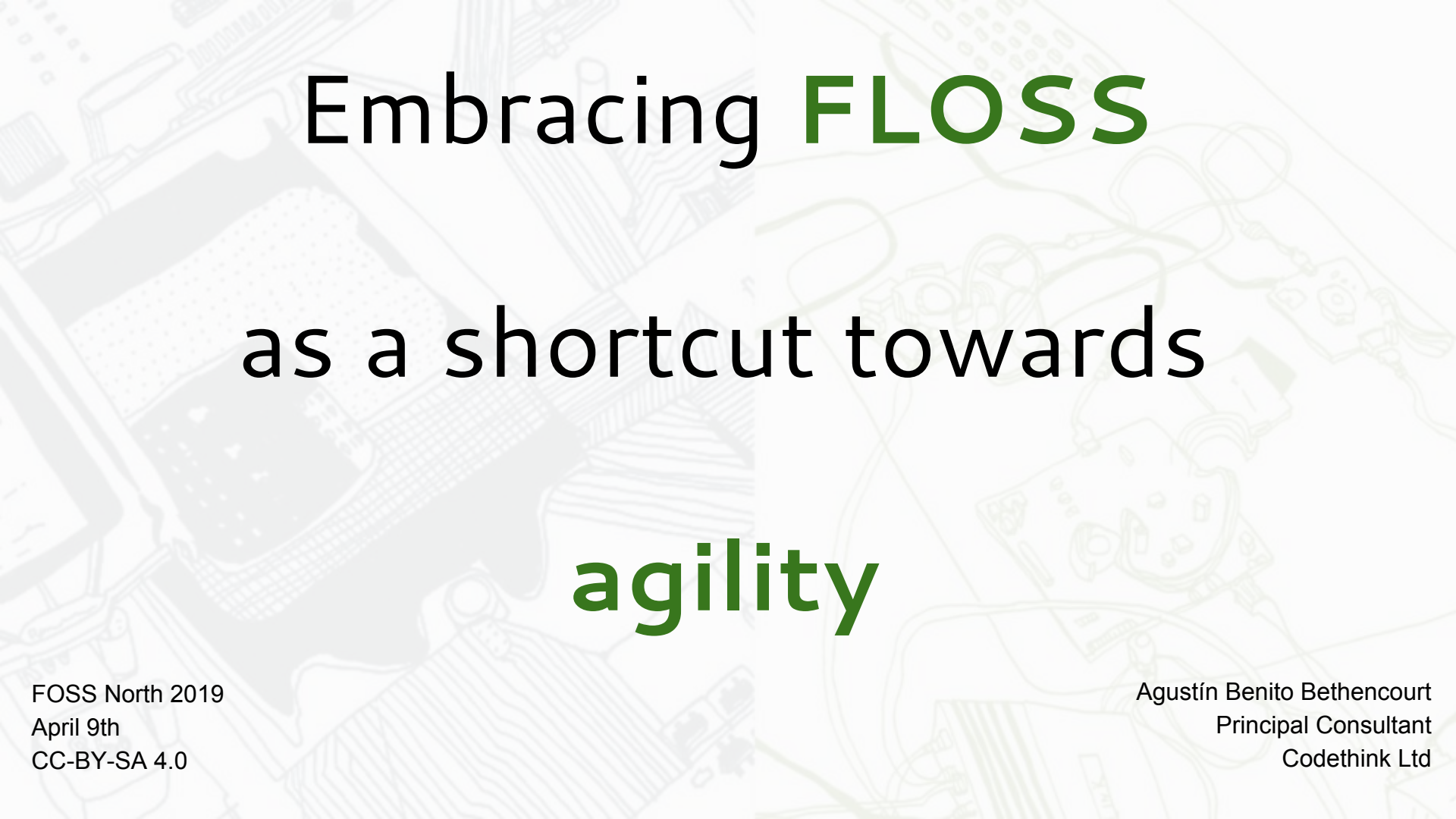




CodeThink



Embracing **FLOSS**

as a shortcut towards

agility

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Codethink Ltd



About the speaker

The speaker: @toscalix

- Principal Consultant at [Codethink Ltd](#)
- Experienced manager in open and distributed environments.
- Consultancy/management of software production and maintenance of complex Linux based systems/platforms/distros.
- Contributor in several FOSS communities (KDE, openSUSE...).
- More about Agustín at [his site](#).

The background is a light green illustration. On the left, a typewriter is shown in a stylized, line-art manner. On the right, there are various computer components including a keyboard, a mouse, and several cables, also rendered in a light green line-art style. The overall aesthetic is clean and technical.

About Codethink

Some quick facts about Codethink

- Provides system level software engineering and consultancy services.
- Supports global brands in the automotive, technology, medical devices and enterprise sectors.
- Founded 2007, self-funded, independent and impartial.
- 90+ staff, mostly systems software engineers and consultants.
- Headquartered in Manchester, UK with a further presence around the world.

Our customers come to us for

- Software engineering to deliver hard, system level projects.
- World class Linux and Open Source expertise.
- Consultancy to improve software engineering practice.
- Design and build of software engineering tools.
- Strategies for long term maintenance of software.
- Lowering client dependence on software vendors and third parties.
- Honest, impartial advice and critical thinking.

Open Source Experts

- Codethink was founded by FLOSS engineers.
- Long and successful track record in creating, supporting and exploiting Open Source initiatives.
- Our people contribute to a variety of Open Source projects on regular basis. Some them play key roles.
- Support corporate customers in making the most of FOSS.

Codethink and Open Source: examples

- [BuildStream](#), the software integration tool.
- [BuildGrid](#), remote build caching and execution.
- [Freedesktop-SDK](#), which provides runtimes based on freedesktop.org modules and platform and SDK runtimes for Flatpak applications.
- [Trustable Software](#), a systematic approach to establish trust in software.

Talking Points

1. Disclaimer and hypothesis.
2. FLOSS as shortcut to adopt agile values.
3. FLOSS as shortcut to adopt agile principles.
4. FLOSS as shortcut to adopt Agile methodologies.
5. FLOSS as a shortcut to develop key skills.



Let's start!

The background features a light green line-art illustration of a typewriter on the left and various computer hardware components like a keyboard, mouse, and cables on the right. The text is centered over this background.

1.- Disclaimer and hypothesis

Disclaimer 1

Agility is referred as in this talk as "*agile at scale*" instead of the brand, the methods or the definition at the Agile Manifesto.

Disclaimer 2

I usually refer to ... “towards agility” to reinforce the idea of *journey* compared with the sense of *destination* that many provide to the agile methods.

Hypothesis 1

- Agile methods were designed as team-level methods.
They scale well horizontally across teams.
- Sadly local optimizations does not roll up.

Hypothesis 1

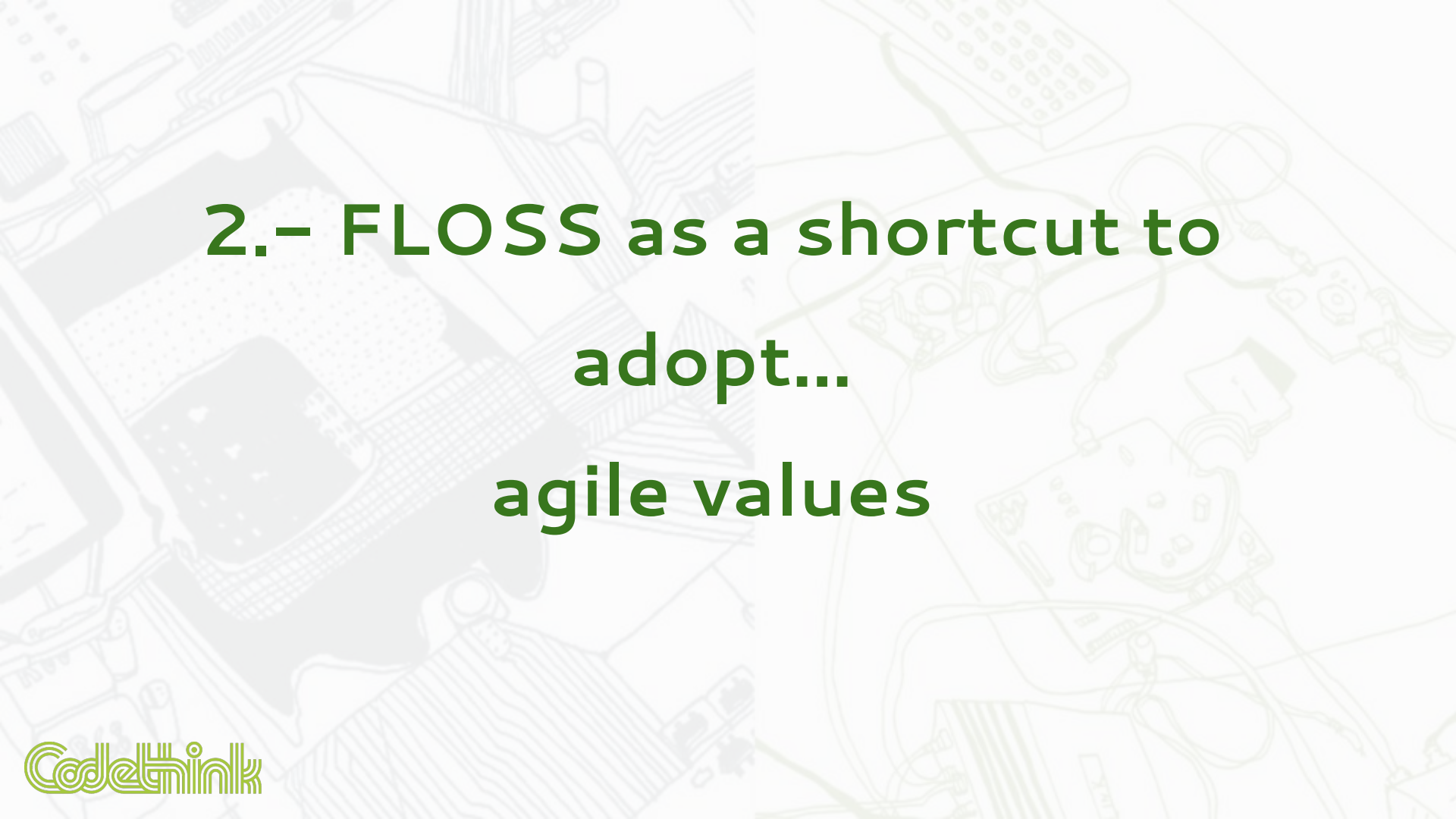
Organizations cannot “become agile” by simply scaling up team-level methods (agile methodologies).

Hypothesis 2

- FLOSS focus on communities and practices, which increases adaptability.
- Some FLOSS projects have demonstrated they can scale up.

Hypothesis 2

FLOSS *culture* and many of its *practices* can help organizations in their journey towards agility (transformation at scale).



**2.- FLOSS as a shortcut to
adopt...
agile values**

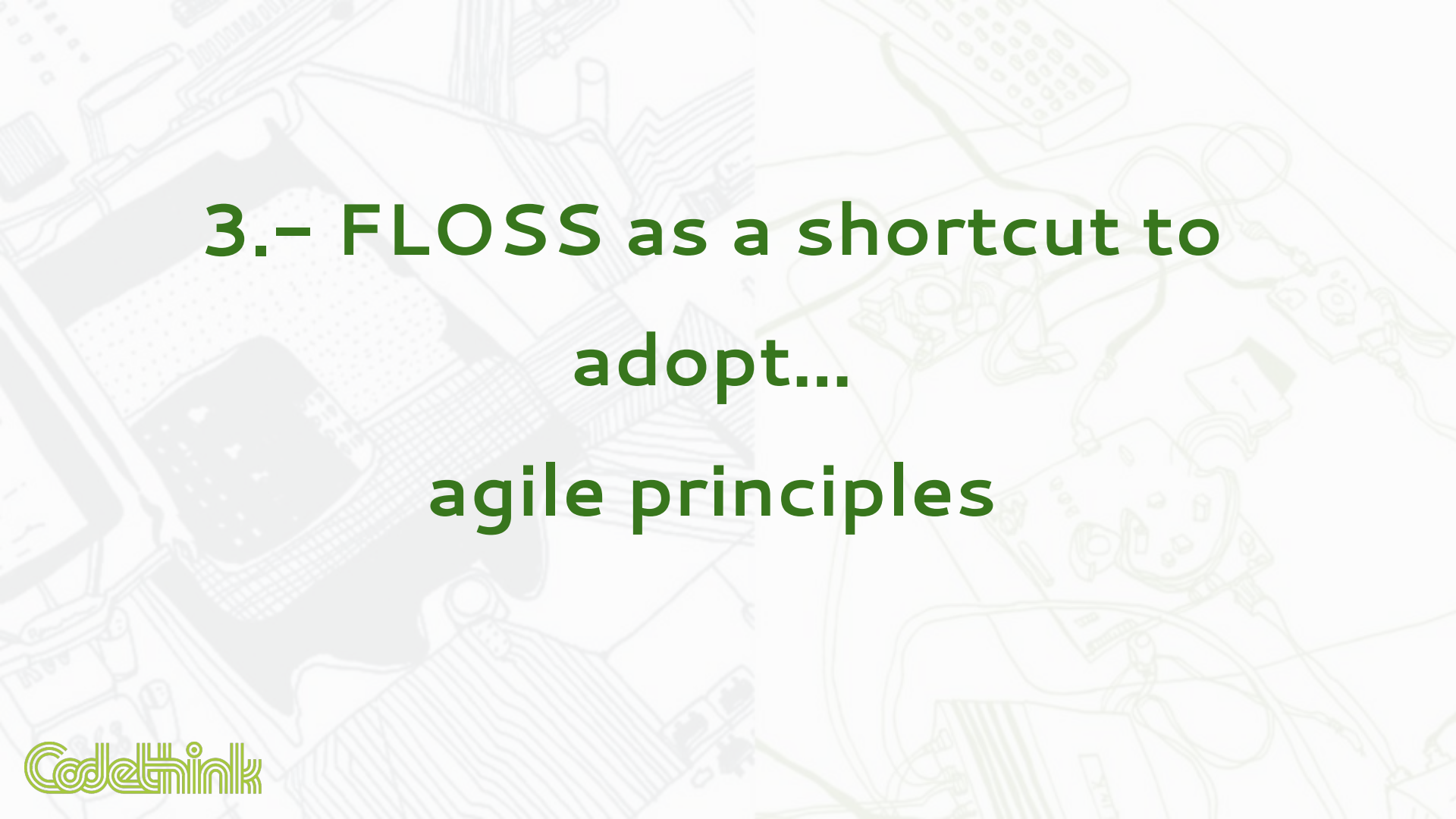
Agile values

- **Individuals and Interactions** over processes and tools. **Team.**
- **Working Software** over comprehensive documentation. **Trust.**
- **Customer Collaboration** over contract negotiation.
Collaboration.
- **Responding to Change** over following a plan. **Flexibility.**

Agile VS (subjectives) Open Source key values

- Team.
- Trust.
- Collaboration.
- Flexibility.

- Consensus.
- **Transparency.**
- Co-creation.
- Freedom.




**3.- FLOSS as a shortcut to
adopt...
agile principles**

Agile vs Open Source Principles

“5.- Build projects around motivated individuals. Give them the environment and support they need, and trust them to get the job done.”

[12 Principles](#) behind the Agile Manifesto




**4.- FLOSS as a shortcut to
adopt...
agile methodologies**

Agile Methodologies vs FLOSS best practices

Co-located vs remote vs distributed teams.

- Agile promotes colocation.
- The number of distributed companies doing agile/DevOps/CD is growing.
- Open Source projects are global (fully distributed).



**5.- FLOSS as a shortcut to
develop...
key skills**

Competences, skills

The background of the slide features a light green, stylized illustration of various electronic components and circuitry. On the left, there's a detailed view of a printed circuit board (PCB) with various components and traces. On the right, there's a more abstract representation of interconnected components, including what looks like a microcontroller or sensor module, with various cables and connectors. The overall aesthetic is clean and technical.

From project to product mindset:

- Code ownership.
- Maintainable code.

The background features a stylized illustration of a computer keyboard and mouse, rendered in light green lines. The keyboard is on the left, and the mouse is on the right. The text is centered over the keyboard area.

... in summary

Takeaways

FLOSS projects provide a *low risk – high return* learning ecosystem for professionals of those organizations involved in transformation processes towards agility.



Thank you

Agustín Benito Bethencourt

@toscalix



Q&A

The image features a stylized logo for 'CodeThink' in a vibrant green color. The text is rendered in a unique, rounded, and interconnected font style. The background is a light green gradient, overlaid with faint, grey line-art sketches of various computer hardware components, including keyboards, mice, and circuit boards, creating a technical and digital atmosphere.

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