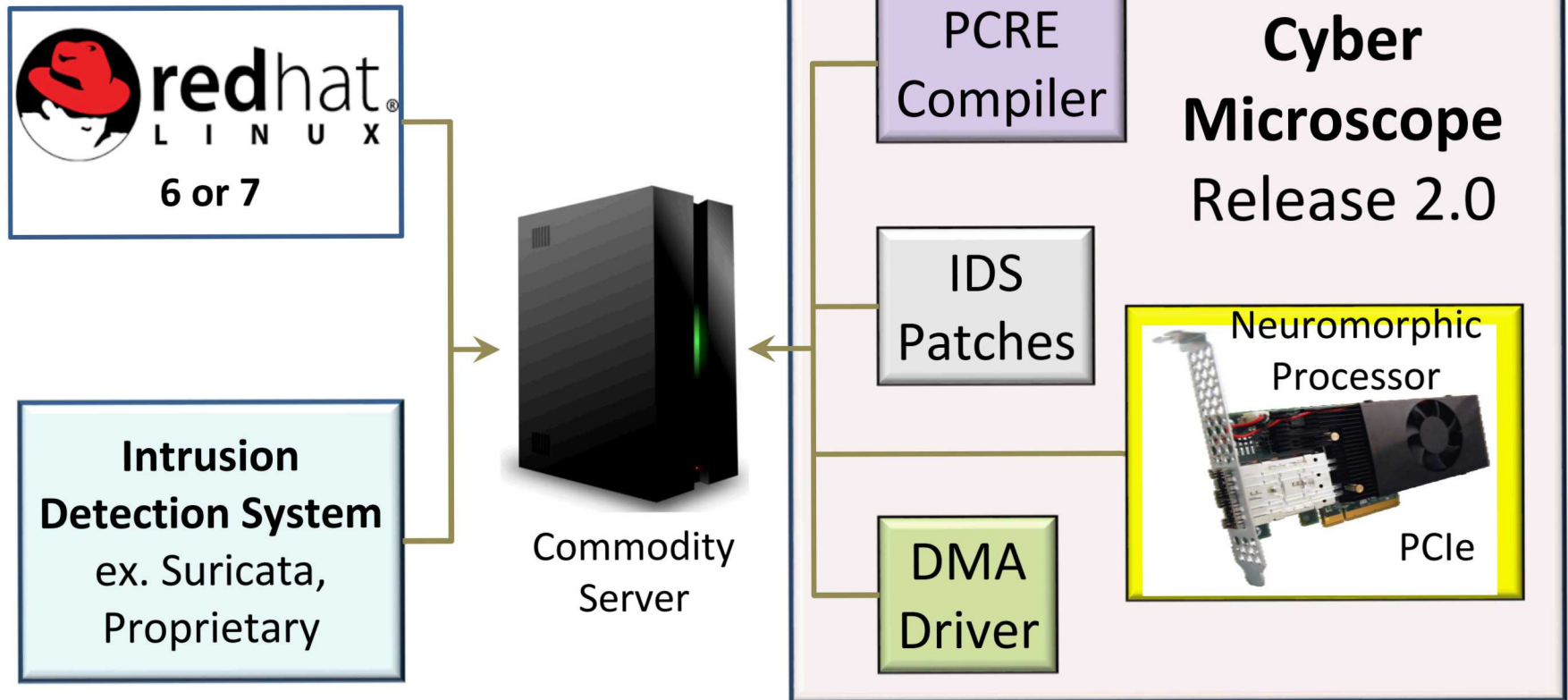
Graph Analytics Example

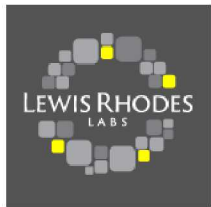


Parallel Application Support

- ❖ Applications completely Independent
- No performance degradation
- ❖ Integrated cloud extremely scalable

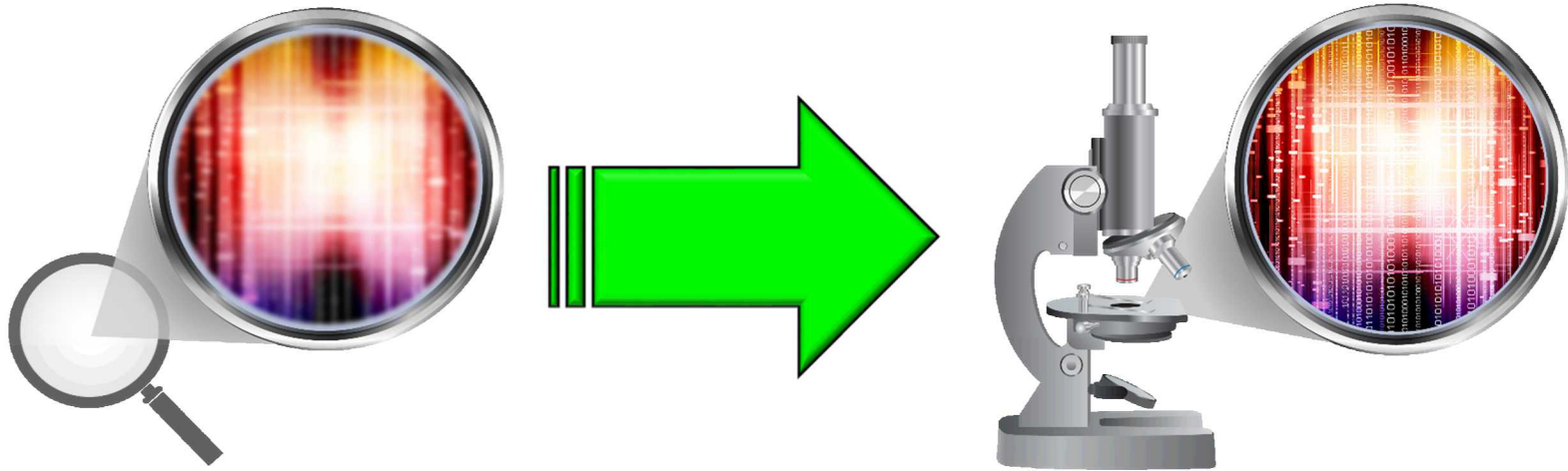
First Product: Cyber Microscope





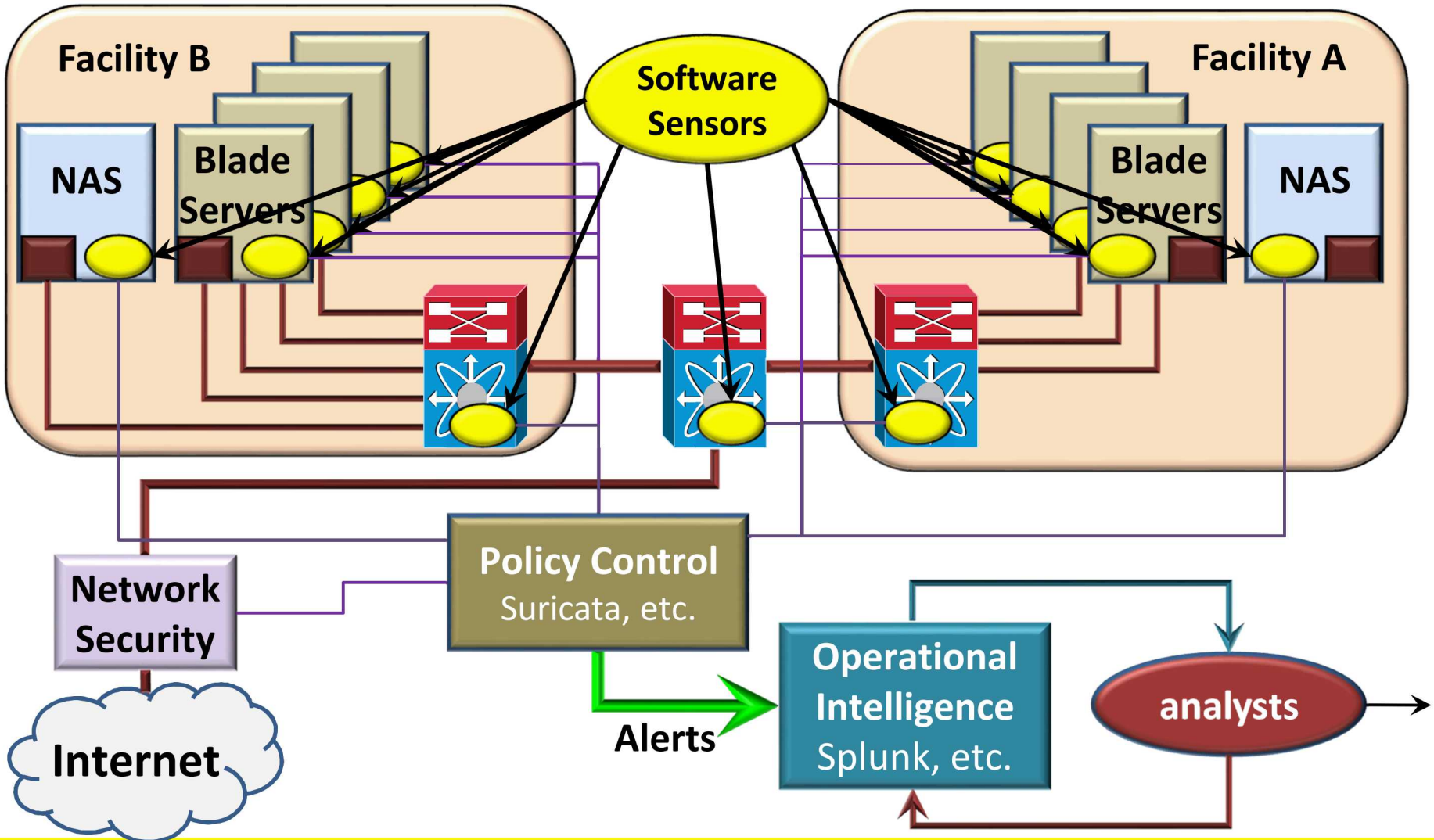
Some Interesting Features

- ❖ NPU integrates key mission requirements, ex.,
 - Context switching
 - Dynamic programmability
 - Behavioral characterization
 - Time & Order invariance
 - Pervasive analysis
 - Basic statistical operations
- ❖ Current device uses a single neuron type
 - Can extend HW architecture through novel neurons
 - Example: more complex statistical operations



CYBER APPLICATION

Exemplar Intel Community IDS

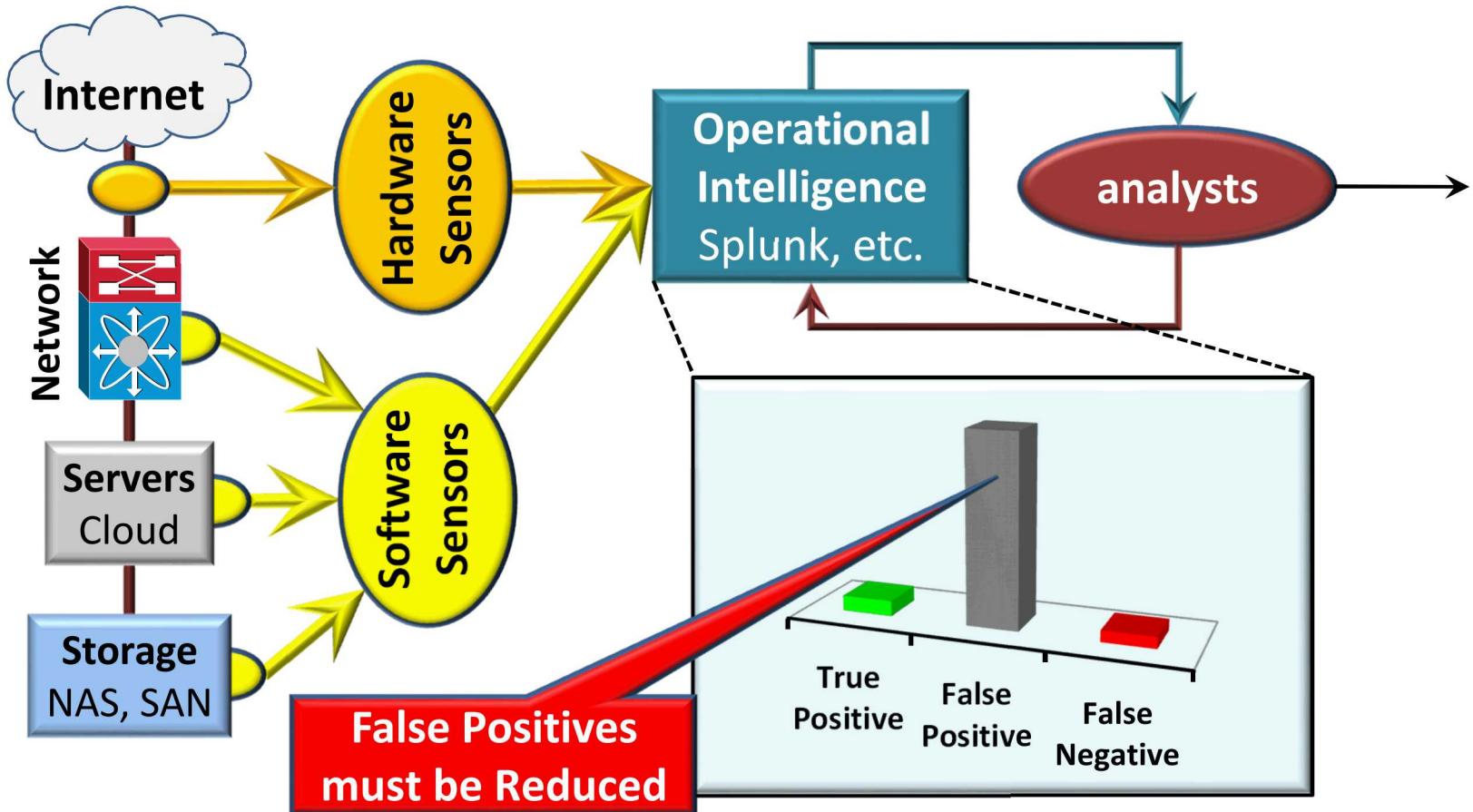


Practical Considerations

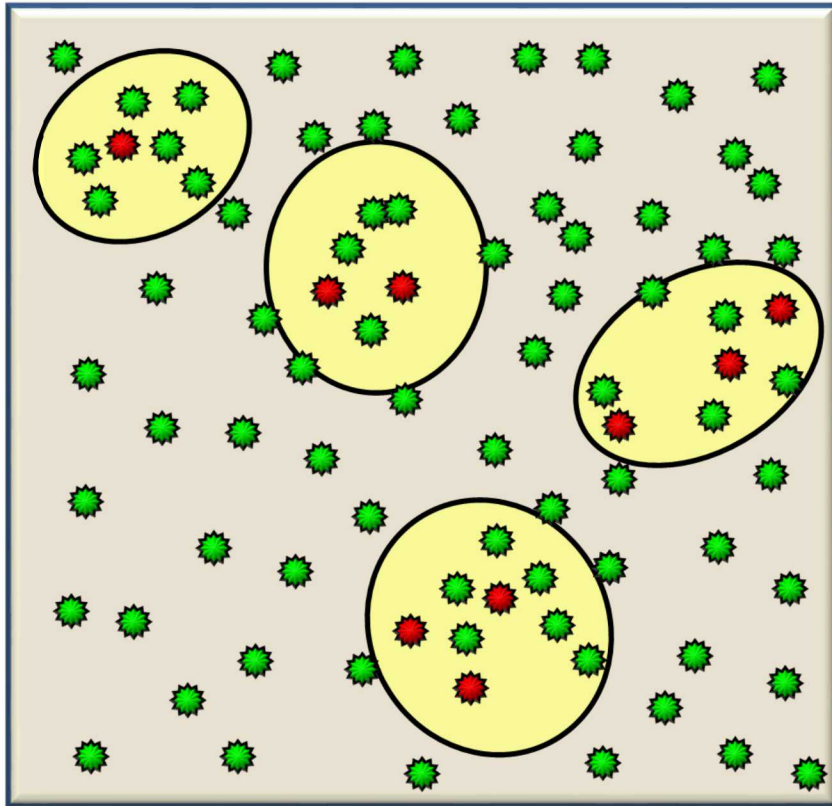
- ❖ Hardware sensor cost extremely high
 - ex. 10GbE IDS >\$100k
 - Cost limits number & resolution of HW sensors
- ❖ Software sensors often resource intensive
 - ex. ROP detectors require most of the CPU
 - Cost limits number & resolution of SW sensors
- ❖ Analyst's priority, reduce False Negatives
 - Achieved by detuning sensors, ie. large # of False Positives
 - Major source of noise, direct result of sensor cost
- ❖ Detuned sensors are more vulnerable to attack
 - Spoofing & Flooding are common

Analyst's Top Priority

Signal/Noise is killing analyst community



Root Cause: Resolution



 True Positives (TP)

 Potential False Positives (FP)

 Expression Coverage

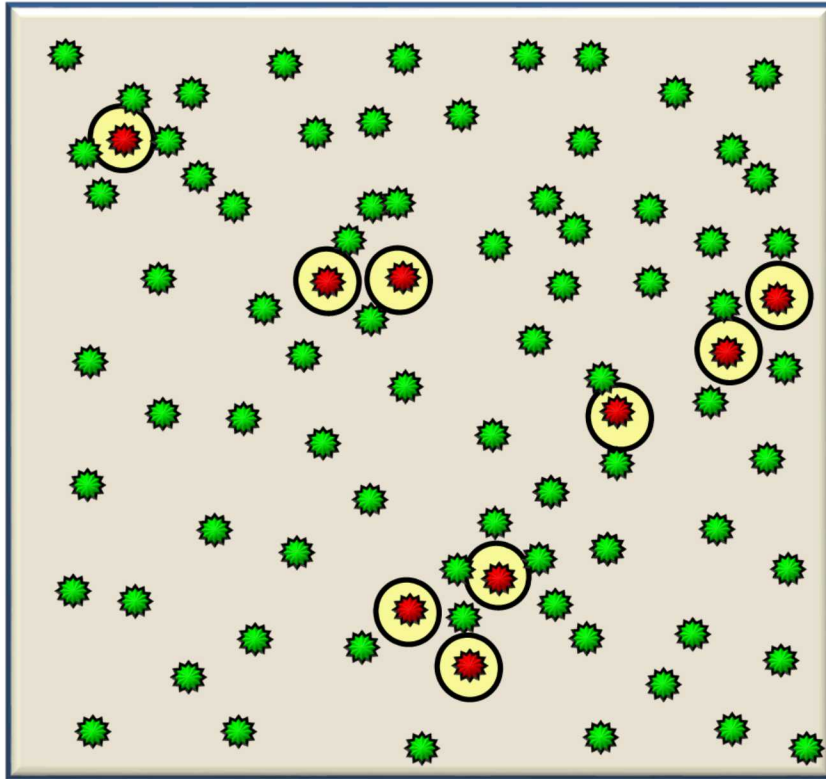
State-of-the-Art Sensors

ex. **Suricata**

- ❖ **Cost** limits resolution
- ❖ **TPs** identified but
- ❖ Many **FPs** captured
- ❖ Splunk database,
 - Low Accuracy
 - Poor signal/noise ratio
 - It's still a haystack
- ❖ **S/N** is killing the analysts

Neuro: Resolution

Cyber Microscope



 True Positives (TP)

 Potential False Positives (FP)

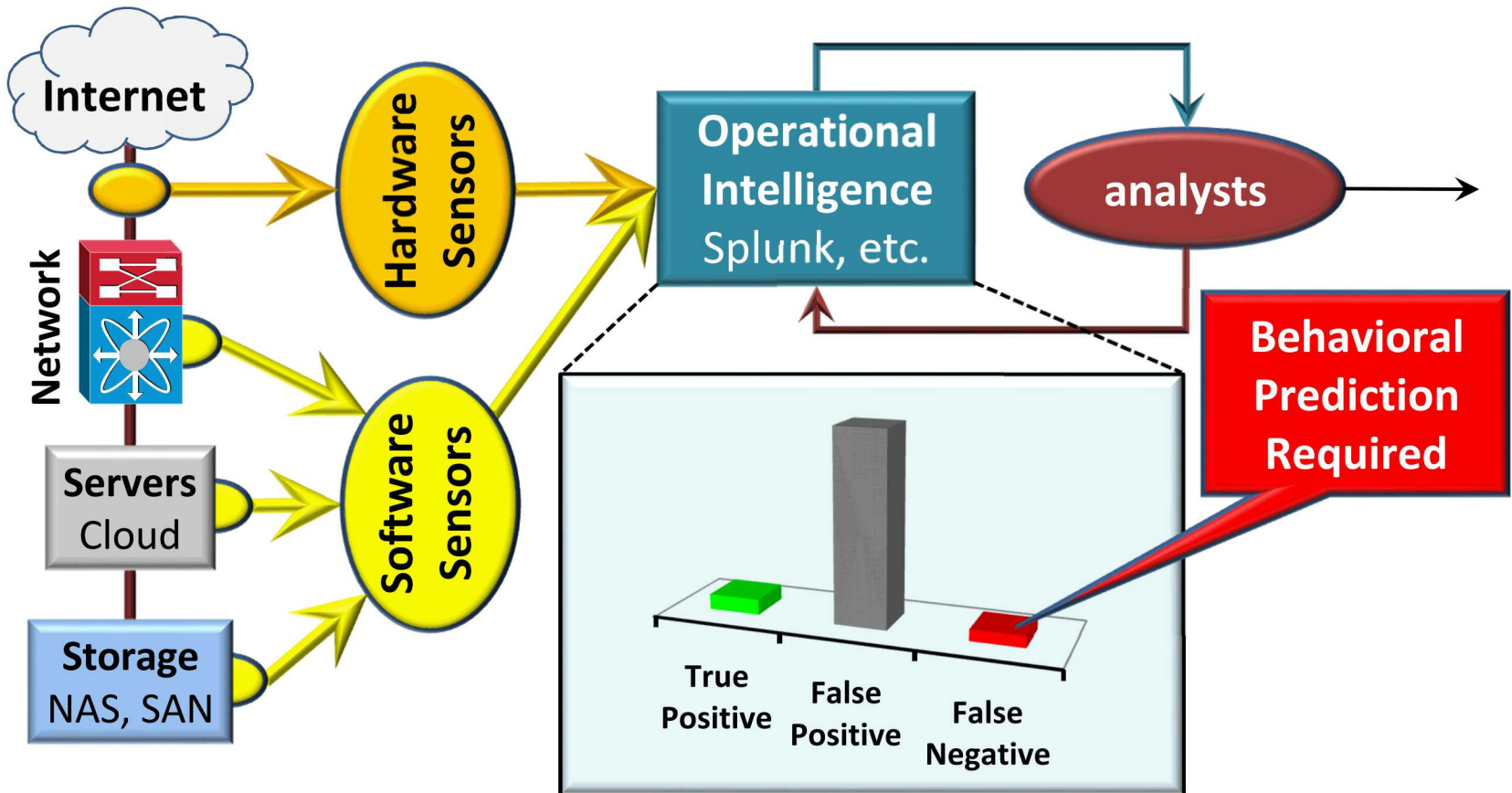
 Expression Coverage

Neuromorphic

- ❖ Speed creates resolution
 - Same number of TPs
 - Dramatically fewer FPs
- ❖ Greater Accuracy
- ❖ Higher Signal/Noise ratio
- ❖ Profound impact on analysts

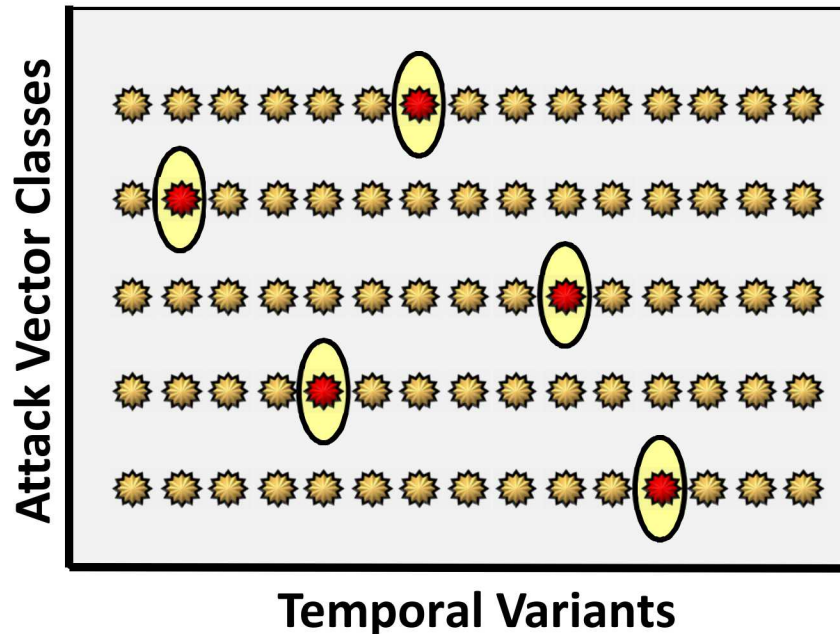
Analyst's Second Priority

Reduce False Negatives



Root Cause: Temporal Variance

Simplest form of behavior prediction



★ True Positives (TP)

★ Temporal Variants, Potential (FN)

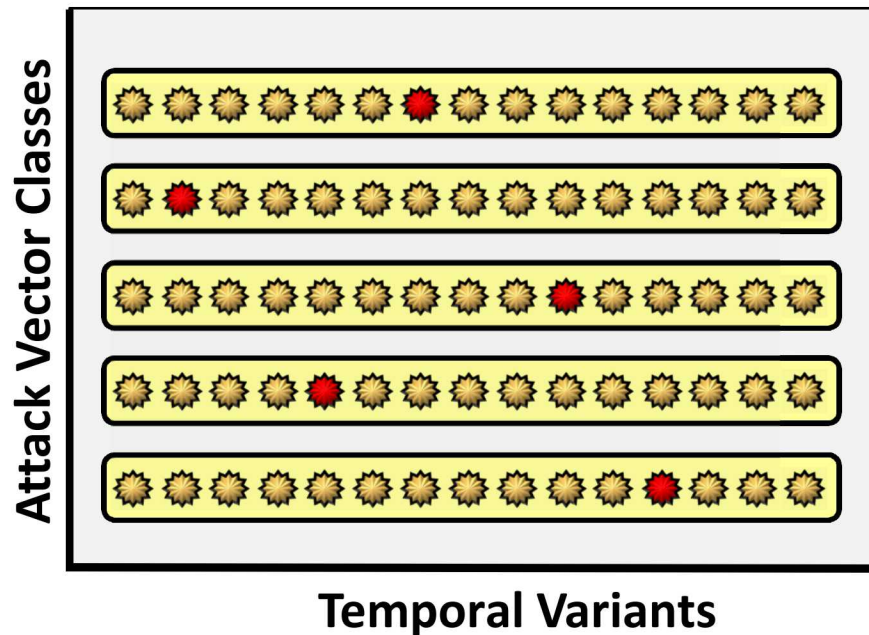
○ Expression Coverage




State-of-the-Art Sensors

ex. Suricata

- ✦ Temporal variance is common
 - Shifting offsets
 - Re-ordering
 - Easily implemented by attacker
- ✦ Very **costly** to address
 - Pervasive analysis
 - Associative analysis

Neuro: Temporal Variance

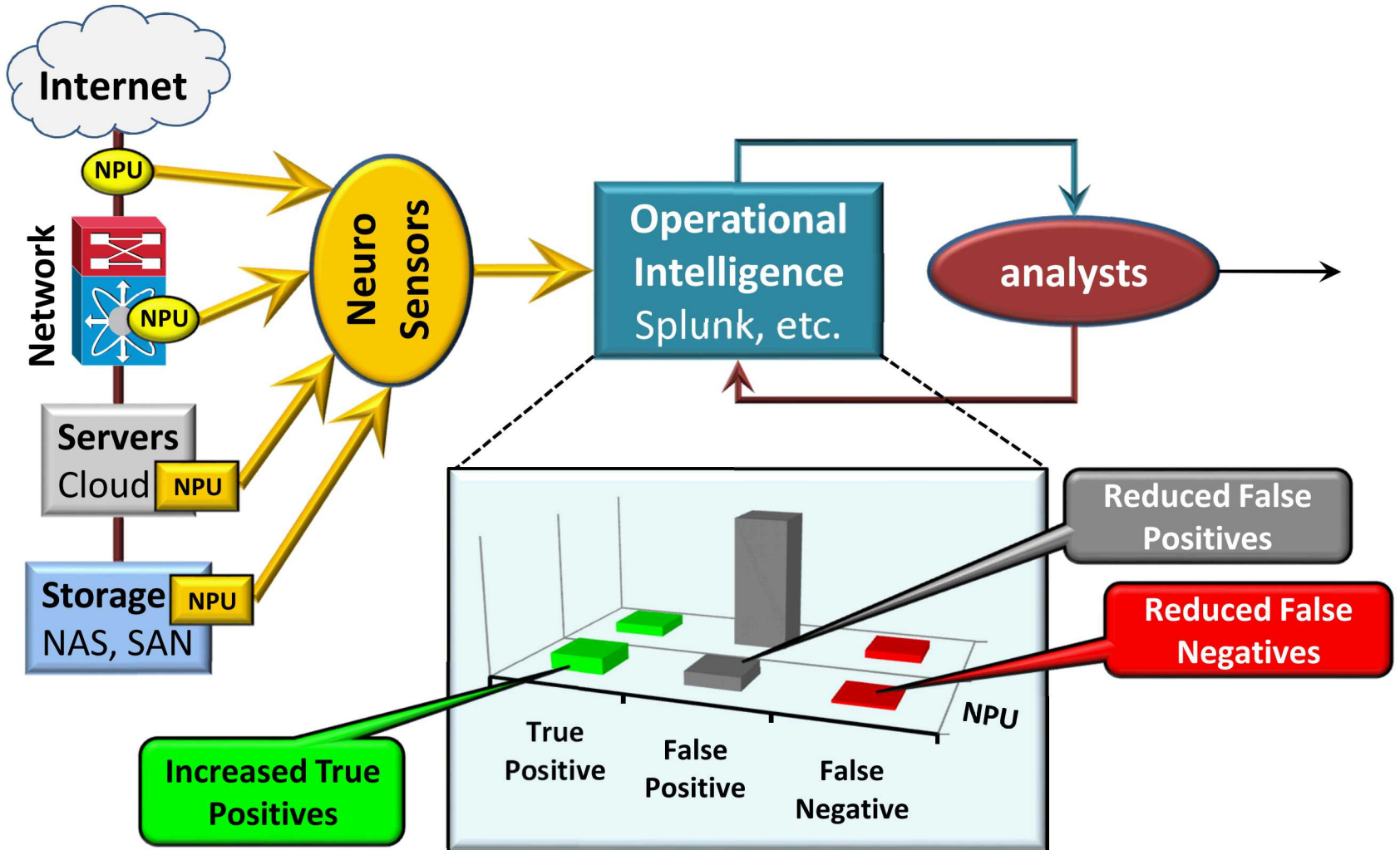


-  True Positives (TP)
-  Temporal Variants, Potential (FN)
-  Expression Coverage

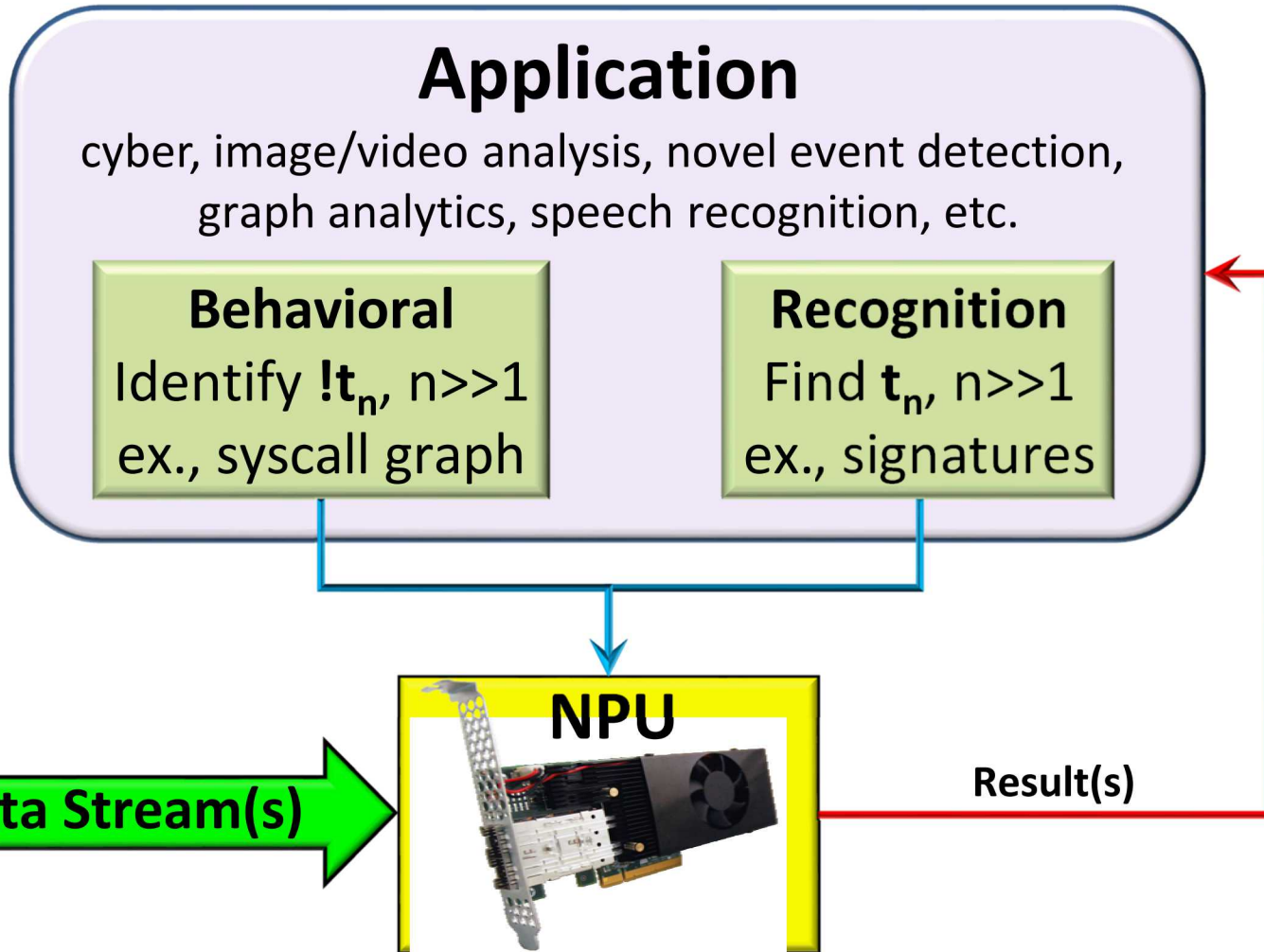
Neuromorphic

- ❖ Pervasive analysis is innate
 - Evaluates every byte
 - Limiting this costs resources
- ❖ Associative analysis is innate
 - Metadata reordering
- ❖ Reduced False Negatives **FN**
 - Behavioral Prediction
- ❖ Profound impact on Analysts

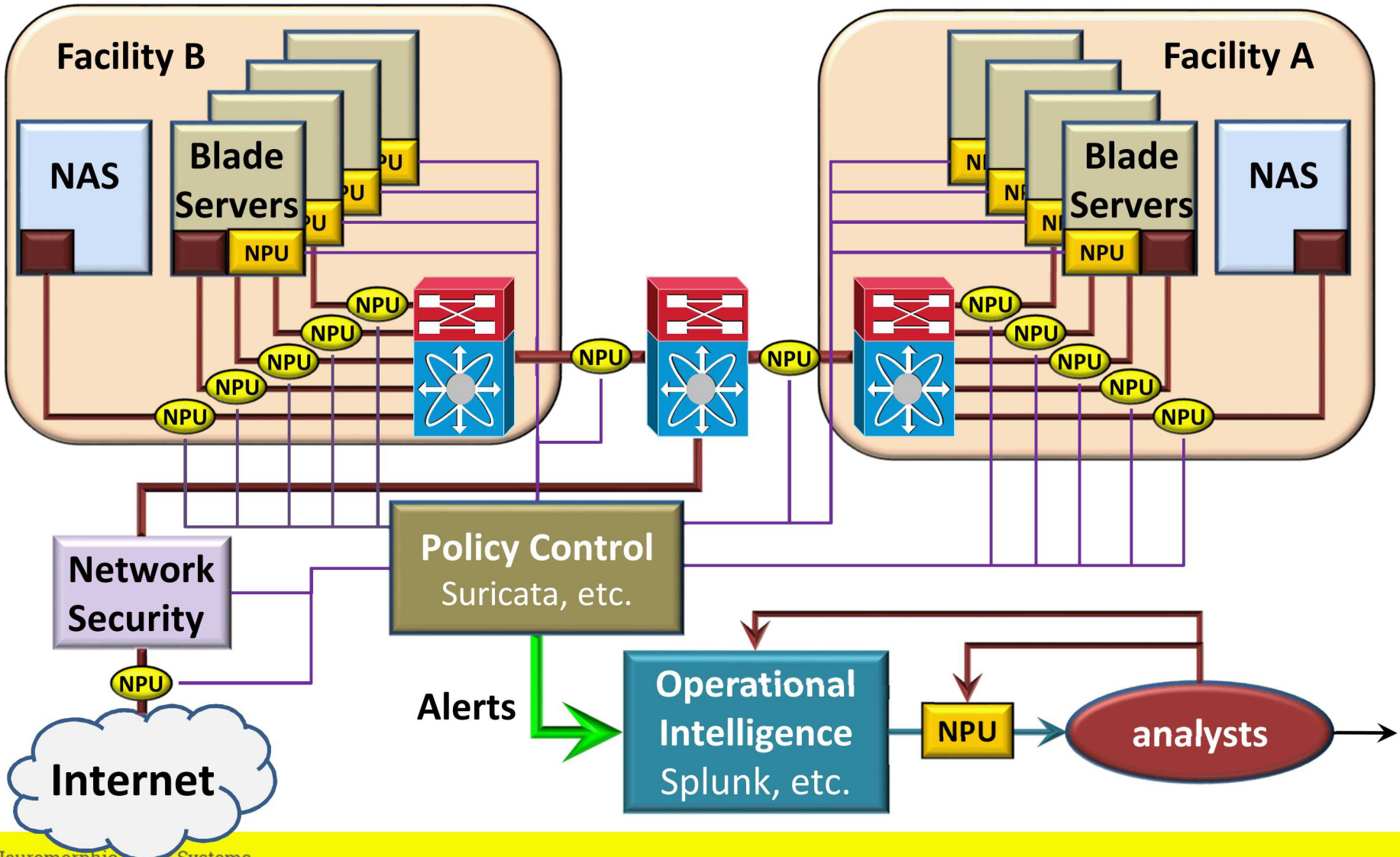
Neuro Addresses Core Issues



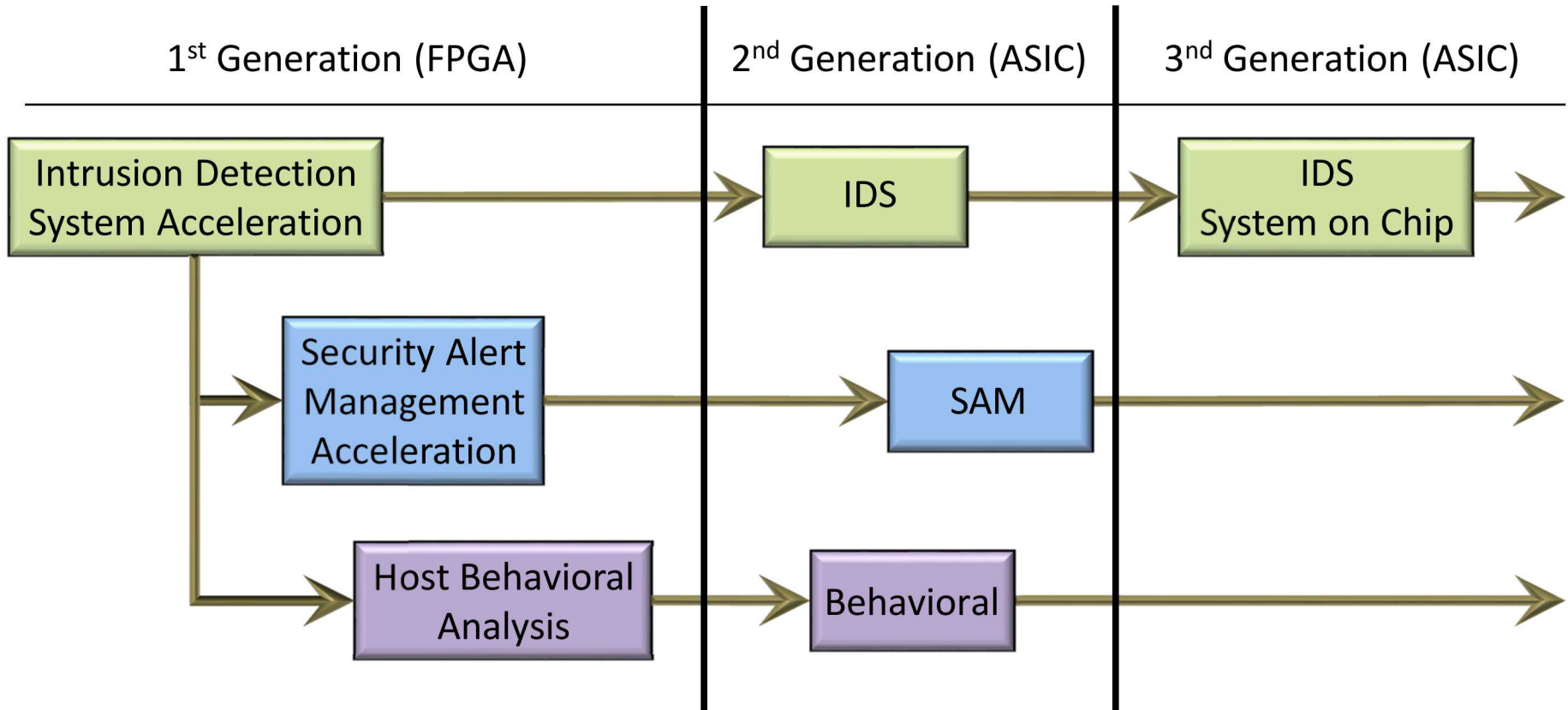
Operational Control



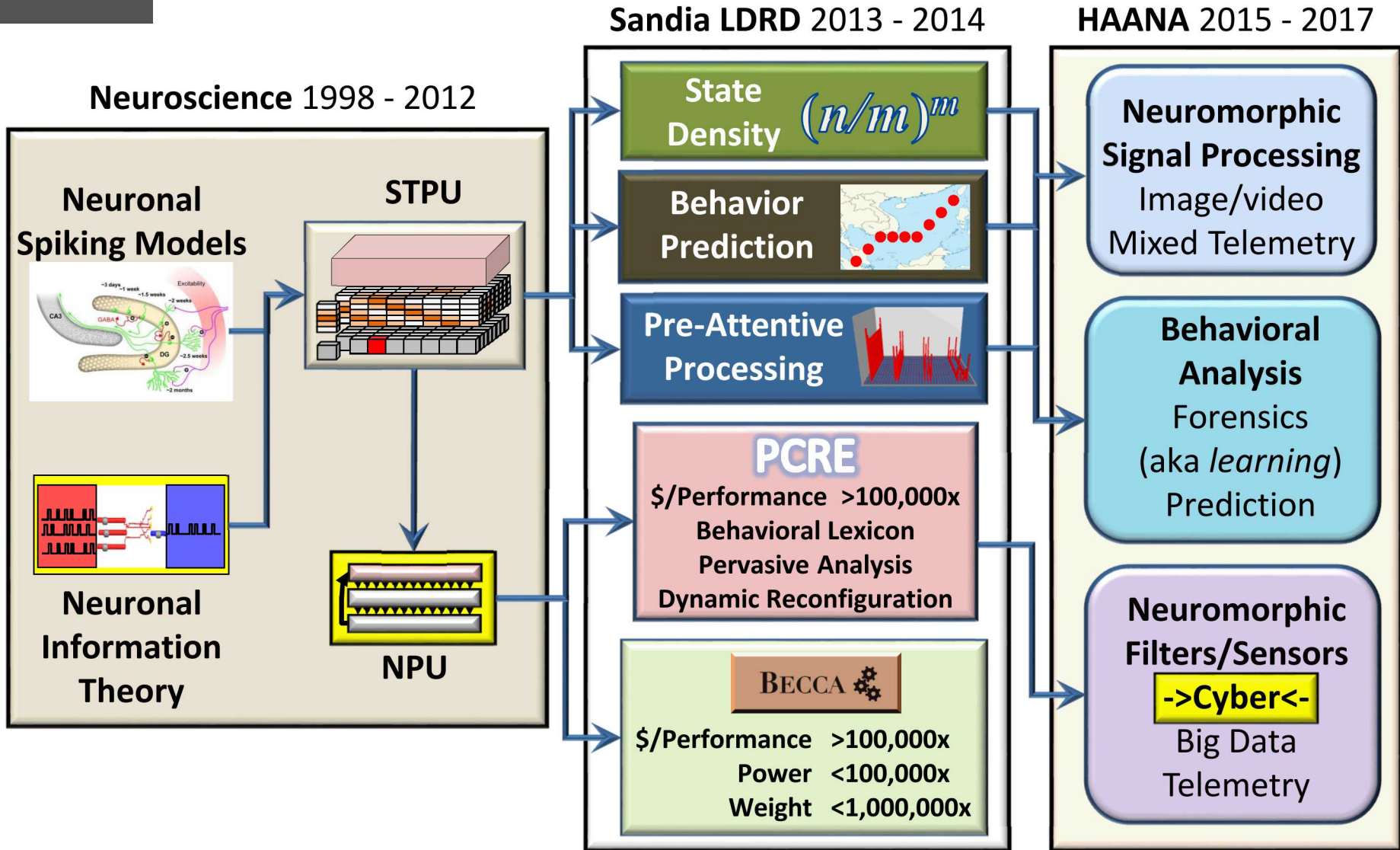
IC Analyst's Vision

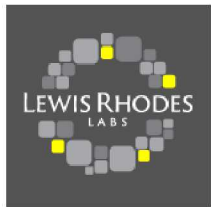


Cyber Microscope Product Rollout



Acknowledgements

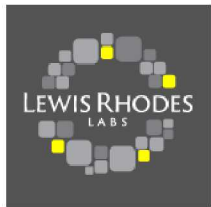




Conclusions

- ❖ Neuromorphic will revolutionize cyber defense
 - Dramatic reductions in power/op & cost/op
 - Plethora of powerful novel features
 - Order & time invariant, Sessionization, Behavioral prediction

- ❖ Operational readiness
 - Compatible with existing standards & infrastructure
 - 3rd gen FPGA systems available now
 - First 3rd party port, “WaterSlide” Kid



BACKUP

Scalability

Device

Bandwidth x Expressions = Constant

FPGA

2.5 Gb/s x \approx 1,000 Expressions
 5 Gb/s x \approx 500 Expressions
 10 Gb/s x \approx 250 Expressions
 etc.

ASIC

20 Gb/s x \approx 20,000 Expressions
 40 Gb/s x \approx 10,000 Expressions
 80 Gb/s x \approx 5,000 Expressions
 etc.

System

Arbitrary Depth & Width

