
Overview of ALD-Activities for Optical Applications: Materials, Refractive and Diffractive Optics

Adriana Szeghalmi, ^{1,2}, S. Shestaeva¹, Astrid Bingel¹
L. Ghazaryan², K. Pfeiffer², S. Ratzsch²

¹Fraunhofer Institute for Applied Optics and
Precision Engineering

²Friedrich Schiller University Jena, Institute of
Applied Physics

a.szeghalmi@uni-jena.de



Workshop Optical Coatings for Laser Applications 2016 - Buchs

Outline

- Introduction
- Coating equipment
- Results
 - Materials
 - Interference Coatings
 - Diffractive Optics
- Outlook

Dr. Adriana Szeghalmi

- **Professional career since final degree**

- 10/2015 –to date Group Manager ALD for Optics FhG-IOF Jena
- 05/2010–to date Emmy Noether Group Leader FSU Jena
- 05/2007–04/2010 Postdoc, Max Planck Institute of Microstructure Physics (Prof. U. Gösele, Dr. M. Knez) Halle (Saale)
- 04/2005–04/2007 Postdoc, University of Manitoba, Canada (Prof. K. M. Gough) Winnipeg

- **University education**

- 07/2001-02/2005 PhD studies, University of Würzburg (Prof. W. Kiefer)
- 04/2000-03/2001 Exchange student at the University of Würzburg
- 10/1997-06/2001 Study of Chemistry and Physics, Babes-Bolyai University, Romania

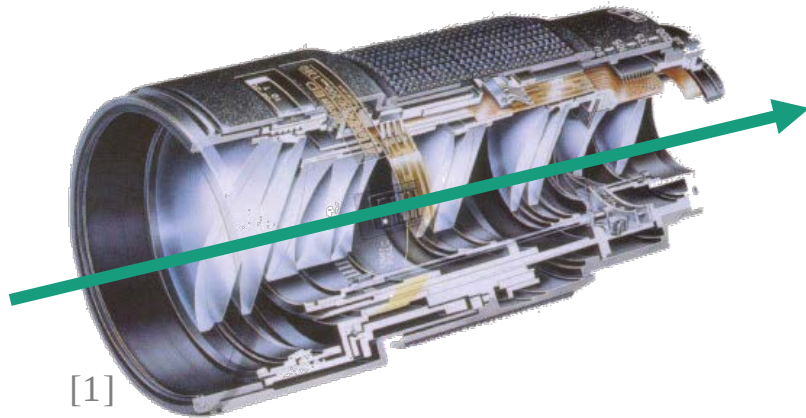
ALD Team

Lilit Ghazaryan
Kristin Pfeiffer
Vivek Beladiya
Svetlana Shestaeva
Astrid Bingel
David Kästner

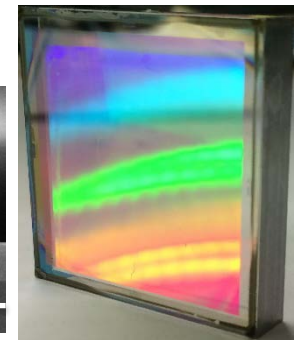
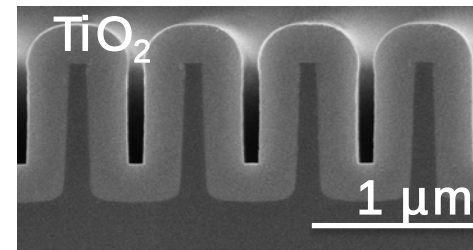
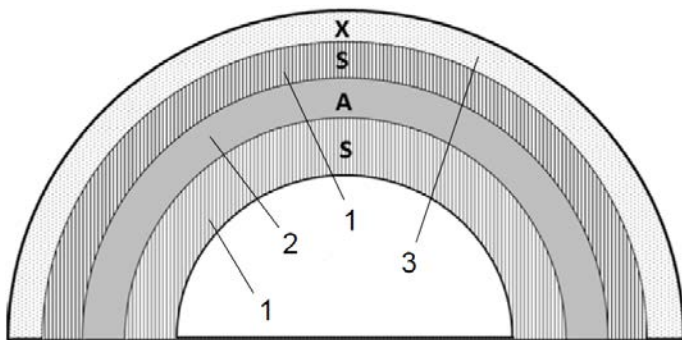
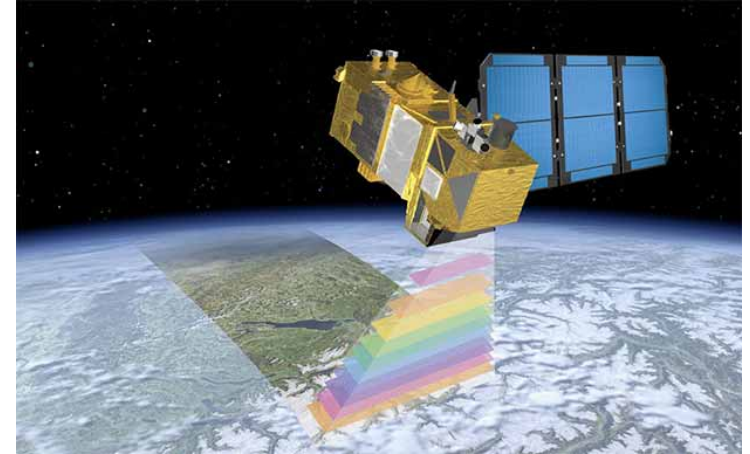
Alumni: M. Sc. Haiyue Yang
Dr. Pascal Genevée
M. Sc. Ernest Ahiavi
Dr. Stephan Ratzsch



The ALD Solution to Enhance Optical Performance



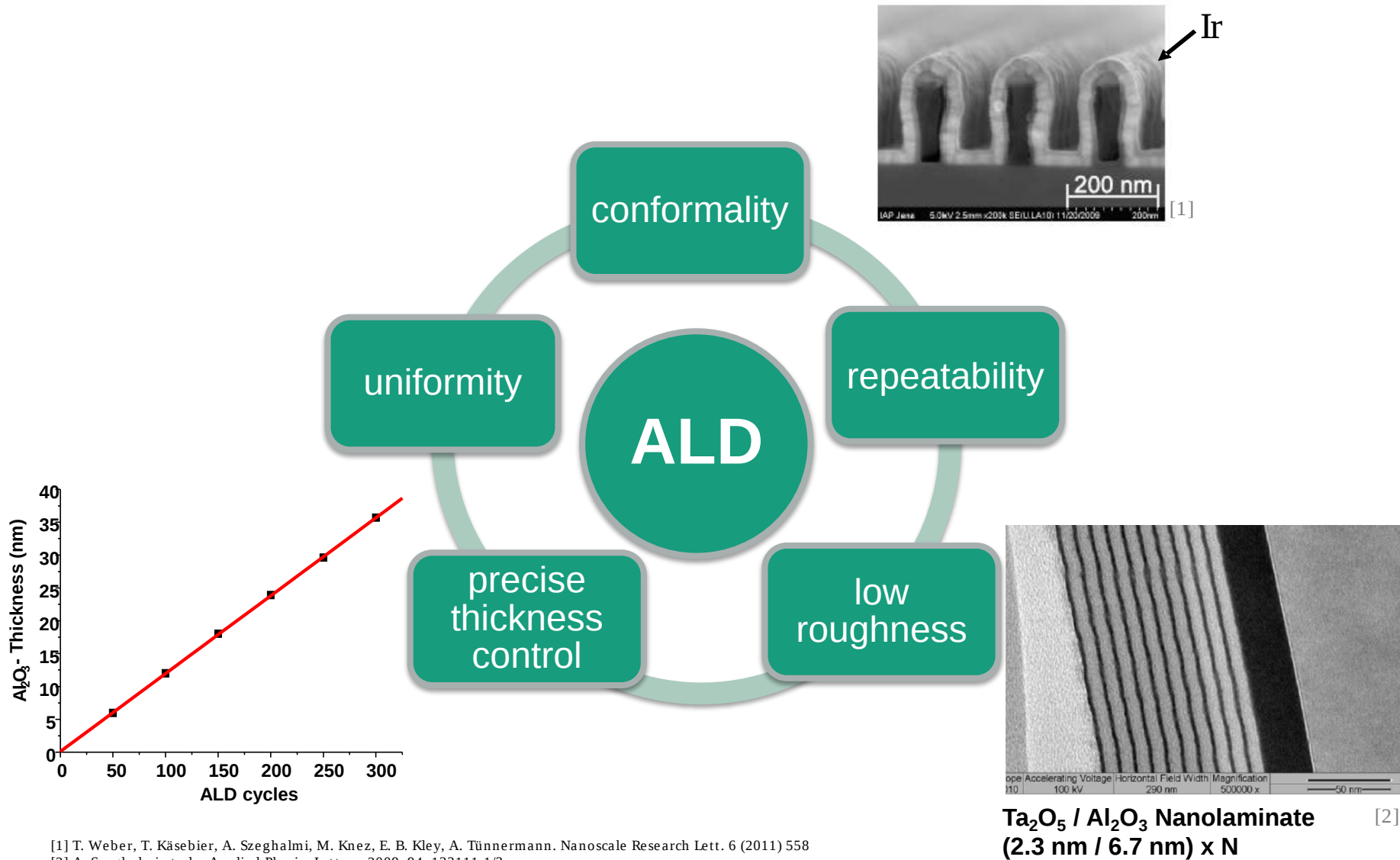
ESA, Sentinel-2



[1] www.marquardt-kempen.de/s/cc_images/cache_2435481376.jpg?t=1362993658

[2] L. Ghazaryan, A. Szeghalmi, E. B. Kley, U. Schulz, DPMA Anmeldung. 2016

Why ALD?

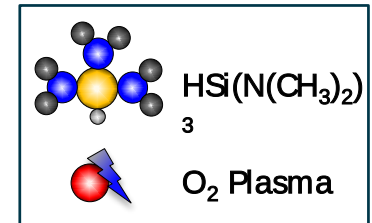


[1] T. Weber, T. Käsebier, A. Szeghalmi, M. Knez, E. B. Kley, A. Tünnermann. Nanoscale Research Lett. 6 (2011) 558

[2] A. Szeghalmi et al., Applied Physics Letters, 2009, 94, 133111-1/3.

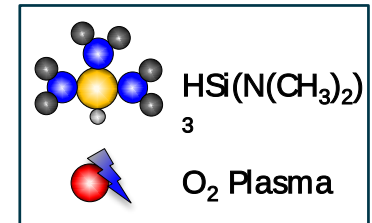
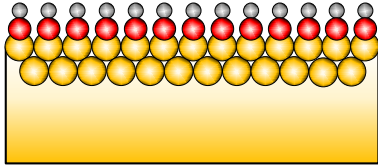
ALD atomic layer-by-layer coating technology

SiO₂ ALD cycle

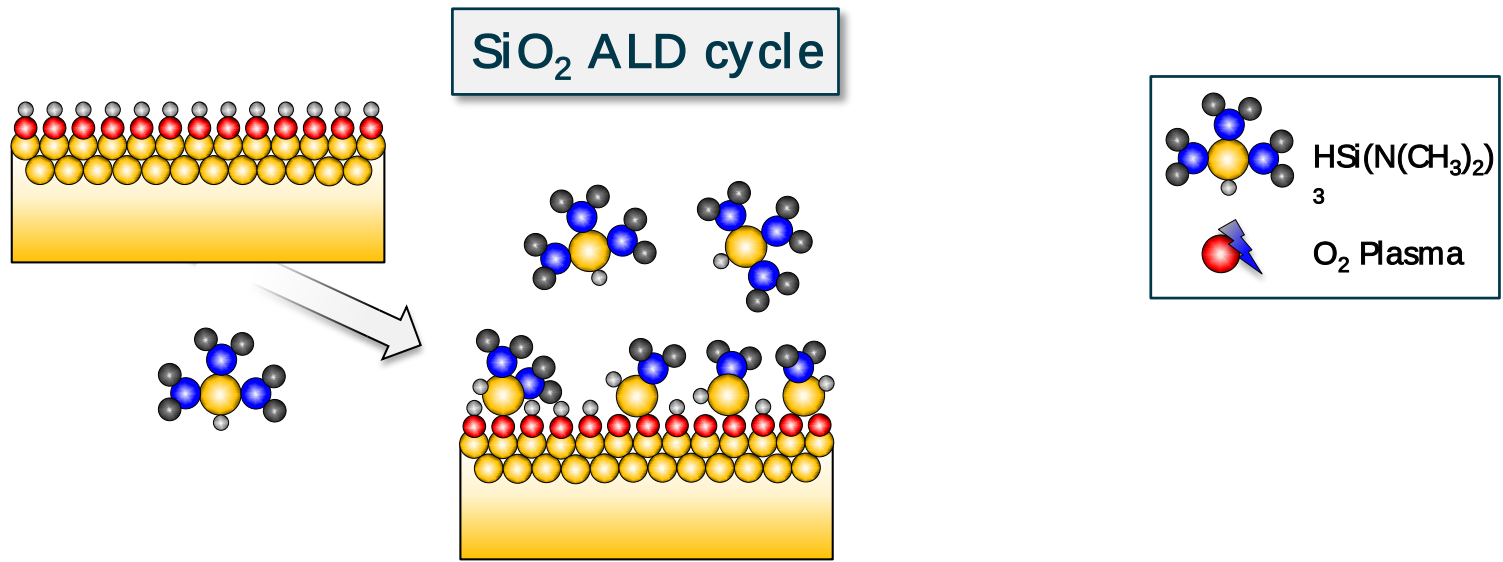


ALD atomic layer-by-layer coating technology

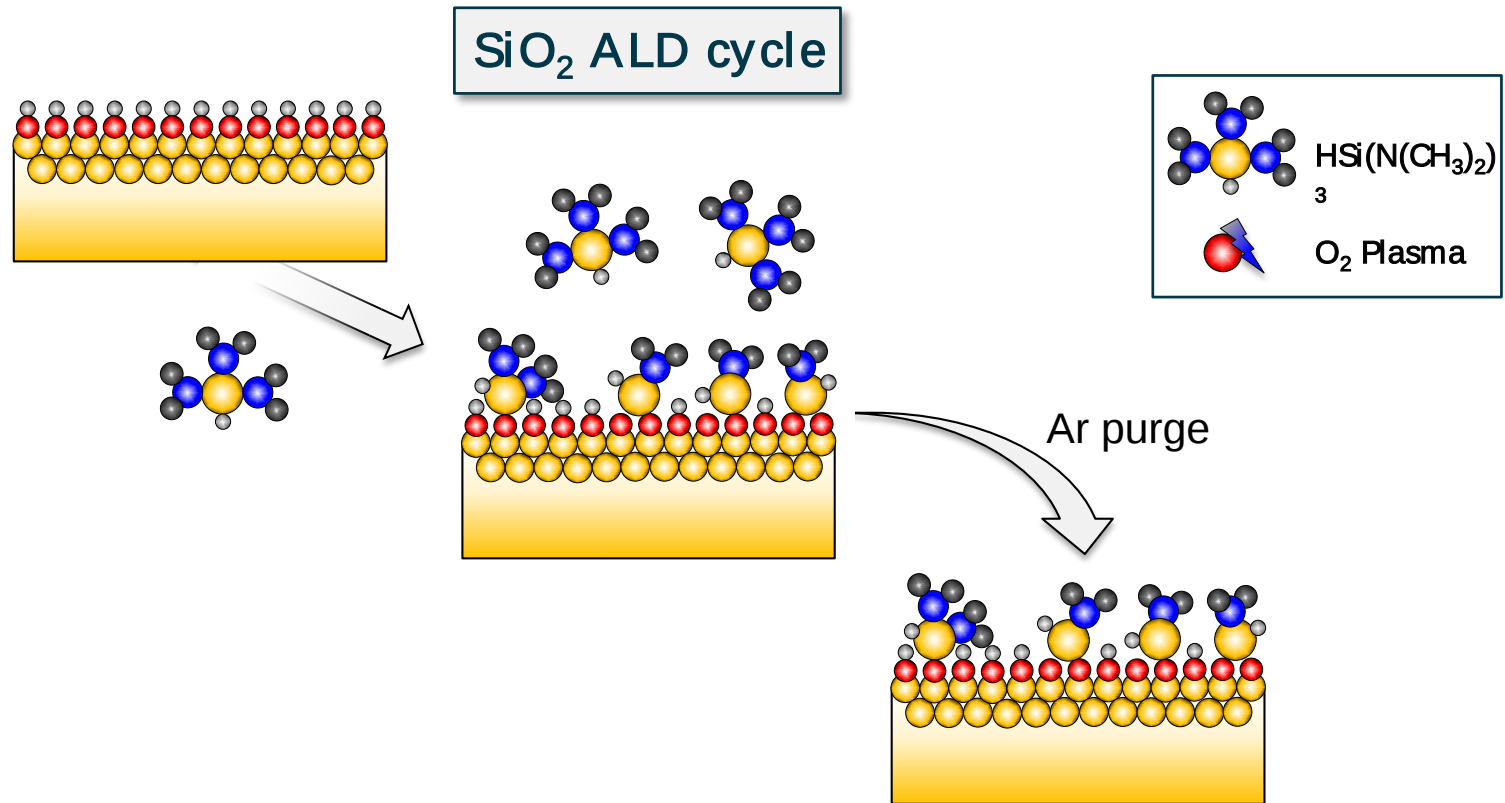
SiO₂ ALD cycle



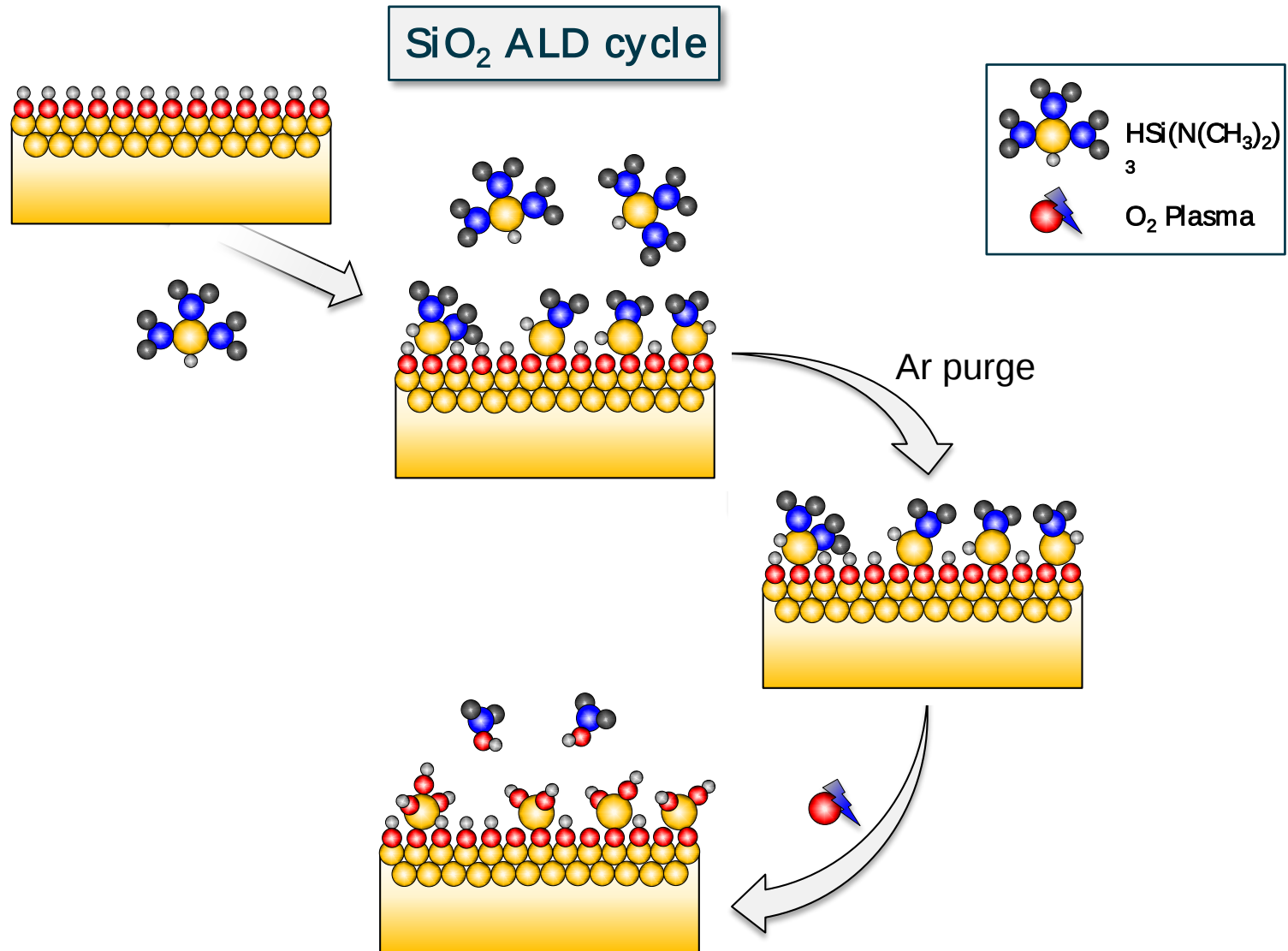
ALD atomic layer-by-layer coating technology



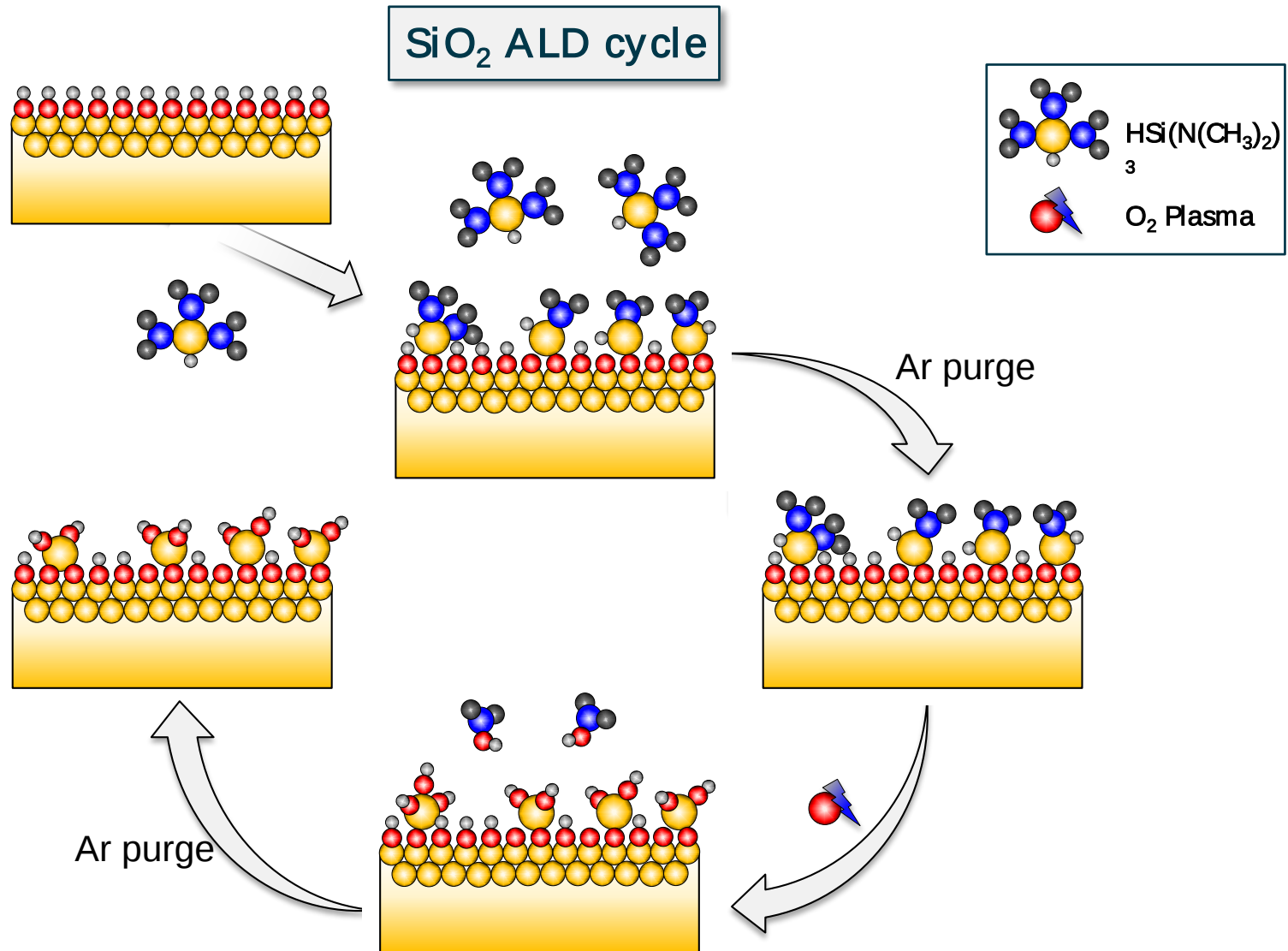
ALD atomic layer-by-layer coating technology



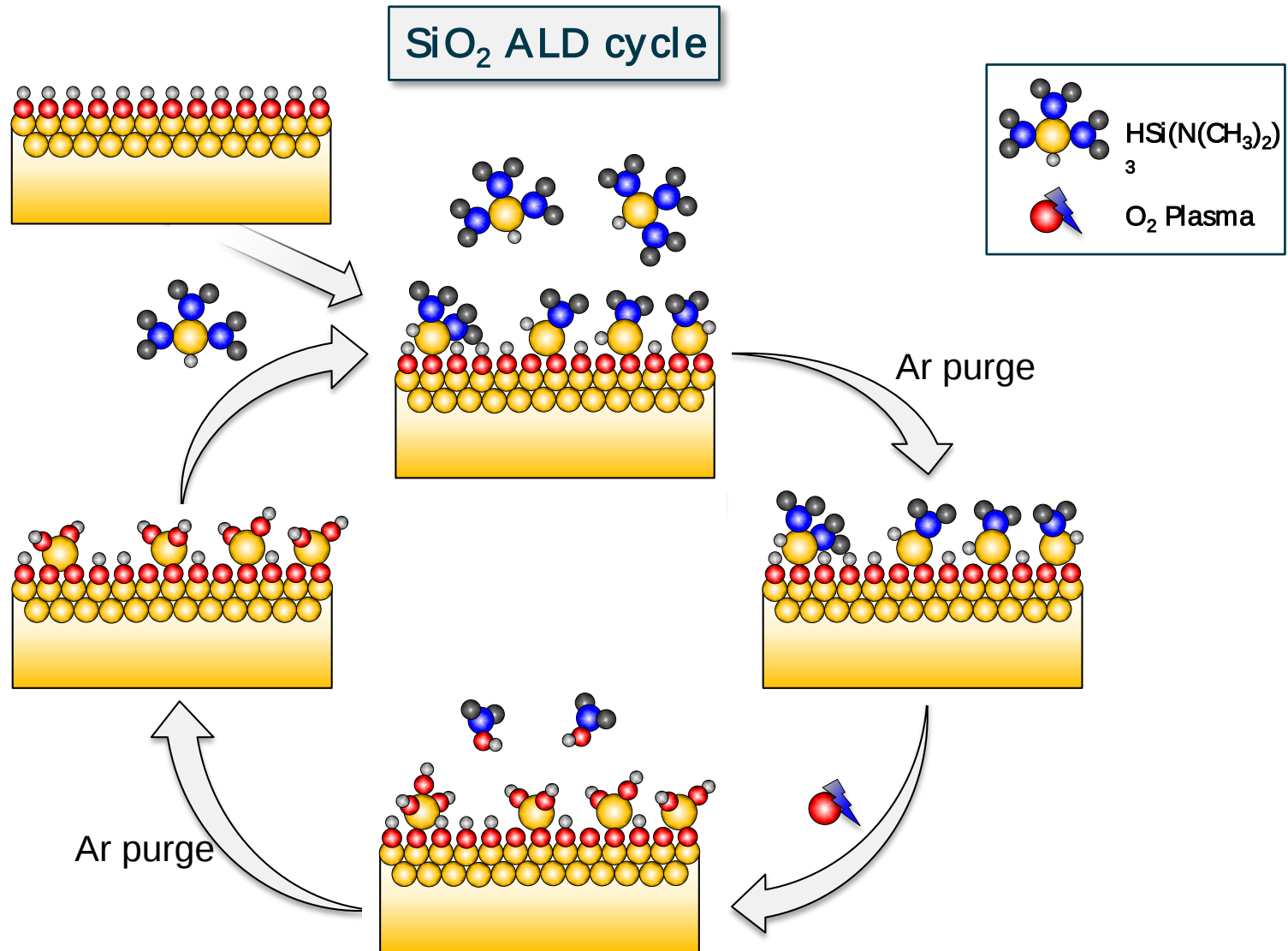
ALD atomic layer-by-layer coating technology



ALD atomic layer-by-layer coating technology



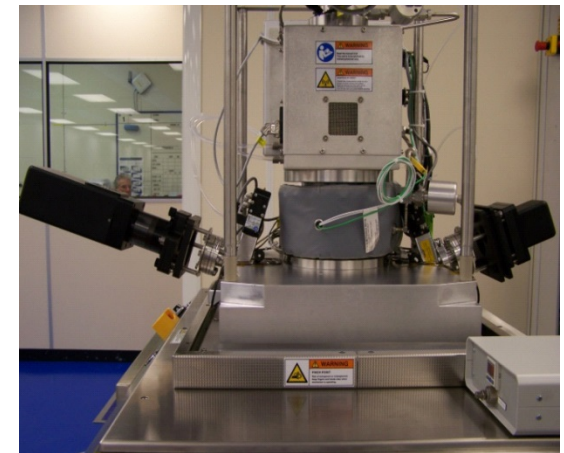
ALD atomic layer-by-layer coating technology



Coating Equipment

1. OpAL PEALD tool

- Oxford Plasma Technologies (UK)
- Open loaded ALD tool
- Top-Flow reactor
- ICP plasma
- Up to 200 mm diameter wafers (150 mm square)
- Height up to 20 mm
- Up to 4 precursors (H_2O + 3 Metal Precursors)
- Temperature range 25°C...200°C
- Ellipsometry ports, Woollam ellipsometer
- ca. 400k€
- Installed 2011
- Oxides



Coating Equipment

2. Sunale R200 PEALD tool

- Picosun Oy (F)
- Load-lock and open loaded ALD
- Hot-wall top-flow dual chamber design
- RF Plasma
- Up to 200 mm diameter wafers (150 mm square)
- Height up to 100 mm
- Up to 6 precursors (H_2O + 5 Metal Precursors)
- Temperature range 25°C...500°C
- Load-lock integrated in GloveBox
- ca. 400k€
- Installed 2013
- Metals and Oxides



Larger Reactor Configuration

In commissioning

- Diameter 330 mm
- Height up to 100 mm
- Thermal and Plasma Enhanced ALD
- To be installed March 2017 @ IOF Jena

Outline

- Introduction
- Coating equipment
- **Results**
 - Materials
 - Interference Coatings
 - Diffractive Optics
- Outlook

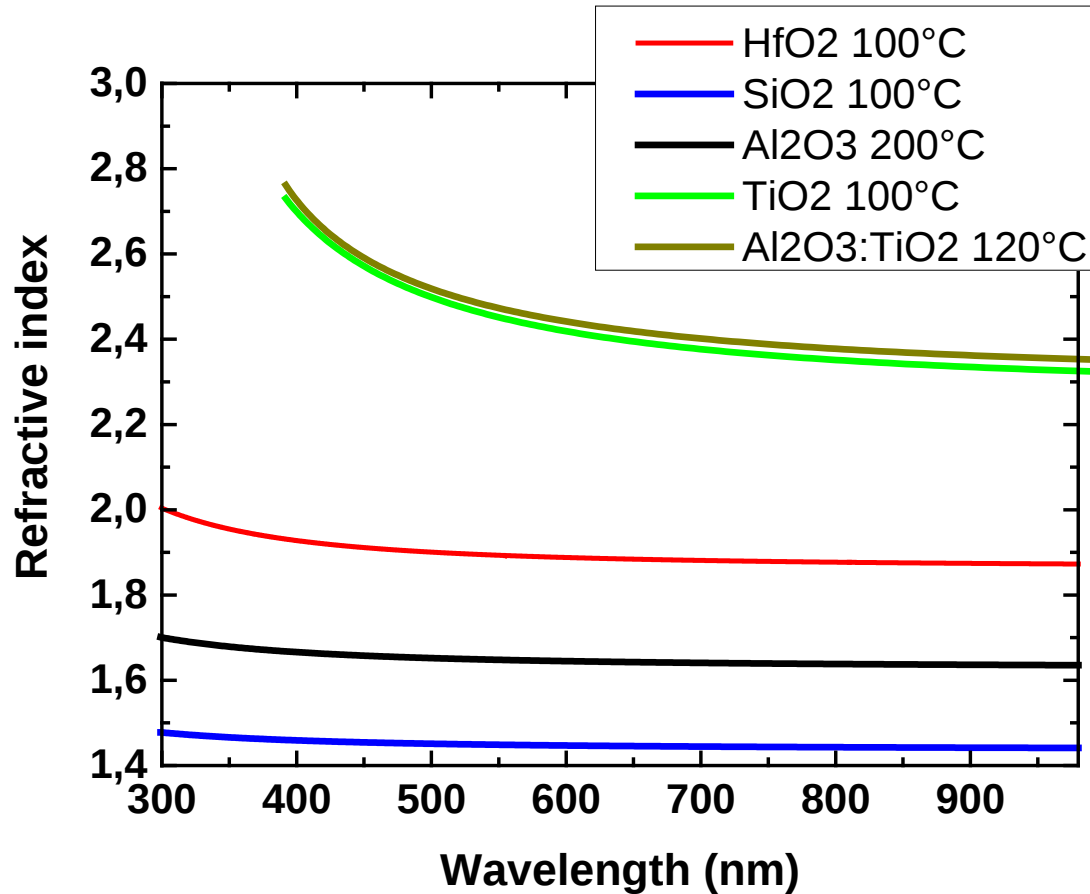
Materials

- development of the thermal and/ or PEALD processes
 - SiO_2 , Al_2O_3 , TiO_2 , HfO_2 , Ta_2O_5
 - MgF_2 , CaF_2 , LaF_3
 - iridium
 - alucones & nanoporous Al_2O_3
 - composite materials & nanoporous SiO_2
- literature: Ru, Ag, Au, W, graphene, nitrides, SrTiO_3 , Nb_2O_5 , ZrO_2 ...
- optical properties
- morphology
- mechanical properties

$$h_c = \frac{\Gamma E_f}{Z \sigma^2}$$

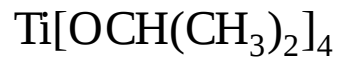
h_c critical coating thickness
 E_f Elastic modulus film
 Γ fracture resistance
 Z geometrical factor (1.976)
 σ mechanical stress

Oxides: Summary of Refractive Index



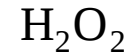
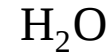


Titanium(IV) isopropoxide

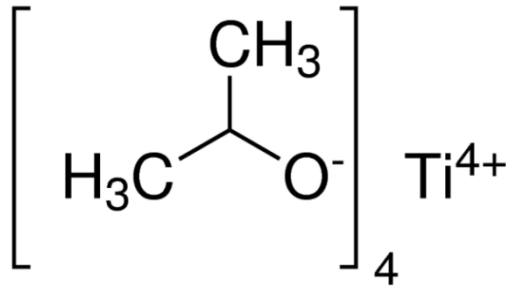


heated and bubbled at 45-60°C

+



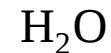
O₂ Plasma



Titanium(IV) chloride

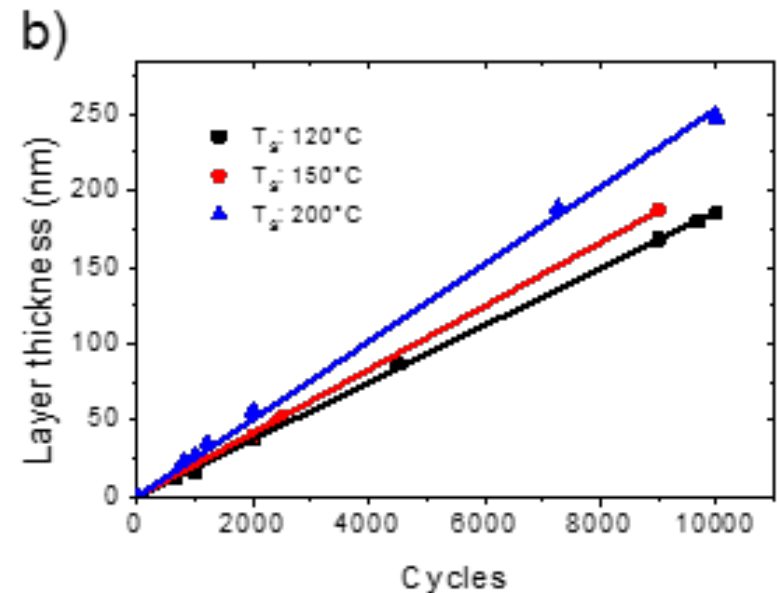
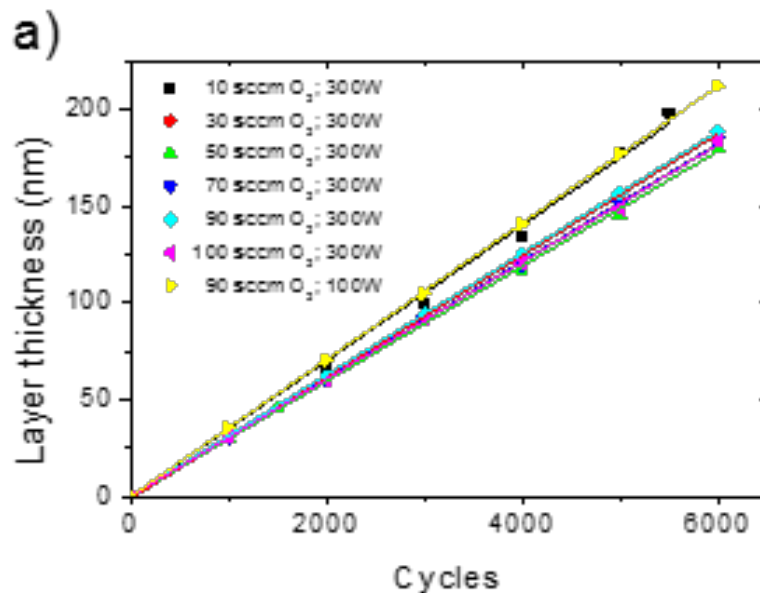


+



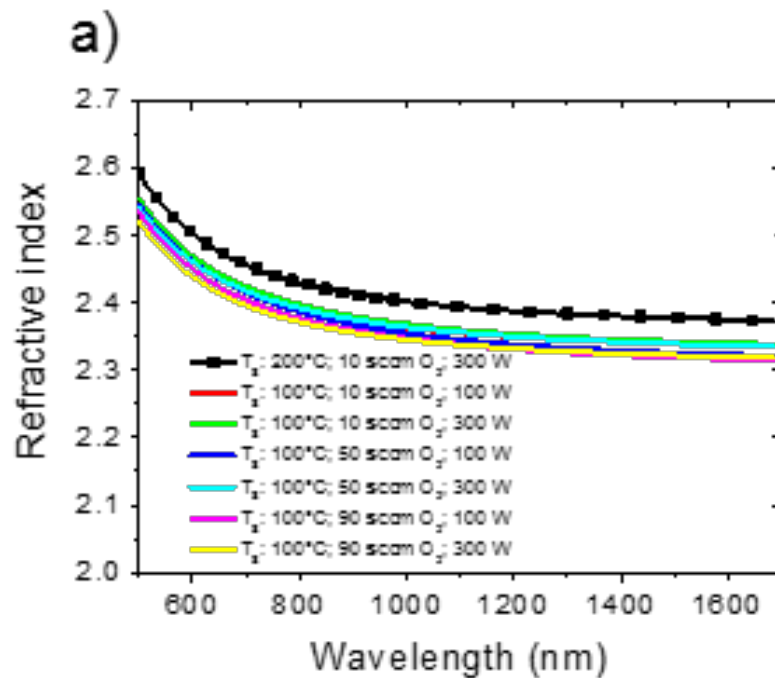
TiO₂ Film Growth

- Linear ALD growth with number of cycles
- Influence of Deposition Temperature and O₂-Plasma

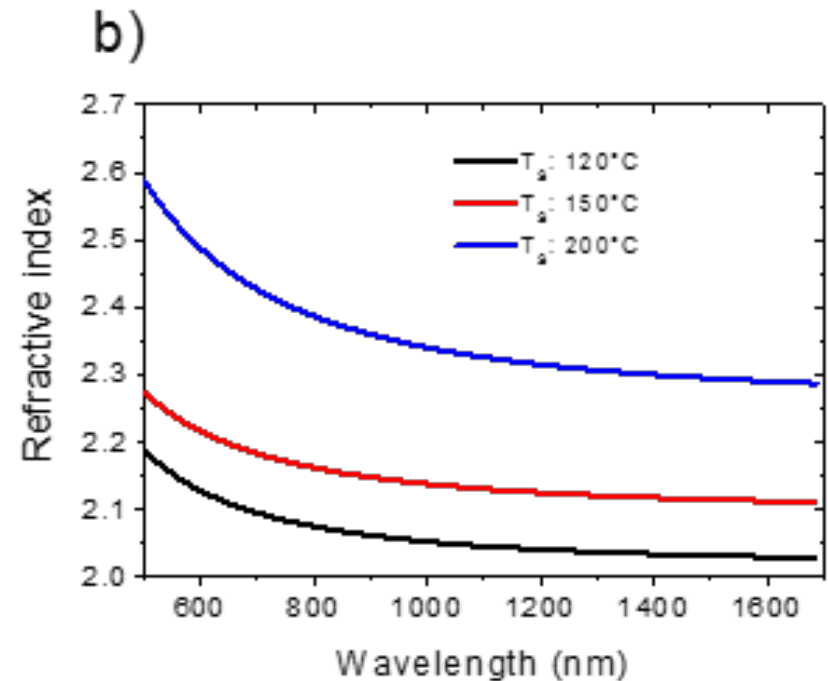


TiO₂ Refractive Index

- PEALD processes provide higher refractive index at lower temperature than the thermal ALD of titania
- Temperature has little influence in PEALD of titania



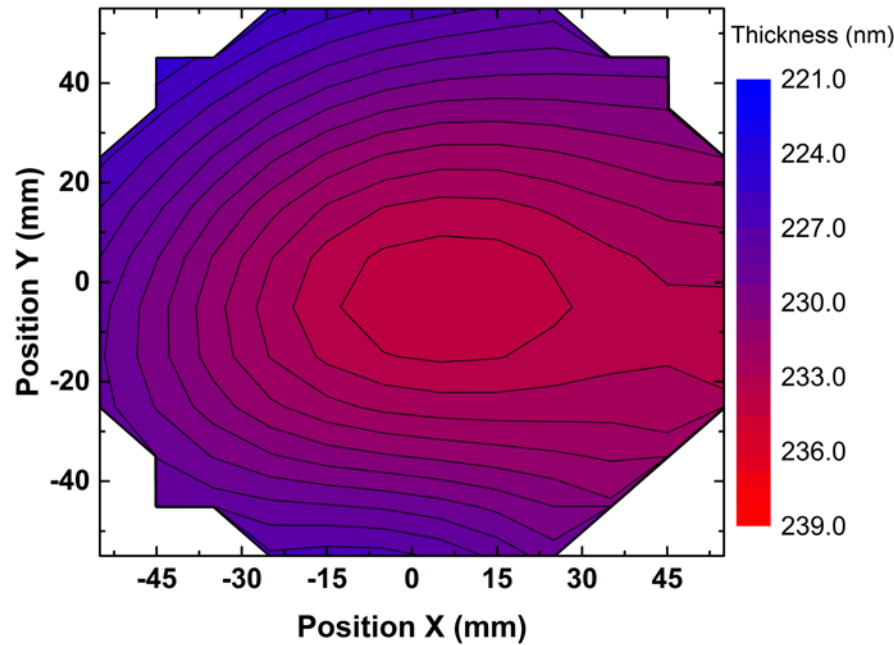
$$\Delta n \approx 0.03$$



$$\Delta n \approx 0.4$$

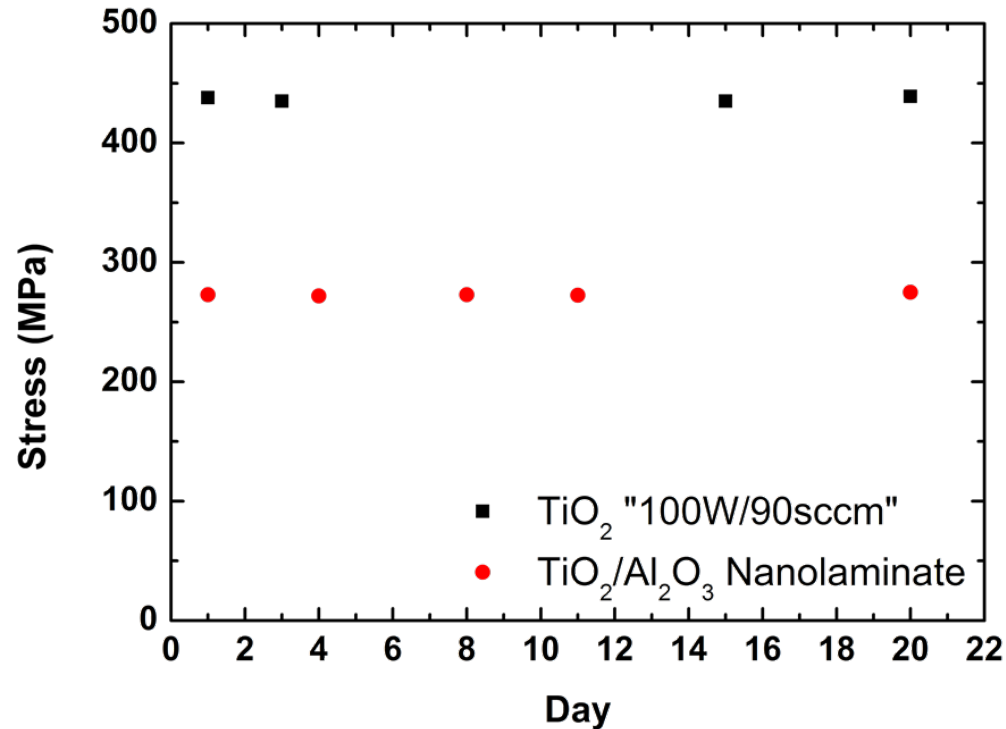
TiO₂ Thickness Uniformity

- TiO₂/Al₂O₃ PEALD 120°C
- Ø 150 mm Si wafer: SD 1 σ = 1.07%
- Homogeneity (Max-Min/2d_{average}) = 2.1%
n @633 nm = 2.4232 ± 0.004



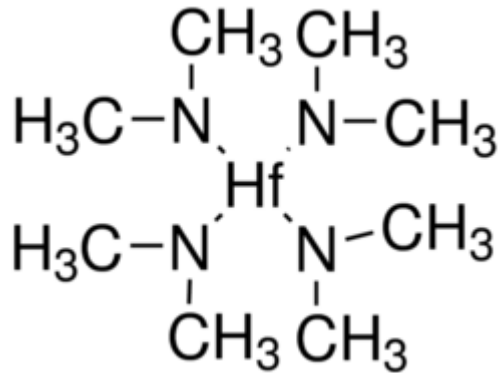
TiO₂ Tensile Mechanical Stress

- σ decreases in nanolaminates



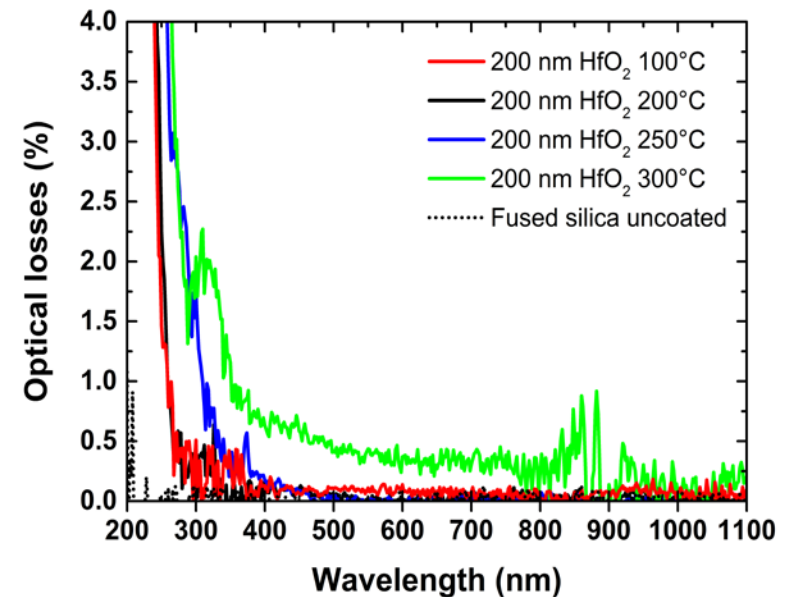
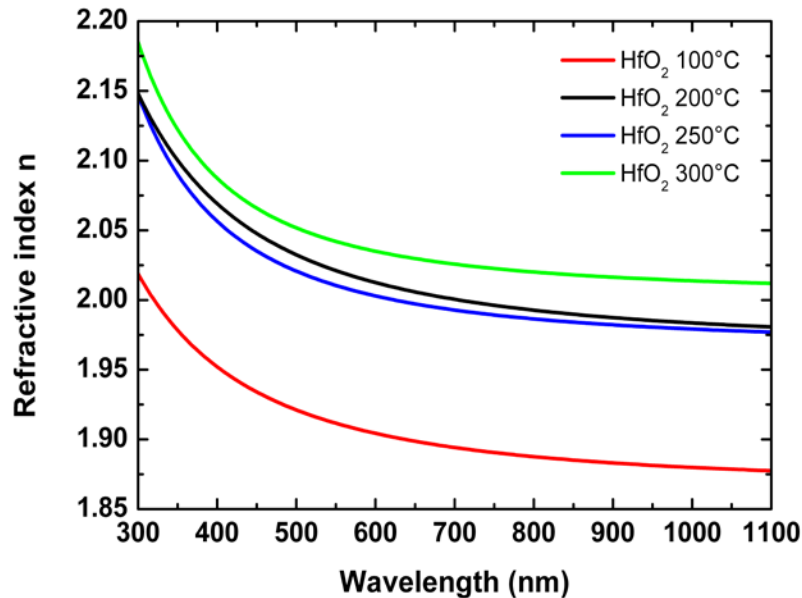


Tetrakis(dimethylamino)hafnium(IV) + O₂ Plasma
[(CH₃)₂N]₄Hf
heated and bubbled at 50°C



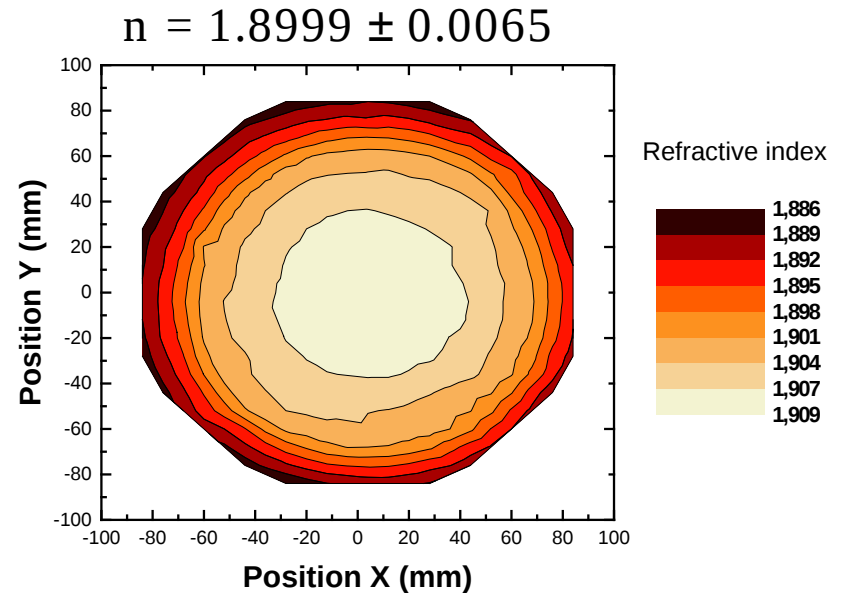
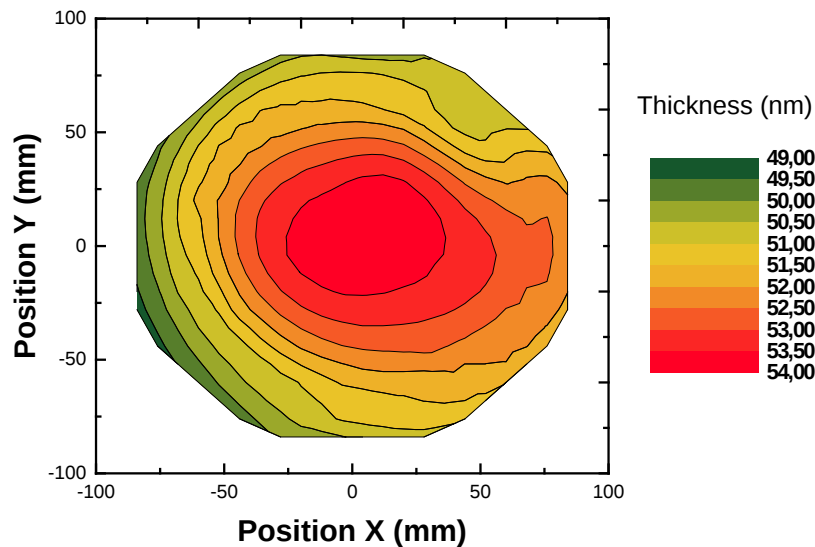
Optical Properties – Influence of Temperature

- high scattering losses above 200°C deposition temperature

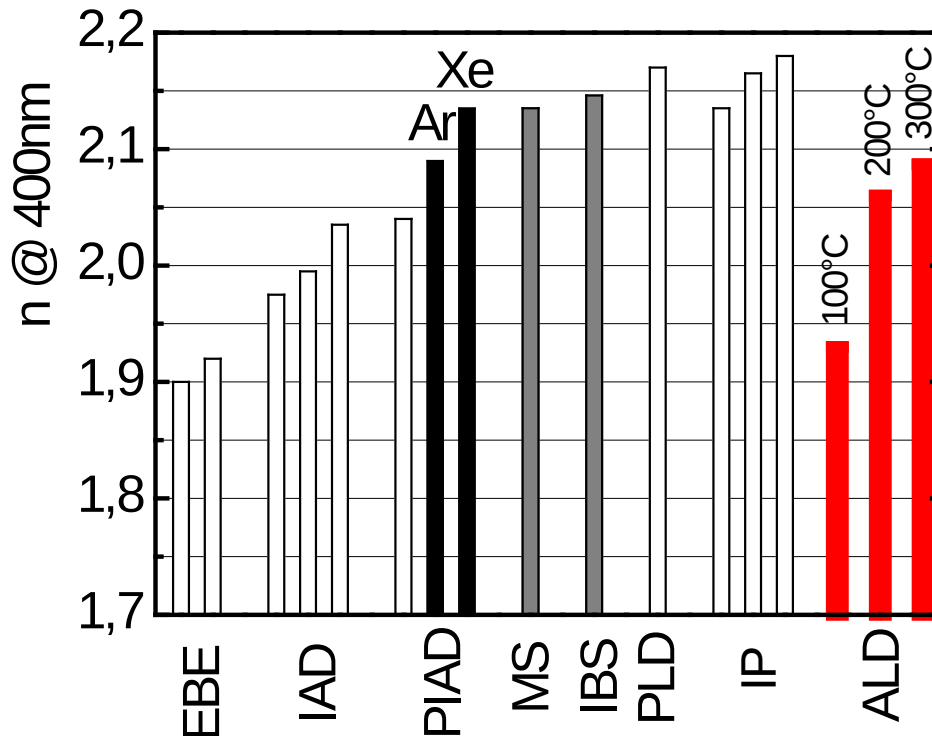


Thickness and Refractive Index Uniformity

- HfO_2 PEALD 100°C
- Ø 200 mm Si wafer: SD $1\sigma = 2.24\%$
- Homogeneity ($\text{Max-Min}/2d_{\text{average}}$) = 4.5%
- Plasma flow from the top



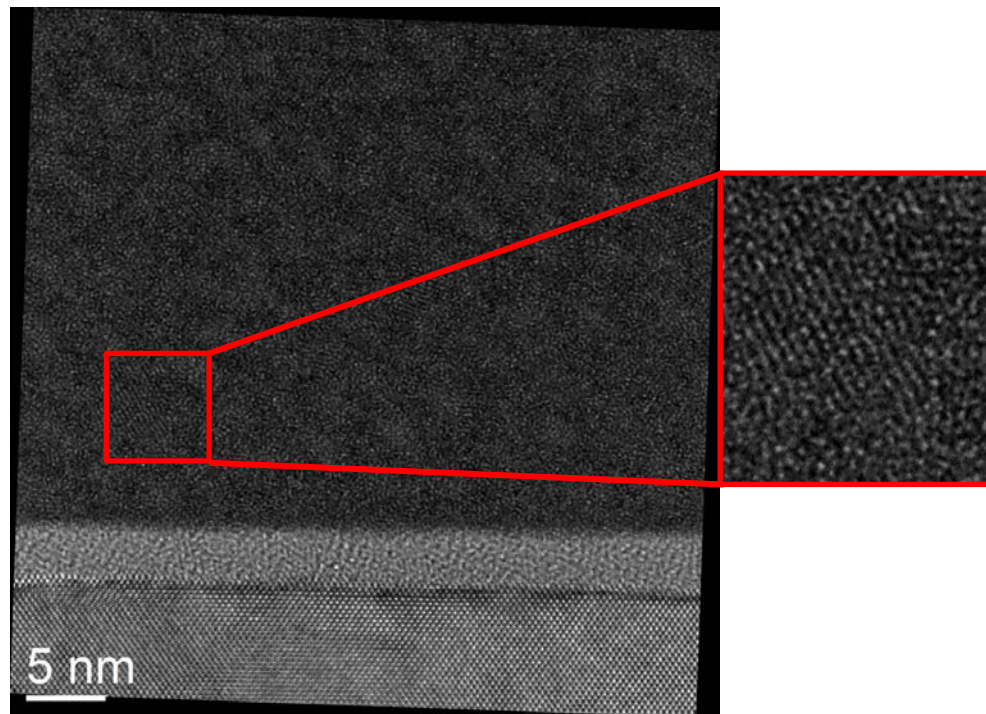
HfO₂ Refractive Index – PVD & ALD



O. Stenzel, S. Wilbrandt, S. Yulin, N. Kaiser, M. Held, A. Tünnermann, J. Biskupek, U. Kaiser, Opt. Mater. Express 2011, 1, 278.

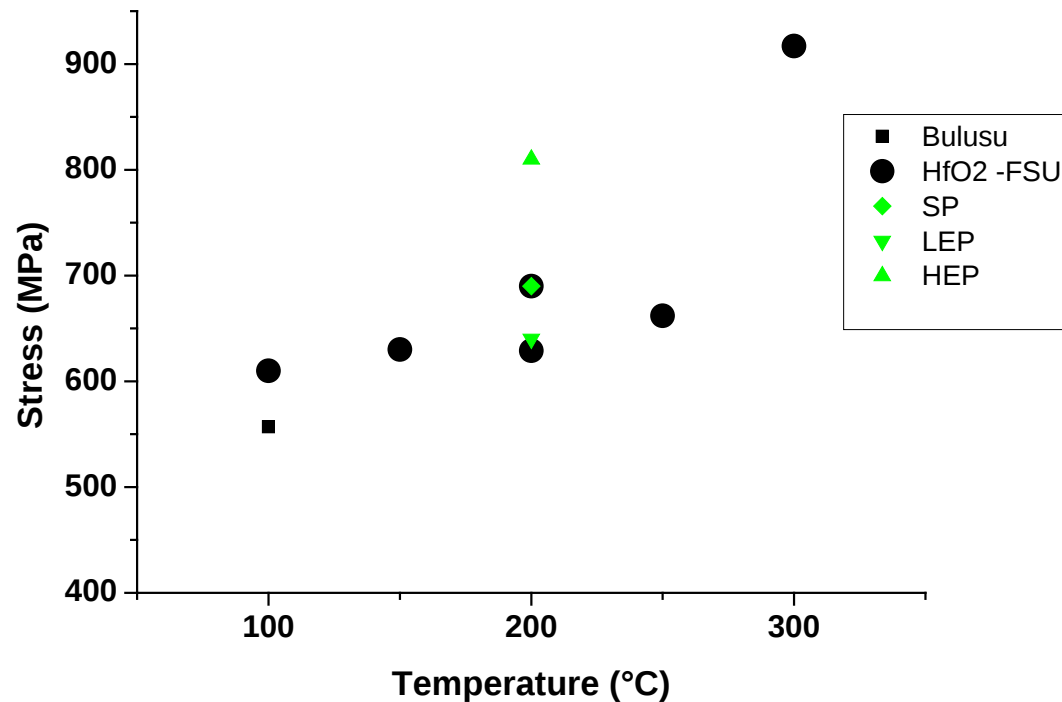
HfO₂ TEM image

- deposited at 100°C
- ca. 5 nm Nanocrystallites
- ca. 3.5 nm HfO₂/SiO₂ composite layer at the Si-wafer interface



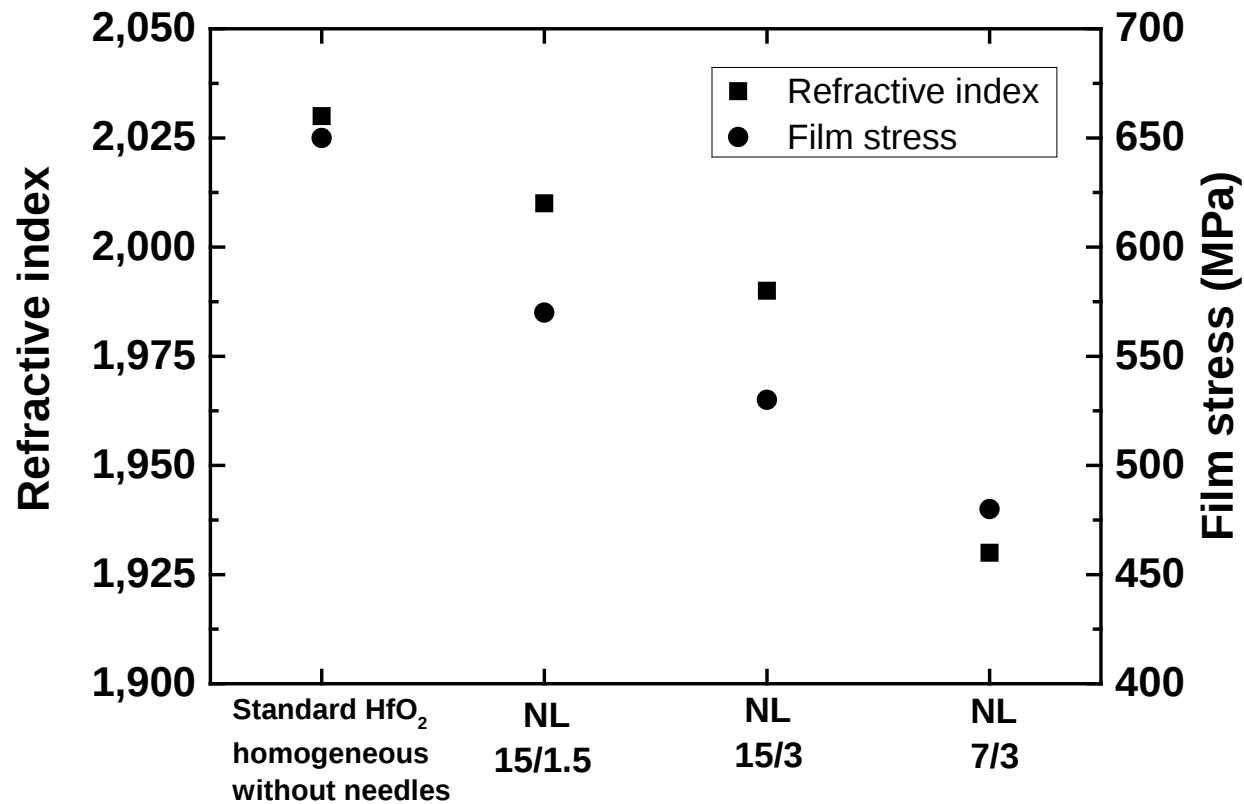
HfO₂ Tensile Mechanical Stress

- σ increases with increasing deposition temperature due to crystallization
- σ slightly increases with increasing ion energy



HfO₂ Tensile Mechanical Stress

- σ decreases in nanolaminates (HfO₂/SiO₂ and HfO₂/Al₂O₃)

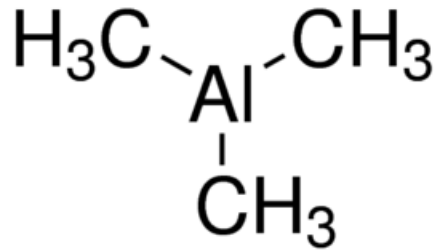




Trimethylaluminum
 $(\text{CH}_3)_3\text{Al}$
 own vapour pressure

+

H_2O
 O_2 Plasma



Aluminum chloride
 AlCl_3

+

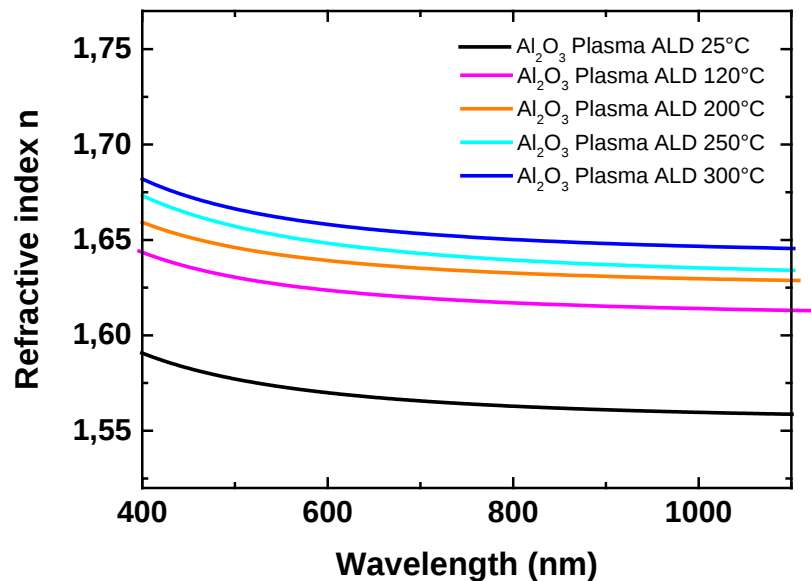
H_2O

100 nm Al_2O_3 on 200 mm Si wafer



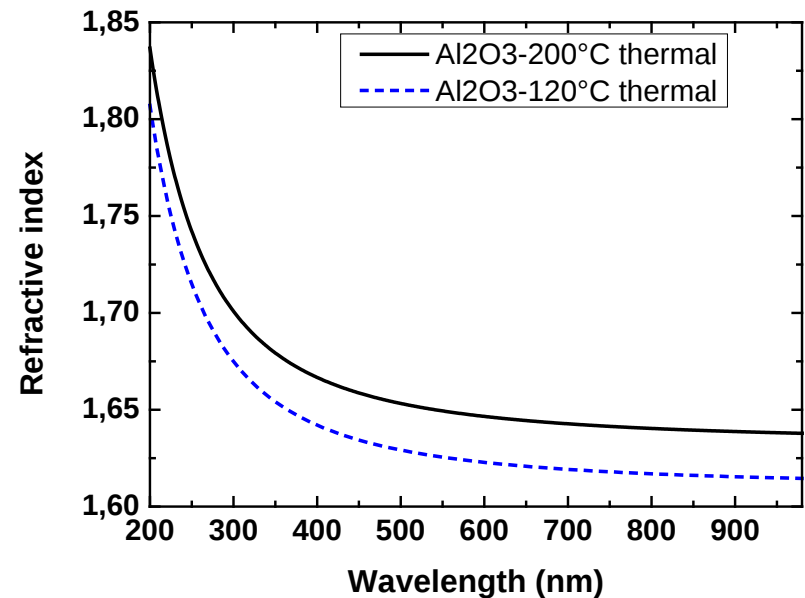
Influence of Deposition Temperature

- impact on reproducibility of refractive index
- temperature has less influence in PEALD processes than in thermal ALD



$$\Delta n = 0.015$$

within measurement accuracy

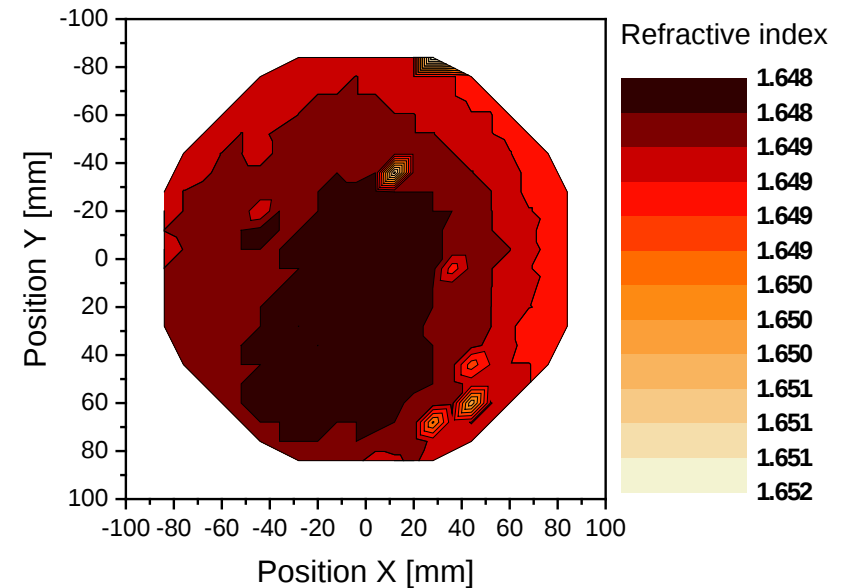
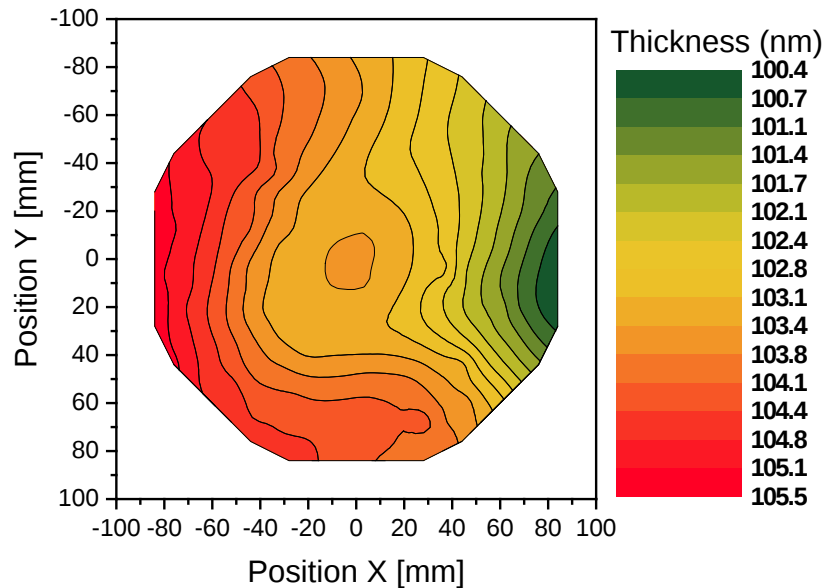


$$\Delta n = 0.025$$

Thickness Uniformity

- Al_2O_3 thermal 300°C
- Ø 200 mm Si wafer: SD $1\sigma = 1.1\%$
- Homogeneity ($\text{Max-Min}/2d_{\text{average}}$) = 2.44%

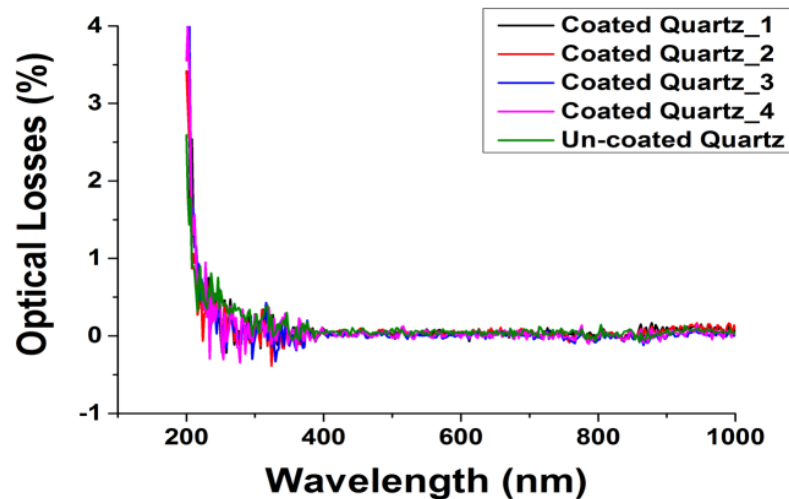
$$n = 1.6484 \pm 0.0004$$



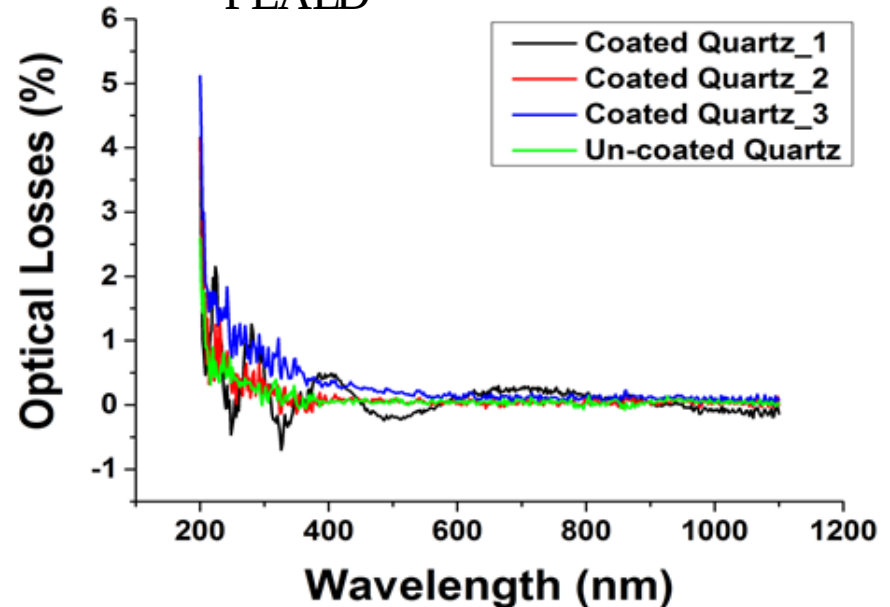
Optical Losses

- Al_2O_3 with low optical losses have been achieved
- confirmed by laser calorimetry measurements

Thermal



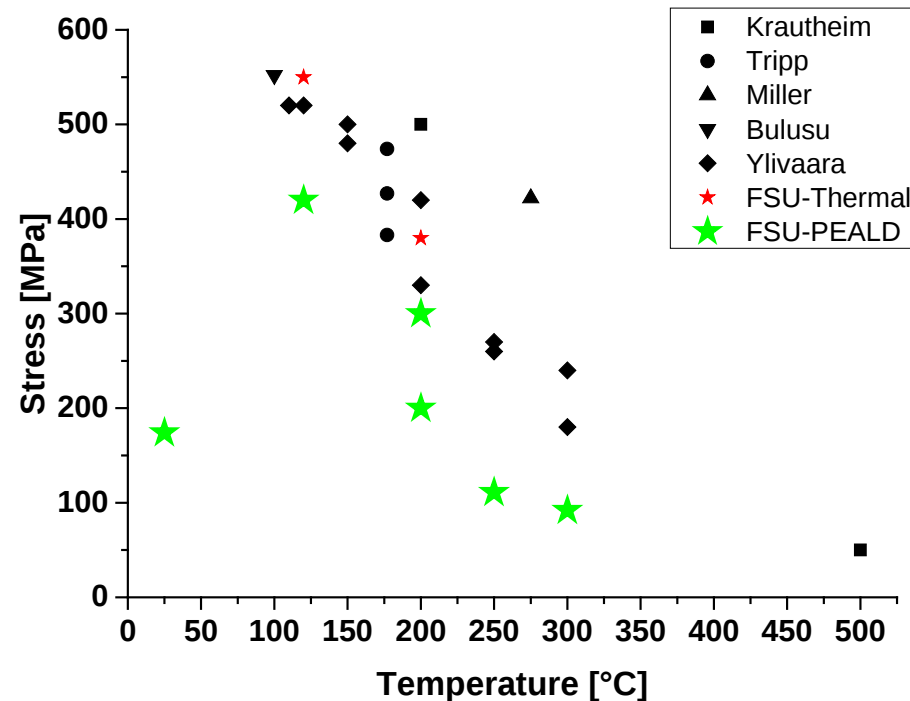
PEALD



@ 1064 nm on 300 nm thick Al_2O_3 , ca. 2,5 ppm

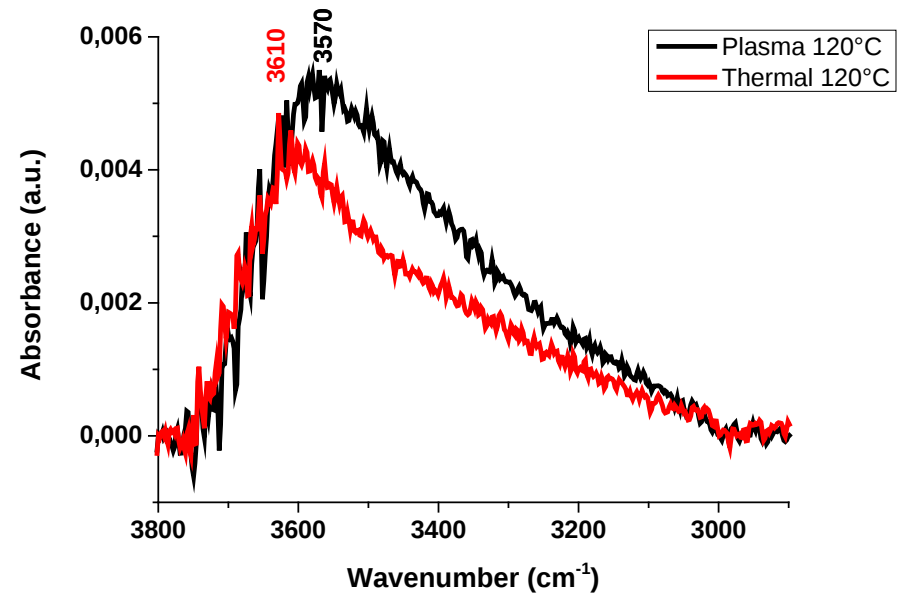
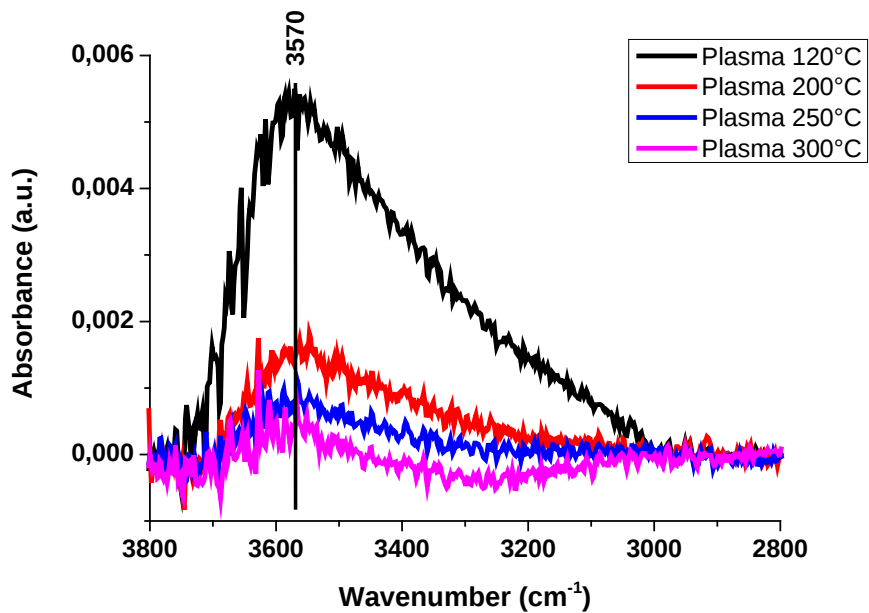
Al₂O₃ Tensile Mechanical Stress

- σ decreases with increasing deposition temperature
- PEALD coatings show lower mechanical stress than thermal ALD alumina
- residual stress = $\sum$ (thermal stress + intrinsic stress)



Al₂O₃ FTIR Spectra

- -OH content decreases with increasing temperature
- different hydrogen-bonding in thermal vs. PEALD processes

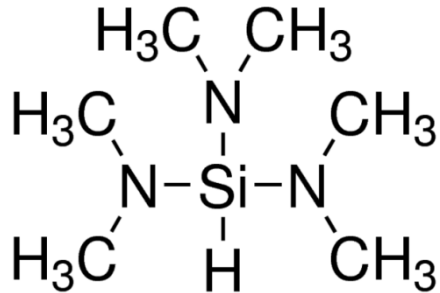




Tris(dimethylamino)silane
 $[(\text{CH}_3)_2\text{N}]_3\text{SiH}$
own vapour pressure

+

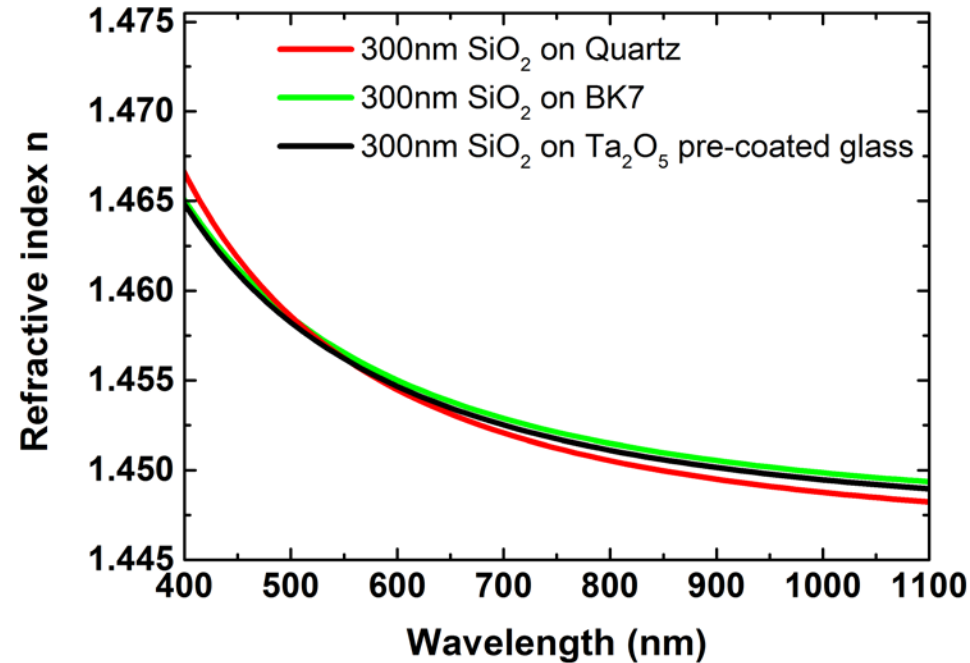
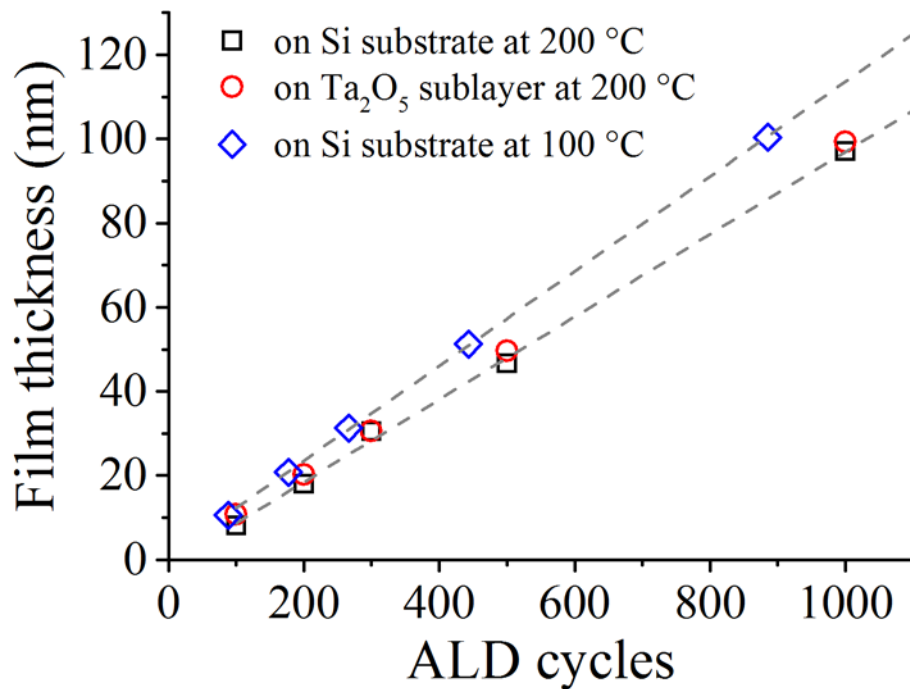
O_2 Plasma



Bis(diethylamino)silane
 $[(\text{C}_2\text{H}_5)_2\text{N}]_2\text{SiH}_2$
heated and bubbled at 70°C

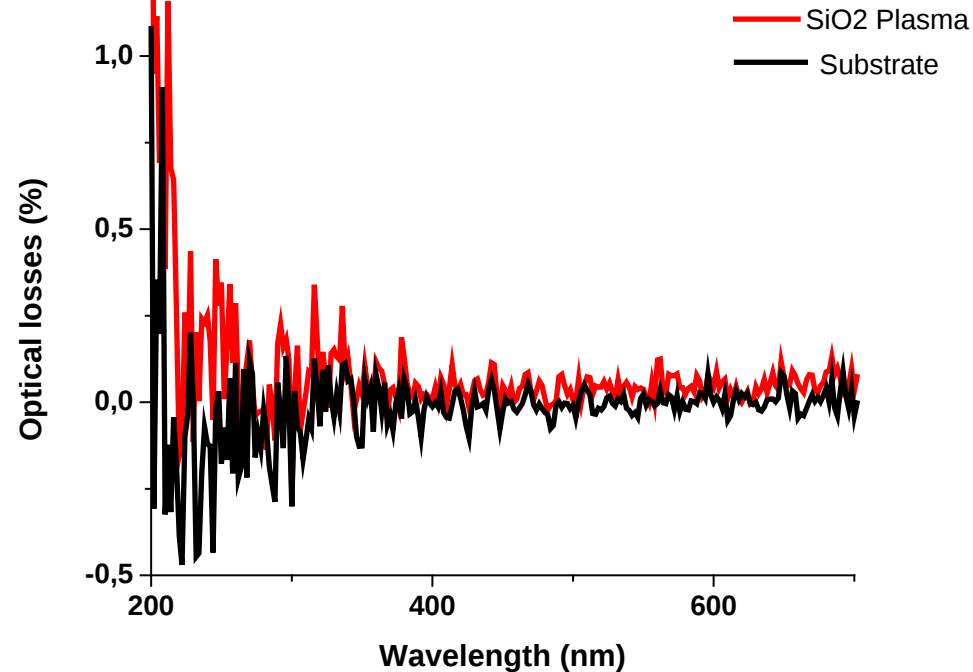
Influence of Substrate Material

- calibration curves are required



Optical Losses

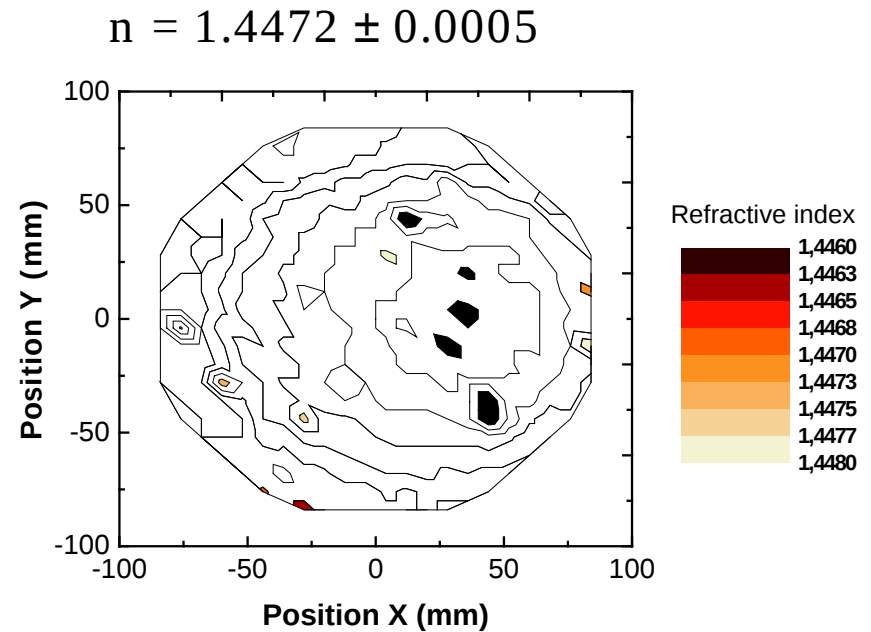
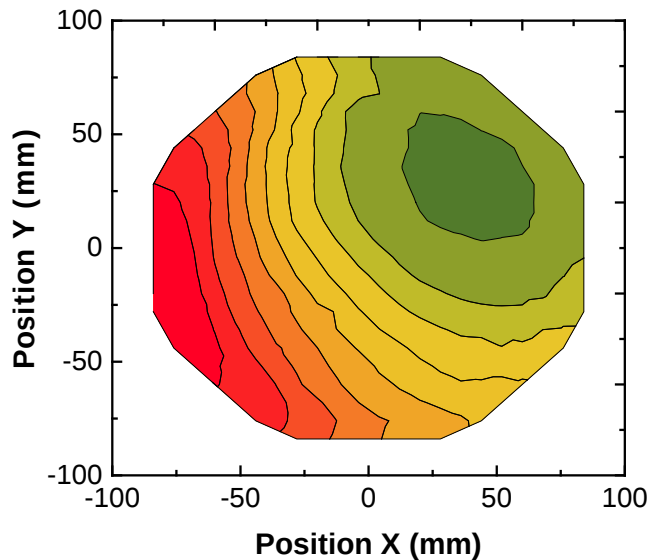
- materials with low optical losses have been achieved
- confirmed by laser calorimetry measurements
- SiO₂ PEALD 200°C example



@ 1064 nm on 300 nm thick SiO₂, ca. 1,5 ppm (Laser Zentrum Hannover)

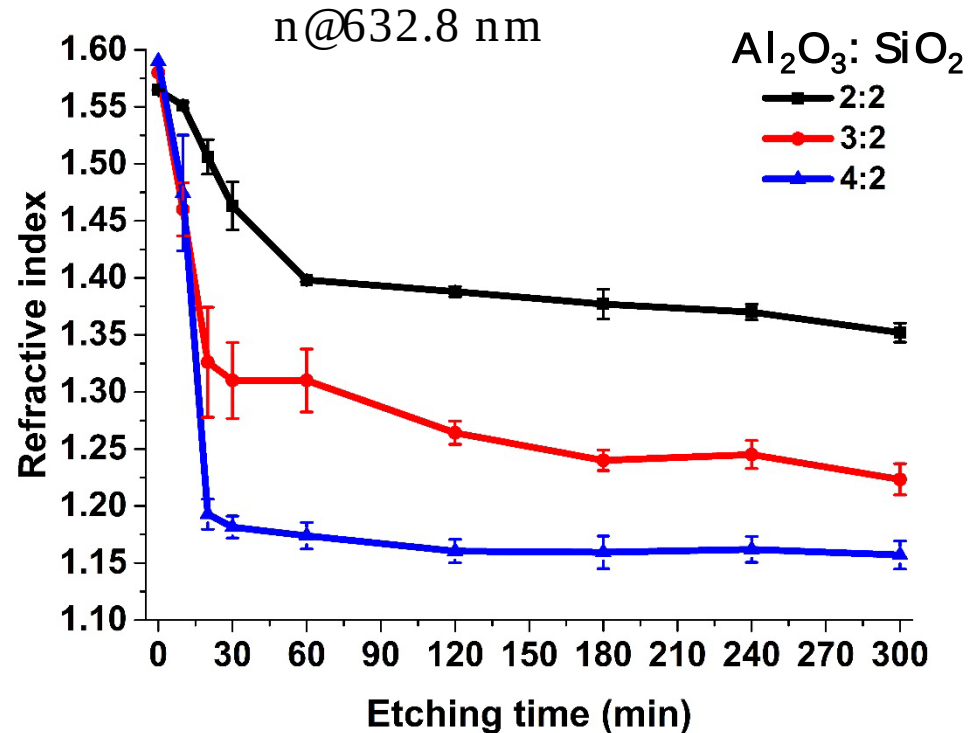
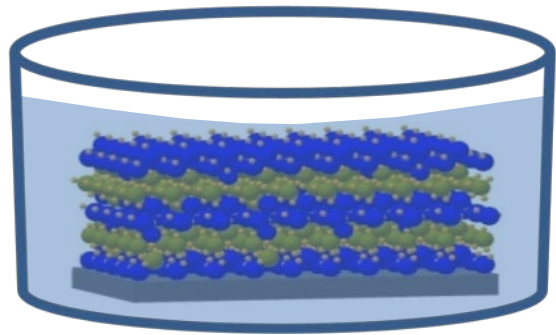
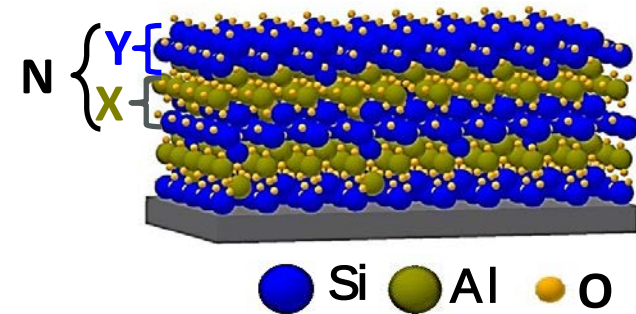
Thickness Uniformity

- SiO₂ PEALD 100°C
- Ø 200 mm Si wafer: SD 1 σ = 1.36%
- Homogeneity (Max-Min/2d_{average}) = 2.31%



Composites and Nanoporous SiO_2

- atomically mixed $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3/\text{SiO}_2$ composites and selective removal of Al_2O_3

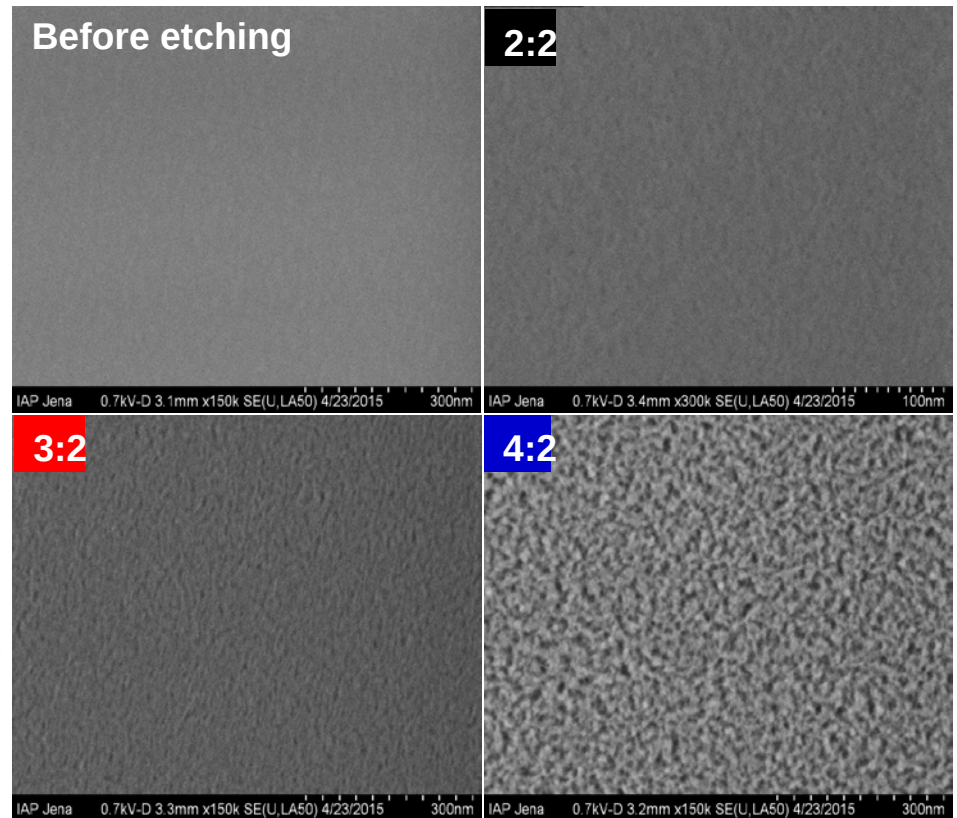
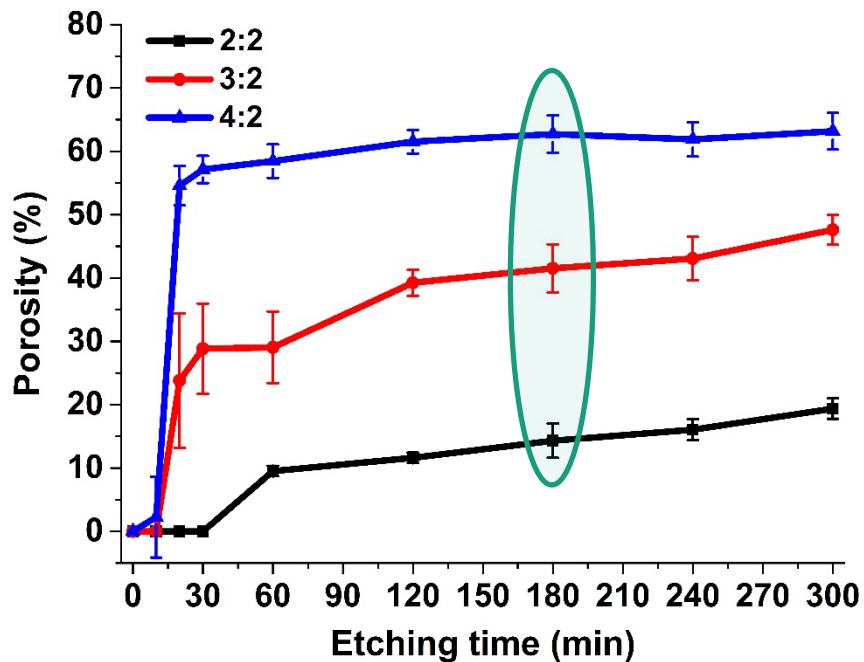


L. Ghazaryan, A. Szeghalmi, E. B. Kley, U. Schulz, DPMA Anmeldung. 2016

L. Ghazaryan, A. Szeghalmi, E. B. Kley, DPMA Anmeldung. Anmeldetag 24. Februar 2015. 10 2015 203 307.4

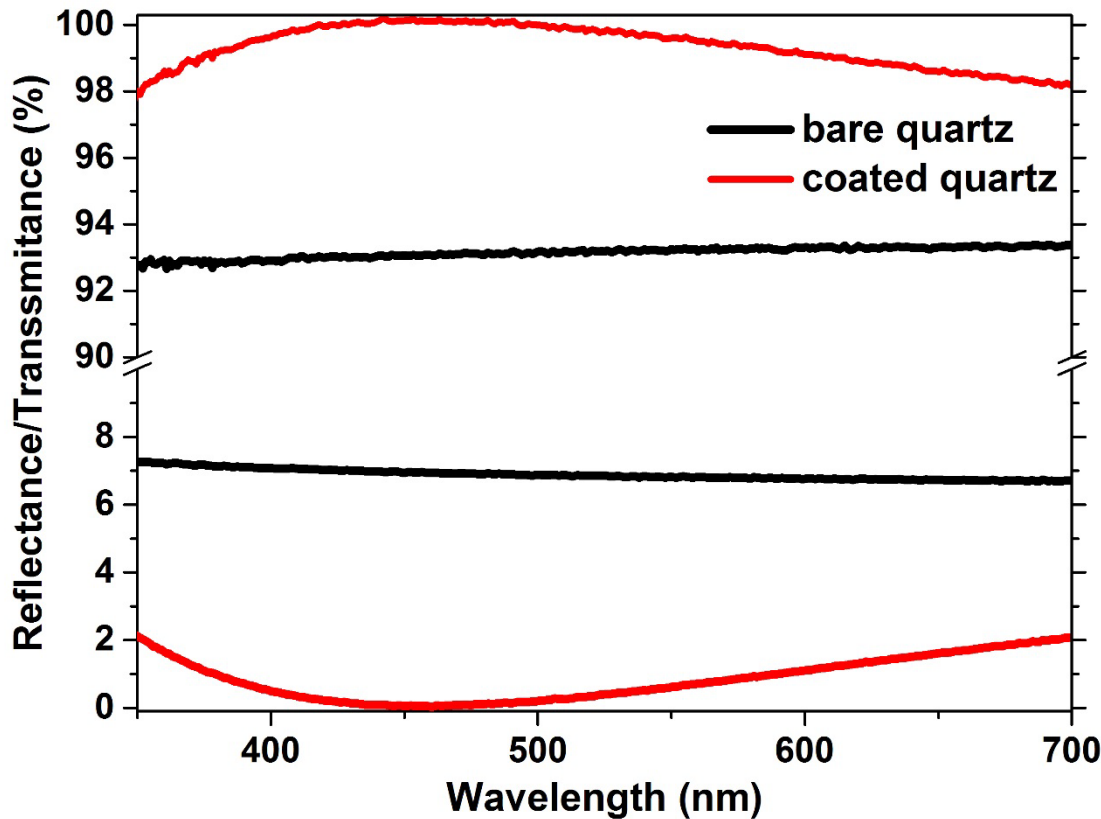
Nanoporous SiO₂

- atomically mixed Al₂O₃/SiO₂ composites and selective removal of Al₂O₃
- precisely control porosity and refractive index through atomic composition



Applications of Nanoporous SiO₂

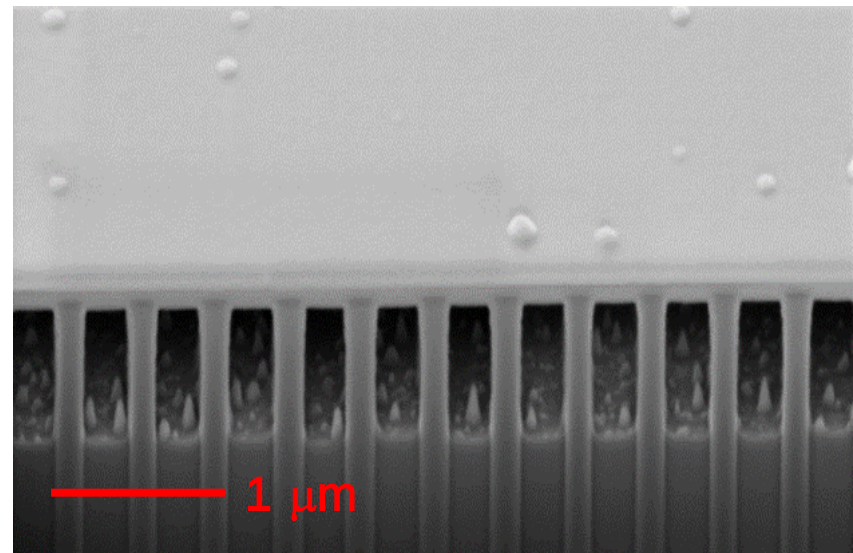
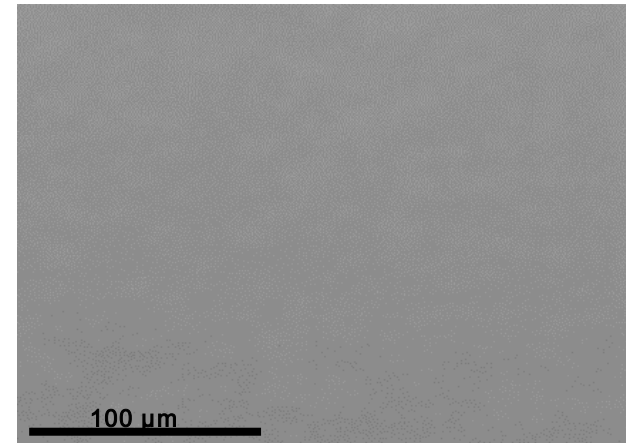
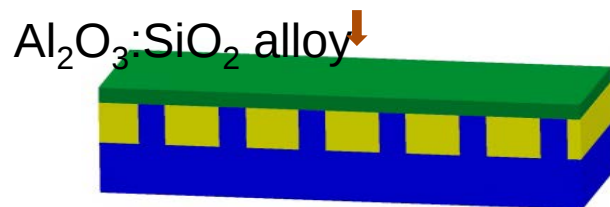
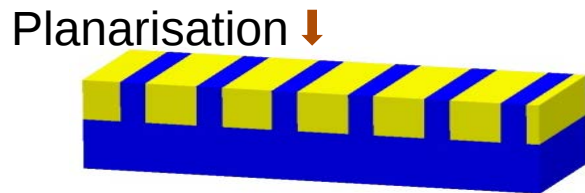
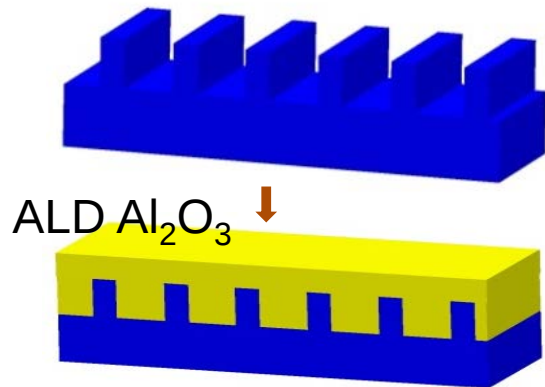
- antireflection coatings



- ✓ one layer
- ✓ double side coating
- ✓ 92 nm each side
- ✓ $n = 1.22$
- ✓ Over 98 % Transmittance in VIS
- ✓ Low optical losses

Applications of Nanoporous SiO_2

- diffusion membrane
- High efficiency transmission gratings

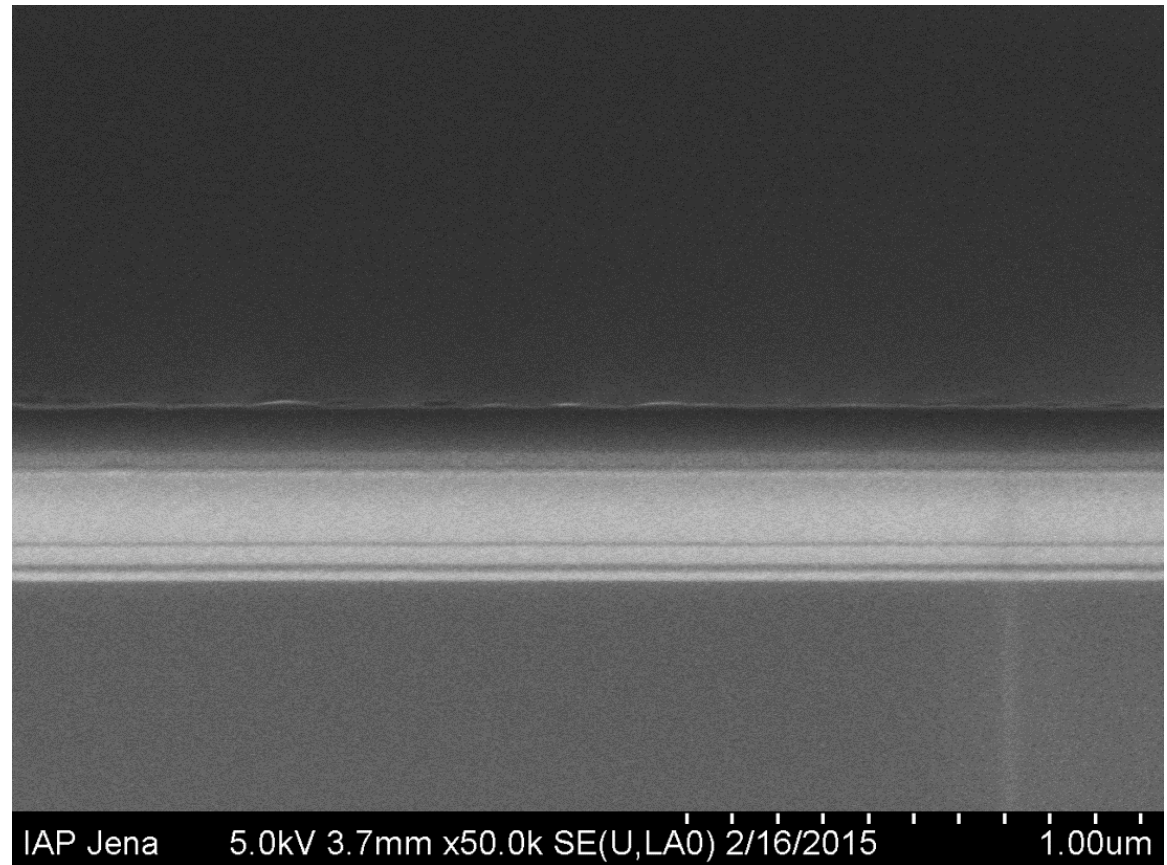


Outline

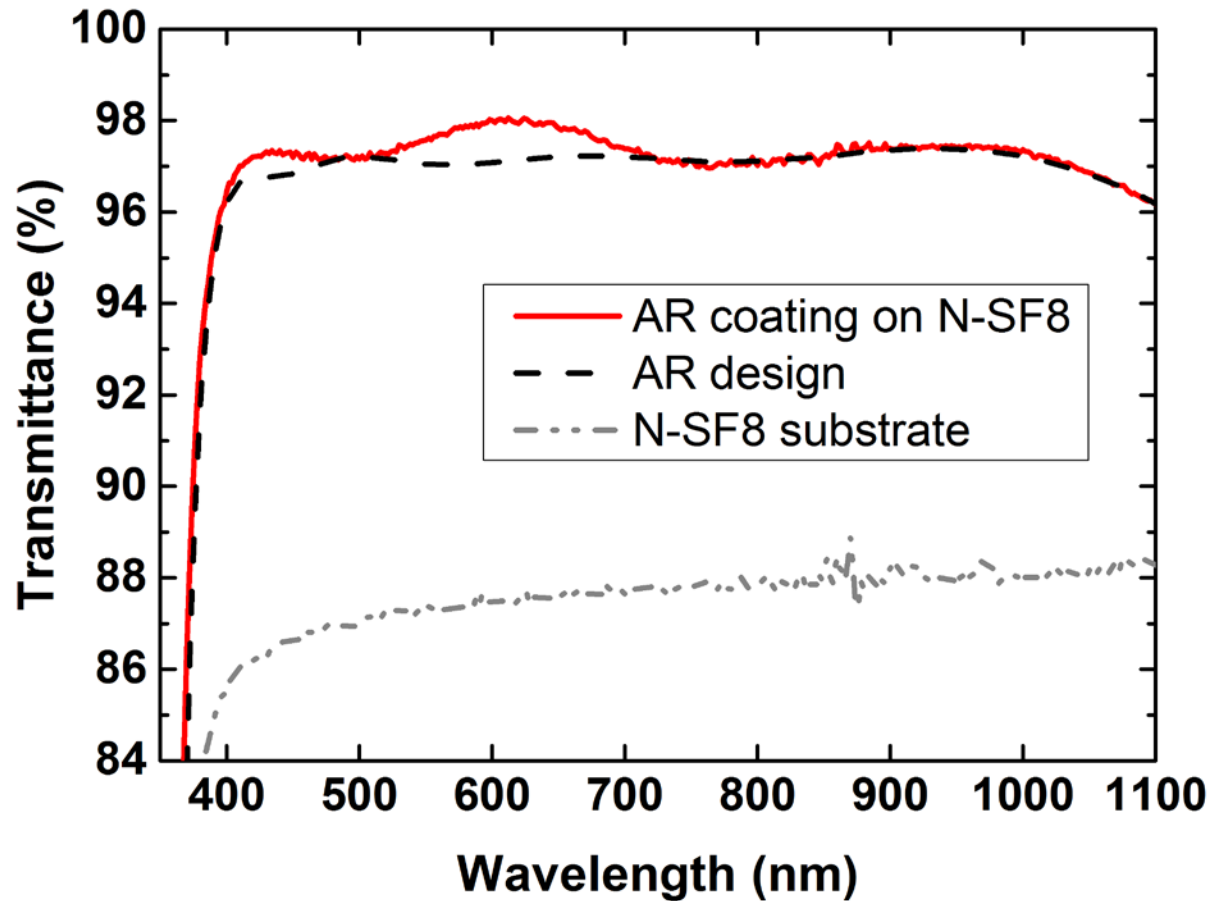
- Introduction
- Coating equipment
- **Results**
 - Materials
 - Interference Coatings
 - Diffractive Optics
- Outlook

Antireflection Coating SEM Image

- **Total** **391 nm**
- SiO_2 97.3
- HfO_2 29.8
- SiO_2 19.5
- HfO_2 153.5
- SiO_2 10.4
- HfO_2 40.5
- SiO_2 19.1
- HfO_2 18.6
- N-SF8 substrate



Antireflection Coatings



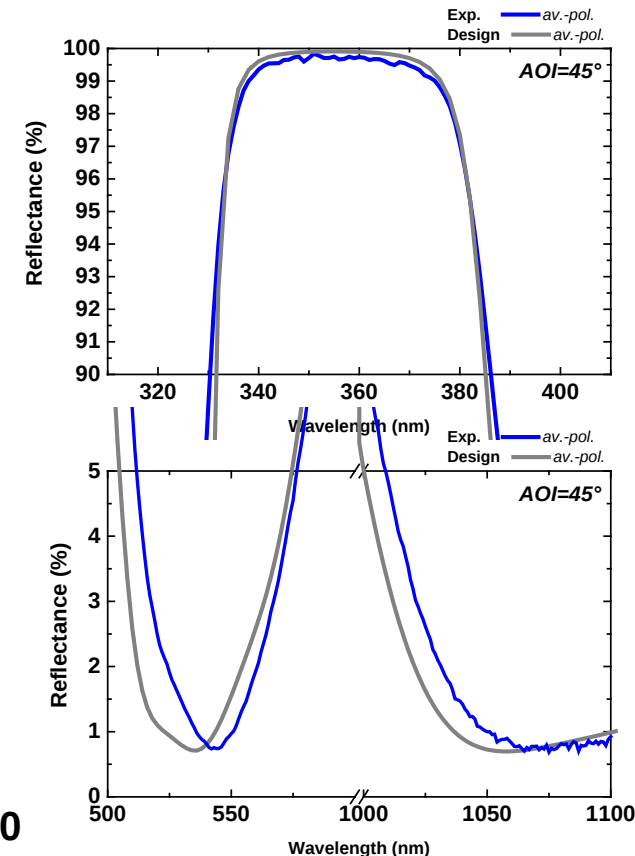
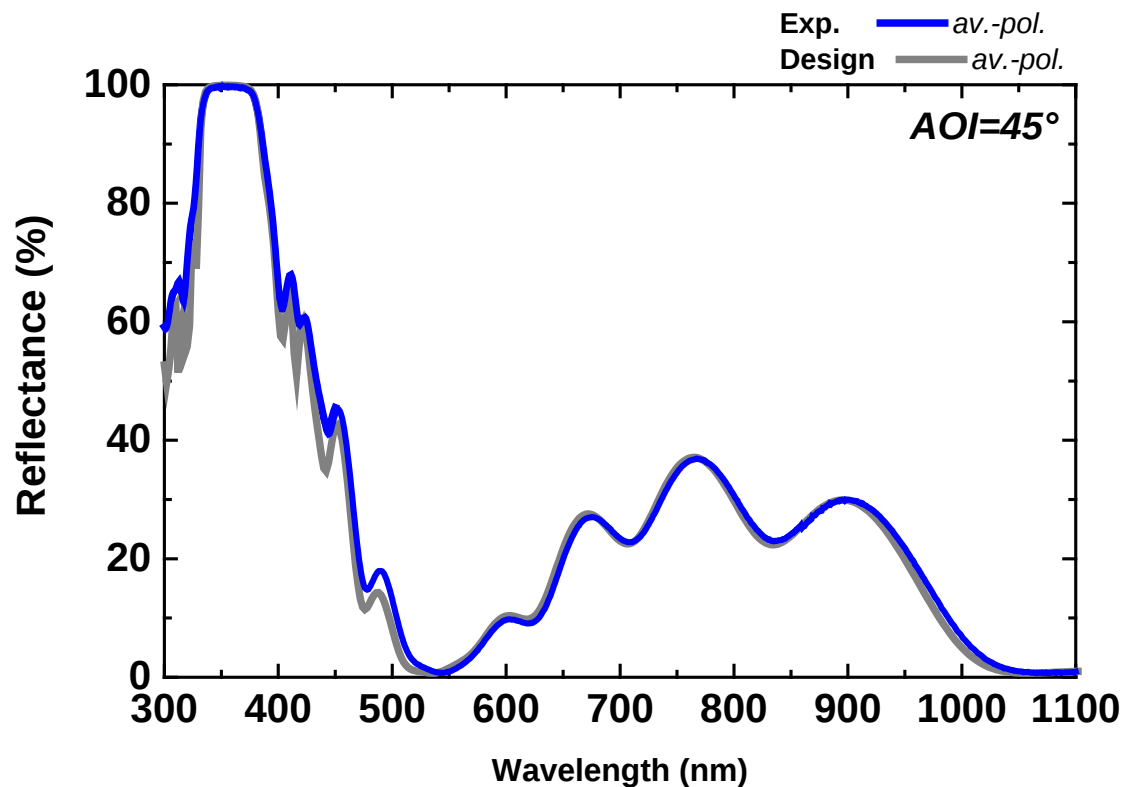
[3] K. Pfeiffer, S. Shestaeva, A. Bingel, P. Munzert, L. Ghazaryan, C. van Helvoirt, W. M. M. Kessels, U. Sanli, C. Grévent, G. Schütz, M. Putkonen, I. Buchanan, L. Jensen, D. Ristau, A. Tünnermann, A. Szeghalmi. Opt. Mater. Express 6 (2016) 660

[4] A. Szeghalmi, M. Helgert, R. Brunner, F. Heyroth, U. Gösele, M. Knez. Appl. Opt. 48 (2009) 1727

Dichroic Mirror at 355 nm

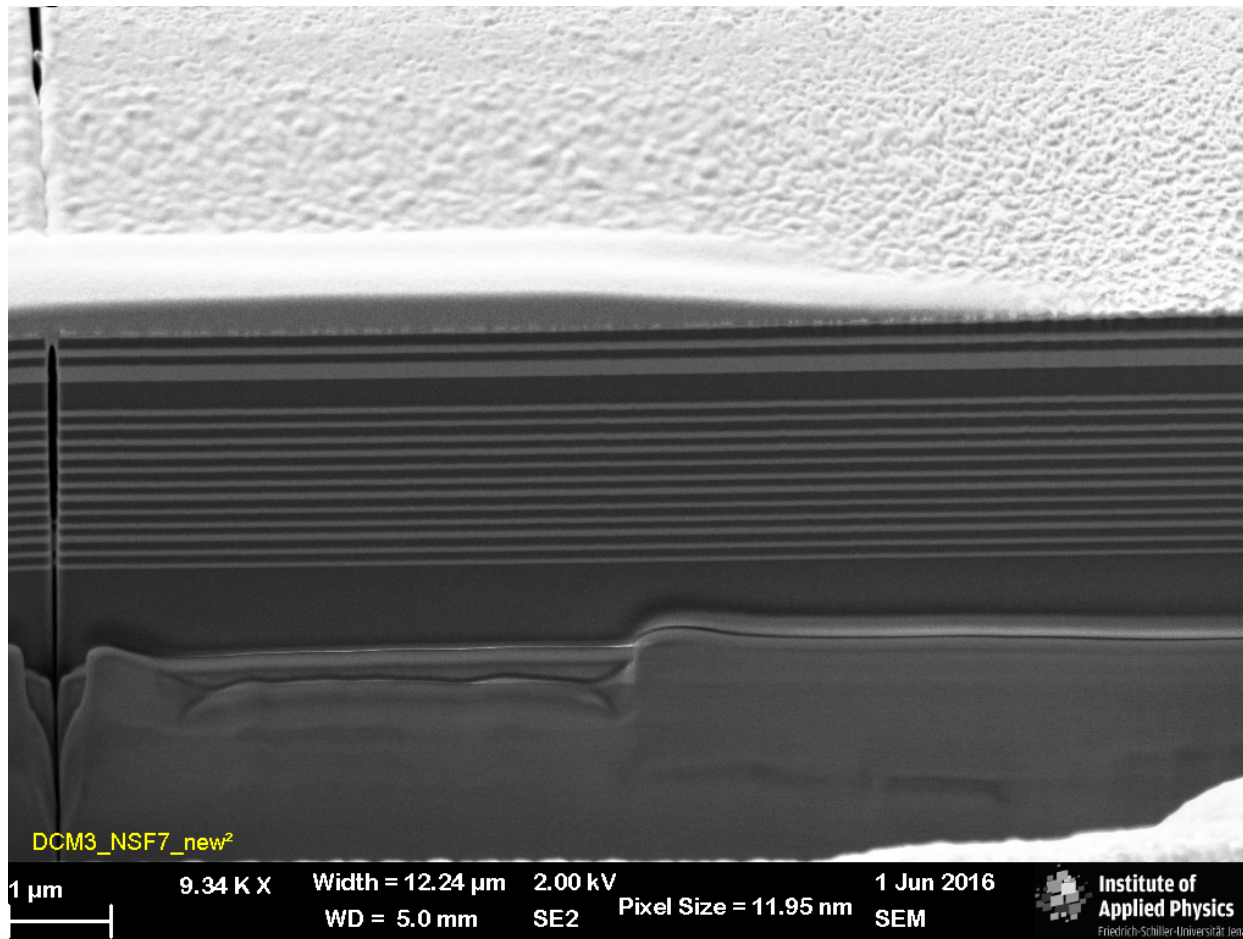
- 30 layers [$\text{HfO}_2(\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3)$ and SiO_2]
- ca. 1.9 μm total thickness
- high adhesion coating to substrate
- >99.5% reflectance at 45° AOI @355

Total deposition time: ~4 days
NO optical monitoring



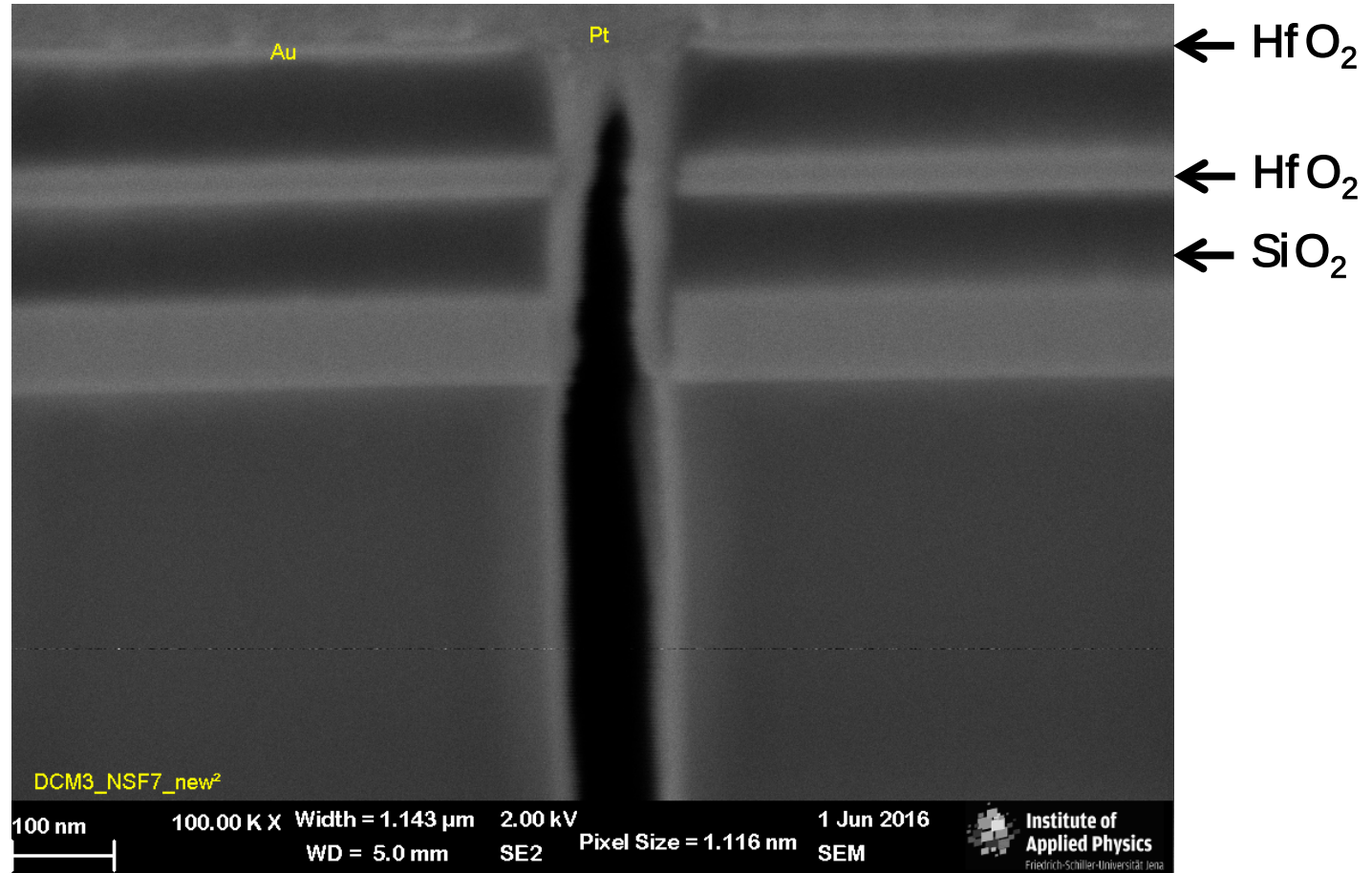
Highly Reflective Dichroic Mirror

- cracking of the coating and substrate



Highly Reflective Dichroic Mirror

- cracking of the coating and substrate
- crack occurs after deposition

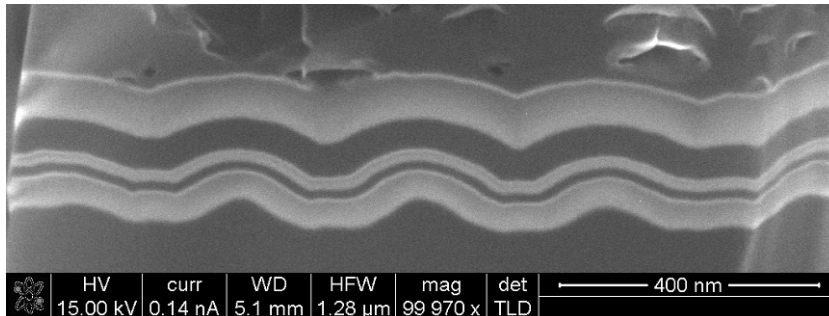
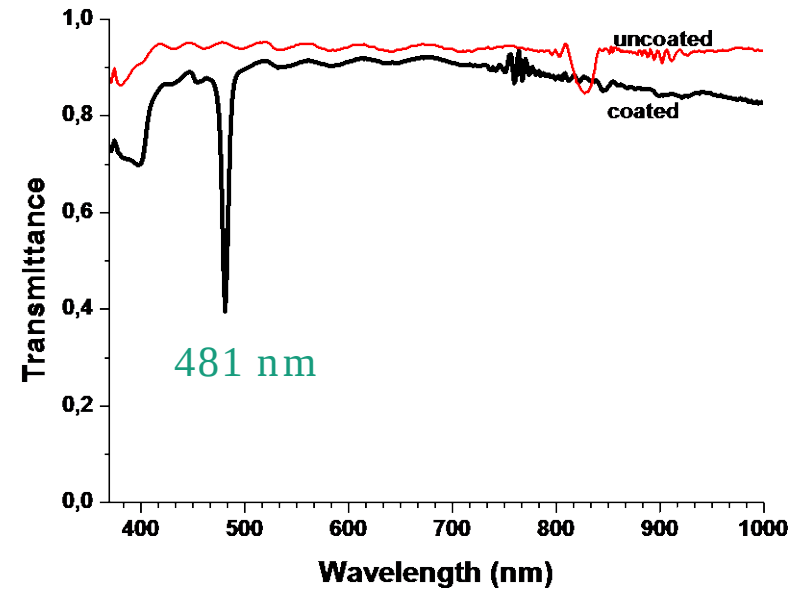
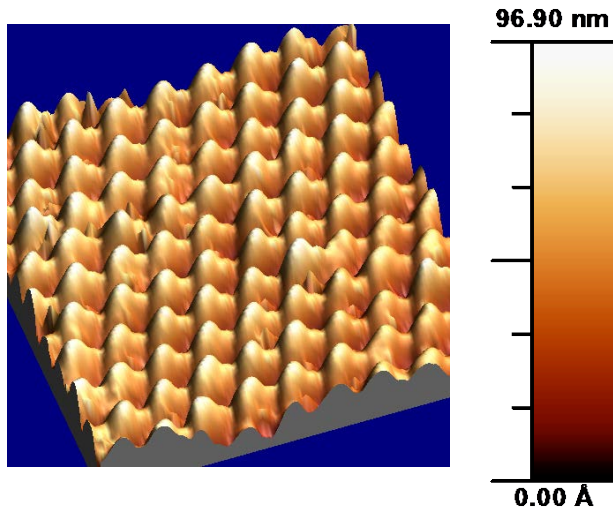


Outline

- Introduction
- Coating equipment
- **Results**
 - Materials
 - Interference Coatings
 - Diffractive Optics
- Outlook

Resonant Waveguides

- nanostructure + ALD coating



C-Paste

Film Thickness
~ 120 nm
(~2 hours deposition)

PC

Narrow Band

A. Szeghalmi, E. B. Kley, M. Knez. J. Phys. Chem. C 114 (2010) 21150

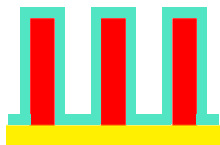
A. Szeghalmi, M. Helgert, R. Brunner, F. Heyroth, U. Gösele, M. Knez. Adv. Funct. Mater. 20 (2010) 2053

Polarizers

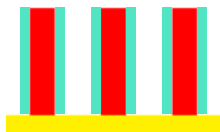
Resist grating



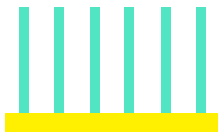
ALD coating



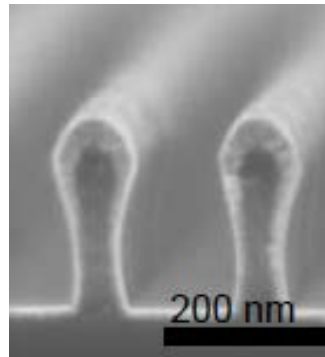
IBE etching Ir



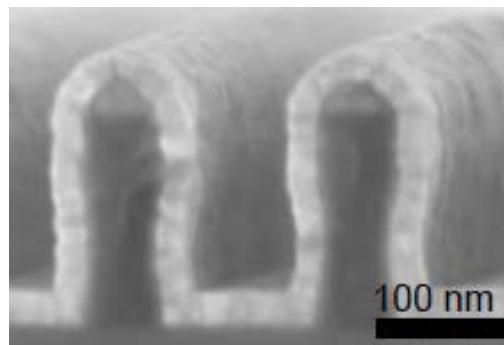
ICP etching resist



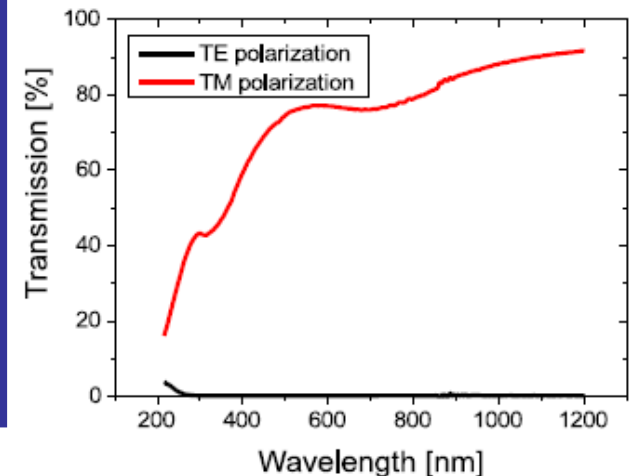
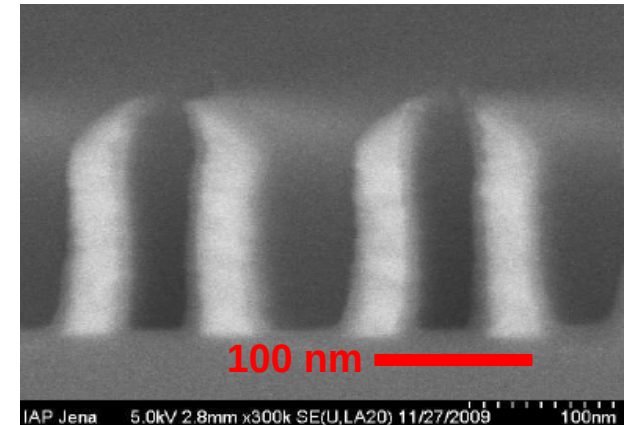
sputtering



ALD coating



Ir wire grid polarizer

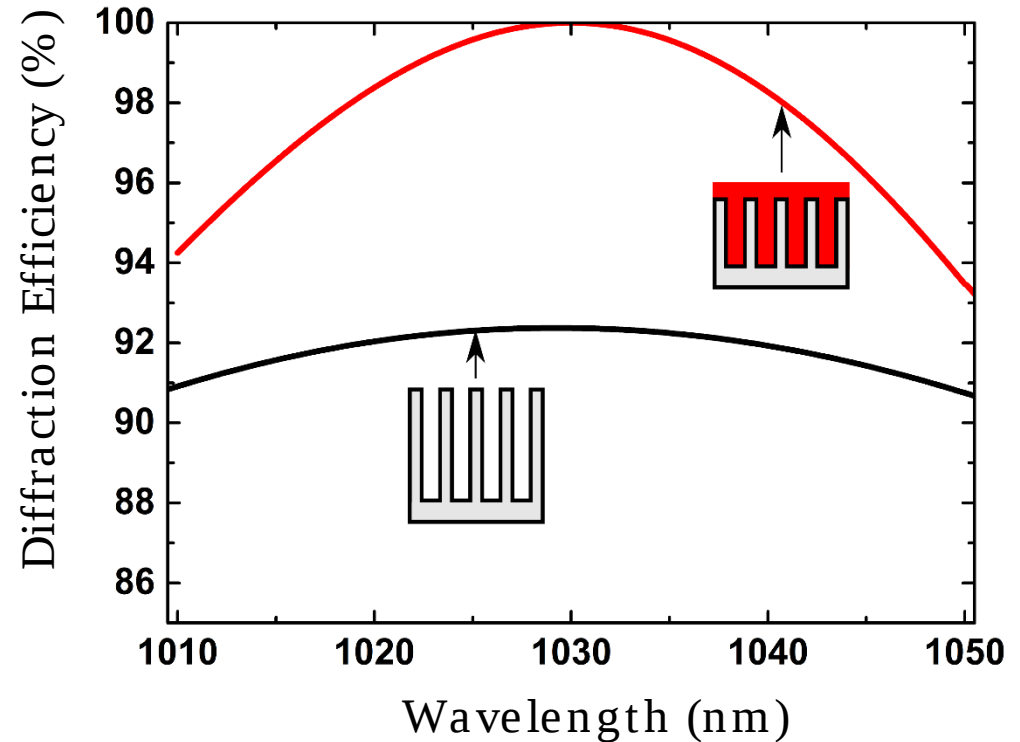
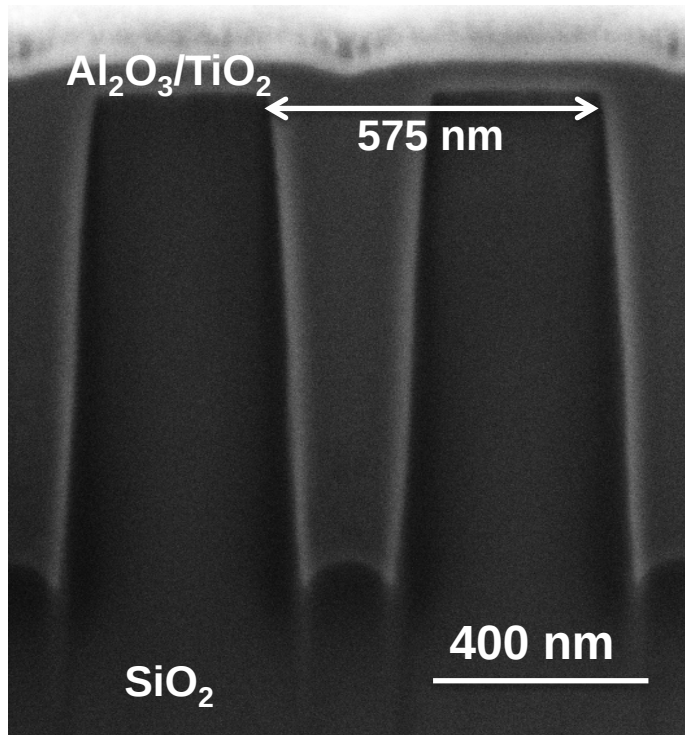


[1] T. Weber, T. Käsebier, A. Szeghalmi, M. Knez, E. B. Kley, A. Tünnermann. Nanoscale Research Lett. 2011, 6, 558

[2] Y. Bourgin, T. Siefke, T. Käsebier, P. Genevée, A. Szeghalmi, E. B. Kley, U. D. Zeitner. Optics Express, 2015, 23, 16628

High Efficiency Transmission Gratings

- measured diffraction efficiency (-1 order) grating for TE-Polarisation 97.5%
- measured diffraction efficiency (-1 order) grating for TM-Polarisation 95%



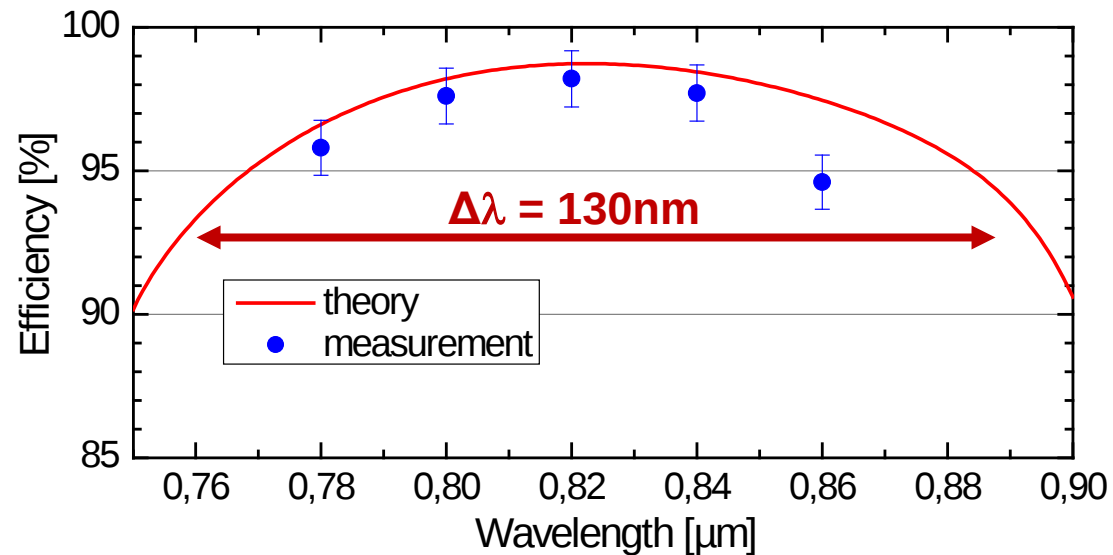
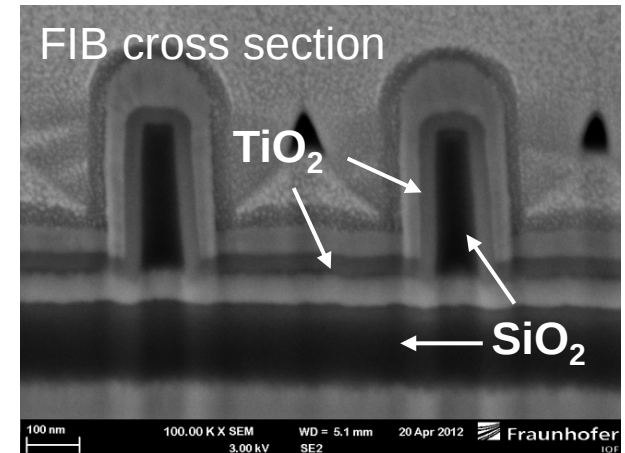
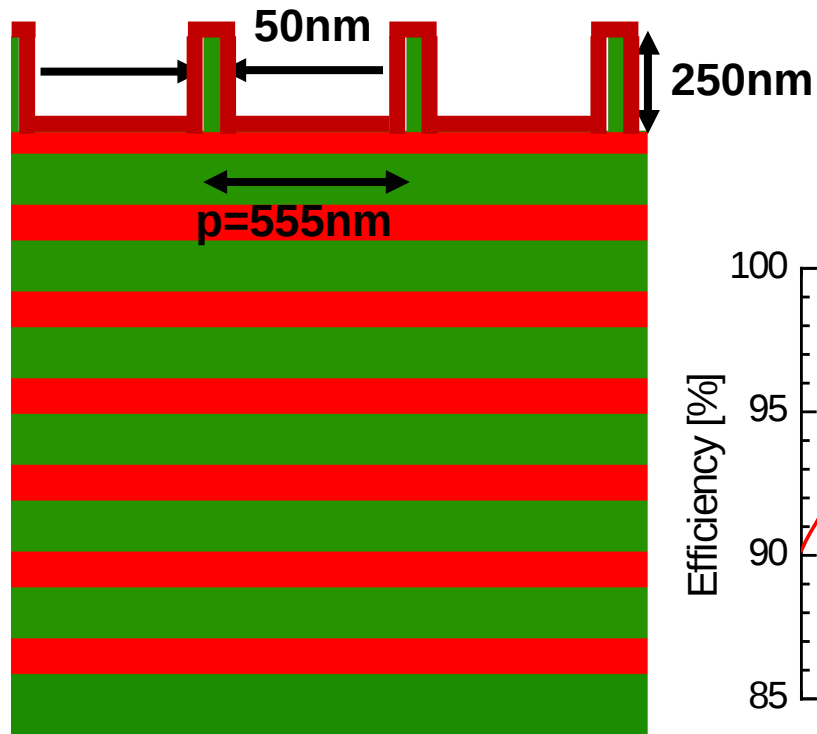
S. Ratzsch, E. B. Kley, A. Tünnermann, A. Szeghalmi. Materials, 2015, 8, 7805-7812.

S. Ratzsch, E. B. Kley, A. Tünnermann, A. Szeghalmi. Optics Express, 2015, 23, 17955-17965.

S. Ratzsch, E. B. Kley, A. Tünnermann, A. Szeghalmi. Nanotechnology, 2015, 26, 024003 (1-11).

High Index Contrast Grating

- fabricate a low fill-factor grating in SiO_2
- conformal overcoating with ALD
- TiO_2 thickness ca. 44 nm



ALD Portfolio @Jena (Fraunhofer IOF & University)

ALD CENTRE for OPTICS

- ALD Material Development
- Interference Coating Systems
- Nano and Microstructured Optics

Adriana.Szeghalmi@iof.fraunhofer.de

Acknowledgement

Andreas Tünnermann

Ernst Bernhard Kley

Uwe Zeitner

Peter Munzert

Ulrike Schulz

Norbert Kaiser

IAP and IOF colleagues