

# Interview Talking Points – Technical Ownership Cheat Sheet

This cheat sheet summarizes key talking points aligned with portfolio highlights. Use it to structure clear, concise, and ownership-focused interview answers.

## Sign-off Ownership (STAR)

- **Situation:** Late-stage advanced-node ASIC approaching tape-out with unresolved DRC and manufacturability risks.
- **Task:** Own end-to-end physical verification and sign-off readiness under tight schedule constraints.
- **Action:** Identified systematic violations, worked directly with layout and foundry teams, and prioritized fixes based on manufacturing risk.
- **Result:** Achieved first-time-right tape-out with no critical sign-off issues.

## Verification Decision-Making

- Distinguish local layout errors from systematic rule or process interactions.
- Assess OPC sensitivity and manufacturability impact before choosing fix scope.
- Balance short-term closure against long-term yield and re-spin risk.

## Automation & Flow Optimization

- Introduced TCL, Python, and SVRF-based automation to eliminate repetitive manual verification tasks.
- Standardized sign-off execution to improve predictability and transparency.
- Designed flows with configurable hooks to handle corner cases without losing flexibility.
- Enabled reuse of automation across multiple projects and technology nodes.

*Note: Specific design details, scripts, and metrics are abstracted to protect confidential and proprietary information.*