

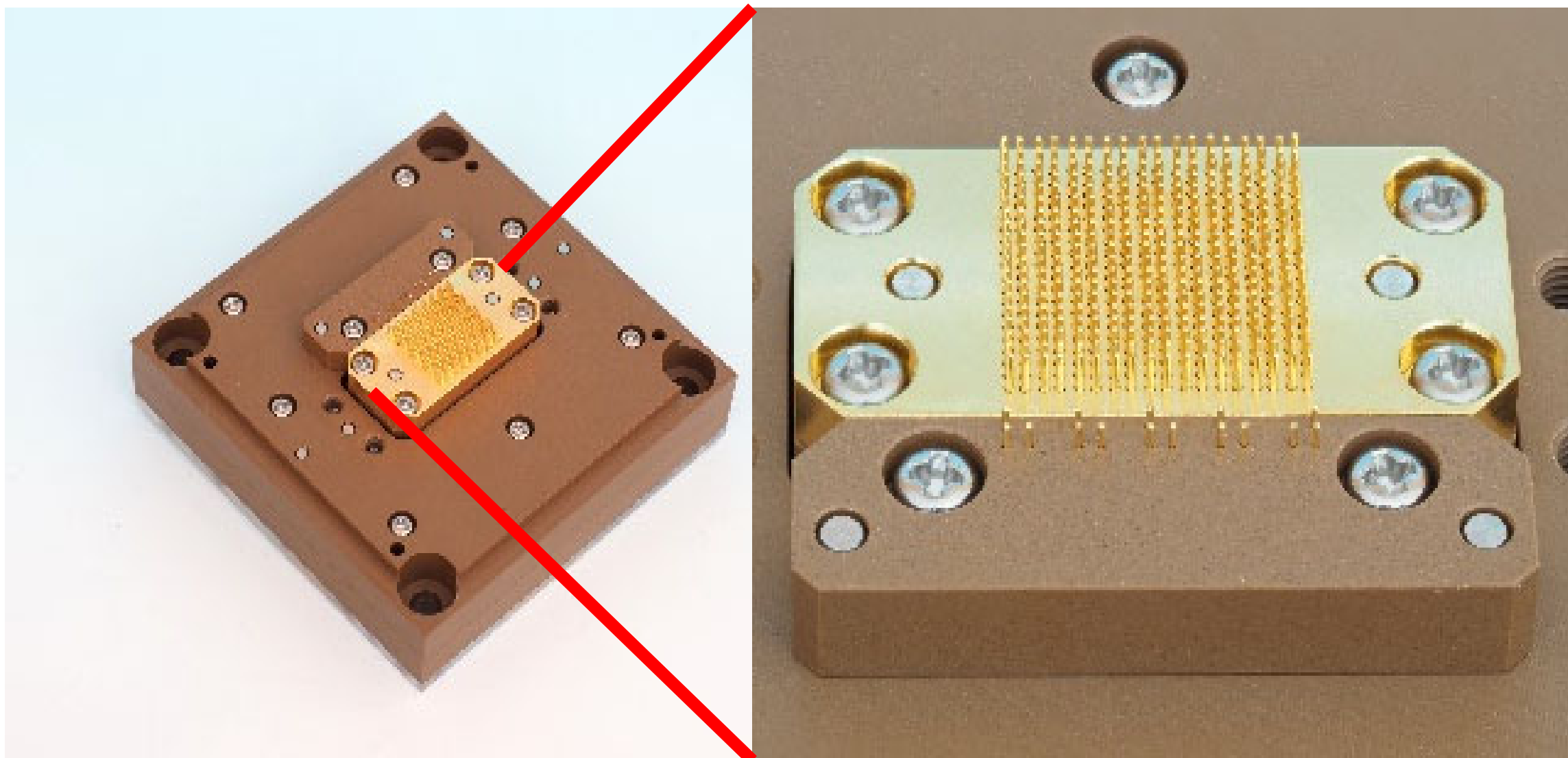


# AuCNT Plated Contact Probes

Kazuaki Mita<sup>1</sup>, Morinobu Nakamura<sup>1</sup>, Hitoshi Kimura<sup>1</sup>,  
Susumu Arai<sup>2</sup>, Antonio Fermin<sup>1</sup>  
Seiken Co., Ltd.<sup>1</sup>, Shinshu University<sup>2</sup>

## What is a Contact Probe?

- Contact probes are essential for electrical testing of semiconductors and electronic components.
- Our CNT probe, is specifically engineered to handle testing applications that demand high current flow.

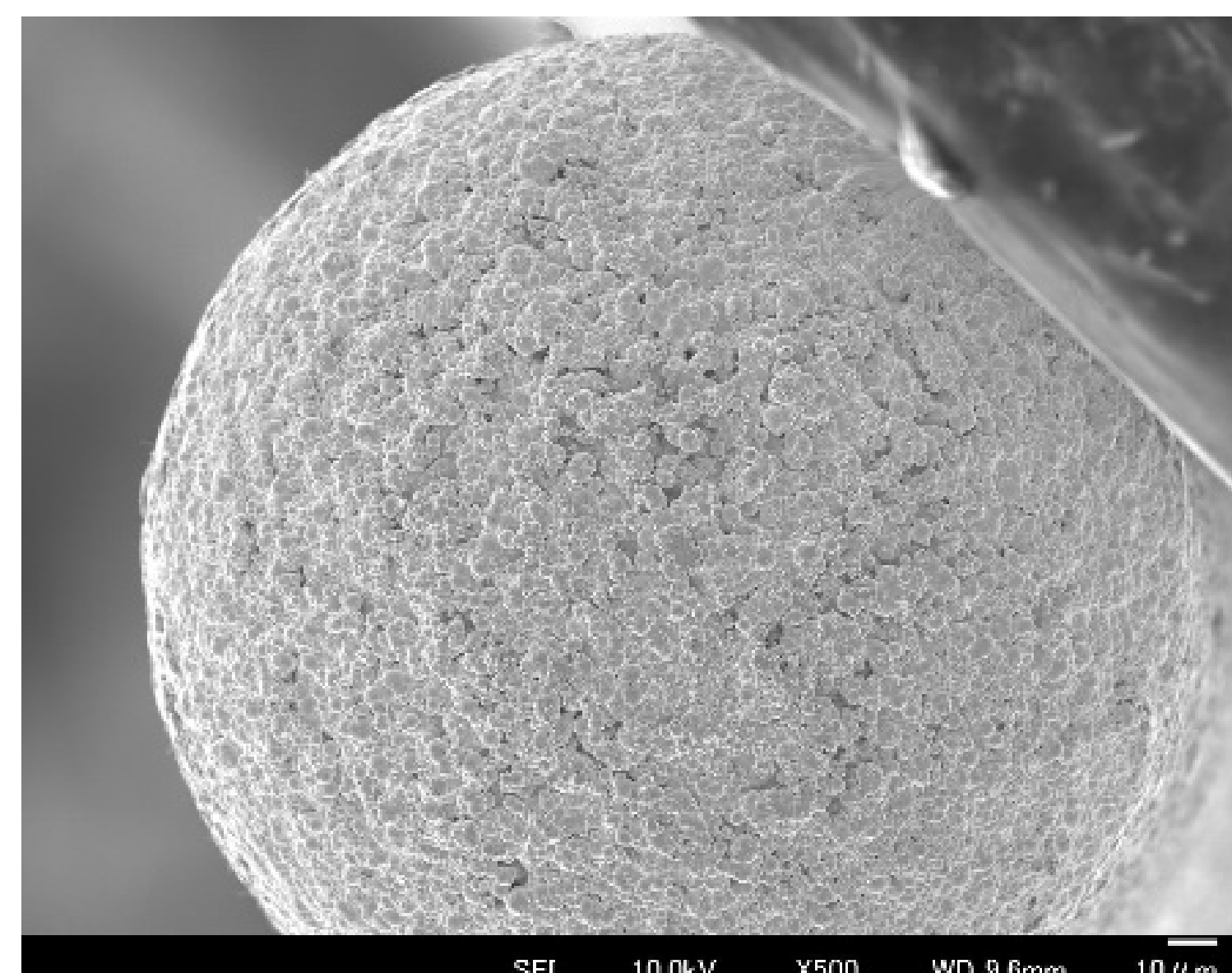
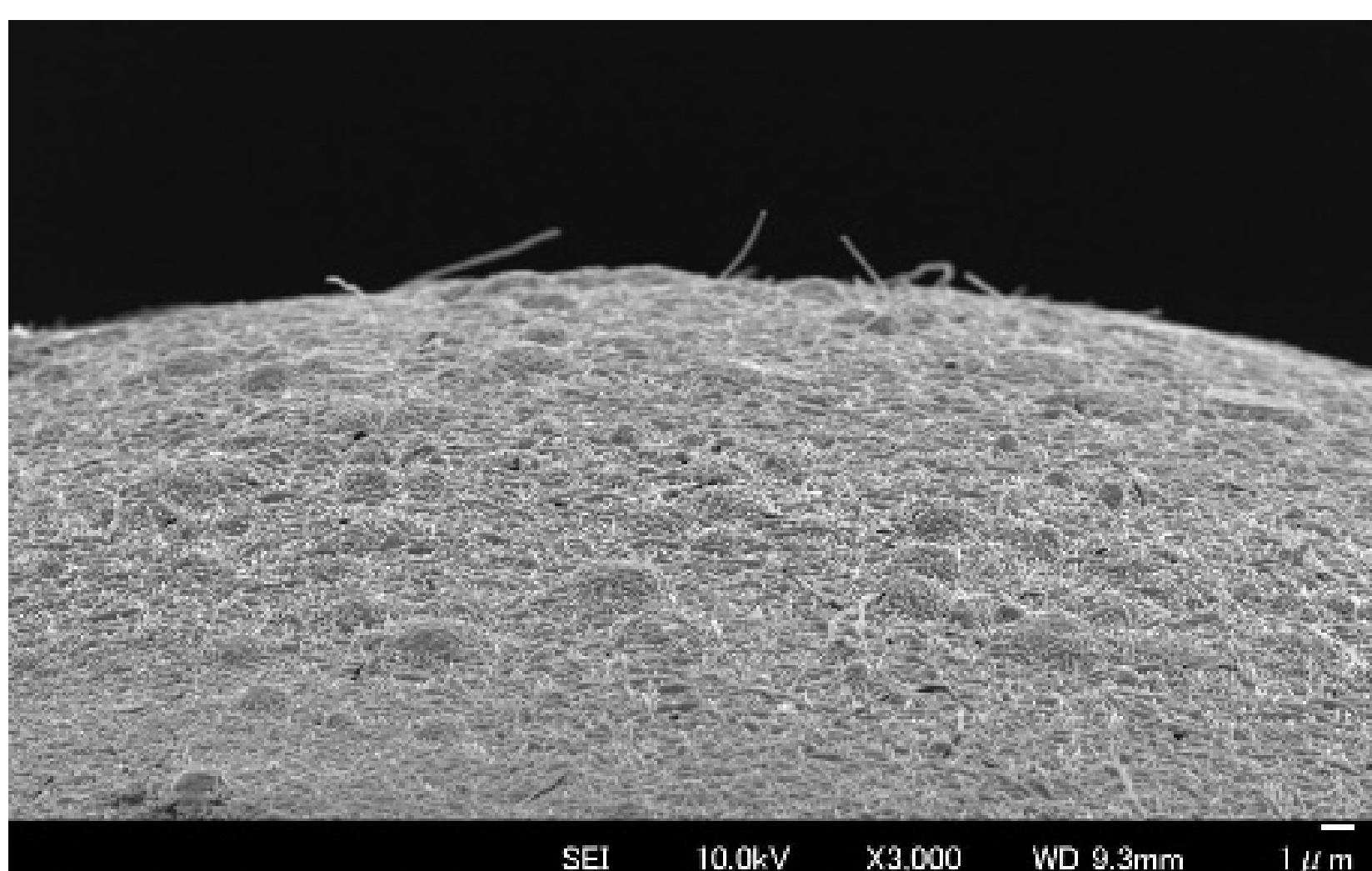
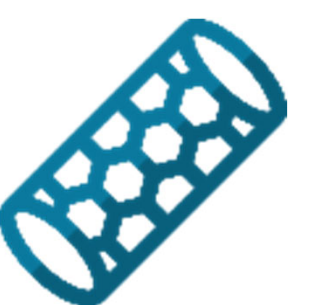


**Presenting our solution crafted for high current testing applications**



## Au +CNT Plating Technology

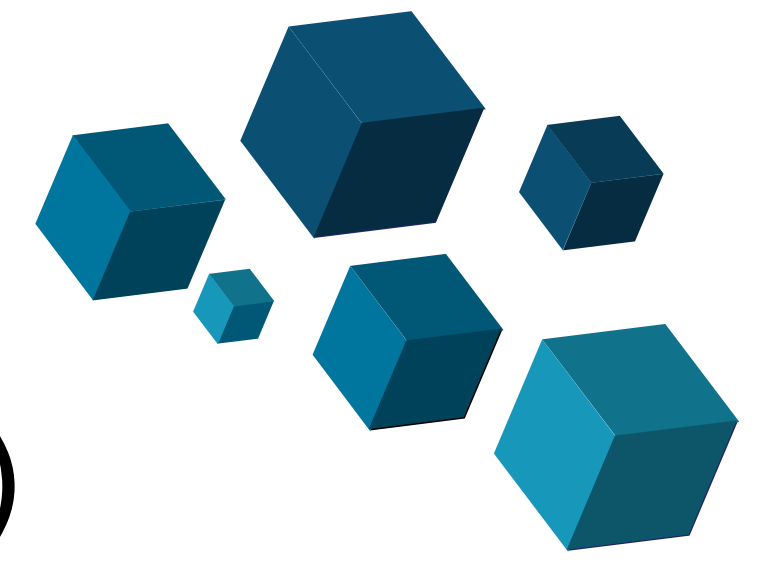
Our plating technology incorporates Carbon Nanotubes (CNT) into the gold (Au) layer, enhancing the probe's performance, added to the low contact resistance and electrical conductivity that standard gold plating provides.



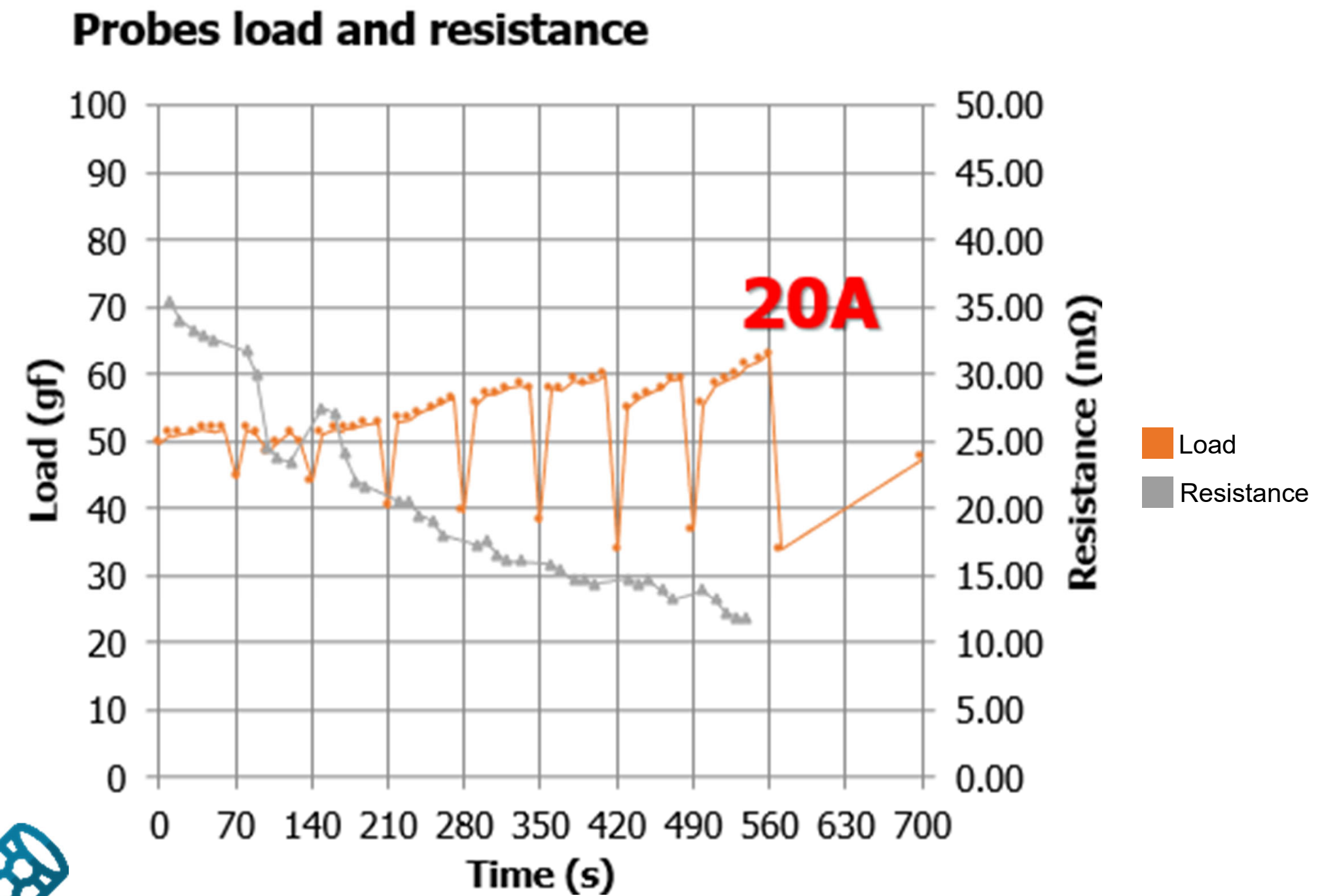
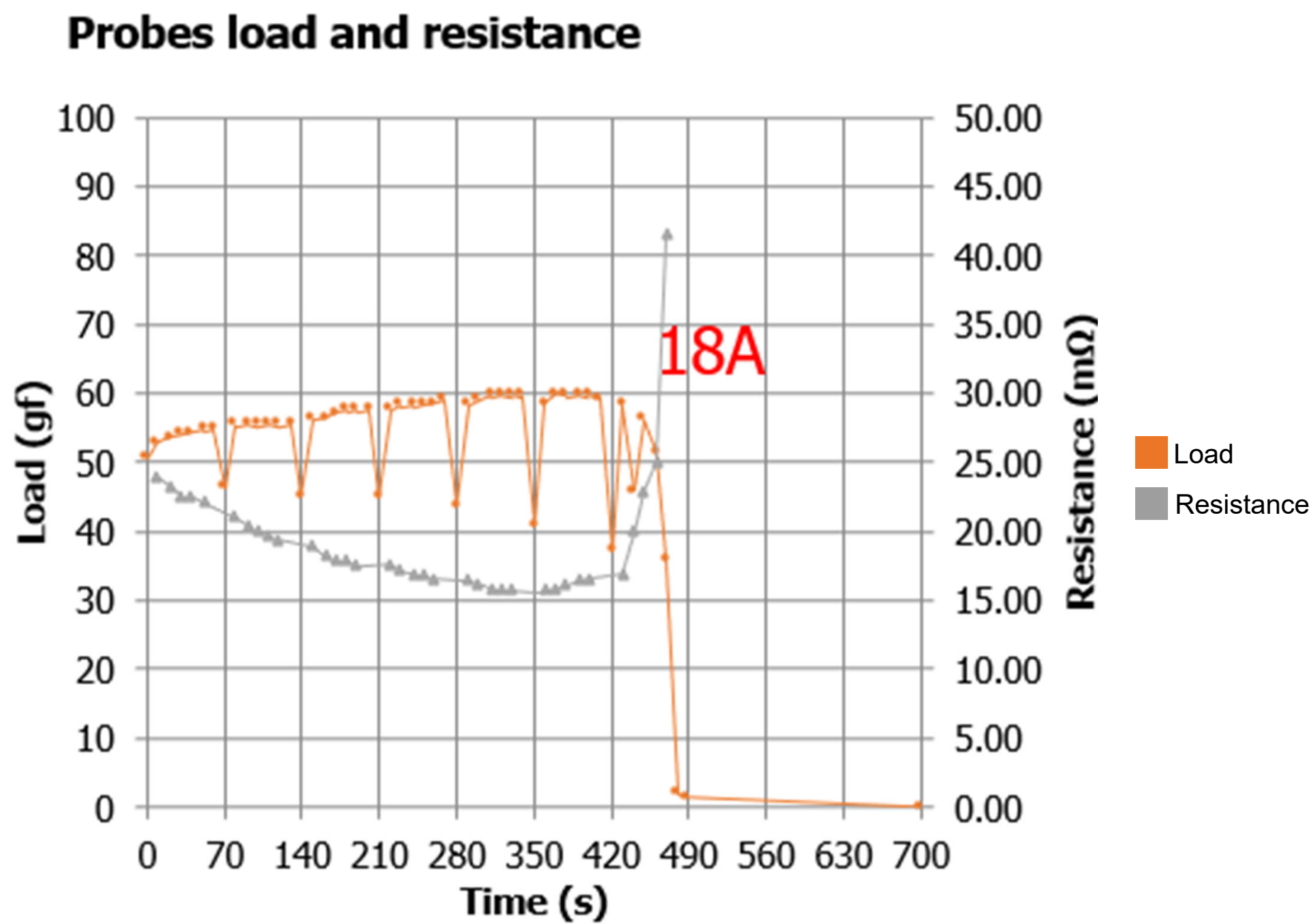




## Capacity comparison test

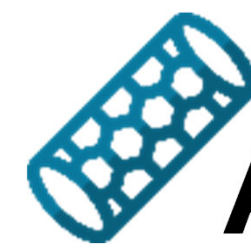


- Two probes mounted on a metal block (0.55 mm pitch)
- Probes used: SB-1-NAS(G)



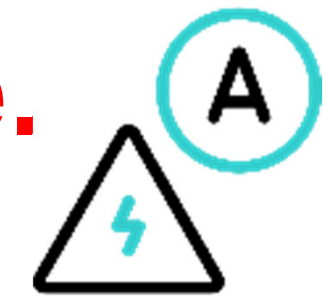
### Conventional probes:

- Current: 18A (around 9A per probe)
- Observation: load decrease.
- Up to 8A per probe.

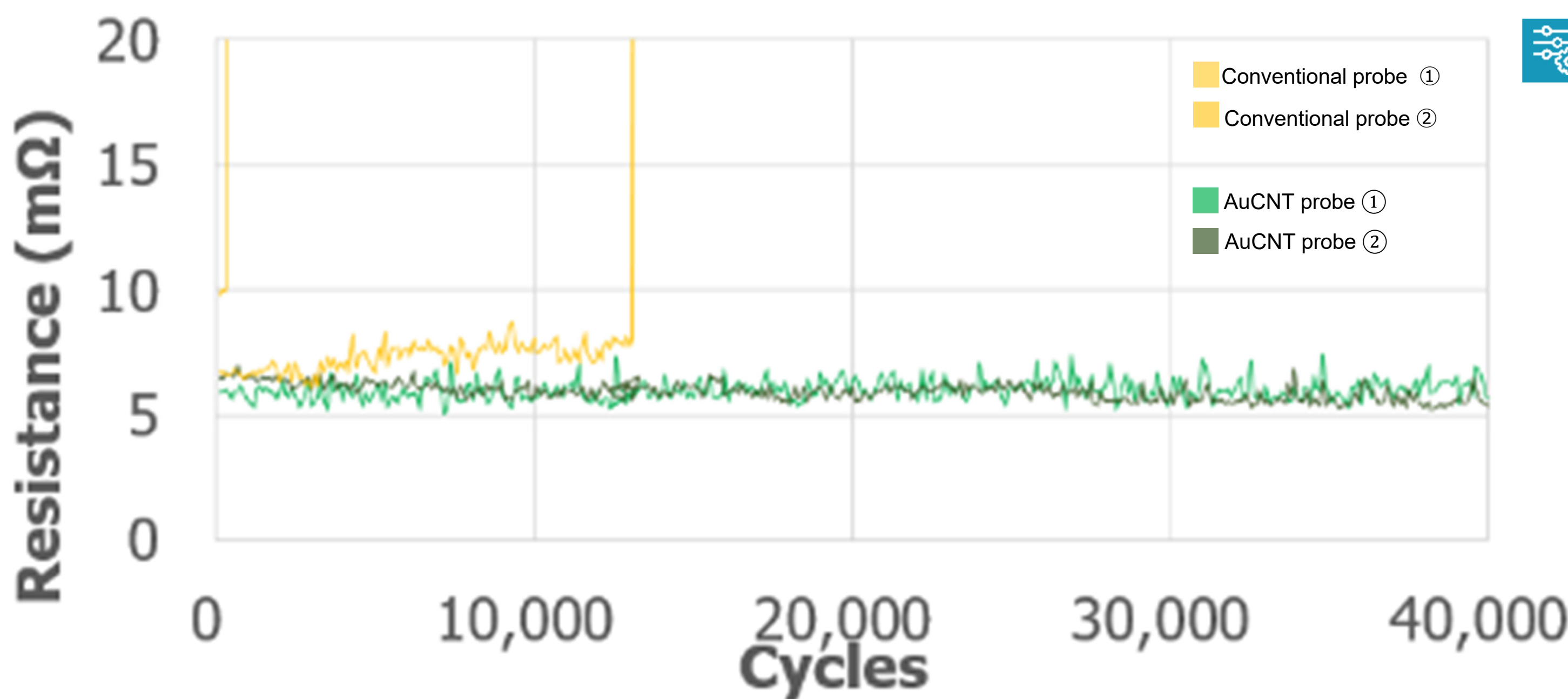


### AuCNT probes:

- Current: 20A (10A per probe)
- Observation: load decrease, 5%.
- Up to 10A per probe.

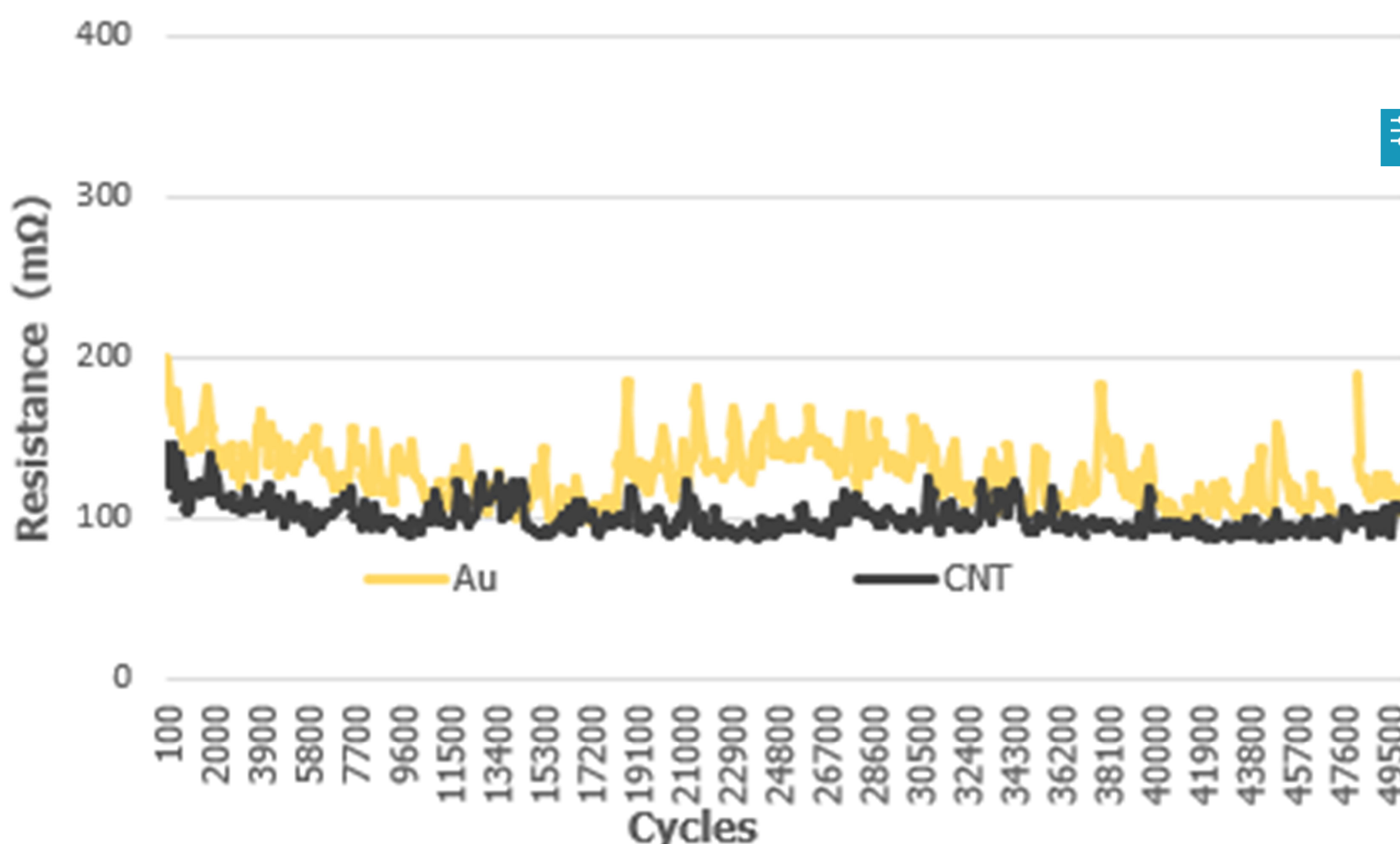


## Endurance test comparison against Au and Al



### Testing conditions:

- Current: 120A for 1ms
- Target Material: Au film on Cu block
- Contact probes: SL-1 (2mm pitch)



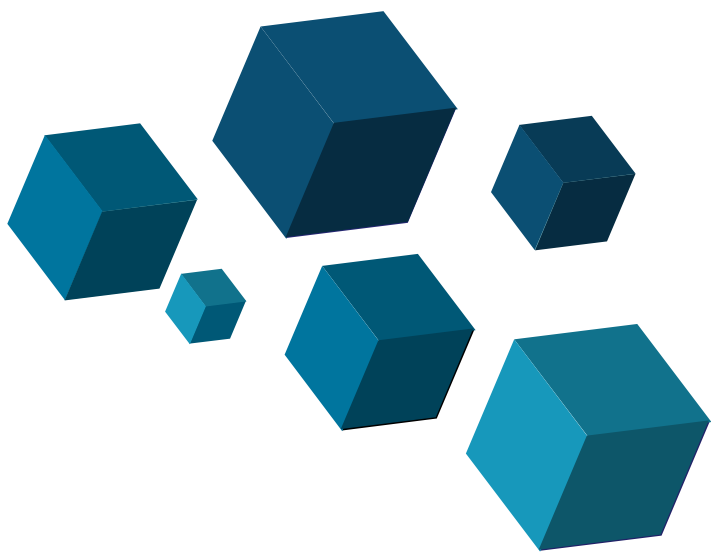
### Testing conditions:

- Current: 3A for 13ms
- Target Material: Aluminum (Al)
- Contact probes: SJ (0.5mm pitch)

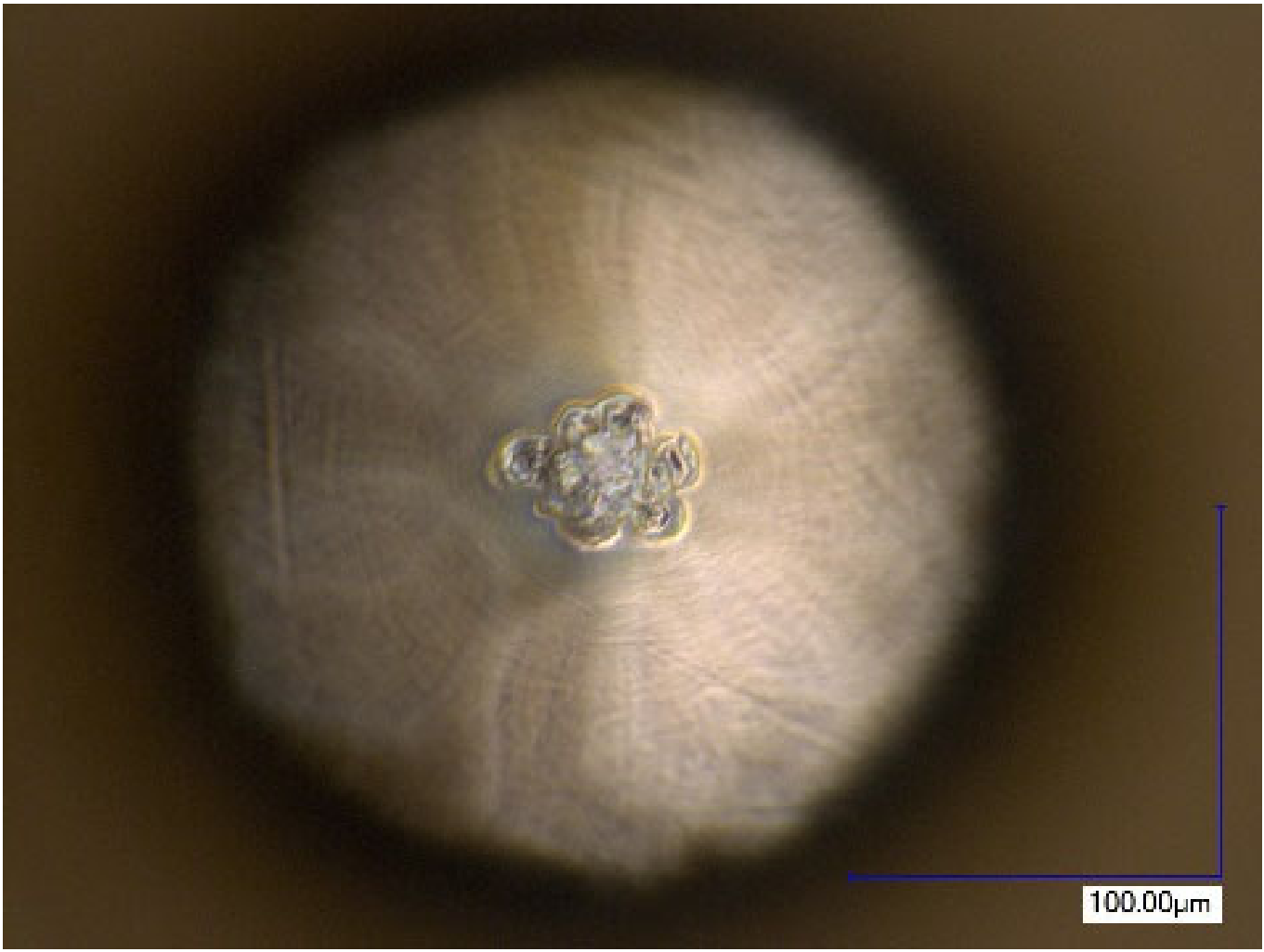
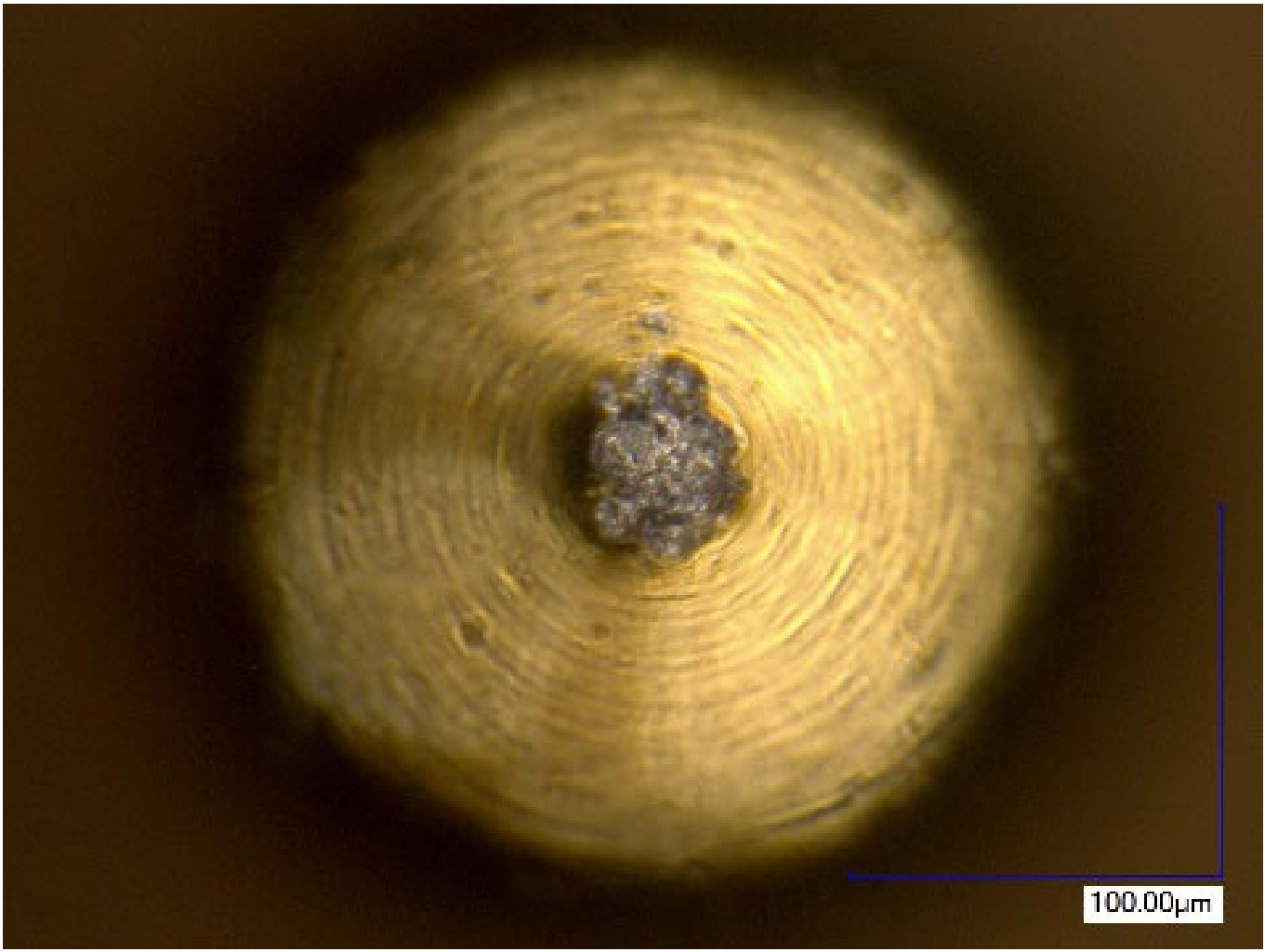


C

omparison of tip cleaning after testing  
(For Al testing)



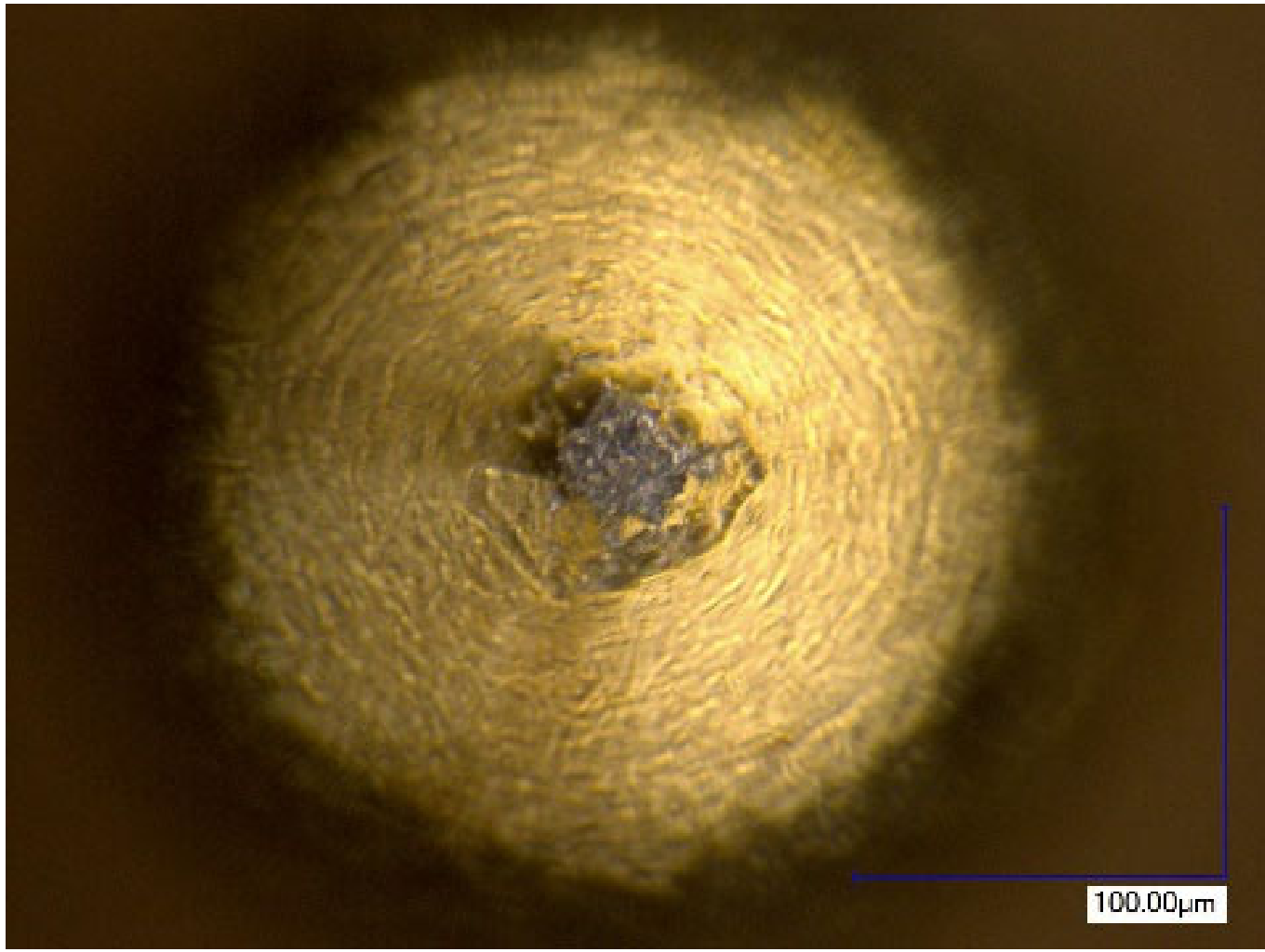
Conventional probes



After testing



After Cleaning



CNT probes

The plating was peeled off, and residues from Al remain.

The residues were successfully removed without damaging the plating.

H

igh-current performance with the AuCNT probes

- Current Capacity: AuCNT probes offer higher current capacity than traditional probes.
- Durability: AuCNT probes exhibit greater endurance under identical current conditions.
- Contact Resistance: AuCNT probes optimize overall performance reducing resistance.



AuCNT Probes vs. Conventional Probes



	Conventional probes	Au-CNT probes
Curren(φ0.3mm)	8A	10A
Durability (at 120 A)	About 10K times	More than 40K times
Contact resistance to Al	23mΩ	3mΩ

# Presentation / Copyright Notice

The presentations in this publication comprise the pre-workshop Proceedings of the 2025 TestConX workshop. They reflect the authors' opinions and are reproduced here as they are planned to be presented at the 2025 TestConX workshop. Updates from this version of the papers may occur in the version that is actually presented at the TestConX workshop. The inclusion of the papers in this publication does not constitute an endorsement by TestConX or the sponsors.

There is NO copyright protection claimed by this publication. However, each presentation is the work of the authors and their respective companies: as such, it is strongly encouraged that any use reflect proper acknowledgement to the appropriate source. Any questions regarding the use of any materials presented should be directed to the author/s or their companies.

The TestConX logo and 'TestConX' are trademarks of TestConX.