

Latest Advances in High Precision Laser Micromachining of Transparent Materials



Oxford Lasers Ltd

www.oxfordlasers.com

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- 2. European Project FP7 funded (TiSaTD)**
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1 Introduction of Oxford Lasers Ltd

- **Founded in 1977, spin-off from Oxford University. 39 years in the laser industry.**
- **Started laser micro-machining business in 1993.**
- **Two divisions:**
 - Laser micro machining (subcontract services and laser systems)**
 - High speed imaging**
- **Markets: R&D Centres, Microelectronics, solar, Medical, Automotive, Telecoms, Pharmaceutical**

Our 23 years of expertise in Laser Micro Machining

1 Micro

Processing spot size typically 5 - 50 μm

Material removal typically 10 - 1000 μm^3 per pulse

0.1 - 1 mm^3 per minute

2 Short pulse

“Nanosecond” lasers approx 10^{-8} secs

“Picosecond” lasers approx 10^{-11} secs

“Femtosecond” lasers approx 10^{-13} secs

3 Genuinely “micro”

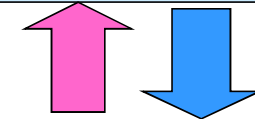
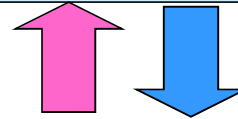
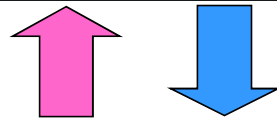
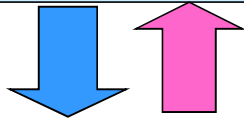
2.5 μm corner radius

<1 μm surface roughness

4 Small Heat Affected Zone

10nm - 2.5 μm

Customers Applications



Micro-machining System

Design and Supply



Applications Labs & Subcontract

1000s of different jobs



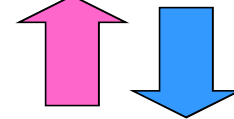
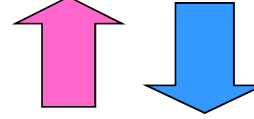
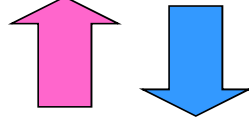
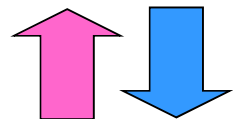
Software Team

Incorporate layout and features based on experience of using and supplying systems



R & D Projects

EU & UK funded collaborative projects on advanced next generation laser applications



Oxford Lasers Process Knowledge

Our Capabilities/Capacities

- **Equipment**
 - In house flexible configuration
- **Materials**
 - Metals, ceramics, polymers, glasses
- **Wavelengths**
 - Near IR, visible, UV, deep UV
- **Pulse Lengths**
 - Nanosecond, picosecond, femtosecond
- **Volumes**
 - Single samples to 500,000 parts/year

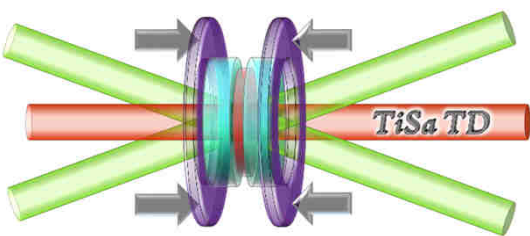


**Subcontract Services,
Proof of Concept
Services, R&D**



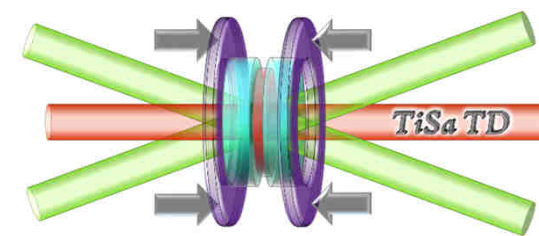
**High Precision Laser
System Built**





2. European TiSa TD Project

Dr. Dimitris Karnakis
Dr. Nicola Bellini



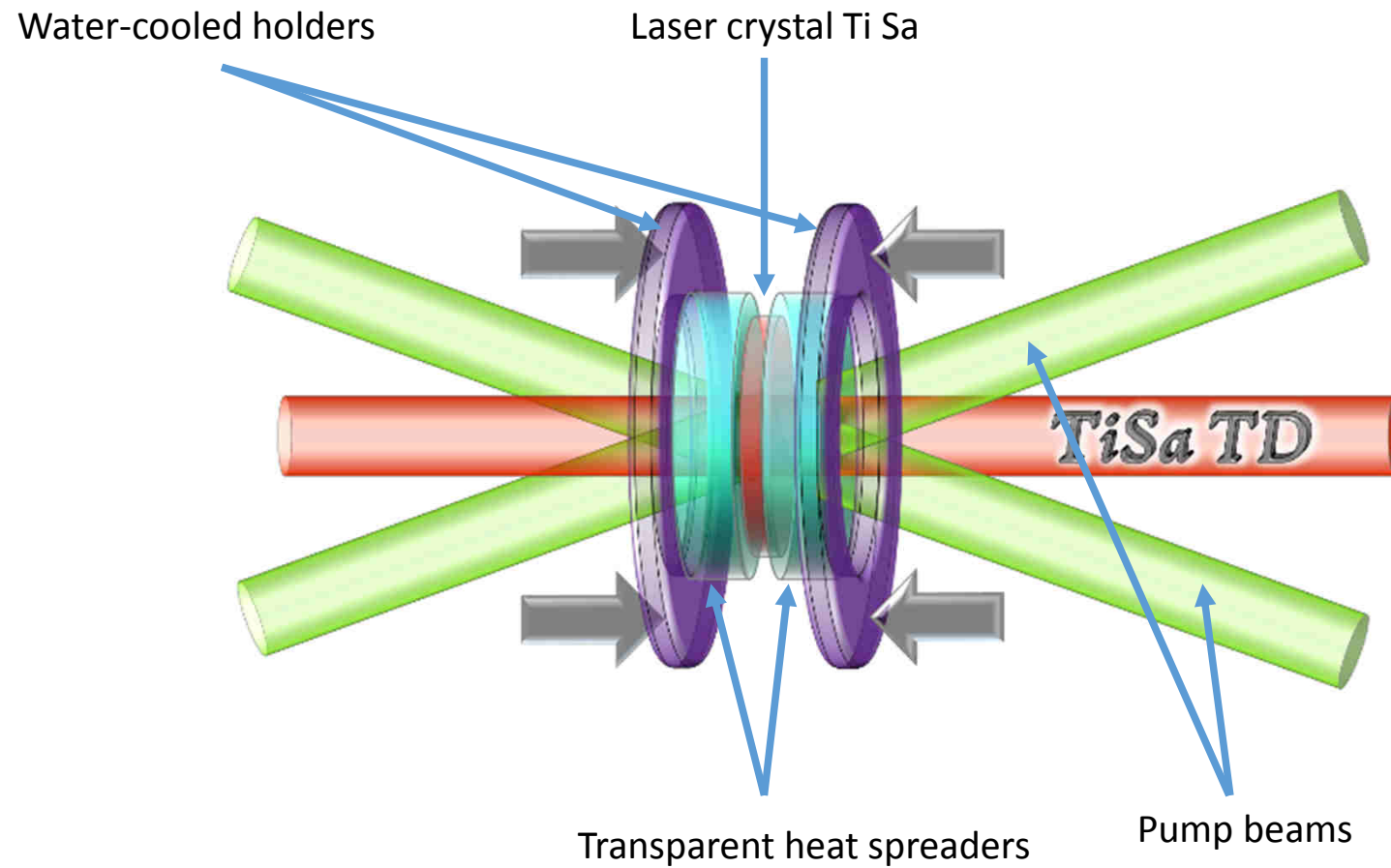
- Femtosecond laser Processing of Transparent Materials (glass, synthetic diamond, sapphire)
- Start date: Dec 2013 (duration 36M + 9M extension due to delays)
- Demonstrate the feasibility of industrial high-average power ($>100\text{W}$), 10MHz rep rate ultrafast Ti:sapphire (Ti:Sa) lasers.
- Demonstrate their applications
- Other Partners :
 - University of Stuttgart
 - Thales Optronique S.A.
 - M-Squared Lasers Ltd.
 - Element Six Ltd
 - Femto-ST (CNRS)
 - Kite Innovation (Europe)



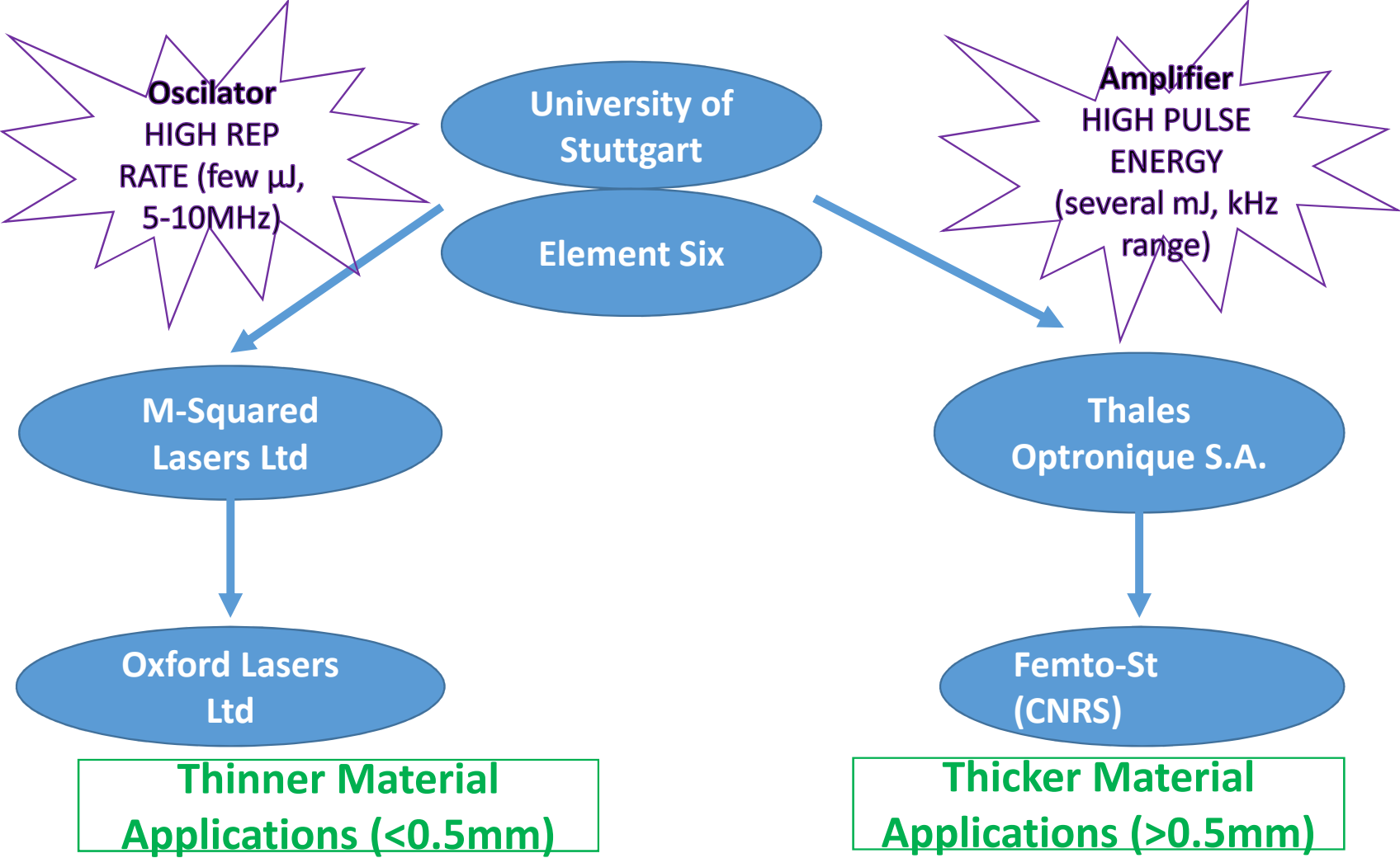
The TiSa TD project has received funding from the European Community's Seventh Framework Programme under Grant Agreement No. 619177



The heart of the laser



Partners' role and Organisation



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Industrial Materials

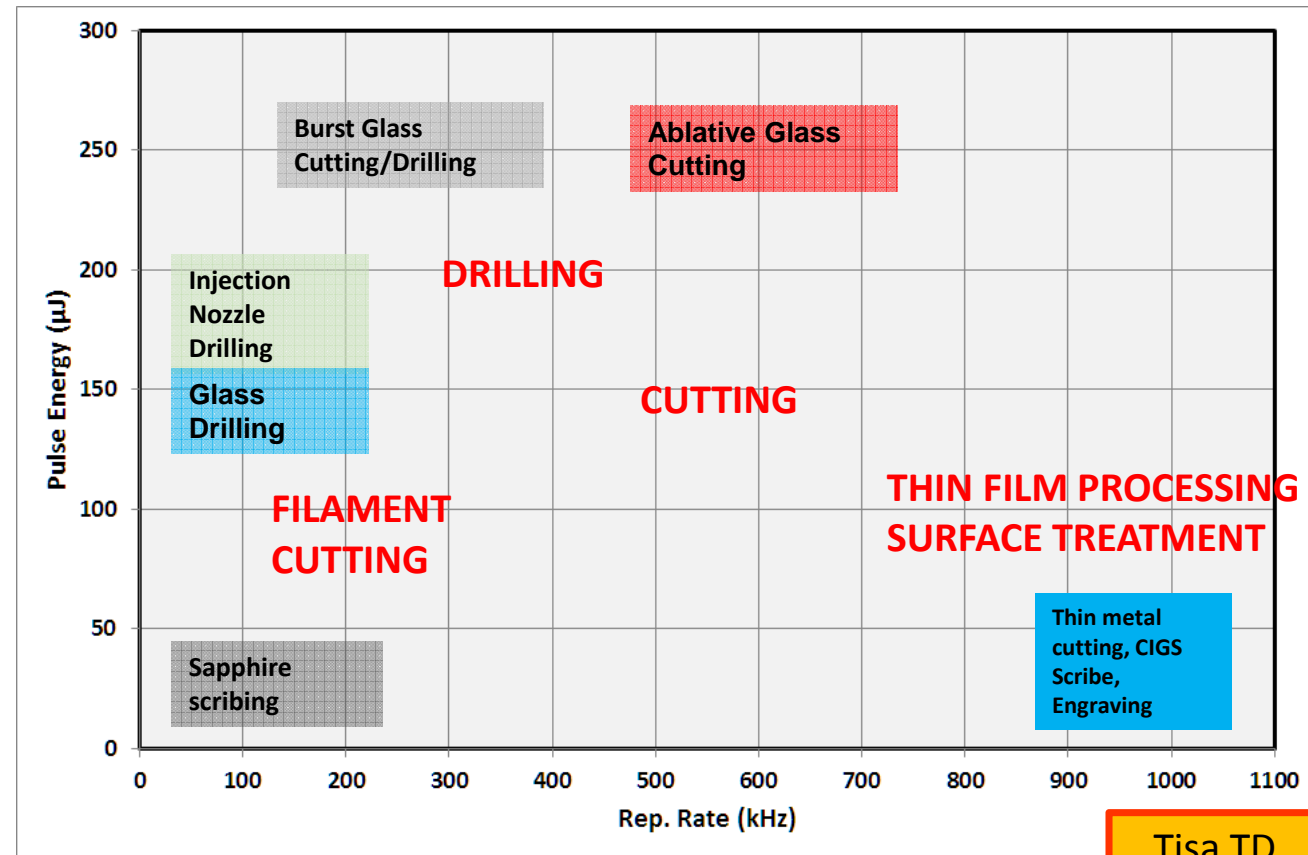
Transparent
Dielectrics

(glasses,
sapphire,
diamond,
polymers)

Other
Materials

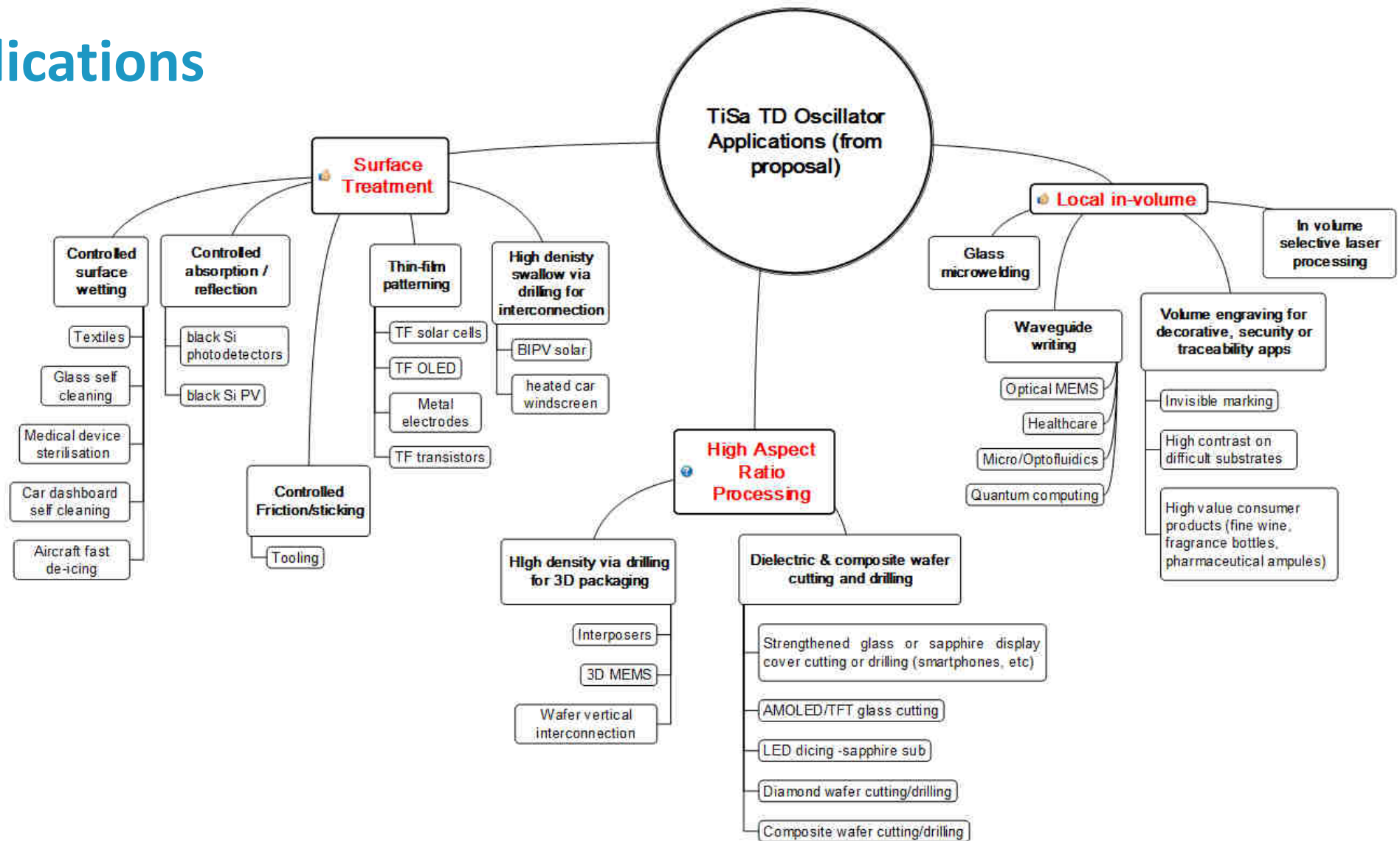
(silicon, metals,
carbon fibre)

Laser pulse energy vs. PRF

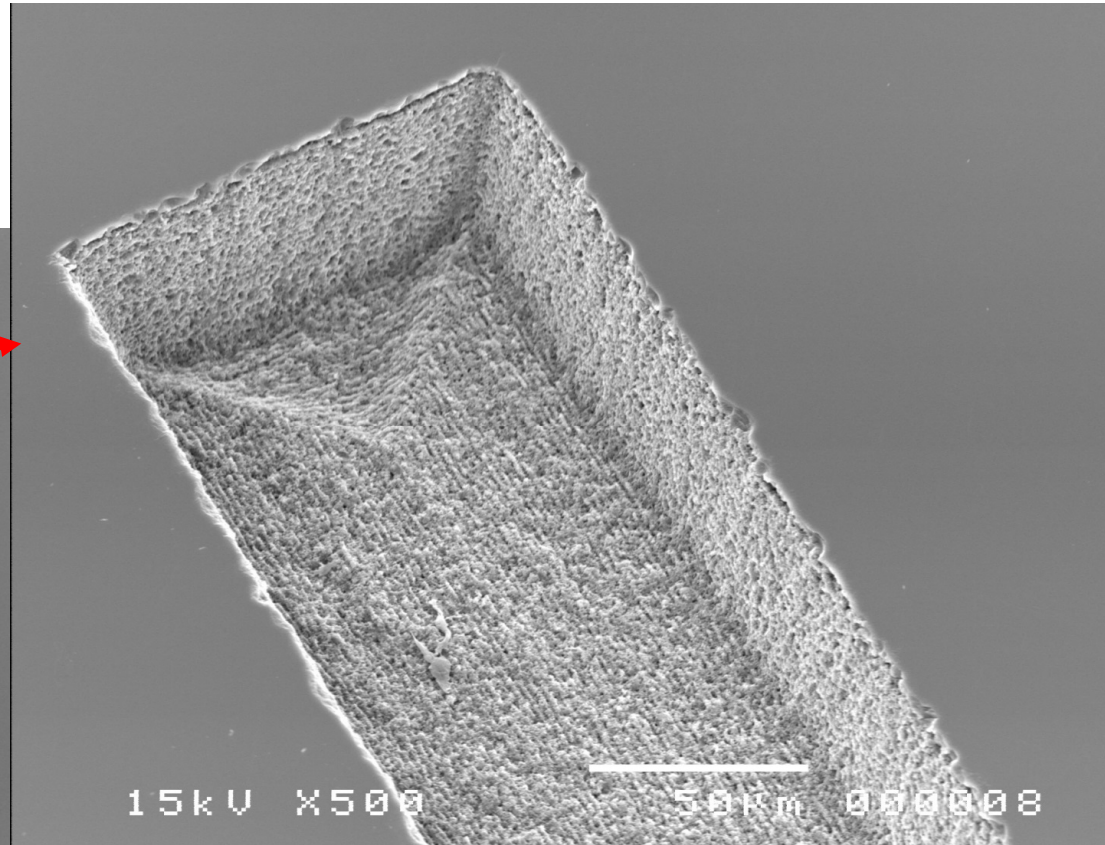
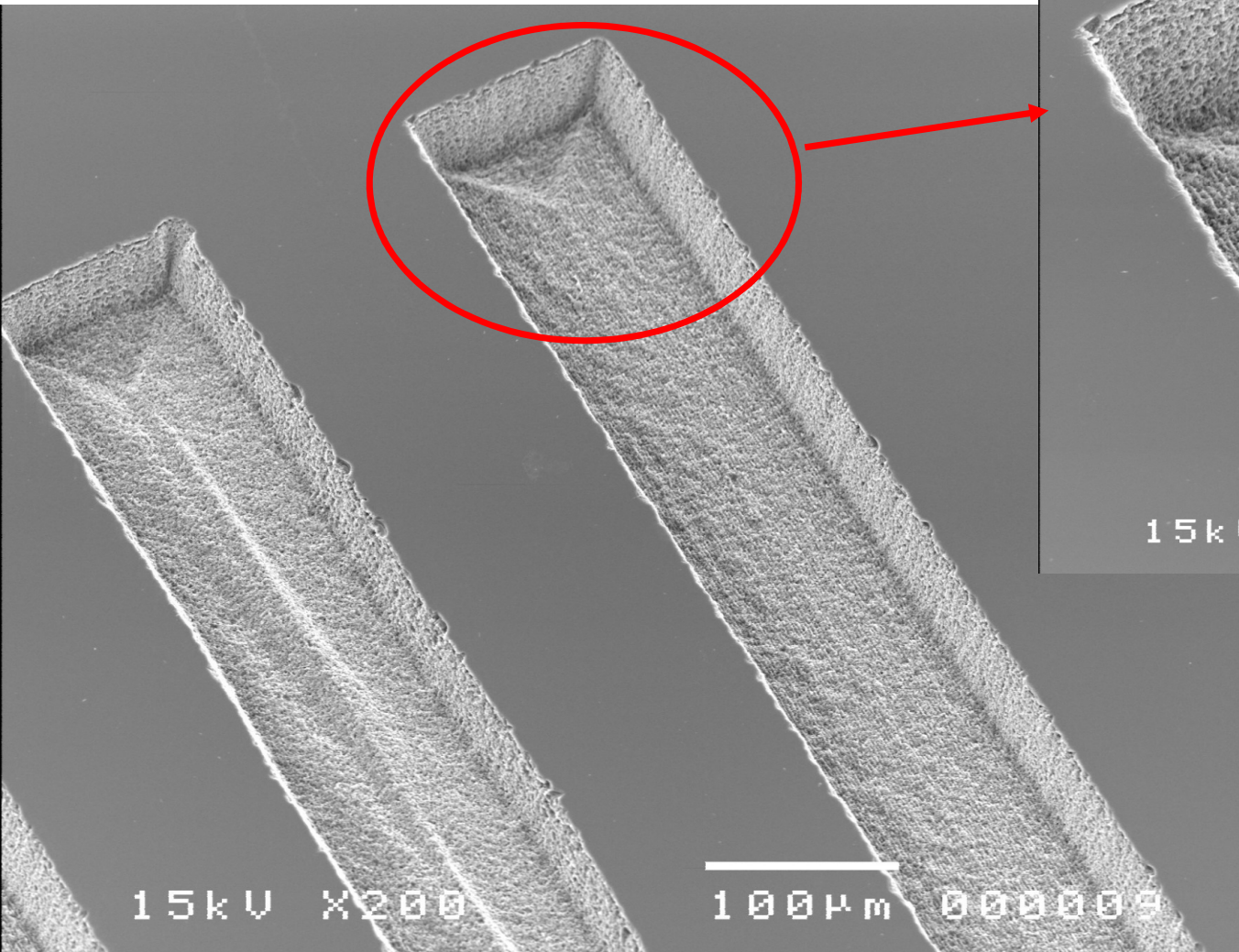


Tisa TD
oscillator
2-5 μJ
10MHz

Applications

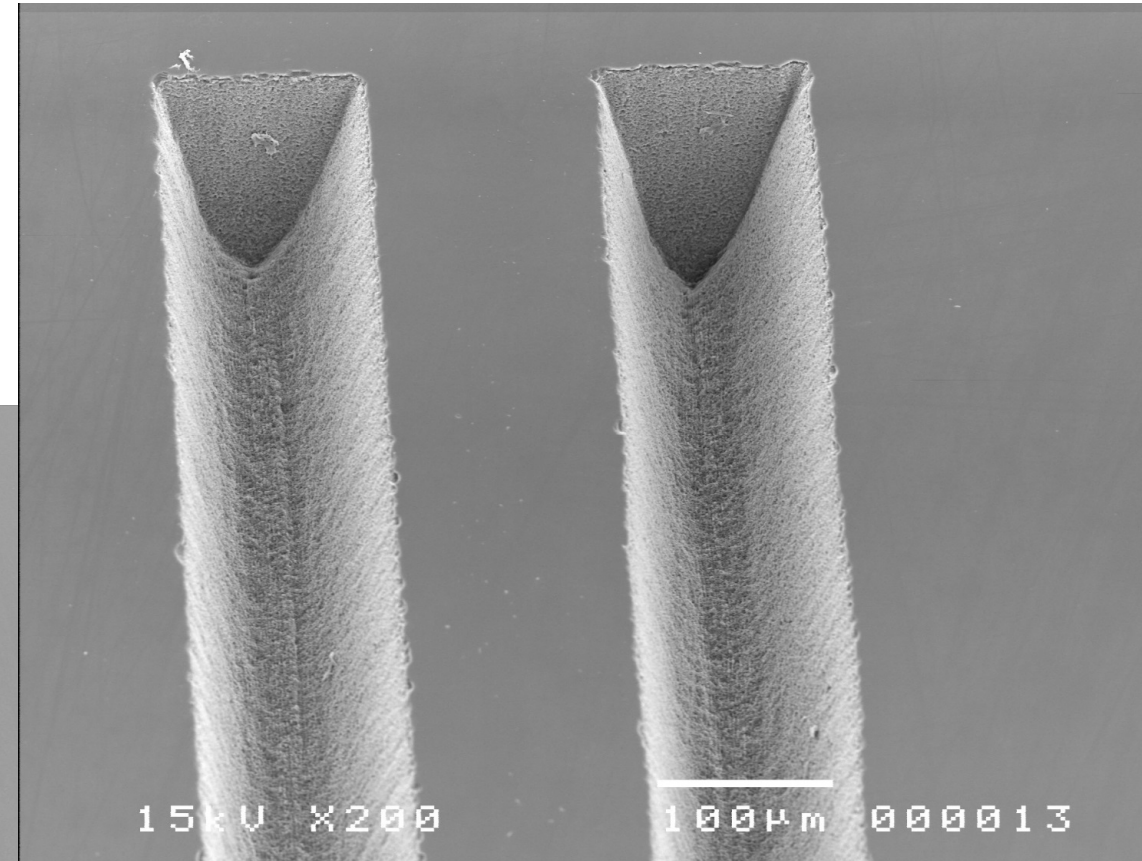
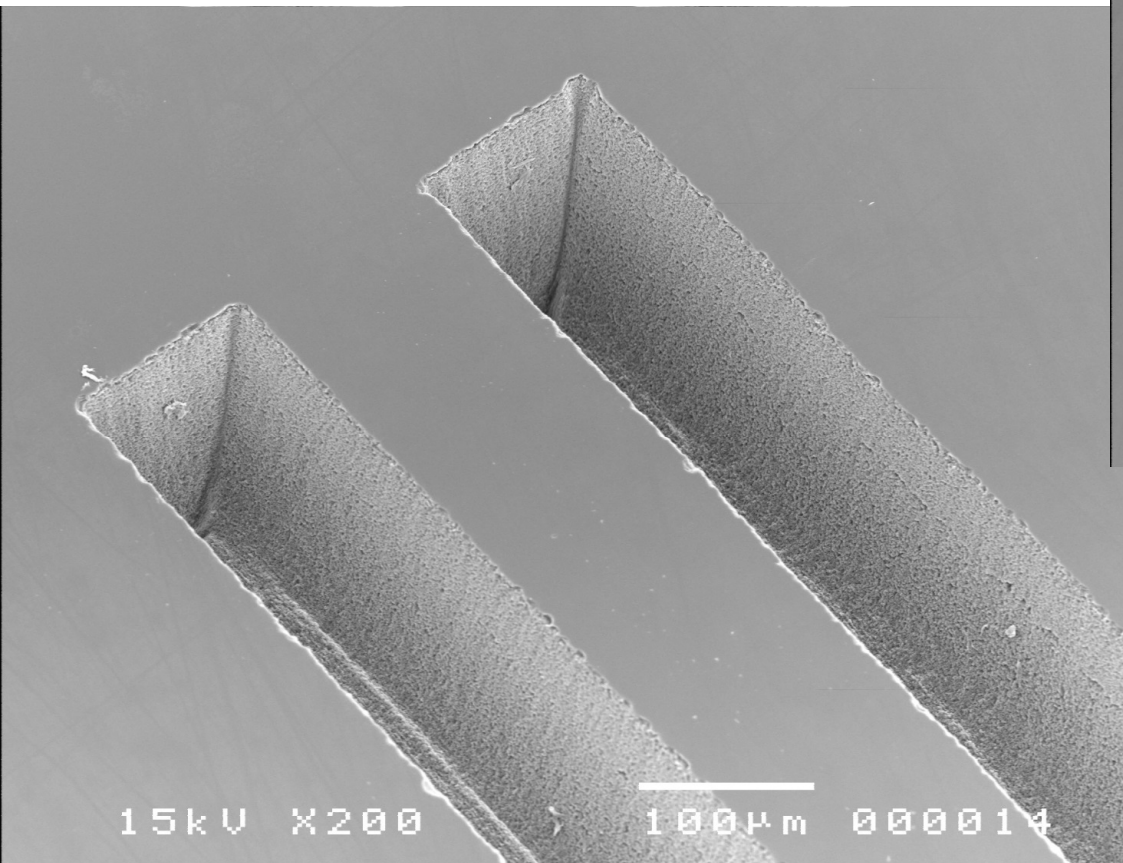


Milling results on FUSED SILICA



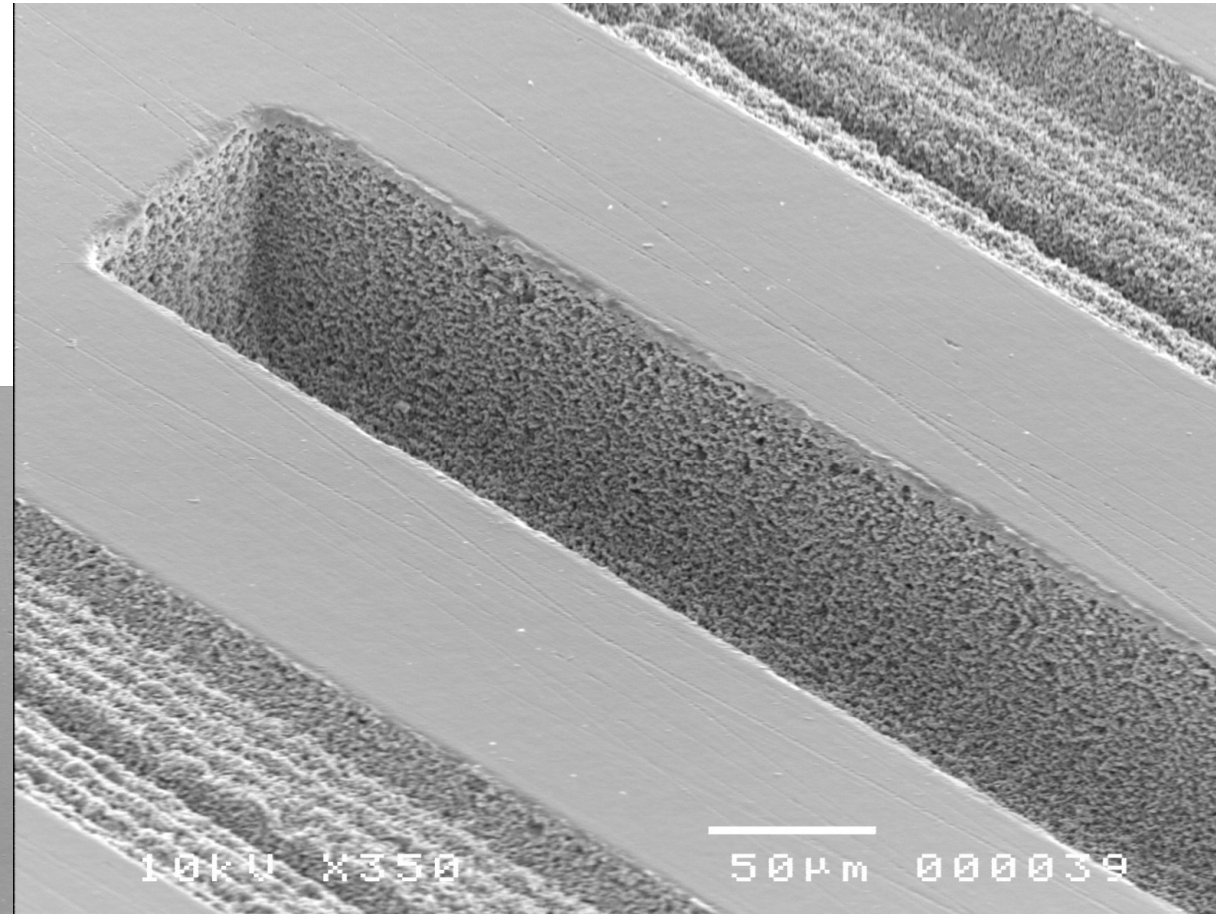
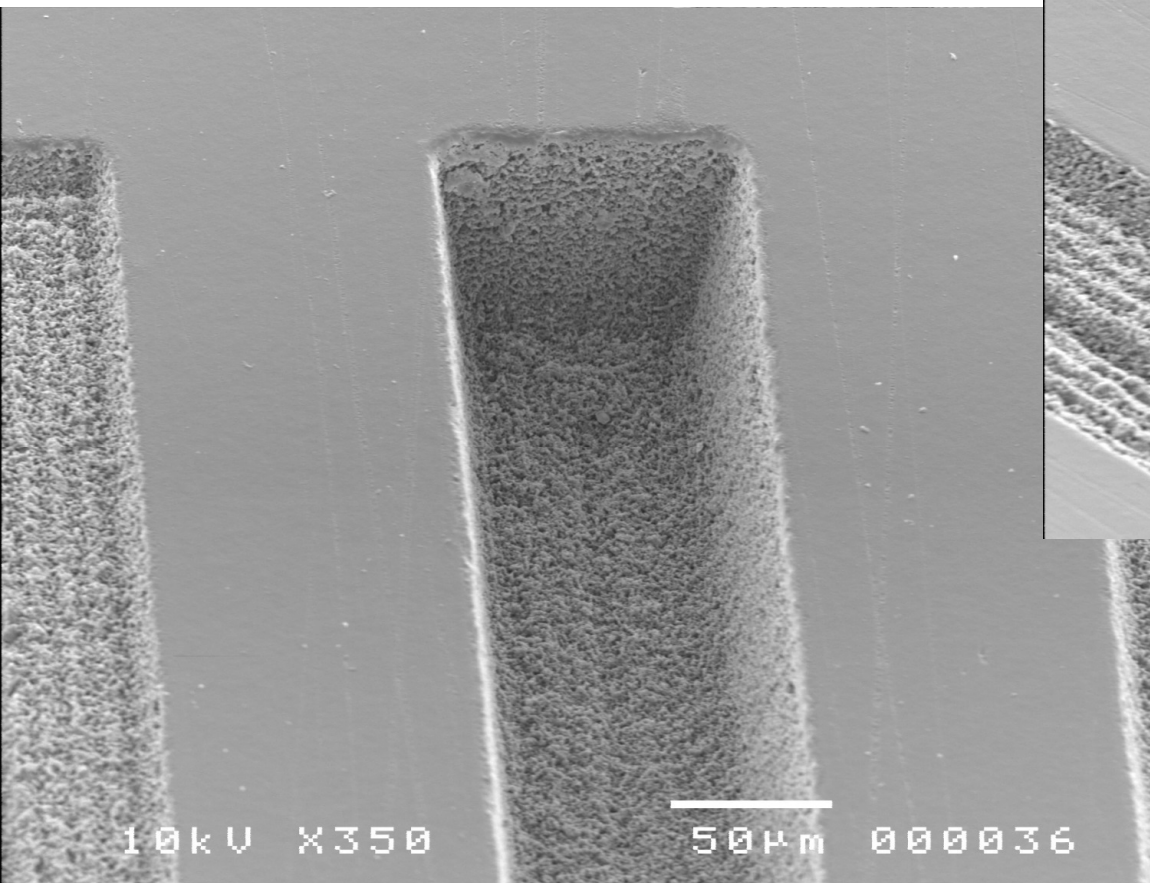
Width 100 μm
Depth 34 μm

Milling results on FUSED SILICA



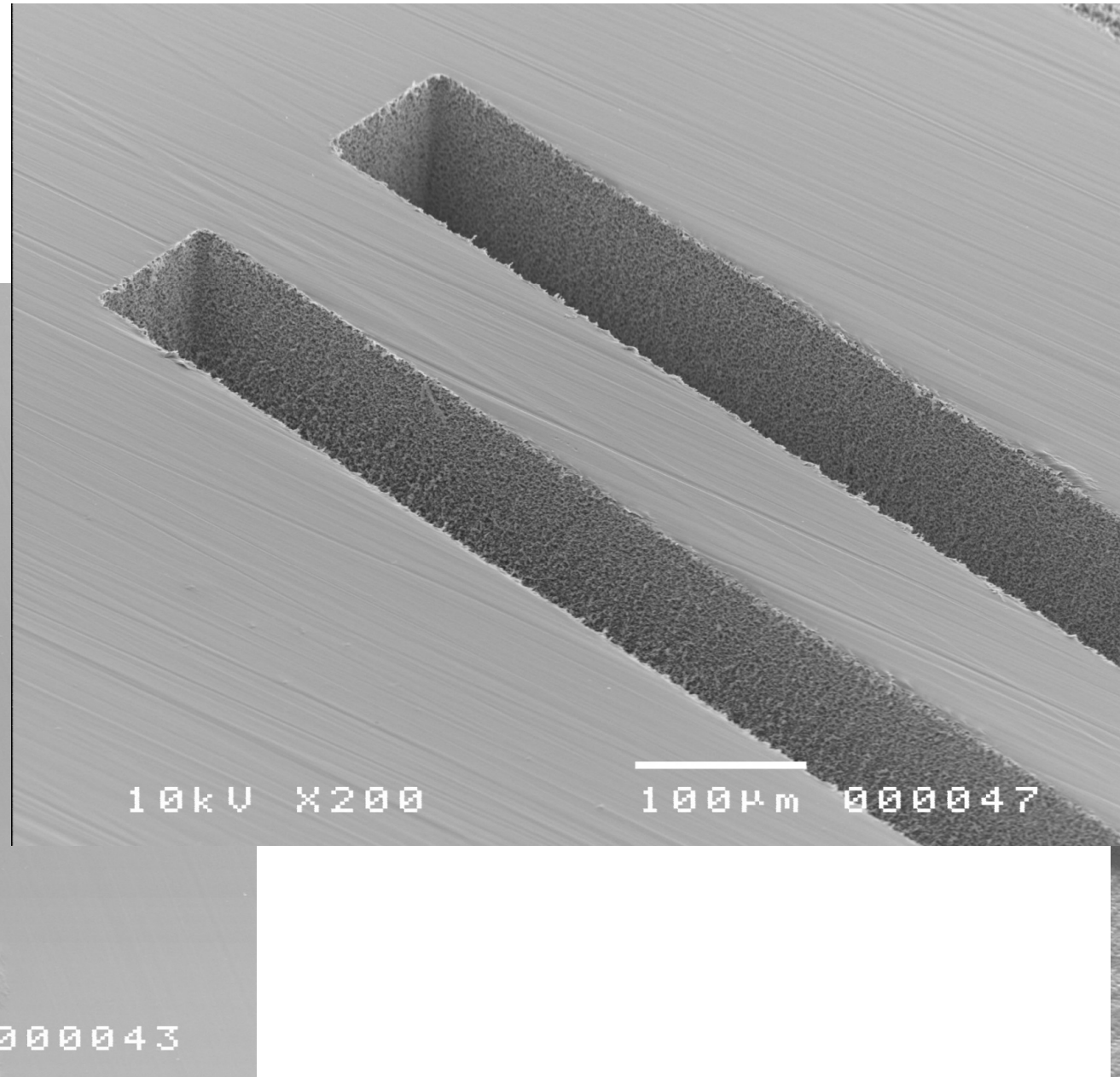
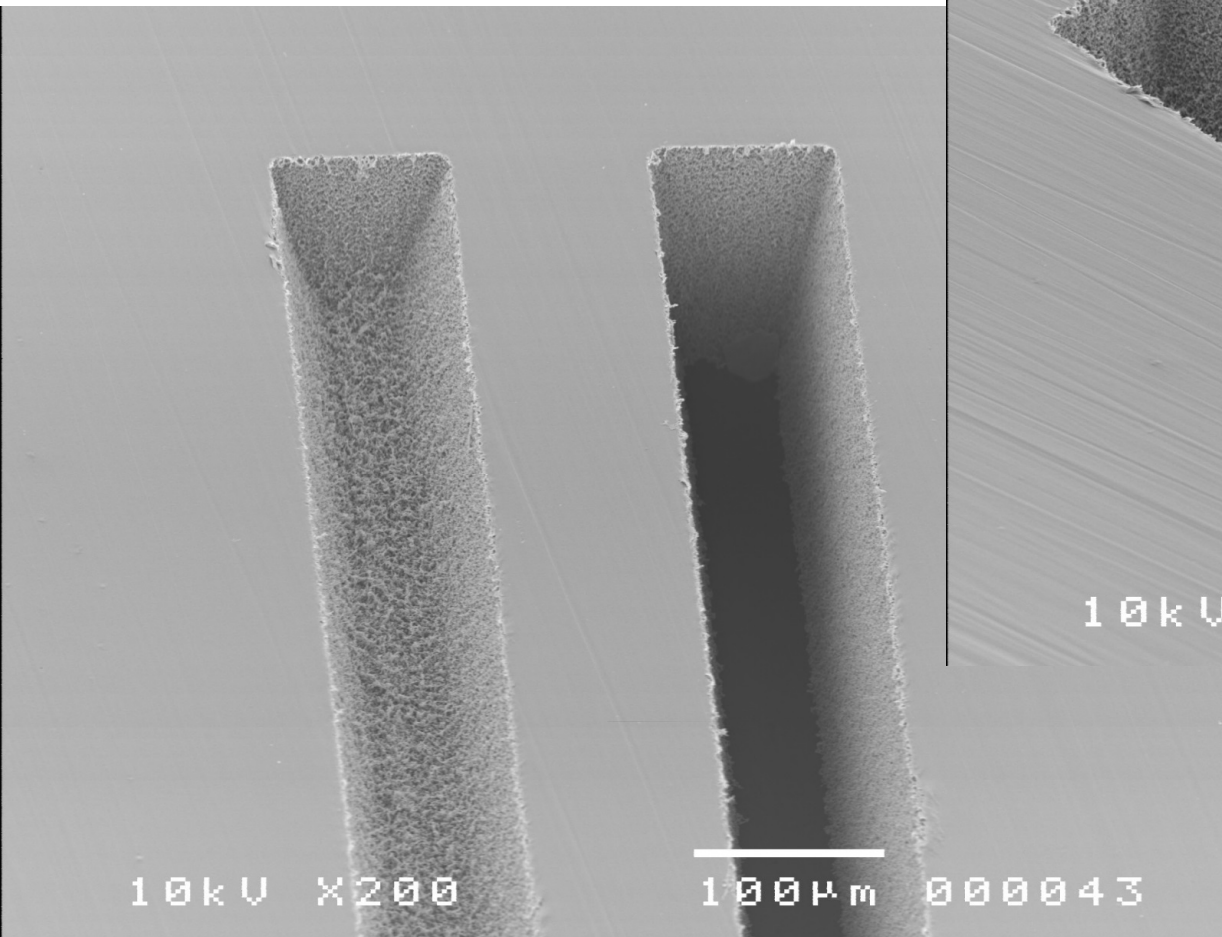
Width 100 μm
Depth 120 μm

Milling results on PMMA

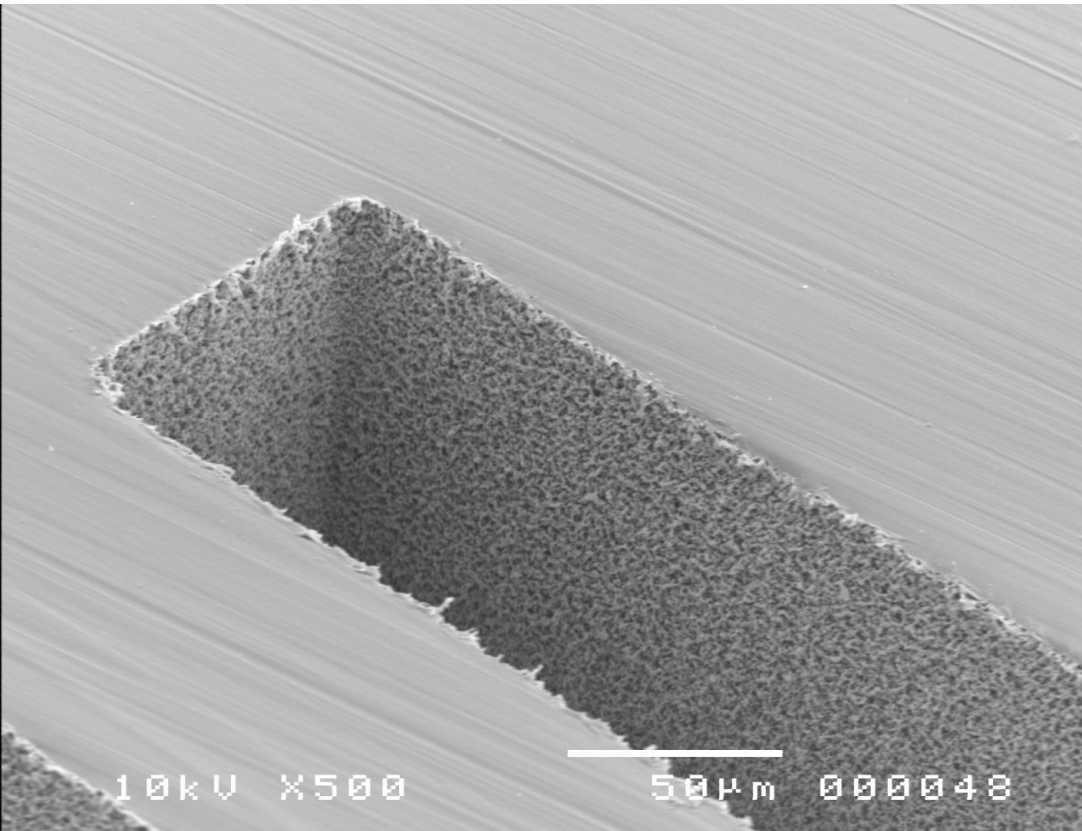


Width 100 μm
Depth 70 μm

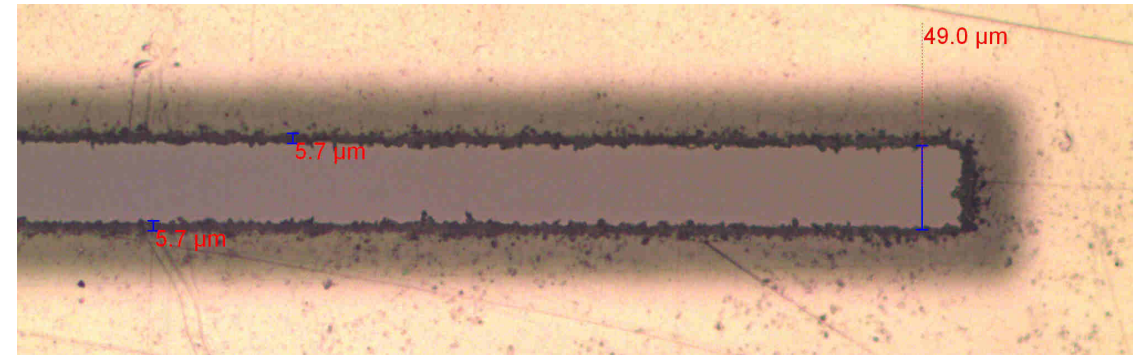
Milling results on FEP



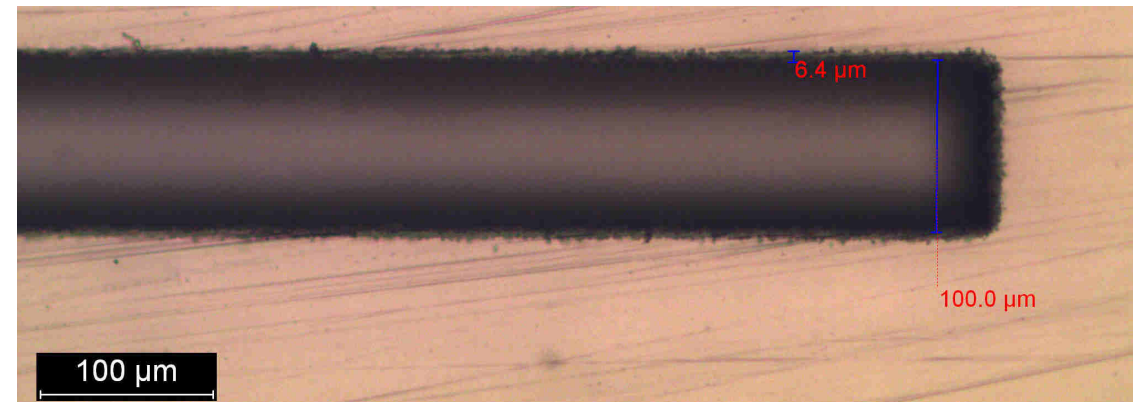
Milling results on FEP



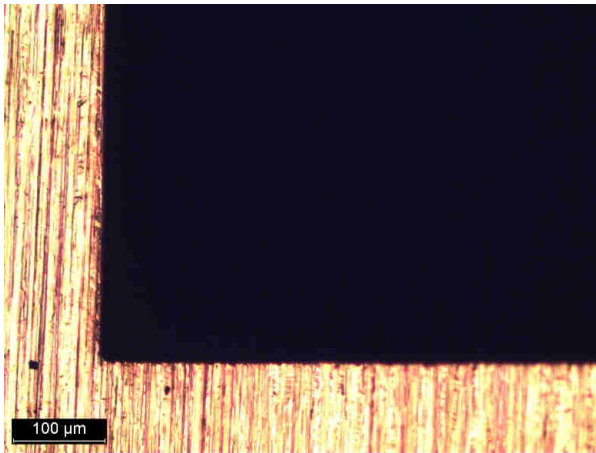
Exit side



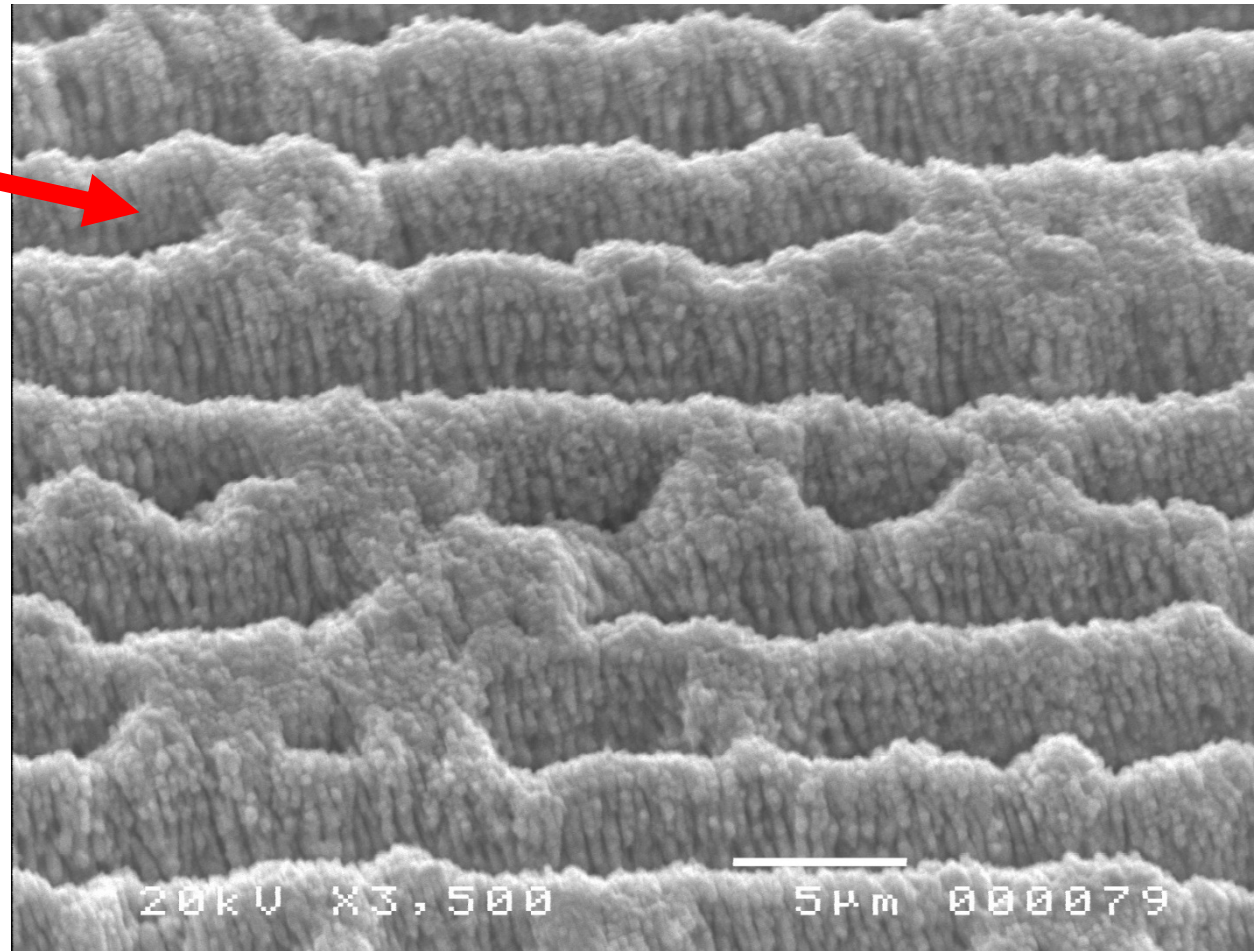
Entry side
125 μm thick



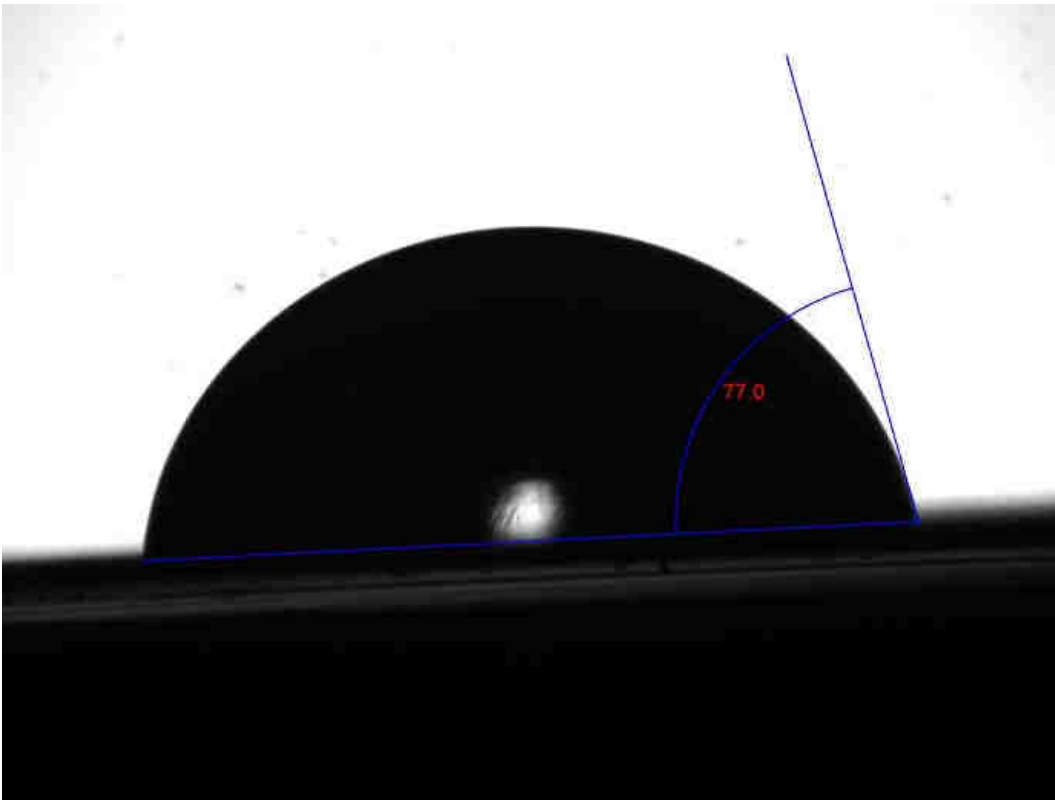
Fs laser SURFACE Modification on STAINLESS STEEL



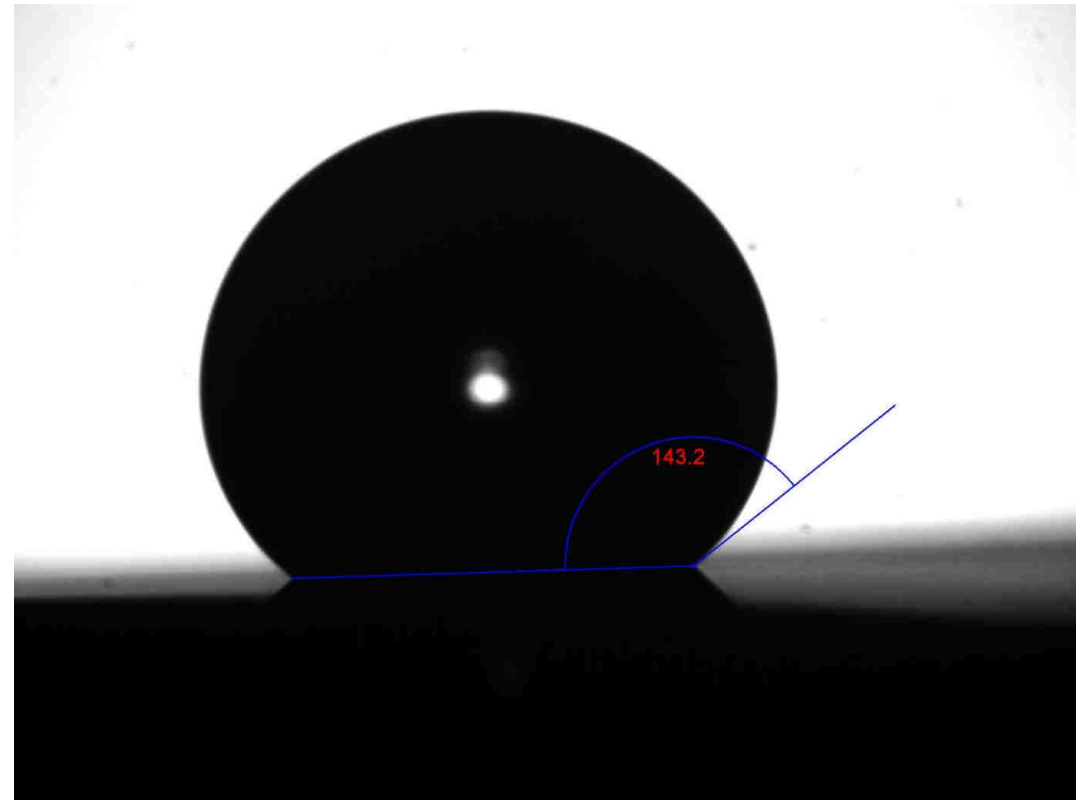
Light trapping



Fs Laser surface wettability control

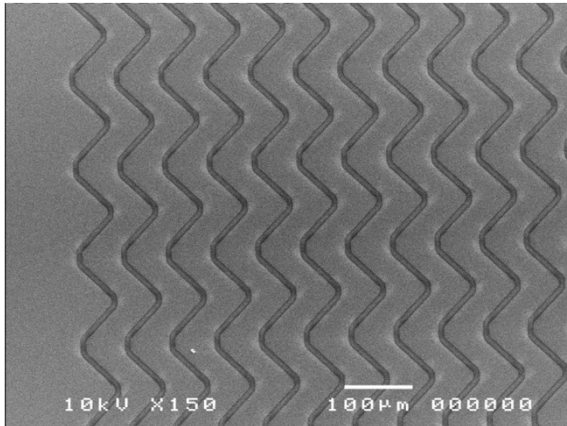


**Before laser texturing
(hydrophilic surface)**

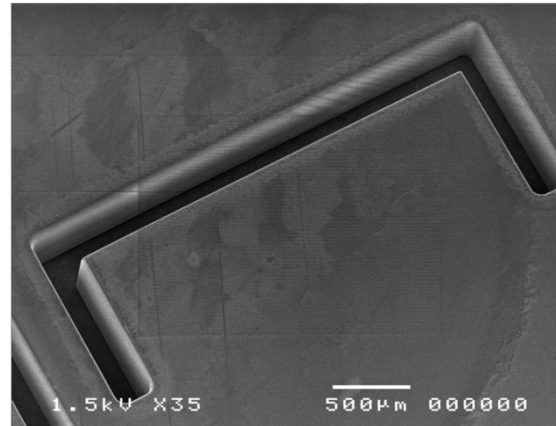


**After laser texturing
(hydrophobic surface)**

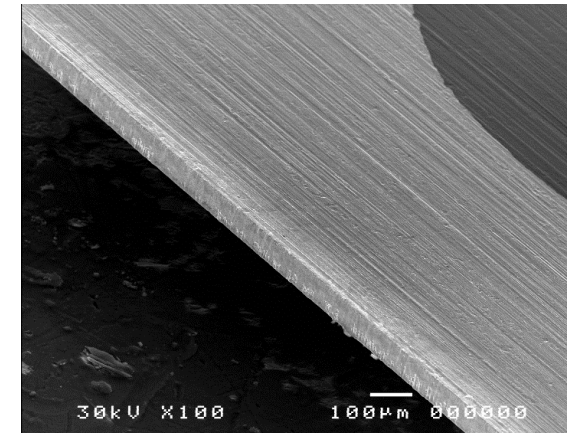
Other material machining



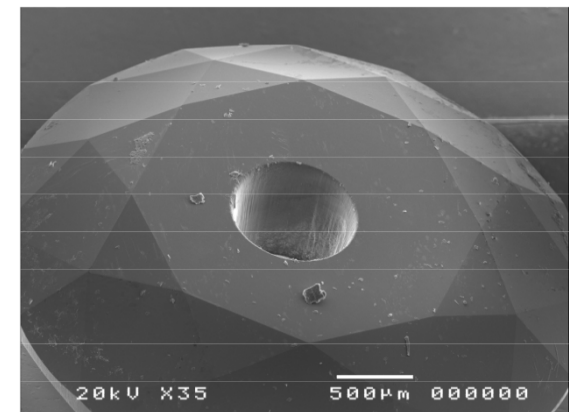
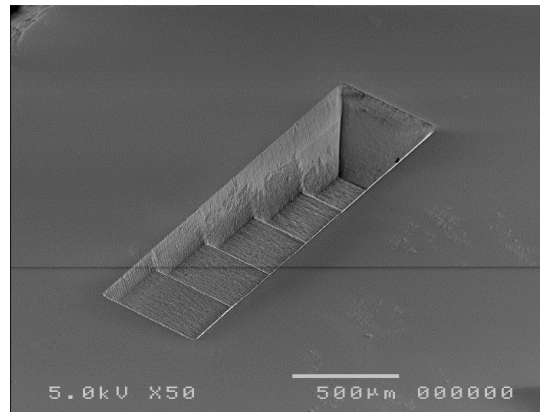
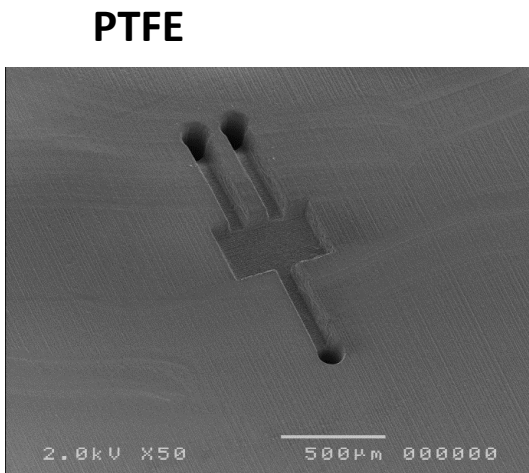
Patterning - ITO on glass



Sapphire



Nickel



Thank you!

Any questions are welcome