

Aug 2021

Qualcomm

# The Future Growth and Challenges of Semiconductors From Fab to Test to Hardware

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Qualcomm Technologies, Inc.



[illegible]



Healthcare



Smart cities



Industrial



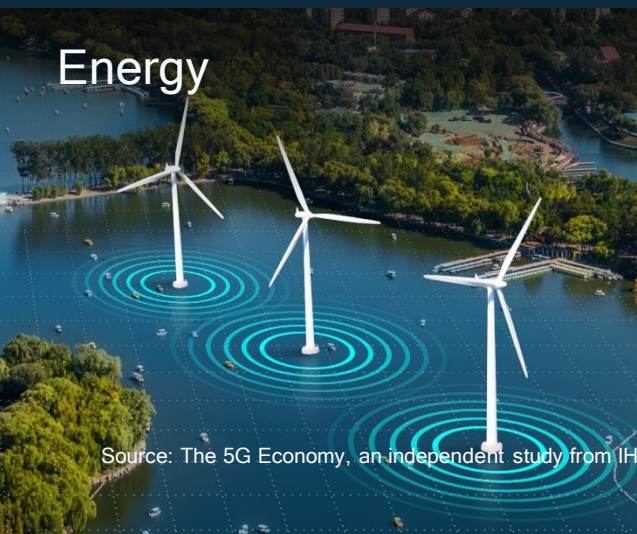
Agriculture



# Driving more than a decade of digital transformation

More than \$13 trillion in economic activity enabled by 5G in 2035

Energy



Retail



Automotive

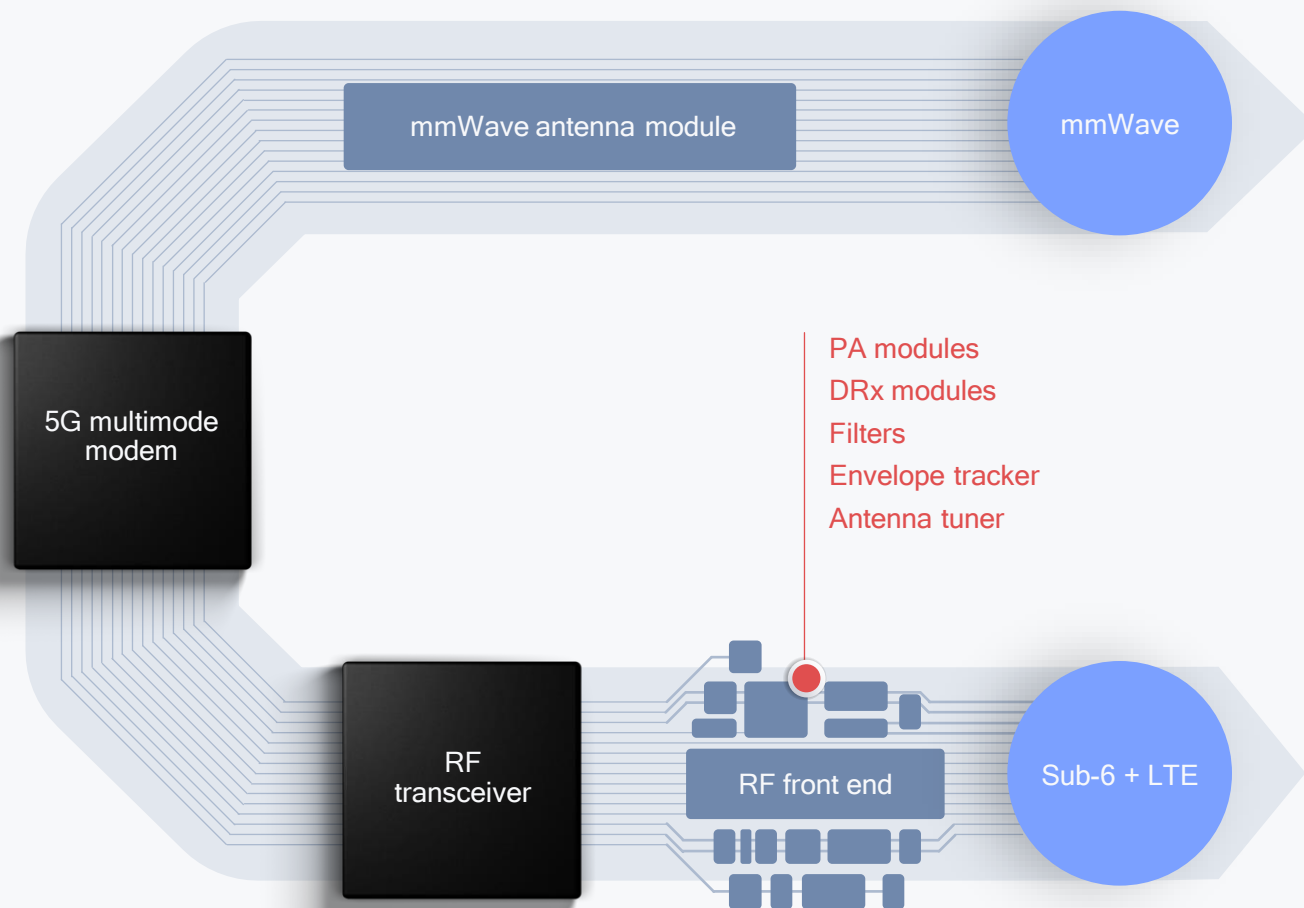


Manufacturing



Source: The 5G Economy, an independent study from IHS Markit, commissioned by Qualcomm Technologies, Inc., November 2020





# 5G demands complex integration

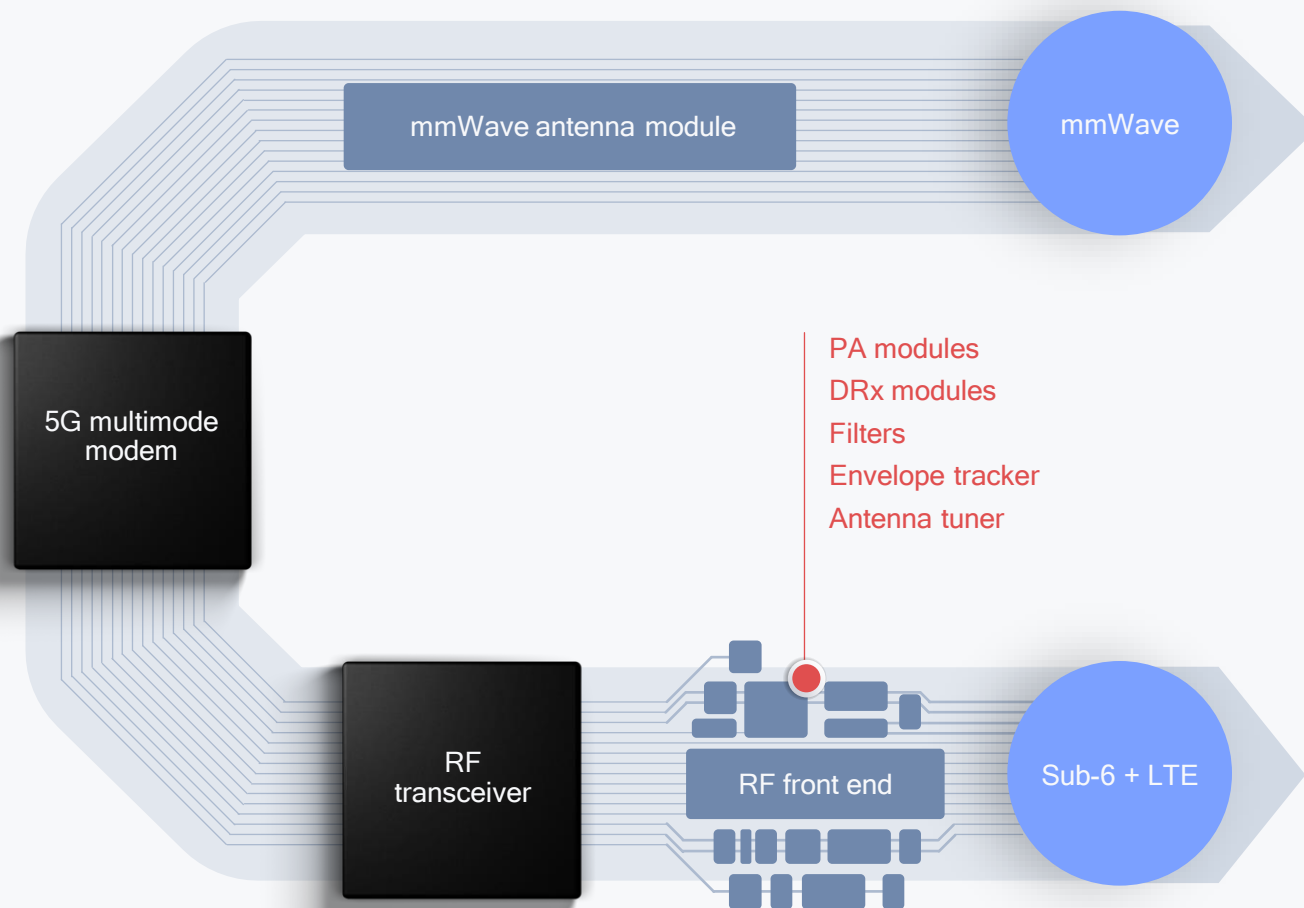
Increased performance

Lower power

Improved thermal performance

Smaller form factors

Faster time-to-launch



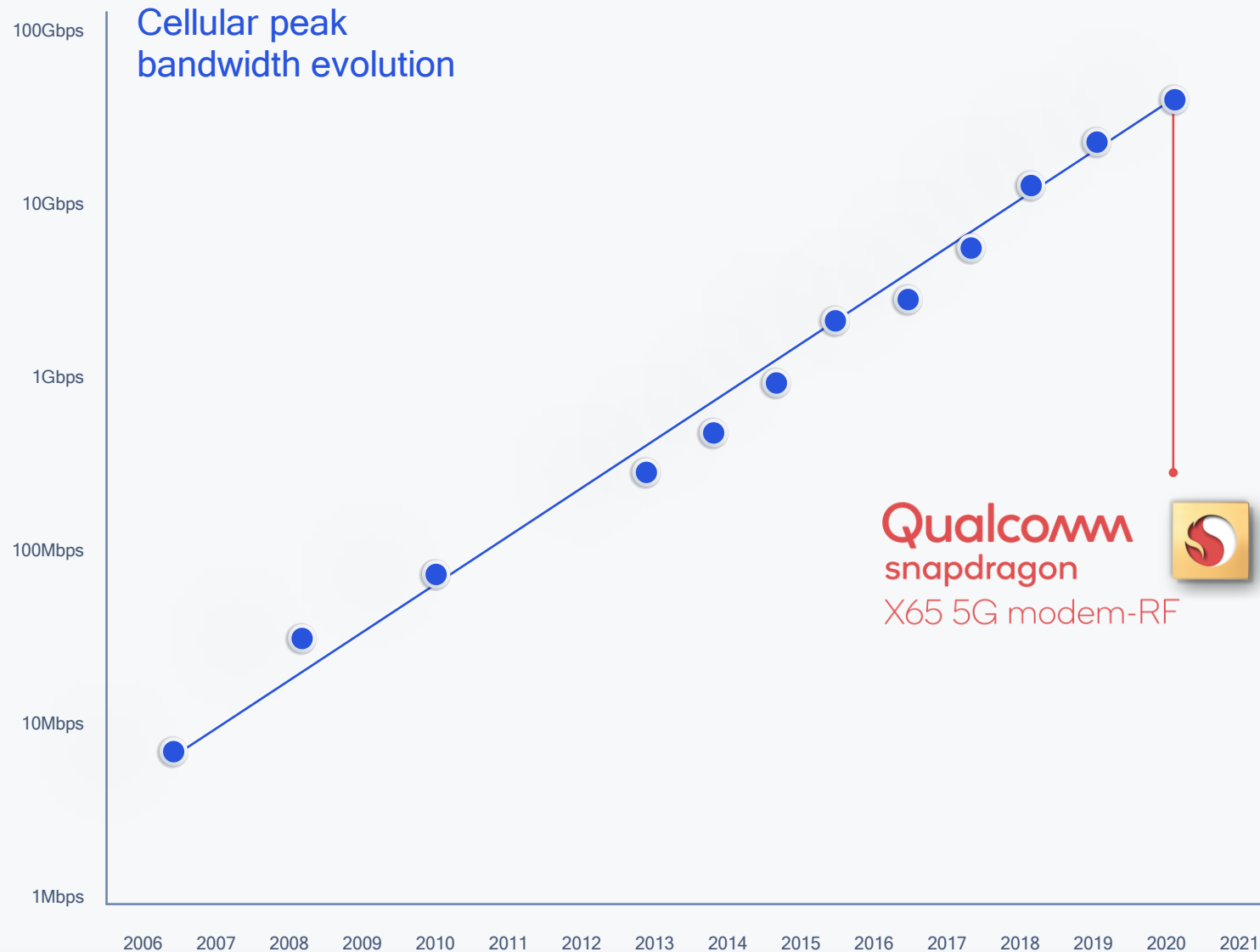
# Building a modem-RF system

100+ active and passive ICs

Performance a strong function of integration architecture

Wide range of semi-technologies

- 3/4/5nm CMOS
- 0.15nm PMIC
- Fin-Fet RF
- RF SOI



# Sustained innovation is driving cellular performance

Snapdragon  
5G Modem-RF Systems  
are realizing Edholm's Law

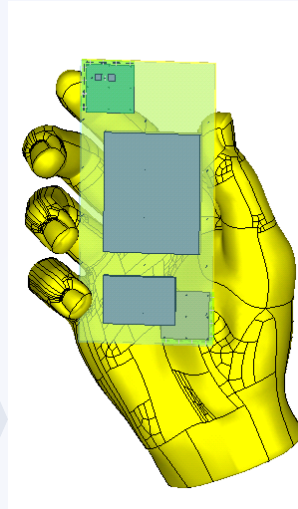
Source: ABI Research, QTR2 2021  
Qualcomm Snapdragon is a product of Qualcomm Technologies, Inc. and/or its subsidiaries.



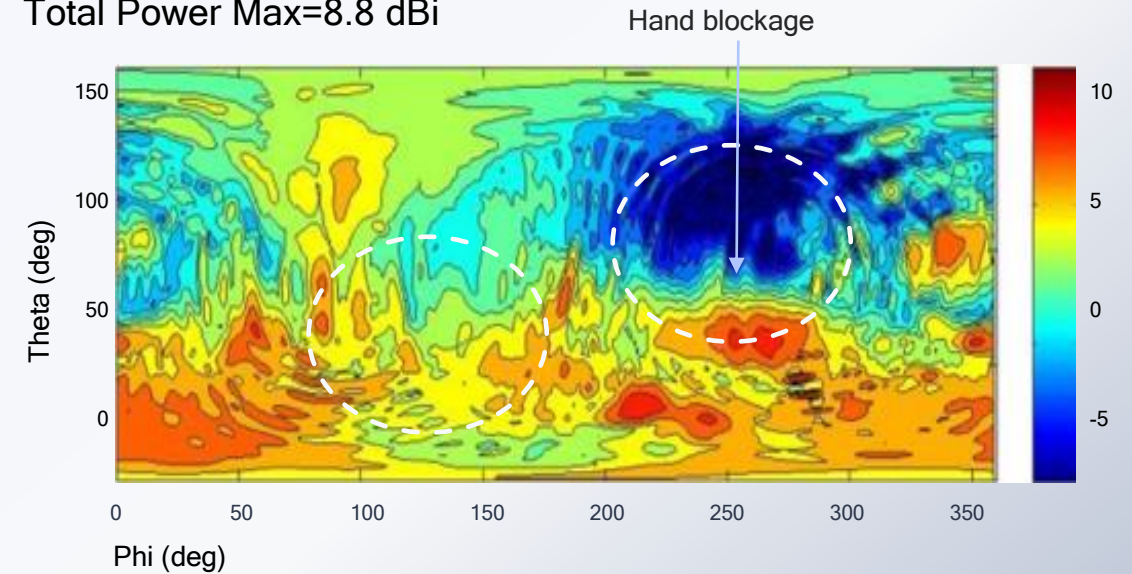
# Improving reliability utilizing device antenna diversity



Provides nearly  
spherical coverage  
in free space



Total Gain (dBi)  
Total Power Max=8.8 dBi



## Qualcomm Research Simulations

Mitigates hand-blocking and reduces impact of random user orientation

Results drove commercial products – Qualcomm® QTM052 5G NR mmWave antenna module



# Accelerating the future of automotive

Over 100 million vehicles using Qualcomm® Automotive solutions



Bus ahead  
predicted to  
change lane  
70 mph

Freeway exit  
in 1 mile

Slow truck. Pass  
and change lane  
to exit  
63 mph

Speed  
limit 70

# 5G

Accelerating  
globally

165+

Operators with 5G  
commercially deployed

270+

Additional operators  
investing in 5G

500M

5G smartphones  
to ship in 2021

750M+

5G smartphones  
to ship in 2022

1B+

5G connections by 2023 –  
2 years faster than 4G

3.8B

5G smartphones to ship  
between 2020-2024

Sources – 5G commercial networks and operators investing in 5G: GSA, Jun 2021. 5G device shipment projections: Qualcomm estimates, Feb 2021. 2023 5G connection projections – average of average of ABI, Jun 2020; Ericsson, Jun2020; and GSMA Intelligence, Aug 2020. Cumulative 5G smartphone shipments: avg of CCS Insight (Sep/Nov 2020), CounterPoint Research (Dec 2020/Jan 2021), IDC (Nov 2020), Strategy Analytics (Dec 2020/Jan 2021).

# Advancing high-performance, low-power computing

Requires leading edge technology and continued process innovation  
AND TEST INNOVATION



Premium tier smartphones



Automotive central compute architecture



Extended reality



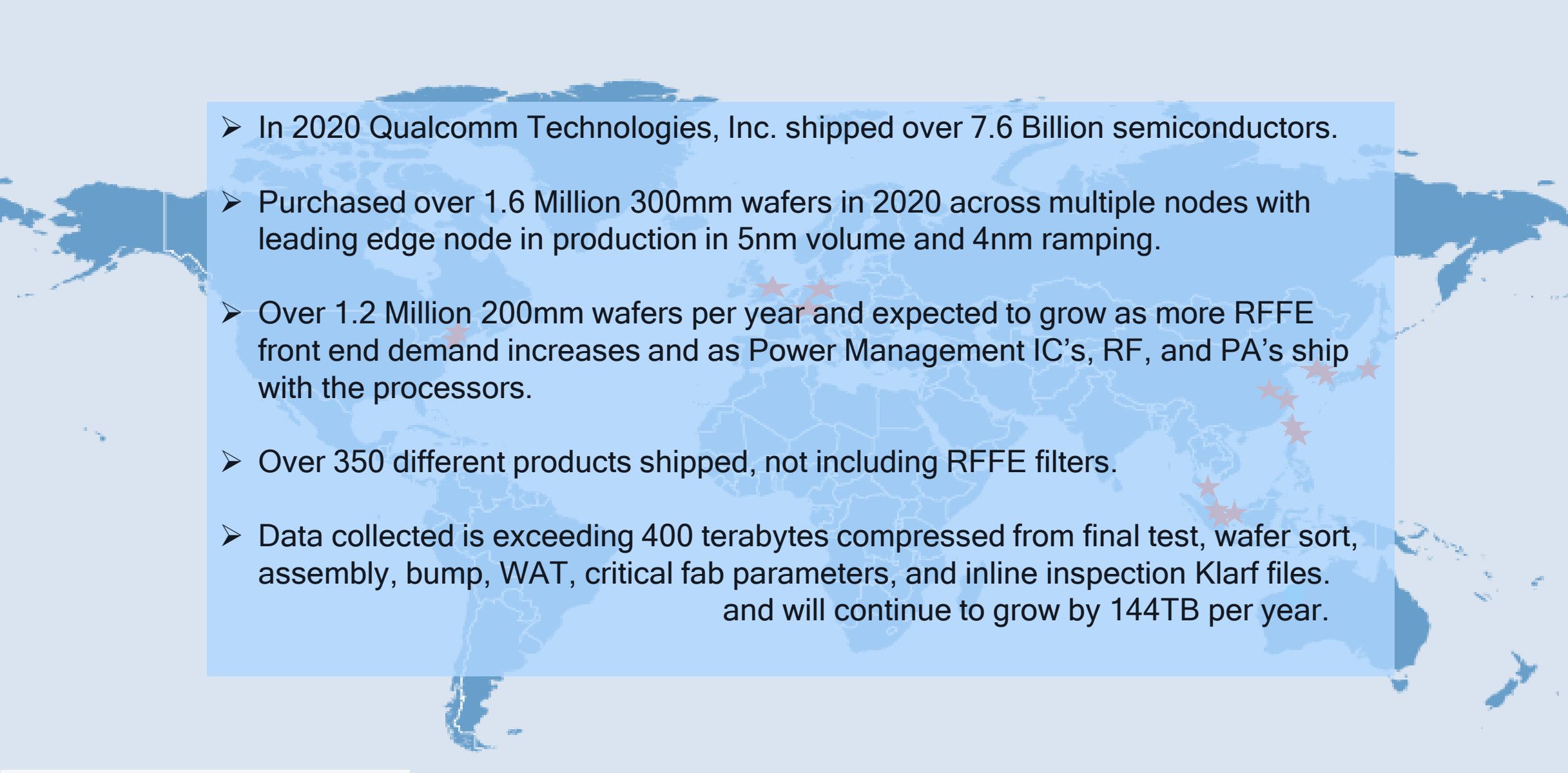
Always On, Always Connected PC

## Continuing to scale performance, power, and area

Supporting new silicon partitions | High-performance computing



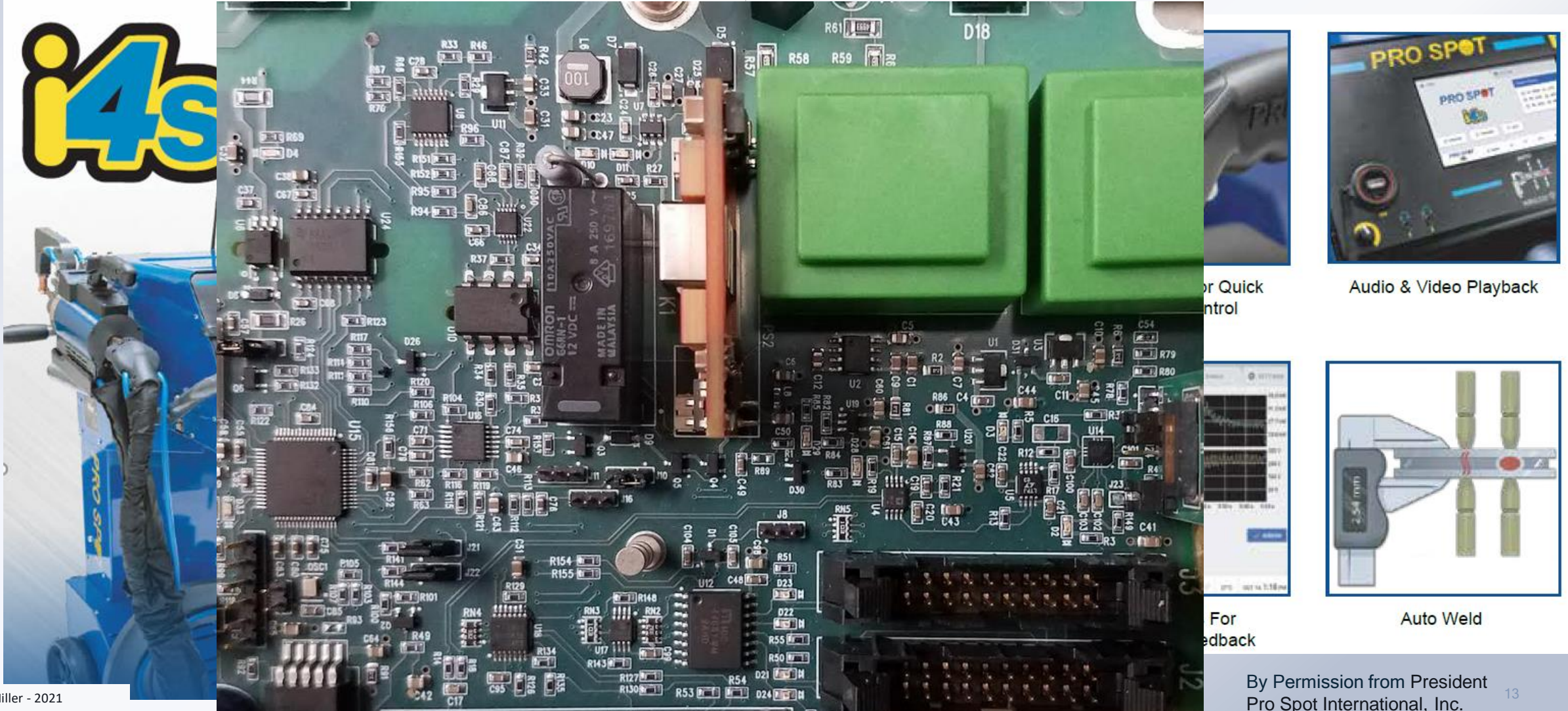
# Qualcomm suppliers from across the globe to meet our demands

- 
- In 2020 Qualcomm Technologies, Inc. shipped over 7.6 Billion semiconductors.
  - Purchased over 1.6 Million 300mm wafers in 2020 across multiple nodes with leading edge node in production in 5nm volume and 4nm ramping.
  - Over 1.2 Million 200mm wafers per year and expected to grow as more RFFE front end demand increases and as Power Management IC's, RF, and PA's ship with the processors.
  - Over 350 different products shipped, not including RFFE filters.
  - Data collected is exceeding 400 terabytes compressed from final test, wafer sort, assembly, bump, WAT, critical fab parameters, and inline inspection Klarf files. and will continue to grow by 144TB per year.

# The Semiconductor Shortage Affecting Many Sectors

Testers: Average 2-3 months Lead Time have increased to 6-8 months... and increasing  
Components: Average of couple of months increased to 12+ months for certain components.

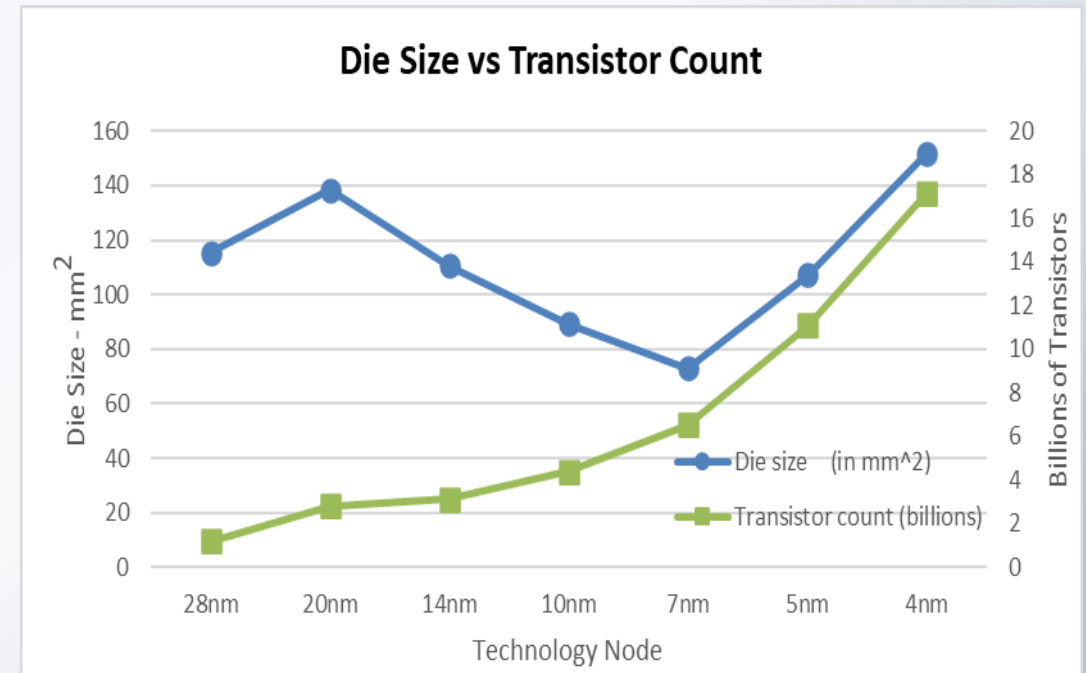
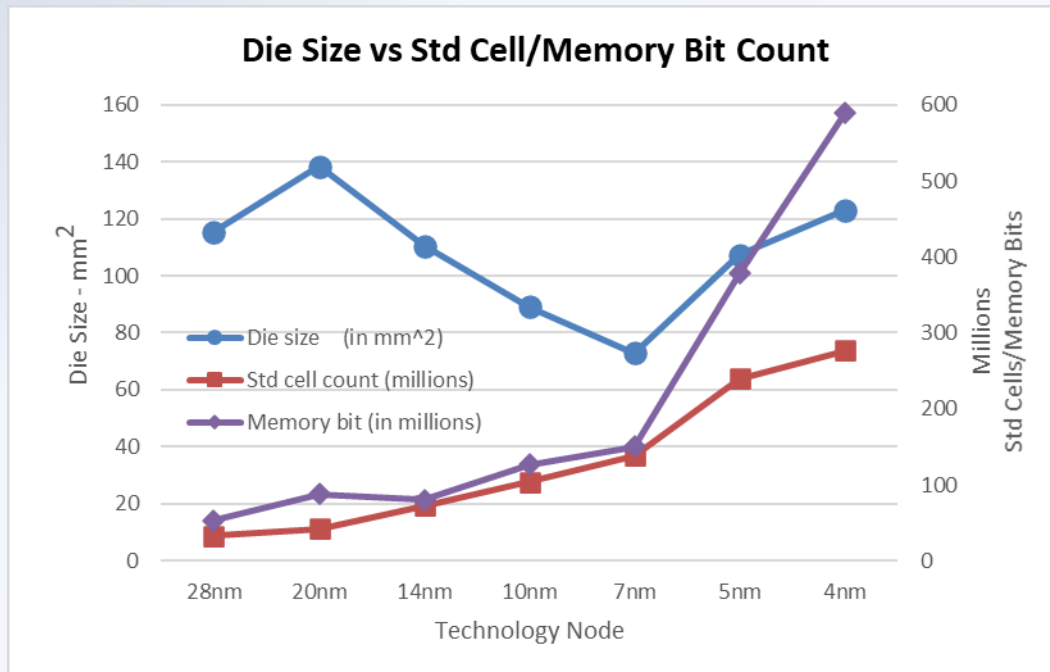
Even sectors you would not think would be affected ARE: Such as Spot Welders





# Technology Migration has Enabled Snapdragon Capabilities.

- Die size decreased over 45% thru 7nm but is now increasing back similar to 20nm
- The number of transistors has increased over ~12x from 28nm and 2x from 7nm
  - Additionally, the standard cell and Memory Bits have increased ~ 8-11x
  - Giving higher performance and lower power.....
- However, the trend of growing die size / and content is not slowing, even with EUV and with significant challenges to yield and to contain power.



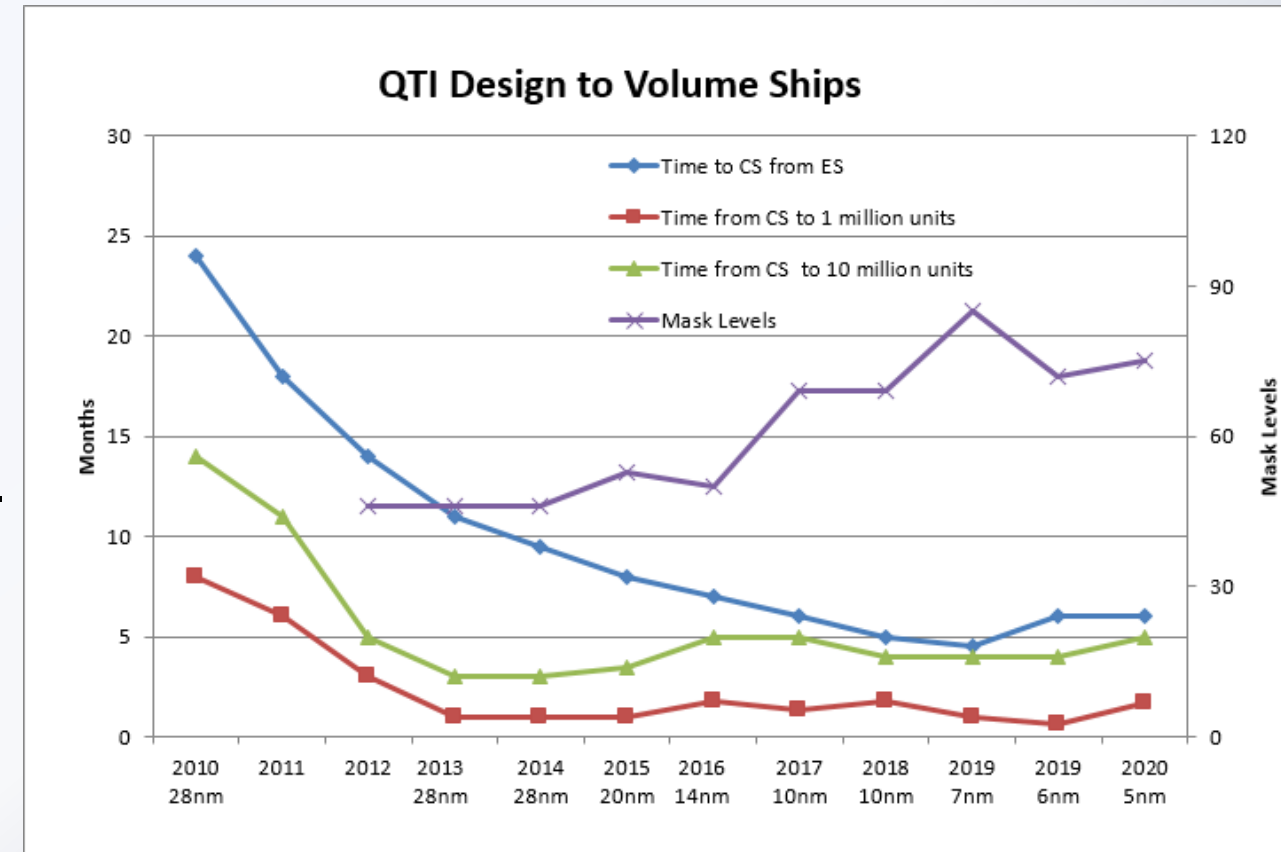


Industry demands are driving more capability and faster Time to Commercialization.

- As a result the QTI model continues to adopt to the changing industry requirements.
  - QTI is at the leading edge of technology with our foundries/osats to meet the insatiable need of the market:  
Always connected, Best Graphics, Multi Camera/Video, GPS, and the Latest App, etc  
..... and of course the Longest battery life

**This forces faster time to YIELD !!**  
**And Quality.**

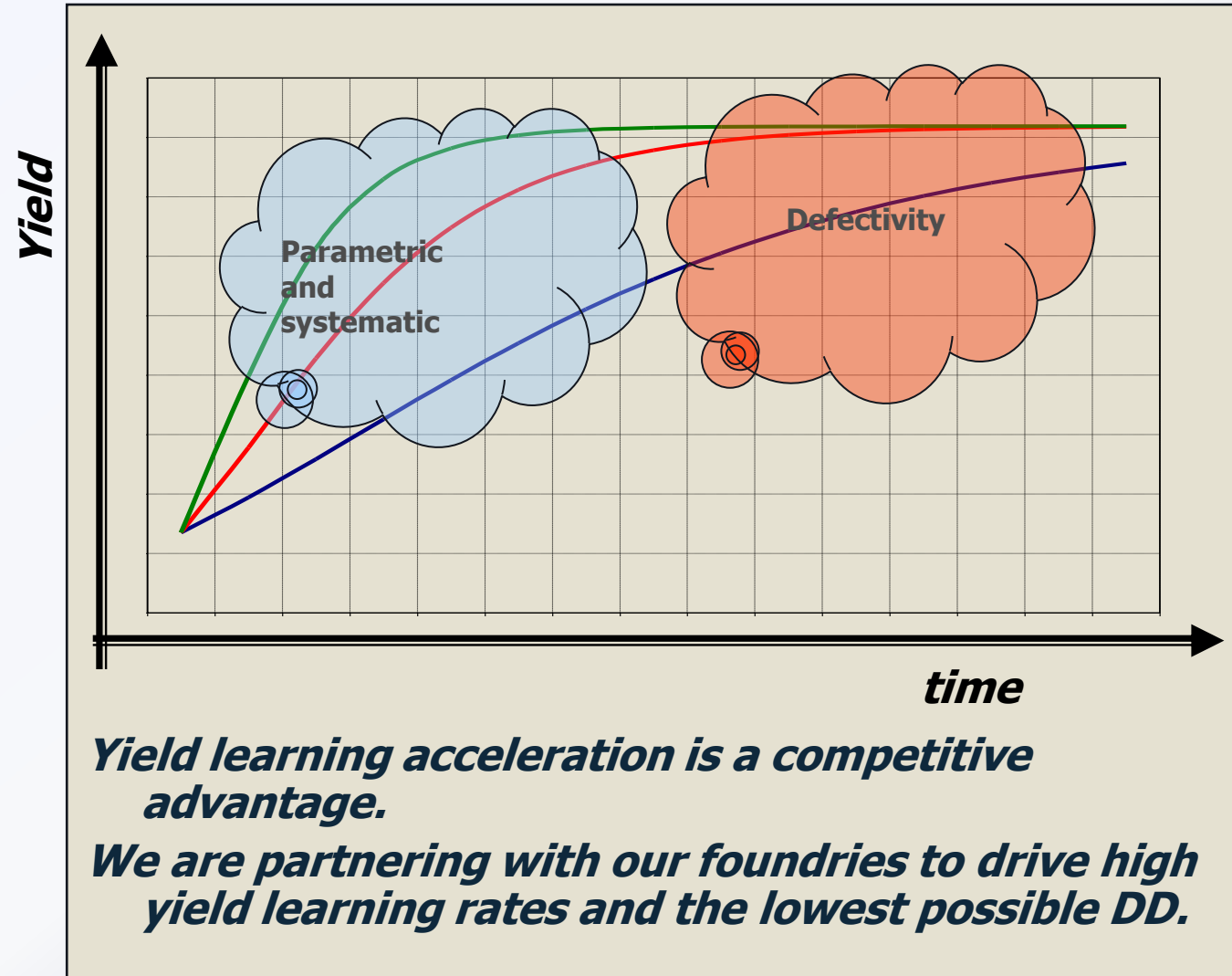
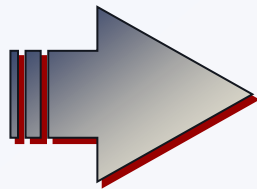
Much more difficult when on the leading edge of a technology introduction which QTI has done on 20nm, 14nm, 10nm, 7nm, 5nm and now 4nm.





# Yield Distribution & Process Maturity

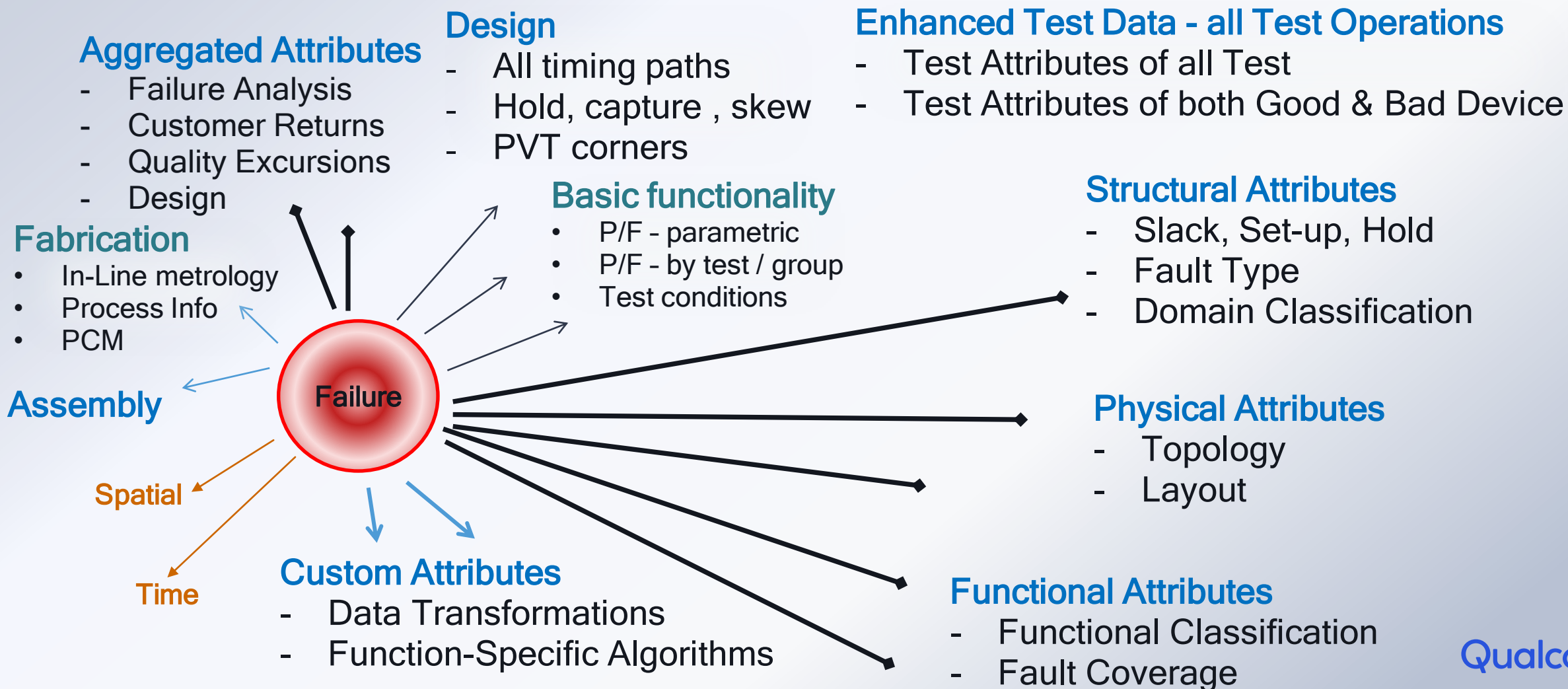
- Yield vs Process Maturity
  - Yield Learning Rate is critical
  - Test is crucial to understand yield drivers.
  - Yield learning rate models are required for optimized design.
- Ramp Dominated by Defectivity and Process-Design Interactions
  - Failures - Design, Process, Both???
  - Systematic & Parametric Issues
  - Design & Process Tuning
  - Test Diagnostics and FA drive FAB/Design fixes.
- Mature Yield Dominated by Process Defectivity
  - Dirt, equipment, materials or equipment limitations
- Much more Testing and Test data required.
  - Collect volume fail data.
  - Requires much more Continue On Fail Testing (COF)
  - Which Drives Diagnostic, FA, and Correct Actions





# Today's Data Set has Higher *Usable* Dimensionality

New Set of Parameters Available Enable Strong Signals



# ATE Evolution & Challenges

Qualcomm



## Basic Functionality

- Pass/Fail
- IDDQ
- Voltage/Power
- Frequency

Single Insertion

Datalogs in KB

Single Site - X1

VM in KBs

## Data Generator & Throughput

- |                      |                     |
|----------------------|---------------------|
| • Wafer-Level        | • Pass/Fail         |
| • Package-Level      | • IDDQ              |
| • System-Level/Func. | • ATPG Core Based   |
| • Down-Binning       | • SAF, TDF, PDF     |
| • Shmoo              | • Cell Aware        |
| • Freq. Response     | • Voltage/Power     |
| • Calibrations       | • Frequency         |
| • Fuses (up to 1M)   | • Current           |
| • Hard Bin           | • Profile over time |
| • Soft Bin           | • Temp. Sensor      |
| • X, Y               | • Ring Oscillator   |
| • Test Site          | • HW ID             |
| • DFT via HSIO       | • Test Cell ID      |

Multiple Insertions: Cold, Hot, Room, etc.

Enhanced Diagnostics = Datalogs in GB

Higher Multi-Site

VM in 100s of MB and up to GBs

## Innovation needed

### ML-Based Analytics

- Outlier Detection
- Clustering
- Classifications
- Regressions
- **Adaptive Testing**
- **Self Trained Models**
- Abnormal Behavior

### ATE Development

- **Auto Test Program generation**
- M: Adaptive coverage
- **Native Machine learning**

### EDA Integration

- Adaptive Coverage
- **Automatic test coverage generation**
- **Bi-directional Scan chains**

### Data Integration

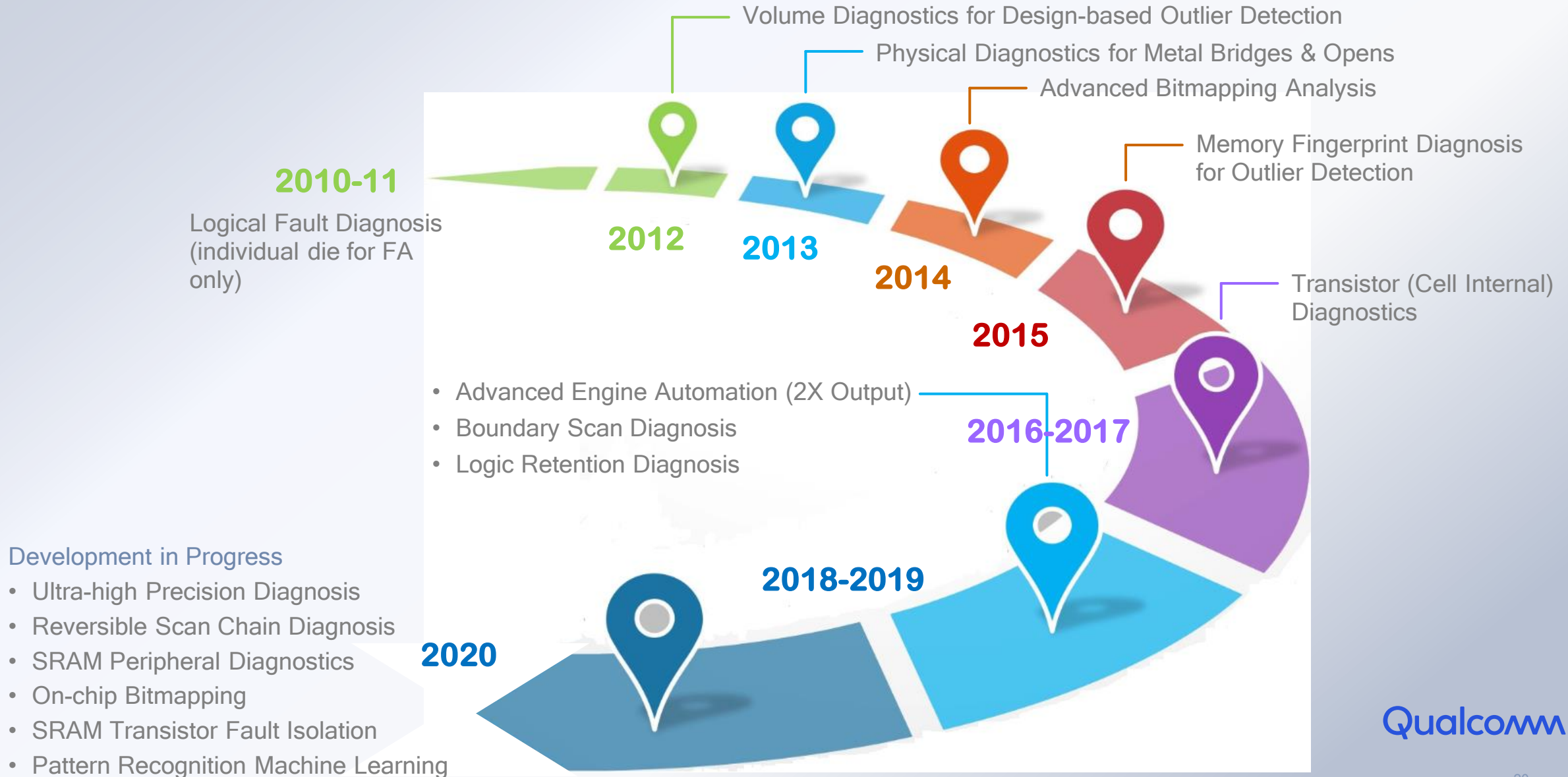
- Feed Forward enabled
- Feed Back capable
- Meta-Data generator

Is Structural & System & Functional Tests increasing?



• Process • Design • Physical Design • DFT • SW Engineering • Operations • Reliability • Quality

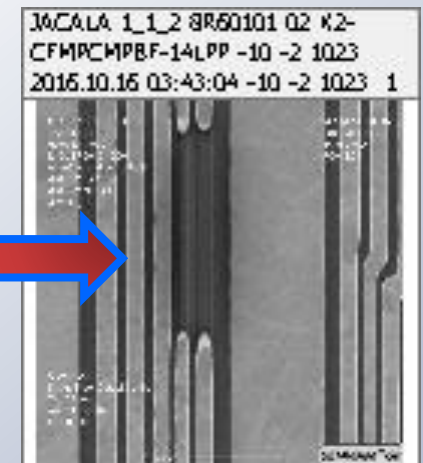
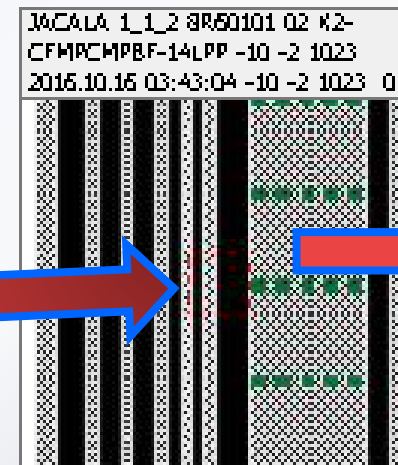
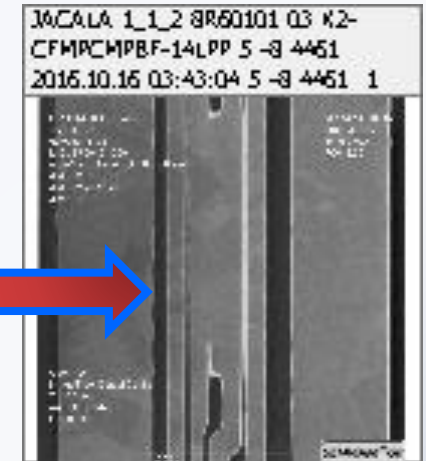
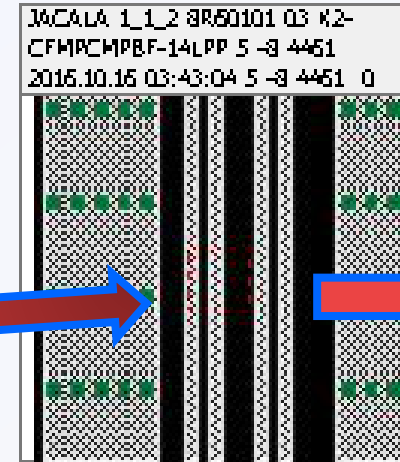
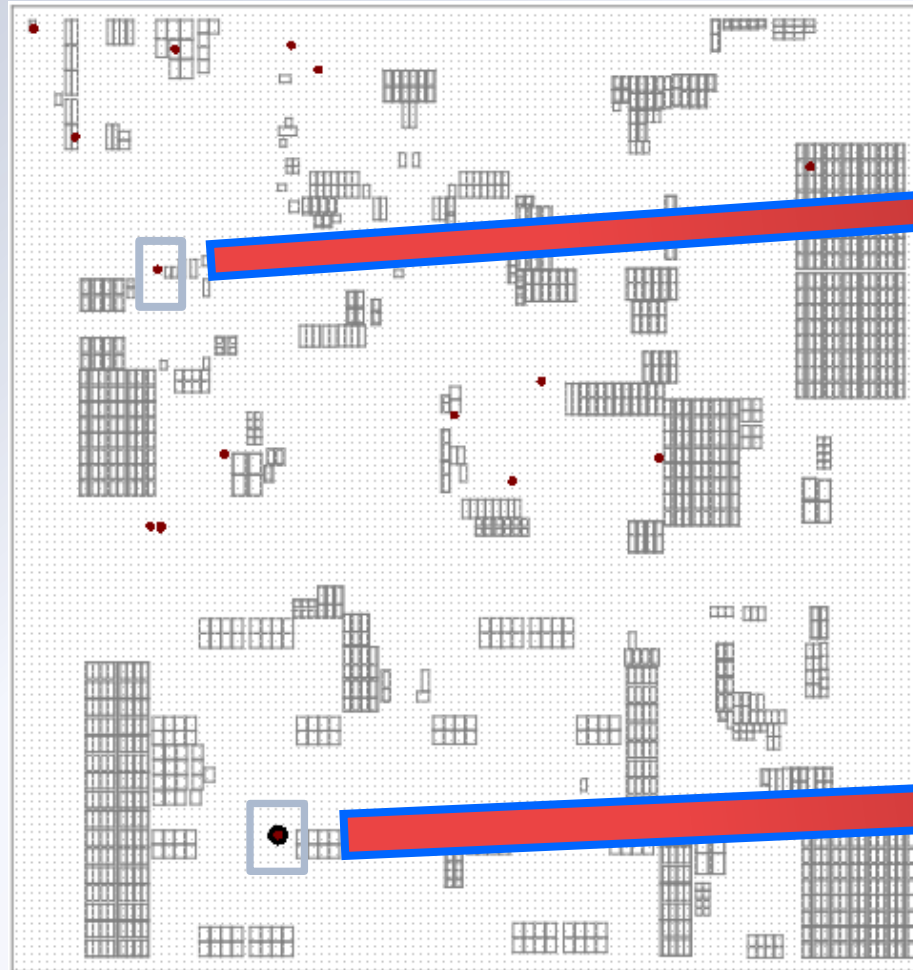
# Silicon Diagnostics Evolution at Qualcomm Technologies





# Diagnostic to Scan “Hits”

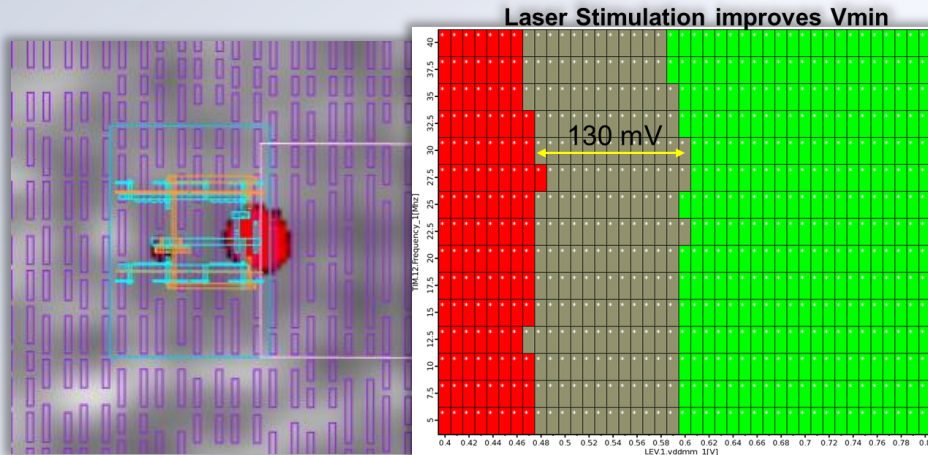
SHORT's



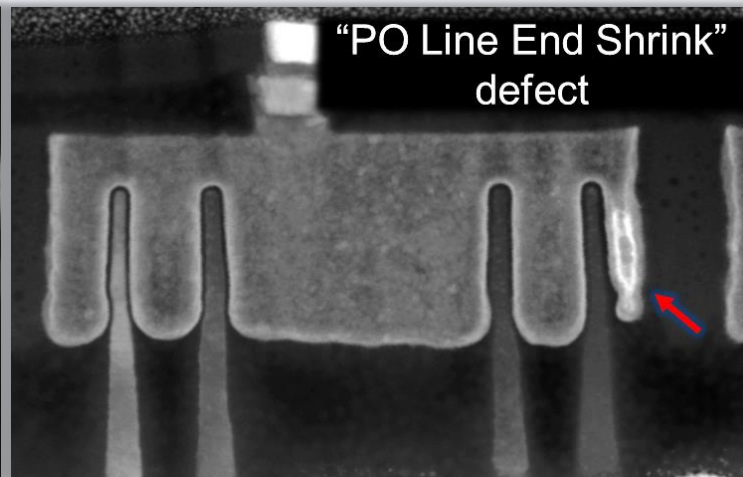
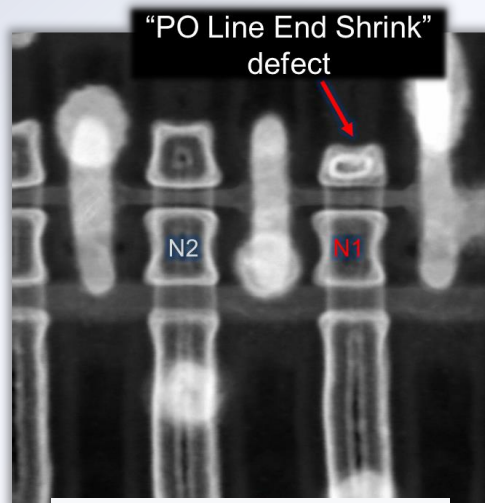
OPEN's

## 7nm Graphics ATPG high yield fallout

- ✓ Fault Isolation using DLS showed sensitivity to clock inverter within fail flop.
- ✓ Nanoprobe analysis shows DLS site clk nmos to have 20% lower  $I_{sat}$  and  $\sim 70\text{mV}$  higher  $V_t$
- ✓ TEM analysis revealed “PO line end shrink” defect

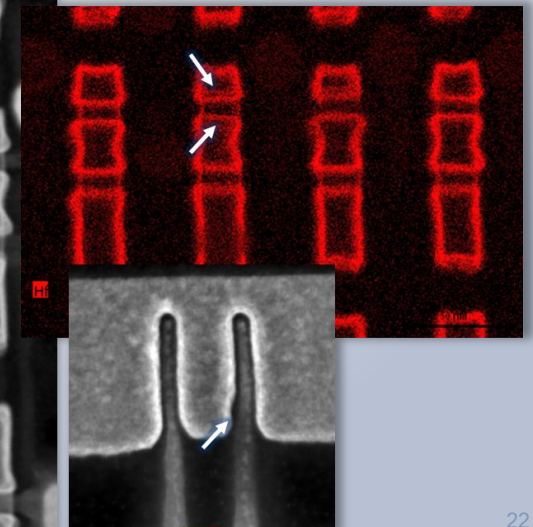
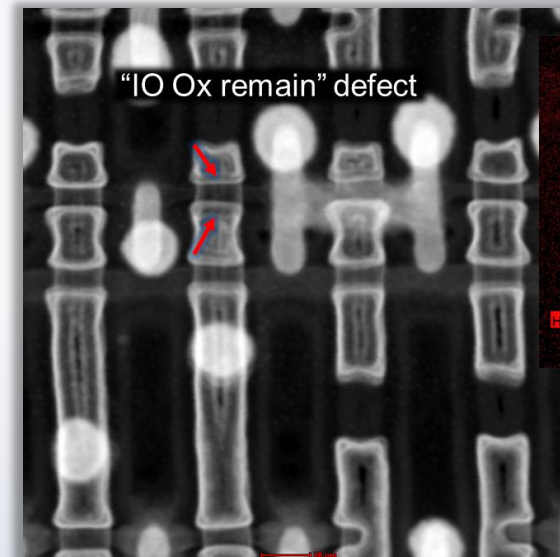
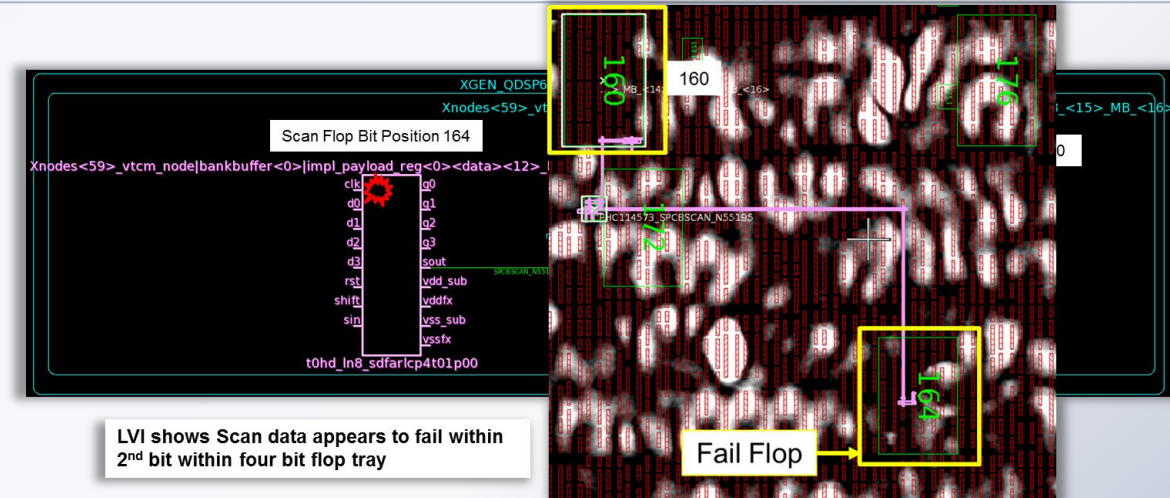


## DLS Fault Isolation localized “clk” inverter within Flop

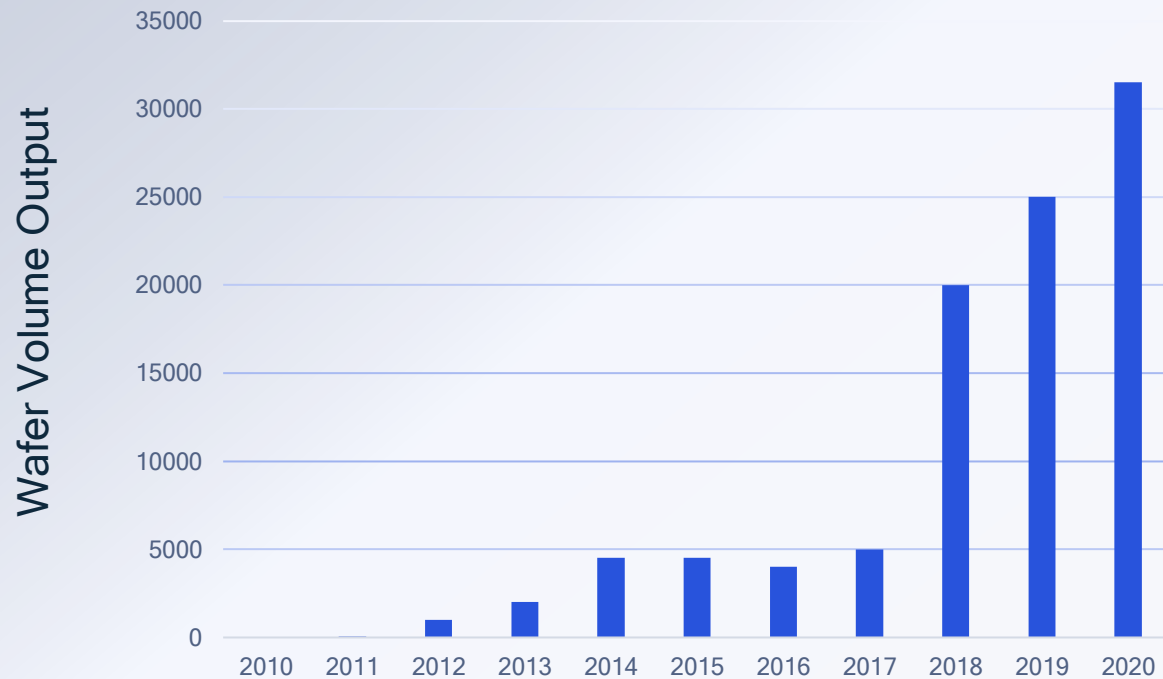


## 7nm Chain Integrity Vmin Fail

- ✓ Higher fallout on FF parts.
- ✓ LVI analysis data propagation fails within flop tray and likely not global timing related. DLS and PFA analysis confirmed “IO OX remain” defect.



# Achieving Statistical Volume Diagnosis



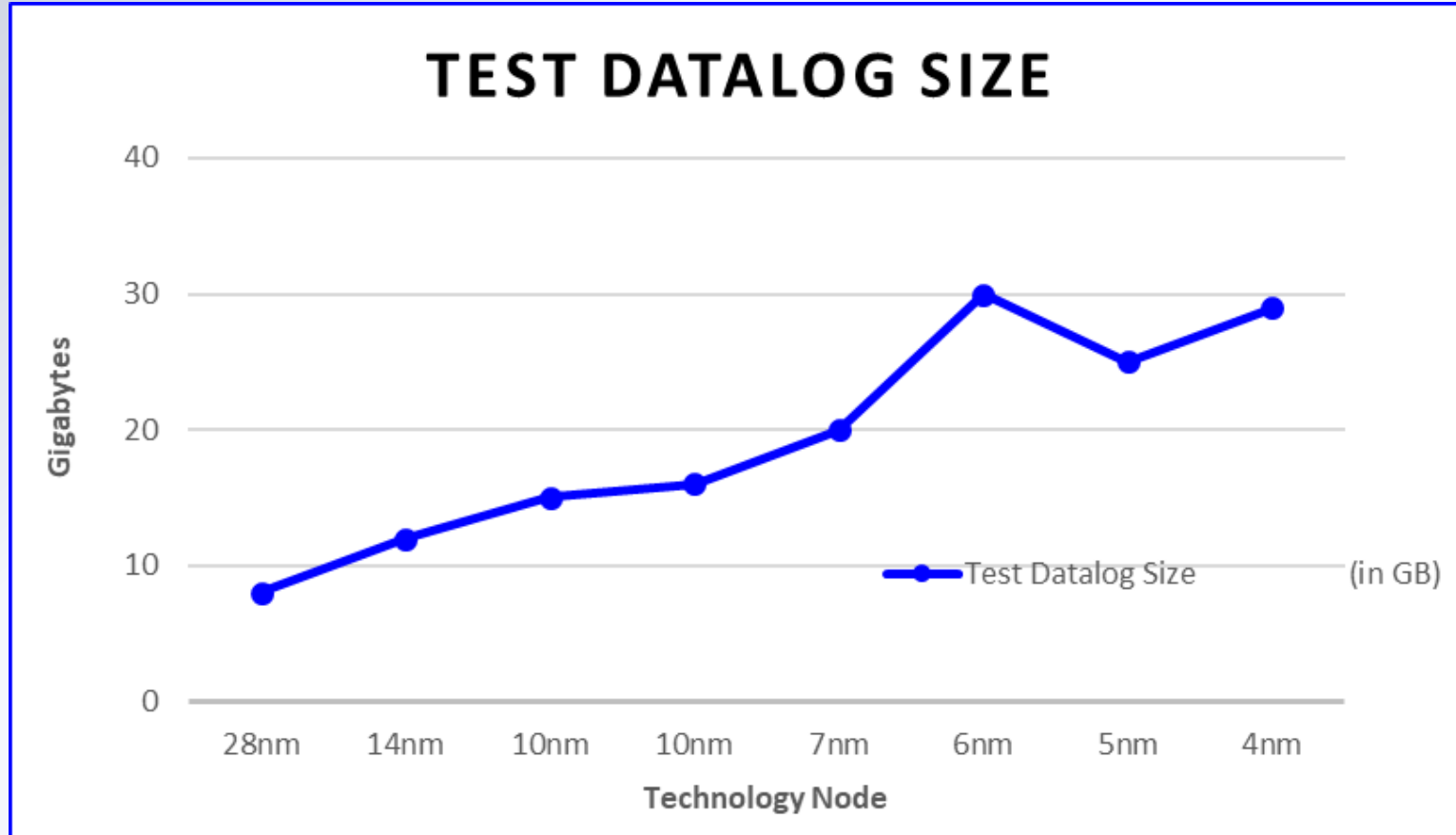
- Advances in diagnostics engines, automation, and data operations management increases output
- Diagnostic for statistical diagnosis now available for all products



- Single die diagnostics data of key Mobile Digital SOC only
- High wafer volume for statistical analysis limited by tester capacity and capabilities.
- Need for more COF testing
- Data combined with design, STA, fab process, inline metrology, PCM, WS, FT, and EFA/PFA data for normalization & correlation analysis
- Integrated data flows with Foundries / SATS for fast data sharing & joint analysis



# Tester Data Log Growth By Technology node

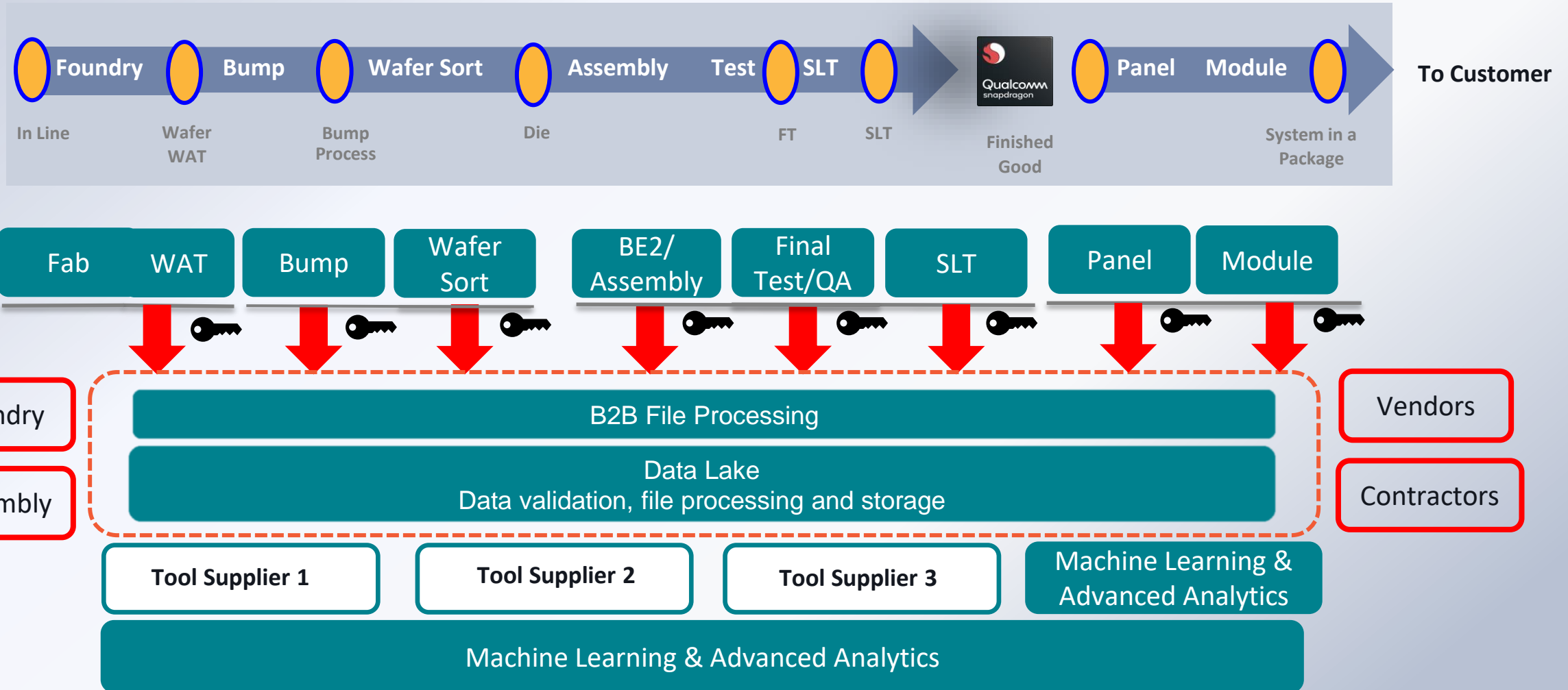


Increased number of cores / more test corners drive Data Log Size  
Along with increased amount of COF Testing for Diagnostics

# Time to data available for predictions

## Security required at every stage of the flow

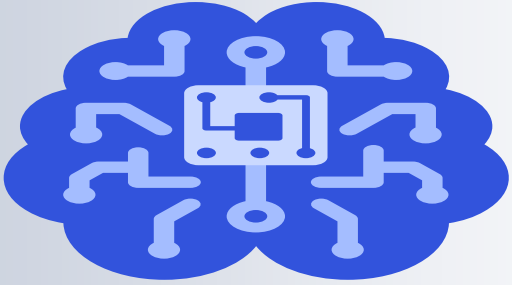
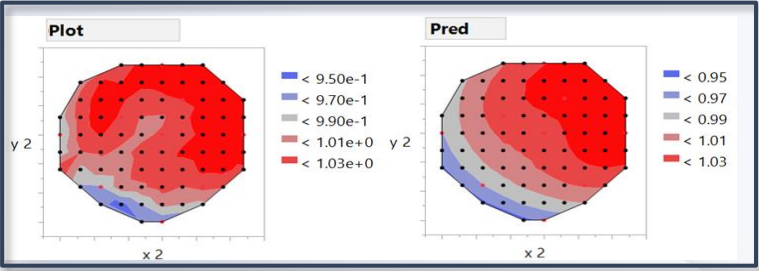
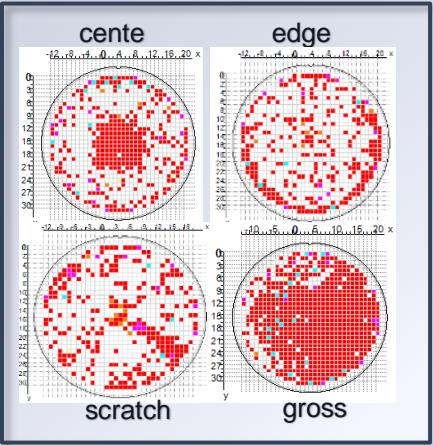
How is the application/solution protecting our IP/Data?



# Machine Learning: Reducing Virtual Metrology Error

*>10X Improvement. Better Data = Better Analysis*

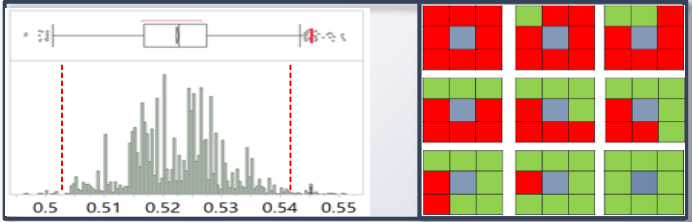
## AUTOMATED DISPOSTIONING



## Machine Learning Use Cases

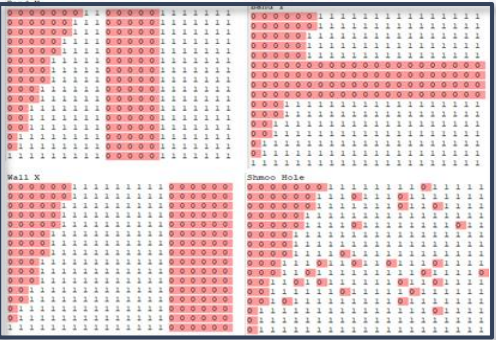
## IMPROVED OUTLIER DETECTION

*Reduced Overkill*

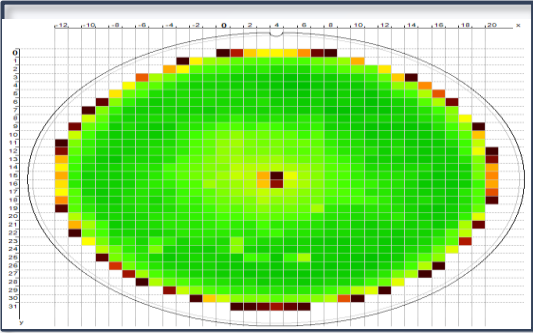


## AUTOMATED SI. CHARACTERIZATION

*More Complete Data. Lower Labor Costs*



## 'Lean Test Coverage Test models'



## YIELD/DPPM PREDICTION - CAUSABILITY

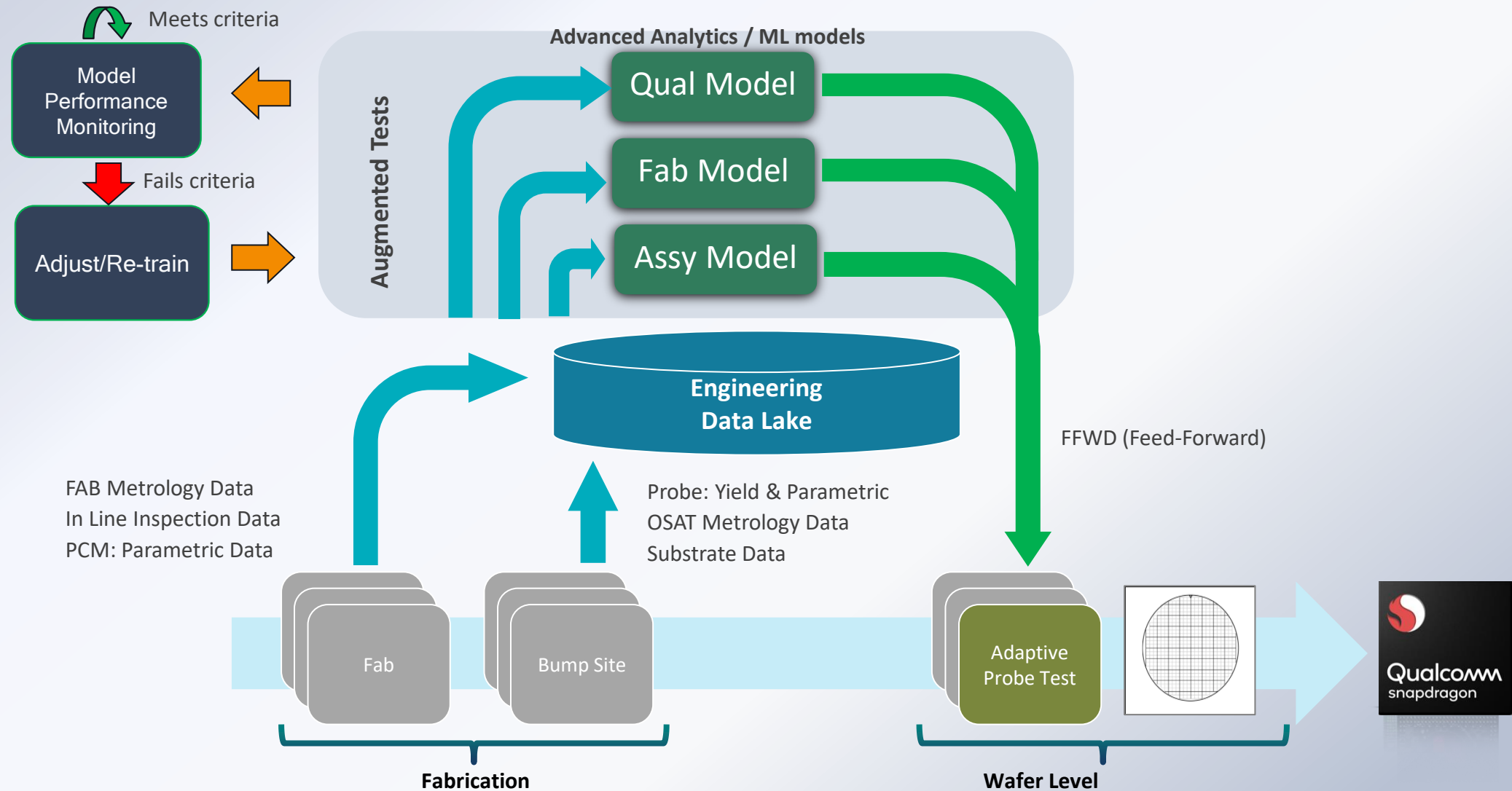
*Driving more effective DOEs and Corrective Actions*

Rank	Feature	Importance
1	PARAMETER A	0.125
2	PARAMETER B	0.11518
3	PARAMETER C	0.09309
4	PARAMETER D	0.08911
5	PARAMETER E	0.05448





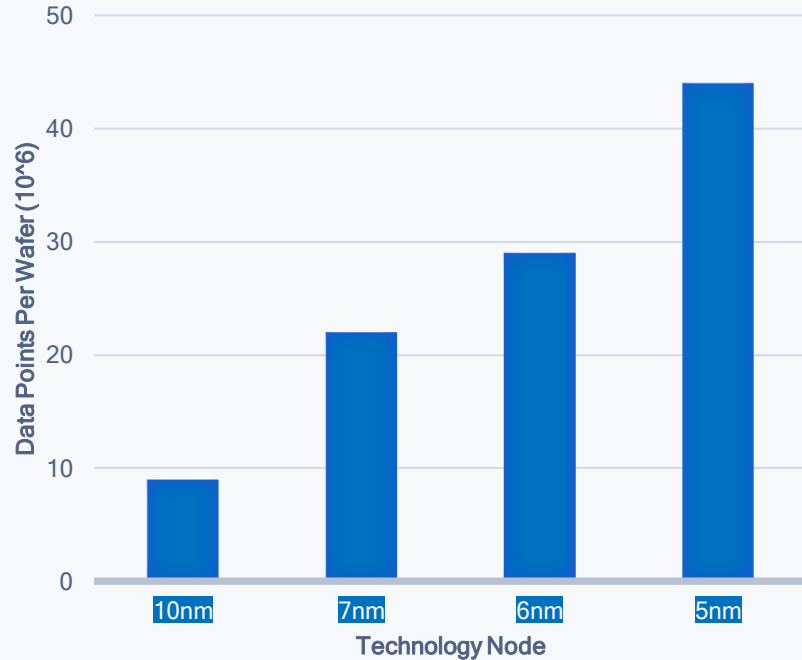
# Forward Looking implementation in production (FFWD)



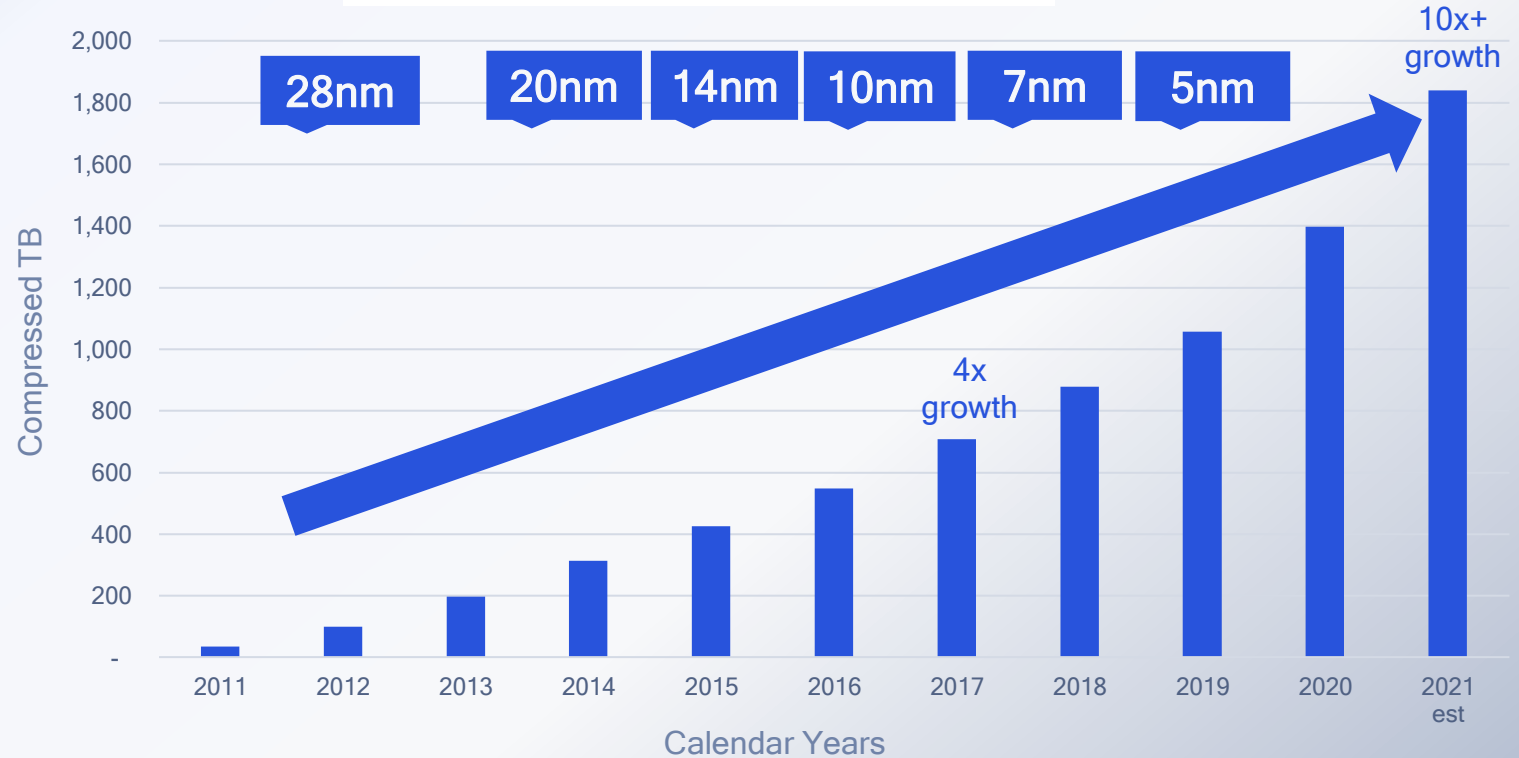
# Manufacturing & Yield Data Continues to Increase

ALL manufacturing data is received, stored & analyzed

## Data Points Per Wafer



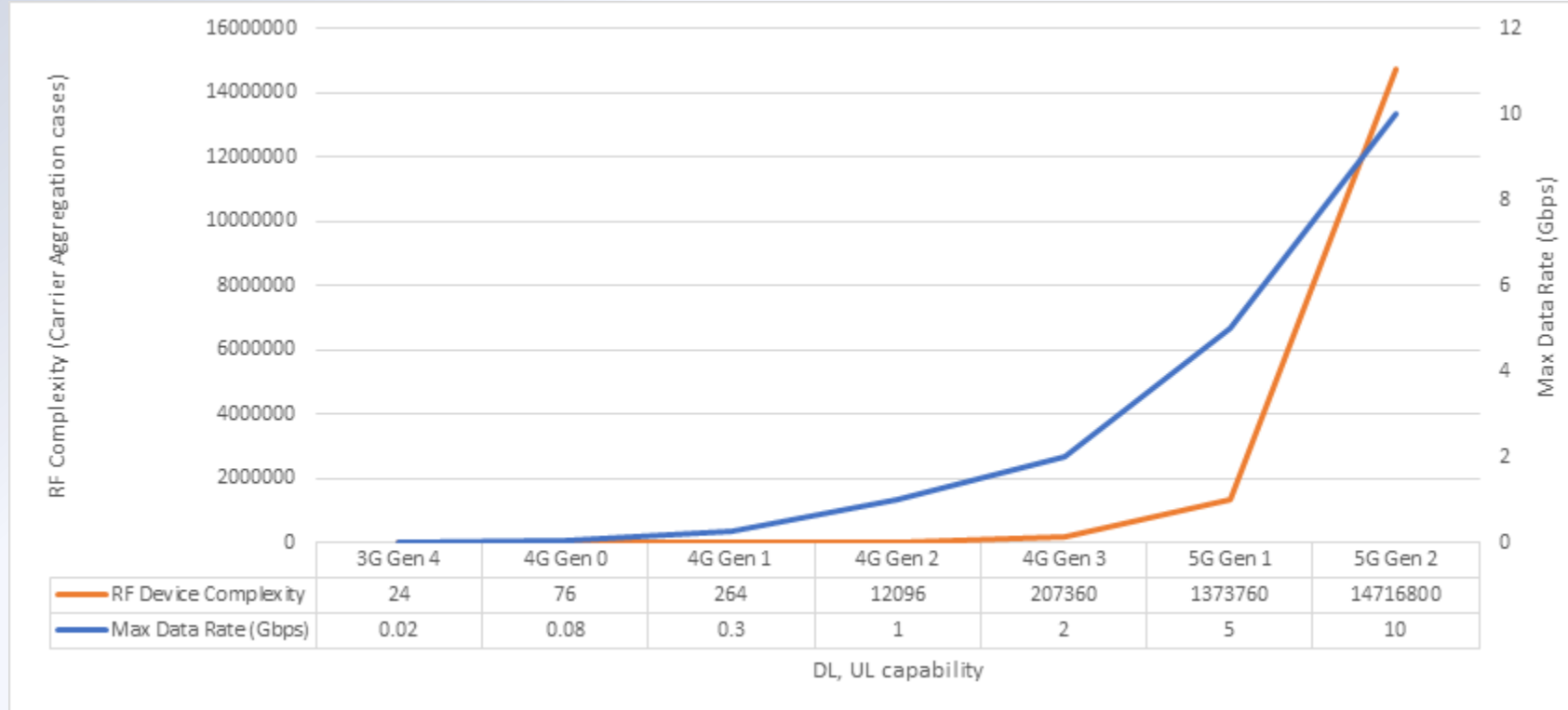
## Cumulative Data Volume Over Time



Increased Design/Process/Test/In Line data is driving data volume.  
Machine Learning increasingly required to detect data shifts.

# RF Transceiver Device Complexity Also Increasing.

## Wafer production is now in Fin Fet technology



- Premium Tier driving higher data rates year over year
- 4G to 5G transition grows the characterization requirements exponentially
- Peak Data rates increased from 0.6 Gbps to 5Gbps from 2015 thru 2019 (8X increase)
- RF complexity increased from ~250 to >1.37 Million (1000X increase) combinations of Carrier Aggregation



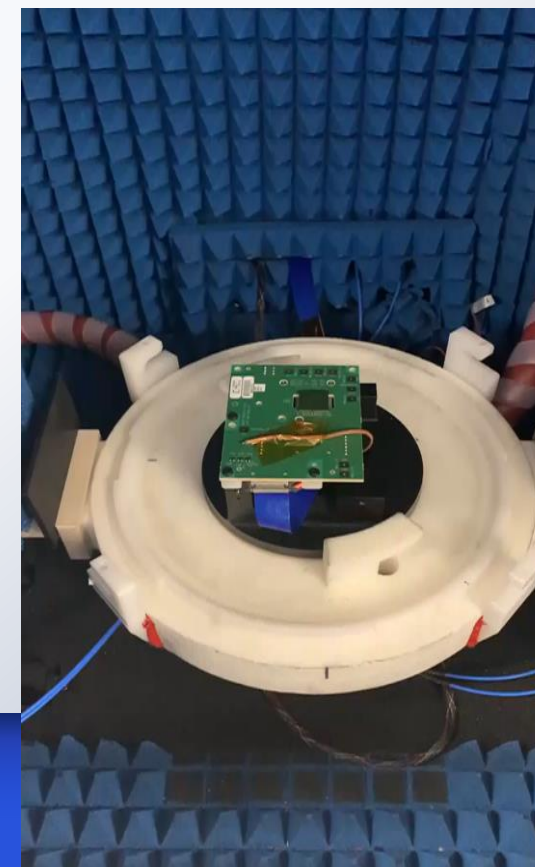
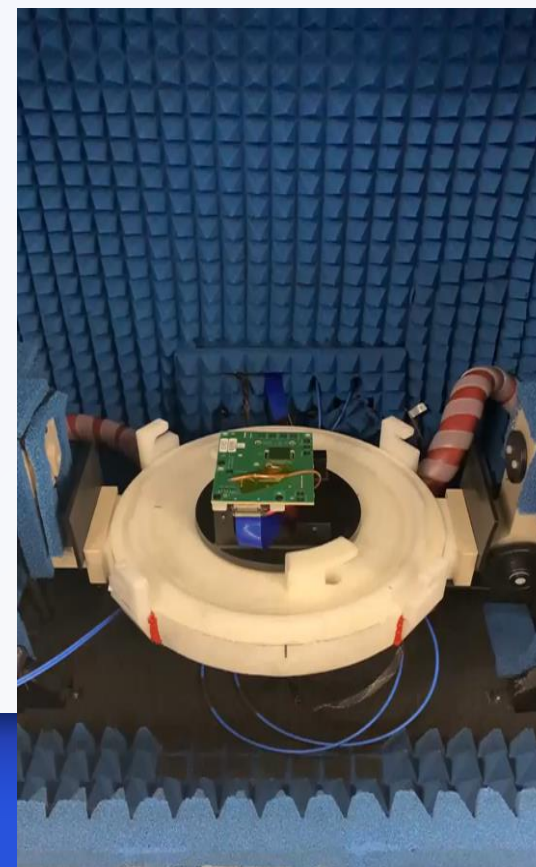
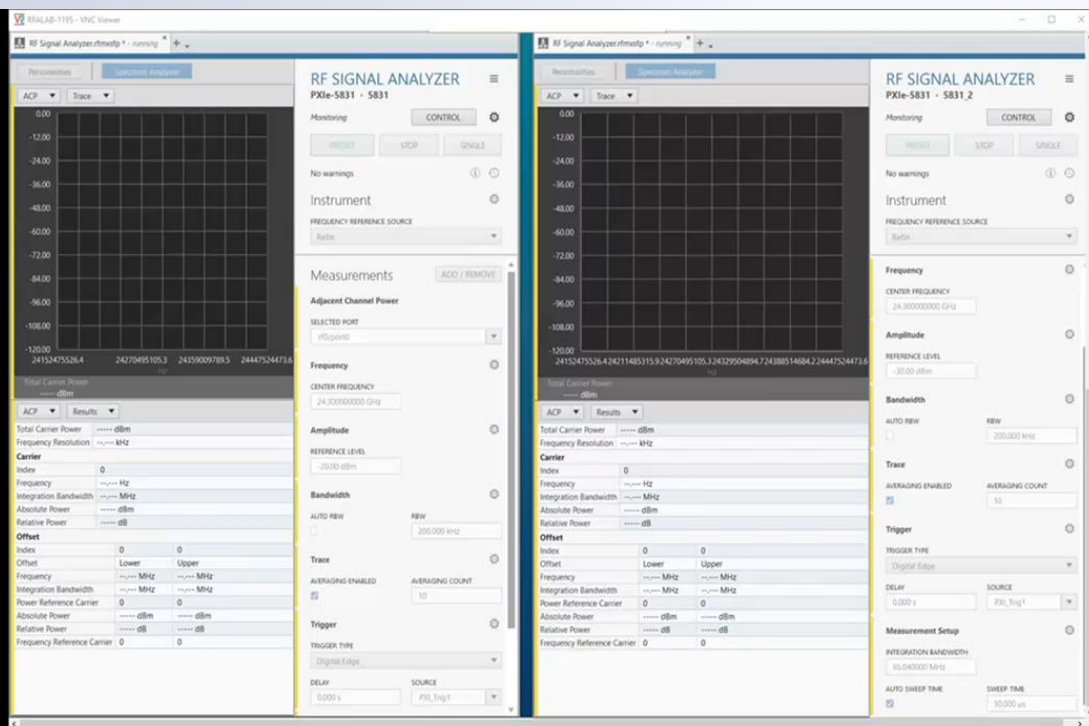
# Direct Far Field Chamber

Working with vendors to improve :

- ❖ Improved Over the Air characteristics
- ❖ Reduce test times
- ❖ Develop extended temperature support

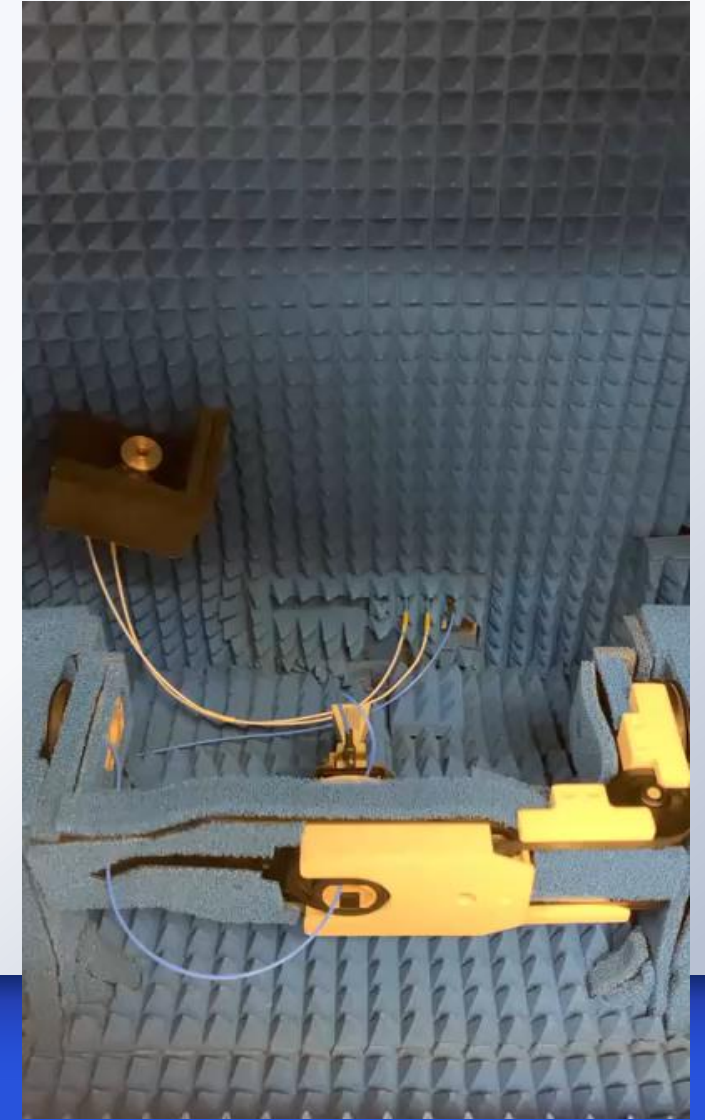
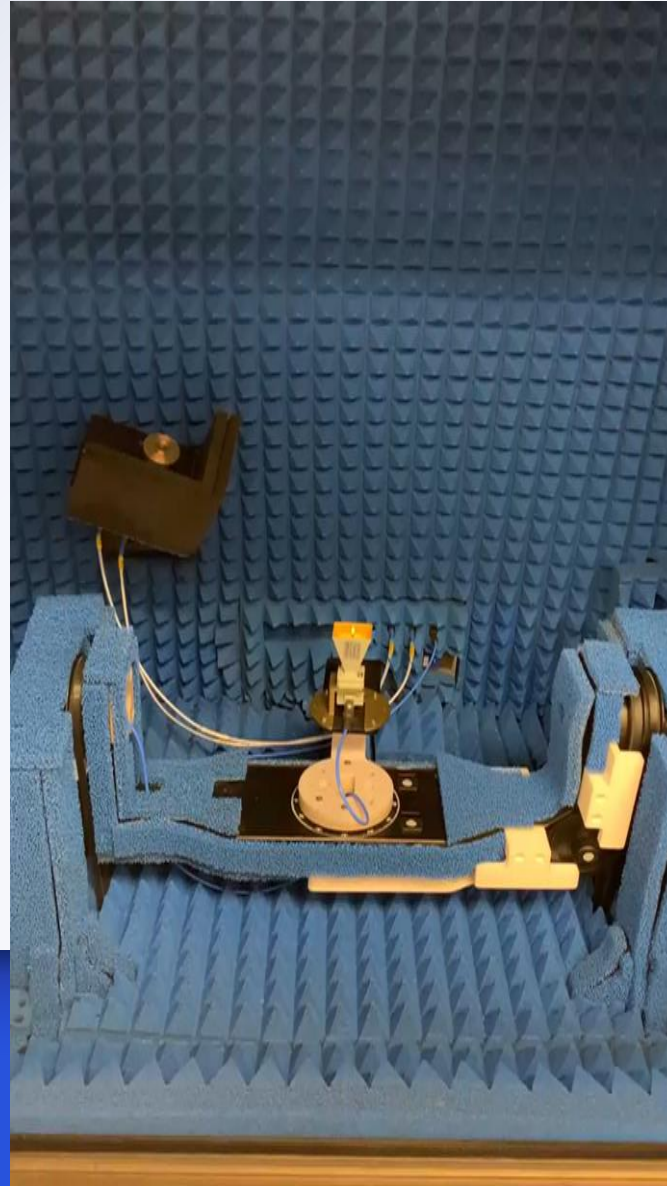
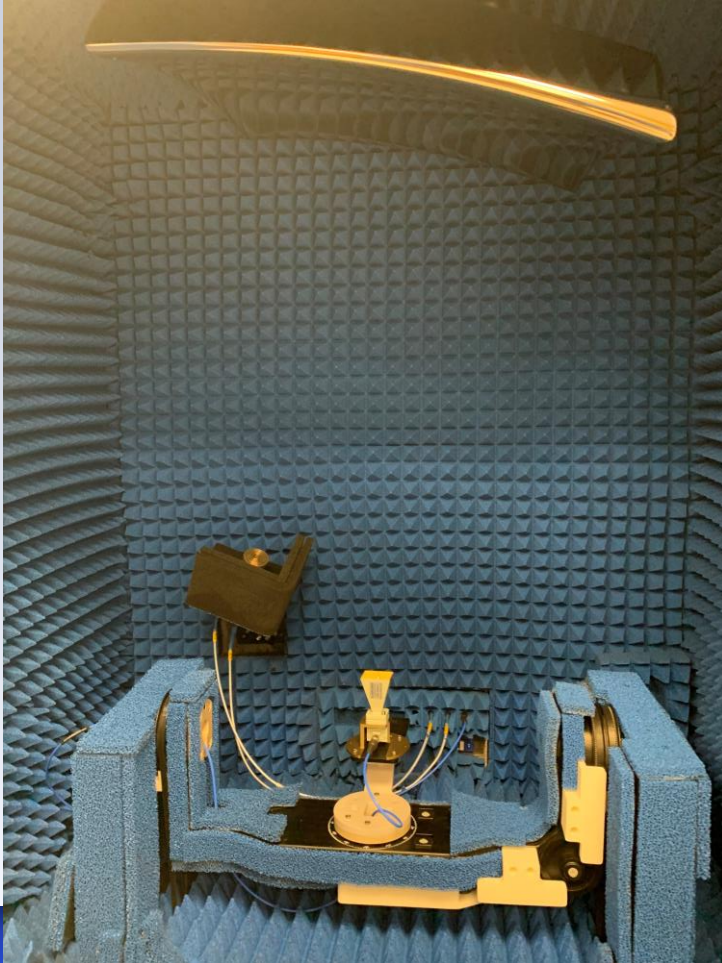
# Phase Aligned Dual Head System for Simultaneous Horizontal / Vertical polarization captures

❖ Phased Aligned measurements with  $\sim 40\%$  TTR vs Single head system





# CSM - CATR Characterization Platform Evaluation



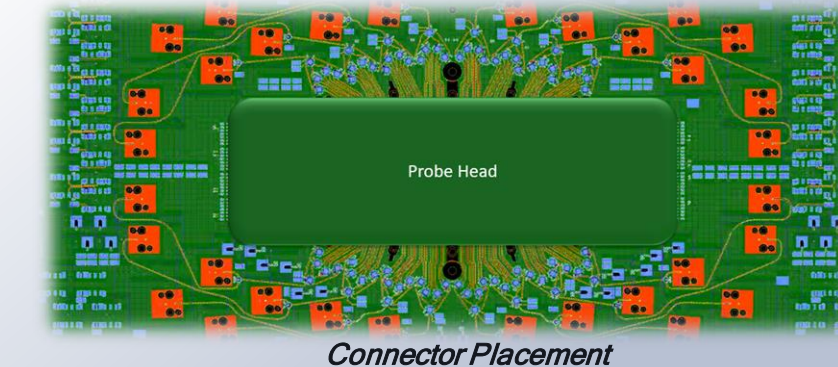
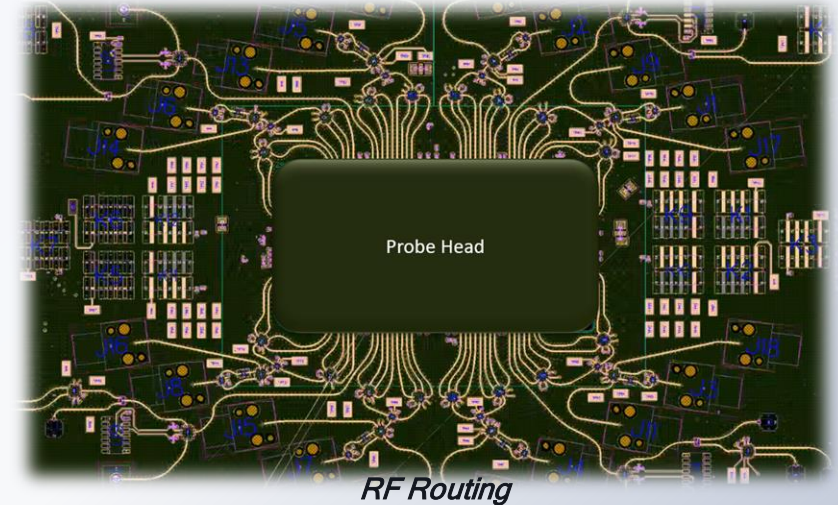
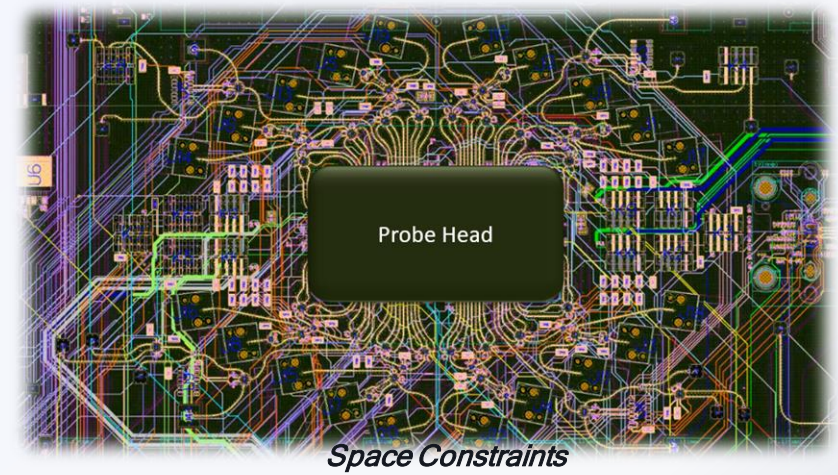
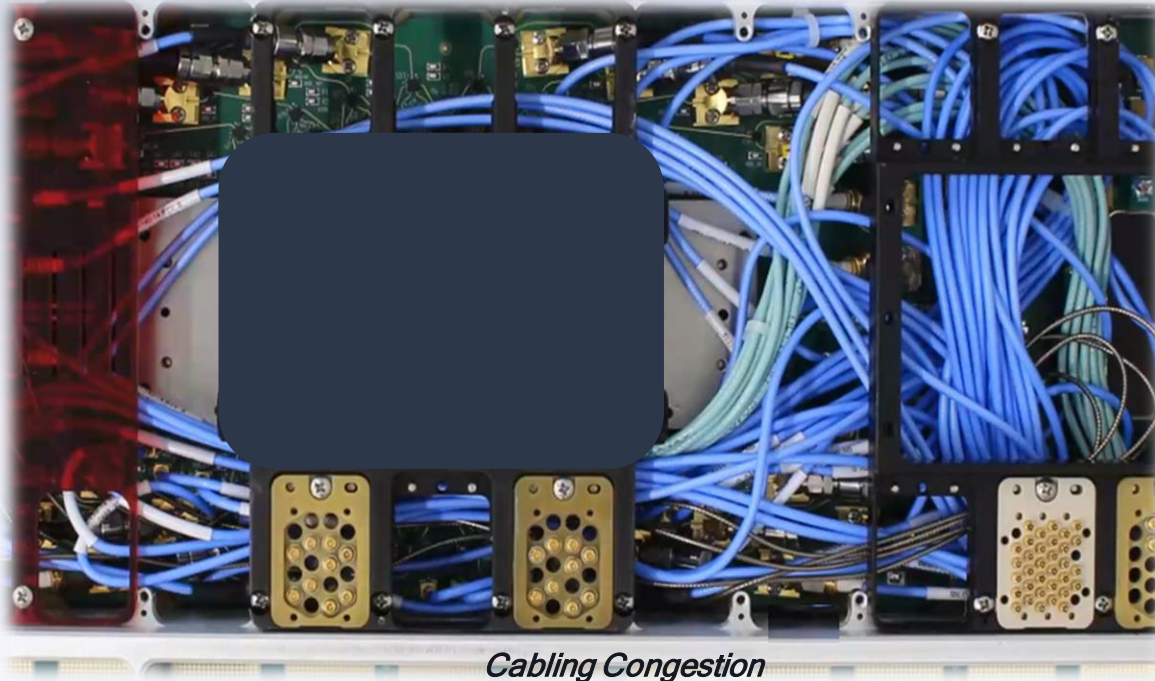
# RF & RFFE Test, Tester, Probe challenges

- ❖ Signal integrity versus mmWave /high band specification versus port count density
- ❖ Routing : challenge of routing multiple DUT and high port count ( 32/DUT) RF performance, and component placement
- ❖ DUT application space for components ( i.e. multiplexers, RF switches and cables) versus stiffener stiffness and tester resource allocation / placement
- ❖ Challenging mechanical specifications with competing requirements:
  - Probe: Length versus overtravel compliance. Tip length versus signal integrity versus lifetime
  - Stiffener : Stiffness versus weight , application space
  - Tester: Higher channel count/ docking force versus system deflection ( few 10's of um)
  - Probe card: Planarity versus probe area for larger DUT count
  - Bump Damage
- ❖ Cost of Ownership: Probe card lifetime versus throughput , utilization rate , and cost of ownership
- ❖ Parallelism with all the challenges above versus throughput versus cost of test
- ❖ Probe card testability ( QA or Repair)
  - Test coverage versus mmWave specifications
  - Test time versus DUT count
- ❖ CCC versus test requirements ( higher current demand , DVS)

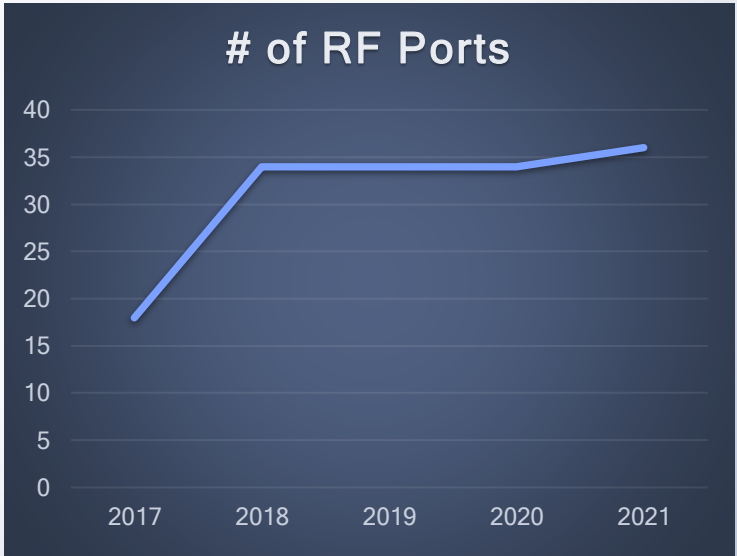
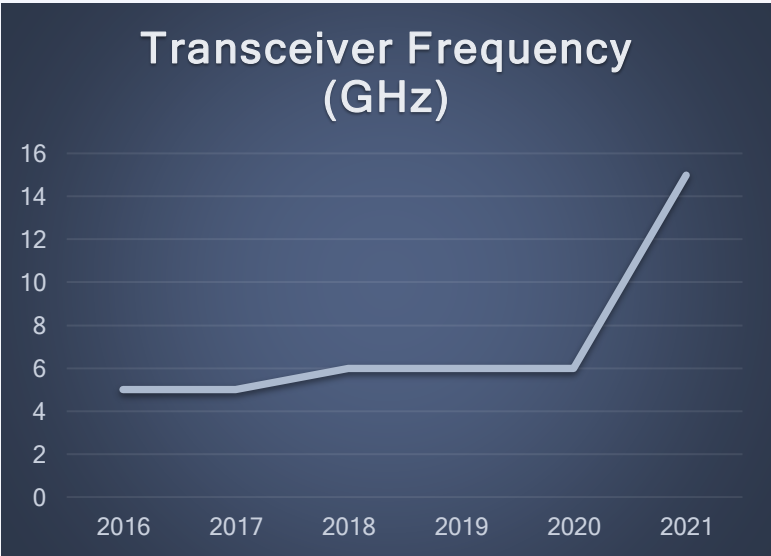
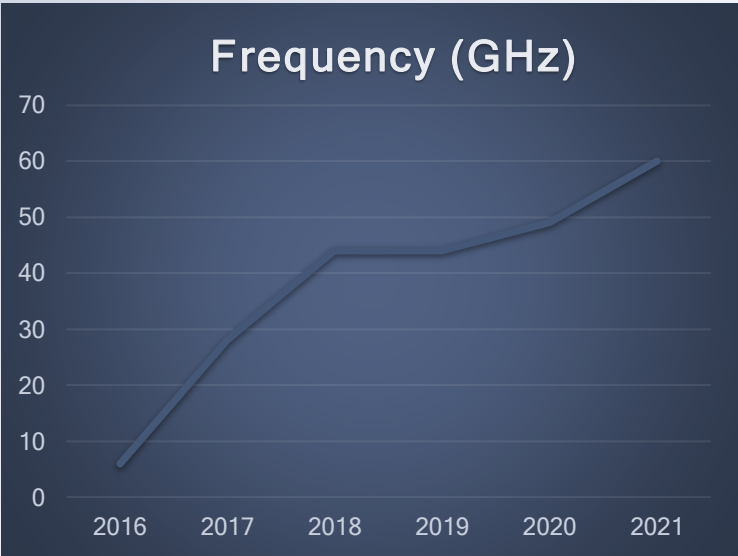


# Key Challenges

- RF Signal Integrity (ex Isolation, Return Loss)
  - Focus on end-to-end simulation capabilities (probe head + board)
- Parallelism (ex space constraints, RF routing & cabling congestion / connector placement)
  - Focus on expanded application space, smaller component footprint, planarity, cable flexibility, novel stack-up approach
- Service-ability (ex NPI and production environment compatibility)
  - Focus on modular design and in-region field support
- Cycle Time (ex design, fab, assembly, and bring up)
  - Focus on resource availability / skillset and robust supply chains along with metrology
- Cost (ex probes, cables, connectors)
  - Focus on standardization and multi-company partnerships



# Frequency & RF port count greatly increased with the advancement of 5G

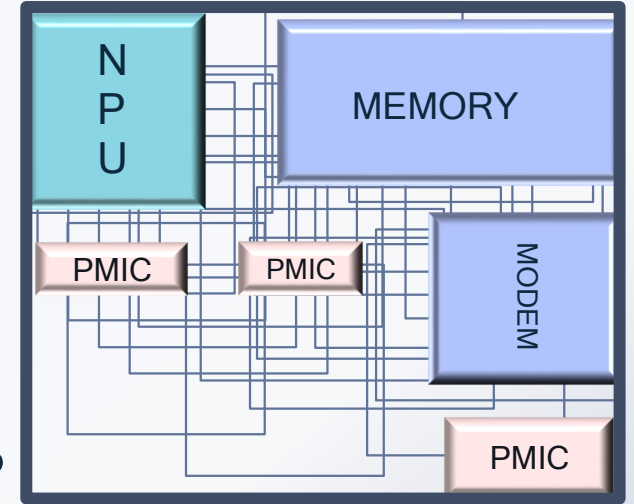




# CHANGE IS COMING ...

## Moore's Law is:

- Slowing down or flattening out
- Innovation will have to accelerate to fill the gap.
- GAA will be a challenge.... Beyond the FinFet challenges?
- Power Distribution from the backside?

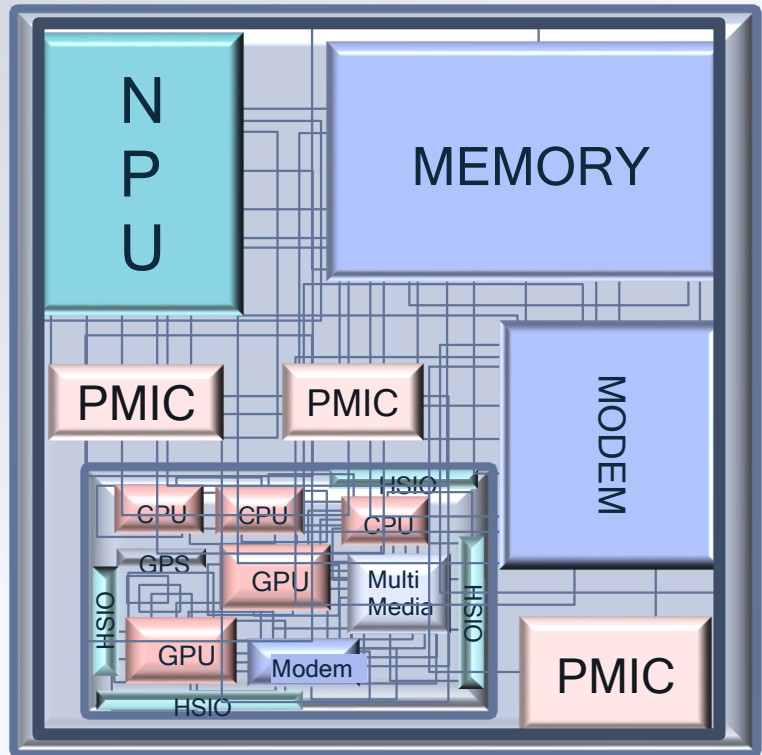


## Is Heterogeneous Integration the next disruptive innovation? If so:

- Embrace packaging technology as part of front-end simulations.
- Apply SOC techniques, concepts, and tools to Advanced Packaging Solutions.
- Strive to develop end to end solutions & tools for test

# Packaging Technology ...

Heterogeneous Integration is coming, and it does impact test.



## REQUIRES THE SAME SOLUTIONS AS SOCs

- ✓ High Fault Coverage
- ✓ Fault Isolation
- ✓ Effective Pre-Silicon Simulation
- ✓ Effective/Diagnosable Functional Test
- ✓ Functional verification
- ✓ System Testing

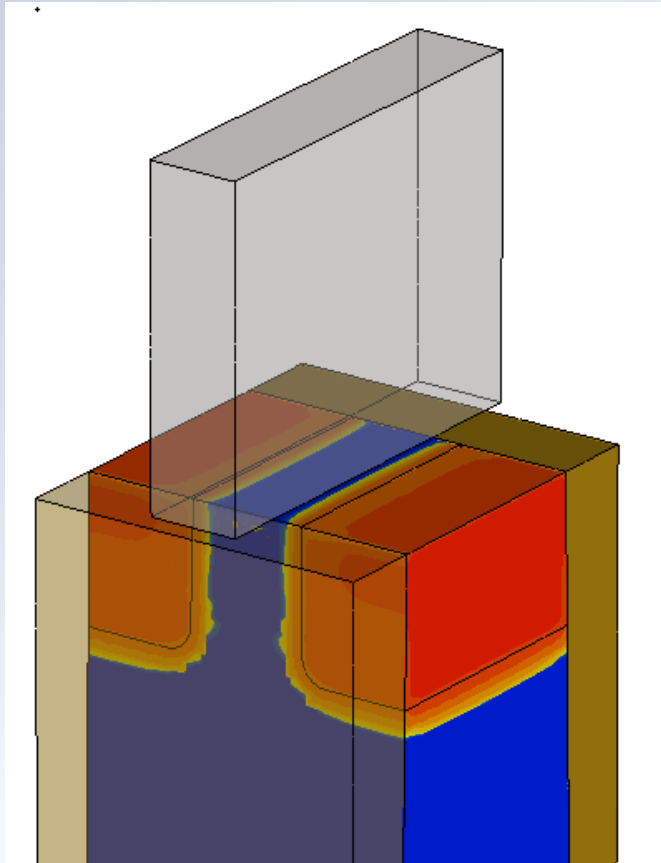
## POTENTIAL ISSUES:

- ✓ Only externally facing IO pads
- ✓ Chip to chip Scan chains
- ✓ Timing closure for interconnected components
- ✓ Fault models for the system
- ✓ System test to Structural test correlation for Fault Grading

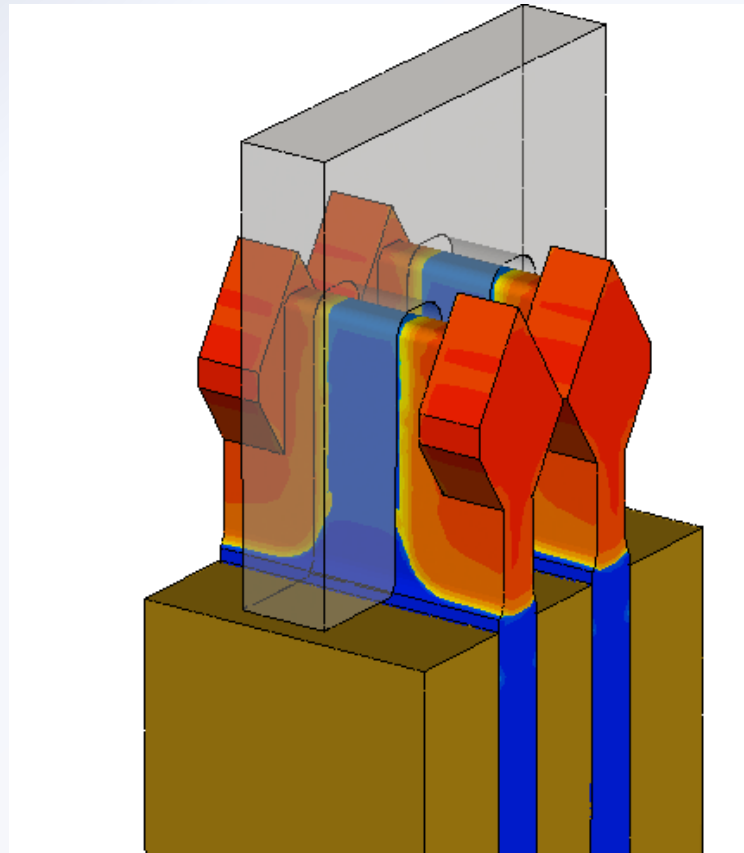


# The Future is coming !

## Transistor evolution

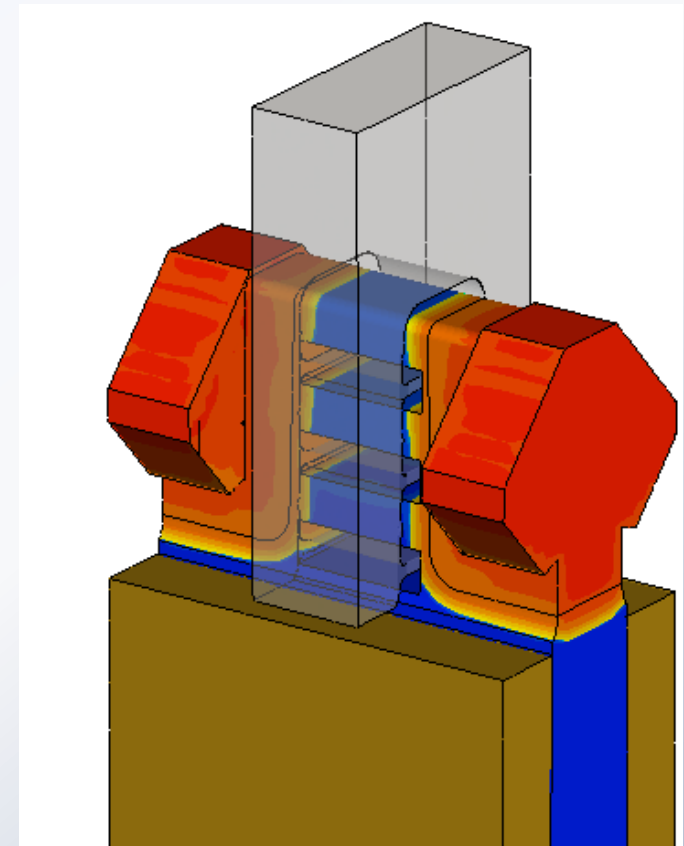


**Past Transistor**  
**Gate ; 1side (Planar)**



**Current Transistor**  
**Gate ; 3side (FinFET)**  
**60~70mV Vdd**  
**reduction**

Source: Qualcomm Technologies data

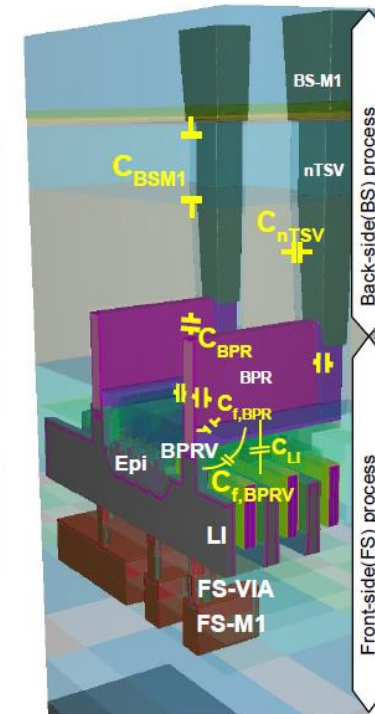
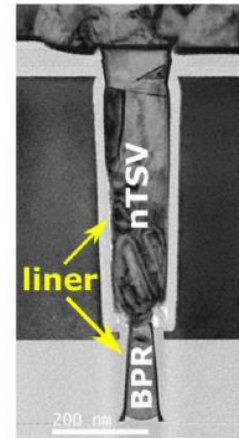
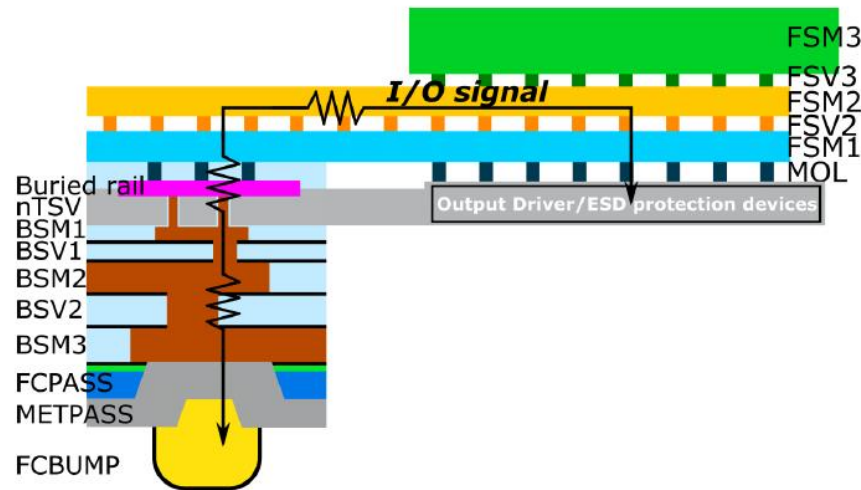


**Future Transistor**  
**Gate ; 4 side (All-Around)**  
**Additional 50~60mV Vdd**  
**reduction**

# Transistor evolution





## External I/O in fully BS connection

- Parasitic RC
  - + Decoupling the noise for power delivery
  - Deteriorate performance of signal delivery



By Permission from IMEC

# Thank you

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