



# 3D microprinting solutions for highly efficient light coupling

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# The Key Enabling Technology

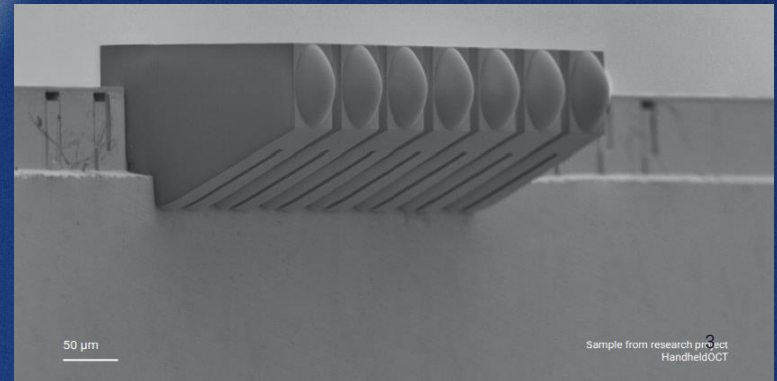
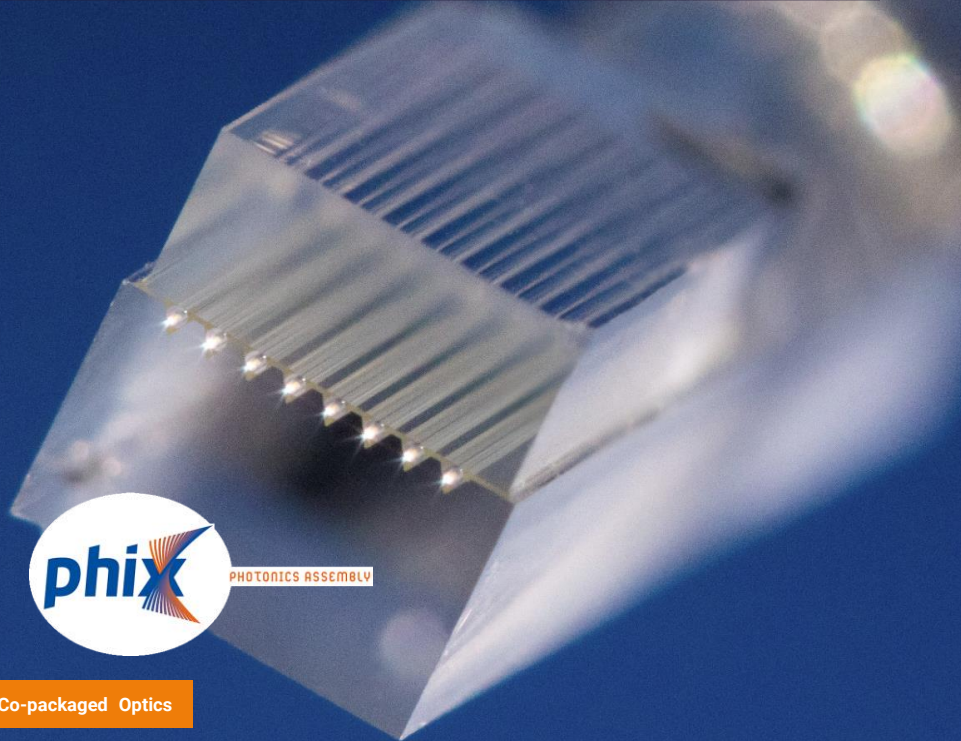
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# Quantum X align

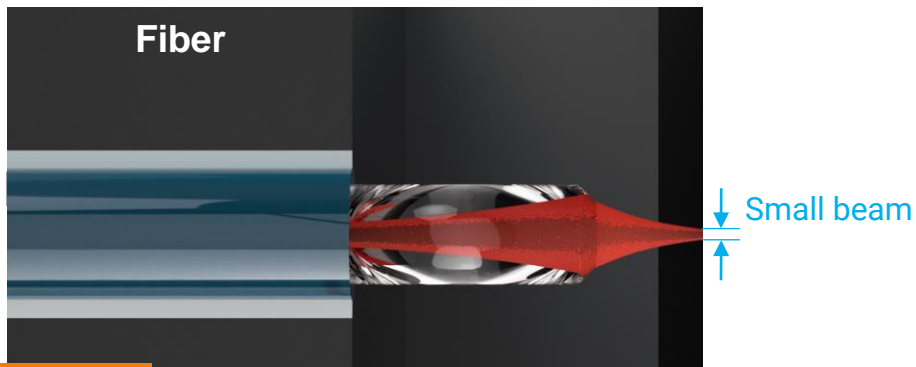
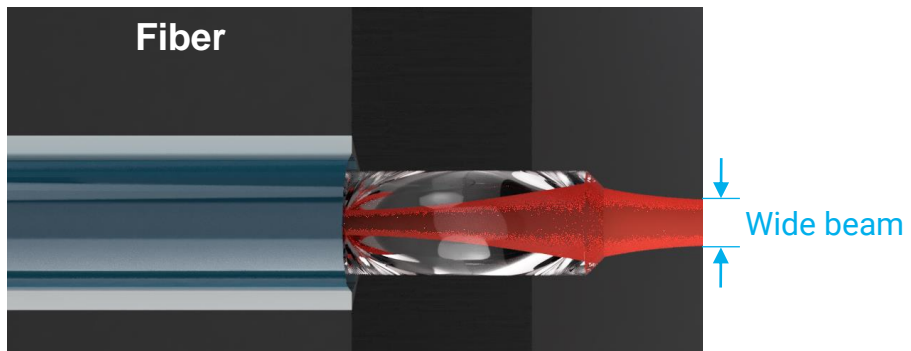
Connect to the photonic world  
3D printed Free Space Microoptical Coupling





## Application example – Printing on fibers

### Tailored lensed fibers

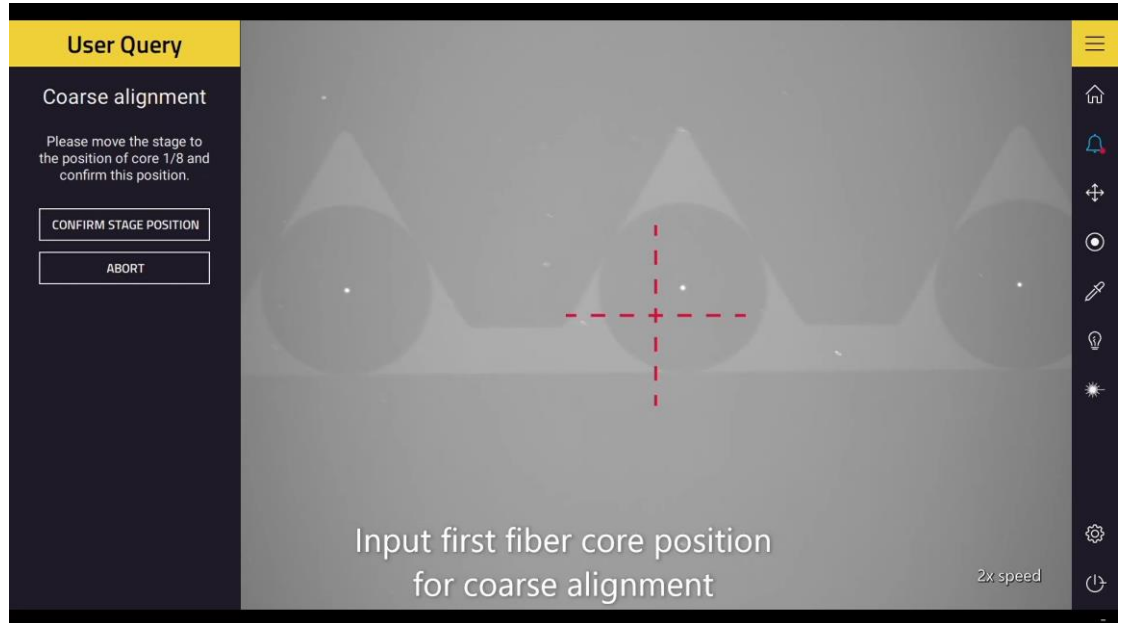
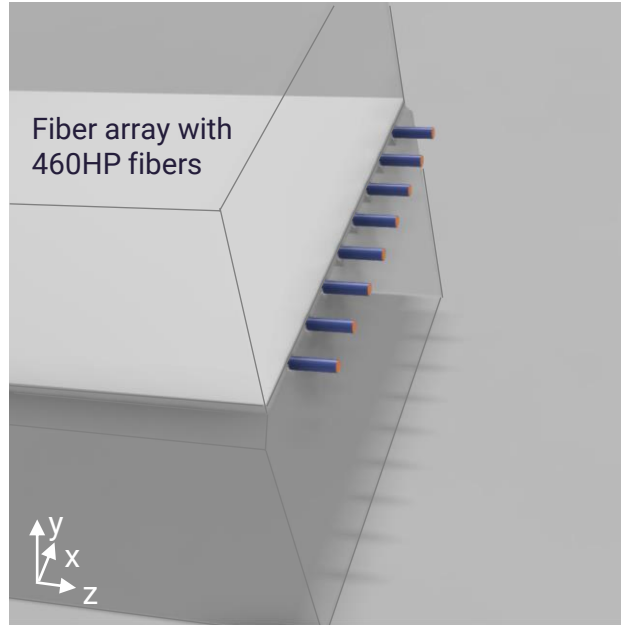


Beam expander for relaxed alignment tolerances in packaging

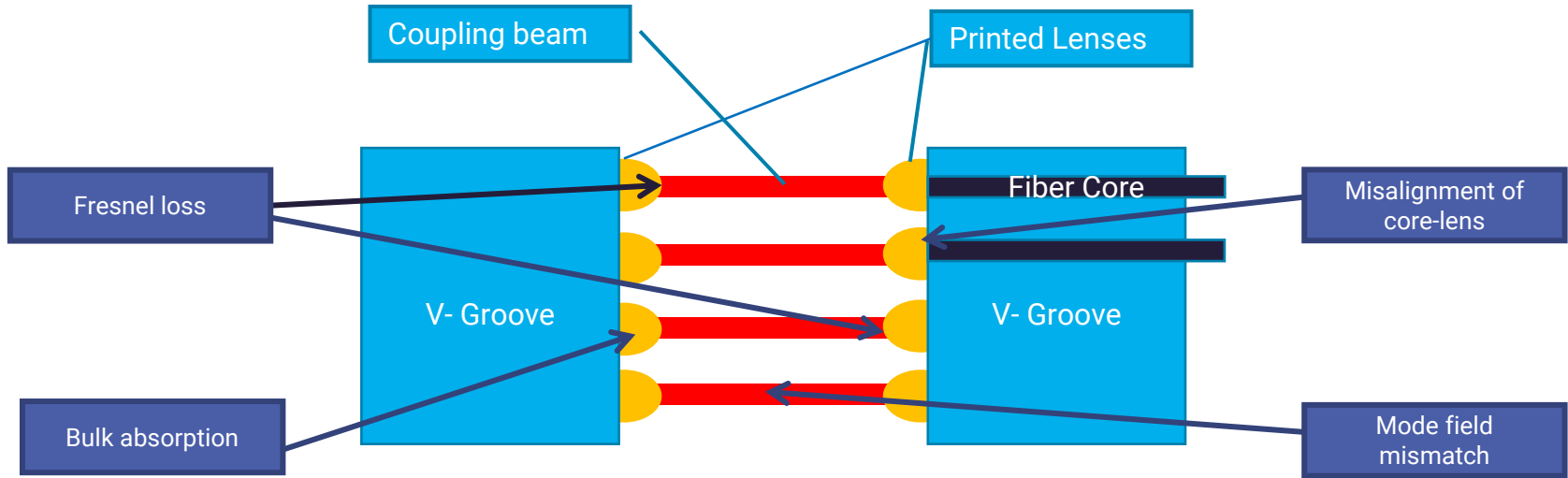
Focusing lenses for low loss direct coupling to tapered waveguides

# Application example – Printing on fibers

## Beam expander for 25 $\mu\text{m}$ mode field diameter



# Coupling losses: example for lensed fiber arrays - where do they occur?



\* the smaller the MFD at the fiber, the higher the losses due to misalignment  
\*\* Losses due to setup misalignment not depicted  
Lens height: ~200  $\mu\text{m}$  each  
MFD: ~25  $\mu\text{m}$

# Coupling losses – a rough estimation fro fiber to fiber

## - Free space microoptic coupling enables losses below 1db



Loss type	Info	Fiber - Fiber
Fresnel reflection	Losses: ~4%(0.2 dB) per resist-air interface	~8% (~0.4 dB)
Bulk absorption / scattering	Material dependent losses: ~0.7% per 100 μm in IP-S (1550 nm)*	~3% (~0.15 dB)
Mode field mismatch	Target: <10% MFD mismatch	<1% (<0.05 dB)
Misalignment of core-lens	Target: <±500 nm**	< 1%(1550 nm) - <14%(520 nm) < 0.05 dB - <0.65 dB**
Misalignment of setup	Packaging dependent	?
	<b>Minimum total loss</b>	<b>~11% (~0.5 dB)</b>
	<b>Total expectable fabrication-related losses***</b>	<b>~13–22% (~0.6 - 1.3 dB)</b>

### ► High precision 3D printed collimation lenses enable

- reduced losses below down to 1 dB
- tailored relaxed alignment of several μm



\* first estimation, detailed measurements pending

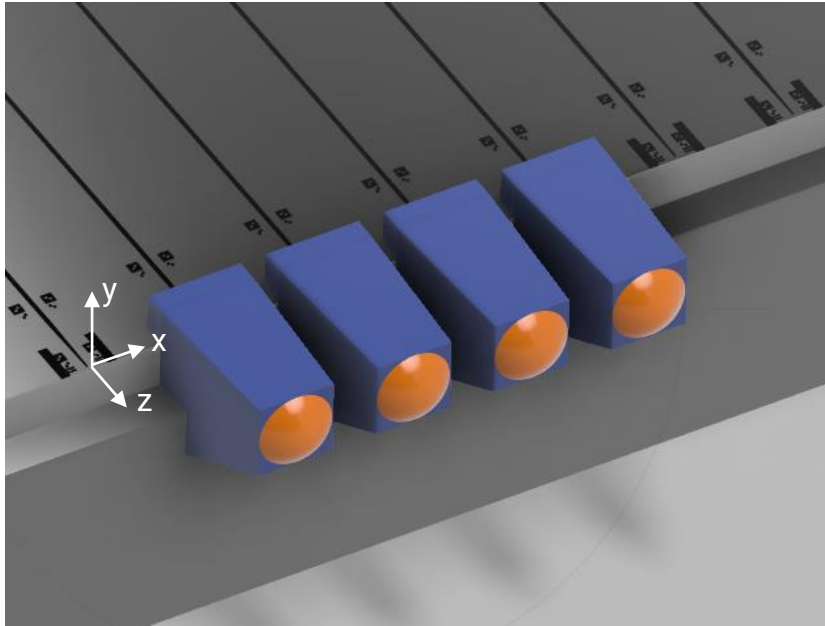
\*\* the smaller the MFD at the fiber, the higher the losses due to misalignment: SMF MFD for 1550 ~ 10.5μm; 520 nm ~ 3.5μm

\*\*\* Losses due to setup misalignment not included



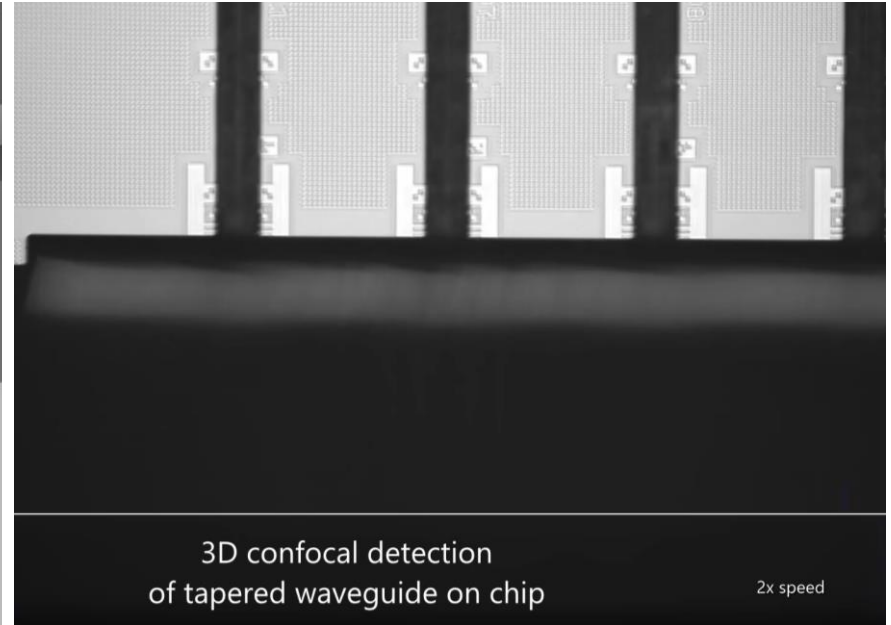
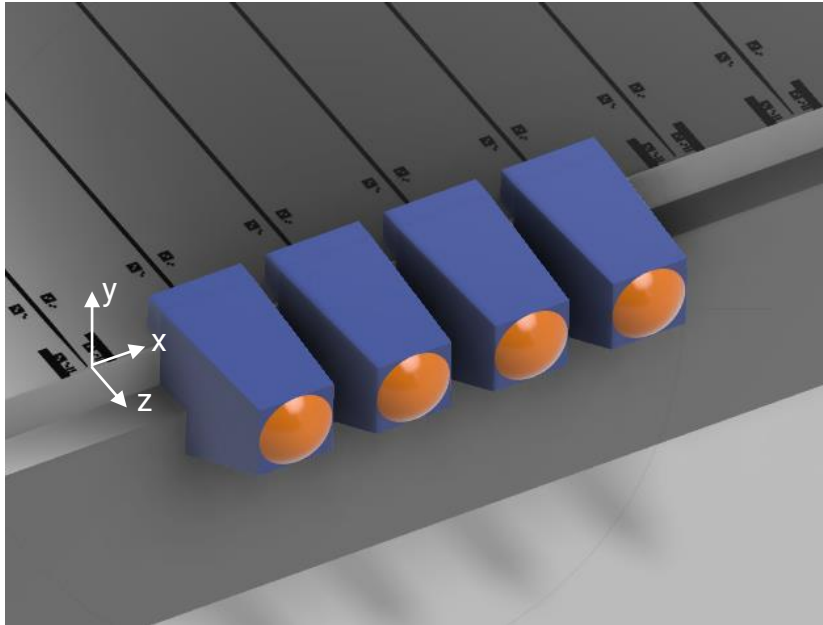
# Next step – Printing on photonic chips

Example of beam shaping optics for 1060 nm



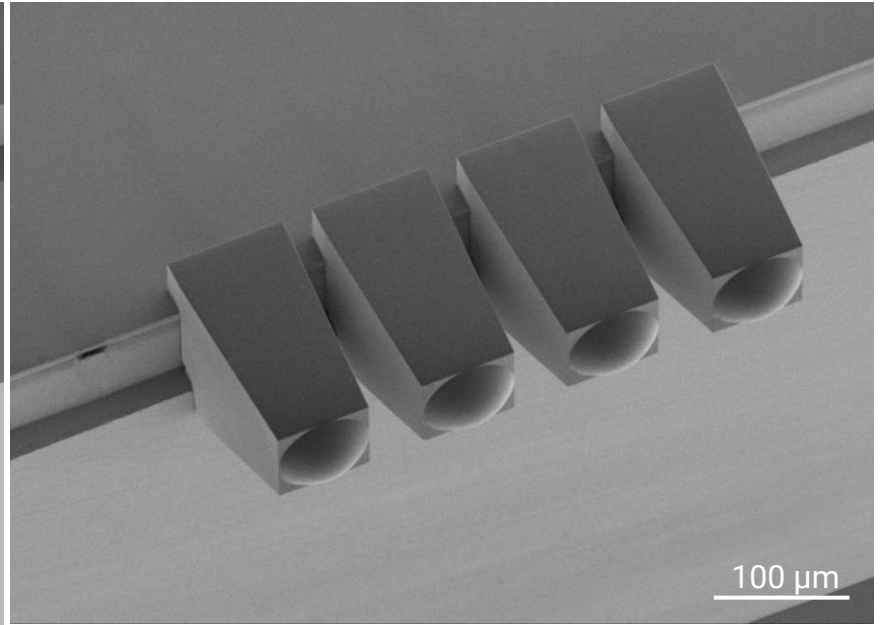
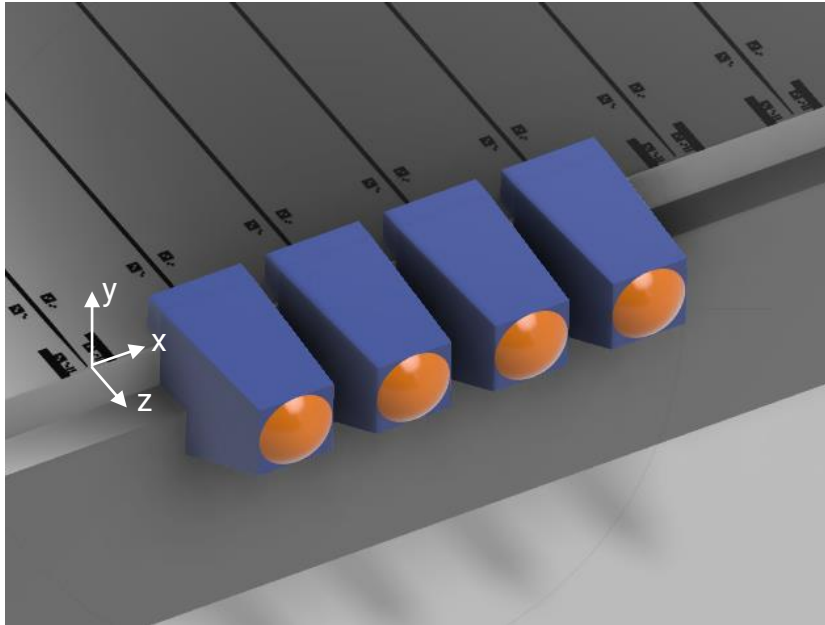
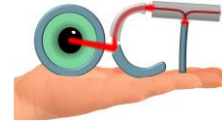
# Next step– Printing on photonic chips

## Example of beam shaping optics for 1060 nm



# Application example – Printing on photonic chips

## Beam shaping optics for 1060 nm



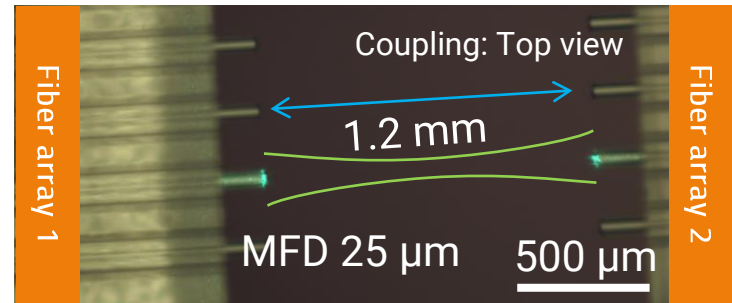
# Example for printing on fibers

## Losses with tailored lensed fibers



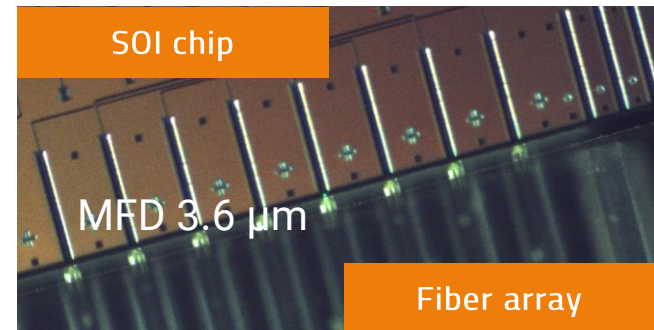
### ▶ Beam expander for **532 nm** wavelength

- Single mode coupling over 1.2 mm
- 5  $\mu\text{m}$  for 1 dB lateral alignment tolerance
- **-0.7 dB per lens**, -0.3 dB Fresnel reflection



### ▶ Focus lens for **1550 nm**

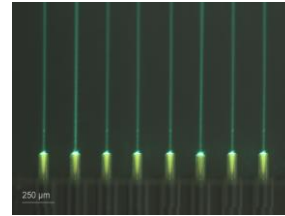
- **-1.7 dB per coupling interface** for coupling to SOI tapered edge coupled waveguides



# Quantum X align – Dedicated tool for improved optical coupling



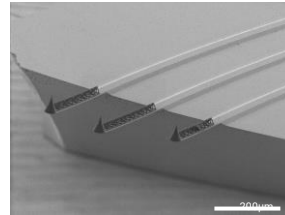
- ▶ Up to **100 nm** precise **lateral alignment** to waveguides with confocal module
- ▶ **Automatic printing** on fiber arrays & chips
- ▶ Enables **relaxed die alignment** tolerances of **few  $\mu\text{m}$**  and **reduced losses**



**Printing on fibers**  
3D alignment to fiber core and emission direction



**Printing on photonic chips**  
3D alignment to on-chip markers, waveguides etc.



**Printing on 3D topographies**  
3D alignment to topographical features

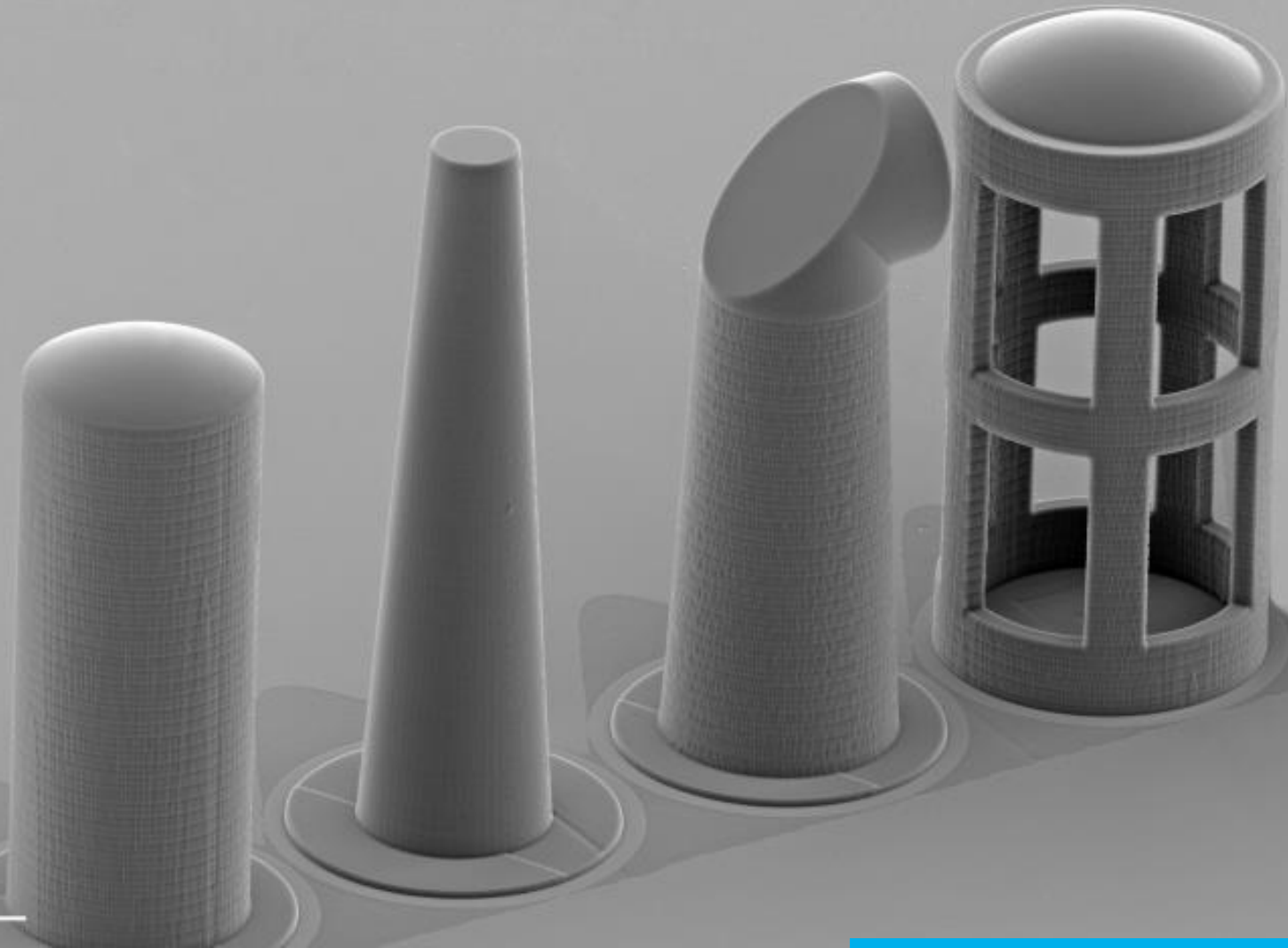


# Get inspired

Application examples



50  $\mu\text{m}$





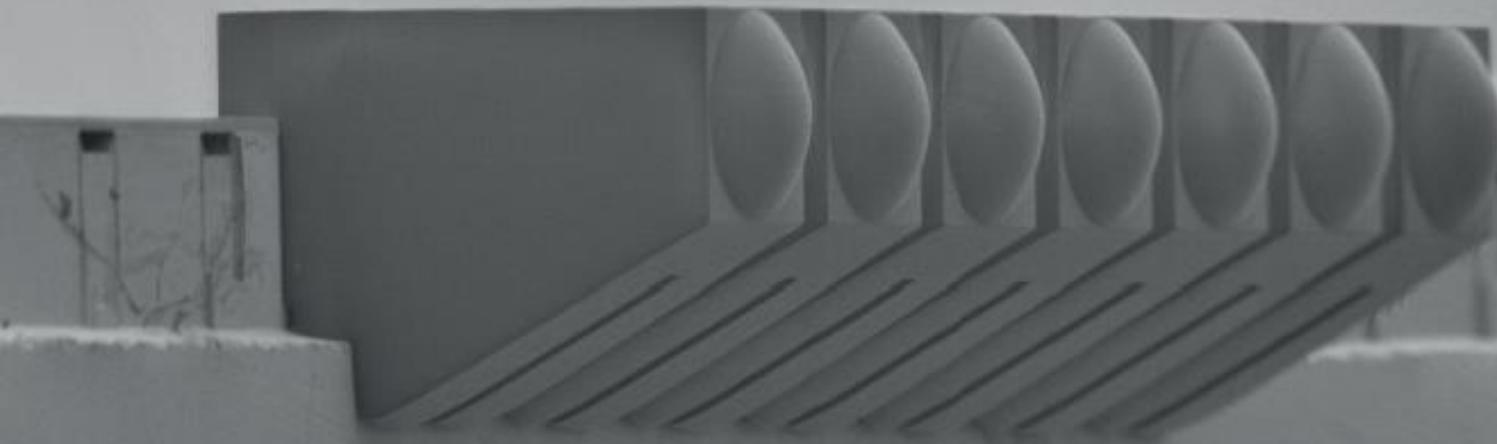
## 3D-printed lensed fiber arrays for highest coupling efficiencies

200  $\mu\text{m}$



Sample from research project  
MILiQuant





On-chip printed lenses  
for free space  
microoptical coupling

50  $\mu\text{m}$

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Sample from research project  
HandheldOCT



Microlens precisely  
printed on the facet of  
a laser chip

5  $\mu\text{m}$

Sample from research project  
MiLiQuant

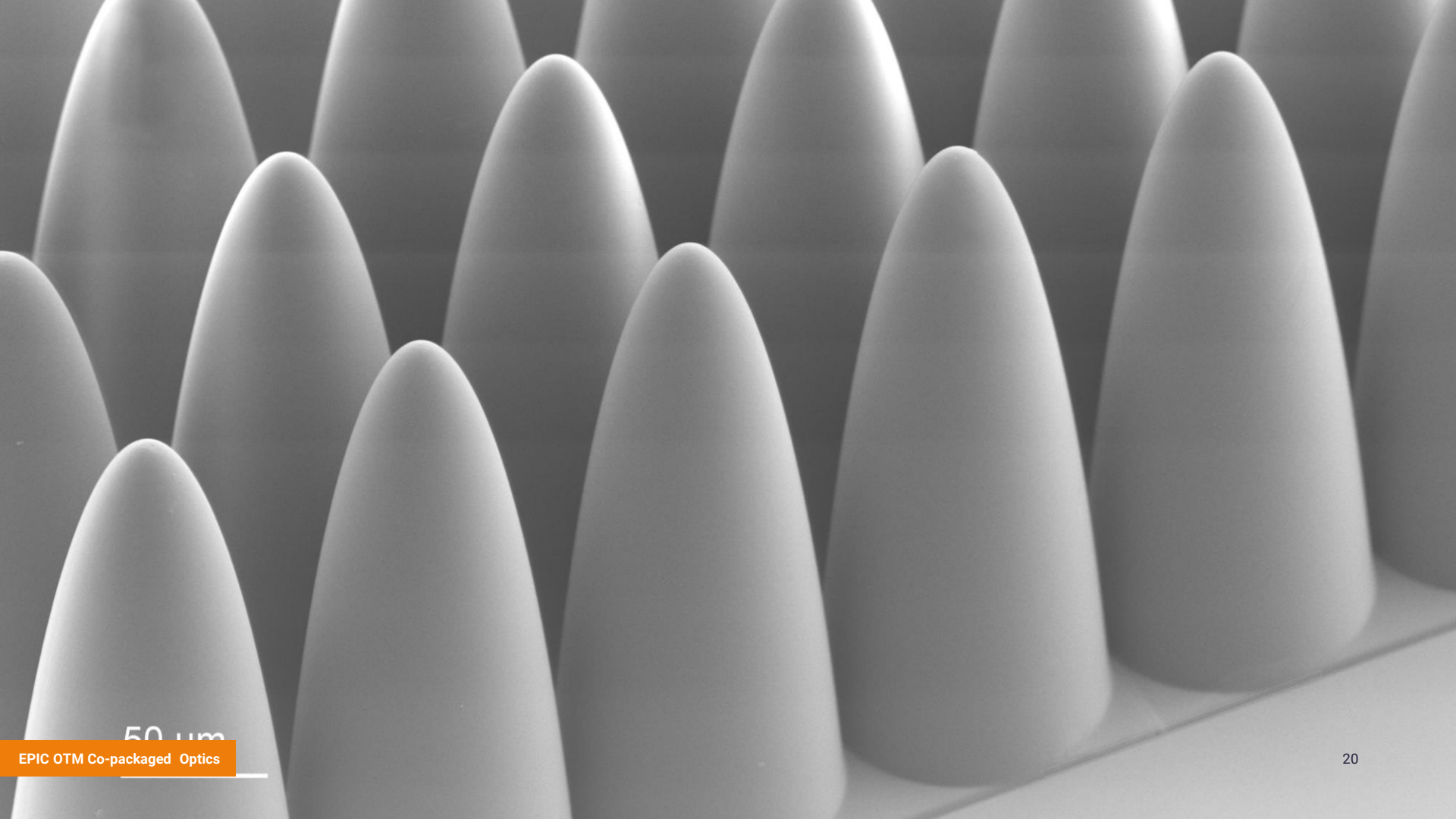


Hybrid lens 3D-printed  
on an optical fiber  
with diffractive  
elements

100  $\mu\text{m}$



PRINTOPTICS



50  $\mu\text{m}$

A grayscale micrograph showing a periodic array of rectangular elements. Each element is slightly taller than it is wide, and they are arranged in a regular grid. The elements are separated by narrow gaps. The lighting creates shadows that emphasize the three-dimensional nature of the structure. A scale bar is located in the bottom-left corner.

100  $\mu\text{m}$





# Thank you for your attention!

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of your structure  
Validate our  
3D Microfabrication technology