Homework 1

Search recent announcements from Intel, AMD, TSMC, and Samsung on their advanced semiconductor node. Who is first? Who is behind? Explain why.

*As shrinking becomes more complex, requiring more capital, expertise, and resources, the number of companies capable of providing leading edge fabrication has been steadily dropping. As of 2018, only three companies are now capable of fabricating integrated circuits on the most cutting-edge process: Intel, Samsung, and TSMC.*

*Recent talk of AMD vs Intel market share is misguided, the real race for superiority is TSMC vs Intel.*

*Right now, TSMC appears to be in the lead even though Intel appears to be finally recovering from its large 10NM stumble. TSMC long ago won the foundry wars as it makes Apple chips, communications and video chips. On the logic side, the only thing left for TSMC to win is CPU/PC/server chips which AMD will serve as the vehicle for.*

*Although it can be argued that Samsung is still the number one chip maker by dollar volume, that is obviously due to its dominance of memory as it doesn't compare to TSMC in the more technologically important foundry market.*

*So, we can make a conclusion that is TSMC and Samsung is the first, then Intel, then is AMD.*