

INSTRUMENTS AND METHODS OF INVESTIGATION

PACS numbers: 32.80.Rm, 42.82.Cr, **61.46. – w**, **68.65. – k**, **81.20. – n**

3D printing methods for micro- and nanostructures

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DOI: <https://doi.org/10.3367/UFNe.2017.11.038239>

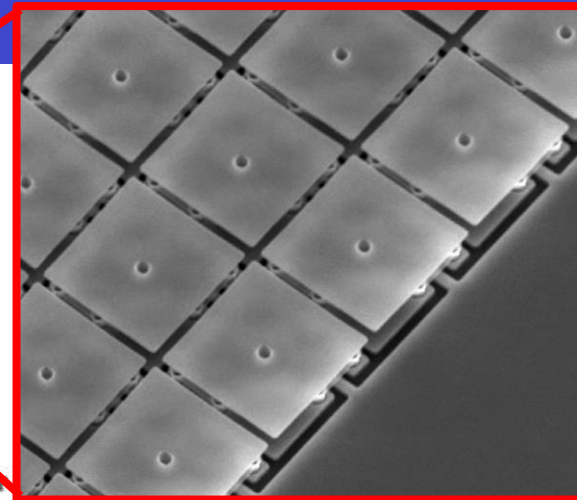
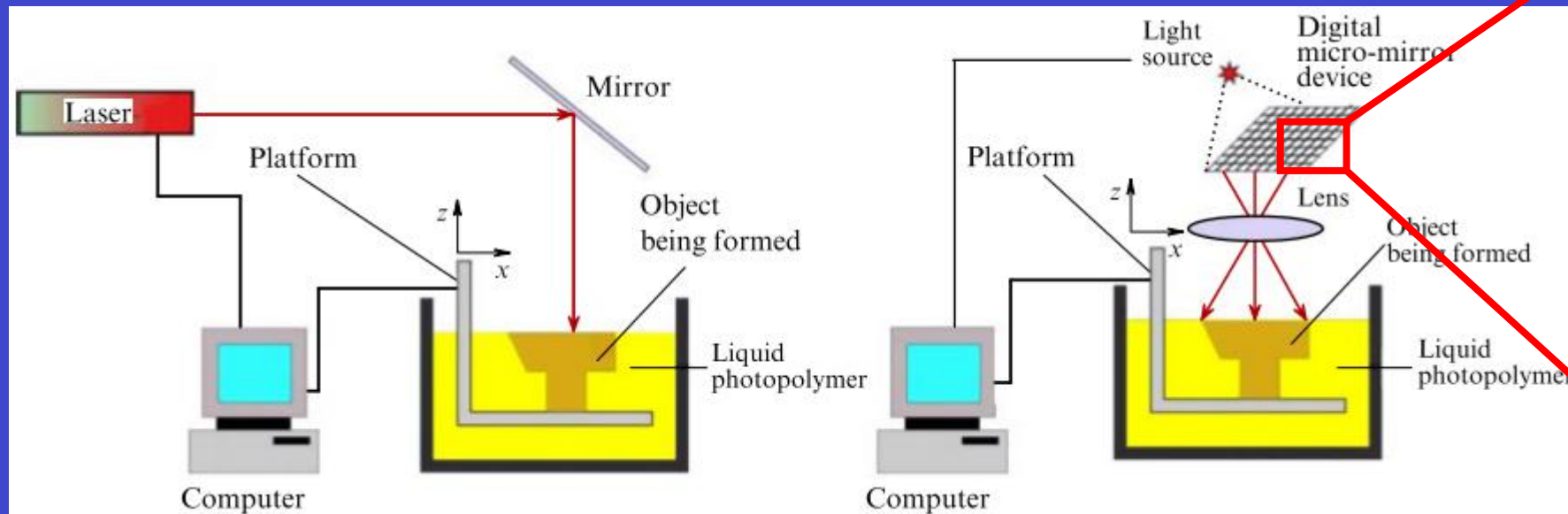
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20 May 2020



Nanostereolithography (Charles Hull, 1986)

Is one of the earliest and most popular additive manufacturing methods by layer-by-layer formation of 3D objects by **photoirradiation**.



10 by 10 μm mirrors

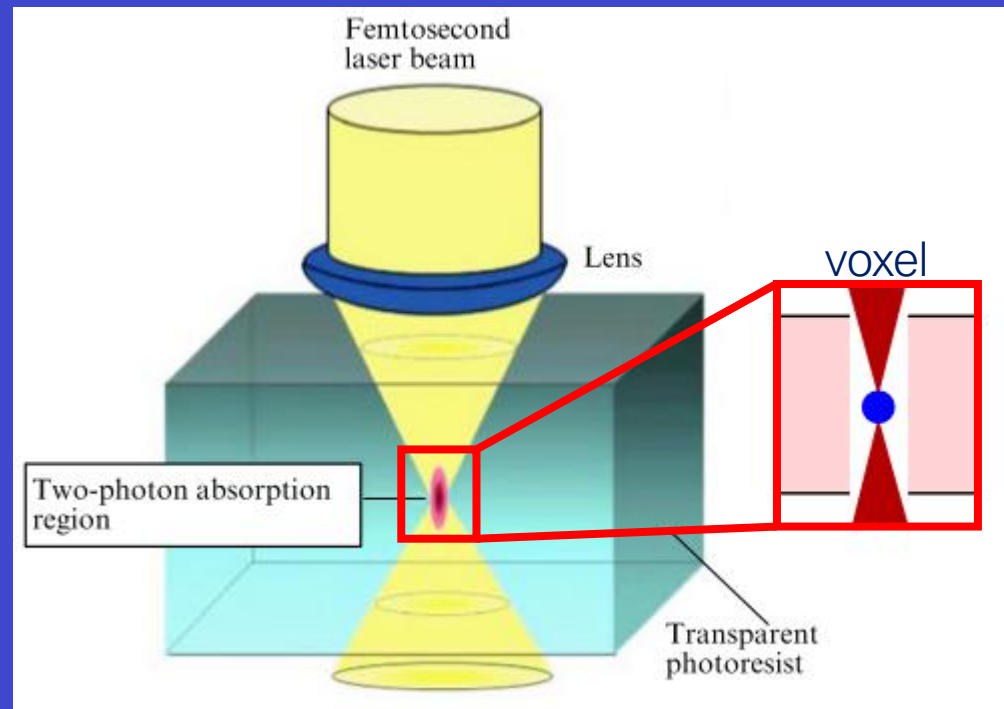
scanning stereolithography
(point-by-point solidification)

projection stereolithography
(layer-by-layer solidification)



Two-photon polymerization (Maruo, 1997)

Enhancing the resolution of stereolithographic methods to about 1/100 the optical wave-length



Voxel size is **multivariable dependent**, hence hard to control

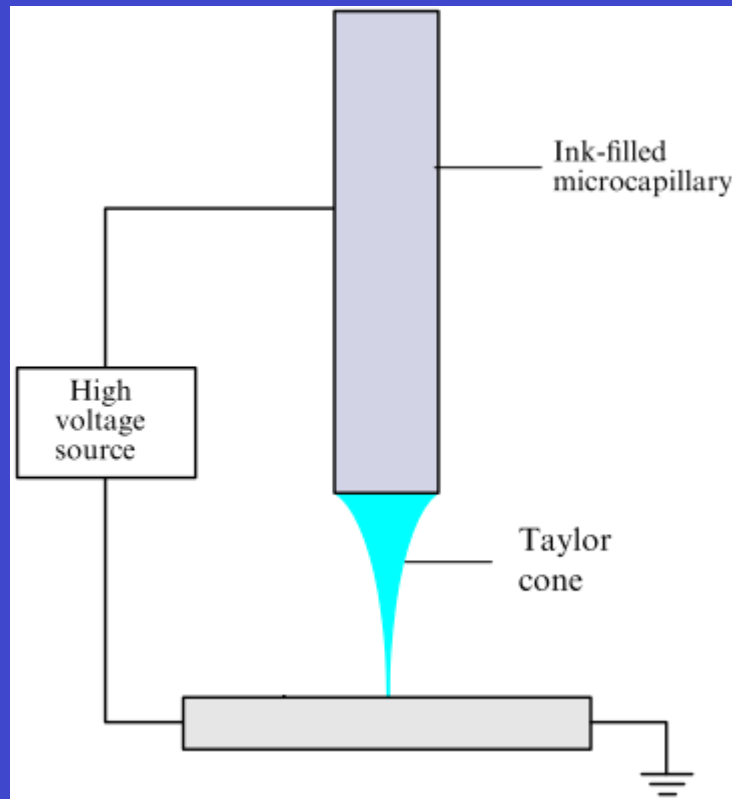
(radiation power and wavelength, oxygen diffusion, the radiation dose, and the properties of photoinitiators and monomers)

In short, a highly **sensitive and efficient photoinitiator** and a **low laser radiation wavelength** result in **smaller objects**

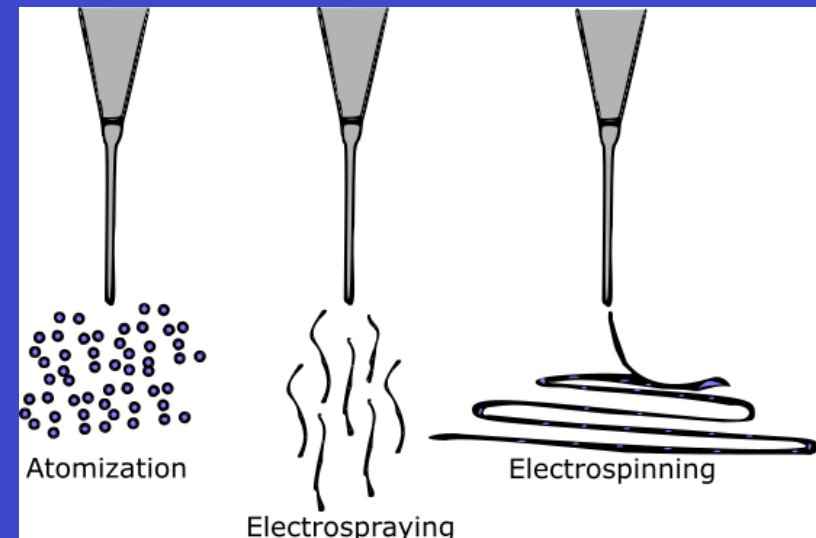


Electrohydrodynamic inkjet printing

Sequential selective **deposition of ink droplets** onto a substrate, just like when printing a document.

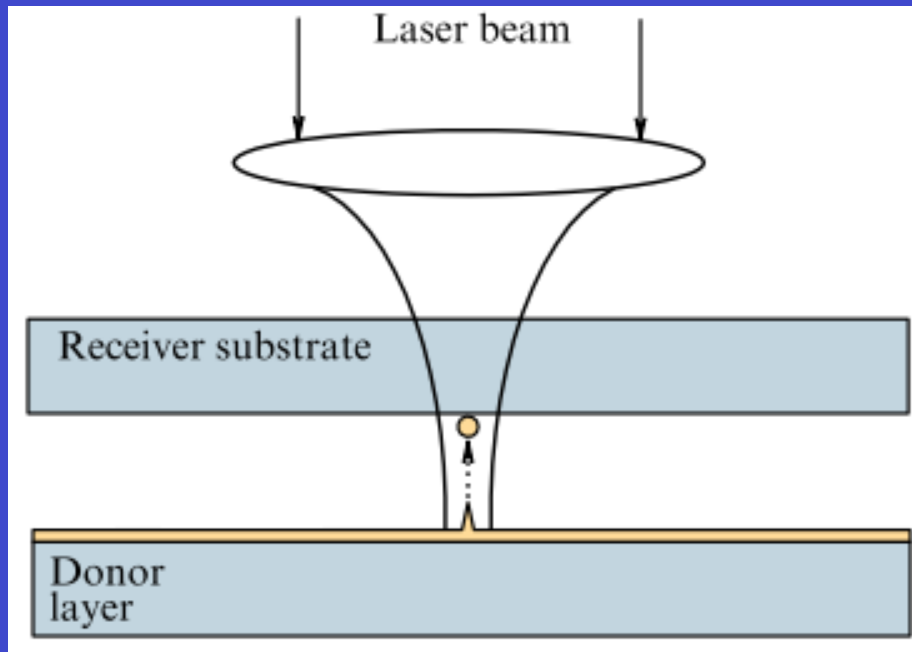


The **jet diameter** depends mainly on the **electrodynamic force**, rather than only on the ink viscosity as in conventional inkjet printing



Laser-induced forward/backward transfer

The method is based on the transfer of a material from one substrate to another laser pulses.

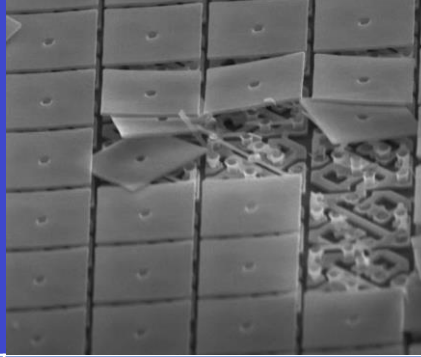


Laser-induced **backward** transfer

heating, melting, and
subsequent **crystallization**



Conclusions:



Scanning stereolithography	Projection stereolithography	Two-photon polymerization
Slow, but easy to maintain	Faster, but more sensitive	More versatile, but voxel is hard to control
Resolution is limited by the radiation wave-length		Higher resolution
Very slow processes → rate of mm per sec		
EHD Inkjet printing		Laser-induced transfer
Fast process (cm per sec), can yield droplets and fibers		free from nozzle clogging, but the donor material may change
scalable, low cost, variety of materials		
The ink/donor properties alter the process		



