

# TSMC OIP 2019

**Silicon Accurate Analog Mixed Signal Verification of Mixel's Dual Mode C-PHY/D-PHY IP for AR/VR Display ICs with Mentor AFS**

**mixel**<sup>®</sup>  
Mixed-Signal Excellence

**Mentor**<sup>®</sup>  
A Siemens Business

# Agenda

- Mixel Overview
- VR AR MR Industry trends
- XR Display System
- Mixel C-PHY/D-PHY IP
- Design & Verification Challenges
- Analog FastSPICE (AFS) Platform
- Simulation and Silicon Results
- Summary

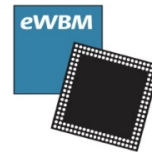
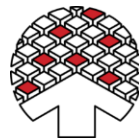
# Mixel Overview

- Leading provider of mixed-signal IP since 1998
- Industry leader in MIPI<sup>®</sup> interfaces and contributing member of the MIPI Alliance since 2006
- First IP provider to demonstrate silicon-proven D-PHY<sup>SM</sup>, C-PHY<sup>SM</sup>, and M-PHY<sup>®</sup>
- Customer-centric focus:
  - We customize our IPs to help differentiate our customers' products
  - Our methodology has been optimized to achieve first-time silicon success, no exception
  - We consistently go the extra-mile for our customers

# Mixel IP Portfolio

- Mixed-signal IP provider with emphasis on PHY
  - MIPI PHY: D-PHY, C-PHY, M-PHY
  - LVDS SerDes
  - Multi-standard SerDes: C/D-PHY, LVDS/D-PHY
- Complete integrated solution includes PHY, controller, and platform
- Widest support of optimized PHY configurations using patented topologies
- *Support ALL MIPI HS PHYs*
- Widest coverage of process nodes and foundries: **silicon-proven in 9 different nodes and 8 different foundries**

# Mixel MIPI PHY Customers



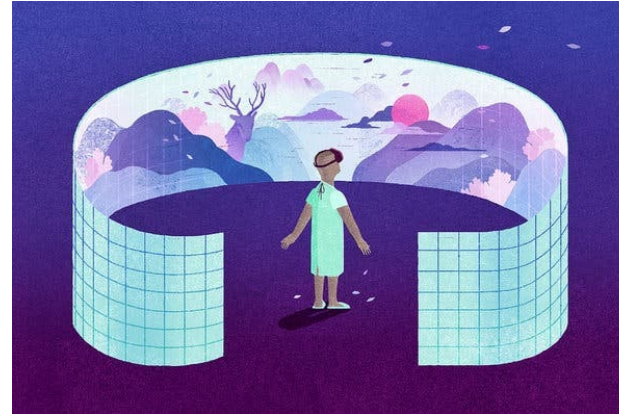
And *many others* that cannot be disclosed at this time.....

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# What is XR

- Virtual Reality (VR)
  - Fully artificial environment
- Augmented Reality (AR)
  - Virtual objects overlaid on real-world environment
- Mixed Reality (MR)
  - Virtual environment combined with real world



Source: Pinterest, AR VR application pin



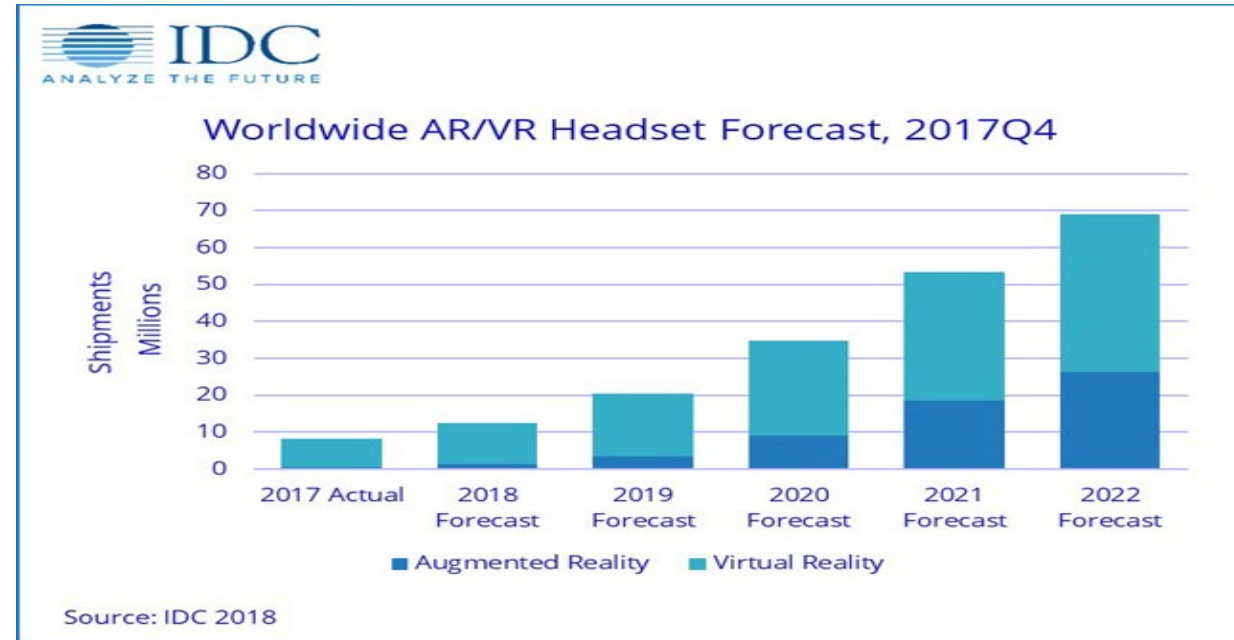
# VR AR MR Industry trends

## ■ AR and VR increasingly enhanced with AI

- Computer vision allows computers to understand what they are “seeing” through cameras resulting in smart applications and use cases

## ■ VR and AR is increasingly used in training and teaching

- Virtual environments allow students to practice anything from construction to flight to surgery without the risks associated with real-world training
- Example: HoloLens technology is used in military training



Source: Pinterest, AR VR application pin



# VR AR Industry trends

- **Consumer Entertainment VR hits the mainstream**
  - More realistic and accurate simulations of our real world resulting in more immersive entertainment experiences
- **VR and AR environments becoming increasingly collaborative and social**
  - Virtual “conference calls” where participants can see and interact with each other, or socializing and relaxing with friends is soon becoming a reality
- **AR increasingly finding its way into vehicles**
  - Powered by AI in-vehicle AR has the potential to improve safety and increase comfort and driver convenience



Source: Pinterest, AR VR application pin ↓

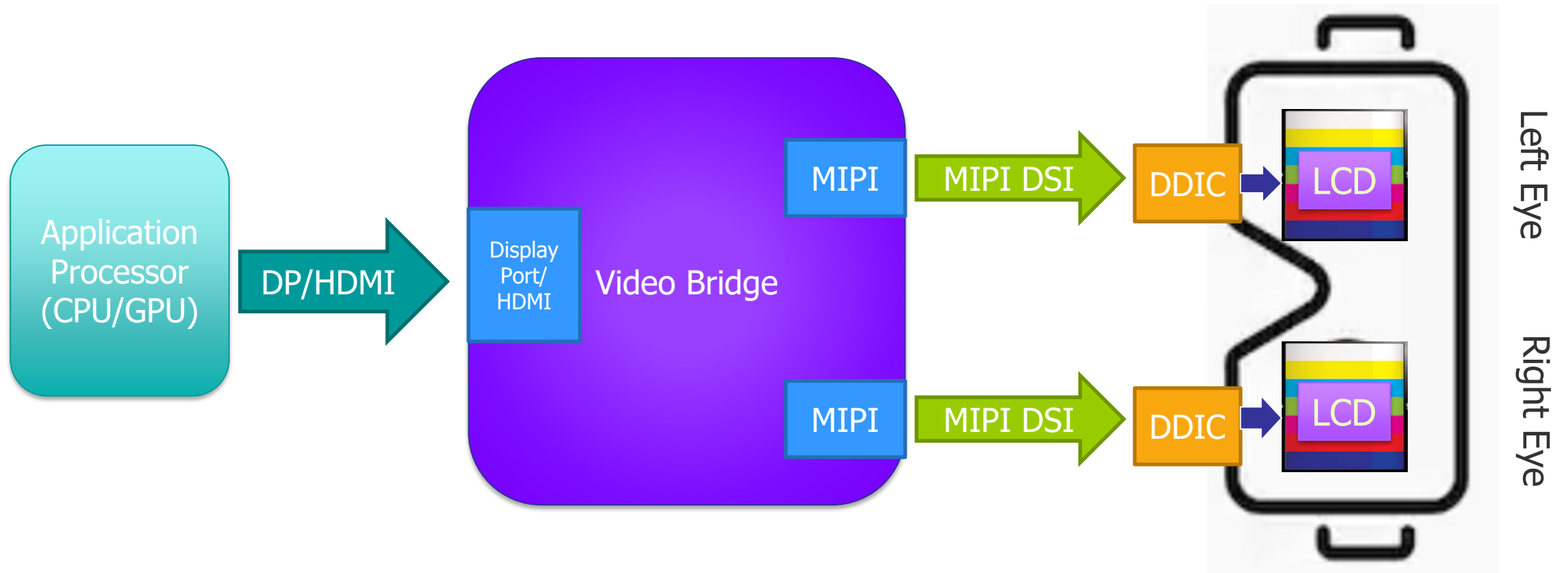


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# XR Display System

- Video over DP or USB-C connector from PC or smartphone



# XR Displays Drive Video Interface Technology

- **Higher PPI eliminates “screen door” effect & enables ability to read text**
  - Resolution: 2Kx2K minimum, better = 3Kx3K, ideal = 4Kx4K
- **AMOLED, LCOS, and OLEDoS: Leading Near-Eye Screen Technologies**
  - The response time of AMOLED is lower than that of liquid crystal by an order of magnitude, avoiding streaking and blurring due to VR interaction
- **VR systems require higher video bandwidths to match display resolutions**
  - Need 32Gbps raw bandwidth GPU to display
  - Need DP DSC support to exceed dual 5.5M pixel displays and MIPI DSC support to exceed 6.2M pixel displays
  - Need SPR support for optimized OLED bandwidth

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# Mixel C-PHY/D-PHY IP integrated in DDIC

- **Combo PHY can be configured as either a C-PHY or D-PHY**
  - Configurable for transmit (TX) and receive (RX), additional optimized configurations for TX and RX provide smaller area and higher performance
  - Supports lane swapping and pin swapping features
- **MIPI D-PHY mode supports**
  - MIPI Master or Slave
  - Display interface DSI v1.3 and Camera interface CSI-2 v1.2
  - 2.5 Gbps data rate per lane with De-skew calibration
  - BIST with 100% coverage for HM
  - 4 lanes in D-PHY (10 pins)
- **MIPI C-PHY mode supports**
  - Display interface DSI-C v1.0 and Camera interface CSI-2 v1.3
  - 80 Msps to 2.5 Gsps symbol rate per lane in high speed mode
  - T1 and T2 modes
  - BIST with 100% coverage for HM
  - 3 lanes in C-PHY (9 pins)



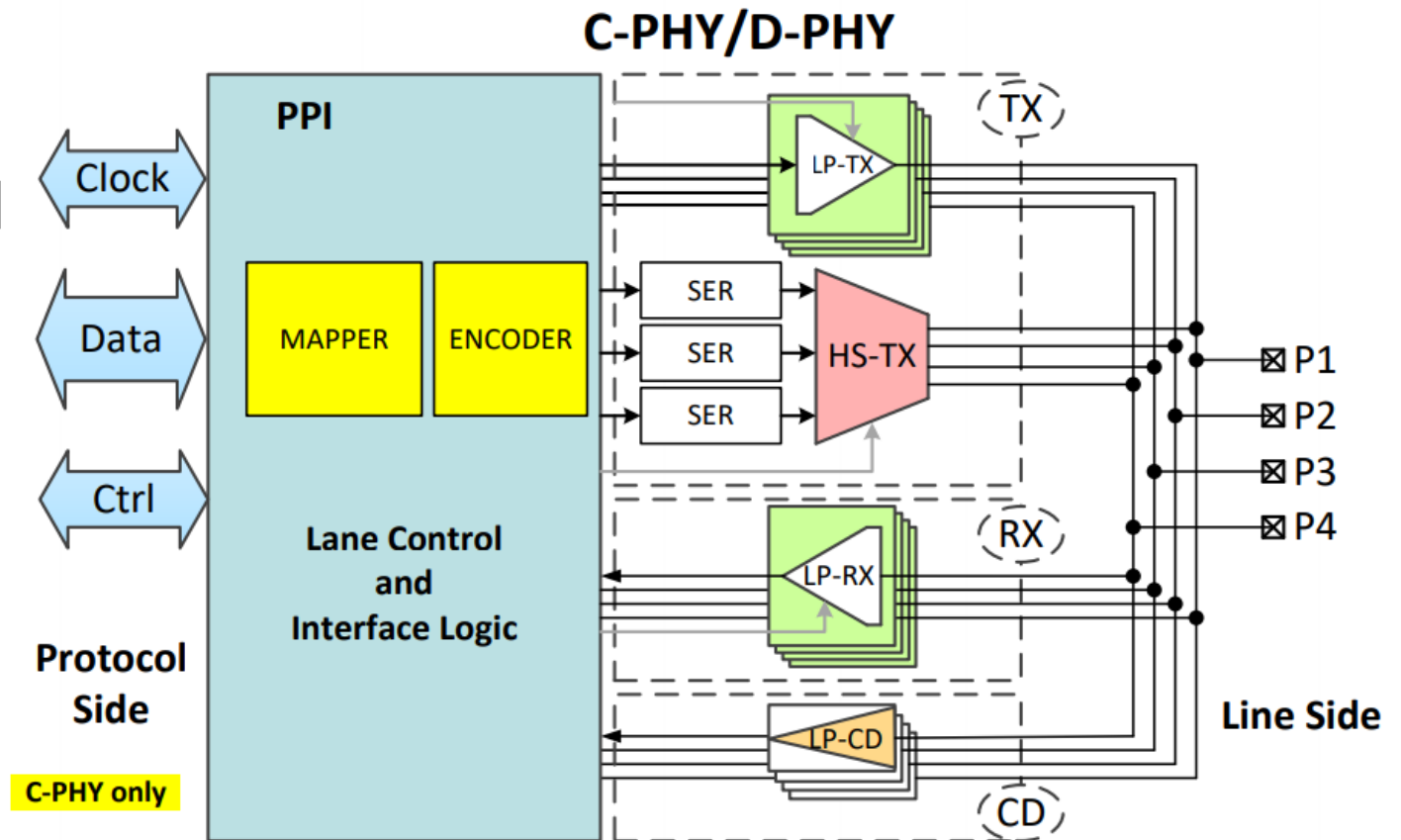
# Why dual-mode C-PHY/D-PHY interface is required Mixed-Signal Excellence

## ■ Minimal Overhead

- Sharing of the serial interface pins
- All D-PHY blocks are re-used for C-PHY

## ■ Enhanced PPA

- Flexibility to support both PHY
  - ✓ C-PHY @ 2.5 Gbps ( $\approx 5.7$  Gbps)
  - ✓ D-PHY @ 2.5 Gbps



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# XR System Challenges

- High Bandwidth Requirements
  - High display resolution
  - Faster frame rate
  - Higher sensor resolution
  - High dynamic range
- SOC Design Constraints
  - Low Power / Heat
  - Package / Minimal pin count
  - Minimize die area – Support multiple use cases



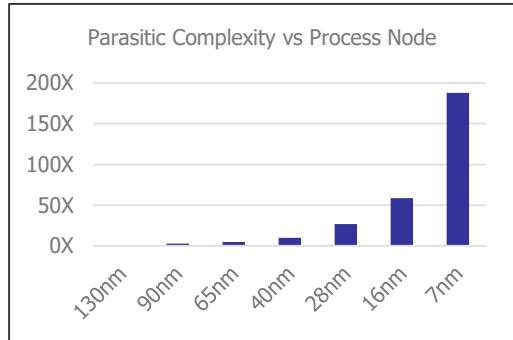
Source : Qualcomm Extended Reality

# Custom IP Verification Challenges

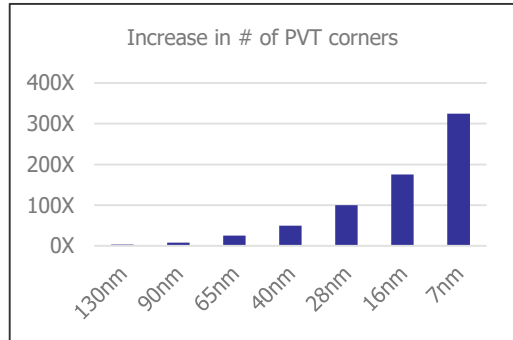
- Traditional SPICE simulators do not have performance and capacity
- Need nanometer SPICE accuracy to validate key specifications
- Need tighter tolerances to increase the dynamic range (>100dB)
- Need to include layout parasitics and device noise
- Long runs for verification and characterization

MIPI D-PHY/C-PHY TX		Specification
Critical Specs/ Design Targets	Data Rate per lane	2.5Gbps for D-PHY mode 5.7Gbps for C-PHY mode
	Power efficiency Target	<3-4mW/Gbps
	TX Jitter	0.3 UI
	CLK to Data skew	0.2 UI
	HS TX diff swing	140-270mV
	HS TX common mode voltage	150-250mV

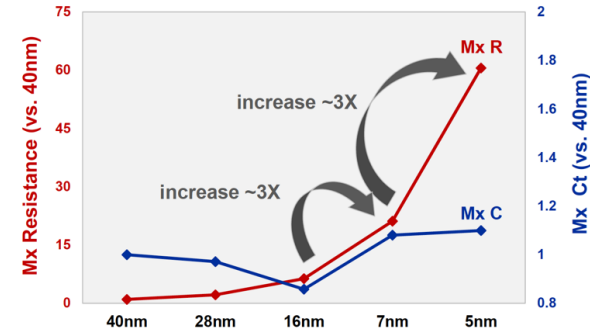
# SoC Verification Challenges in nm Technologies



*Increasing Parasitics*

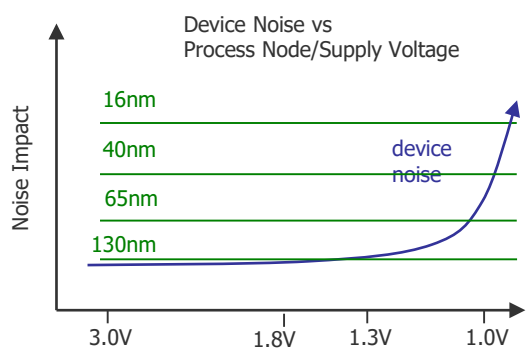


*Increasing Variability*

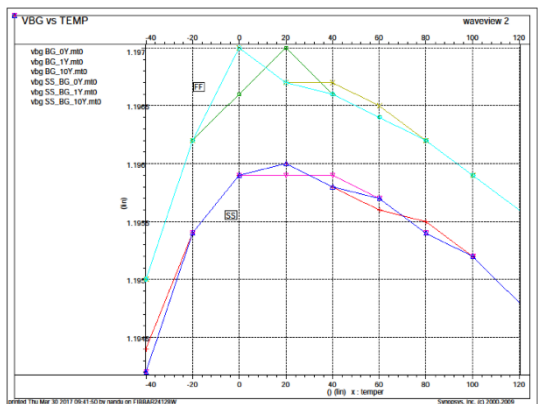


*Increasing Resistance*

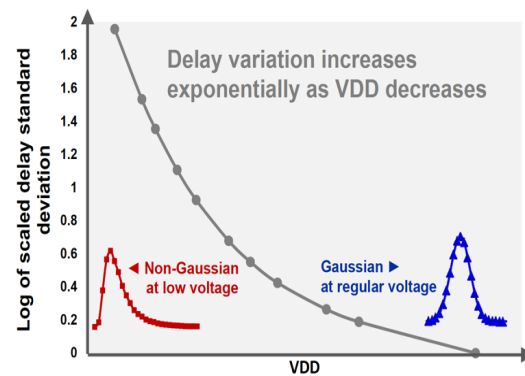
Quite complex!  
Quite expensive!



*Increasing Device Noise*

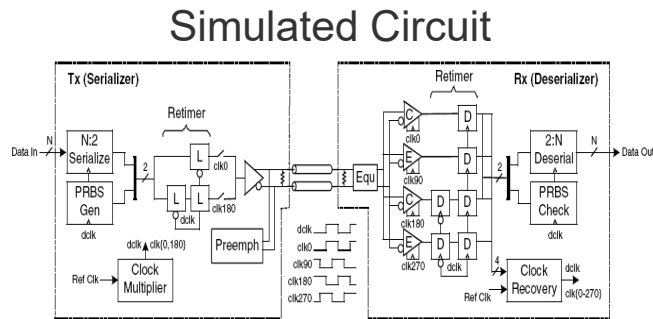


*New Aging Requirements*



*Exponential Delay Variation*

# Challenges to Matching Silicon



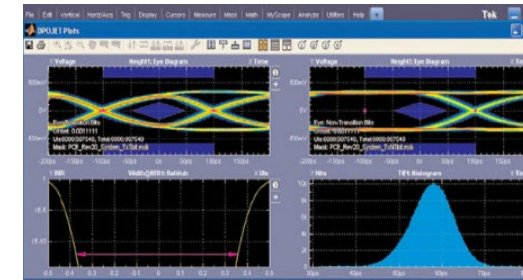
## Simulation

- Model accuracy (SPICE, Variation, Corners, S-Parameters)
- Process variation (global & local)
- Circuit simulator accuracy (noisefloor)
- Layout and Thermal effects
- Distribution uncertainty due to sample size
- Parastics (extraction, variation)
- Aging effects
- Device noise, noise bandwidth, runtime
- Measurement post-processing
- System level modeling

**Uncertainty**



## Measured Silicon



## Silicon

- Specific silicon manufacturing
- Lot, wafer, die selection
- Specific contextual circuit activity
- Test equipment, method, resolution...
- Probe effects & variability
- Temperature & variation
- Voltage & variation
- Distribution uncertainty due to sample size
- Measurements
- Measurement post-processing
- Compliance testing

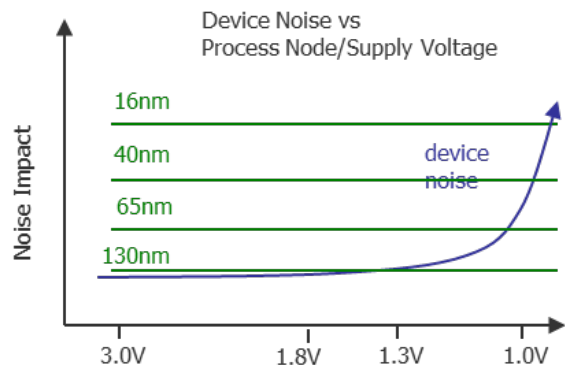
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# Analog FastSPICE (AFS) – nm Circuit Verification

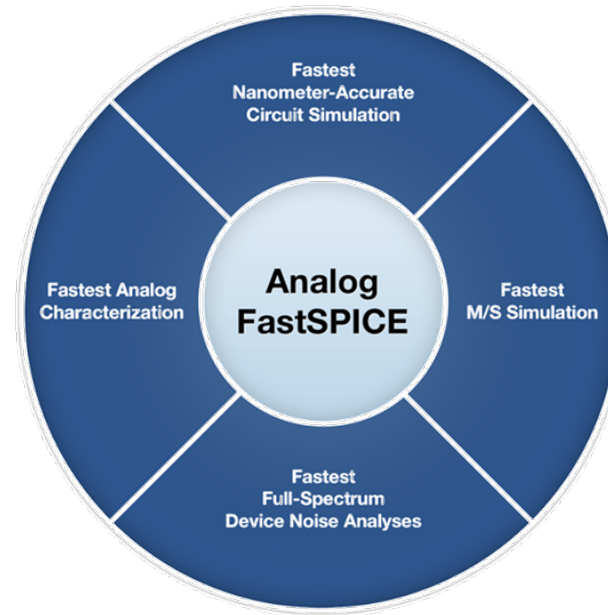
## The Problem- Simulation Accuracy, Performance & Capacity

- Accuracy vs Silicon
- Complex models for FinFET
- Need advanced analyses
- Need to include additional effects
  - Device noise
  - Layout parasitics
- Circuit verification bottleneck
  - Longer simulation times
  - Need many more simulations



## AFS Industry-Proven Leadership

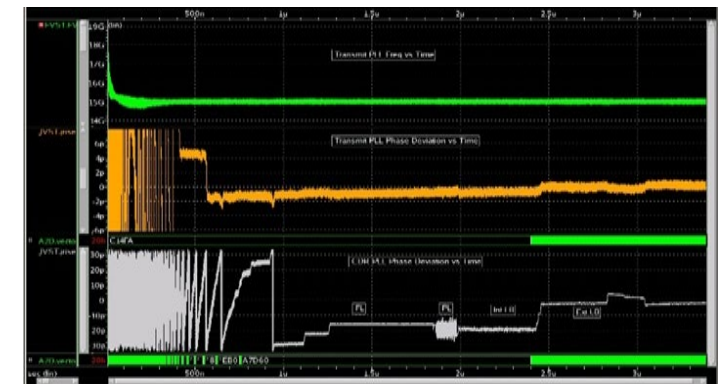
- Industry leader for nanometer circuit verification
- >175 customers worldwide
- Foundry certified by the world's leading foundries
- Drop-in compatibility in existing flows



## The Value- Faster TTM and Lower Risk

- Foundry certified down to 5nm
- >2x faster vs parallel SPICE simulators
- >20M-element capacity
- Signoff Accuracy for nm designs
- Must have for PLL, ADC/DAC, High-Speed I/O
- Proven to be within 1–2 dB of silicon

Silicon accurate SerDes Verification

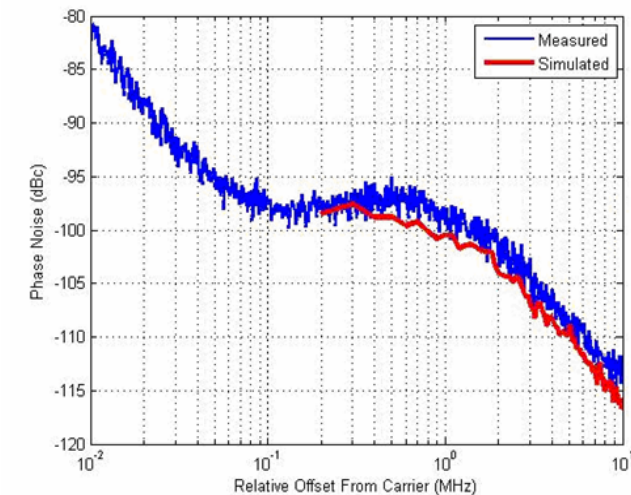
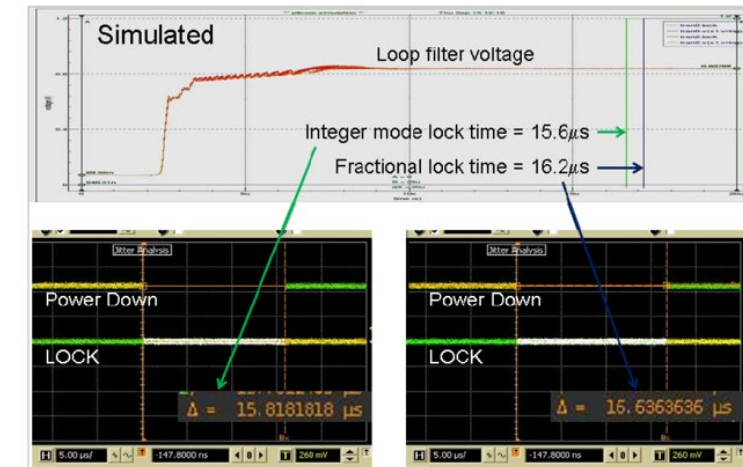


# AFS and PLL Verification Challenges

- Performance
  - 2x-6x faster transient simulations\*
  - 4x-5x faster transient noise simulations\* (jitter, phase noise)
  - Near Linear Scaling - Monte Carlo (using MCP/DMCP)
  - Near Linear Scaling - Corners (using MCP/DMCP)
  - 5x-10x faster PNOISE for switched cap circuits\*
- Accuracy
  - Foundry certified down to 5nm (including aging)
  - Silicon accurate Jitter and Phase Noise (1-2 dB)
  - Nm SPICE accuracy for higher data rates
  - Nm SPICE accurate power measurements
  - Accurate S-parameter analysis
- Capacity
  - > 20 M element capacity for AC/DC/Transient
  - > 1 M element capacity for PSS/PNOISE

\* versus parallel SPICE simulators

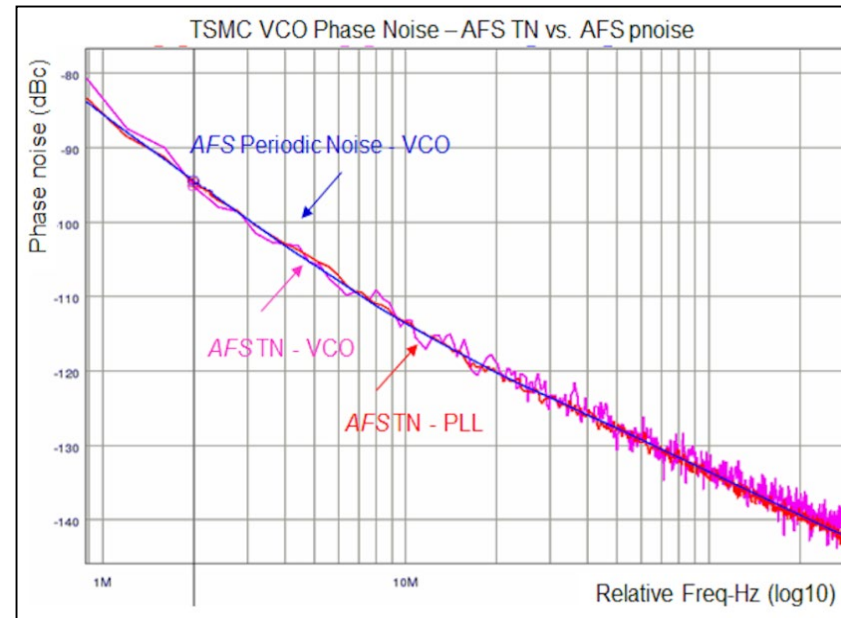
Simulated versus Measured  
Frac-N PLL Lock Time



# TSMC Custom Design Reference Flow

## *AFS Platform Full-Spectrum Device Noise Analysis*

AFS Transient Noise Matches AFS noise for TSMC PLL



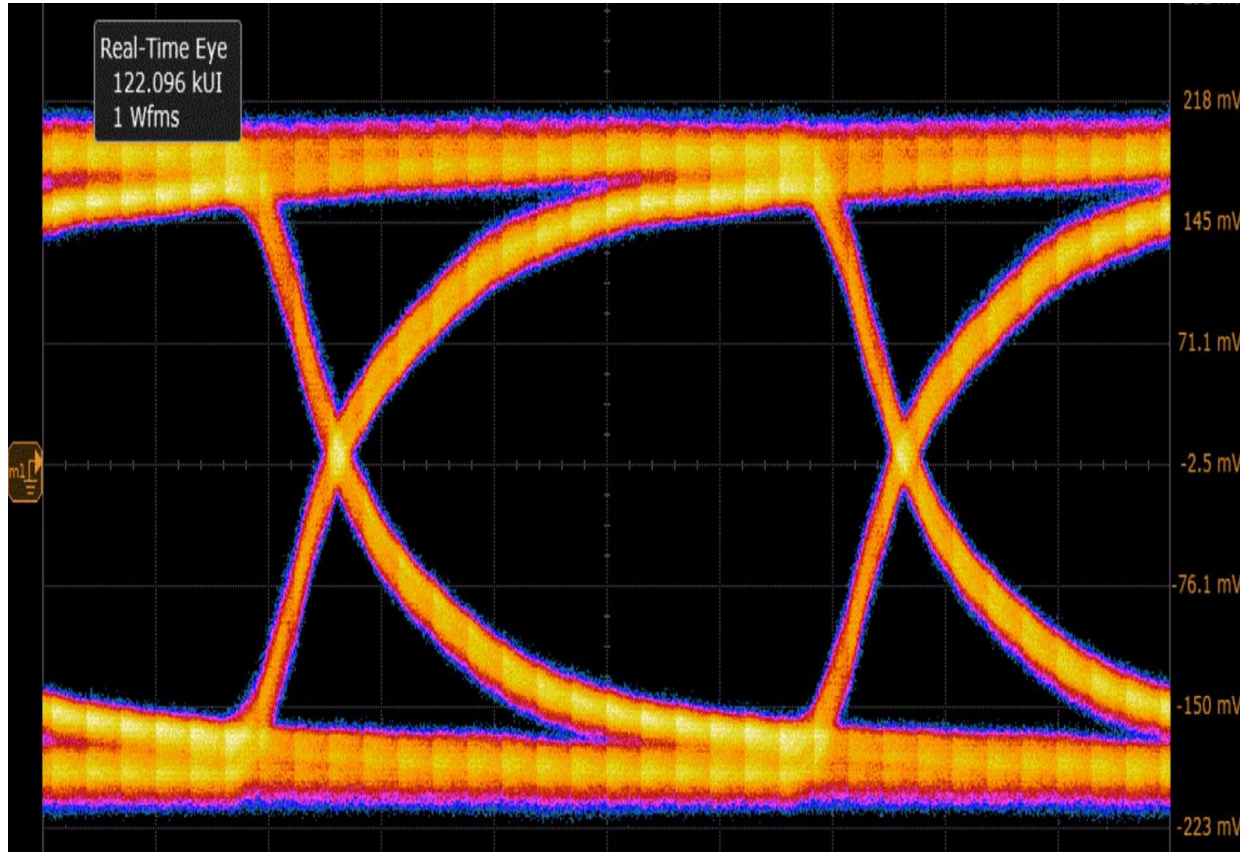
- Problem: Device noise in analog, mixed-signal, and RF circuits limits performance at 45nm and below
- Solution: Use device noise analysis to characterize performance of analog, mixed-signal, and RF circuits
- Technology: AFS Platform Full-Spectrum Device Noise Analysis for transient noise and periodic noise
- Benefit: Verify PLLs, ADCs, SerDes, and other circuits with nm SPICE accuracy including all device noise effects



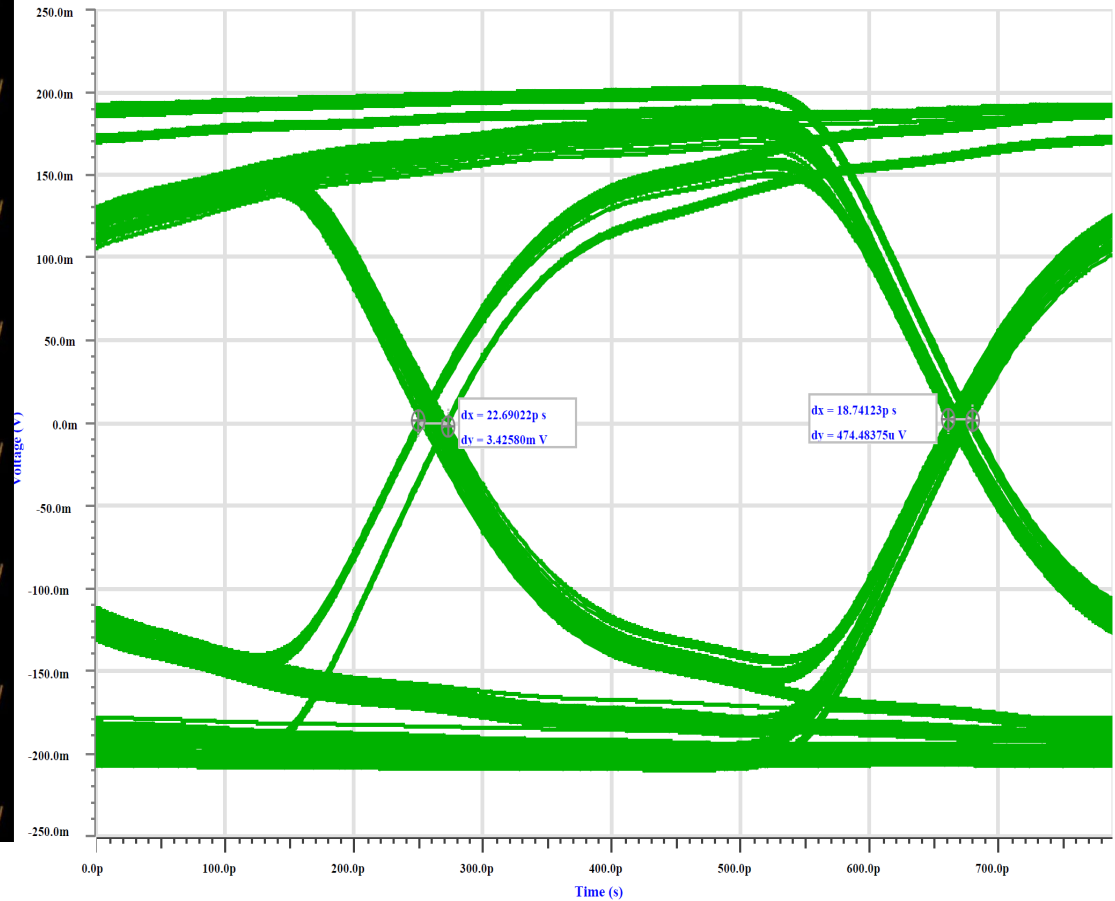
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# Silicon Measurement/Simulation Correlations for D-PHY mode



The eye diagram is courtesy of Synaptics



From AFS Simulation

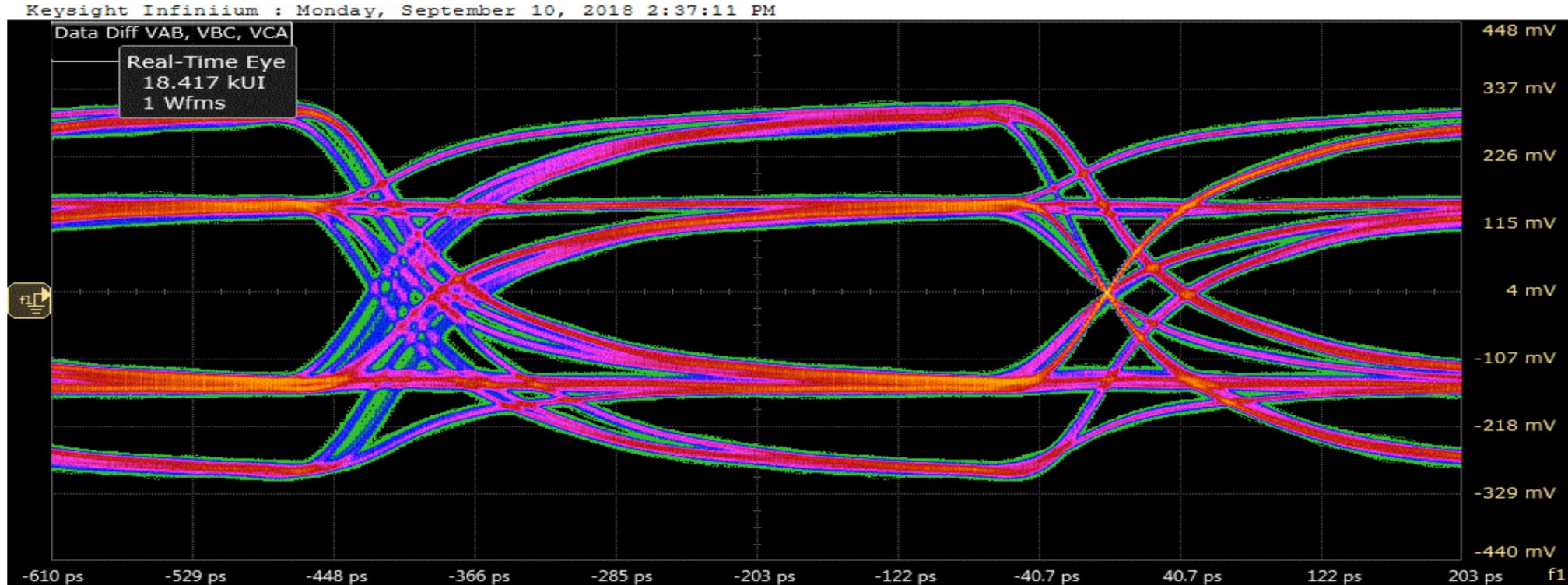
# Silicon Measurement/Simulation Correlations for D-PHY mode

	Silicon Measurement	AFS Simulation
Eye Height	293mV	285mV
Eye Width	377ps	380ps

AFS Simulation Results Correlation with Silicon Measurements  
is within **0.8% - 2%**

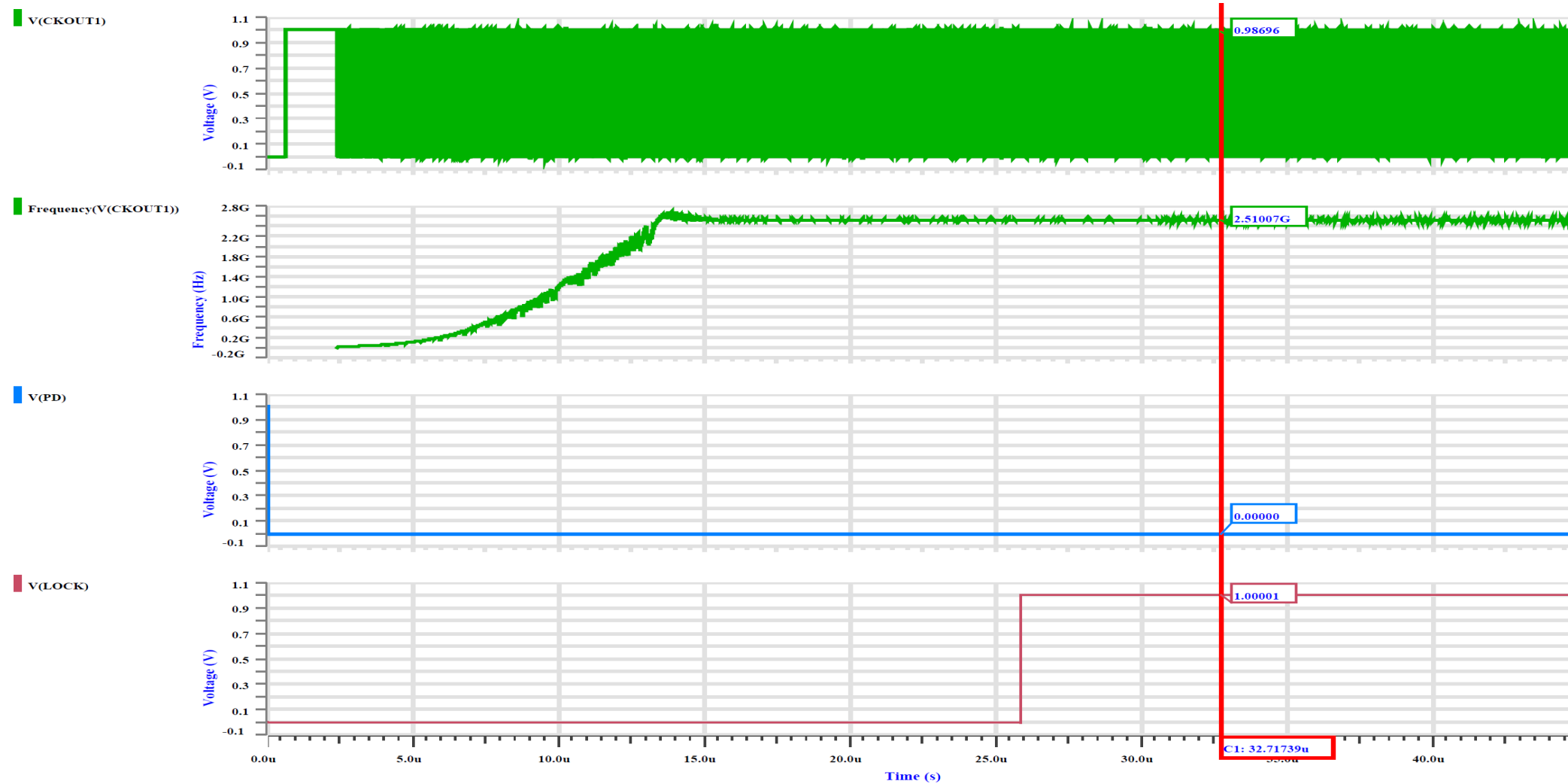
Mentor AFS is certified for latest TSMC 5nm FinFET process

# Mixel MIPI C-PHY<sup>SM</sup> Eye Diagram at 2.5Gps



The eye diagram is courtesy of Synaptics

# PLL Simulation Results



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# Summary

- Growing applications of Virtual and Augmented reality devices demands high bandwidth, high resolution and low power specifications for VR/AR ICs
- Mixel is industry leader in MIPI interface PHYs and demonstrated silicon-proven D-PHY<sup>SM</sup>, C-PHY<sup>SM</sup>, and M-PHY<sup>®</sup> with TSMC
- Mentor's AFS is essential for Mixel's Dual Mode C-PHY/D-PHY IP Design & Verification
  - Performance characterized with AFS Platform enabling
    - ✓ Rapid and accurate block-level and top-level analysis
    - ✓ Good simulation-to-silicon correlation **within 0.8% - 2%**
- TSMC Models predict measured behavior with good confidence