

Doctoral Program in Mechanical Engineering
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Optimization of zirconia surface textured designs using Nd:Yag laser for biomedical applications

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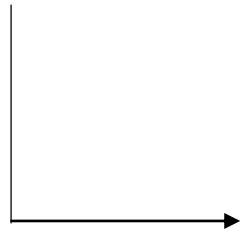


Universidade do Minho



Main Goal

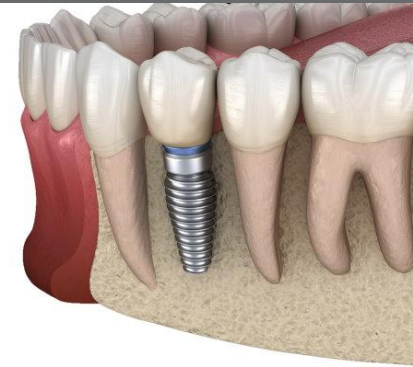
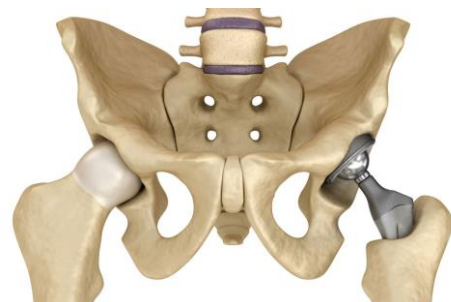
Developing of surface textured designs



Primary stability of surgically anchored implants



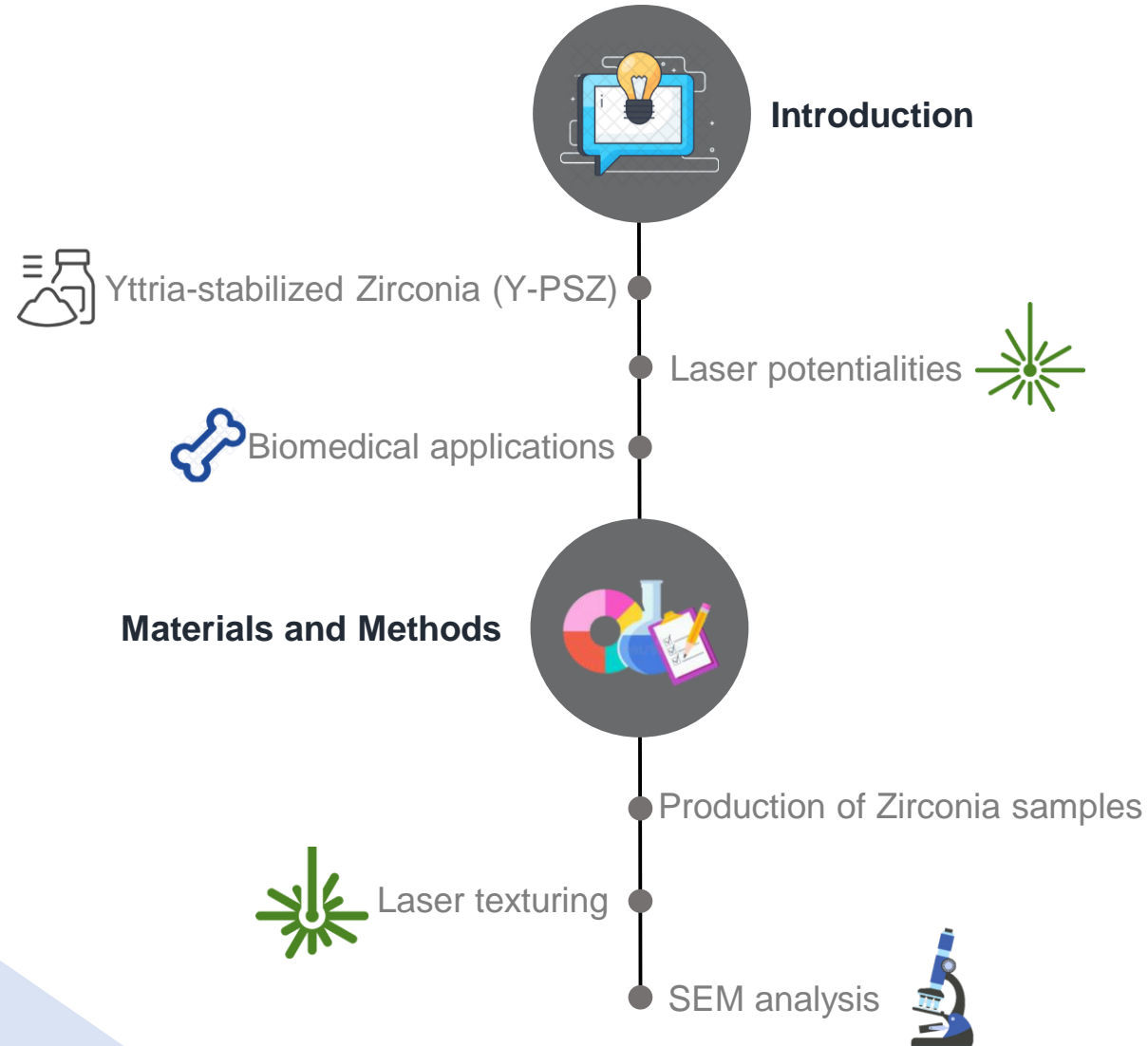
Mechanical interlocking between bone and implant body



Summary

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- Guideline
- Introduction
- Materials and Methods
- Preliminary evaluation of laser processing conditions
- Textures
- Cellular structures
- Conclusions and future perspectives
- Acknowledgments

Guideline



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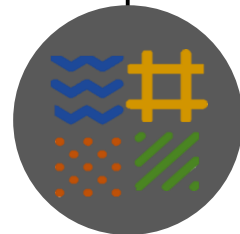
Guideline

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Preliminary evaluation of laser processing conditions

Power, scanning speed and distance between lines



Textures

Laser Blasting 

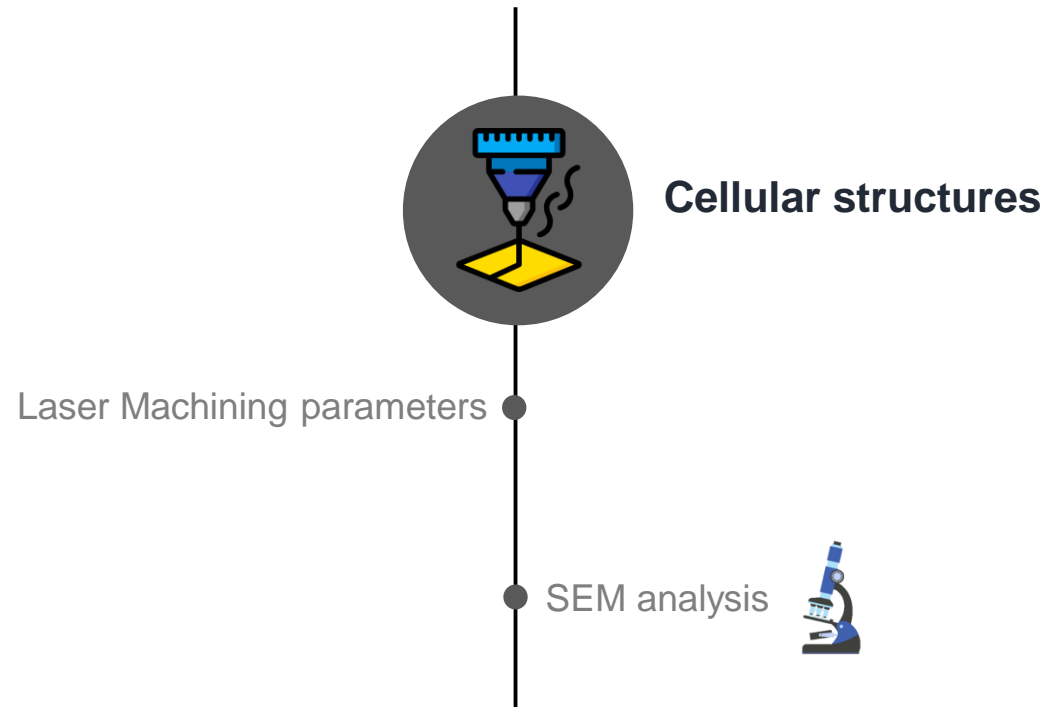
 Thin Patterns

Patterns 

 Grooves

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Introduction



Yttria-stabilized Zirconia (Y-PSZ)

Bioceramic with ...

Ceramic properties



Translucent



Biocompatible

Metallic properties



High hardness



High wear resistance



High fracture and flexural strength (900-1200 MPa)
(Cionca et al., 2000)



High coefficient of thermal expansion

Promising alternative to titanium due to ...



High chemical stability



Aesthetics properties

Bionertness

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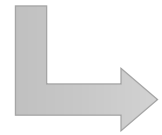
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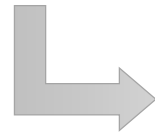


Yttria-stabilized Zirconia (Y-PSZ)

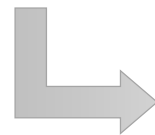
Osseointegration



Biological fixation through continuous bone formation and remodeling toward the implant



The surface properties of the biomaterials are essential for the osseointegration process



Surface modification

Sandblasting
Chemical etching
Laser treatment

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(Moon et al., 2016), (Pereira et al., 2020) (Deprich et al., 2008b), Meshramkar et al., 2019; Parithimarkalaigan and Padmanabhan, 2013).



Laser Potentialities

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Laser Surface Texturing

- ❑ Normal geometric shapes such as pits, grooves, pillars, cavities, ridges, ribs and others
- ❑ Operate at high speed values with elevated precision and promote local heat treatment
- ❑ Textured surfaces contribute to improve the surface tribological (friction and wear) behavior. Moreover, the wettability, osseointegration and bacterial adhesion are enhanced by surface modification.



Laser Potentialities

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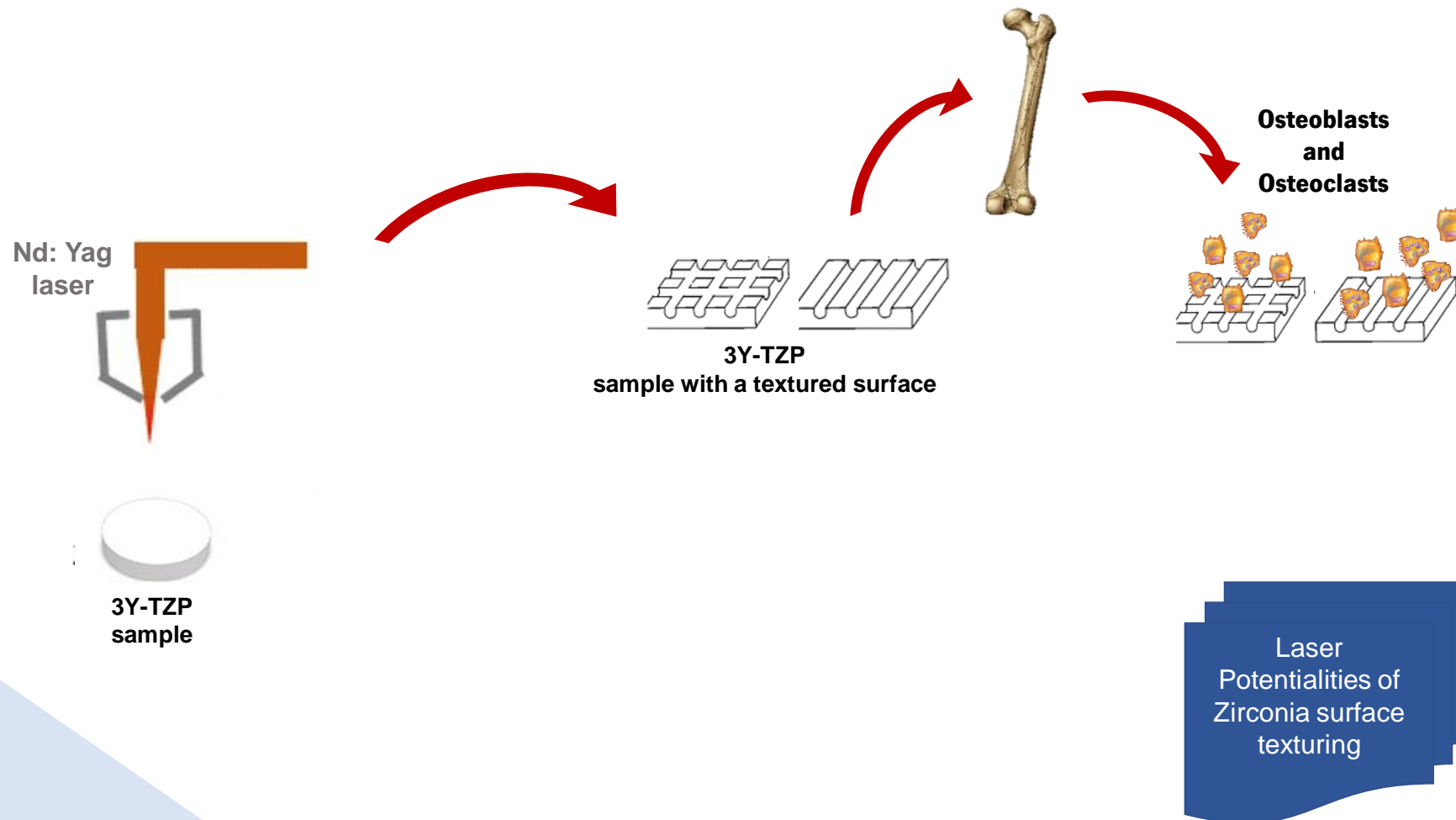
Acknowledgments

Laser Surface Texturing - Nd: Yag Laser

- ❑ Nd: Yag laser is one of the most used in ceramic surface texturing

- ❑ Pulsed Nd: Yag laser has the capacity to control processing parameters when compared with continuous mode and improve the machining quality

So, the aim of this study is ...



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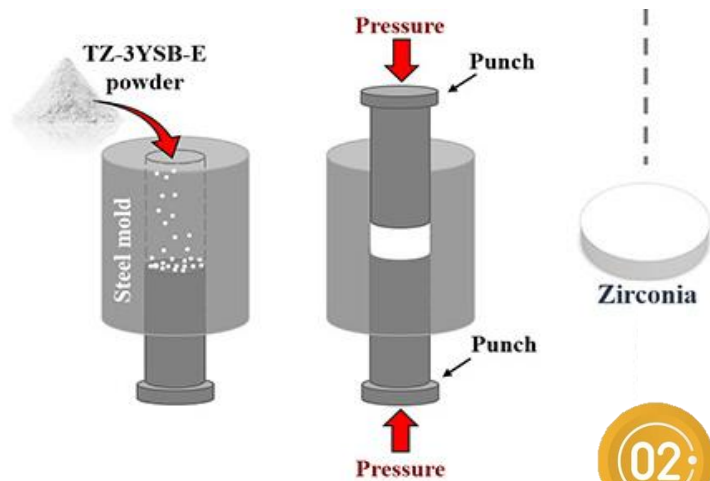


Materials and Methods

Summary

01

Production of green zirconia compacts

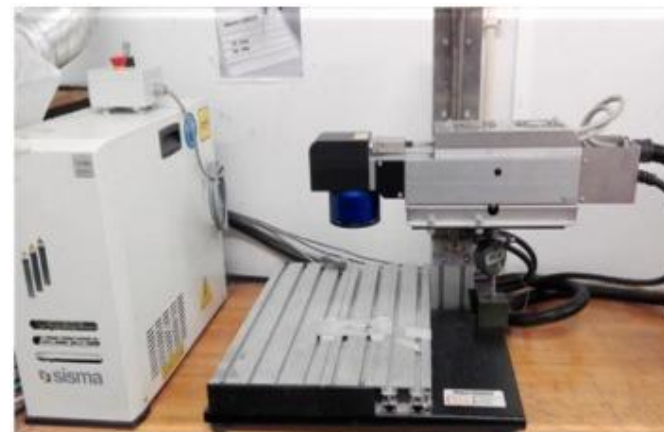


02

Laser beam was focused on the surface of green zirconia compacts

Nd:YAG laser

Output power: 6W
Spot size: 3 μm
Pulse: 35 ns.



Nominal focal length: 160 mm Wavelength: 1.064 μm Pulse energy: 0.3 mJ/pulse

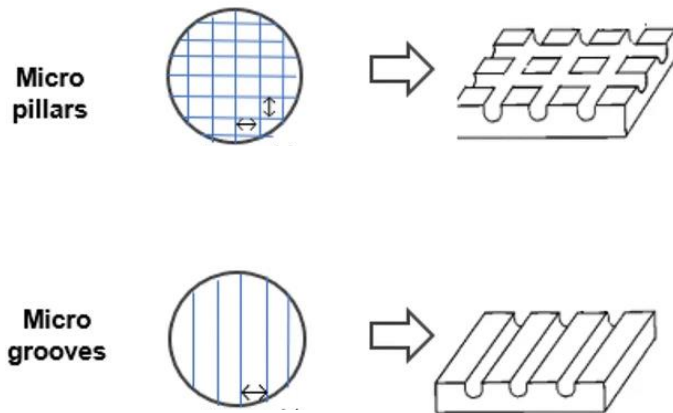
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Materials and Methods

04

Design of **crosslines** was defined in a **computer-aided design system**



05

Define **several strategies** and different laser parameters (laser power, scan speed, distance between lines and laser passages)

06

SEM analysis

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Preliminary evaluation of laser processing conditions

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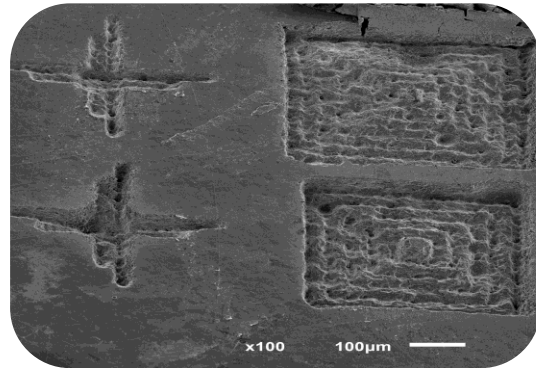
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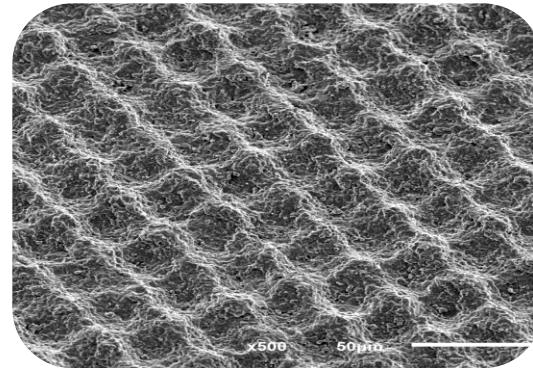
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Results

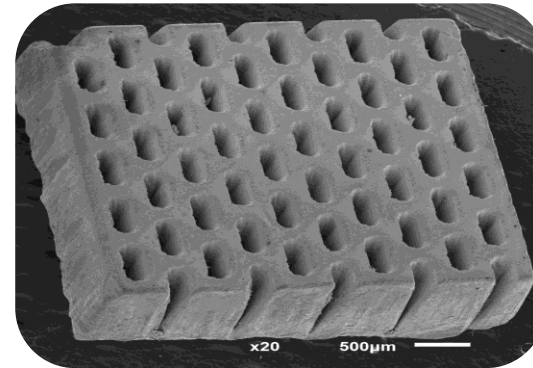


Preliminary evaluation of laser processing conditions



Textures

- Laser Blasting
- Thin Textures
- Textures
- Grooves



Cellular Structures

- Laser Machining

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Scanning speed (mm/s)

32

64

128

256

400

32

64

128

256

400

Distance between lines (μm)

10

20

30

40

50

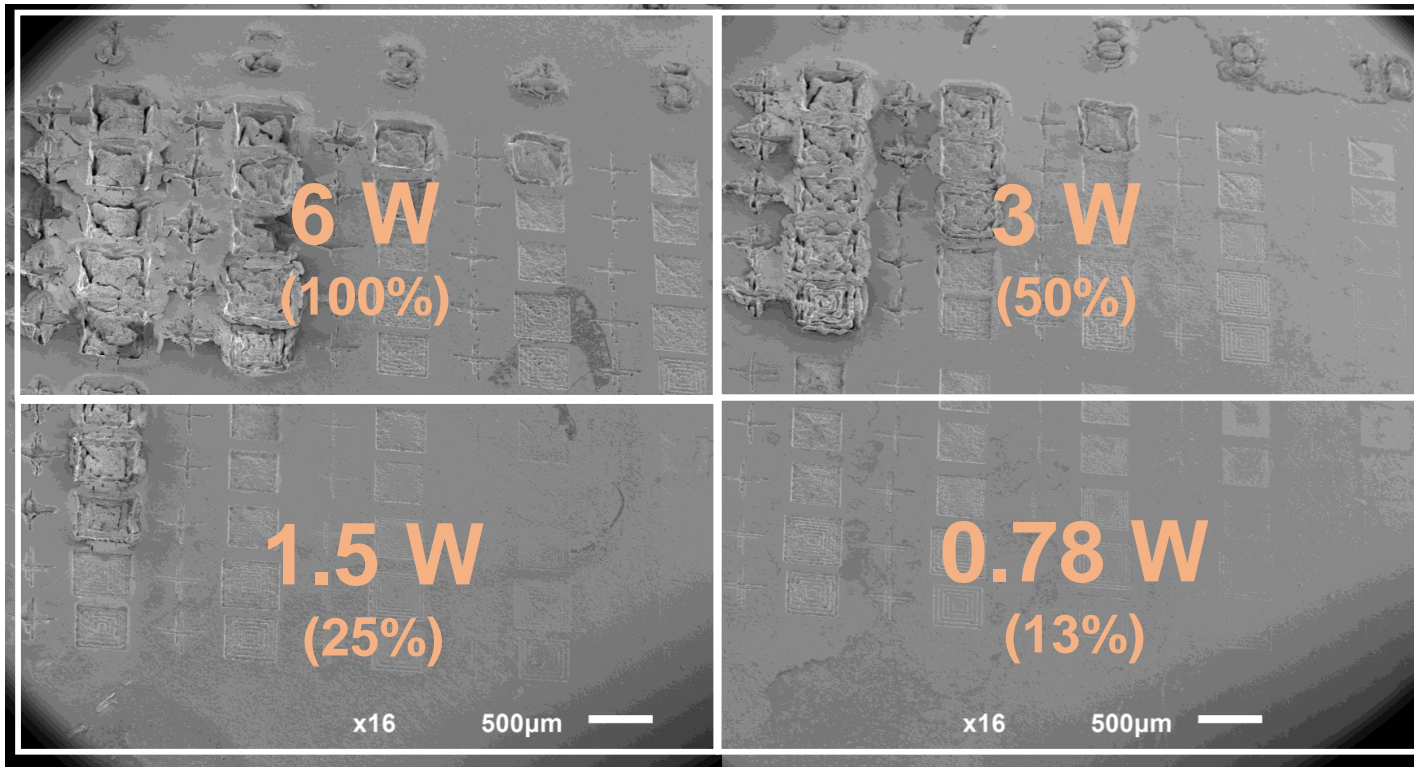
10

20

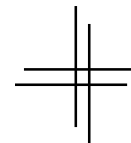
30

40

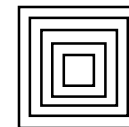
50



Each condition evaluate ...



Lines



Holes



Preliminary evaluation of laser processing conditions

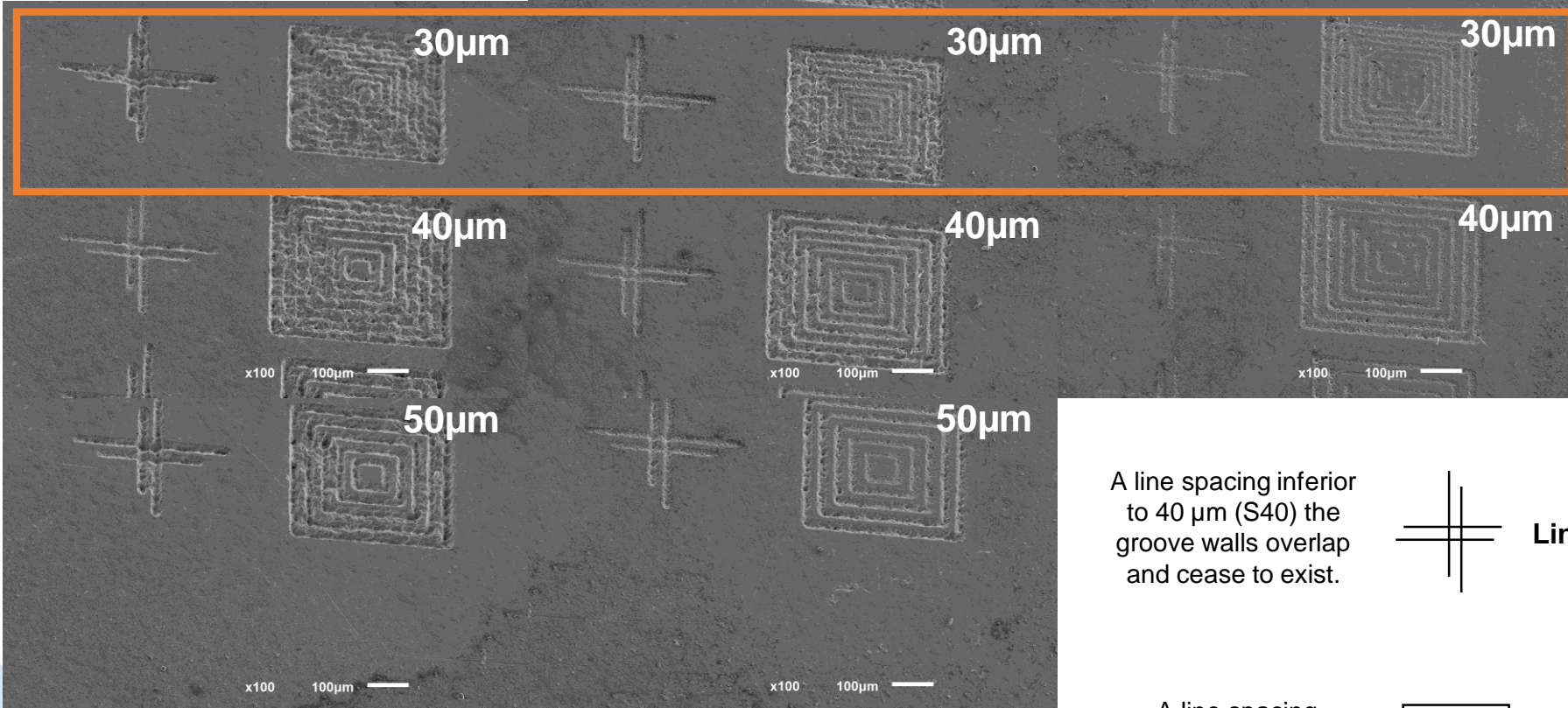
Influence of scanning speed – 0.78 W

Summary

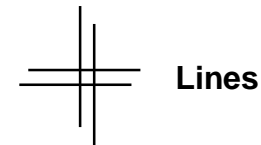
Column 6 – 32 mm/s

Column 7 – 64 mm/s

Column 8 – 128 mm/s



A line spacing inferior to 40 µm (S40) the groove walls overlap and cease to exist.



A line spacing superior to 30 µm (S30) do not produce holes



↓ Scan speed

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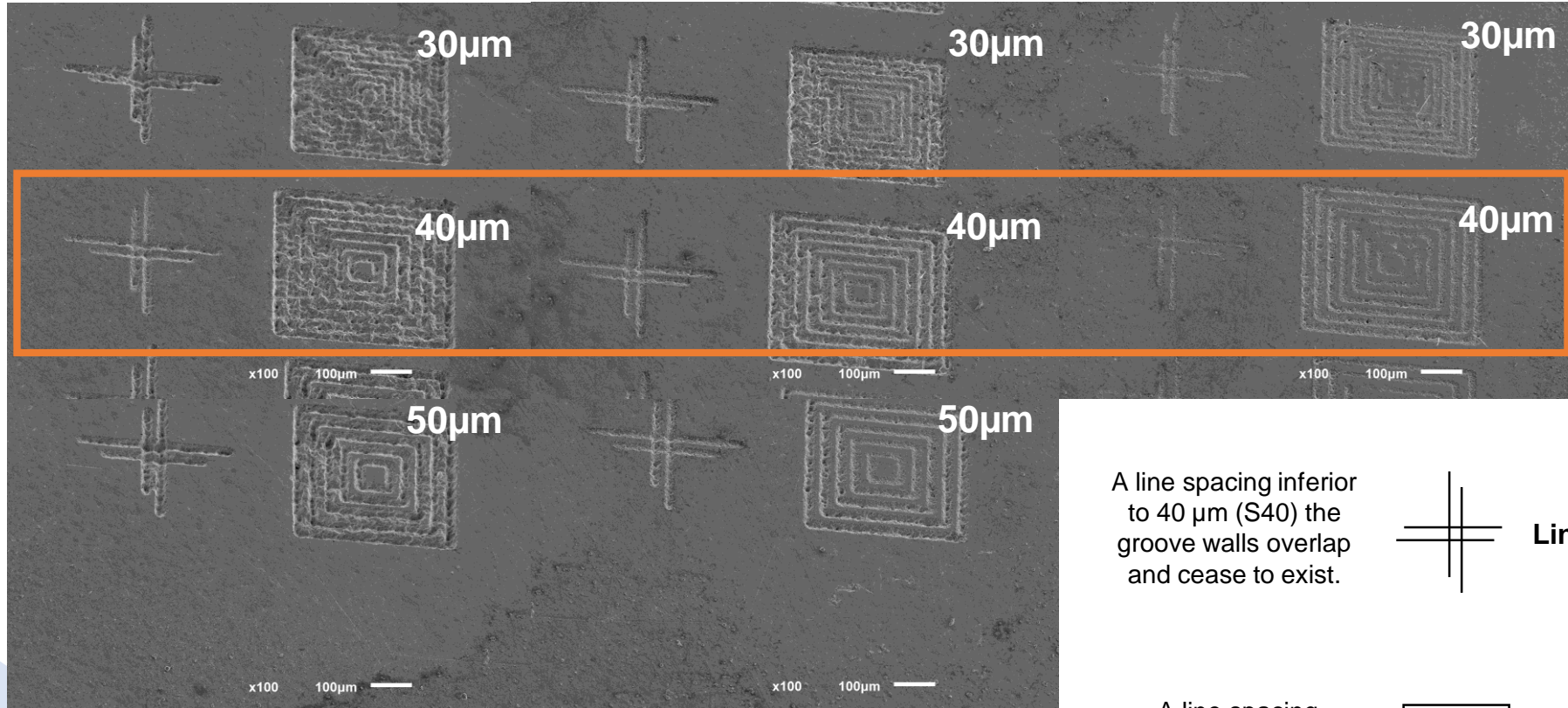
Influence of scanning speed – 0.78 W

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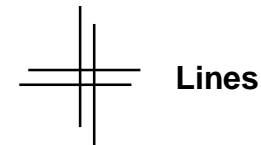
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↓ Scan speed

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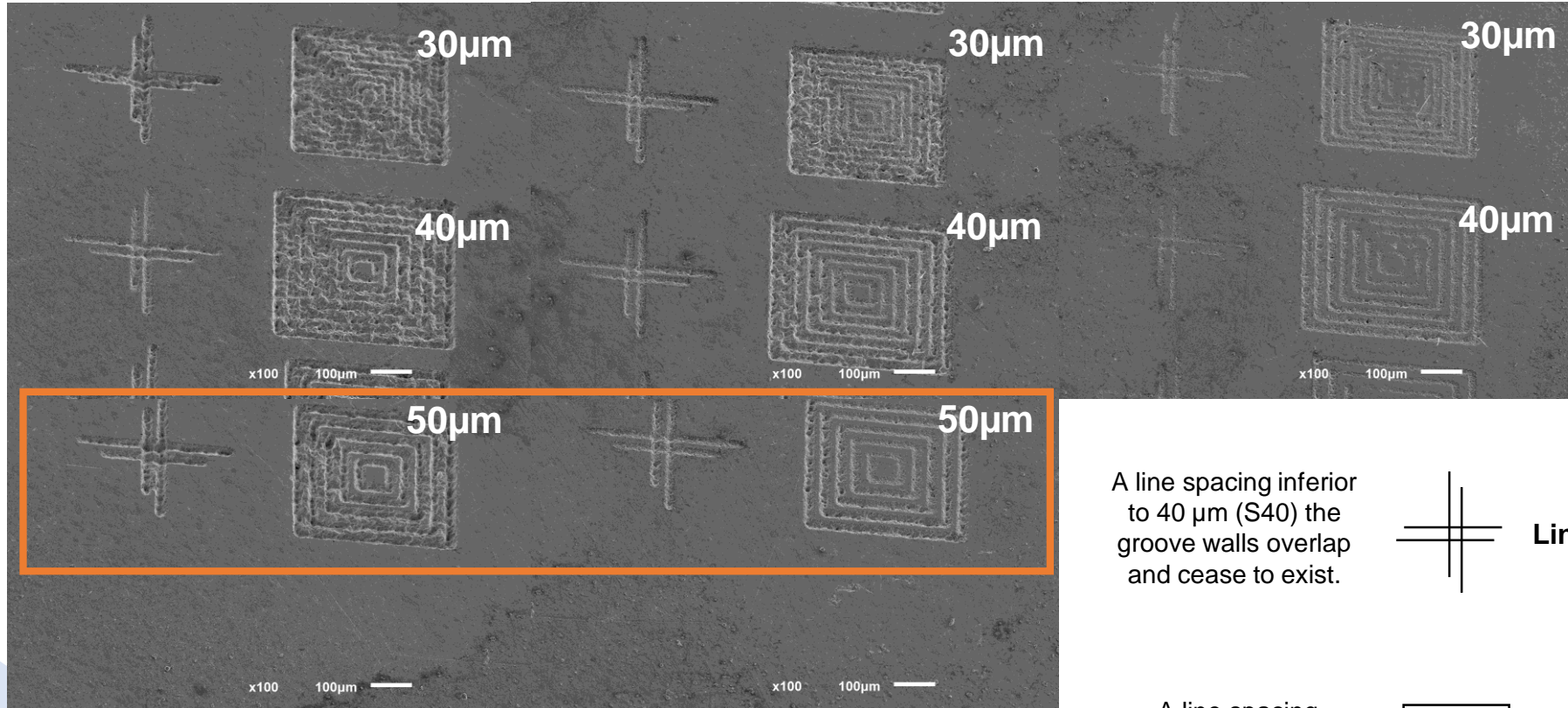
Influence of scanning speed – 0.78 W

Summary

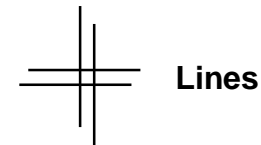
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↓ Scan speed

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Preliminary evaluation of laser processing cond

Influence of scanning speed – 1.5 W

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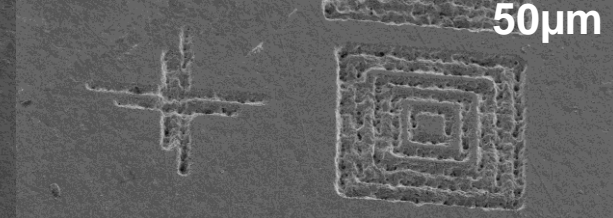
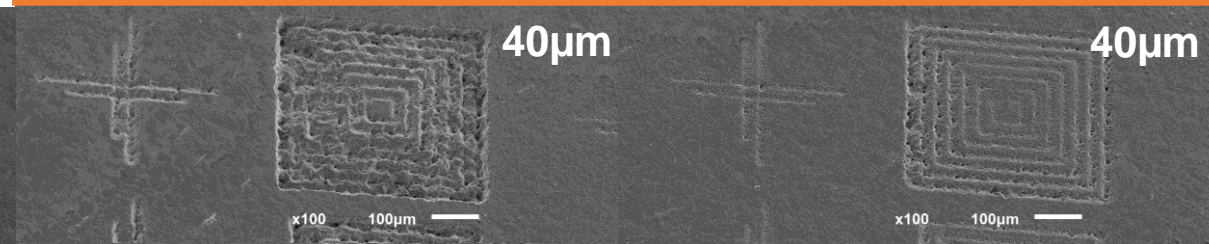
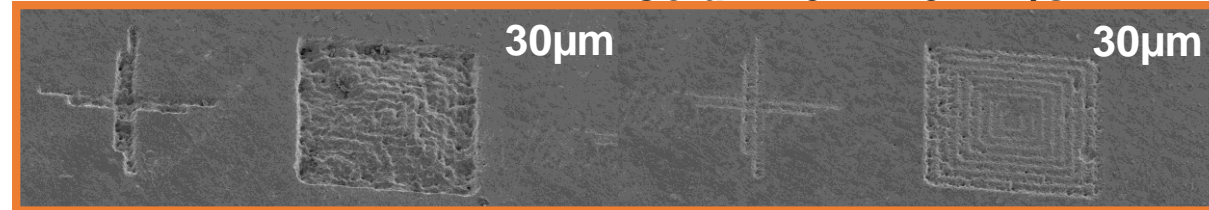
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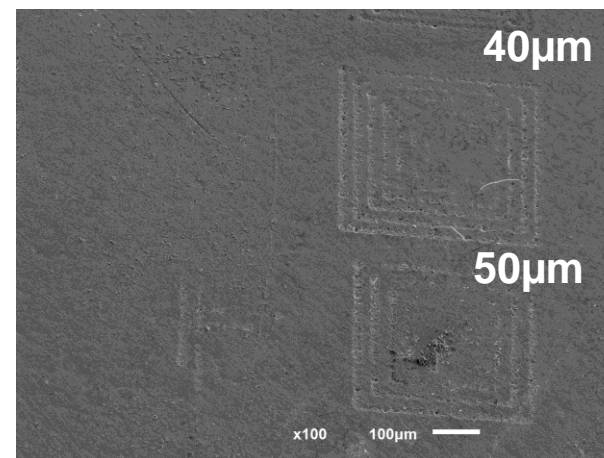
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Column 2 – 64 mm/s

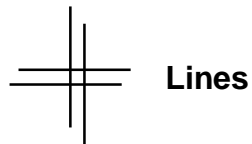
Column 3 – 128 mm/s



Column 4 – 256 mm/s

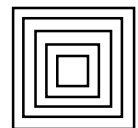


A line spacing inferior to 40 µm (S40) the groove walls overlap and cease to exist.

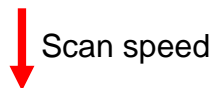


Lines

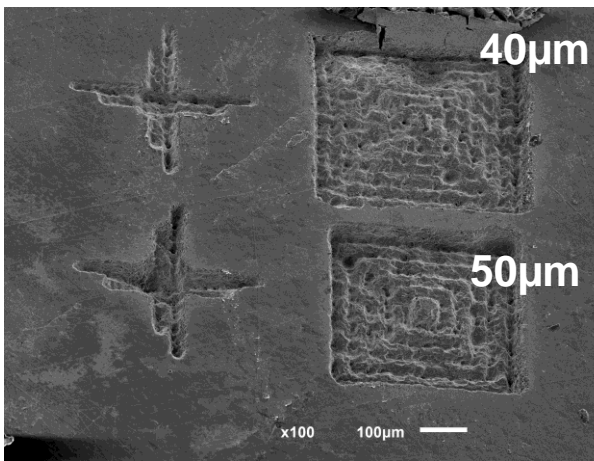
A line spacing superior to 30 µm (S30) do not produce holes



Holes



Column 1 - 32 mm/s





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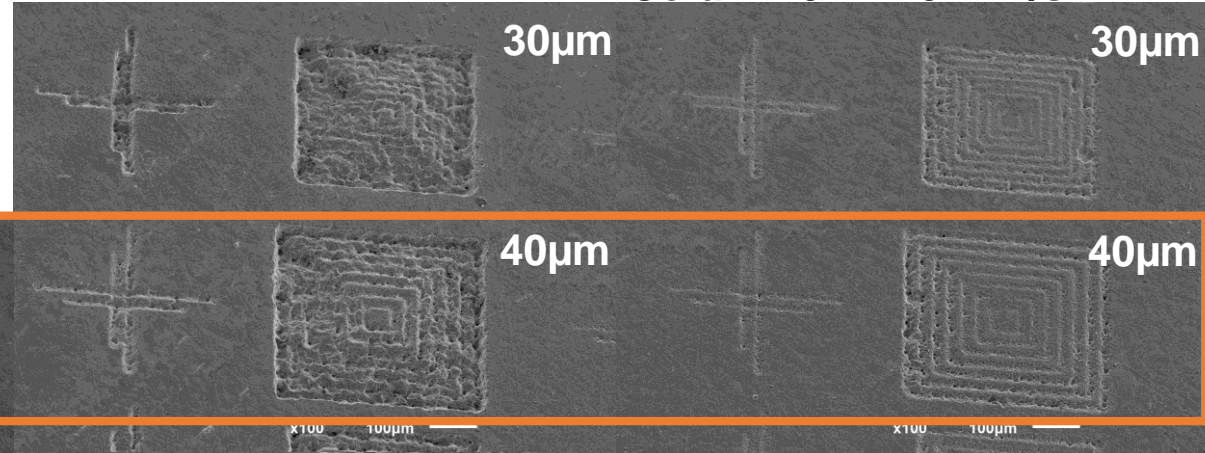
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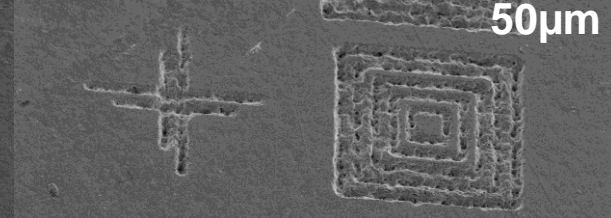
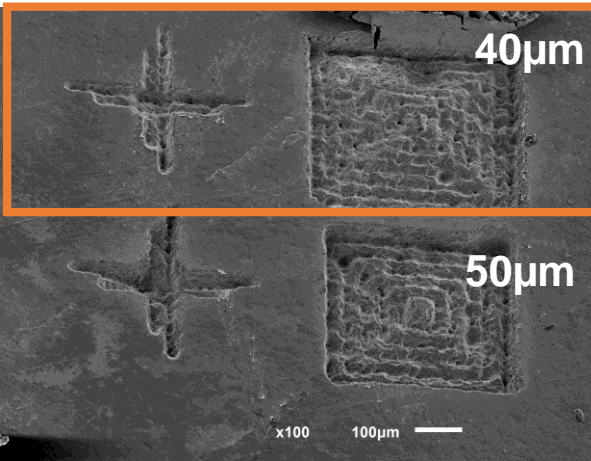
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Column 2 – 64 mm/s

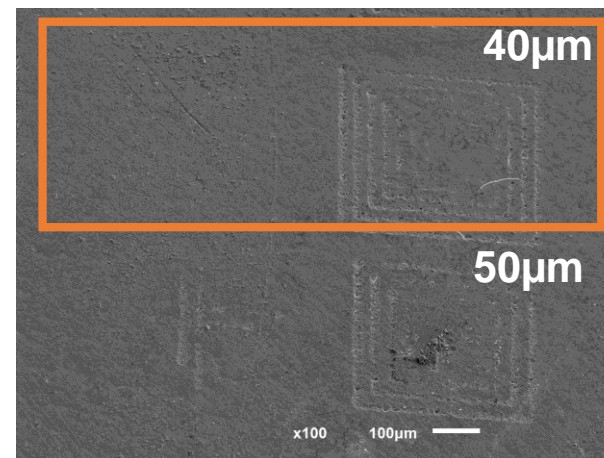
Column 3 – 128 mm/s



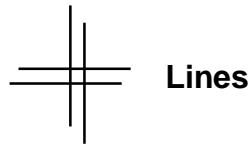
Column 1 - 32 mm/s



Column 4 – 256 mm/s

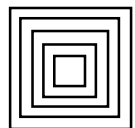


A line spacing inferior to 40 µm (S40) the groove walls overlap and cease to exist.



Lines

A line spacing superior to 30 µm (S30) do not produce holes



Holes

↓ Scan speed



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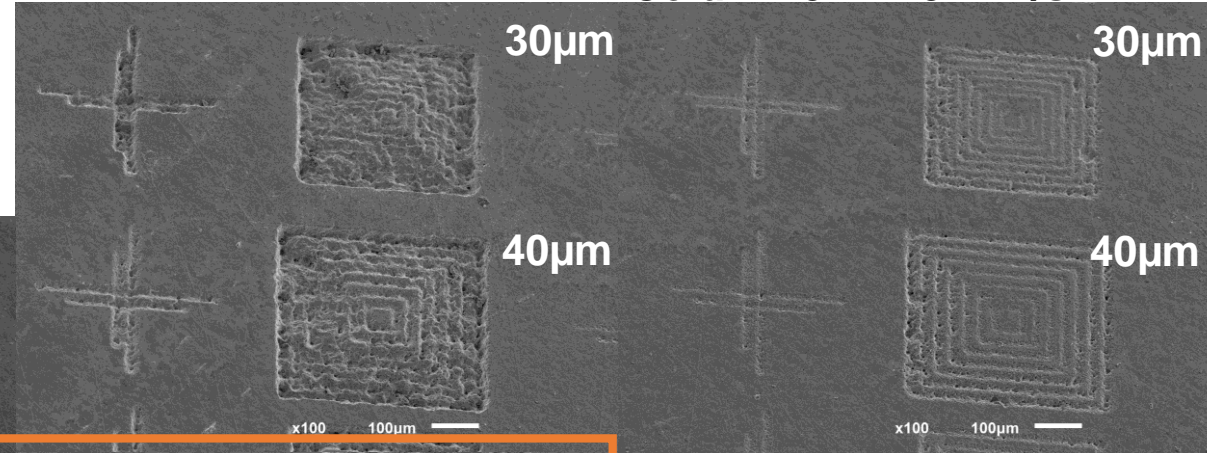
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Column 2 – 64 mm/s

Column 3 – 128 mm/s



30µm

30µm

40µm

40µm

x100

100µm

x100

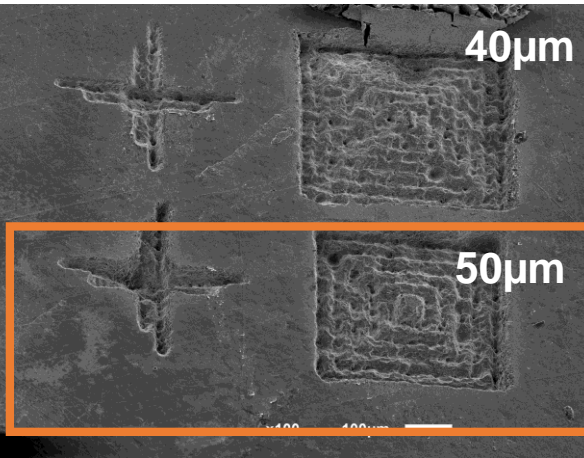
100µm

Column 1 - 32 mm/s

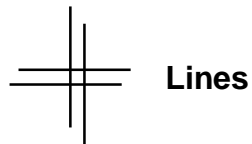
40µm

50µm

50µm

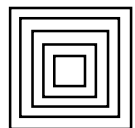


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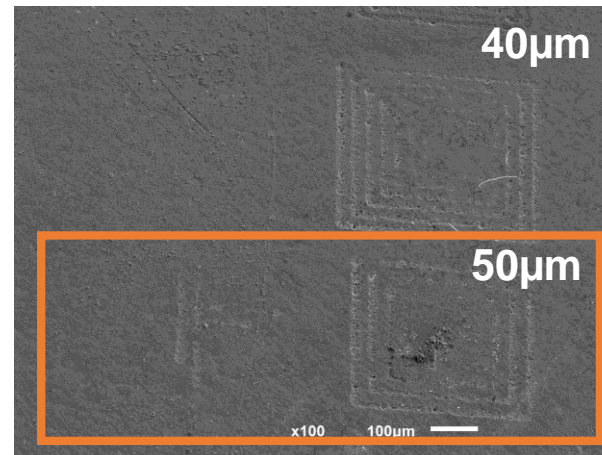


Scan speed

Column 4 – 256 mm/s

40µm

50µm



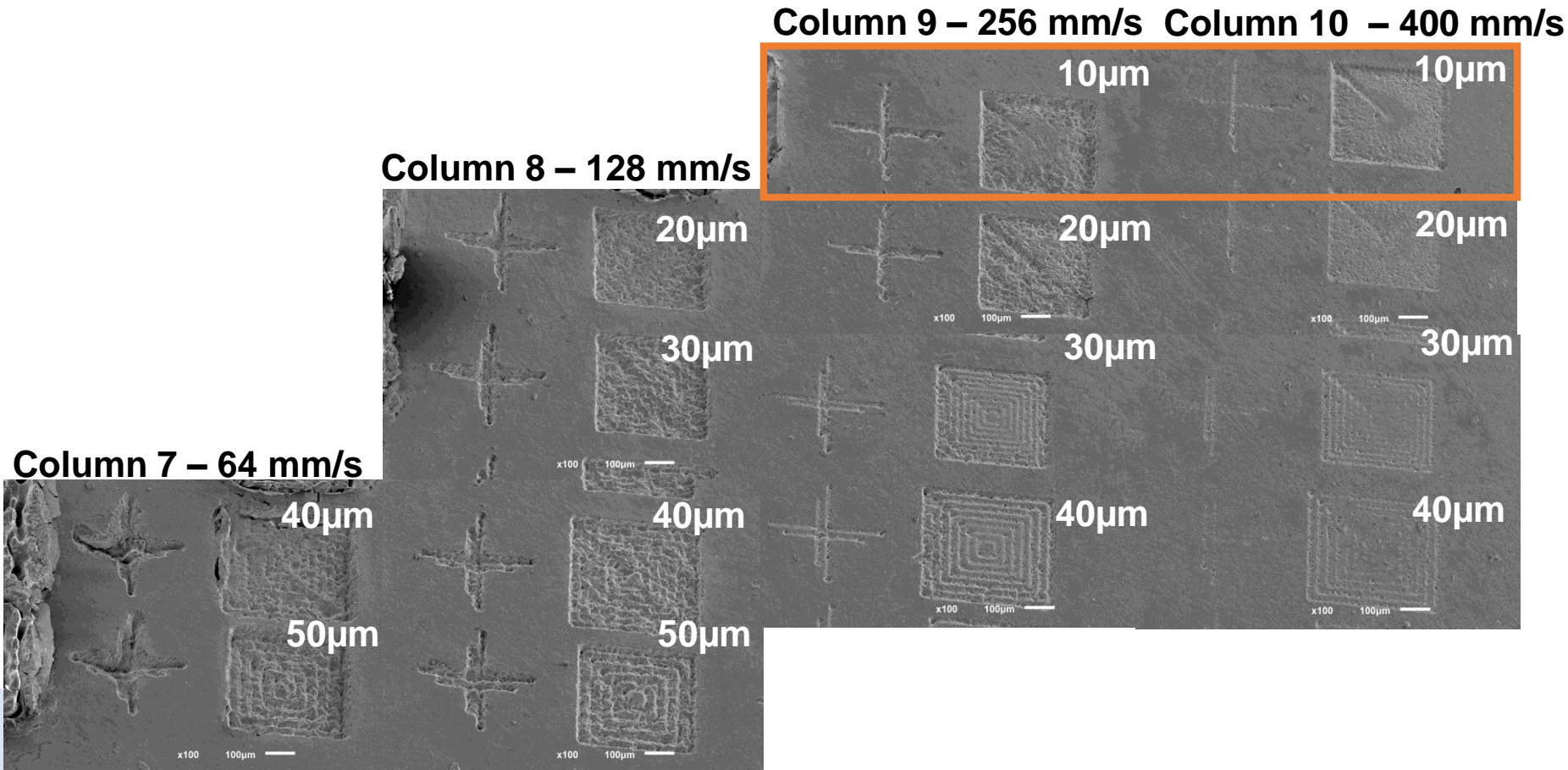
x100

100µm



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Influence of scanning speed – 3 W

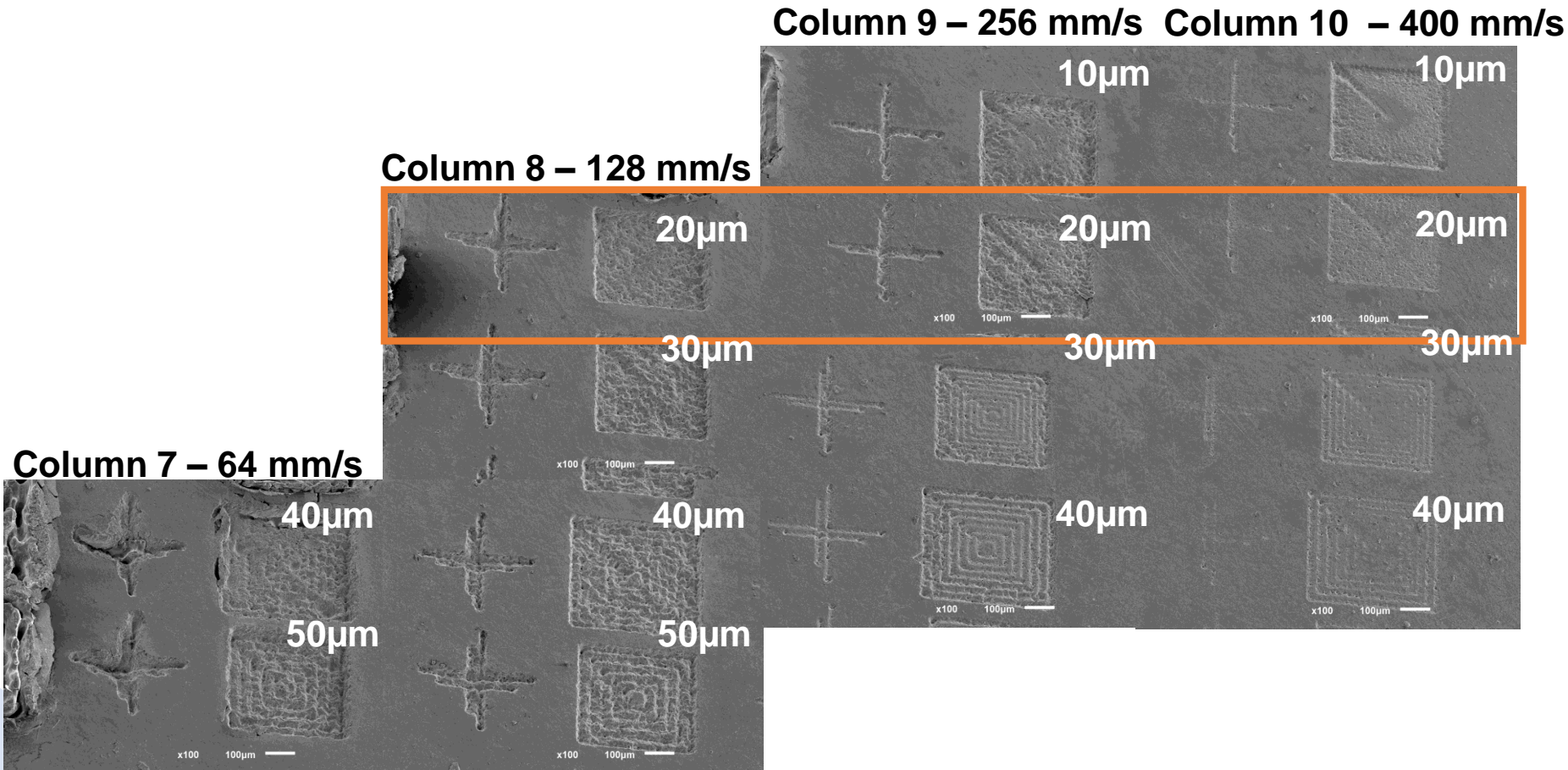


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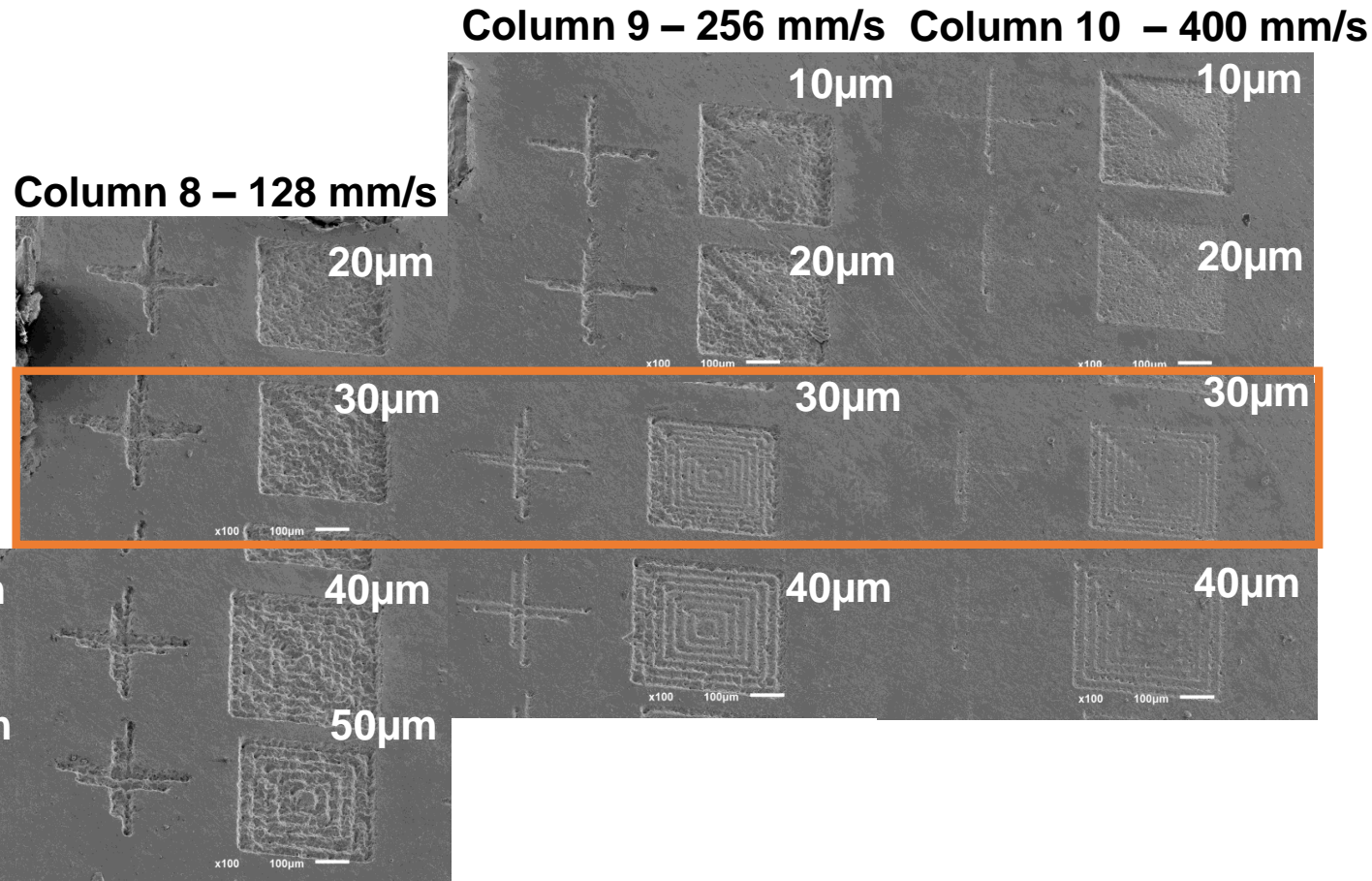
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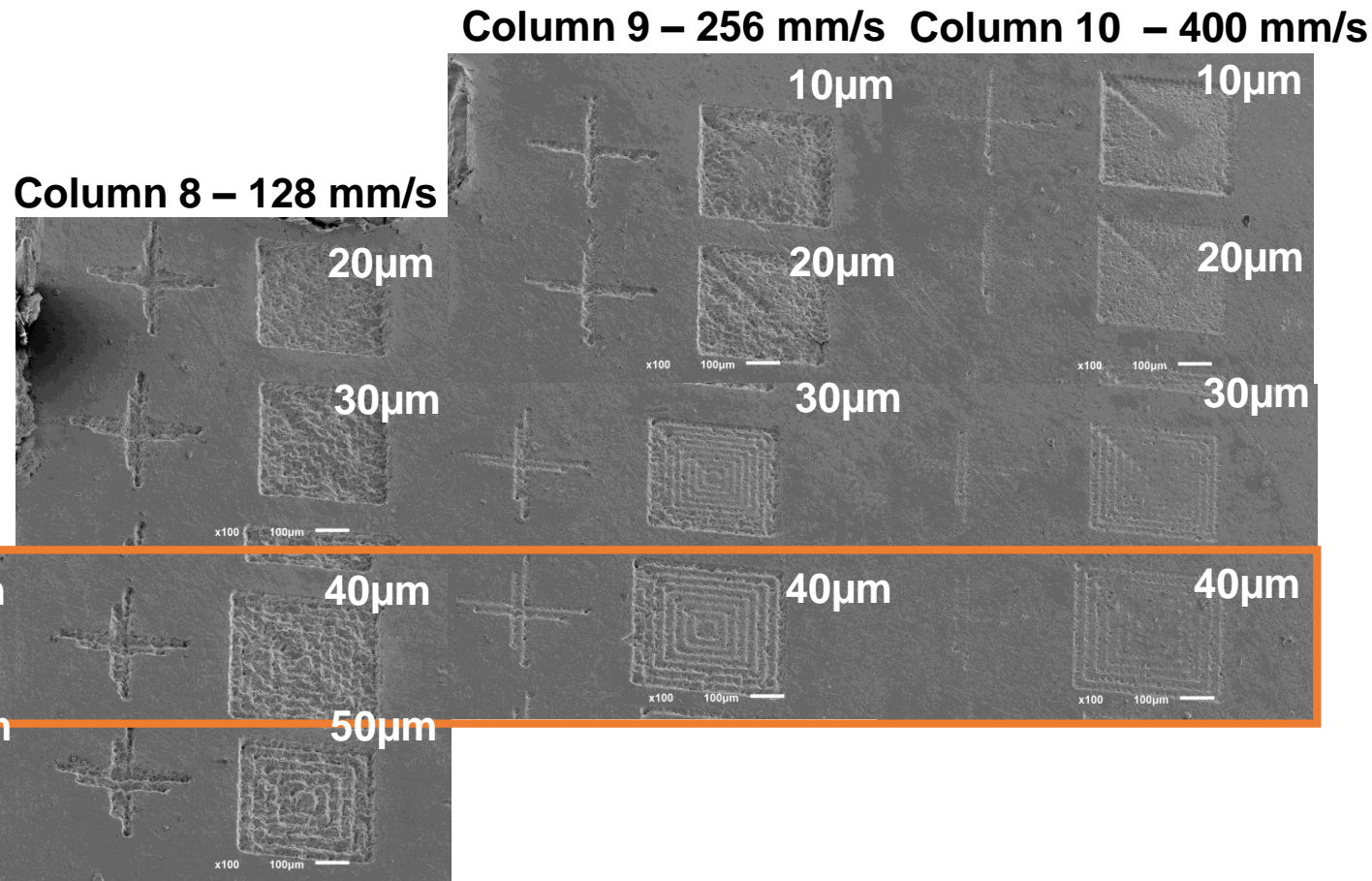
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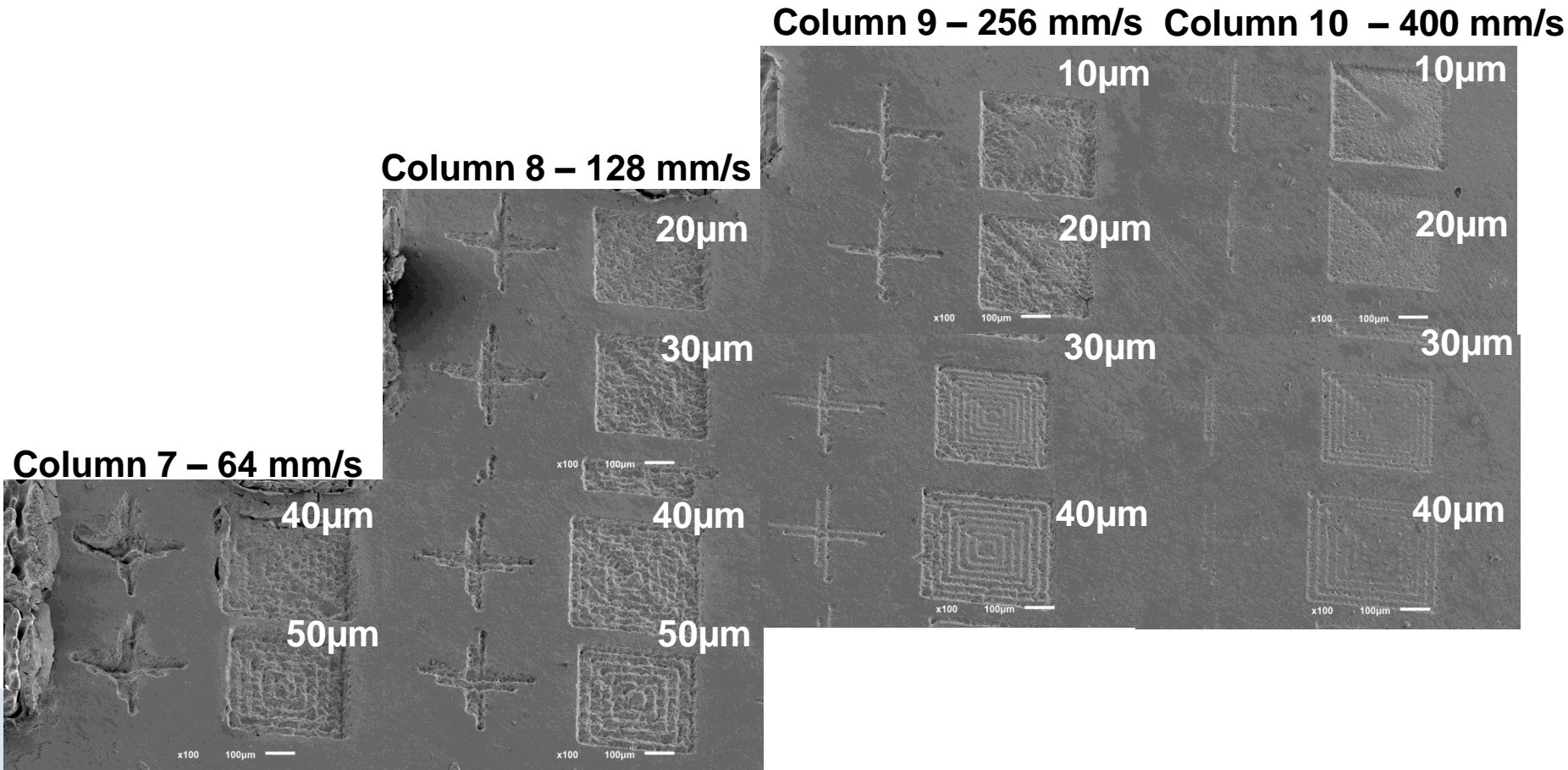
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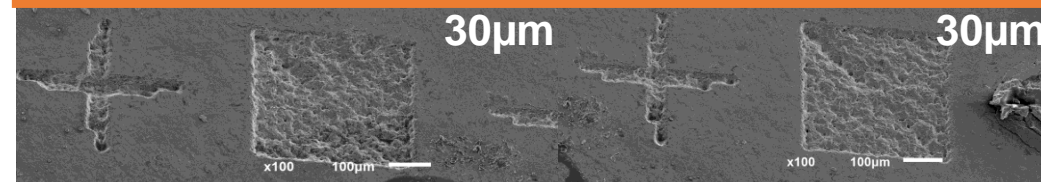
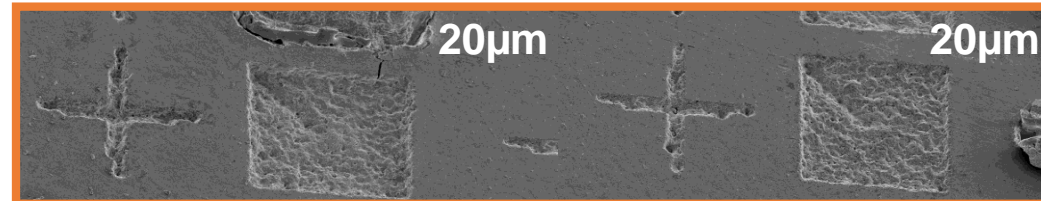
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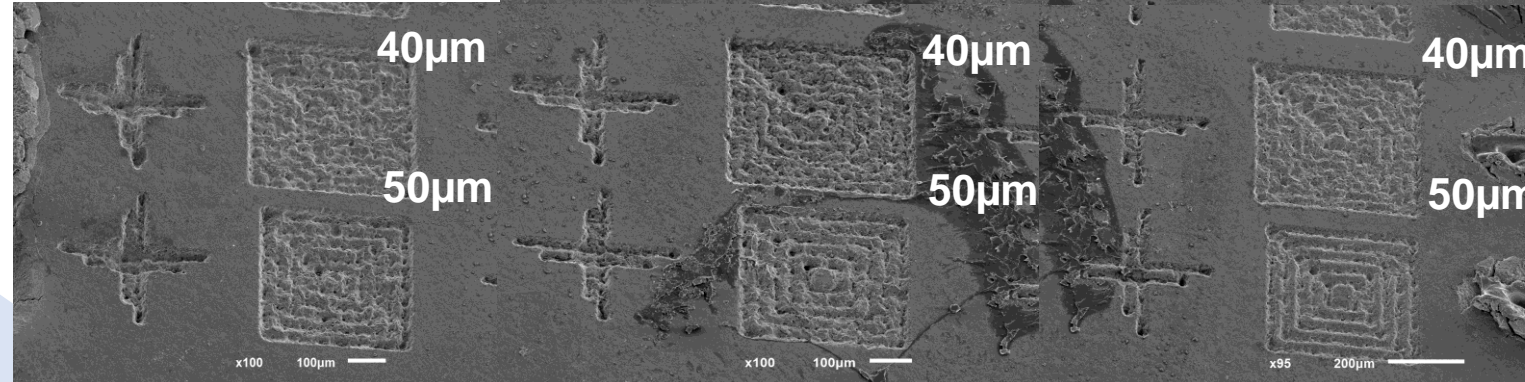
Acknowledgments

Column 4 – 256 mm/s

Column 5 – 400 mm/s



Column 3 – 128 mm/s





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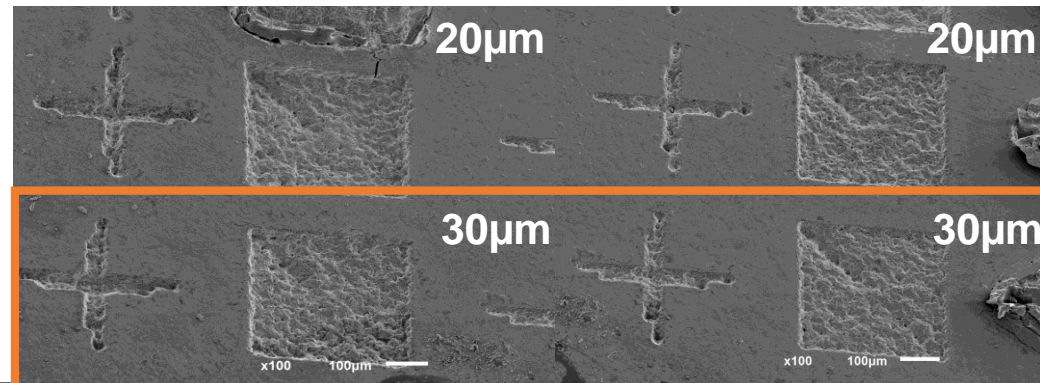
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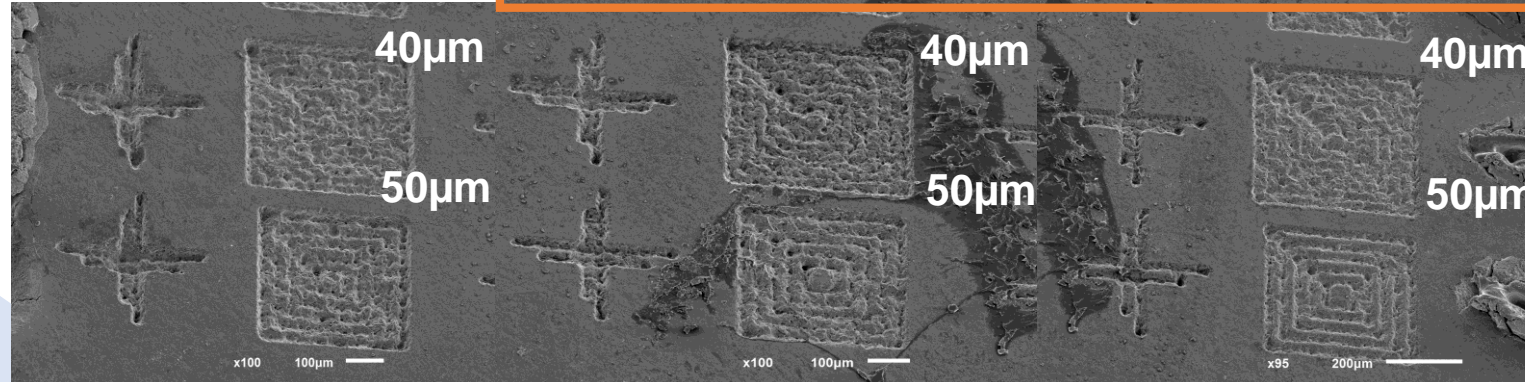
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Column 5 – 400 mm/s



Column 3 – 128 mm/s





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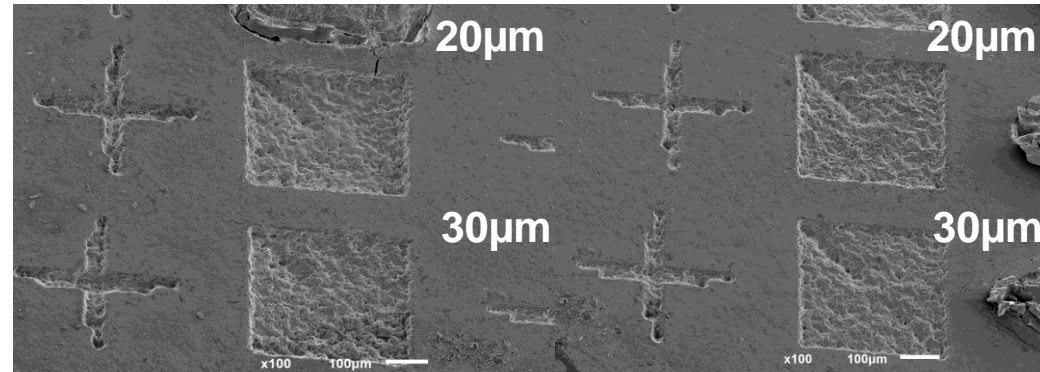
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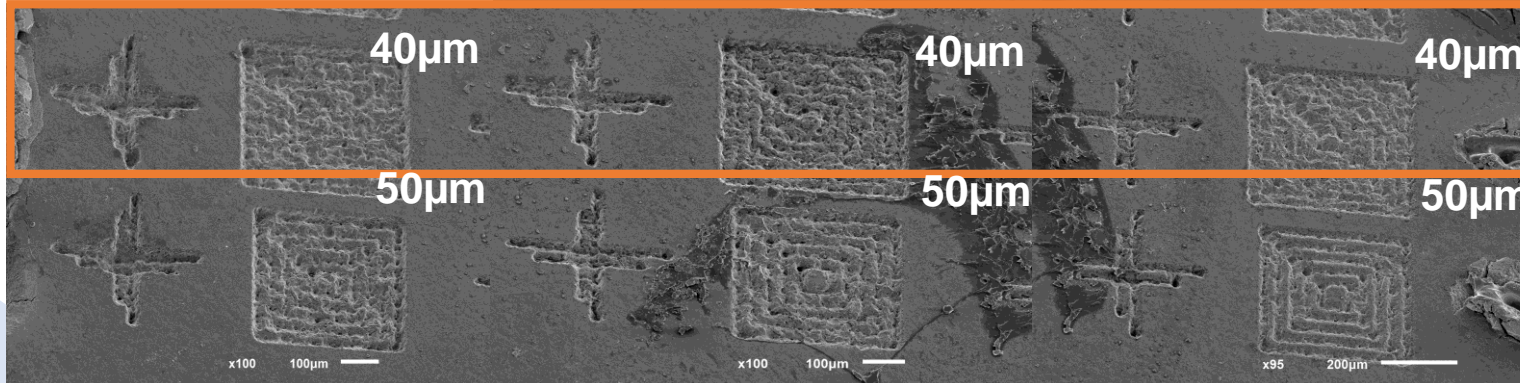
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Column 5 – 400 mm/s



Column 3 – 128 mm/s





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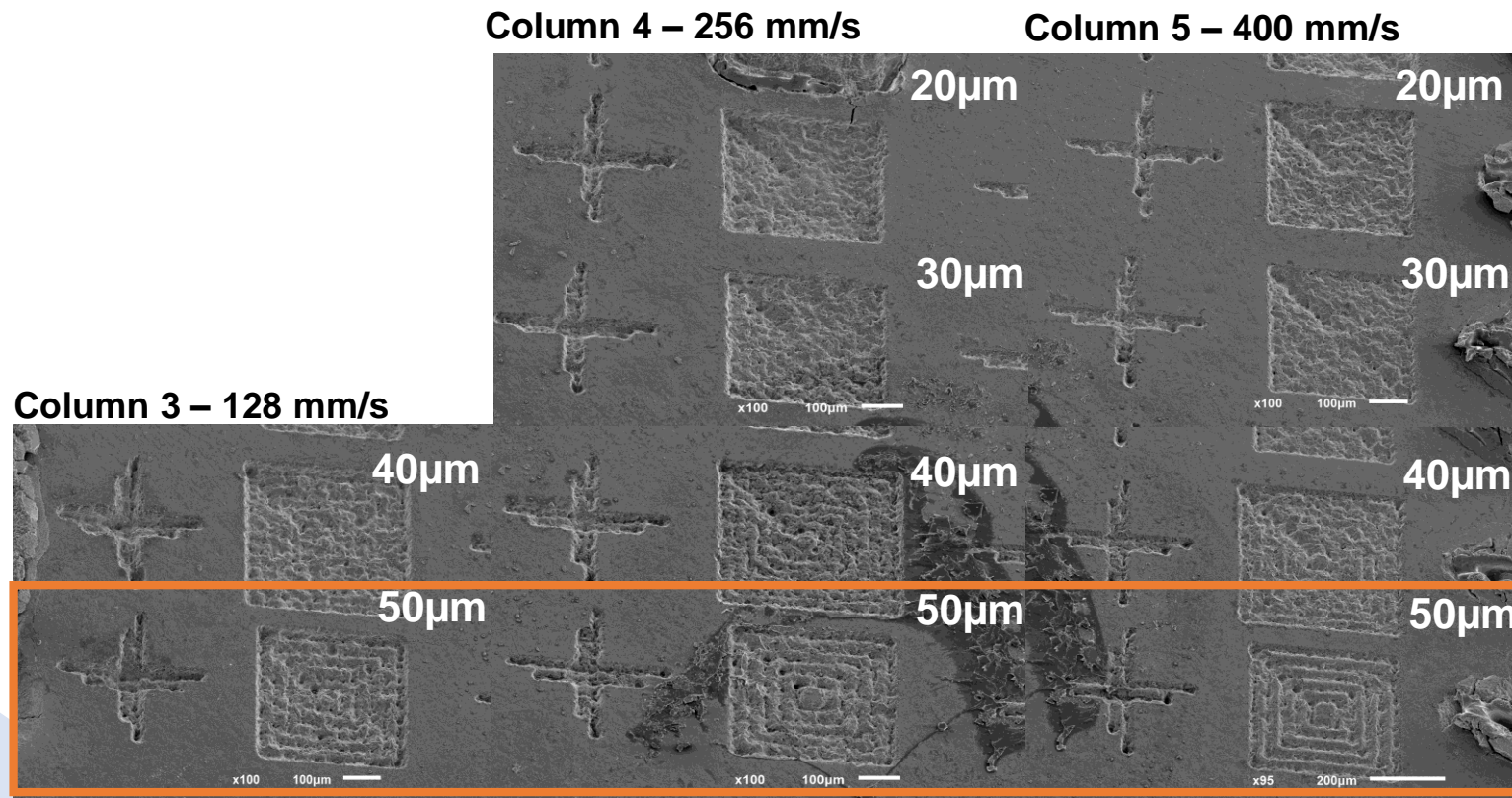
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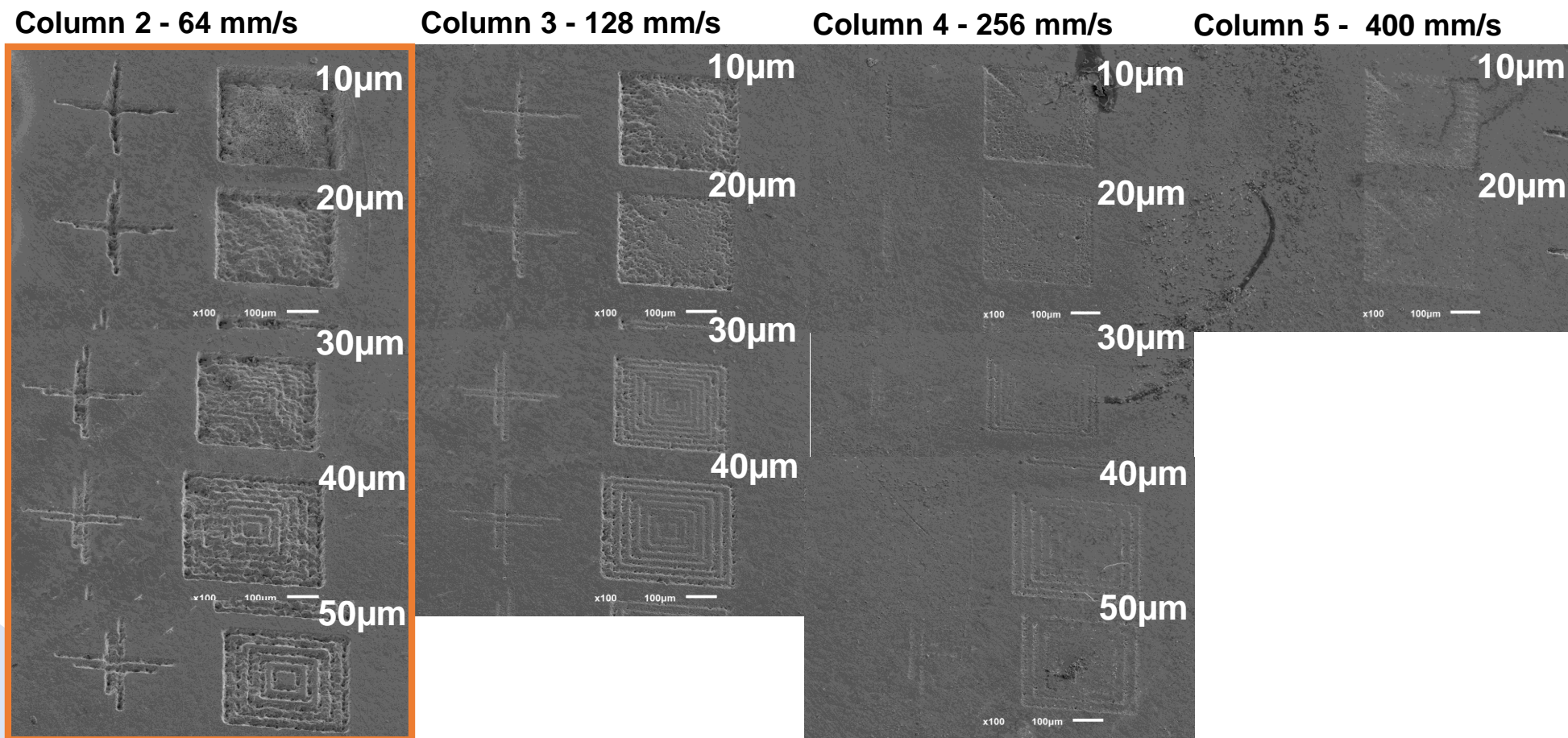
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Influence of distance between lines – 1.5 W



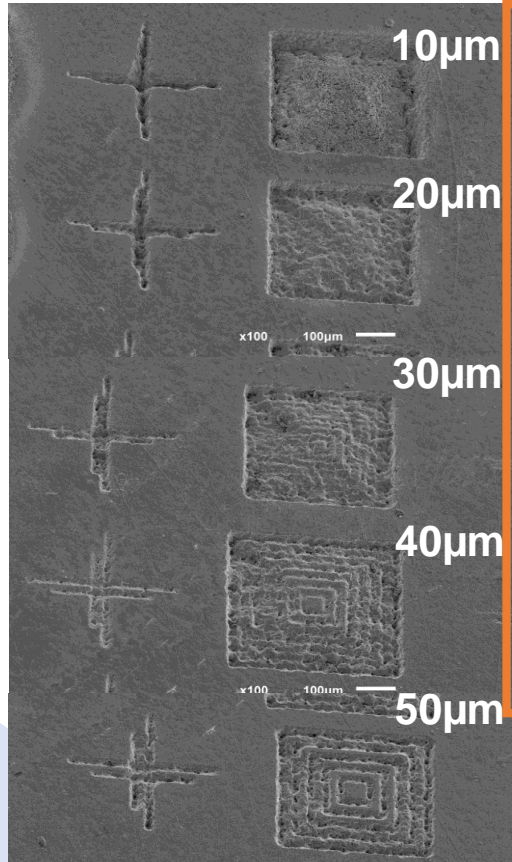
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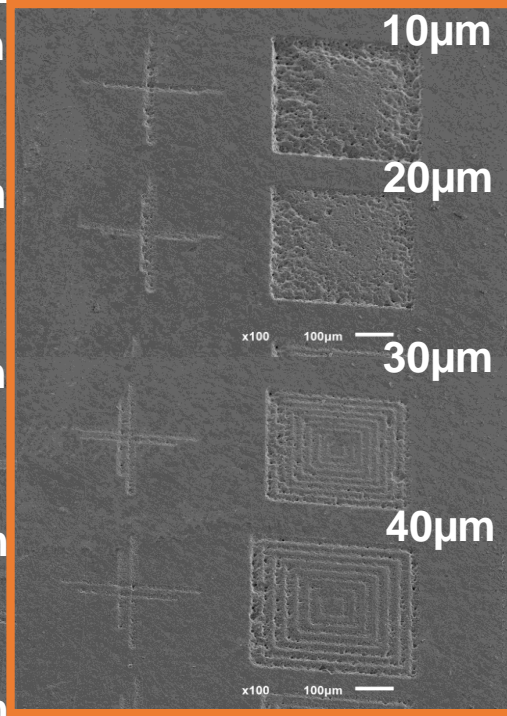
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Influence of distance between lines - 1.5 W

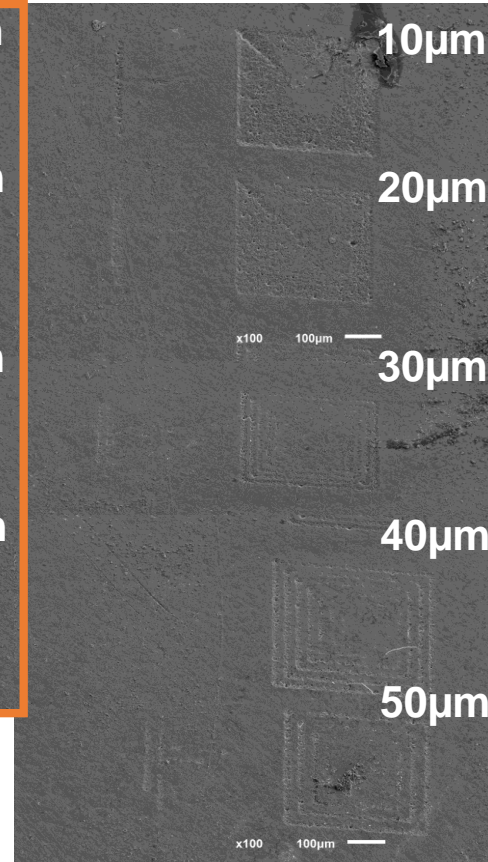
Column 2 - 64 mm/s



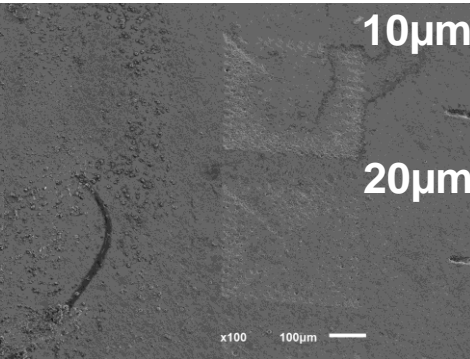
Column 3 - 128 mm/s



Column 4 - 256 mm/s



Column 5 - 400 mm/s



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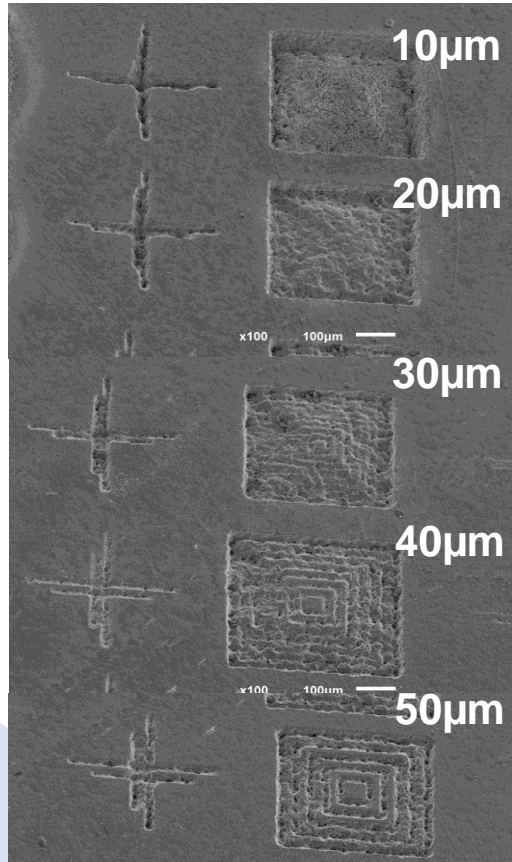
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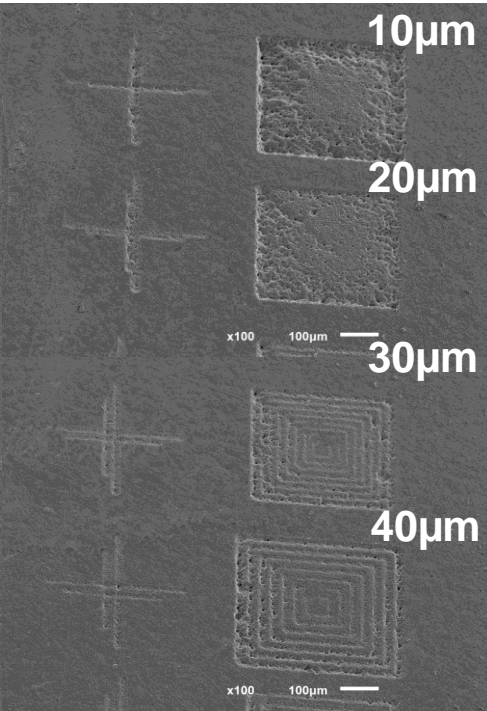
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Influence of distance between lines - 1.5 W

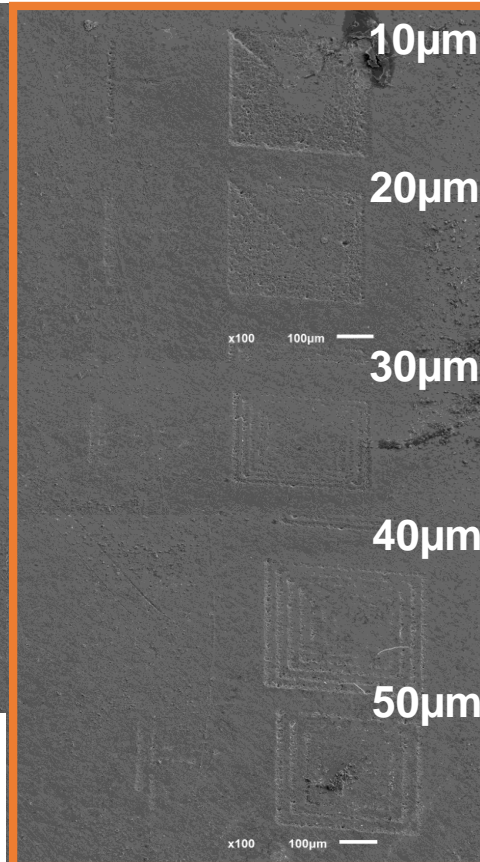
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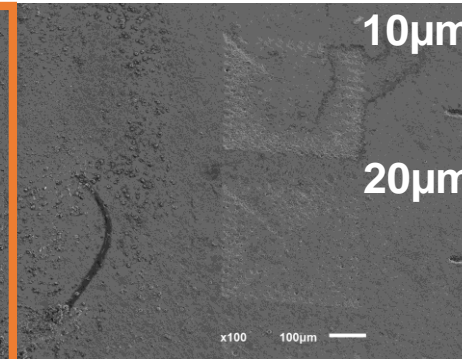
Column 3 - 128 mm/s



Column 4 - 256 mm/s



Column 5 - 400 mm/s



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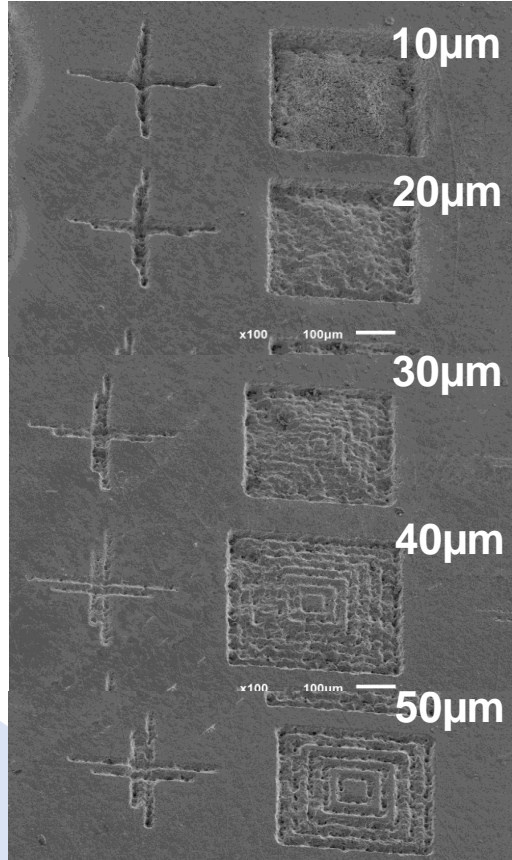
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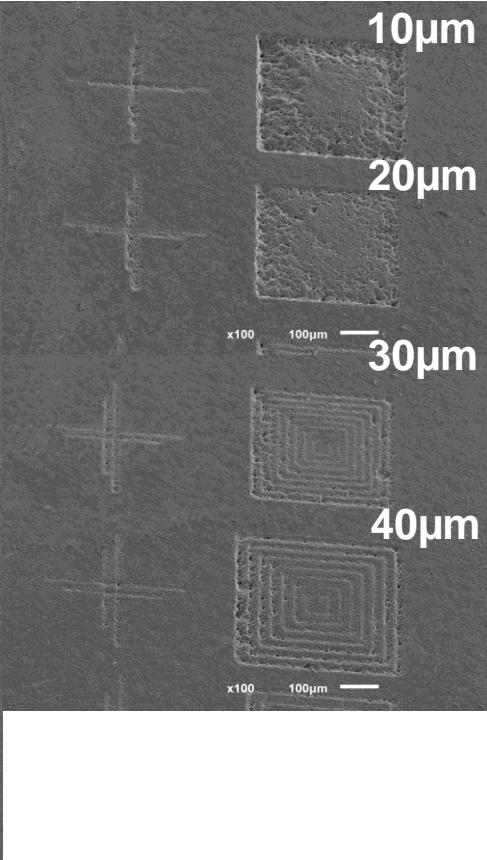
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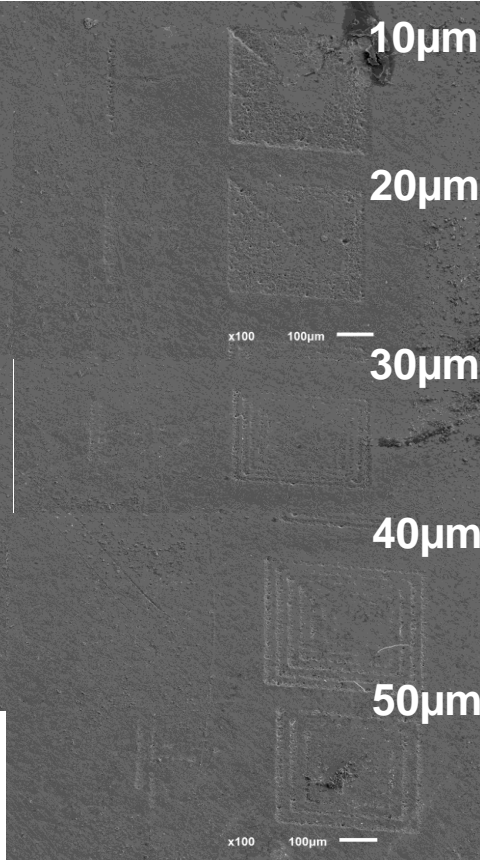
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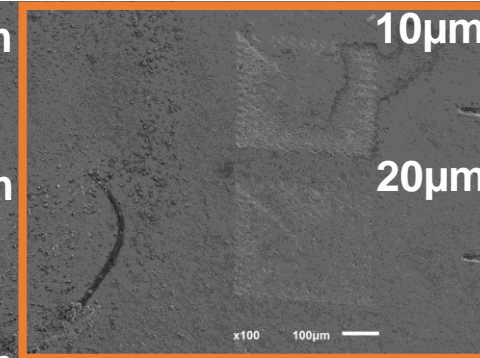
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Column 4 - 256 mm/s



Column 5 - 400 mm/s



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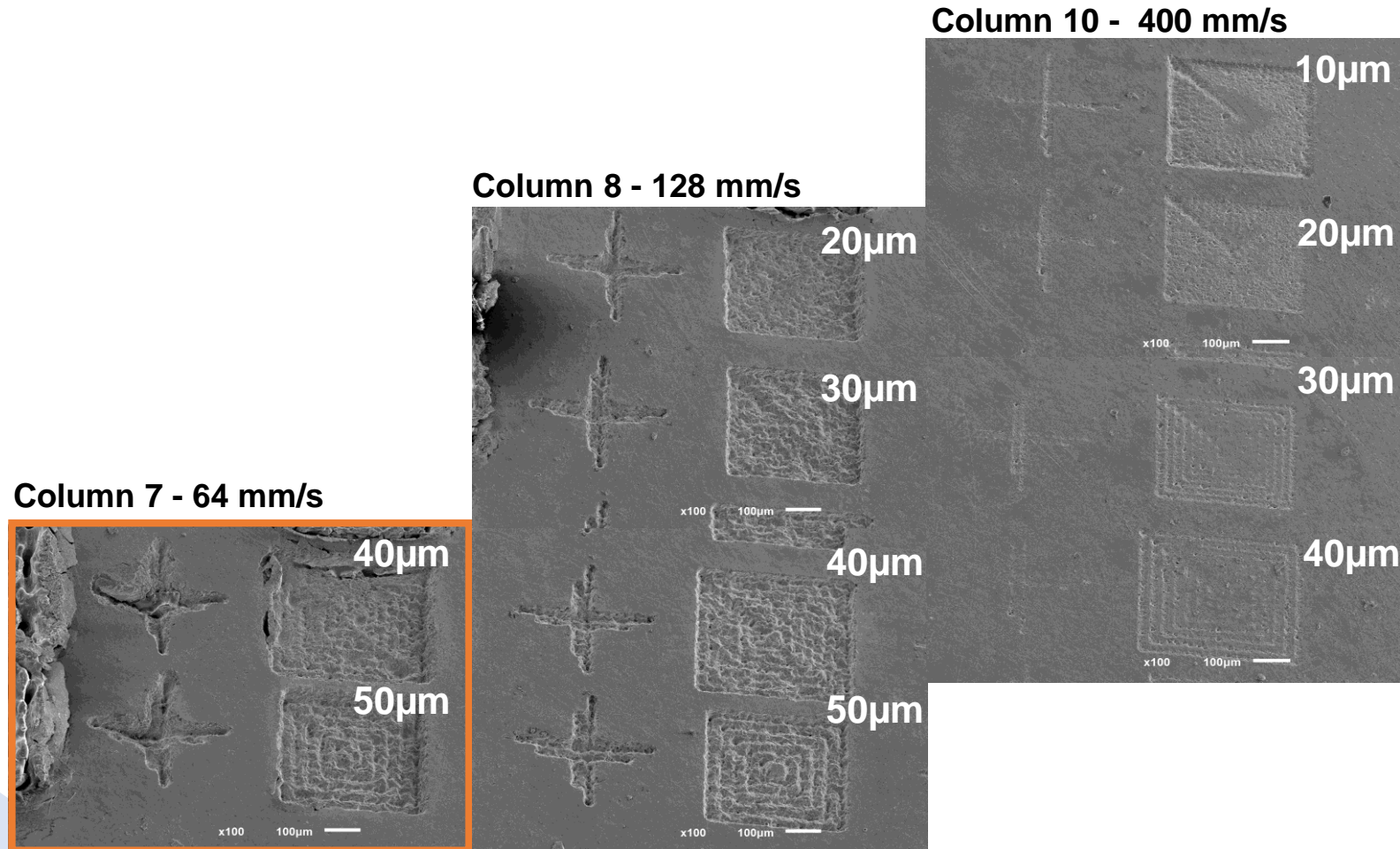
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Influence of distance between lines – 3 W



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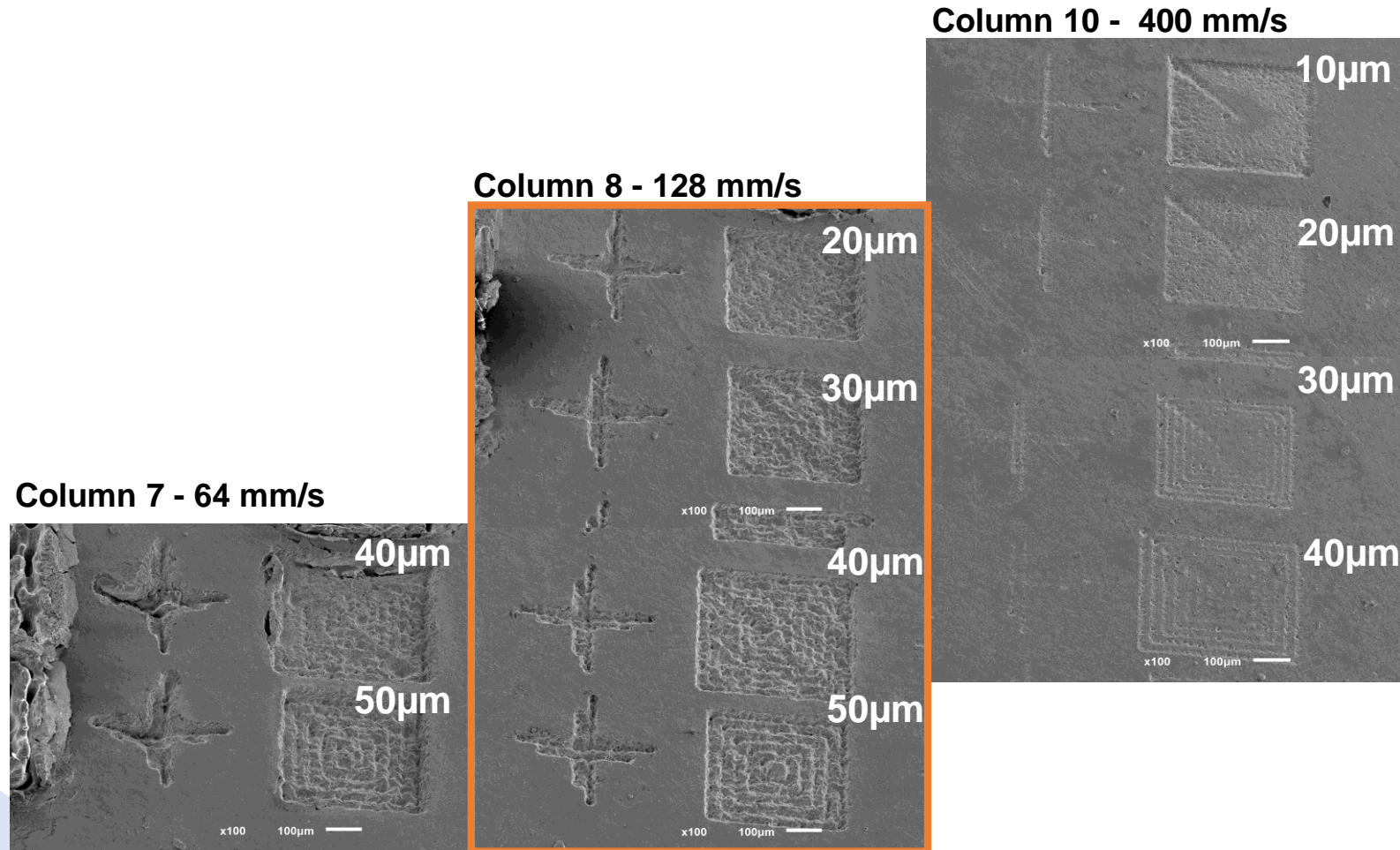
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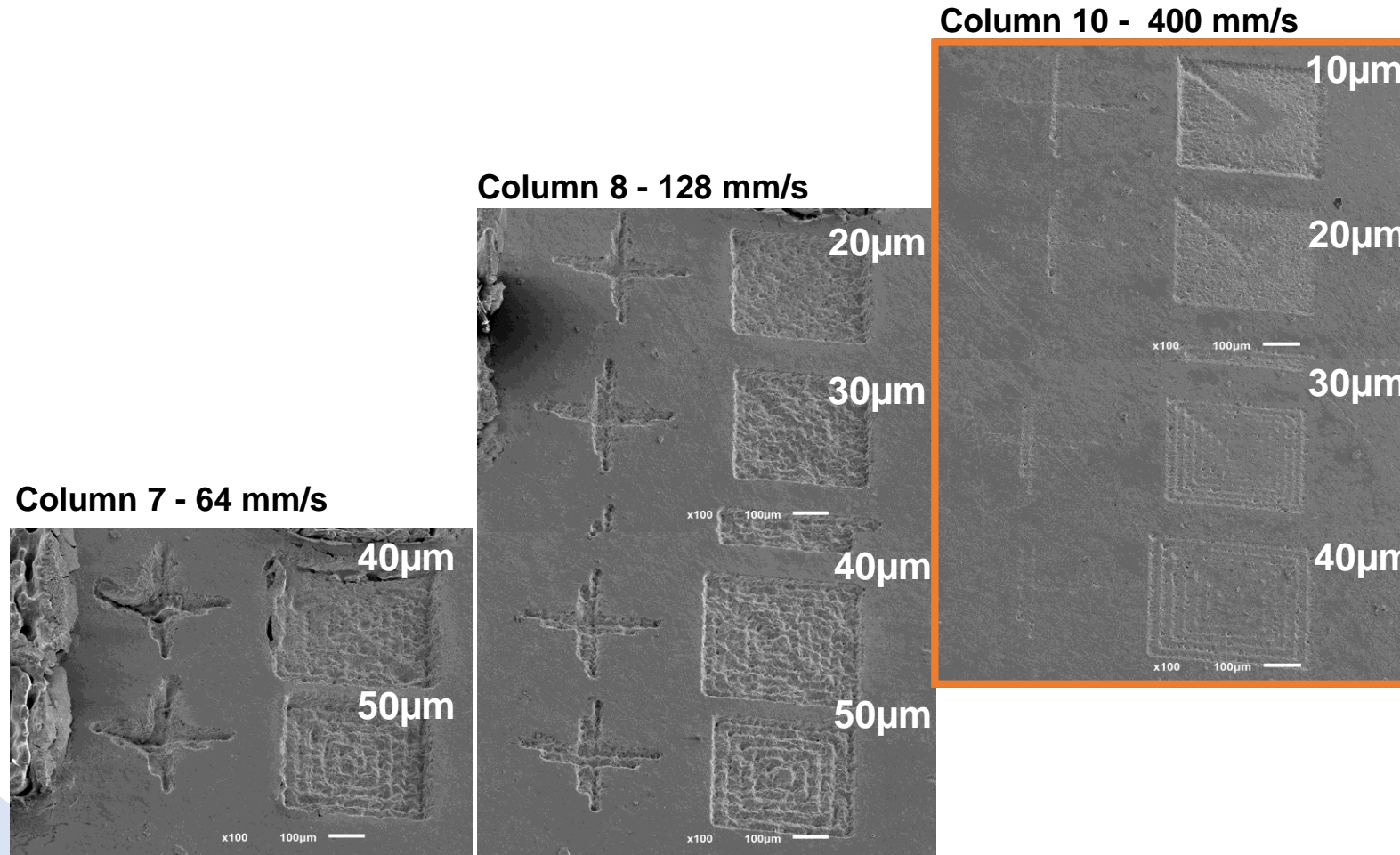


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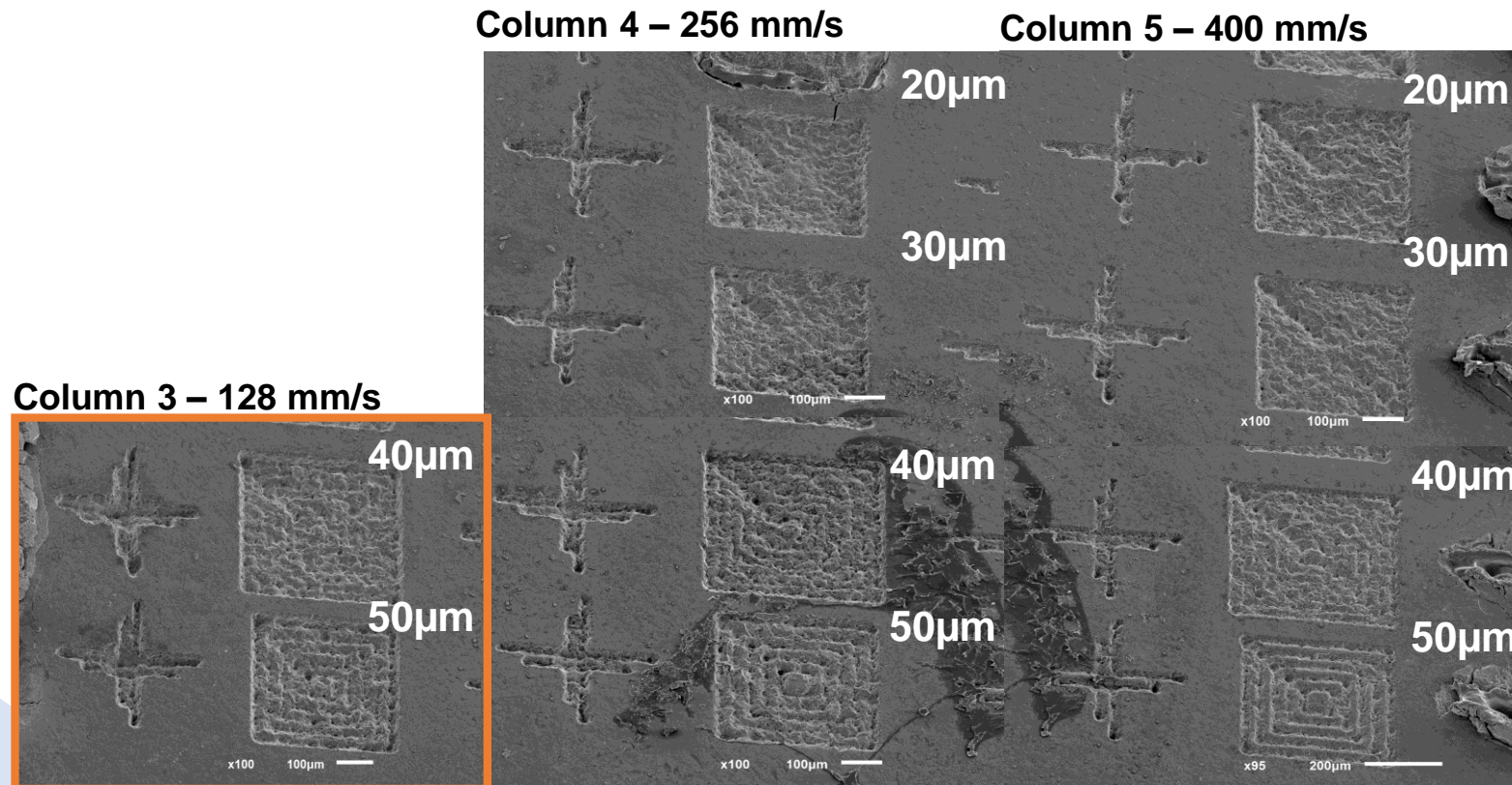
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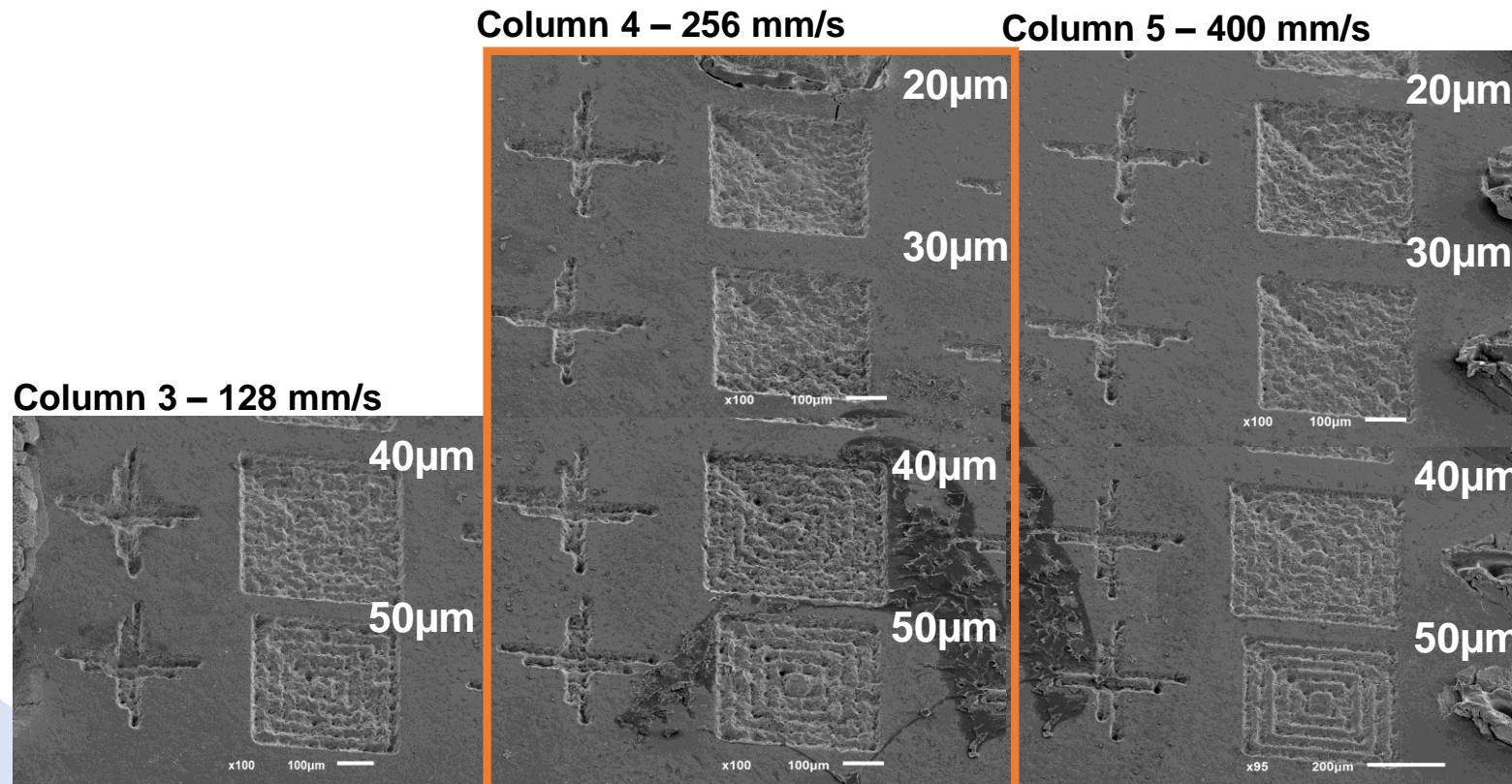
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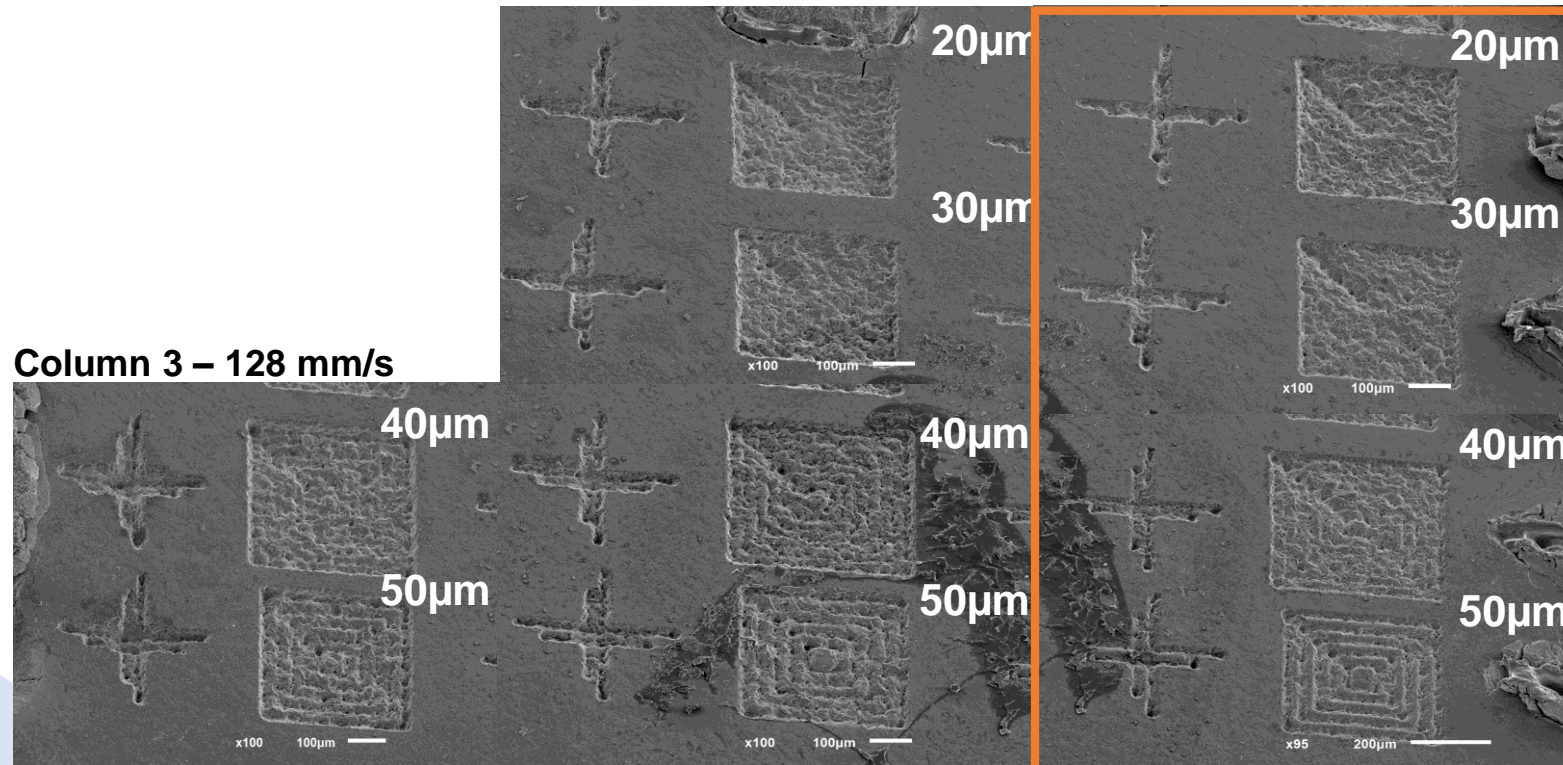
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Column 4 – 256 mm/s

Column 5 – 400 mm/s

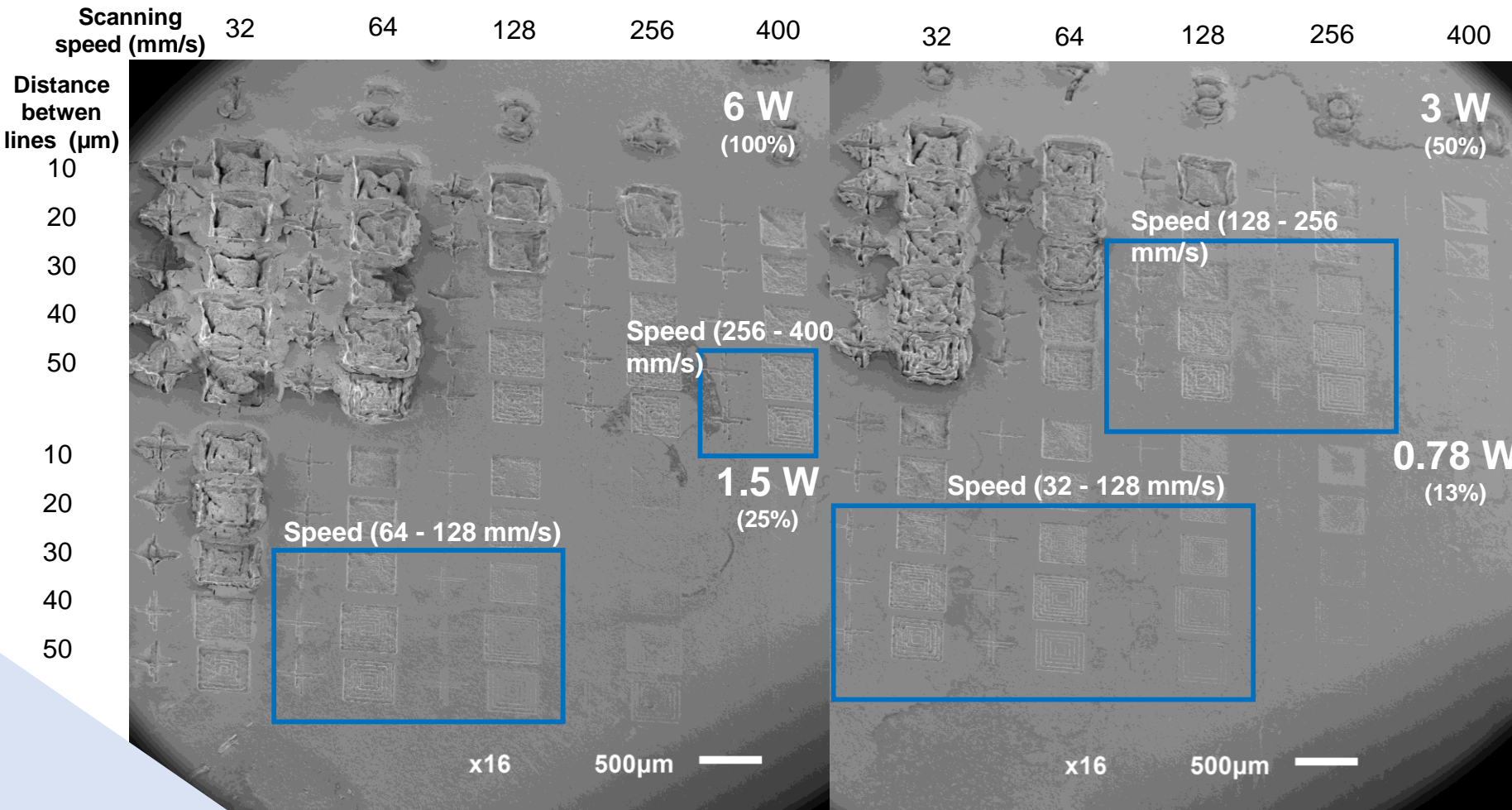
Column 3 – 128 mm/s





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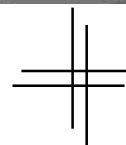
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Distance between lines (10-30 μm)

Lines





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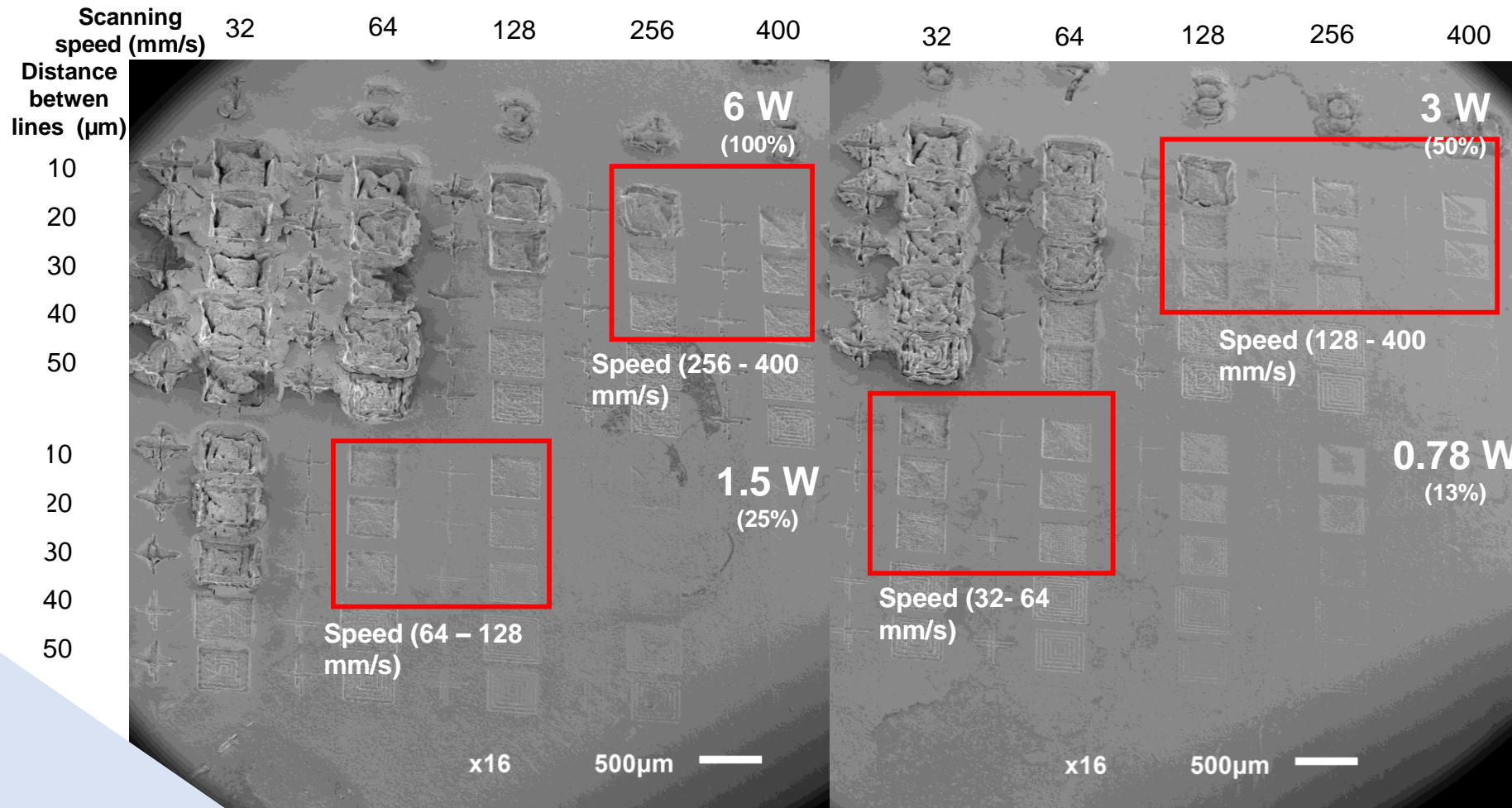
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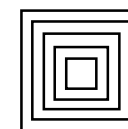
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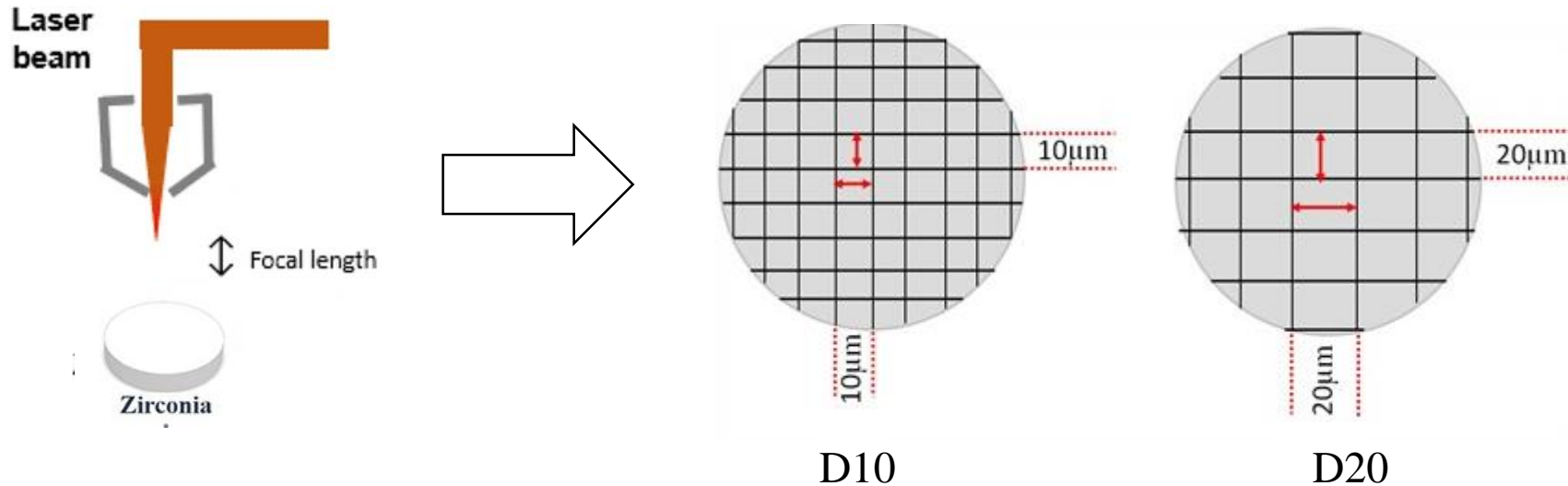
Distance between lines (10-30 μm)



Holes

Textures

Design



Parameters

Distance between lines (μm): 10 (D10) and 20 (D20)

Number of passages: 1

Laser Power (5) : 1, 3, 10, 25

Scan speed (mm/s) : 32, 64, 128, 256

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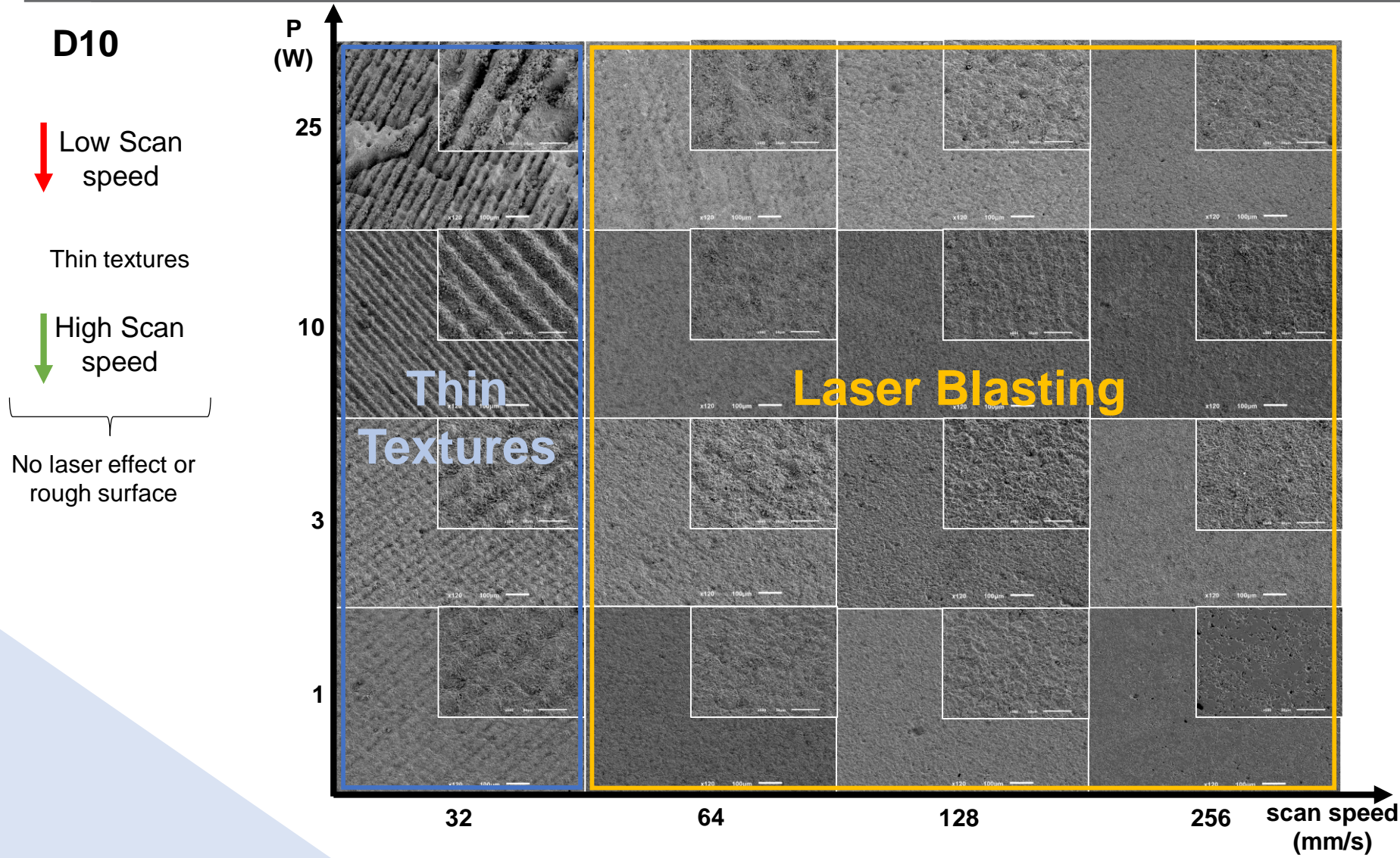
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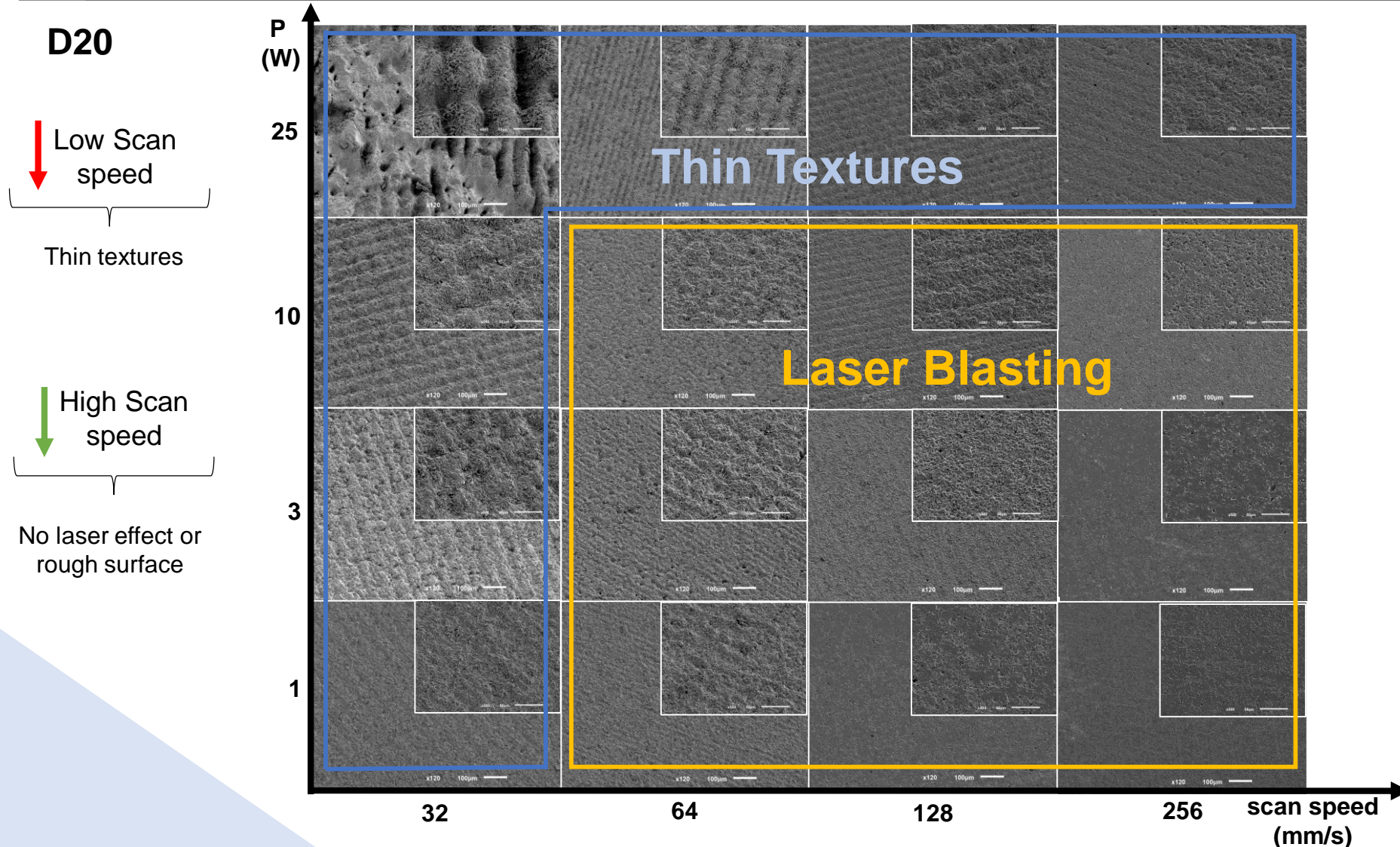
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Laser blasting advantages

- ✓ It was verified that for both **D10** and **D20** distance between lines conditions are suitable to obtain laser blasted surfaces;
- ✓ It is possible to make different structures with **less concave surfaces**
- ✓ Sandblasting induces stresses in the Zirconia surface which lowers the mechanical strength.
- ✓ Surface patterns produced by laser create more mechanical interlocking than sandblasting which promotes greater adhesion in facets or dental crowns
- ✓ Laser blasting technique allows to create distinct type of textures at the same part. This is harder to obtain by sandblasting

D10	D20
Scan speed (64-256 mm/s)	Scan speed (64-256 mm/s)
Power (1-25 W)	Power (1-20 W)

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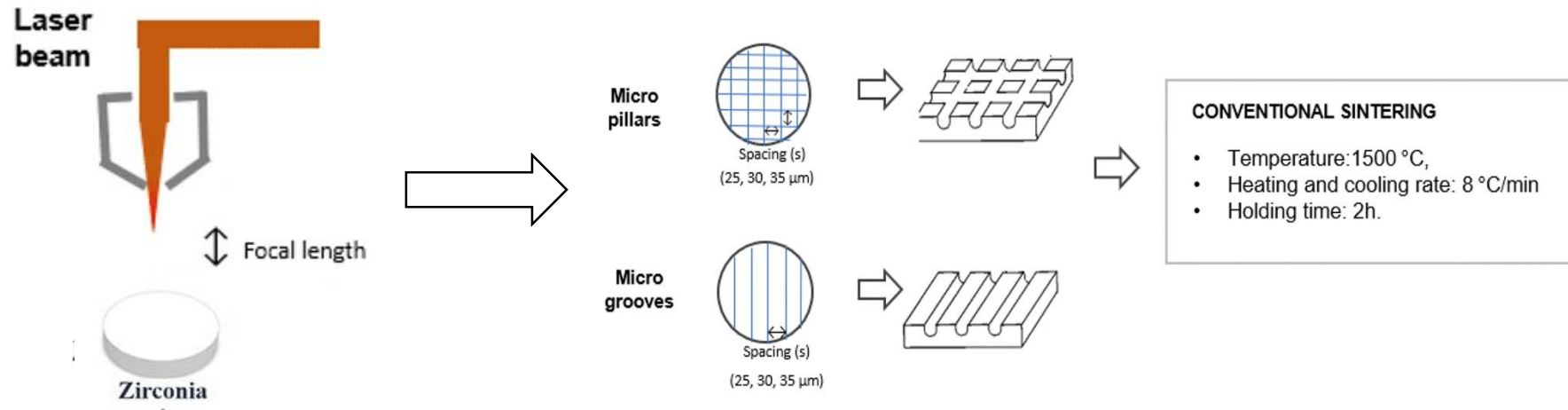
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Textures

2.2 Thin textures

Design



Parameters

- Distance between lines (μm): 25 (D25) and 30 (D30)
- Number of passages: 1
- Laser Power (W): 1
- Scan speed (mm/s): 128
- Wobble frequency (Hz): 75

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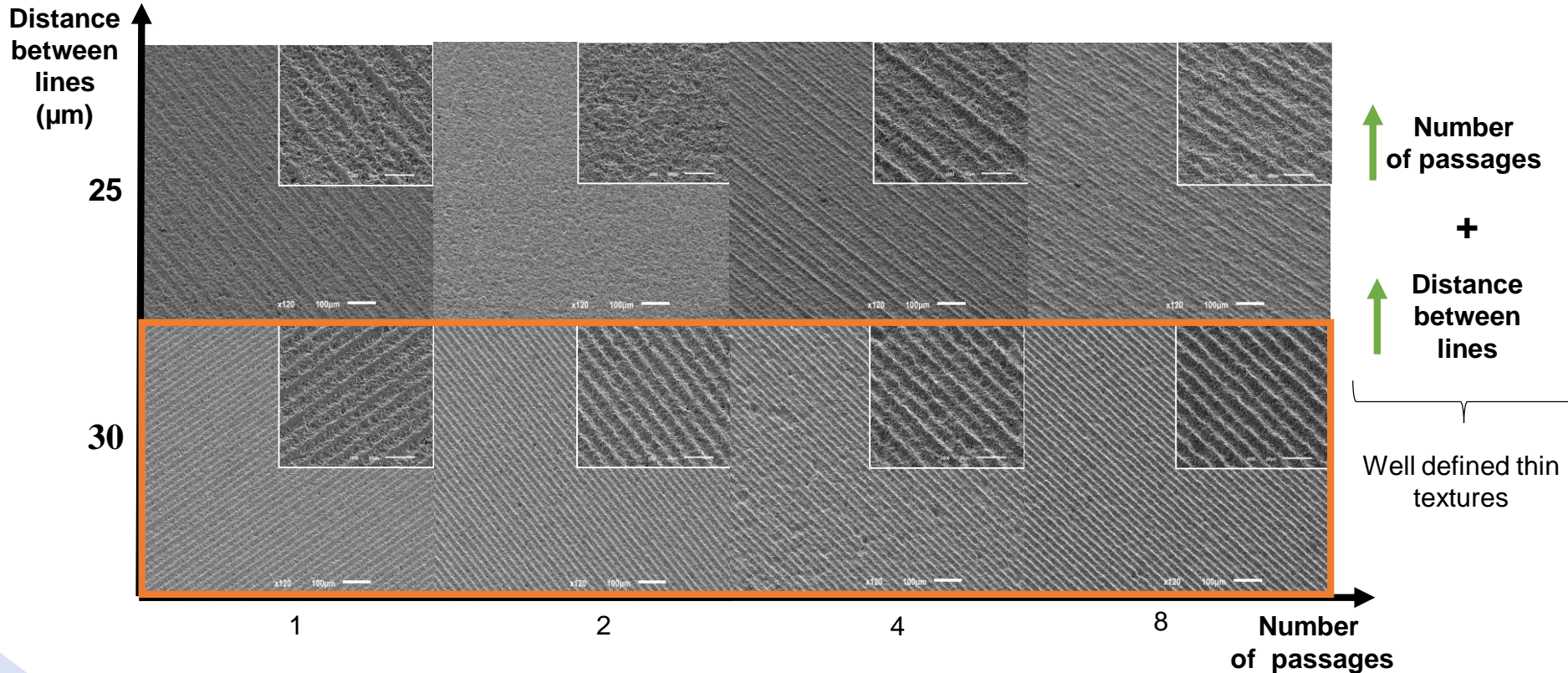
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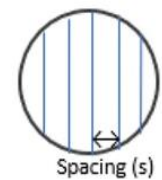
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Textures

2.2 Thin textures



Micro grooves



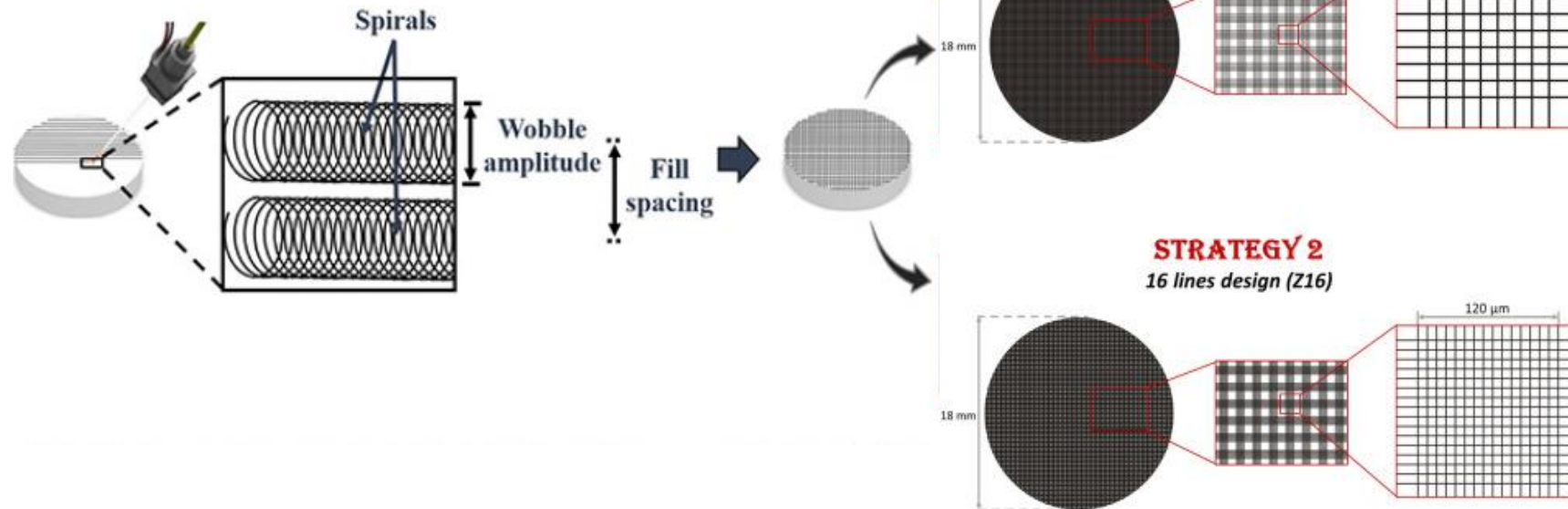
Spacing (s)
25 e 30 μm



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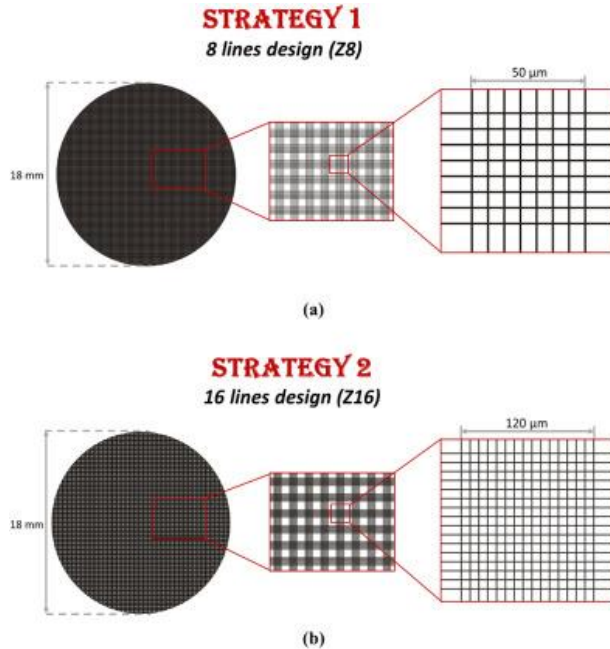


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Parameters and Design

Table 1. Summary of the laser texturing parameters tested

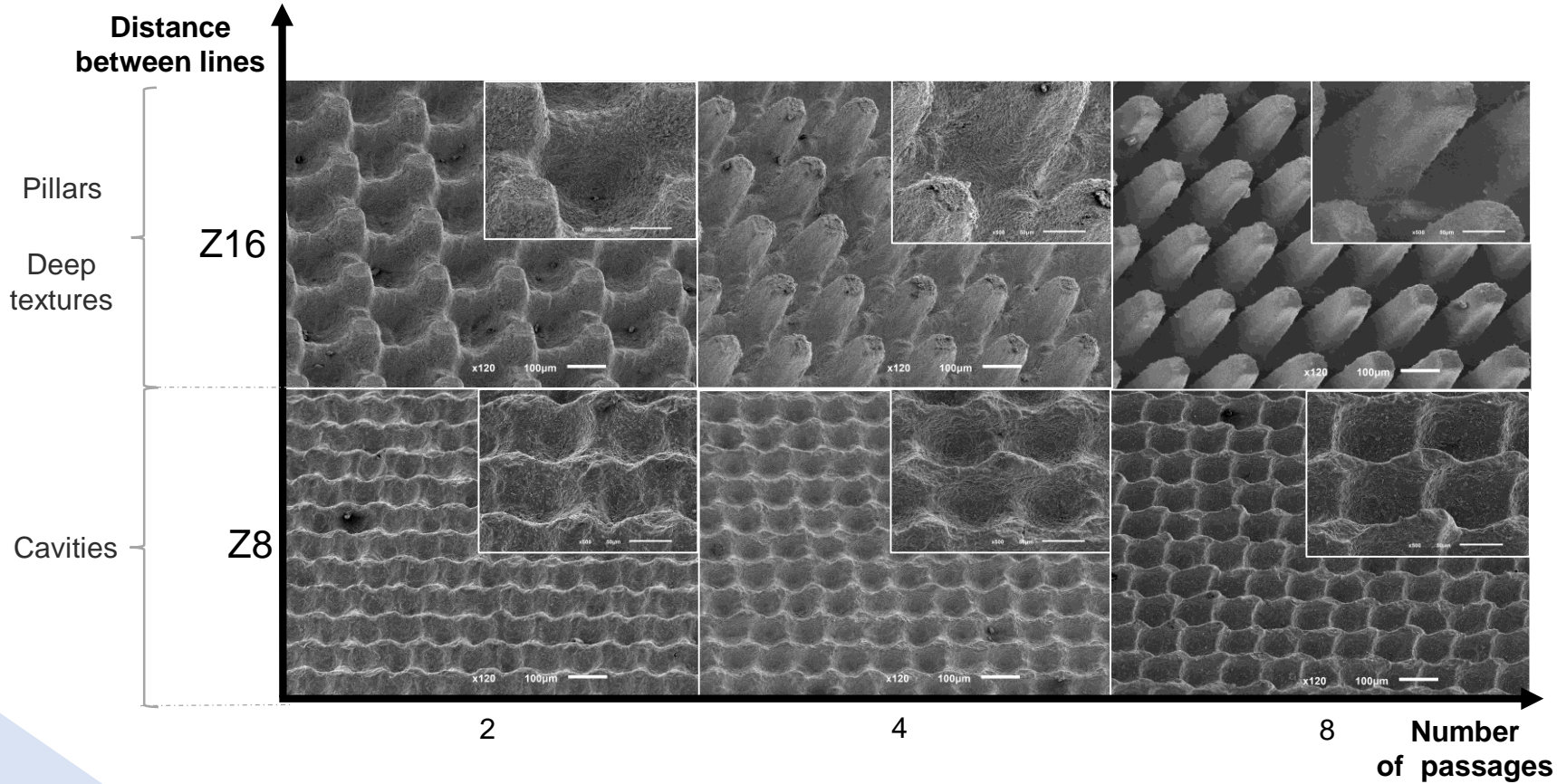


Experiment	Strategy	Laser Power	Number of laser passages	Scan Speed (mm/s)	Fill spacing (mm)	Wobble frequency [Hz]
Z8P1.5L2	Z8 (8 lines design)	1.5	2	200	8	550
Z8P1.5L4			4			
Z8P1.5L8			8			
Z16P1.5L2	Z16 (16 lines design)		2			
Z16P1.5L4			4			
Z16P1.5L8			8			

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2.3 Patterns



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Textures

2.3 Patterns



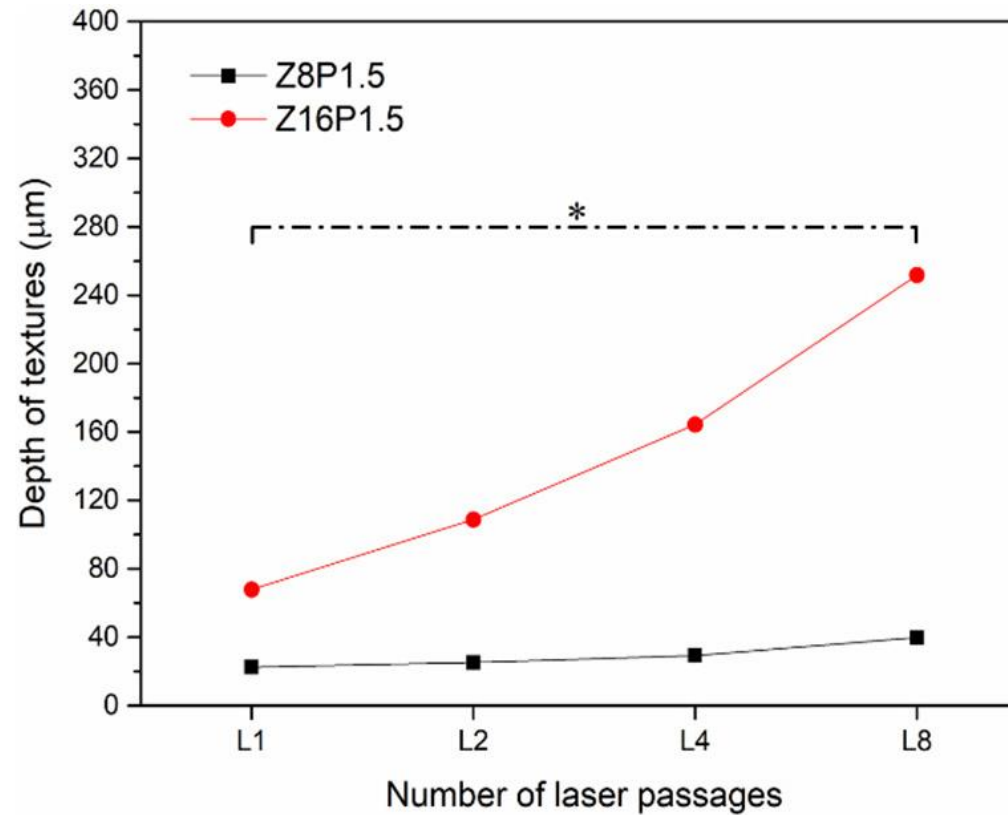
Increasing the number of laser passages from L1 to L8

High marking depths

Higher irradiated energy on those areas



The increase of texture depth with number of laser passages is more significant for Z16



Graph 1. Evolution of depth of textures with the number of laser passages

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Conclusions

- ❑ Increasing the number of laser passages from **L1 to L8**, while maintaining constant the laser power (P1.5) led to high marking depths, as a result of the higher irradiated energy on those areas;
- ❑ The opposite effect was achieved for a smaller number of **laser passages (L1)**
- ❑ The textures produced with **Z16** have much higher depth than the ones produced with **Z8**.
- ❑ It can be observed, in the case of Z8, an increase on **depth of cavities from L1 to L8** (from 22.4 to 39.8 μm) while in the case of Z16 there is a significant increase on depth of pillars from L1 to L8 (from 67.9 to 251.8 μm) ($p < 0.05$).

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Conclusions

- ❑ Laser technology showed to be an **effective** and **versatile** method to produce different and complex textured zirconia surfaces under green state, without compromise zirconia mechanical performance
- ❑ The laser parameters and strategies showed to have a great influence on **geometrical definition** and **depth** of created textures
- ❑ Regarding the laser strategy, **cavities** were obtained from strategy 1 (**Z8**), while **pillars** were created from strategy 2 (**Z16**).

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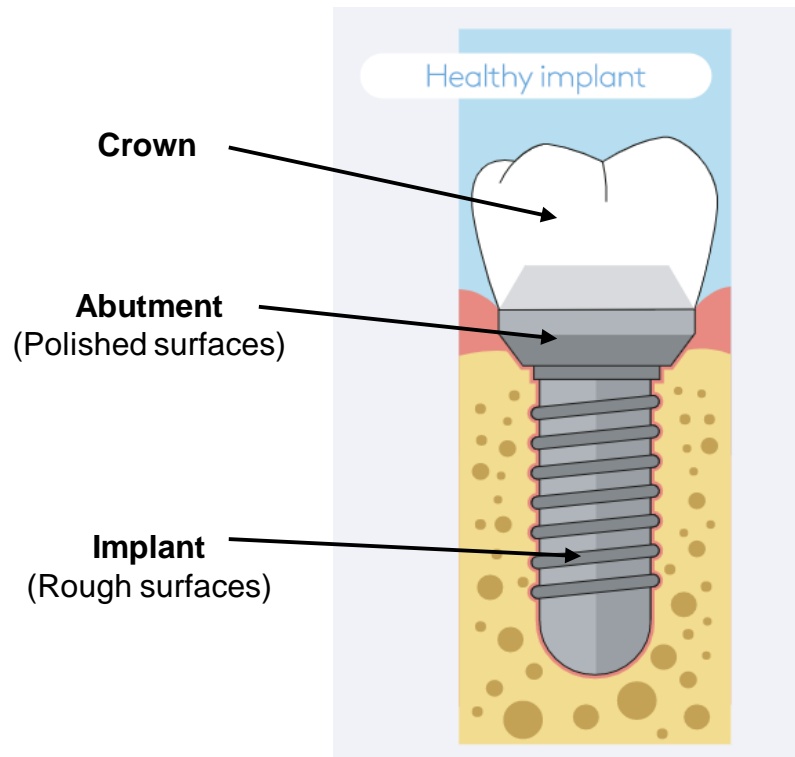
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Biomedical application



Implant

Rough surfaces are expected to help to enhance the primary and secondary stabilities.

Abutment

Commonly, bacteria tend to adhere to rough surfaces. In this sense, smooth surfaces are reported in literature as preferable solutions to avoid this bacterial adhesion.

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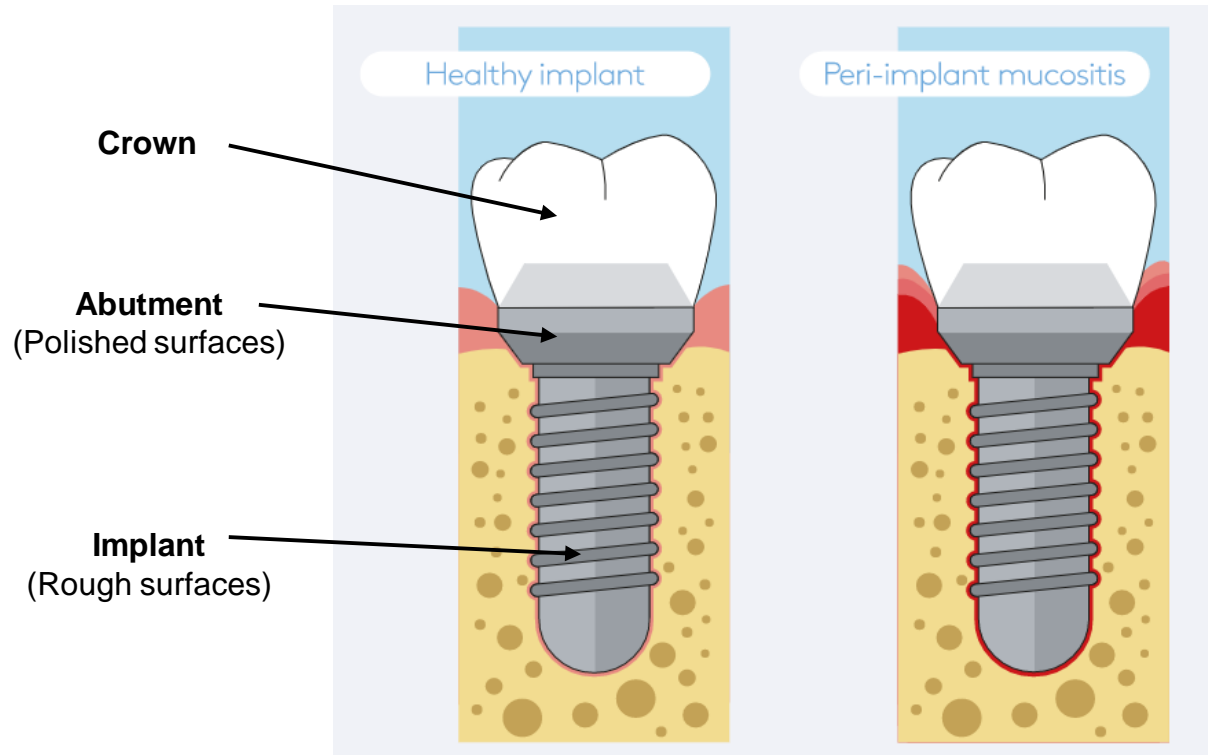
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The bacteria adhere to the implant-bone interface and form a biofilm.

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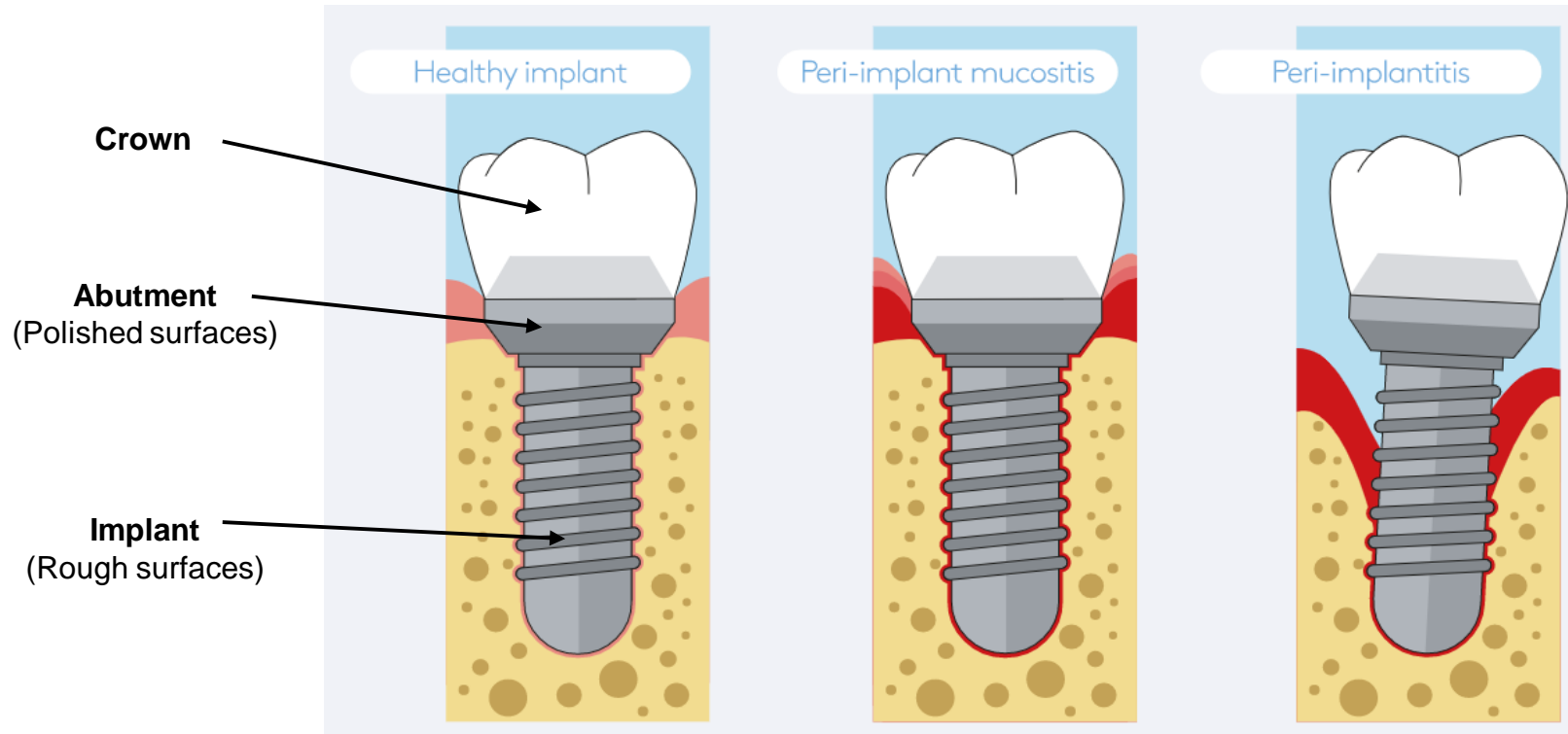
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Biomedical application



The bacteria adhere to implant-bone interface and form a biofilm. Consequently, gingival and bone recession occur and the implant may lose its stability.

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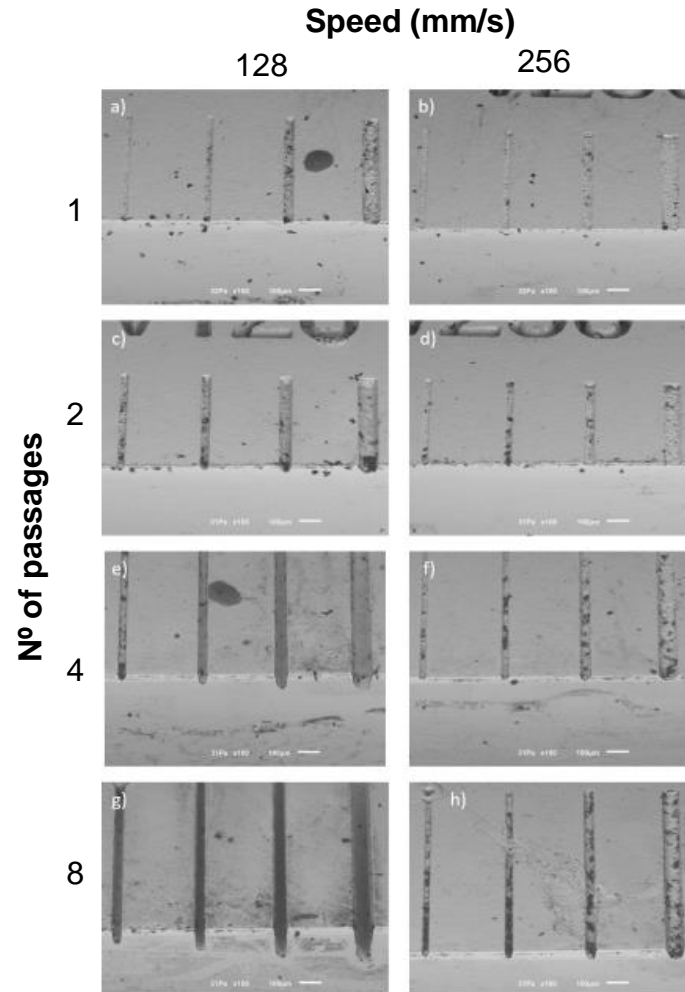
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3.3 Groove



SEM images of the microgrooves produced via laser ablation: 128 and 256 mm/s; 1, 2, 4 and 8 passages; 1, 2, 4 and 8 lines

From all the obtained results, the most adequate profile dimensions considering the physical barrier correspond to condition

N1 S256 L1 (1 scan, 256 mm/s scan speed and 1 line).

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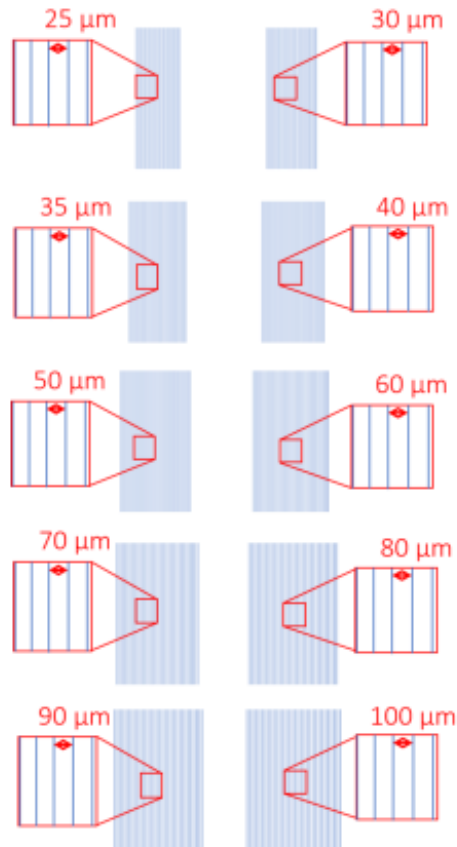
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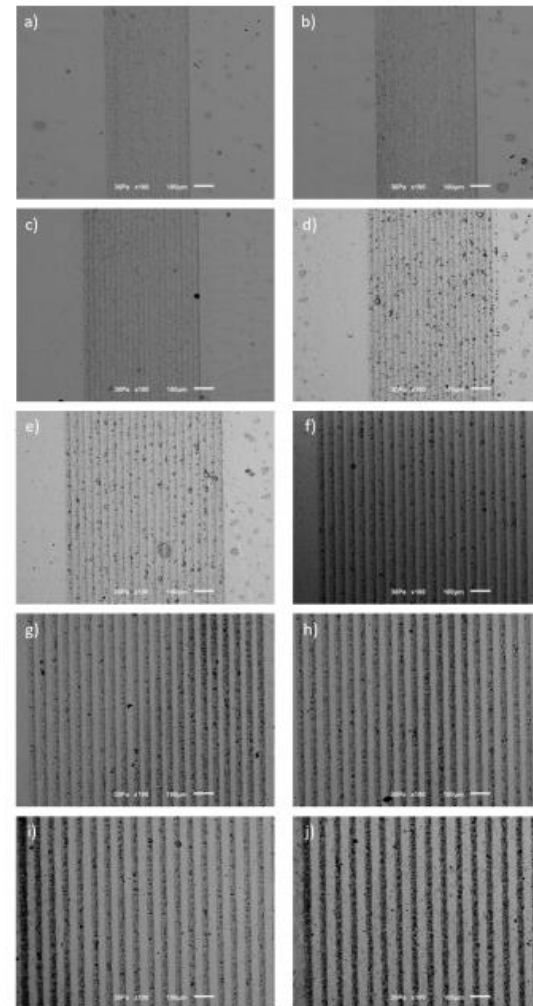
Acknowledgments

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3.3 Groove



General representation of the drawing reproduced in software inskape to use in groove interspace study.



Top SEM images of Y-PSZ micromachined surface with 2D drawing line spacing parameter from sample: a) S25; b) S30; c) S35 d) S40 e) S50 f) S60 g) S70 h) S80 i) S90 j) S100.

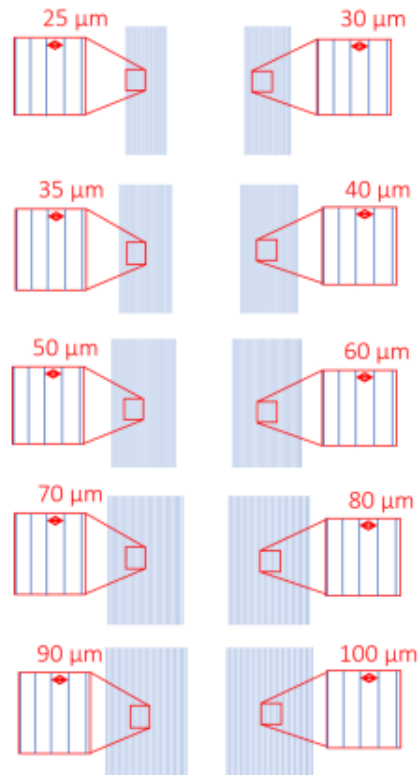
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3.3 Groove



General representation of the drawing reproduced in software inkscape to use in groove interspace study.

Table with line spacing and ridge width average values (mean±SD) of micro machined Y-PSZ obtained by software Image J

2D drawing	Grooves interspacing ± SD (μm)	Ridge width ± SD (μm)
S25	-	
S30	-	
S35	-	
S40	28.8 ± 2.1	≈ 0
S50	38.3 ± 1.0	8.5 ± 0.2
S60	49.7 ± 1.7	21.4 ± 1.5
S70	57 ± 1.5	22.7 ± 1.1
S80	62.4 ± 1.0	28.1 ± 0.8
S90	72.7 ± 1.7	35.8 ± 2.4
S100	75 ± 1.5	40.7 ± 0.8

A line spacing inferior to 40 μm (S40) the groove walls overlap and cease to exist.

Therefore, successive grooves closer than approximately 28.8 μm are not attainable by this specific technology

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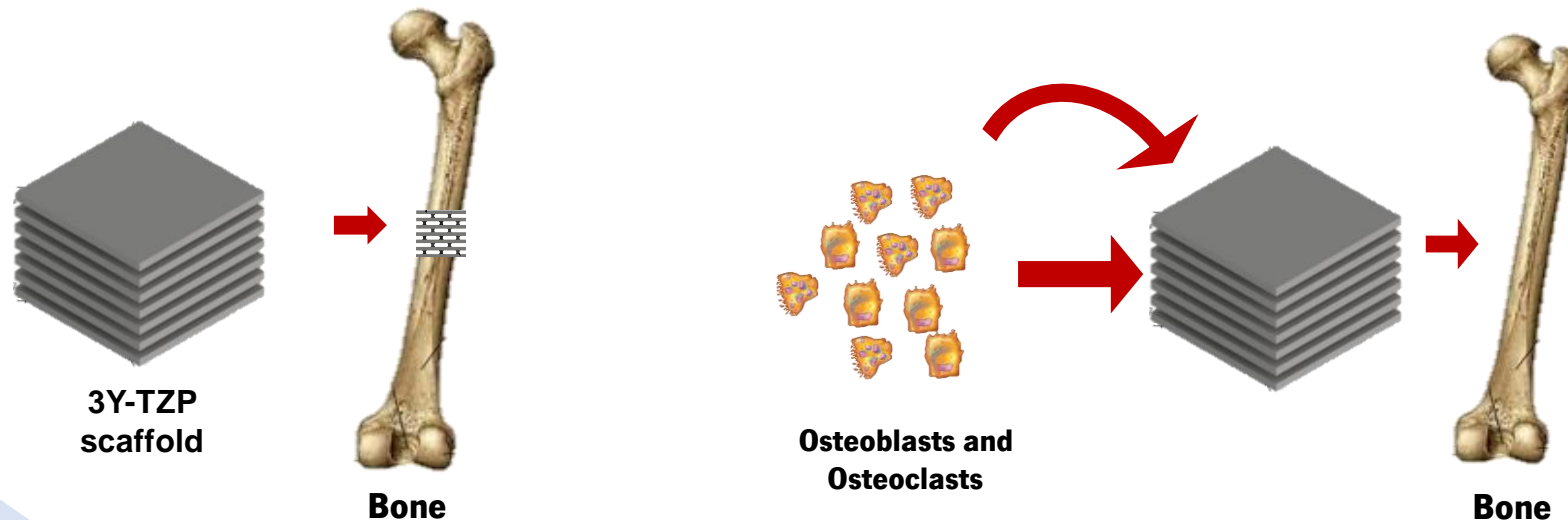
Cellular Structures



Cellular Structures

Scaffold features and properties

- ❑ Complex interconnected structure can allow **bone ingrowth**, **vascularization** and provide a **good initial stability**
- ❑ Novel thin-walled zirconia scaffold
- ❑ Zirconia scaffold lower than zirconia bulk material
- ❑ Less stiff geometry with small (walls and floors) dimensions.



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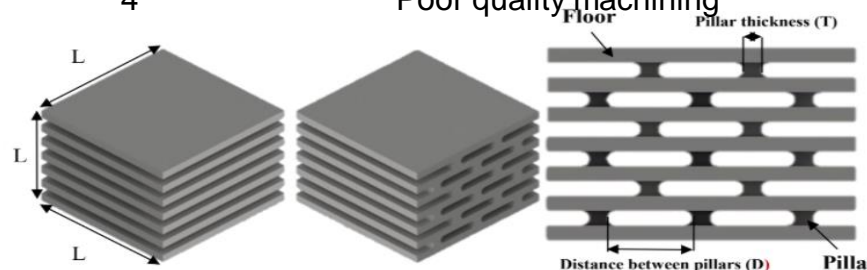
Acknowledgments



Cellular Structures

Laser Machining Parameters

Iterations	Power	Speed (mm/s)	Wobbel	Height	Observations
1	0.6 W (10%)	2-20	200-20	2	Optimum conditions
2	0.6 W (10%)	2-20	200-20	4	Desfocused
3	0.6 W (10%)	2-20	200-20	3	Desfocused
4	0.9 (15%)	3-30	300-30	3	Desfocused
5	0.9 (15%)	4-40	300-30	3	Desfocused
6	1.2 (20%)	10-100	300-30	4	Poor quality machining
7	1.2 (20%)	20-200	300-30	4	Poor quality machining
8	1.2 (20%)	4-400	300-30	4	Poor quality machining



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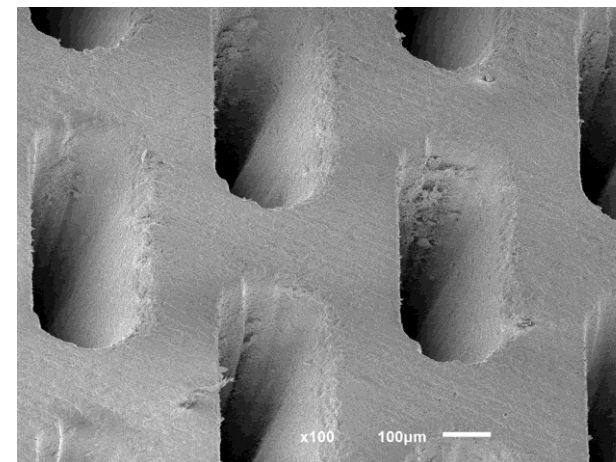
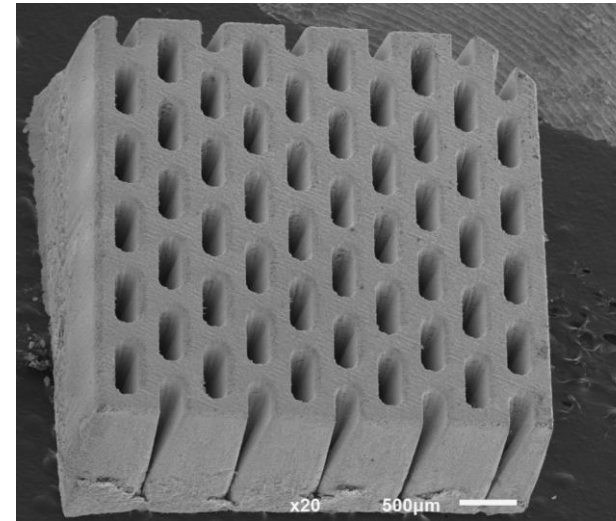
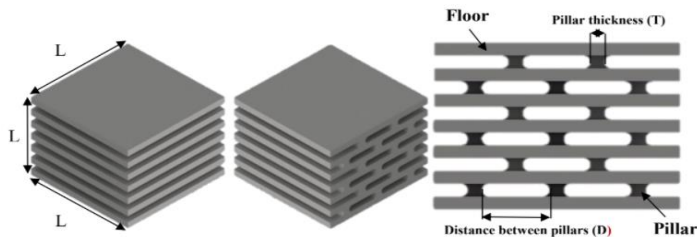
Results



Laser machining allows to obtain holes with smaller dimensions when compared with CNC machining



Difficulty to machine parts with high height



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Conclusions

- ✓ **Regular** geometries such as **cavities** or **pillars** were observed
- ✓ **High quality** machined structures (laser does not machine cavities but crosses the entire bulk).
- ✓ Some texturing strategies are suitable to obtain high quality surface textured patterns

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Conclusions


Cell adhesion and proliferation on biomedical

surfaces 



well-defined geometric features like pits , grooves
pillars , cavities and ridges



controlled response in the bone-implant contact
region 

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Preliminary evaluation of
laser processing conditions

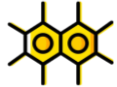
➔ Textures

Cellular structures

Conclusions and future
prospectives

Acknowledgments

Conclusions

Cell adhesion and proliferation on biomedical surfaces 



well-defined geometric features like pits , grooves
pillars , cavities and ridges



controlled response in the bone-implant contact

region



Sandblasting and chemical etching



Scar tissue formation



Production of regular and defined features by laser



Reproducible surfaces



Precise control over the human body response



Summary

Main Goal

Guideline

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Materials and Methods

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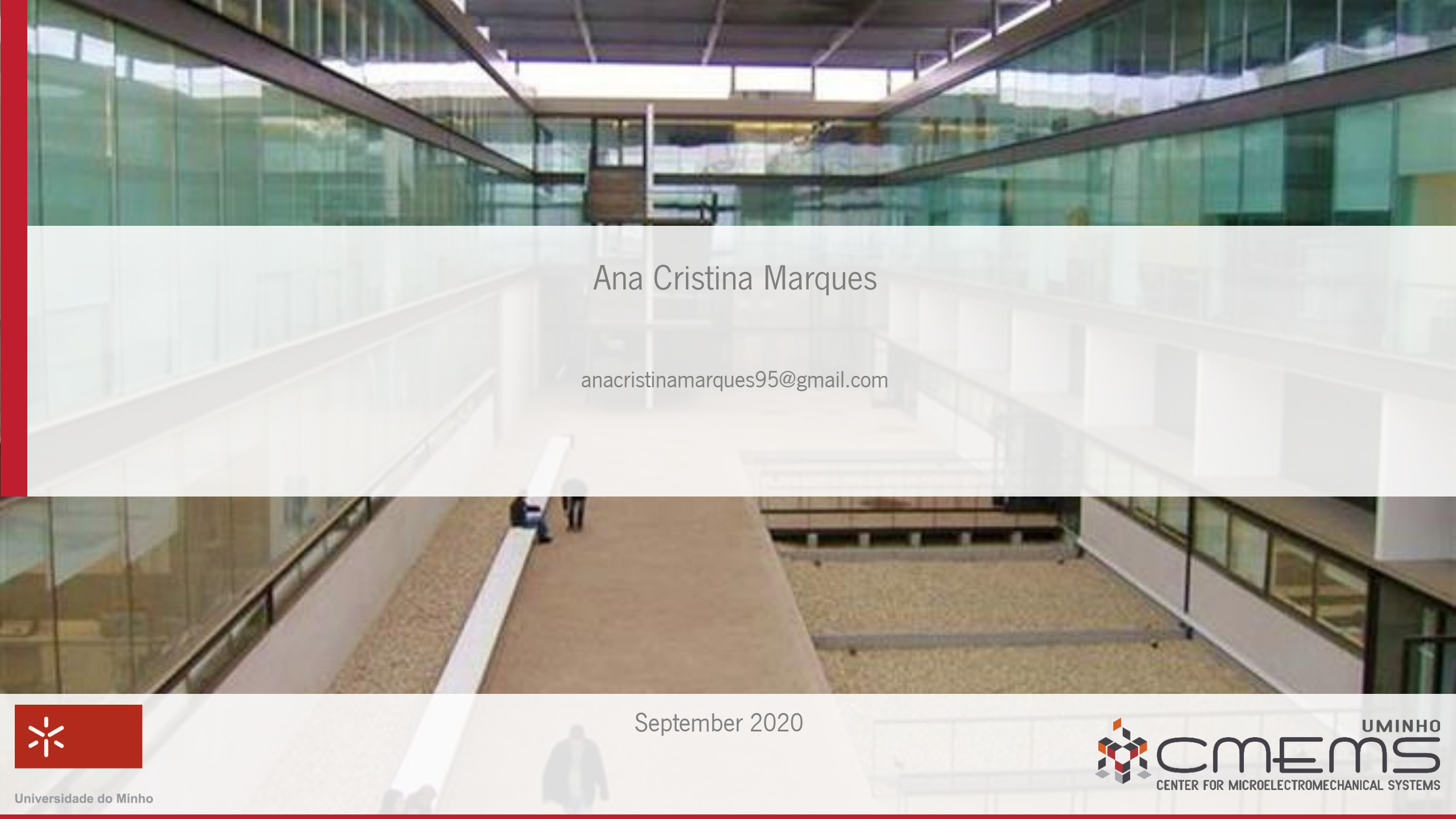
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