

# A FULLY AUTOMATIC ELECTRO-OPTICAL TEST SYSTEM ENABLING THE DEVELOPMENT OF A SILICON PHOTONICS TECHNOLOGY PLATFORM

Jeroen De Coster, Rafal Magdziak, Peter De Heyn, Erik Jan Marinissen, Marianna Pantouvaki, Joris Van Campenhout, Philippe Absil

imec

Leuven, Belgium

Dan Rishavy, Joe Frankel, Kainoa Kekahuna, Kazuki Negishi, Mike Simmons, Eric Christenson



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#### OUTLINE

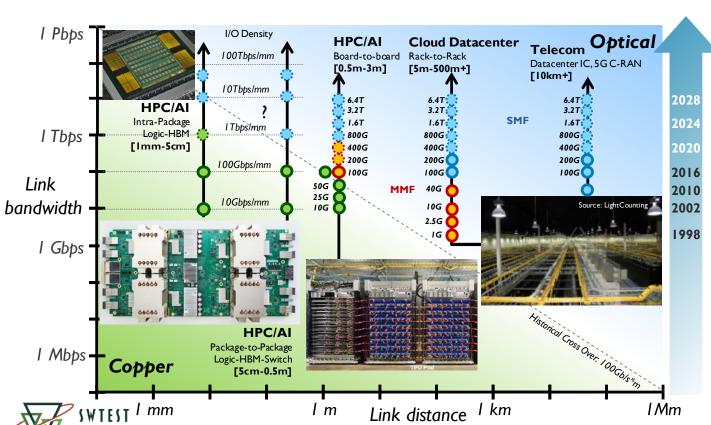
- What are we developing:
  - Silicon photonics platform
- What do we want to measure?
  - Platform-specific device parameters
- How do we measure
  - Baseline flow, test hardware
  - Python test executive
- Working in the CR environment
- Data analysis and reporting
- Setup monitoring
- Conclusion



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# OPTICAL INTERCONNECT LANDSCAPE

OPTICAL LINKS REPLACING ELECTRICAL LINKS AT PROGRESSIVELY SHORTER INTERCONNECT DISTANCES



Terabit-Scale Optical Interconnectivity will be needed by early 2020's

Optical Interconnects will move into the rack (<3m)

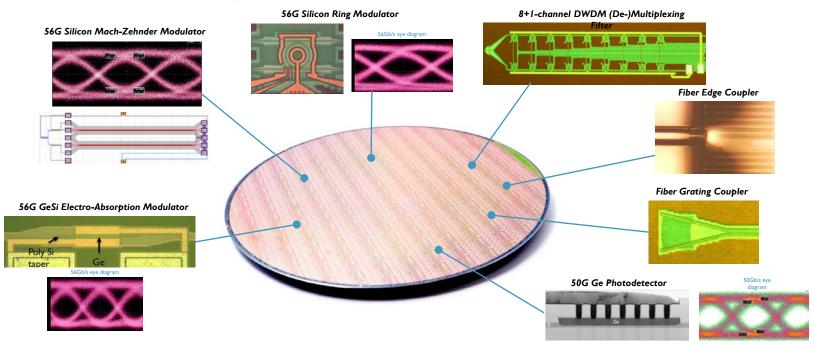
Total Optical Transceiver Volume expected to increase >>10x

#### Objective:

Develop a Silicon Photonic Integration Platform for Optical Interconnect Scaling at all link distances.

# IMEC'S 50G SILICON PHOTONICS PLATFORM

FULLY INTEGRATED 50GB/S NRZ, WDM SI PHOTONICS TECHNOLOGY



- Co-integration of the 50Gb/s building blocks in a single platform based on CMOS090
- Supports all dominant Si Photonics transceiver concepts pursued in industry & academia
- Available on 200mm [iSiPP200], under development on 300mm [iSiPP300]
  - Based on 220nm Silicon / 2000nm BoX SOI wafers

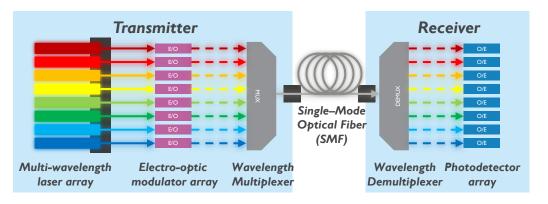


WTEST

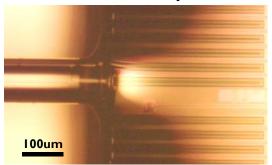
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# WAFER LEVEL TESTING

#### FIBER AND LASER COUPLING STRUCTURES

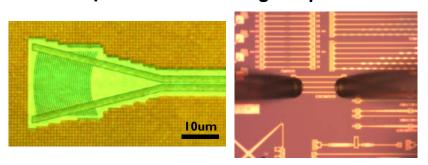


#### In-Plane Coupler



<2dB loss over 100nm+

#### **Surface-Normal Grating Coupler**



<3dB loss over 30nm

# WHAT DO WE WANT TO MEASURE

#### PROCESS CONTROL MONITORING

- Monitor technology-specific parameters
- Observe impact of process splits on these parameters during development of the technology platform

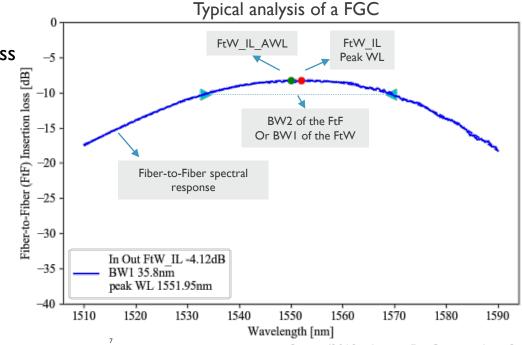
Component		Test sites					
Passive		Grating couplers	Insertion loss, bandwidth, peak wavelength				
O-band	C-band	Waveguide spirals	Propagation loss, bend loss				
1310nm 1550nm	1550nm	Crossings	Insertion loss, cross-talk				
		Transitions	Insertion loss				
		Directional coupling	Power coupling, excess loss				
		Splitters	Insertion loss, excess loss				
Active		Germanium photo diode	Dark current, responsivity				
O-band	O-band C-band 1310nm 1550nm	Mach-Zehnder interferometer	Insertion loss,Vpi				
1310nm		Phase shifter loss	Propagation loss				



# PROCESS CONTROL MONITOR STRUCTURES

# FIBER GRATING COUPLER (FGC) PERFORMANCE

- A straight waveguide with a grating coupler on both ends
- Measured quantity: wavelength dependent insertion loss, fiber to fiber
- Extracted device parameters
  - Fiber-to-waveguide insertion loss FtW\_IL\_AWL [dB]
  - Peak wavelength PWL [nm]
  - Peak wavelength IL FtW\_IL [dB]
  - IdB bandwidth BWI [nm]





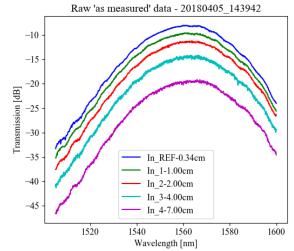
# PROCESS CONTROL MONITOR STRUCTURES

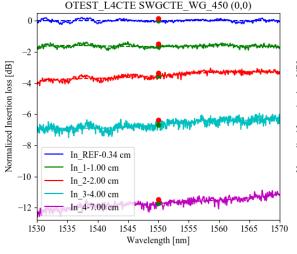
#### PROPAGATION LOSS TEST

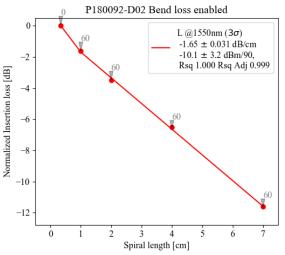
A set of (spiral) waveguides with increasing lengths

L, #bends

- Measured quantity: wavelength dependent loss vs. length
- Linear regression of IL vs L, #bends to obtain propagation and bend loss





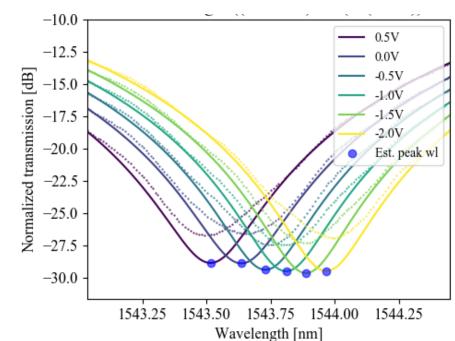




# PROCESS CONTROL MONITOR STRUCTURES

#### **MODULATOR TEST**

- Measured quantity: IV, wavelength dependent loss vs. DC bias
- Spectral response fitted with raised cosine
  - Data (dotted line)
  - Fit (solid line)
- Parameters extracted:
  - Insertion loss
  - Modulation efficiency Vpi



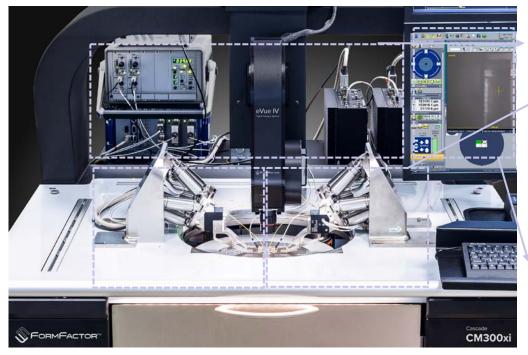


# THOR TEST SYSTEM IN IMEC'S 200mm FAB

FORMFACTOR CM300xi-SiPh PROBE STATION WITH SiPh-



# AUTONOMOUS SIPH MEASUREMENT ASSISTANT FOR CM300xi



FormFactor's Cascade CM300xi Probe Station

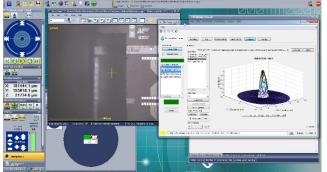
Highly Stable and Robust Platform for Optical/Electrical Probing

Positioning and Z Displacement Control

Integrated and Validated Single or Dual Sided 6
Axis Automated Positioning

- FFI On-site warranty and spares
- Interchangeable Fiber Arm
- Single Fiber or Array Holders
- Integrated Z Displacement
- Integrated Illumination
- Calibration Kit
- Integration Kit

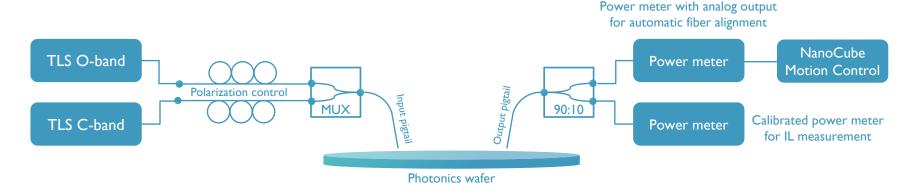
SiPh-Tools: Automated Calibrations and Alignments



#### THOR TEST SYSTEM

#### SCHEMATIC LAYOUT OF THE OPTICAL PATHS

- Dual tunable laser sources O- and C-band
- All single mode fiber (SMF28)
- Measurement pigtails with straight cleaved facets
- Nominal incidence angle 10° from vertical

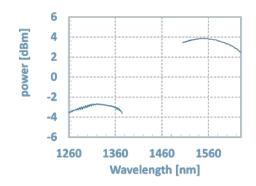


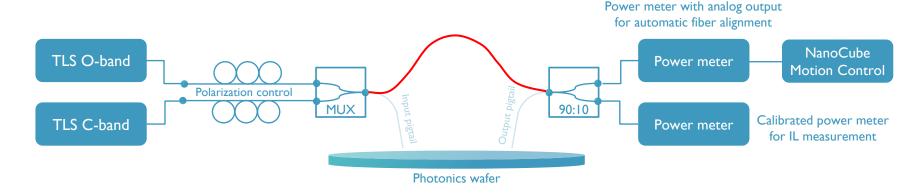


# INSERTION LOSS CALIBRATION

#### NORMALIZATION OF MEASURED LOSS SPECTRA

- Measurement pigtails bypassed with a SMF28 patch cord
- Loss spectrum of components in the optical path measured over full range of TLS
- Measured spectra normalized against this spectrum



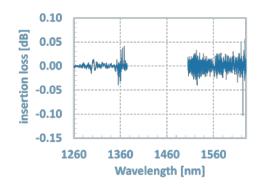


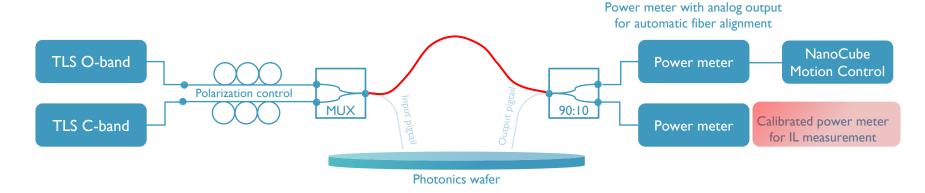


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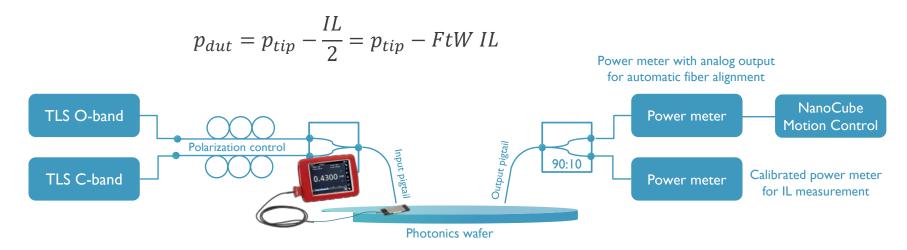




#### ABSOLUTE POWER CALIBRATION

#### INPUT PIGTAIL POWER MEASUREMENT

- Free-space power meter is used to measure absolute power at tip of input pigtail
- At different Ge photo diode target wavelengths
- Required to estimate power at DUT for responsivity calculation\*





\*assuming equal coupling loss at input and output pigtails

#### BASELINE MEASUREMENT FLOW

Calibration

- Calibrate wafer-level insertion loss (IL) measurement
- Calibrate absolute input power

Load

- Wafer transport, alignment, profiling
- Set fibers at nominal height
- Polarization tuning

Probe check

- Check probe contact
- Run open/short measurement on a few dies

Measure

for die in wafer map:

for test site in test plan:

for device in test site:

chuck movement to device

chuck Z: 50µm below contact for passives

for left, right gratings in device:

 $fiber\ movement\ to\ input/output\ gratings$ 

align left/right fiber at  $\lambda = \lambda_0$ 

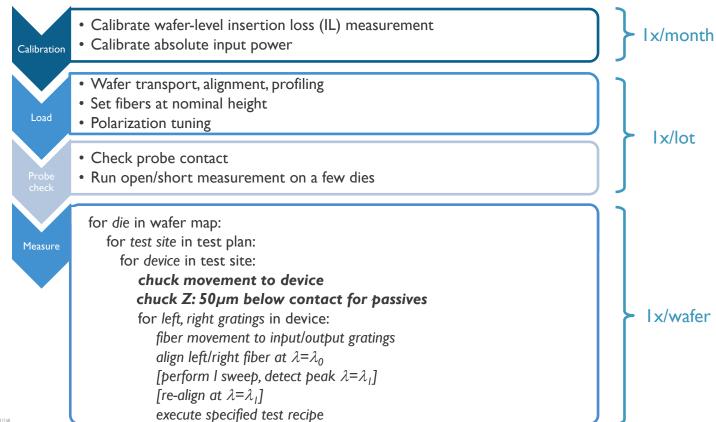
[perform I sweep, detect peak  $\lambda = \lambda_1$ ]

[re-align at  $\lambda = \lambda_1$ ]

execute specified test recipe

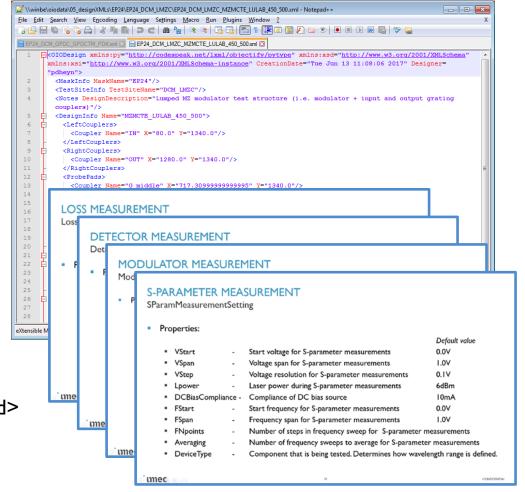


# **BASELINE MEASUREMENT FLOW**



# TEST EXECUTIVE SOFTWARE

- Python code, hosted on Git
- Code for test execution and data analysis & reporting
- Test plan = Python script
  - Grating coupler and probe pad coordinates pulled from XML design library
  - Settings objects defined for different built-in test recipes
  - Test plan defines a sequence of PortCombo<Input, Output, Probe pad> each linked with test settings object





#### TEST EXECUTION

#### OPERATING MEASUREMENT TOOL IN CLASS 1000 CLEAN ROOM

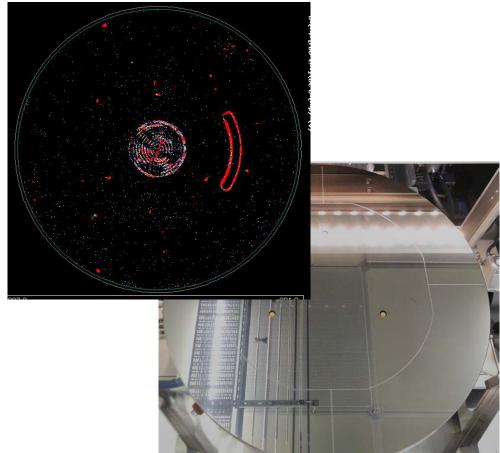
- Motivation
  - Operating the tool in a clean room allows to pull out wafers, measure, give feedback to process integration
  - Resulting in faster feedback
  - Wafers are not lost for processing, i.e. more inspections are possible
- Hence we need to verify metal/particle contamination in the tool
  - Front side particles: from clean room ambient, electrical probing
  - Front side metal contam: probing
  - Back side particles: robot arm, wafer chuck
  - Back side metal: robot arm, wafer chuck



# TOOL CONTAMINATION STATUS

#### **BACKSIDE PARTICLE MEASUREMENT**

- Typical witness wafer work flow
  - Front-side particle measurement
  - Wafer flip
  - Go through normal load/unload cycle on tool
  - Wafer flip
  - Front-side particle measurement
- Visible marks of robot arm, pre-aligner, chuck lift pins

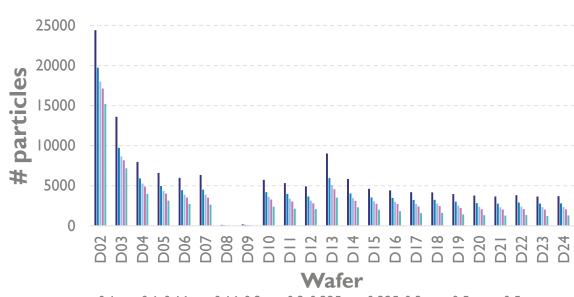




# **BACKSIDE PARTICLE MEASUREMENT**

#### VERIFICATION OF CLEANING PROCEDURE

- Initial tool status: measured ~100 level 5 wafers
- No cleaning done before loading witness wafers
- After 10 wafers, particle count drop below spec limit for target contamination level 3
- Chuck cleaned with IPA after wafer 12
- Then loaded wafers 13-24
- Particle count stabilized after another 3-4 wafers





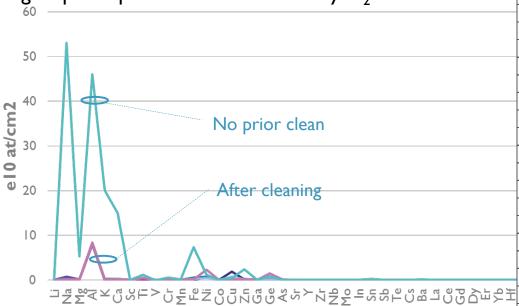
# BACKSIDE METAL CONTAMINATION – TXRF MEASUREMENT

#### VERIFICATION OF CLEANING PROCEDURE

Measurement without and with cleaning step prior to cycling witness wafer

Initial tool status: level 3

Cleaning step - wipe with IPA and blow dry  $N_2$ 



**Element** 

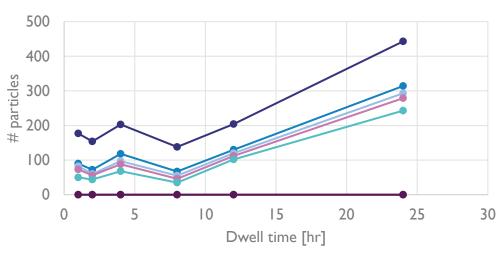
- ap.o a. o c		00.10		<u> </u>
D03	Li	0.04	10	100
D03	Na	0.8	100	999918
D03	Mg	0.15	100	999916
D03	Al	8	100	999907
D03	K	0.068	9999999	9999994
D03	Ca	0.24	9999999	9999992
D03	Sc	0.0037	10	100
D03	Ti	0.078	100	999924
D03	٧	-4.00E-06	100	999925
D03	Cr	0.035	10	100
D03	Mn	0.0014	10	100
D03	Fe	0.08	10	50
D03	Ni	0.59	10	100
D03	Со	0.0016	10	100
D03	Cu	0.2	10	100
D03	Zn	0.11	10	100
D03	Ga	0.00044	100	999910
D03	Ge	0.19	100	9999998
D03	As	0.042	100	999908

DuploWaferId Element Conc

# FRONT SIDE PARTICLE MEASUREMENT

#### VERIFICATION OF PROBING AND AMBIENT

- Experiment #1: variable wafer dwell time on chuck: 1-2-4-8-12-24 hours
  - Only for dwell times > 10h, clear relationship between dwell time and #particles



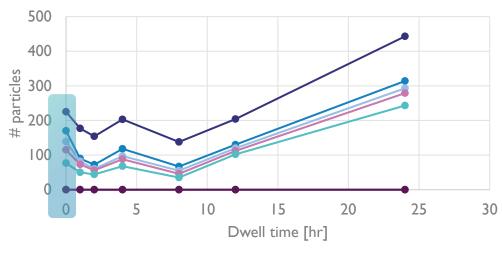




# FRONT SIDE PARTICLE MEASUREMENT

#### VERIFICATION OF PROBING AND AMBIENT

- Experiment #1: variable wafer dwell time on chuck: 1-2-4-8-12-24 hours
  - Only for dwell times > 10h, clear relationship between dwell time and #particles
- Experiment #2: probe touchdowns





# **AUTOMATED DATA ANALYSIS**

#### ANALYSIS WORK FLOW

- Python code in Git repository for data analysis
- Automation:
  - oio\_pyro\_service: Pyro 4 (Python remote objects) daemon encapsulated in a windows service (defined using win32serviceutil module) which exposes a number of analysis methods
  - oio\_email\_service: a windows service that encapsulates an email client; e-mail used to trigger analysis/report generation for a specified lot/wafer/...
  - Windows task scheduler to scan network folders for new data and automatically generate reports overnight
  - XML file meta data is used to select analysis method

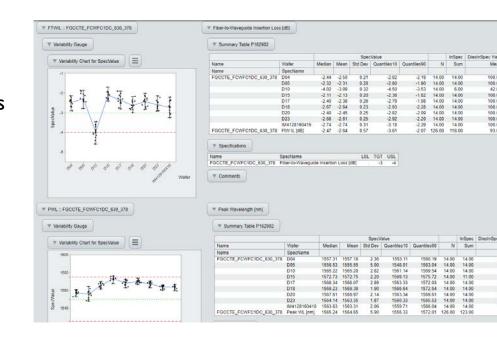


# AUTOMATED DATA ANALYSIS

#### REPORTING

# Output:

- I csv file per lot and per component class
  - loss, photodiode, modulator, mmi, dc, ...
- Aggregated data table with all components
- Aggregated data table including wafer statistics and spec check
  - Target, USL and LSL defined per component/parameter and project
- HTML report
- Results are also consolidated per component type across different lots

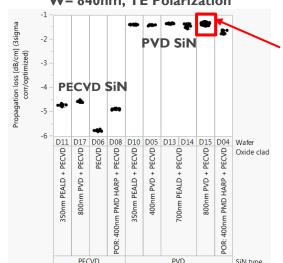




# SIN WG PROPAGATION LOSS

#### MEASURED PROPAGATION LOSS AT 1520NM WAVELENGTH

Waveguide propagation loss at 1520nm W= 840nm, TE Polarization

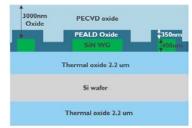


• DI5:

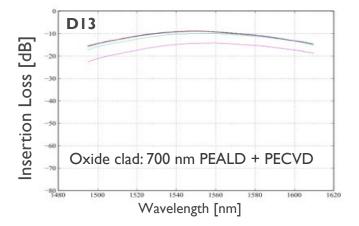
SiN: PVD

Propagation loss [dB/cm] (3sigma corr/optimized)

Oxide: PVD + PECVD



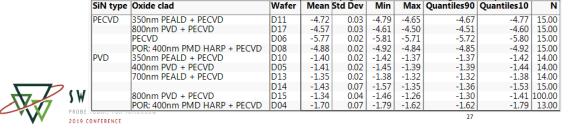
PVD/PECVD SiN WG on Si wafer



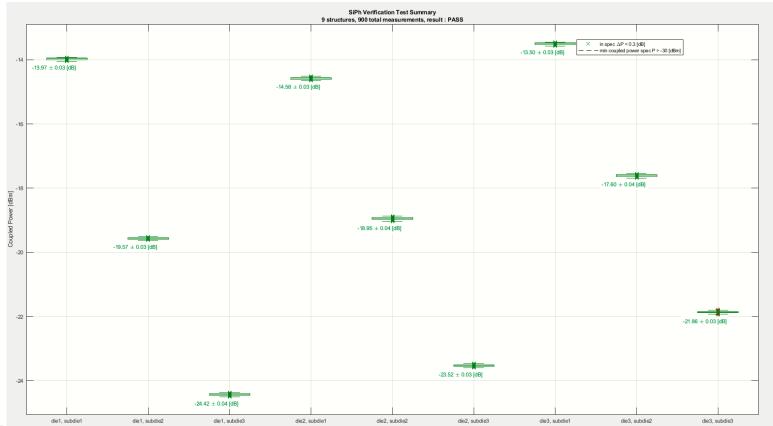
# Propagation loss at 1520 nm:

Last PTW: 4.9dB/cm

■ Now : 1.34 dB/cm



# <.3 dB COUPLED POWER REPEATABILITY





#### SYSTEM LEVEL CHALLENGE

THE SUBSYSTEMS THAT NEED TO COME TOGETHER TO ACHIEVE THIS MEASUREMENT

PERFORMANCE:

#### ~Im Kinematic Loop

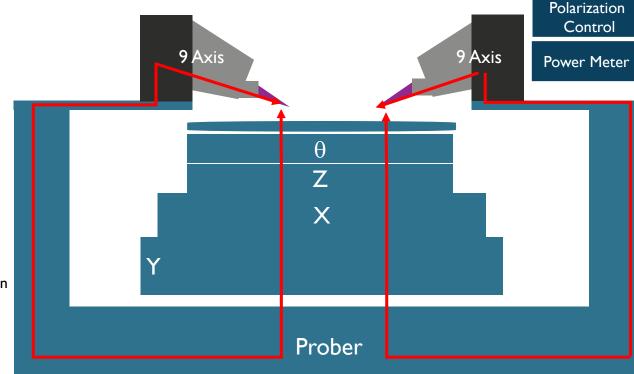
- Fiber Tip / Z Displacement Sensor
- 9 DOF of two positioners (18 Axis)
- Prober platen and Base
- XYZ and Theta chuck stack
- Wafer

#### Components

- Laser Source
- Polarization control
- Power Meter

#### Characteristics needed to achieve:

- Stable kinematic loop
- Positioning calibrated to Probe Station
- Well tuned servo control
- Optimized scanning motion
- Stable input power and polarization
- Stable environment.





Laser Source

# **MEASUREMENT REPEATABILITY**

#### LOSS MEASUREMENT ON 2 WAFERS

#### Measurement sequence:

- Transport first wafer from cassette to pre-aligner
- Rotate wafer at 87 deg
- Transport wafer to ID reader
- Read ID
- Transport wafer to pre-aligner
- Align wafer to 88.53 deg
- Transport wafer to prober
- Auto-align the wafer
- Perform a Z profiling of the wafer (using autofocus on 7 dies)
- Set chuck and fiber home position
- Perform a loss measurement on 13 dies (5 spirals, LR fiber alignment on each spiral)
- When measurement finishes, return fibers to home position
- Transport wafer from prober to cassette
- Repeat above steps for all remaining wafers in the cassette (only two wafers in this experiment)

20x



# MEASUREMENT REPEATABILITY

#### LOSS MEASUREMENT ON 2 WAFERS

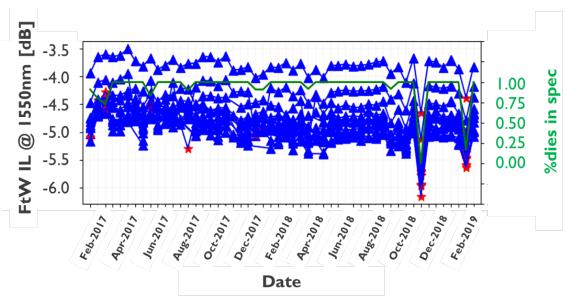
Wafer			(0,0)	(0,2)	(-1,-2)	(2,1)	(-2,2)	(2,-3)	(-3,0)	(3,-1)	(4,-2)	(-4,2)	(-4,-3)	(5,0)	(-5,-1)		StdDev/Mean
D05	Propagation loss [dB/cm]	Mean	-1.83	-1.8	-1.74	-1.79	-1.8	-4.81	-1.79	-1.78	-2.03	-1.86	-7.16	-1.76	-3.27	-2.570769231	
		Std Dev	0.0042	0.0048	0.0044	0.0059	0.01	0.0428	0.0041	0.0051	0.006	0.0064	0.0532	0.0063	0.0109	0.012623077	-0.004910233
		N	20	20	20	20	19	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20		
	FtW IL [dB]	Mean	-5.25	-5.25	-5.21	-5.25	-5.25	-5.8	-5.28	-5.18	-5.29	-5.28	-11.3	-5.23	-5.7	-5.79	
		Std Dev	0.0159	0.0159	0.0149	0.0161	0.0291	0.0238	0.0113	0.0151	0.0143	0.0129	0.02	0.0241	0.0112	0.017276923	-0.002983925
		N	20	20	20	20	19	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20		
	Peak WL [nm]	Mean	1553	1552	1551	1553	1551	1554	1551	1553	1553	1549	1564	1552	1551	1552.846154	
		Std Dev	0.0839	0.0717	0.0785	0.0822	0.0858	0.097	0.0818	0.0717	0.0785	0.0632	0.0754	0.0959	0.0822	0.0806	5.19047E-05
		N	20	20	20	20	19	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20		
	FtW IdB BW [nm]	Mean	33.16	34.13	33.97	33.39	34.3	33.75	34.07	33.54	33.35	34.77	36.54	33.31	34.23	34.03923077	
		Std Dev	0.0941	0.1027	0.0717	0.1053	0.0996	0.0822	0.0822	0.0839	0.052	0.0886	0.0717	0.0882	0.0822	0.084953846	0.002495763
		N	20	20	20	20	19	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20		
D14	Propagation loss [dB/cm]	Mean	-2.16	-2.12	-2.12	-2.16	-2.24	-4.07	-2.11	-2.09	-2.09	-2.21	-6.67	-1.97	-2.36	-2.643846154	
		Std Dev	0.0089	0.0092	0.006	0.0059	0.0061	0.0088	0.0083	0.0072	0.009	0.0131	0.0152	0.0183	0.0035	0.009192308	-0.003476869
		N	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19		
	FtW IL [dB]	Mean	-5.62	-5.66	-5.63	-5.66	-5.68	-5.86	-5.72	-5.58	-5.63	-5.7	-12.7	-5.59	-5.72	-6.211538462	
		Std Dev	0.0264	0.0117	0.0116	0.0137	0.0116	0.0177	0.0233	0.0142	0.024	0.0146	0.0213	0.02	0.0147	0.017292308	-0.002783901
		N	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19		
	Peak WL [nm]	Mean	1542	1539	1539	1542	1539	1541	1539	1541	1540	1537	1555	1540	1538	1540.923077	
		Std Dev	0.0804	0.0795	0.0505	0.0795	0.0981	0.1047	0.0901	0.1182	0.0901	0.0813	0.0795	0.0996	0.0766	0.086776923	5.63149E-05
		N	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19		
	FtW IdB BW [nm]	Mean	36.06	37.39	37.21	36.81	37.58	37.2	37.07	36.81	36.6	38.29	40.29	36.55	37.85	37.36230769	
7		Std Dev	0.0996	0.1011	0.1055	0.0958	0.111	0.0841	0.1011	0.1097	0.1047	0.0804	0.0766	0.1069	0.0736	0.096161538	0.002573758
Z		N	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19		

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# **MEASUREMENT REPRODUCIBILITY**

#### REFERENCE WAFER MEASUREMENTS

- Repeated measurement of same wafer/dies/structures, ~bi-weekly interval
- Evolution of 8 device parameters tracked
  - FtW IL,TE/TM, C/O band
  - Photo diode responsivity
  - Photo diode dark current
- Also implemented Western Electric rules





# MEASUREMENT REPRODUCIBILITY

#### REFERENCE WAFER MEASUREMENTS

Corrective actions taken when required

Symptom	Possible cause	Corrective action				
ld too low	Bad probe contact	Adjust probe overtravel				
		Clean probe tips				
FtW IL out of spec	Incorrect fiber height	Adjust fiber heigt				
	Fiber facet not clean	Clean fiber facet				
	Polarization not well calibrated	Calibrate input SOP				
	Fiber facet damaged	Replace measurement pigtail				
	Setup loss not well calibrated	Calibrate setup loss				
Responsivity out of spec and FtW IL is also out of spec	First solve issue with FtW IL	See steps above				
Responsivity out of spec but FtW IL is in spec	Poor calibration of pigtail output power	Calibrate power at tip of input pigtail				
	Imbalance between input and output pigtail FtW IL	Check if input and output pigtails are at same height				



# MEASUREMENT REPRODUCIBILITY

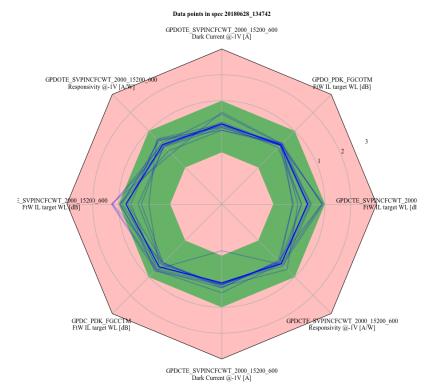
#### REFERENCE WAFER MEASUREMENTS

# Data analysis

- Target value for each die/device/parameter defined as average of past measurements
- Each data point is normalized as (i-th observation of quantity x<sub>i</sub>)

$$p_{ji} = \frac{x_{ji} - \mu_i}{\sigma_i}$$

- For each die, parameters p<sub>j</sub> (j=1...8) are plotted on a radar plot
- Green zone is ± lσ
- Bold blue line = wafer average





#### CONCLUSION

- Running PCM measurements in clean room enables faster feedback to process integration engineers
  - Enables checking process changes in-line to tune parameters
- Inline measurements require a fully automated tool FormFactor CM300xi-SiPh
- Calibration procedures are in place to ensure accuracy of measured parameters
- Dual use case of measurement data
  - Ensure technology-specific device parameters are meeting PDK specifications
  - Validating the effect of process/design changes on those structures
- Contamination analysis verifies that the tool operates within cleanroom specification
  - Tool is not a source of contamination
- Test Setup Monitoring is used to demonstrate the tool is providing repeatable and reproducible measurements





# THANKS FOR YOUR ATTENTION



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