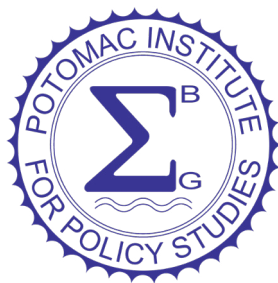


Proliferation of DARPA Technology: Case Studies of MRAM and SiGe-based Phased Arrays

Strategic Planning Support to Electronics Resurgence Initiative



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Executive Summary

The Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) must ensure that its federal research and development expenditures bolster U.S. defense capabilities and commercial sector and not those of potentially adversarial nations. To support DARPA's Microsystems Technology Office (MTO) in its technology transfer efforts for the Electronics Resurgence Initiative program, the Potomac Institute for Policy Studies investigated the global proliferation of select technologies that were strongly reliant on initial DARPA funding to catalyze their development. DARPA Spintronics, which launched commercial efforts related to magneto random access memory (MRAM), was used as a case study, as were the DARPA efforts towards silicon-based RF technologies [i.e SiGe bipolar complementary metal-oxide-semiconductor (BiCMOS)-based phased arrays].

The objective of this study was to collect and analyze data to create a report tracking the proliferation of these select technologies, starting from the initiation of U.S. federal investment via DARPA and carrying through the following period of commercial R&D efforts, industrial partnerships, and mergers and acquisitions. To execute this study, information was gathered from interviews with Program participants and individuals involved with subsequent commercialization efforts. Reputable internet sources throughout the microelectronic community were also utilized.

Our research found that investments by DARPA were critical to the development of highly capable MRAM memory and SiGe RF technologies. Industry partners were highly reluctant to conduct initial research and development activities- it was not clear that the technologies were viable nor did markets exist to motivate early internal funding. However, as a result of DARPA funding, these technologies have found profitable transitions in the commercial sector and the defense-industrial base. Additionally, the rapid development of both MRAM and 5G-enabling mmWave technologies were greatly assisted by the highly specialized workforce that was trained via DARPA funding. The graduate students who had worked on DARPA projects are now currently employed throughout the domestic and foreign technological ecosystems.

Our research also found that past investment in MRAM and SiGe BiCMOS-based phased array technologies has resulted in commercial sectors strongly reliant on foreign-owned manufacturing capabilities. Despite a significant amount of domestic research and development efforts, there are no MRAM or SiGe-capable mass production foundries owned and operated by U.S.-based firms and no U.S.-owned firm has plans to build one. Indeed, high-volume low-cost semiconductor manufacturing is largely located in the Asia/Pacific region. The limited availability of domestic fabrication options raises barriers that discourage domestic commercialization of USG-funded microelectronic technology.

The analytic output of this case study was used to develop recommendations that could enable DARPA to better ensure that DARPA-funded technology remains on American shores. The recommendations are as follows:

Recommendation #1. DARPA MTO programs, particularly ERI, should include low-volume high-mix (LVHM) manufacturers as Performers and fund the development of LVHM-enabling manufacturing technologies.

Recommendation #2. DARPA should facilitate the transition of ERI-funded technology into the U.S. defense-industrial base (DIB) by including defense contractors as Performers on the ERI Program and by providing them early access to multi-project fabrication runs with necessary Process Design Kits.

Recommendation #3: DARPA should consider policy changes that enable the domestic capture of students trained via ERI funding.

Recommendation #4. DARPA should seek to partner with R&D organizations of major US companies and identify internal champions of these new technologies that can evangelize them to the business units who are typically much more short term focused.

Introduction

The Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) has a singular mission: invest in cutting-edge research that produces breakthroughs at the interface of technology and national security.¹ DARPA is strongly committed to exploring high-risk high-reward non-requirements driven R&D in an effort to prevent technological surprise and maintain U.S. military supremacy.² Since its formation in 1958, DARPA has developed and transitioned a diverse array of products into the United States' space, defense, academic, and private sectors.³ Indeed, countless DARPA programs have produced innovations that are invaluable to the modern warfighter and have revolutionized commercial industries.^{4,5}

DARPA and its Microsystems Technology Office (MTO) have a rich history of successfully developing and transitioning microelectronic technologies into the domestic and worldwide marketplace, and its investments can be directly traced to the dominance of the U.S. semiconductor industry over the last 50 years.⁶ The United States' semiconductor production market share, which had reached 82% by 1992, was in large part due to DARPA's support of the Semiconductor Manufacturing Technology (SEMATECH) consortium.^{7,8} SEMATECH was created in 1987 by DARPA with an annual budget of \$200 million, half contributed by government and half by private industry.⁹ The goal of this R&D consortium was to return the U.S. semiconductor industry to a leading position in the global market. Initially composed of 14 domestically-based and -operating semiconductor companies, the program eventually allowed international companies to join after

¹ About DARPA. Retrieval from <https://www.darpa.mil/about-us/about-darpa>

² Cheng, J. (2014, March 10). With R&D Budgets, High Risk Has Its Rewards. Retrieval from <https://defensesystems.com/articles/2014/03/10/darpa-research-budget-increase.aspx>

³ Richardson, J.J., Larriva, D.L., & Tennyson, S.L. (2001, May). The Potomac Institute for Policy Studies. *Transitioning DARPA Technology*.

⁴ Ibid.

⁵ (2017, March). Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency. *DARPA Technologies That Are Making a Difference Today*. Retrieval from https://www.darpa.mil/attachments/DARPA_ChangingHowWeWin.pdf

⁶ Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency. *DARPA 1958-2018*. Retrieval from https://www.darpa.mil/attachments/DARPA60_publication-no-ads.pdf

⁷ Chappell, W. Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency. *Furthermoore: The Intertwined History of DARPA and Moore's Law*. Retrieval from https://www.darpa.mil/attachments/DARPA60_publication-no-ads.pdf

⁸ SEMATECH. Retrieval from <https://www.darpa.mil/about-us/timeline/sematech>

⁹ (2017, December 31). Potomac Institute for Policy Studies. *DARPA Consortia Analysis and Recommendations Trade Study (CARTS)*.

transitioning to a fully private consortium in the late 1990s after the USG support ended. MTO continues to lead innovation of the U.S. semiconductor sector today via the Electronics Resurgence Initiative (ERI), which aims to develop novel “post-Moore’s Law” microelectronics.¹⁰

The stated goal of the ERI is to stimulate the U.S. semiconductor ecosystem and lower barriers to novel semiconductor technology.¹¹ Through investments in R&D thrusts targeting innovations in design, architecture, and materials and integration, DARPA is aiming to reverse recent trends that have seen the size of the U.S. semiconductor manufacturing sector rapidly diminish, threatening the Department of Defense’s access to state-of-the-art microelectronics.¹²⁻¹⁴ Business pressures, notably high costs associated with R&D and manufacturing,¹⁵ have led to extensive merger and acquisition activity in the industry.^{16,17} A significant portion of these transactions have involved the sale of domestic manufacturers to firms based overseas, such as IBM’s semiconductor division to UAE-based GlobalFoundries,¹⁸ Netherlands-based NXP’s purchase of Freescale Semiconductor,¹⁹ and the merger of Jazz Semiconductor with Israel-based Tower Semiconductor.^{20,21} China has also been aggressively pursuing U.S.-based microelectronics companies and their intellectual property.^{22,23}

U.S.-based firms are leading innovators in microelectronics-related research and development activities and continue to represent a significant fraction of the overall global microelectronics market.^{24,25} However, most state-of-the-art *manufacturing* activities occur at semiconductor foundries owned and operated by foreign companies. This severely limits the ability of U.S. microelectronic innovation efforts to positively impact the domestic economy and makes it challenging for the United

¹⁰ Synek, G. (2018, July 3). DARPA Aims to Take on Electronics in The Post-Moore’s Law Era. Retrievable from <https://www.techspot.com/news/75345-darpa-aims-take-electronics-post-moore-law-era.html>

¹¹ Merritt, R. (2018, July 27). Moore’s Law, China vs. Team USA. Retrievable from https://www.eetimes.com/document.asp?doc_id=1333519

¹² Ibid.

¹³ Moore, S.K. DARPA Plans a Major Remake of U.S. Electronics. Retrievable from <https://spectrum.ieee.org/tech-talk/computing/hardware/darpas-planning-a-major-remake-of-us-electronics-pay-attention>

¹⁴ Rapp, N., & Pressman, A. (2017, December 20). See Semiconductor Industry Consolidation in 1 Chart. Retrievable from <http://fortune.com/2017/12/20/chip-mergers-broadcom-qualcomm-intel-nvidia/>

¹⁵ Qualls, W. IBM Microelectronics. Retrievable from <https://business.illinois.edu/idm/IBM-BCS%20Case%20final.pdf>

¹⁶ Johnsa, E. (2017, November 23). 3 Trends Behind the Semiconductor M&A Wave, and 5 Companies That Could Be Next. Retrievable from <https://www.thestreet.com/story/14400354/1/reasons-for-semiconductor-industry-consolidation.html>

¹⁷ Patterson, A. (2017, September 14). Chip Consolidation Nearly Over, Analyst Says. Retrievable from https://www.eetimes.com/document.asp?doc_id=1332297

¹⁸ (2015, July). Potomac Institute for Policy Studies. *Trusted State-of-the-Art Microelectronics Strategy Study*.

¹⁹ (2015, December 7). NXP and Freescale Announce Completion of Merger. Retrievable from <http://investors.nxp.com/phoenix.zhtml?c=209114&p=irol-newsArticle&ID=2120581>

²⁰ TowerJazz History. Retrievable from <http://www.jazzsemi.com/history.html>

²¹ (2008, September 19). Tower Semiconductor Completes Merger with Jazz Technologies. Retrievable from <https://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20080919005342/en/Tower-Semiconductor-Completes-Merger-Jazz-Technologies>

²² (2015, July 13). China Chipmaker Plans Bold \$23B Bid for Micron. Retrievable from <https://www.cnbc.com/2015/07/13/chinas-tsinghua-unigroup-makes-23b-bid-for-micron-technology.html>

²³ McLaughlin, D., & Strohm, C. (2018, November 1). China State-Owned Company Charged With Micron Secrets Theft. Retrievable from <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2018-11-01/u-s-says-china-state-owned-co-stole-micron-trade-secrets>

²⁴ Wolf, Stu. Subject Matter Expert [Interview].

²⁵ (2018). IC Insights. *The McClean Report*. Retrievable from <http://www.icinsights.com/services/mcclean-report/>

States Government to access a Trusted and Assured supply of microelectronic components for defense- and intelligence-related applications.²⁶

Spin-based magnetic random access memory (MRAM) and SiGe bipolar complementary metal-oxide-semiconductor (BiCMOS)-based phased arrays are two representative technologies that were initially developed using DARPA R&D funds only to largely exit the domestic manufacturing sphere soon after commercialization. While GlobalFoundriesUS still offers trusted advanced SiGe BiCMOS to the DoD, it is a foreign-owned company with an uncertain financial future.^{27,28} The causes of these transitions may be complex, but it is critical for program managers and office directors leading federal R&D efforts to understand and consider the potential commercialization pathways for the technologies being developed with U.S. taxpayer dollars. Technology developed via funding from DARPA and other federal R&D funding sources should be for the benefit of U.S. (or allied) industry and warfighters, not those of potentially adversarial nations.

The Potomac Institute for Policy Studies examined the proliferation of MRAM and SiGe BiCMOS-based phased arrays technologies in the United States and abroad starting from the initial DARPA Programs. These two representative technologies provided useful case studies for technology transition pathways. The lessons learned as a result of this study are readily applicable to other DARPA funded technologies and provide valuable input for current Programs to have more successful transition outcomes.

MRAM

Background

In the early 1990s, DARPA funded the GMR Consortium (Honeywell, Nonvolatile Electronics Inc., Federal Product, Naval Research Lab, and HRL) to develop a non-volatile, radiation-hardened, random-access memory that could replace the bulky and expensive memories that were common at the time.²⁹ The key outcome of this consortium was the discovery that a new universal nonvolatile memory with the density of DRAM, the speed of SRAM, unlimited write cycles, and significantly lower write-power requirements than flash memory could be developed. Two major DARPA efforts followed up on this work. In 1993, DARPA Spintronics was initiated to further develop magnetoresistive memories and complementary sensors, resulting in the commercial production of MRAM.³⁰ Two key performers were involved- IBM and Motorola.³¹ In 2008, the DARPA program STT-MRAM was initiated and played a significant role in developing the fundamental processes and infrastructure required to launch spin-transfer torque-MRAM (STT-MRAM) commercialization, including the NIST testing standards.³² At the onset of the program, internal industry R&D efforts

²⁶ (2015, July). Potomac Institute for Policy Studies. *Trusted State-of-the-Art Microelectronics Strategy Study*.

²⁷ Cooper, R.K. (2018, August 31). GlobalFoundries Cuts 455 Positions Amid Strategy Shift. Retrievable from <https://www.bizjournals.com/albany/news/2018/08/31/globalfoundries-cuts-455-positions-amid-strategy.html>

²⁸ Rulison, L. (2018, May 11). So Is GlobalFoundries Profitable? Yes and No.... Retrievable from <https://www.timesunion.com/business/article/So-is-GlobalFoundries-profitable-Yes-and-no-12906650.php>

²⁹ Wolf, S.A., Treger, D., & Chtchelkanova, A. (2006, May). *Spintronics: The Future of Data Storage?*. Retrievable from <http://physics.ucsc.edu/~galers/class/Reference/Spintronics.pdf>

³⁰ Ibid.

³¹ Spintronics. Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency. Retrievable from <https://www.darpa.mil/about-us/timeline/spintronics>

³² Shenoy, Dev. Subject Matter Expert [Interview].

were just beginning. By year 3 of STT-MRAM, Intel announced a \$100 million investment into spintronics, Grandis was a commercial success, and Honeywell began utilizing STT-MRAM in radiation-hardened microelectronics.

Magnetic random access memory is a non-volatile memory that stores information in magnetic moments instead of electric charge.³³ A recent development in MRAM, spin-transfer torque-MRAM, is particularly exciting. STT-MRAM nearly matches the high performance of both DRAM and SRAM (speed, density), requires low power, is as inexpensive as flash memory, scales well below the 10 nm node, and leverages existing CMOS manufacturing techniques and tools. Emerging STT-MRAM technologies utilize a perpendicular magnetic tunnel junction (pMTJ), wherein the magnetic moments are perpendicular to the silicon substrate instead of parallel to the silicon substrate as in the in-plane magnetic tunnel junctions (iMTJs) incorporated into earlier iterations of STT-MRAM technologies.³⁴

In 2016, the commercial MRAM market was valued at approximately \$1.1 billion.³⁵ By 2025, the global MRAM market is expected to reach \$4.80 billion.³⁶ Much of the growth is expected to be due to the rapid adoption of STT-MRAM, particularly pMTJ-STT-MRAM.³⁷ Despite the commercial MRAM market originating in the United States, the North American region accounts for just 36% of the total market revenue.³⁸ U.S.-based firms are leading innovators in MRAM-related research and development activities, but all major manufacturing activities occur at semiconductor foundries owned and operated by foreign companies (Figure 1).³⁹ This severely limits the ability of MRAM commercialization efforts to positively impact the U.S. economy and imposes obstacles that need to be overcome for the United States Government to access a Trusted and Assured supply of MRAM components for defense- and intelligence-related applications.⁴⁰

As a first step to understanding this issue, the Potomac Institute for Policy Studies examined the proliferation of MRAM technologies in the United States and abroad starting from the two DARPA Spintronics performers, Motorola and IBM.

³³ Ofstedahl, M. (2014, August 11). What is STT-MRAM? Retrievable from https://www.eetimes.com/author.asp?section_id=36&doc_id=1323466

³⁴ Ibid.

³⁵ Coughlin, T. (2016, September 15). MRAM is Becoming Mainstream Memory. Retrievable from <https://www.forbes.com/sites/tomcoughlin/2016/09/15/mram-is-becoming-mainstream-memory/#4a8aa6a5766a>

³⁶ (2017, April). Magneto Resistive RAM (MRAM) Market Worth \$4.80 Billion by 2025. Retrievable from <https://www.grandviewresearch.com/press-release/global-magneto-resistive-ram-random-access-memory-mram-market>

³⁷ Coughlin, T. (2016, September 15). MRAM is Becoming Mainstream Memory. Retrievable from <https://www.forbes.com/sites/tomcoughlin/2016/09/15/mram-is-becoming-mainstream-memory/#4a8aa6a5766a>

³⁸ (2017, April). Magneto Resistive RAM (MRAM) Market Worth \$4.80 Billion by 2025. Retrievable from <https://www.grandviewresearch.com/press-release/global-magneto-resistive-ram-random-access-memory-mram-market>

³⁹ Wolf, Stu. Subject Matter Expert [Interview].

⁴⁰ (2015, July). Potomac Institute for Policy Studies. *Trusted State-of-the-Art Microelectronics Strategy Study*.

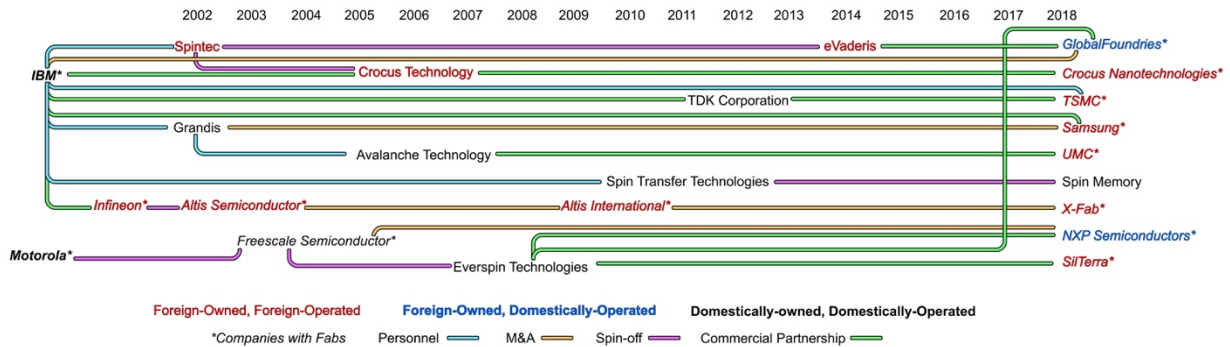


Figure 1. Technology produced by the DARPA Spintronics Performers IBM and Motorola were transitioned into firms that are pre-dominately owned by foreign companies.

DARPA Spintronics Performer: Motorola

DARPA Spintronics culminated with the commercial development of MRAM by Motorola, then subsequently by Freescale Semiconductor, which was spun out of Motorola as a subsidiary and then became an independent company.⁴¹ In 2006, Freescale released the first commercial MRAM product (Toggle MRAM), which was manufactured at Freescale's fab in Chandler, AZ due to an earlier investment by Motorola to transition a back-end-of-line production line for MRAM fabrication.^{42,43}

In 2008, Freescale Semiconductor transferred its MRAM technology, related intellectual property, and products to EverSpin Technologies, a joint venture between Freescale Semiconductor and the venture capital firms New Venture Partners, Sigma Partners, Lux Capital, Draper Fisher Jurvetson, and Epic Ventures.⁴⁴ All of these firms are based in the United States.⁴⁵⁻⁴⁹ In 2014, EverSpin subcontracted its STT-MRAM manufacturing to GlobalFoundries,⁵⁰ but continued to utilize the back-end-of-the-line MTJ deposition facility for 200 mm Toggle production at the Chandler, Arizona fab.⁵¹ In March 2015, NXP Semiconductors N.V., a Netherlands-based company, merged with Freescale Semiconductor and took ownership of the Chandler fab.^{52,53} In November 2018, EverSpin announced a multi-year

⁴¹ Wolf, S.A., Treger, D., & Chtchelkanova, A. (2006, May). *Spintronics: The Future of Data Storage?*. Retrieved from <http://physics.ucsc.edu/~galers/class/Reference/Spintronics.pdf>

⁴² Dr. Jon Slaughter. DARPA60. Retrieved from <https://d60.darpa.mil/speakers/DrJonSlaughter.html>

⁴³ Wolf, Stuart. Subject Matter Expert [Interview].

⁴⁴ (2008, June 9). Freescale Launches Independent Company to Accelerate MRAM Business. Business Wire. Retrieved from <https://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20080609005545/en/Freescale-Launches-Independent-Company-Accelerate-MRAM-Business>

⁴⁵ New Venture Partners. Retrieved from <https://www.crunchbase.com/organization/new-venture-partners#section-overview>

⁴⁶ Sigma Partners. Retrieved from <https://www.crunchbase.com/organization/sigma-partners>

⁴⁷ Lux Capital. Retrieved from <https://www.crunchbase.com/organization/lux-capital#section-overview>

⁴⁸ DFJ. Retrieved from <https://www.crunchbase.com/organization/draper-fisher-jurvetson#section-overview>

⁴⁹ EPIC Ventures. Retrieved from <https://www.crunchbase.com/organization/epic-ventures>

⁵⁰ Manufacturing Locations. EverSpin Technologies. Retrieved from <https://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20080609005545/en/Freescale-Launches-Independent-Company-Accelerate-MRAM-Business>

⁵¹ Governance Documents. EverSpin Technologies. Retrieved from <http://investor.everspin.com/phoenix.zhtml?c=254442&p=irol-govhighlights>

⁵² NXP Semiconductor Reports Fourth Quarter and Full-Year 2015 Results. Retrieved from <http://investors.nxp.com/phoenix.zhtml?c=209114&p=irol-newsArticle&ID=2135489>

⁵³ (2015, December 7). NXP and Freescale Announce Completion of Merger. Retrieved from <http://investors.nxp.com/phoenix.zhtml?c=209114&p=irol-newsArticle&ID=2120581>

partnership with Malaysia-based SilTerra to create additional manufacturing capacity for Toggle MRAM.⁵⁴ Currently, EverSpin Technologies focuses on stand-alone MRAM chips.⁵⁵

Motorola's and subsequent spin-offs' successful commercialization of MRAM was largely due to Motorola's willingness to invest in the technology and the required foundry recapitalizations.⁵⁶ However, US government agencies and members of the defense-industrial base were involved from the beginning of DARPA Spintronics and expressed interest, helping ensure that Motorola realized a tangible business case. The Defense Threat Reduction Agency (DTRA) is one such agency that signaled commitment early in the project. Additionally, EverSpin has relied on a long-term commitment from Honeywell, which manufactures radiation-hardened microelectronics with MRAM produced by EverSpin.⁵⁷ The commitment of the DARPA project manager, Stu Wolf, was crucial to the success of the program. Three years into the project, Motorola's MRAM effort was transferred from the R&D division to the Semiconductor Products Division, which sought to kill the program due to the perceived lack of a profitable business case.⁵⁸ Dr. Stu Wolf saved the program by convincing the DARPA director to contribute \$4 million to fund the transfer of the MRAM work back to the R&D division of Motorola.

DARPA Spintronics Performer: IBM

The widespread global proliferation of MRAM-related intellectual property can largely be traced back to IBM. IBM's long-term strategy since DARPA Spintronics has aimed to develop embedded MRAM as a replacement to embedded DRAM, an extremely difficult and challenging target.⁵⁹ In the short-term, IBM's MRAM research groups have been highly active in developing spintronic-related intellectual property, which has been routinely licensed to various semiconductor manufacturers located around the world. Additionally, a number of IBM scientists were exposed to IBM's MRAM work and went on to found MRAM-related companies and laboratories. The following is a list of companies that obtained MRAM-related intellectual property from IBM through a series of personnel transfers and commercial partnerships, as detailed in the brief summaries provided.

Crocus Nanoelectronics. From 1989-1991, Dr. Bernard Dieny worked as a visiting scientist at IBM and was heavily involved in developing giant magneto resistance-based technologies for hard-disk drives.⁶⁰ In 2002, he founded Spintec as a research lab in Grenoble, France that performed basic research and development, built prototypes, and then commercialized the technology.^{61,62} Spintec experienced rapid growth, growing from an initial cadre of 8 permanent staff to 40 permanent staff, 31 researchers, and 60 Ph.D. students and post-docs via Grenoble University in a span of just 8 years.⁶³

⁵⁴ (2018, November 6). Everspin and SilTerra Join Forces to Create New Manufacturing Center for MRAM. Retrievable from https://www.design-reuse.com/news/45098/everspin-silterra-mram-manufacturing-center.html?utm_content=257555&utm_campaign=45098&utm_medium=socnewsalert&utm_source=designreuse

⁵⁵ Worledge, Daniel. Subject Matter Expert [Interview].

⁵⁶ Wolf, Stuart. Subject Matter Expert [Interview].

⁵⁷ (2016, December 1). EverSpin Technology Lists Amidst Strong MRAM Growth. Retrievable from <https://www.sramanamitra.com/2016/12/01/everspin-technology-lists-amidst-strong-mram-growth/>

⁵⁸ Wolf, Stuart. Subject Matter Expert [Interview].

⁵⁹ Worledge, Daniel. Subject Matter Expert [Interview].

⁶⁰ Dieny, Bernard. Subject Matter Expert [Interview].

⁶¹ Ibid.

⁶² About Us. Spintec. Retrievable from <http://www.spintec.fr/organization/>

⁶³ Dieny, Bernard. Subject Matter Expert [Interview].

Spintec continues to file five to ten patents per year, typically on MRAM-related technologies.^{64,65} This patent portfolio allows Spintec to launch start-up companies.⁶⁶ To date, four start-ups have been spun-off from Spintec.⁶⁷

Crocus Technology was spun-out of Spintec in 2006 to develop MRAM technologies, then switched focus to magnetic sensors due to the stronger business case.⁶⁸⁻⁷⁰ Crocus Technology sought a European-based funding source to build a foundry, but was unable to raise the necessary funds.⁷¹ In 2011, Crocus Technology established a joint venture with Rusnano called Crocus Nanoelectronics.⁷² All technologies for this firm, including Crocus Technology's magnetic sensors and STT-MRAM, are fabricated at a 300 mm fab in Moscow, Russia.

In 2011, IBM and Crocus signed a joint technology development agreement and a mutual patent license agreement.^{73,74} Under the terms of these agreements, the two firms agreed to jointly develop semiconductor technology that combines Crocus' thermally assisted next-generation Magnetic-Logic-Unit (MLU) technology with IBM's MRAM technology and processing capabilities.⁷⁵ This enabled Crocus to access IBM's patents that allow for a high scalability of MRAM.⁷⁶

GlobalFoundries. In 2014, eVaderis was spun-out of Spintec as a fab-less company that specializes in developing intellectual property related to advanced circuit designs for embedded memory.^{77,78} In 2017, eVaderis entered into an agreement with GlobalFoundries to provide scalable, advanced memory IP.⁷⁹⁻⁸¹

Additionally, on October 20, 2014, IBM announced the transfer of its semiconductor division to GlobalFoundries.⁸² According to the terms of the contract, IBM paid GlobalFoundries \$1.5 billion in exchange for the acquisition and operation of its microelectronics foundries, related technologies, and

⁶⁴ Full List of Patents Since the Creation of SPINTEC. Retrievable from <http://www.spintec.fr/list-of-patents/>

⁶⁵ Dieny, Bernard. Subject Matter Expert [Interview].

⁶⁶ Ibid.

⁶⁷ Spin-off. Retrievable from <http://www.spintec.fr/spin-off/>

⁶⁸ Crocus Technology. Retrievable from <https://www.mram-info.com/crocus-technology>

⁶⁹ About Us. Spintec. Retrievable from <http://www.spintec.fr/organization/>

⁷⁰ Dieny, Bernard. Subject Matter Expert [Interview].

⁷¹ Ibid.

⁷² Crocus Technology. Retrievable from <https://www.mram-info.com/crocus-technology>

⁷³ Worledge, Daniel. Subject Matter Expert [Interview].

⁷⁴ Martens, R. (2011, October 6). Crocus and IBM to Jointly-Develop MRAM Technology, Sign Patent License Agreements. Retrievable from <https://www.mram-info.com/crocus-and-ibm-jointly-develop-mram-sign-patent-license-agreements>

⁷⁵ Ibid.

⁷⁶ Ølholm, M. (2011, October 6). IBM and Crocus Join MRAM-Forces. Retrievable from <https://semiaccurate.com/2011/10/06/ibm-and-crocus-join-mram-forces/>

⁷⁷ EVADERIS: A New Start-Up Recently Launched by SPINTEC. Retrievable from <http://www.spintec.fr/the-startup-evaderis/>

⁷⁸ Spin-off. Retrievable from <http://www.spintec.fr/spin-off/>

⁷⁹ Dieny, Bernard. Subject Matter Expert [Interview].

⁸⁰ Hilson, G. (2018, March 30). MRAM on the Rise. Retrievable from <https://www.eetasia.com/news/article/18033003-mram-on-the-rise>

⁸¹ (2017, June 29). eVaderis Joins FDXcelerator™ Program to Deliver Memory IP to GlobalFoundries 22FDX Technology Platform. Retrievable from <http://www.evaderis.com/2017/06/29/evaderis-joins-fdxcelerator-program-deliver-memory-ip-globalfoundries-22fdx-technology-platform/>

⁸² (2015, July). Potomac Institute for Policy Studies. *Trusted State-of-the-Art Microelectronics Strategy Study*.

personnel. Included in the sale was IBM's intellectual property related to embedded DRAM.⁸³ However, GlobalFoundries is no longer working on scaling embedded DRAM below the 14 nm node.⁸⁴

Intel. Several subject matter experts have noted that Intel is actively engaged in research and development activities related to spintronics.⁸⁵⁻⁸⁸ Indeed, conference abstracts and patents confirm that Intel researchers are developing MRAM technologies,^{89,90} in addition to spintronic logic devices.⁹¹ While the PIPS study team was unable to learn more about Intel's spintronics activities, we can confirm that Intel gained valuable knowledge by participating in DARPA Spintronics and STT-MRAM as silent observers.⁹²⁻⁹⁴

Micron. In 2012, Micron entered a partnership with IBM to develop STT-MRAM as a replacement for DRAM due to concerns regarding the end of Moore's Law scaling for DRAM below the 20 nm node.^{95,96} This research thrust was terminated because stand-alone DRAM continued to scale and STT-MRAM technology was not at a development point to enable profitable commercialization.⁹⁷ Micron then lost interest in MRAM and exited the partnership.

Samsung. The key performer in DARPA STT-MRAM was Grandis,⁹⁸ a STT-MRAM firm founded by Paul Nguyen, a thin films expert from IBM.⁹⁹ Grandis received significant assistance from DARPA in the form of funding and connections to universities.¹⁰⁰ The company was able to leverage this in discussions with venture capitalists, raising a significant amount of capital that enabled their manufacturing processes to scale-up. However, Grandis did not have sufficient funds to build a semiconductor foundry and opted to look for a buyer.¹⁰¹ Discussions with IBM and Intel faltered,¹⁰² and in 2011, Grandis was purchased by Samsung.¹⁰³

⁸³ Worledge, Daniel. Subject Matter Expert [Interview].

⁸⁴ Dent, S. (2018, August 28). Major AMD Chip Supplier Will No Longer Make Next-Gen Chips. Retrieval from <https://www.engadget.com/2018/08/28/global-foundries-stops-7-nanometer-chip-production/>

⁸⁵ Dieny, Bernard. Subject Matter Expert [Interview].

⁸⁶ Shenoy, Dev. Subject Matter Expert [Interview].

⁸⁷ Nikonov, Dmitri. Subject Matter Expert [Interview].

⁸⁸ Gallagher, Bill. Subject Matter Expert [Interview].

⁸⁹ Clarke, R. (2018, October 22). IEDM: Intel Embeds MRAM in FinFET Process. Retrieval from <https://www.design-reuse.com/news/44990/intel-mram-finfet.html>

⁹⁰ Intel and VMRAM and MRAM Patents...Interesting Indeed. Retrieval from https://www.spintronics-info.com/spintronics_info/intel_and_vmram_and_mram_patents_interesting_indeed

⁹¹ Nikonov, Dmitri. Subject Matter Expert [Interview].

⁹² Shenoy, Dev. Subject Matter Expert [Interview].

⁹³ Wolf, Stu. Subject Matter Expert [Interview].

⁹⁴ Nikonov, Dmitri. Subject Matter Expert [Interview].

⁹⁵ Worledge, Daniel. Subject Matter Expert [Interview].

⁹⁶ Johnson, R.C. (2016, July 7). IBM, Samsung Put New Spin on MRAM. Retrieval from https://www.eetimes.com/document.asp?doc_id=1330058

⁹⁷ Worledge, Daniel. Subject Matter Expert [Interview].

⁹⁸ Shenoy, Dev. Subject Matter Expert [Interview].

⁹⁹ Grandis. Retrieval from <https://www.crunchbase.com/organization/grandis#section-overview>

¹⁰⁰ Shenoy, Dev. Subject Matter Expert [Interview].

¹⁰¹ Wolf, Stuart. Subject Matter Expert [Interview].

¹⁰² Ibid.

¹⁰³ McGrath, D. (2011, August 2). Samsung Buys MRAM Developer Grandis. Retrieval from https://www.eetimes.com/document.asp?doc_id=1259991

In 2013, Samsung entered a partnership with IBM to pursue a commercialization pathway for STT-MRAM as a potential replacement for DRAM due to concerns regarding the end of Moore's Law scaling for DRAM below the 20 nm node.^{104,105} This research thrust was shut down because stand-alone DRAM continued to scale and STT-MRAM technology was not at a development point to enable efficient commercialization.¹⁰⁶ However, IBM and Samsung continued to work together and developed an embedded flash replacement at the 28 nm node that is being sold to NXP.

Spin Memory Technologies. Spin Transfer Technologies was founded in 2011 and is headquartered in Fremont, CA.¹⁰⁷ The firm was founded with intellectual property developed in the lab of New York University Professor Andrew Kent,¹⁰⁸ who was a post-doc at IBM from 1992-1994.¹⁰⁹ In 2016, STT announced that it had achieved the fabrication of perpendicular MRAM magnetic tunnel junctions, delivering samples of STT-MRAM to customer in North America and Asia in 2017.¹¹⁰ In late 2018, this firm was renamed Spin Memory and announced a commercial partnership with Applied Materials to develop embedded MRAM.^{111,112}

TSMC. In 2007, IBM worked with TDK Corporation to commercialize intellectual property related to perpendicular magnetic tunneling junctions (pMTJs) and circuit designs.^{113,114} In 2012, TDK engaged in a partnership with TSMC to further develop this technology for use as a simple flash replacement.^{115,116} Additionally, in 2015, Dr. Bill Gallagher left IBM for TSMC and currently leads their MRAM efforts.^{117,118} Dr. Gallagher was the IBM project manager responsible for their DARPA Spintronics efforts in 2000.¹¹⁹ TSMC is currently working towards commercializing MRAM as an embedded flash replacement and as a replacement for 10 nm SRAM for low-power applications.^{120,121}

UMC. In 2006, a VC-backed firm called Avalanche Technology was founded in Fremont, CA with the goal of producing and commercializing STT-MRAM.¹²² Avalanche leadership does not intend on raising the required funds to build a dedicated foundry and is instead a fabless company that focuses

¹⁰⁴ Worledge, Daniel. Subject Matter Expert [Interview].

¹⁰⁵ Johnson, R.C. (2016, July 7). IBM, Samsung Put New Spin on MRAM. Retrievable from https://www.eetimes.com/document.asp?doc_id=1330058

¹⁰⁶ Worledge, Daniel. Subject Matter Expert [Interview].

¹⁰⁷ Spin Transfer Technologies. Retrievable from <http://www.spintransfer.com/background/>

¹⁰⁸ Ibid.

¹⁰⁹ Andrew Kent. Retrievable from <http://www.physics.nyu.edu/kentlab/>

¹¹⁰ Hilson, G. (2017, June 13). MRAM Momentum Poised to Disrupt Memory Workhorses. Retrievable from https://www.eetimes.com/document.asp?doc_id=1331860

¹¹¹ (2018, November 12). Spin Memory Teams with Applied Materials to Produce a Comprehensive Embedded MRAM Solution. Retrievable from https://www.design-reuse.com/news/45138/spin-memory-applied-materials-embedded-mram.html?utm_content=257555&utm_campaign=45138&utm_medium=socnewsalert&utm_source=designreuse

¹¹² Ibid.

¹¹³ Worledge, Daniel. Subject Matter Expert [Interview].

¹¹⁴ (2007, August 19). IBM and TDK Launch Joint Research & Development Project for Advanced MRAM. Retrievable from <https://www-03.ibm.com/press/us/en/pressrelease/22180.wss>

¹¹⁵ Ranjan, Rajiv. Subject Matter Expert [Interview].

¹¹⁶ Worledge, Daniel. Subject Matter Expert [Interview].

¹¹⁷ Ibid.

¹¹⁸ 20th Anniversary Spin-Torque MRAM Symposium. Retrievable from https://researcher.watson.ibm.com/researcher/view_group_subpage.php?id=7406

¹¹⁹ Ibid.

¹²⁰ Worledge, Daniel. Subject Matter Expert [Interview].

¹²¹ eFlash. Retrievable from <http://www.tsmc.com/english/dedicatedFoundry/technology/eflash.htm>

¹²² Ranjan, Rajiv. Subject Matter Expert [Interview].

on circuit design and materials work. The firm initially worked at SEMATECH in Austin, TX to develop STT-MRAM at the 65-90 nm nodes. To pursue research and prototype development at smaller nodes, Avalanche sought to develop a BEOL capability at SUNY Poly with the end-goal of moving to the Trusted foundry owned by GlobalFoundriesUS. Despite initial partnerships with instrumentation companies, the arrangement fell through. In 2016, Avalanche contracted production of the first pMTJ-based STT-MRAM to Sony Semiconductor Manufacturing Corp.¹²³ In early August 2018, Avalanche and UMC announced a partnership for joint development and production of MRAM to replace embedded flash.¹²⁴ The current VP of Technology at Avalanche, Dr. Yiming Huai, was a co-founder, board member, CTO, VP of Engineering at Grandis.¹²⁵ As noted above, Grandis was founded by a researcher from IBM.

X-Fab. In 2000, IBM worked with Infineon Technologies to develop stand-alone MRAM technology.^{126,127} This partnership led to the creation of Altis Semiconductor, a joint venture of IBM and Infineon, that aimed to commercialize MRAM.¹²⁸ In 2010, IBM and Infineon fully divested Altis Semiconductor, selling 100% of their shares to French entrepreneur Yazid Sabeg, who renamed the firm Altis International.¹²⁹ Altis International, which operated a foundry in France, was purchased by Germany-based X-Fab Silicon Foundries AG in 2016.¹³⁰ Infineon had previously spun-off its memory division as Qimonda AG, which declared bankruptcy and closed in 2009.^{131,132}

SiGe-Based RF Phased Arrays

Background

On October 1st, 2018, Verizon launched the first commercial 5G network in the world in Sacramento, Houston, Indianapolis, and Los Angeles.¹³³ 5G, the next generation of wireless technology, has several significant advantages over currently available technologies, including the ability to move more data at greater speeds, reduce latency and therefore provide greater responsiveness, and connect to multiple devices simultaneously.¹³⁴ These core characteristics will enable a wide range of revolutionary

¹²³ Clarke, P. (2016, October 31). Sony Revealed as MRAM Foundry for Avalanche. Retrievable from <http://www.eenewsanalog.com/news/sony-revealed-mram-foundry-avalanche>

¹²⁴ UMC and Avalanche Technology Partner for MRAM Development and 28nm Production. Retrievable from <http://www.avalanche-technology.com/2018/08/06/umc-and-avalanche-technology-partner-for-mram-development-and-28nm-production/>

¹²⁵ Avalanche Technology Leadership. Retrievable from <http://www.avalanche-technology.com/company/leadership/>

¹²⁶ Worledge, Daniel. Subject Matter Expert [Interview].

¹²⁷ (2003, June 10). IBM, Infineon Develop Most Advanced MRAM Technology to Date. Retrievable from <https://www-03.ibm.com/press/us/en/pressrelease/5269.wss>

¹²⁸ Ibid.

¹²⁹ (2010, August 12). IBM and Infineon Divest Joint Venture Altis Semiconductor. Retrievable from <https://www.infineon.com/cms/en/about-infineon/press/press-releases/2010/INFXX201008-067.html>

¹³⁰ Clarke, P. (2016, October 4). X-Fab to Swallow Altis Semiconductor. Retrievable from https://www.eetimes.com/document.asp?doc_id=1330569

¹³¹ Smith, T. (2006, March 31). Infineon DRAM Biz to Spin Off as Qimonda. Retrievable from https://www.theregister.co.uk/2006/03/31/infineon_founds_qimonda/

¹³² Crothers, B. (2009, February 2). After Chipmaker's Collapse, Memory Prices Rise. Retrievable from http://news.cnet.com/8301-13924_3-10154742-64.html

¹³³ Flato, H. (2018, October 1). Verizon Turns on World's First Commercial 5G Network in Sacramento. Retrievable from <https://www.verizon.com/about/news/verizon-turns-worlds-first-commercial-5g-network-sacramento>

¹³⁴ Seagan, S. (2018, October 2). What is 5G? Retrievable from <https://www.pcmag.com/article/345387/what-is-5g>

technologies, such as autonomous vehicles, virtual reality/augmented reality, and remote surgery.¹³⁵ By 2021, an estimated \$2.3 billion is expected to be spent on 5G mobile infrastructure, enabling over 20 million 5G connections.¹³⁶ The United States is well positioned to lead the industry due to significant investments in infrastructure, but the global industrial leaders are located primarily in Asia and Europe.¹³⁷⁻¹³⁹

The rapid commercial development of 5G communications systems was enabled by the convergence of independent research thrusts focused on developing low cost highly integrated silicon based RF technology. The development of SiGe BiCMOS fabrication processes and phased array applications is an important representative example of this.¹⁴⁰ SiGe BiCMOS processes enable the integration of RF, analog, and digital components onto a single chip, reducing the total number of required microelectronic devices and optimizing power consumption.¹⁴¹ Phased arrays, meanwhile, electronically steer electromagnetic beams in specific directions via constructive/destructive interference controlled by modulating the phase of the electromagnetic waves emitted from the radiating elements.¹⁴² SiGe BiCMOS-based phased arrays enable 5G base stations to overcome limitations associated with atmospheric absorption by transmitting a high gain signal to a series of coordinated antennas that work together to increase signal strength in a specific direction.^{143,144}

DARPA-funded efforts have directly and indirectly enabled the rapid development and subsequent commercialization of cost-effective SiGe-based phased arrays. Not only did these projects facilitate current efforts in 5G,¹⁴⁵ but they transformed the technology composing DoD radar and communication systems.¹⁴⁶ Domestic semiconductor firms are major suppliers of SiGe-based (and CMOS-based) phased arrays, but all of these companies subcontract out their semiconductor manufacturing to foundries that are not owned by U.S.-based firms.¹⁴⁷ Indeed, European and Asian

¹³⁵ Cheng, R. (2018, October 17). The 5G Revolution is Coming. Here's Everything You Need to Know. Retrievable from <https://www.cnet.com/how-to/the-5g-revolution-is-coming-heres-everything-you-need-to-know/>

¹³⁶ 5G – Statistics & Facts. Retrievable from <https://www.statista.com/topics/3447/5g/>

¹³⁷ (2018). The Potomac Institute for Policy Studies. *Global Technology Trends*.

¹³⁸ Rebeiz, Gabriel. Subject Matter Expert [Interview].

¹³⁹ (2018, June 6). The Potomac Institute for Policy Studies and Venable LLP. *The Fast Approaching 5G Revolution: Disruptions and Opportunities*.

¹⁴⁰ Fritze, Michael. Subject Matter Expert [Interview].

¹⁴¹ BiCMOS. Retrievable from https://www.st.com/content/st_com/en/about/innovation---technology/BiCMOS.html

¹⁴² Phased Array Antenna. Retrievable from <http://www.radartutorial.eu/06.antennas/Phased%20Array%20Antenna.en.html>

¹⁴³ Millimeter Waves: How We Got Here, the Physical Challenges, and 5G Opportunities. Retrievable from <https://www.nutaq.com/blog/millimeter-waves-how-we-got-here-physical-challenges-and-5g-opportunities>

¹⁴⁴ Kinney, S. (2017, July 14). Adapting Phased Array Antennas for 5G Millimeter Wave Systems. Retrievable from <https://www.rcrwireless.com/20170714/5g/phased-array-antennas-5g-millimeter-wave-tag17-tag99>

¹⁴⁵ (2017, July 11). Phased Array Antennas & The Roadmap to 5G Wireless. Retrievable from <https://www.macom.com/blog/phased-array-antennas--the-roadm>

¹⁴⁶ Lee, Michael & Adams, Charlie. Subject Matter Experts [Interview].

¹⁴⁷ Rebeiz, Gabriel. Subject Matter Expert [Interview].

foundries dominate the market (Figure 2),¹⁴⁸⁻¹⁵² posing national security concerns and obstacles that the United States Government must address to maintain a trusted and assured supply of these components for defense- and intelligence-related applications.¹⁵³ As a first step to understanding this issue, the Potomac Institute for Policy Studies examined the development and proliferation of SiGe BiCMOS-based phased arrays technologies starting from original DARPA efforts in the United States and abroad.

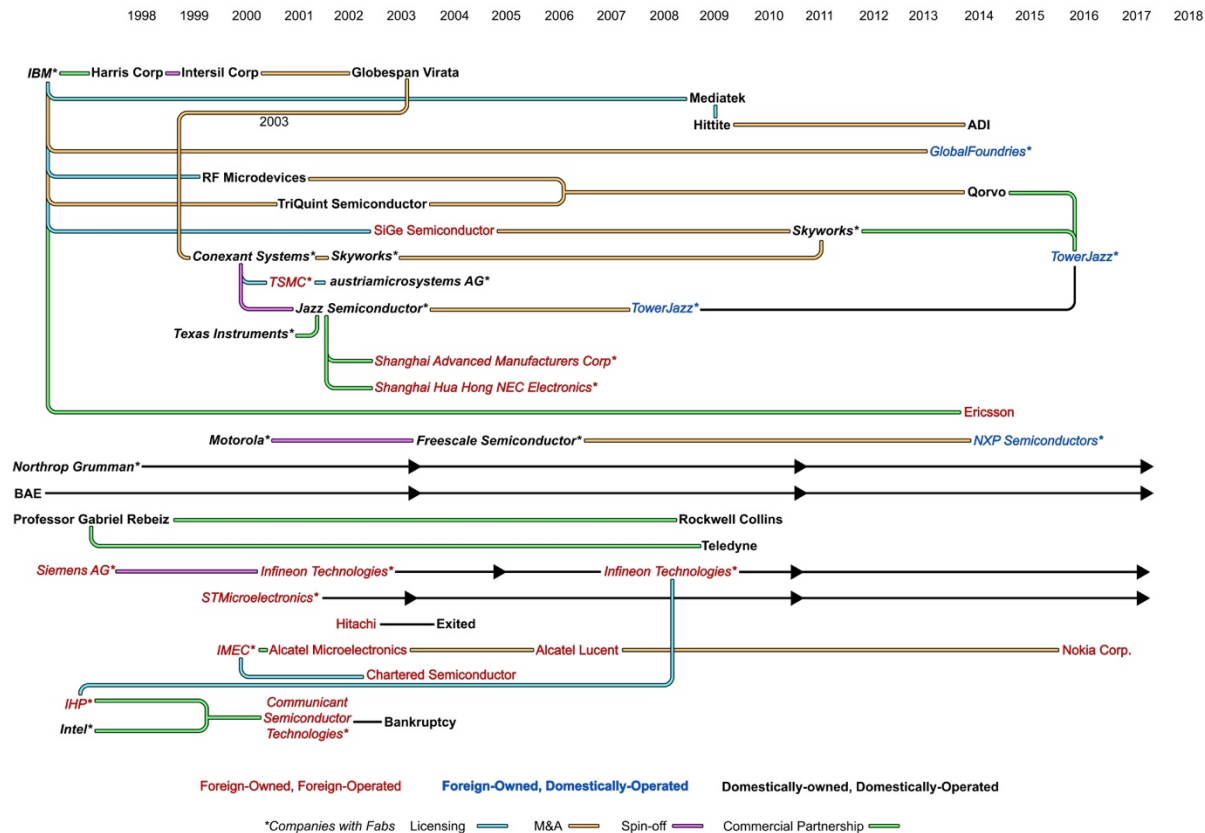


Figure 2. Despite a significant amount of domestic R&D efforts, European- and Asian-owned companies dominate the SiGe BiCMOS market. However, Northrop Grumman operates a SOTP SiGe BiCMOS foundry and additional multinational-owned foundries are operating on-shore.

¹⁴⁸ Neiger, C. (2017, September 18). How Skyworks Solutions Makes Most of its Money. Retrieval from <https://www.fool.com/investing/2017/09/18/how-skyworks-solutions-makes-most-of-its-money.aspx>

¹⁴⁹ (2012, February 27). TowerJazz Receives Innovation Award from Skyworks Solutions. Retrieval from <https://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/towerjazz-receives-innovation-award-from-skyworks-solutions-140534743.html>

¹⁵⁰ (2016, November 16). TowerJazz. *TowerJazz (TSEM) Investor and Analyst Day*.

¹⁵¹ Cressler, John. Subject Matter Expert [Interview].

¹⁵² Rebeiz, Gabriel. Subject Matter Expert [Interview].

¹⁵³ (2015, July). Potomac Institute for Policy Studies. *Trusted State-of-the-Art Microelectronics Strategy Study*.

The United States

DARPA-Funded Development of Phased Arrays

Phased-array technologies, which bend, steer, and focus electromagnetic energy by controlling the constructive and destructive interference patterns of the emitted electromagnetic waves,¹⁵⁴ formed the backbone of U.S. missile defenses during the Cold War.¹⁵⁵ Numerous DARPA and ARPA projects have enabled their continuous evolution from 1958 to current day. Notable achievements from these R&D efforts include the deployment of the AN/FPS-85 radar, an active phased array developed through the ARPA program Hard Point Demonstration Radar, at Eglin Air Force Base between 1965 and 1969. Similar radars, the PAVE PAWS radar and the COBRA DANE radar, were deployed to Beale Air Force Base and Shemya, Alaska, respectively.

Beginning in the late 1980s, DARPA funded several programs that rapidly improved the performance characteristics of phased array technologies via the incorporation of III-V and II-VI compound semiconductors, including GaN, GaAs, and InP.¹⁵⁶ These programs include Microwave and Millimeter Wave Monolithic Integrated Circuits (MIMIC, 1988-1995), High Density Microwave Packaging (HDMP, 1993-1996), Microwave and Analog Front End Technology (MAFET, 1995-1999), Wide Band Gap Semiconductor for RF Applications (WBGs-RF, 2002-2008), Nitride Electronic Next Generation Technology (NEXT, 2010-2013), and Intra/Interchip Enhanced Cooling (ICECool, 2012-current). However, the reliance on costly difficult-to-integrate compound semiconductors significantly limited the adoption of phased array technologies to the defense-industrial base.^{157,158} Indeed, to allow for mass commercial adoption of phased array technologies for radar and communications applications, capable silicon-based RF technologies first needed to be developed.¹⁵⁹

Initial SiGe-Related R&D Efforts

In 1982, to develop high-performance low-cost RF integrated circuits (RFICs), IBM began investigating the epitaxial growth of SiGe via ultra-high vacuum chemical vapor deposition.¹⁶⁰ This standard manufacturing process involves introducing small amounts of germanium into the silicon wafer at the atomic scale.¹⁶¹ By 1994, IBM researchers demonstrated the first RFICs composed of SiGe.¹⁶² In 1995, IBM internally funded the first SiGe technology qualification, which mirrored that of a BiFET qualification with pFETs, LPNPs, resistors, capacitors, inductors, diodes, and HBTs.¹⁶³ Qualification in the 200-mm standard CMOS line was completed in 1996, enabling IBM's launch of commercial SiGe chips.^{164,165} By 1997, it was well known in the microelectronics community that SiGe

¹⁵⁴ A Brief History of Phased Array Testing. Retrieval from <https://www.olympus-ims.com/en/ndt-tutorials/intro/brief-history/>

¹⁵⁵ Herd, J.S., & Conway, M.D. (2016, March). Proceedings of the IEEE. *The Evolution to Modern Phased Array Architectures*.

¹⁵⁶ Ibid.

¹⁵⁷ Lambrechts, W., & Singa, S. (2017). *SiGe-based Re-Engineering of Electronic Warfare Subsystems*. Springer.

¹⁵⁸ Szveda, R. (2003, November). Phased Array Radars-What Next for GaAs? Retrieval from <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0961129003011876>

¹⁵⁹ Fritze, Michael. Subject Matter Expert [Interview].

¹⁶⁰ Moniz, J.M. (1997). Is SiGe the Future of GaAs for RF Applications? Retrieval from <https://ieeexplore.ieee.org/document/628275>

¹⁶¹ Lambrechts, W., & Singa, S. (2017). *SiGe-based Re-Engineering of Electronic Warfare Subsystems*. Springer.

¹⁶² Moniz, J.M. (1997). Is SiGe the Future of GaAs for RF Applications? Retrieval from <https://ieeexplore.ieee.org/document/628275>

¹⁶³ Harame, D.L., & Meyerson, B.S. (2001, November). The Early History of IBM's SiGe Mixed Signal Technology.

¹⁶⁴ Ibid.

¹⁶⁵ Moniz, J.M. (1997). Is SiGe the Future of GaAs for RF Applications? Retrieval from <https://ieeexplore.ieee.org/document/628275>

offered higher performance, novel radio architectures, and significantly lower cost than GaAs and InP.¹⁶⁶

However, highly integrated single-chip transceivers need CMOS devices to enable functions like digital interfaces, AD-conversion, built-in self tests, or data storage.¹⁶⁷ As a result, IBM's qualification of a BiCMOS technology began, with funding support from DARPA to merge a heterojunction-based bipolar silicon RF technology with highly integrable Si-based CMOS.¹⁶⁸ DARPA funding enabled IBM to offer low-cost small batch manufacturing runs via the Metal Oxide Silicon Implementation Service (MOSIS), which drastically reduced the cost of the qualification process.¹⁶⁹⁻¹⁷¹ By the end of 1998, a 500 nm BiCMOS process was qualified in Essex Junction.¹⁷² In 1999, IBM qualified a 250 nm SiGe BiCMOS technology. That same year, IBM partnered with Harris Corporation to supply a redesigned WLAN chip based on SiGe with improved performance characteristics and sharply reduced costs.¹⁷³ Later in 1999, Harris Semiconductor was spun off from Harris Corporation as Intersil Corp.,¹⁷⁴ which continued to rely on IBM's SiGe BiCMOS processes for several years.¹⁷⁵ This highly profitable partnership enabled IBM to overcome internal and external resistance to the reliance on SiGe BiCMOS processes for RF applications and is a key moment in the developmental history of SiGe BiCMOS.¹⁷⁶ Intersil was later purchased by GlobespanVirata,¹⁷⁷ which then merged with Conexent Systems, Inc.¹⁷⁸

In January 2000, IBM licensed its 5HP SiGe process to RF MicroDevices, which incorporated the technology into a number of devices and then purchased IBM's GPS business in 2001.¹⁷⁹ In June of 2002, IBM sold its VCO, receiver, and W-CDMA SiGe wireless chip business to TriQuint Semiconductor for \$22 million. In 2003, IBM licensed its power amplifier IP to Ottawa-based SiGe Semiconductor.¹⁸⁰ Also in 2003, IBM expanded its East Fishkill foundry to accommodate the

¹⁶⁶ Ibid.

¹⁶⁷ Böck, J., Aufinger, K., Boguth, S., Dahl, C., Knapp, H., Liebl, W., Manger, D., Meister, T.F., Pribil, A., Wursthorn, J., & Lachner, R. (2015). IEEE. *SiGe HBT and BiCMOS Process Integration Optimization Within the DOTSEVEN Project*.

¹⁶⁸ Harame, D.L., & Meyerson, B.S. (2001, November). The Early History of IBM's SiGe Mixed Signal Technology.

¹⁶⁹ MOSIS Semiconductor Service. Retrievable from <https://www.darpa.mil/about-us/timeline/mosis>

¹⁷⁰ Myerson, Bernard. Subject Matter Expert [Interview].

¹⁷¹ Fritze, Michael. Subject Matter Expert [Interview].

¹⁷² Harame, D.L., & Meyerson, B.S. (2001, November). The Early History of IBM's SiGe Mixed Signal Technology.

¹⁷³ (1999, February 23). Harris Semiconductor Announces "Next-Gen" WLAN Solution: PRISM II Has Half the Chips, Half the Power, 4x the Range. Retrievable from <https://www.harris.com/press-releases/1999/02/harris-semiconductor-announces-next-gen-wlan-solution-prism-ii-has-half-the>

¹⁷⁴ Dunn, D. (1999, July 19). Harris Semiconductor to Become Intersil Corp. Retrievable from https://www.eetimes.com/document.asp?doc_id=1122319

¹⁷⁵ Mokhoff, N. (2004, March 19). Intersil Expands Analog to IBM Foundry. Retrievable from https://www.eetimes.com/document.asp?doc_id=1148888

¹⁷⁶ Myerson, Bernard. Subject Matter Expert [Interview].

¹⁷⁷ Smyser, S. (2003, July 17). Analysis: GlobespanVirata Falls Short in Intersil Buy. Retrievable from https://www.eetimes.com/document.asp?doc_id=1189905

¹⁷⁸ (2003, November 3). Conexant and GlobespanVirata Announce Plan to Merge; Combination Will Create the Worldwide Leader in Semiconductor Solutions for the Broadband Digital Home. Retrievable from <https://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20031103005467/en/Conexant-GlobespanVirata-Announce-Plan-Merge-Combination-Create>

¹⁷⁹ Telford, M. (2004, March). The Advanced Semiconductor Magazine. *SiGe Slips Into Main Fabs*. Retrievable from https://ac.els-cdn.com/S0961129004002819/1-s2.0-S0961129004002819-main.pdf?_tid=f4dc767b-c078-420b-990c-f5b6e66ef010&acdnat=1540585623_5717a79df461624b117de50ead087a5e

¹⁸⁰ Ibid.

manufacturing of BiCMOS at the 180 nm node.¹⁸¹ SiGe BiCMOS at the 130 nm node was made available in 2005.¹⁸²

Recognizing the commercial impact of SiGe-based technologies, other U.S.-based foundries rapidly stood up internal R&D efforts and developed in-house SiGe BiCMOS processes with few external partnerships.^{183,184} In early 2000, Conexant Systems Inc. announced an enhanced SiGe process technology based on 350 nm BiCMOS.¹⁸⁵ In October of 2001, Conexant licensed this IP to TSMC, which became the first pure-play foundry to offer SiGe BiCMOS.¹⁸⁶ TSMC then licensed this process to austriamicrosystems AG in 2003.¹⁸⁷ In early 2003, TSMC introduced its own 180 nm SiGe BiCMOS process.¹⁸⁸

In February 2002, Conexant Systems Inc. announced plans to spin-off a foundry dedicated to the manufacture of SiGe BiCMOS.¹⁸⁹ Conexant had a 45% stake in the new foundry, called Jazz Semiconductor,¹⁹⁰ and contributed specialty process technologies and manufacturing equipment.¹⁹¹ A private equity firm called The Carlyle Group paid \$20 million and contributed \$30 million for a 55% stake in Jazz Semiconductor.

In 2003, Jazz Semiconductor entered into a second-source partnership with Shanghai Advanced Semiconductor Manufacturing Corp., which utilized Jazz's 350 nm SiGe BiCMOS process.¹⁹² Also in 2003, Jazz signed Shanghai Hua Hong NEC Electronics as a second source for its 250 nm and 180 nm CMOS processes.

¹⁸¹ (2003, October 30). IBM Expands Chip Foundry Services for Wireless Applications. Retrieval from <https://www-03.ibm.com/press/us/en/pressrelease/6266.wss>

¹⁸² (2005, August 5). IBM Announces Next Generation Silicon Germanium Technology. Retrieval from <https://www-03.ibm.com/press/us/en/pressrelease/7819.wss>

¹⁸³ Myerson, Bernard. Subject Matter Expert [Interview].

¹⁸⁴ Cheivalier, P., Avenier, G., Canderle, E., Montagné, A., Ribes, G., & Vu, V.T. (2015). IEEE. *Nanoscale SiGe BiCMOS Technologies: From 55 nm Reality to 14 nm Opportunities and Challenges*.

¹⁸⁵ Lineback, J.R. (2003, January 31). Three Years Ago... Conexant Joined SiGe Club. Retrieval from https://www.eetimes.com/document.asp?doc_id=1173748

¹⁸⁶ Telford, M. (2004, March). III-Vs Review. *SiGe Slips Into Main Fabs*. Retrieval from <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0961129004002819>

¹⁸⁷ (2003, October 9). Austriamicrosystems Offers SiGe Performance for BiCMOS Prices. Retrieval from <https://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20031009005349/en/austriamicrosystems-Offers-SiGe-Performance-BiCMOS-Prices>

¹⁸⁸ Telford, M. (2004, March). III-Vs Review. *SiGe Slips Into Main Fabs*. Retrieval from <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0961129004002819>

¹⁸⁹ (2002, February 25). Conexant to Spin Off Fab as New Foundry Company for SiGe Processes. Retrieval from https://www.eetimes.com/document.asp?doc_id=1176092

¹⁹⁰ (2002, May 6). Conexant's Foundry Spin-Off Becomes 'Jazz Semiconductor,' Serves 27 Customers. Retrieval from <https://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20080919005342/en/Tower-Semiconductor-Completes-Merger-Jazz-Technologies>https://www.eetimes.com/document.asp?doc_id=1177182&utm_source=eetimes&utm_medium=relatedcontent

¹⁹¹ (2002, February 25). Conexant to Spin Off Fab as New Foundry Company for SiGe Processes. Retrieval from https://www.eetimes.com/document.asp?doc_id=1176092

¹⁹² Telford, M. (2004, March). III-Vs Review. *SiGe Slips Into Main Fabs*. Retrieval from <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0961129004002819>

Several weeks prior to Conexant's 2000 announcement, Texas Instruments issued a press release announcing its 350 nm SiGe BiCMOS process.¹⁹³ By February 2004, SiGe BiCMOS was relegated to the status of a niche technology at Texas Instruments due to internal development of a 90 nm CMOS process, with an advanced architecture manager at Texas Instruments saying that "we are definitely and decidedly moving away from silicon germanium".¹⁹⁴ This move was part of a broader transition of wireless technologies from SiGe BiCMOS to CMOS due to CMOS availability at smaller nodes, lower costs, and improved integration.¹⁹⁵ Texas Instruments has since been outsourcing SiGe BiCMOS production to Jazz Semiconductor.¹⁹⁶

In early 2000, Motorola was the first company to qualify the SiGe:C HBT BiCMOS process. This 350 nm process exhibited $f_t = 45$ GHz and $f_{max} = 90$ GHz.¹⁹⁷ In 2004, Motorola spun-off its semiconductor business as Freescale Semiconductor, Inc, which continued manufacturing activities at Motorola's Chandler, AZ fab.^{198,199} In March 2015, NXP Semiconductors N.V., a Netherlands-based company, merged with Freescale Semiconductor and took ownership of the Chandler fab.^{200,201}

DARPA TEAM

From 2002 to 2007, DARPA sponsored the Technology for Efficient Agiled Mixed Signal Microsystems (TEAM) program to (1) develop RF SoC phased array technologies based on commercially available SiGe BiCMOS processes and (2) develop the next generation of SiGe BiCMOS processes at IBM.^{202,203} Dr. Dan Radack was the initial program manager, followed by Dr. Michael Fritze.²⁰⁴⁻²⁰⁶ TEAM was the first large program focused on integrating silicon into microwave and mmWave technologies, funding researchers at UC-Berkeley, IBM, MIT, Lincoln Laboratories, University of Michigan, BAE Systems, Jazz Semiconductors, Northrop Grumman, and Boeing.²⁰⁷ The program funded efforts into design, accurate modeling, and new packaging.^{208,209} Performers from the

¹⁹³ Lineback, J.R. (2003, January 31). Three Years Ago...Conexant Joined SiGe Club. Retrieval from https://www.eetimes.com/document.asp?doc_id=1173748

¹⁹⁴ Lineback, J.R. Bye-Bye, SiGe BiCMOS in Cell Phones, Says TI. Retrieval from <https://electroi.com/2004/02/bye-bye-sige-bicmos-in-cell-phones-says-ti/>

¹⁹⁵ Lehbrink, Wolfgang. Subject Matter Expert [Interview].

¹⁹⁶ Telford, M. (2004, March). III-Vs Review. *SiGe Slips Into Main Fabs*. Retrieval from <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0961129004002819>

¹⁹⁷ SiGe:C Technology. Retrieval from

http://cache.freescale.com/files/technology_manufacturing/doc/SIGE_FACT_SHEET.pdf?fromsite=zh-Hans

¹⁹⁸ (2004, December 2). Motorola Completes Separation of Freescale Semiconductor. Retrieval from <https://newsroom.motorolasolutions.com/news/motorola-completes-separation-freescale-semiconductor.htm>

¹⁹⁹ Governance Documents. EverSpin Technologies. Retrieval from

<http://investor.everspin.com/phoenix.zhtml?c=254442&p=irol-govhighlights>

²⁰⁰ NXP Semiconductor Reports Fourth Quarter and Full-Year 2015 Results. Retrieval from <http://investors.nxp.com/phoenix.zhtml?c=209114&p=irol-newsArticle&ID=2135489>

²⁰¹ (2015, December 7). NXP and Freescale Announce Completion of Merger. Retrieval from <http://investors.nxp.com/phoenix.zhtml?c=209114&p=irol-newsArticle&ID=2120581>

²⁰² Fritze, Michael. Subject Matter Expert [Interview].

²⁰³ (2002, November 4). DARPA Contracts Worth Up to \$20 Million to BAE Systems. Retrieval from <https://www.theengineer.co.uk/issues/november-2002-online/darpa-contracts-worth-up-to-20-million-to-bae-systems/>

²⁰⁴ Fritze, Michael. Subject Matter Expert [Interview].

²⁰⁵ Rebeiz, Gabriel. Subject Matter Expert [Interview].

²⁰⁶ Radack, Dan. Subject Matter Expert [Interview].

²⁰⁷ Rebeiz, Gabriel. Subject Matter Expert [Interview].

²⁰⁸ Fritze, Michael. Subject Matter Expert [Interview].

²⁰⁹ Rebeiz, Gabriel. Subject Matter Expert [Interview].

defense-industrial base targeted silicon-based devices operating between 20 and 26 GHz, while universities and IBM Yorktown Heights aimed for 60 GHz.²¹⁰

All of the performers described below developed technologies that were fabricated using IBM's 130 nm SiGe 8HP process or Jazz Semiconductor's 180 nm HX SiGe processes.^{211,212} Multi-project wafer runs at these foundries via MOSIS in combination with DARPA-funded process design kits enabled DIB companies to gain early, cost-effective access and allowed chip designers to gain familiarity with the technology.²¹³ This shortened DoD acquisition times by eliminating additional corporate investments that were required prior to the development of a clear profitable business case. Additionally, DARPA-funded MOSIS runs facilitated the formation of long-term business partnerships between the DIB and commercial foundries.

During TEAM, Northrop Grumman developed an advanced SiGe radar chip that integrated RF and digital capabilities.²¹⁴ A single SiGe RFIC was able to replace 32 heritage ICs, including 16 GaAs multi-function RF MMICs and 16 Si power and logic control ASICs. Production costs of the SiGe devices were also significantly lower than for GaAs devices. As a result of IBM's work on TEAM, the company gained valuable connections with the other performers that transitioned into long-term commercial partnerships.²¹⁵ As a direct result of TEAM, IBM developed the world's first monolithic mmWave TX and RX chipset.²¹⁶ IBM also reported that the fabrication of the first monolithic phased array ICs at 24 and 77 GHz was supported by TEAM.²¹⁷

Additionally, IBM developed a 2nd generation chipset post-TEAM that was connectable to FPGAs via an uncompressed 2 GB/s video link.²¹⁸ This design was licensed to Mediatek, and subsequently to Hittite, which then developed a catalog product. Hittite was purchased by ADI, which still currently supports the 60-GHz TX and RX ICs as products. The 60-GHz chipset became the basis of an E-band chipset developed by a Haifa-based IBM research team.

In a partnership with Mediatek, IBM co-developed packaged 60-GHz TX and RX phased arrays with re-used IP from the TEAM chipsets.²¹⁹ These were the first to use low-cost multi-layer organic packages. These phased arrays were licensed to Hittite, with current applications unknown. IBM has used this technology in numerous recent innovations, including a multi-spectral imaging platform for mmWave radar imaging that was linked to AI for gesture recognition.

BAE transitioned their work on TEAM to two programs.²²⁰ BAE used the BAE Systems EW SoC design in the ALQ-239 Digital Electronic Warfare System (DEWS), which was selected by Boeing for incorporation into the F-15 in 2015. DEWS provides simultaneous jamming with minimal interference to the aircraft's radar and warning receiver. Additionally, TEAM was transitioned to the Long Range

²¹⁰ Ibid.

²¹¹ Valdes-Garcia, Alberto. Subject Matter Expert [Personal Correspondence].

²¹² Cressler, John. Subject Matter Expert [Interview].

²¹³ Fritze, Michael. Subject Matter Expert [Interview].

²¹⁴ Lee, Michael & Adams, Charlie. Subject Matter Experts [Interview].

²¹⁵ Myerson, Bernard. Subject Matter Expert [Interview].

²¹⁶ Valdes-Garcia, Alberto. Subject Matter Expert [Personal Correspondence].

²¹⁷ Ibid.

²¹⁸ Ibid.

²¹⁹ Ibid.

²²⁰ Thompson, Rick. Subject Matter Expert [Personal Correspondence].

Anti-Ship Missile Sensor (LRASM). This was developed in 2010 by the Electronic Systems' research and development group and serves as a precision-guided anti-ship missile designed to give the US Navy the ability to strike high-value targets from long ranges while avoiding counter fire.

Immediately following the conclusion of TEAM in 2008, Tower Semiconductor (based in Migdal Haemek, Israel) merged with Jazz Semiconductor. As a result, Jazz Semiconductor became a subsidiary of Tower Semiconductor.²²¹ In 2009, the firm was re-branded as TowerJazz.²²² Jazz Semiconductor Trusted Foundry, a wholly owned U.S. subsidiary of TowerJazz, currently operates a SiGe BiCMOS production line at the 130 nm node and has been accredited as a Category 1A and 1B Trusted Supplier by the DoD Trusted Program.^{223,224}

DARPA SMART

After TEAM, DARPA MTO sponsored the Scalable Millimeter-wave Architectures for Reconfigurable Tranceivers (SMART) program.²²⁵ Led by program manager Dr. Mark Rosker, the goal of the program was to develop silicon-based mmWave phased arrays.^{226,227} Performers on the project included Northrop Grumman, Raytheon, and Teledyne/UC-San Diego, which targeted phased arrays capable of operating at 94 GHz, wide-band, and 44 GHz, respectively.²²⁸ This program successfully developed the first analog beam phased arrays, enabling the commercial transition of the technology. For example, during Phase III, Teledyne produced 44 GHz EHF satellite communications (SATCOMM) chips, which were available commercially for the defense-industrial base.^{229,230}

Notably, the United States Navy became aware of the work and funded a portion of SMART to develop wide band 10-20 GHz 4-beam chips for SATCOMM.²³¹ The Office of Naval Research (ONR) then sponsored the \$300 million Integrated Topside (InTop) program, which sought to commercialize silicon-based microelectronics for SATCOMM and electronic warfare (EW).²³² Performers on this project included Northrop Grumman, Raytheon, and Lockheed Martin.^{233,234}

²²¹ (2008, September 19). Tower Semiconductor Completes Merger with Jazz Technologies. Retrieval from <https://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20080919005342/en/Tower-Semiconductor-Completes-Merger-Jazz-Technologies>

²²² (2009, November 5). Tower and Jazz Semiconductor Announce Major Achievements in First Year of Merger, Launch New Brand and Website. Retrieval from http://www.towerjazz.com/prs/2009/pdf/pr_110309.pdf

²²³ (2015, March 23). Jazz Semiconductor Trusted Foundry (JSTF) Announces Accreditation by United States Department of Defense DMEA as a Category 1A and 1B Trusted Supplier. Retrieval from <http://towerjazz.com/prs/2015/0323.html>

²²⁴ Cressler, John. Subject Matter Expert [Interview].

²²⁵ Rebeiz, Gabriel. Subject Matter Expert [Interview].

²²⁶ Ibid.

²²⁷ Wallace, H.B. (2014, October 30). DARPA MMW System Programs and How They Drive Technology Needs. Retrieval from https://www.ece.ucdavis.edu/dmrc/files/2014/09/Bruce_wallace_darpa_web.pdf

²²⁸ Rebeiz, Gabriel. Subject Matter Expert [Interview].

²²⁹ Keller, J. (2012, November 14). DARPA Taps Teledyne to Continue Work on Fabricating Smart Radar Antenna Technology. Retrieval from <https://www.militaryaerospace.com/articles/2012/11/teledyne-smart-antenna.html>

²³⁰ Rebeiz, Gabriel. Subject Matter Expert [Interview].

²³¹ Ibid.

²³² Integrated Topside. Retrieval from <https://www.onr.navy.mil/en/About-ONR/History/tales-of-discovery/integrated-topside>

²³³ Rebeiz, Gabriel. Subject Matter Expert [Interview].

²³⁴ Lee, Michael & Adams, Charlie. Subject Matter Experts [Interview].

As a result of InTop, Lockheed Martin built several silicon-based phased arrays for radar, EW, and SATCOMM applications.²³⁵ Northrop Grumman produced a Low Band Receive SiGe device that was able to replace 32 legacy devices and another device based on High Band Receive SiGe replaced 8 legacy devices.²³⁶ Northrop Grumman also participated in other DoD-sponsored programs using knowledge gained from TEAM and SMART. During the AN/SLQ-32(V)Y Surface Electronic Warfare Improvement program, Low Band and High Band Transmit SiGe integrated 8 legacy equivalent parts onto a single device. In the U.S. Marine Corp AN/TPS-80 Ground/Air Task Oriented Radar (G/ATOR) program, a single device based on SiGe RFIC replaced 4 GaAs ICs and 4 Si ICs.

ONR continued to fund DIB performers to work on silicon-based phased arrays. From 2008-2009, Ball Aerospace worked on a USN contract to develop a 4-beam phased array for communications data link (CDL) applications.²³⁷ This work produced the first design of a 4-beam CDL. In 2016, the USN contracted with BAE to deliver 12 4-beam phased arrays with 4 facets for aircraft carriers, which relied on integrated phased arrays from Ball Aerospace and ViaSat.²³⁸

In 2009, Rockwell Collins began working with researchers at UC-San Diego to produce commercial SiGe-based SATCOMM devices for the aerospace industry.^{239,240} With only internal funding, Rockwell Collins developed low-cost high-performance SiGe-based weather radars and SATCOMM phased arrays that are expected to be on all commercial aircraft by 2022.²⁴¹⁻²⁴³ Boeing was the initial market leader in the SATCOMM phased-array sector, having transitioned all chips from GaAs to Si by 2012.²⁴⁴ This program was eliminated by 2015 due to the high costs imposed by Boeing's defense customers.²⁴⁵ Rockwell Collins, which was not burdened by defense customers, specialized in the commercial sector.^{246,247} In 2017, United Technologies announced plans to acquire Rockwell Collins for \$30 billion, but the deal has not yet been finalized.^{248,249} Additionally, Viasat produced 20-30 GHz phased arrays for SATCOMM for the internet service provider sector.^{250,251}

²³⁵ Rebeiz, Gabriel. Subject Matter Expert [Interview].

²³⁶ Lee, Michael & Adams, Charlie. Subject Matter Experts [Interview].

²³⁷ Rebeiz, Gabriel. Subject Matter Expert [Interview].

²³⁸ Howard, C. (2016, September 28). BAE Systems and Ball Aerospace Collaborate to Bolster U.S. Navy's Ability to Share Critical Data. Retrieval from <https://www.intelligent-aerospace.com/articles/2016/09/bae-systems-and-ball-aerospace-collaborate-to-bolster-u-s-navy-s-ability-to-share-critical-data.html>

²³⁹ Rebeiz, Gabriel. Subject Matter Expert [Interview].

²⁴⁰ Oster, Sasha. Subject Matter Expert [Interview].

²⁴¹ (2015, March 16). Rockwell Collins Team with OneWeb to Provide Unprecedented Connectivity to Aviation. Retrieval from <https://www.rockwellcollins.com/Data/News/2015-Cal-Yr/CS/FY15CSNR15-OneWeb.aspx>

²⁴² Rebeiz, Gabriel. Subject Matter Expert [Interview].

²⁴³ Oster, Sasha. Subject Matter Expert [Interview].

²⁴⁴ Rebeiz, Gabriel. Subject Matter Expert [Interview].

²⁴⁵ Torrieri, M. Phased Array Antennas: Can They Deliver? Retrieval from <http://interactive.satellitetoday.com/via/may-june-2017/phased-array-antennas-can-they-deliver/>

²⁴⁶ Rebeiz, Gabriel. Subject Matter Expert [Interview].

²⁴⁷ (2015, March 16). Rockwell Collins Team with OneWeb to Provide Unprecedented Connectivity to Aviation. Retrieval from <https://www.rockwellcollins.com/Data/News/2015-Cal-Yr/CS/FY15CSNR15-OneWeb.aspx>

²⁴⁸ (2017, October 4). Mega-Merger: What UTC-Rockwell Collins Means for Aerospace. Retrieval from <https://www.co-production.net/manufacturing-latest-news/422-aerospace-industry-reaching-an-agreement.html>

²⁴⁹ Oster, Sasha. Subject Matter Expert [Interview].

²⁵⁰ Rebeiz, Gabriel. Subject Matter Expert [Interview].

²⁵¹ Viasat Phased Array Flat Panel Antenna Selected by SES Networks for the 03b mPower System. Retrieval from <https://www.viasat.com/news/viasat-phased-array-flat-panel-antenna-selected-ses-networks-03b-mpower-system>

Other Relevant DARPA Programs

Numerous additional DARPA programs have contributed to the development of SiGe-based phased arrays. The Adaptive RF Technology (ART) program, led by Dr. Bill Chappel, Dr. Troy Olsson, and Dr. Tom Rondeau, aimed to develop SiGe-based reconfigurable RF integrated circuits.^{252,253} The Efficient Linearized All-Silicon Transmitter ICs (ELASTx) program, led by Timothy Hancock, Dev Palmer, and Sanjay Raman, has aimed to develop monolithic, high power, high linearity, mmWave silicon-based transmitter integrated circuits, including power amplifiers and phased-arrays.²⁵⁴⁻²⁵⁶ The Arrays at Commercial Timescales (ACT) program, led by Bill Chappel and Roy Olsson, was the first concentrated phased array program after SMART and seeks to shorten development timescales for phased arrays.^{257,258} Northrop Grumman and Rockwell Collins were highly successful performers in ACT,^{259,260} delivering highly integrated beamforming modules capable of operating at ~12 GHz.²⁶¹ The technology developed by Rockwell Collins during ACT has been the subject of multiple proposals to AFRL, ARL, and DARPA, and is currently being applied to a range of commercial application markets, including phased arrays for AESAs, SATCOMM, and EW.²⁶²

The Diverse Accessible Heterogeneous Integration (DAHI) program led by Sanjay Raman, Dan Green, and Tim Hancock aims to produce next-generation phased arrays dubbed wafer-scale phased arrays by combining emerging materials and devices with CMOS technology.^{263,264} Lastly, the Multifunction RF (MFRF) program led by Bruce Wallace and John Gorman has aimed to develop a common RF system that will use agile frequencies, waveforms, and apertures.^{265,266} IBM's success with their 60-GHz phased array enabled the firm to serve as a performer in this program, during which IBM developed the first Si-based scaled mmWave phased array module consisting of 4 ICs and a package with 64 dual polarized antennas operating at 94 GHz.²⁶⁷ The associated IC, dual polarized 94-GHz phased array TRX, still holds the record for the highest level of monolithic integration at W-band. This design was licensed by Ericsson, which IBM worked with to jointly develop a dual polarized

²⁵² Rebeiz, Gabriel. Subject Matter Expert [Interview].

²⁵³ Adaptive RF Technology (ART). Retrieval from <https://www.darpa.mil/program/adaptive-rf-technologies>

²⁵⁴ Rebeiz, Gabriel. Subject Matter Expert [Interview].

²⁵⁵ Efficient Linearized All-Silicon Transmitter ICs (ELASTx). Retrieval from <https://www.darpa.mil/program/efficient-linearized-all-silicon-transmitter-ics>

²⁵⁶ (2014, September 15). The Path to Efficient-yet-Linear Watt-Class mmWave CMOS PAs. Retrieval from http://pasymposium.ucsd.edu/docs/RAB_PAsymp2014_v1.pdf

²⁵⁷ Rebeiz, Gabriel. Subject Matter Expert [Interview].

²⁵⁸ Arrays at Commercial Timescales (ACT). Retrieval from <https://www.darpa.mil/program/arrays-at-commercial-timescales>

²⁵⁹ Keller, J. (2018, April 4). Military Researchers Seek to Make RF Phased Array Common Modules Available to the Defense Industry. Retrieval from <https://www.militaryaerospace.com/articles/2018/04/rf-phased-arrays-electronic-warfare-ew.html>

²⁶⁰ (2017, September 14). Rockwell Collins Demonstrates New Directional Communication Link With Longer Range and Anti-Jamming Capability. Retrieval from <https://www.rockwellcollins.com/Data/News/2017-Cal-Yr/GS/20170914-ATC-Directional-Comms.aspx>

²⁶¹ Rebeiz, Gabriel. Subject Matter Expert [Interview].

²⁶² Oster, Sasha. Subject Matter Expert [Interview].

²⁶³ Diverse Accessible Heterogeneous Integration (DAHI). Retrieval from <https://www.darpa.mil/program/diverse-accessible-heterogeneous-integration>

²⁶⁴ Rebeiz, Gabriel. Subject Matter Expert [Interview].

²⁶⁵ Multifunction RF (MFRF). Retrieval from <https://www.darpa.mil/program/multifunction-rf>

²⁶⁶ Rebeiz, Gabriel. Subject Matter Expert [Interview].

²⁶⁷ Valdes-Garcia, Alberto. Subject Matter Expert [Personal Correspondence].

64-element array TRX at 28-GHz. This device is now a key component of an Ericsson 5G base station product. Northrop Grumman produced an advanced multifunction RF sensor with a SiGe device that integrated all array electronics on a single device for W-band AESA.²⁶⁸

The European Union

Early Efforts

After IBM's invention of SiGe in the 1980s, the technology was readily adopted by bipolar transistor technology companies.²⁶⁹ In 1995, Siemens AG published a report detailing a SiGe-based IC capable of operating at $f_{\max} = 75$ GHz. In 1999, Siemens spun-off its semiconductor business into Infineon Technologies, which continued to develop SiGe BiCMOS processes.²⁷⁰ In 2000, STMicroelectronics qualified its 350 nm SiGe BiCMOS process.^{271,272} STMicroelectronics went on to develop SiGe BiCMOS processes at the 350 nm, 250 nm, 130 nm, and 55 nm nodes.²⁷³ In early 2002, Hitachi developed a prototype SiGe:C HBT.^{274,275} This device was incorporated into commercial devices by the end of that calendar year.²⁷⁶

In 2001, Belgium-based Alcatel Microelectronics announced the release of a SiGe BiCMOS process at the 350 nm node that was co-developed with IMEC, a Belgium R&D organization.²⁷⁷ This technology enabled the development of wireless components with frequencies up to 10 GHz. In 2006, Alcatel merged with Lucent Technologies (a spin-off from AT&T) to form a French-American company called Alcatel-Lucent.²⁷⁸ This company then merged with Nokia to form Nokia Corporation in 2016.²⁷⁹ Nokia Bell Labs has continued to develop SiGe BiCMOS-based mmWave phased array RFIC antenna systems and is currently testing these technologies for incorporation into 5G in partnership with Japan-based NTT DOCOMO.^{280,281} In 2003, under a non-exclusive agreement

²⁶⁸ Lee, Michael & Adams, Charlie. Subject Matter Experts [Interview].

²⁶⁹ Lehbrink, Wolfgang. Subject Matter Expert [Interview].

²⁷⁰ (1999, March 17). Siemens Names Chip Spinoff Infineon. Retrievable from https://www.eetimes.com/document.asp?doc_id=1187796

²⁷¹ Cheivalier, P., Avenier, G., Canderle, E., Montagné, A., Ribes, G., & Vu, V.T. (2015). IEEE. *Nanoscale SiGe BiCMOS Technologies: From 55 nm Reality to 14 nm Opportunities and Challenges*.

²⁷² Bindra, A. (2001, August 19). SiGe BiCMOS Process Optimized for Cost-Sensitive RF Markets. Retrieval from <https://www.electronicdesign.com/communications/sige-bicmos-process-optimized-cost-sensitive-rf-markets>

²⁷³ Cheivalier, P., Avenier, G., Canderle, E., Montagné, A., Ribes, G., & Vu, V.T. (2015). IEEE. *Nanoscale SiGe BiCMOS Technologies: From 55 nm Reality to 14 nm Opportunities and Challenges*.

²⁷⁴ (2002). The Advanced Semiconductor Magazine. *SiGe:C Scales Speed*. Retrieval from <https://core.ac.uk/download/pdf/82019250.pdf>

²⁷⁵ Lehbrink, Wolfgang. Subject Matter Expert [Interview].

²⁷⁶ (2002). The Advanced Semiconductor Magazine. *SiGe:C Scales Speed*. Retrieval from <https://core.ac.uk/download/pdf/82019250.pdf>

²⁷⁷ (2001, June 11). Alcatel Enters SiGe Market With New Process Technology and Products. Retrieval from https://www.eetimes.com/document.asp?doc_id=1180992

²⁷⁸ Bajaj, V. (2006, April 2). Alcatel and Lucent Agree to Merge in \$13.4 Billion Deal. Retrieval from <https://www.nytimes.com/2006/04/02/business/alcatel-and-lucent-agree-to-merge-in-134-billion-deal.html>

²⁷⁹ Tonner, A. (2016, January 6). Nokia and Alcatel-Lucent Finally Seal the Deal. Retrieval from <https://www.fool.com/investing/general/2016/01/06/nokia-and-alcatel-lucent-finally-seal-the-deal.aspx>

²⁸⁰ (2018, February 11). A Fully Integrated Scalable W-Band Phased-Array Module With Integrated Antennas, Self-Alignment and Self-Test. Retrieval from <https://www.bell-labs.com/our-research/publications/298214/>

²⁸¹ (2018, April 24). Nokia Bell Labs and NTT DOCOMO Collaborate on 5G Innovations for Massive Capacity, Low-Latency Support of Future Wireless Applications. Retrieval from https://www.nokia.com/en_int/news/releases/2018/04/24/nokia-bell-labs-and-ntt-docomo-collaborate-on-5g-innovations-for-massive-capacity-low-latency-support-of-future-wireless-applications

through IMEC's Industrial Affiliation Program, Singapore-based Chartered Semiconductor licensed IMEC's 180 nm SiGe-based bipolar module, plus test chip structures and bipolar model.²⁸²

In 2001, IHP and Intel engaged in a partnership to found Communicant Semiconductor Technologies, a \$1.5 billion foundry that was anticipated to provide SiGe:C, BiCMOS, and CMOS technologies.²⁸³ IHP provided the SiGe:C process technology, while Intel provided 180 nm CMOS technology in exchange for 20% of the manufacturing capacity. Additional investment was provided by the Dubai Airport Free Zone Authority, the Brandenburg regional government and the German federal government. In November, 2003, Communicant declared bankruptcy after the withdrawal of the Dubai Airport Free Zone Authority investors, who were planning fab investments at Dubai Silicon Oasis. Also in 2003, IHP began developing prototypes using its $f_T=80\text{-}30\text{ GHz}$ 250 nm SiGe:C BiCMOS process.²⁸⁴

EU-funding

In 2008, an European Union-funded effort called DOTFIVE launched with the goal of developing a 0.5 THz SiGe heterojunction bipolar transistor and establishing a leadership position for the European semiconductor industry in SiGe technologies for millimeter wave applications.^{285,286} This three-year program was worth €14.75 million with €9.7 million in European Commission funding, making it the largest nanoelectronics project under EU Framework Programme 7.²⁸⁷ Foundries involved included Infineon Technologies and STMicroelectronics, as well as IMEC and IHP. By the end of the project, the 500 GHz goal was achieved by IHP.²⁸⁸ Infineon is anticipating this product to be released by the end of 2018.²⁸⁹

In late 2012, the EU kicked off a follow-on project called DOTSEVEN with the goal of pushing SiGe HBT to 700 GHz and demonstrating working systems at 240 GHz.^{290,291} The main objective was to reinforce and further strengthen Europe's leading edge position in SiGe HBT technology and modeling as well as SiGe-enabled mmWave applications so as to stay significantly ahead of non-

²⁸² Itow, J. (2002, September 10). Foundries to Bring SiGe Into Mainstream. Retrieval from https://www.eetimes.com/document.asp?doc_id=1178273

²⁸³ (2001, March). The Advanced Semiconductor Magazine. *Both Intel and TSMC Moving Into SiGe*. Retrieval from <https://core.ac.uk/download/pdf/82347371.pdf>

²⁸⁴ Telford, M. (2004, March). III-Vs Review. *SiGe Slips Into Main Fabs*. Retrieval from <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0961129004002819>

²⁸⁵ (2008, March 7). European Consortium to Push the Speed Limit of Silicon Based Transistor Up to 0.5 TeraHertz. Retrieval from https://cordis.europa.eu/news/rcn/117079_en.html

²⁸⁶ Cressler, John. Subject Matter Expert [Interview].

²⁸⁷ (2008, March 7). European Consortium to Push the Speed Limit of Silicon Based Transistor Up to 0.5 TeraHertz. Retrieval from https://cordis.europa.eu/news/rcn/117079_en.html

²⁸⁸ Dotfive Results. Retrieval from <http://www.dotfive.eu/index.php?id=185>

²⁸⁹ Lehbrink, Wolfgang. Subject Matter Expert [Interview].

²⁹⁰ Schroter, M., Boeck, J., d'Alessandro, V., Fregonese, S., Heinemann, B., Jungemann, C., Liang, W., Kamrani, H., Mukherjee, A., Pawlak, A., Pfeiffer, U., Rinaldi, N., Sarmah, N., Zimmer, T., & Wedel, G. (2016). IEEE. *The EU DOTSEVEN Project: Overview and Results*.

²⁹¹ Towards 0.7 THz Silicon-Germanium Heterojunction Bipolar Technology. Retrieval from <https://www.scribd.com/document/145852234/Dotseven-Brochure-Vf>

European competition.²⁹² This program was sponsored by the European Commission at €12.3 million over 3.5 years.²⁹³ In this program, the only foundries involved were Infineon and IHP.²⁹⁴

As part of this effort, the performers sought to develop fully integrated mm-wave circuits.²⁹⁵ Approximately halfway through the project, Infineon had developed a 130 nm SiGe BiCMOS technology with f_t of 250 GHz and f_{max} of 370 GHz.²⁹⁶ Infineon also investigated the suitability of IHP's advanced HBT concepts for future industrial mass production for upcoming BiCMOS generations. Constraints considered included yield, cost, and compatibility with standard production techniques in a 130 nm CMOS line.

The involvement of the European Union was critical to these developments.²⁹⁷ Initially, industry partners were highly reluctant to conduct research and development activities into 500 GHz- and 700 GHz-capable devices because (1) it was not clear those levels could be achieved, and (2) no markets for those technologies existed. Additionally, EU funding encouraged cooperation between industrial companies (Infineon and STMicroelectronics) and public-private partnerships (IMEC and IHP), allowing novel processes developed through research activities to be manufactured at scale.

SiGe BiCMOS-based Phased Arrays and 5G

The communications industry, led by Ericsson, Nokia, and others, observed the potential of applying emerging phased array technologies toward communications and convinced their suppliers (Intel, NXP, IDI, Infineon, etc.) to produce modules and base stations.²⁹⁸ Qualcomm, Intel, Samsung, and Fujitsu internally developed CMOS-based analog beam phased arrays for high volume consumer products (i.e. cell phones, wireless routers, etc) at 28 GHz and 39 GHz. SiGe BiCMOS-based analog beamforming chips, optimal for high power applications, were utilized by base-station companies NXP, ADI, Samsung, and Ericsson. ZTE and Huawei have led the sub-6 GHz base station market, incorporating GaN-based amplifiers and CMOS-based digital components. While no base station company is hosted within the United States, domestic semiconductor firms (i.e. ADI, Texas Instruments, Qualcomm, Xilinx, Alterra, NXP Freescale, Qorvo, Skyworks, etc) supply the overwhelming majority of ICs.

However, all of these domestic firms subcontract out their semiconductor manufacturing to foundries that are not owned by U.S.-based firms.²⁹⁹ Taiwan-based TSMC produces chips for Qualcomm, Intel, and MTK, while other foundries operate in Korea (Samsung) and Europe (NXP, Infineon, and

²⁹² Towards 0.7 THz Silicon-Germanium Heterojunction Bipolar Technology. Retrieval from <https://www.scribd.com/document/145852234/Dotseven-Brochure-Vf>

²⁹³ Schroter, M., Boeck, J., d'Alessandro, V., Fregonese, S., Heinemann, B., Jungemann, C., Liang, W., Kamrani, H., Mukherjee, A., Pawlak, A., Pfeiffer, U., Rinaldi, N., Sarmah, N., Zimmer, T., & Wedel, G. (2016). IEEE. *The EU DOTSEVEN Project: Overview and Results*.

²⁹⁴ Towards 0.7 THz Silicon-Germanium Heterojunction Bipolar Technology. Retrieval from <https://www.scribd.com/document/145852234/Dotseven-Brochure-Vf>

²⁹⁵ Schroter, M., Boeck, J., d'Alessandro, V., Fregonese, S., Heinemann, B., Jungemann, C., Liang, W., Kamrani, H., Mukherjee, A., Pawlak, A., Pfeiffer, U., Rinaldi, N., Sarmah, N., Zimmer, T., & Wedel, G. (2016). IEEE. *The EU DOTSEVEN Project: Overview and Results*.

²⁹⁶ Böck, J., Aufinger, K., Boguth, S., Dahl, C., Knapp, H., Liebl, W., Manger, D., Meister, T.F., Pribil, A., Wursthorn, J., & Lachner, R. (2015). IEEE. *SiGe HBT and BiCMOS Process Integration Optimization Within the DOTSEVEN Project*.

²⁹⁷ Lehbrink, Wolfgang. Subject Matter Expert [Interview].

²⁹⁸ Rebeiz, Gabriel. Subject Matter Expert [Interview].

²⁹⁹ Ibid.

STMicroelectronics). Israel-based TowerJazz and UAE-based GlobalFoundries, which acquired IBM's semiconductor manufacturing business in 2014,^{300,301} are also major suppliers.³⁰²⁻³⁰⁶

The commercialization of automotive radar is dominated by European companies that had previously benefited from the EU-funded DOTFIVE and DOTSEVEN initiatives.³⁰⁷ Notably, Infineon is the clear market leader.³⁰⁸ However, other firms have produced microelectronic components for this market sector, including NXP Freescale, ADI, and Texas Instruments.³⁰⁹ As with the ICs for base station components and consumer products, all of these chips are produced by foundries that are not owned by U.S.-based companies.

In addition to the IP that was generated, the rapid development of the 5G mmWave market was directly enabled by the highly specialized workforce that was trained via DARPA funding.³¹⁰ The graduate students who had worked on DARPA projects are now currently employed throughout the domestic and foreign 5G mmWave technological ecosystem. Firms such as NXP Freescale and ADI were not funded by DARPA, but are staffed by students who were trained under DARPA contracts. As a further example, the IBM personnel that led IBM's TEAM effort are the same individuals developing IBM's 5G components.

Recommendations

The study team developed a series of recommendations to DARPA MTO to enable DARPA to better ensure that DARPA-funded intellectual property contributes to an ecosystem of innovation that flourishes in the United States. The recommendations are described in detail below.

Recommendation #1. DARPA MTO programs, particularly ERI, should include low-volume high-mix (LVHM) manufacturers as Performers and fund the development of LVHM-enabling manufacturing technologies.

An important characteristic of state-of-the-art MRAM and SiGe BiCMOS technologies is their reliance on manufacturing facilities that cost upwards of \$15 billion.³¹¹ This recommendation suggests DARPA invest in innovative research that will produce technologies and markets with a higher probability of maintaining a domestic manufacturing base.

³⁰⁰ (2015, July). Potomac Institute for Policy Studies. *Trusted State-of-the-Art Microelectronics Strategy Study*.

³⁰¹ According to the terms of the contract, IBM paid GlobalFoundries \$1.5 billion in exchange for the acquisition and operation of its microelectronics foundries, related technologies, and personnel.

³⁰² Neiger, C. (2017, September 18). How Skyworks Solutions Makes Most of its Money. Retrievable from <https://www.fool.com/investing/2017/09/18/how-skyworks-solutions-makes-most-of-its-money.aspx>

³⁰³ (2012, February 27). TowerJazz Receives Innovation Award from Skyworks Solutions. Retrievable from <https://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/towerjazz-receives-innovation-award-from-skyworks-solutions-140534743.html>

³⁰⁴ (2016, November 16). TowerJazz. *TowerJazz (TSEM) Investor and Analyst Day*.

³⁰⁵ Cressler, John. Subject Matter Expert [Interview].

³⁰⁶ Oster, Sasha. Subject Matter Expert [Interview].

³⁰⁷ Rebeiz, Gabriel. Subject Matter Expert [Interview].

³⁰⁸ Lehbrink, Wolfgang. Subject Matter Expert [Interview].

³⁰⁹ Rebeiz, Gabriel. Subject Matter Expert [Interview].

³¹⁰ Ibid.

³¹¹ (2018, August). Potomac Institute for Policy Studies. *Trusted State-of-the-Art Foundry Access Impact Analysis, Assessment, and Strategy Report*.

Regardless of the size of the potential market, any state-of-the-art MRAM and SiGe BiCMOS technology requiring high-volume low-mix production in a modern foundry will very likely not be produced by a domestically-owned fab. The majority of the commercial fabrication infrastructure for this exists in the Asia-Pacific region. One way out of this conundrum is to revolutionize the type of semiconductors under development and how they are manufactured.

DARPA should fund innovative research into groundbreaking technologies that, upon commercialization, would be amenable to LVHM manufacturing methods. The development of such fabrication capabilities should be an integral part of the the DARPA ERI Program. This is consistent with the post-Moore trend of increasing specialization of hardware to function.

Specifically, program managers should seek to fund the development of LVHM-enabling manufacturing technologies such as multiple electron beam direct write (MEBDW) tools. MEBDW-based processes typically utilize a complementary electron beam lithography (CEBL) approach in which metal-interconnect grating patterns are formed optically and MEBDW is used to complete the interconnect and write via hole patterns, creating customized IC patterns.³¹² Full pattern writing is also being explored. EBL approaches drastically reduces mask costs and equipment costs.^{313,314} However, commercially available MEBDW tools are not yet available and remain under development.³¹⁵ These efforts currently include an AFRL-sponsored \$35 million contract with Multibeam Corporation to manufacture an EBL system for IC production by 2020.³¹⁶ Additionally, ERI should also seek to include low-volume high-mix foundries as Performers in funded projects. Numerous high-mix low-volume facilities are currently operating in the United States.³¹⁷ As demonstrated in this report, DARPA programs build connections between semiconductor foundries and potential customers when both are included as Performers, facilitating commercial partnerships beyond the lifetime of the DARPA contract.

Recommendation #2. DARPA should facilitate the transition of ERI-funded technology into the U.S. defense-industrial base (DIB) by including defense contractors as Performers on the ERI Program and by providing access to multi-project fabrication runs with necessary Process Design Kits.

When a DARPA-funded technology achieves success in the commercial market or in the DIB, the United States benefits via economic growth and the creation of new markets. However, only technology transitions into the defense-industrial base provide DoD with an asymmetric advantage over potentially adversarial counterparts. This recommendation ensures that ERI-funded technologies are accessible by companies in the DIB.

ERI program managers should ensure that DIB companies are included as Performers early on and have early access to multi-project wafer runs at commercial foundries via MOSIS and/or TAPO. As shown in this report, DARPA programs facilitate the development of relationships between the DIB

³¹² (2017, October). Potomac Institute for Policy Studies. *Low-Volume, High-Mix Manufacturing Models in the Semiconductor Industry*.

³¹³ Ibid.

³¹⁴ (2015, April). Potomac Institute for Policy Studies. *E-Beam Direct Write Workshop*.

³¹⁵ Ibid.

³¹⁶ (2017, May 25). Multibeam Secures \$35M Defense Contract to Build E-Beam System. Retrieval from http://www.multibeamcorp.com/PR_MB20170525.htm

³¹⁷ (2015, June). Potomac Institute for Policy Studies. *DoD Needs for Specialized Low Volume Fabrication*.

and the commercial sector that are likely to continue after the conclusion of the Program. Additionally, the availability of DARPA-funded multi-project manufacturing runs via MOSIS and/or TAPO is critical for the internal technology development similar to what occurred at Northrop Grumman during DARPA TEAM. Cloud-based infrastructure that enables secure IC design and access to intellectual property by disparate design teams should also be funded. For example, AFRL's microelectronics challenge provides access to the Trusted Silicon Stratus. This would likely shorten DoD acquisition timelines, as DIB companies are typically reluctant to invest in high-cost process design kits unless there's a clear near-term business case.

Recommendation #3: DARPA should consider policy changes that enable the domestic capture of students trained via ERI funding.

The rapid development of the 5G communications market was directly enabled by the availability of a highly skilled workforce that was trained via DARPA funding. The availability and willingness to move overseas is a key factor that is enabling European and Asian companies to lead the 5G communications market. This recommendation ensures that DARPA develops and implements policy changes that ensure that ERI-funded students and post-doctoral fellows achieve employment in the domestic microelectronics ecosystem.

There are numerous opportunities for DARPA to impact the career trajectories of the students working on ERI-funded projects. For example, DARPA could sponsor workshops and networking events that bridge connections between students and domestic companies, facilitating post-graduation employment. Additionally, the availability of clearable students in an academic research laboratory could serve as a criteria in the Performer review process. The impacts of these policies, both intended and unintended, need to be carefully considered and weighed prior to their implementation. However, this is beyond the scope of this study.

Recommendation #4. DARPA should seek to partner with R&D organizations of major US companies and identify internal champions of these new technologies that can evangelize them to the business units who are typically much more short term focused.

Individuals that championed the potential of emerging technologies developed by DARPA were critical to the commercial success of both MRAM and SiGe BiCMOS technologies. Additionally, the availability of a corporate R&D unit that was separate from the related business unit enabled (1) operation within USG FAR and DFARS requirements, and (2) the gradual development of a profitable business case. This is an important "lesson learned" from our study.

During DARPA Spintronics, Motorola's MRAM effort was transferred from the R&D division to the Semiconductor Products Division, which sought to kill the Program due to the perceived lack of a short-term profitable business case. The Program was saved after DARPA contributed additional funding to Motorola to transfer the MRAM work back to the R&D division of Motorola. At IBM's R&D unit, Bernie Myerson, an IBM executive, was able to promote internal investment efforts towards developing innovative SiGe BiCMOS processes for RF applications. His work enabled IBM to win DARPA funding that was critical to the commercial partnership between IBM and Harris Corporation. This highly profitable relationship enabled IBM to overcome internal and external resistance to the potential of SiGe BiCMOS processes for RF applications and was a key moment in the developmental history of SiGe BiCMOS.

Conclusion

To support DARPA's Microsystems Technology Office in its technology transfer efforts for the Electronics Resurgence Initiative program, the Potomac Institute for Policy Studies investigated the global proliferation of MRAM and silicon-based RF technologies [i.e SiGe BiCMOS-based phased arrays]. Our research found that investments by DARPA were critical to the development of MRAM memory and SiGe RF technologies. As a result of DARPA funding, these technologies have found profitable transitions in both the commercial sector and the defense-industrial base. Notably, a simple set of Performers lead to globalization via interconnected pathways including personnel transfers, mergers and acquisitions, spin-offs and commercial partnerships. A detailed mapping of these complex transition pathways is provided in this report. Furthermore, individuals that championed the potential of these emerging technologies played a pivotal role in the commercial success of both MRAM and SiGe BiCMOS technologies. DARPA enabled DIB companies to have early, cost-effective access to commercial foundries via MOSIS, forming the foundation for future long-term partnerships and rapidly shortening the technology development timeline. Additionally, the availability of a corporate R&D unit that was separate from the related business unit enabled (1) operation within USG FAR and DFARS requirements, and (2) the gradual development of a profitable business case.

DARPA Program Managers have the ability to structure their programs such that they fund only commercial companies, both commercial and defense-industrial base companies, or only defense-industrial base companies. In this study, only the first two funding structures were studied. In the development of both MRAM and SiGe-based RF technologies, commercial firms were responsible for developing the early designs and process protocols, then maturing the technologies to achieve commercial entry. This was successfully accomplished in both of the case studies examined in this report. In both of these case-studies, the commercial firms used DARPA funding to build on initial in-house capabilities that had been developed earlier. However, commercial firms follow the most profitable business case, resulting in technology transition pathways that eventually led to foreign-owned companies. Fortunately, several foreign-owned multinational firms operate domestically-located fabrication facilities, including Samsung, NXP Semiconductors, and GlobalFoundries. However, long-term DoD access to technologies manufactured by multinationals isn't assured, motivating the development of contingency plans to minimize supply disruptions. For example, GlobalFoundriesUS still offers trusted advanced SiGe BiCMOS to the DoD, but the UAE-based company is struggling with an uncertain financial future.³¹⁸

Long-term access to advanced microelectronic technologies is best assured via the defense-industrial base, which provides the most robust means of minimizing long-term supply chain variability and risk. Notably, our data suggest that DIB firms should be included as early Performers in DARPA Programs to maximize their ability to uptake and advance DARPA-funded technologies. The two MRAM Programs, STT-MRAM and Spintronics, did not include DIB Performers. Meanwhile, every SiGe RF-based DARPA Program included DIB Performers. It is therefore not surprising that there are no MRAM suppliers in the DIB, while Northrop Grumman is now a major supplier of SiGe-based components for military radars, electronic warfare, and satellite communication technologies. Recapitalization efforts and technology development at these fabs, which typically operate at SOTP or legacy nodes, could be facilitated via DoD investments.

³¹⁸ (2018, October). Potomac Institute for Policy Studies. *Trusted State-Of-The-Art Foundry Access*

The data collected in this study indicates that two technology transition paths exists for USG-funded technologies. One leads into the commercial (non-defense) sector, while the second results in uptake by the defense-industrial base (defense-specific). When a DARPA-funded technology achieves success in the commercial market or in the DIB, the United States benefits via economic growth and the creation of new markets. However, only technology transitions into the defense-industrial base provides DoD with an asymmetric advantage over potentially adversarial counterparts. Indeed, recent high-profile cases in the commercial software and artificial intelligence sectors illustrate this point.^{319,320} Even worse, competitor nations could obtain the DARPA-funded IP via legal or illegal actions, as the Chinese have done in recent years. There is a clear need to be aware of the optimal outcome of DARPA or USG-funded research and then develop policy to achieve the desired outcome beneficial to the DoD or USG.

³¹⁹ Khan, I. (2018, November 1). Engadget. US Charges Chinese, Taiwan Firms for Stealing Secrets From Micron. Retrievable from <https://www.engadget.com/2018/11/01/us-charges-chinese-taiwan-firms-for-stealing-from-micron/>

³²⁰ Brown, M., & Singh, P. (2018, January). Defense Innovation Unit Experimental. *China's Technology Transfer Strategy: How Chinese Investments in Emerging Technology Enable a Strategic Competitor to Access the Crown Jewels of U.S. Innovation*. Retrievable from [https://admin.govexec.com/media/diux_chinatechnologytransferstudy_jan_2018_\(1\).pdf](https://admin.govexec.com/media/diux_chinatechnologytransferstudy_jan_2018_(1).pdf)

Appendix 1: MRAM Subject Matter Experts

Bernard Dieny. Dr. Dieny graduated from Ecole Normale Supérieure de Cachan and earned a Ph.D. in Physics from the University of Grenoble, France. Throughout his career, he has contributed to major breakthroughs in spintronics, including the discovery of spin valves. Dr. Dieny has spent most of his career in CEA/Grenoble. He co-founded SPINTEC in 2001 and has been the lab's chief scientist since then, where he has led efforts that have resulted in 4 MRAM-related start-up companies. He also spent two long-term assignments at IBM Research and University California, San Diego.

Bill Gallagher. Dr. Gallagher worked as a Research Staff Member at IBM, where he performed experiments on magnetic tunnel junctions and invented cells that formed the basis of magnetic random access memory (MRAM). He then led a significant effort that demonstrated increasingly sophisticated MRAM circuitry, while attracting government funding and a number of development partner companies. Through the ensuing eighteen years Dr. Gallagher led IBM's MRAM R&D program, eventually serving as senior manager overseeing combinations of MRAM, phase change memory, and quantum computing research. In 2010 he began work on integrated power electronics with magnetic components. In June of 2015, he joined TSMC in Hsinchu, Taiwan as a Technical Director.

Rajiv Ranjan. Dr. Ranjan is the Founder and CTO of Avalanche Technology, a leader in spin transfer torque MRAM. He has served in this role since 2006. Previously, Dr. Ranjan was the Executive Director of R&D at Seagate, where he led technology development that fueled a doubling of revenue to more than \$10 billion. His technology pioneering efforts have led to the productization of low-noise media perpendicular media and laser texturing. These technologies are now widely used in the storage devices that revolutionized the data storage industry.

Dev Shenoy. Dr. Shenoy was a Program Manager at DARPA, where he led the STT-MRAM program. He is currently the Director of Microelectronics Innovation and Ventures at Information Sciences Institute, USC. Prior to this role, he was a systems engineering advisor to the Office of the Secretary of Defense and is an executive-in-residence at Columbia Technology Ventures. He has previously served as the Chief Engineer at the Department of Energy.

Stu Wolf. From 1993-2005, Dr. Wolf served as a Program Manager at DARPA, where he coined the name Spintronics for the program to develop MRAM. He also managed the Spins IN Semiconductors (SPINS) project, the Quantum Information Science and Technology (QuIST) project, and the Frequency Agile Materials for Electronics (FAME) project, among several others. Dr. Wolf has also worked as a Branch Head at the U. S. Naval Research Laboratory, where he both managed and performed research on superconductivity and magnetism. He is currently an Adjunct Research Staff Member at the Institute for Defense Analysis (IDA) where he supports programs at both DARPA and OSD. He is also a Professor Emeritus at the University of Virginia in both Physics and Materials Science and Engineering and the Emeritus Director of the Institute for Nanoscale and Quantum Science and Technological Advanced Research (Nanostar).

Daniel Worledge. Dr. Worledge is currently a Distinguished Research Staff Member and Senior Manager in the MRAM group at IBM Research. He completed his Ph.D. in Applied Physics at Stanford University in 2000, then joined IBM Research as a post-doc. He has been at IBM for 18 years.

Appendix 2: 5G Subject Matter Experts

Charlie Adams. Dr. Adams works at Northrop Grumman as the Director, Programs of the ATL Foundry & DMEA Programs. His lab led Northrop Grumman's efforts to design and test RF microelectronic components throughout the TEAM program. They also fabricate custom RF components for military systems, particularly radar.

John D. Cressler. From 1984 to 1992, Dr. Cressler was on the research staff at IBM Thomas J. Watson Research Center, and from 1992 to 2002 he served on the faculty at Auburn University. In 2002, he joined the faculty at Georgia Tech and is currently the Schlumberger Chair Professor of Electronics, in the School of Electrical and Computer Engineering. His research focuses on the advancement of SiGe electronics, with particular application to extreme environments.

Michael Fritze. Dr. Fritze is currently a Vice President at the Potomac Institute for Policy Studies responsible for the Microelectronics Policy Portfolio. Prior to this position, he was the Director of the Disruptive Electronics Division at the USC Information Science Institute. From 2006-2010, Dr. Fritz served as a Program Manager at DARPA MTO. He was responsible for several programs, including TEAM. From 1995-2006, Dr. Fritze was a staff member at MIT Lincoln Laboratory, where he worked on fully-depleted silicon on insulator technology.

Brian Gaucher. Brian is currently a Senior Manager/Principal RSM of IBM's Cognitive Environments Lab, where he is focused on creating human-machine partnerships to enhance cognition. Prior to this role, he was a Senior Manager in IBM's Smarter Energy Department. From 1993-2009, Brian worked as a research staff member at the IBM T.J. Watson Research Center, where he managed a communication system design and characterization group with research interests that included cellular, Bluetooth, WiFi, UWB and 60 GHz multi-Gbps wireless communication design, 77 and 94 GHz radar and biomedical applications of wireless technology, in addition to advanced CMOS and SiGe. Brian served as a co-PI for the TEAM efforts at IBM.

Dave Harame. Dr. Harame is currently the Chief Technical Officer, RF Technology & Enablement, a Senior Fellow at GlobalFoundries. Prior to this position, he worked at IBM as the Chief Technical Officer, 200 mm Specialty Foundry. In this role, Dr. Harame led the development of the world's first successful SiGe technology generally available for analog and communications circuits used in wireless communications equipment, optical network interfaces, GPS and cellular telephones.

Alvin Joseph. Dr. Joseph is currently the Chief RF Technologist and a fellow at GlobalFoundries. Before his current role, he worked at IBM as a Senior Technical Staff Member and a Distinguished Engineer. There, he was the chief technologist and the lead client facing engineer for development of the two noteworthy RF front-end-module technologies- silicon germanium power amplifiers and silicon-on-Insulator RF switches.

Mike Lee. Mike is currently at Northrop Grumman, where he works as a Program Manager supervisor. Prior to this position, he served as the program manager of Northrop Grumman's efforts in several DARPA programs that followed TEAM, including HEALICS, ACT, CHIPS, and RF-FPGA.

Wolfgang Lehbrink. Wolfgang has worked at Infineon Technologies for the last 16 years. He served as a marketing manager for four years, then transitioned into his current role in product marketing for automotive radar.

Bernie Myerson. Bernie is an IBM Fellow and currently serves as IBM's Chief Innovation Officer. He also drives technical strategy and corporate initiatives within IBM's Corporate Strategy Organization. In 1980, Dr. Meyerson joined IBM Research, leading the development of high performance silicon:germanium communications technology. He founded and led IBM's highly successful Analog and Mixed Signal business until 2003, moving on to lead IBM's global semiconductor development alliances. Broadening his scope, in 2006 he assumed leadership of strategic alliances for the Systems and Technology Group. In 2010 he assumed the role of Chief Innovation Officer, his team focusing on the early identification of major technical and/or business discontinuities impacting business and society, their driving innovation across the breadth of IBM as required to proactively address the opportunities such discontinuities create. In 2013, his team was integrated into IBM's Corporate Strategy function, responsible for the definition and execution of corporate-wide technical and business initiatives.

Sasha Oster. Dr. Oster is the Senior Engineering Manager of the Directional Electromagnetic Systems team within the Advanced Technology Center at Rockwell Collins, located in Cedar Rapids, IA. Her team specializes in research and development of electronically steered arrays (ESAs) system up through millimeter-wave frequencies. Sasha's expertise is in millimeter-wave, RF, and photonic systems research and development. Previously, Sasha worked at Intel Corporation in advanced microelectronic packaging research, working on millimeter-wave, sensors, wearable, and silicon photonics. Sasha received her Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering from Iowa State University.

Dan Radack. Dr. Radack was a program manager in DARPA's Microelectronics Technology Office from 1997-2006, where he led a number of projects focused on microelectronic component innovation. One of his projects, TEAM, funded the development of SiGe BiCMOS processes that enabled the creation of systems-on-a-chip for silicon-based phased arrays. He is currently at the Institute for Defense Analyses.

Gabriel Rebeiz. Dr. Rebeiz is the *Wireless Communications Industry Chair* Professor of electrical and computer engineering at the University of California San Diego. Prior to this appointment, he was at the University of Michigan from 1988 to 2004. He received his Ph.D. from the California Institute of Technology. He has contributed to planar mmWave and THz antennas and imaging arrays from 1988-1996, and his group has optimized the dielectric-lens antennas, which is the most widely used antenna at mm-wave and THz frequencies. Prof. Rebeiz' group also developed 6-18 GHz and 40-50 GHz 8- and 16-element phased arrays on a single silicon chip, the first mm-wave silicon passive imager chip at 85-105 GHz, and the first silicon 100 GHz wafer-scale phased array. He is also an expert on millimeter-wave planar antennas, phased arrays, and satellite communication systems. He has worked on automotive radars at 24 GHz and 77 GHz since 1998 as a consultant and as a subcontractor to several leading phased-array and automotive radar companies. He was a performer on several relevant DARPA projects.

Dave Sobczak. Dave is currently the Director, A&D Program Management and Trusted Foundry at GlobalFoundries. Prior to this role, he worked at IBM for 18 years as a Project Manager and Manager, Aerospace & Defense Business and Trusted Foundry.

Rick Thompson. Rick has experience in developing advanced hardware and software products for the Department of Defense, medical, and commercial industries. He has specific expertise in advanced sensing technologies, including RF photonics and other advanced RF devices. From 2002 to 2013, Rick worked at BAE Systems as the Director of Spectral and Image Exploitation Technologies, where developed sensor exploitation sensors using RADAR, EO/IR, Hyperspectral, LADAR, and bio-electronics. BAE was a key Performer for the DARPA TEAM Program. He is currently the Director of Strategic Programs at Nuvotronics.

Alberto Valdes-Garcia. Dr. Valdes-Garcia is currently a Research Staff Member and Manager of the RF Circuits and Systems group at the IBM T.J. Watson Research Center. From 2006 to 2009, Dr. Valdes-Garcia served in the IEEE 802.15.3c 60GHz standardization committee. Since 2009 he has served as a Technical Advisory Board member with Semiconductor Research Corporation (SRC), where he was Chair of the Integrated Circuits and Systems Sciences Coordinating Committee in 2011 and 2012. IBM was a key performer in the DARPA TEAM Program.