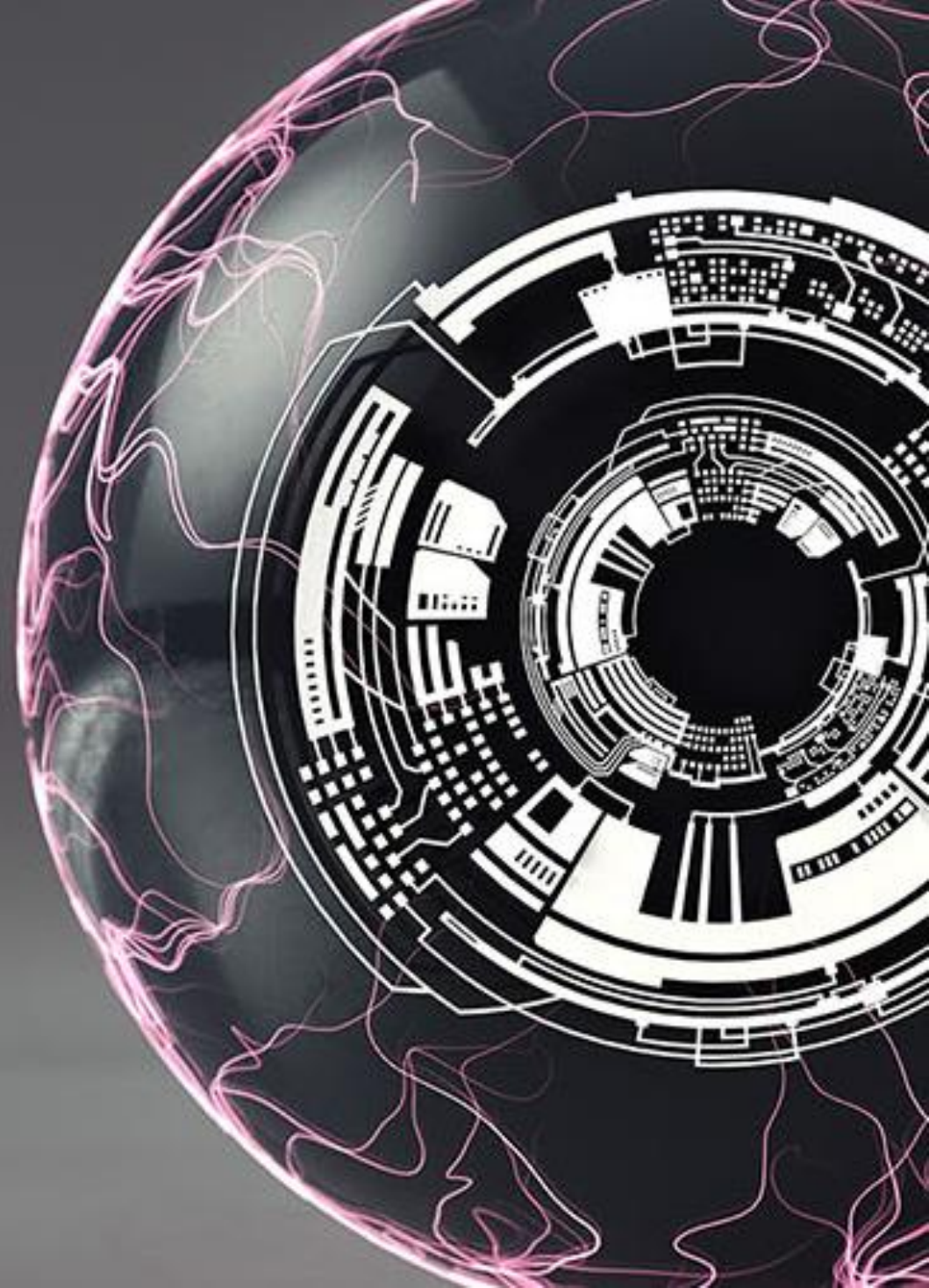




# Battery-free, RF-powered cameras

Joshua Smith  
Associate Professor  
Computer Science and Engineering  
Electrical Engineering  
University of Washington



# WISP: Wireless Identification and Sensing Platform



First UHF-powered  
accelerometer

*Battery-Free Wireless Identification and Sensing*, M.Philipose, J.R. Smith, B. Jiang, K. Sundara-Rajan, A. Mamishev, S. Roy. *IEEE Pervasive Comp.*, V4 N1, 2005  
*A wirelessly powered platform for sensing and computation*, J.R. Smith, A. Sample, P. Powledge, A. Mamishev, S. Roy. *UbiComp 2006*  
*RFID Sensor Networks with the Intel WISP Best Demo*, Sensys, M. Buettner, B. Greenstein, R. Prasad, A. Sample, J.R. Smith, D. Yeager, D. Wetherall, 2008

# Sensor Systems Lab Students



Saman Naderiparizi



Zerina Kapetanovic



Vaishnavi Ranganathan

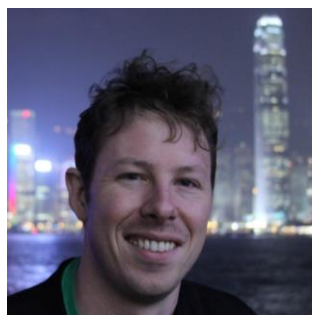


Yi "Eve" Zhao

Microsoft Interns  
this summer!



Xingyi Shi



Gregory Moore



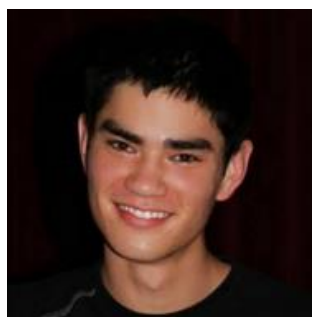
Aaron Parks



Brody Mahony



Jim Youngquist



Patrick Lancaster



Vamsi Talla

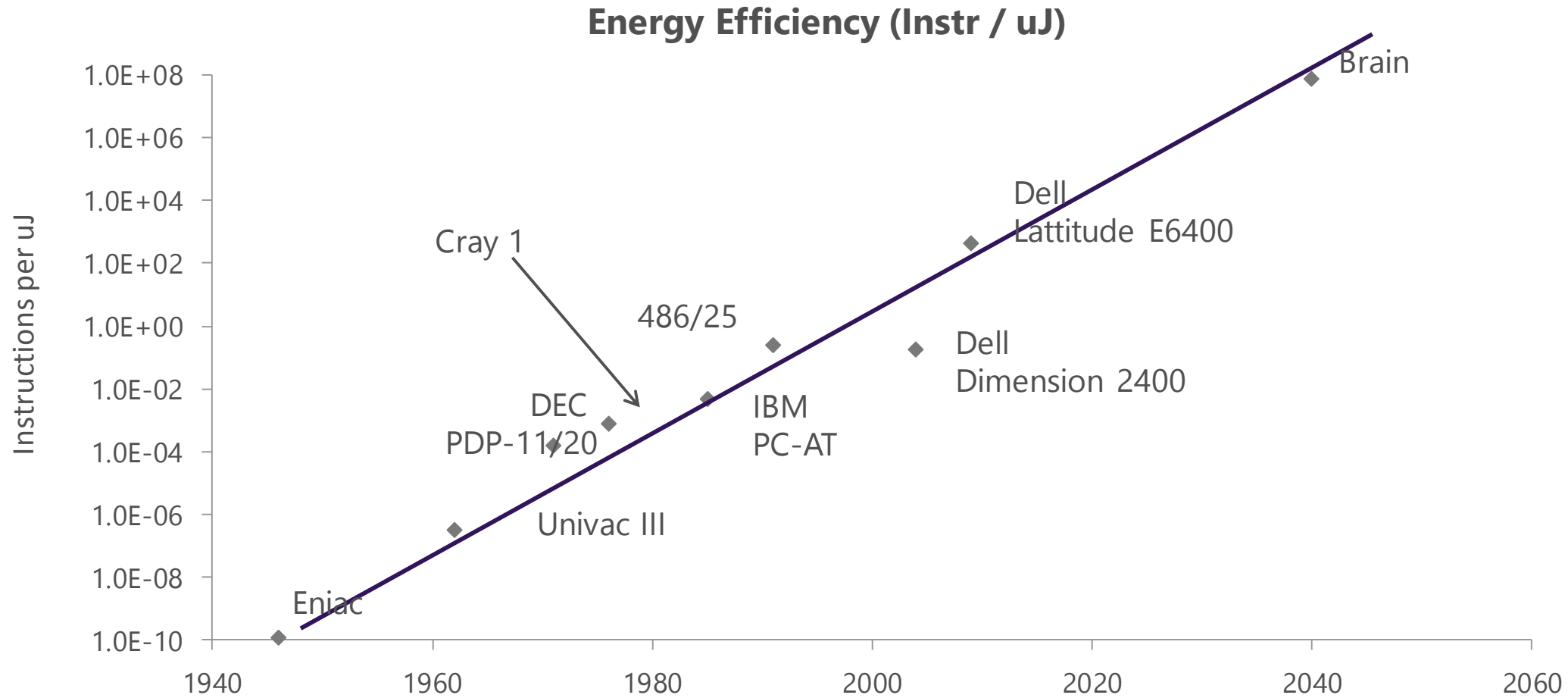


Ben Waters, EE

PhD alums

Enabling trend

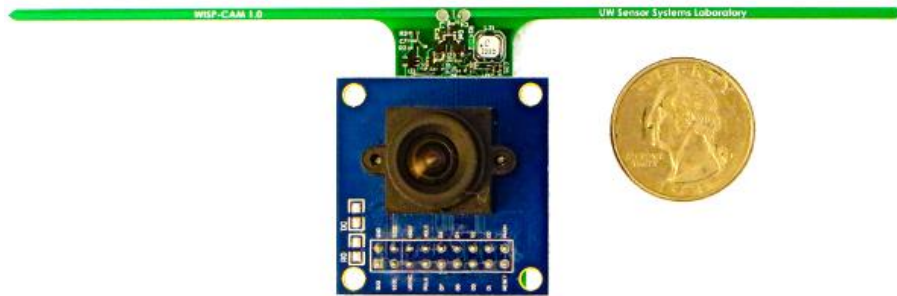
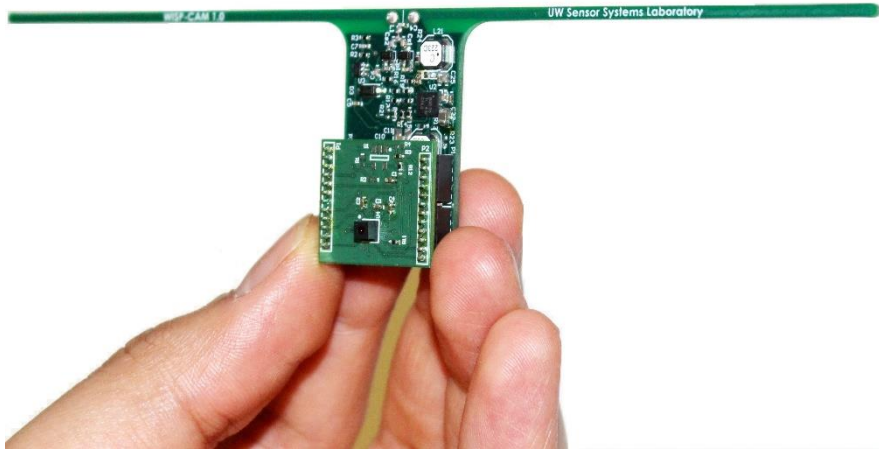
# Energy Efficiency Scaling



Data: *Implications of Historical Trends in the Electrical Efficiency of Computing*

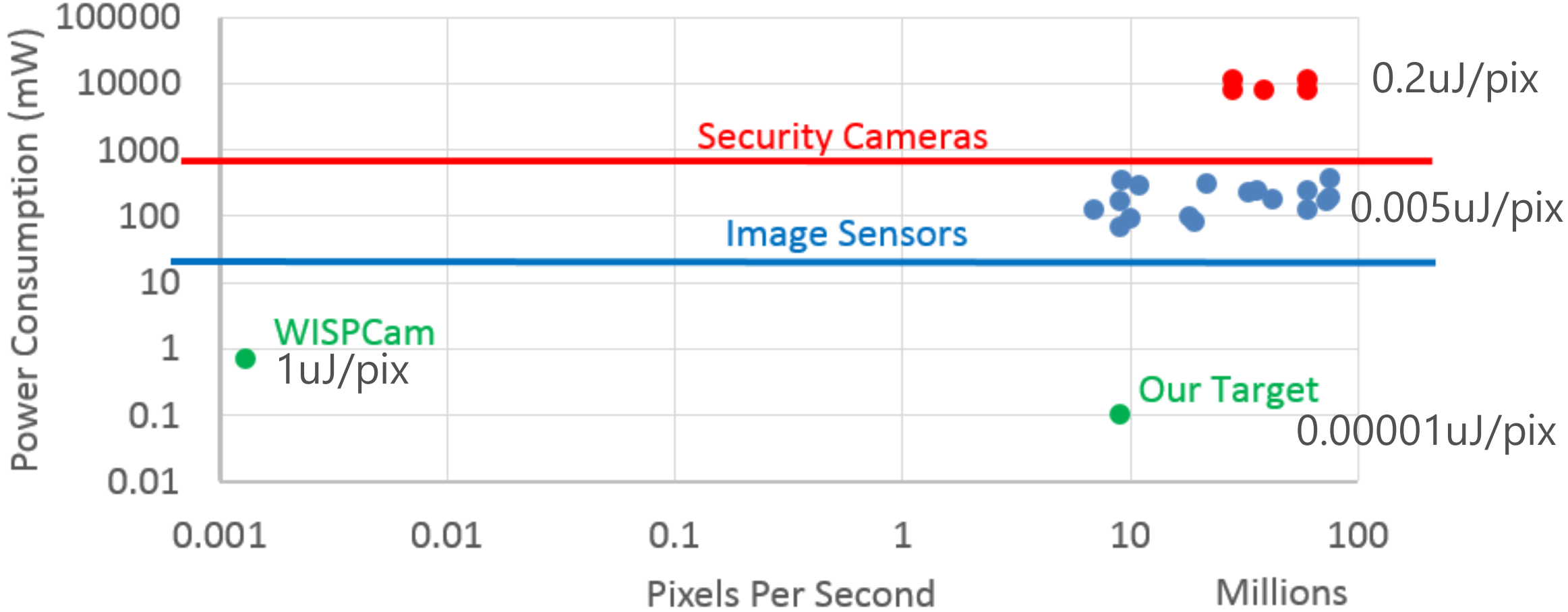
Koomey, Berard, Sanchez et al, IEEE Annals of the History of Computing, 2011

# WISPCam: A Battery-Free RFID Camera



Saman Naderiparizi, A. N. Parks, Z. Kapetanovic, Y. Zhao, J. Youngquist, B. Ransford and J. R. Smith,  
IEEE RFID 2015, ACM Ubicomp 2015, GetMobile Magazine 2016

# Camera power-performance scaling

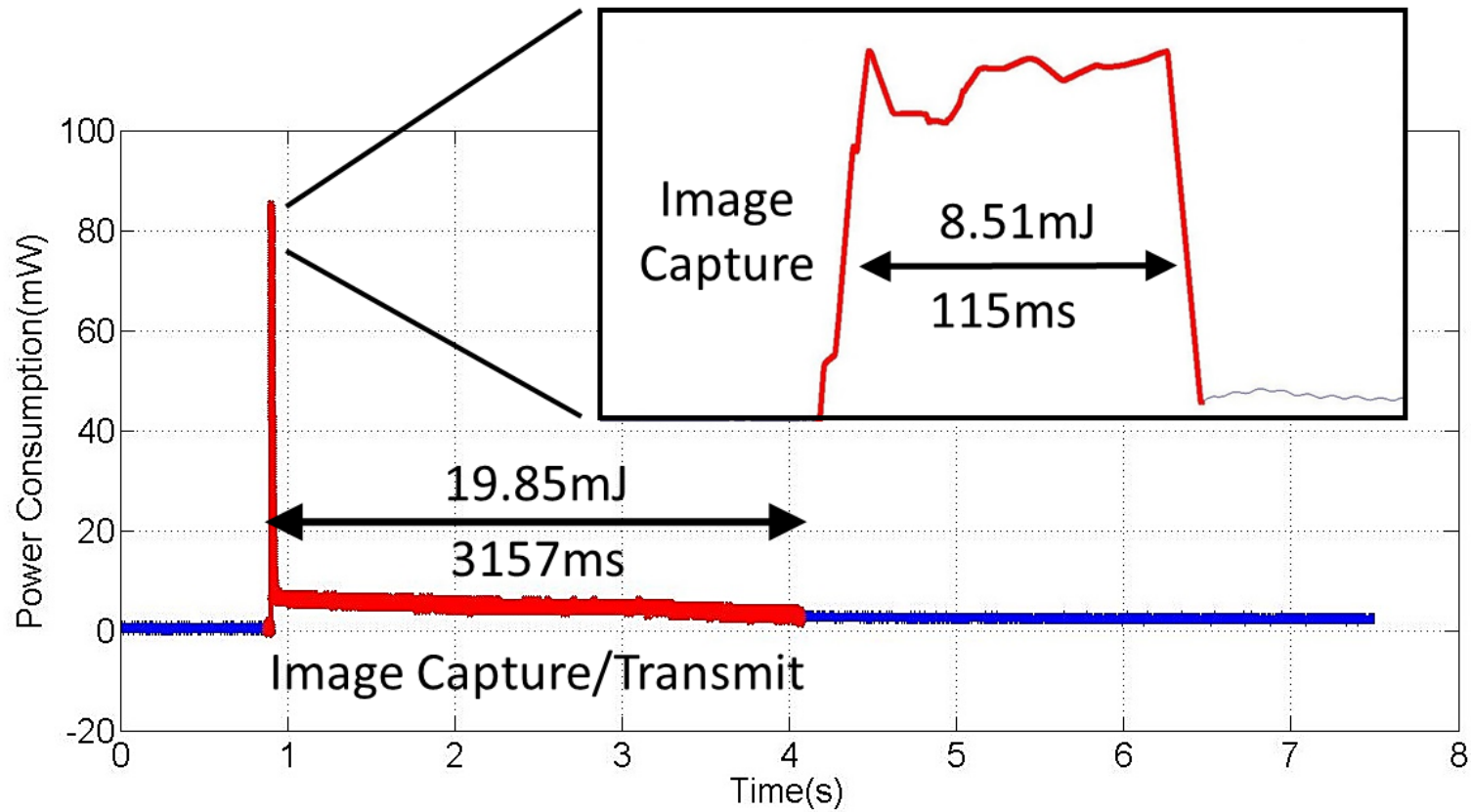


# Battery-free sensing overview

We have previously shown battery-free sensing using simple sensors such as temperature, acceleration, ...

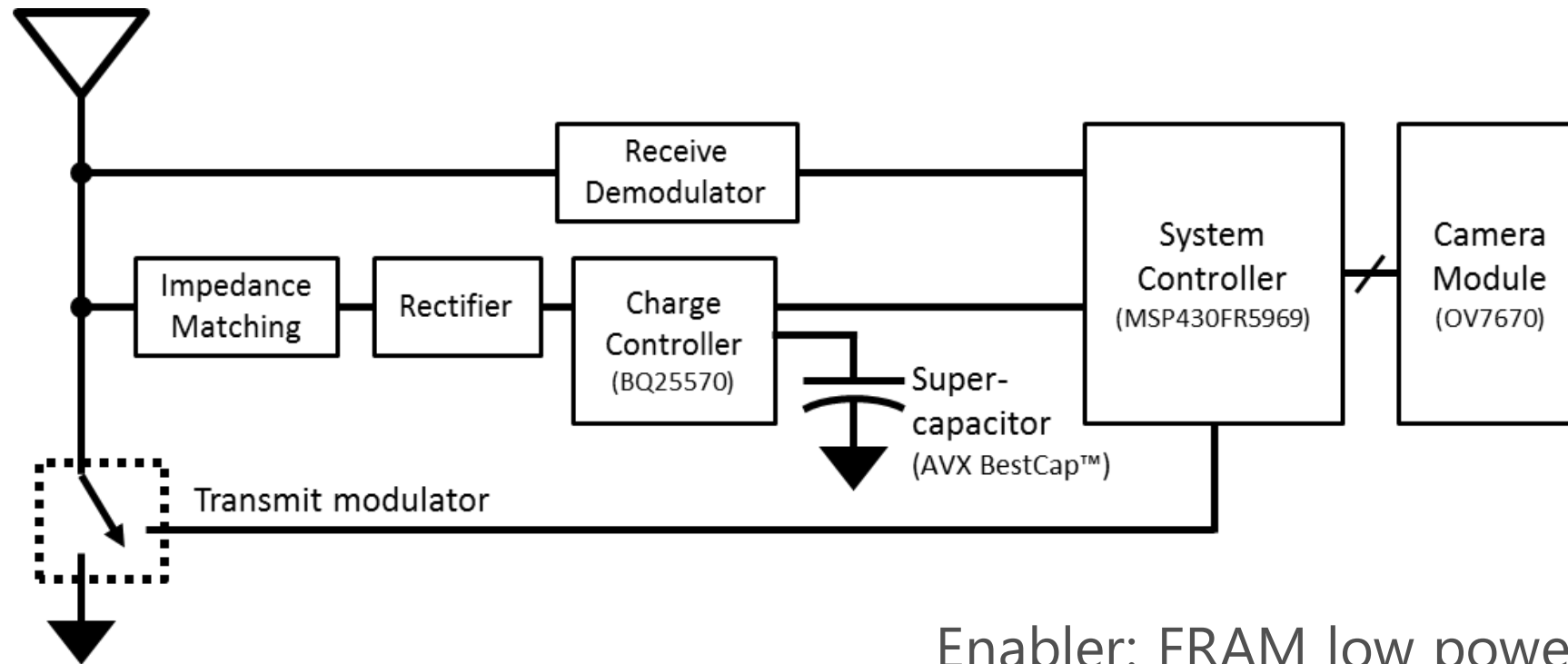


# WISPCam Energy Consumption



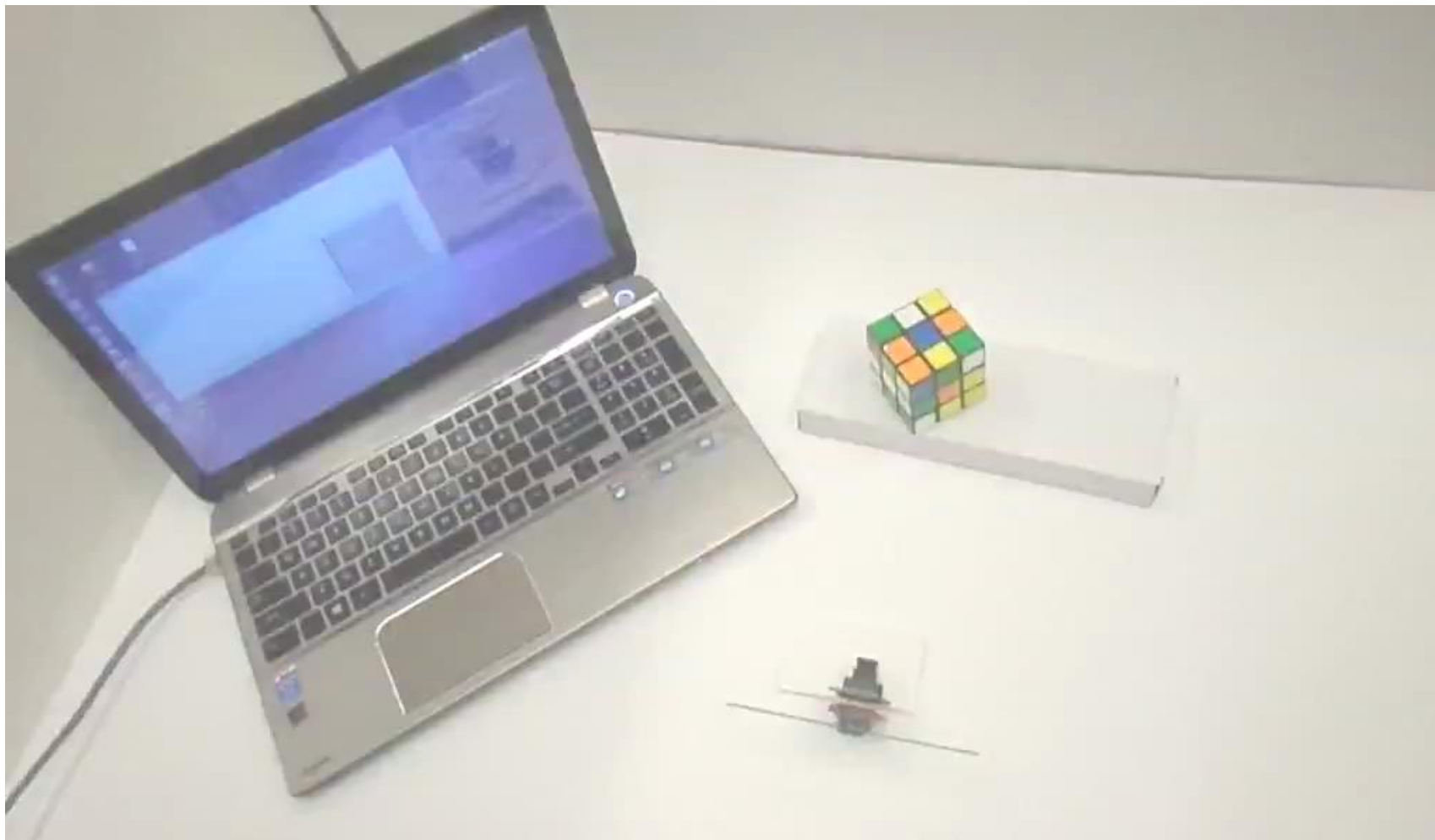


# WISPCam System Overview



Enabler: FRAM low power, non-volatile storage of image

# WISPCam demo video

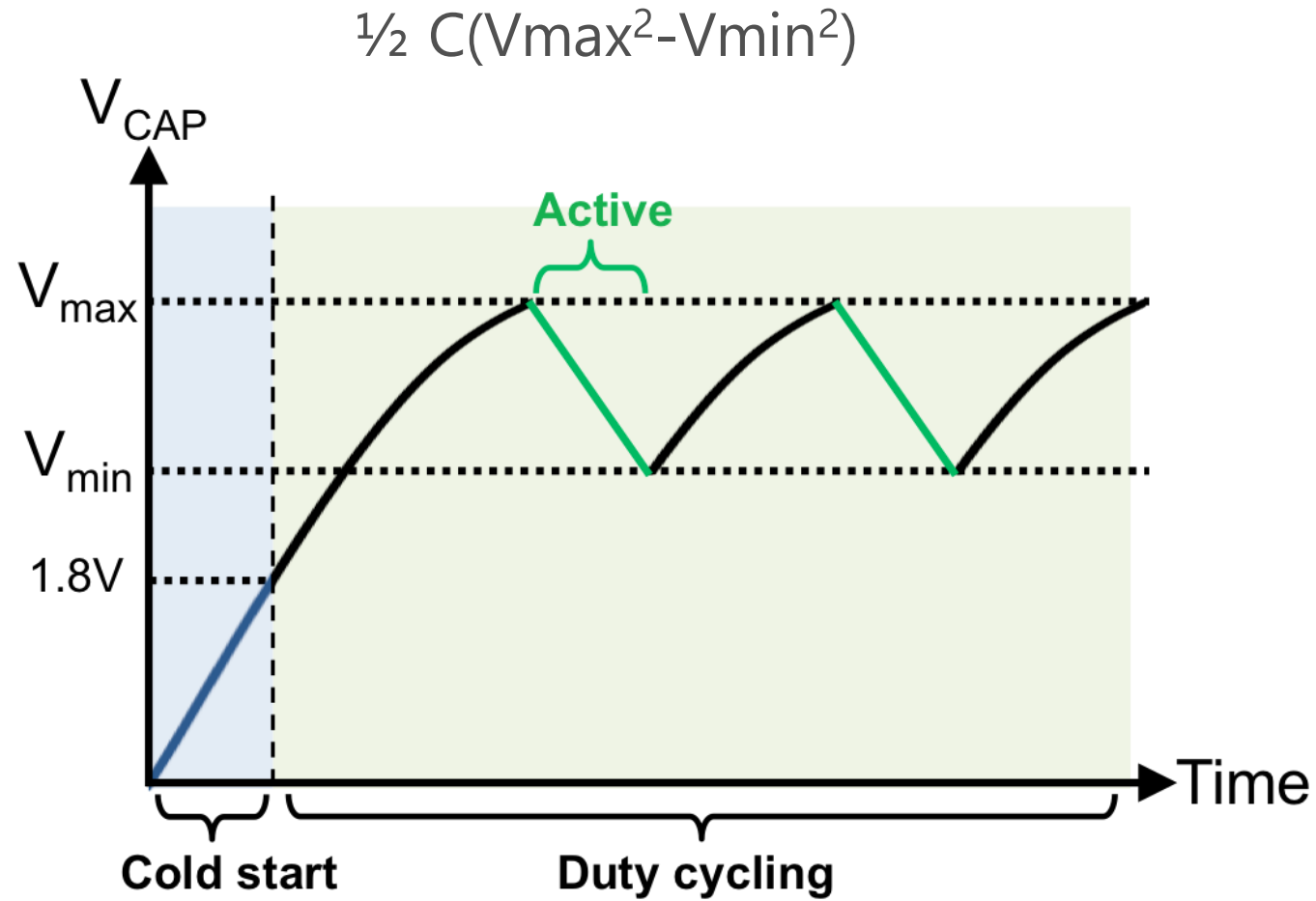


# Enabling a battery-free camera

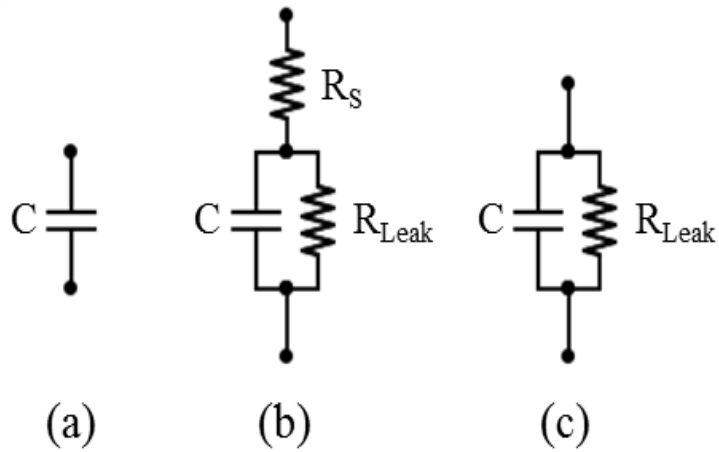
Efficient on-board large energy storage.

Large data storage and transmission on an energy-constrained system

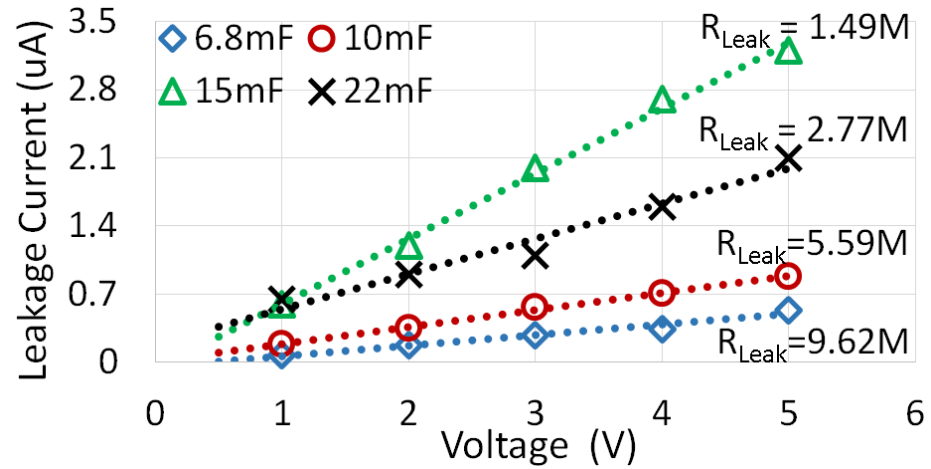
# Efficient Charge Storage



# Leakage



Super capacitor electrical model



Leakage of various super capacitors

Generally the higher the C the higher the leakage current

# Usable Power While Charging

Required Energy

Minimum voltage threshold

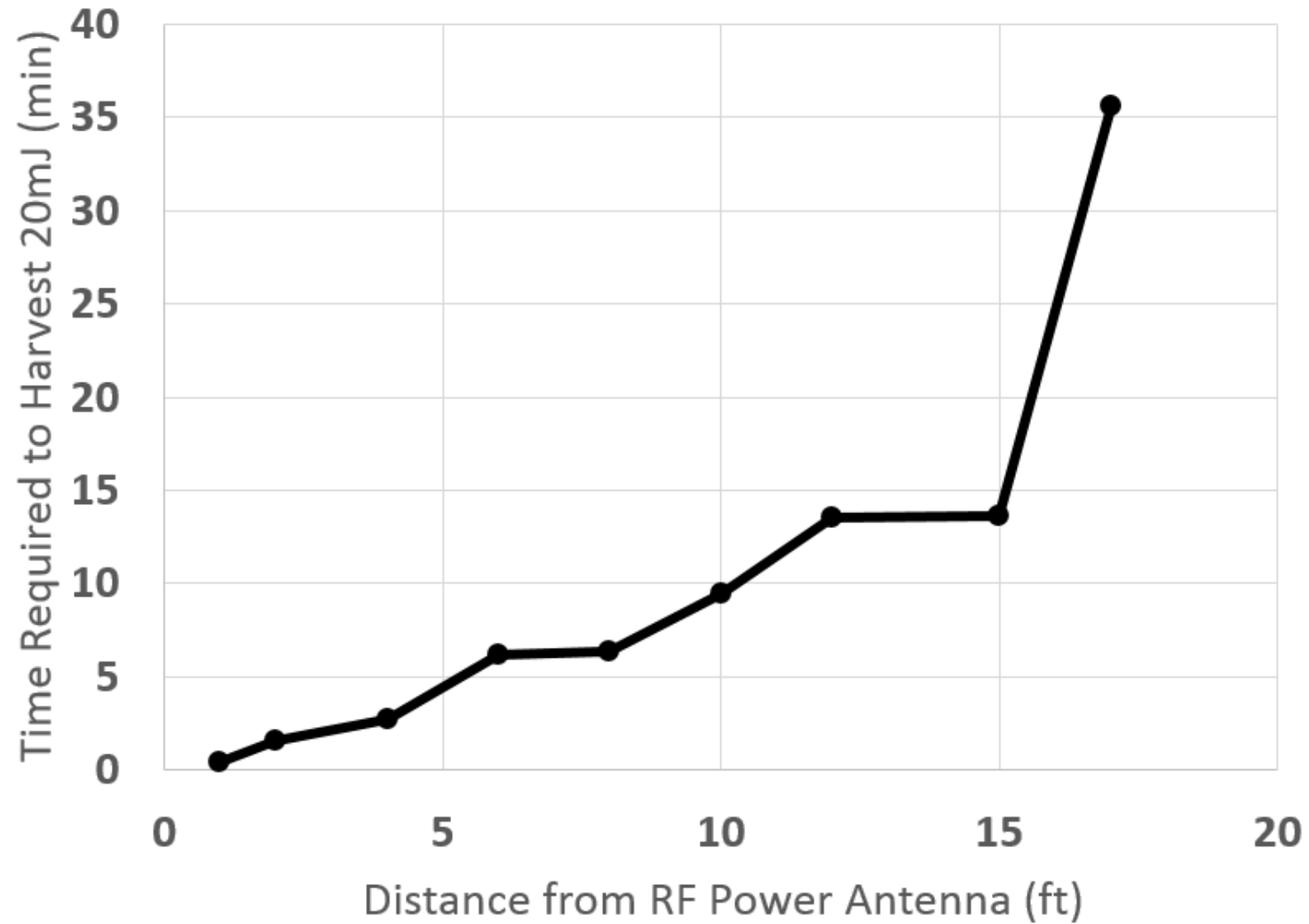
Leakage resistance

Charging power

Usable Power

Input Power	6.08mF	11.24mF	21.98mF	17.45mF
10uW	8.8uW	8.3uW	6.8uW	3.9uW
100uW	99uW	98uW	97uW	95uW

# WISPCam Update Rate



# WISPCam Applications

Inaccessible / difficult to access locations

Gauge/meter monitoring

Security

...

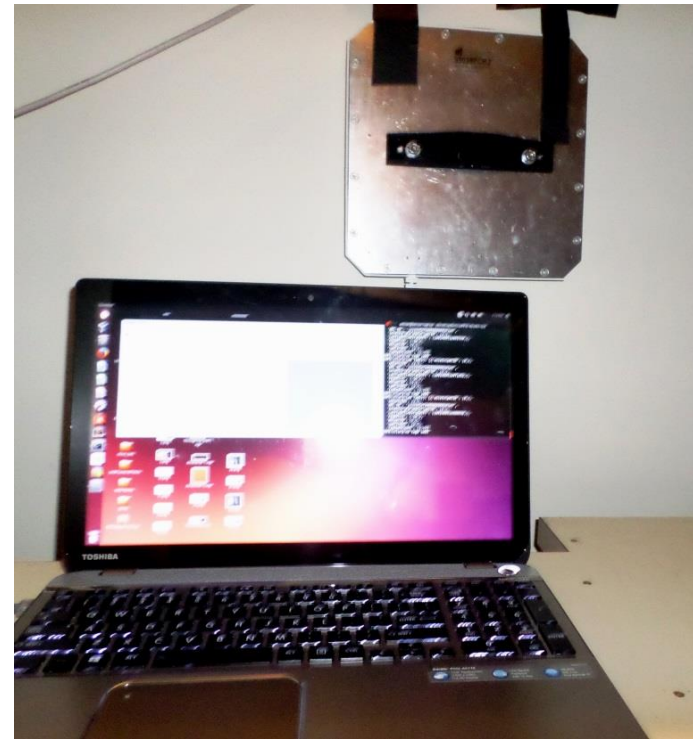


# Through-Wall Imaging

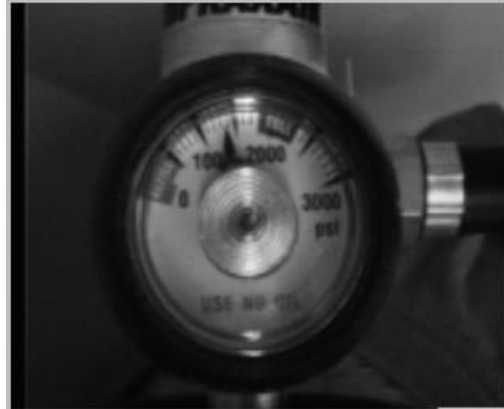
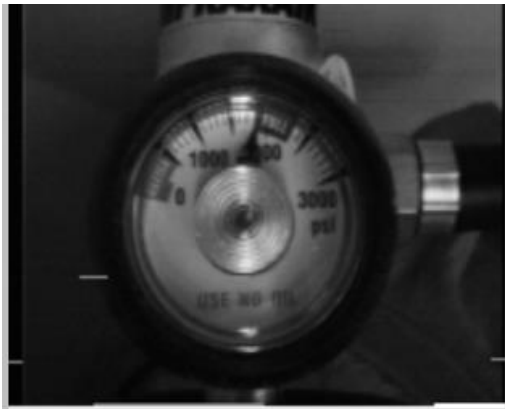
## Scene



## Interface software



# Gas Pressure Gauge



# Metering Application Example



# Motion Triggered Camera



# Computation in WISPCam

WISPCam Limitations:

- Communication Speed

- Computational Capabilities

- Memory

How to do more than just image capture?

# Smart Task Categories

Computationally light

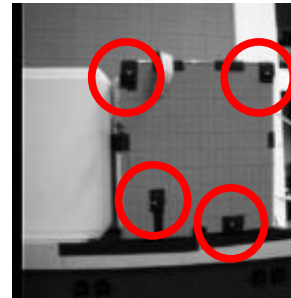
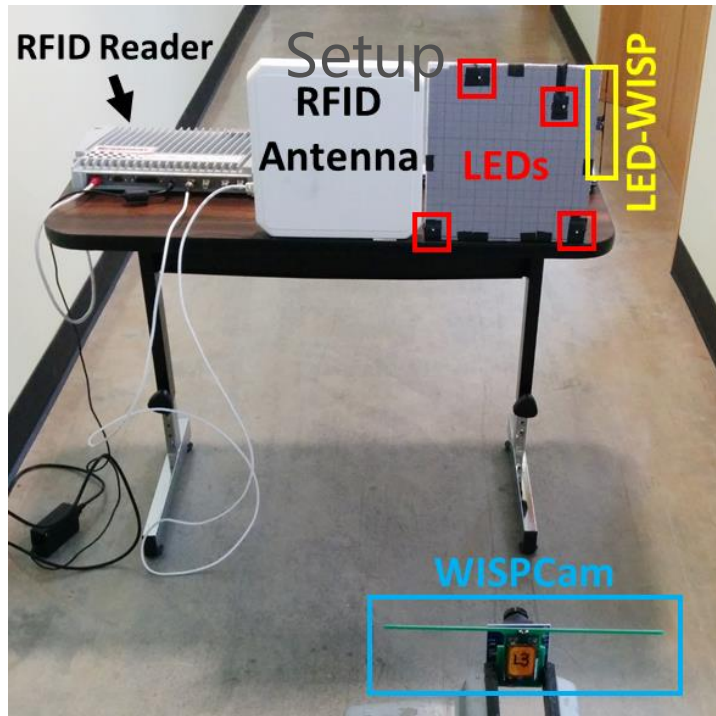
Image subtraction

Computationally Demanding

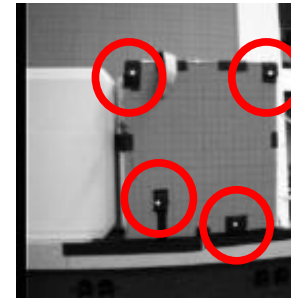
Face Detection

# Computationally Light Tasks

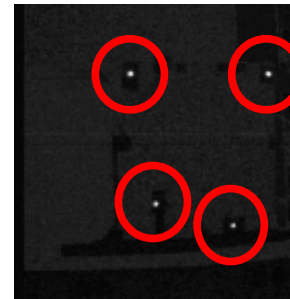
## Optical localization



Background

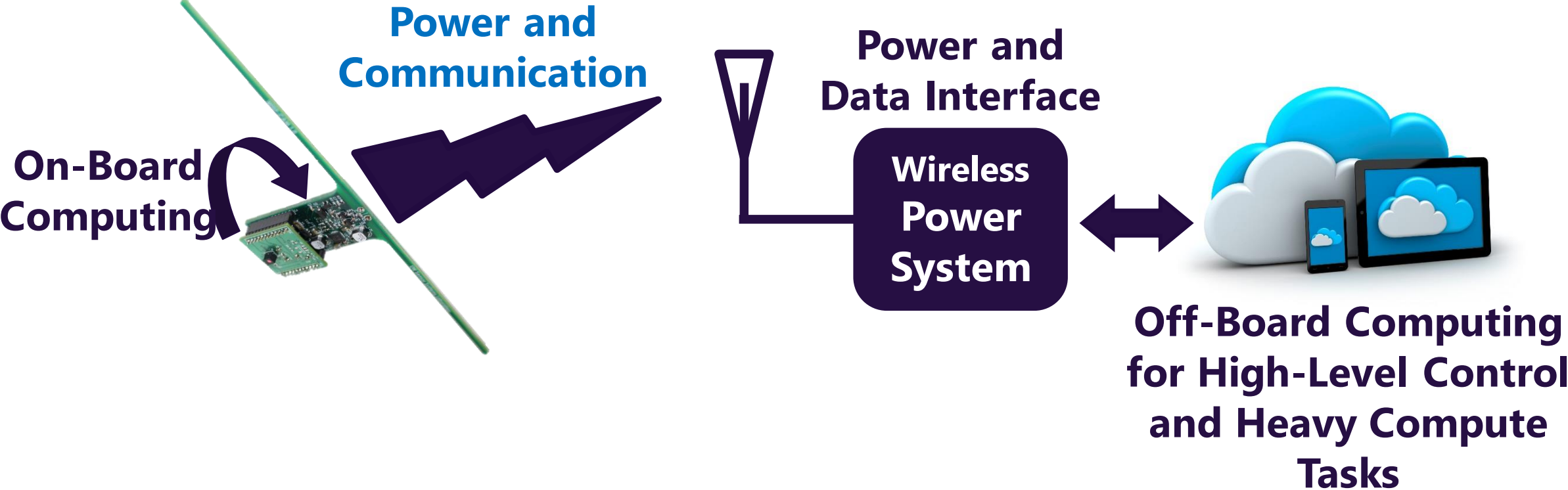


Foreground



Subtracted

# Computationally Demanding Tasks

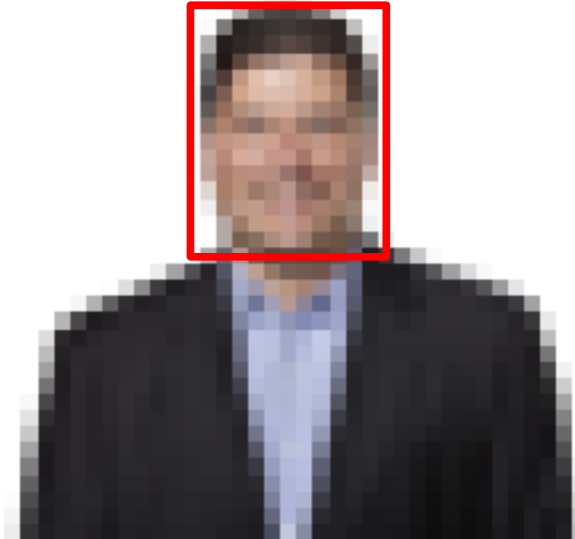




# Face Detection/Recognition Example



Impossible



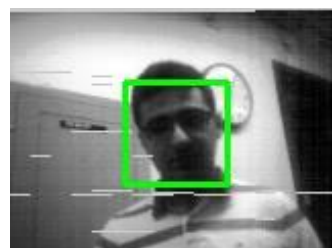
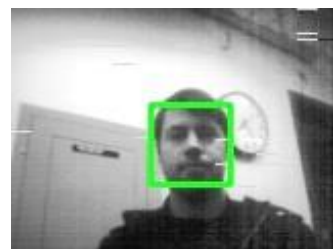
Possible



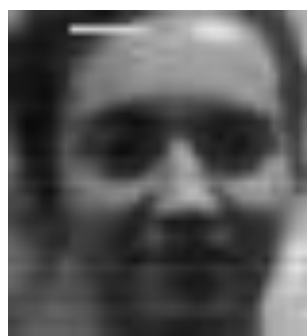
Possible

Face Recognition on a Battery-Free  
Camera

Low resolution Window



Low resolution Faces

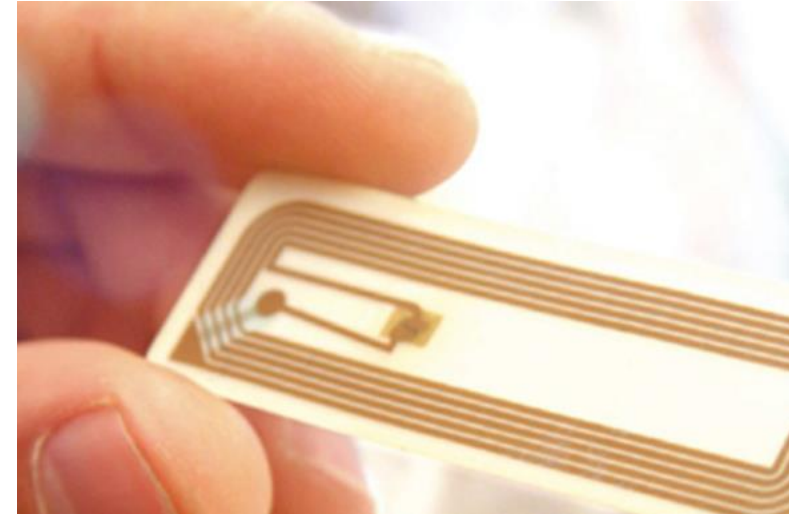
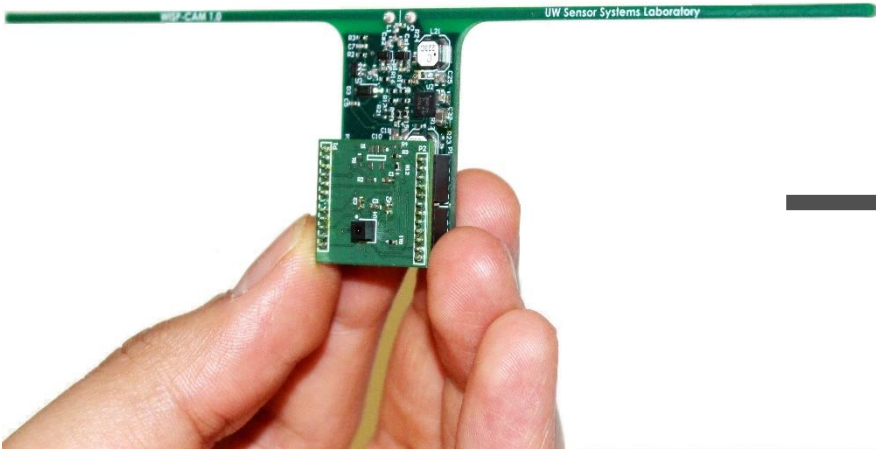


High resolution Faces



Specific-face triggered image capture?

# Implications



Cameras can evolve to sticker form factor, with no wires or batteries  
Sticker cameras can have substantial computation...trigger on person, event,...  
Can deploy them much more widely than would be possible today  
    Inside walls, containers, gutters, trash cans, ...  
Will create new privacy "gray areas"...making it easy to see things that in principle are public, but in practice are hard to view



THE PAUL G. ALLEN  
FAMILY FOUNDATION



NSF Engineering Research  
Center on Sensorimotor  
Neural Engineering (CSNE)



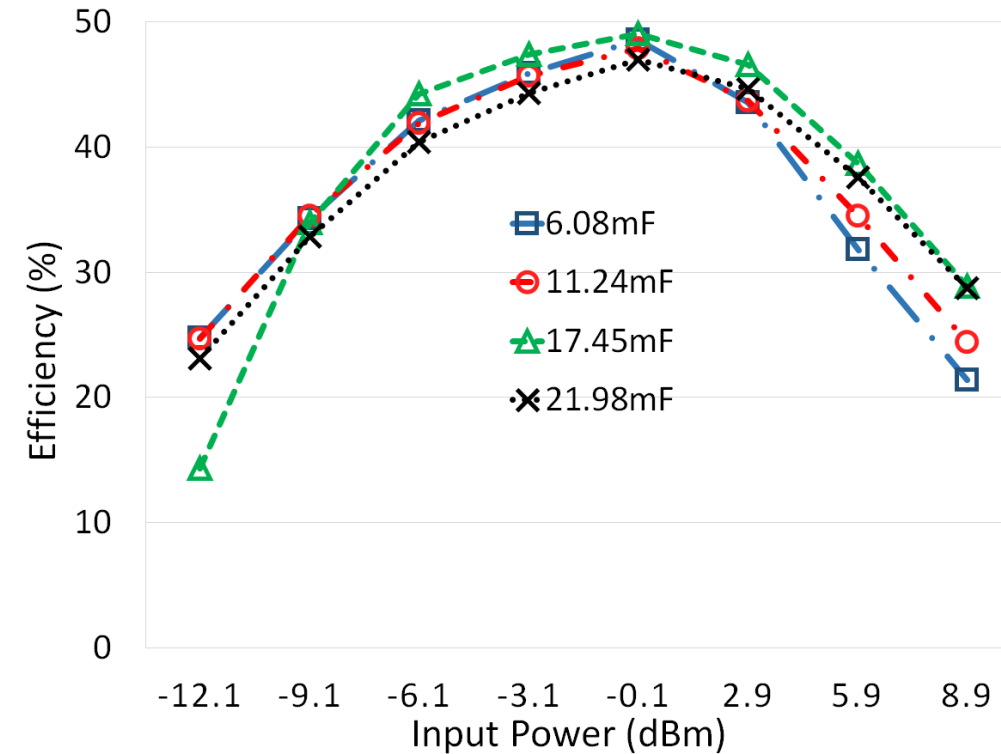
Intel Science and Technology Center for  
Pervasive Computing (ISTC-PC)

*Thank you*

# WISPCam Harvester Efficiency

WISPCam power harvester efficiency past cold-start

For 17.45mF, efficiency drops faster at lower power levels





# How Many Security Cameras are Out There?

- 44ZB data generation per year by 2020
- 50B internet connected devices
- 1.1ZB is security cameras
  - 2.5% of all data !
  - **245M active security cameras in 2014**





# Security Camera Limitations

Severe power problem:

Image Sensor @4K and 15fps (~200mW)

Video Compression Module and off-chip Image Processor (~1500mW)

Wireless Communication (~1100mW)

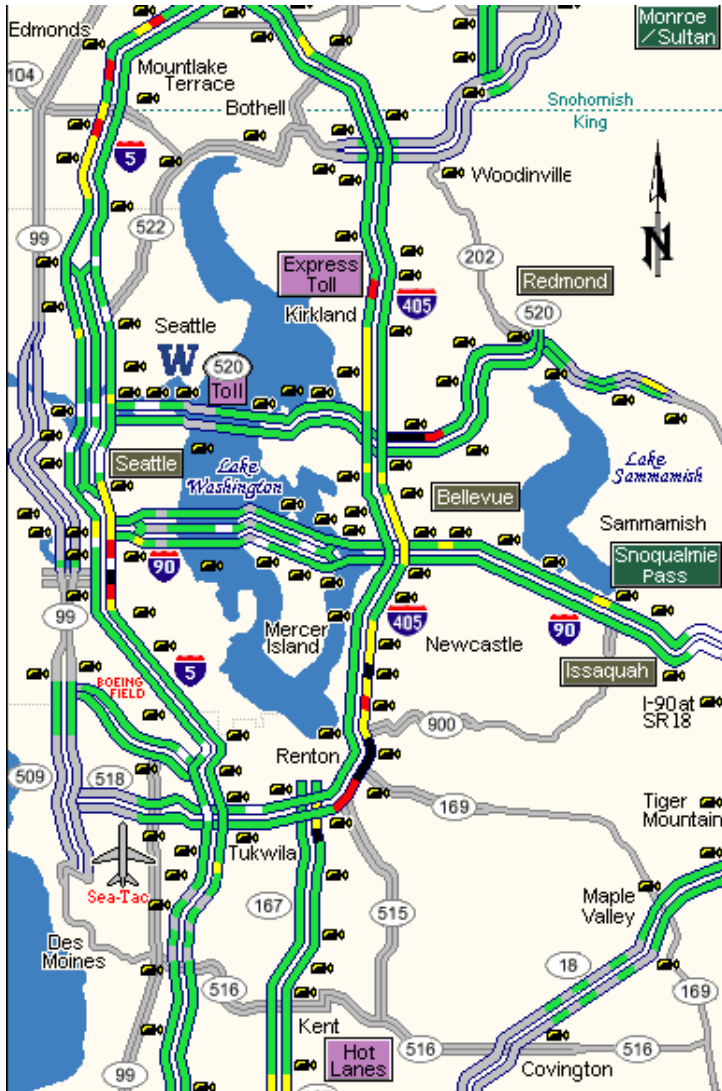
Total about 2800mW.

Need to be plugged-in.

Thus limited location usage.



# Despite the Limitations ...



Security cameras are deployed widely

Eliminating all wires---power and data---will make security cameras even more widespread and enable new applications