
Defect detection sensitivity improvement of actinic blank inspection



EUVL Infrastructure Development Center, Inc.

Takeshi Yamane, Noriaki Takagi, Tsuneo Terasawa

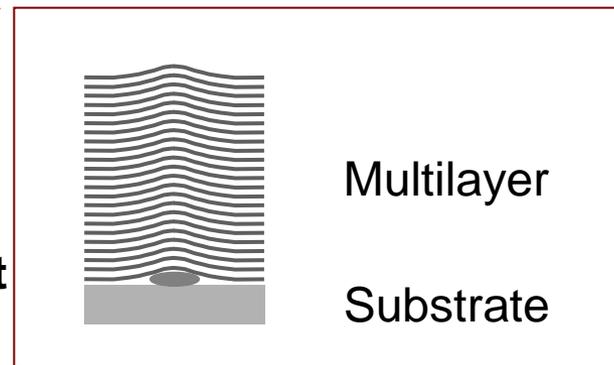
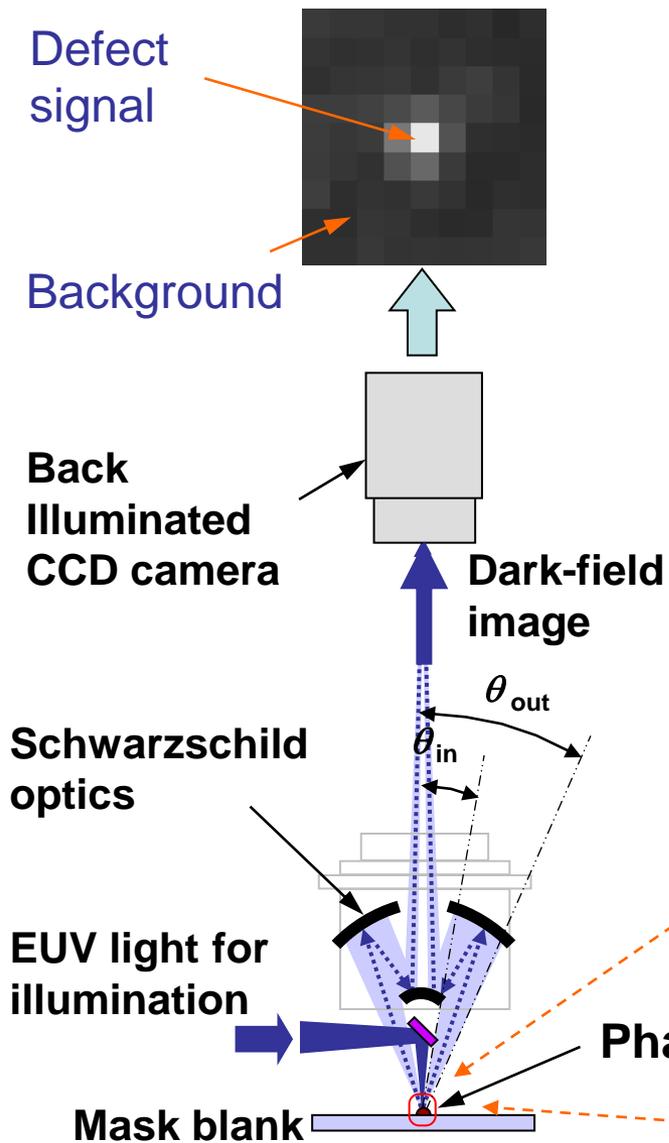
Outline

1. Introduction
2. Improvement of defect sensitivity
3. Evaluation of amplitude defect sensitivity
4. Summary

Outline

- 1. Introduction**
2. Improvement of defect sensitivity
3. Evaluation of amplitude defect sensitivity
4. Summary

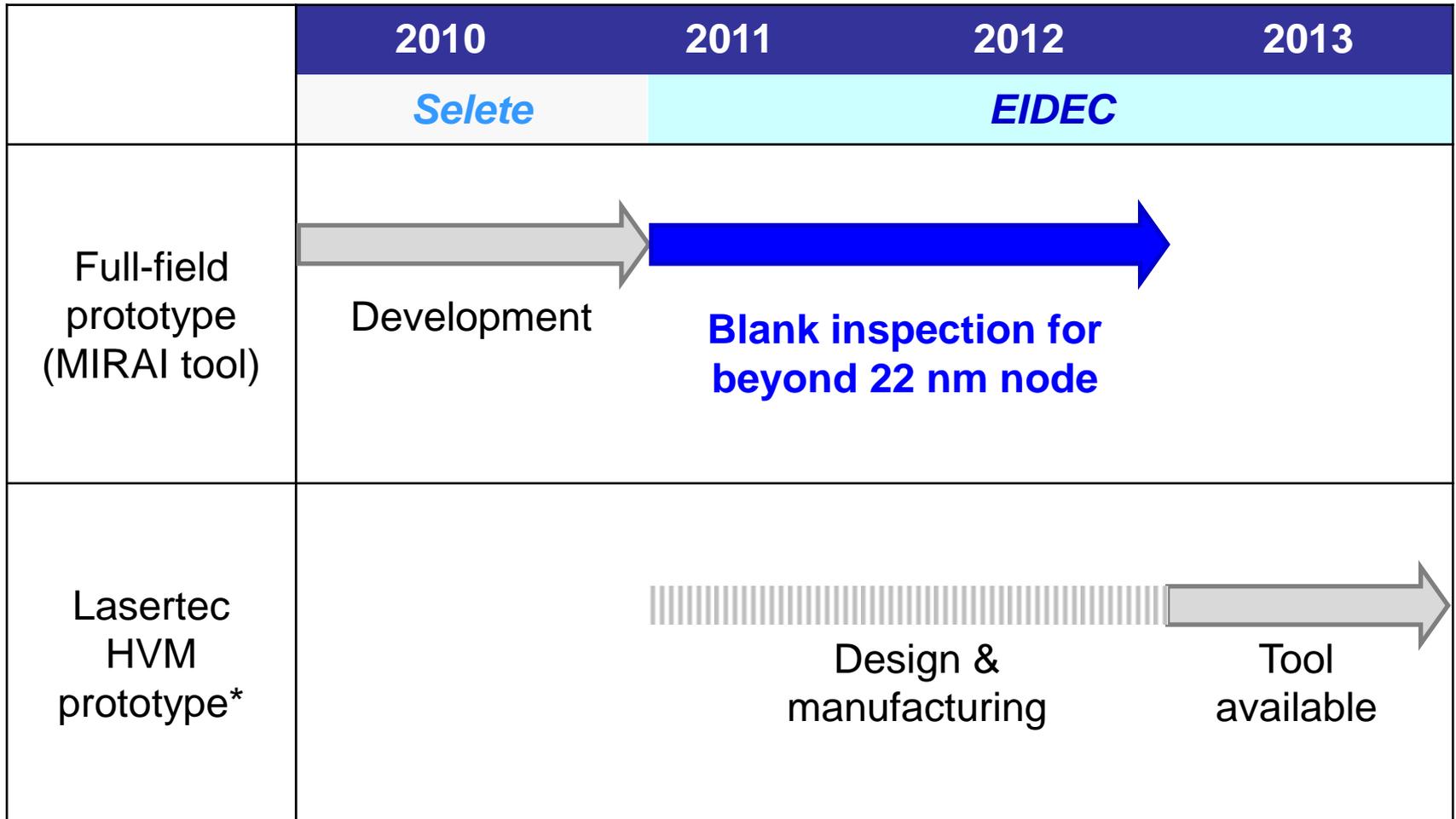
Schema of the actinic inspection system



Previous inspection capability

Scan speed		3 mm/s
Inspection time for full-field area		4.8 hours
Sensitivity	Phase defect	H 1.2 nm W 40 nm programmed defect 95% detection
	Amplitude defect	Native amplitude defects higher than 30 nm with high detection probability Not quantified

EIDEC Blank Inspection Project



* Hiroki Miyai et al., "EUV Actinic Blank Inspection Tool Development," EUVL Symposium 2011

Purpose of this work

Improved items for beyond 22 nm node inspection

- ✓ Auto-focusing accuracy
- ✓ Defect detection algorithm

This work

- Improvement of defect sensitivity was demonstrated
- Amplitude defect sensitivity was evaluated and analyzed

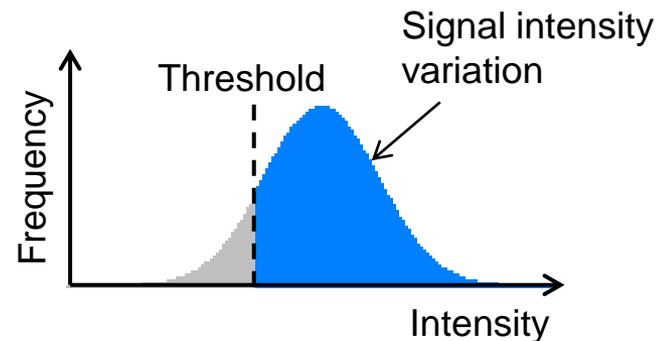
Outline

1. Introduction
- 2. Improvement of defect sensitivity**
3. Evaluation of amplitude defect sensitivity
4. Summary

Evaluation procedure of defect sensitivity

Detection probability calculation

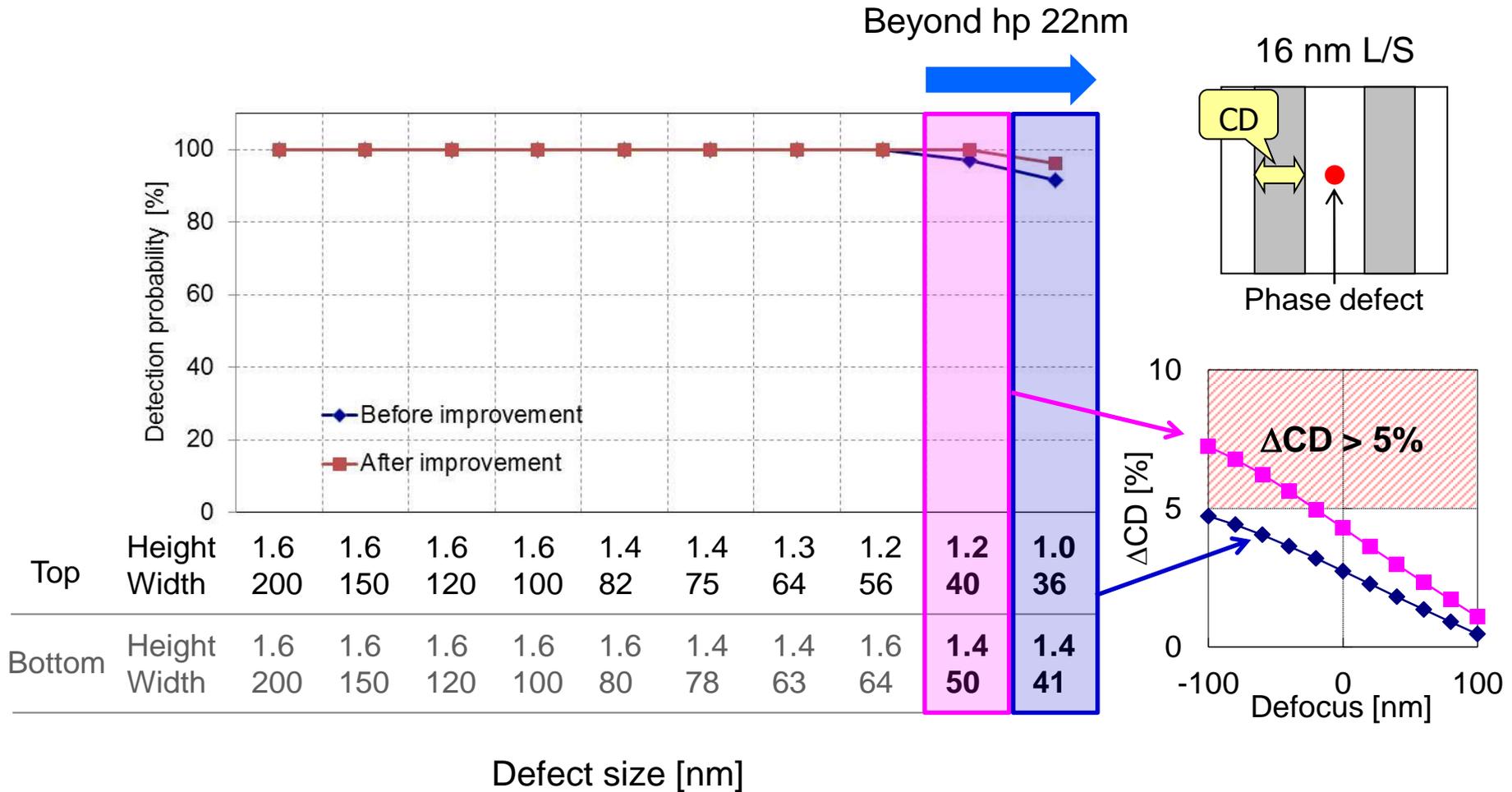
- Images of 100 defects on each defect size were captured 3 times with scan speed of 3 mm/s
- Signal intensity variation was obtained from pooled σ of the 100 defects
- The threshold was determined so that no false defect detection could be predicted at full-field area
- Detection probability was calculated with the signal variation and threshold



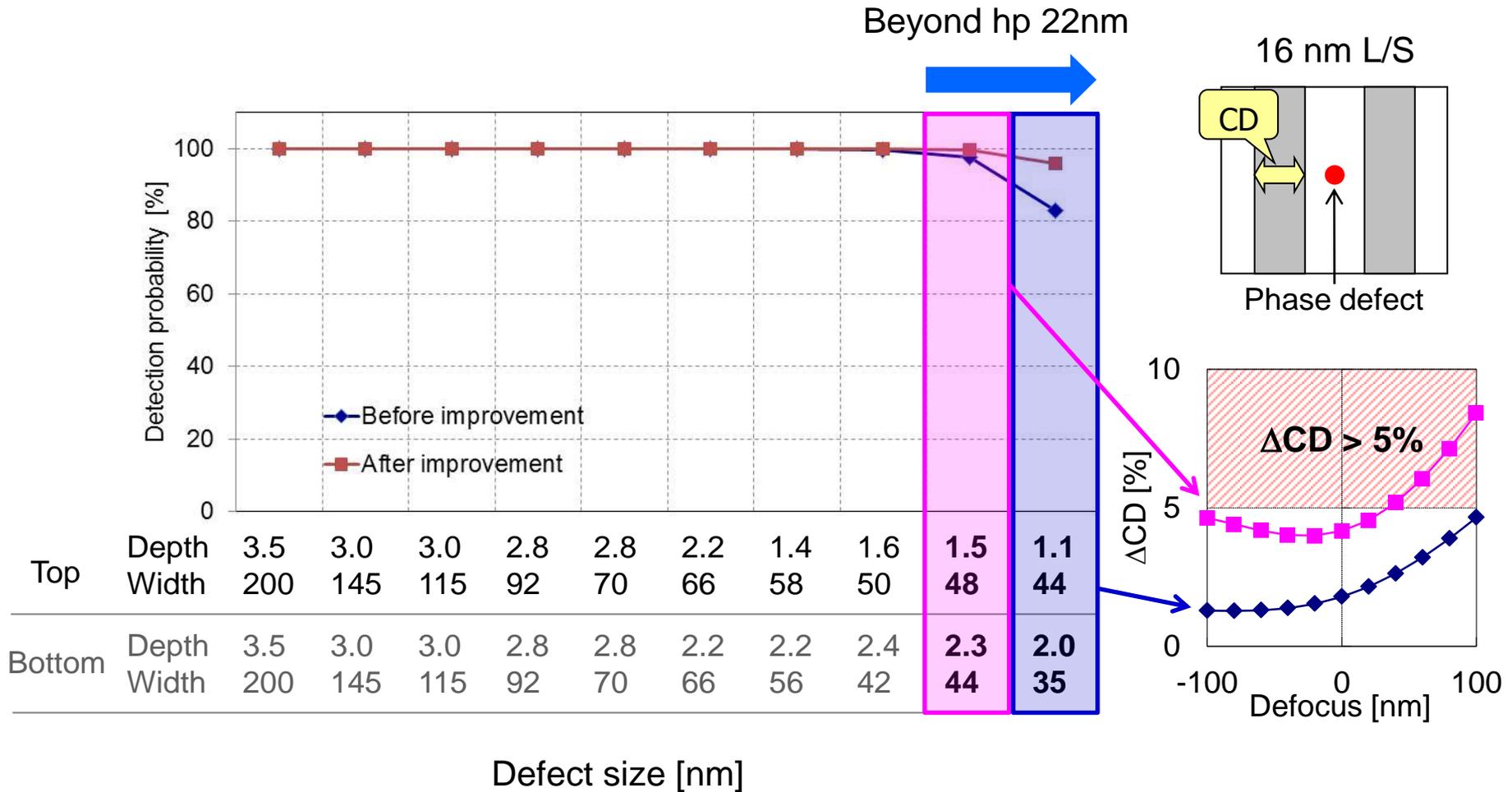
Simulation

- Impact of phase defects on hp 16 nm node was simulated
Exposure condition: NA 0.32, σ 0.8-0.6, Dipole 90

Defect sensitivity improvement for bump



Defect sensitivity improvement for pit



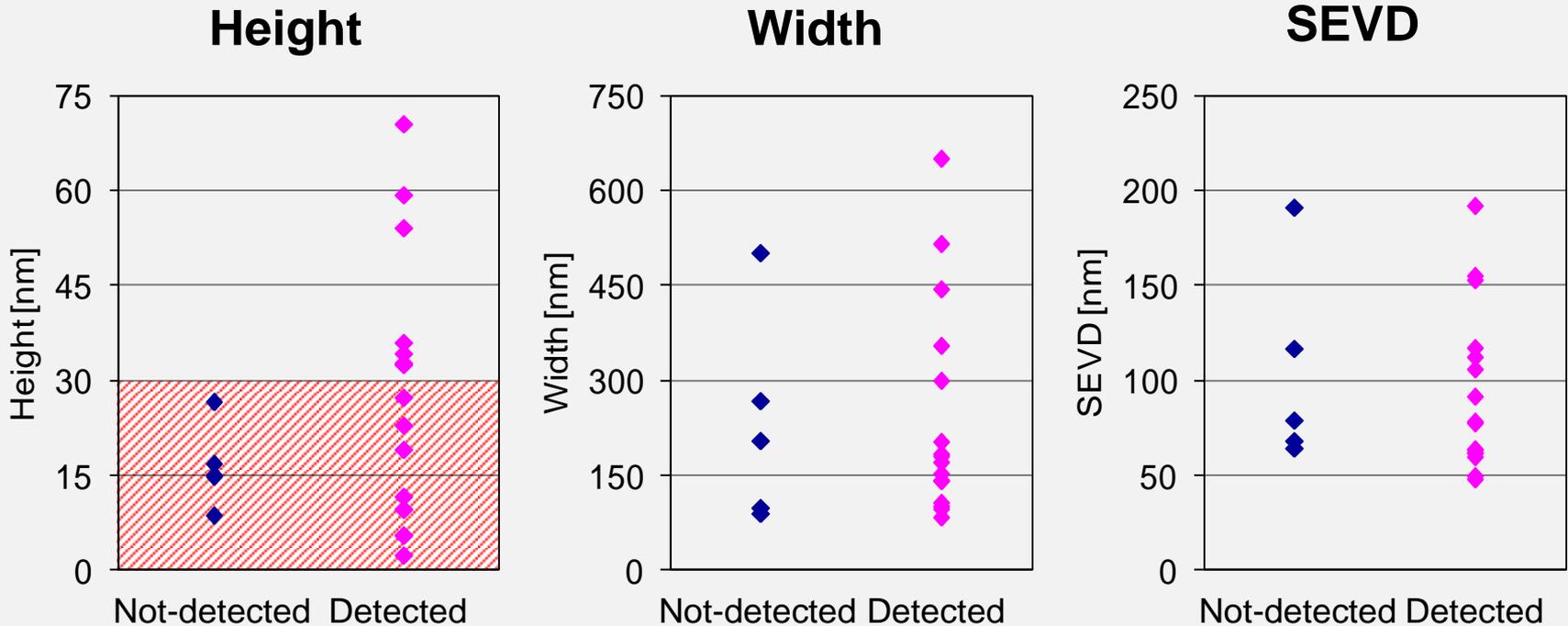
The inspection system is predicted to be available for hp 16 nm node

Outline

1. Introduction
2. Improvement of defect sensitivity
- 3. Evaluation of amplitude defect sensitivity**
4. Summary

Native amplitude defects

Amplitude defect sensitivity can be less than the ones from phase defect



- ✓ Amplitude defect detection sensitivity depended on height
- ✓ Defects higher than 30 nm could be detected with high probability

T. Yamane et al., "Phase defect analysis with actinic full-field EUVL mask blank inspection," BACUS 2011

Programmed amplitude defects

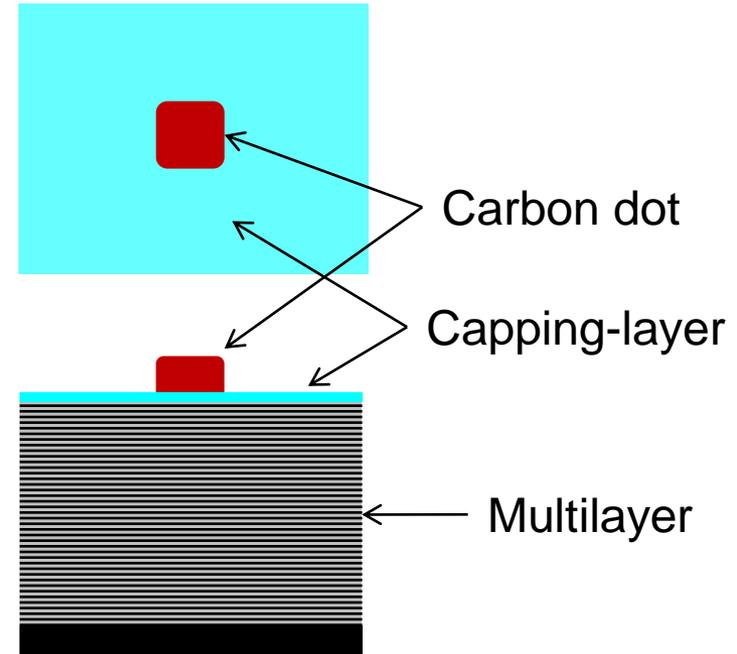
Carbon dots formed on ML surface by EB deposition

EB: 3 kV, 3076 pA

Gas: C₁₄H₁₀

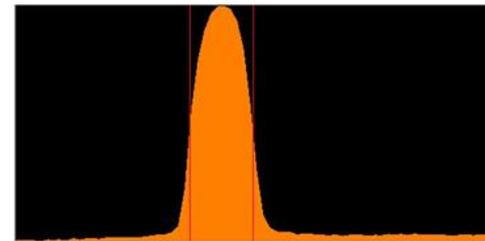
Dose: (1) 103600 [a.u.]
(2) 50267 [a.u.]

Width: 150 – 1000 nm



AFM measurement

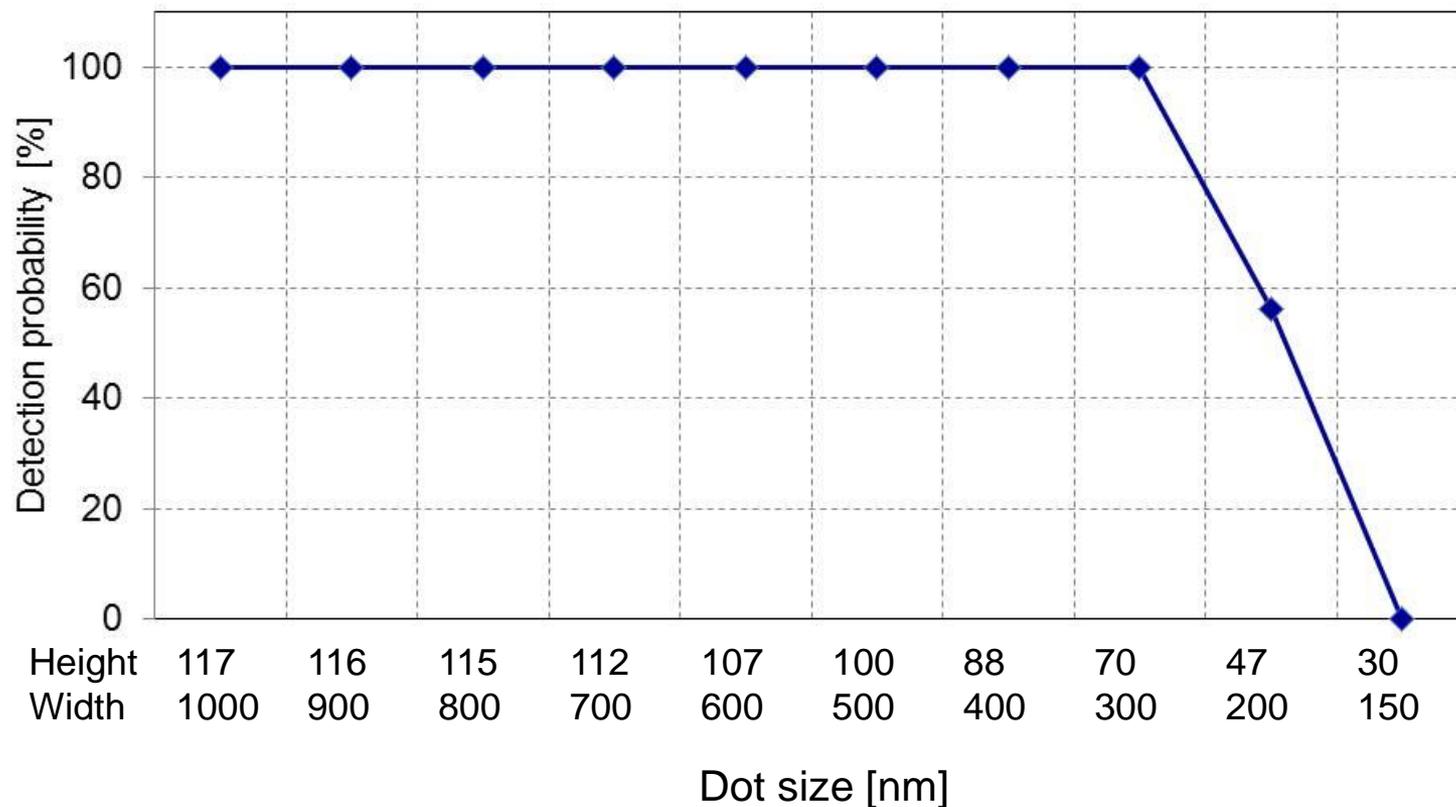
Height and width of carbon dots were measured



Detection probabilities of the carbon dots were calculated

Detection probability for carbon dots (1)

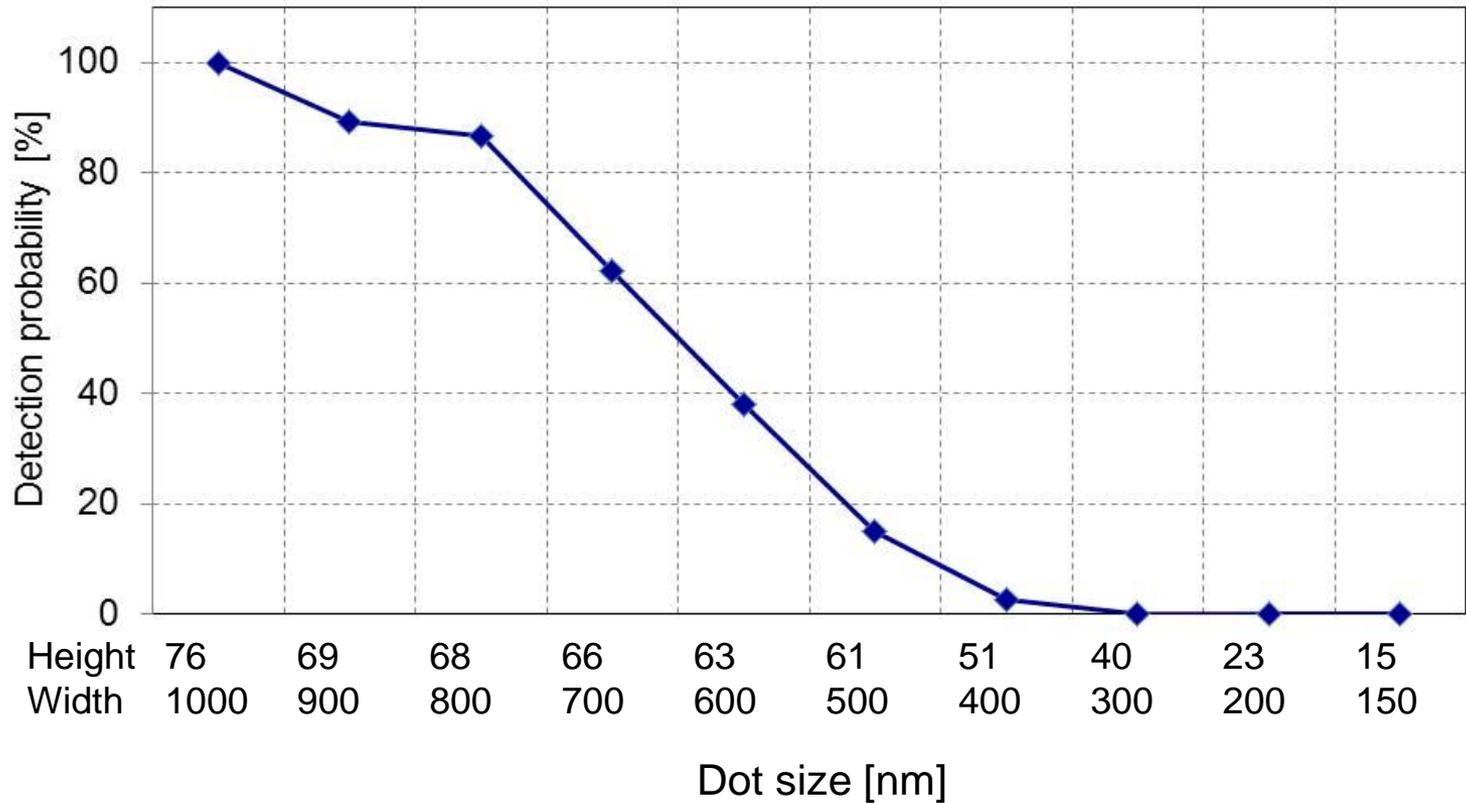
Dose condition (1)



100 % detection probability needs dot height of 70 nm

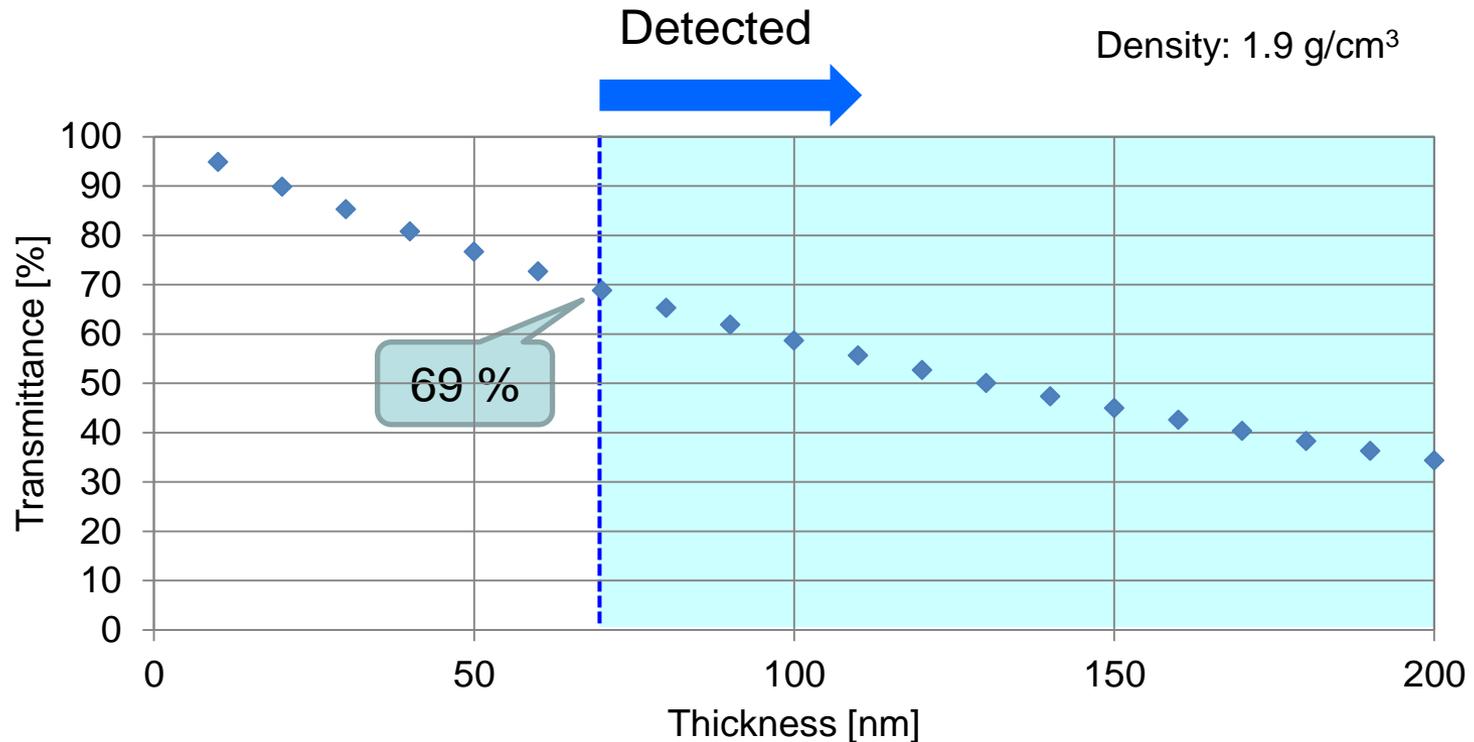
Detection probability for carbon dots (2)

Dose condition (2)



100 % detection probability needs dot height of 70 nm

Transmittance of carbon films

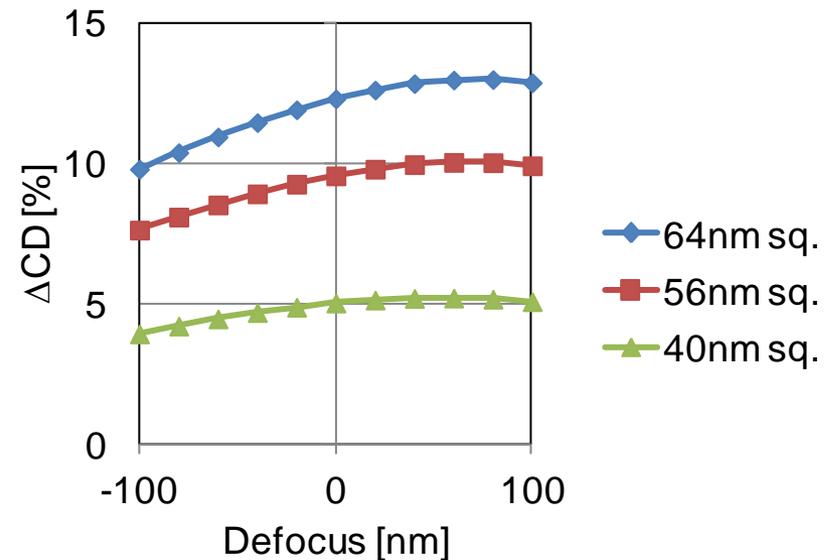
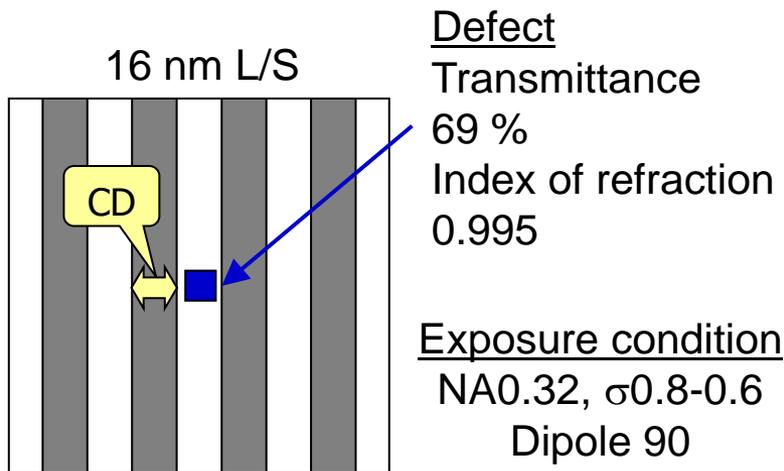


Reference: the homepage of “The center of X-ray optics, LBNL”, <http://www.cxro.lbl.gov/>

Amplitude defect that transmittance lower than 69 % can be detected

Wafer impact of 69 % transmittance defect

Impact of a 69 % transmittance defect on hp 16 nm node was simulated



Amplitude defect that transmittance is higher than 69 % and area is larger than 40 nm sq. may impact on hp 16 nm node and shows less detection sensitivity

Outline

1. Introduction
2. Improvement of defect sensitivity
3. Evaluation of amplitude defect sensitivity
- 4. Summary**

Summary

- Auto-focusing accuracy and defect detection algorithm for the actinic inspection system were improved.
- Detection probability of 1.2 nm-high 40 nm-wide phase defect was improved to nearly 100 %. The system is predicted to be available for hp 16 nm node.
- Carbon dots higher than 70 nm were detected at 100 % probability. This shows that 100 % detection for an amplitude defect needs transmittance lower than 69 %.

Acknowledgement

**This work was supported by New Energy
and Industrial Technology Development
Organization (NEDO)**