

Tape Updates: Tape vs Red-Hot Power Hogs

Alistair Symon, VP, Storage Systems Development

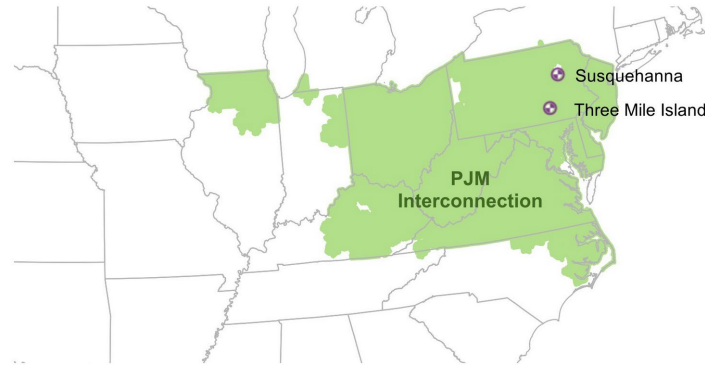
AI is driving power &



OCTOBER 1, 2024

Data center owners turn to nuclear as potential electricity source

Nuclear power plants that have signed agreements to power data centers (as of Sep 2024)



Data source: U.S. Energy Information Administration

eia

<https://www.eia.gov/todayinenergy/detail.php?id=63304>



Amazon, Google make dueling nuclear investments to power data centers with clean energy

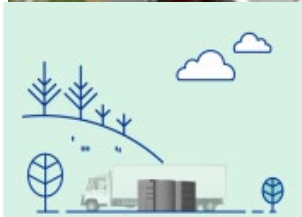
<https://apnews.com/article/climate-data-centers-amazon-google-nuclear-energy-e404d52241f965e056a7c53e88abc91a>



LARGE, CONVENTIONAL REACTOR
700+ MW(e)



SMALL MODULAR REACTOR
Up to 300 MW(e)



MICROREACTOR
Up to ~10 MW(e)



On-Site Nuclear Power: SMRs Create New Opportunities for Colocation Data Centers

Colocation data centers explore the possibility of on-site nuclear power, supplied by SMRs.

<https://www.iaea.org/newscenter/news/what-are-small-modular-reactors-smrs>

<https://www.lastenergy.com/blog/smrs-colocation-data-centers>

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Data center owners turn to nuclear as potential electricity source

INTERESTING
ENGINEERING

US breakthrough nuclear battery generates electricity from atomic waste products

Aman Tripathi

Tue, February 25, 2025 at 12:13 PM GMT-7 · 3 min read



34



Researchers at The Ohio State University have developed a battery that can convert nuclear waste into electricity.

<https://www.yahoo.com/news/us-breakthrough-nuclear-battery-generates-191347103.html>

with clean energy

<https://apnews.com/article/climate-data-centers-amazon-google-nuclear-energy-e404d52241f965e056a7c53e88abc91a>

On-Site Nuclear Power: SMRs Create New Opportunities for Colocation Data Centers

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detail.php?id=63304

like dueling nuclear er data centers

The State of Archive Data – An Analyst View

The Energy of Data

If the surging tide of stuff to be stored cannot be stemmed—and apparently it cannot—then new enterprise data infrastructures must not only cost less but must also consume less power to be in crucial and resilient alignment with the total availability of energy.

Current Process Sustainability

“We fear there will continue to be immense waste of energy and money expended in the ways we choose to store and manage the active installed base of enterprise data. This will be tragic—’tragic’ because the consequences of this waste can be so easily avoided.”

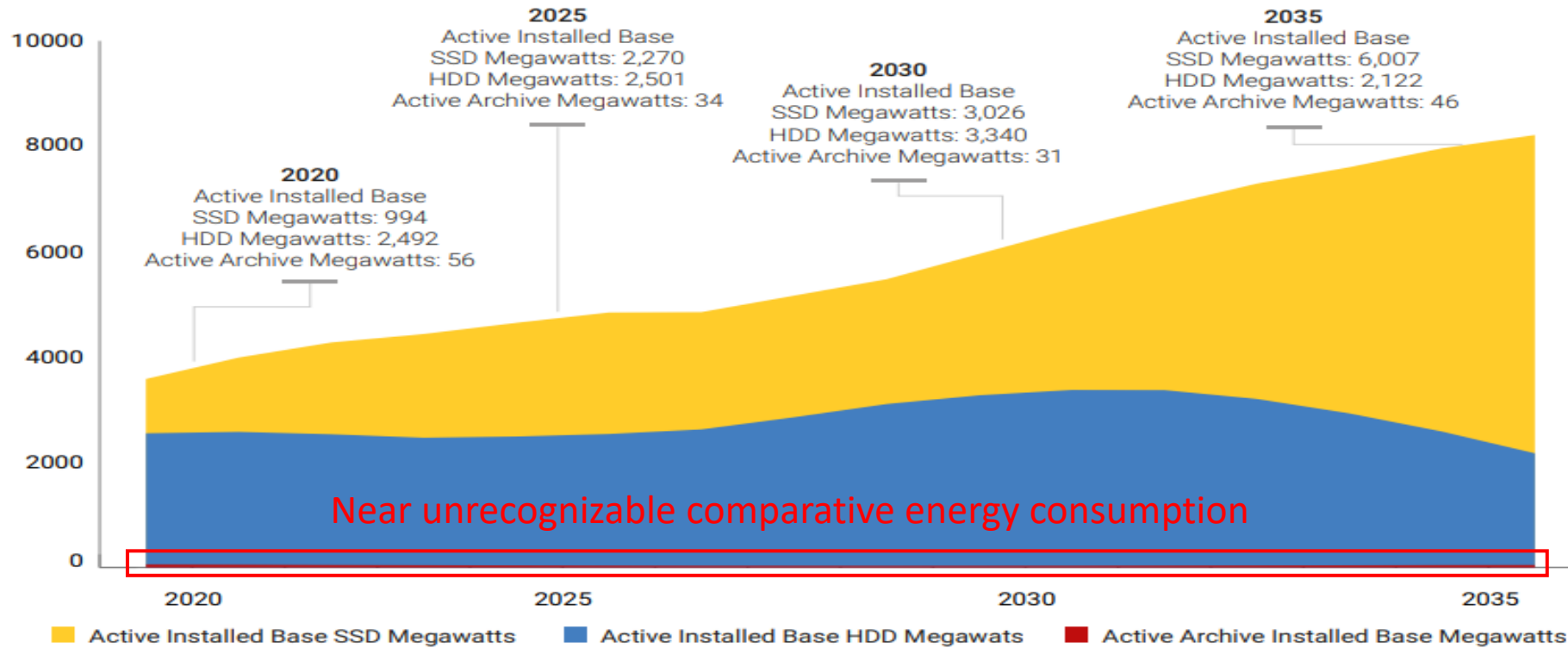
Archive Capacity Requirements

With the advent of new tape and enterprise emerging storage technologies, we have forecast that active archive shipments will expand to comprise more than 50% of the fresh enterprise zettabytes delivered in 2034 and 2035.

Furthurdata.com – The Sustainable Preservation of Enterprise Data

http://furthurdata.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/Sustainable-Preservation-of-Enterprise-Data_V13.pdf

Storage Power Usage



Note the steep decline in HDD power draw as shipments decline after 2030. The active archive megawatts are barely discernible in this format.

Source: Furthur Market Research and Brad Johns Consulting (January 2024)

You can't even see the tape portion of the chart!

The Power of Tape



VS



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+



+

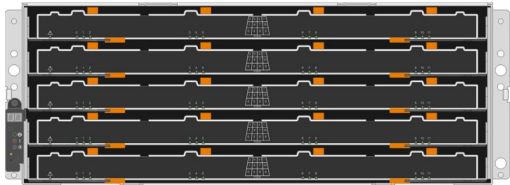
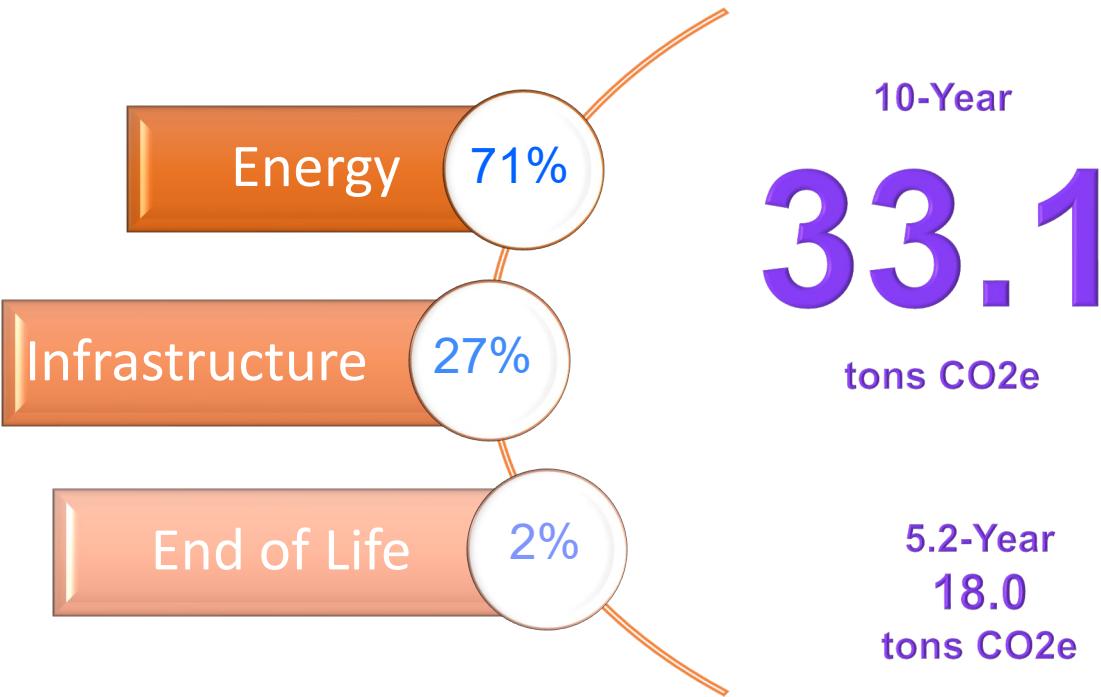


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Data Archives for SMB: 500TB HDD Compare

NetApp DS460C



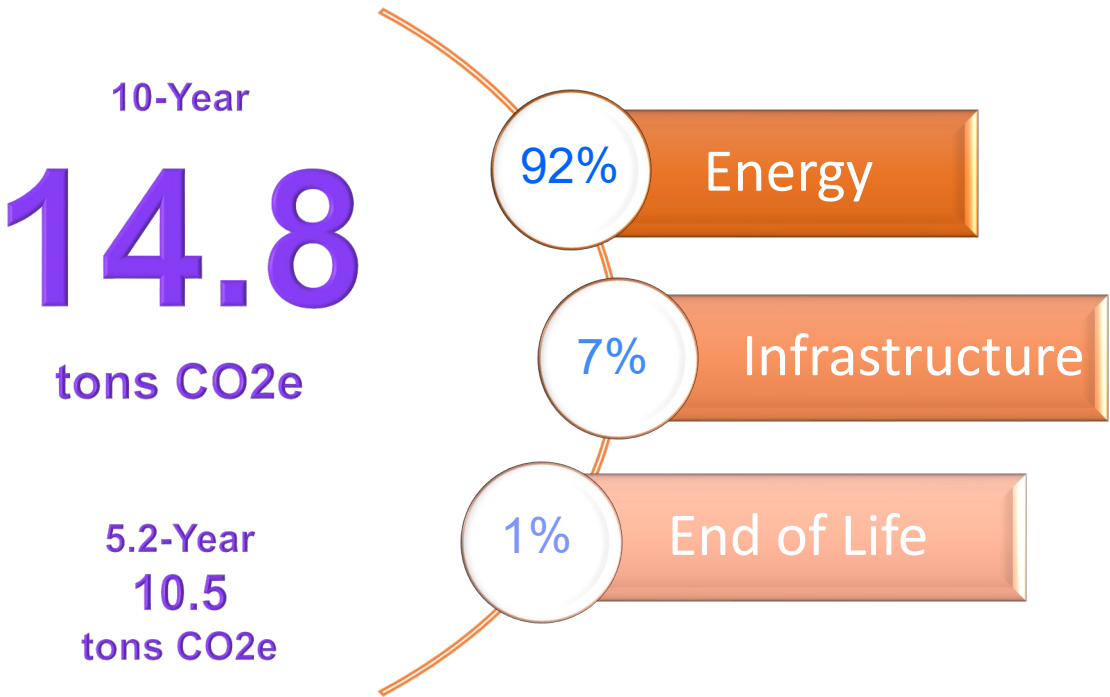
- 5.2-year life
- 60 - 16TB HDDs
- Distributed RAID
- Full replacement cycle
 - Assumes 20TB



the Future of Memory and Storage

<https://www.netapp.com/data-storage/disk-shelves-storage-media/>

IBM TS4300



- 3U
- 11-nines durability
- 3 - LTO9 Tape drives
- 48 – LTO9 Cartridges
 - No refresh

Gen AI Opportunities for Tape

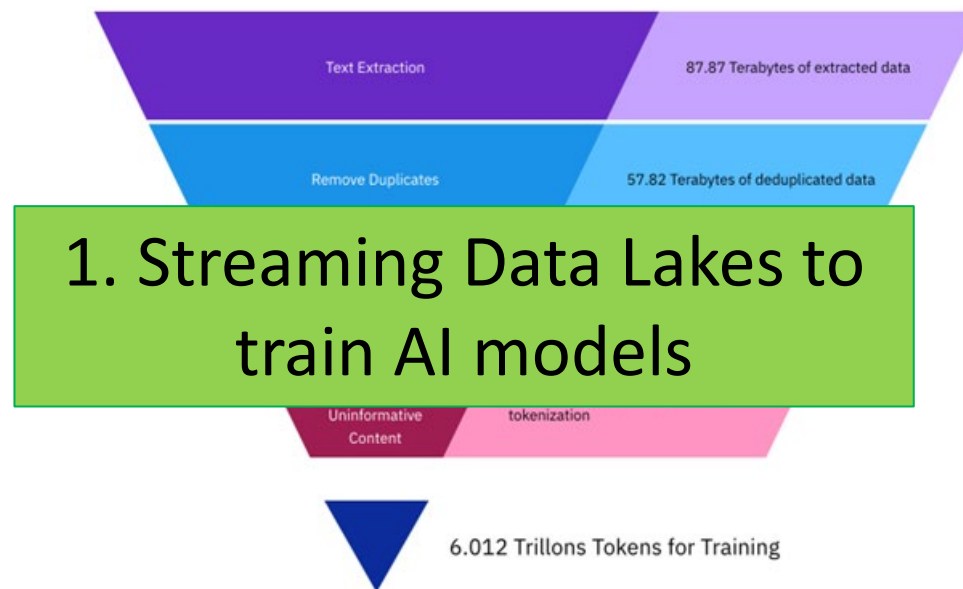
DMF platform: April 2023

watsonx.data

watsonx.ai

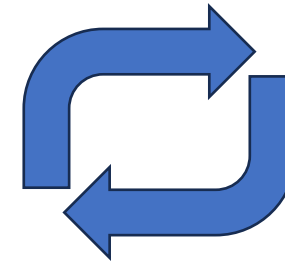
watsonx.gov

Data Journey



1. Streaming Data Lakes to train AI models

- Data used for training can be serialized as input into training
- Overall data should be archived
- Data is updated frequently



- Snapshots / checkpointing of model as it is

3. Storing Checkpoints of models during training

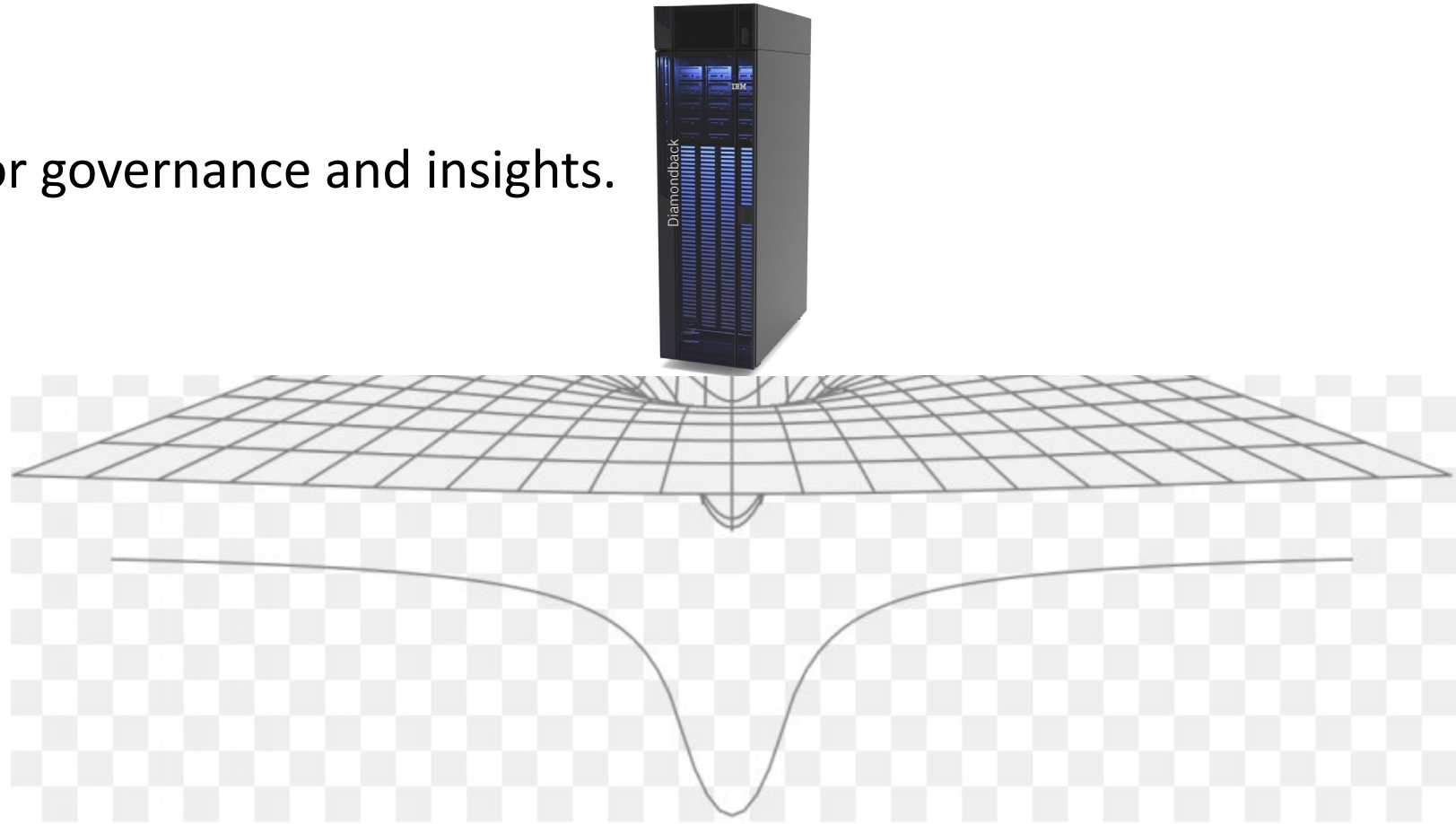
2. Long term retention of governance data

- Model monitoring
- Model risk management
- Regulatory compliance reporting

Gen AI Opportunities on Tape

Proposal: AI on an archive

Logging data in an archive for governance and insights.



Thank You