

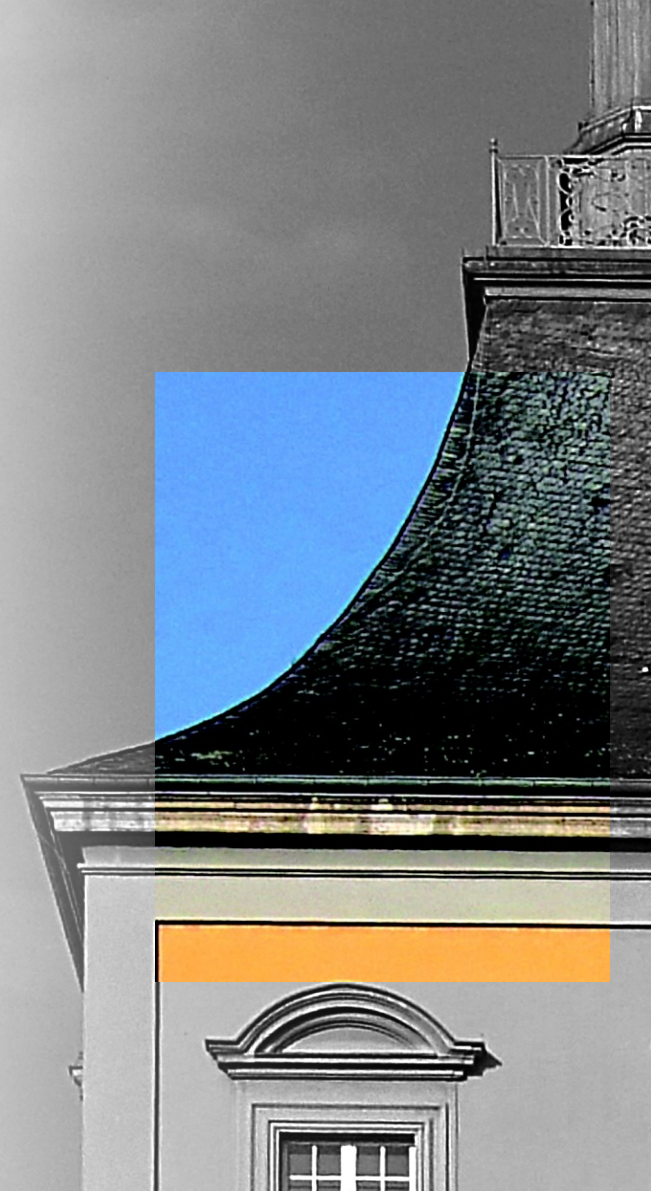


# Focused Ion Beam investiations

Silab Meeting 03.06.2026

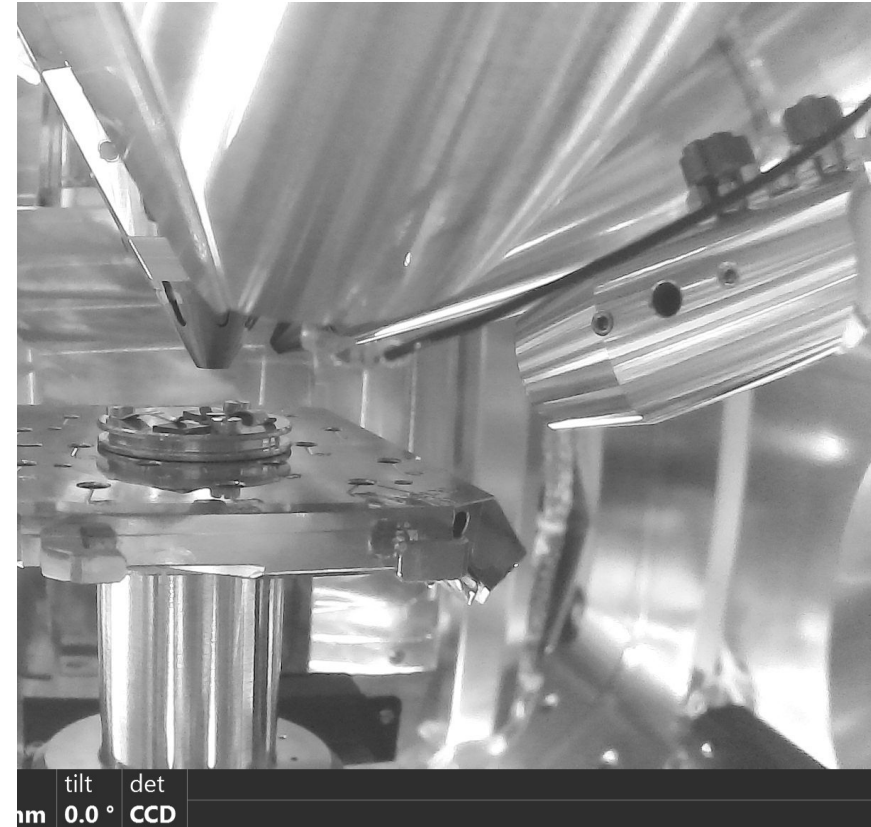
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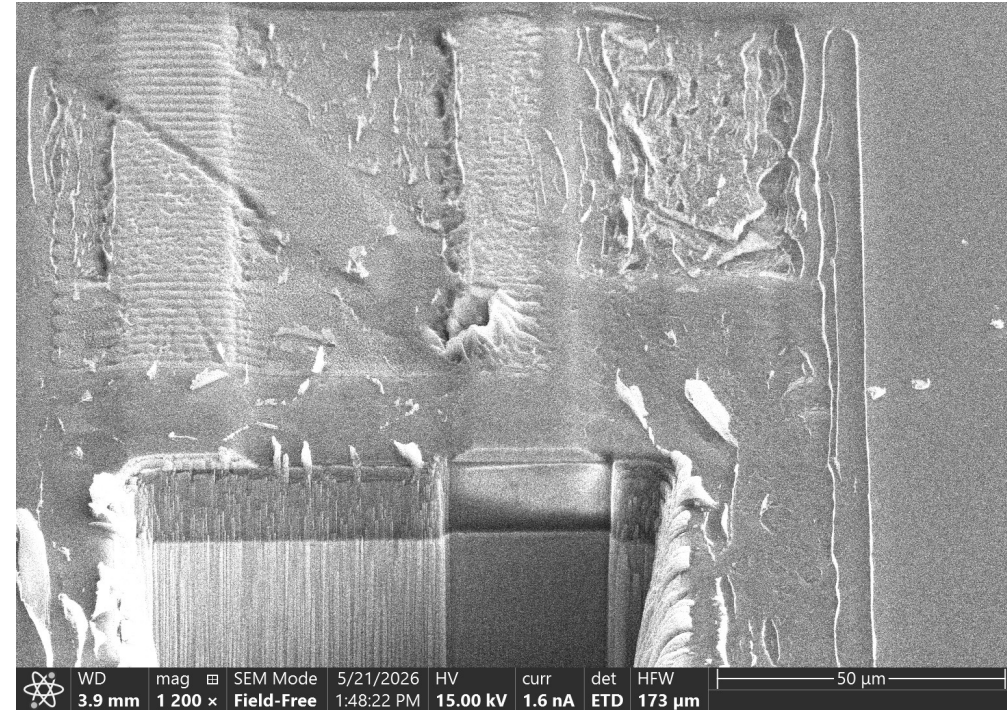
## Motivation

- Cleanroom work ongoing for quite a while
- Process development started and first samples produced
- Collection of samples gets larger and larger
- But we don't know how well our processes are
- No/limited information on layer stackup, trace shape, etc.
- Need inspection process to characterize cleanroom work
- Offer from Siegen to use their FIB and investigate some samples



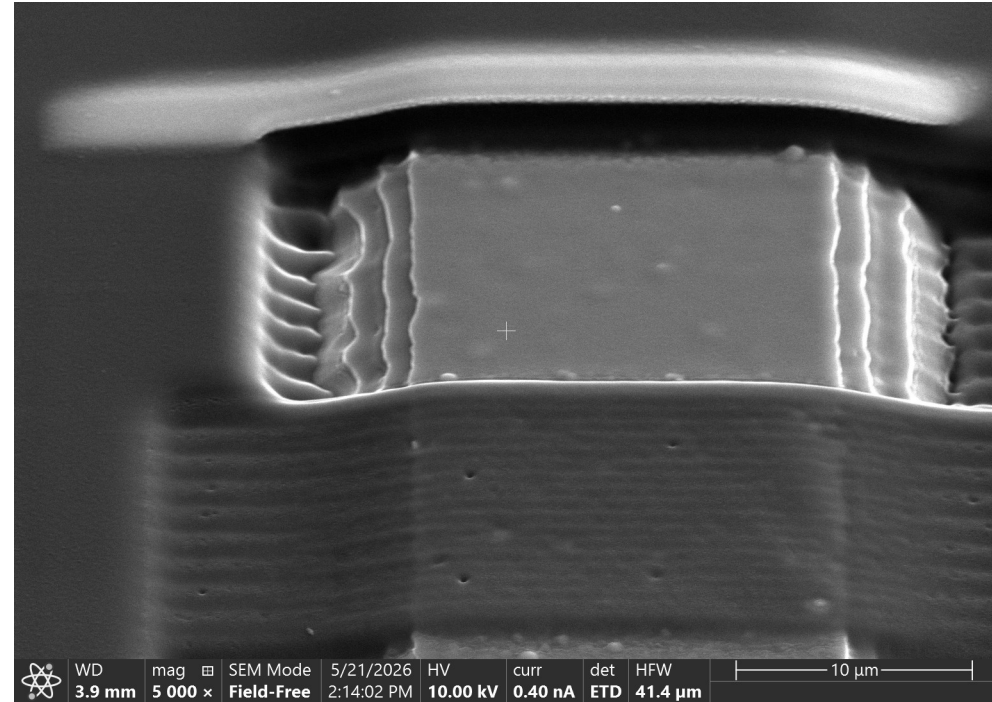
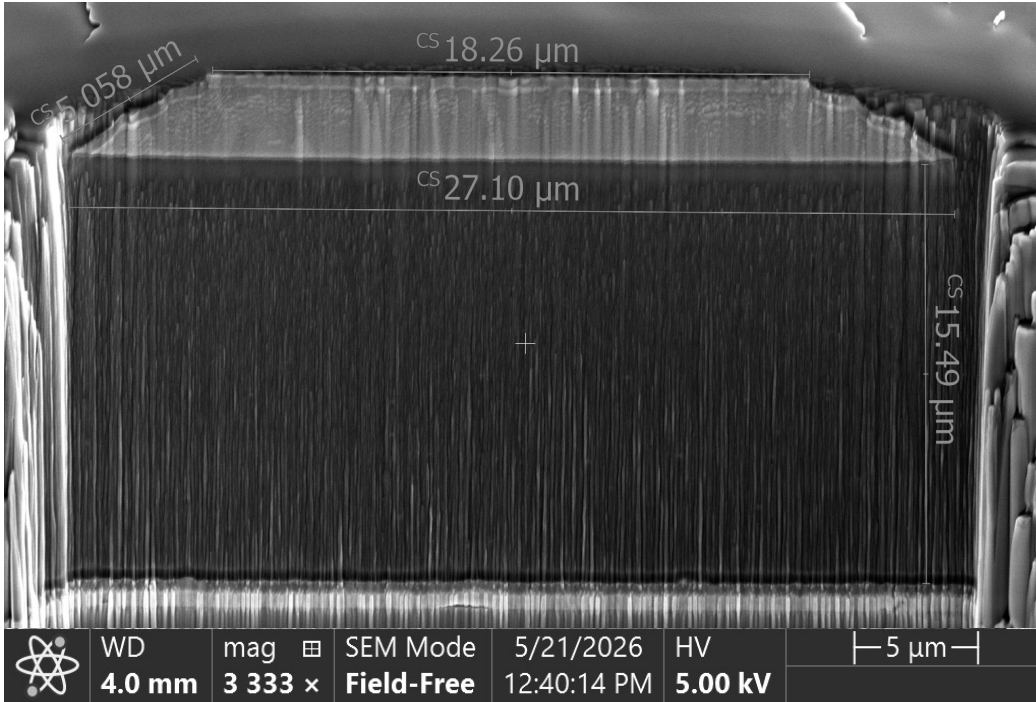
# Samples

- Self made samples with 3um aluminum traces
  - Trace dimensions
  - Via structures
  - Polyimide layer thickness
- IZM structures with 3-4um copper traces
  - Focus on vias
  - (trace dimensions not possible due to time limitations)
  - Copper layer buildup
- Isolation layer samples (Daniel/Jaffar)



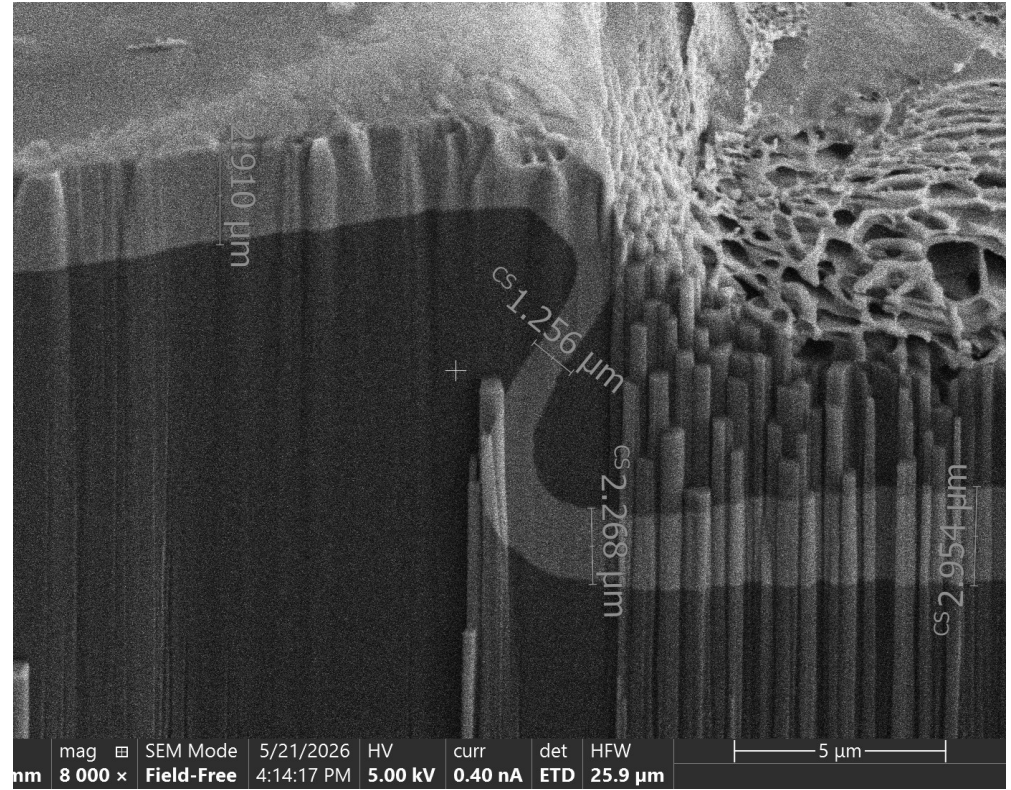
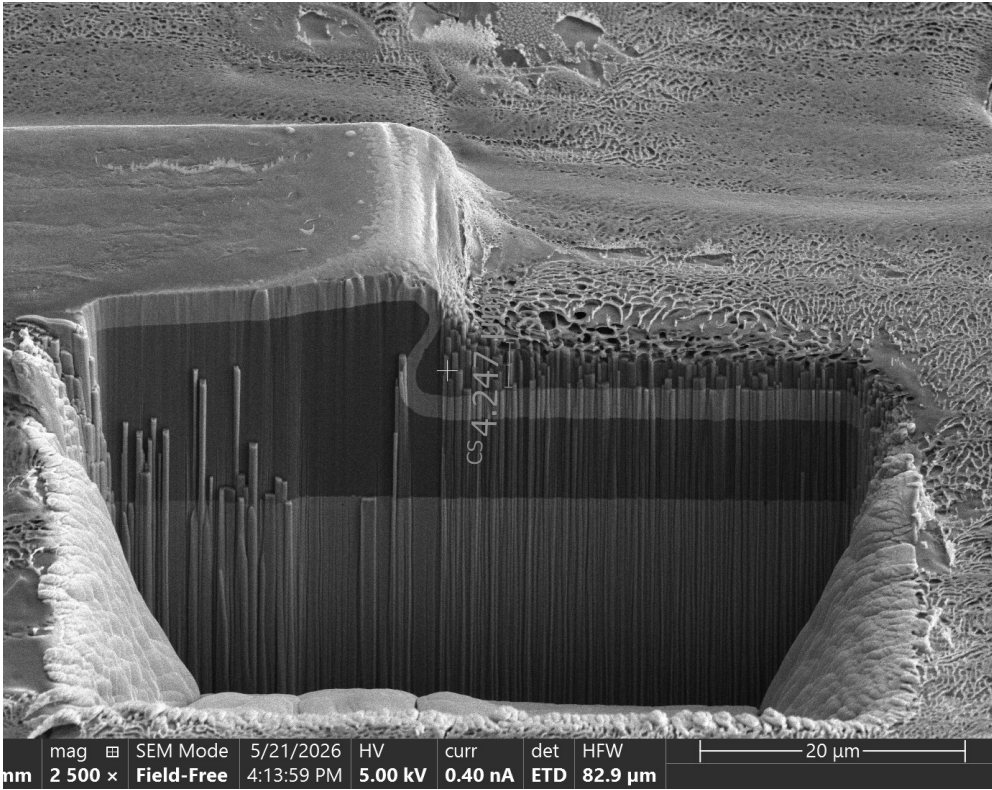
# Self made sample

- Self made samples with 3um aluminum traces



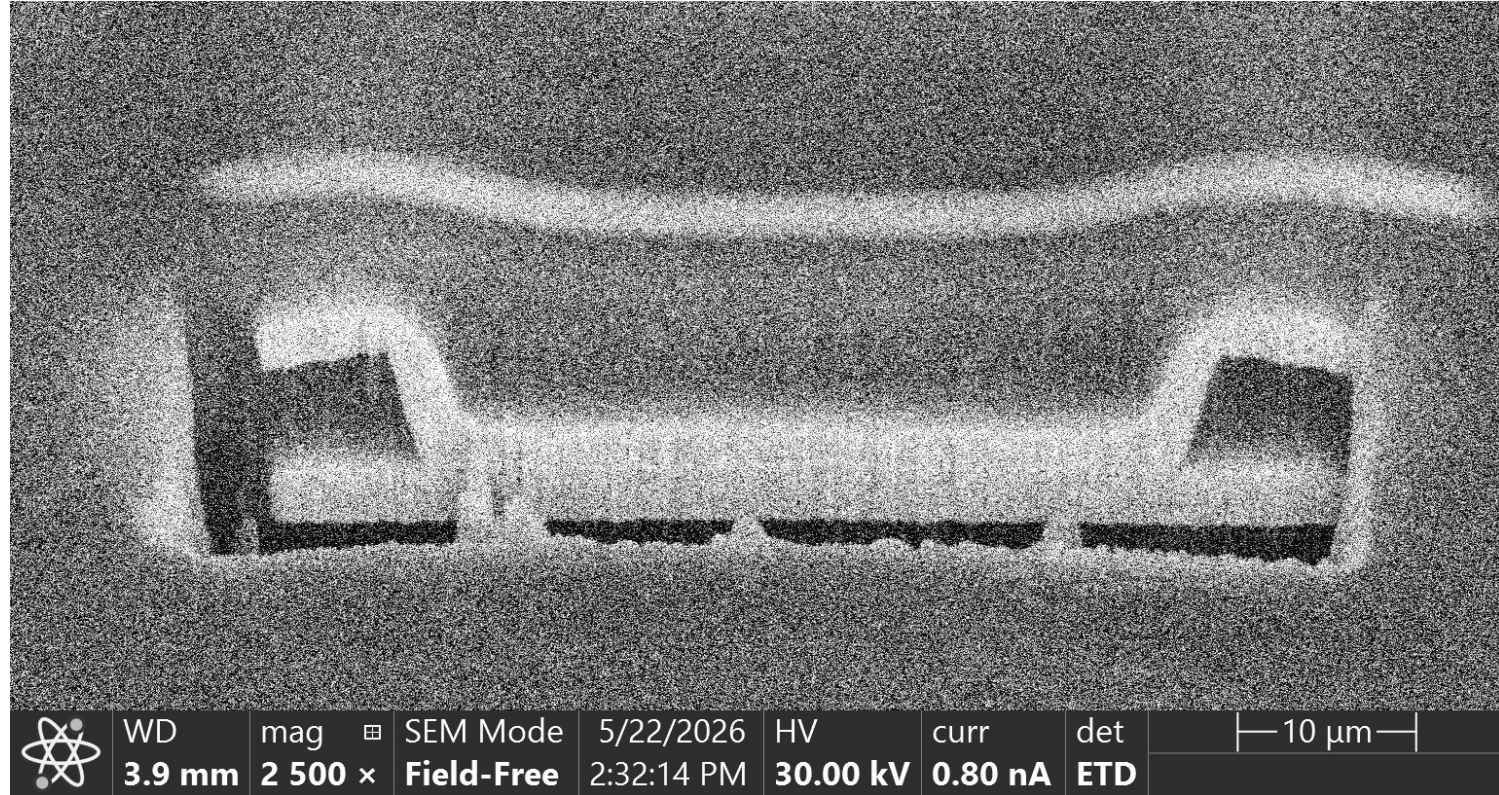
# Self made sample

- Self made samples: first step towards vias



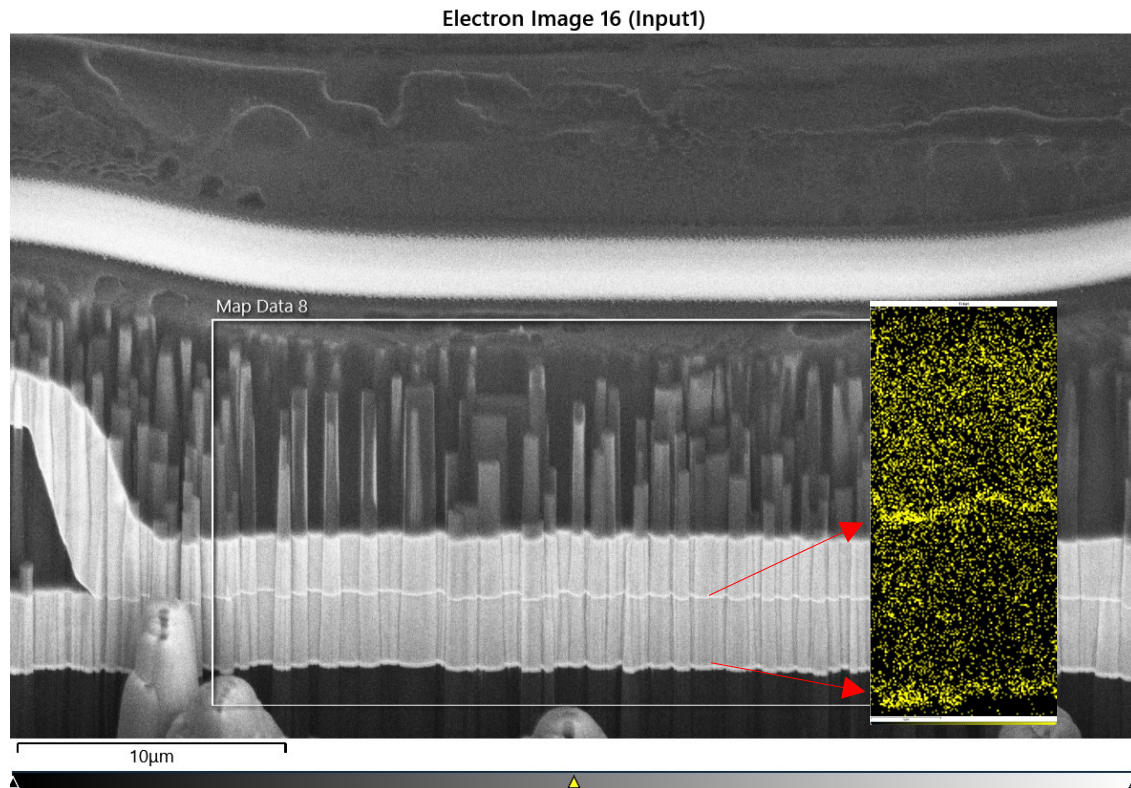
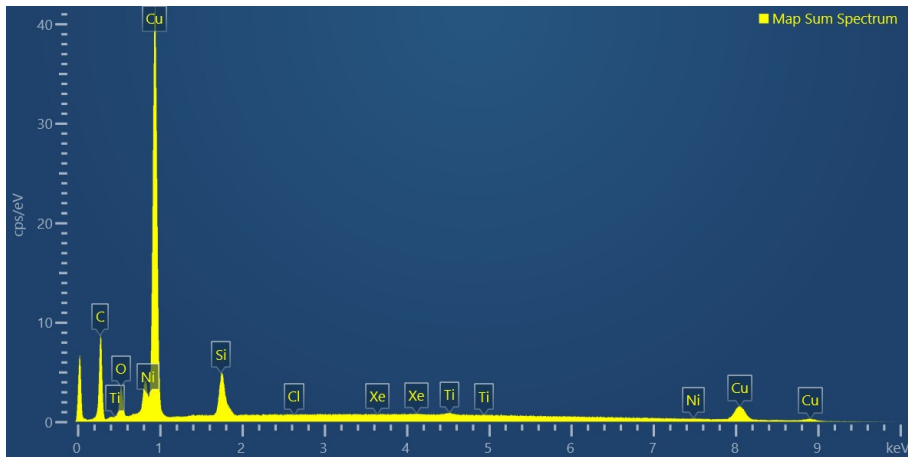
## IZM sample

- Very noisy picture due to issues with SEM
- Structure of via nicely visible



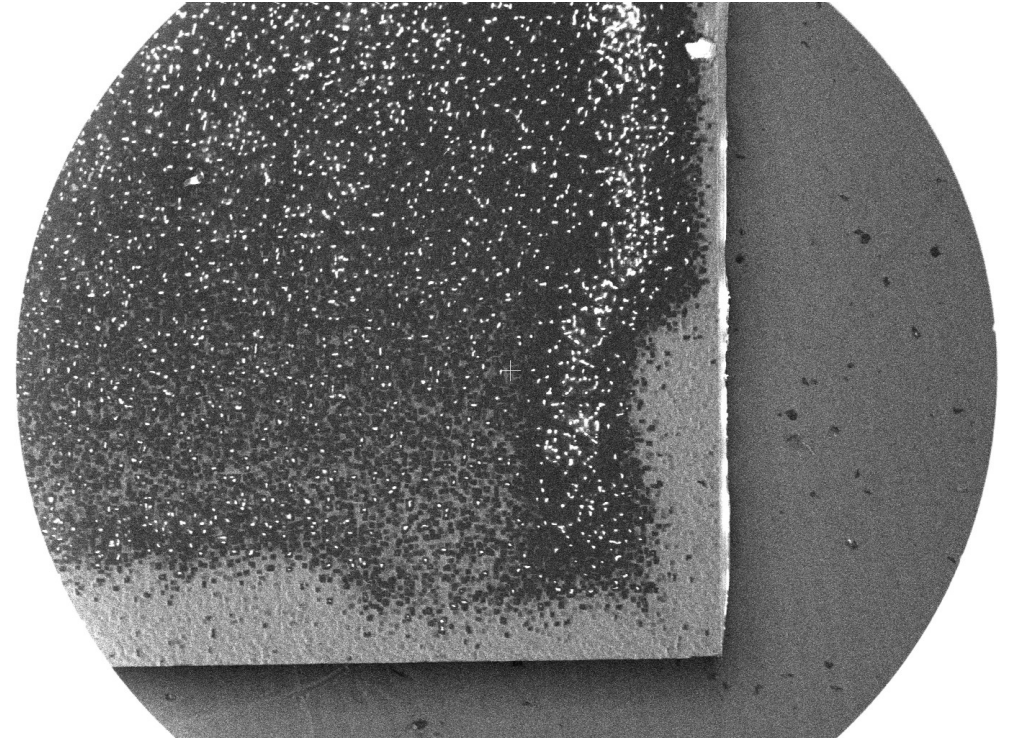
# IZM sample



- Material analysis reveals details of copper metalization process:
- ~200nm Titanium as seed layer



## Jafars Sample

- Due to surface charging, non conductive samples are not easy to image. Jafars Samples were covered in PI → very hard, not much information SEM
- Also area of interest quite large high resolution of SEM not quite necessary
- The structures show very few or no PI on the edges. His process needs a lot of refining.



	WD <b>4.0 mm</b>	mag  <b>74 ×</b>	SEM Mode <b>Field-Free</b>	5/22/2026 3:24:20 PM	HV <b>10.00 kV</b>	curr <b>0.80 nA</b>	det <b>ETD</b>	HFV <b>2.80 mm</b>	 500 μm
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## Next Steps

- Need to investigate more samples
- Prepare new samples
- Get introduction to FIB and FIB booking system
- In the long run think about contacting Caesar for their FIB (much shorter travel)
- Think about buying used FIB from Siegen (50k€)
- Think about buying Ion Milling machine and investigate mechanical cross sectioning options in Bonn

