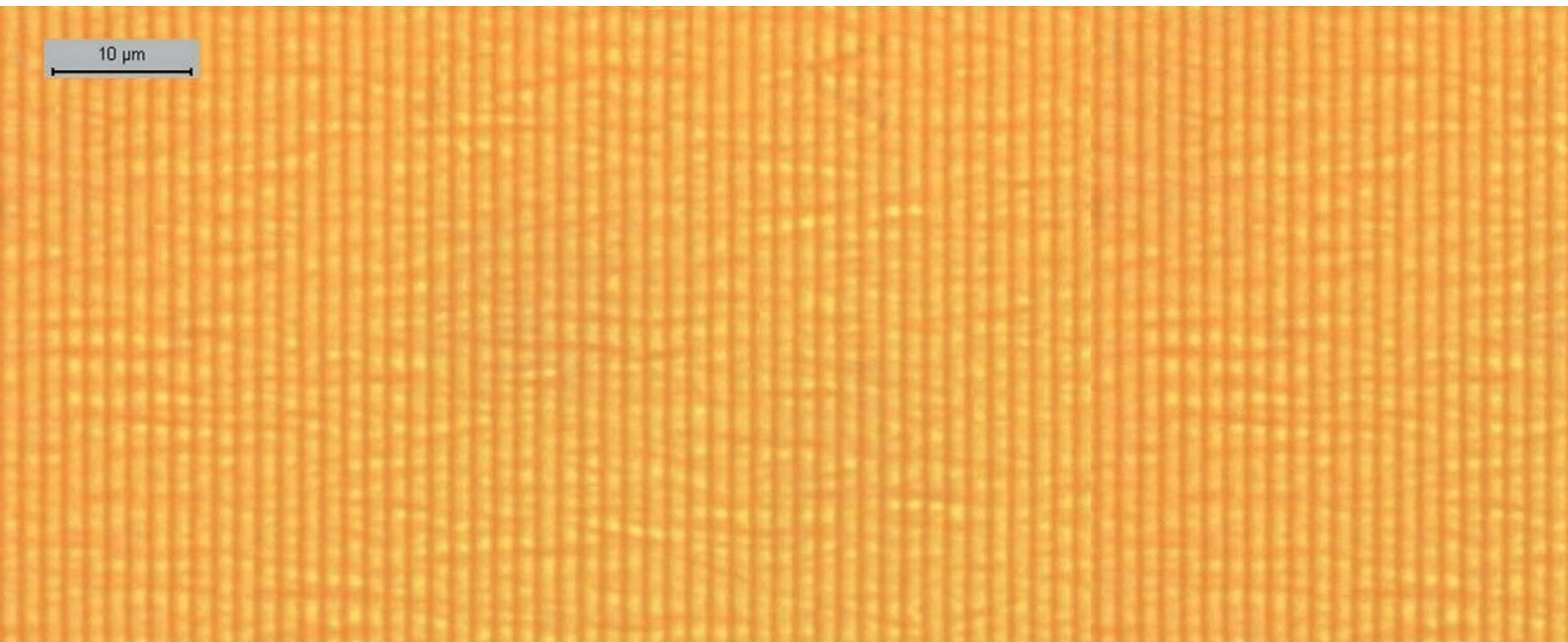




Directional and 2-shot SLS Crystallization of a-Si for Large Area Electronics



Microscope view of 50nm a-Si film directional crystallization,
900mJ/cm², 1.5μm pitch, 300ns

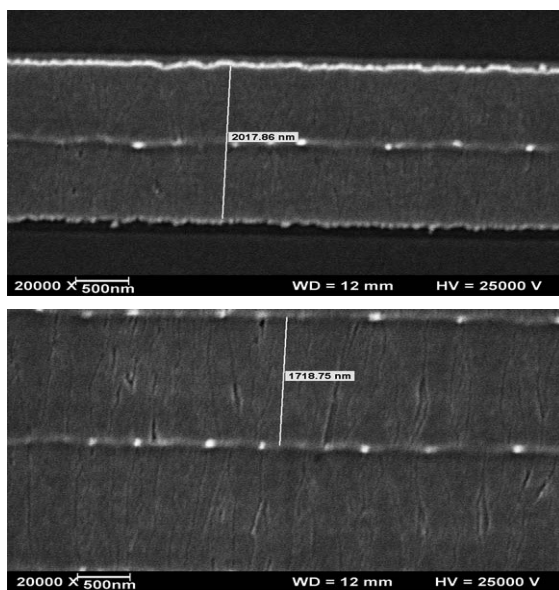
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Crystallization of Thin a-Si Films

Crystallization of amorphous silicon films plays an important role in the production of LCD and OLED displays supporting the preparation of thin film transistors to switch the pixels and to integrate driver electronics, memory and CPU circuits on the glass substrate. The improved film performance gives higher electron mobility and full system on glass can be prepared.

Directional and SLS Processing

Scanning of a-Si films with a Gaussian line beam is performed to obtain directional lateral crystallization or sequential lateral solidification (SLS). The directional process grows the crystalline structure pulse by pulse with a pitch of 1-2 μ m in scanning direction (see picture on cover page).



SEM of SECCO etched single shot (top) and 1.75 μ m pitch SLS (bottom) in 50nm a-Si at 660 and 880mJ/cm², 515nm, 300ns

The single pulse structure is repeated with minimum overlay to obtain the 2-shot SLS crystallization structure. Directional and SLS processing is based on full melt of the silicon film. The typical structure of 1-3 μ m long crystals is generated by seeded lateral growth initiated at the liquid to solid interface.



JENOPTIK | Lasers & Material Processing
 INNOVAVENT GmbH, Bertha-von-Suttner-Str. 5
 37085 Göttingen, Germany
 Tel./Fax: +49 (0) 551 90047-0/19
 www.innovavent.com
 info@innovavent.com

LAVA LASER OPTICS

The LAVA LASER OPTICS creates a Gaussian line focus of 5-10 μ m FWHM over a length of 8mm. Large depth of focus of ~30 μ m is achieved due to the ASAMA anamorphic beam quality performance. The process is highly efficient. Pulse by pulse directional grains grow with a pitch of 1-2 μ m at 100 kHz rep.-rate. The pitch is 4-6 μ m for the 2-shot SLS. The pulse length of 300ns (up to 600ns by electronic setting) heats the liquid silicon film and prevents spontaneous nucleation until seeded solidification is completed. The extremely high power output stability of the ASAMA laser is a prerequisite for homogeneous film quality.

Stitching in the long axis with overlay of \leq 5 μ m opens the door to seamless large area processing for G5 and larger glass sheets.

Throughput Comparison

Green laser annealing (GLA) offers for 2-shot SLS processing high throughput and reduced cost of ownership (CoO).

	FLX excimer	LAVA DPSSL
Crystallization Method	SLS 2shot	line 2shot
Laser	LSX315C	2x ASAMA 100-1
pulse energy / mJ	1050	2x 1
rep rate / Hz	300	100k
output power / W	315	200
beam size	25mm x 1.5mm	2x 8mm x 8.5 μ m
scan pitch / μ m	750	5
area/cm ² /s	56,3	80
area/cm ² /s per 100W power	17,9	40
scanspeed mm/s	225	500
complexity	optical pulse extender substrate xy+z toxic gas	electronic pulse length setting, no pulse extender p-lens with z adjustment no gas supply
stitching long axis	\leq 5 μ m ok	3~5 μ m ok
focusing	25mm line auto focusing	8mm line reliable auto focusing

Asia: OPTOPIA Co., Ltd.
 phone: +81 44 812 5911
 www.optopia.co.jp, sales@optopia.co.jp
USA: Jenoptik Laser Technologies
 phone: 248 446 9540
 www.lasertechnologies-jenoptik.com, sales@jenoptik.us