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Standard Languages for Compact Modeling: Perspective of an Internal Model Developer

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Agilent Worldwide Process and Tech.



Our Job: Active Device Models for Agilent

- InP HBTs
- GaAs HBTs
- GaAs PHEMTs
- GaAs E-PHEMTs
- GaAs MESFETs
- Diode Processes

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Internal Technology vs. Commercial EDA Perspective

Worldwide Process & Technology Ctr.

- Device Physicists
- Semiconductor Process Engineers
- IC and MCM Designers
- Nonlinear Modeling Experts
- Develop advanced models for leading-edge technologies
- Develop technology at cost to enable business for Divisions

Agilent EEsof Division

- Software Engineers
- Simulator Experts
- Application and Support Eng.
- Implement and support standard models for large external customer base
- Sell EDA tools for Profit

WPTC needs rapid development and deployment of new models for internal-Agilent designers for proprietary advantage



Importance of Standard Language to WPTC

- Create new models for our new technologies
 - As simple as (interpreted) SDD; Verilog-A a natural language for modelers
 - More general interface to simulators for high value-added capabilities (behavioral models; neural networks)

Compiled Verilog-A

- Performance near that of expert-compiled C-code. (Still a claim to be verified)
- Much less time-consuming and error-prone than compiled C-code (no Partial Derivatives required from modeler)
- Protect our modeling IP; Easier to work with strategic partners
- Distribute model to users of other simulators
- Enhance and maintain existing models
 - Not dependent on EDA vendor



Technaloaies

AgilentHBT Model – SDD to C vs Compiled Verilog-A DC-IV C



5000 lines of C-code
2 months of work
500 lines of Verilog-A
2 days of work

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25 pages of Mathematica for Partial Derivatives!

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Extensions Needed

- Better support for tables of data and interpolation
 - Table-based device models
 - Behavioral models

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- Ability to link in new capabilities, such as Neural Networks
 - Enable us to add new capabilities to the standard simulators to support our modeling technologies

