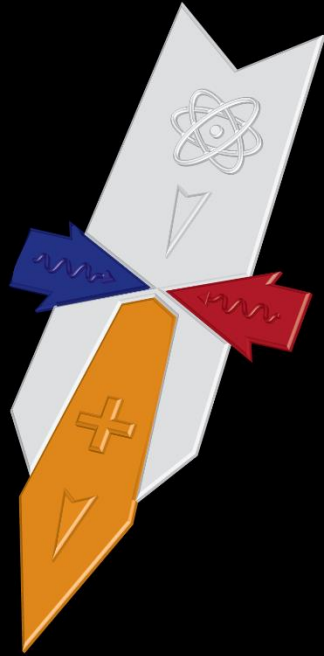


# ZERO K NANOTECH

## High-Resolution FIB and SIMS with the Cesium Low Temperature Ion Source (LoTIS)

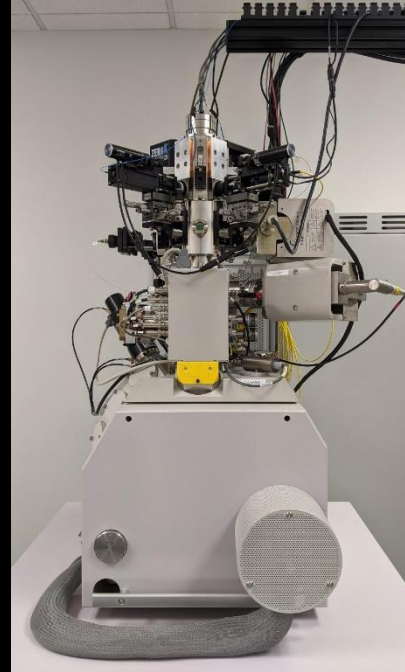
Adam V Steele, zeroK NanoTech  
Brenton Knuffman, zeroK

[adam@zeroK.com](mailto:adam@zeroK.com)



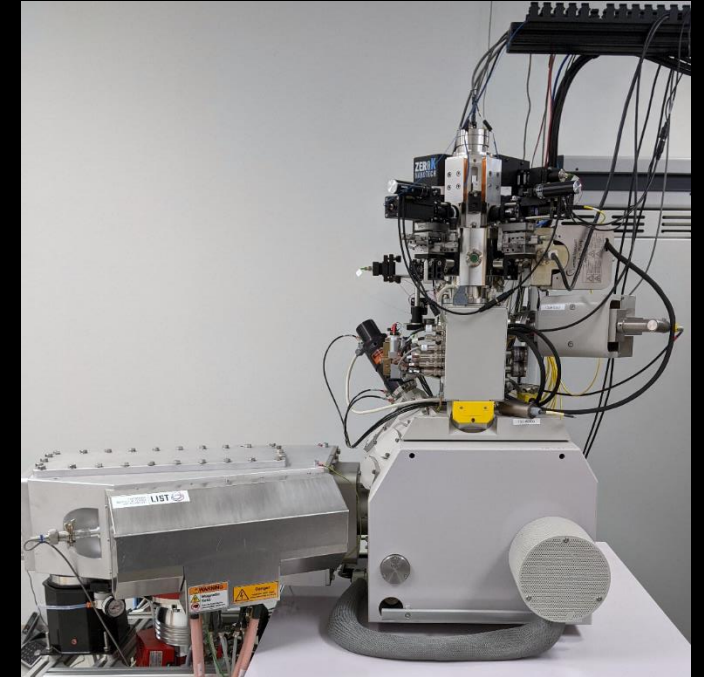
## Cs<sup>+</sup> LoTIS

- **Low Temperature Ion Source**
  - Laser-cooling + Photoionization
- Heavy ion nanomachining
- Small spot sizes
- Excellent resolution at low energy (~2 nm resolution at 1 pA, 16 kV)
- 1 pA - 10 nA



## FIB:ZERO

- LoTIS + FIB
- Comparable to standard Ga<sup>+</sup> FIB, with 2x higher resolution at low beam currents
- Compatible with normal peripherals, gas chemistries etc..



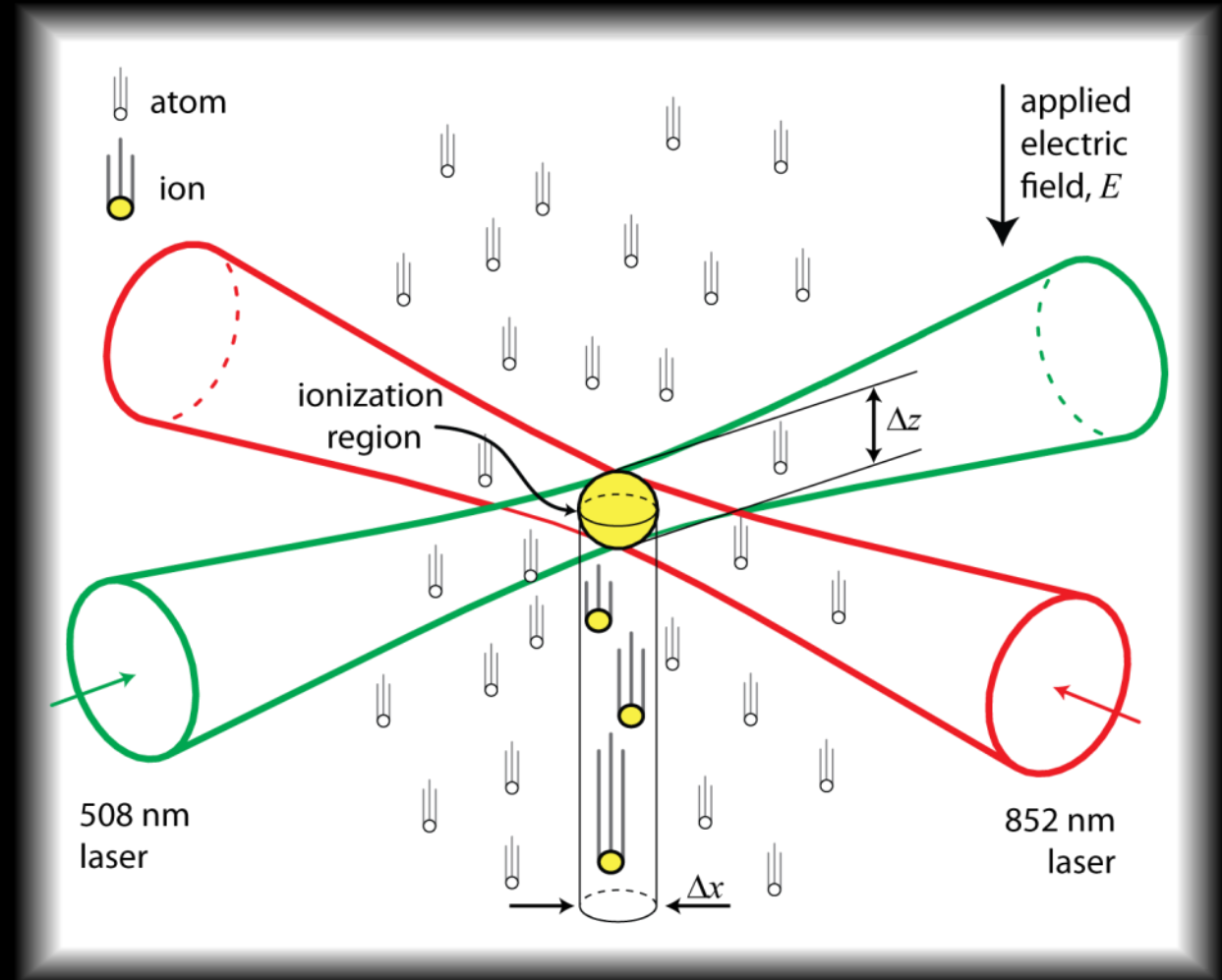
## SIMS:ZERO

- FIB:ZERO with SIMS
  - Analysis of secondary ions in a mass spectrometer
- Best for elemental-compositional analysis
- Collab. with Luxembourg Institute of Science and Technology (LIST)

# How does LoTIS work?

Ions are created in a laser-cooled atomic beam as it flows through the intersection of photoionizing laser beams

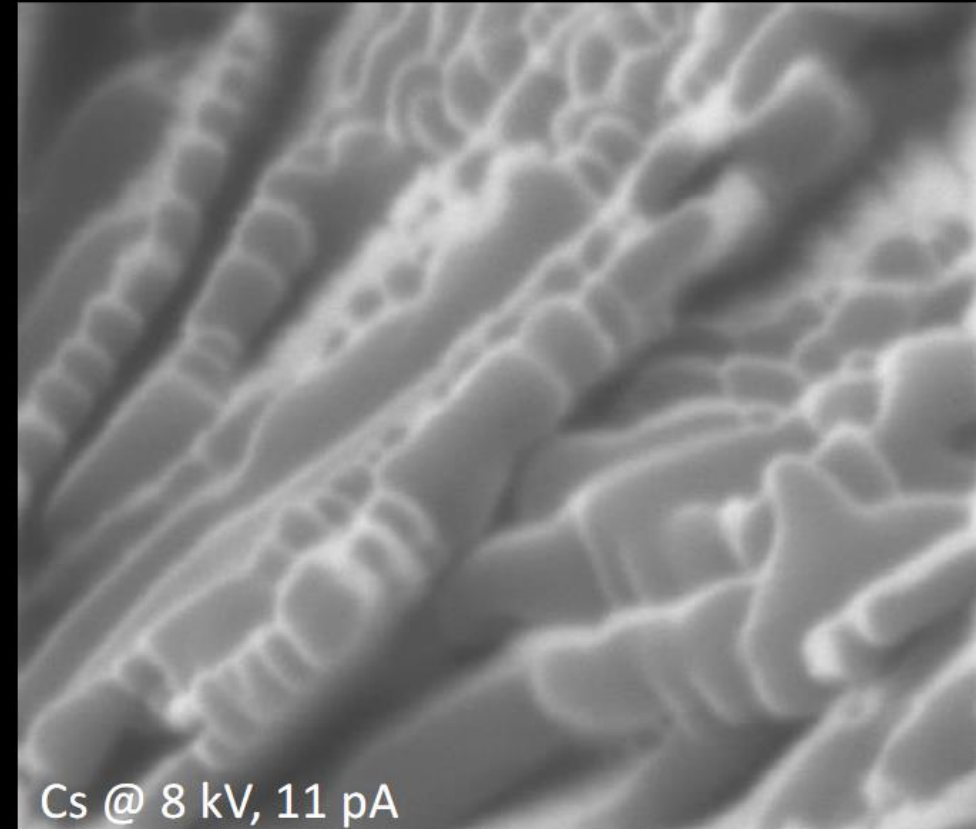
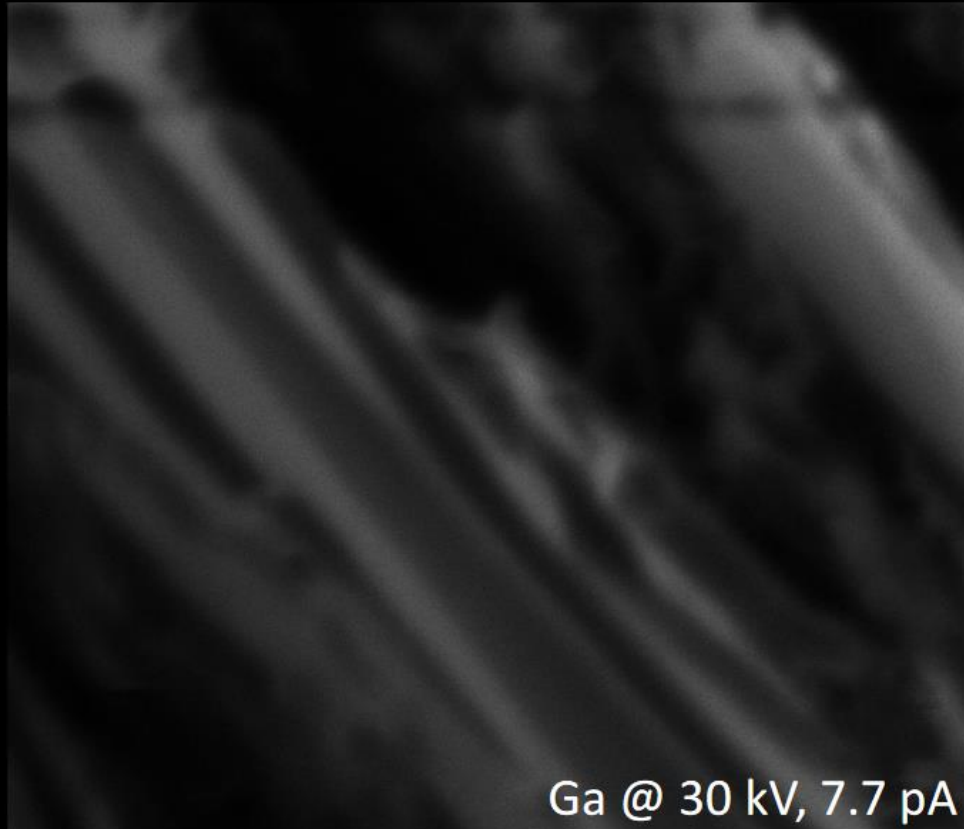
The cold temperature ( $\sim 10 \mu\text{K}$ ) is the key to achieving finely focused beams





Ga ion image

Cs ion image

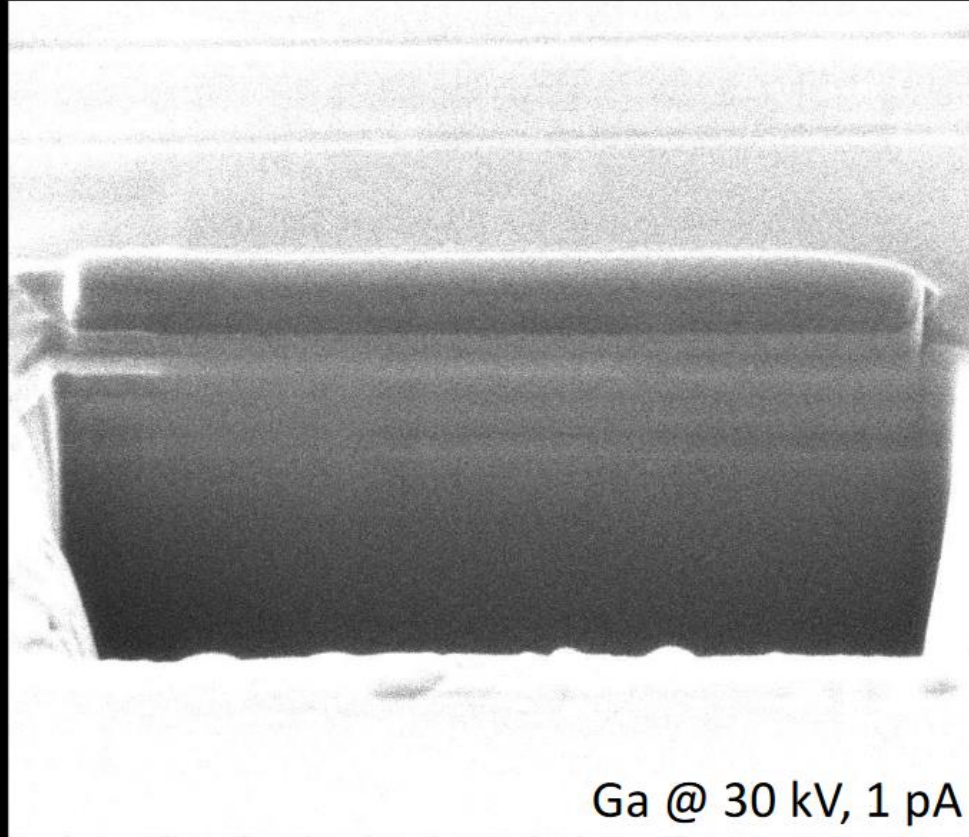


	HV	curr	dwell	det	mode	WD	tilt	mag	▣	300 nm	TU Kaiserslautern NSC T. Loeber
	30.00 kV	7.7 pA	10 μs	ETD	SE	13.0 mm	52 °	100 000 x			

	HV	curr	mode	dwell	mag	WD	400 nm	T. Loeber NSC
	8.00 kV	11 pA	SE	3 μs	100 000 x	16.3 mm		

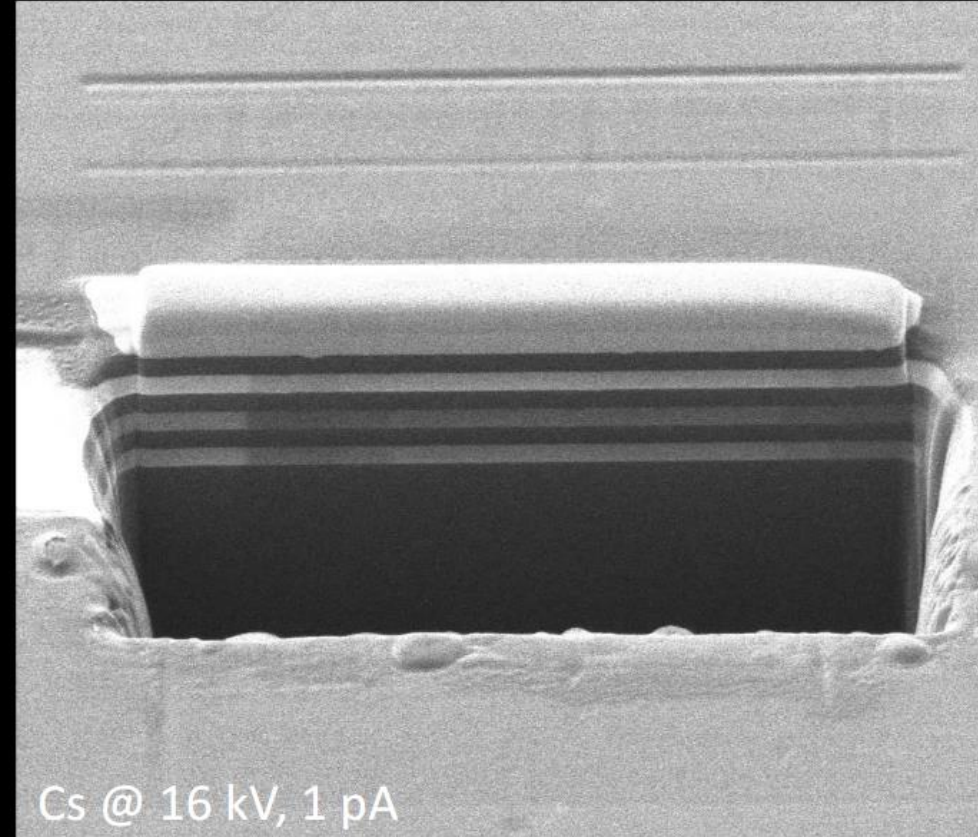
graphite pen: magnification 100k

Ga ion image



	HV	curr	dwell	det	mode	WD	tilt	mag	⊞	← 2 μm →
	30.00 kV	1.1 pA	30 μs	ETD	SE	13.0 mm	0 °	12 000 x		TU Kaiserslautern NSC T. Loeber

Cs ion image



	HV	curr	mode	dwell	mag	WD	← 4 μm →
	16.00 kV	0.60 pA	SE	30 μs	10 000 x	16.5 mm	T. Loeber NSC

Pt layer contrast of Ga inverted to Cs: dark <-> light

# FIB:ZERO Milling Rates

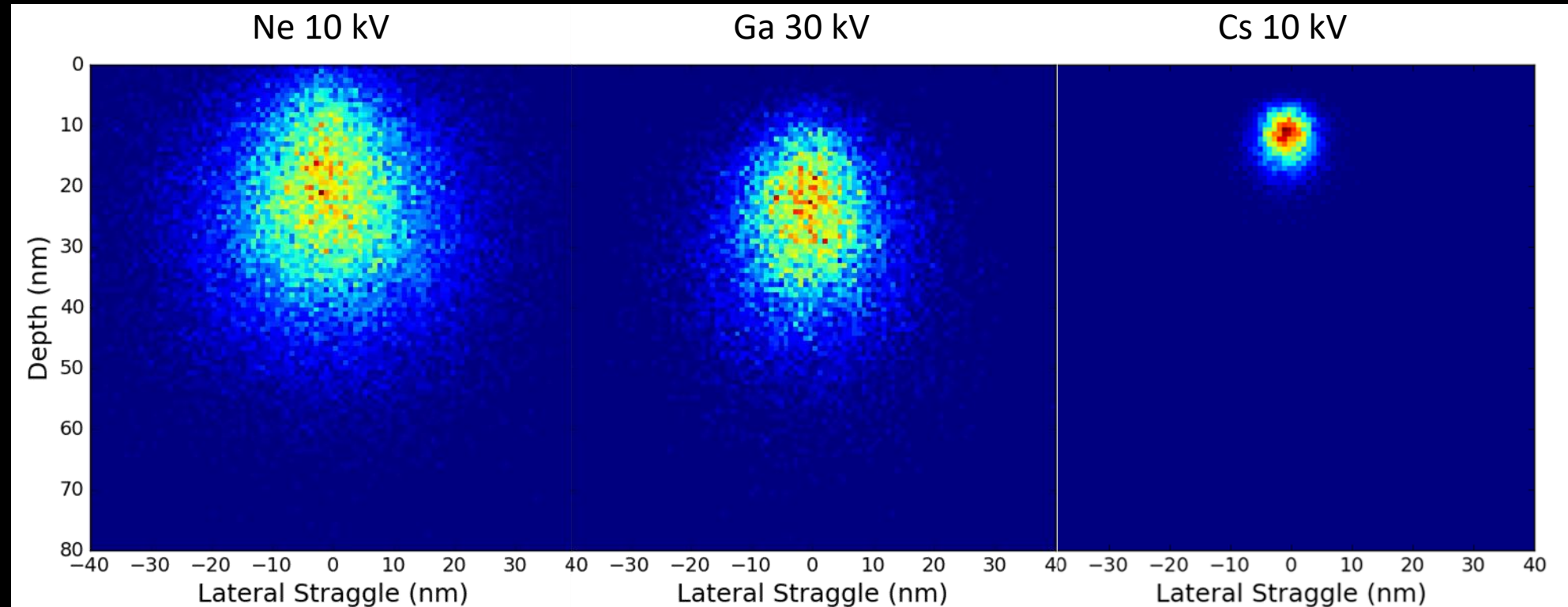
Milling rate of 10 kV Cs<sup>+</sup> FIB:ZERO about 15% lower than 30 kV Ga<sup>+</sup> for Si

Cs<sup>+</sup> LoTIS milling rates 90% higher than Ne<sup>+</sup> (and **much** higher than He<sup>+</sup>)

Ne 10 kV	Ga 30 kV	Cs 10 kV
1.00-1.38 at/ion	2.20-2.40 at/ion	1.90-2.15 at/ion

# Implant Depth Comparisons (SRIM simulation)

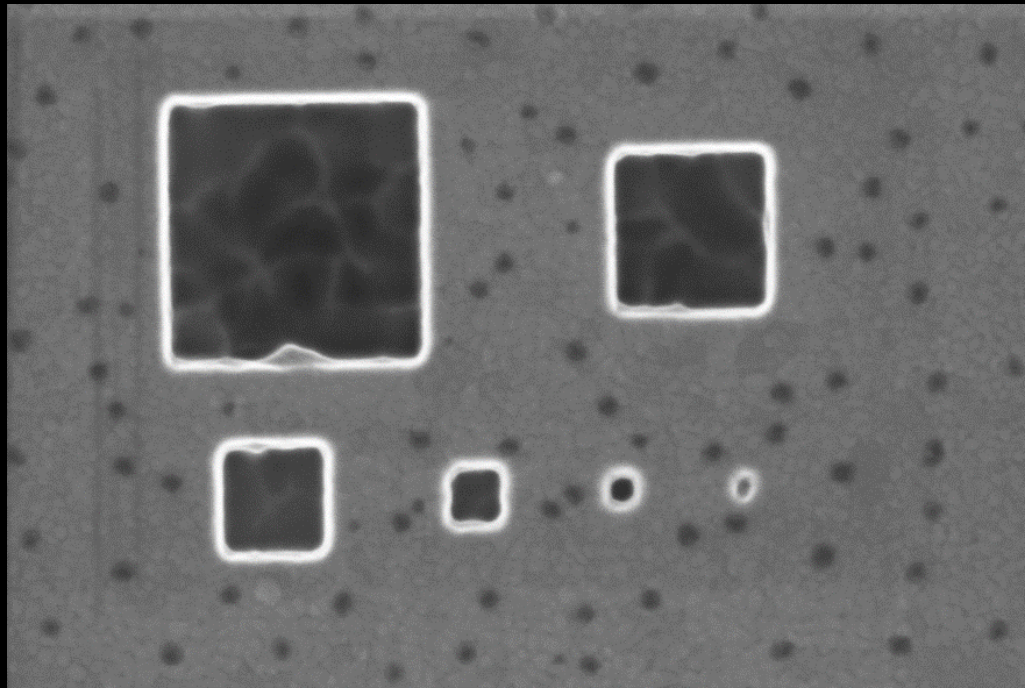
- Comparison of three scenarios where spot size might be 'good enough'
- Cs has significantly reduced straggle and implant depth





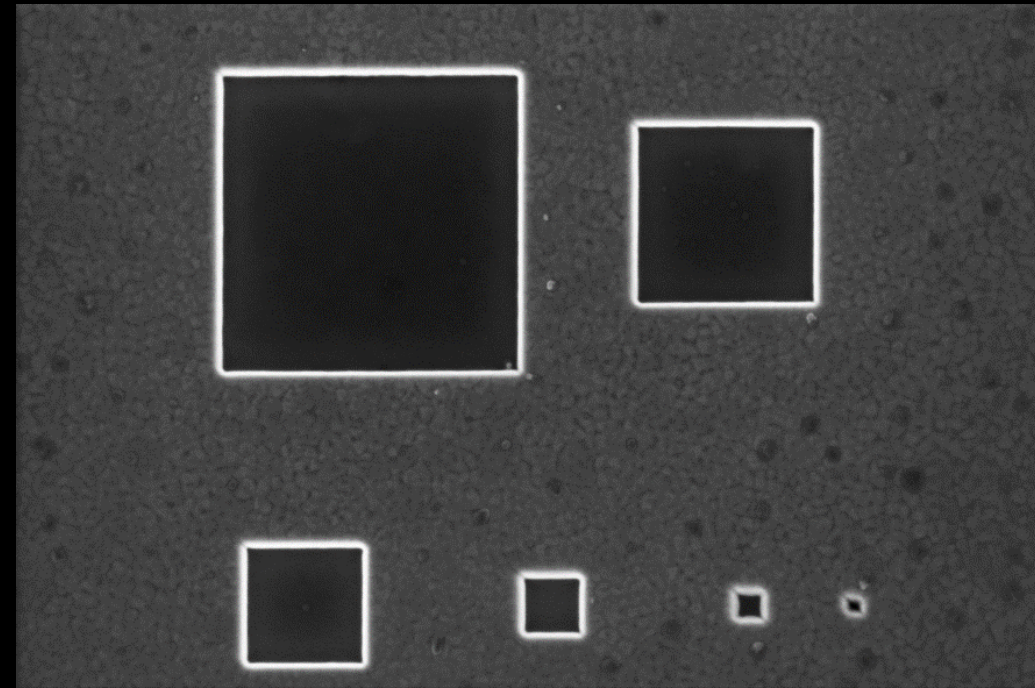
Milling Accuracy: 110 nm Au on Si  
→ LoTIS provides clean mill boxes with sharp corners

Milled with Ga<sup>+</sup> LMIS



	HV	curr	dwell	det	mode	WD	tilt	mag	HPF	1 µm
	2.00 kV	0.10 nA	300 ns	TLD	SE	4.0 mm	0 °	50 000 x	4.14 µm	TU Kaiserslautern NSC T. Loeber

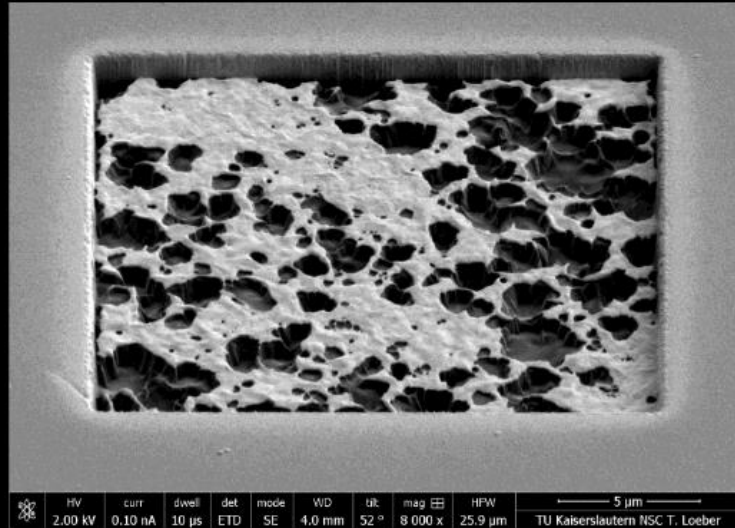
Milled with Cs<sup>+</sup> LoTIS



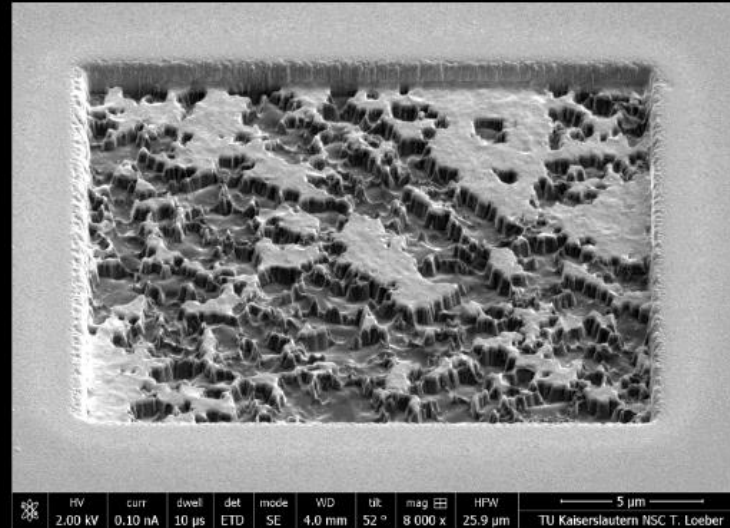
	HV	curr	dwell	det	mode	WD	tilt	mag	HPF	1 µm
	2.00 kV	0.10 nA	300 ns	TLD	SE	4.4 mm	0 °	50 000 x	4.14 µm	TU Kaiserslautern NSC T. Loeber

- squares with 1, 0.6, 0.4, 0.2, 0.1 and 0.05 µm length
- milled through the Au layer
- milling time Ga and Cs almost the same

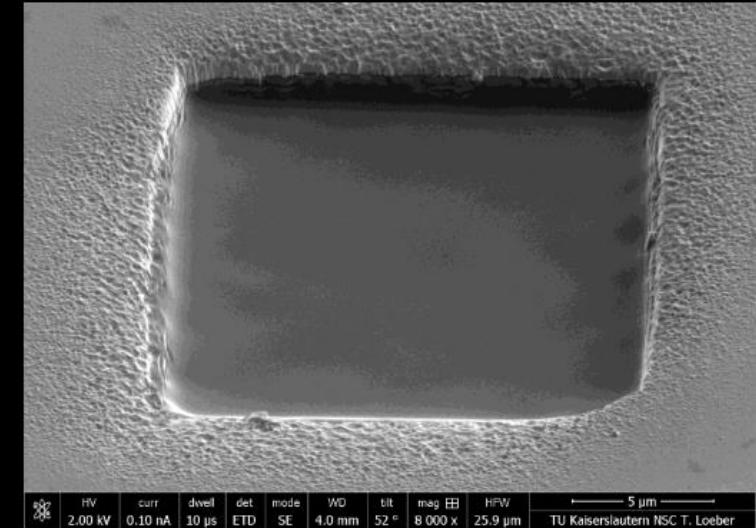
Ga ion: 30 kV @ 2640 pA



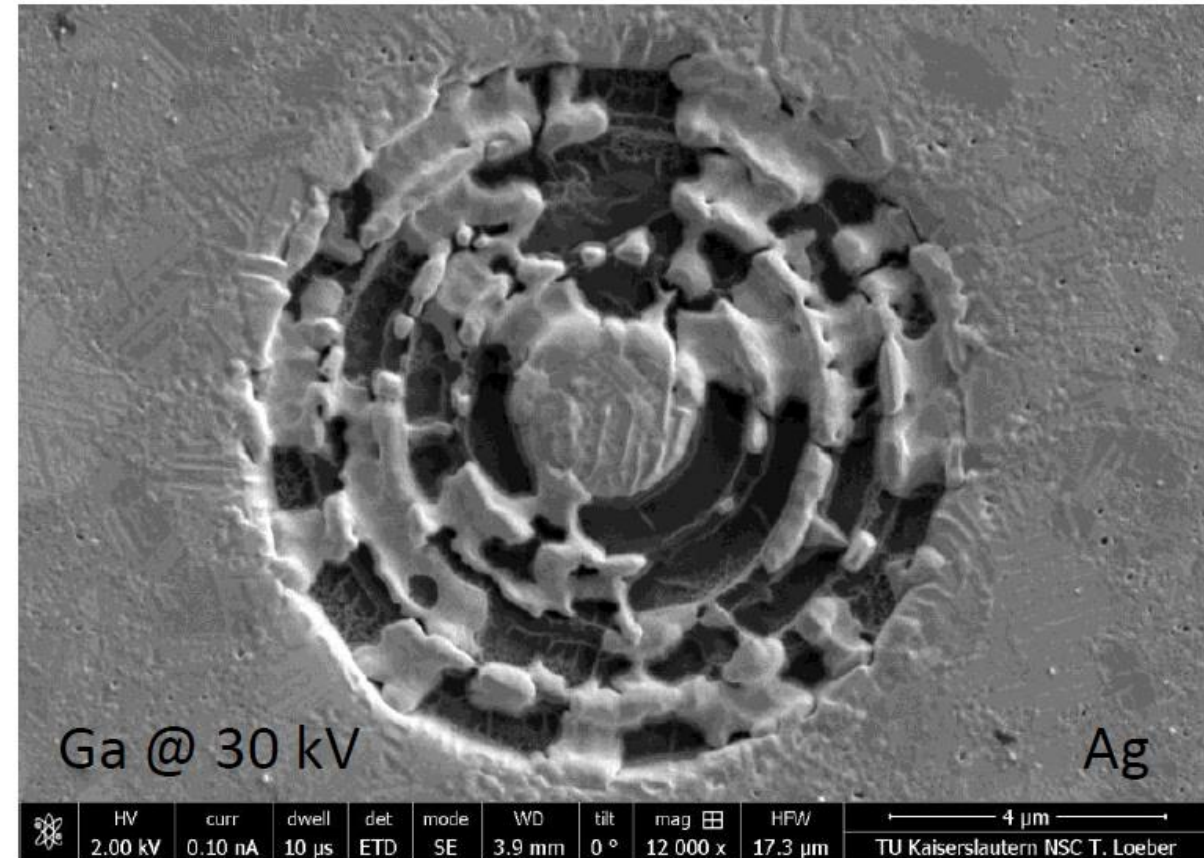
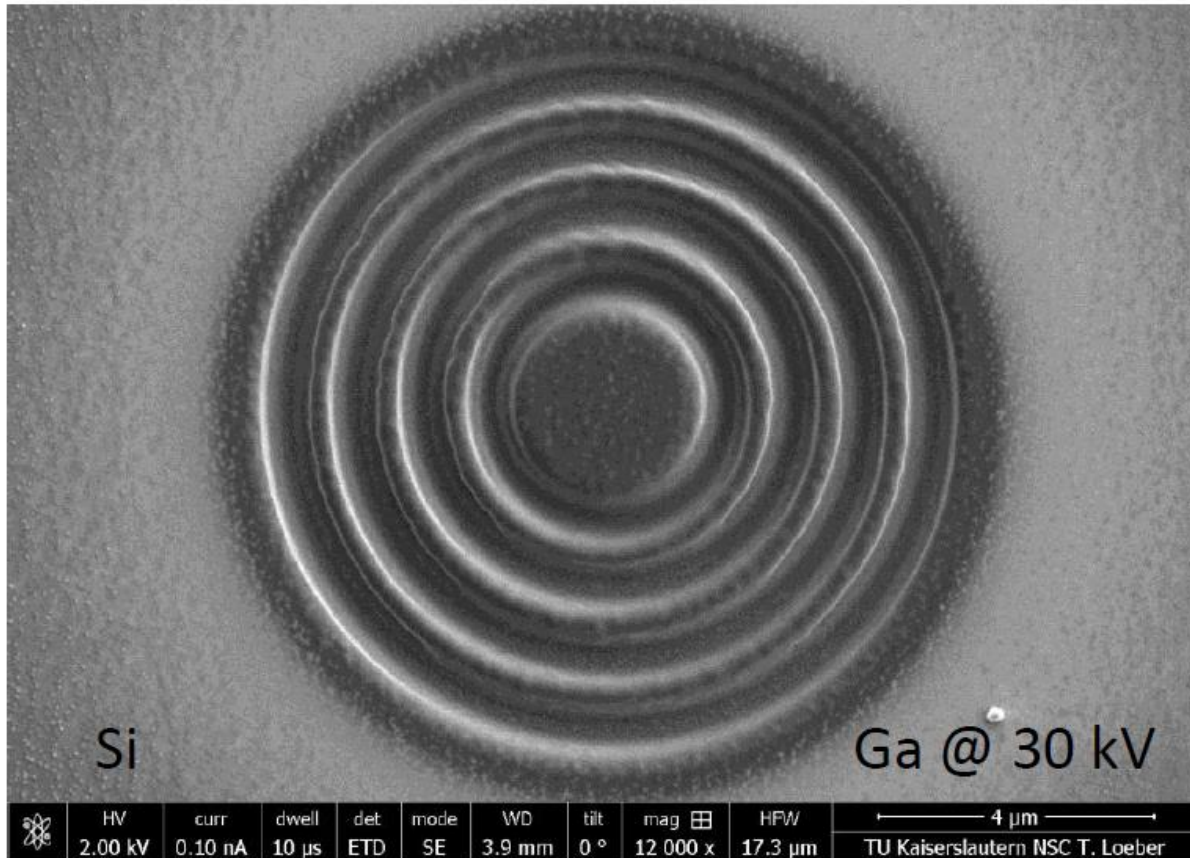
Ga ion: 16 kV @ 1440 pA



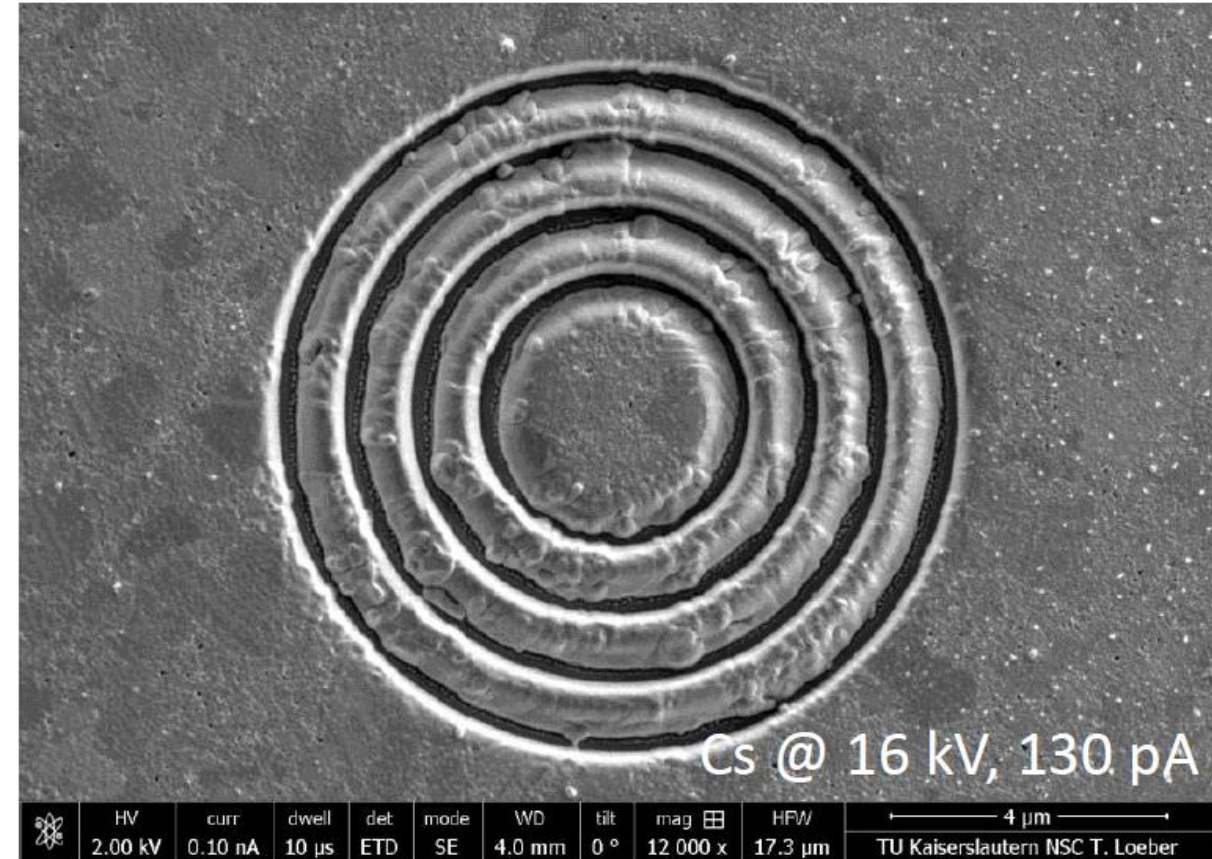
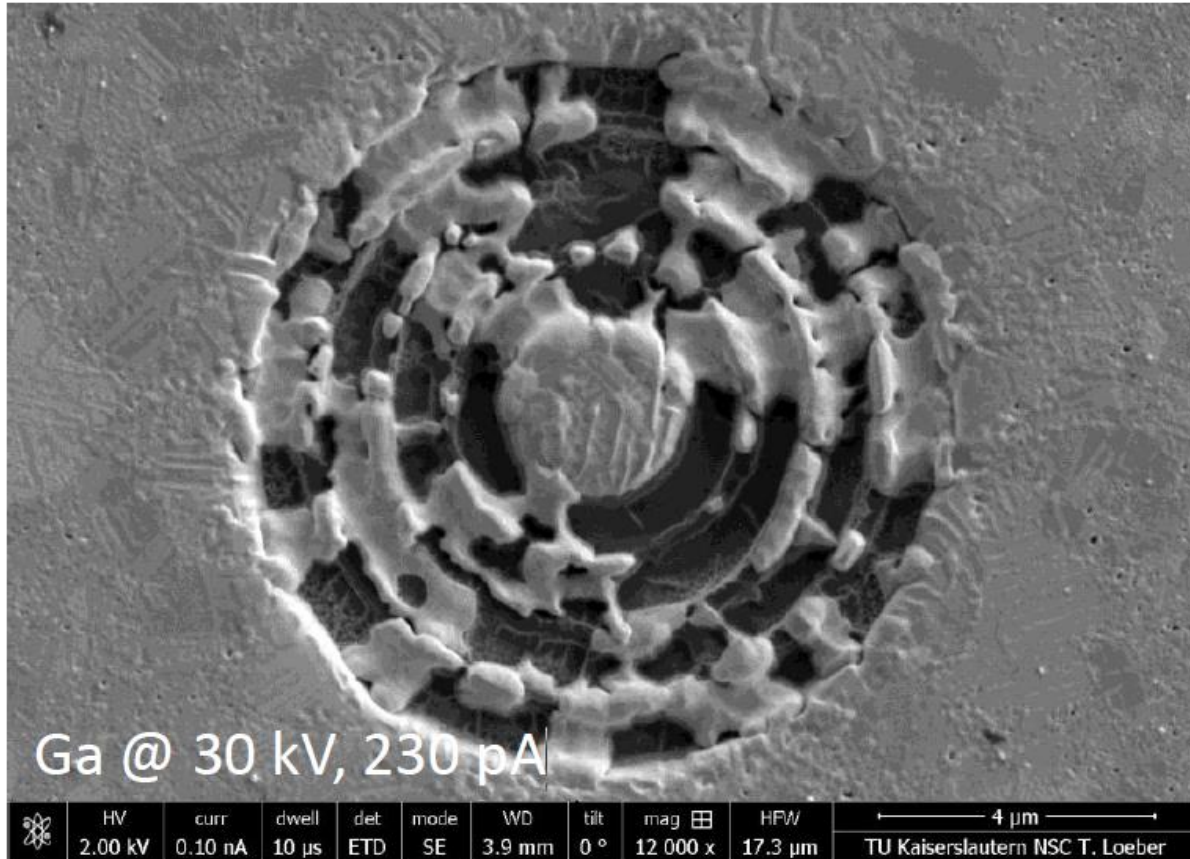
Cs ion: 16 kV @ 1070 pA



- sputtered Copper layer on Silicon
- layer thickness 1150 nm
- rectangle 20 μm x 20 μm
- milling time about 20 min
- dose about 4500 pC/μm<sup>2</sup>



- demonstration: plasmonic ring structures
- no problem in silicon
- inhomogeneous milling in polycrystalline silver



- plasmonic structures
- Ga: inhomogeneous milling in polycrystalline silver
- Cs: significant better rings

# Summary- FIB:ZERO

High resolution FIB nanomachining tool

... with a Cs<sup>+</sup> ion source

... excellent at milling small structures

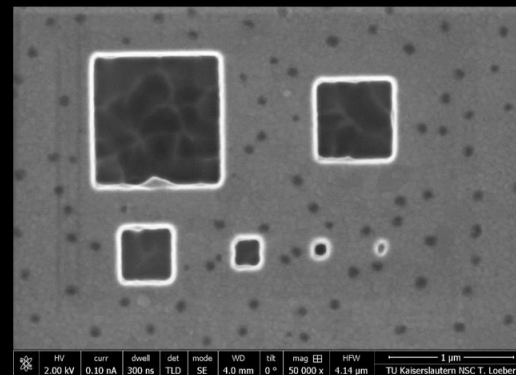
... demo tool available for collaborations

... compatible with depo & etch gas chemistries

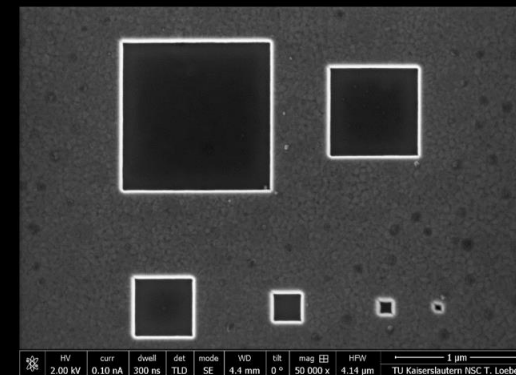
... available as a FIB-SEM (Thermo-Fisher SCIOS)

Milling Accuracy: 110 nm Au on Si  
 → LoTIS provides clean mill boxes with sharp corners

Milled with Ga<sup>+</sup> LMIS



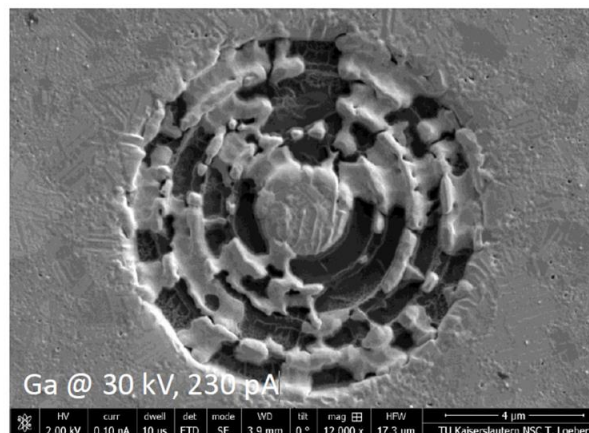
Milled with Cs<sup>+</sup> LoTIS



- squares with 1, 0.6, 0.4, 0.2, 0.1 and 0.05 μm length
- milled through the Au layer
- milling time Ga and Cs almost the same

PHYSIK

Milling in silver



- plasmonic structures
- Ga: inhomogeneous milling in polycrystalline silver
- Cs: significant better rings



# Existing Elemental Analysis Techniques and a New Solution

## EDX/EELS

- Long sample-prep times
- 3D analysis infeasible
- Low-Z elements challenging

## Site-Specific SIMS

- Resolution limited to ~50 nm with high yield (CAMECA NanoSIMS), or
- Can get a high resolution FIB (Ga, He, Ne) with a time-of-flight SIMS analyzer. But low secondary ion yields from these beams usually results in poor lateral resolution. Additionally, time-of-flight analyzers necessitate **long** acquisition times.

These points are addressable by

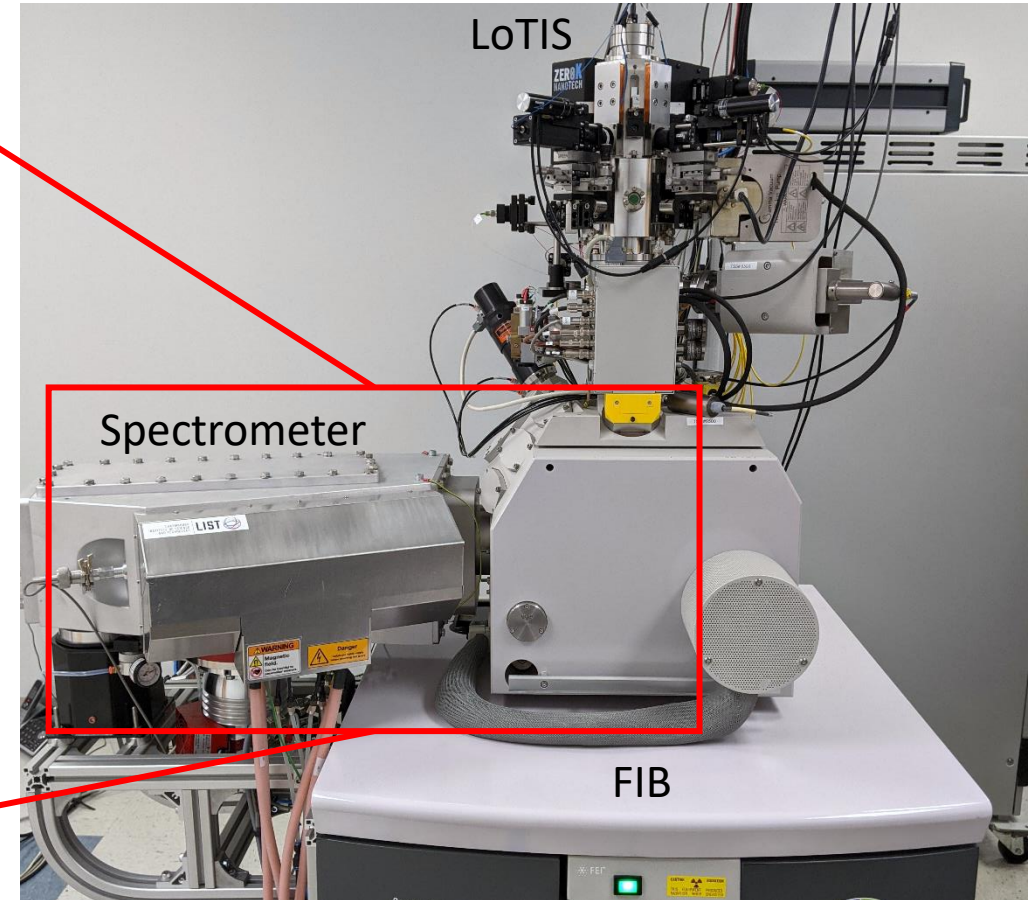
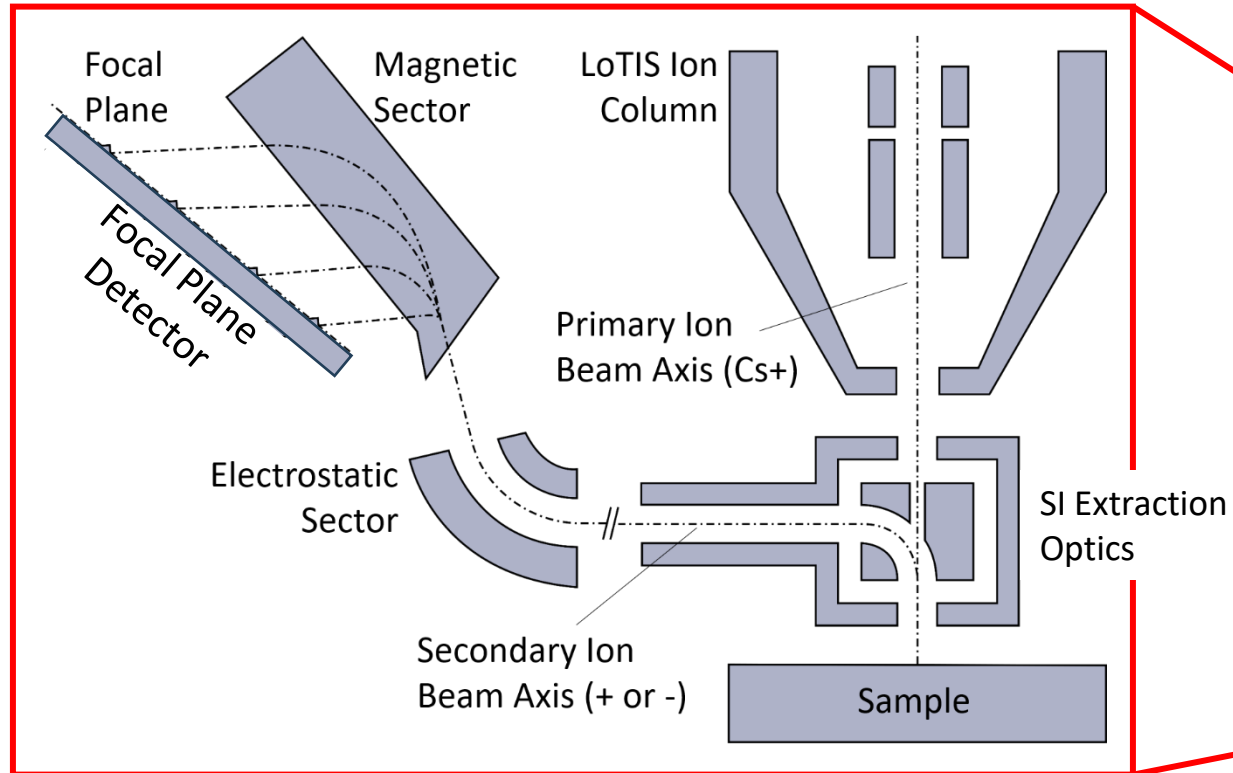
## SIMS:ZERO

- Few-nanometer resolution (slide 21)
- High secondary ion yield (slides 23,24)
- Integrated sample-prep and analysis capability (slides 25-31)

# SIMS:ZERO

## Instrument Overview

Cs<sup>+</sup> FIB:ZERO (zeroK) and SIMS spectrometer (LIST: Luxembourg Institute of Science and Technology) on a 600 series FIB (FEI)

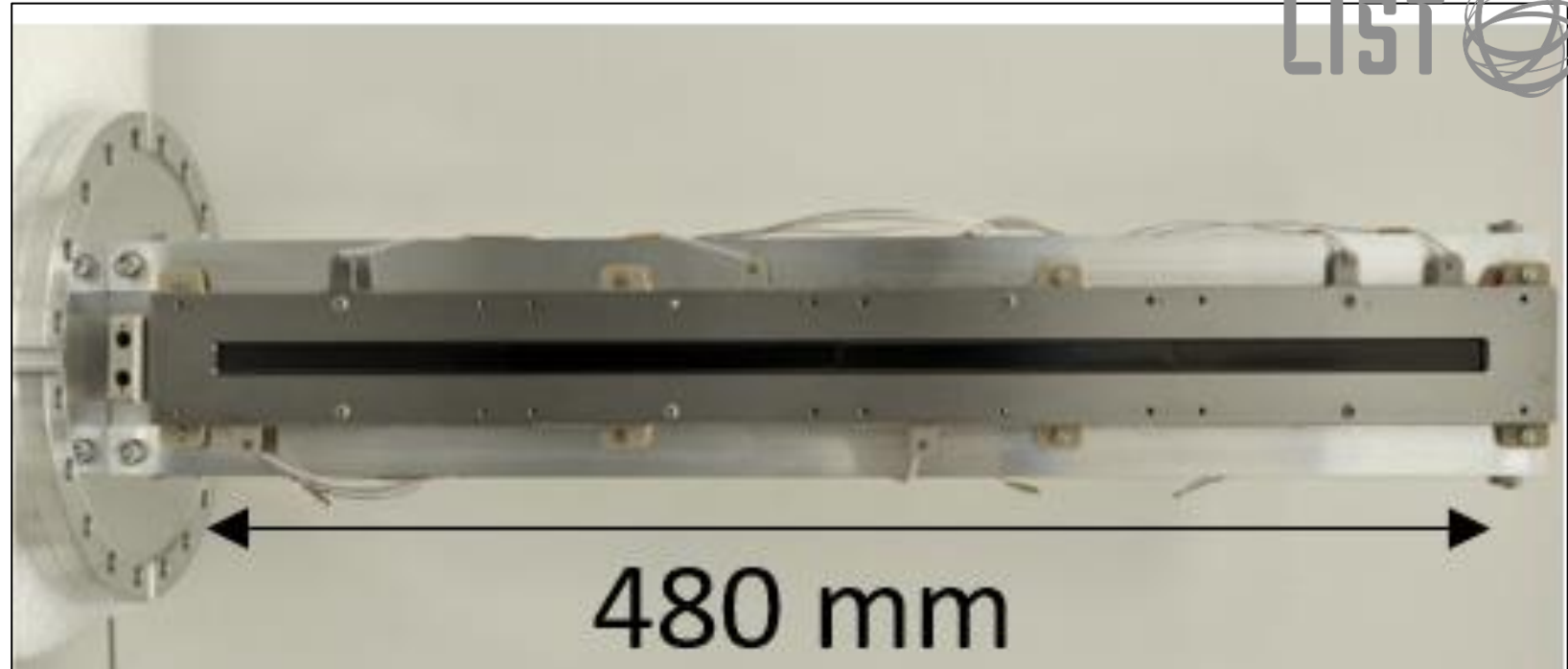


- FIB online 6/2020
- SIMS online 5/2021

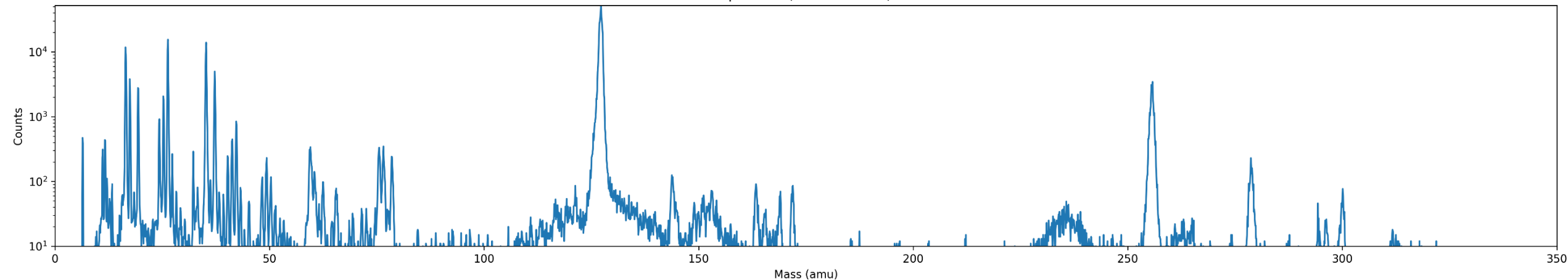


# Continuous Detector

- Sample the entire mass spectrum for every pixel (e.g. 6-350 amu)
- Collect the entire spectrum (as in ToF SIMS), but without painfully long acquisition times
- 480 mm micro-channel plate
- Delay lines, discriminators allow for pulse counting along the full length



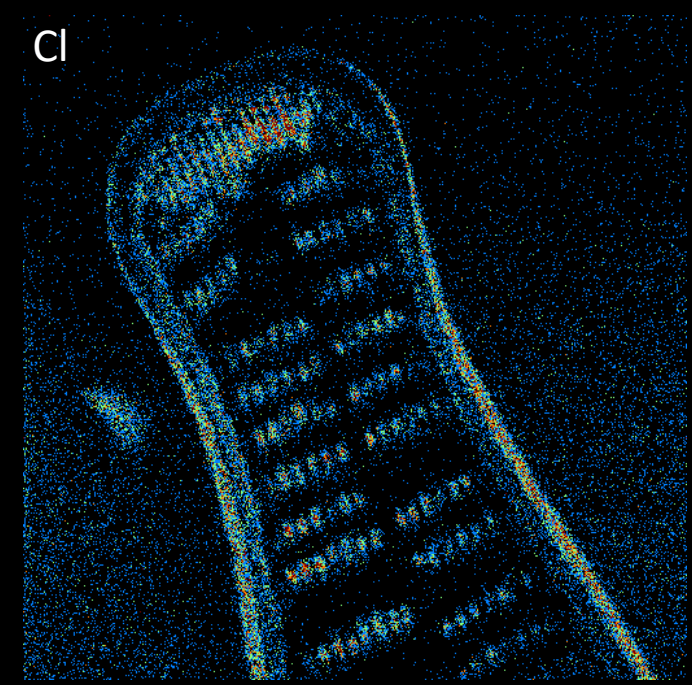
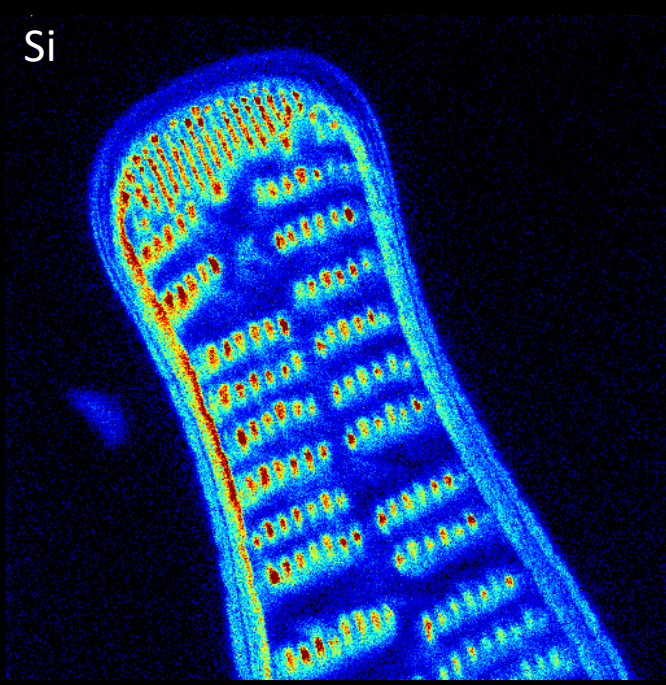
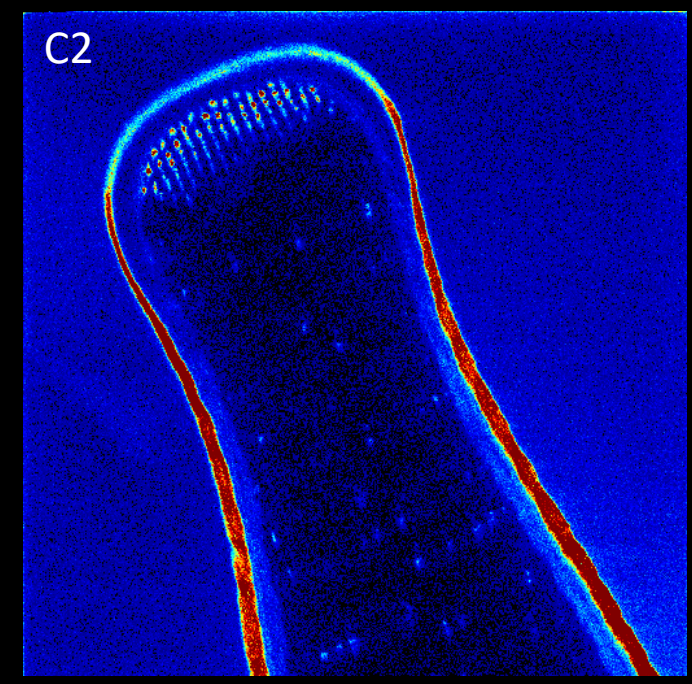
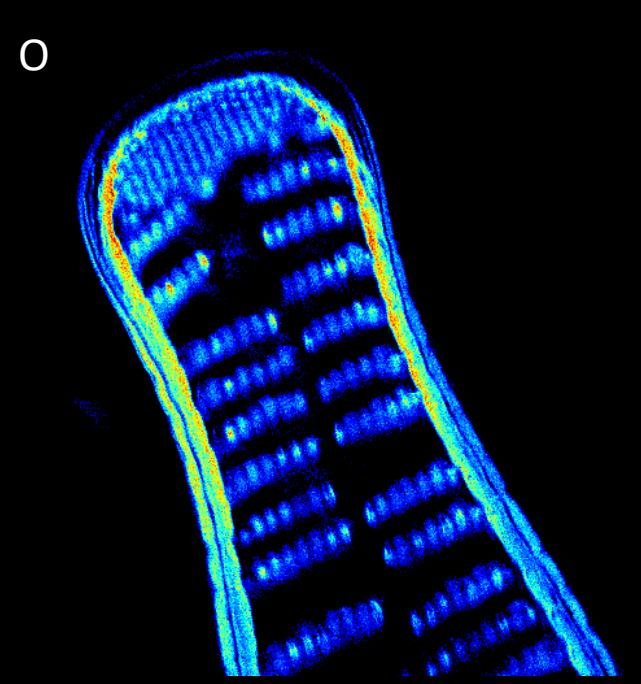
Spectrum ( $dM=0.10$  amu)



# Diatoms LIST

(Silica-shelled algae)

7.5  $\mu\text{m}$  FoV

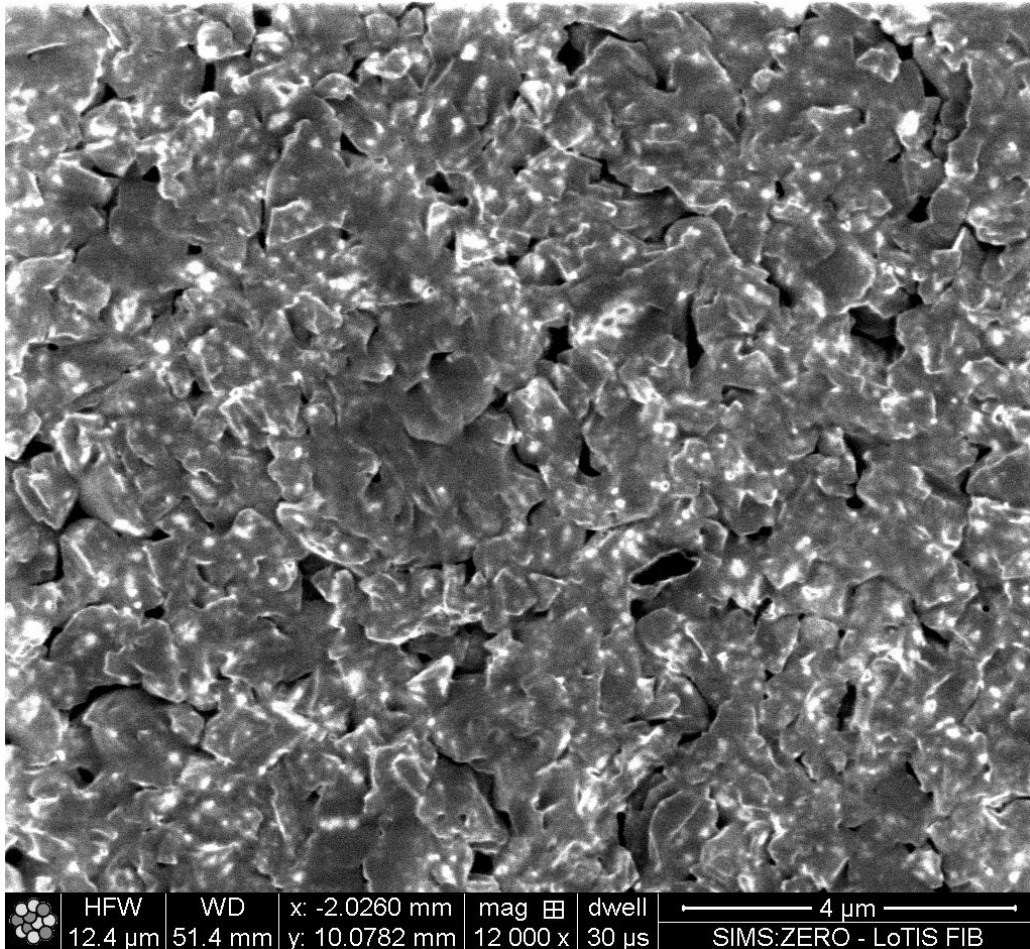


# SIMS Analysis Example

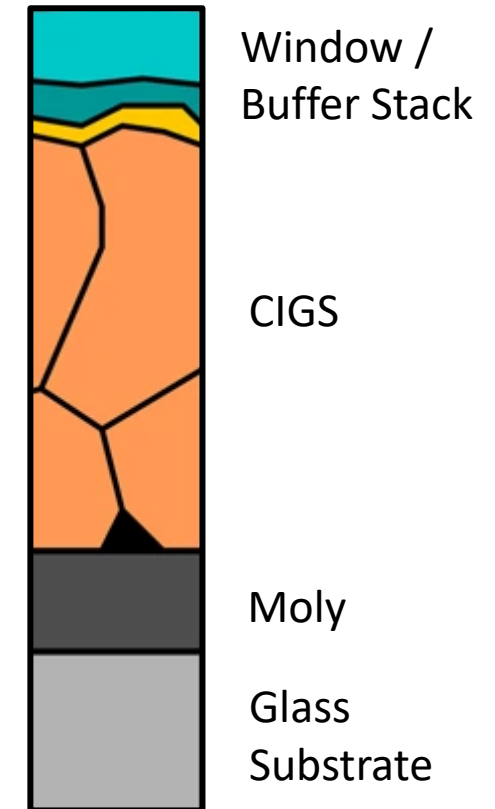
CIGS  $\text{Cu}(\text{In},\text{Ga})\text{Se}_2$  – Rb doped

## Summary

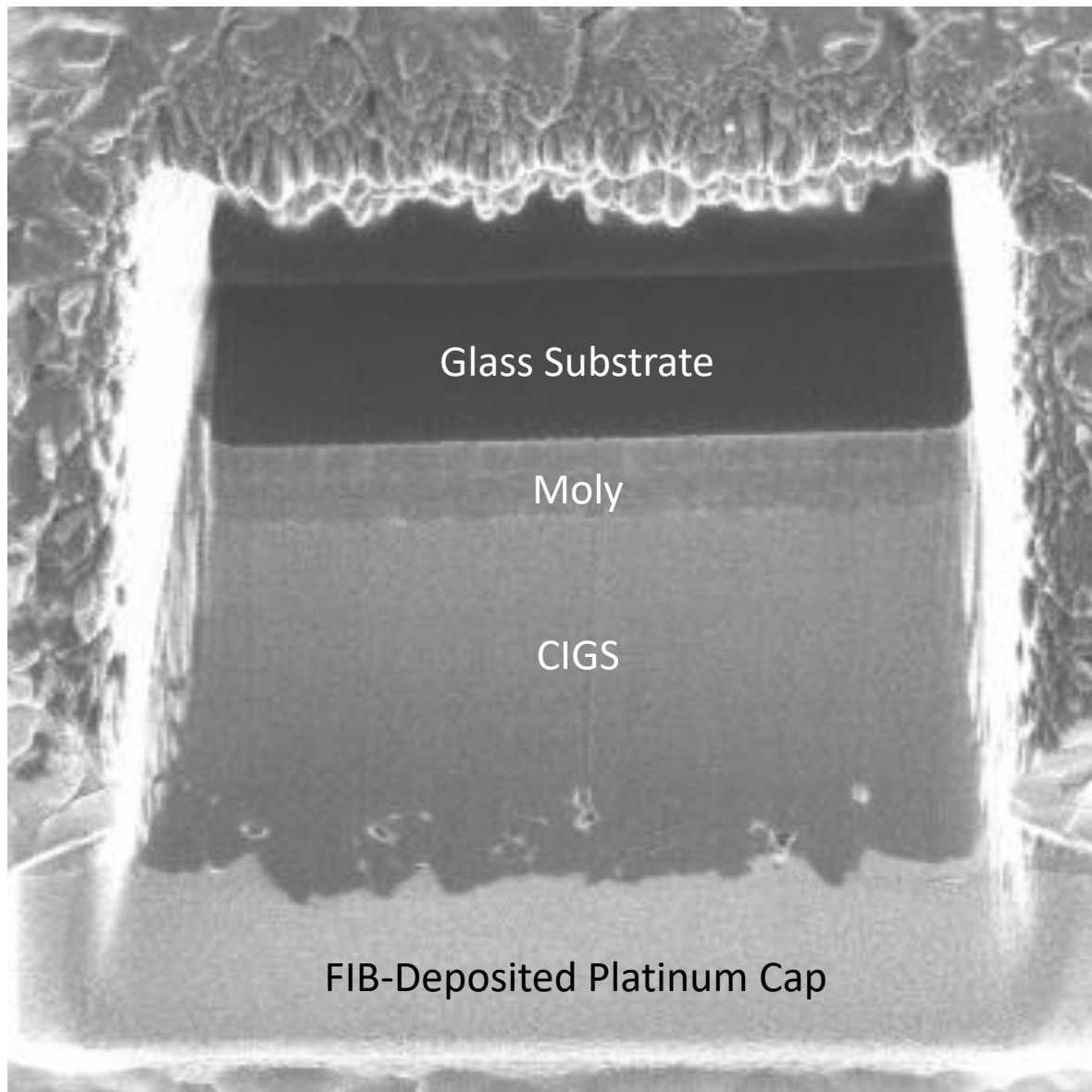
- CIGS is a solar cell absorber material
  - Rubidium doping increases conversion efficiency
- SIMS spectra clearly show all CIGS elements:
  - Cu, In, Ga, Rb in Positive Mode
  - Se in Negative Mode
- Secondary ion imaging channels show distribution of elements in sample, eg Rb dopants concentrated in grain boundaries
- Secondary electron images provide complementary information at high resolution
- Section view technique provides superior SIMS data



SE Image Cs+, 16keV, 10pA, 51.6mm WD

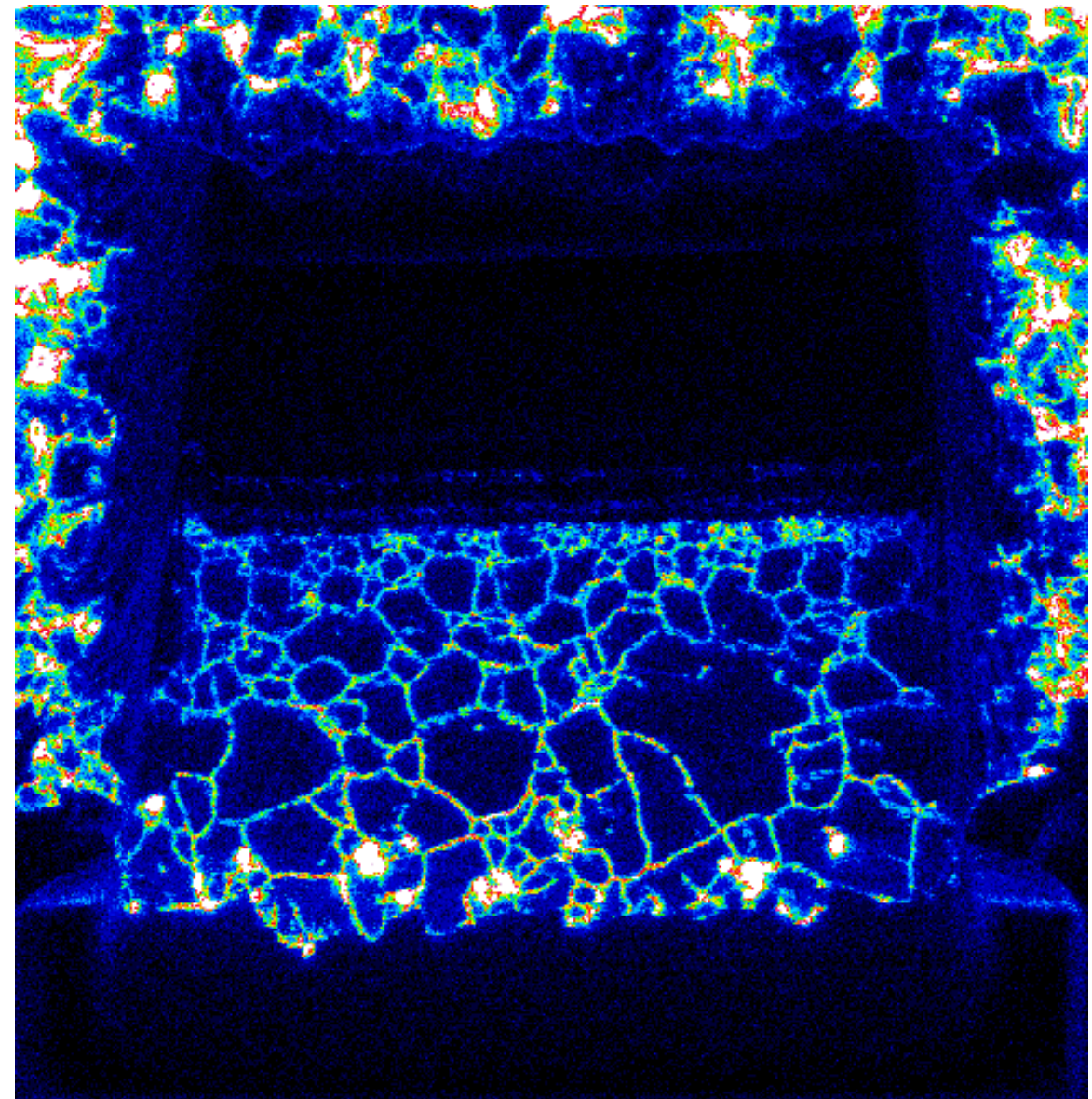


Werner, et al. [Scientific Reports](#) volume 10, 7530 (2020)



**Secondary electron image**

- Sample polished, ready for SIMS
- 9.5  $\mu\text{m}$  FOV

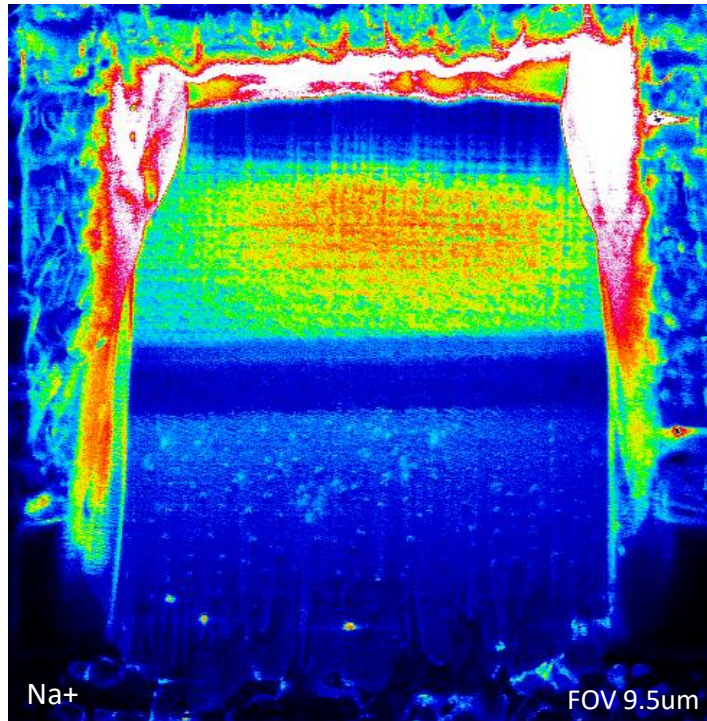


**Rb<sup>+</sup> SIMS Image**

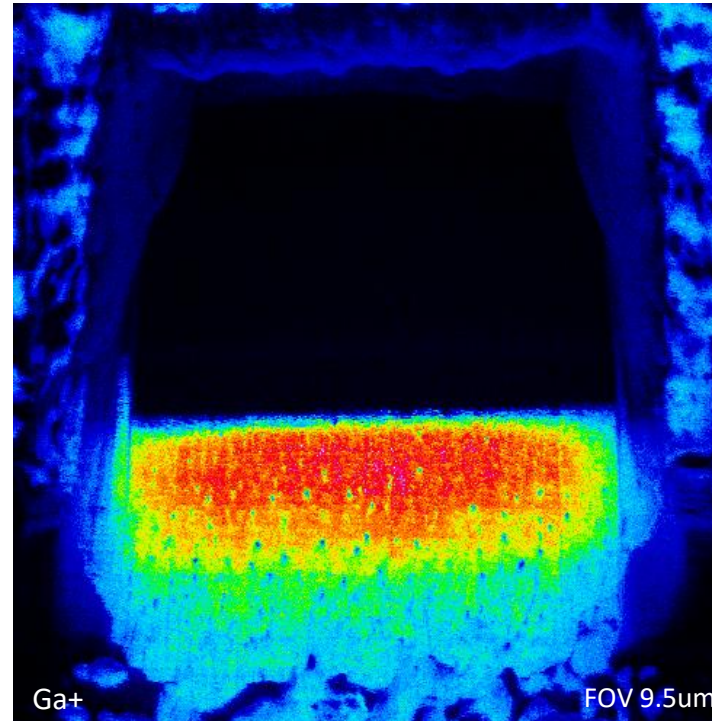
- Rb confined to grain boundaries
- Grains are smaller near the interfaces
- Bilayer structure in the Moly layer

# CIGS Cu(In,Ga)Se<sub>2</sub> – Rb doped

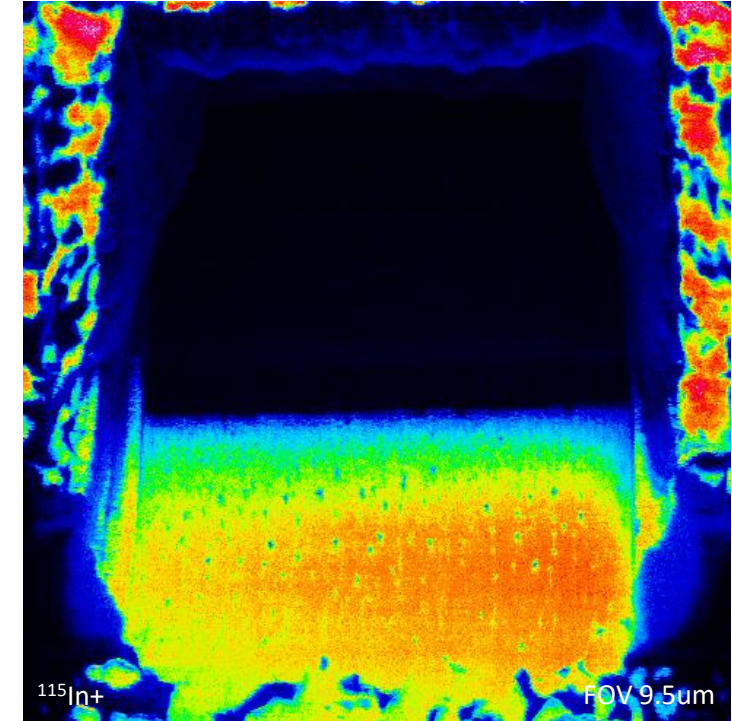
Section View – Positive Ions – Post 3<sup>rd</sup> Polish



Na – Soda Lime Glass



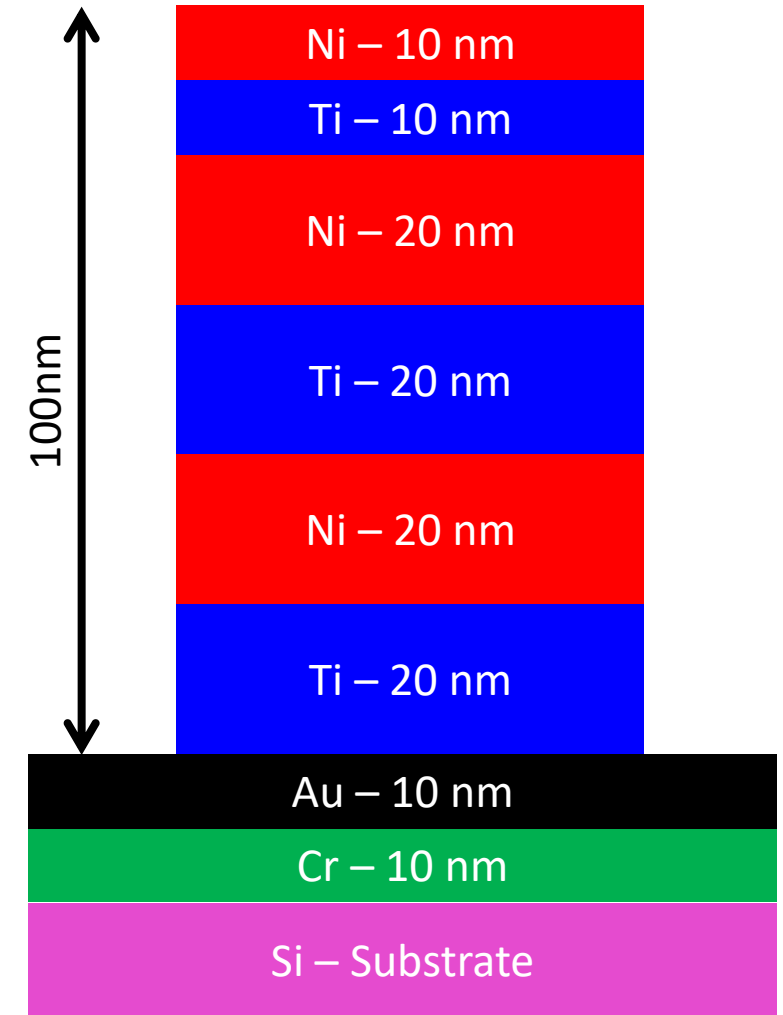
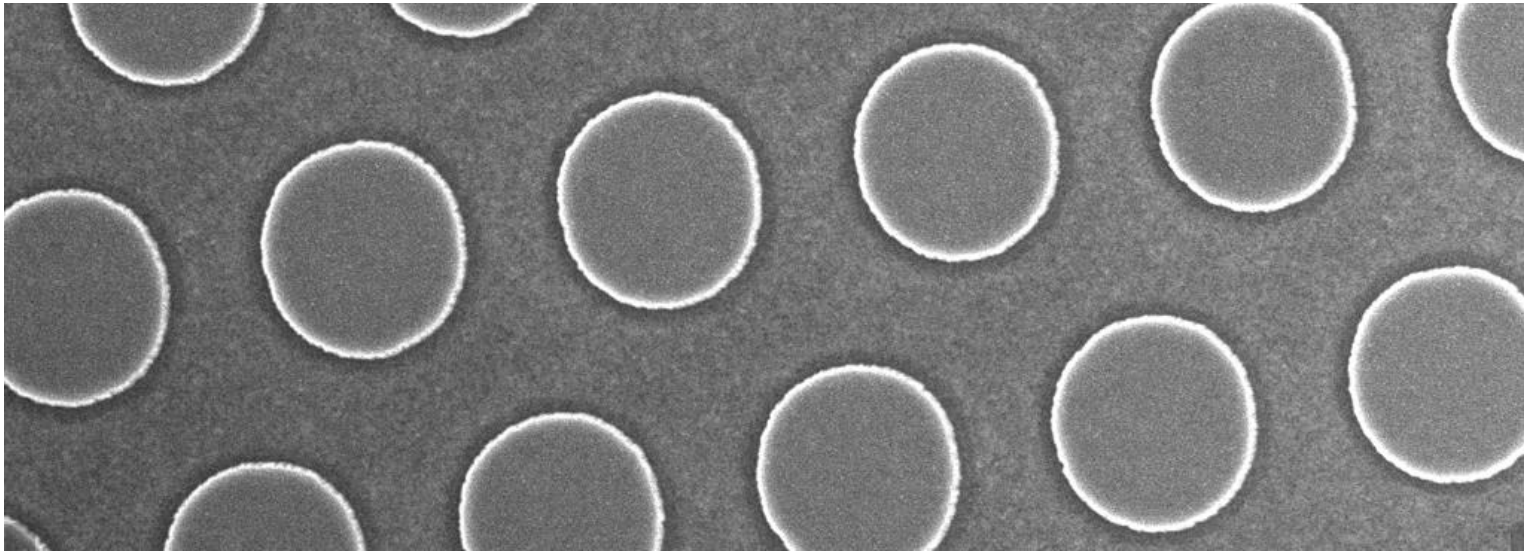
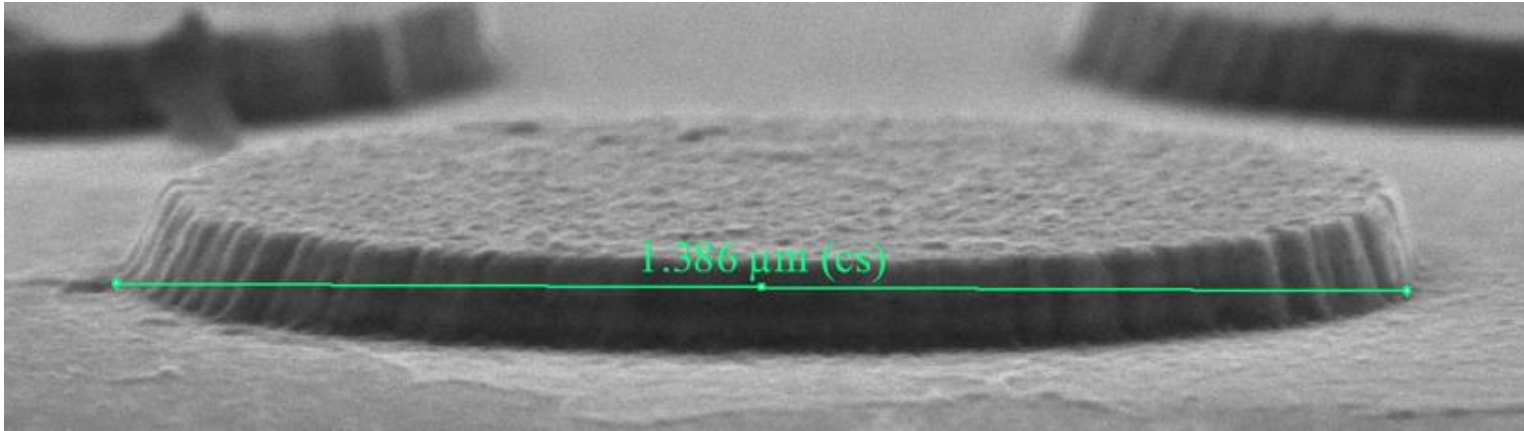
Ga concentration gradient ↑



In concentration gradient ↓

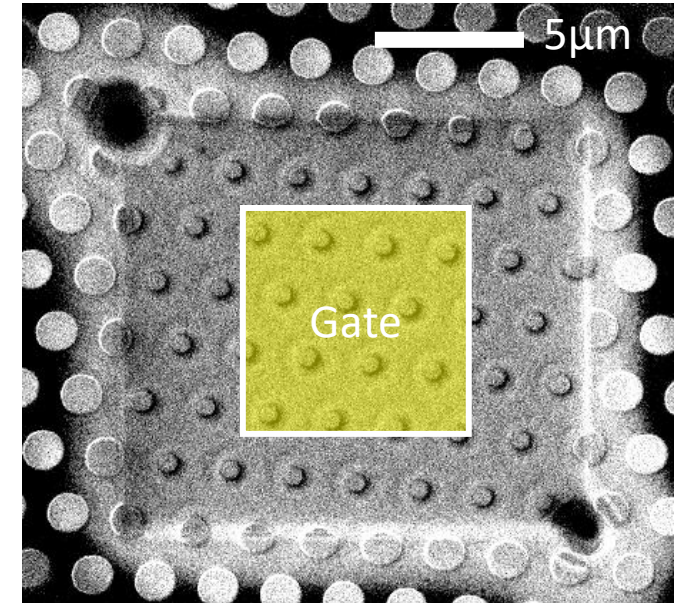
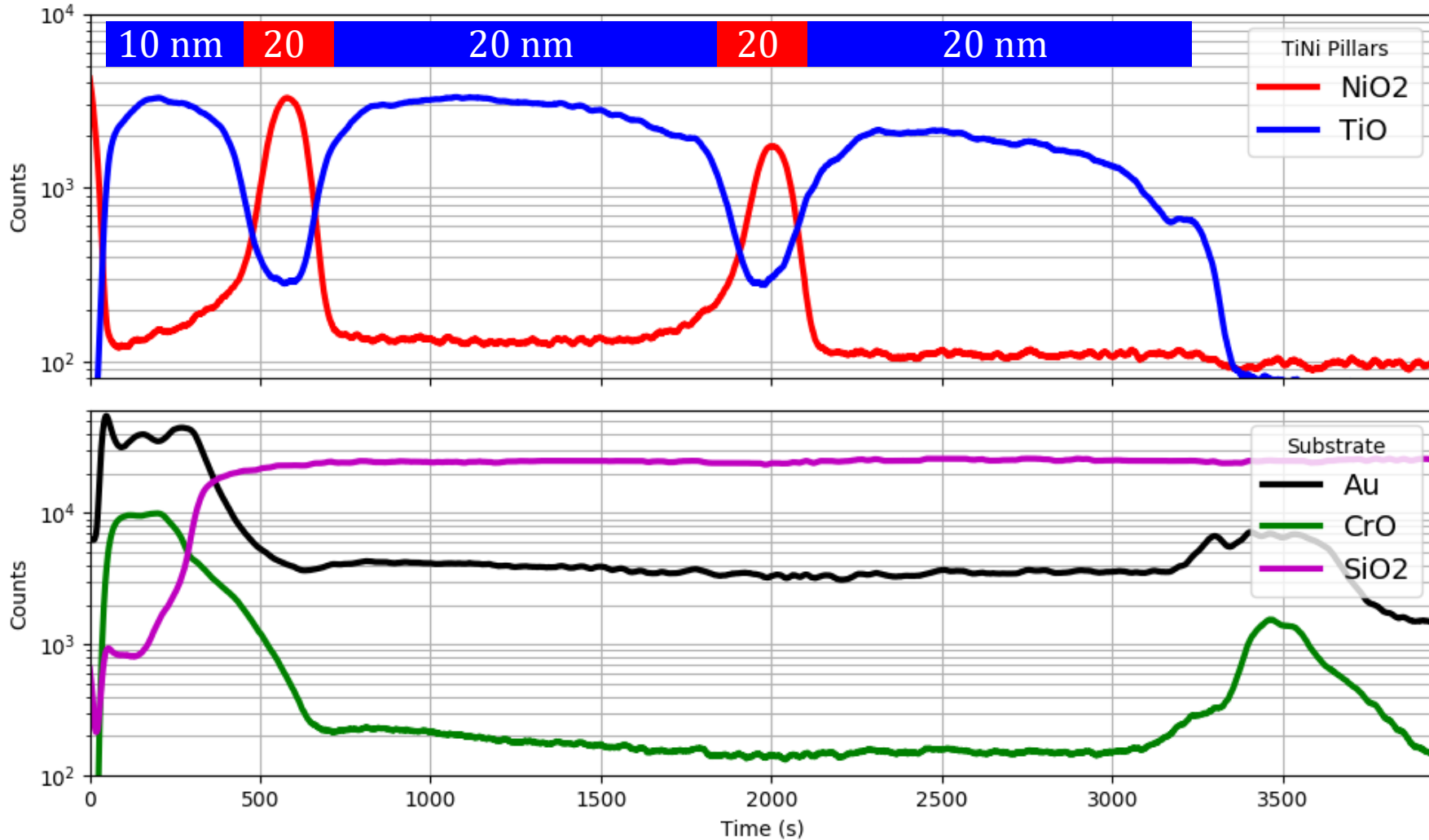
# TiNi Pillars

Multilayer Ti / Ni Pillars on Au/Cr/Si Substrate



# TiNi Pillars

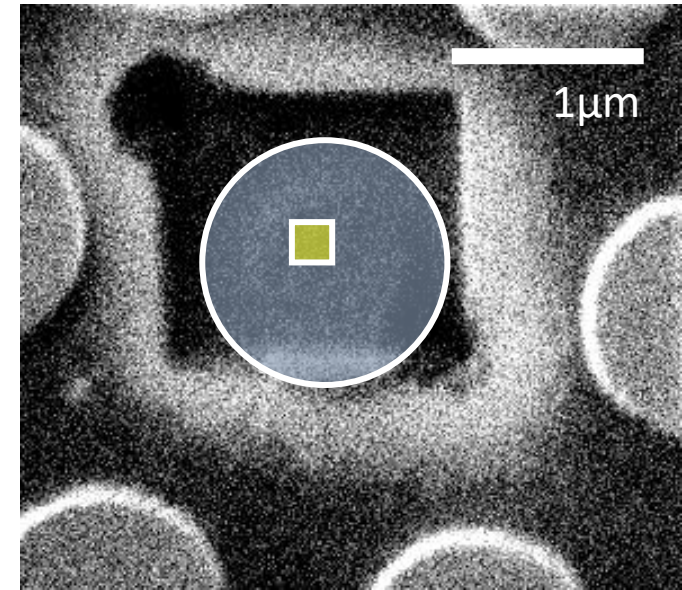
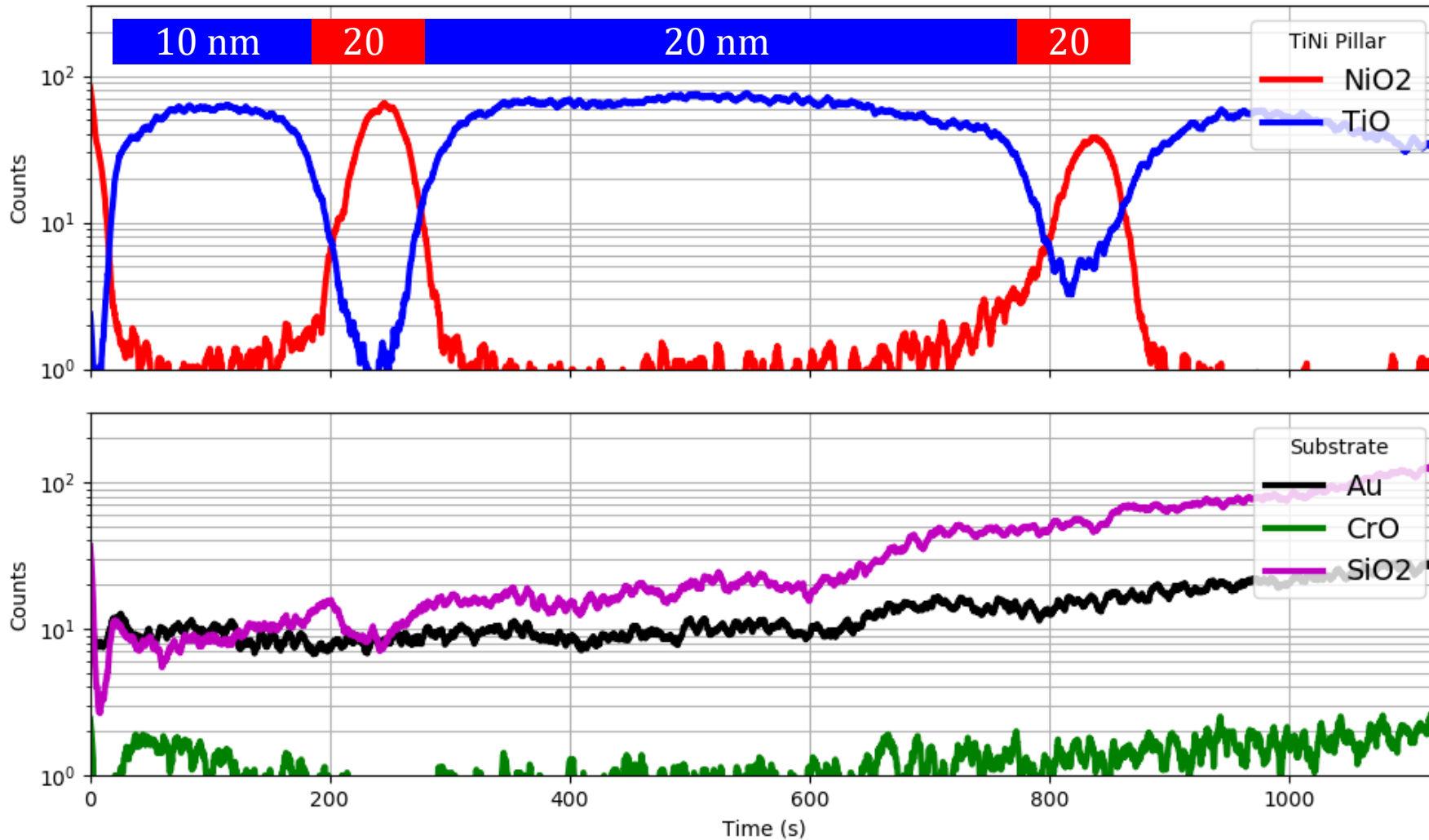
'Large' Area Depth Profile (7.5 $\mu$ m Gate)



Parameter	Value
Current	5pA
Energy	5kV
Polarity	Neg
Gate FOV	7.5 $\mu$ m
Integration time	1000ms
Field	600mT

# TiNi Pillars

'Small' Area Depth Profile (200nm Gate)



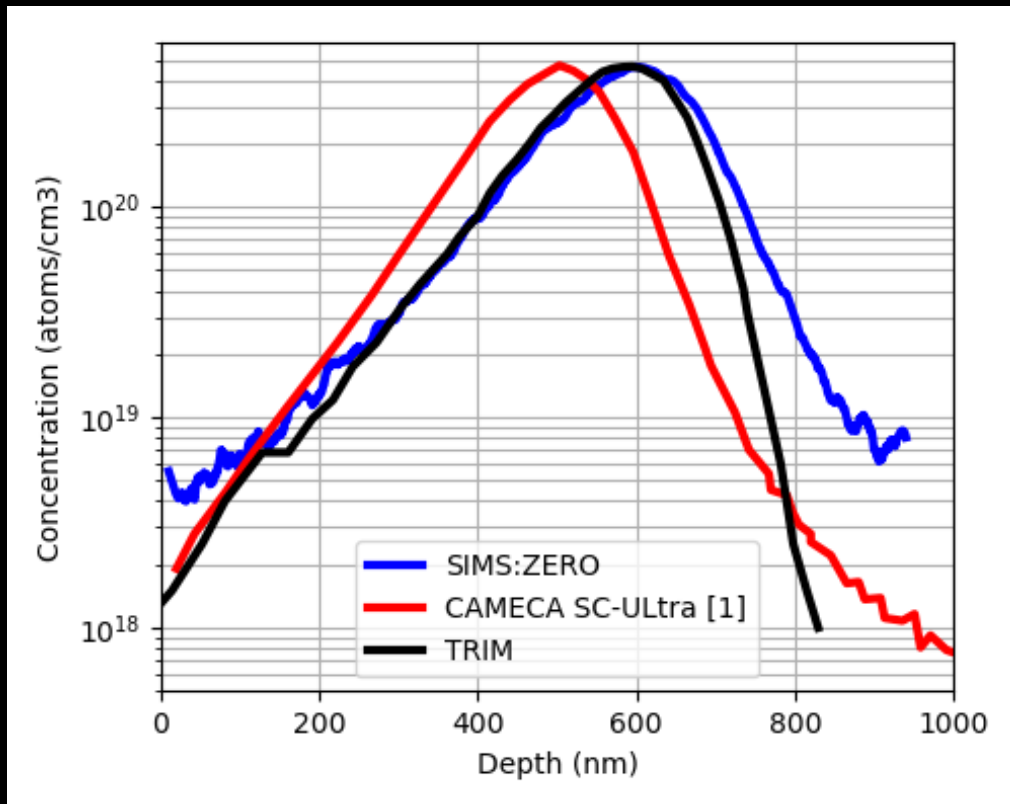
Parameter	Value
Current	2pA
Energy	5kV
Polarity	Neg
Gate FOV	200 nm
Integration time	250ms
Field	600mT



# Boron Doped Silicon

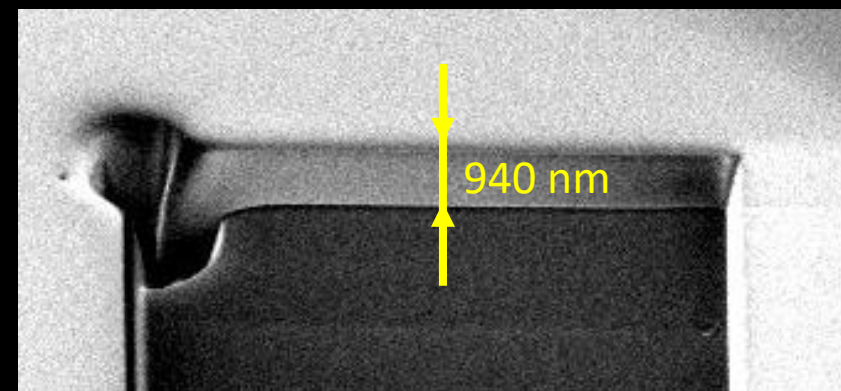
## Depth Profile Comparison – Reference Sample

Implantation of B at 190 keV; Dose  $10^{16}$  ions/cm<sup>2</sup>



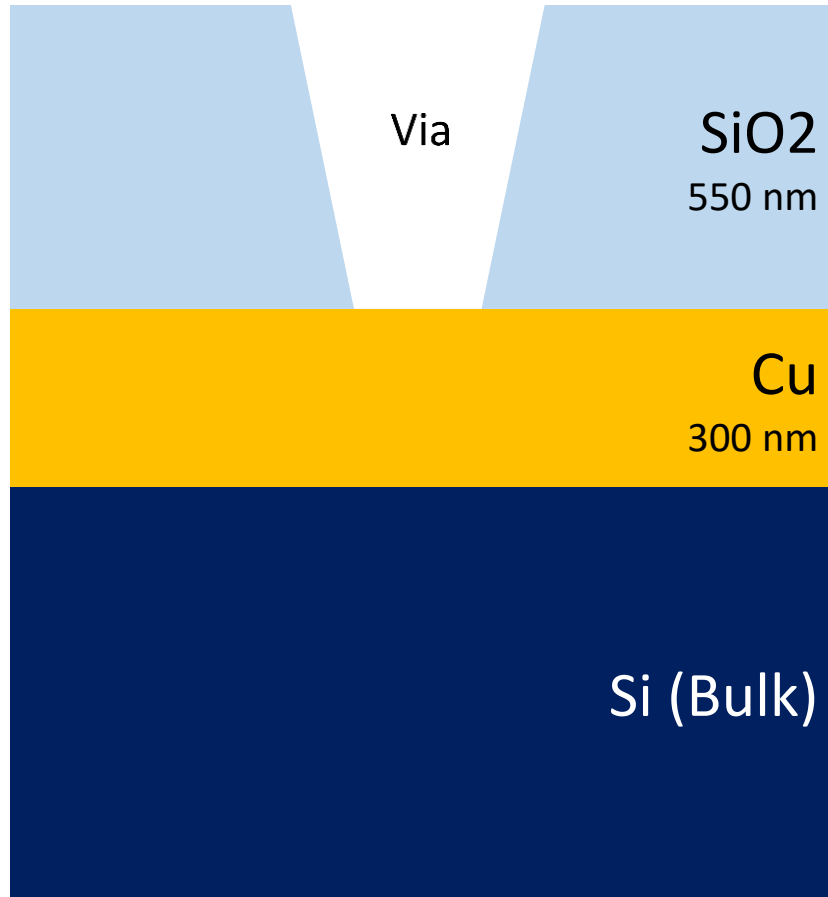
[1] Eswara, et al. MRS COMMUNICATIONS. Volume 9, Issue 3 (2019)  
10.1557/mrc.2019.89

	SIMS:ZERO	SC Ultra
Primary Ion	Cs <sup>+</sup>	O <sub>2</sub> <sup>+</sup>
Energy	5kV	4.5kV
Current	25 pA	85000 pA
Area	4.2um x 4.2um	?
Polarity	Neg	Pos
Secondary Ion	BO <sub>2</sub> <sup>-</sup>	B <sup>+</sup>



# Endpointing Example

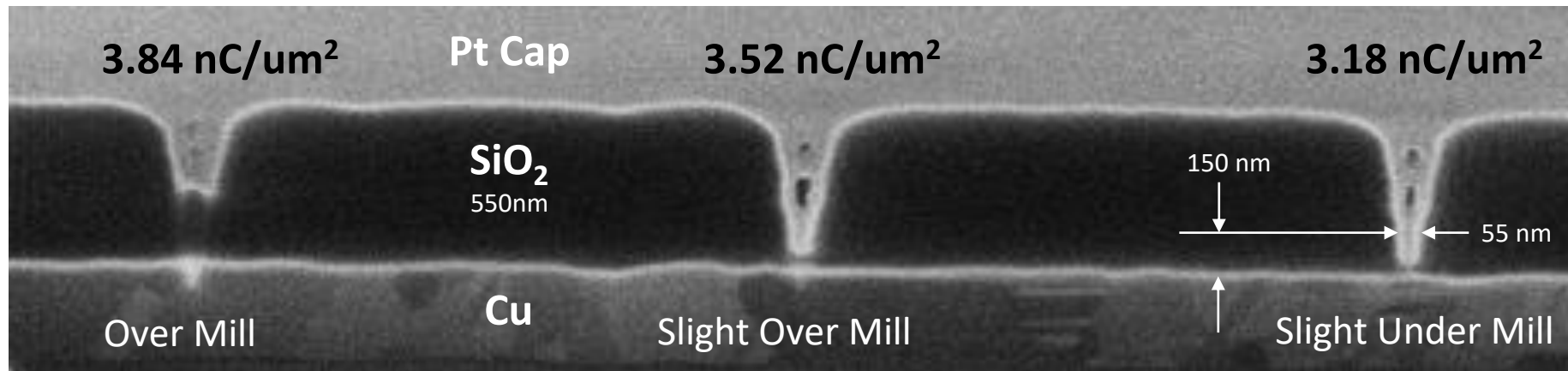
Test sample SiO<sub>2</sub> on Cu



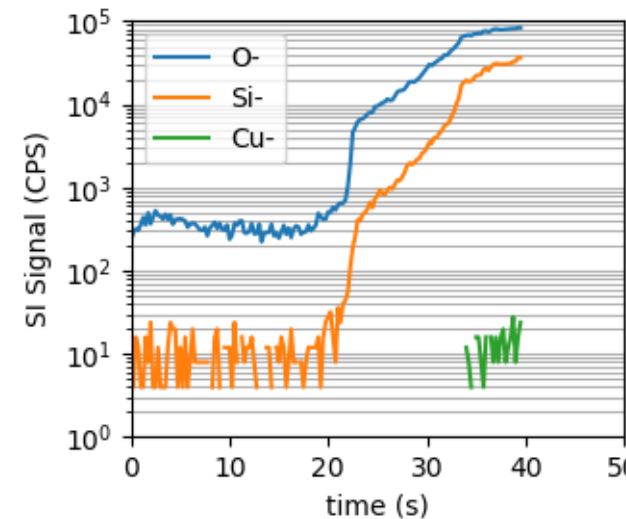
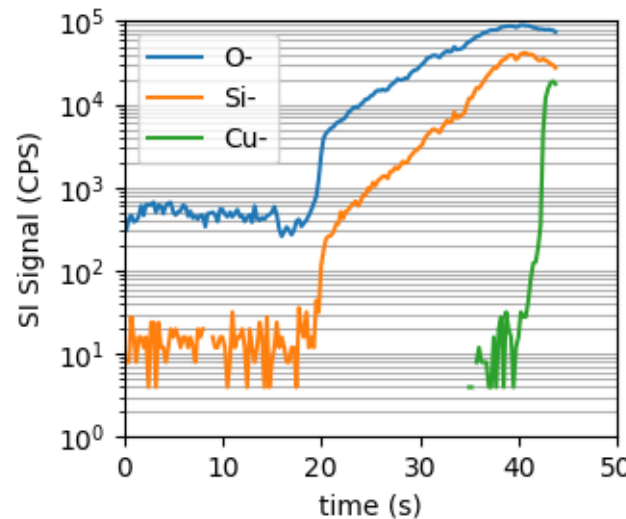
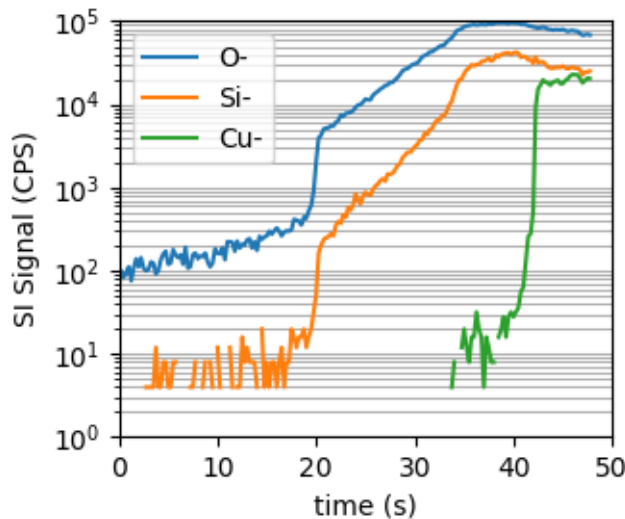
- Objective is to mill via through SiO<sub>2</sub> and stop when Cu is reached without over-milling
- Typically done by monitoring for a change in SE yield, but SE signal can be difficult to interpret
  - SE yield can change due to topography (sidewall), grounding (voltage), material contrast, etc
  - SNR, Contrast is very low for high aspect ratio vias
- Monitoring the Secondary Ion Signal on one or more elemental channels provides
  - Multiple signal channels for analysis
  - More definitive information, ie “Cu is Cu”, “Si is Si”, etc
  - High SNR, Contrast signals

# Section View of 50nm Rectangular Vias

50nm x 500nm Mill box, 2.0 pA, 16 kV, 54 mm WD



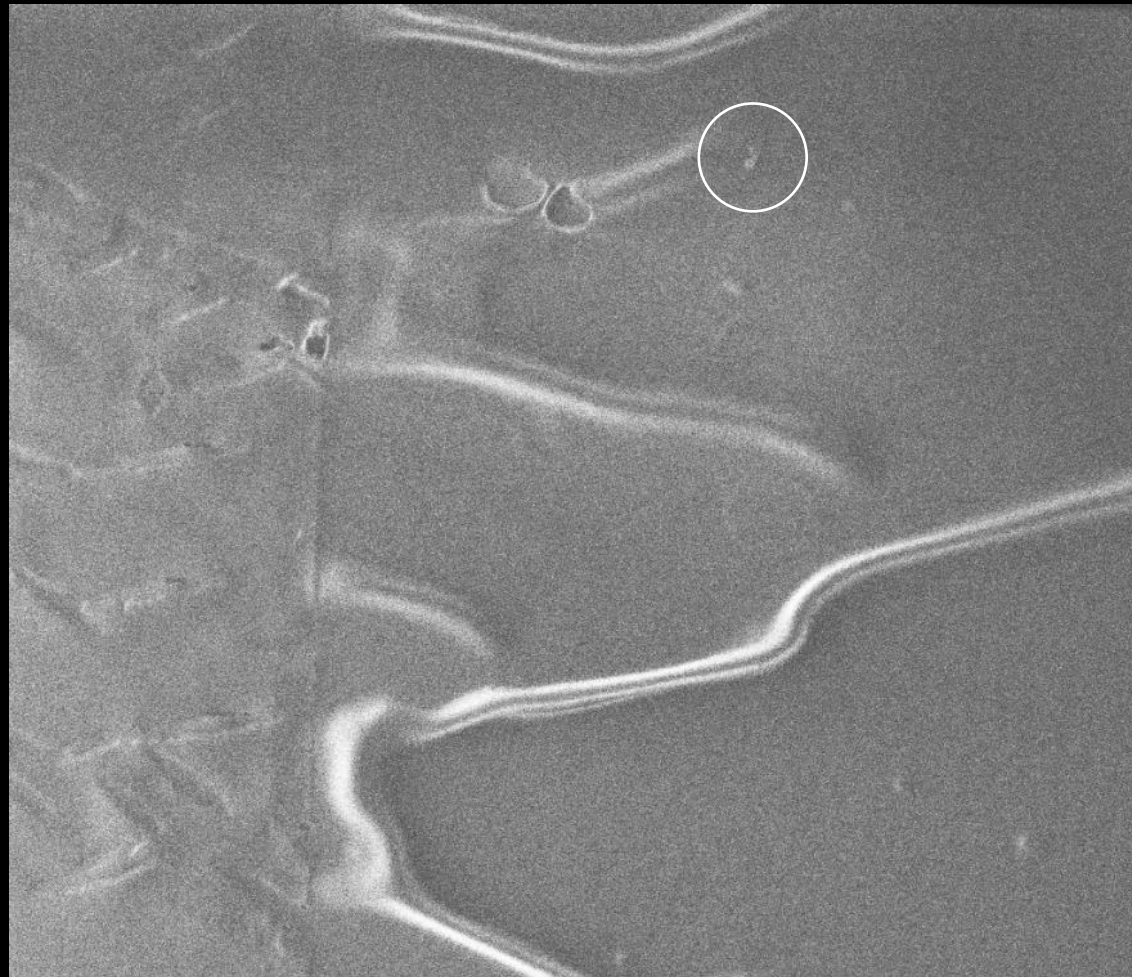
SIMS signals  
Predictive of  
Milling Results



Signal Level  
Remains High  
Despite Higher  
Aspect Ratio

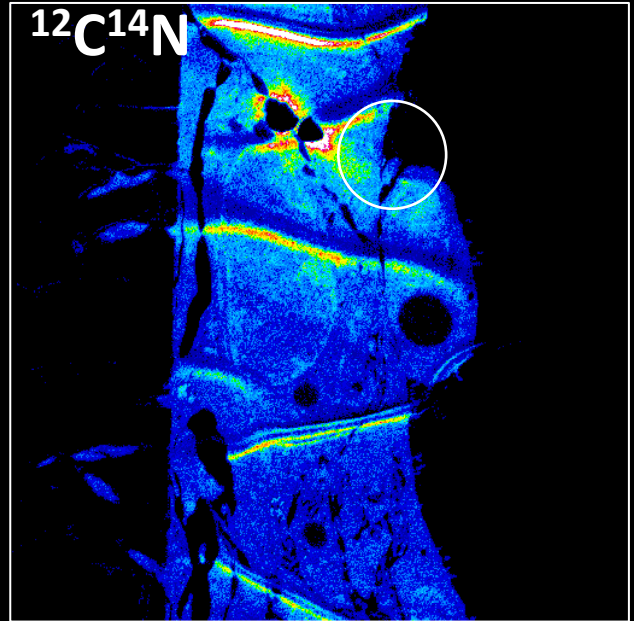
# Needle in a haystack:

Find the TiO nanoparticle in the huge, fixed cell



	HFW	WD	x: 1.4463 mm	mag	dwell	5 μm
	20.7 μm	52.6 mm	y: 12.2607 mm	7 209 x	60 μs	

SIMS:ZERO - LoTIS FIB



# SUMMARY SIMS:ZERO

## Strengths:

... has all the capabilities of FIB:ZERO

... adds high-resolution, high-sensitivity, high speed elemental analysis

... consider in lieu of EDX or ToF SIMS for analysis of complex, multi-element, or light element samples

... new opportunities for FIB beam control via SIMS signal

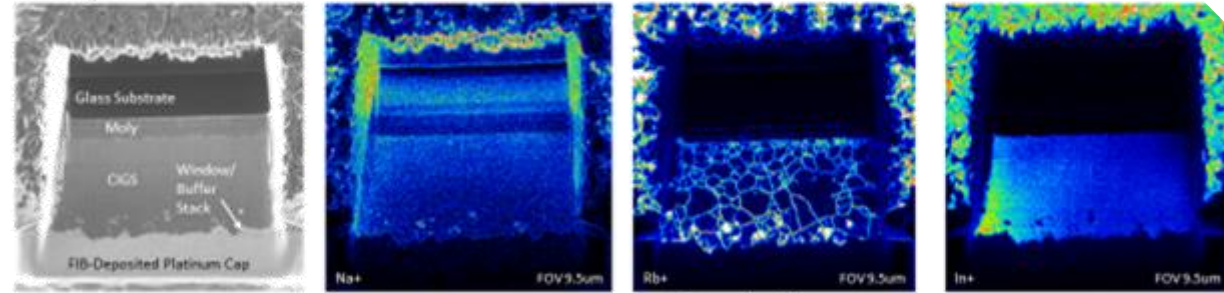
## Weaknesses:

Lower mass-resolving power than most dedicated SIMS systems

Quantification of concentrations harder than EDX

CIGS Cu(In,Ga)Se<sub>2</sub> – Rb doped  
Section View – Positive Ions

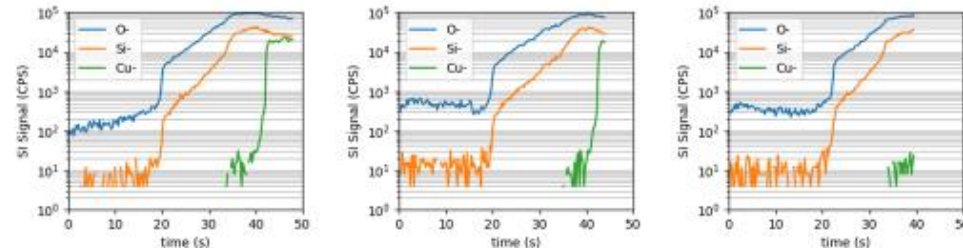
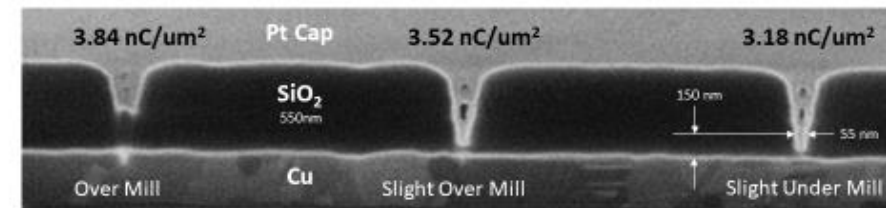
SE Image – Pre-SIMS



- Rb confined to grain boundaries
- Grains are smaller near the interfaces

## Section View of 50nm Rectangular Vias

50nm x 500nm Mill box, 2.0 pA, 16 kV, 54 mm WD



SIMS signals  
Predictive of  
Milling Results

Signal Level  
Remains High  
Despite Higher  
Aspect Ratio

