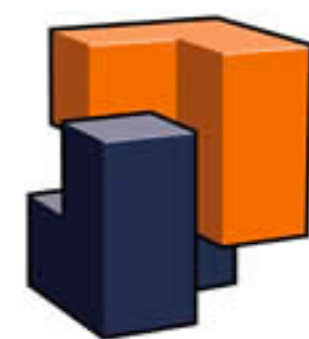


Bring Your Own Datatypes into TVM

Gus Smith

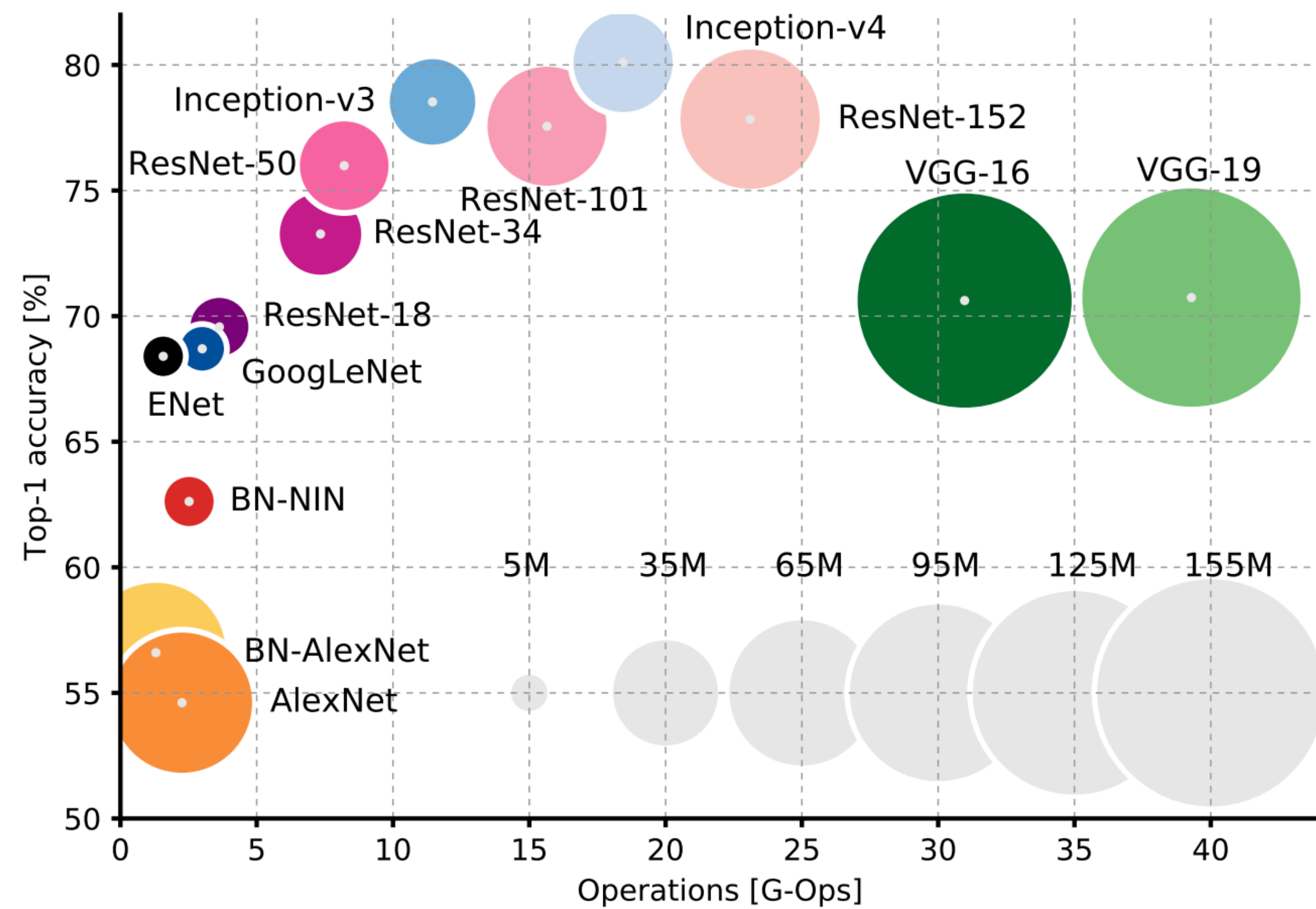
Advisor: Luis Ceze
University of Washington

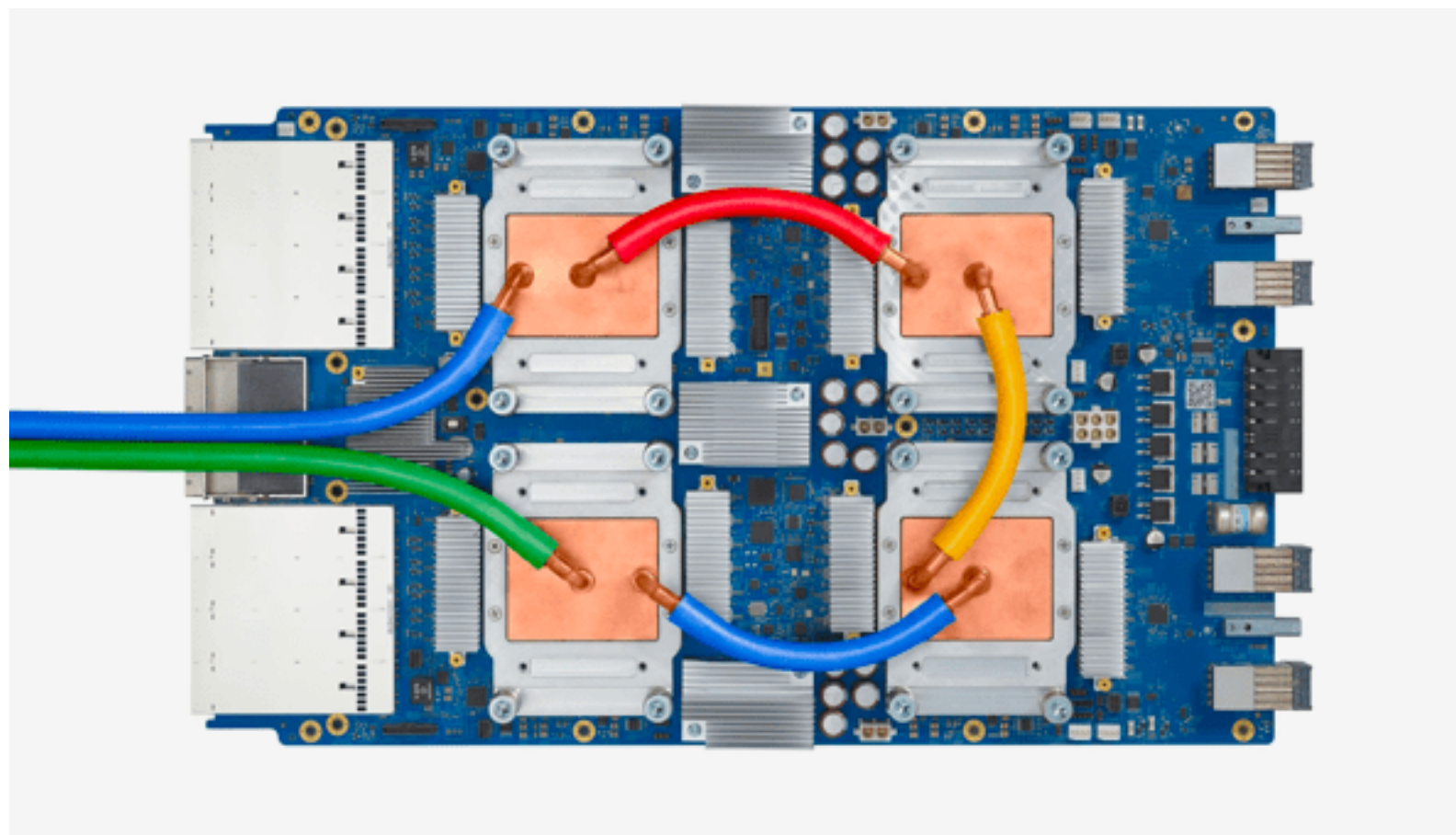
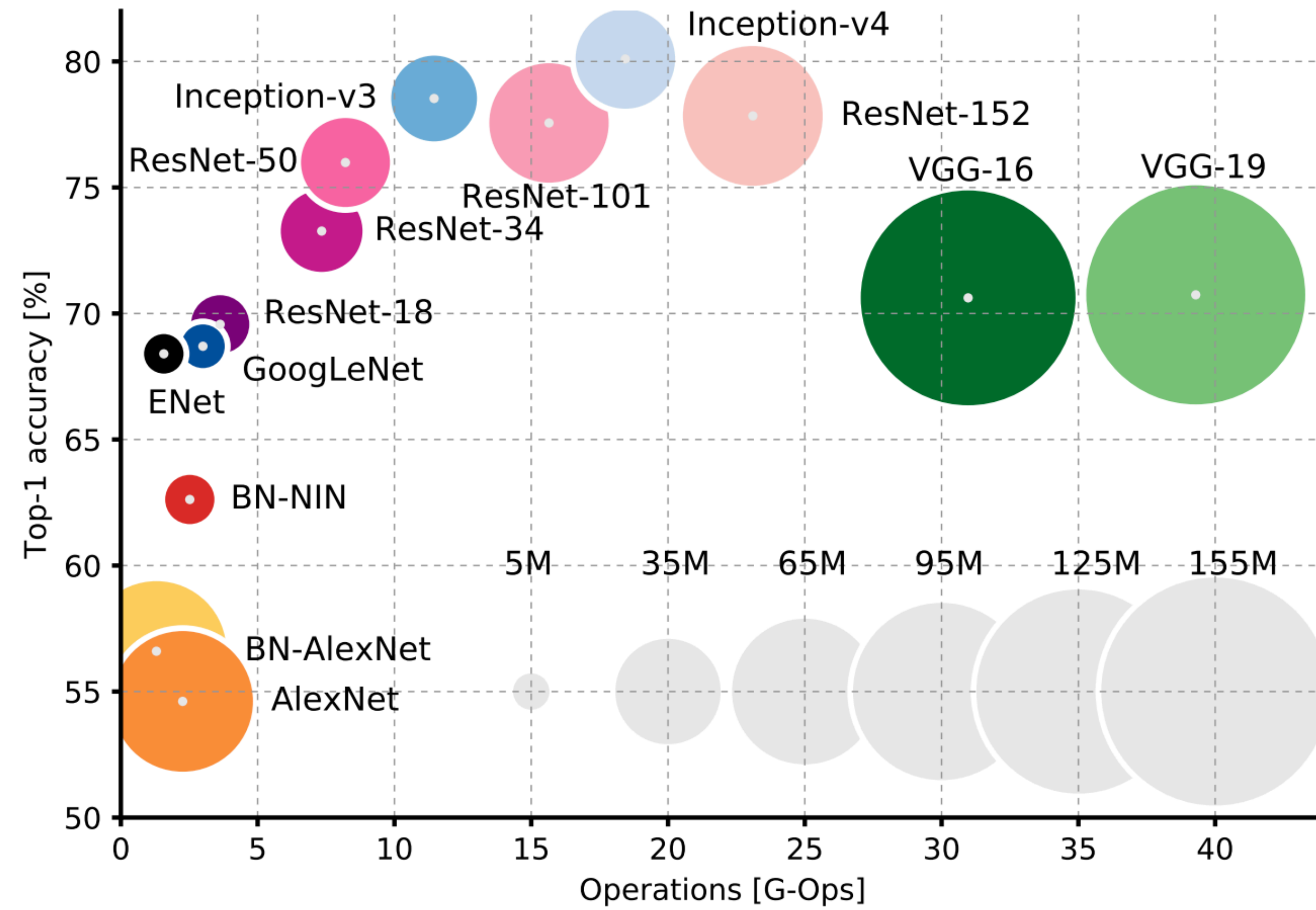


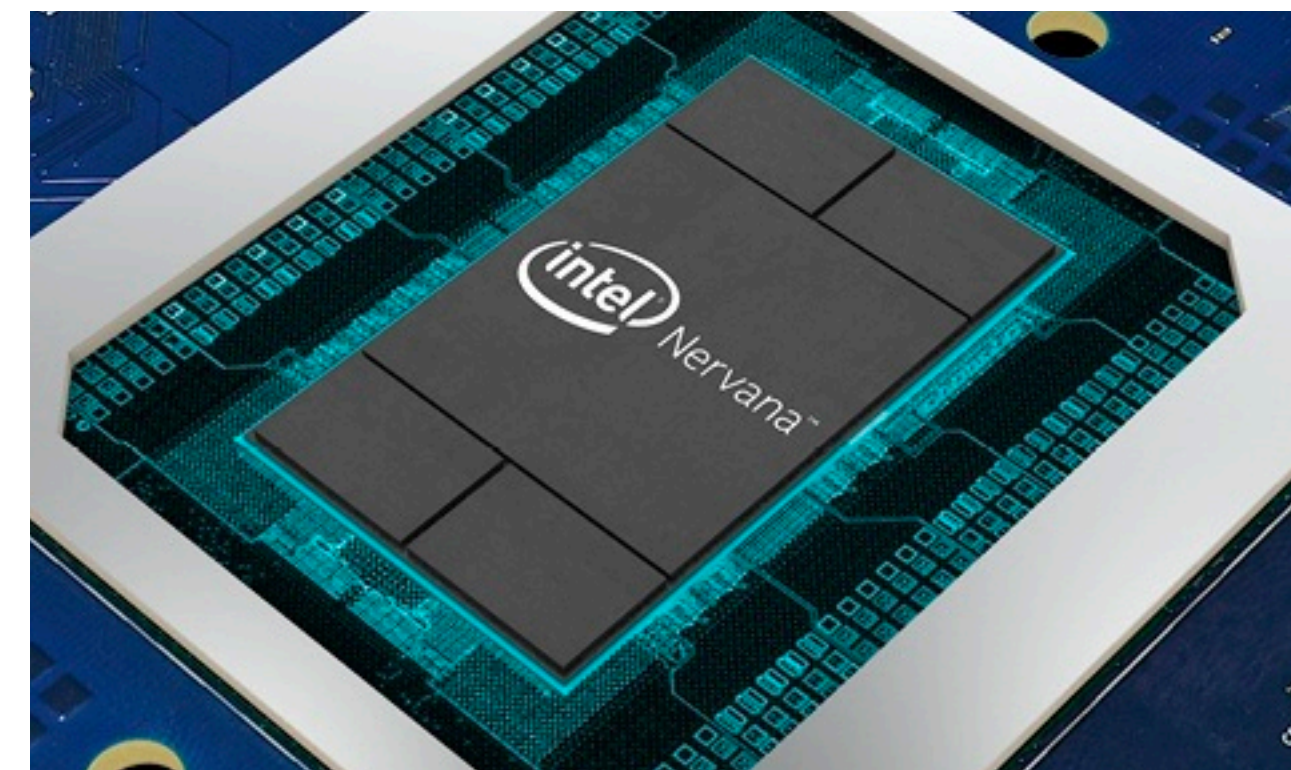
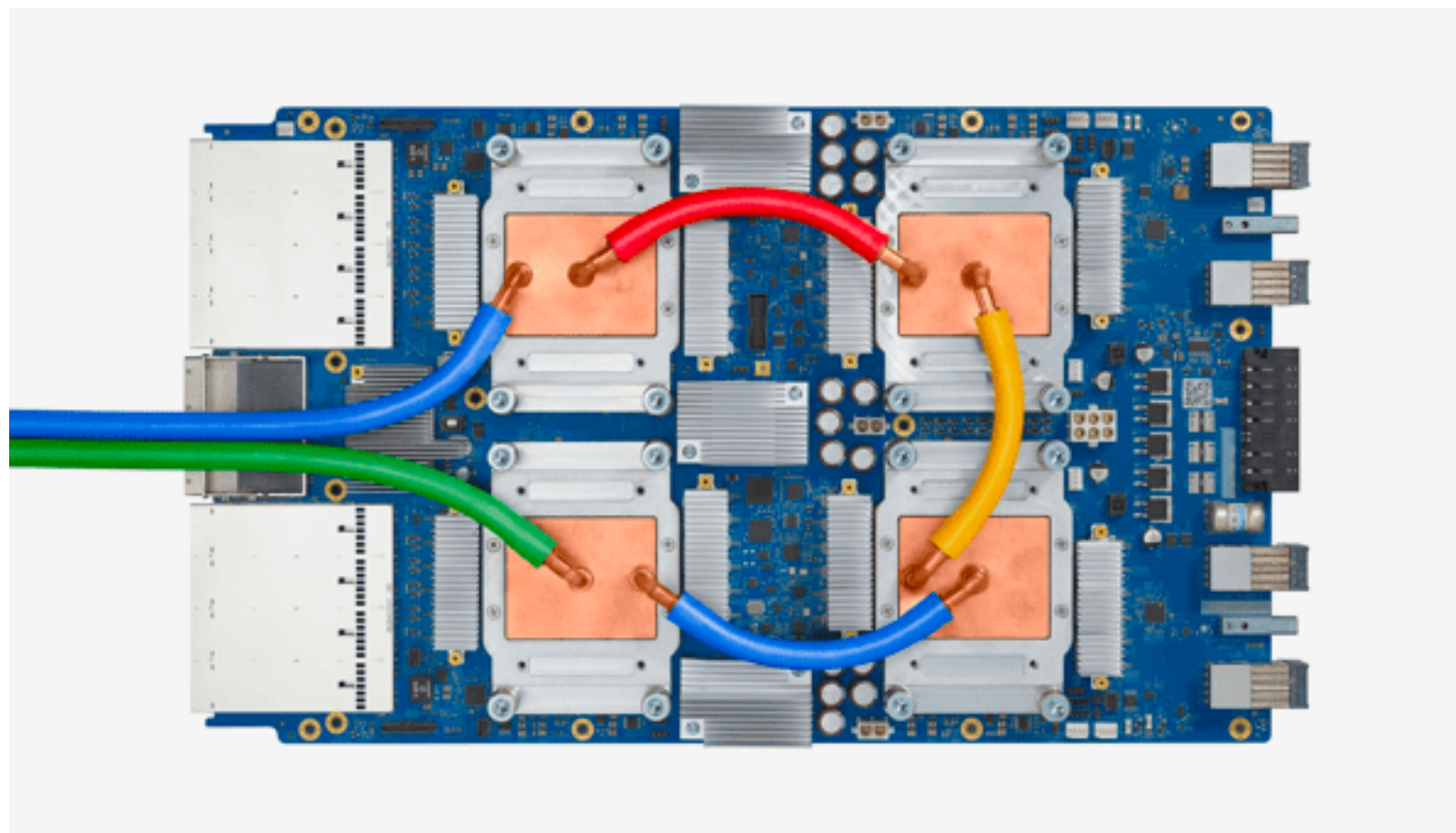
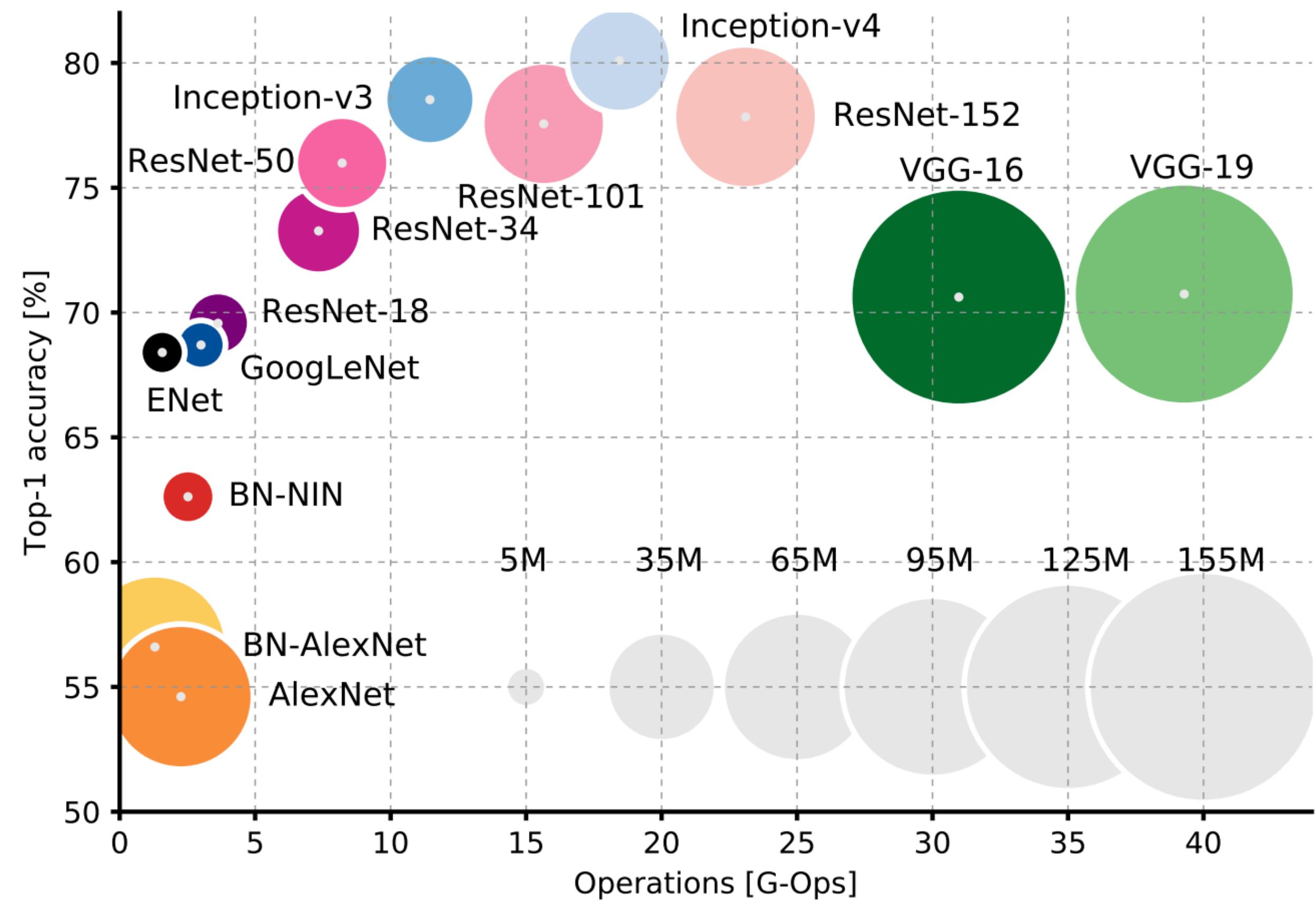
CRISP

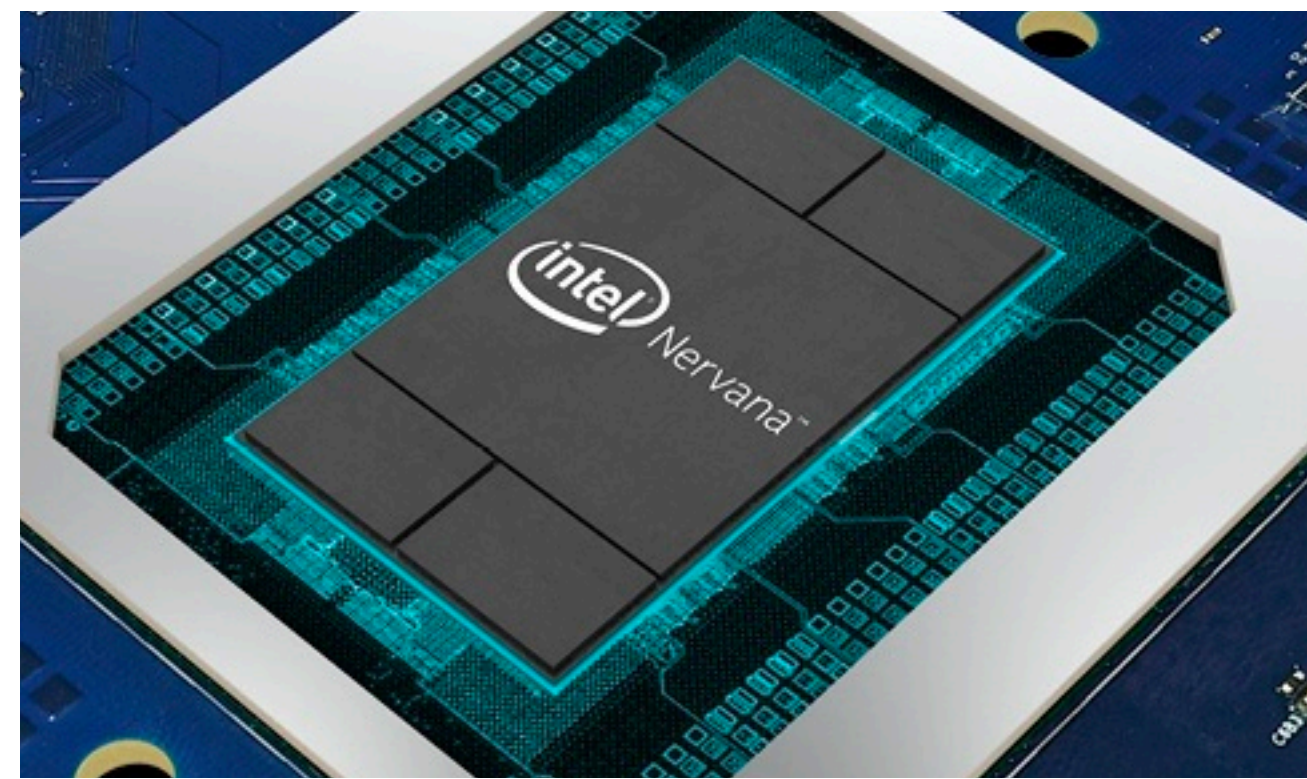
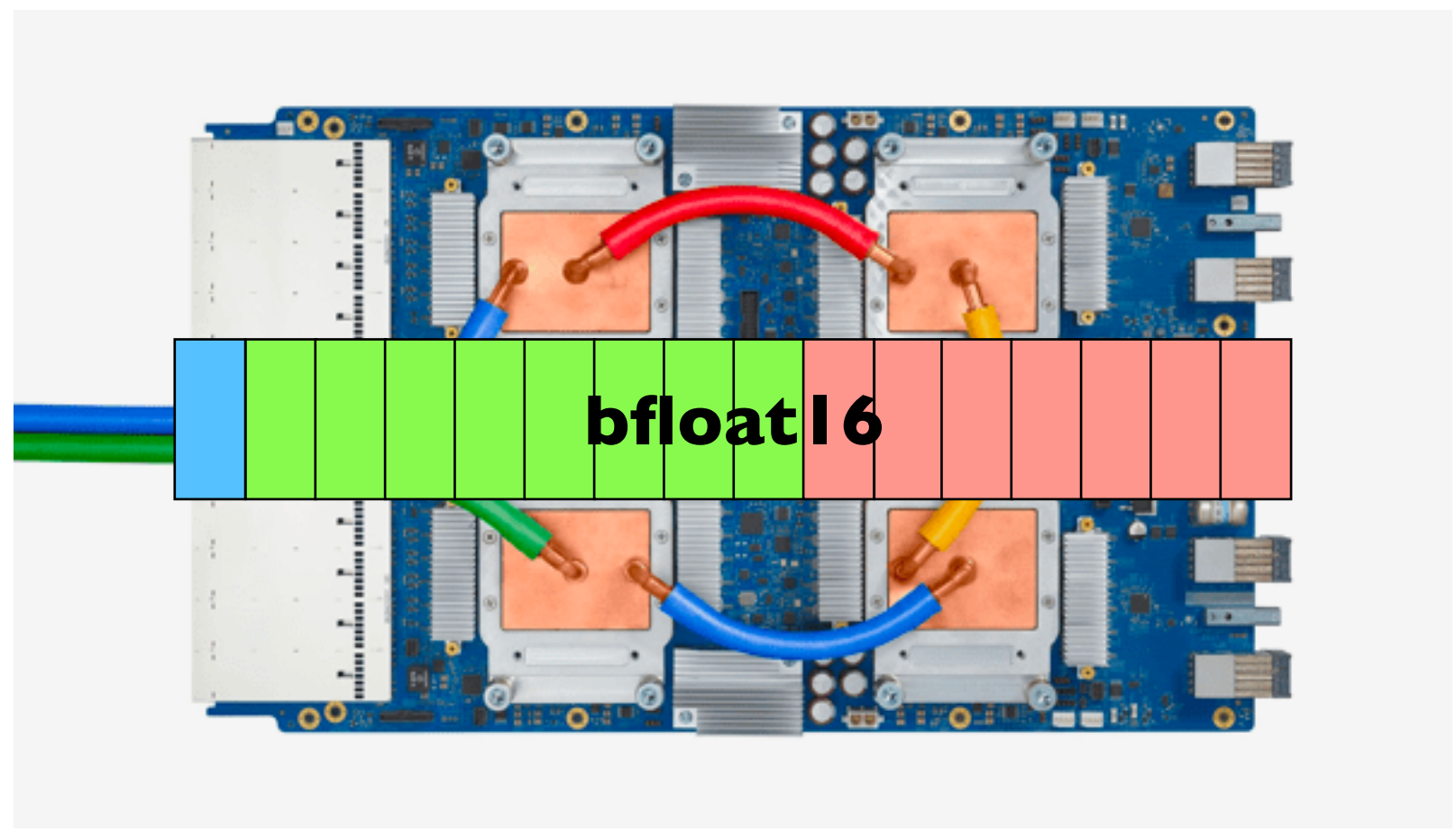
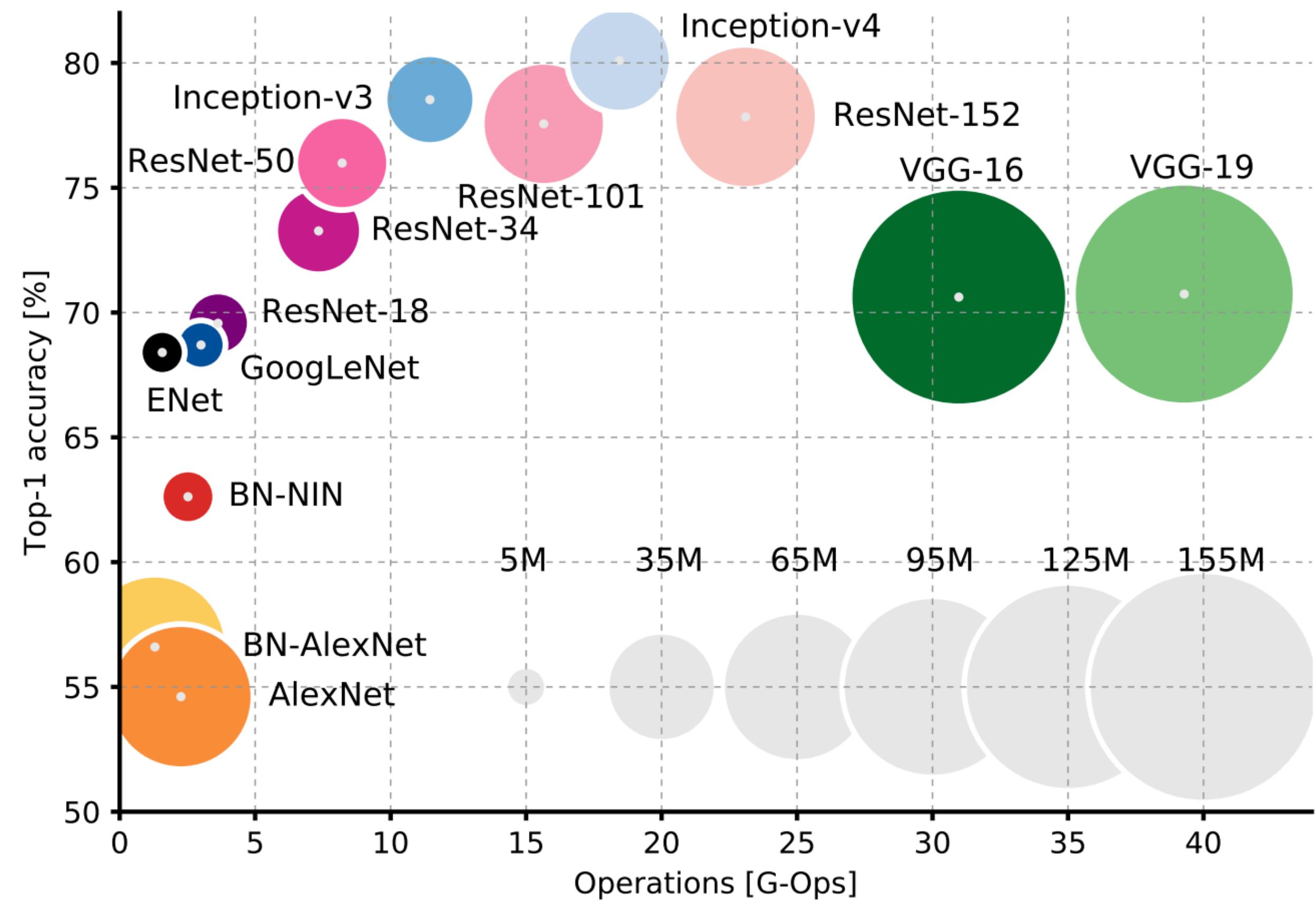
Center for Research in Intelligent
Storage and Processing in Memory

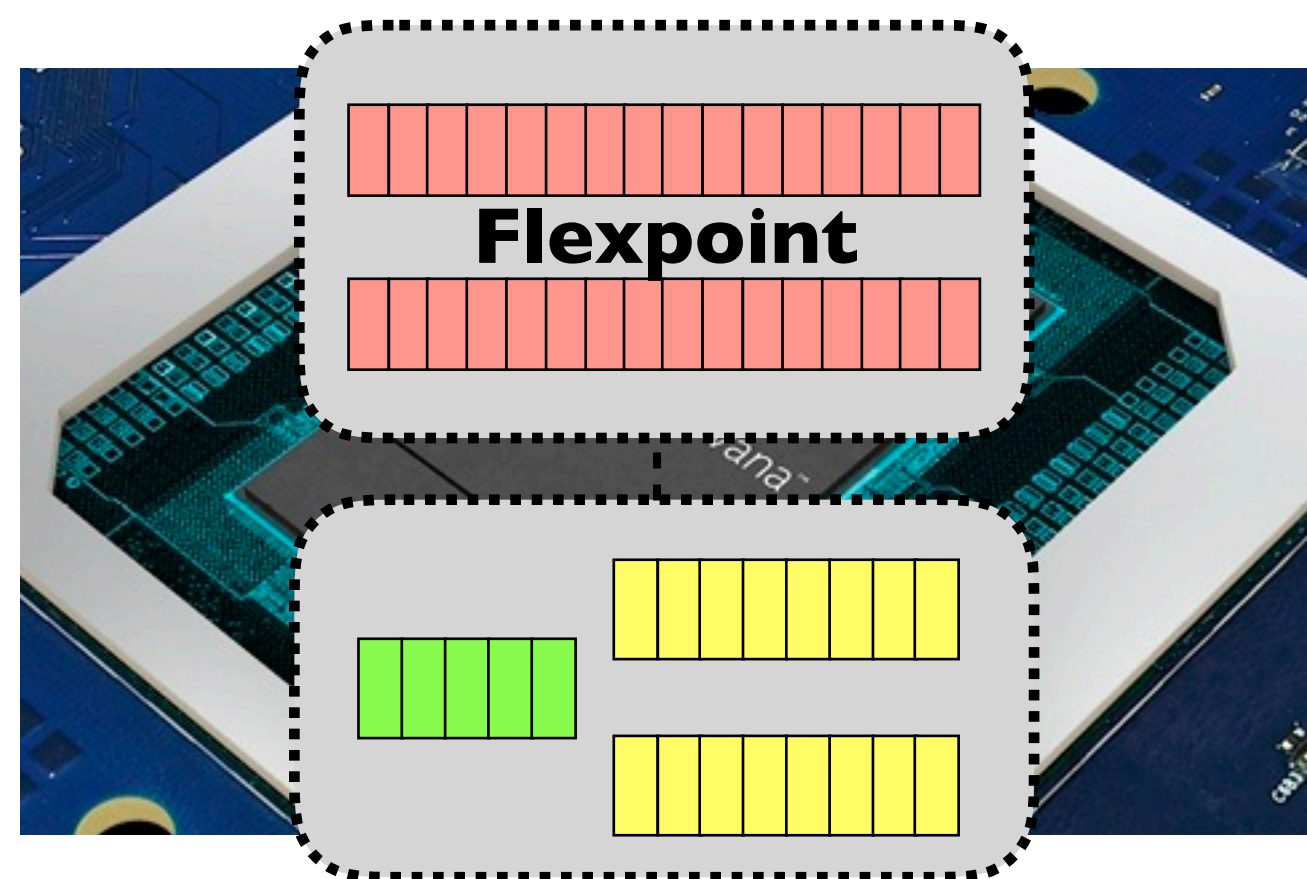
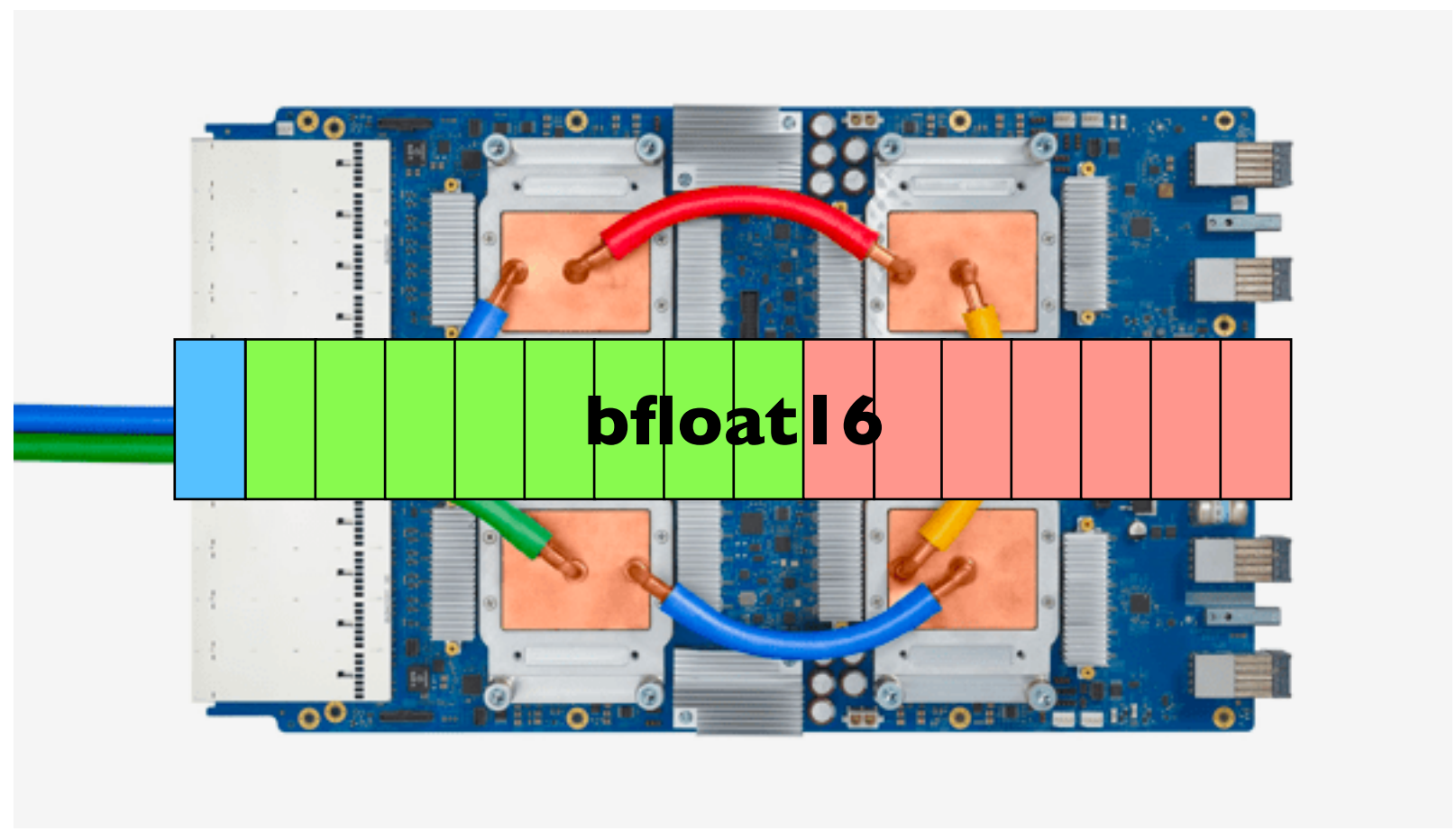
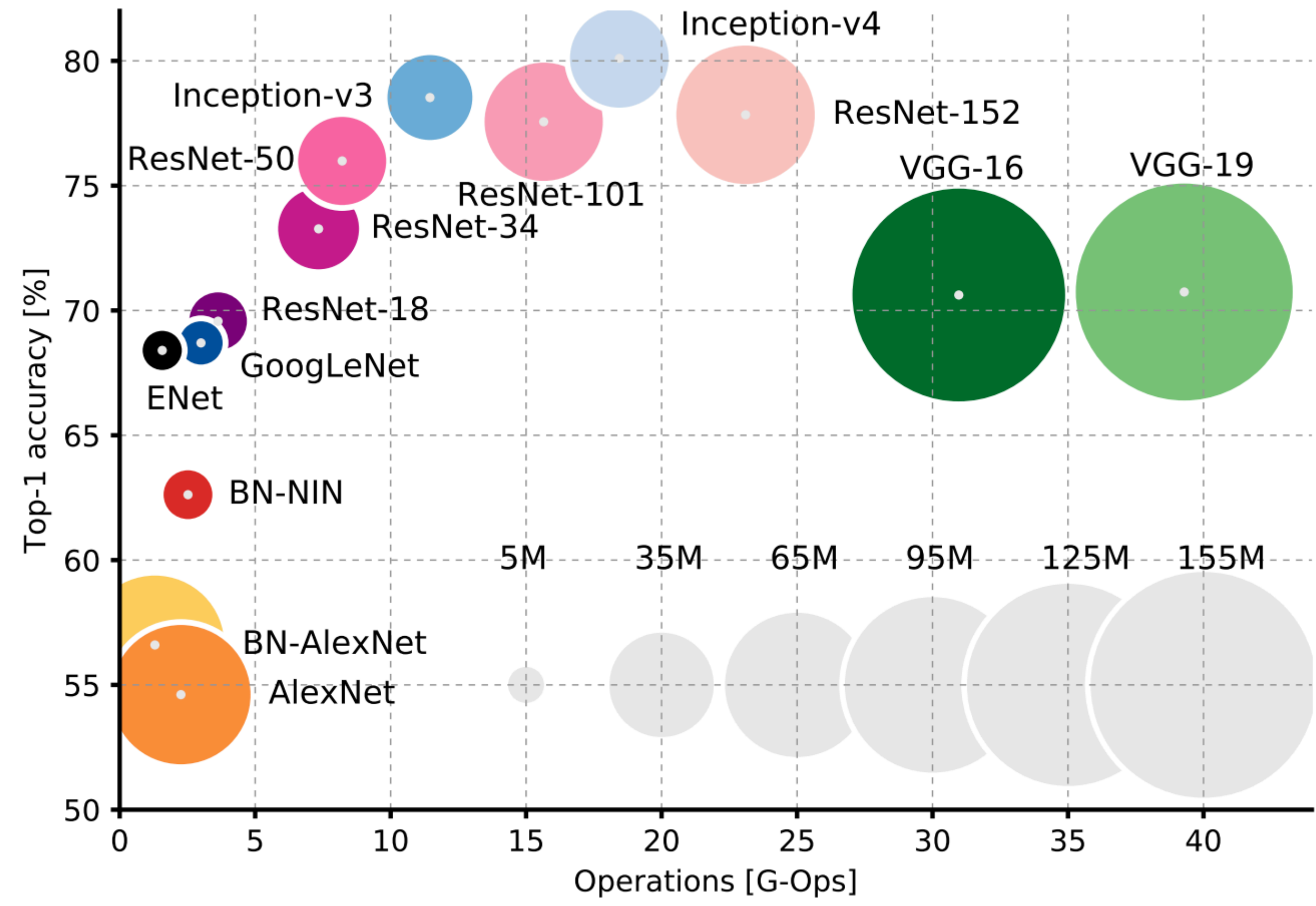












Deep learning needs extreme hardware specialization, and hardware specialization needs new datatypes.

Background

Background

What is TVM?

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What do we mean by datatypes?

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What do new datatypes look like?

What is TVM?



What is TVM?



An **extensible, optimizing compiler** for deep learning.

What is TVM?

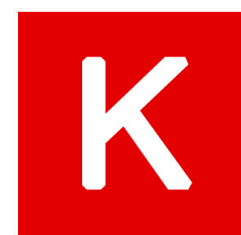
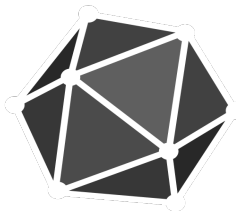
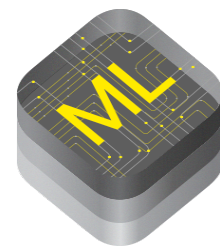


An **extensible, optimizing compiler** for deep learning.

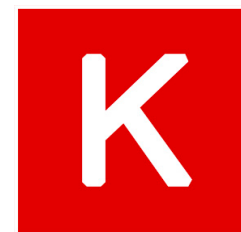
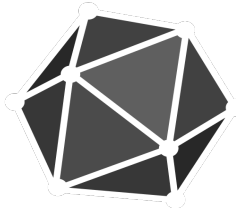
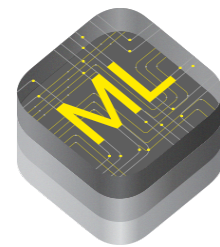
See tvm.ai for more info!

The TVM Stack

The TVM Stack



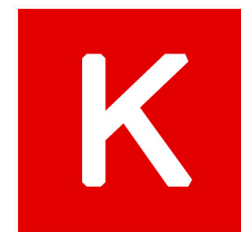
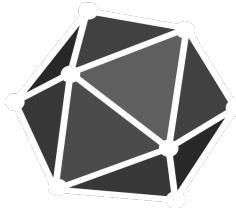
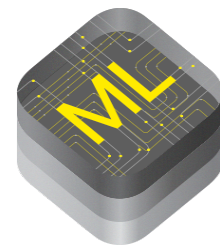
The TVM Stack



High-Level Differentiable IR

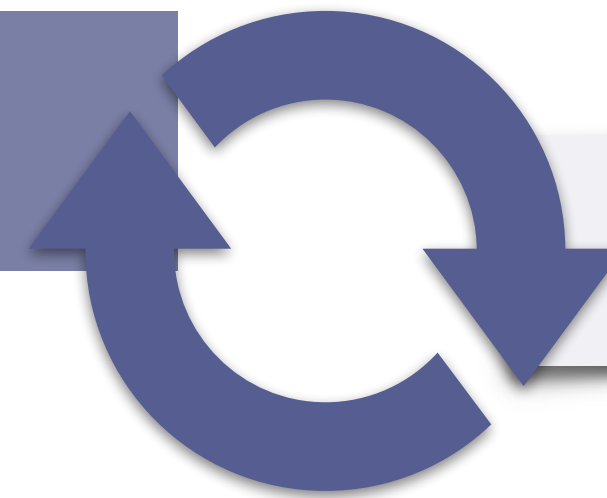
Tensor Expression IR

The TVM Stack



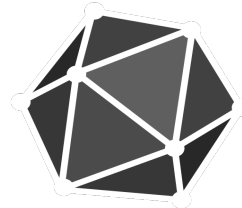
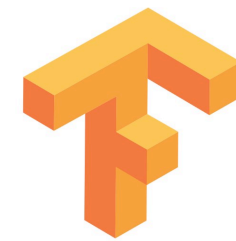
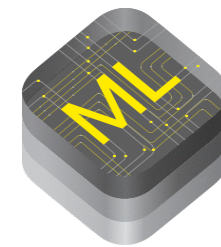
High-Level Differentiable IR

Tensor Expression IR



Optimization

The TVM Stack

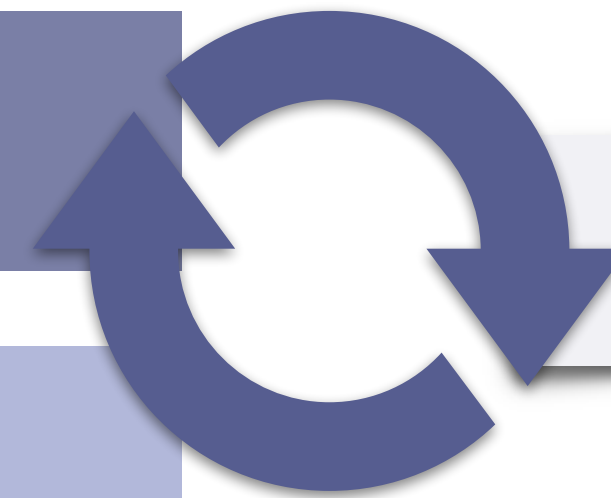


High-Level Differentiable IR

Tensor Expression IR

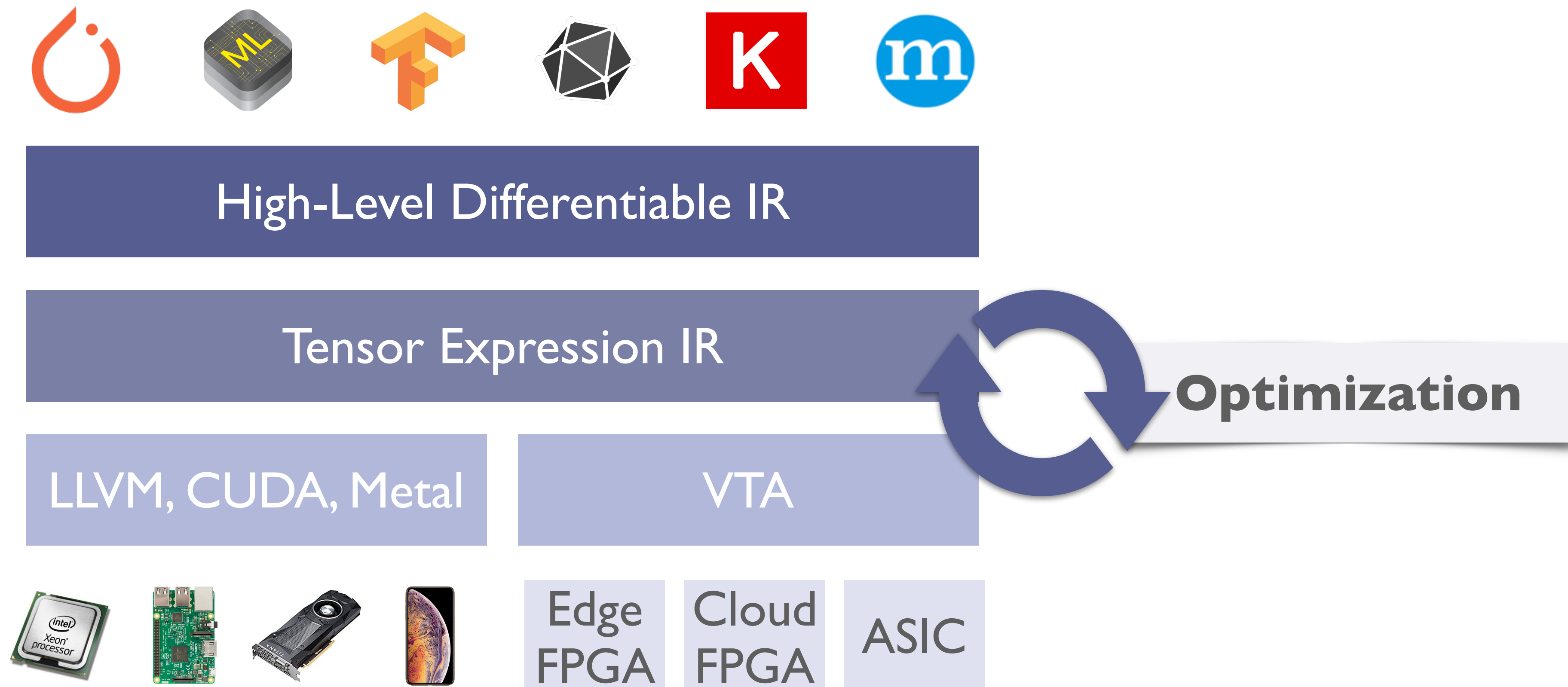
LLVM, CUDA, Metal

VTA



Optimization

The TVM Stack



Vector Add in TVM

Vector Add in TVM

```
import tvn  
import topi  
import numpy as np
```


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Vector Add in TVM

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X = tvn.placeholder(shape=(3, ))  
Y = tvn.placeholder(shape=(3, ))
```

Vector Add in TVM

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import numpy as np
```

```
X = tvn.placeholder(shape=(3, ))  
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Z = topi.add(X, Y)
```


Vector Add in TVM

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Y = tvn.placeholder(shape=(3, ))
Z = topi.add(X, Y)

schedule = tvn.create_schedule([Z.op])
```

Vector Add in TVM

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Y = tvn.placeholder(shape=(3, ))
Z = topi.add(X, Y)

schedule = tvn.create_schedule([Z.op])
lowered_function = tvn.lower(schedule, [X, Y, Z])
```


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X = tvn.placeholder(shape=(3, ))
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Vector Add in TVM

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import tvm
import topi
import numpy as np

X = tvm.placeholder(shape=(3, ))
Y = tvm.placeholder(shape=(3, ))
Z = topi.add(X, Y)

schedule = tvm.create_schedule([Z.op])
lowered_function = tvm.lower(schedule, [X, Y, Z])
built_program = tvm.build(lowered_function)

x = tvm.nd.array(np.random.rand(3).astype("float32"))
y = tvm.nd.array(np.random.rand(3).astype("float32"))
```


Vector Add in TVM

```
import tvn
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X = tvn.placeholder(shape=(3, ))
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z = tvn.nd.empty((3, ))
```


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import tvm
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built_program(x, y, z)
```

Vector Add in TVM

```
import tvml  
import topi  
import numpy as np
```

```
X = tvml.placeholder(shape=(3, ))  
Y = tvml.placeholder(shape=(3, ))  
Z = topi.add(X, Y)
```

```
schedule = tvml.create_schedule([Z.op])  
lowered_function = tvml.lower(schedule, [X, Y, Z])  
built_program = tvml.build(lowered_function)
```

```
x = tvml.nd.array(np.random.rand(3).astype("float32"))  
y = tvml.nd.array(np.random.rand(3).astype("float32"))  
z = tvml.nd.empty((3, ))
```

```
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```

```
x: [0.5727742  0.16838571 0.9647888 ]  
y: [0.75005066 0.12305858 0.9467064 ]  
z: [1.3228248 0.2914443 1.9114952]
```


What do we mean by “datatypes”?

What do we mean by “datatypes”?

Numerical datatypes: how the hardware represents real numbers

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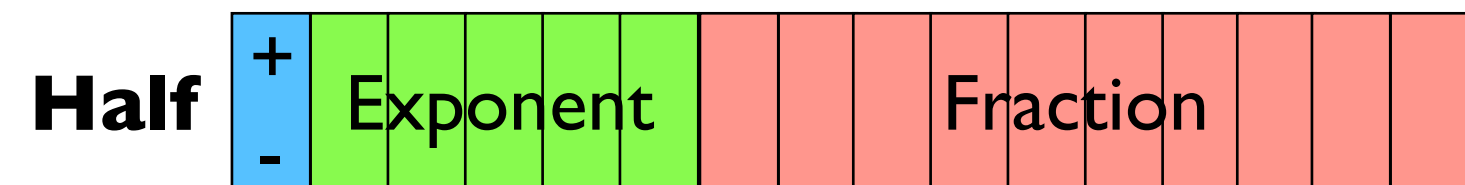
Numerical datatypes: how the hardware represents real numbers

In the past, this generally meant IEEE 754 floating point:

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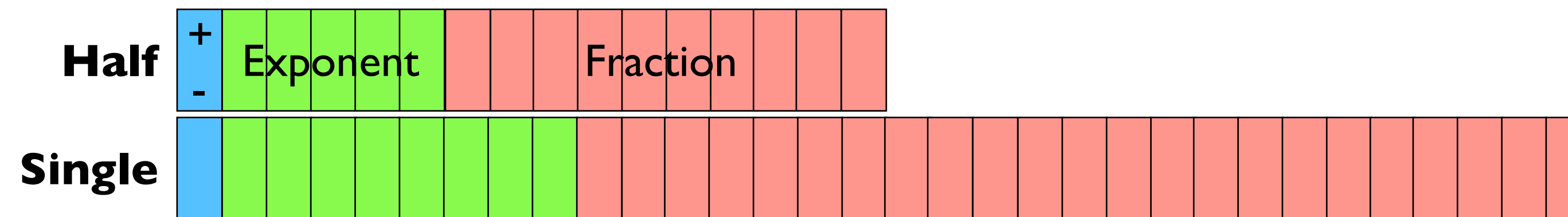
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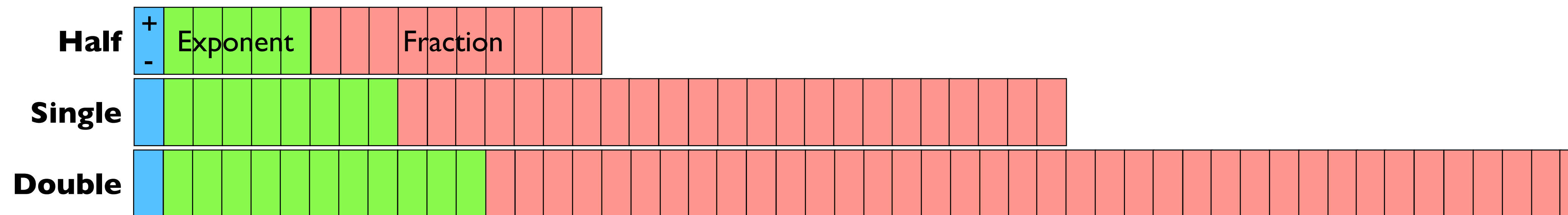
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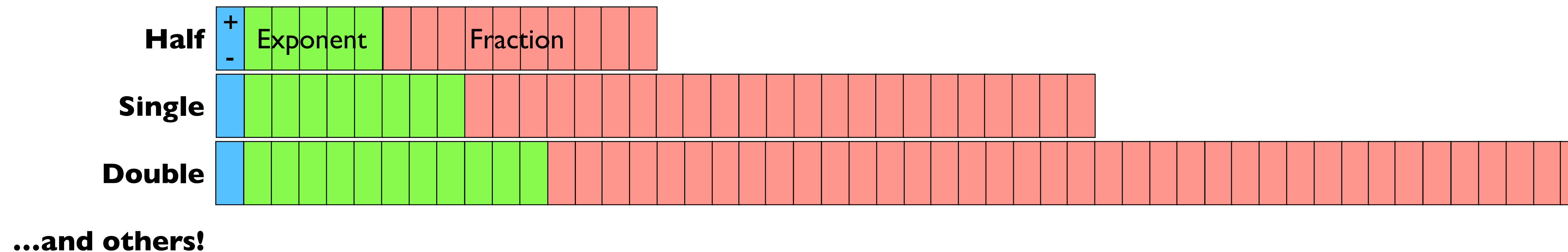
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Why do we need new datatypes?

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Because IEEE floats...

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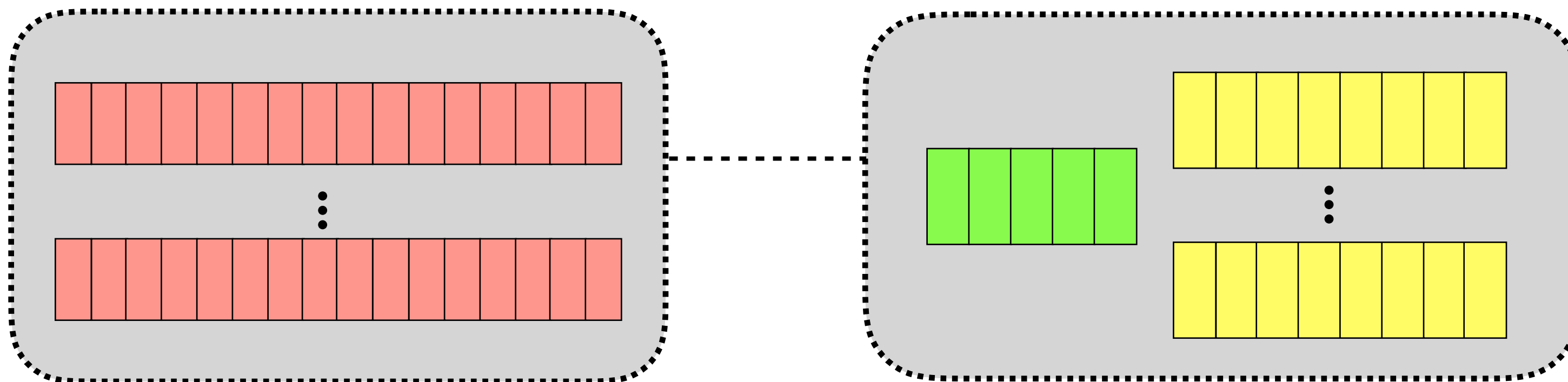
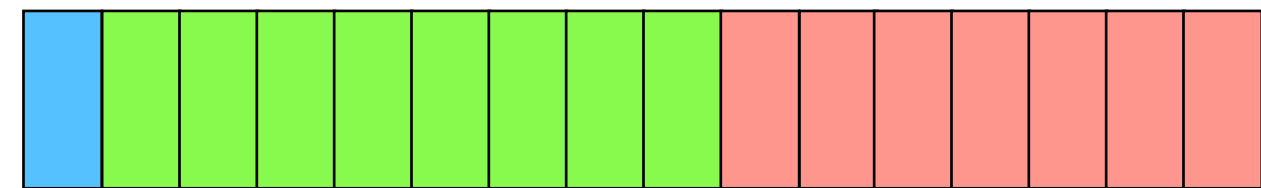
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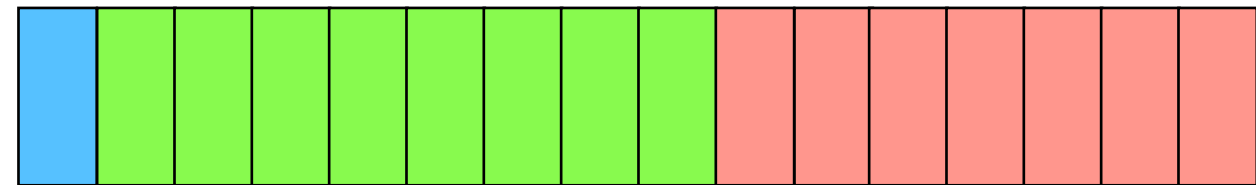
- take up too much space
- have poor dynamic range
- require overly-complex hardware
- create reproducibility issues

What do new datatypes look like?



What do new datatypes look like?

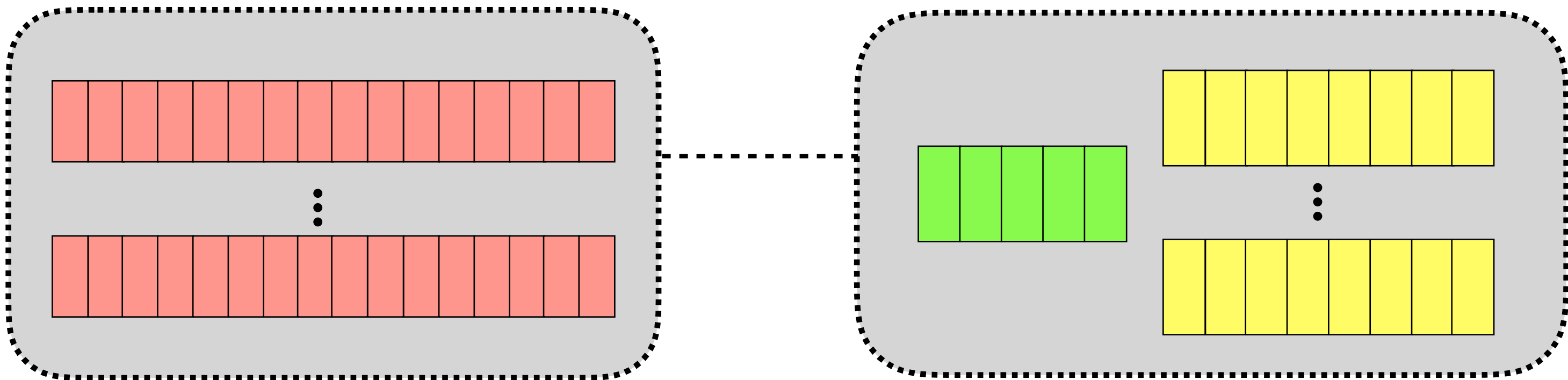
bfloat16



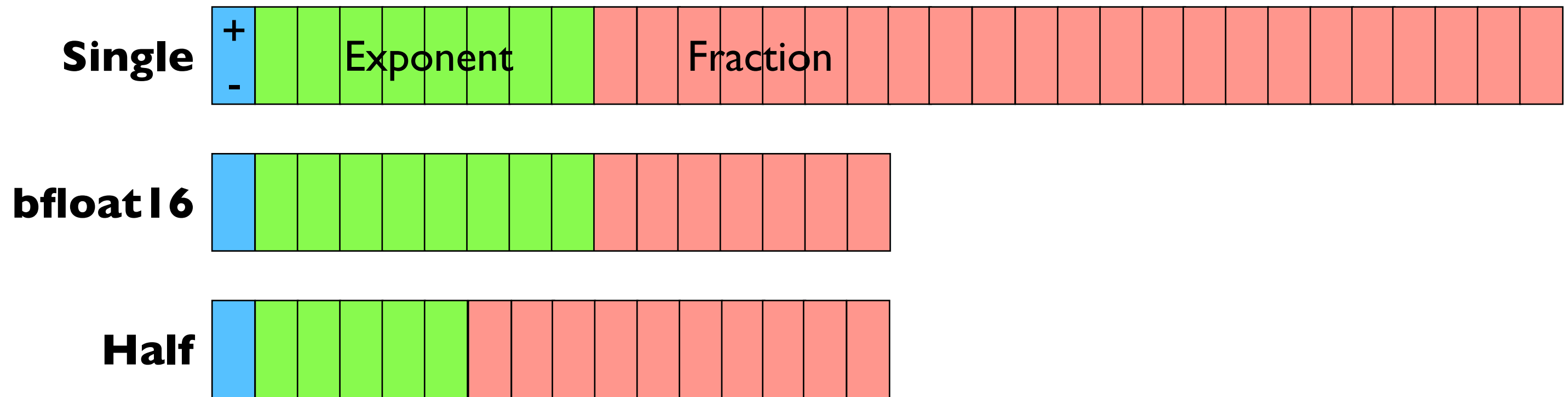
Posit, $n = 16$, $es = 2$



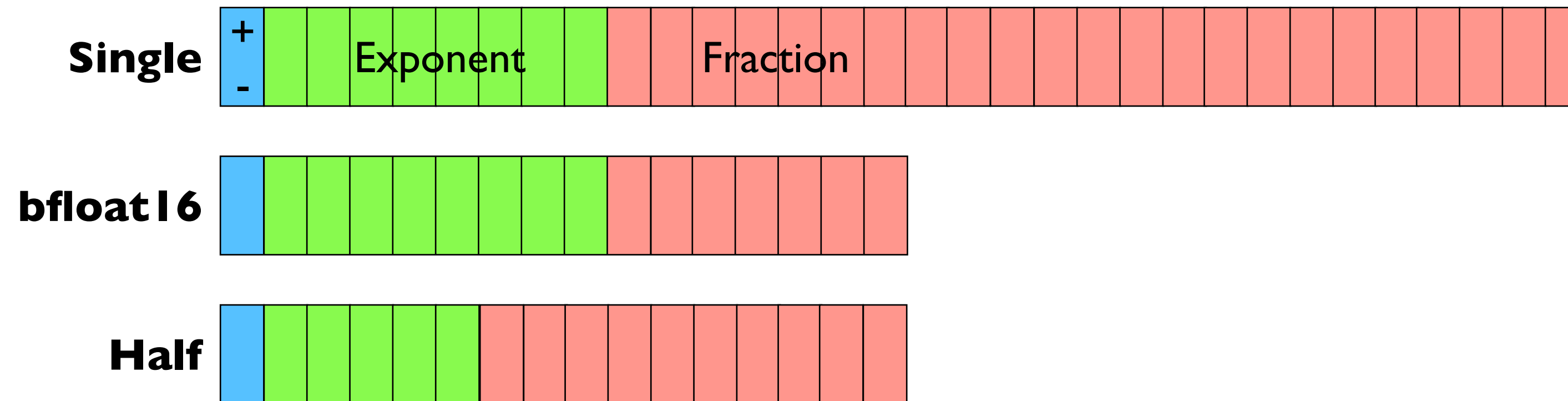
Flexpoint



bfloat16

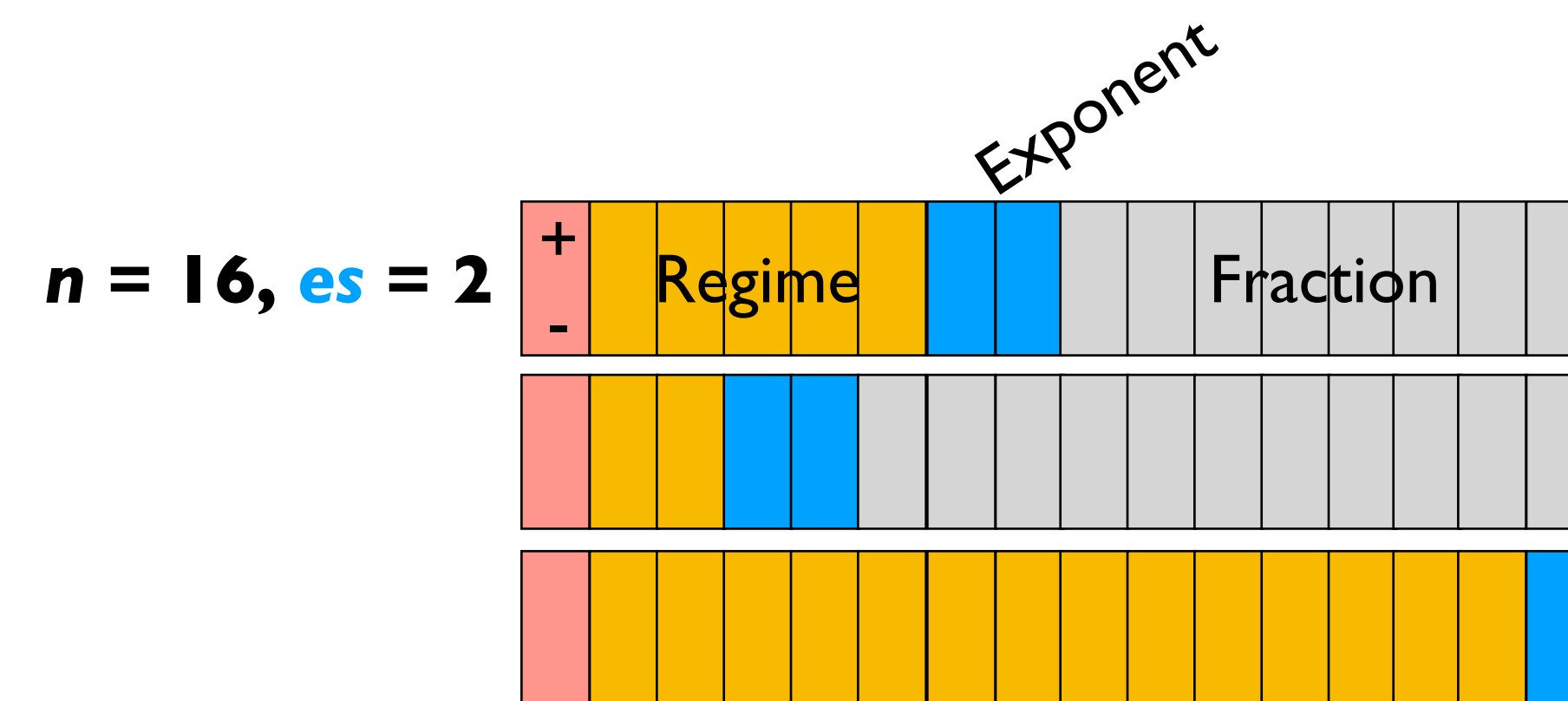


bfloat16

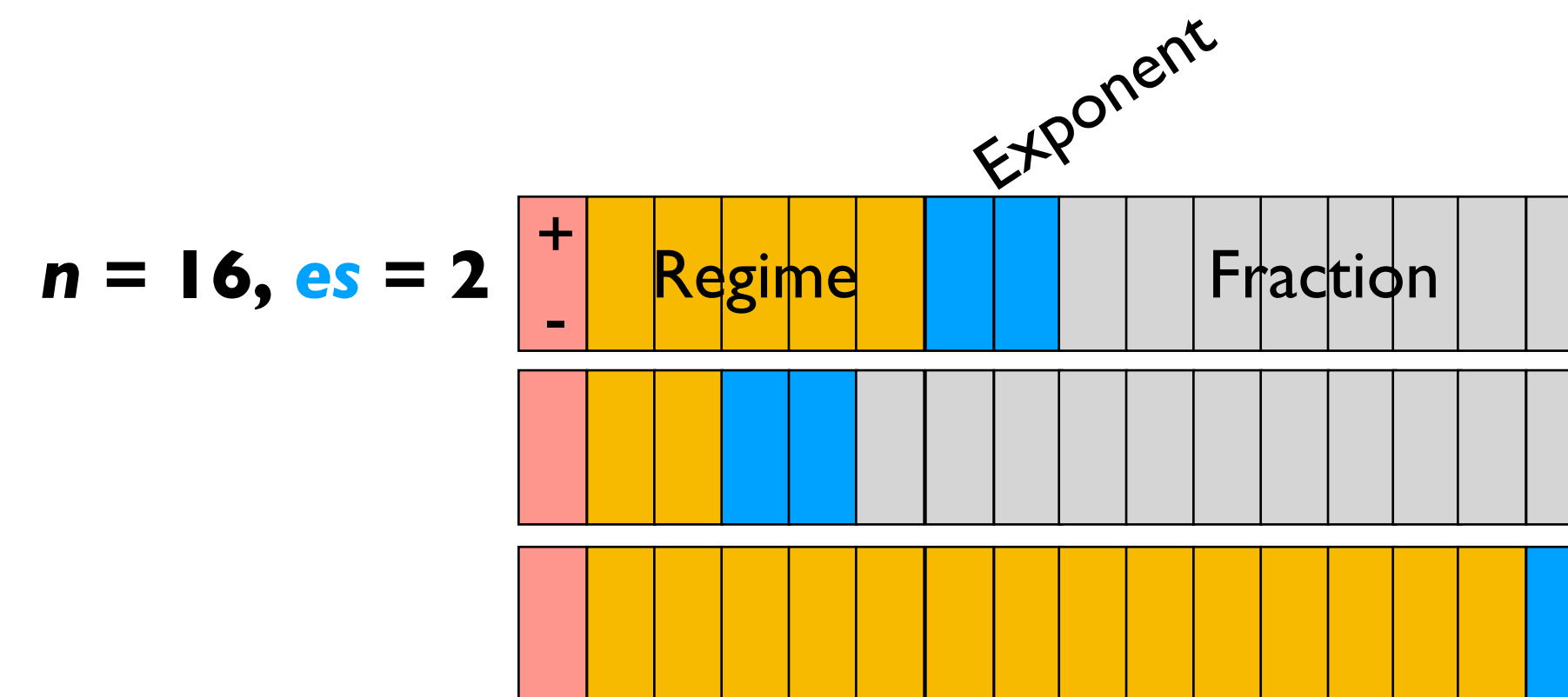


Greater dynamic range is more useful for deep learning workloads

Posits

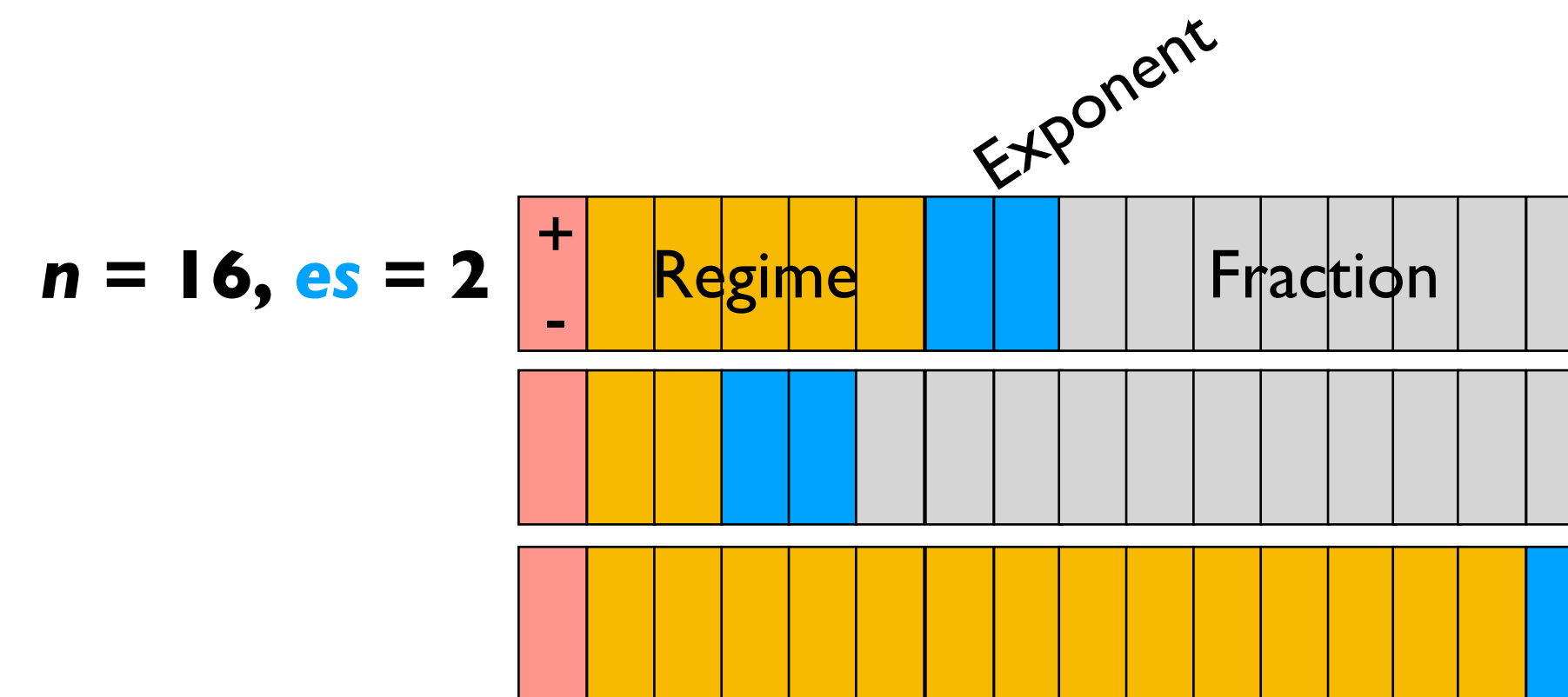


Posits



Posits use a variable-size **regime** field to add dynamic scaling: **regime** determines another multiplicative factor on the fraction

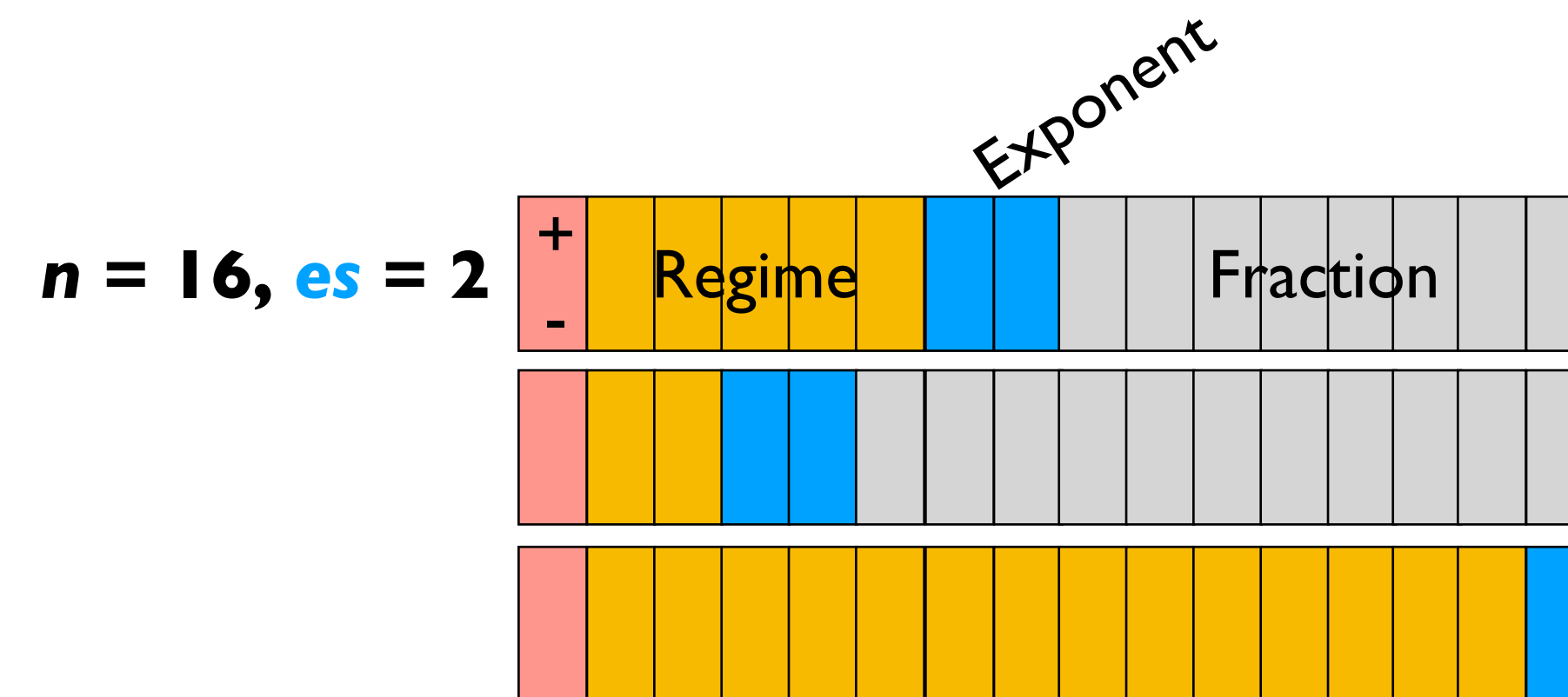
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Posits can have large dynamic range even down to 8 bits

Posits

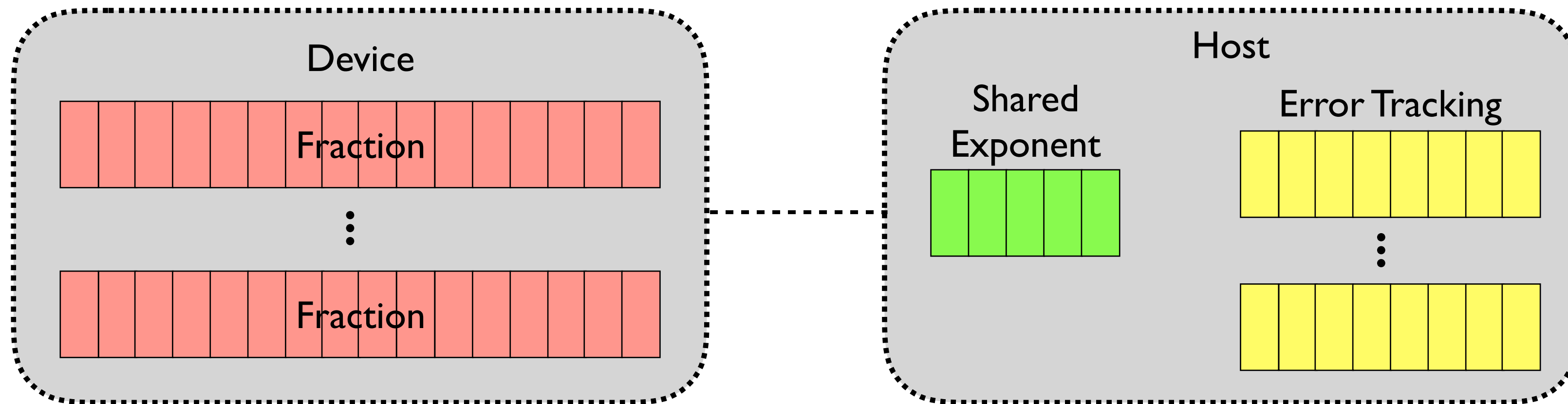


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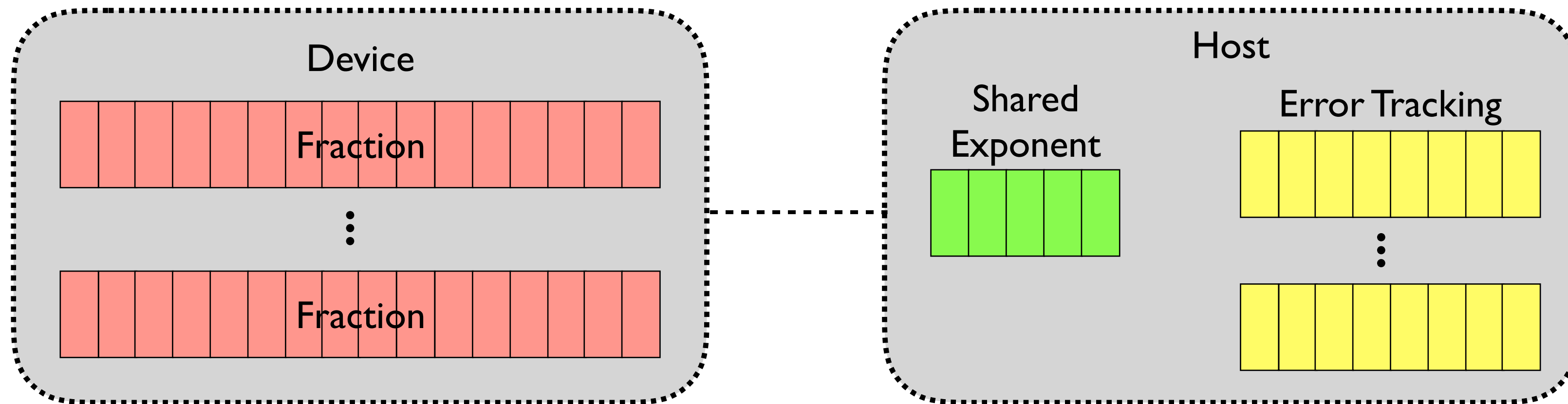
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See John Gustafson's [“Beating Floating Point at its Own Game”](#)

Flexpoint

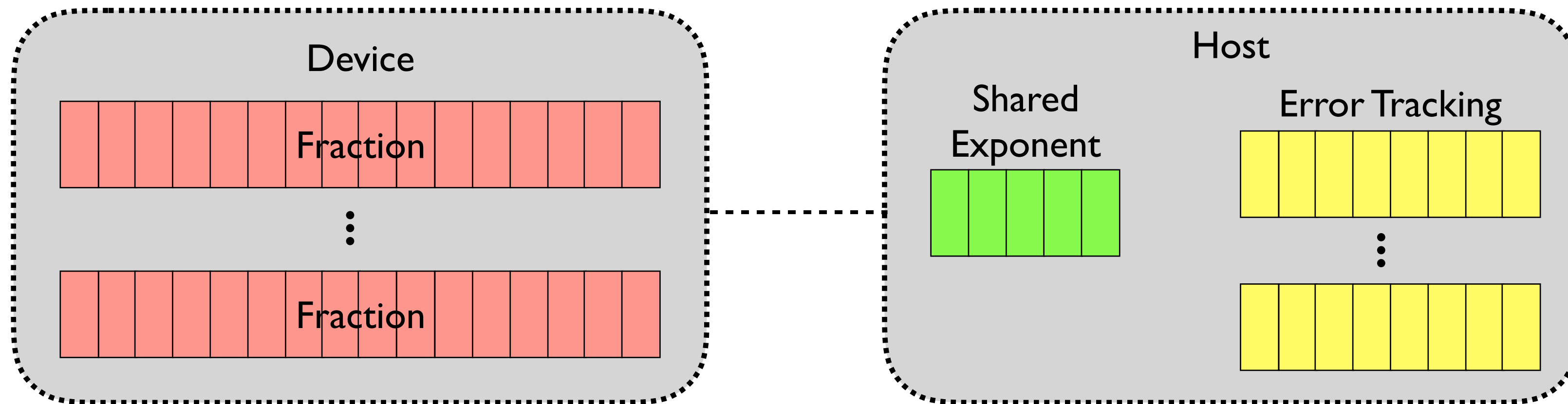


Flexpoint



Intel's format for their Nervana processor

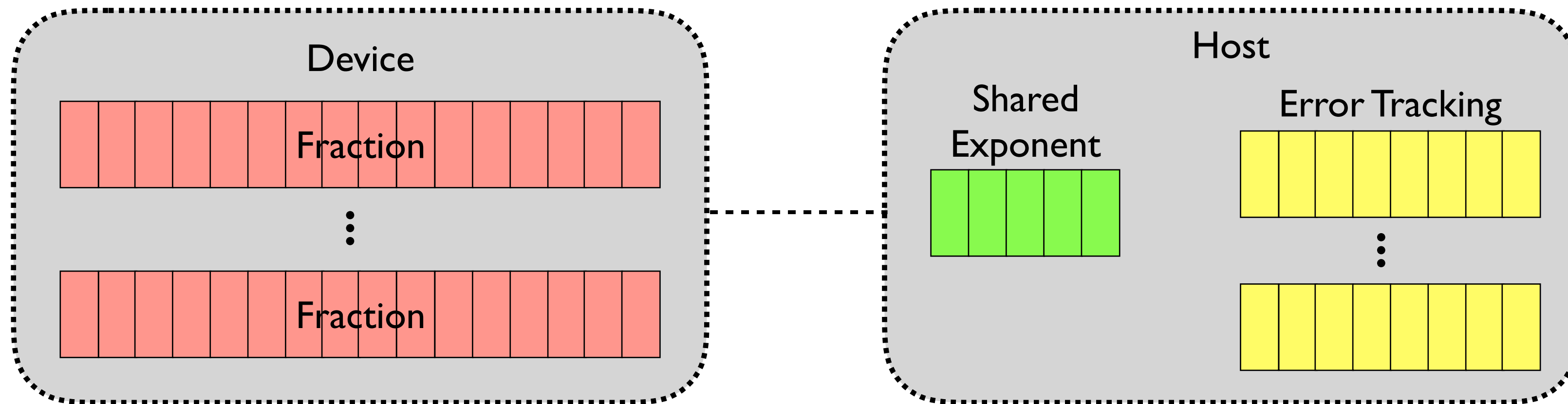
Flexpoint



Intel's format for their Nervana processor

Block floating point: a group of numbers share an exponent

Flexpoint

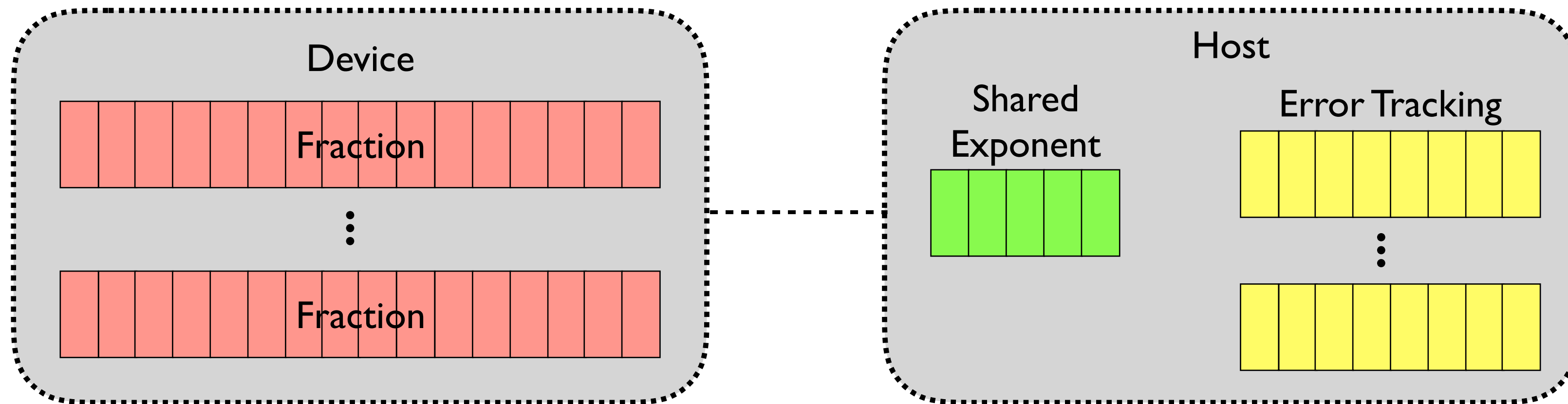


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Plus, they split the fields between host and device!

Flexpoint



Intel's format for their Nervana processor

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See Köster et. al., [“An Adaptive Numerical Format for Efficient Training of Deep Neural Networks”](#)

Deepfloat

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Taking inspiration from posits, but with many improvements

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E.g. some computation is done in the log space to reduce hardware complexity

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Table 3: Chip area and power for 28 nm, 1-cycle multiply-add at 500 MHz

Component	Area μm^2	Power μW
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See ["Rethinking Floating Point for Deep Learning"](#)

Bring Your Own Datatypes

How Datatype Research Works

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How Datatype Research Works

To prototype a hardware datatype, researchers will emulate the datatype in software by building a software library



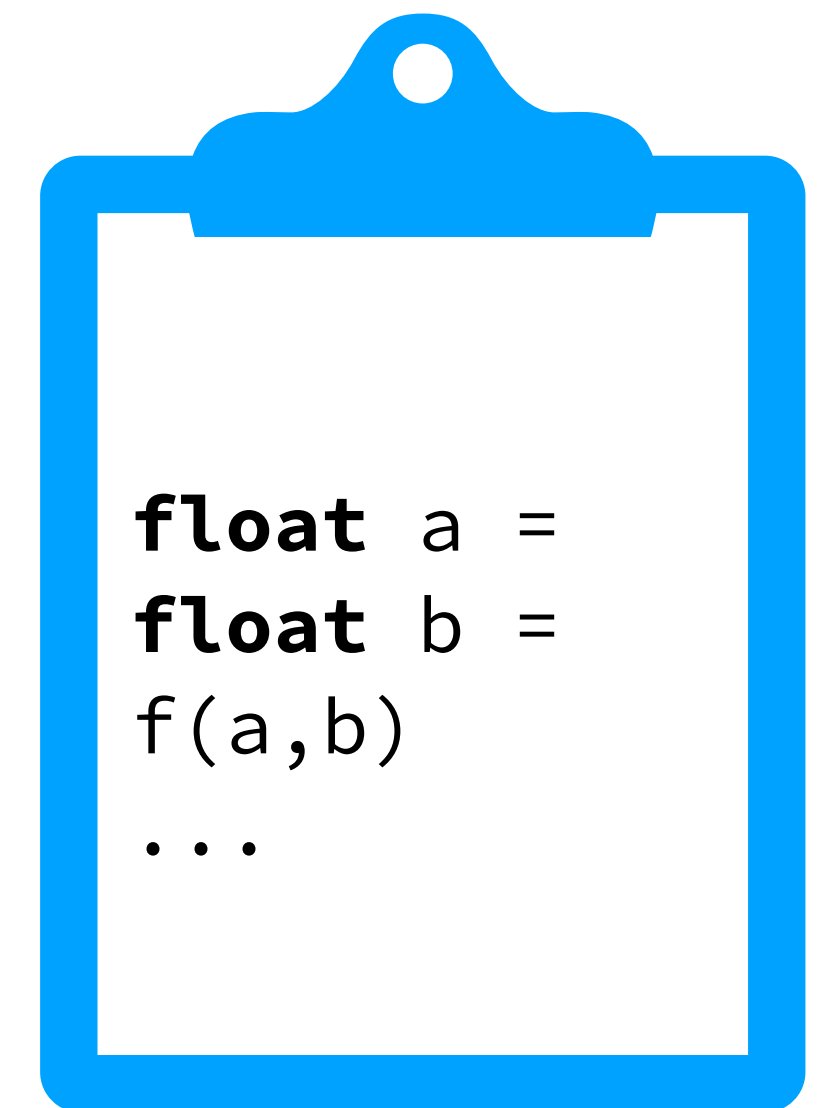
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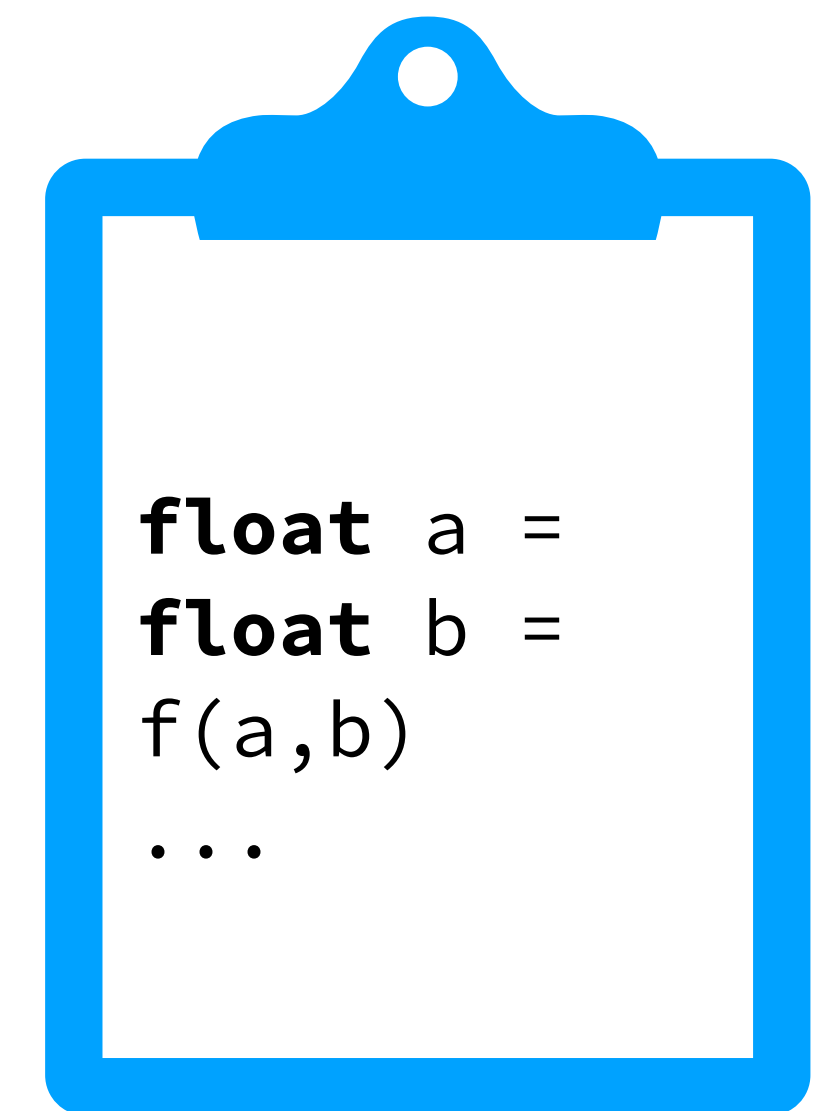
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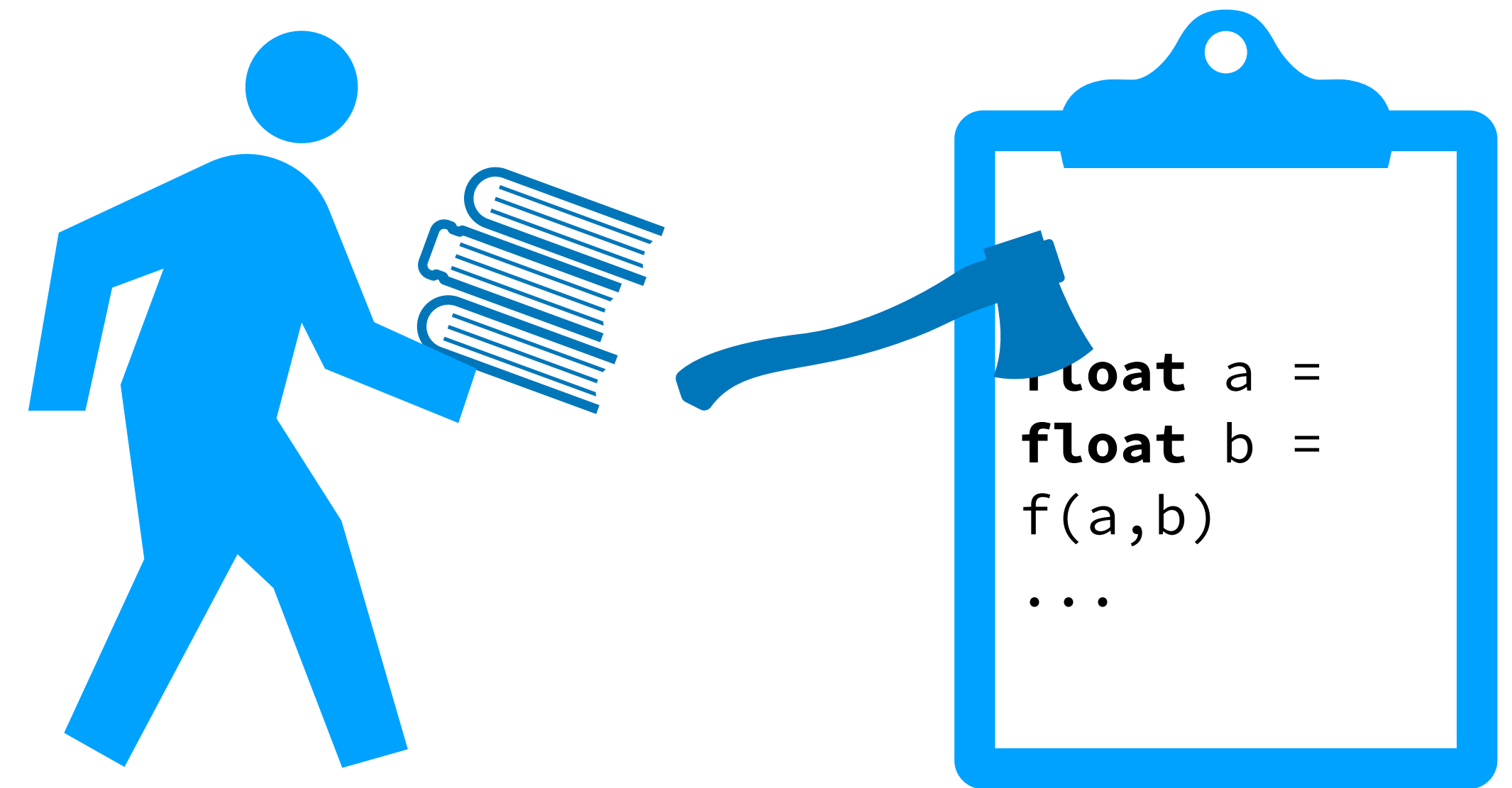
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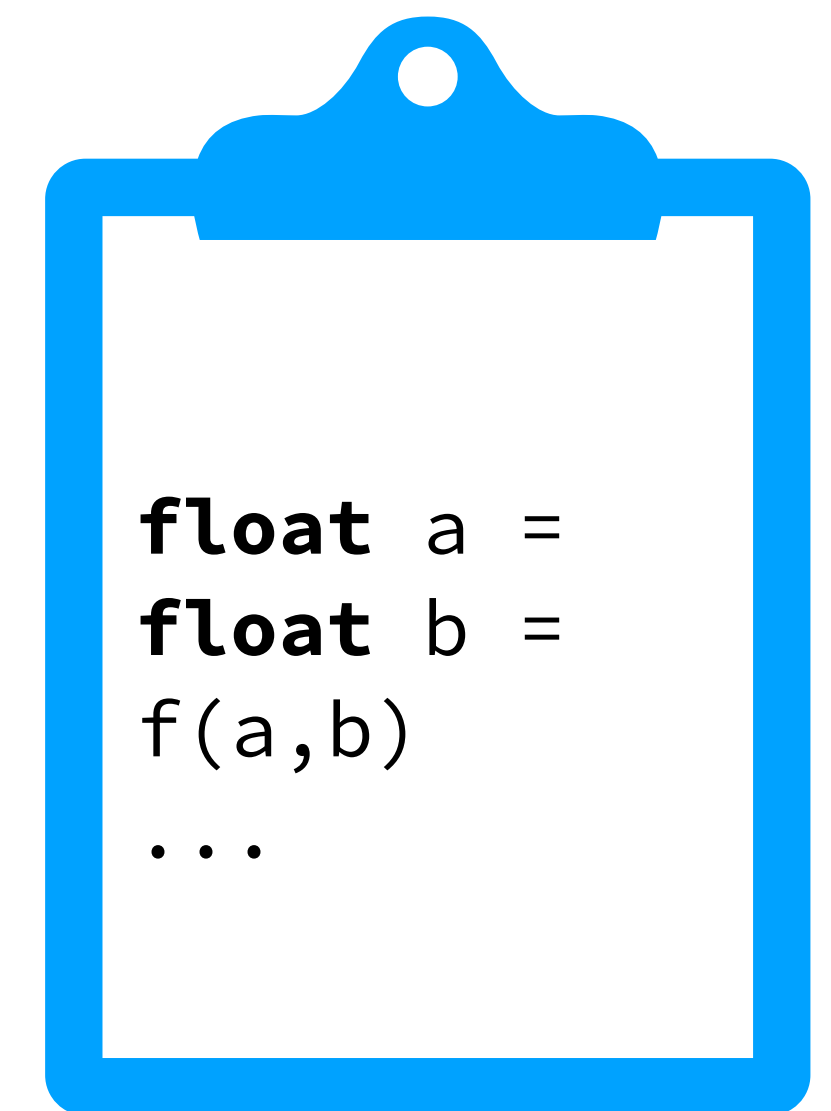
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How Datatype Research Works

To prototype a hardware datatype, researchers will emulate the datatype in software by building a software library

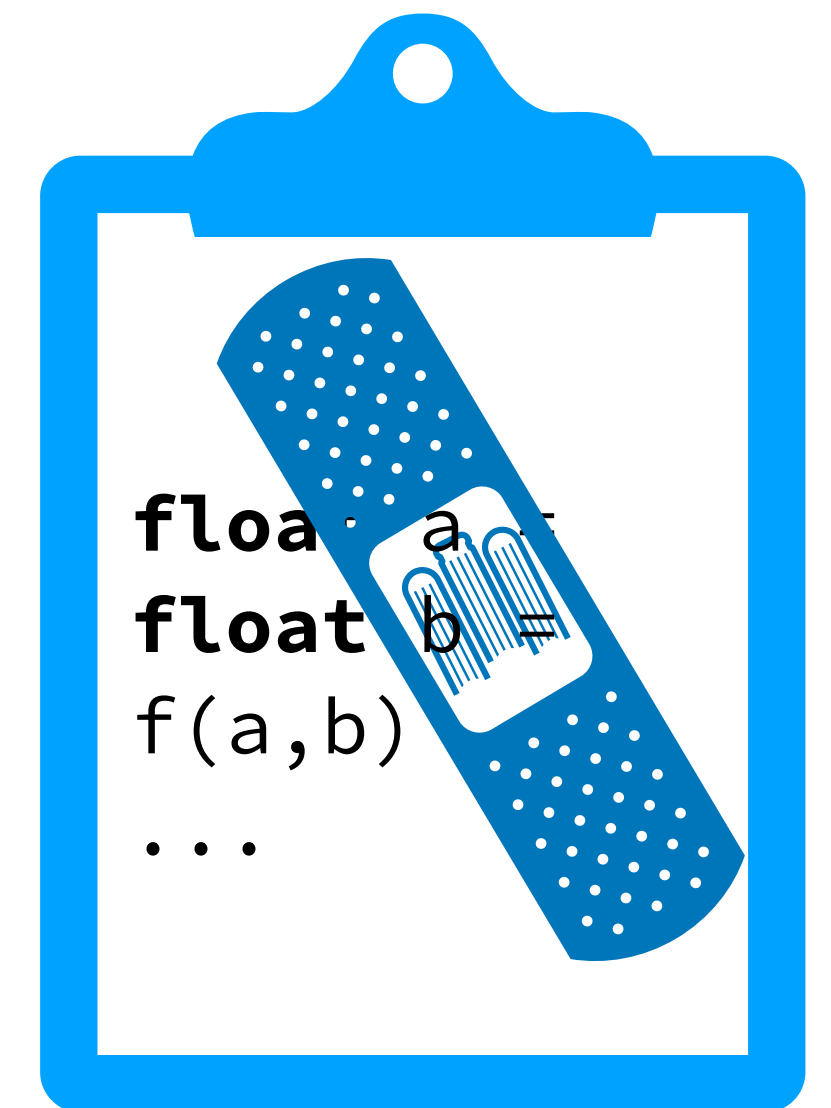
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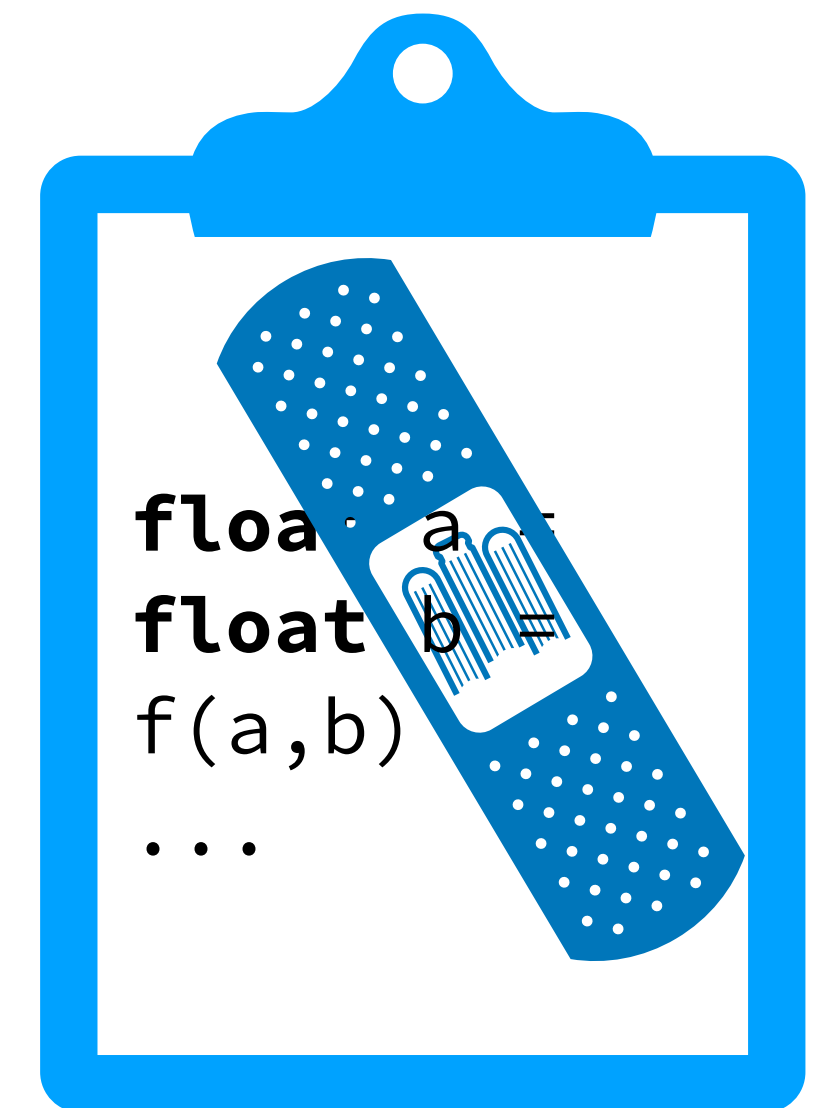


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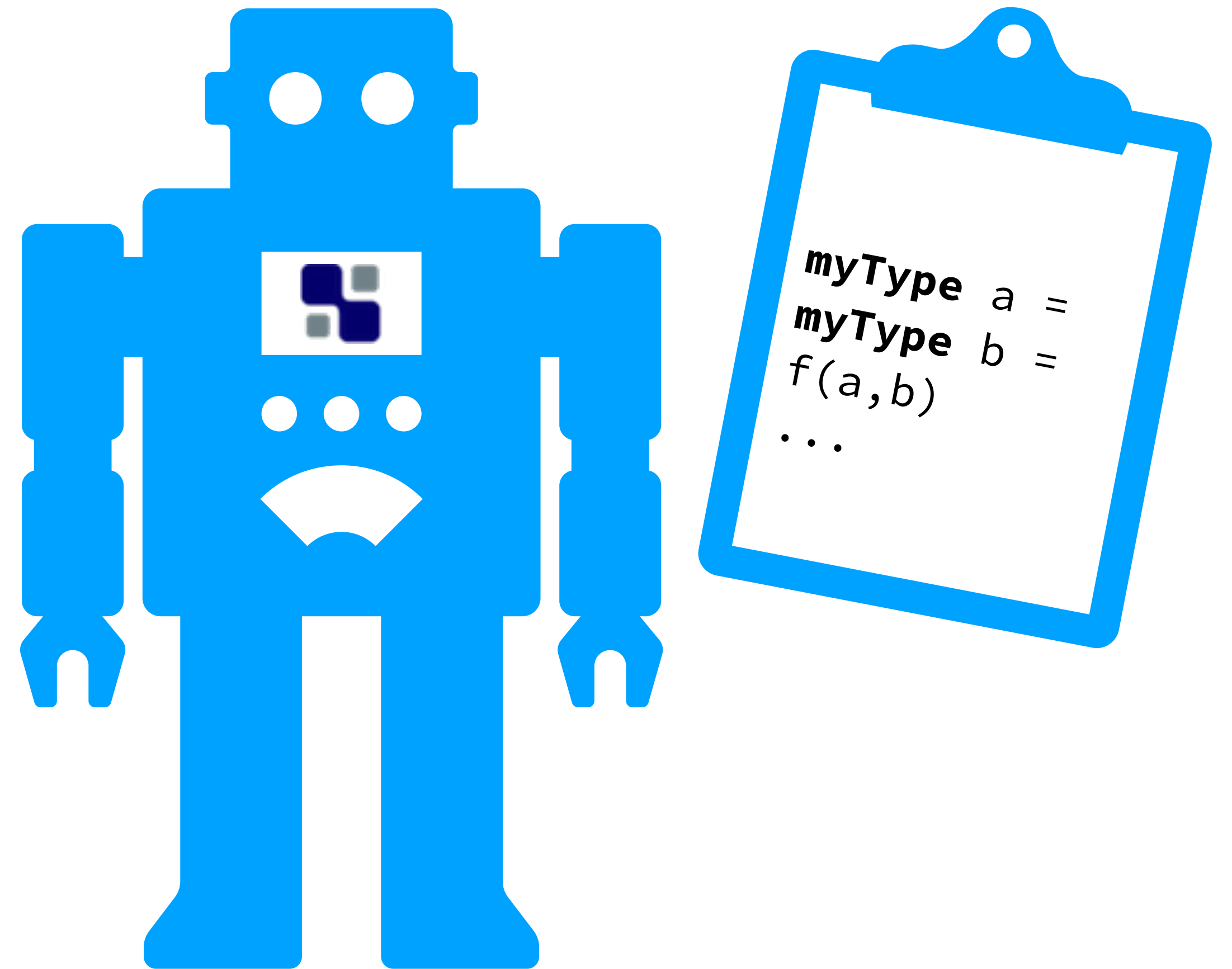
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Can we do better? Can we use TVM to compile workloads with new datatypes?

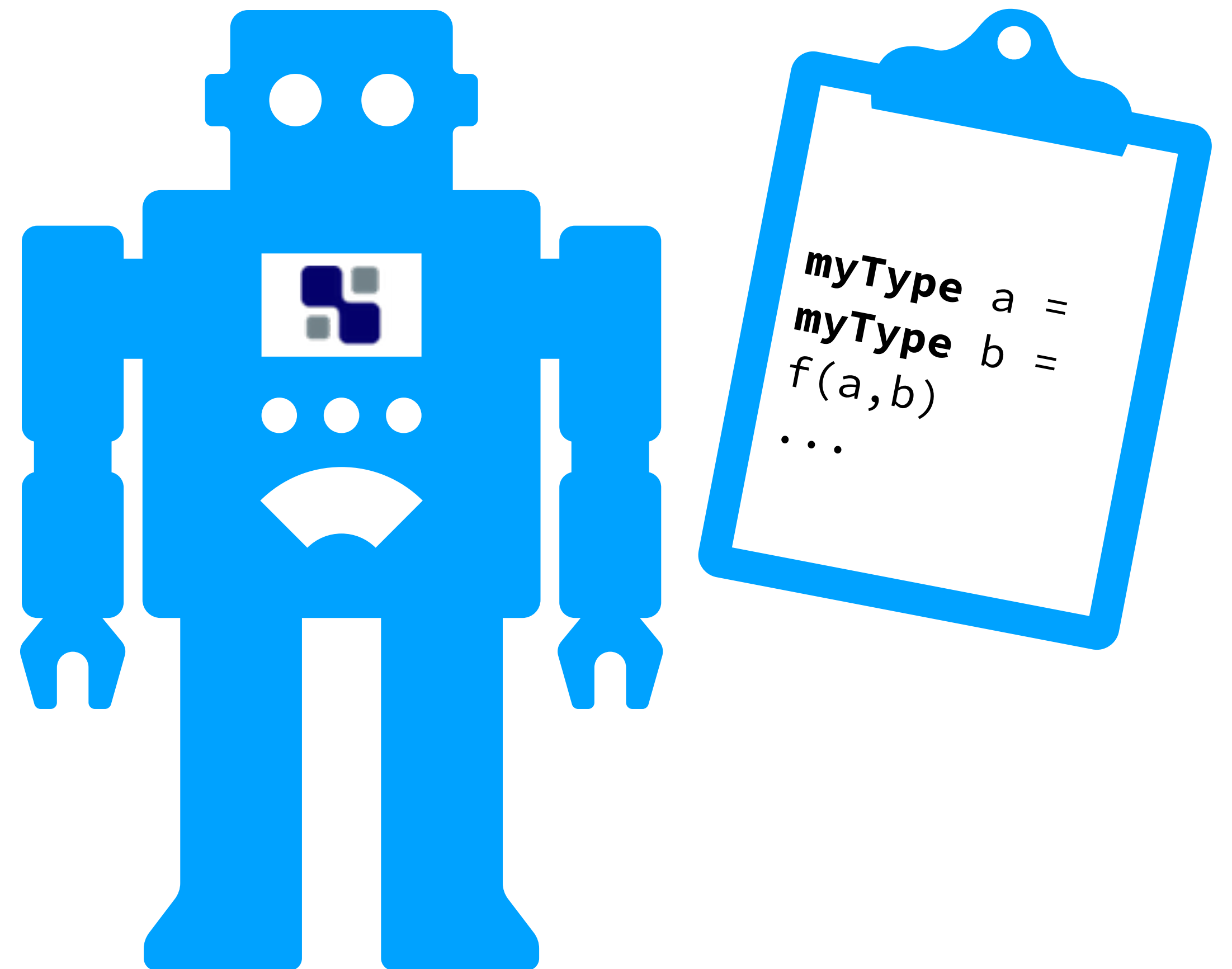


Supporting Datatype Research With TVM



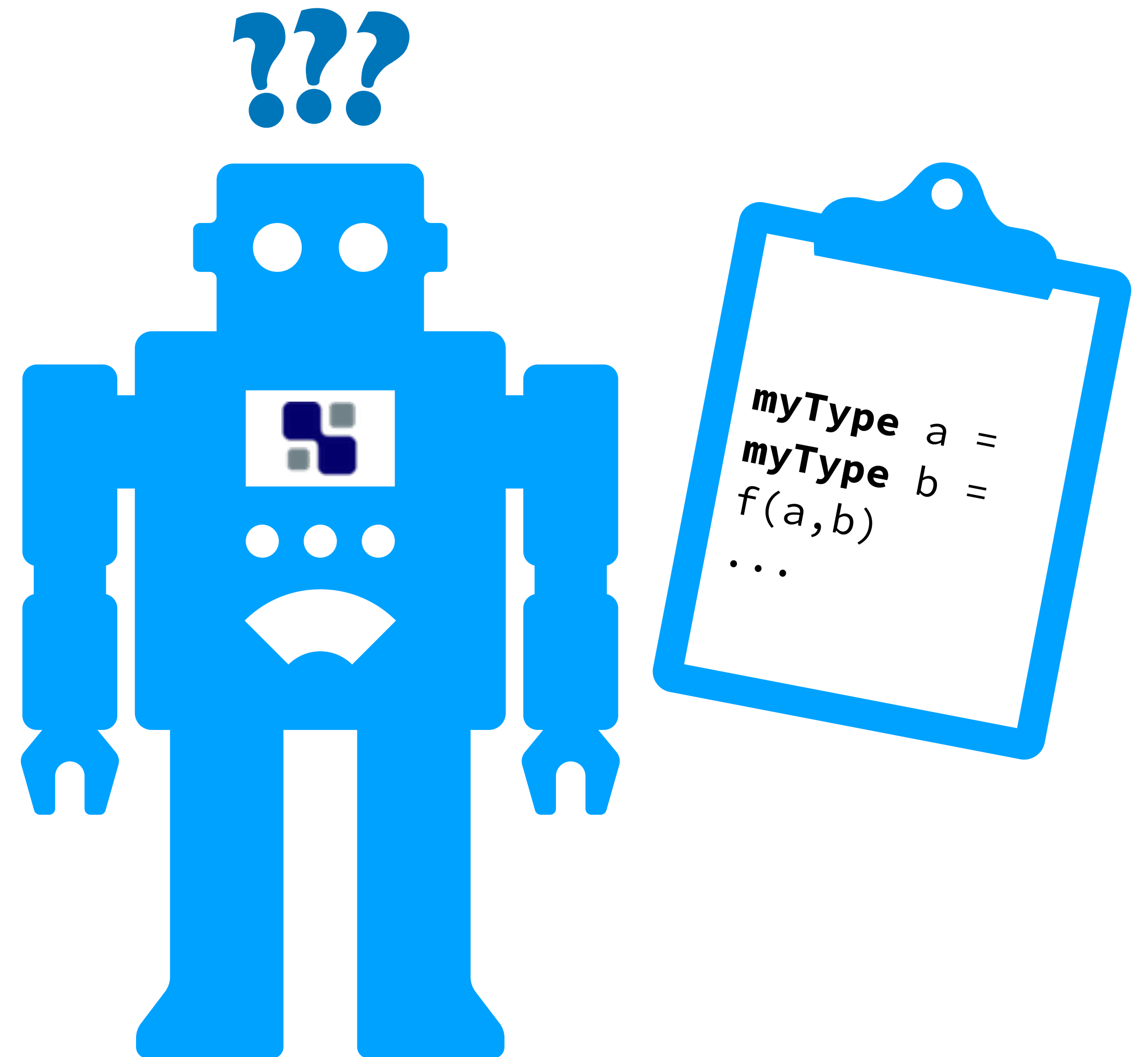
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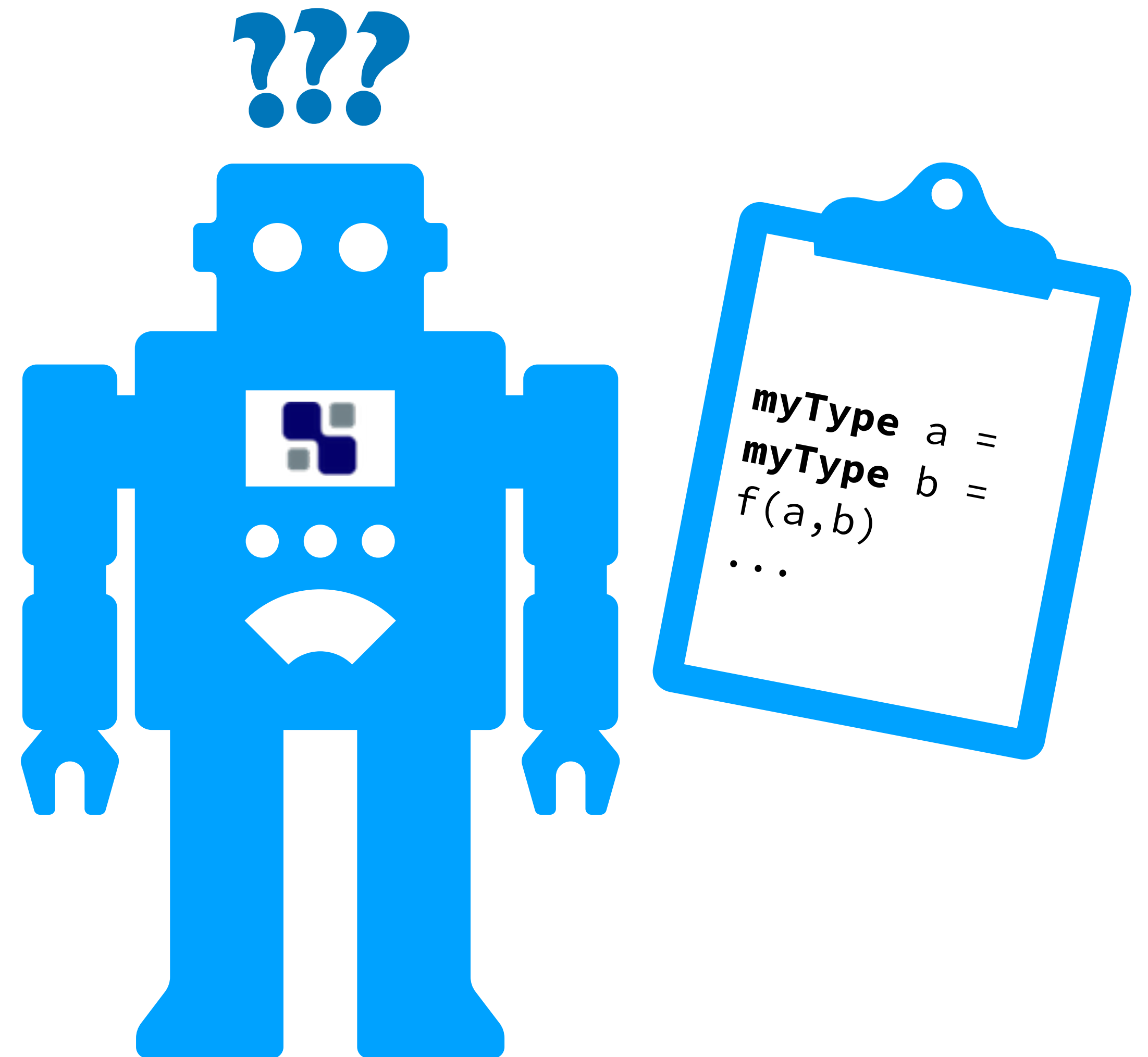
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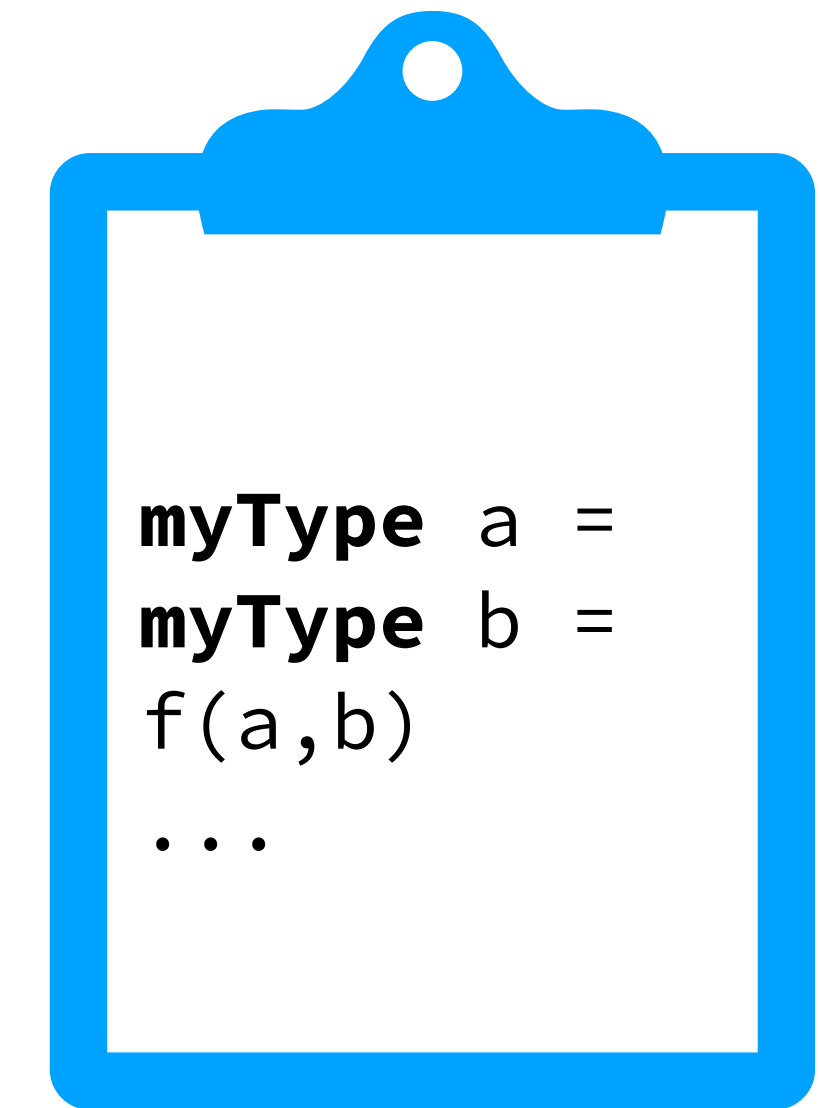
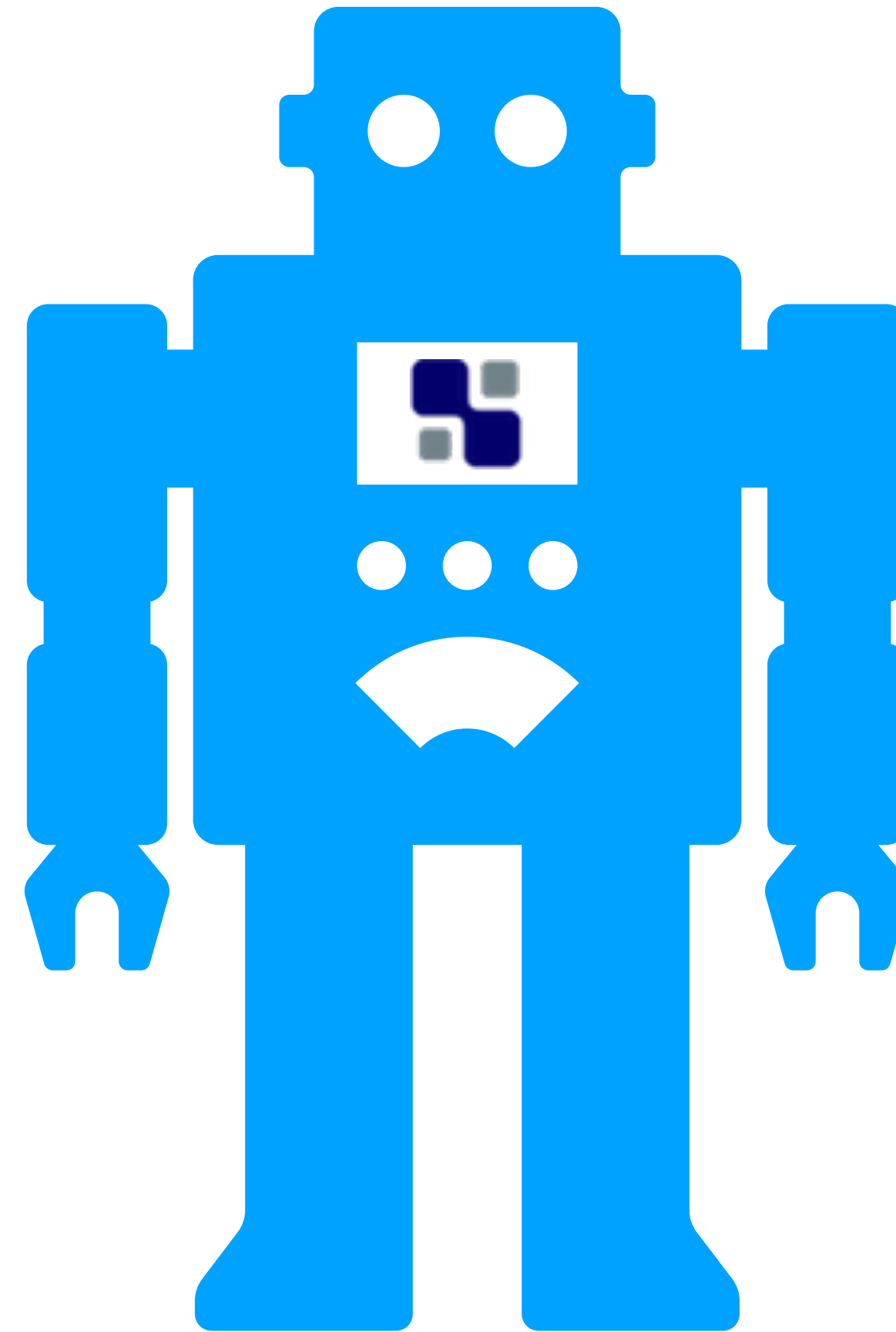
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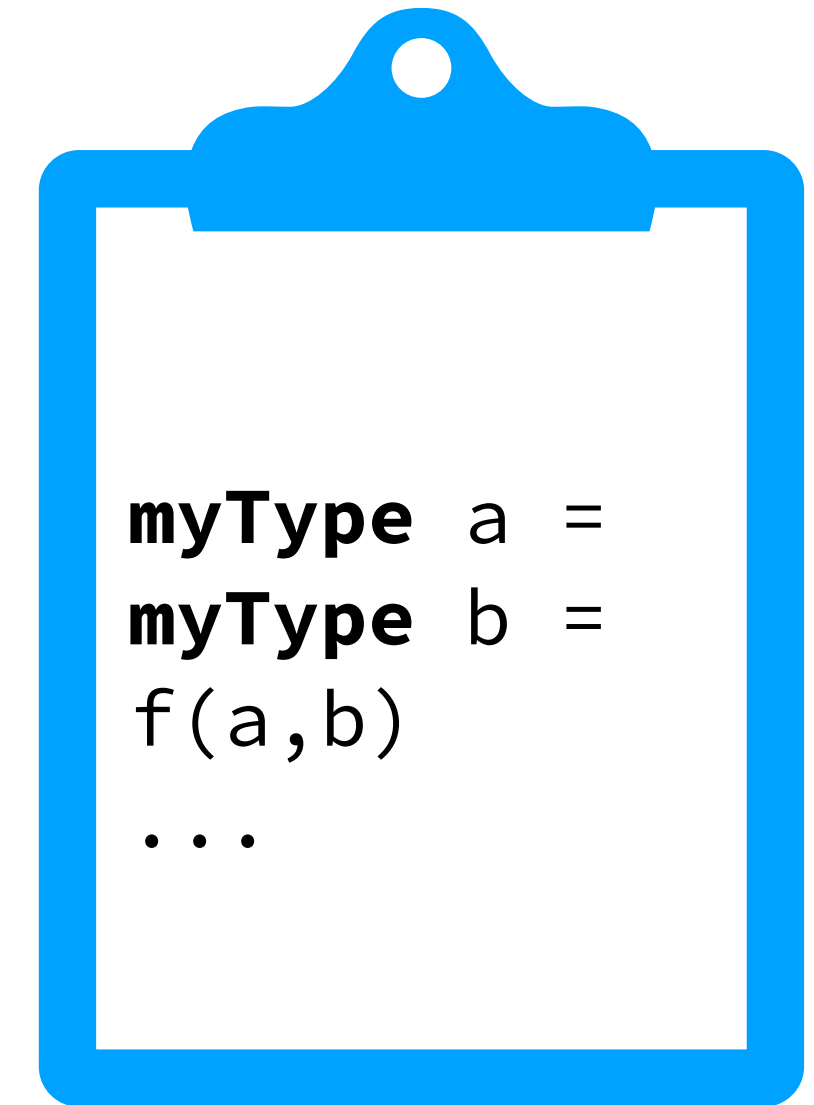
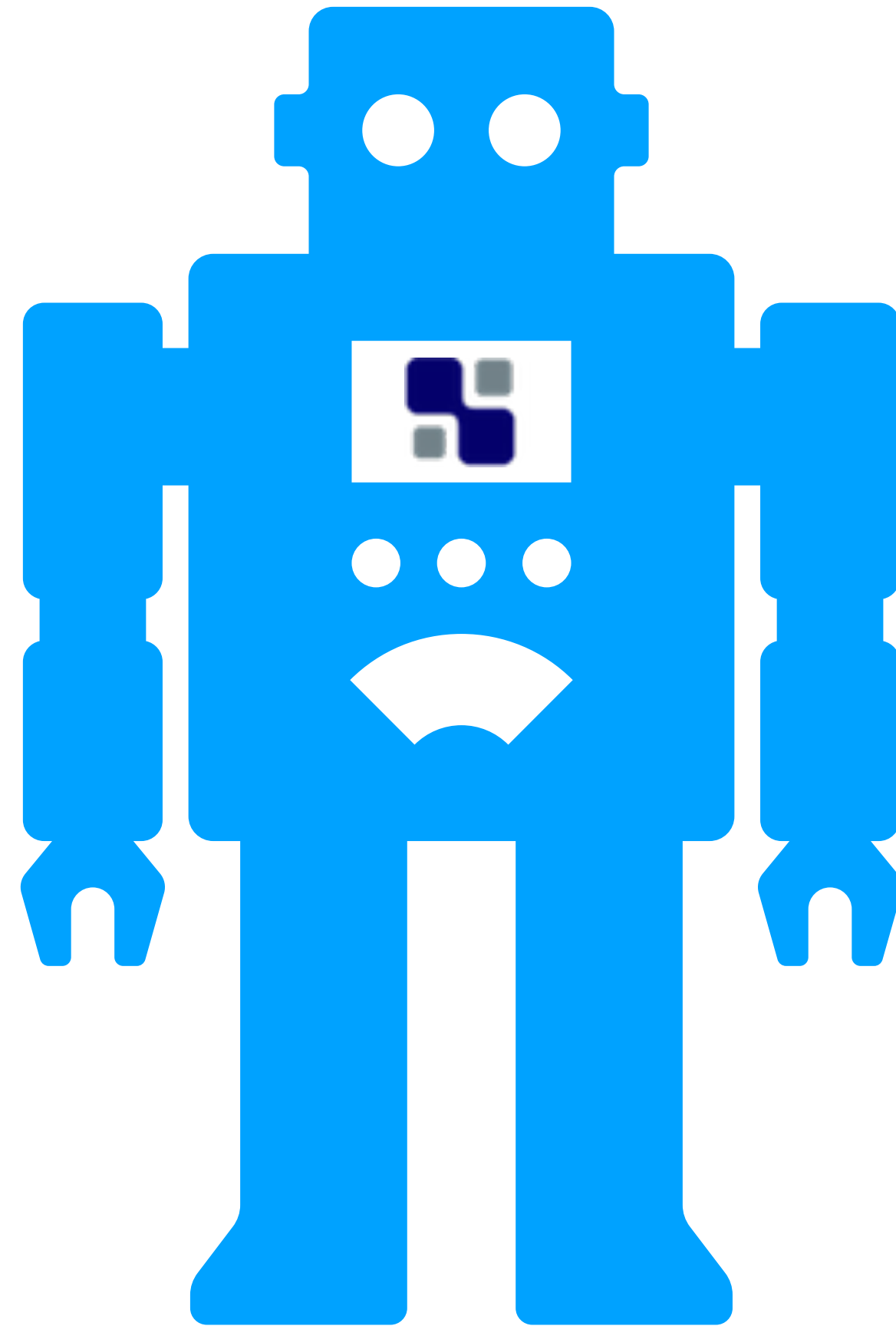
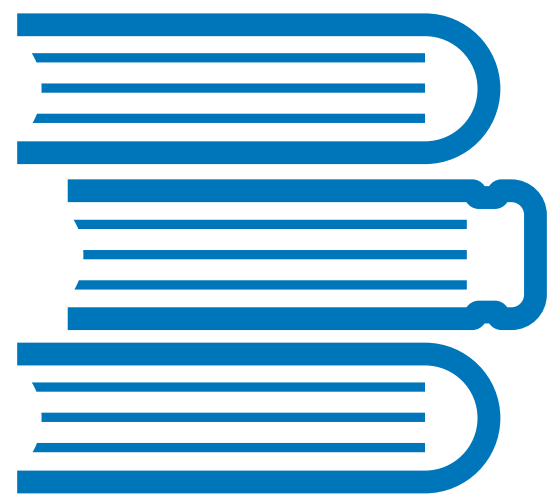
Luckily, TVM is extensible!



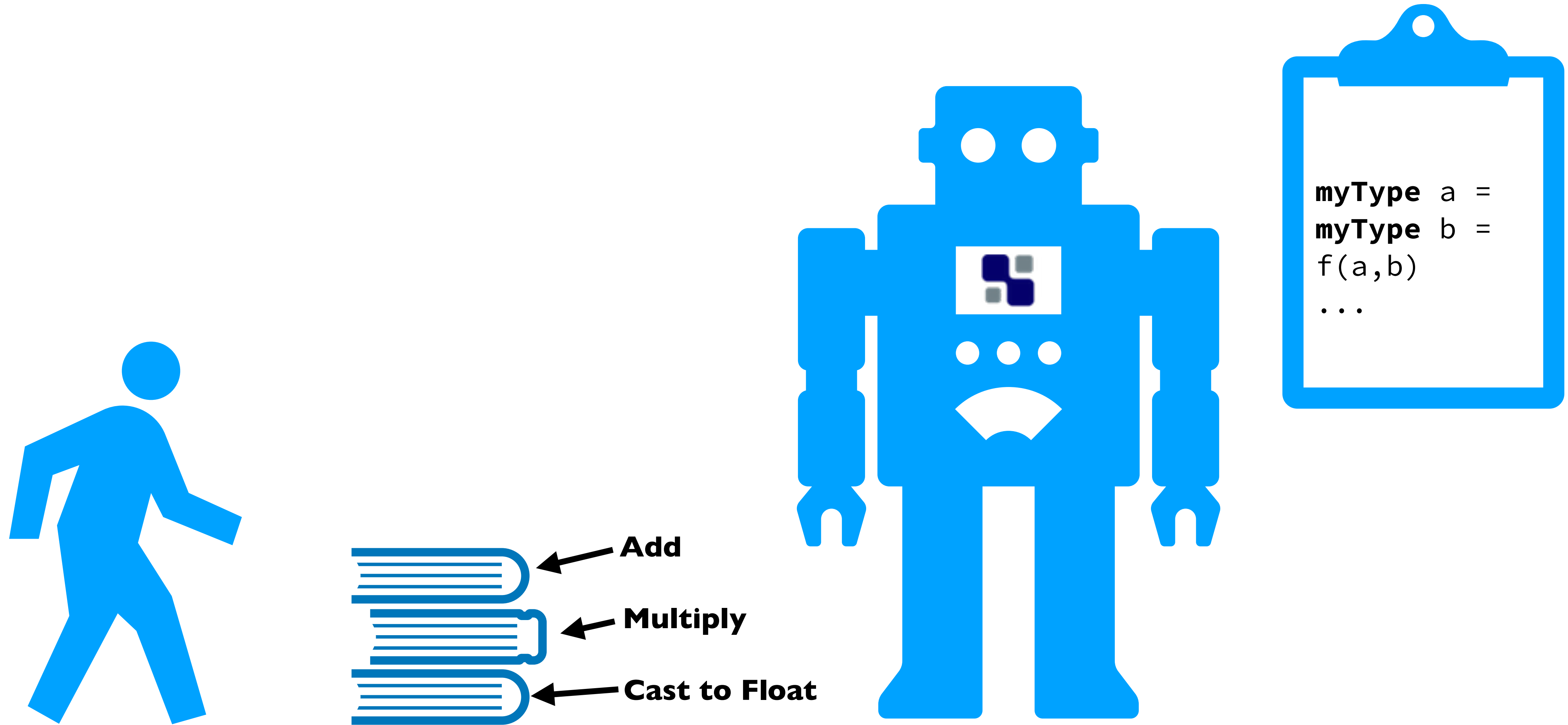
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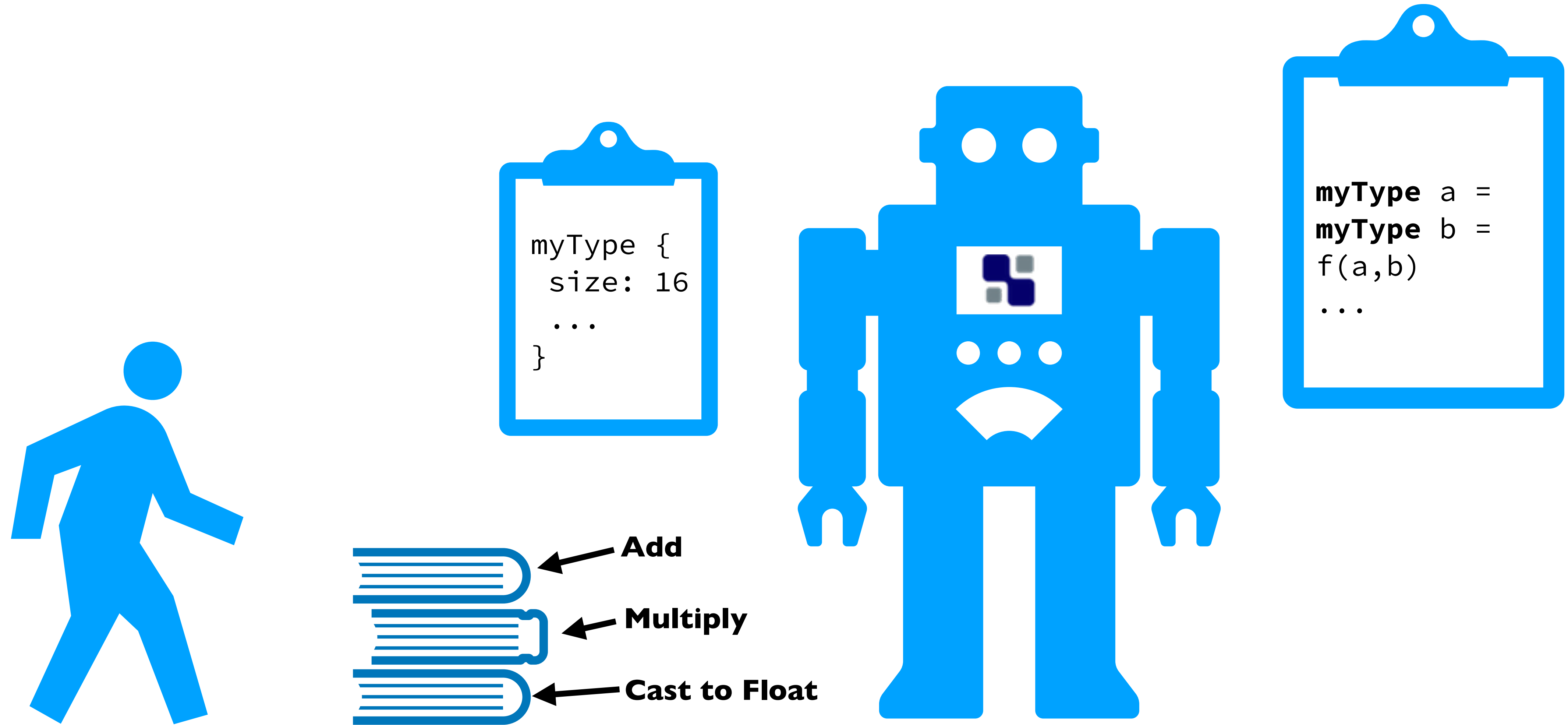
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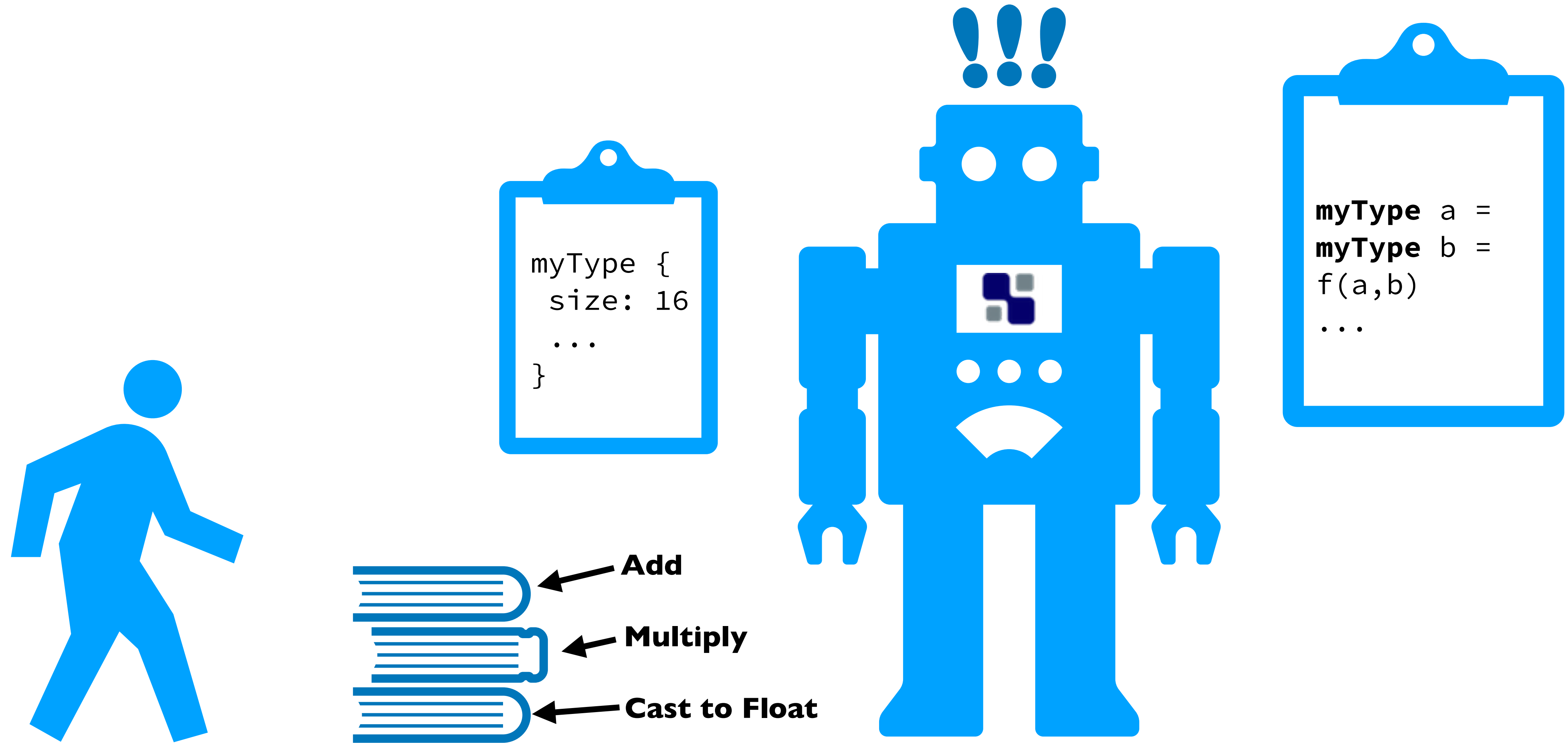
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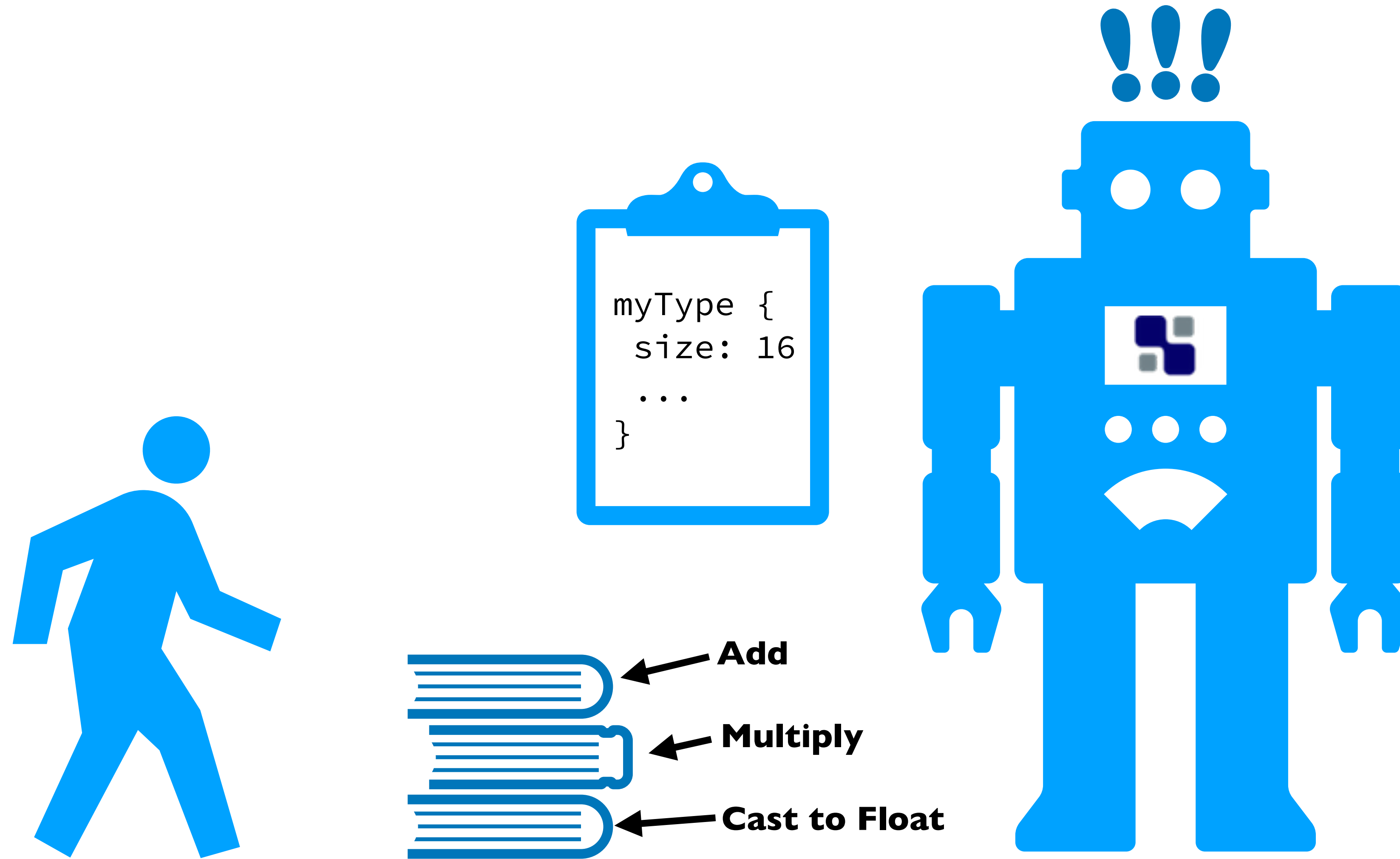
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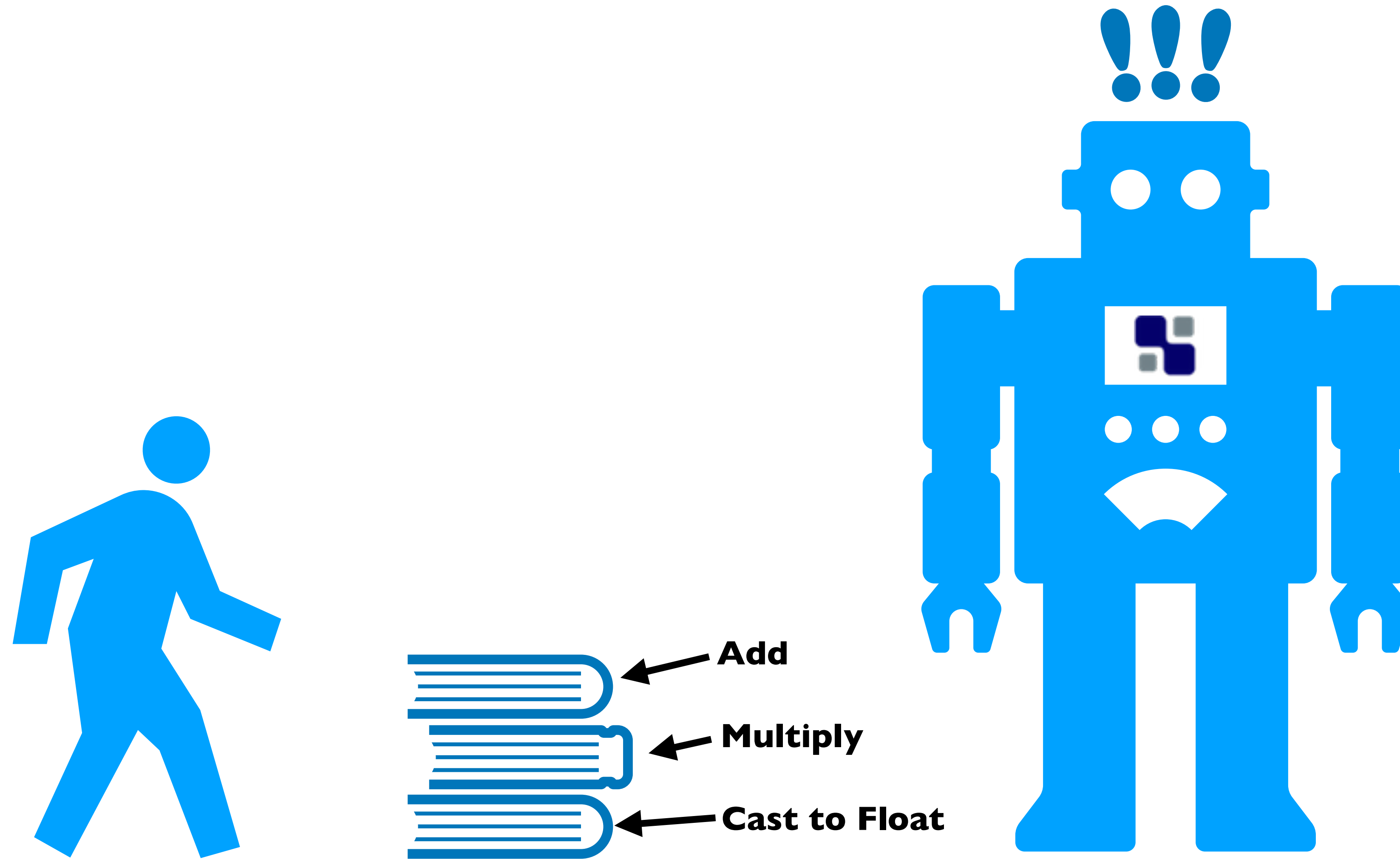
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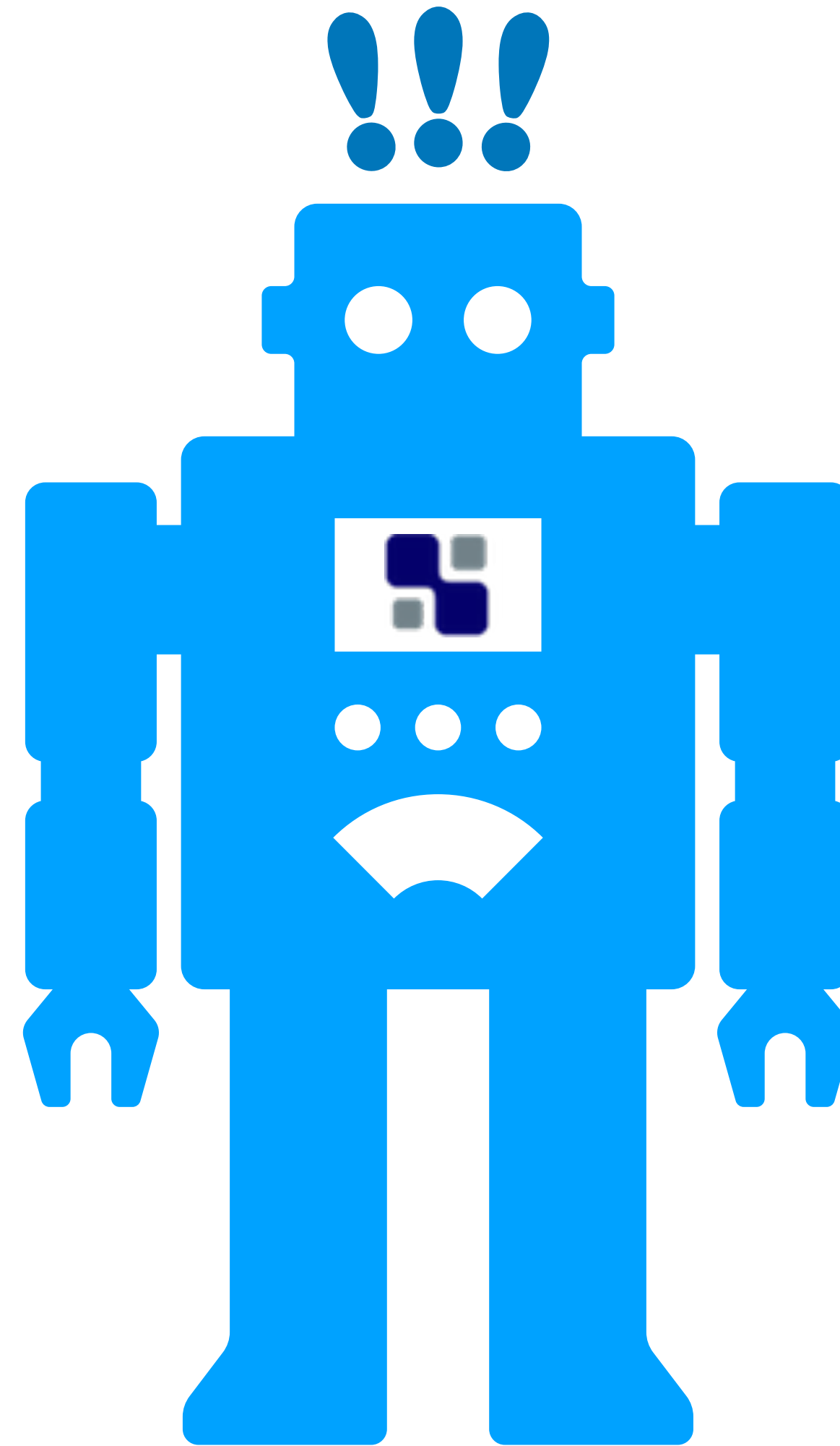
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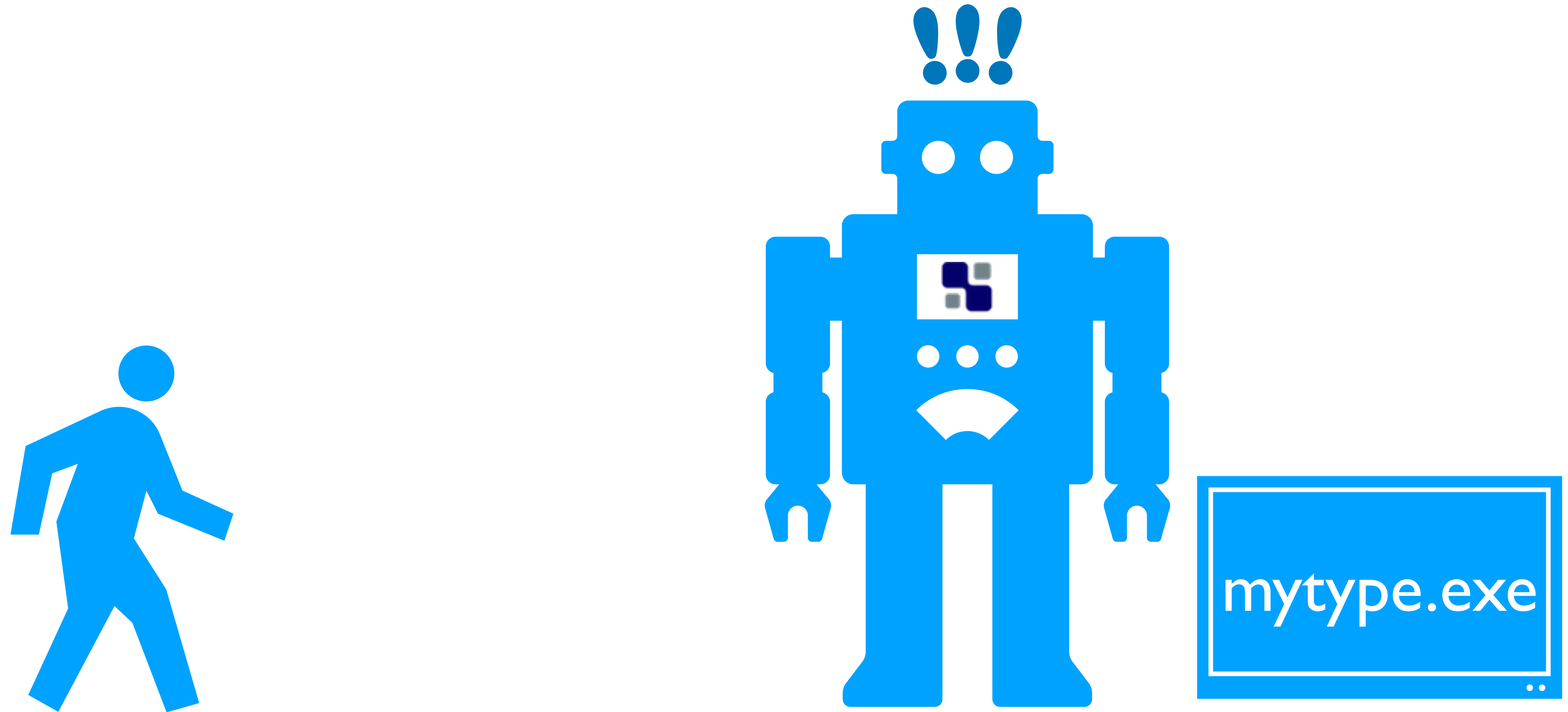
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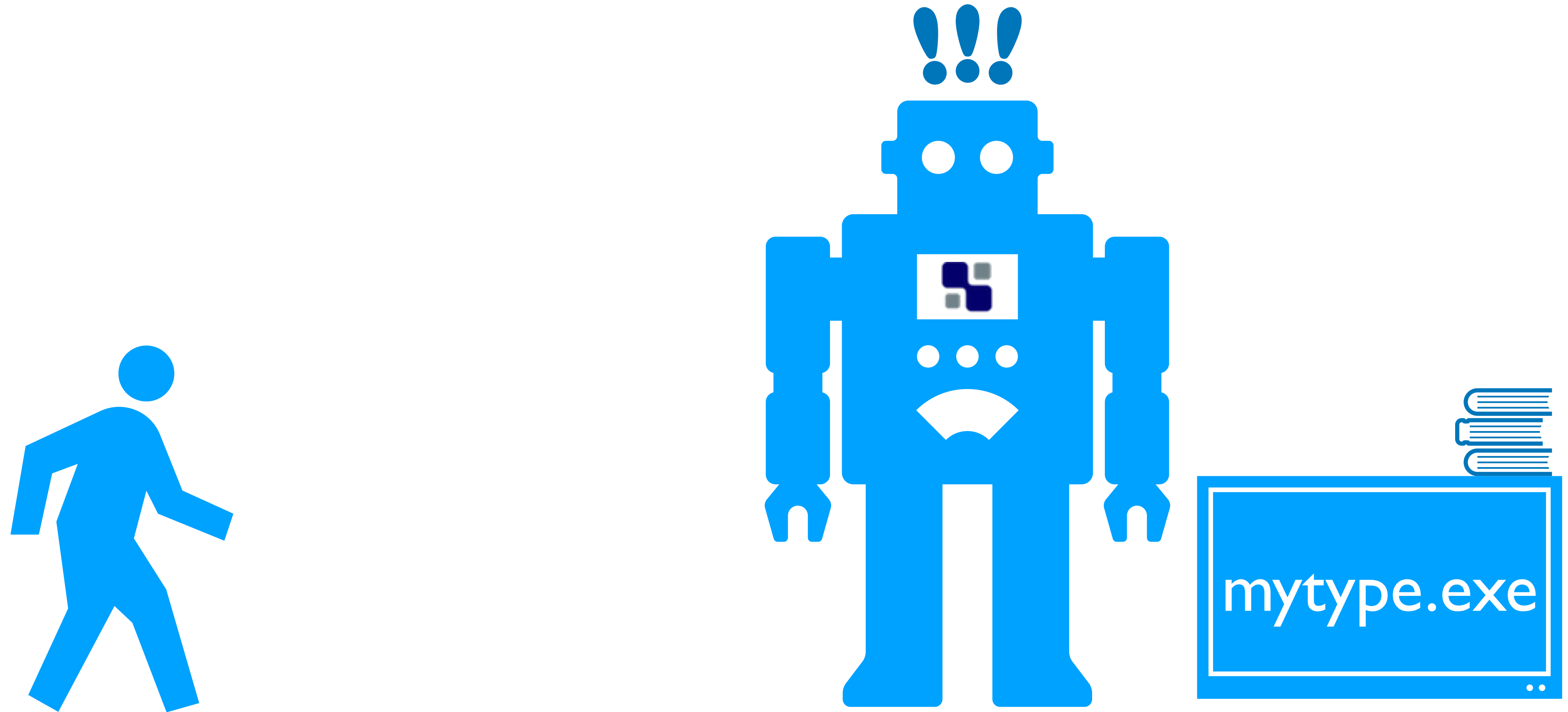
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2. User writes a program using their datatypes directly
3. User points TVM to the important functions (+, *) in the library
4. User gives TVM other information e.g. datatype size
5. TVM compiles programs, handling the custom datatype by compiling calls into the provided library

Limitations of this Approach

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Currently, we're only supporting **software implementations** of datatypes.

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Compiling for **hardware implementations** of the datatype is out of scope for the moment, but is planned.

Implementation

Datatype Registry

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Here, "16" is how we tell TVM the size of the datatype.

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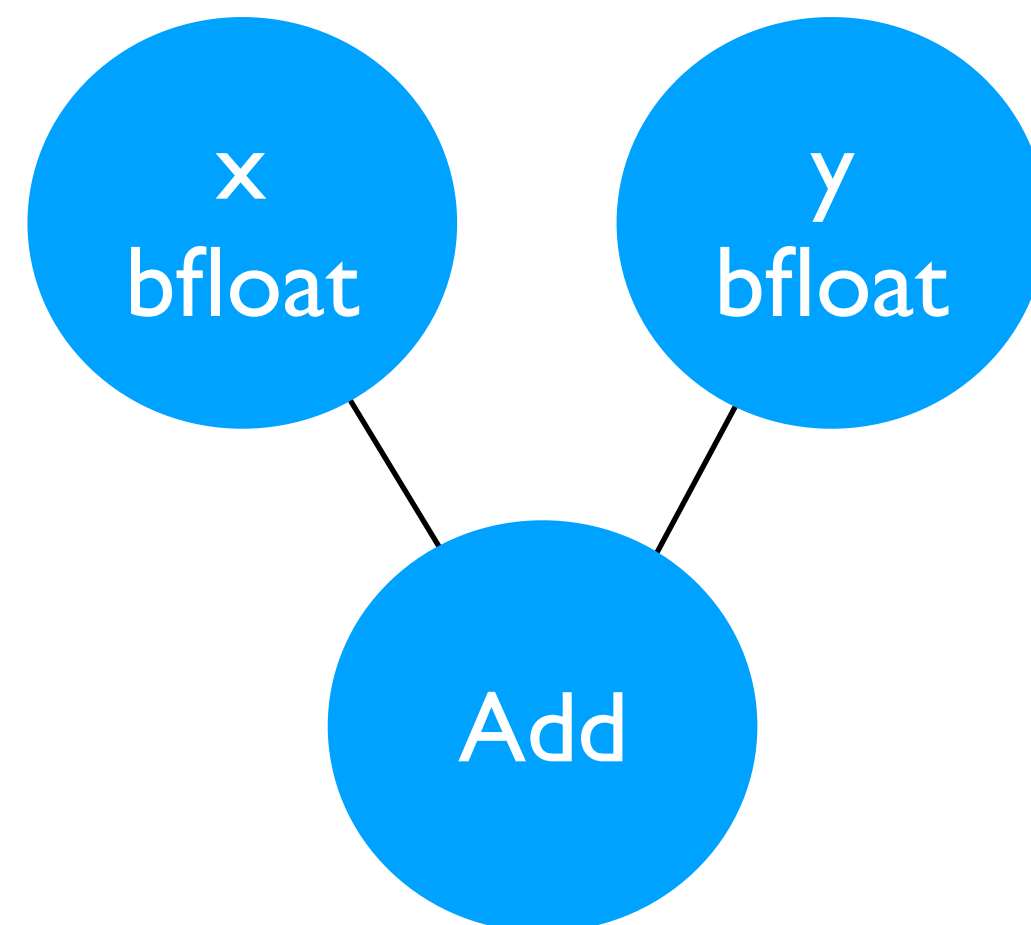
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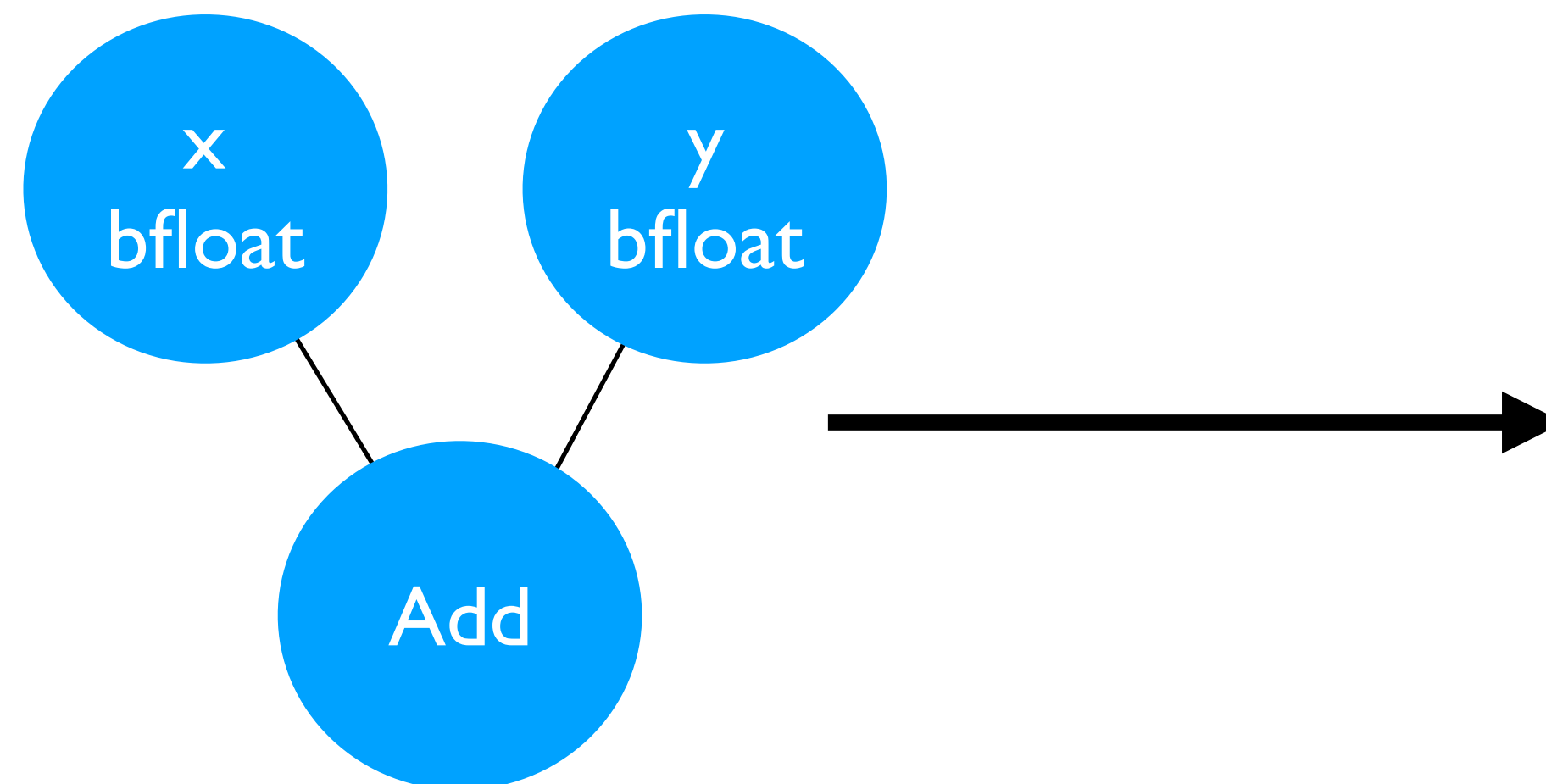
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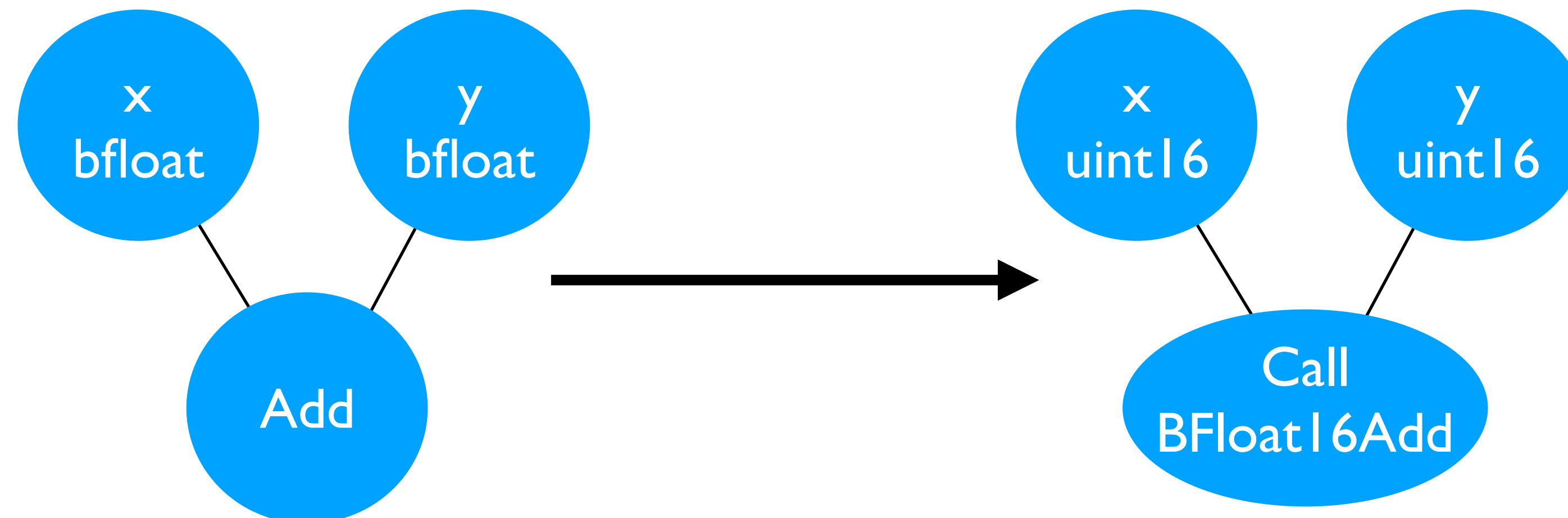
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Live Coding

Future Work

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- Long term: supporting custom datatype hardware

Thank You!

