# Breaking the microchip monopoly

leviathan/talamon (Lanceville Technology)

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Libre Silicon Alliance

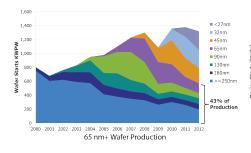
#### What we do

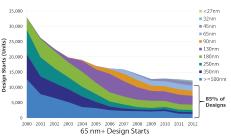
- We make free silicon
- Breaking the monopoly of big semiconductor manufacturers
- Eliminating the vendor lock-in to big semiconductor manufacturers
- Making semiconductor development super quick and inexpensive
- Introducing the LSPL (LibreSilicon public license)
- Attracting commercial design houses to develop free silicon

## Why are we doing this?

- MPWs cost around 20'000 USD nowadays
- MPWs take around 2-9 months nowadays
- All manufacturers want NDAs (some NDAs even have NDAs!)
- Your design for a vendor process contains process specific design quirks (also under NDA!)
- No manufacturer provides the GDS2 files in order to manufacture the designs in your basement (there is no free silicon yet)
- You can't even publish your own designs!

### Closed silicon market





<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>http://semimd.com/favre/2016/08/24

# Community projects



Yosys Open SYnthesis Suite



## Companies and institutions





# efabless:



# Reward IP developers

- Chip designer is rewarded when IP is used on collaboration platforms
- Smart contracts track usage and pay contributors
- Hash of IP + desired return value

#### How we do it

- Introducing an open source chip manufacturing process standard specification
- Introducing a fully integrated free EDA for ASIC design<sup>1</sup>
- Renting the clean room and manufacturing equipment at HKUST every 2 weeks for around 12 hours



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>https://github.com/leviathanch/qtflow

#### Libre Silicon EDA Tools

- QtFlow EDA<sup>2</sup>
  - EDA suite written in Qt5
  - Wave viewer
  - Planned:
    - Integration of higher level HDLs (CLash)
    - Plugins through PythonQt
- Icarus Verilog simulation<sup>3</sup>
- QRouter maze router<sup>4</sup>
- GrayWolf floor planner<sup>5</sup>

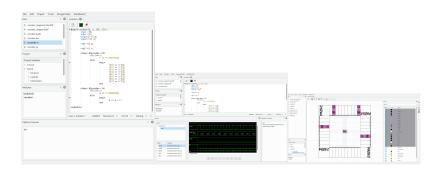
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>https://github.com/leviathanch/qtflow

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>http://iverilog.icarus.com

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup>https://github.com/leviathanch/grouter

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup>https://github.com/leviathanch/graywolf

## QtFlow screen shots



## Help needed

- Work on developing QtFlow
  - GrayWolf issues<sup>6</sup>
  - QRouter issues<sup>7</sup>
  - Front end issues<sup>8</sup>
- Work on the LibreSilicon process<sup>9</sup> and technologies<sup>10</sup>
  - Work on the standard logic cells
  - Work on developing FreeFLASH
  - Work on developing FreeDRAM
  - Develop ADCs and stuff
- Financial contributions/Investments

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup>https://github.com/leviathanch/graywolf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup>https://github.com/leviathanch/grouter

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup>https://github.com/leviathanch/qtflow

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup>https://github.com/leviathanch/libresiliconprocess

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup>https://github.com/leviathanch/ls018

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## Thank you!

Thank you very much! Vielen herzlichen Dank! 非常感谢你们!

