

APEC 2025



Atlanta, GA

March 16-20

Georgia World Congress Center

**Integrated Magnetics and Heterogenous Integration
Enabling Vertical Power Delivery for High Performance Computing**

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Rialtas
na hÉireann
Government
of Ireland

Tionseadál Éireann
Project Ireland
2040



Ireland's European Structural and
Investment Funds Programmes
2014-2020
Co-funded by the Irish Government
and the European Union



European Union
European Structural
and Investment Funds



Taighde Éireann
Research Ireland



Enterprise
Ireland

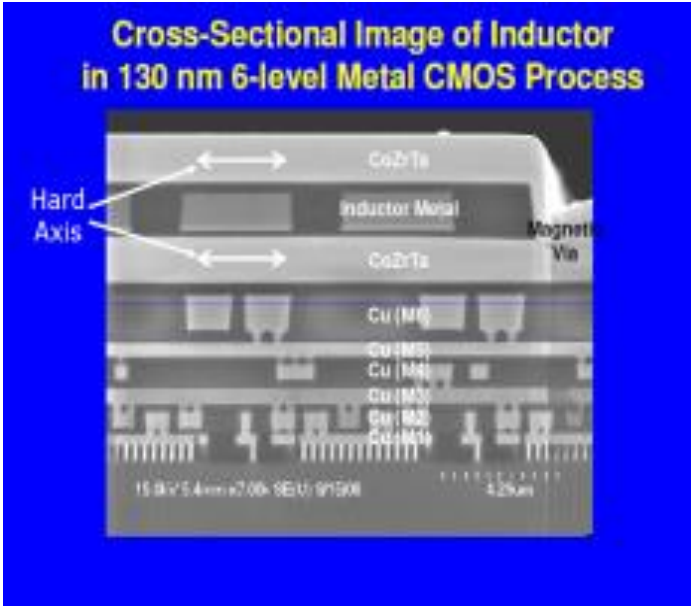
Summary of Talk

- **Commercial Emergence of Integrated Magnetics for Integrated Power**
- Integrated Magnetics Technologies
- Heterogeneous Integration and Chiplet Platforms for 2.5D and 3D Packaging of Integrated Power
- Key Challenges:
 - Technology
 - Supply Chain
- Conclusions
- Acknowledgements

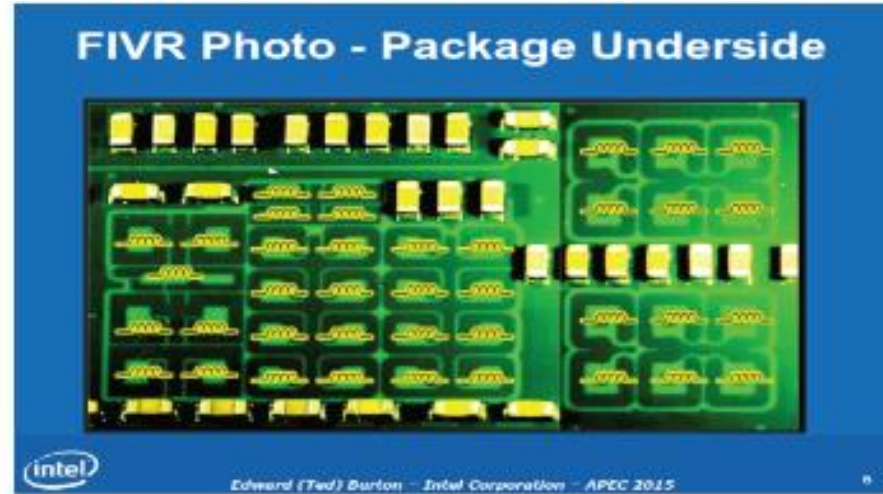
Intel: Air Core Inductors for iVR

Ted DiBene PwrSoC2010

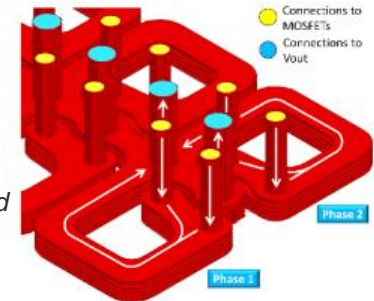
Cross-Sectional Image of Inductor
in 130 nm 6-level Metal CMOS Process



2014 Fully Integrated Voltage Regulators (iVR)



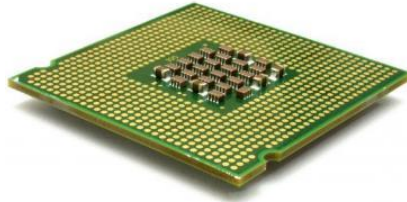
8 to 31 Rails, 49 to 360
Phases, 140 MHz, Air Core



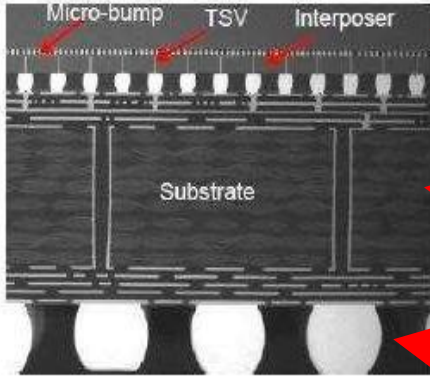
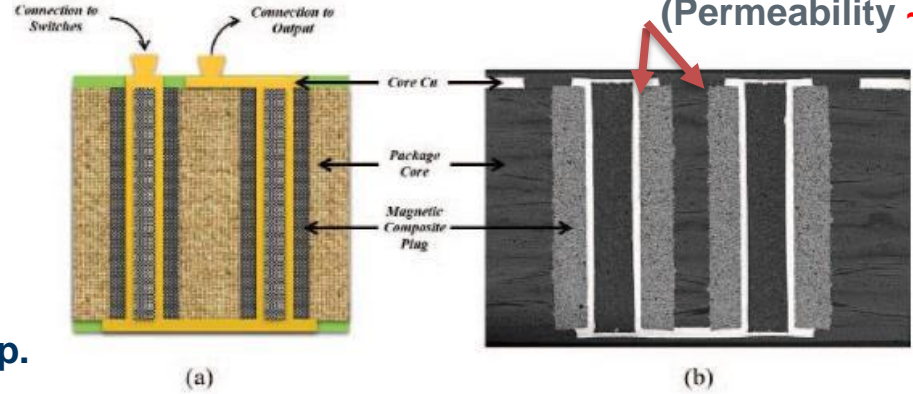
E. A. Burton *et al.*, "FIVR — Fully integrated voltage regulators on 4th generation Intel® Core™ SoCs," 2014 *IEEE Applied Power Electronics Conference and Exposition - APEC 2014*, 2014, pp. 432-439, doi: 10.1109/APEC.2014.6803344.

Intel 2021 - Magnetic Composite Inductor Array Technology

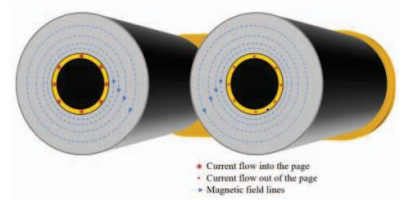
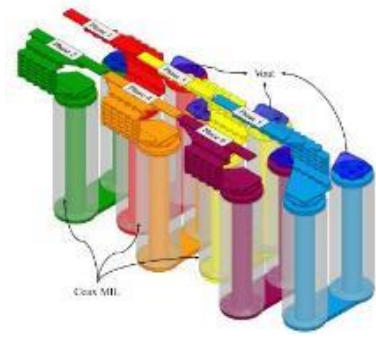
Substrate-embedded vertical co-axial construction



Soft composite material
(Permeability ~ 8)



- ← Processor Chip.
- ← Solder Bumps on Interposer
- ← Woven-glass Core
200 microns thick for lap-top
800 microns thick for server
- ← BGA Solder Bumps to Motherboard

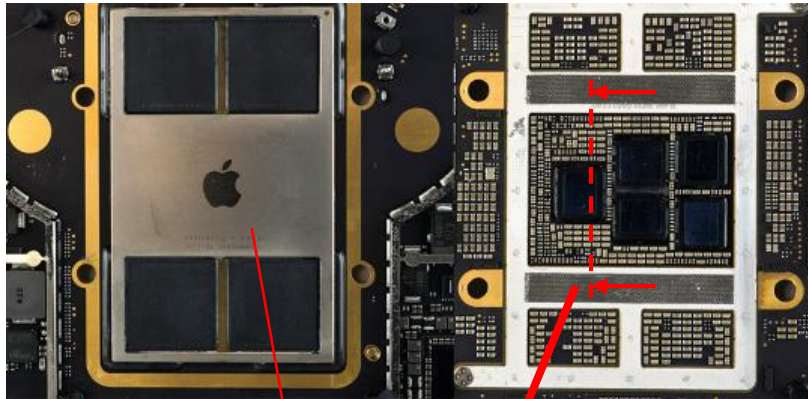


Bharath, K., Radhakrishnan, K., Hill, M. J., Chatterjee, P., Hariri, H., Venkataraman, S., . . . Srinivasan, S. (2021, 1 June-4 July 2021). Integrated Voltage Regulator Efficiency Improvement using Coaxial Magnetic Composite Core Inductors. Paper presented at the 2021 IEEE 71st Electronic Components and Technology Conference (ECTC).

2021 - Magnetic Thin-film Inductor Technology in Commercial Product

On-silicon stripline coupled inductors

October 2021 – Apple Mac M1 Pro / M1 Max

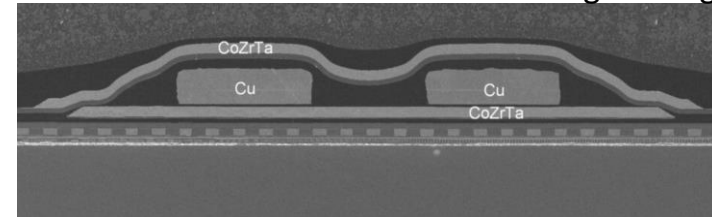


[Twitter](#)

[Hector Martin @marcan42](#)

.....custom CLVRs, Coupled Inductor Voltage Regulators. Apple codenames them "MONACO".....means the M1 Max has 140 power converter phases, with 5 of those chips.

TechInsights blog

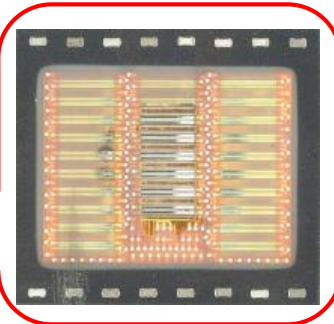


"PwrSoC: Industry Adoption in High-Volume Applications", Francesco Carobolante, loTissimo® LLC, IS05.7, APEC2022

(2021) Apple M1 Pro (and M1 Max) utilize 3 (or more) **IVR**'s for power delivery



5 X IVRs
28 X 2Φ phase IVR
28 coupled Inductors
(Area: 1.5 mm x 0.3 mm each)



Summary of Talk

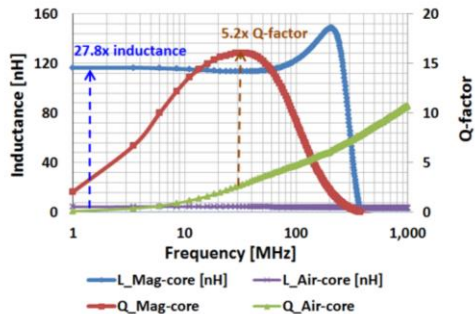
- Commercial Emergence of Integrated Magnetics for Integrated Power
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Magnetics on Silicon

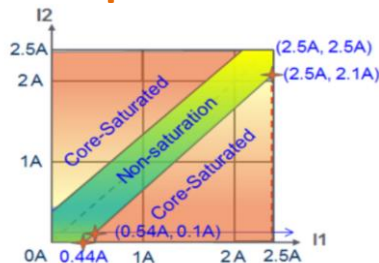


SUMMIT Devices – Single inductor

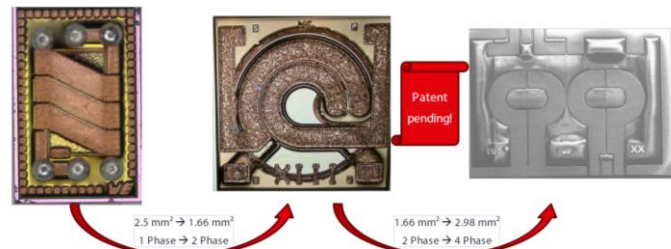
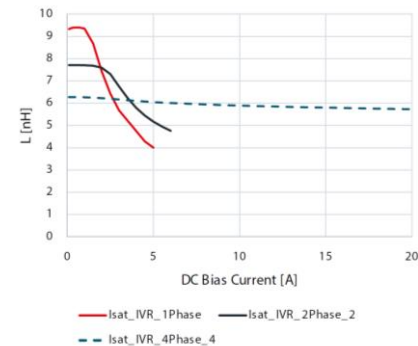
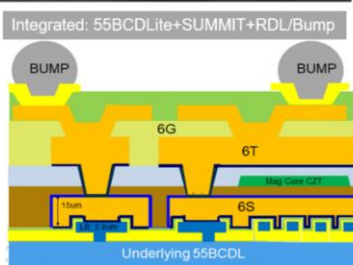
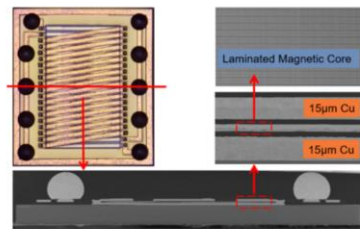
- Q factor > 15 @ 10 - 50MHz
- Inductance density > 100nH/mm²
- $L/R_{dc} > 400\text{nH}/\Omega$
- Saturation Current 0.2A ~2A for single inductors
- Compared with air-core inductor, L increases > 25x and Q-factor increases > 5x.
- Wafer full-map L variation < 2%, Q-factor variation < 5%



Coupled Inductor



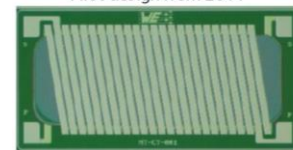
Transformer with WL CSP balling
150 μm Si + 50 μm SUMMIT



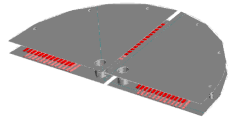
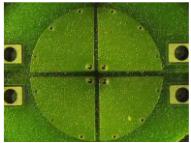
13 | IRE | PSMA WORKSHOP 2025 | 15.03.2025
INDUCTIVE COMPONENTS ON SILICON SUBSTRATE 300 MM WAFER



First design from 2011



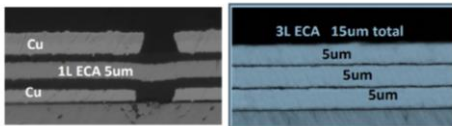
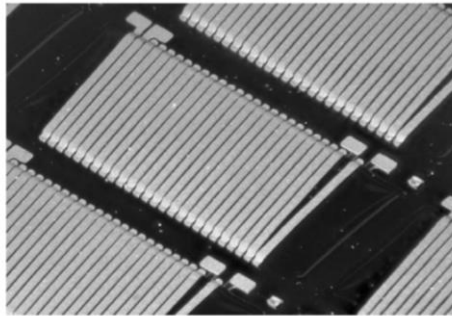
Electroplated thin film magnetic cores



PCB
Integrated Magnetics
US Patent 6150915
(2005)



ENACHIP
electroplated magnetics



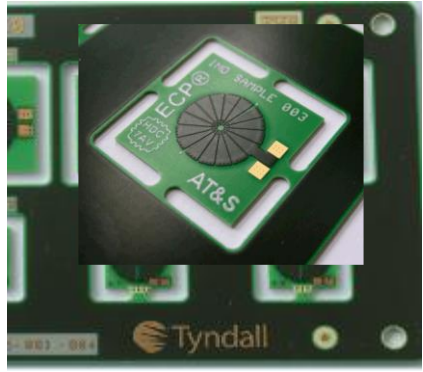
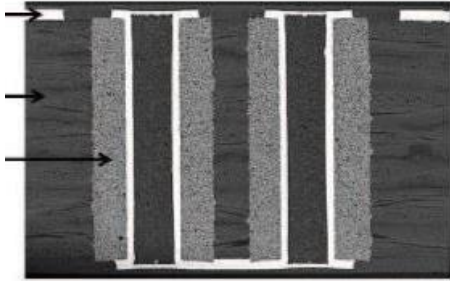
Trifon Liakopoulos, Scalable Integrated Magnetics: A Cost-Effective and Efficient Solution for Vertical Power, PwrSoc 2023, Hanover



- Suitable for large panel processing
- Novel plating processes to minimise core losses
- Lower cost, faster process than thin film sputtering

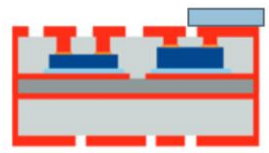
PCB Embedded Magnetics

Intel

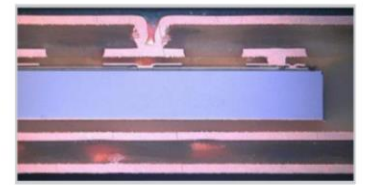


**WÜRTH
ELEKTRONIK**
MORE THAN
YOU EXPECT

Bare die for wire
bonding interconnects



Bare die for
embedding



What's LSCN series ? : Metal base multi layer power Inductor

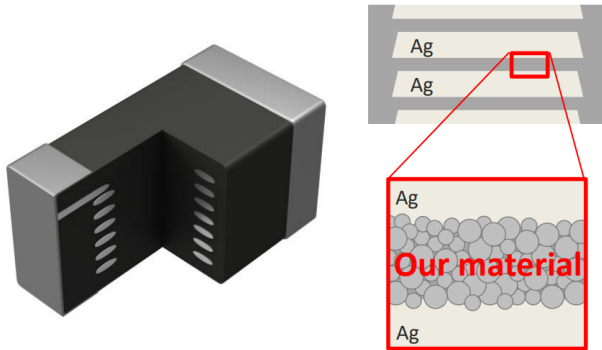


LSCN series use multi layer process & unique metal material.

- High current with small package
- Small case size and low profile
- Customizability (e.g. flexibility in size and array like 2 in 1).

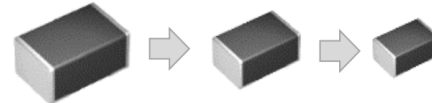
Basic structure of LSCN

- First in the world -

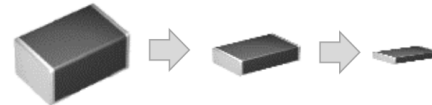


Strong points for LSCN(MC)

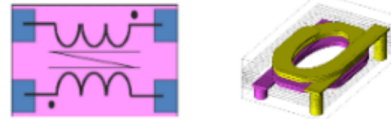
A). Further smaller size ($\leq 1005\text{mm}$)



B). Further lower profile ($\leq 0.2\text{-}0.3\text{mm}$)



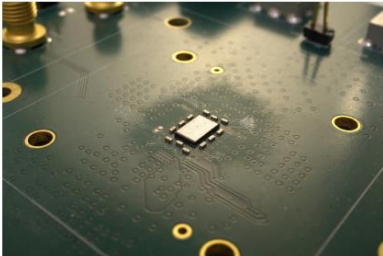
C). Capability of 2 in 1 (Mutually Coupled)



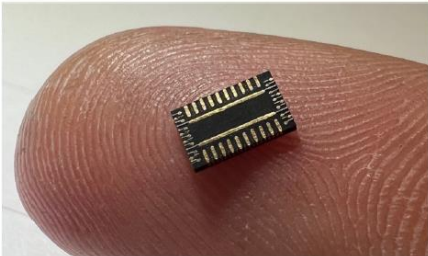
PMIC Modules with Integrated Magnetics

Ferric

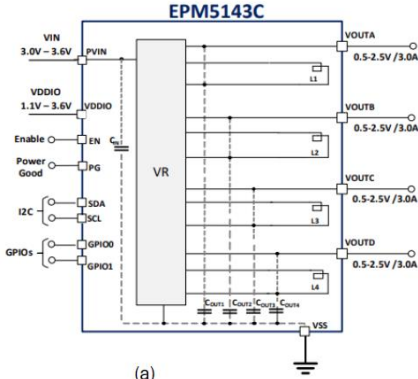
EMPOWER
SEMICONDUCTOR



(a)



(b)



(a)



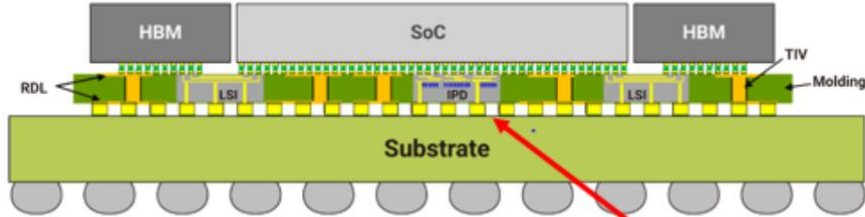
(b)

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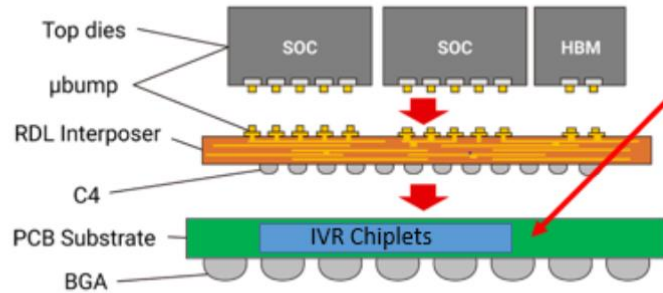
Chiplet level Integration - Possibilities

IEEE Applied Power Electronics Conference, Feb, 2024





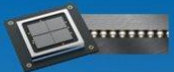


CoWoS®

Highly integrated VR solutions fit with advanced vertical powering and chiplet strategies for SoC



Heterogeneous Integration

Compute	Up to 128 Ray tracing Units	Highest Compute Density socket & node	128 Xe Cores	
Memory	Up to 64MB L1 cache in 2 Stacks	Up to 408MB L2 Cache in 2 Stacks	HBM2e	
I/O	Up to 8 Fully Connected GPUs	PCIe Gen 5	Xe Link High-Speed Coherent Unified Fabric	
Technology	 EMIB	 Foveros	Intel 7 TSMC N5 TSMC N7	

Ponte Vecchio Xe HPC based GPU



Intel processor

- 47 tiles (chipllets)
- 5 different process nodes
- 100B transistors

FAMES

greener electronics

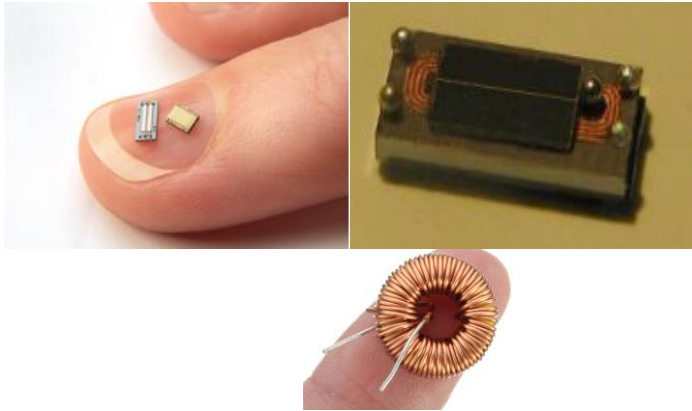
FD-SOI • NVM • 3D • RF • PMIC



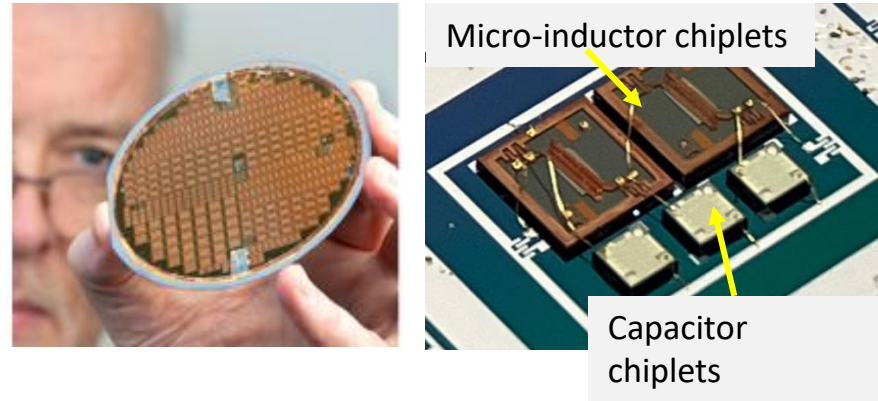
Integrated Power Management

- Deep technological expertise in magnetics and heterogeneous integration

Technology Platform 1 Thin Film Magnetics on Silicon

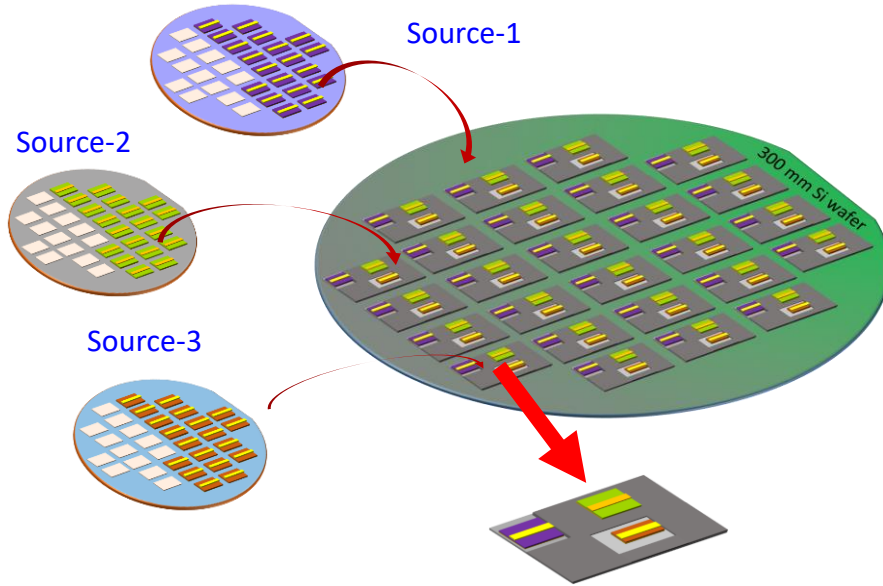


Technology Platform 2 Micro Transfer Printing of Passives on Functional Silicon Switches & Control

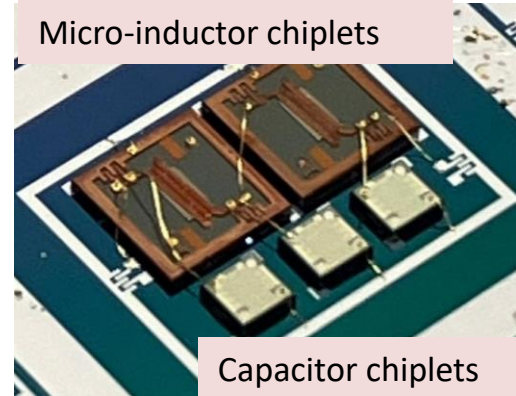


Heterogeneous integration at Tyndall

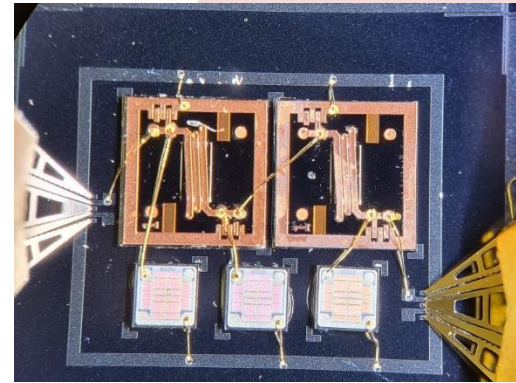
- Micro Transfer Printing integration:
Applied at the micron scale
Demonstrated at the mm scale



Micro-inductor chiplets



Capacitor chiplets

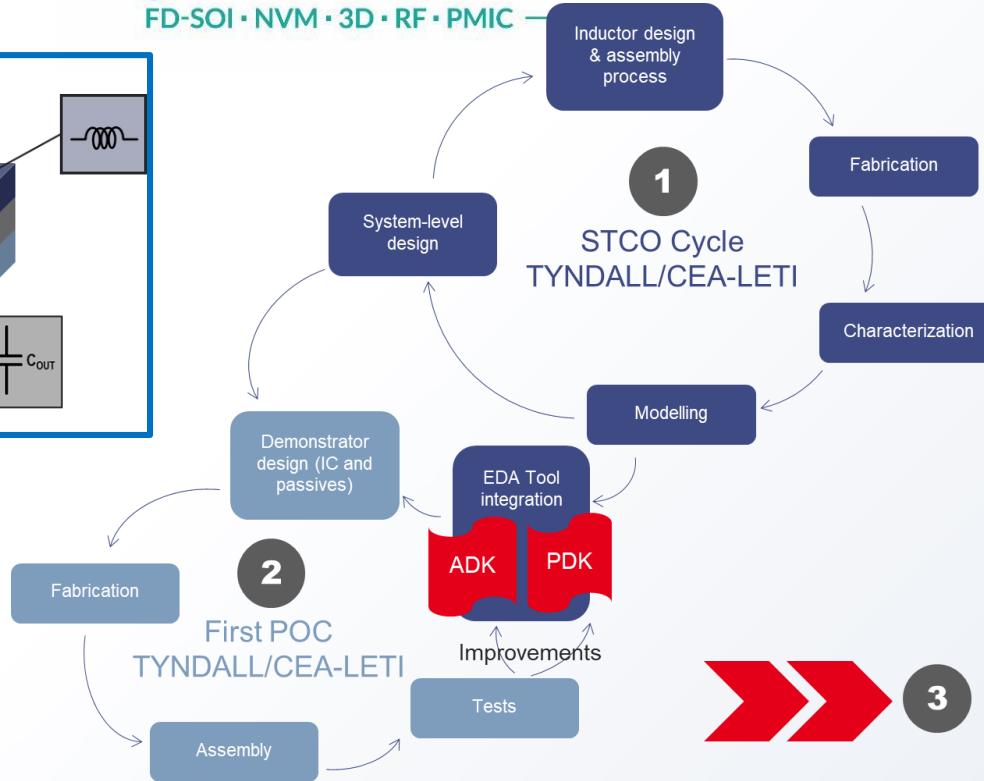
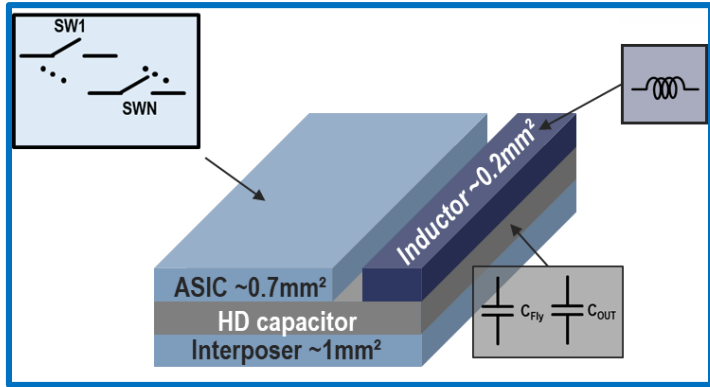


Enterprise Ireland | DTIF Tapestry - 2021-2023: (Tyndall, Analog Devices, Limerick; Xceleprint, Cork)

FAMES

greener electronics

FD-SOI • NVM • 3D • RF • PMIC



3 OPEN ACCESS



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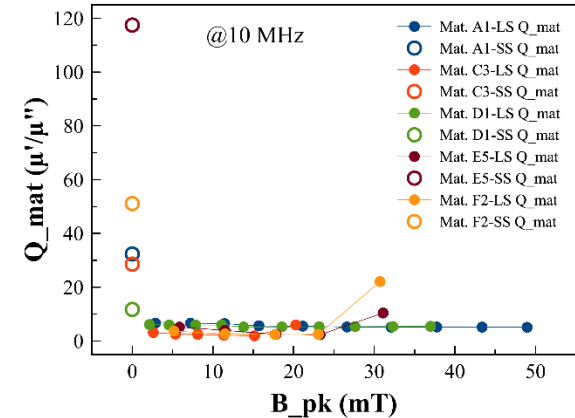
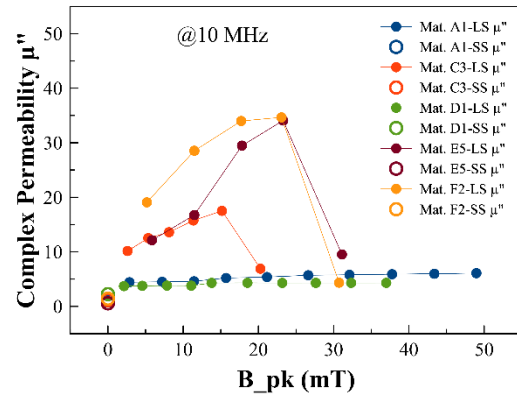
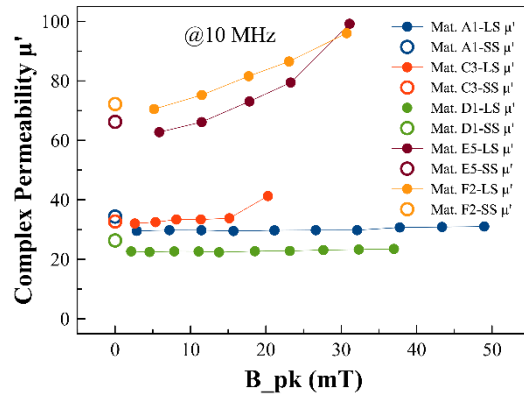
- High B_{sat} Magnetic Materials
- Higher dc current capability
 - Low resistance windings
 - Vertical inductors?
- Smaller footprint
- Heterogeneous Integration – Vertical Power
 - reduce parasitics, increase transient performance
 - With Load
 - With power switches, drivers, control, capacitors
- Trade-off - Energy Storage – Magnetics Vs Capacitors
- Dynamic operation of power delivery – save system energy

Large-signal Test – 10–100MHz, 5-10Amps

Essential for accurate characterization/modelling of magnetic materials and devices

5 different soft-magnetic materials (*shown in five different colors*) are tested and compared

○ **small-signal (SS)** measurement data | **--●-- large-signal (LS)** data measured at different B_{pk}



- **No correlation** observed between small-signal (SS) and large-signal (LS) measurement of magnetic materials
- Material performance [Q_{mat} (μ'/μ'')] under small-signal differs significantly from large-signal

High Frequency Magnetic Material Database

Current status

Input :

Error > 100 %

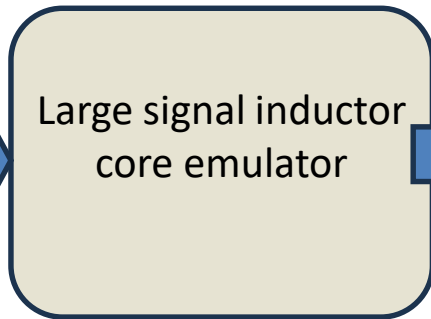
Circuit Parameters
+
Available magnetic core information:
small signal core data sheet



Future

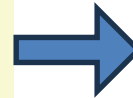
Input

Circuit Parameters
+
Available magnetic core information:
small signal core data sheet



Output :

Digital Twins
of Large-signal
magnetic
core:
Large signal
Inductor core
data sheet
(1-50 MHz)

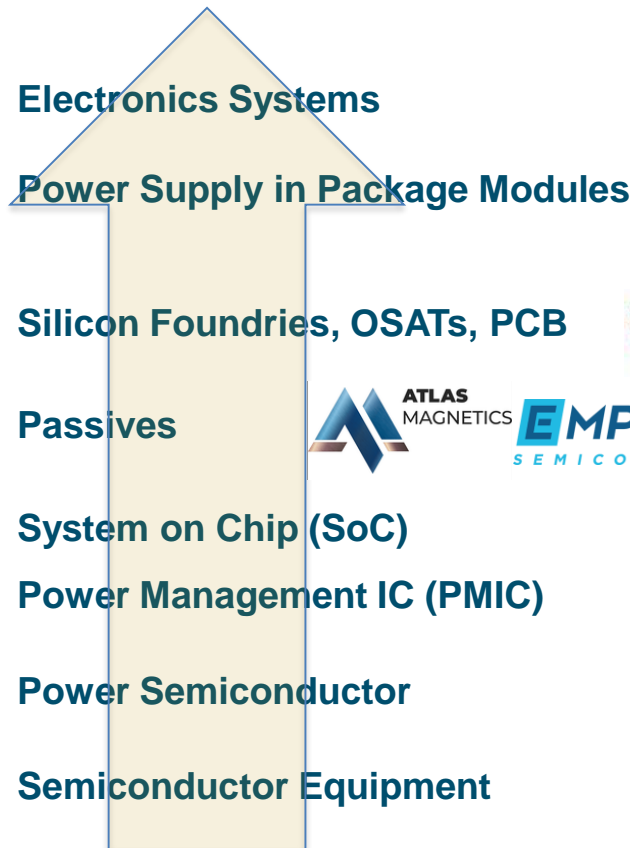


Error < 5 %



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Integrated Magnetic Supply Chains

- **Magnetics on Silicon**

- Relatively simple process
- Magnetics close to Load - in interposer or on PMIC
- Needs development of heterogeneous integration processes
- Limited foundries with capability

- **PCB Embedded Magnetics**

- Range of options: magnetic composite, magnetic core, thin film inductor, discrete chip inductor
- Technology proven for embedded silicon – pathway for magnetic embedding
- Limited number of companies in PCB embedding space

- **PMIC/Magnetics Modules**

- As per Empower, Ferric
- Low profile (0.6mm) surface mount module with multiple converters
- Uses existing assembly capabilities

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Power Supply System Specifications

Take Up No Space

Cost Nothing

Last Forever

Zero Power Loss

Magnetic Components – A Pain Point

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Low Voltage Integrated Power Management Research



Hugh Smiddy
Head of
Business Development



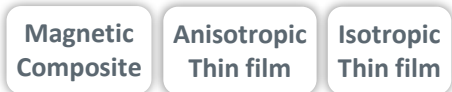
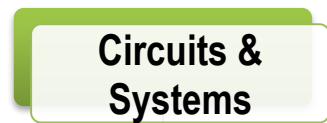
Dr. Make Hayes
Head of Group
ICT 4 Energy Efficiency



Willie Lawton
Program Manager



Prof. Cian O'Mathuna
Research Programme Director
Integrated Power & Energy Systems



Dr. Ranajit Sai
Team Lead
Integrated Magnetics



Dr. Sambuddha Khan
Team Lead
MEMS Fabrication



Dr. Seamus O'Driscoll
Head of Group,
Integrated Power Systems



Dr. Hugo Cruz
Team Lead
PMICs



Dr. Ansar Masood
Snr. Researcher,
Materials



Dr. Guannan Wei
Snr. Researcher,
Materials



Dr. Yi Dou
Snr. Researcher
Design



Dr. Amit Tanwar
Process Researcher
MEMS Fabrication



Dr. Liang Ye
Researcher, Test



Dr. Youssef Kandeel
Researcher, Circuits

APEC 2025



Atlanta, GA

March 16-20

Georgia World Congress Center

THANK YOU

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 **Tyndall**
National Institute
Institiúid Náisiúnta

 **UCC**
University College Cork, Ireland
Coláiste na hOllscoile Corcaigh



Rialtas
na hÉireann
Government
of Ireland

Tionseadal Éireann
Project Ireland
2040



Ireland's European Structural and
Investment Funds Programmes
2014-2020
Co-funded by the Irish Government
and the European Union



European Union
European Structural
and Investment Funds



Taighde Éireann
Research Ireland



Enterprise
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