

# Data centers at a crossroads: Energy, Cooling and Policy challenges

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Tuesday, 12 May 2026



Founded in 1908 and based in Paris, the IIR is an intergovernmental organisation bringing together over 60 member states and a global network of leading refrigeration scientists and experts. Through its comprehensive knowledge database, peer-reviewed publications, and international conferences, it facilitates cutting-edge knowledge sharing and collaboration across the refrigeration sector.



**ASEAN Centre for Energy**  
One Community for Sustainable Energy

The ASEAN Centre for Energy (ACE) is the regional intergovernmental organisation mandated to support ASEAN Member States in achieving sustainable and secure energy systems. Based in Jakarta, Indonesia, ACE facilitates regional energy cooperation, provides policy analysis, and promotes clean energy transitions across Southeast Asia.

# Speakers:



**Yudiandra Yuwono**  
ASEAN Centre for Energy



**Analaura Ransdale**  
Danfoss Climate Solutions



**Prof. Shuangquan Shao**  
Huazhong University of Science and Technology



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International Institute of Refrigeration

## What we will discuss today



**ASEAN Centre for Energy**  
One Community for Sustainable Energy

**Anticipating Uncertainty in Data-Centre  
Electricity Demand**



**EU Policy drivers and performance indicators for  
sustainable data centers**

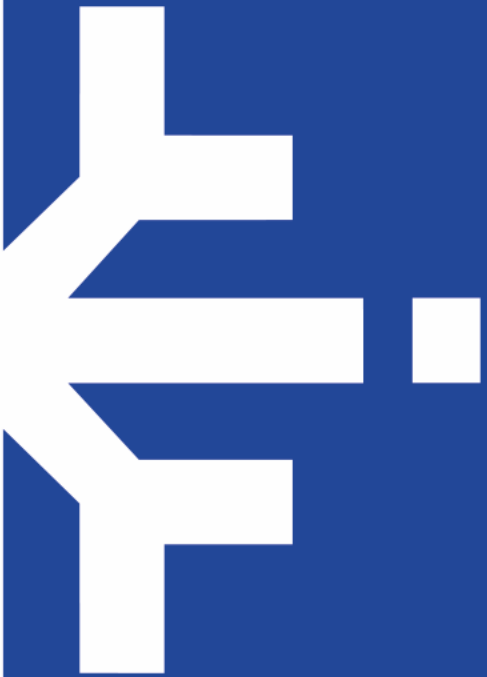


**IIR** International  
Institute  
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**Sustainable Cooling technologies for data centers**

## Practical notes :

- This session is being recorded and will be made available after the event.
- Use the chat to submit your questions at any time, we will address them during the Q&A.
- If you experience any technical difficulties, please flag them in the chat.



# Anticipating Uncertainty in Data Centres Electricity Demand

IT infrastructure's role in reshaping ASEAN  
planning agenda

# ASEAN Centre for Energy

## About ACE

The ASEAN Centre for Energy (“ACE” or the “Centre”) is an intergovernmental organisation driving multilateral energy cooperation and policy coordination among the ASEAN Member States. The Agreement on ASEAN Energy Cooperation in Manila, Philippines, on 22 May 1998, formally established ACE on 1 January 1999 in Jakarta, Indonesia. The formal establishment tasked ACE to serve as the regional energy think tank, catalyst, and knowledge hub to build coherent, coordinated, focused and robust energy policy agenda and strategy for ASEAN.

The three critical roles of ACE:

1. To advance the ASEAN energy goals by unifying and strengthening the ASEAN energy cooperation and integration.
2. To function as an energy data and knowledge hub by providing knowledge repository and services.
3. To serve as an ASEAN energy think tank by assisting in research and practical solutions for the Member States.

Keeping the region’s improvement, sustainable and harmless to the ecosystem is a fundamental concern of the ASEAN energy sector. Hosted by the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources of Indonesia, ACE’s office is located in Jakarta, Indonesia. For more information on ACE website: [aseanenergy.org](http://aseanenergy.org).

# KEY HIGHLIGHTS



**ASEAN Centre for Energy**  
One Community for Sustainable Energy

AI-driven data-centre demand is placing growing pressure across ASEAN

## **Demand depends on three key levers**

Future electricity use will be shaped by hardware power density, AI penetration and utilisation, and PUE.

## **Facility type matters**

Hyperscale, colocation, and enterprise data centres have different demand profiles and policy implications.

## **Policy responses are already emerging**

Global practices point to range of approaches to manage or reduce uncertainty that drives electricity demand levers from data centres.

## **ASEAN has an opportunity to learn regionally**

AMS with more advanced data centre policies can provide useful lessons as the sector expands across the region.

# ASEAN'S POWER SECTOR IS ENTERING A DIGITAL DEMAND ERA

“AI and digitalisation are emerging as new drivers of electricity demand in ASEAN. Beyond traditional drivers, cloud services, internet use, and AI applications are creating new sources of load that are harder to anticipate and integrate into long-term planning”



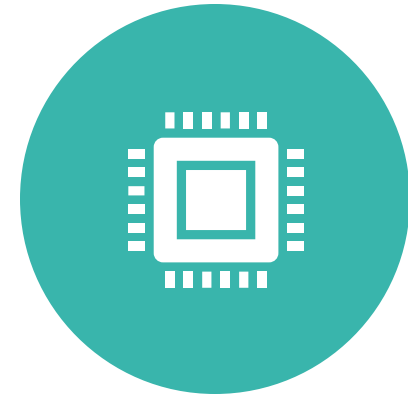
## TRADITIONAL DRIVERS

Population growth, economic expansion, and urbanisation remain core demand driver across ASEAN



## DIGITAL ECONOMY

Cloud services, internet use, and AI applications are adding fast growing electricity demand to the region's load outlook



## PLANNING CHALLENGE

Digital Infrastructure Can Scale Quickly And May Not Follow The Assumptions Used In Conventional Demand Planning

# DATA CENTRES: DIGITAL GROWTH MEETS THE PHYSICAL GRID

**Demand uncertainty is two-sided.** ASEAN's ~2.9 GW announced pipeline overstates realised load. The build itself is constrained by global supply of chips, transformers, copper, water, and skilled grid labour.

**Capex outruns physical scaling.** Projection passed USD 400 billion in 2025, +75% projected for 2026 (IEA). Data centres complete in 2–3 years while transmission and generation in 5–10.

**An AI winter is a credible planning case.** A valuation reset within 2–3 years is plausible if compute scaling outpaces power, chip, and material supply. Linear extrapolation of 2024–2025 announcements risks overcommitting grid capital.

**AI load is additive on a ~70% fossil grid.** New MW raise system emissions where renewables expand alongside fossils rather than displacing them.

**Grid cost allocation is a distributional choice.** Concentrated hyperscale loads can shift transmission and capacity costs to compete with essential demand.



## APAEC 2026–2030

The ASEAN Plan of Action for Energy Cooperation (APAEC) 2026–2030 explicitly recognises that:

*"...the rapid growth of the digital economy is increasing electricity demand and creating new challenges for power load management."*

# AI FACILITIES ARE A DIFFERENT LOAD CLASS

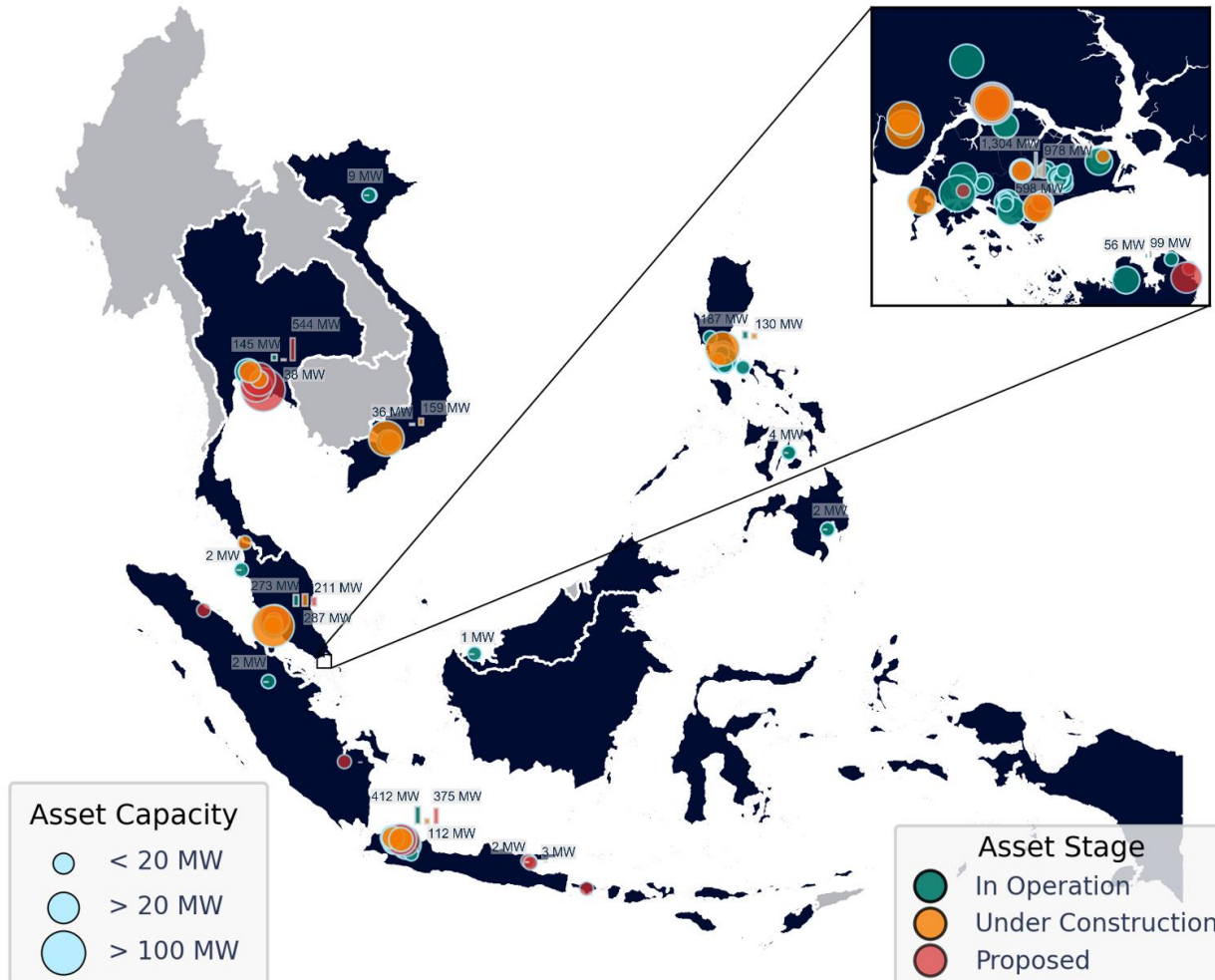
AI hardware raises rack-level power density by roughly an order of magnitude over 2021–2027 and shifts the load profile from flat baseload to sustained-high with minute-scale swings. Same floor area now houses materially more load.

Dimension	Conventional	AI
Workload	Bursty, transactional	Sustained, parallel
Server power	250–600 W	7–10 kW
Rack density	~8 kW	12–120 kW
Networking	10–40 Gbps	100–800 Gbps
Cooling	Air	Liquid, direct-to-chip
Load profile	Flat baseload	Sharp swings

## The issues?

- Tropical cooling adds 20–40% to every IT MW.
- Sustained load fits poorly with the solar daily curve.

# DATA CENTRES IN ASEAN: WHERE THEY ARE TODAY



## HIGHLY CLUSTERED IN MAJOR CITIES

Operational data centres are not evenly distributed they are highly clustered in major urban and metropolitan areas, currently ~5 GW of power capacity in ASEAN.

The **Singapore–Johor–Kuala Lumpur corridor** stands out as the region's most established data centre belt. Other operating clusters sit around **Bangkok, Jakarta, Metro Manila, and Ho Chi Minh City**.

This pattern aligns with submarine cable landings, terrestrial fibre backbones, and high-voltage power systems — the foundations for large-scale data centre investment.

**Up to >50 GW** of additional power capacity is reported to be on the picture collectively by the AMS

**ACE and AMS project current growth** and it could account for up to 52% of national consumption in Malaysia and 2–15% across other ASEAN Member States by 2030 — with the scenario range revealing even wider uncertainty.

**1 Malaysia faces the most acute demand concentration.**

23% of national demand in 2025 → 52% by 2030. High case may exceed total national consumption, the sharpest concentration in ASEAN.

**2 Possible steep climb in coming months**

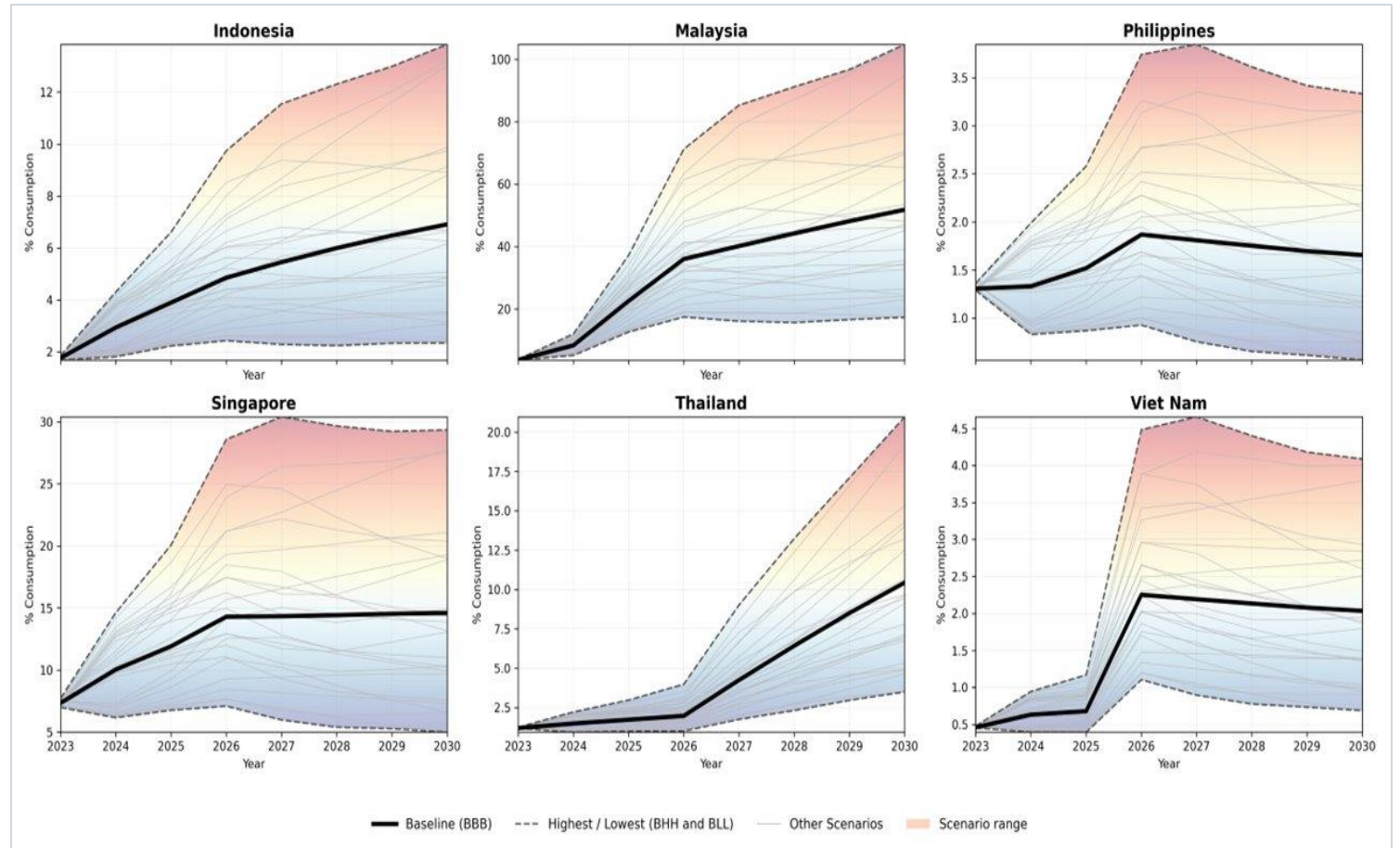
Proposed capacity comes online and uncertainty widens fast. Grid investment decisions lock in during this window as no strong policy is yet in place.

**3 Other AMS is also facing potential jump**

Scenario ranges could more than double these baseline values under high-demand assumptions, with Thailand showing particularly strong growth from under 2% in 2025.

**4 Most are share similar uncertainties**

Viet Nam (2%) and the Philippines (1.7%) show narrower but still policy-relevant ranges any current projection would understate the plausible demand envelope.



Data centre electricity consumption as a share of total national electricity consumption (%), 2023–2030, across 25 sensitivity scenarios.

# What this means for ASEAN: turn uncertainty into preparedness

Four areas where ASEAN Member States may strengthen policy responses and regional cooperation to better manage the energy implications of data centre growth.

01

## Strengthen regional knowledge-sharing

Some AMS, particularly Singapore and Malaysia, are already implementing structured measures to address data centre energy implications. Sharing these experiences more systematically could help other AMS respond earlier and more effectively as the sector expands across the region.

02

## Enhance reporting frameworks for demand visibility

AMS may benefit from more detailed and standardised reporting for large data centres, including installed IT capacity, expected ramp-up schedules, and selected operational indicators. Clearer frameworks for large-load connection planning could also reduce the risk of infrastructure built ahead of realised demand.

03

## Prioritise efficiency-focused measures as a practical entry point

Efficiency-related factors such as PUE and IT equipment performance are the most readily measurable and policy-actionable demand levers. Early attention to minimum energy-performance expectations for new facilities, supported by metering and verification, would help moderate demand growth.

04

## Integrate data centre planning with wider energy and infrastructure planning

As data centres become larger electricity consumers, their development has broader implications for land use, grid readiness, generation adequacy, and investment planning. Closer coordination between digital, industrial, and energy authorities is needed — particularly in emerging growth corridors.

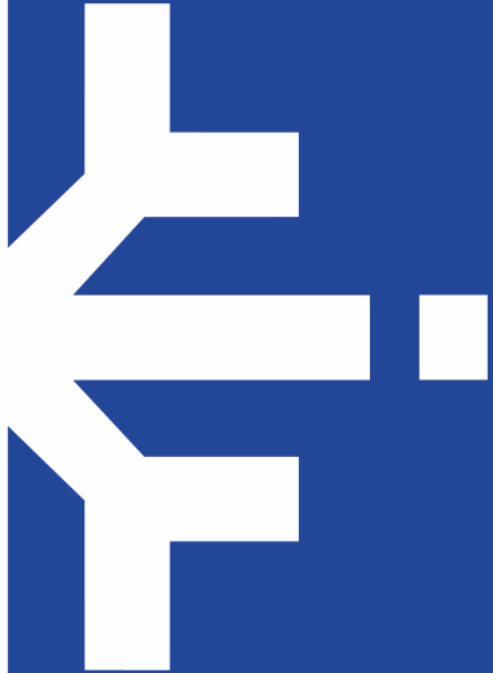
## What this means for ASEAN: even deeper look at this issue

**AI demand draws first from a finite grid.** Every MW for hyperscale becomes a MW unavailable for cooling, food cold chain, water pumping, hospitals, and public transit electrification. In ASEAN's tropical climate, cooling load is non-negotiable

**Materials for AI are also the materials for the energy transition.** Copper, transformers, rare earths, and skilled grid labour are the same inputs renewables, EVs, and household electrification need. Allocation is zero-sum

**Water for cooling competes with water for people.** A 1 MW data centre consumes ~25 million litres per year, equivalent to daily water for 300,000 people. ASEAN dry-season constraints make this direct competition with drinking, irrigation, and sanitation.

**Costs are socialised, benefits are concentrated.** Grid expansion for hyperscale is paid through tariffs by all consumers. Compute, intellectual property, and revenue stay with a handful of foreign firms. Carbon inequality reproduced in electrons



**Thank you**

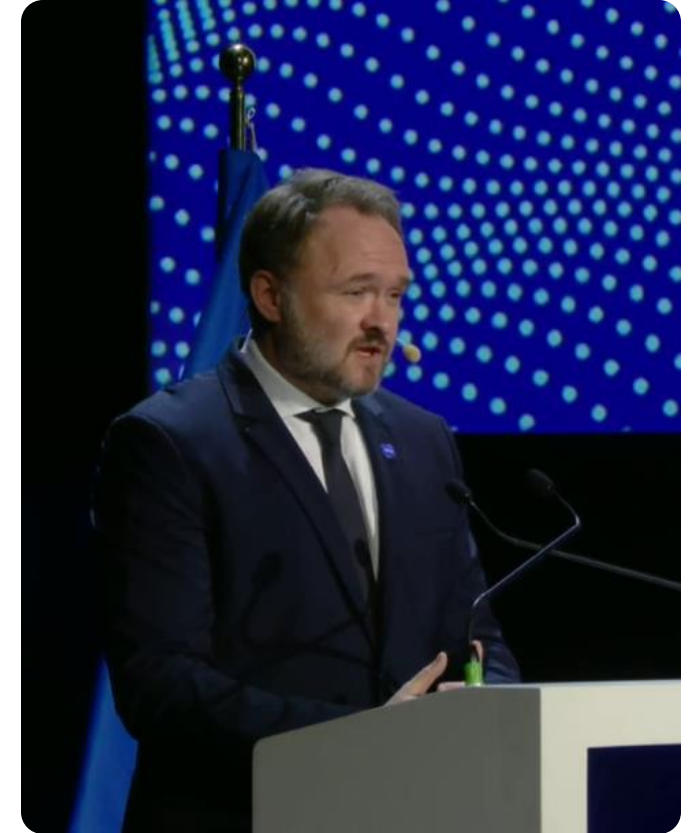
# EU POLICY DRIVERS AND PERFORMANCE INDICATORS FOR SUSTAINABLE DATA CENTERS



Analaura Ransdale  
Public Affairs, Danfoss Climate Solutions

# THE UPCOMING EU DATA CENTER ENERGY EFFICIENCY PACKAGE

- **2023** – Revised Energy Efficiency Directive introduces mandatory data center reporting and lays the foundation for an EU-wide rating scheme
- **2024** – Mandatory reporting begins
- **2025** – EU announces broader Energy Efficiency Package for data centers
- **2026** – EU rating label is introduced (May) under broader Tech Sovereignty Package



[\\*Source: New impetus for energy efficiency - European Commission](#)

# INTRODUCING A RATING SCHEME FOR DATA CENTERS: A **STEP-BY-STEP** APPROACH

## Reporting

Increasing transparency & awareness by collecting data on energy and water consumption by data centers

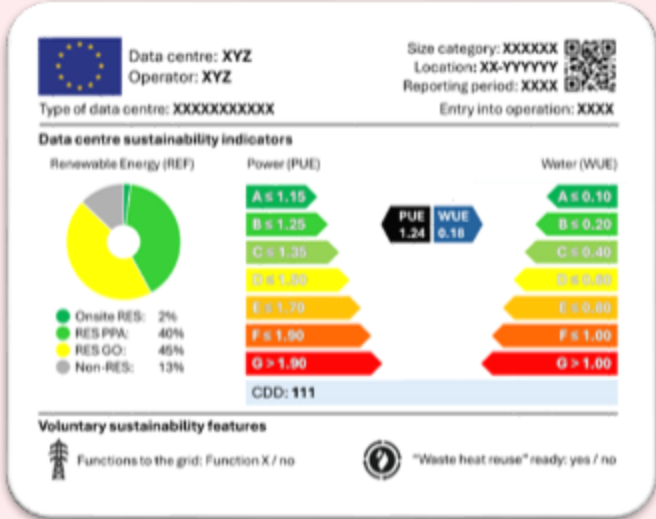
Aggregated data is publicly available



## Rating

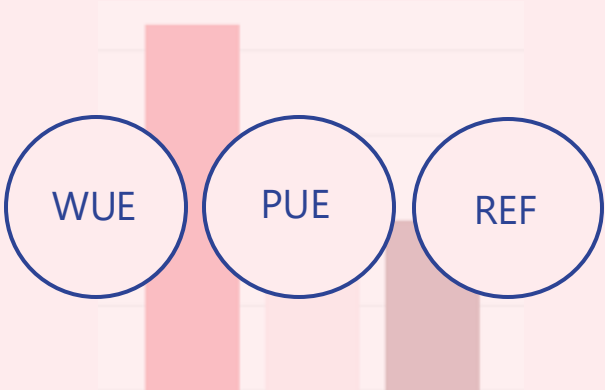
Based on reported data, to increase transparency and support policymaking, procurement, and investment towards sustainable data centers

[Energy efficiency – rating scheme for data centres in Europe](#)



## Meeting minimum performance

Binding minimum performance on specific KPIs to raise the level of ambition and set a clear direction forward, supporting continuous improvement



# FIRST STEP: REPORTING



Getting **accurate data** on **energy** and **water** performance of European data centers:

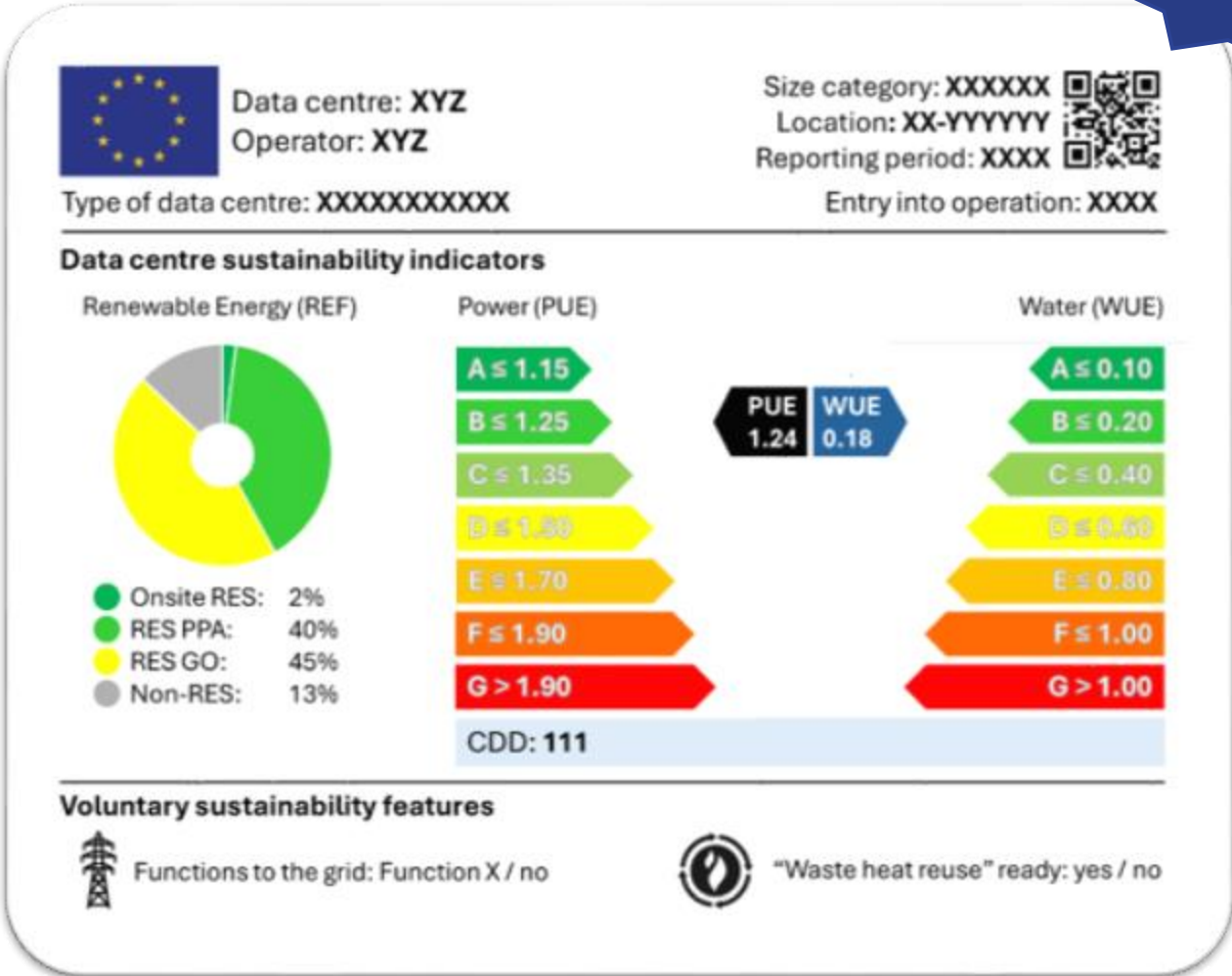
- Reporting requirements are mandatory for  $\geq$  **500 kW** data centers
- Data to be reported annually to a common **European database**
- **Energy consumption, water use, heat reuse, waste heat temperature**, among the relevant data to be reported

**Sustainability indicators** calculated based on the reported data. 776 EU data centers (34%) reported in 2024:

- Power use - **PUE** (1.36)
- Water use - **WUE** (0.31)
- Energy reuse - **ERF** (0.02)
- Renewable energy - **REF** (90%)

# SECOND STEP: RATING

Draft



The European Commission proposed in April 2026 a sustainability label for data centers (to be adopted in May) building on the reporting system:

- Applies to all data centers that report
- Is publicly available
- Will support organizations in choosing **where to run their digital services** based on sustainability performance

# THIRD STEP: MEETING MINIMUM PERFORMANCE STANDARDS

Draft

Potentially introducing EU-level **Minimum Performance Standards (MPS)** to raise the level of ambition

- Suggested for **PUE, WUE** and **REF**, based on the data from the reporting system
- MPS for **ERF** (energy reuse) recommended to be set at national/local level
- The proposed MPS are considered achievable across all European climate zones

$$\text{Power Usage Effectiveness} = \frac{\text{Total Power}}{\text{IT Power}}$$

$$\text{Water Usage Effectiveness} = \frac{\text{Water usage}}{\text{IT Power}}$$

$$\text{Renewable Energy Factor} = \frac{\text{Total Power}}{\text{Renewable Power}}$$

Based on the reported data and considering the stakeholders' input, both obtained by 24. 04. 2025, the following MPS were suggested:

**PUE**

- Operational PUE < 1.5 for existing DC by 2030
- Design PUE < 1.3 for DC commissioned 2027 and later, operational PUE < 1.4 achieved within 3 years of operation

**WUE**

- WUE < 0.4 m<sup>3</sup>/MWh (based on potable water) for all DC by 2030
- WUE < 0.4 m<sup>3</sup>/MWh (regardless of origin) for DC commissioned 2027 and after
- Further focus on WUE regardless of water source

**REF**

- REF = 100% for all DC (regardless of origin) by 2030
- Further focus on the origin of renewable energy

**ERF**

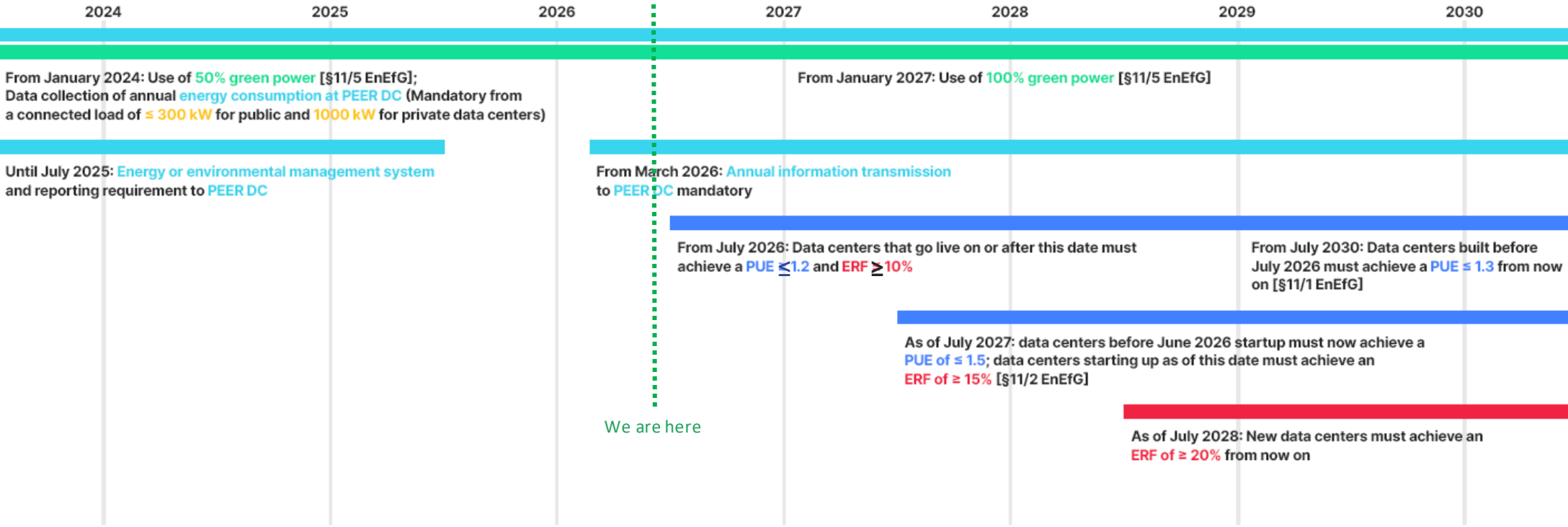
We do not believe that mandating a EU-wide criterion is feasible - we propose for it to be assessed locally.

For all MPS, we encourage policy makers to introduce stricter regulations on national level, where deemed necessary and feasible.

# NATIONAL LEGISLATION CAN EXCEED EU LEGISLATION

## EXAMPLE: GERMANY

National implementation of EED has led to **stricter** legislation than on EU level:



- green power:** Proportion of electricity procured from renewable energies
- PEER DC:** Public energy efficiency register for data centers
- PUE:** Power Usage Effectiveness, value for energy consumption effectiveness
- ERF:** Energy Reuse Factor, value of waste heat used

# GLOBAL TRENDS IN DATA CENTER SUSTAINABILITY

## Reporting & performance mandates

- ✓ Energy reporting frameworks (some mandatory, some voluntary)
- ✓ MPS for **PUE** & **WUE** on the rise

## Heat reuse interest is rising

- ✓ Highly encouraged, not yet mandatory (though expected for EU data centers above 1MW, where technically and economically feasible)
- ✓ **Waste heat recovery** seen as a critical opportunity to decarbonize (colocation with industrial offtakers or district heating)

## Opportunities in emerging economies

Combining **innovative business models** and **targeted financial instruments** to promote efficiency and unlock investments

**Table 5.2** Policy landscape in selected economies

Economy	National strategy	Government financial support			Reporting requirements		Performance mandates	
		R&D	Data centres	Chips	Emissions	Electricity consumption	PUE	WUE
Argentina	●							
Australia	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	
Brazil	●	●	●	●				
Canada	●	●	●	●	○	○		
China	●	●	●	●		●	●	●
European Union	●	●	●	●	●	●		
France	●	●		●	●		●	
Germany	●	●		●	●	●	●	
India	●	●	○	●				
Indonesia	●	●	●	●				
Italy	●	●		●	●			
Japan	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	
Korea	●	●	●	●				
Mexico	●							
Russian Federation	●	●	●		●			
Saudi Arabia	●	●	●	●				
South Africa	●	●						
Türkiye	●	●	●	●	●			
United Kingdom	●	●	●	●	●	●		
United States	●	●	●	●	○	○	○	

Note: ● = substantial role; ○ = minor role; PUE = power usage effectiveness; WUE = water usage effectiveness

**Table 5.1** Data centre energy efficiency mandates for selected economies

Region	PUE (2023)	PUE mandate
Australia	1.44	1.4 by 2025
China	1.56	1.5 by 2025
France	1.36	40% building energy use reduction by 2030
Germany	1.42	1.2 by 2026 (new), 1.3 by 2030 (existing)
Japan	1.53	1.4 by 2022
California (United States)	1.21	1.5 by 2014
Global	1.43	-

Note: PUE = power usage effectiveness.

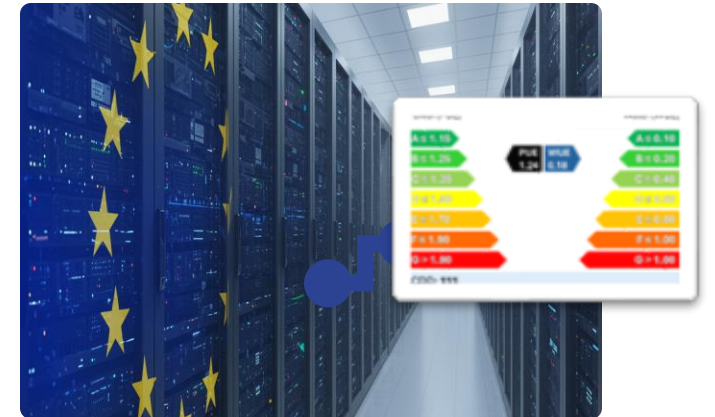
# CONCLUSIONS: POLICY DRIVERS FOR SUSTAINABLE DATA CENTERS

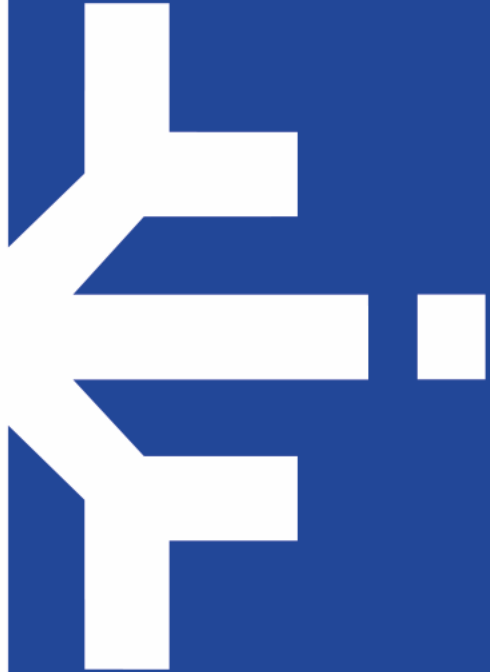
## Why sustainability matters:

- ✓ From “nice-to-have” to “**must-have**” for resilience, competitiveness and public acceptance
- ✓ Stricter rules ahead driving uptake of **energy efficiency solutions**
- ✓ **Efficiency enables growth** supporting digital & IT expansion

## Key benefits:

- ✓ **Lower PUE** and **WUE** for optimized energy and water use
- ✓ **Reuse heat** instead of wasting it, supporting **local decarbonization** (e.g., district heating)
- ✓ **Transparency through standardized reporting** builds trust
- ✓ **MPS drives retrofitting** of existing facilities to meet new standards
- ✓ **Global impact:** Success in Europe sets a benchmark for other regions





**Thank you**



# Sustainable Cooling Technologies for Data Centres

Shuangquan Shao

2026-5-12

Huazhong University of Science and Technology

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ASEAN Centre for Energy  
One Community for Sustainable Energy

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**Background**

**2**

**Principle of DC Cooling Systems**

**3**

**Sustainable Cooling Technologies**

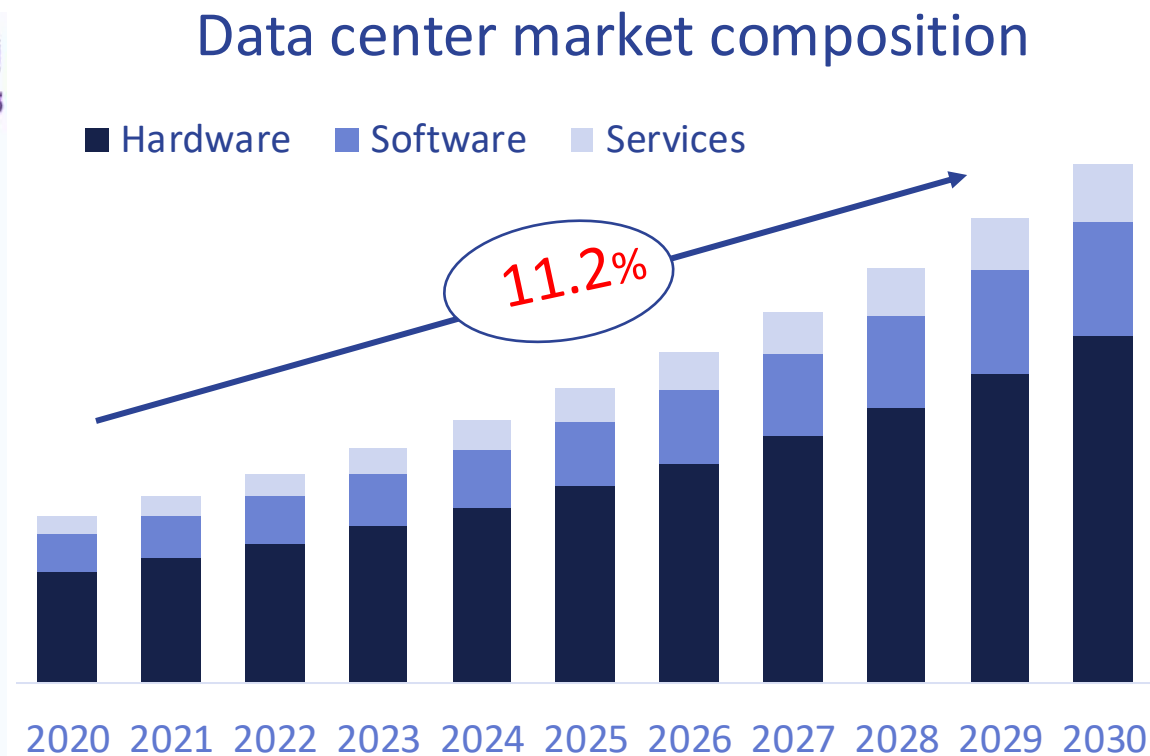
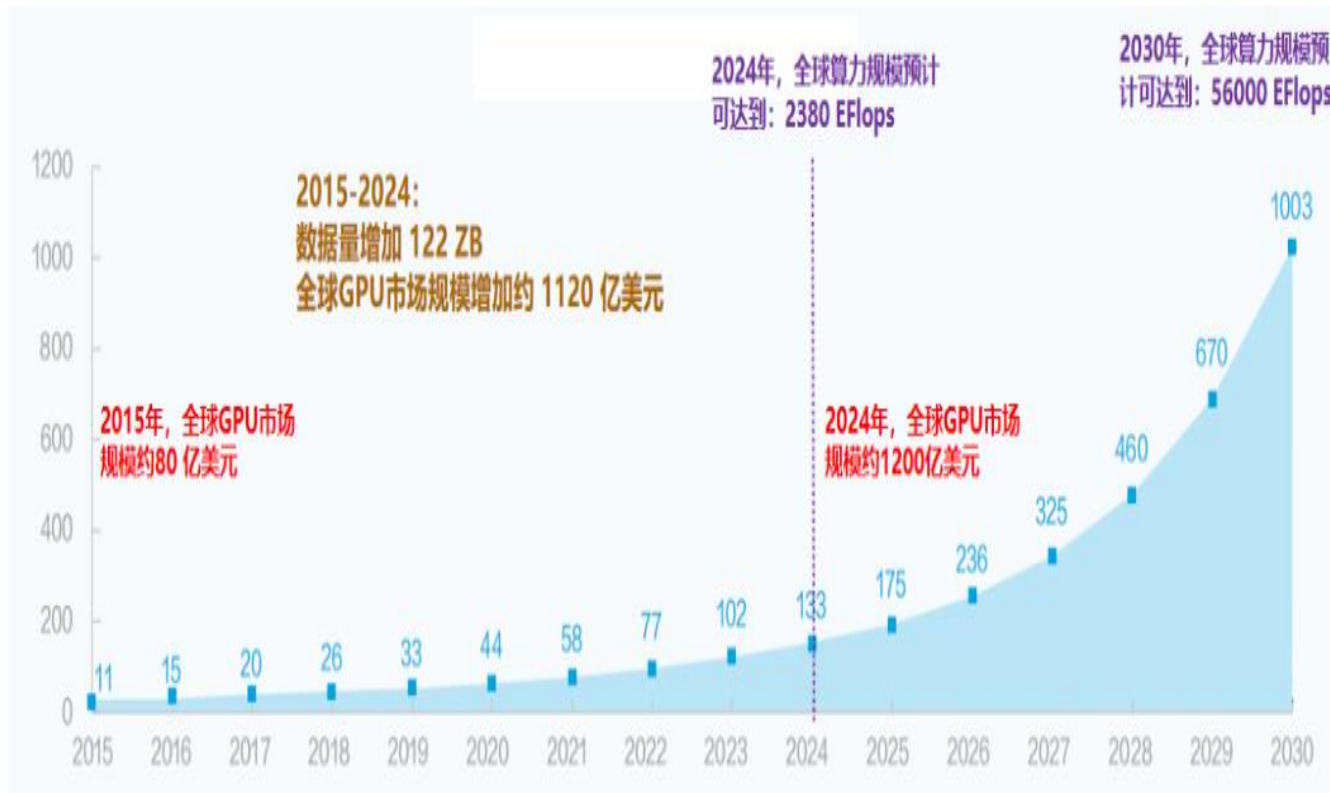
**4**

**Conclusions**



# 1.1 Rapid growth of data center market

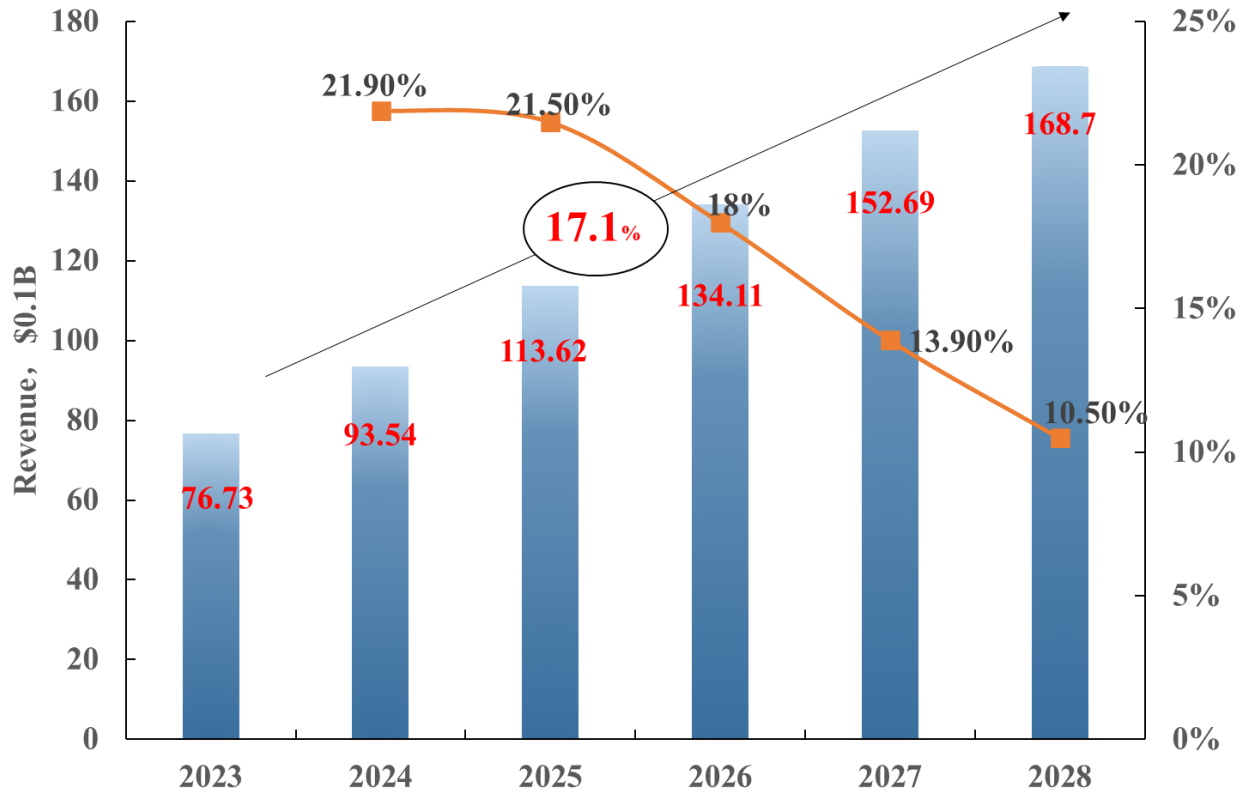
## ● The demand of computility



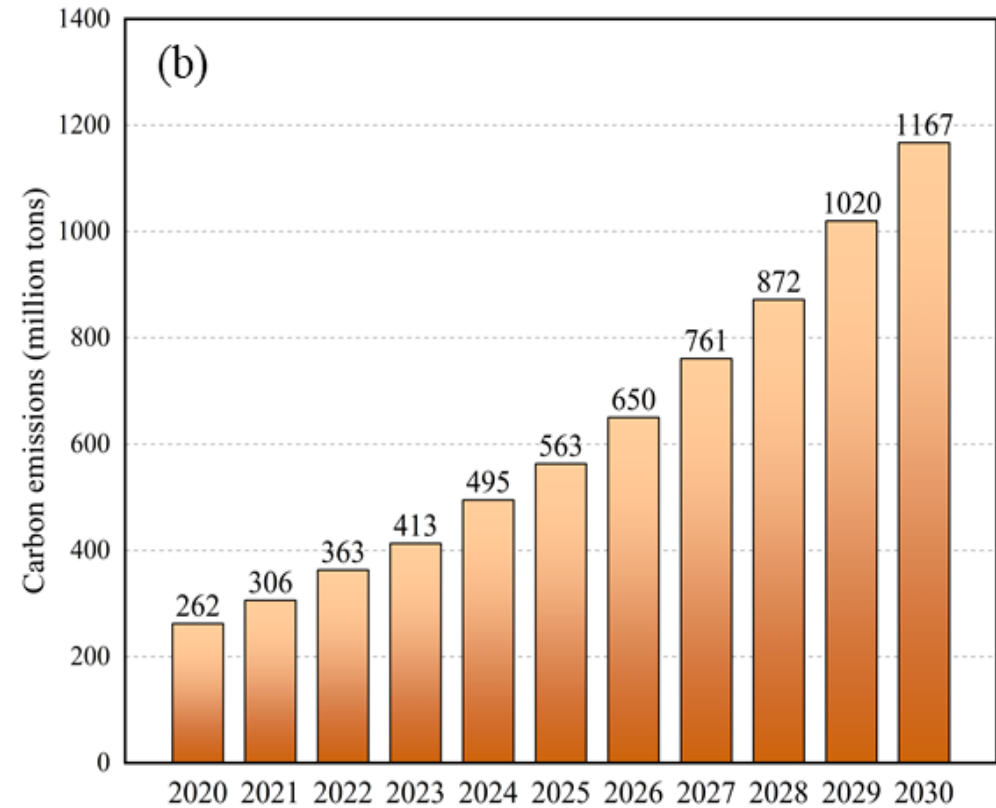
## ● Market projections indicate a compound annual growth rate of 11.2%

# 1.2 Fast expansion of DC cooling demand and emission

## Global data center cooling market size



## Global carbon emissions from data centers



Increased utilization of data centers →

Elevated energy consumption and carbon emissions

# Contents



ASEAN Centre for Energy  
One Community for Sustainable Energy

**1** | **Background**

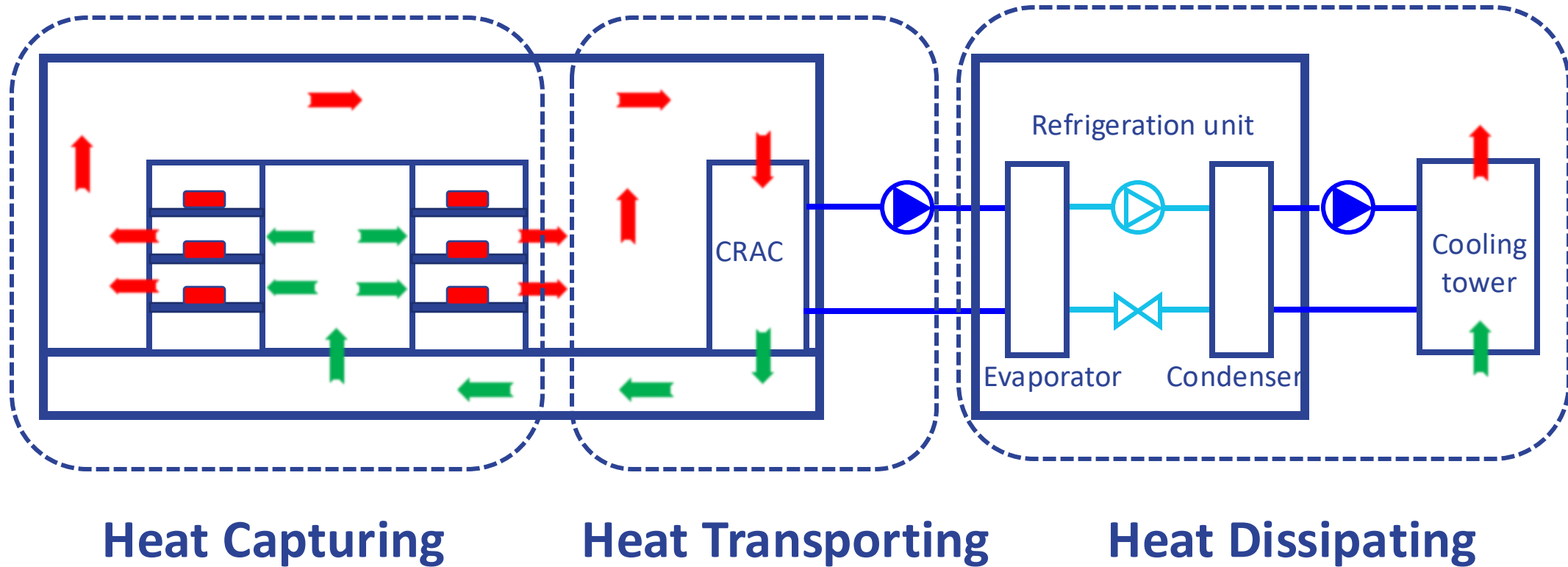
**2** | **Principle of DC cooling system**

**3** | **Sustainable Cooling Technologies**

**4** | **Conclusions**

# 2.1 Typical Air Cooling System for Data Center

## Air Cooling System



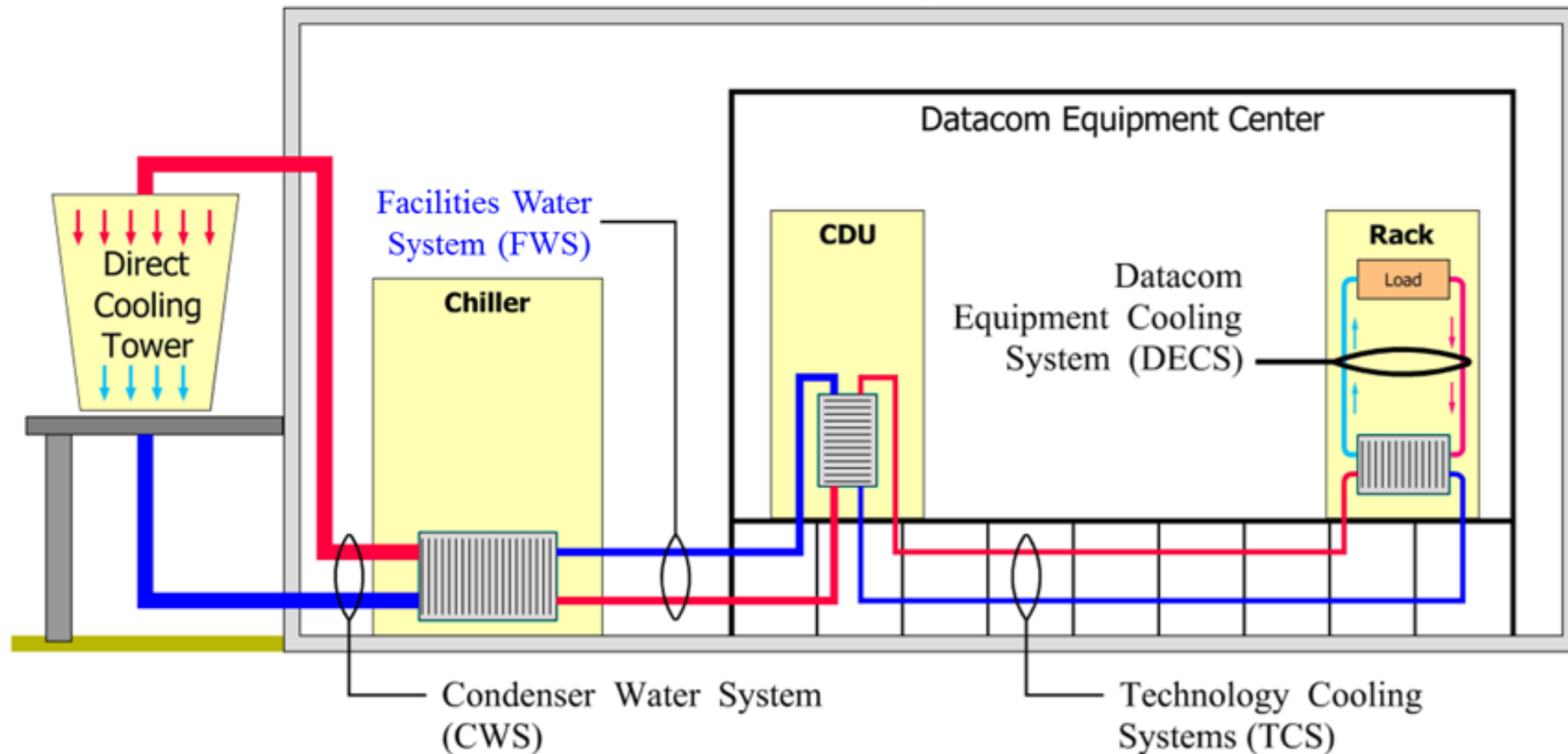
# 2.2 Typical Liquid Cooling System for Data Center

## Liquid Cooling Systems

Heat Dissipating

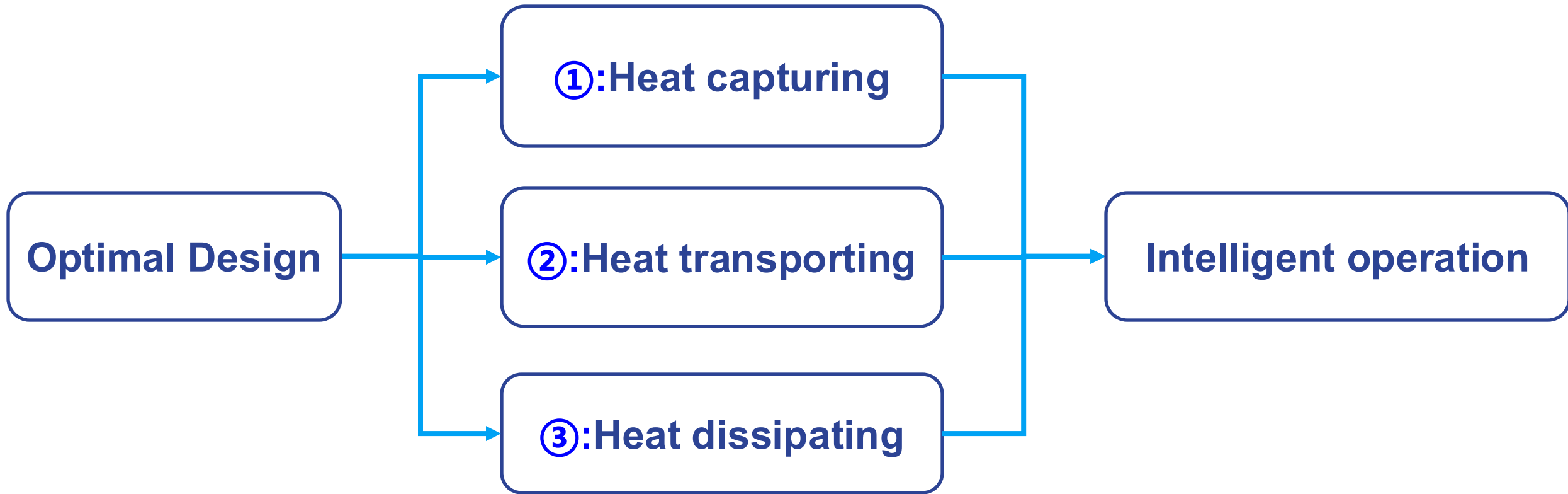
Heat Transporting  
Building

Heat Capturing



## 2.3 Pathways for Sustainable Cooling of Data Centers

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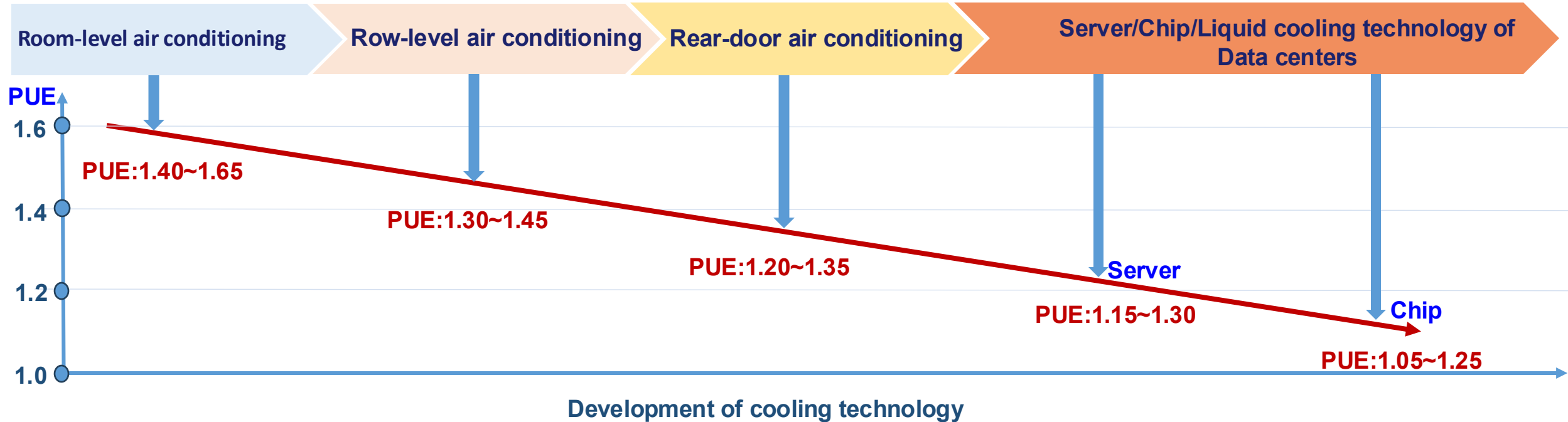
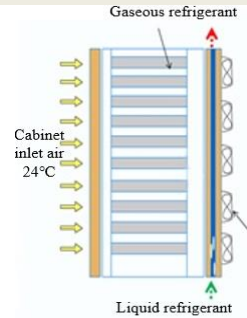
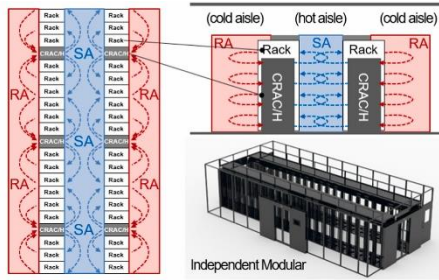
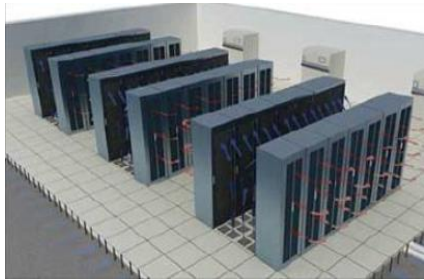


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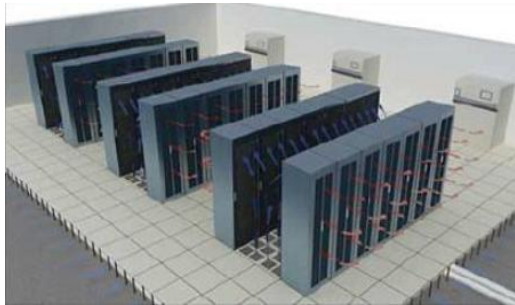
# 3.1 Heat Capturing

Target: 1) Decrease the heat exergy degradation (by heat transfer or mixture), and  
2) Enhance the heat transfer intensity

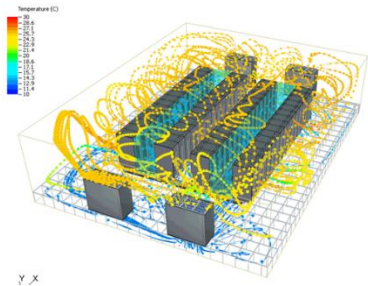


# 3.1 Heat Capturing

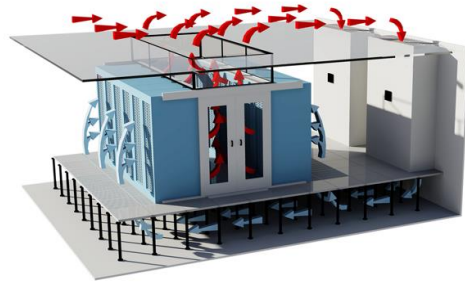
## ① Room-level air conditioning



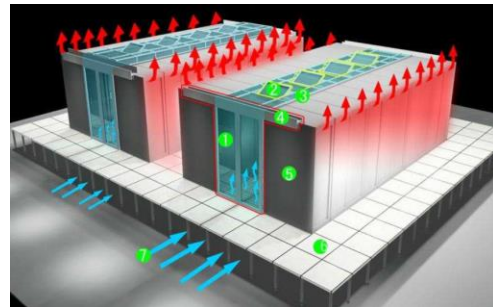
Hot aisle/cold aisle without containment



Airflow management

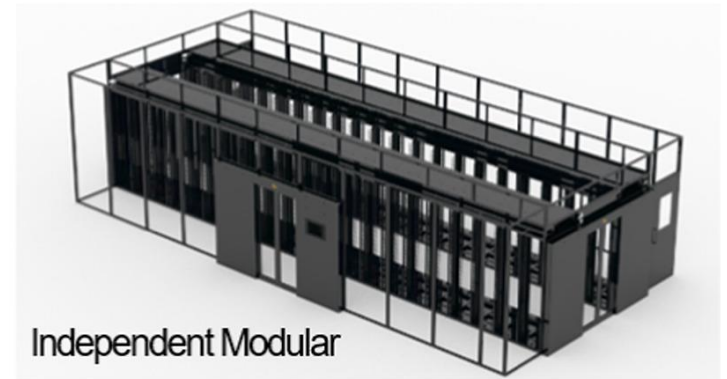
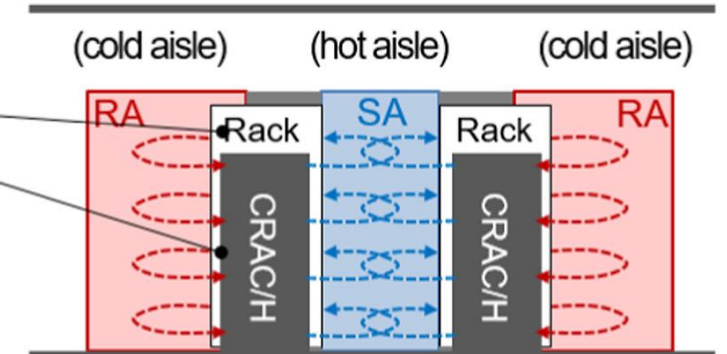
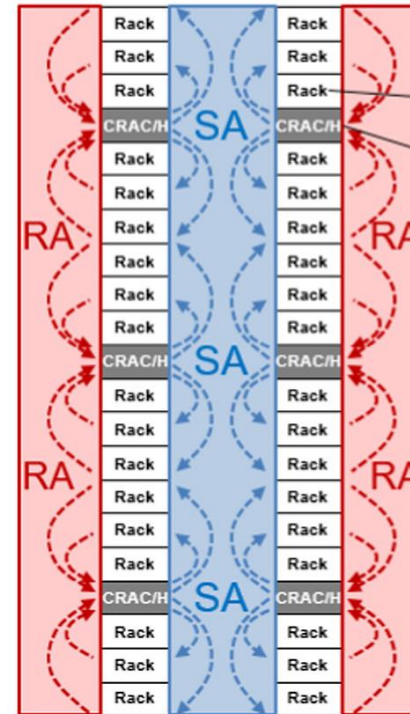


Underfloor air supply with hot aisle closure



Underfloor air supply with cold aisle closure

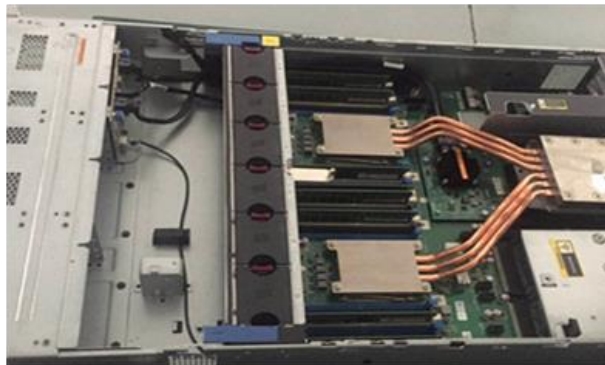
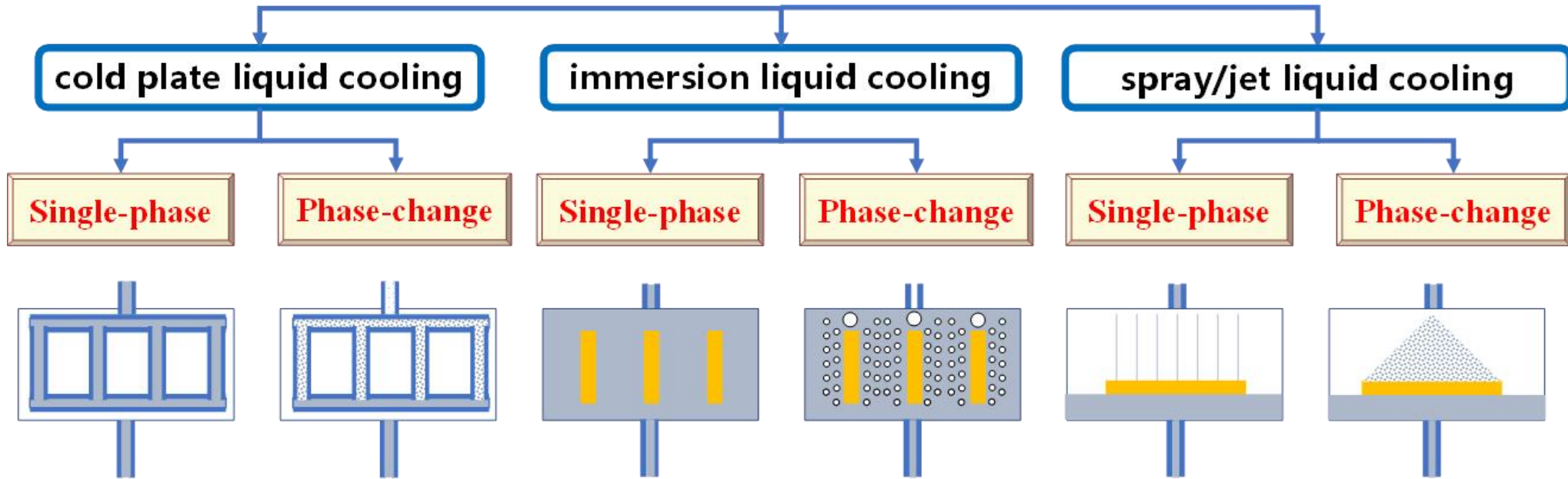
## ② Row-level air conditioning



minimizes airflow distance, enables precise demand-driven cooling, and consequently enhances energy efficiency

# 3.1 Heat Capturing

## ③ Liquid cooling technology of data centers



Cold plate



Immersion liquid cooling

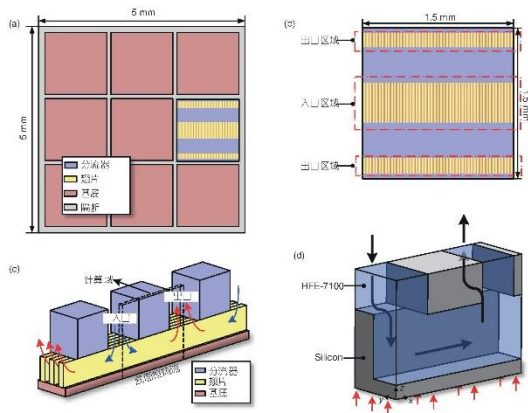


Spray liquid cooling

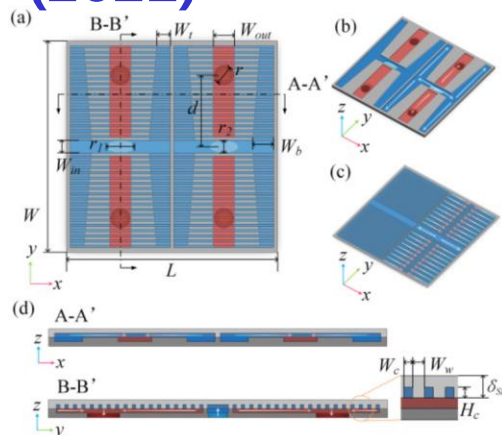
# 3.1 Heat Capturing

## Single-Phase Cold Plate

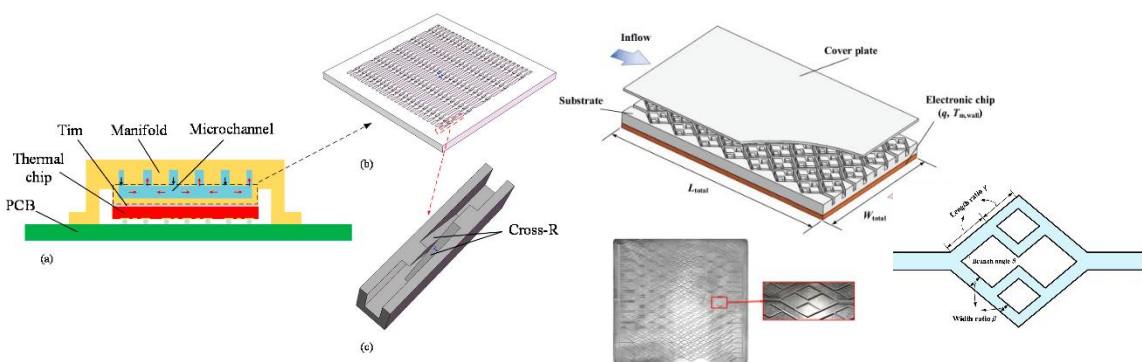
➤ (2020)



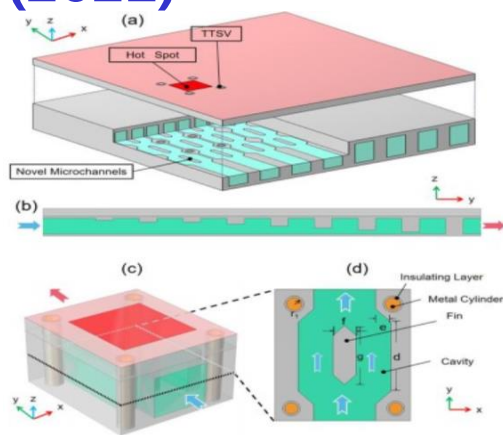
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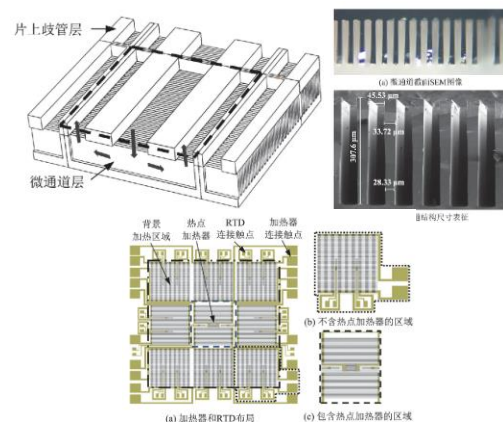
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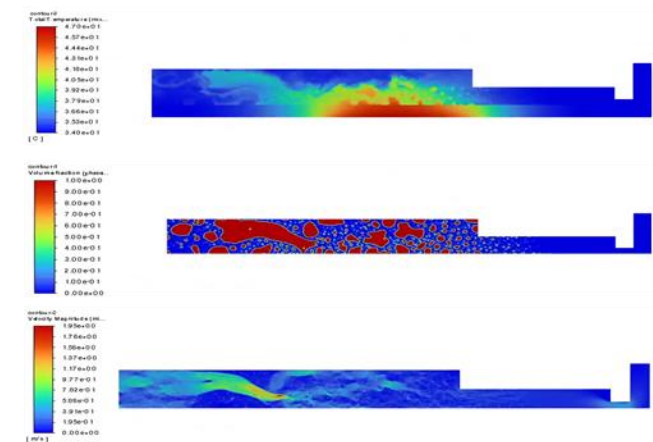
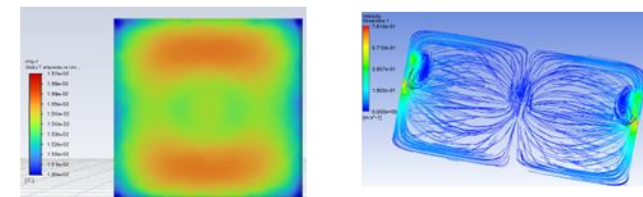
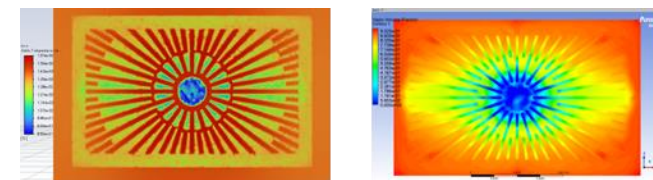
➤ (2022)



➤ (2020)

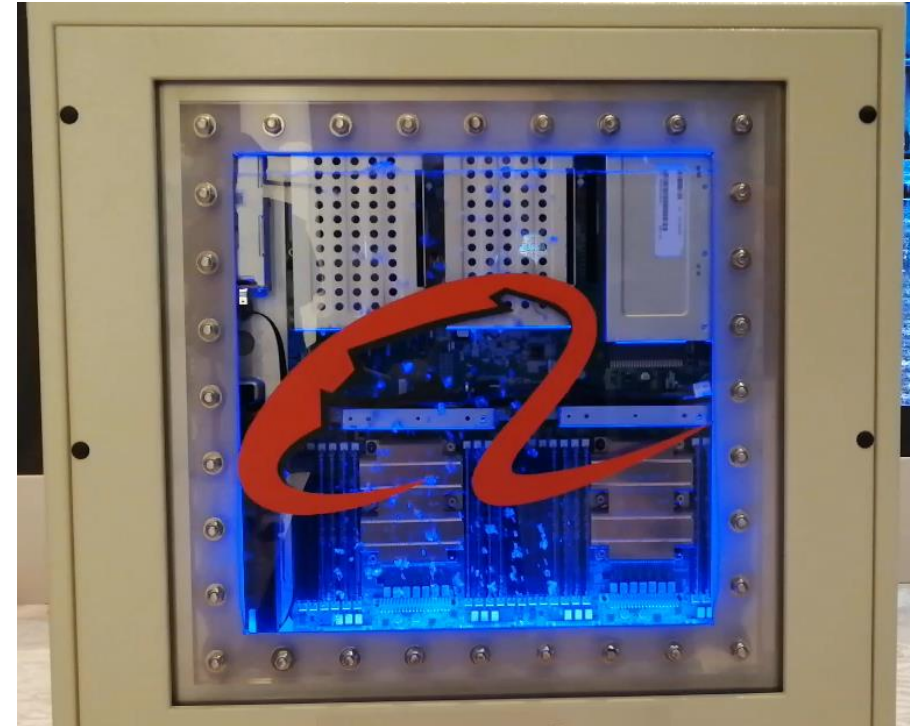
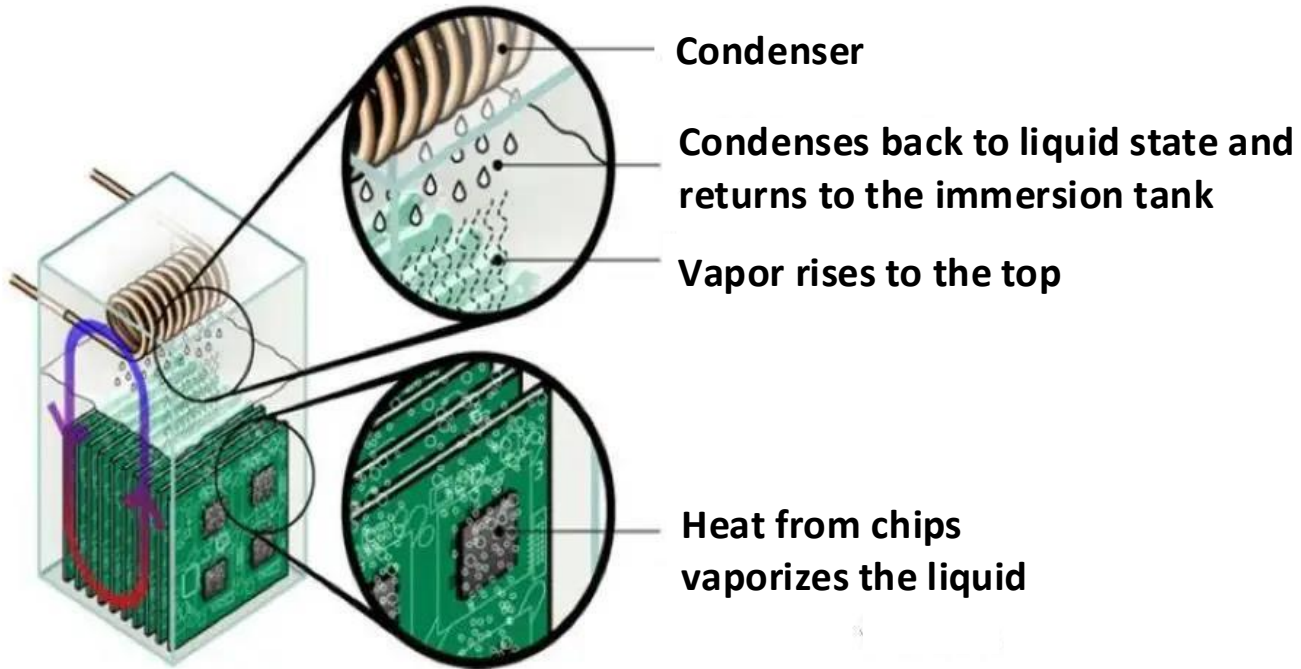


## 2-Phase Cold Plate



# 3.1 Heat Capturing

## Two-phase immersion liquid cooling



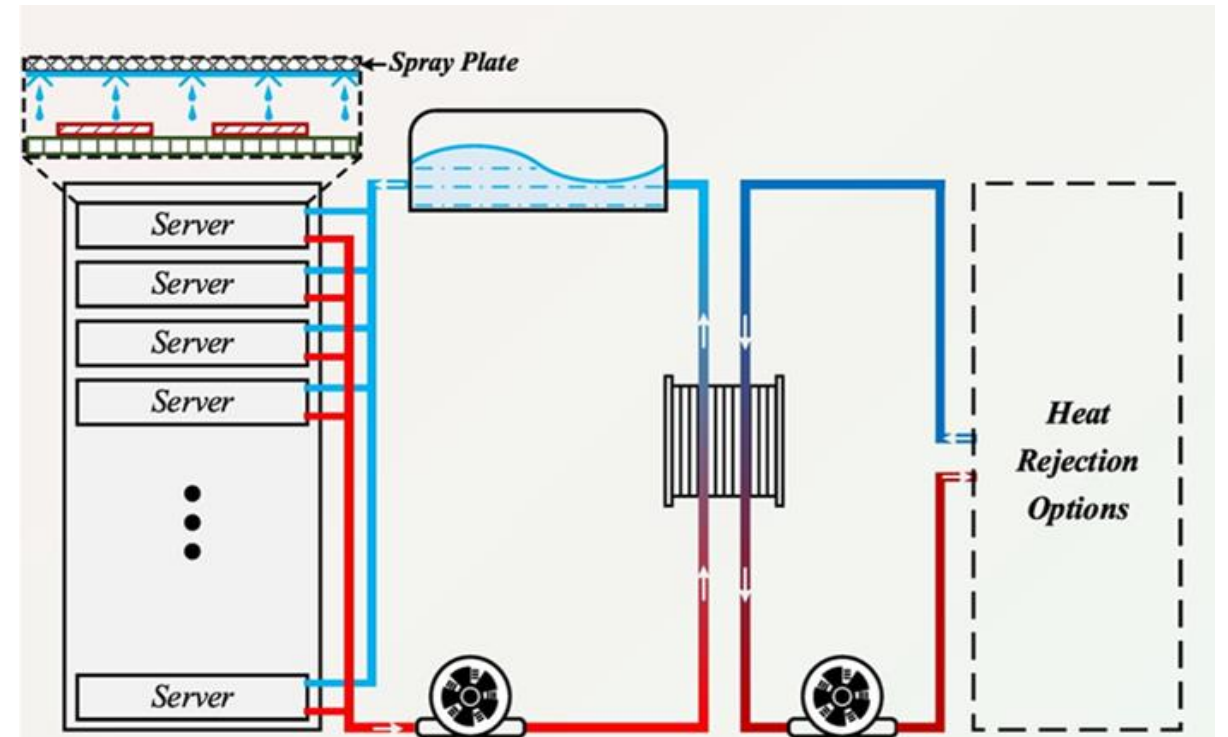
- Eliminating airflow-dependent cooling infrastructure
- Achieving near-theoretical energy efficiency limits
- Supporting ultra-high power density deployments

# 3.1 Heat Capturing

## Spray/Jet liquid cooling

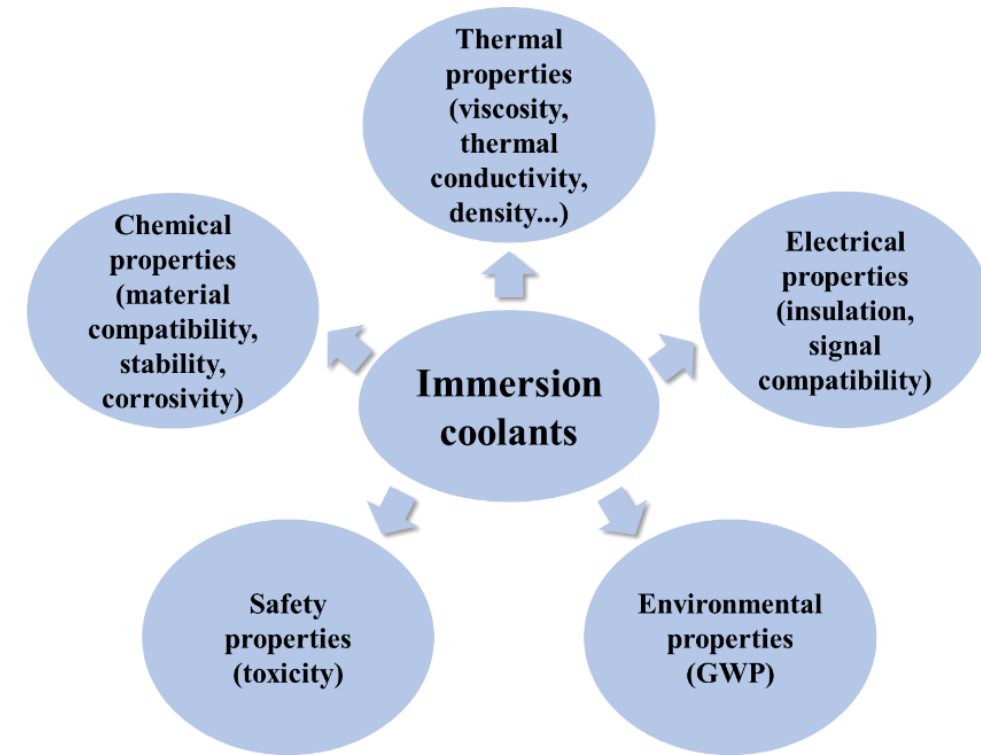
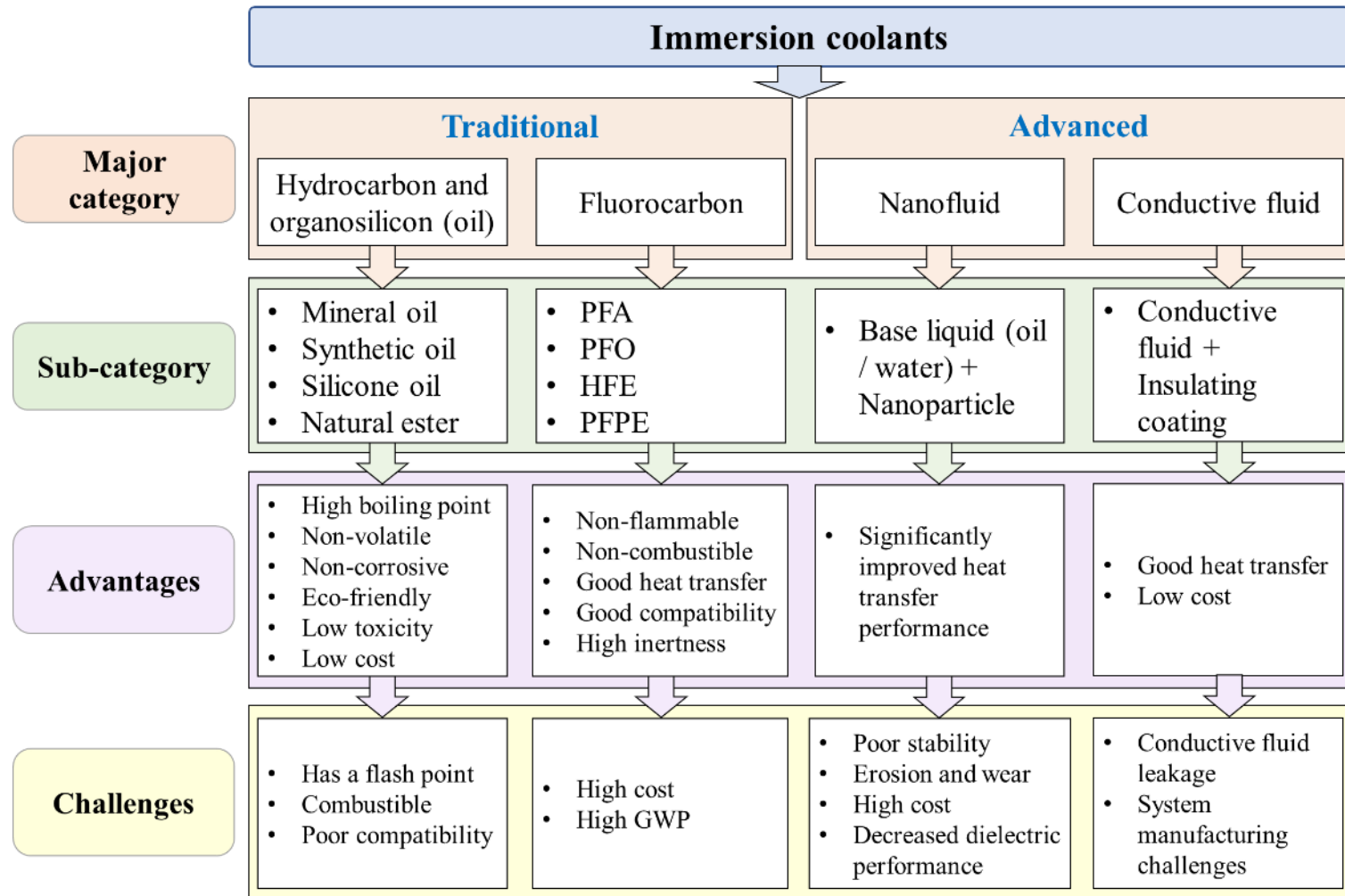


- Targeted spraying based on localized heat flux density
- **Reduces coolant consumption**
- Decreases structural floor loading



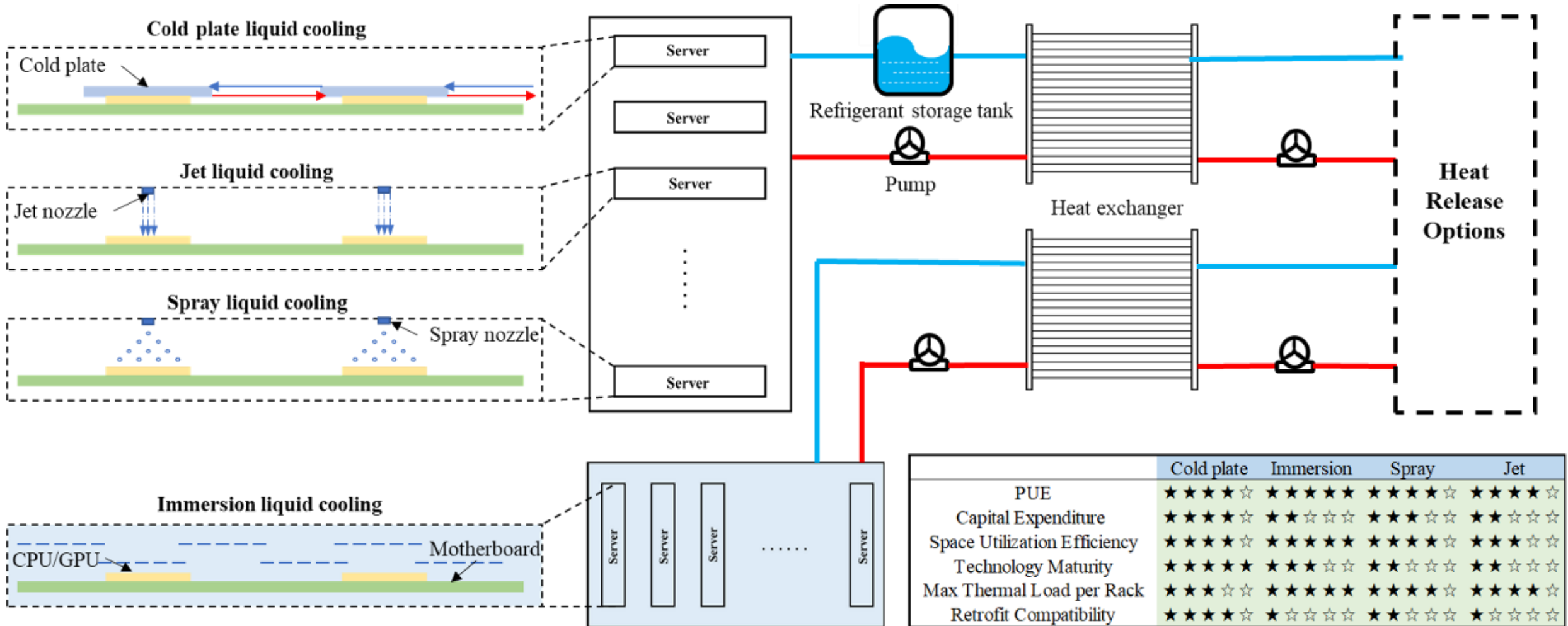
# 3.1 Heat Capturing

## Coolants for Immersion, Spray/Jet liquid cooling



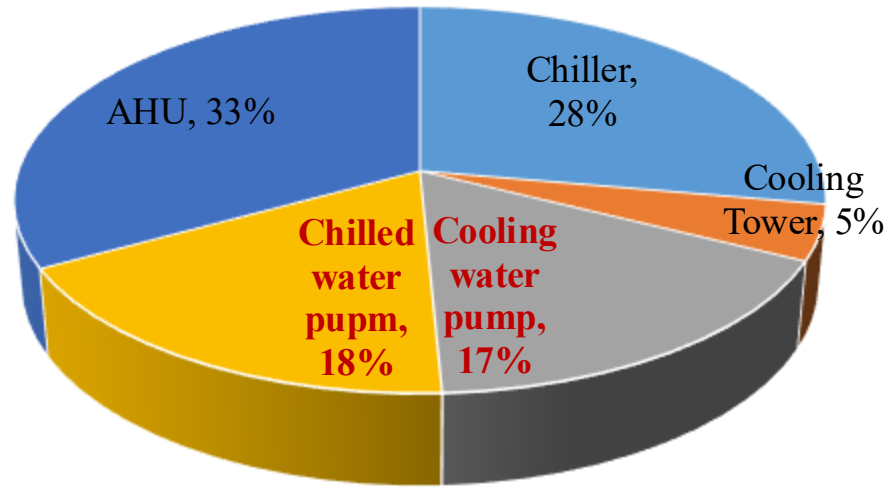
# 3.1 Heat Capturing

## Comparison of different Liquid cooling technologies



# 3.2 Heat Transporting

- ✓ Minimal transport power required
- ✓ Environmentally friendly refrigerant alternatives



$$Q = \dot{m}Cp(T_i - T_o)$$

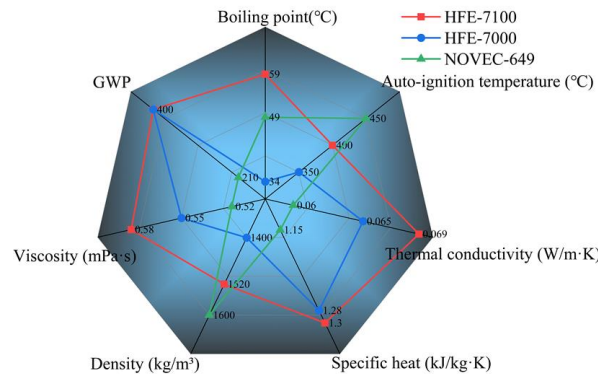
→ Larger heat transfer temperature differentials increase exergy destruction  
 → Lower flow rates reduce fluid transport energy consumption

## Coolant choose

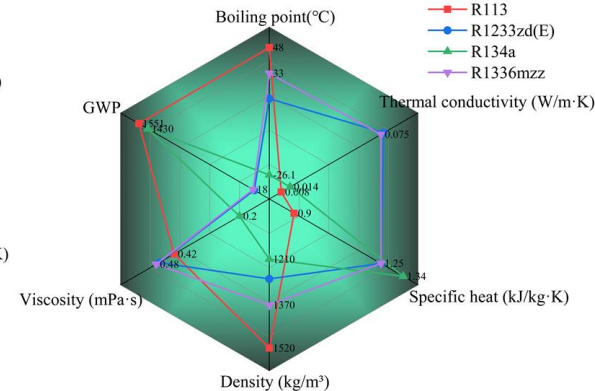
$$P = \dot{m}\Delta H$$

→ Refrigerants' lower viscosity versus water, coupled with vapor-liquid density differences, enable reduced transport energy  
 → Higher fluid density permits smaller piping diameters, conserving space

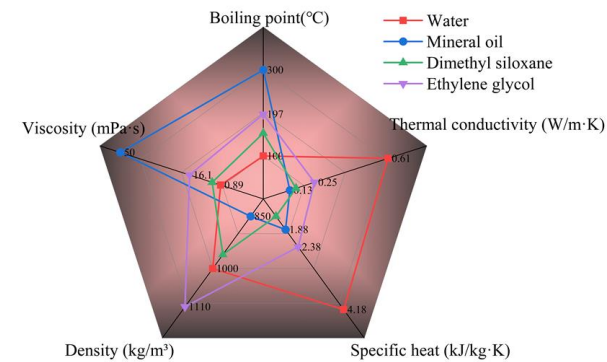
The proportion of **distribution system energy consumption** within data centers' annual total energy usage is **continuously rising**.



(a) Fluorinated Fluids



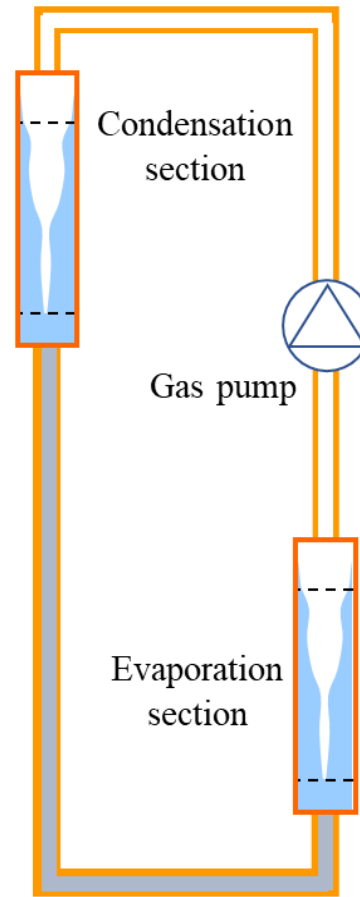
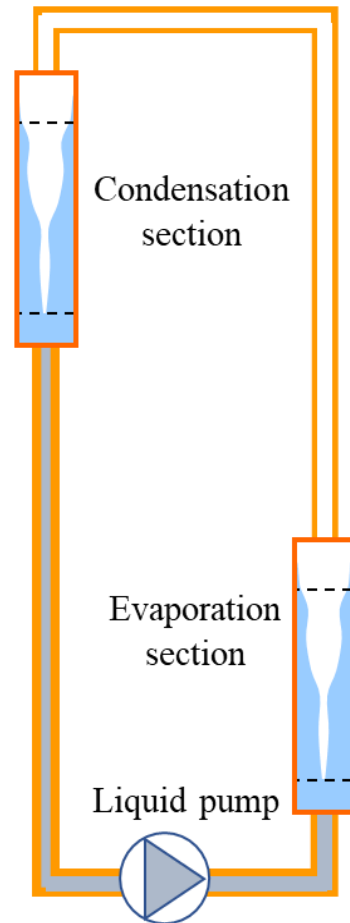
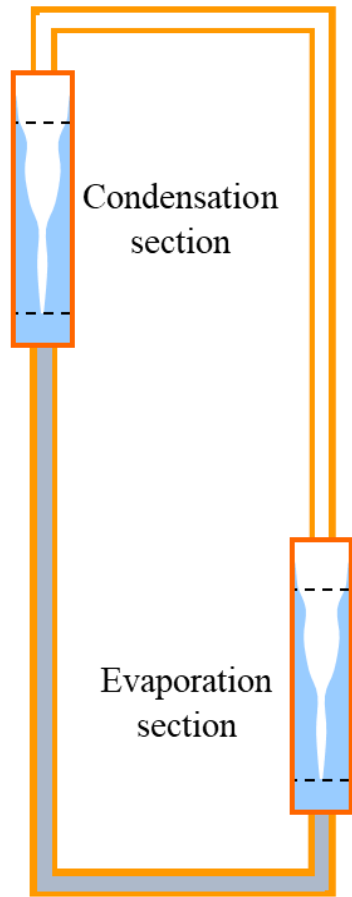
(b) Refrigerants Fluids



(c) Common Fluids

# 3.2 Heat Transporting

## Heat pipe loop



(a) Gravity-driven(thermosyphon)

(b) Liquid pump driven

(c) Gas pump driven

### **Gravity-driven(thermosyphon)**

*Utilizes gravity potential and density differential as circulation driving force.*

### **Liquid pump driven**

*Utilizes liquid pump as circulation driving force; cavitation prevention required.*

### **Gas pump driven**

*Utilizes vapor compressor as circulation driving force; liquid slugging prevention required.*

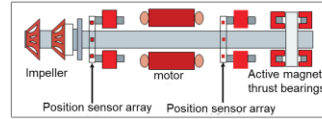
# 3.3 Heat Dissipating

## Integrated system architecture



### ⑤ High-Efficiency Chillers

- Magnetic bearing variable frequency drive chillers
- Water/air-cooled VFD chillers
- Low condenser water temperature operation



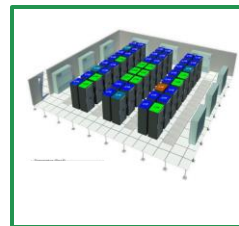
### ⑥ High-Efficiency Customized Terminal Units

- Electronically commutated (EC) fans
- Fresh air / full recirculation mode



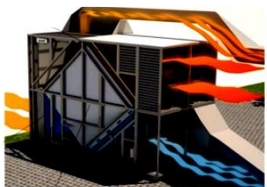
### ⑦ Packaged Cooling Plant System

- Prefabricated modular units
- Unitary integrated cooling plant
- Integrated building management system



### ⑧ AI-Driven Energy Management Platform

- All-variable speed drive configuration
- Free cooling; redundant hot standby

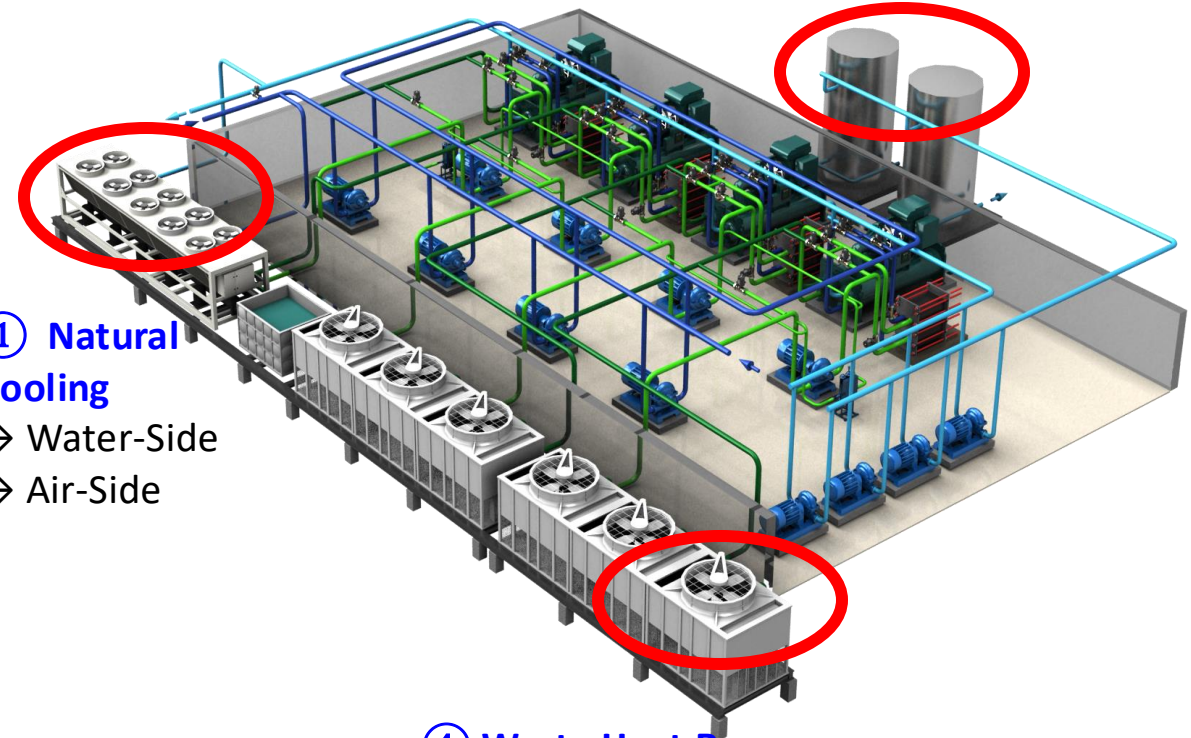


### ③ Evaporative cooling

- reduction of cooling source temperature

### ② Thermal Energy Storage

- Ice-based thermal energy storage
- Water-based sensible thermal energy storage



### ① Natural Cooling

- Water-Side
- Air-Side

### ④ Waste Heat Recovery

- Condenser Heat Recovery System
- Total Heat Recovery

# 3.3 Heat Dissipating

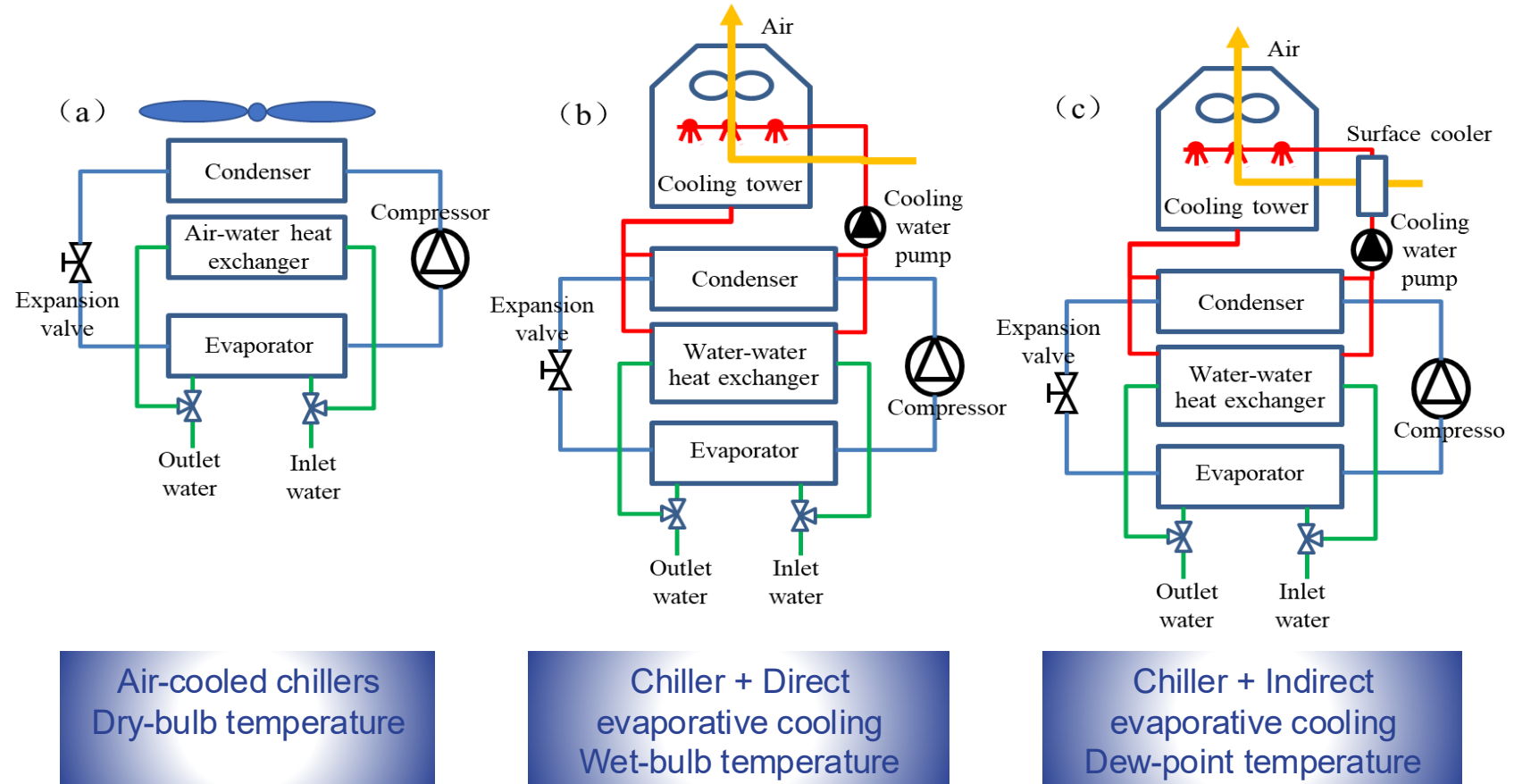
## ① Natural cooling

### Types of natural cooling system

Classification	Type
Air-side	Direct Indirect
Water-side	Direct water-cooling Air-cooling Cooling tower /evaporative cooling
Heat pipe	By driving force By system By outdoor cooling

### Advantages:

- Environmental Sustainability
- Economic Viability

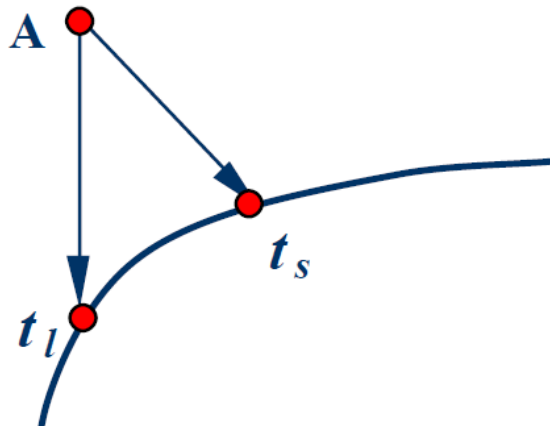


### Active/natural cooling integrated systems

# 3.3 Heat Dissipating

## ② Evaporative cooling: reduction of cooling source temperature

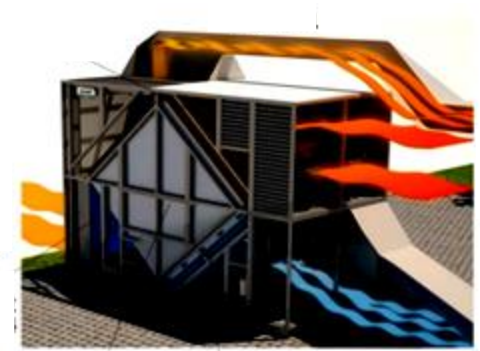
### Typical Evaporative Cooling Heat Transfer Process



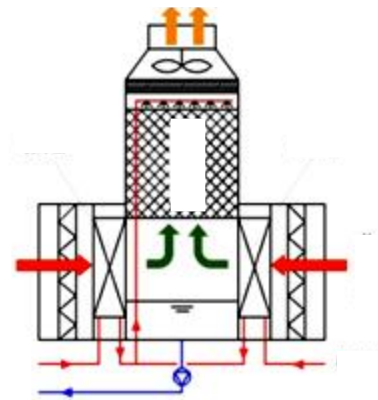
- Heat removal via water evaporation
- Direct evaporative cooling ( $t_s$ ) / Dew-point evaporative cooling ( $t_l$ )
- Generates chilled air/water or condenses refrigerant (evaporative condensation)



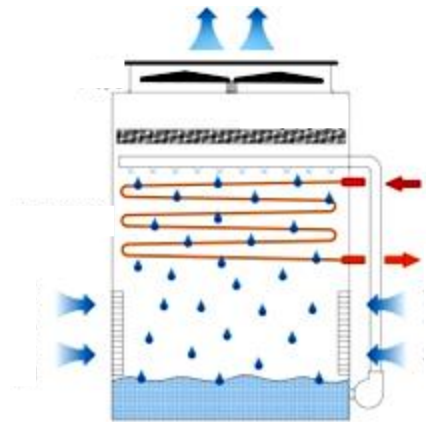
Internally-cooled indirect evaporative air handling unit



Externally-cooled indirect evaporative air handling unit



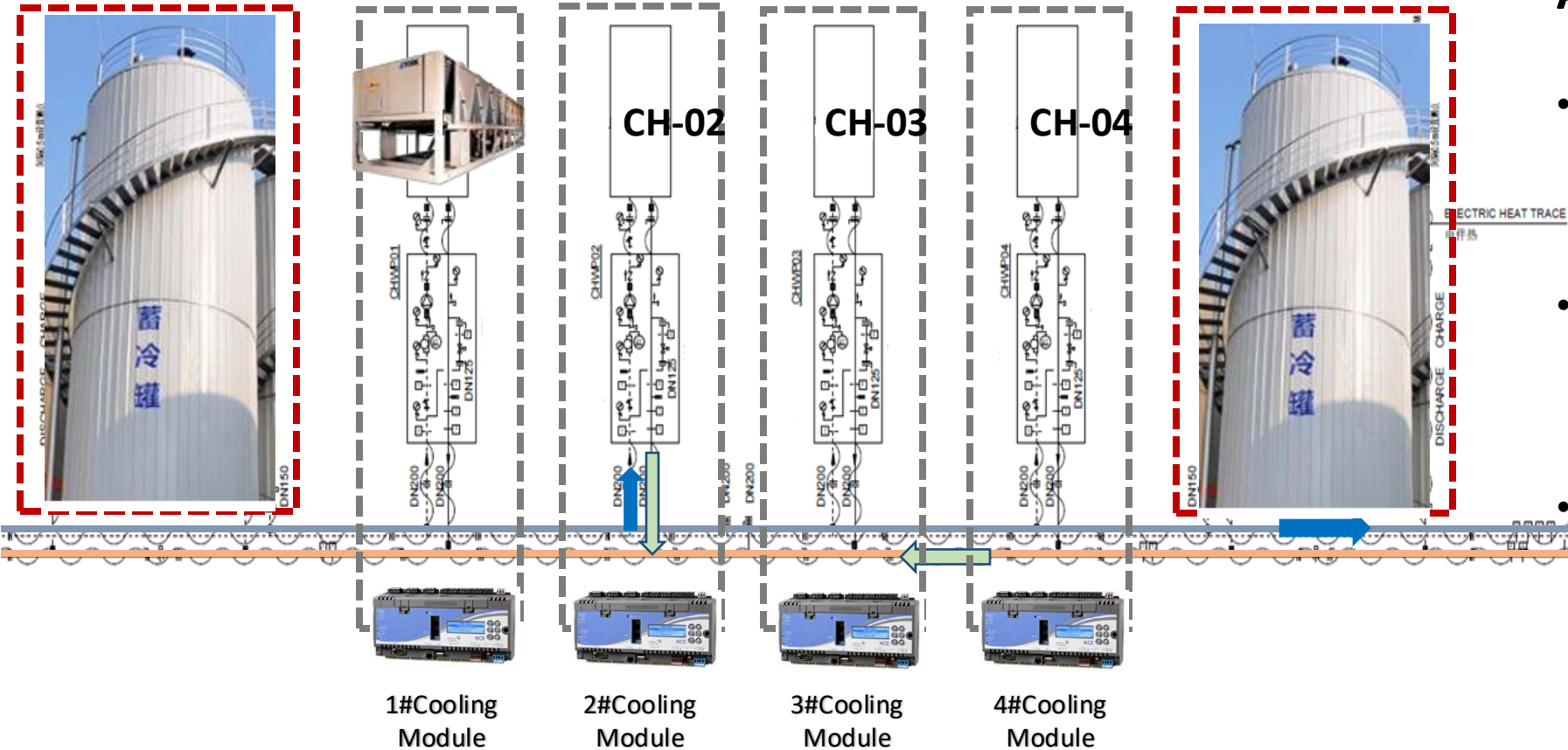
Indirect evaporative chiller



Evaporative condenser unit

# 3.3 Heat Dissipating

## ③ Data Center Cooling Thermal Storage



### Advantages:

- **Increasing Cooling Capacity:** Enhances the operational resilience of data center cooling systems
- **Customer-Side Energy Storage:** Improves grid reliability and increases renewable energy utilization rate
- **Time-of-Use Electricity Pricing:** Reduces operational costs

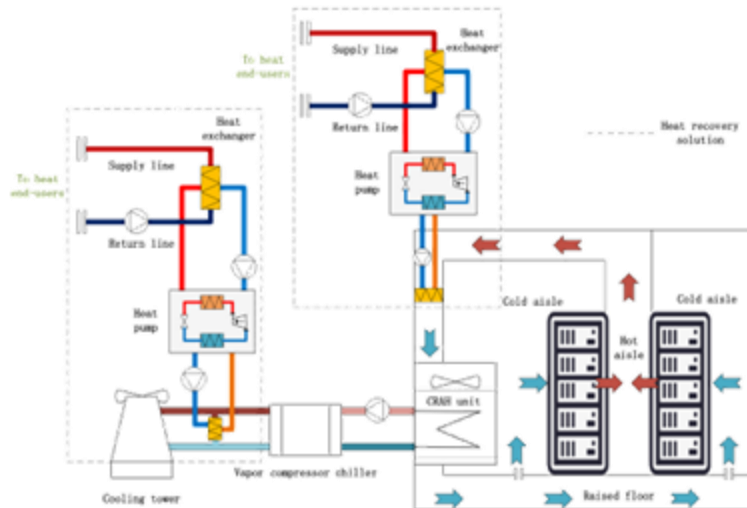
# 3.3 Heat Dissipating

## ④ Data Center Waste Heat Recovery Technologies

### Various heat sources

**Air Cooling Thermal Sources:** High-temperature exhaust air, condenser water, chilled water

**Liquid Cooling Thermal Sources:** Coolant return flow, process cooling liquid



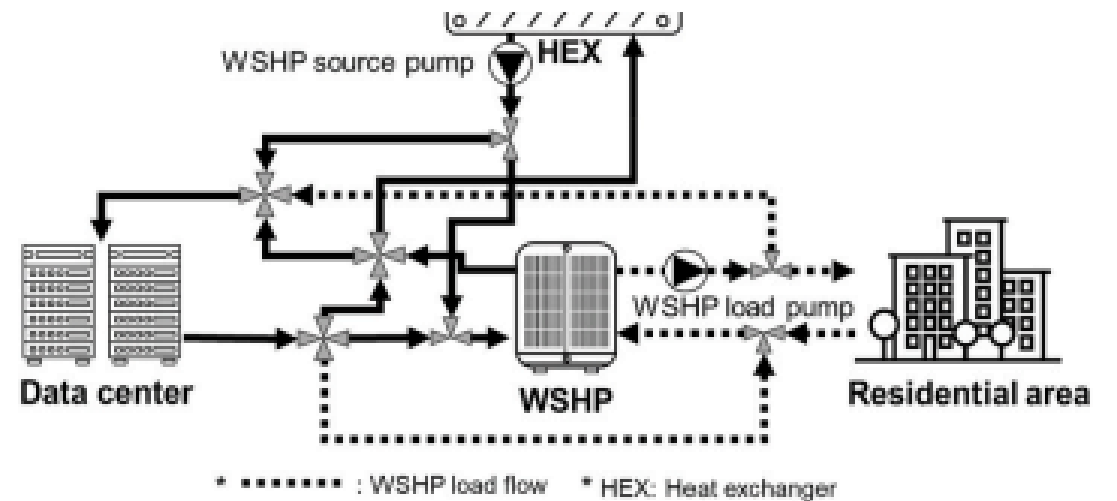
Air Cooling Thermal Sources

### Various heat sinks

**District Heating:** Supplies hot water/space heating

**Preheating for Power Generation:** Directly offsets electricity consumption

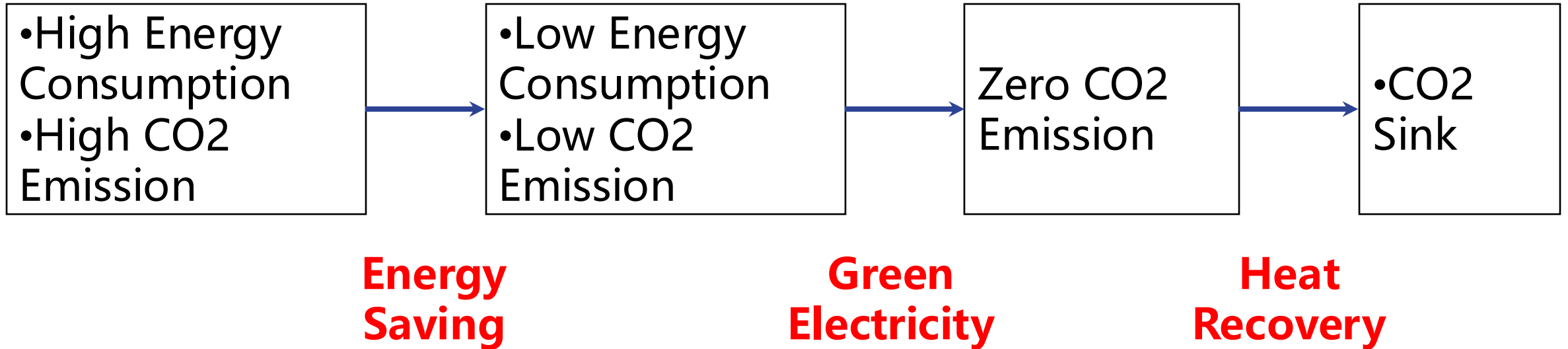
**Supplementary Cooling:** Waste heat-driven refrigeration compensating cooling load



District Heating

# 4 Conclusions

## Data Center Prosumer

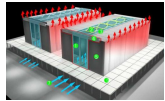


# 4 Conclusions

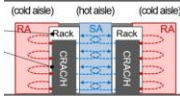
## Heat capture

### Air cooling

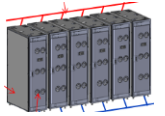
Room level



Row level



Cabinet level



### Liquid cooling

Cold plate



Immersion



Spray



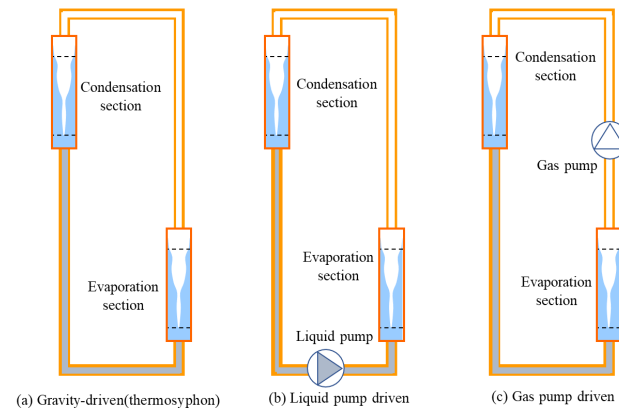
## Heat transfer

### Coolant choose

Minimal transport power

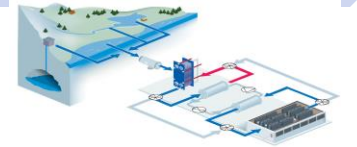
Environmentally friendly

### Loop heat pipes (Base on latent heat)

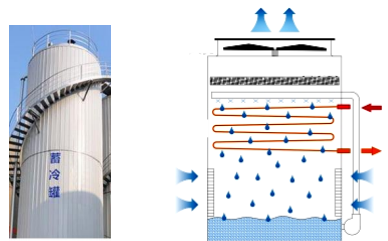


## Heat release

### Natural cooling



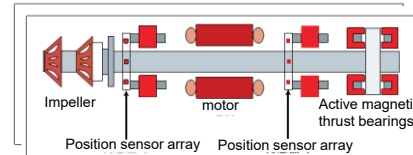
### Thermal energy storage



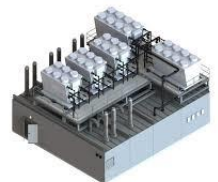
### Evaporative cooling

### Waste heat recovery

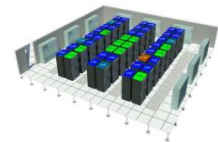
### High-efficiency chillers



### High-efficiency customized terminal units



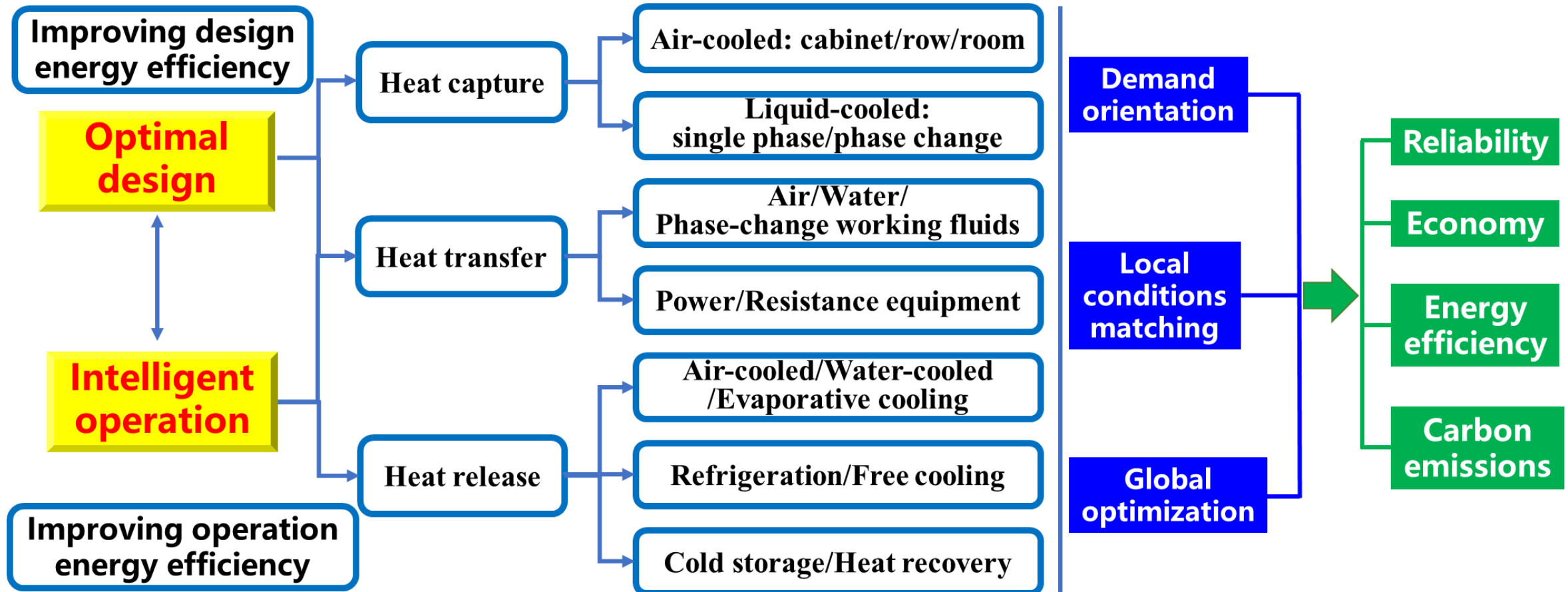
### Packaged cooling plant



### AI-driven energy man

# 4 Conclusions

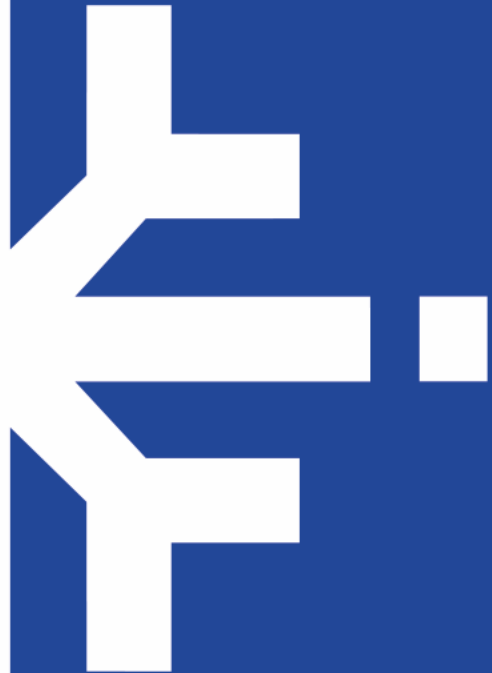
## ◆ Technical development process of a data center cooling system of carbon neutrality



# 4 Conclusions

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- The rapid expansion of data centers drives massive electricity consumption, resulting in significant greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions
- To address the intensified heat generation from super servers, more powerful cooling systems are imperative
- Developing sustainable cooling solutions demands a comprehensive approach — from efficient heat capturing to low-energy heat transport and optimized heat dissipation mechanisms



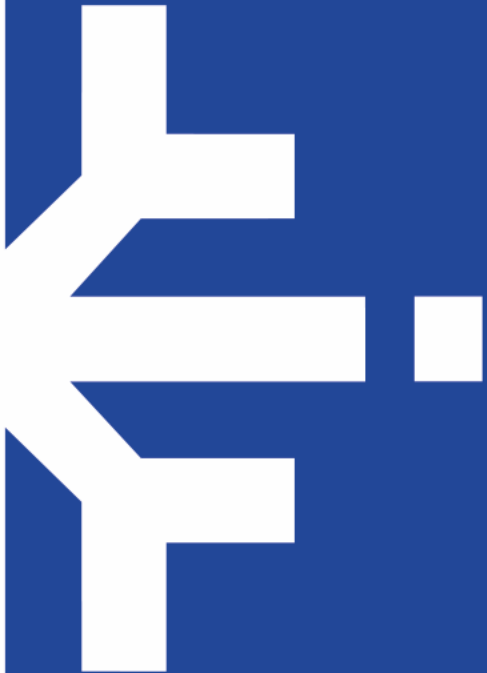
# Thank you

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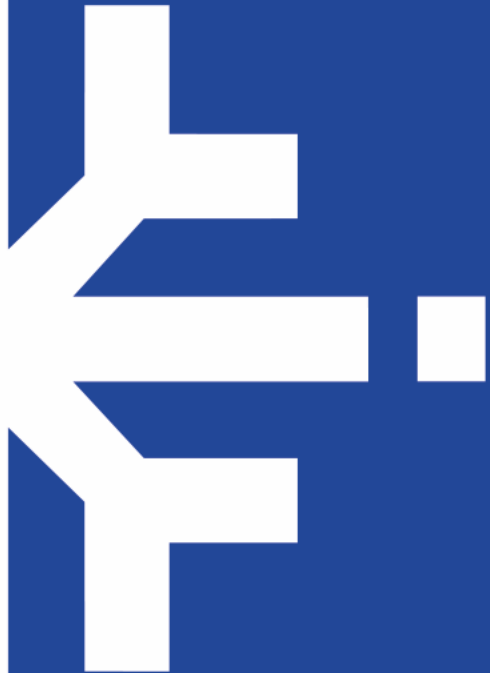
[shaoshq@hust.edu.cn](mailto:shaoshq@hust.edu.cn)



**Q&A**



**ASEAN Centre for Energy**  
One Community for Sustainable Energy



**Thank you**