



**SW Test Workshop**  
Semiconductor Wafer Test Workshop

# Advances in MEMS Spring Probe Technology for Wafer Test Applications



**Author & Presenter, Koji Ogiwara**

**Nidec SV TCL – Tokyo, Japan**

**Co-Author, Norihiro Ohta**

**Nidec-Read Corporation – Kyoto, Japan**

June 3-6, 2018

# Overview

- Why is it called “MEMS” Spring Probe
- MEMS Spring Probe Card
- Design Feasibility/Customization
- Specification
- Road Map
- Summary

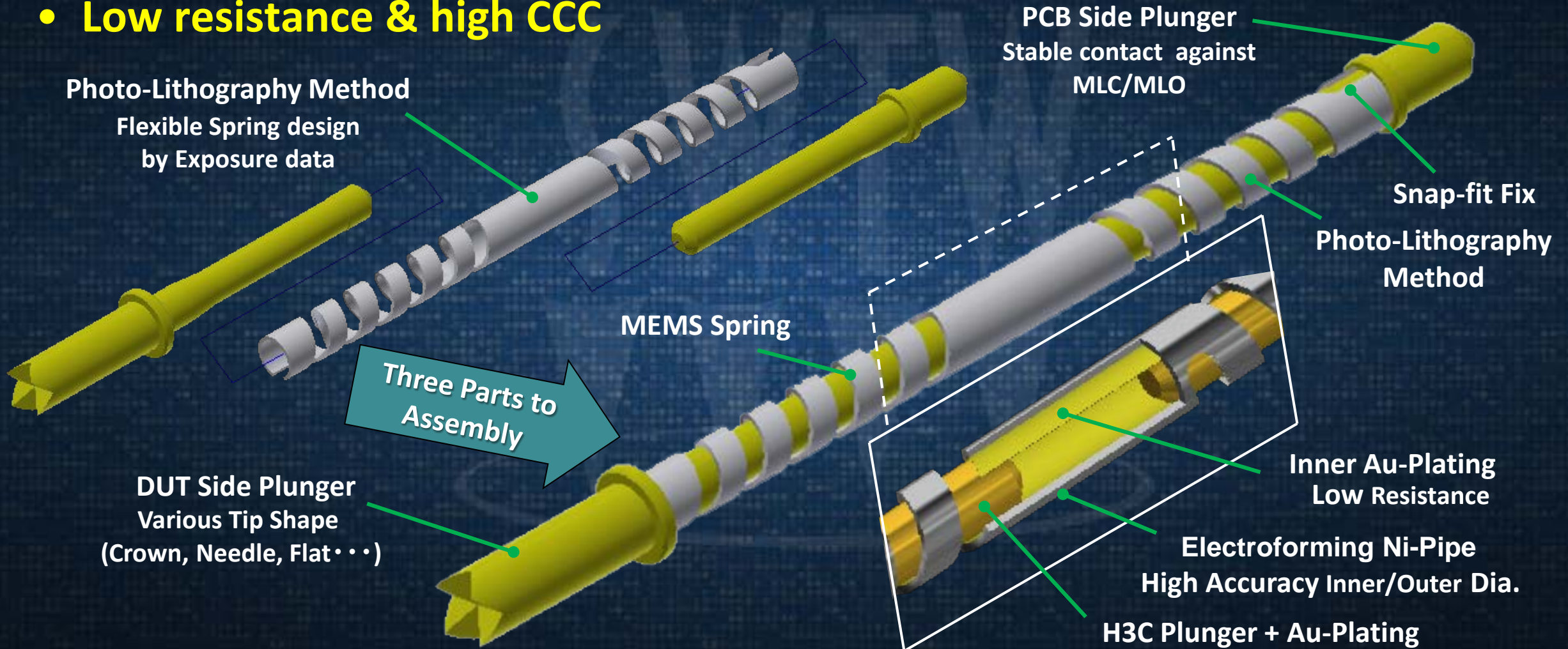




# Why is it called “MEMS” Spring Probe?

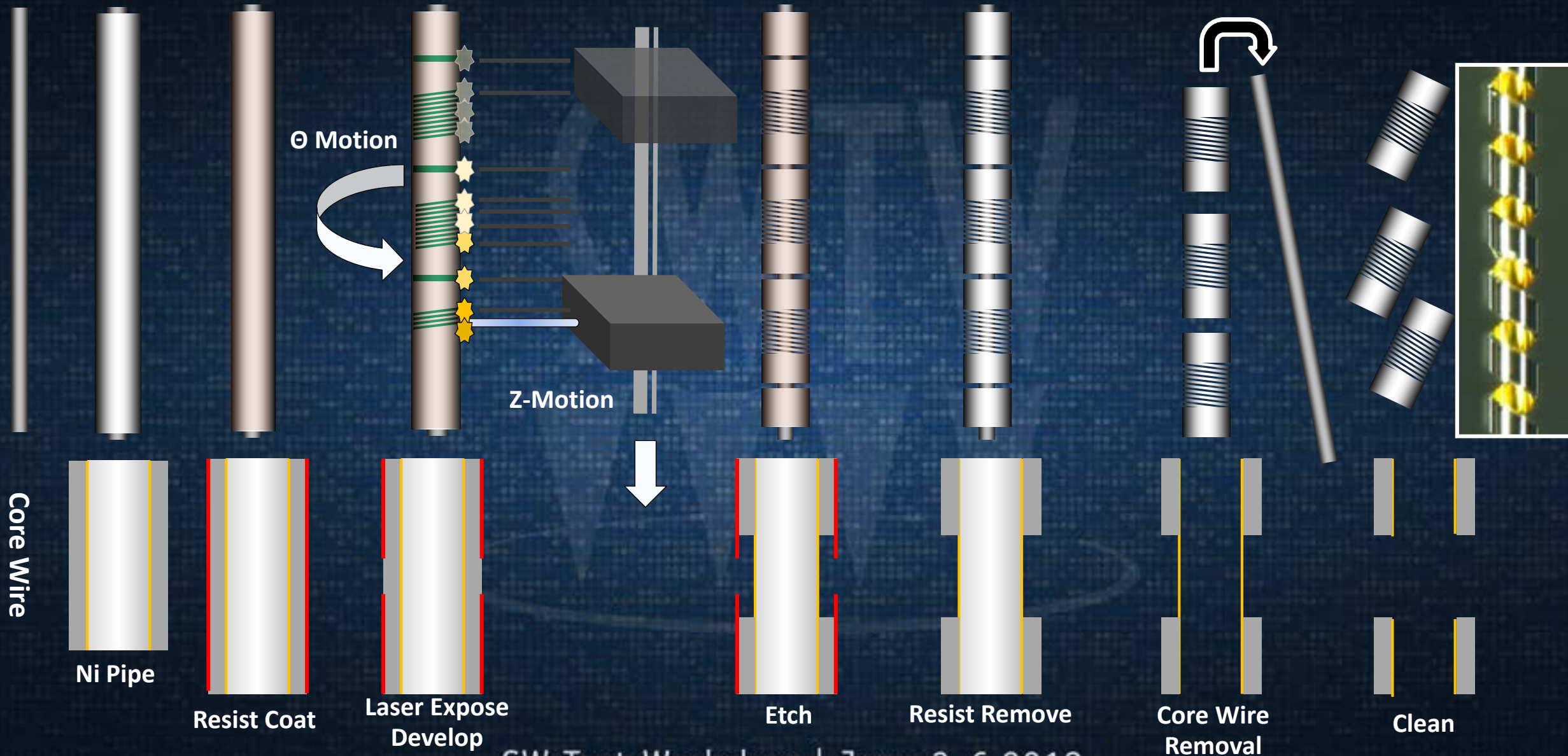
# MEMS Spring Pin Probe Definition

- Simple structure with spring & two snap-fixed plungers
- Low resistance & high CCC





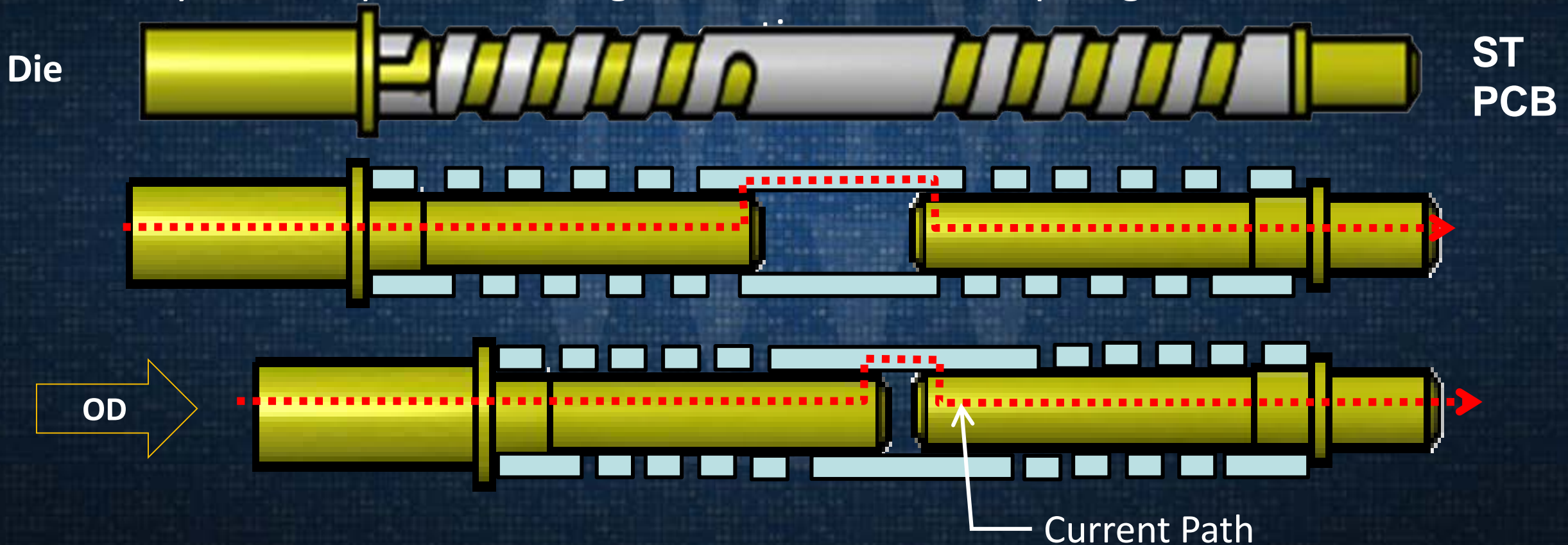
# Manufacturing Process – Photolithography



# Advanced Features

- **Current Path** - - - **Low Resistance & High CCC**

Primary current path is through the low-resistance plunger & center barrel.





# **MEMS Spring Probe Card**

**MEMS Spring Probe  
MEMS Spring Probe Card**

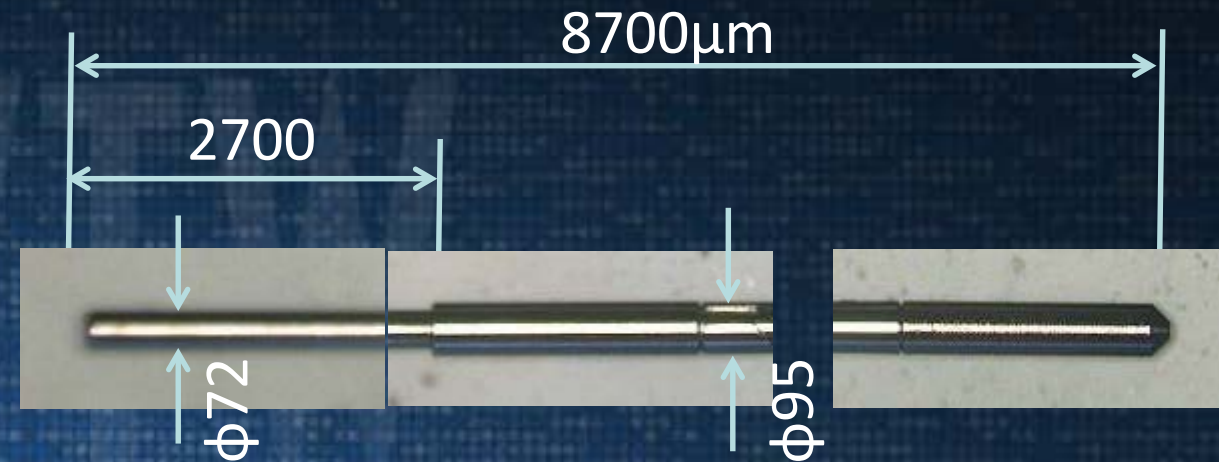
# Introduce P147 MEMS Spring Probe

## P147 MEMS Spring Probe Specifications

(Customer requirement)

<b>Pitch</b>	147 $\mu$ m
<b>Probe Diameter</b>	$\phi$ 72 $\mu$ m
<b>Probe tip</b>	Flat
<b>Contact Force</b>	5.8gf@300 $\mu$ m OD
<b>Preload</b>	1gf
<b>Max OP OD</b>	350 $\mu$ m *
<b>Max OD</b>	450 $\mu$ m *

\* Wider OD range than Conventional Spring probe





# P147 MEMS Spring Probe Performance - Contact Force/OD

## Graph Indicates

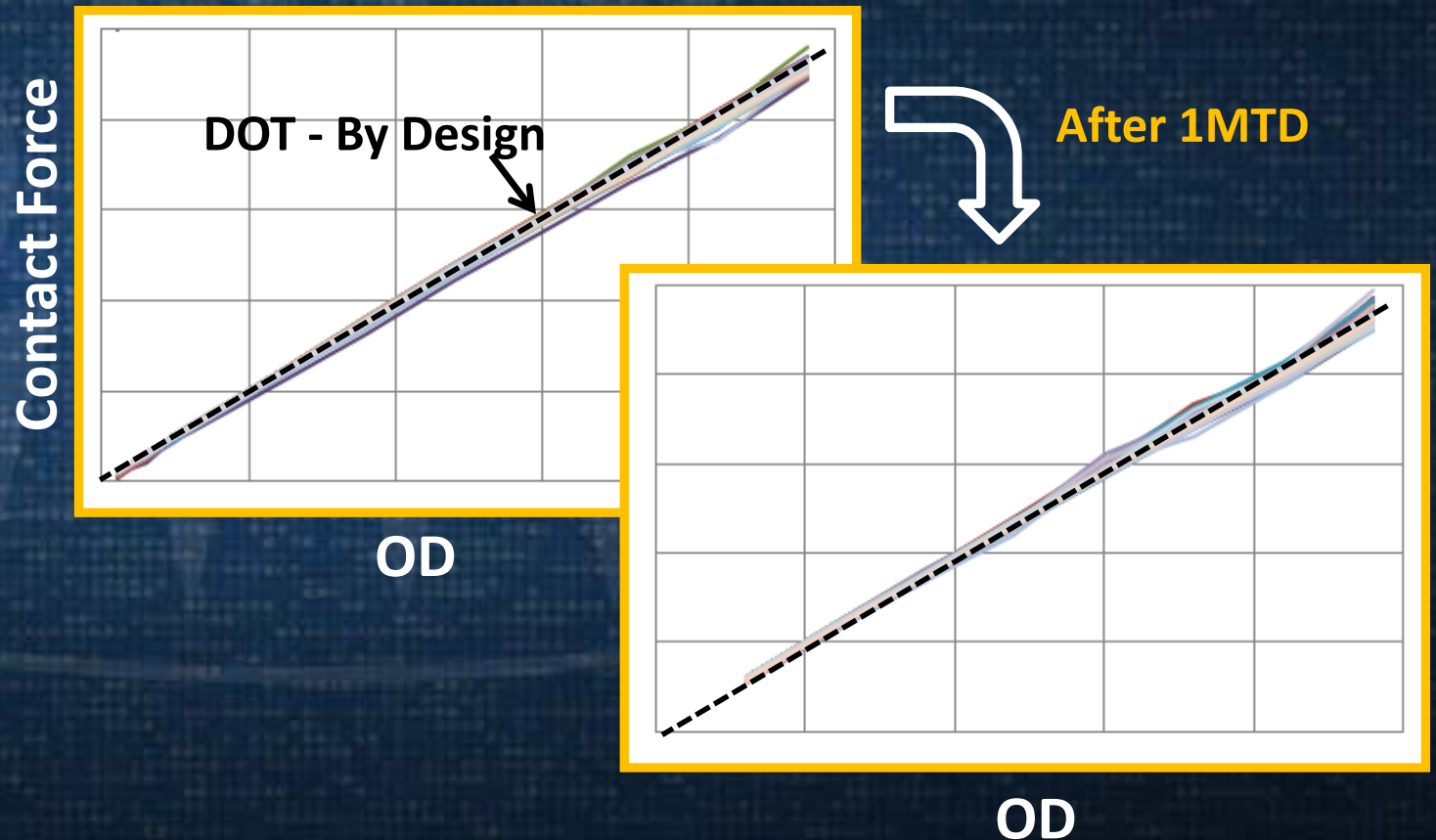
1. Contact Force/OD

## Test Condition

- Before/after 1MTD (HT +125°C)
- Change OD from ZERO to 400μm
- N=100
- Room temp

## Result

- a. Very little Contact Force Variation
- b. Right on Design SPEC
- c. No Degradation after 1MTD



# Additional Sample

## P200 MEMS Spring Probe vs. Conventional

### Graph Indicates

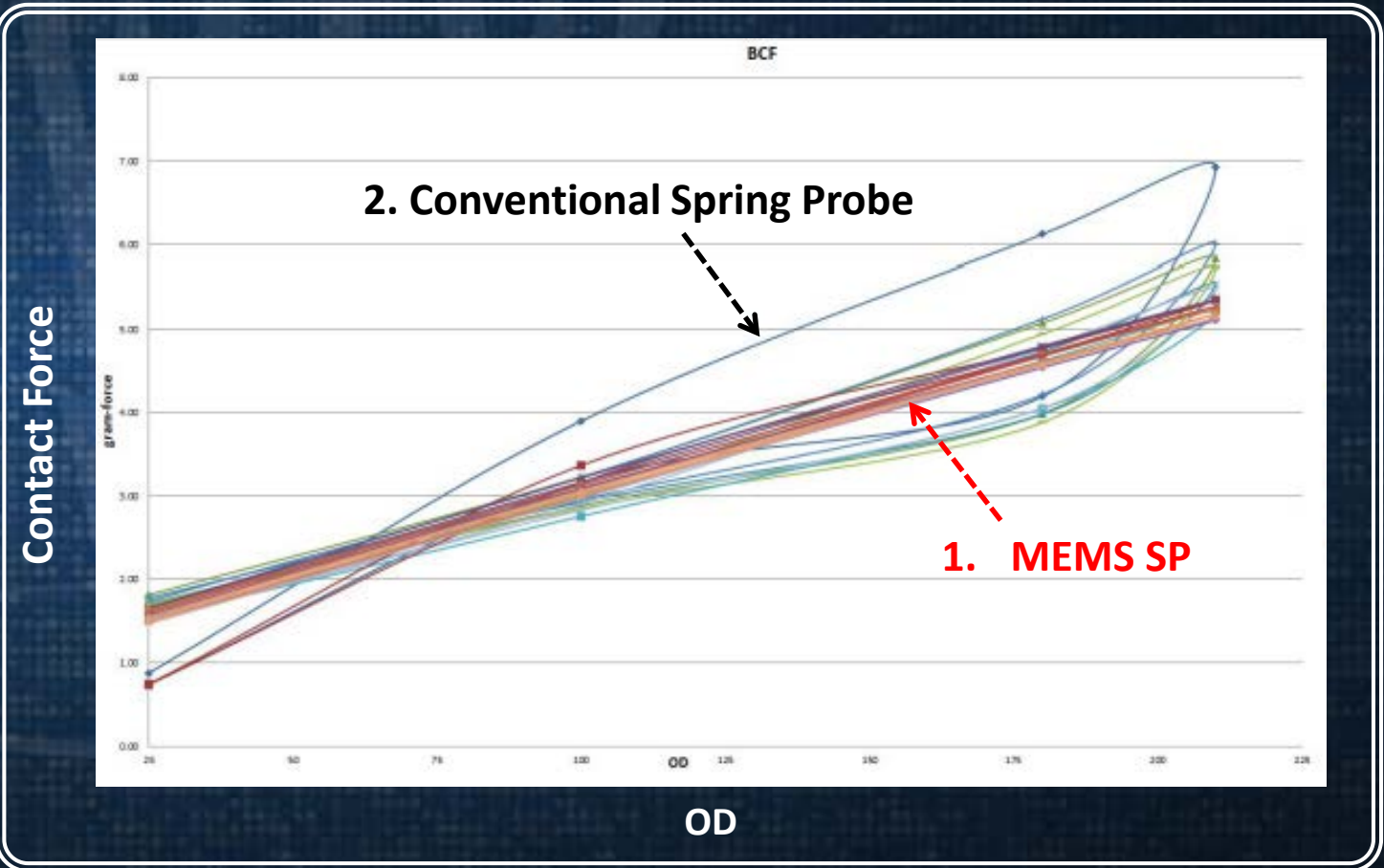
1. MEMS Spring Probe CF/OD
2. Conventional Spring Probe CF/OD

### Test Condition

- Change OD from ZERO to 400 $\mu$ m
- Then back to ZERO
- N=7
- Room temp

### Result

- a. MEMS Spring Probe CF right on design & no variation (even after 130°C24Hrs)
- b. Conventional Spring Probe CF more variation





# P147 MEMS Spring Probe Performance - CCC

## Graph Indicates

1. Contact Force(%) / Current (mA)

## Test Condition

- ISMI STD
- N=5
- Same PH design of probe card
- OD400 $\mu$ m
- RT & HT +125°C

## Result

- Took the worst of five samples
- RT 900mA
- HT +125°C 700mA

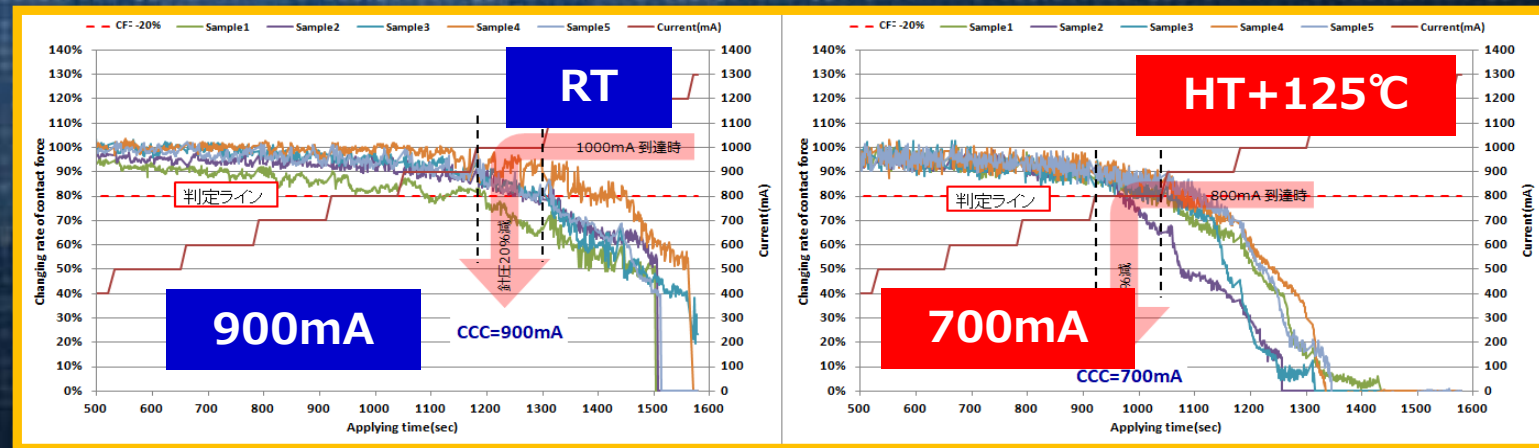


Load Cell

MEMS Probe

ST

Hot Chuck





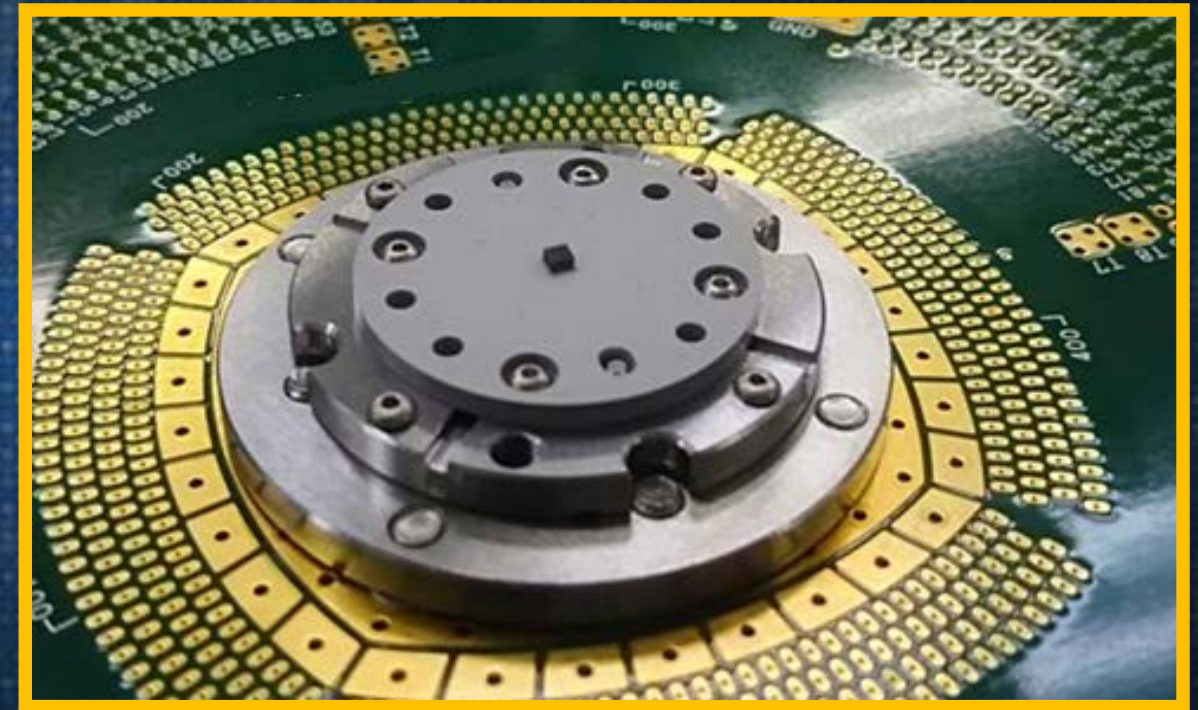
# MEMS Spring Probe Card Test Vehicle + P147 MEMS Spring Probe

## *Test Vehicle Specifications*

*(To evaluate the card performance under Customer requirement)*

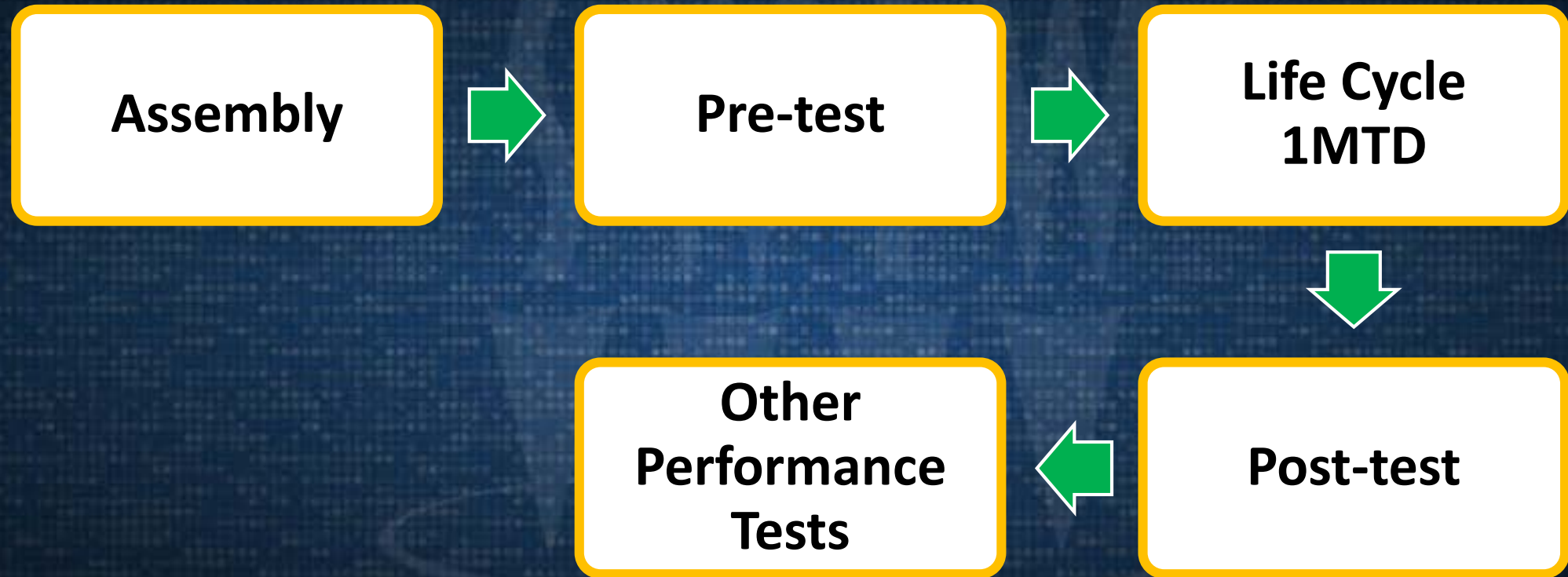
Pitch	147 $\mu$ m
Probe Diameter	$\phi$ 72 $\mu$ m
Probe tip	Flat
Contact Force	6.8gf@300 $\mu$ m OD
Preload	1gf
Max OP OD	350 $\mu$ m *
Max OD	450 $\mu$ m *
# of Probes	100

\* Wider OD range than Conventional Spring probe





# MEMS Spring Probe Card Evaluation Flow



# MEMS Spring Probe Card Evaluation Parameter

		Key Parameter	Evaluation Parameter	Result
MEMS Spring Probe Card	Pre/Post 1MTD Life Cycle	Probe Position	XY Accuracy	GOOD
			Planarity	GOOD
		Contact Resistance (Single-TD)	CRES/OD	GOOD
			CRES/500TD	GOOD
		Contact Resistance (Multi-TD)	CRES/Multi-TD	GOOD
		Probe Mark	Mark on Bump	GOOD
		Deformation	Tip Length, Barrel Length	GOOD
		Frequency, S21	Probe Only, Probe Card	GOOD
		Inductance	WLCSP 2.78mm long	GOOD



# MEMS Spring Probe Card Test Vehicle

## Performance – XY Position Accuracy

### Graph Indicates

1. XY Position [After 1MTD Life cycle]
2. RT

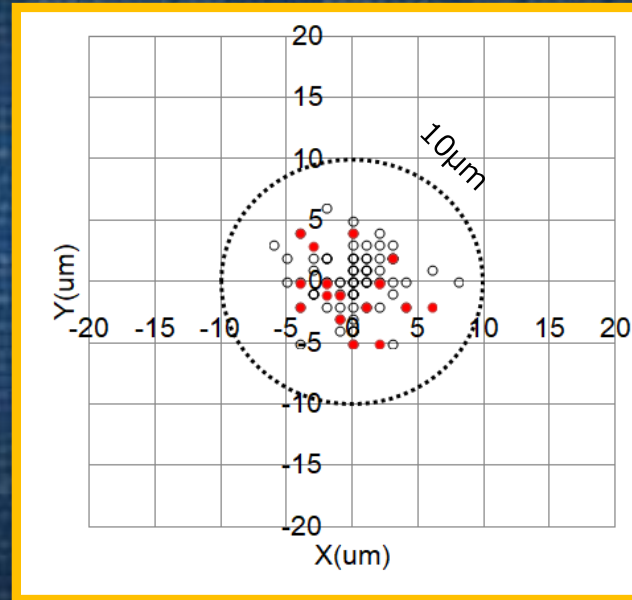
### Test Condition

- Target <  $\pm 10\mu\text{m}$
- N=100
- OD300 $\mu\text{m}$
- IF = 50mA during 1MTD Life (N=20)
- Before/After 1MTD. Show only after 1MTD

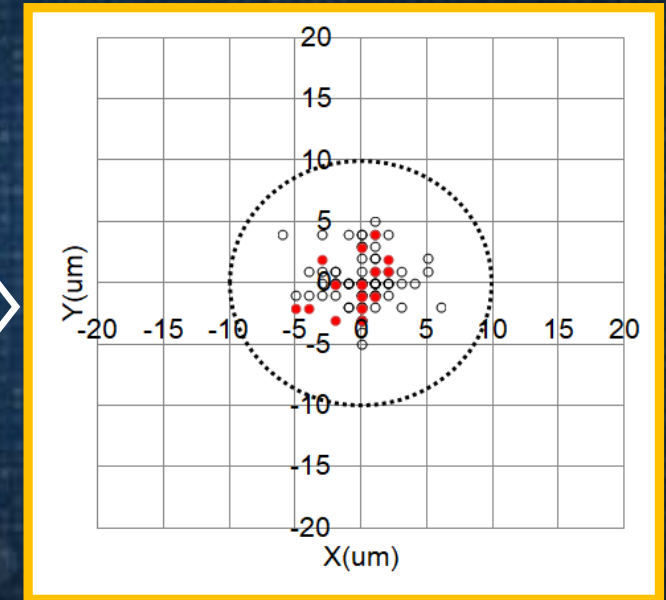
### Result

- a. Below the target
- b. No degradation after 1MTD
- c. No difference with IF=50mA

Pre-test



Post-test (1MTD)



- : IF=50mA during Life Cycle
- : No force current

# MEMS Spring Probe Card Test Vehicle Performance – Planarity

## Graph Indicates

1. XY Position [After 1MTD Life cycle]
2. RT

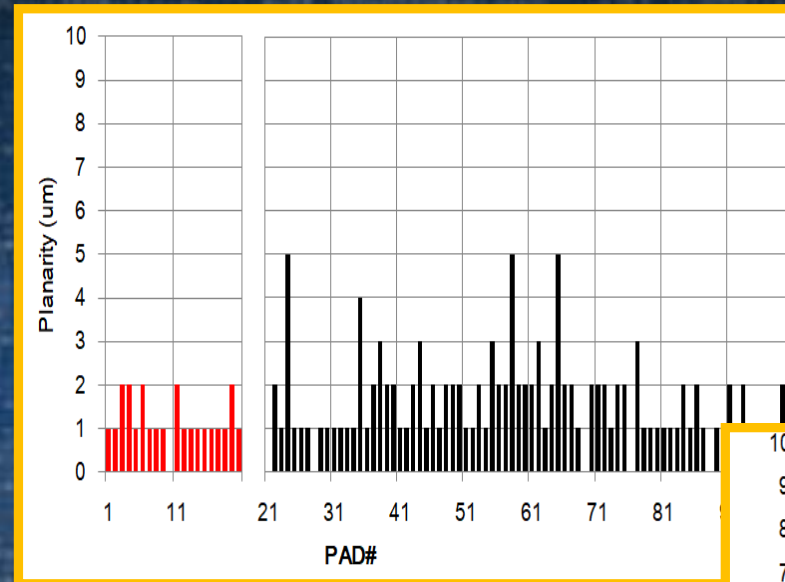
## Test Condition

- Target < 20 $\mu$ m
- N=100
- OD300 $\mu$ m
- IF = 50mA during 1MTD Life (N=20)
- Before/After 1MTD. Show only after 1MTD

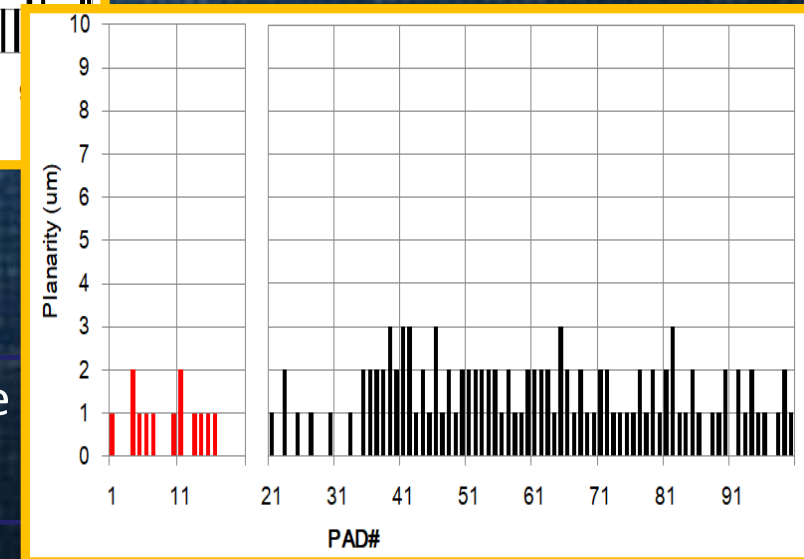
## Result

- a. Below the Target
- b. No Degradation after 1MTD
- c. No Difference with IF=50mA

Pre-test



Post-test (1MTD)



- : IF=50mA during Life Cycle
- : No Force Current



# MEMS Spring Probe Card Test Vehicle

## Performance – CRES Bump Contact/OD

### Graph indicates

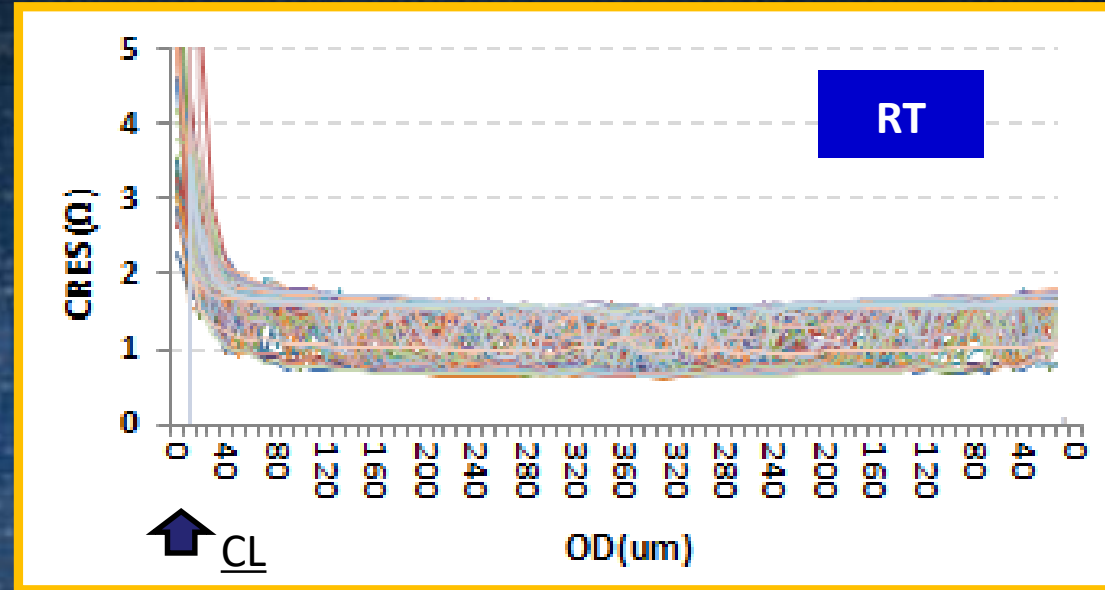
1. CRES/OD [After 1MTD Life cycle]
2. Tri-Temp (RT, LT -40°C, HT +125°C)

### Test Condition

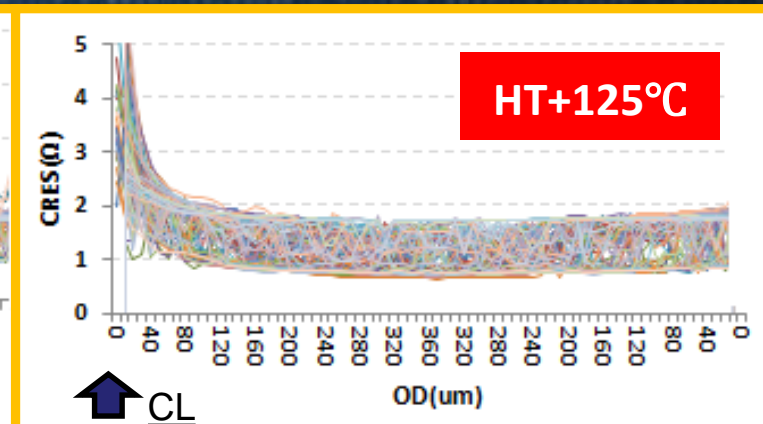
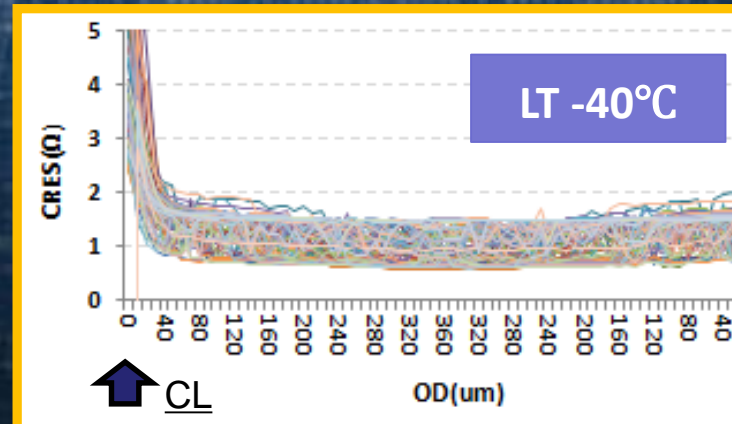
- Target CRES < 2 Ohms
- N=70
- Online Cleaning only before START
- IF = 50mA
- Before/After 1MTD. Show only after 1MTD

### Result

- a. Below the target CRES @OD80 $\mu$ m
- b. No degradation after 1MTD



*Show “after 1MTD” Only*



# MEMS Spring Probe Card Test Vehicle

## Performance – CRES Bump Contact/500TD

### Graph Indicates

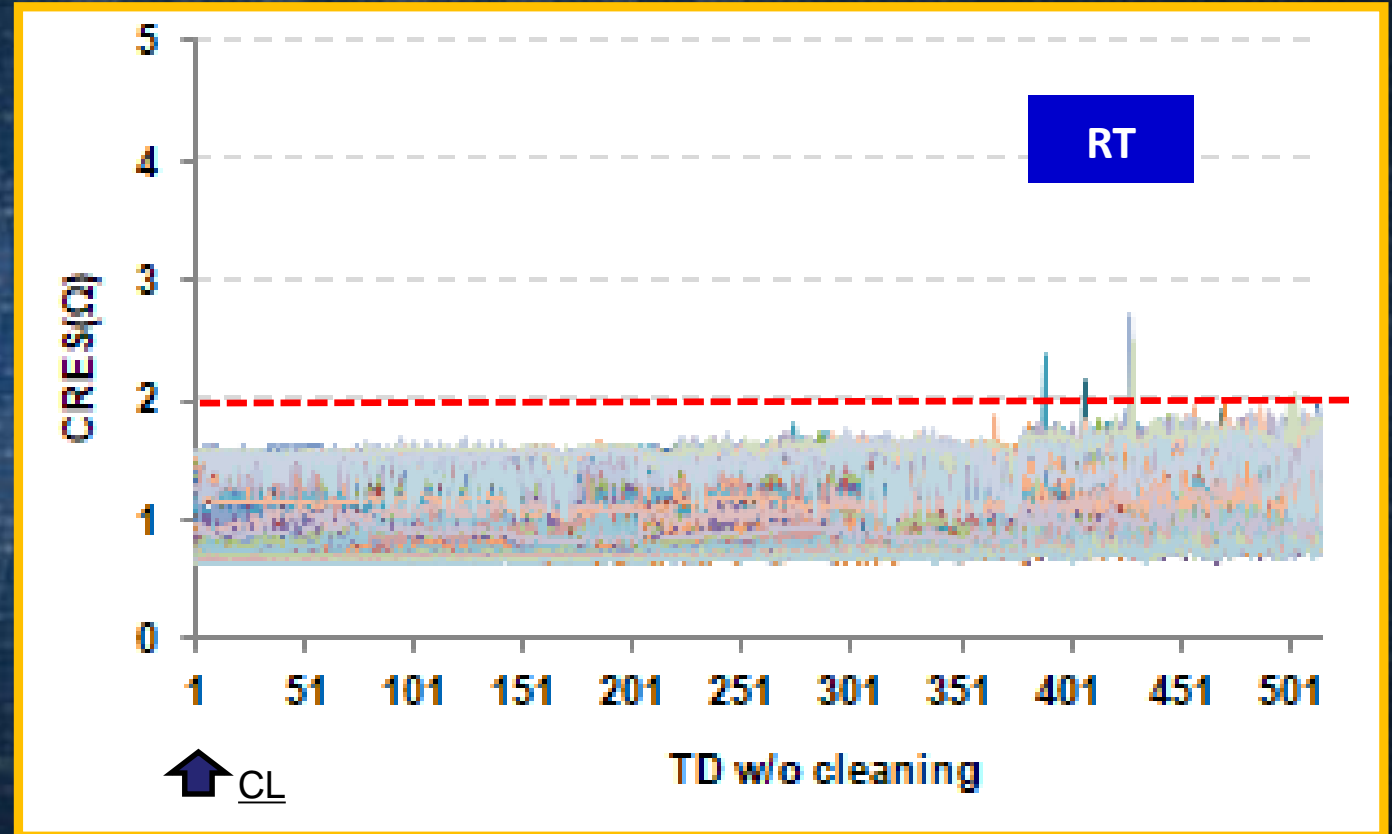
1. CRES/500TD [After 1MTD Life cycle]
2. RT

### Test Condition

- Target CRES < 2 Ohms
- N=70
- Online Cleaning only before START
- OD300 $\mu$ m
- IF = 50mA
- Before/After 1MTD. Show only after 1MTD

### Result

- a. Below the target above 350TD@RT



*Show "after 1MTD" Only*



# MEMS Spring Probe Card Test Vehicle Performance – CRES Bump Contact/500TD

## Graph Indicates

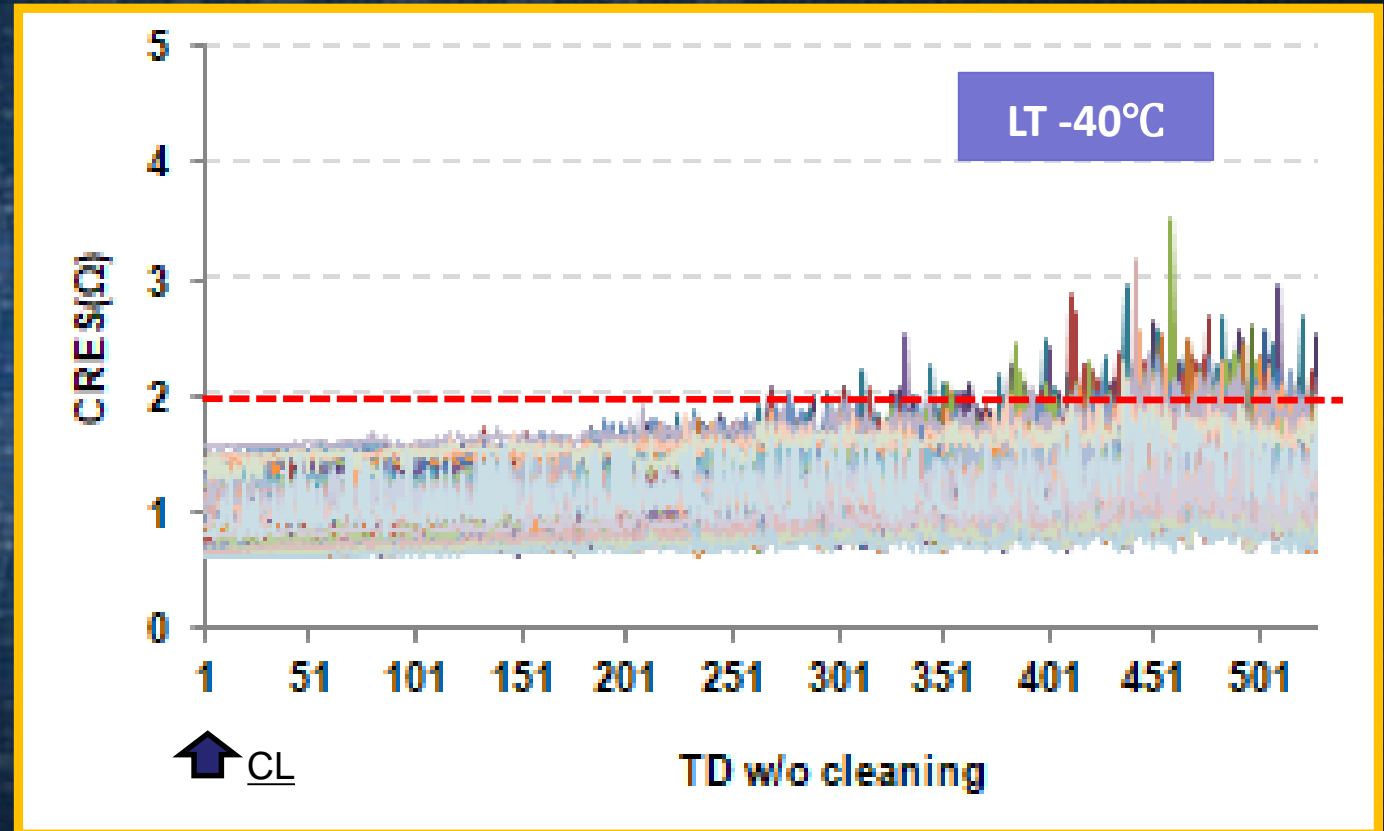
1. CRES/500TD [After 1MTD Life Cycle]
2. LT -40°C

## Test Condition

- Target CRES < 2 Ohms
- N=70
- Online Cleaning only before START
- OD300μm
- IF = 50mA
- Before/After 1MTD. Show only after 1MTD

## Result

- a. Below the target until 300TD@LT



*Show "after 1MTD" Only*

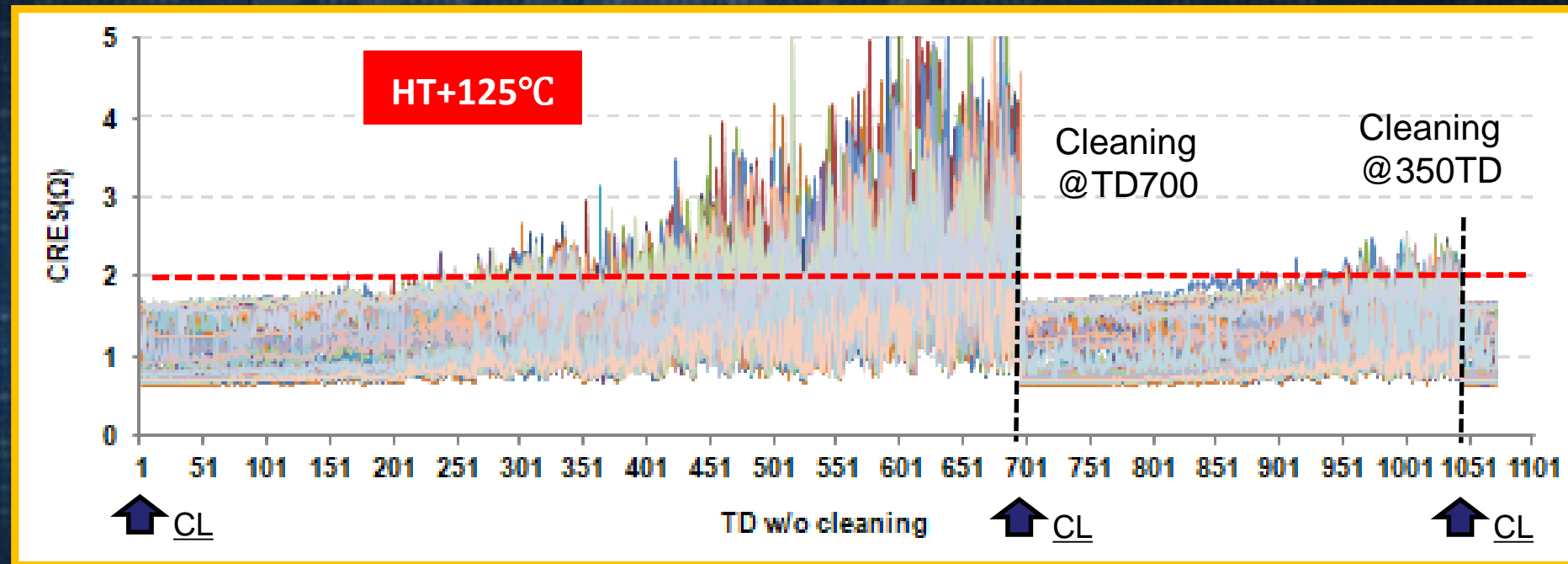
# MEMS Spring Probe Card Test Vehicle Performance – CRES Bump Contact/500TD

## Graph Indicates

1. CRES/1000TD [After 1MTD Life cycle]
2. HT +125°C

## Test Condition

- Target CRES < 2 Ohms
- N=70
- Online Cleaning only before START
- OD300μm
- IF = 50mA
- Before/After 1MTD.  
Show only after 1MTD



## Result

- a. Below the target until 200TD@HT
- b. CRES performance stabilizes after Cleaning

*Show "after 1MTD" Only*



# MEMS Spring Probe Card Test Vehicle

## Performance – CRES Bump Contact/Multi-TD

### Graph Indicates

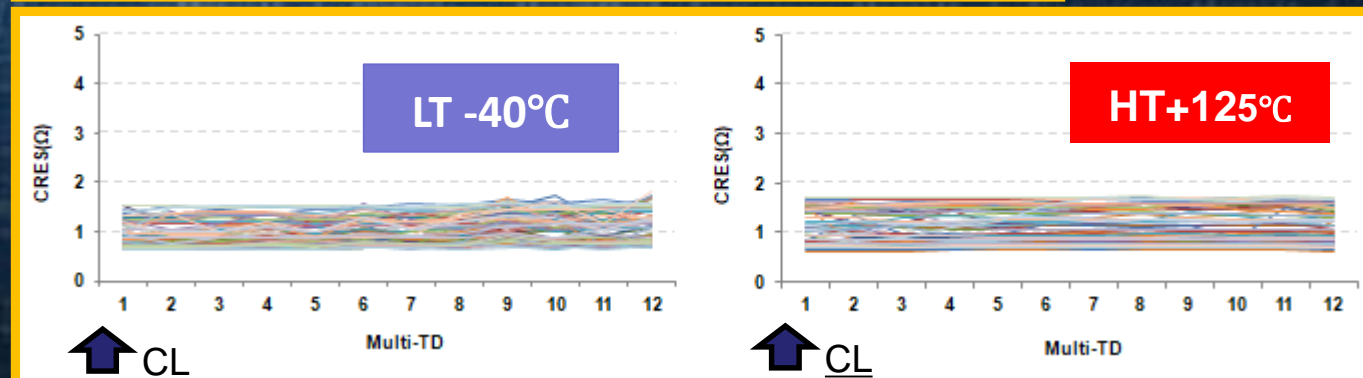
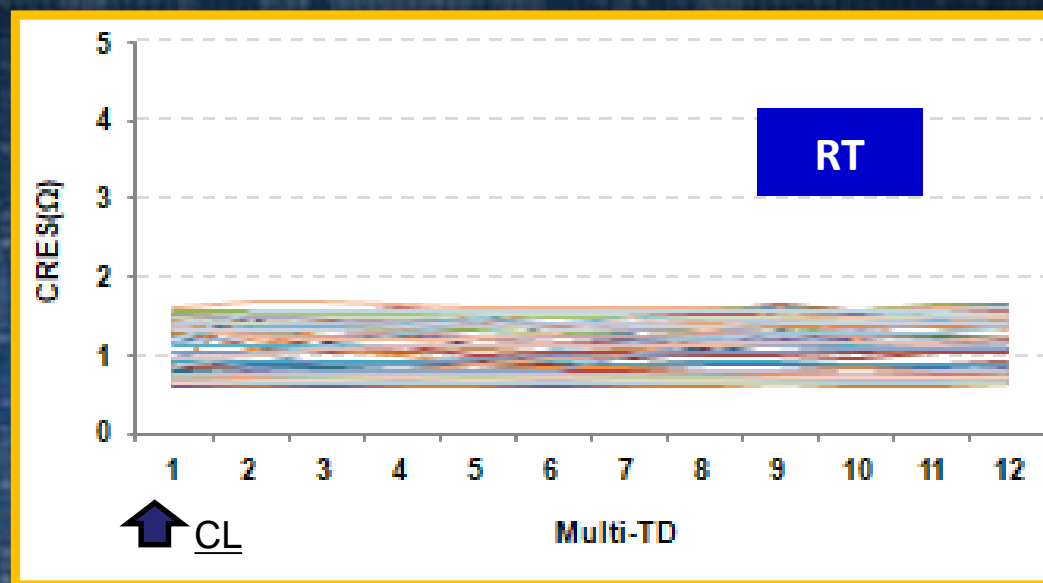
1. CRES/12TD on Same Bump
2. Tri-Temp

### Test Condition

- Target CRES < 2 Ohms
- N=70
- Online Cleaning only before START
- OD300 $\mu$ m
- IF = 50mA

### Result

- a. CRES performance is stable below 2 Ohms even 12<sup>th</sup> TD



# MEMS Spring Probe Card Test Vehicle

## Performance – Probe Mark/Single -TD

### Picture Indicates

1. Probe Mark on Bump
2. Tri-Temp

### Test Condition

- Target below 50% of Bump square size\*
- Average values from N=5
- Single TD

### Result

1. HT +125°C showed worst
2. Even HT, Probe Mark 16% < 50% \*  
(\* Customer specification)

OD CF	25μm	100μm 1.9gf	150μm 2.9gf	200μm 3.9gf	250μm 4.9gf	300μm 5.8gf	350μm 6.8gf
RT							 9%
LT -40°C							 7%
HT+125°C							 16%

*Value above:*

*Probe Mark square measure ÷ Bump*

STD Ope.  
OD \*



# MEMS Spring Probe Card Test Vehicle

## Performance – Probe Mark/Multi-TD

### Picture Indicates

1. Probe Mark on Bump
2. Tri-Temp

### Test Condition

- Target below 50% of Bump square size\*
- Average values from N=5
- Multi-TD

### Result

1. HT +125°C showed worst
2. Even HT & TD 12 times, Probe Mark 18% < 50% \*

(\* Customer specification)

TD	1	2,3,4,	5	6,7,8,9	10	11	12
RT							 10%
LT -40°C							 8%
HT+125°C							 18%

*Value above:*

*Probe Mark square measure  $\div$  Bump*

# MEMS Spring Probe Card Test Vehicle

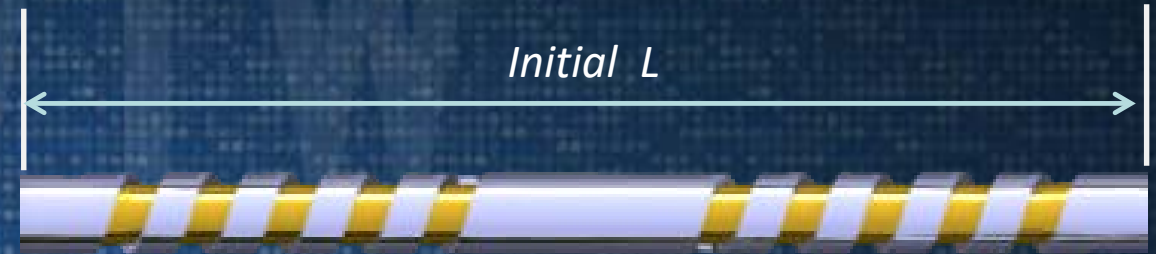
## Performance – 1MTD Life Cycle, Barrel Spring Length

### Test Condition

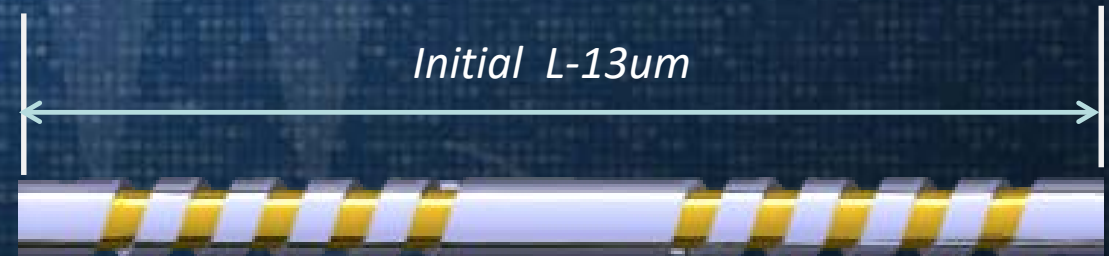
- 1MTD Life cycle (HT +125°C, OD 350 $\mu$ m)
- W/O Online Cleaning
- Average values from N=5

### Result

1. Barrel length  $\Delta$ 13 $\mu$ m. Deformation per 1MTD under HT.  
Less than 2% of Barrel length. No impact to neither Contact force nor CRES performance (showed previous pages)



After 1MTD





# MEMS Spring Probe Card Test Vehicle

## Performance – Frequency

### Picture Indicates

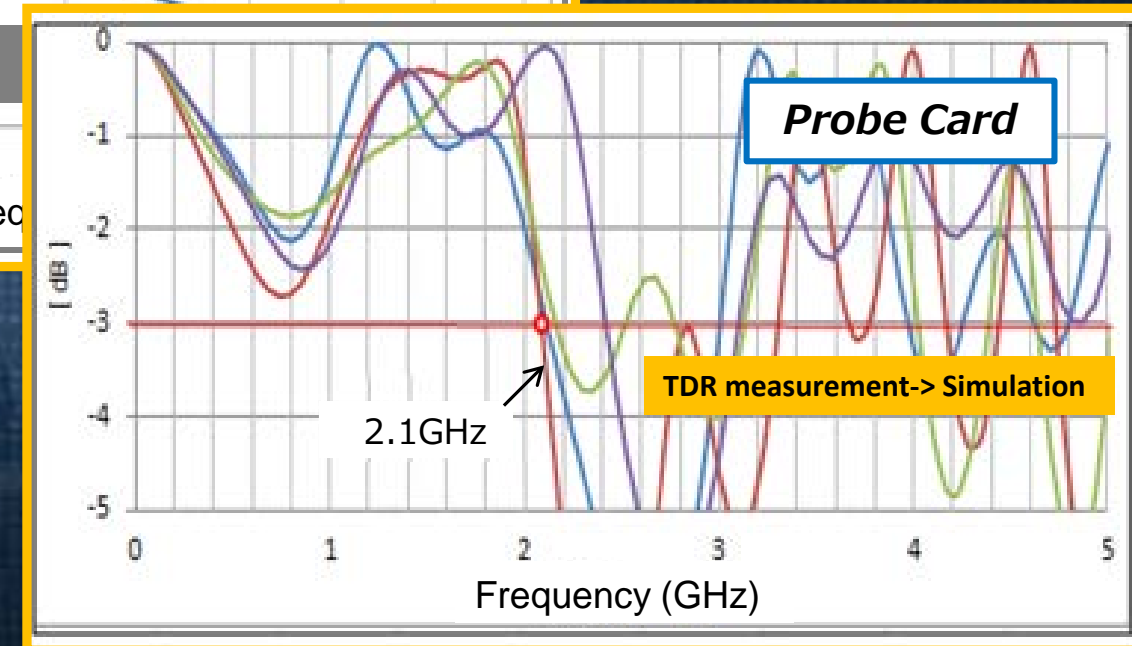
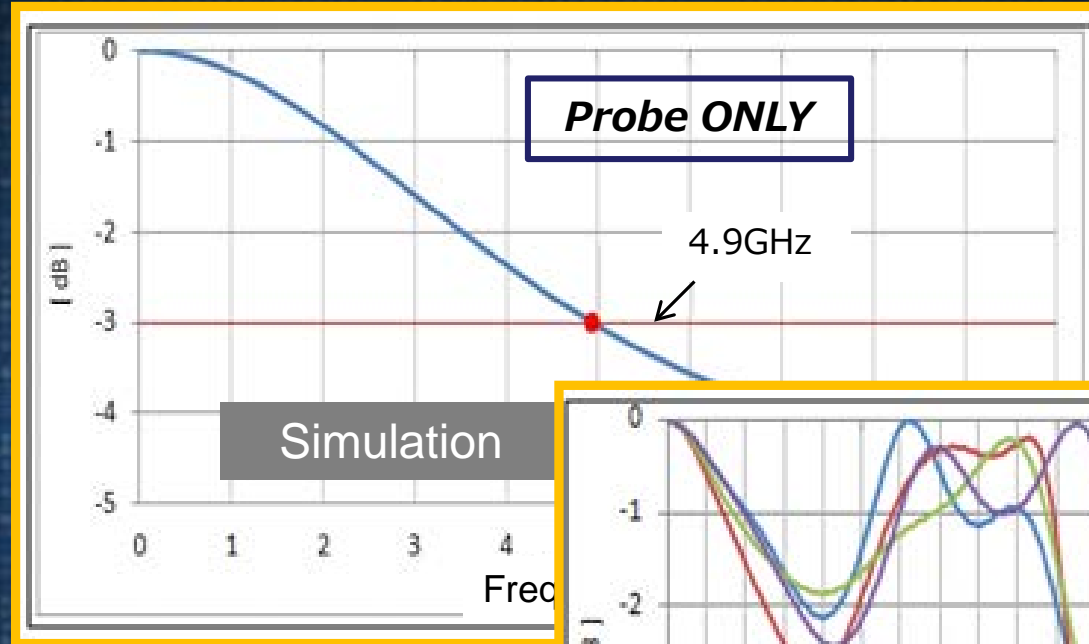
1. S21 Probe Only [Simulation]
2. S21 Probe Card/Wired type [Simulation based on TDR measurement]

### Test Condition

- N=1 (Probe Only)
- N=4 (Probe Card)
- Read @-3db. 1/3 to convert to rectangle wave form,

### Result

1. 1.6GHz, Probe Only
2. 700MHz, Probe Card (Wire 41mm)



# Additional Sample

## WLCSP Probe, Measure Inductance

### Graph Indicates

#### 1. WLCSP Probe Inductance

$\Phi 235\mu\text{m}$

$L = 2.78\text{mm}$

### Test Condition

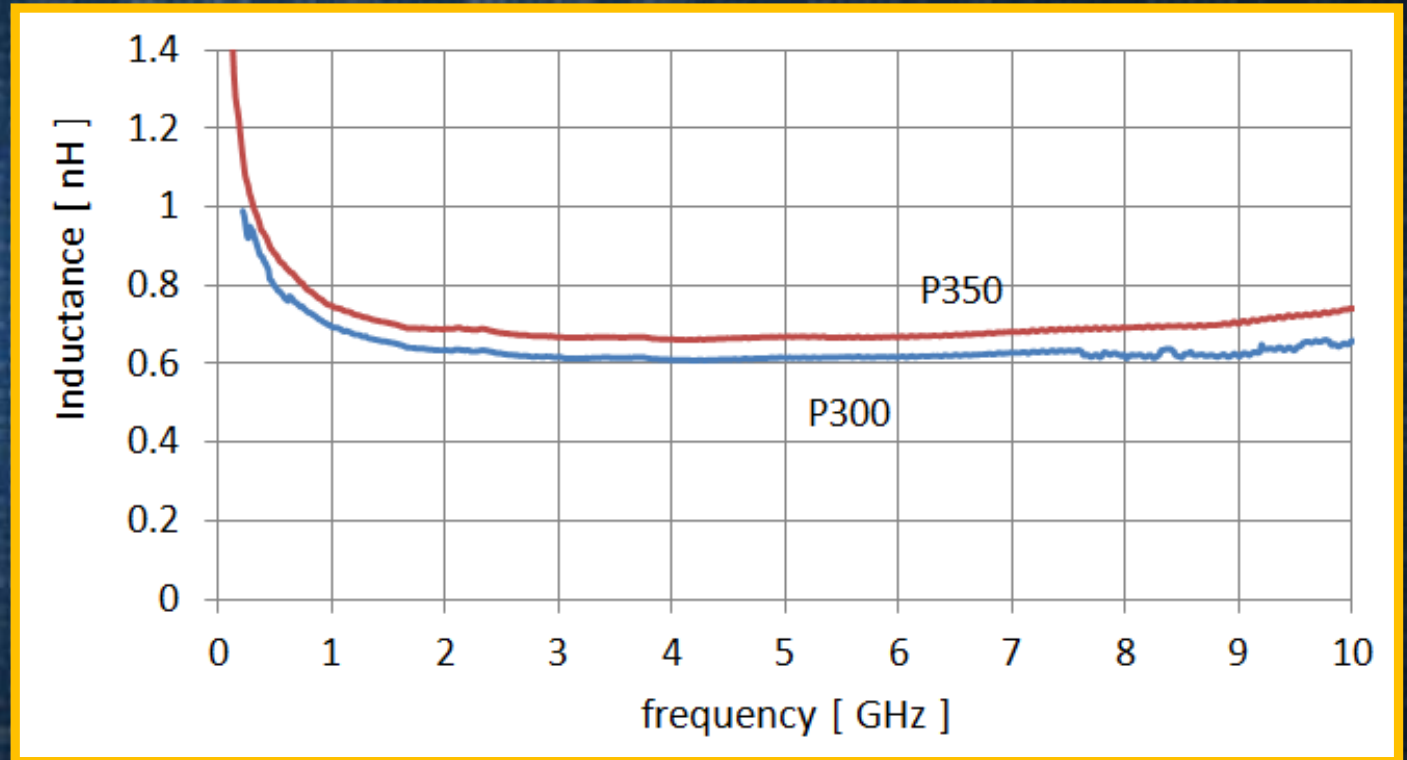
- G-S Measurement
- Pitch =  $350\mu\text{m}$ ,  $300\mu\text{m}$

### Result

#### a. Inductance Measurement

$0.6\text{nH}/\text{P300}$

$0.67\text{nH}/\text{P350}$





# MEMS Spring Probe Card Evaluation Result

		Key Parameter	Evaluation Parameter	Result
MEMS Spring Probe Card	Pre/Post 1MTD Life Cycle	Probe Position	XY Accuracy	<±10μm, GOOD
			Planarity	<5μm, GOOD
		Contact Resistance (Single-TD)	CRES/OD	<2 Ohms, GOOD
			CRES/500TD	200TD@HT, GOOD
		Contact Resistance (Multi-TD)	CRES/Multi-TD	<2 Ohms@HT, GOOD
		Probe Mark	Mark on Bump	<18% (12TDs,HT), GOOD
		Deformation	Tip Length, Barrel Length	▲13μm Barrel L, GOOD
		Frequency, S21	Probe Only, Probe Card	Wired 700MHz , GOOD MLO/MLC TBD
		Inductance	WLCSP 2.5mm Probe	0.6nH L2.78mm, GOOD
MEMS Spring Probe		CCC	CCC RT/HT+125°C	900/700mA, GOOD
		Contact Force	Contact Force/OD	On Design, little variation

Confirmed to be able to achieve the customer requirement

SW Test Workshop | June 3-6, 2018



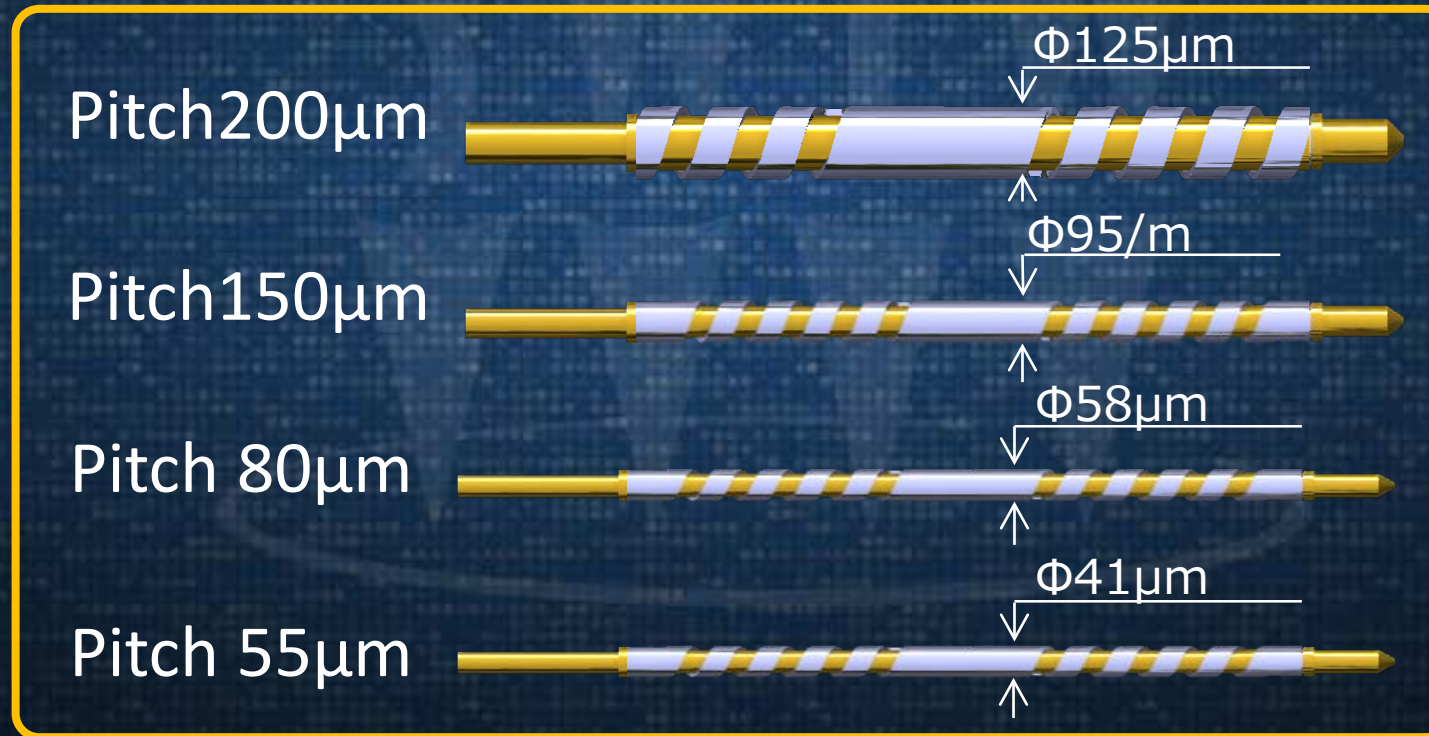
# Design Feasibility



# Design Feasibility

## Highly Scalable MEMS Technology

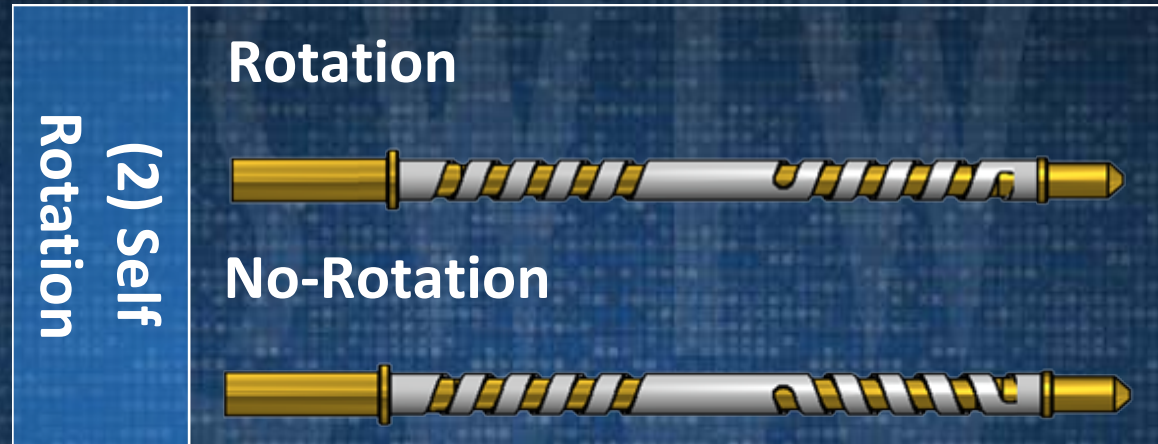
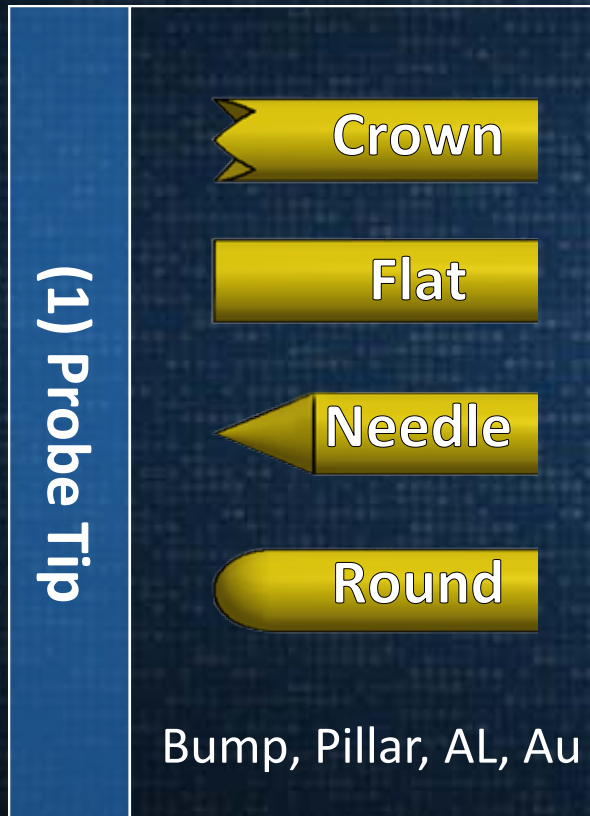
*General probe diameter & parts size. It is easy to adapt design from wide pitch to narrow pitch.*



# Design Feasibility

## Highly Scalable MEMS Technology

*Four design factors can be used to achieve Design flexibility*



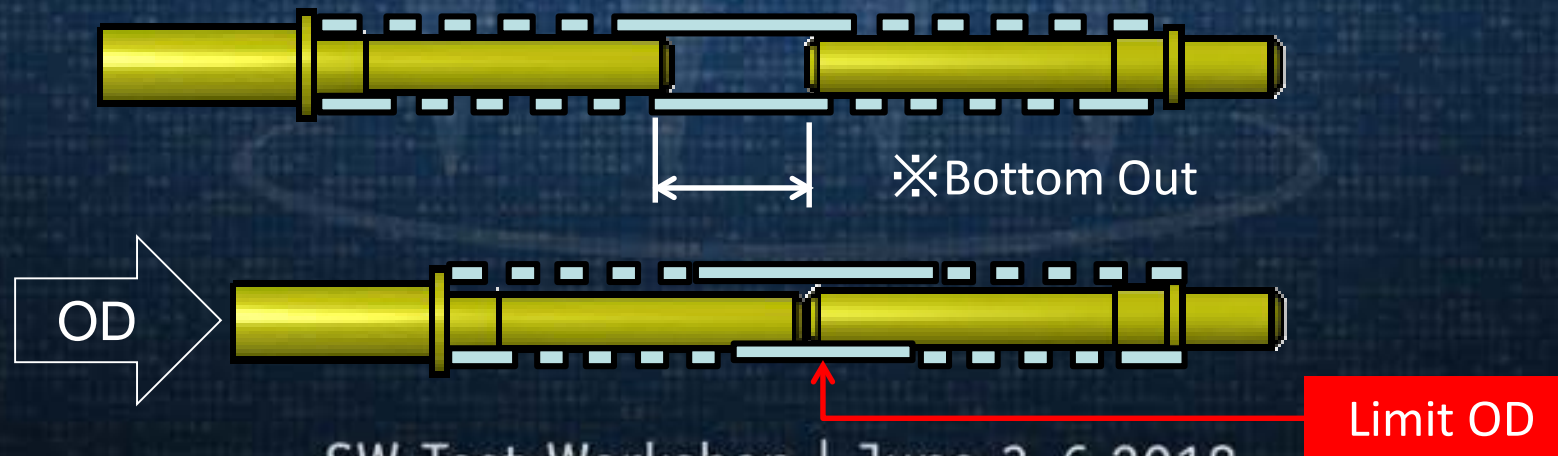
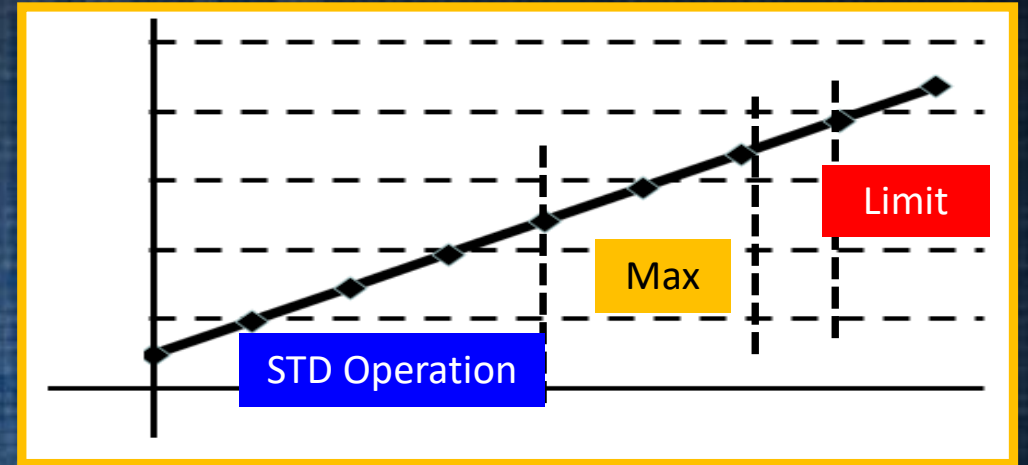


# Design Feasibility

## Highly Scalable MEMS Technology

### (4) Operation OD margin

- Pre-load
- STD Operation OD
- Max Operation OD (=Bottom Out - Margin)
- Limit OD (=Bottom Out)



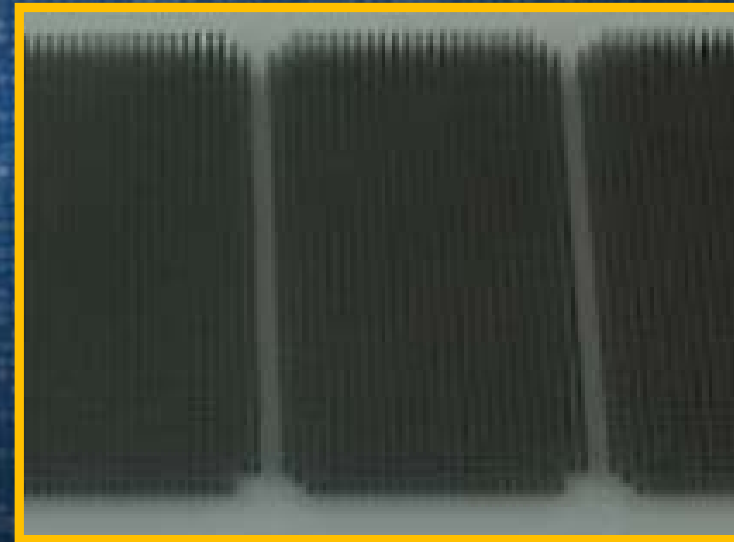
# **MEMS Probe Card General Specifications**



# MEMS Probe Card General Specifications

Parameter	SPEC
Pitch	Min 80μm
Planarity	< 10μm
XY Position	< ±10μm
Contact Force	Max 10gf
CRES	< 3Ω
CCC (RT)	P250(Φ125μm) – 1400mA P80(Φ50μm) – 600mA
Temp	-40°C~+180°C
Max OD (Example)	P250 - Max 250μm P150 - Max 400μm P80 – Max 180μm

Tip Motion	Self Rotating or Non-Self Rotating
Tip Shape	Point, Round, Flat, Crown
Material	W+Au, H3C, Rh

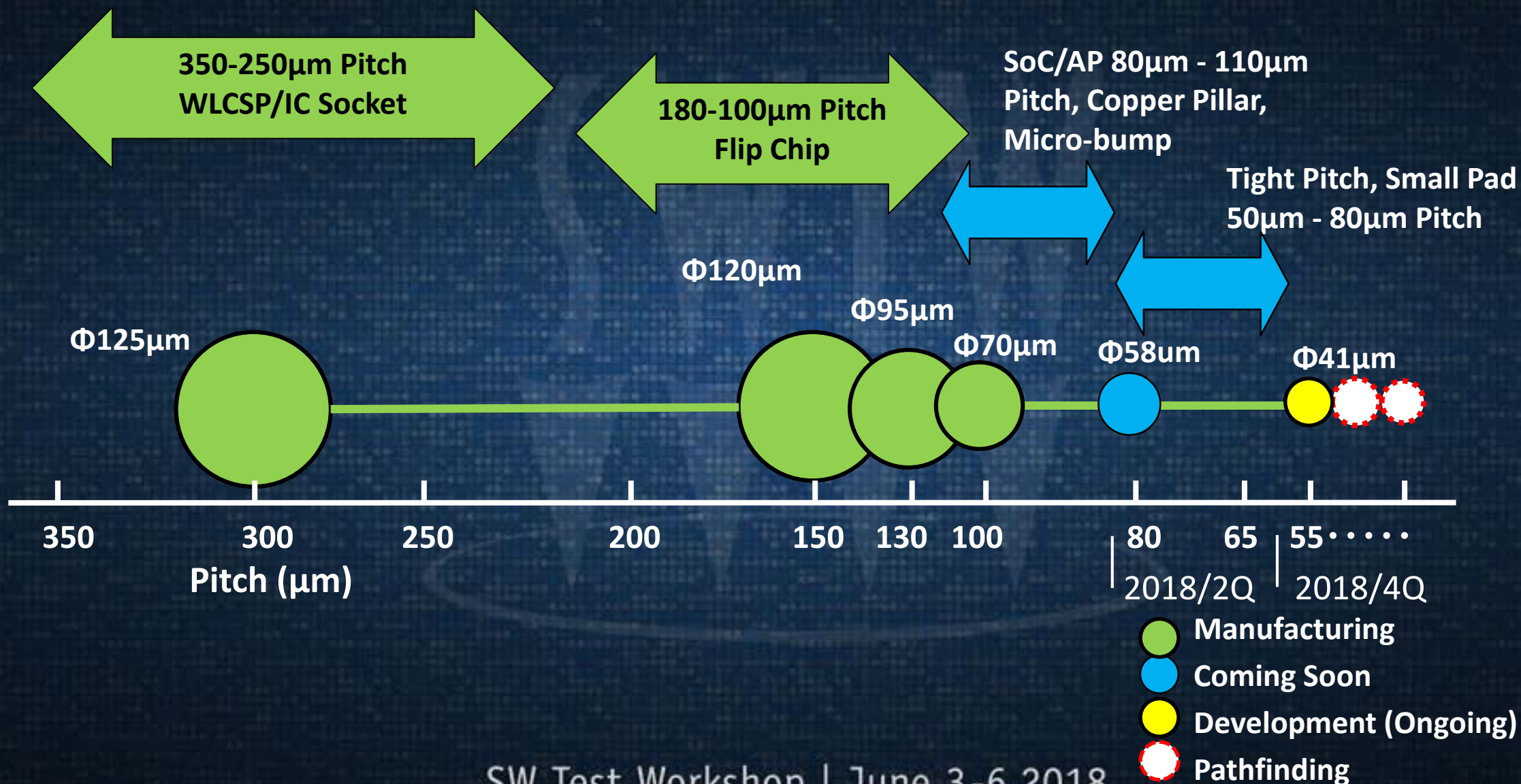




# Roadmap



# Technology Road Map



# Future Study

- MAC
  - High temp +180°C
    - MLO/MLC frequency
      - 80um pitch
        - Auto probe insertion machine
          - High volume MFG capacity



# Conclusions

- The MEMS SPRING PROBE technology can easily provide small diameter probes that cannot be realized with conventional coil springs.
- Simple structure realizes high CCC & low CRES which is stable over life & temperature.
- Minimize Bump damage by Rotation control & free tip shape.
- Positive performance CRES/OD, CRES/TD at Tri-temp.
- No degradation after 1MTD.
- Roadmap to 55 $\mu$ m pitch.
- Wide variety of pin specs achievable using common manufacturing process & no hard tooling.

# Acknowledgements

- End User Test Engineering Team
- MEMS Spring Probe Engineering Team (Nidec-Read & LuzCom)
- SV TCL Engineering Team





# Thank you