

**IEEE SW Test Workshop**  
Semiconductor Wafer Test Workshop

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# Probe Mark Inspection As Part of Quality and Reliability in Automotive Devices



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# Outline

- Automotive Devices
- Probe Mark Damage Area vs. Bond Failure
- AVI Can Predict Failures
- Inspection Challenges and Solutions
- Magnification and Throughput
- Probe Mark Depth Measurement
- Reporting
- Conclusions

# Overview

- TI manufactures automotive devices
- Yield requirement: <10ppm
- TI EBT tests and inspects all automotive wafers
- Practice – 100% test + 100% inspection
- Challenge – detecting all and only critical defects
- Solutions
  - Dedicated AVI for probe mark inspection
  - Probe mark depth measurement capability

# Typical Automotive Devices

- End applications using such mission-critical devices may include:
  - Electronic stability control
  - Engine controller
  - Supplemental restraining system
  - Anti-lock breaking system
  - Power steering

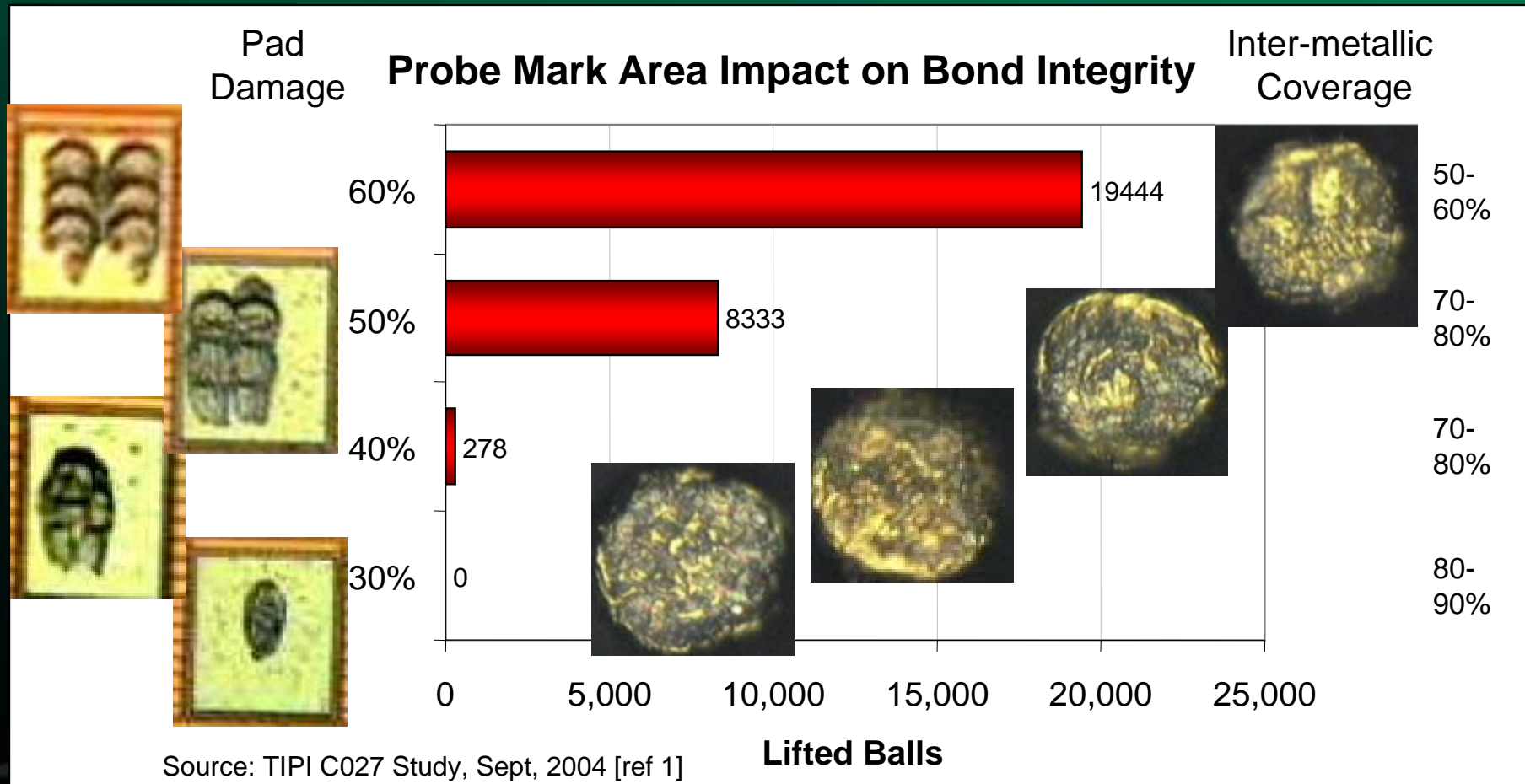


# Automotive Requirements

- Defective part rate  $<10$  ppm ( $>99.999\%$ )
- No compromising of:
  - Wire bond integrity and reliability
  - Die hermeticity
  - Foreign materials
  - Mechanical damage



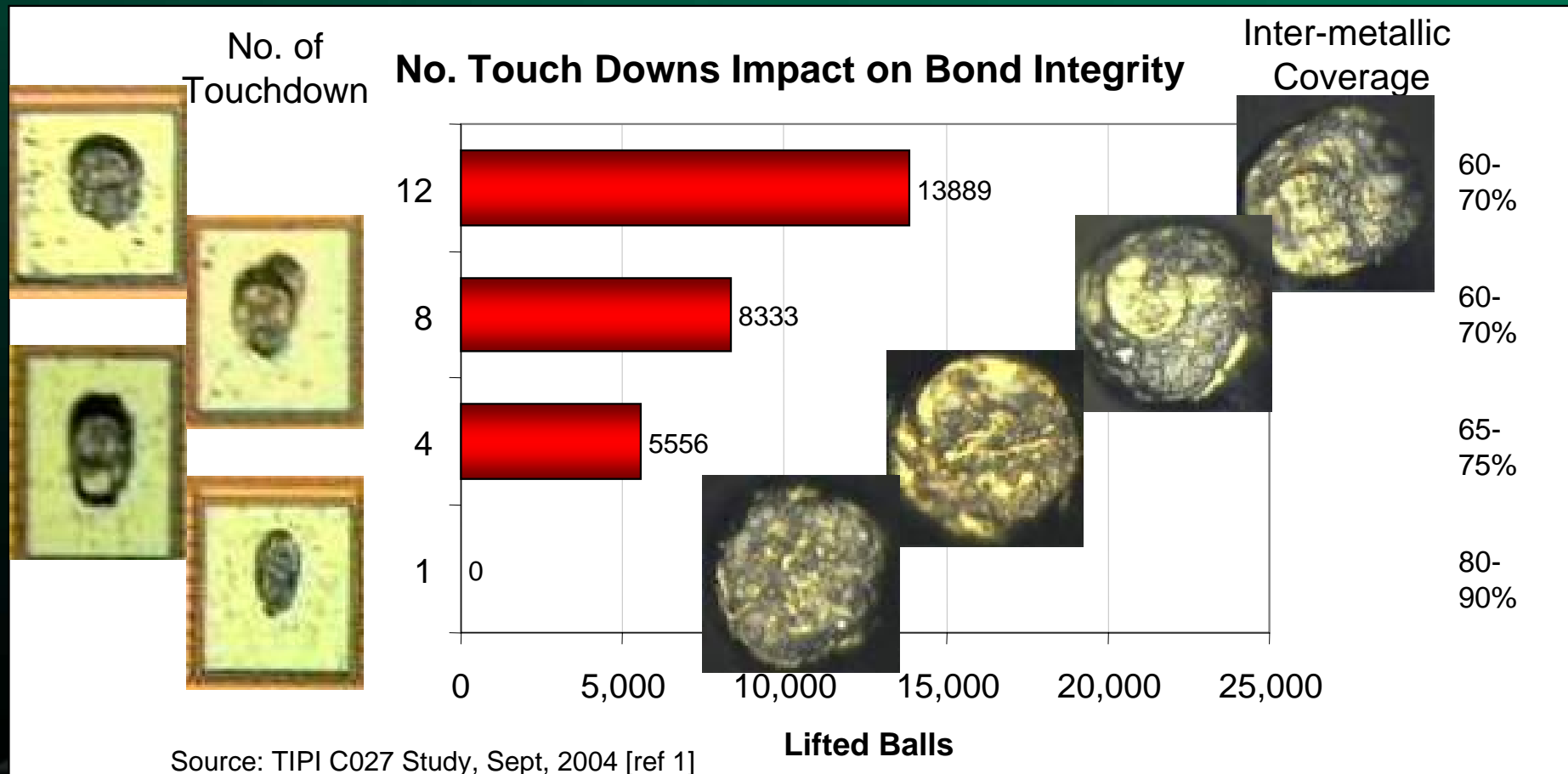
# Damage Area vs. Bond Failure



- Pad damaged area correlates to reduced IMC → Bond failure
- AVI can measure probe mark area vs. pad area on all pads



# Damage Depth vs. Bond Failure



- Pad depth correlates to reduced IMC → Bond failure
- AVI can measure probe mark depth on sampled pads

# AVI Can Predict Failures

Visual Appearance

Reduced IMC



Large PM Area



Deep probe mark

- Reduced available pad Al decreased inter-metallic coverage  
→ degraded bond reliability
- AVI with depth sensor can detect defects leading to these conditions



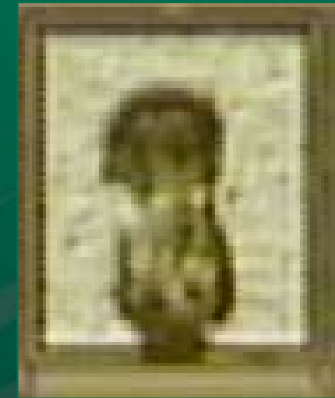
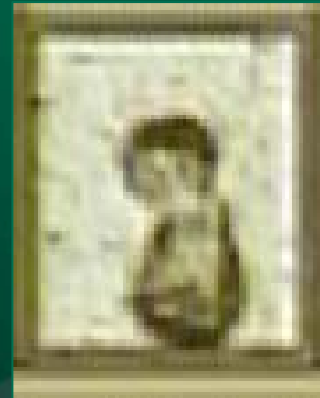
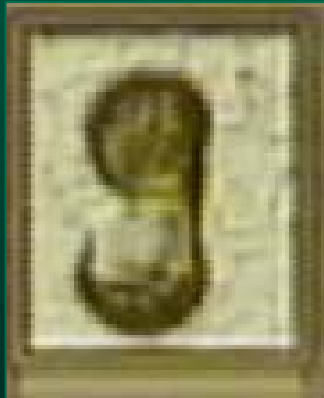
# Inspection Protocols (TI Automotive)

- 100% of dice tested electrically
- 100% of dice, including all pads, inspected for 2D surface and probe mark damage
- Sampled PM depth measurement
  - new capability (under development)

# Inspection Challenges

- Report all critical while ignoring non-critical defects
- Maintain high throughput and productivity
- Measure probe mark depth
- Deliver quantitative data for process control

# 2D Defect Definitions



Standard  
Applications

Non critical

Non critical

Critical

PM allowed to touch passivation window,  
but not break out

Automotive  
Applications

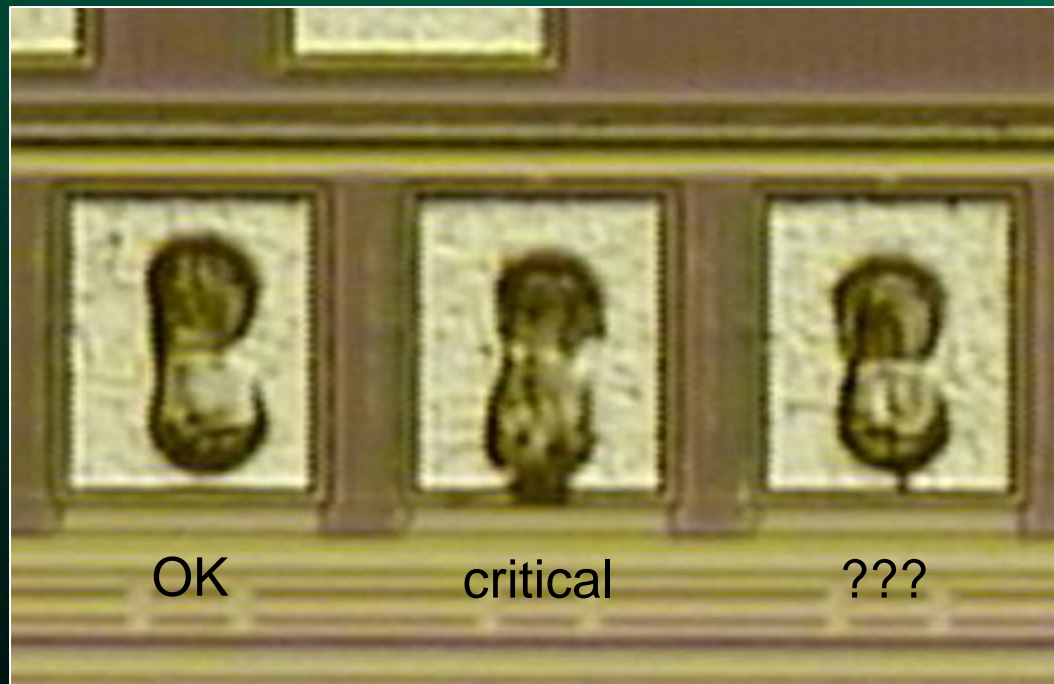
Non critical

Critical

Critical

No contact of PM with passivation window

# Critical or Not?



- *“The truth, whole truth and nothing but the truth”*
- Marginal cases are hard to tell.
- Qualitative detection may report many false alarms

# Inspection Equipment in Use: Camtek Falcon 500

- Detection algorithms:
  - dedicated probe mark
  - surface
- Probe depth measure:
  - Chromatic confocal sensor





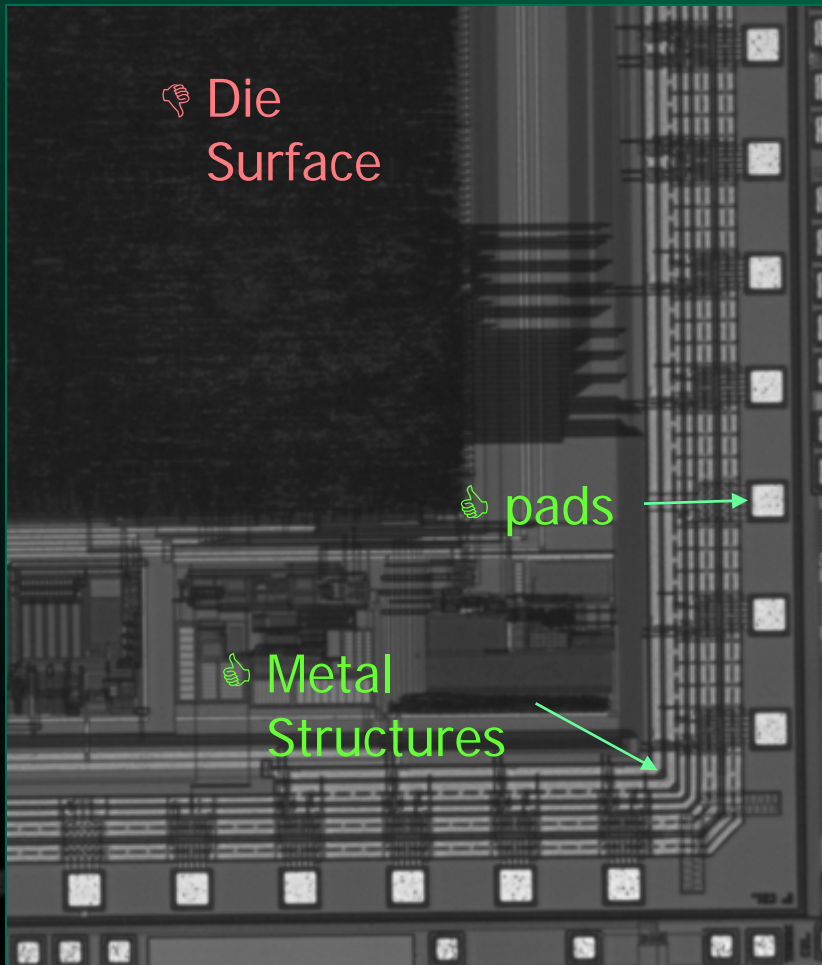
# Inspection Equipment: Camtek Falcon 500 (cont)

- Optical magnifications      x1              x2.5      x5      x10
- Optical resolution [ $\mu\text{m}/\text{pix}$ ]:      9              3.6      1.8      0.9
- Illumination:              balanced bright and dark field  
(continually programmable)

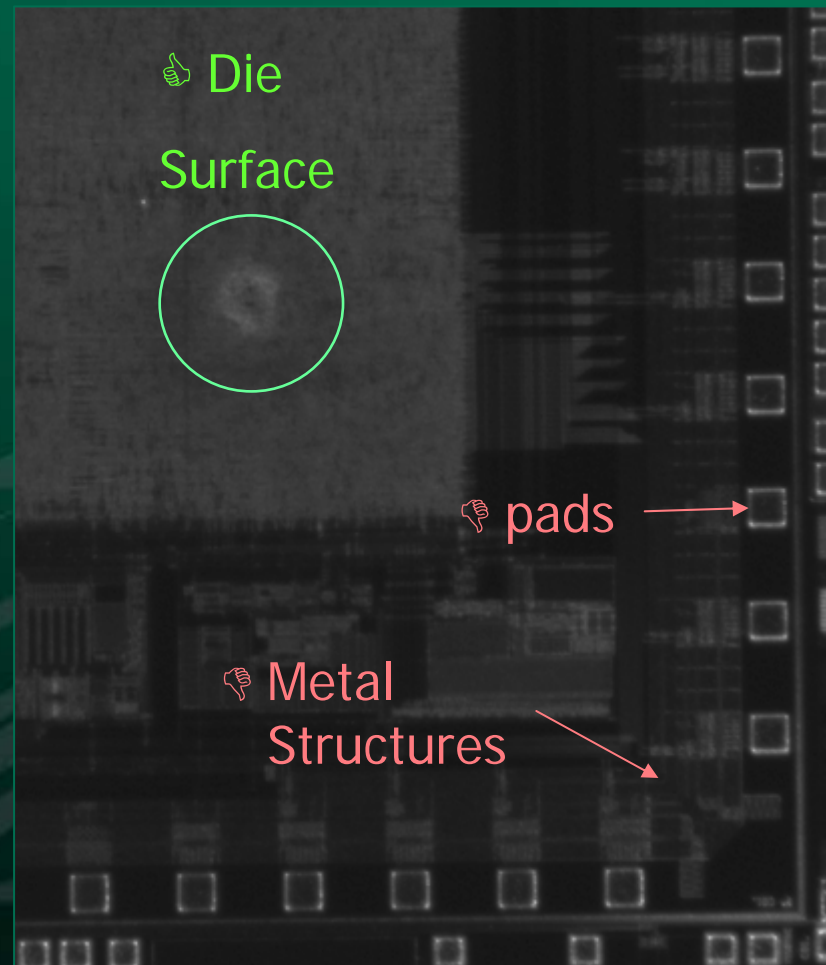




# Lighting: Bright + Dark Field

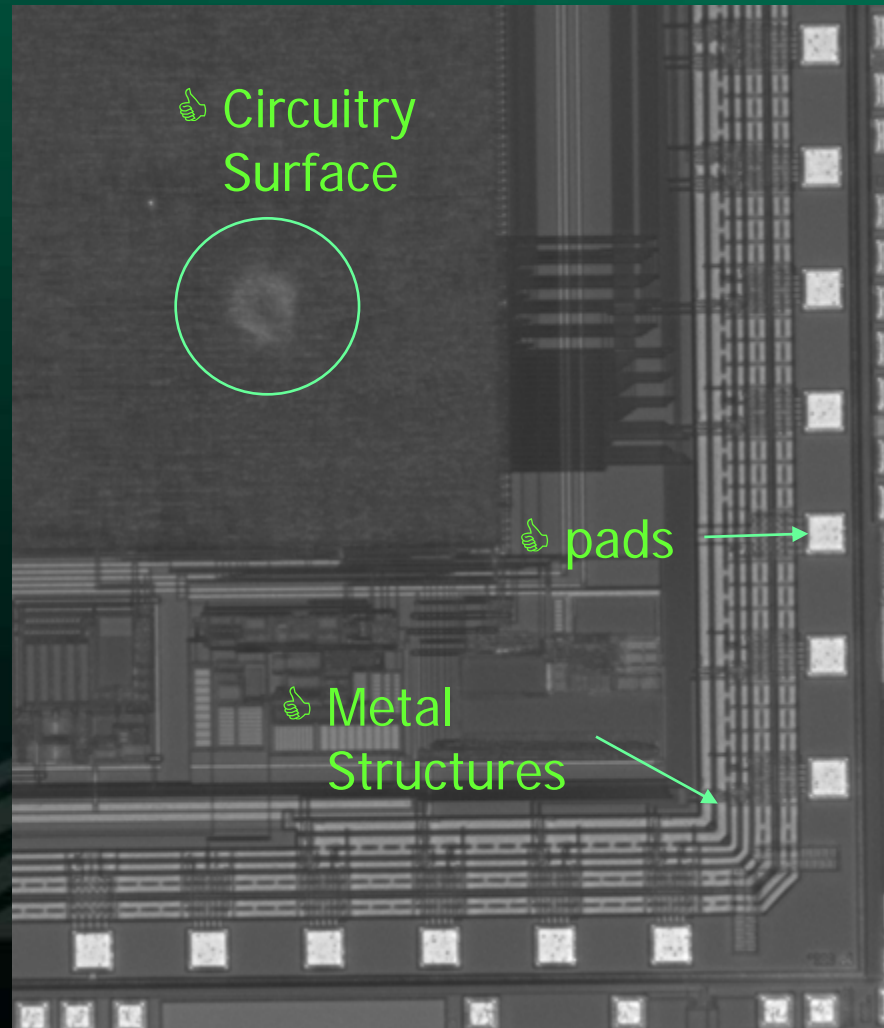


Bright Field



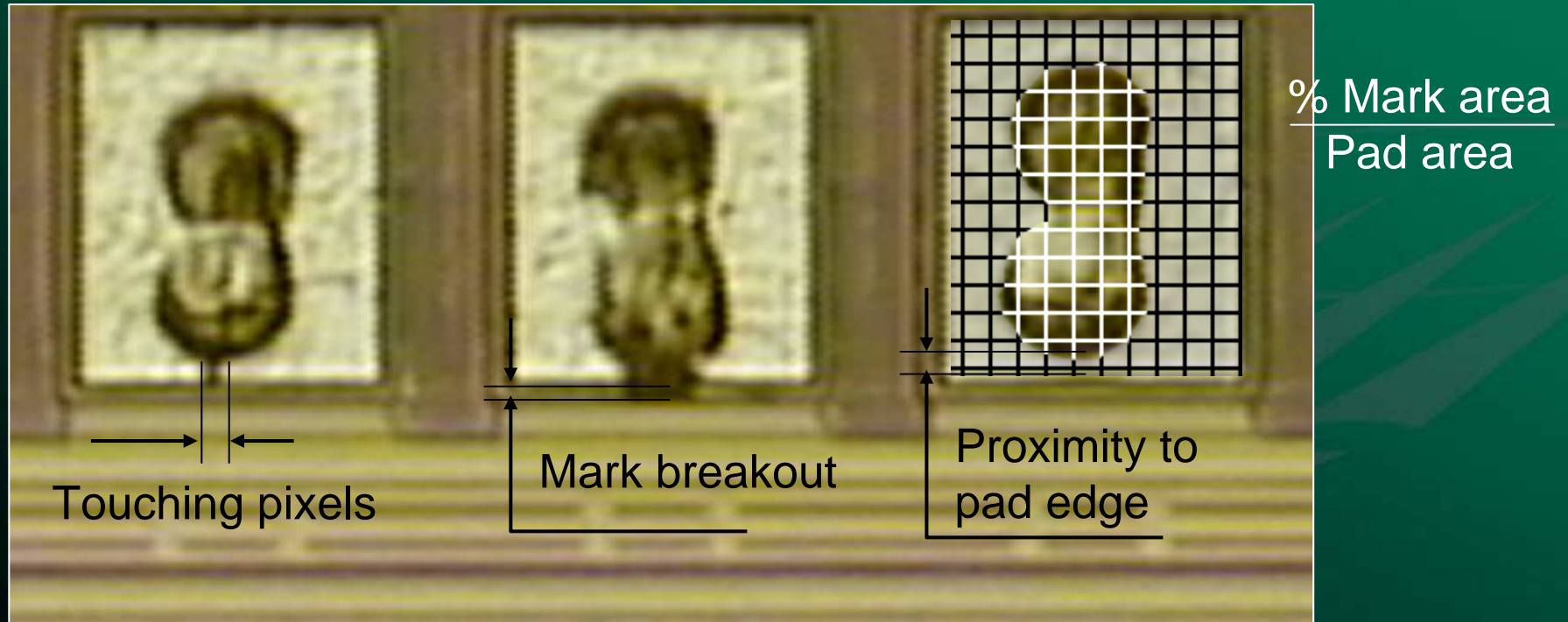
Dark Field

# Lighting – Bright + Dark Field



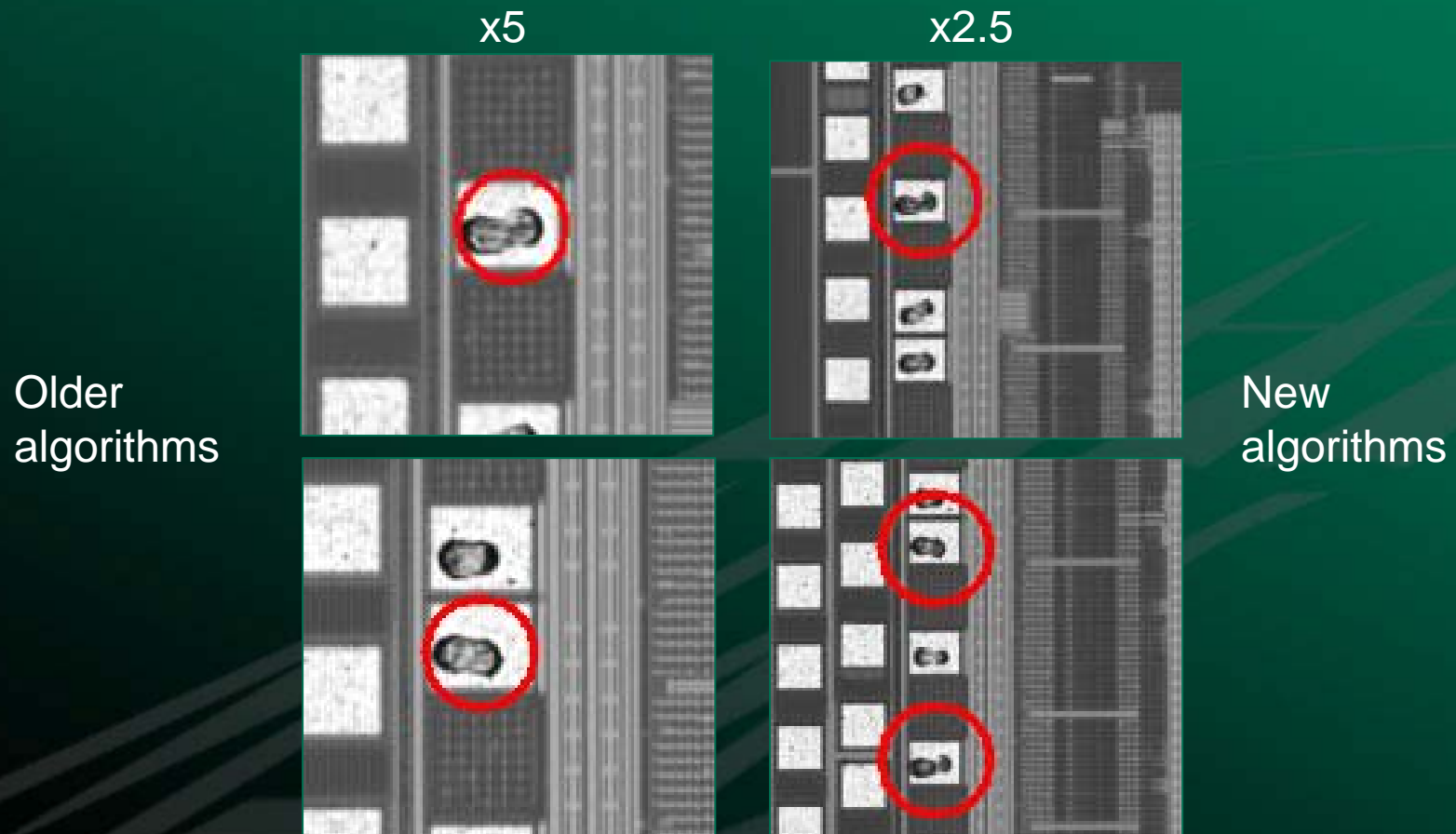
Bright Field + Dark Field

# Solution – Multiple Criteria



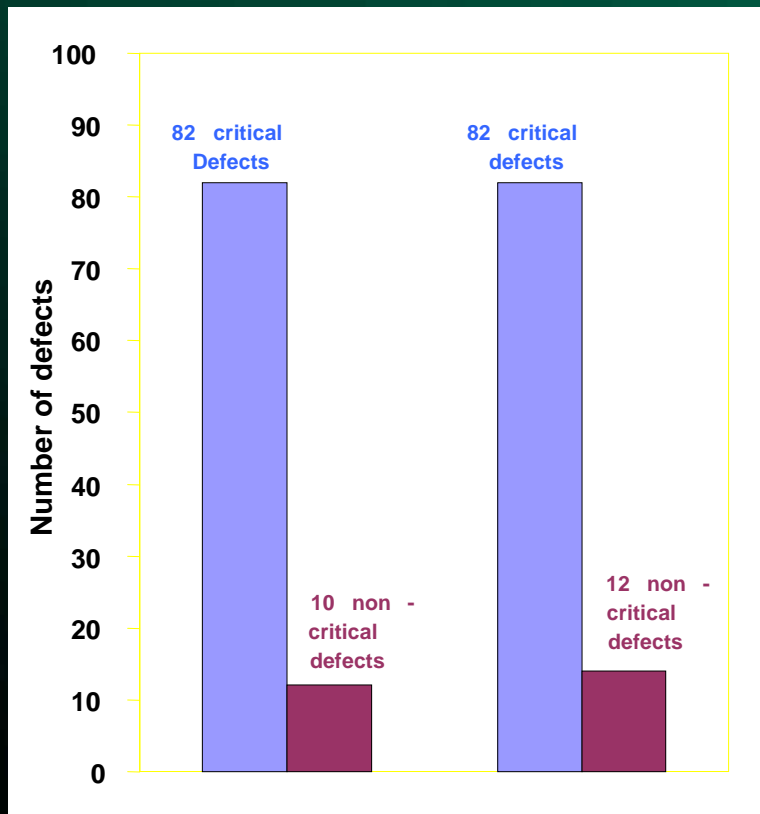
- Independent criteria enable exact filtering of defect
- Boolean conditions allow more consistent reporting

# Magnification and Throughput



New algorithms enable reliable detection at lower magnification  
→ 160% higher throughput

# Detection Ability Comparison



Magx5

Magx2.5

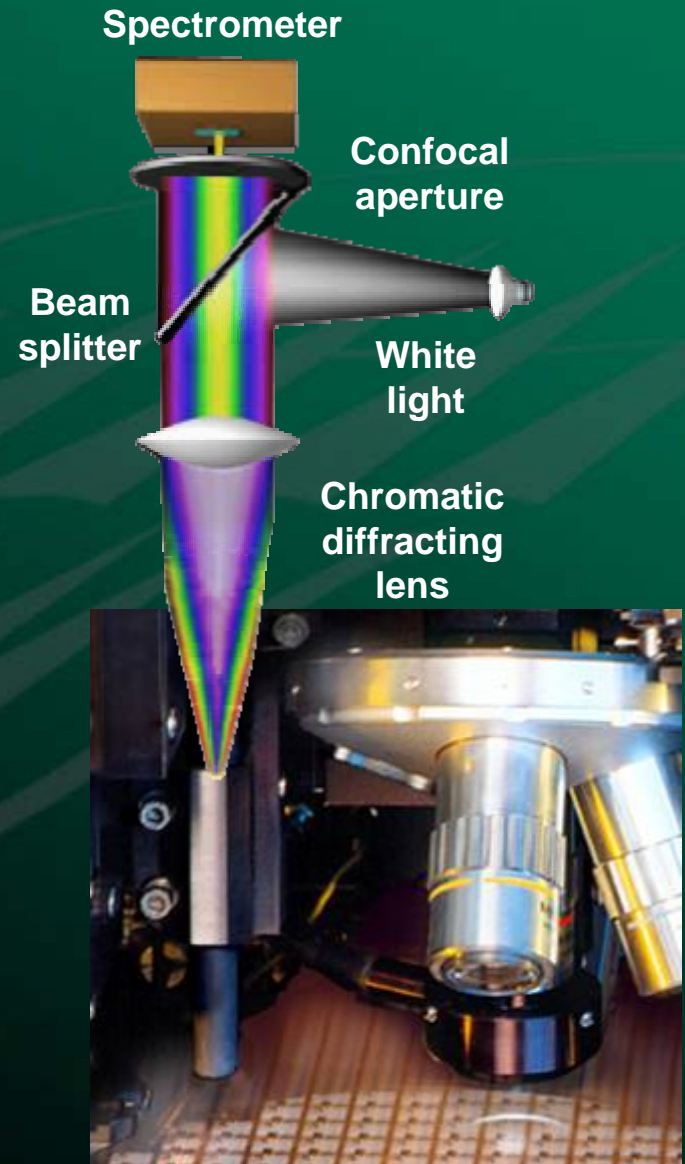
	Reference	Mag x5	Mag x2.5
Known defects	82		
Total defects detected		92	94
Real detected defects		82	82
Escape rate		0	0
False defects		10	12
Detection rate		100%	100%

**All critical defects detected at both  
Mag x2.5 and Mag x5.**



# Chromatic Confocal Sensor (CCS)

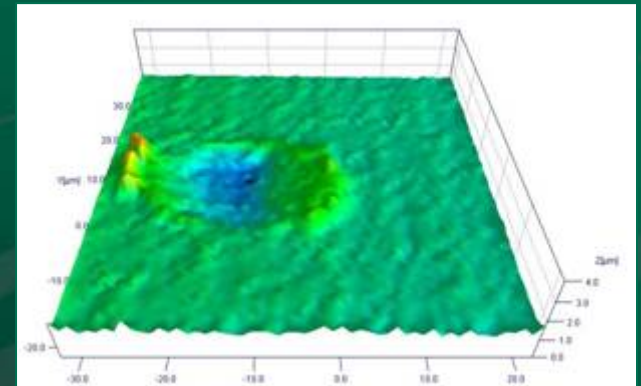
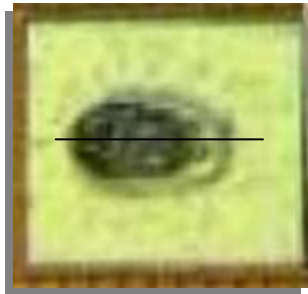
- Special height sensor under development for TI:
  - Beam diameter  $2\ \mu\text{m}$
  - Resolution  $0.005\ \mu\text{m}$
  - Accuracy  $0.02\ \mu\text{m}$
  - Repeatability @ $3\sigma$   $0.1\ \mu\text{m}$
  - Range  $110\ \mu\text{m}$
- Optional system integrated into Falcon 500 model



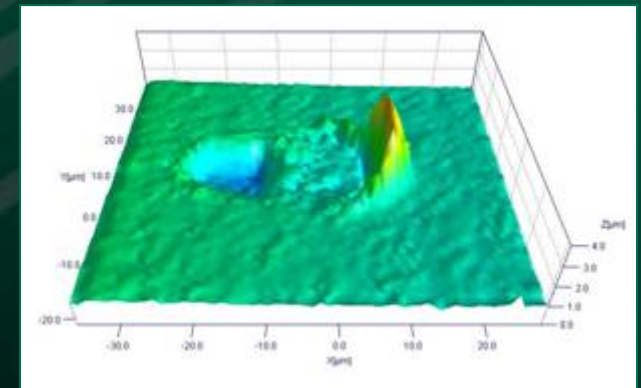
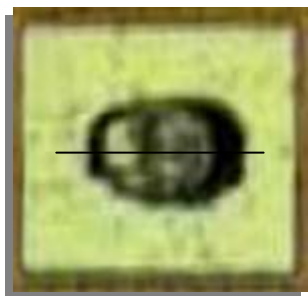


# Probe Mark Depth Measurement with Special CCS

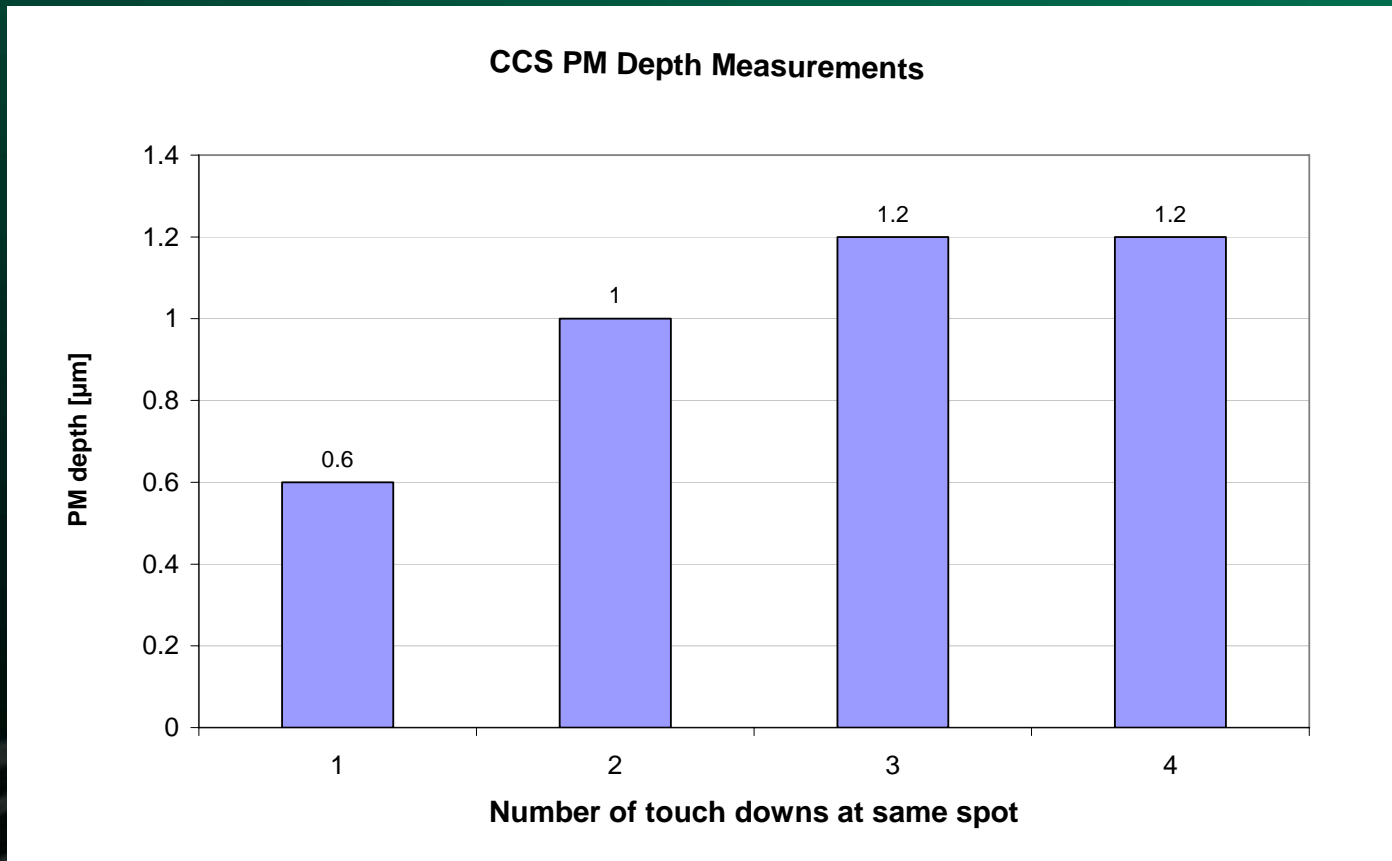
1x Touch down



3x Touch downs

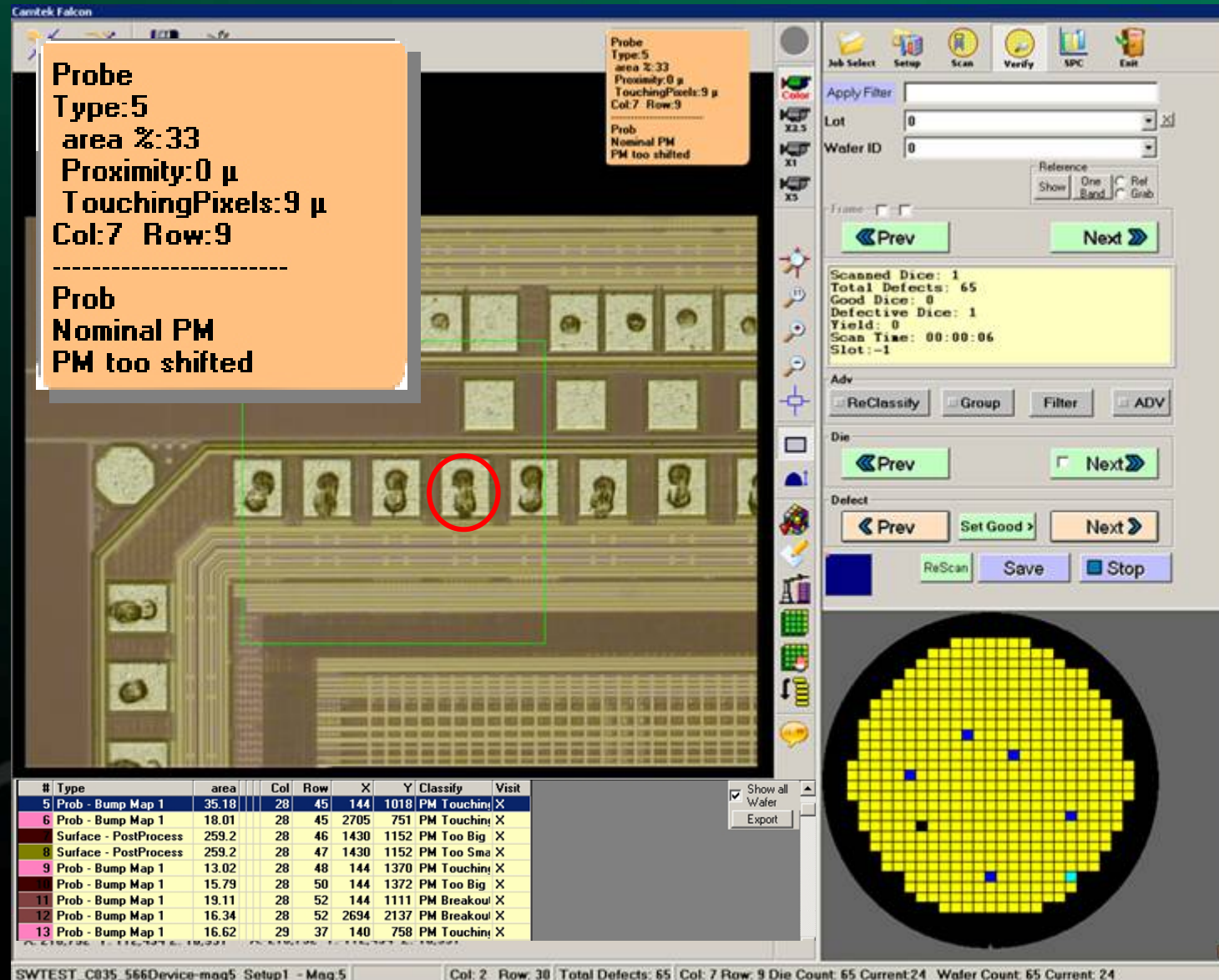


# PM Depth vs. Touch Down Count



- CCS shows ability to measure PM depth
- Plateau above 3 TDs – possibly bottoming out on barrier metal?

# Reporting



# Conclusions

- TI's automotive devices must meet  $<10$  dppm
- Probing related damage degrades wire bond reliability
- Visual and measurable PM features correlate with pad damage and subsequent bond failure
- Camtek Falcon 500 used at TI to detect probing related damage on 100% of automotive products
- Dedicated multiple algorithms enable reliable detection at lower magnification → higher throughput
- Integrated depth measurement capability shows promise for probing process characterization and monitoring

# References

1. TI Internal report “C027 Probe Damage Spec Qualification”, TIPI, Sept 15, 2004 Update
2. Hotchkiss, G. et al “Probing and Wire Bonding of Al capped Cu Pads”, *Proceedings IEEE 40<sup>th</sup> Int’l Reliability Symposium*, Dallas TX, 2002, pp140
3. Hotchkiss, G. et al “Effects of probe damage on wire bond integrity” *Proceedings ECTC*, Orlando, FL, 2001, pp1175
4. Roy, R. “Probe-mark inspection”, *Test and Measurement World*, May 2007, pp 37



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**Thank You**  
**for**  
**your attention**

