

# Modification of surface in chalcogenide glasses

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# Chalcogenide glasses

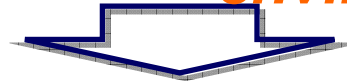
## Chalcogen homologous of oxide glasses



Ia												IIIa	IVa	Va	VIa	VIIa	0			
1 H	IIa											5 B	6 C	7 N	8 O	9 F	10 Ne			
3 Li	4 Be											13 Al	14 Si	15 P	16 S	17 Cl	18 Ar			
11 Na	12 Mg	IIIb	IVb	Vb	VIb	VIIB	VIIIb			Ib	IIb	31 Ga	32 Ge	33 As	34 Se	35 Br	36 Kr			
19 K	20 Ca	21 Sc	22 Ti	23 V	24 Cr	25 Mn	26 Fe	27 Co	28 Ni	29 Cu	30 Zn	49 In	50 Sn	51 Sb	52 Te	53 I	54 Xe			
37 Rb	38 Sr	39 Y	40 Zr	41 Nb	42 Mo	43 Tc	44 Ru	45 Rh	46 Pd	47 Ag	48 Cd	81 Tl	82 Pb	83 Bi	84 Po	85 At	86 Rn			
55 Cs	56 Ba	57 La	72 Hf	73 Ta	74 W	75 Re	76 Os	77 Ir	78 Pt	79 Au	80 Hg									
87 Fr	88 Ra	89 Ac	104 Unq	105 Unp	106 Unh	107 Uns														
							58 Ce	59 Pr	60 Nd	61 Pm	62 Sm	63 Eu	64 Gd	65 Tb	66 Dy	67 Ho	68 Er	69 Tm	70 Yb	71 Lu
							90 Th	91 Pa	92 U	93 Np	94 Pu	95 Am	96 Cm	97 Bk	98 Cf	99 Es	100 Fm	101 Md	102 No	103 Lr

# Specific properties of chalcogenide glasses

Presence of  Se, Te *polarisable environment (lone-pair-LP)*



## Specific property of chalcogenide glasses compared to oxide ones

### Semiconductor

As<sub>2</sub>S<sub>3</sub> glass  
 $\sigma \sim 10^{-14} \text{ Scm}^{-1}$   
 $E_g \sim 2.15 \text{ eV}$

### Photoinduced phenomena

$h\nu \rightarrow$  hole-electron pair  
 $\rightarrow$  change in  $n$   
 $\rightarrow$  Ovshinsky effect  
(amorphous state  $\leftrightarrow$  crystalline state)

### Large ion mobility

When doped with alkali,  
silver or copper ions,

### Transparent in the IR

- 
- 
- **Photoinduced phenomena**
  - **Ion mobility**

# Diffusion under photons $h\nu$ : Photoinduced phenomena

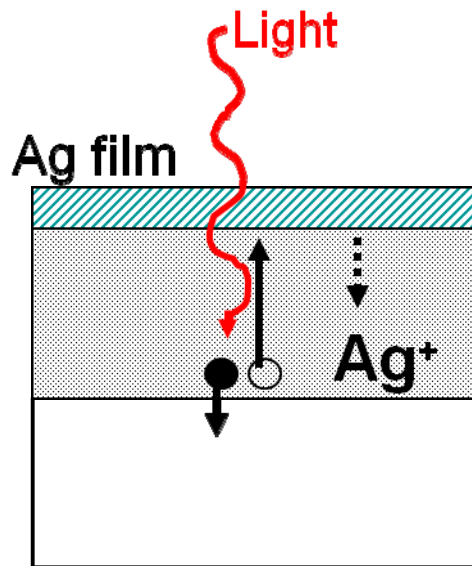
## Photodissolution (« photodoping »)

*Illumination of a chalcogenide film in contact with silver*

➔ Rapid penetration of the metal into the semiconductor (Kostyshin (1966))

### Typical features:

- Large amount of Ag can be dissolved 30-40 at%, and even 57% in  $\text{GeS}_3$
- Rate of dissolution depends on chalcogenide composition (excess in chalcogen)



$h\nu$  close to band-gap energy

### Mechanism

#### ■ Ionization of Ag

(semiconductor  $\rightarrow$  presence of holes or electrons)



#### ■ Reduction of chalcogenide



### Photo-enhanced solid state reaction

# Application of photodissolution

## ■ Very sharp edges between doped and undoped regions

*Local creation of pairs « electron-hole » + small diffusion length of free carriers*



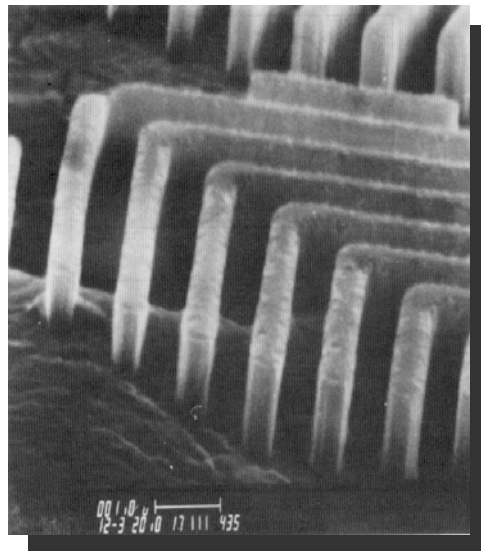
*Hardly any lateral diffusion*

## ■ Solubility of doped region in alkaline solvents much reduced

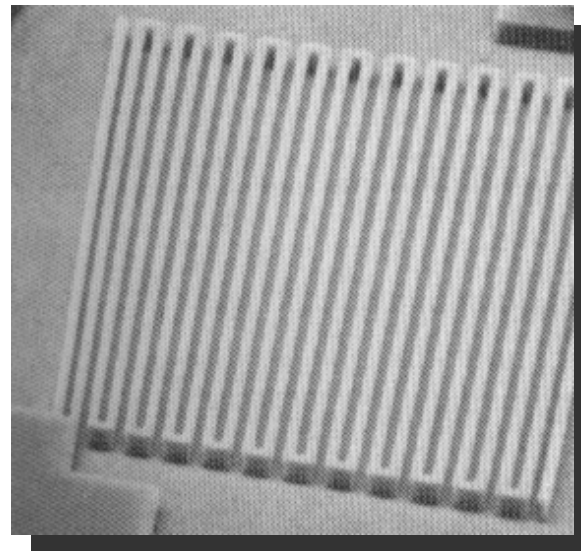


*Local change in chemical composition*

photoresists



etched gratings



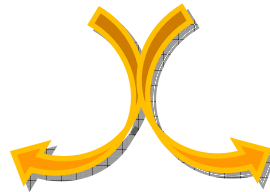
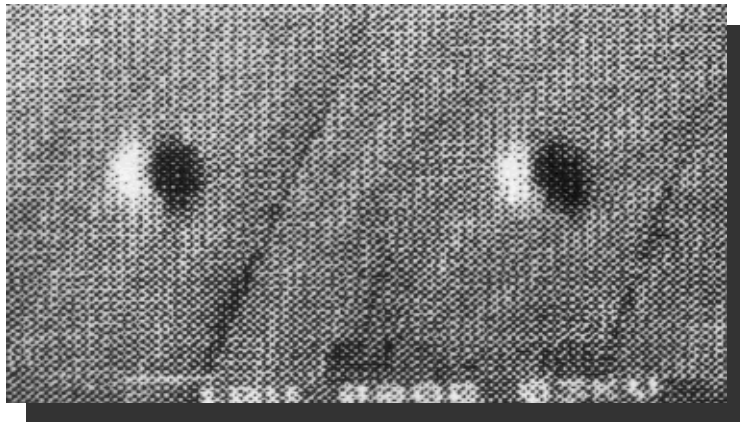
# Photomigration – Photodeposition

Phenomenon observed in highly doped chalcogenide (Ag-Ge-S(e)), Ag-As-S(e))

## Illumination

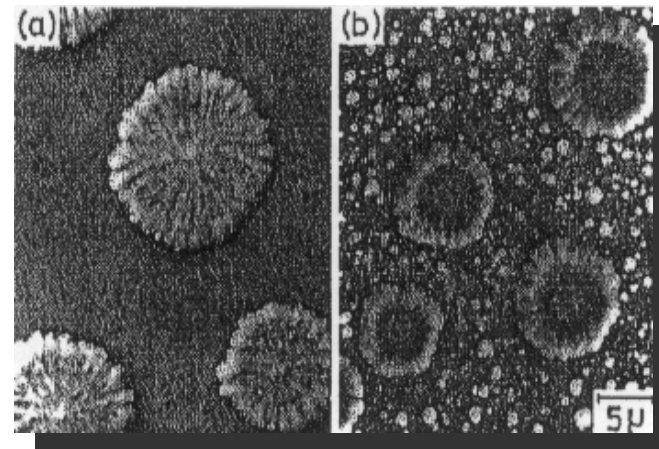
Lower silver content ( $x < 0.45$ )

increase in Ag density  
in the illuminated part



Higher silver content ( $\text{Ag}_{45}\text{As}_{15}\text{S}_{40}$ )

precipitation of Ag



200mW/cm<sup>2</sup>

530mW/cm<sup>2</sup>

Small clusters or crystals  
10nm in diameter and 1nm in thickness

**Reversible process**

Annealing → dissolution of the Ag clusters

# Mechanism of photomigration-photodeposition



## Point of view of physicist

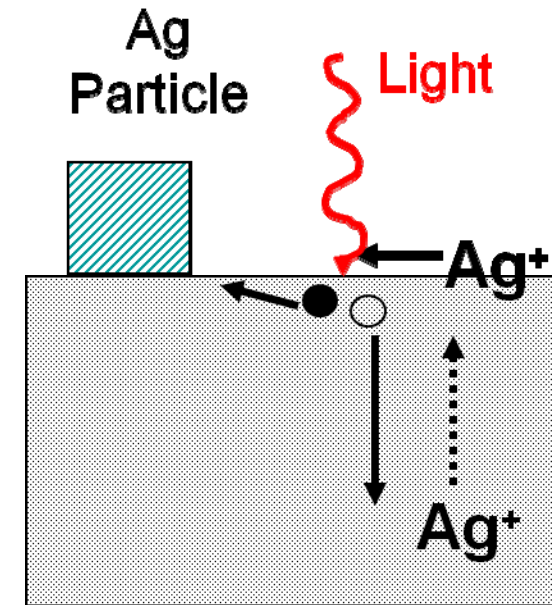
**Illumination**



**creation of pair « electron-hole »**



*h<sup>+</sup> moves away from illuminated spot*



## Point of view of chemist

**Photodecomposition = decomposition of an oversaturated Ag solid solution**

Under illumination the metastable system approaches equilibrium with excess Ag segregation.

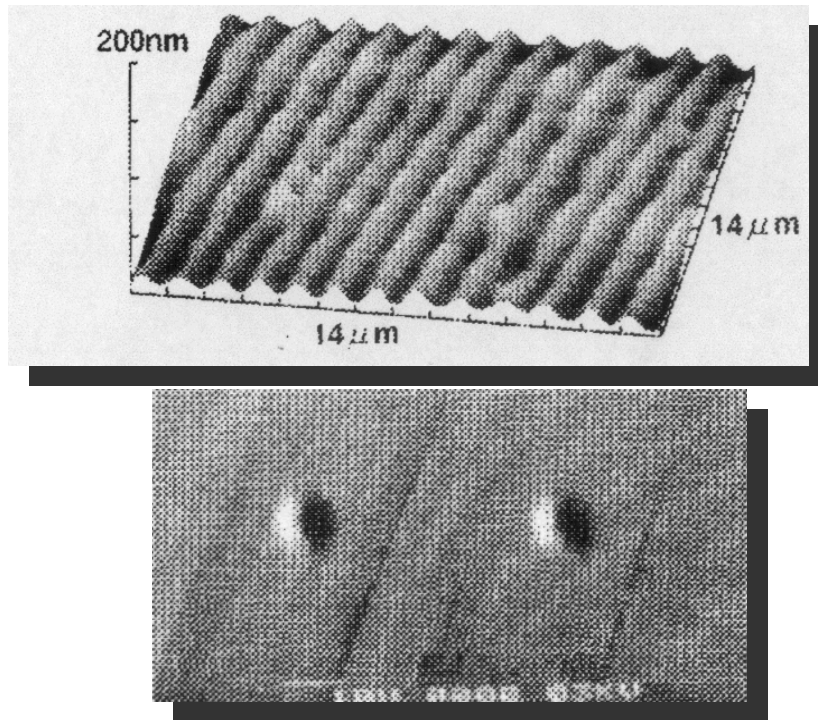
Annealing at higher temperature allows Ag to dissolve again in the solid solution.



# Application of photomigration-phodeposition

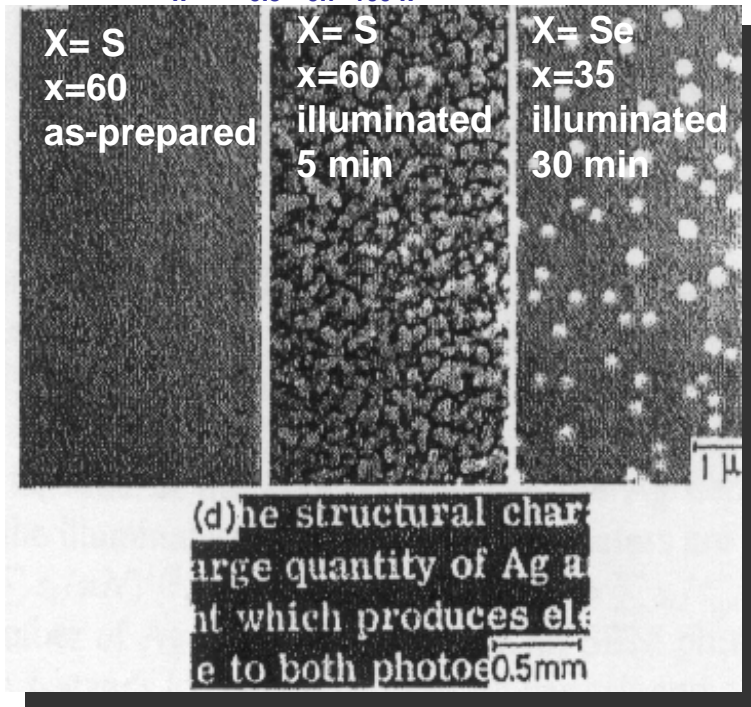
- ➔ Increased reflectivity for Ag rich region
- ➔ Photoexpansion

## Gratings/ microlenses



## Optical memories

$\text{Ag}_x(\text{Ge}_{0.3}\text{X}_{0.7})_{100-x}$ , 110 mW/cm<sup>2</sup>

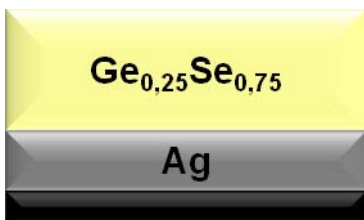


➔ Au addition → increase in the photosensitivity of photodeposition by two orders of magnitude (Au clusters = nucleation centers for Ag)

# Diffusion under E and $h\nu$ : PMC memories

## « Programmable Metallization Cell Memory Devices »

$Ag_x/Ge_ySe_{1-y}$  multilayers



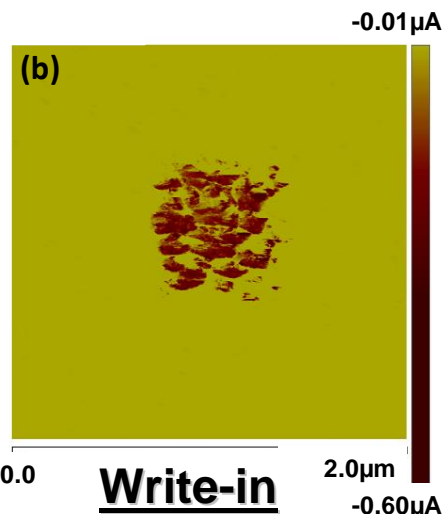
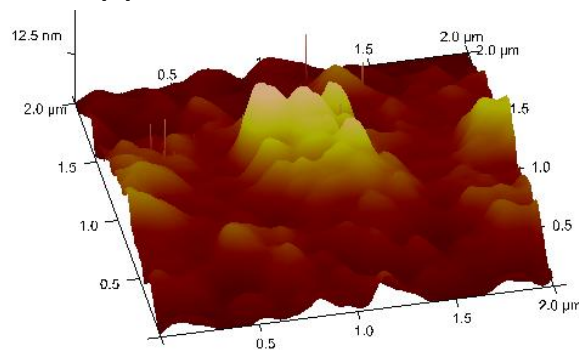
## Conductive atomic force microscopy (C-AFM)

**Write-in** : Sweeping over  $500 \times 500 \text{ nm}^2$  and  $V_W = +200 \text{ mV}$

**Erasure** : Sweeping over  $500 \times 500 \text{ nm}^2$  and  $V_E = -250 \text{ mV}$

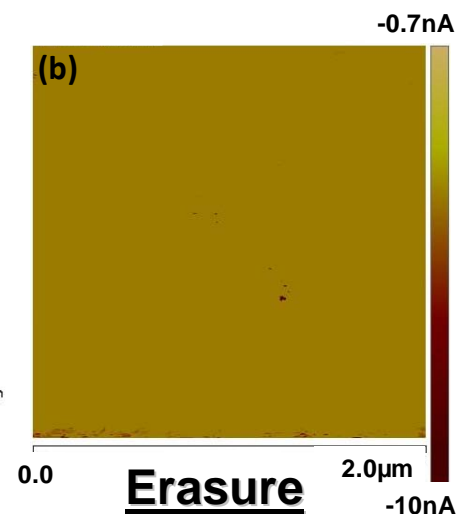
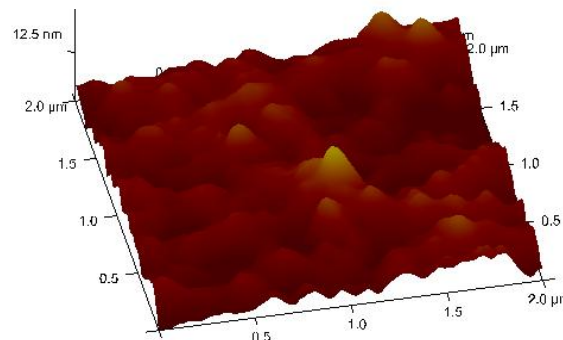
### ON state

35.0nm (a)



### OFF state

35.0nm (a)

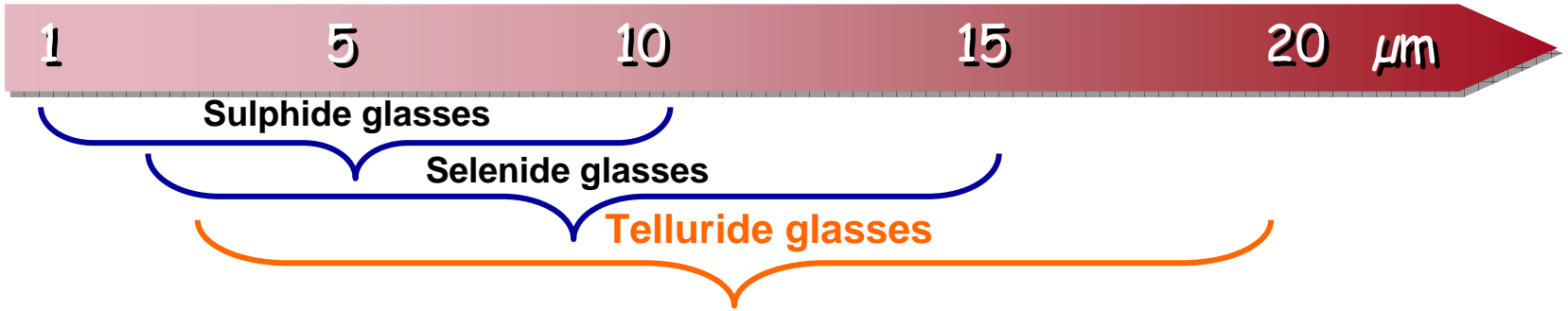




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# ■ IR Transparency

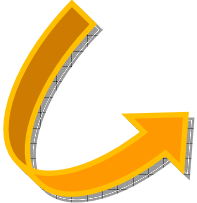
# IR Transparency



- + High refractive index
- + Easiness to put in film form



Promising materials for IR integrated optics



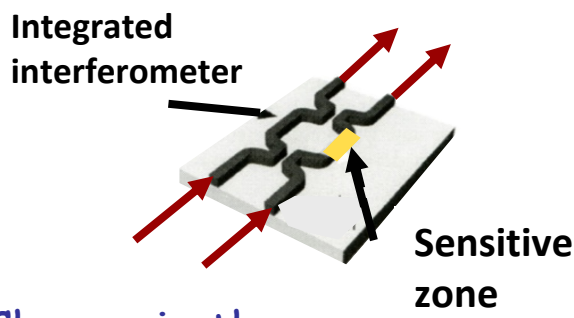
## Feasibility of channel waveguides



**Environmental metrology**  
Microsensors for detection of pollutant gases



**Optical amplification**  
Waveguide for active components



Change in the evanescent wave

**Biology**  
Microsensors for biological monitoring

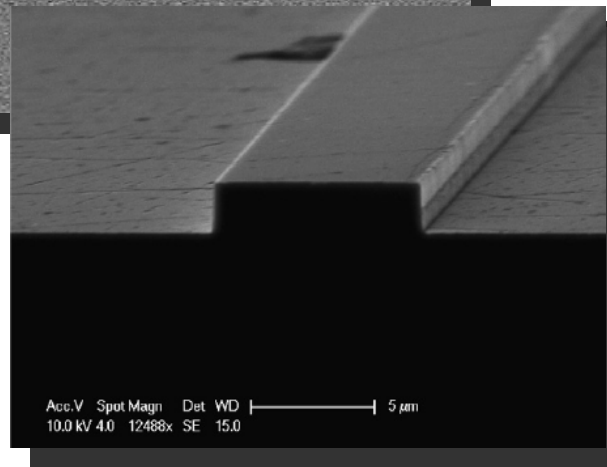
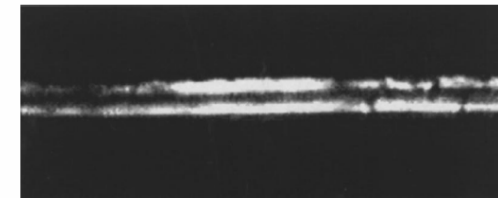
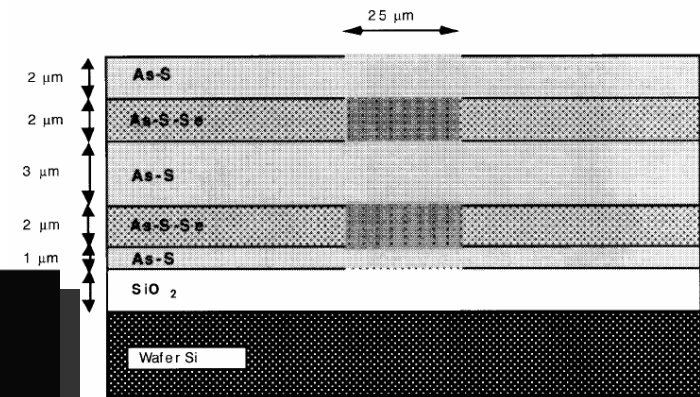
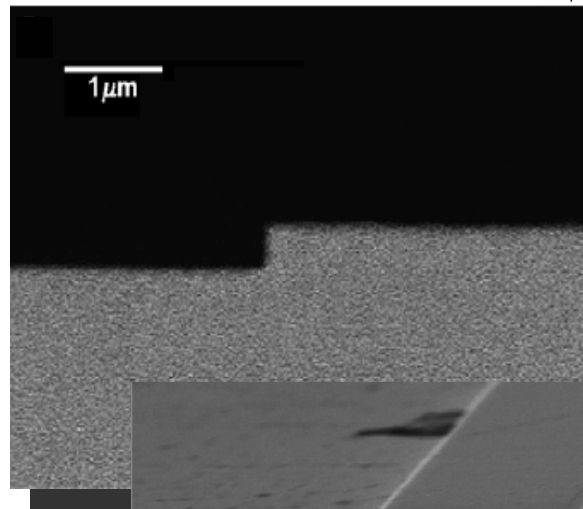
# Channel waveguide development

Lateral confinement of light

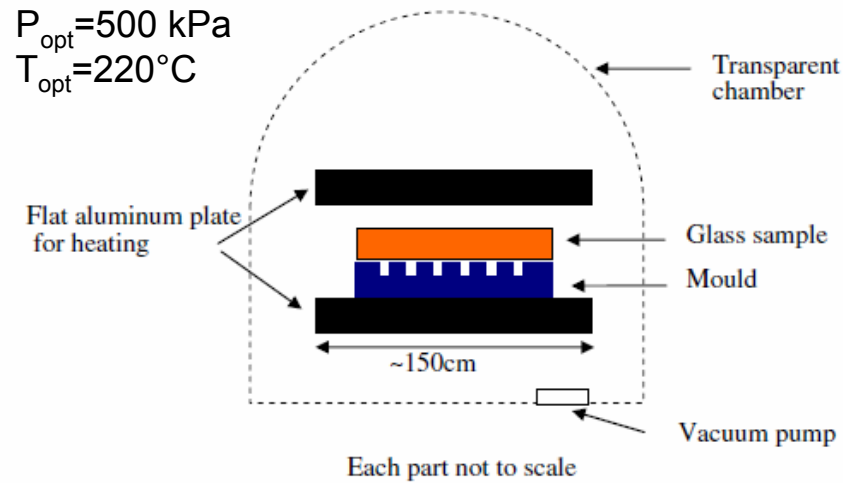
→ Laser writing

→ Etching

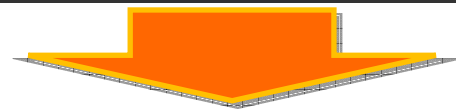
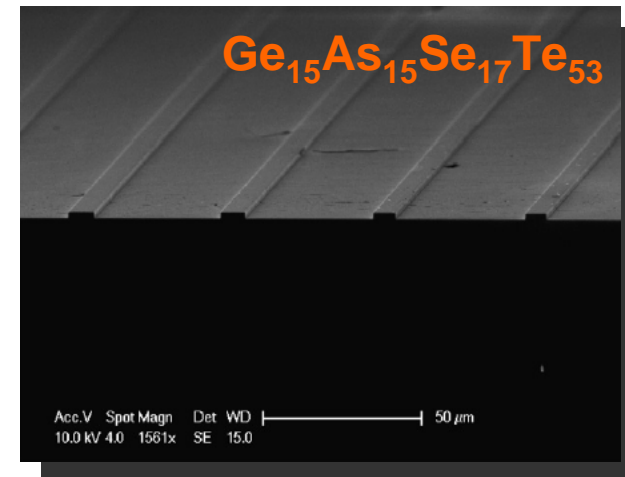
→ Embossing



# Channel waveguide development

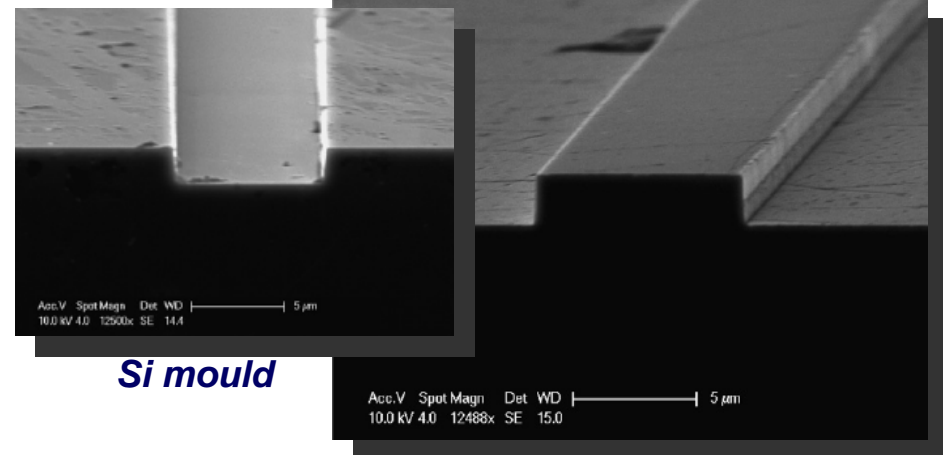
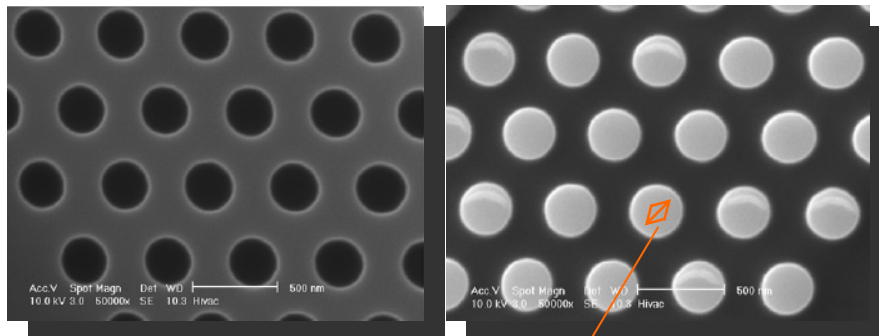


## Hot embossing



**Accurate relief replication of the holes in the surface**

**SOI mould**



**Si mould**

**Accurate relief replication of the silicon mould of a series of embossed ribs**

# Channel waveguide development

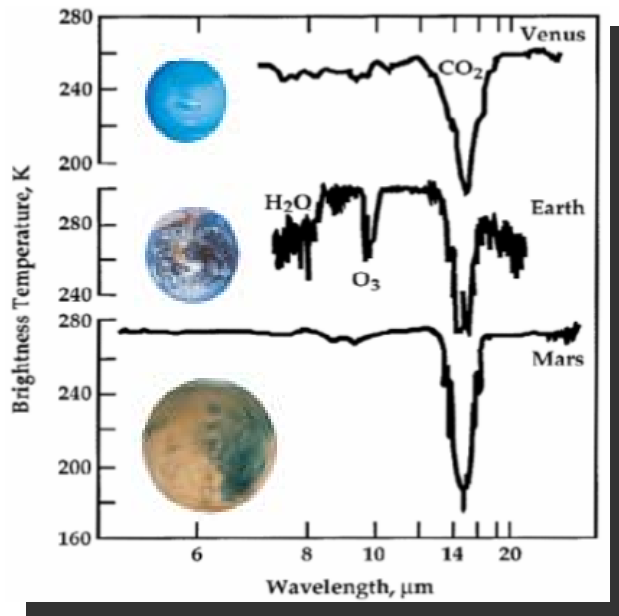
## ➔ Components for spatial interferometer

### Darwin mission:

#### Detection of exo-planetary systems

*High contrast and very faint angular separation  
between an earth-like planet  
and its parent star:*

***mid and thermal infrared [6-20  $\mu\text{m}$ ]***



Infrared  
signatures of:  
- H<sub>2</sub>O: 6 $\mu\text{m}$   
- O<sub>3</sub>: 9 $\mu\text{m}$   
- CO<sub>2</sub>: 16 $\mu\text{m}$

Micro-components working  
between 6 and 20  $\mu\text{m}$

# Channel waveguide development

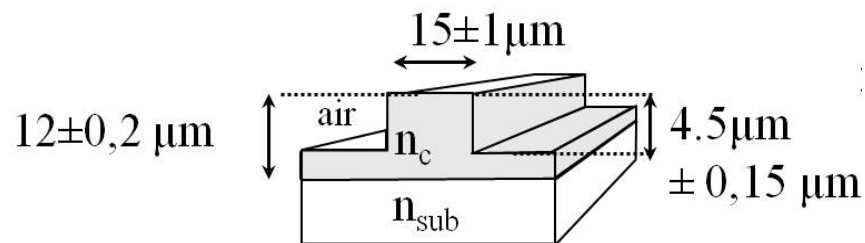
## Requirement

- Materials transparent between 6 – 20  $\mu\text{m}$
- Single mode waveguide
- large dimension

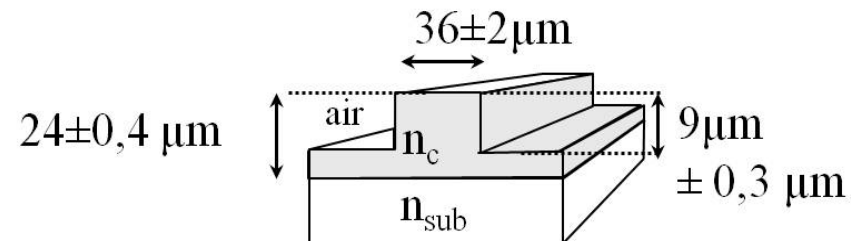
## Design of component

- Spectral domain [6 – 20  $\mu\text{m}$ ] divided in two sub-bands [6 – 11  $\mu\text{m}$ ] and [10 – 20  $\mu\text{m}$ ]
- Considered structure with  $n_c = 3,44 \pm 0,02$ : rib waveguide

[6 – 11  $\mu\text{m}$ ]



[10 – 20  $\mu\text{m}$ ]

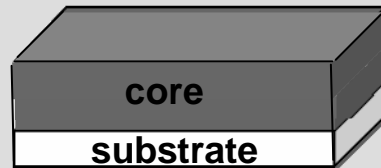


Walls with an angle comprised between 70 and 90 °

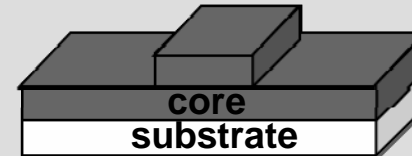


# Channel waveguide development

## Film deposition



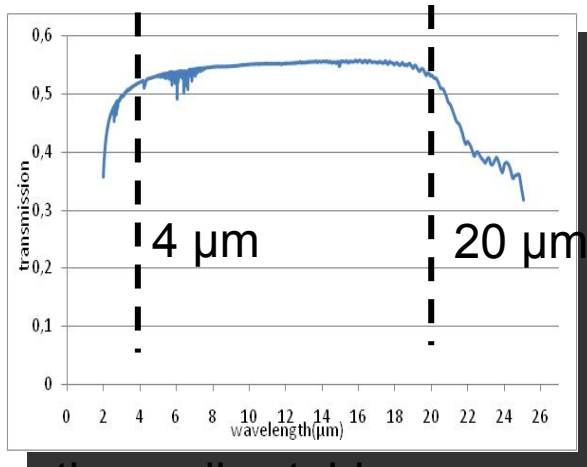
## Film etching



## Substrate composition

$\text{Te}_{75}\text{Ge}_{15}\text{Ga}_{10}$  bulk glass [X. Zhang (Rennes)]

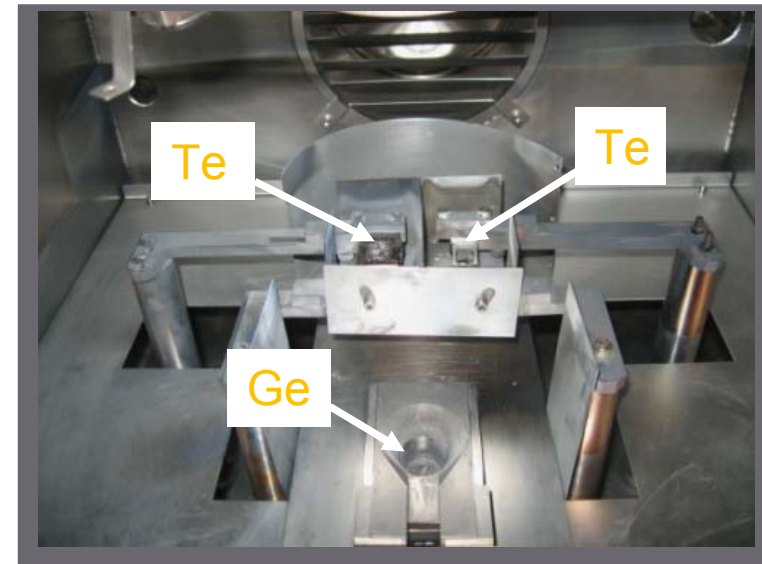
- transmission between [4-20  $\mu\text{m}$ ]



- thermally stable
- high refractive index  
(at  $\lambda = 10.6 \mu\text{m}$ ,  $n_1 = 3.3990 \pm 0.0015$ )

## Core layer composition

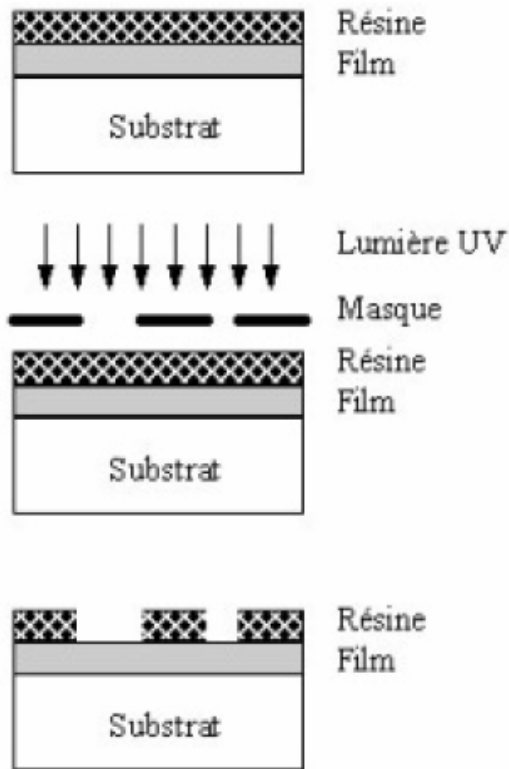
$\text{Te}_{82}\text{Ge}_{18}$  amorphous film



- optimal composition:  $n_2 = n_1 + 4 \cdot 10^{-2}$

# Channel waveguide development

## ■ Photolithography

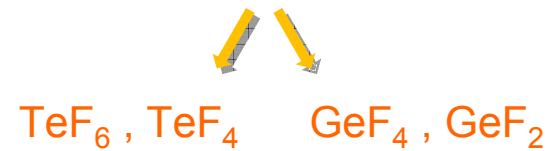


## ■ Reactive ion etching

✓  $\text{CHF}_3$  → for chemical etching

✓ plasma →  $\text{F}\cdot$

✓ Reaction with Te and Ge



✓  $\text{O}_2$  → enhancement of  $\text{F}\cdot$

✓ Ar → for physical etching

Highly selective

Increase in etching rate  
*but isotrope*

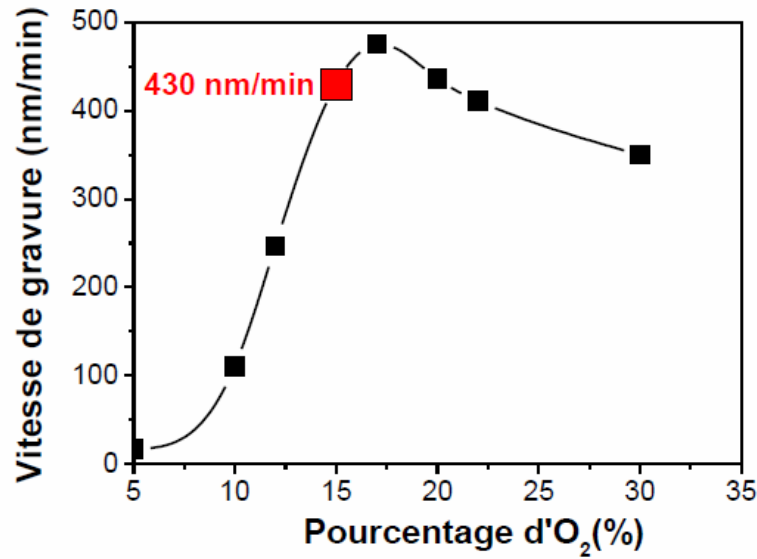
Anisotrope  
*but non selective*

positive resist S.18.18  
2  $\mu\text{m}$  in thickness

# Channel waveguide development

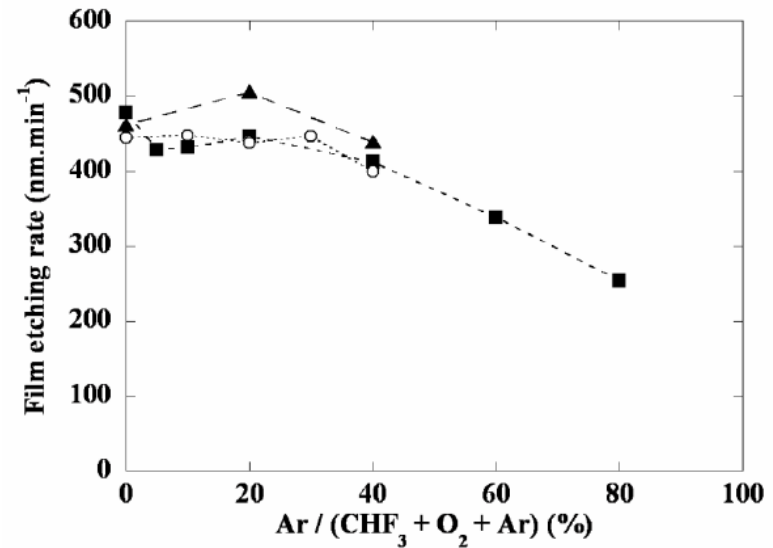
## ■ Optimization of etching gas

O<sub>2</sub> %

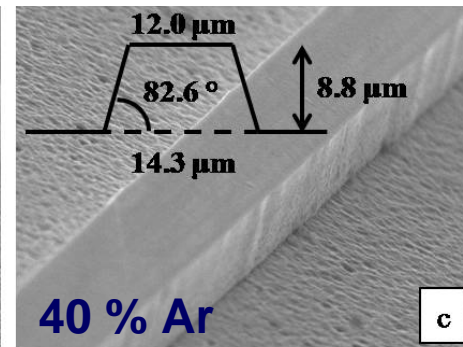
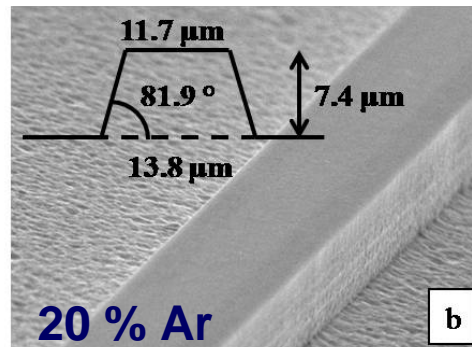
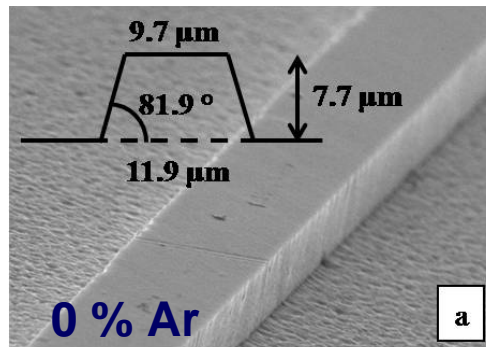


But surface contamination

Ar %



Poor impact but improve rib walls



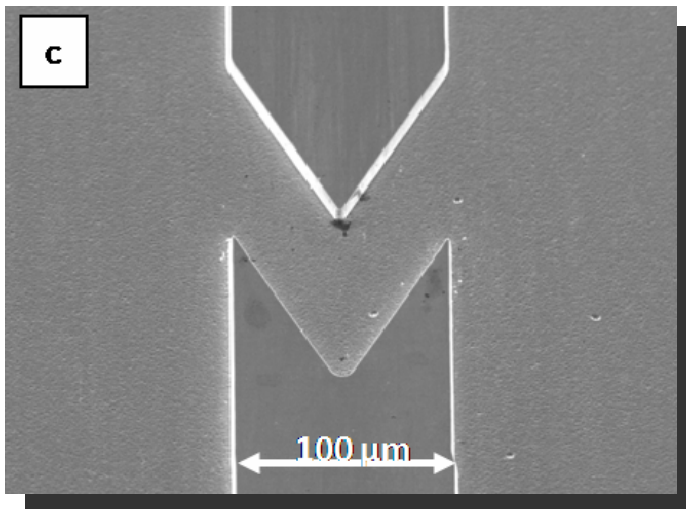
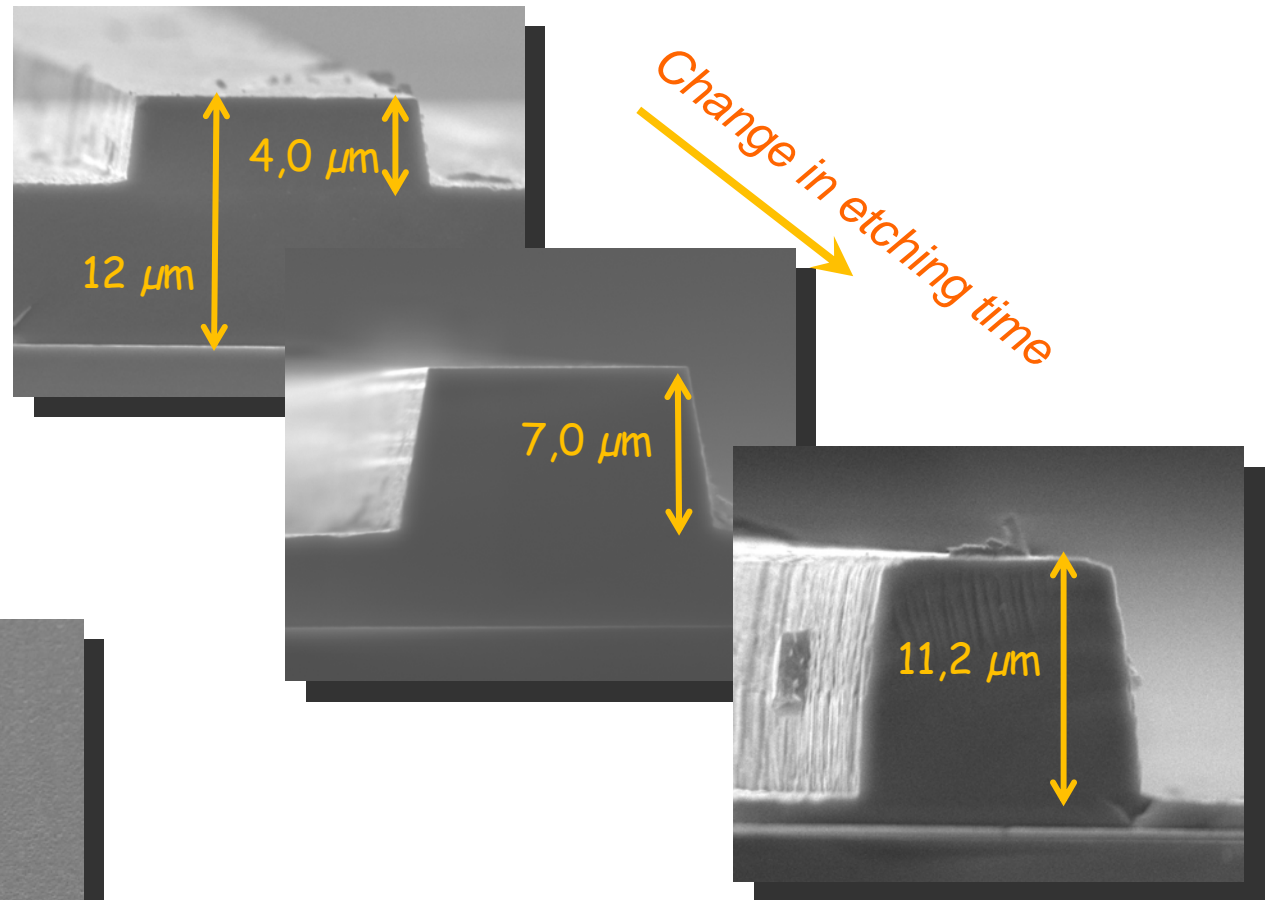
# Channel waveguide development

## ■ Reactive ion etching with optimized gas mixture

Optimized  $\text{CHF}_3/\text{O}_2/\text{Ar}$  ratio  
= 59.5/10.5/30

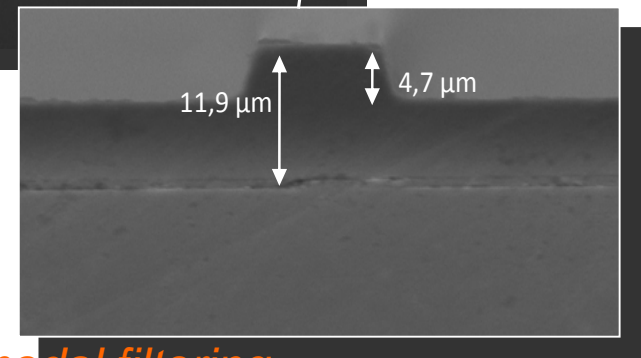
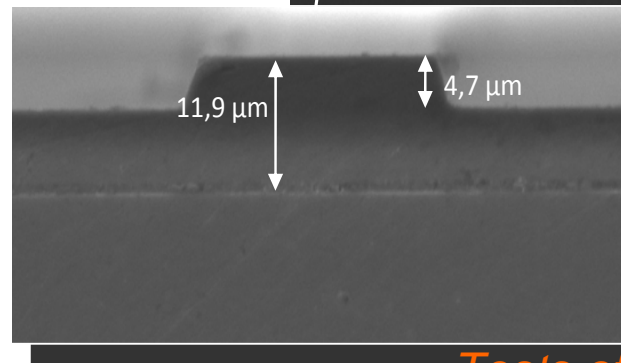
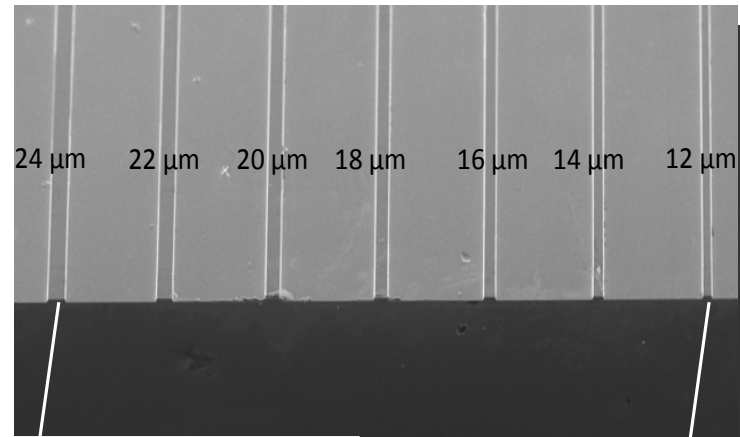
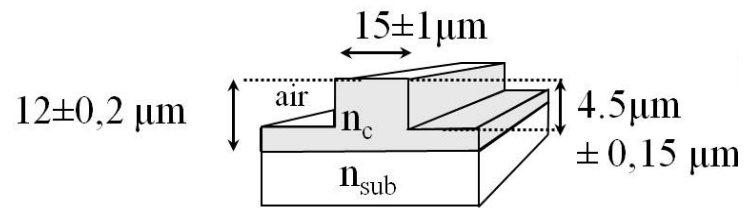
$\text{CHF}_3 / \text{O}_2 = 85 / 15$

% Ar = 20

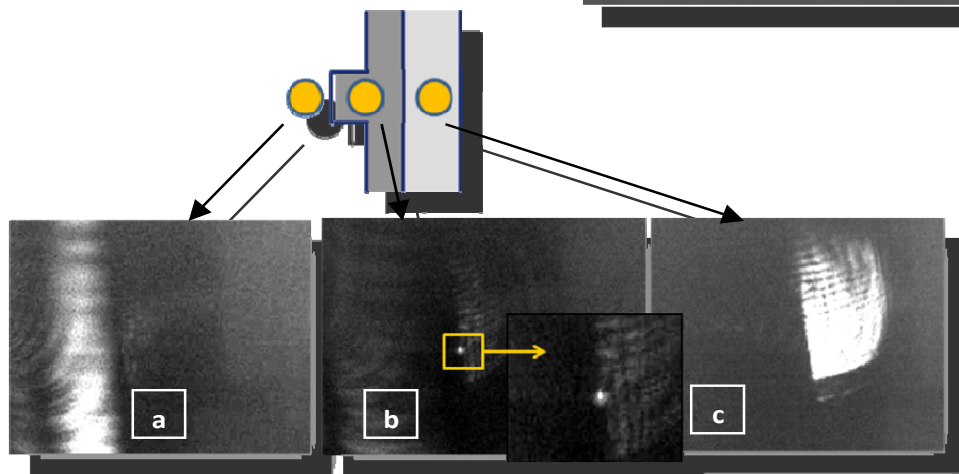


# Channel waveguide development

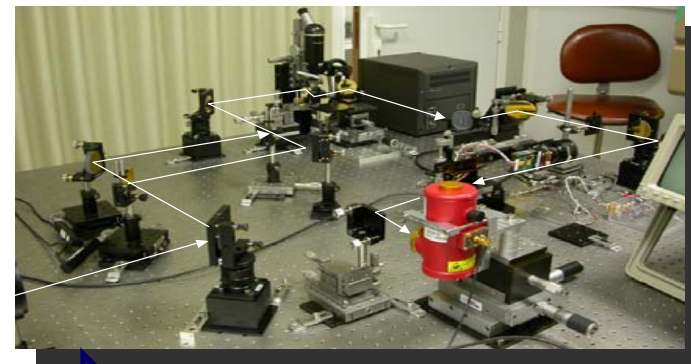
## Rib waveguides [6 – 11 $\mu\text{m}$ ]



➔ Tests at 10,6  $\mu\text{m}$



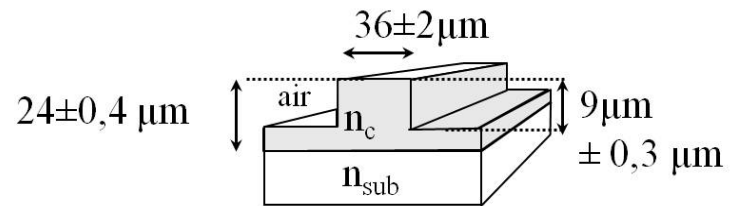
Tests of modal filtering



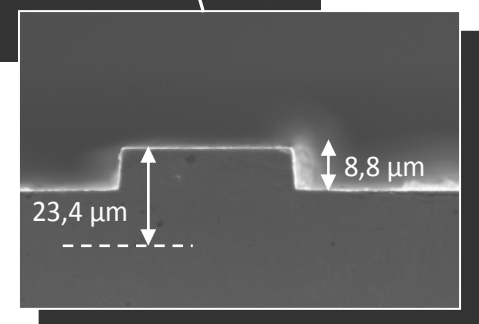
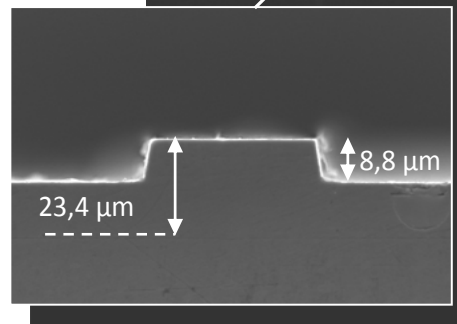
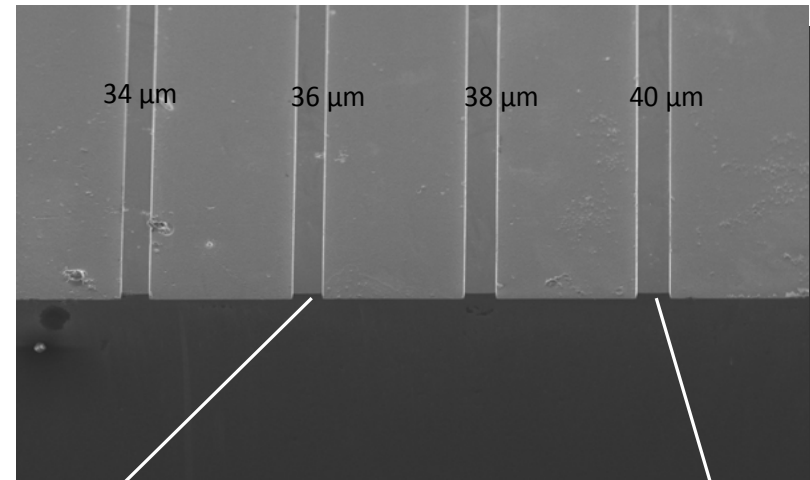
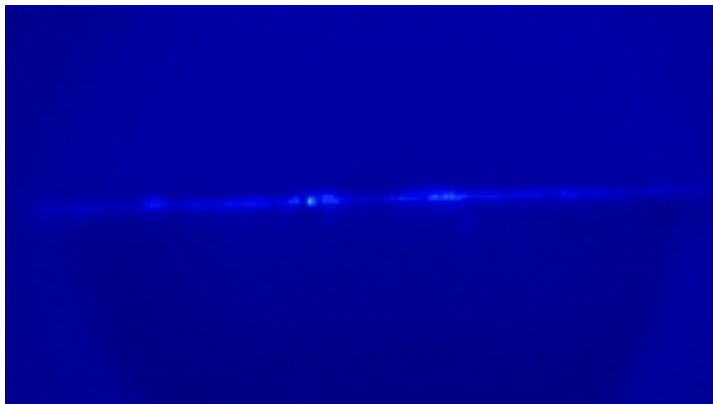
➔ Rejection rate  $\sim 10^{-3}$

# Channel waveguide development

## Rib waveguides [10 – 20 $\mu\text{m}$ ]



Tests carried out in spectral region [1,5 – 5,5  $\mu\text{m}$ ]



# Conclusion

## Surface modification

- Use of intrinsic properties of chalcogenide

(photoinduced phenomenon + ion mobility)

- Use of conventional techniques (**hot embossing, etching**)

Development of components based on intrinsic property of chalcogenide  
(IR transparency)

# Acknowledgments

My co-workers at ICGM Montpellier

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For C-AFM measurements:

**M. Ramonda** (*LMCP, Montpellier, France*)

For contribution in the development and characterization of waveguides

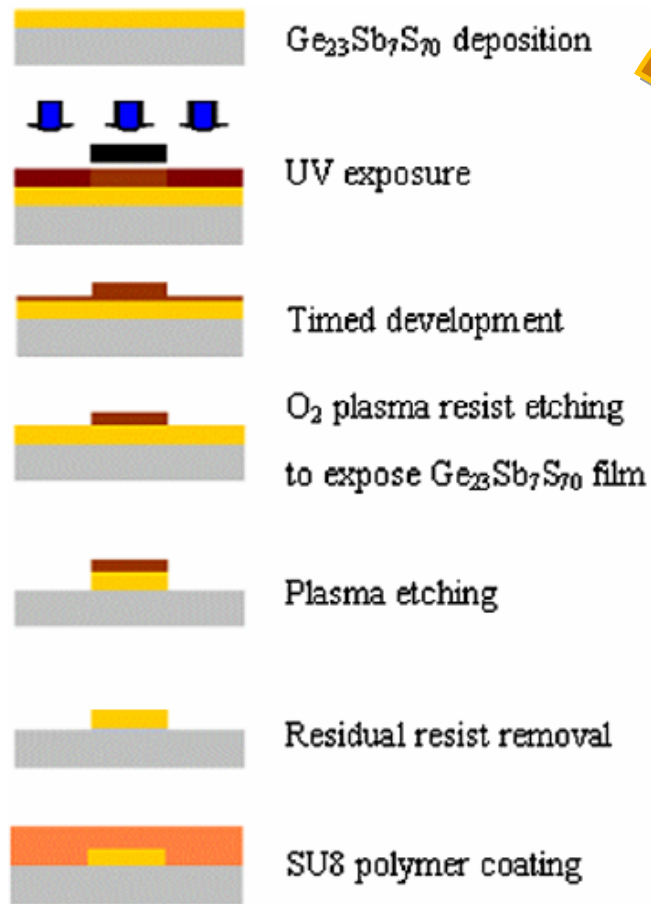
**M. Barillot** (*Thalès Alenia Space, Cannes, France*), **X. Zhang** (*LVC, Rennes, France*), **G. Parent** (*LEMETA, Nancy, France*), **J.E. Broquin** (*IMEP, Grenoble, France*)

For financial support: European Space Agency (Project IODA2)

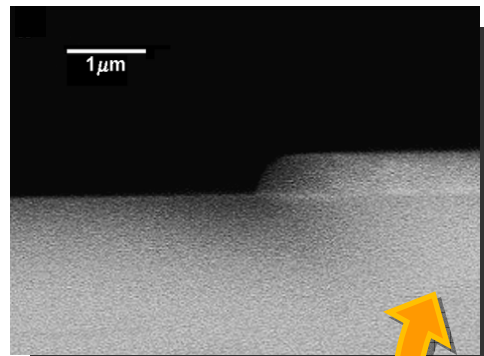
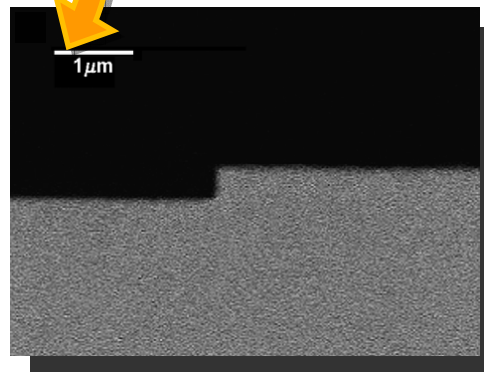
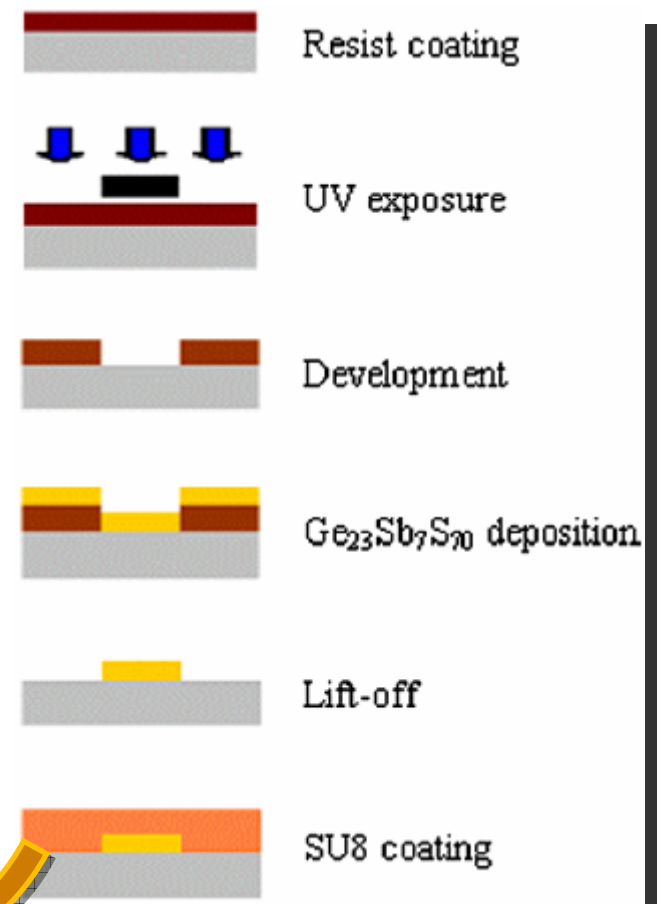


# Fabrication de guides d'onde: Gravure

## Waveguide fabrication by plasma etching



## Waveguide fabrication by lift-off



$\text{Ge}_{23}\text{Sb}_7\text{S}_{70}$  channel waveguide