

# SFERA-III

Solar Facilities for the European Research Area



## "5G and IoT Platform for CSP"

*Inga Miadowicz, DLR, Solar Research*

### NETWORKING

Summer School: "Smart CSP: How Smart Tools, Devices, and Software can help improve the Design and Operation of Concentrating Solar Power Technologies" - WP1 Capacity building and training activities - Cologne, Germany, September 14<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> 2023

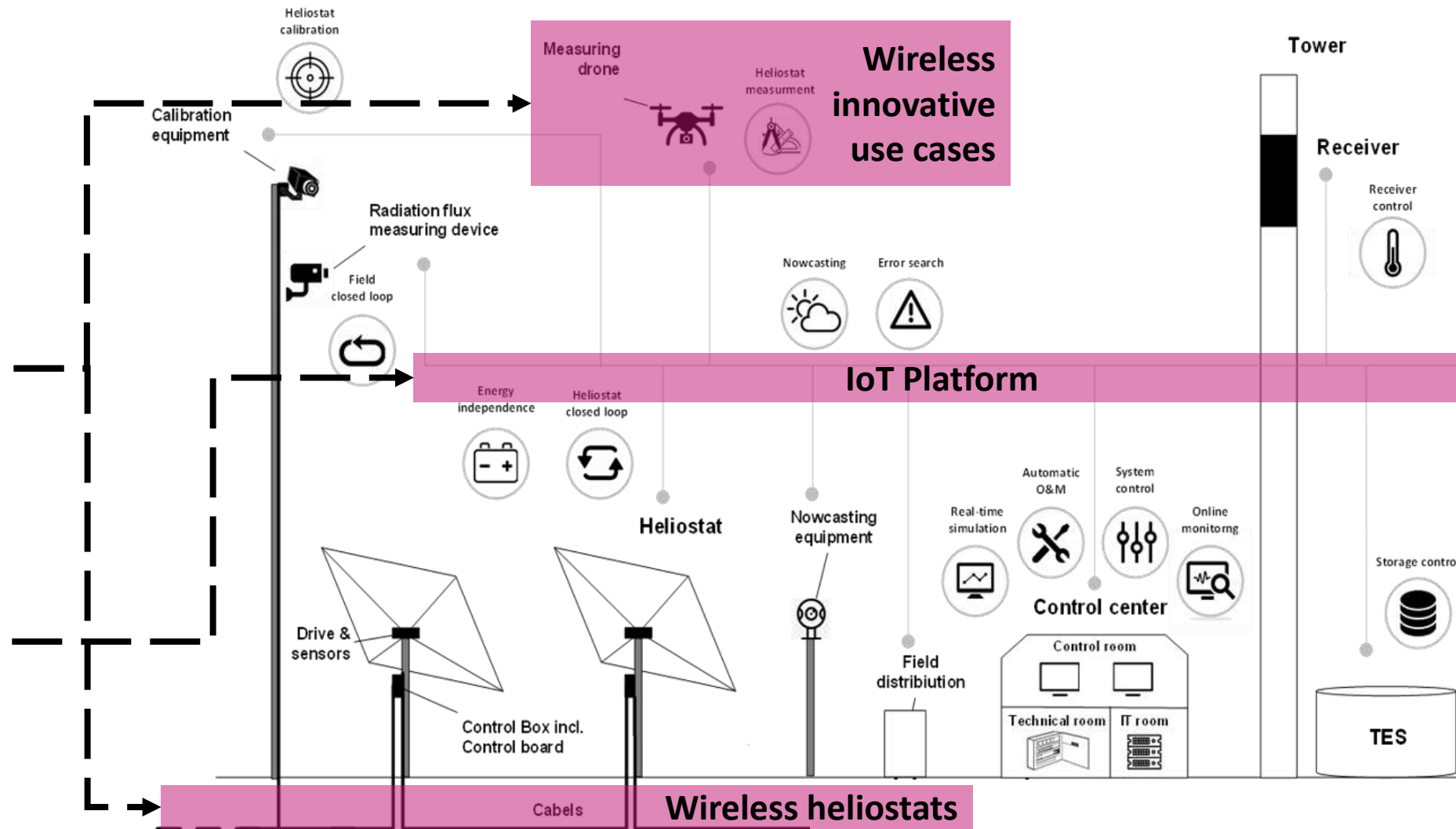


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### Content

#### Smart CSP Infrastructure

- 1 **5G Campus Network**  
Private 5G network for wireless use cases and heliostats
- 2 **IoT Platform**  
System infrastructure for data management and interconnection of subsystems



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## Part 1: 5hine - 5G Solutions for efficient solar-thermal power plants *Inga Miadowicz, DLR, Solar Research*



## 5G and IoT Platform for CSP

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### Motivation

- Issue 1:  
Wiring of Heliostat field is expensive and elaborate  
→ ~ 7% of total investment costs [6]
- Issue 2:  
Monitoring & Maintenance needs flexible wireless solutions  
→ eg. Drones
- Issue 3:  
High communication requirements in designated areas

Several tens of thousands of individually moving mirrors (heliostats), each with small but critical communication requirements, over an area of a few square kilometers

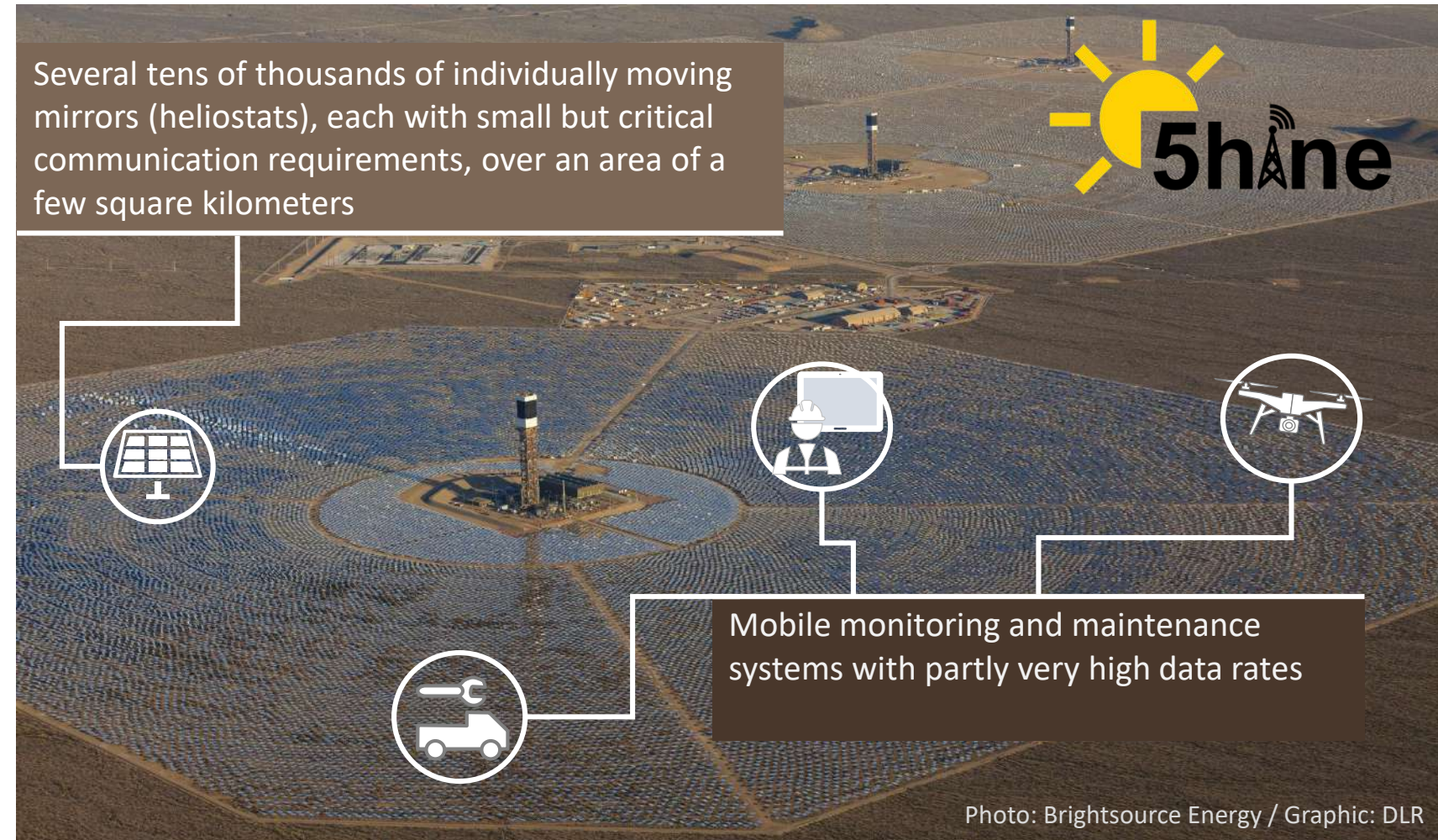
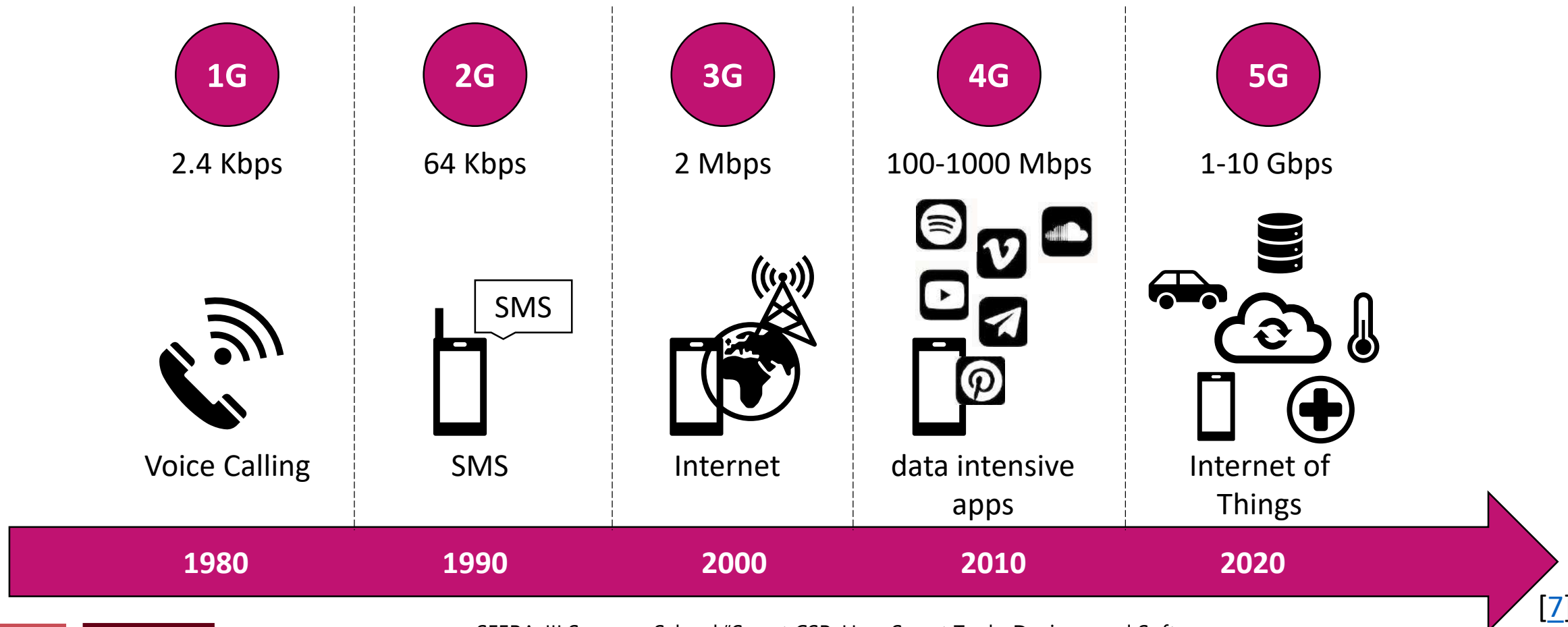


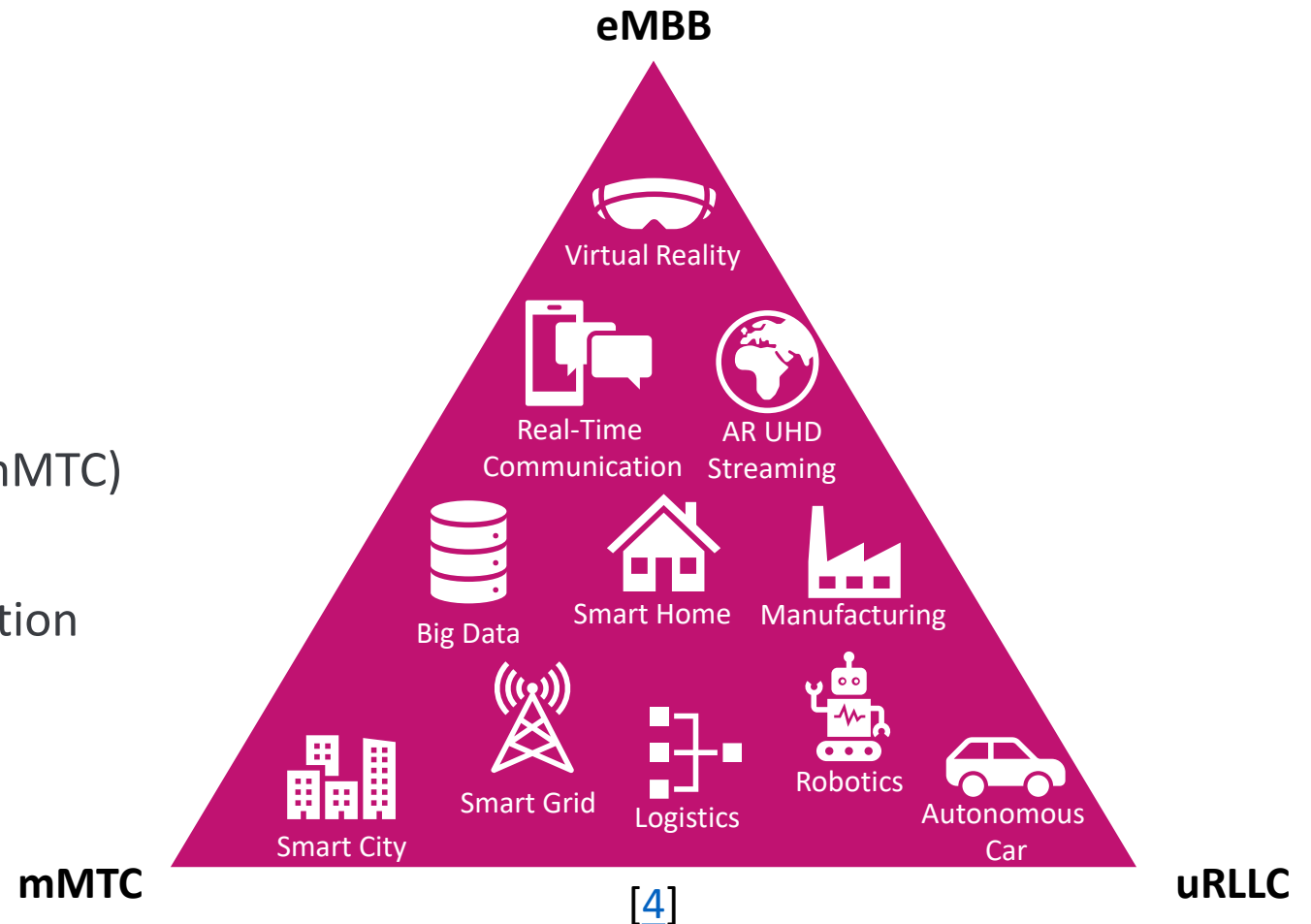
Photo: Brightsource Energy / Graphic: DLR

### Background



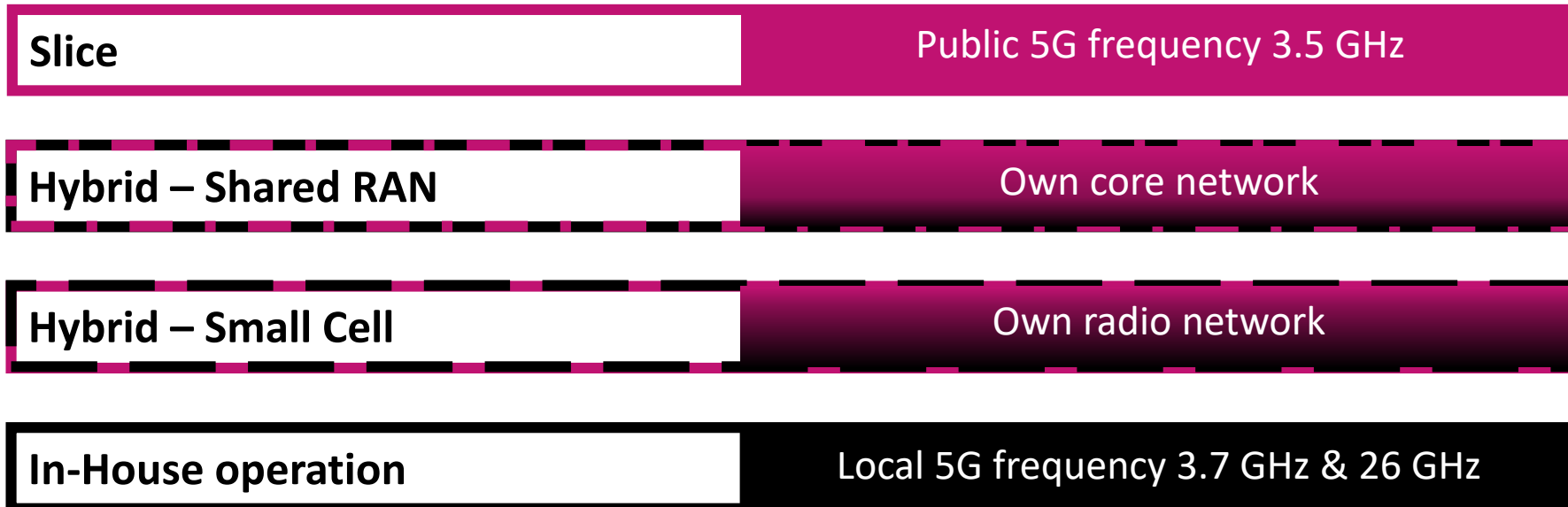
### Background

- 5G Requirements profiles
  - Enhanced Mobile Broadband (eMBB)
  - Massive Machine Type Communication (mMTC)
  - Ultra-reliable and low latency communication (uRLLC)
  - Mixed requirement profiles



## Background

- 5G campus network and new network operation models
  - Geo-localized networks adapted for special requirements of the domain
  - Can be completely isolated or based on public infrastructure

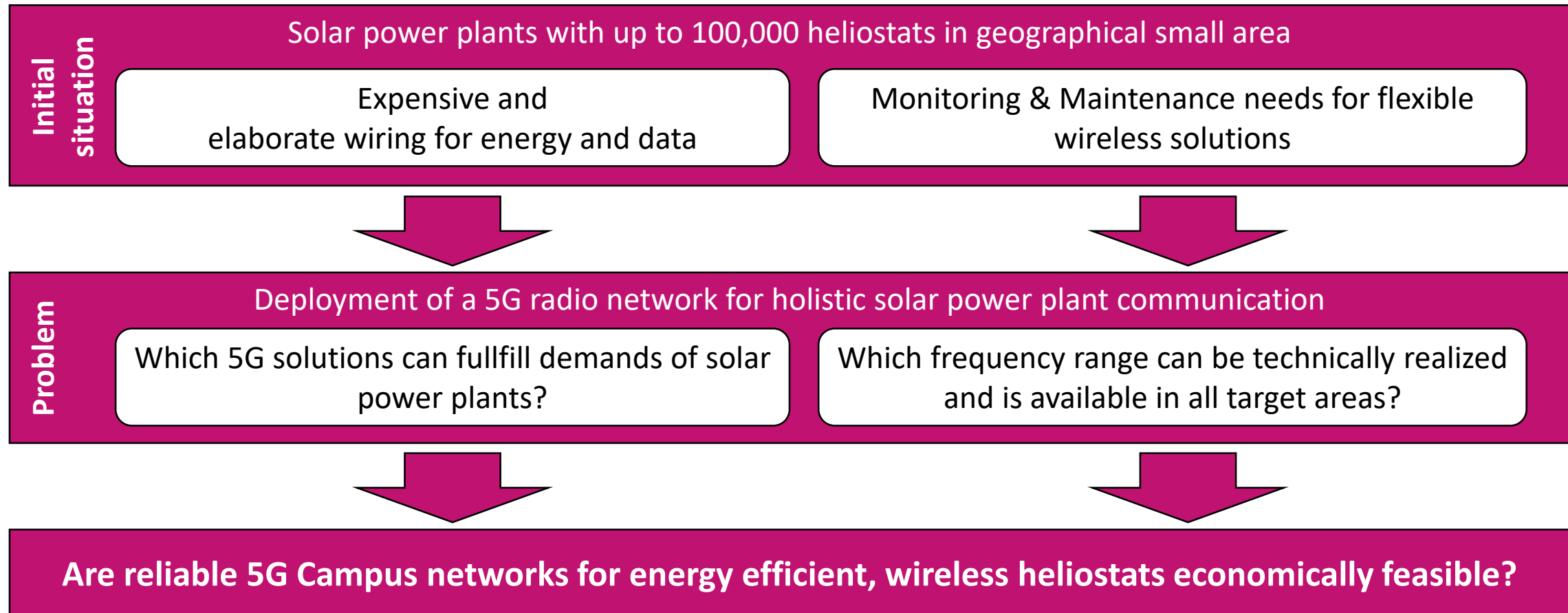


gNB (public)



gNB (private) [5]

### Project goals



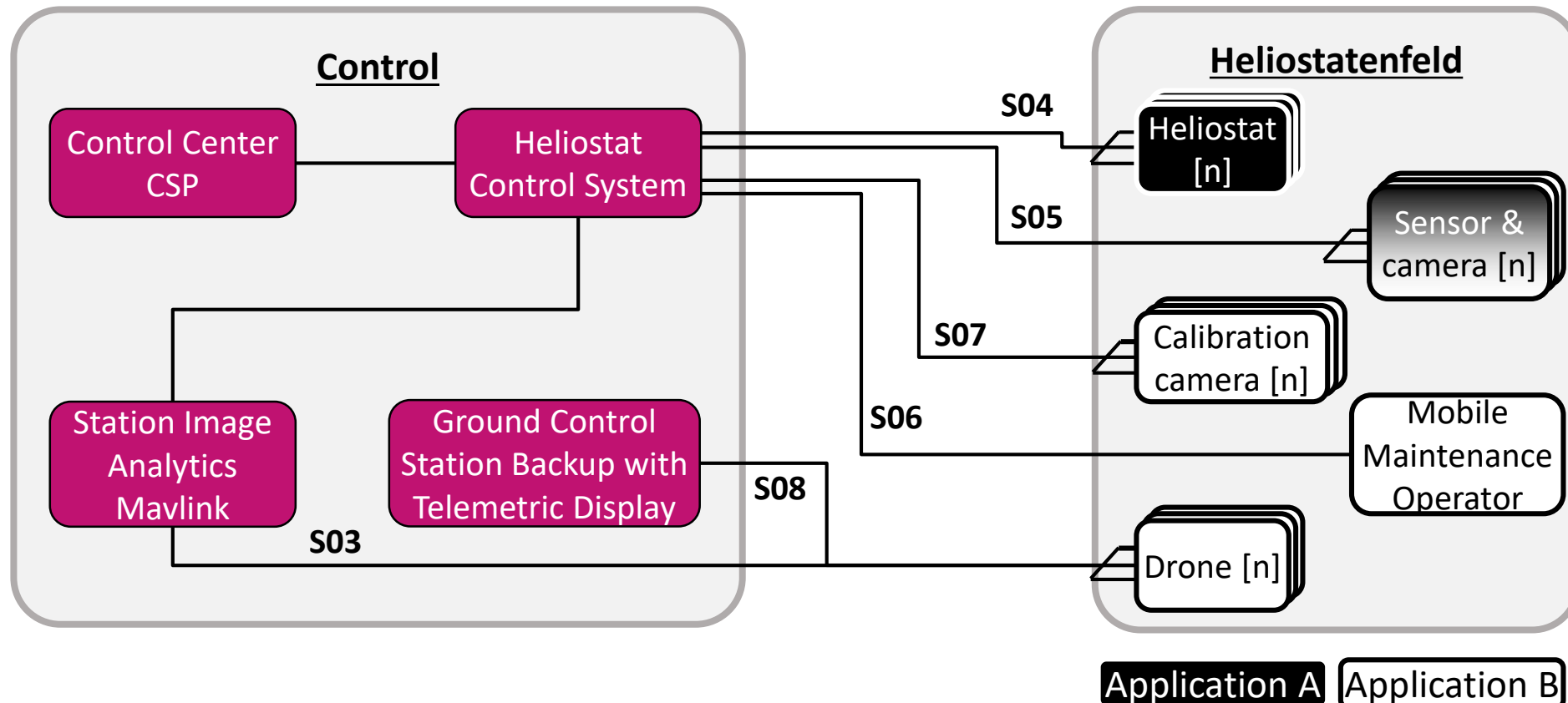


## Requirements

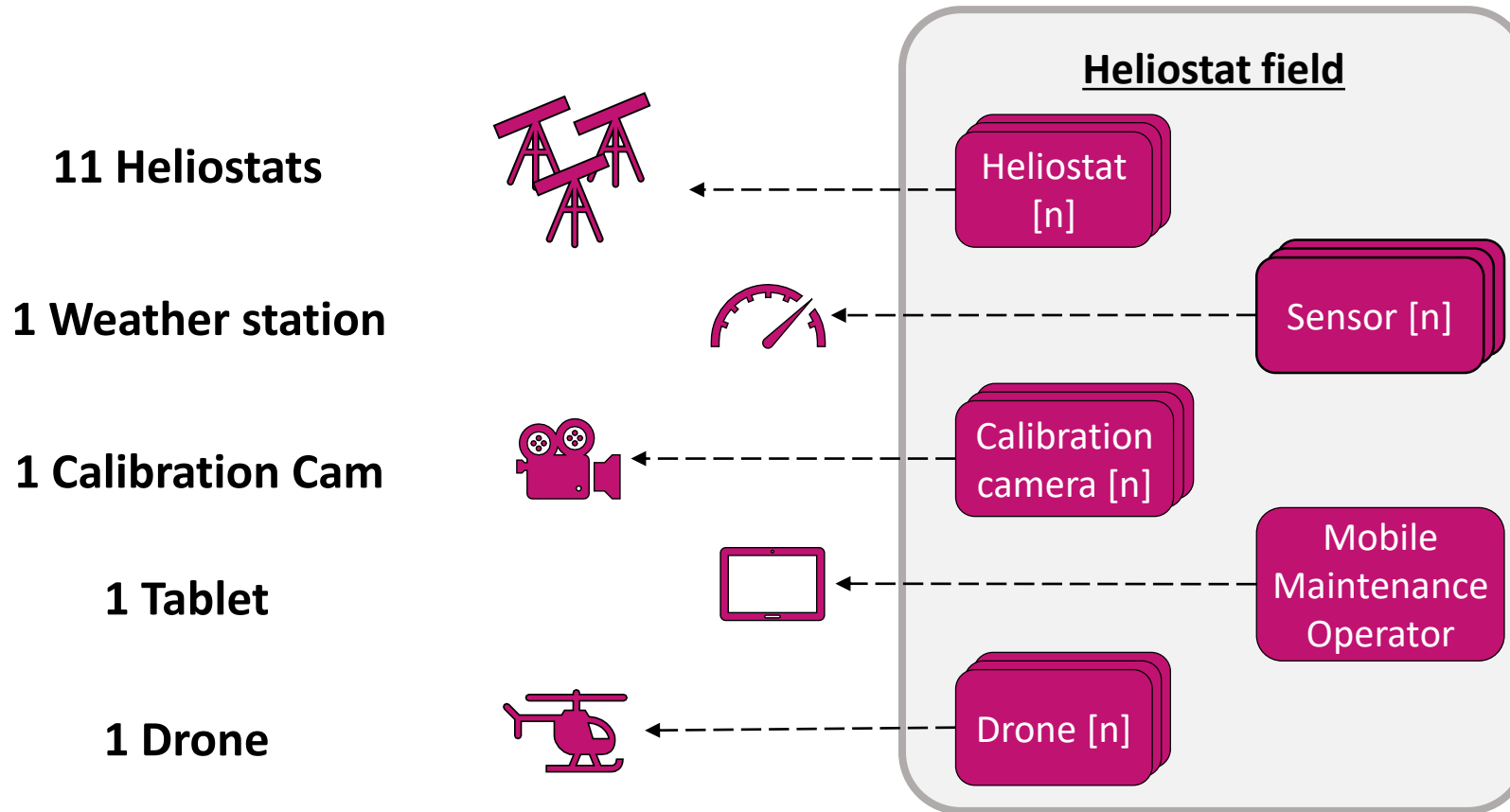
**Application A:** Highly scaled number of participants with transmission of small amounts of data, cost effective, low power (heliostats, sensor)  
 → mMTC

**Application B:** Small number of participants with high data volumes, low latency & reliability (e.g. drone)


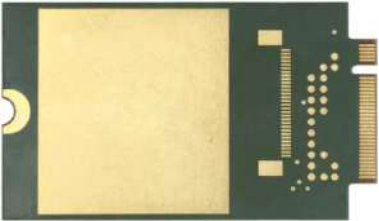

→ eMBB, uRLLC



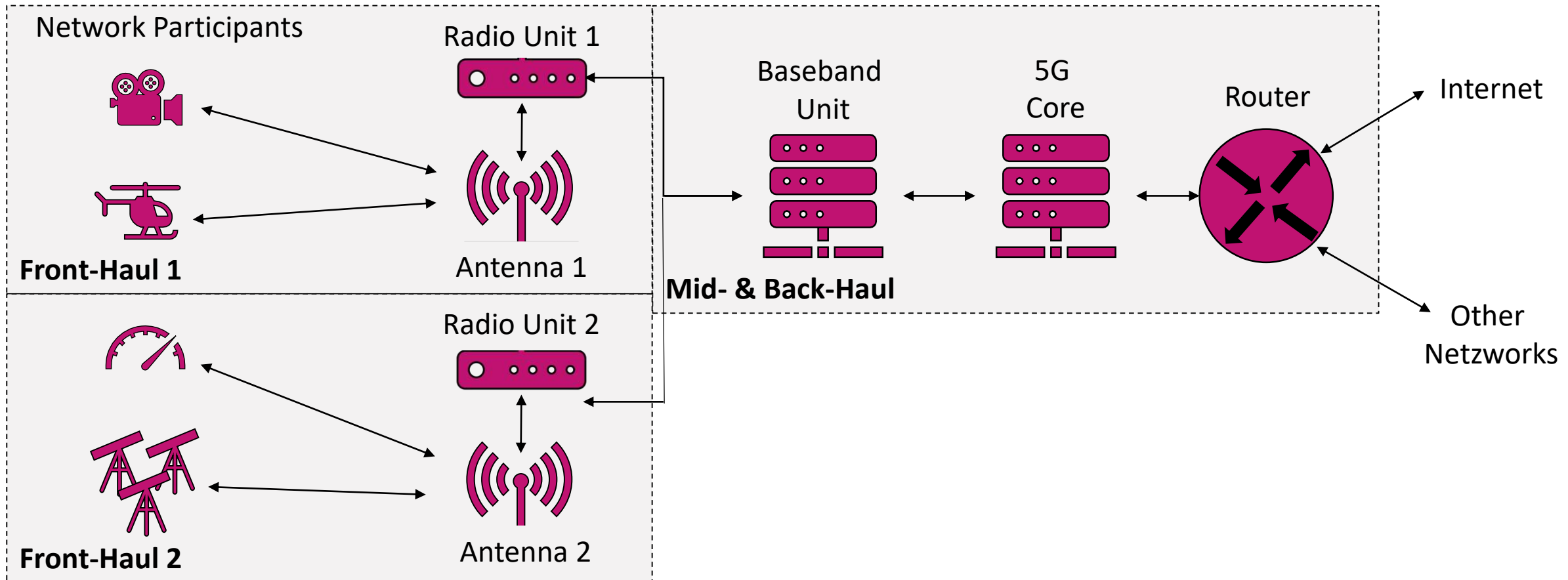
### Concept



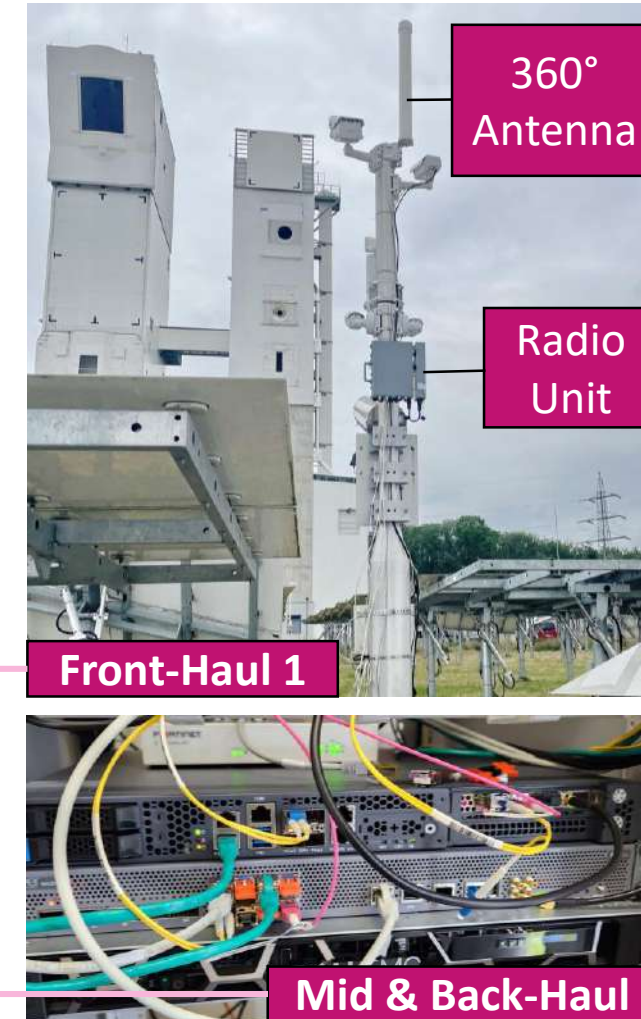
### Concept

Device that directly supports 5G & campus network	5G Modem that can be integrated on board	5G Router that can be plugged into device in exchange for ethernet
<p data-bbox="336 582 639 694">Tablet</p> 	<p data-bbox="894 582 1197 694">Drone</p> <p data-bbox="1238 582 1541 694">Heliostat (onboard)</p> 	<p data-bbox="1600 582 1829 694">Heliostat (plug-in)</p> <p data-bbox="1844 582 2099 694">Calibration Cam</p> <p data-bbox="2117 582 2321 694">Weather Station</p> 
<p data-bbox="257 1200 817 1300"><i>Support of campus networks currently limited!</i></p>	<p data-bbox="901 1200 1546 1300"><i>Most effort because of hardware re-design</i></p>	<p data-bbox="1615 1200 2321 1300"><i>Higher Hardware-Costs &amp; Protection with outdoor case necessary</i></p>

### Concept



### Realization



## Summary

- **Wireless heliostats** allow to **save costs and effort for cabling & allow more flexibility** for innovative use cases like drones
- 5G technology has a **higher data rate**, can support **different requirement profiles** and allows the use of **campus networks**
- Solar power plants are **typically location in designated areas** have a **heterogeneous requirement profile for data communication**
- A 5G campus network is currently **demonstrated & evaluated at solar tower Jülich** → technical and economical evaluation is still ongoing

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## Part 2: An IoT Platform as the basis for monitoring and automation in the solar thermal power plant

*Inga Miadowicz, DLR, Solar Research*

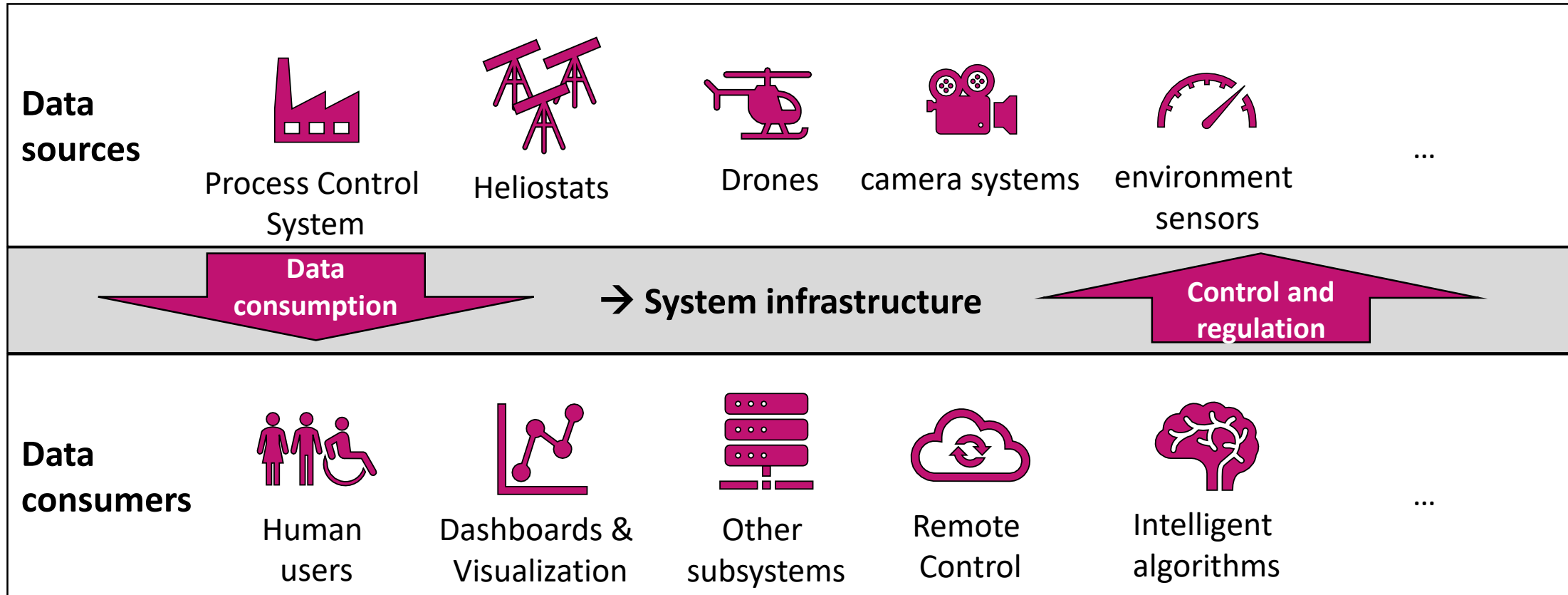
### 5G and IoT Platform for CSP

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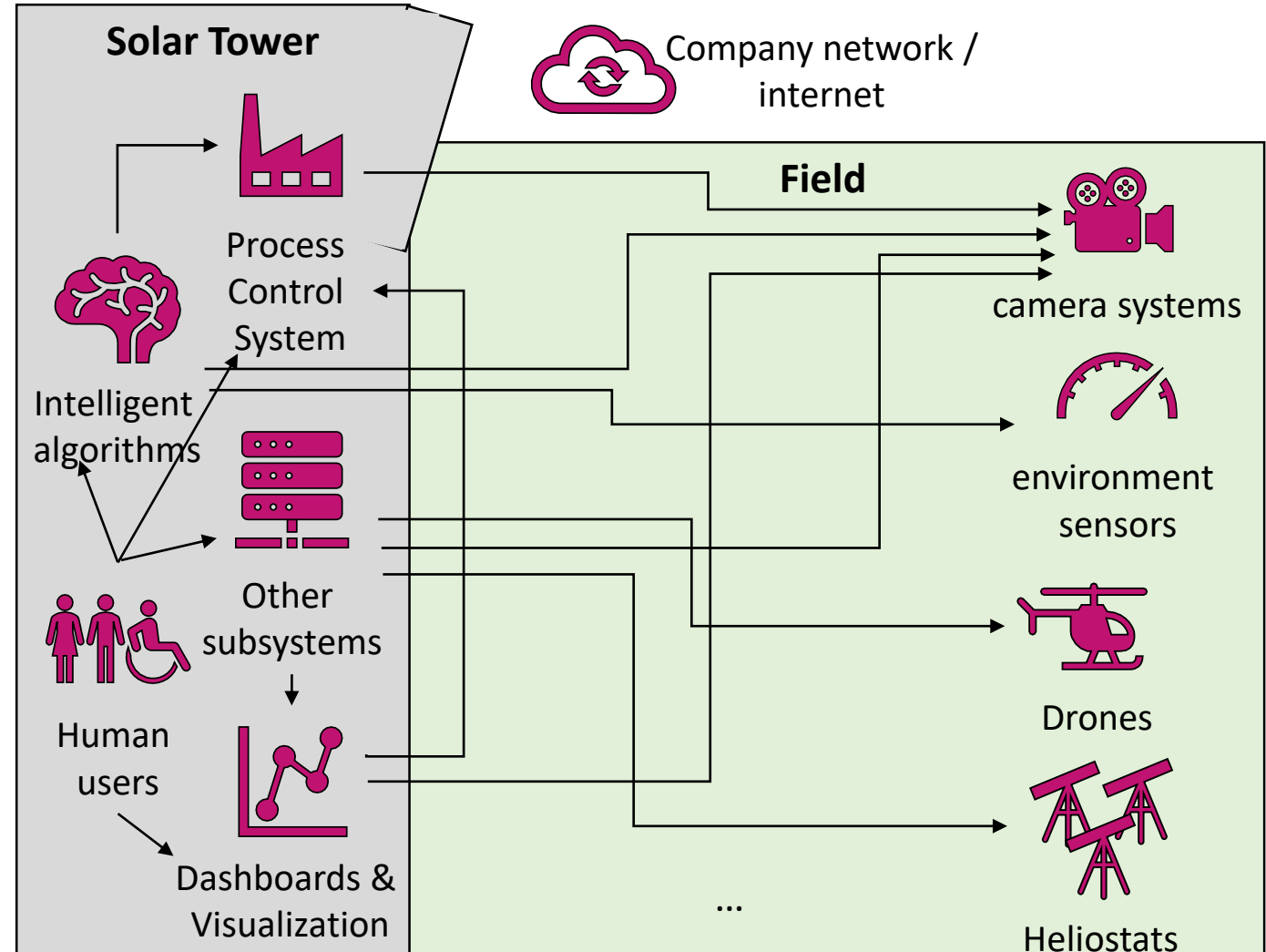
### Motivation





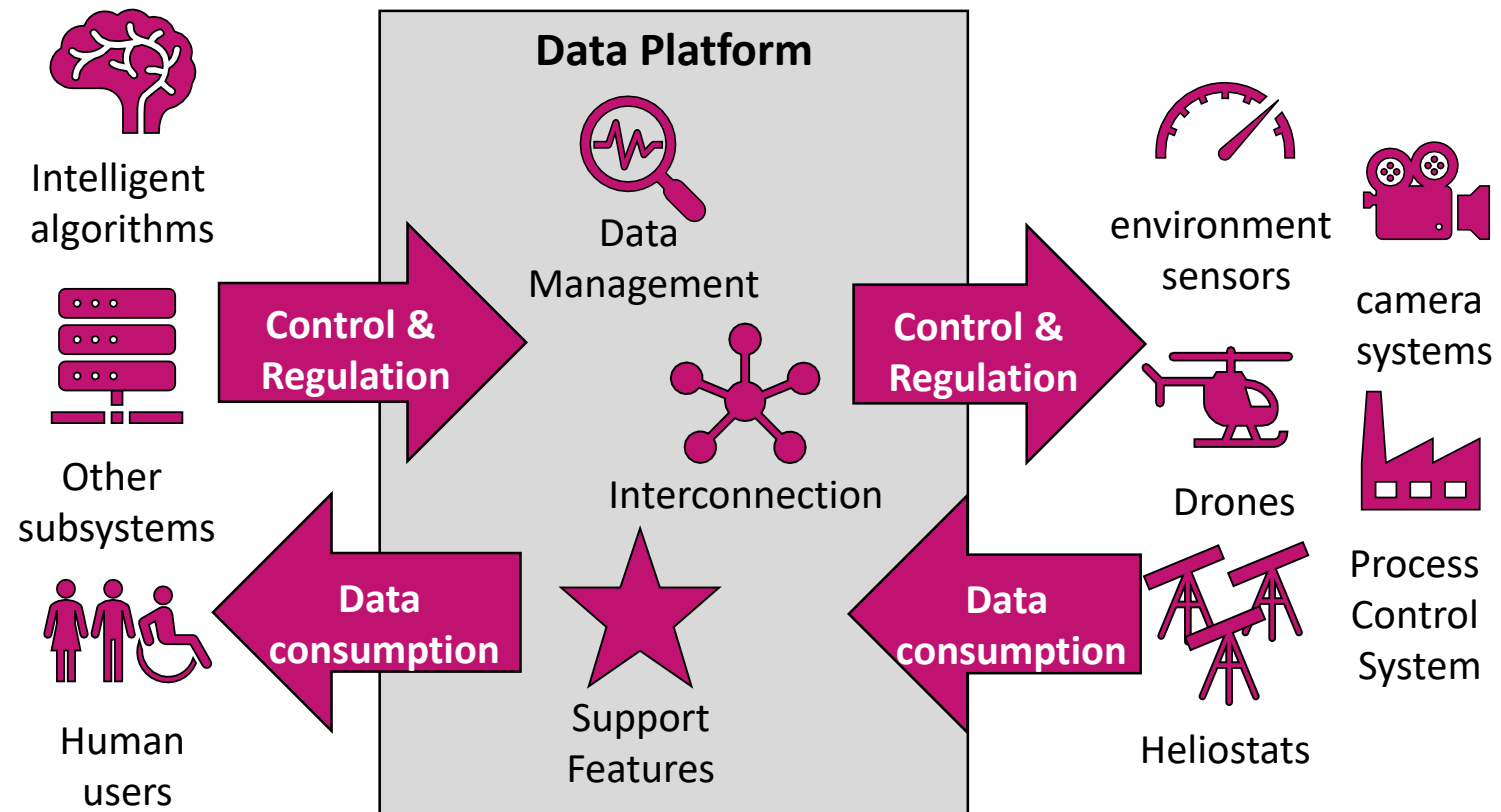
### Motivation

- Actual situation
  - Series of distributed subsystems
  - Partly connected data silos
  - Airgapped high-security environment
- Challenges
  - Heterogeneous systems and interfaces
  - Performance, stability and security
  - Huge amount of data
    - ~ 5.5 TB to process per day
    - ~ 10 TB to store per year
  - Complexity of the overall system
  - ...

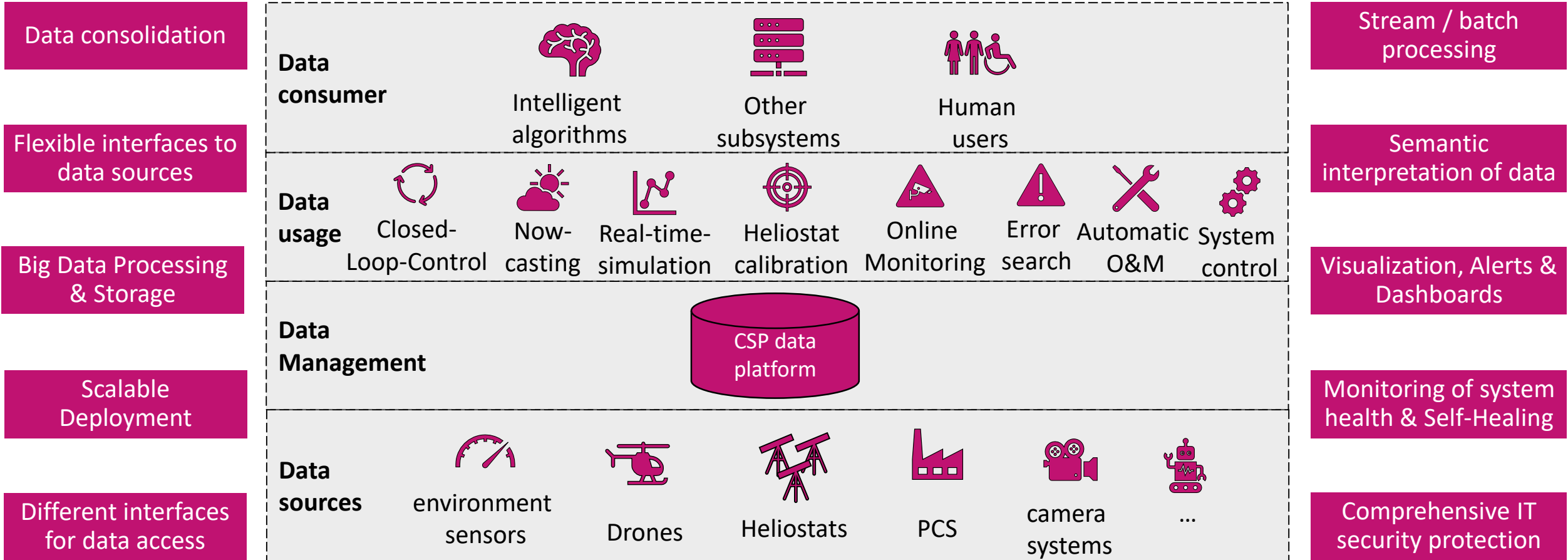


### Project Goal

- Data Platform as a centralized infrastructure for interconnection & data management
  - Collect & provide data from all sources and allow their control and regulation of system components
  - Break data silos and provide features for data-based applications and human users
  - Provide robust, secure, performant, flexible and scalable system infrastructure

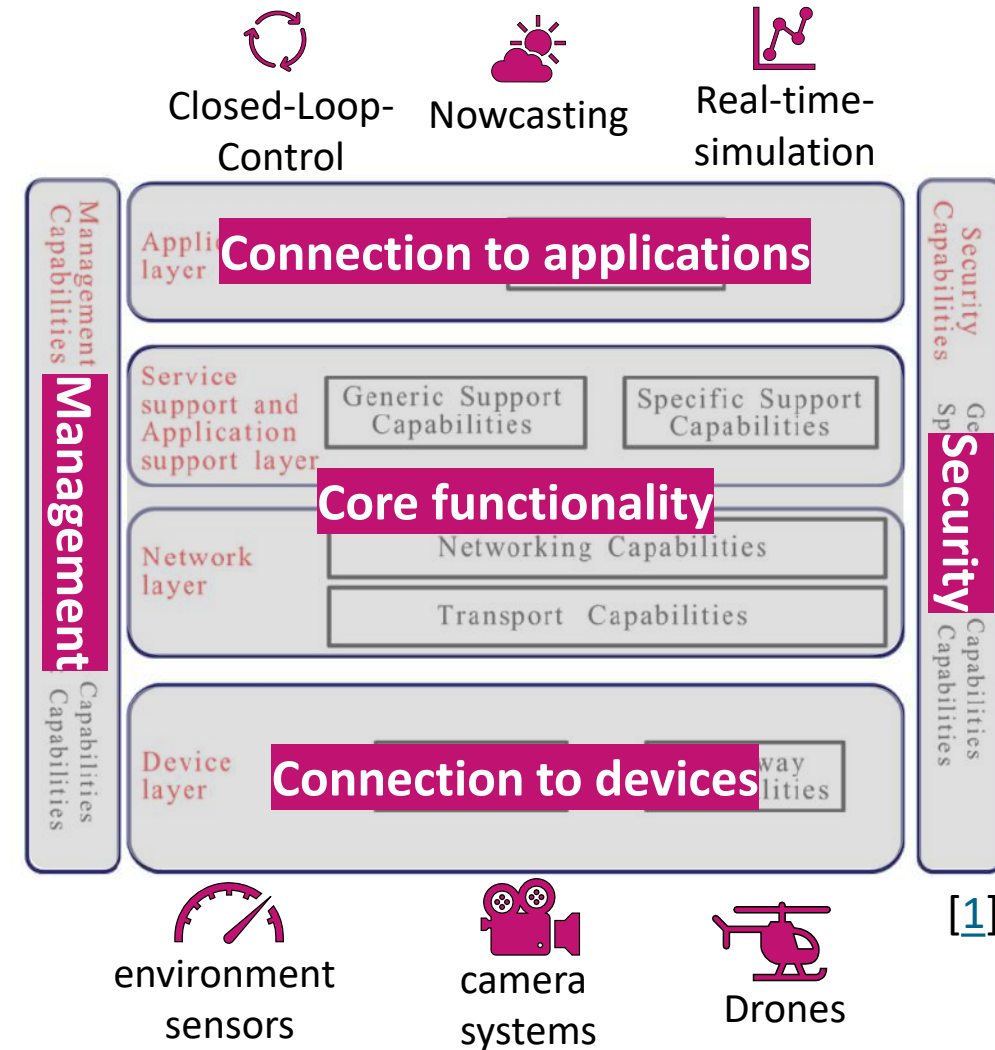


### Requirements

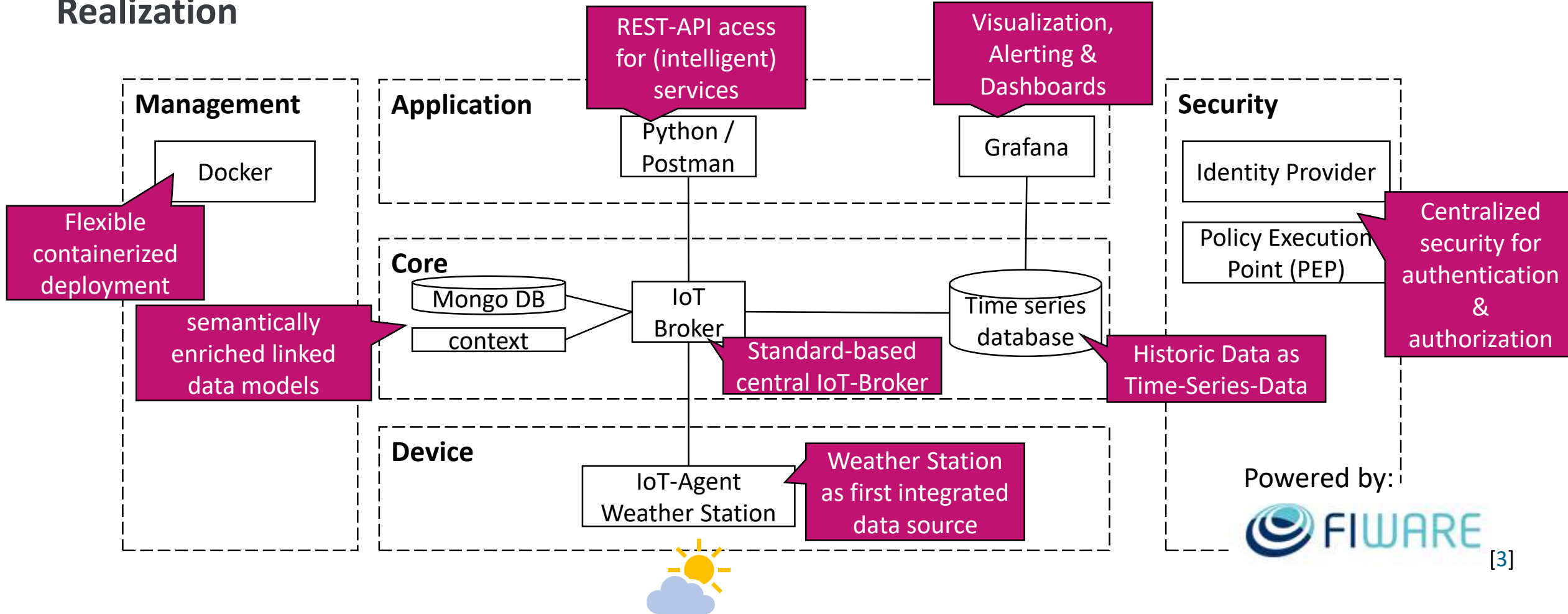


### Concept

- Reference Architectures for (I)IoT-Platforms
  - Consumes data at device layers and provides it to application layer
  - Core functionality for data management
  - Management and security services that provide functions for all layers



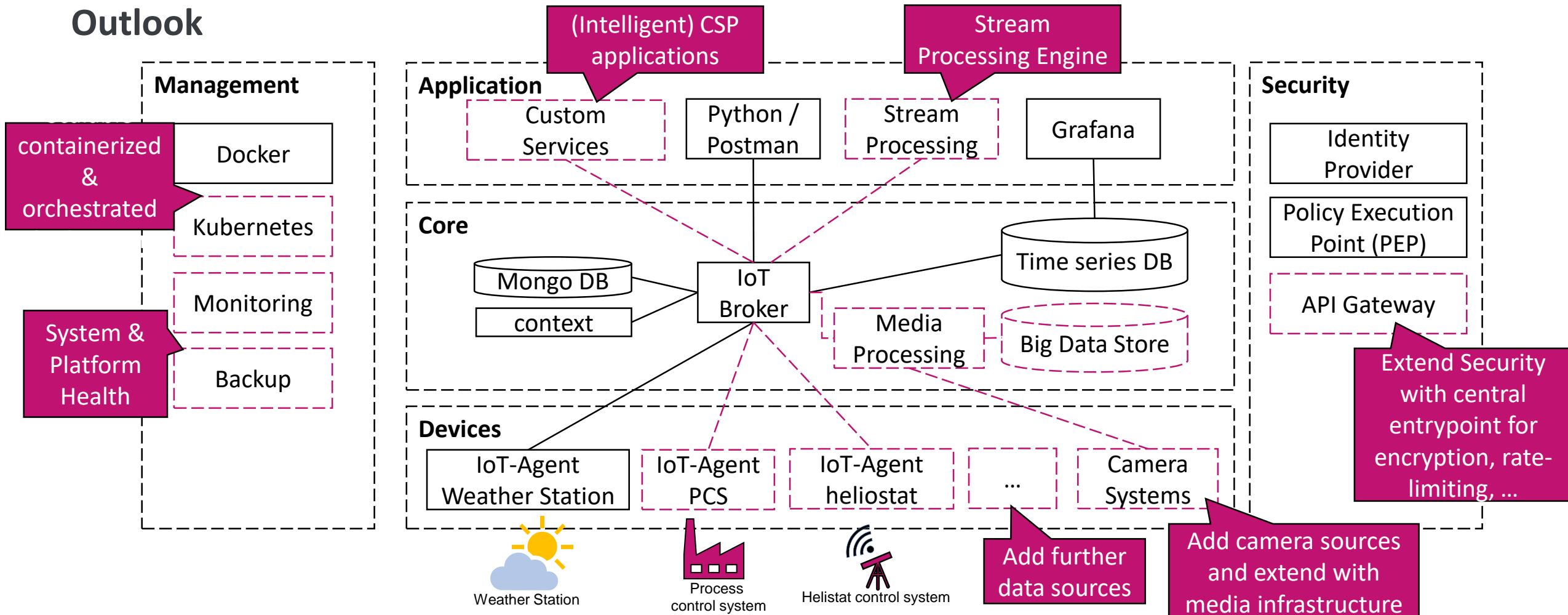
### Realization



## Realization



### Outlook



## Summary

- The **amount of data** and the **need for processing methods** is growing
- **Solar power plants have high requirements on technical infrastructure** like huge amount of subsystems and data, high degree of heterogeneity, sensitive control processes, low latency requirements...
- **A qualitative system infrastructure for data management and interconnection** of system components is important as a **basis for condition monitoring and automatization**
- A **data platform** can be used as a **middleware for interconnection and data management** of the system and its components



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Thank you.

*Inga Miadowicz, DLR, Solar Research*

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### Literature

- [1] International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC): *“IoT 2020: Smart and secure IoT platform”*, 2016, Geneva, Schweiz, <https://www.iec.ch/basecamp/iot-2020-smart-and-secure-iot-platform> (visited at 18.10.2022)
- [2] M. Ullah and A. Narayanan and A. Wolff and P. H. J. Nardelli: *„Unified Framework to Select an IoT Platform for Industrial Energy Management Systems“*, MIPRO 2021, Opatija, Kroatien
- [3] FIWARE Foundation e.V.: *„FIWARE, the Open Source Platform for Our Smart Digital Future“*, 2022, Online: <https://www.fiware.org/> (visited at 02.05.2023)
- [4] International Telecommunication Union: *“ICT infrastructure business planning toolkit – 5G networks”*, 2023, Online: [https://www.itu.int/hub/publication/d-pref-ef-ict\\_struct\\_kit-2023/](https://www.itu.int/hub/publication/d-pref-ef-ict_struct_kit-2023/) (visited at 08.09.2023)
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- [6] SANDIA Report: *Power Tower Technology Roadmap and Cost Reduction Plan* (2011), SAND2011-2419
- [7] Rana, M. M., et al. (2016). *Microgrid State Estimation Using the IoT with 5G Technology*. Internet of Things (IoT) in 5G Mobile Technologies. C. X. Mavromoustakis, G. Mastorakis and J. M. Batalla. Cham, Springer International Publishing: 175-195.

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