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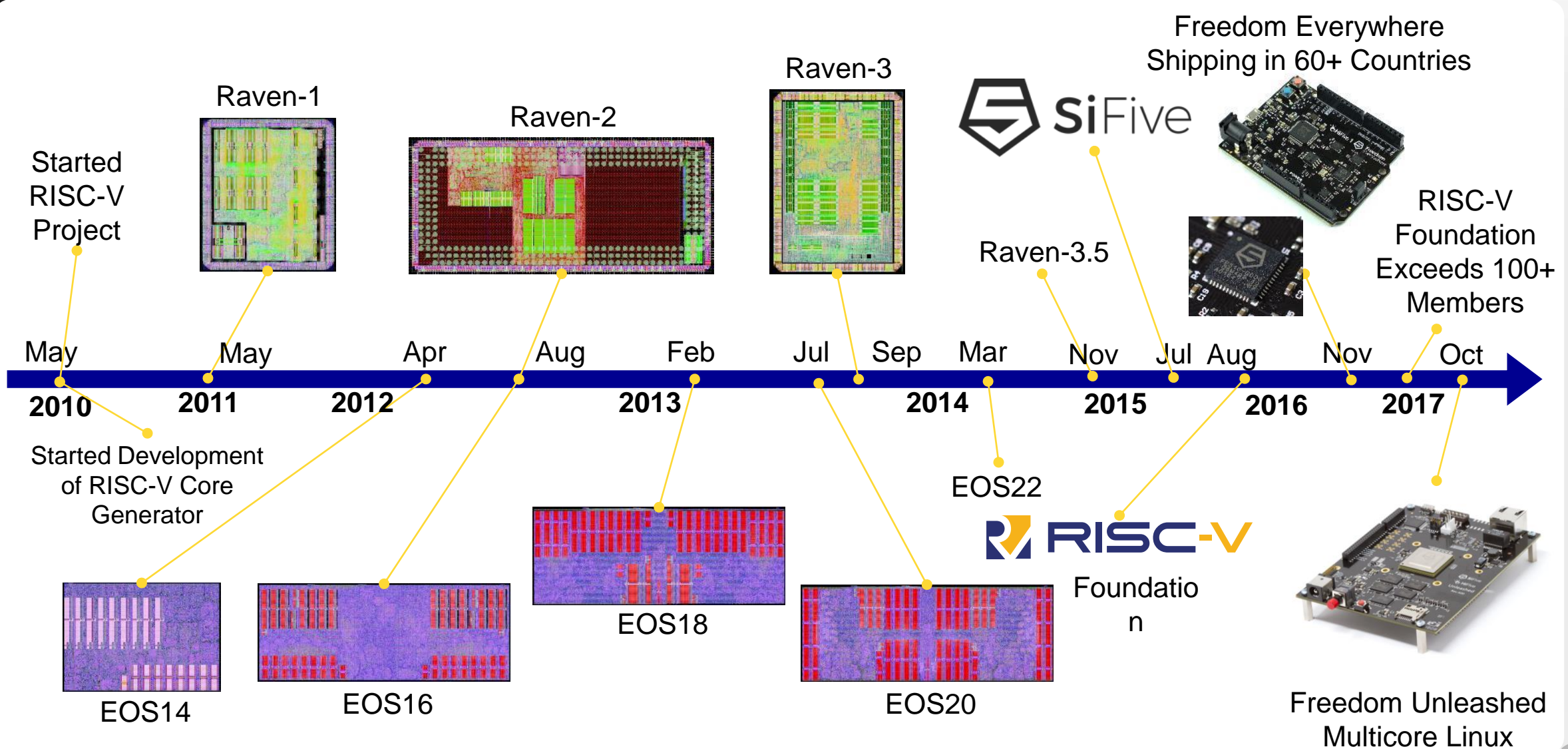
# Hardware Revolution

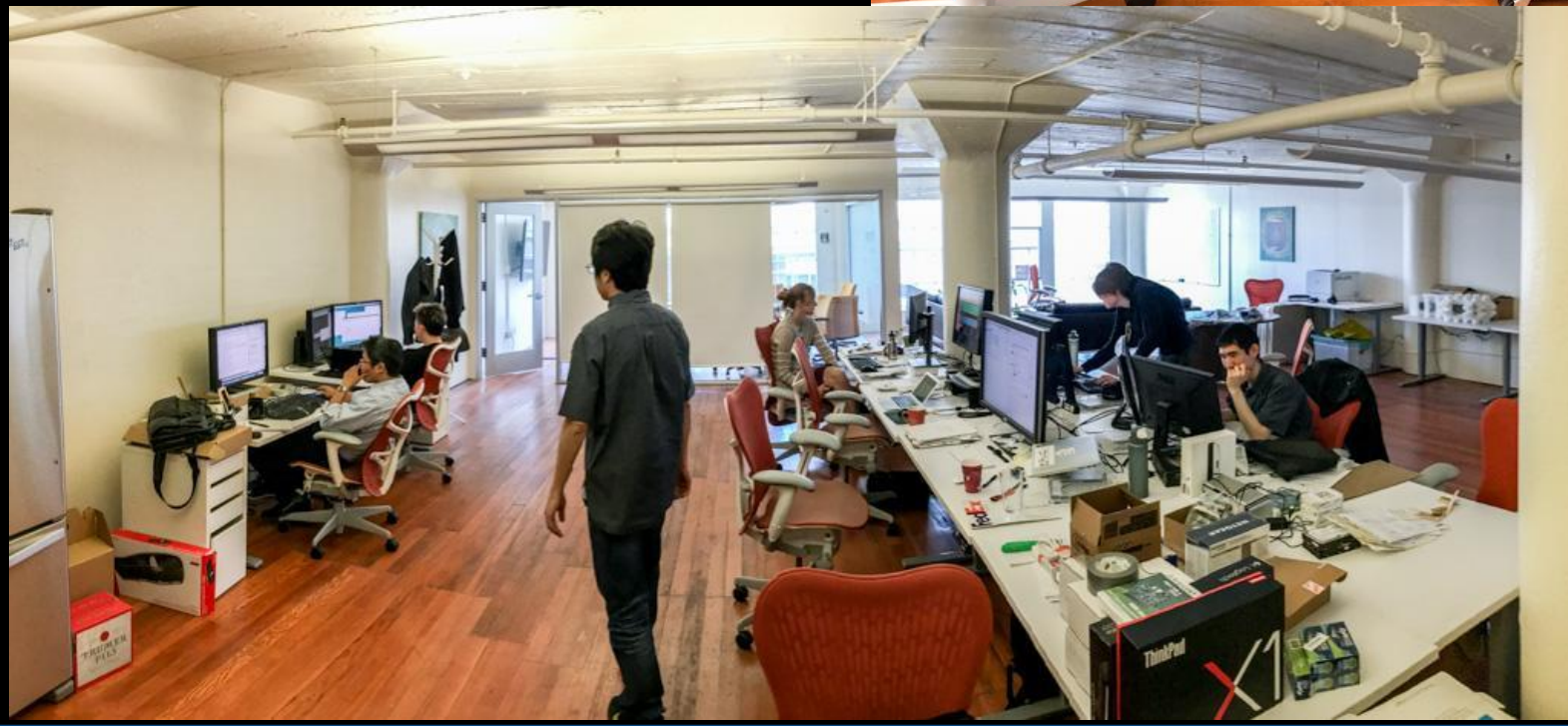
August 2018



# — Timeline

## From Invention to Today









# — SiFive

## Global Presence and Reach



### SiFive Worldwide Presence

- 10 offices
- 280+ employees
- 300+ tapeouts

### World Class Expertise

- Inventors of RISC-V
- PD, RTL, FPGA
- Verification
- Validation

# — Team

## Inventors, Founders, Industry Leaders



**Naveed Sherwani**  
CEO



**Shiva Natarajan**  
CFO



**Sunil Shenoy**  
VP HW Engineering



**Shafy Eltoukhy**  
VP Operations



**Jack Kang**  
VP Product



**Mark Wright**  
VP Custom SoC Sales



**Yunsup Lee**  
CTO



**Krste Asanovic**  
Chief Architect



**Andrew Waterman**  
Chief Engineer



**Brad Holtzinger**  
VP Sales



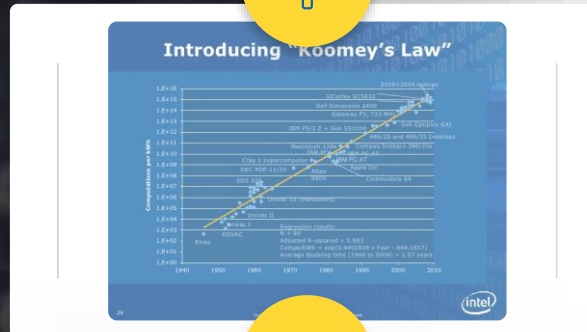
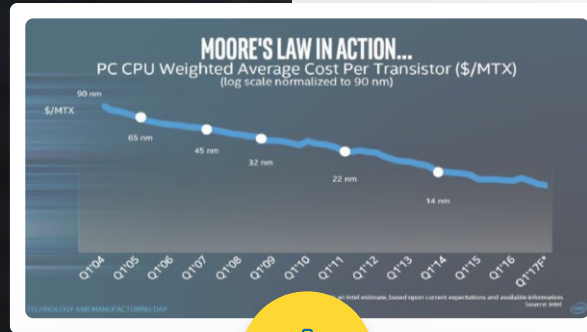
**Jeff Mulhausen**  
VP Marketing



**Thomas Xu**  
SiFive China Leader

The SiFive Management Team **combines** the **inventors** of the RISC-V ISA with **seasoned** industry executives.

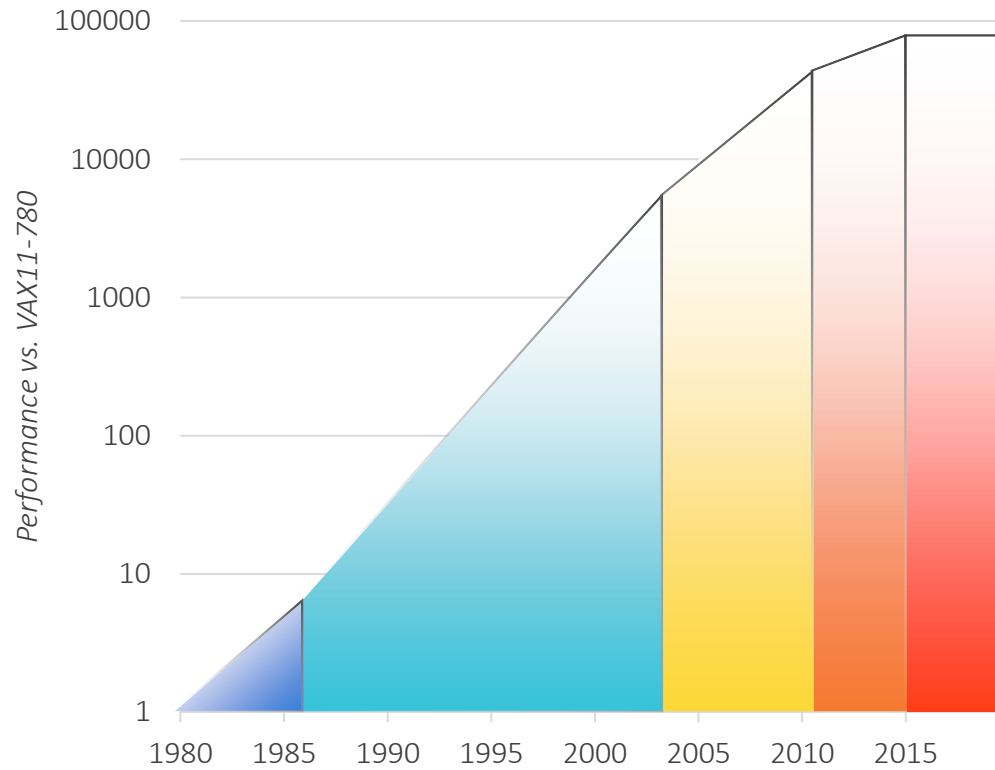
# Hardware Laws and Consequences



- 01 Predictable Performance Advances
- 02 Cost per Computation reduced steadily
- 03 Low incentive to build custom hardware

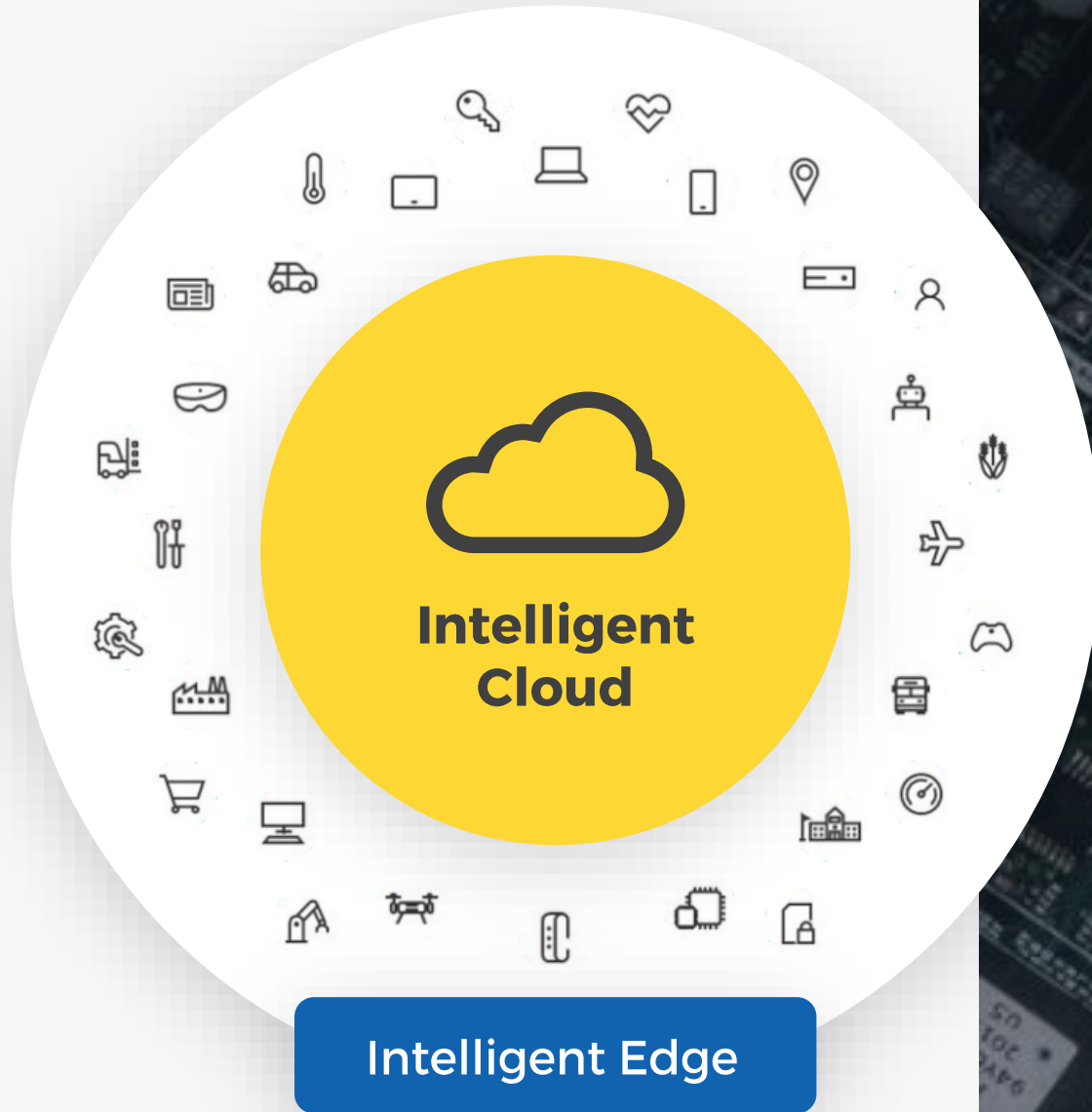


# Going Over the Edge



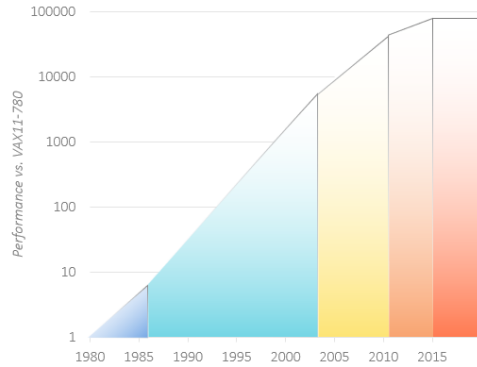
Based on SPECintCPU. Source: John Hennessy and David Patterson, *Computer Architecture: A Quantitative Approach*, 6/e. 2018

- CISC 2X / 3.5 yrs (22%/yr)
- RISC 2X / 1.5 yrs (52%/yr)
- End of Dennard Scaling = Multicore 2X / 3.5 yrs (23%/yr)
- Amdahl's Law = 2X / 6 yrs (12%/yr)
- End of the Line? 2X / 20 yrs (3%/yr)

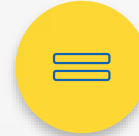
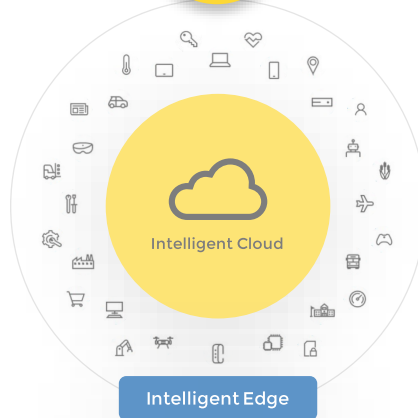
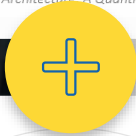


# — Going Over the Edge

# Going Over the Edge



Based on SPECintCPU, Source: John Hennessy and David Patterson, Computer Architecture: A Quantitative Approach, 6/e. 2018



01

More Custom Compute

02

More Custom Hardware

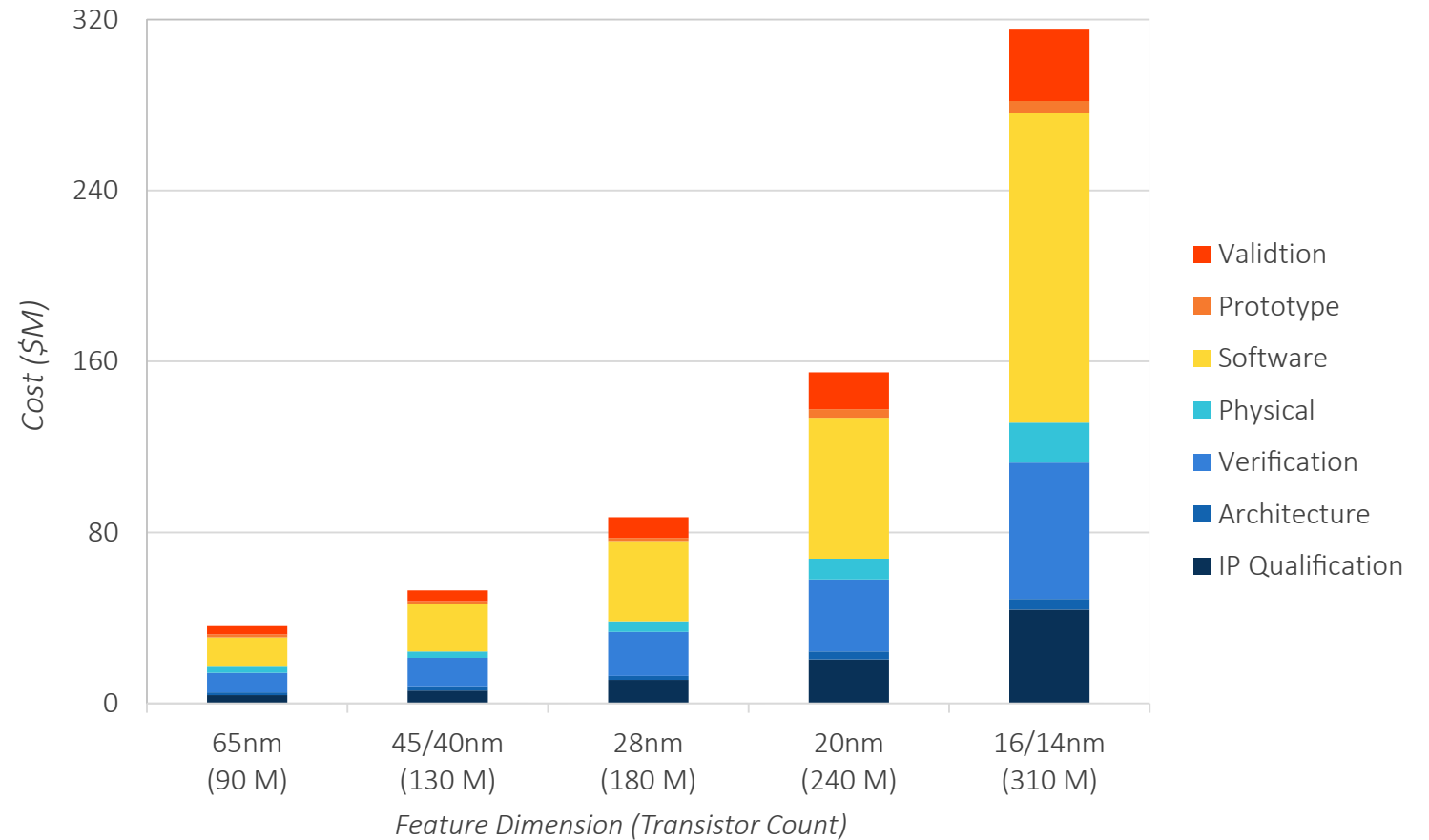
03

For Custom Workloads and Applications

Too Expensive and Takes Too Long:

# Challenges of Custom Hardware

## Cost of Developing New Products



# Challenges of Custom Hardware

## Too Many Experts Needed



Architect



Logic



RTL



Analog



Verification



Simulation



Emulation



Synthesis



Place  
& Route



Layout



ECO



Foundry



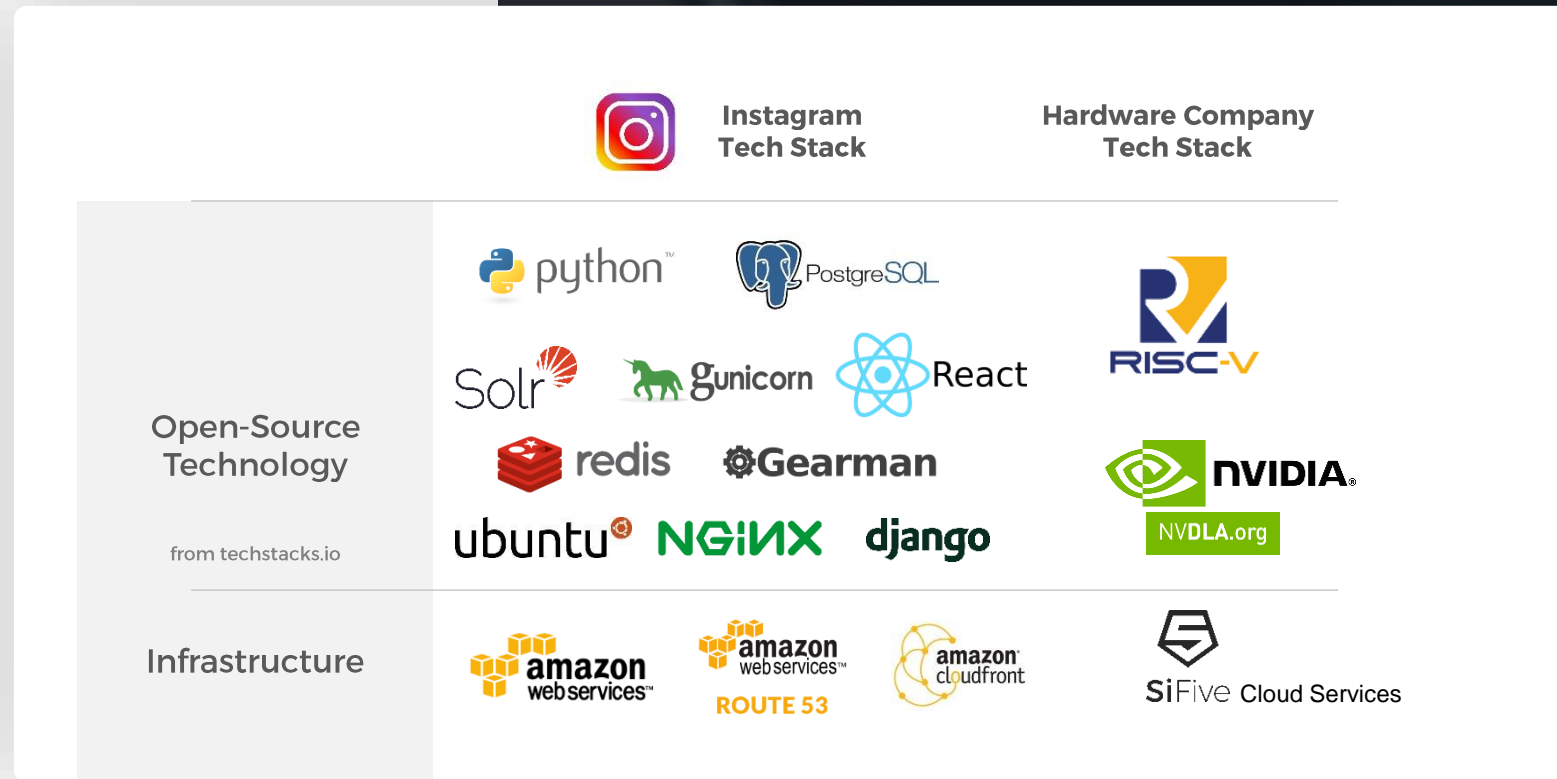
Package



Test

**14+** Disciplines

# How did Instagram turn into a \$1B acquisition with only 13 employees?

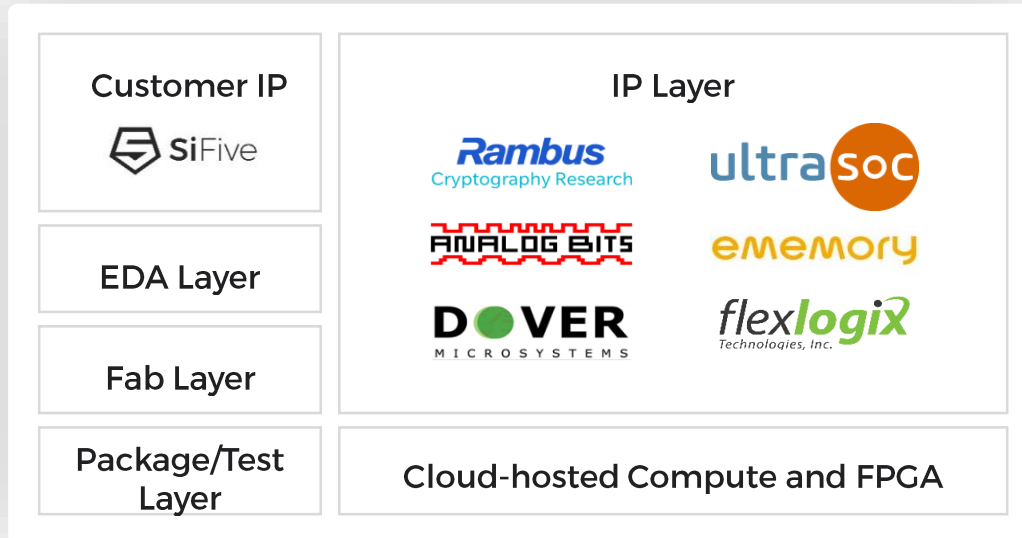
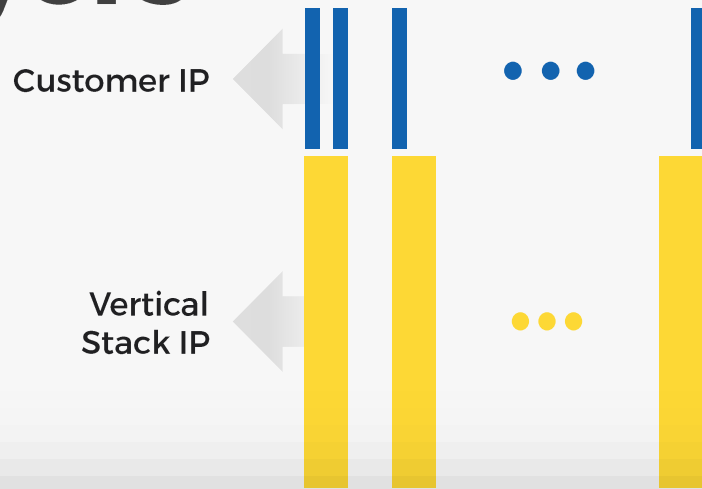


# The Lesson from Software Work at a Higher Level



**Raise the level of  
Engineering Focus**

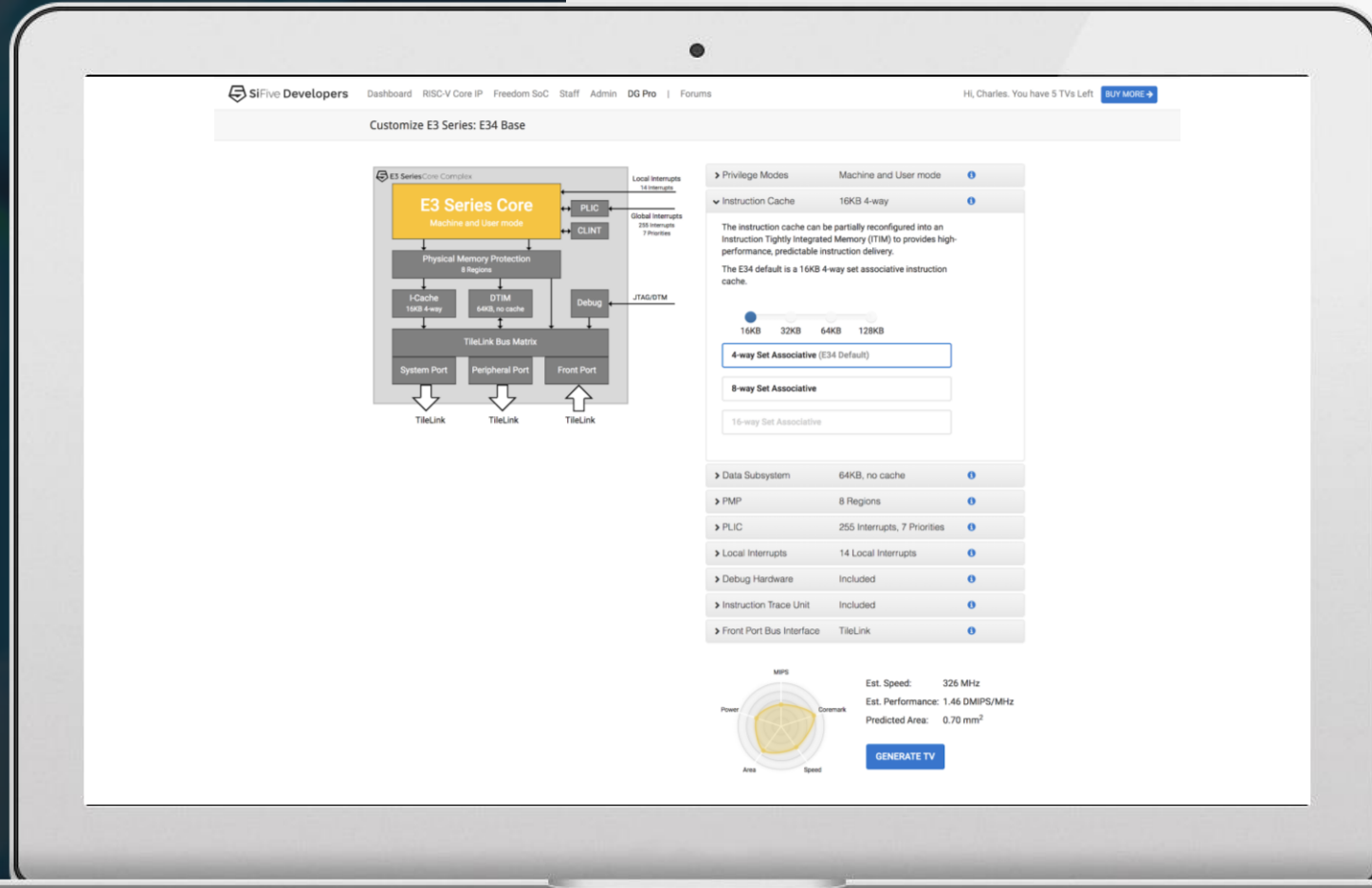
# Hardware Design Layers



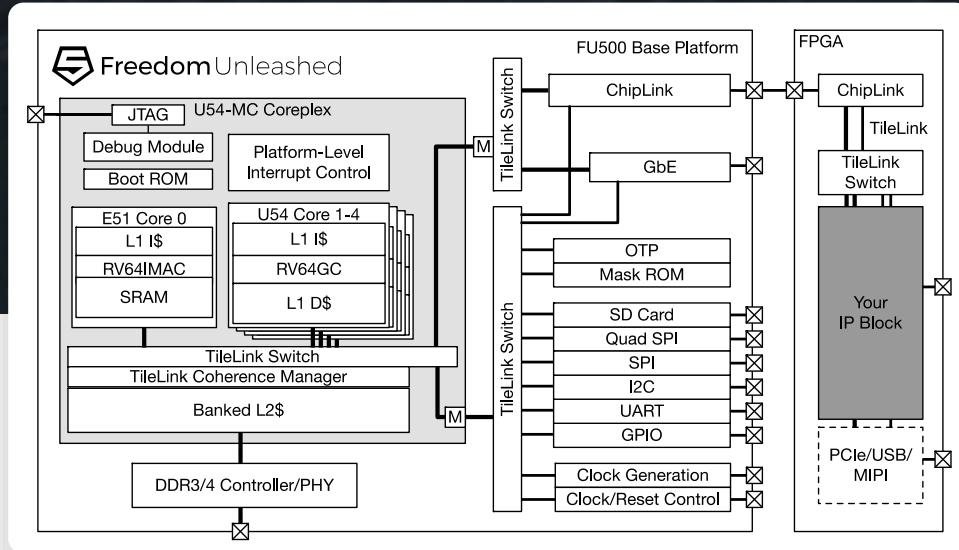


# SiFive Designer

## IP Customization and Push-Button Configuration



# Freedom Unleashed 64-bit Multi-Core RISC-V Linux Platform



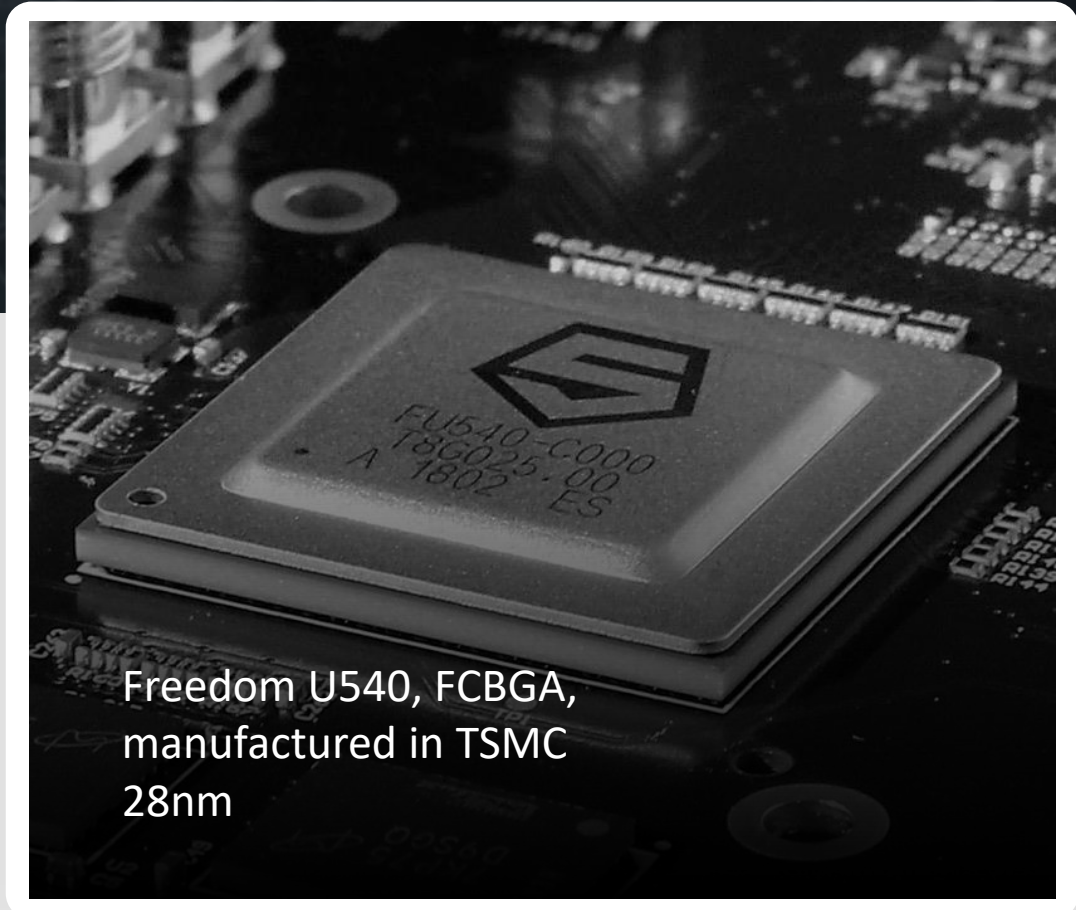
## 1.5+ GHz U54-MC SiFive CPU

- ✓ 1x E51: 16KB L1I\$, 8KB DTIM with ECC support
- ✓ 4x U54: 32KB L1I\$, 32KB L1D\$ with ECC support
- ✓ Single- and Double-precision floating-point support
- ✓ 2MB Banked L2\$ with directory-based cache-coherence & ECC support

## ChipLink

- ✓ Serialized Chip-to-Chip  
Coherent TileLink Interconnect

## DDR3/4, GbE, Peripherals



Freedom U540, FCBGA,  
manufactured in TSMC  
28nm

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# Benefits

- ✓ Reduced Prototyping Costs
- ✓ More Design Starts
- ✓ More IP Providers
- ✓ More Customization
- ✓ More Startups
- ✓ Reduced Level of Expertise
- ✓ Bring Excitement
- ✓ Democratize Access
- ✓ Focus on Creating Value
- ✓ Help Create a Trillion Dollar Industry