

# **Fabrication of nanostructures and nanoscale devices.**

## **Part 5.**

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*See the lectures at <https://www.nanocenter.si/qt-future/education-2/>*

## Principle technological schemes

**Difficult choice (device to be discussed on Nov 24)**

### **Part 5 Optical and Electronic Lithography**

Polymer and inorganic resists (composition, solubility, microstructure)

Spin-coating, adhesion, roughness

Light and beam interactions with positive and negative resists; amplification

Post-exposure procedures (developers, thermal effects, wetting)

Maskless lithography

### **Part 6 Assembling of low-dimensional objects**

- Dry transfer methods
- Wet transfer methods
- Fabrication of junctions and contacts
- Fabrication of nm-size gaps.

# Suggested devices 1: SQUID detectors (for astrophysics as well)

**SQUID** is **S**uperconducting **QU**antum **I**nterference **D**evice

- ✓ DC SQUID: magnetometer ( $10^{-10} - 10^{-11}$  Gs); picovoltmeter
- ✓ High-frequency SQUIDs ( $\sim 10$  MHz..... 10 GHz)

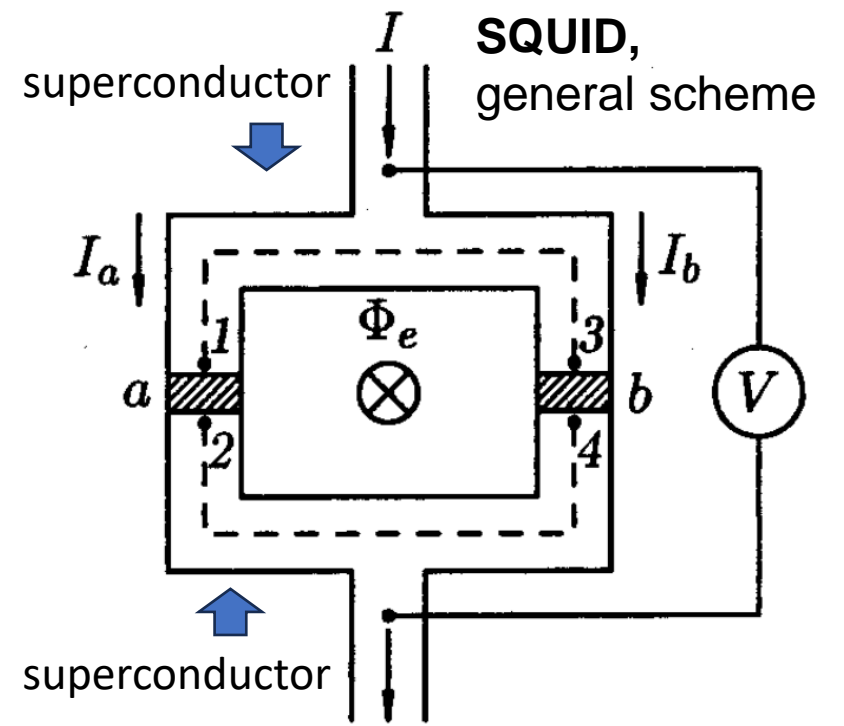
Microwave-SQUID **multiplexer** readout, to decrease the number of wires (for microcalorimeters)

## Astro:

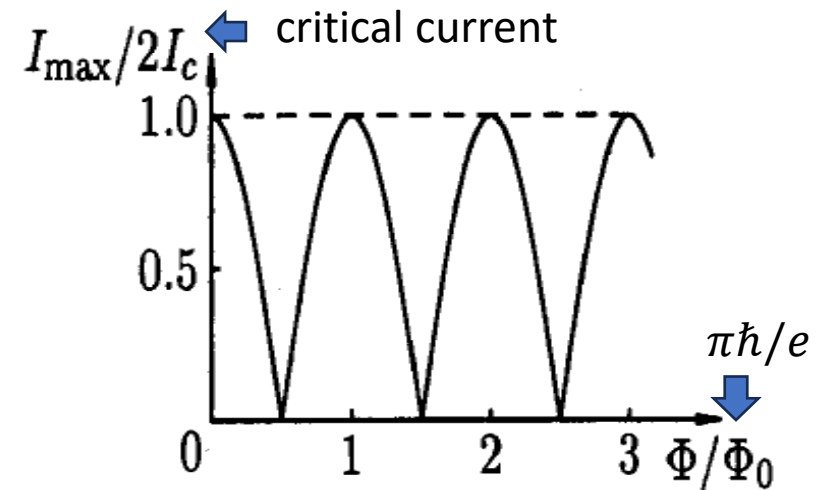
DC-SQUID as an **amplifier** for Superconducting Tunnel Junctions

- To consider this type of devices, we should also discuss bolometers, etc.
- This looks more like micro- than like nanotechnology.
- Links to Devices 3 are possible, **see \* at p.4 below.**

See, e.g., IEEE TRANSACTIONS ON APPLIED SUPERCONDUCTIVITY 31 (2021) 1601205 <Simons Observatory>;  
Appl.Phys.Lett. 118 (2021) 062601 <1820-channel multiplexer>

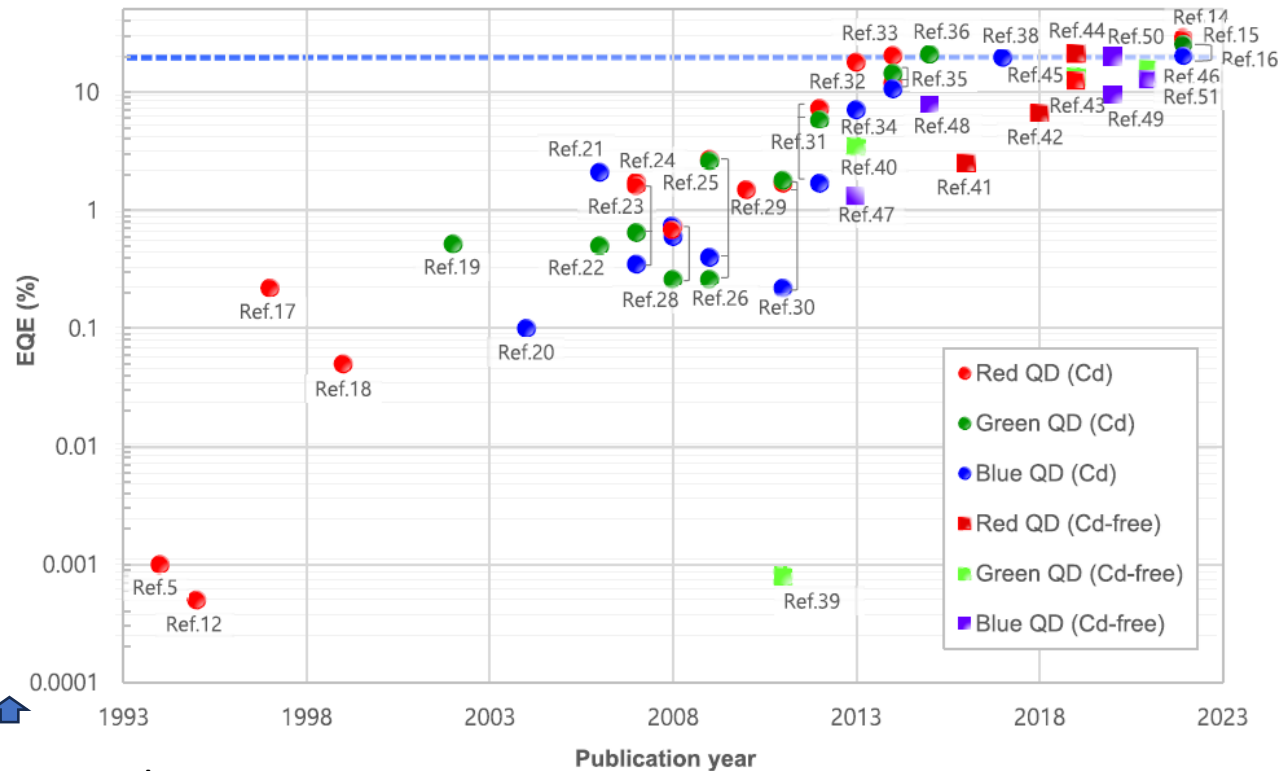


$a, b$ : Josephson junctions  
 $\Phi_e$ : magnetic flux



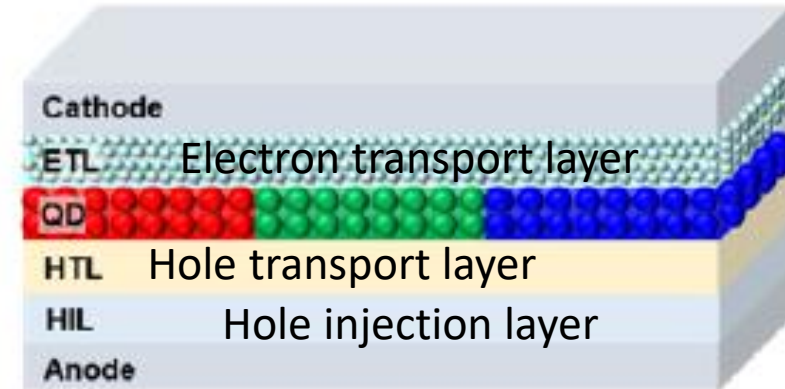
# Suggested devices 2: Nanoparticle(QD)-based light-emitting diodes (LEDs)

*Citation:* «...current methods for fabricating **semiconductor nanoparticle-based** light emitting devices: metal-organic vapor phase epitaxy (MOVPE), fabrication of blue GaN-based LEDs with coating procedures, microfabrication, including mesa etching, metal deposition, lift-off, and annealing.»



External quantum efficiency

QD-LED display



- To consider this type of devices, we should also discuss conducting polymers used in combination with QD.

## Suggested devices 3: Superconducting single photon detectors (SSPD)

*Citation:* «...ultrathin films of NbN onto different substrates (sapphire and MgO) using DC-magnetron sputtering at room temperature - electron beam lithography (EBL) ..... generation of single photons from InAs QDs in GaAs membrane - applications for detection of broadband light from Cherenkov radiation, scintillation or ionization.»



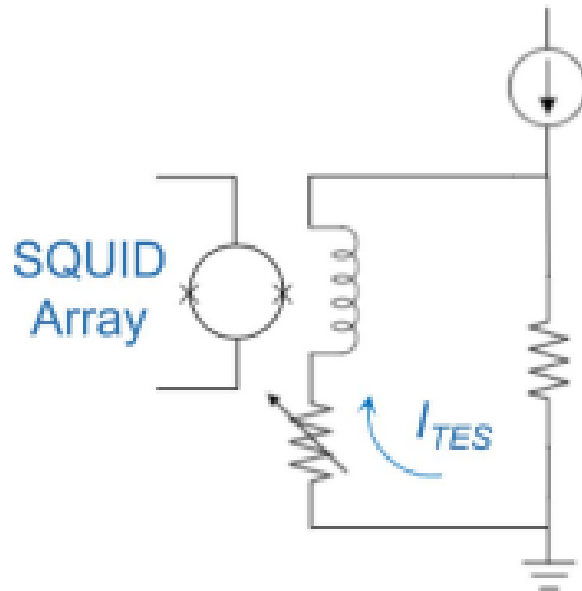
- ✓ Superconducting Tunnel Junctions (STJ, a type of Josephson junction) \*
- ✓ Kinetic-Inductance Detector (KID) \*\*
- ✓ Transition-Edge Sensor (TES) (microcalorimeters) \*
- ✓ Superconducting Nanowire Single-Photon Detector (SNSPD)

\* *Intersects with Suggested devices 1, in combination with SQUIDs*

\*\* *Initially developed for astro*

This requires explanations: GaAs waveguides are used in various SSPD; as for QD, they typically present an object, not device (e.g., QD emission can be studied using SSPD).

Or probably some single-photon transistor was assumed?



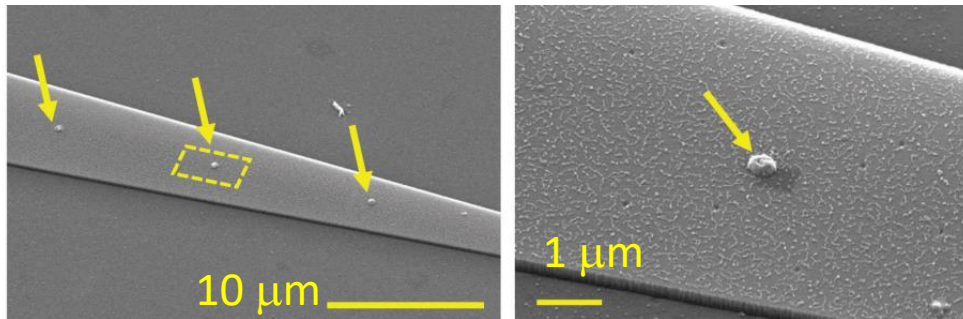
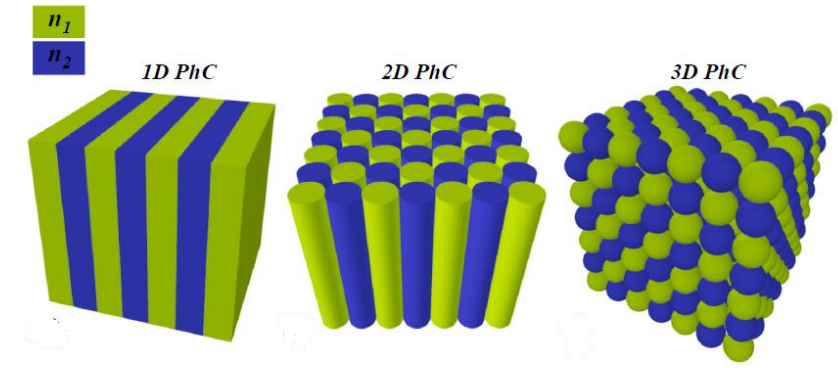
J. Lightwave Technol. 40 (2023) 7578-7597 <various types>

Optical Engineering 53 (2014) 081907 <based on superconducting nanowires>

## Suggested devices 4: ‘Photonics and non-linear optics’ section, three options

**Photonic crystals (PhC):** this is not a device, but a sort of (meta)material. Devices based on photonic crystals can be light filters, highly reflective mirrors, waveguides, polarizers, etc. It is important to agree dimensions:

Optics & Laser Technology 142 (2021) No 107265



**Quantum micro resonators:** consider the most usual version of ring resonators with QD,

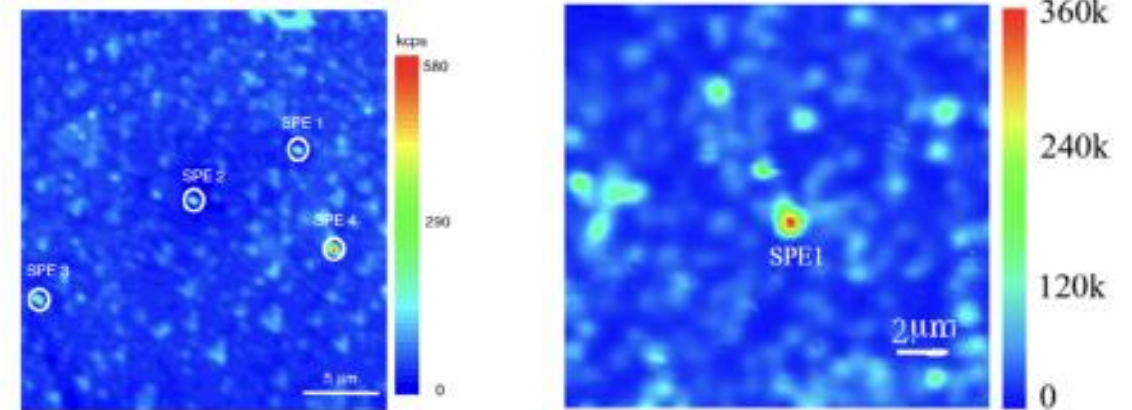
see example in Nanophotonics 9 (2020) 1411–1423

**Single-photon sources:** essentially different types are

- single emitters (mostly 1D objects, like QD, or molecules),
- based on excitations in atomic ensembles (more rare),
- based on correlated pairs of photons.

Rev. Sci. Instrum. 82 (2011) No 071101

Quantum Information Processing 22 (2023) No 360

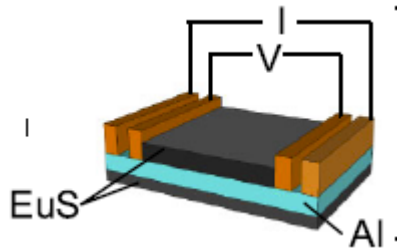


Interesting is a possibility to apply point defects as 1D emitters (SiC at the left, GaN at the right)

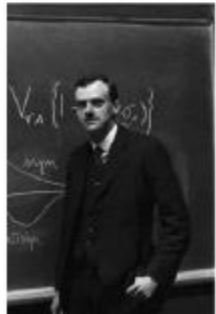
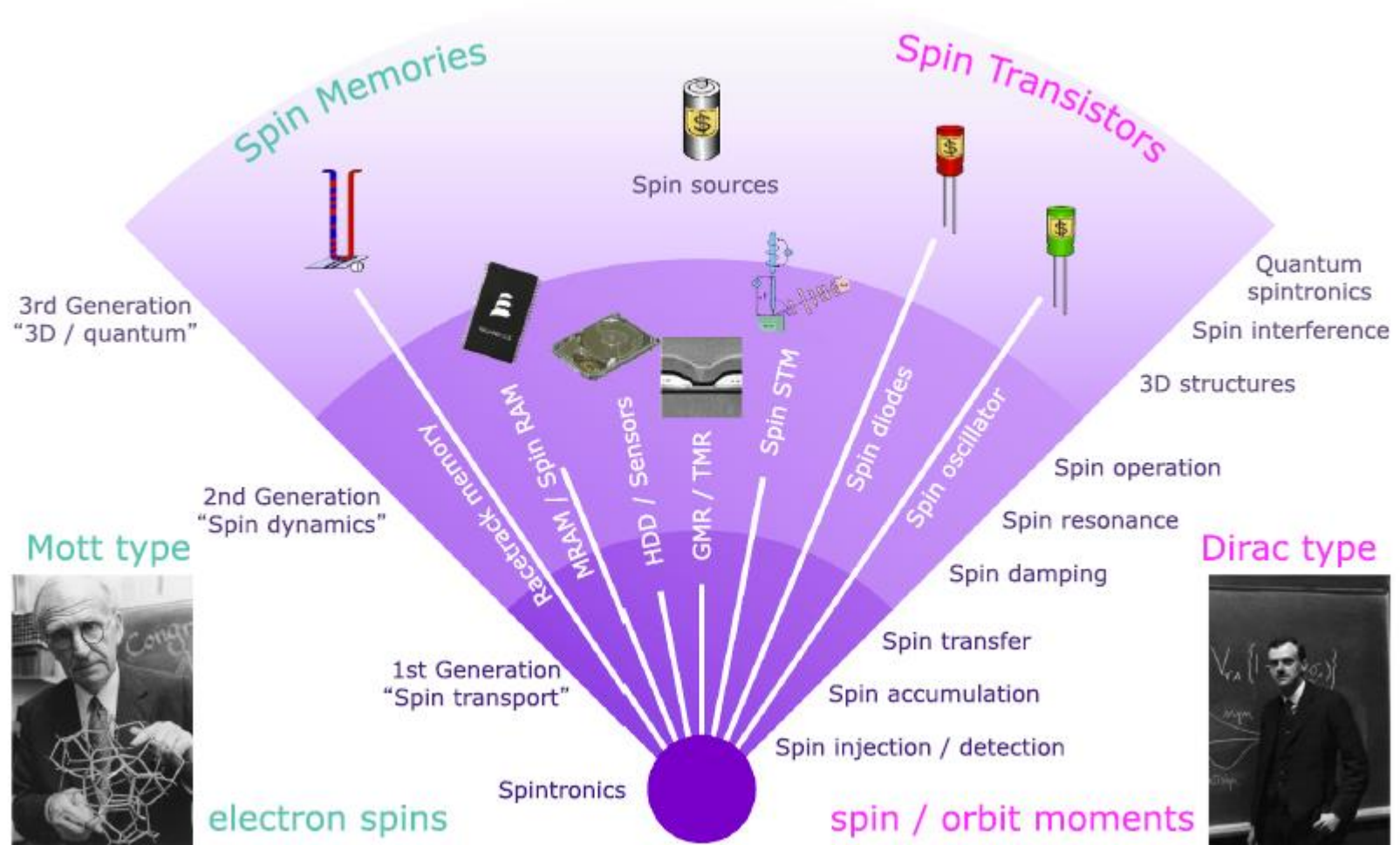
# Suggested devices 5: Spintronics

*Citation:* «... spin valve, giant magnetoresistance, spin-transfer torque in magnetic tunnel junctions, ...), monolithic spintronics (single spin logic devices), hybrids like spin-(MOS)FETs, carbon-based spintronics, maybe to mention magnetic skyrmions, ... It would be in general interesting to make an overview of nanoelectronic devices and connect them with already mentioned fabrication techniques and materials that are proposed/used in their fabrication.»

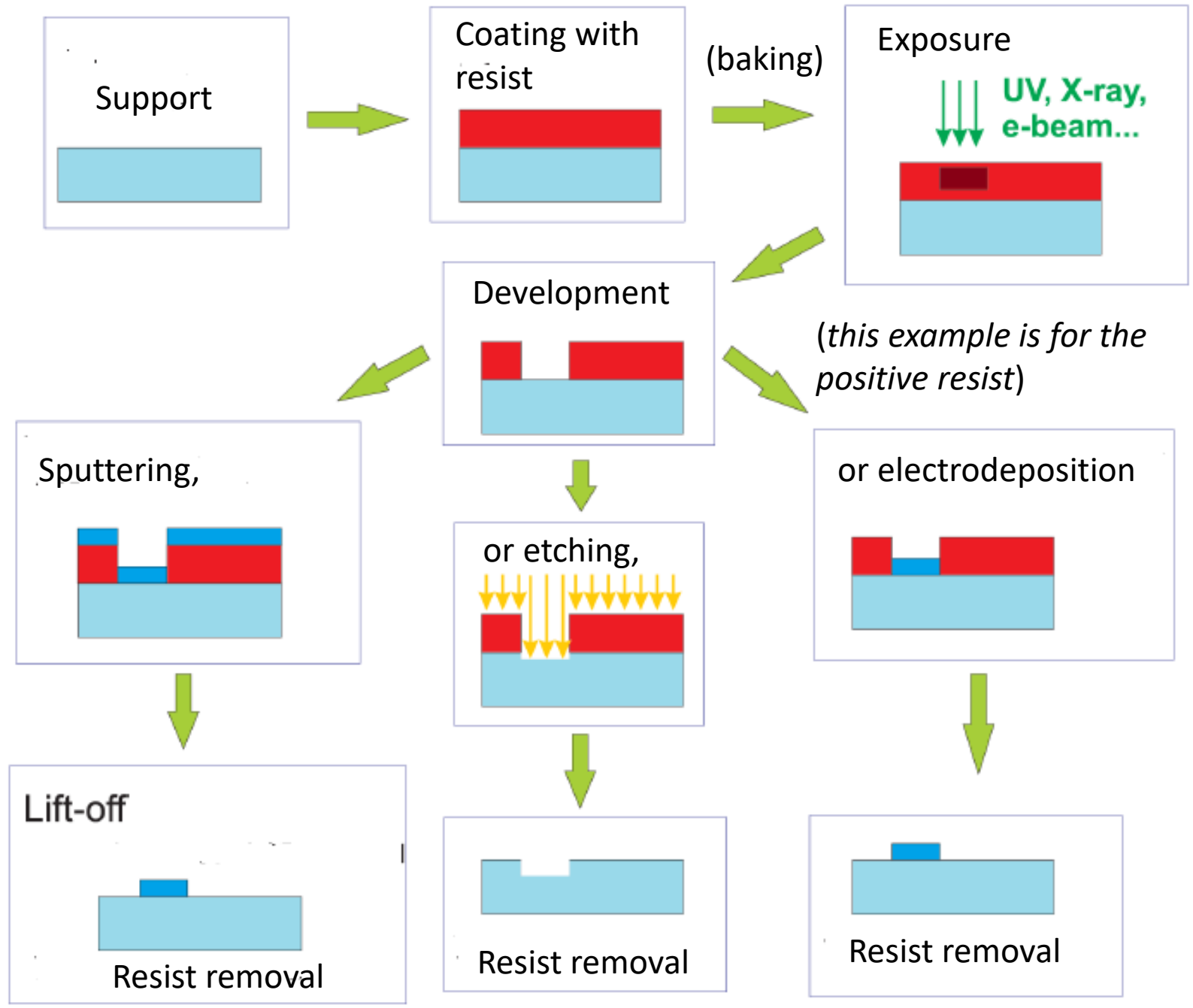
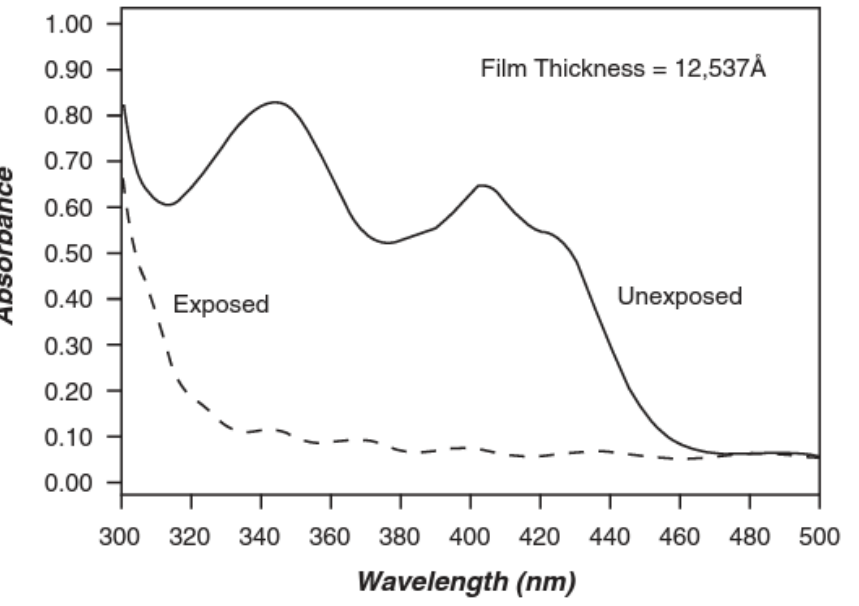
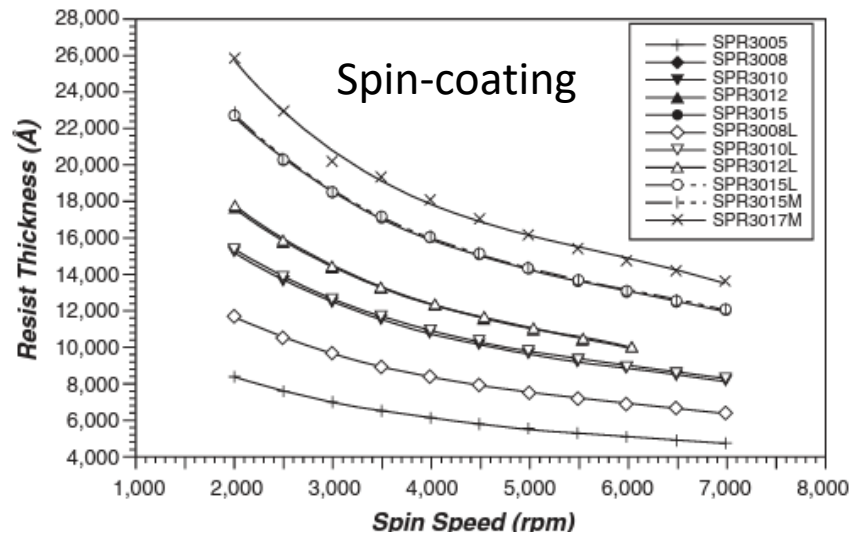
This list contains both phenomena and devices, which should be separated. E.g., spin valve can be based on GMR phenomenon, as well as on the junction of ferromagnetic insulator and superconductor:



Please, try to make selection from, to say,  
 J. Magnetism Magnetic Mater.  
 509 (2020) No 166711

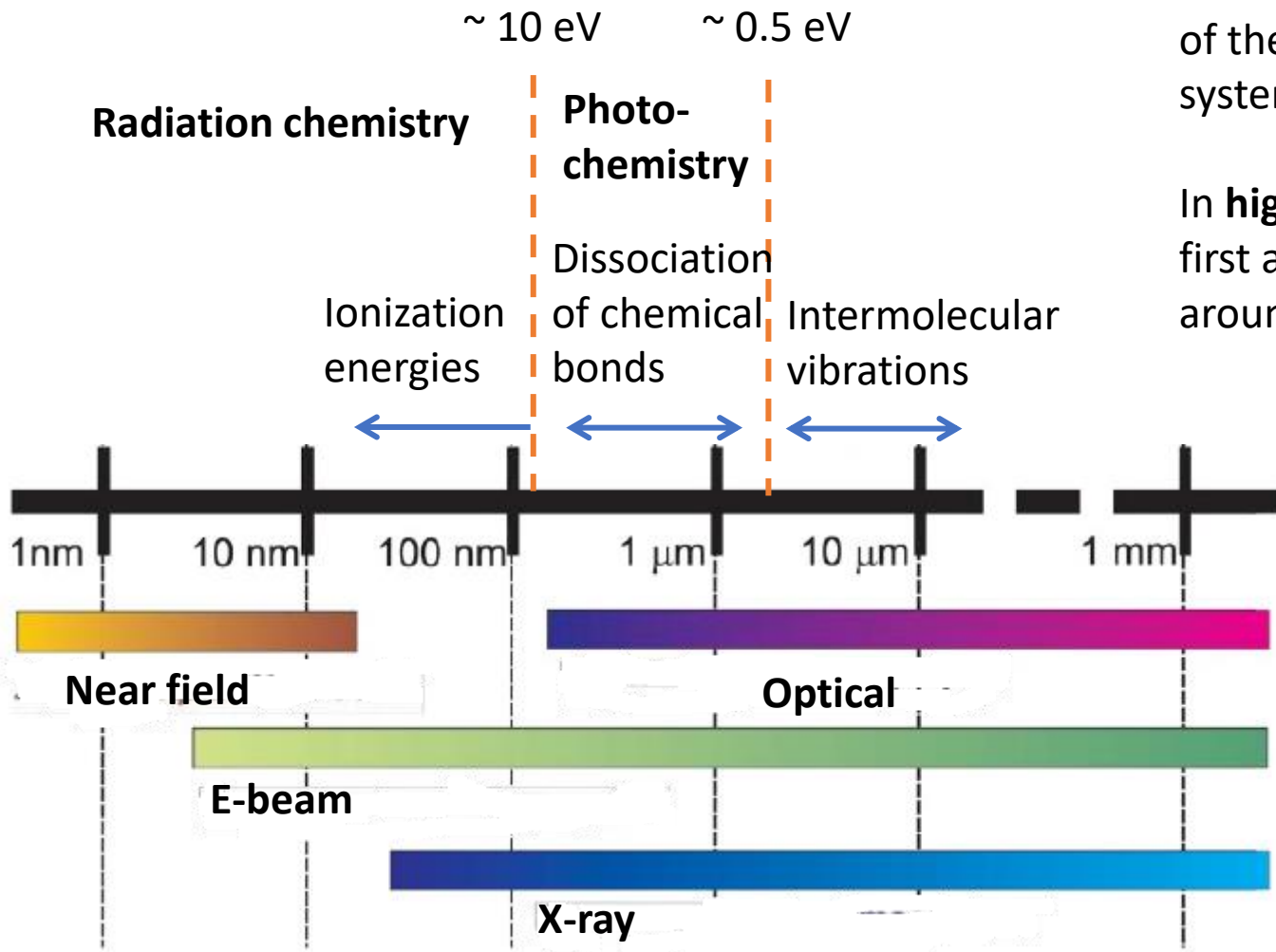


# Lithography, general scheme





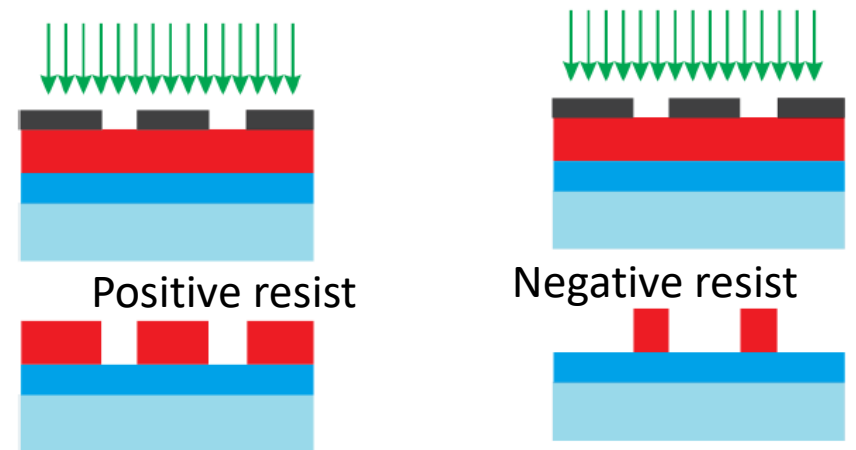
# Resolution (size of the micro/nanostructure fragments) and characteristic energy for high energy chemical events



Usual '**thermal**' chemistry operates with the energies of the order of  $kT$ . Energy is transferred to macroscopic system and distributed statistically between molecules.

In **high energy chemistry**, large portions of energy are first accepted by single molecules, and then sticks around.

Resists are the polymers which undergo photochemical or e-beam induced transformation, which increase (positive) or decrease (negative) their solubility:



# Polymers

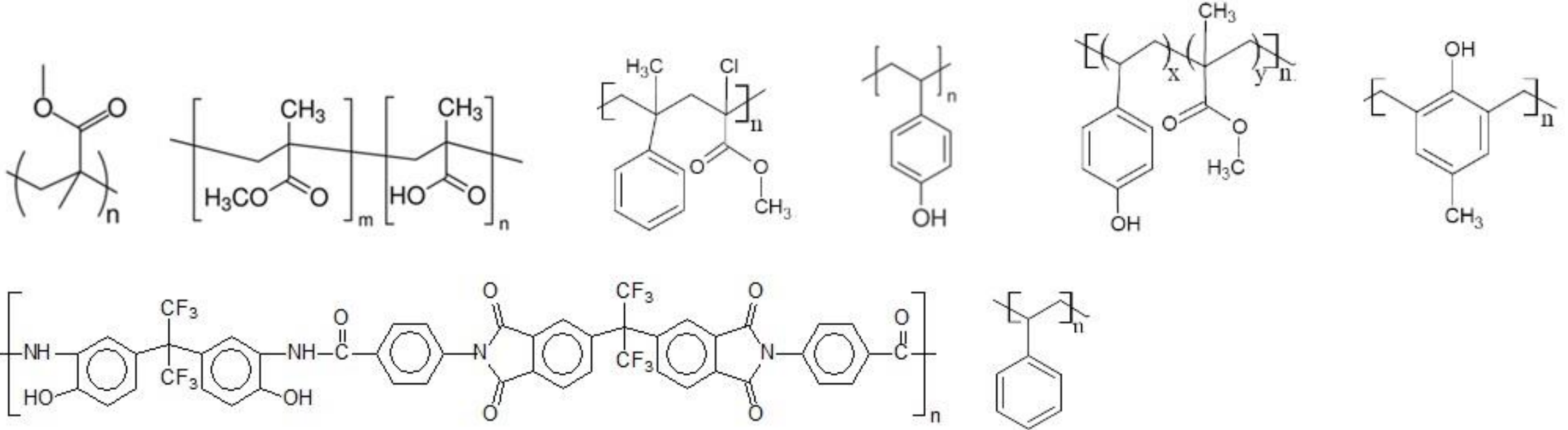
Polymerization degree  $n$  is a number of monomers.

Polydispersity index (PDI) is the ratio of average numerical and average mass molecular weights.

**Homopolymer** – the chain consists of identical units (monomers)

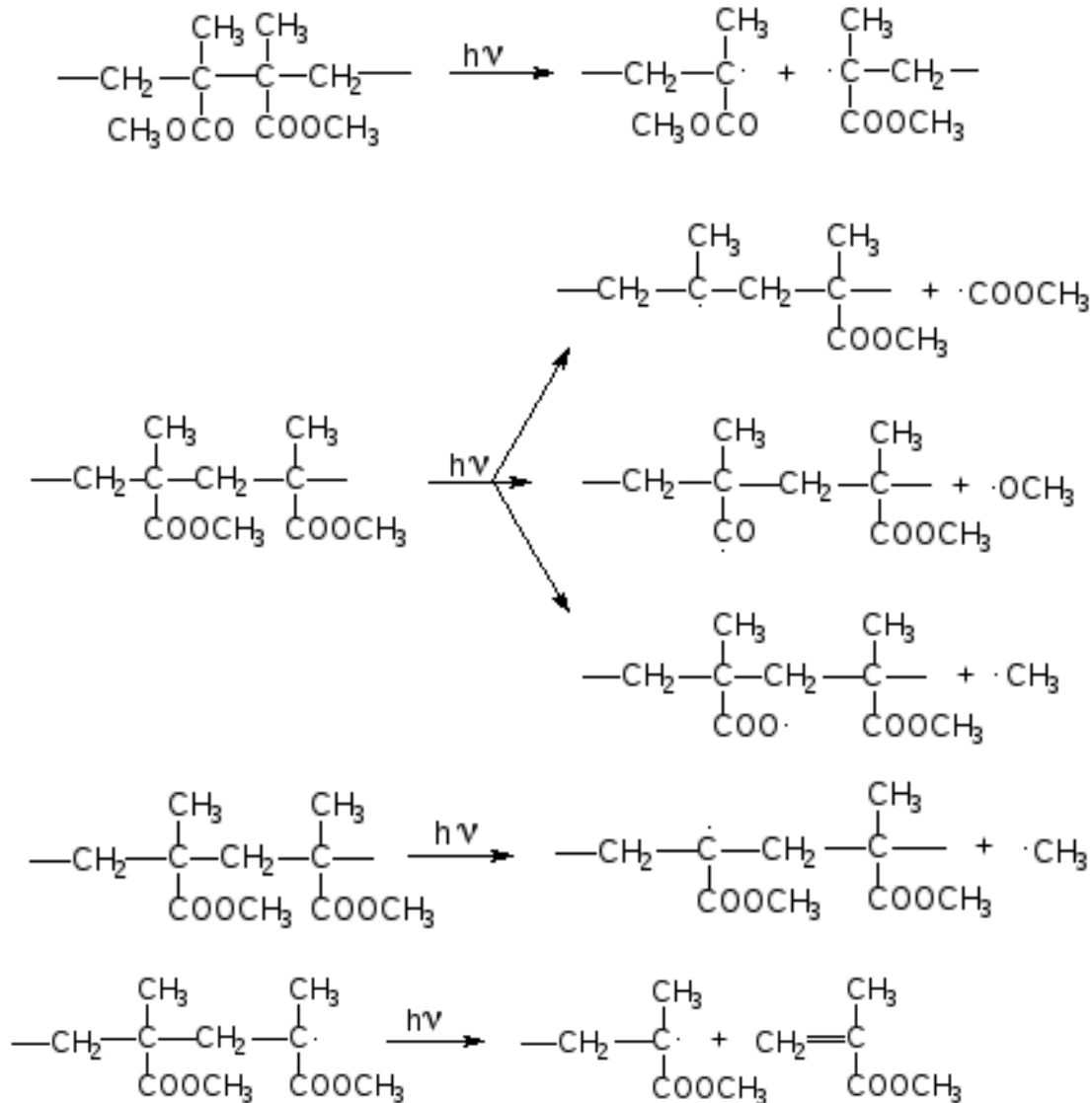
**Co-polymer** – various monomers are located one by one

**Block co-polymers** – repeated blocks of various monomers

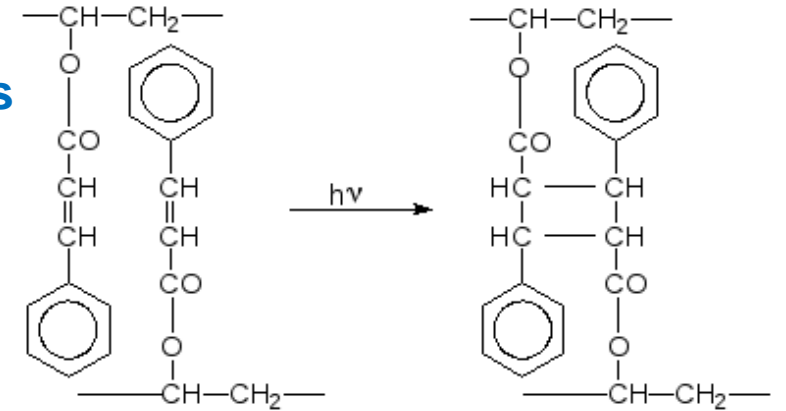


# Typical transformations of polymers under irradiation

## Positive resists

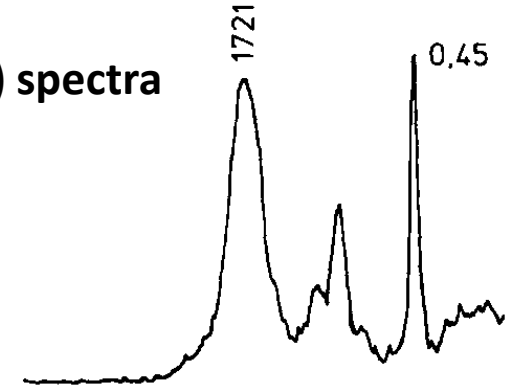


## Negative resists

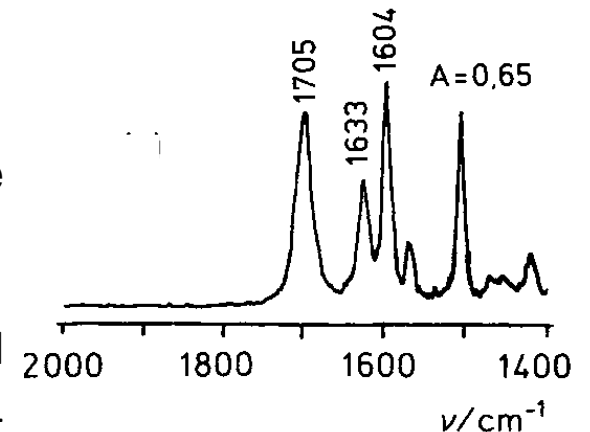


## IR (vibrational) spectra

Before exposure



After exposure

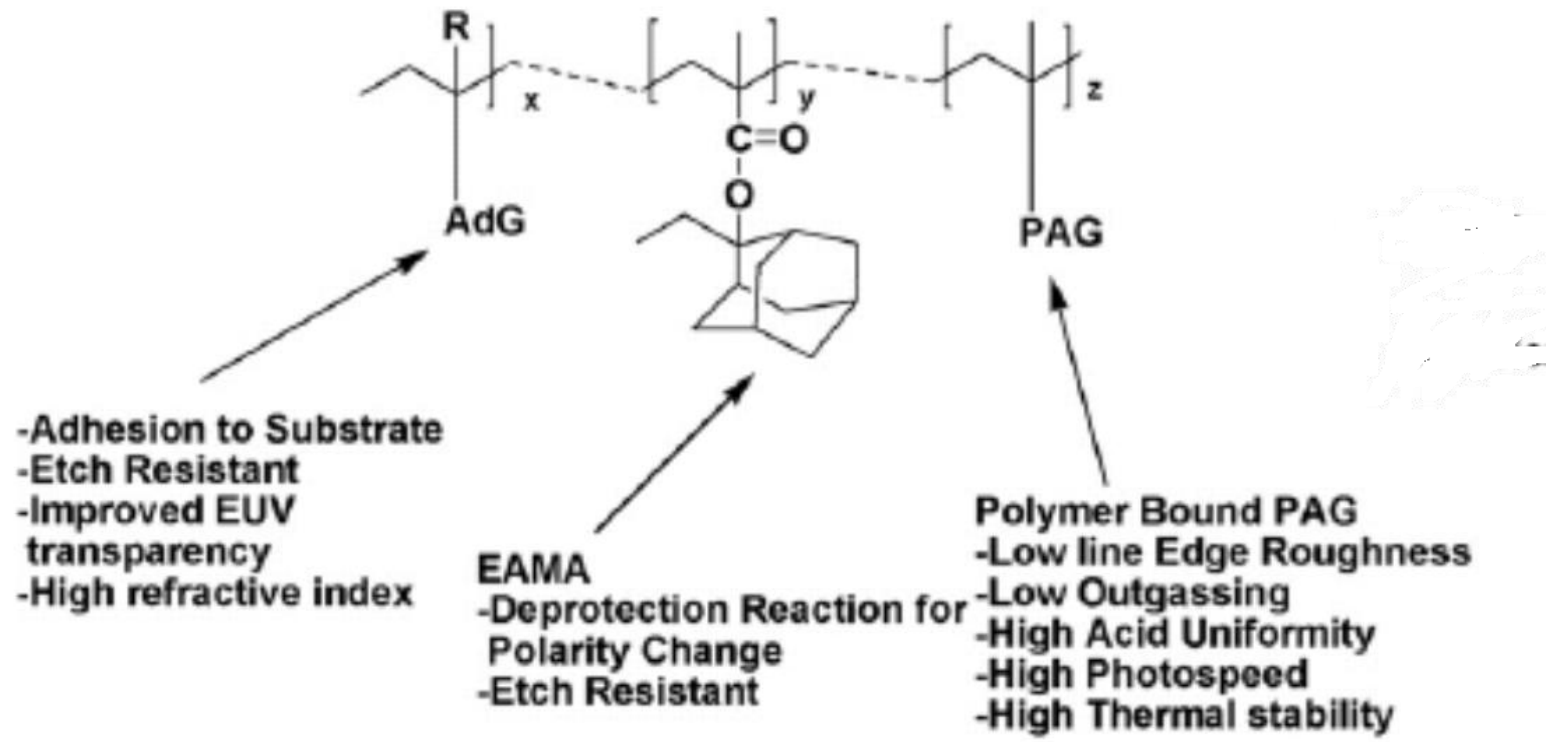
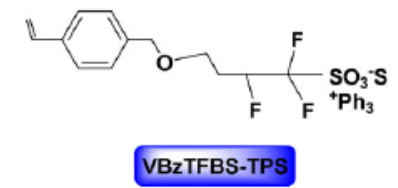
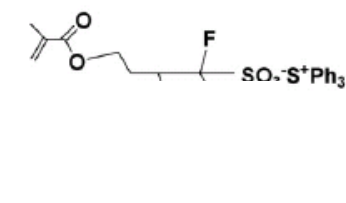
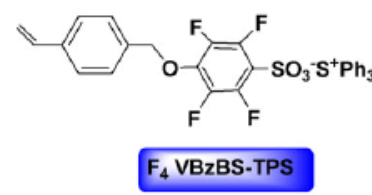


Makromol. Chem. Rapid Commun. 10 (1989) 391

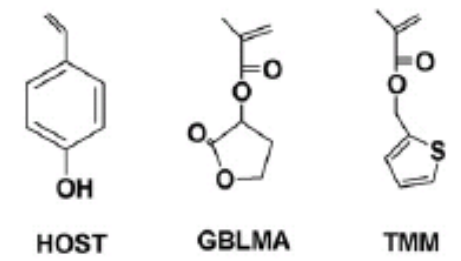
# Chemically amplified resist (CAR)

## Photoacid generator (PAG)

Can be dissolved or bonded to the polymer chain.

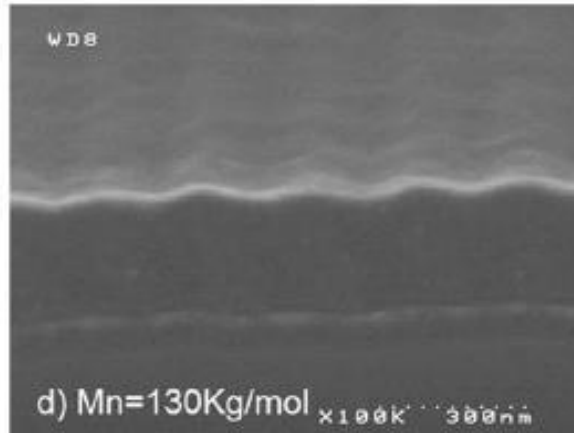
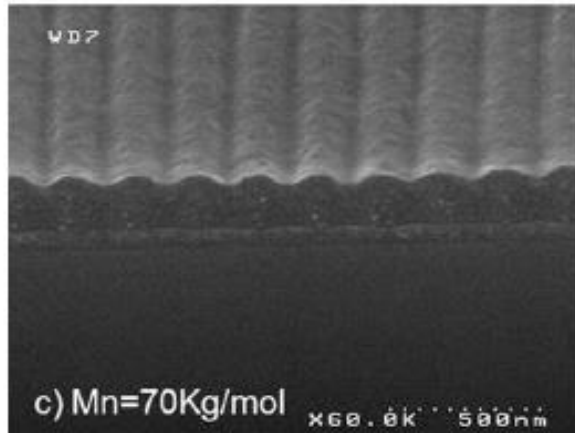
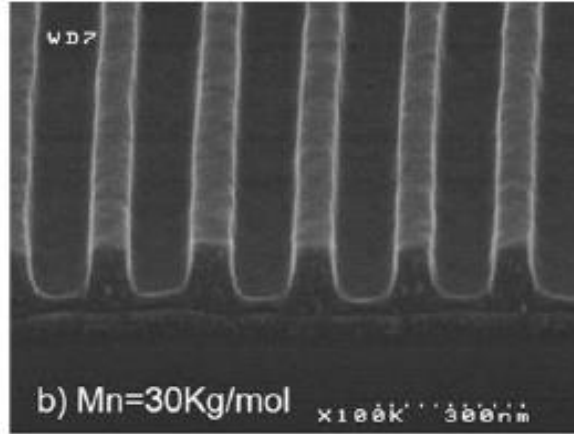
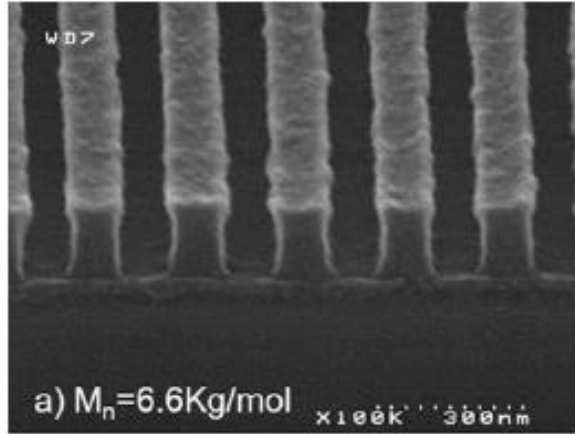


## Functional groups which improve adhesion

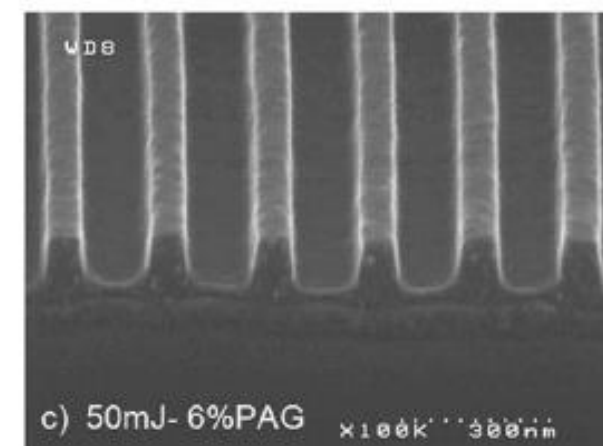
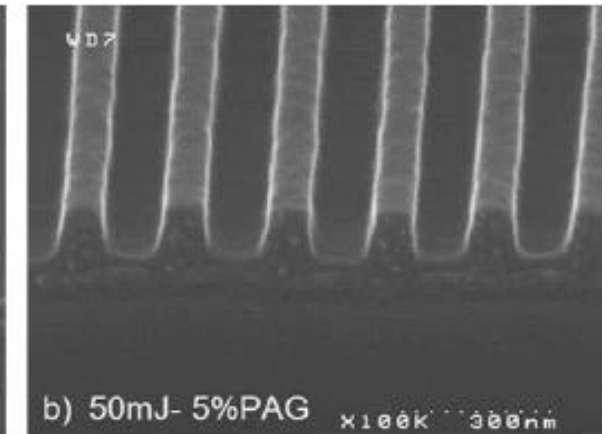
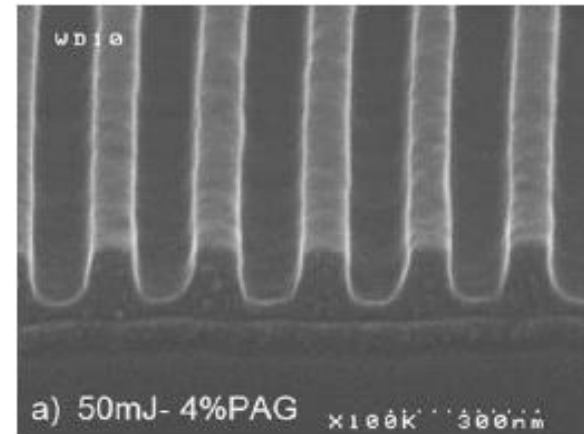


# Empiric optimization

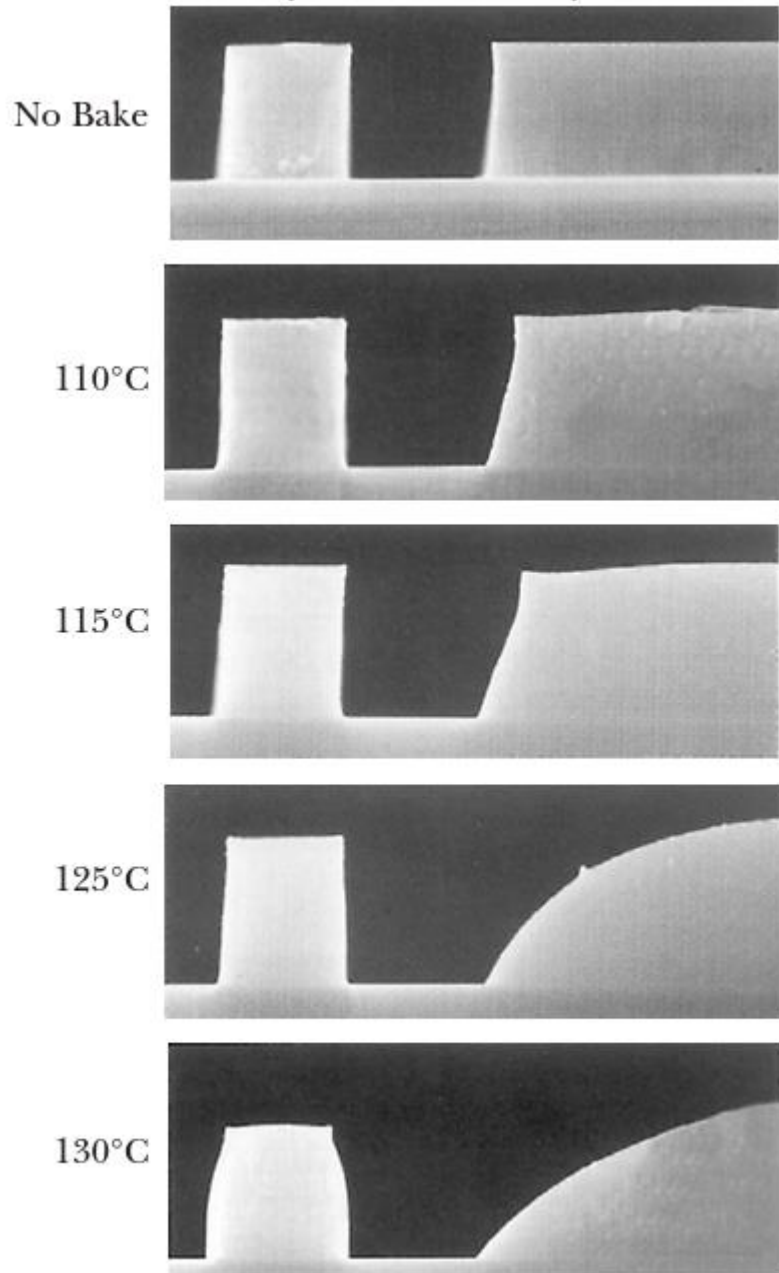
Molecular weight, 6.6 ... 130 kg/mol



PAG content, 4 ... 6 %

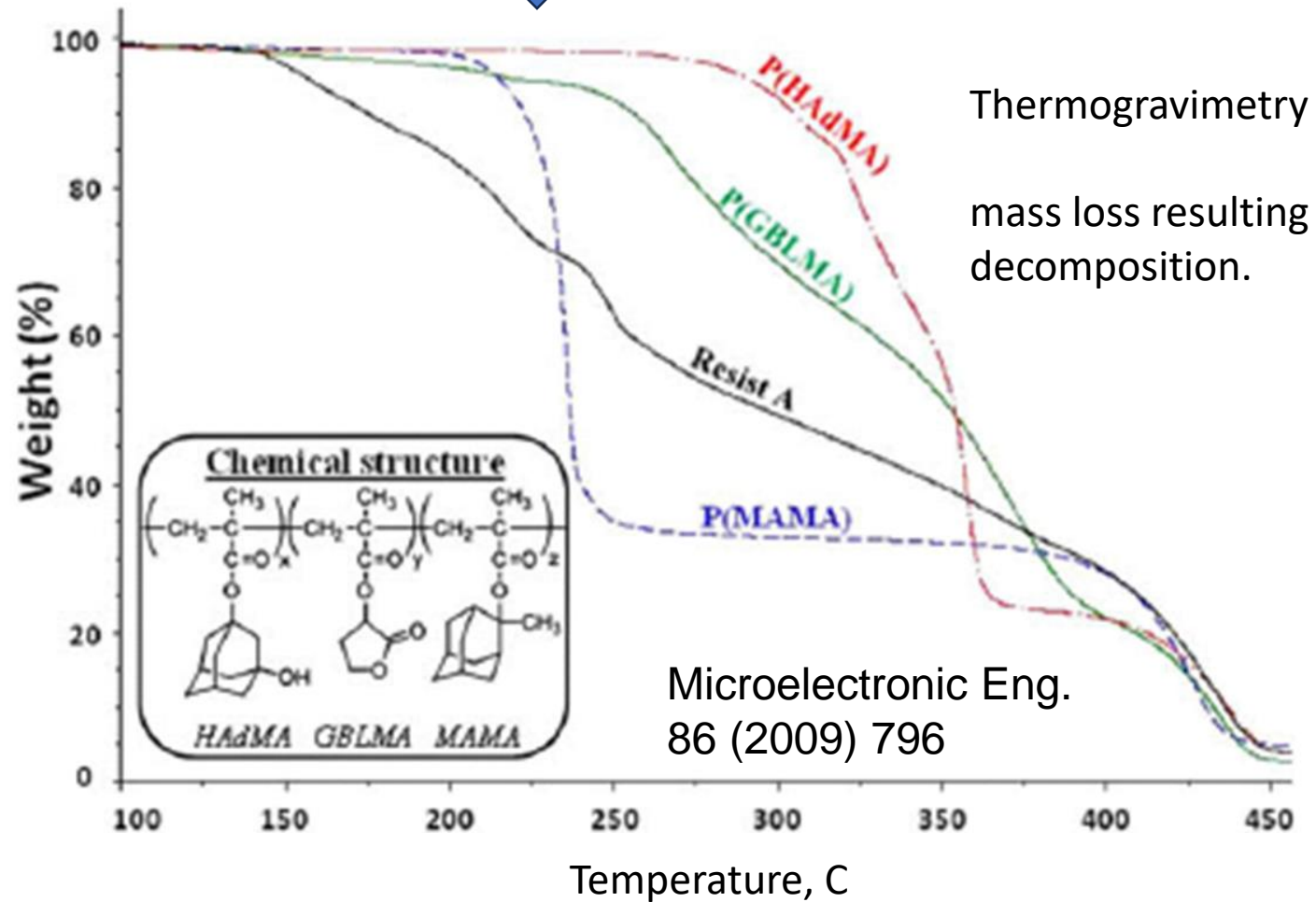


# Thermal behavior of polymers



Melting starts from transition to glass state.

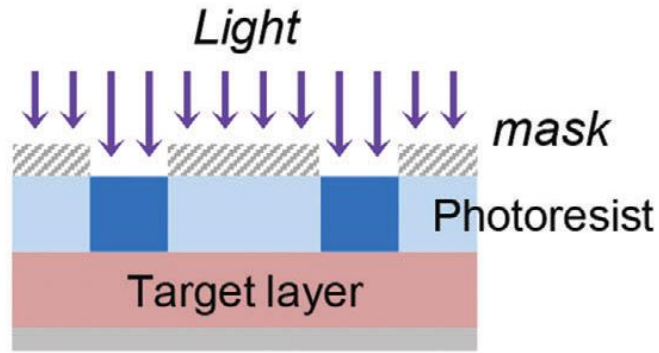
Further increase of temperature results in chemical decomposition.



Thermogravimetry (TG):  
mass loss resulting from decomposition.

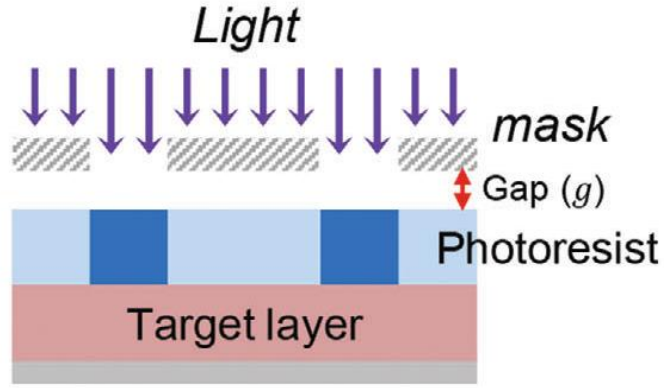
Microelectronic Eng.  
86 (2009) 796

## Contact photolithography



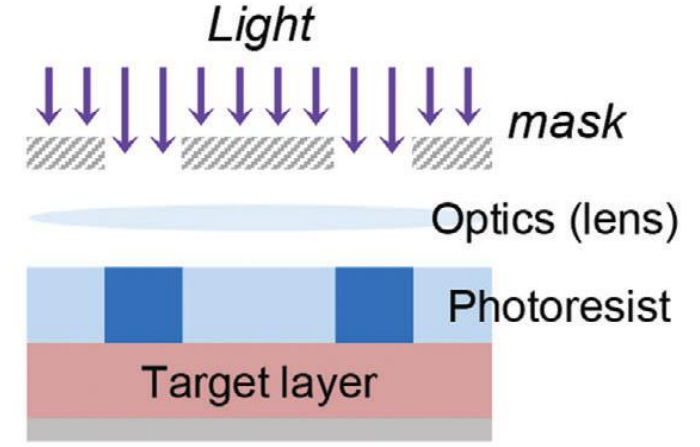
Risk of contamination

## Proximity photolithography



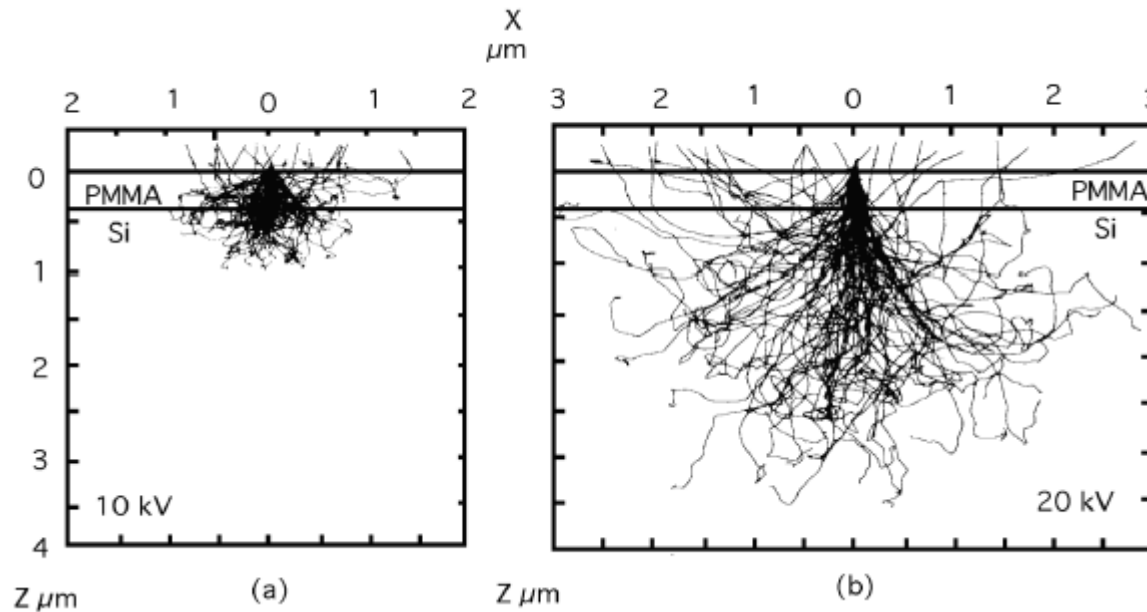
Less desirable diffraction.  
Resolution  $\sim \sqrt{\lambda g}$

## Projection photolithography



## E-beam lithography:

beam scattering results in proximity effects



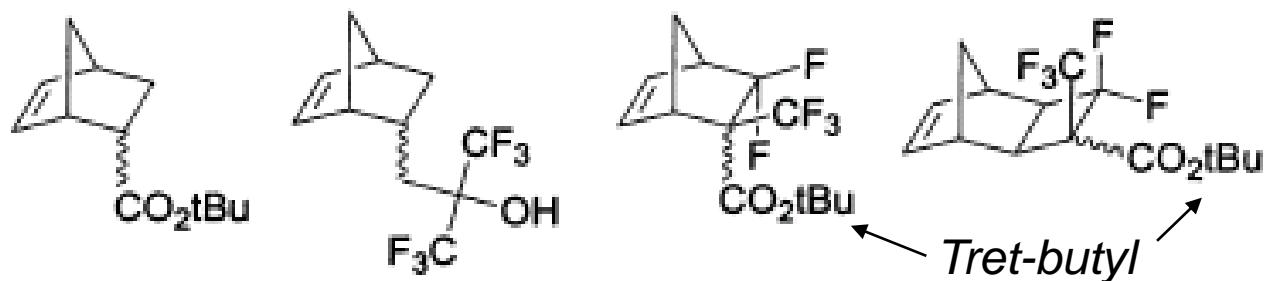
Thin-layer supports

Thin resist layers

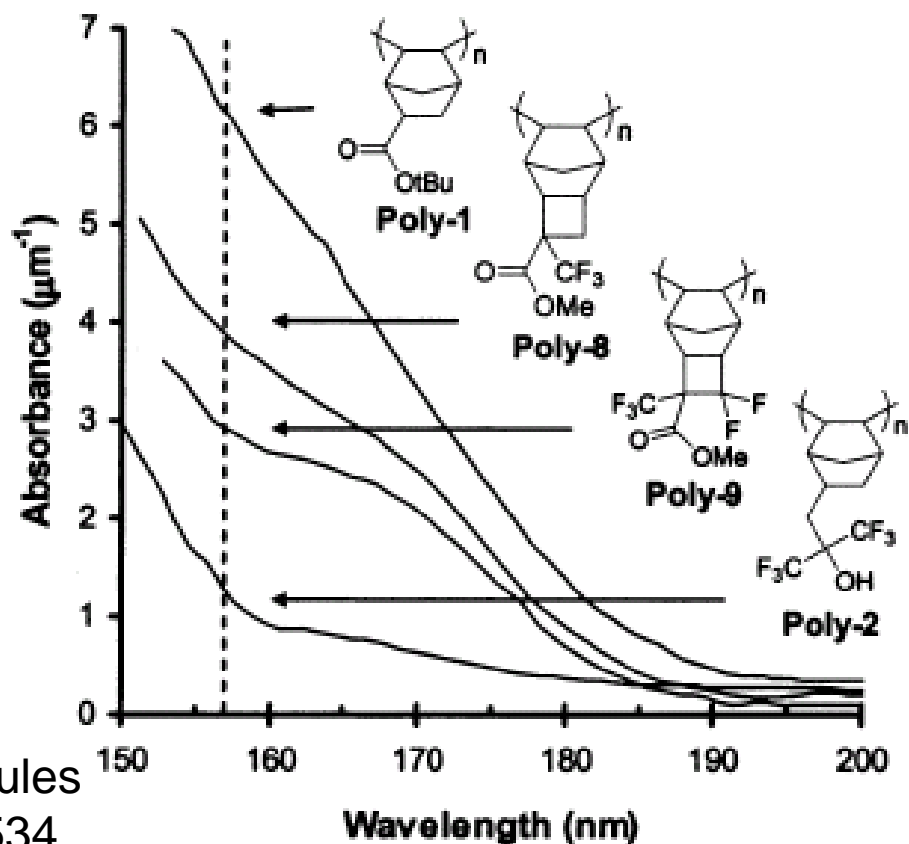
Multilayer resists



Low absorbance at short wave length is desirable



Fluor-substituted nonbornene polymers

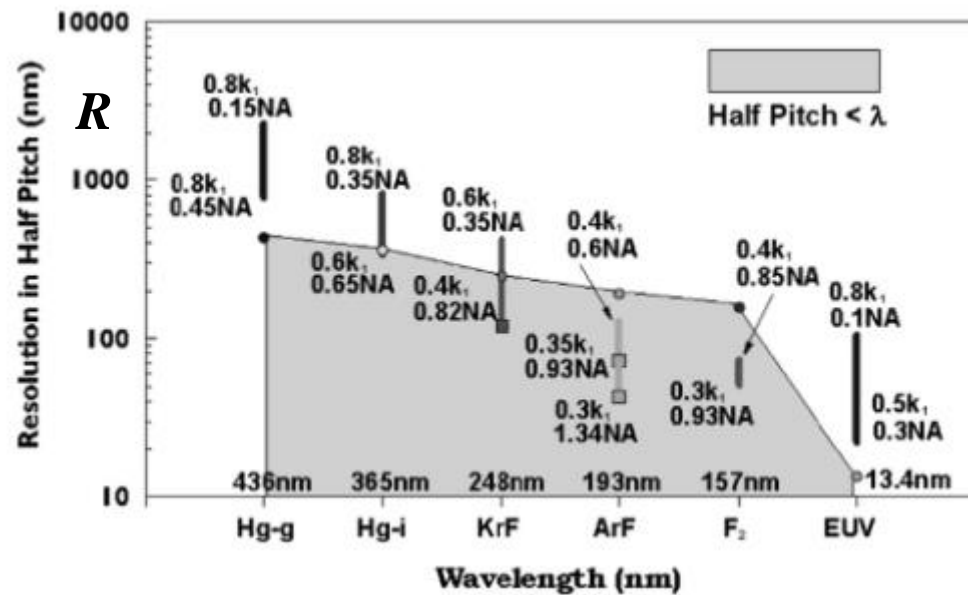
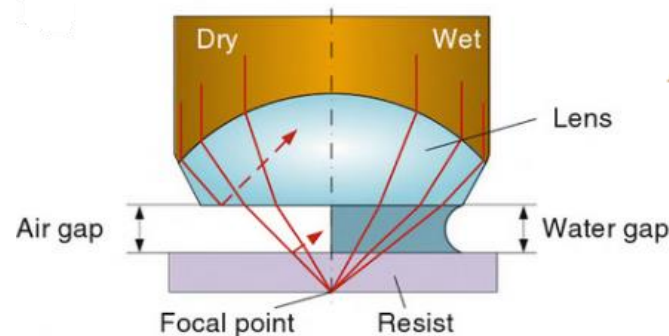


Macromolecules  
36 (2003) 1534

Numerical aperture increase:  
immersion lithography

Rayleigh equation:

$$R = k_1 \frac{\lambda_0}{n \cdot \sin \theta}$$



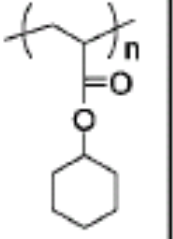
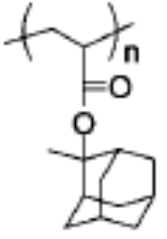
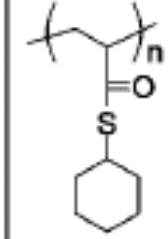
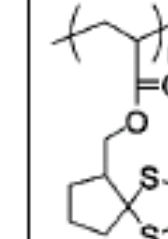
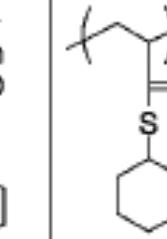
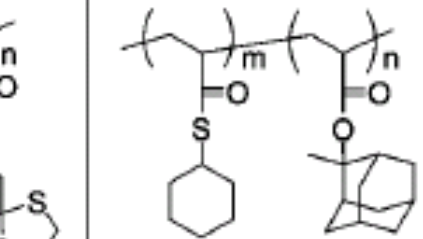
Chem. Rev. 110 (2011) 321

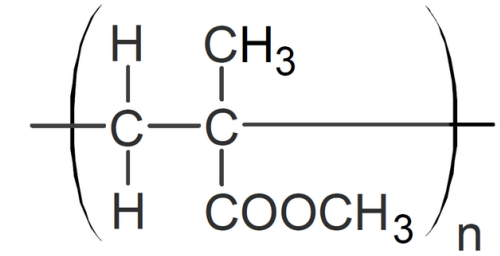


# Requirements to resists for immersion lithography

## High refractive index: S-containing polymers

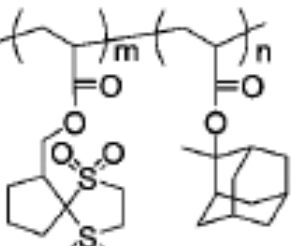
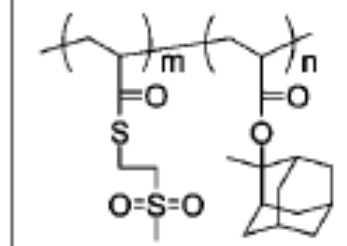
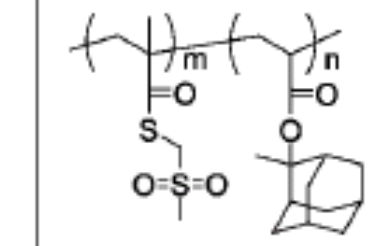
193 nm

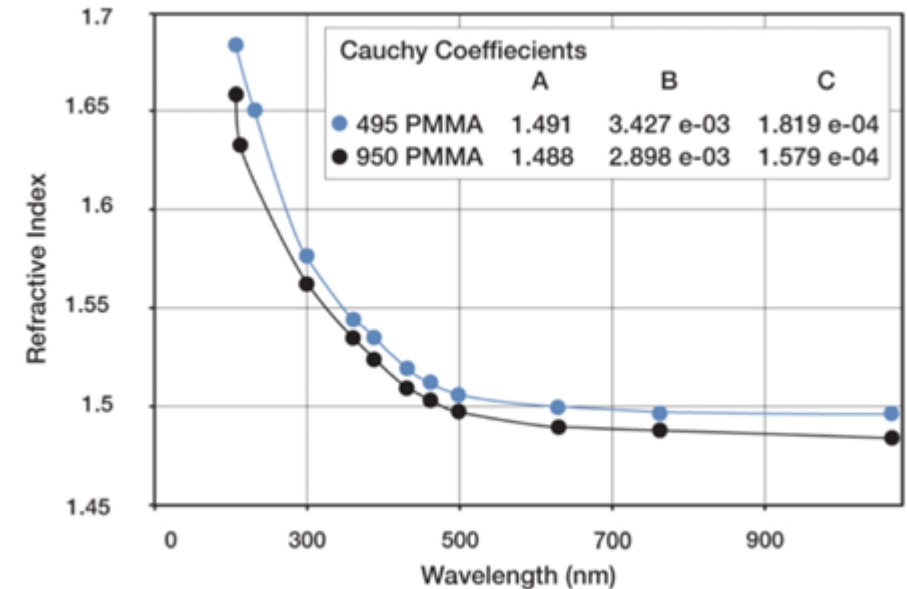
						
	<b>P1</b>	<b>P2</b>	<b>P3</b>	<b>P4</b>	<b>P5</b>	<b>P6</b>
$n_{193}$	1.66	1.73	1.84	1.84	1.94	1.78
$Abs_{193} (mm^{-1})$	0.08	0.13	3.15	3.28	5.29	1.19
S (wt%)	0	0	18.8	26.2	36.9	8.2



Polymethyl methacrylate: PMMA

Usual PMMA resist, for comparison

			
	<b>P7</b>	<b>P8</b>	<b>P9</b>
$n_{193}$	1.74	1.82	1.81
$Abs_{193} (mm^{-1})$	0.17	1.25	1.32
S (wt%)	12.1	15.5	15.5

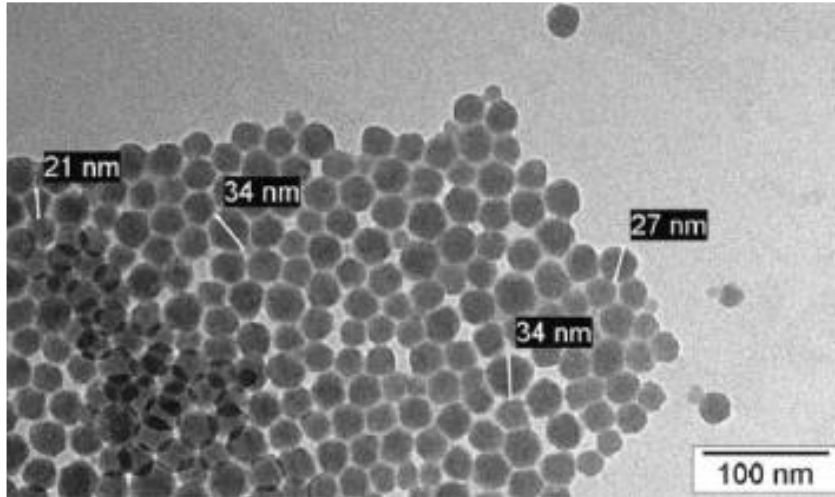


+ low swelling in liquid

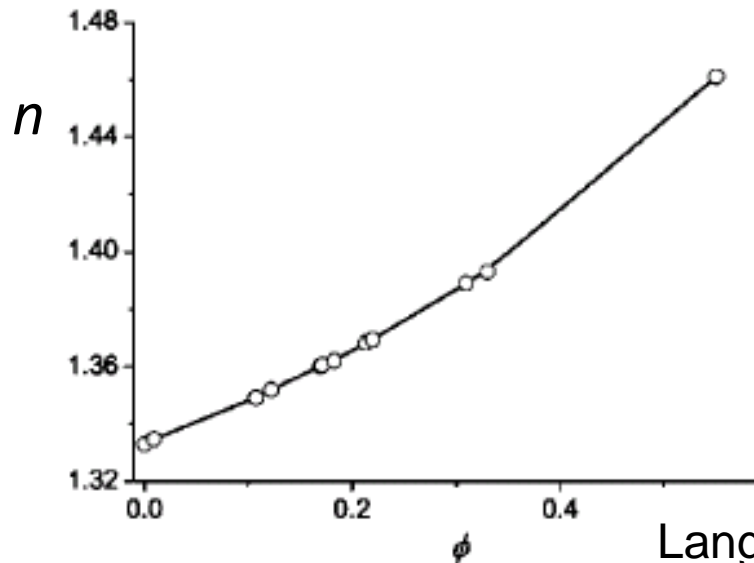
Macromolecules 41 (2008) 5674

<https://kayakuam.com>

# 'Nanofluids' as a medium for immersion lithography



SiO<sub>2</sub> and ZrO<sub>2</sub> colloid particles can be applied



Langmuir 25 (2009) 2390

$$\frac{n^2 - 1}{n^2 + 2} = \frac{n_p^2 - 1}{n_p^2 + 2} \phi + \frac{n_0^2 - 1}{n_0^2 + 2} (1 - \phi)$$

$$n = n_0 + \phi(n_p - n_0)$$

Refraction index

Particles (p) content  
in suspension

Solvent refraction index

Turbidity

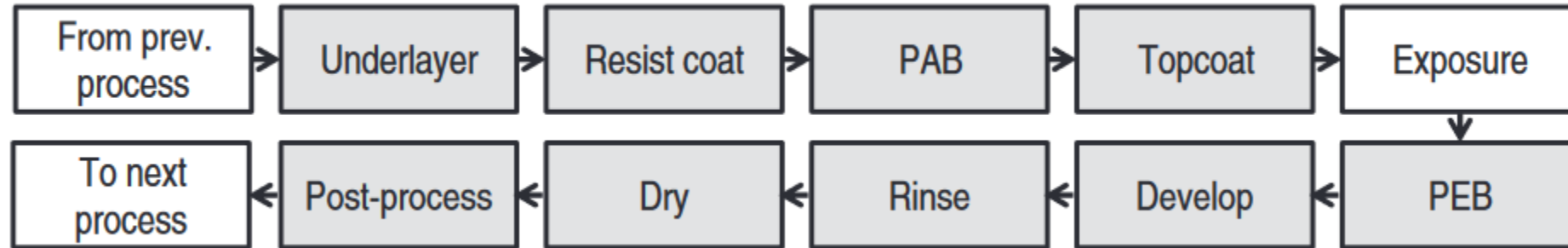
$$\tau = \frac{4}{9} \pi^4 \sigma^3 \frac{(n^2 - n_0^2)^2}{\phi \lambda^4}$$

Resolution:

# Extreme ultraviolet lithography (EUVL)

- line width roughness
- line edge roughness

Jap. J. Appl. Phys. 52(2013) 010002

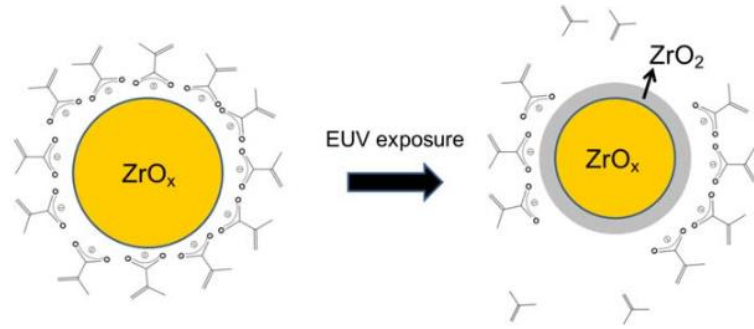


PEB = post-exposure bake

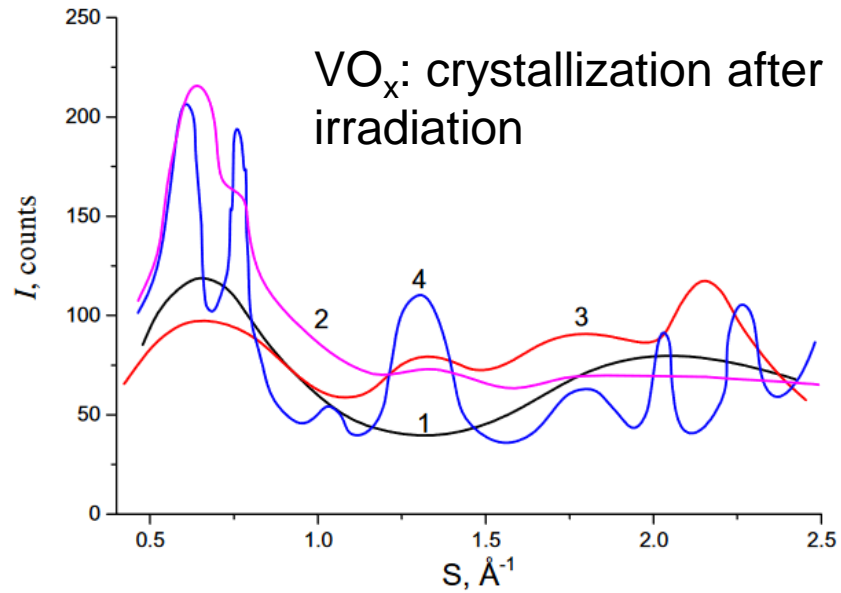
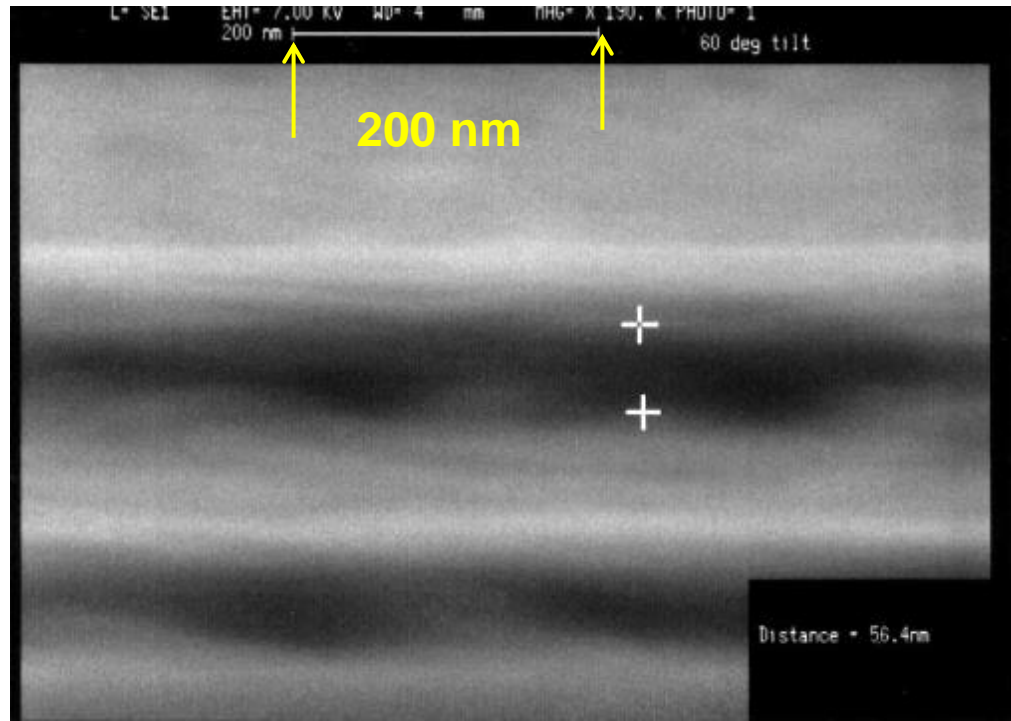
## Wetting problem

Rinse solution	45nm L/S	35nm L/S	32nm L/S	30nm L/S	28nm L/S	26nm L/S
water D.I.W. (reference)						
Alternative rinse						

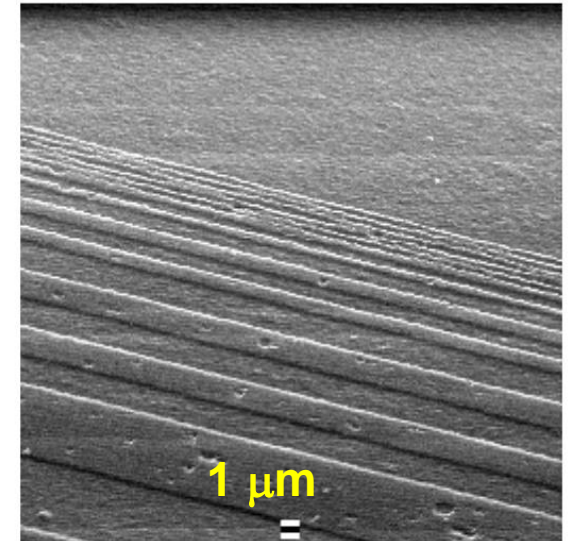
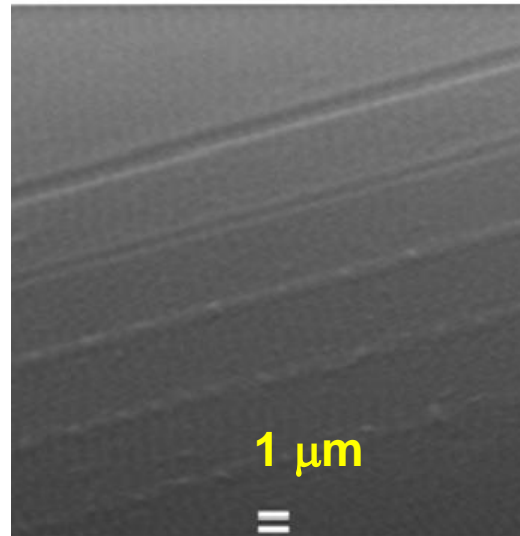
# Inorganic resists with increased sensitivity



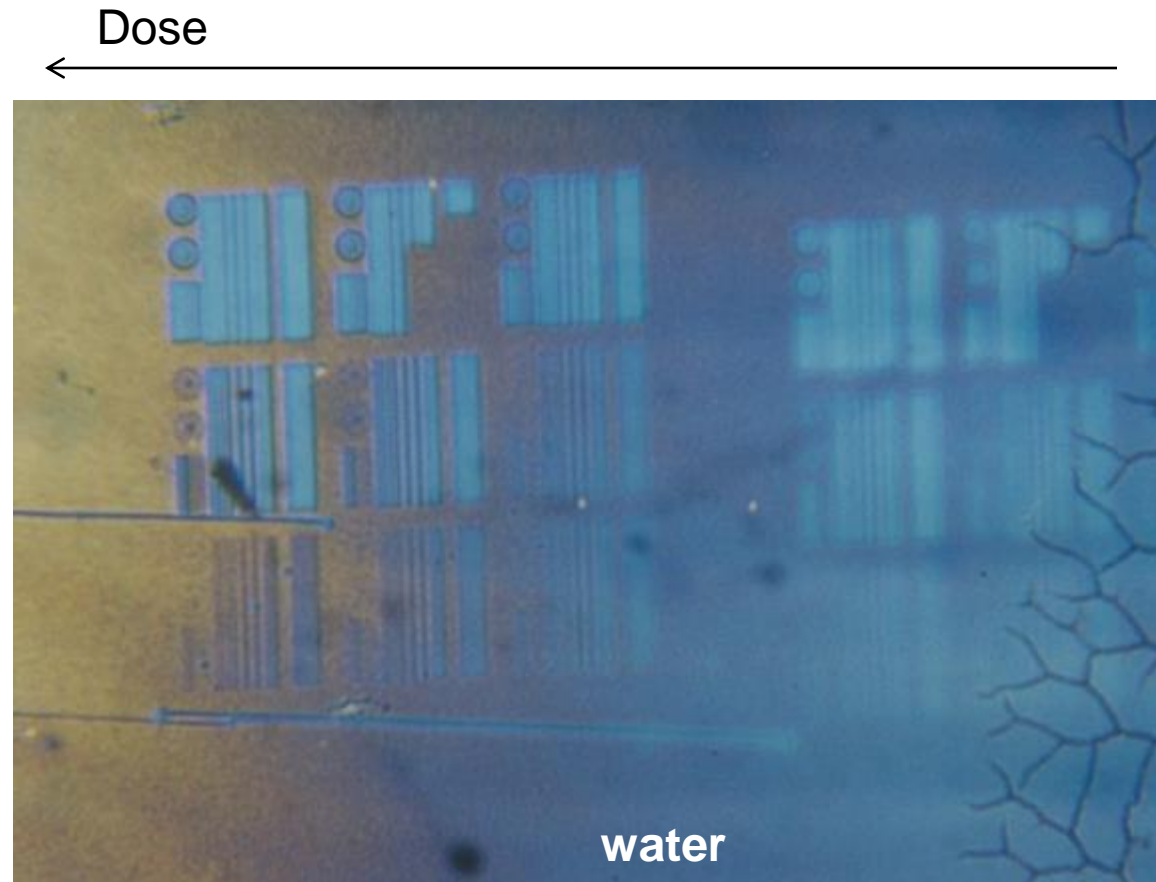
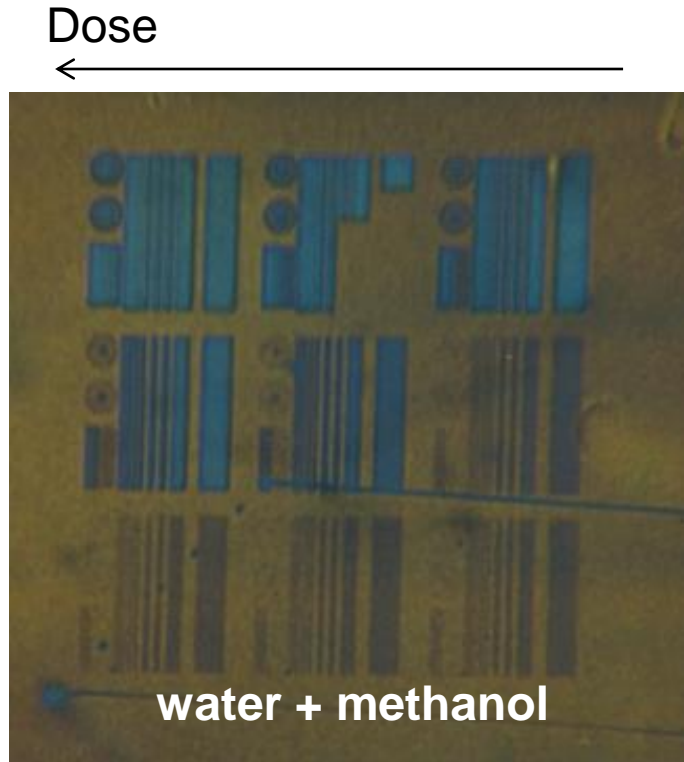
Jap. J. Appl. Physics 58 (2019) SDDC01  
(optical lithography)



Surface Review and Letters, (2018) 1850118  
(e-beam lithography)



# Inorganic water-soluble resist: non-stoichiometric vanadium oxide

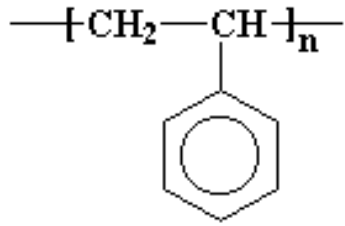


Surface Review and Letters, (2018) 1850118

Composition	Selectivity	Uniformity	Etching rate control	Rate of low oxide etching
Water	High	Low	Temperature	High
Methanol/water	Low	High	Water concentration	Moderate
Formic acid	Moderate	High	Temperature	High
Ethanol/HClO <sub>4</sub>	High	High	HClO <sub>4</sub> concentration	Moderate
Water/potassium hydrogen phthalate		High	Salt concentration	Low

# Block-copolymers (maskless process):

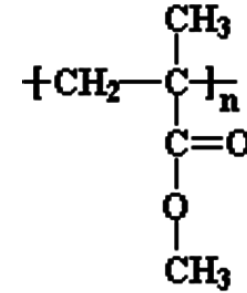
selective etching of certain type of blocks



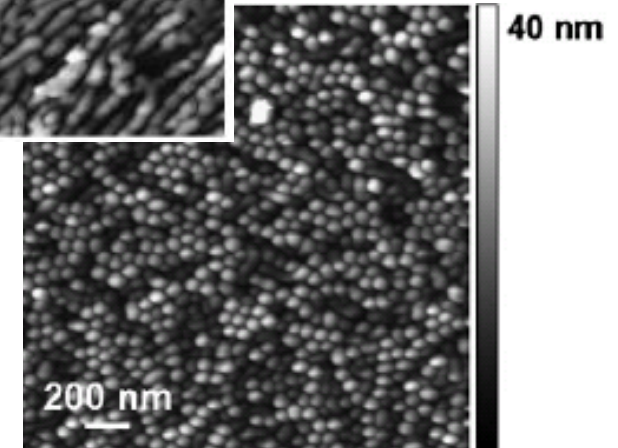
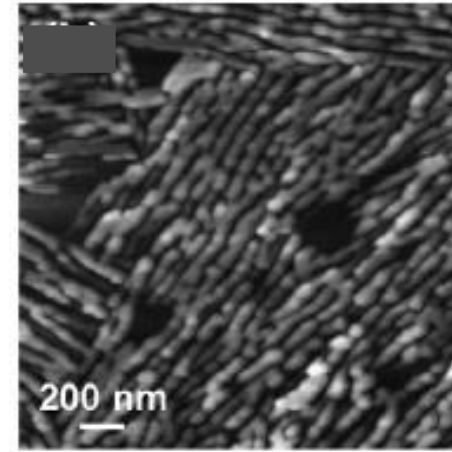
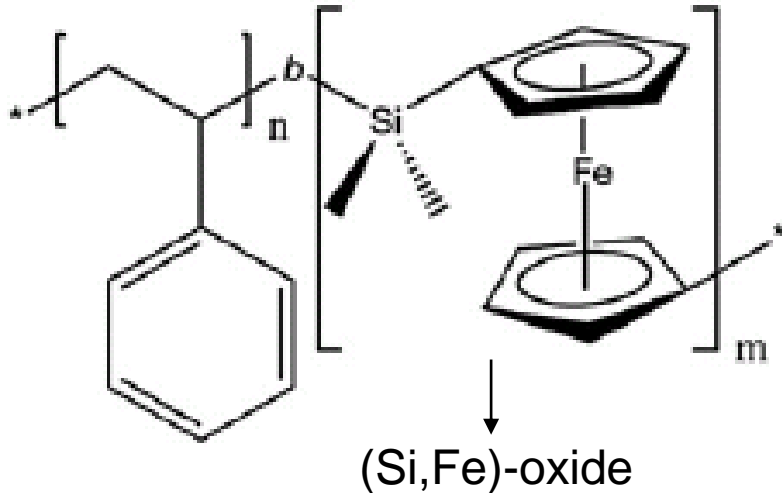
polystyrene

## PS-b-PMMA: poly(styrene-block-methyl metacrylate)

(PS и PMMA etching rates in oxygen plasma 1.5:1)



## PS-b-PFS: poly(styrene-block-ferrocenyl silane)

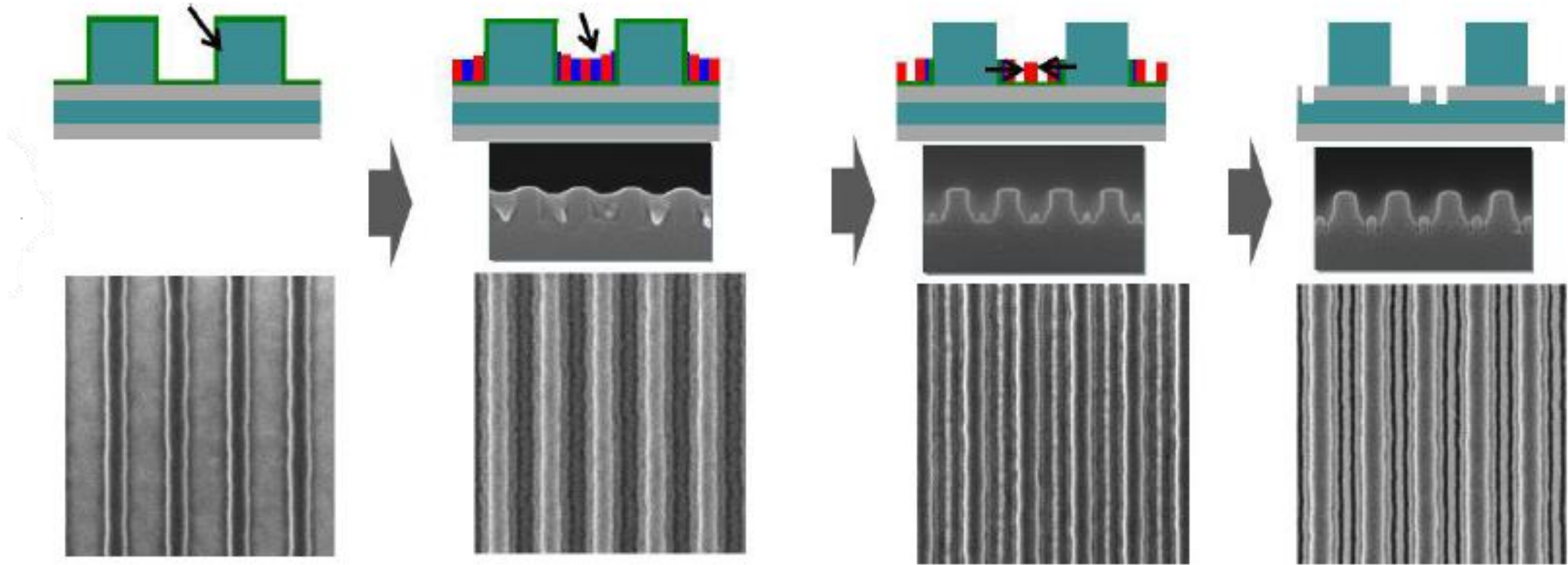


Thin Solid Films  
517 (2009) 4474

Neutral layer (NL)

Block copolymers (BCP)

10 nm



Proc. SPIE 9777 (2015) 97771T-1

## **Lithography (excluding that in probe microscopes configuration): books and reviews**

- Introduction to Microlithography (editors L.F. Thompson, C.G. Willson, M.J. Bowden), ACS, 1994.
- S. Nonogaki, U. Takumi, T. Ito, Microlithography Fundamentals in Semiconductor Devices and Fabrication Technology, Taylor & Francis, 1998
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- A. Spaeth, Additive Nano-Lithography with Focused Soft X-rays: Basics, Challenges, and Opportunities, Micromachines 10 (2019) No 834.
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