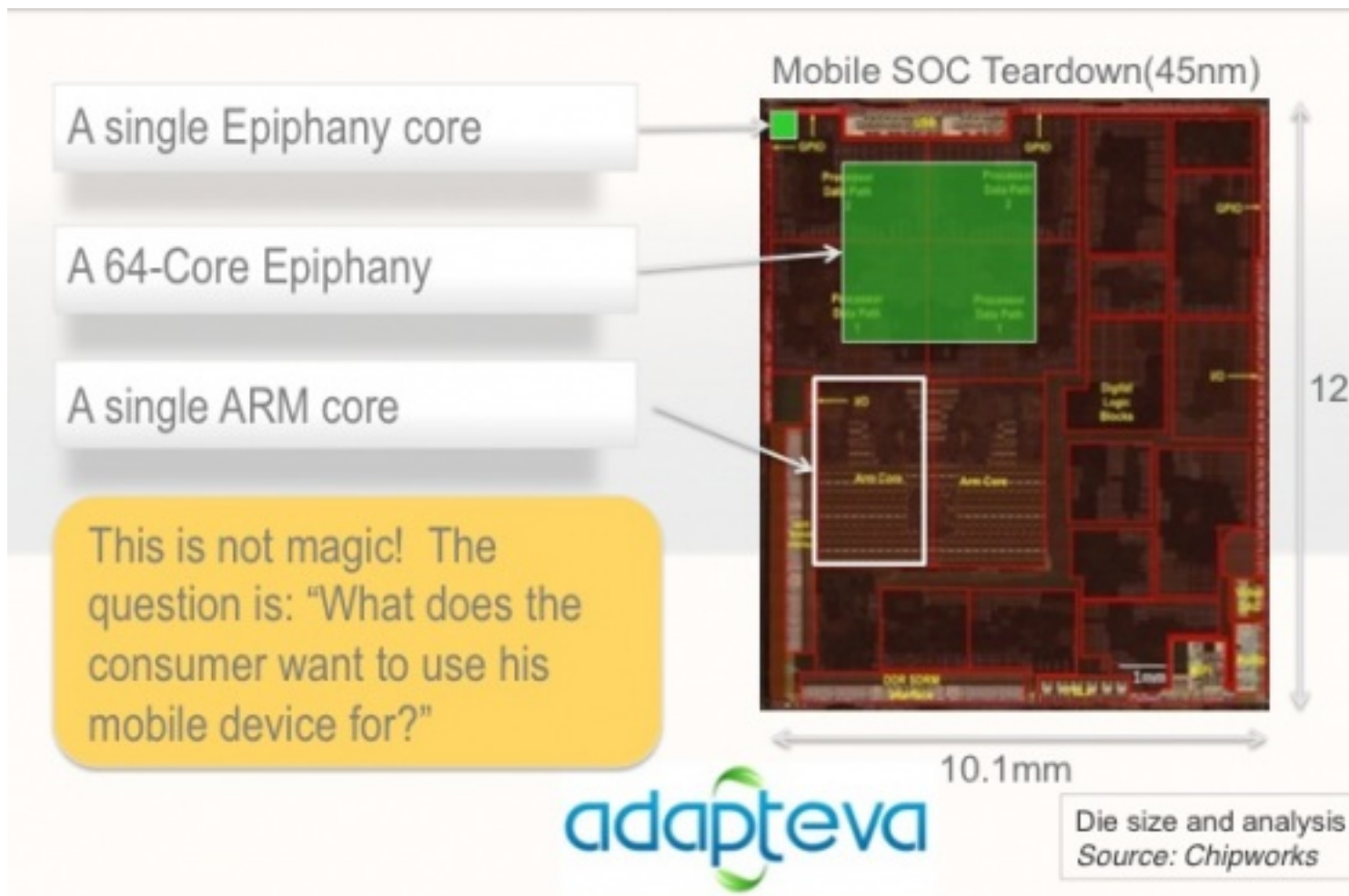


Smartphones as a Supercomputer?

Written by Marco Attard
06. May 2011

Adapteva plans to push smartphones beyond dual-core processors, with a design for a 64-core accelerator for handheld devices.

Such an accelerator have a similar role to that of specialised multicore chips used in supercomputing, only with a difference-- Adapteva's Epiphany design operates at only 1 W.



The design can scale to up to 4096 cores (which would run on 64W), but Adapteva's current focus is on mobile applications. The company says an Epiphany 64-core accelerator would also be quite small-- 8mm square.

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Adapteva still has to convince device makers to embrace its yet unproven (if not unneeded) design, however-- as well as convince them that it's more worthed to process data on the device, rather than ship it over cellular network. Will it manage? The future will tell, of course.

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