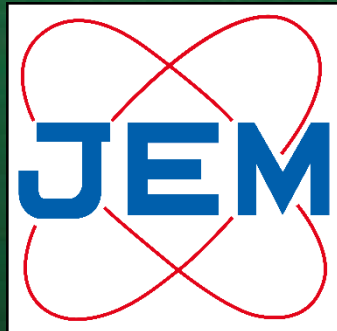




**SW Test Workshop**  
Semiconductor Wafer Test Workshop

## Probing Challenges with Cu Pillar



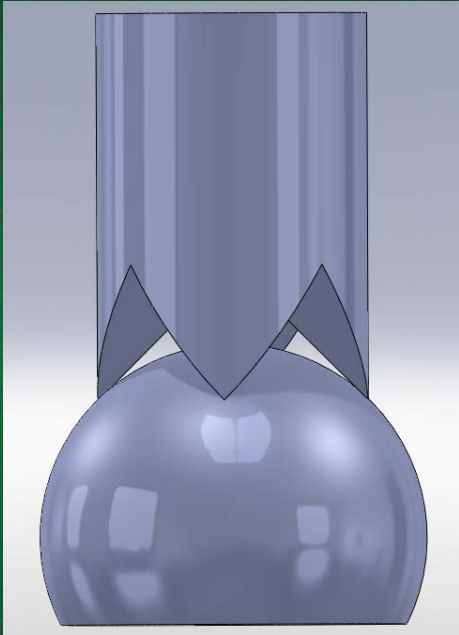
Phill Mai, JEM America  
Joe Mai, JEM Europe

June 4-7, 2017

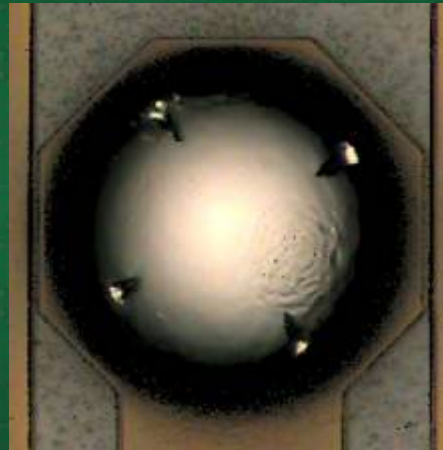
# Overview

- **Crown-tip probe limitations**
- **MEMS probe with flat tip**
- **Summary**
- **Future work**

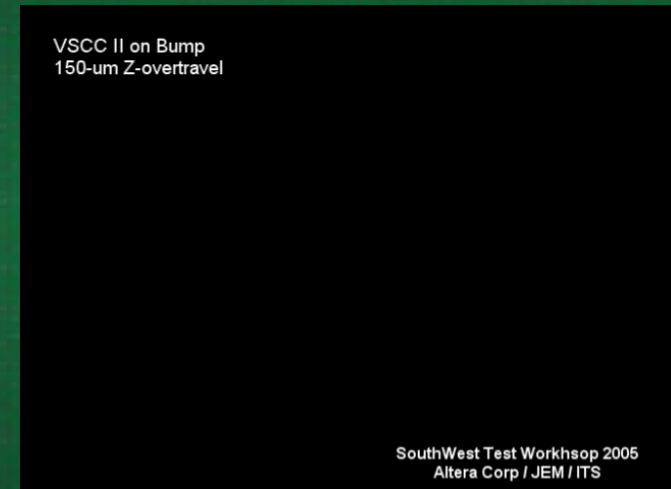
# Crown-to-bump contact



Piercing Contact

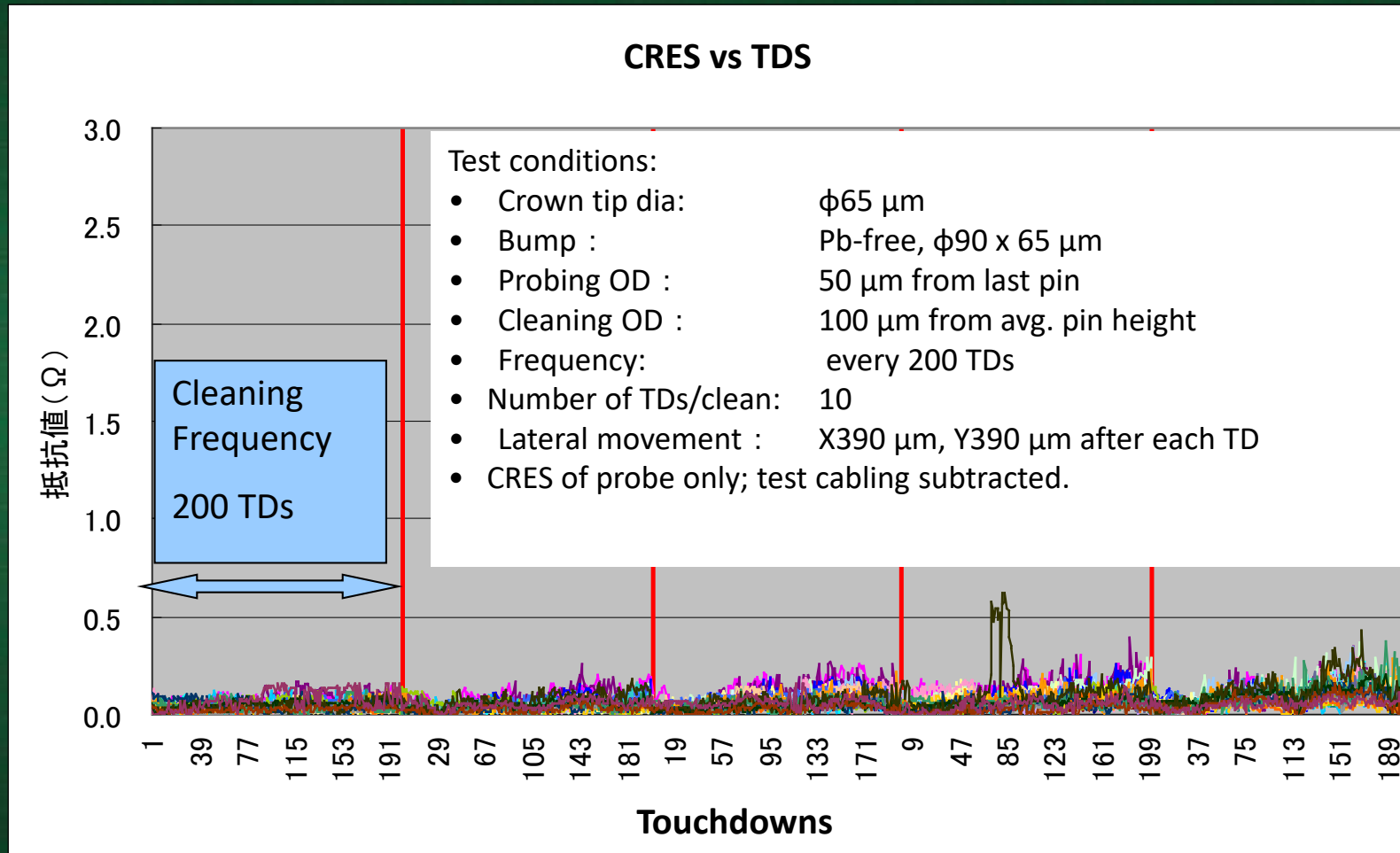


Probe mark



Abrasive/Gel Cleaning

# Crown-to-bump CRES stability



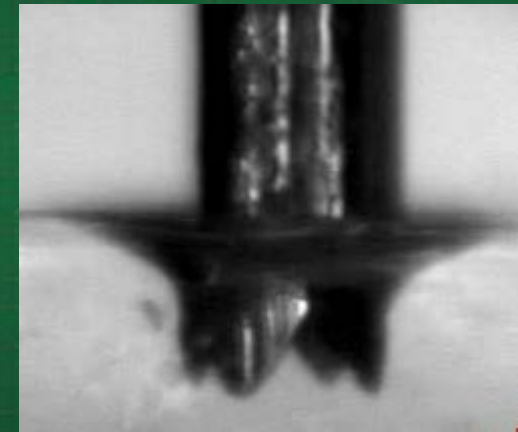
# Crown-to-Cu pillar contact



Slicing Contact



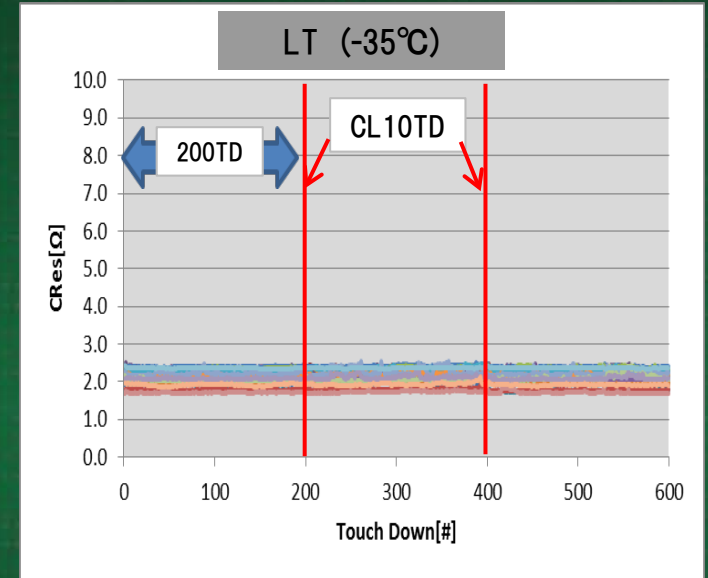
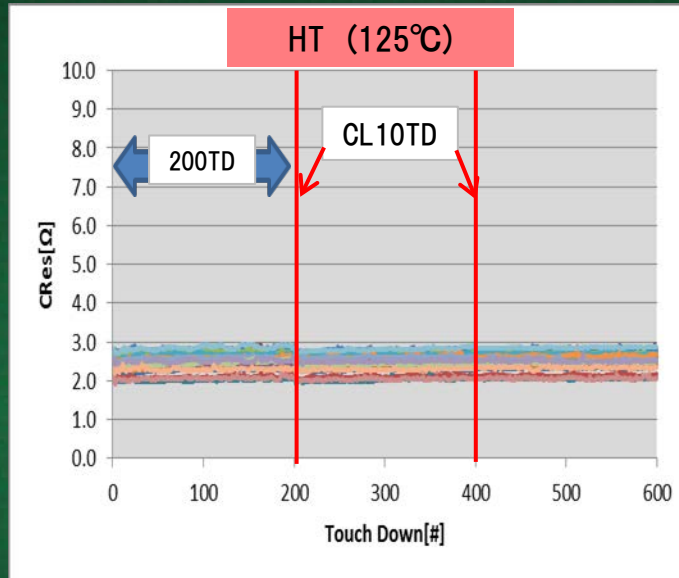
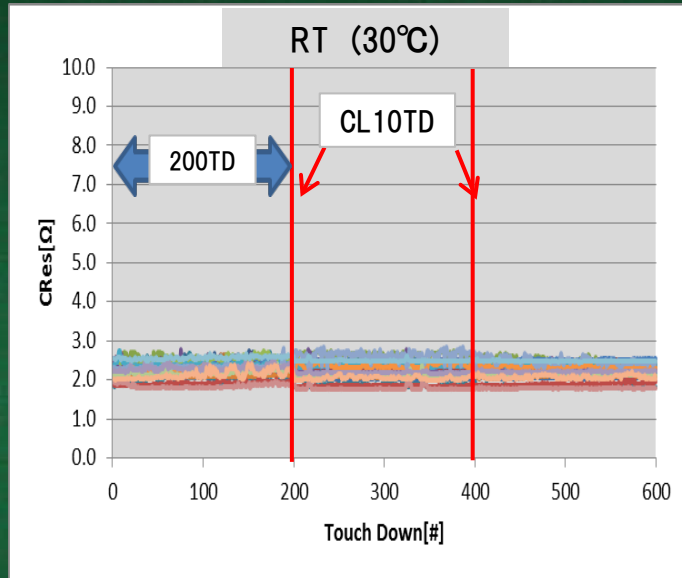
Probe mark



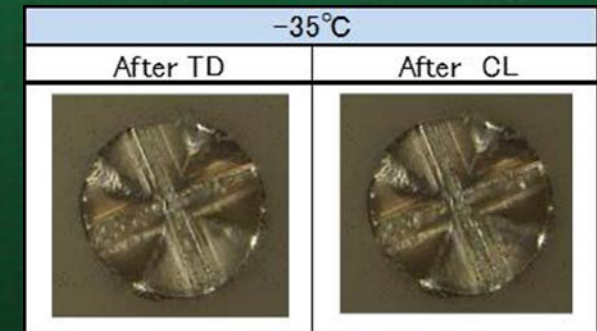
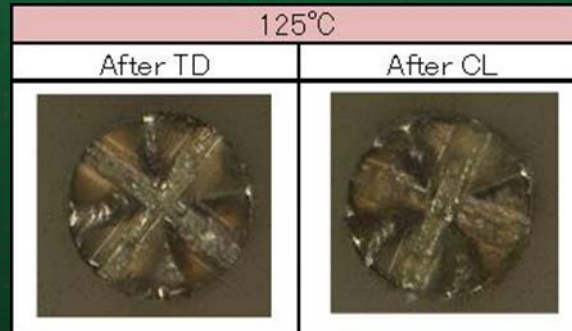
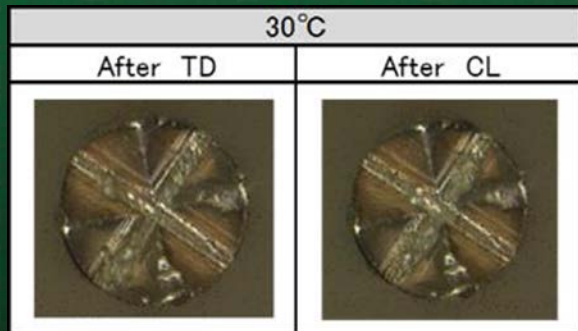
Abrasive/Gel Cleaning not so effective in the long term

# Initial Crown-to-Cu pillar CRES stability

-Current: 50mA



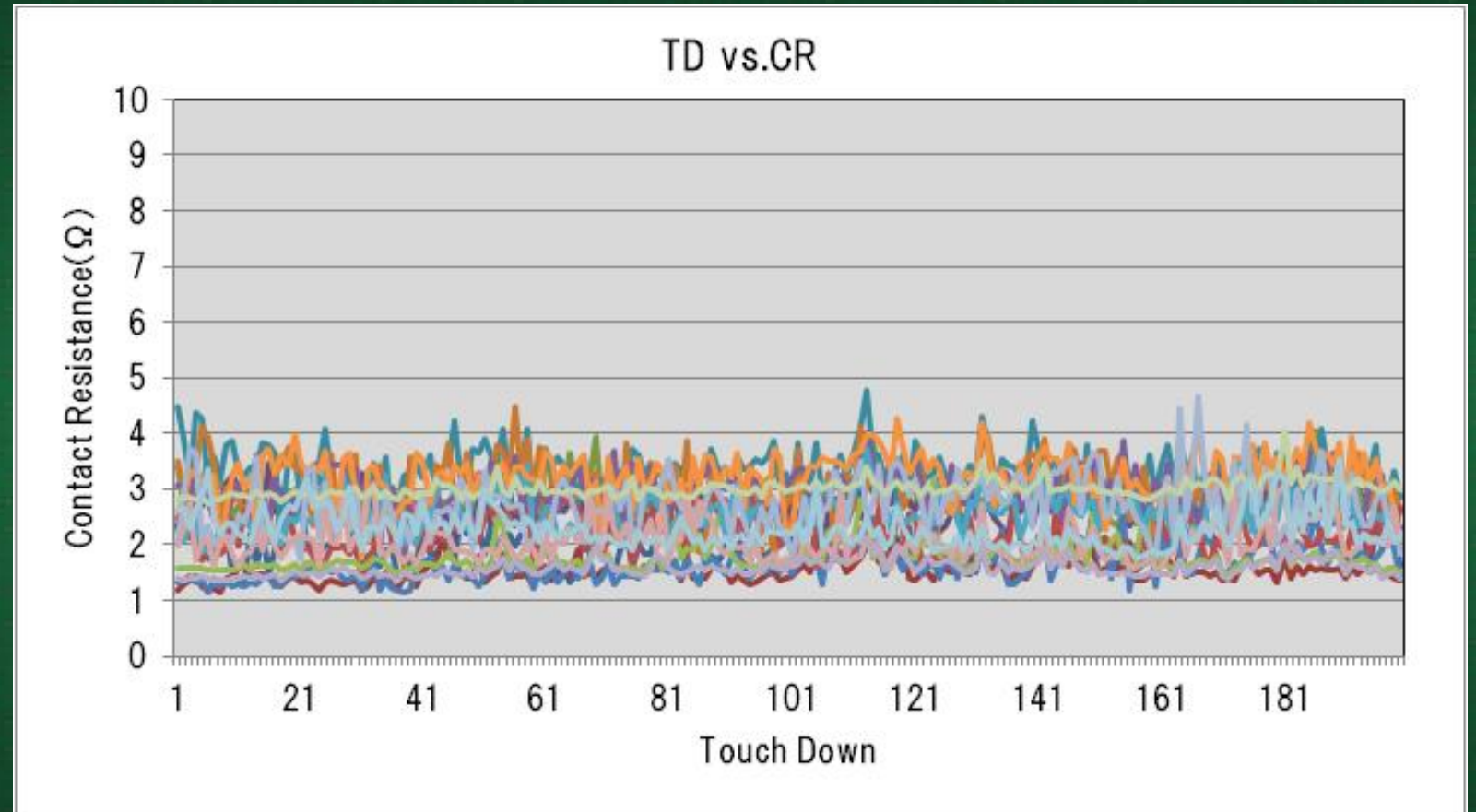
\*CRES includes about 2 ohms of resistance due to PCB, Space transformer, Interposer, and probe body.



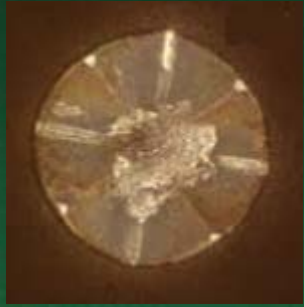
# Long term Crown-to-Cu pillar CRES stability



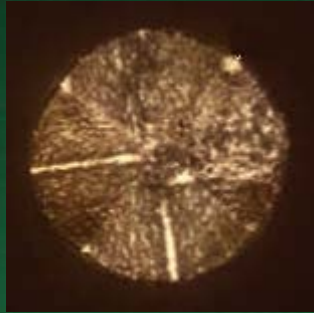
Adhesion of SnAg  
causes CRES instability  
after 50K TDs



# Crown Tip Contamination with eutectic solder



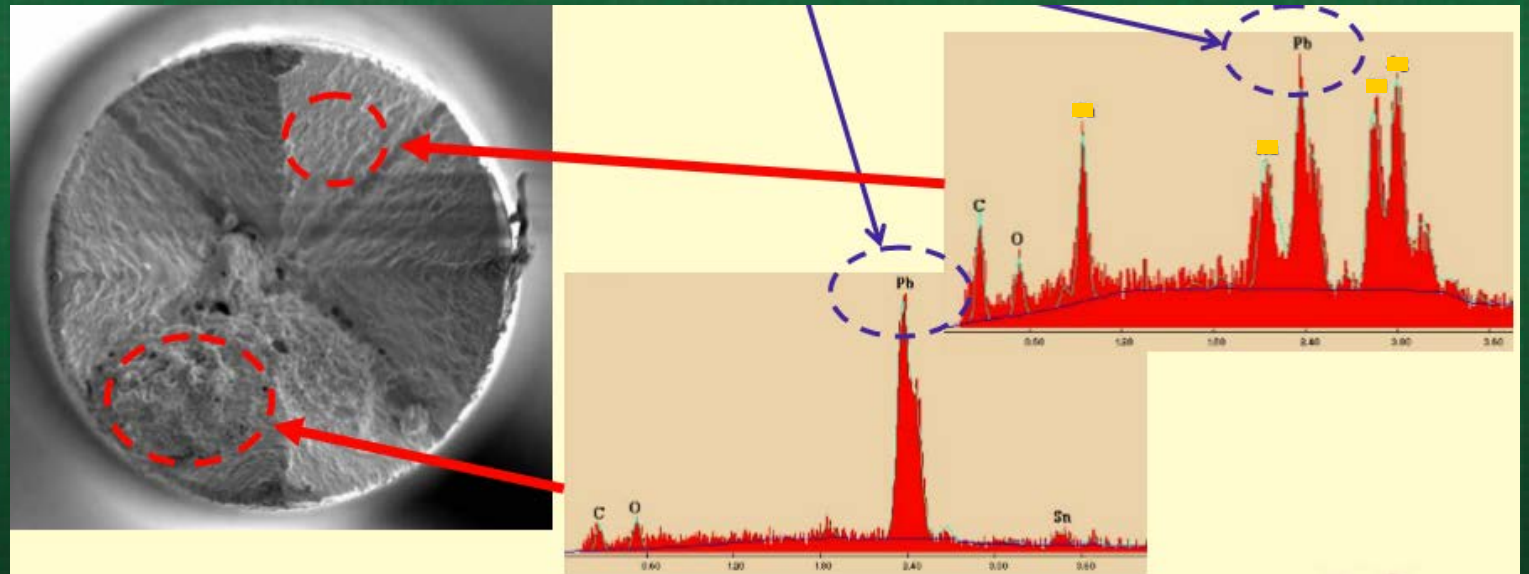
Before laser



After laser

In 2007...

Laser: IMT800MV  
Beam dia.: ~3 mm





# Crown Tip Contamination with Pb-free solder

REF: "Probe Card Cleaning by Laser", J.M. Lee et.al., SWTW 2010



Before laser

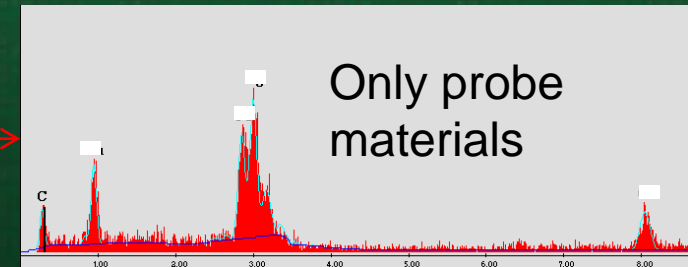
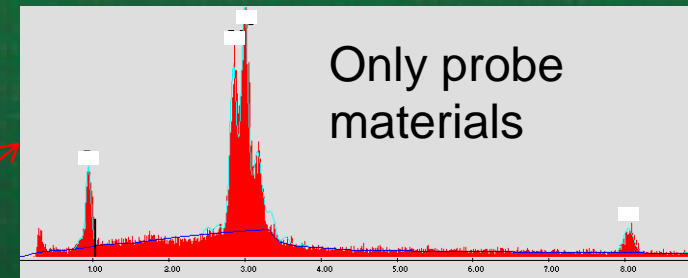
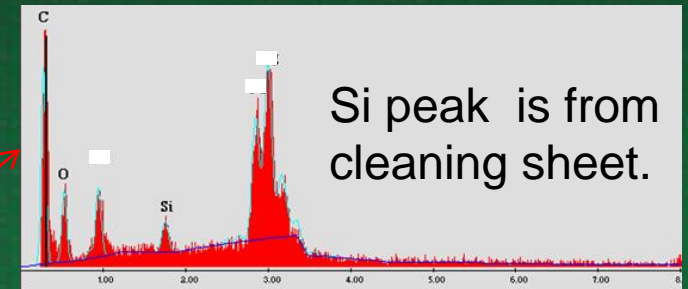
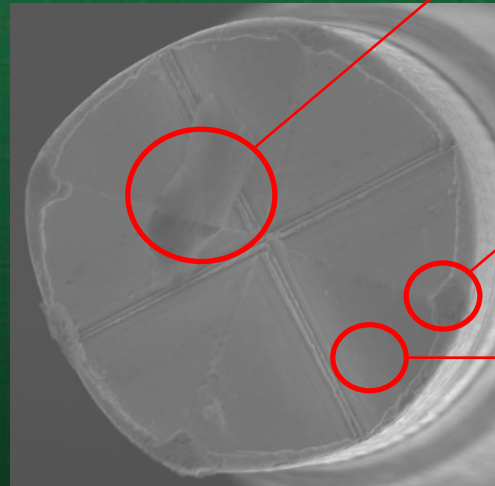


After laser

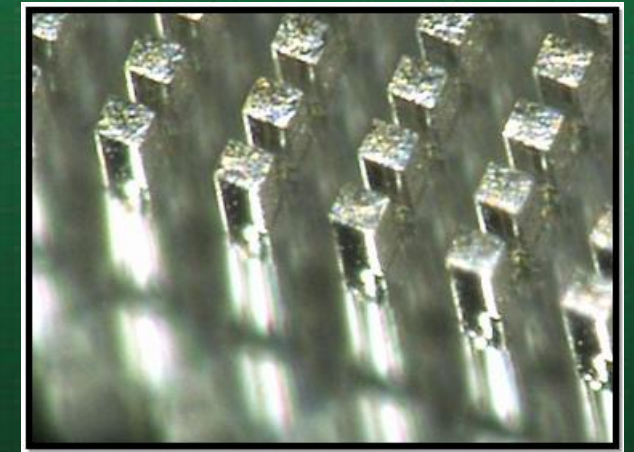
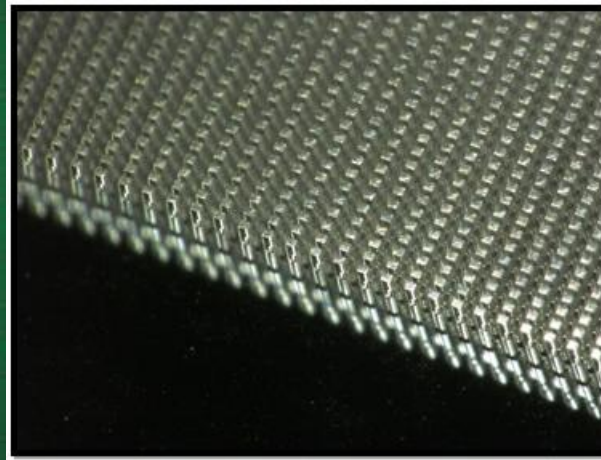
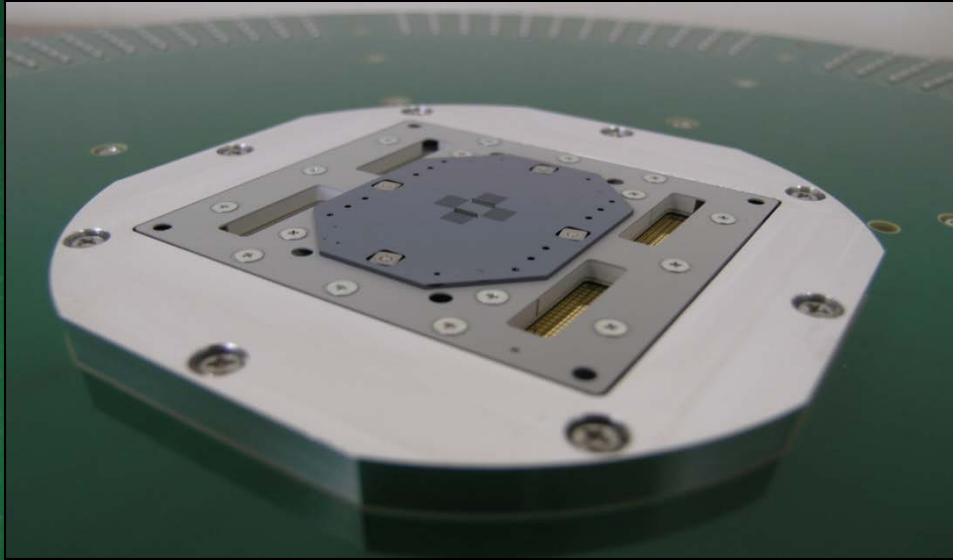
In 2016...

Laser: IMT400P

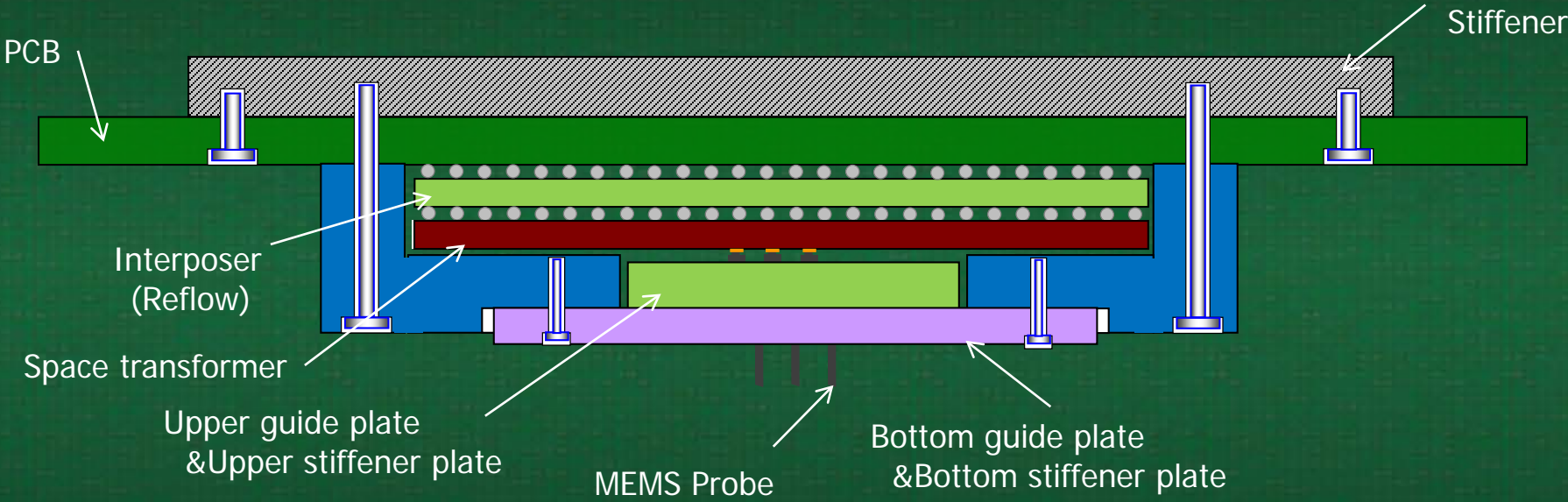
Beam dia.: ~3 mm



# MEMS Technology (MT) as an Alternative

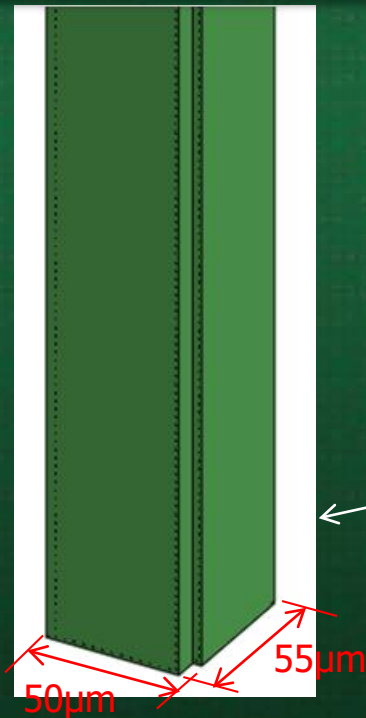


# MT Probe Card Structure



## MT Probe characteristics

- ◆ Straight probe allows easy assembly and maintenance
- ◆ Composite (multi-layer) structure optimizes mechanical and electrical properties, and reduces probe wear.
- ◆ Tip material: Pd alloy

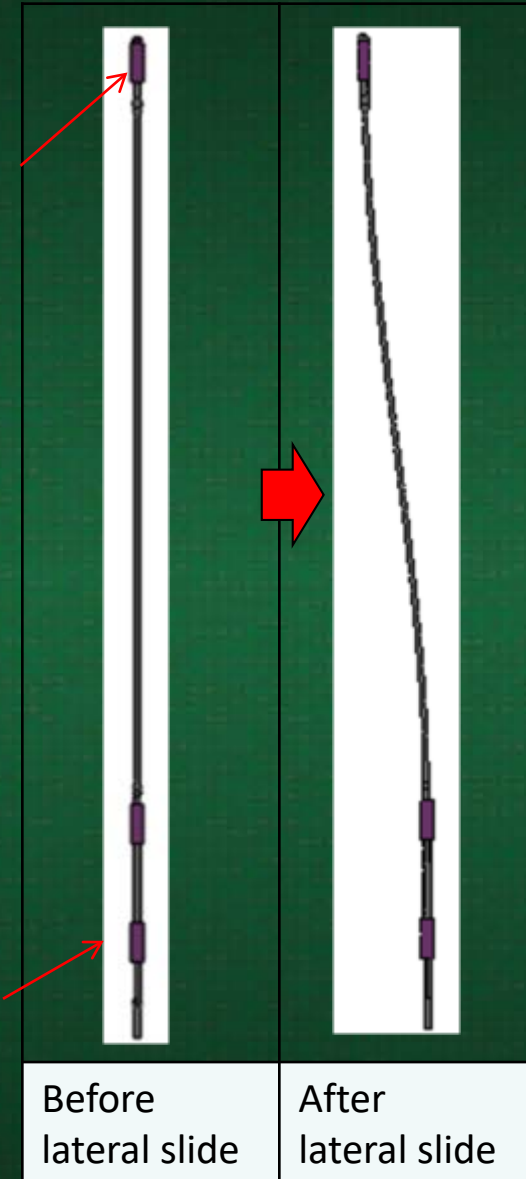


# MT Probe

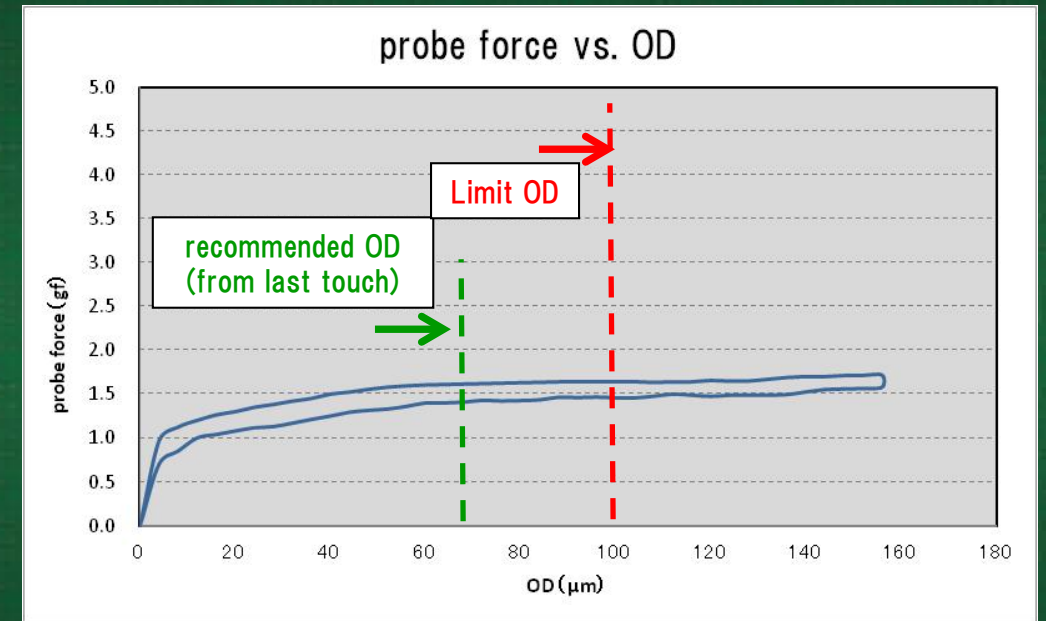
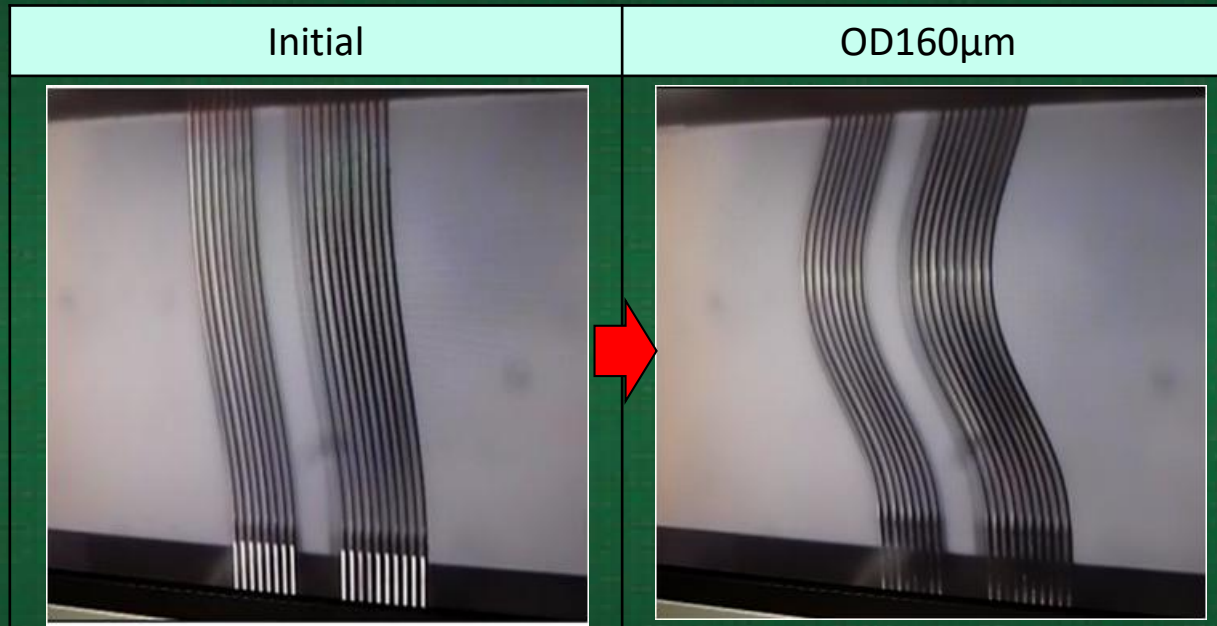


Upper guide plate

Bottom guide plate

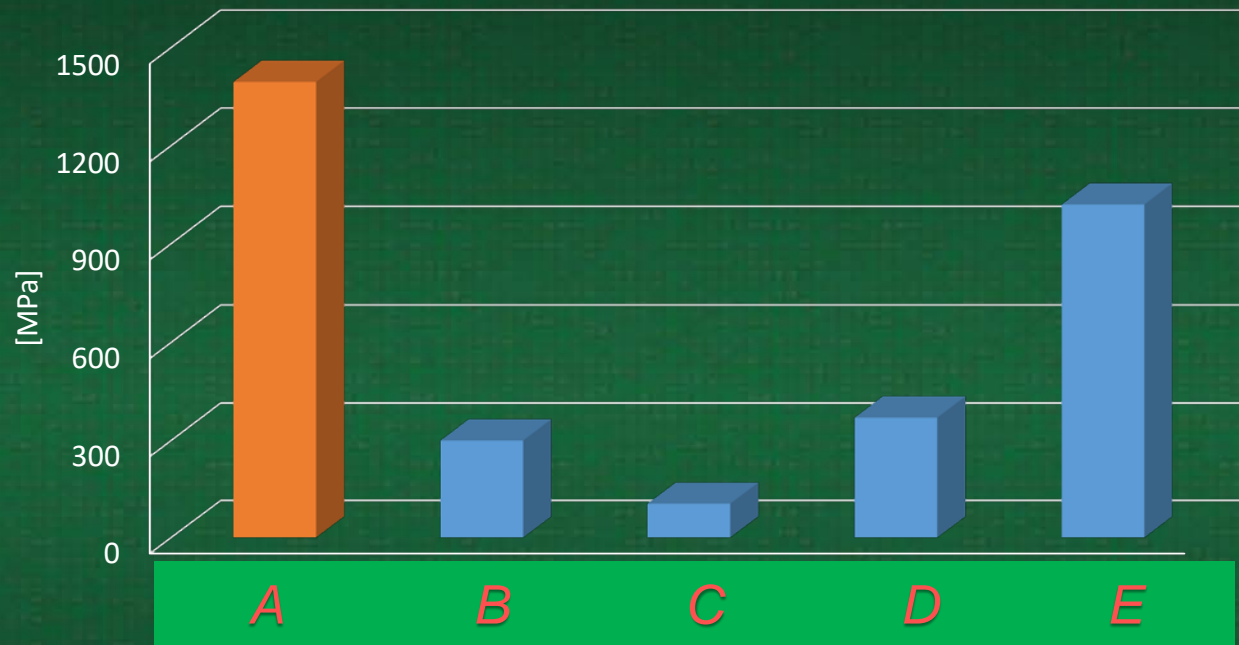


# MT PROBE MECHANICS



# Guide Plate Selection

Bending Strength



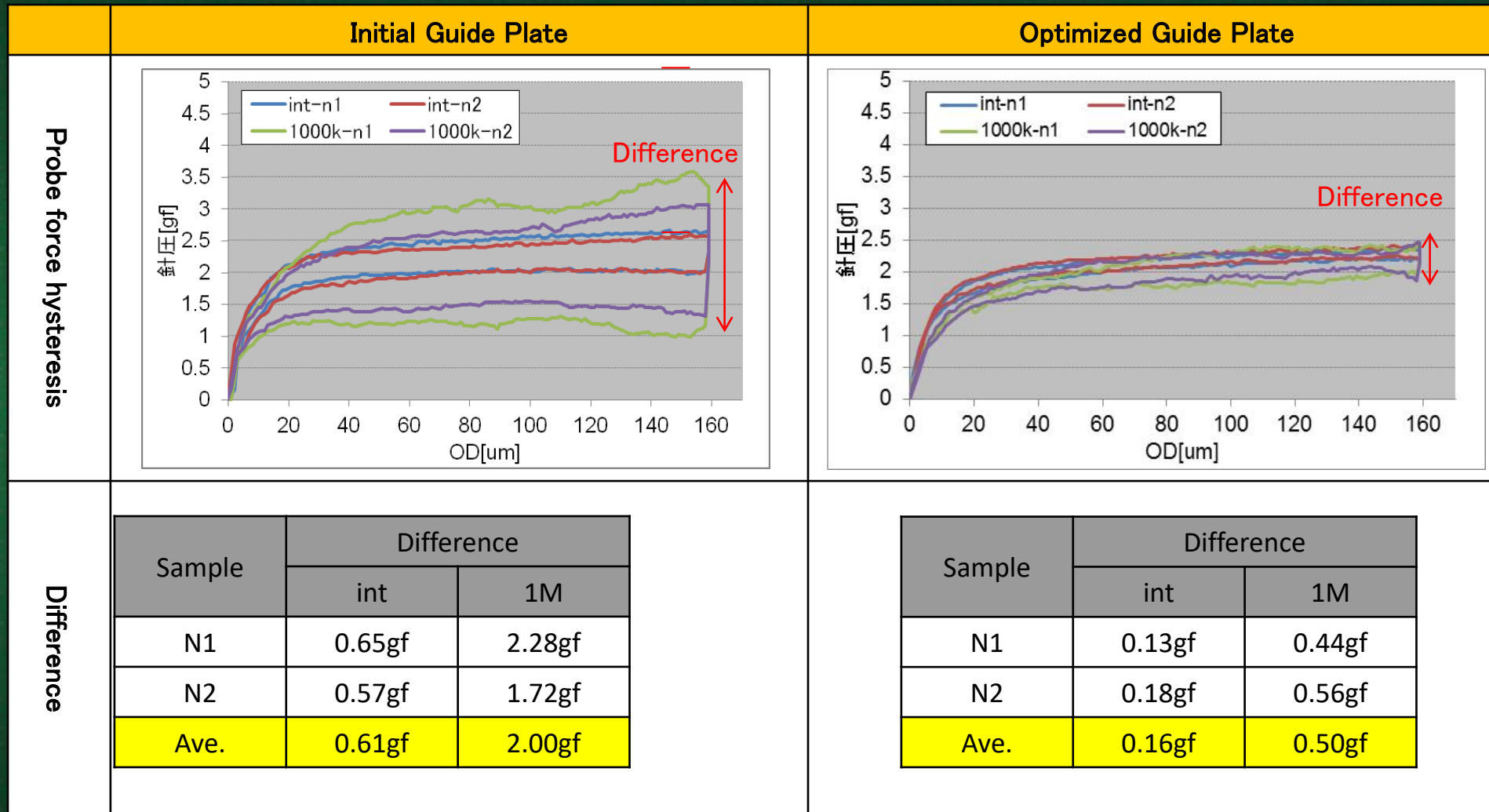
Guide plate materials



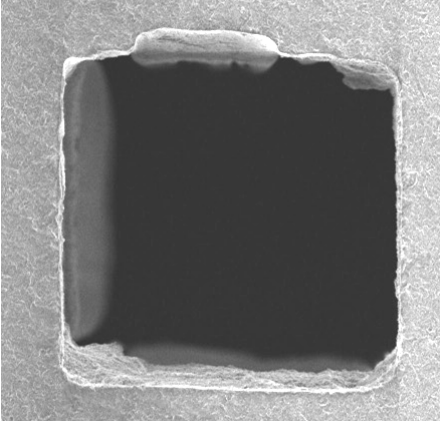
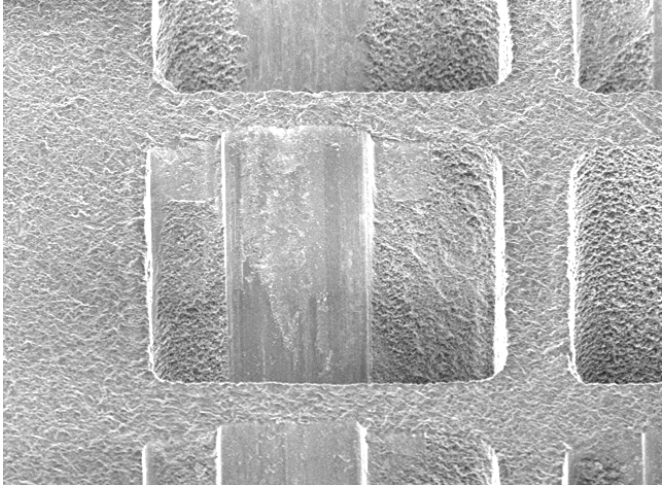
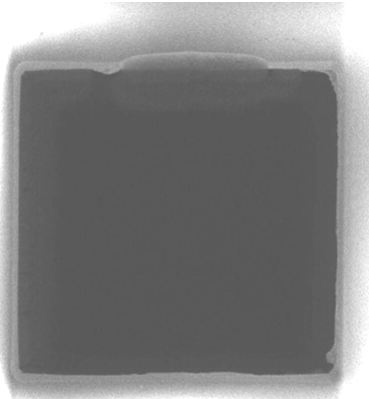
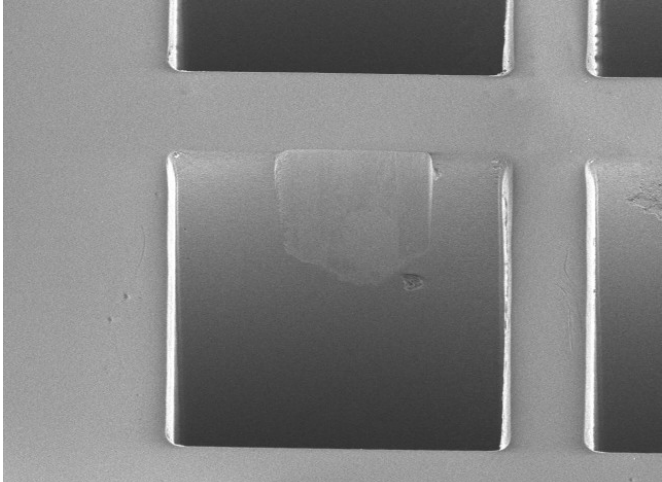
*Guide plate A has high bending strength and low friction.*

# Probe Force Hysteresis

Probe : 2.5g Contact force version



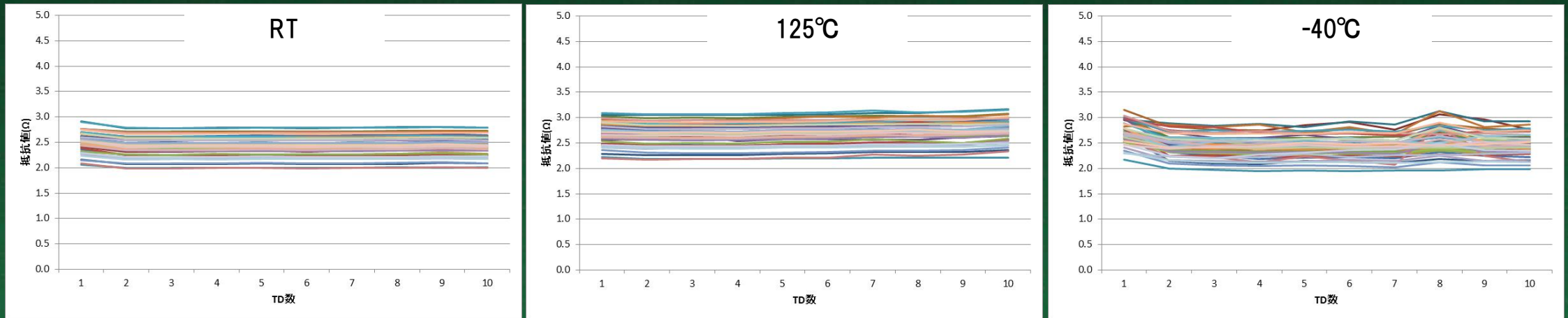
# Guide-plate Wear

View:	Top of the Guide Plate	Oblique Angle View
Initial Guide Plate	 <p data-bbox="606 762 998 802">Wear : <math>4.4 \sim 5.5 \mu\text{m}</math> (n=5)</p>	
Optimized Guide Plate	 <p data-bbox="642 1262 1029 1302">Wear : <math>2.1 \sim 3.1 \mu\text{m}</math> (n=4)</p>	





# MT-to-Cu Pillar Probe Mark (multiple contacts)

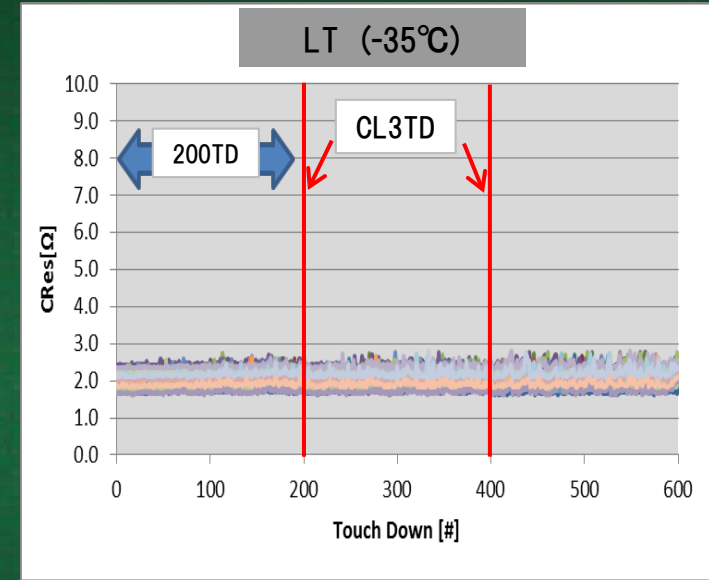
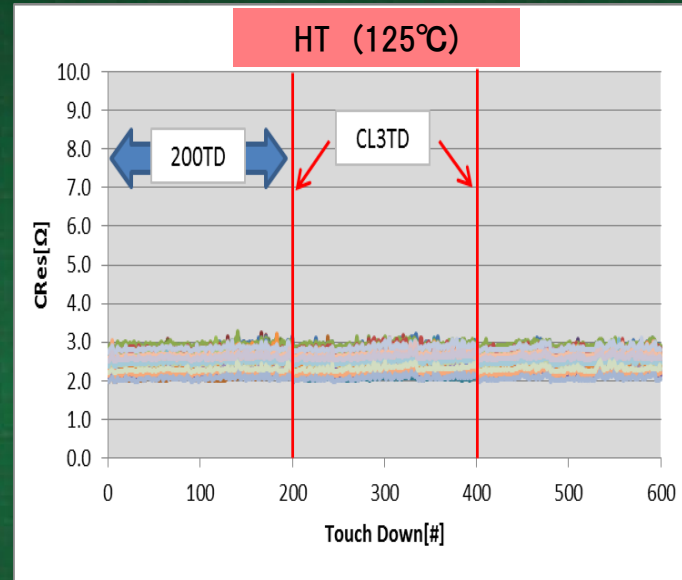
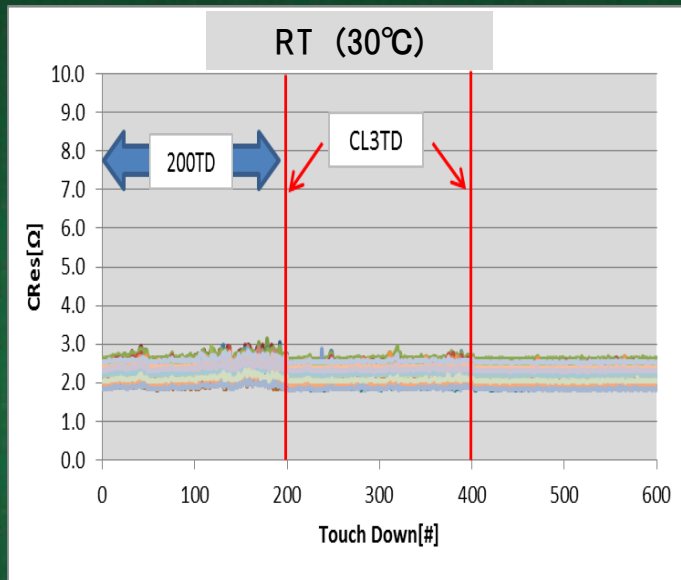


Temp	30°C			125°C			-40°C		
TD counts	1st	2nd	5th	1st	2nd	5th	1st	2nd	5th
Contact Mark									

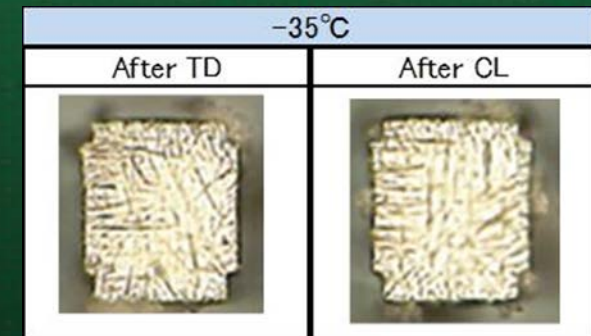
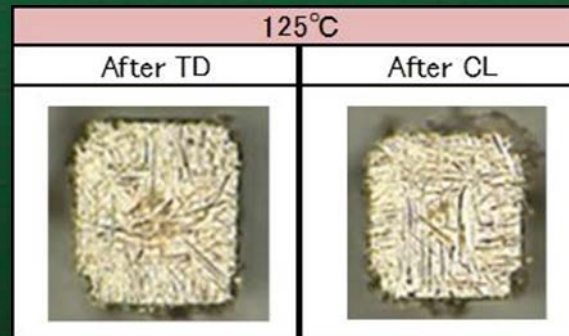
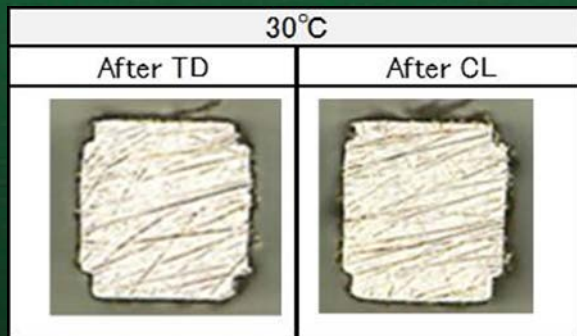
Percentage of flat-to-initial diameter	34%	36%	38%	49%	54%	60%	27%	28%	30%
Contact Mark Diameter (μm)	12	13	13	17	19	21	10	10	10
Contact Mark Depression (μm)	0.8	0.9	1.5	2.0	2.5	3.4	0.6	0.6	0.8

# Flat-to-Cu pillar CRES Stability

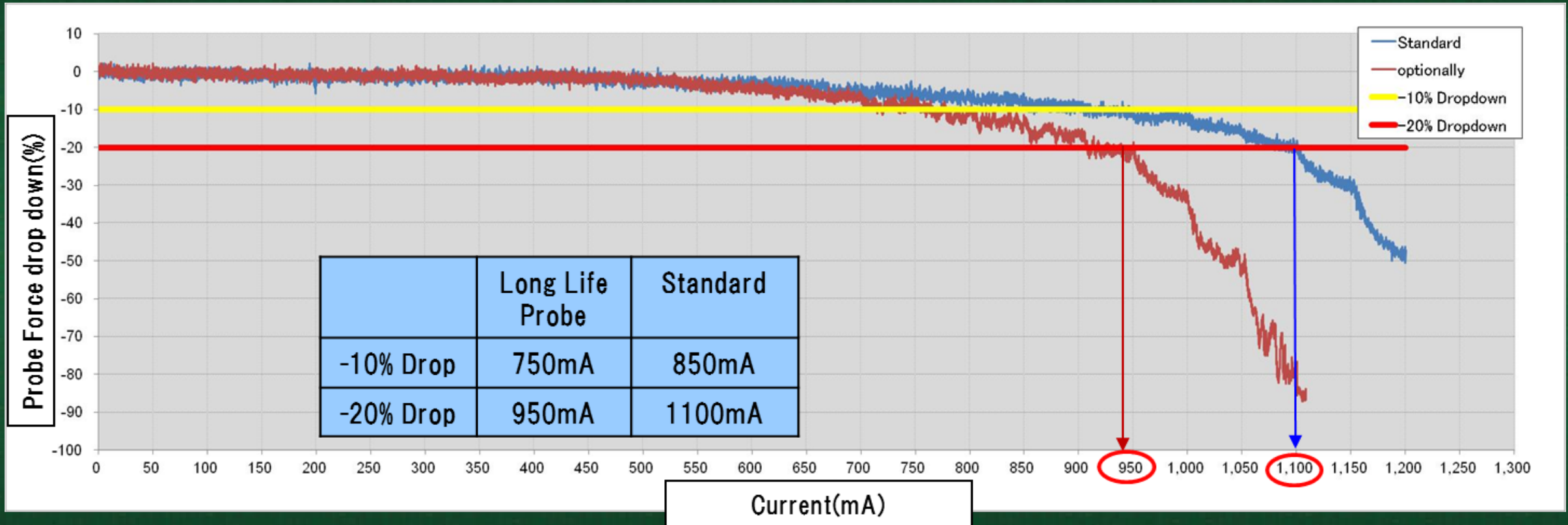
- Current: 50 mA
- OD: 70 $\mu$ m (from last pin)
- Cleaning Sheet: WA6000 lapping paper
- Cleaning Sheet OD: 70 $\mu$ m (from last pin)



\*CRes includes ~2 ohms of resistance due to PCB, Space transformer, Interposer, and probe body.

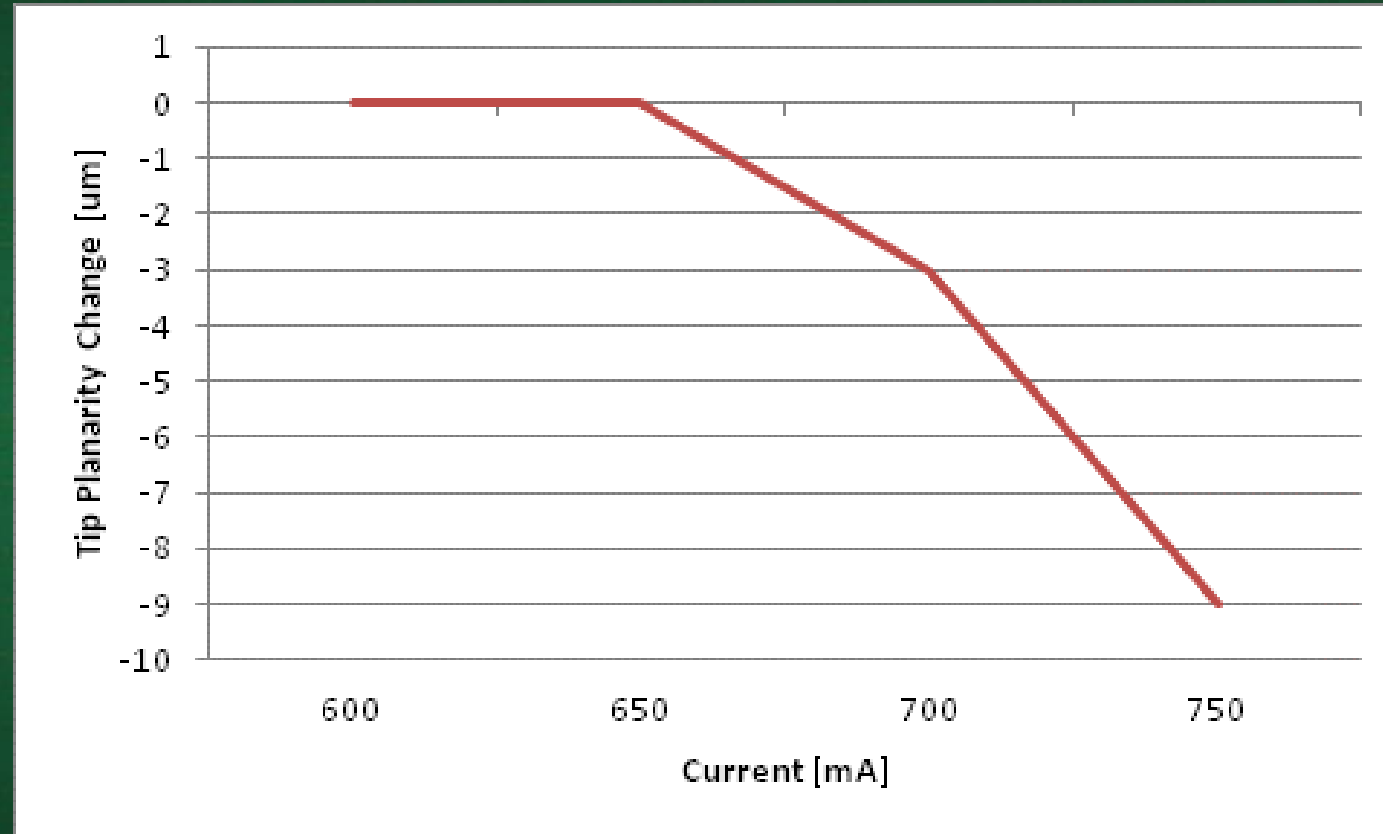


# Current-Carrying Capacity (CCC)



# Maximum Allowable Current (MAC)

- MT probe for 80  $\mu\text{m}$  pitch
- Contact OD: MT 70  $\mu\text{m}$  / VS 100  $\mu\text{m}$
- Pulse: 10 Pulses @ 1 min-on/1 sec-off
- Current: 600, 650, 700, 750mA
- Number of Pins: 3 pins for MT and VS

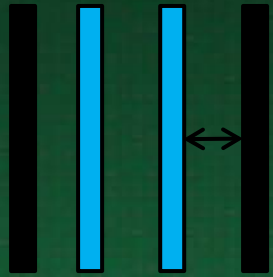


MAC :  $\sim 650\text{mA}$

# Bandwidth

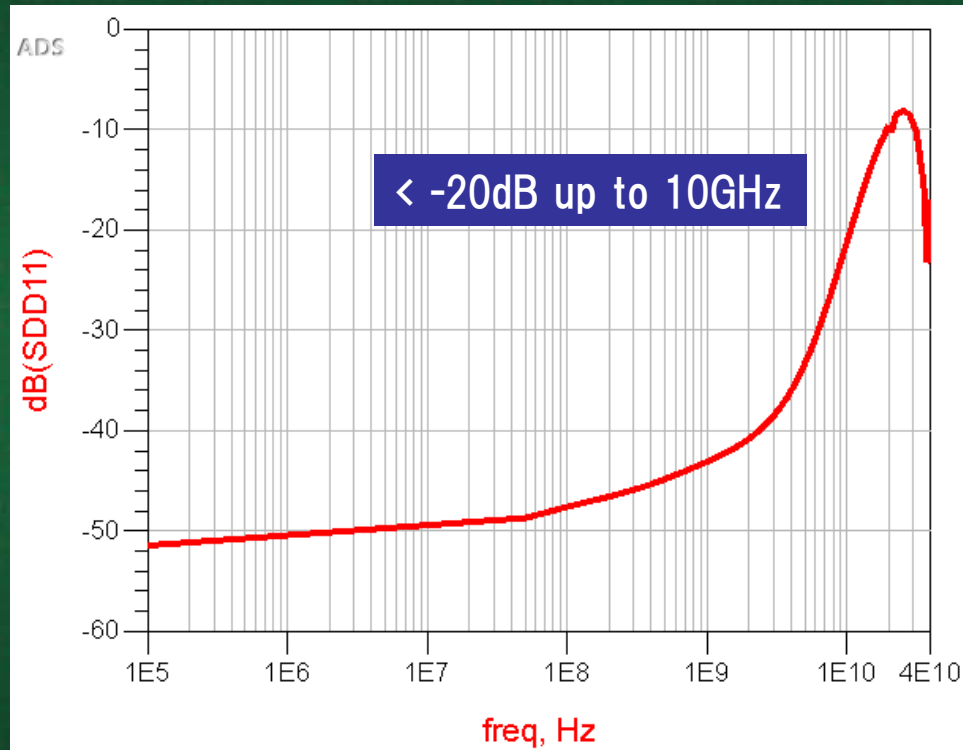
■ Sparameter Model

G S\_P S\_N G

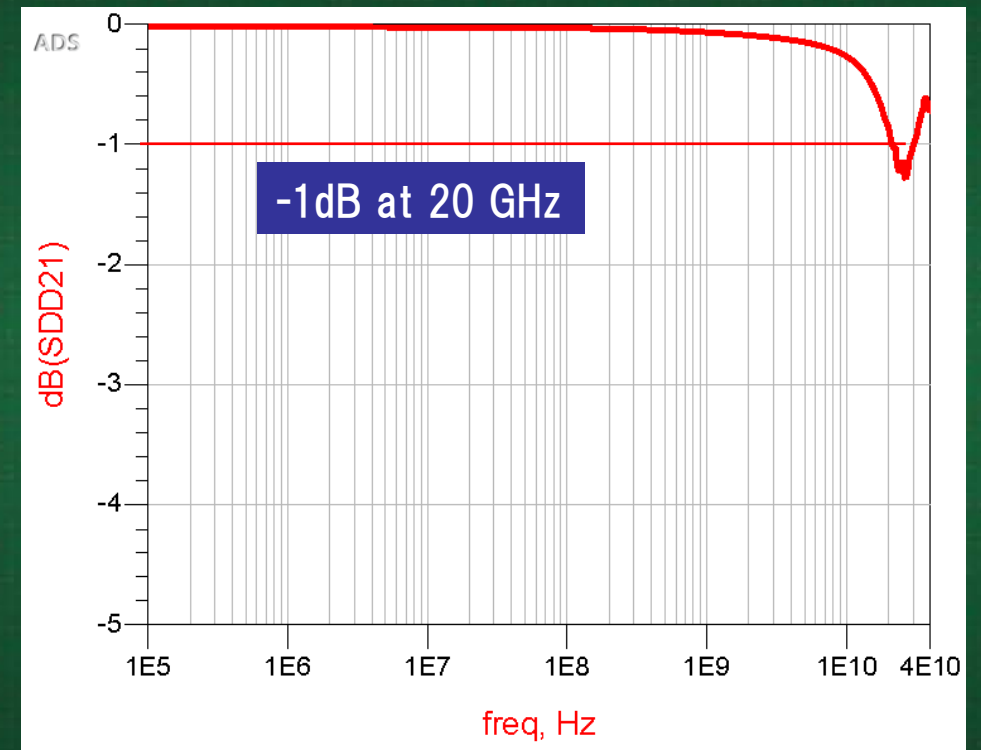


Pitch:  $80 \mu\text{m}$   
Length:  $7.23\text{mm}$

MT80 - Differential S11



MT80 - Differential S21

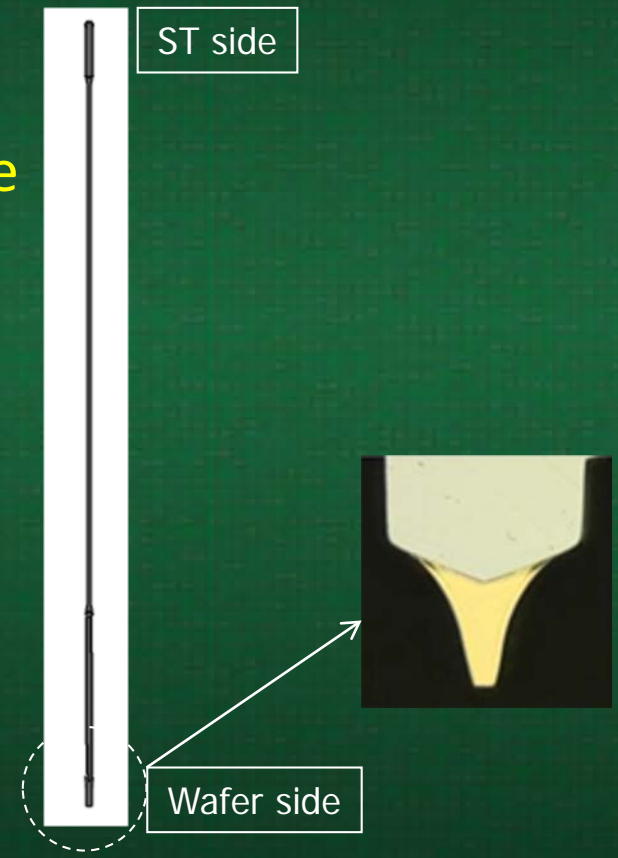


# Summary

- Probing Cu pillars with minimal bump damage and stable CRES is challenging.
- Crown tips can be used, but tip cleaning is difficult and requires offline laser cleaning.
- Flat-tip MT probes are effective for probing 35  $\mu\text{m}$  dia. Cu pillars if low-friction guide plates and low probe forces are used.
- MT probes have high CCC and MAC even with small probe cross-sections.

# Future Work

- Develop 40um pitch MT probe.
- Increase CCC of 60-um-pitch probe to at least 500 mA.
- Develop pointed tips for Al pad contact.
- Optimize overdrive vs. temperature to minimize bump damage
- Increase max. temperature to 175 °C.



# Acknowledgements

- **Atsushi Mine, JEM Japan**
- **ITS**