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Maxime Darnon received his Ph.D. from Grenoble University, France, in 2007. He worked then as a research engineer at IMEC, Leuven, Belgium, and as a research staff member in the advanced plasma group of IBM Research in the T. J. Watson Research Center in Yorktown Heights, NY, USA, before joining CNRS in 2009. His research mostly focused on plasma processes for microelectronics interconnects, for which he has demonstrated many phenomena such as a line wiggling, permanent water adsorption in damaged low-k and TiN hard mask related challenges. He also conducted research on pulsed plasma processes and Dr Darnon research provided invaluable insight on mechanisms of interactions between pulsed plasmas and surface to minimize plasma induced damage.

In 2015, he transitioned to the International laboratory LN2 located in Sherbrooke, Qc, Canada, and co-operated by Université de Sherbrooke, CNRS, and two French Universities. His research activities now focus on microfabrication processes for high efficiency solar cells fabrication and integrated circuits fabrication and packaging. Leading a research group on high efficiency solar cells microfabrication, he contributed to the demonstration of new concepts of solar cells including smallest high efficiency triple junction solar cell ever fabricated or the first back-side contacted triple junction solar cells.

Dr Darnon serves as a committee member of AVS, PESM, SPIE-AL, CSTIC and JNTE scientific conferences, is area editor of *Microelectronics Engineering* and *Micro and Nano Engineering*, and is instructor for CEI Europe and for in-house classes on plasma etching processes at leading semiconductor companies. He is adjunct professor at Université de Sherbrooke since 2014. He has co-authored close to 100 scientific articles, conference proceedings, books and patents.