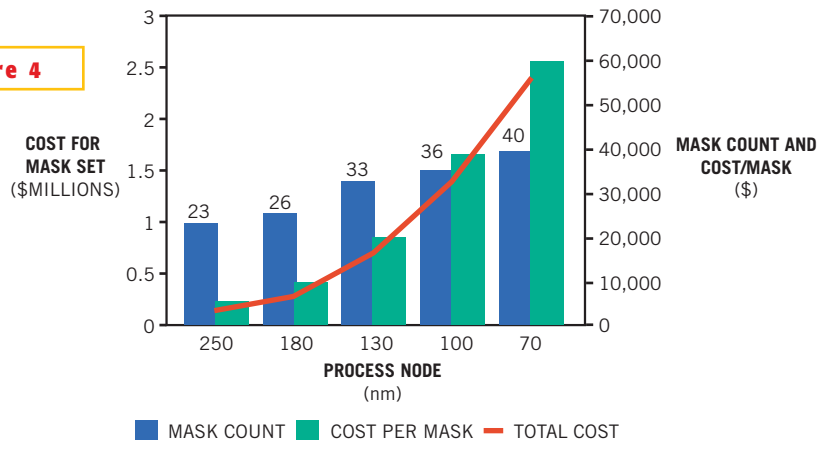


Figure 4



Increasing mask-set costs reflect both escalating per-mask complexity at deep-submicron processes and the ever-growing number of masks vendors need to fabricate chips on them (courtesy Lightspeed Semiconductor).