



NASA - Goddard Space Flight Center
8800 Greenbelt Road
Greenbelt, MD 20771



Comparative Mirror Cleaning Study

“A Study on Removing Particulate Contamination”

Karrie D. Houston

NASA-Goddard Space Flight Center

Contamination and Coatings Engineering Branch

Karrie.D.Houston@nasa.gov



Outline

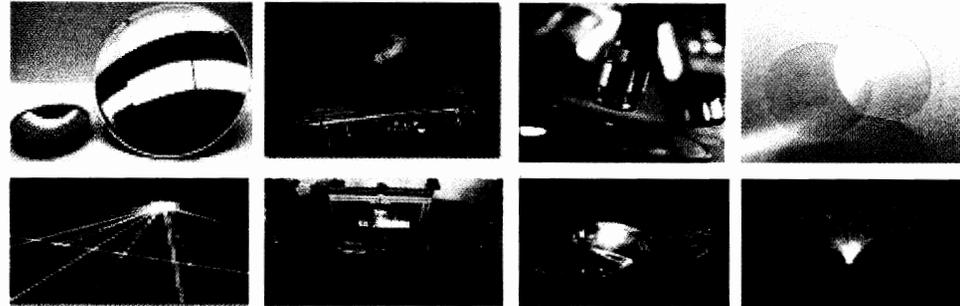
- **Introduction**
 - Optical Devices
 - Contamination Effects of Optical Surfaces
- **Experimental Design**
 - Test Plan
 - Cleaning Procedures
 - Verification Instrument
- **Design of Experiments (DOE) Software**
 - Jump/Statistical Analytical Software (JMP/SAS)
- **Results**
- **Conclusions**
- **Recommendations**
- **Future Work**



Introduction

Optical Devices

- Mirrors and telescopes
- Microscope and lenses
- Lasers and interferometers
- Prisms and optical filters



Optical Industry

The cleanliness of optical surfaces is recognized as an industry wide-concern for performance of optical devices:

- No established standard for optical cleaning
- No standard definition of a “clean” optical element

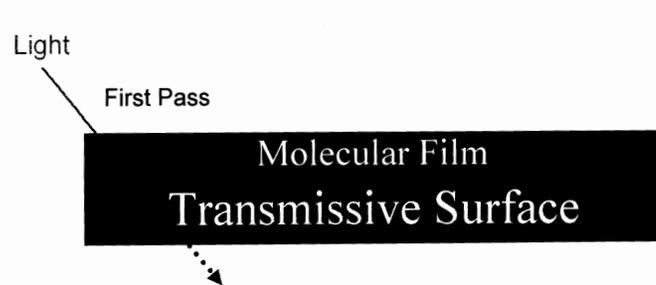
Advantages of Experimental Study...

- It evaluates the effectiveness of commonly used optical cleaning techniques based on wafer configuration, contamination levels, and the number and size of removed particles
- The results can help ensure mission success to flight projects developed for the NASA Origins Program (JWST, SAFIR, etc.)

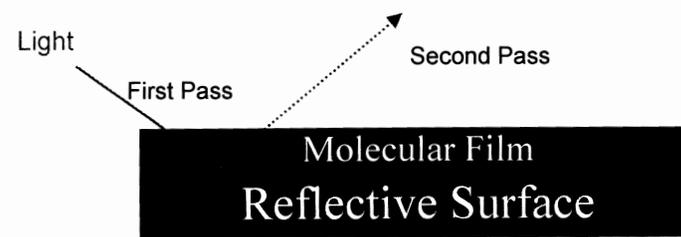


Contamination Effects

1. Molecular Contamination: Accumulation of submicron particles (i.e. Water, hydrocarbons, and silicones)

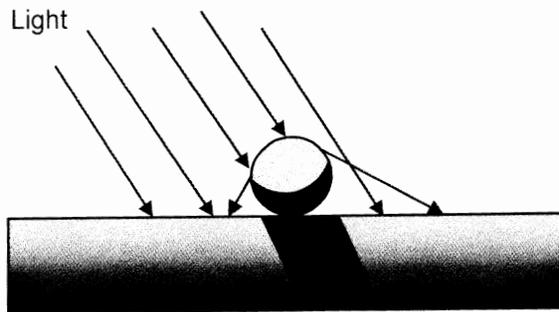


a. Absorptive Effects (Transmissive Surface)

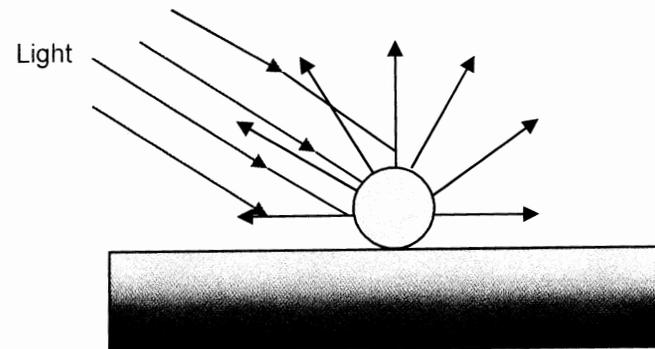


b. Absorptive Effects (Reflective Surface)

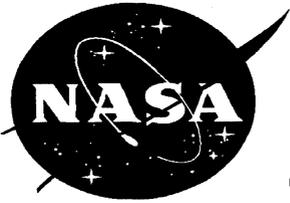
2. Particulate Contamination: Conglomerate of visible sized particles (e.g. Dust)



a. Obscuration Effects



b. Scattering Effects



Test Plan

Experimental Objective:

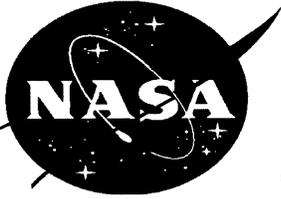
To compare the effectiveness in removing particulate contamination from coated and uncoated silicon wafers with commonly used optical cleaning methods

Technical Objectives:

- Determine the cleaning ability of each method based on the number and size of removed particles
- Assess the risk of surface damage for each cleaning procedure
- Evaluate each method as a function of its initial contamination level (“fairly clean”, “dirty”, “very dirty”)

Experimental Process:

- Contaminate wafers
- Characterize surface (Measure and count number of particles)
- Clean wafers
- Characterize surface



Experimental Design

Cleaning Methods

- Detergent Bath
- Solvent Rinse
- CO₂ Snow Cleaning

Wafer Configuration

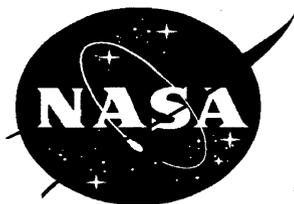
- (12) - Silicon (Si)
- (12) - Gold coated silicon wafer (Si+Au)
- (12) - Gold coated silicon wafer with a silicon oxide coating (Si+Au+SiOx)

Table 1: Wafer Specifications

| Wafer Properties | |
|-----------------------|-------------------|
| Thickness | 500 μm |
| Diameter | 4" |
| Coating Thickness | |
| Gold Coating | 2000 \AA |
| Silicon Oxide Coating | 1000 \AA |

Exposure Times

- 1 day, 3 days, and 5 days (Building 7 Highbay)



Design of Experiments (DOE) Software

Sample Size (Total Sample Size = 36 wafers)

- Calculated by specifying a 95% Upper Confidence Level
 - 13 DOF: Number of values in final calculation that are free to vary

Randomization Table

- Randomly paired cleaning methods with wafer configurations and exposure time
- Divided into 9 blocks
 - Each block has 4 wafers

Table 2: Example of Block Format

| Cleaning Method | Wafer Configuration | Exposure Time | Y (Response) |
|-----------------|---------------------|---------------|--------------|
| Rinse | Si+Au+SiOx | 3 | • |
| CO2 | Si+Au | 5 | • |
| Bath | Si+Au+SiOx | 1 | • |
| Bath | Si | 5 | • |

JMP/Statistical Analytical Software

- Simultaneously compares input variables



Mirror Cleaning Procedure (1)

Detergent Bath

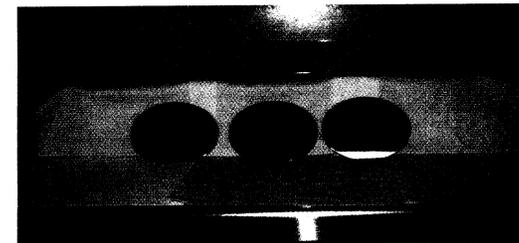
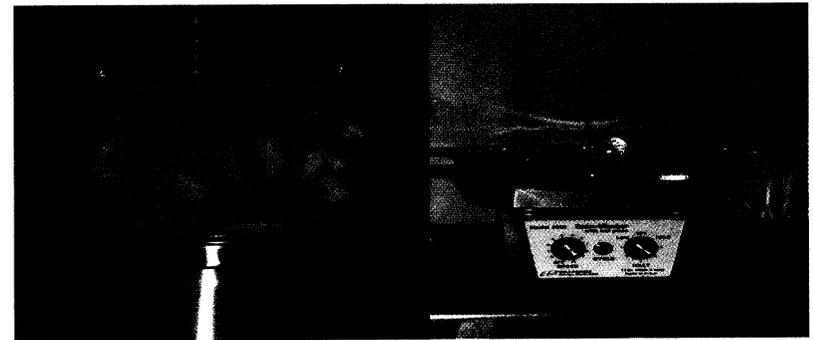
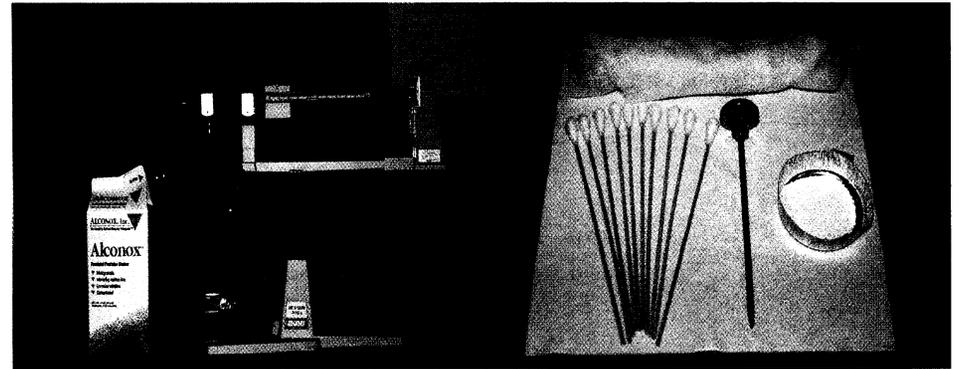
Direct contact method that uses an aqueous based, nonionic detergent to remove contamination

Pre-Clean Preparation¹:

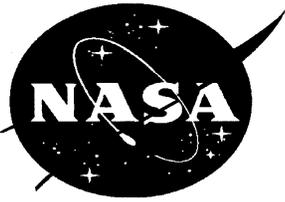
1. Alconox Solution
 - a. 5 grams of Alconox detergent
 - b. 4 cups of distilled water
2. Rinse Solution - 2 cups of distilled water at 120 °F

Cleaning Process:

1. Wafer submerged in Alconox Solution
2. Q-tip placed directly on wafer at a 20°; Surfaces cleaned using a multi-directional wiping technique for 1 minute
3. Wafer rinsed 10x's in distilled water
4. Water vertically positioned (at a 10-15° angle) for drying (~15 min)



¹ NASA/GSFC Optical Component Cleaning (551-WI-8072.1.7B)



Mirror Cleaning Procedure (2)

Solvent Rinse

Direct contact method that uses an aqueous based, nonionic detergent and an acetone rinse to remove contamination

Pre-Clean Preparation¹:

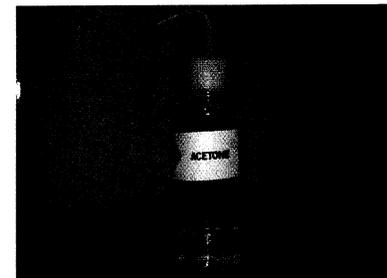
1. Alconox Solution
 - a. 5 g of Alconox detergent
 - b. 4 cups of distilled water
2. Rinse Solution - 2 cups of distilled water at 120 °F

Cleaning Process:

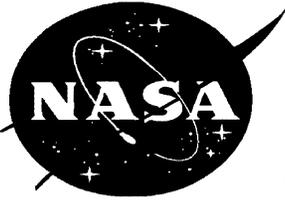
1. Wafer submerged in Alconox Solution
2. Q-tip placed directly on wafer at a 20° angle; Surfaces cleaned using a multidirectional wiping technique for 1 minute
3. Wafer rinsed 10x's in distilled water
4. Water vertically positioned (at a 10-15° angle) for drying
5. Wafer rinsed with 4fl. oz of IPA grade acetone in a top-bottom, left-right pattern



+



¹ NASA/GSFC Optical Component Cleaning (551-WI-8072.1.7B)



Mirror Cleaning Procedure (3)

CO₂ Snow Cleaning

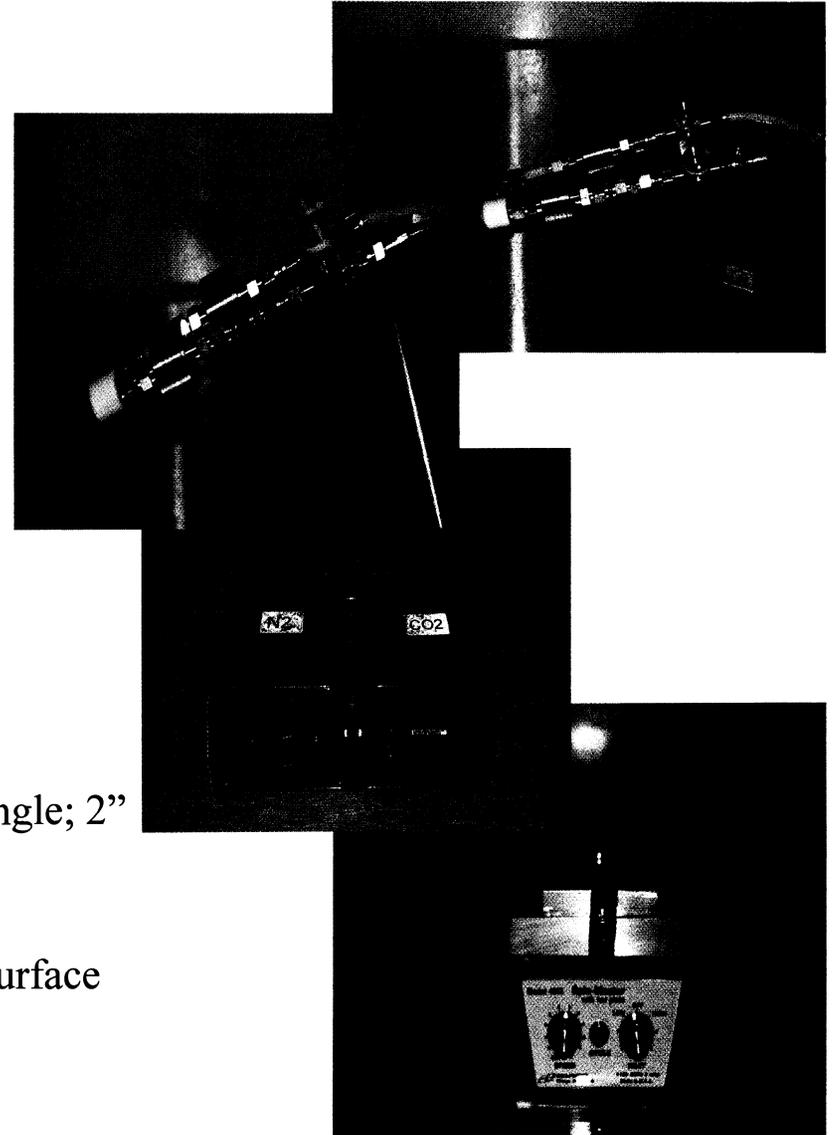
Non-contact method that uses a high velocity stream of CO₂ gas and snow pellets to remove contamination

Pre-Clean Preparation:

1. Place vacuum chuck on hot plate; turn hotplate on “High” setting (120 °F). Let warm-up for 15-20 minutes

Cleaning Process:

1. Place wafer on vacuum chuck; power on motor
2. Open pressure valve on CO₂ cylinder tank
3. Position nozzle at the upper right hand corner (30° angle; 2” from surface)
4. Open CO₂ circuit using footswitch
5. Clean entire wafer surface using 7 vertical strokes; surface cleaned in a top-bottom, right-left pattern





Verification - Image Analysis

Image Analysis (IA) is a verification instrument that incorporates the use of a microscope, camera, and computer to measure the size, shape, and number of particles.

IA Specifications:

- Leica camera/CCD
- Olympus microscope (5X Obj; 50 Mag)
 - Detects 0.3 μ m particles at 95% certainty
- Robotic stage

Facility Specifications:

- Building 84 Cleanroom
- Class 10,000
- Avg. RH: 44%
- Average Temp: 69 °F
- Laminar Flow: 135-150 ft/min

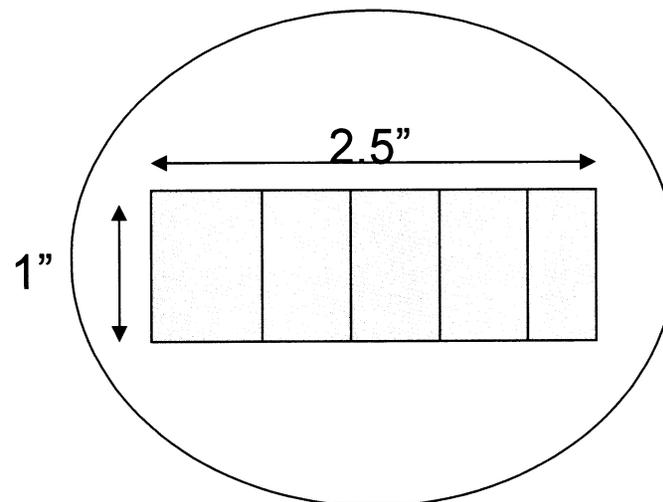
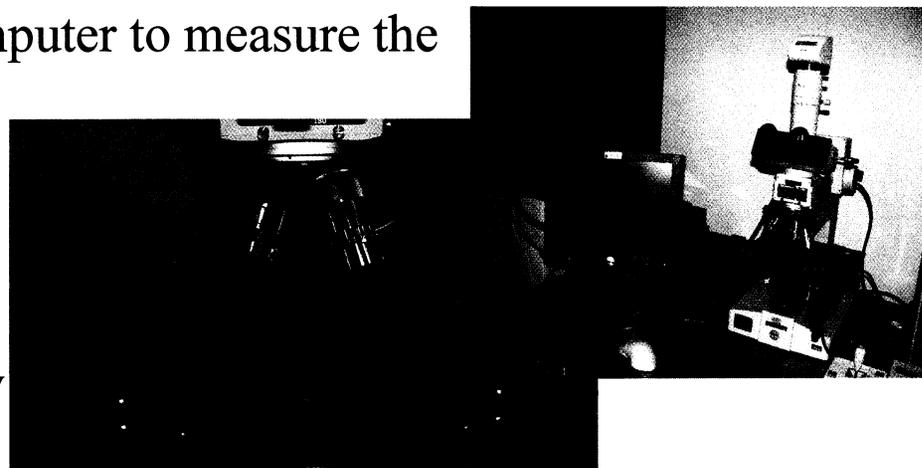
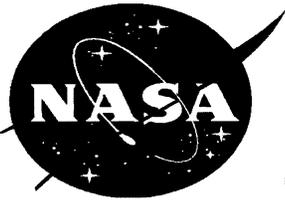


Figure 1: IA Reading Area

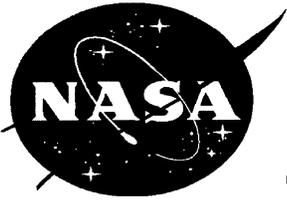
$$\text{PAC} = \frac{\text{Total Area of Particles}}{\text{Total Surface Area}} \times 100$$



Results – Detergent Bath

Table 3: PAC Removal Percentage of Detergent Bath Samples

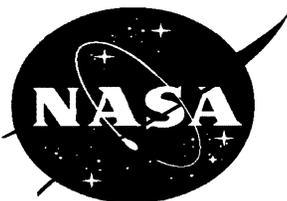
| Wafer Configuration | Exposure Time | PAC (Before Cleaning) | PAC (After Cleaning) | Efficiency Removal % |
|--------------------------|---------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|
| Si | 5 | 0.23924 | 0.08072 | 66 |
| Si+Au | 3 | 0.09553 | 0.01502 | 84 |
| Si+Au+SiOx | 5 | 0.09312 | 0.01560 | 83 |
| Si+Au+SiOx | 1 | 0.08290 | 0.01974 | 76 |
| Si | 5 | 0.07863 | 0.03506 | 55 |
| Si+Au | 3 | 0.06028 | 0.02268 | 62 |
| Si | 3 | 0.04832 | 0.04448 | 8 |
| Si+Au+SiOx | 3 | 0.04033 | 0.05241 | ---- |
| Si+Au+SiOx | 1 | 0.02070 | 0.01017 | 51 |
| Si | 1 | 0.01020 | 0.01460 | ---- |
| Si+Au | 1 | 0.00454 | 0.01077 | ---- |
| Average Removal % | | | | 61 |



Particle Count – Detergent Bath

Table 4: Particle Count for Sample B5_23_Si.Au_3D (67% PAC Reduction)

| Range of Particle Sizes (microns) | Total # of Particles (Before Cleaning) | Total # of Particles (After Cleaning) | Removal Efficiency (%) |
|-----------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|------------------------|
| $0 \leq x \leq 1$ | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| $1 \leq x \leq 5$ | 54 | 1770 | - |
| $5 \leq x \leq 10$ | 482 | 782 | - |
| $10 \leq x \leq 25$ | 656 | 326 | 50 |
| $25 \leq x \leq 50$ | 542 | 231 | 57 |
| $50 \leq x \leq 100$ | 420 | 29 | 93 |
| $100 \leq x \leq 150$ | 211 | 2 | 99 |
| $150 \leq x \leq 250$ | 235 | 0 | 100 |
| $250 \leq x \leq 500$ | 245 | 0 | 100 |
| $500 \leq x \leq 750$ | 125 | 0 | 100 |
| ≥ 750 | 146 | 1 | 99 |
| Total No. of Particles | 3116 | 3141 | - |
| PAC (Cleanliness Lvl) | 0.06 (375) | 0.02 (300) | 67 |



Particle Distribution – Detergent Bath

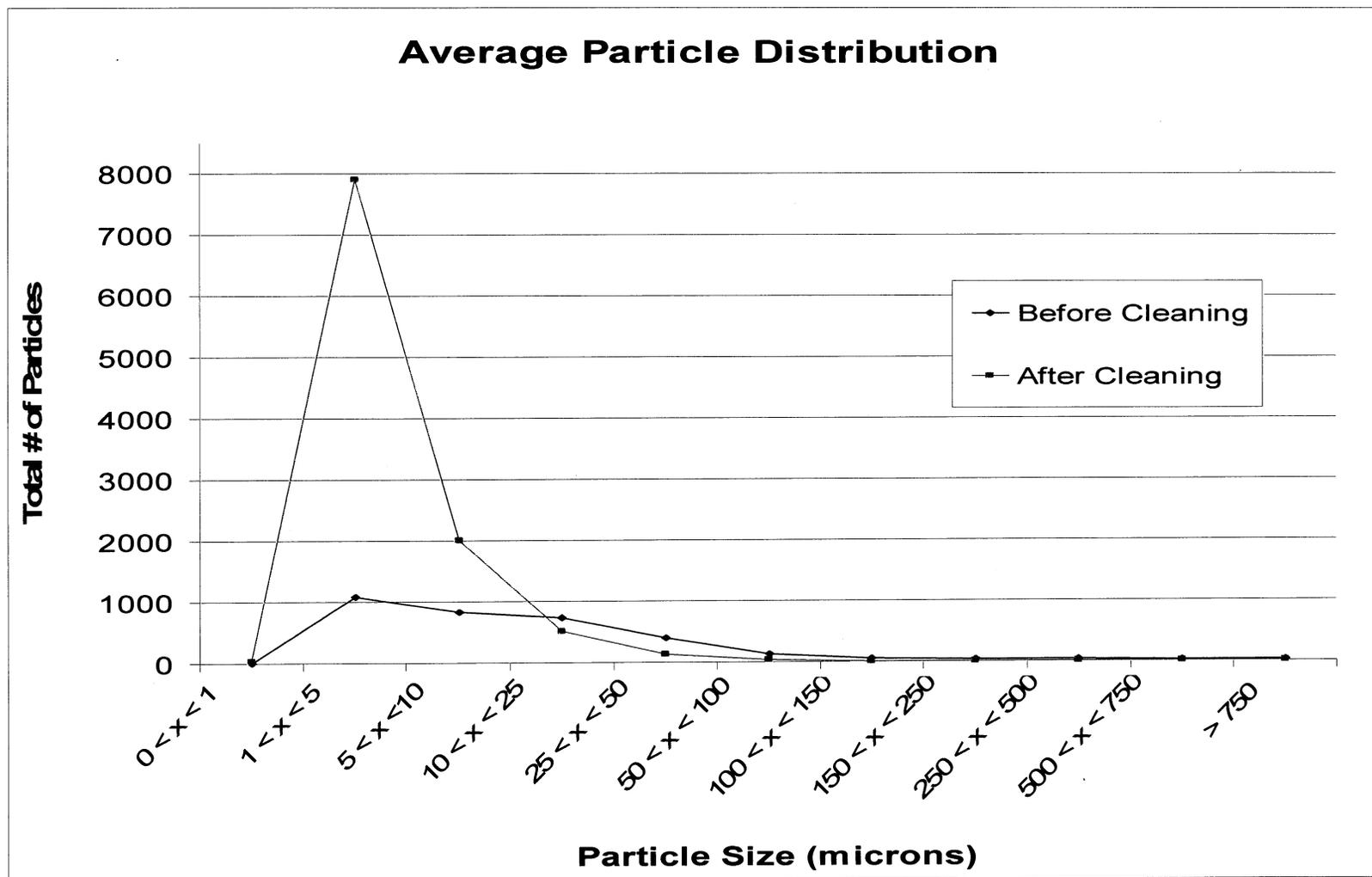


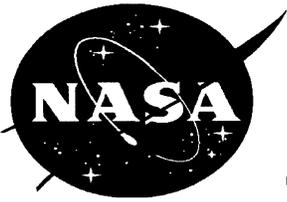
Figure 2: Average Particle Distribution for the Detergent Bath Samples



Results – Solvent Rinse

Table 5: PAC Removal Percentage of Solvent Rinse Samples

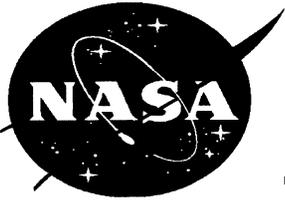
| Wafer Configuration | Exposure Time | PAC (Before Cleaning) | PAC (After Cleaning) | Efficiency Removal % |
|--------------------------|---------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|
| Si+Au | 5 | 0.12063 | 0.00815 | 93 |
| Si+Au+SiOx | 3 | 0.08629 | 0.02234 | 74 |
| Si+Au | 5 | 0.07477 | 0.01800 | 76 |
| Si | 5 | 0.06177 | 0.00013 | 100 |
| Si | 3 | 0.06071 | 0.00718 | 88 |
| Si+Au | 3 | 0.04662 | 0.01021 | 78 |
| Si+Au+SiOx | 5 | 0.04414 | 0.01301 | 71 |
| Si+Au+SiOx | 5 | 0.04271 | 0.00171 | 96 |
| Si | 1 | 0.03862 | 0.03458 | 10 |
| Si+Au | 3 | 0.03226 | 0.00582 | 82 |
| Si+Au+SiOx | 1 | 0.02965 | 0.01254 | 58 |
| Si+Au+SiOx | 1 | 0.01209 | 0.00497 | 59 |
| Average Removal % | | | | 74 |



Particle Count – Solvent Rinse

Table 6: Particle Count for Sample B1_5_Si.Au.SiOx_3D (74% PAC Reduction)

| Range of Particle Sizes (microns) | Total # of Particles (Before Cleaning) | Total # of Particles (After Cleaning) | Removal Efficiency (%) |
|-----------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|------------------------|
| $0 \leq x \leq 1$ | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| $1 \leq x < 5$ | 2026 | 2596 | - |
| $5 \leq x \leq 10$ | 1409 | 660 | 53 |
| $10 \leq x \leq 25$ | 995 | 278 | 72 |
| $25 \leq x \leq 50$ | 418 | 58 | 86 |
| $50 \leq x \leq 100$ | 119 | 33 | 72 |
| $100 \leq x \leq 150$ | 13 | 11 | 15 |
| $150 \leq x \leq 250$ | 12 | 11 | 8 |
| $250 \leq x \leq 500$ | 14 | 12 | 14 |
| $500 \leq x \leq 750$ | 6 | 2 | 67 |
| ≥ 750 | 8 | 4 | 50 |
| Total No. of Particles | 5020 | 3665 | - |
| PAC (Cleanliness Lvl) | 0.086 (415) | 0.022 (310) | 74 |



Particle Distribution – Solvent Rinse

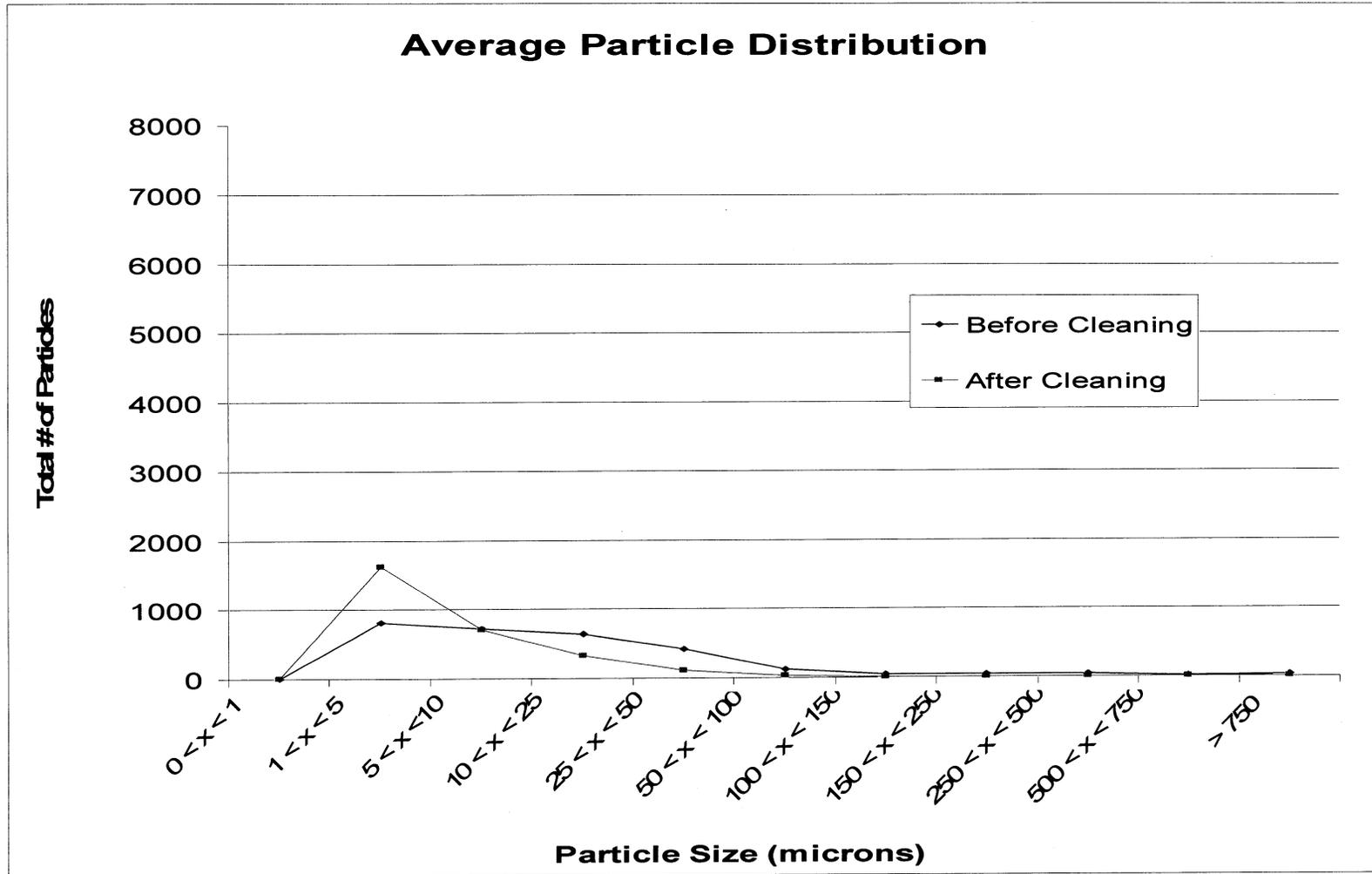


Figure 3: Average Particle Distribution for the Solvent Rinse Samples



Results – CO₂ Snow Cleaning

Table 7: PAC Removal Percentage of CO₂ Snow Cleaning Samples

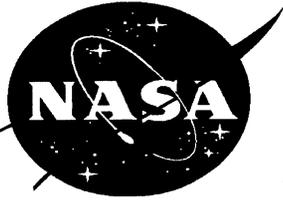
| Wafer Configuration | Exposure Time | PAC (Before Cleaning) | PAC (After Cleaning) | Efficiency Removal % |
|--------------------------|---------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|
| Si+Au | 5 | 0.19466 | 0.00716 | 74 |
| Si+Au+SiOx | 5 | 0.07471 | 0.00555 | 93 |
| Si | 3 | 0.06550 | 0.00261 | 96 |
| Si+Au | 1 | 0.06086 | 0.00414 | 93 |
| Si+Au+SiOx | 1 | 0.03851 | - | - |
| Si+Au | 5 | 0.03823 | 0.00554 | 86 |
| Si+Au+SiOx | 3 | 0.03606 | - | - |
| Si | 5 | 0.03522 | - | - |
| Si+Au+SiOx | 3 | 0.03380 | - | - |
| Si+Au | 1 | 0.01034 | 0.00284 | 73 |
| Si | 3 | 0.01139 | - | - |
| Si | 1 | 0.00317 | - | - |
| Average Removal % | | | | 86 |



Particle Count – CO₂ Snow Cleaning

Table 8: Particle Count for Sample B4_19_Si.Au_5D (86% PAC Reduction)

| Range of Particle Sizes (microns) | Total # of Particles (Before Cleaning) | Total # of Particles (After Cleaning) | Removal Efficiency (%) |
|--------------------------------------|---|--|---------------------------|
| $0 \leq x \leq 1$ | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| $1 \leq x \leq 5$ | 1184 | 1126 | 5 |
| $5 \leq x \leq 10$ | 997 | 1028 | - |
| $10 \leq x \leq 25$ | 739 | 942 | - |
| $25 \leq x \leq 50$ | 277 | 901 | - |
| $50 \leq x \leq 100$ | 46 | 7 | 85 |
| $100 \leq x \leq 150$ | 10 | 0 | 100 |
| $150 \leq x \leq 250$ | 10 | 0 | 100 |
| $250 \leq x \leq 500$ | 5 | 0 | 100 |
| $500 \leq x \leq 750$ | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| ≥ 750 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| Total No. of Particles | 3272 | 4004 | - |
| PAC (Cleanliness Lvl) | 0.038 (335) | 0.006 (225) | 84 |



Particle Distribution – CO₂ Snow Cleaning

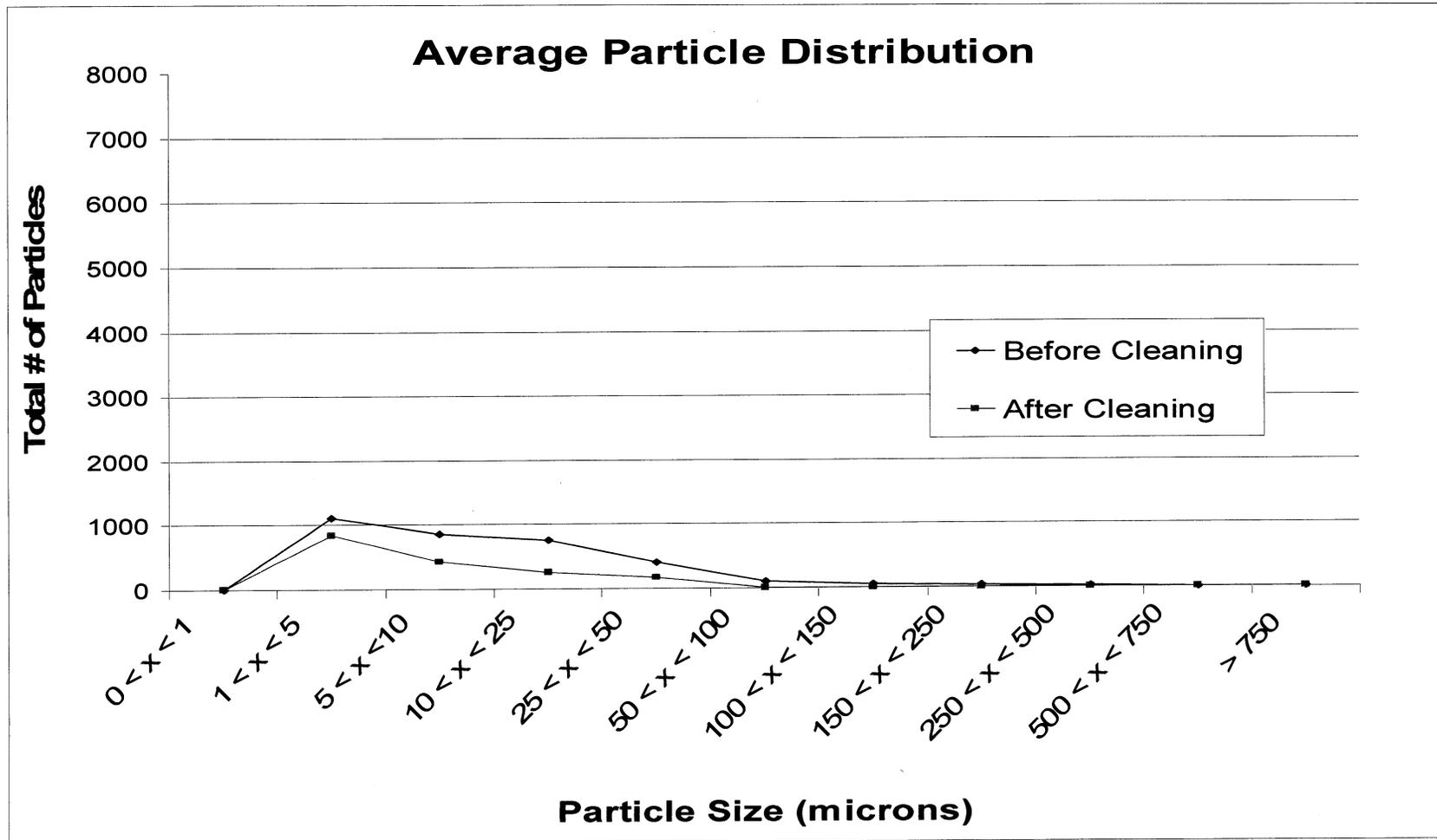


Figure 4: Average Particle Distribution for CO₂ Snow Cleaning Samples



Control Wafers

Environmental Controls

Monitors particulate fallout from surrounding air during image analysis reading

Table 9: PAC Values for Environmental Controls

| Sample ID | IA Reading Time (Hrs:Min) | PAC Value |
|-----------|------------------------------|-----------|
| Block 2 | 4:47 | 0.006615 |
| Block 5 | 4:43 | 0.006966 |
| Block 3 | 5:10 | 0.009732 |
| Block 4 | 5:43 | 0.009523 |

Each Block includes 4 wafers

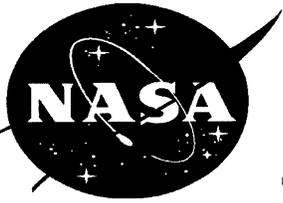
$$\text{PAC} = \frac{\text{Total Area of Particles}}{\text{Total Surface Area}} \times 100$$

Cleaning Controls

Determines amount of introduced contamination from the cleaning materials

Table 10: PAC Values for Cleaning Controls

| Cleaning Process | PAC _{Before} | PAC _{After} |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Detergent Bath | 0.000 | 0.011494 |
| Solvent Rinse | 0.000 | 0.009231 |
| CO ₂ Snow Cleaning | ---- | ---- |



Comparative Results

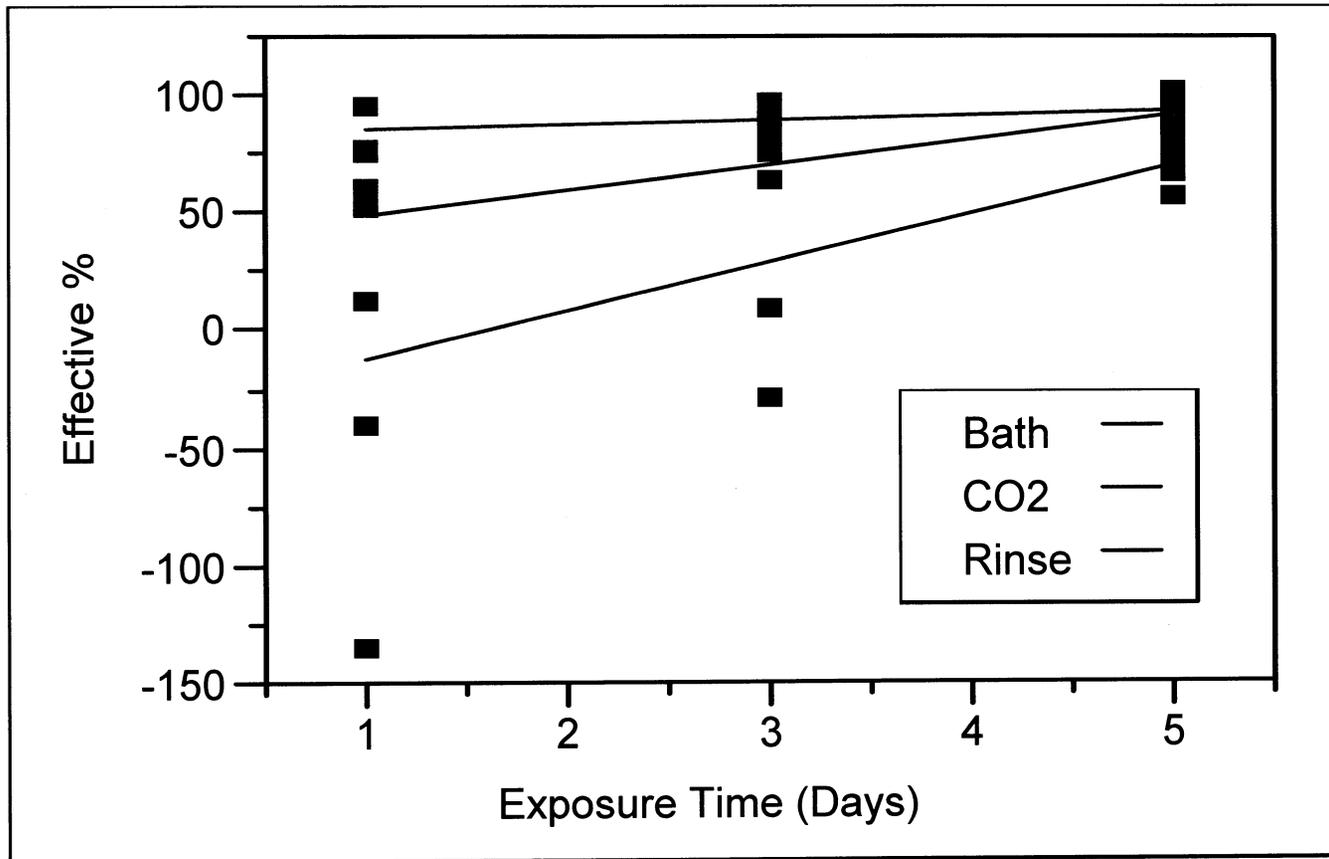
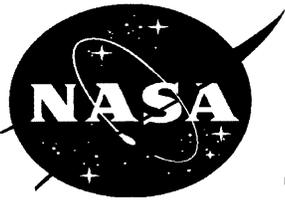
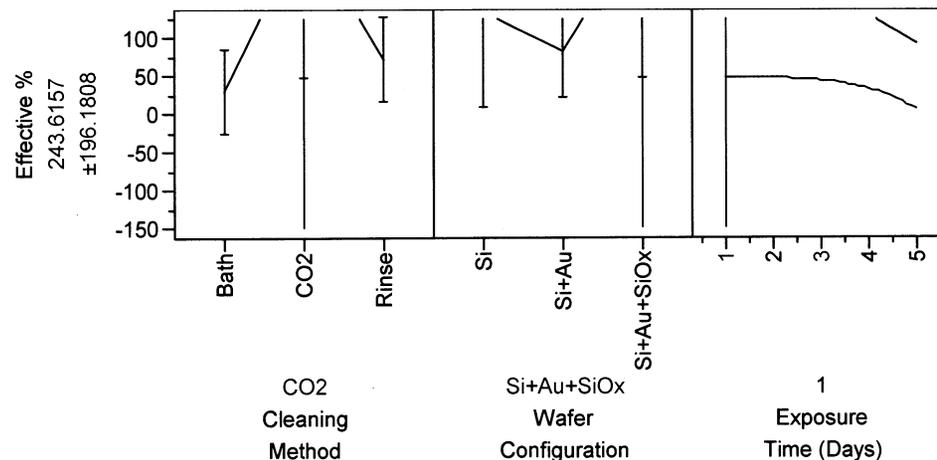


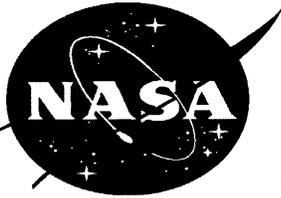
Figure 5: Regression Plot of Effective Removal Percentage



Conclusions

- Cleaning method and exposure time plays a significant factor in obtaining a high removal percentage.
 - The detergent bath and solvent rinse method displayed an increase in effective removal percentage as the contamination exposure increased.
 - CO₂ snow cleaning showed a relatively consistent cleaning effectiveness.
- For optimal removal of particulate contamination, the following settings should be used:
 - CO₂ Snow Cleaning
 - Si+Au+SiOx
 - 1 Day Exposure Time

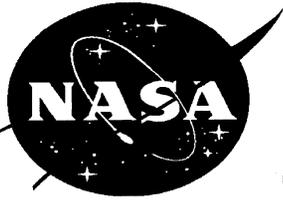




Conclusions –cont–

Table 11: Advantages and Disadvantages of Optical Cleaning Methods

| Cleaning Method | Description | Advantages | Disadvantages |
|-------------------------------|---|--|--|
| Detergent Bath | Direct contact method that uses an aqueous based, nonionic detergent to loosen contaminants from the surface. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ “Free Rinsing” capability ▪ Reduces “creep” contamination | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ N/A to large/complex optics ▪ Excessive handling ▪ Direct contact increases risk of surface damage ▪ Cleaning materials could introduce contamination |
| Solvent Rinse | Direct contact method that uses an aqueous based, nonionic detergent <u>and solvent rinse</u> to loosen contaminants from the surface. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ “Free Rinsing” capability ▪ Reduces “creep” contamination ▪ Rapid/spot free drying ▪ Removes some molecular contamination | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ N/A to large or complex optics ▪ Excessive handling ▪ Direct contact increases risk of surface damage ▪ Cleaning materials could introduce contamination ▪ Excessive use of solvent could create water spots |
| CO ₂ Snow Cleaning | Non-contact method that uses a high velocity stream of CO ₂ solid and gas; removing contamination through momentum transfer. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reduced risk of surface damage ▪ Removes fingerprints ▪ No waste ▪ Quick cleaning process | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Requires controlled environ. ▪ Electrostatic charge ▪ Introduction of gas constituents |



Recommendations

Detergent Bath

- Select low or non-particulating cleaning materials
- Use a nitrogen purge gas during drying process

Solvent Rinse

- Select low or non-particulating cleaning materials
- Use a nitrogen purge gas during drying
- Use filtered solvents
- Use a certified clean storage method for solvent

CO₂ Snow Cleaning

- Perform cleaning in a dry box or with a nitrogen purge
- Develop a working instruction for the CO₂ cleaning procedures



Future Work

- SPIE Optics and Photonics Conference in San Diego, CA (August 2006)
- Perform a repetitive mirror cleaning study
- Develop a cleaning procedure for JWST's Optical Telescope Element



Acknowledgements

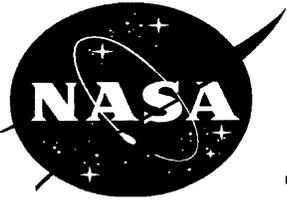
- Eve Wooldridge, PIP Mentor
- Randy Hedgeland, Branch Head/Code 546
- Wanda Peters, Group Lead/Code 546
- Sharon Straka, Group Lead/Code 546
- Dr. Manny Uy, JHU/APL Professor
- Jeff Gum, Optics Engineer/Code
- George Harris, Coatings Engineer/Code 546

THANK YOU!

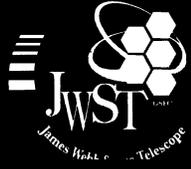


References

- [1] Barrentine, Larry B. "An Introduction to Design of Experiments: A Simplified Approach." ASQ Quality Press Corporation. Milwaukee, WI, 1999, pages 27-36.
- [2] Kubacki, Emily. "The Dirt on Cleaning Optics." CVI Laser LLC, Albuquerque, N.M. Photonics Spectra, March 2006
- [3] Maymon, Peter. "Optical Component Cleaning." NASA/GSFC, 551-WI-8072.1.7B, June 2004.
- [4] Sherman, Robert, John Grob and Walter Whitlock. "Dry Surface Cleaning using CO2 Snow." BOC Group, Murray Hill, New Jersey 07974. March 1991.
- [5] Willford, John F. "The Advantages and Disadvantages, and History of CO2 Snow Cleaning." www.cleantechcentral.com/Magazine/PastIssues/jun1998/1.asp.

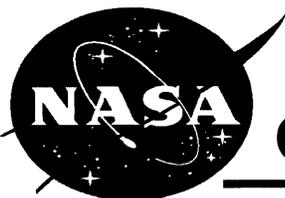


Back-Up Slides



James Webb Space Telescope

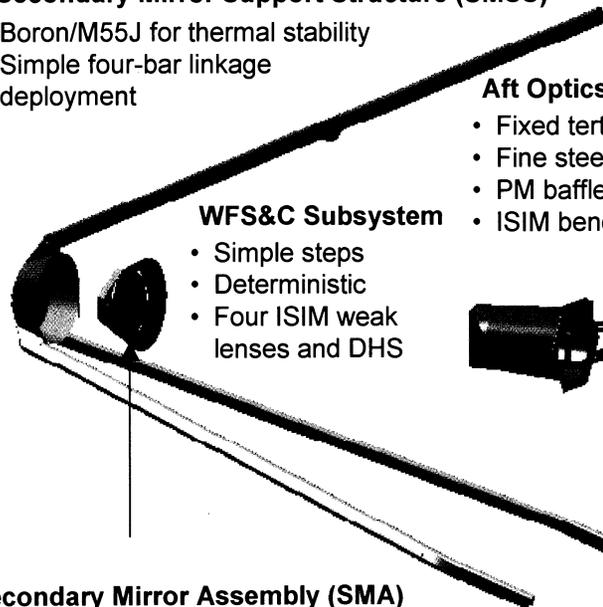




Optical Telescope Element

Secondary Mirror Support Structure (SMSS)

- Boron/M55J for thermal stability
- Simple four-bar linkage deployment



WFS&C Subsystem

- Simple steps
- Deterministic
- Four ISIM weak lenses and DHS

Aft Optics Subsystem

- Fixed tertiary
- Fine steering mirror
- PM baffle
- ISIM bench radiator



OTE Clear Aperture: 25 m²

ISIM Enclosure

- ISIM Instrument Suite
 - NIRSpec
 - NIRCam
 - MIRI
 - FGS
- ISIM radiators



Secondary Mirror Assembly (SMA)

- Light-weighted, rigid Be mirror
- Hexapod actuator configuration
 - Six-DoF control for alignment
- Stray light baffle
- Rigid delta frame support w/simple interface to SMSS

Primary Mirror Segment Assemblies (PMSA)

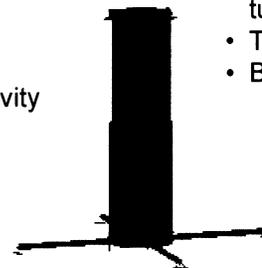
- Light-weighted, semi-rigid segments
- 18 modular units make up PM
- Separable rigid body and RoC figure control
 - Hexapod rigid body actuation, one RoC actuator
- Simple, accessible interface to Backplane

BackPlane

- Chord-fold deployment
 - Minimizes mechanisms
 - Maximizes thermal connectivity
- Boron/M55J hybrid material
 - CTE <0.1 ppm/K
 - High stiffness (near Be, 2X M55J)

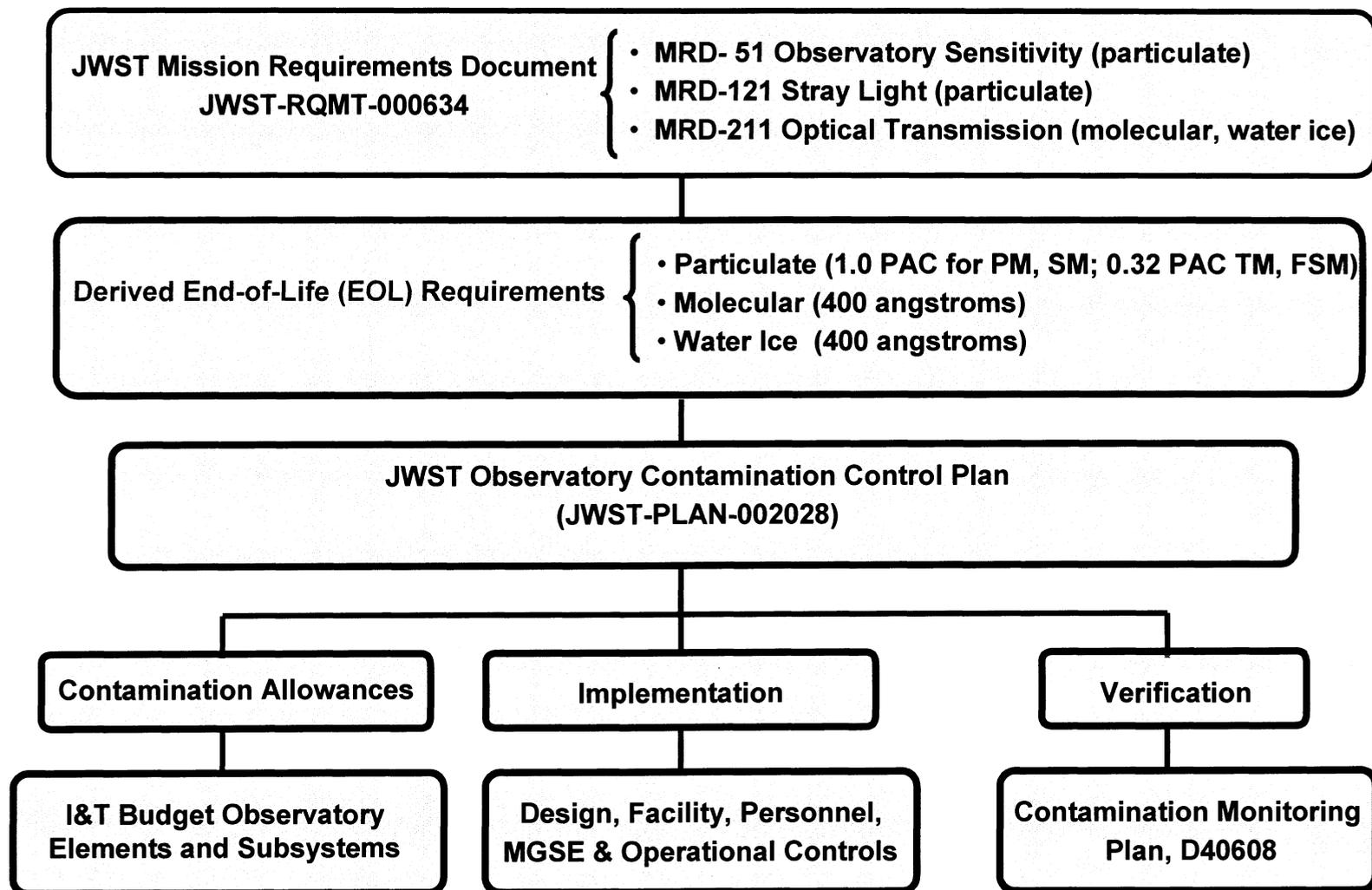
Deployment Tower Subsystem

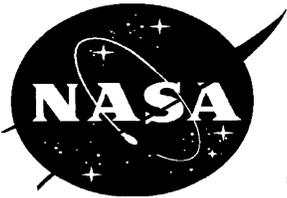
- Simple, two-piece telescoping tube
- T300 for low conductivity
- Bi-stem deployed
 - Slenderness ratio <60





Contamination Requirements

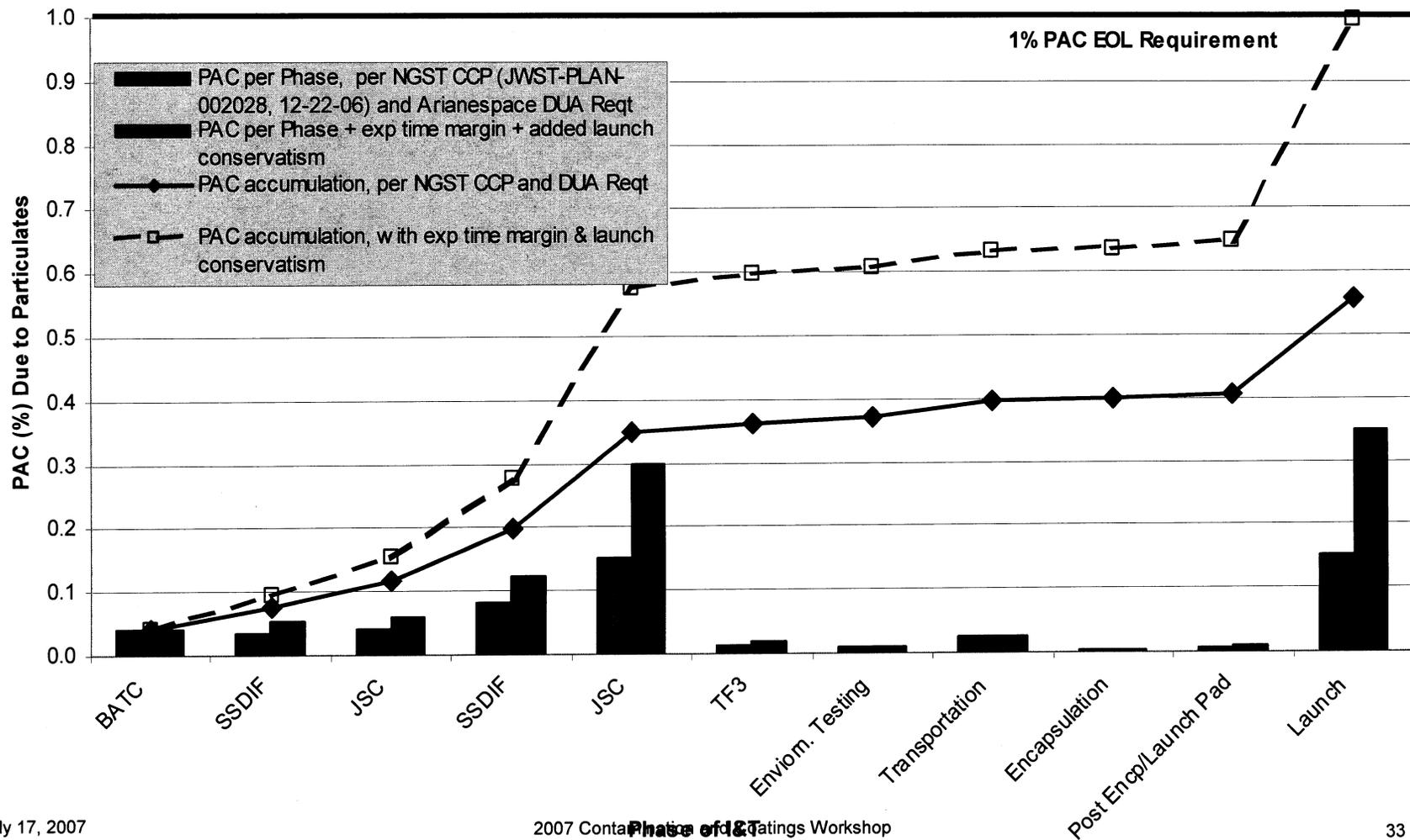


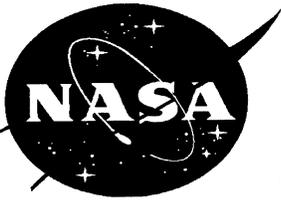


I&T Particulate Budget

Predicted PAC (%) for Worst Case PM Segment

Assumes Cup Up I&T, No Cleaning, Facilities Currently Baseline,
Idealized (requested in DUA) and Conservative (more realistic) Launch Phase Particle Redistribution





I&T Budget -cont-

Predicted PAC (%) for Worst Case PM Segment

Assumes Cup Up I&T, No Cleaning, Facilities Currently Baseline,
Idealized (requested in DUA) and Conservative (more realistic) Launch Phase Particle Redistribution

