



# IDEA CAPSULE 3: GRIDMARKETS

**TOPIC: CHANGING THE WORLD ONE FLOP AT A TIME**

**SPEAKER: HAKIM KARIM,  
DIRECTOR & CO-FOUNDER, GRIDMARKETS**

# In a Nutshell

- GridMarkets has built a patent-pending platform to conveniently and securely share excess Cloud capacity
- Animators, architects, engineers and others can leverage many globally-positioned servers for computationally intensive problems at the push of a GridMarkets button
- Over 100 global animators, studios and architects served with over 1500 (rendering) jobs since Nov 2013
- Market opportunity exceeds \$US10bn with use cases in biotech/pharma, engineering, financial services, etc.
- Seeking \$US5m to accelerate our plans to drive revenues to \$US50m in 4 years.

# Founders

>50 years technology & business management experience



Hakim Karim

- 25+ years in IT development, management and innovation
- Accenture, Goldman Sachs and Thomson Financial/Reuters
- 3 prior start-ups
- >US\$30m annual revenues
- Endeavor Entrepreneur



Mark Ross

- 25+ years in IT management
- CIO of AIG and Sunlife in Asia
- Winner of 2009 IDC innovation award for Cloud Computing
- Founder of Asia and Middle East Cloud Computing Associations
- >\$US200m budget & 800 staff

# Great Team and Advisors



**Navin** – Systems engineering guru



**Mike** – Chairman. Serial entrepreneur with exits to Microsoft, Reuters et al.



**Andy** – Networking & dev ops ninja



**Tad** – Ex-CTO of Huawei Symantec & Lagato



**Babu** – Front-end wizard (part-time)



**Jay** – Serial entrepreneur Technology & Telco specialist



**Faiz** – Operations & testing gangster



**Jesper** – Biz dev (Japan)

**We're hiring!** Please visit [www.GridMarkets.com/hiring](http://www.GridMarkets.com/hiring)

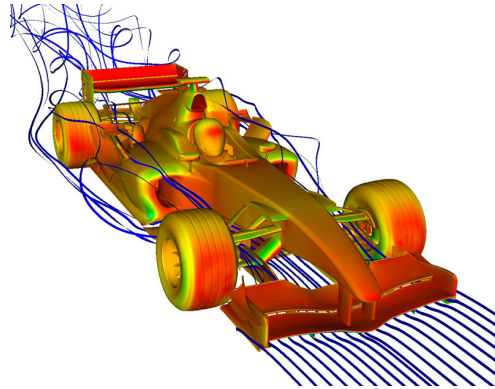


# Computationally Intensive Problems

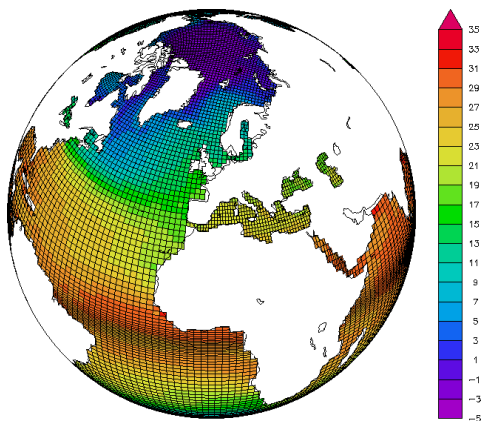
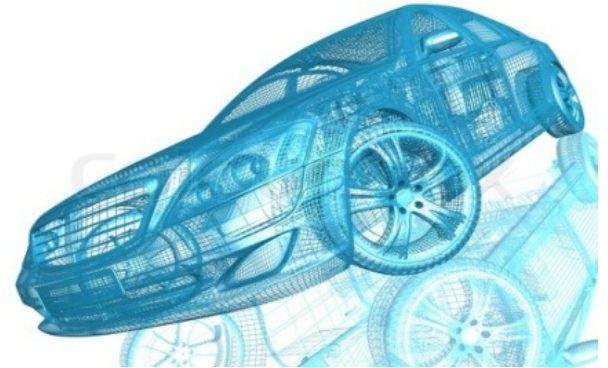
DNA Sequencing



Computational Fluid Dynamics



CAD/CAM



Climate Modeling

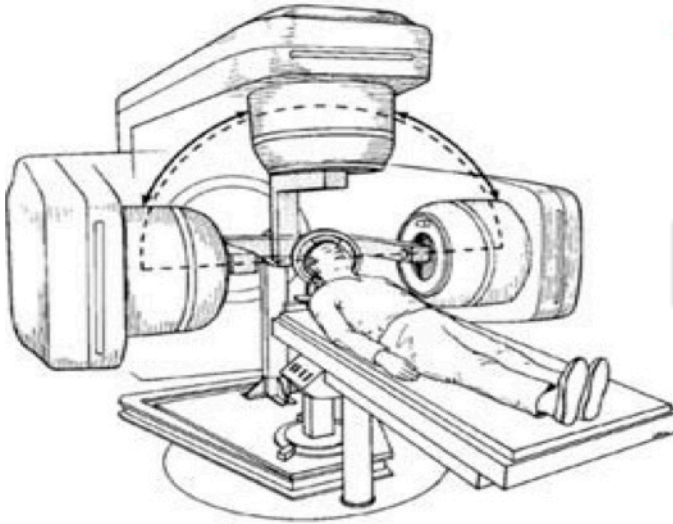


Anti-money Laundering

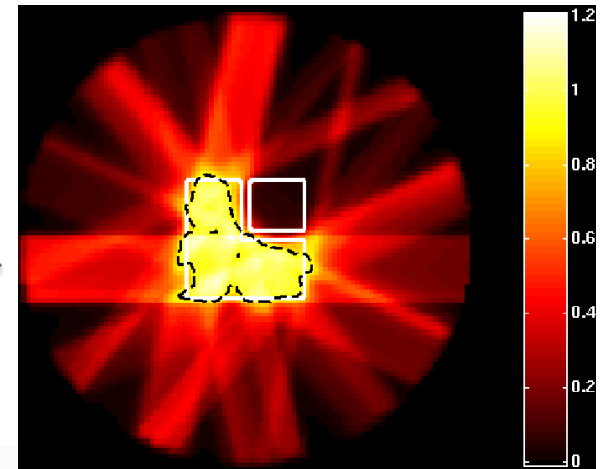


Graphics Rendering

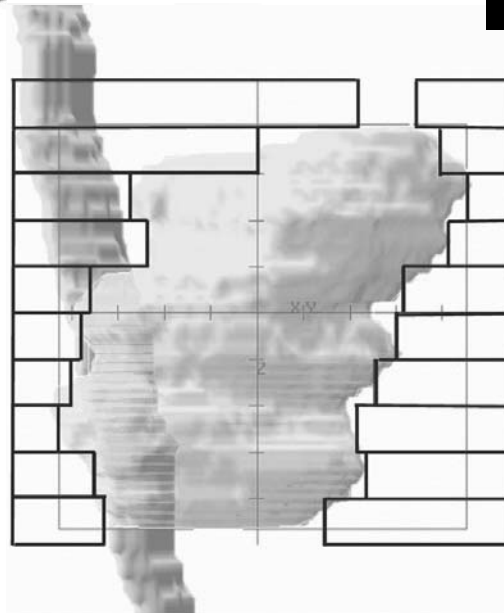
# Radiation Therapy for Cancer



Where to cut?

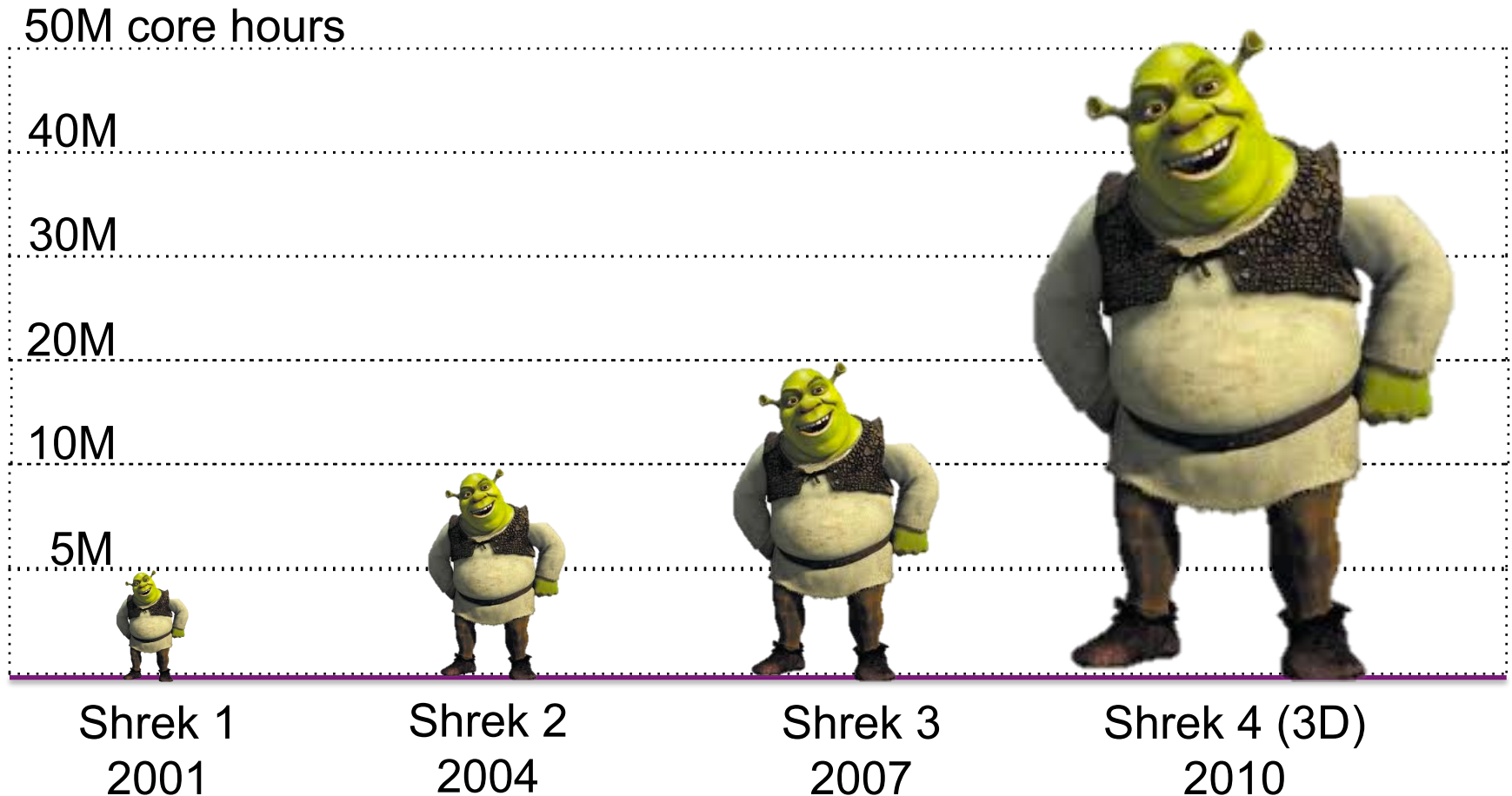


Modeling tumors is computationally intensive



Greater accuracy = less destruction of healthy cells

# “Shrek’s Law” (on top of Moore’s Law)





# Shrek 7?

48 frames per second (e.g. Hobbit) @ 4K resolution



>1bn CPU Hours?!

# Martin Scorsese's Hugo (2012)

150,000 CPU hours

US\$35,000

*in electricity*

EACH TIME

# Challenges/Risks

Risk	Large Firms	SMEs
Technical	✓	✗
Operational	✓	✗
Economic	✗	✗
Time to Market	✗	✗

# Many Other Use Cases

## Media

- Video transcoding
- Web searching

## Engineering

- Computational fluid dynamics
- Finite particle analysis
- Mesh generation
- Heat transfer analysis
- System dynamic analysis
- Nanotechnology research
- Load & performance testing

## Financial Services

- Risk management
- Anti-money laundering
- Insurance processing
- Market modelling

## Pharma/Bio-tech

- Molecular & genome searching/sequencing
- Protein folding
- Biology simulation
- Multi-modal biometrics
- Drug discovery
- Molecular modelling
- Proteomics

## Earth Sciences

- Climate modelling
- Geological (oil & gas) exploration
- Earthquake detection

## Govt. & Research

- Prime number search
- Particle physics
- Quantum force modelling
- Astronomical modelling and data analysis
- Cryptography
- Cyber security



# Global Market Demand



**US\$10 – 100 billion\***

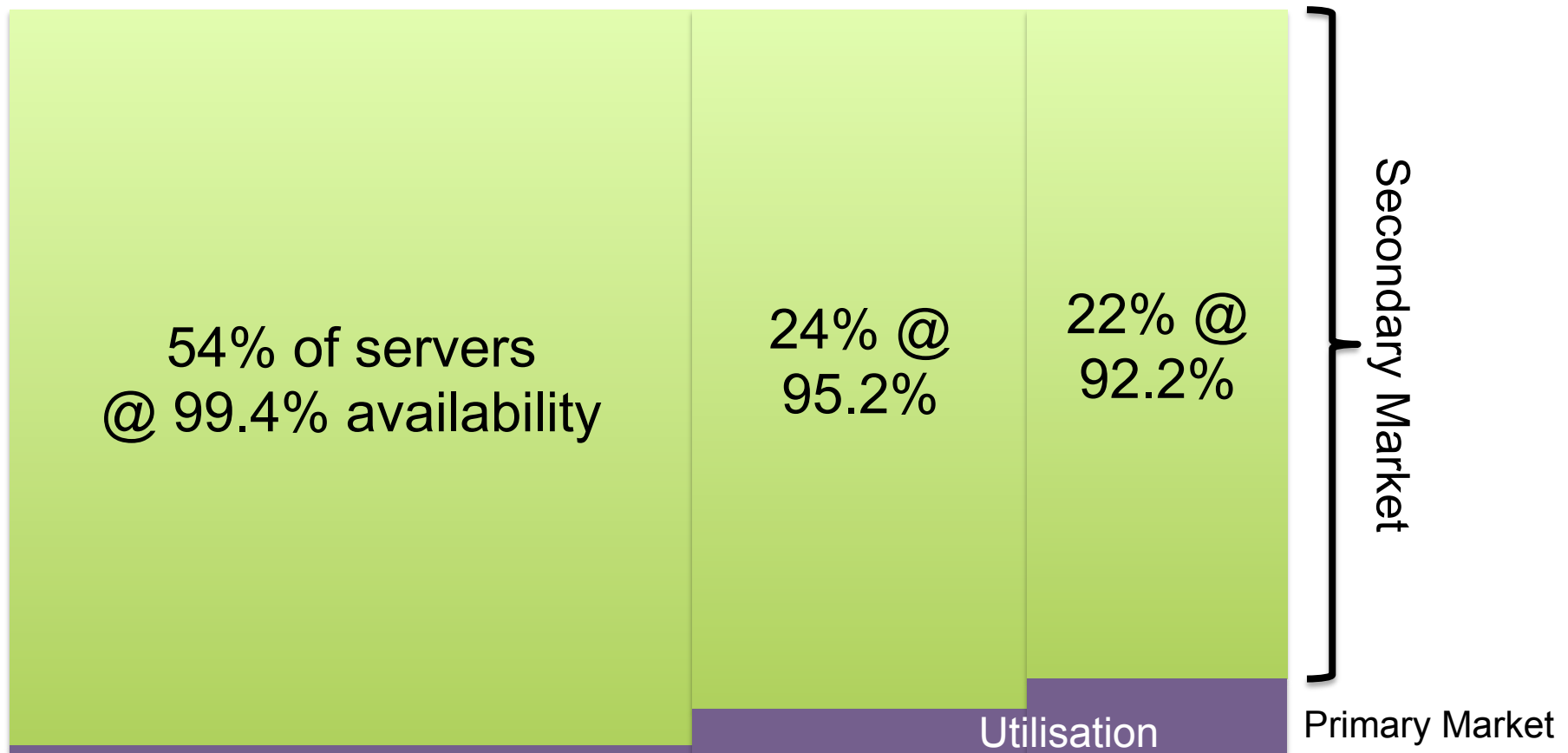
**Doubling every 3-5 years**

\*Extrapolated from EC-funded research projects using Grid computing

# The Paradox of Abundance



# >95% Wasted Capacity!



Uptime Institute: 88-94% of data centre power used to run idle servers  
**Excess capacity can be made available at marginal cost**

# GridMarkets

A private B2B (secondary) market for excess CPU capacity

- Technical platform
- Commercial model
- Legal framework

**Sellers** own and operate machines; only provide excess capacity



- Zero capital cost to GM
- Practically unlimited supply

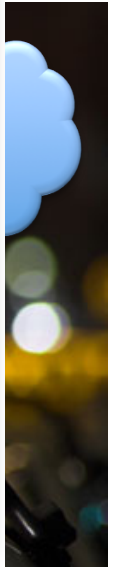
**Buyers** obtain capacity in core hours of actual usage



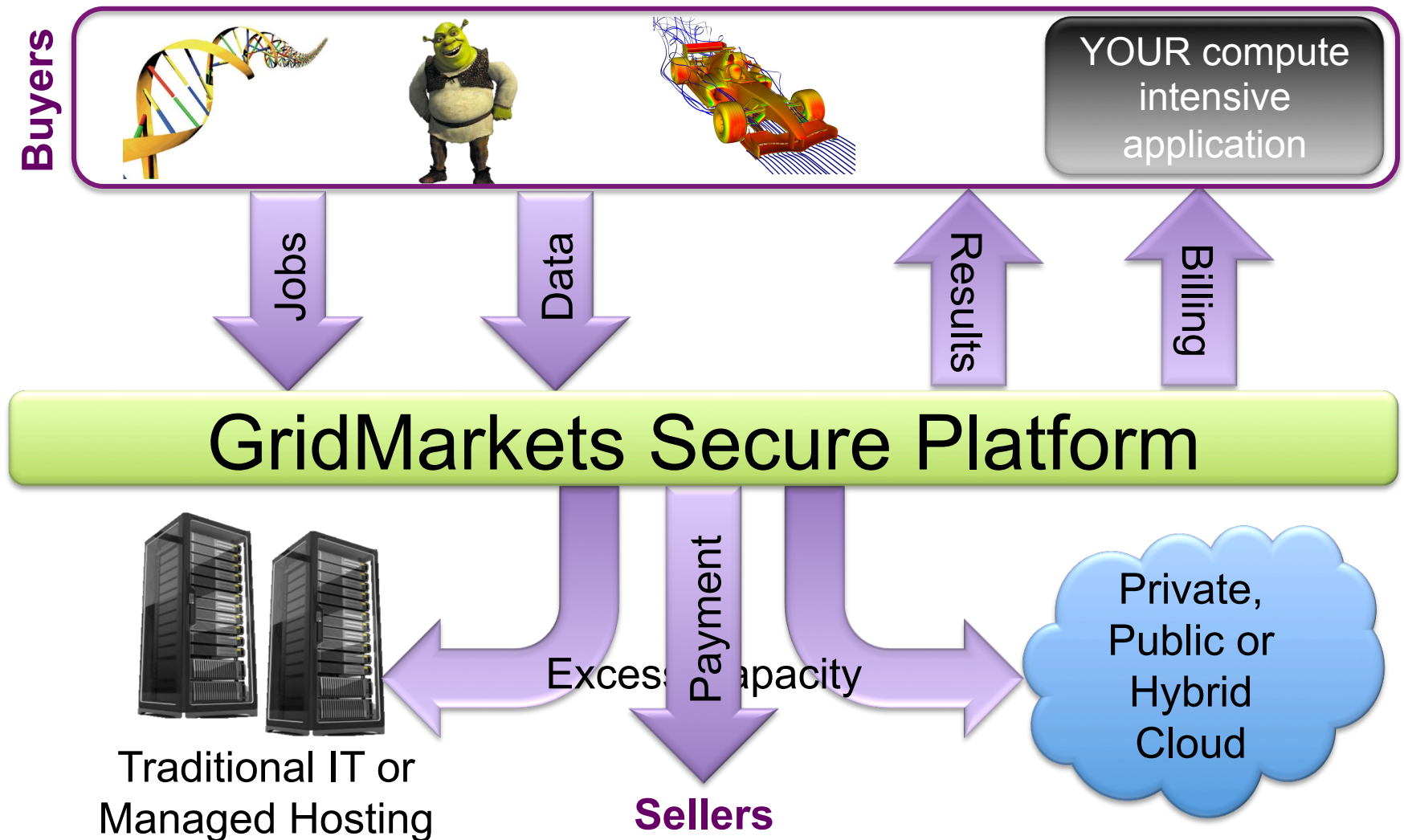
- Fraction of normal costs
- No minimum commitment



# “The AirBnB of CPU Capacity”



# How it Works



# Security

- Buyers need assurance that data and transactions are secure
- Not adversely impact on seller operations or resources



## Safeguards

### Technical

- No direct connection
- Peer-to-peer model
- Virtual machines
- Excess capacity
- Encryption
- Security hardening

### Legal

- IP protection
- Warranties
- Liabilities
- Indemnity from malicious behaviour

### Biz/Operational

- Private community
- Transparency
- Counterparty exclusions



# Private Community



Transparent

Institutional; not retail

# Commercial Model

**Current** – GridMarkets initially acts as a wholesale reseller

**Future** – An exchange with futures, options and other derivative contracts

# Legal Framework = “Community Rules”

## **Seller Assurances**

- Buyer's computations and GridMarkets' platform will not operationally impact seller's resources
- Indemnity from malicious behaviour by buyers
- No service level obligations
- Buyer processes certified for processing

## **Buyer Assurances & Requirements**


- IP protection of processing units and data
- Indemnity from malicious behaviour by sellers
- Need to cover all licensing issues

# Competitors

- ✗ Volunteer programs (e.g. SETI@Home)
- ✗ Public Clouds
  - Primary vs. Secondary market
  - High-performance vs. High-throughput Computing
  - They are our clients!
- ✓ Frontier Grid – Parabon Computation Inc.
  - Potential competitor but difficult to adopt and not same biz model


# Benefits

**Sellers** monetise rapidly  
depreciating unused assets  
at marginal cost



**Free money!**

**Buyers** save significant  
money and/or time with no  
financial outlay or  
commitment



## Transform business

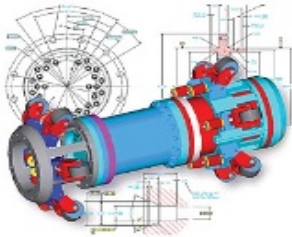
- ☑ Save budget
- ☑ Decrease time to market
- ☑ More design iterations
- ☑ Larger jobs
- ☑ More complex models
- ☑ Increase productivity

# Case Studies

**Business:** Global engineering software

**Issue:** Engineering work stops as computationally intensive processing occupies workstations.

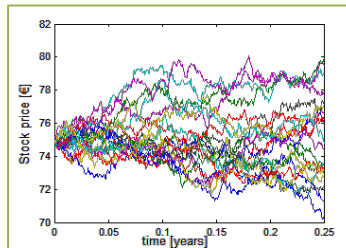
**Benefit:** Productivity of knowledge workers increased; product modelling enhanced.



**Business:** Global hedge fund

**Issue:** Compromises required on financial models given limited computational capacity.

**Benefit:** Significantly higher granularity of model iterations improved investment insights.



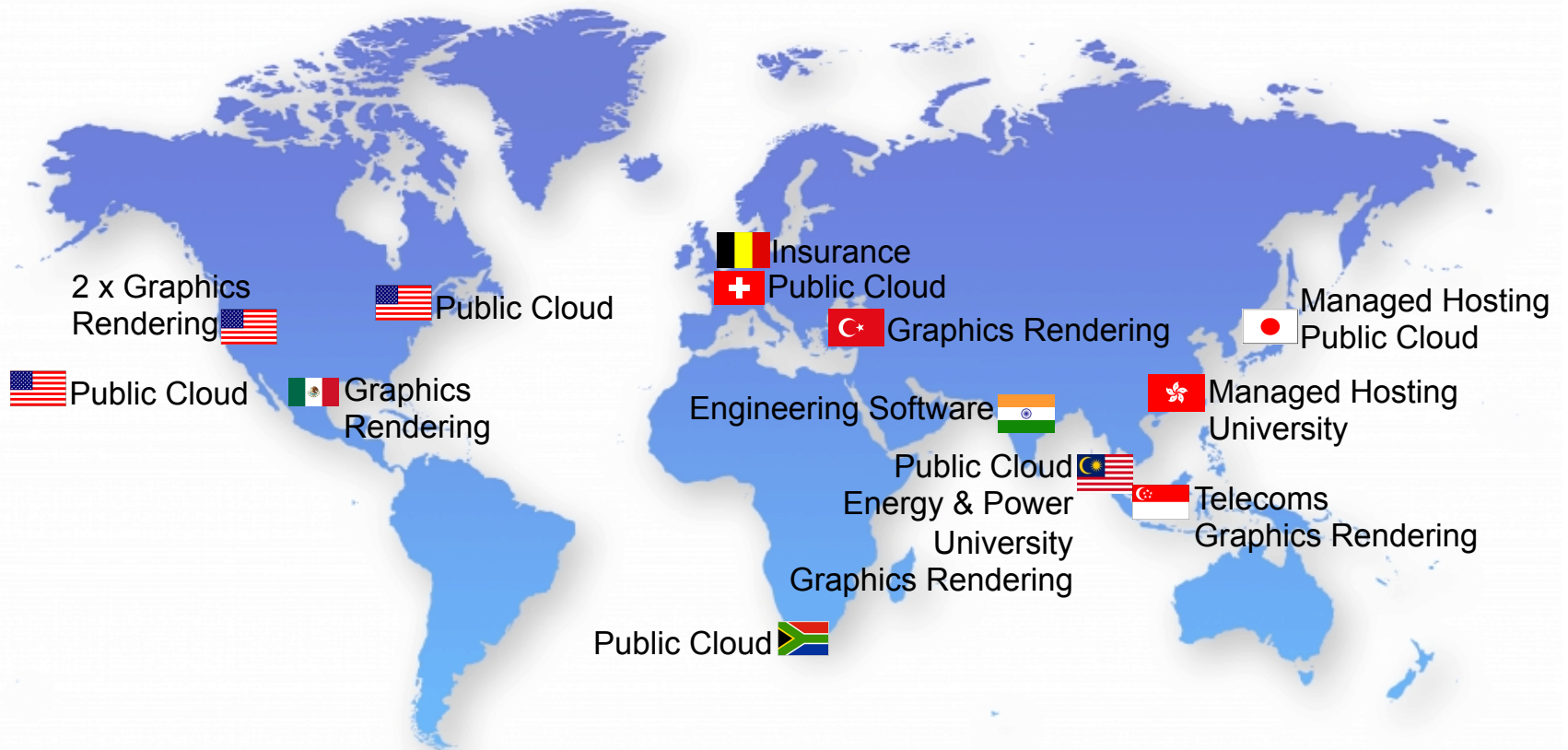
**Business:** Global video rendering

**Issue:** Capital rich competitors with ample computational resources grabbing market share.

**Benefit:** Expanded service offering resulting in new customers and revenues.

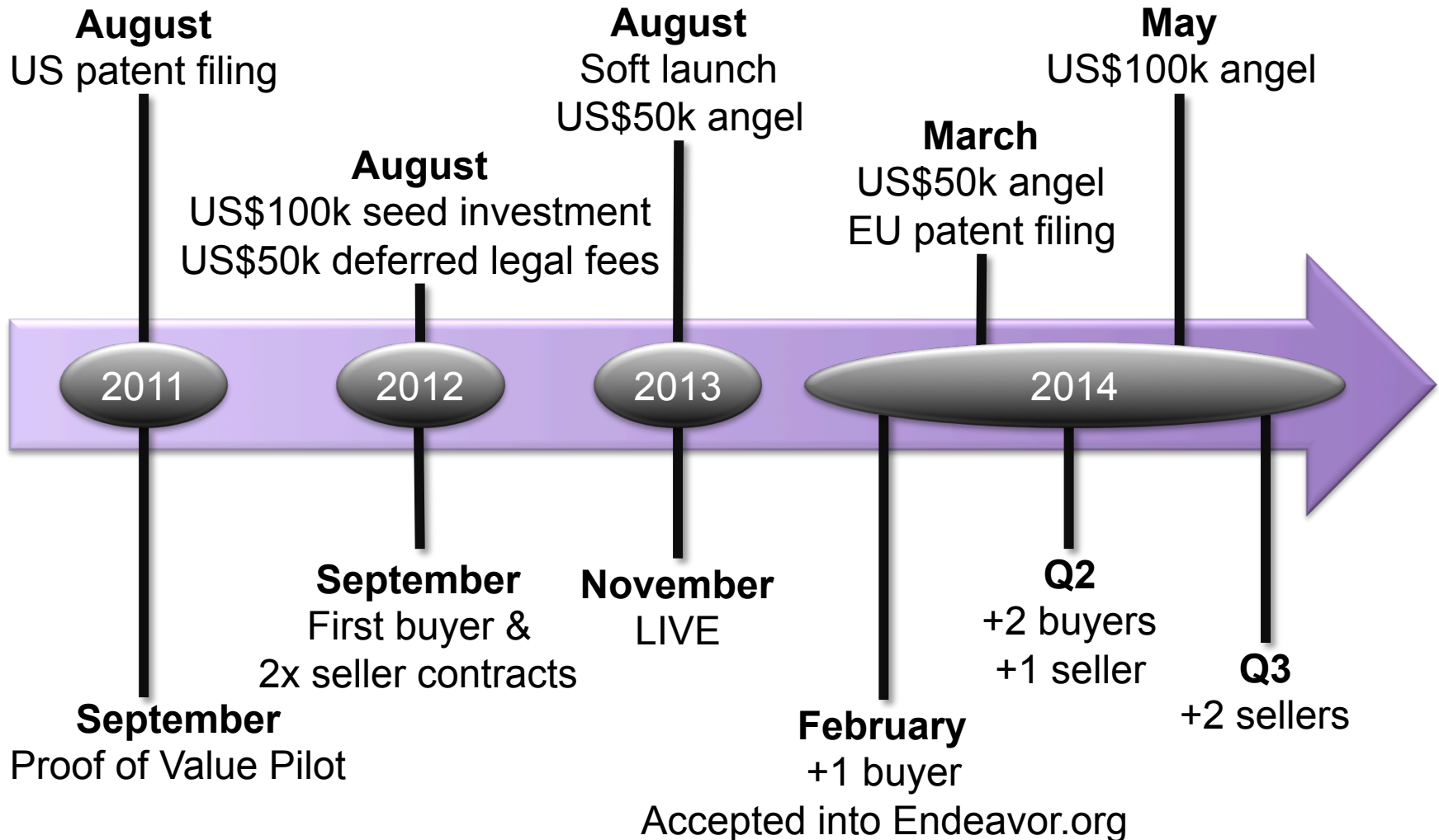


# Global Business





# Accomplishments



# Value and Exits

Value created:

1. **Community** – market liquidity
2. **Platform** – outsource/sell/open-source?

Potential exits:

- IPO
- Primary-market provider
- Infrastructure software vendor
- Service provider
- Exchange

# Summary

- ✓ Huge and unbounded opportunity
- ✓ Disruptive and transformative
- ✓ Kick-ass team!





THANK YOU