

Akustica

Dr. Kaigham (Ken) J. Gabriel

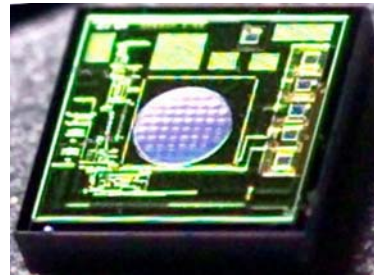
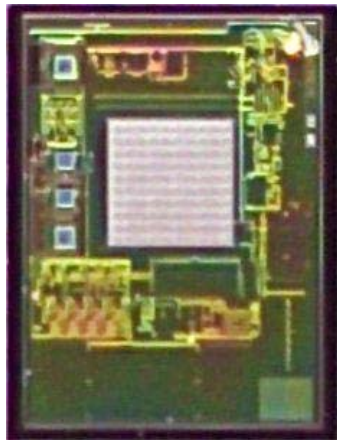
Chairman & CTO



***What if integrated circuits
could hear, speak and sense the
world around them?***

Akustica Improves Voice Quality

Microphones, speakers and complete acoustic systems on a single MEMS chip ...



... enabling cell phones, laptops and other electronic devices to speak, hear, and feel.



Better Microphone Technology ...

- Digital and directional microphones

...with Integrated Voice Processing ...

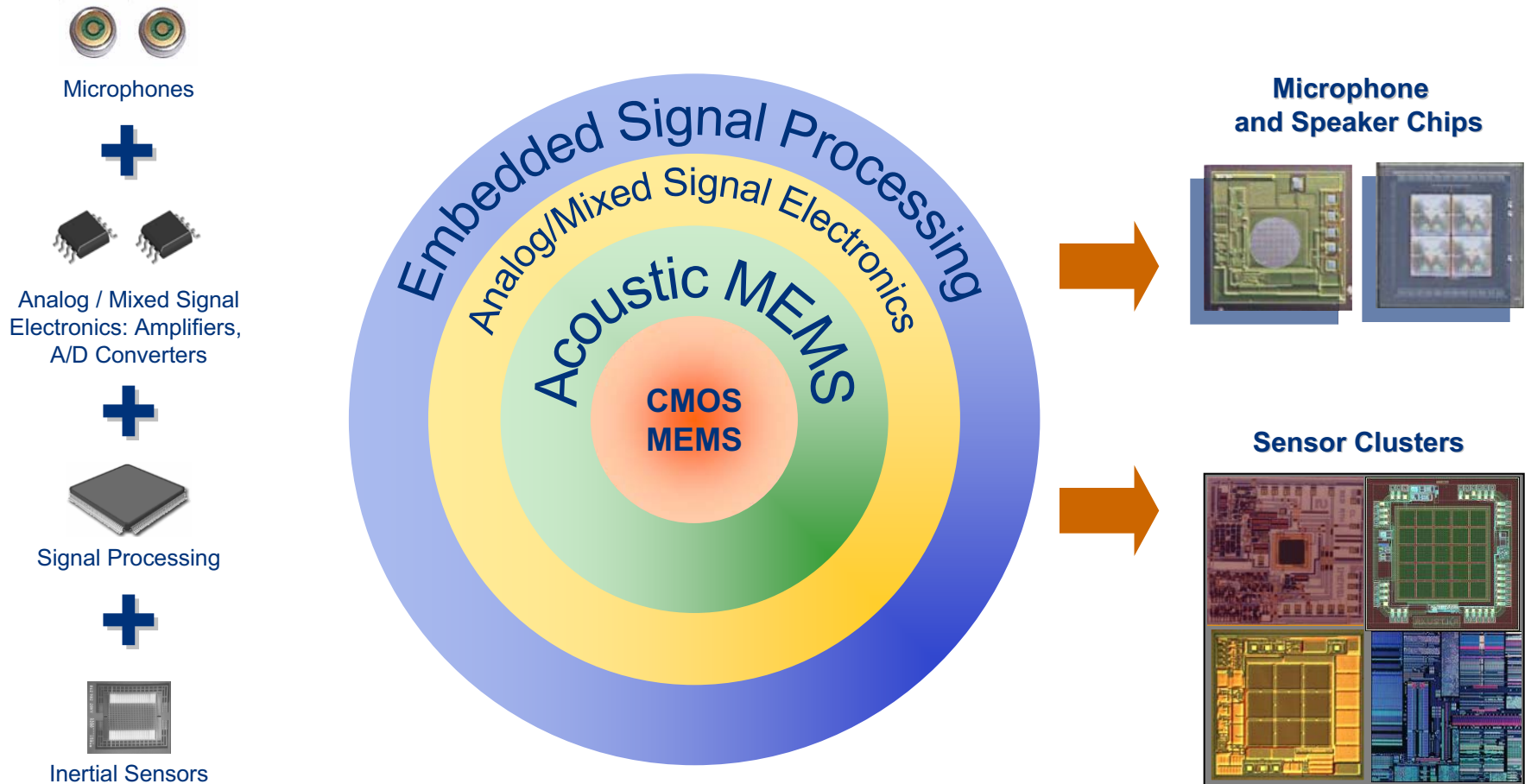
- Algorithms to suppress wind and background noise

... and Multi-Sensor Clusters

- Detect vibration interference and extract noise

Sensory Silicon™

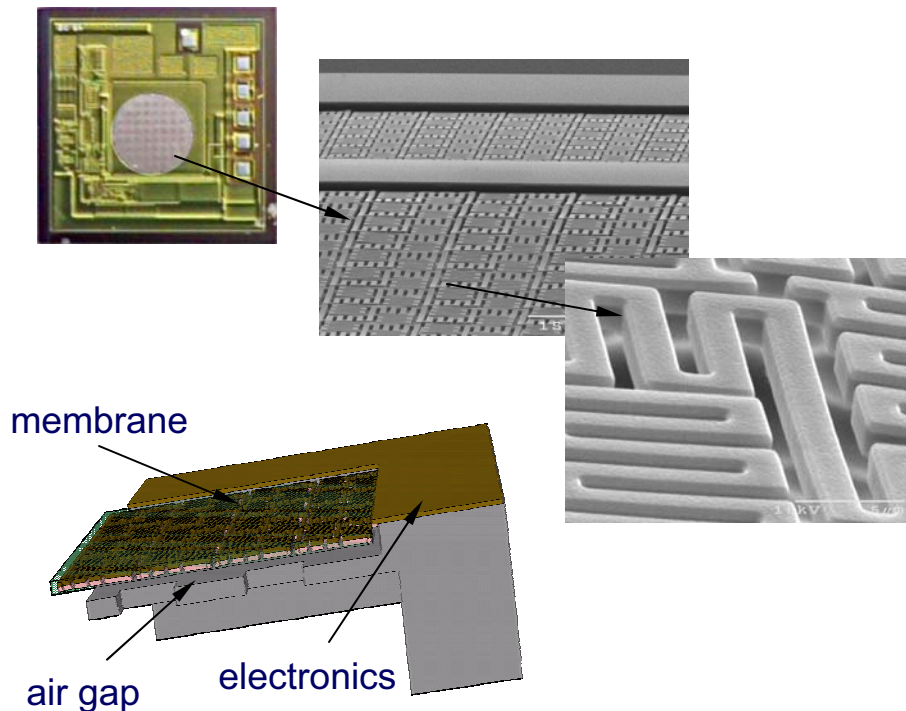
Patented CMOS MEMS technology enables system-on-chip integration of multiple sensors, electronics, and signal processing.



CMOS MEMS Technology

MEMS structures made out of *the CMOS thin-film materials* using conventional CMOS with *no changes to CMOS baseline processes*

Carnegie Mellon®

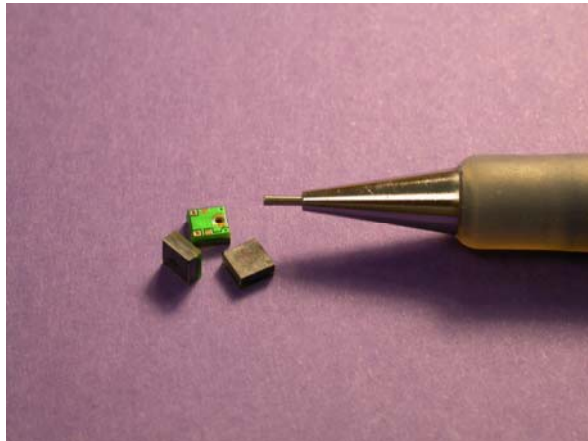
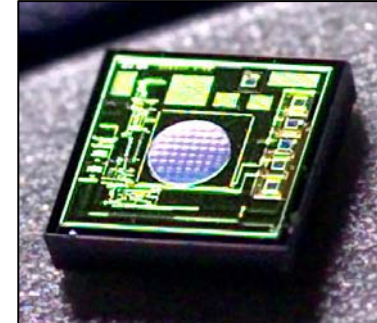


- Base Patents Licensed from Carnegie Mellon University
- Additional IP and know-how developed
- Advantages
 - *leverages quality, capability and capacity of global semiconductor industry*
 - *accelerates speed and frequency of product design*
 - *monolithic construction of circuits with MEMS decreases cost and increases performance & reliability*
 - *enables new functionality and capabilities*

Initial Products

AKU1000 – Analog Output Microphone

- Monolithic silicon microphone
- Surface mount to improve manufacturing yield
- Automated pick & place saves assembly cost
- 2X smaller footprint / thinner profile than ECM
- Production ramp - Now



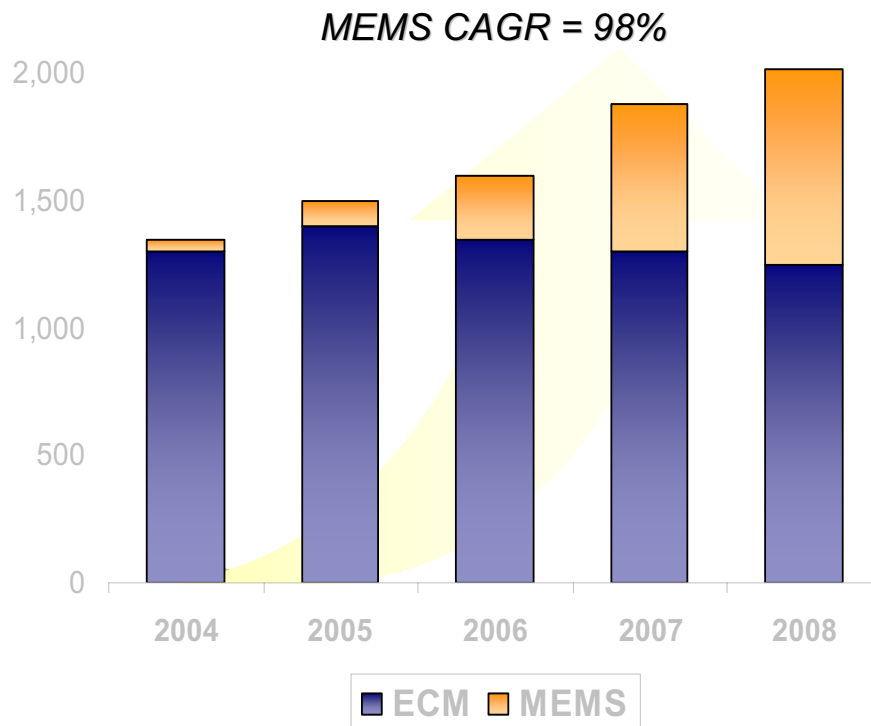
AKU2000 – Digital Output Microphone

- Integrated 14-bit, 4th-order Σ - Δ modulator
- Monolithic solution for superior transducer performance (10X lower parasitics)
- Immune to RF and EM interference enabling increased audio design flexibility
- Production ramp – Q4

Large and Growing Installed Market

Microphone Market Forecast

Units (000,000)



- On an annual basis, global OEMs and ODMs purchase:
 - 1.5 B microphones
 - 3.0 B near-field speakers
- MEMS microphones are rapidly replacing conventional ECMs (~100M units in '05)
 - MEMS microphones rapidly adopted into mobile handsets
 - >500m MEMS microphones forecasted for 2008
 - Attractive pricing and margin opportunities
- Secured high volume analog silicon microphone supply contract

Target Markets



Communications – Smart Phones

- Enable next-generation handsets: thinner, smaller, lighter phones with better directionality, noise cancellation & fidelity
- Cell phones that sound great in noisy environments
- Moving to digital bus architecture

Personal Computing - Notebooks

- Improved voice conferencing in VoIP applications
- Enable full utilization of next generation Intel hardware and Microsoft software
- Require the addition of multiple microphones in displays for multi-media speaker-phone applications



Digital Media – Consumer Electronics

- Raise audio quality to correspond to high quality video
- Component reduction enables smaller devices such as headsets
- Enables rich new uses of sound in cameras, voice recorders, and other consumer devices

Notebooks Usage Case Evolution



office workstation



remote workstation

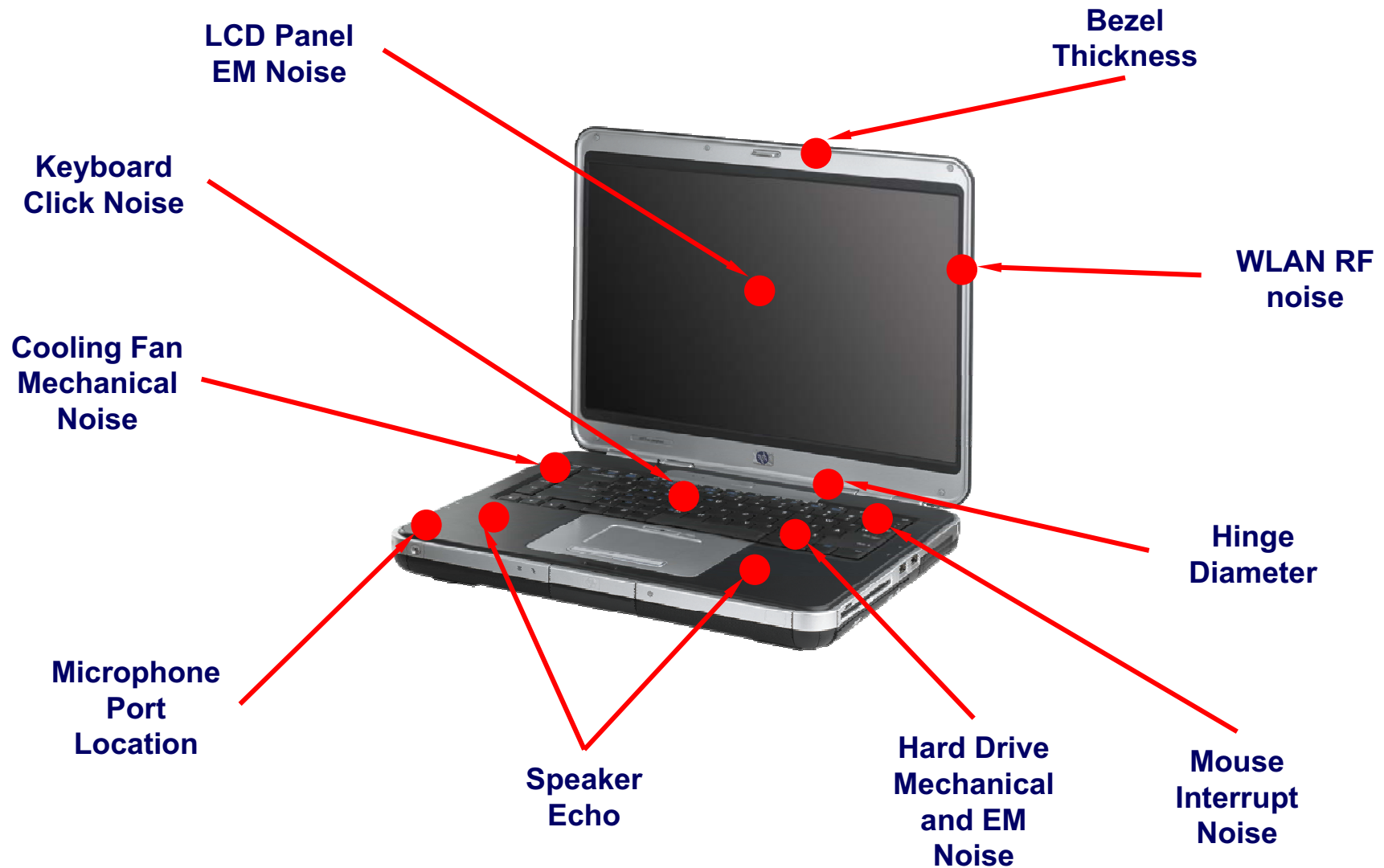


integrated services platform



distributed collaboration

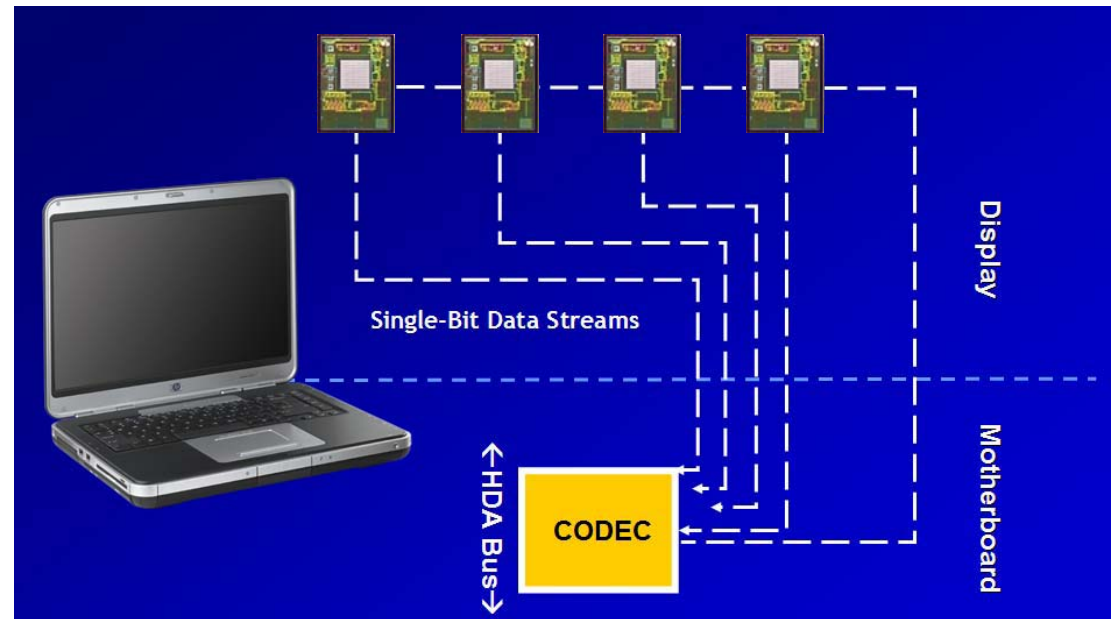
Acoustic Issues



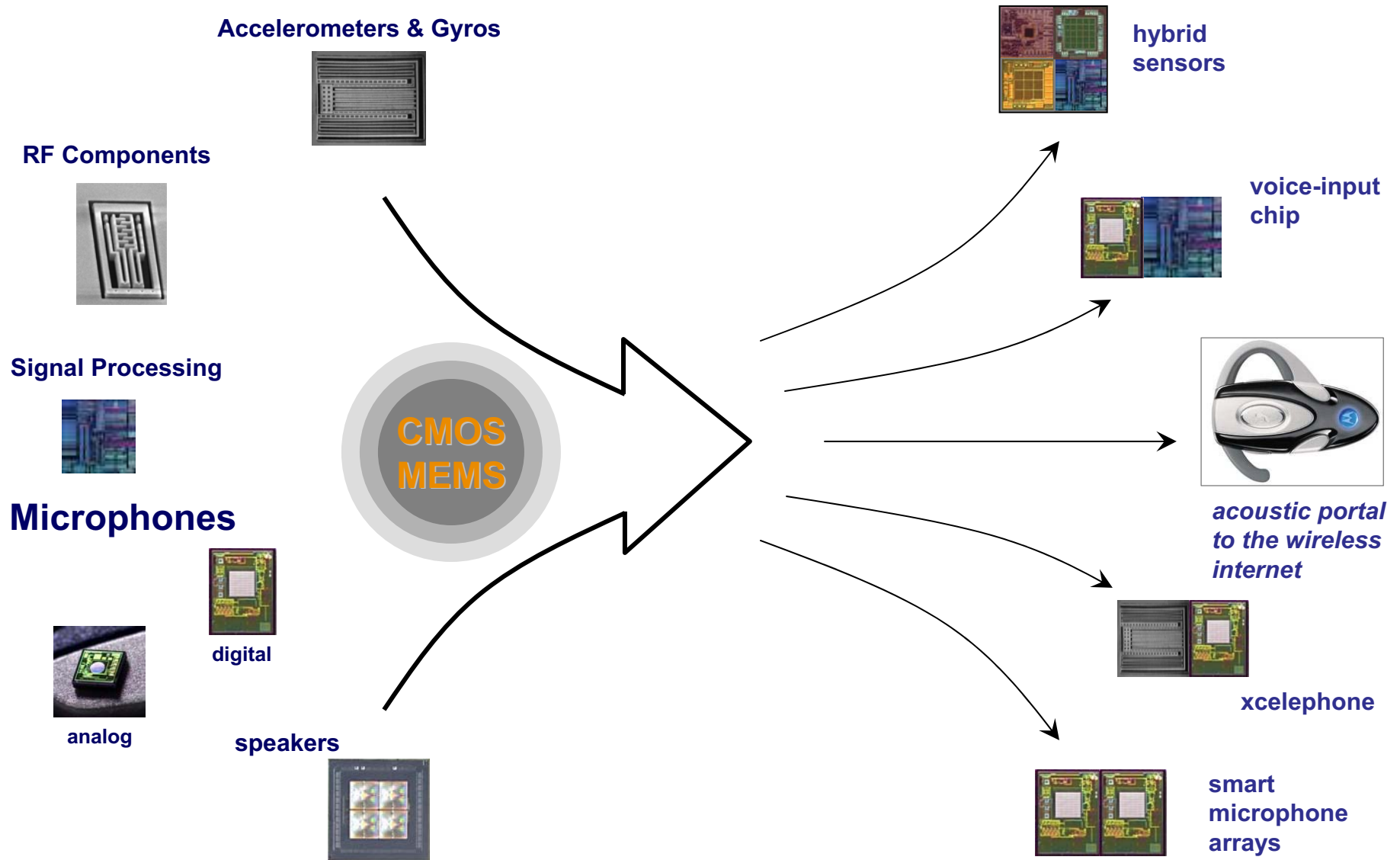
Akustica Overcomes The Challenges

FLEXIBILITY AND MANUFACTURABILITY

- Digital Microphones enable ideal placement in bezel
 - Noise susceptibility is reduced
 - Allows signal transfer through the hinge
 - Silicon technology enables very thin and small footprint
 - Digital architecture reduces customization and calibration in assembly
- Reduced component count and cost
 - Integrated pre-Amp
 - Simple ribbon cable interconnect
- Requires an HD Audio CODEC that has a direct interface to digital microphones



Product Roadmap and Vision



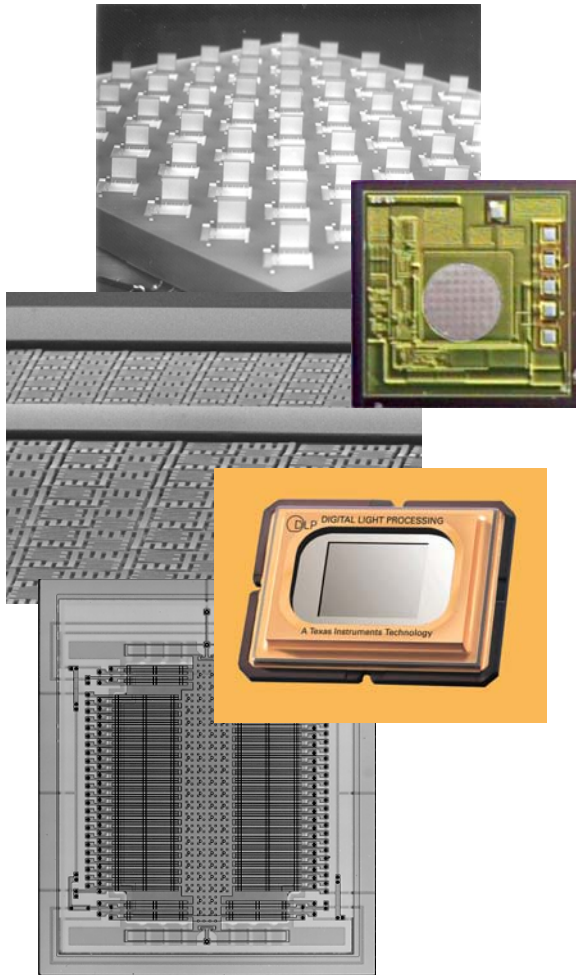
Company Profile



- HQ in Pittsburgh, PA USA
- Formed in 2001 by Ken Gabriel and Jim Rock
- Carnegie Mellon University Patents & Akustica IP
- 42 Employees, 80% Engineers
- Private, Venture-Backed (\$30M)
- Commercializing CMOS MEMS for Major Consumer Electronic Applications

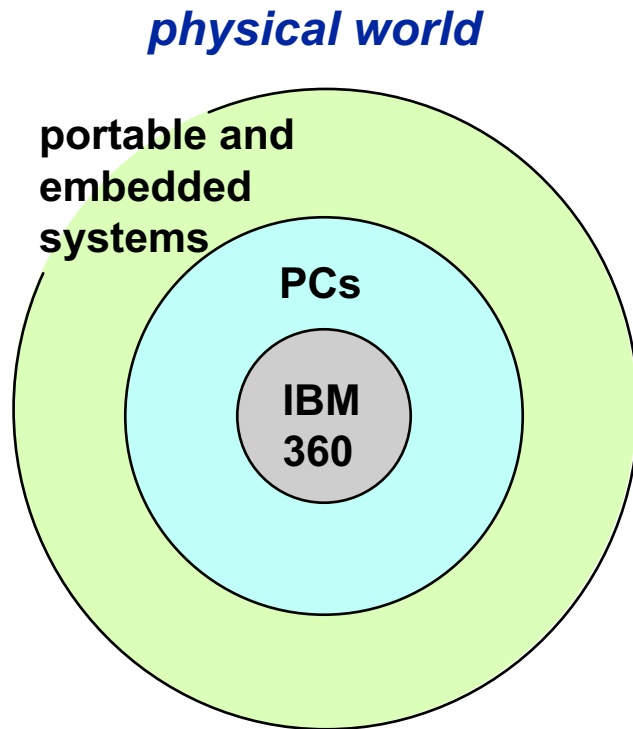
CMOS Microelectromechanical Systems (CMOS MEMS)

The Power of Many



Dr. Kaigham (Ken) J. Gabriel

**Chairman & CTO
Akustica, Inc.**



- ***Increasing number of information systems***

- portable computing
- cellular phones
- internal combustion engine controllers
- household appliances

- ***Embedded in and portions of larger systems***

- larger systems not solely information systems (telecom, automotive, biomedical, structural)
- relatively small fraction of cost, size & weight
- key enabling component
- need to sense and act as well as compute

- ***Creating demand for greater diversity of interaction with physical world***

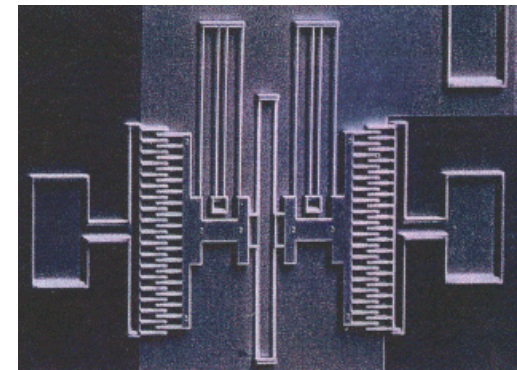
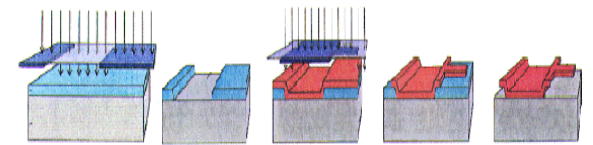
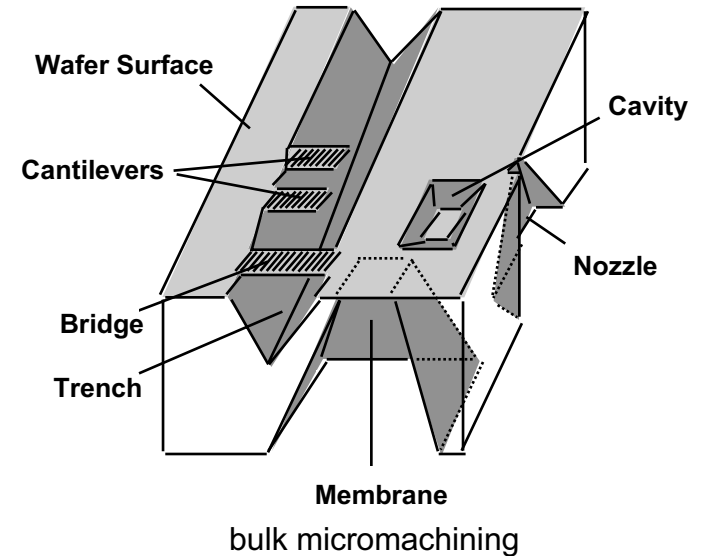
- mechanical
- electromagnetic
- chemical and biological
- optical

MEMS will invest engineered systems with greater ability to sense and act in the physical world

MEMS

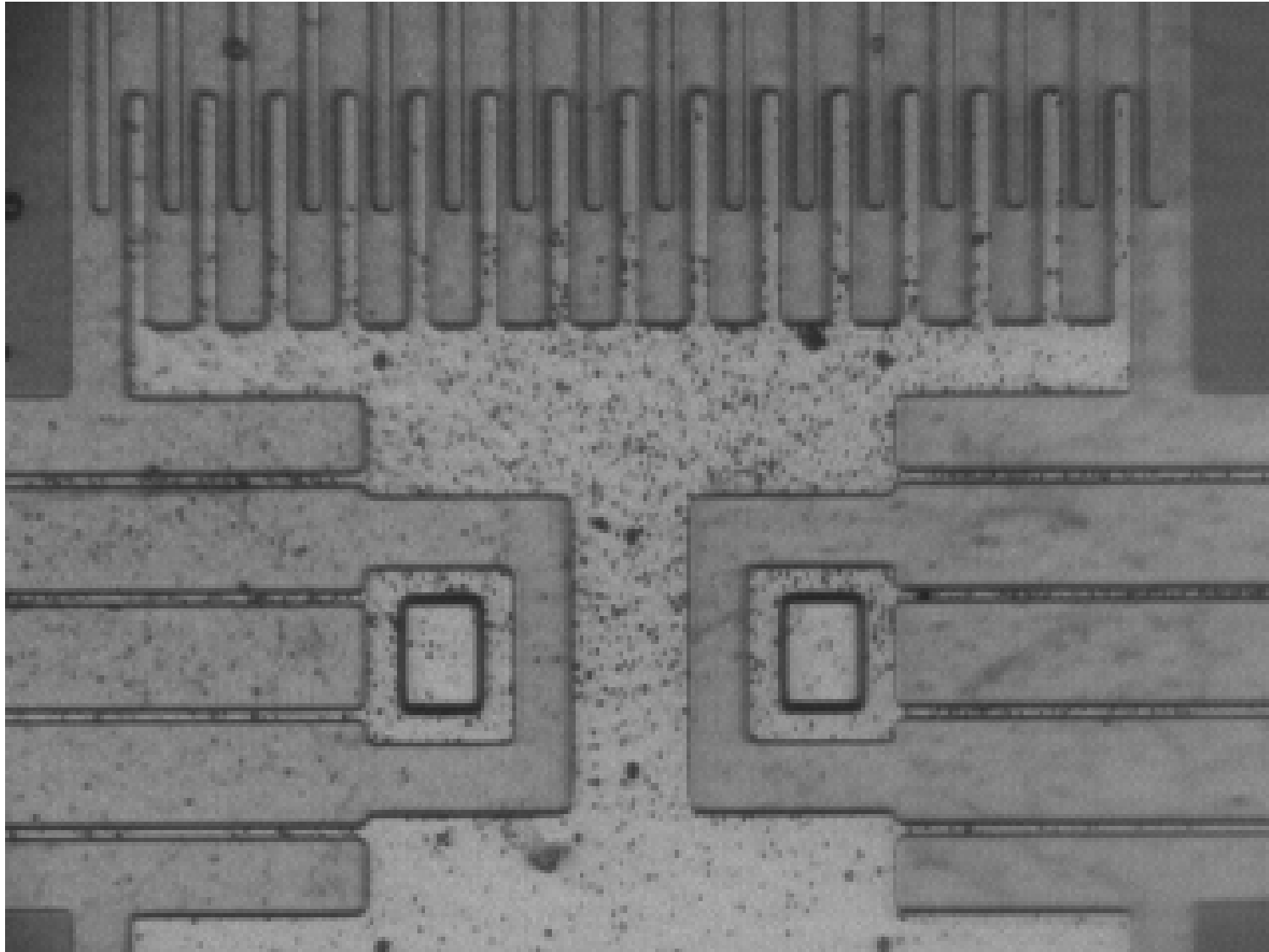
- MEMS merges computation with sensing and actuation to change the way we **perceive** and **control** the physical world,
- is a new way to make both mechanical and electrical components,
- and conveys the advantages of **miniaturization**, **multiple components**, and **microelectronics**.
- MEMS mechanical components have dimensions measured in microns and numbers measured from a few to millions
- MEMS makes possible integrated electromechanical systems, and puts these systems on the same cost-performance trajectory of microelectronic systems

Common MEMS Fabrication Processes

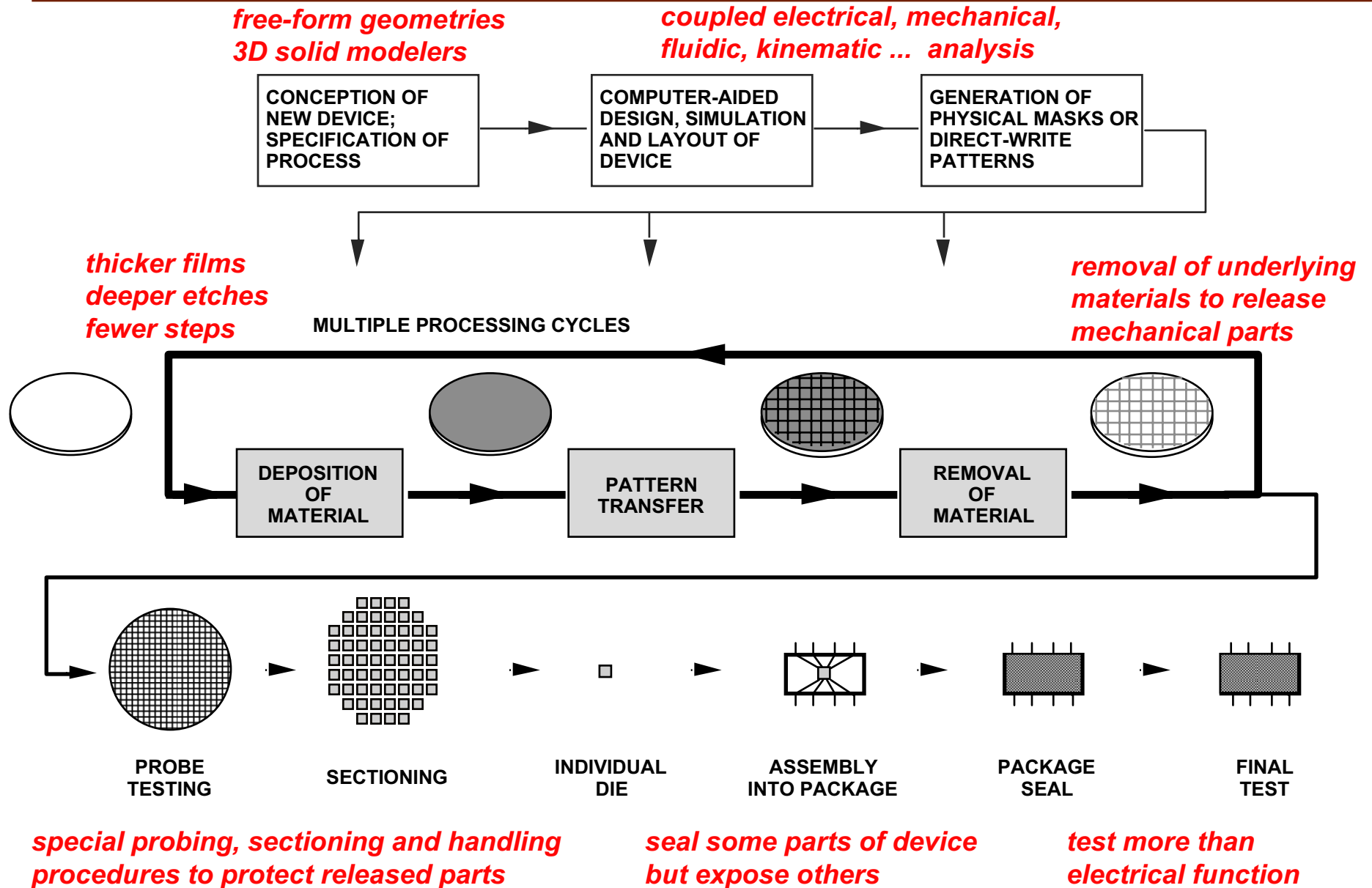


surface micromachining

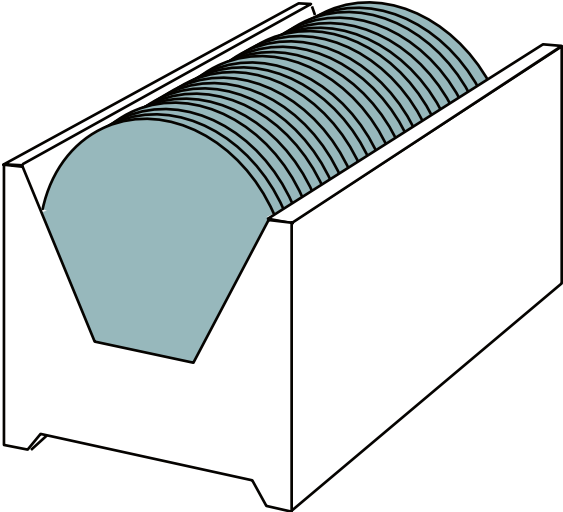
Surface Micromachined Structure



MEMS Builds on Microelectronics Manufacturing AKUSTI(A)

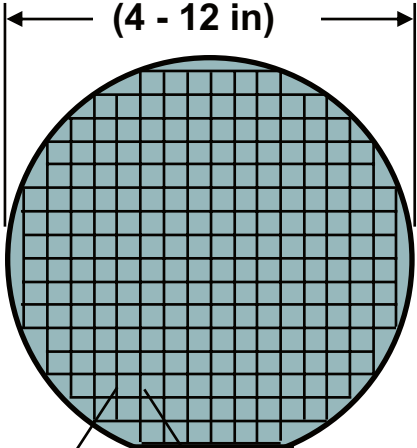


Wafer lot
(~20-25 wafers)



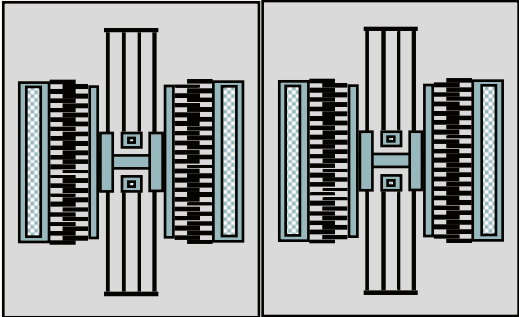
■ Wafer

100-300 mm
(4 - 12 in)

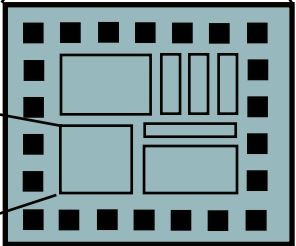


■ Die

■ Device



0.5-1.0 mm

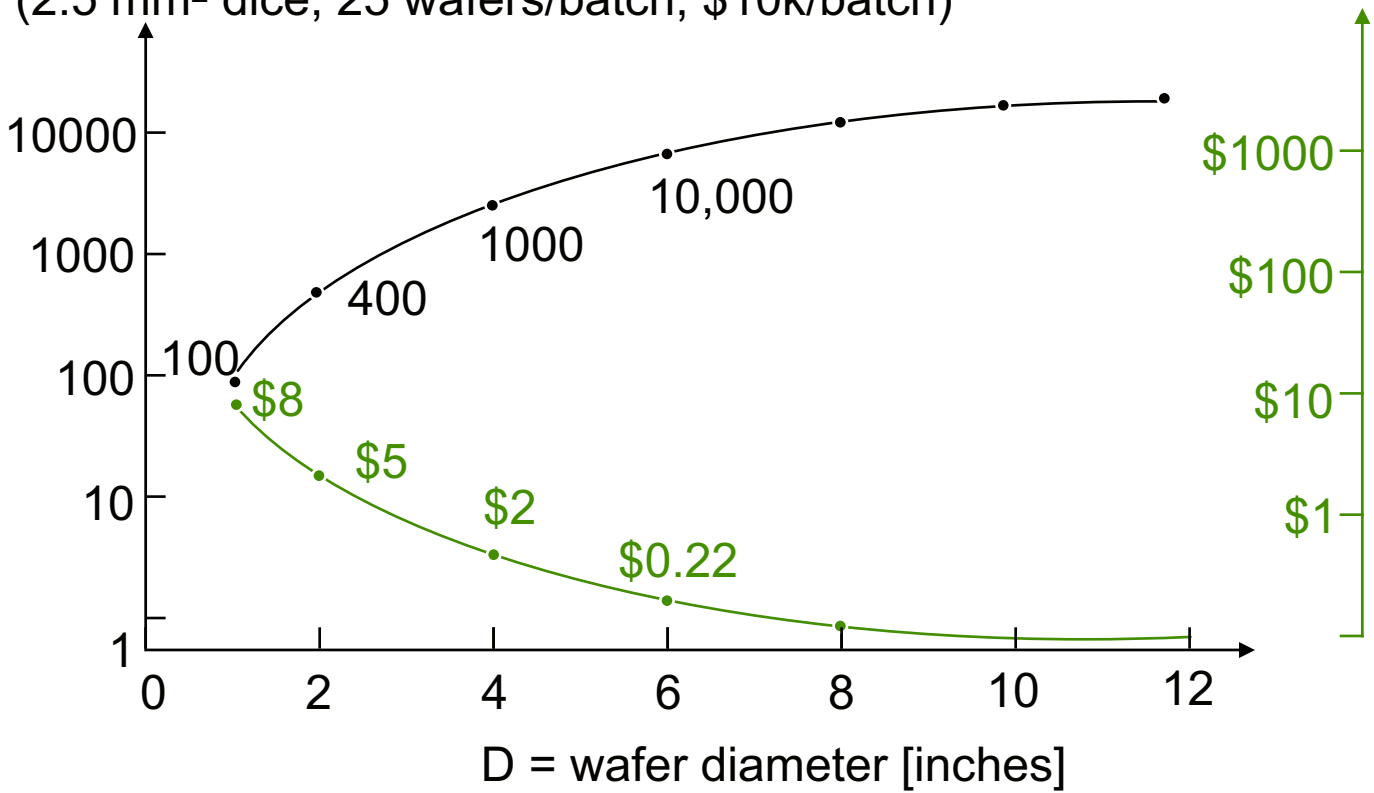
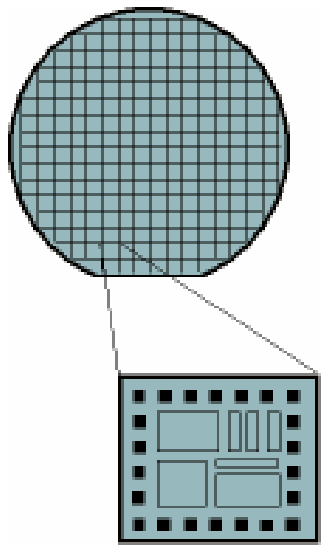


1-3 mm

Economics of Batch Fabrication

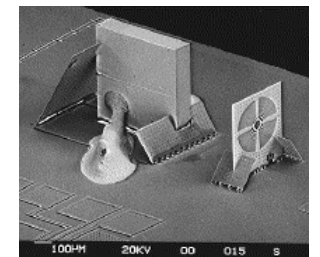
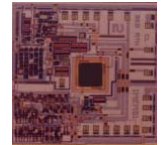
- High manufacturing cost is spread over many parts-- low cost per individual part
- Die size and total process yield (= product individual process step yields) are the two most important determinants of part cost

$N = \text{number of parts/batch} \sim 127 D^2$
 (2.5 mm² dice, 25 wafers/batch, \$10k/batch)

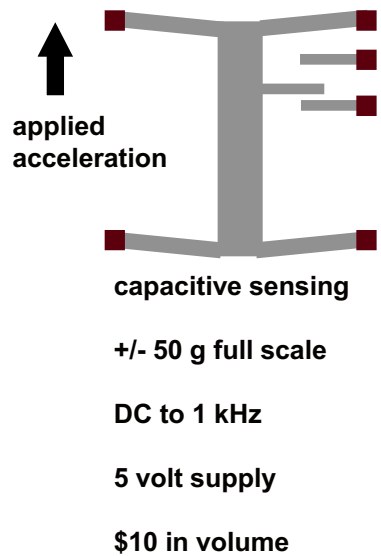
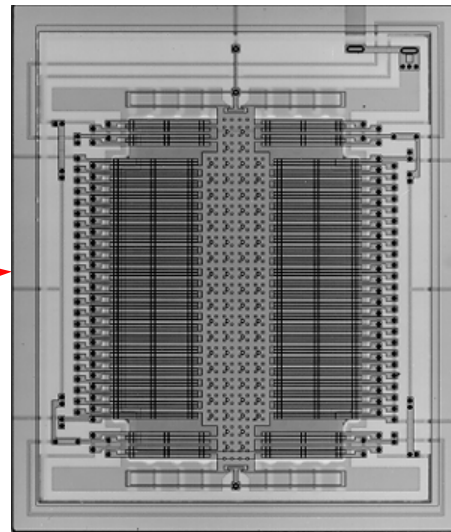


Present and Emerging Applications of MEMS

- **inertial measurement units on a chip** for personal guidance, toys, virtual reality, munitions guidance, and security/safety systems
- **distributed unattended sensors** for asset tracking, structural assessment, environmental monitoring, security & border surveillance, and process control
- **integrated fluidic systems** for miniature analytical instruments, chip-based DNA processing & sequencing, propellant and combustion control, chemical factories on chip
- **radio frequency and wireless** for relay & switching matrices, reconfigurable antennas, switched filter banks, electromechanical front-end RF filtering and demodulation
- **embedded sensors and actuators** for condition-based maintenance of machines & vehicles, on-demand amplified structural strength in lower-weight systems/platforms and disaster-resistant buildings
- **mass data storage devices** for storage densities of terabytes per square centimeter
- **integrated micro-optomechanical components** for fiber optic telecommunications switching networks, optical data storage, bar code scanning and displays
- **active, conformable surfaces** for distributed aerodynamic control of aircraft, adaptive optics, and precision parts & material handling

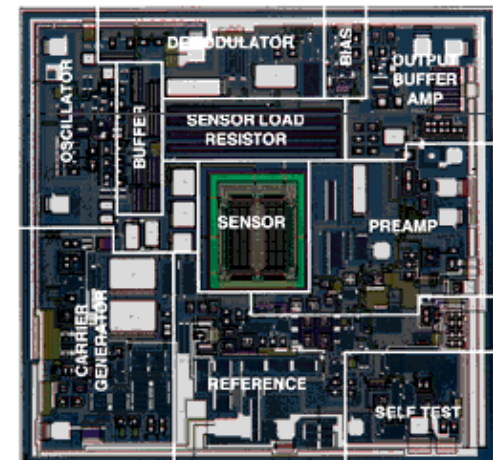
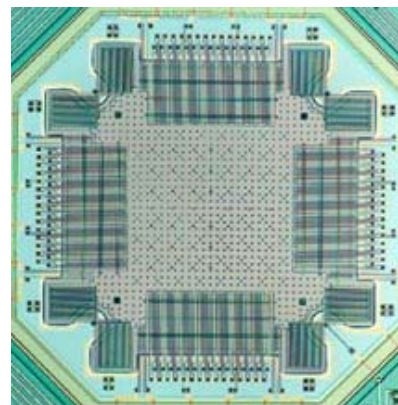
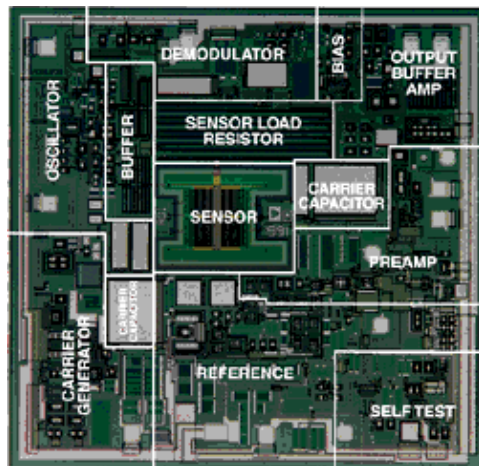


Acceleration Sensor on a Chip for Airbags



- single mechanical component with ~ 200 transistors (3 μm design rules)
- monolithic sensing, self-test, calibration and signal conditioning functions
- manufactured in an integrated circuit fabrication line like any other type of semiconductor chip

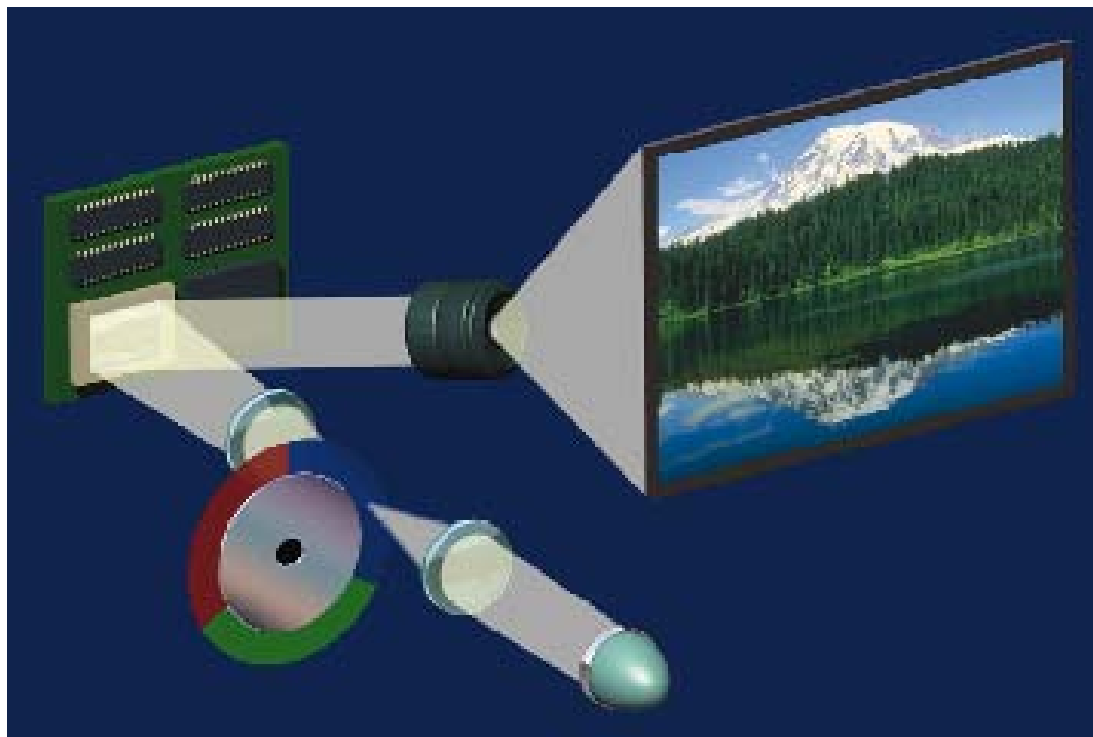
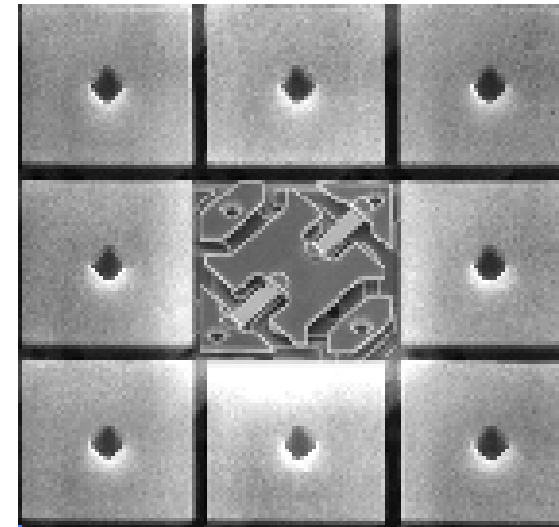
enables a family of products



Digital Micromirror Display Technology

848 x 600 pixel resolution
SVGA DMD Chip

1024 x 768 XGA chip
(Dragonfly Projector)

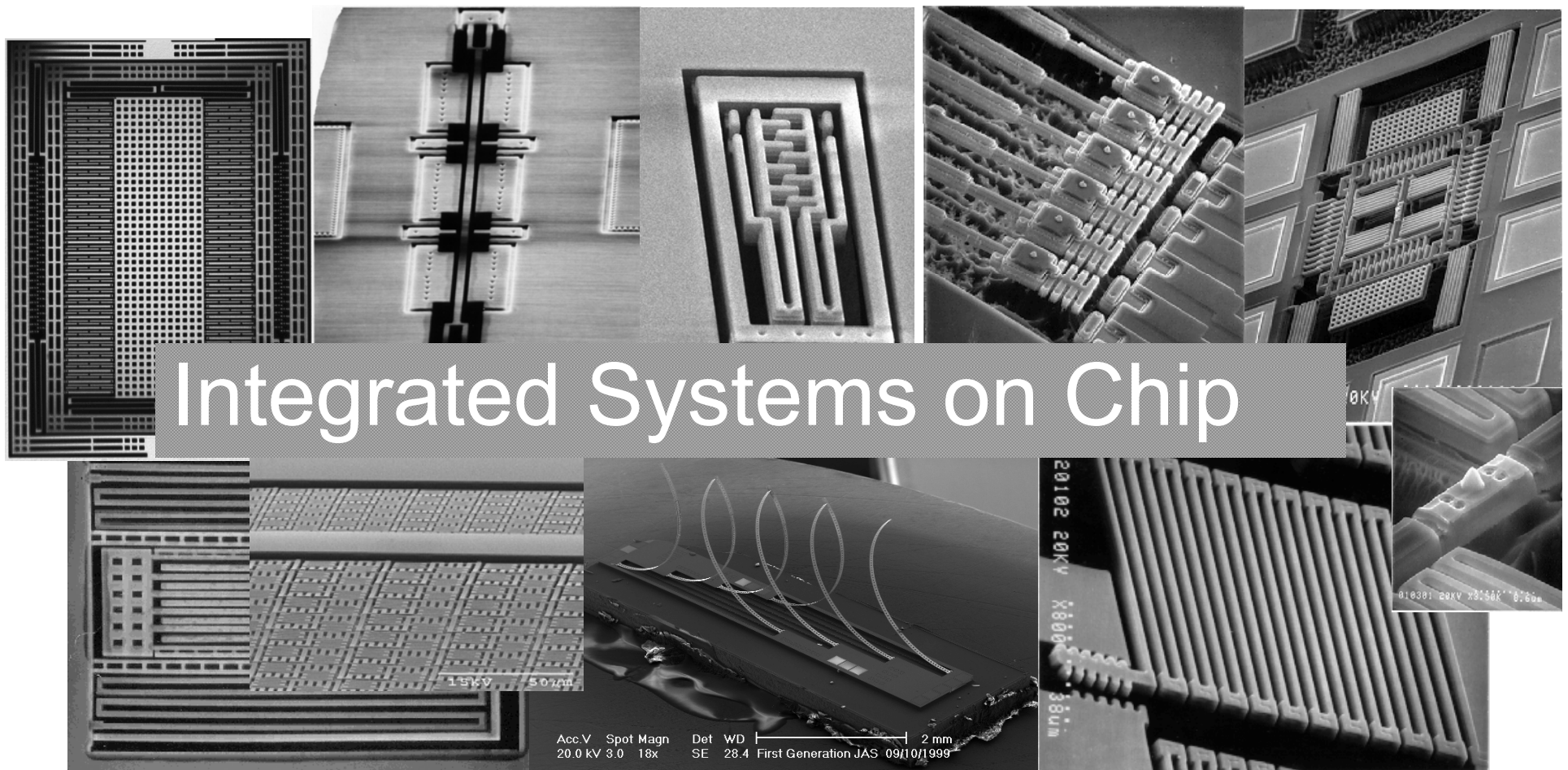


Texas Instruments, Inc.

- ~ 520K to 2M mirrors
- 16 μm x 16 μm mirrors
- digital gray scale using pulse width modulation
- MEMS arrays built on top of SRAM

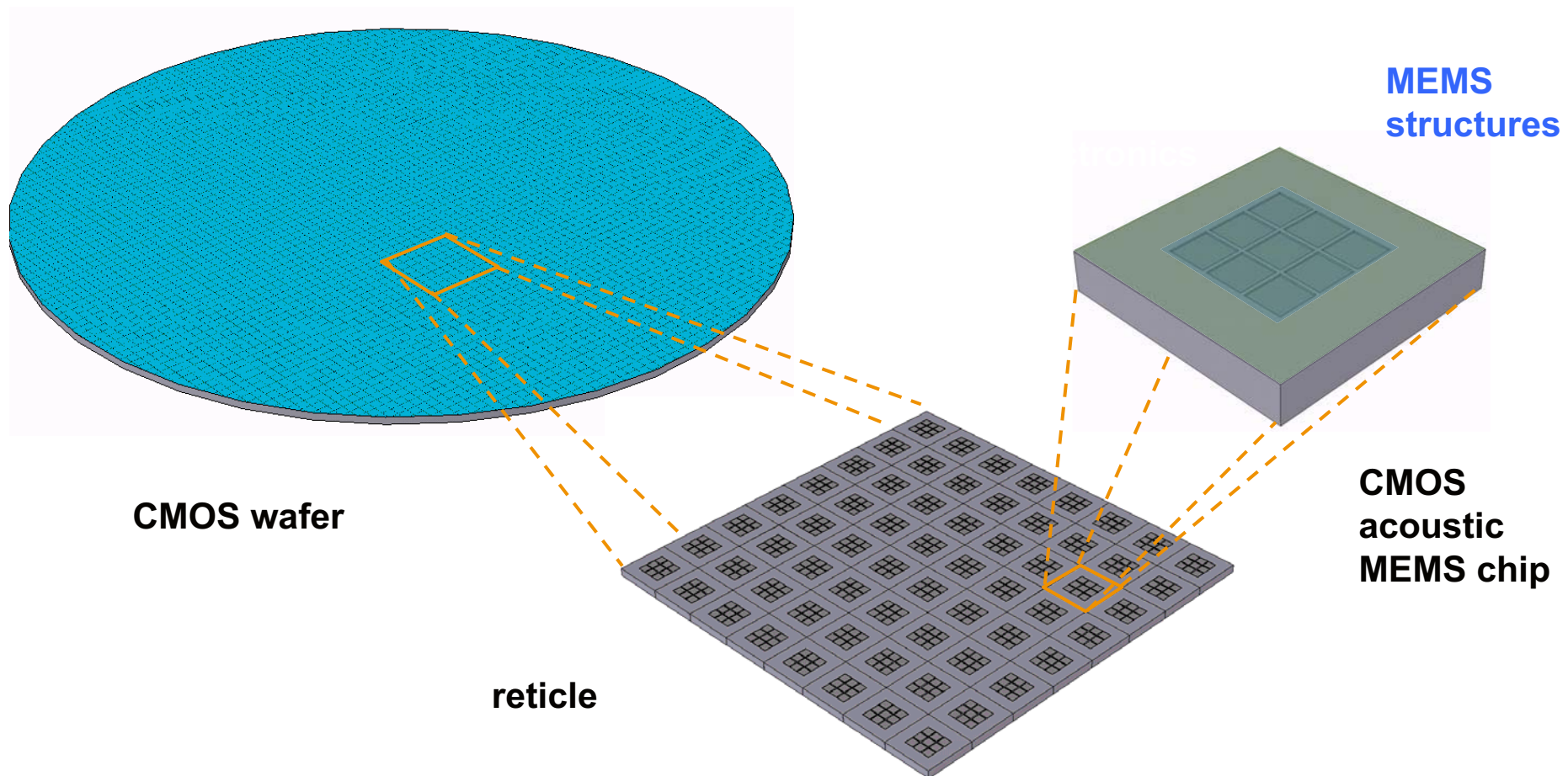
Carnegie Mellon CMOS MEMS

Inertial sensors, RF MEMS, infrared sensors, acoustic speakers, ultrasonic sensors, BioMEMS, biomedical devices... with on-chip detection and conditioning



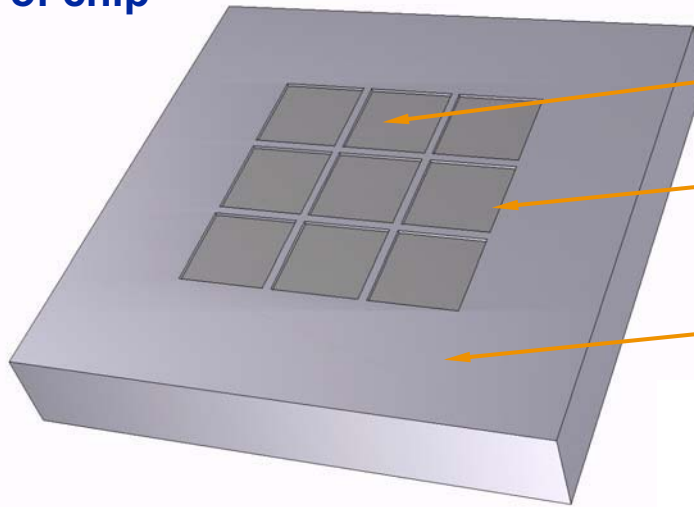
CMOS Acoustic MEMS – Starting Point

- MEMS structures made in conventional CMOS with ***no changes to CMOS baseline process or materials***
- MEMS made ***out of the CMOS thin-film materials***



Microphone Chip Example

front side of chip

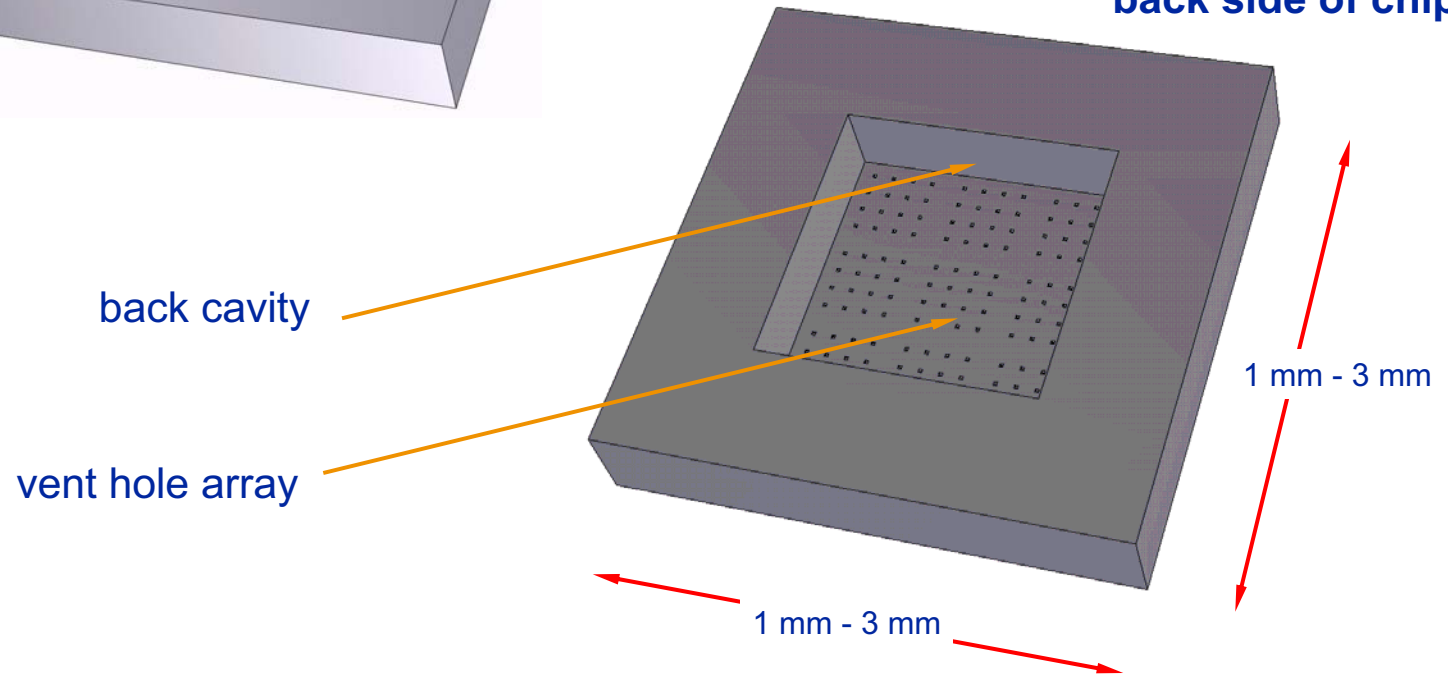


single membrane

membrane array

electronics

back side of chip



back cavity

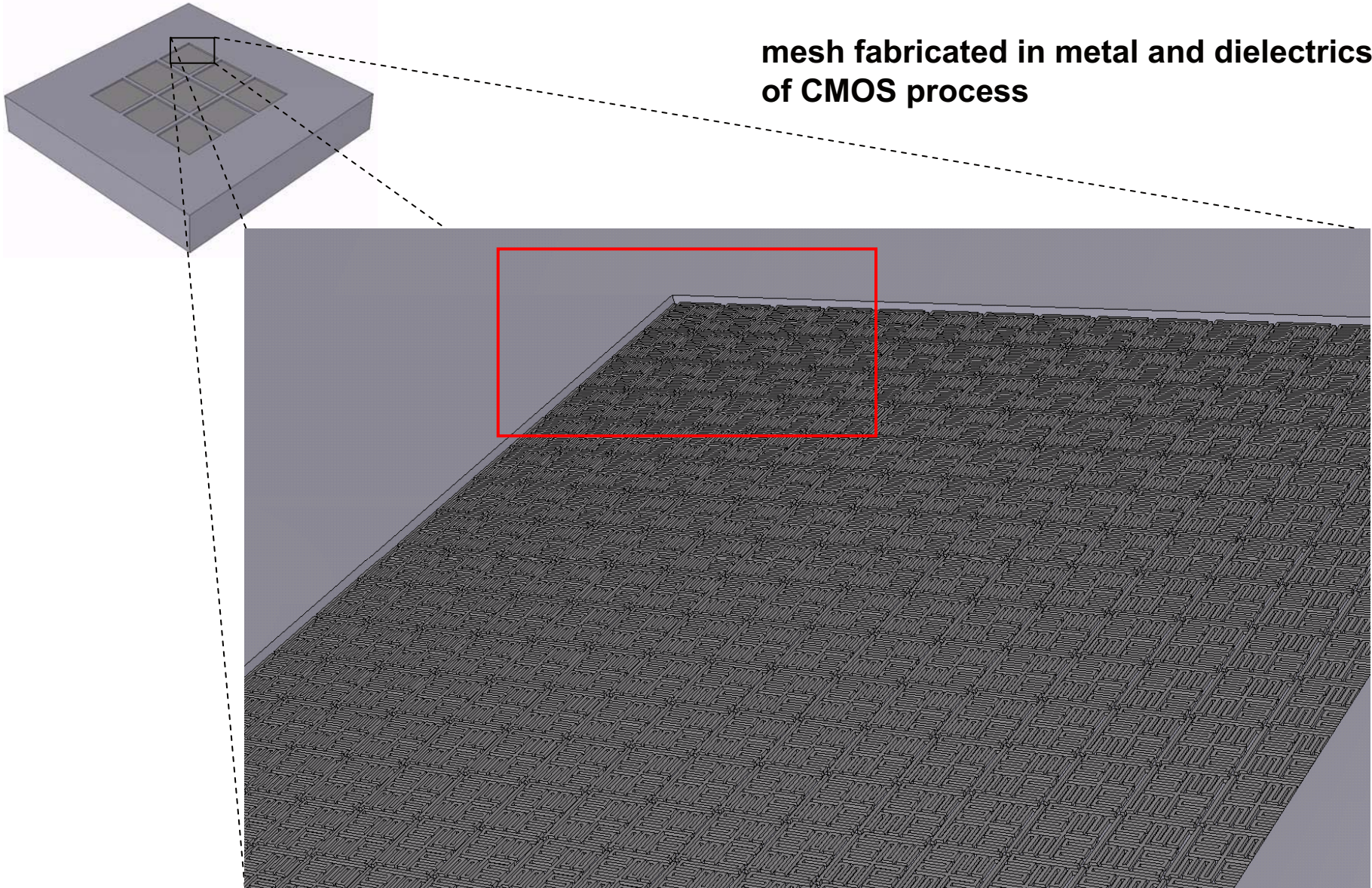
vent hole array

1 mm - 3 mm

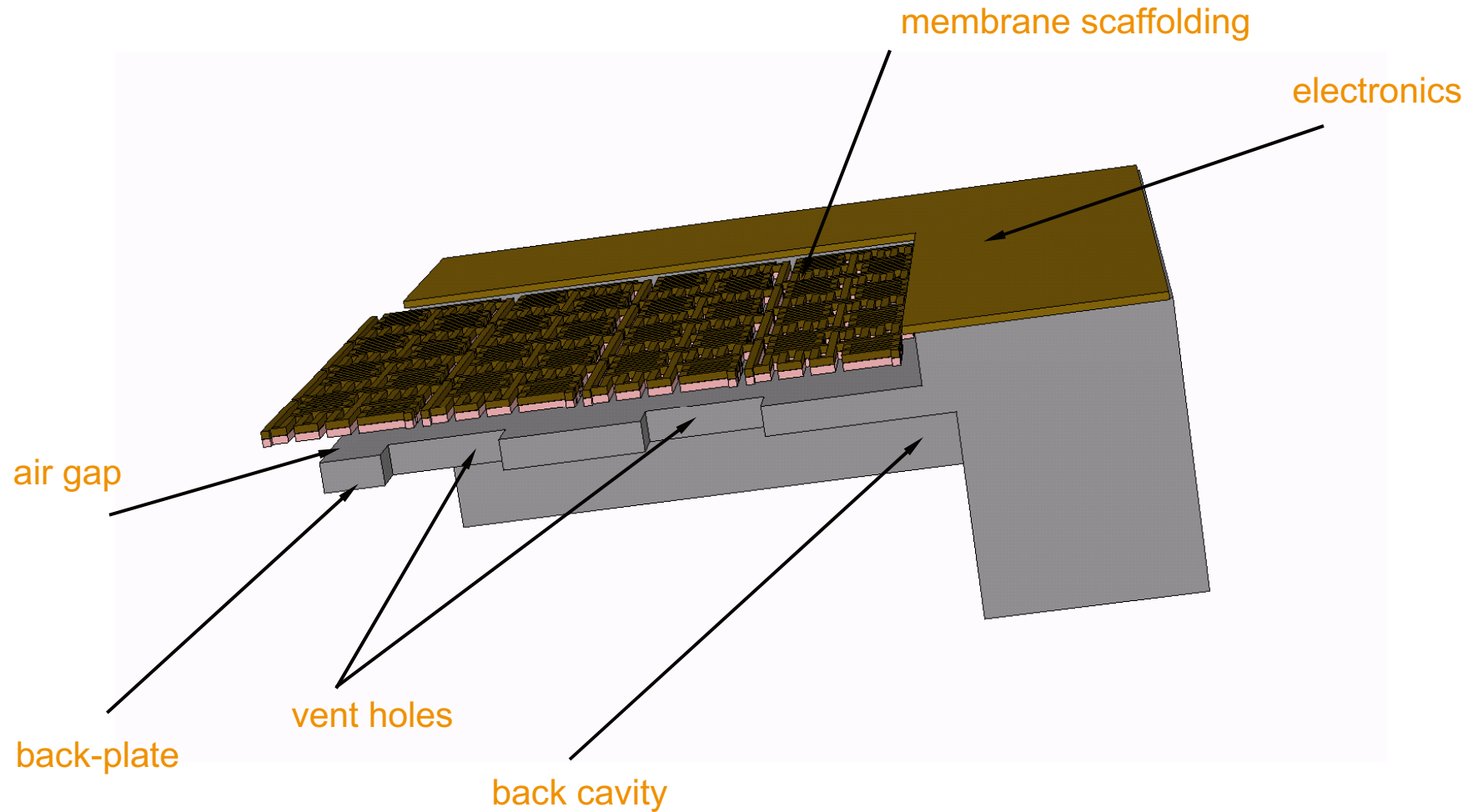
1 mm - 3 mm

Membrane Mesh Scaffolding

mesh fabricated in metal and dielectrics
of CMOS process

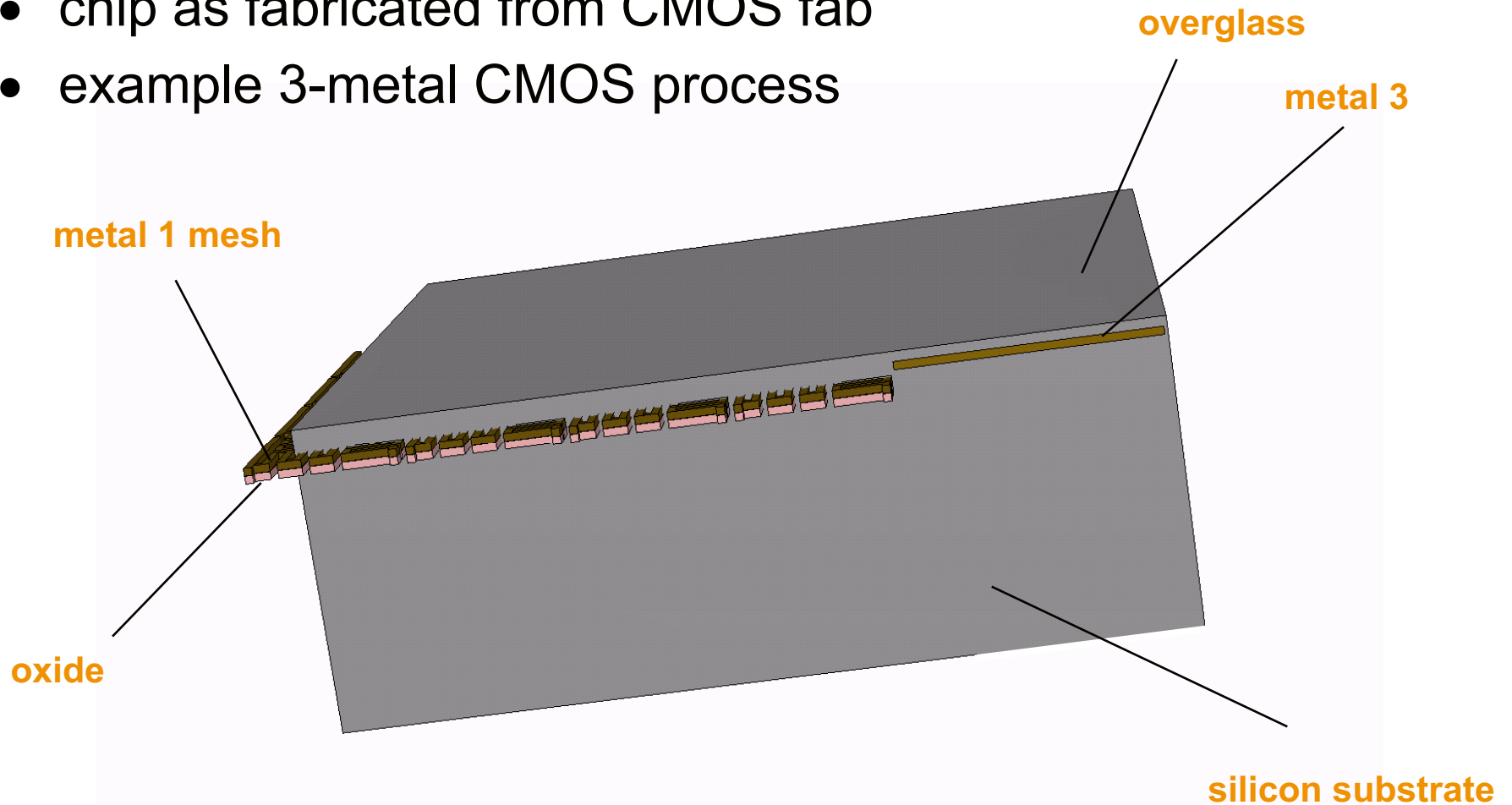


CMOS Acoustic MEMS Chip Detail



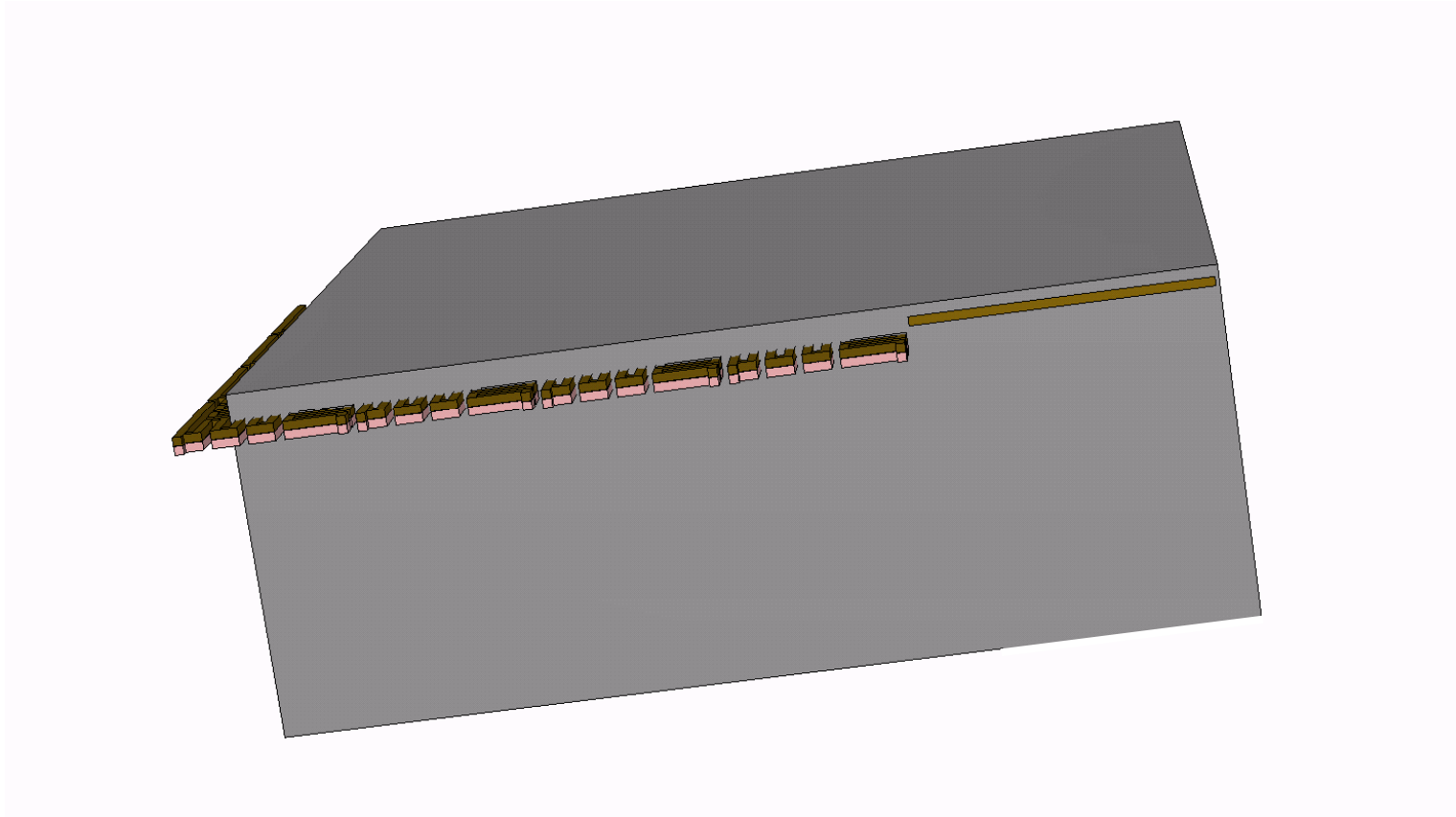
Fabrication Sequence for CMOS Acoustic MEMS AKUSTI(A)

- chip as fabricated from CMOS fab
- example 3-metal CMOS process



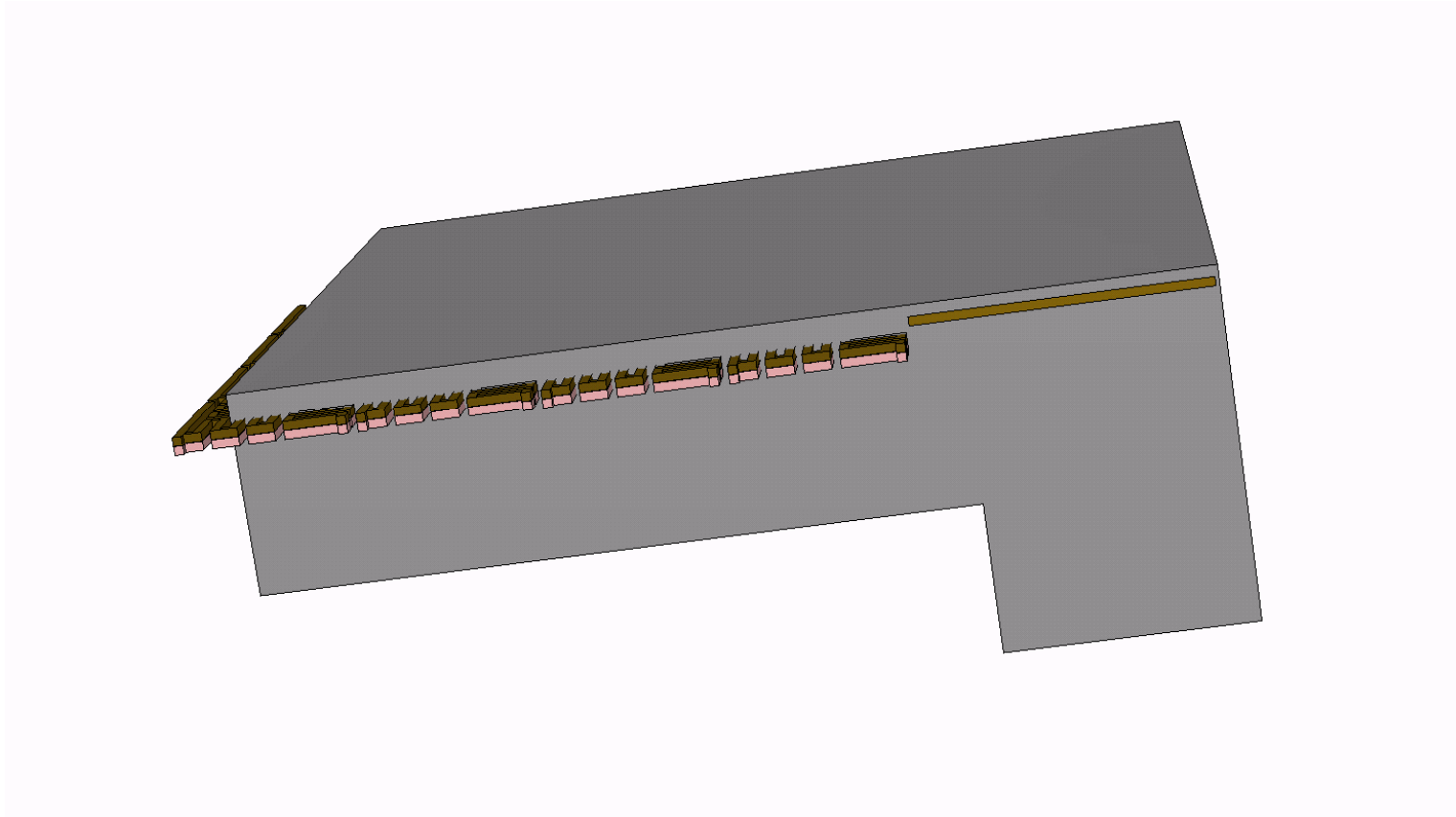
Fabrication Sequence for CMOS Acoustic MEMS AKUSTI(A)

- *start with anisotropic etch of back-side cavity*



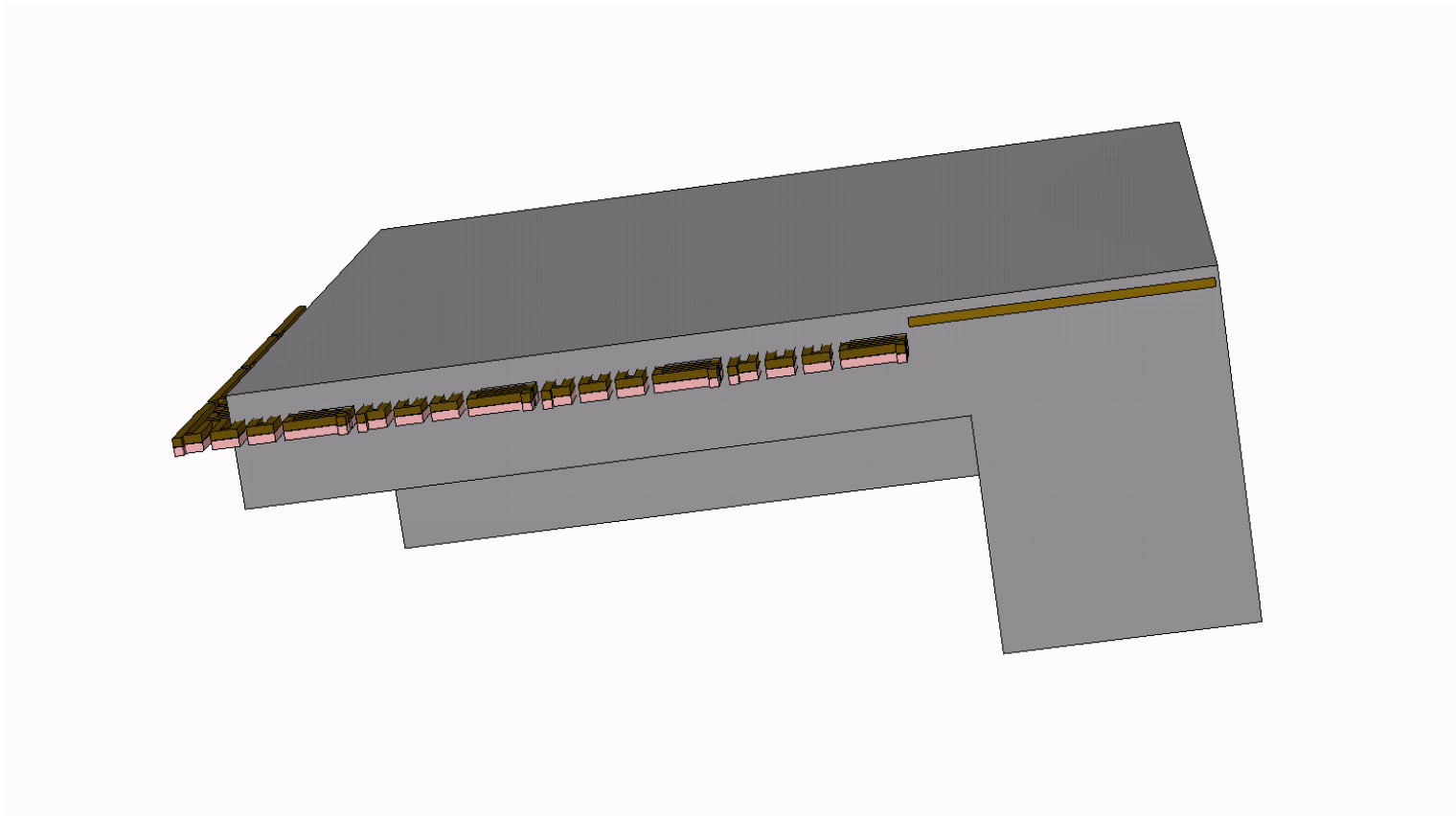
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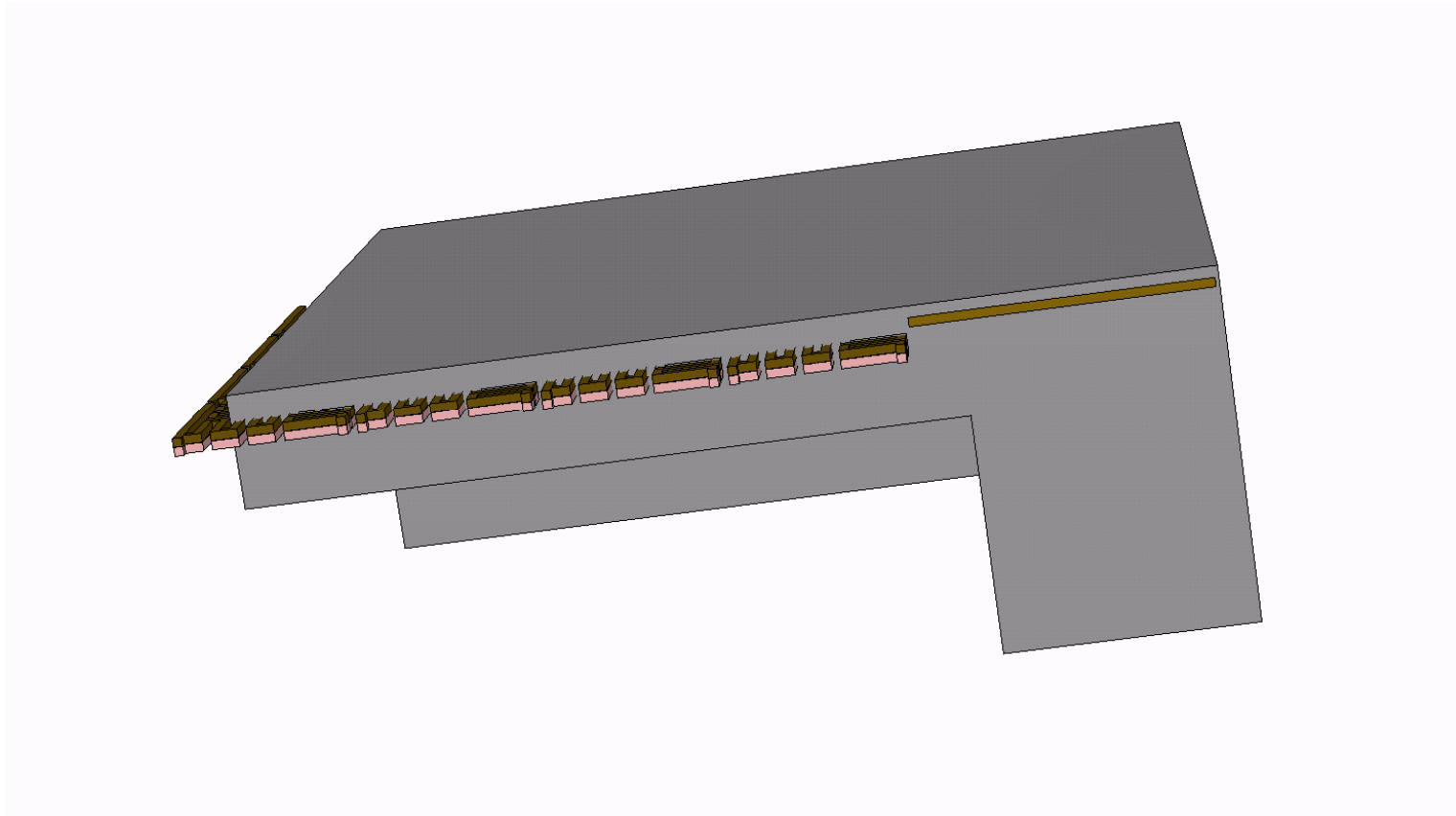
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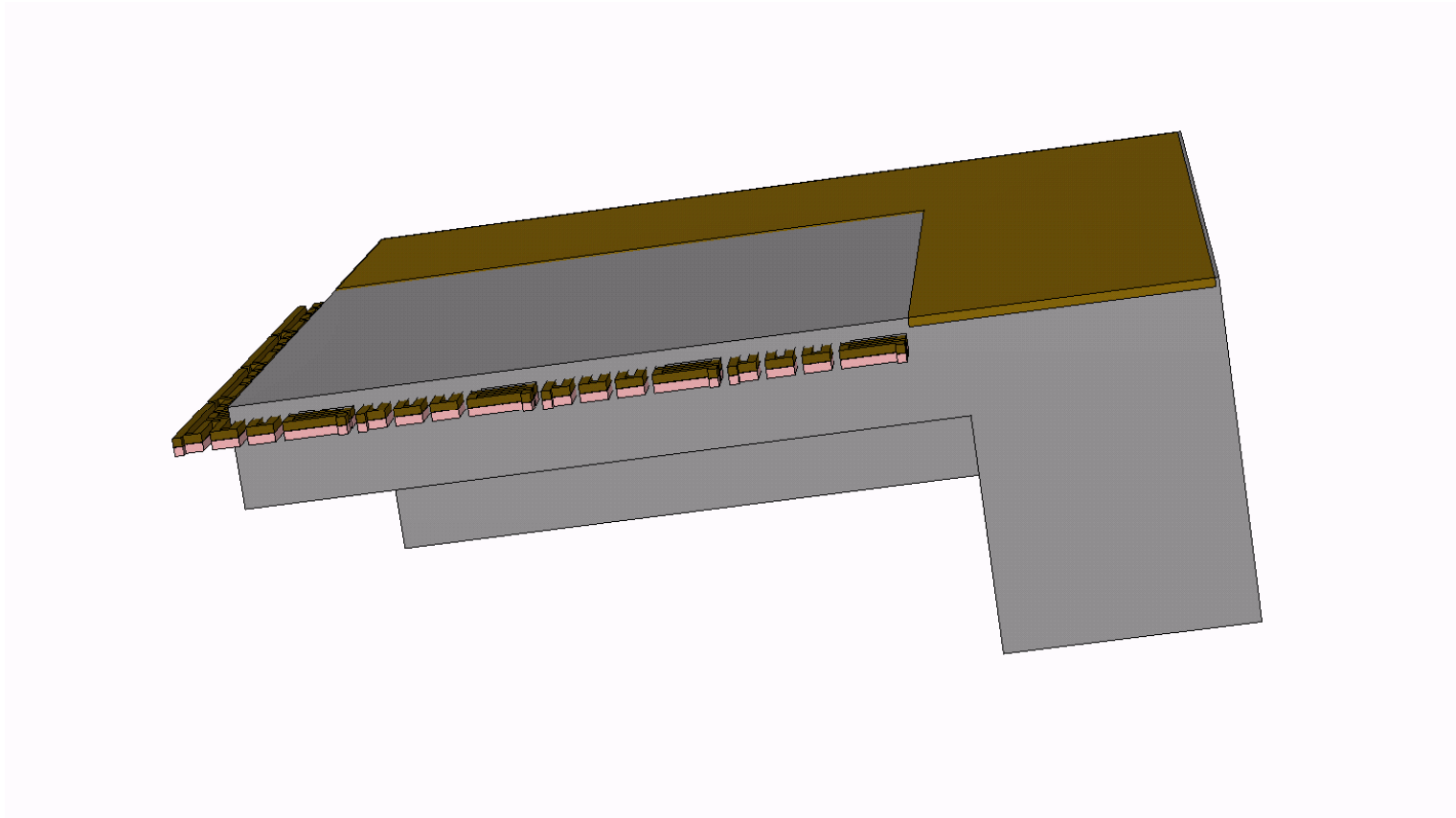
Fabrication Sequence for CMOS Acoustic MEMS AKUSTI(A)

- *next a front-side directional etch of oxide from top*



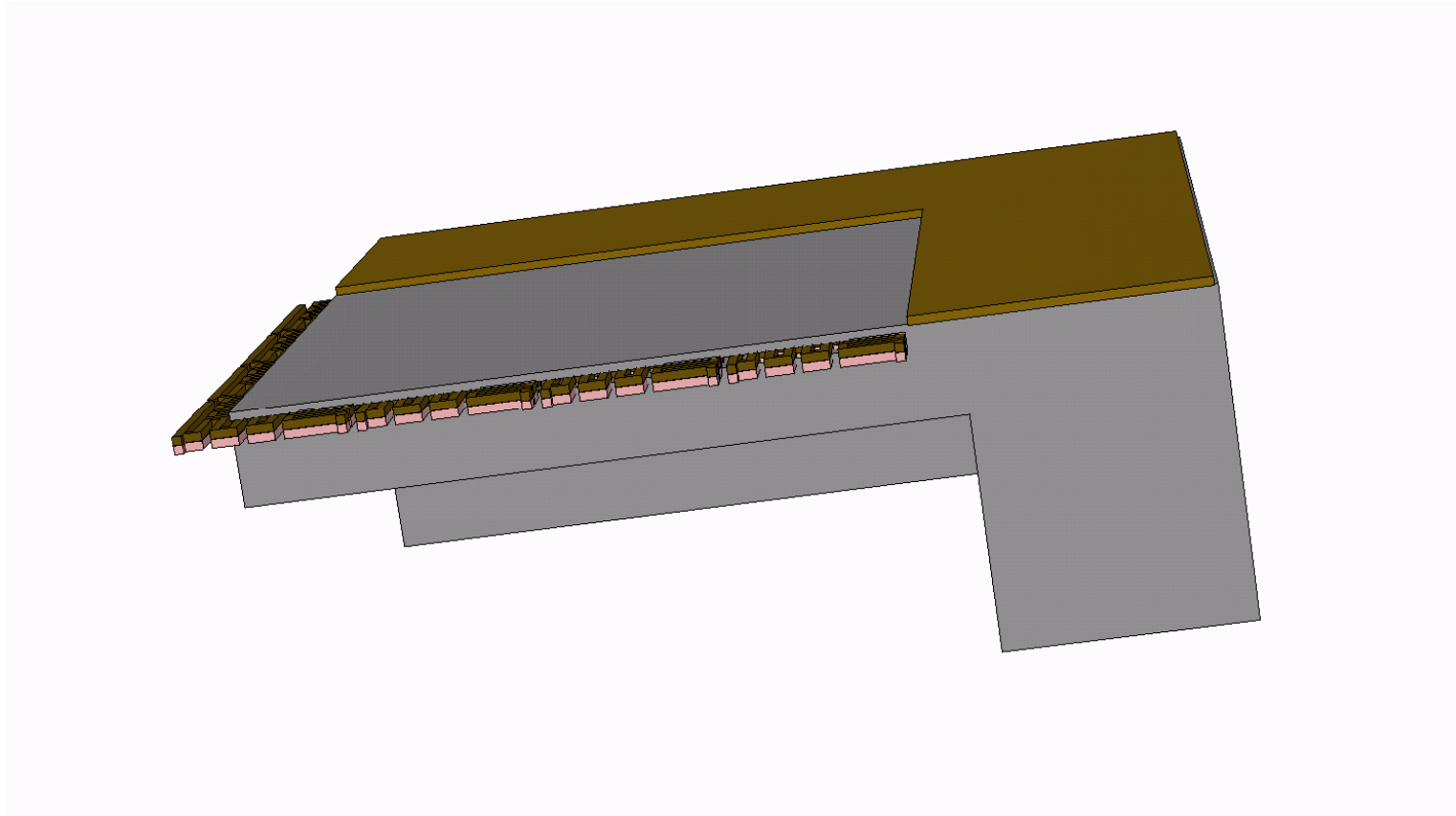
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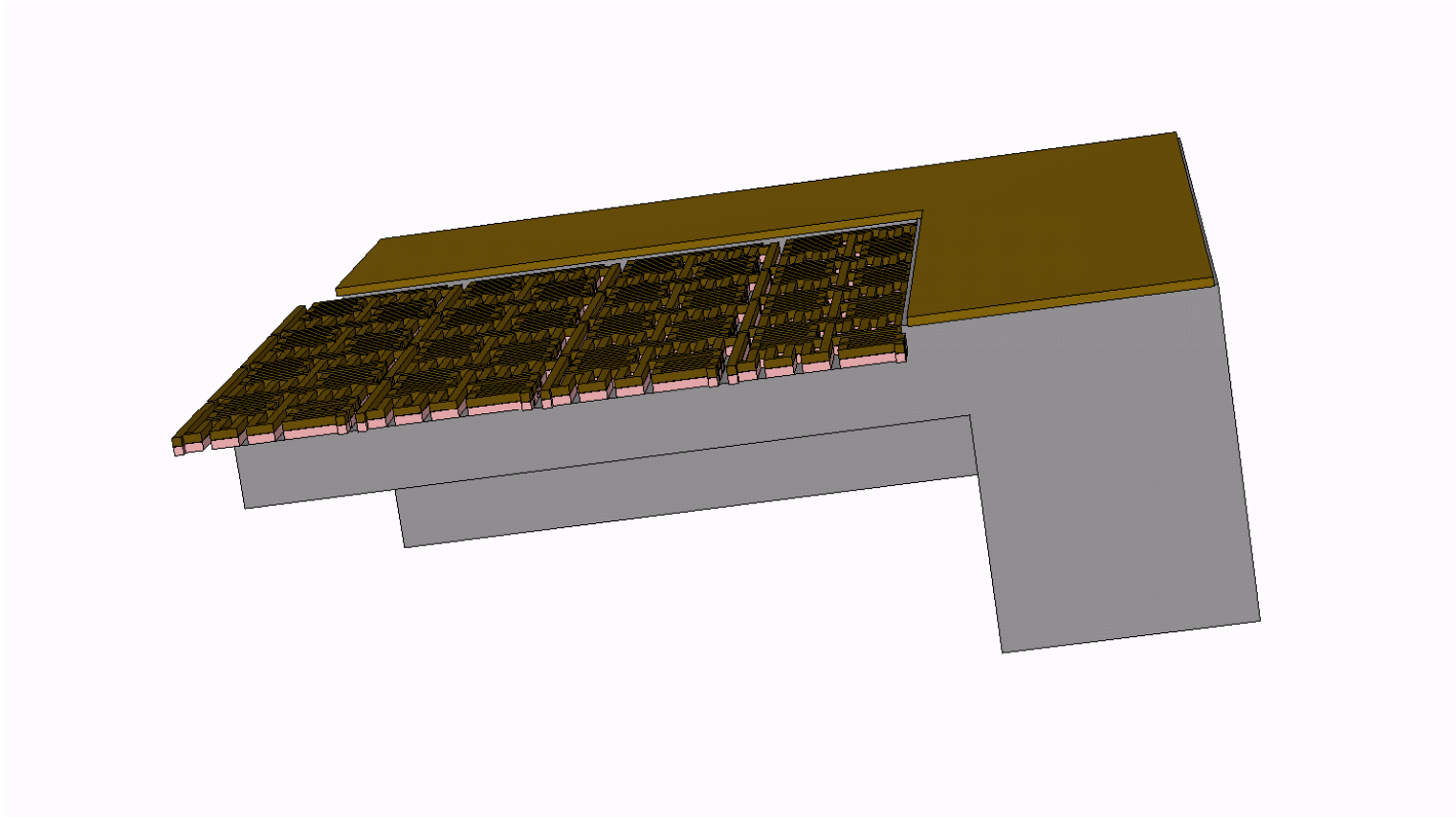
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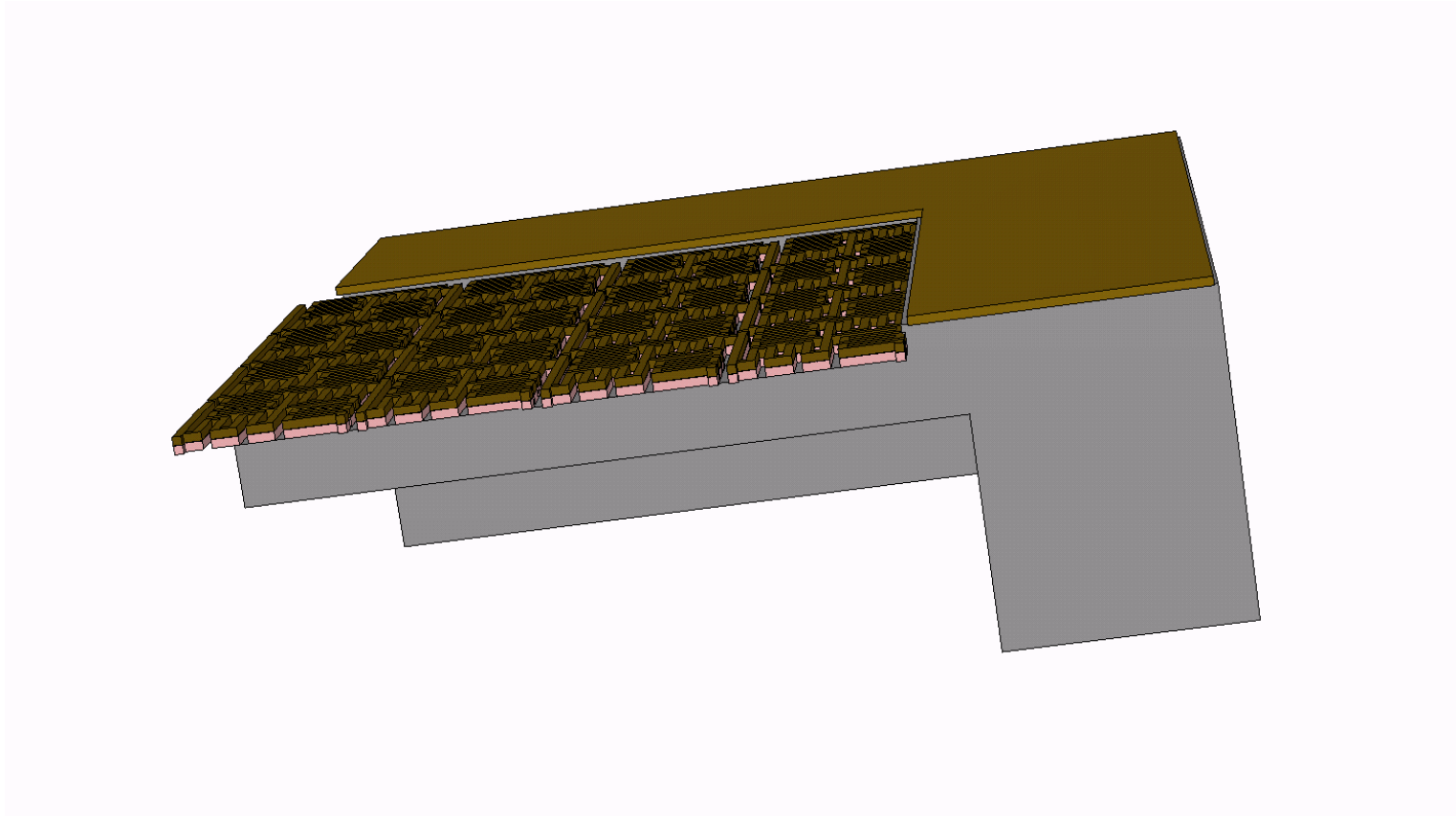
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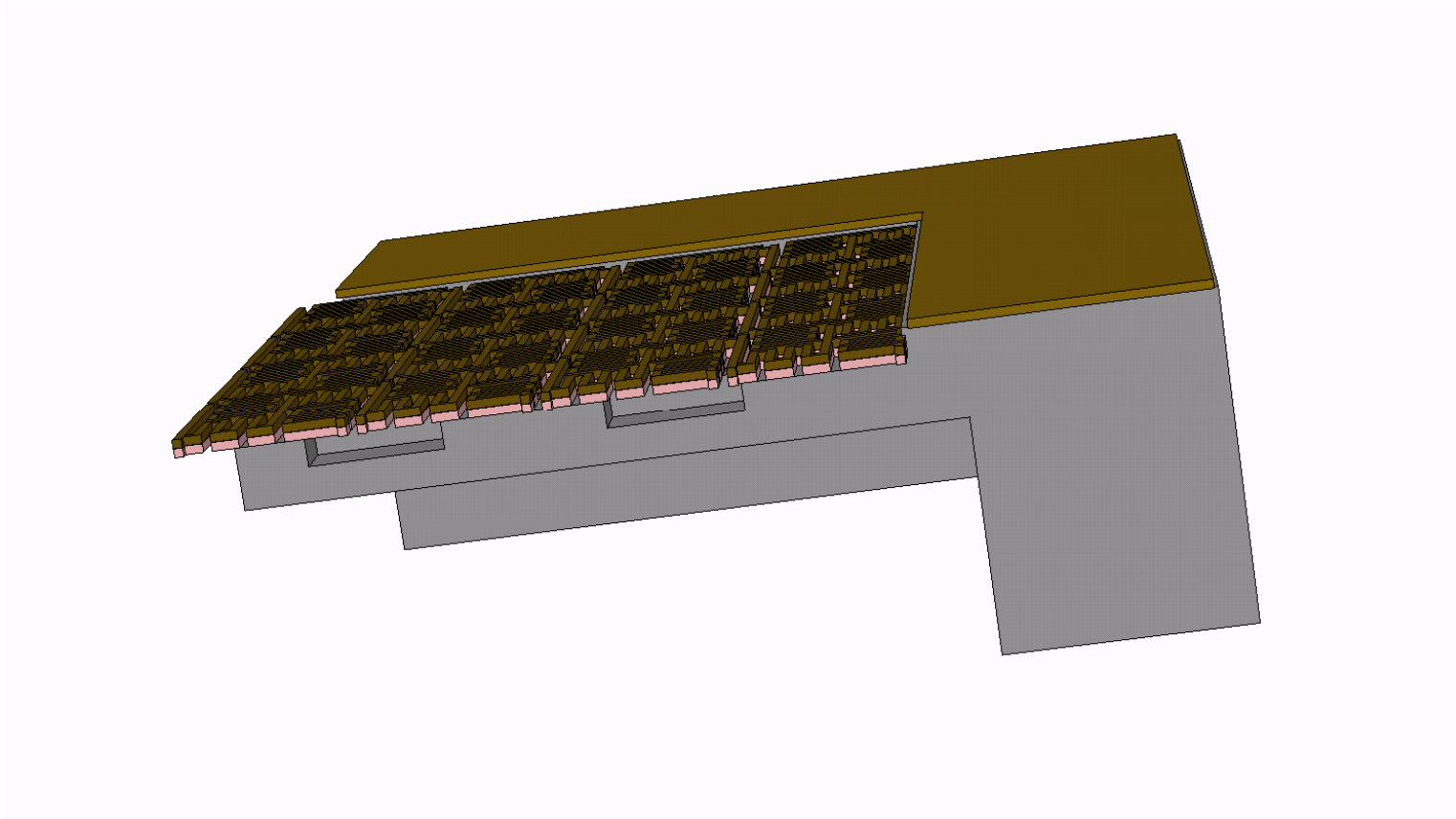
Fabrication Sequence for CMOS Acoustic MEMS AKUSTI(A)

- *vent holes etched from top*



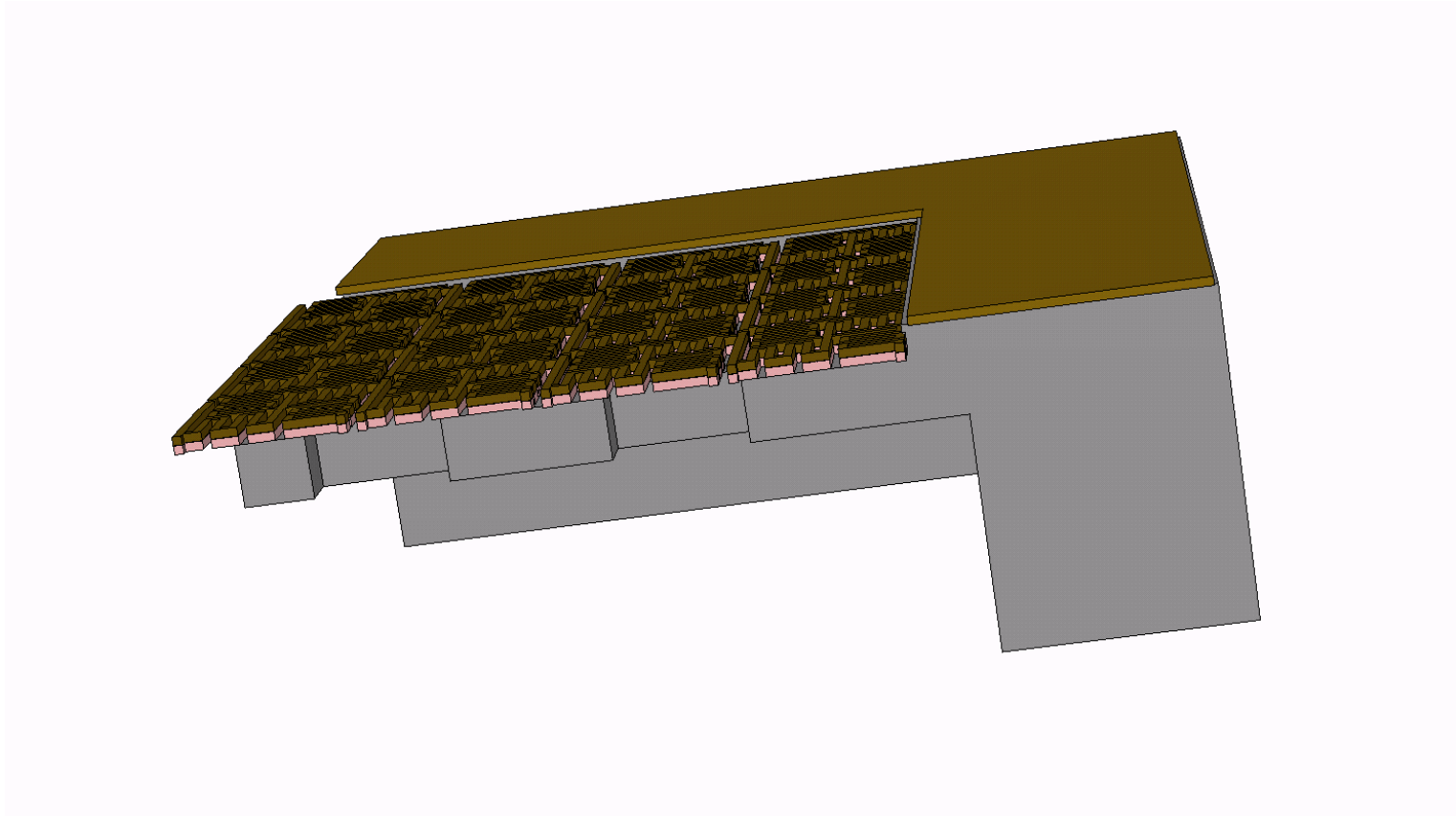
Fabrication Sequence for CMOS Acoustic MEMS AKUSTI(A)

- *vent holes etched from top*



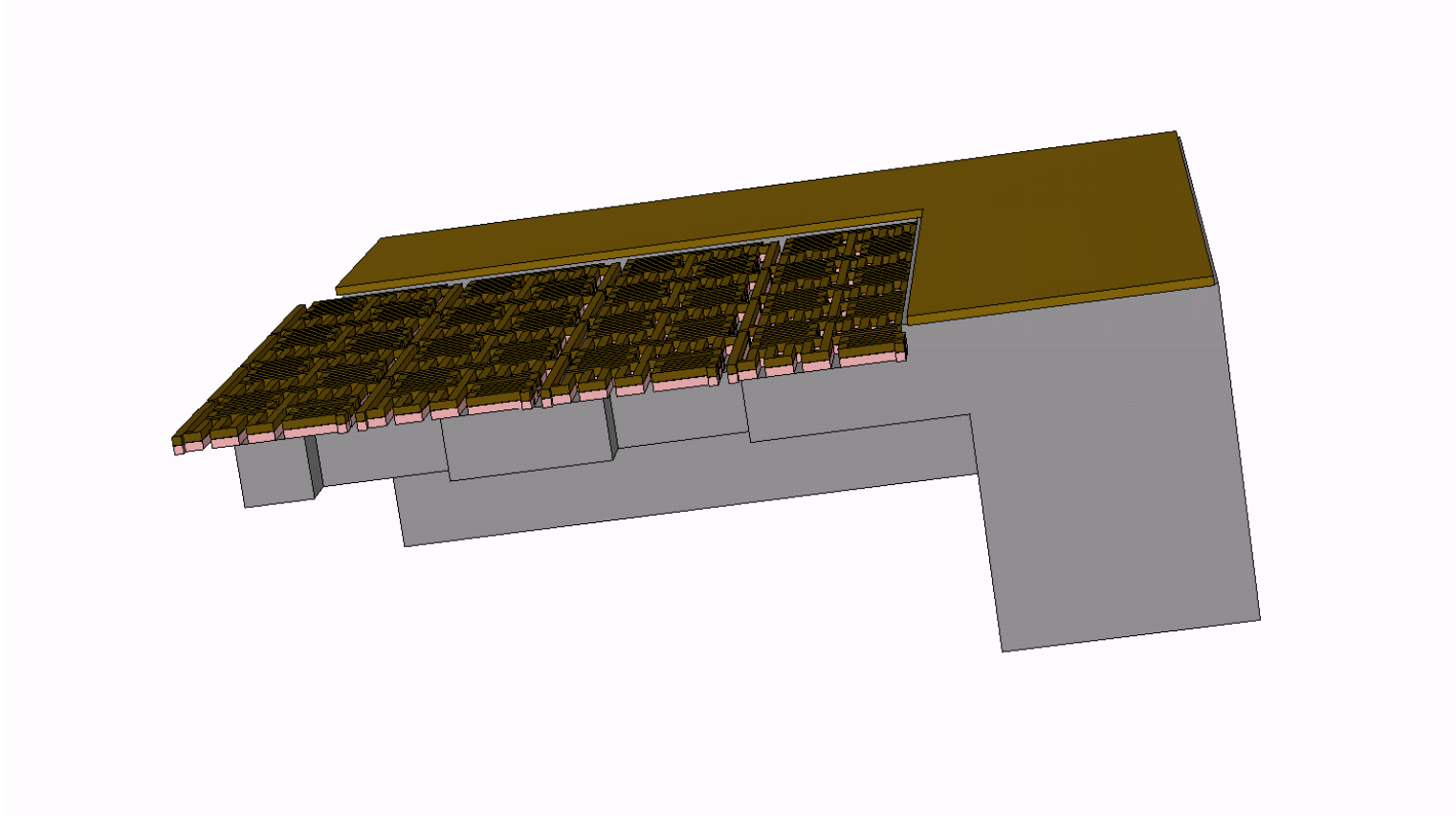
Fabrication Sequence for CMOS Acoustic MEMS AKUSTI(A)

- *vent holes etched from top*



Fabrication Sequence for CMOS Acoustic MEMS AKUSTI(A)

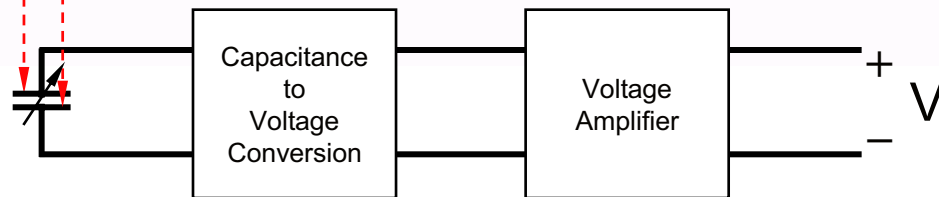
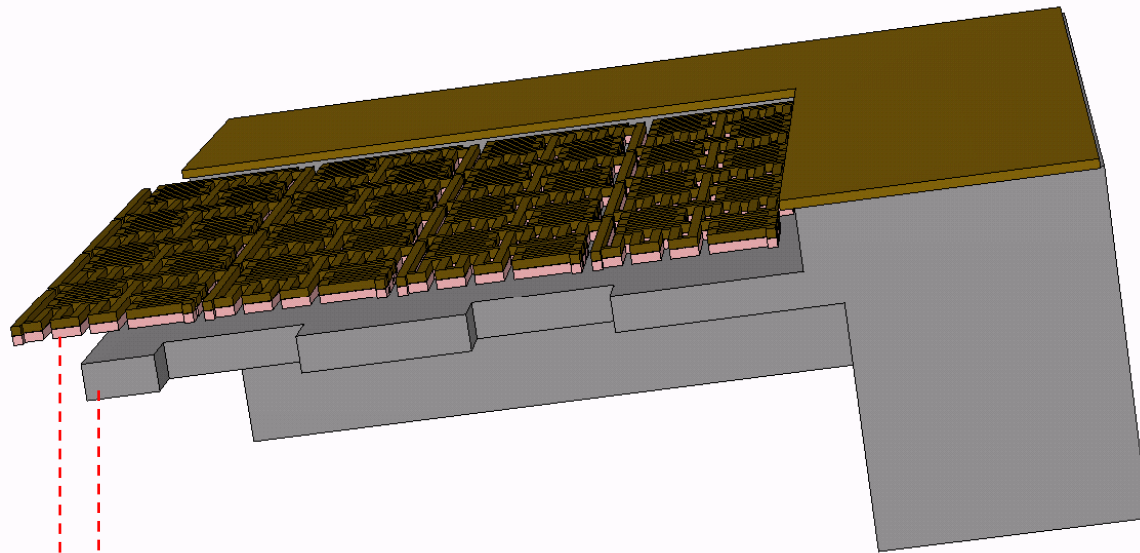
- *mesh skeleton released from substrate underneath*



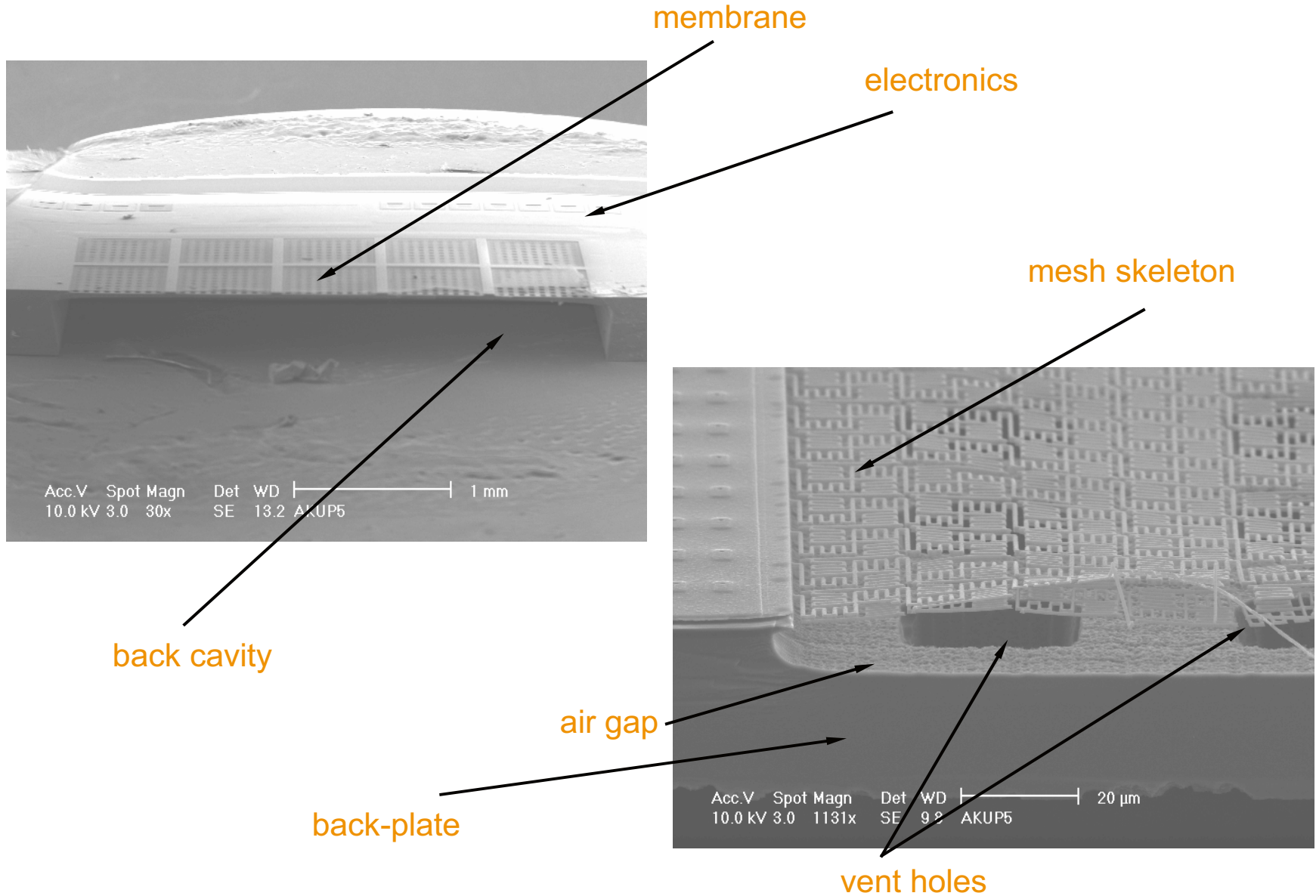
Fabrication Sequence for CMOS Acoustic MEMS AKUSTI(A)

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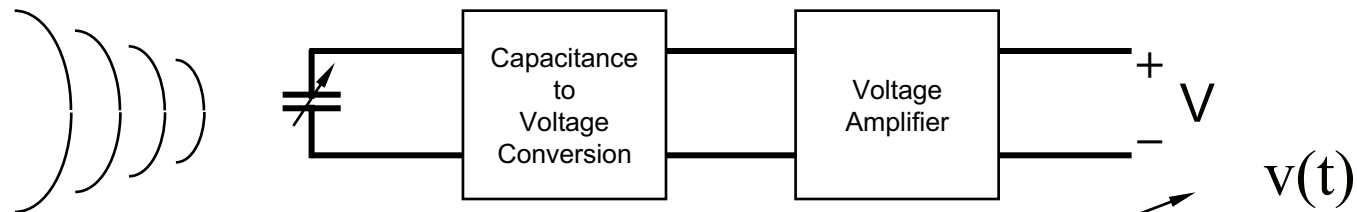
$$C = \frac{\epsilon_0 A}{d}$$



SEMs of CMOS Acoustic MEMS Chip

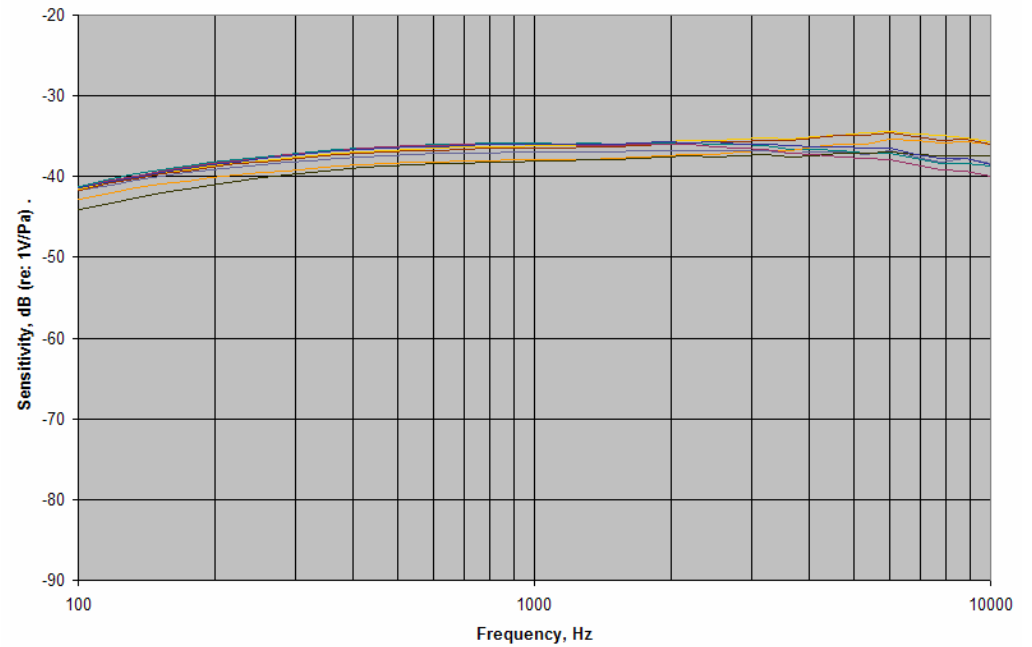


CMOS MEMS Microphone



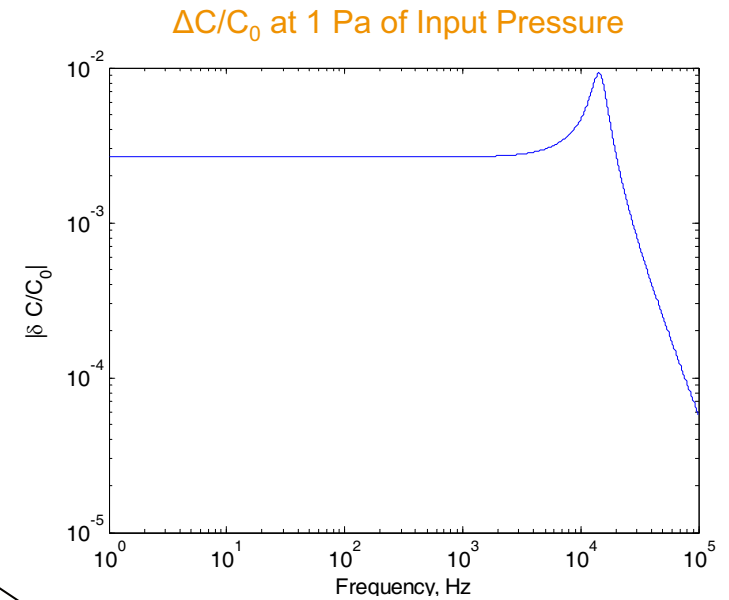
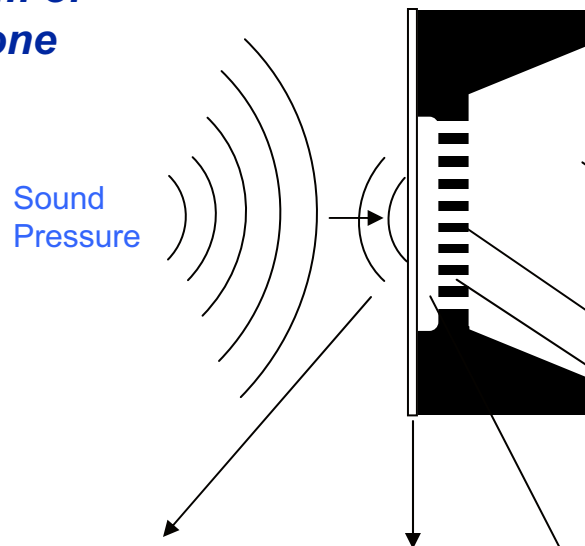
$p(t)$

$$C[t] = \frac{\epsilon_0 A}{d[p(t)]}$$

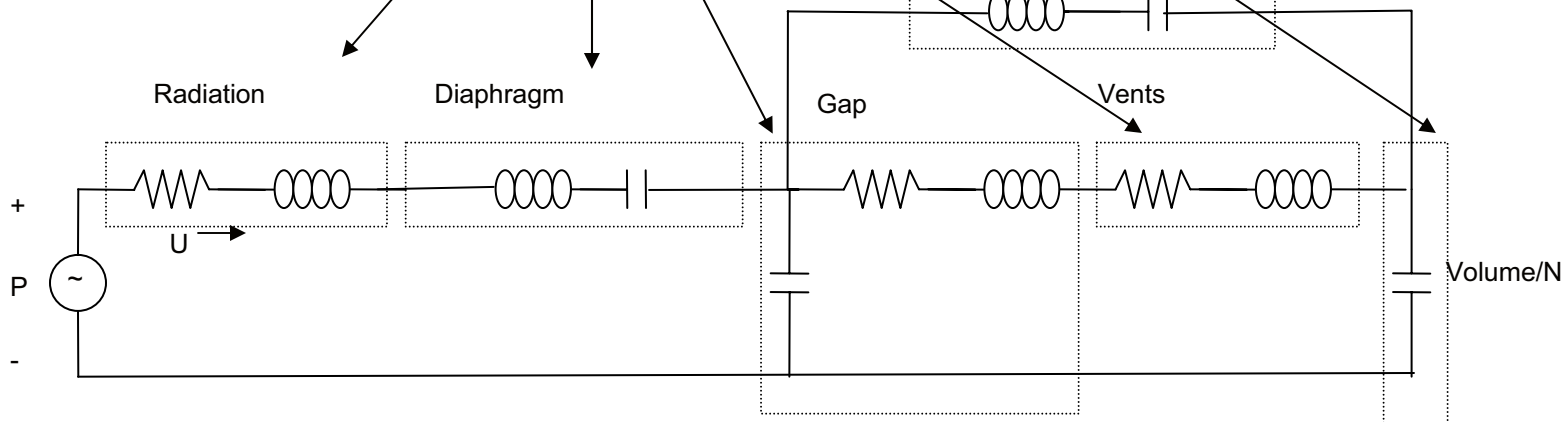


Microphone Chip Acoustic Model

acoustic impedance model for one diaphragm of microphone array

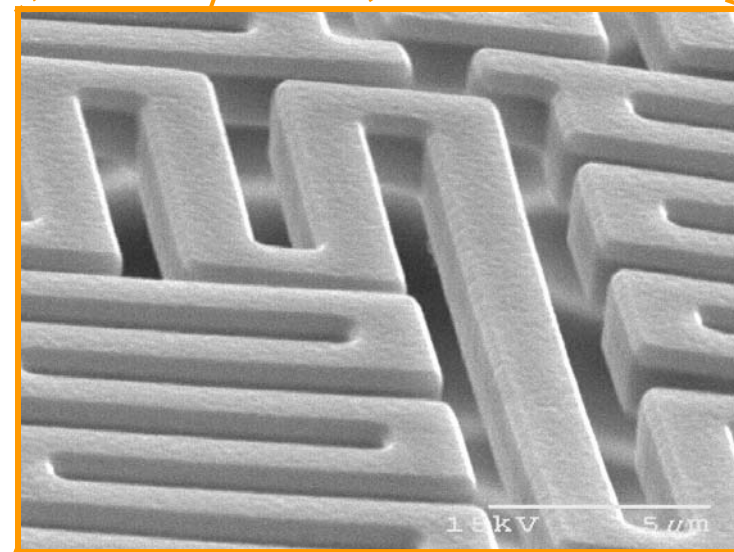
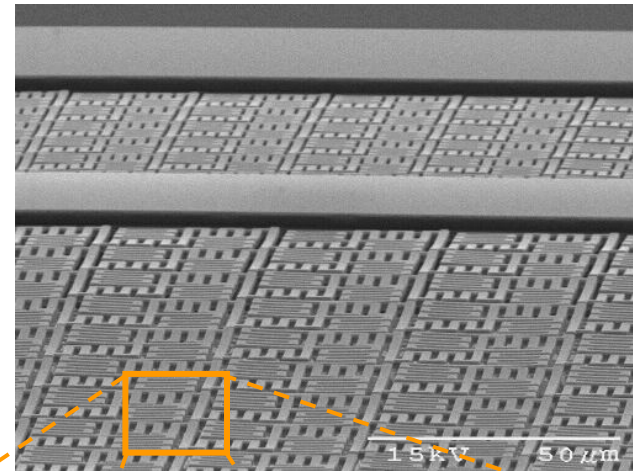


predicted mechanical frequency response of microphone



CMOS Acoustic MEMS Advantages

- Low-cost integration with CMOS
- Rapid design cycles
- Scalable manufacturing
- Low parasitic capacitance
- No piezoelectrics
- Audio to ultrasonic frequencies
- Capacitive sensing
- Low-power electrostatic actuation



MEMS Technology Trend

