



**Microsanj**

The Future of Thermal Imaging

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# **Submicron Device Level Thermal Characterization for Photonics and Power MMICs**

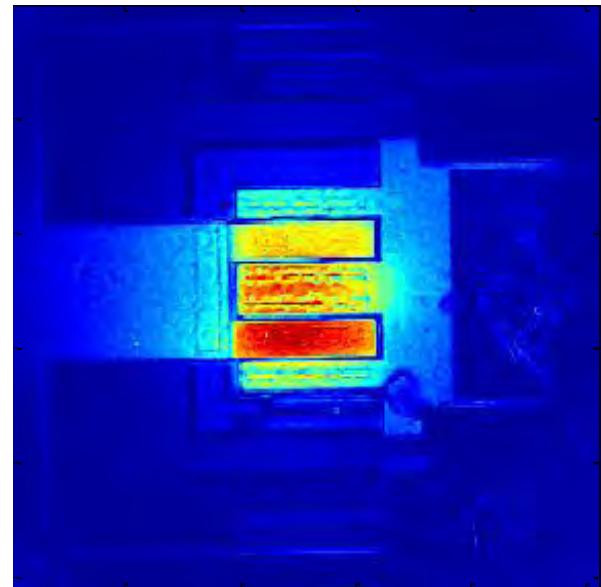
Amir Koushyar Ziabari  
Purdue University

On behalf of Dustin Kendig

3287 Kifer Rd  
Santa Clara, CA 95051  
[info@microsanj.com](mailto:info@microsanj.com)

# Key Features

- ✓ Superior submicron spatial resolution for more accurate peak temperature measurements (**250nm**)
- ✓ High temperature resolution (**<0.1 °C**) with lock-in
- ✓ High speed transient imaging (**800ps/50ns options**)
- ✓ Through-the-Substrate imaging
- ✓ Low cost with high performance





# Microsanj

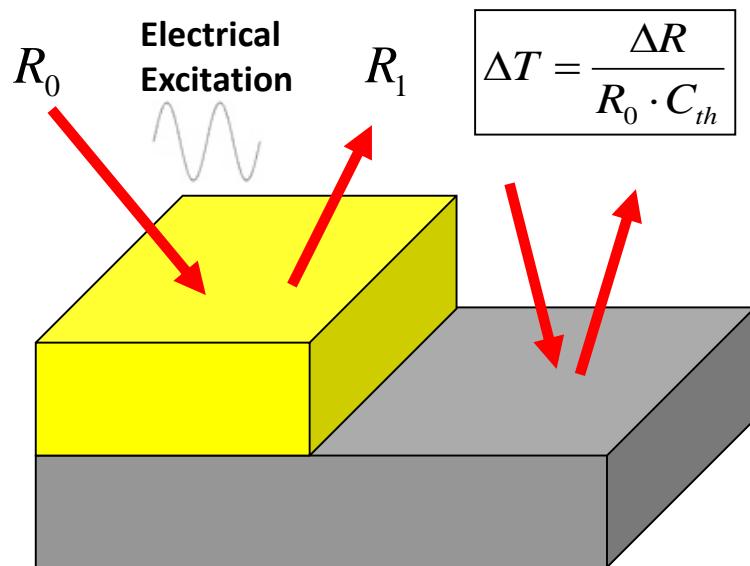
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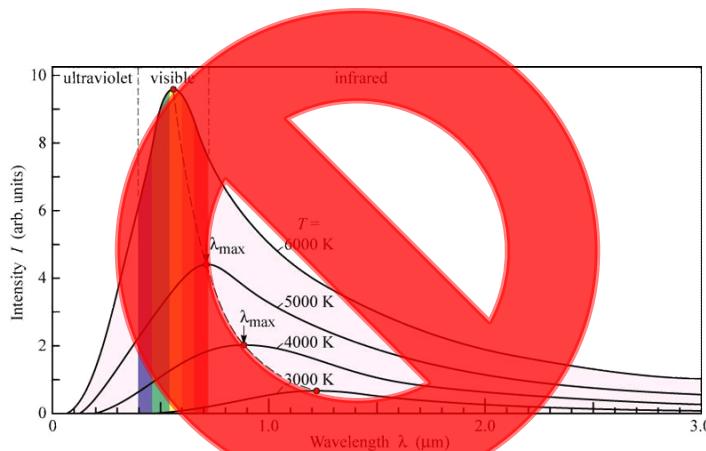
## □ Basic Principles of Thermoreflectance Imaging

- Measurement for HEMT Transistor
- Transient measurements
- GaN High Power Amplifiers
- ESD protection devices
- Failure Analysis (FA) HotSpot detection
- Vias and Interconnects
- Optoelectronics (Photodiodes, Solar Cells, LEDs, and Lasers)
- Power amplifiers
- Sub-diffraction thermoreflectance thermal imaging
- Summary

# Thermoreflectance



- Thermoreflectance is the change in reflected light due to a change in temperature.
- 250nm Spatial Resolution
- 800ps Time Resolution
- <0.1C Temperature Resolution

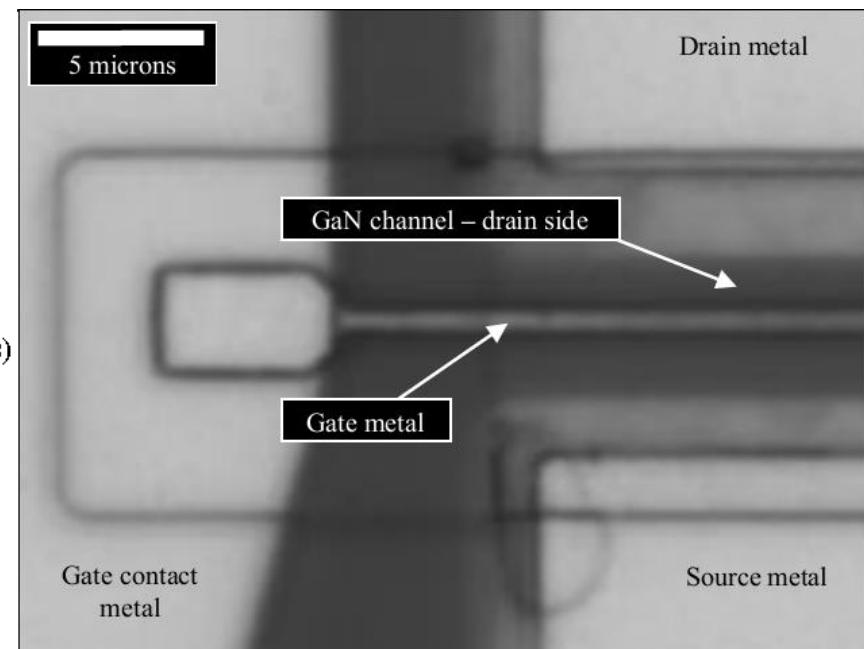
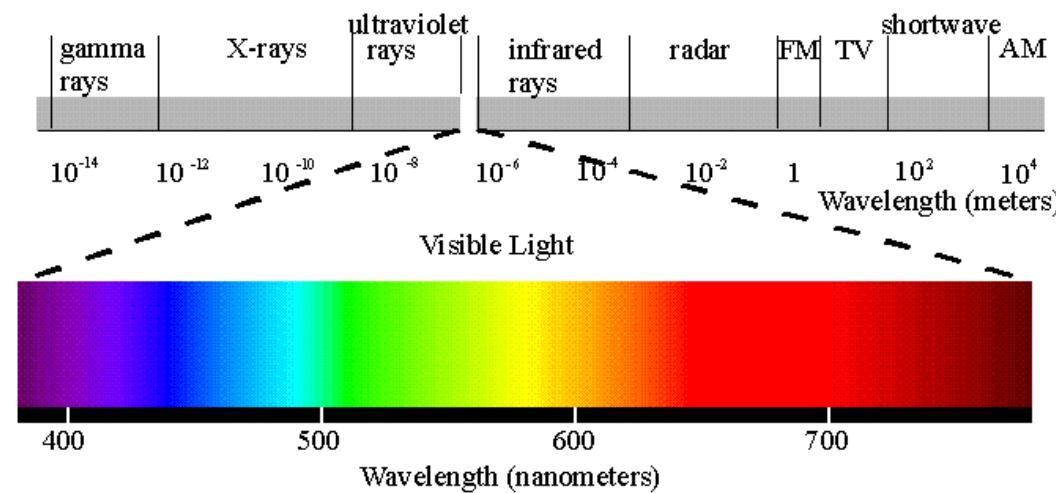


**Thermoreflectance is not based on black-body radiation**

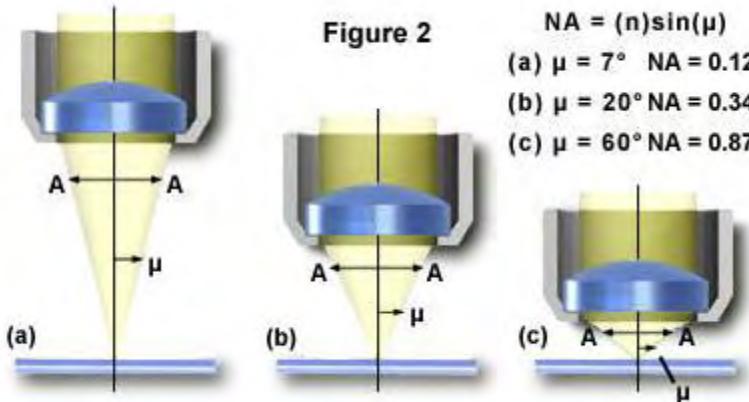
# Diffraction Limited Spatial Resolution

$$R \approx \frac{\lambda}{2 NA}$$

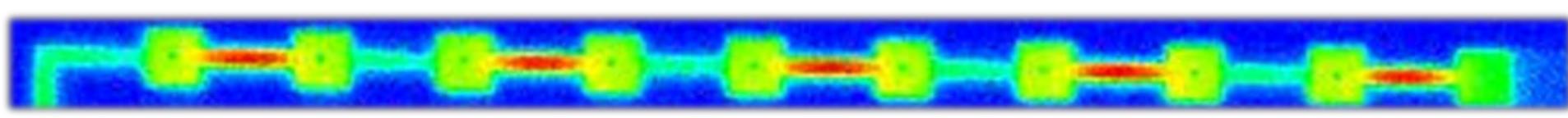
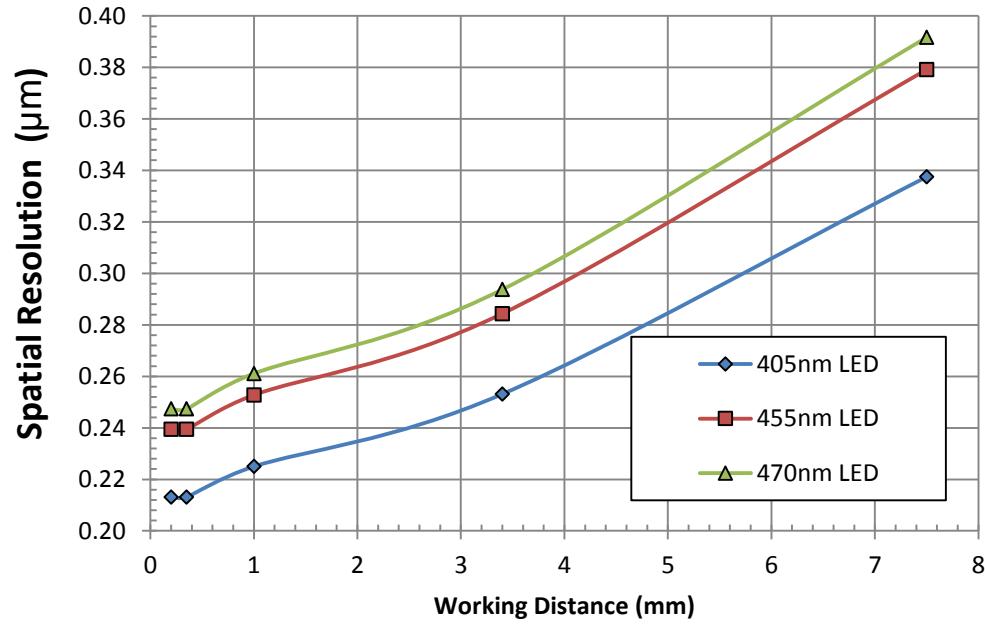
~260 nm for 470 nm light & 0.9 NA



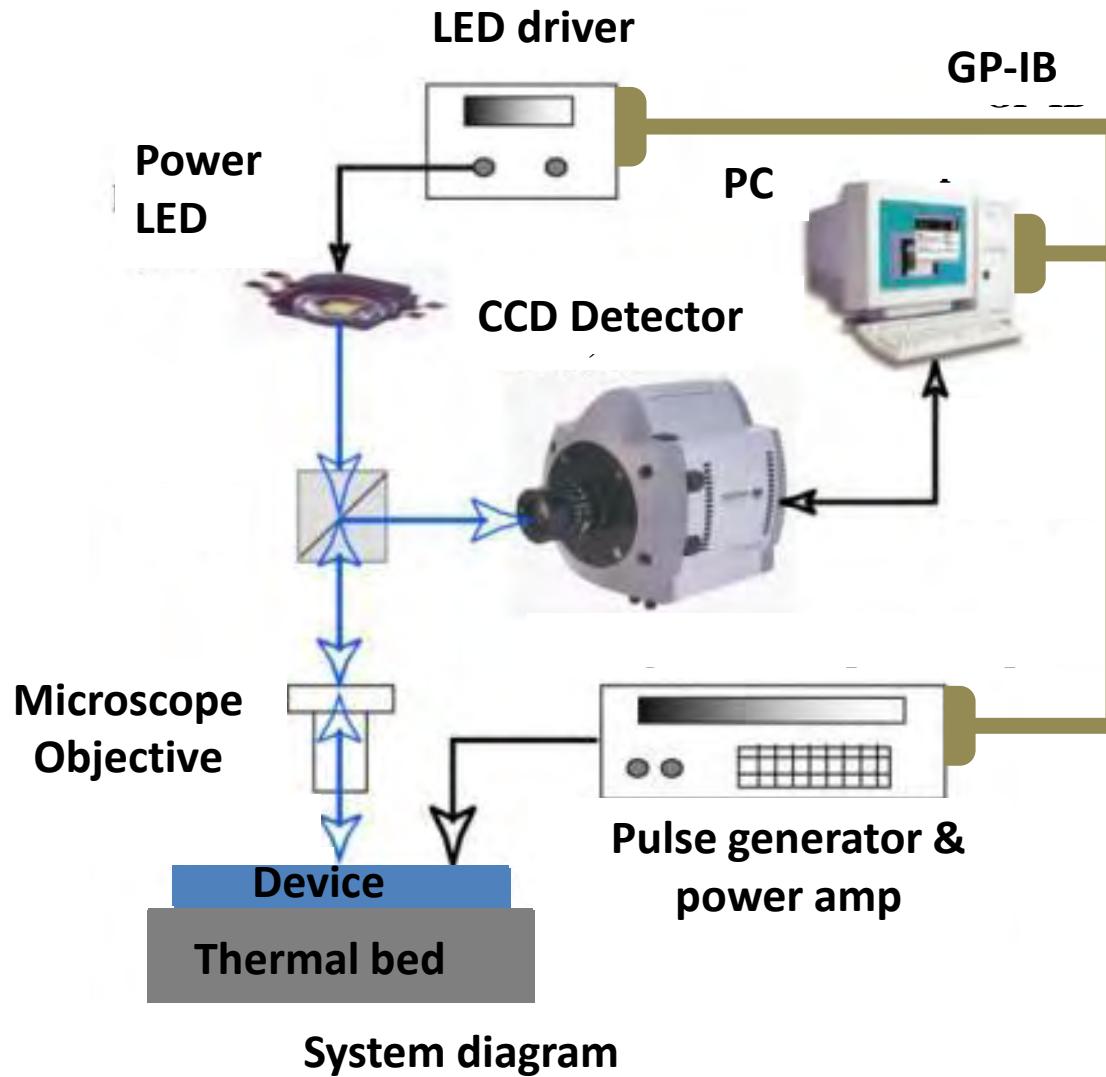
# Spatial Resolution and Working Distance



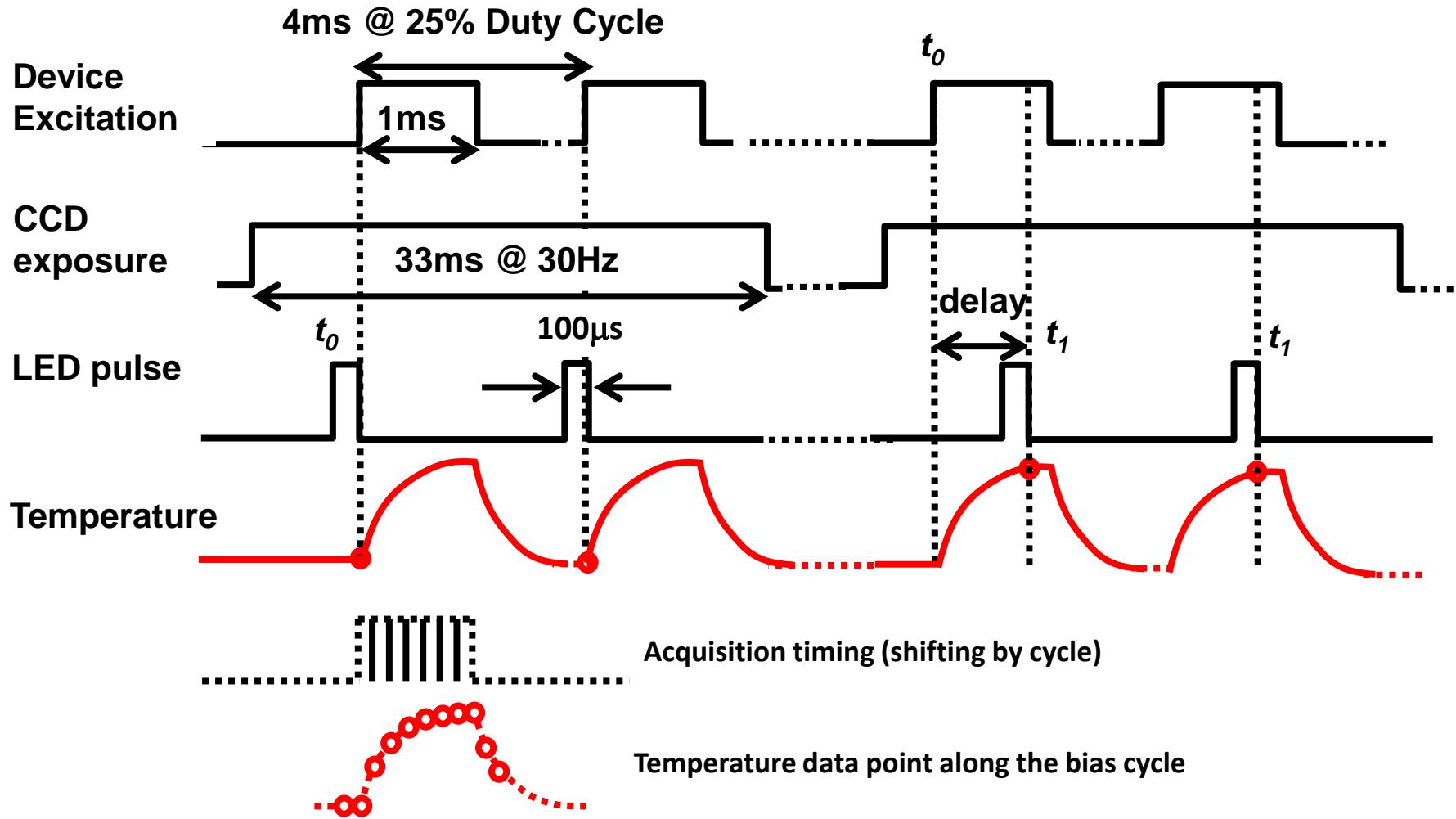
	N.A.	Working Distance (mm)	Abbe Optical Resolution ( $\mu\text{m}$ )		
			405nm LED	455nm LED	470nm LED
SLMPLN 100x	0.6	<b>7.5</b>	0.34	<b>0.38</b>	0.39
LMPLFLN 100x	0.8	<b>3.4</b>	0.25	<b>0.28</b>	0.29
MPLFLN 100x	0.9	<b>1.0</b>	0.23	<b>0.25</b>	0.26
MPLAPON 100x	0.95	<b>0.35</b>	0.21	0.24	0.25
UMPlan FI 100x	0.95	0.2	0.21	0.24	0.25



# How it works -Thermoreflectance



# Phase-Locked Timing Signals

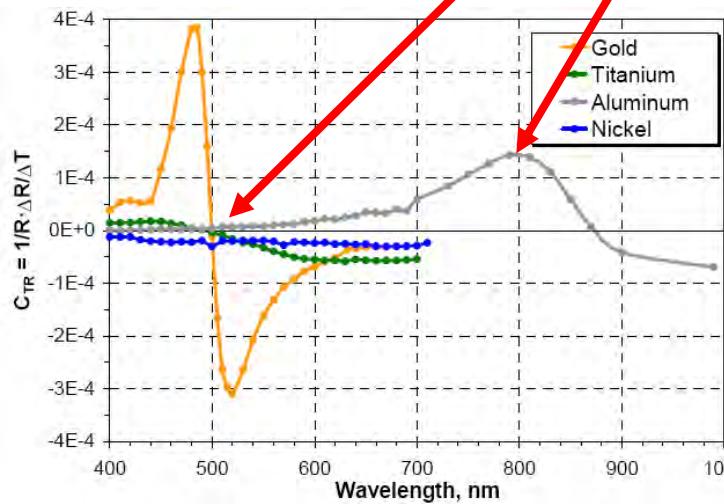


# Dependencies of the Thermorelectance Coefficient

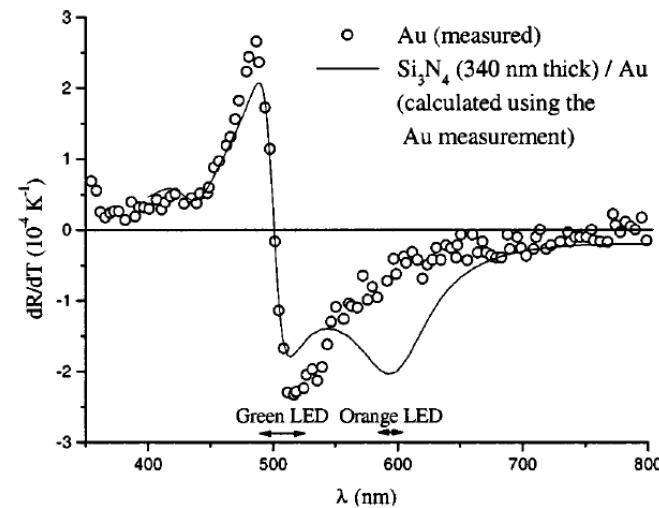
- Illumination Wavelength Dependent
- Material Dependent
- Temperature sensitivity is increased dramatically by optimizing the wavelength of light for a specific material.

$$C_{th} = \frac{1}{R_0} \frac{dR}{dT} \approx 10^{-4}$$

-e.g. choosing an LED of 500 nm produces almost no thermorelectance signal for Al, but an LED of 800 nm increases the thermorelectance signal by several orders of magnitude



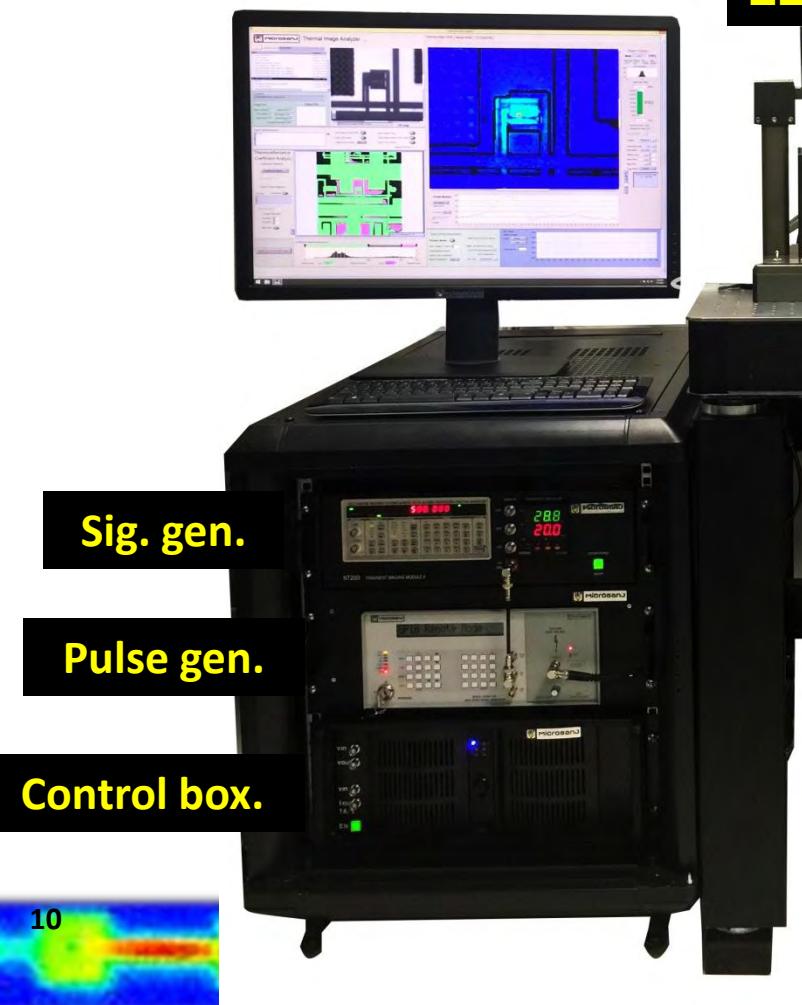
(Komarov, et al, Thermorelectance Thermography System...)



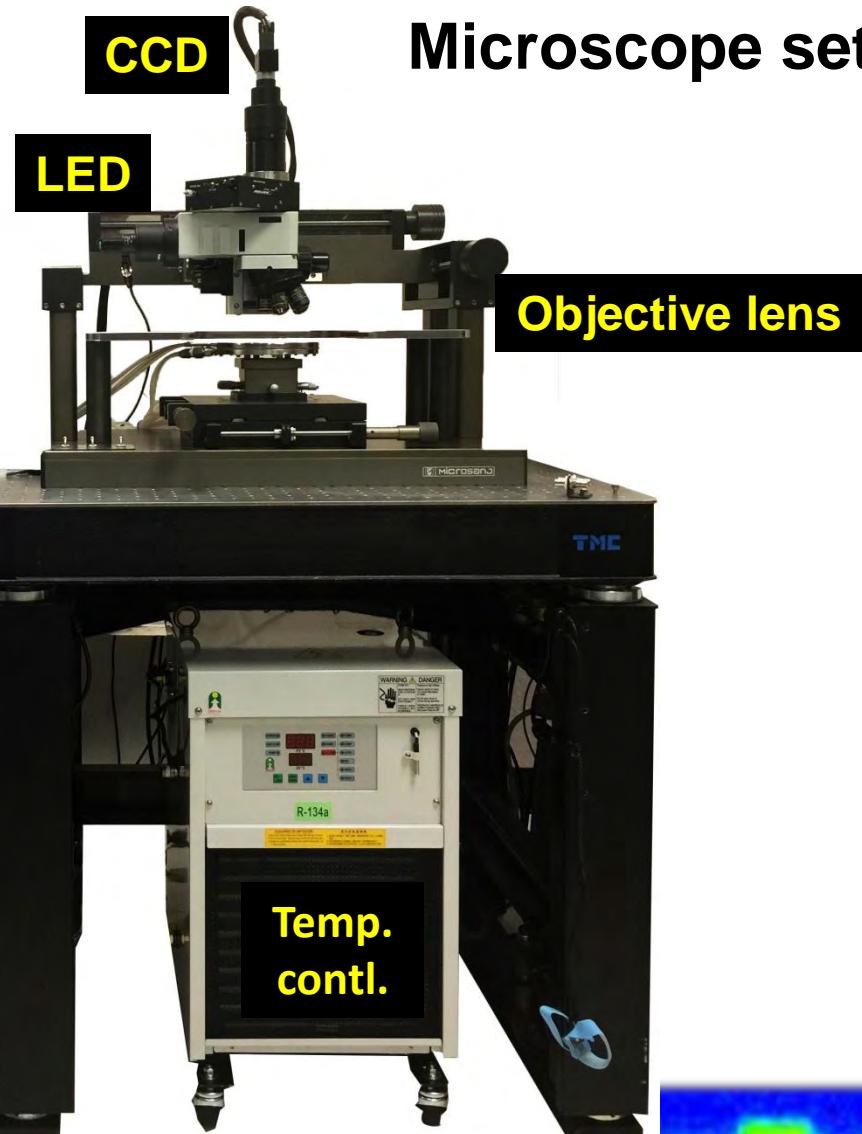
(Tessier, et al, Quantitative thermal imaging by synchronous...)

# Thermoreflectance imaging setup

**NT220 Rack**

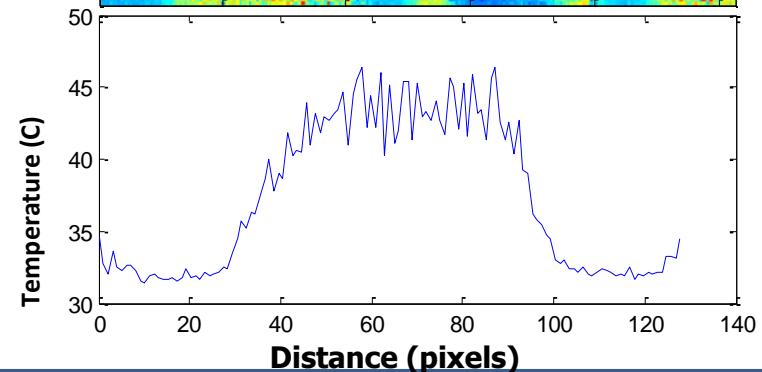
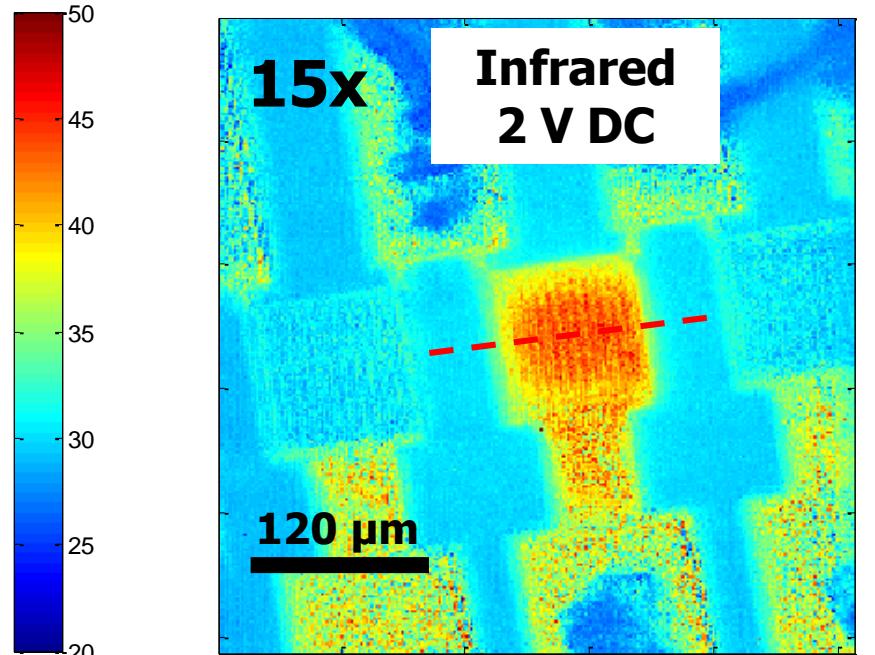
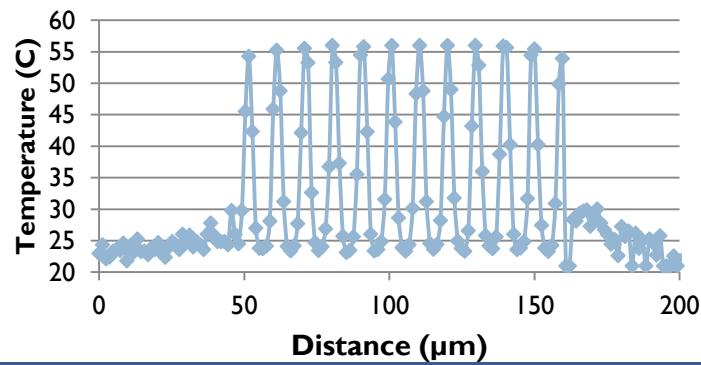
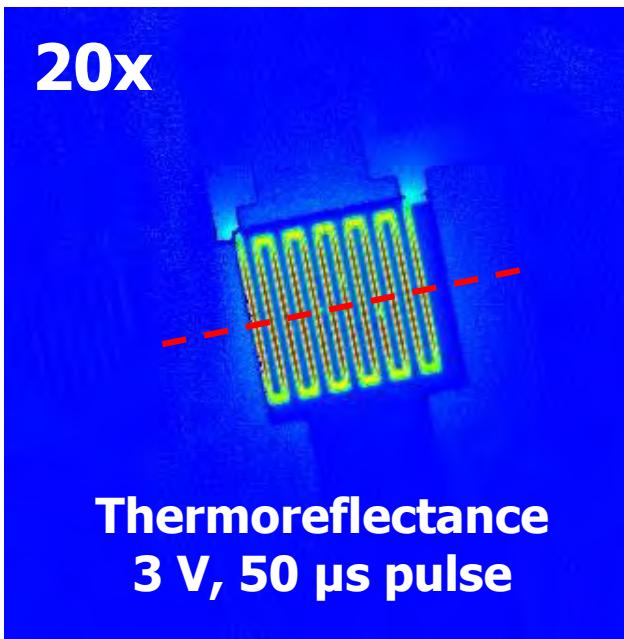


**CCD**



**Microscope setup**

# High Magnification Comparison



- With AC measurement & pulsing DUT, localized peak temperatures are found in thermorelectance image on 4  $\mu\text{m}$  wide heater lines.



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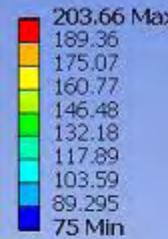
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# Typical GaN HEMT Structure

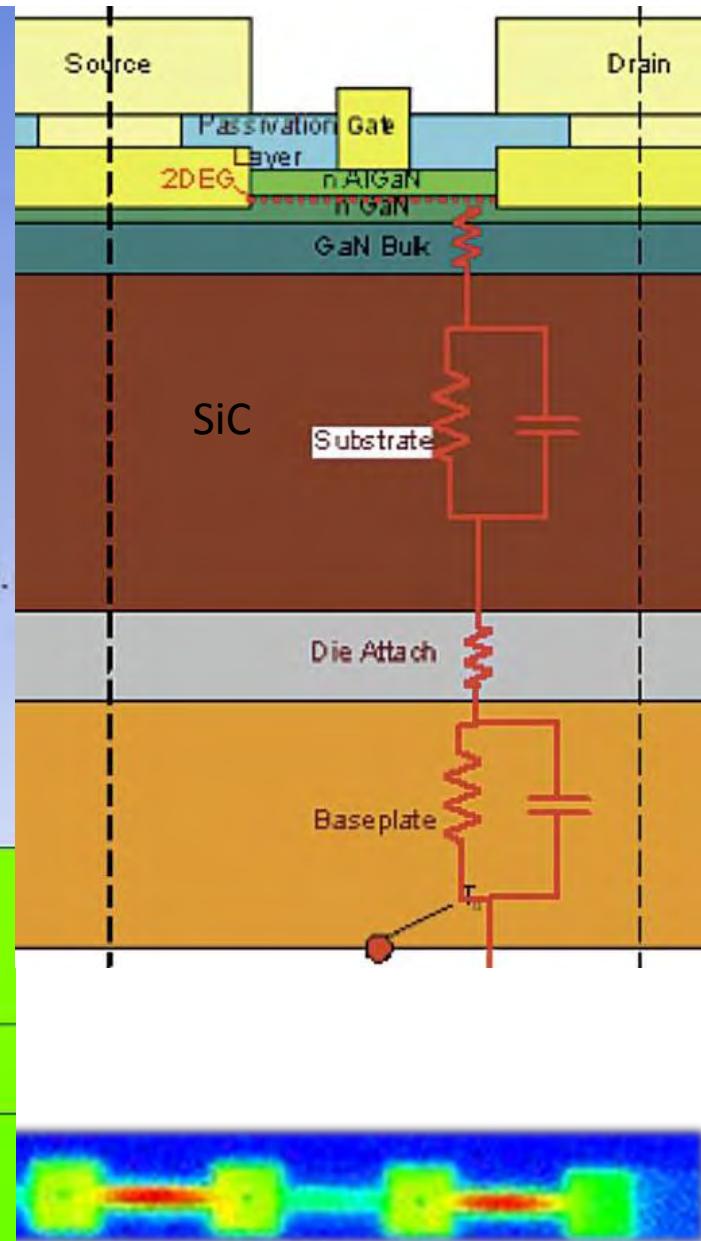
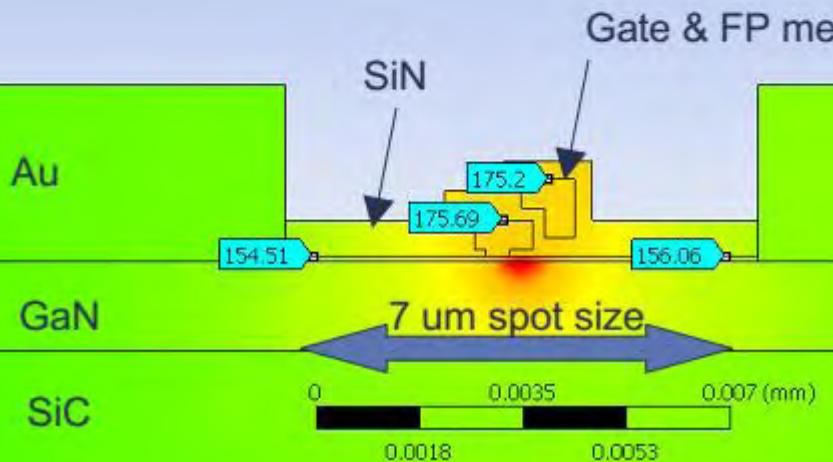


Temperature  
Type: Temperature  
Unit: °C  
Time: 1  
4/7/2008 11:48 AM

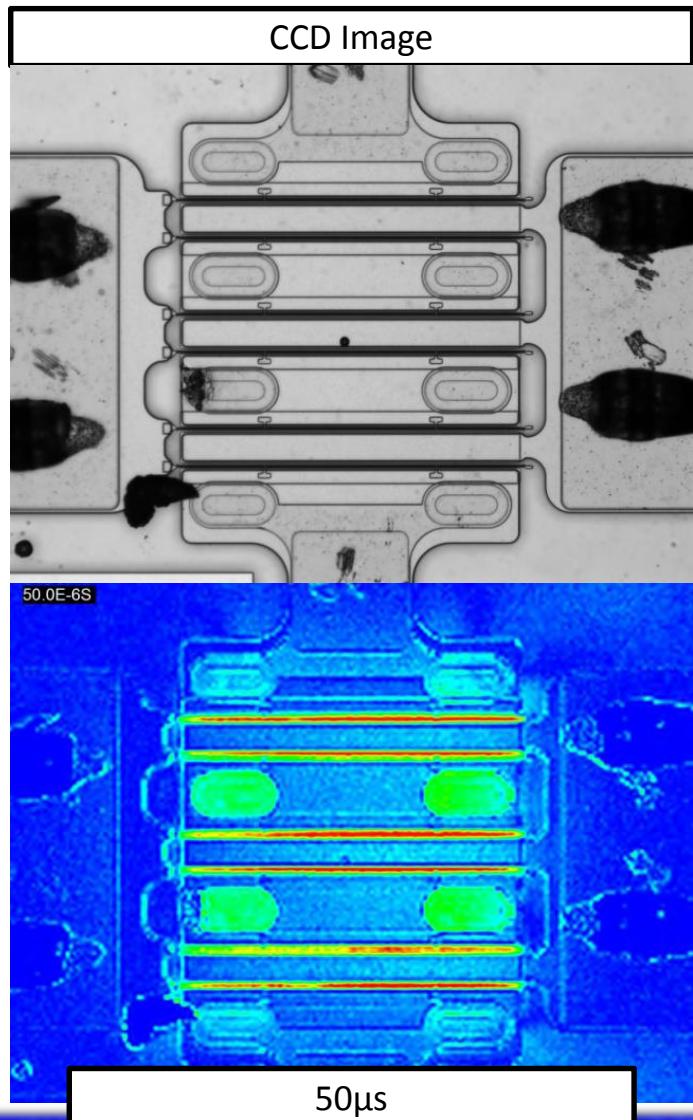


Actual peak channel temperature: 204C

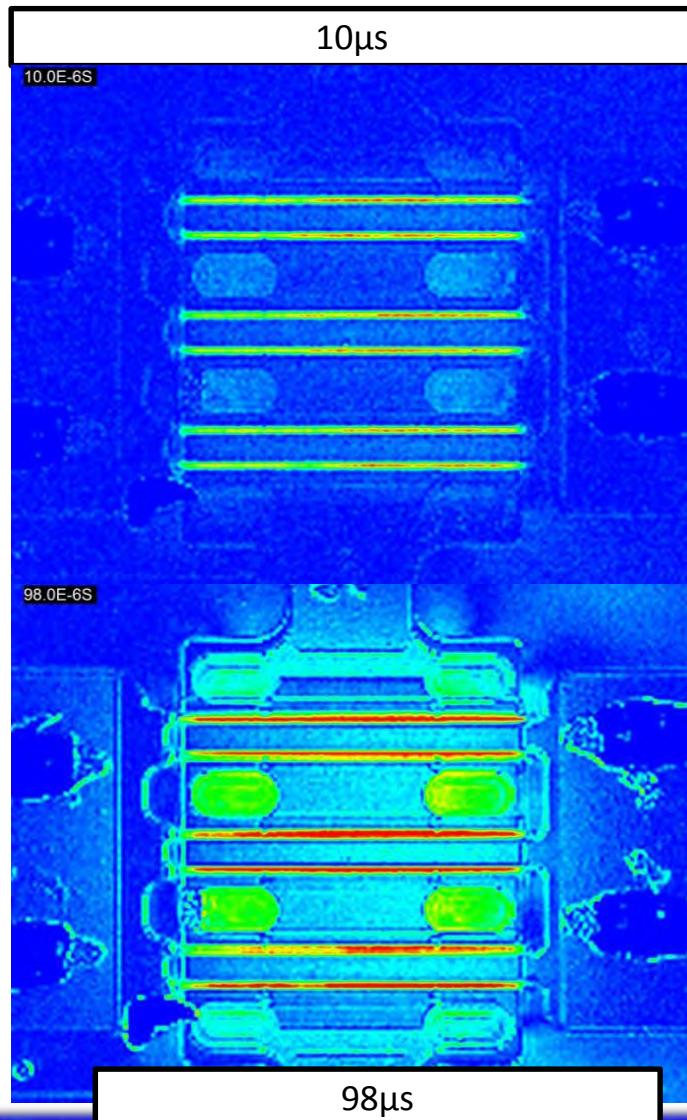
Averaged temperature across 7 um spot size ~ 165C.  
Channel to case thermal rise of 78C with a 87C case temp.



# 10x Transient Thermal Images(40006p)



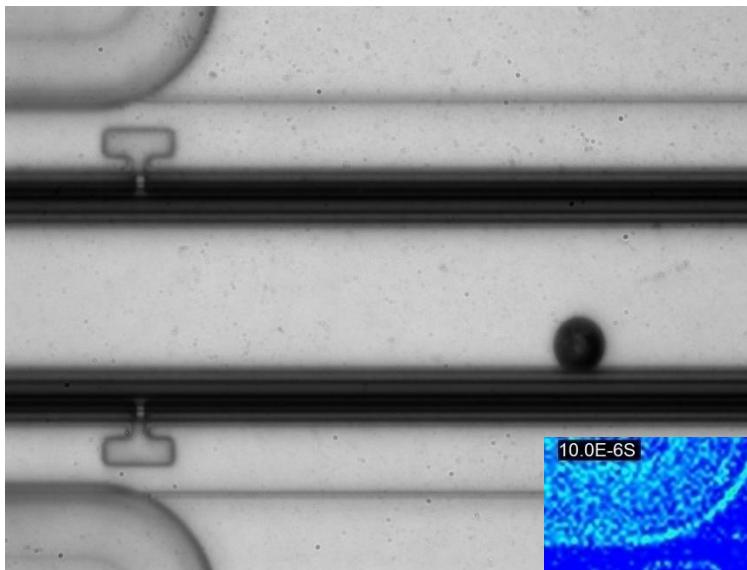
28V<sub>ds</sub>,  
480mA,  
13.44W,  
470nm LED,  
10% duty cycle



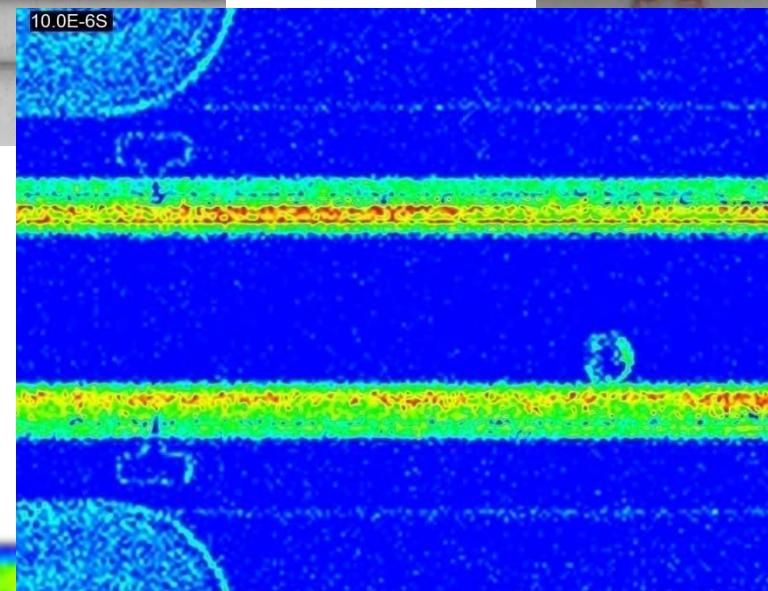
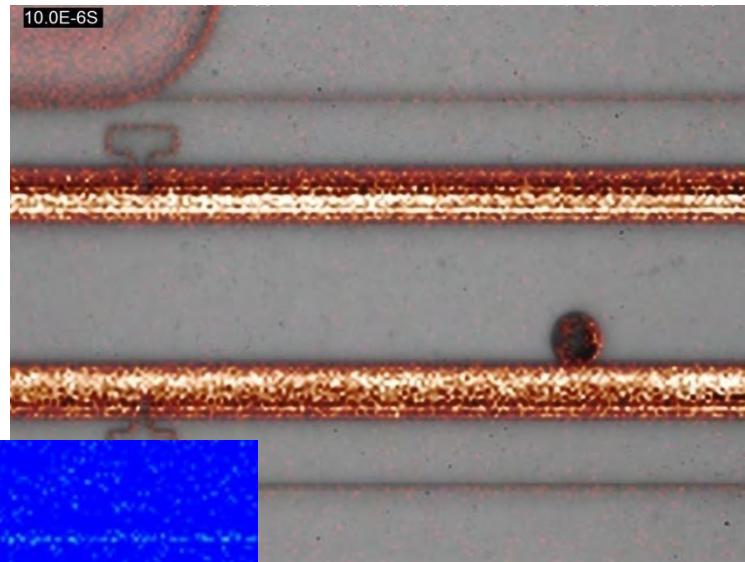
Here we can see how heat spreads throughout the DUT in response to a 10µs pulse.

# 50x Thermal Image(40006p)

CCD Image

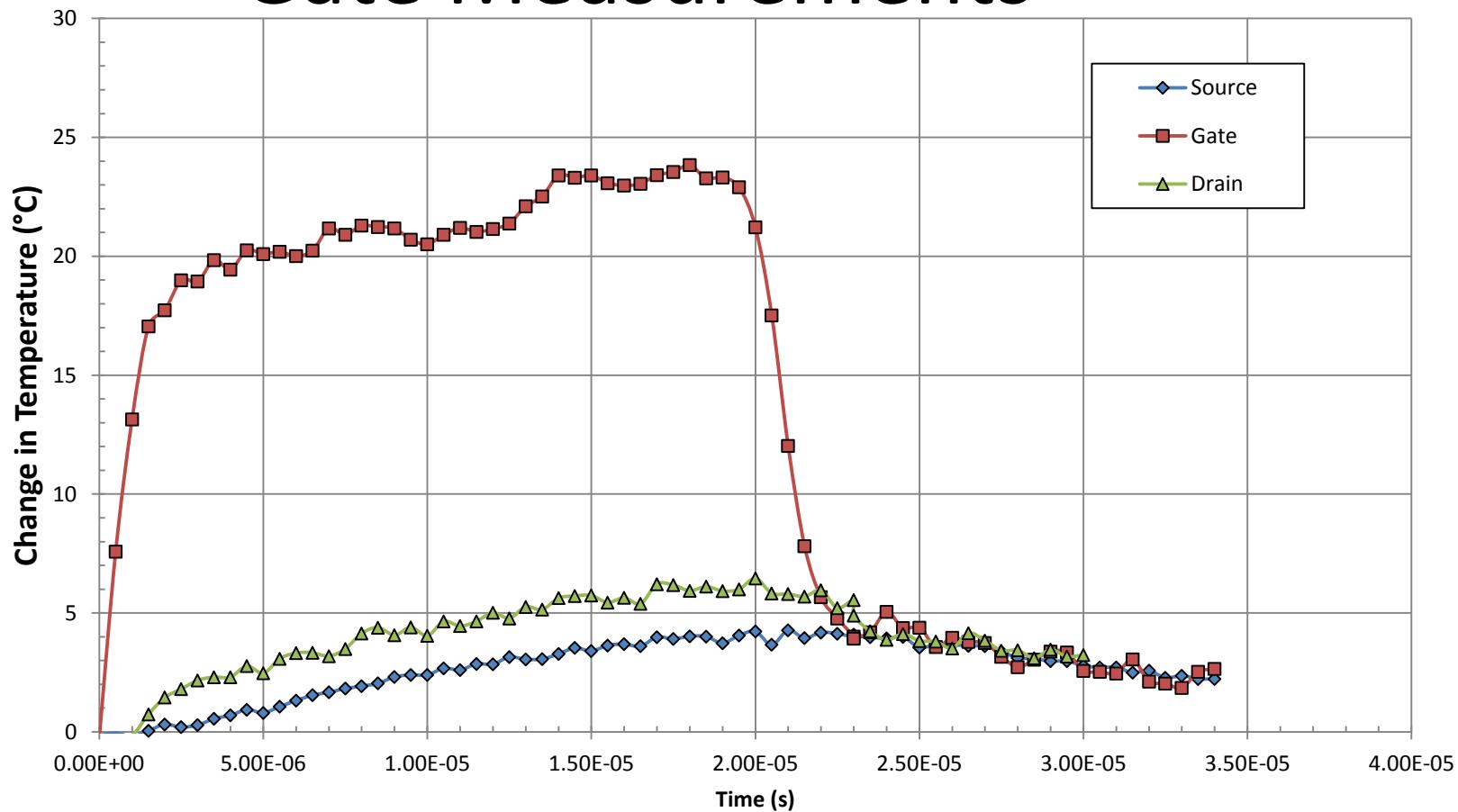


Thermal Image



$28V_{ds}$ , 480mA, 13.44W,  
470nm LED, 10us,  
10% duty cycle

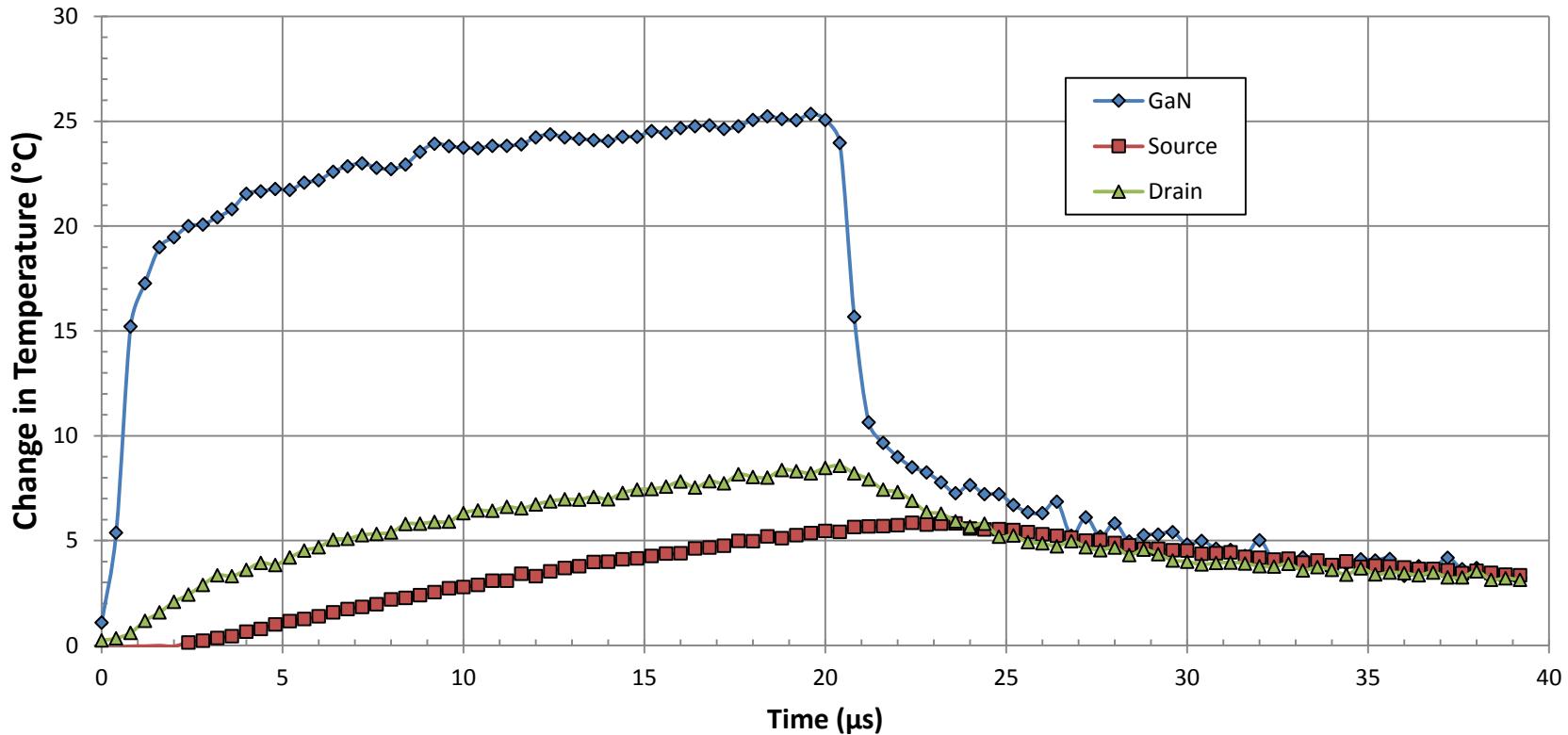
# 20μs, Cold White LED Gate Measurements



- This data shows an 19.6C  $\Delta T$  between the source and gate region.
- Sample 40010, 9.1W

# 20 $\mu$ s, 470nm LED Gate

## Measurements



- This data shows an 19.5C  $\Delta T$  between the source and gate region.
- Sample 40006p



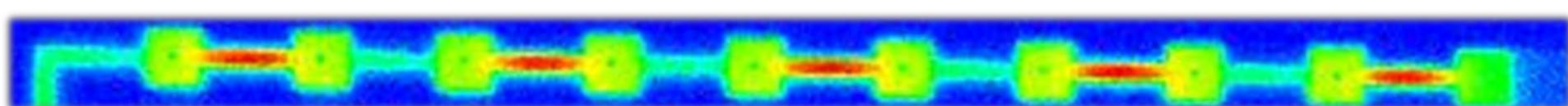
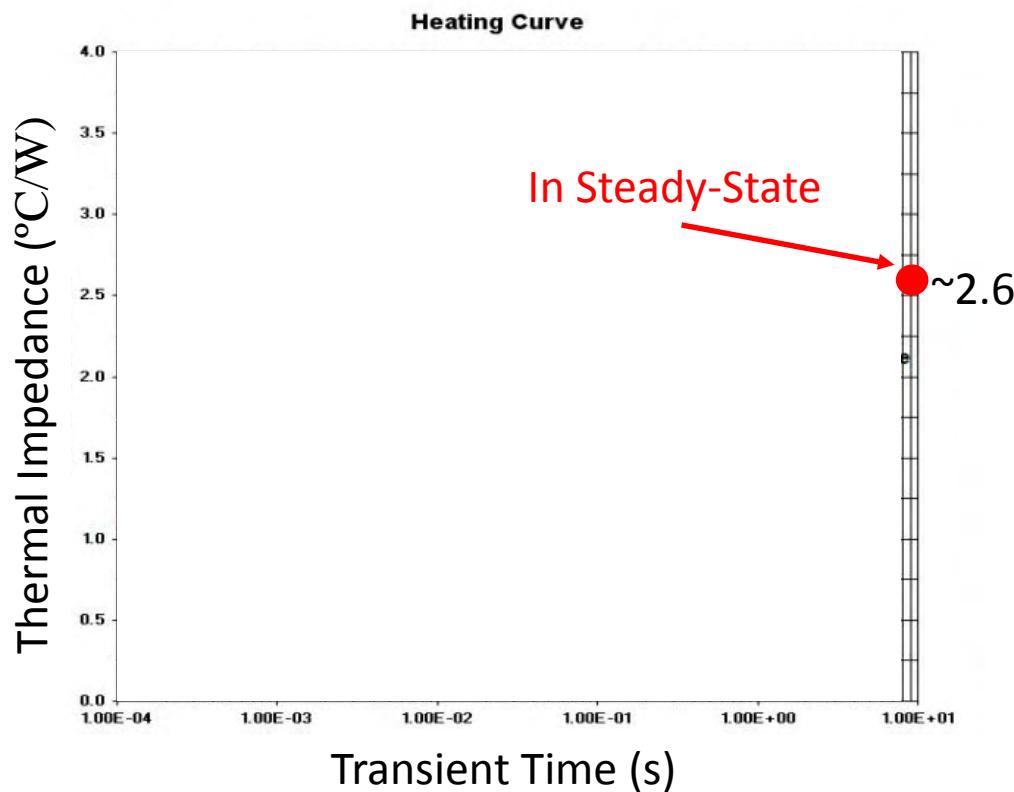
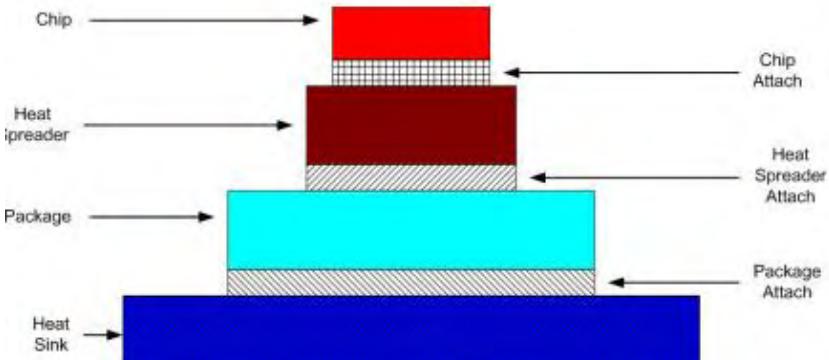
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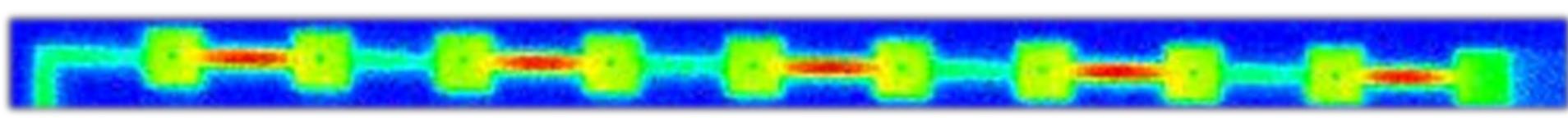
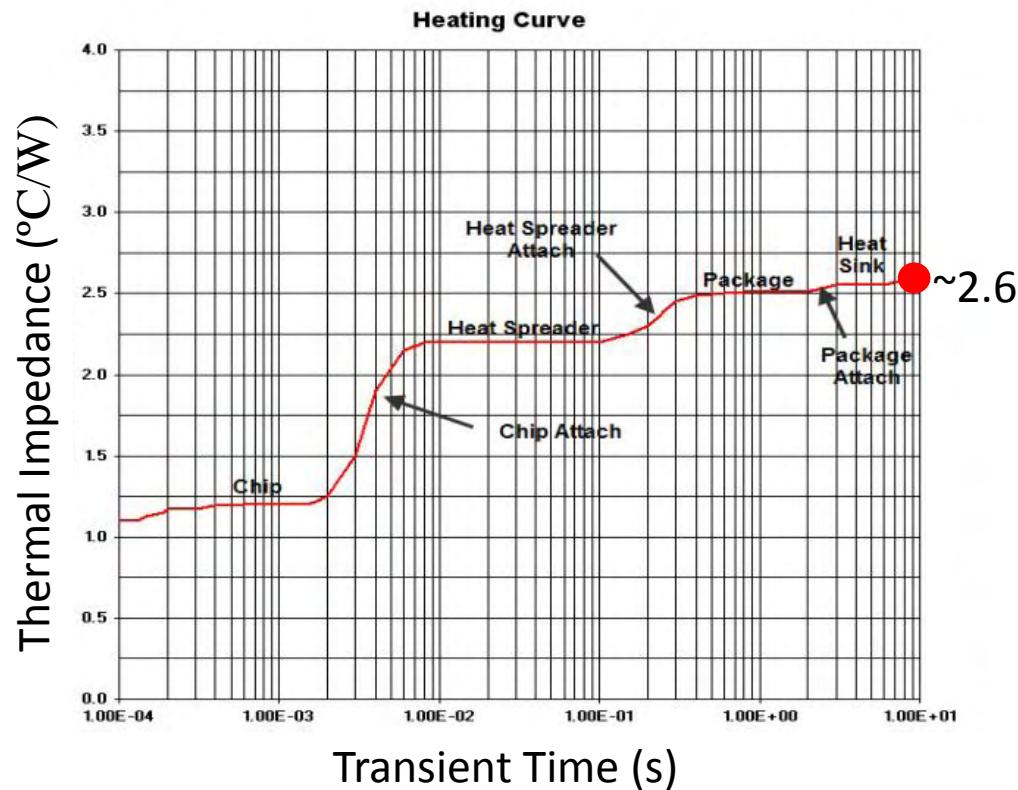
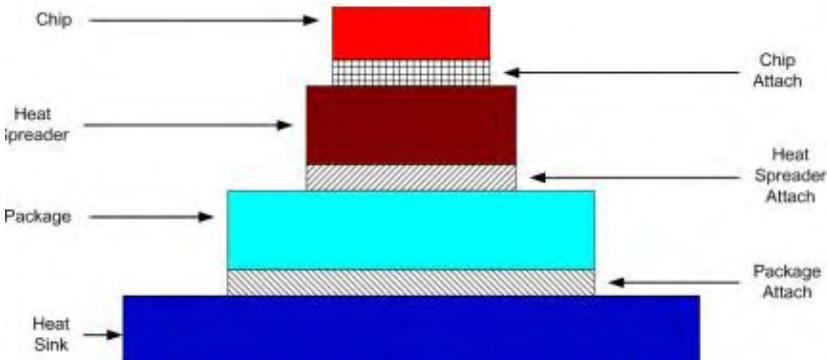
# Heating Curve





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# Heating Curve

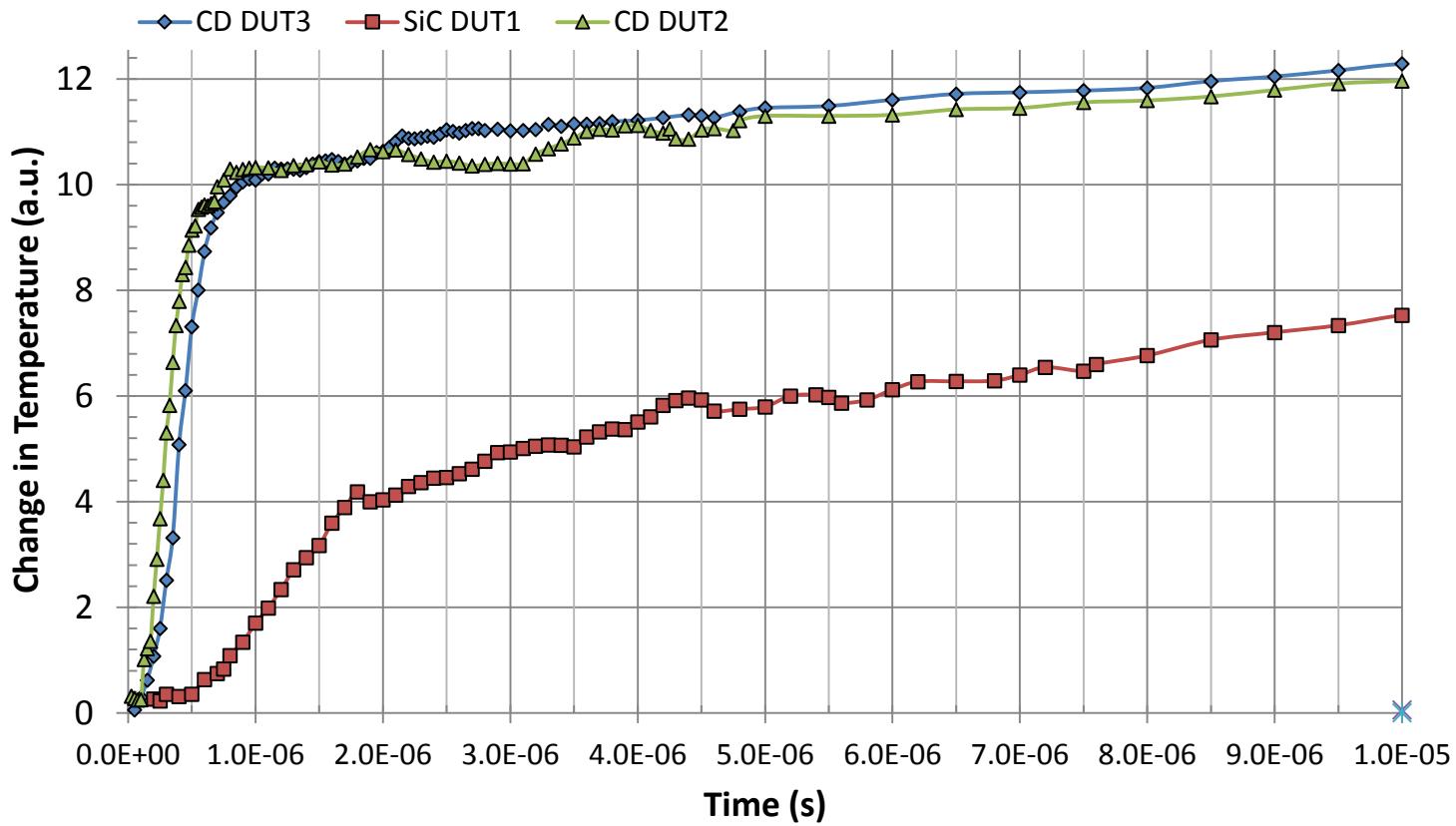


# Diamond vs SiC

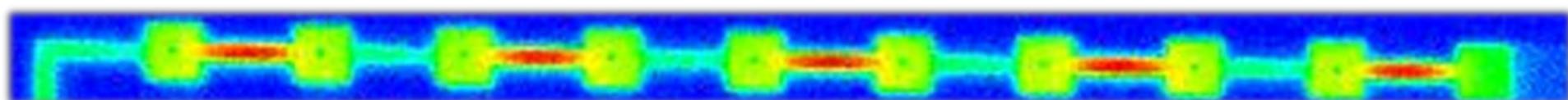


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## TBR Comparison



- This data shows that even with diamond having ~3x higher thermal conductivity the poor thermal interface between GaN and Diamond can cause higher heating closer to the junction.



# Diffusion length estimations

$$\mu_t = 2\sqrt{\alpha t}$$

Effective thermal diffusion length (in the time domain, for pulsed heating)

$$\mu = \sqrt{\frac{2\alpha}{\omega}}$$

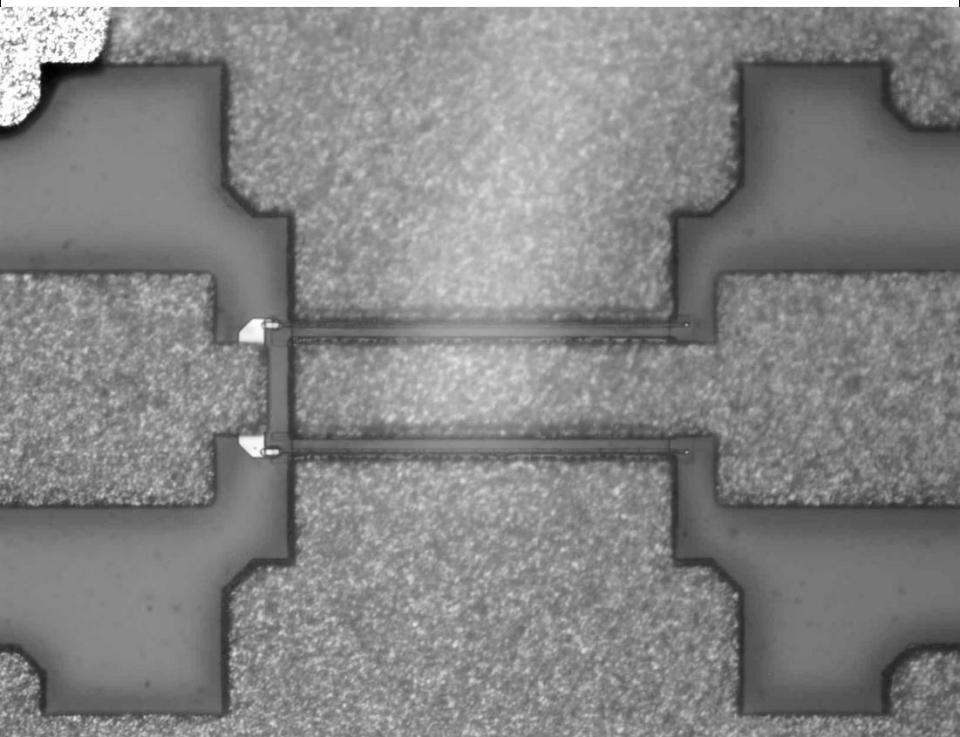
Thermal diffusion length (in frequency domain, for periodical heating)

$$t = \frac{\mu^2}{4\alpha} \approx 3125\mu^2 \text{ (for Si)}$$

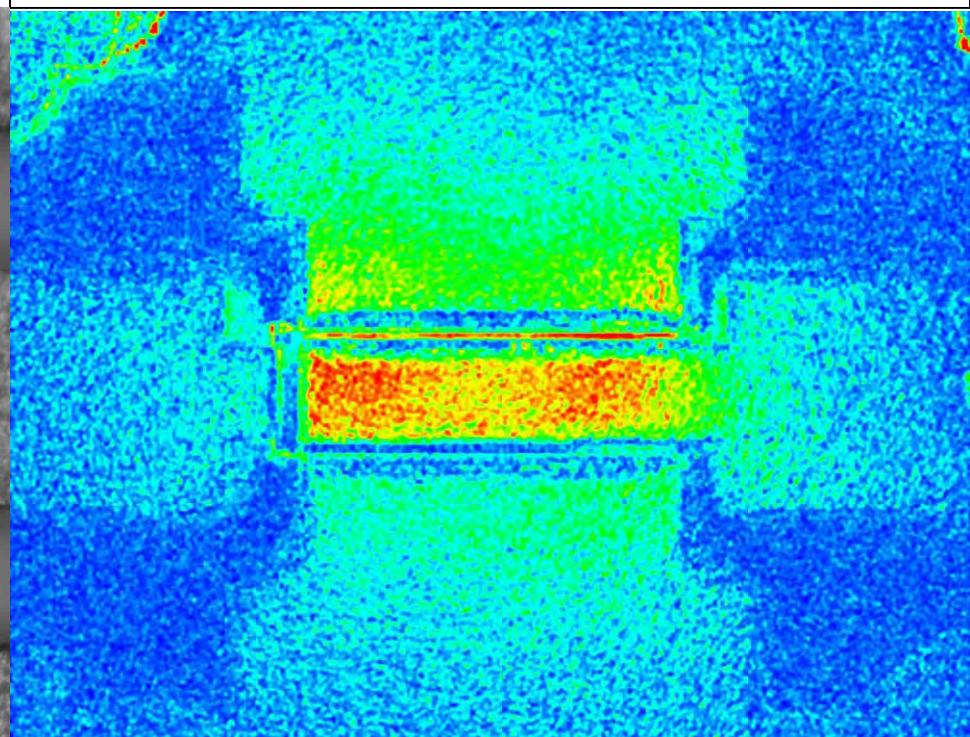
					6-20W/cmK	3-11 cm <sup>2</sup> /s					
Diffusion time estimations	SiO <sub>2</sub>	Si	Cu	Diamond	DiamondUp	Al	Ag	Au	3C-SiC	4H-SiC	6H-SiC
Thermal diffusivity: $\alpha$ (m <sup>2</sup> /s)	8.30E-07	8.80E-05	1.11E-04	3.00E-04	1.10E-03	8.42E-05	1.55E-04	1.27E-04	1.60E-04	1.70E-04	2.20E-04
thickness (μm)	diffusion time (μs)										
1	0.301	0.003	0.002	0.001	0.000	0.003	0.002	0.002	0.002	0.002	0.001
5	7.530	0.071	0.056	0.021	0.006	0.074	0.040	0.049	0.039	0.037	
10	30.120	0.284	0.225	0.083	0.023	0.297	0.162	0.197	0.156	0.147	
25	188.253	1.776	1.408	0.521	0.142	1.856	1.011	1.230	0.977	0.919	
50	753.01	7.10	5.63	2.08	0.57	7.42	4.05	4.92	3.91	3.68	
100	3012.05	28.41	22.52	8.33	2.27	29.69	16.18	19.69	15.63	14.71	
280	23614	223	177	65	18	233	127	154	123	115	
500	75301	710	563	208	57	742	405	492	391	368	
700	147590	1392	1104	408	111	1455	793	965	766	721	
1000	301205	2841	2252	833	227	2969	1618	1969	1563	1471	
1500	677711	6392	5068	1875	511	6681	3641	4429	3516	3309	
2000	1204819	11364	9009	3333	909	11876	6472	7874	6250	5882	

# GaN Thermal Image

20X CCD Image, 530nm LED

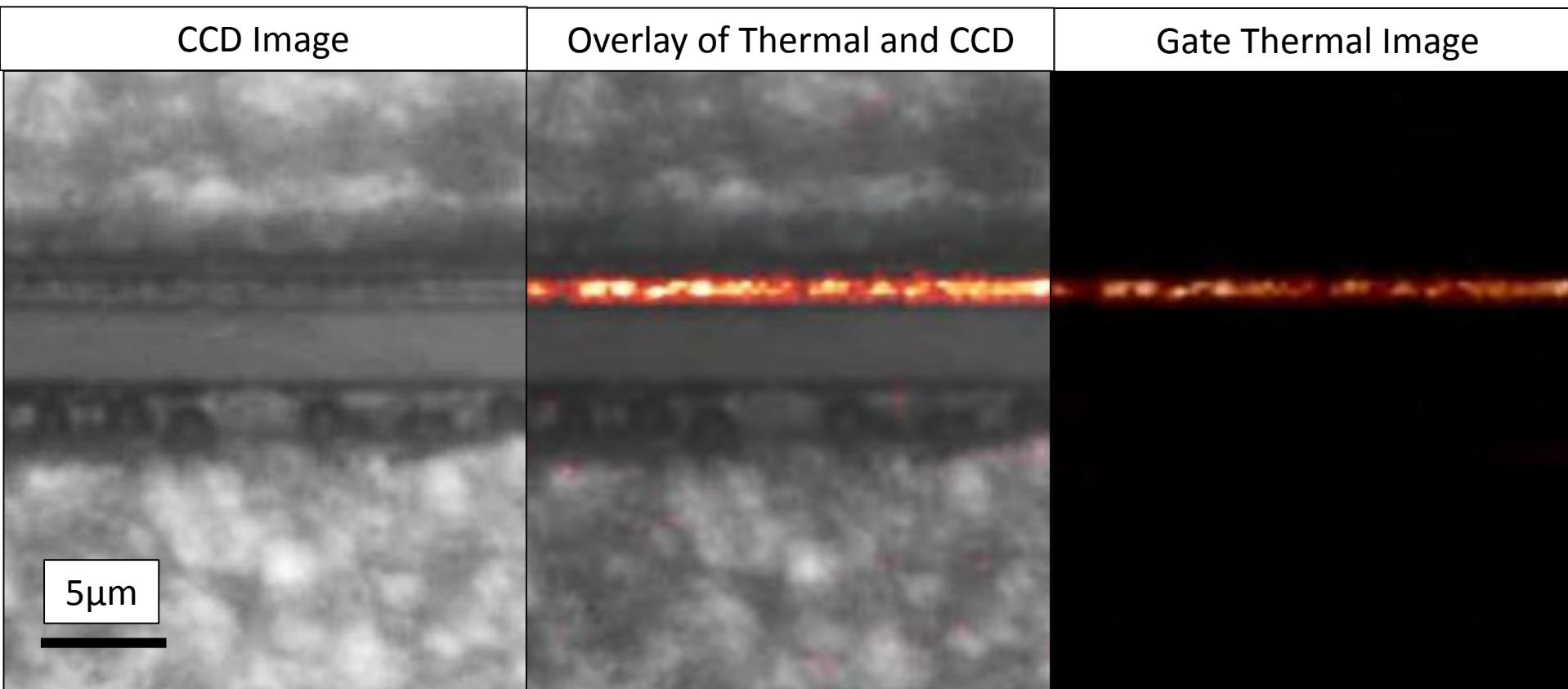


Thermal Image

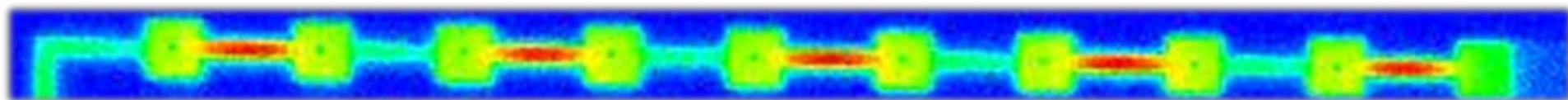


- Single HEMT finger
- 8V, 70mA
- 530nm LED
- 1.85E-4 C<sub>th</sub> for Passivated Gold

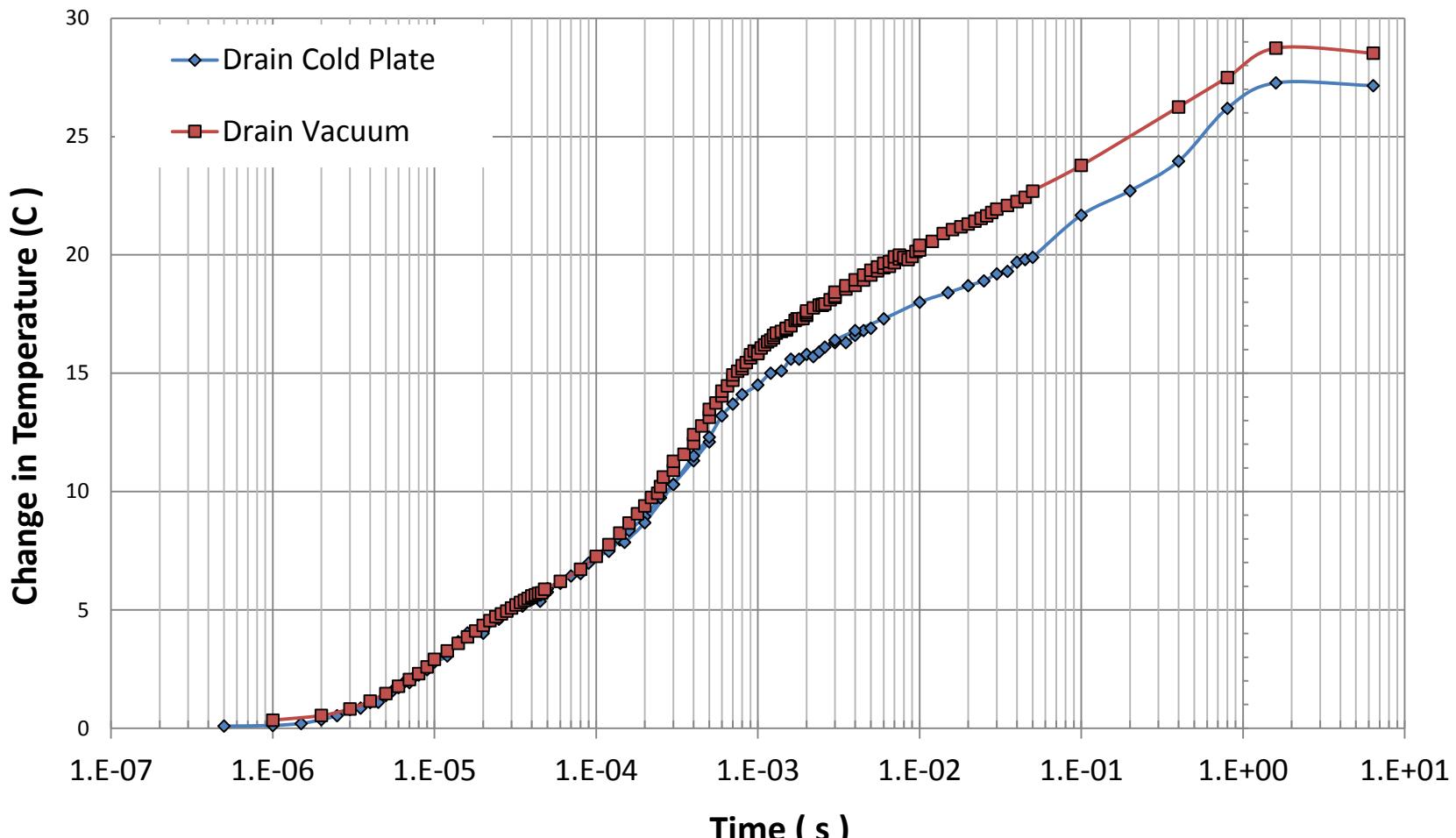
# Overlay Images



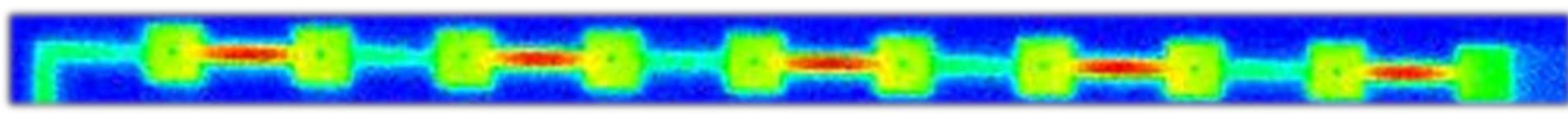
- These images show the precise location of the thermal signal coming from the top gate metal
- The Gate length is 0.3um



# Heating Curves

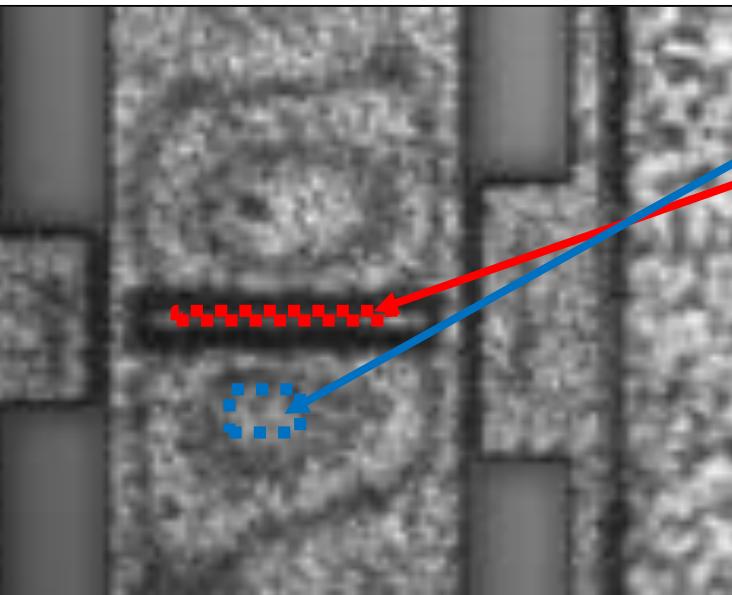


□ 0.1μs to 10s

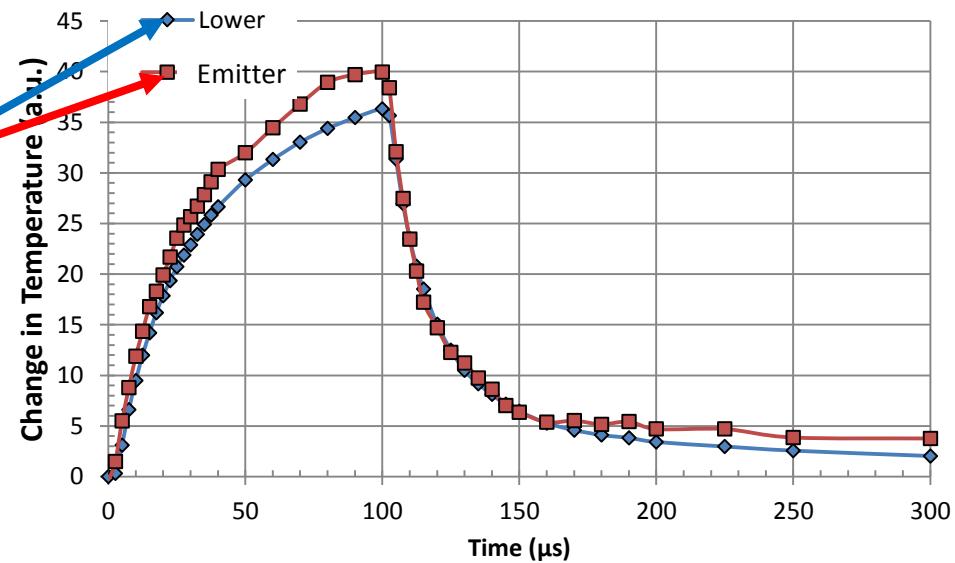


# HBT 100μs Transient Response

20x CCD Image, 530nm



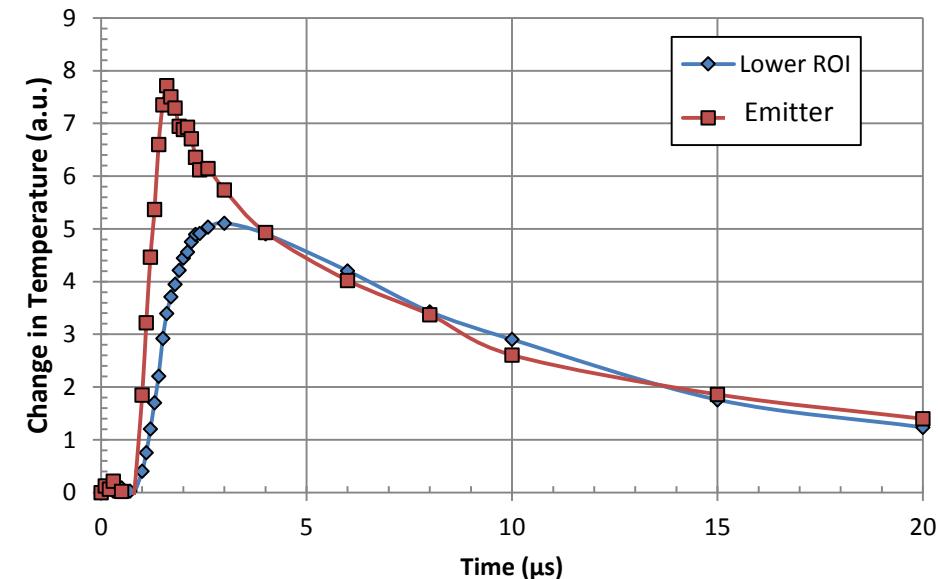
100μs Thermal Transient



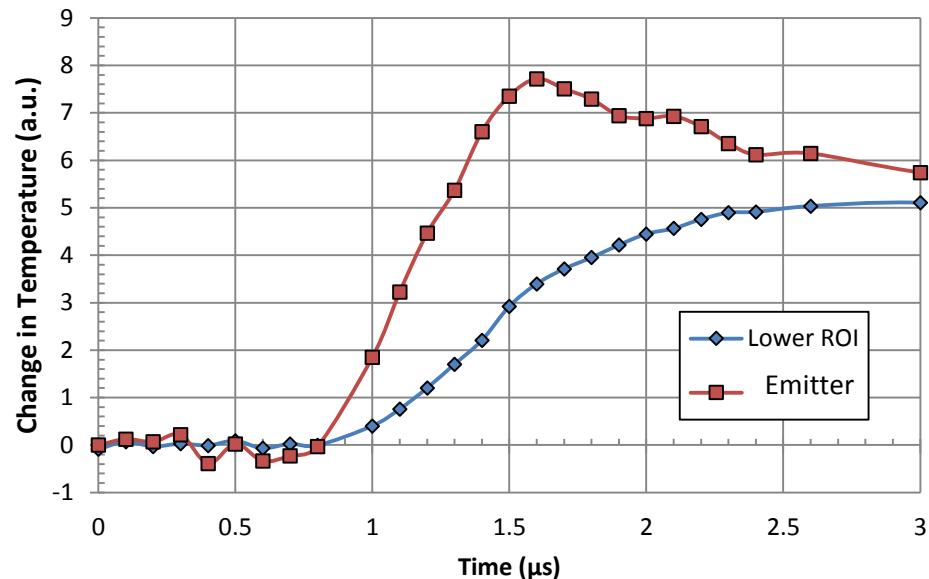
- 20X, 100us, 10% duty cycle
- 3V, 20mA
- 530nm LED

# 1μs AMCAD Pulse Thermal Transients

1us Transient Thermal Response



Signal Delay



- 20X, 1us, 5% duty cycle
- 3V, 80mA, 530nm LED
- The data shows the fast thermal rise time and slow thermal decay of the device

- A ~700ns delay in the power signal was seen on the IVCAD software. This data clearly shows the resulting delay in the thermal signal.



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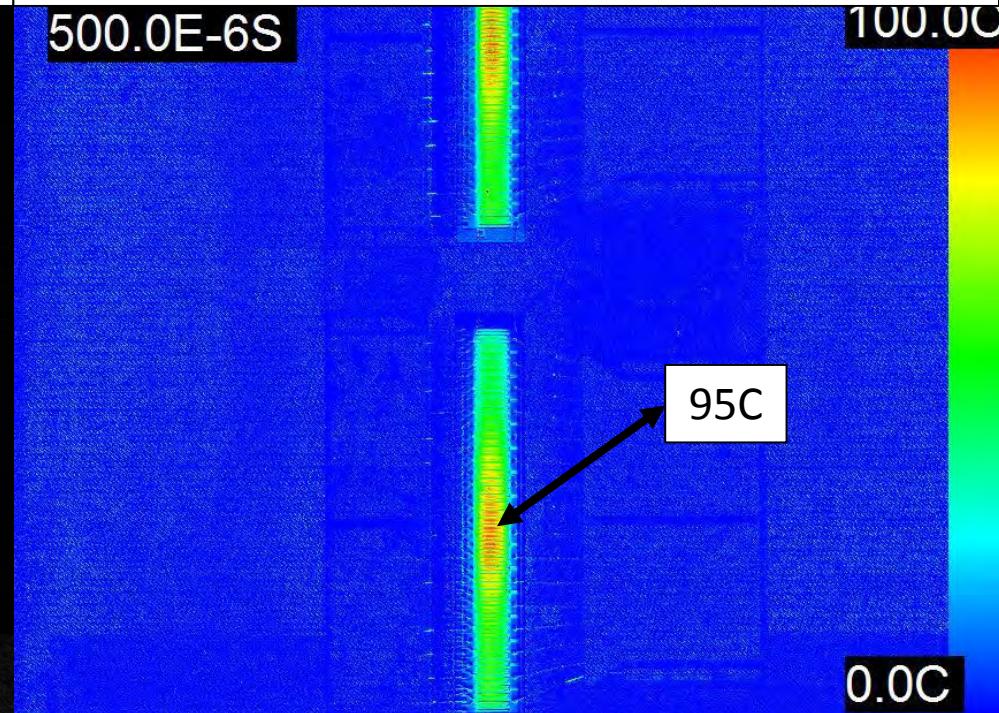
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# 1.25X Thermoreflectance Image

1.25x CCD Image, 530nm



Thermal Image



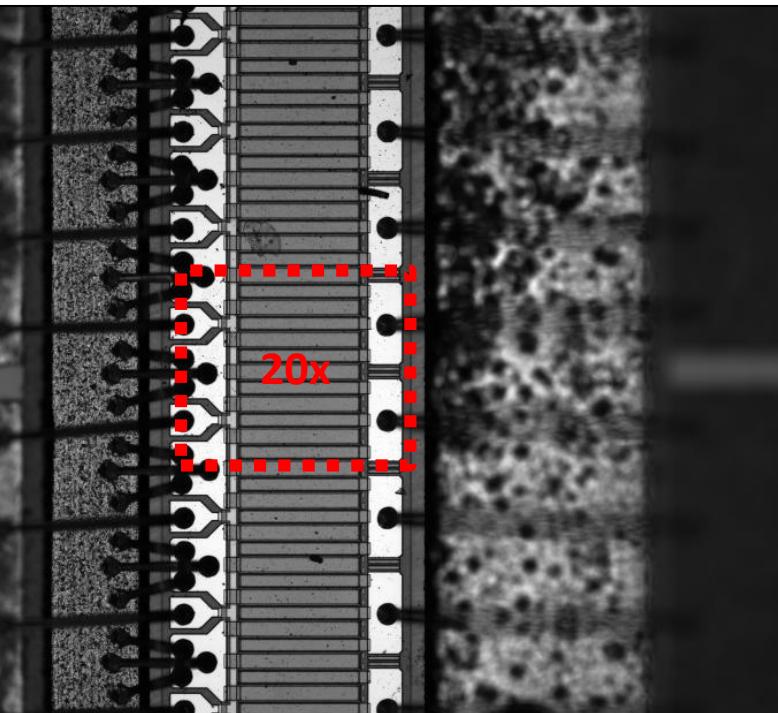
- 1.25X, 500us, 20% duty cycle, 30C Case Temperature
- Vg -2.5V, 150W RF
- 530nm LED, -3.74E-4/C for the thermoreflectance coefficient for passivated Au



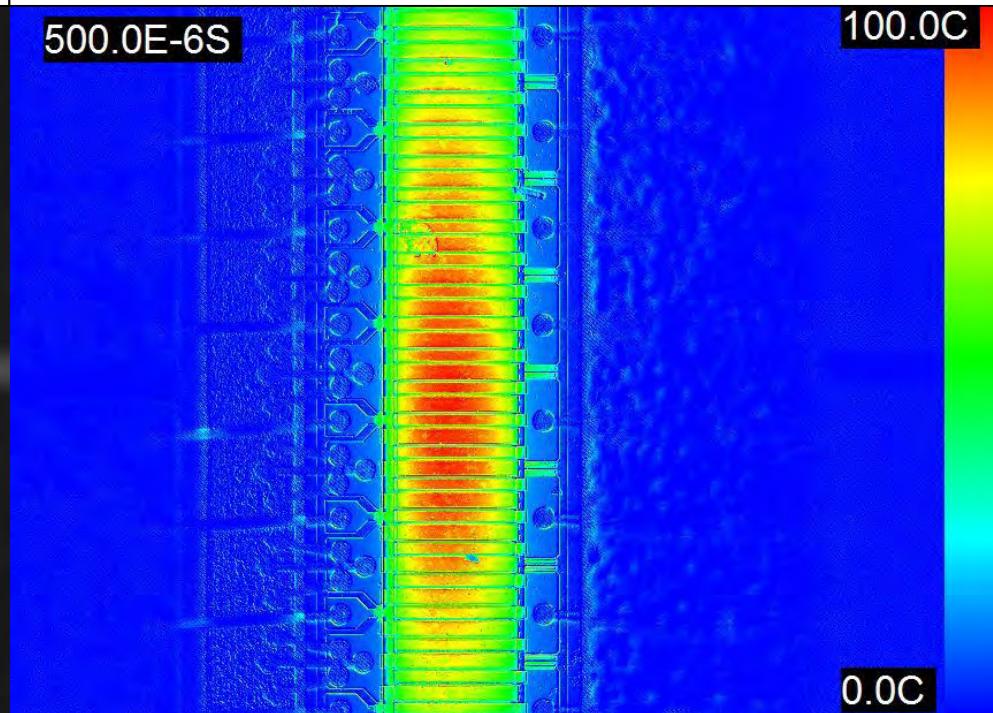
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5X

5x CCD Image, 530nm



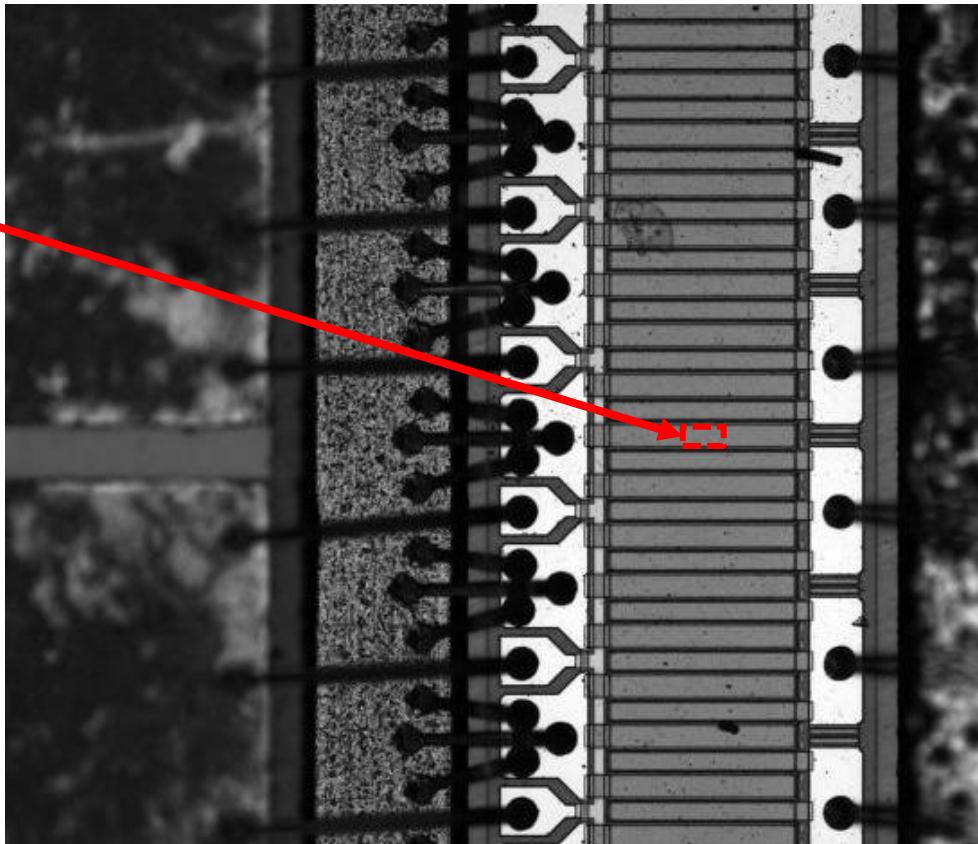
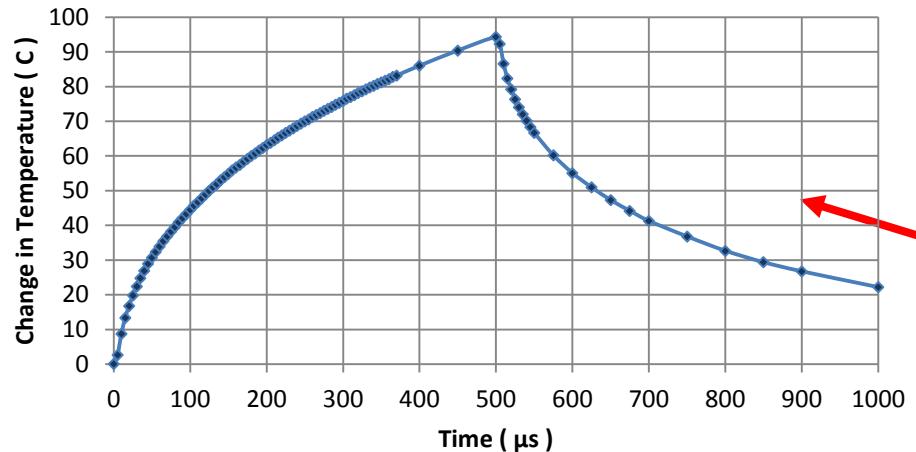
Thermal Image



- 5X, 500us, 20% duty cycle, 38C Case Temperature
- Vg -2.5V, 150W RF
- 530nm LED, -3.74E-4/C for the thermoreflectance coefficient for passivated Au

# 500μs Transient Data

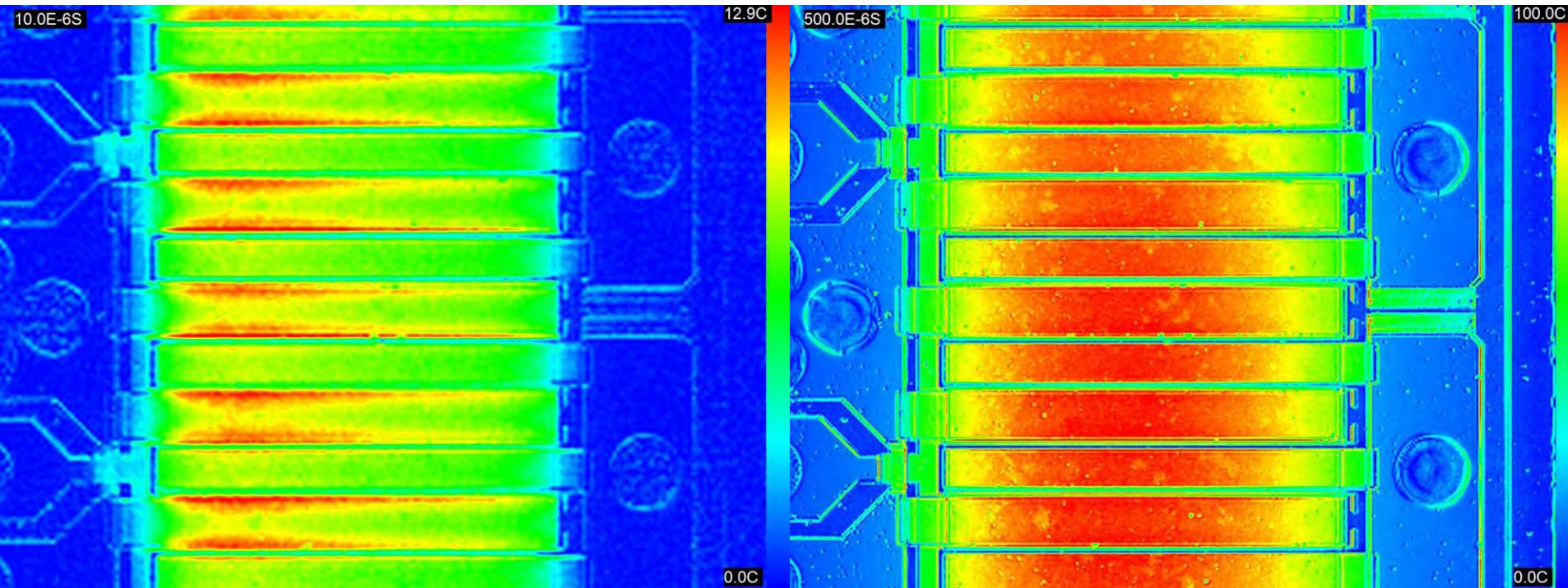
50x Thermal Transient of Center Drain



Above is the transient response of the center drain contact due to a 500μs pulse.

- 50X, 500μs, 20% duty cycle, 39C Case Temperature
- Vg -2.5V, 150W RF
- 530nm LED, -3.46E-4/C for the thermoreflectance coefficient for passivated Au 50x

# 10μs and 500μs Thermal Images



- This data shows the change in temperature distribution between 10us and 500us. 10us is much more asymmetrical



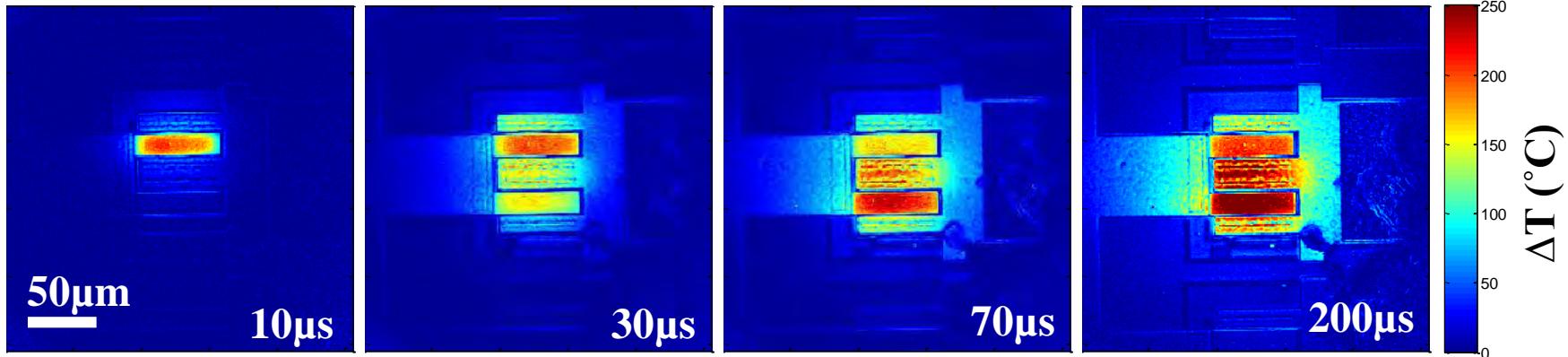
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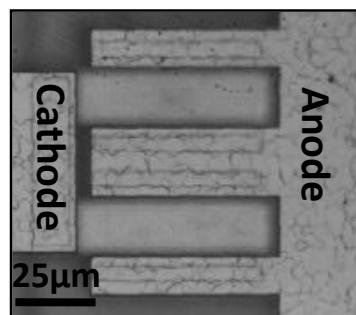
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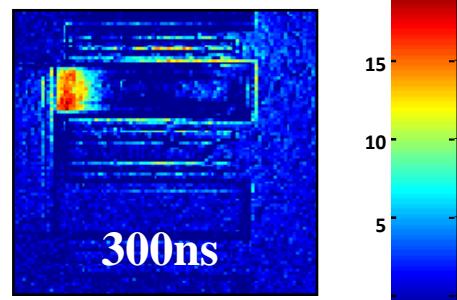
# 100 ns temporal resolution of ESD-type event



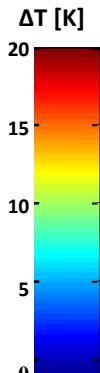
- Characterization during operation to improve efficiency or identify undesired behavior.
- Non-uniform device turn on in a symmetrical Silicon Controlled Rectifier (SCR) in response to a 2.5 ms pulse



(a) SCR optical image



(b) SCR thermoreflectance in snapback after 300ns at 1.28A



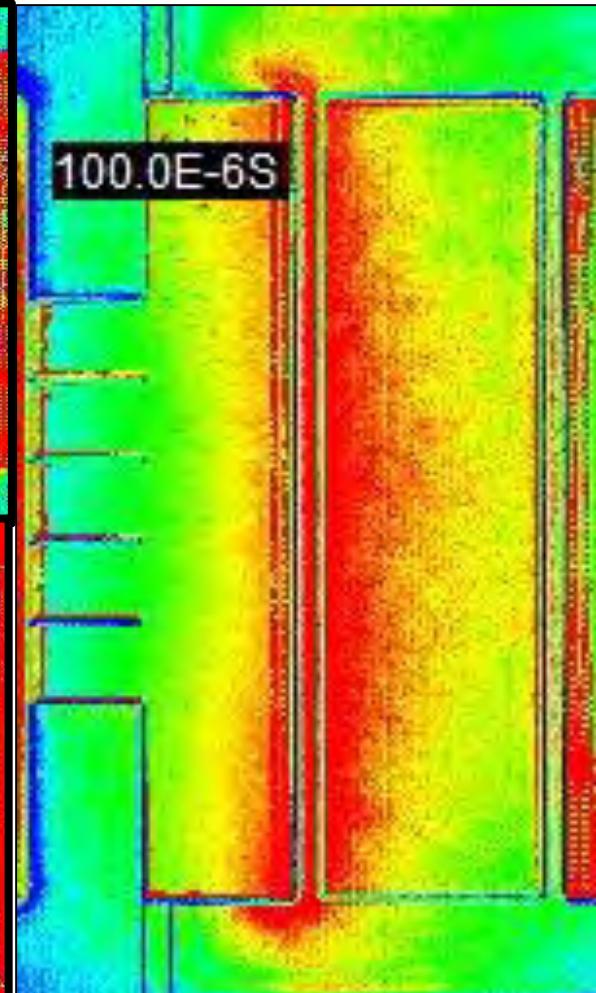
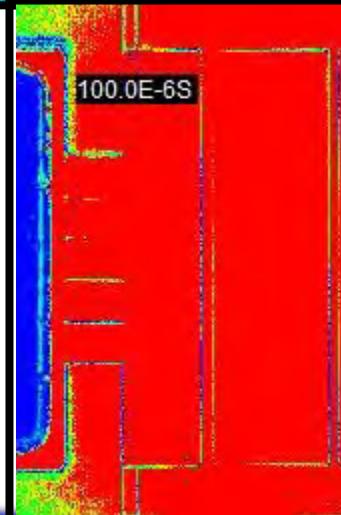
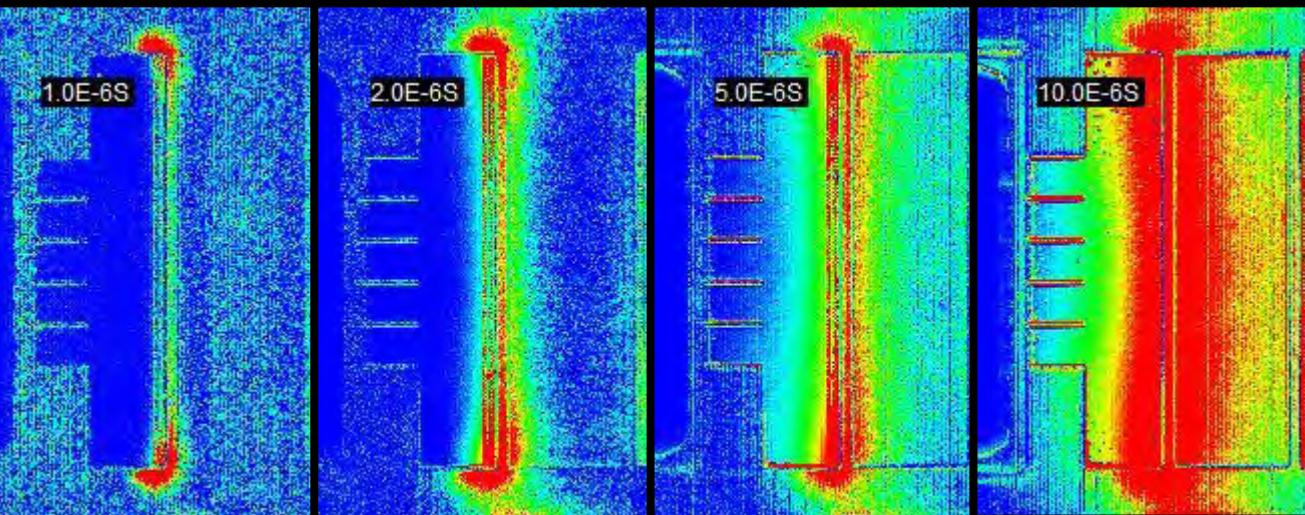
Initial response to the 300 ns 120V pulse shows highly localized heating.

K. Maize, V. Vashchenko et al, *IRPS*, 2011.

# Transient SCR response

10V was applied to the device. The current and precise voltage across the device was not measured for this series

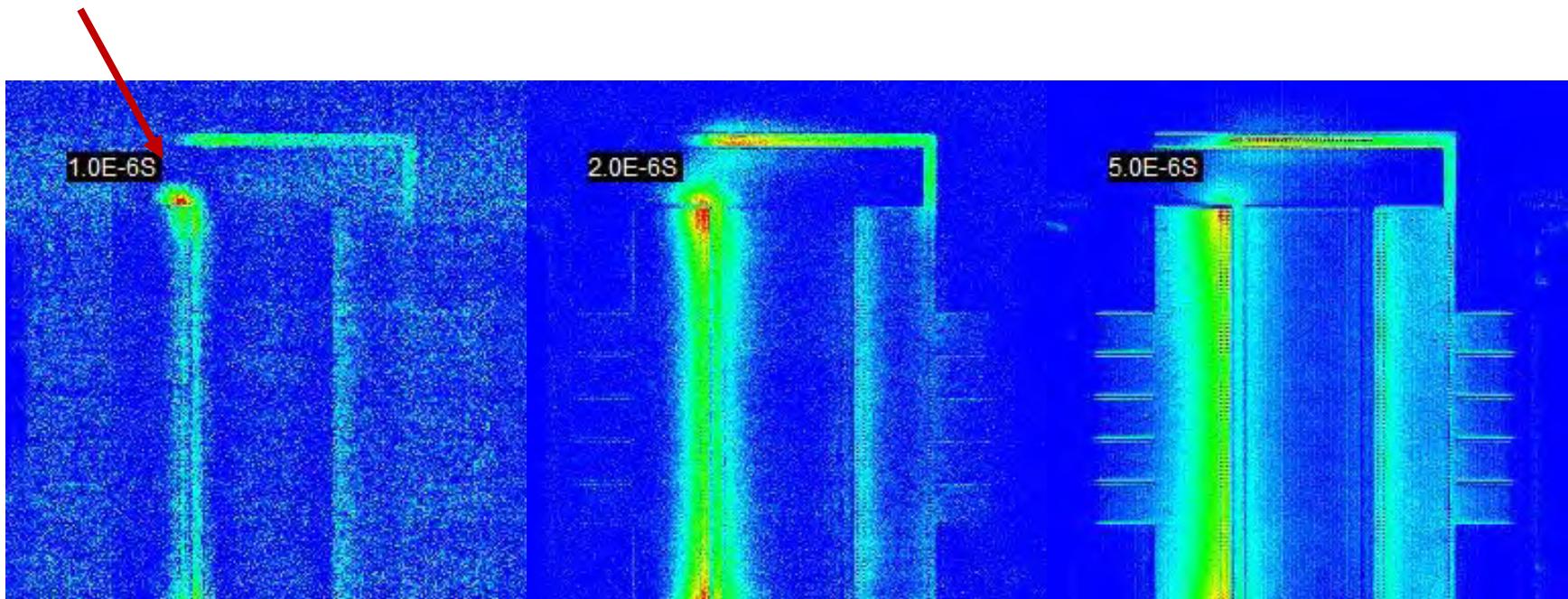
Scaled 100 $\mu$ s image to  
Show temperature distribution



- These thermal images show the transient thermal response of the SCR.
- The SCR starts to conduct at the corners of the Anode (due to high electric field)
- Images are all on the same temperature scale
- These devices are fabricated to be tested and operated at nanosecond time scale

# Transient SCR response

High Electric Field at sharp corners





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The Future of Thermal Imaging

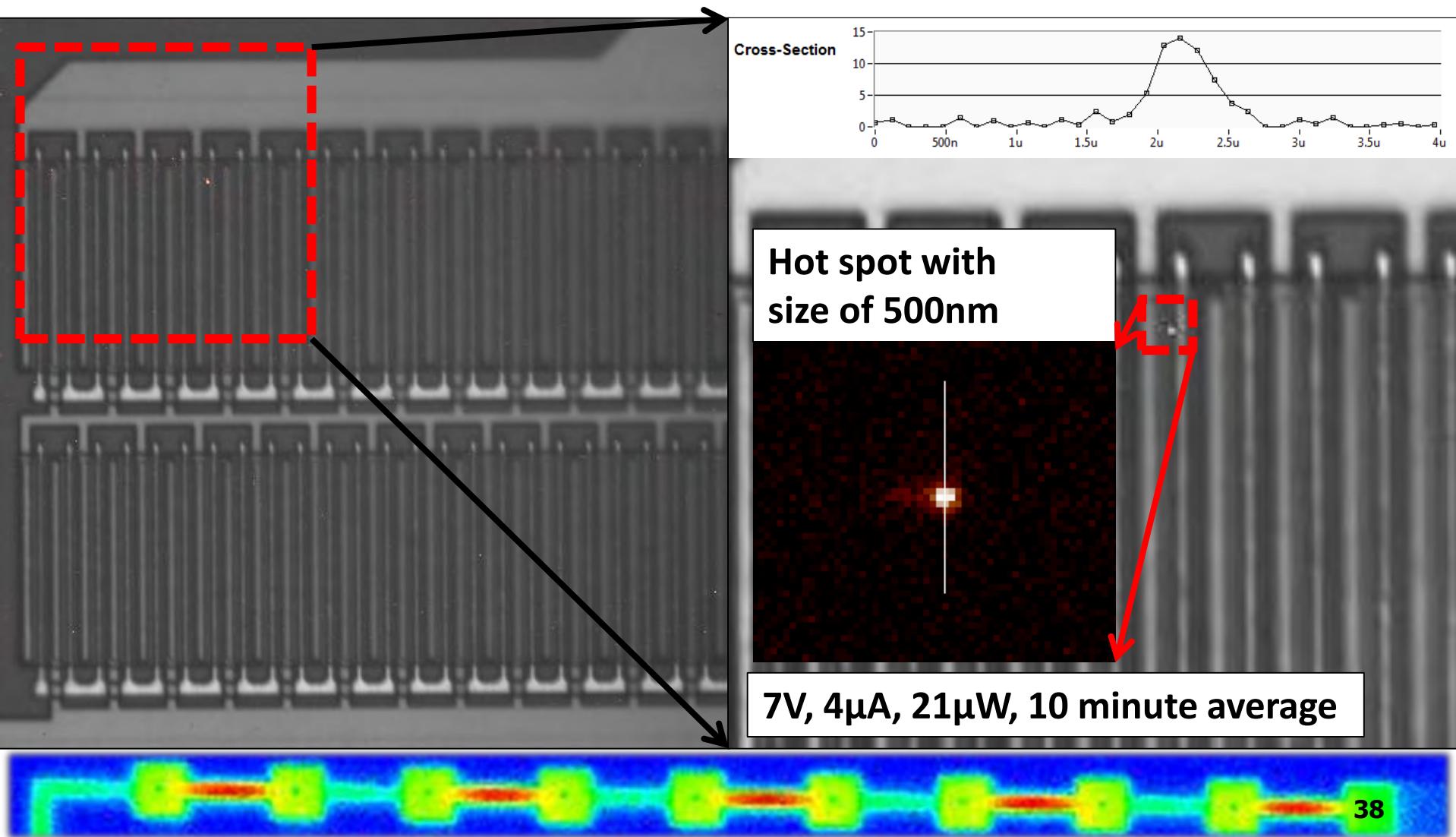
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  - Summary

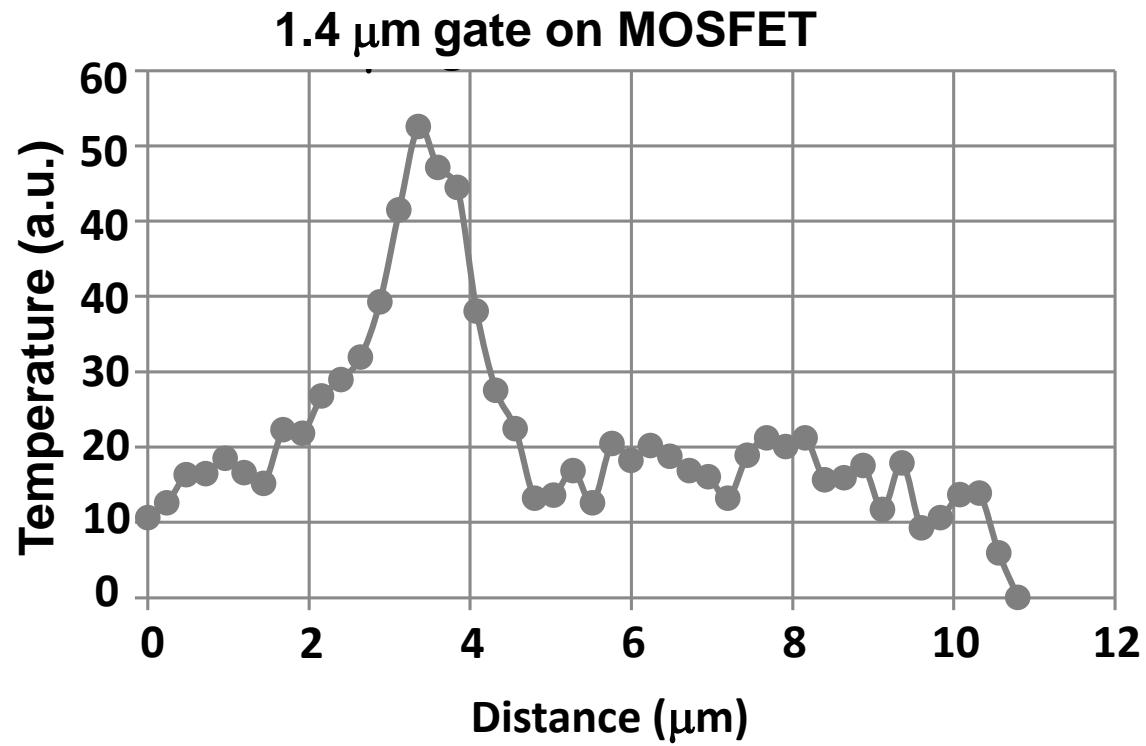
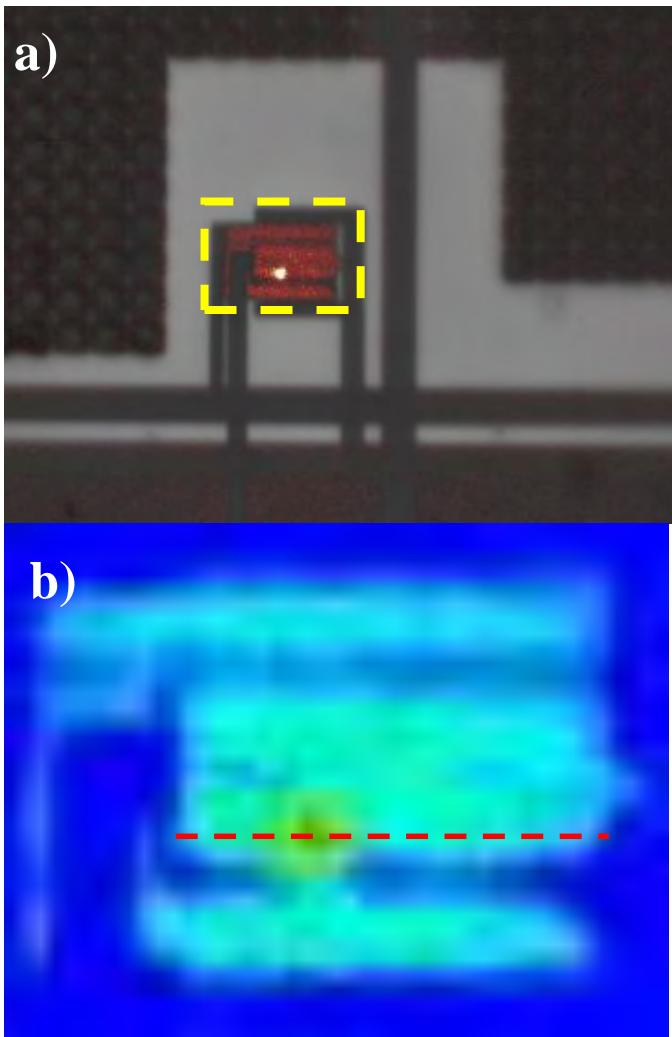


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# Thermal Image of <500nm Defect

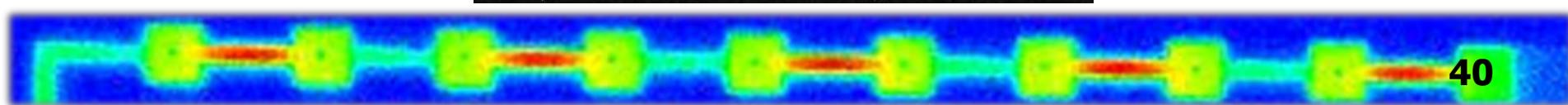
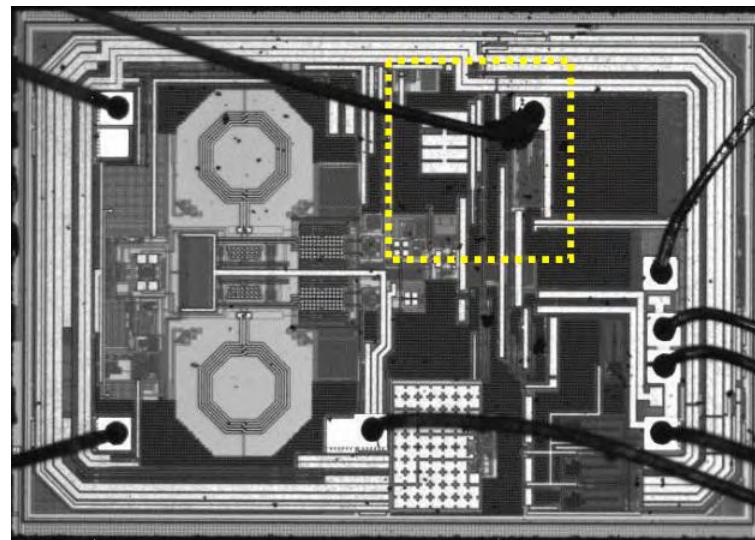


# Small hotspot



# Transient Measurement of Latchup in an IC

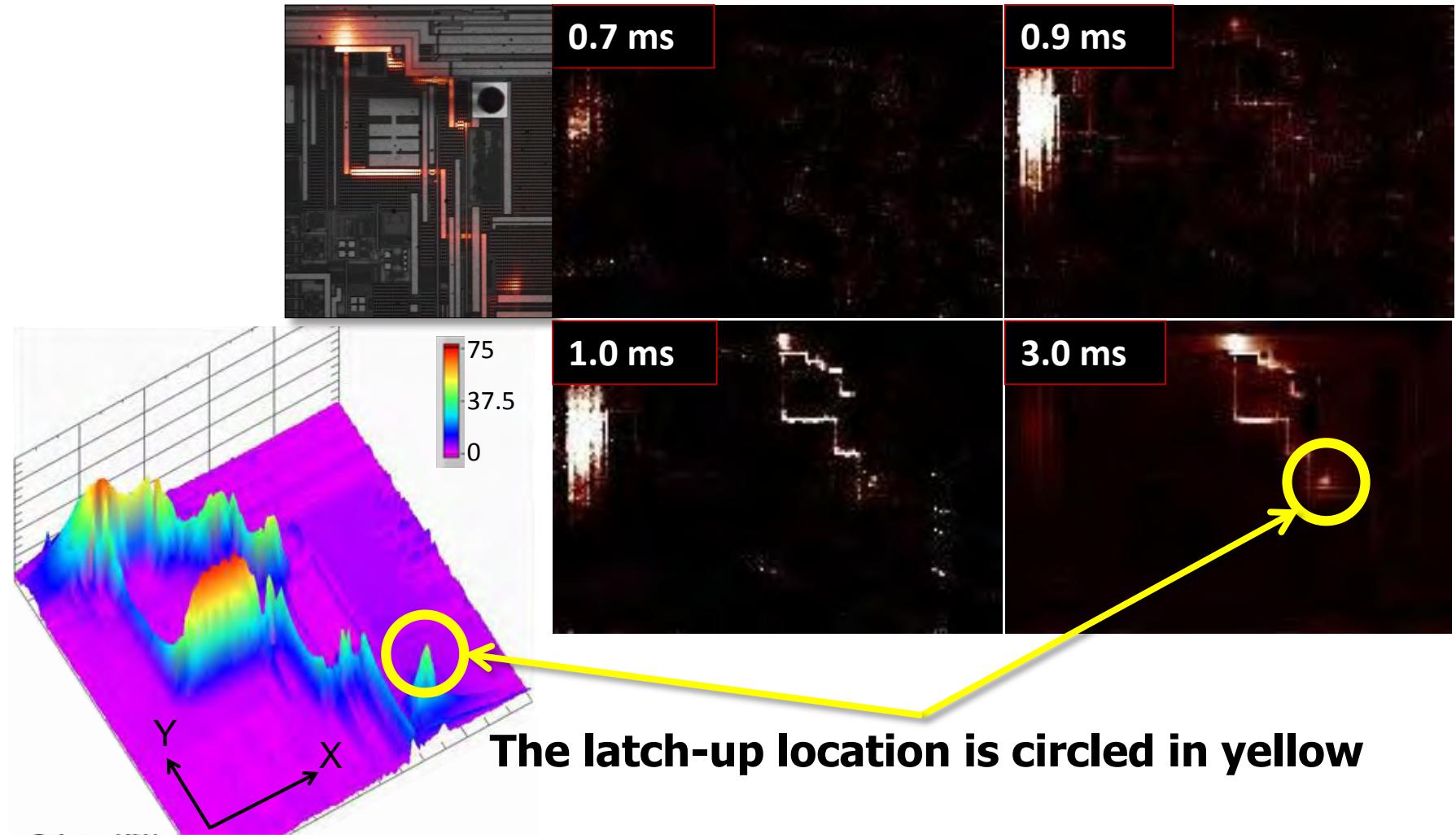
- By synchronizing with the startup sequence of the IC, transient temperature maps can show different stages and locations of the power cycle
- For devices with higher power dissipations and poor heat sinking, low duty cycles can be used to limit overall heating. This can prevent damage done to the device that could occur at DC bias





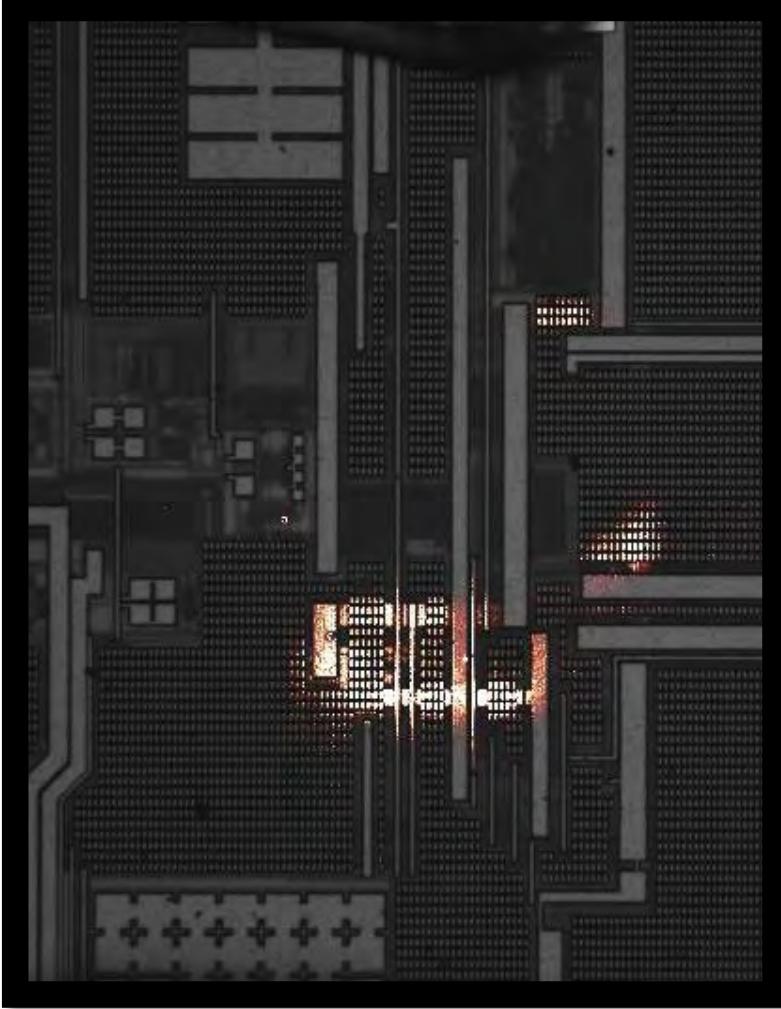
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# Transient Behavior of IC Latch-Up

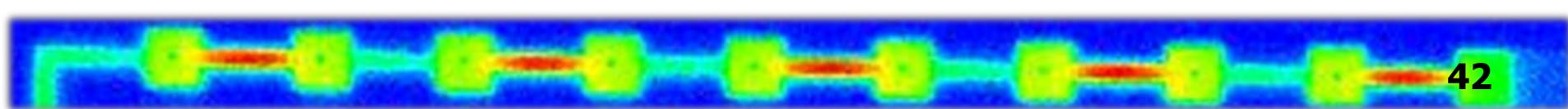
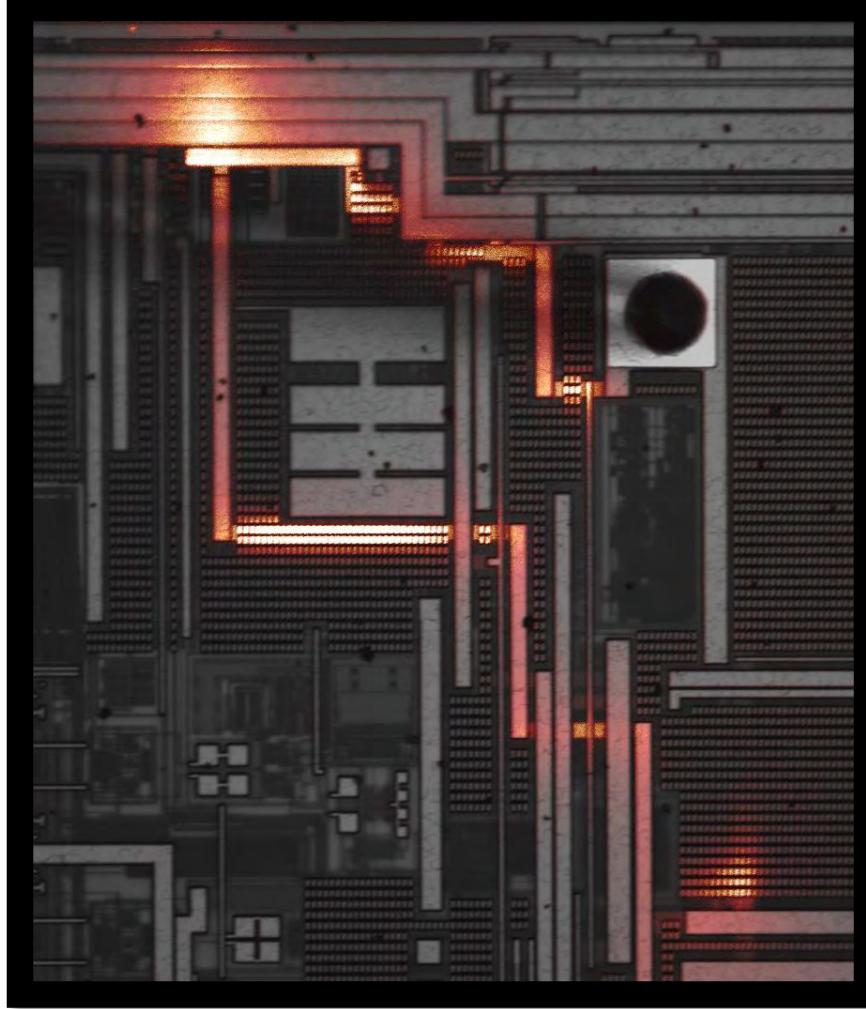


# Current paths for DUT1 and DUT2

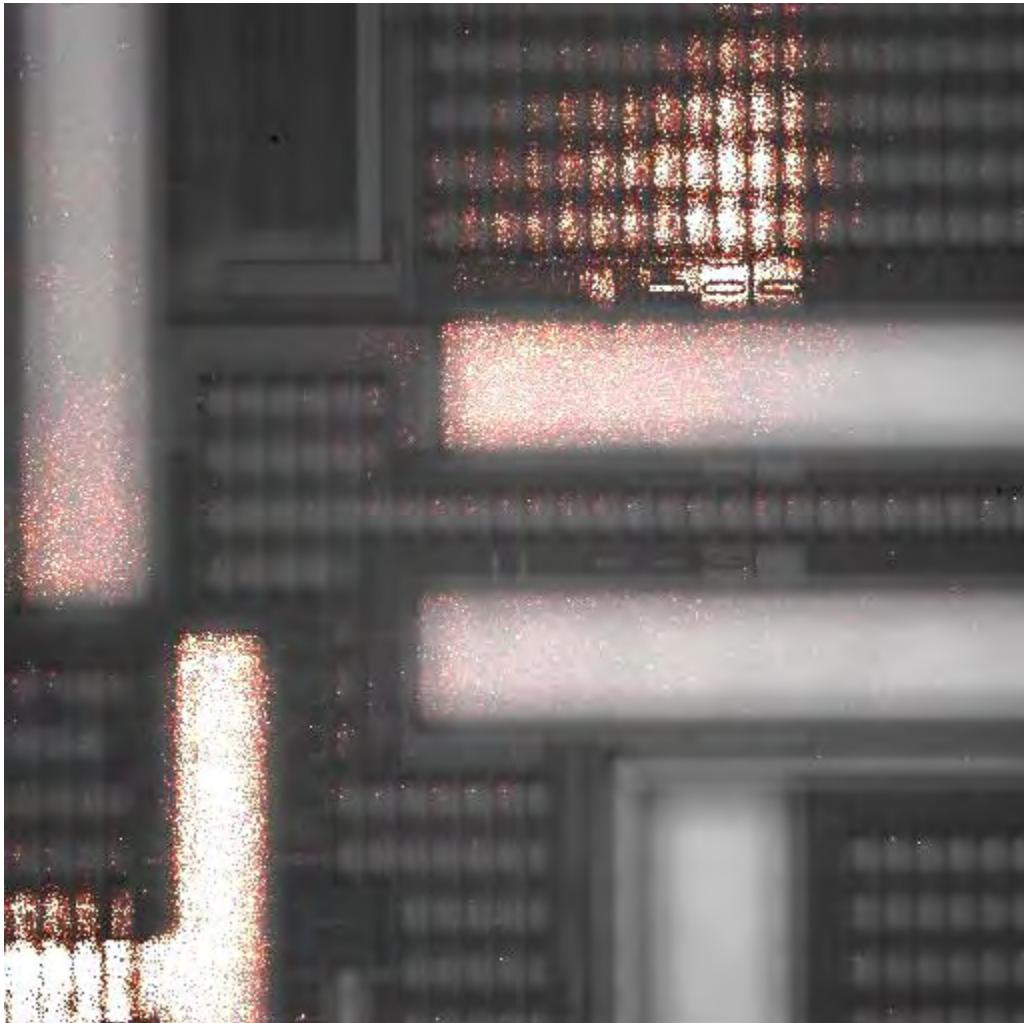
DUT1



DUT2

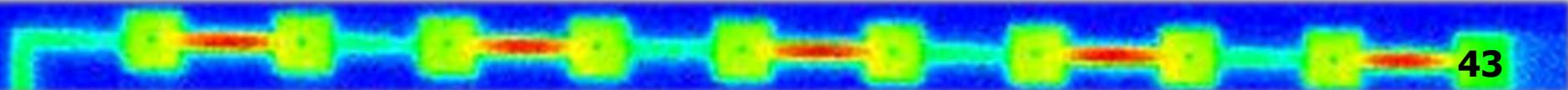
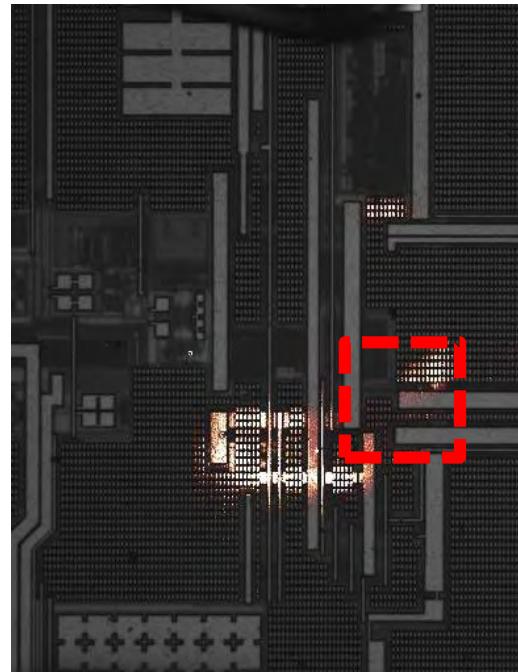


# 100x Thermoreflectance image overlay



This is an overlay of the optical and thermal image at 100x magnification

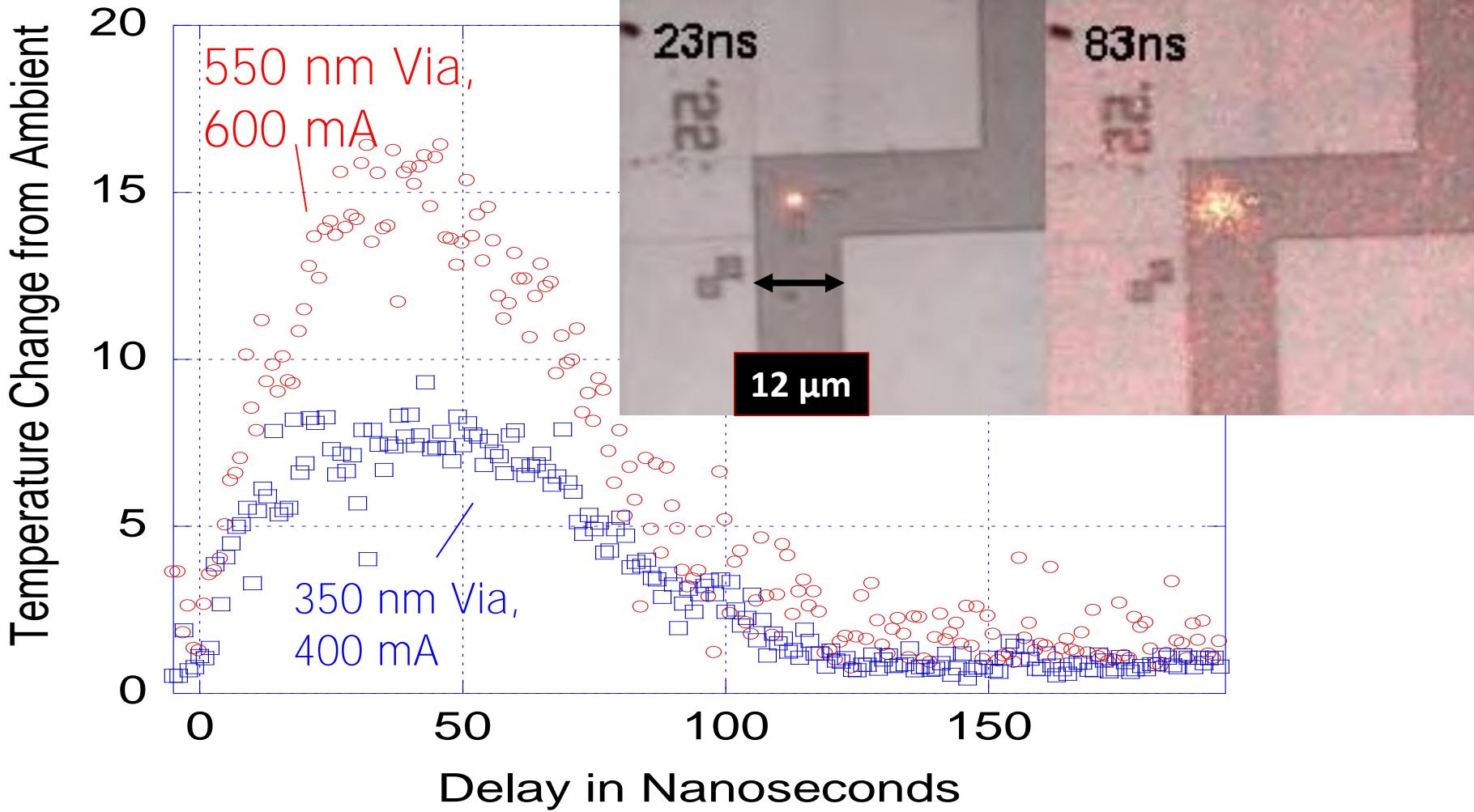
At 100x the depth of focus is 870nm,  
so this thermal image is focused on  
the top metal surface.





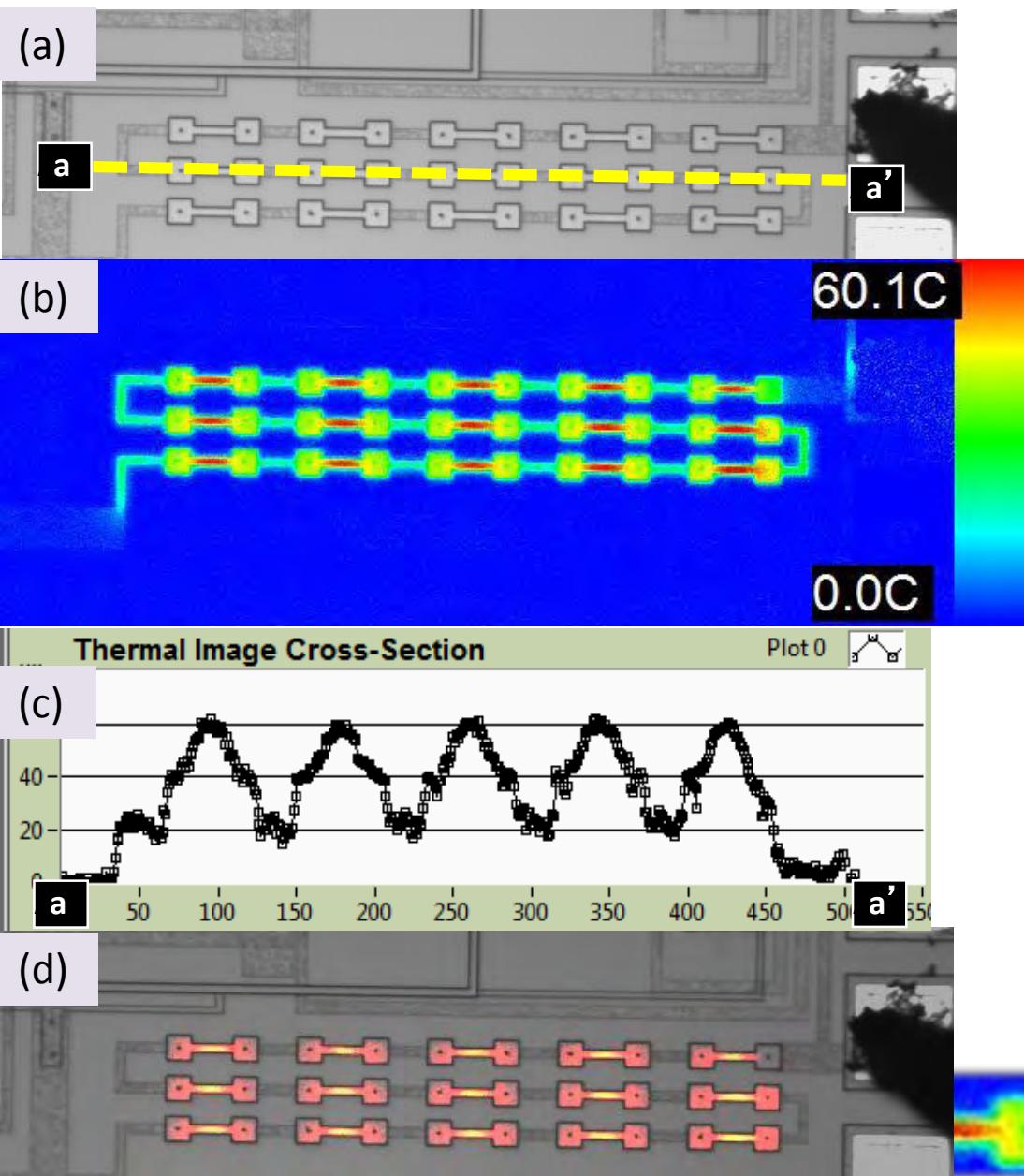
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## Study of heating in submicron interconnect via



J. Christofferson et al., *Proceedings of Int. Heat Transfer Conf.*, August 2010

# Verify Interconnect & Via Integrity



Determine if defects are due to single elements or are uniform throughout the whole chain.  
 (2D temperature/power map instead of a 1 point electrical measurement)

Polysilicon via chain shows uniform power dissipation. If single element is causing higher resistance in the chain, it would have higher temperature compared to the other vias.

- Optical image
- Thermal image
- Temperature profile
- Merged optical/thermal image shows location of heating



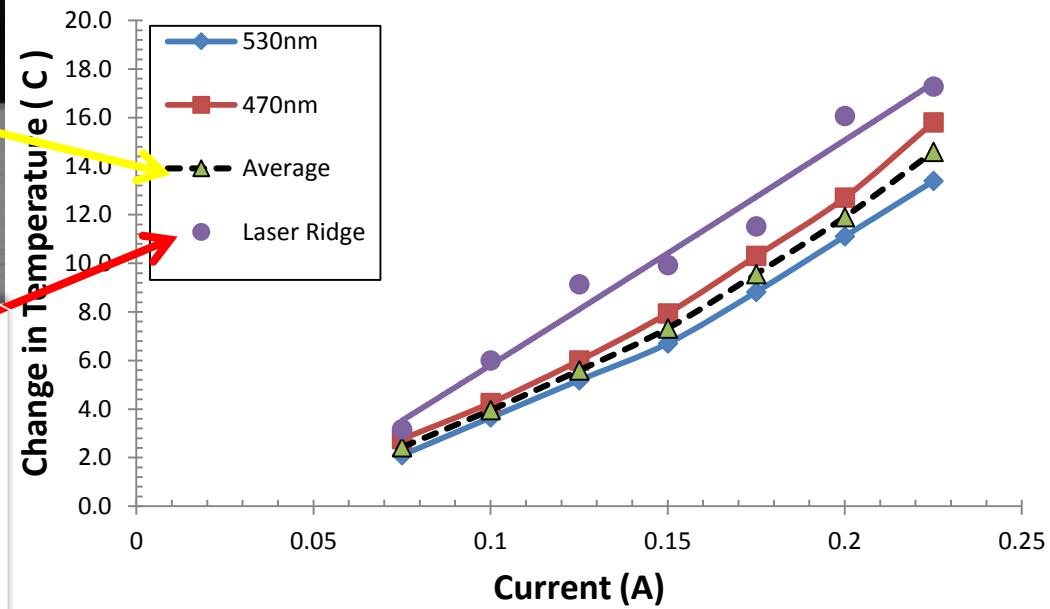
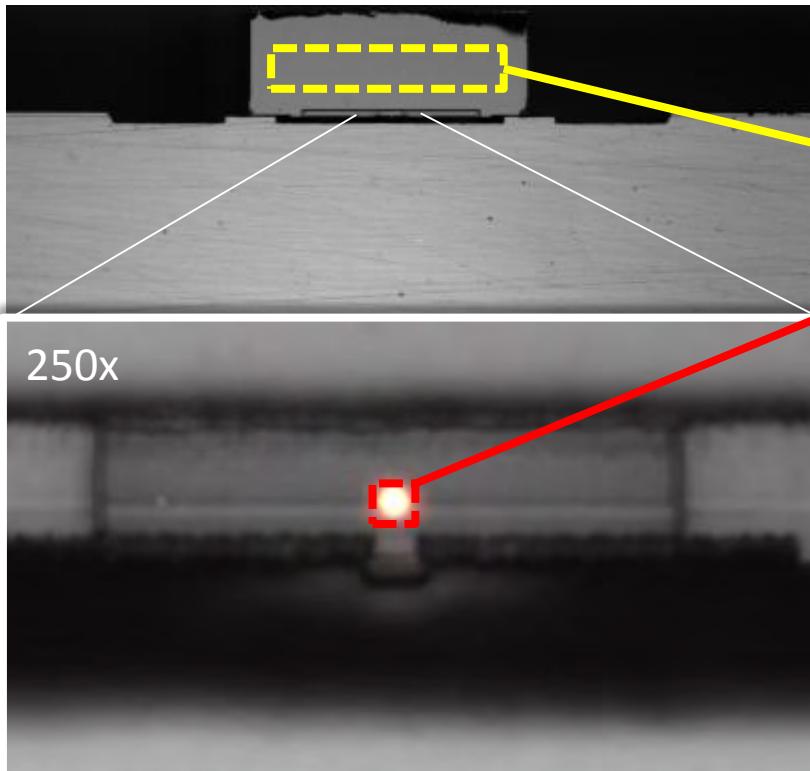
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# InP Laser device (cross section) with 530nm and 470nm LEDs



Areas of interest (0.5 mm x 1 mm)

In flip chip package

Forward diode voltage 0.73V

250mA transient thermal images at 10, 20, 100, 200 $\mu$ s



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10.0E-6S

30.0C

20.0E-6S

30.0C

100x

100.0E-6S

0.0C

30.0C

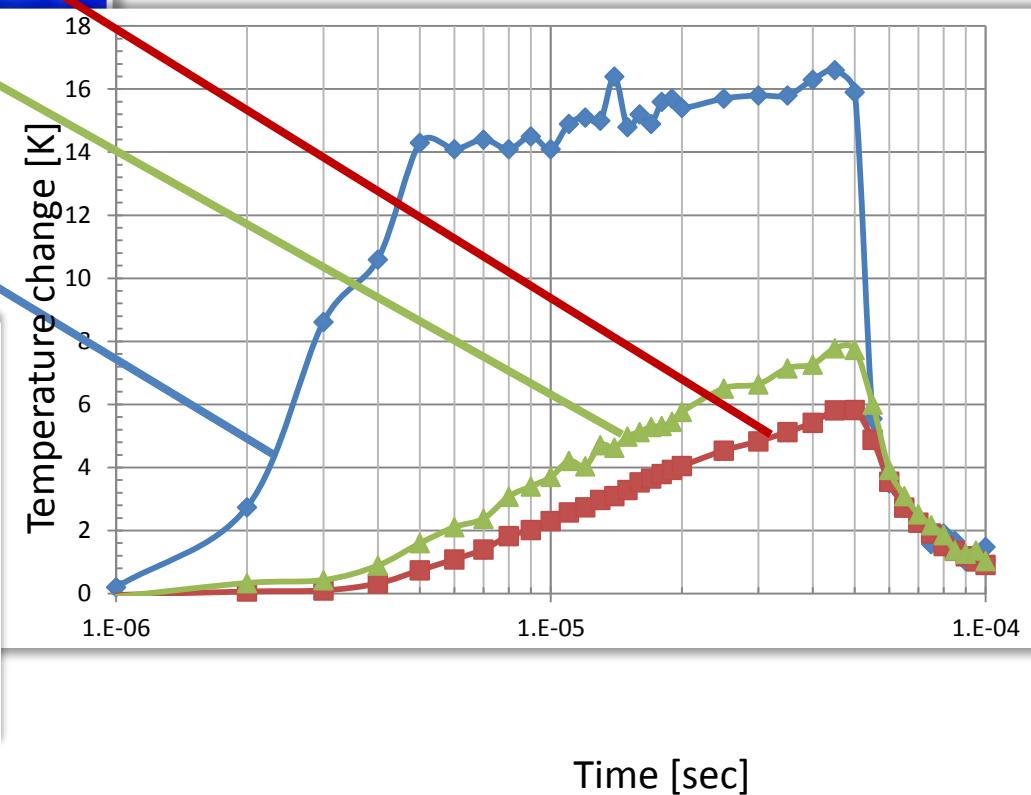
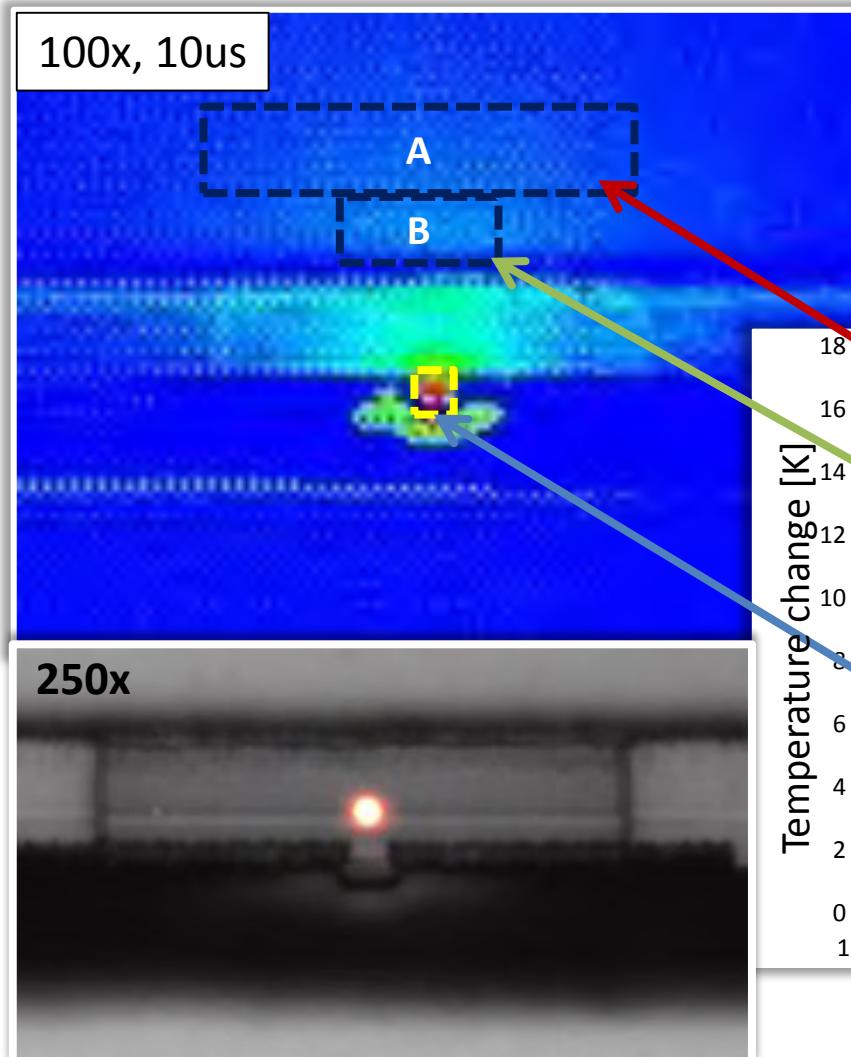
0.0C

30.0C

0.0C

0.0C

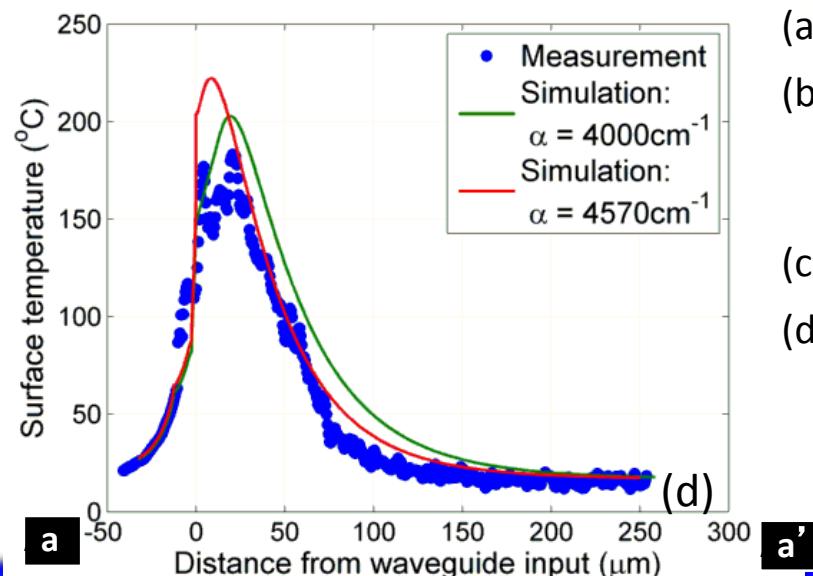
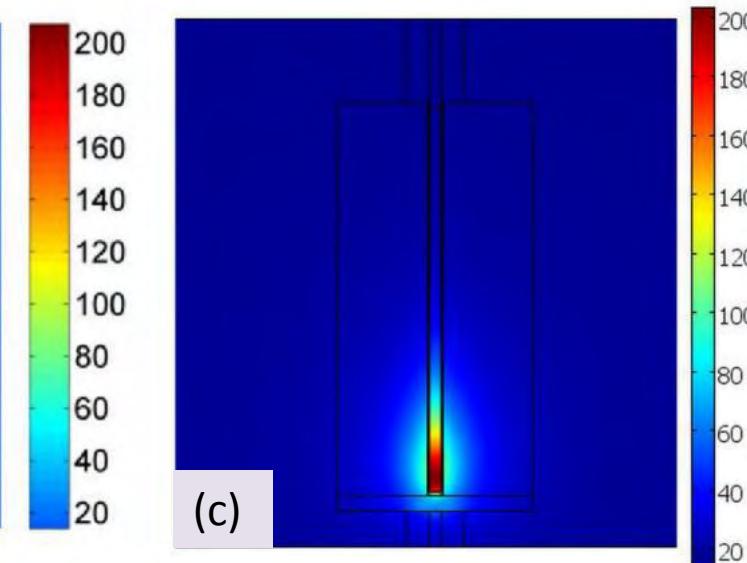
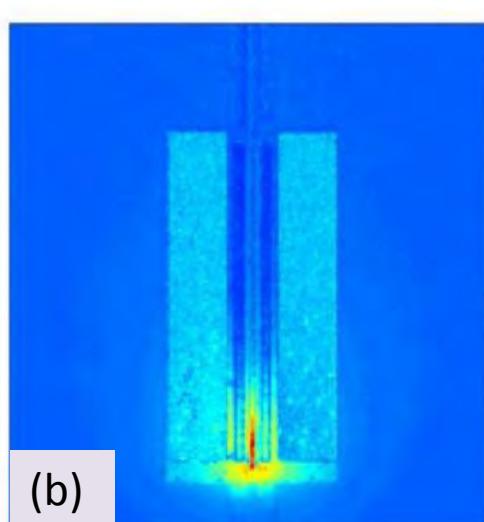
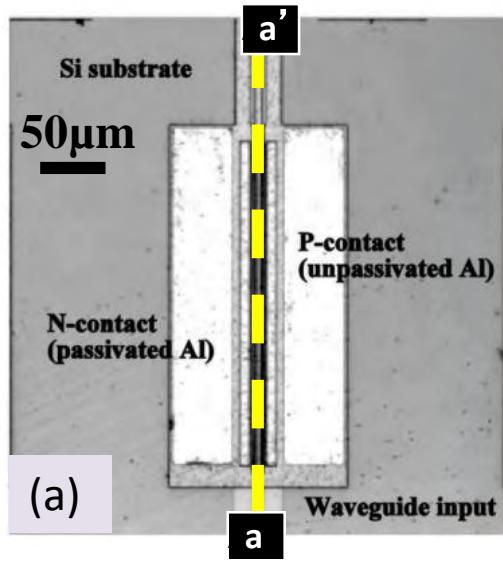
# Transient response (250mA pulse)



# Ge/Si p-i-n Waveguide Photodiode



M. Piels et al., Proc. of Integrated Photonics Research, Silicon and Nanophotonics (IPRSN), July 2010



- (a) Grayscale image of DUT (7.4  $\mu\text{m}$  channel width)
- (b) Thermoreflectance imaging result. Signal from unpassivated Al on p-contacts is below noise floor so these areas should be neglected
- (c) COMSOL simulation results
- (d) Surface temperature profile

Characterize Optoelectronic devices  
and verify thermal simulations



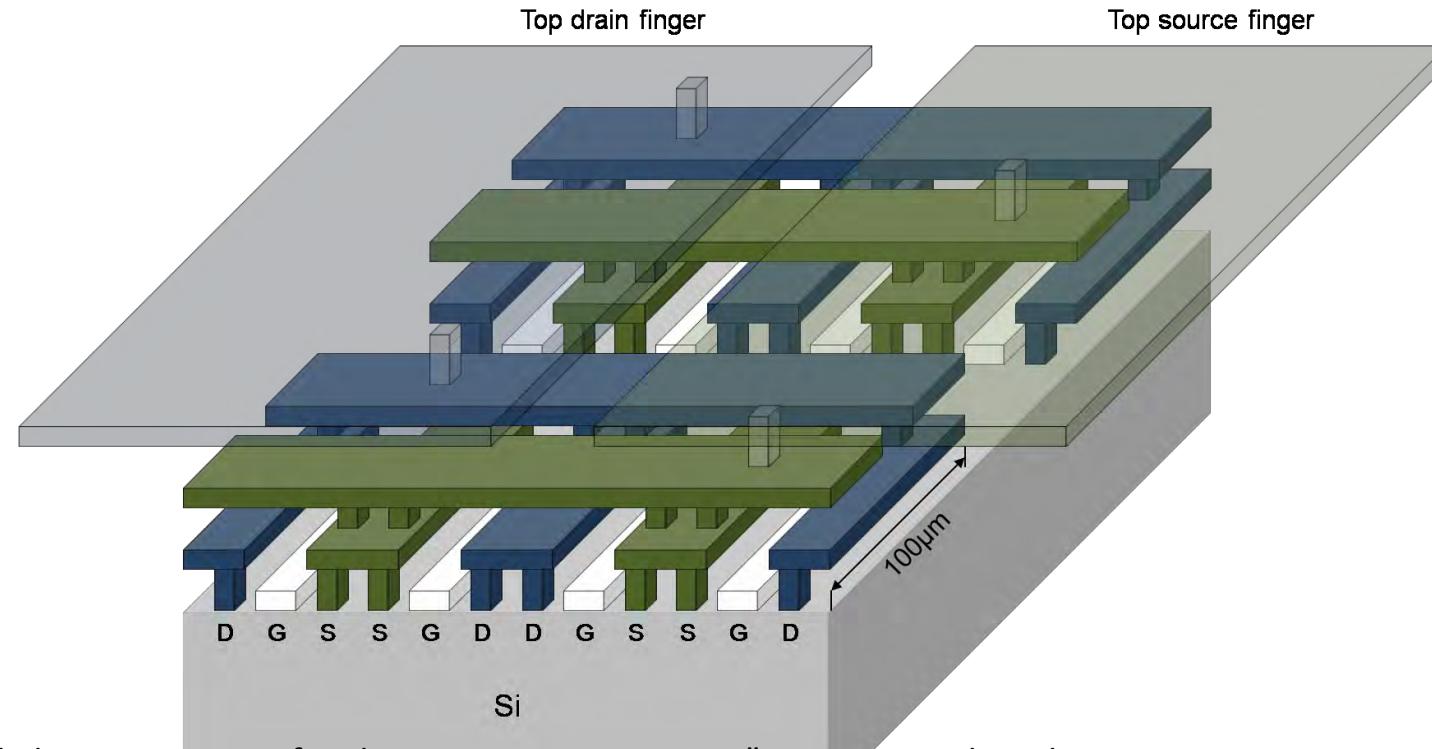
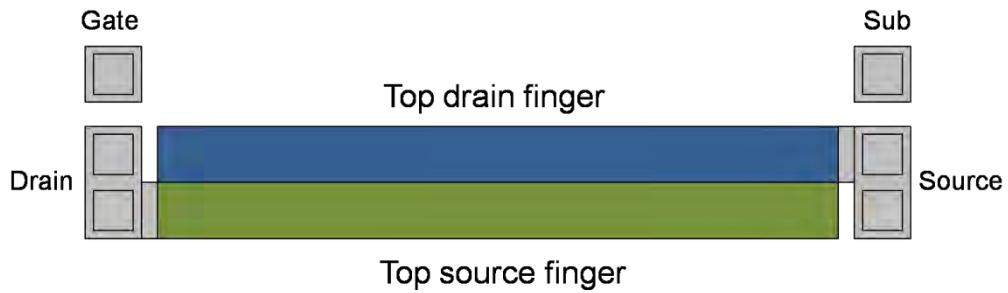
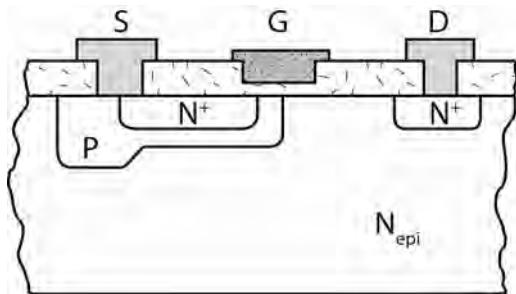
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# High Power MOSFET Transistor Array

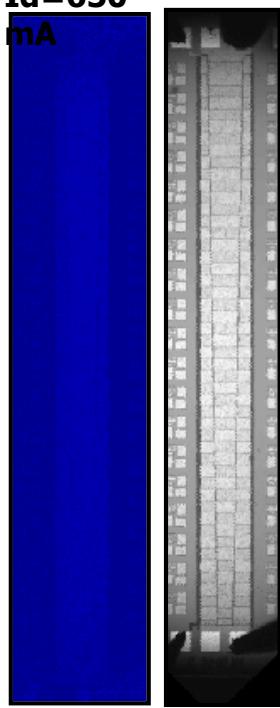


"Thermal Characterization of High Power Transistor Arrays", K. Maize et al, 25th IEEE SEMI-THERM Symposium, 2009.

# SOA of Transistor Arrays

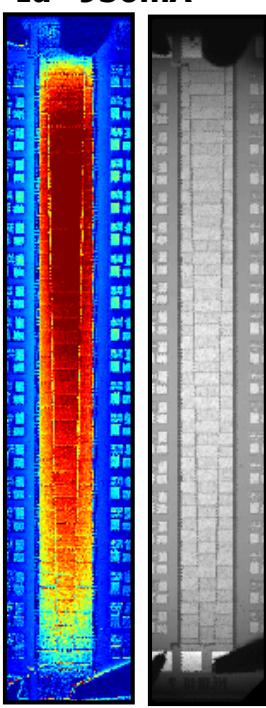
$V_d = 4V$

$I_d = 650$   
mA



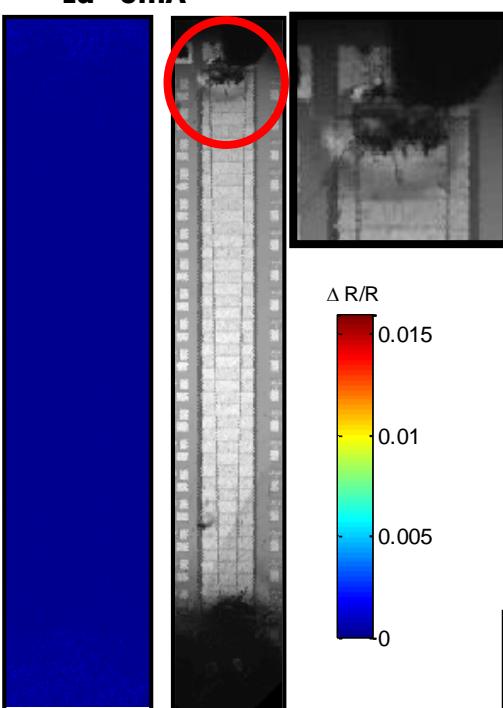
$V_d = 37V$

$I_d = 950mA$



$V_d = 38V$

$I_d = 0mA$

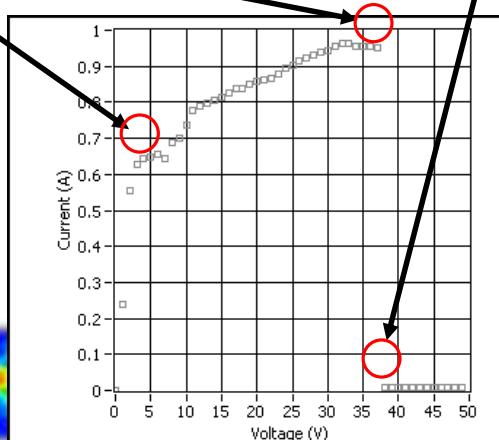


**Catastrophic failure  
at  $V_{ds} = 37$  V due to  
heating on source  
finger.**

NLDMOS transistor array

Pulsed SOA thermoreflectance:  
2.5 ms pulse width, 8% duty,  $V_g$   
 $= 2V$ ,  $V_d = 1$  to 50V.

Thermal DC



Safe operating areas  
(SOA) of devices can be  
used to identify and  
troubleshoot reliability  
issues in electronic  
devices.

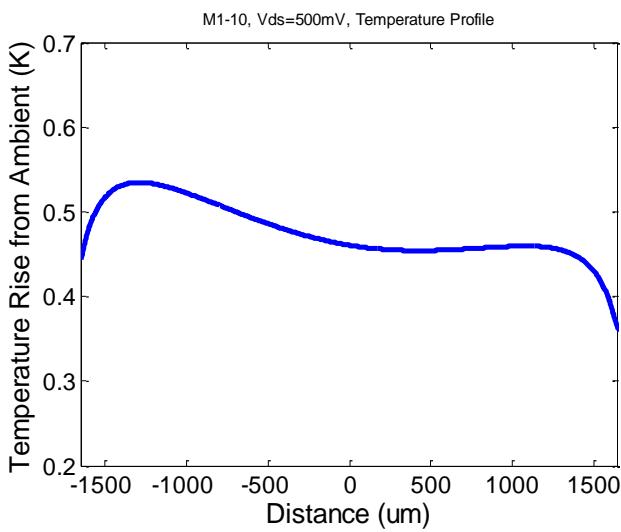
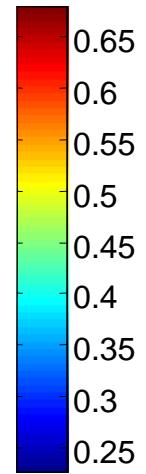
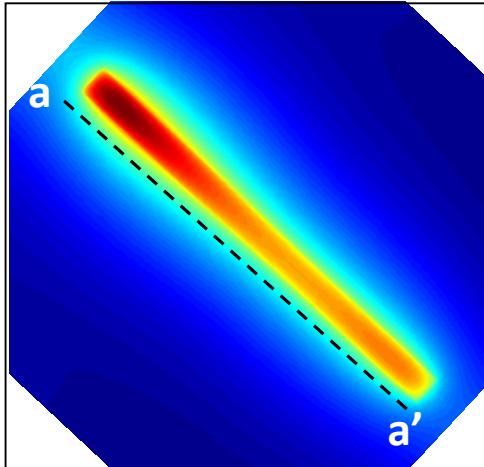
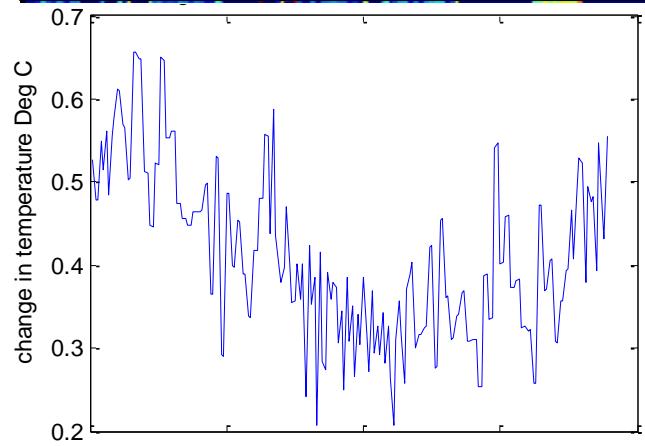
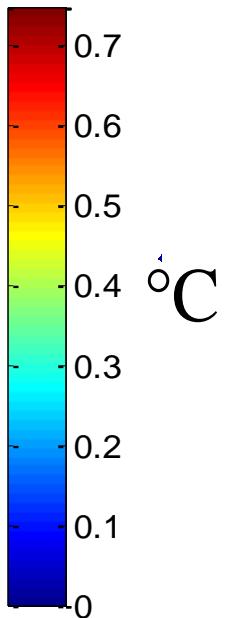
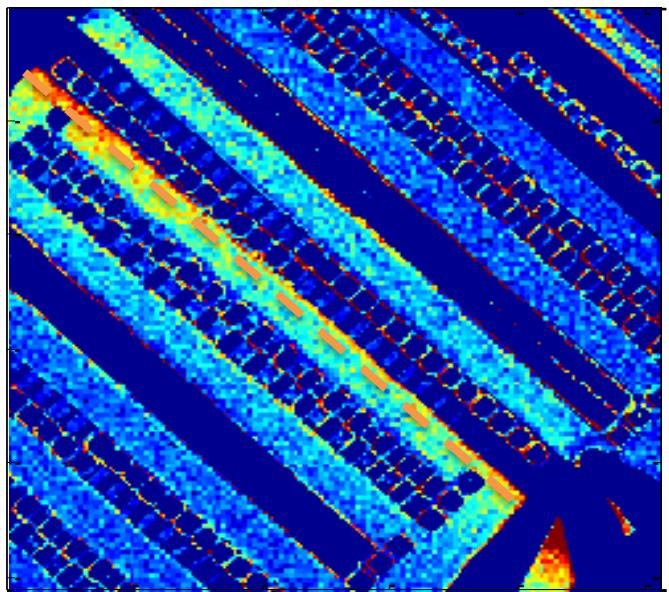


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## Thermal image vs. simulation at low bias

$V_d = 0.5V$ ,  $I_d \approx 0.5A$

6 amps/mm<sup>2</sup>





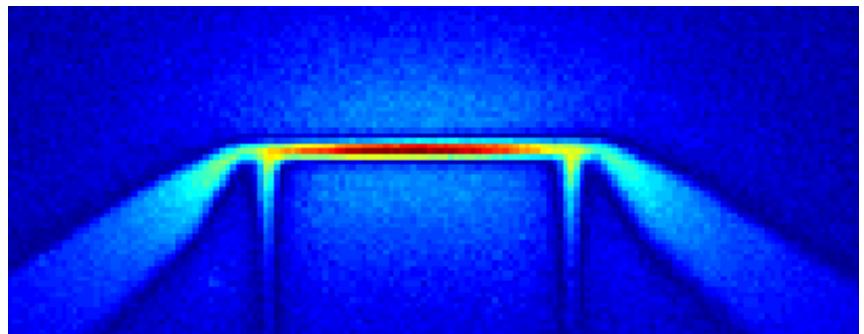
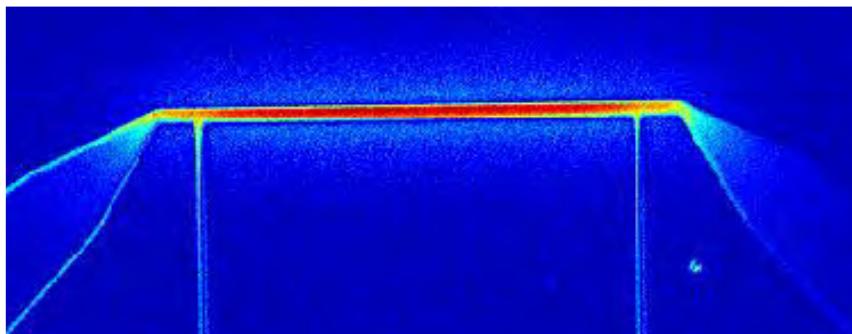
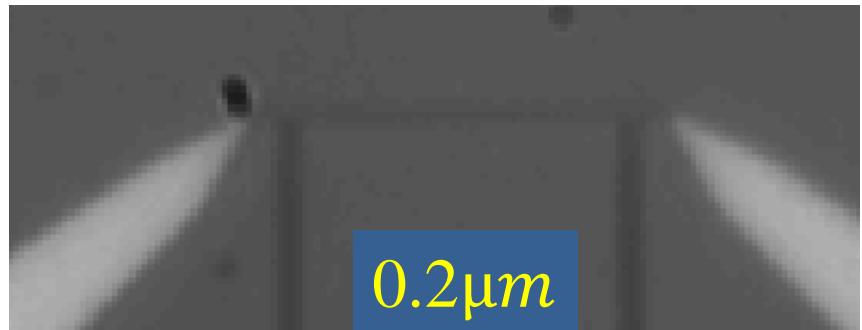
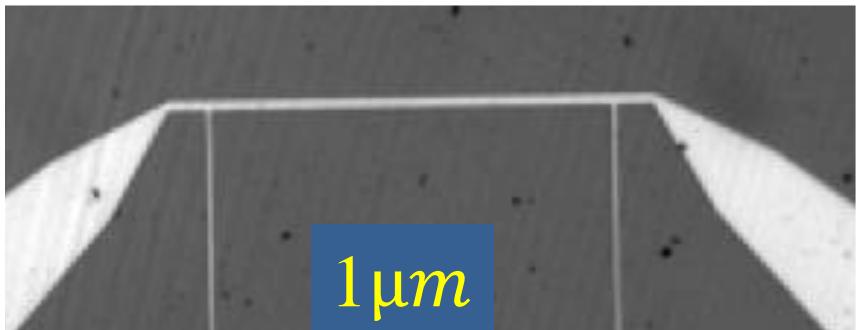
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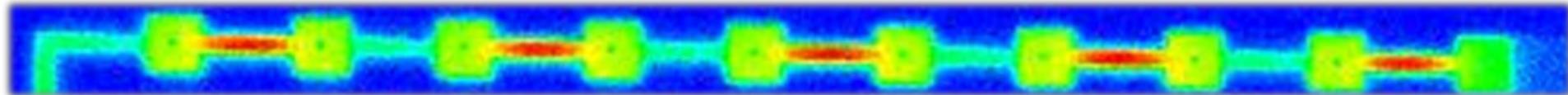
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# Sub-diffraction TR Imaging



- $\lambda=530\text{nm}$  and  $R \approx 360\text{nm}$
- Then why we observe thermal images?



# Sub-diffraction TR Imaging

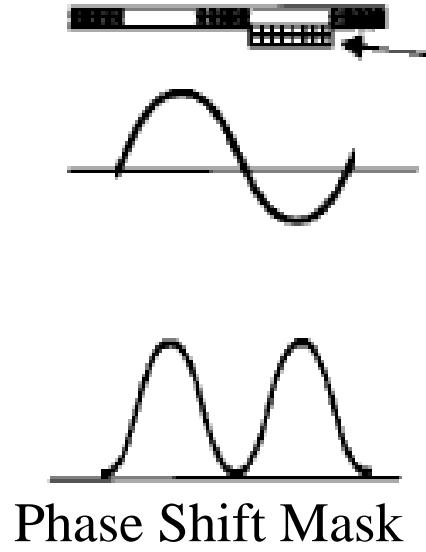
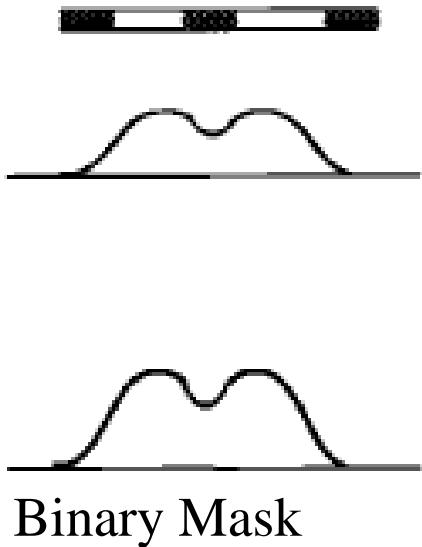
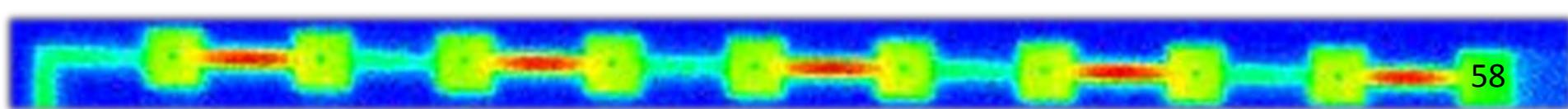
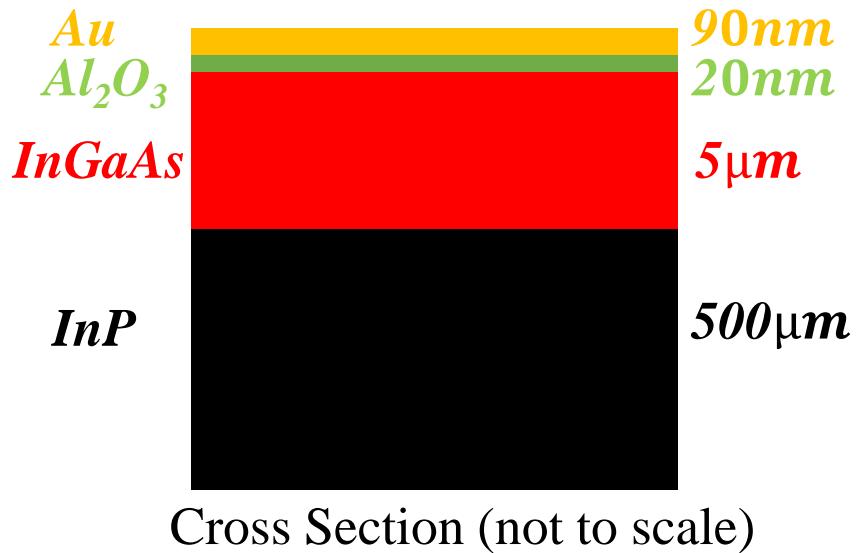


Image Intensity

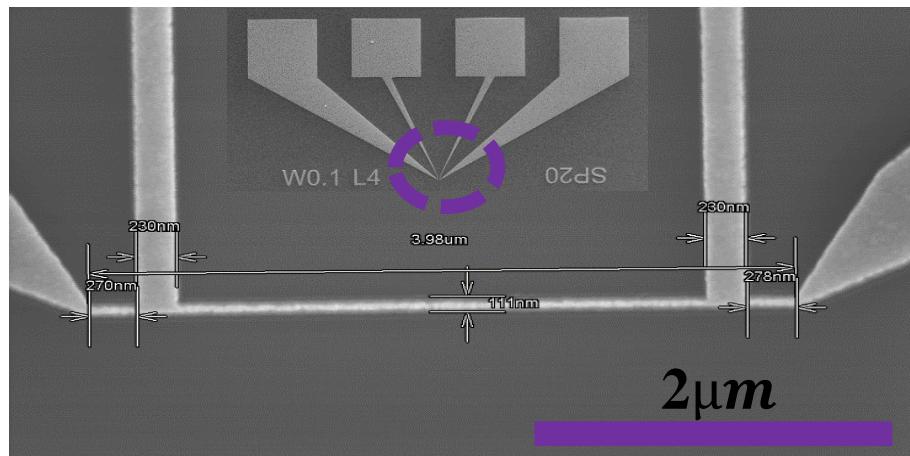
L.R. HARRIOTT , Limits of Lithography, Proceedings of IEEE, 2001



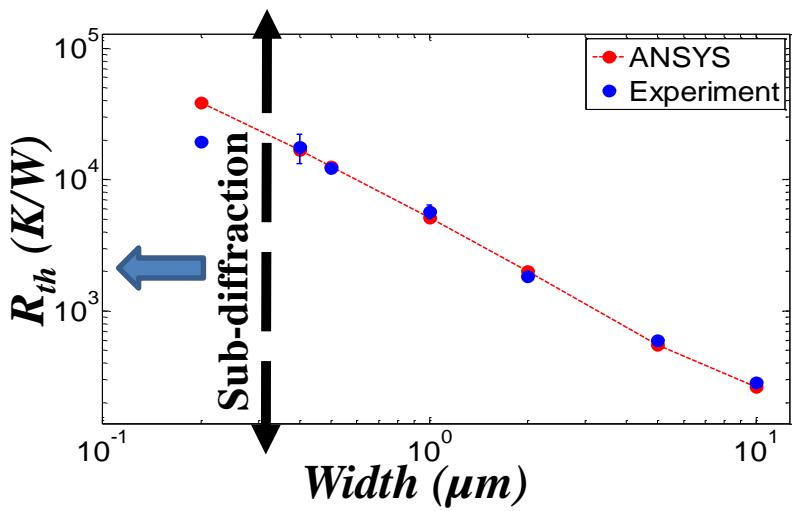
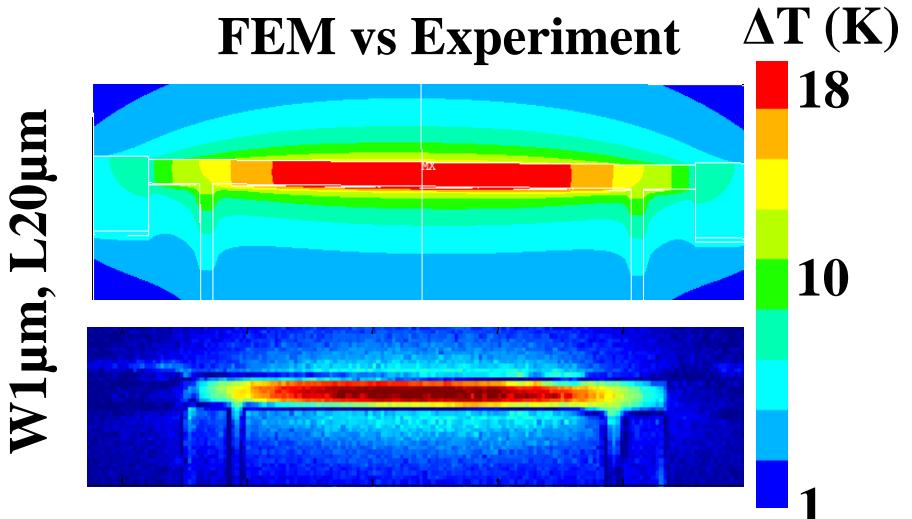
# Comparison with Modeling



Cross Section (not to scale)



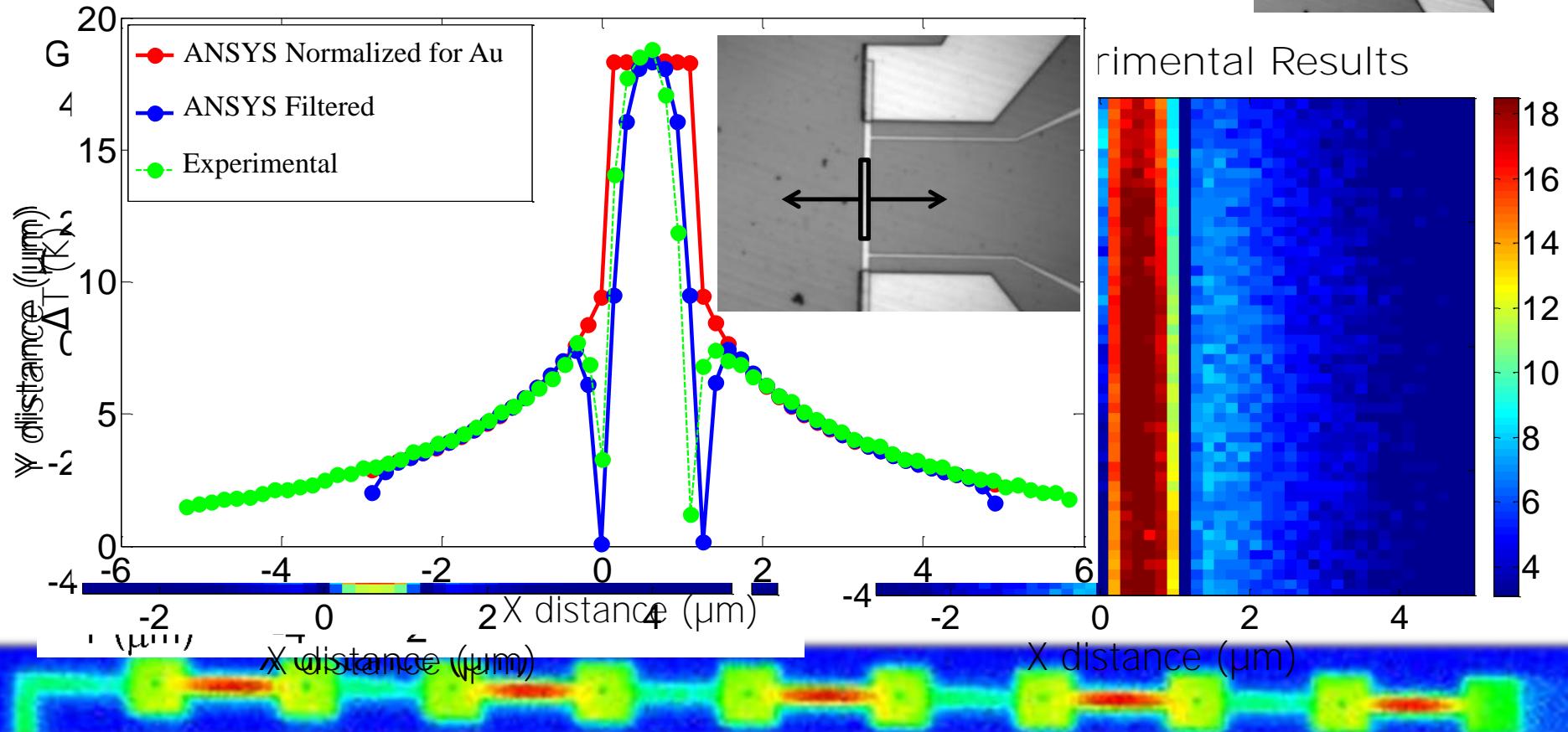
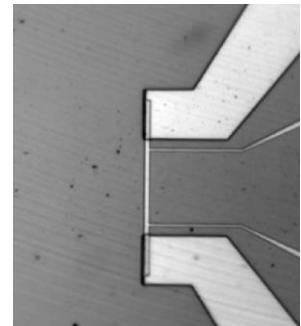
SEM of a 100nm heater line



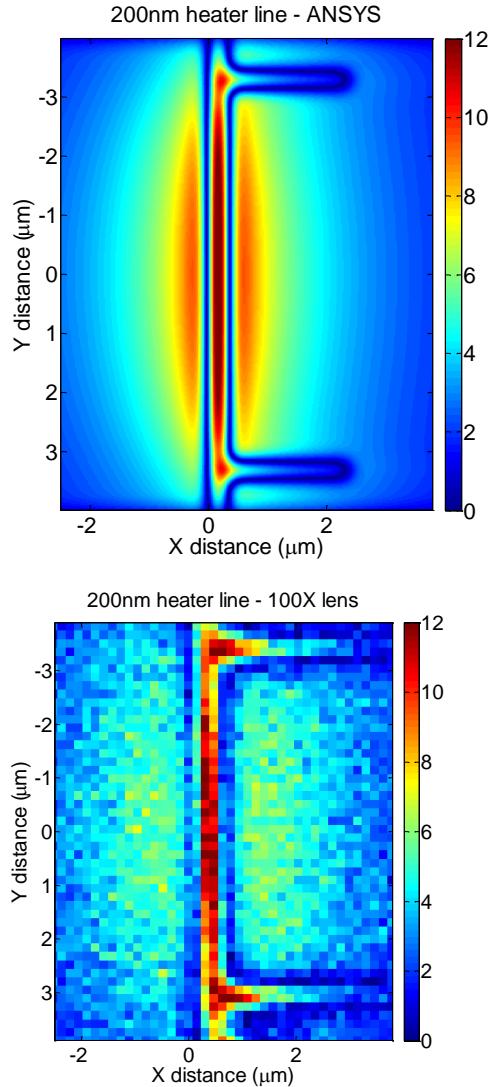
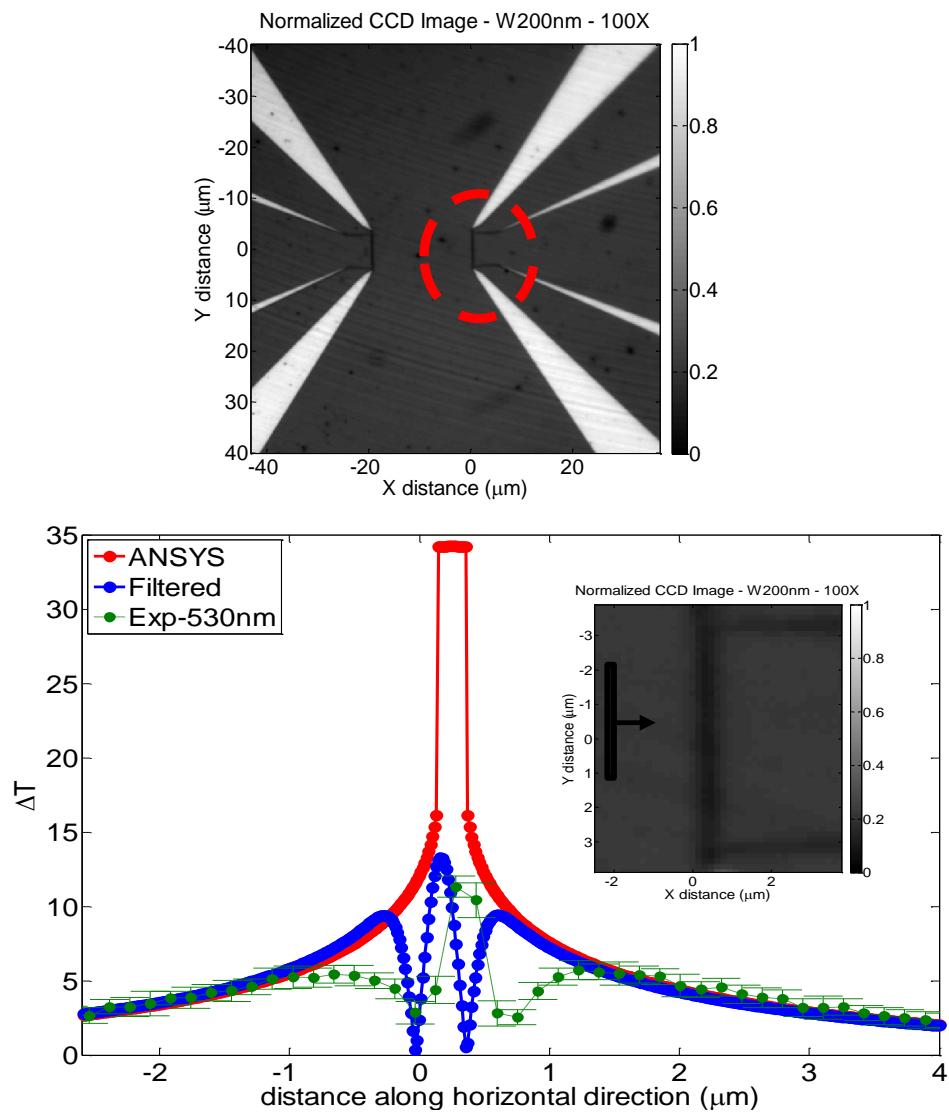
# Thermal Blurring Model

1. Temperature profile obtained from ANSYS
2. Calibrate the ANSYS result with Gold CTR only
3. Blur the thermal image with the Gaussian filter

*W1μm, L20μm*



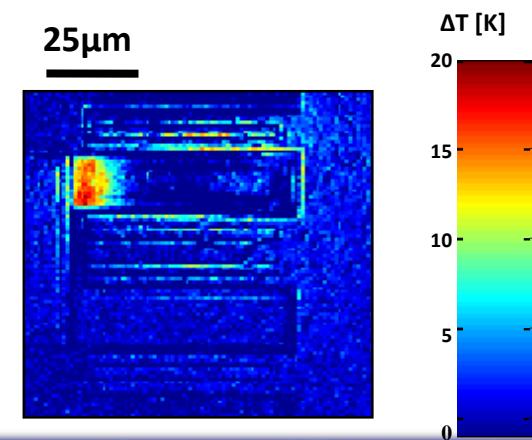
# Sub-diffraction TR Imaging



□ We know how the forward process works, we are solving the inverse problem → Accurate TR imaging down to 30-50nm

# Summary

- **250nm** thermal images lead to more accurate peak temperature measurements
- **800ps** Transient thermal measurements show unique characteristics of devices (time-varying hot spots)
- Lock-in thermal imaging allows detection of  $\mu\text{W}$  defects.
- Non-contact/Non-destructive



# Publications

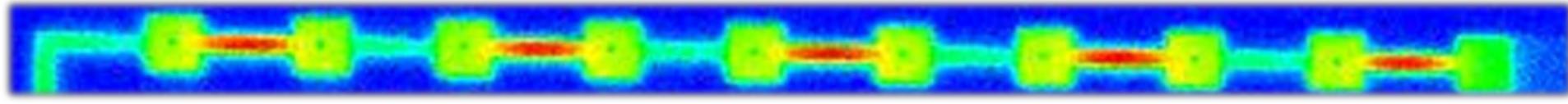
- Bias-Dependent MOS Transistor Thermal Resistance and Non-Uniform Self-heating Temperature
- Si/Ge uni-traveling carrier photodetector
- High-power high-linearity flip-chip bonded modified uni-traveling carrier photodiode
- Time and Frequency Domain CCD-Based Thermoreflectance Techniques for High-Resolution Transient Thermal Imaging
- Understanding the Thermoreflectance Coefficient for High Resolution Thermal Imaging of Microelectronic Devices
- High Speed Transient Thermal Imaging of Microelectronic Devices and Circuits
- Thermal Characterization of High Power Transistor Arrays
- Time and Frequency Domain CCD-Based Thermoreflectance Techniques for High-Resolution Transient Thermal Imaging
- Thermoreflectance Imaging of Defects in Thin-Film Solar Cells
- Thermal Imaging of Encapsulated LEDs
- Quantum Electronics Group, Jack Baskin School of Engineering at UC Santa Cruz
- Thermal Imaging for Reliability Characterization of Copper Vias
- Ultrafast Submicron Thermoreflectance Imaging
- Sub-diffraction thermal imaging in HEMT Transistors

More information at <http://microsanj.com/news-and-papers>

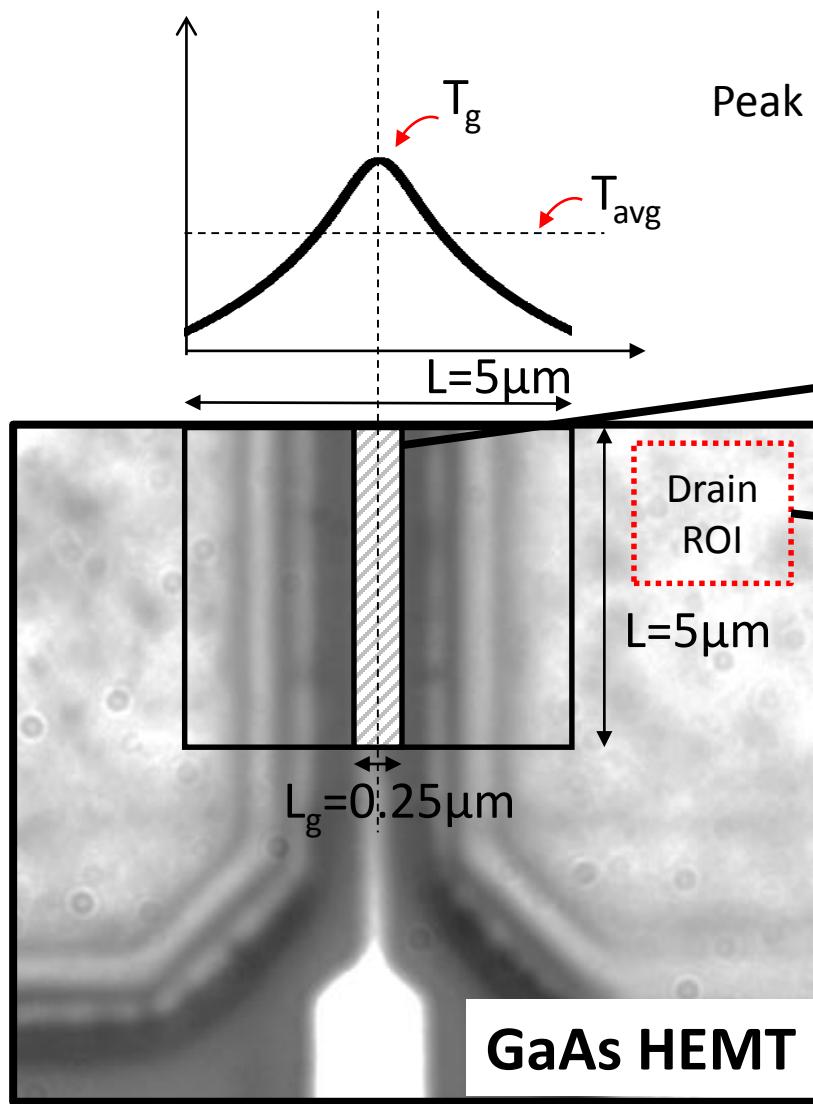
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  - For questions, product updates & availability, consulting services

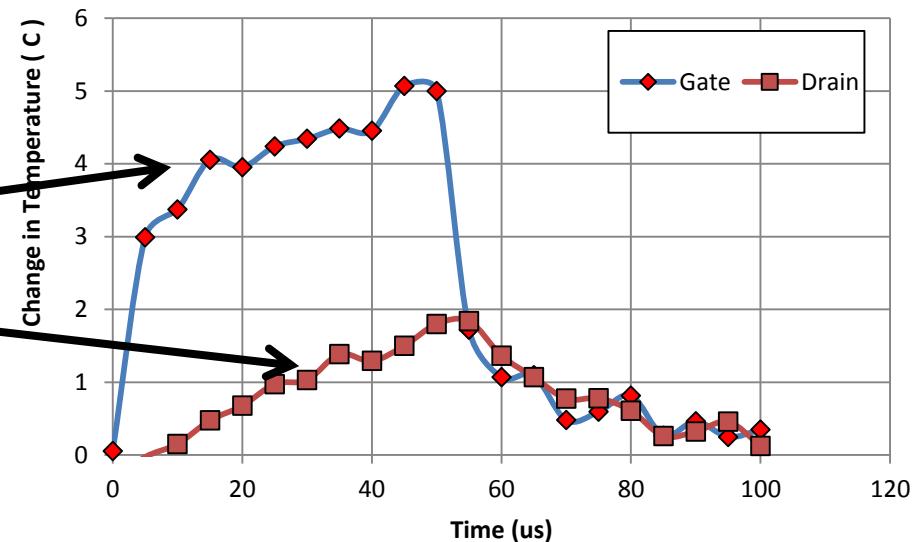
# Bonus



# Gate and Drain Transient Response

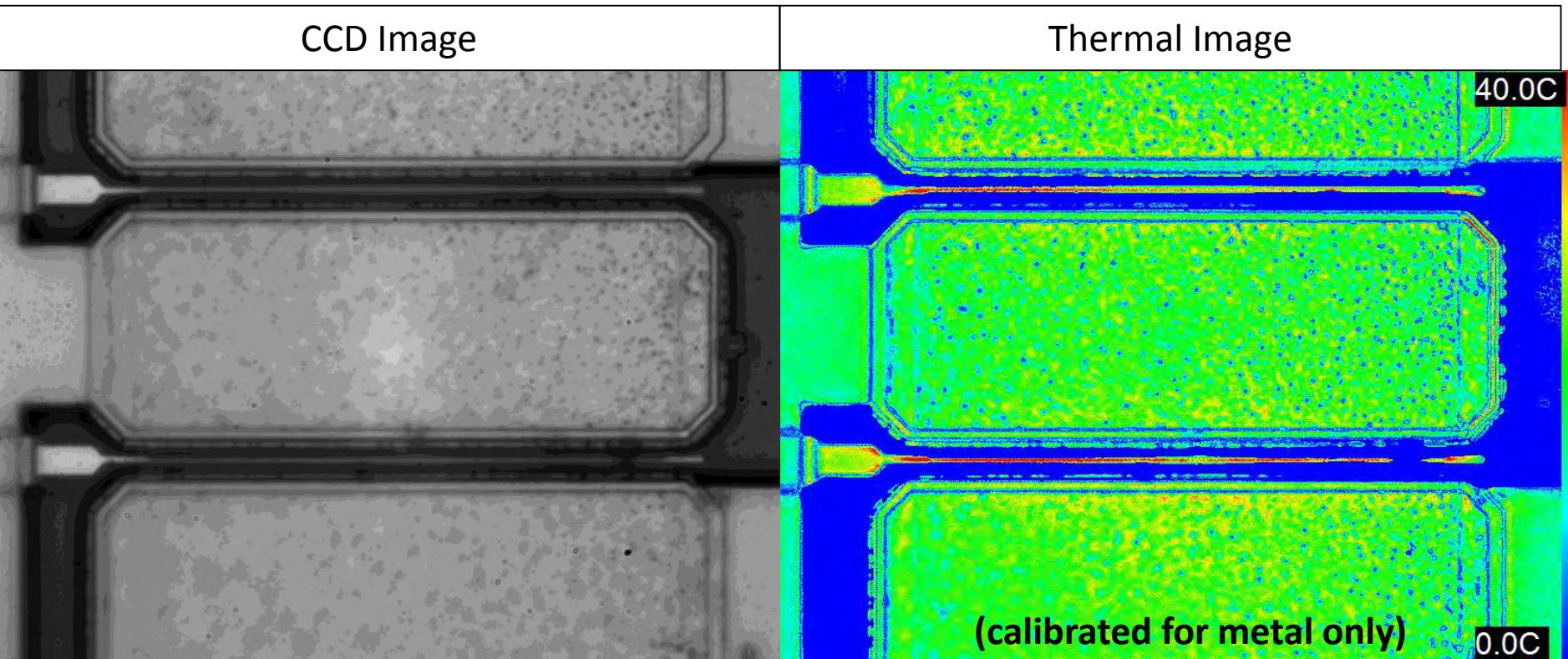


Peak Temperature can be off by 30%



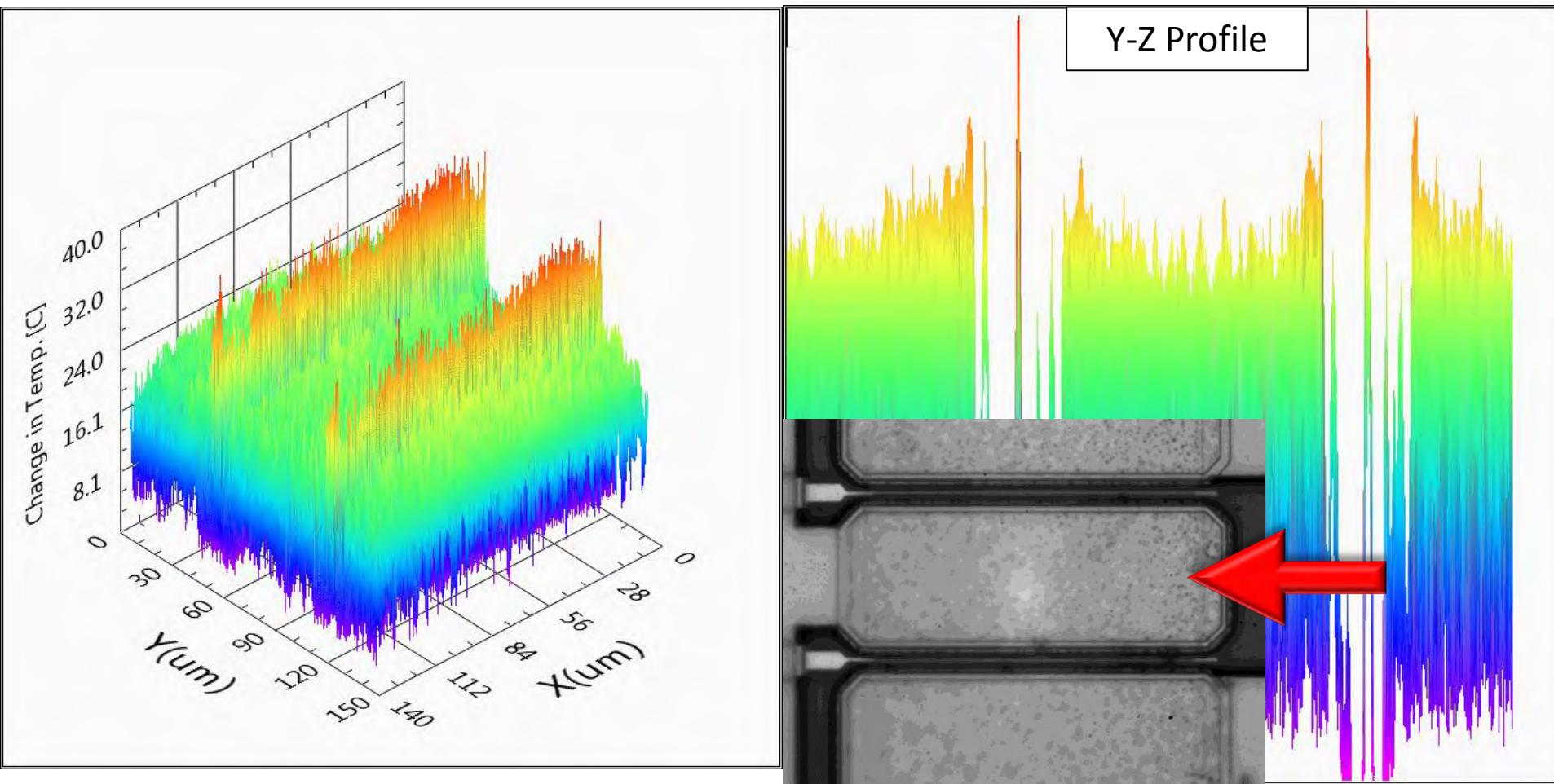
High Speed thermal measurements clearly show gate heating in first 5μs, then drain heating following behind. 44mA, 1V

# 100x thermal image of gate



This shows the side temperature profile of the center of the pHEMT. The dark channel region is not calibrated for, and did not show a strong signal.

# 3D Temperature Profiles of HEMT at 100x



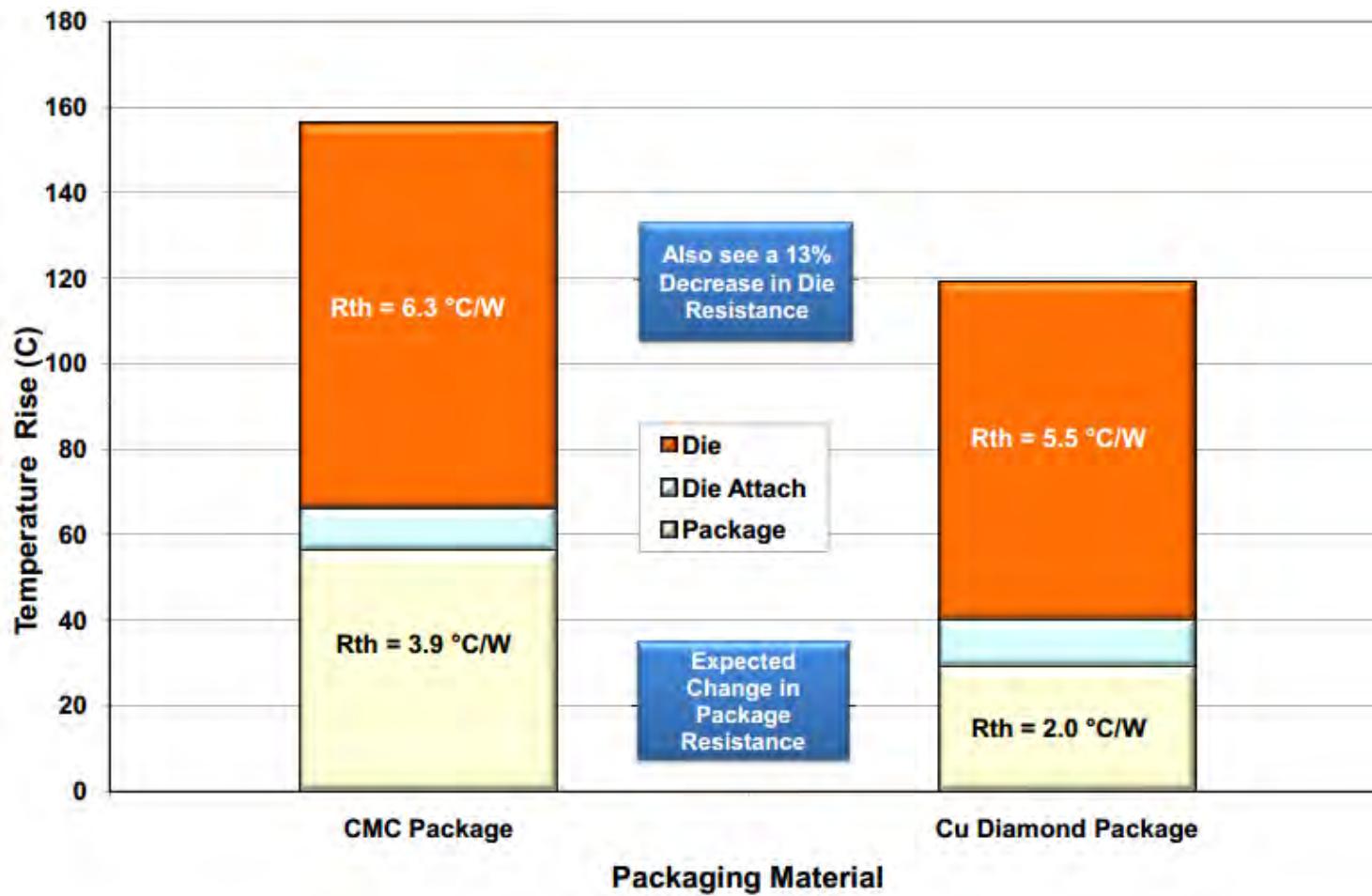
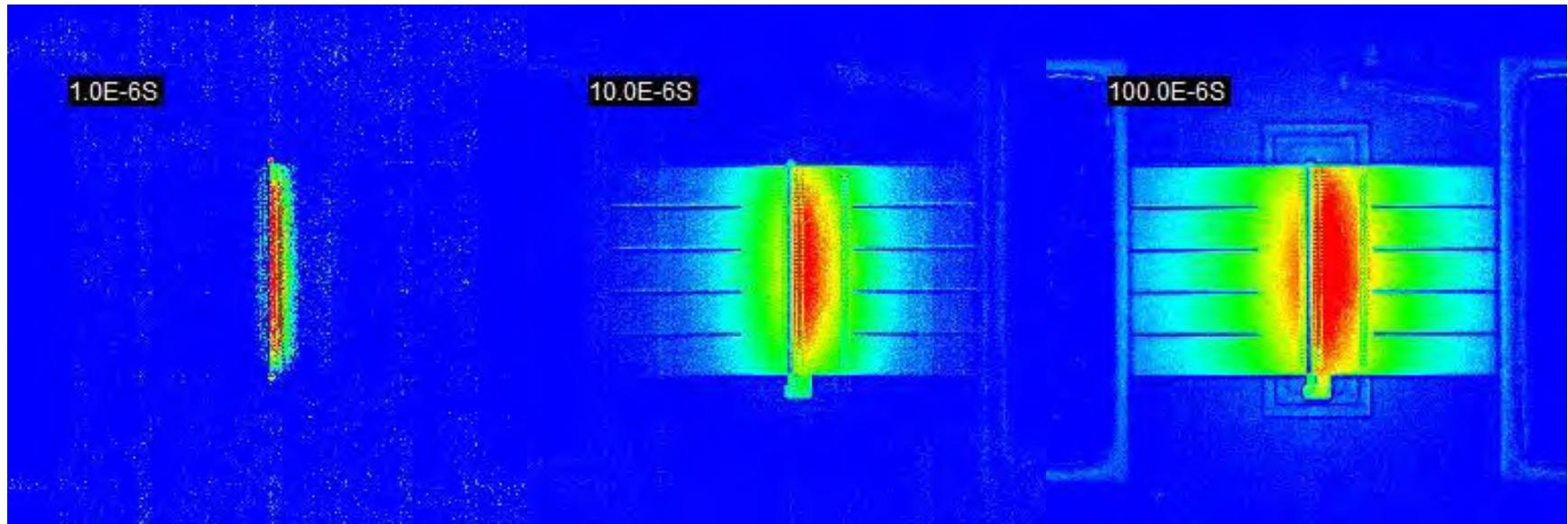


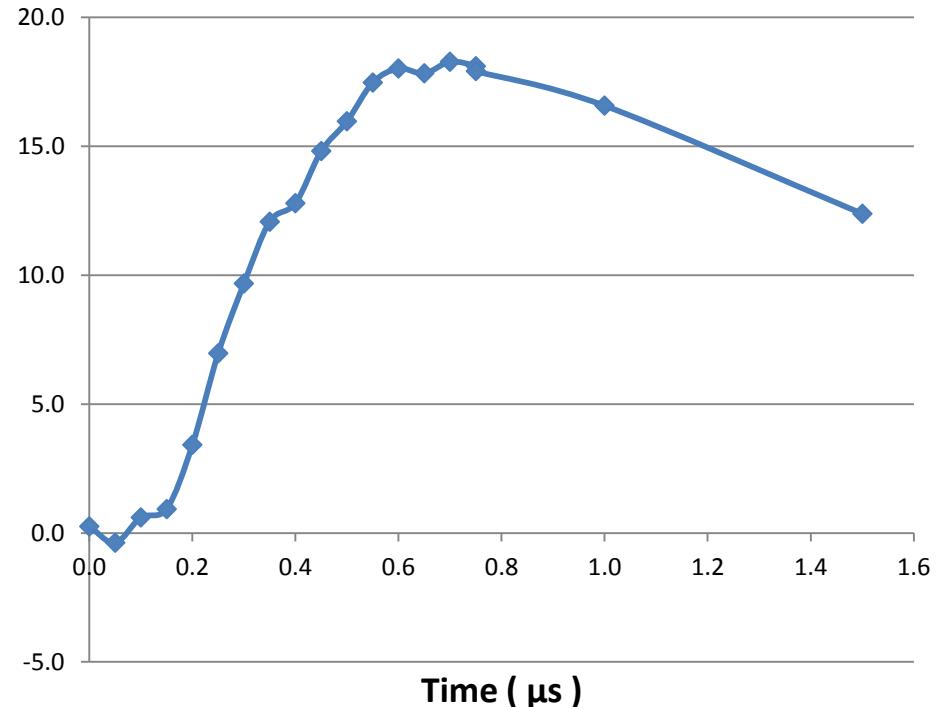
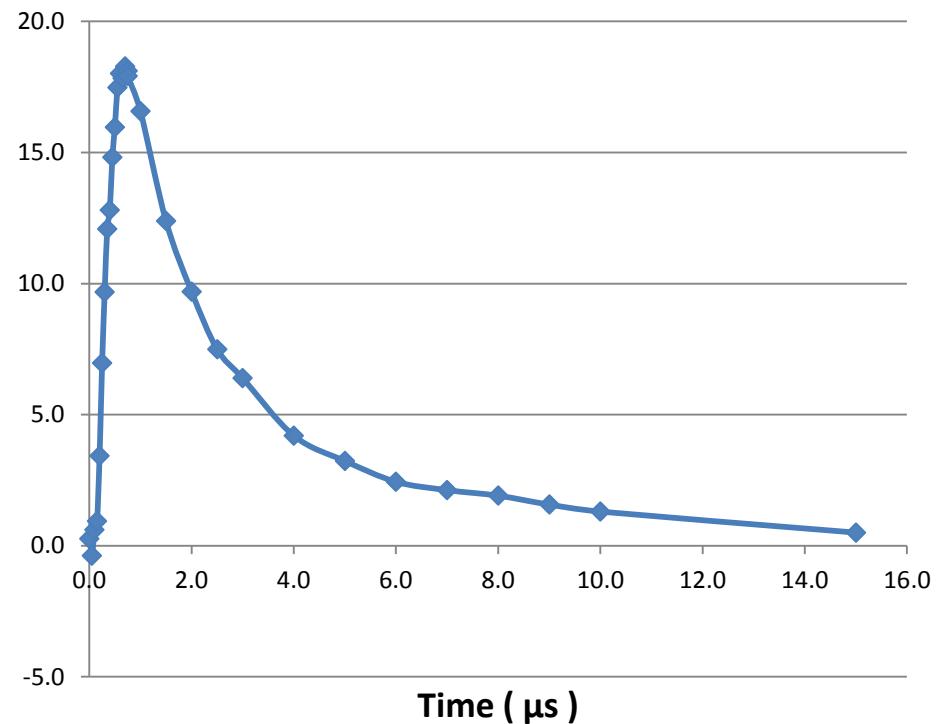
Figure 8 – Thermal resistance impacts due to material alterations

# GGNFET Transient Images



- These are transient thermoreflectance images at 1, 10, & 100 $\mu$ s
- Each image is scaled to show the temperature distribution.

# GGNFET, 200ns, 30V pulse



- This shows the temperature rise (a.u.) of the GGNFET in response to a 200 ns 30V pulse

