

Market Directions for Persistent Memory



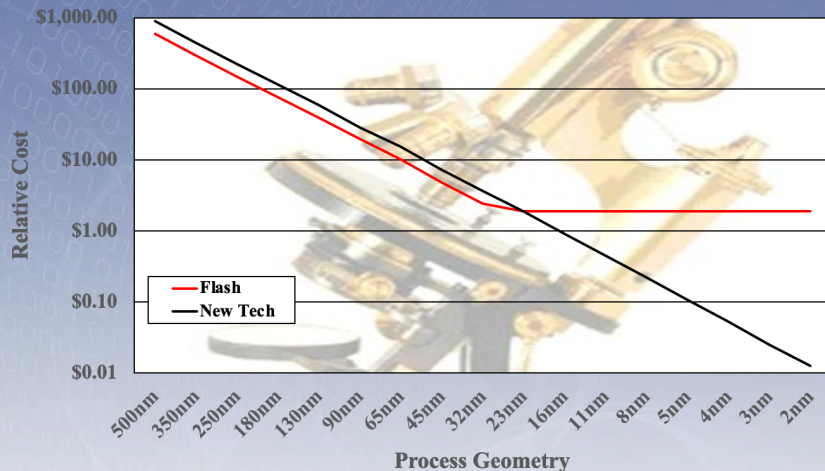
Flash Memory Summit

Tom Coughlin
Coughlin Associates, Inc.
<https://tomcoughlin.com>

Why Emerging Persistent Memories are Necessary

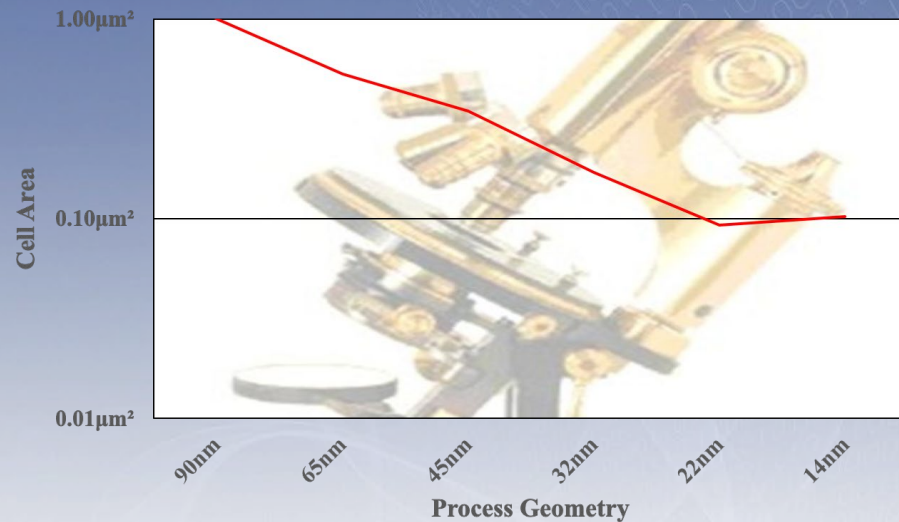
- Flash can't scale with process advances
 - NAND flash went 3D at 15nm
 - ❖ 3D is not cost-effective in a CMOS logic process
 - NOR scaling stops with FinFET
 - ❖ 28nm & smaller processes need something new
 - SRAM scaling may stop at 14nm
- DRAM consumes lots of power with refreshes
- Standalone PM applications are growing
- Low power high density memory needed for embedded applications

End of Lithographic Scaling



NOR Flash scaling ends at
28nm

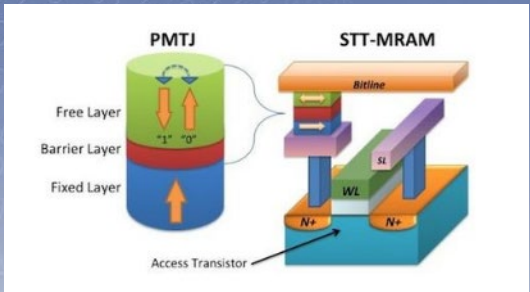
Charts from Jim Handy of Objective Analysis



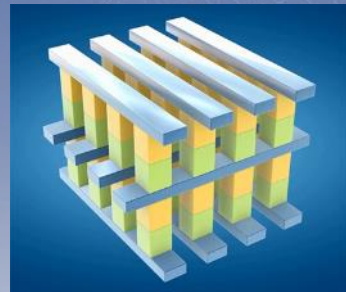
Does **SRAM** scaling end at
14nm?

Candidates for NOR/SRAM Replacement

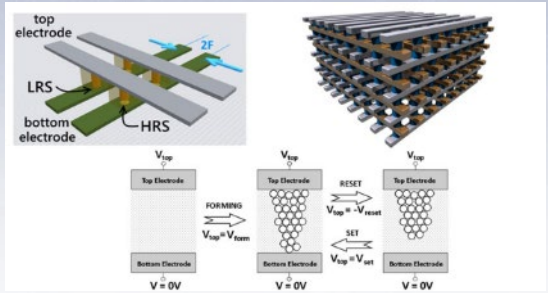
MRAM



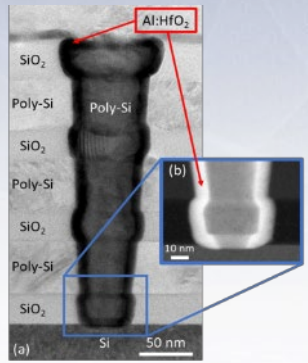
PCM



ReRAM



FRAM



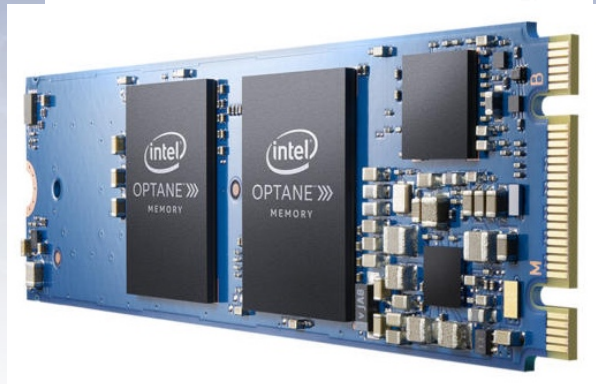
MRAM and PCM

MRAM

- Everspin shipped over 120 M standalone MRAM Chips. Company has partnership with Global Foundries, who is building 300 mm wafers and targeting embedded memory applications
- TSMC, Samsung and other foundries—are starting to ship STT MRAM products
- IBM was showing an Everspin MRAM write cache for an SSD at the 2018 MRAM Developers Conference

PCM

- Intel Optane NVMe products shipped in 2017.
- Intel introduced their Optane DIMM products in June 2018
- Both products current used in storage systems



Key Issue: Pricing!

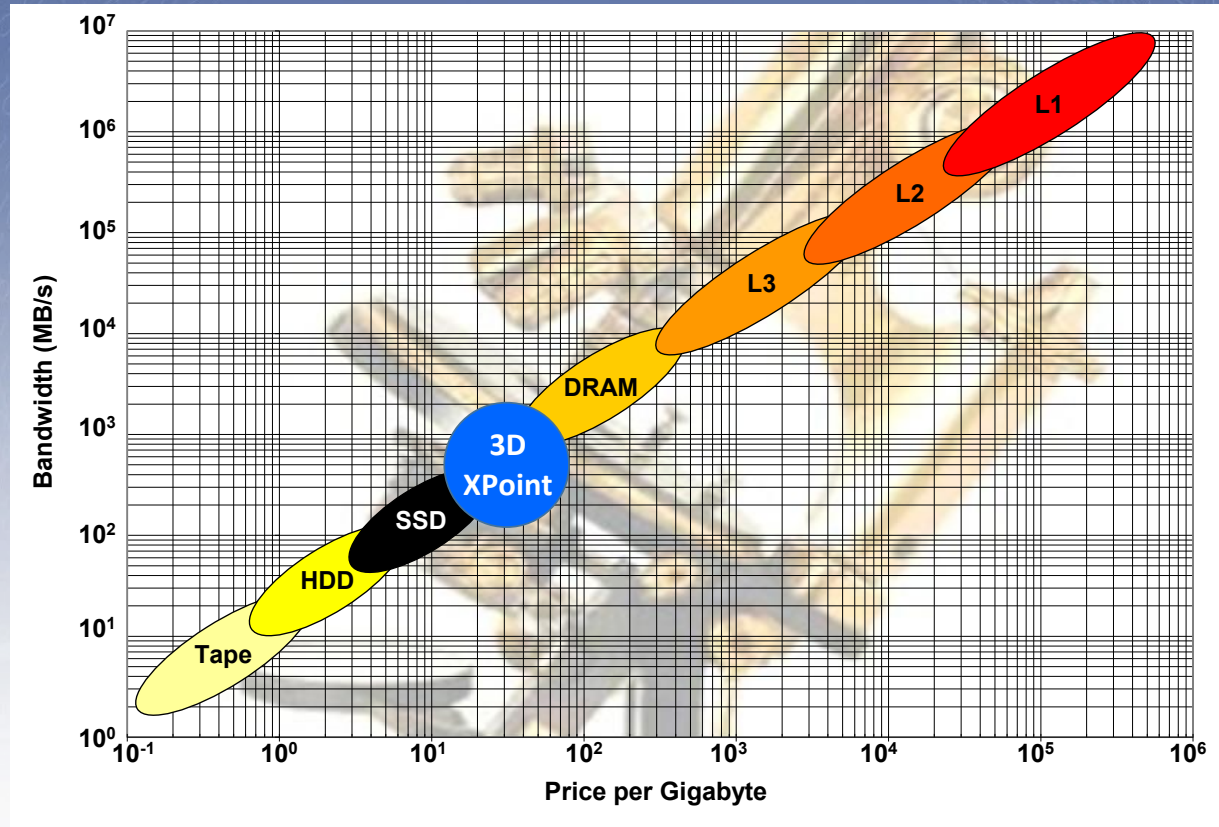
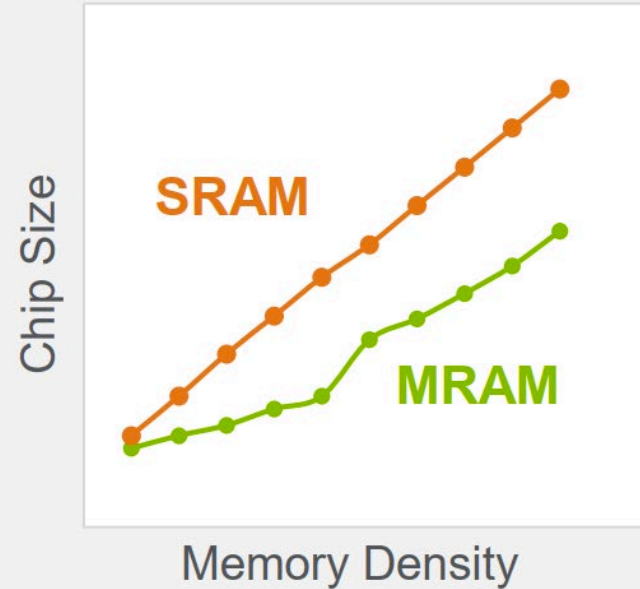
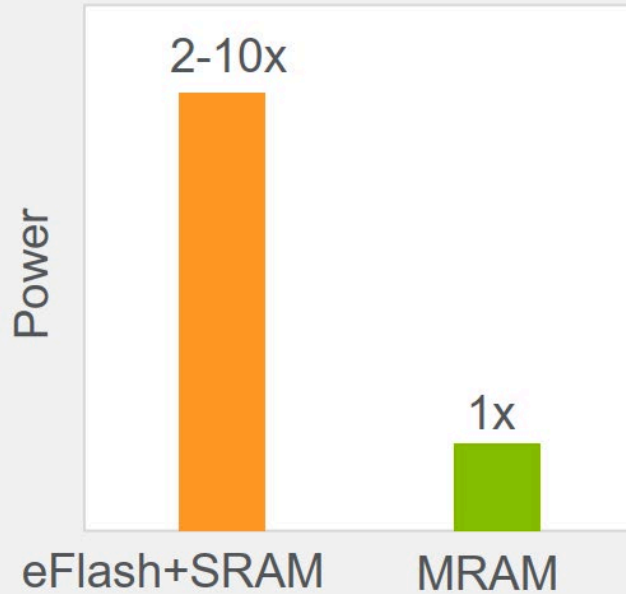


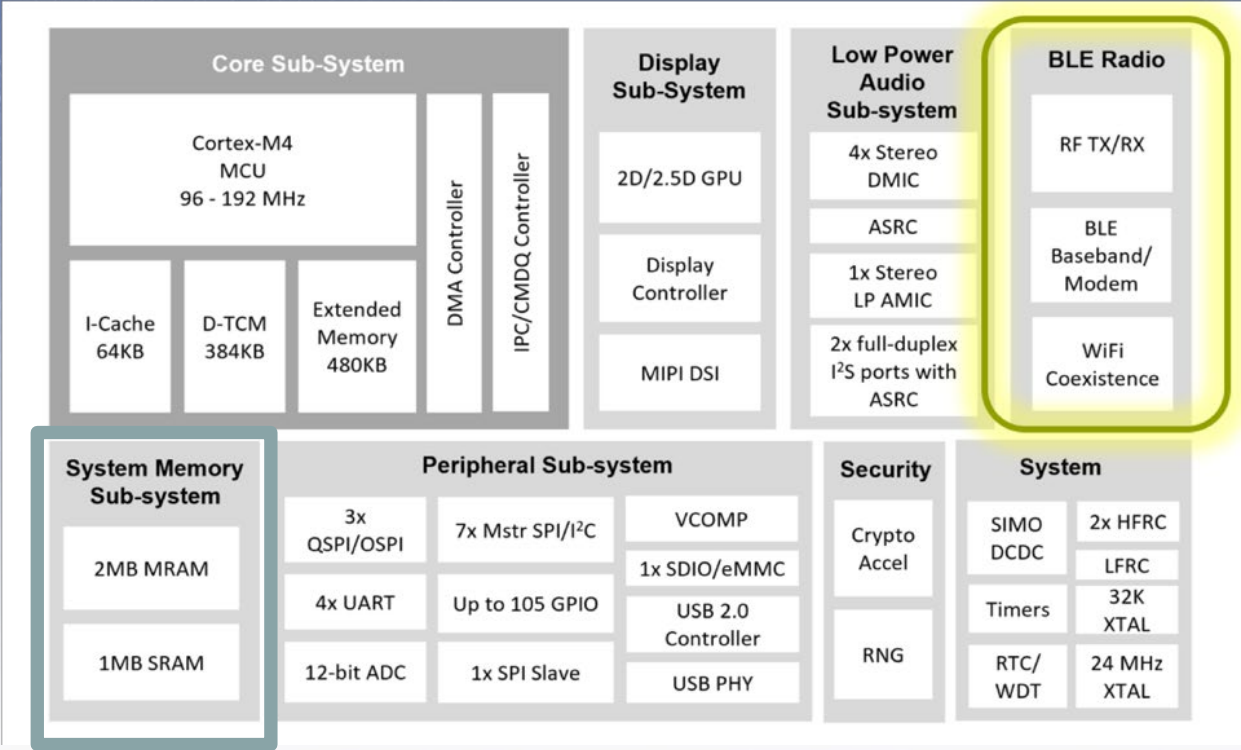
Chart from Jim Handy of Objective Analysis

Embedded MRAM



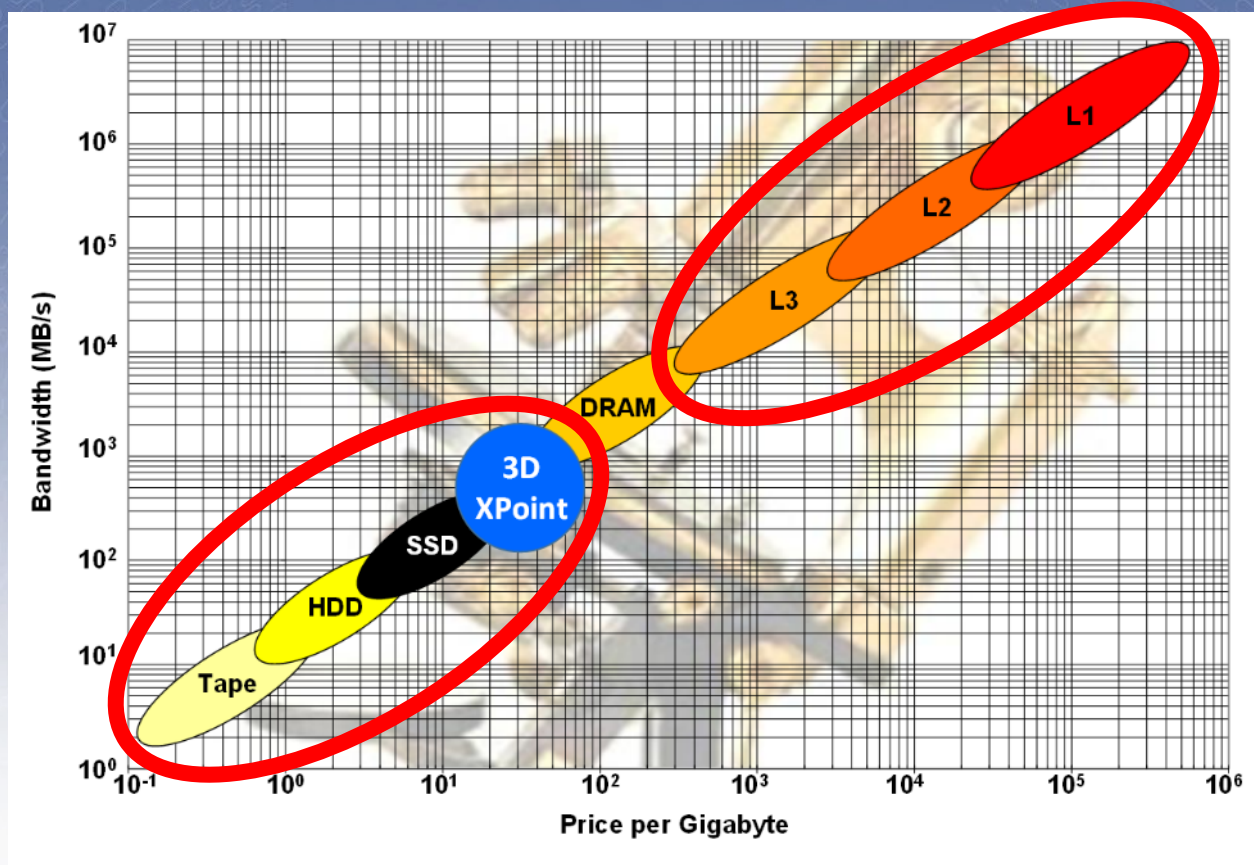
Source: AMAT, 2019

Embedded Devices Will Prime the Pump

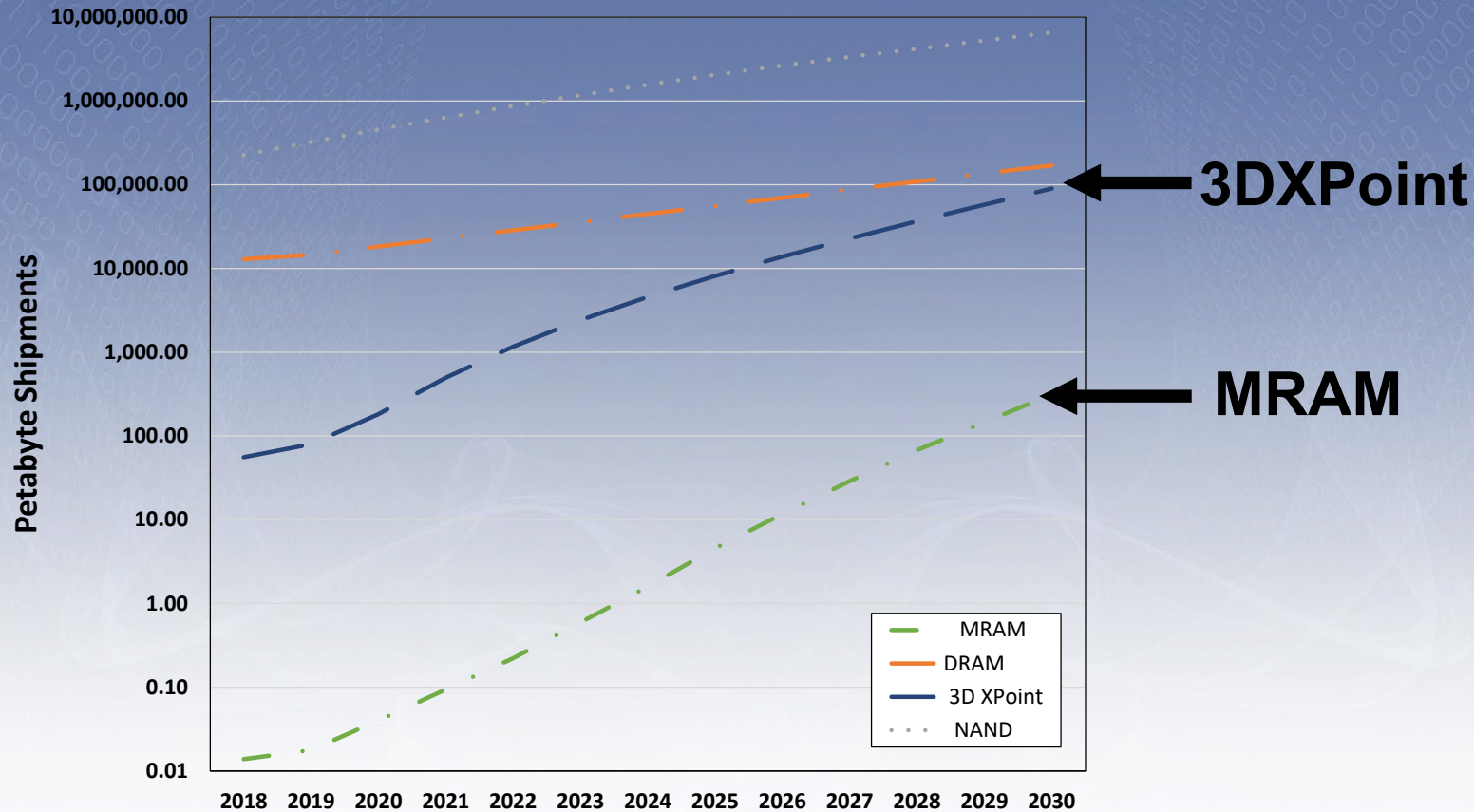


- Ambiq 4th generation Apollo SoC for ultra-low power intelligent endpoint IoT devices
- Note the use of 2 MB MRAM memory
- The Apollo4 serves as both an application processor and a coprocessor for battery-powered endpoint devices

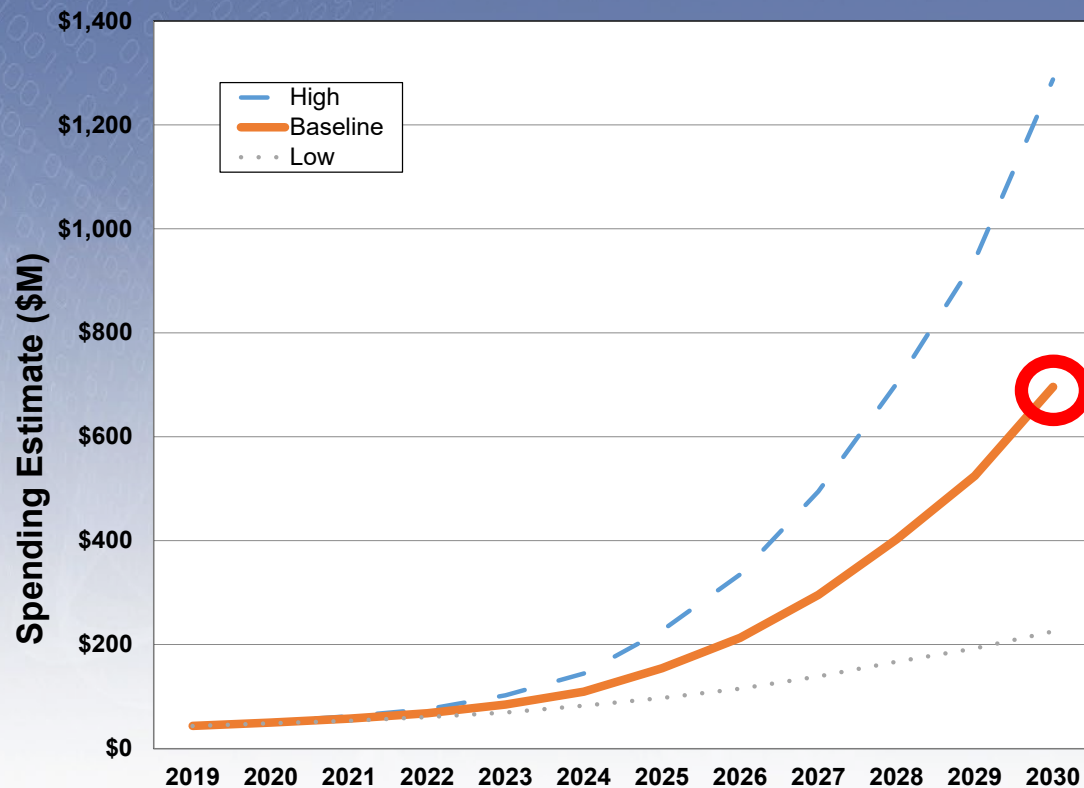
What Becomes Persistent?



Growth in New Memory Shipments



New Memory Capital Spending

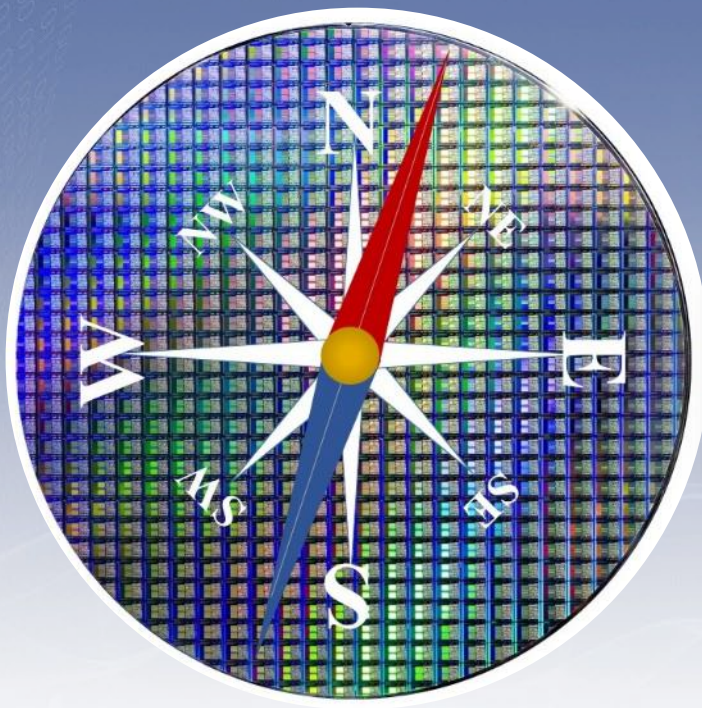


\$700 Million!

Summary

- Lithographic scaling is limiting the use of NOR flash and possibly SRAM for high density embedded devices
- Persistent memories that scale beyond NOR flash and SRAM are now available and these will change the storage/memory hierarchy
- MRAM will grow for embedded low power applications running AI/ML
- Persistent memories will eventually replace SRAM cache memory
- MRAM and PCM use will generate over \$36B in annual revenue by 2030
- MRAM capital spending will exceed \$700M annually by 2030

New Report: Emerging Memories Find Their Direction



*Coughlin
Associates*

Now Available!

<http://www.tomcoughlin.com/techpapers.htm>
<https://Objective-Analysis.com/reports/#Emerging>

A photograph of a beach with waves in the background and a long shadow of a person on the sand in the foreground. The word "Thanks" is written in a white, elegant script font in the center of the image.

Thanks

<https://tomcoughlin.com>