



Nanofabrication

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Outline

- **Top-Down Approaches**
 - Conventional lithography (radiation-based)
 - Nanoimprint and nanoprint (non-radiation-based)
 - Etching
- **Bottom-Up Approaches**
 - Self assembly
 - Guided self-assembly
 - Molecular epitaxy
- **Commercial Nanoimprint tools and solutions**



Nanotechnology Leads to Discovery and Innovation

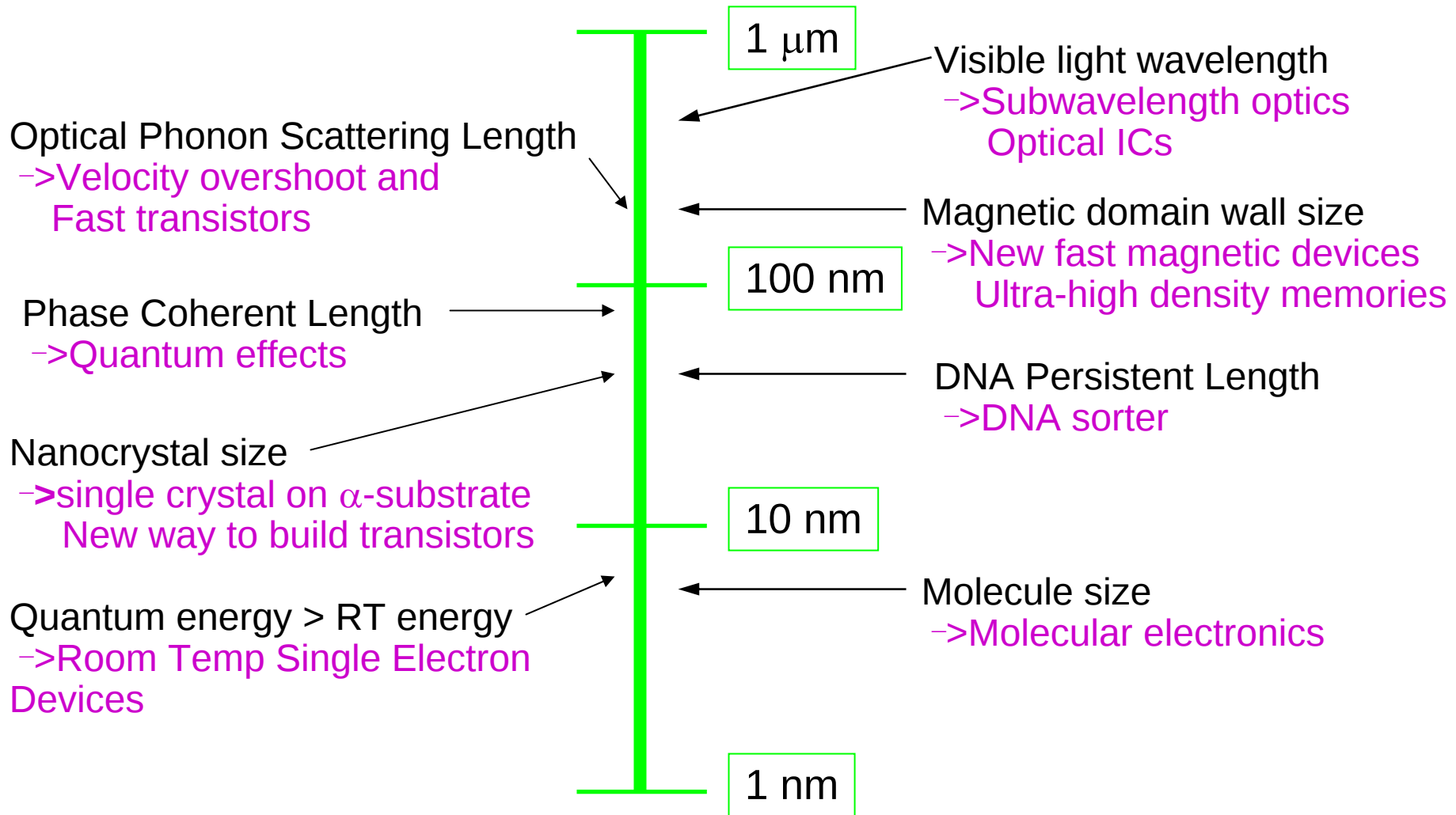
Because

As a device size becomes less than a fundamental physical length scale, conventional theory may no longer apply.

-- S.Y. Chou (Nanotech Report 1998)

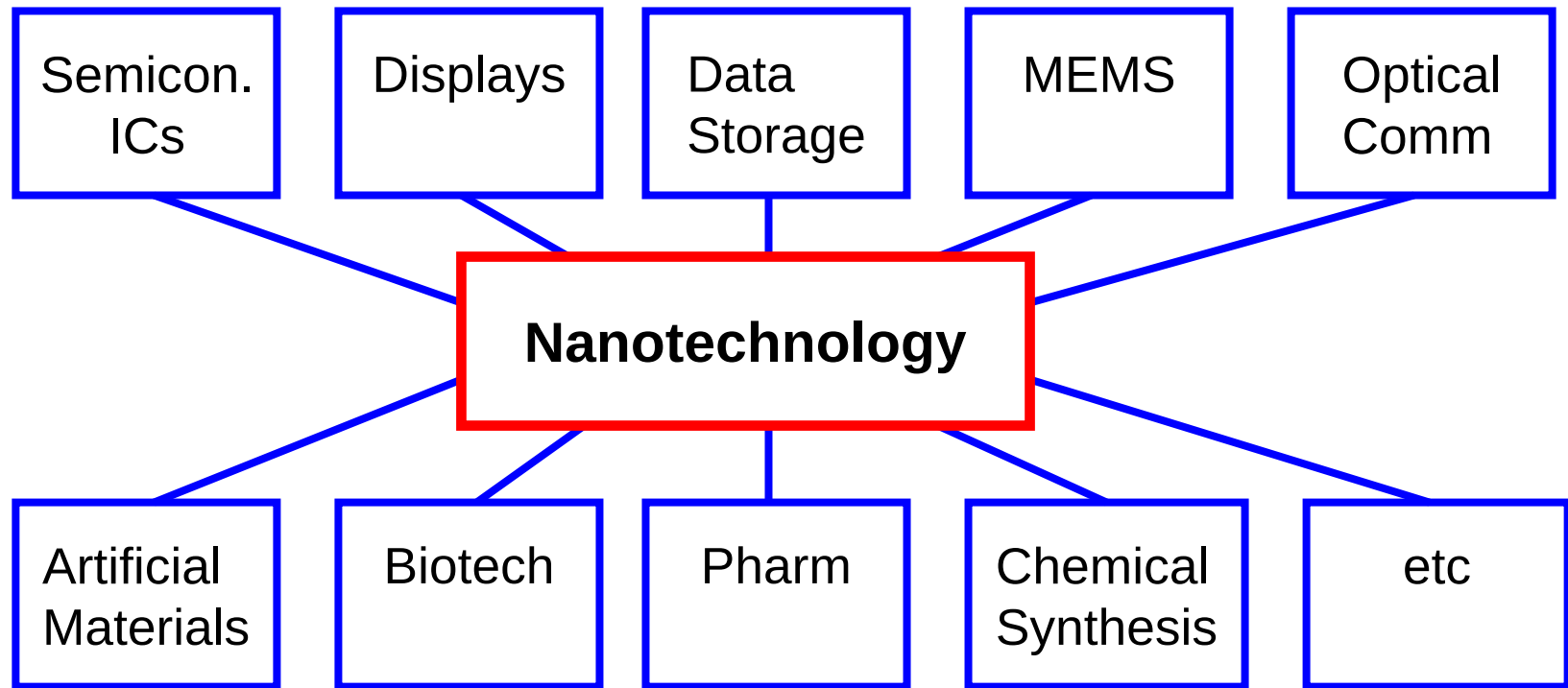


Examples of Fundamental Length Scales and Impacts



Nanotechnology Impacts Multi-Disciplines

Nanotechnology makes “old products” new ways and “new” products that can’t be made before. It will grow *exponentially* to **multi-dimensional, multi-billion dollar** market in a few years.



Nanofabrication

- Nanofabrication is the vehicle to bring us to the nanotechnology dreamland of multi-dimensional and multi-trillion-dollars markets.
- Today, we do not yet have a commercial general-purpose nanomanufacturing tool.
- Without nanofabrication, nanotechnology will be a pie in the sky.

(--S.Y. Chou)



Nanofabrications

- **Top-Down Approaches**
 - Conventional lithography (radiation-based)
 - Nanoimprint and nanoprint (non-radiation-based)
 - Etching
- **Bottom-Up Approaches**
 - Self assembly
 - Guided self-assembly
 - Molecular epitaxy



Different Lithographies

- **Radiation-based lithography**
 - Photolithography (deep ultraviolet, x-ray, extreme ultraviolet)
 - Electron beam lithography (scanning, projection)
 - Ion beam lithography (scanning, projection)
 - Maskless lithographies
- **Non-radiation-based lithography**
 - Nanonimprint
 - Nanoprinting (ink stamping, ink jet, dip-pen lithography)



Photolithography

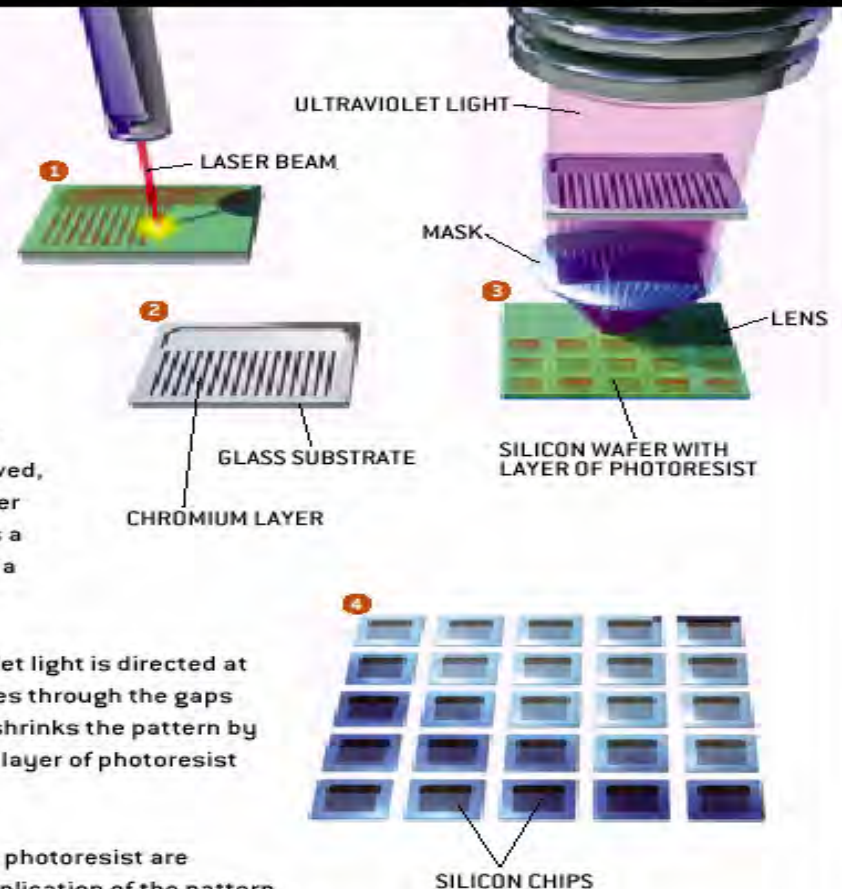
A. Mask Making

1 A laser beam writes the circuit pattern for a microchip on a layer of light-sensitive polymer that rests atop a layer of chromium and a glass substrate. The sections of polymer struck by the beam can be selectively removed.

2 The exposed sections of chromium are also removed, and the rest of the polymer is dissolved. The result is a mask—the equivalent of a photographic negative.

3 When a beam of ultraviolet light is directed at the mask, the light passes through the gaps in the chromium. A lens shrinks the pattern by focusing the light onto a layer of photoresist on a silicon wafer.

4 The exposed parts of the photoresist are removed, allowing the replication of the pattern in miniature on the silicon chips.

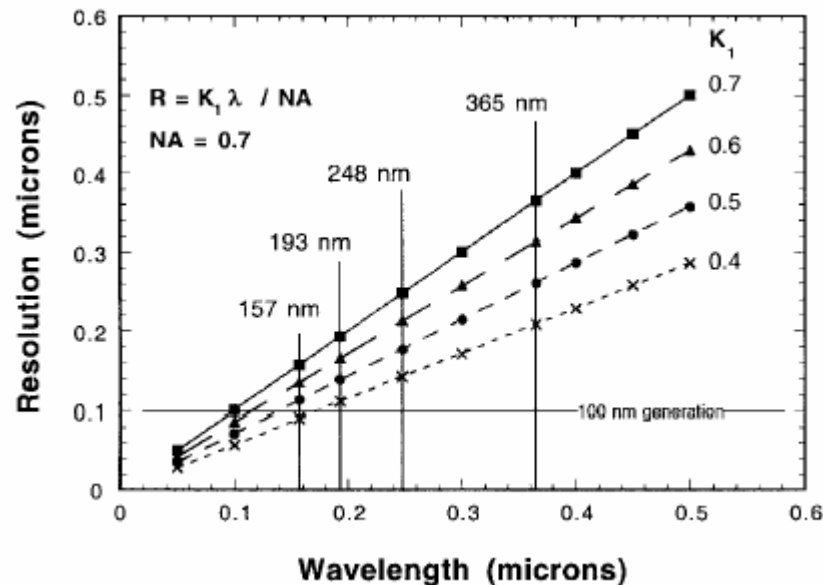


B. Exposures

Whitesides, Sci. American, 2001

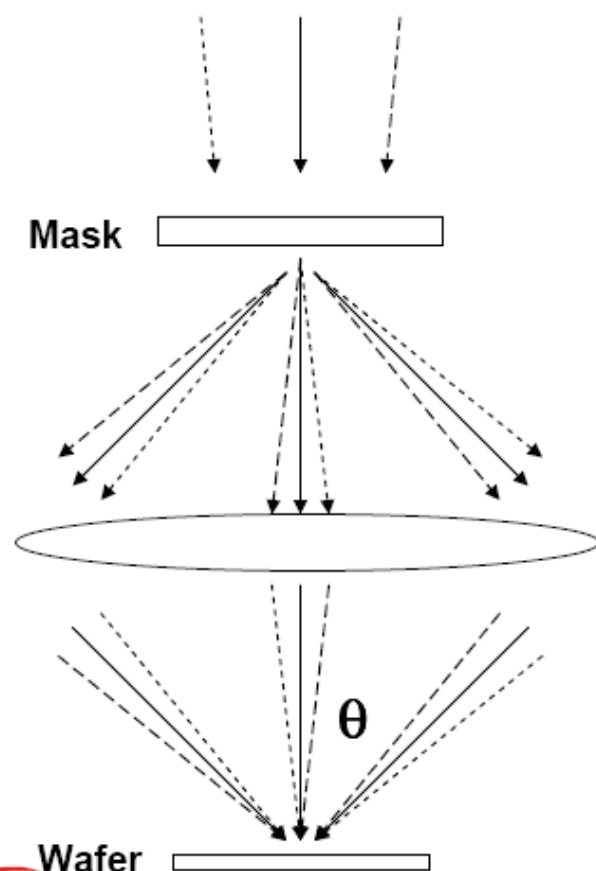
Physics of Radiation Based Lithography

- Theoretical resolution = $(K_1 \lambda) / (NA)$
- Theoretical Depth of Focus = $(K_2 \lambda) / (NA)^2$
(λ : wavelength, NA: numerical aperture, K_1 and K_2 are constants)
- Real resolution also depends on resist properties, mask resolution enhancement technologies, etch process



Stulen, et al., IEEE J. of Quan, Elec., 1999

Resolution of Optical Lithography



- Optical projection imaging has been the preferred means of patterning semiconductor chips over the past 20 years

- Resolution of an optical projection system is usually expressed as

$$HP_{MIN} = k_1 \lambda / \sin \theta$$

- Min. Half Pitch (HP) must be greater than

$$0.25 \lambda / \sin \theta$$

- $\sin \theta$ is the Numerical Aperture (NA) of the projection lens

Progress in Optical Lithography

$$HP_{MIN} = k_1 \frac{\lambda}{NA}$$

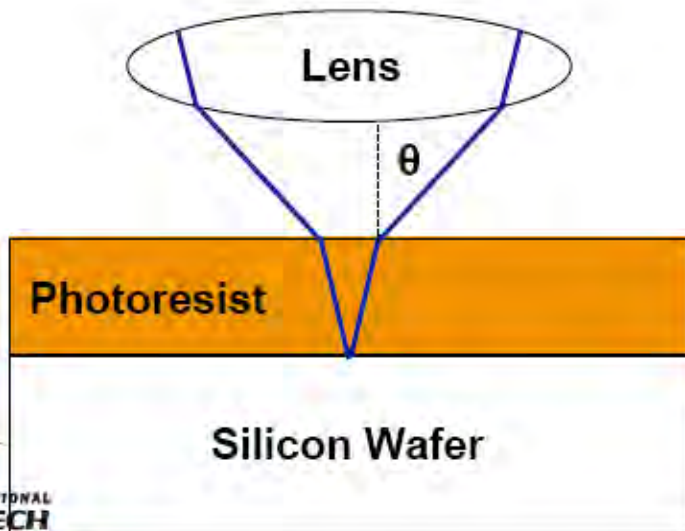
Finer resolution can be achieved by

- Increase of NA (0.8 @ 248 nm, 0.85 to appear @ 193 nm & 157 nm)
- Reduction of wavelength (436, 365, 248, 193, 157 nm)
- Reduction of k_1
 - Progress in mask making
 - Progress in lens making (precision optics)
 - Better photoresists
 - Better process control
 - Resolution Enhancement Techniques (RET)

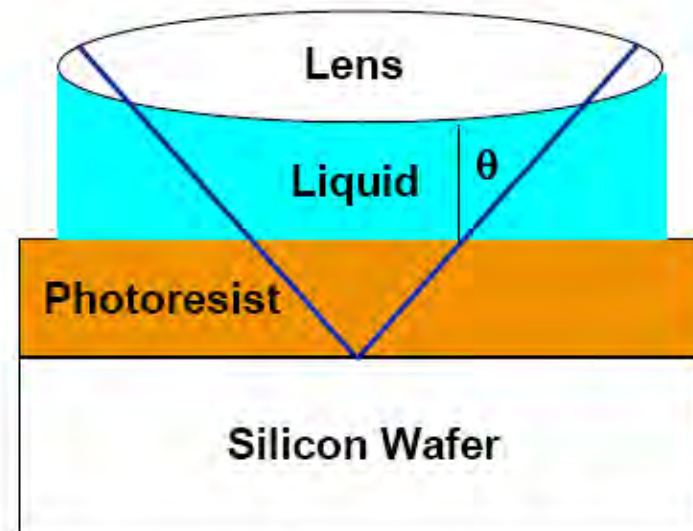
Resolution Improvement by Immersion

– Principle

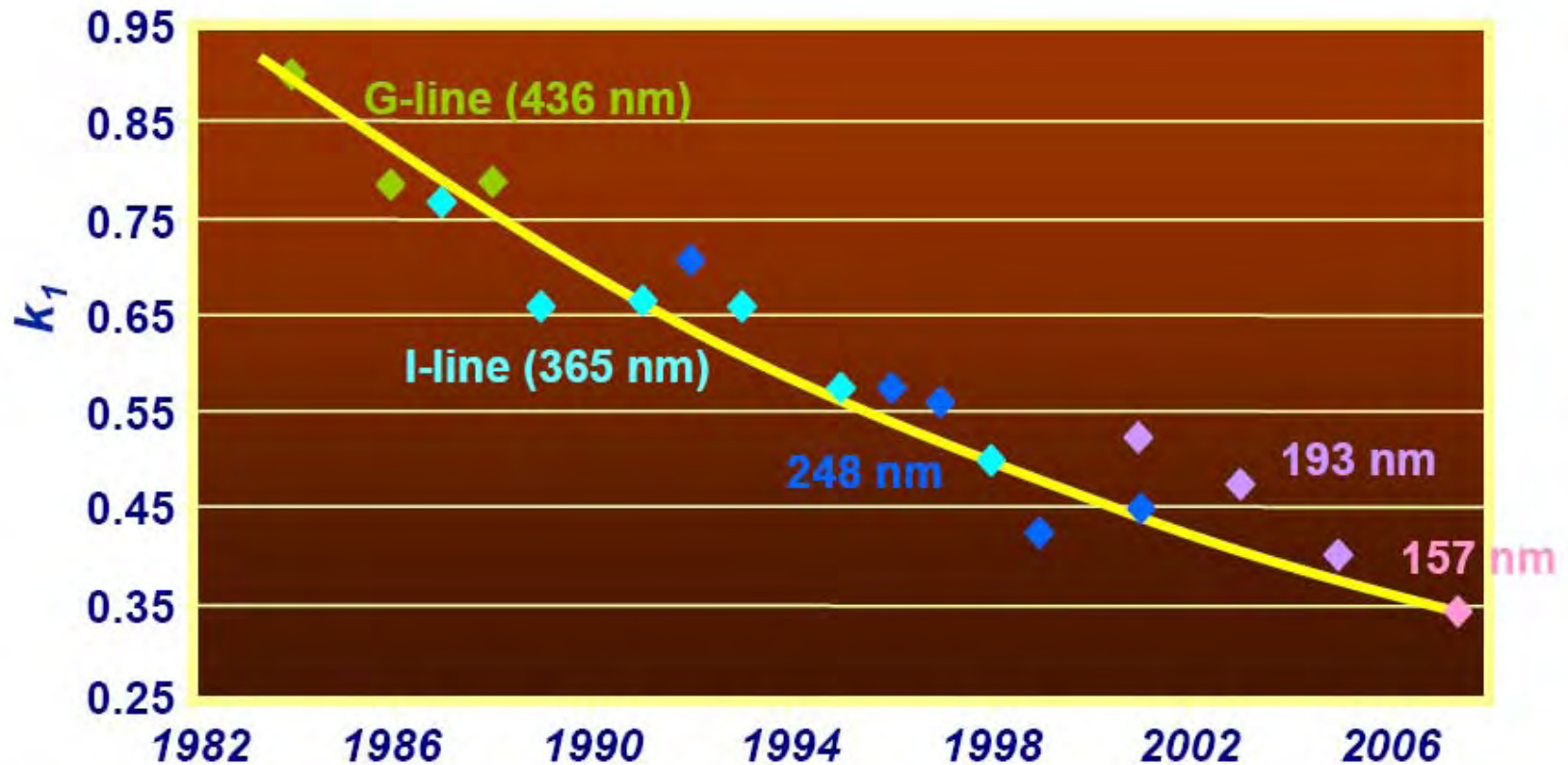
$$\begin{aligned}
 HP_{MIN, DRY} &= \frac{1}{4} \frac{\lambda_{RESIST}}{\sin \alpha_{RESIST}} \\
 &= \frac{1}{4} \frac{\lambda_{AIR} / n_{RESIST}}{\sin \theta / n_{RESIST}} \\
 &= \frac{1}{4} \frac{\lambda_{AIR}}{\sin \theta}
 \end{aligned}$$



$$\begin{aligned}
 HP_{MIN, WET} &= \frac{1}{4} \frac{\lambda_{RESIST}}{\sin \beta_{RESIST}} \\
 &= \frac{1}{4} \frac{\lambda_{AIR} / n_{RESIST}}{n_{LIQUID} \sin \theta / n_{RESIST}} \\
 &= \frac{1}{4} \frac{\lambda_{AIR}}{\sin \theta} / n_{LIQUID}
 \end{aligned}$$



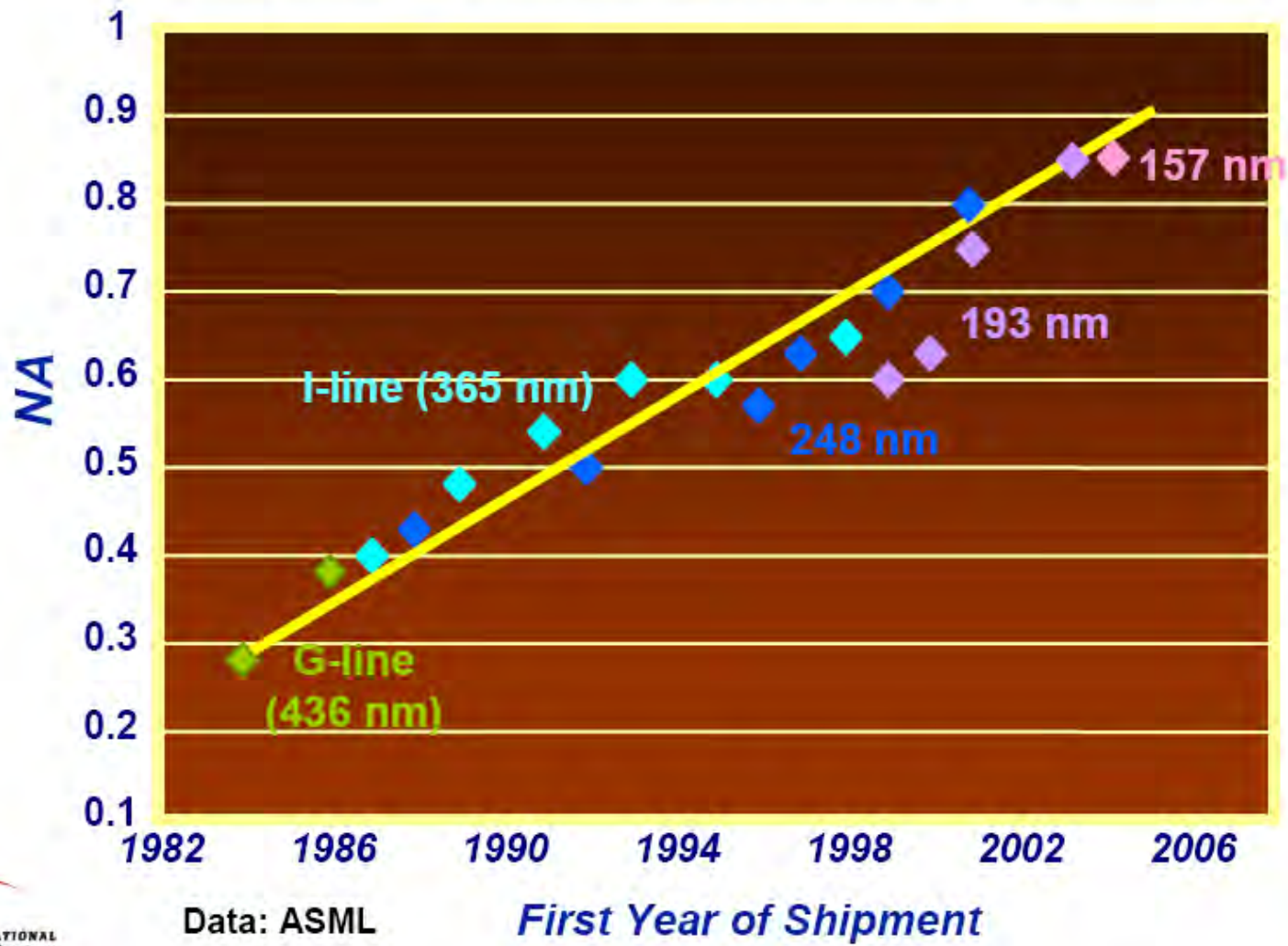
k_1 Reduction over Time



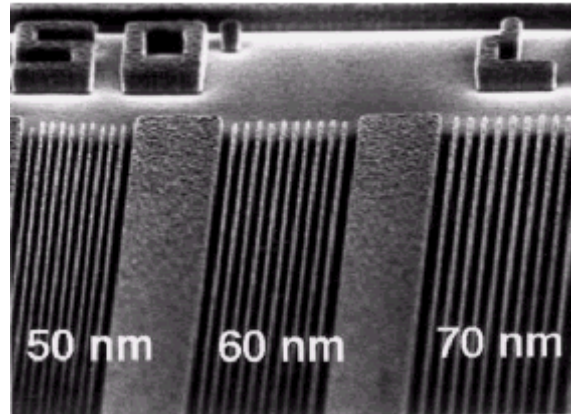
Source: ASML, ISMT *First Year of Shipment*



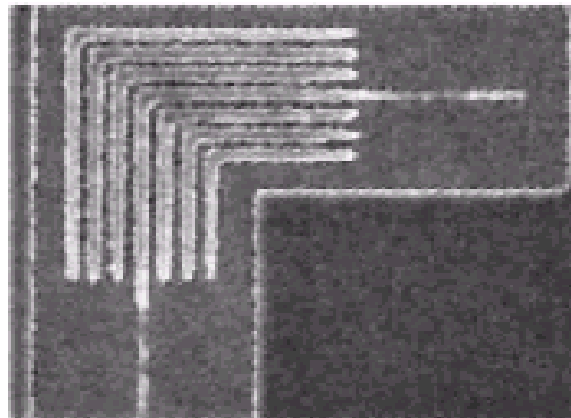
Numerical Aperture Increase over Time



Examples of EUV Lithography



Stulen, et al., IEEE J. of Quan, Elec., 1999

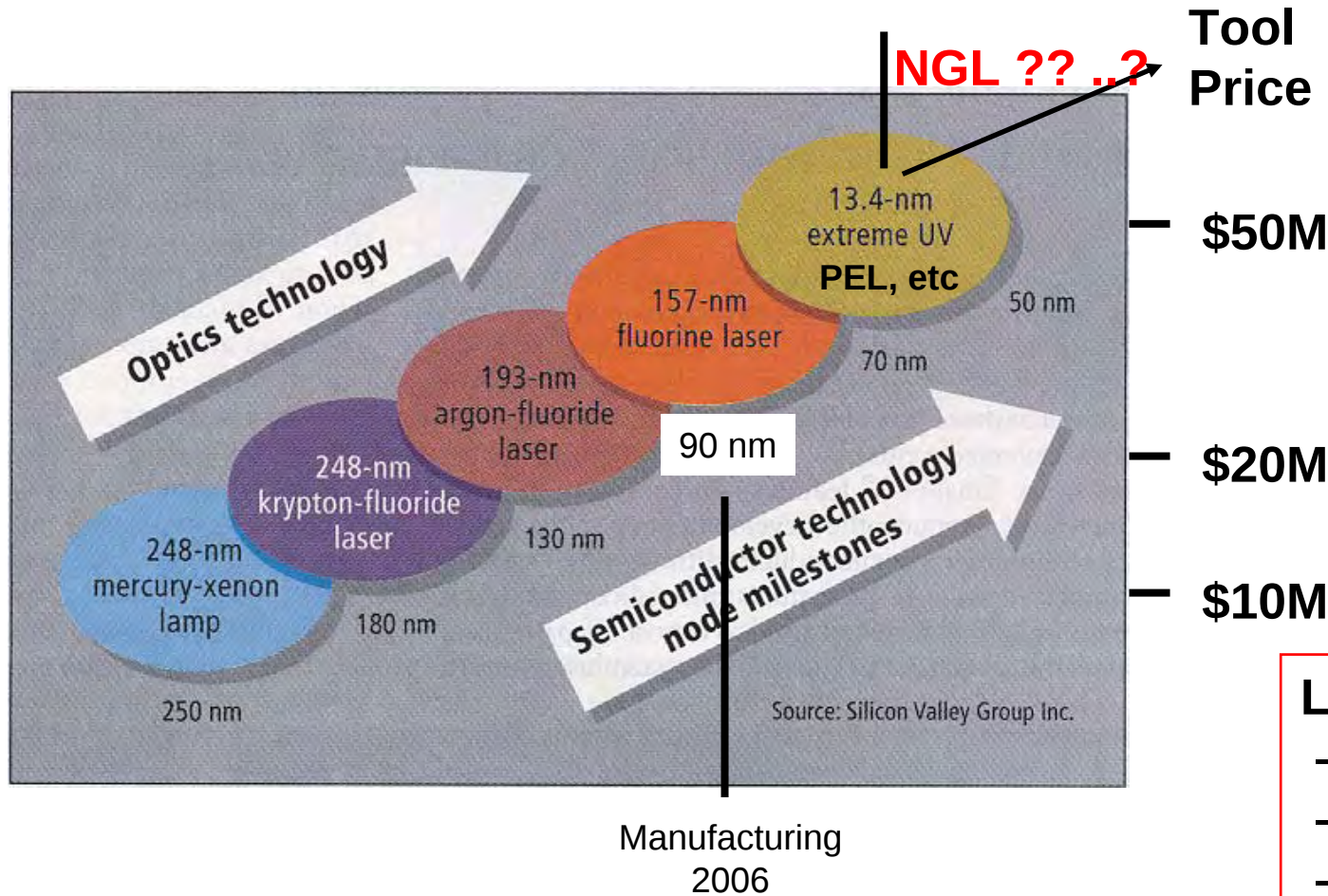


100 nm elbow
patterns

Chapman, et al., J. Vac. Sci. Tech. B, 2001

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Conventional Lithography Can Not Offer the Resolution, Cost, and Exposure Area Needed for Nanomanufacturing

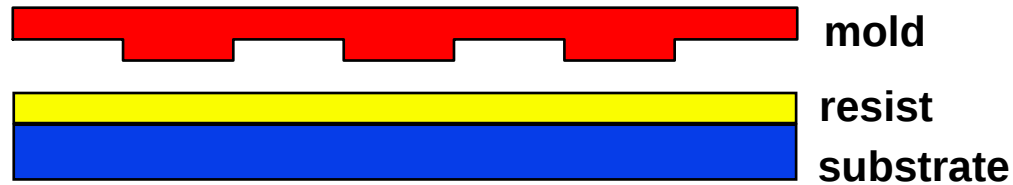


Limited to:

- 65 nm?
- 1 sq-in area
- \$40M/tool



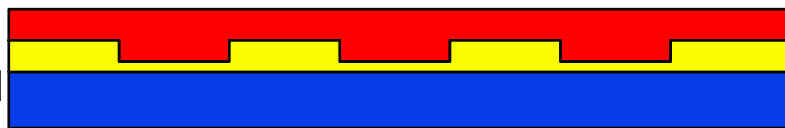
Nanoimprint Lithography (NIL) –a Solution to Nano-manufacturing



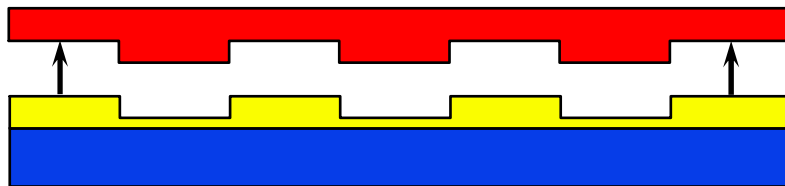
→| |← 10nm

1. Imprint

•Press Mold

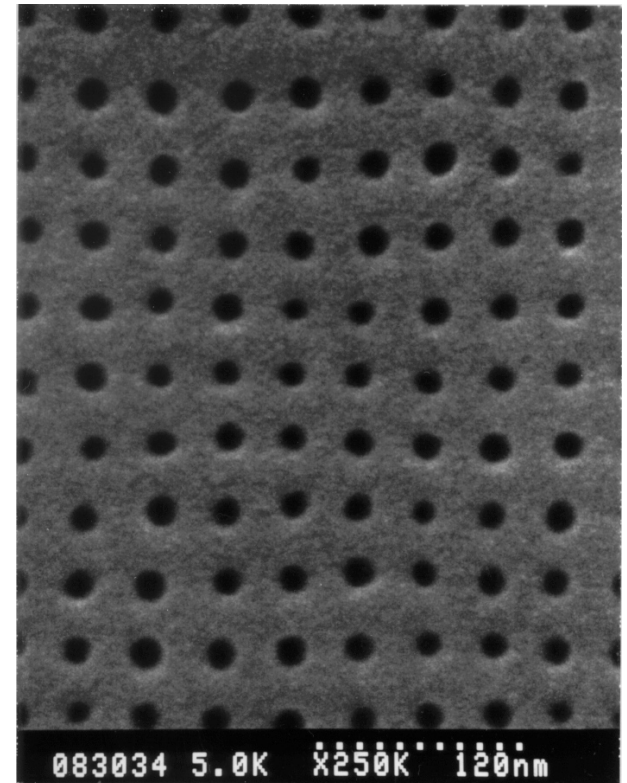


•Remove Mold



2. Pattern Transfer

•RIE

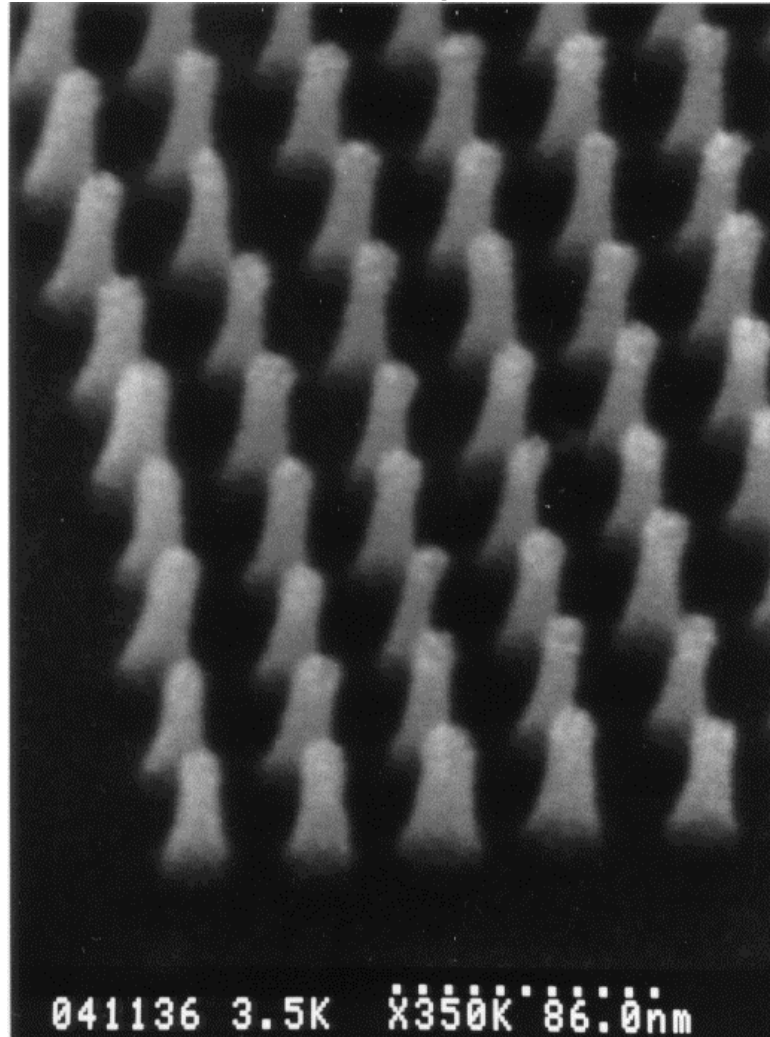


Chou, US Pat 5,772,905, 6,309,580, APL, Vol. 67, 3114 (1995); Science, Vol. 272, 85 (1996)

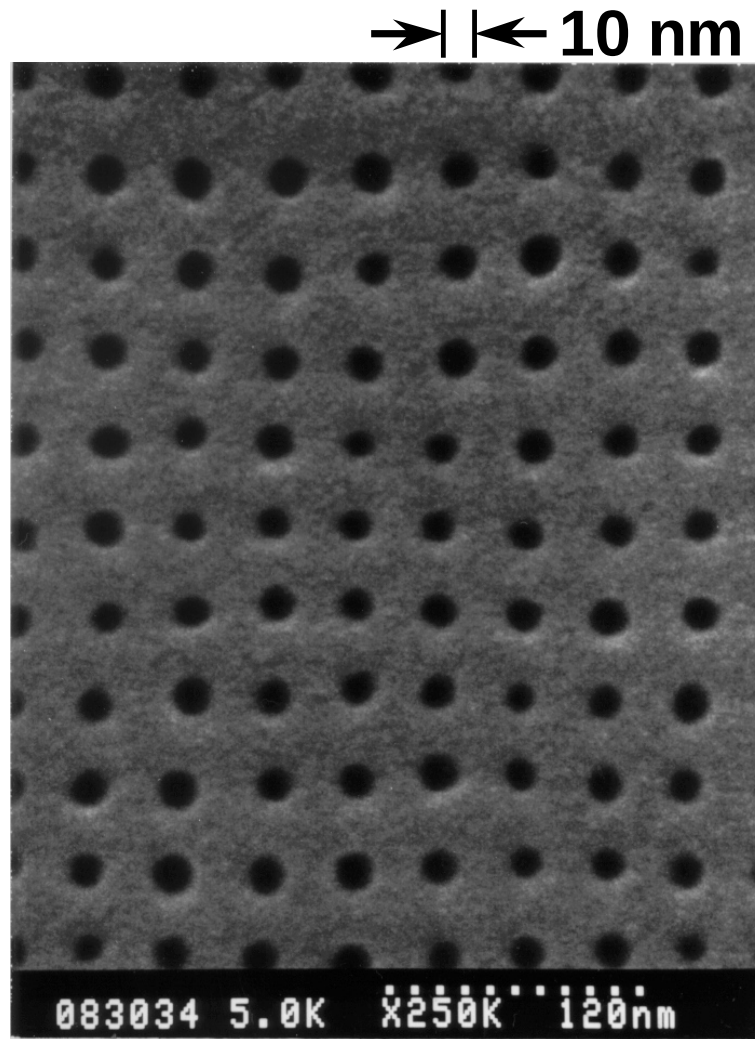


10 nm Diameter, 40nm Period Imprint Mold (After 12 Imprints)

→|←10 nm

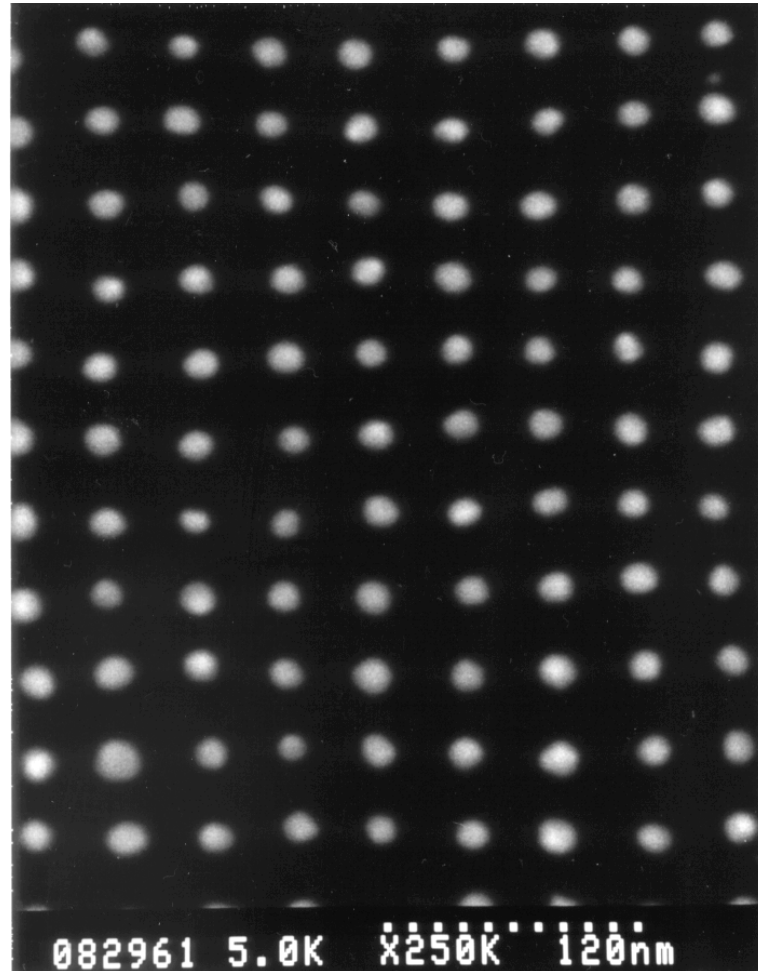


10 nm Diameter, 40 nm Period and 60 nm Deep Holes Imprinted into PMMA

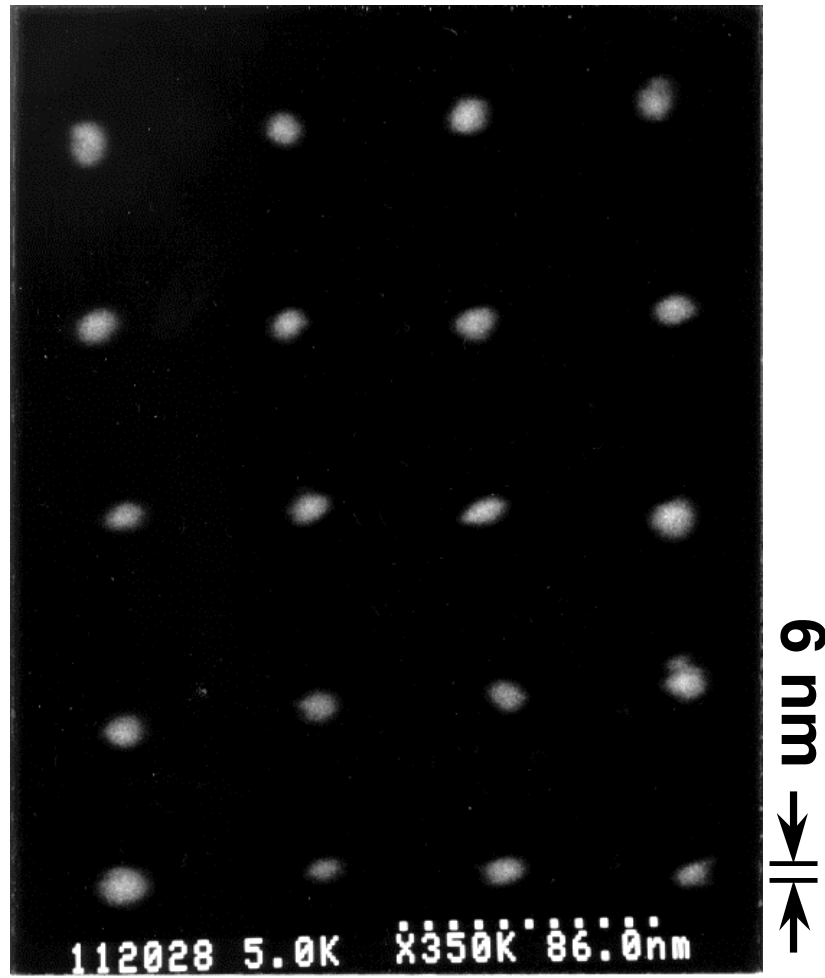


10 nm Diameter & 40 nm Period Ti/Au Dot Array by NIL and Lift-Off

→|← 10 nm

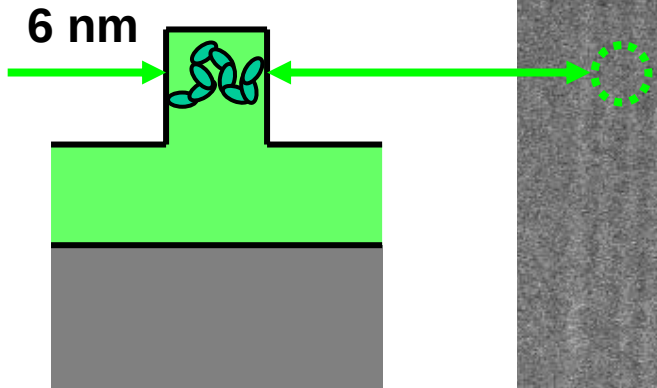


6 nm Diameter & 65 nm Period Ti/Au Dot Array by NIL and Lift-Off

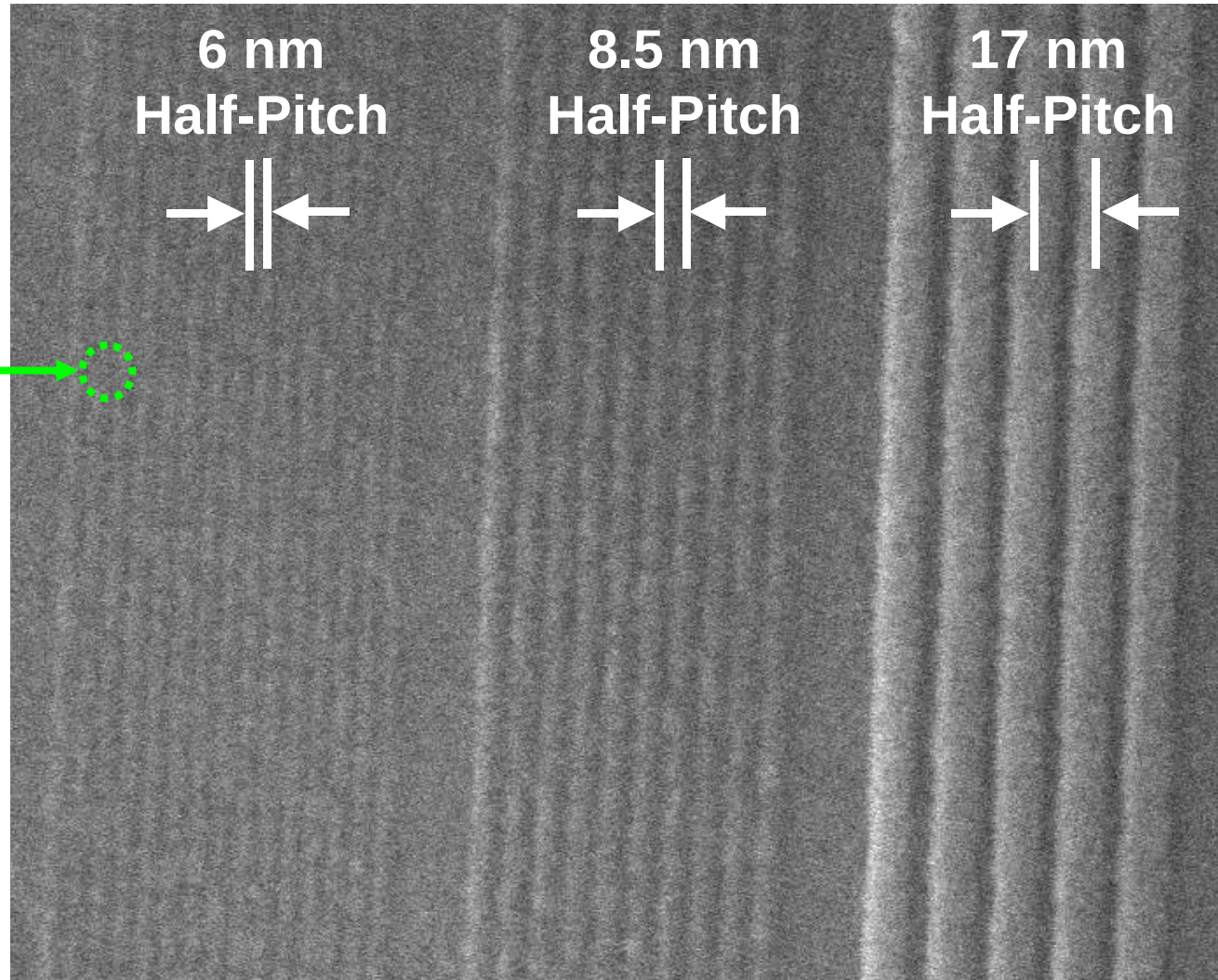


6 nm Half-Pitch Resist Lines by NIL

- NIL resist (cured)
- Quartz
- Monomer (1.4 nm)
- 6 nm = 9 monomers



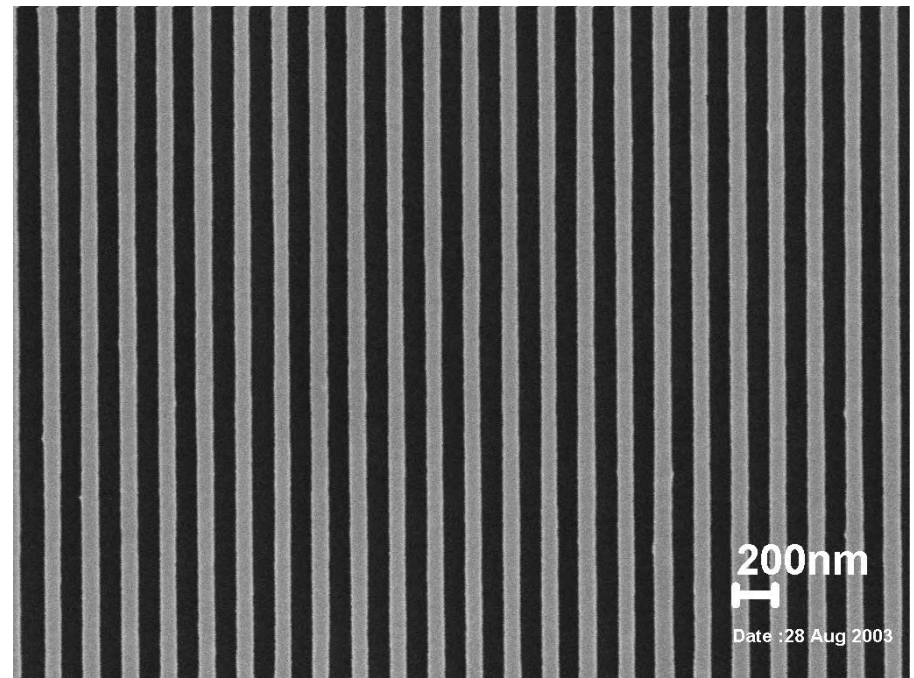
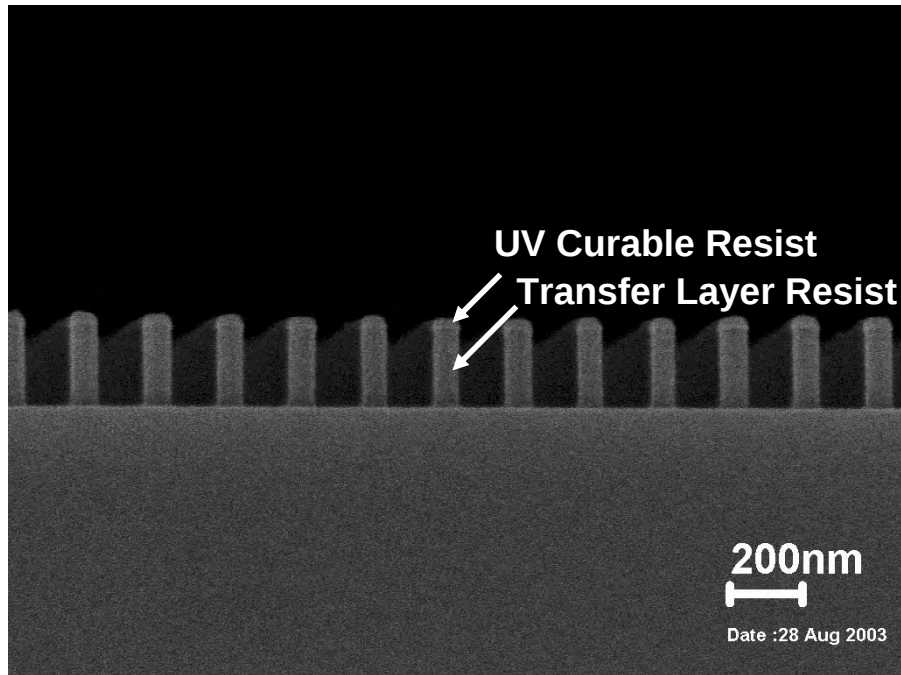
Polymerization within a
constrained geometry



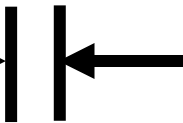
Austin and Chou, J of Nanotechnology 2005

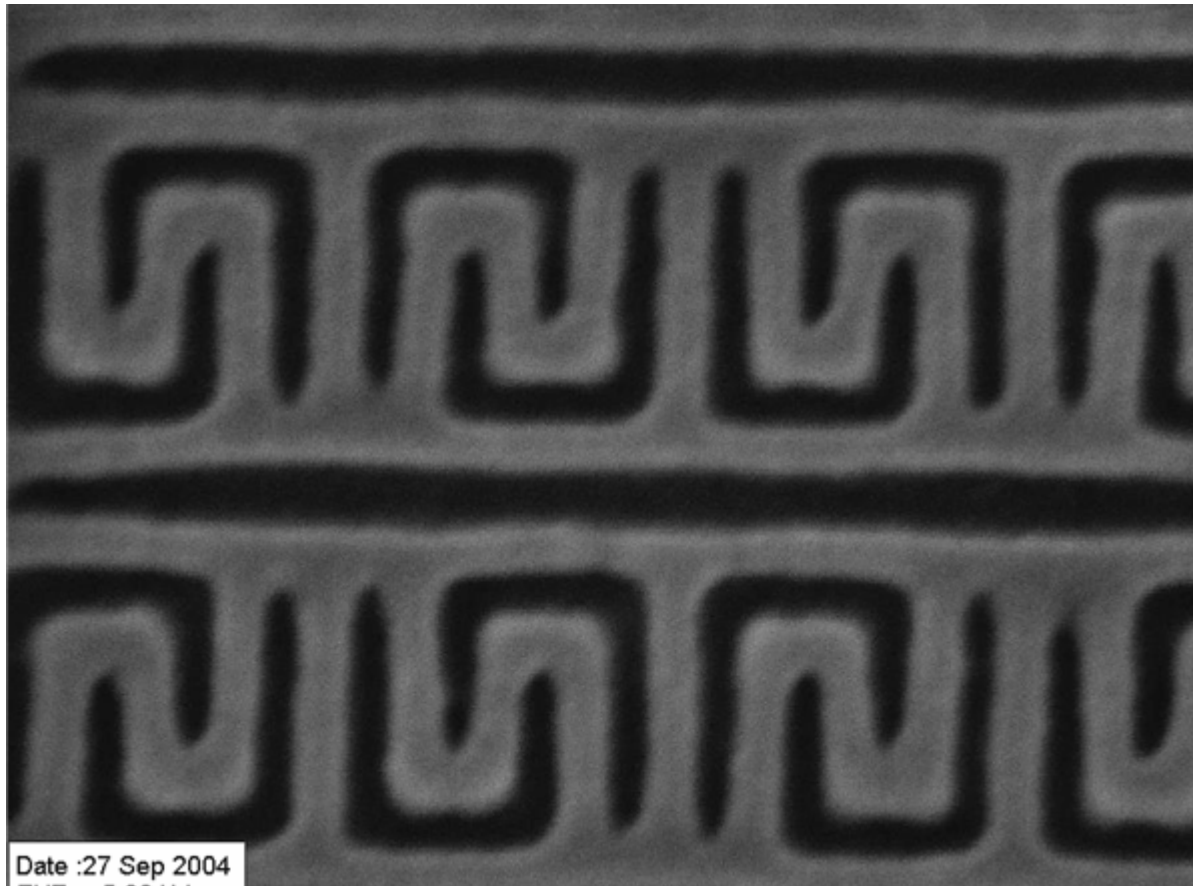


Vertical Sidewall of 70 nm Resist Lines by Photo Curable/Transfer Nanoimprinting



20 nm Half-Pitch & 0.04 μm^2 SRAM Contact Layer by NIL

20 nm $\longrightarrow$  $\longleftarrow$



CD control measurements:

- Mean: 21.5 nm
- σ (sigma): 1.3 nm

ITRS roadmap spec: 2016!



Austin and Chou, J of Nanotech, Aug. 2005
Nanonex NX-2000 NIL machines
Nanonex NXR-2010 resist

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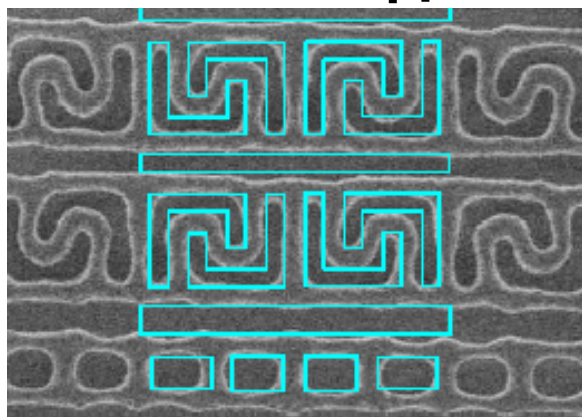
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Comparison of SRAM Metal Layers by 65 nm Node Photolithography & Nanoimprint lithography

Intel

1.13 μm^2 cell by 193 nm lithography & phase masks (2002)

110 nm Half-Pitch

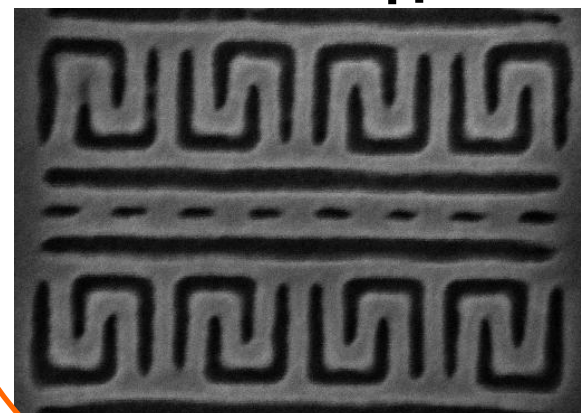
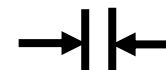


<ftp://download.intel.com/research/silicon/BorodovskyPhotomaskJapan0402pres.pdf>

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0.04 μm^2 cell by nanoimprint lithography

20 nm Half-Pitch



Reduction:

- 6X in linear
- 30X in area



Austin and Chou, J Nanotech. 2005

Nanonex NX-2000 SL machines

Nanonex NXR-2010 resist

Nanonex SL machines Laboratory

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