









# ...rethink your Metrology

NCCAVS Plasma Etch Users Group

Plasma Etch Related Metrology and Diagnostics August 13, 2008







## Presentation Outline

- Brief Introduction to Mass Measurement Technology.
  - Metryx .
  - What is Mass Metrology

#### • STI process Flow Outline.

- Challenges for STI at 65 nm and below.
- STI Process Improvements with Mass in High Vol. Manufacturing (HVM).
  - Process Stability:
    - Mass Monitoring of the pad oxide/nitride deposition
  - Process Improvement
    - Identifying and prioritizing variability in STI etch
  - Early identification of Process excursions:
    - STI cavity etch
  - Process Monitoring
    - Advanced STI trench fill process
  - Q & A

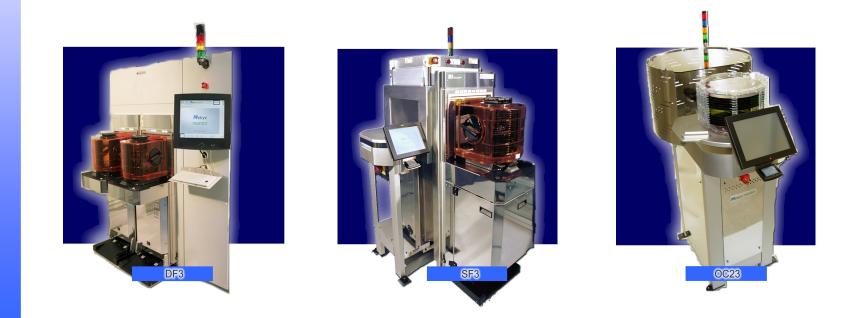


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## About Metryx

- Metryx is a UK based innovative metrology company with an installed base of ~30 systems in 200mm and 300mm memory and logic fab installations in Europe, Asia and the USA
- Recognised through Queen's Award for Enterprise 2007 and 2008 and Semiconductor International Best Product Award in 2007











## Mass Metrology







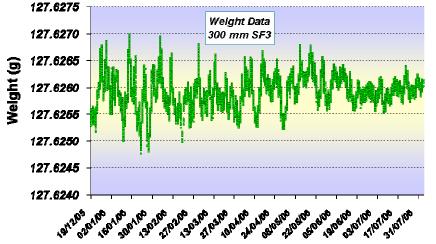


## Mass Measurement

Weight Measurement

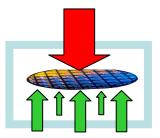


- An unstable, inaccurate, irreproducible measurement
- Not suitable for semiconductor R&D or Production



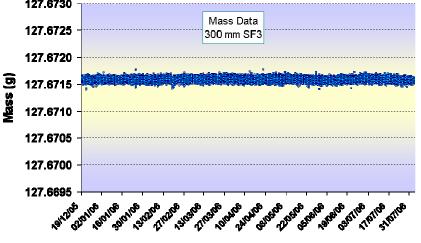
Wafer - Date

Mass Measurement





 Complex Force measurement load-cell, both measuring and correcting for internal and external forces which affect weight measurement 127.6730 –

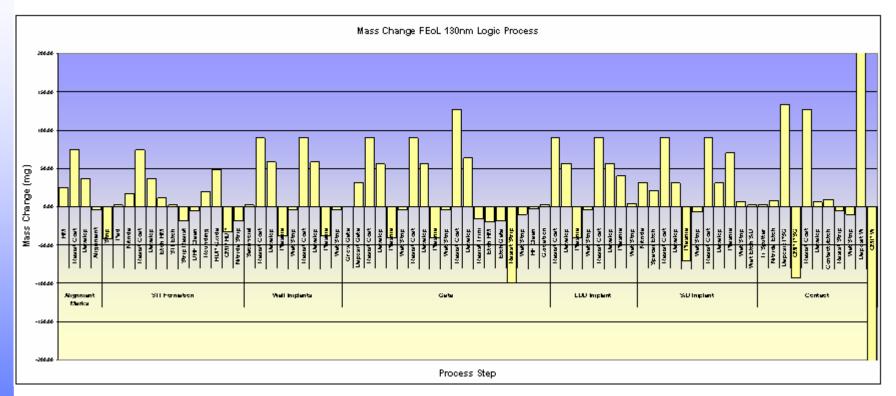








# Mass Metrology



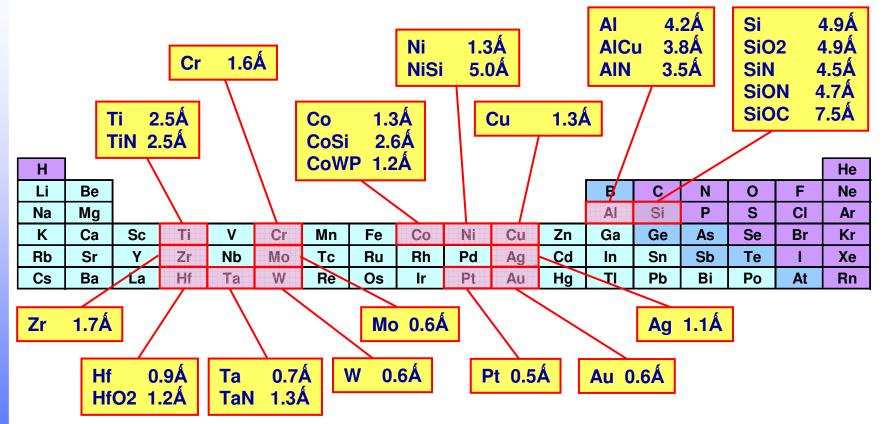
- All process steps create a wafer *mass change*
- This mass change reflects all aspects of process performance within a wafer
- Metryx Mass Metrology provides passive data collection on product wafers to assess process performance



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## Measurement Capability



• 1σ thickness repeatability for 200mm & 300mm wafers



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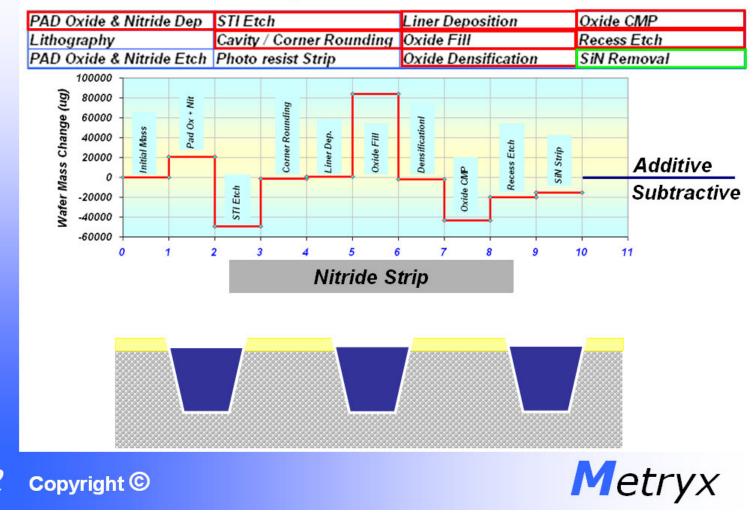
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### Mass Flow Diagram – STI Module



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## Pad Oxide/Nitride Deposition

#### Process Stability

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	2	

PAD Oxide & Nitride Dep	STI Etch	Liner Deposition	Oxide CMP
Lithography	Cavity / Corner Rounding	Oxide Fill	Recess Etch
PAD Oxide & Nitride Etch	Photo resist Strip	Oxide Densification	SiN Removal

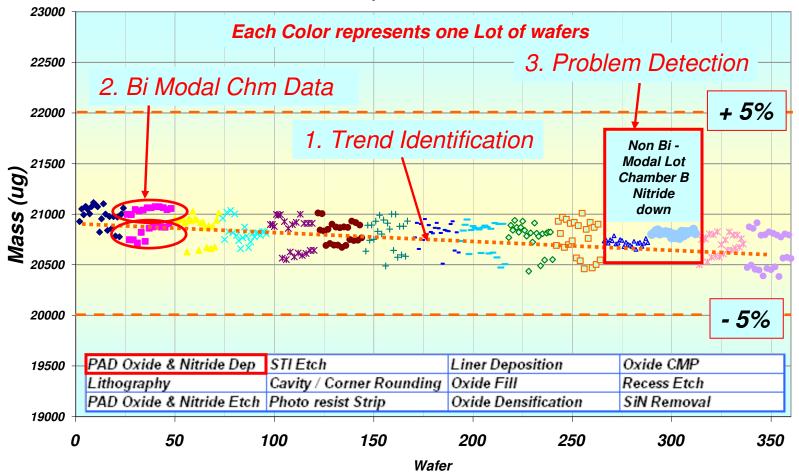






## HVM Data Resolution

Nitride+ Oxide deposition + densification



What process insight is the Mass Data providing ?



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## STI Etch

### Process Improvement



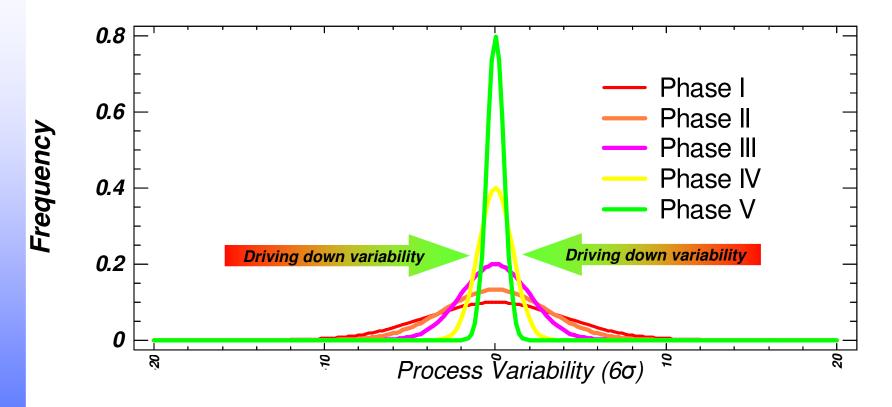
PAD Oxide & Nitri	de Dep – Si	TIEtch	Liner Deposition	Oxide CMP
Lithography	Cá	avity / Corner Rounding	Oxide Fill	Recess Etch
PAD Oxide & Nitri	de Etch Pl	hoto resist Strip	Oxide Densification	SiN Removal







## **Process Improvement Phases**



 Process Improvement is achieved through first understanding the sources of variability then focus on the larger order of magnitude noise.



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### Ranking Process Variability in HVM

- In order to successfully improve a process, the sources of process variability must be identified and prioritized:
  - Wafer to Wafer Variability
  - Chamber Trends
  - Lot to Lot Variability
  - Chamber to Chamber matching systematic offset.
  - Outlier Frequency
  - In-coming material variability
- Mass Metrology has the resolution to resolve the sources of Process Variability in HVM.









## STI Etch – Low Resolution View



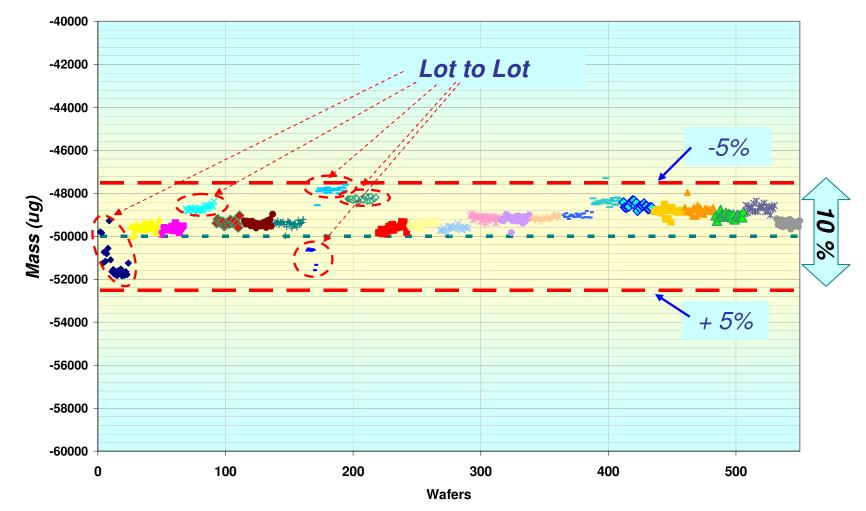
lacksquare

Outliers are easily distinguished at a low level view.





### STI Etch – Medium Resolution View



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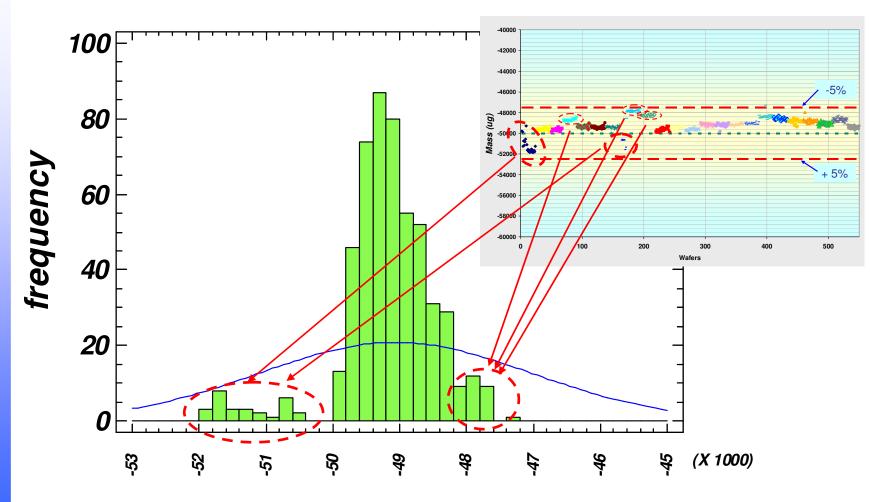
Lot to Lot Variability is apparent at the medium level view.



Copyright ©

Metryx

## Lot to Lot Variability Identified



Lot to Lot Variability identified as a significant source of variability.

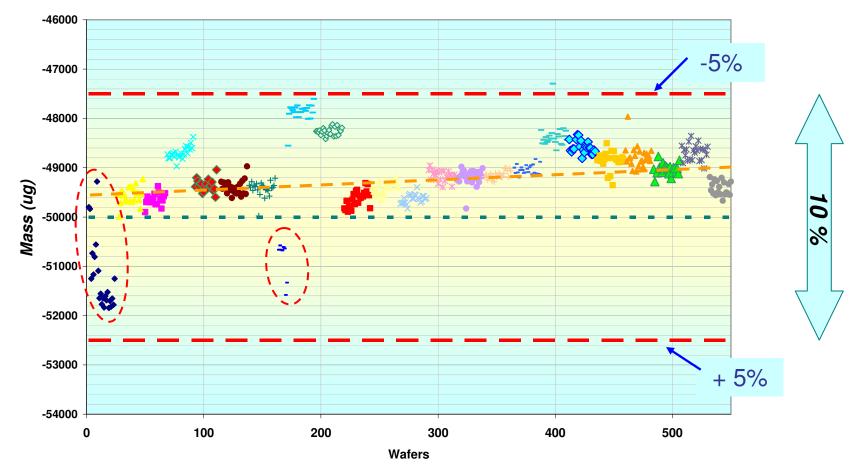


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## STI Etch – High Resolution View



• With a high Resolution view we see that some lots exhibit a large within lot variability.

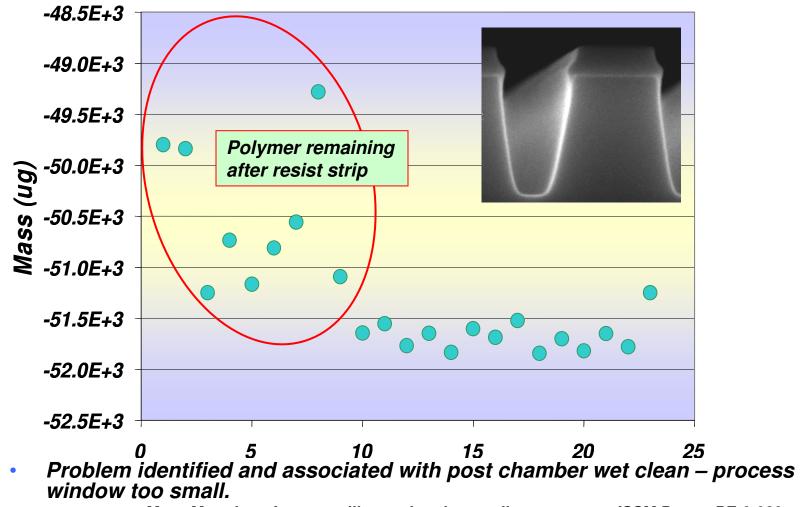


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## Within Lot Analysis



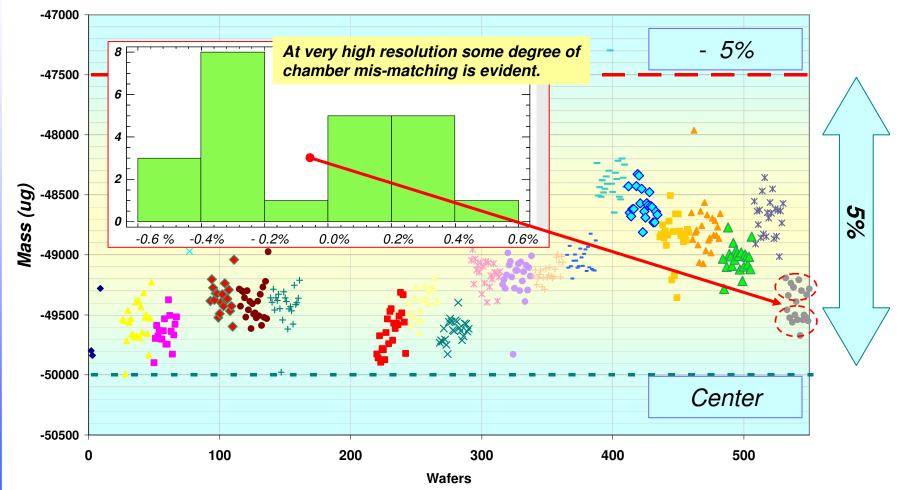
Mass Metrology for controlling and understanding processes ISSM Paper: PE-0-089



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## STI Etch – Very High Resolution View



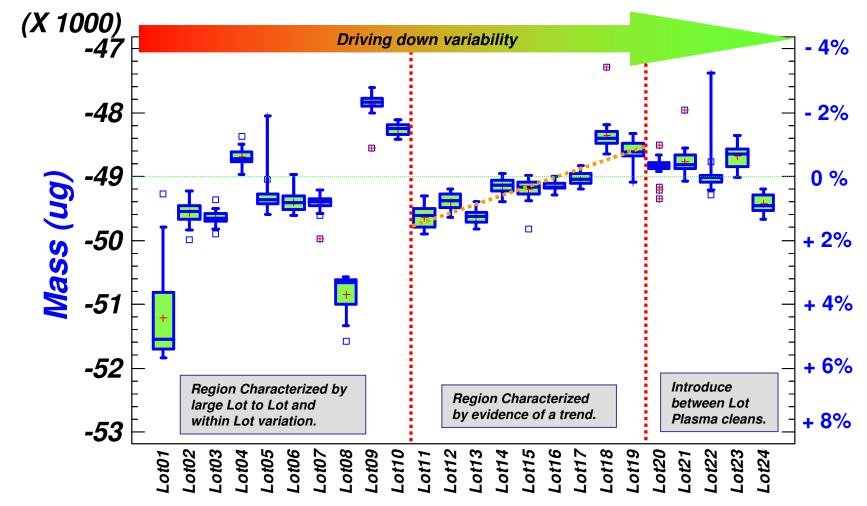
Mass has the ability to resolve less than 0.5% difference in Chambers.



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## Process Stability Optimization



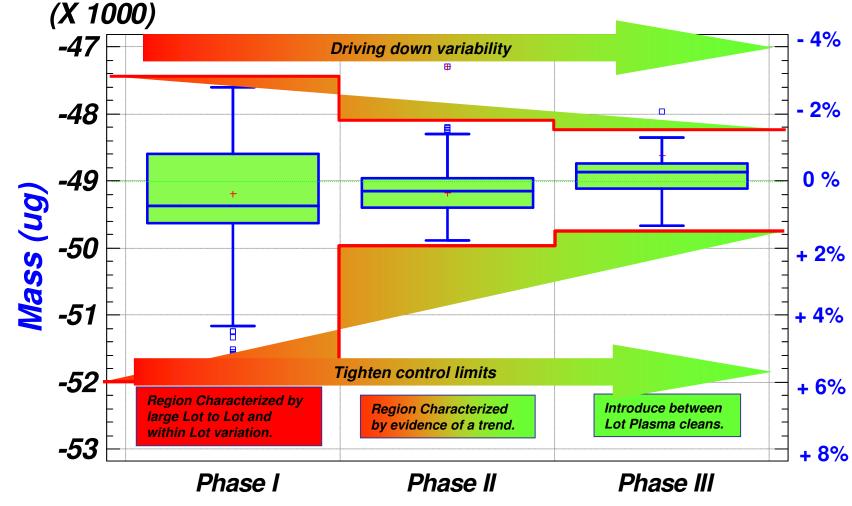
Improve process by understanding the sources of variability.



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## STI Etch Phased Optimization



Variability is driven down in a phased approach.



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## STI Cavity Etch (Rounding)

### Early Identification



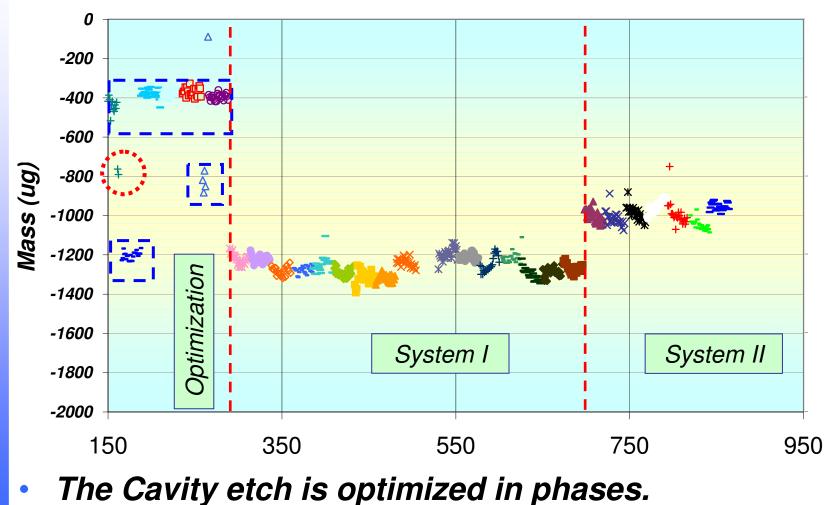
PAD Oxide & Nitride Dep	STIEtch	Liner Deposition	Oxide CMP
Lithography	Cavity / Corner Rounding	Oxide Fill	Recess Etch
PAD Oxide & Nitride Etch	Photo resist Strip	Oxide Densification	SiN Removal







## Cavity Etch Splits

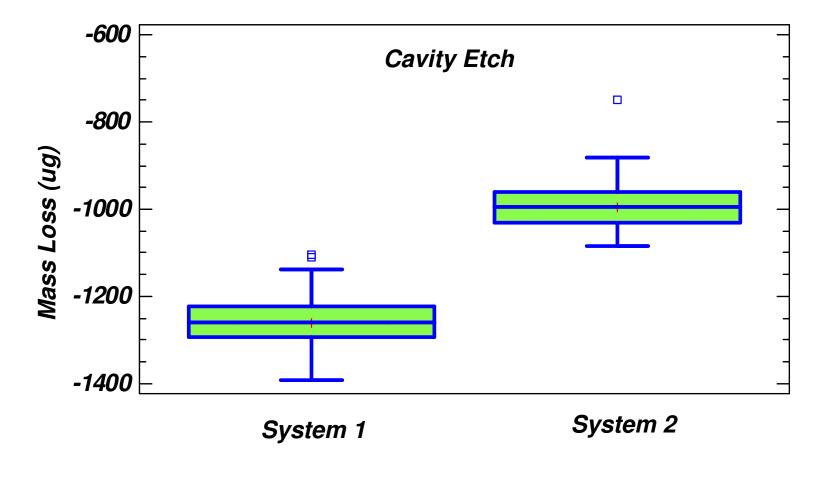


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## System to System Matching



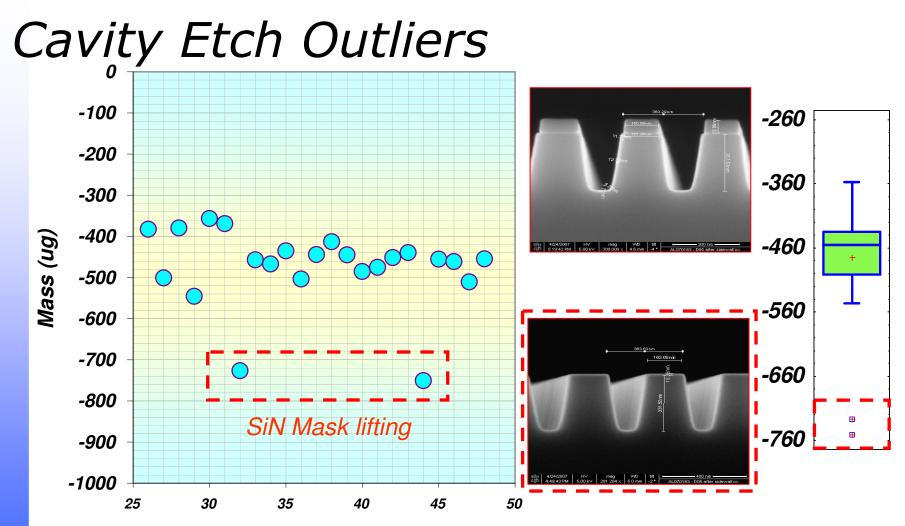
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System 1 (400 samples) System 2 (150 samples)









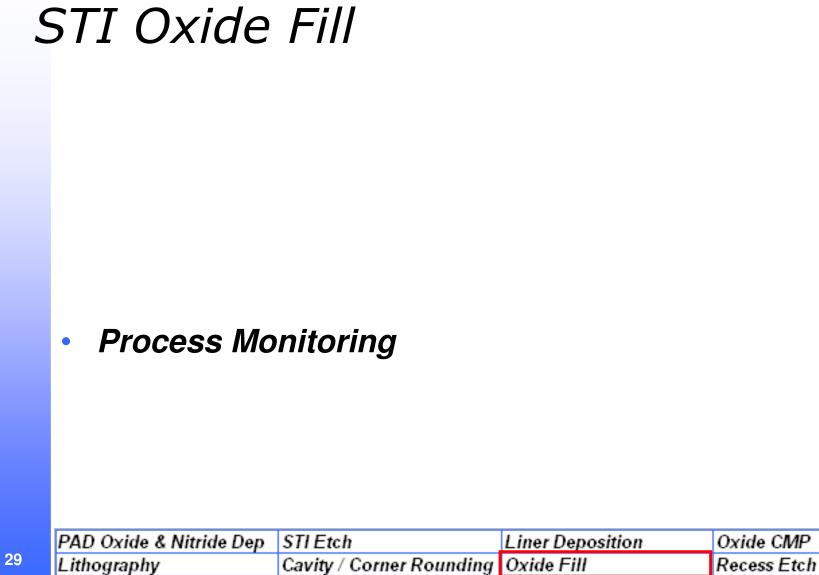
• Outliers are due to SiN mask lifting post HF dip. Cause isolated to residual HF present on wafer after rinse resulting attack of the mask.



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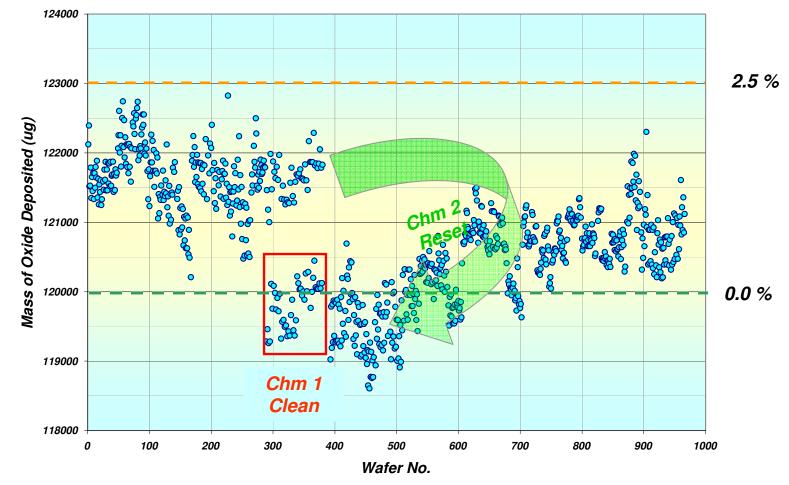
PAD Oxide & Nitride Etch Photo resist Strip



SiN Removal

Oxide Densification

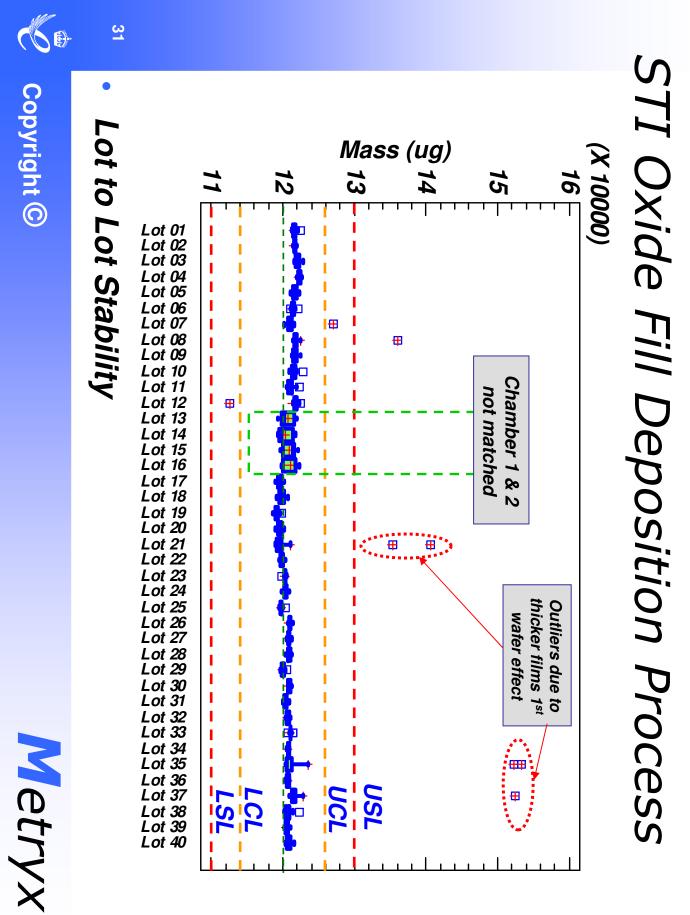
## STI Oxide Fill Process



Data from Oxide Fill Process.







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## ... rethink your Metrology

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