

Creating a Sustainable Semiconductor Industry for the AI Era

Garima Desai

Sustainability Manager at
Samsung Semiconductor



COMPUTE, MEMORY, AND STORAGE SUMMIT

Solutions, Architectures, and Community
VIRTUAL EVENT, MAY 21-22, 2024



Agenda

1. Relevance of Sustainability
2. Environmental Impact of Semiconductors
3. AI, Semiconductors, and Energy
4. Methods for Reduction
5. Challenges and Constraints

Sustainability



 **COMPUTE, MEMORY,
AND STORAGE SUMMIT**

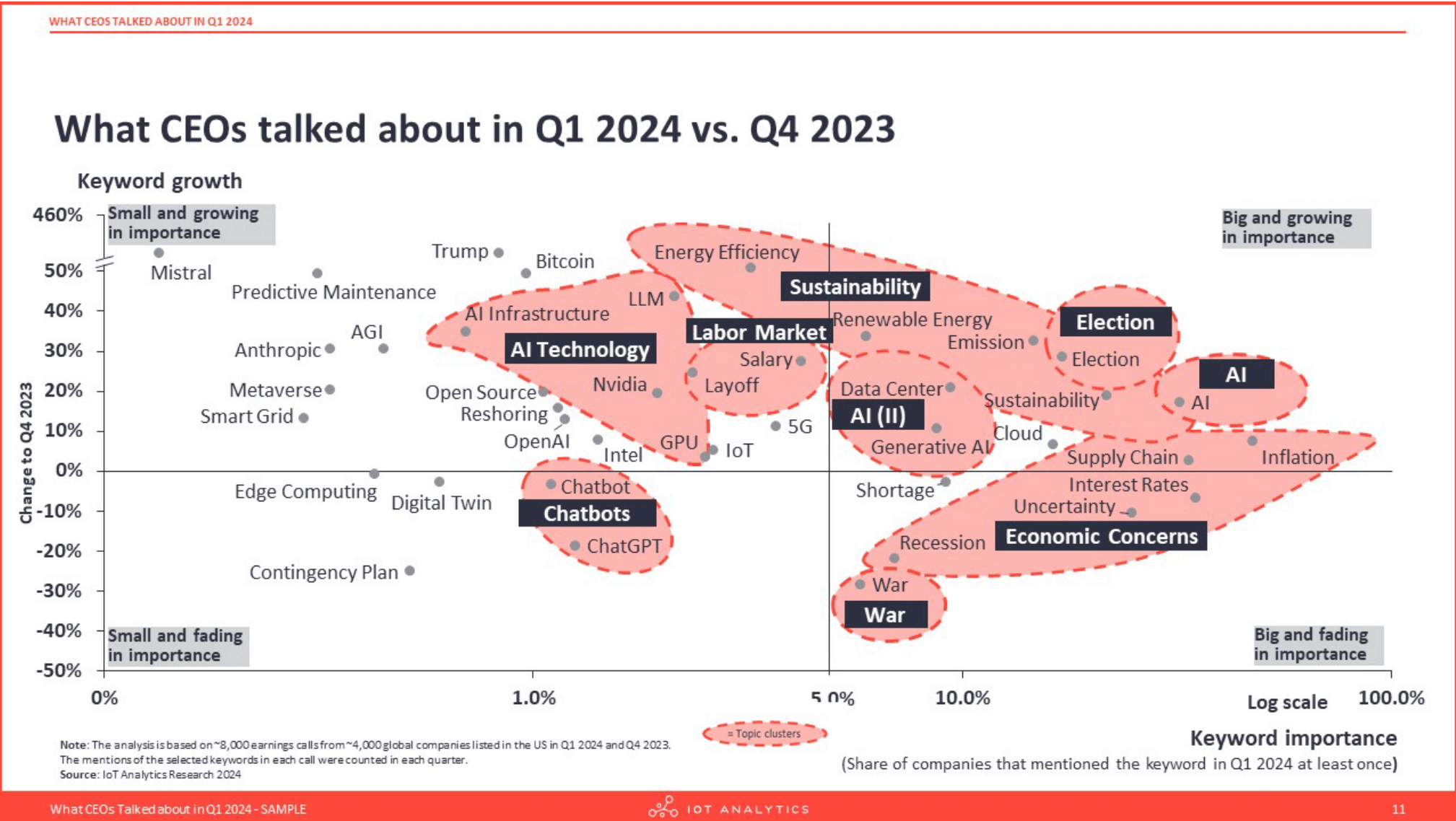
Solutions, Architectures, and Community
VIRTUAL EVENT, MAY 21-22, 2024

Sustainability

United Nations Brundtland Commission 1987 definition:

“meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs”

Sustainability



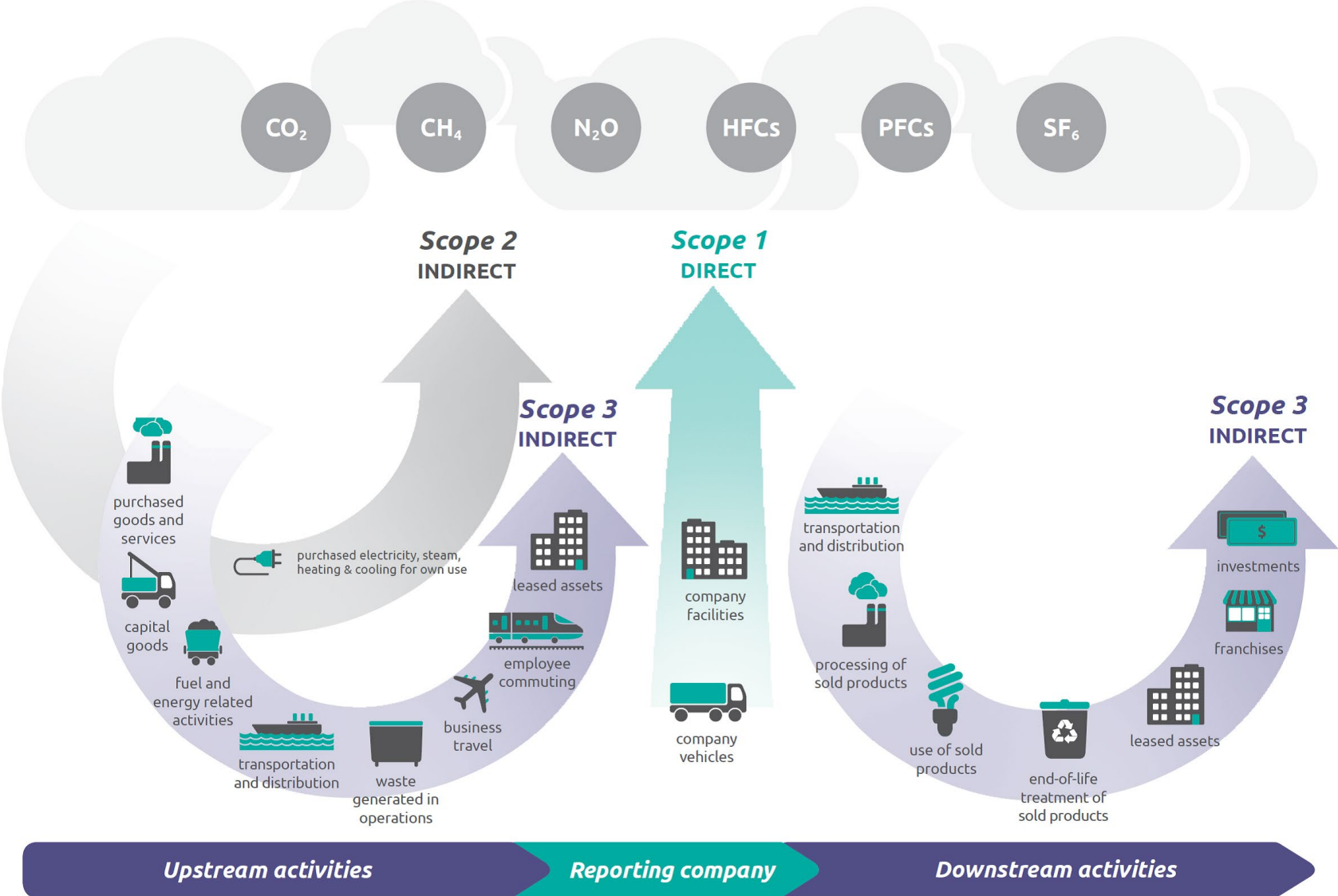
Sustainability – Global Legislation

- Europe
 - Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive (CSRD)
- United States
 - California: SB 261, SB 253, AB 1305
 - Inflation Reduction Act
 - SEC Climate-related Disclosures
- Canada
 - Canadian Sustainability Standards Board (CSSB)
- Global
 - International Sustainability Standards Board (ISSB)

Sustainability

| Company | Goals | Goal Year |
|-----------|---|------------|
| Apple | Carbon Neutral for supply chain and all products | 2030 |
| Amazon | Net Zero carbon emissions | 2040 |
| Dell | Net Zero greenhouse gas across Scope 1, 2, 3 | 2050 |
| Google | Net Zero emissions across all operations and value chain | 2030 |
| HPE | Net Zero GHG emissions across the value chain | 2040 |
| HPI | Net Zero GHG emissions across HP value chain by 2040; Supplies business achieving carbon neutrality by 2030 | 2030, 2040 |
| Intel | Net <u>Zero</u> greenhouse gas emissions across Scope 1 and 2 | 2040 |
| Meta | Net Zero emissions across value chain | 2030 |
| Microsoft | Carbon Negative | 2030 |
| Samsung | Net Zero carbon emissions for Scope 1 and 2 | 2050 |

Sustainability



Semiconductors

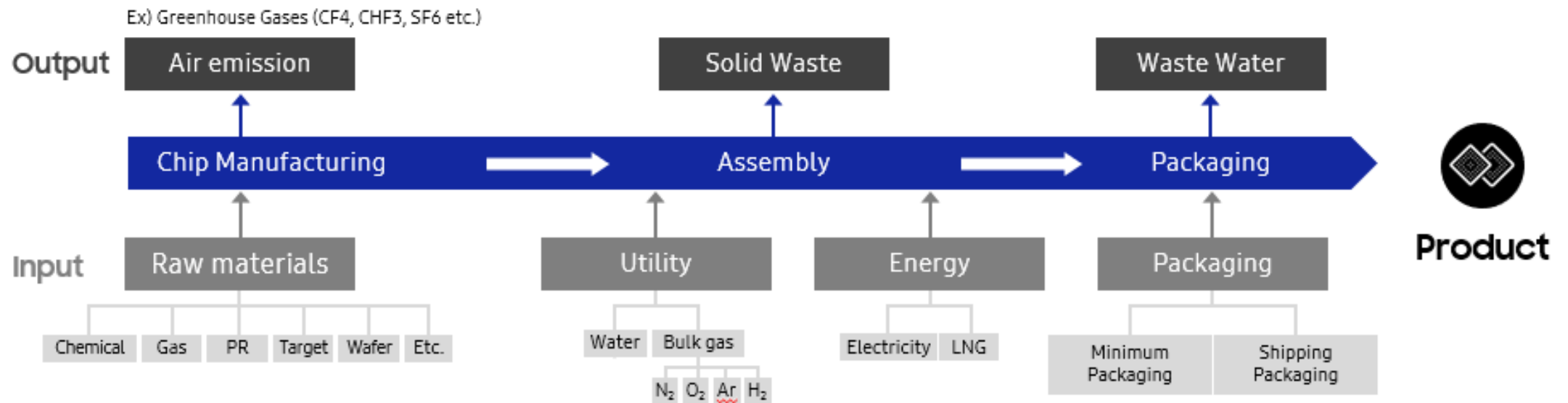


 **COMPUTE, MEMORY,
AND STORAGE SUMMIT**

Solutions, Architectures, and Community
VIRTUAL EVENT, MAY 21-22, 2024

Semiconductor Environmental Impact

Environmental Impact of Semiconductor Production



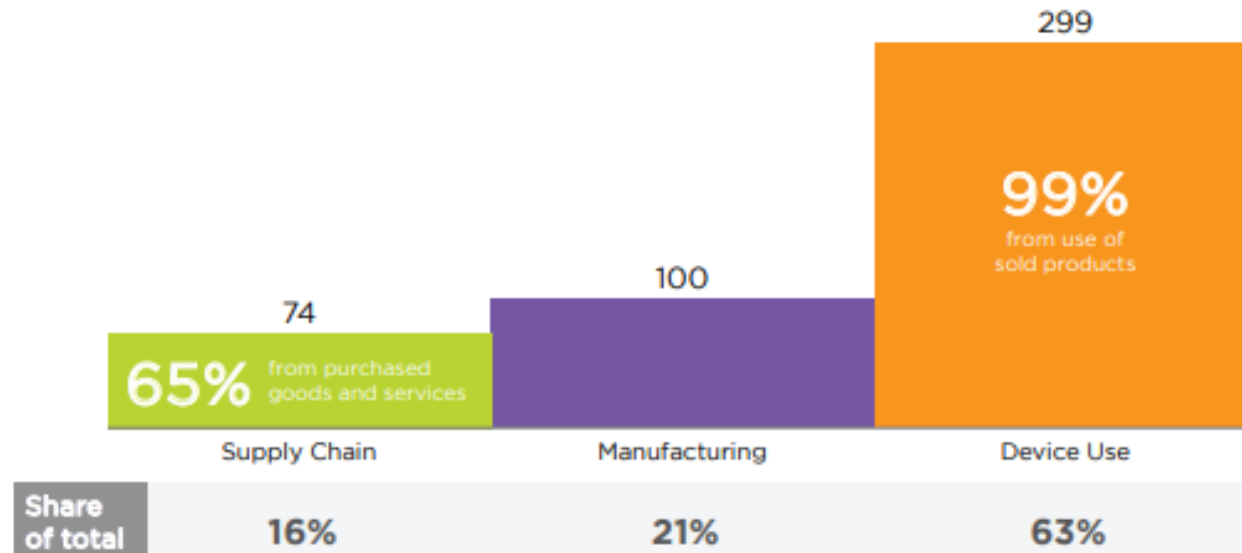
※ GHG Emissions of Material = $\sum \text{usage of materials} \times \text{emission factor for each material}$

Semiconductor Environmental Impact

- SEMI Semiconductor Climate Consortium

- “Semiconductor devices produced in 2021 have a lifetime CO₂e footprint of **500 megatonne (MT)** – 16% from supply chain, 21% from manufacturing, and 63% from device use.”

Exhibit 2: Lifecycle emissions of a semiconductor or device
(Megatonnes CO₂e, 2021)



Source: CDP, BCG analysis

Semiconductor Environmental Impact

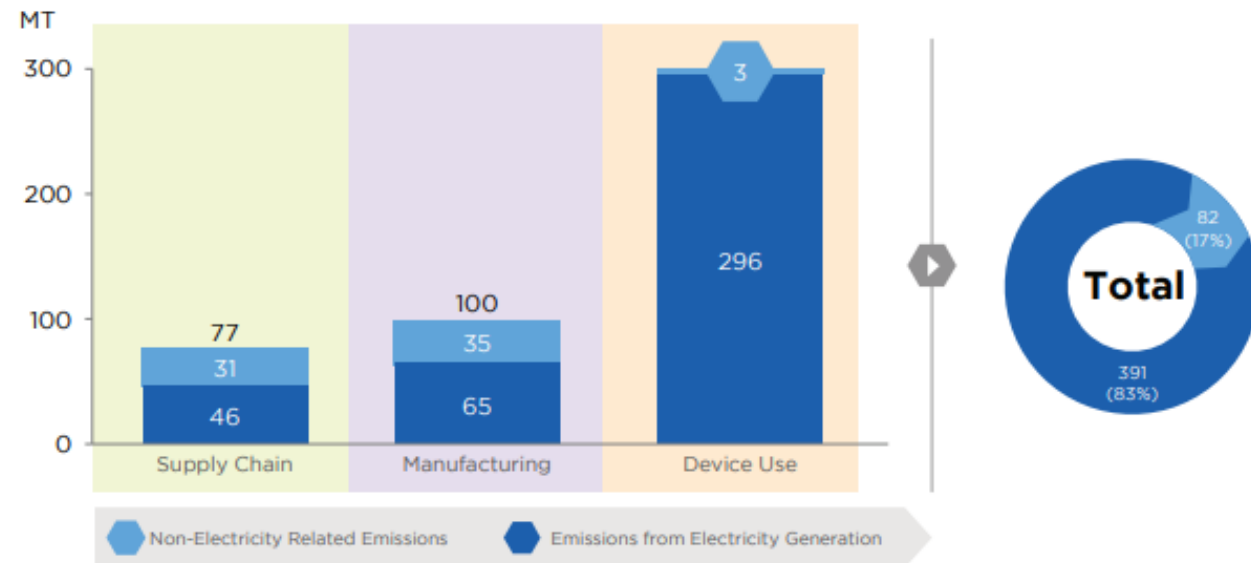
- SEMI Semiconductor Climate Consortium

- “Semiconductor devices produced in 2021 have a lifetime CO₂e footprint of **500 megatonne (MT)** – 16% from supply chain, 21% from manufacturing, and 63% from device use.”

Exhibit 4:

Emissions by Relation to Electricity Generation (Megatonnes CO₂e, 2021)

There are three primary actions semiconductor companies have been taking and



Note: Figures use location-based data Source: CDP, BCG analysis

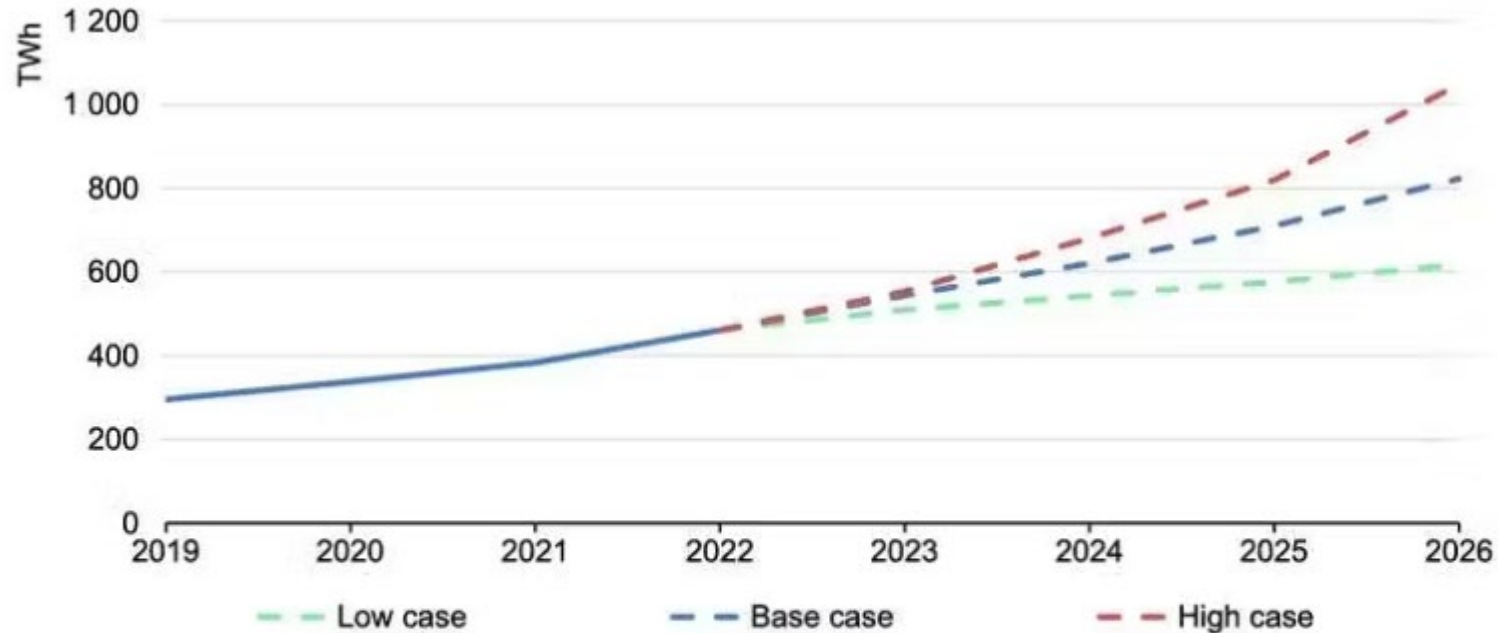
AI



COMPUTE, MEMORY, AND STORAGE SUMMIT

Solutions, Architectures, and Community
VIRTUAL EVENT, MAY 21-22, 2024

Global electricity demand from data centres, AI, and cryptocurrencies, 2019-2026



IEA. CC BY 4.0.

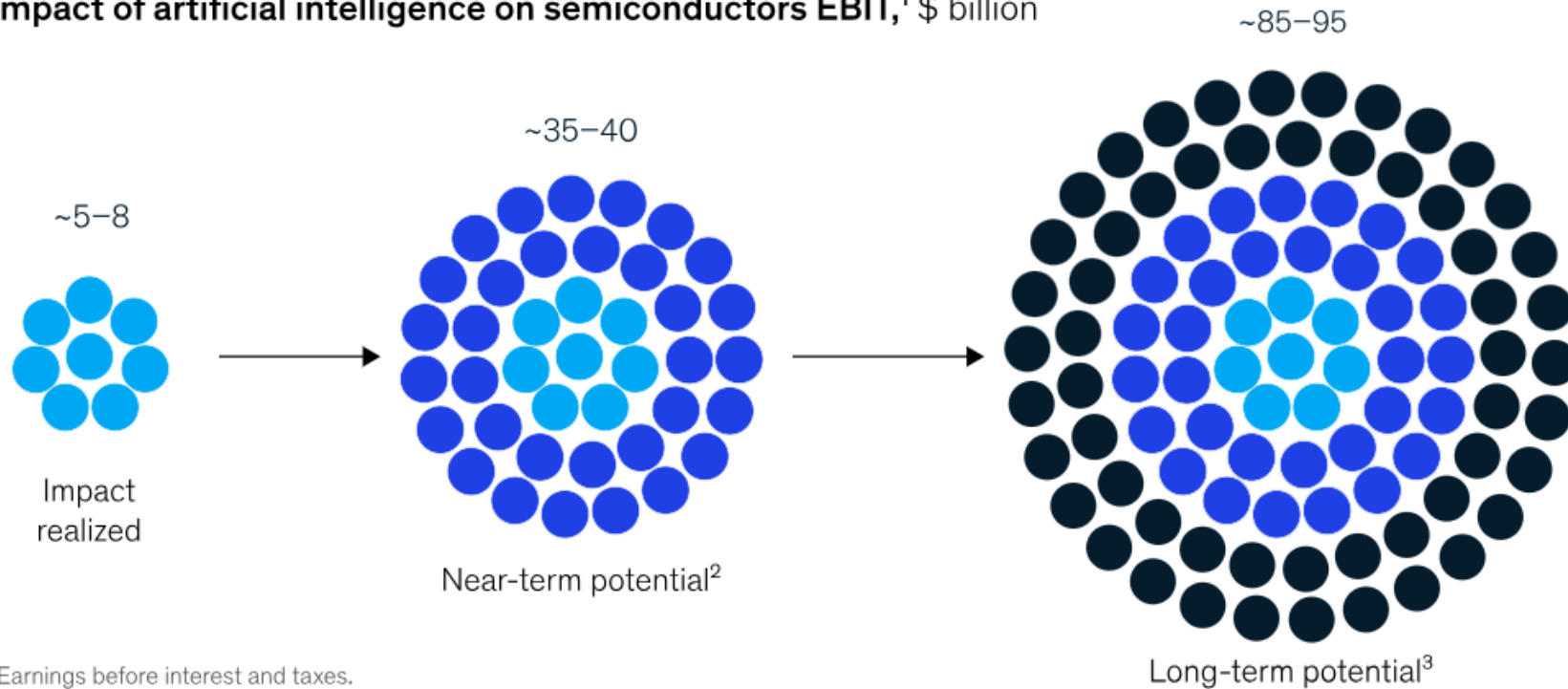
Notes: Includes traditional data centres, dedicated AI data centres, and cryptocurrency consumption; excludes demand from data transmission networks. The base case scenario has been used in the overall forecast in this report. Low and high case scenarios reflect the uncertainties in the pace of deployment and efficiency gains amid future technological developments.

Sources: Joule (2023), [de Vries, The growing energy footprint of AI](#); [CCRI Indices \(carbon-ratings.com\)](#); The Guardian, [Use of AI to reduce data centre energy use](#); [Motors in data centres](#); The Royal Society, [The future of computing beyond Moore's Law](#); Ireland Central Statistics Office, [Data Centres electricity consumption 2022](#); and Danish Energy Agency, [Denmark's energy and climate outlook 2018](#).

AI

Artificial intelligence could generate \$85 billion to \$95 billion for semiconductor companies over the long term.

Impact of artificial intelligence on semiconductors EBIT,¹ \$ billion



¹Earnings before interest and taxes.

²Near-term potential refers to gains within the next 2-3 years.

³Long-term potential refers to gains achieved 4 years or more in the future.

McKinsey
& Company

Methods for Reduction



COMPUTE, MEMORY,
AND STORAGE SUMMIT

Solutions, Architectures, and Community
VIRTUAL EVENT, MAY 21-22, 2024

Methods for Reduction

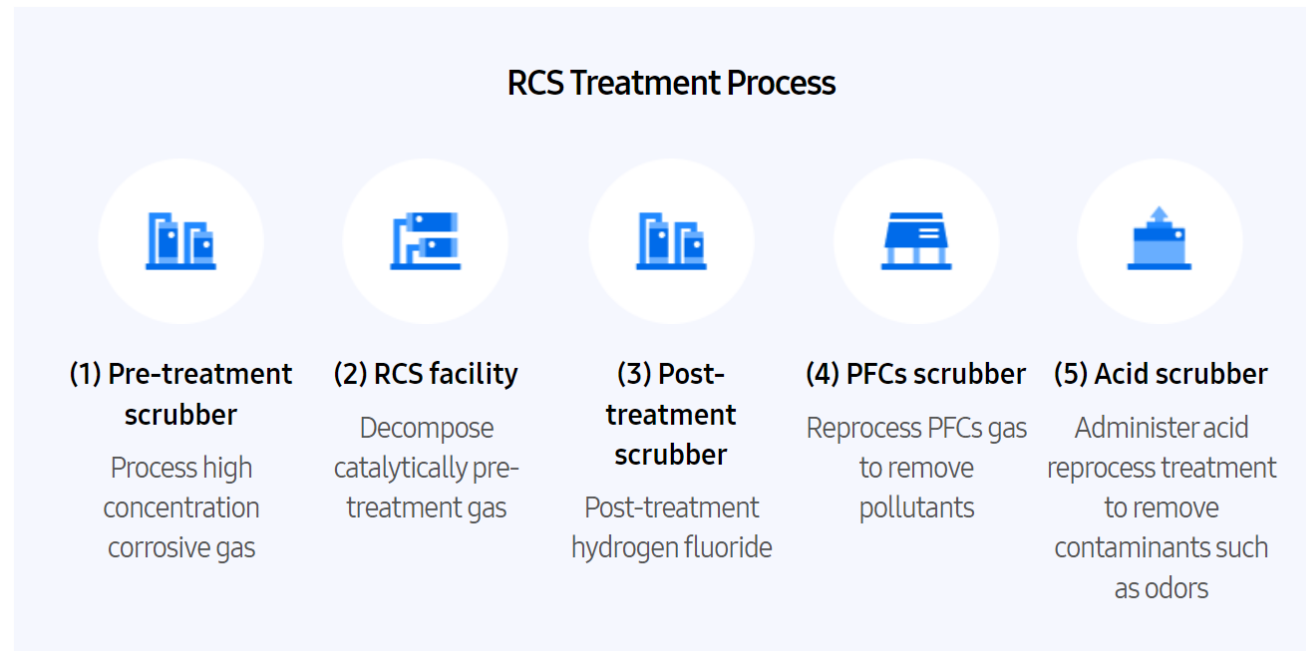
■ Process gases

- Semiconductor manufacturing uses gases with high Global Warming Potential (GWP)
- “In the majority of established manufacturing processes up to 80% of fluorinated gases are released into the atmosphere at the end of the process” (Deloitte)
- Some of these gases can be replaced: such as perfluorocarbons (PFCs) with nitrogen trifluoride (NF₃), which has a lower GWP (Deloitte)

Methods for Reduction

- Abatement technologies


- Regenerative Catalytic System (RCS)
- Carbon Capture Utilization and Storage (CCUS)



Methods for Reduction

- Recycling: water, gases, materials

Scarcity Drives Fabs to Wastewater Recycling > Boosting water recycling at fabs by up to 98 percent keeps chip production on target

BY [DEXTER JOHNSON](#) | 25 JAN 2022 | 3 MIN READ | 

[Korean chipmakers](#)

Samsung to use recycled neon gas in chip manufacturing

The Korean memory chip giant will be the industry's first to use recovered neon gas in the photolithography process

By [Jeong-Soo Hwang](#) Mar 07, 2024 (Gmt+09:00) | ⌚ 2 Min read

Methods for Reduction

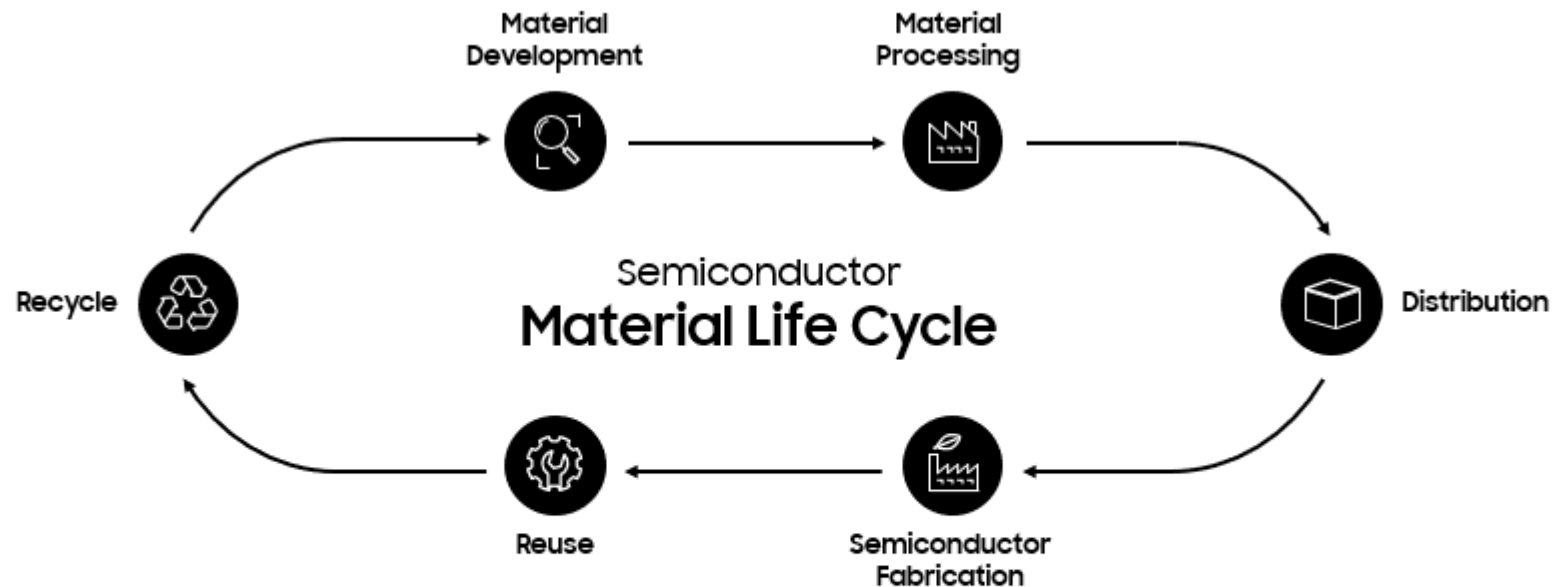
- Digital twins & efficiency

- Creating a digital twin can help with “sensing, automating, and modeling to monitor and reduce raw materials use” (Deloitte)
- “For manufacturing process stages that are hard to access or monitor in real time, process modeling and use of digital twins can be used” (Deloitte)



Methods for Reduction

- Circular economy



| | Material Development | Material Processing | Distribution | Semiconductor Fabrication | Reuse | Recycle |
|---------|---|-------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| Actions | Alternative Material Development and Sourcing | Eco-friendly Processing | Reusable Container | Highly-efficient Fabrication Process | Reusing Cycle Optimization | Waste Recycle Upcycle |

Challenges/Constraints



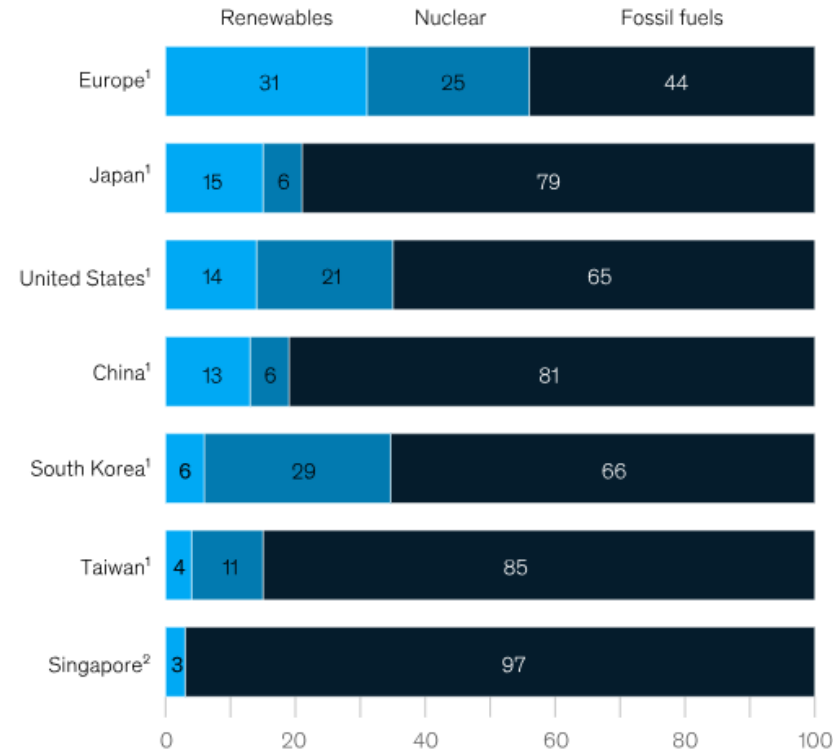
COMPUTE, MEMORY,
AND STORAGE SUMMIT

Solutions, Architectures, and Community
VIRTUAL EVENT, MAY 21-22, 2024

Renewable Energy Availability

Access to renewable energy may be a major factor as semiconductor companies decide where they should build new fabs.

Share of electricity generation type, by region, %



Note: Figures may not sum to 100%, because of rounding.

¹2020 data.

²2019 data.

Source: Enerdata; US Department of Energy

McKinsey
& Company

Summary

- Sustainability is a critical concern for the semiconductor industry.
- There are many methods to abate emissions within the manufacturing process, as well as improving efficiency of use.
- AI poses a new challenge for sustainability, as well as a new opportunity for semiconductors.
- Sustainability is an interdisciplinary field that requires the participation of all stakeholders. In short: YOU are a part of this journey!