



# Metrology in Nanotechnology

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# Introduction



- We are now in a very exciting period of time when many new and disruptive technologies emerge across a wide range of industries.
- The new products with emerging technologies are generally smaller, lighter, stronger, more reliable and cheaper, which require better process control, and more up stream in the manufacturing processes.
- This trend brings not only good opportunities, but also new challenges to integrate various metrology tools into the advanced manufacturing processes.
- In this talk, I will review and compare several metrology tools that Bruker provides, and their applications in nanotechnology. I will also discuss about some of the challenges in integrating the tools into the manufacturing process.

# Acknowledgements



- This presentation includes data and materials from various technical, application and sales presentations, which were contributed by many colleagues worldwide at Bruker.
- Some materials are from Bruker's customers, who have gracefully shared their experiences with our equipment and agreed to help us demonstrate our equipment capabilities.
- The presenter would like to sincerely thank all people who have contributed to the materials included in this presentation.

# Outline



- **Technology review**
- **Examples of imaging metrology applications**
  - *Wafer level package*
  - *Flexible films*
  - *MEMS*
- **Summary**

# Bruker Nano Surfaces Division Leading Metrology Technologies



- **AFM, Scanning Probe Microscopy** →



- **Optical Profilometry** →

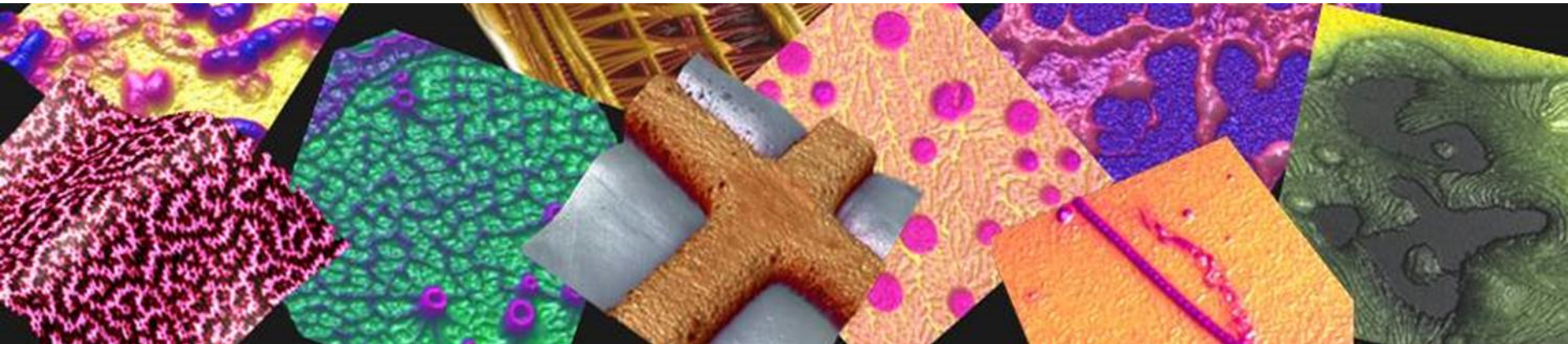


- **Stylus Profilometry** →



# Atomic Force Microscopes

- High resolution 3D surface imaging by rastering a nm size probe across surface
- Can also measure electrical, magnetic, mechanical, thermal & some chemical properties
- Primary application areas:
  - (Nano)materials Research
  - Biology/Life science Research
  - Semiconductor/Data Storage



# Atomic Force Microscopy Application-Optimized Models



Entry-level Research

Life Science



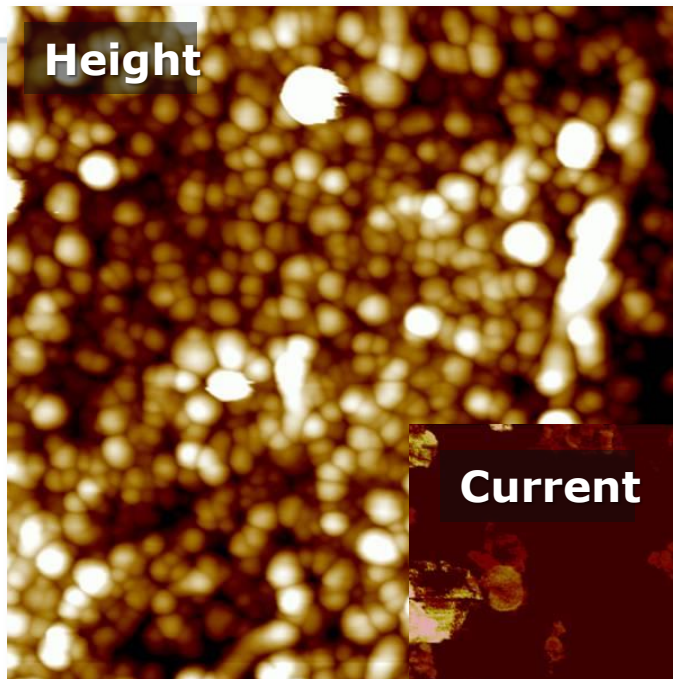
High-End Research &  
High Throughput



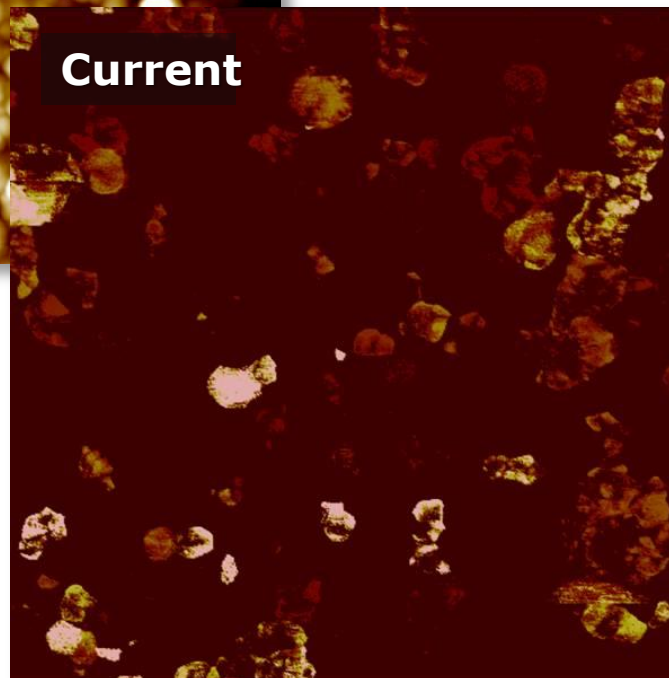
24/7 industrial



# AFM Vertical Carbon Nanotubes



*Electrical  
investigation on  
previously impossible  
samples*

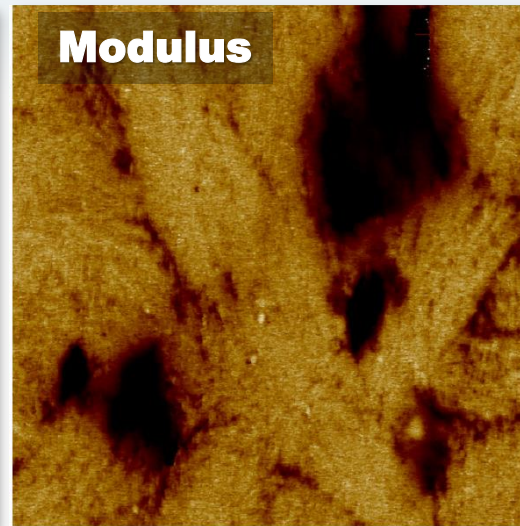
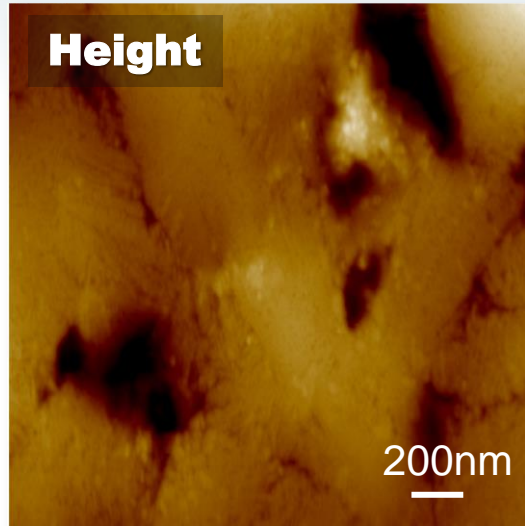
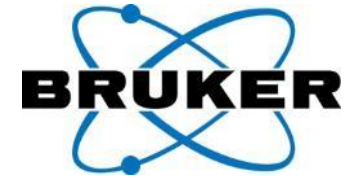


**Electrical  
conductivity**

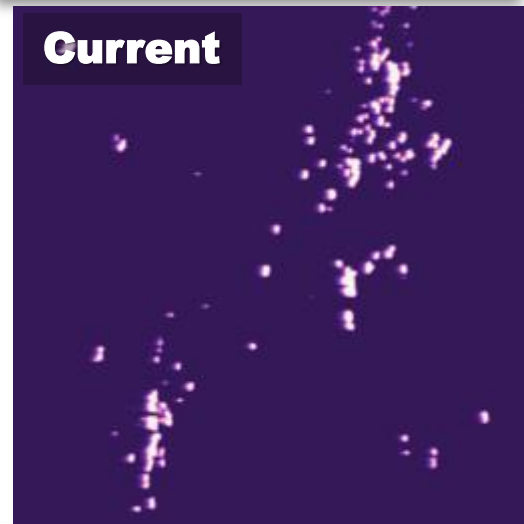
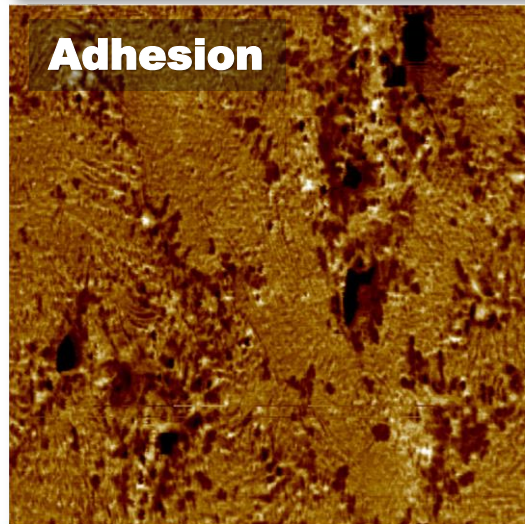
Carbon nanotube pillar array. Image size 1 micron. PeakForce TUNA current image reveals strong conductivity variation, possibly due to differences in nanotube types or capping.



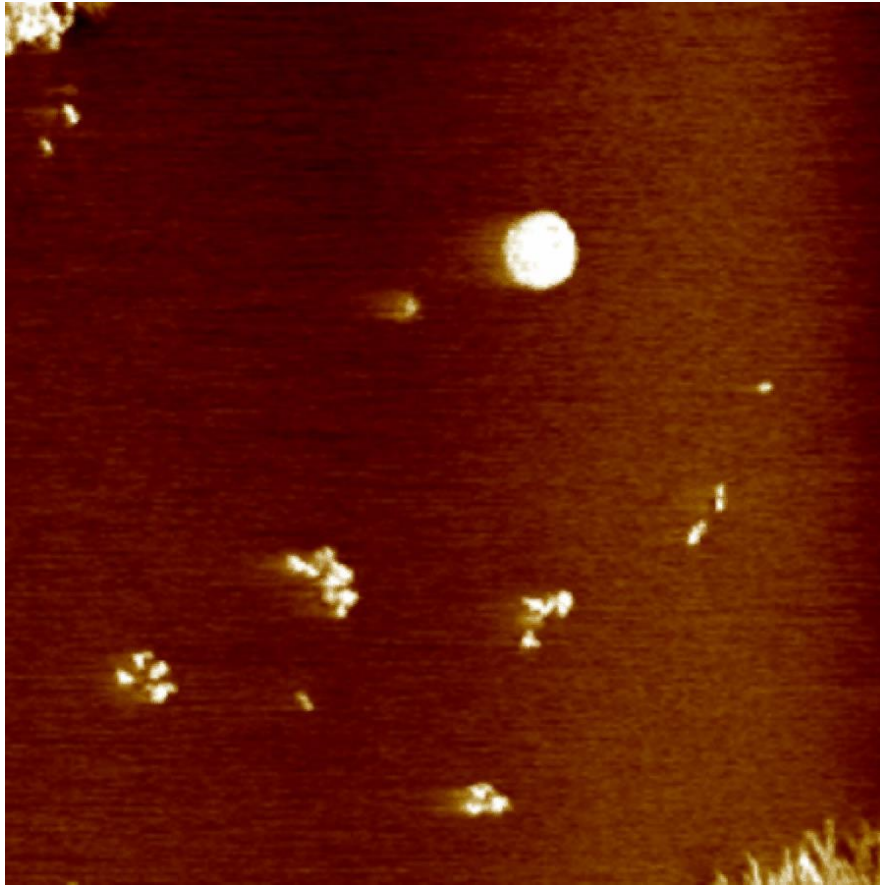
# Material Property Maps



Get quantitative and high resolution on modulus, adhesion, and conductivity.



# Explore Real-Time Changes as Polymer Crystallizing



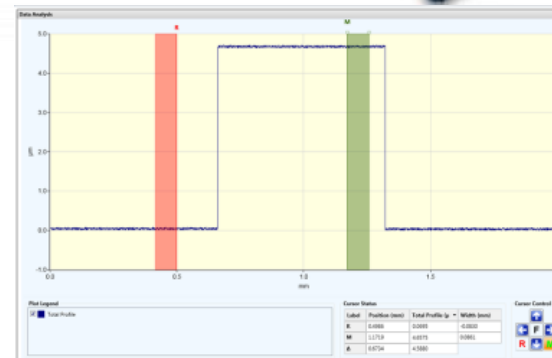
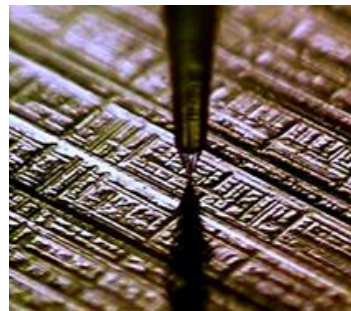
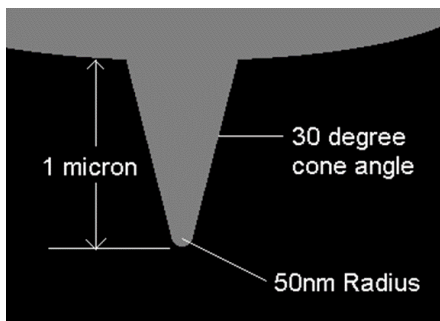
High speed AFM studies of PHBV crystallization show lamella spurting forward substantially faster than the macroscopic growth rate, then slowing or stopping. Growth is then controlled by the rate of lamella nucleation on dormant lamella, rather than by the growth rate of individual lamella (see Hobbs, Bruker).

2.2 micron images, 100Hz, 256 x 256 pixels. Sample  
Courtesy: Dr. Jamie Hobbs University of Sheffield

# Dektak Stylus Profilers



- Measures surface profile by moving stylus across sample.
- Low cost, easy to use.
- Primary applications:
  - Roughness
  - Step Height

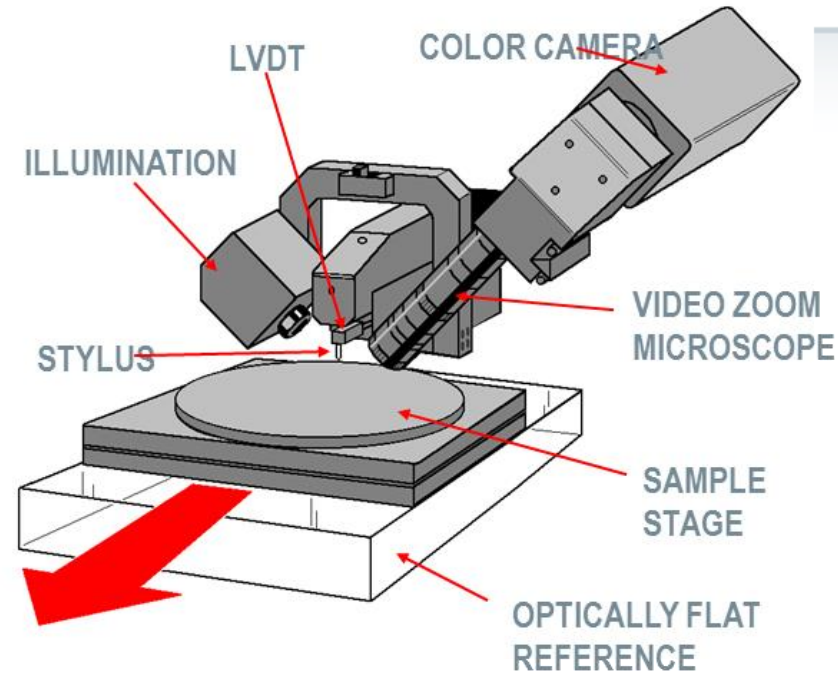


50nm radius, FIB-etched diamond tips

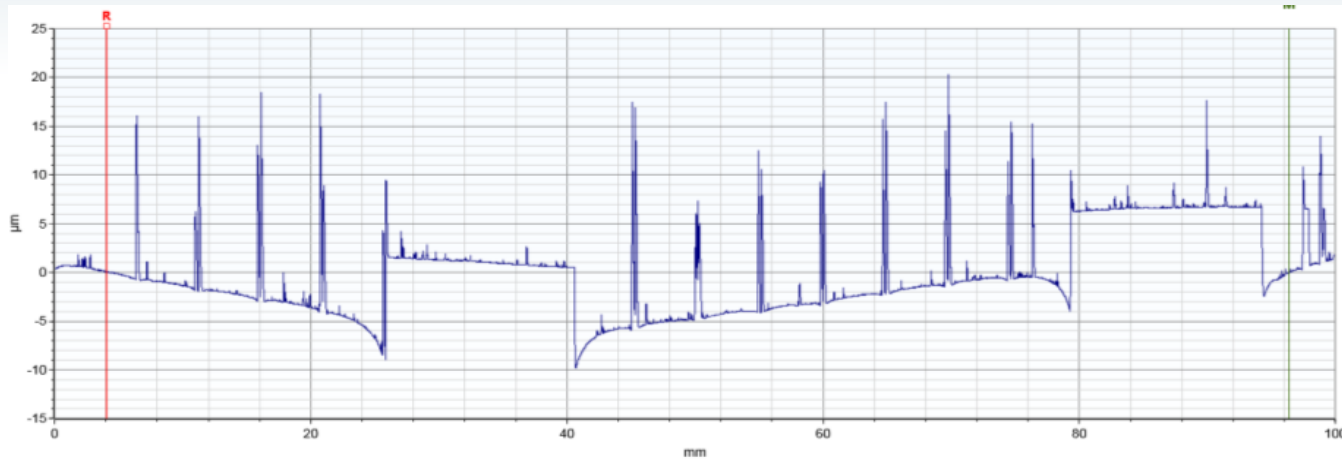
# Stylus Profiler Capabilities



- **Large Part Ranges**
  - Wafers >200 mm
  - Parts up to 100mm tall
  - Sample thickness up to 50mm
  - Vertical scan range to 1mm
- **Low stylus force**
  - **Down to 0.03mg**
- **Step height repeatability**
  - **5 Å**
- **Full XY automation for 3D Mapping**
- **Reference optical flat for best results in film stress measurement**

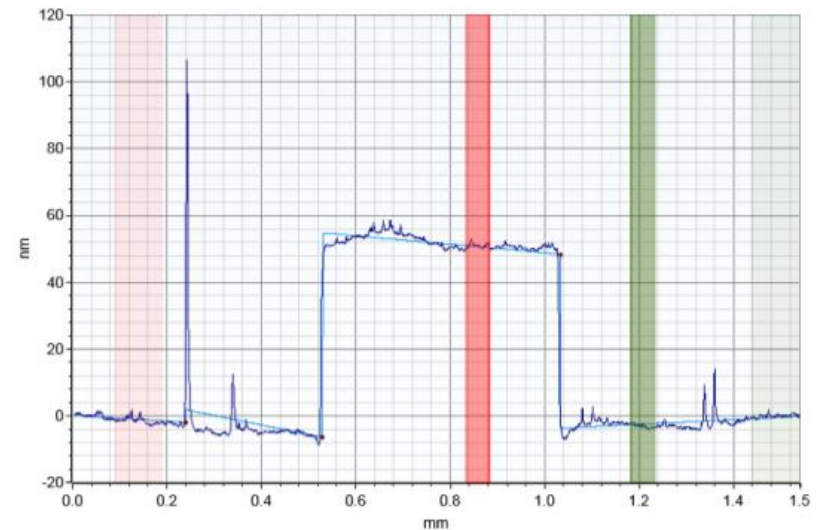


# Stylus Profiler Capability Illustrations

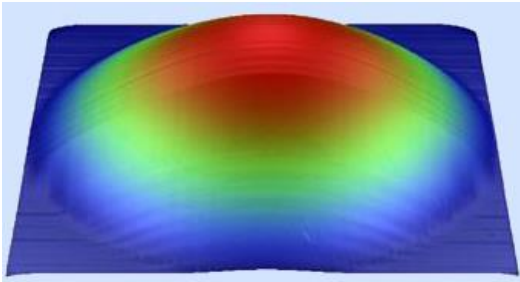


Full 4" wafer profile

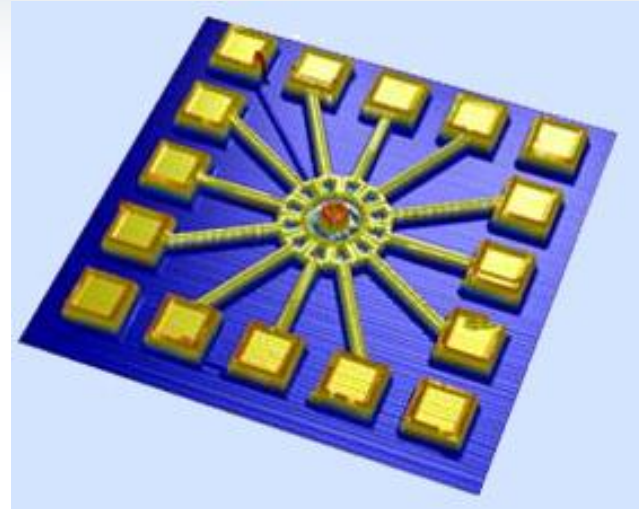
Same head covers step from **1nm** to **1mm** with force range from **0.03mg** to **15mg**.



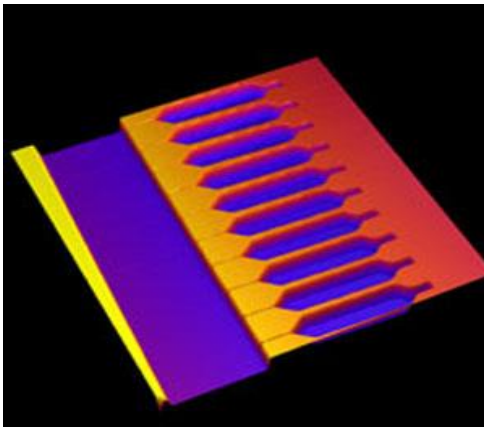
# Stylus Profiler 3D Mapping Examples



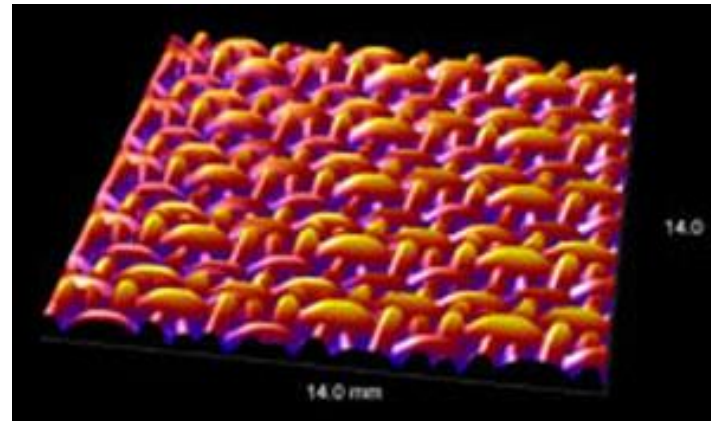
Optics



MEMS



Ink Jet Nozzles



Polyester Weave

# Optical Interferometry Profilers



- 3D microscope for surface profiling based on White Light Interferometry (WLI)
- Non-contact, non-destructive
- Fast, accurate, and repeatable
- Sub-nanometer vertical resolution
- Image large areas at once
- Key application areas:
  - Automotive/Aerospace
  - Data Storage
  - Solar
  - MEMS
  - Semiconductor
  - LED, Optics
  - Medical
  - Precision Machining/Tribology



# 3D Optical Profilers

Table top to high end automation



**ContourGT-X**  
Advanced automation  
with wafer loader capability



**ContourGT-I**  
Table top  
automated

**ContourGT-K**  
manual



**SP – flat panel ,  
large substrate  
and PCB**



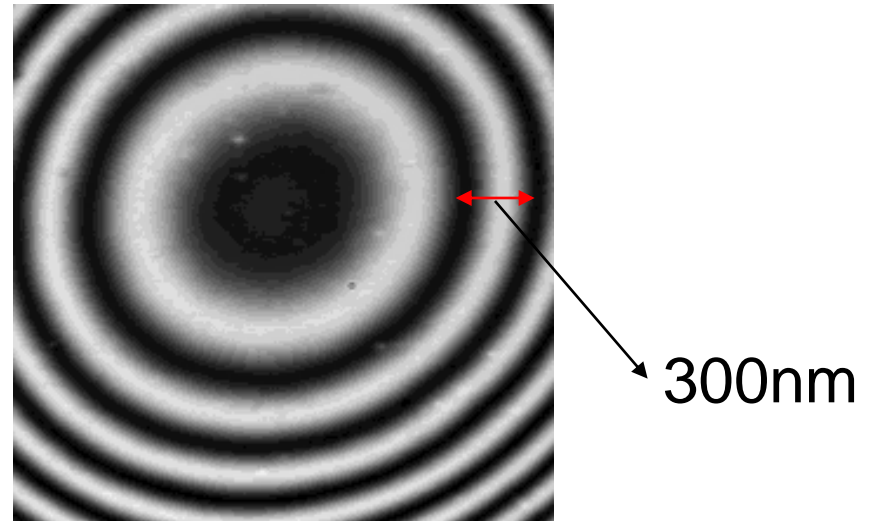
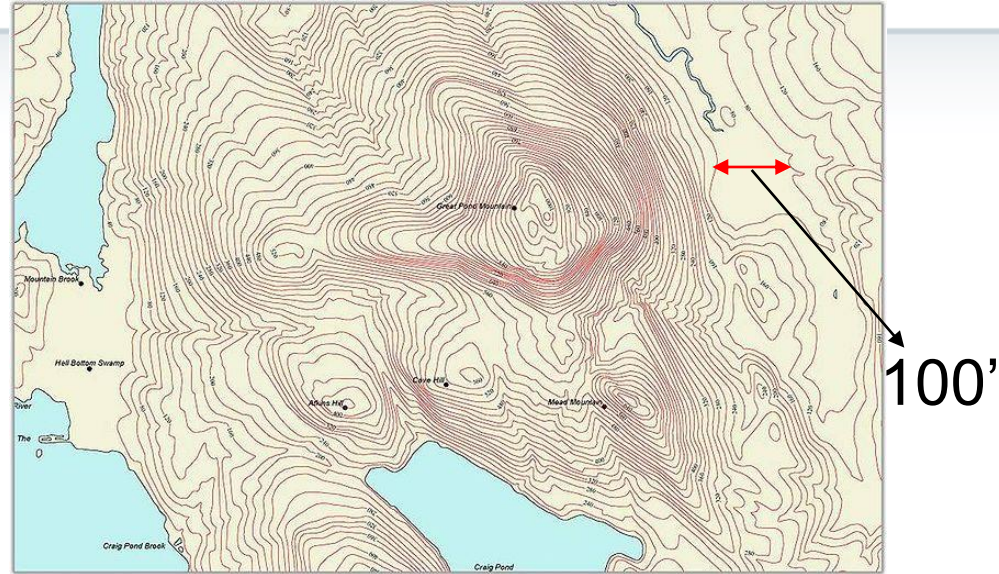
**Dual 300mm FOUP  
ContourGT-X ARM  
Configuration**



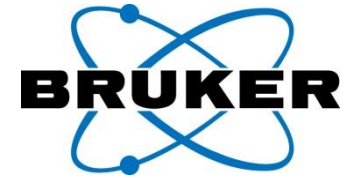
# Interference fringes are similar to contour map lines



- On a contour map each line represents a fixed elevation.
- Typically the spacing is 100 feet
- Set by the mapmaker
- On an interferogram each line also represents a fixed height
- Spacing is  $1/2$  the wavelength of the light (typically 300nm in current instrument)
- Set by optics



# 3D Optical Interferometry



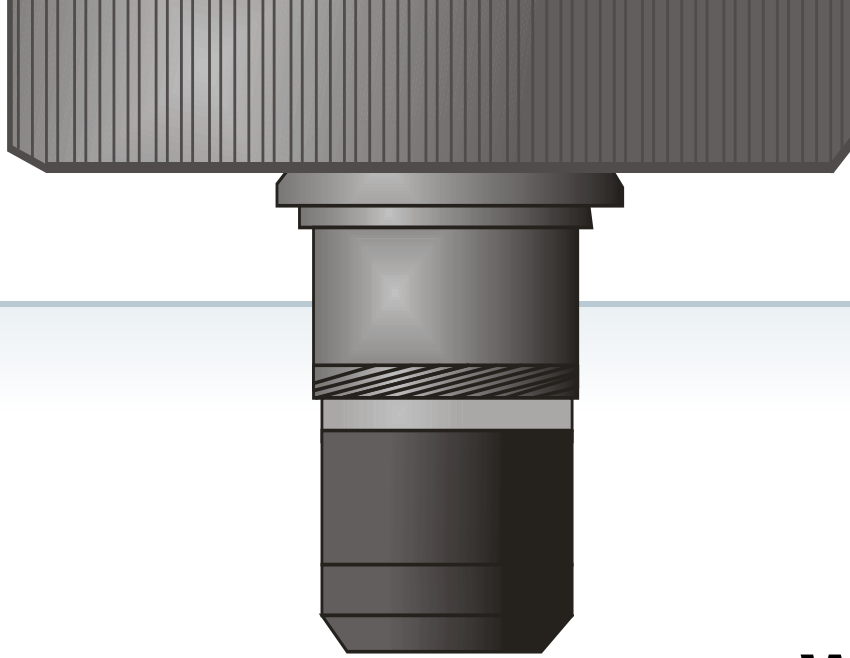
## White Light Interferometry – WLI

- VSI – white light illumination
- Vertically scan through focus, looks for highest fringe contrast
- Vertical resolution  $\sim 3$  nm
- Rough surfaces, steep steps
  - Height range:  $< 10$ mm
  - Slope:  $< 60$ deg +
- Speed: 5-80 $\mu$ m/sec

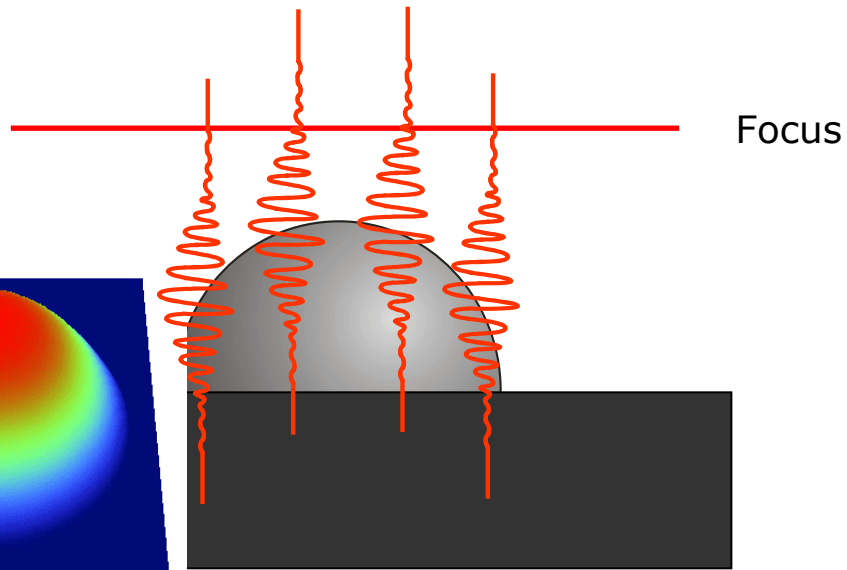
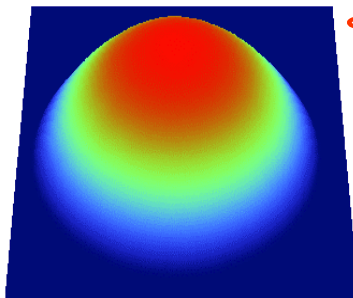
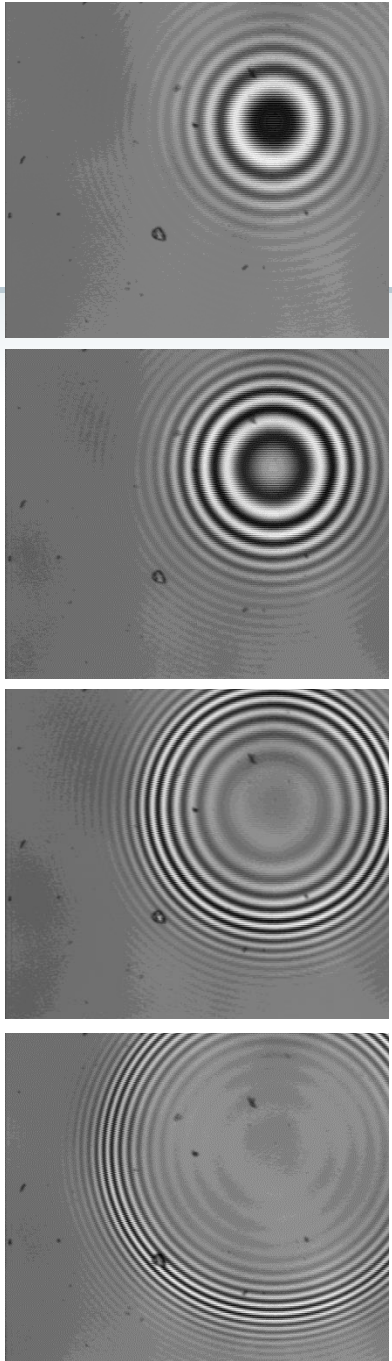


## Phase Shifting Interferometry – PSI

- PSI – monochromatic illumination
- Calculates the phase of the fringes
- Vertical resolution  $< 0.1$  nm
- Optically smooth surfaces
  - Height range:  $< 140$ nm
  - Ra:  $< 30$ nm
- Speed:  $\sim 1$  sec



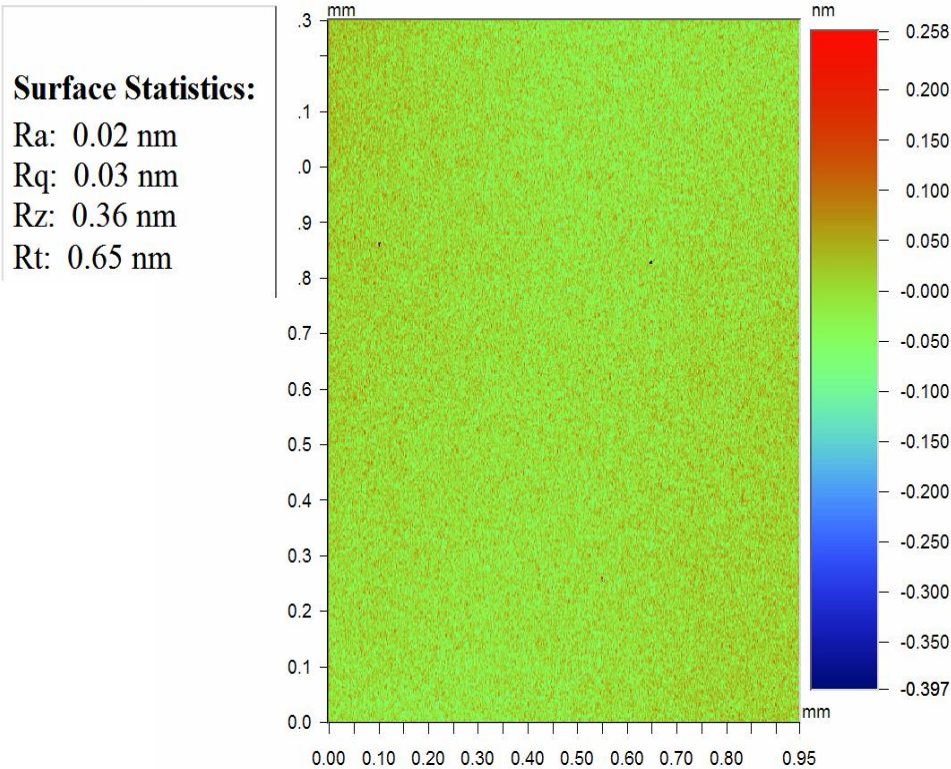
## WLI Illustration



# PSI – High Vertical Resolution

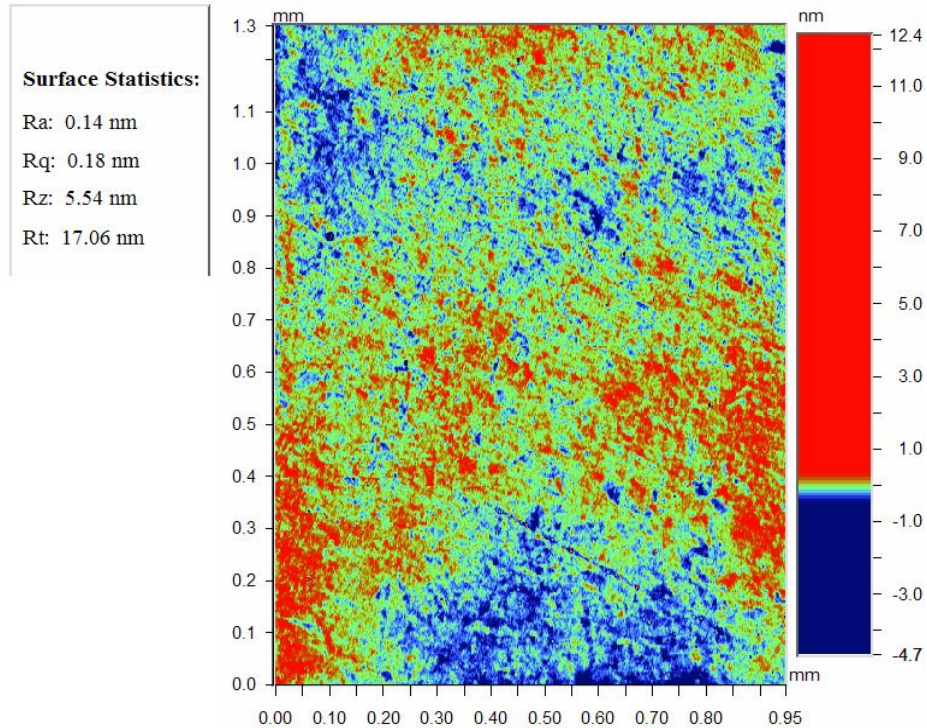


## Surface Data



- 0.02nm Ra, 0.7nm PV

## Surface Data

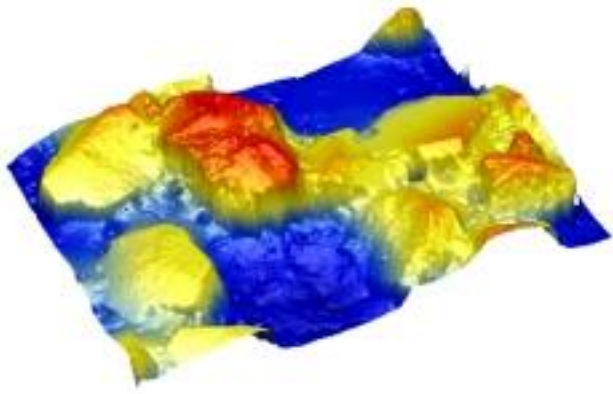


- SiC mirror with 0.14nm Ra
- 0.2nm deep scratches are visible

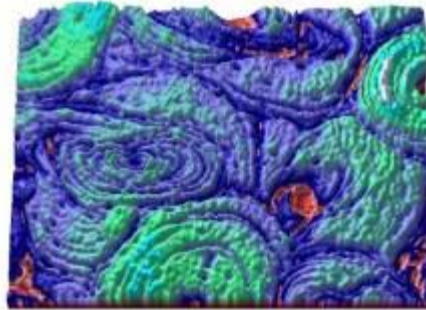
# VSI –Versatile Applications



Metals

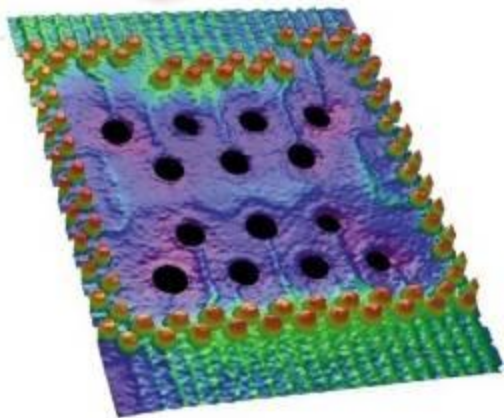
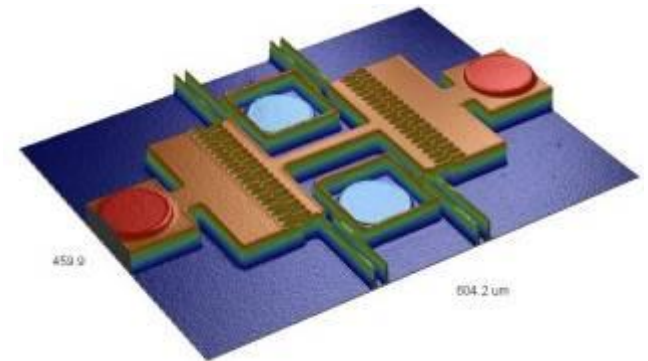


Life Sciences



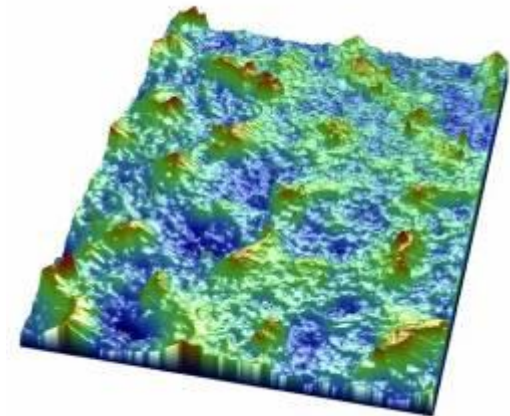
MEMS

(MicroElectroMechanical Systems)



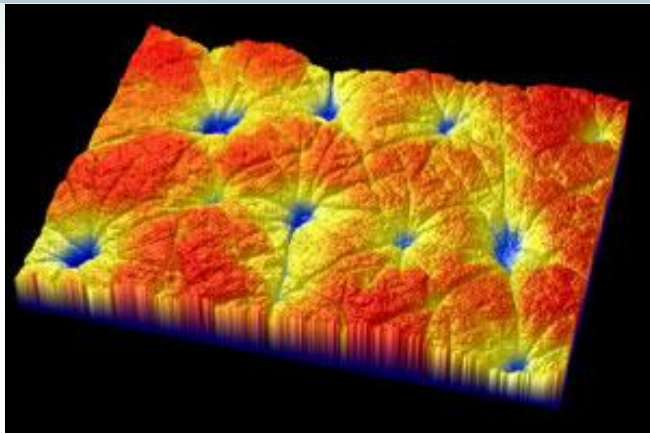
Semiconductors

Optics

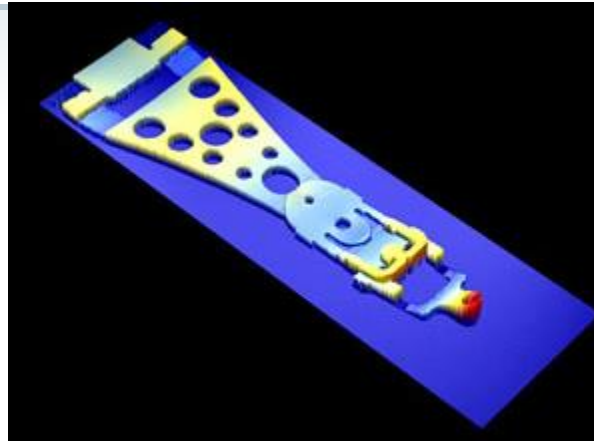


Materials

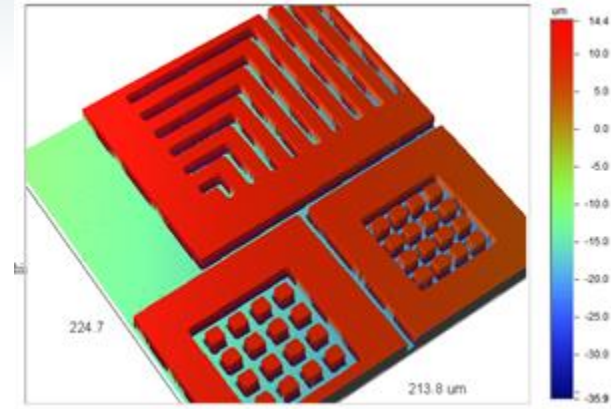
# VSI –More Applications



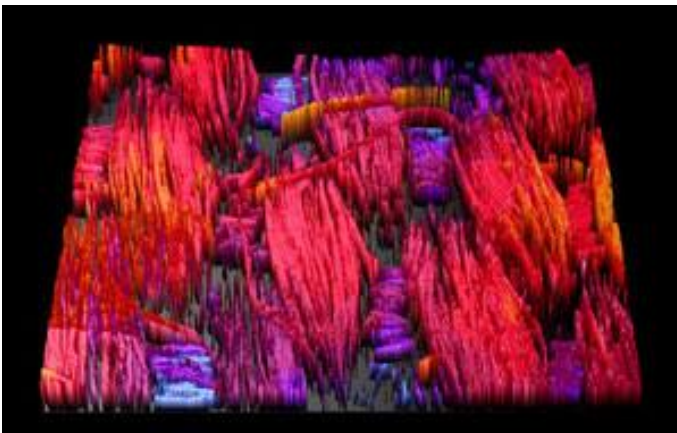
Human Skin



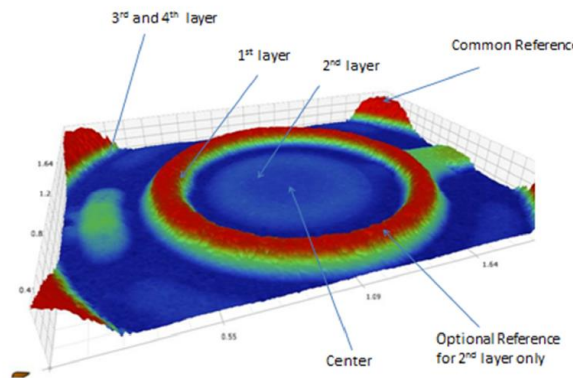
Hard disk suspension arm



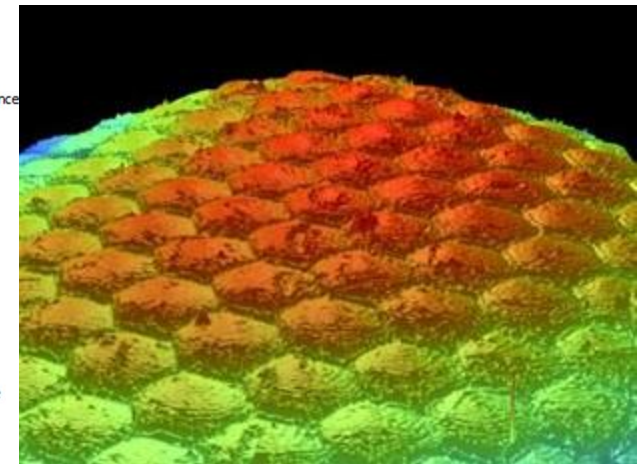
Electronic circuit



Cotton cloth, 1mm x 1mm



Microfluidic



Grasshopper Eye  
230µm x 300µm.

# Stitching Enables Large Area Metrology



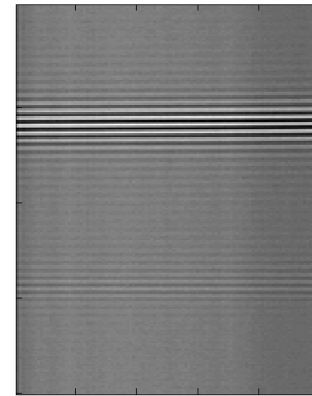
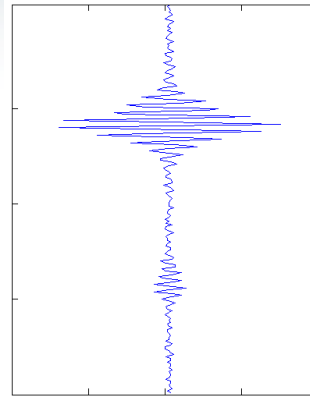
- Stitch up to 2000 fields together for large area imaging with high spatial resolution,
- Fields of view up to many square cm



# Transparent Film Thickness Measurement

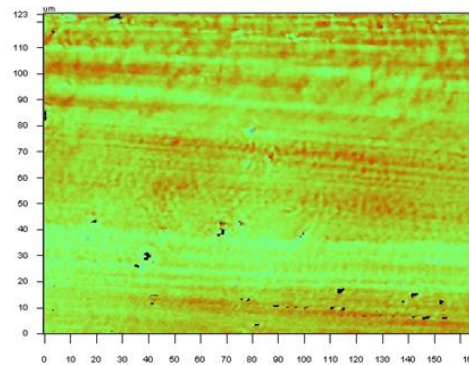


- Interferometer create two sets of fringes at:
  - air/film interface
  - film/substrate interface.
- Position of the peaks, corrected for the film material, gives film thickness
- 400nm to 200  $\mu\text{m}$  films can be characterized.
- Repeatability: 2-6nm
- Film Thickness and Surfaces Simultaneously Characterized

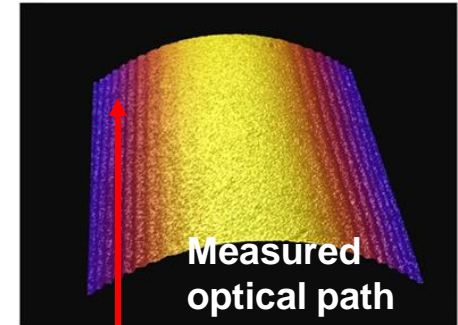


(A) Film Thickness

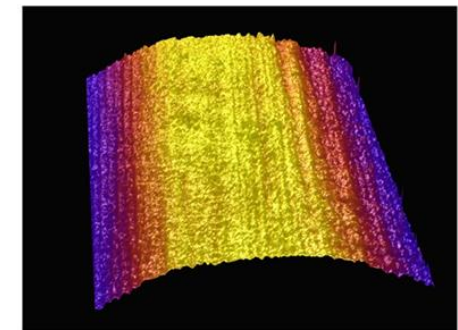
(B)



Top Surface



Bottom Surface



Unlike Stylus, Optical Techniques Do Not Require Steps

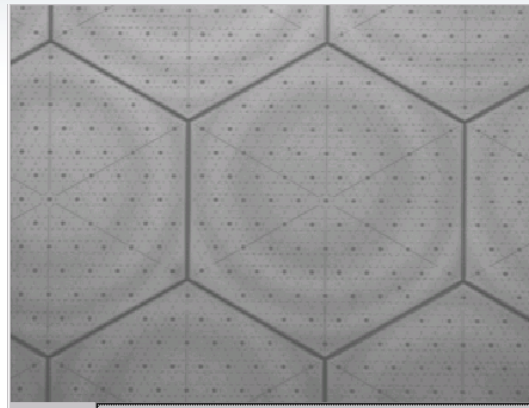


# Measuring Through Transmissive Media (TTM)

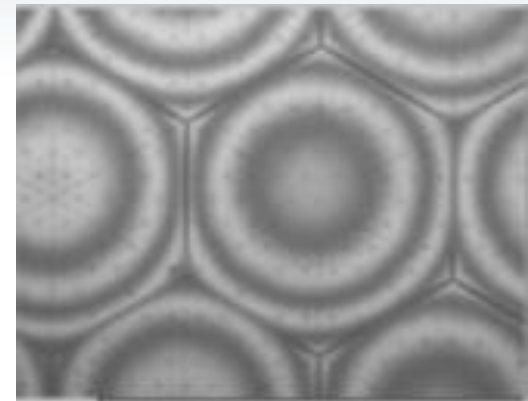


- Manufacturers need to understand how devices perform in their final state, often through packaging
- Environmental testing is also required, typically in test chambers under varying temperature, pressure, etc .
- Challenge: when measuring through transmissive media the optical path length differs between the two arms of interferometer:
  - Decreased fringe contrast
  - Difficult to make accurate measurements
- At low magnification compensation is possible by introducing a slide of similar material and thickness in the reference arm

# Custom Objective Enable Measurement Through Glass



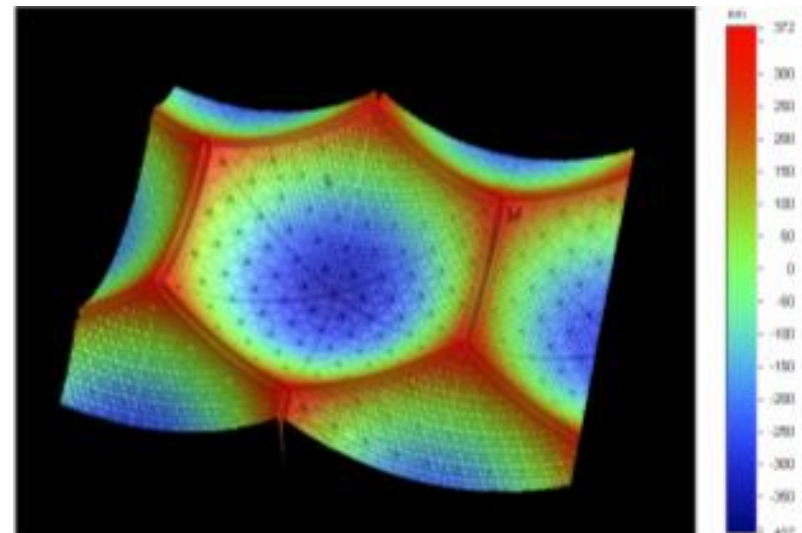
without compensation



with compensation

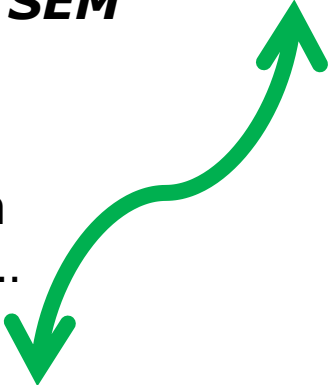
- Micro-mirror array imaged through the window (170 $\mu$ m) of an environmental chamber

Courtesy Sandia National Laboratories.

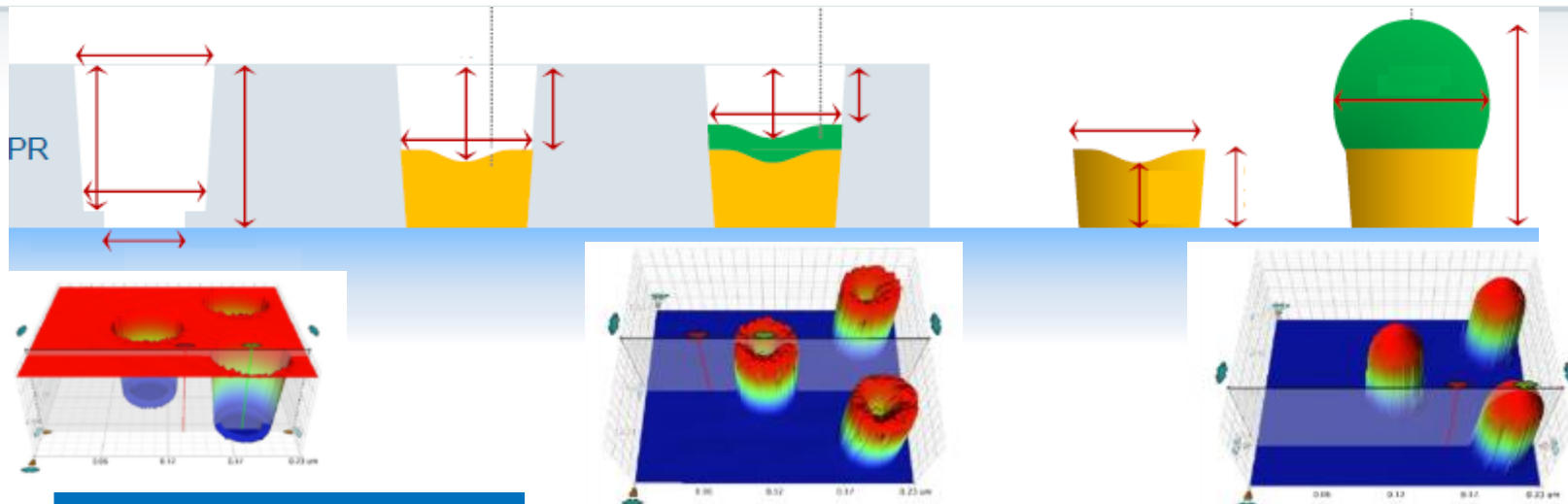


# Wafer Level Packaging Process Monitoring

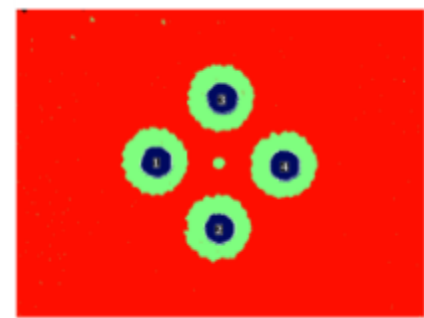


- ***Need to verify proper etch and plate dimensions for Cu traces, pillars in process across wafers***
  - ***Fast feedback on process is not easily achieved via SEM (current workhorse)***
  - ***Fast, non-contact solution available from Bruker for...***
- 
- ***Automated CD inspection of Cu trace widths, heights***
  - ***UBM diameters, Cu pillar heights***
  - ***Cu Roughness***
  - ***Film thicknesses during process***

# Copper Pillar / Solder Bumps Height / Width and PR (photo resist) Thickness



| No | Region | Mean $\mu\text{m}$ | X Diameter $\mu\text{m}$ | Y Diameter $\mu\text{m}$ |
|----|--------|--------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1  |        | -60.841            | 401.050                  | 414.784                  |
| 2  |        | -59.439            | 403.797                  | 406.544                  |
| 3  |        | -61.694            | 406.544                  | 406.544                  |
| 4  |        | -58.657            | 74.167                   | 68.673                   |
| 5  |        | -60.558            | 406.544                  | 403.797                  |



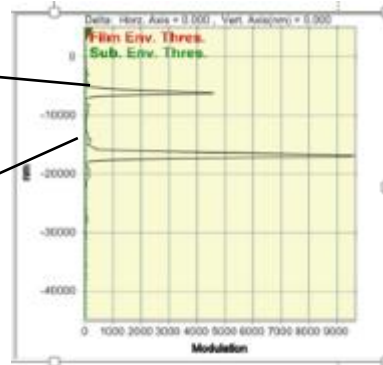
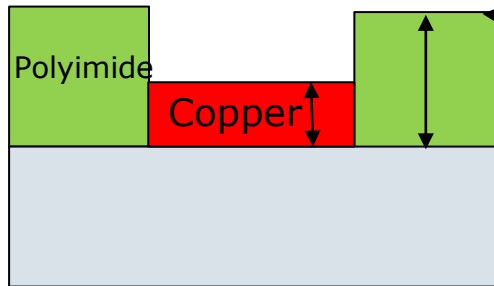
| No | Region | Mean $\mu\text{m}$ | X Diameter mm | Y Diameter mm |
|----|--------|--------------------|---------------|---------------|
| 1  |        | -127.365           | 0.195         | 0.192         |
| 2  |        | -127.831           | 0.187         | 0.187         |
| 3  |        | -127.908           | 0.201         | 0.195         |
| 4  |        | -128.990           | 0.187         | 0.190         |

**One measurement, multiple analyses done simultaneously**

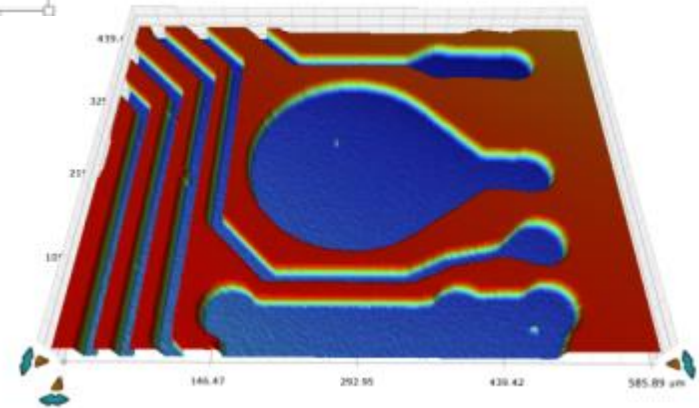
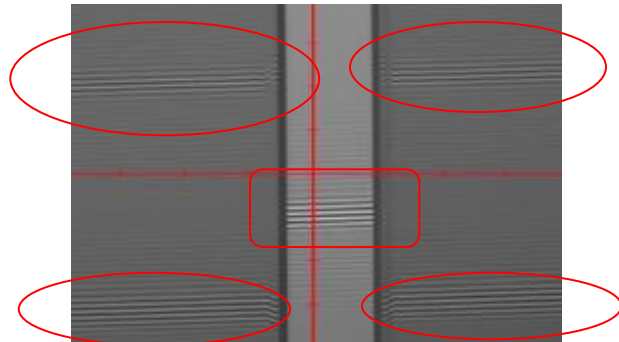
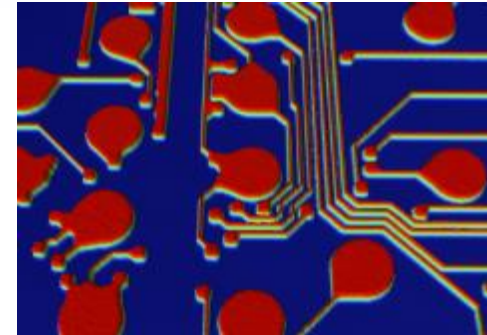
# RDL – Redistribution Layer



Film Measurement capability separates two signals and measures the thickness without a step height



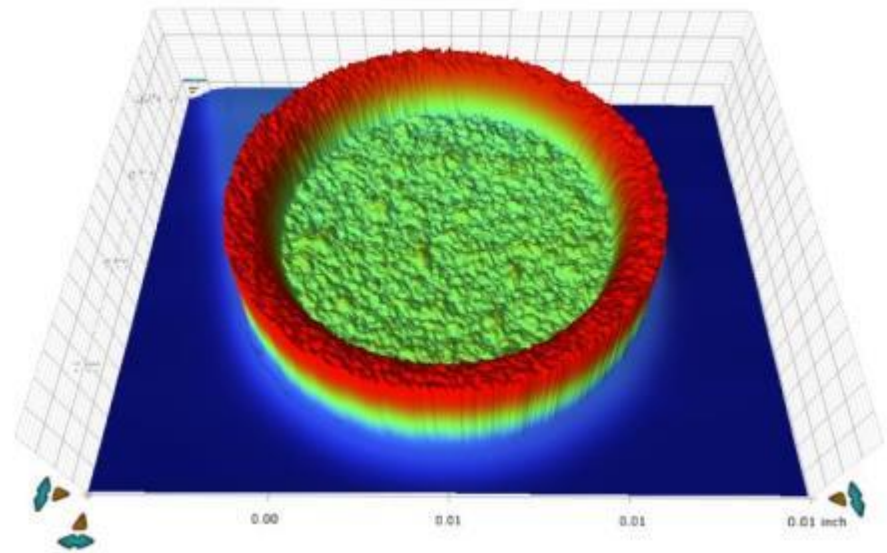
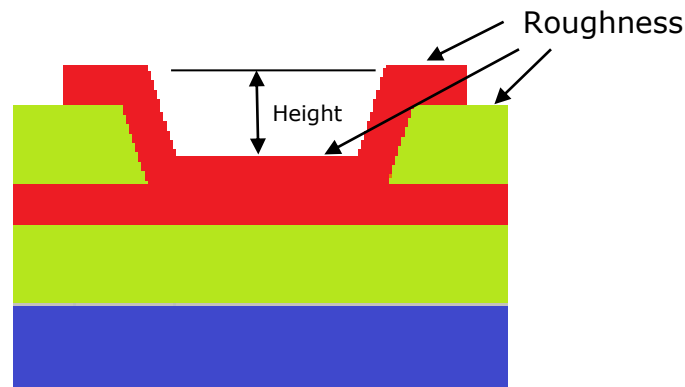
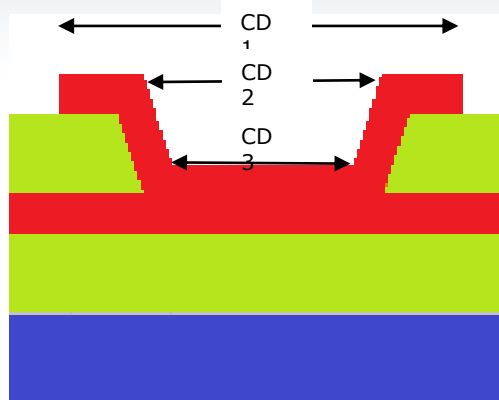
### Copper Thickness



### Polyimide Thickness

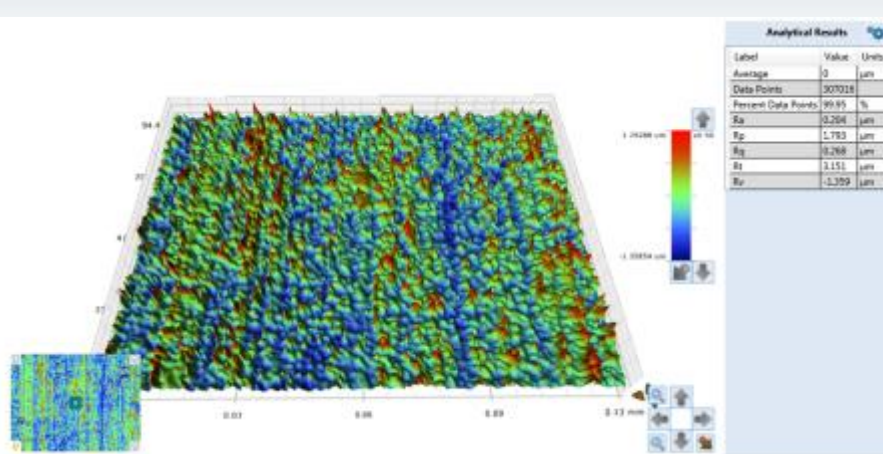
***Both Copper and Film thickness in a single measurement***

# UBM - Under Bump Metallization

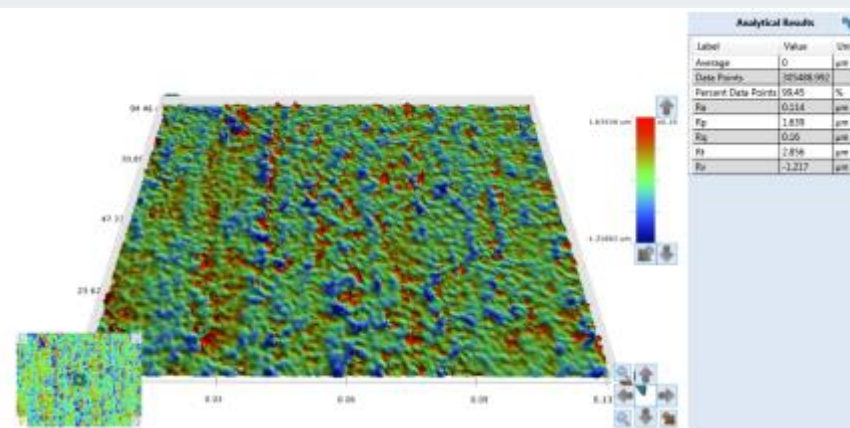
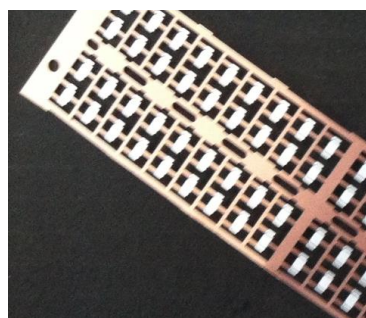


*CD/Width, Height and Roughness of UBM in a Single Measurement*

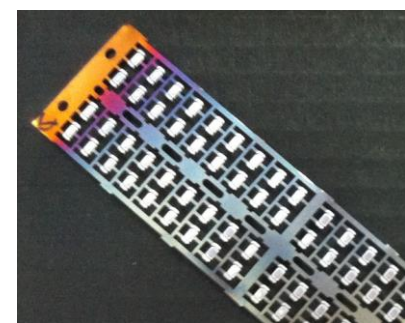
# Lead Frame Roughness Before and After Process



Ra: 204nm



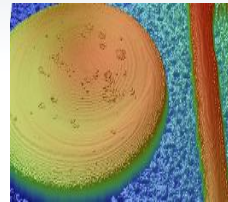
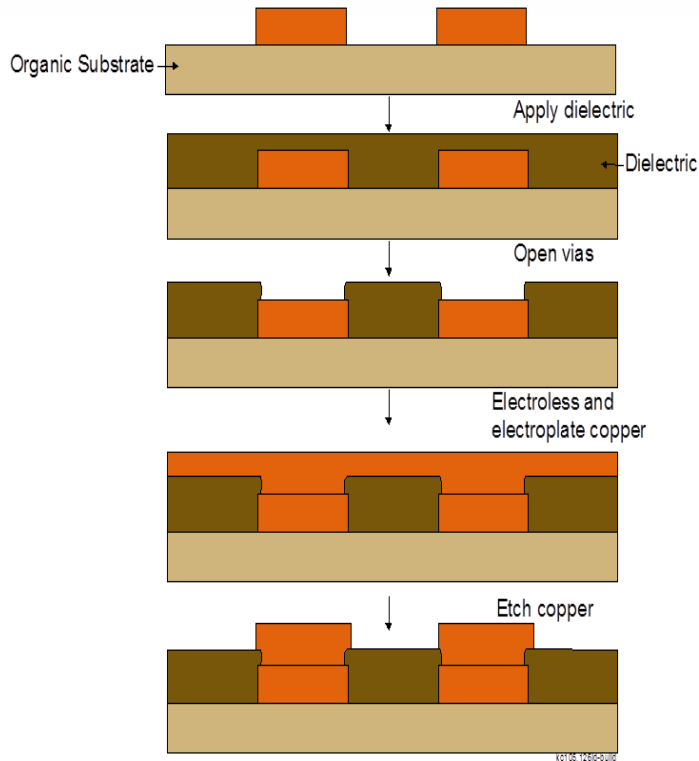
Ra: 114nm



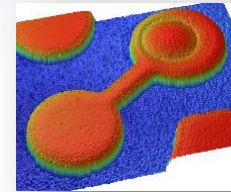
# HDI PCB Substrate Metrology



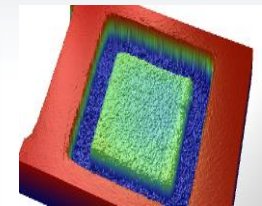
## BUILD-UP PRODUCTION



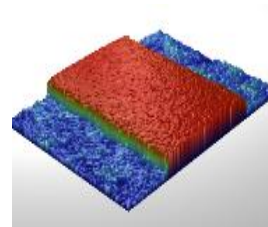
**Pad Clearance**



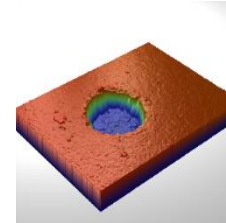
**Circle Connect**



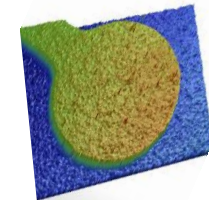
**Overlay**



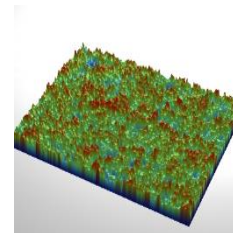
**Trace**



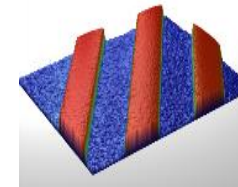
**Complex Via**



**Auto Alignment & CD**



**Surface Roughness**



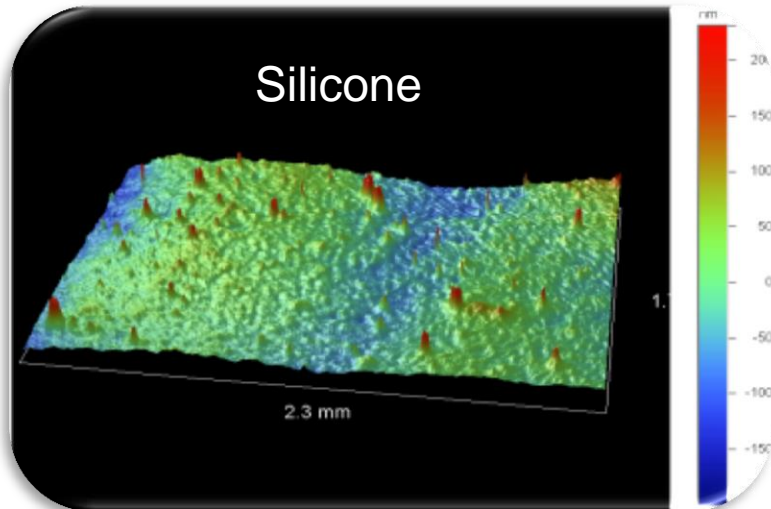
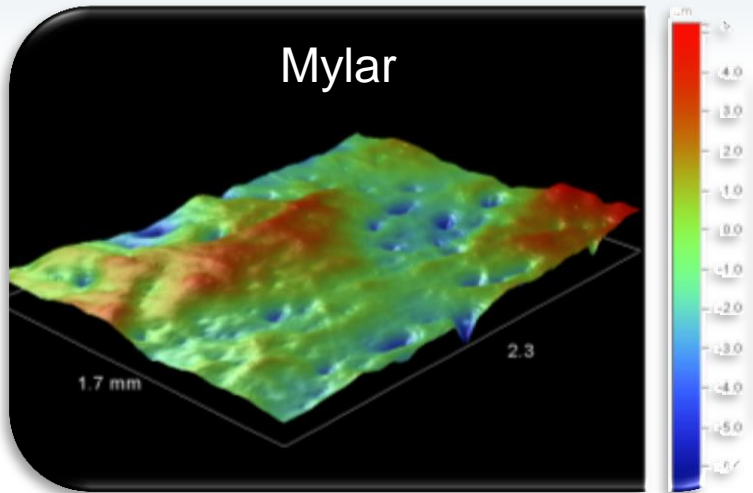
**MultiTrace**

**Defects and CD Variations of Any Layer Can Decrease Performance, Lower Yields, and Increase End of Line Scrap and Product Cost**



# Polymer substrates

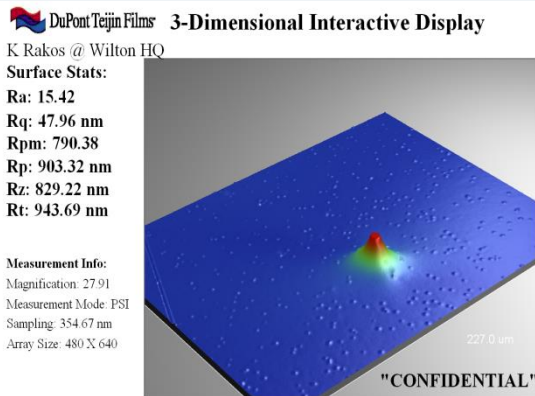
## Roughness & waviness measurements



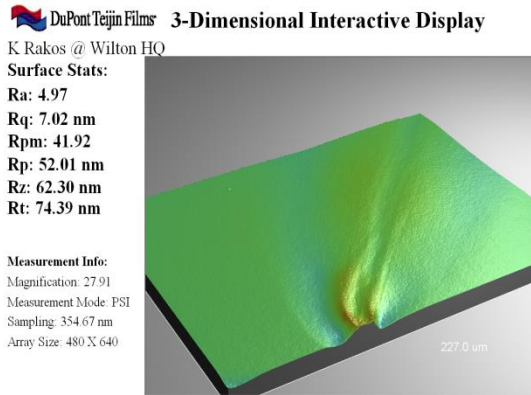
- Fine features and large waviness affects:
  - Adhesion of deposited film
  - Longevity of deposited film
- Requirements:
  - Fast
  - Large field of view
  - Vertical resolution below 1nm



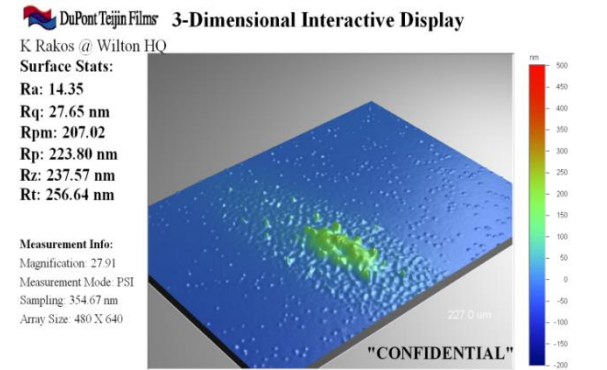
# Defect Detection and Analysis on Flexible Film



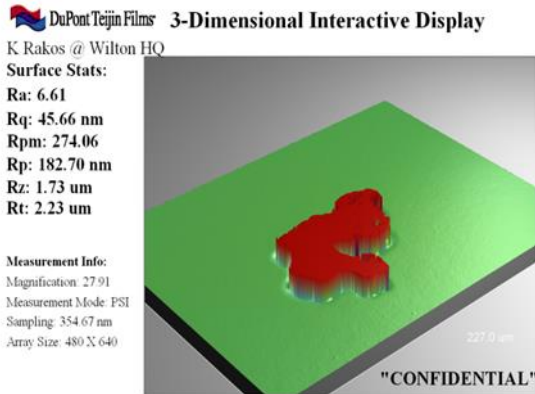
**Title:** 231\_Q65FWA **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Note:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Time:** 10:04:08



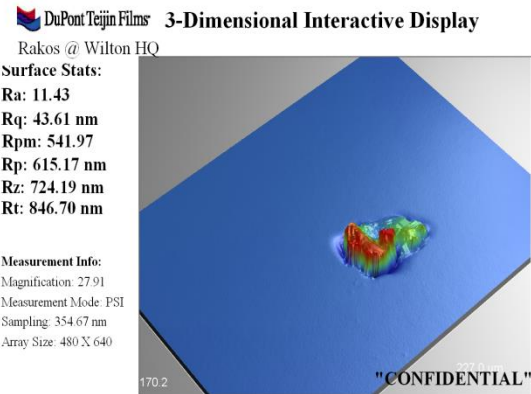
**Title:** 1105\_PQDA1 **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Note:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Time:** \_\_\_\_\_



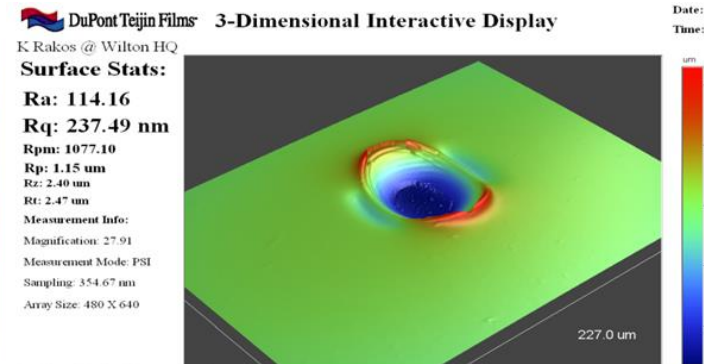
**Title:** 256\_Q65FWA **Date:** 10/27/2010  
**Note:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Time:** 10:06:55



**Title:** P01 NG **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Note:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Time:** \_\_\_\_\_



**Title:** 976\_PQDA1 **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Note:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Time:** \_\_\_\_\_



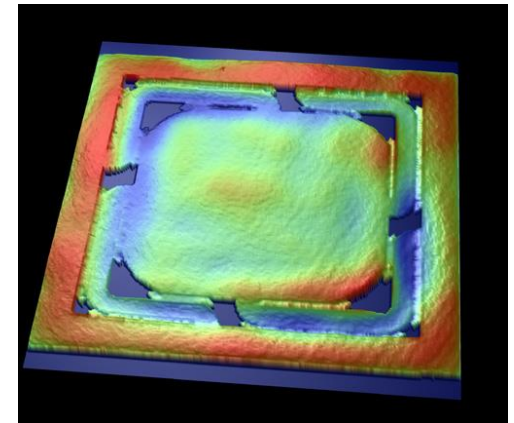
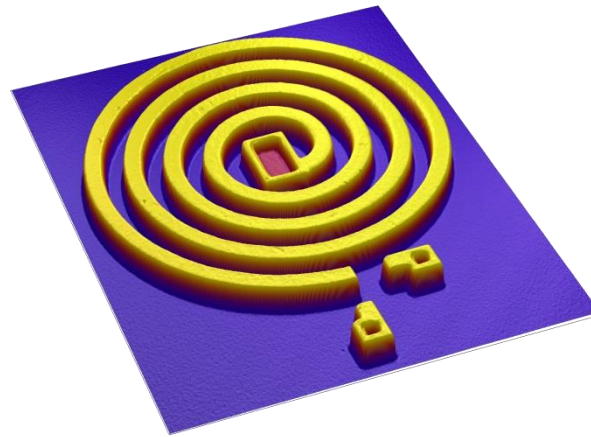
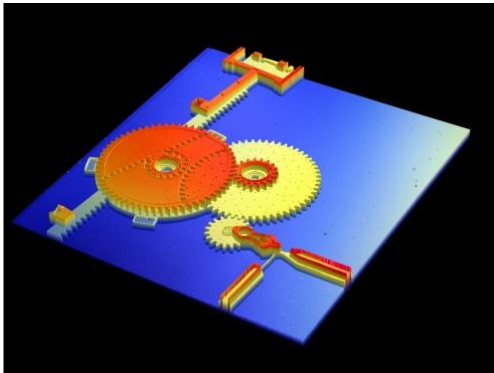
**Title:** Peelable control o  
**Note:** \_\_\_\_\_

Courtesy of Karl Rakos, DuPont Teijin Films

# MicroElectroMechanical Systems (MEMS)



- Manufactured using techniques similar to those of semiconductors
- Feature sizes typically 1-100 $\mu\text{m}$
- Applications: automotive sensors, optical network switches, displays, projectors, medical devices, etc.



# Optical Profiling Advantages for MEMS manufacture

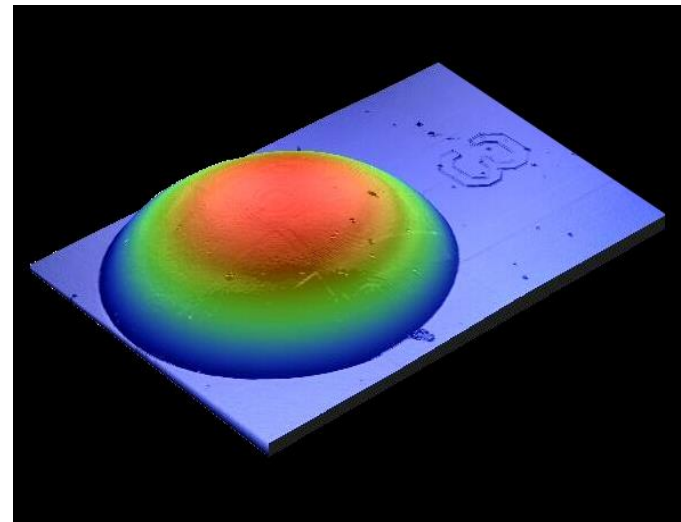
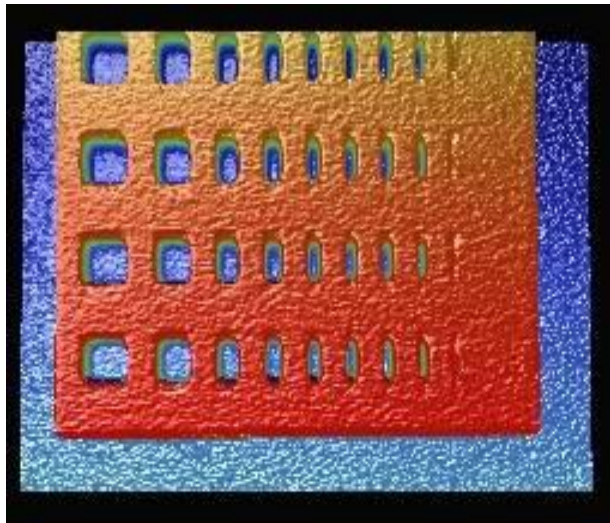


- 3D visualization of part performance
- Non-contact—will not deflect or deform structures
- High vertical resolution captures optical-grade surface roughness
- Vertical range for large steps and thicknesses
- Lateral resolution and feature-tracking software for critical dimension analysis
- Static and dynamic measurement provide comprehensive analysis in a cost-effective, single platform
- Rapidly image entire device, and analyze multiple features, at high vertical resolution

# Roughness Measurement



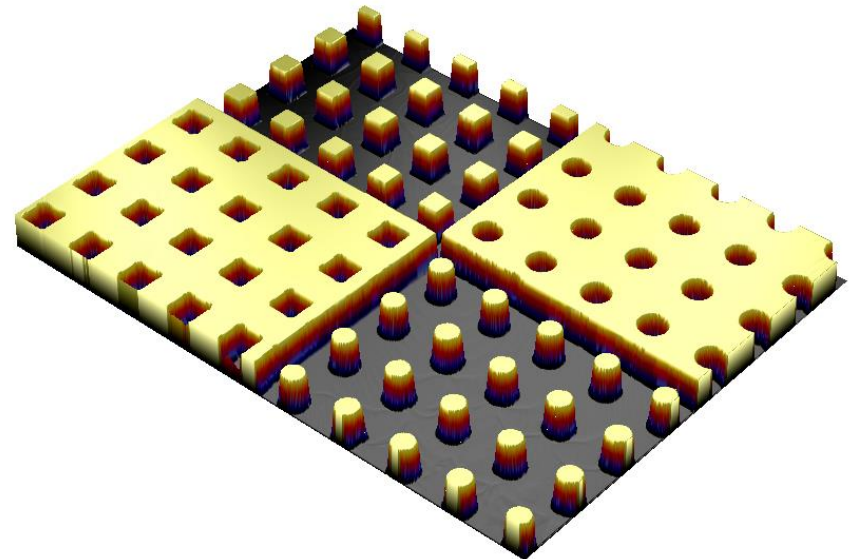
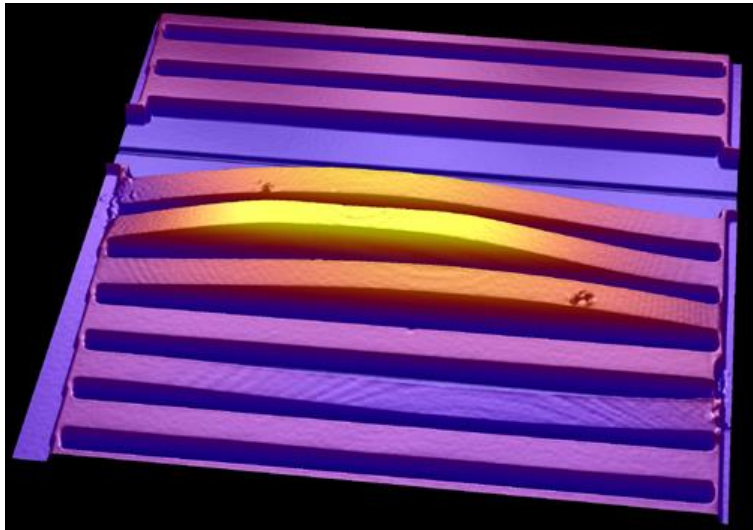
- Characterize surfaces from super-smooth to very rough
- 3D parameters provide directionality, periodicity, peaks vs troughs, etc—far more than just average roughness
- Control film deposition processes



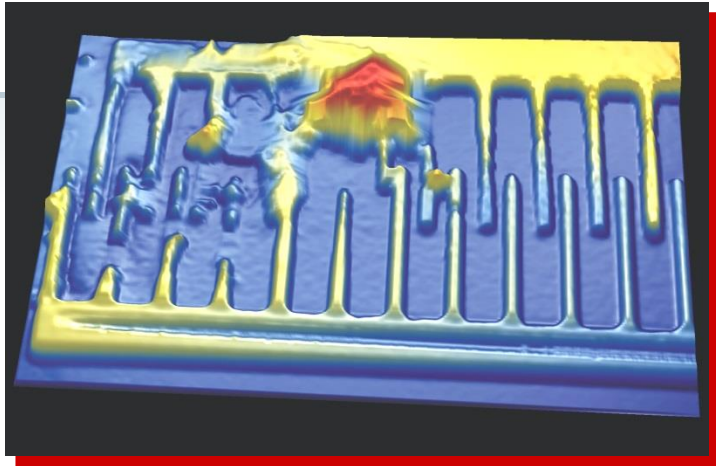
# Step Height Measurement



- Measure Step heights from nanometers to 8mm
- Determine thickness of films and resists for process control
- Monitor deposition and etch processes

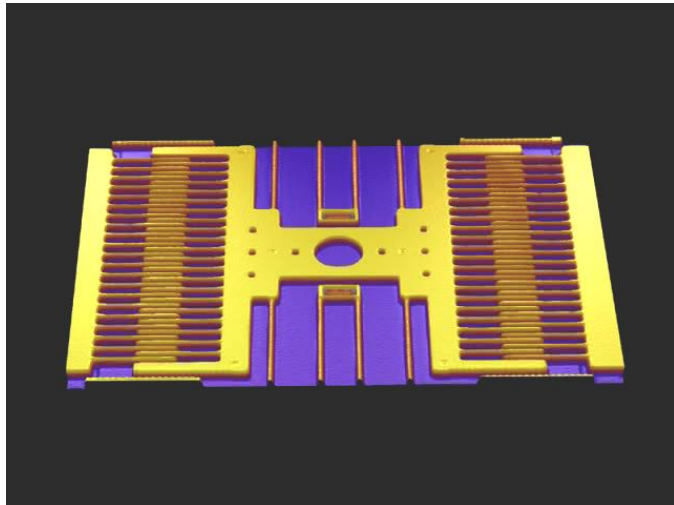


# Dynamic Measurement (DMEMS)



Static measurement of ESD-damaged resonator (Courtesy CNRI MEMS Exchange)

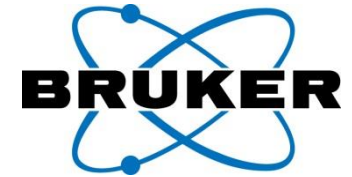
- Static measurement quantifies individual features and films
- Dynamic measurement lets you visualize and quantify true device functionality during actuation



Dynamic measurement of resonator (Courtesy Sandia National Labs)



# Comparison of Metrology Techniques

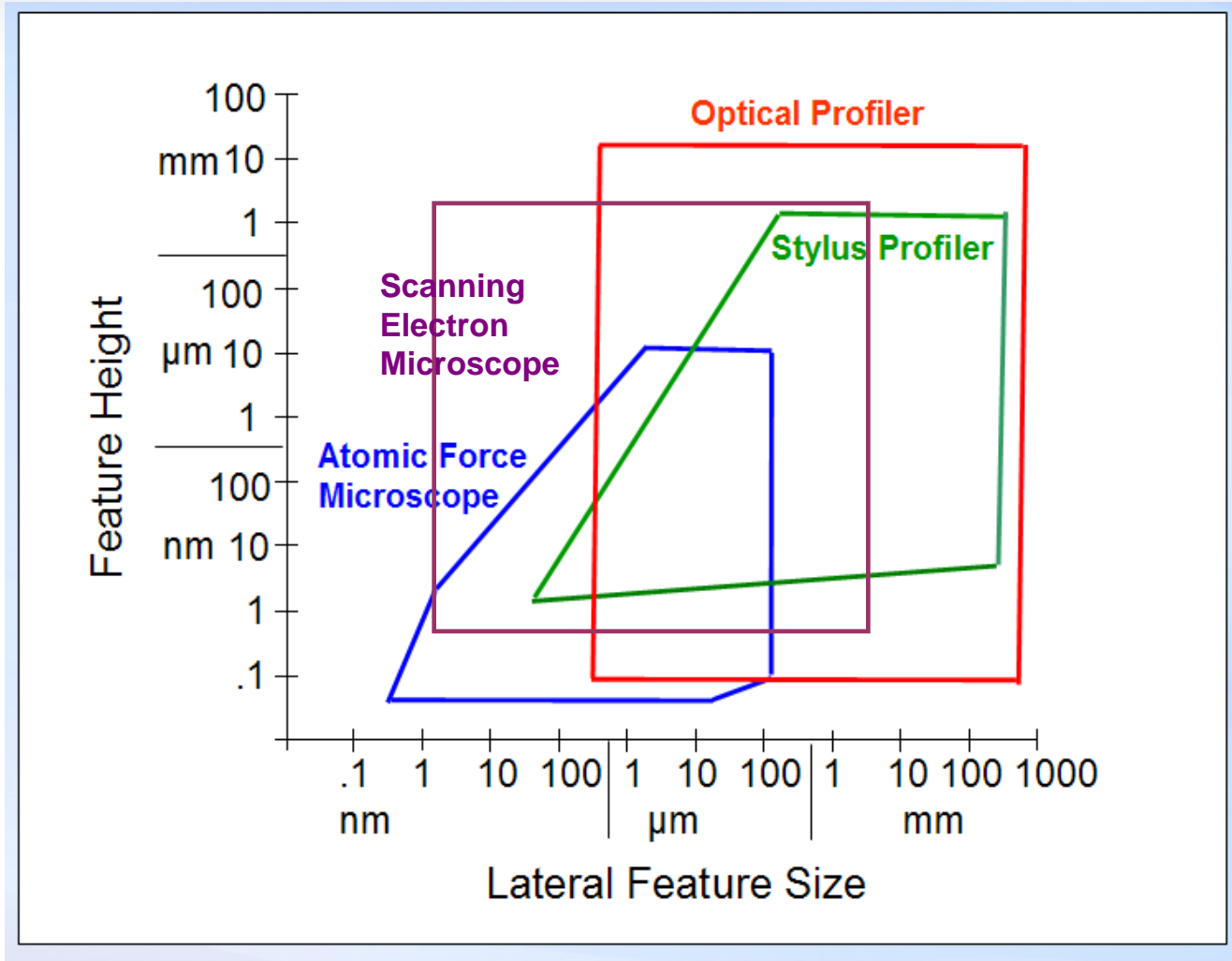


|                            | Optical Interferometry       | Stylus       | AFM                                   | SEM                               |
|----------------------------|------------------------------|--------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 3D Measurement             | Quantitative                 | Quantitative | Quantitative                          | Qualitative                       |
| Sample Interaction         | Non-contact, Non-destructive | Contact      | Intermittent Contact, Non-destructive | Non-contact, Electron bombardment |
| Acquisition Speed          | < 5 secs/area                | 5 secs/line  | 0.5 sec/line                          | 20 – 320 seconds/image            |
| Vertical Measurement Range | Up to 10 mm                  | 1mm          | 20 um                                 | ~10um depth of field              |
| Vertical Resolution        | <1 A                         | <5A          | <1 A                                  | 2nm – 10nm                        |
| Lateral Resolution         | 0.2 um                       | >1um         | <5nm                                  | 2nm – 10nm                        |

|       |              |        |         |                |
|-------|--------------|--------|---------|----------------|
| Price | \$80K-\$200K | <\$50K | >\$100K | \$80K - \$500K |
|-------|--------------|--------|---------|----------------|



# Metrology Analysis Ranges



# Optical And Stylus Systems are Complementary



## • Stylus

- Sub-nm vertical resolution
- 1mm vertical range
- Rapid single traces
- **Insensitive to material effects**
- Accurate and repeatable
- Variable lateral resolution
- Slower for 3D
- **Requires contact with surface**

## • Optical

- Sub-nm vertical resolution
- **10mm vertical range**
- **Rapid, full-field 3D measurements**
- **Sensitive to material effects**
- Accurate and repeatable
- Variable lateral resolution
- Constant vertical resolution
- **Handles transparent materials**

# Challenges



- **Manufacturing environment may introduce noise in the measurement**
  - **Mechanical vibration**
  - **Acoustic noise**
  - **Temperature fluctuation**
  - **Contamination**
- **Equipment self heating may cause thermal drift of the system**
- **Complex sample geometry and material combination may cause artifacts in measurements**

# Summary

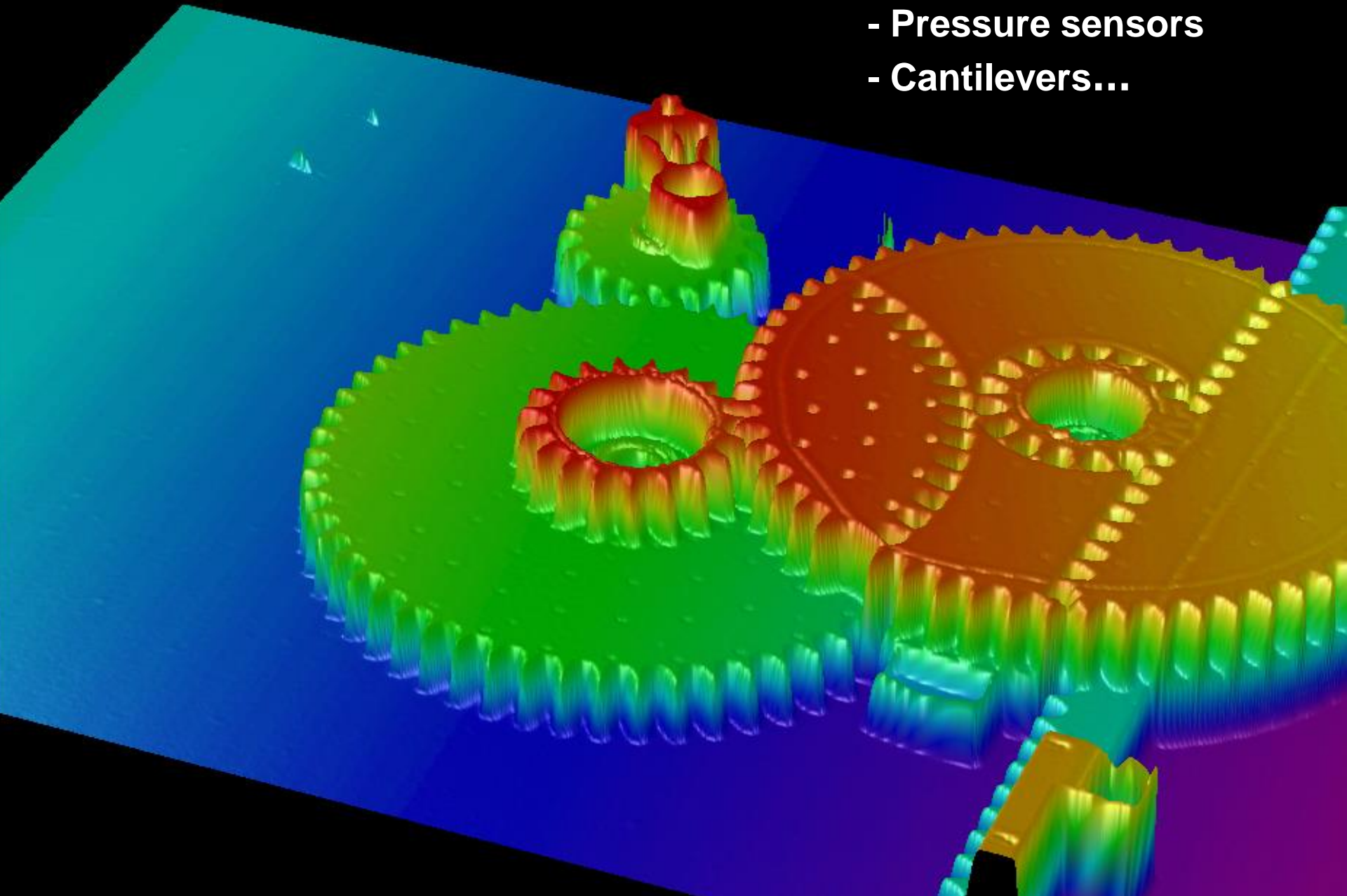


- **Metrology tools will play an important role in the emerging technology advancement.**
- **Optical interferometers are widely used as process monitoring tools because they can quickly cover a large area, and are very versatile. They are best to be used for critical dimension, film thickness, and roughness measurements. They can also be used for defect detection and analysis.**
- **Stylus profilers are also very useful tools because they are low cost and easy to use. They are best to be used as monitoring tools for step height and roughness measurements.**
- **AFM is the ultimate metrology tool for resolution in the sub nanometers. It can also measure material properties in the nanometer scale. High speed AFM opens opportunities for understanding of new technologies.**

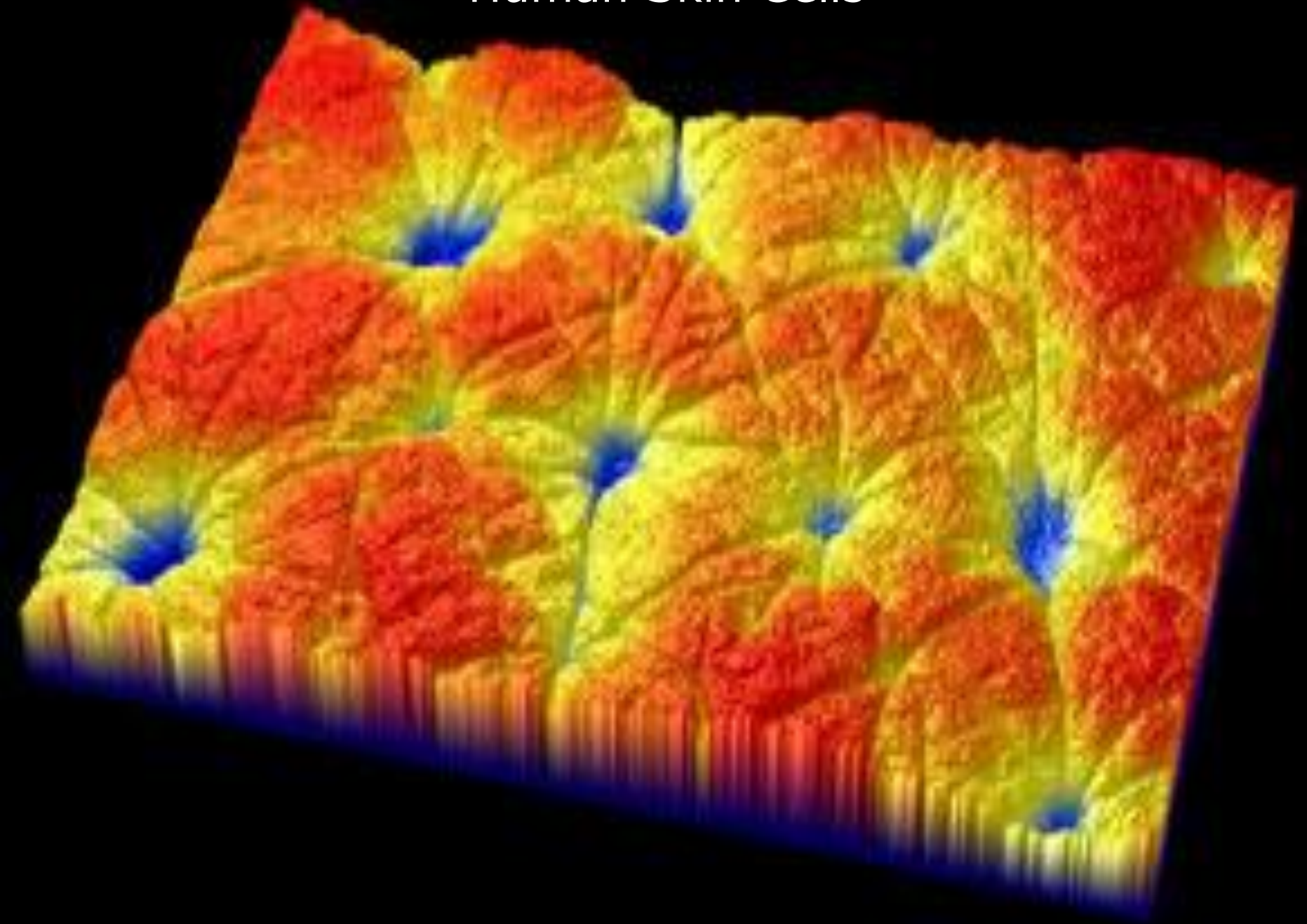
- **Let's have some fun now ...**

## **MEMS Gear**

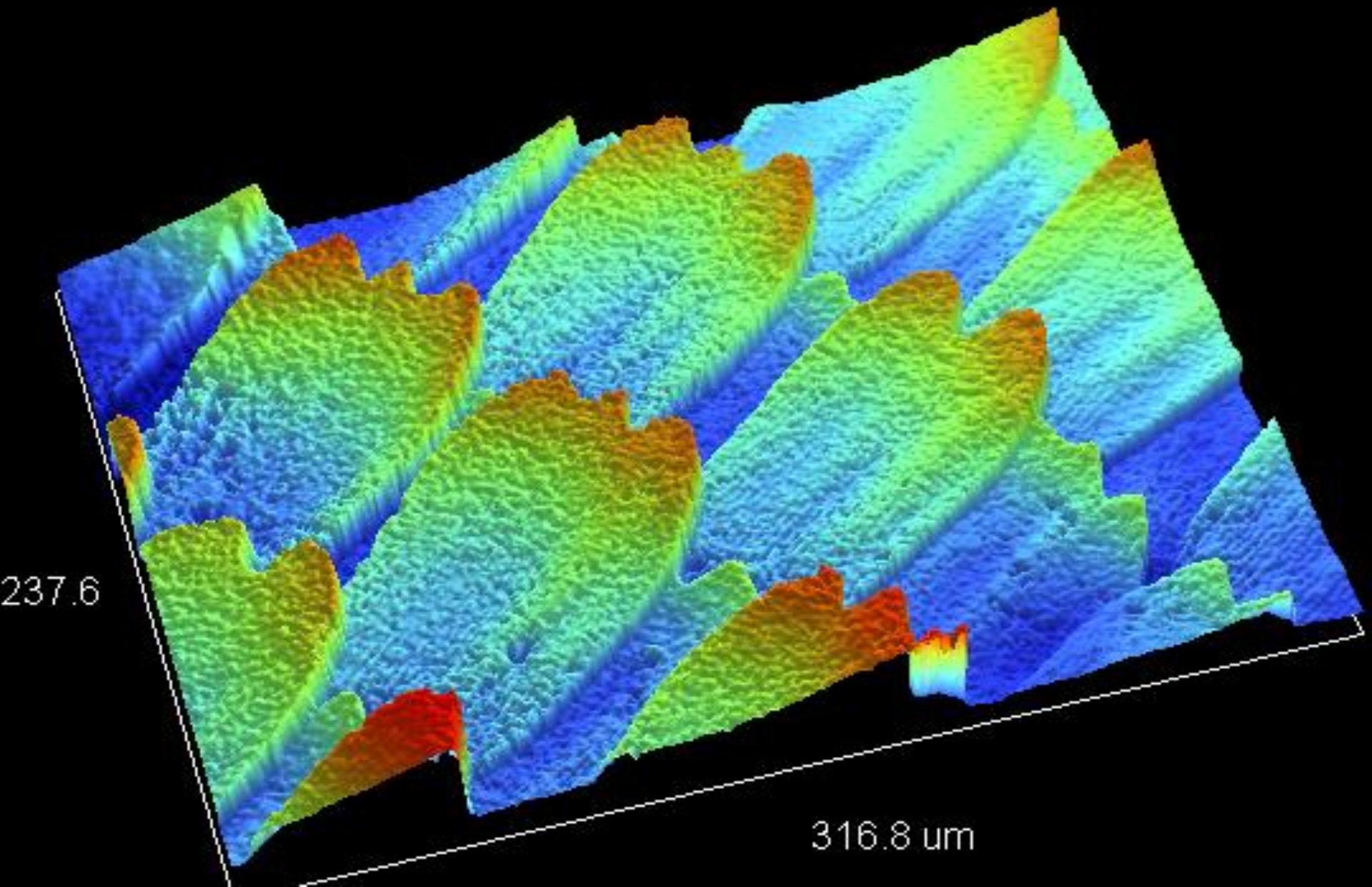
- Miniaturized machines
- Pressure sensors
- Cantilevers...



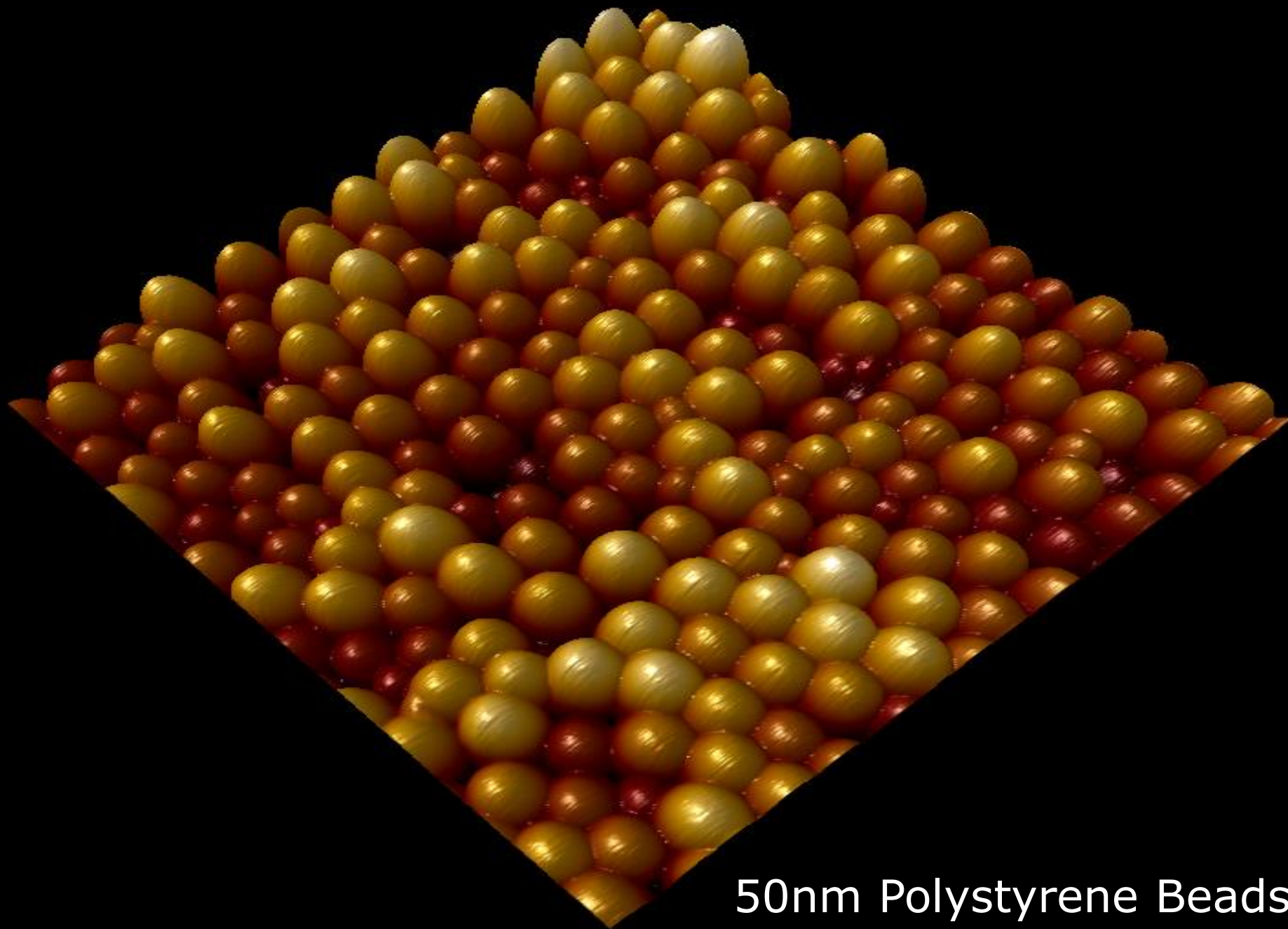
# Human Skin Cells



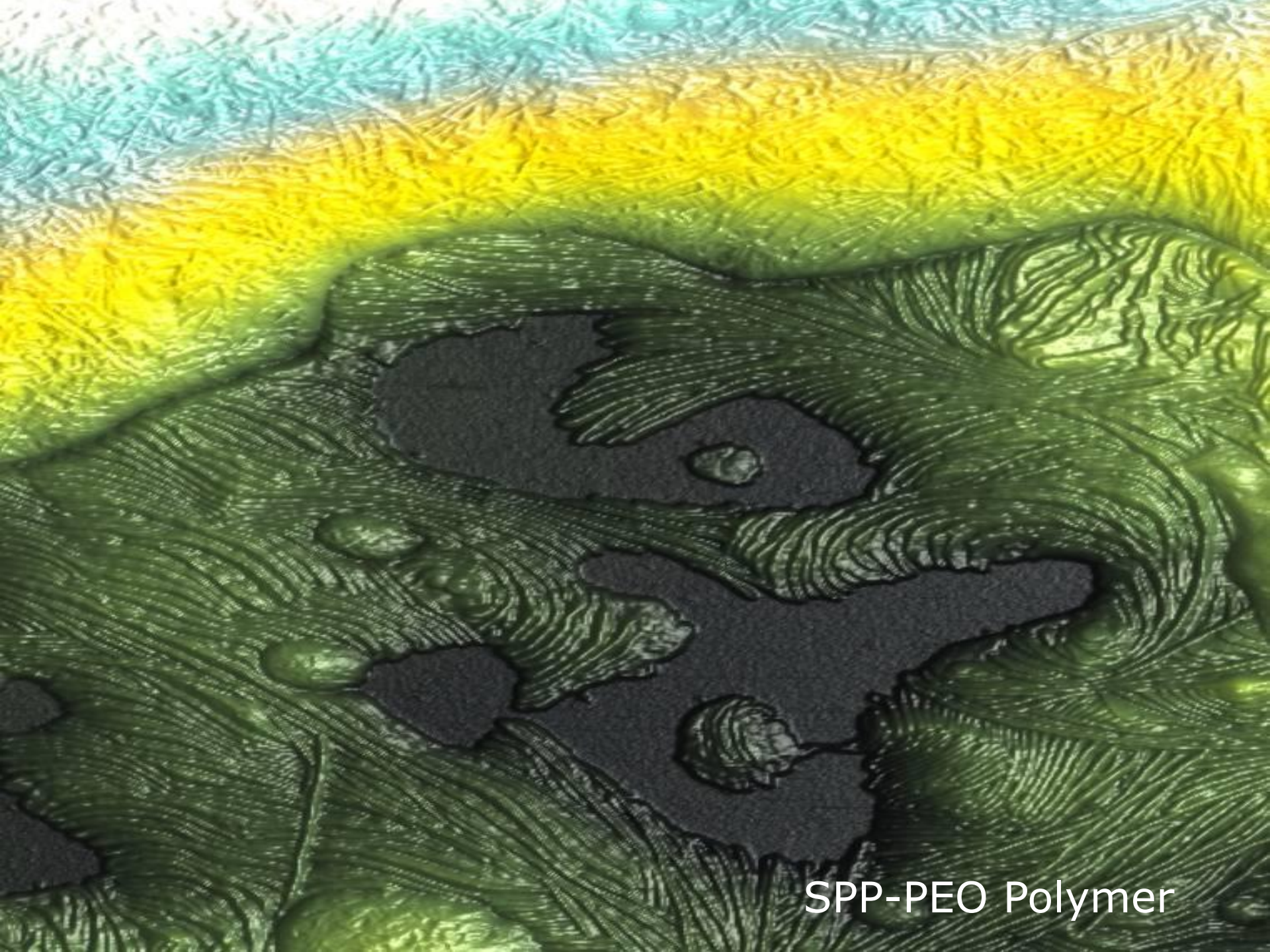
# Butterfly Wing







50nm Polystyrene Beads

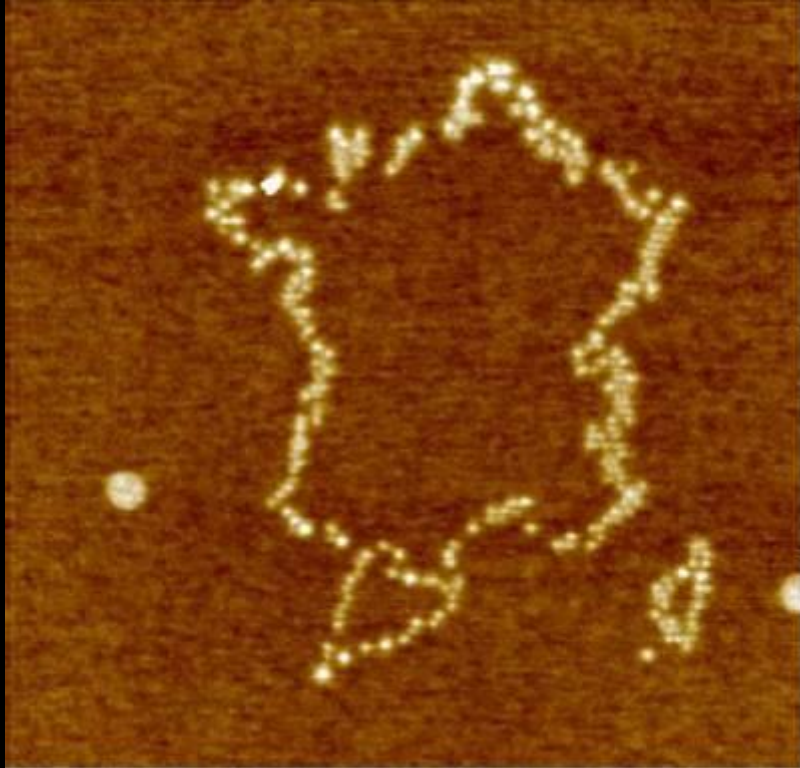


SPP-PEO Polymer



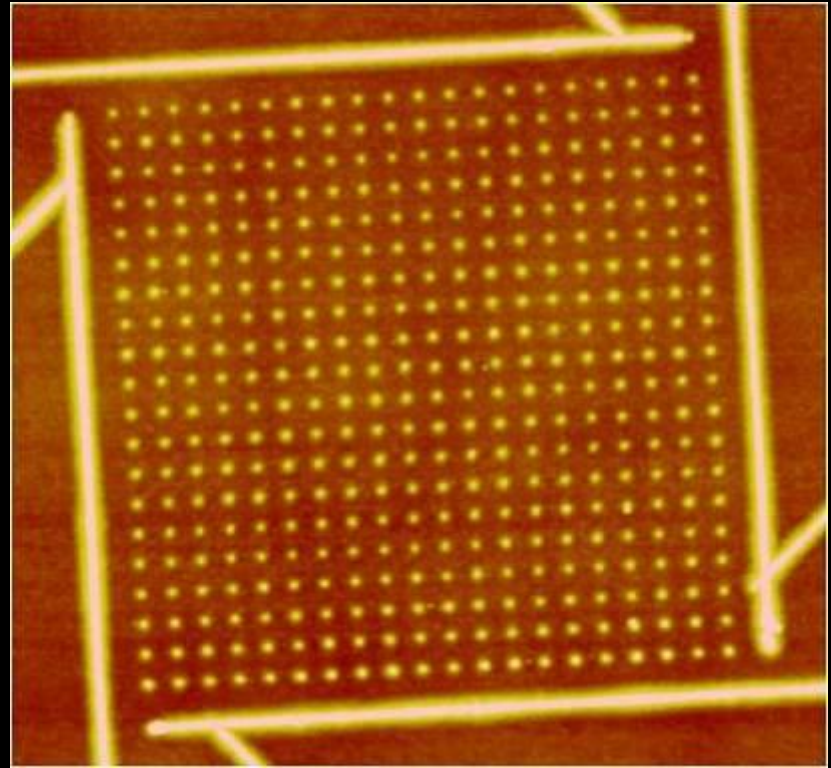
DNA Origami

Courtesy: F. Perez, CNM Barcelona



nm-scale Map of France

Courtesy: A. Dorn, ETH Zurich



Antidot Pattern on GaAs

Created with AFM 'Nanolithography'