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Annual Update on Emerging Memories 2020

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Flash Memory Summit



Topics

- Why New Memories
- Historical and Recent Technologies compared
- Memory Product Lifecycle
- PCM/Optane/3D Xpoint, MRAM, ReRAM, FE RAM
- Emerged Technologies



Memory Technologies Reviewed

whats new?



	Latency	Density	Cost	HVM ready
DRAM	*****	***	***	*****
NAND	*	*****	*****	*****
MRAM	*****	*	*	****
3DXP	***	****	****	*****
ReRAM	***	***	***	**
NRAM	***	***	***	*
FE RAM	***	**	***	*
Other	***	**	**	*



Why New Memories? NAND Scaling

- NAND flash has line of sight to 256L+ and QLC.
- This takes us to 2025 timeframe with a ~75% bit cost reduction
- We can do a >1Tbit Chip today, 2TB in a package
 - Sweet spot is 256-512Gb so density is not issue
- String stacking, CMOS under array allows a lot of circuit options
- NAND is not done anytime soon. And no one is even close on costs
- NAND is still 4-5x more expensive than HDD but improving over time
- NAND is the high density, low cost solution for all compute



Why New Memory: DRAM Scaling

- DRAM scaling has slowed down but is still steady
- Companies implementing EUV/ Pitch multiplication to get to 10nm
- New architectures could work... if needed. No major change yet
- DDR5 on track to lead bus speed improvements
- DRAM has line of sight through 2026 for scaling
- 10% cost reduction and ~25% density improvement each year
- DRAM is still the go to for Fast, Volatile, Random access memory



Why New Memory: Not Meeting Needs

- DRAM and NAND are not meeting needs
- NAND is slow, block oriented, wears out
 - But nothing can approach it for price
- DRAM is volatile, density is growing slowly, it is less than ideal
 - But at least its RAM
 - It doesn't wear out
- We want a Fast NVM and we want a higher density RAM than DRAM

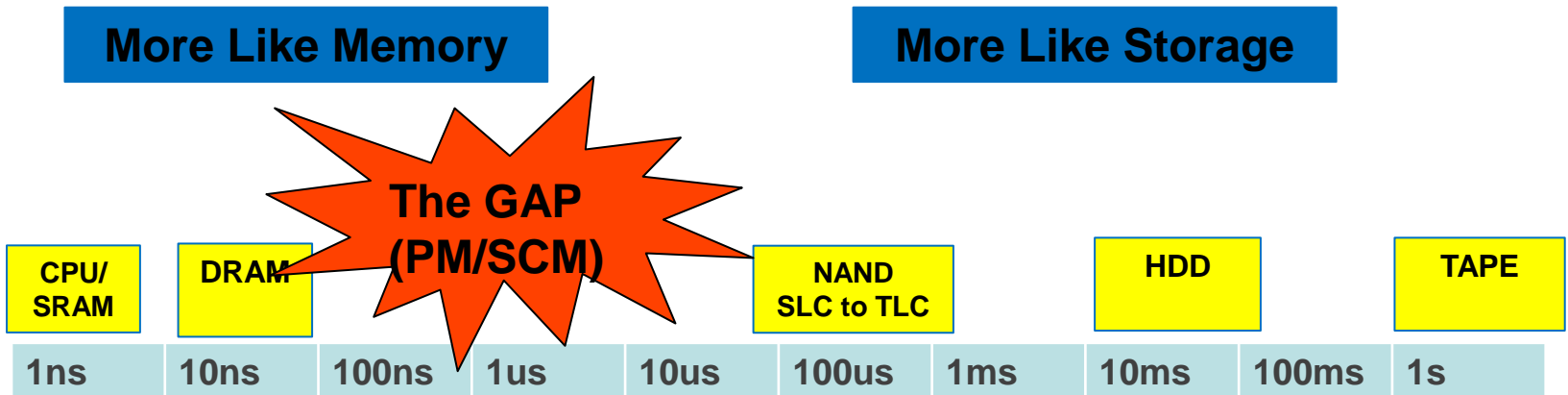


What is Needed in New Technology

- Ideal Universal Memory
 - Fast as DRAM, Non-Volatile, Infinite cycles, Cheaper than NAND
 - This is not coming from anyone soon
 - Nothing is replacing DRAM or NAND in next 10 years
- Reality of what will happen
 - Combination of tradeoffs will need to be made
 - Add in some new technologies to fill gaps



The Latency Spectrum and Gaps ~2015



Increasing Density →

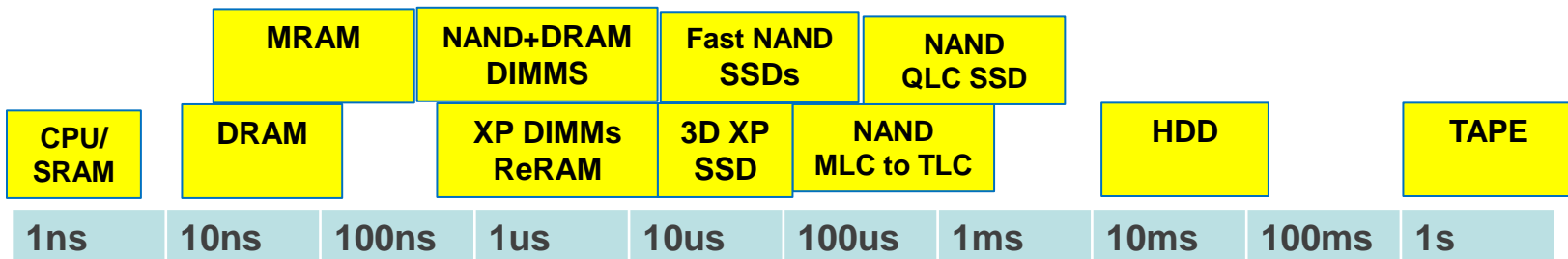
← Increasing Cost



The Latency Spectrum and Gaps Future

More Like Memory

More Like Storage



Increasing Density

Increasing Cost



What Do We Have Available Today?

- We now have a volume 3D Xpoint memory ramping with 100s of Millions in revenue in multiple markets
 - More revenue than all previous “new NVM” COMBINED
 - 1B GB will be shipped in 2021
- We have low density ReRAM/FE RAM technologies available for embedded
- We have MRAM being used in actual discrete products and applications
- MRAM is being implemented in foundry designs by all major players
- We have new memories being proposed, But things have changed since 2019
 - **Focus and money will move to growth of “emerged” technologies and away from finding new technologies**



NEW MEMORY PRODUCT LIFECYCLE

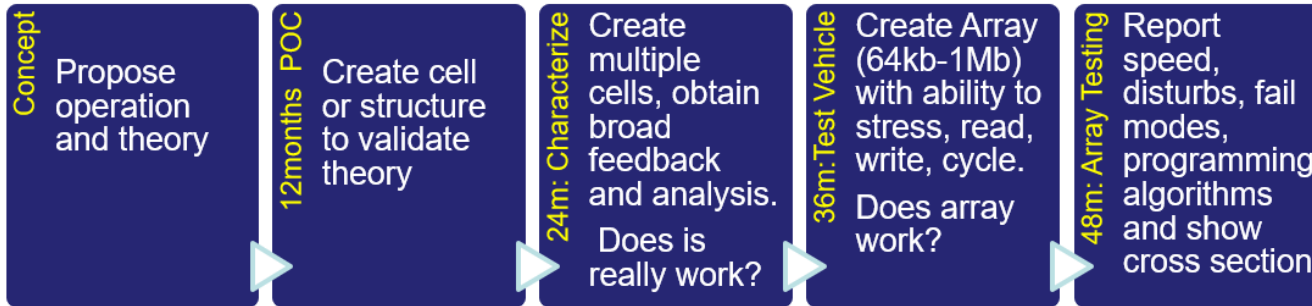


- The question is:
 - What technologies are available?
 - Where are they in the development lifecycle. How far from reality are they?
- The Memory Product Lifecycle separates what is real vs what is a hope for some day in future

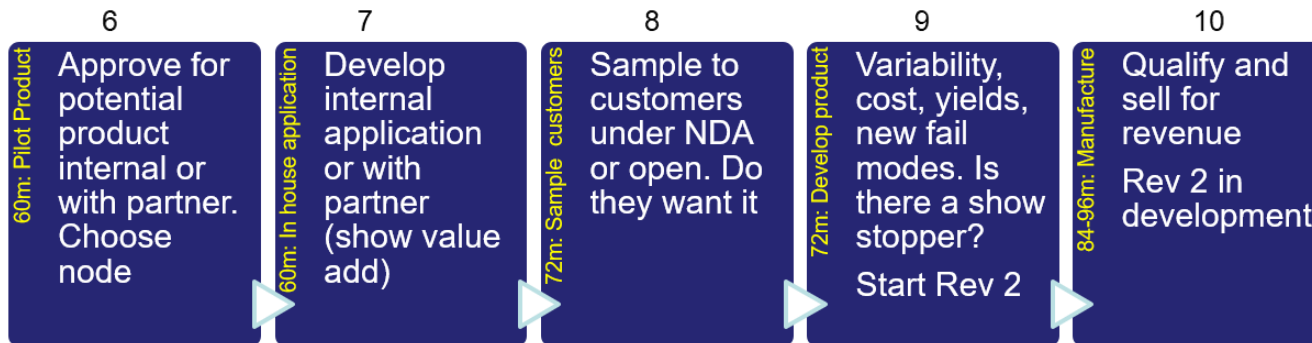


Memory Product Lifecycle

Part 1 Research (Stage 1-5)



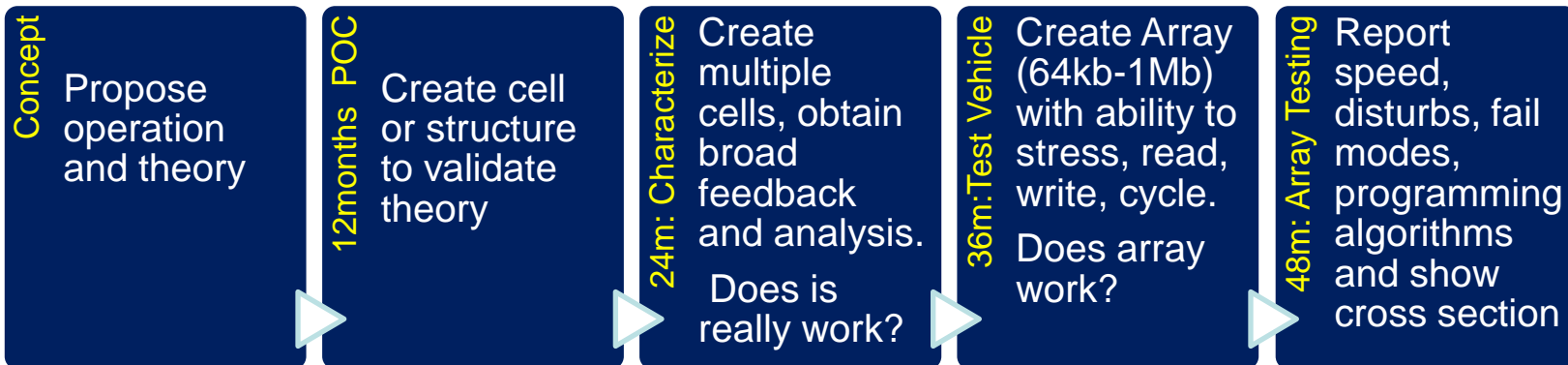
Part 2 Product (Stage 6-10)





Product Lifecycle for Memory

Part 1: Technical Proof/Open Communication

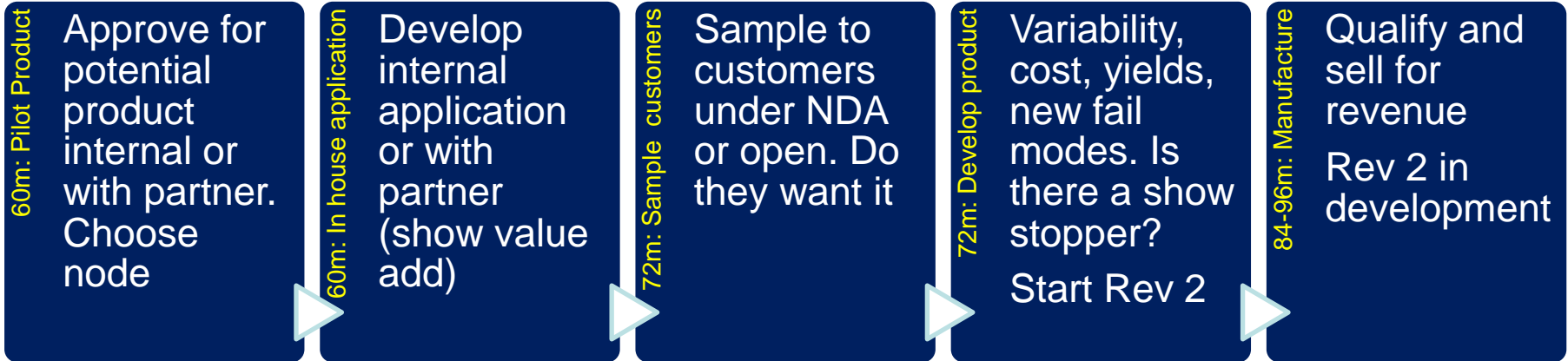


End Result: a working technology fully demonstrated and checked out

- Documented Summary: “ A Novel xRAM technology built in 90nm Lithography “
- Doesn’t need to be on leading edge lithography, but should be capable
- With pictures/TEMs/SEMs (4-5 years after concept)



Product Lifecycle for Memory Part 2: “We are going to build a product”



- 7-8 Years from concept assuming no restarts or resource limitations from concept to revenue
- Usually performed in a stealth mode. Presentations disappear (3DXP example)
- Next announcement is samples or early production (MRAM/Xpoint)



So Where Are Our Emerging Technologies?

- **Recent EE Times Article:** “Emerging Memories May Never Go Beyond Niche Applications”
 - Let’s have the tough discussion based on Memory Product Lifecycle.
- We want to talk about non-niche technologies
 - Niche = <1% of memory market long term
- The Memory product lifecycle clearly shows possibility of “Stealth products”
 - So Apple, Samsung, WDC, Micron could be working on items with no knowledge by analysts like me
 - HOWEVER typically only after small array data published
 - 3D Xpoint Example



Technologies in Research Stages (1-5)

These are at least 5 years from production, probably 10 years

- High density 100+Gbit ReRAM (Stage 4)
 - Many flavors and options, but no advantage over PCM and lack of products in last 2 years is troubling
 - We are finding issues as fast as we are solving them
- FeRAM (high density) (Stage 3-4)
 - Great potential to integrate into memory Process
 - Our top potential for “Stealth development” with memory companies
- Nanotube RAM (Stage 3)
 - Changes if we see array characterization or demonstrations
- DNA/Molecular/Other (Stage 2) : Need to leave research study



Technologies in Product Stages (6-10)



- Discrete MRAM, up to 1Gbit (Stage 10)
 - Available today from multiple companies
- Embedded MRAM (Stage 8)
 - Sampling in product development from multiple companies
- ReRAM embedded low density ~1Mb (Stage 10)
 - Available today
- FERAM embedded in Low Density (<1Mb) (Available today)
- ReRAM embedded medium density 8Mb (Stage 6-7)
 - In partnership development with multiple companies/Foundries



Technologies in Product Stages (6-10)

Major Developments In ReRAM/MRAM

- ReRAM: Low density ReRAM characterization and opportunities for embedded presented at IEDM by multiple companies
- MRAM: New MRAM products from Everspin and others available
- MRAM: Characterization from Intel, Samsung, TSMC, GF presented
- MRAM: Improved transistor design and reliability improvement presented from IP companies
- MRAM: Cell scaling of ~30% in last two years
- MRAM Revenue >\$100M for discrete in 2022



Technologies in Product Stages (6-10)

3D XPoint



- PCM/3D Xpoint/Optane 128Gbit+ (Stage 10)
 - Available in multiple high volume products from Intel
 - SSDs, Persistent memory available today
 - Micron developing products
- 2nd Generation Ramping now
- Revenue estimate >\$1B in 2020, \$3.6B in 2024
- ~1B Gbytes to be shipped in 2021
- Faster than NAND, Slower than DRAM. Lower cost than DRAM, More Expensive than NAND
- 90% of the revenue of all Emerging memories today



3D Xpoint Revenue



Aug 2019	2020	2022	2024
3DXP (Non-DIMM)	\$650M	\$750M	\$800M
3DXP (DIMM)	\$700M	\$1.9B	\$2.8B
3DXP (Total)	\$1.35B	\$2.65B	\$3.6B
**NOV 2020 NEW!*	2020	2022	2024
3DXP (Non-DIMM)	\$500M	\$750M	\$800M
3DXP (DIMM/NEW BUS)	\$600M	\$1.0B	\$2.8B
3DXP (Total)	\$1.10B	\$1.75B	\$3.6B

This is for Micron and Intel. Micron is minimal impact until 2022+. Significant Micron ramp would be upside
Non-DIMM Data based on projections for Optane SSDs and memory sales
DIMM data based on assumptions for Cascade/Cooper lake share, server DIMM attach rate, average Optane density
Intel may report out Revenue numbers in preparation for Hynix Sales of NAND unit.



Summary of “EMERGED” Technologies for Datacenter

- If you need 1Mb-1Gb of fast NVM at cell size in $30\text{-}50F^2$ ($.03\text{-}.05u^2$ Cell) for embedded or discrete
 - MRAM is ready to implement and develop products around
- If you want lower density memory for implementation ($<1\text{Mb}$)
 - ReRAM (and even some FERAM) is available
- If you want high density, 128Gb+ NVM with faster speed than NAND
 - Optane/3D Xpoint is available in multiple flavors and applications
- These should be the focus and investment for Datacenters



Summary

- Memory Product Lifecycle tells us what is now vs someday
- MRAM
 - Cache for SSD/HDD/Storage, NVDIMM without need for power, SRAM/eDRAM replacement for L4 Cache, NOR replacement
 - >100M in revenue in 2022 for discrete products
- PCM/3D Xpoint/Optane:
 - Fast SSD, Persistent Memory (high density), Large main memory
 - >1B in Annual revenue
- Other (Stage 1-5) Technologies are too far away to impact datacenter now



Thank You

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