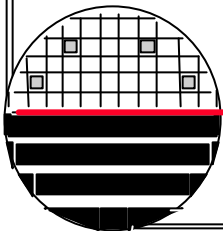


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MICROELECTRONIC ENGINEERING**

**Focus Exposure Experiment
on the GCA Stepper**

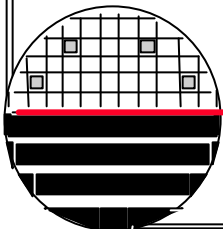
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OUTLINE

Focus Exposure Experiment
Stepper Job - EXPO FOCEX.NEW
Focus Stars
Evaluation of Best Focus
Line/Spaces
Evaluation of Best Exposure
Conclusion



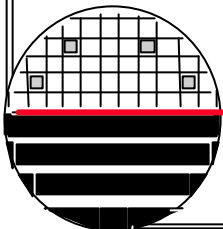
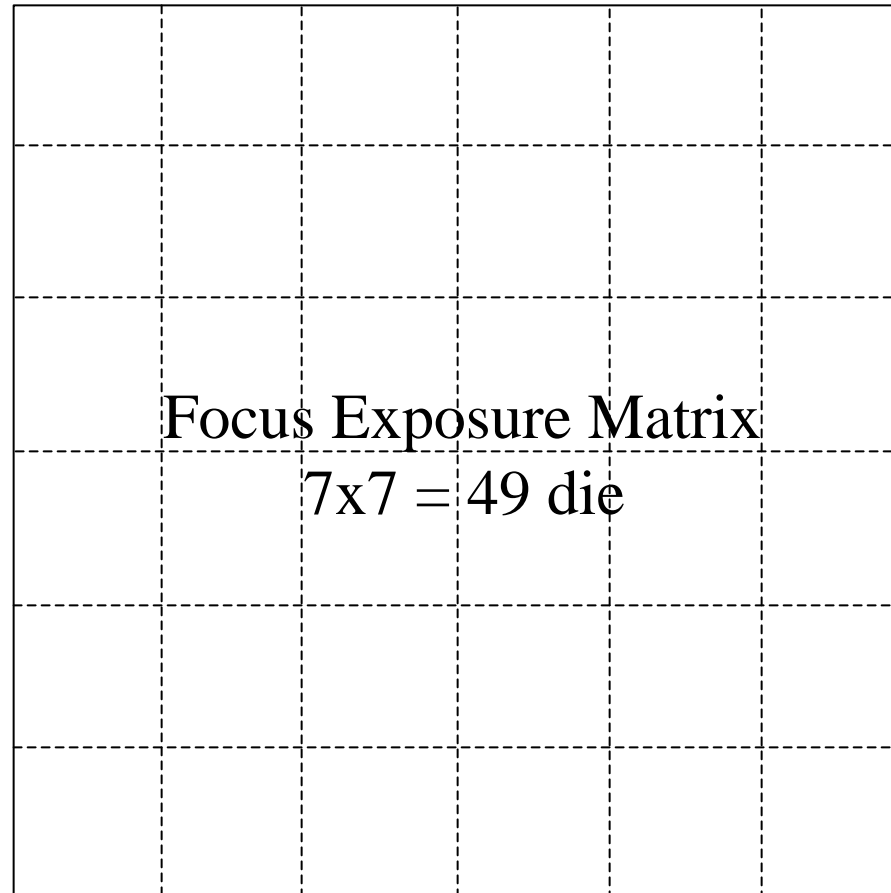
FOCUS EXPOSURE EXPERIMENT

For a given resist thickness, coating process and develop process.

Change the Focus and Exposure and look for the best die.

Increasing Exposure →

↑
Increasing Focus



GCA 6700 G-LINE STEPPER



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STEPPER JOB

EXPO FOCEX.NEW

Pass: 1

....

Step size in x and y = 50 μm

...

starting row 1

ending row 7

starting column 1

ending column 7

starting exposure time 0.16 seconds

exposure increment 0.04 seconds

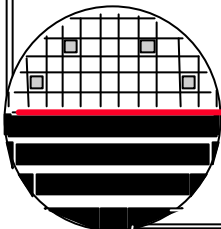
starting focus 175

focus increment 25

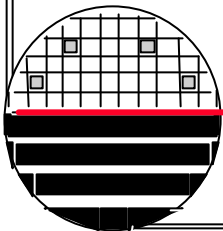
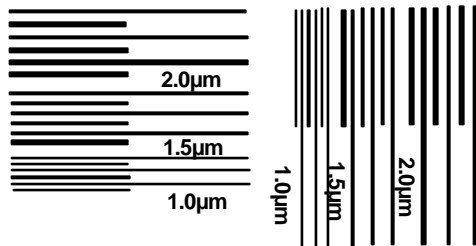
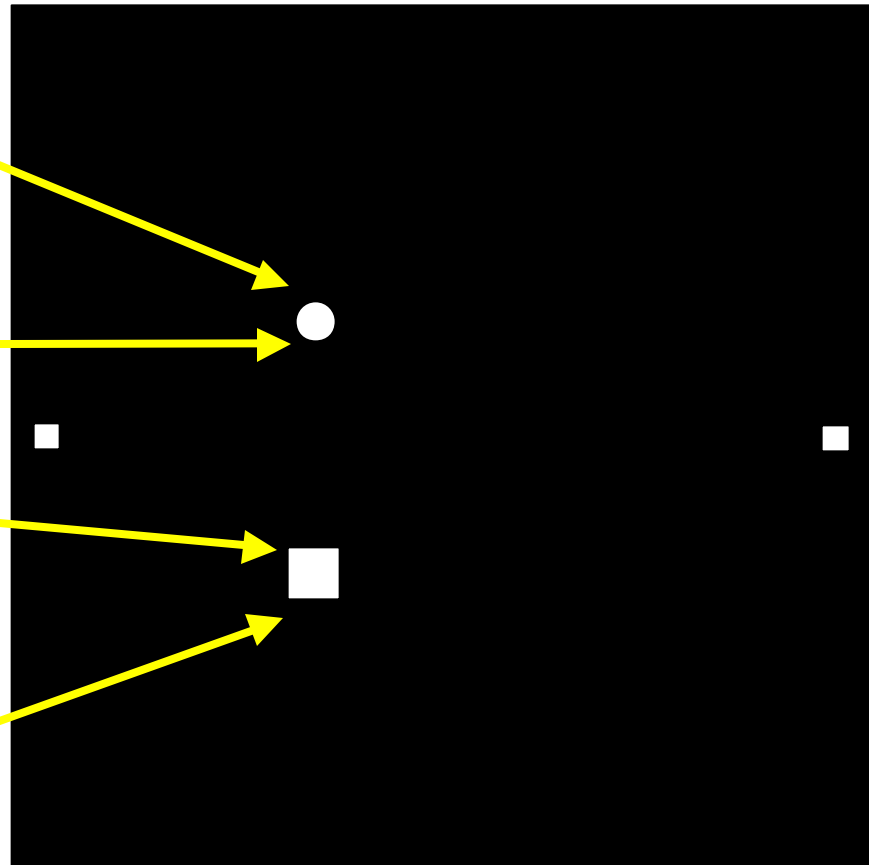
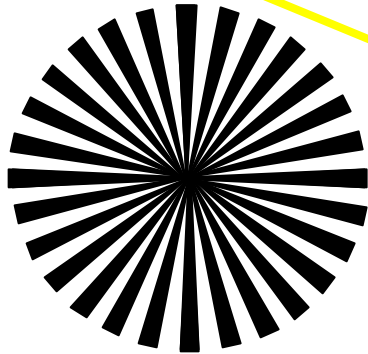
....

Use mask labeled
FOCUS STAR ONLY

Integrate mode gives
25 mj/cm^2 for each
0.1 second in time



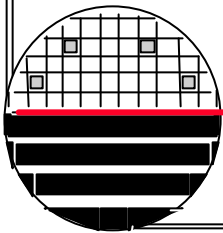
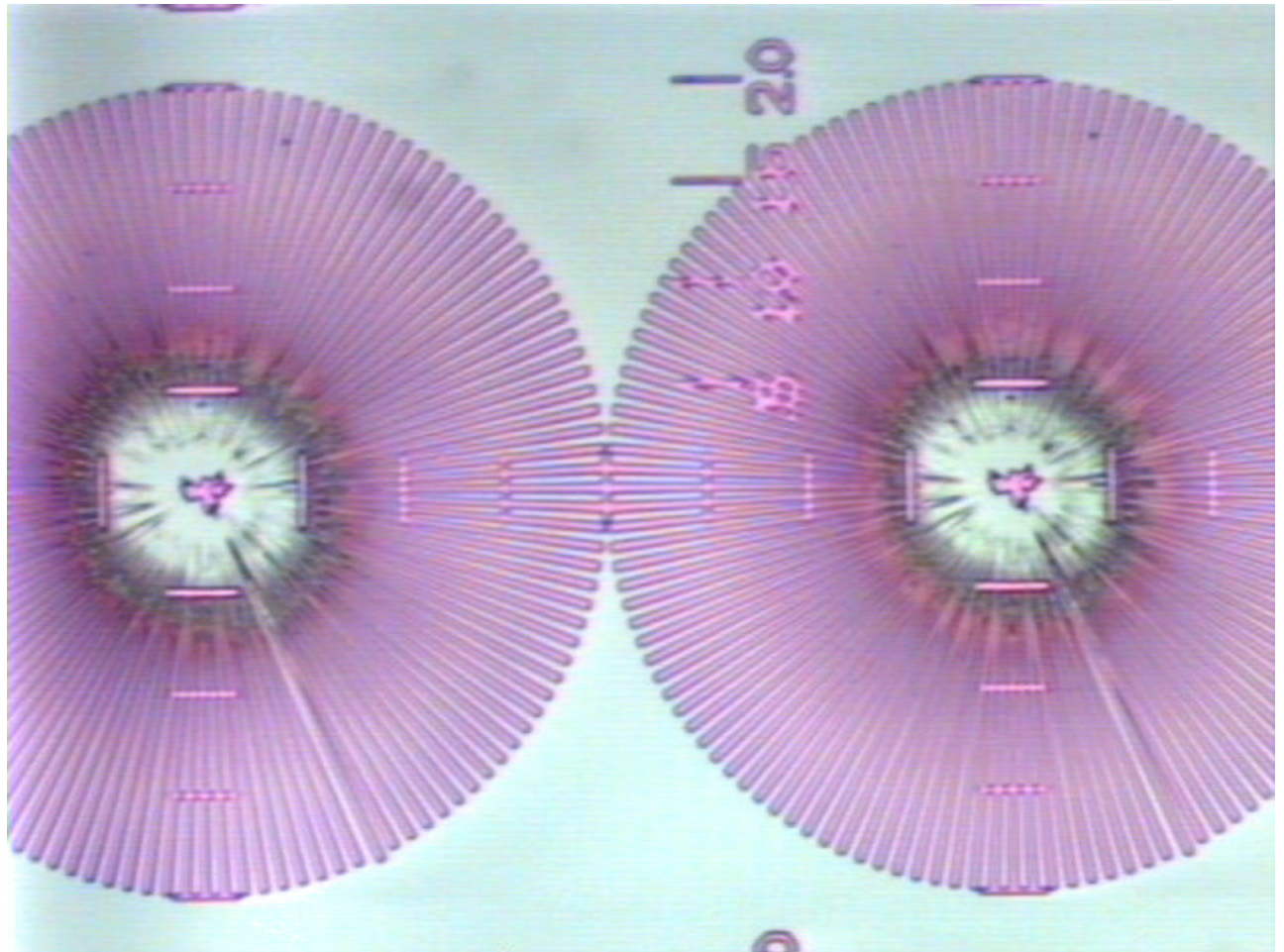
THE MASK



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FOCUS STARS

Lines and Spaces that start at $2.0\mu\text{m}$ at outer edge and get smaller toward the center. $0.5\mu\text{m}$ increments are labeled



FOCUS STAR ARRAY

Focus Range 0 to 500
arbitrary GCA units
250 is nominal focus
each 50 is $\sim 1\mu\text{m}$

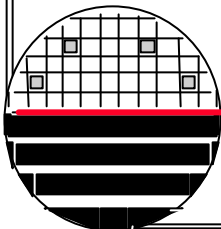
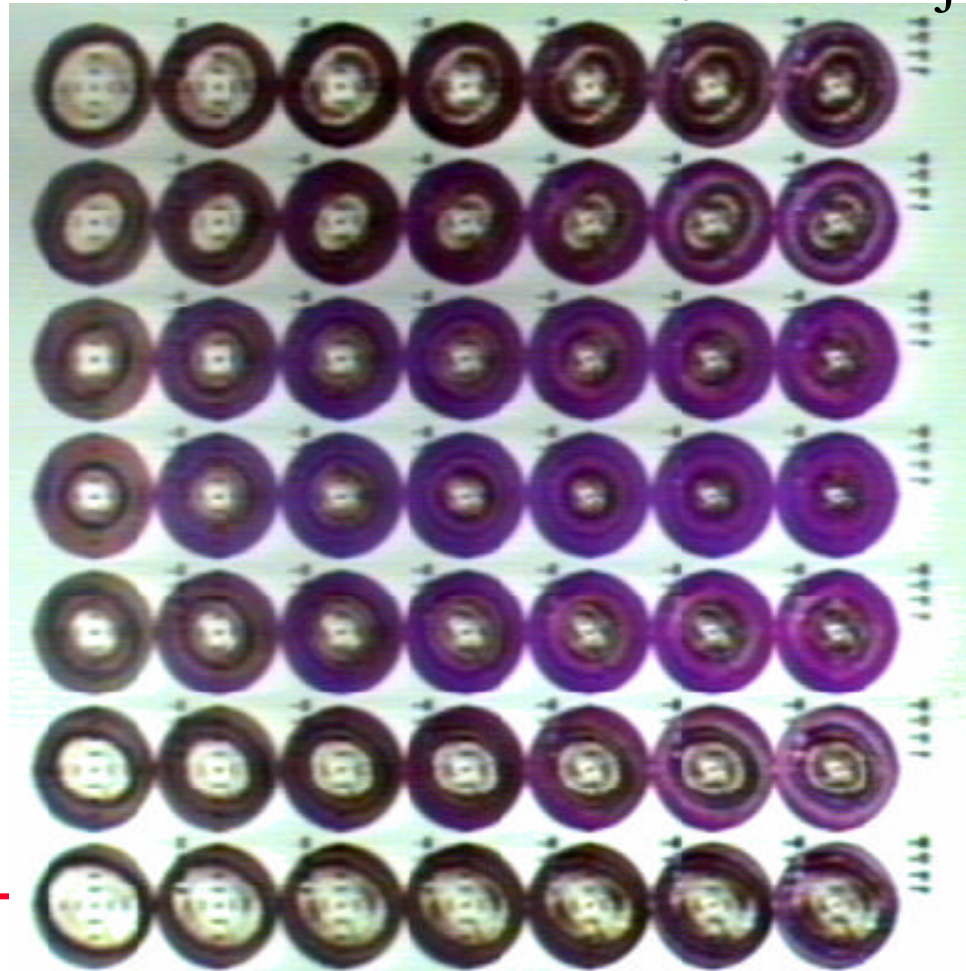
Look for row with the
largest number of
pink stars (oxide under
the photoresist, and
smallest inner circle

Focus

Exposure

40 50 60 70 80 90 100 mj/cm²

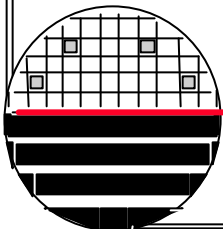
175
200
225
250
275
300
325



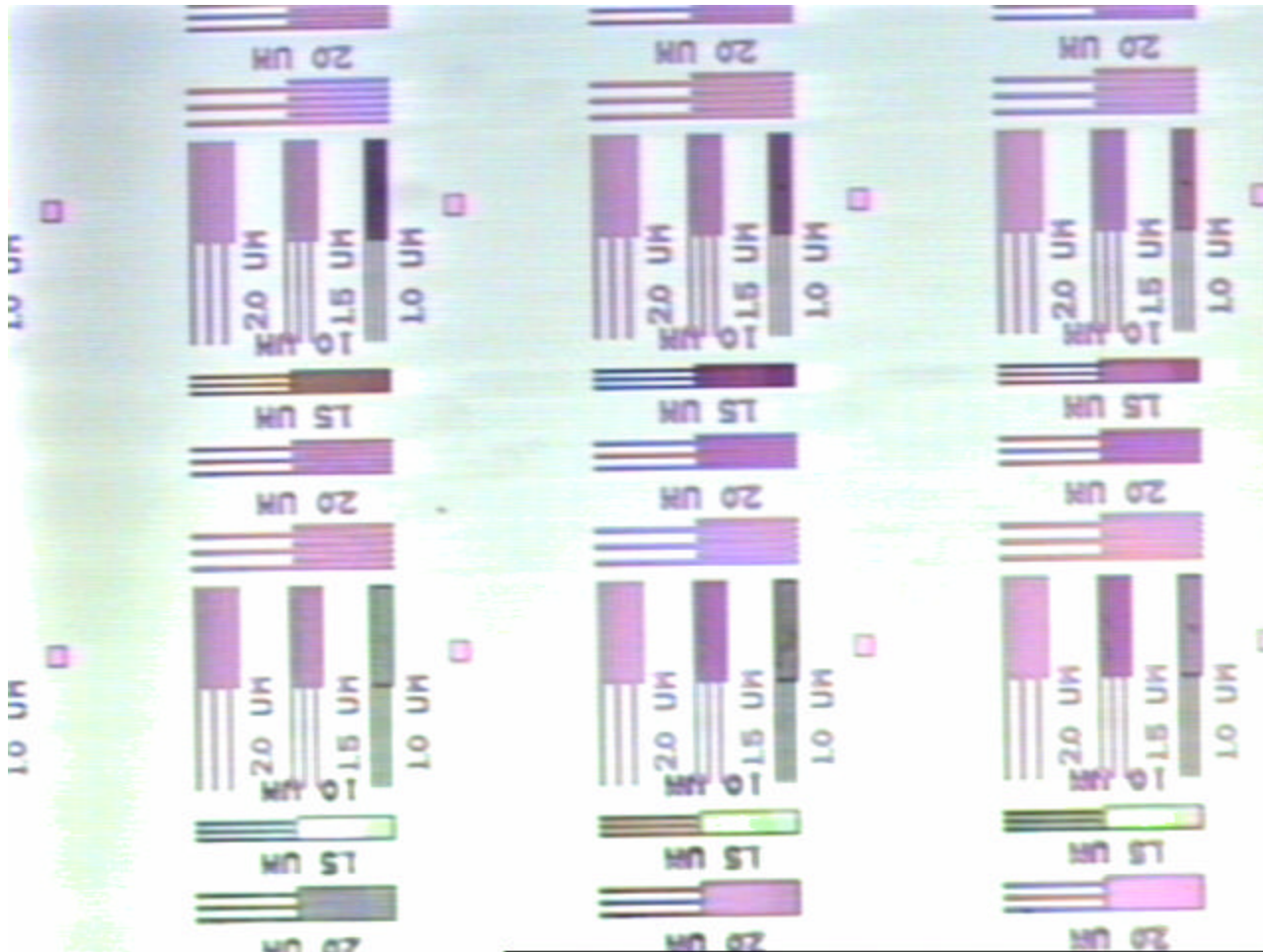
LINES AND SPACES ARRAY

Lines and Spaces are evaluated for best exposure.

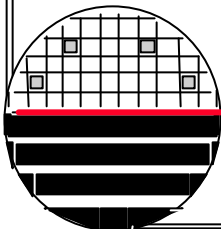
Look for equal width lines and spaces.



LINES AND SPACES



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LINES AND SPACES

← Pretty good line/space

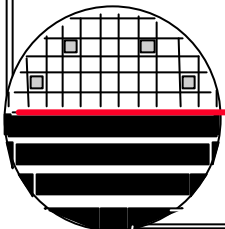
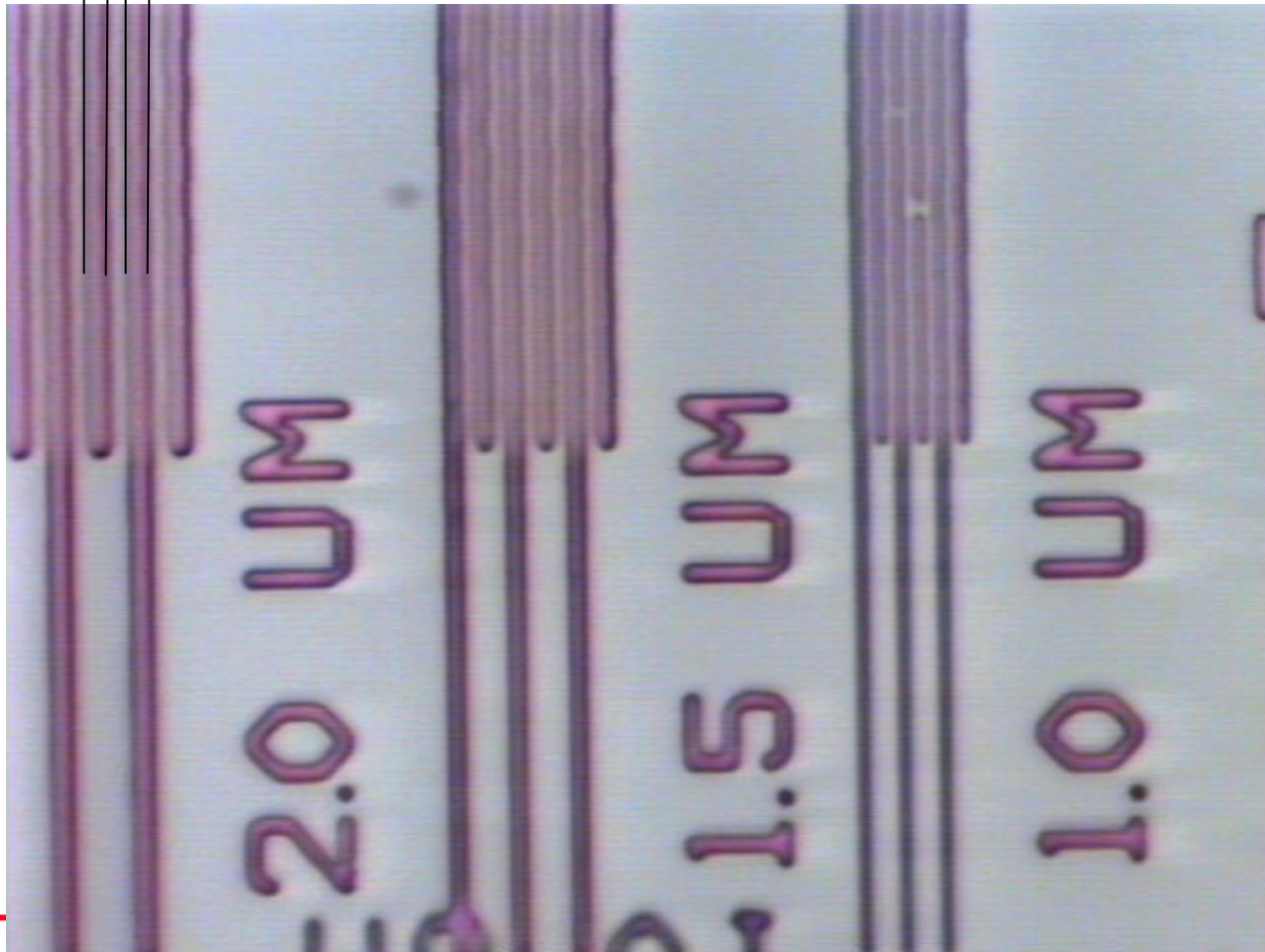
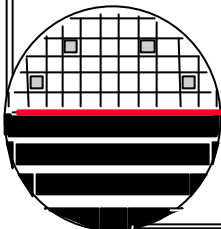
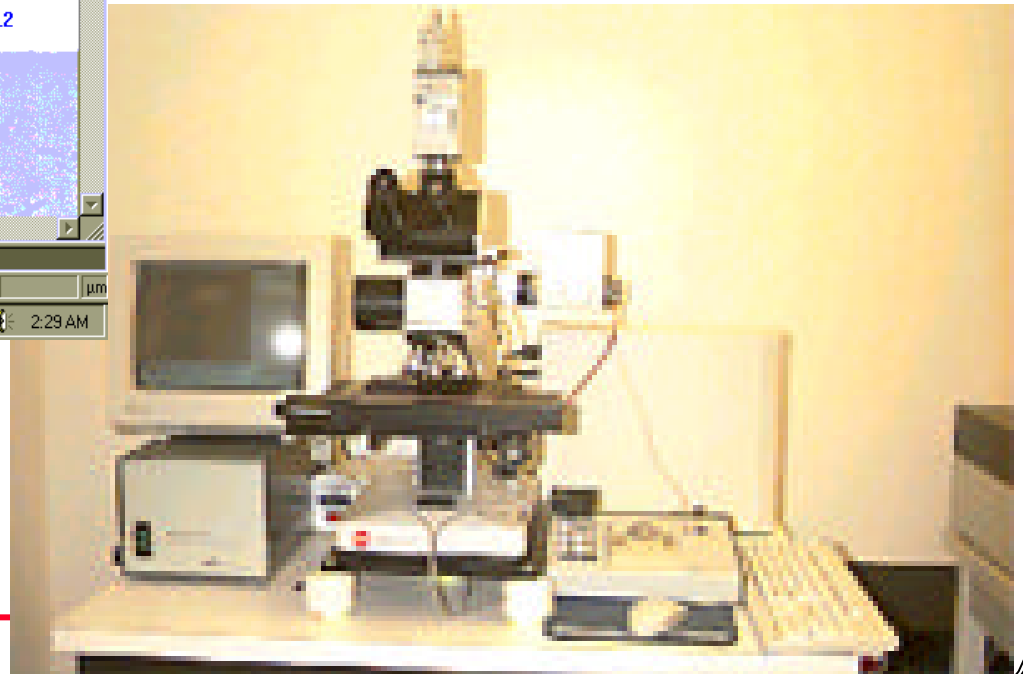
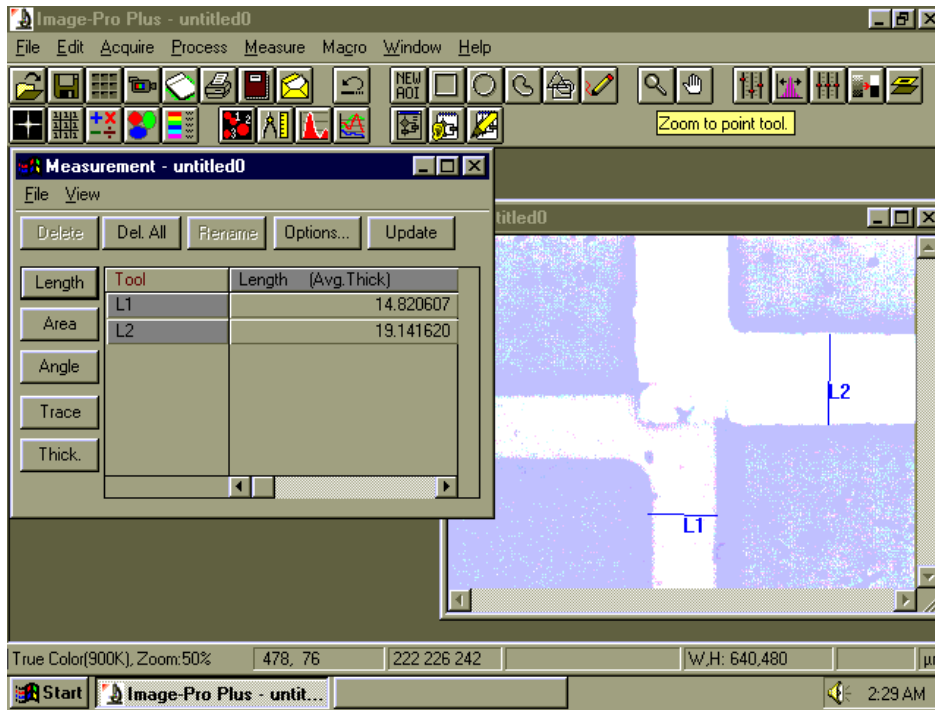


IMAGE PROCESSING

MEASUREMENT OF
LINE WIDTH
AND OTHER
IMAGE ANALYSIS



REFERENCES

1. “Neural-Net Based, In-line Focus/Exposure Monitor”, Pamela Tsai, Costas J. Spanos, Fariborz Nadi, University of California at Berkeley, 5th Annual IEEE/SEMI Advanced Semiconductor Manufacturing Conference and Workshop, November 14-16, 1994, Cambridge, MA, Pp 305-310.

