



# In-Process Metrology for Microlenses Using Confocal Microscopy

Jürgen Valentin  
NanoFocus AG

11-12 May 2022

**EPIC Meeting on Advanced Microoptics: Simulation,  
Fabrication & Characterization at Nanoscribe**

Karlsruhe, Germany

- Company & Products
- Technology
- Application: Microlenses
- Conclusion & Challenges

# About me

■ Jürgen Valentin

■ **Co-Founder of NanoFocus AG**

■ 1995 - 2001 Head of Software Development

■ **2001 - 2017 CTO**

■ **Current activities:**

■ **Innovation & Partner Management:**

■ **Microoptics & Semiconductor**

■ **Electromobility / H2**

■ **Standardization: ISO / VDI Standardization Groups**

■ **Networking: OPTECHNET, IVAM, VDMA, NMWP**

■ **Steering: VDMA Photonics / Industrial Steering Committees**



## ■ Company Profile

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- Development, production & sales of **Optical 3D surface** measurement systems (micro/nano)
- Focus on **production metrology**
- Experienced supplier to the **automotive & semiconductor industry** (since 1996 >> 1500 systems worldwide)



HQ Oberhausen, Germany



HQ Göttingen, Germany  
Principal shareholder

- Products

- Special Solutions (Automation) & OEM Products



- Laboratory Systems



## 3D Surface Metrology

Tactile Systems

AFM

SEM

Optical Systems

Scanning

High NA

Low NA

Confocal

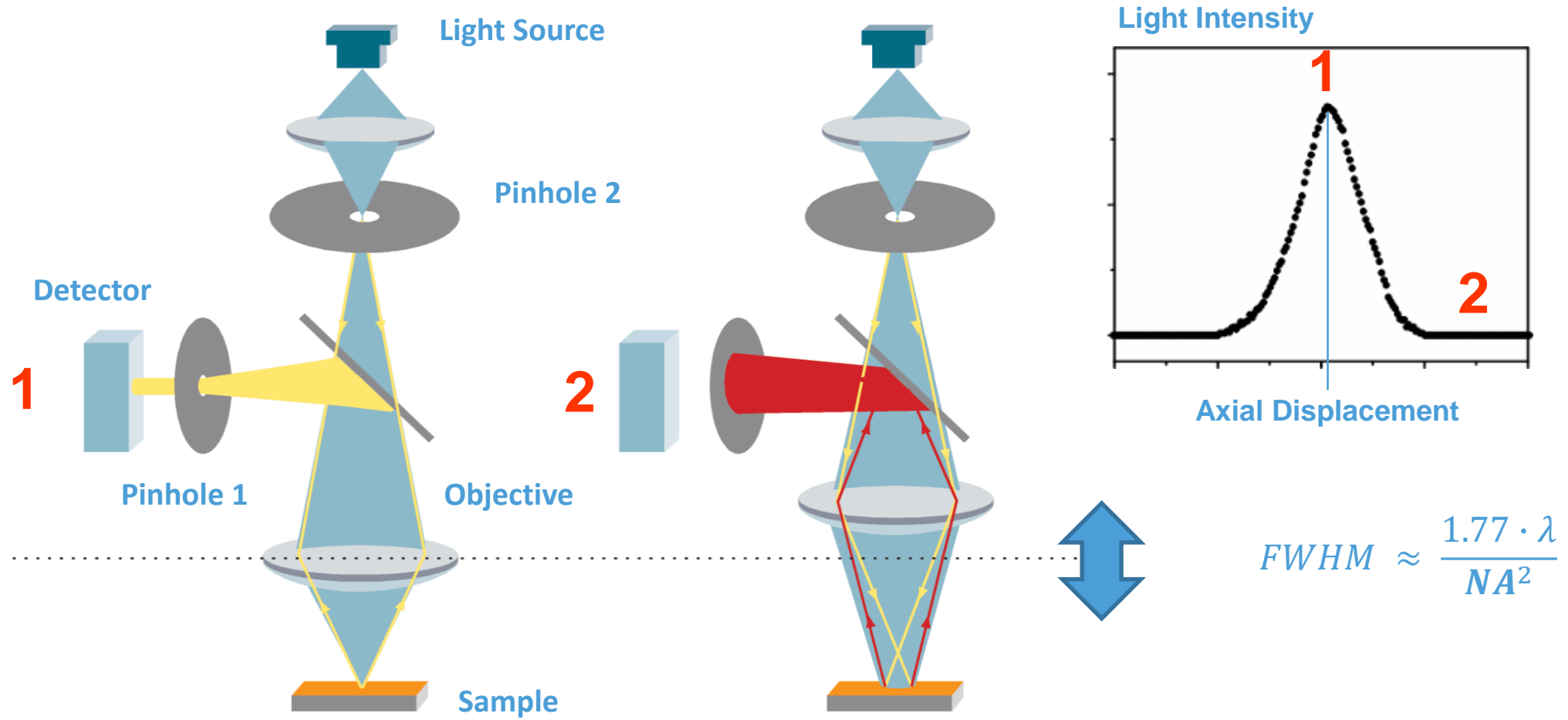
Interferometer

Vision  
Systems

# Technology

## ■ Confocal measuring principle

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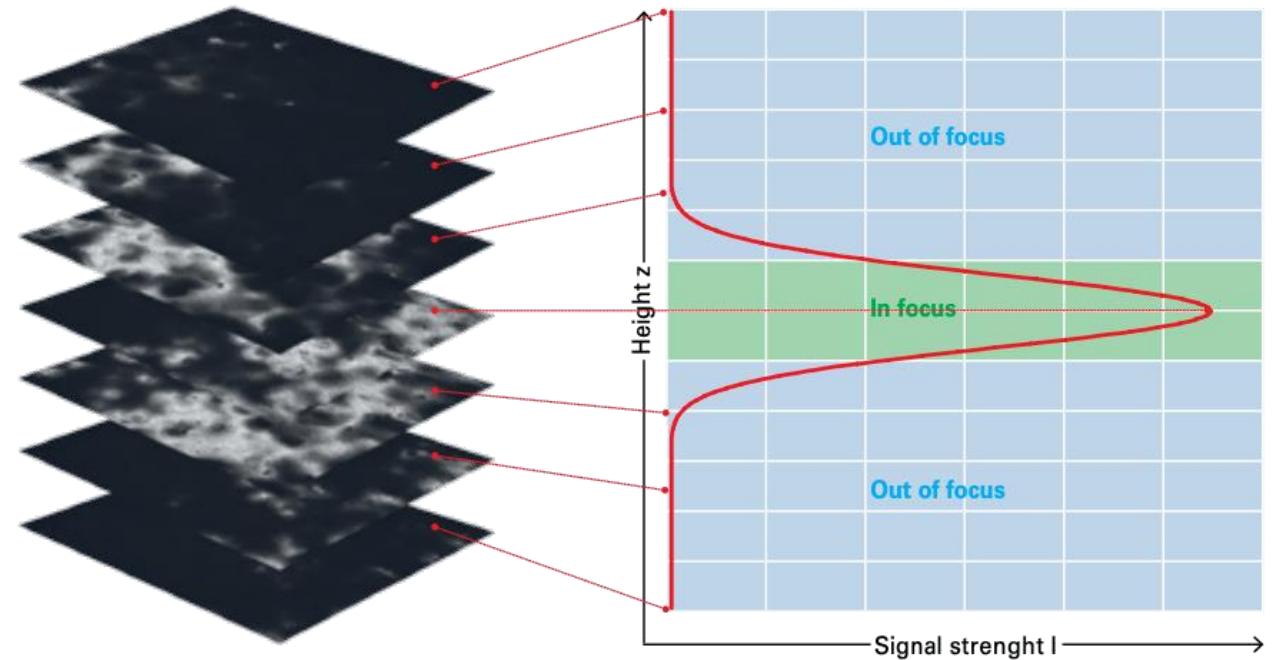
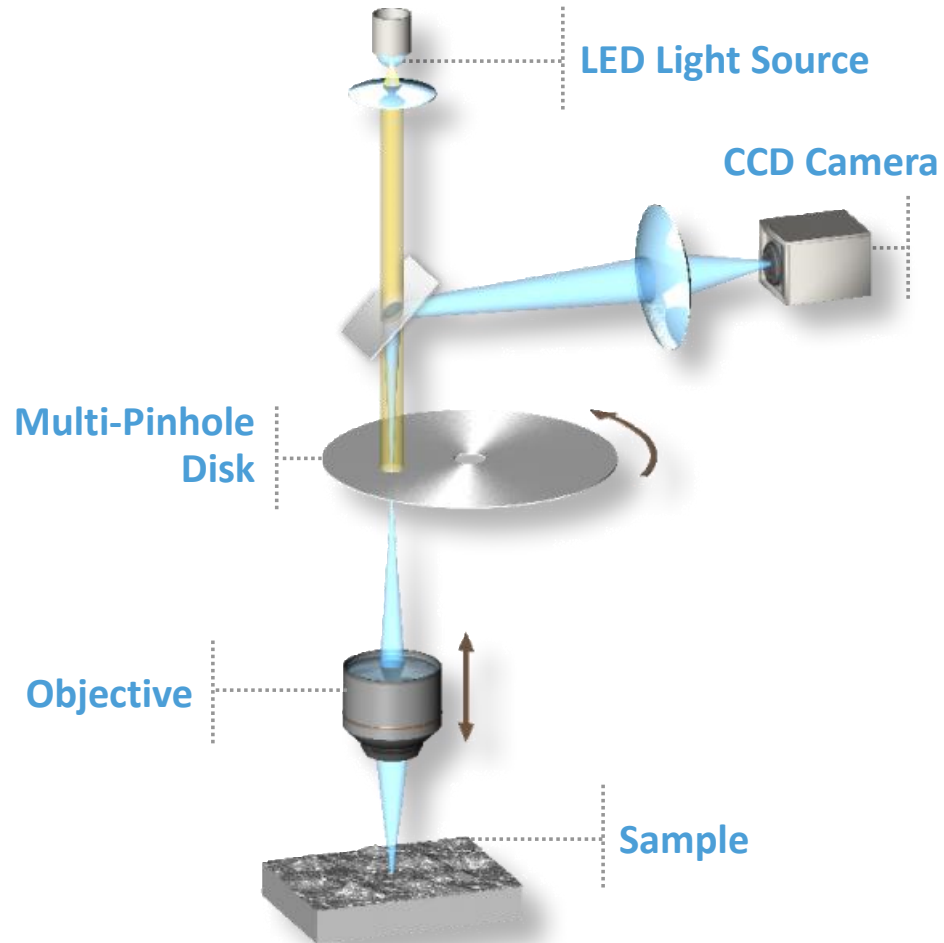




# Technology

## ■ Confocal microscope (Nipkow Disk)

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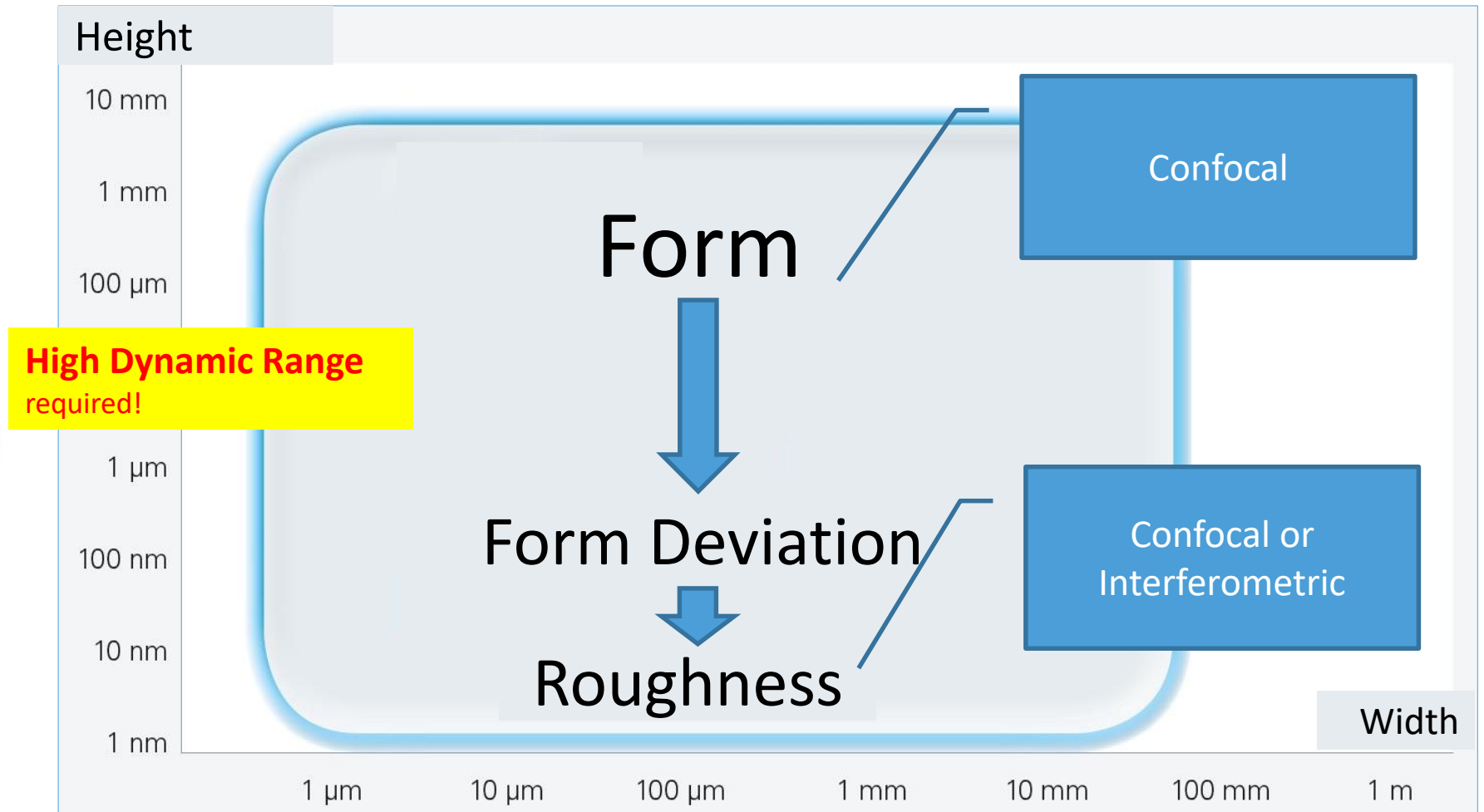
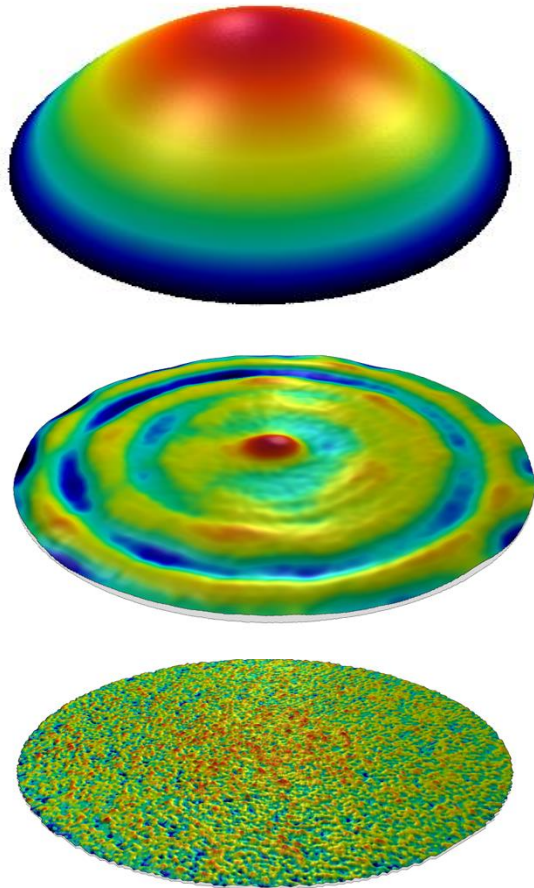




# Application area

## ■ Scope of microoptic applications

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# Requirements & Correspondences

## ■ Traceability of the results

- Acceptance Tests acc. VDI 2655
- Special calibration, e.g. with VLSI standards
- Use of calibrated reference spheres (METAS certificate)

## ■ Large Measuring angles

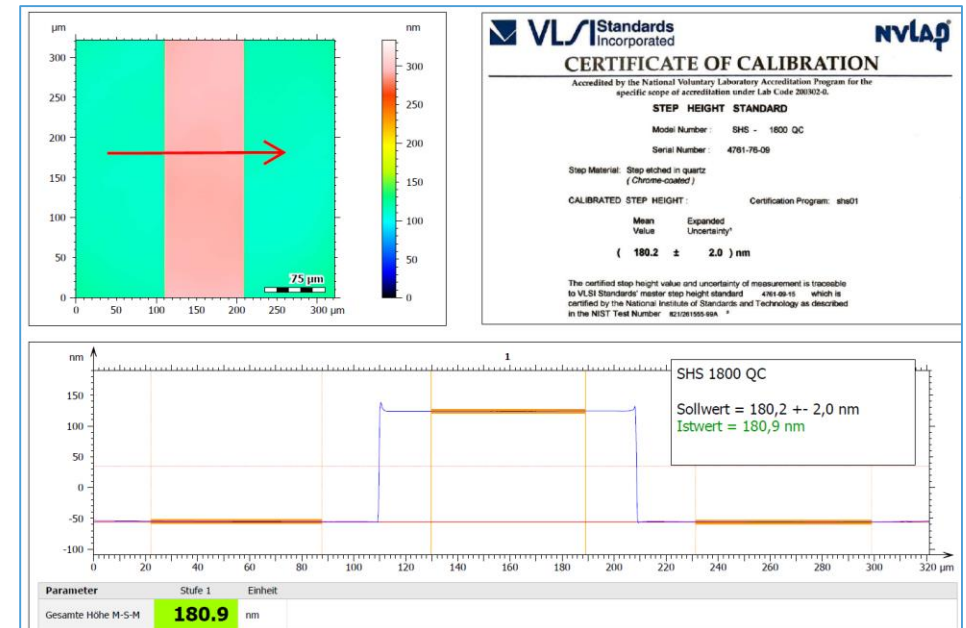
- Angles > 70° (Objective 160 XS, 320 XS, NA 0.95)

## ■ Measurement of small lens diameters ( $D < 0,1 \text{ mm}$ )

## ■ High measurement speed (up to 20 $\mu\text{m/s}$ )

## ■ High shape accuracy and repeatability

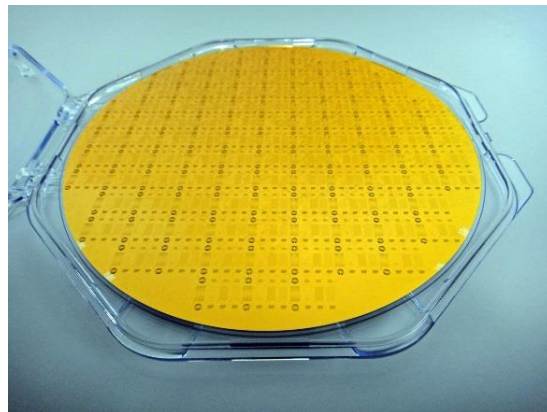
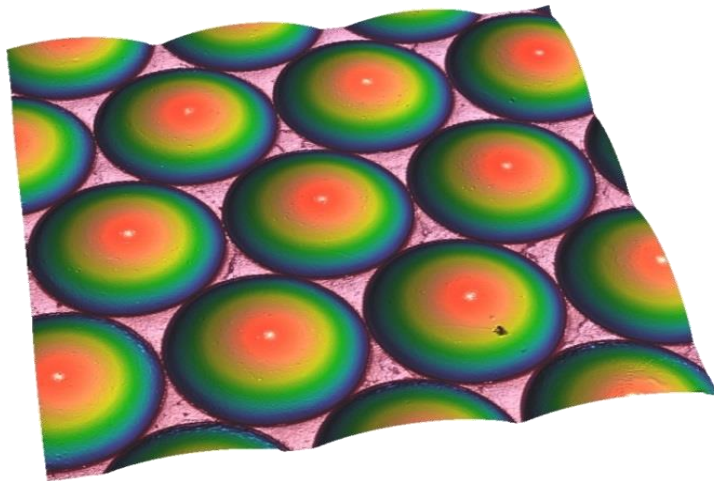
(Radius deviation < 0,2% , RMS < 20 nm @ D=1 mm)



# Example: Wafer-based microlenses

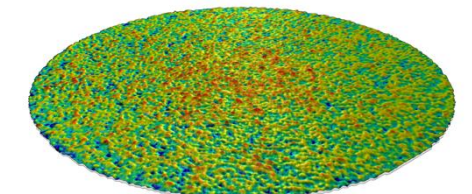
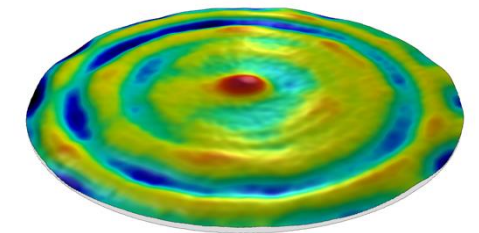
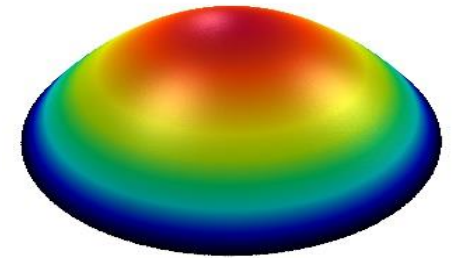
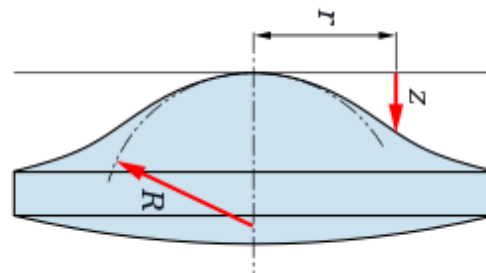
## ■ Determination of shape and roughness

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- 3D Asphere measurement & curve fitting
  - Calculation of R, k
  - Determination of RMS, PV
- Measurement of Sq
- Lens Position / Inclination measurement

$$z(r) = \frac{\rho r^2}{1 + \sqrt{1 - (1 + k)(\rho r)^2}} \quad R = 1/\rho$$





## ■ Basic system design

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- Robust portal design with active damping

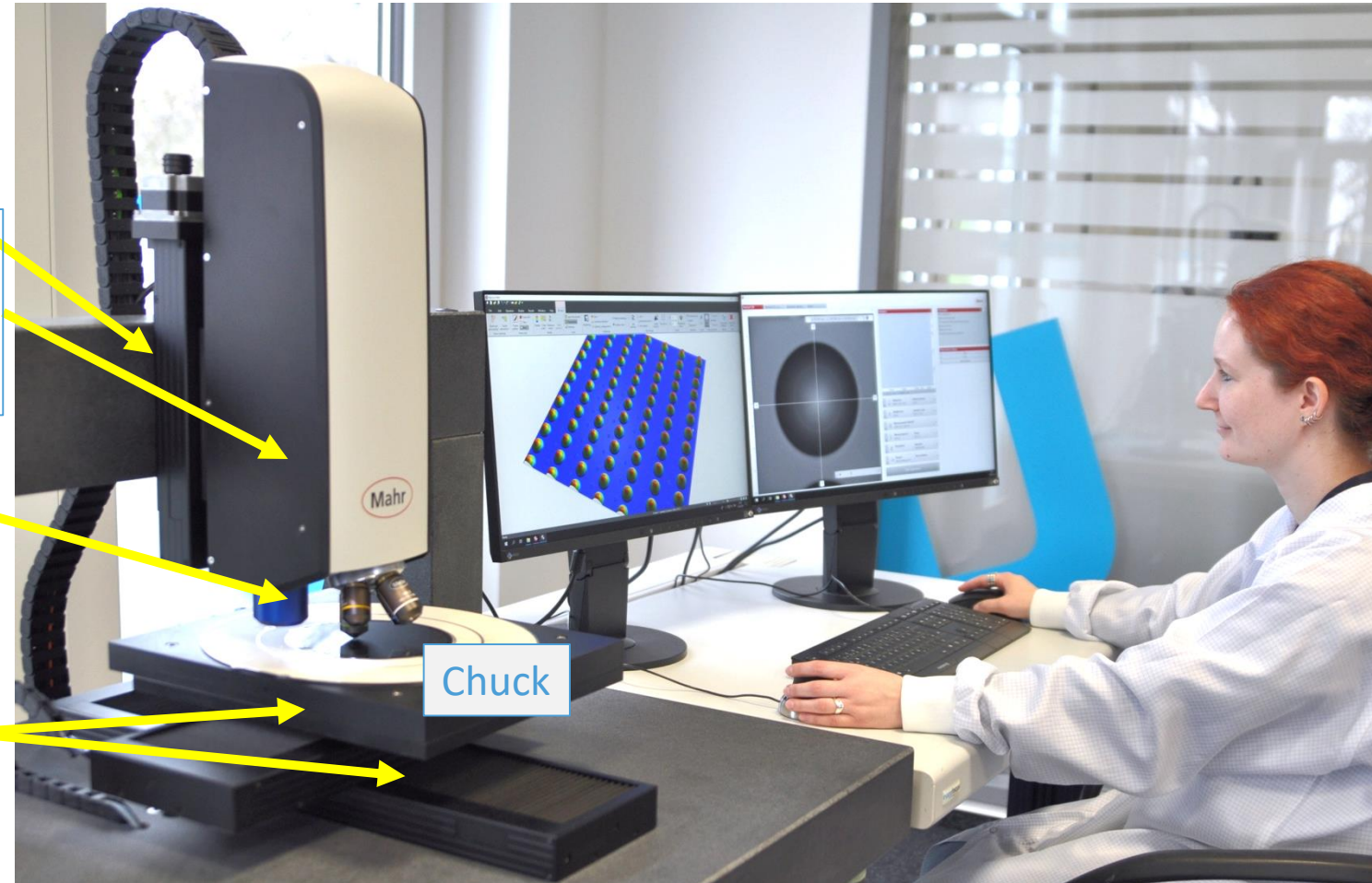
- Confocal measuring head

- 1200 X 1200 Pixel, HDR, Binning option, 100 fps
- Integrated Piezo Drive 350  $\mu\text{m}$  z-Range

- Overview Camera (Fiducial Recognition)

- Positioning axes

- Z: Range 100 mm
- XY: Range 300 X 300 mm  
Mounting Area > Range  
Resolution (XYZ): 0,1  $\mu\text{m}$



# Automation

- In-line production system

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- **Automated Waferhandling** and Software Mapping
- Clean room compatible
- Automation software (rights management)
- Several data interfaces  
(z.B. SECS GEM,..)
- Automated **Measurement & Analysis**
- Interfaces for further data processing  
(**Python, MATLAB, Mountains,..**)



# Calibration

## ■ Measurement on calibrated spheres

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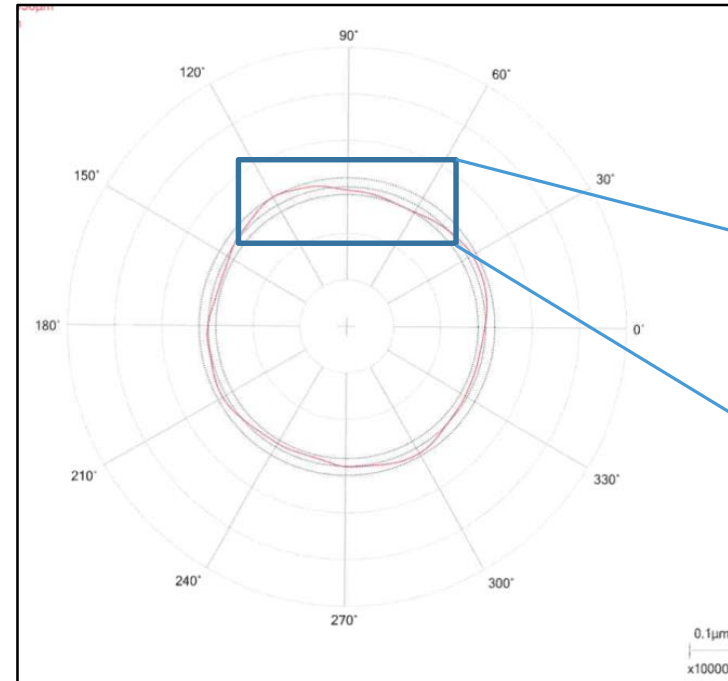
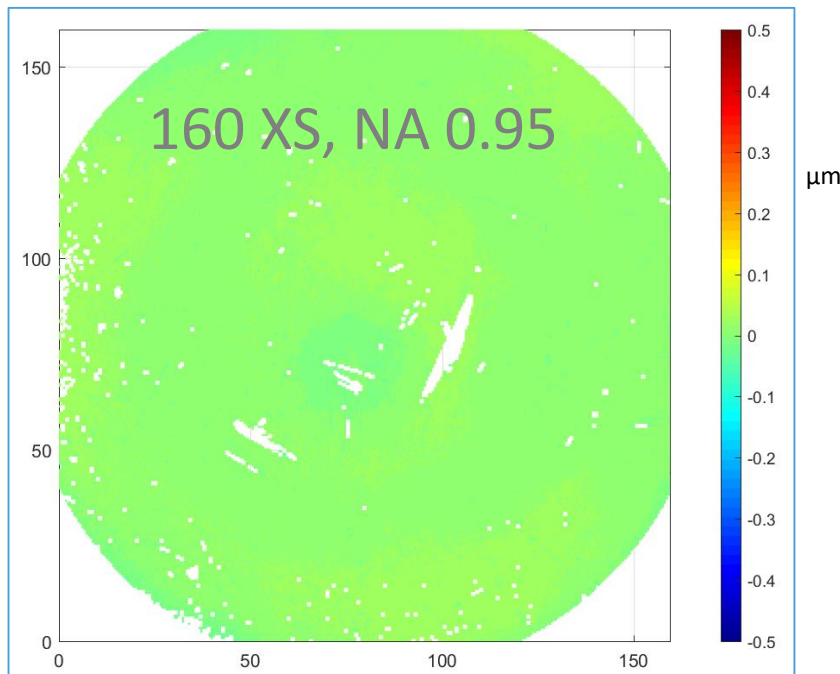


Results (ROI 160  $\mu\text{m}$ , 21.1° max angle):

Diameter: **0,5006 mm**

RMS: **13 nm**

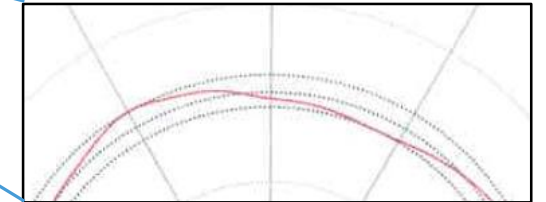
PV (95%) **38 nm**



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Eidgenössisches Institut für Metrologie METAS

Kalibrierzertifikat Nr. 111-15587



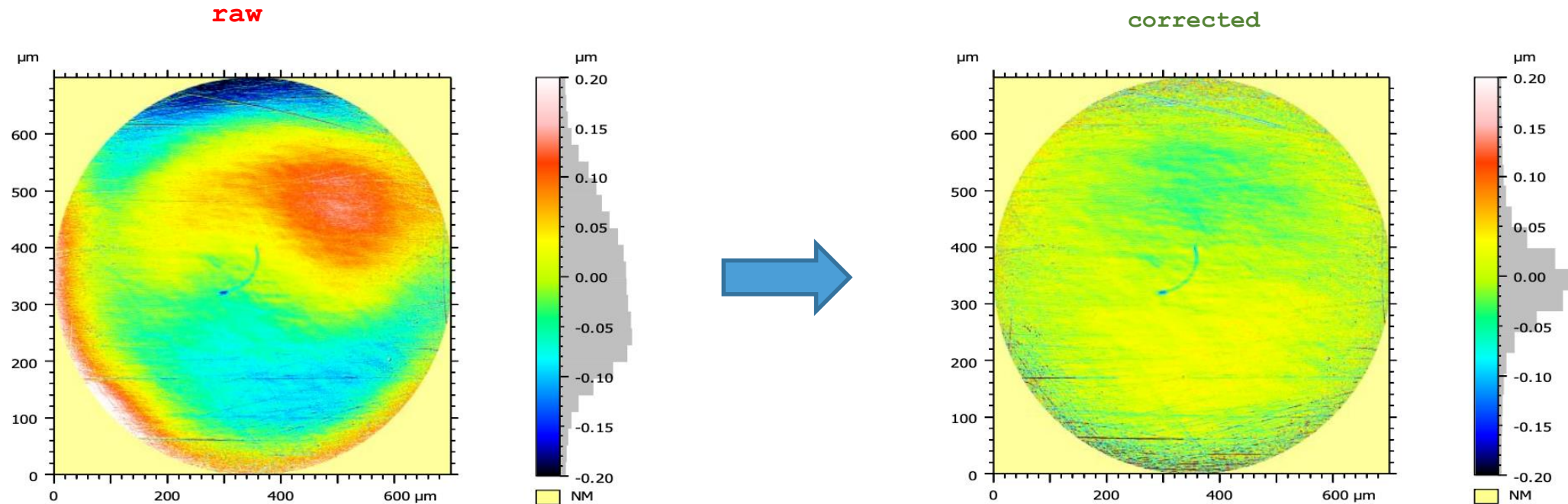
**Problem: Real calibration balls often show local inhomogeneities (roundness deviations, scratches etc.)**

Messresultate			
Identifikation	Nennwert	Gemessener Durchmesser	RONt
508893, 000001087673	0.5 mm	0.50044 mm	0.04 $\mu\text{m}$
Messunsicherheit			
Durchmesser:	$U = 0.20 \mu\text{m}$		
RONt:	$U = 0.08 \mu\text{m}$		

# Lens aberration reduction

## ■ Abberations of low NA lenses

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## ■ Abberations depend on

- Principal lens design (Numerical Aperture)
- Local 3D Surface Angle (1st order)
- Individual properties of the objective (quality)

## ■ Numerical correction by

- Mapping of angular deviation with calibrated spheres with different diameters and orientations/rotations
- Application of On-the-fly correction of raw data after measurement



## ■ In-Process Optical Metrology for Microlenses

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### ■ Benefits:

- Optical metrology is ideal for **fast and accurate** measurement of a **wide range** of microlenses
- Measurements can be performed both fully **automated and manually**
- Both **confocal and interferometric** measuring heads can be used & combined
- The procedures comply with international **traceable quality standards**
- Individual analysis receipts can be realized by **Python / MatLab** scripts

### ■ Challenges / Work in progress:

- **Low NA Lenses** (larger measurement area) require **correction methods**
- Confocal **roughness** measurements **require high NA lenses and small working distances**
- Traceability of lens measurements to **calibration spheres is technically difficult** (only a small section of the sphere is measured) -> New Standards / Procedures?

# Thank you for your attention!

Special Thanks to the Support of:

