

Global I/O

Semiconductors

Cycle Update: AI to turbo-charge the semis industry towards US\$2.4tn by 2027

Equities

Global

Semiconductors

Broad-based semis revenue growth acceleration, with Memory ahead

We forecast semis industry Sell In to reach US\$1.62tn in 2026 (+118% YoY), and US \$2.38tn (+46% YoY) in 2027. This is in no small part driven by Memory semis revenues which we forecast at US\$961bn in 2026 (+318% YoY), and US\$1,638bn in 2027 (+70% YoY). A key contributor, we believe, is agentic AI, boosting not only HBM but also DDR5/LPDDR5 and NAND flash demand (see our recent APAC Focus: [link](#)). Underneath this is also a strong uptick in server CPU demand – both conventional as well as AI head nodes (see also our recent deep-dive: [link](#)), and we forecast overall CPU revenues to reach US\$75bn in 2026 (+25% YoY) and US\$96bn in 2027 (+28%), in spite of a sluggish PC market. Ex-CPU, we forecast CMOS Logic (excluding memory value) revs up 43% YoY in 2026 and 8% YoY, and also, double-digit growth in Analog/MCUs both years. In short, AI is driving an increasingly broad-based levelling-up in semis revenues, which could carry on for a while.

YoY semis revenue growth bound to decline from very elevated levels

On more traditional metrics, we could be nearing a cycle peak. 3MMA YoY semis industry revenue growth could reach +135% YoY by October '26. Whilst deceleration appears unavoidable from there, we still forecast 30% YoY growth by December '27. Excluding Memory, we estimate 3MMA YoY revenue growth peak out by September '26 at +35% YoY, down to +6% YoY by October '27. On the other hand, other cycle lead indicators remain "in the green," with foundry utilisation rates up until 3Q27E; YoY assembly equipment revenues until 4Q27E, and memory industry operating profits until 4Q27E. Upside risk from AI, not just AI accelerators/HBM, but with CPU/DRAM/NAND and also networking and power management related to this, could continue to push out the inflexion point in the cycle.

Inventory up but broadly under control

Non-memory semis average inventory days went up (by March/April quarter end) to 166 days, +9 days QoQ and -5 days YoY. OEM inventory days on average were up +12 days QoQ and +3 days YoY to 100 days. Overall, we see no evidence of broad inventory overbuild, as segments more sensitive to memory shortage (smartphones, PCs) adjusted build plans early in the year.

Pullback likely short-lived – what we prefer here

Our global semis stock universe trades at an average of 22x '28E PE. We believe WFE stocks are due for a catch up vs Memory, but we do like both. We like AI logic semis, and are less sanguine on Analog. See p. 2 for our Most/Least Preferred lists.

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Figure 1: UBS Global Semis Most/Least Preferred List

Company	Ticker	Rating	Price	PT	'27E PE	'28E PE	'27E PB	'28E PB
Most preferred								
Applied Materials	AMAT.O	Buy	US\$453.01	US\$545	24.3	17.3	10.43	8.38
ASE	3711.TW	Buy	NT\$540	NT\$660	20.5	15.9	5.23	4.49
ASMI	ASMI.AS	Buy	€867	€1000	30.1	25.7	7.02	5.77
ASML	ASML.AS	Buy	€1462.2	€1900	30.2	24.5	16.17	11.74
Eugene Technology	084370.KQ	Buy	Won129500	Won182000	19.9	15.1	4.37	3.43
Global Unichip	3443.TW	Buy	NT\$4255	NT\$6260	41.1	29.0	20.59	13.16
Hansol Chemical	014680.KS	Buy	Won230000	Won390000	13.4	12.2	2.23	1.99
JCET Group	600584.SS	Buy	Rmb70.3	Rmb79.5	35.5	26.2	3.72	3.31
Kelington Group	KELG.KL	Buy	RM7.42	RM9	24.8	24.1	6.86	6.18
MediaTek	2454.TW	Buy	NT\$4070	NT\$5500	24.9	15.7	12.69	9.77
Micron Technology	MU.O	Buy	US\$864.01	US\$1625	5.6	4.5	3.55	2.18
NAURA Technology	002371.SZ	Buy	Rmb585.74	Rmb800	36.6	25.4	7.74	6.05
Samsung Electronics	005930.KS	Buy	Won295500	Won550000	3.4	3.1	1.45	1.10
SK Hynix	000660.KS	Buy	Won1911000	Won3000000	3.0	2.5	1.86	1.27
Tokyo Electron	8035.T	Buy	¥55020	¥70000	24.4	23.2	9.59	8.41
TSMC	2330.TW	Buy	NT\$2295	NT\$3000	17.6	13.5	5.92	4.33
Texas Instruments	TXN.O	Buy	US\$285.06	US\$295	25.8	22.1	13.76	15.26
Least preferred								
Hanmi Semiconductor	042700.KS	Sell	Won253500	Won170000	47.8	40.0	20.23	15.89
Hua Hong Semicon	1347.HK	Neutral	HK\$137.1	HK\$104	107.9	77.3	4.26	4.04
Infineon	IFXGn.DE	Neutral	€77.3	€61	29.7	23.7	4.93	4.31
Maxscend	300782.SZ	Neutral	HK\$93.87	HK\$86.5	107.2	69.7	4.78	4.50
Nordic Semiconductor	NOD.OL	Sell	US\$193.2	US\$134	56.2	45.2	5.05	4.49
Onsemi	ON.O	Neutral (CBE)	US\$117.26	US\$95	27.3	20.2	6.38	5.94
Qualcomm Inc.	QCOM.O	Neutral	US\$215.94	US\$170	19.8	18.1	8.46	8.03

Source: UBS estimates. Priced as of 8 June (APAC) and 5 June (Europe/US).

Figure 2: UBS global semis valuation

	Rating	Mkt Cap (US\$m)	Price	Target	EV/Sales 27E	28E	EV/EBITDA 27E	28E	P/E 27E	28E	P/BV 27E	28E
Analog/Diversified												
Analog Devices	Buy	196,542	US\$ 401.39	US\$ 490	10.9	10.1	19.0	17.3	23.8	21.9	5.50	5.26
CR Micro	Buy	12,254	Rmb 62.58	Rmb 83.4	4.5	3.8	23.0	18.8	42.6	31.8	3.20	2.93
Infineon	Neutral	117,855	€ 77.3	€ 61	5.5	4.8	16.5	13.5	30.2	24.1	5.01	4.38
Maxscend	Neutral	7,403	Rmb 93.87	Rmb 86.5	10.2	8.7	21.8	16.9	107.2	69.7	4.78	4.50
Melexis	Neutral	3,762	€ 80.5	€ 72	3.4	3.1	12.4	10.3	17.5	14.1	5.87	5.35
Microchip Technology	Buy	47,743	US\$ 88.34	US\$ 130	8.1	6.4	17.6	12.8	23.2	15.6	6.95	6.03
NCE Power	Buy	3,450	Rmb 56.35	Rmb 81.3	7.2	5.5	24.0	18.7	31.5	24.8	4.40	3.85
Nordic Semiconductor	Sell	3,920	Nkr 193.2	Nkr 134	4.1	3.7	24.9	21.8	56.1	45.1	5.04	4.48
NXP	Buy	74,730	US\$ 295.96	US\$ 305	4.9	4.5	11.0	9.4	14.6	12.2	4.96	4.04
Onsemi	Neutral (CBE)	45,955	US\$ 117.26	US\$ 95	6.2	5.5	18.8	15.0	27.3	20.2	6.38	5.94
Qorvo	Neutral	9,098	US\$ 98.28	US\$ 100	2.7	2.6	13.0	12.3	12.6	11.4	2.56	2.33
Realtek	Neutral	9,701	NT\$ 596	NT\$ 525	1.5	1.3	11.1	10.0	17.4	15.5	5.03	4.63
Renesas Electronics	Buy	46,873	¥ 4139	¥ 3900	3.8	3.4	8.9	7.8	12.6	11.6	2.13	1.94
Rohm	Neutral	11,602	¥ 4815	¥ 2200	3.2	3.0	14.5	13.8	37.2	35.1	1.97	1.91
Silan Micro	Buy	7,882	Rmb 32.13	Rmb 46.2	3.0	2.5	17.6	15.0	39.3	30.4	3.84	3.47
Silergy	Buy	6,463	NT\$ 524	NT\$ 700	6.5	5.2	21.7	14.8	27.0	18.2	4.40	3.75
Skyworks Solutions	Neutral	10,940	US\$ 73.57	US\$ 75	2.4	2.2	7.6	6.8	13.0	10.7	1.88	1.89
StarPower	Buy	3,756	Rmb 106.4	Rmb 166.6	4.2	3.6	20.7	17.2	41.1	33.2	3.34	3.12
STMicroelectronics	Buy	64,512	€ 62.82	€ 80	3.6	3.2	10.7	8.8	22.1	15.9	3.06	2.59
Texas Instruments	Buy	258,706	US\$ 285.06	US\$ 295	10.3	9.4	18.0	16.0	25.8	22.1	13.76	15.26
Average					5.0	4.4	16.4	13.7	27.1	21.8	4.70	4.38
Logic												
Advanced Micro Dev	Buy (CBE)	759,267	US\$ 466.38	US\$ 455	9.6	7.4	28.9	20.1	34.0	24.0	9.68	7.72
ASMedia	Buy	3,322	NT\$ 1400	NT\$ 1700	4.5	3.7	14.5	11.4	12.3	10.3	2.37	2.13
Aspeed	Buy	21,025	NT\$ 17525	NT\$ 22000	24.4	17.2	41.4	29.4	52.7	37.6	34.78	24.32
Broadcom	Buy	1,828,746	US\$ 385.73	US\$ 485	9.7	7.3	14.4	10.8	17.8	13.5	10.59	6.84
Horizon Robotics	Buy	9,442	HK\$ 5.05	HK\$ 10	4.3	3.0	NM	189.3	NM	102.5	8.60	7.53
Intel	Neutral	472,644	US\$ 99.17	US\$ 83	7.5	6.9	19.7	17.0	50.5	39.2	3.56	2.98
Marvell Technology	Buy	223,581	US\$ 263.47	US\$ 230	19.6	13.6	87.3	45.9	65.1	42.6	12.37	11.23
MediaTek	Buy	207,176	NT\$ 4070	NT\$ 5500	5.3	3.6	19.7	12.5	24.9	15.7	12.69	9.77
Novatek	Neutral	9,135	NT\$ 473	NT\$ 440	2.2	2.0	11.1	10.3	15.9	14.8	3.84	3.64
NVIDIA	Buy	4,984,956	US\$ 205.1	US\$ 280	11.8	7.6	17.4	10.9	21.0	13.0	16.29	9.88
Parade Technologies	Neutral	1,661	NT\$ 663	NT\$ 580	2.1	1.7	9.7	7.1	14.1	10.3	2.02	1.83
Qualcomm Inc.	Neutral	231,920	US\$ 215.94	US\$ 170	5.4	5.1	22.4	20.7	19.8	18.1	8.46	8.03
Average					8.9	6.6	22.0	32.1	29.8	28.5	10.44	7.99
IC Design House / IP												
Alchip	Buy	10,764	NT\$ 4170	NT\$ 6000	2.6	2.0	14.0	11.0	19.6	15.4	5.49	4.52
Faraday Technology	Neutral	1,455	NT\$ 176	NT\$ 179	1.9	1.5	9.1	7.2	16.3	12.9	2.88	2.58
Global Unichip	Buy	18,089	NT\$ 4255	NT\$ 6260	4.8	3.5	33.4	23.6	41.1	29.0	20.59	13.16
SemiFive	Buy	594	Won 26800	Won 44000	2.0	1.2	20.5	8.7	29.3	13.0	3.43	2.79
Average					2.8	2.0	19.2	12.6	26.6	17.6	8.10	5.76

Source: UBS estimates. Priced as of 8 June (APAC) and 5 June (Europe/US).

Figure 3: UBS global semis valuation (continued)

	Rating	Mtk Cap (US\$m)	Price	Target	EV/Sales		EV/EBITDA		P/E		P/BV	
					27E	28E	27E	28E	27E	28E	27E	28E
Memory												
Micron Technology	Buy	969,822	US\$ 864.01	US\$ 1625	4.0	3.2	4.4	3.5	5.6	4.5	3.55	2.18
Nanya Tech	Buy	33,387	NT\$ 339.5	NT\$ 495	1.9	1.6	2.6	2.4	3.8	3.6	2.03	1.50
Samsung Electronics	Buy	1,144,406	Won 295500	Won 550000	1.3	1.2	1.9	1.7	3.4	3.1	1.45	1.10
SK Hynix	Buy	910,167	Won 1911000	Won 3000000	2.0	1.8	2.3	2.1	3.0	2.5	1.86	1.27
Average					2.3	2.0	2.8	2.4	4.0	3.4	2.22	1.51
Foundries												
GlobalFoundries	Neutral	41,971	US\$ 75.53	US\$ 77	4.7	4.3	13.0	11.5	28.9	23.9	3.18	2.97
Hua Hong Semicon	Neutral	30,038	HK\$ 137.1	HK\$ 104	9.6	8.5	29.9	24.2	NM	NM	4.26	4.04
PSMC	Neutral	8,868	NT\$ 67.5	NT\$ 60	3.4	3.1	7.7	6.6	NM	9.8	2.14	1.76
SMIC	Neutral (CBE)	74,189	HK\$ 72.55	HK\$ 76	6.2	5.5	10.7	9.6	32.6	24.5	2.94	2.62
TSMC	Buy	1,888,830	NT\$ 2295	NT\$ 3000	8.0	6.2	11.0	8.3	17.6	13.5	5.92	4.33
UMC	Buy	48,341	NT\$ 121	NT\$ 108	4.4	3.7	9.2	7.9	21.2	16.3	3.36	3.07
Vanguard	Neutral	9,273	NT\$ 156.5	NT\$ 155	4.4	3.7	10.8	9.1	23.2	17.3	3.18	2.92
Win Semis	Neutral	6,075	NT\$ 451.5	NT\$ 535	6.4	5.6	19.9	17.4	39.7	33.9	4.10	3.86
Average					5.9	5.1	14.0	11.8	27.2	19.9	3.64	3.20
OSAT / Testing												
Amkor	Neutral	15,953	US\$ 25.71	US\$ 80	1.9	1.7	10.1	8.1	23.6	17.6	2.91	2.54
ASE	Buy	76,229	NT\$ 540	NT\$ 660	2.9	2.5	9.4	7.4	20.5	15.9	5.23	4.49
Chipbond	Buy	5,743	NT\$ 243	NT\$ 340	5.4	4.3	17.2	13.5	29.6	22.1	3.47	3.23
ChipMOS	Buy	1,950	NT\$ 87.2	NT\$ 105	2.0	1.8	6.4	5.8	16.1	14.1	2.17	2.00
Huatian Technology	Neutral	7,998	Rmb 16.8	Rmb 12.7	2.8	2.5	14.7	12.7	45.8	37.2	2.74	2.57
Inari	Neutral	2,077	RM 2.23	RM 1.4	5.0	4.7	20.1	18.5	38.8	36.0	3.88	3.71
King Yuan	Buy	11,196	NT\$ 288.5	NT\$ 380	5.7	4.9	9.5	8.1	16.6	13.8	5.12	4.37
JCET Group	Buy	18,545	Rmb 70.3	Rmb 79.5	2.4	2.2	15.5	13.4	35.5	26.2	3.72	3.31
Powertech	Neutral	7,445	NT\$ 309	NT\$ 240	2.9	2.6	8.6	7.4	20.6	17.3	3.32	2.99
Average					3.4	3.0	12.4	10.5	27.4	22.2	3.62	3.25
Silicon Wafers												
GWC	Buy	11,654	NT\$ 768	NT\$ 800	4.5	3.3	10.4	6.8	30.6	18.1	3.49	3.07
Shin-Etsu	Buy	80,264	¥ 6863	¥ 8160	3.7	3.7	9.8	9.3	18.2	16.9	2.71	2.57
Siltronic	Neutral	3,238	€ 91.3	€ 82	2.7	2.4	9.3	7.2	NA	NA	1.65	1.63
SUMCO	Neutral	7,688	¥ 3522	¥ 3100	3.4	3.2	11.2	10.0	146.6	40.9	2.23	2.17
Soitec	Neutral	6,374	€ 146.65	€ 26	7.8	7.4	21.0	20.5	67.4	57.7	3.35	3.13
Average					3.6	3.1	9.8	7.8	24.4	17.5	2.62	2.42
Semiscap												
AccoTEST	Neutral	8,734	Rmb	Rmb 306	20.5	15.7	44.0	32.8	50.9	38.4	9.98	8.44
Advantest	Neutral	114,281	¥ 25235	¥ 34000	9.6	9.0	19.9	18.7	25.6	23.1	12.26	9.29
ACM Research	Buy	17,385	Rmb 245.6	Rmb 255	9.8	7.5	43.1	30.3	48.2	33.7	7.07	6.03
AMEC	Buy	36,512	Rmb 265.47	Rmb 403	9.1	6.4	37.2	24.6	39.6	27.2	7.71	6.15
Applied Materials	Buy	359,211	US\$ 453.01	US\$ 545	7.9	6.1	20.5	14.6	24.3	17.3	10.43	8.38
ASMPT	Buy	8,987	HK\$ 169.9	HK\$ 200	3.0	2.5	13.6	11.0	22.9	18.6	3.53	2.92
ASMI	Buy	49,187	€ 867	€ 1000	8.1	6.7	19.8	16.1	30.1	25.7	7.02	5.76
ASML	Buy	661,459	€ 1462.2	€ 1900	10.4	8.7	24.2	19.1	30.4	24.7	16.31	11.84
BE Semiconductor	Buy	24,615	€ 271.4	€ 280	16.0	11.2	34.6	22.6	45.6	29.1	31.48	23.04
Changchuan Tech	Buy	18,743	Rmb 200.4	Rmb 280	13.1	9.7	37.7	26.1	41.7	30.0	13.76	9.74
Eugene Technology	Buy	1,941	Won 129500	Won 182000	4.1	3.2	14.6	10.6	19.9	15.1	4.37	3.43
Gudeng	Buy	1,527	NT\$ 501	NT\$ 710	3.7	3.0	14.3	11.3	25.1	18.4	3.81	3.54
Hanmi Semiconductor	Sell	15,807	Won 253500	Won 170000	19.4	15.7	37.5	30.4	47.8	40.0	20.23	15.89
KLA Corporation	Neutral	253,721	US\$ 1929.2	US\$ 2050	14.4	11.2	29.0	20.9	36.3	25.9	32.73	24.30
LAM Research	Buy	381,883	US\$ 303.28	US\$ 360	11.3	8.2	27.7	18.2	32.8	21.1	25.94	20.96
Lasertec	Neutral	21,875	¥ 39100	¥ 43500	10.2	9.4	19.7	18.2	30.5	28.7	8.97	3.51
NAURA Technology	Buy	62,590	Rmb 585.74	Rmb 800	5.9	4.4	28.6	19.7	36.6	25.4	7.74	6.05
SCREEN Holdings	Neutral	13,880	¥ 11760	¥ 11500	2.3	2.2	8.3	8.0	14.2	13.9	3.79	3.51
SUSS MicroTec	Buy	2,007	€ 91.05	€ 105.5	2.1	1.8	12.8	9.9	21.0	15.9	3.55	3.51
Teradyne	Buy	56,283	US\$ 357.93	US\$ 440	7.4	9.4	18.7	27.2	24.4	38.8	10.34	3.51
Tokyo Electron	Buy	156,211	¥ 55020	¥ 28000	6.5	6.3	17.3	16.6	24.4	23.2	9.59	3.51
Wonik IPS	Buy	3,339	Won 104900	Won 145000	3.1	2.5	16.8	11.8	25.0	17.9	4.03	3.34
Average					8.5	6.9	23.9	18.5	30.9	24.4	11.16	8.13
Sector / Regional Avg												
US Semis					8.6	6.9	22.3	16.1	27.2	20.3	10.22	8.36
Europe Semis					6.7	5.5	19.1	14.9	33.2	25.5	9.43	7.38
Asia ex-Japan Semis					6.7	5.2	20.2	15.1	30.3	22.3	6.29	5.03
Japan Semis					5.4	5.4	14.4	14.4	23.1	23.0	6.15	3.69
GLOBAL SEMIS					6.8	5.5	18.8	14.7	28.9	22.0	7.40	5.79

Source: UBS estimates. Priced as of 8 June (APAC) and 5 June (Europe/US).

Semis lead indicators

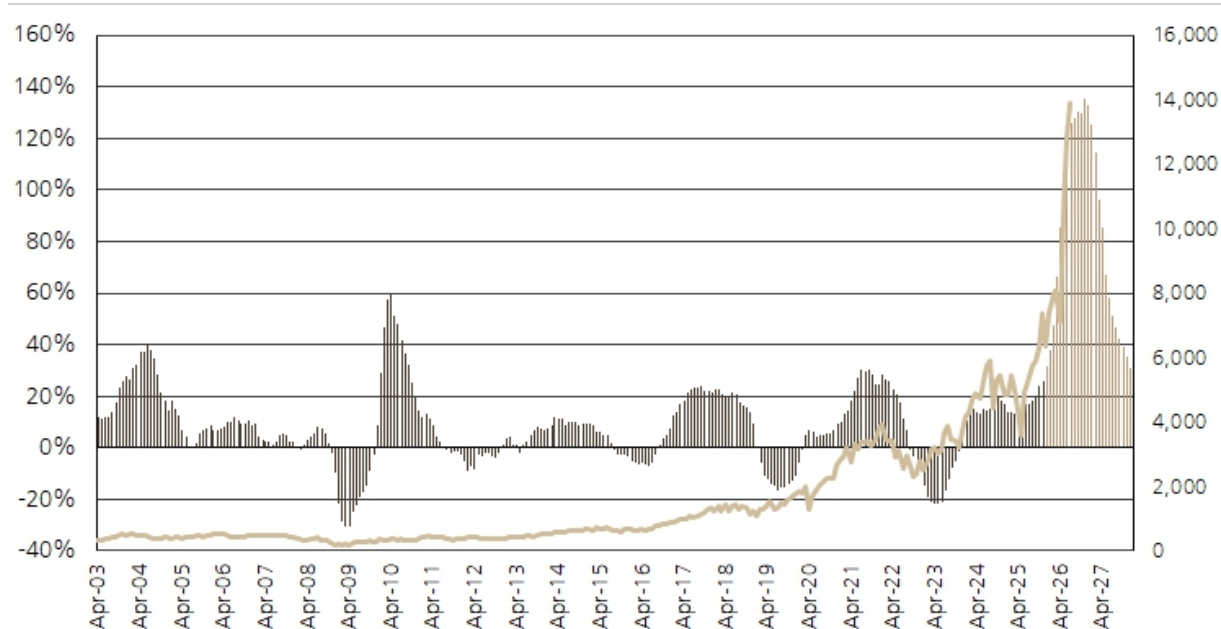
- **3MMA YoY semis revenue growth:** We forecast 3MMA global semis YoY revenue growth (sell-in) to accelerate throughout 1H26 and peak out at +135% YoY in October '26. Excluding Memory, we estimate 3MMA YoY revenue growth to peak out by September '26 at +35% YoY. Stocks typically peak out a few months ahead of this. **(Figures 9-11)**
- **Foundry capacity utilisation rates:** We forecast foundry utilisation rates to continue its upward trend through 2026 and most of 2027 and reach peak levels in 3Q27E. Stocks are typically 6 months ahead of this. **(Figure 13)**
- **YoY semis assembly equipment revenue growth:** We forecast YoY semis revenue growth to peak by 4Q27E. Stocks typically tend to move in the same time frame. **(Figure 14)**
- **Memory operating profits:** We forecast Memory operating profits to peak by 4Q27E. Stocks are typically 6 months ahead of this. **(Figure 15)**

Figure 4: Summary of lead indicators and implications on stock troughs/peaks

Lead indicator	Lead Indication 'Color'	Recent Inflection (Peak/Trough)	Next Inflection (Peak / Trough)	Suggested Stock Peak / Trough
3MMA YoY semis revenue growth	Orange	Feb 25 (Trough)	October 26E (Peak)	1Q26E (Peak)
Foundry capacity utilisation rate	Green	3Q23 (Trough)	3Q27E (Peak)	1Q27E (Peak)
YoY assembly equipment revenue growth	Green	3Q25 (Trough)	4Q27E (Peak)	4Q27E (Peak)
Memory operating profits	Green	1Q25 (Trough)	4Q27E (Peak)	2Q27E (Peak)

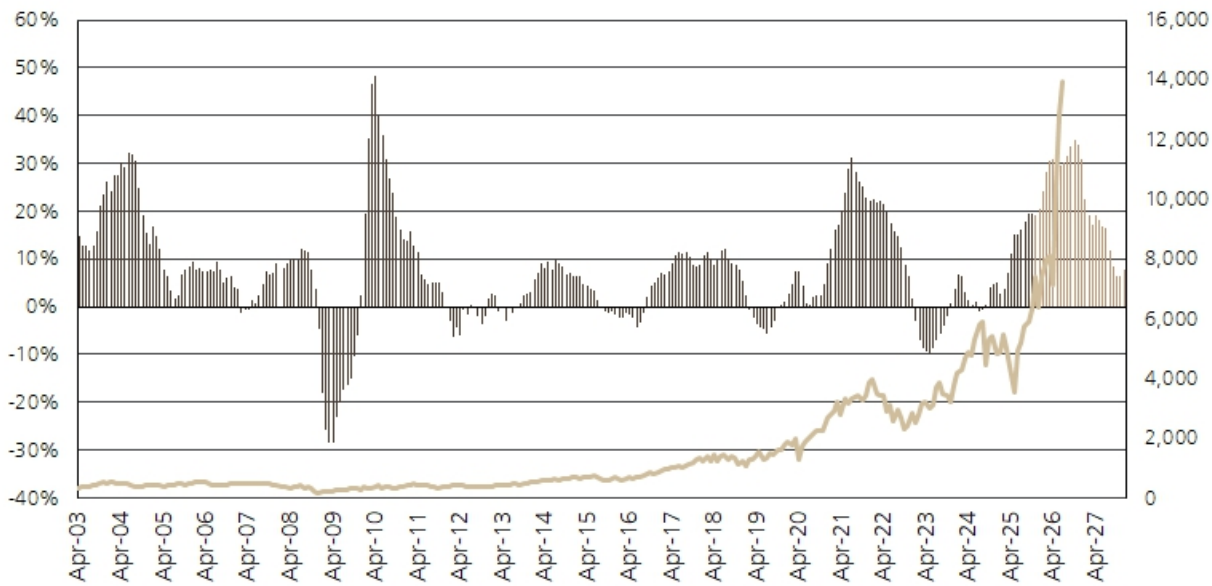
Source: Company data, UBS estimates

Figure 5: Semis YoY 3MMA revenue growth (sell-in) vs. SOX



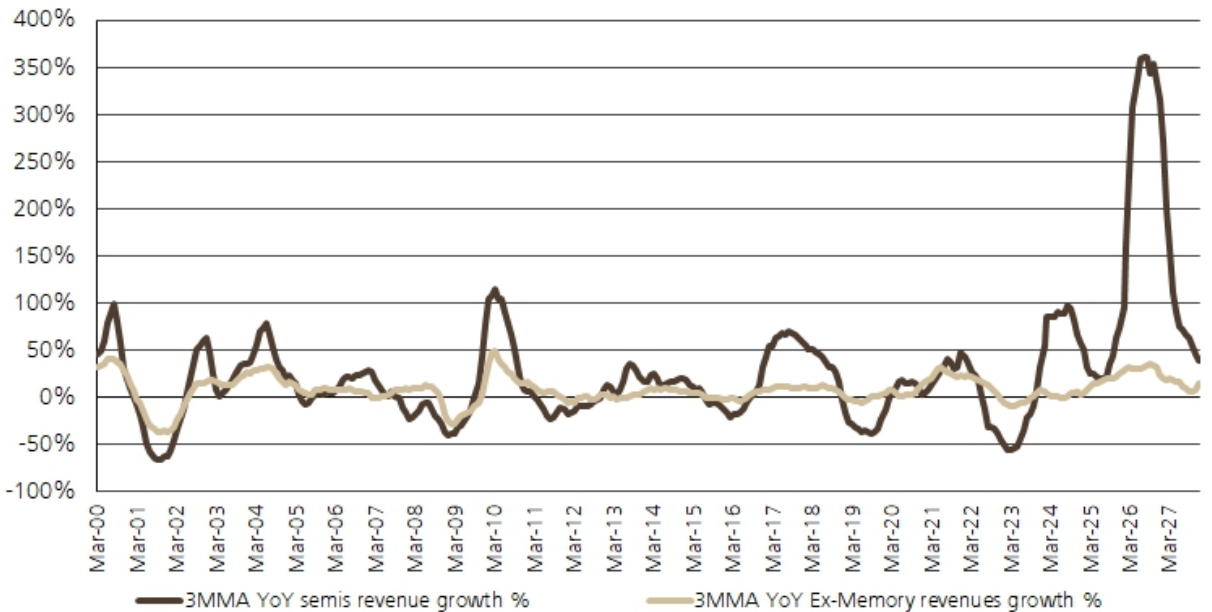
Source: SIA, Bloomberg, UBS estimates

Figure 6: Semis ex-Memory YoY 3MMA revenue growth (sell-in) vs. SOX



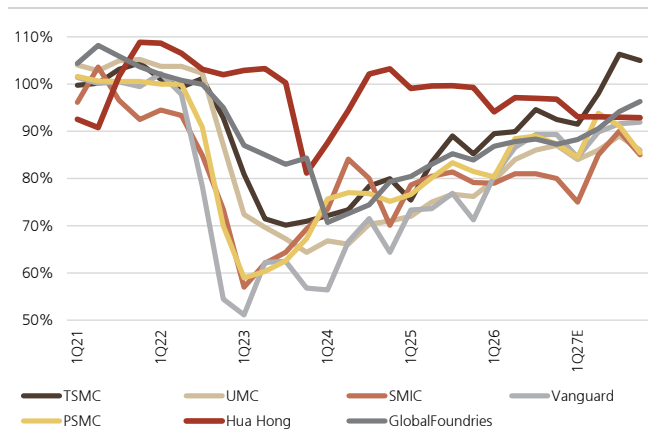
Source: SIA, Bloomberg, UBS estimates

Figure 7: Memory YoY 3MMA revs growth vs. ex-memory semis YoY 3MMA revs growth



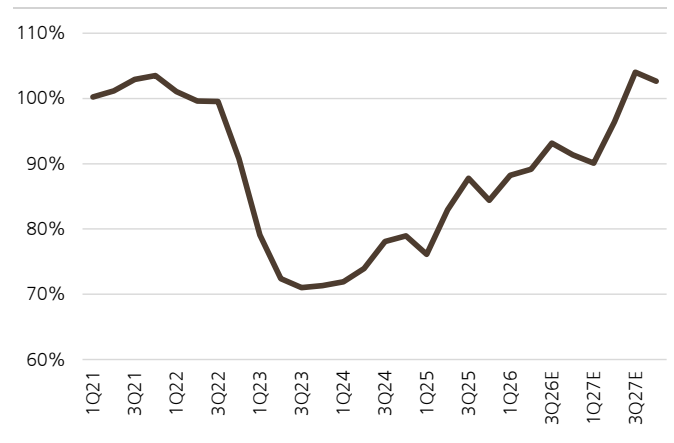
Source: SIA, UBS estimates

Figure 8: Foundry capacity utilisation rates (1Q11-4Q27E)



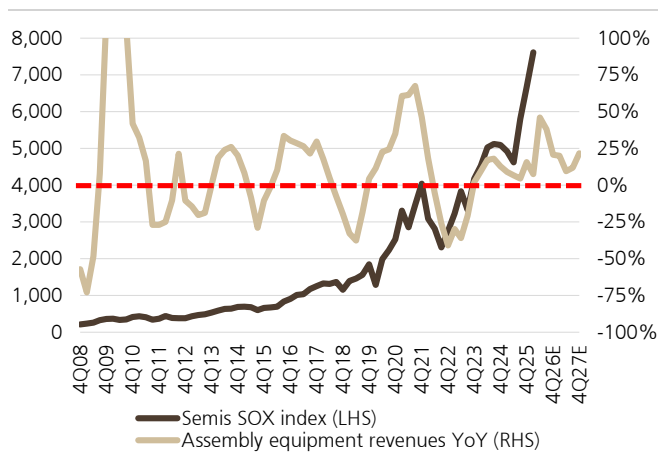
Source: Company data, UBS estimates

Figure 9: Weighted average of foundry capacity utilisation rates (1Q11-4Q27E)



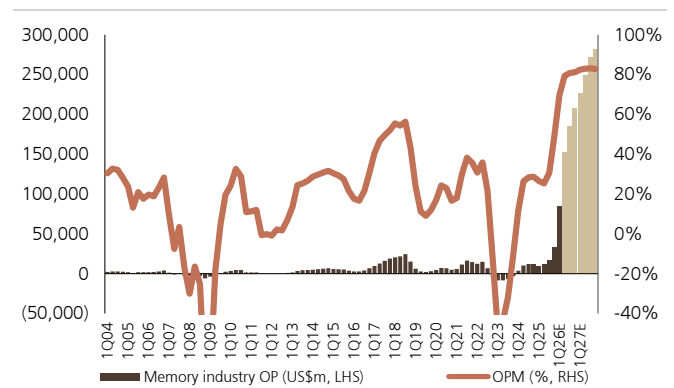
Source: Company data, UBS estimates. Note: Weighted average (by quarterly revenues) of TSMC, GlobalFoundries, UMC, SMIC, Vanguard, PSMC and Hua Hong

Figure 10: Assembly equipment YoY revenue growth vs. SOX



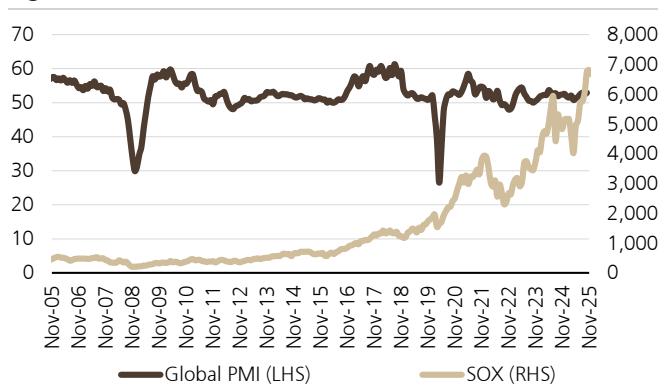
Source: Company data, Visible Alpha, UBS estimates

Figure 11: Memory industry operating profit and OPM



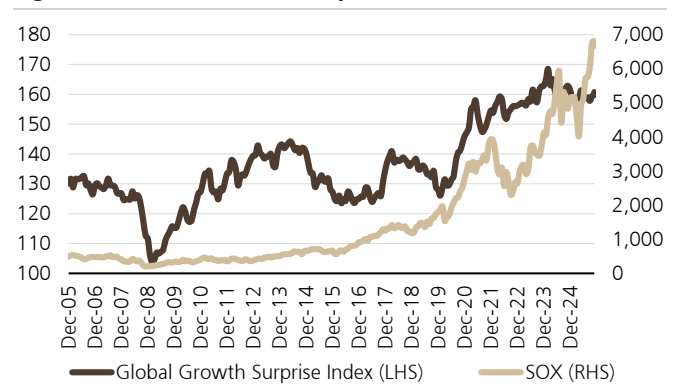
Source: Company data, UBS estimates

Figure 12: Global PMI vs. SOX



Source: Bloomberg

Figure 13: Global Growth Surprise Index vs. SOX



Source: Bloomberg

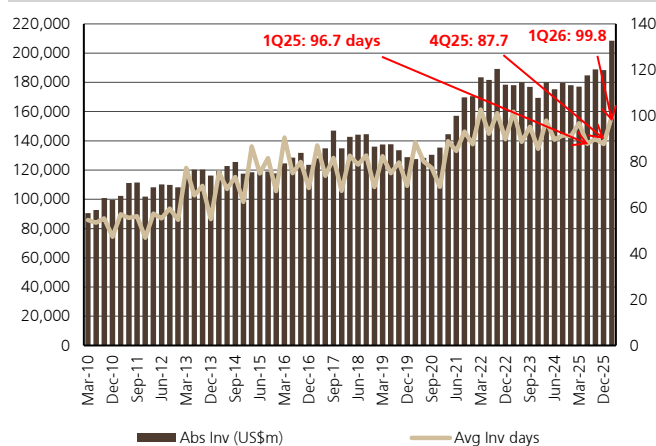
Inventory Analysis

Downstream Inventories

OEM average for Mar/Apr'26-end inventory days trended up QoQ and up YoY at 99.8 days on average (up 12.1 days QoQ / up 3.1 days YoY) vs historical average of 84.7 days. OEM ex Autos and Industrials average inventory days were up 14.7 days QoQ and up 6.0 days YoY to 83.8 days vs historical average of 66.6 days. For companies that have reported their March Q results, Autos saw inventory days trend up QoQ but down in YoY. PCs & IT Hardware, Communication Infra, Industrials along with Mobile Devices saw inventory days trend up for QoQ and YoY. Consumer Electronics saw inventory days trend up QoQ but down in YoY. Absolute inventory for OEMs on aggregate was 11% QoQ and up 18% YoY.

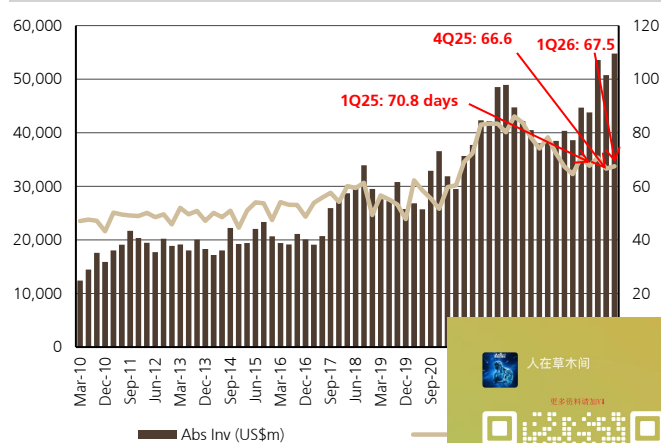
- **Mobile Devices:** Apple's inventory days was up 3.7 days QoQ and down 0.4 days YoY to 10.9 days, higher to historical average of 9.7 days. While Xiaomi saw inventory days trend up for both QoQ and YoY to 92.3 days, higher to historical average of 69.1 days.
- **Communication Infra:** Average inventory days for Communication Infra was up 12.2 days QoQ and up 0.1 days YoY to 105.4 days with absolute inventory up both 14% QoQ and 24% YoY. While Ericsson, Cisco and ZTE saw inventory days trend up for both QoQ and YoY. VIAVI Solutions and Nokia saw inventory days trend up QoQ but down YoY.
- **PCs/IT Hardware/HDD:** Average inventory days for PCs/IT Hardware was up 23.5 days QoQ and up 12.3 days YoY to 101.8 days, still trending above the historical average of 72.2 days. Absolute inventory was up both 26% QoQ and 43% YoY. Acer, Asustek, Dell, Gigabyte, HPQ, Inspur, Lenovo, MSI and Positivo saw inventory up for both QoQ and YoY. HPE, Elitegroup and Seagate saw inventory day go up QoQ but down YoY.
- **Consumer Electronics:** Inventory days for Consumer Elec OEMs on aggregate was up QoQ and down YoY to 48.6 days, trending above historical average of 48.0 days, with absolute inventory up flat QoQ and down 4% YoY. Electrolux saw both inventory days trend up QoQ and YoY while Whirlpool and LG Electronics saw inventory days trend down QoQ and YoY. Hisense saw inventory days come down QoQ but up on YoY. Sony saw inventory days come up QoQ but down on YoY.
- **Autos & Industrial:** Auto inventory days averaged 56.2 days, up 2.0 days QoQ and down 1.2 YoY days, trending above historical average of 48.9 days. Industrial inventory days averaged 144.5 days, up 12.3 days QoQ and up 1.5 days YoY, trending well above historical average of 129.6 days. AVIC Jonhon , Emerson, Honeywell, Siemens saw inventory up for QoQ and YoY while Estun Automation, Hyundai Mobis and Magna saw inventory down for QoQ and YoY. Hongfa Technology saw decrease inventory days for QoQ but increase in YoY while General Electric, Legrand, Cummins, Guangzhou and Shenzhen Yinghe saw inventory days come up QoQ but down on YoY.

Figure 14: OEMs – absolute inventory & inventory days



Source: Company data, UBS

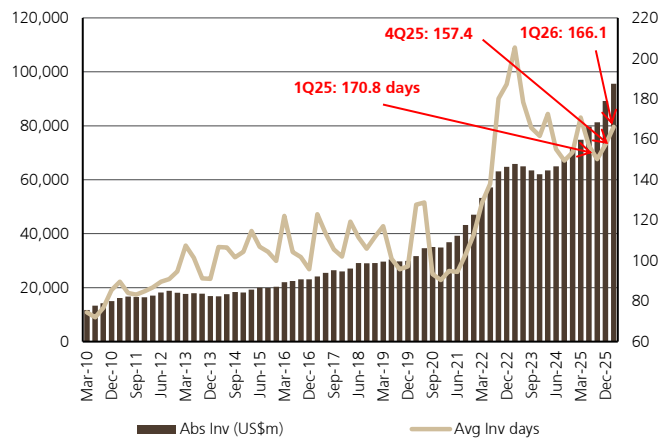
Figure 15: EMS– absolute inventory & inventory days



Source: Company data, UBS

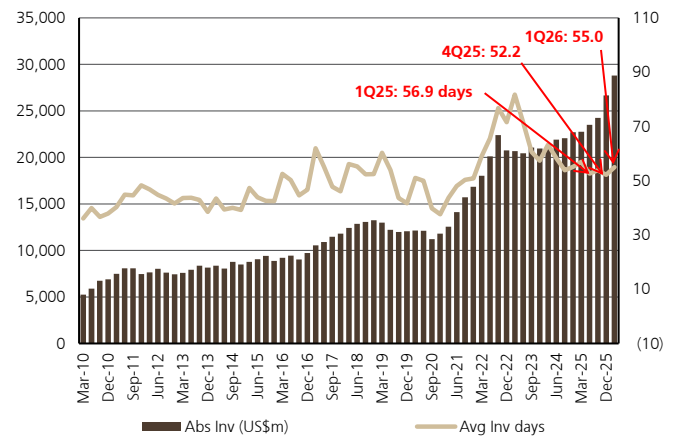


Figure 16: Non Memory Semis – absolute inventory & inventory days



Source: Company data, UBS

Figure 17: Distributors – absolute inventory & inventory days



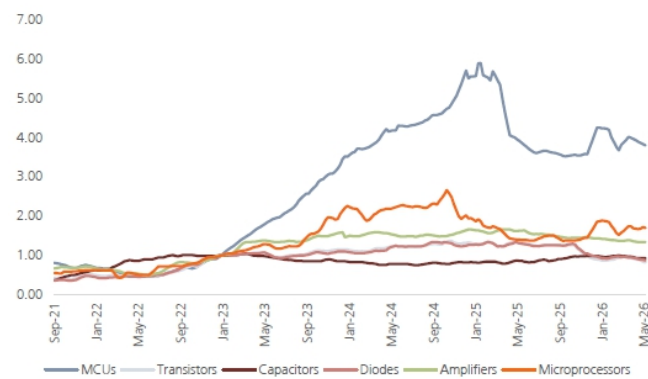
Source: Company data, UBS

Upstream Inventories

Average inventory days for non-memory semis companies were both up QoQ and down YoY to 166.1 days, still trending higher than historical average of 128.4 days. Absolute inventory was up 7% QoQ and up 8% YoY.

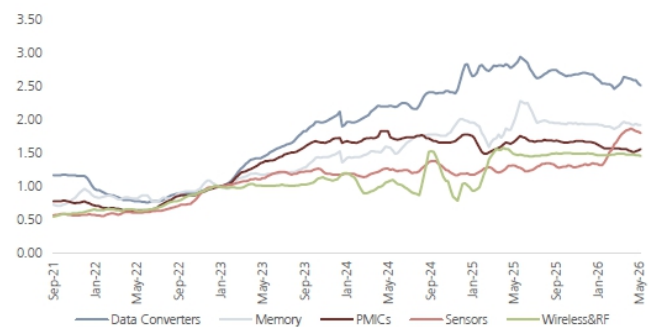
- AMD, Gigadevice, Ingenic, Infineon, Lattice, Magnachip Semi, Mircochip, Sunplus, Texas instrument saw inventory days trend down QoQ and YoY. While Global unichip, Goodix, Maxscend, Mediatek, Melexis, Montage tech, Novatek, ON semi, Qorvo, Qualcomm, Rockchip, Rohm, SGMicro, Will Semi, Broadcom saw inventory days go up QoQ and YoY.
- Analog devices, Marvell, Realtek, Nvidia, Novosense saw inventory days trend down QoQ and up YoY. NXP, Intel saw inventory days go up QoQ and down YoY.

Figure 18: Normalised semis units inventory trends around 100+ global distributors (1)



Source: UBS Evidence Lab ([Access Dataset](#))

Figure 19: Normalised semis units inventory trends around 100+ global distributors (2)



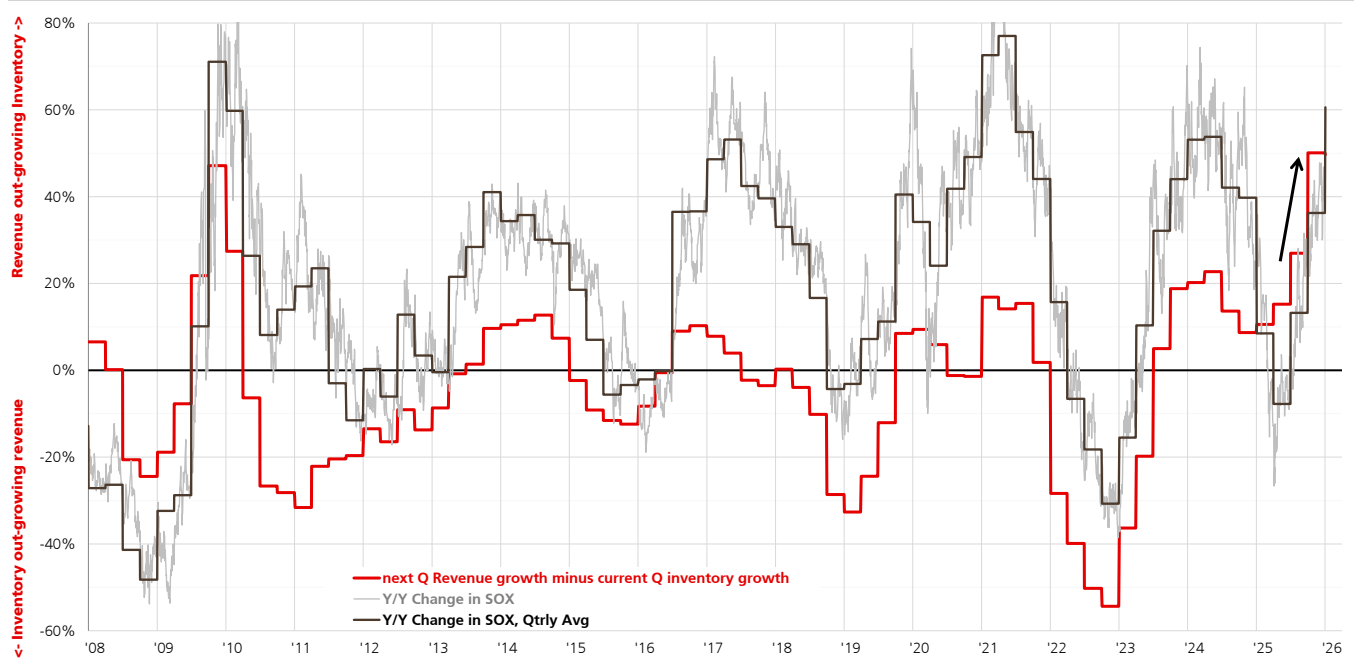
Source: UBS Evidence Lab ([Access Dataset](#))

Inventory Analysis: Outlook Still Constructive

One of our most important pieces of cyclical analysis is the relationship between semiconductor inventory growth and the subsequent quarter's revenue growth. Semiconductor companies calibrate production in response to demand signals, creating a push-pull dynamic that drives an inventory cycle, which in turn drives the semis industry's cycles. In this context, increasing production yields favorable incremental margins and cash flow given the industry's natural operating leverage and wafer fab capacity utilization. For the same reason, trimming production comes at a strong marginal cost to profitability. As a result, semiconductor stocks typically perform best when inventory is chasing demand — in other words, when revenue outgrows the underlying inventory base.

The current cycle began in Q1:22, with inventory expanding well ahead of forward revenue. By Q4:22, this spread peaked above 50%, a historically strong buy signal. In Q3:23, revenue began to outpace inventory, though the rebound has been uneven across end markets, with some still digesting prior excess inventory. The spread between forward revenue growth and current quarter's inventory growth peaked above 20% in Q2:24—a period of very strong stock performance—and has narrowed since. As of Q1:26, aggregate inventory on chip company balance sheets rose 20% Y/Y, well above the 8-12% growth observed over the previous three quarters. This suggests revenue continues to outgrow inventory by a low-single-digit percentage, with the spread widening by ~400 bps Q/Q. Based on this metric, stocks should still be able to move higher over the next 12 months, supported by quarterly revenue growth sustaining above 60% Y/Y, driven largely by strength in the Memory segment. A key metric we are watching is how quickly the broad-based companies increase factory loadings because the demand recovery has been thus far quite uneven outside of anything AI-related. For the duration of what's left in the cycle, it would be better if production is turned on gradually. Once we see production and balance sheet inventory catching up to demand, a more cautious sector stance is appropriate.

Figure 20: Inventory Momentum Analysis



Source: Company data, UBS estimates

Semiconductor revenues forecasts

We meaningfully raise our 2026E/2027E semis industry Sell In revenue forecasts primarily on the back of reflecting incremental upside to 1/ Memory and 2/ sever CPU demand driven by agentic AI ([link](#)).

We now forecast semis industry Sell In revenues to grow +118% YoY in 2026E to US\$1.62tn (was +98% YoY or US\$1.47tn prior), with grow accelerating further after a strong growth year in 2025 (US\$746bn, +24% YoY). Within this, we expect semis ex-memory revenues to grow 29% YoY to US\$663bn. **We also raise our semis industry Sell In revenue forecasts for 2027E to US\$2.38tn or +46% YoY (was US\$1.99tn or +35% YoY)**, with ex-memory revenues at US\$740bn (+12% YoY)

We now forecast cloud AI compute semis revenues (including GPUs/ AI accelerators, CPUs, HBM and DRAM for AI servers) to account for 34% of semis revs in 2026E and continue to grow to account for 48% in 2027E. We forecast semis revenues ex-AI cloud computing to grow +112% YoY to US\$1.06tn in 2026E – supported primarily by conventional memory – before stabilizing at +17% (US \$1.24tn) in 2027E.

Figure 21: Changes to forecasts

(Unit: US\$bn)	New		Old		% Change	
	2026E	2027	2026E	2027E	2026E	2027E
Semis revenues	1,624.1	2,378.1	1,471.5	1,990.0	10.4%	19.5%
YoY growth %	117.8%	46.4%	98.3%	35.2%		
Semis (ex-memory) revenues	663.0	740.4	657.9	768.8	0.8%	-3.7%
YoY growth %	28.5%	11.7%	26.8%	16.9%		

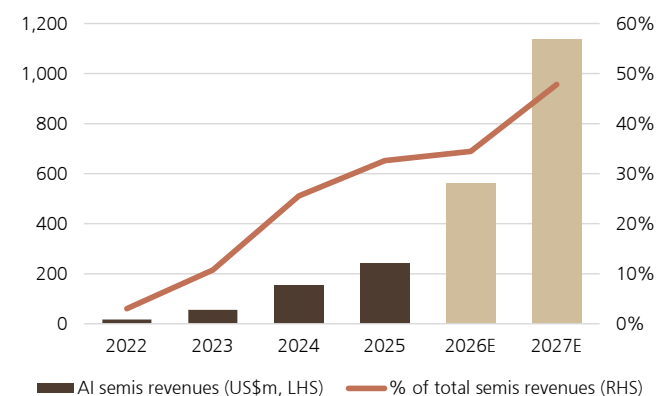
Source: SIA, Company data, UBS estimates

Figure 22: Global semis revenues forecasts by product segment (Sell-In basis)

Revenues (US\$bn)	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026E	2027E
MPU	48.0	51.8	57.8	50.8	45.5	54.2	60.2	75.3	96.4
% YoY	2.3%	8.0%	11.5%	-12.0%	-10.5%	19.1%	11.2%	25.0%	28.0%
MCU	15.8	15.5	19.6	25.0	27.9	22.5	21.6	25.5	29.3
% YoY	-7.4%	-2.0%	26.7%	27.5%	11.4%	-19.4%	-4.0%	18.0%	15.0%
Analog	53.9	55.7	74.1	89.0	81.1	79.5	86.5	100.4	115.4
% YoY	-8.3%	3.3%	33.1%	20.1%	-8.8%	-2.0%	8.8%	16.0%	15.0%
CMOS Logic	109.0	120.8	157.7	178.1	176.3	189.9	252.8	362.5	392.9
% YoY	-3.1%	10.8%	30.5%	12.9%	-1.0%	7.7%	33.1%	43.4%	8.4%
Memory	106.4	117.5	153.8	129.8	92.3	165.1	230.0	961.1	1,637.7
% YoY	-32.6%	10.4%	30.9%	-15.6%	-28.9%	78.8%	39.3%	317.8%	70.4%
Total IC	333.2	361.2	463.0	472.7	423.1	511.1	651.1	1,524.7	2,271.7
% YoY	-15.3%	8.4%	28.2%	2.1%	-10.5%	20.8%	27.4%	134.2%	49.0%
Discrete, Opto & Passives	78.9	79.2	92.9	99.7	98.4	91.0	94.7	99.4	106.4
% YoY	4.6%	0.3%	17.3%	7.3%	-1.3%	-7.5%	4.0%	5.0%	7.0%
Total Semiconductors	412.1	440.4	555.9	572.4	521.5	602.2	745.8	1,624.1	2,378.1
% YoY	-12.1%	6.9%	26.2%	3.0%	-8.9%	15.5%	23.9%	117.8%	46.4%
Semis ex memory	305.7	322.9	402.1	442.6	429.2	437.1	515.8	663.0	740.4
% YoY	-1.7%	5.6%	24.5%	10.1%	-3.0%	1.8%	18.0%	28.5%	11.7%
Semis ex memory ex CPU	257.7	271.1	344.3	391.8	383.7	382.9	455.5	587.7	644.0
% YoY	-2.4%	5.2%	27.0%	13.8%	-2.1%	-0.2%	19.0%	29.0%	9.6%

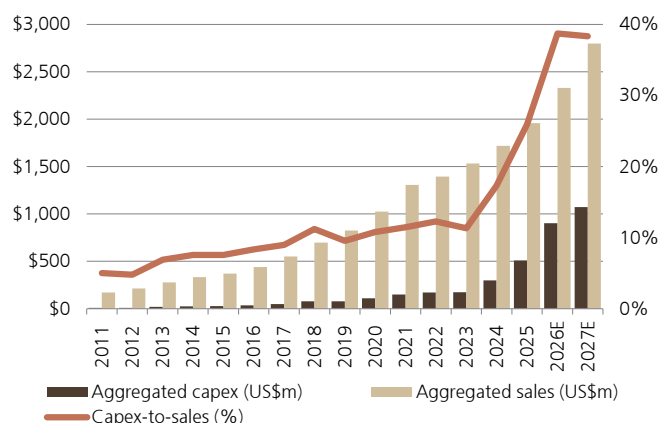
Source: SIA, Company data, UBS estimates

Figure 23: AI cloud computing semis revs - absolute / % of total 2022-2027E



Source: SIA, UBS estimates

Figure 24: Top 4 hyperscalers' capex forecasts aggregate (US\$bn) and as % of sales



Source: SIA, UBS estimates

Figure 25: Semis industry revenues breakdown between Cloud AI vs. non-Cloud AI (2022-2027E)

	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026E	2027E
Total semis industry revenues (US\$ bn)	572,384	521,473	602,173	745,814	1,624,128	2,378,051
YoY growth (%)		-9%	15%	24%	118%	46%
AI cloud computing semis revenues (US\$ bn)	17,255	55,995	153,704	243,117	559,659	1,137,182
YoY growth (%)		225%	174%	58%	130%	103%
As % of total semis revenues	3%	11%	26%	33%	34%	48%
Semis industry revenues ex-AI cloud computing (US\$ bn)	555,129	465,478	448,469	502,696	1,064,469	1,240,869
YoY growth (%)		-16%	-4%	12%	112%	17%
As % of total semis revenues	97%	89%	74%	67%	66%	52%

Source: Company data, UBS estimates