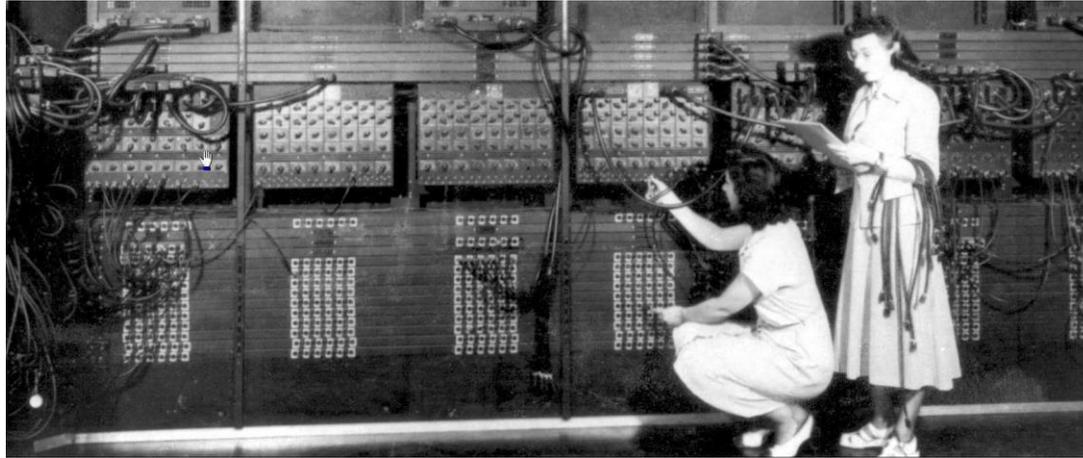


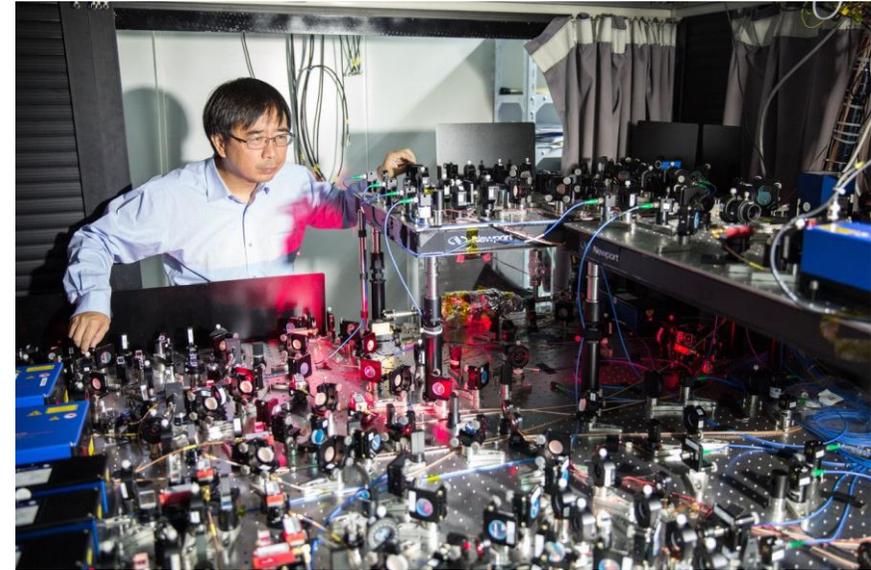
# BEHAVIOURAL MODELS, PARAMETER EXTRACTION AND YIELD PREDICTION FOR SILICON PHOTONIC CIRCUITS

Yufei Xing

# MAGIC OF INTEGRATION



ENIAC



Quantum computer prototype

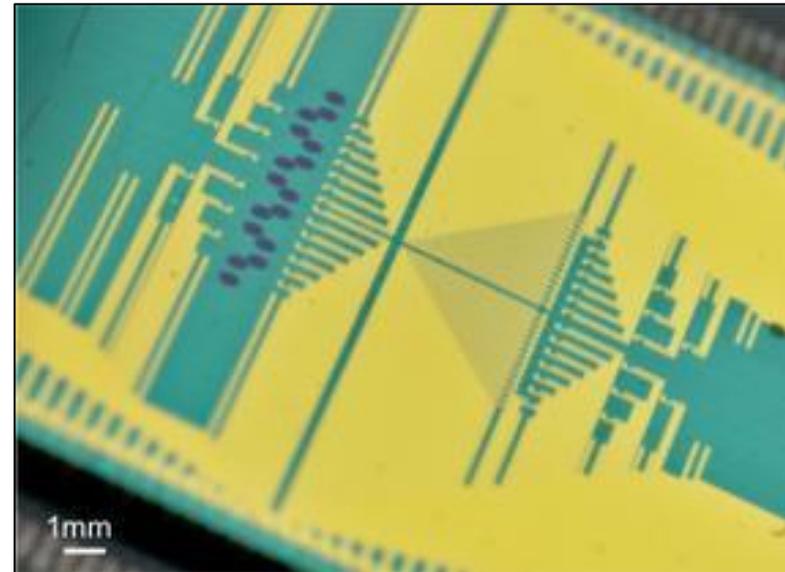


Discrete  
Circuit

Integrated  
Circuit



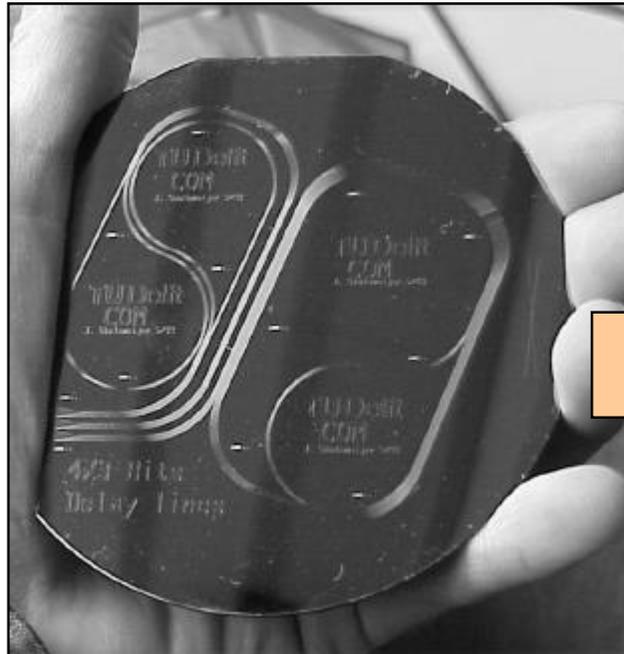
Intel Core i9



Quantum silicon chip  
Wang, J. et al. *Science* 2018

# SILICON PHOTONICS CIRCUITS

1999

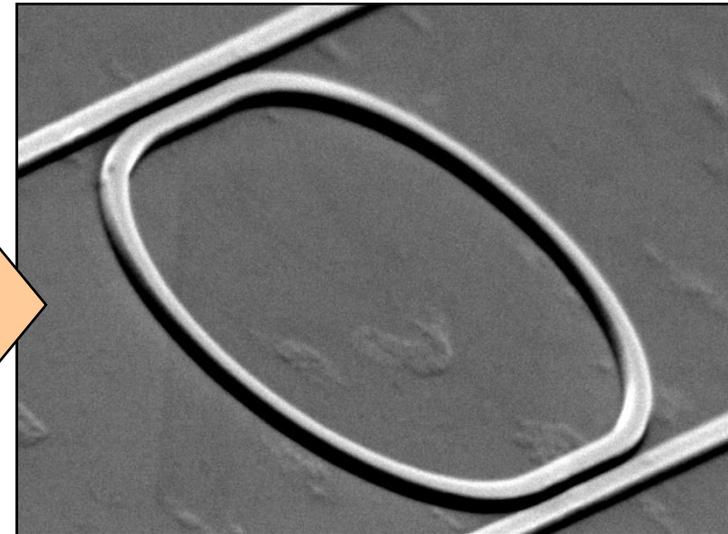


**Silica-on-Silicon**

**Contrast: 1.46 to 1.44**

**Bend radius = 2cm**

2003: 'Photonic wire'

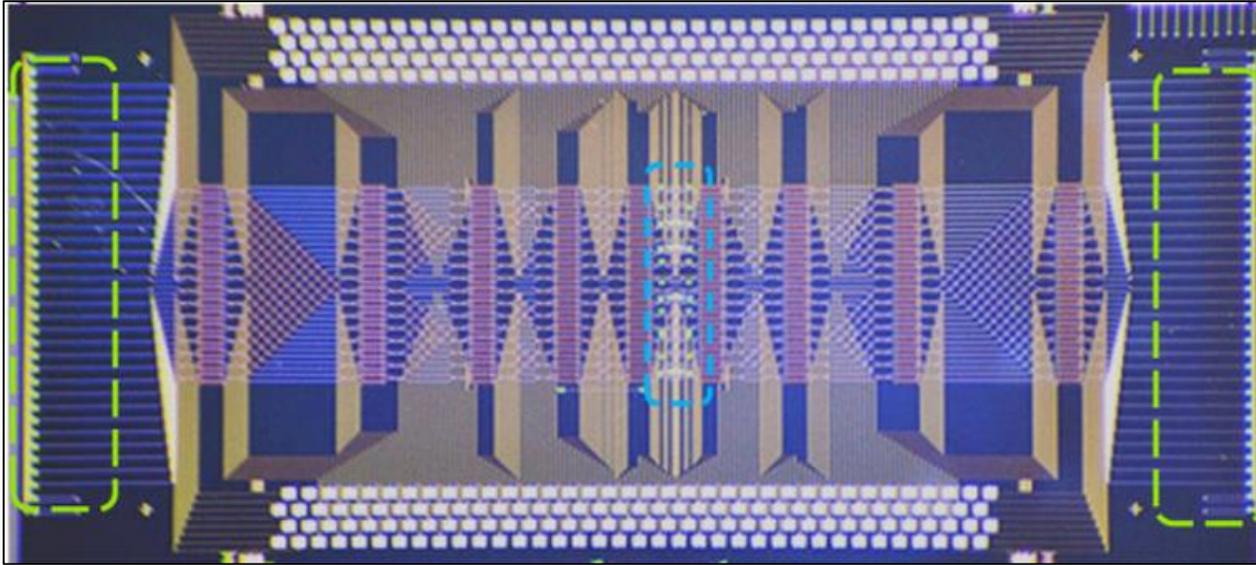


**Silicon-on-Insulator**

**Contrast: 3.45 to 1**

**Bend radius = 5 $\mu$ m**

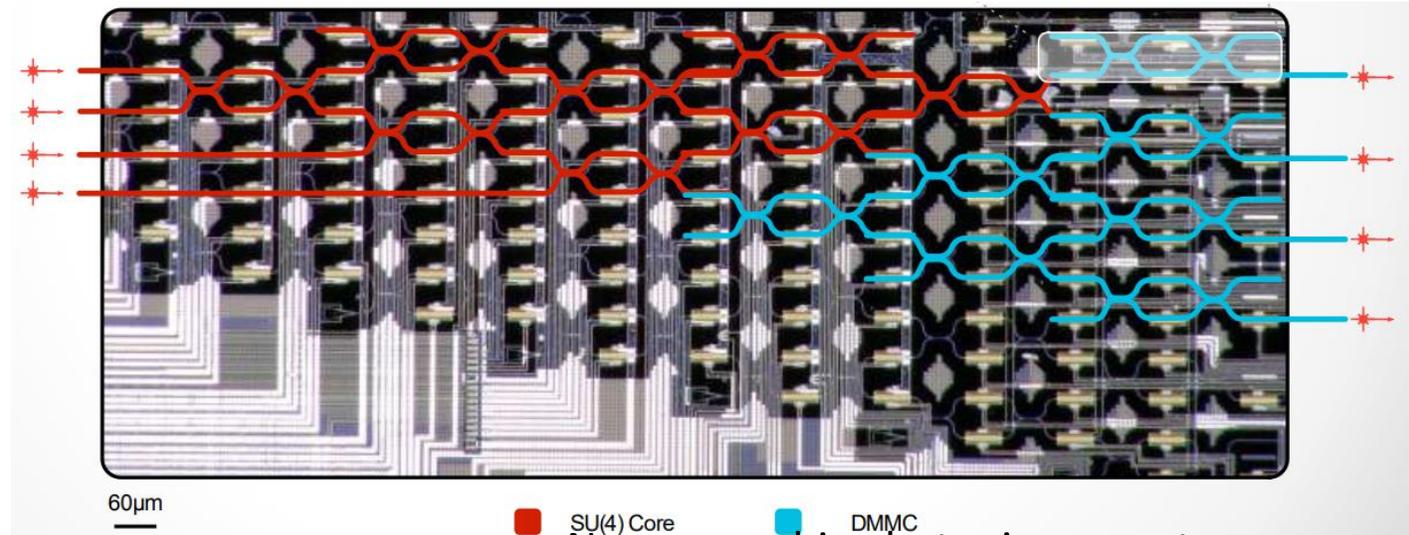
# LARGE-SCALE PHOTONIC INTEGRATION IS HERE



Large-scale integration

- Complexity
- Functionality

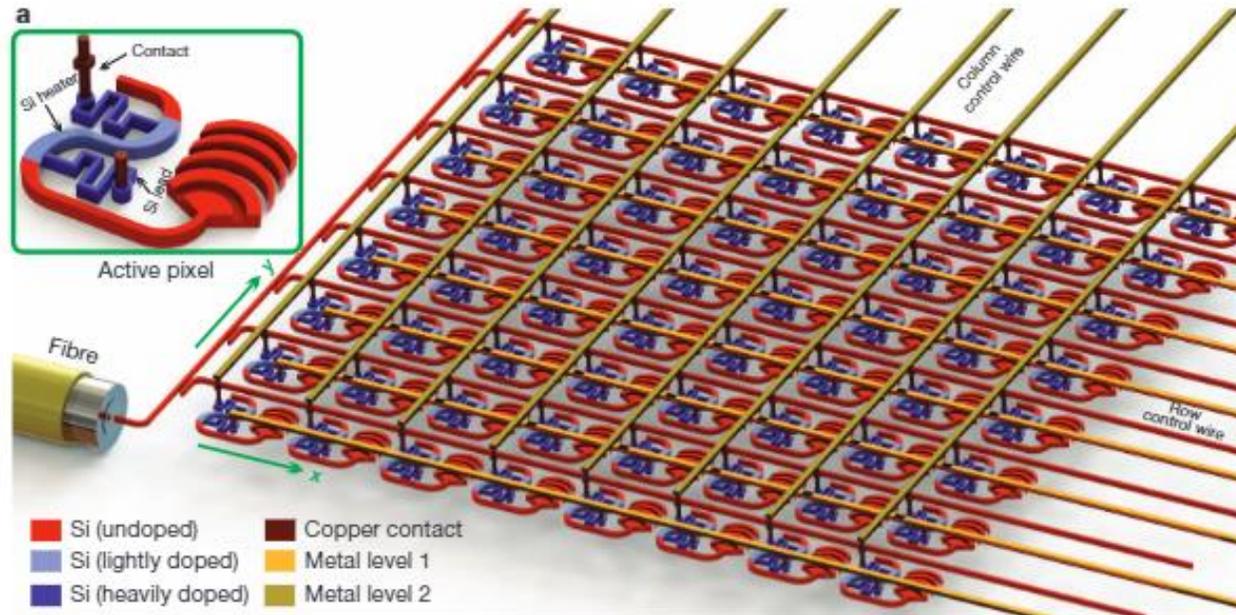
Photonic switch  
Cheng, et al., *Optics Express* 2018



■ SU(4) Core ■ DMMC  
Neuromorphic photonic computer

Y. Shen and N. Harris et al, *Nature Photonics* 2017

# THE SIZE OF LARGE-SCALE PHOTONIC CIRCUIT



4096 optical components

Large-scale nanophotonic phased array

J. Sun, *Nature* 2013

# SILICON PHOTONICS ARE SENSITIVE

- Process variation

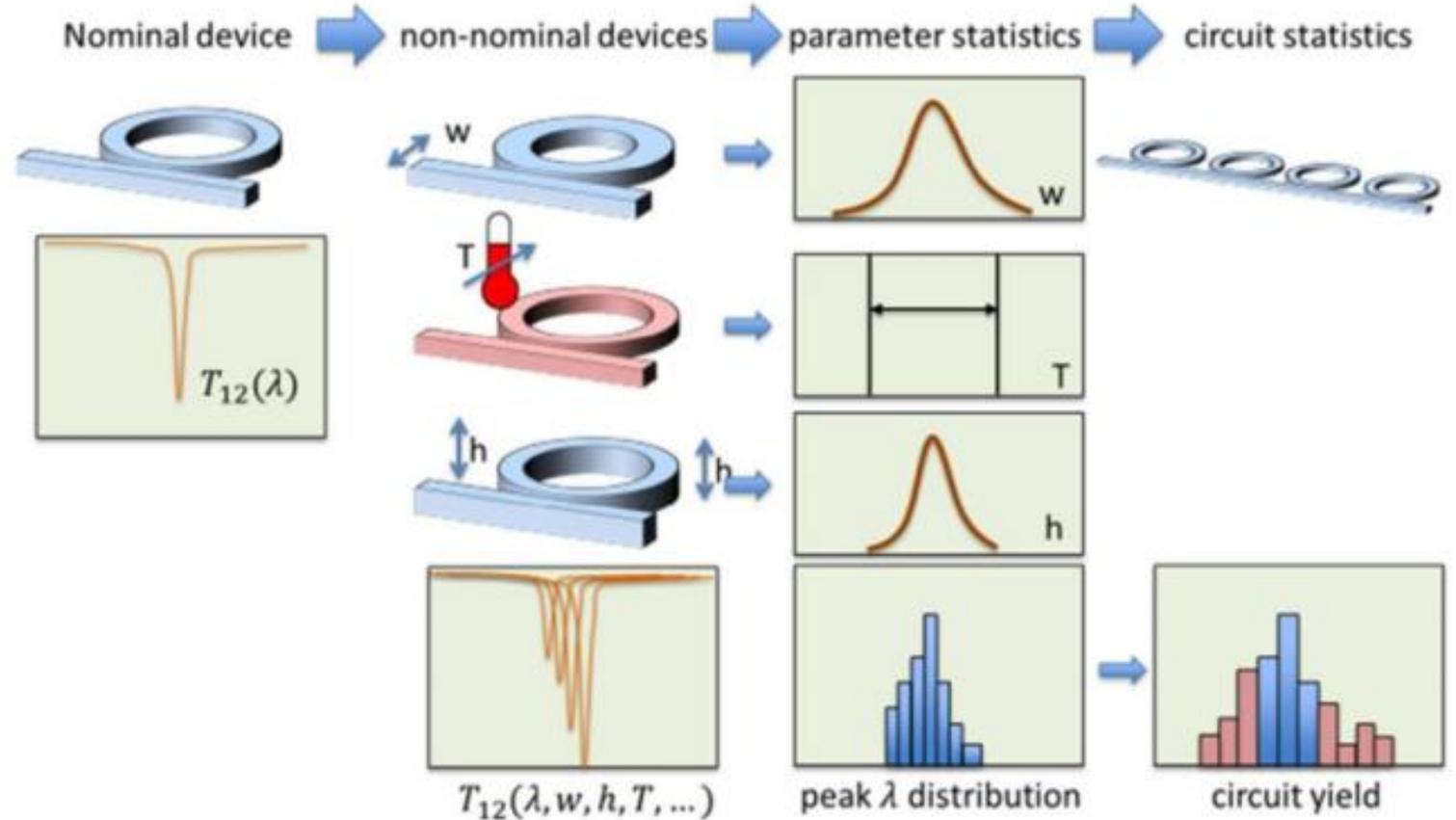
- 2 nm variation in width

⇒ 1 nm shift in resonance

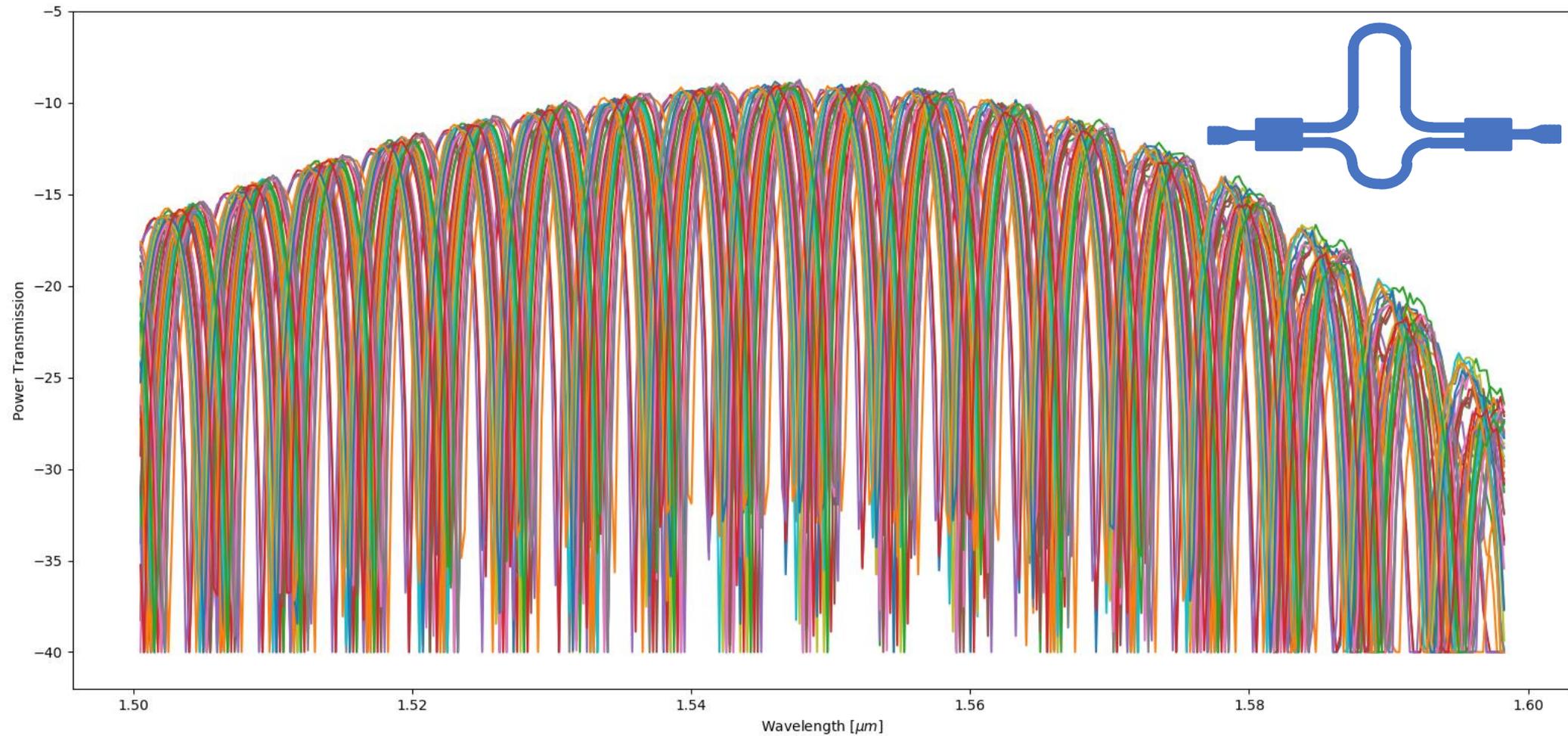
- 1 nm variation in thickness

⇒ 1 nm shift in resonance

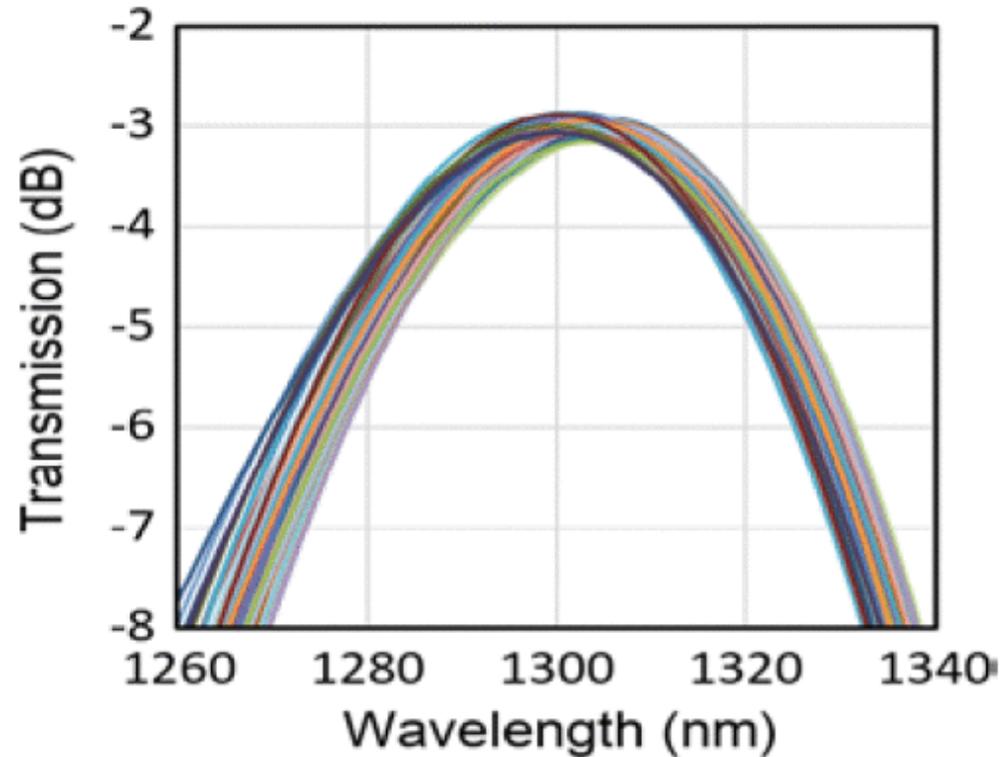
- Operational condition:  
Temperature



# TRANSMISSION SPECTRUM OF MZI COPIES ON A DIE

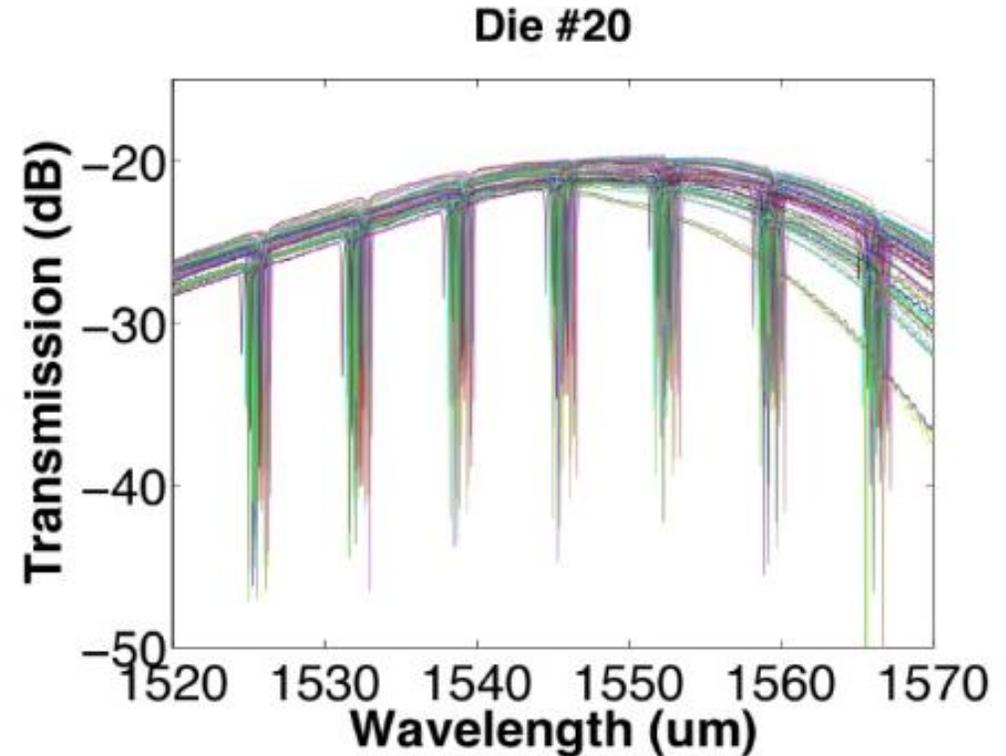


## GC variation on 300 mm wafer



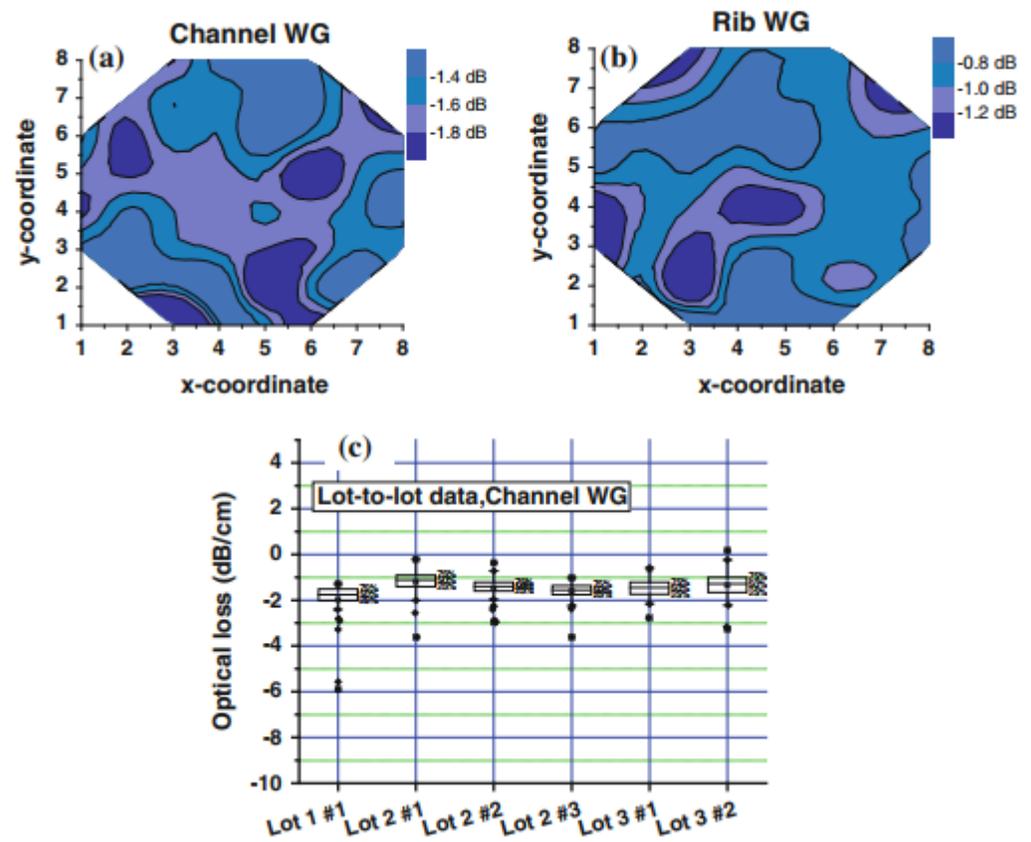
A 300-mm Silicon Photonics Platform for Large-Scale Device Integration, T. Horikawa et al, *JSTQE* 2018

## Ring resonance on a die



Performance prediction for silicon photonics integrated circuits with layout-dependent correlated manufacturing variability, Z. Lu et al, *OE* 2017

### Waveguide unit-length loss map



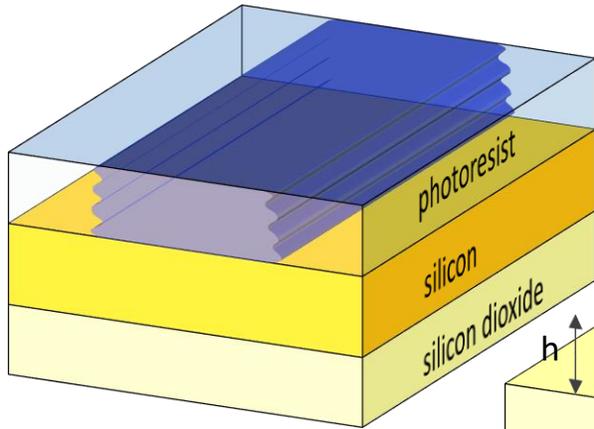
Path to Silicon Photonics Commercialization: The Foundry Model Discussion, A. Lim et al., *Silicon Photonics iii* 2015

## A QUICK ESTIMATION

- A circuit: 100 components
  - 1% failure for each component
  - Cascaded circuit: almost 100% failure
- 
- Even every component works
  - Continuous contribution
  - Variation propagates and accumulates

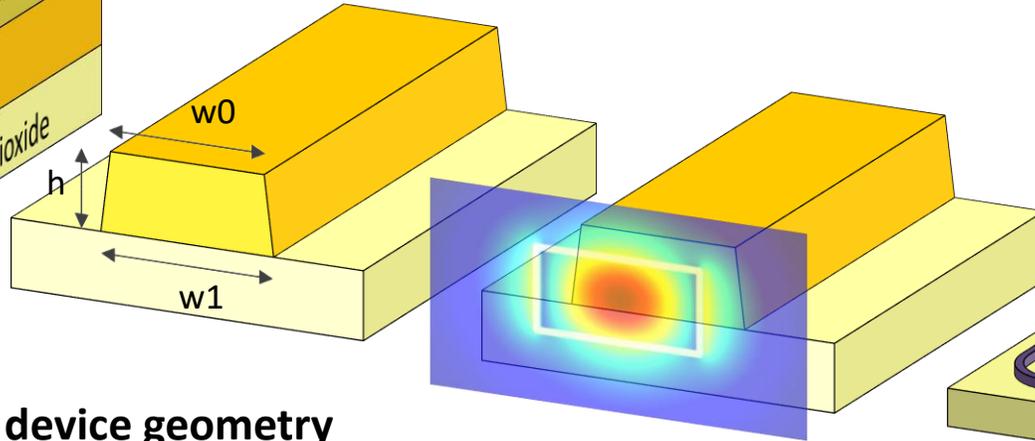


# VARIABILITY AT DIFFERENT LEVELS



## process conditions

- exposure dose
- resist age
- plasma density
- slurry composition
- ...

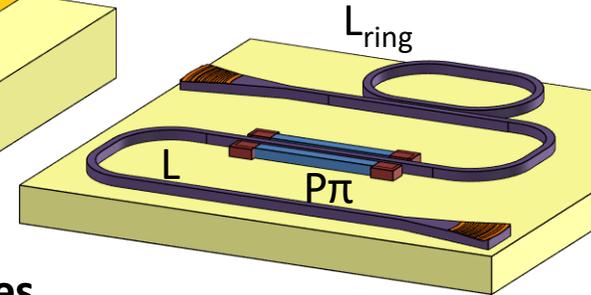


## device geometry

- line width
- layer thickness
- sidewall angle
- doping profile
- ...

## optical device properties

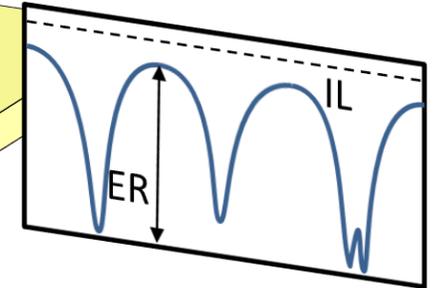
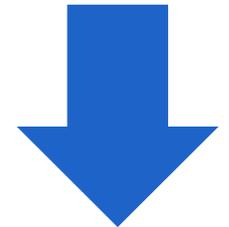
- effective index
- group index
- coupling coefficients
- center wavelength
- ...



## circuit properties

- optical delay
- path imbalance
- tuning curve
- ...

This is what we need to predict yield (during design)

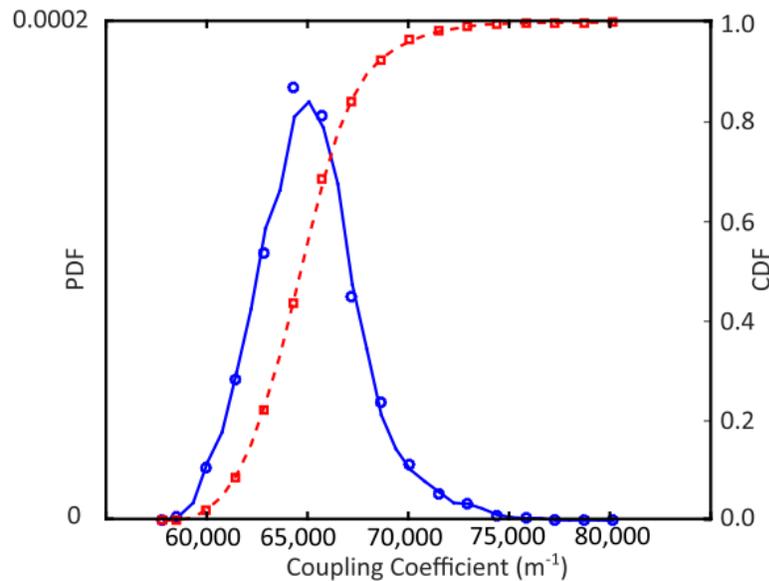
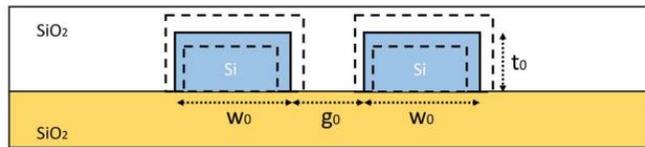
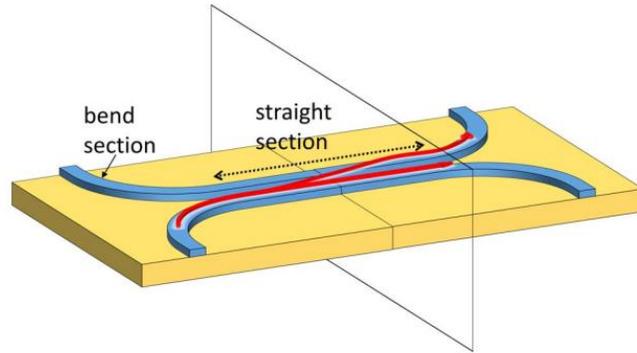


## system performance

- insertion loss
- crosstalk
- noise figures
- power consumption
- ...

This is what we measure

# VARIATION: RANDOM?

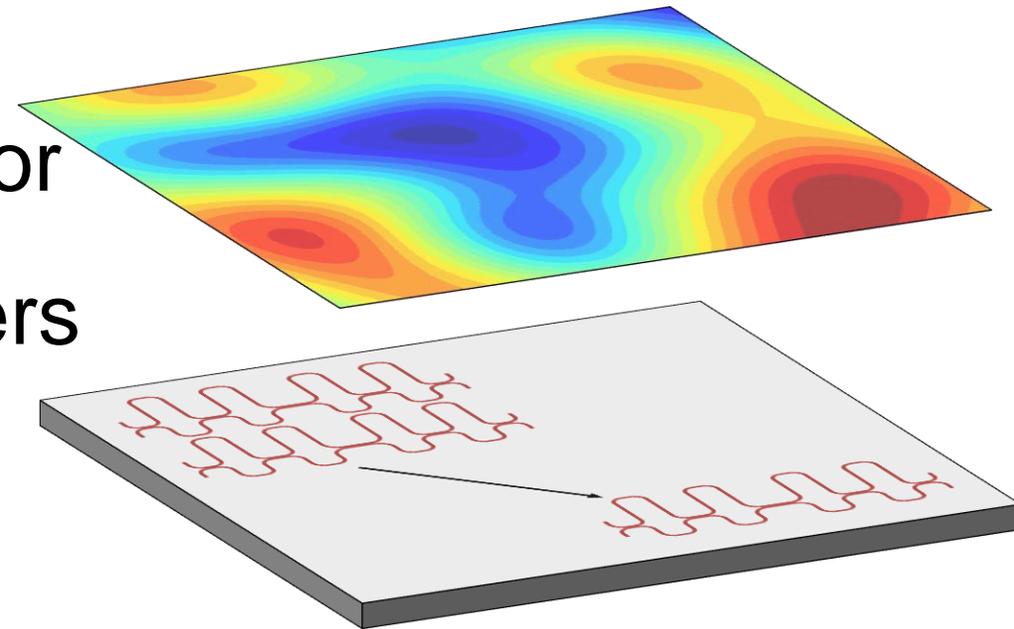


- Variation
  - totally random (linewidth, thickness)
  - Normal distribution
- Monte-Carlo: using the normal distribution
- Stochastic analysis method to reduce prediction cost
- ? Is variation random?
- ? How can we know the statistics of linewidth and thickness?

## NOT RANDOM: LOCATION-DEPENDENT

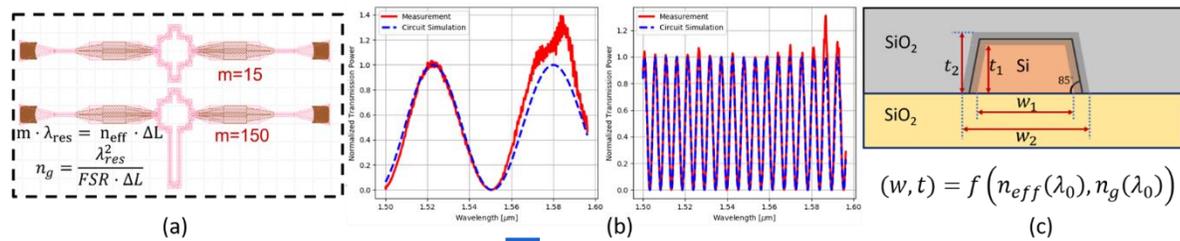
Circuit parameters are not random, they are correlated:

- Systematic + random
- Nearby circuits have similar behavior
- The exact location of a circuit matters

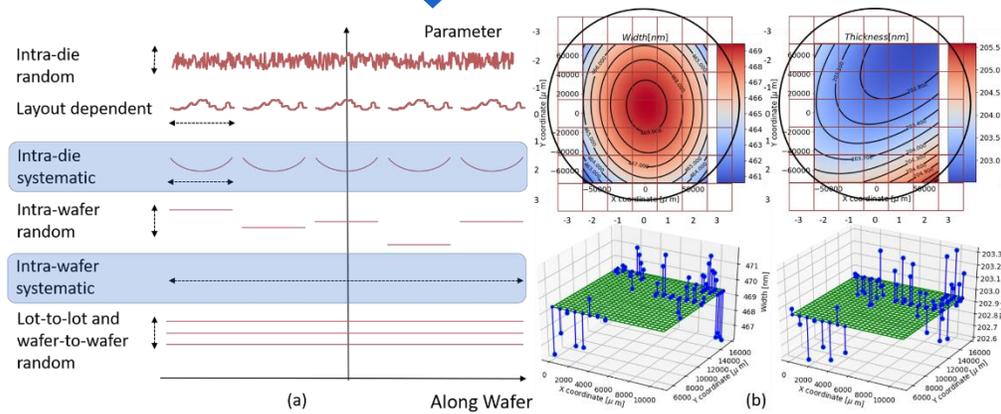


We need wafer maps!

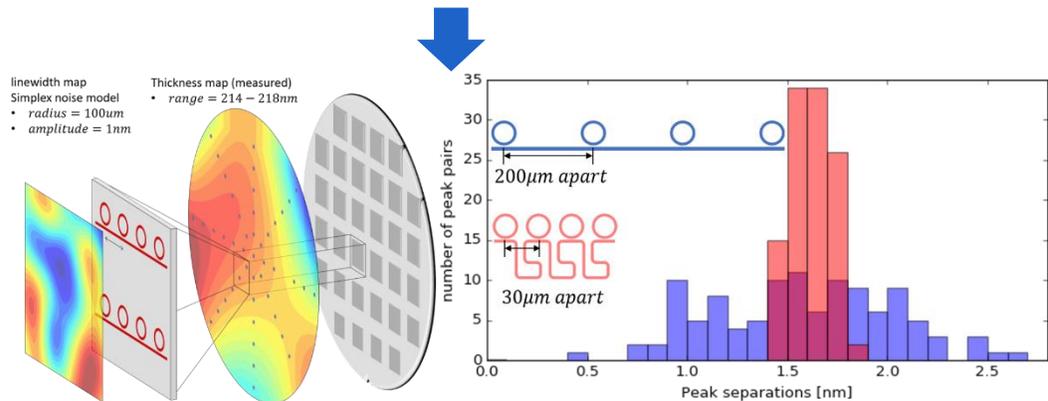
# THREE COMPONENTS OF REALISTIC YIELD PREDICTION



Detailed Parameter Extraction



Spatial Variation Model

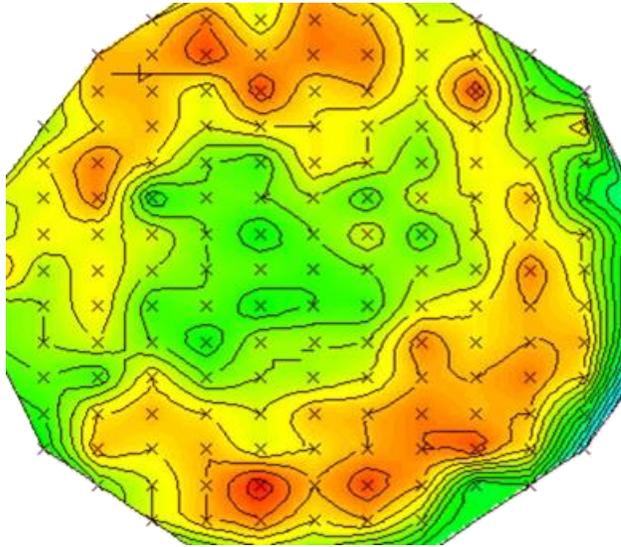


Location and Layout-Aware Yield Prediction

# PARAMETER EXTRACTION

# PARAMETER MAP

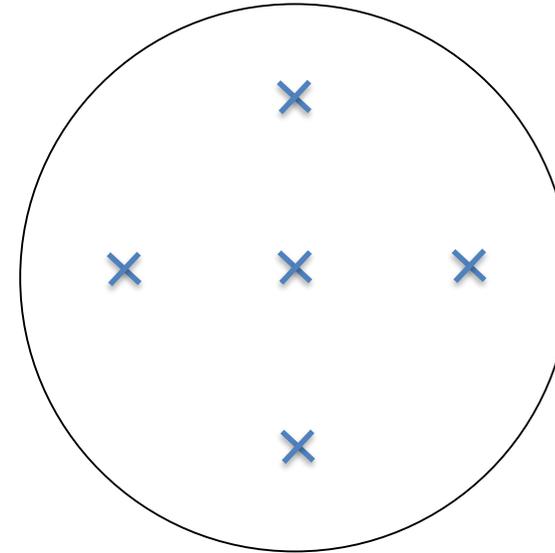
Expected



- Detailed
- Accurate
- Non-destructive

# INLINE METROLOGY

Reality

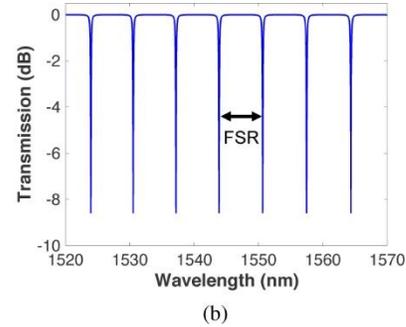
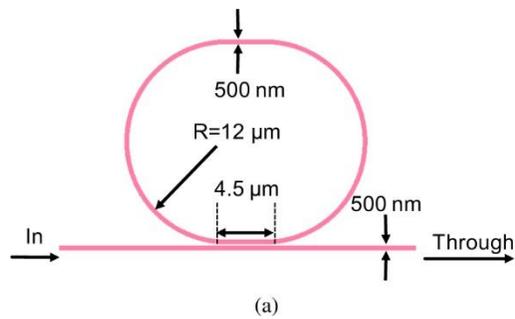


Number of measurement sites:

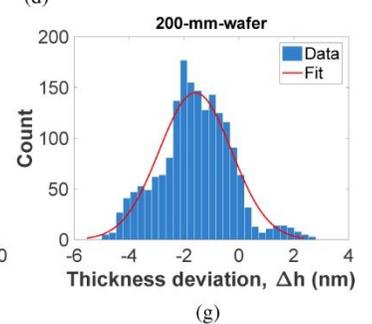
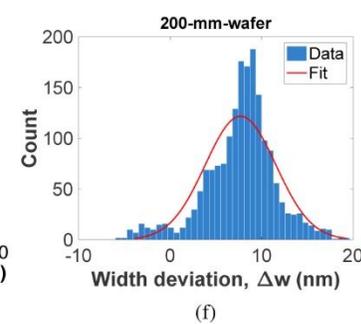
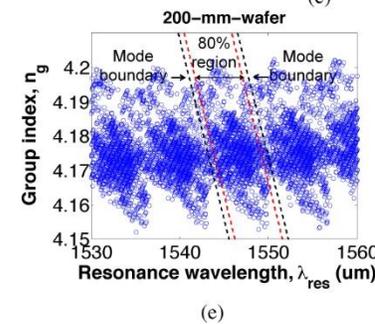
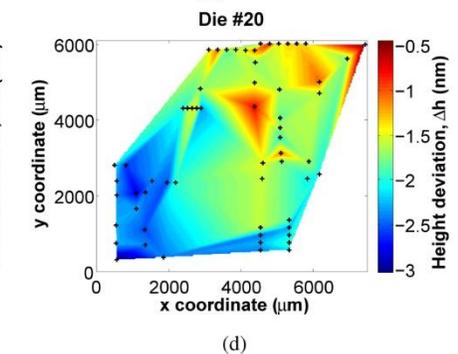
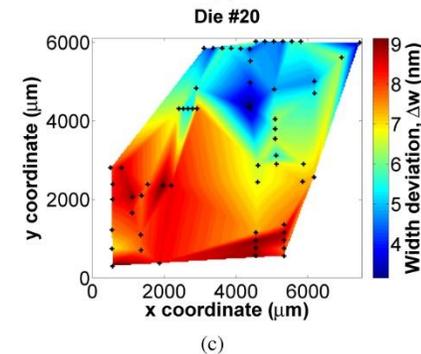
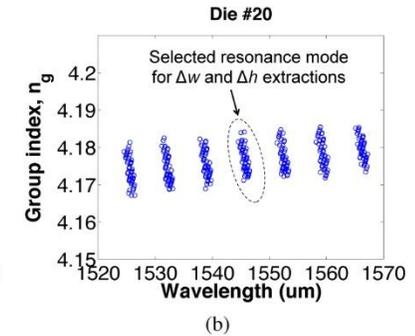
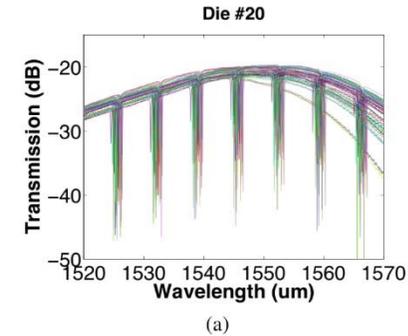
- Width: 5 (CD-SEM)
- Thickness: 9 or 49 obtained before the lithography (profilometer)

Not on the site of interest

# OPTICAL MEASUREMENTS OF RINGS

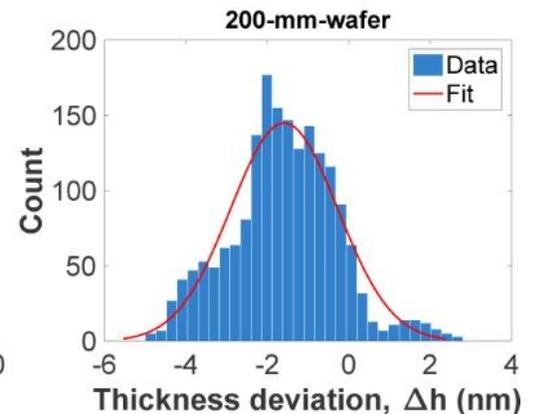
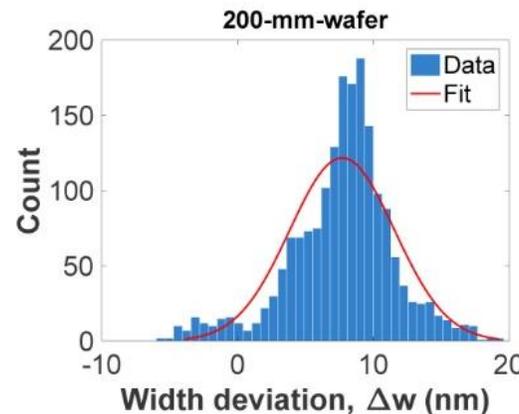
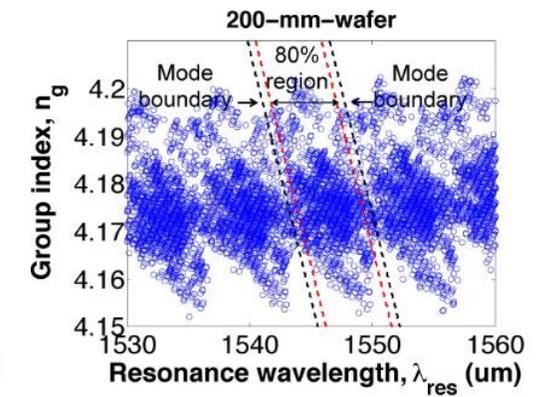
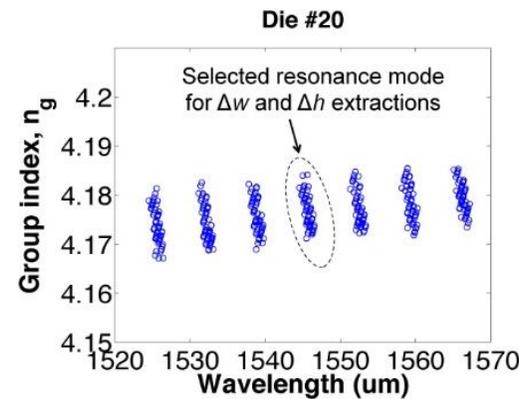
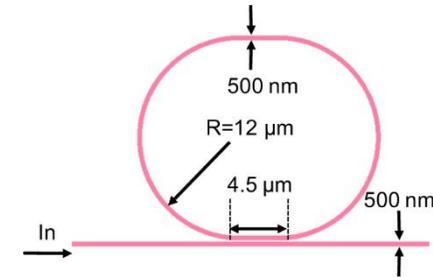


- Extract parameters ( $n_{eff}, n_g$ ) using wafer scale measurements
- Link  $n_{eff}, n_g$  to width and thickness
- Cannot separate straight and bend waveguide

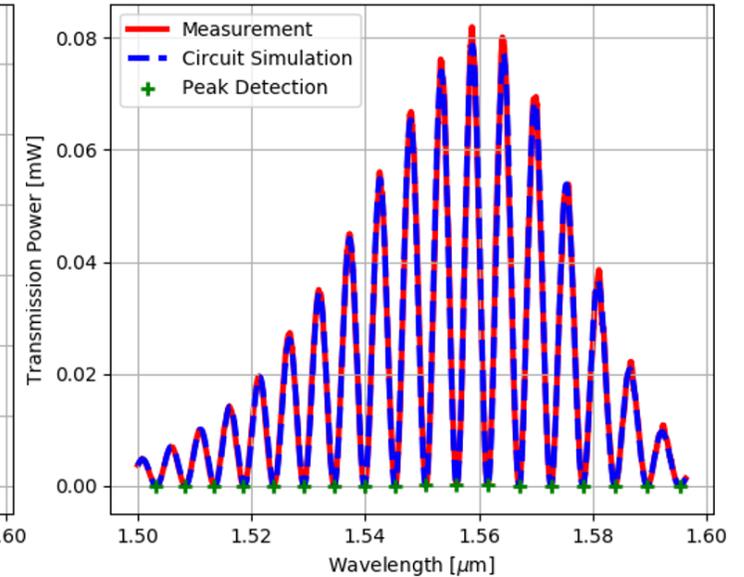
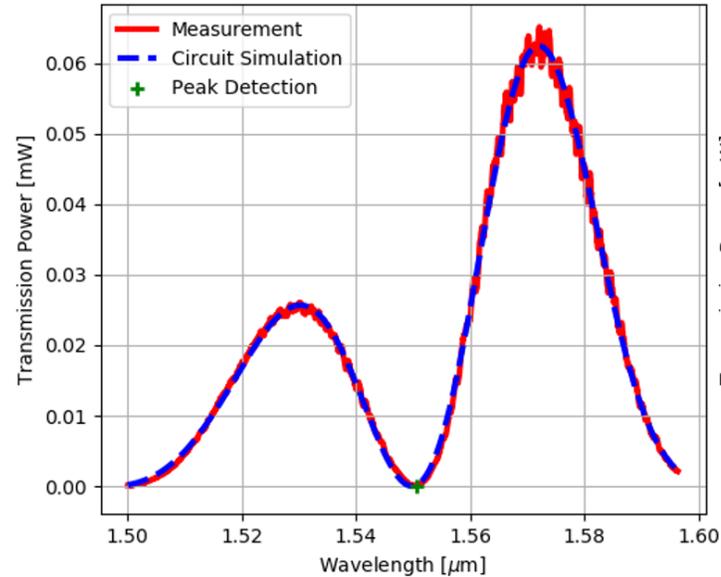
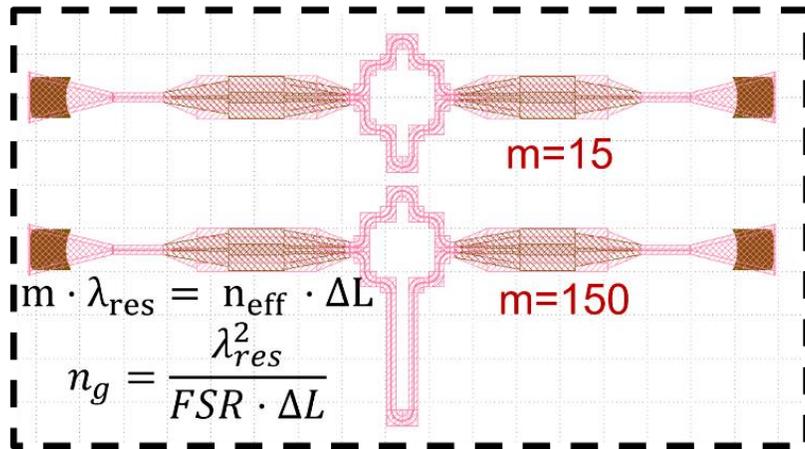


# OPTICAL MEASUREMENTS OF RINGS

- Cannot separate straight and bend waveguide
- Accuracy:  $\sim$ nm
- Cannot decide the interference order (right effective index)
- 20% data are discarded



# OPTICAL MEASUREMENTS OF TWO MZIS



Xing et al., Photonics Research 2018

## Spectrum

- $n_{eff}, n_g$ : Straight waveguide
- Length difference between two arms

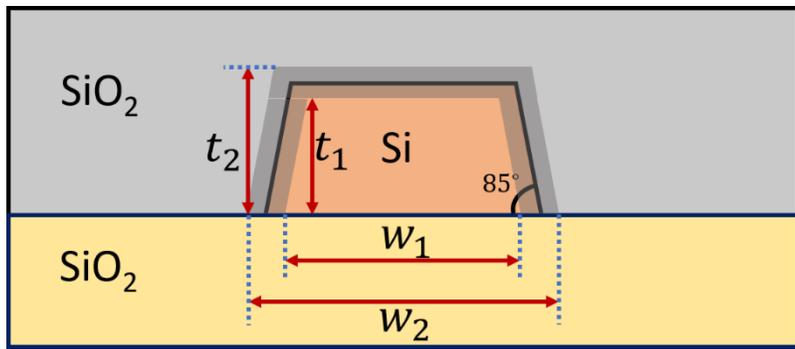
$$\Rightarrow n_{eff}, n_g$$

## Low order

- Inaccurate extraction
- Tolerant to overall variation
- Set reference effective index

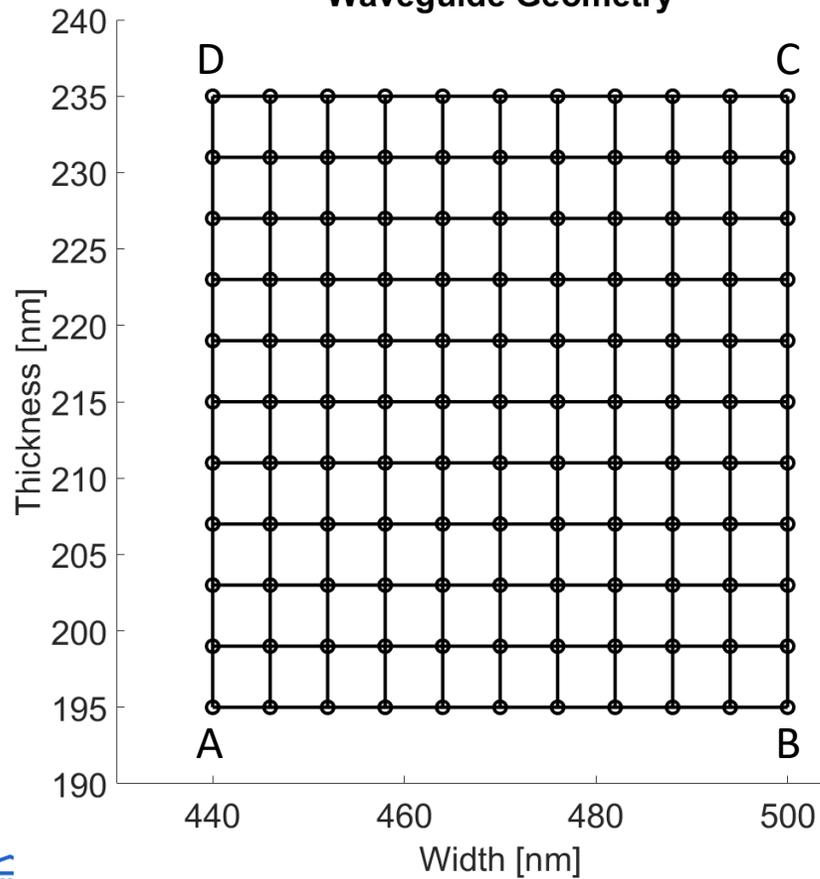
## High order

- Accurate extraction of group index and effective index

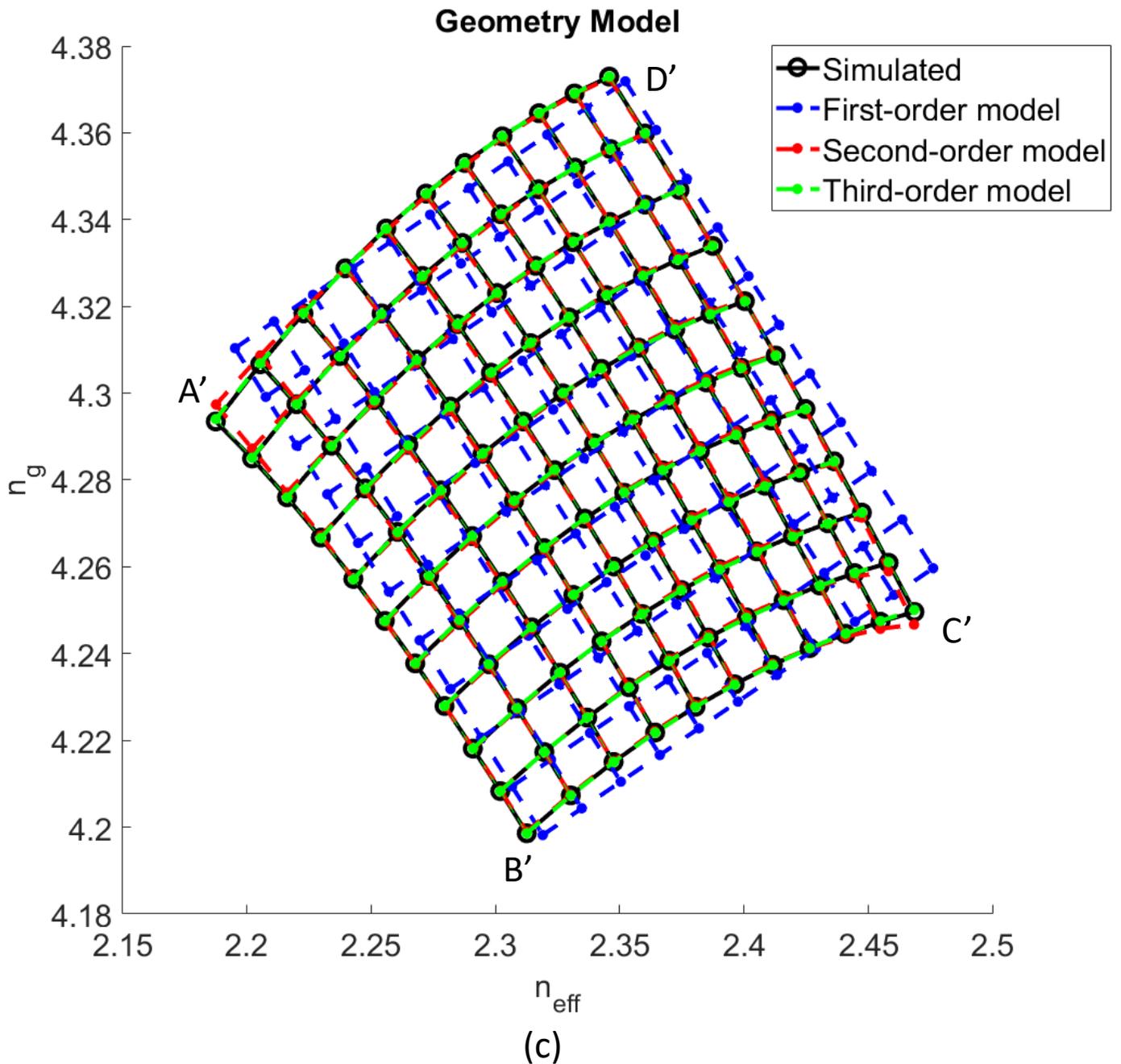


(a)

Waveguide Geometry

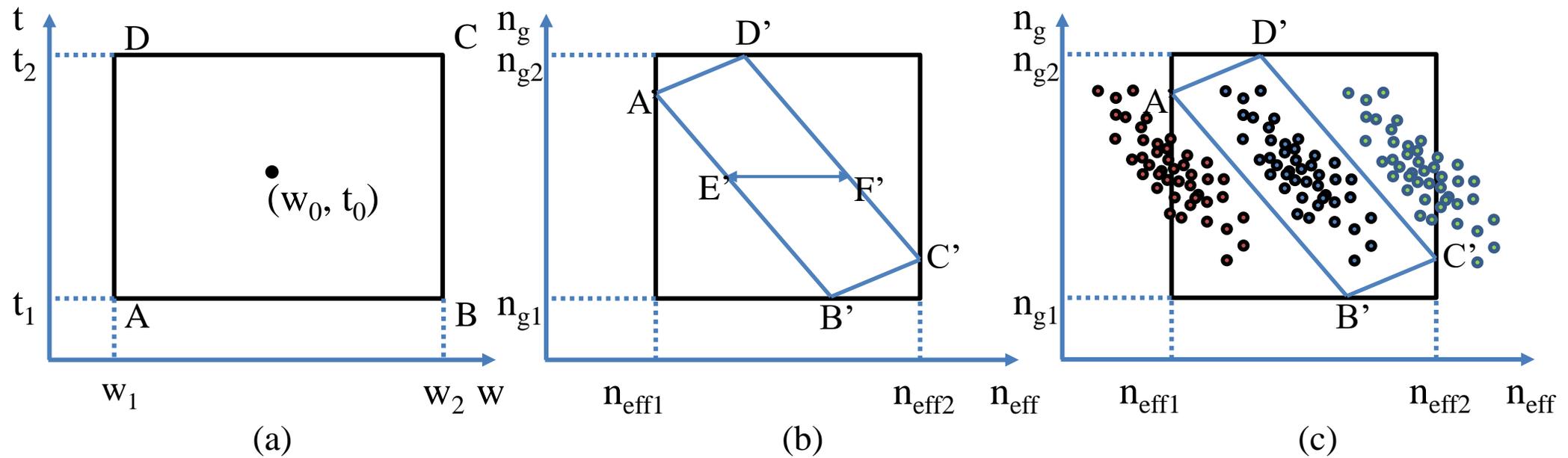


(b)



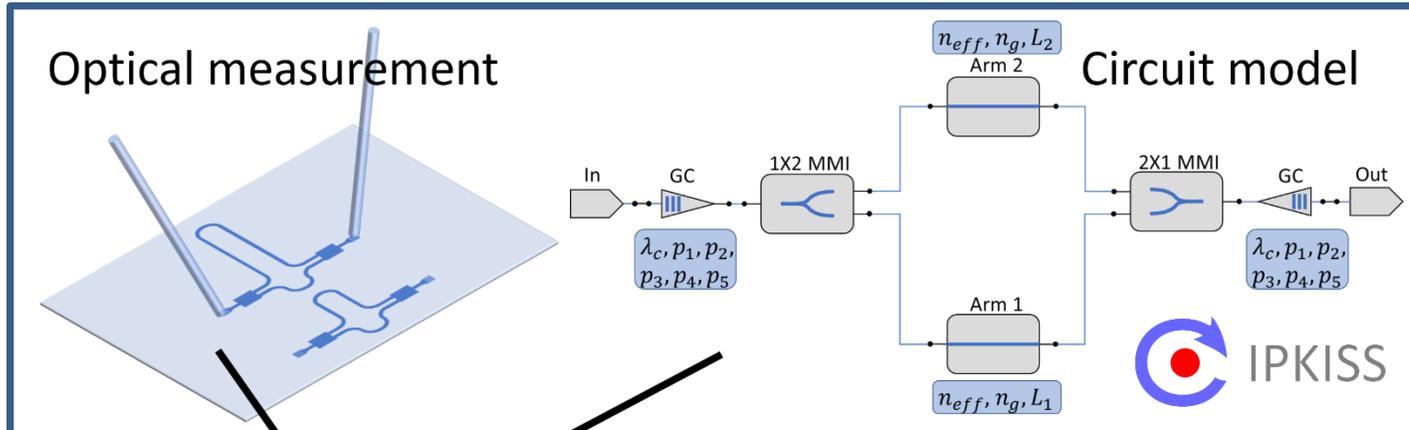
(c)

# DISCUSSION ON PARAMETER BOUNDARY

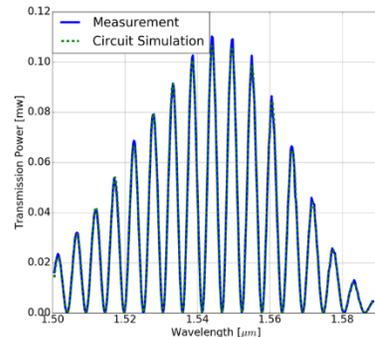


- Determine  $n_{eff}$  with information on  $n_g$
- Allow to use higher-order MZI for to reduce extracted parameter uncertainty

# WORKFLOW TO EXTRACT GEOMETRY PARAMETERS



Extraction uncertainty:  
 Width: 0.37 nm  
 Thickness: 0.26 nm

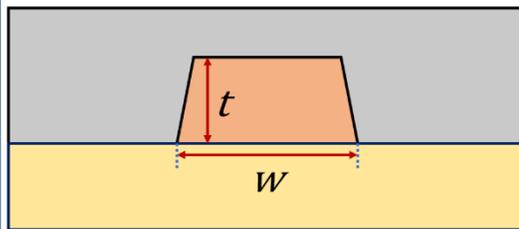


Match optical measurement with circuit simulation to extract behavior parameters

$$n_{eff}(\lambda_0), n_g(\lambda_0), \dots$$

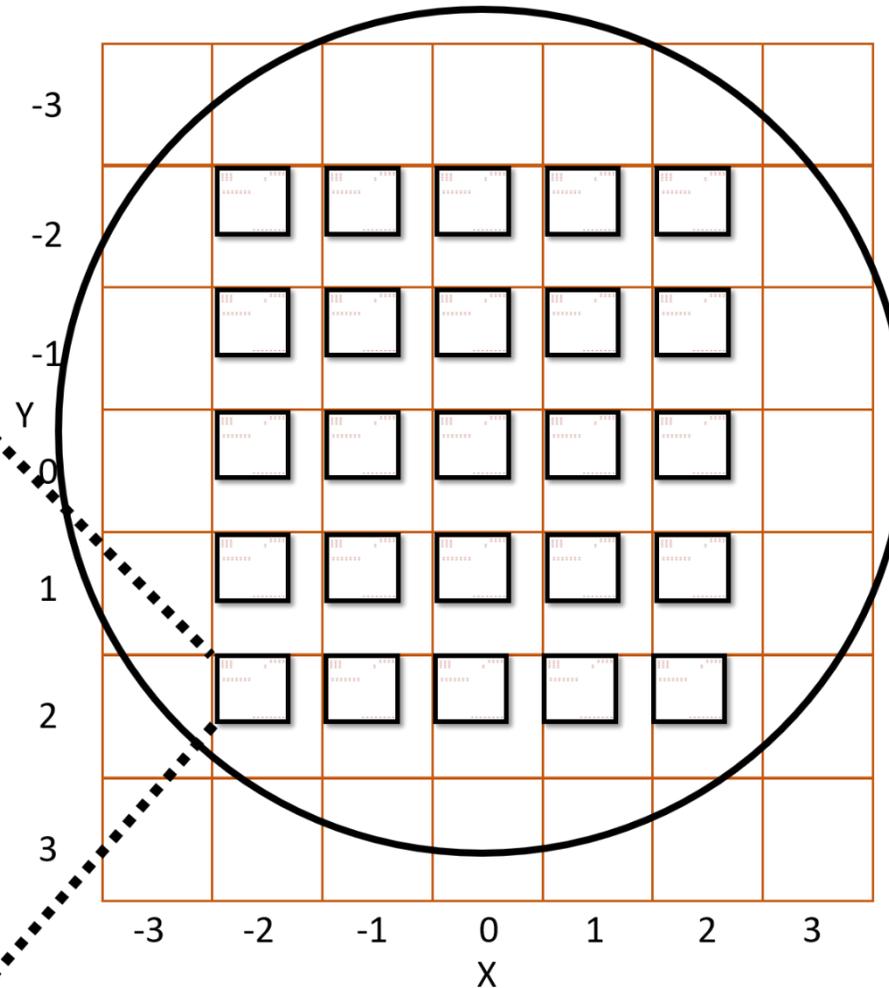
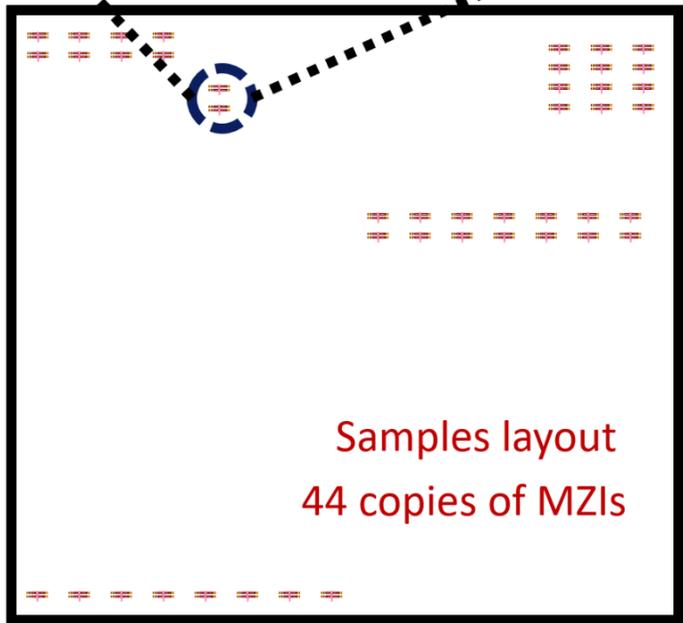
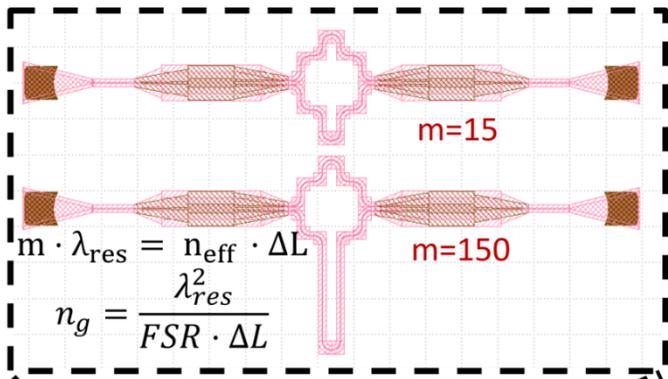
Obtain geometry parameters

$$(n_{eff}(\lambda_0), n_g(\lambda_0)) \xrightarrow{(w,t)=f(n_{eff}(\lambda_0), n_g(\lambda_0))} (w, t)$$



Xing et al., Photonics Research 2018

# MEASUREMENT SITES



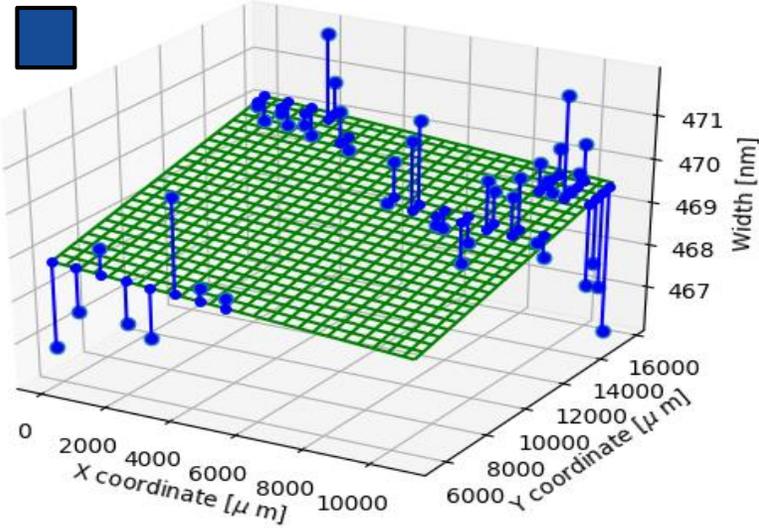
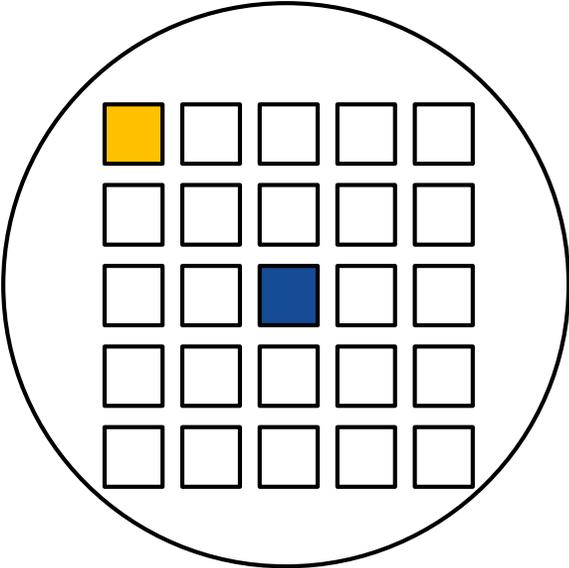
25 dies

44 copies of MZI  
pairs per die

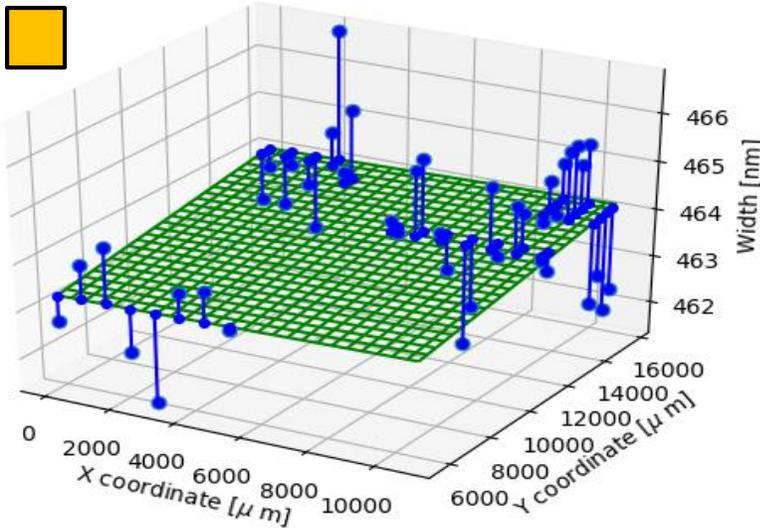
Obtain geometry parameters

$$(n_{eff}(\lambda_0), n_g(\lambda_0)) \xrightarrow{(w,t)=f(n_{eff}(\lambda_0), n_g(\lambda_0))} (w, t)$$

# LINewidth DIE MAP

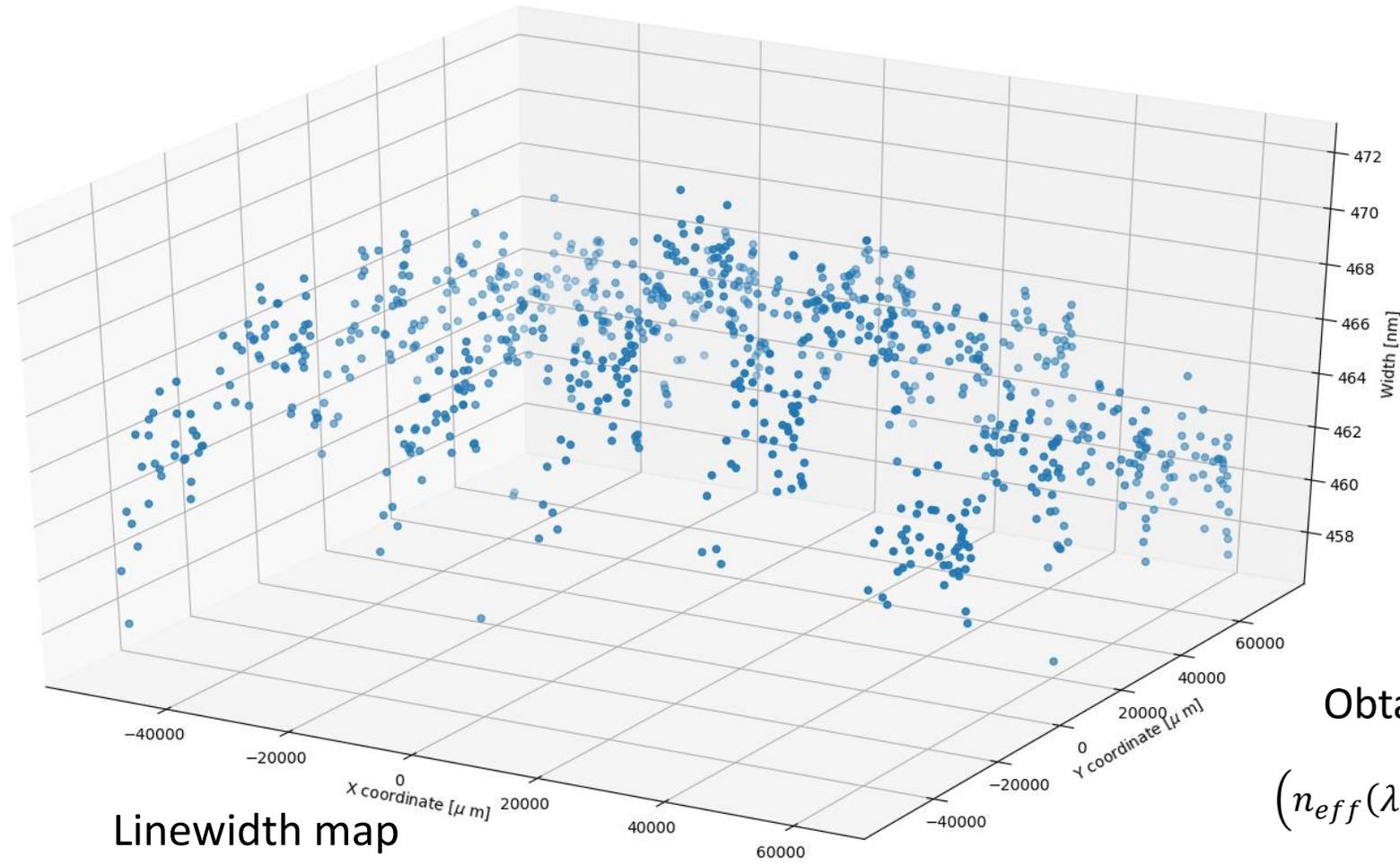


(a)



(b)

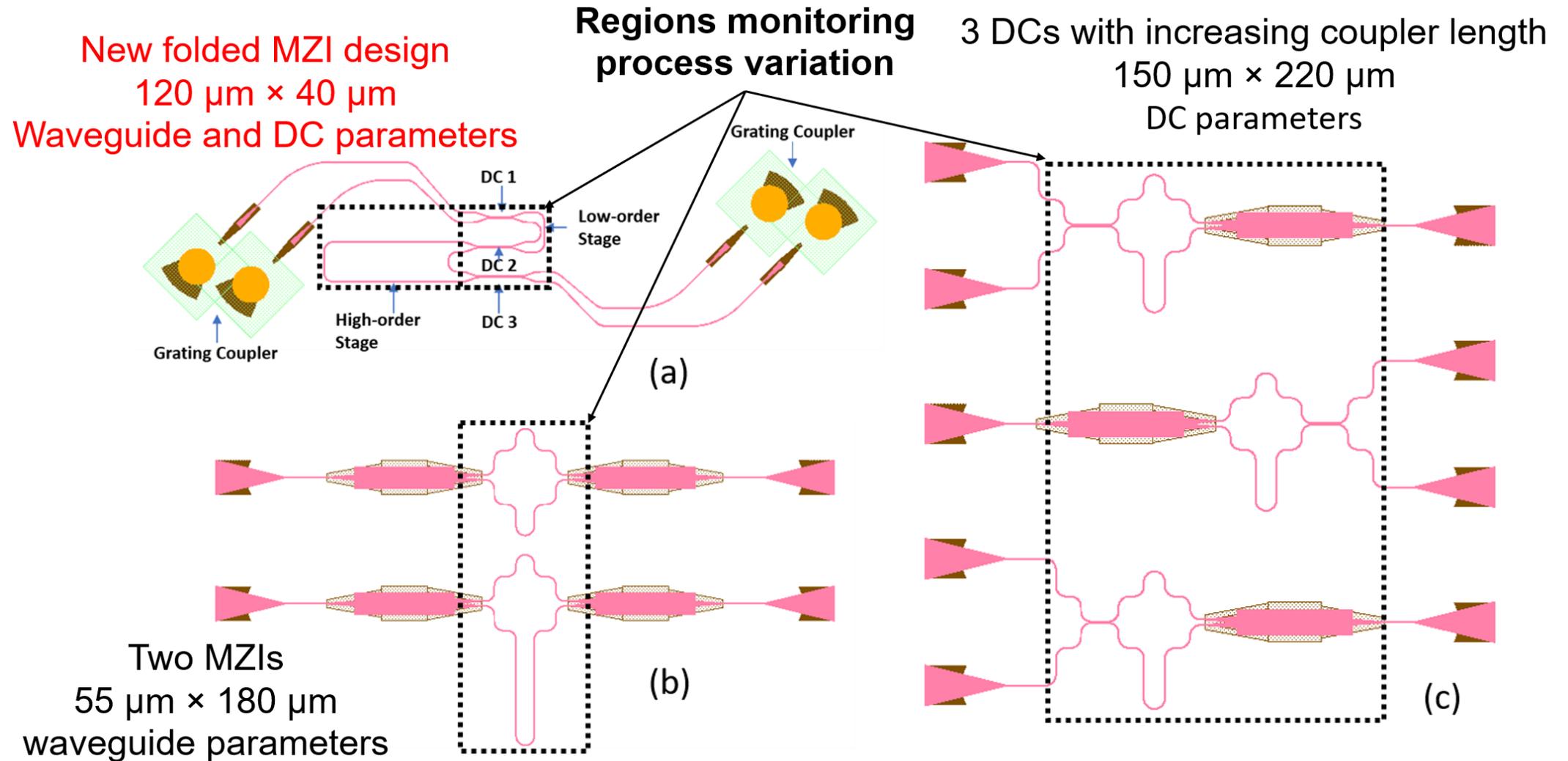
# EXTRACTED FABRICATED LINEWIDTH WAFER MAP



Obtain geometry parameters

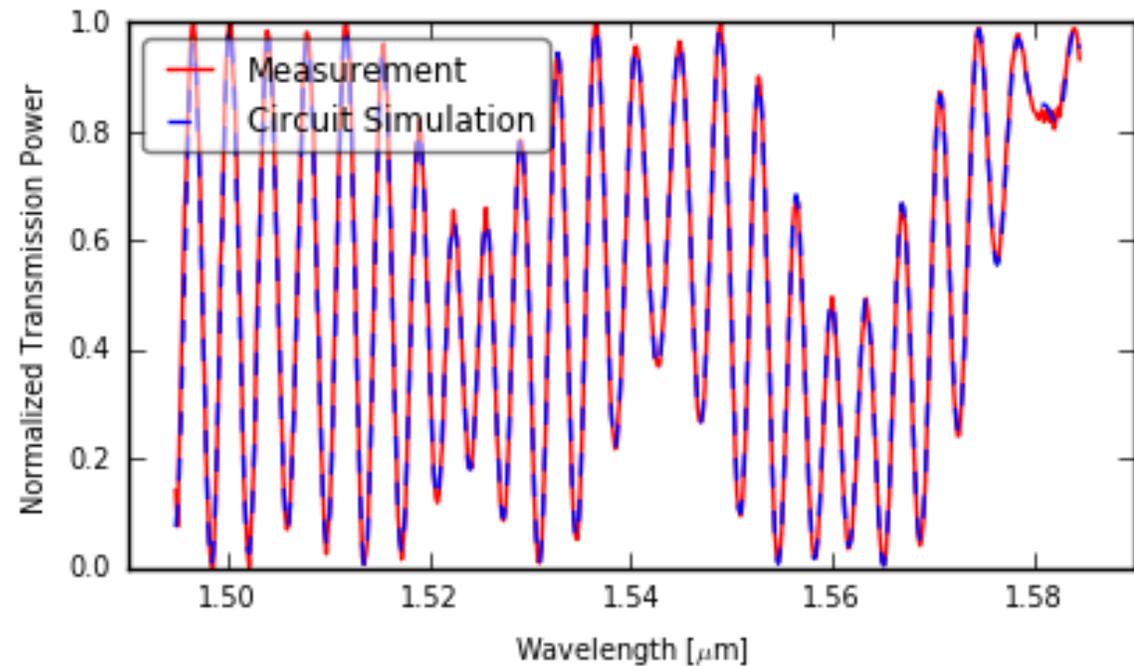
$$\left( n_{eff}(\lambda_0), n_g(\lambda_0) \right) \xrightarrow{(w,t)=f(n_{eff}(\lambda_0), n_g(\lambda_0))} (w, t)$$

# IMPROVED PROCESS CONTROL MONITORING CIRCUIT



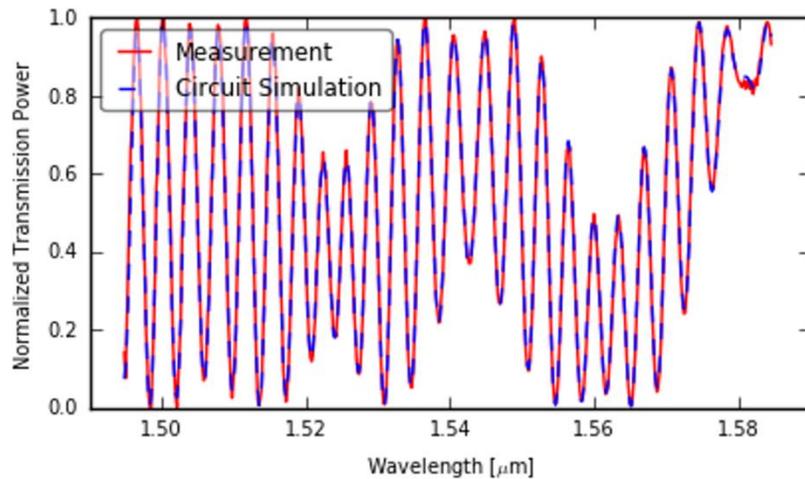
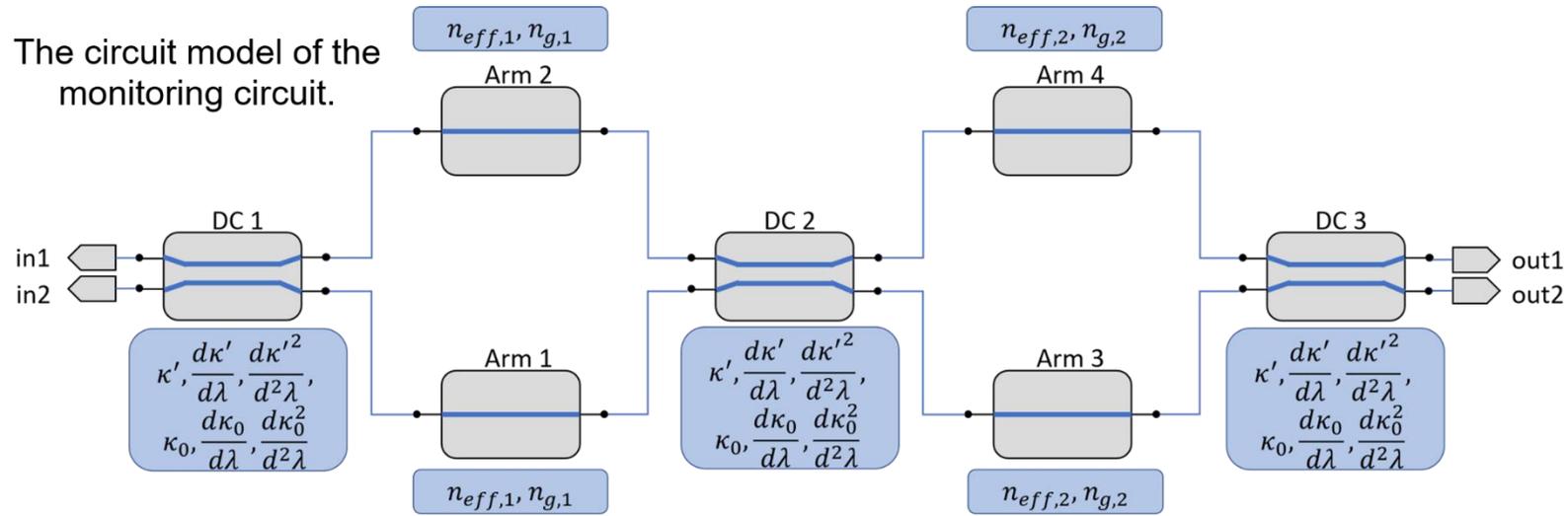
# FITTING CURVE USING GLOBAL OPTIMIZATION ALGORITHM

- Conventional curve fitting methods fail to find the global optimum
- Global optimization algorithm such as CMA-ES or EGO
- Find solution with less than 20,000 evaluations



Xing et al., submitted to OE

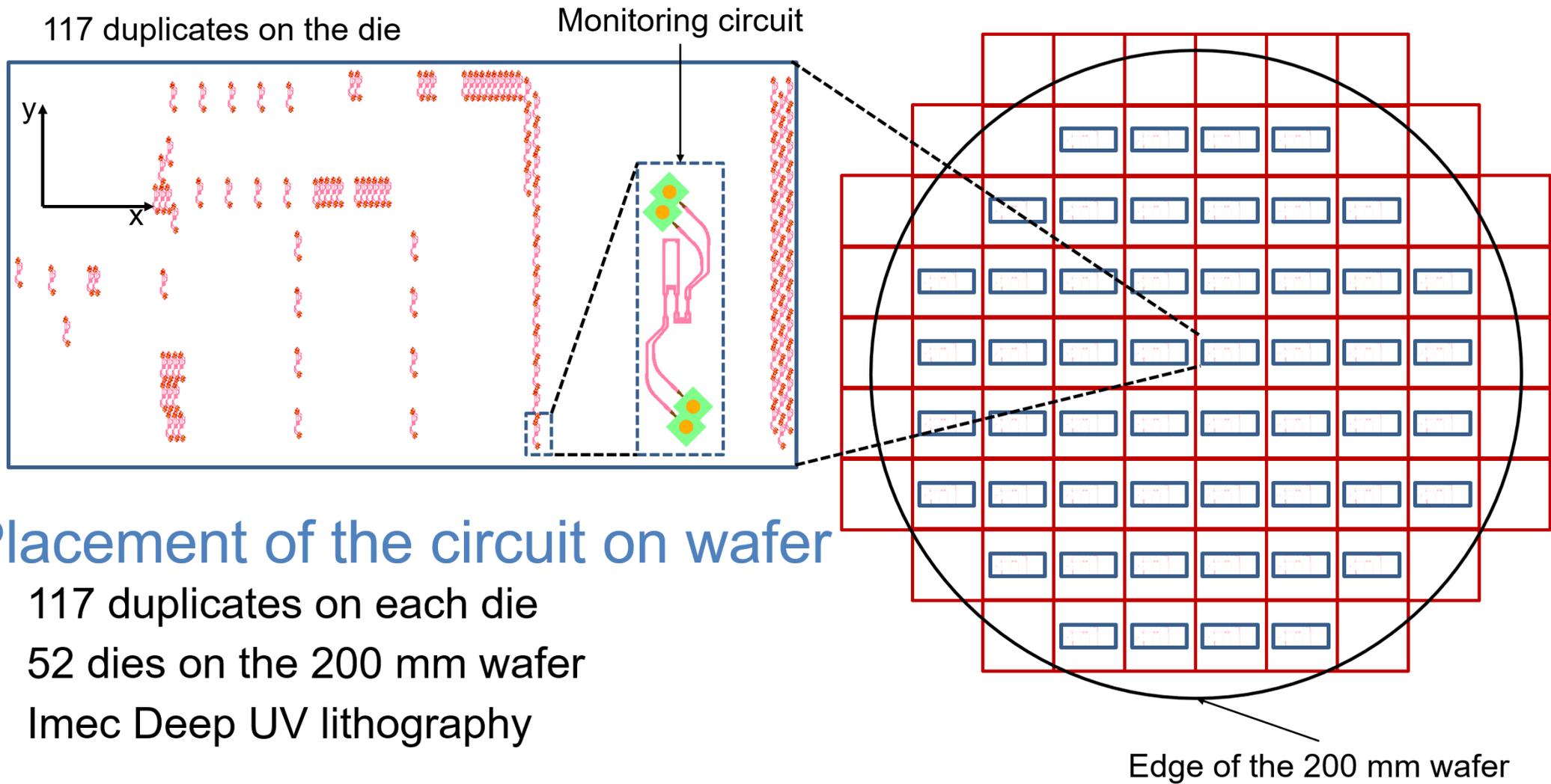
# PROCESS MONITORING CIRCUIT



Obtained parameter values and fitting errors using the Restart CMA-ES method.

	Obtained Value	Fitting Error		Obtained Value	Fitting Error
$n_{eff,1}$	2.356	1.456e-6	$\frac{d\kappa'}{d\lambda}$	2.149e-1	9.147e-5
$n_{g,1}$	4.228	1.322e-4	$\frac{d\kappa'^2}{d^2\lambda}$	1.990	4.060
$n_{eff,2}$	2.356	2.284e-7	$\kappa_0$	2.315e-1	7.852e-5
$n_{g,2}$	4.220	2.105e-5	$\frac{d\kappa_0}{d\lambda}$	1.438	1.266e-2
$\kappa'$	4.173e-2	5.863e-6	$\frac{d\kappa_0^2}{d^2\lambda}$	8.110e-1	6.325e-2

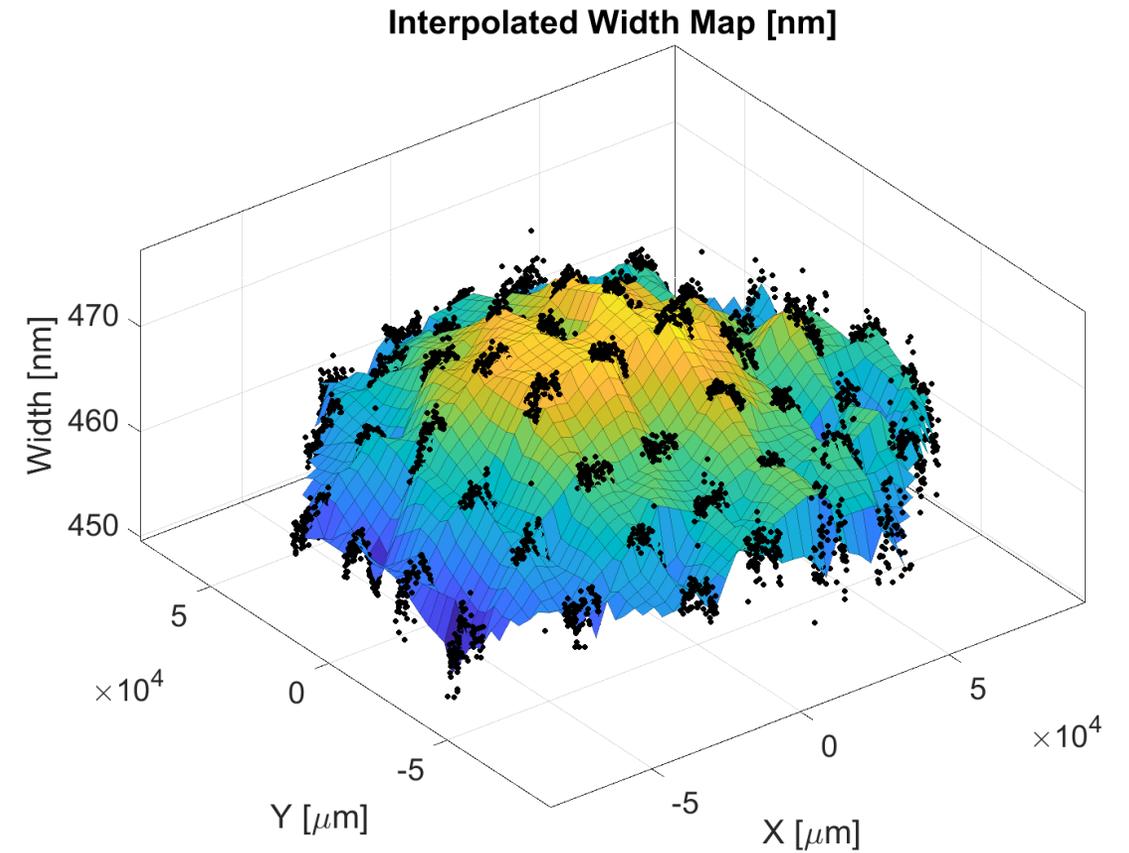
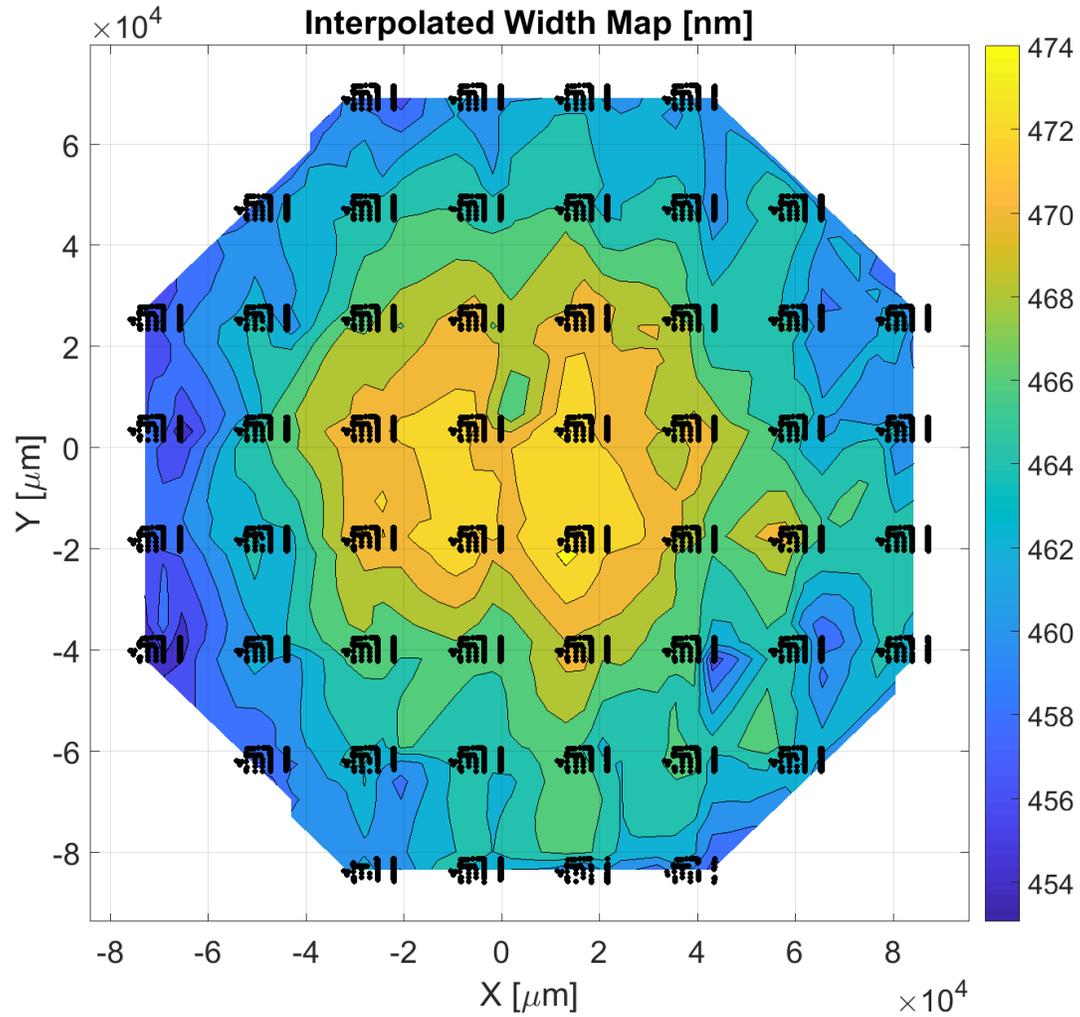
Very small fitting error



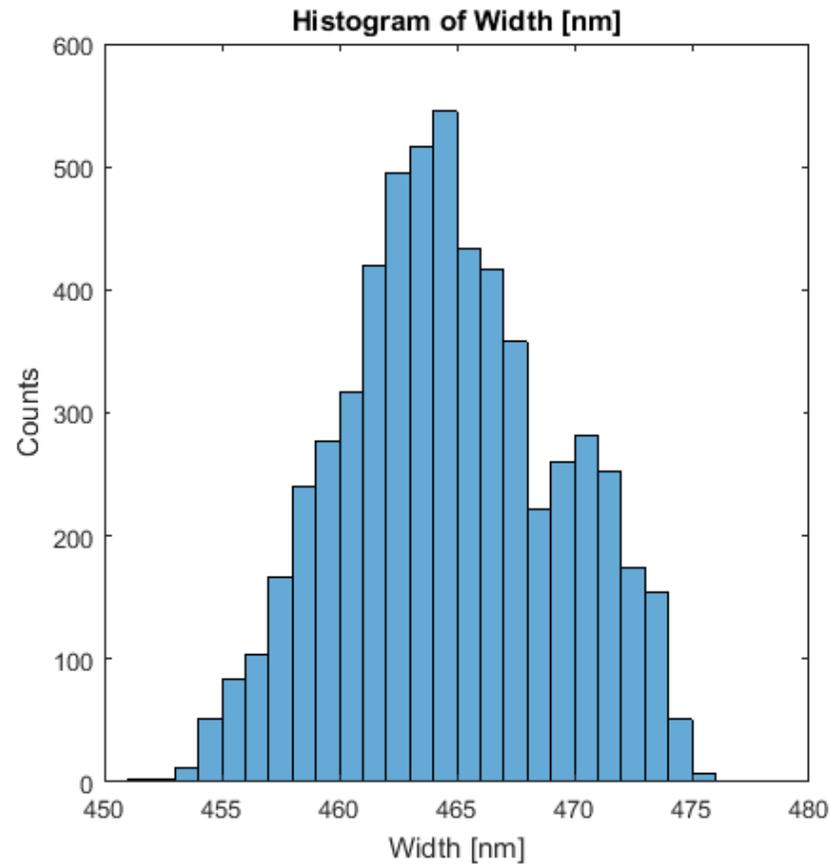
## Placement of the circuit on wafer

- 117 duplicates on each die
- 52 dies on the 200 mm wafer
- Imec Deep UV lithography

# INTERPOLATED WIDTH MAP

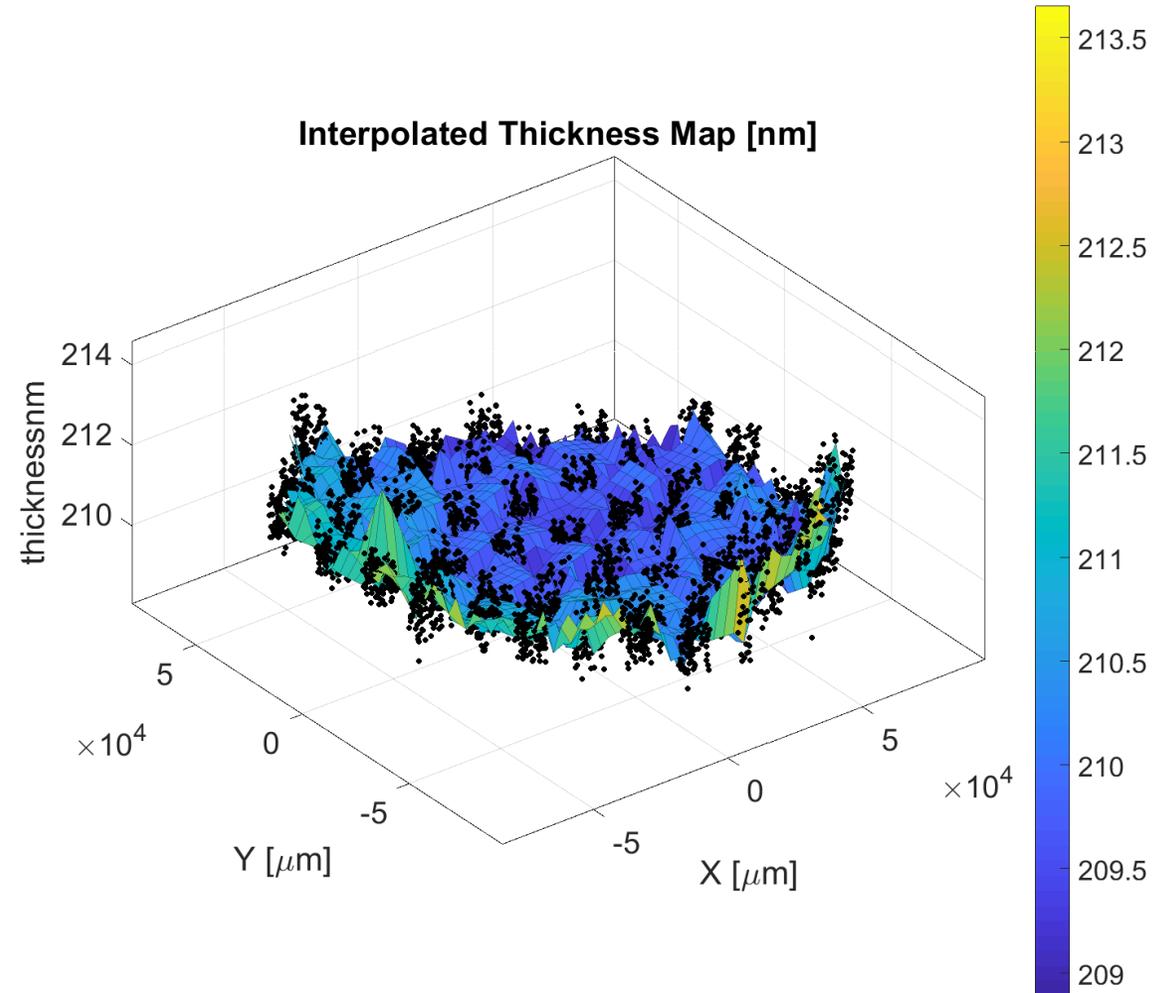
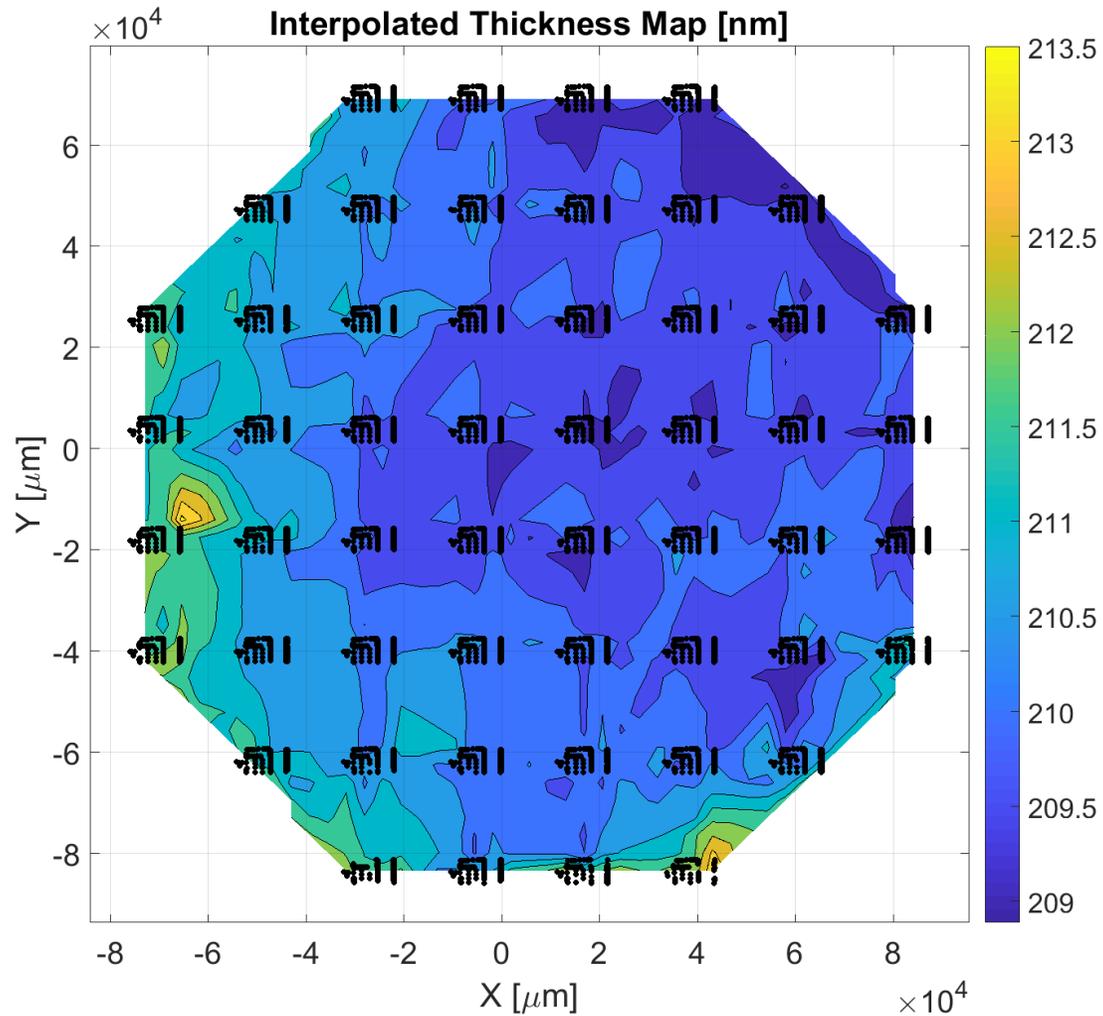


# WIDTH

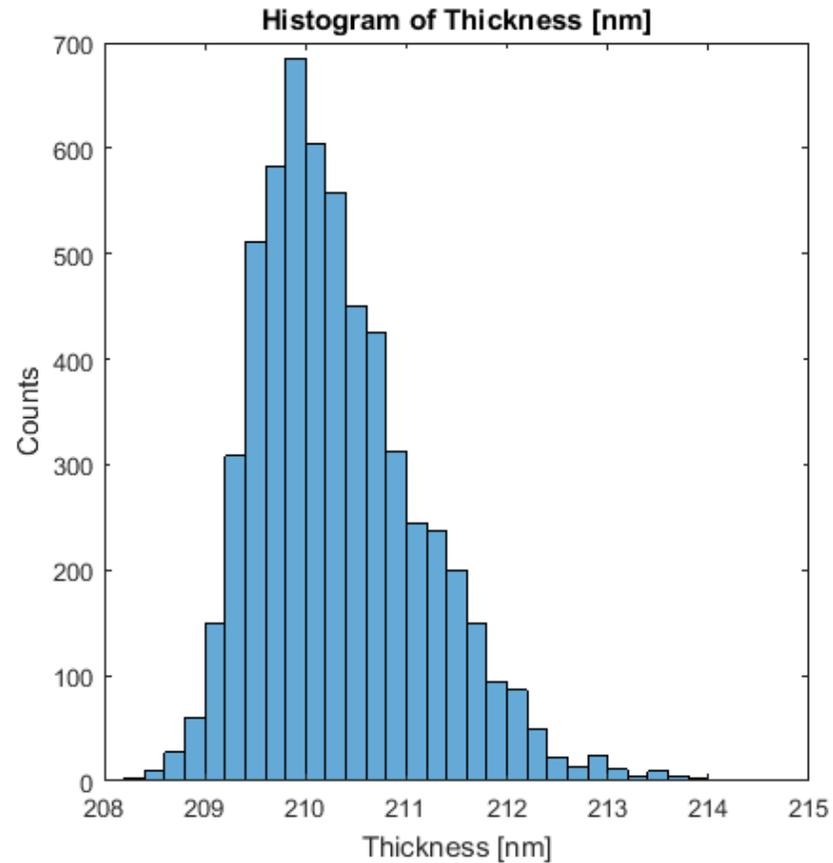


<b>number</b>	<b>5841</b>
Mean [nm]	464.6792
Std [nm]	4.5894
Max [nm]	476.0061
Min [nm]	450.8493
Max-Min [nm]	25.1568
Mid [nm]	464.4049

# INTERPOLATED THICKNESS MAP



# THICKNESS

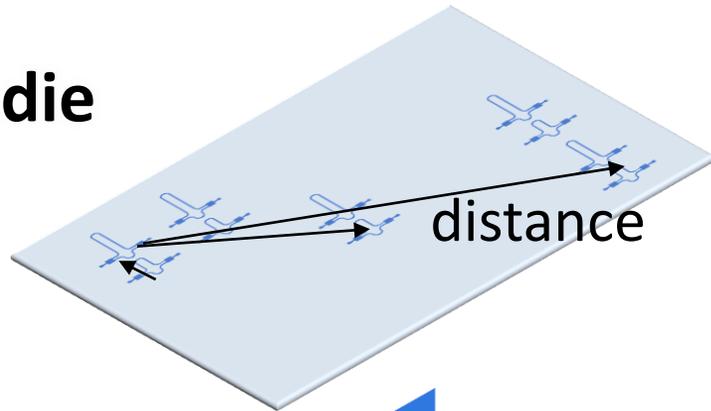


<b>number</b>	<b>5841</b>
Mean [nm]	210.3328
Std [nm]	0.8249
Max [nm]	214.2786
Min [nm]	208.3510
Max-Min [nm]	5.9276
Mid [nm]	210.1934

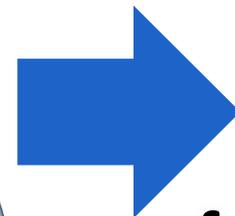
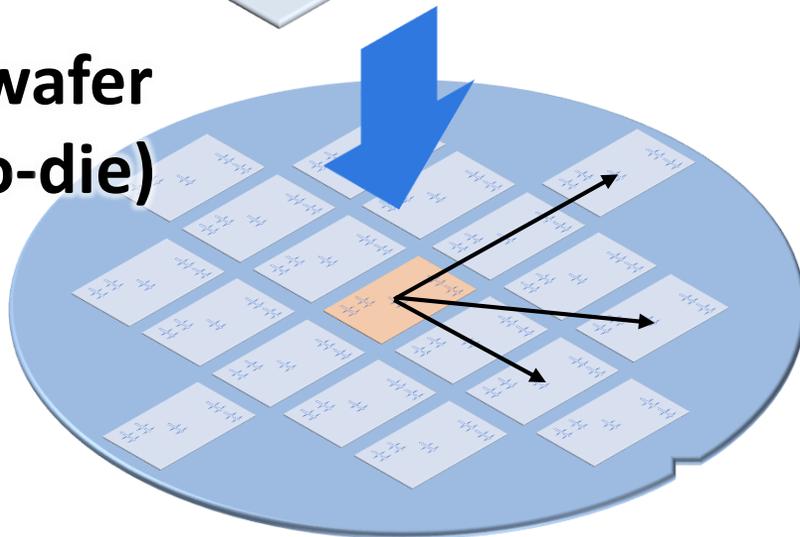
# SPATIAL VARIATION MODEL

# VARIABILITY EFFECTS WORK ON DIFFERENT SCALES

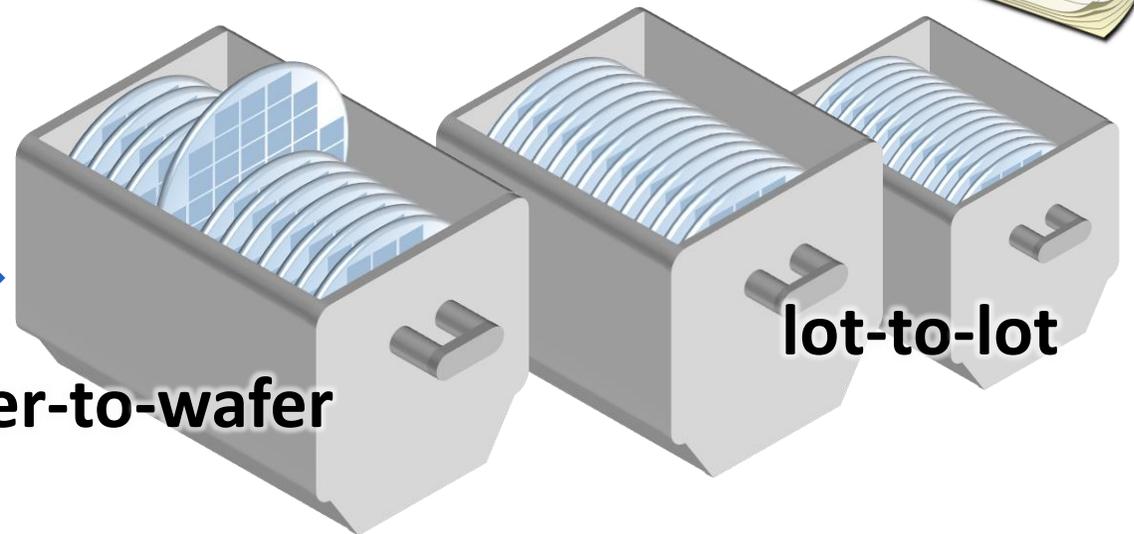
**intra-die**



**intra-wafer  
(die-to-die)**



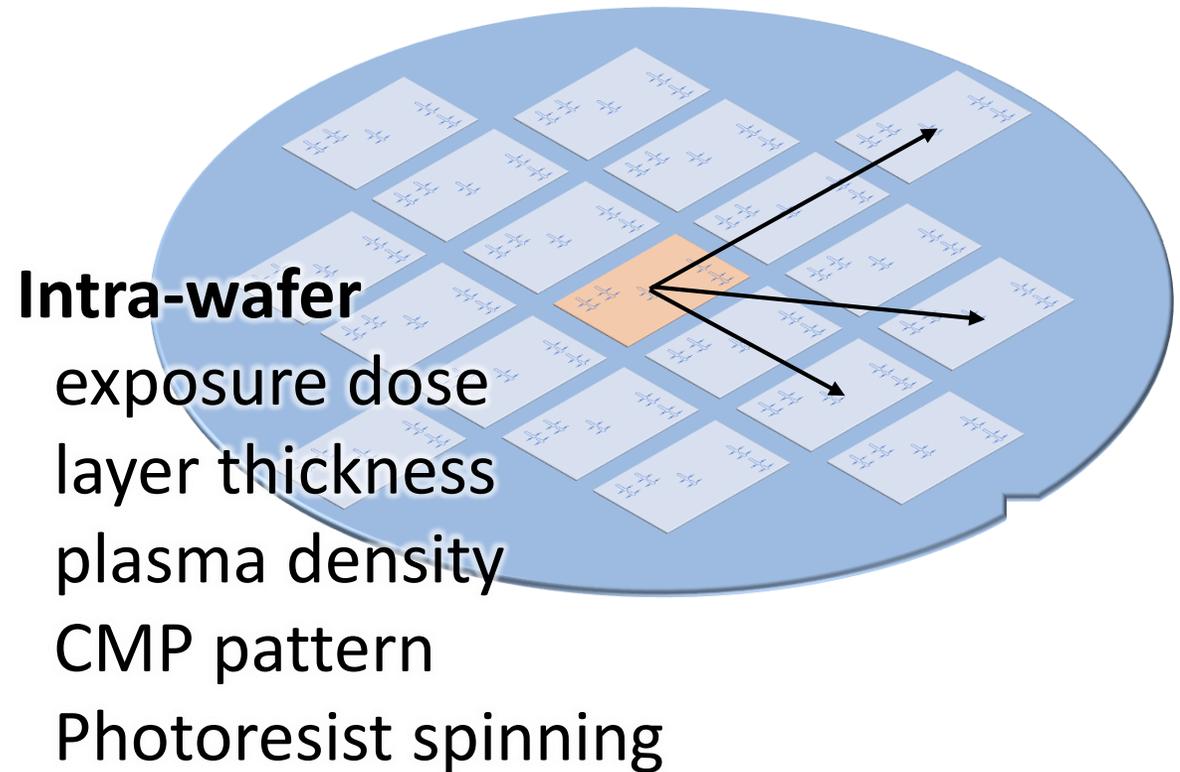
**wafer-to-wafer**



**lot-to-lot**

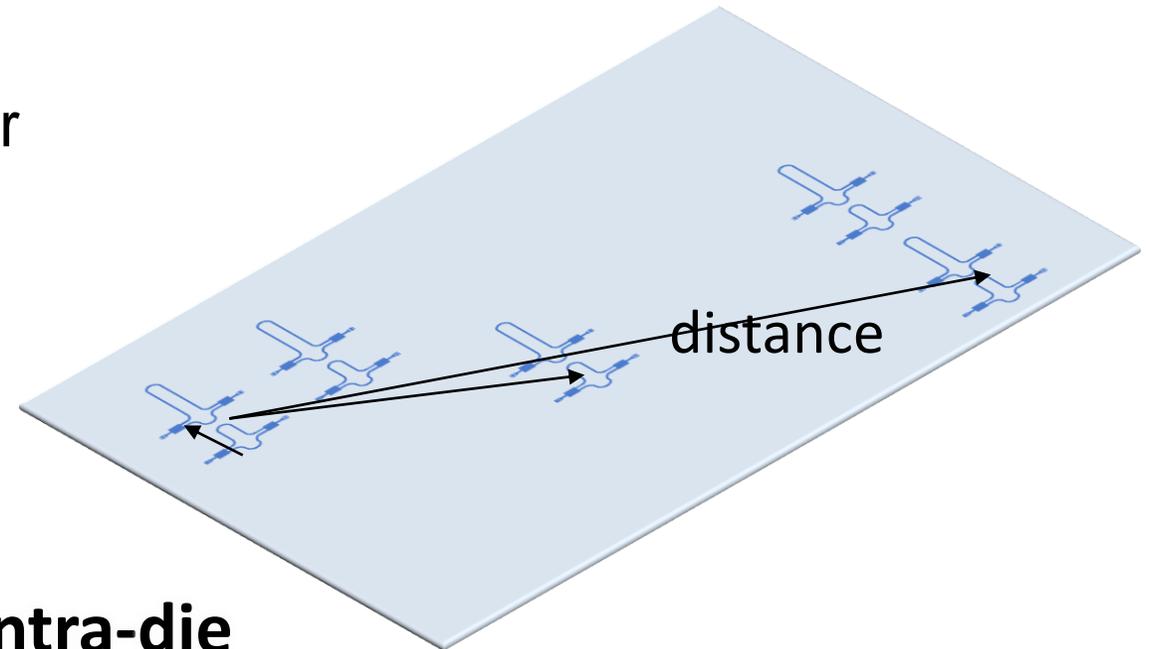
# INTRA-WAFER VARIATION

- A symmetric radial pattern
- Random die-to-die variation: fluctuation in lithography exposure dose and imaging focus



# INTRA-DIE VARIATION

- Systematic variation
  - Low frequency change in layer thickness
  - Local pattern density
  - Error in the photomask



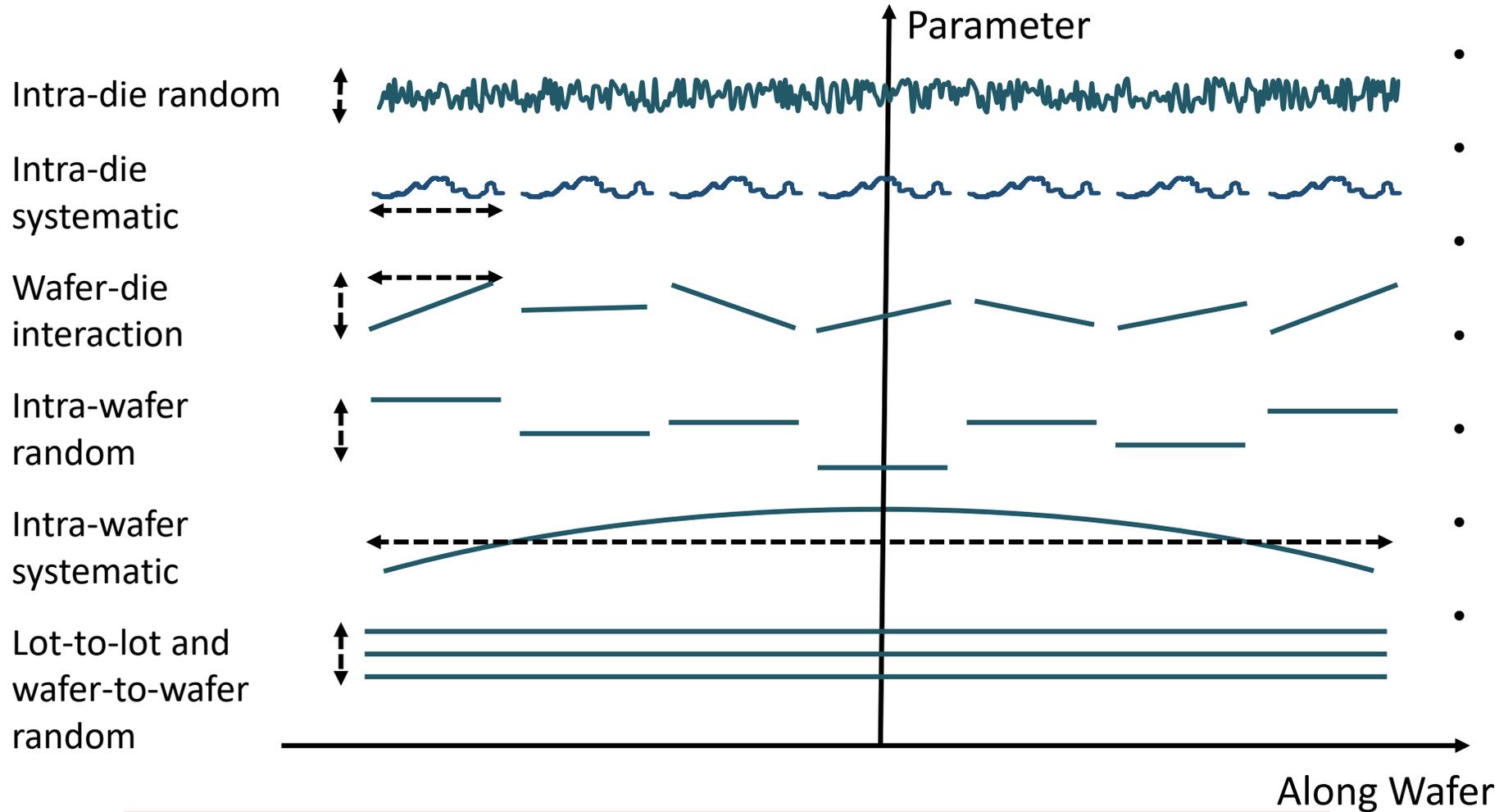
- Random variation

- Intrinsic randomness in layer thickness
- Roughness in sidewalls

## intra-die

local pattern density  
layer thickness  
lithography nonuniformity

# HIERARCHICAL SPATIAL VARIATION MODEL



- $V_{LTL}$ : Lot-to-lot
- $V_{WTW}$ : Wafer-to-wafer
- $V_{IWS}$ : Intra-wafer systematic
- $V_{IWR}$ : Intra-wafer random
- $V_{IDS}$ : Intra-die systematic
- $V_{IDR}$ : Intra-die random
- $V_{WDI}$ : Wafer-die interaction

$$Data_{mea} = Design + V_{LTL} + V_{WTW} + V_{IWS} + V_{IWR} + V_{IDS} + V_{IDR} + V_{WDI}$$

Measured raw data

1. Generate simple wafer map by bi-variate polynomial fitting
2. IWS is the average of simple wafer maps

IWS

3. IDS is the averaging residuals from step 2 on each unique position on all the dies

IDS

4. Fit residual from step 3 on each die with a plane
5. IWR is the center of the fitted plane

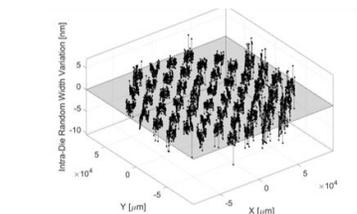
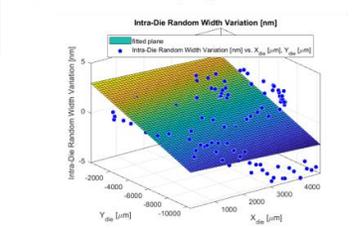
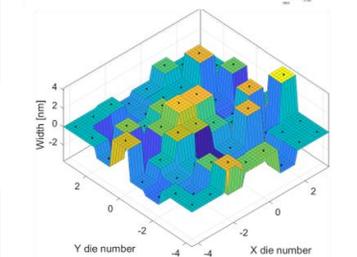
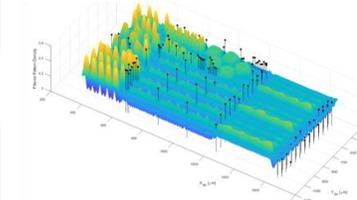
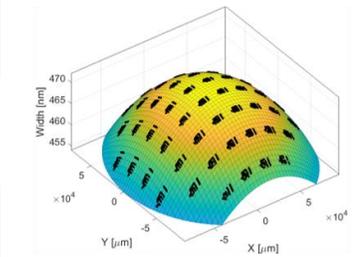
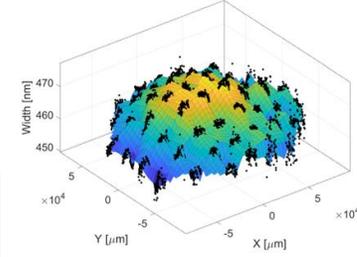
IWR

6. WDI is the fitted plane subtracting the value at the die centre

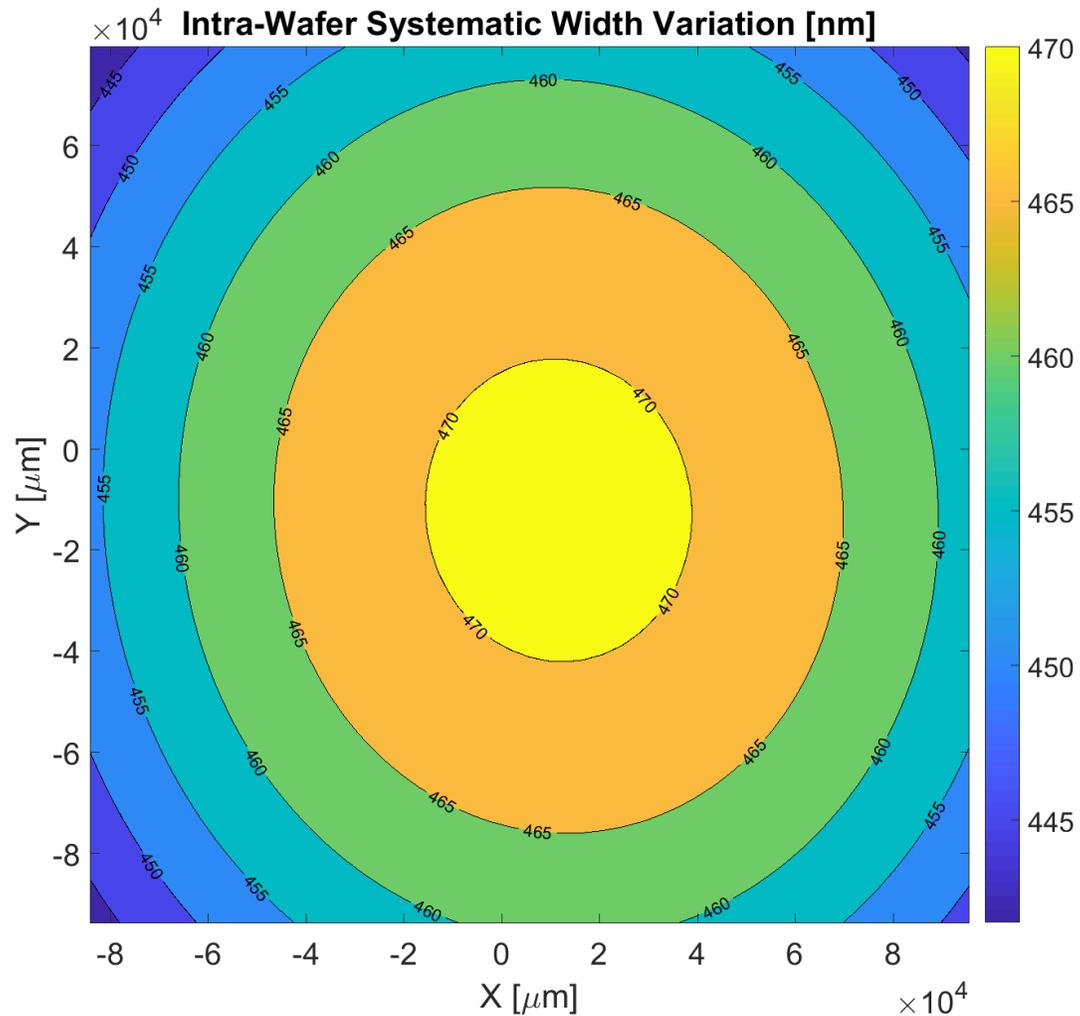
WDI

7. Residual from the fitting is the IDR

IDR

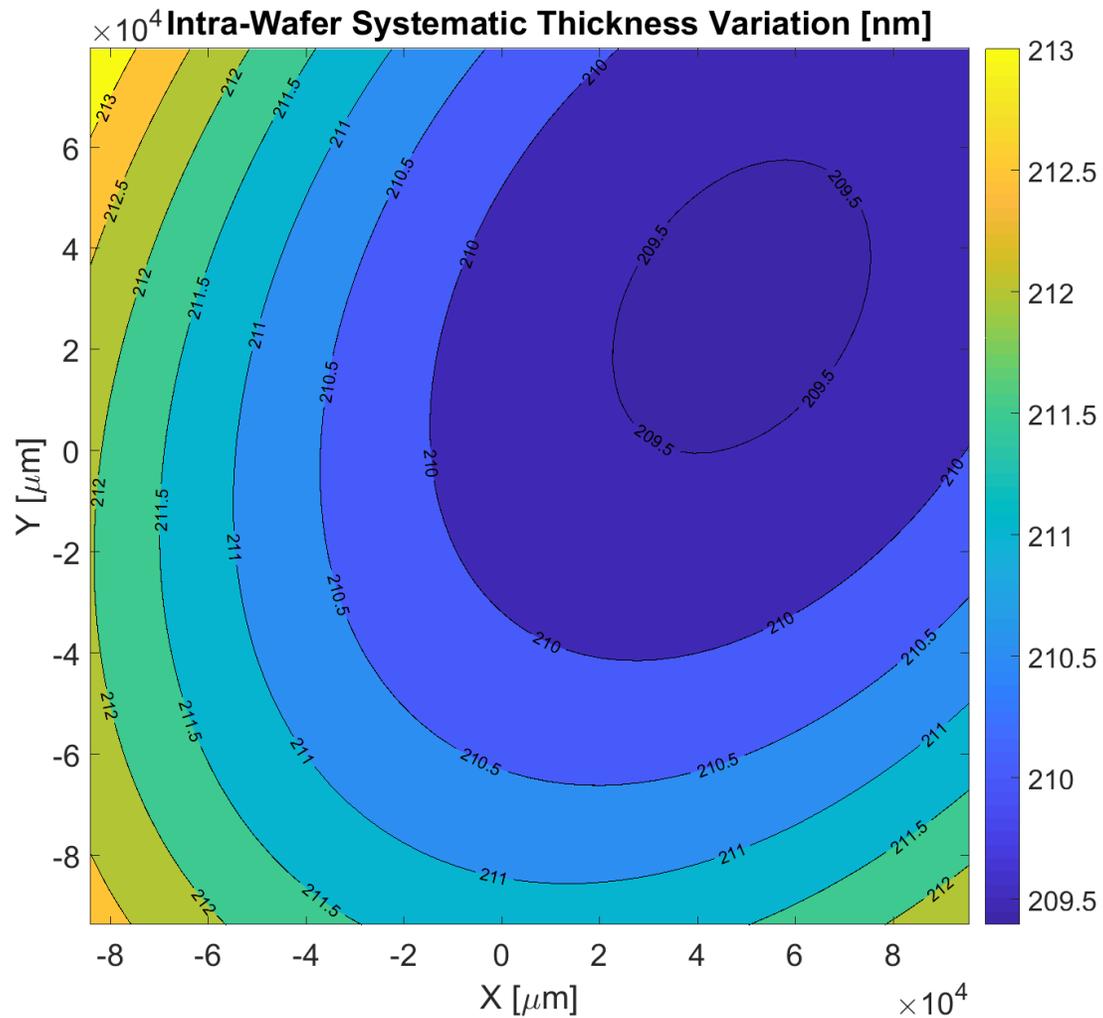


# IWS WIDTH MAP



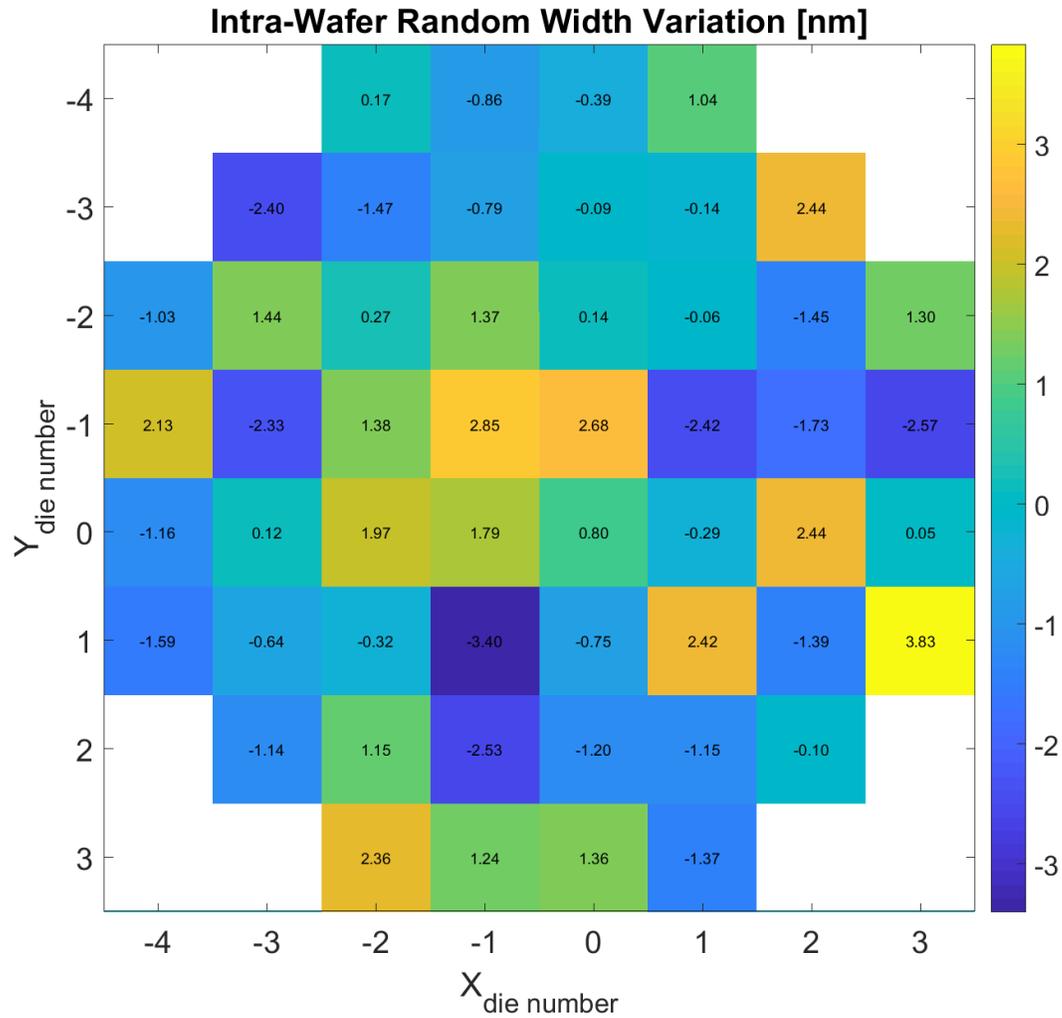
Width_IWS	nm
Max	471.3835
Min	454.9698
Max_interp	471.4
Min_interp	452.0
Max-Min	16.4137

# IWS THICKNESS MAP



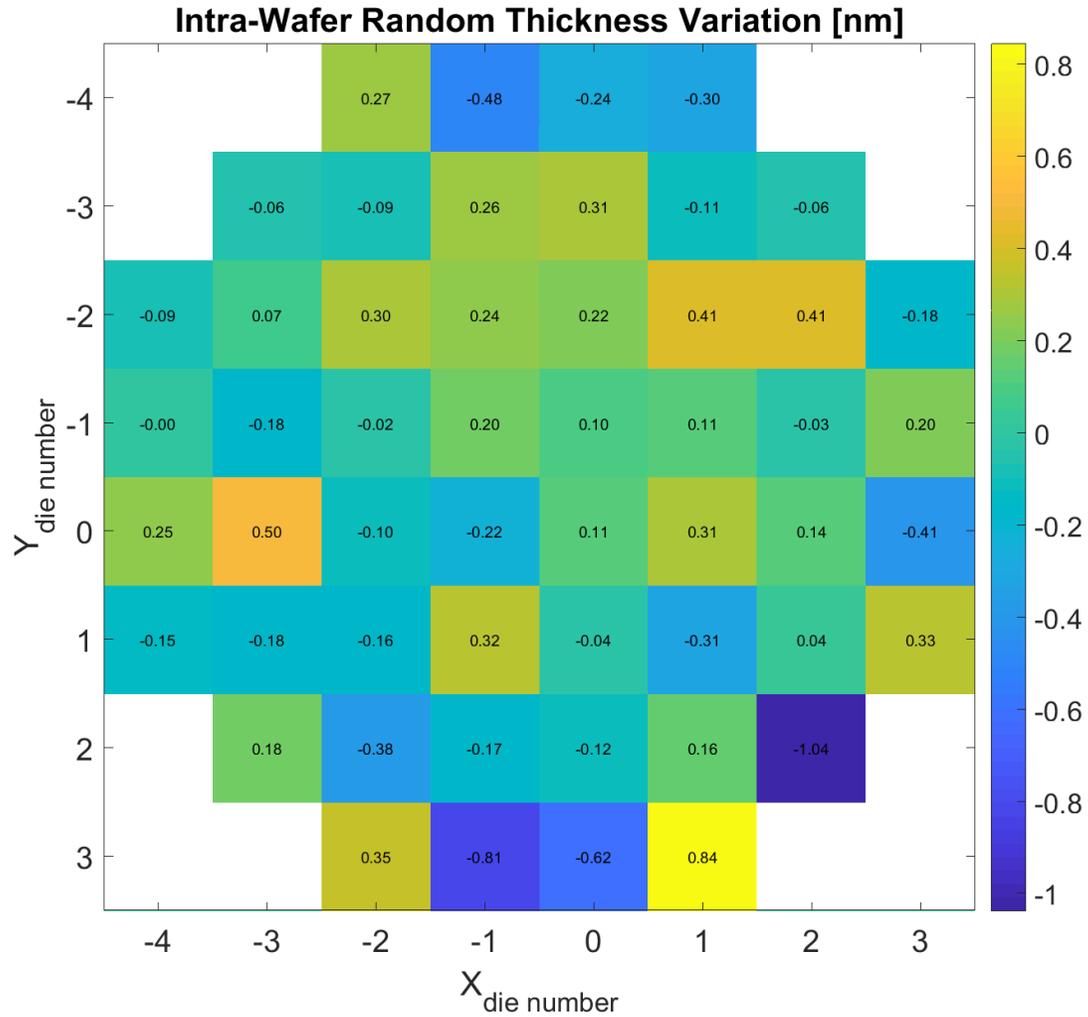
Thickness_IWS	nm
Max	211.9885
Min	209.4005
Max_interp	212.6
Min_interp	209.4
Max-Min	2.5880

# IWR WIDTH MAP



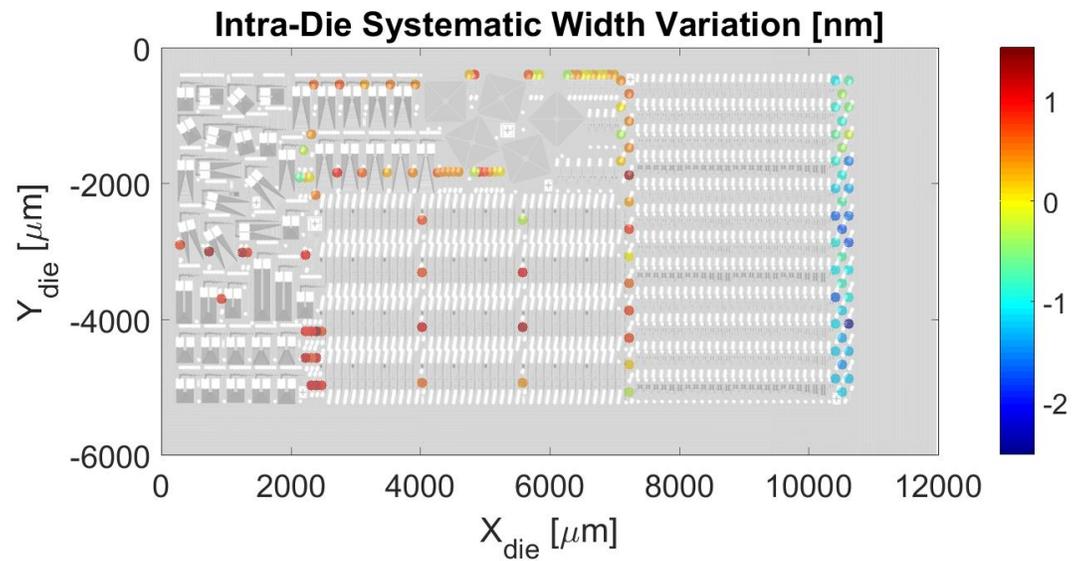
Width_IWR	nm
Max	3.8284
Min	-3.3994
Max-Min	7.2278
Mean	0.0383
STD	1.6760

# IWR THICKNESS MAP



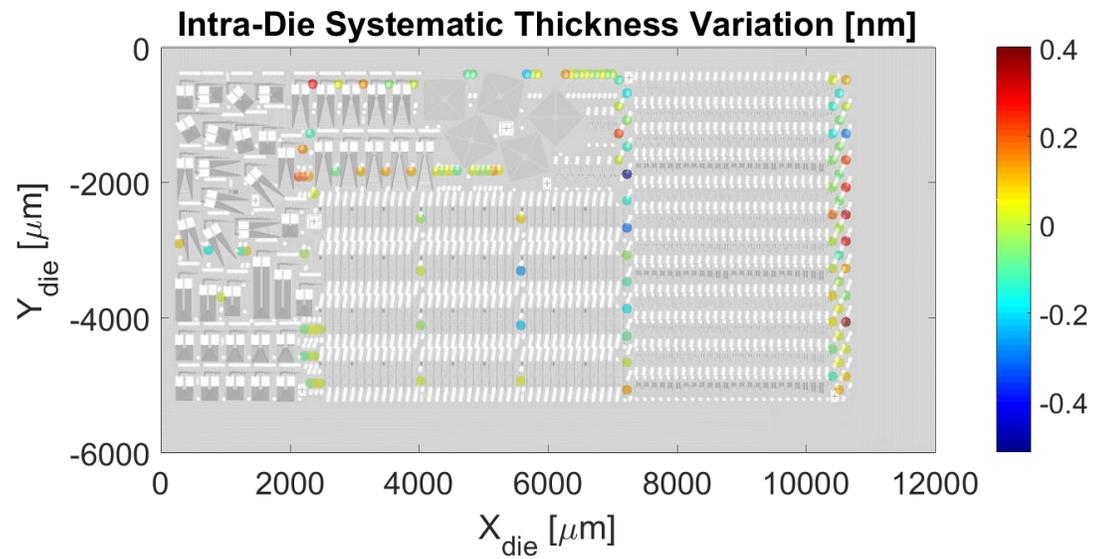
Thickness_IWR	nm
Max	0.8449
Min	-1.0382
Max-Min	1.8831
Mean	0.0014
STD	0.3316

# IDS WIDTH VARIATION



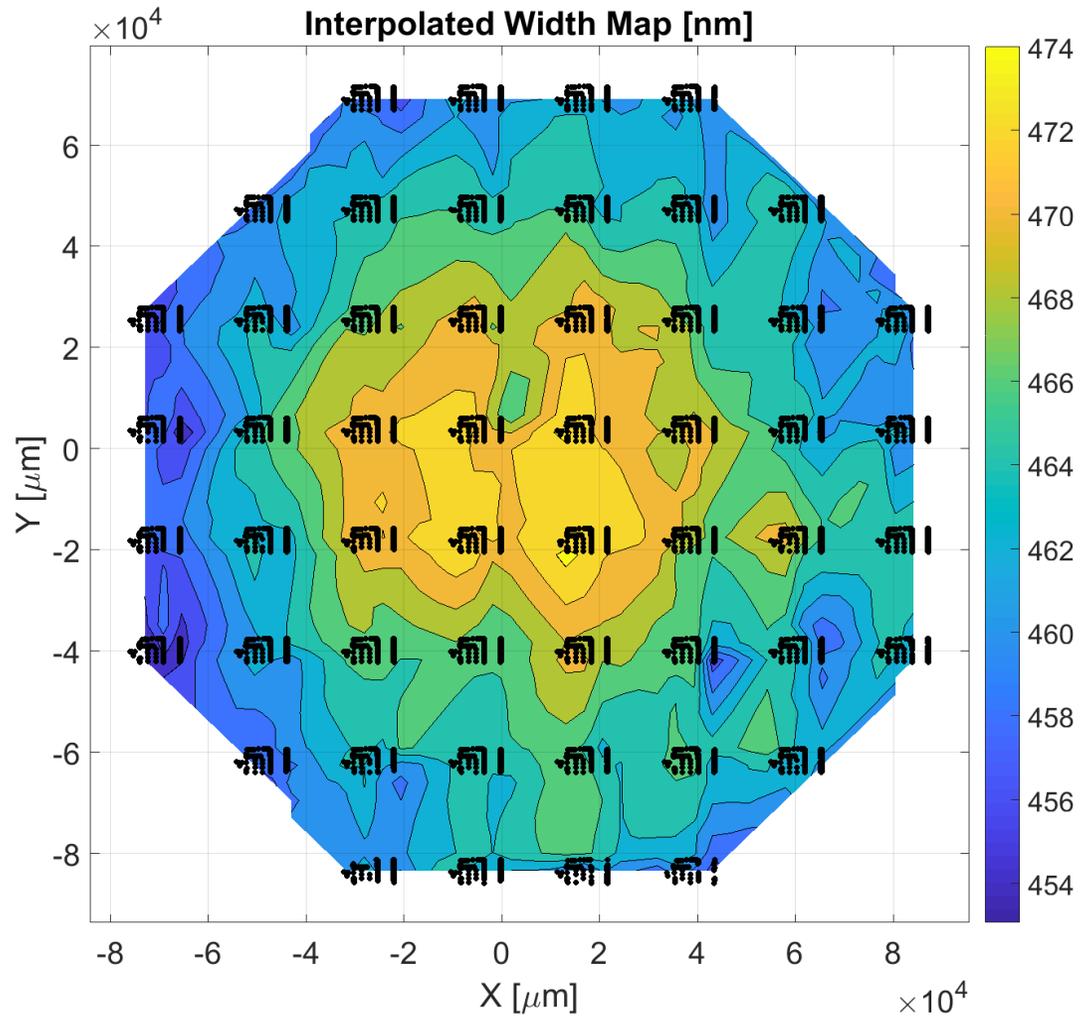
Width_IDS	nm
Max	1.52
Min	-2.52
Max-Min	4.04

# IDS THICKNESS MAP



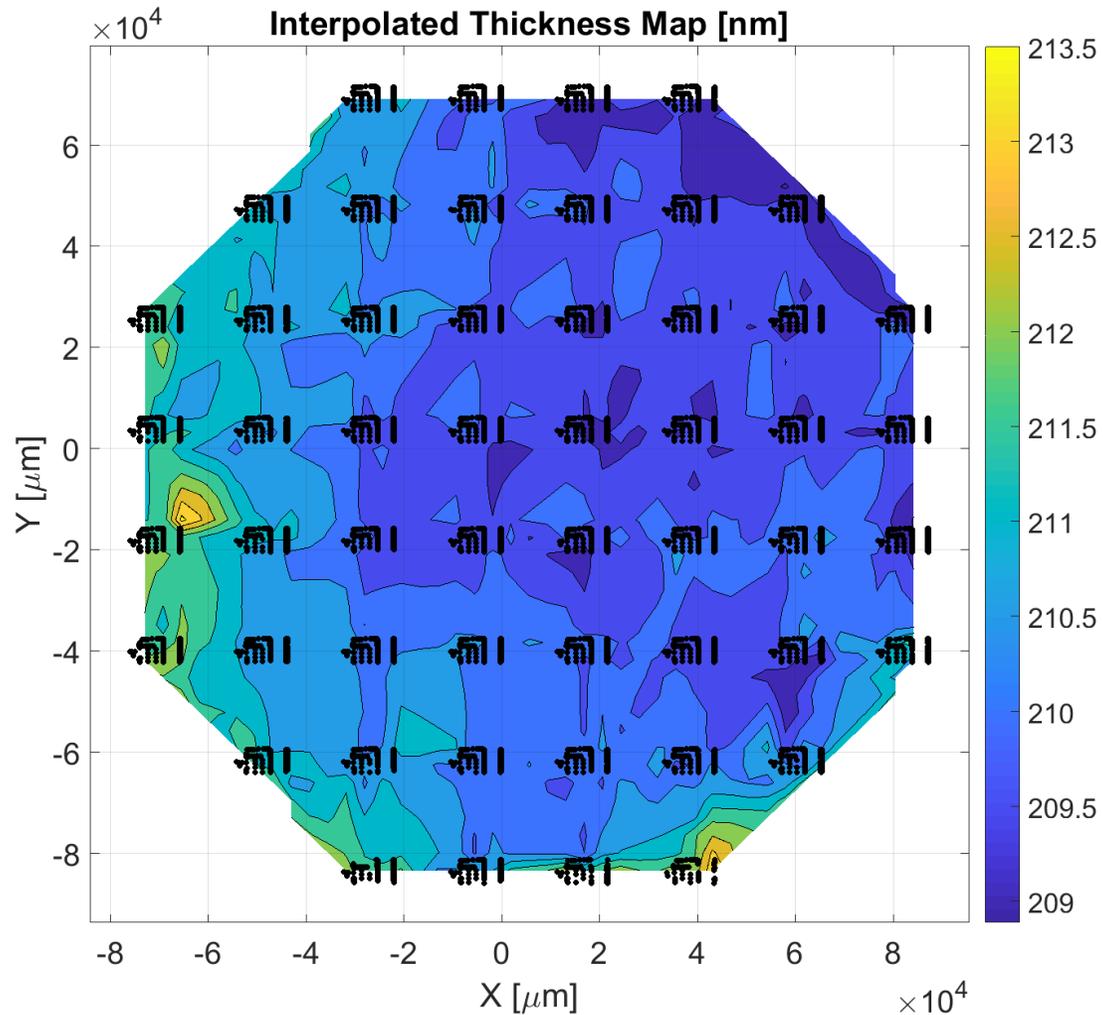
Thickness_IDS	nm
Max	0.40
Min	-0.51
Max-Min	0.91

# INTERPOLATED WIDTH MAP



Variation	nm
IWS	15.79
IDS	3.87
WDI	1.87
IWR	1.47
IDR	1.10

# INTERPOLATED THICKNESS MAP



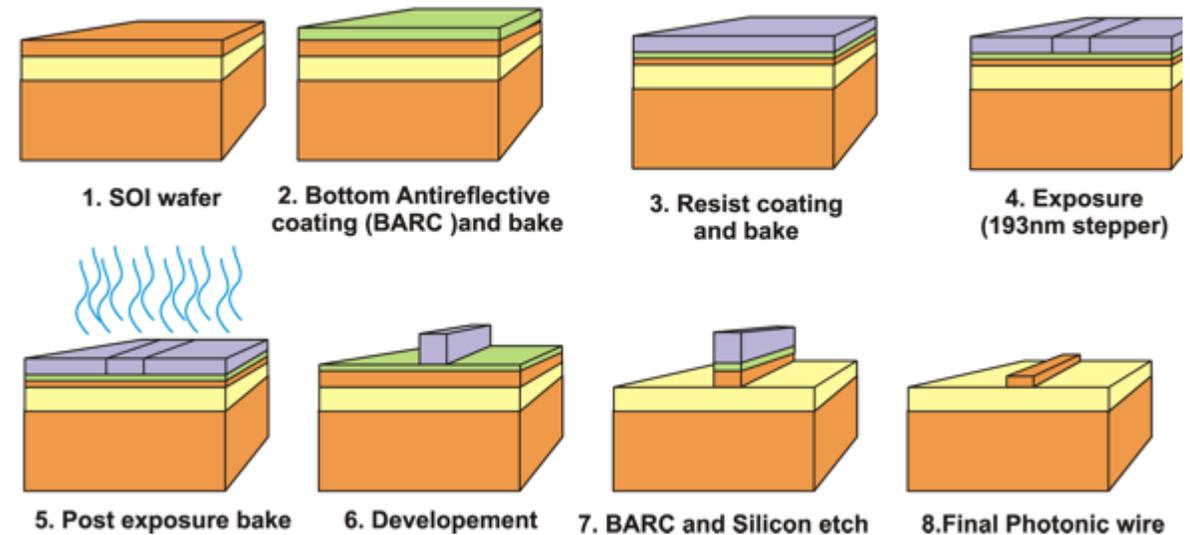
Variation	nm
IWS	2.53
IDS	0.86
WDI	0.31
IWR	0.34
IDR	0.34

# SYSTEMATIC VARIATION DOMINATES IN THE PROCESS VARIATION

	Variation		Percentage [%]			
	Width	Thickness	Width		Thickness	
IWS [nm]	16.41	2.59	65.1	81.1	43.9	59.3
IDS [nm]	4.04	0.91	16.0		15.4	
IWR [nm]	1.68	0.33	5.2	19.9	10.6	40.7
IDR [nm]	1.10	0.34	3.4		10.9	
WDI <sub>block</sub> [nm]	3.4	0.6	10.5		19.2	
Max Variation Measured [nm]	25.2	5.9				

# IDS VARIATION

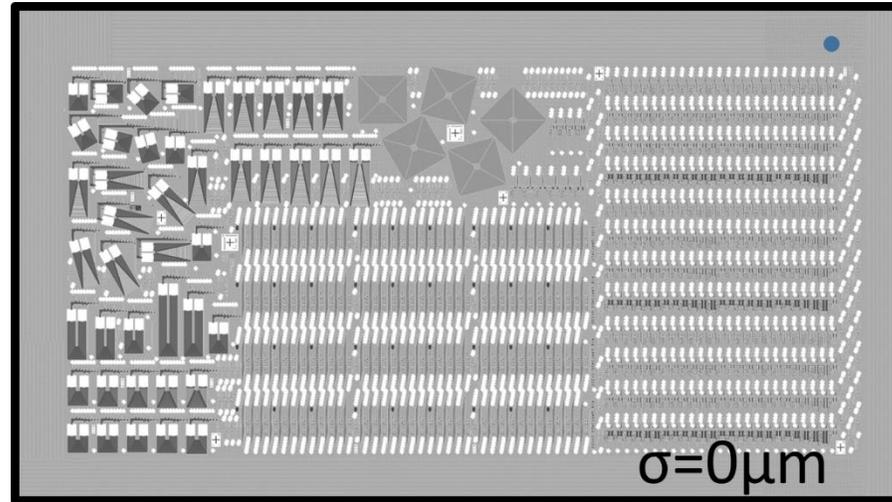
- errors in the photomask
  - pattern stitching errors
  - writing errors
  - particles on the mask
- aberrations in the lithography projection optics
- designed layout patterns, pattern density



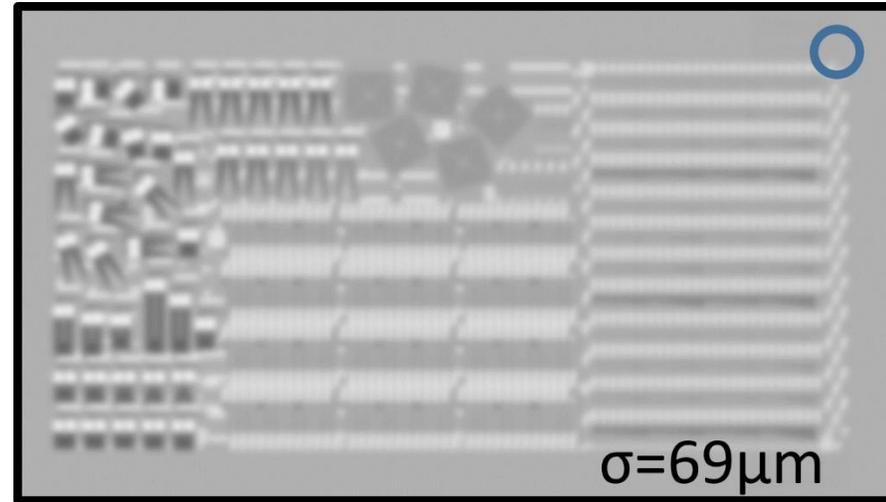
# PATTERN DENSITY RELATED VARIATION

- chemistry of the plasma
  - photoresist/etch waste products
  - etch rate, selectivity and anisotropy
  - a variation in etch depth and line width
  - local over-etching => attack on the sidewalls
- Chemical Mechanical Polishing (CMP)
  - Planarization: the presence and density of the material to be polished
  - Large areas without patterns => erosion and dishing => different remaining thickness

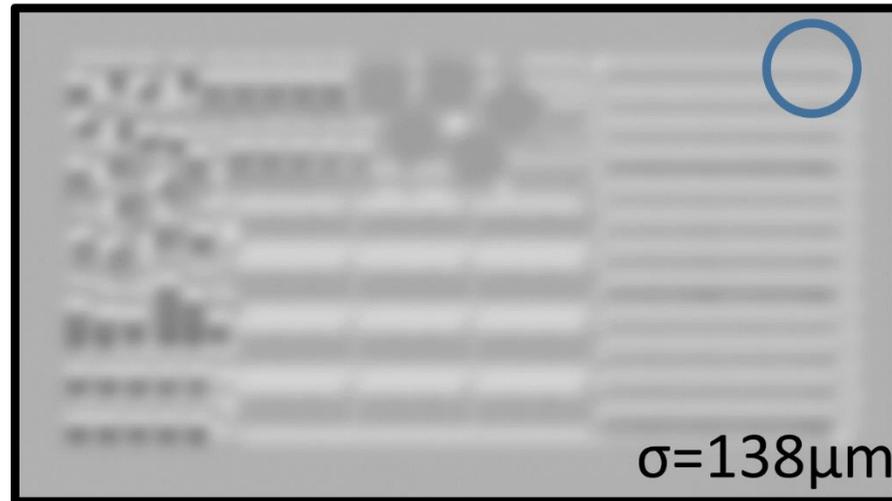
# PATTERN DENSITY MAP VS GAUSSIAN FILTER RADIUS



(a)



(b)

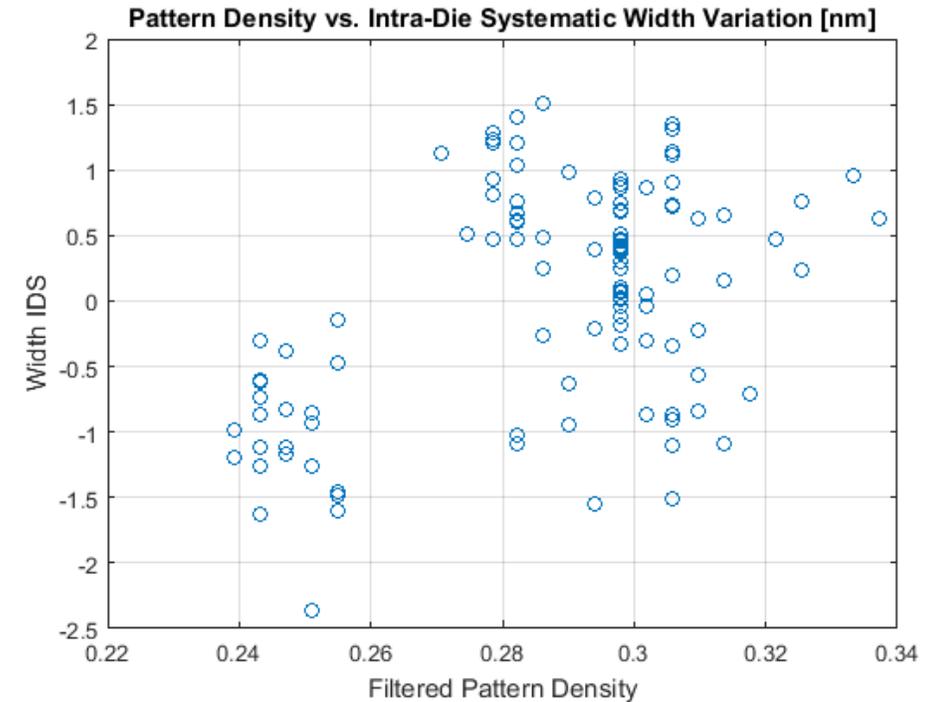
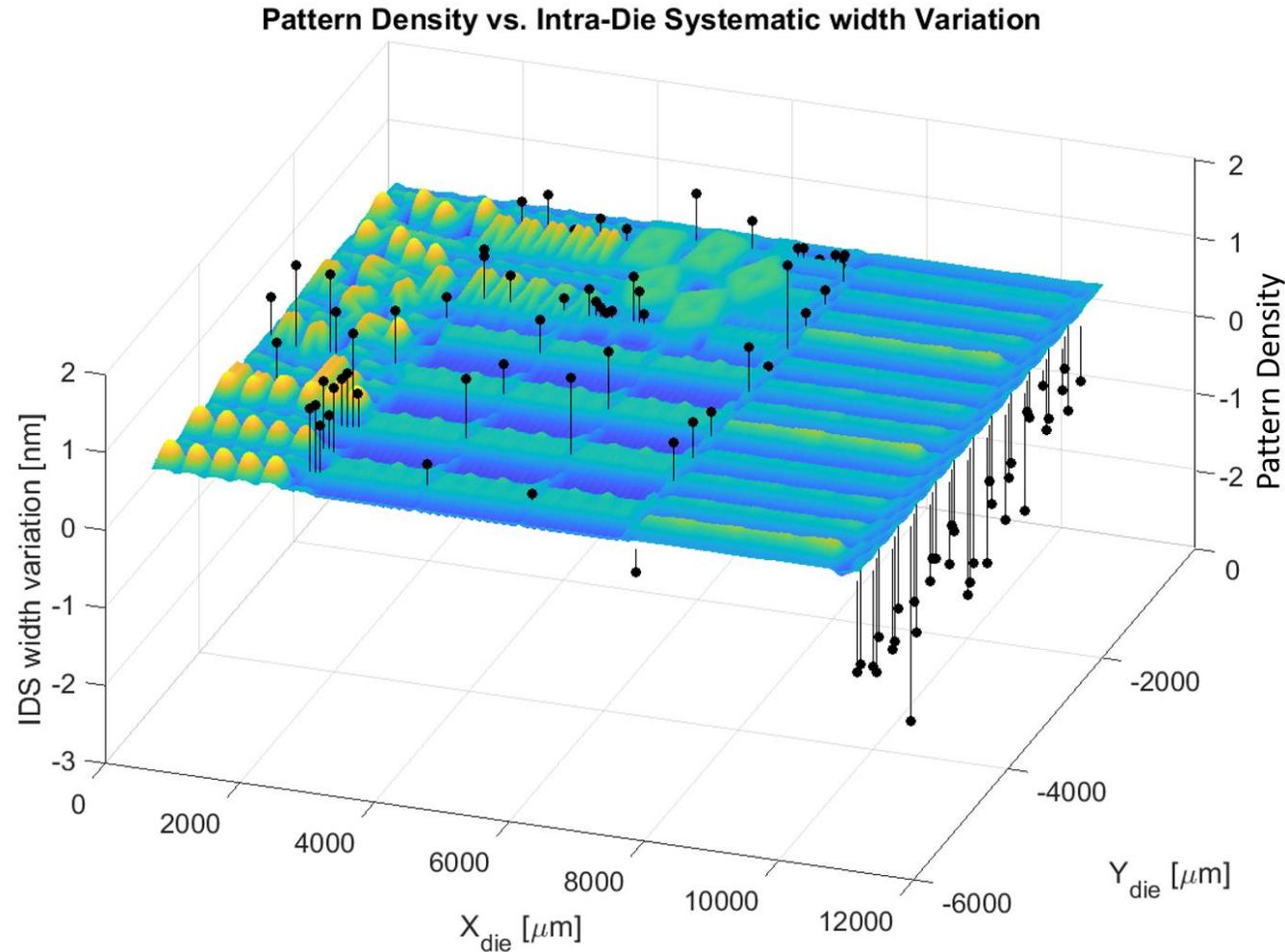


(c)



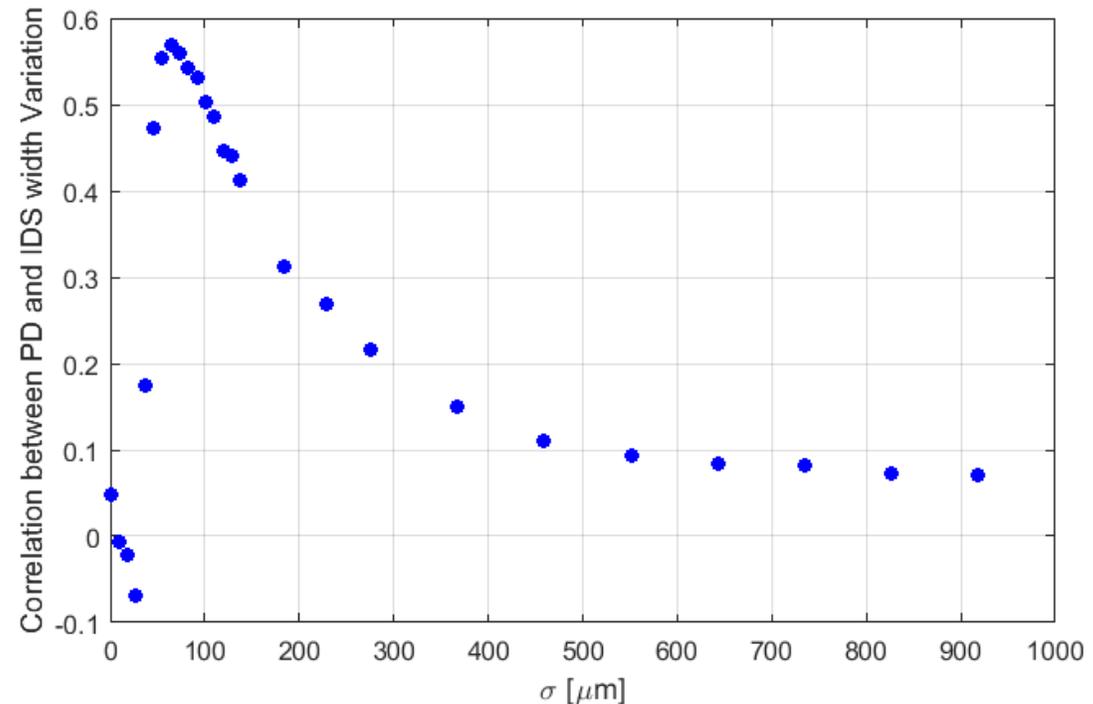
(d)

# PATTERN DENSITY VS. IWS WIDTH



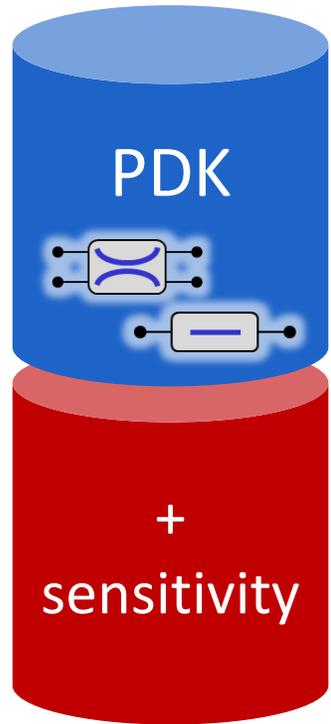
# CORRELATION VS GAUSSIAN FILTER RADIUS

- IDS width correlates most with the pattern density within a radius of  $\sim 200 \mu\text{m}$  ( $\sigma=69\mu\text{m}$ )
- No correlation between pattern density and the IDS thickness
- to predict photonic circuit yield
- to optimize the circuit layout to minimize the effect of local pattern density

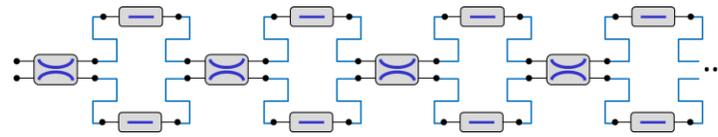


# MONTE-CARLO SIMULATIONS FOR YIELD PREDICTION

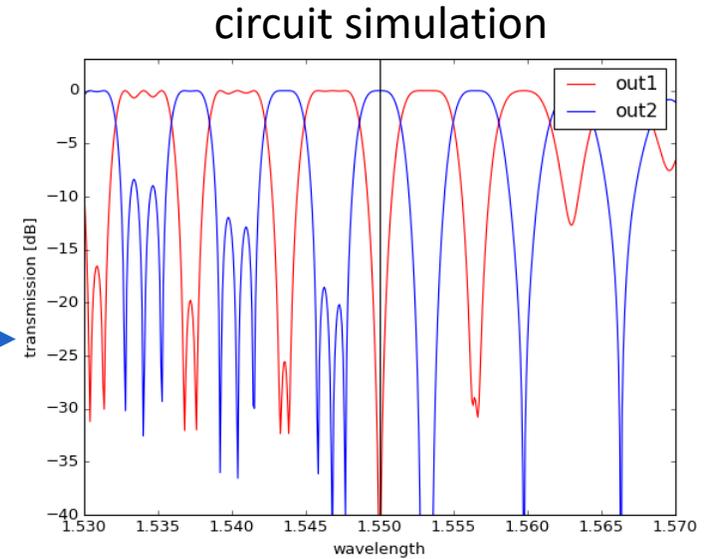
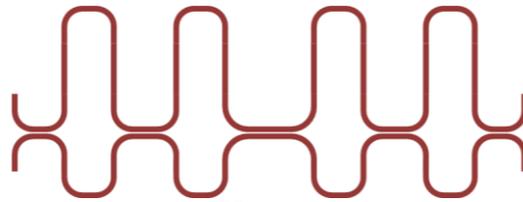
# YIELD PREDICTION SCHEME



building blocks  
+ models

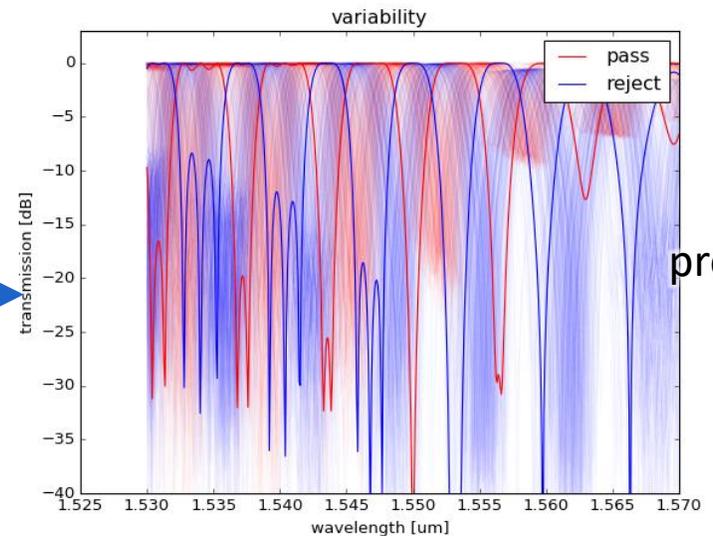
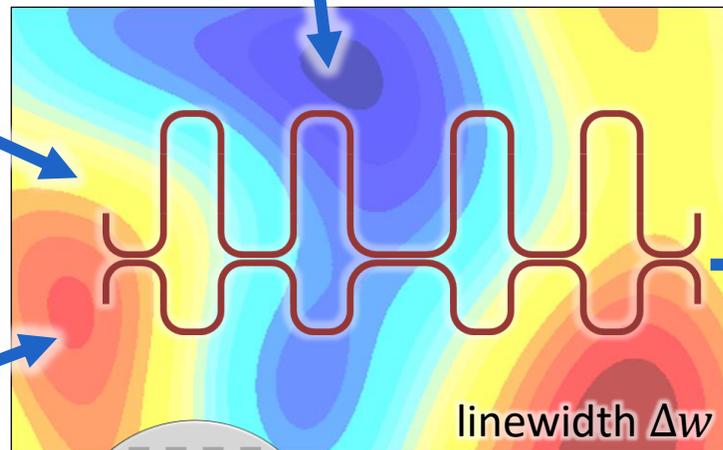


circuit netlist + layout

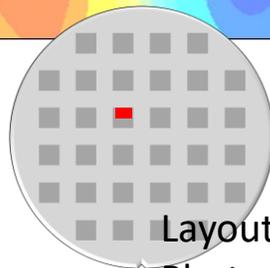


sensitivity of model  
parameters  
to fabrication  
parameters

$$\frac{\partial n_{eff}}{\partial w}, \dots$$

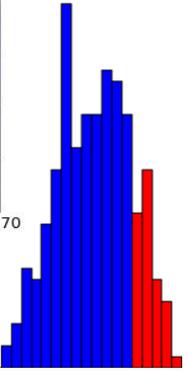


wafer maps  
(or model)  
for fabrication  
parameters



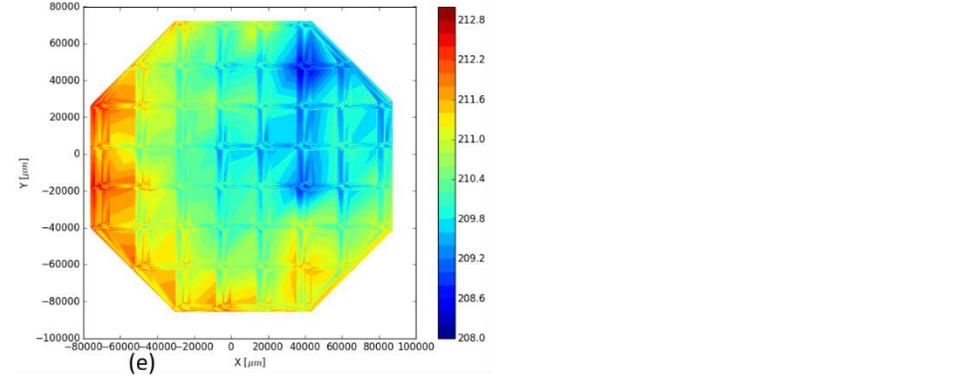
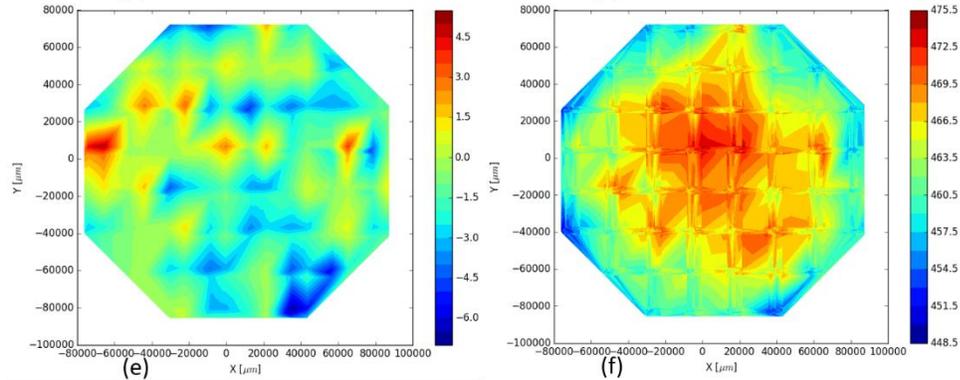
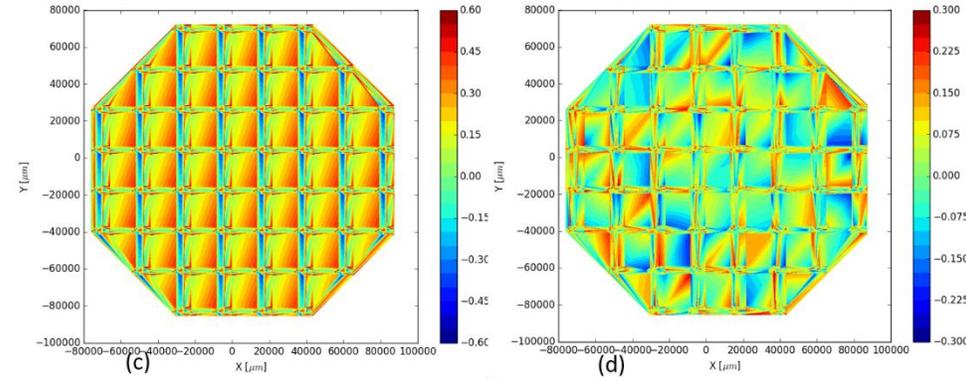
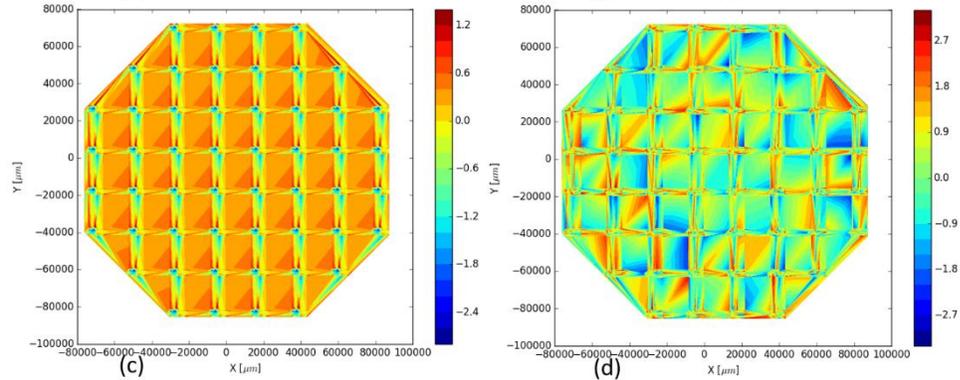
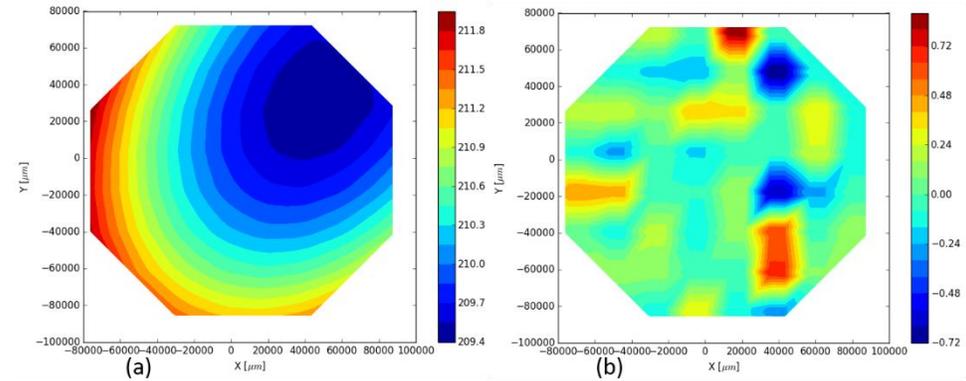
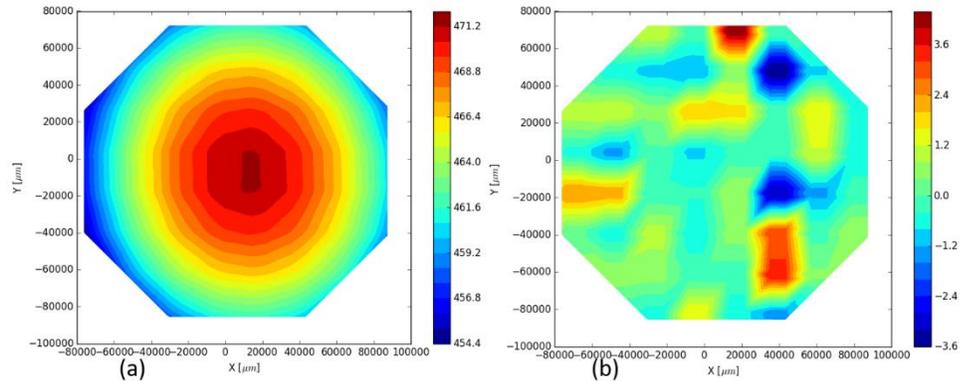
place circuit on wafer  
and adjust model  
parameters

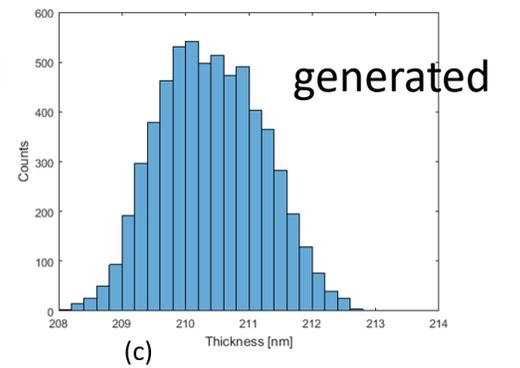
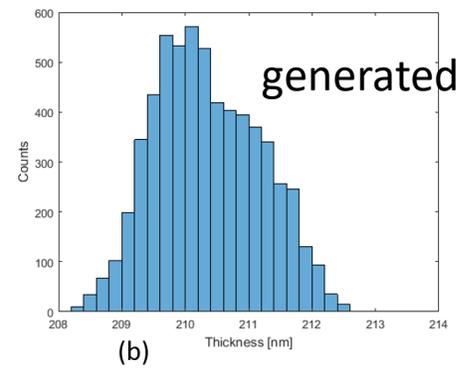
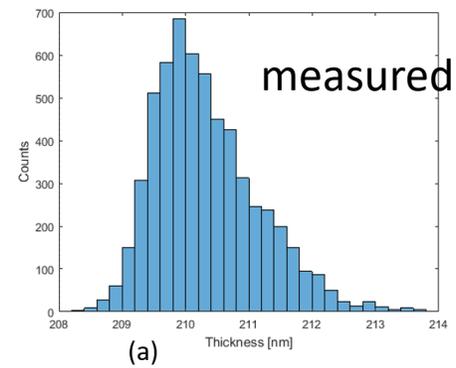
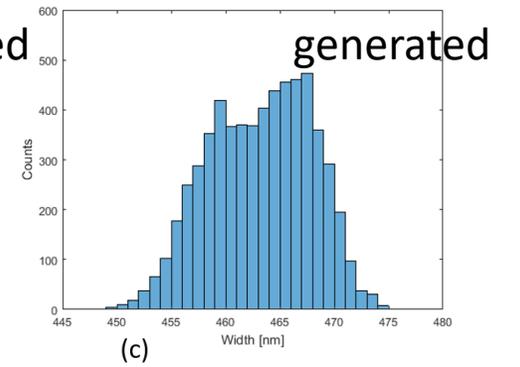
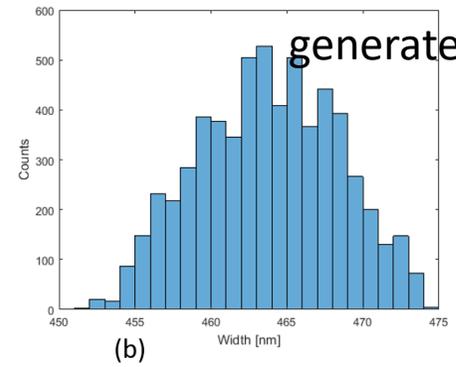
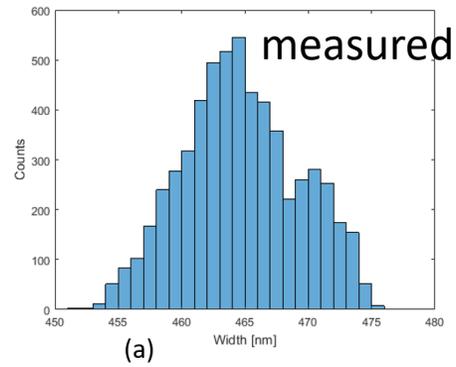
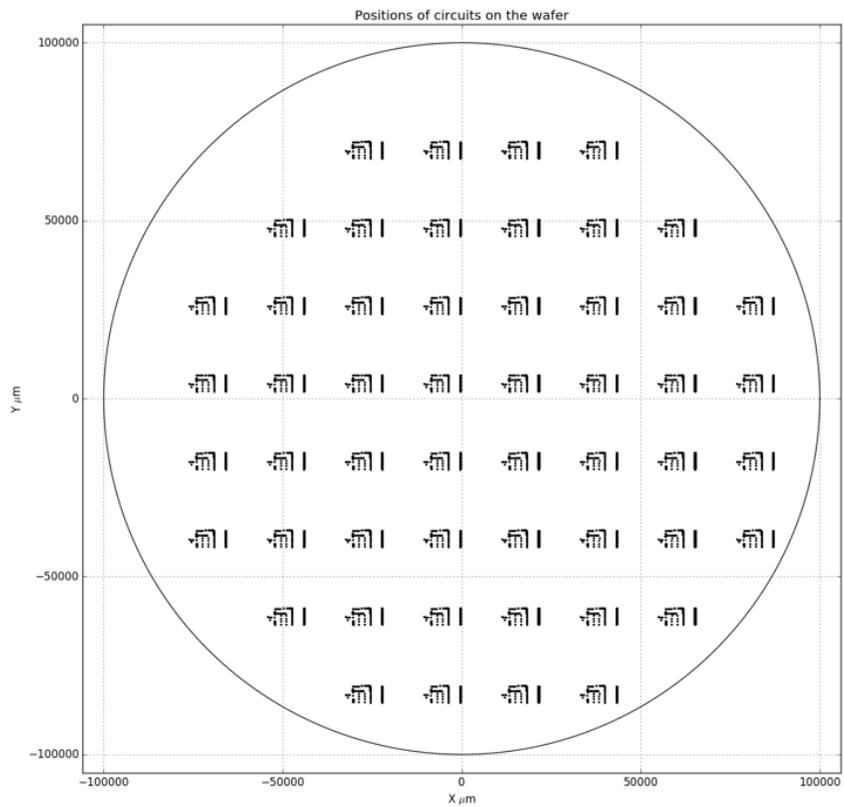
Yield  
prediction



Monte-Carlo on  
dies and wafers

# CONSTRUCT VIRTUAL WAFER MAPS





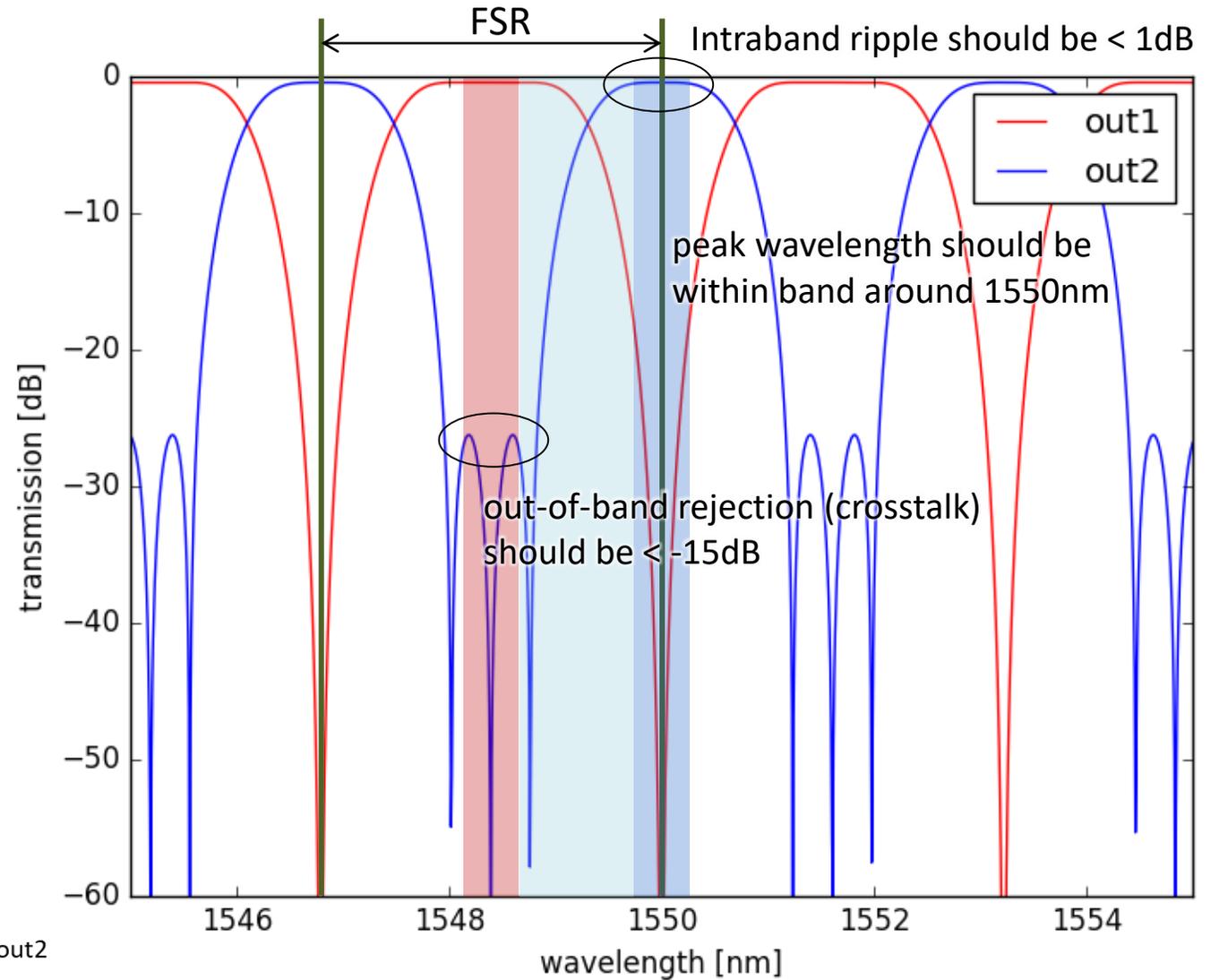
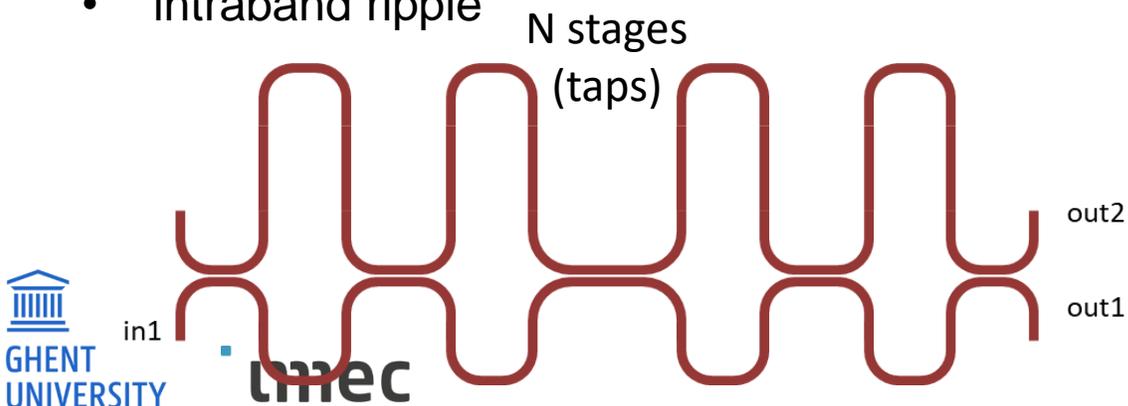
# EXAMPLE: MZI LATTICE FILTER

Simple (but sensitive) building blocks

- directional couplers
- waveguide delay lines

Requirements:

- peak wavelength within band
- rejection ratio
- FSR
- intraband ripple



# FILTER IMPLEMENTATION

FSR = 800GHz (~6.4nm)

Pass-band = 80GHz

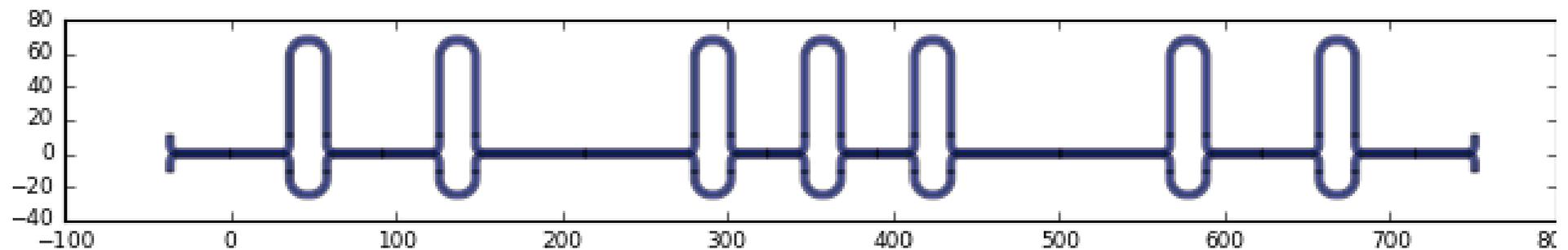
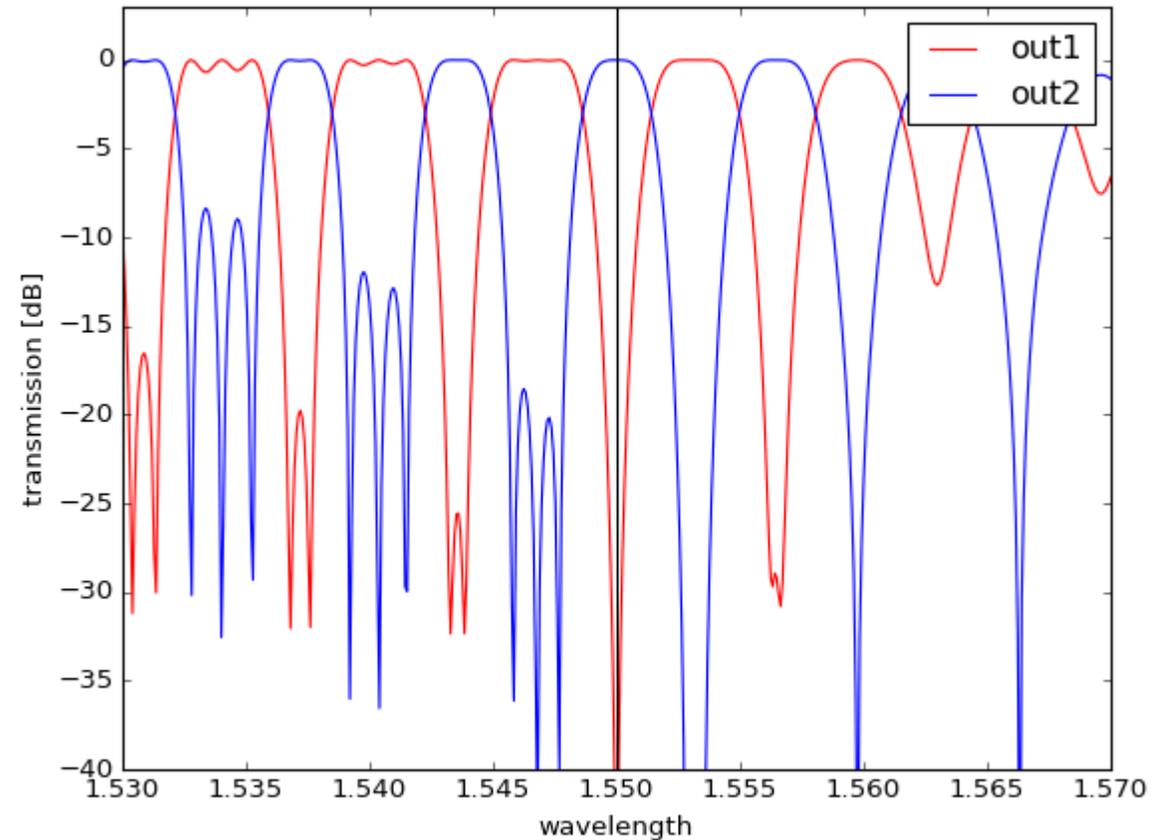
Guard band = 80GHz

Crosstalk (rejection) = -15dB

Center wavelength = 1.55um

Long directional couplers

- dispersive
- very sensitive



# WAFER MAPS: WIDTH AND THICKNESS

Most straightforward parameters

linewidth map

Simplex noise model

- $radius = 200\mu m$
- $amplitude = 1nm$

Thickness map (measured)

- $range = 213 - 219nm$

imec

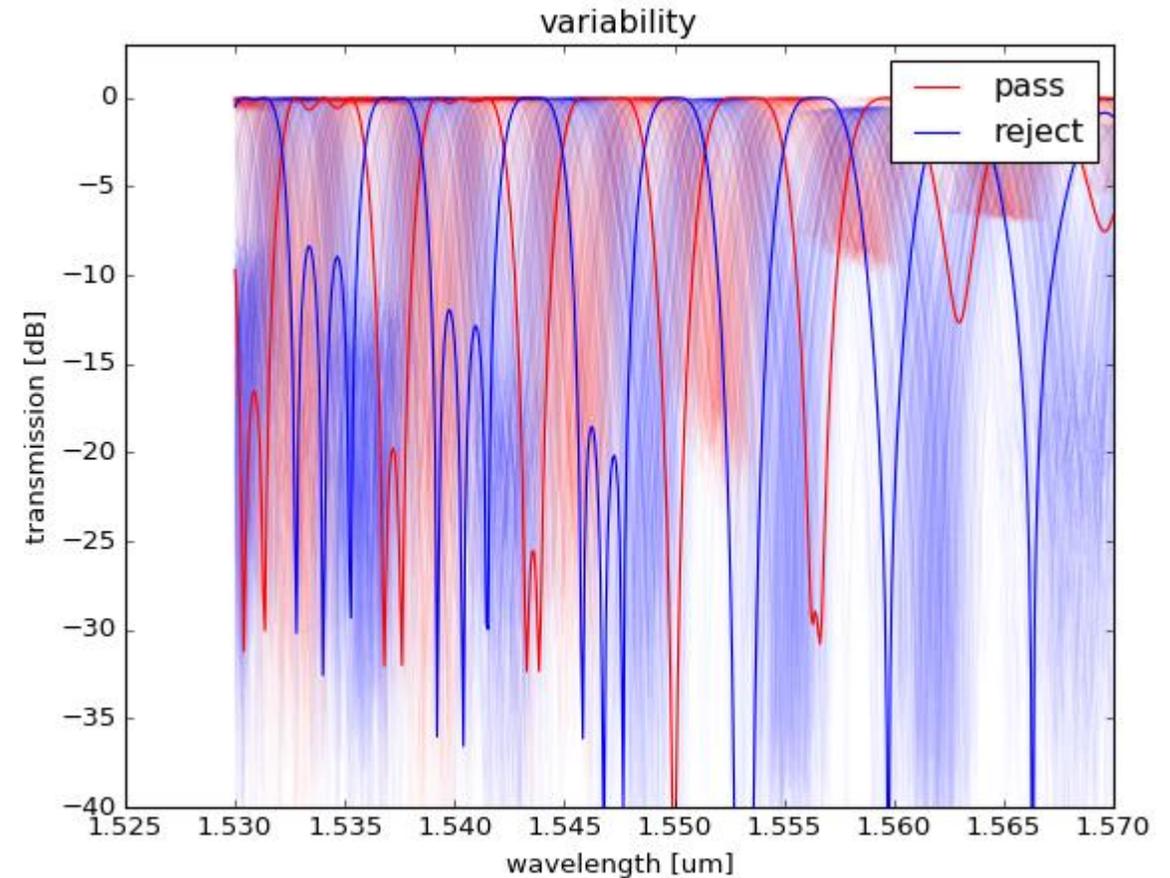
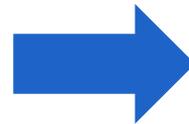
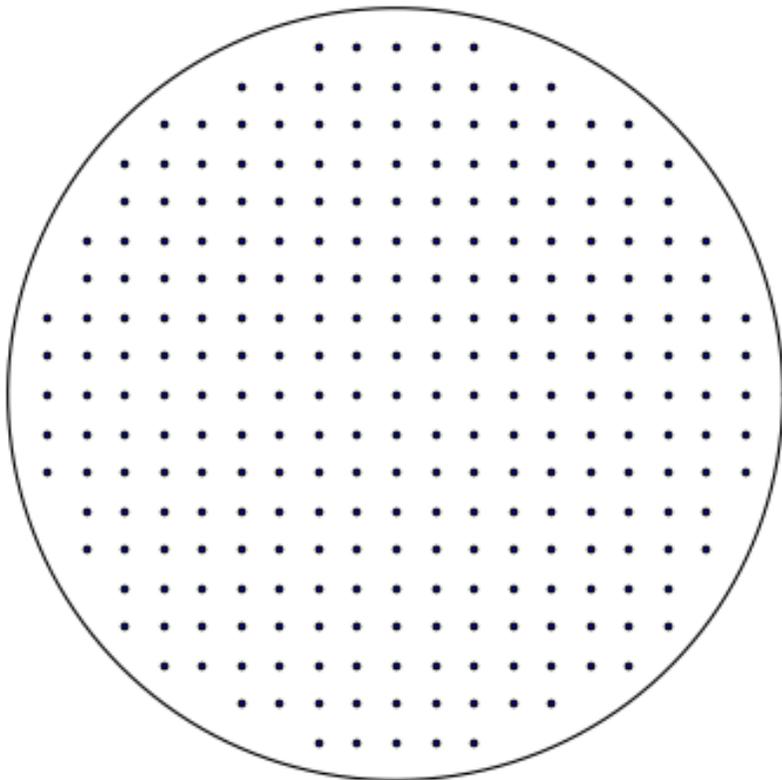
# MONTE-CARLO SIMULATIONS OVER A WAFER

10mm spacing

277 dies on a wafer

Using CAPHE circuit simulator (Luceda)

1000 wavelength points

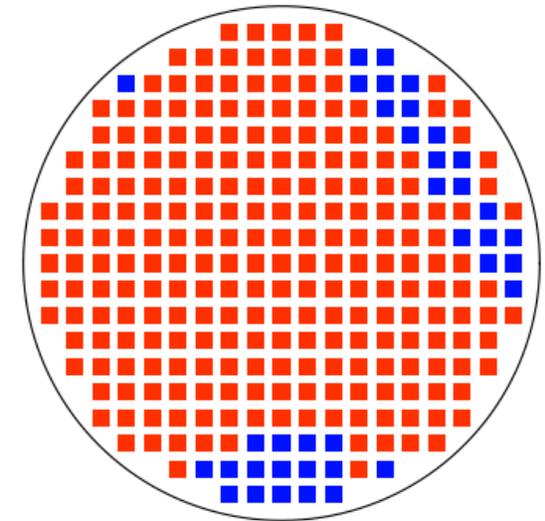
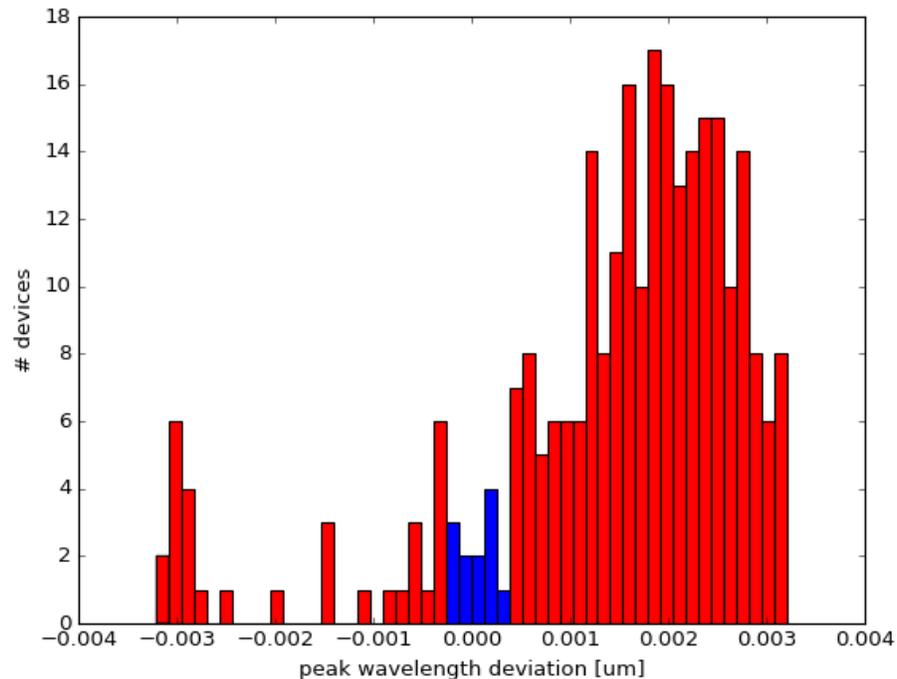
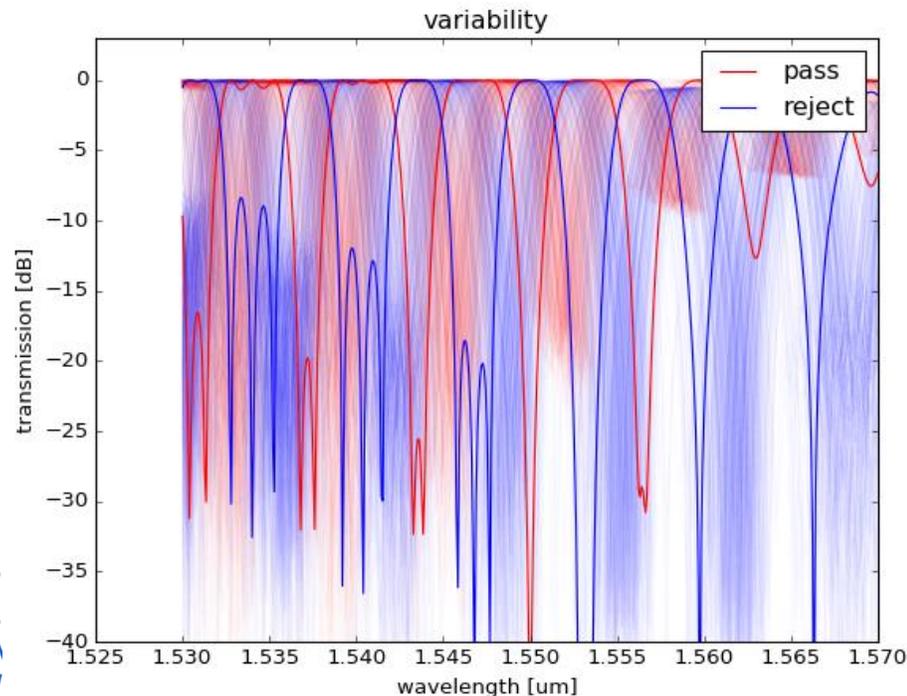
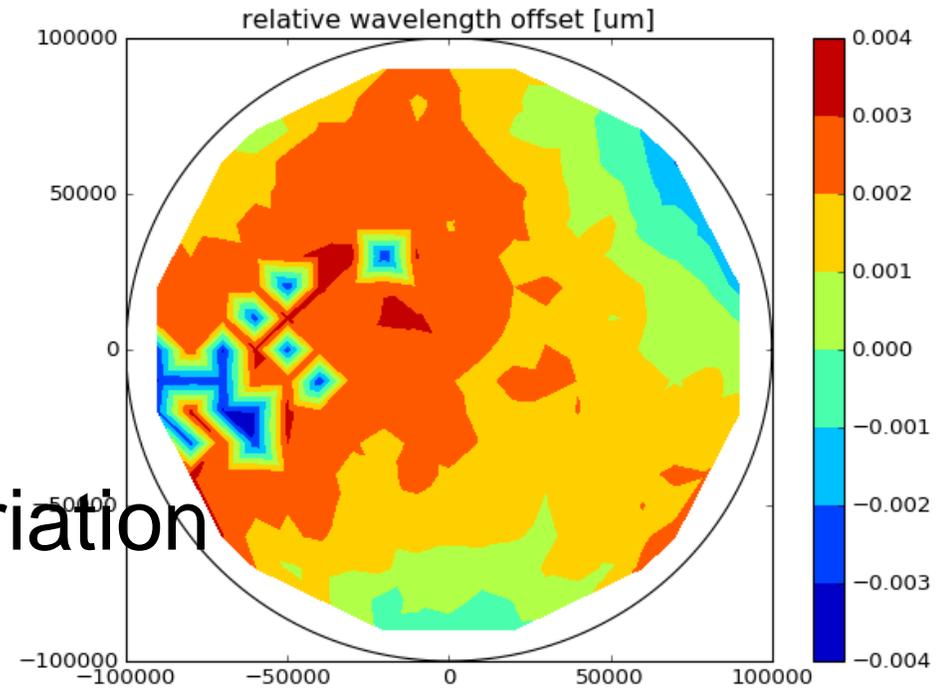


# ANALYZE YIELD: PEAK WAVELENGTH

Spec =  $1.55\mu\text{m} \pm 80 \text{ GHz}$

Very poor yield on this spec:

strong shift mostly due to thickness variation

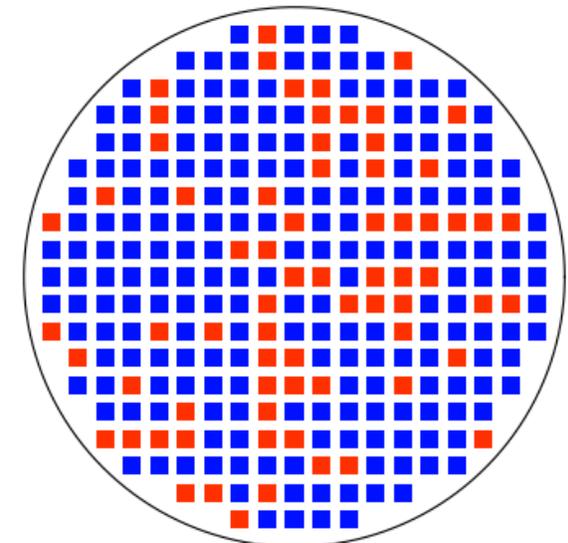
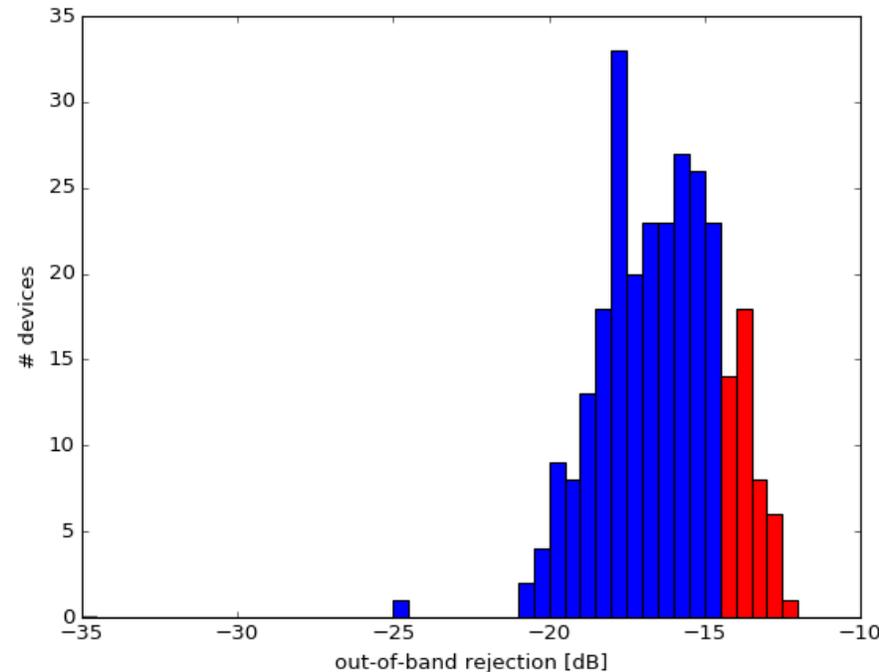
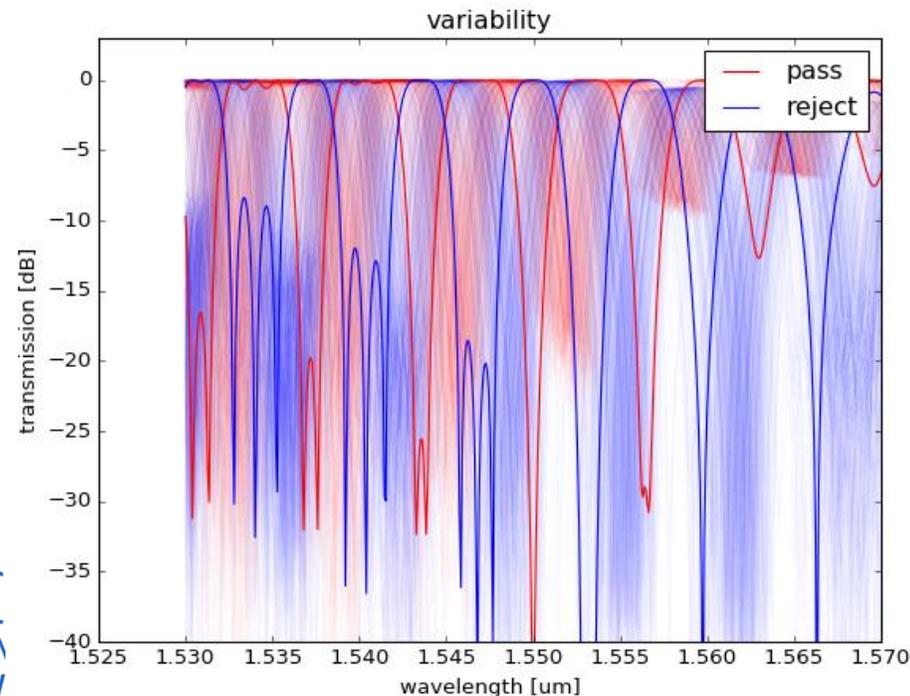
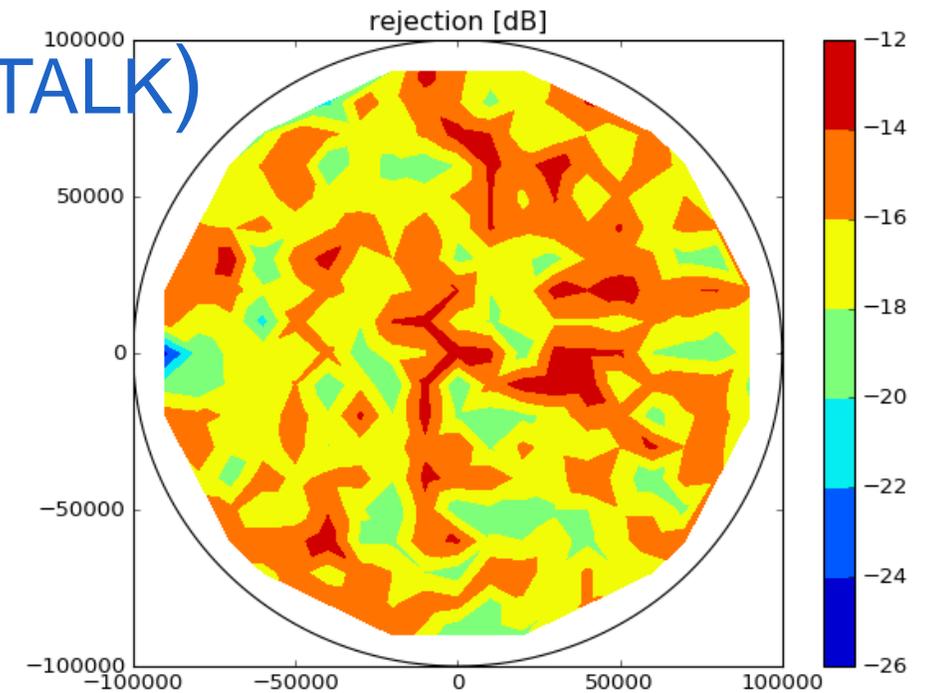


# ANALYZE YIELD: REJECTION (CROSSTALK)

Spec = -15dB

Decent yield on this spec:

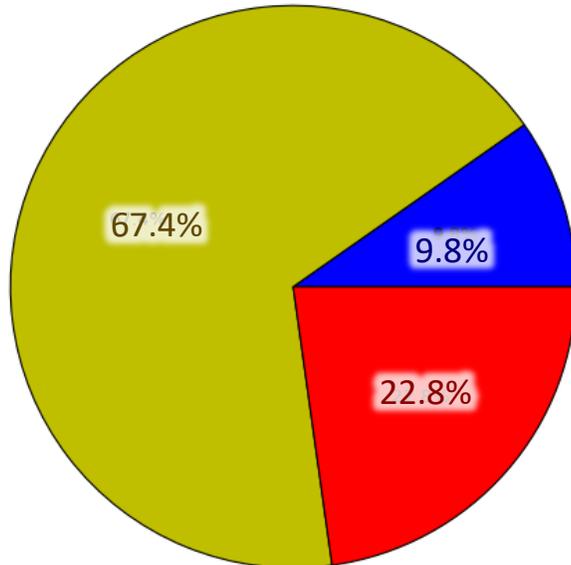
Mostly influenced by the couplers



# OVERALL YIELD

All specs combined:

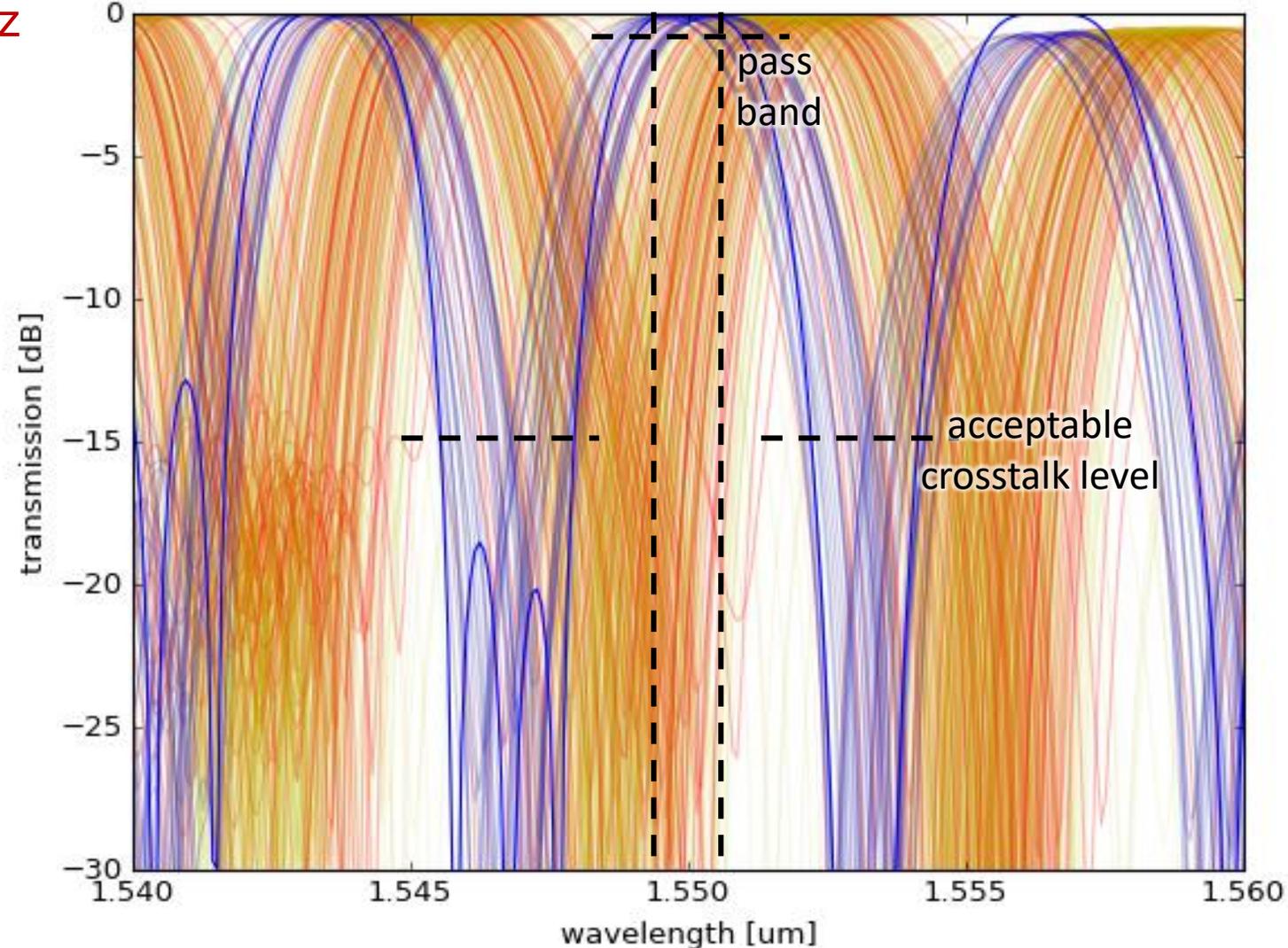
- Center wavelength =  $1.55\mu\text{m} \pm 80\text{ GHz}$
- Crosstalk (rejection) = -15dB
- Intraband ripple = 1dB
- FSR =  $800\text{GHz} \pm 40\text{GHz}$
- Peak insertion loss > -1dB



blue:  
good devices  
with acceptable  
wavelength offset

yellow:  
good devices  
with too large  
wavelength offset

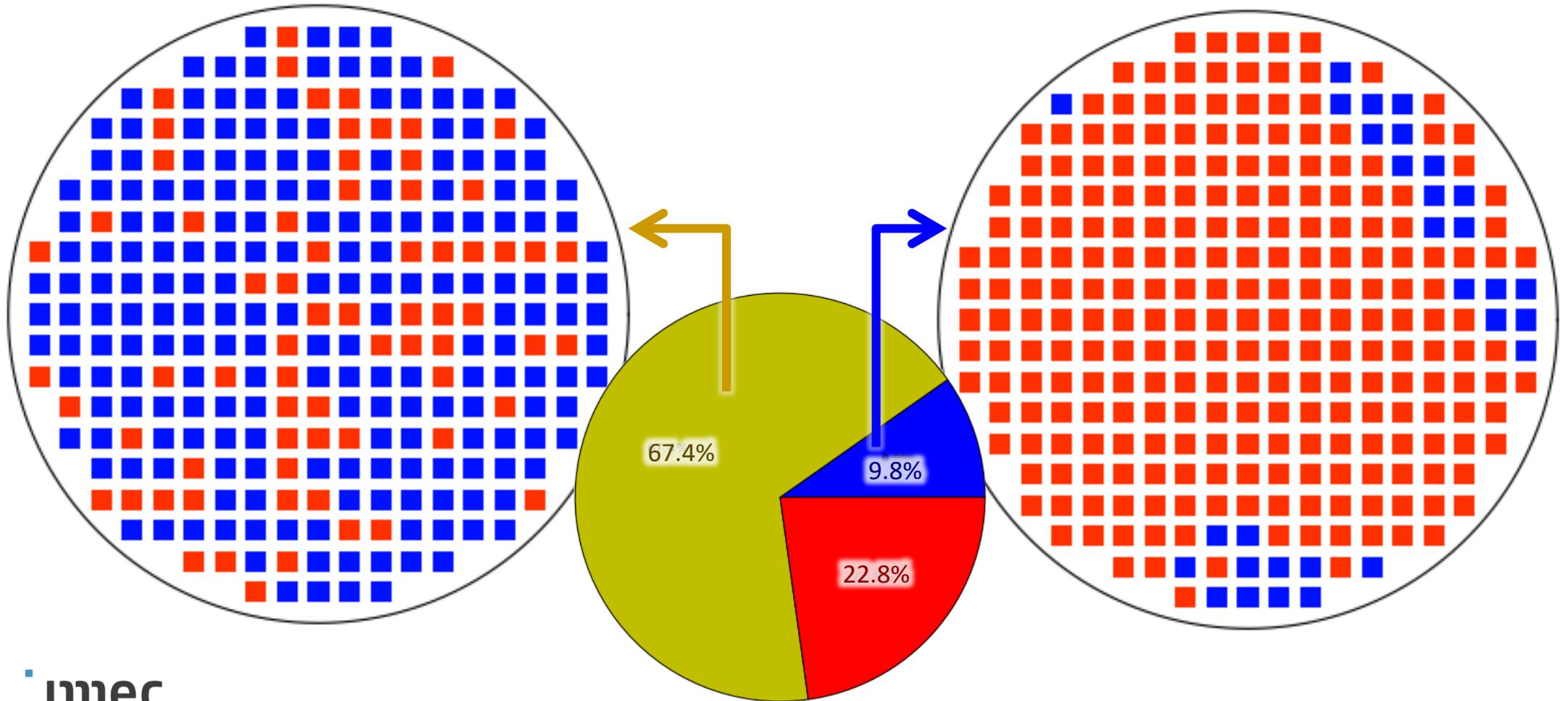
red:  
unacceptable devices  
(crosstalk, loss, ...)



# YIELD MAPS

Without absolute wavelength spec

With absolute wavelength spec:  
peak =  $1.55\mu\text{m} \pm 80 \text{ GHz}$

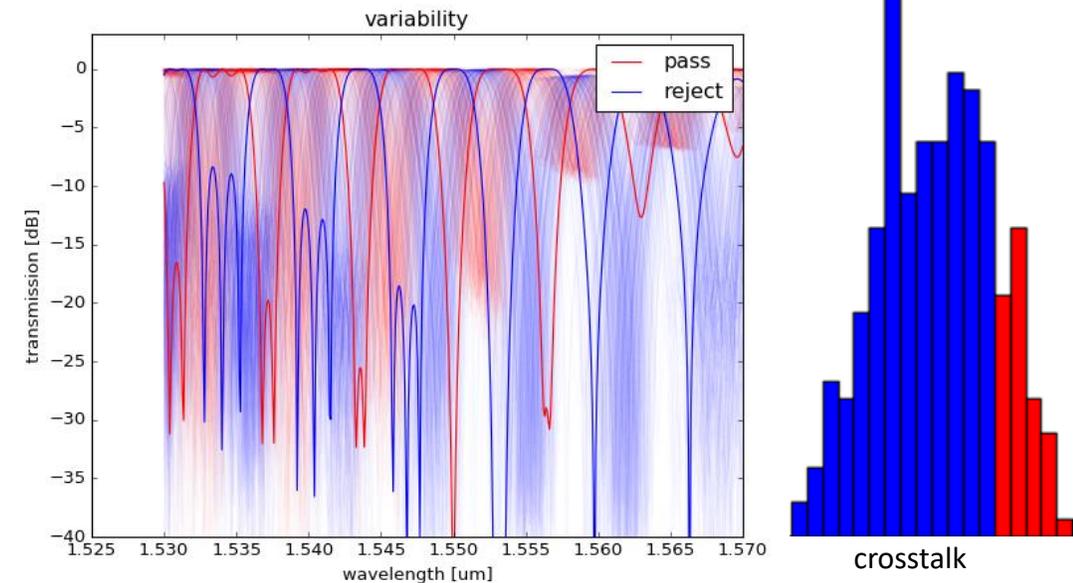
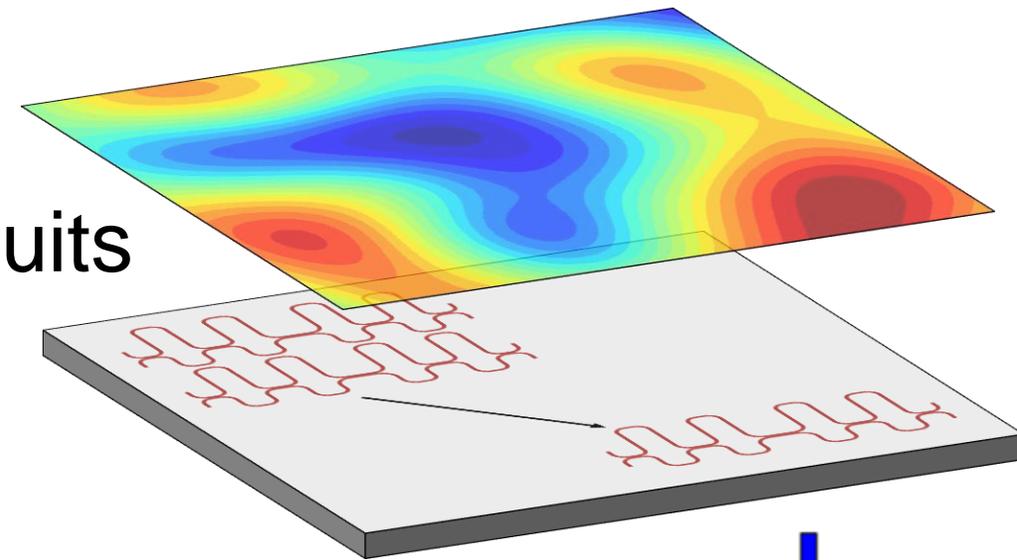


# SUMMARY

Variability determines the yield of circuits

Need layout-aware yield prediction

- Accurate parameter extraction
- Realistic variation model
- Layout-aware yield prediction



# WHAT HAVE WE DONE?

## Parameter Extraction

- Extracted of waveguide and DC parameters
- Extracted of linewidth and thickness
- Improved extraction methods to be tolerant to process variations and spectral fringes and noise

## Hierarchical spatial variability model

- Established workflow to separate variations
- Found correlation between pattern density and IDS width variation

## Yield prediction

- Accelerated variability analysis using stochastic analysis methods
- Generated virtual wafer maps for realistic yield estimation

# MANY THANKS TO...

- the FWO project
- the MEPIC project
- Luceda Photonics
  
- Wim and the complete *photonics*-group
- The people in SUMO group involved in variability analysis

## PHOTONICS RESEARCH GROUP



grant G013815N



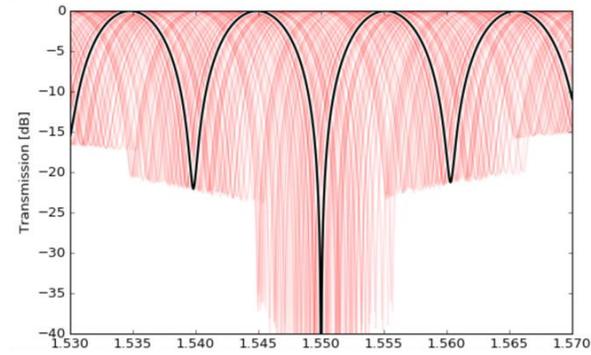
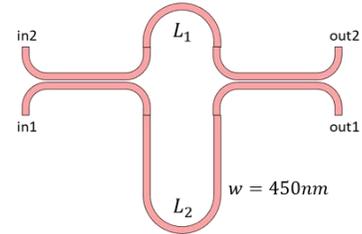
MEPIC project



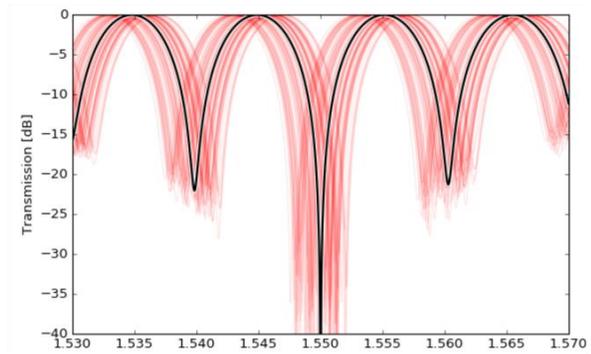
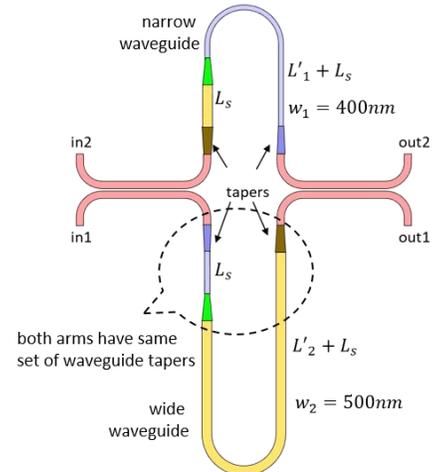
# ANY QUESTIONS?...

# TOLERANT MZI DESIGN

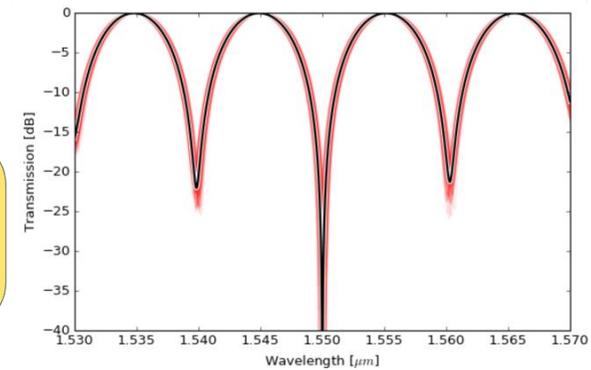
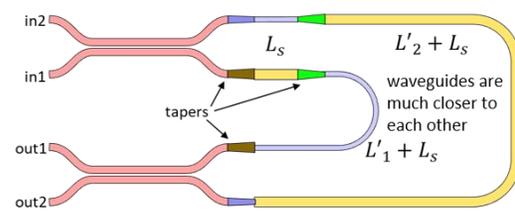
(a) traditional MZI design



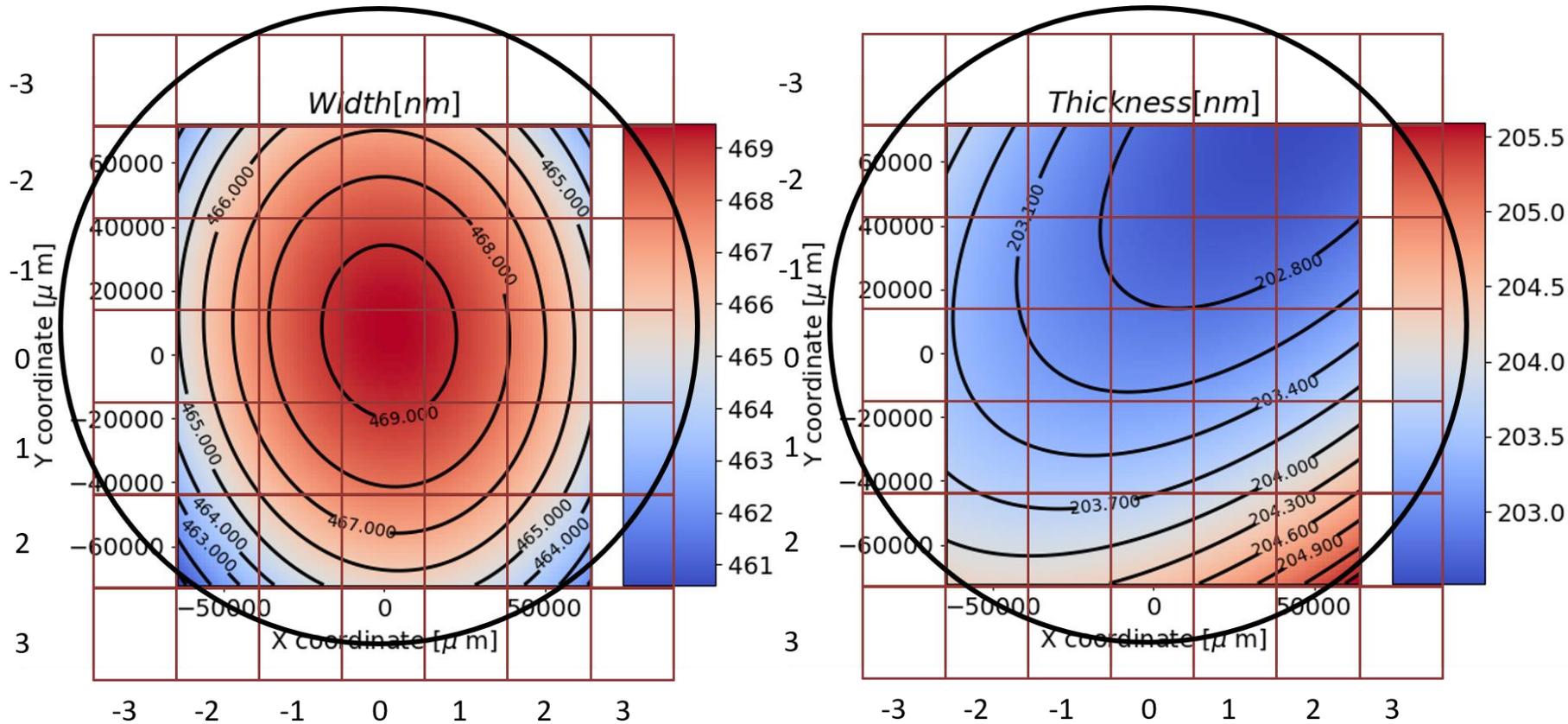
(b) MZI tolerant to long-range width variations



(c) MZI tolerant to short+ long-range width variations

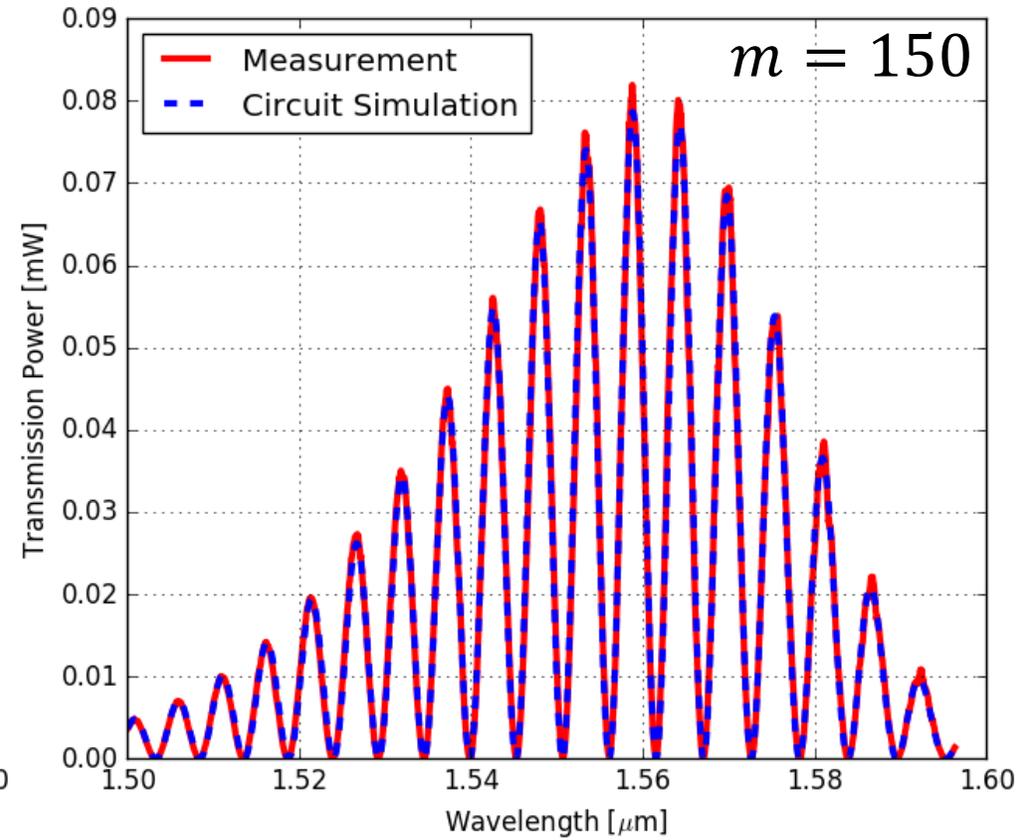
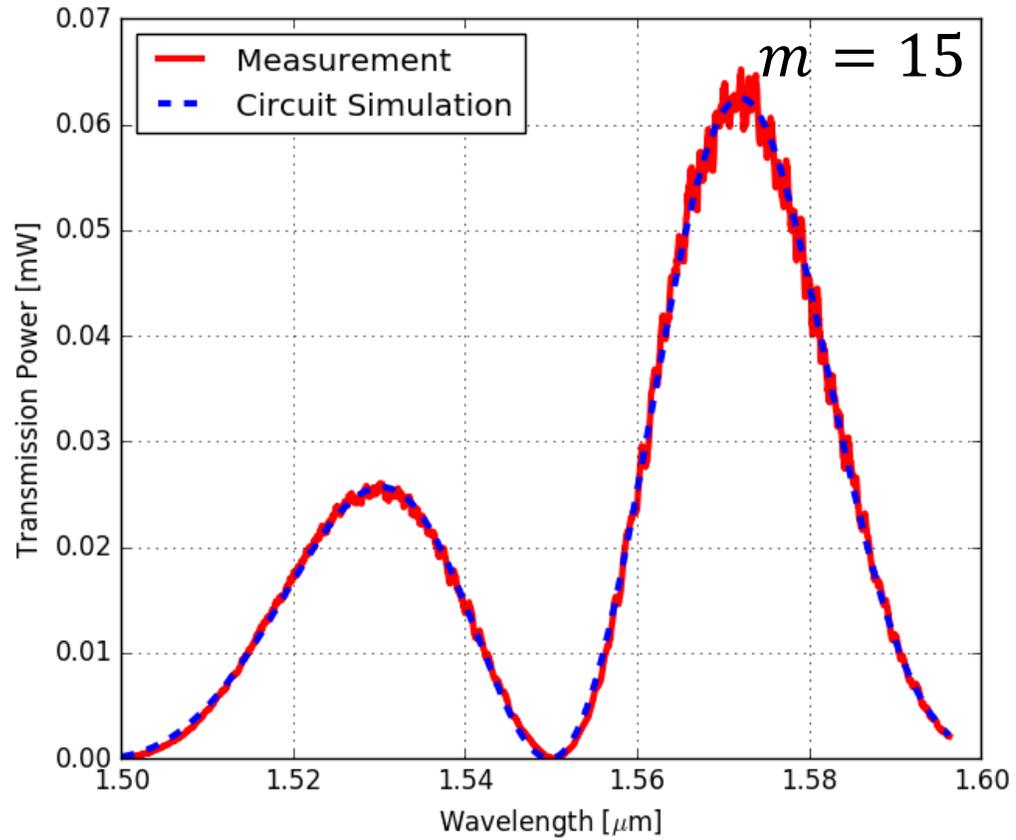


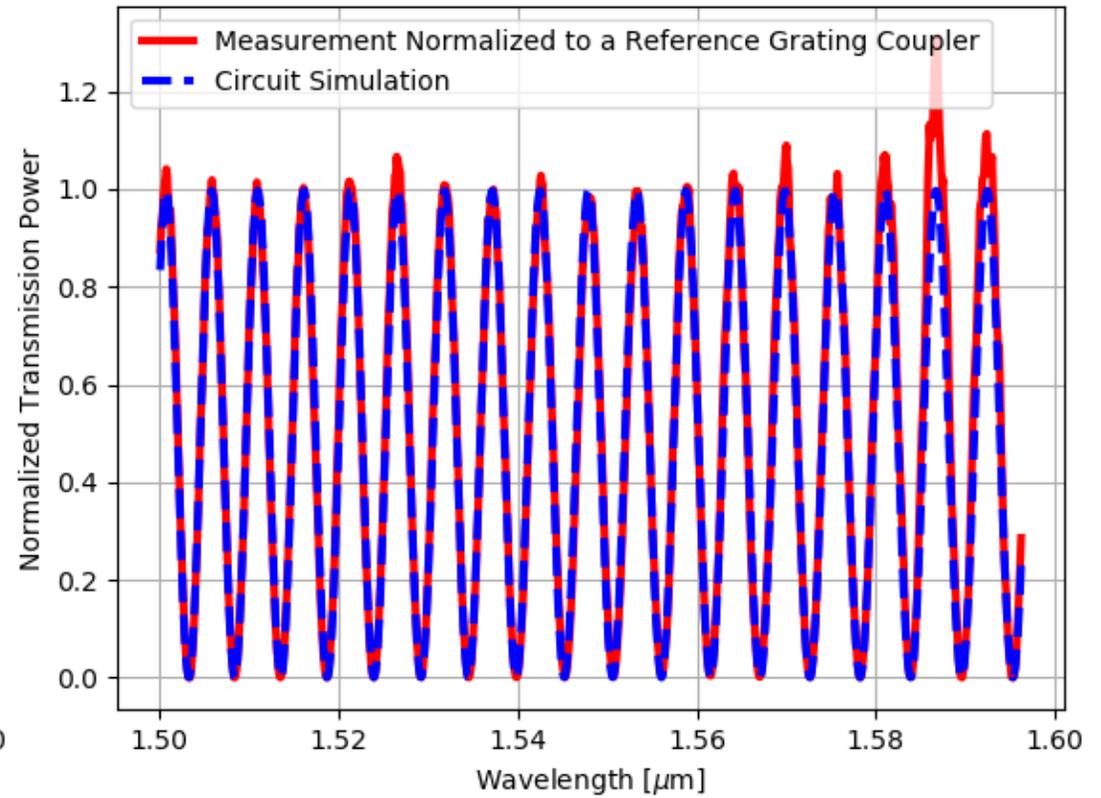
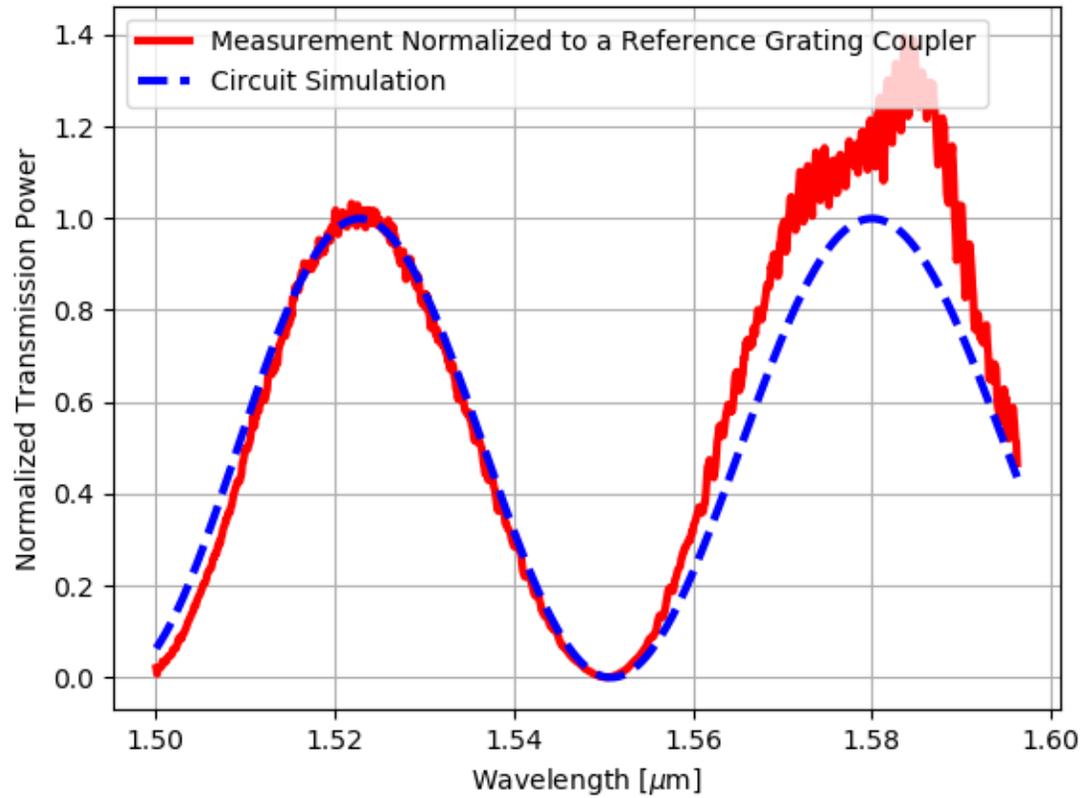
# SYSTEMATIC INTRA-WAFER VARIATION

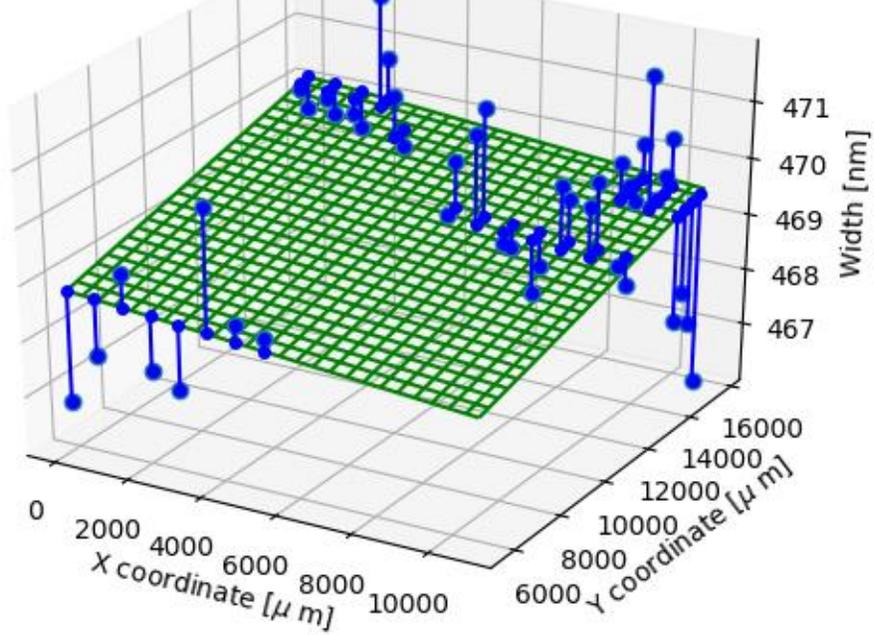


## Systematic intra-wafer (Max-Min)

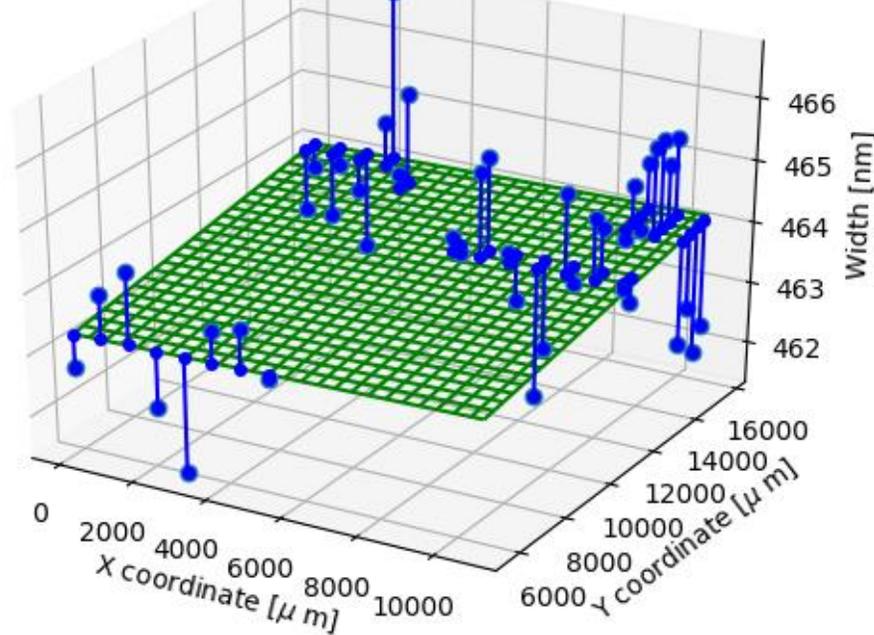
Linewidth [nm]	8.5
Thickness [nm]	3.0



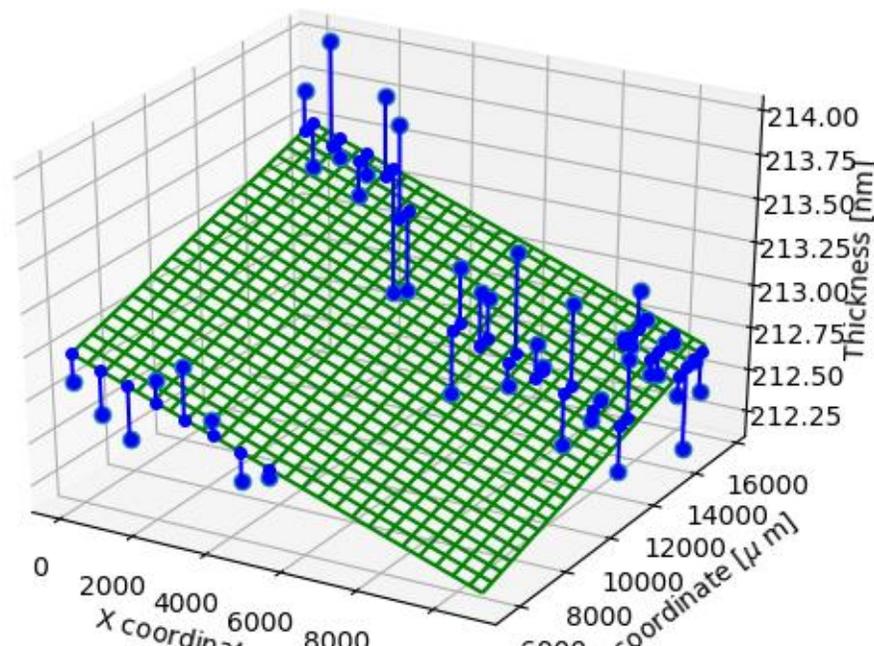
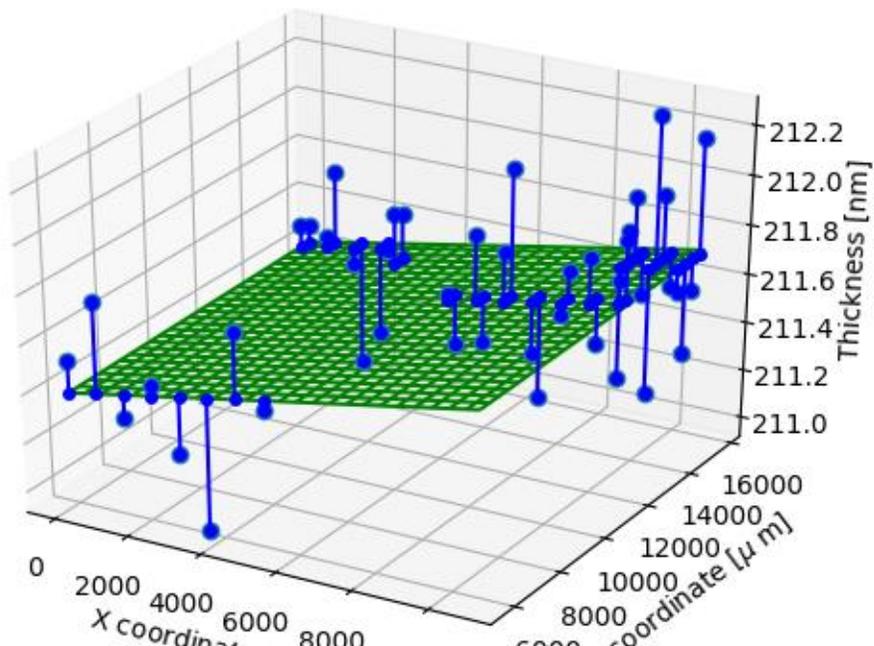


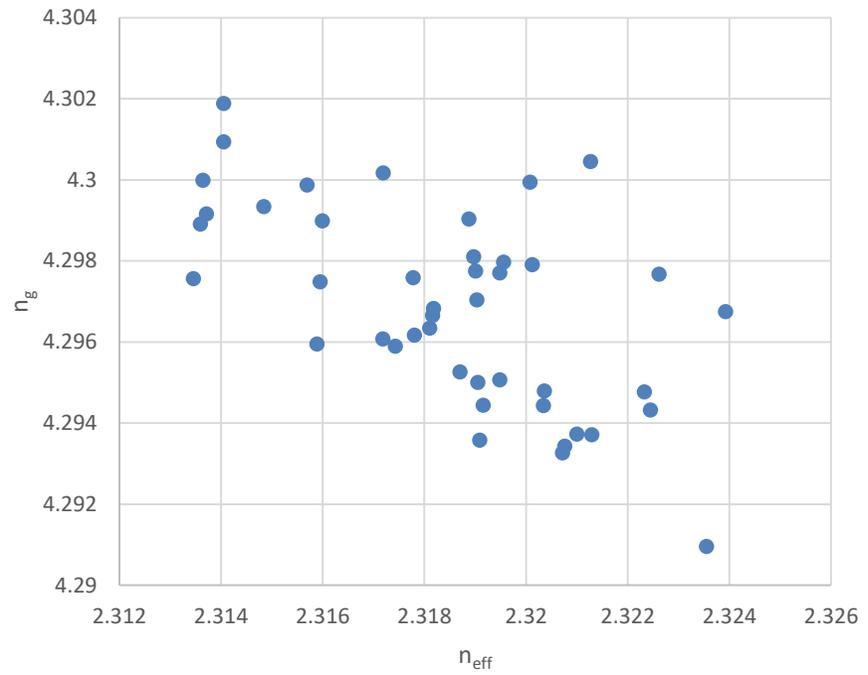
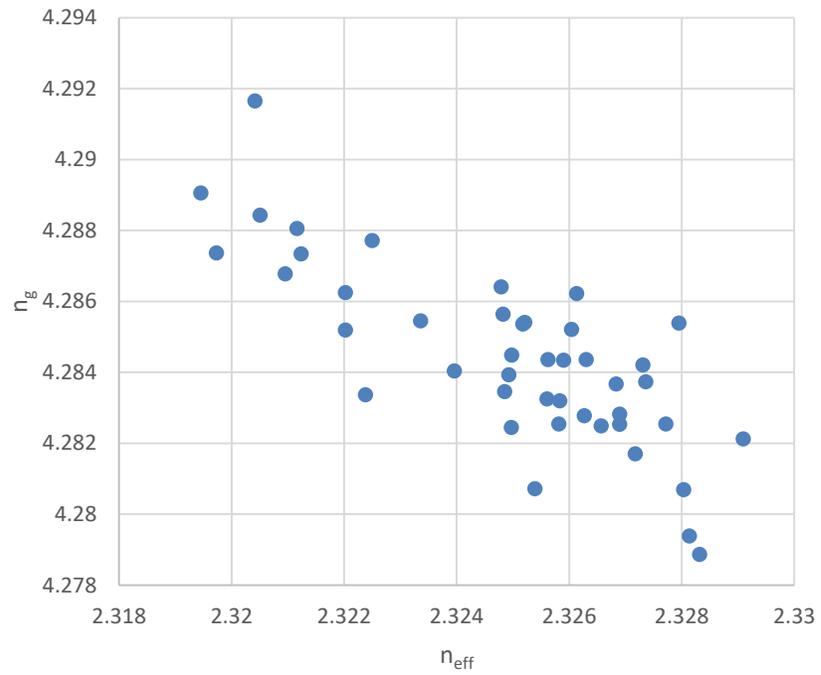


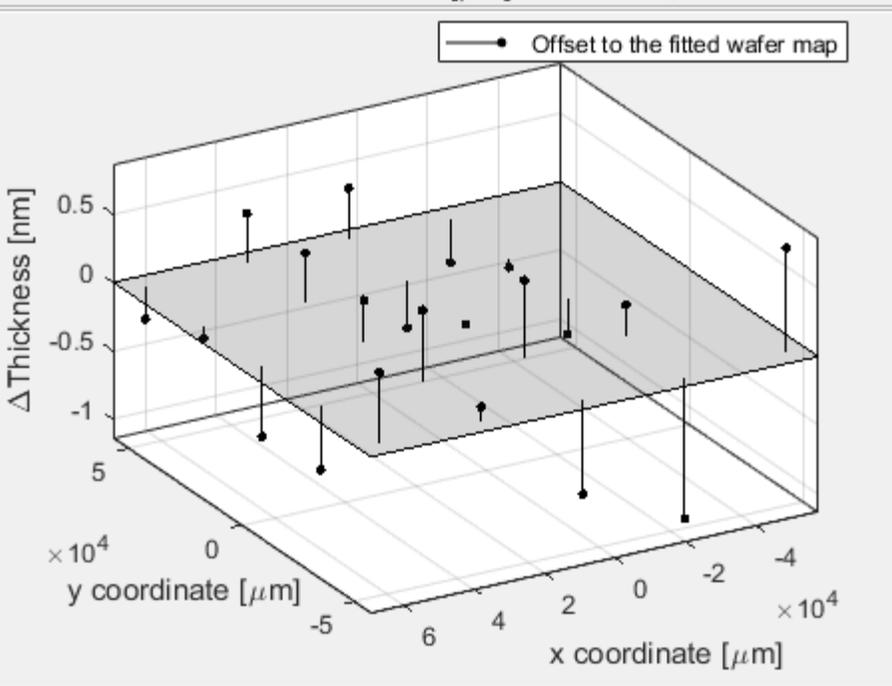
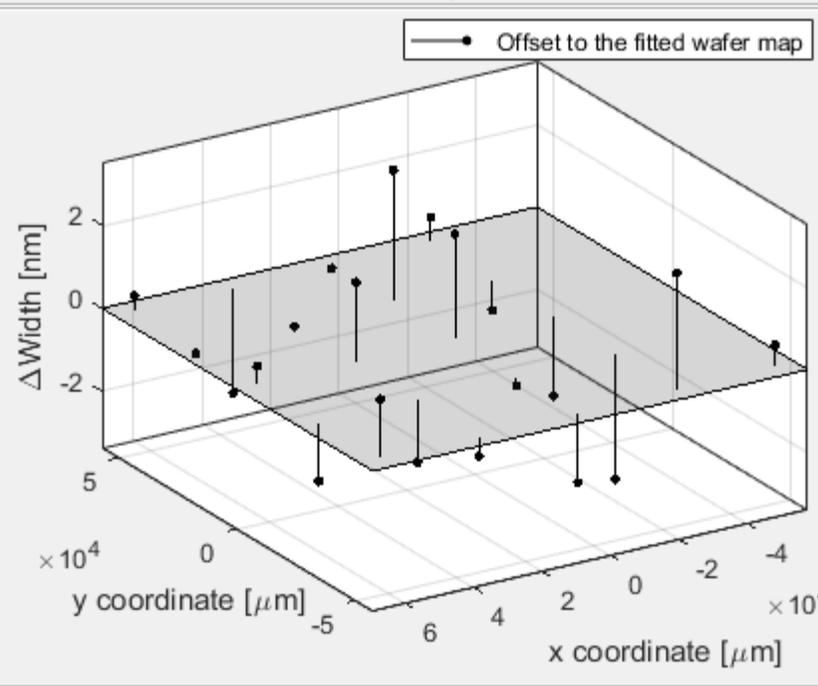
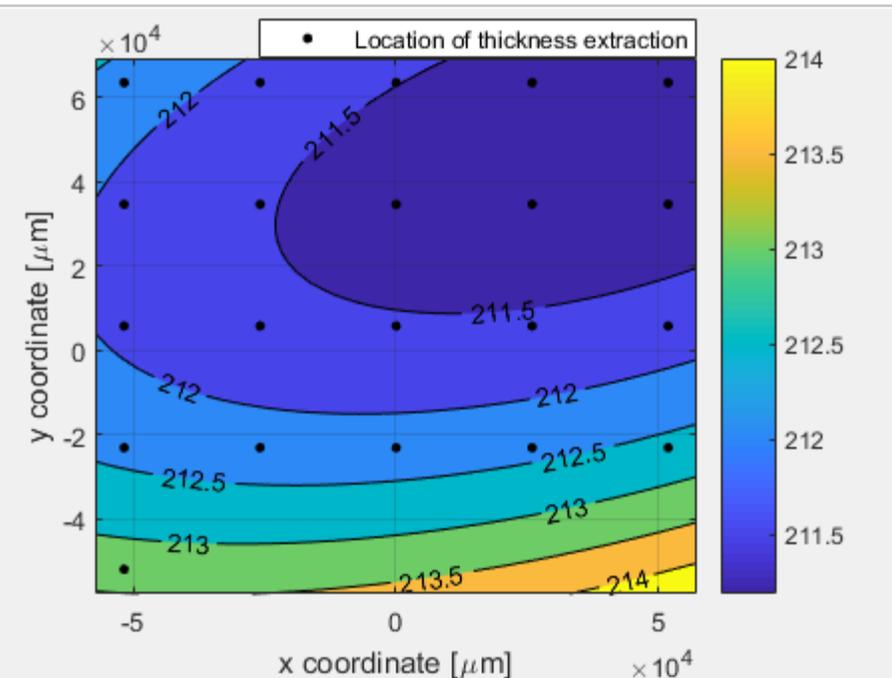
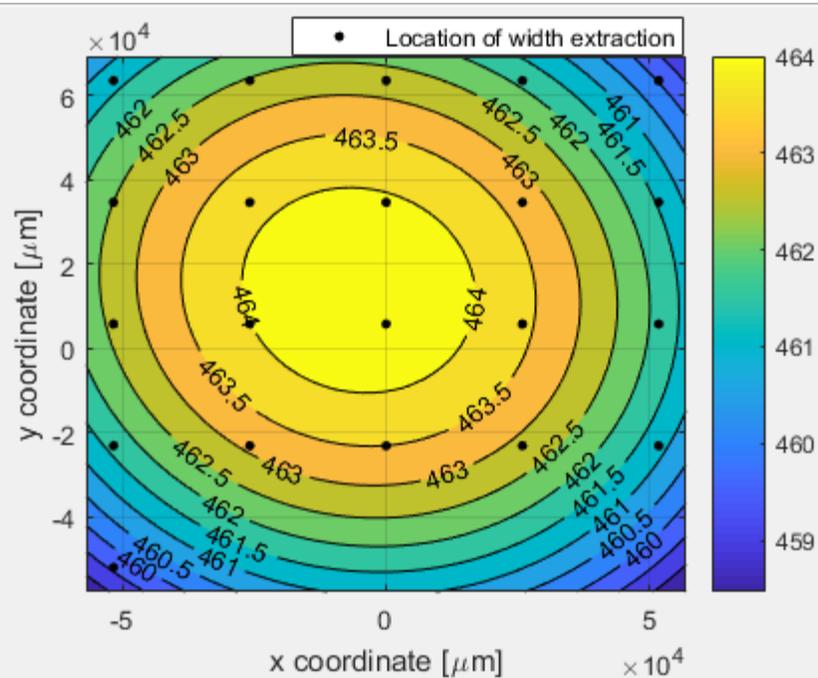
(a)



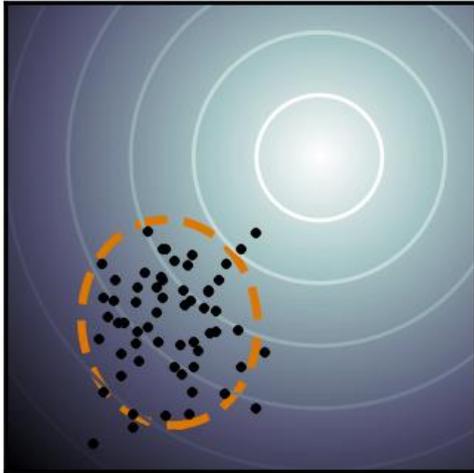
(c)



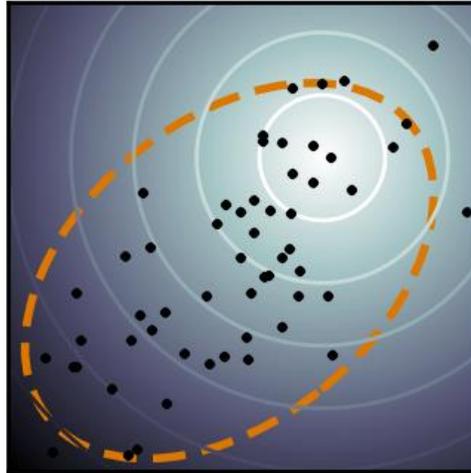




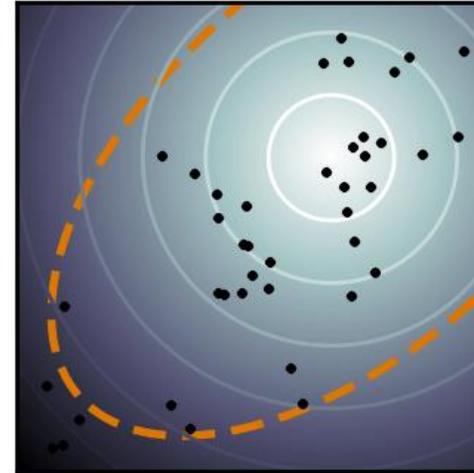
Generation 1



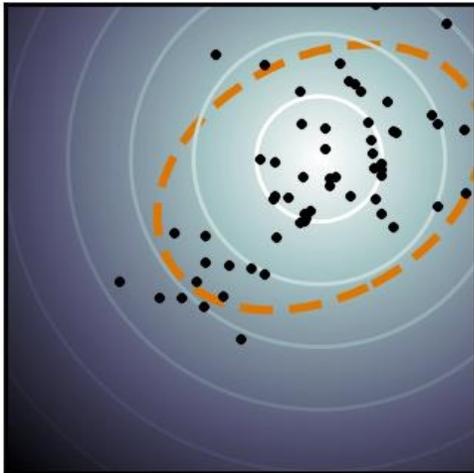
Generation 2



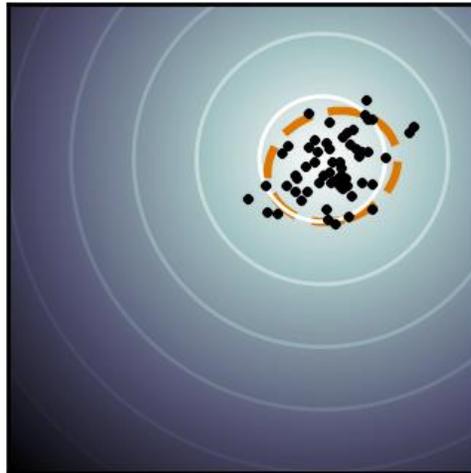
Generation 3



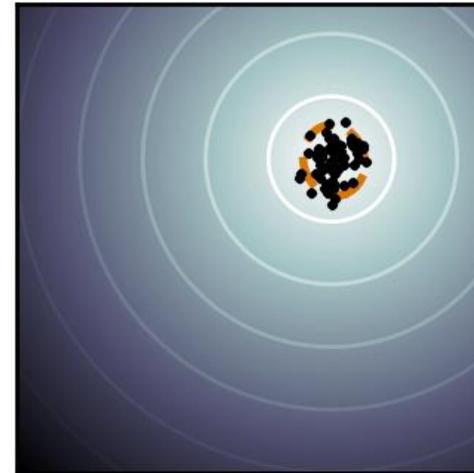
Generation 4

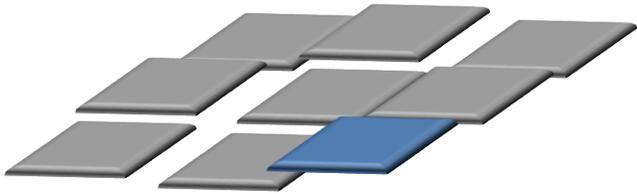
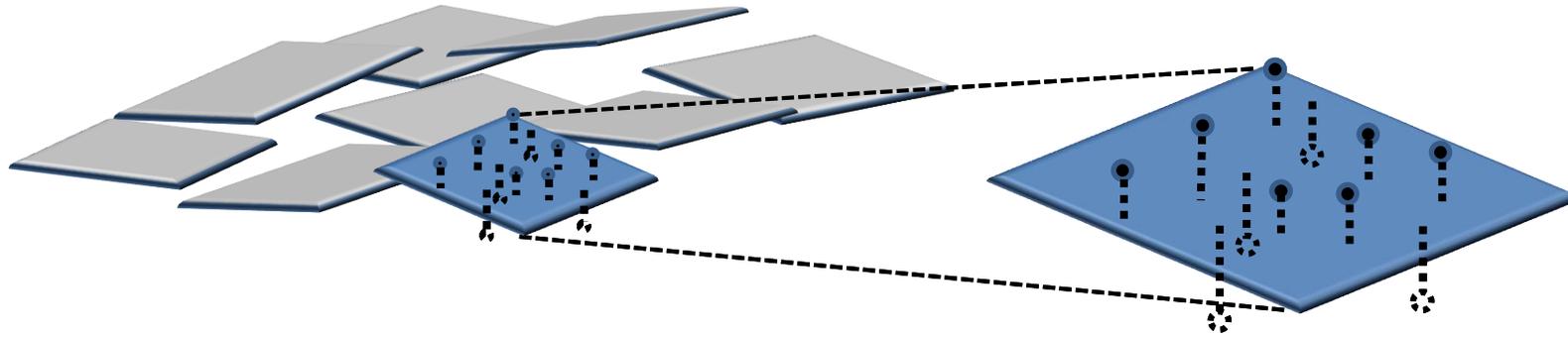


Generation 5

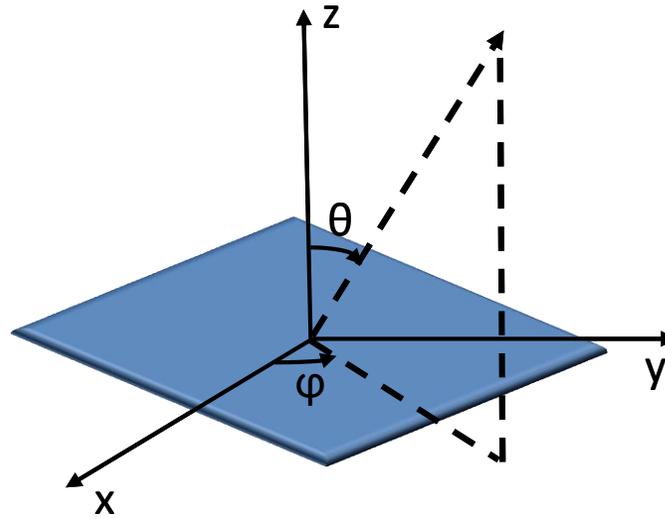


Generation 6

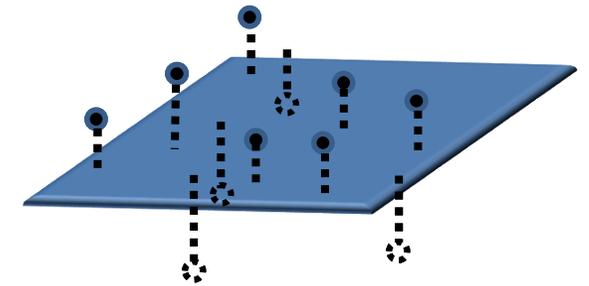




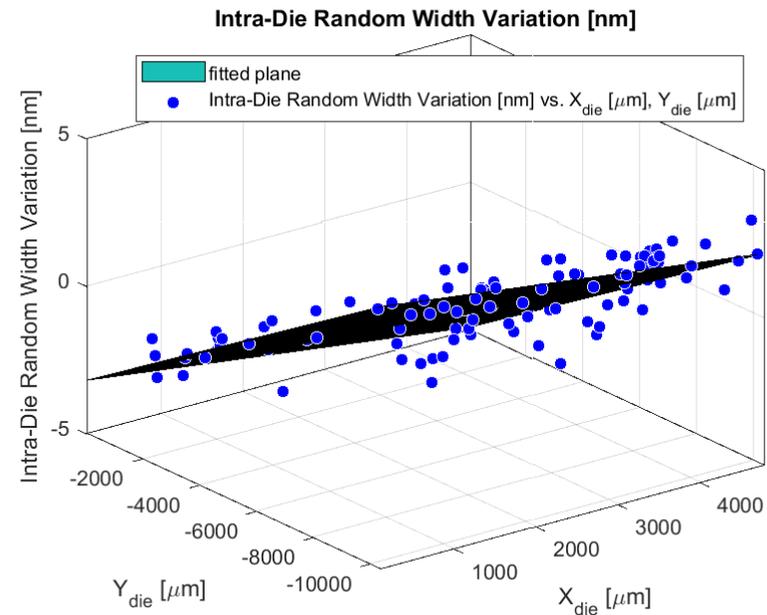
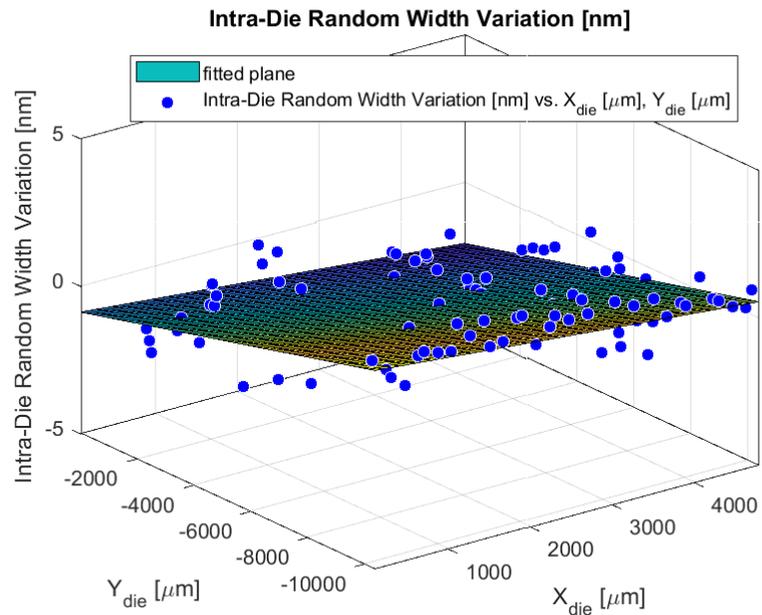
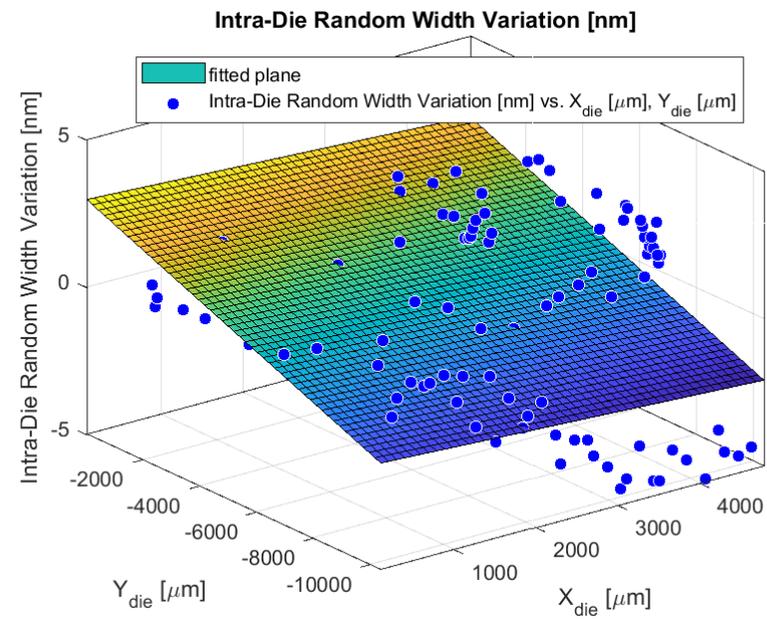
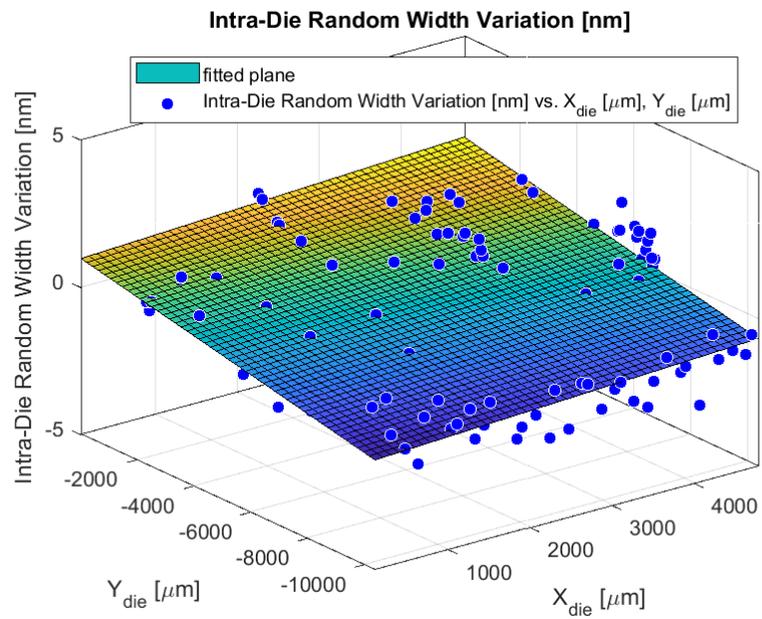
IWR



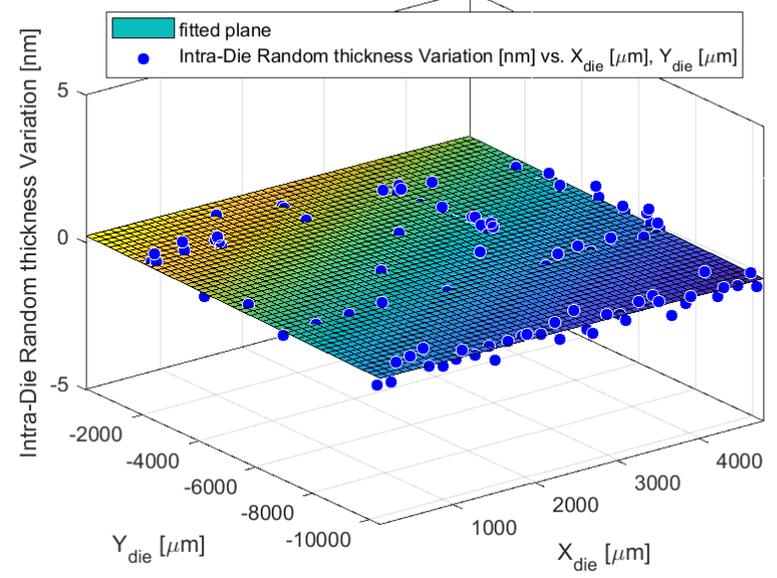
WDI



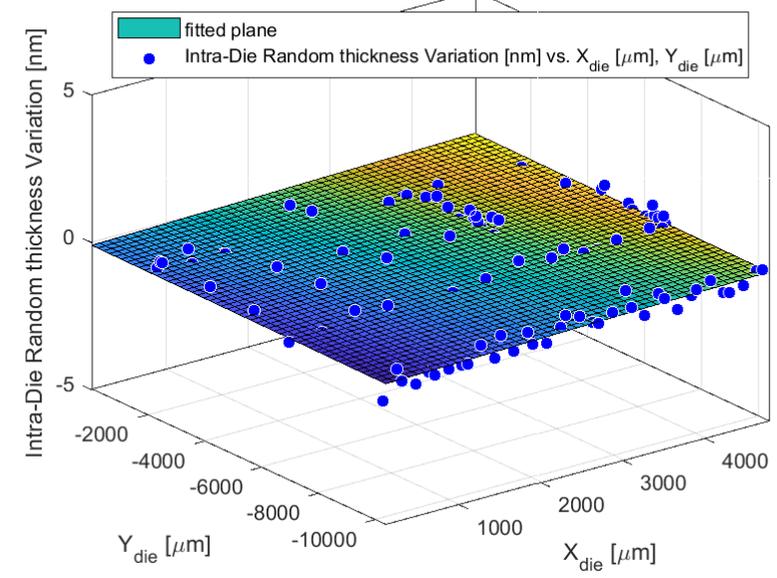
IDR



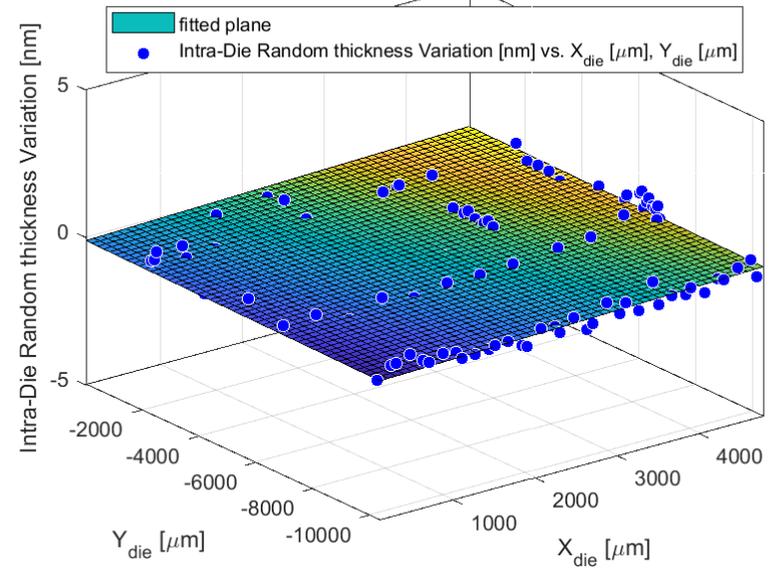
Intra-Die Random thickness Variation [nm]



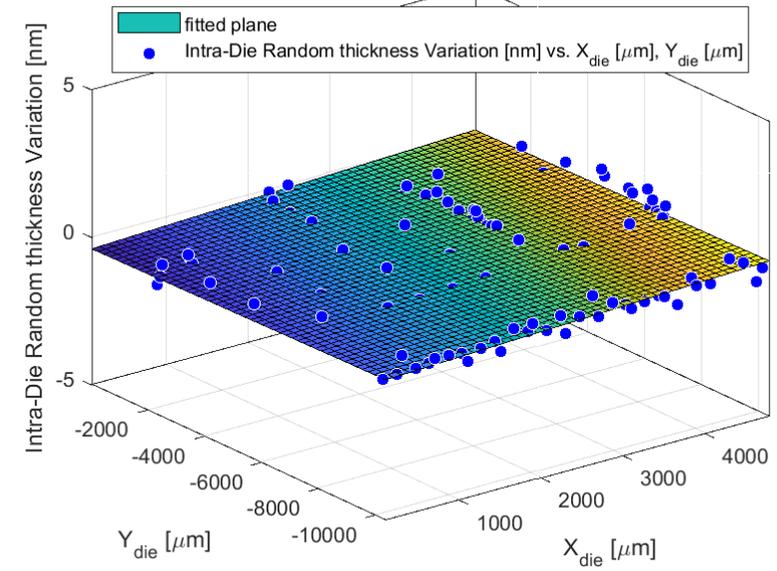
Intra-Die Random thickness Variation [nm]



Intra-Die Random thickness Variation [nm]



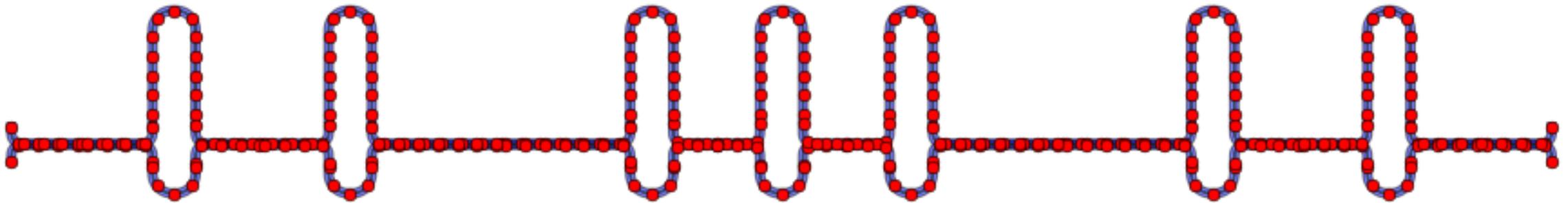
Intra-Die Random thickness Variation [nm]



# SAMPLING POINTS IN THE LAYOUT

All building blocks with a model will sample all variables ( $w, t$ )

- waveguides:  $n_{eff}, n_g$
- logical couplers:  $\kappa', \frac{\partial \kappa'}{\partial \lambda}, \frac{\partial^2 \kappa'}{\partial \lambda^2}, \kappa_0, \frac{\partial \kappa_0}{\partial \lambda}, \frac{\partial^2 \kappa_0}{\partial \lambda^2}$



- Sampling points are aggregated over the component: results in averaging, same as in fabricated devices