

# MEMORY FOR THE AI AGE THE MEMORY THAT BREATHES

**APRIL 2024** 

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### **Agenda**

The Al Age: Meaning, Impact and Trends

The Challenges for the IC Industry

4DS Memory: Interface Switching ReRAM
– how it works, why it's different, where it excels

The importance of Speed and Power

The importance of Scalability and Programmability

4DS: the Right Memory for the Right Market at the Right Time

**4DS Corporate Summary** 

Q&A



### **Artificial Intelligence**

**Nvidia Co-founder and CEO Jensen Huang** described the emergence of artificial intelligence (AI) as the beginning of a new industrial revolution, emphasising that there's an ongoing global 'awakening' concerning AI technology.<sup>1</sup>

He also believes that, over the next four to five years, a trillion dollars' worth of data center infrastructure and hardware will be built across the world.<sup>2</sup>

**TSMC founder Morris Chang** recently revealed that customers have approached the company to build up to ten new fabs for Al processors, indicating a significant increase in demand for processors used in Al applications.<sup>3</sup>

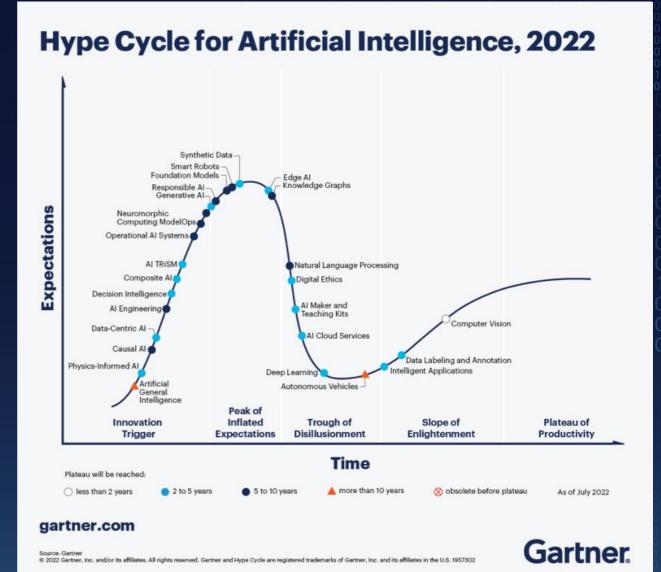
**Apple CEO Tim Cook**, at the 2024 annual shareholder meeting, said his company is "investing significantly" in artificial intelligence.<sup>4</sup>

#### Sources

- 1. https://www.businesstoday.in/technology/top-story/story/beginning-of-new-industrial-revolution-nvidias-jensen-huang-says-theres-an-ai-awakening-in-every-country-417256-2024-02-13
- 2. https://www.datacenterdynamics.com/en/news/nvidia-ceo-jensen-huang-predicts-data-center-spend-will-double-to-2-trillion/#:~:text=Nvidia%20CEO%20Jensen%20Huang%20believes,be%20built%20across%20the%20world
- 3. https://abachy.com/news/tsmc-founder-reveals-unprecedented-demand-10-new-fabs-produce-ai-chips
- 4. https://www.cnbc.com/2024/02/28/apple-annual-shareholder-meeting-2024-ai-investments.html

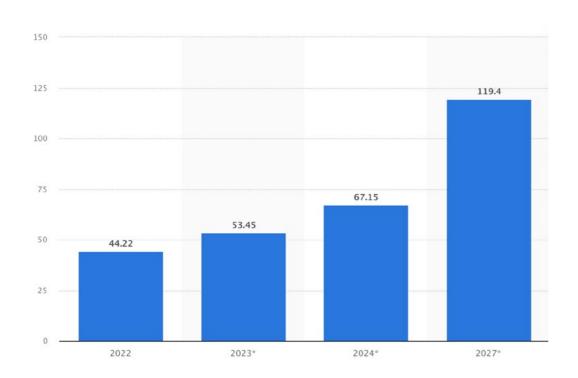


# Al means many different things to the market



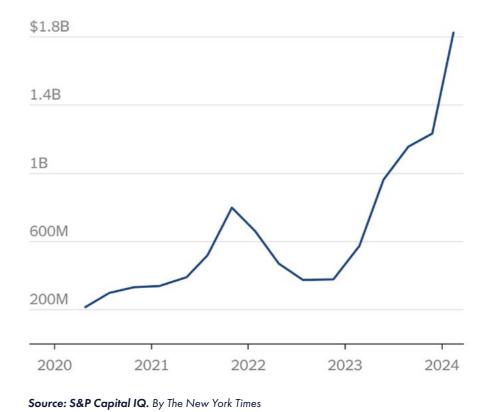
# Which is driving a golden age of emerging processor architectures and IC growth continued

# Artificial intelligence (AI) chip market revenue from 2022 to 2027



Source: © Statistica, 2024

#### **Nvidia** market capitalisation



# Generative Al Transforming the Compute Industry

Al refers to a long history of machine learning development that has evolved over the past 40 years in the industry

Machine learning is in everything from your home thermostat to your car's antilock braking to your Alexa connected device

Generative AI refers to the subset of artificial intelligence techniques that enable machines to generate new content, imitate human creativity, and produce realistic outputs

Al models are built on different types of neural nets which use very large sets of data to create predictive models for different tasks (text generation, image recognition or generation, code writing)

# 4DS: The Right Memory for the Right Market at the Right Time

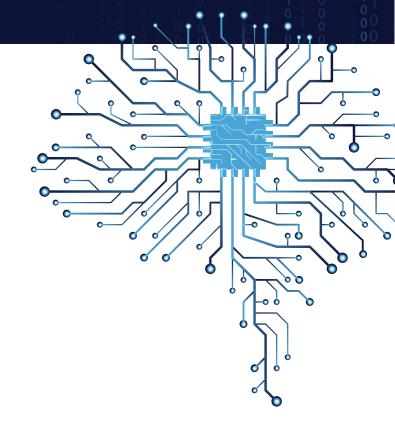
The New Age of AI Processing is built on decades of research into neuromorphic processing and Neural Net modeling

These models require huge amounts of data and are the result of billions of weighted matrix calculations

There is an explosion of new processor architectures in development to overcome the speed, energy and memory bottleneck challenges

The introduction of a new non-volatile memory with high speed and high density 'would initiate a revolution in computer architecture'

4DS is that memory, at the right time, for the most important market in the world





## **An Overview of Memory Terminology**

#### **SRAM**

Volatile, provides the fastest read time, used for immediate access by CPU. But also large in size and power (6 transistors needed per cell)

#### **DRAM**

Volatile, provides large data storage capabilities with fast read and write times. Architected for large data transfer at high speeds. Needs constant refresh to retain data

#### **4DS ReRAM**

Persistent, provides hours of retention with very fast write time. Operates at the same speeds as DRAM

#### NAND

Non-volatile, provides lowest cost per byte of storage.
Architected for very large data transfer and storage. Slow write compared to DRAM

# MRAM, PCRAM, Filamentary ReRAM

Non-volatile, provides high density alternatives to Flash for advanced node processes. Speed and energy vary but generally slower than DRAM

#### Warm vs Hot Data

Different classes of data needed on demand by the CPU or GPU

# CXL or Compute Express Link

De facto communications protocol to manage Storage Class Memory



# ReRAM: Two Different Technologies, Two Different Memory Solutions

#### **4DS PCMO**

Area based, lower current density programming, high endurance

Up to 10° Endurance

Analog characteristics

Persistent – tunable retention from seconds to days

Long retention and short retention can be integrated on same chip

Extremely fast EPIR one-shot response to programming signal – 4.7ns write, well within DRAM window

Ideal for in-memory compute or Warm Data storage

### OTHERS – Filamentary

Filament based, high current density, low endurance for reliable cell

Endurance can be as low as 10<sup>4</sup>

Primarily designed for digital use

Non-Volatile – but requires strong error correction or high energy to create multiple filaments

Iterative programming needed for reliable cell

Used as embedded NOR replacement or CXL-based storage memory

### The 4DS Advantages

### Persistent Memory at DRAM Speeds

4.7ns write for 1 hour read – no refresh needed

Single Shot programming

# Tunable Retention from Seconds to Days

Highest energy optimization for warm data applications

Can trade off long retention for reduced endurance

# Low Energy per Bit

For Warm Data and Persistent Memory Applications

# Scalable to Any Process Node

Simple fab processing, compatible with standard tools

Low-cost
BEOL Integration,
compatible to any
advanced CMOS
logic process

# Analog Programmability

By time or voltage modulation



# What is PCMO and why is it unique?

Top electrode
Thin oxide layer

Perovskite layer comprised of:

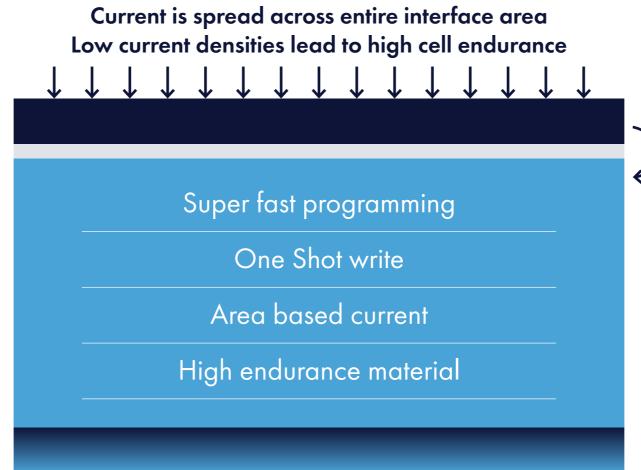
**P**raseodymium

Calcium

**M**anganese

Oxygen

Bottom electrode



FAST

E Field injects or removes oxygen from PCMO vacancies

## What is PCMO and why is it unique? continued

High O<sup>-</sup> affinity by top electrode creates an oxygen depletion layer at the surface junction (oxygen vacancies in the PCMO lattice)

Pulse of electric field pushes oxygen back into PCMO, filling vacancies (very fast response: EPIR)

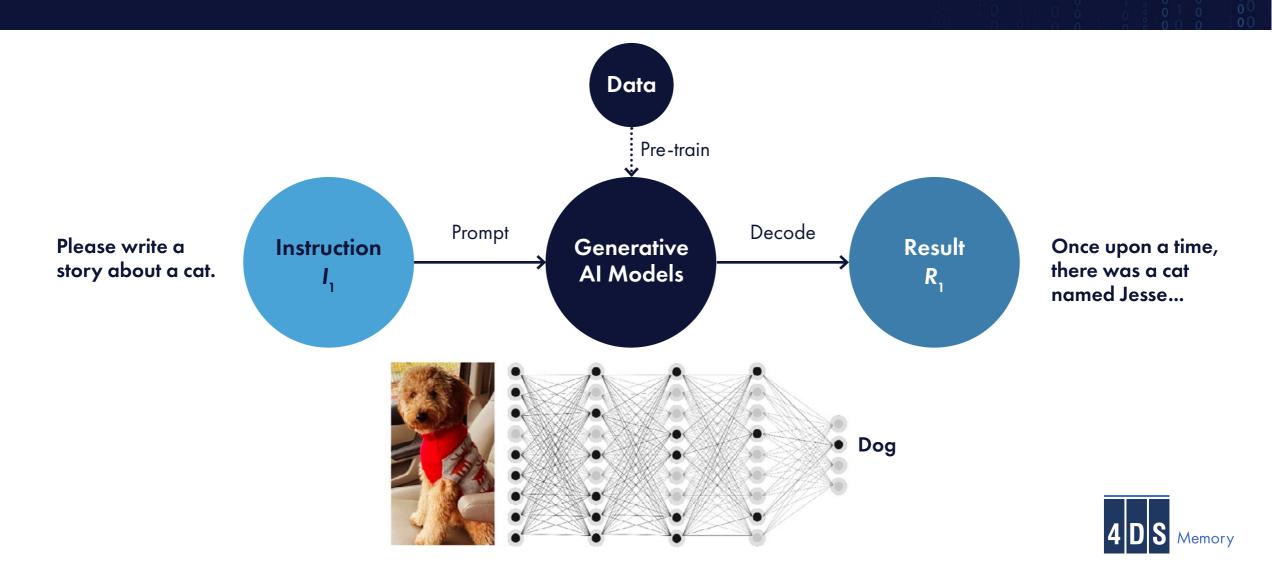
When the oxygen is present the cell conducts and is said to be SET

This is a reversible process, creating the on/off resistance states of the memory cell

Total current is a function of this oxygen distribution across the oxygen vacancies as determined by the one-shot programming

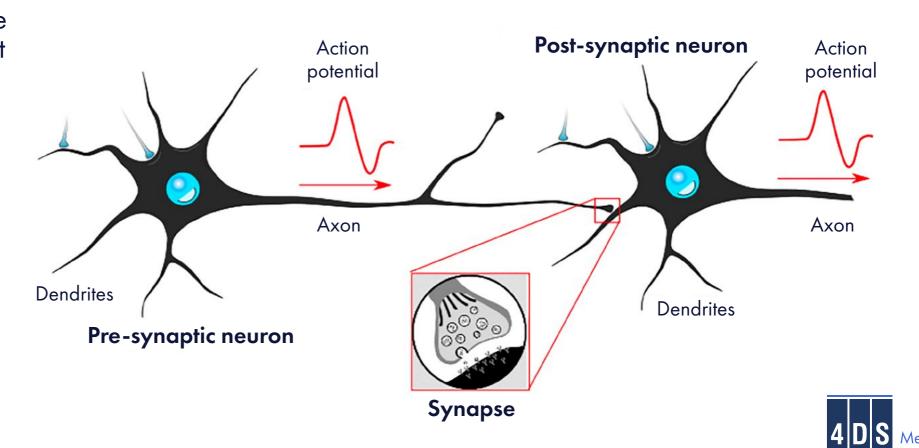


# Al is Driven by Deep Neural Nets



# Neural Nets are an approach to modeling how the brain builds recognition and recall

They are a **Digital** approximation of the **Analog** process that goes on in the brain

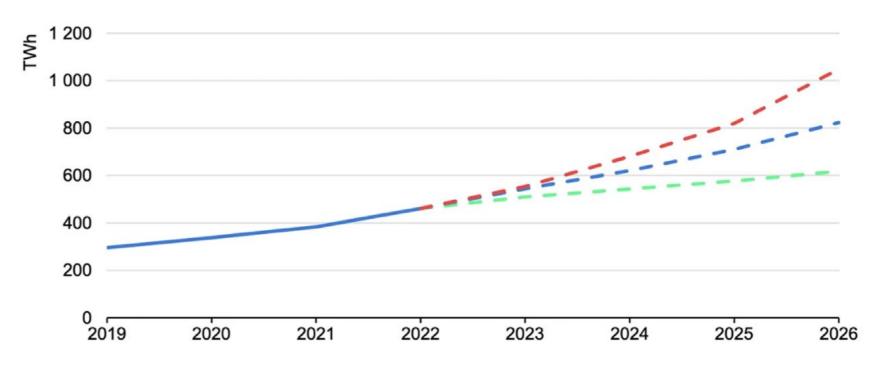


# The energy cost of AI: 70-80% of the AI operations are due to the weighted calculations continued

The global demand for electricity may see a huge surge because of Al processing

- Low case
- Base case
- High case

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

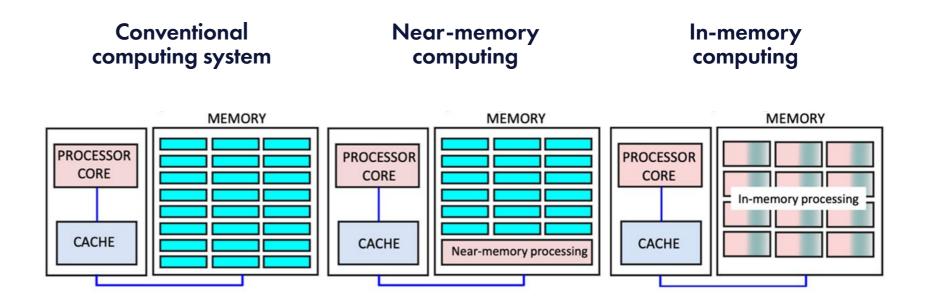


**Notes:** Includes traditional data centres, dedicated AI data centres, and cryptocrurency consumption; excludes demand from data transmission networks. The base case scenario has been used in the overall forecast in this report. Low and high case scenarios reflect the uncertainties in the pace of deployment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

Sources: Joule (2023). de Vries. The growing energy footprint of Al: CCRI indices (carbon-ratings.com); The Guardian, Use of Al 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.

# A Major Driver for new Al architectures: Moving Memory Close to Central Processing Unit (CPU)

In-Memory Computing is the defining feature of all emerging Al engines



### A need for a New Memory Solution Exists

"Difficult challenges gating development of beyond-CMOS devices include those related to memory technologies, information processing or logic devices, and heterogeneous integration of multi-functional components, a.k.a. More-than-Moore (MtM) or functional diversification.

One challenge is the need of a new memory technology that combines the best features of current memories in a fabrication technology compatible with CMOS process flow and that can be scaled beyond the present limits of SRAM and FLASH. This would provide a memory device fabrication technology required for both stand-alone and embedded memory applications. The ability of a chip to execute programs is limited by interaction between the processor and the memory, and scaling does not automatically solve this problem. The current evolutionary solution is to increase cache memory, thereby increasing the floor space that SRAM occupies on a chip. However, this trend eventually leads to a decrease of the net information throughput.

Volatility of semiconductor memory requires external long-term storage media that tend to be slow to access (e.g., magnetic hard drives, optical CD, etc.). Therefore, development of electrically accessible non-volatile memory with high speed and high density would initiate a revolution in computer architecture. This development would provide a significant increase in information throughput beyond the traditional benefits of scaling."



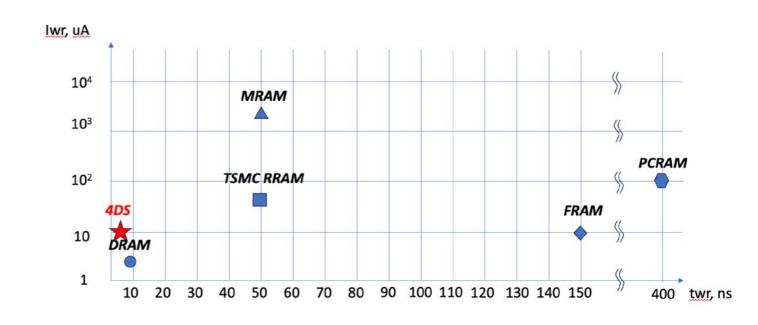
## The Speed Advantages of 4DS Memory

4DS has demonstrated reliable, robust ReRAM programming with a single 4.7ns write pulse

This improves on our previously reported 9.5ns

The sub 5 nanosecond speeds are due to Electric Pulse Induced Resistance switching, which enables single shot programming in the 4DS cell

This switching is faster than the DRAM write window of 30ns and directly translates to lower energy per bit writing for the 4DS cell



**Disclaimer:** these graphs are based on best publicly available data and may not reflect actual state of the art for each technology. The graph for the 4DS cell is estimated for the 20nm cell, based on scaling from 60nm actuals.

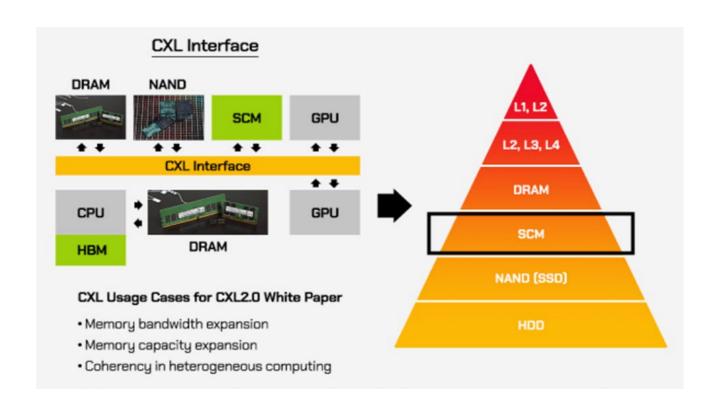
## **Why Important? Warm Data Applications**

Advanced computing always needs DRAM for constant read and write (Hot Data), but emerging Inference Engines for AI need data at DRAM speeds that doesn't change over time (Warm Data)

Storage Class Memory – data storage that is peripheral to the main processing data but not in bulk storage – has consolidated behind CXL or Compute Express Link

This supports many classes of memory behind a standardized communications protocol

CXL is considered 'Slow' data when compared to DRAM



# 4DS: The Right Memory for the Right Market at the Right Time

The New Age of Al Processing is built on decades of research into neuromorphic processing and Neural Net modeling

These models require huge amounts of data and are the result of billions of weighted matrix calculations

There is an explosion of new processor architectures in development to overcome the speed, energy and memory bottleneck challenges

As IEEE states, the introduction of a high speed and high density memory "would initiate a revolution in computer architecture"

4DS is that memory, at the right time, for the most important market in the world



# **Corporate Summary**

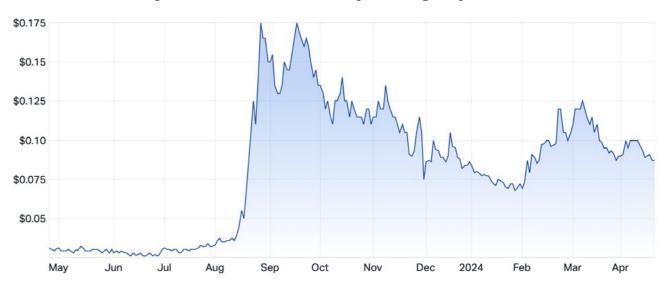
### **ASX Symbol: 4DS**

| Shares on Issue                | 1,762,834,918 |
|--------------------------------|---------------|
| Options on Issue               | 47,207,184    |
| Cash on hand                   | ~ \$10M       |
| Share price (22 April 2024)    | \$0.087       |
| Market Cap (@ \$0.087 share pr | rice) \$153M  |

### **Top 5 shareholders** own 10.39% (at 22 April 2024)

| Citicorp Nominees          | 3.36% |
|----------------------------|-------|
| James Dorrian              | 2.57% |
| KZ 3 Pty Ltd               | 1.62% |
| Mr John Clement Cowie Love | 1.52% |
| Mr Sam Huu Hai Nguyen      | 1.32% |

### 4DS Memory 12 month share price graph



## **Board and Management**



**David McAuliffe**Executive Chairman

Experienced company director

Involved in numerous capital raisings and in-licensing of technologies

Founder of several companies in Australia, France and the UK, many of which are now ASX listed. Non-Executive Chairman of Invex Therapeutics Ltd



**Dr Guido Arnout**Non-Executive Director

30+ years in commercialising electronics technology

Successes include Power-Escape, CoWare, CrossCheck Technology and Silvar-Liso



**Howard Digby**Non-Executive Director

Former senior roles at IBM, Adobem Gartner and the Economist Group

Director of Cirralto Ltd, Elsight Ltd and Singular Health Ltd

Advisor to a number of technology companies



**Ting Yen**Chief Technical Officer

30 years experience in commercialising memory technologies

Various roles at Integrated Memory, Netlogic, Integrated Device, Cypress, Paradigm and Philips Research



**Peter Himes**Chief Strategic Officer

Experienced senior executive in high grown technology firms

Strong focus on innovation systems and strategic alliances

# 4DS: THE RIGHT MEMORY FOR THE RIGHT MARKET AT THE RIGHT TIME



# FOR MORE INFORMATION

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