# Open Ecosystems: Innovation by Collaboration

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## About me

- → 40+ years in industry
  - +3 years with Linux Foundation
  - Oracle engineering VP of Design Enablement
  - Distinguished engineer Sun Microsystems
  - EDA developer at IBM, Magma, Synopsys



## The Linux Foundation: A Neutral Territory





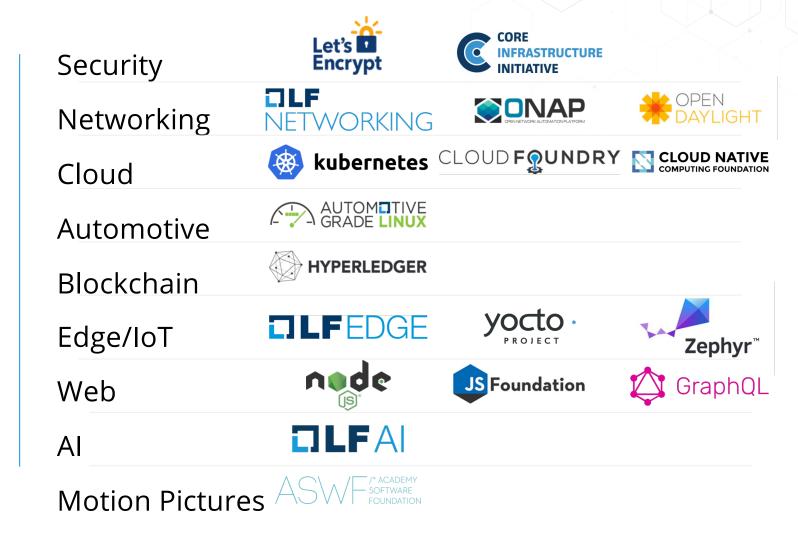
A place for interested parties to come together and work on problems of mutual interest



## The Linux Foundation: More than Linux

- , 1500+ Members
  From 40+ Countries
- 100% of Fortune 100
  Tech & Telecom
- 30000+ Developers Contributing Code
- 200+ Open Source Projects
- \$16B+ Shared Value





### Industrial Evolution: Siloed to Collaboration?



**Soup to Nuts Silo: In House** 

1980's IBM, 90's Intel



Supply Chain Management:
Overseer

2000+: Apple, QCOM, NVDA, ORCL...



**Open Collaboration** 

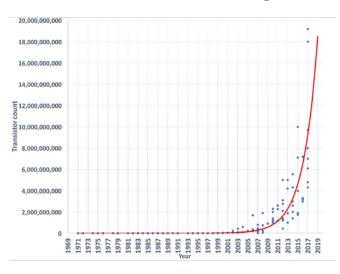
Now...



Surfing Moore's Law. A new process node every ~18 months But this is slowing down, and also expensive

## Accelerating with More than Moore...Collaboration

#### **Traditional Scaling**



**Packaging** 

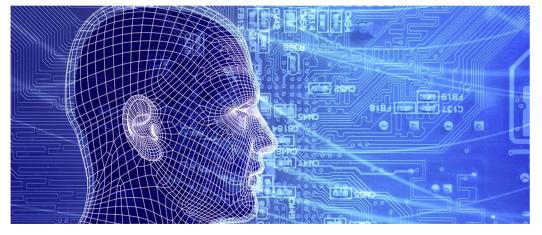




Domain Specific Architectures (DSA): DAX, GPU, AI, FPGA



**Software: Compilers and Libraries** 





### Collaboration: CHIPS Alliance

- Organization which develops and hosts:
  - > Open source hardware specification, implementation, verification
    - Interconnect IP (physical and logical protocols)
    - > CPUs
    - I/O (memory, SERDES, network...)
    - ML Accelerators
  - Open source ASIC & FPGA development tools
    - Design, verification, simulation
    - > Composition, electrical verification
  - > A barrier free environment for collaboration
    - Standards organization for collaboration and development
    - Legal Framework: Apache v2 license or other open source license
    - > IP contribution encouraged but not required for membership/participation
  - > Shared resources (\$ and time) which lower cost of hardware development
- Based on Apache 2.0 and other permissive licenses



### **CHIPS Members**

#### **Platinum Members**

#### **Auditor Members**





















#### **Associate Members**















#### **Gold Members**















#### **Silver Members**













RIOS



RISC-V°



Stanford ENGINEERING





UC San Diego









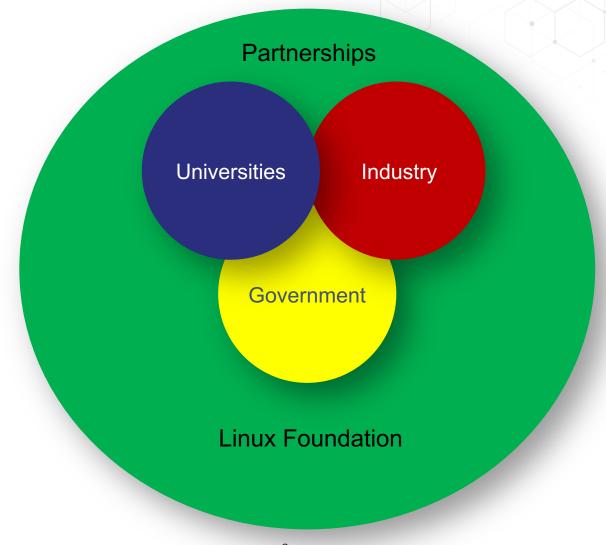






# What does it take to make collaboration work? It's not easy

- Shared common technical challenge
- Realization stronger together than apart
  - Leverage strengths
  - Willingness to share IP to move project forward
- Shared objectives
- A degree of trust
- Alignment of business, legal, engineering
- The above enables successful collaboration
- Linux Foundation is a safe harbor to collaborators to join together to solve challenging problems





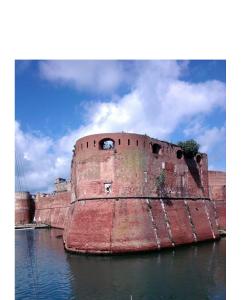
## Will Collaboration Happen or Inter / Intra Continental Bastions?



U.S.: CHIPS Act. Export Controls & New Restrictions

New fabs in NY, Ohio, Arizona, Texas...

EU Sovereignty in Open Source HW, SW, EDA, RISC-V Cyber Resilience Act



China

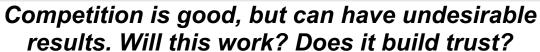
Siloes and Fortresses on each continent Smoot – Hawley Style Tariffs? Security Concerns...



'Silicon Valley steps up staff screening over Chinese espionage threat' Financial Times 19 June 2024, https://www.ft.com/content/c5594136-55f7-43c3-8914-d1c4290f6670

## Intracontinental Competition: U.S. State Development & Education Initiatives





Or Is it Dog Eat Dog?



### Are we in the Age of Al Wonder?

- It seems to be...
- How many have experienced a toddler?
- How many have watched a young child learn?
- How do you become a 'good parent'?
- Similarly...
- How do we become good stewards of AI?
- Analogous to becoming a 'good parent'
- That is: raise responsible, productive, ethical adults
- How do we 'teach' children or build Al models?
- How are values imparted?
- Can this be regulated?
- Should teaching/learning be regulated / supervised?
- Should it be open, closed, or a hybrid?



Star Child from '2001: Space Odyssey'



#### Do we know how AI & its Model's work?

- Is it understandable?
- Were the models trained on a diverse set of data?
- Are its states observable and controllable, hence inspectable?
- Can neutral 3<sup>rd</sup> parties articulate design requirements?
- Can neutral 3<sup>rd</sup> parties observe and inspect?
- Is it ethical?
- ----where ethics are constructed/monitored by a neutral body of interested stakeholders







## What about Chip Design? The Classic Triad to the New Quad of Hardware Development

Design EDA

Aha!



The Classic Partners in Crime



The 'New Kid'

What type of box should this system be? 'Is there an API for that? Why would you want that?' OpenRoad & ChipFlow 'open' potential for EDA & AI based chip design

## Questions to Contemplate & Discuss

- Do we need open ecosystems?
- How do we build trust?
- How do we break down barriers?
  - Intercompany
  - Intra-national
  - International
- Do Governments help or hinder? What needs to change?
- Can there be a mix of open, semi-open, closed source IP?
- Can we have a shared repository of information with collaboration amongst educators & increase global knowledge of engineering?
- Can we build open AI systems that are ethical, understood, predictable, & governable?

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