

# Nordic and ICs

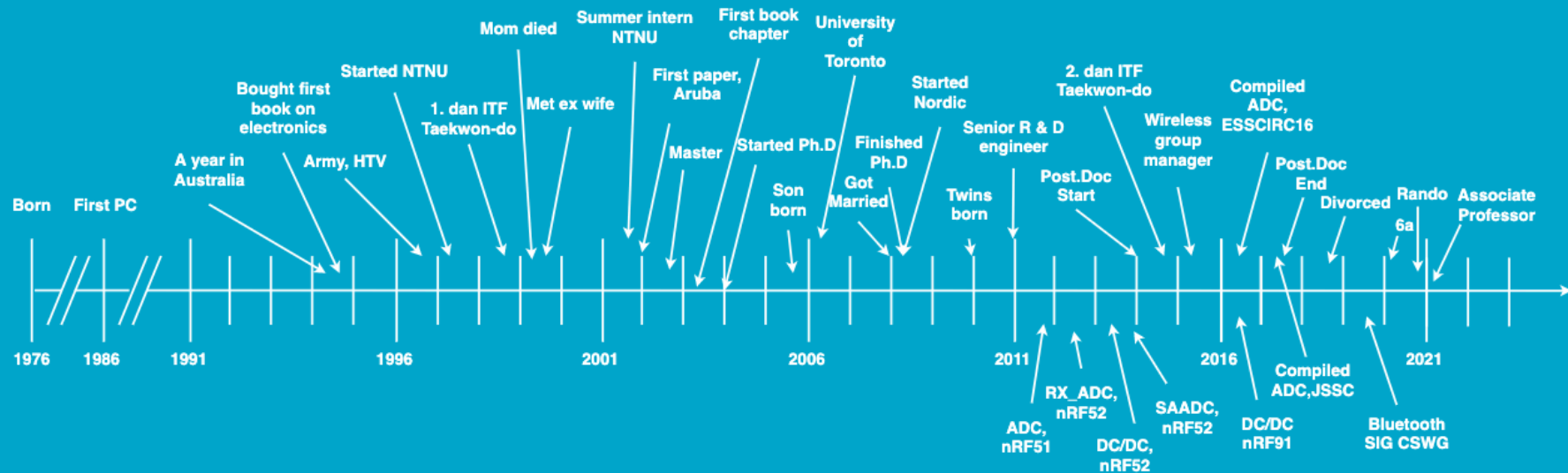
Specifically; who are we, why, what, and how ICs are made



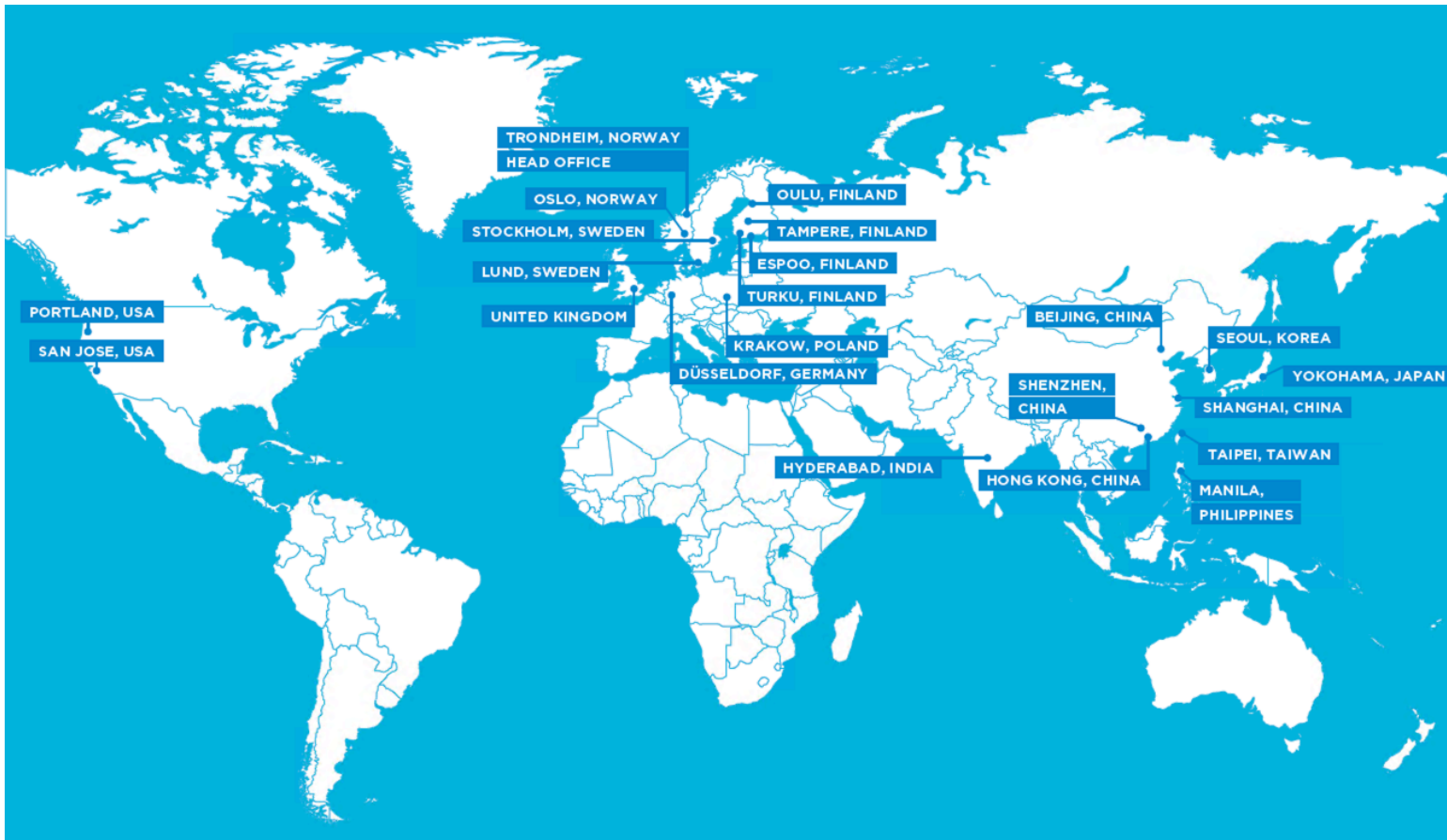
Carsten Wulff, 2021-03-02



# Carsten Wulff



Who



Svenn-Tore Larsen (CEO)



Svein-Egil Nielsen (CTO)



Wireless



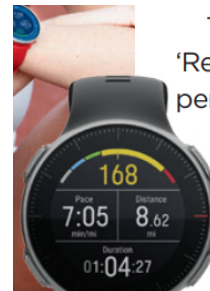
why

# My personal why 1 : Exercise

2011



2020



ular

The Polar Vantage V also offers 'Recovery Pro' which offers personalized training guidance based on analysis of heart rate variability (HRV) orthostatic results to help recovery and avoid injury, as well as calculating running power without the need for external sensors.

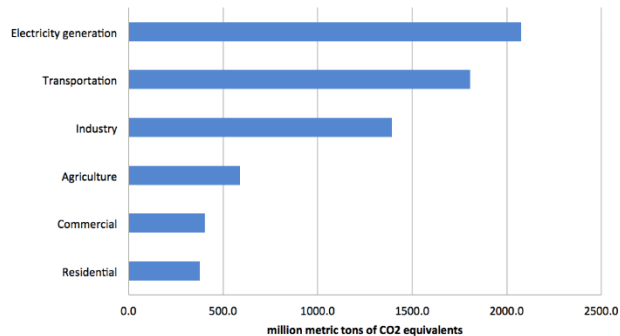
Using Bluetooth Low Energy connectivity provided by Nordic's [nRF52832](#) System-on-Chip (SoC), this data is synced to the user's smartphone, where they can view detailed training statistics via the iOS- and Android-compatible Polar Flow app.

also offers  
isor.  
Polar's  
ology.  
cular  
an  
ie

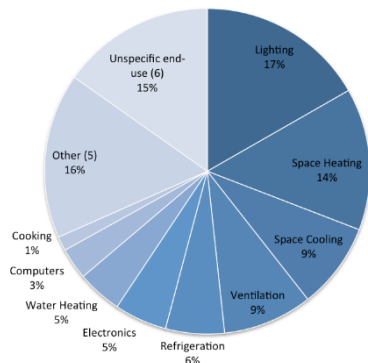
... cardiovascular diseases killed 17.689 million people in 2015, that's 31.3% of all deaths ... WHO

# My personal why 2: Energy consumption

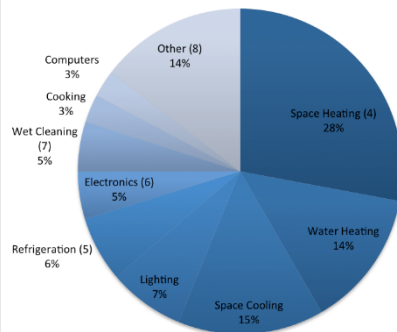
CO2 emissions by source US



Commercial electricity usage U.S 2015



Residential electricity usage U.S. 2015



## Bluetooth LE gateway powers 16 smart-home devices at once

IoT solutions company, Dexatek Technology, has released its 'ΣCASA' smart-home ecosystem based on Nordic Semiconductor's Bluetooth Low Energy wireless technology. The ΣCASA system comprises the 'Σ Central gateway' and a range of peripheral sensors to monitor smoke, shock, motion, door access, and environmental conditions, as well as devices to remotely control appliances and lighting in the home.

The Σ Central gateway employs Nordic's nRF52832 System-on-Chip (SoC) to provide wireless connectivity between the gateway and the ΣCASA peripherals, as well as the user's



This gateway can control up to 16 devices simultaneously

individually as required. The broadcasts are fully encrypted to ensure security and privacy. If the user is away from home, the gateway allows the user to remotely monitor and control sensors from the ΣCASA-SmartHome iOS or Android app on their mobile device via the ΣCASA Cloud server. From the app, the user can also schedule on/off times for peripheral sensors, control multiple sensors, smart devices, or create event triggers between multiple

support multiple concurrent connections.

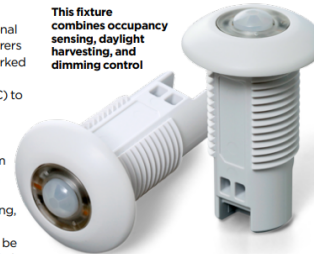


## Fixture-integrated sensor enables mesh-networked lighting installations

Murata has released its 'Fixture-Integrated Sensor' for the professional lighting sector, enabling manufacturers to develop Bluetooth mesh-based networked lighting products. The sensor employs Nordic's nRF52832 System-on-Chip (SoC) to provide the wireless mesh networking between individual sensors as well as Bluetooth 4.0 (and later) smartphones and tablets which offer a single point from where the sensors can be commissioned, configured, and controlled.

The device combines occupancy sensing, daylight harvesting, and 0-10 V dimming control in a compact form factor, and can be integrated into a wide range of new or existing luminaires. This is said to enable lighting manufacturers to deliver wireless-controllable and sensor-equipped lighting fixtures with minimal RF engineering

This fixture combines occupancy sensing, daylight harvesting, and dimming control



expertise. The sensor employs Bluetooth mesh software which enables users to instantly and simultaneously control up to hundreds of Bluetooth mesh-equipped lights from

smartphones or tablets. Once installed, the luminaires just need to be connected to mains power and can then be provisioned, configured, and controlled directly from a mobile device using either smart-light maker Silvalair's iOS Platform or Nordic's iOS and Android nRF Mesh intuitive apps. The nRF Mesh app, for example, enables a range of management features for use in Bluetooth mesh networks, allowing simple provision and configuration of Bluetooth mesh networks and devices. Either app allows the user to create lighting zones, enable and disable sensors, pair with switches, as well as set desired lighting levels.

Bluetooth mesh allows devices within a Bluetooth LE network to communicate directly with companion devices without recourse to a central hub device. The topology extends range, flexibility, and reliability.

# My personal why 3: COVID-19

- Corona virus disease 2019 has exposed a need in the market for
  - Assistance with personal distancing
  - Exposure notification (Google/Apple + Bluetooth)
  - Home medical

## Nordic inside COVID-19 home tester



- Nordic's nRF52810 Bluetooth LE SoC powers new COVID-19 Home Test kit from Ellume
  - Authorized by the FDA under an emergency use authorization, easy-to-use 15 minutes test for SARS-CoV-2 infection
  - Automatically transmitting results via Smartphone to secure cloud connection
  - Available over-the-counter
- Ellume expects demand in tens of millions

Bluetooth®

[LEARN ABOUT BLUETOOTH](#)
[DEVELOP WITH BLUE](#)

## Resources

[Home](#)
[Resources](#)
[Bluetooth SIG to Exten...](#)

### Bluetooth SIG to Extend Reach of COVID-19 Exposure Notification Systems

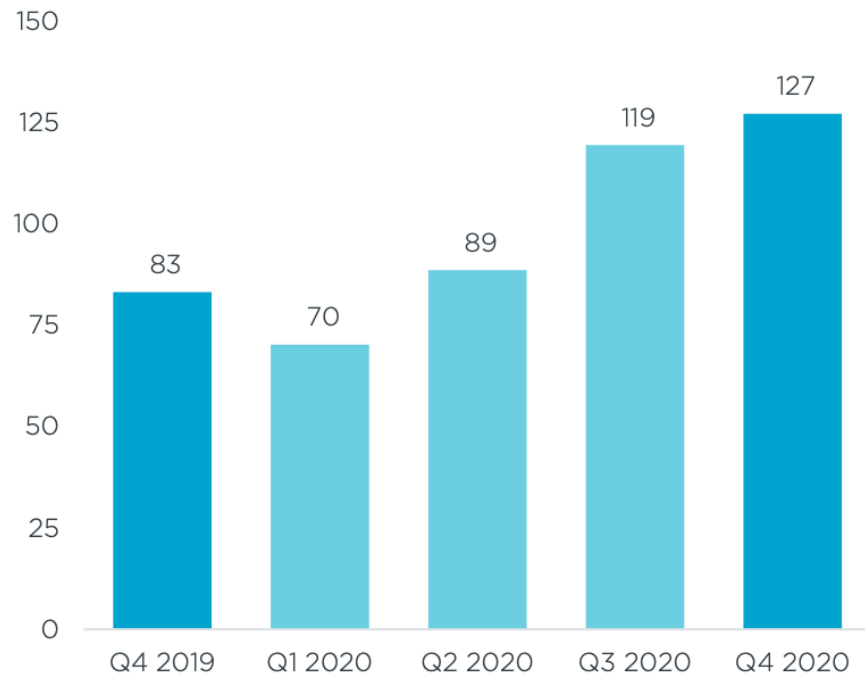
*Effort underway to standardize support for wearable devices in smartphone-based Exposure Notification Systems*

KIRKLAND, Wash. – 18 August, 2020 – The Bluetooth Special Interest Group (SIG) announced that work is underway to create a specification that will enable wearable devices to participate in an existing smartphone-based Exposure Notification System (ENS). By extending an ENS to include wearables, such as wristbands, it can better address population groups where smartphone usage remains low, including children in primary school and older adults living in care facilities. An initial draft of the specification is expected to be released and available for review within the next few months.

# Money

# Revenue growth of 53% in Q4

Quarterly revenue (USDm)



405 Million USD in 2020

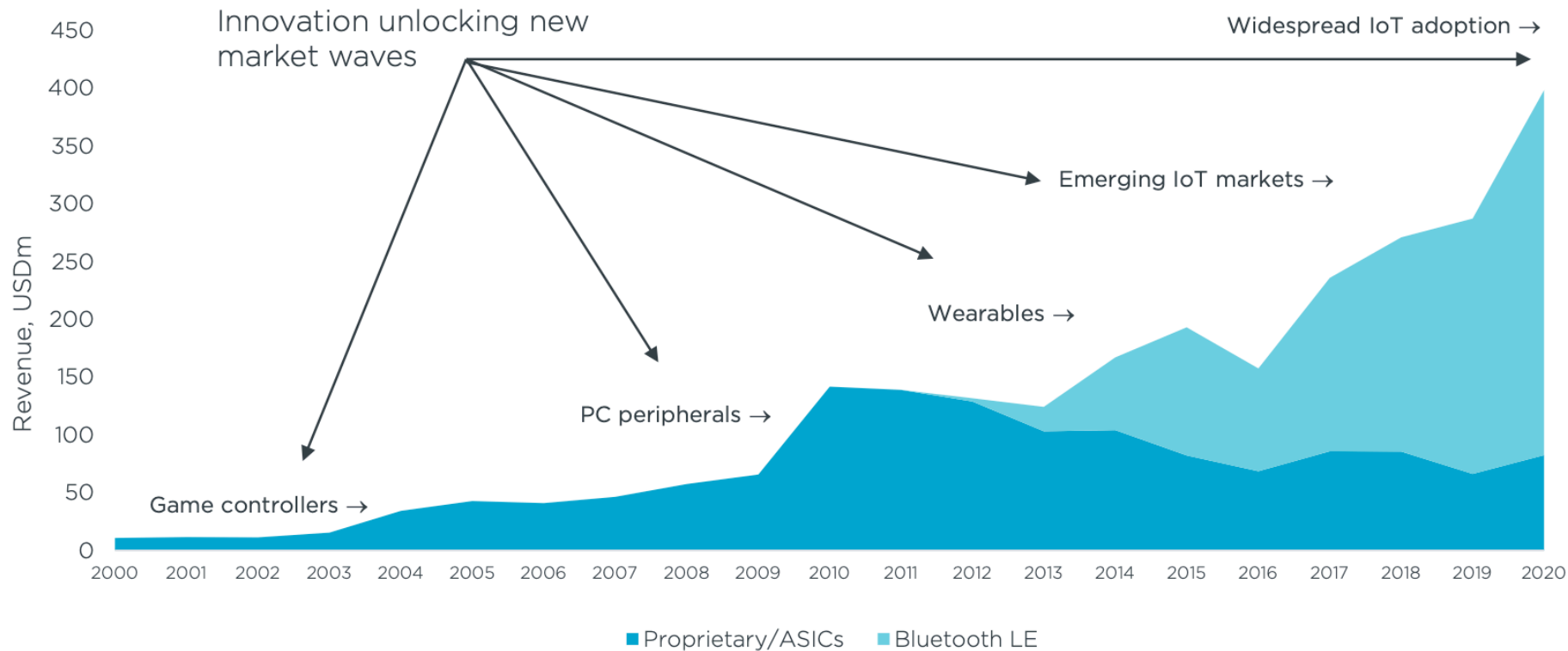
- Growth in all technologies in Q4...
  - Bluetooth accounting for 77% total revenue, after increasing 49% y-o-y to USD 97.6 million
  - Proprietary +55% to USD 25.3 million
  - Cellular IoT USD 2.7 million (USD 0.2 million)
- ...and for the full year 2020
  - Bluetooth +43% to USD 316.0 million
  - Proprietary +27% to USD 76.1 million
  - Cellular IoT +524% to USD 6.5 million

# Revenue growth in all markets

Group	Consumer Electronics	Wearables	Building/ Retail	Healthcare	Others
USDm 127.1	USDm 53.7	USDm 18.1	USDm 27.0	USDm 10.6	USDm 13.5
+52.9% y-o-y      +6.5% q-o-q	+59.0% y-o-y      -3.0% q-o-q	+12.3% y-o-y      -6.7% q-o-q	+62.3% y-o-y      +17.8% q-o-q	+113.2% y-o-y      +36.0% q-o-q	+30.3% y-o-y      +26.6% q-o-q

- Year-on-year growth across the markets
- Strong but seasonally slower for Consumer Electronics and Wearables
- Building/Retail, Healthcare and modules securing growth from Q3 to Q4

# Nordic is on a long-lasting growth journey

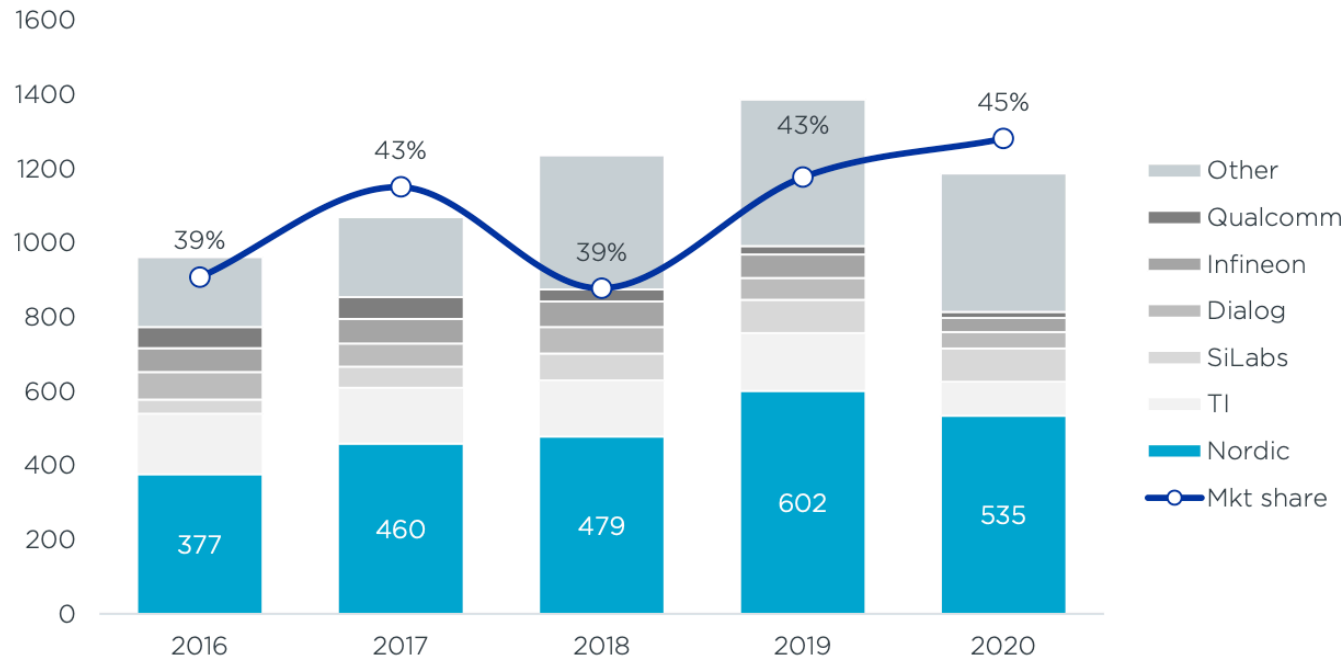




# Fortifying the broad market leadership

## Continued high certification market share

Bluetooth Low Energy end-product certifications



End-product certifications, Nordic Q4 20

141

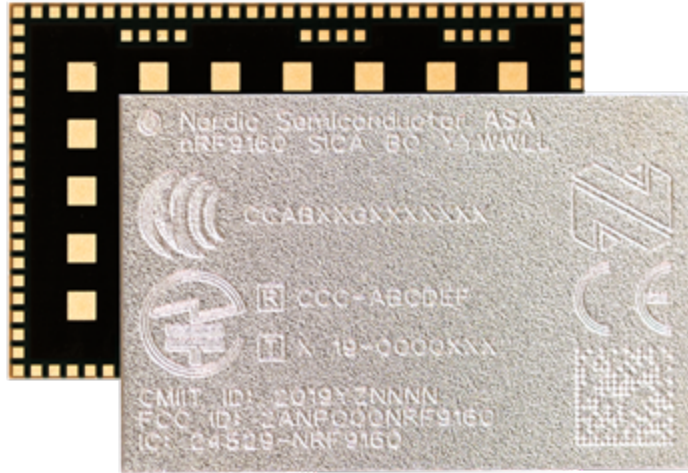
45 % mkt share in Q4'20 isolated

+1%  
y-o-y

+16%  
q-o-q

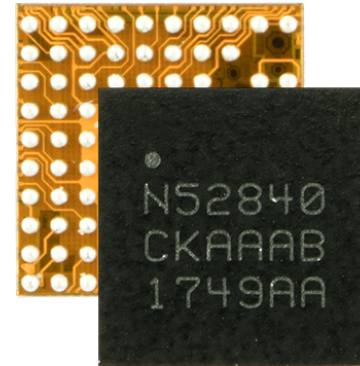
what

## Long Range



LTE-M/NB-IoT + GPS

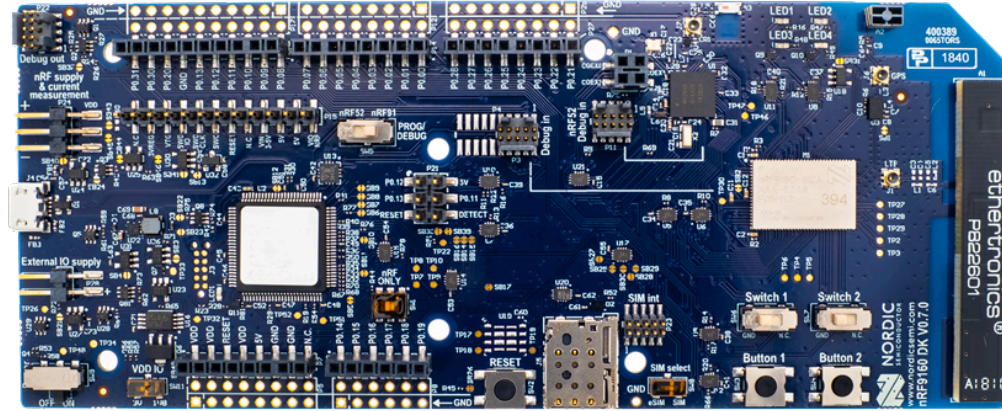
## Short Range



Bluetooth 5, Bluetooth mesh, Thread, Zigbee, 802.15.4, ANT and proprietary

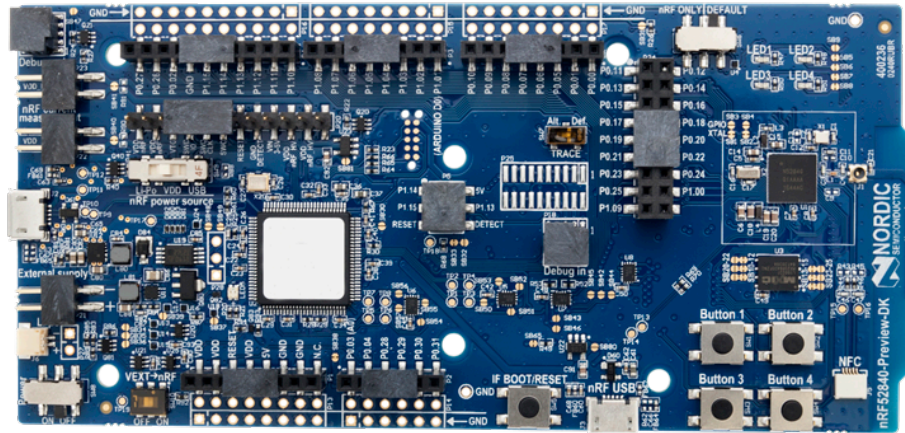
# Professional developer

Long Range



nRF9160 DK

Short Range



nRF52840 DK

# New product launches in Q4



Tsingao  
nRF52833

Bluetooth LE & UWB  
Module

Shenzhen DO  
Intelligent Technology  
nRF52840

Smartwatch

Eve Systems  
nRF52840

Smart home products  
supporting both  
Bluetooth LE & Thread

NousLogic  
nRF9160

Healthcare/medical  
realtime monitoring

tiptap  
nRF9160

Contactless payment  
terminal

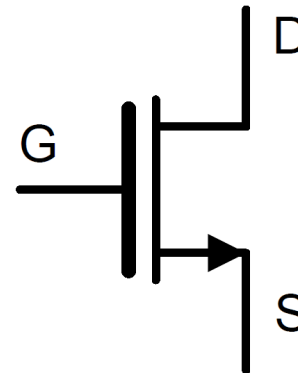
How

# Transistor



# Transistor

- The most important device in an integrated circuit.
- An extremely complicated device
- Need computer models to describe the behavior accurately.
- BSIM model published in 1987, 17 parameters to describe a transistor. This is similar what you find in textbooks. Applies to 1  $\mu\text{m}$  transistor lengths.



558

IEEE JOURNAL OF SOLID-STATE CIRCUITS, VOL. 22, NO. 4, AUGUST 1987

## BSIM: Berkeley Short-Channel IGFET Model for MOS Transistors

BING J. SHEU, MEMBER, IEEE, DONALD L. SCHARFETTER, FELLOW, IEEE, PING-KEUNG KO, MEMBER, IEEE, AND MIN-CHIE JENG

**Abstract**—The Berkeley Short-channel IGFET Model (BSIM), an accurate and computationally efficient MOS transistor model, and its associated characterization facility for advanced integrated-circuit design are described. Both the strong-inversion and weak-inversion components of the drain-current expression are included. In order to speed up the circuit-simulation execution time, the dependence of the drain current on the substrate bias has been modeled with a numerical approximation. This approximation also simplifies the transistor terminal charge expressions. The charge model was derived from its drain-current counterpart to

only as accurate as the models used. In the past, the SPICE2 program has provided three built-in MOS transistor models [6]. The Level-1 model, which contains fairly simple expressions, is most suitable for preliminary analysis. The Level-2 model, which contains expressions from detailed device physics, does not work well for small-geometry transistors. The Level-3 model represents an attempt to pursue the semi-empirical modeling approach

3. *Saturation Region* [ $V_{GS} > V_{th}$  and  $V_{DS} \geq V_{DSAT}$ ]:

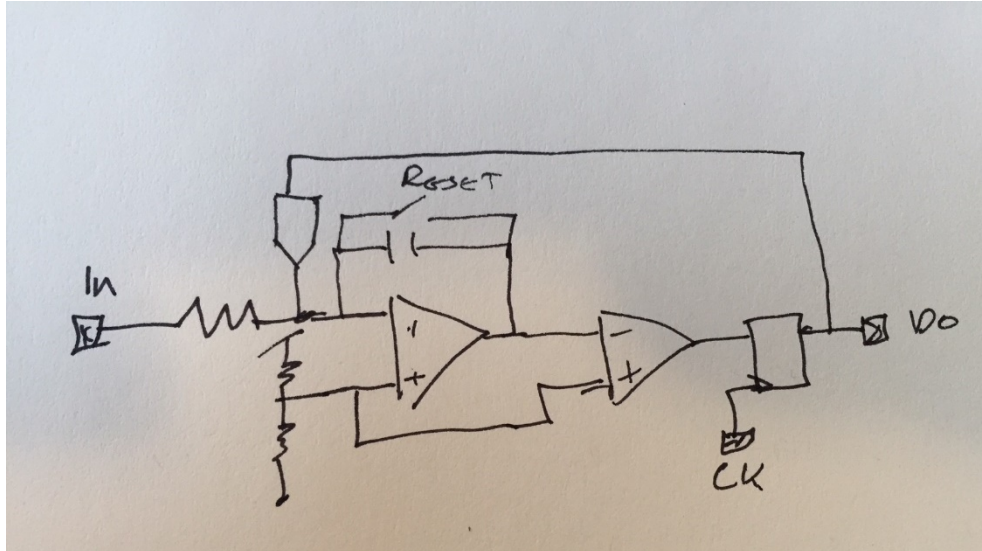
$$I_{DS} = \frac{\mu_0}{[1 + U_0(V_{GS} - V_{th})]} \cdot \frac{C_{ox} \frac{W}{L} (V_{GS} - V_{th})^2}{2aK}$$



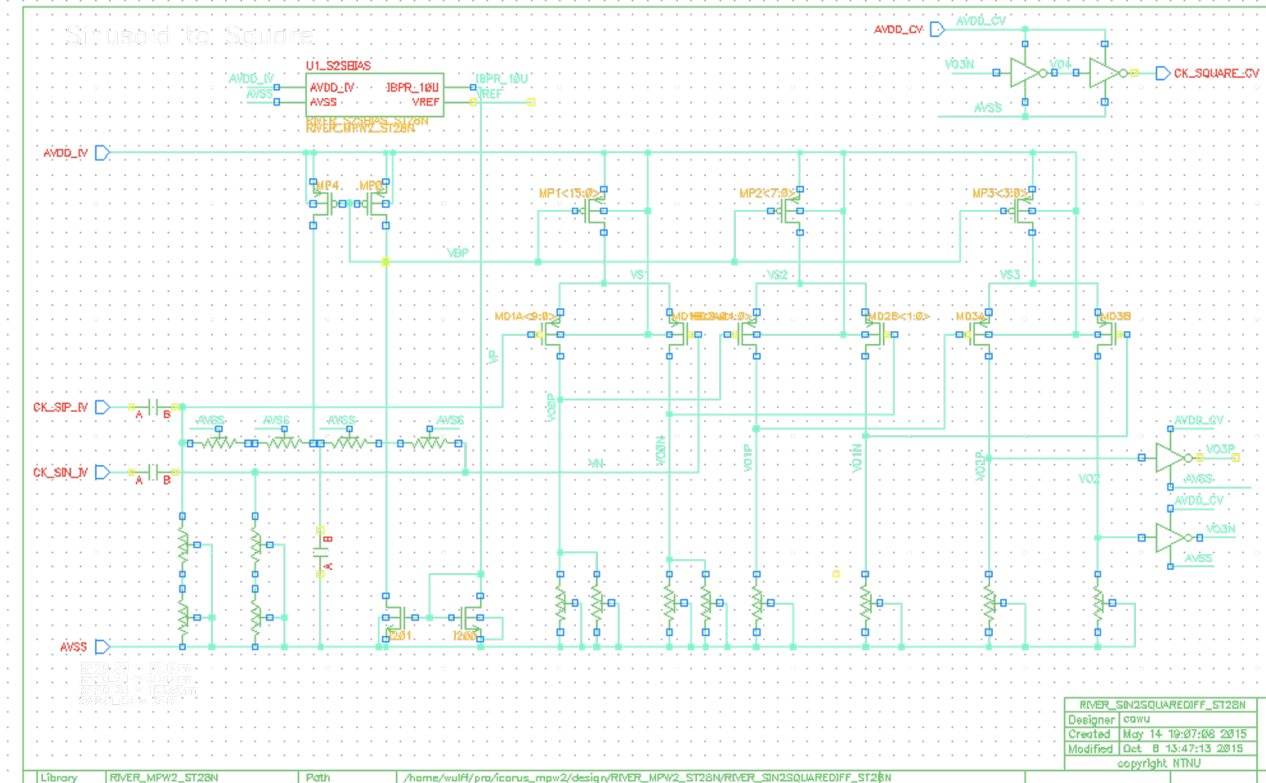
# BSIM 4.5 = 284 parameters

```
.MODEL N1 NMOS LEVEL=14 VERSION=4.5.0 BINUNIT=1 PARAMCHK=1 MOBMOD=0 CAPMOD=2 IGCMOD=1 IGBMOD=1 GEOMOD=1 DIOMOD=1 RDSMOD=0
RBODYMOD=0 RGATEMOD=3 PERMOD=1 ACNQSMOD=0 TRNQSMOD=0 TEMPMOD=0 TNOM=27 TOXE=1.8E-009 TOXP=10E-010 TOXM=1.8E-009 DTOX=8E-10
EPSROX=3.9 WINT=5E-009 LINT=1E-009 LL=0 WL=0 LLN=1 WLN=1 LW=0 WW=0 LWN=1 WWN=1 LWL=0 WWL=0 XPART=0 TOXREF=1.4E-009 SAREF=5E-6
SBREF=5E-6 WLOD=2E-6 KUO=-4E-6 KVSAT=0.2 KVTH0=-2E-8 TKUO=0.0 LLODKUO=1.1 WLODKUO=1.1 LLODVTH=1.0 WLODVTH=1.0 LKUO=1E-6 WKUO=1E-6
PKUO=0.0 LKVTH0=1.1E-6 WKVTH0=1.1E-6 PKVTH0=0.0 STK2=0.0 LODK2=1.0 STETA0=0.0 LOETA0=1.0 LAMBDA=4E-10 VSAT=1.1E 005 VTL=2.0E5 XN=6.0 LC=5E-9
RNOIA=0.577 RNOIB=0.37 LINTNOI=1E-009 WPEMOD=0 WEB=0.0 WEC=0.0 KVTH0WE=1.0 K2WE=1.0 KUOWE=1.0 SCREF=5.0E-6 TVOFF=0.0 TVFBSDOFF=0.0
VTH0=0.25 K1=0.35 K2=0.05 K3=0 K3B=0 W0=2.5E-006 DVT0=1.8 DVT1=0.52 DVT2=-0.032 DVTOW=0 DVTIW=0 DVT2W=0 DSUB=2 MINV=0.05 VOFFL=0 DVTP0=1E-
007 DVTP1=0.05 LPE0=5.75E-008 LPEB=2.3E-010 XJ=2E-008 NGATE=5E 020 NDEP=2.8E 018 NSD=1E 020 PHIN=0 CDSC=0.0002 CDSCB=0 CDSCD=0 CIT=0 VOFF=-
0.15 NFACTOR=1.2 ETA0=0.05 ETAB=0 UC=-3E-011 VFB=-0.55 U0=0.032 UA=5.0E-011 UB=3.5E-018 AO=2 AGS=1E-020 A1=0 A2=1 B0=-1E-020 B1=0 KETA=0.04 DWG=0
DWB=0 PCLM=0.08 PDIBLC1=0.028 PDIBLC2=0.022 PDIBLCB=-0.005 DROUT=0.45 PVAG=1E-020 DELTA=0.01 PSCBE1=8.14E 008 PSCBE2=5E-008 RSH=0 RDSW=0
RSW=0 RDW=0 FPROUT=0.2 PDITS=0.2 PDITSD=0.23 PDITSL=2.3E 006 RSH=0 RDSW=50 RSW=150 RDW=150 RDSWMIN=0 RDWMIN=0 RSWMIN=0 PRWG=0
PRWB=6.8E-011 WR=1 ALPHAO=0.074 ALPHA1=0.005 BETA0=30 AGIDL=0.0002 BGIDL=2.1E 009 CGIDL=0.0002 EGIDL=0.8 AIGBACC=0.012 BIGBACC=0.0028
CIGBACC=0.002 NIGBACC=1 AIGBINV=0.014 BIGBINV=0.004 CIGBINV=0.004 EIGBINV=1.1 NIGBINV=3 AIGC=0.012 BIGC=0.0028 CIGC=0.002 AIGSD=0.012
BIGSD=0.0028 CIGSD=0.002 NIGC=1 POXEDGE=1 PIGCD=1 NTOX=1 VFBSDOFF=0.0 XRCRG1=12 XRCRG2=5 CGSO=6.238E-010 CGDO=6.238E-010 CGBO=2.56E-011
CGDL=2.495E-10 CGSL=2.495E-10 CKAPPAS=0.03 CKAPPAD=0.03 ACDE=1 MOIN=15 NOFF=0.9 VOFFFCV=0.02 KT1=-0.37 KTIL=0.0 KT2=-0.042 UTE=-1.5 UA1=1E-009
UB1=-3.5E-019 UC1=0 PRT=0 AT=53000 FNOIMOD=1 TNOIMOD=0 JSS=0.0001 JSWS=1E-011 JSWGS=1E-010 NJS=1 IJTHSFWD=0.01 IJTHSREV=0.001 BVS=10 XJBVS=1
JSD=0.0001 JSWD=1E-011 JSWGD=1E-010 NJD=1 IJTHDFWD=0.01 IJTHDREV=0.001 BVD=10 XJBVD=1 PBS=1 CJS=0.0005 MJS=0.5 PBSWS=1 CJSWS=5E-010
MJSWS=0.33 PBSWGS=1 CJSWGS=3E-010 MJSWGS=0.33 PBD=1 CJD=0.0005 MJD=0.5 PBSWD=1 CJSWD=5E-010 MJSWD=0.33 PBSWGD=1 CJSWGD=5E-010
MJSWGD=0.33 TPB=0.005 TCJ=0.001 TPBSW=0.005 TCJSW=0.001 TPBSWG=0.005 TCJSWG=0.001 XTIS=3 XTID=3 DMCG=0E-006 DMCI=0E-006 DMDG=0E-006
DMCGT=0E-007 DWJ=0.0E-008 XGW=0E-007 XGL=0E-008 RSHG=0.4 GBMIN=1E-010 RBPB=5 RBPD=15 RBPS=15 RBDB=15 RBSB=15 NGCON=1 JTSS=1E-4 JTSD=1E-4
JTSSWS=1E-10 JTSSWD=1E-10 JTSSWGS=1E-7 JTSSWGD=1E-7 NJTSS=20.0 NJTSSW=20 NJTSSWG=6 VTSS=10 VTSD=10 VTSSWS=10 VTSSWD=10 VTSSWGS=2
VTSSWGD=2 XTSS=0.02 XTSD=0.02 XTSSWS=0.02 XTSSWD=0.02 XTSSWGS=0.02 XTSSWGD=0.02
```

# Typical start of design: paper and a pencil

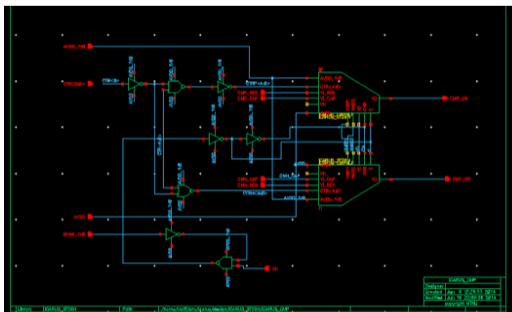


# Draw schematic

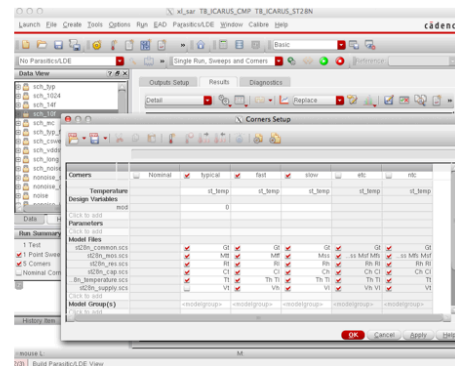


# Analog Design

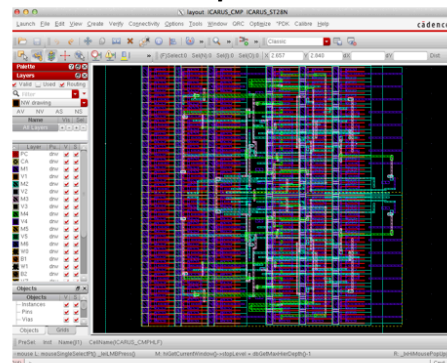
## Schematic



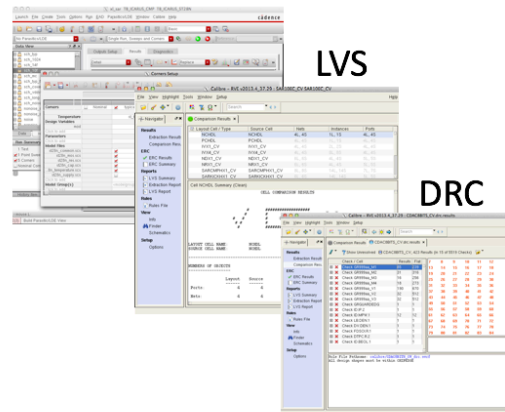
## Simulation



## Layout

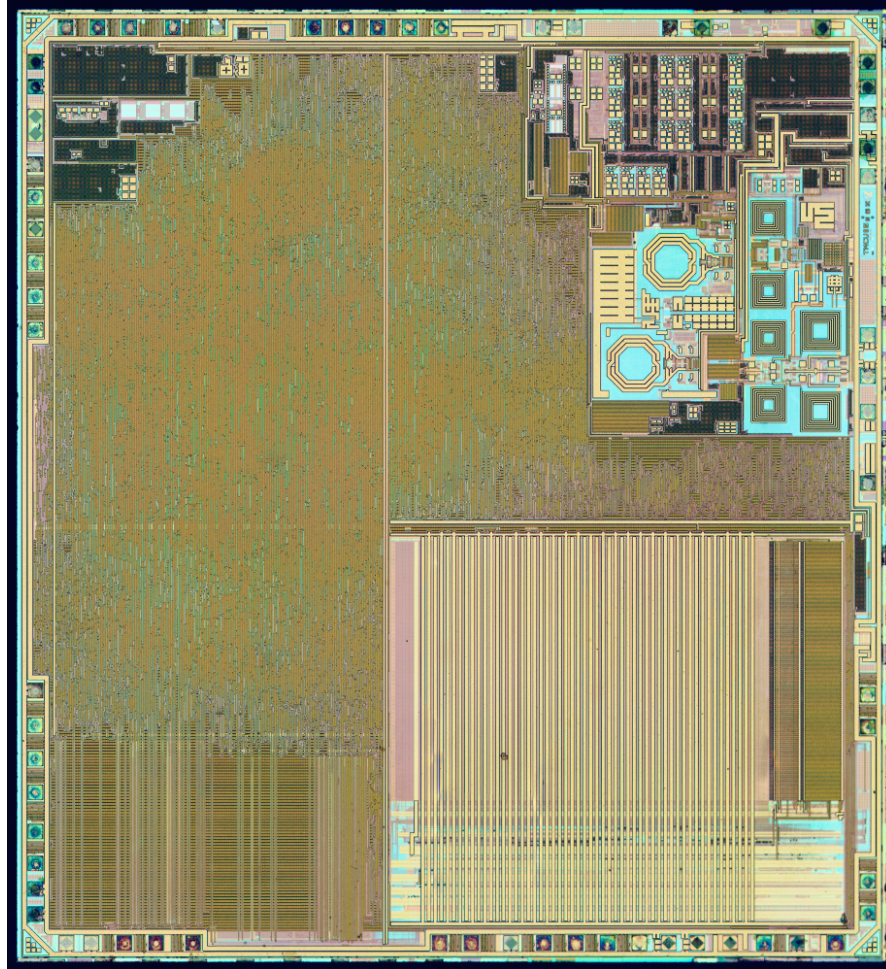


## Simulation









# Manufacturing ICs

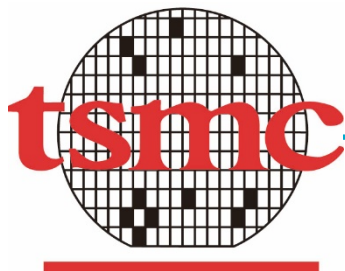
Extremely expensive



**NORDIC**  
SEMICONDUCTOR

Smarter Things

Fabless IC design



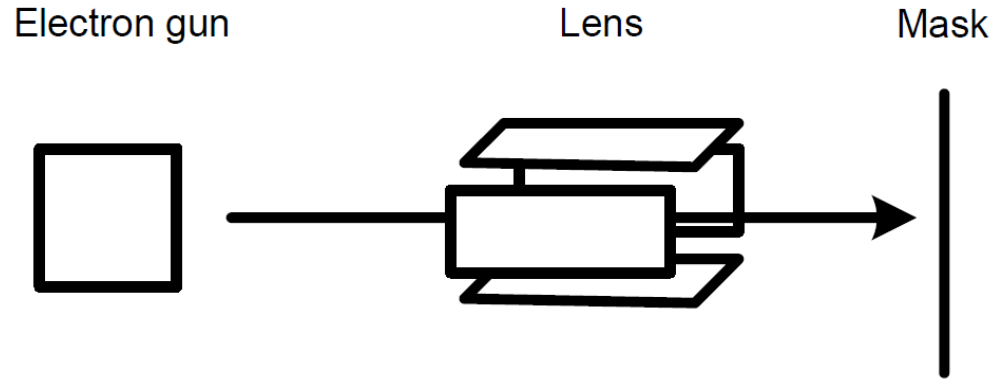
**ASE GROUP**

IC foundry: 46,968 (2016)

Packaging and test: 65,695



# Mask making



- Mask making is extremely expensive, on the order of 1 MUSD – 10 MUSD per design
- A normal chip has around 30 - 40 masks.

Search terms: Czochralski process, dicing

## The wafer – the fundamental building block

---



<http://www.tomshardware.com/reviews/semiconductor-production-101,1590-3.html>

- Ingot = An ultra pure, single crystal of silicon
- Wafer = A very thin slice of an ingot, used as the first layer in processing

# Lithography

Today, for most products: 193nm argon fluoride excimer laser

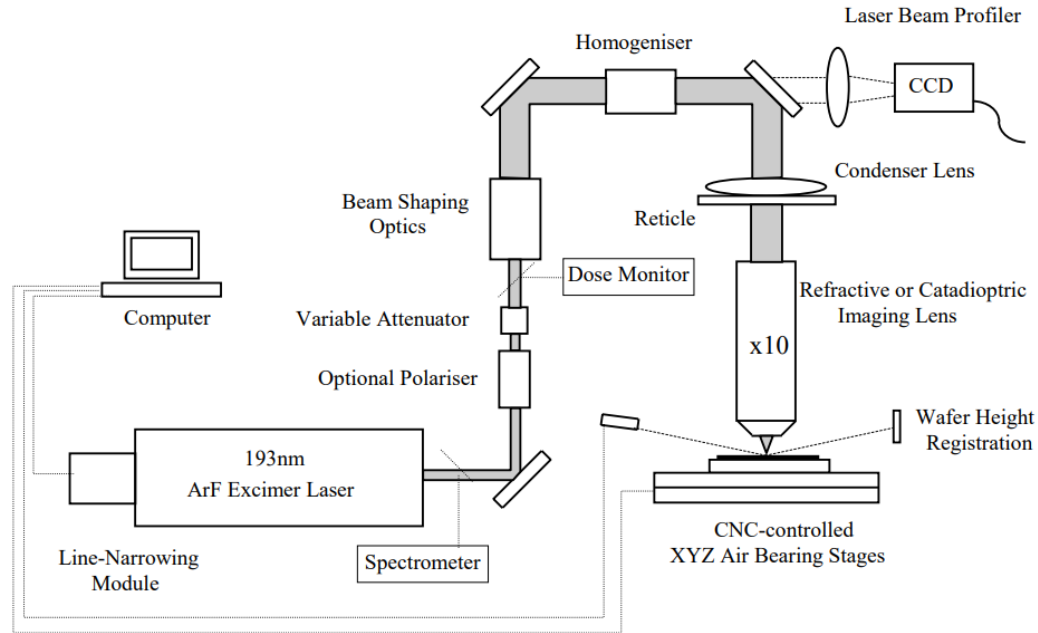
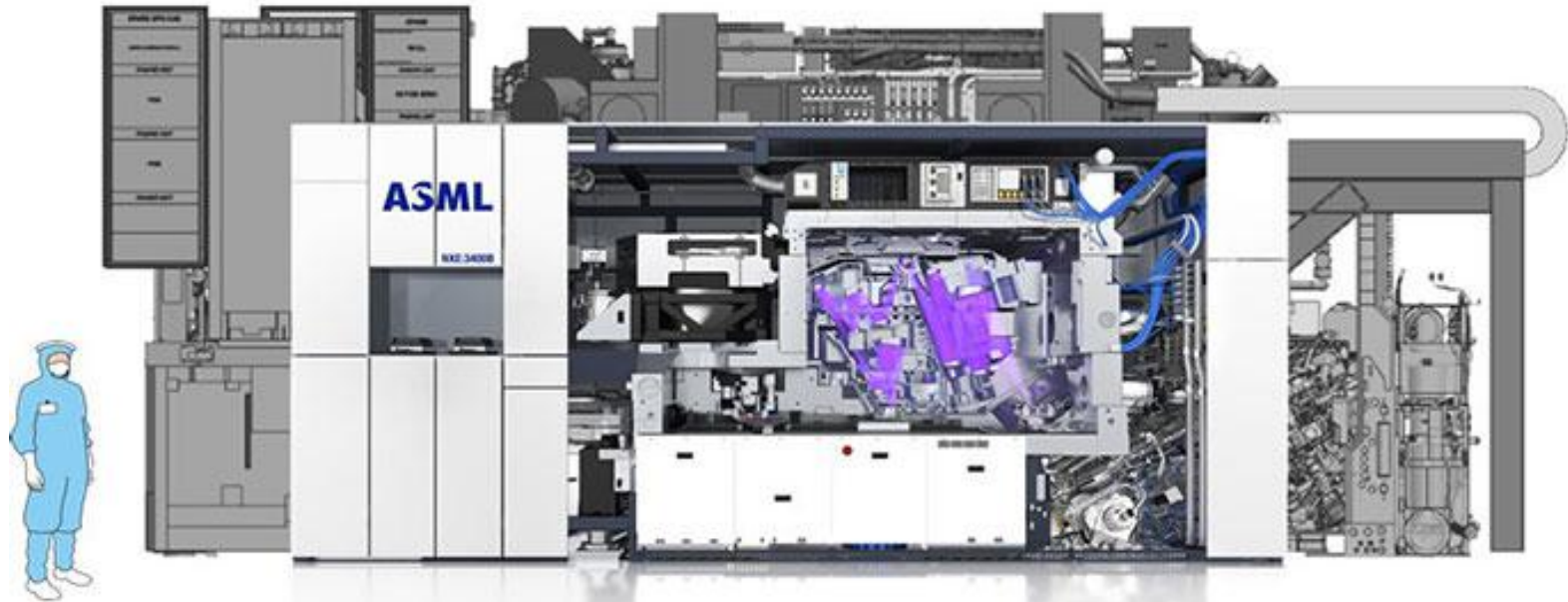


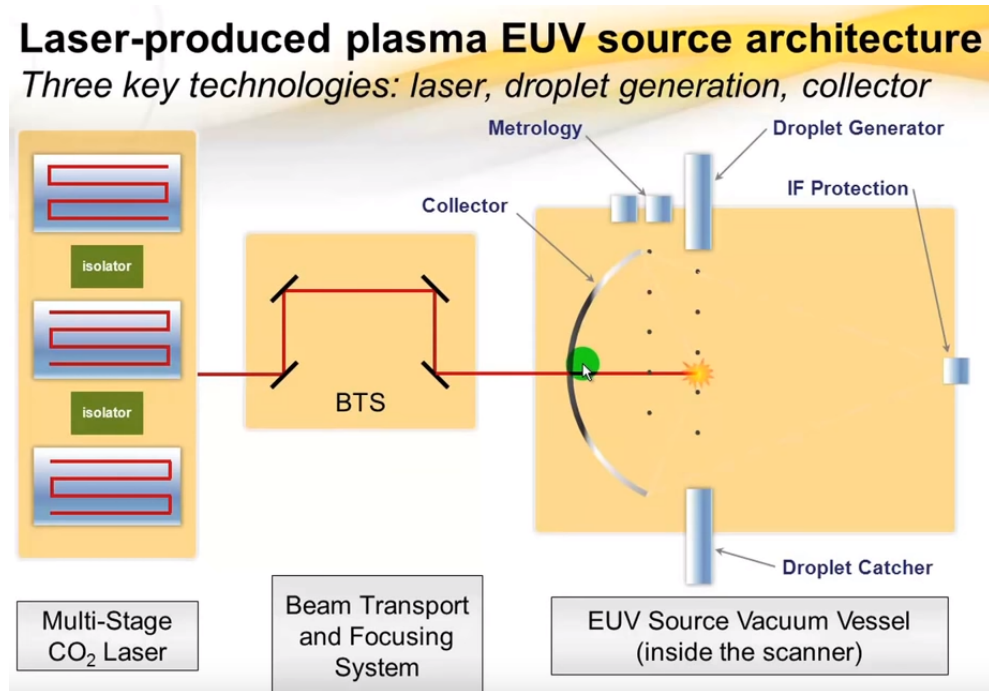
Figure 2. Schematic diagram of 193nm excimer laser lithography exposure system

Lithography machines (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ShYWUIJ2FZs>)

# Today at 7 nm: Extreme ultra violet

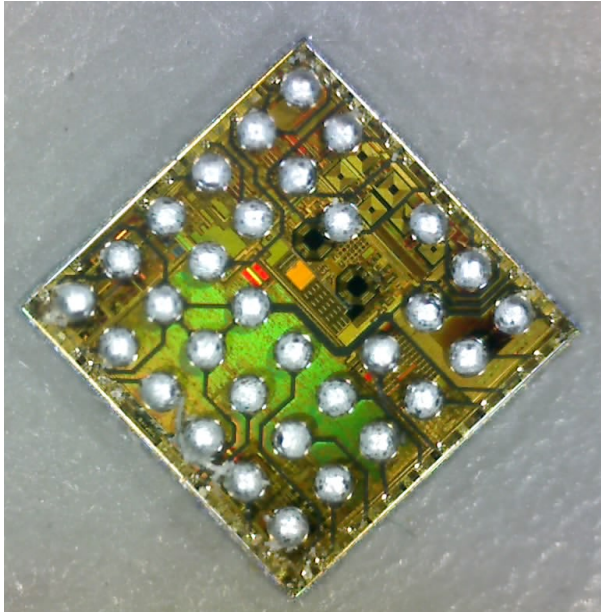


# Today at 7 nm: Extreme ultra violet



[EUV light source \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5yTARacBxHI\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5yTARacBxHI)

# Research & development takes time





**NORDIC**  
SEMICONDUCTOR

Smarter Things

# Thanks!

[carsten.wulff@nordicsemi.no](mailto:carsten.wulff@nordicsemi.no)

[carsten@wulff.no](mailto:carsten@wulff.no)

[carstenw@ntnu.no](mailto:carstenw@ntnu.no)