

High capacity optical data storage for active archives

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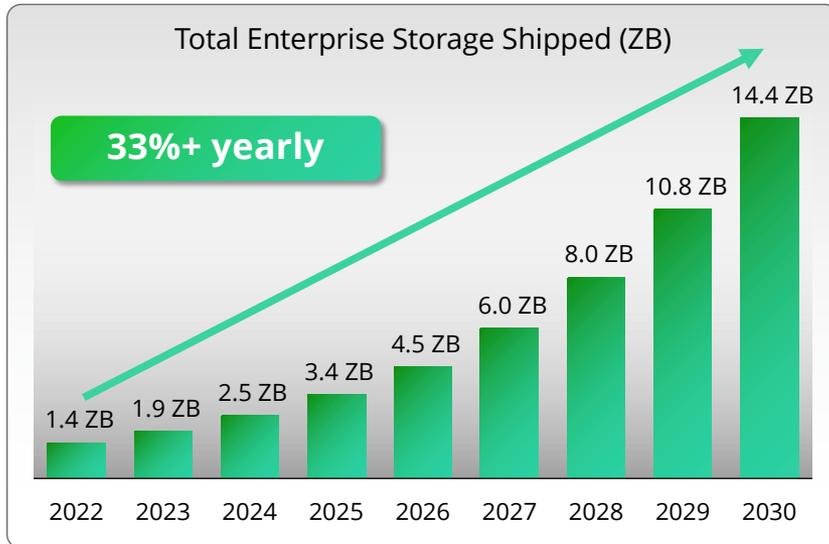
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²Folio Photonics Inc

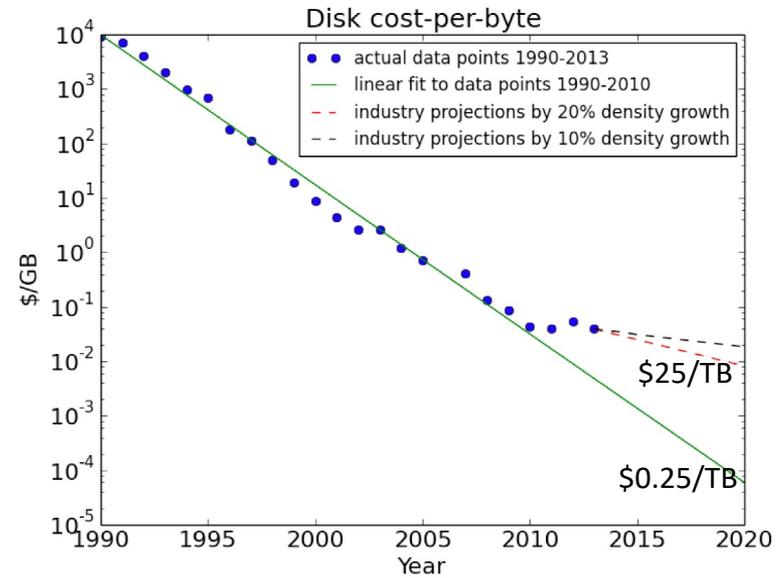
SPIE Photonics West

February 1, 2023

The Datapocalypse



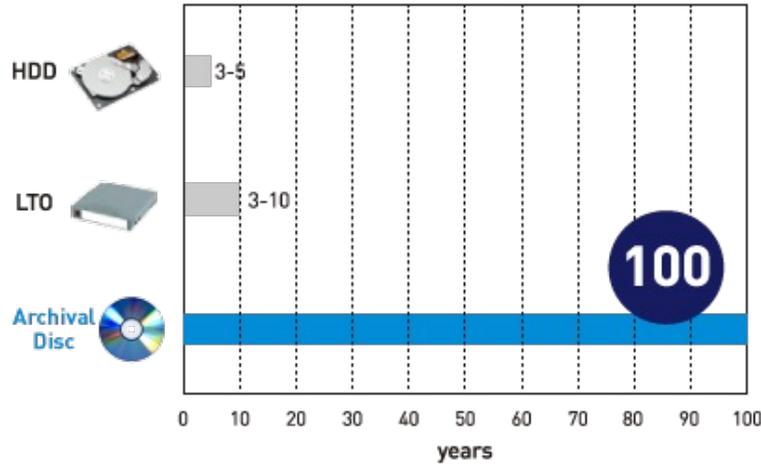
14 ZBs = \$125B+



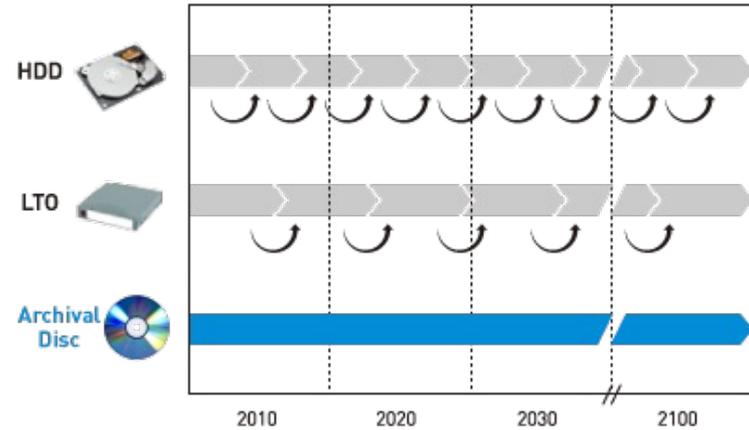
Gupta et al. 2014 IEEE 22nd International Symposium on Modelling, Analysis & Simulation of Computer and Telecommunication Systems; DOI: 10.1109/MASCOTS.2014.39

Optical Storage Value Proposition

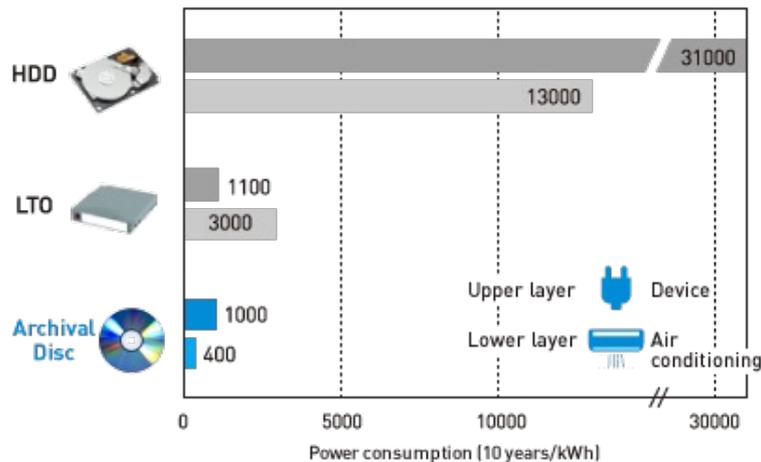
Longevity



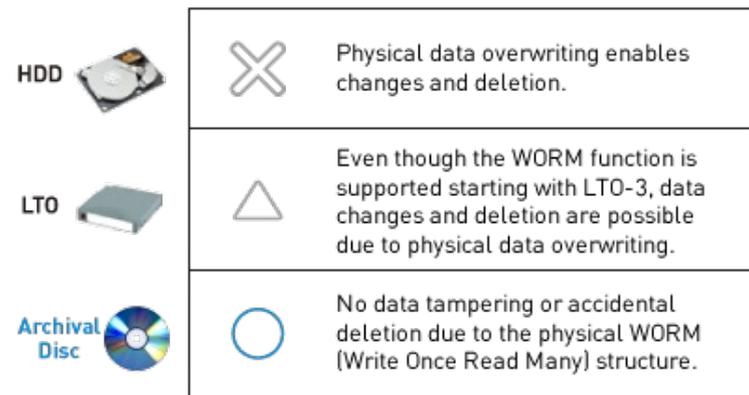
Data Migration



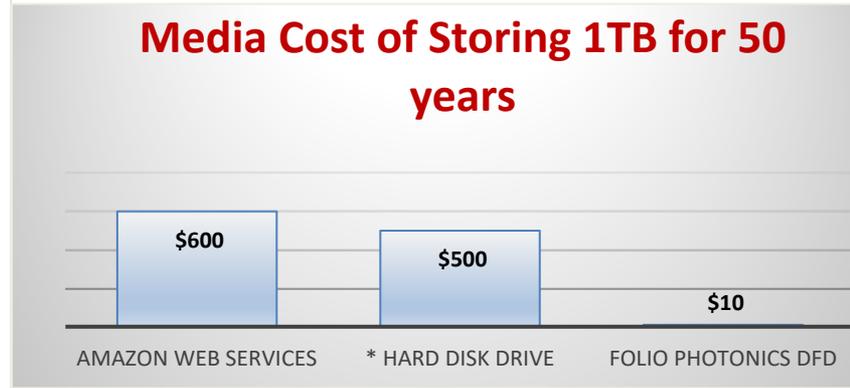
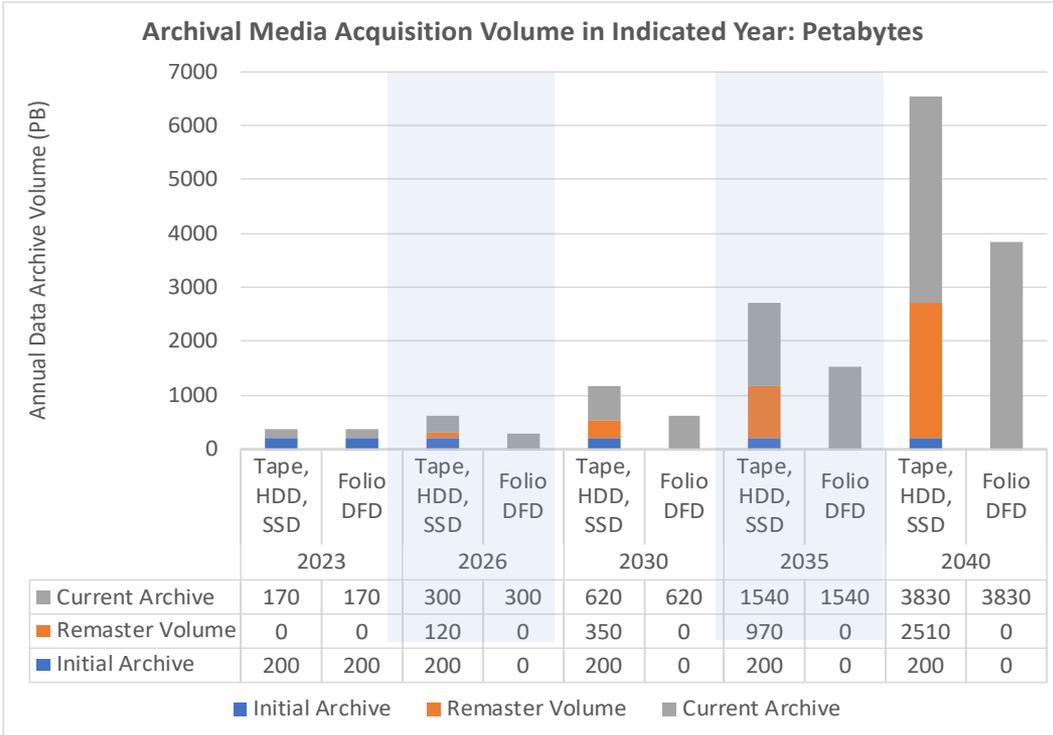
Power Consumption



Data Authenticity



Remastering impact



AWS \$1.00/mo

20% y/y volume growth
200 PB original archive

Optical data archiving systems

- Robotic library systems
- Several vendors at various scales
- Uses Blu-ray based technology
 - BDXL discs (200GB)
 - Sony/Panasonic Archival Disc (500GB)
 - Roadmap stops at 1 TB
- Takes advantage of new drives and systems: e.g. high bit rate



https://pro.sony/ue_US/products/petasite-scalable-library/optical-disc-archive-petasite-ex-solutions

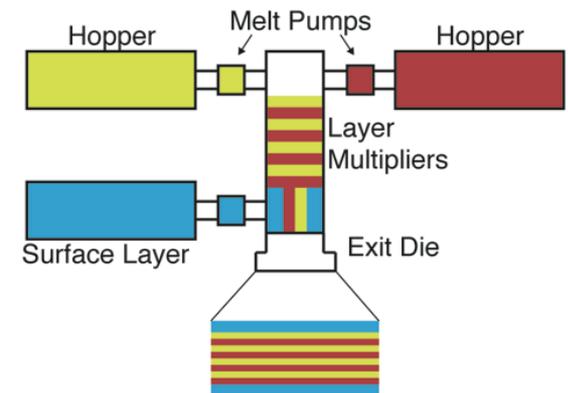
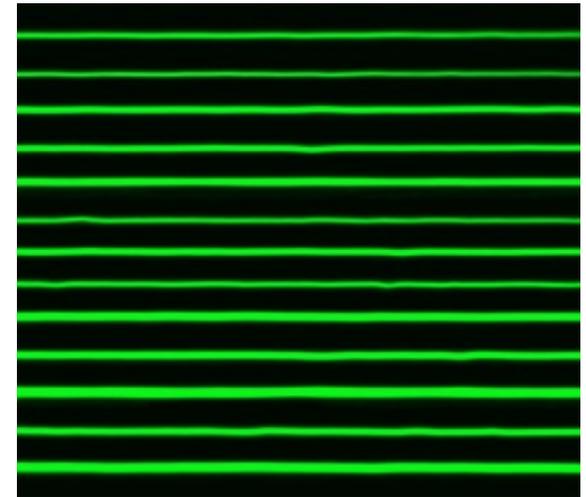
Optical Storage Advantage

- Advantages of optical
 - Long lifetime: reduction of remastering
 - Energy efficient
 - Secure
 - Random access
- Main Challenge
 - **Limited capacity of BR-based technology: high media cost due to manufacturing technology limitations**
- Approaches to high capacity
 - Holographic
 - 5D Recording
 - Multilevel/multiplex
 - **Extending the multiple layer roadmap**

Co-Extrusion

Co-extruded multilayer polymer film

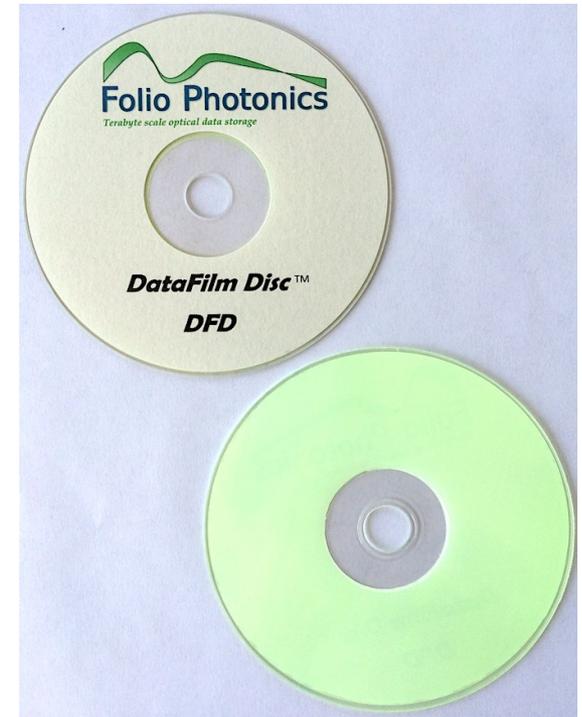
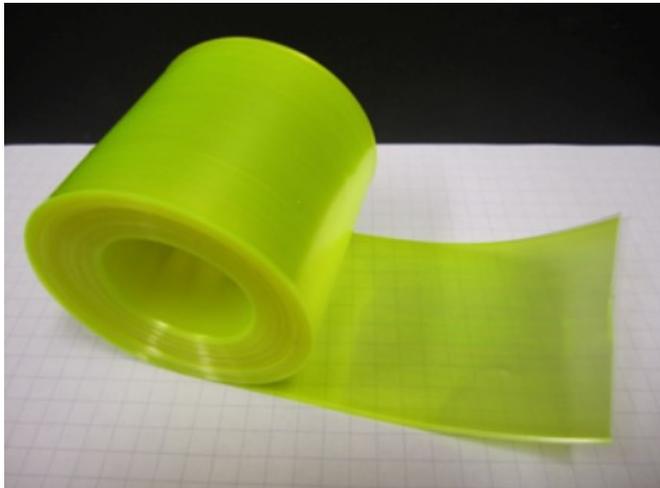
- Roll-to-roll process → extremely low cost
- Fluorescent storage scheme
 - Incoherent light → closely pack layers with no crosstalk
- Nanoscale active layer thickness
 - Sufficiently transparent
 - Write within the 1-photon absorption band
 - Blu-ray laser compatible



1. Co-extrusion of multilayer film
2. Coating protective hard coat on multilayer film, UV curing
3. Lamination of multilayer film on standard disc substrate
4. Laser cutting/edge sealing

Folio Discs

Rolls of multilayer films



Introducing Folio Photonics

Developed at Case Western Reserve University with support from the National Science Foundation Center for Layered Polymer Systems



US-Based Company



Solon, OH
HQ, R&D, Film/Disc
Manufacturing

Longmont, CO
Drive/Optics R&D

19 full-time employees with 8+ Ph.D.'s & 12+ Masters

6 Patents (2 Granted 4 Pending)
Across Media, Manufacturing, Optics and Drive



Steven Santamaria, CEO

- Seasoned technology executive with a history of successfully commercializing innovation
- 14 years at Intel



Kenneth D. Singer, Ph.D., Founder, CIO

- Expert in nonlinear optics with 200+ publications and several patents
- Experience at Bell Labs



Irina Shiyankovskaya, Ph.D., CTO

- Over 50 publications and 11 patents in optics, organic electronics, flexible displays and photophysics
- Technical advisor to Fortune 500 companies



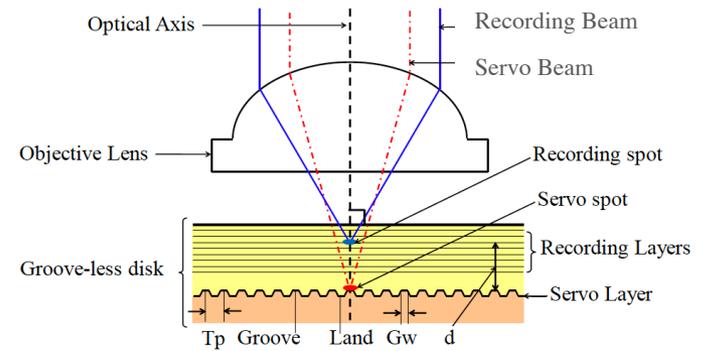
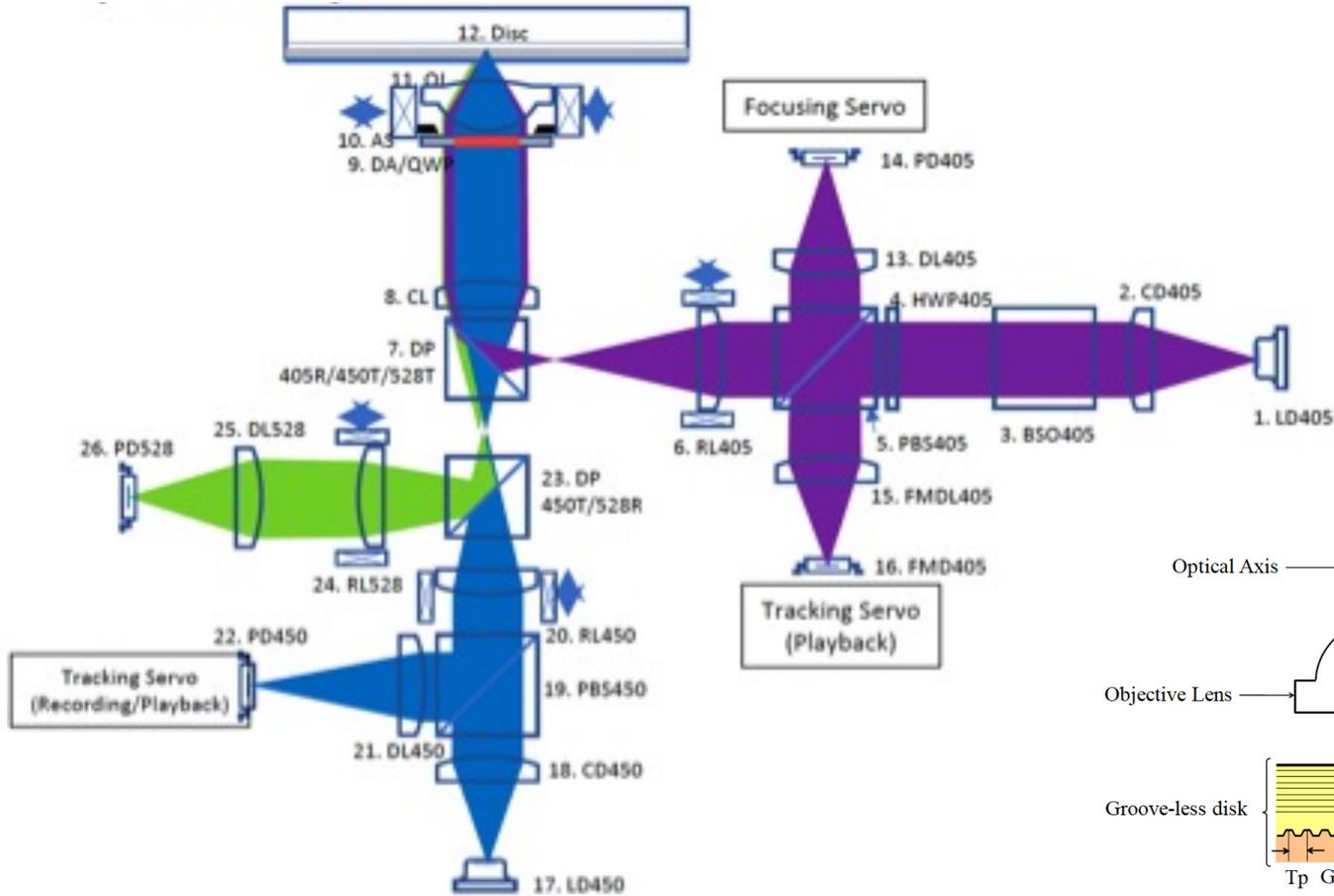
Clayton Reeves, CFA, VP Fin & Strategy

- Background in investment banking, venture capital and M&A
- Experience with technology startups
- Led finance diligence on recent \$1B exit

Board of Directors include:

Steven Santamaria, CEO, Felix Brueck Board Chairman, McKinsey (Rtd), Bob Pavey Morgenthaler Ventures (Rtd), Ronn Richards CEO, Cleveland Foundation, Tim Schigel Refinery Ventures, Adam Sharkawy Material Impact, Ken Singer Founder/CIO, Joe Taylor CEO, Panasonic USA (Rtd)

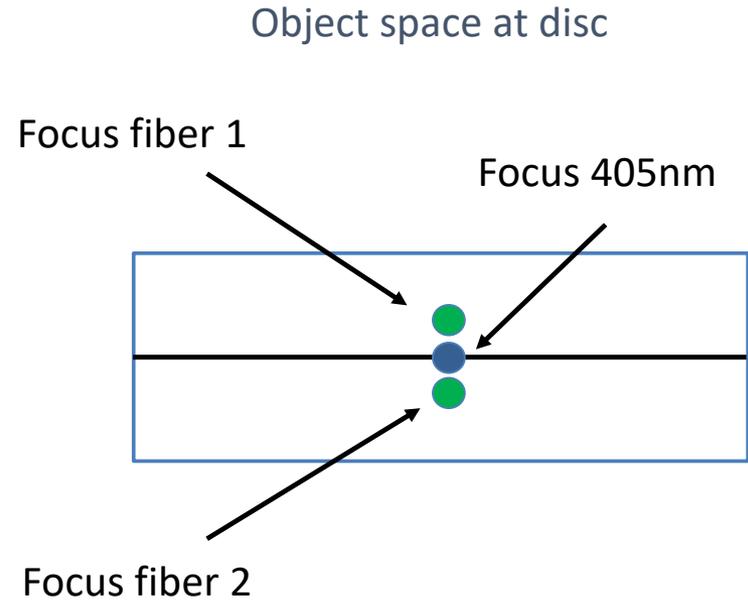
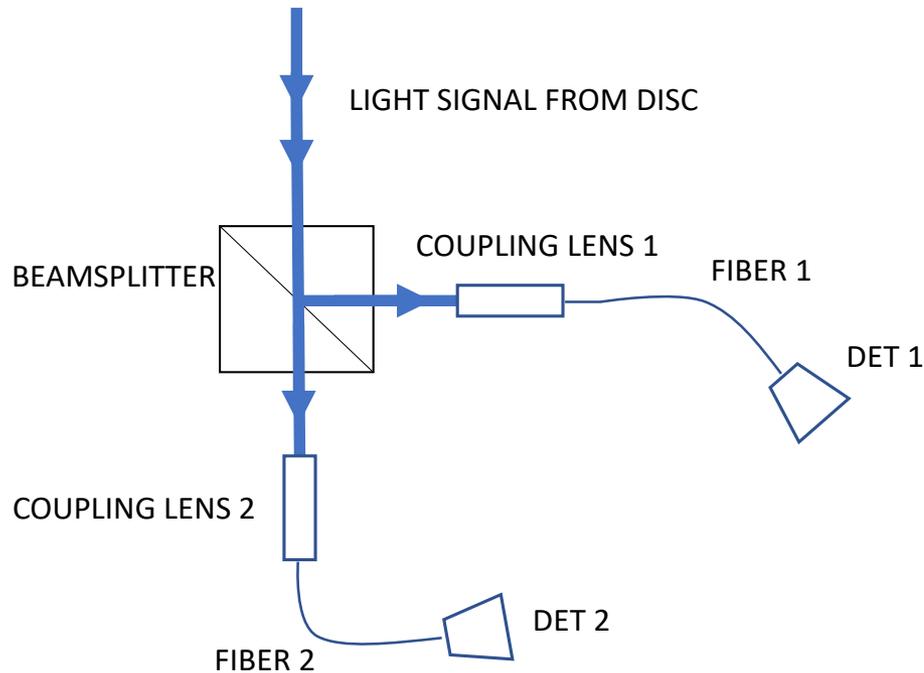
Optical pickup unit



Push-pull focus error signal

Fluorescent signal

- Confocal fiber-optic detection
- Three planes in object space

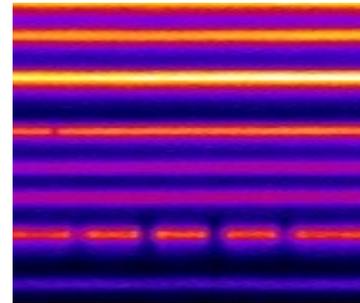


$$\text{Focus error signal} = \text{DET 1} - \text{DET 2}$$

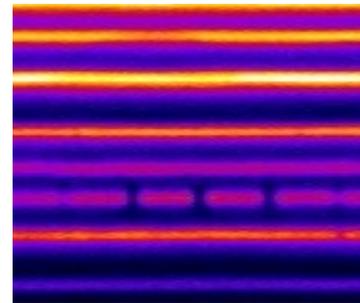
No interlayer crosstalk

- **The written data have no interlayer crosstalk or shadow in the adjacent layers**
- No interference of reflected fluorescence signals due to incoherent nature of the fluorescence

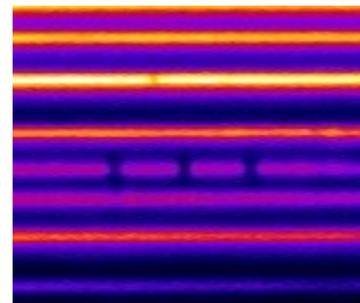
- Confocal scanning microscope images of the data written in 16 layer film
 - Buffer layer thickness - 6 μm
 - Active layer thickness - 600 nm



Bits only in 7th layer



Bits only in 6th layer



Bits only in 5th layer

Low Media Noise



Comparable to Commercial Discs

Importance:

- Demonstrates Folio media quality
- Enables better signal/mark quality

High CNR Values



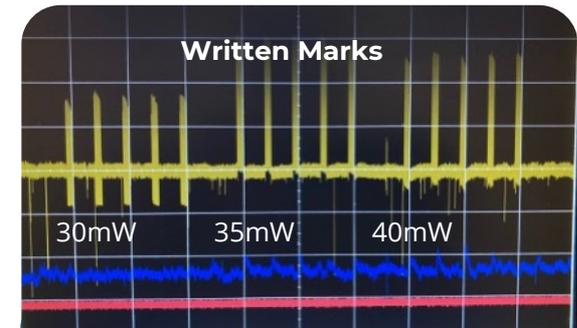
Comparable to Commercial Discs

Folio Disc: CNR 50-52 dB

Verbatim Disc: CNR 52-53 dB

Importance: Demonstrates dynamic optical performance of materials/media

Low Writing Power



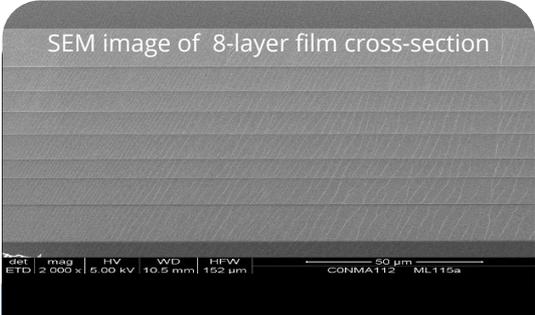
Low laser power on a disc:

- 35mW at 1x
- 45mW at 2x

Importance: Proves feasibility for sufficient power to write on all 8-layers at commercial speed

Proves: Materials Capability

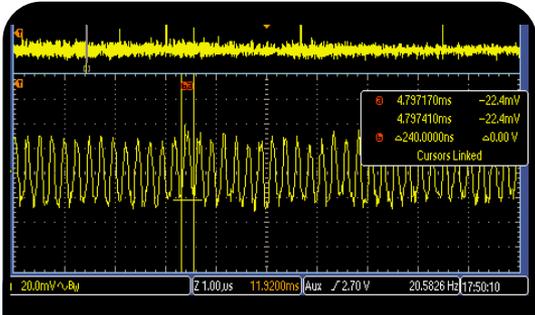
Multi-layer Film to Disc Manufacturing



The buffer & active layer thickness varies ~5% within the layer and ~10% across the film depth

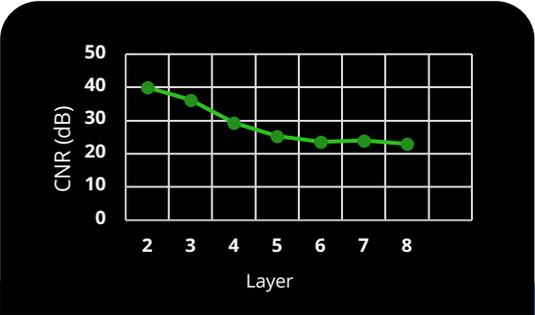
Demonstrates scalable multi-layer manufacturing processes that project to new S-curve in data storage

Dynamic Reading & Writing to 7 Layers



Demonstrates the ability to read & write data to 7 layers of a Folio disc **with no interlayer crosstalk**

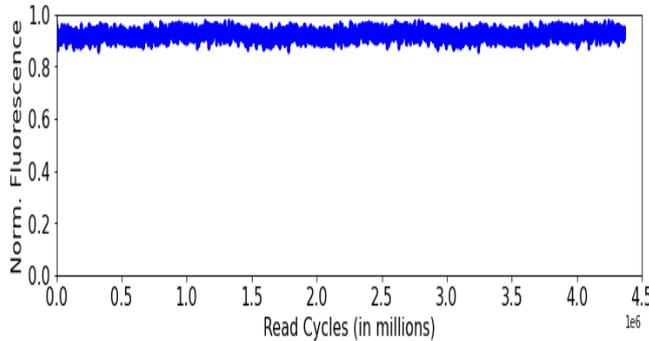
Layer-by-Layer CNR



This initial data demonstrates the suitability of Folio's materials to achieve quality signals for dynamic writing and reading

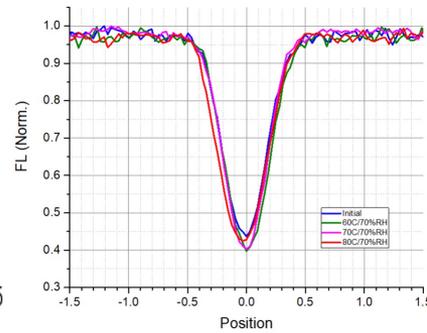
Proves: Process and ML Film Capabilities

Photostability



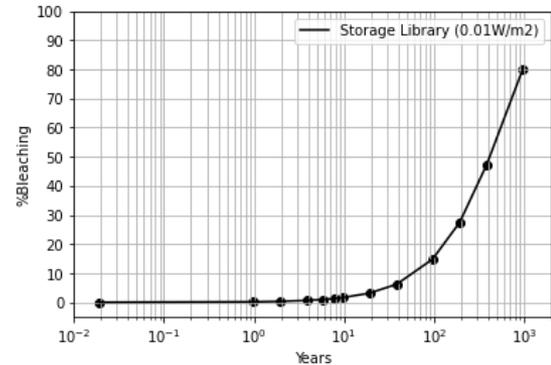
No changes in signal intensity after 4.5 M read cycles

Thermal Stability



Written data mark preserved after 1000h test at elevated temperatures and humidity

Longevity



Estimated 126-year lifetime at 25C/70%RH in the library conditions – written mark contrast change

- Strong value proposition for optical storage
- New approach to optical data storage for enterprise archive
 - Economics driven by media lifetime and cost/GB
 - Low-cost roll-to-roll fabrication of multilayer optical data storage media
 - Writing mechanism within the single photon absorption band compatible with current Blu-ray™ technology for low-cost drive and backward compatibility
- Robust
 - Temperature and photostability
- Dynamic testing
 - Low media noise in data channel
 - Multilayer write and read

Acknowledgements

Case Western Reserve University:

- **Ken Singer**
 - Anuj Saini, Cory Christenson

Folio Photonics Inc

- **Irina Shiyankovskaya**, Steve Santamaria, Ron Kadlec

