

Nanoscience in Adolescence

George M. Whitesides

**Department of Chemistry and Chemical
Biology**

Harvard University

gwhitesides@gmwgroup.harvard.edu

Change: Where does it come from? What Is Invention? Innovation?

- The “tea-kettle problem:”
Why is the water hot?



Where does change come from?

•The “tea-kettle problem:” Why is the water hot?

- The kinetic energy of the water molecules is high (scientific)
- The kettle was on the stove (historical)
- Because I wanted tea (intentional)

“What *is*
innovation?”

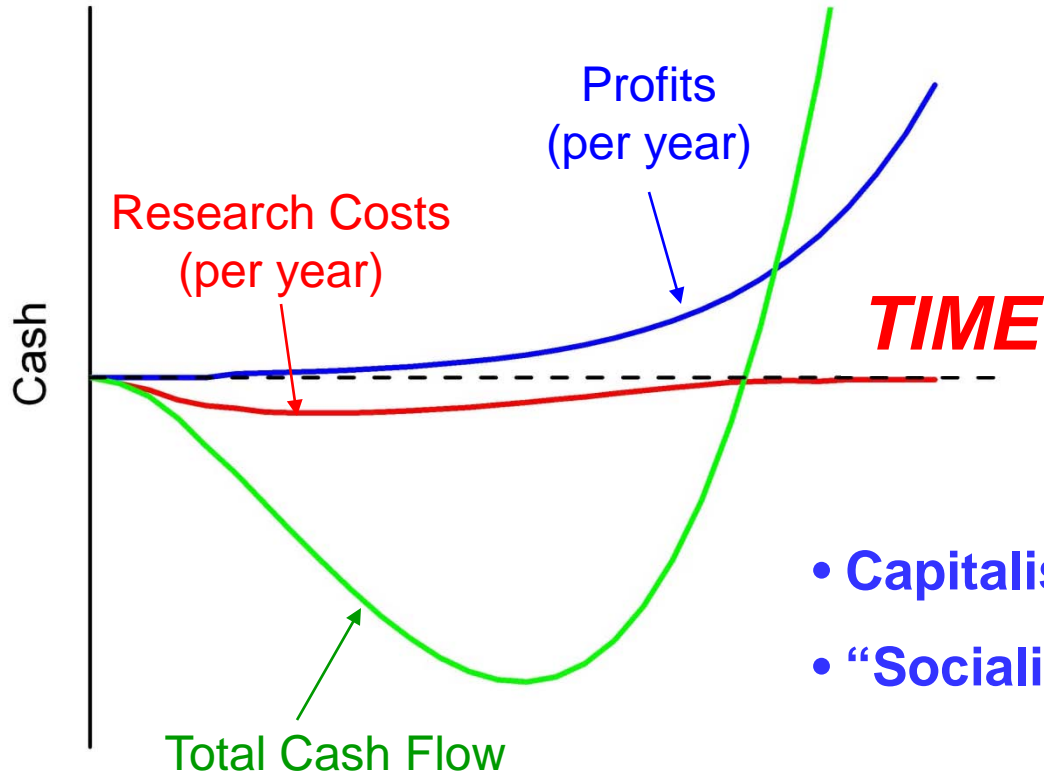


How does a business exploit a new idea?

- Inventing fundamentally new products (U.S.)
- Developing *better* products, and engineering *better* ways of making them (Europe, Korea, Japan)
- Using inexpensive labor and low-cost capital to make lowest-cost products (China, India)

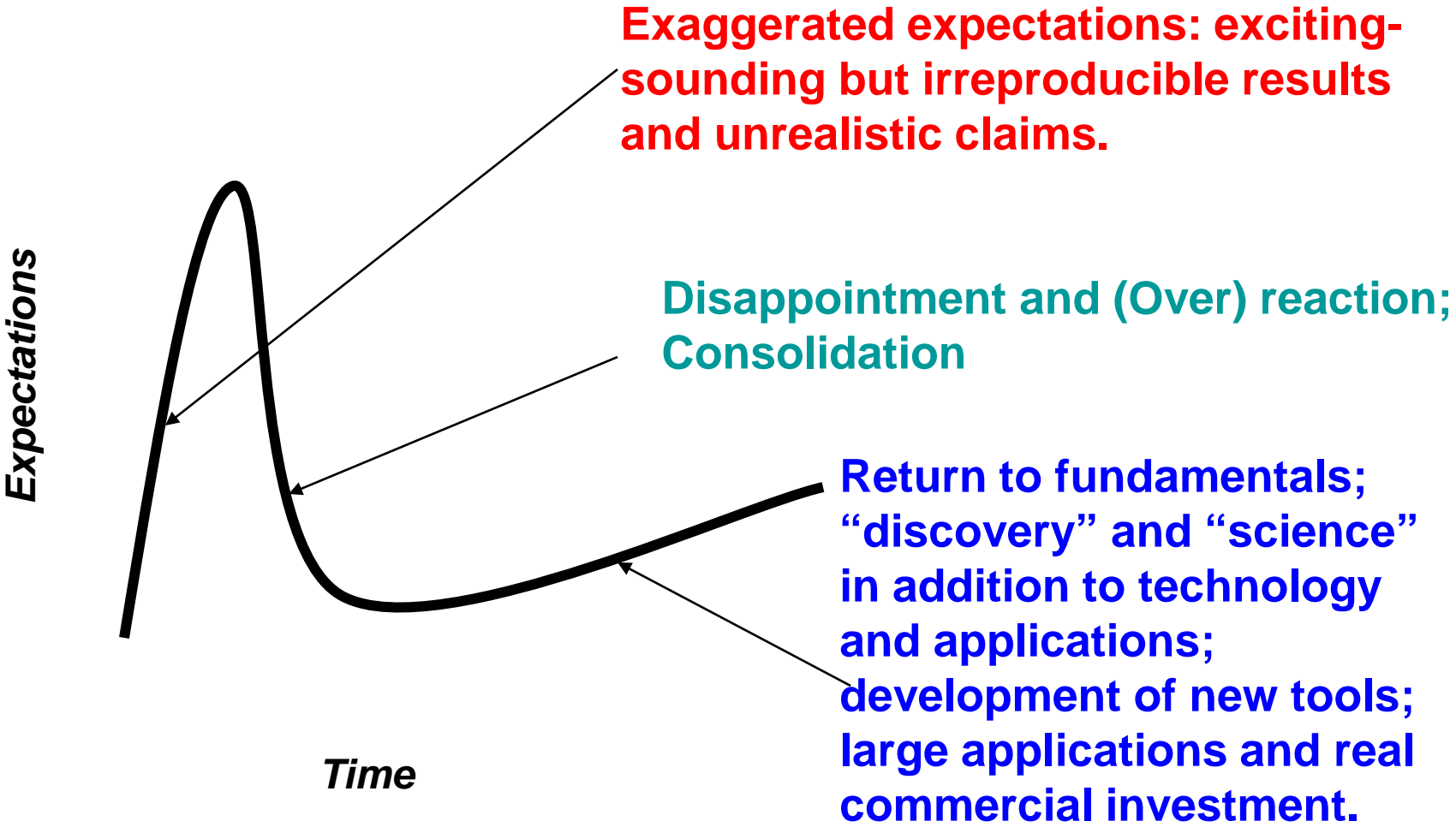


The Capitalist Window on Change: Time and Risk-Discounted Cash Flow



- **Capitalist?:** Financial Return
- **“Socialist”?:** Social Return

All New Technologies: A Short, Qualitative History

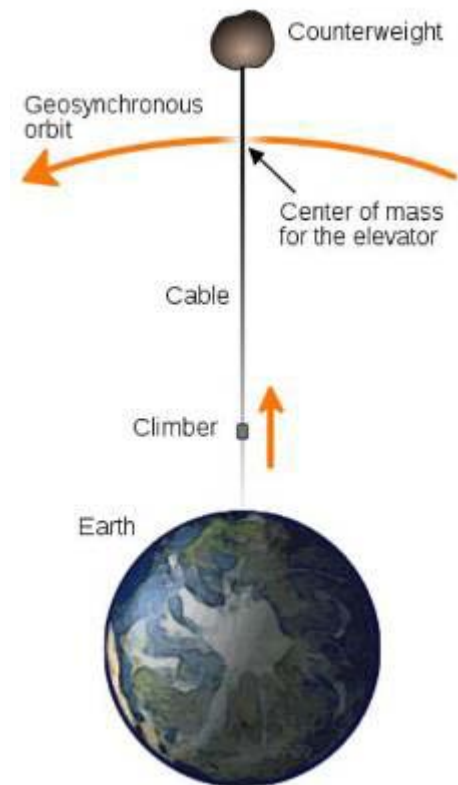
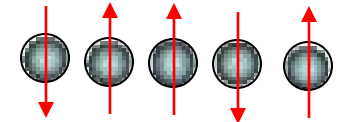


Take-home (*my* opinion) for Nanoscience and -technology: Past History, Future Opportunity

- Past: Structure
- Future: **Function (*aka: jobs and competitiveness*)**
 - Support for nanoelectronics and information tech.
 - Commodity Infrastructure: energy, water,
 - Heterogeneous Catalysis
 - Environment: CO₂, albedo management, ...
 - Biomedicine: fundamentals of functional structures, imaging, plants
 - Bioanalysis; nanotoxicology

At the Beginning: Expectations for Nano

- **Applied Quantum Phenomena**
 - Quantum computing
- **Futurist Speculations**
 - Nanobots; The Assembler
- **Revolutionary Materials**
 - Buckytubes and the space elevator
 - Quantum Dots
- **Revolutionary electronics**
 - Single-molecule transistors
 - Ultradense computers
- **Biomedicine**
 - “Nanotherapeutics”
- **Risks:**
 - Nanobots, etc
 - Nanoparticle Toxicology

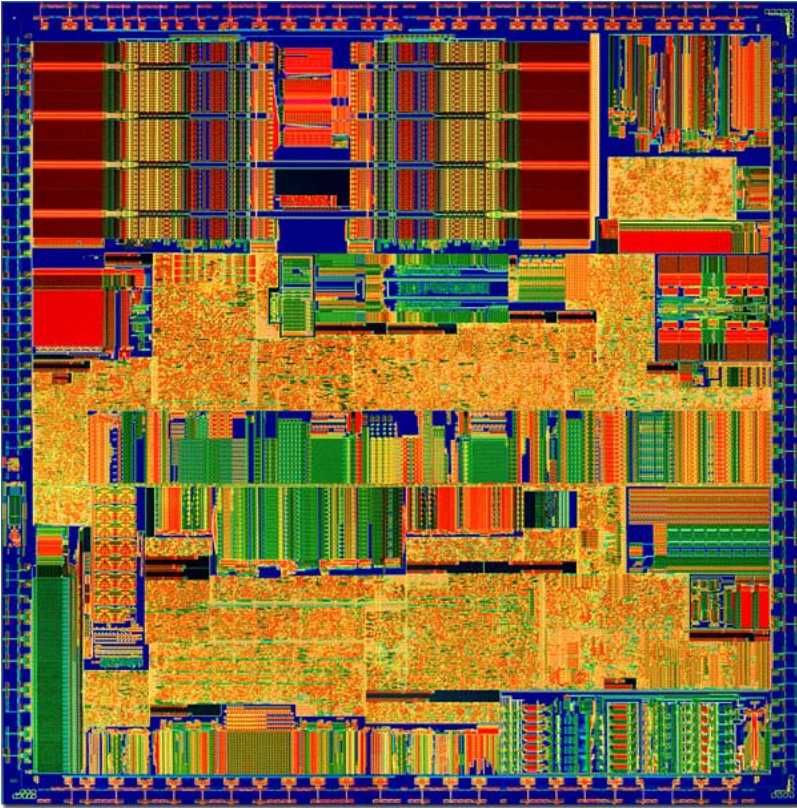


Drexler C&EN 2003

What *is* “nanoscience/technology”?

- *No universal definition*
- Dimensions are “small” (< 50 nm? < 20 nm?).
In popular terms “too small to see” (< 10 μm)
- “Between molecules and macroscopic matter”
- New properties, especially room-temperature quantum behavior (quantum dots)
- Classical technology, but smaller than current technology
- “What I do” (whatever that is)

Nanotechnology is here and highly developed: **Integrated circuits, memory, . . .**



Current best commercial CMOS technology has 22- to 40-nm design rules

“End of Moore’s Law” may be as small as < 10 nm

(“Small” is no longer the problem: heat dissipation, power management is. Leakage, etc soon will be.)

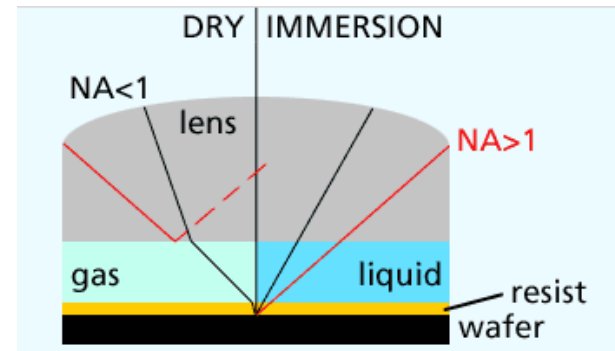
New properties of materials (e.g., phase change, electron polarization) may be more interesting than “small”

Reality: *Evolutionary* nanoelectronics will extend to 8 – 40 nm (expensively) using light

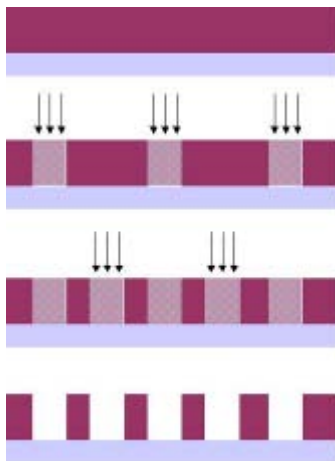
- Reality is almost unbelievable technological development



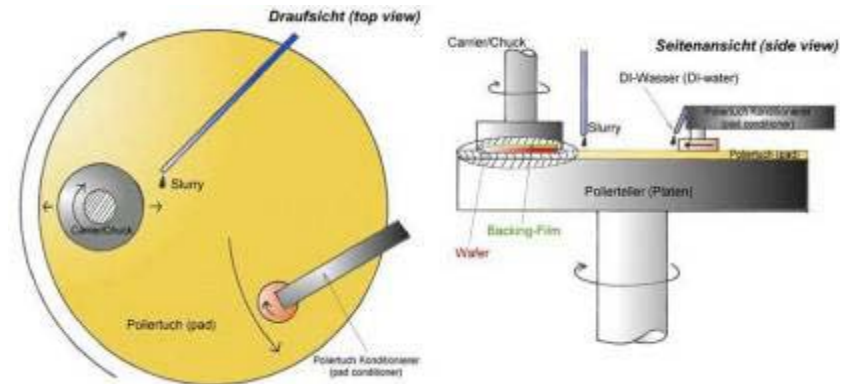
Phase-shifting masks



Fluid immersion



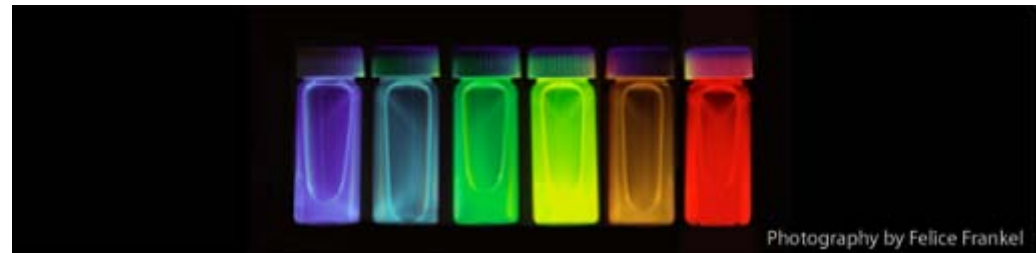
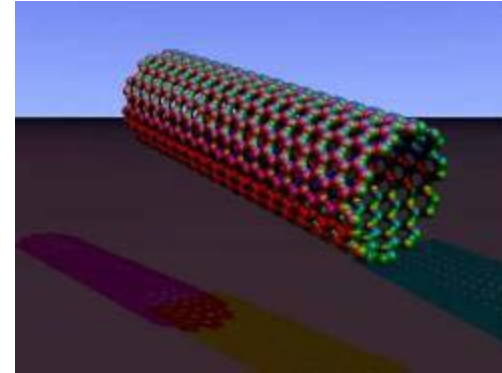
Dual exposure



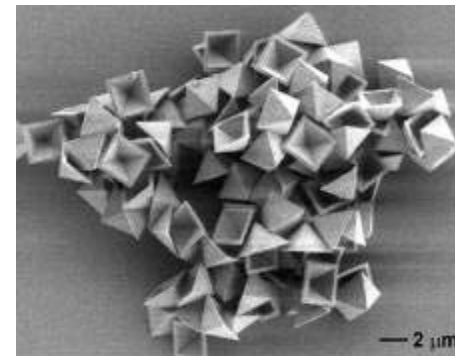
Chemical mechanical polishing

Reality: New materials, but slow development of applications

- Buckytubes and maybe Graphene
- Quantum dots
- Other small particles
- (Nanoscale matter: grains, Interfaces, Debye layer, etc.)



M. Bawendi



Xu et. al. *Nano Lett.* 2004

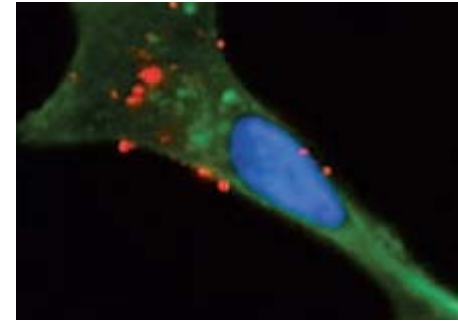
Reality: Biomedical--Progress, but focused on conventional “high-technology” model

Medical Diagnostics

- Labeling
- Imaging
- Analyzing

Therapy

- Hydrophobic Nanoparticles
- Transportation
- Controlled Release

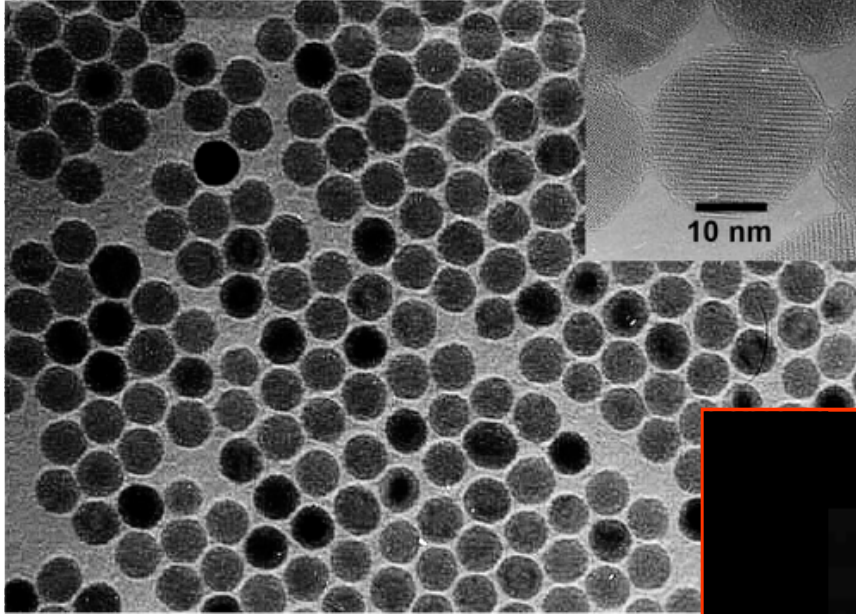


Carbon nanotubes
Quantum dots
Magnetic nanoparticles
Metal nanoparticles

Challenges

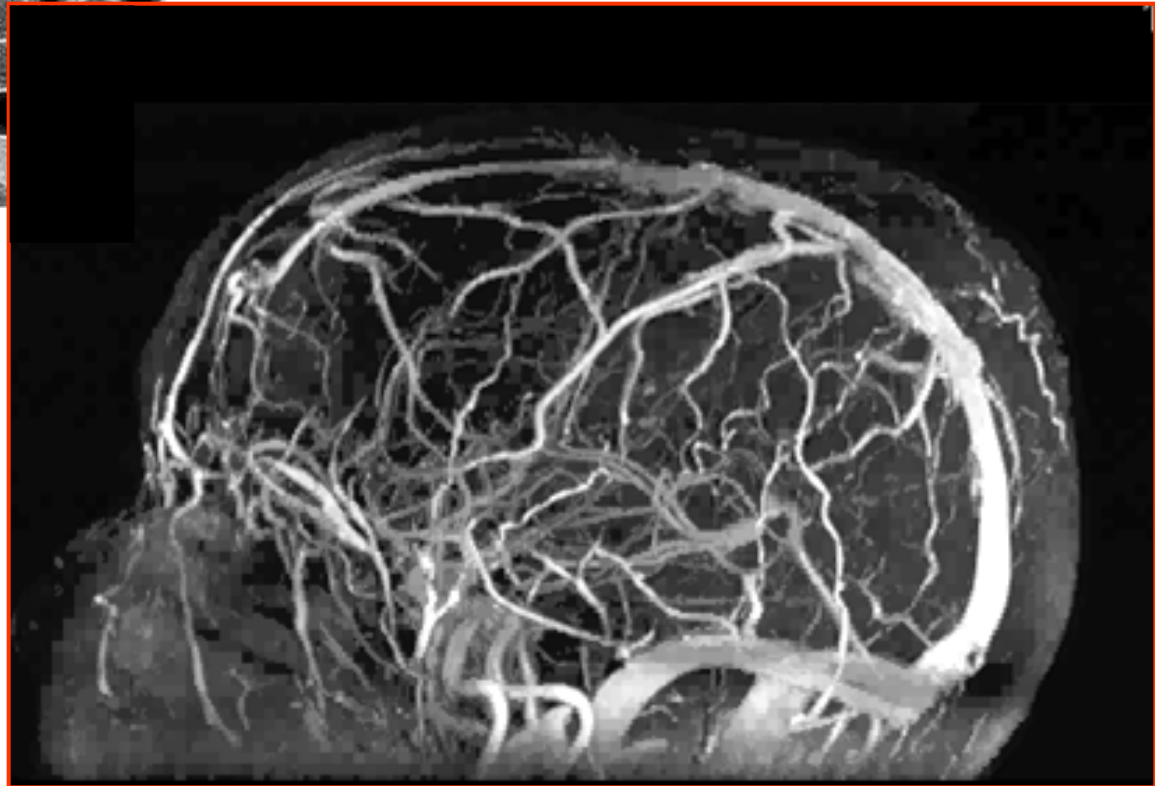
- Volume-, tissue-, or cell-specific targeting
- Remote guidance and activation
- Safety Issues - biocompatibility and toxicity

Nanoparticles: MRI Contrast Agents



**MRI = magnetic
resonance imaging**

**Magnetite
T. Hyeon
Seoul National Univ.**



A number of areas are approaching reality

- Buckytubes; graphene for **electrically conductive plastics, perhaps electrochemical storage**
- Low-cost methods of nanofabrication: printing, molding, others for **consumer electronics, photovoltaics**
- Optical systems for **new optical effects, solid-state lighting, displays**
- Nanoparticles/rods/cups/whatever with defined shapes for **barcoding/tracking; delivery of hydrophobic drugs**
- Nanometrology for **industrial processing**

Some Current Areas of Research: Examples in Fabrication

- **Printing/molding**
- **Phase-shifting lithography**
- **3D structures and Self-assembly**
- **Nanoskiving**
- **Holes**
- **Optics**

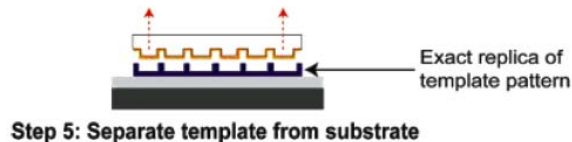
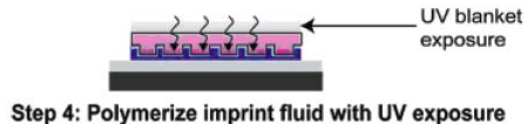
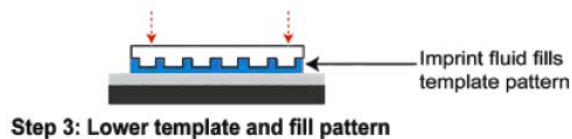
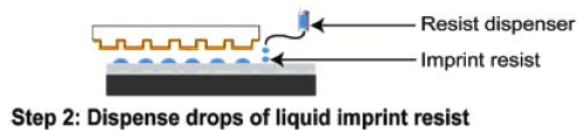
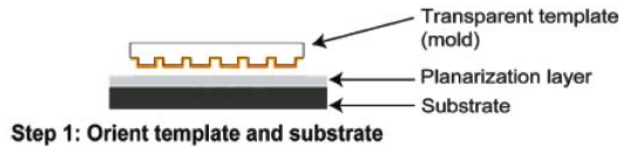
Nanofabrication: Unconventional Approaches

- Many applications require methods alternative to e-beam and photolithography: **Lower cost and different attributes**
 - Circumventing diffraction limits in photolithography
 - Nontraditional materials & substrates
 - Reducing cost (capital and operating)
 - Increasing access (e.g., “dirty cleanroom” technology)
 - 3D, curved surface, flexible etc structures

Molding & Printing

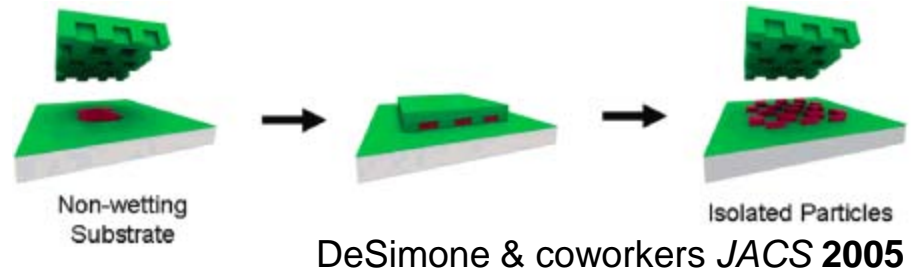
- Replace “mask” with “stamp” (“proximity” → “contact”)

Step-and-flash nanoimprinting

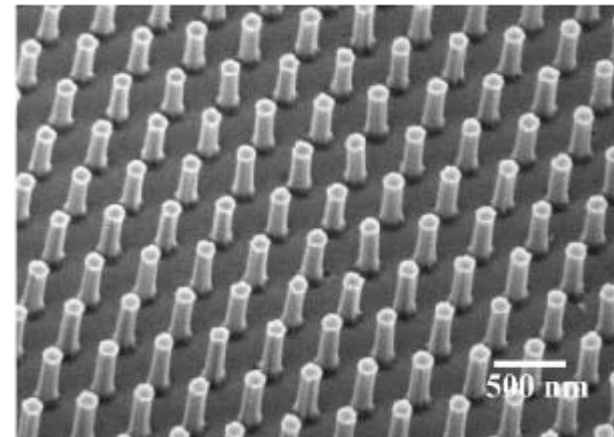


Willson & coworkers *Macromolecules* 2008

Isolated particles w/ low- γ_{SL} stamp

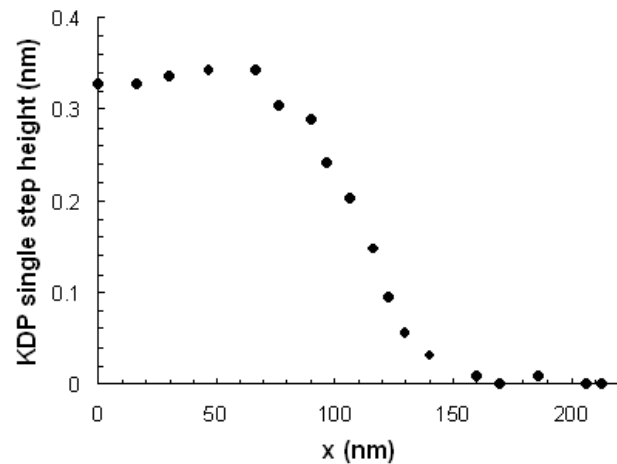
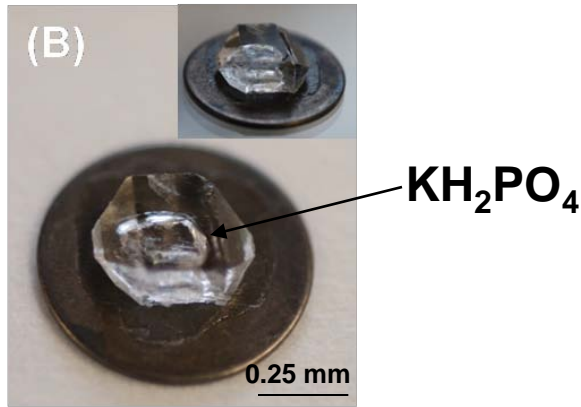


Discrete TiO₂ pillars



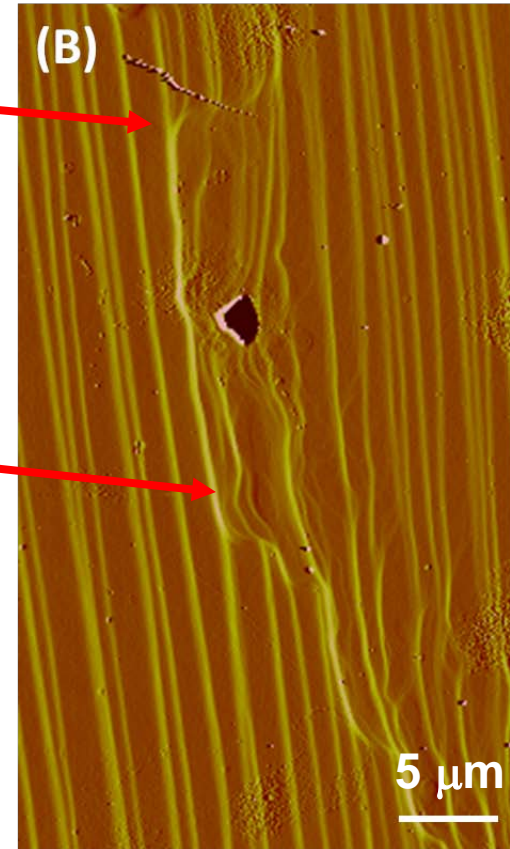
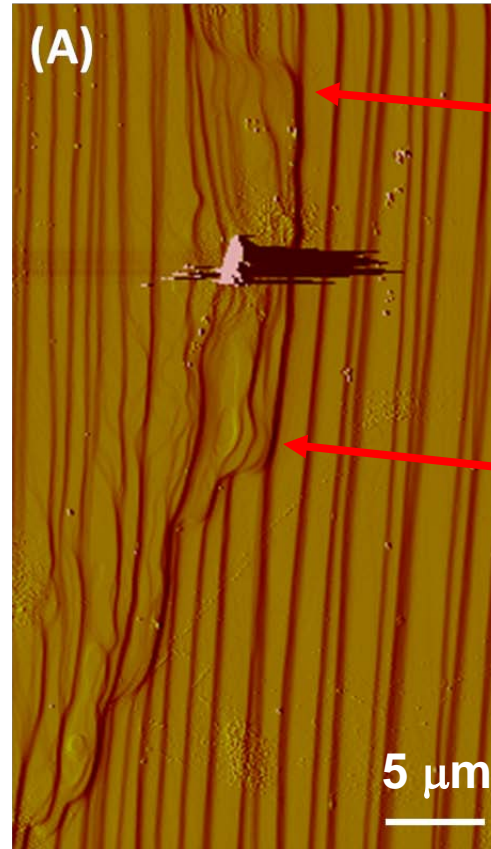
DeSimone & coworkers *Adv. Mater.* 2008

KDP Crystal Replica Molding: Replication of Single Layers of Ions. Metrology?



Crystal

Replica



“Macro steps” 5-15 nm in height,
from the bunching of ~10-40 atomic steps

Flash Memory Device Layer



SFIL: Grant Willson

M IMPRINTS

SEI

4.0kV

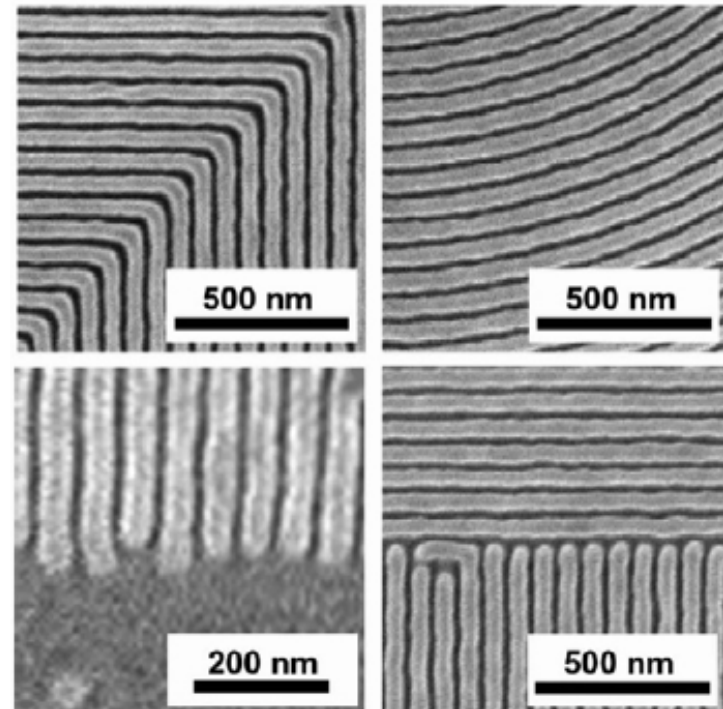
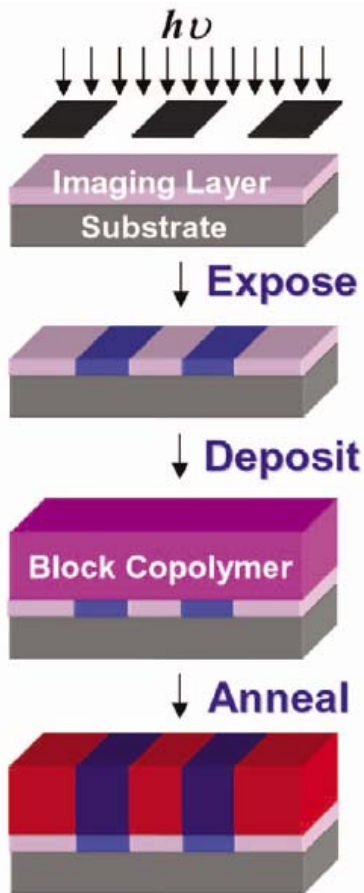
X5,000

1 μ m

WD 8.0mm

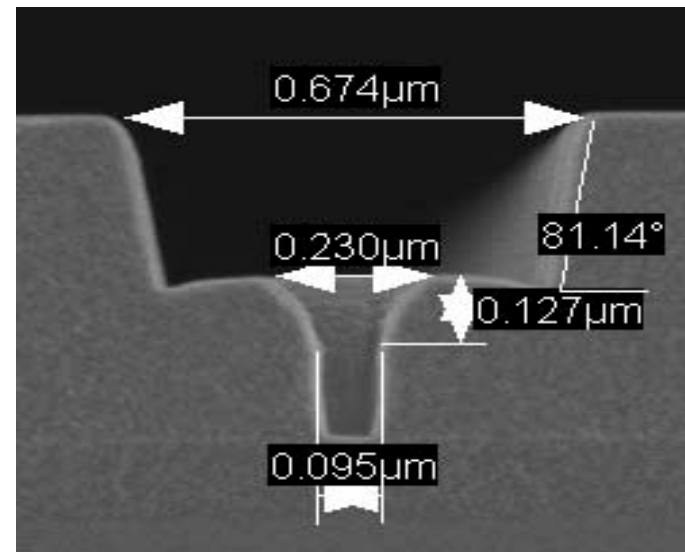
Phase-Separated Copolymers

- Use photo-generated chemical patterns to direct block copolymer morphology



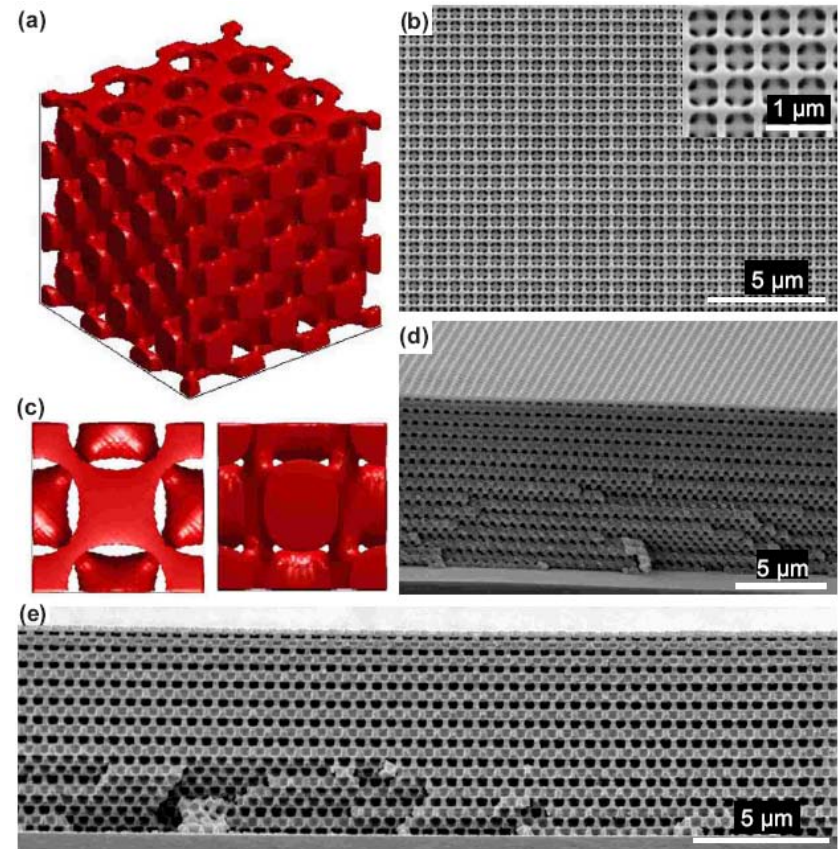
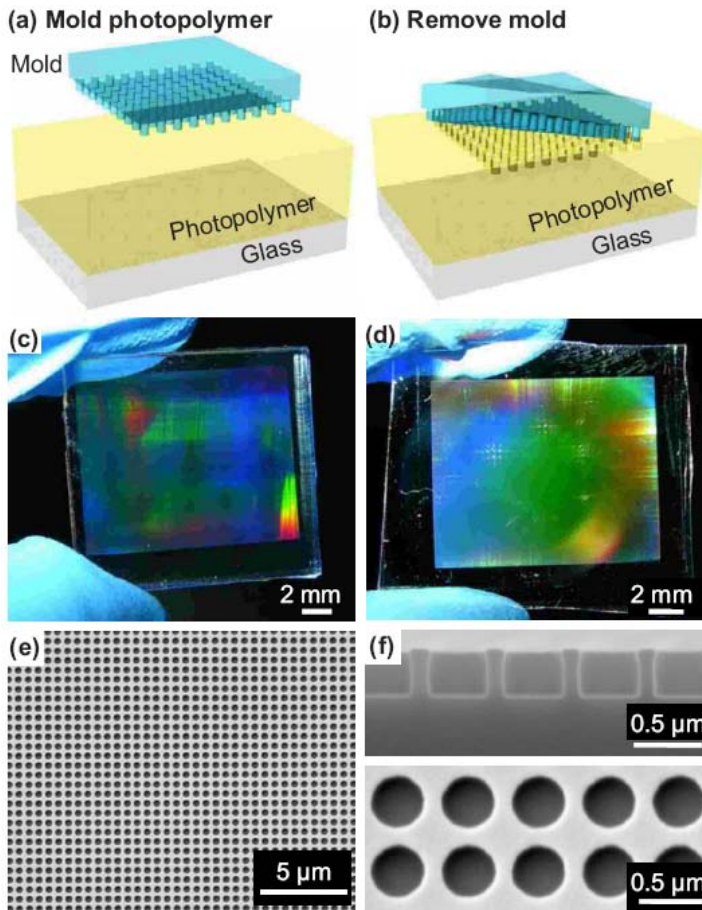
- Circumvents diffraction limits: physics limit < 0.01 nm; chemistry limit (granularity of matter) not understood
- Anomalously *high* resolution (< 0.5 nm on open benchtop)
- 3D; eliminate process steps
- potential for roll-to-roll manufacturing: *radical* reduction in costs
- non-planar surfaces (soft lith; stretchy silicon)

If this works, it saves more than 100 unit process steps from the manufacturing of a modern microprocessor and provides a cost saving of 20-50% (per Infineon and SEMATECH. And Willson)



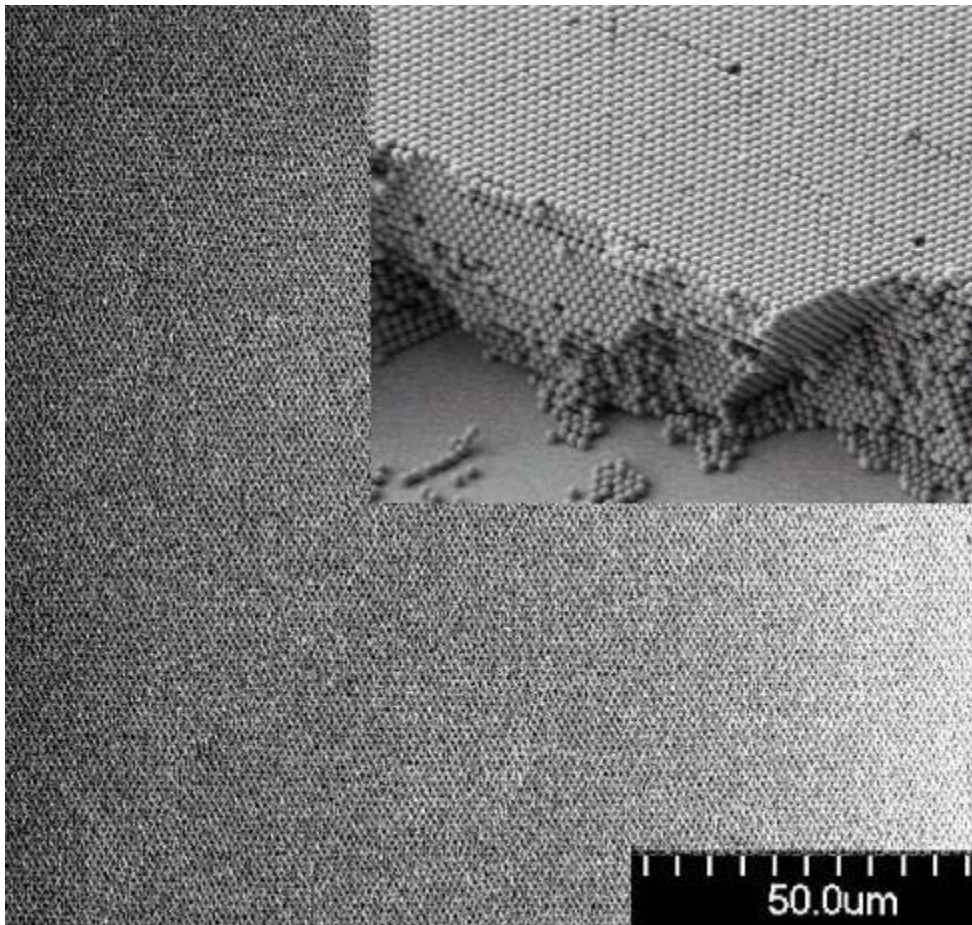
3D Nanostructures

- Tandem nanoimprint & phase-shift lithography yields 3D periodic structures with single imprint

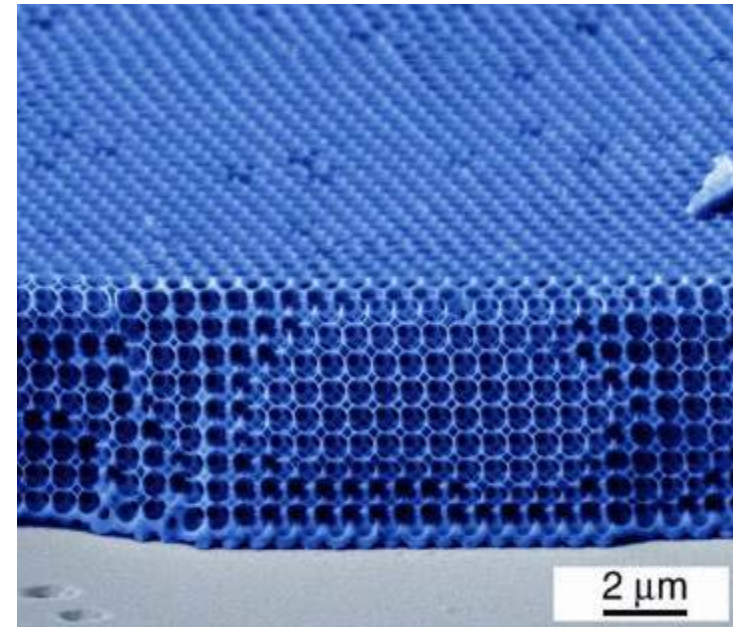


Rogers & coworkers. *Appl. Phys. Lett.* 2009

Self-Assembly: Opals & Inverse Opal Photonic Crystals



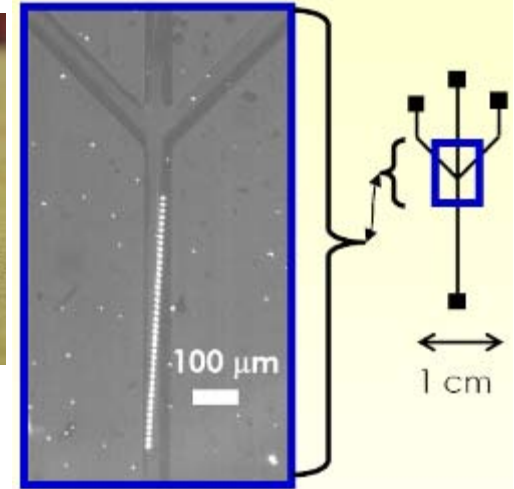
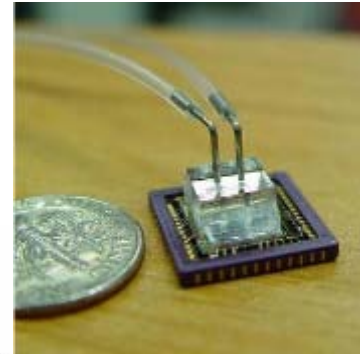
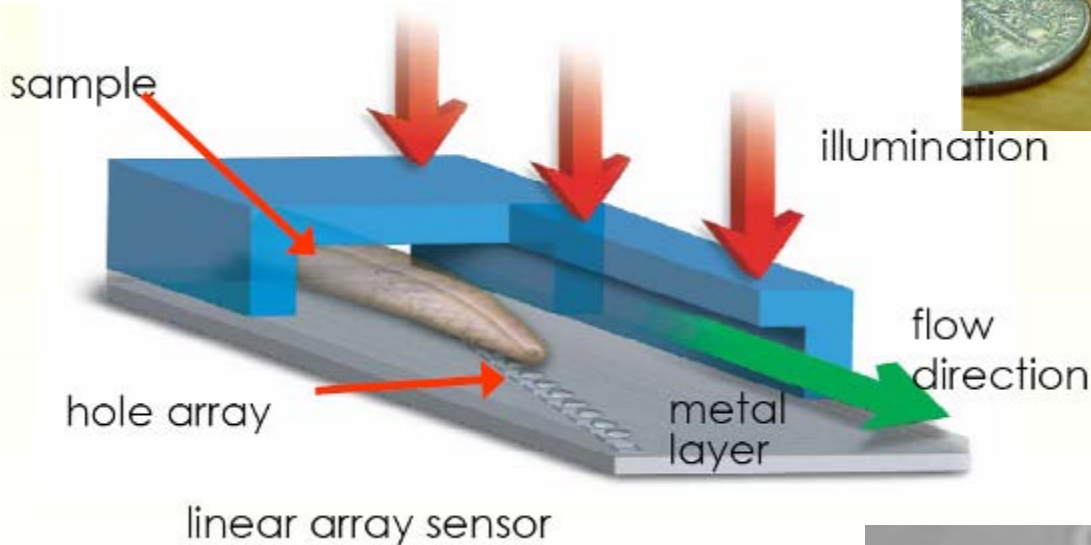
Courtesy of D. Norris, UMN



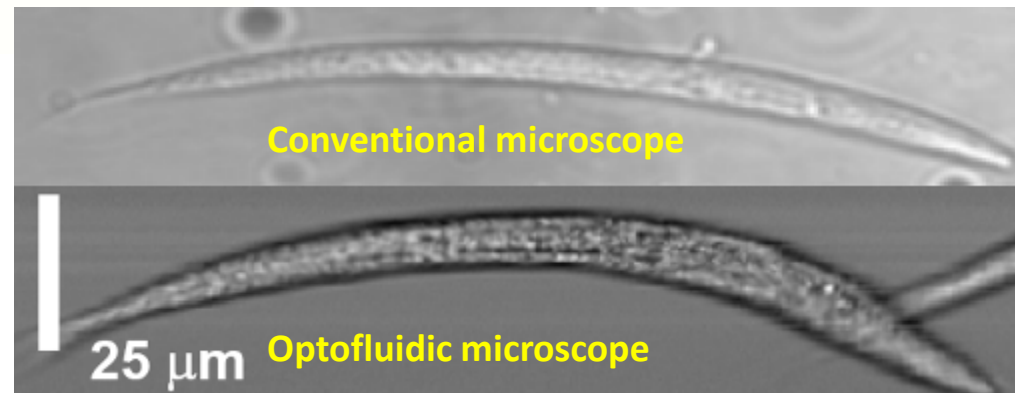
Y. A. Vlasov *et al.*, *Nature* **2001**

Nanoholes: Optofluidic Microscope

- **Slanted nanohole array**
- **System resolution 490 nm**



Transmission
Microscope Image
of the OFM



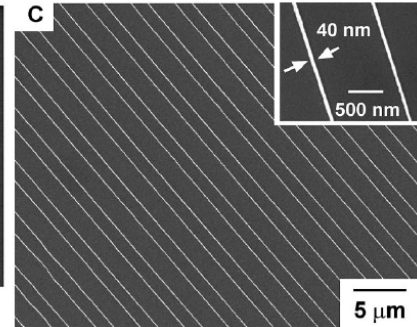
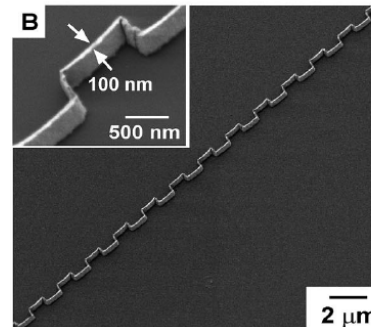
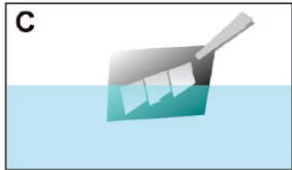
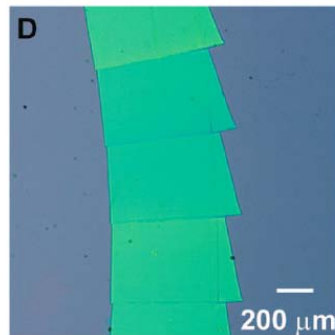
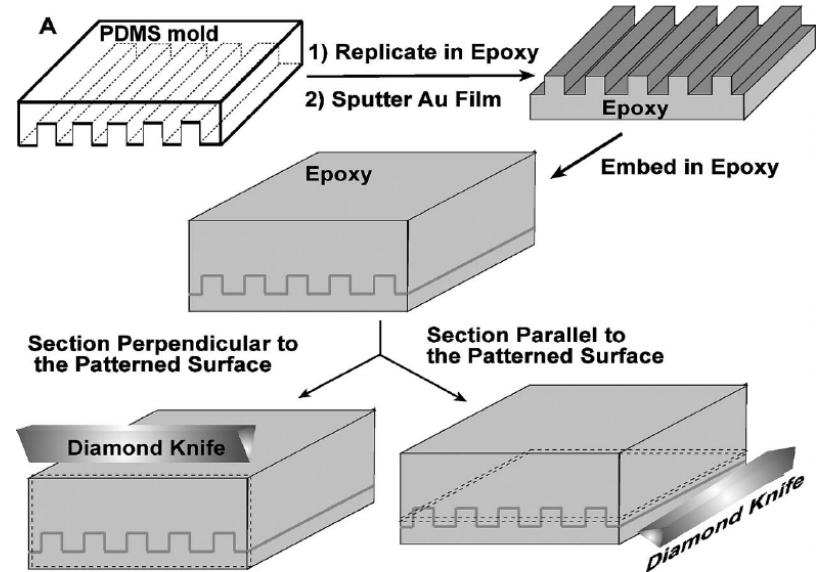
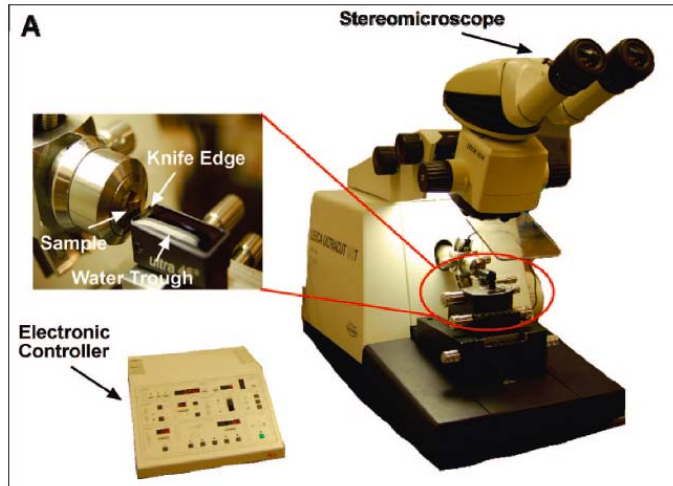
Conventional microscope

25 μm Optofluidic microscope

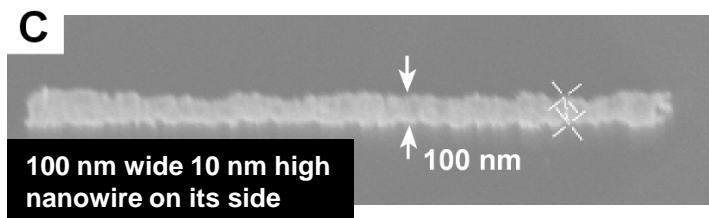
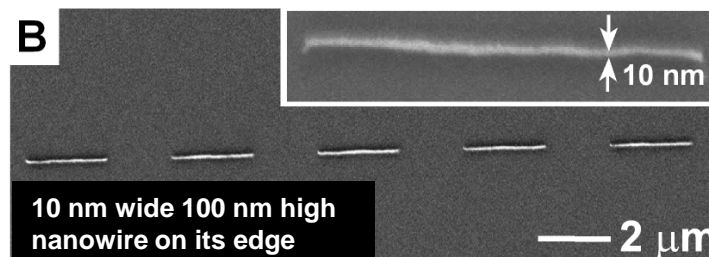
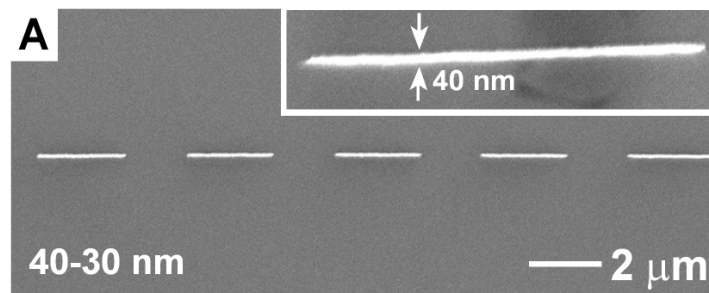
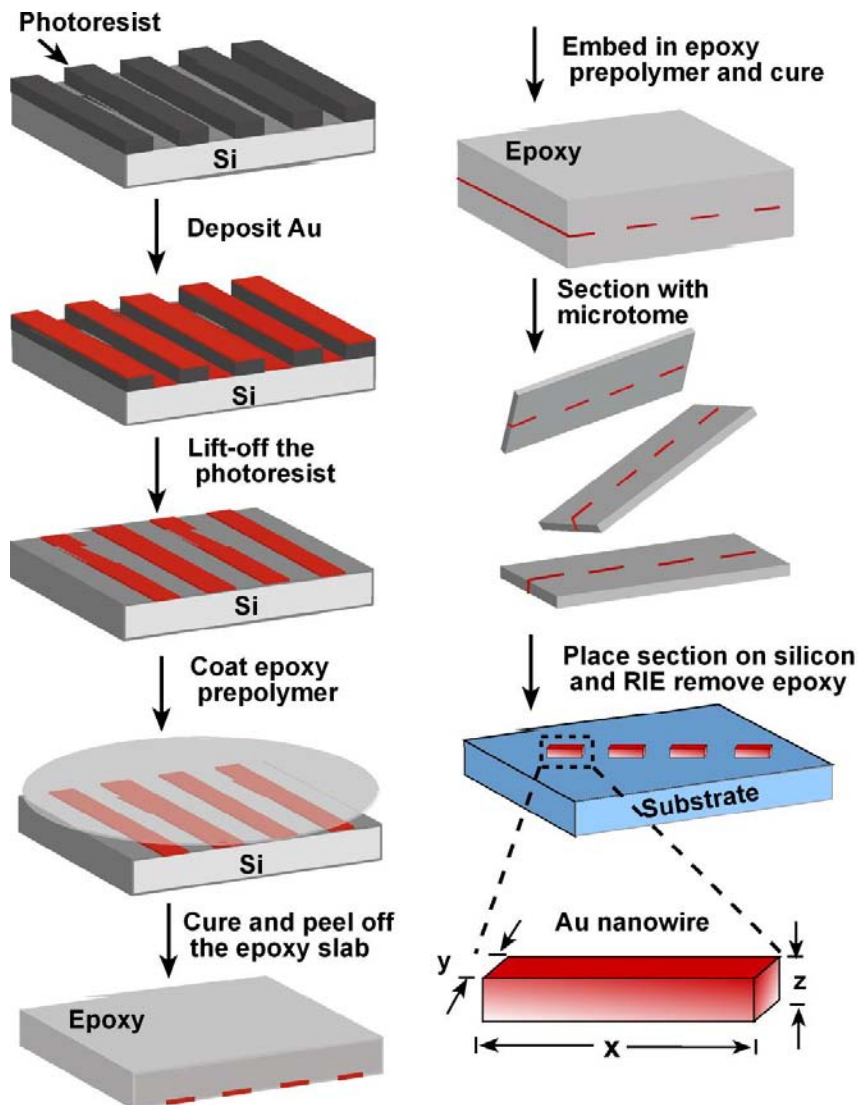
X. Heng, D. Erickson, L. R. Baugh, Z. Yaqoob, P. W. Sternberg, D. Psaltis, and C. Yang, Lab on a Chip 6, 1274 (2006).
X. Cui, X. Heng, J. Wu, Z. Yaqoob, A. Scherer, D. Psaltis, and C. Yang, Optics Letters 31, 3161-3163 (2006).

Nanoskiving

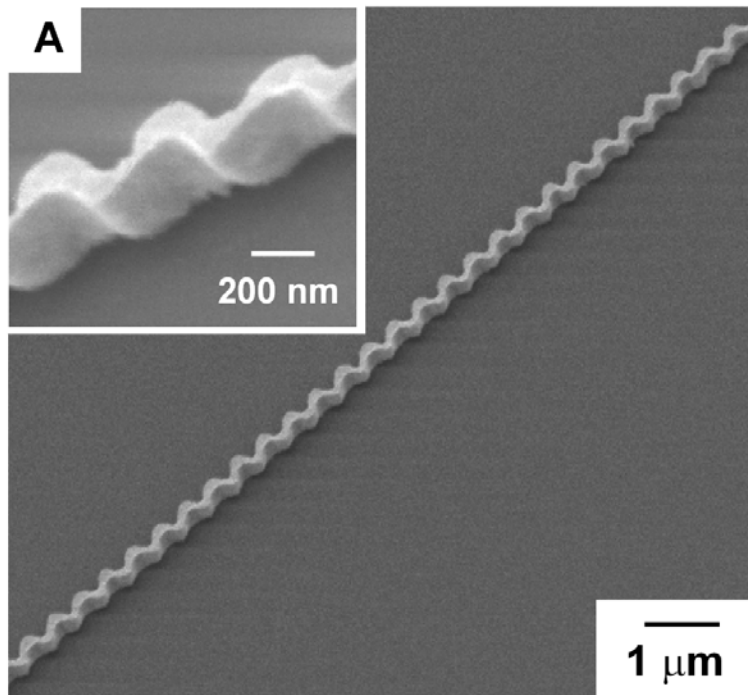
n. The use of an ultramicrotome for nanofabrication



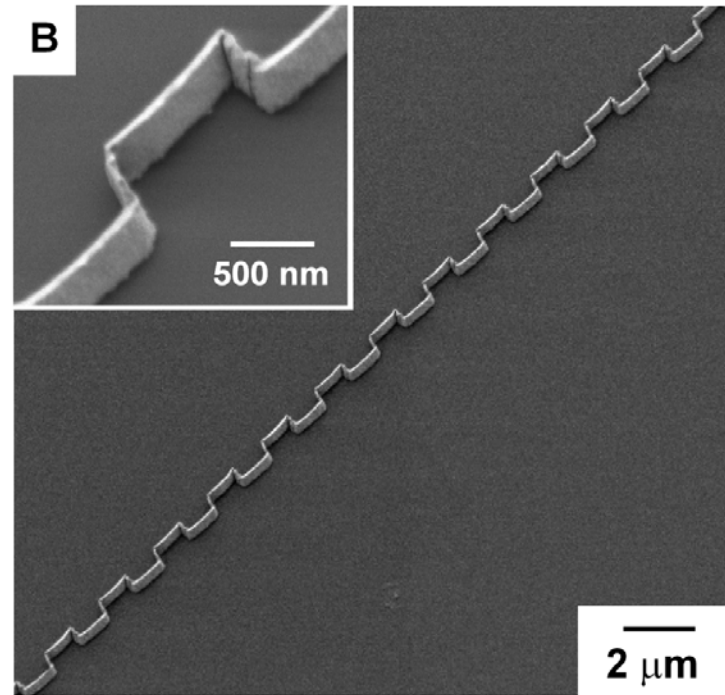
Gold Nanowires Generated by Sectioning Using a Microtome



Fabrication of Complex 3-D Nanostructures

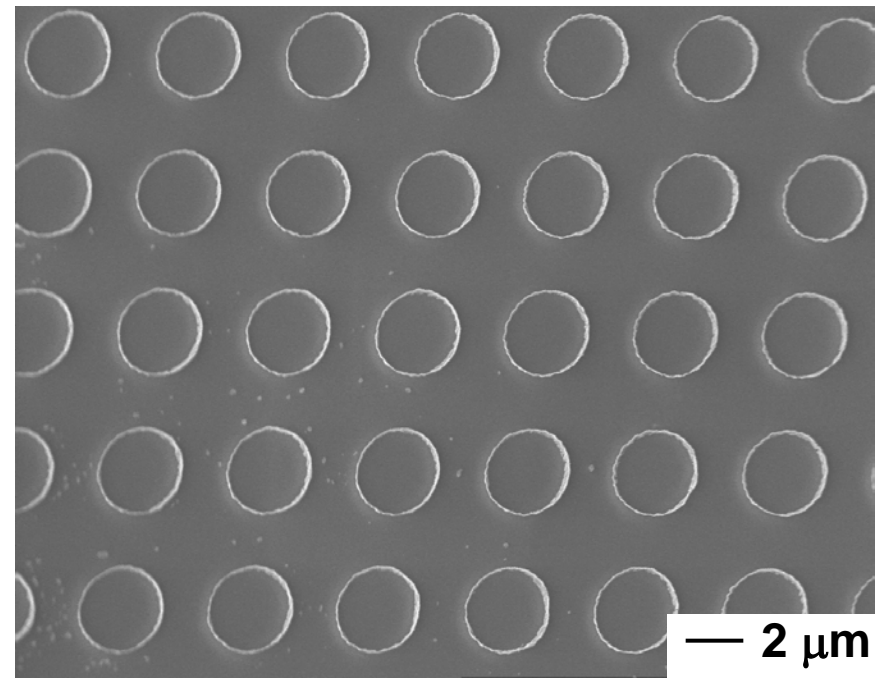
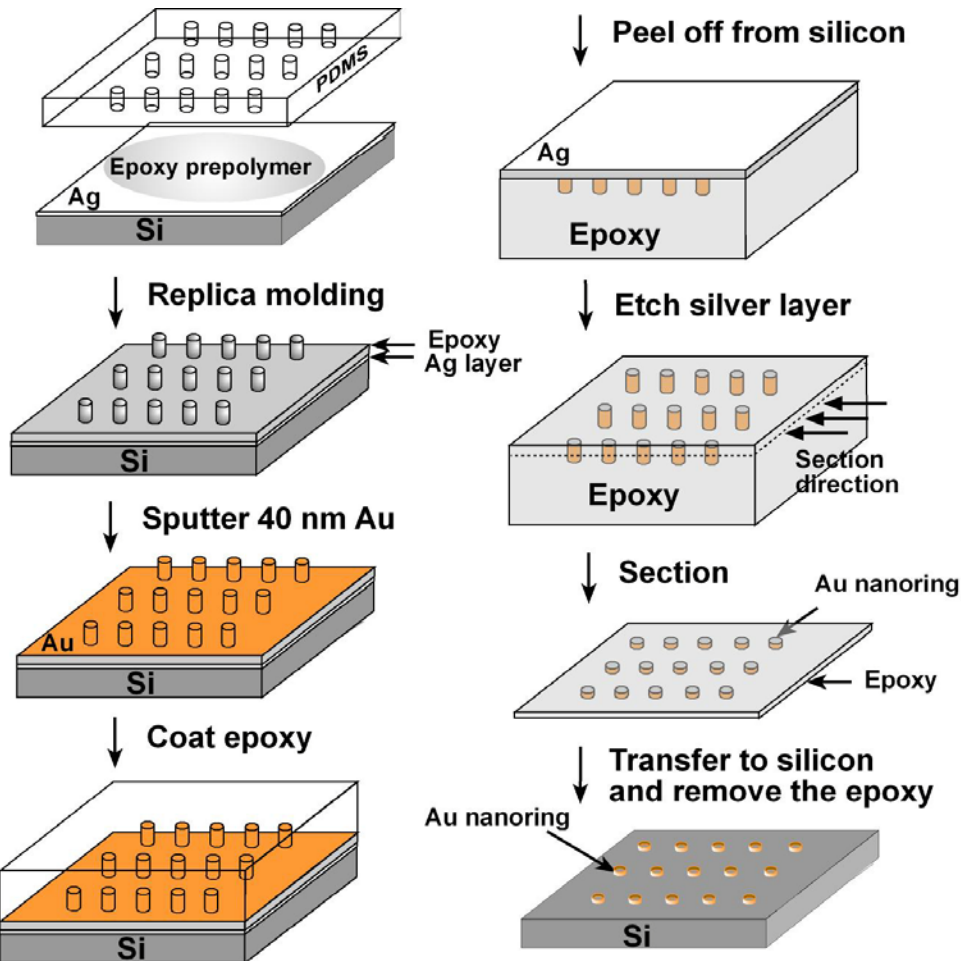


Template from diffraction gratings



Template from periodic lines

Fabrication of Patterned Metallic Nanostructures over Large Areas



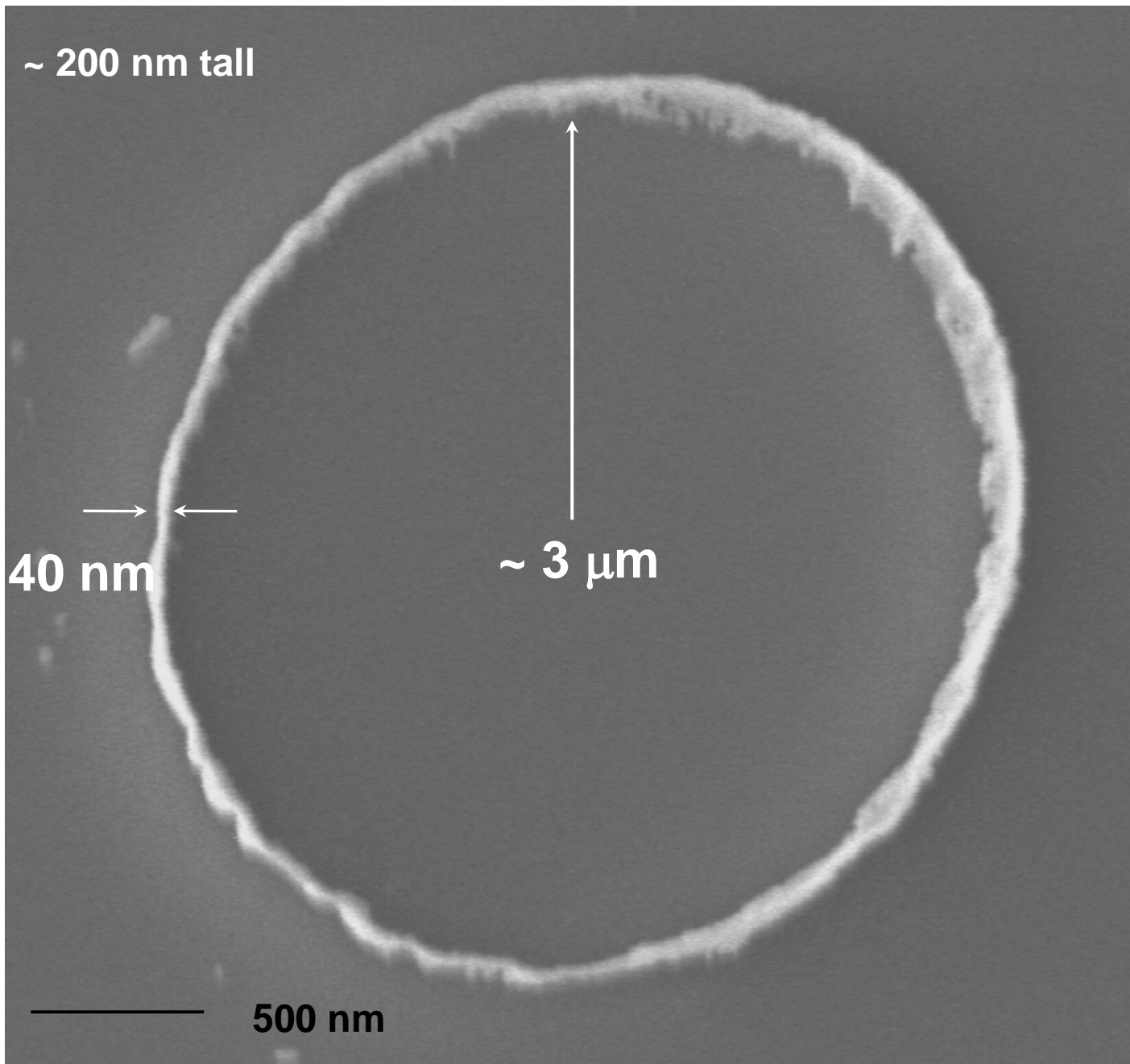
View at an angle 35°

~ 200 nm tall

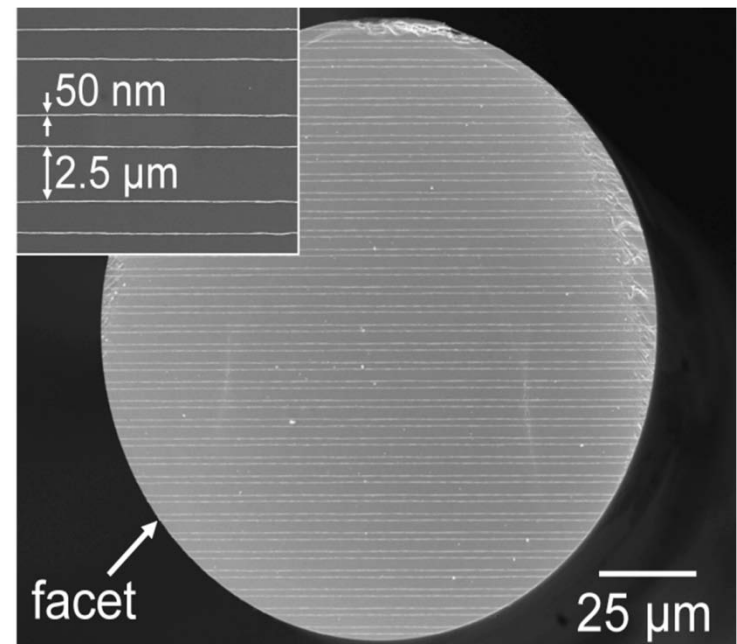
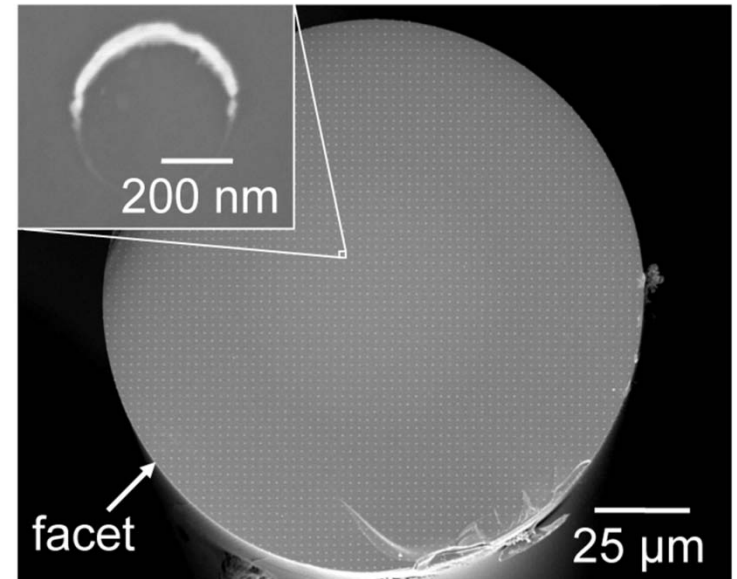
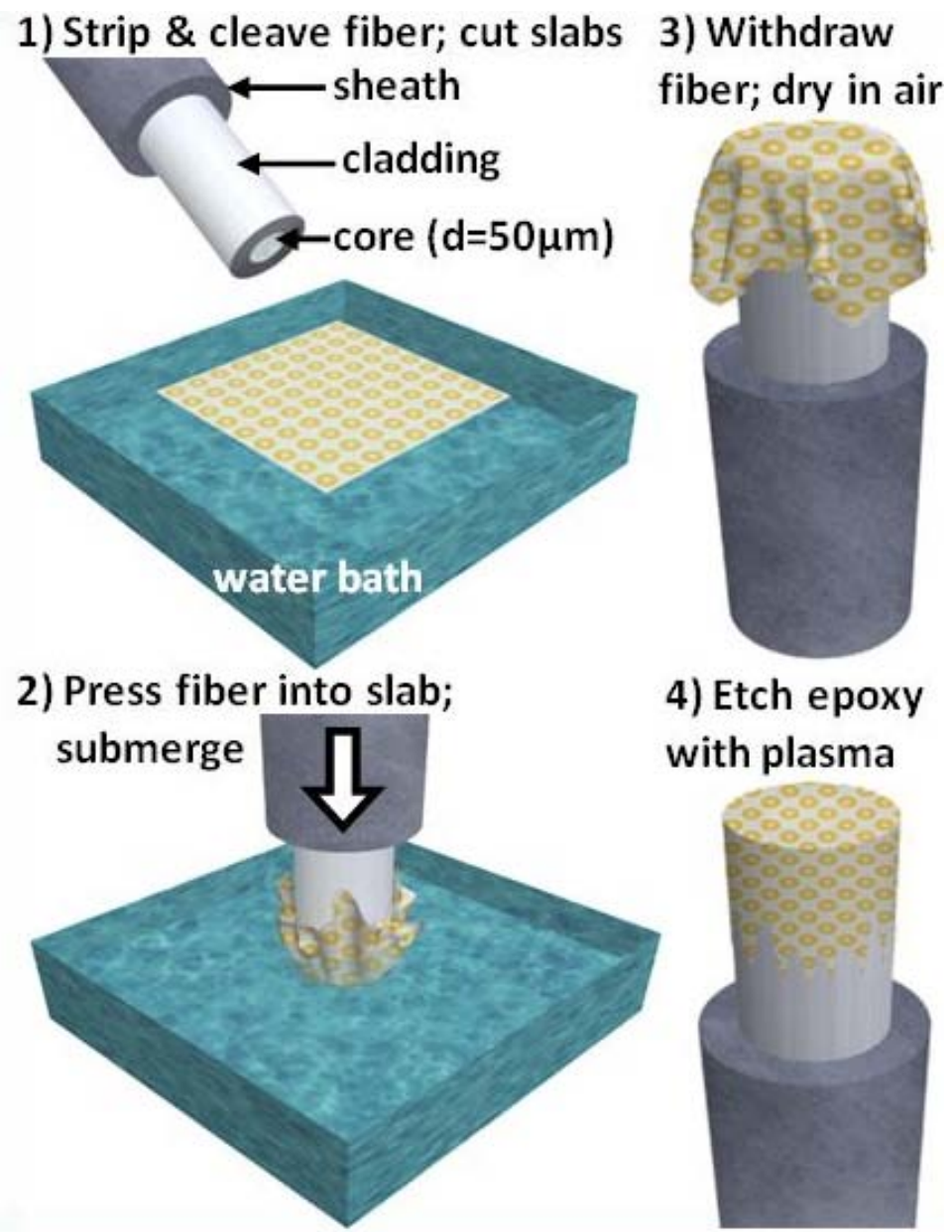
40 nm

~ 3 μm

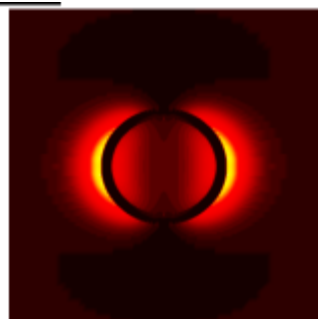
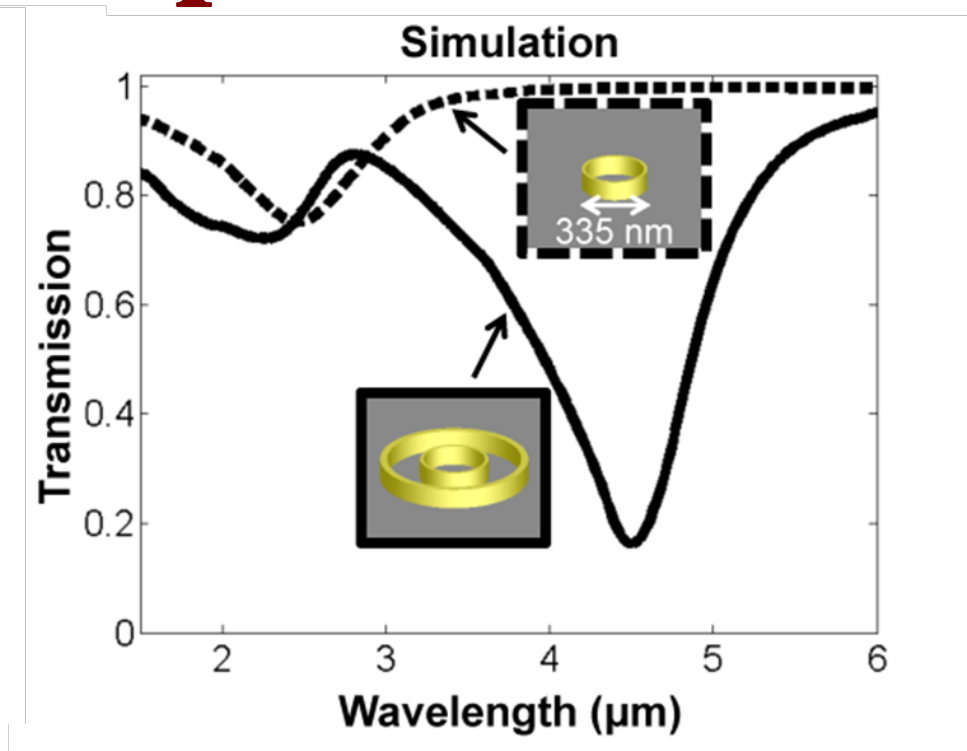
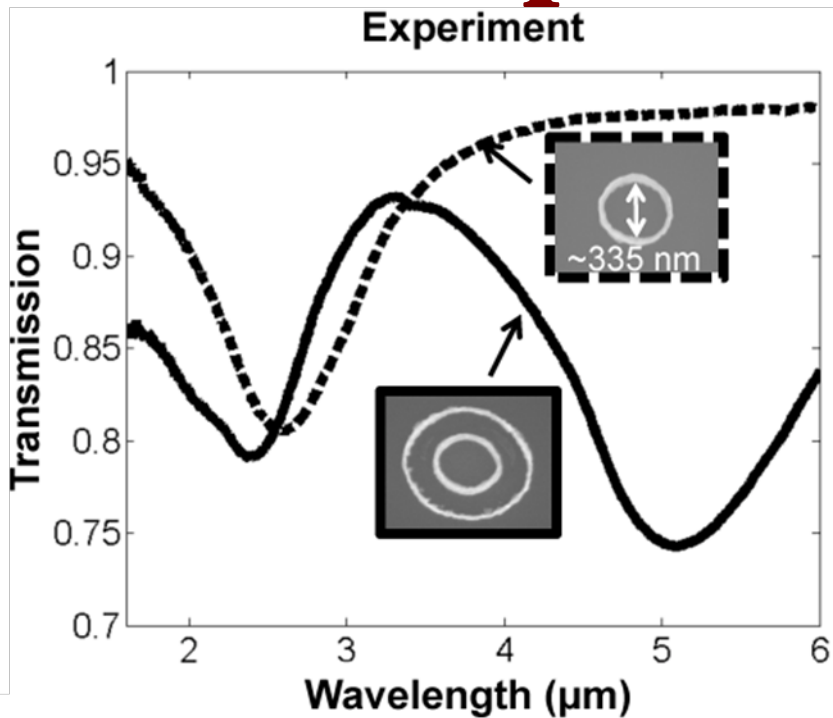
500 nm



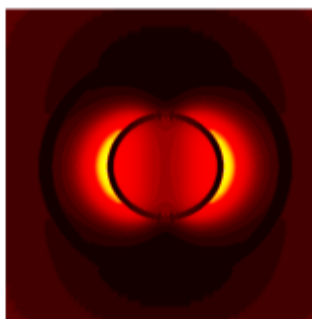
Nanoskiing Capabilities



Optical Properties



Single ring
 $\lambda \sim 2.5 \mu\text{m}$



Double ring
 $\lambda \sim 2.2 \mu\text{m}$



Double ring
 $\lambda \sim 4.5 \mu\text{m}$

Some other Observations

- Nanotechnology now seen as a *unifying* field. Technologically useful? Yes. Technologically revolutionary? *Not yet*.
- The issues now are *function* and *cost*.
- For many important *potential* functions, we do not know the rules. Heterogeneous catalysis, Nanotoxicology, Aerosols/albedo, Quantum isolation, Charge storage/transport/ interconversion, ...
- We should answer the question: “Where does “nano” –rather than “micro” or just “small”—bring unique function or properties or behavior or cost?”

And...there is always competition

- Nano..

or/and

- Catalysis, solar, intelligent machines, stem cells (cancer, replacement), robotics, origin of life, global warming, sustainability, green,
- *Jobs, economic competitiveness, costs/benefits of healthcare, “non-conventional conflict,” immigration, outsourcing/globalization, climate change, energy, education...*

*In the U.S., “nano” is shifting to “applications”
from “special emphasis”*

The Umbrella Theory of Scientific Management



1. “Inevitabilities”
2. Specific, Actionable Projects

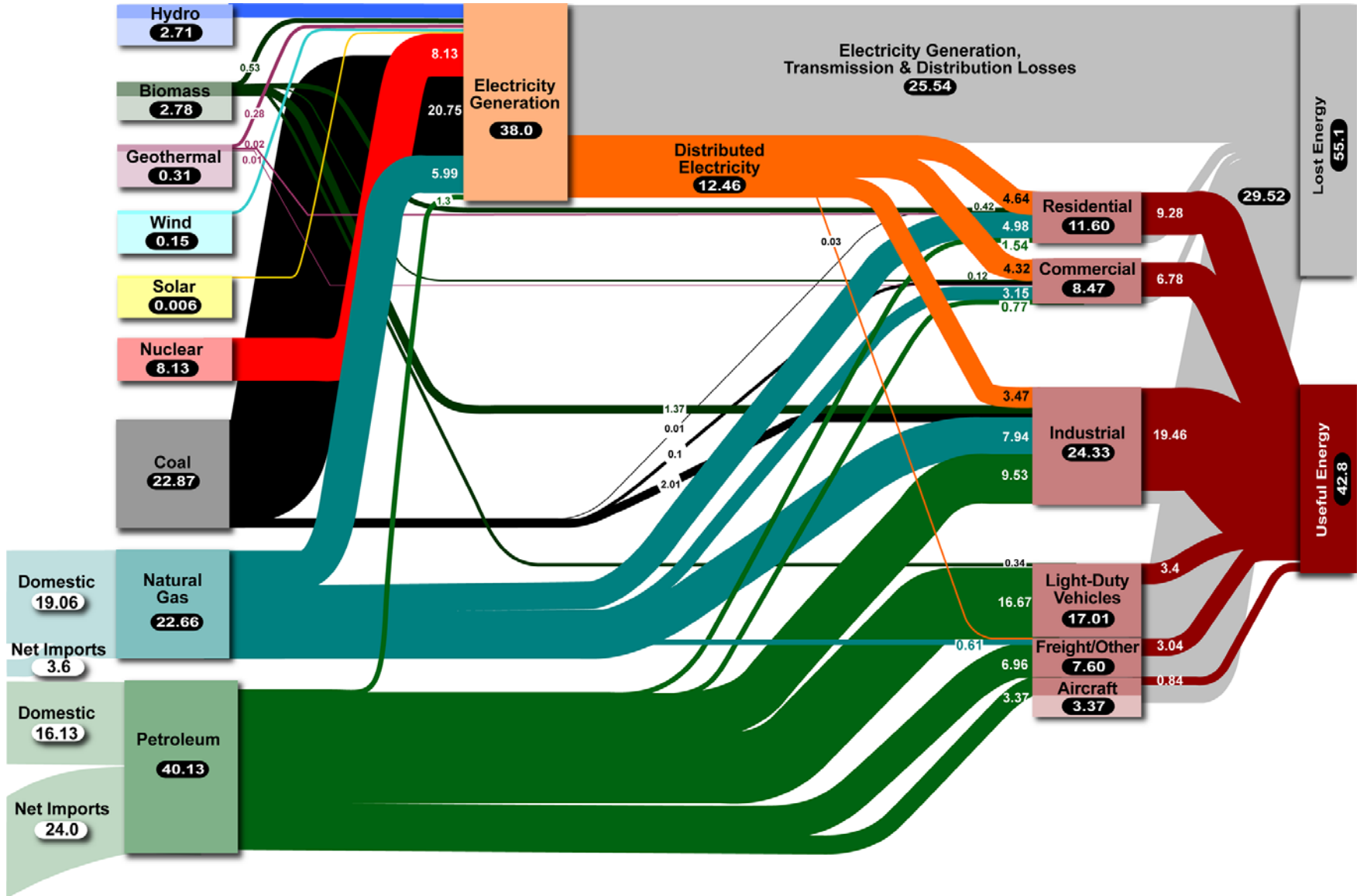
Inevitabilities

- **Areas where it is *certain* that society will need technology**
- **It may be too early to know what ultimate (or even initial) products are**
- **R&D should provide options, and early warning**
- **Examples: six (of perhaps 20)**
- **Keys to success:**
 - **Strategic selection, coupled with specificity**
 - **Critical mass in money, people**
 - **Patience (the www took 40 years; biotech still has not happened)**

1. Commodity Infrastructure: Energy, Water

- **Supply/Demand-side technologies.**
- **Honest, complete, accurate systems analysis**
- **Biotechnology—finally a use?**
- **Nanotechnology**





Energy, Climate, Water, Sustainability

Technology provides *options* to society

$$\textit{Wellbeing} \approx \frac{\textit{Energy}}{\textit{People}}$$

Options.

- Generate more energy
- Conserve the energy we now generate.
- Have fewer people

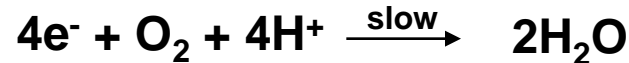
Constraints

- **Energy and Climate**
 - Climate change may limit the combustion of fossil fuel
- **Energy and Water**
 - Water production may become a major use of energy
- **Energy and Nuclear**
 - Weapons proliferation, reactor safety, waste management

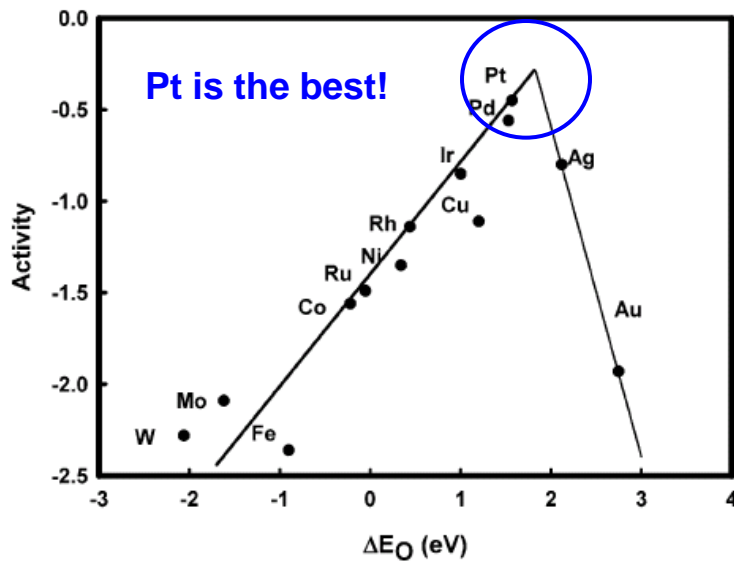
Catalysis: The Oxygen Electrode

Kinetics of cathode reaction are much slower than the anode reaction and limit economic viability of low temperature fuel cells

**Cathode
reaction:**



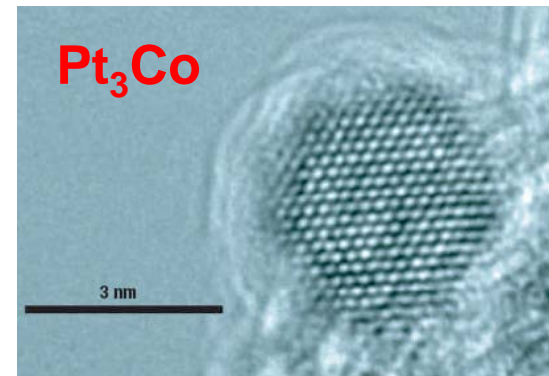
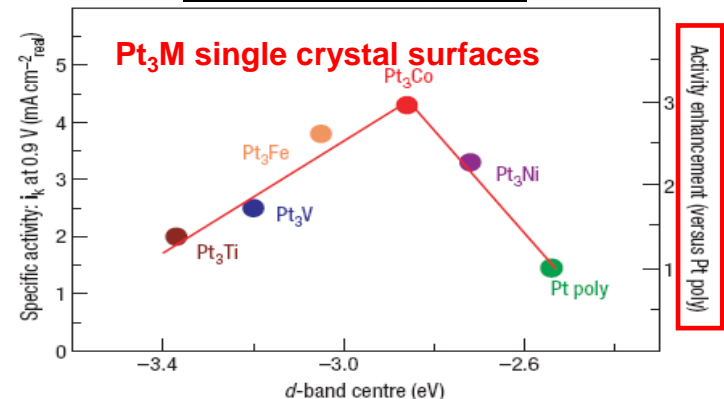
Periodic trends in oxygen reduction activity



oxygen binding energy

Volcano relationship between activity and oxygen binding energy suggest alloying improve activity

Alloying leads to oxygen reduction activity enhancements



Energy Conservation

spiral type compact fluorescent light bulb



Diesel Fuel

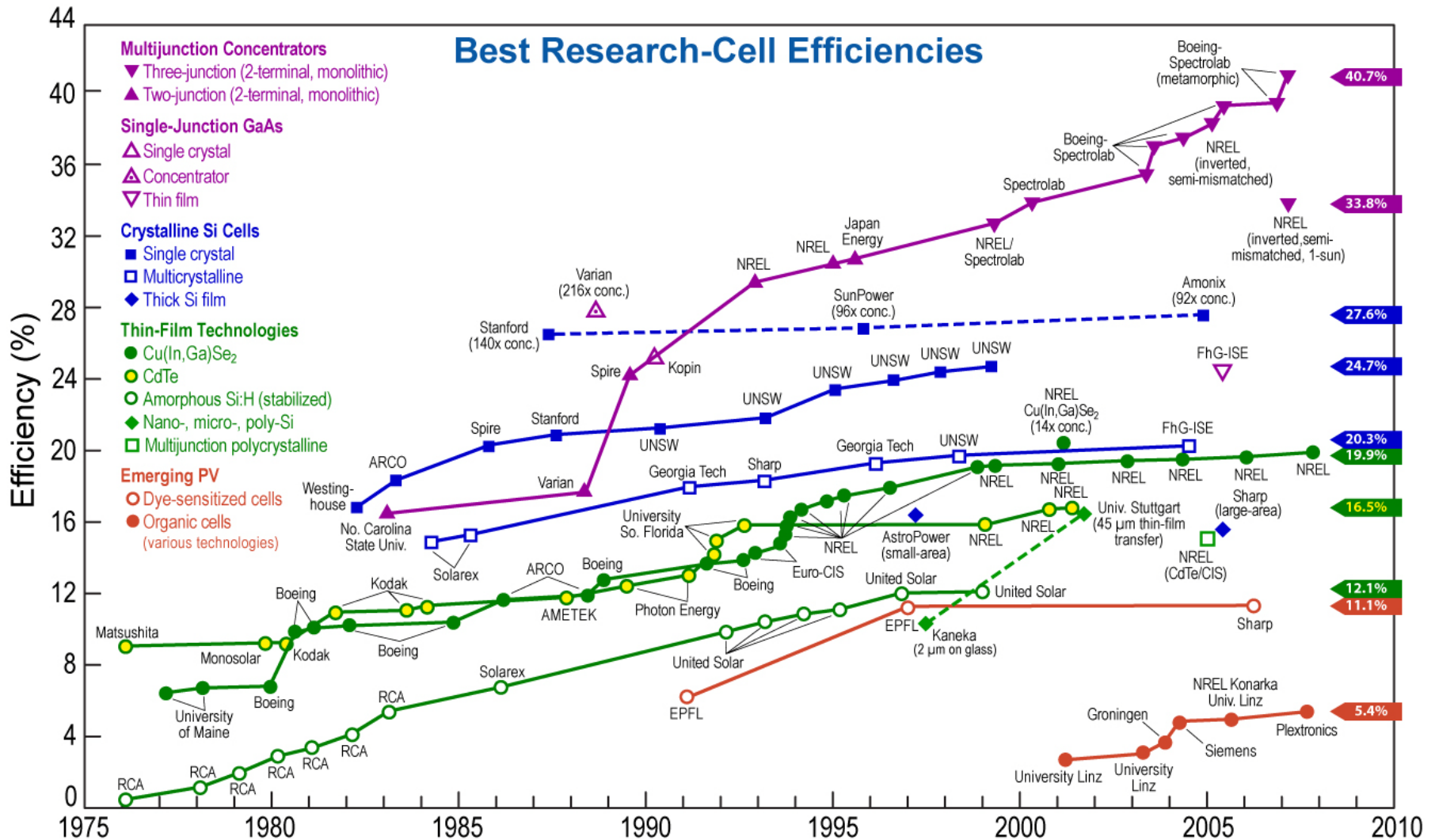
<http://www.de.nec.d>



Boeing 787. Approximately 50% carbon-epoxy composite. (Cost, autoclaves, damage, repair, electromagnetics/lightening,

Performance in Photovoltaics: Cost vs. Efficiency Tradeoff

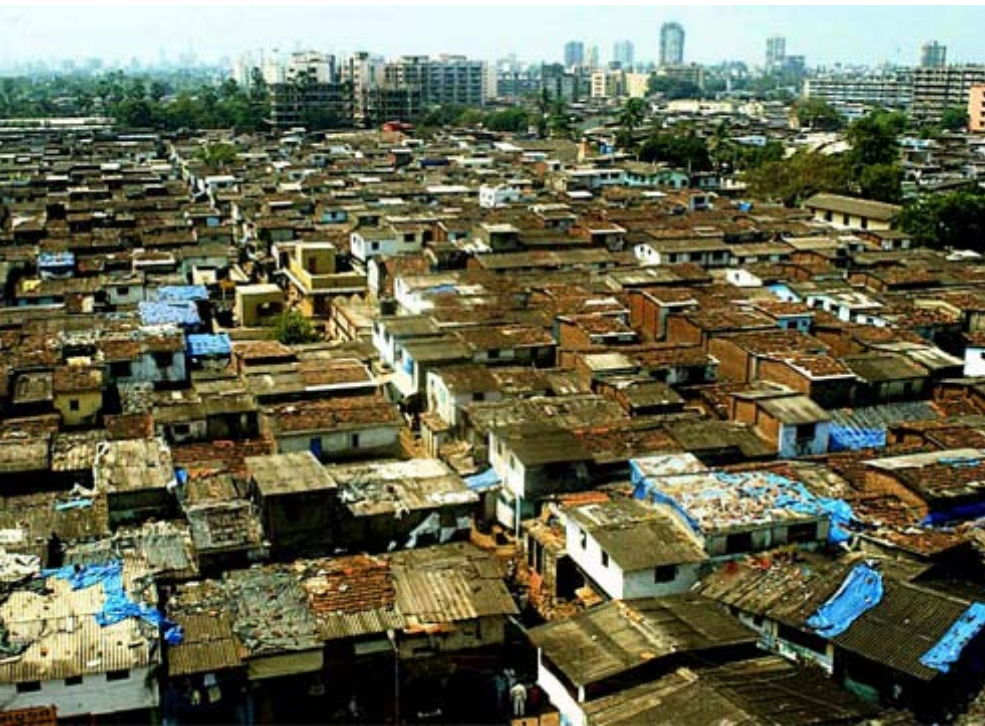
Best Research-Cell Efficiencies



Rev. 11-07-07

2. Global Stewardship

- CO₂ and atmospheric management
- Population, “crowding”, future megacities
- (Education)



“Geoengineering”

- **Sulfuric Acid Sols**
 - Tambora (1815) and the “year without a summer”
- **CO₂ for control**
 - Inject CO₂ into atmosphere for “feedback” climate control



3. Information Technology

- **Consumerization; globalization of information**
- **Education, Entertainment**



4. Health Care

- **Cost reduction: Prevention, Anticipation**
- **Developing world**
- **Is the patient important any more?**



Vs.



5. Building the Global Middle Class

- The fusion of capitalism and socialism, with a 50- to 100-year time-scale
- National Security: Conflict and nation-building



Middle class in India



6. Robotics: Replacing Human Labor



BigDog, *Boston Dynamics*



LittleDog, *Boston Dynamics*

<http://www.bostondynamics.com/content/sec.php?section=BigDog>

<http://www.bostondynamics.com/content/sec.php?section=LittleDog>

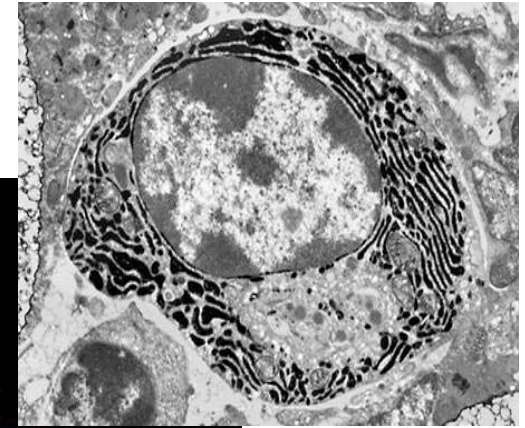
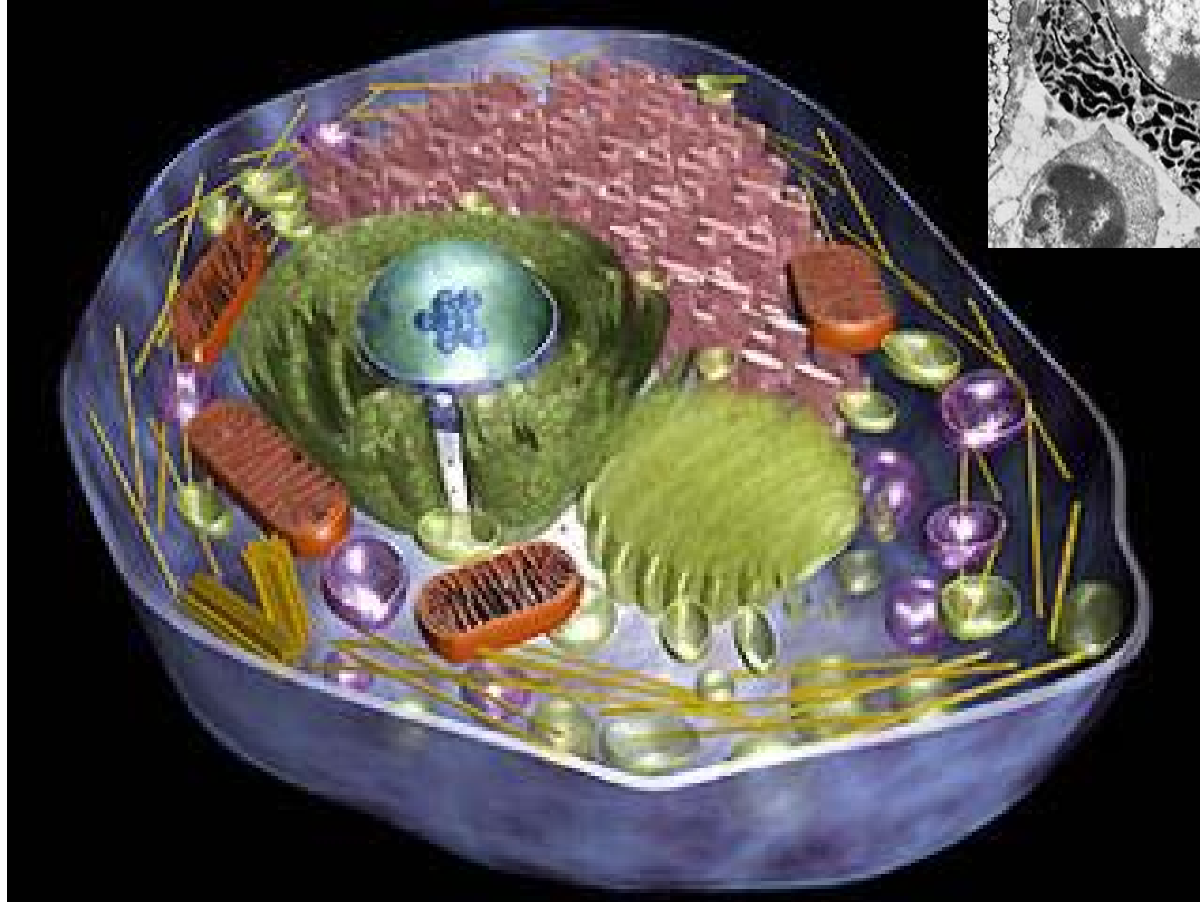
A “Next Big Thing”

- **Robotics: Changes the way we work. Work often defines what it is to be human.**
- **Investment:**
 - **Competition with low labor-rate competitors**
 - **Military**
- **Turing test**

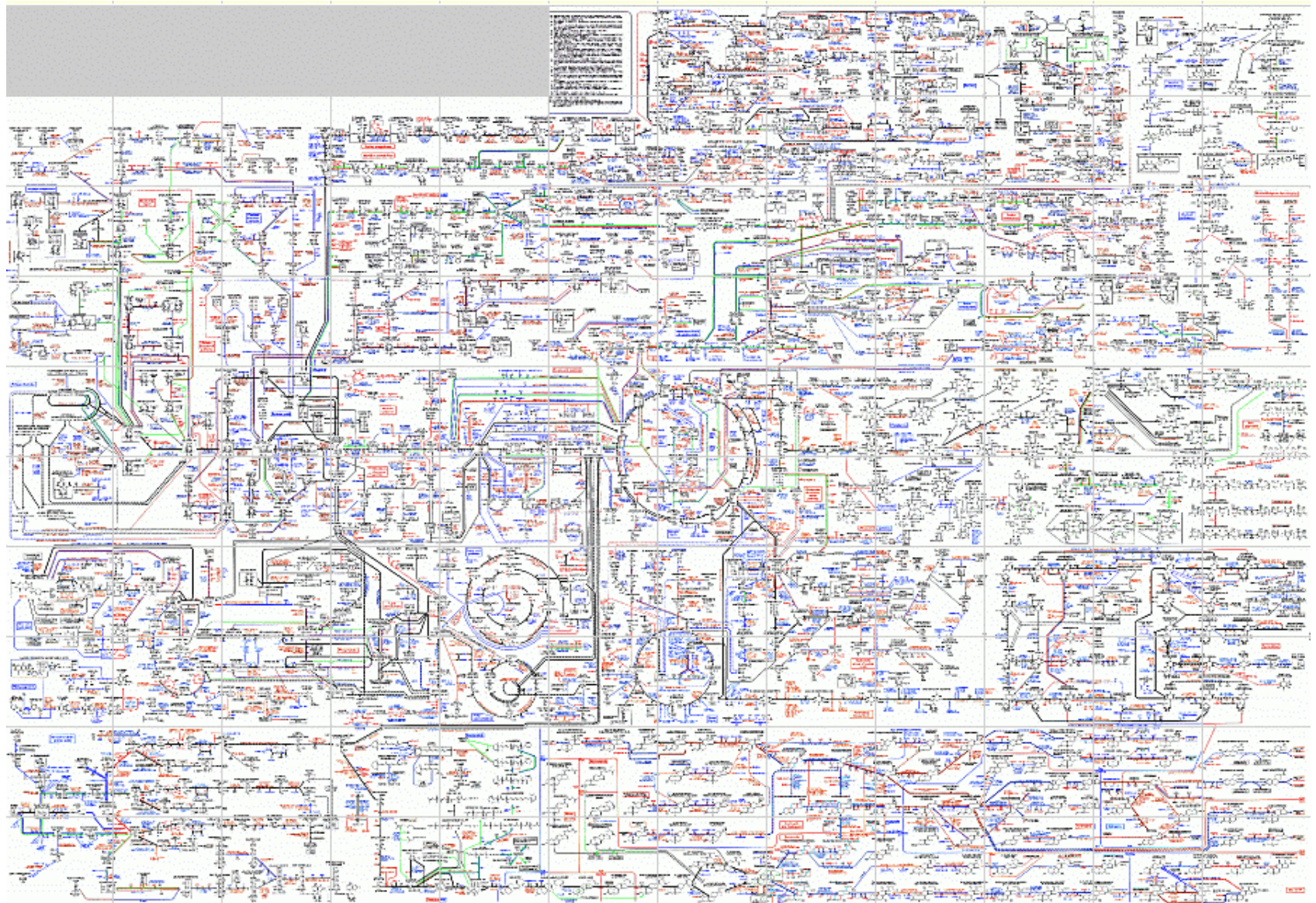
Robotics: Replacing Human Labor



Fundamental/Basic Science: The Cell



Systems: “What is life?”



Origin of Life: Peribiotic Earth



- Little/no? land
- Unformed continental plates
- Extensive vulcanism; geothermal activity; **Mn/Fe/NiS colloids**
- Cool, uv-rich sun
- Continuing impaction
- CO₂/N₂/H₂O atmosphere (~10 atm); overall redox neutral; large uncertainties in NH₄⁺, CH₄, O₂, ...
- Acidic, mildly reducing ocean; Fe⁺²
- **“Pond scum”**; in-fall from space + geosynthesis

Summary: Opportunities

- Nano has developed as **integrative rather than revolutionary**
- It is developing the tools needed to focus on ***function.***
- Many connections to **large-scale problems**: Energy, water, climate change, health-care cost reduction, information technology
- Rich source of **new materials and processes**
- **Tools and concepts for fundamental science**, especially in catalysis, biology, charge-transport, optics, interfacial chemistry, materials science

For Nano and Nanochemistry, Fundamentals are Sound:

- Atoms/Molecules—“*Nano*”—Meso/Macro-scale Matter; **the least-understood scale of matter.**
- **Charge transport** (Energy generation/storage): occurs across nm-scale interfaces
- Assemblies in the **cell** are nanoscale
- Heterogeneous catalysis: “catalysis by design” must involve nano for empiricism to science
- Surface science is nanoscale, and ubiquitous: **electrochemistry**, plasmonics, membrane **separations** (RO/H₂O, CO₂, CH₄), **fuel cells/batteries/capacitors, solar cells**
- The **environment**: Micro/nanoparticles, aerosols
- New **materials** and characterization: Graphene, nanorods, quantum dots, nanoresists, photovoltaics...SPM, tribology, corrosion, grain boundaries, phase-change materials

Some Generalizations about Nano: “Then” and “Now”

• Then

- Generally: **structure**
- “New” nanoelectronics
- Nanosensors
- Atomic/molecular-scale visualization
- “Nanomedicine”
- The cell
- “Nanobots”; the “self-assembler”

• Now

- Search for **Function** (Saalfeld Criterion)—energy, consumer electronics, optics..
- Materials (graphene,..)
- Nanoelectronics (materials support)
- Energy/sustainability/ climate/energy storage...
- Search for applications in biomedicine (NIH, VCs): imaging; research; environmental nano
- Search for a lead in heterogeneous catalysis

Acknowledgements

- **Darren Lipomi**
- **Roger York**
- **Sindy Tang**
- **Audrey Ellerbee (Stanford)**
- **Zhihong Nie**
- **Ben Wiley (Duke)**
- **Qiaobing Xu**
- **Michael Dickey (U. North Carolina)**
- **Rob Rioux (Penn State)**

Six big ideas

1. Applications: Electronics, Energy, Water
2. New materials
3. Information/globalization
4. The cell, biology, and medicine
5. Single atoms and molecules
6. Quantum phenomena, both fundamental and applied

Opportunities: Lateral Transfer Electronics → Chemistry

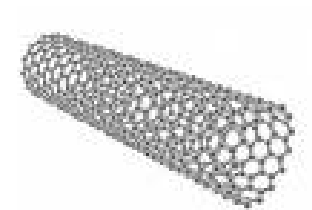
- Phase-shifting and immersion optics
- Spin-coating
- Resists and thin films
- Chemical vapor deposition
- Chemical mechanical polishing
- Si on oxide
- High K materials



SOI cross section

Opportunities: Lateral Transfer Chemistry → Electronics

- **Nanomolding**
- **Buckytubes/nanotubes**
- **High h^+ mobility materials**
- **Phase-change materials for electronics**
- **Thin films; CVD**



Opportunities: Energy

- Catalysis
- Materials
- Band-gap Engineering
- Separations

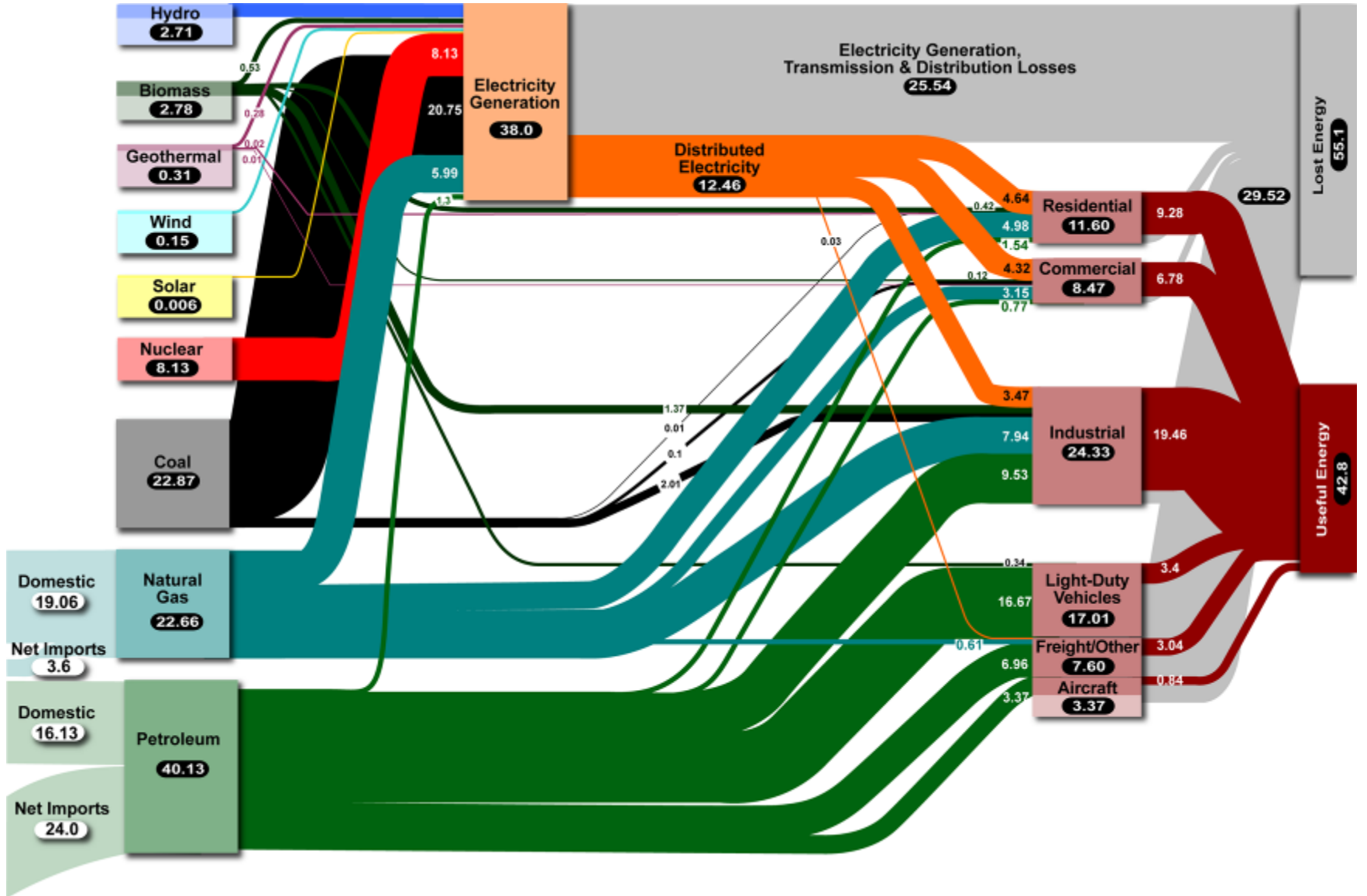
Energy:

Thermal (high T is good)

Electrochemistry ($P = i^2R = IV$)

Conservation

Light weight, strong, corrosion resistant



Efficient Use of Energy

spiral type compact fluorescent light bulb



Diesel Fuel

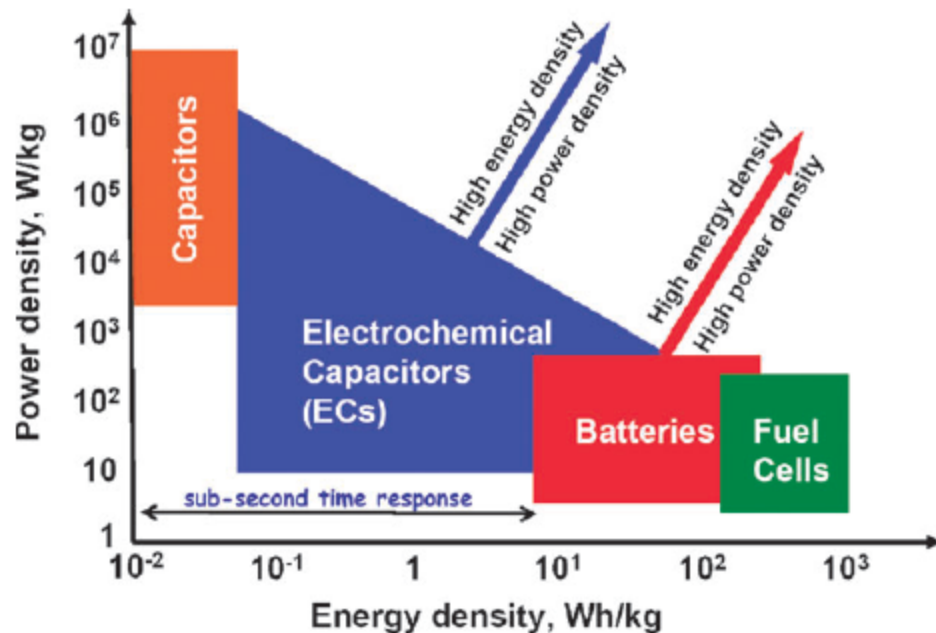
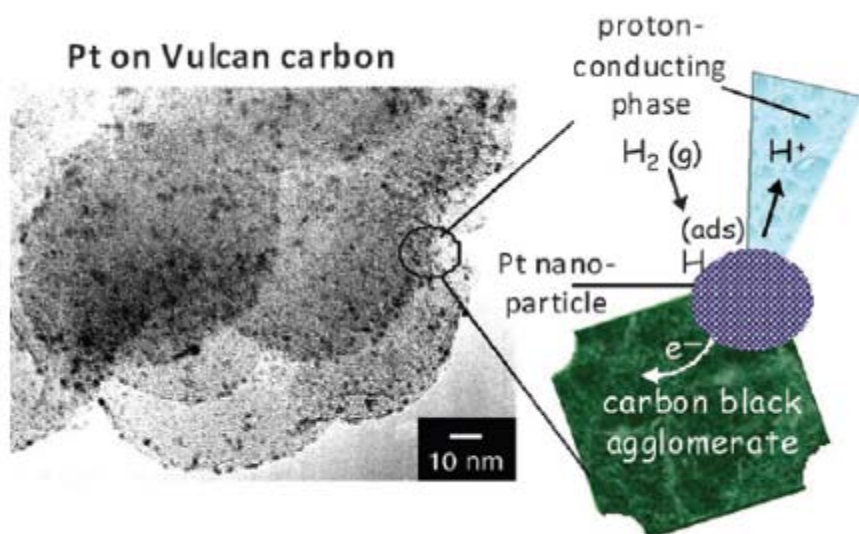
<http://www.de.nec.de/>

Materials in Energy

Nanotechnology may have many roles in energy challenge

Multifunctional 3D nanoarchitectures for energy storage and conversion†

Debra R. Rolison,^{*a} Jeffrey W. Long,^{*a} Justin C. Lytle,^a Anne E. Fischer,^b
Christopher P. Rhodes,^c Todd M. McEvoy,^d Megan E. Bourc^a and Alia M. Lubers^a



Is it Possible to Design Catalysts?

Tuning surface electronic structure of nanoparticle surface by alloying leads to improved reduction kinetics – Aided by *surface science* and *nanoscience*

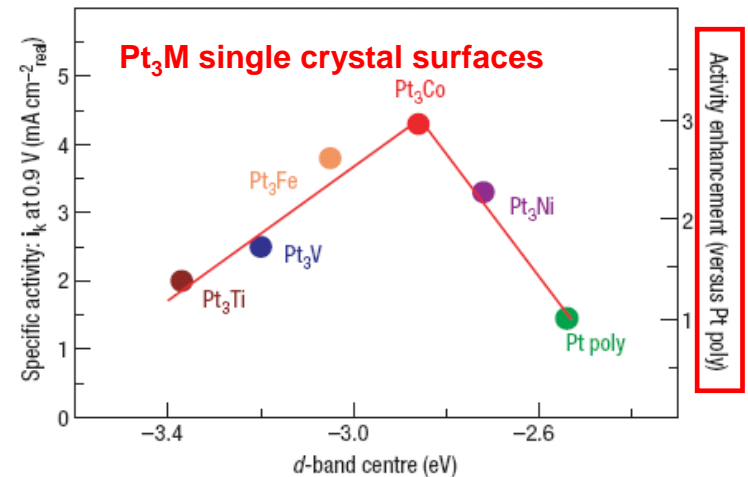


Fundamental



Research...

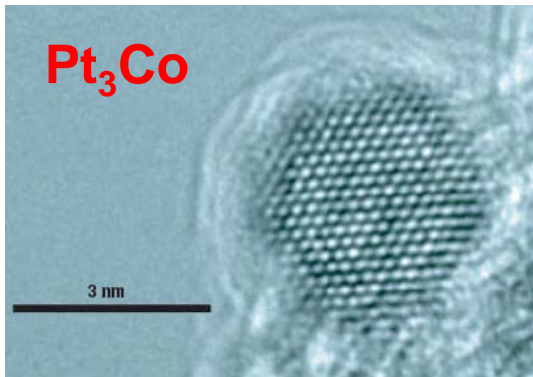
Alloying leads to reduction activity enhancements



Activity enhancement (versus Pt poly)

DFT calculated surface electronic structure

new generation of oxygen reduction catalysts



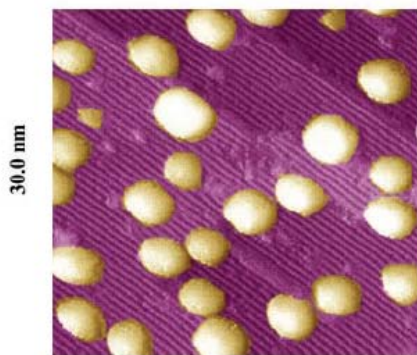
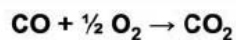
...coupled with nanoscience leads to the design



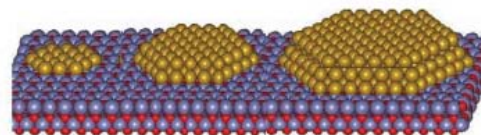
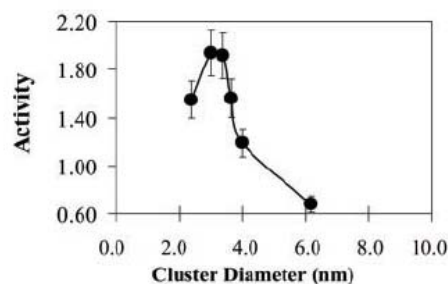
of better O₂ reduction catalysts

Nanoscience: Enabling Catalysis by Design

Particle size and shape is critical for activity and selectivity



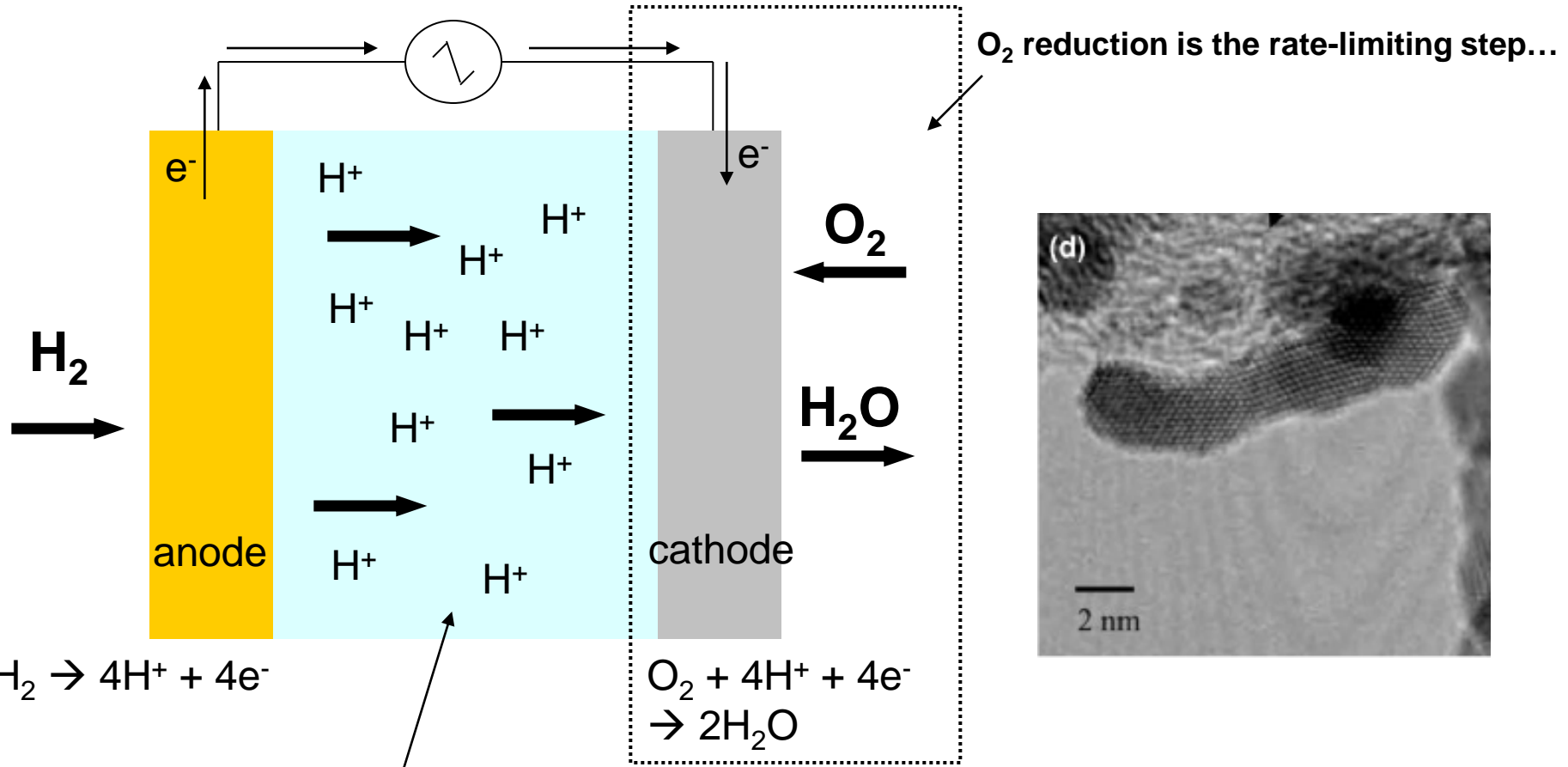
30.0 nm



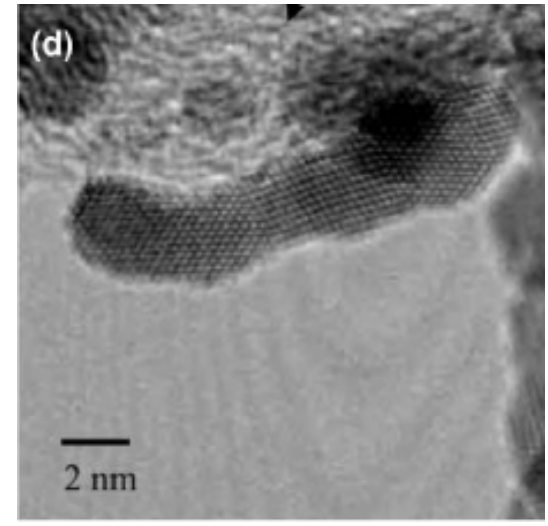
M. Valden et al. *Science* 281 (1998) 1647.

- Relatively inert Au becomes active once the particle size reaches an optimal diameter.
- Methods of surface science are still critical for understanding how catalyst operates, but the complexity of real catalysts must be integrated into model catalyst design

Supported Nanoparticles to Catalyze Reduction of O₂ in Proton Exchange Membrane Fuel Cells

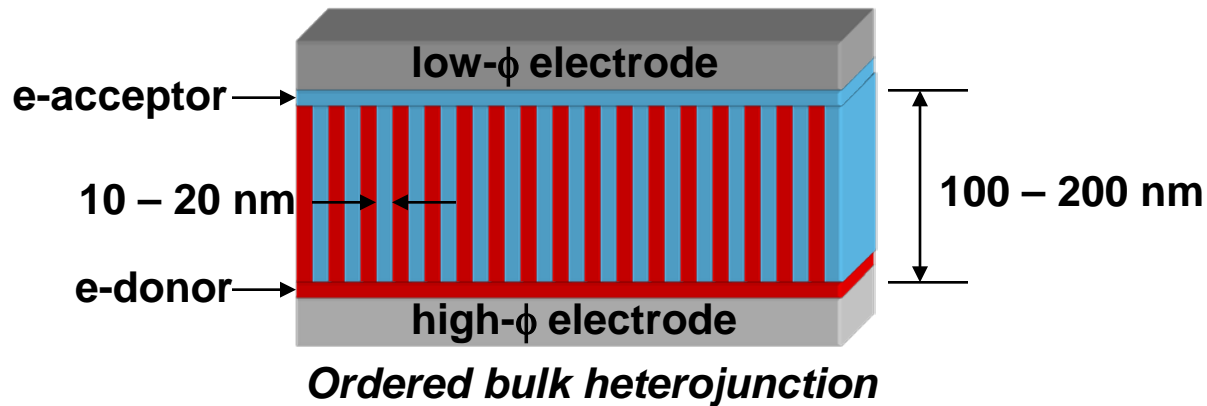


Polymer membrane “electrolyte”
(doped perfluorocarbon)



Nanostructured Photovoltaic Cells

- Solar materials
 - **Cheap** semiconductors (organics, nanocrystals, etc.) have **poor** exciton and/or carrier lifetimes
 - Nanostructuring is essential



Opportunities: Functional Materials

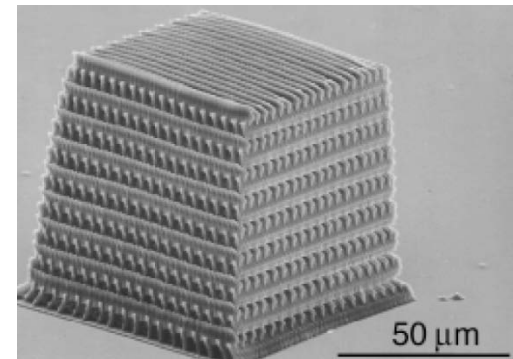
Nanotubes, Nanowires and Nanoparticles:

- **Electronic & optical properties**
 - Low defects
 - Metamaterials
 - Quantum confinement
- **Mechanical properties**
 - Much different than bulk materials
- **Thermal properties**
 - New forms of conductivity (diamond, graphite, aerogels)
- **Chemical properties**
 - Exploiting high surface-to-volume ratios

Opportunities: Optics, especially for IT

Nanochemistry is developing alongside nanooptics

- **Optical systems**
 - More defect-tolerant than electronics
- **New science**
 - Plasmonic waveguiding
 - Single-photon sources and detectors
- **New synthetic challenges**
 - 3D fabrication
 - High-quality nanocrystals



Two-Photon Woodpile Crystal
B. H. Cumpston *et al.*,
Nature **398**, 51 (1999)

Opportunities: Biology and Biomedicine

Learning the Functions of Bionanostructures

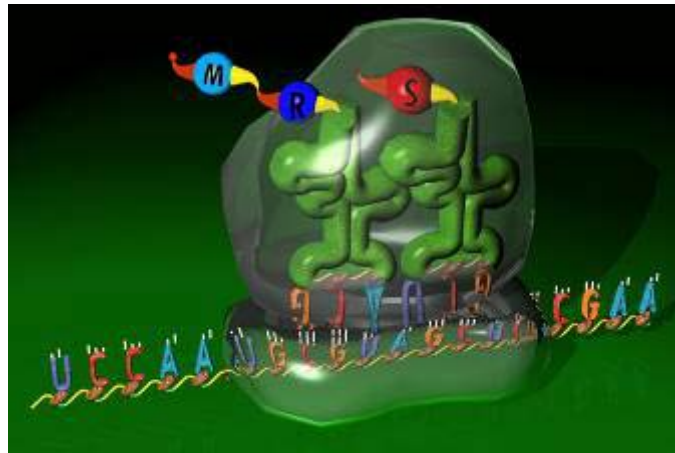
Nature-provides examples of actuation, sensing, signaling, information processing, and intelligence at the nanoscale

Ribosome = molecular assembler

blueprints



functional
product



ribosome



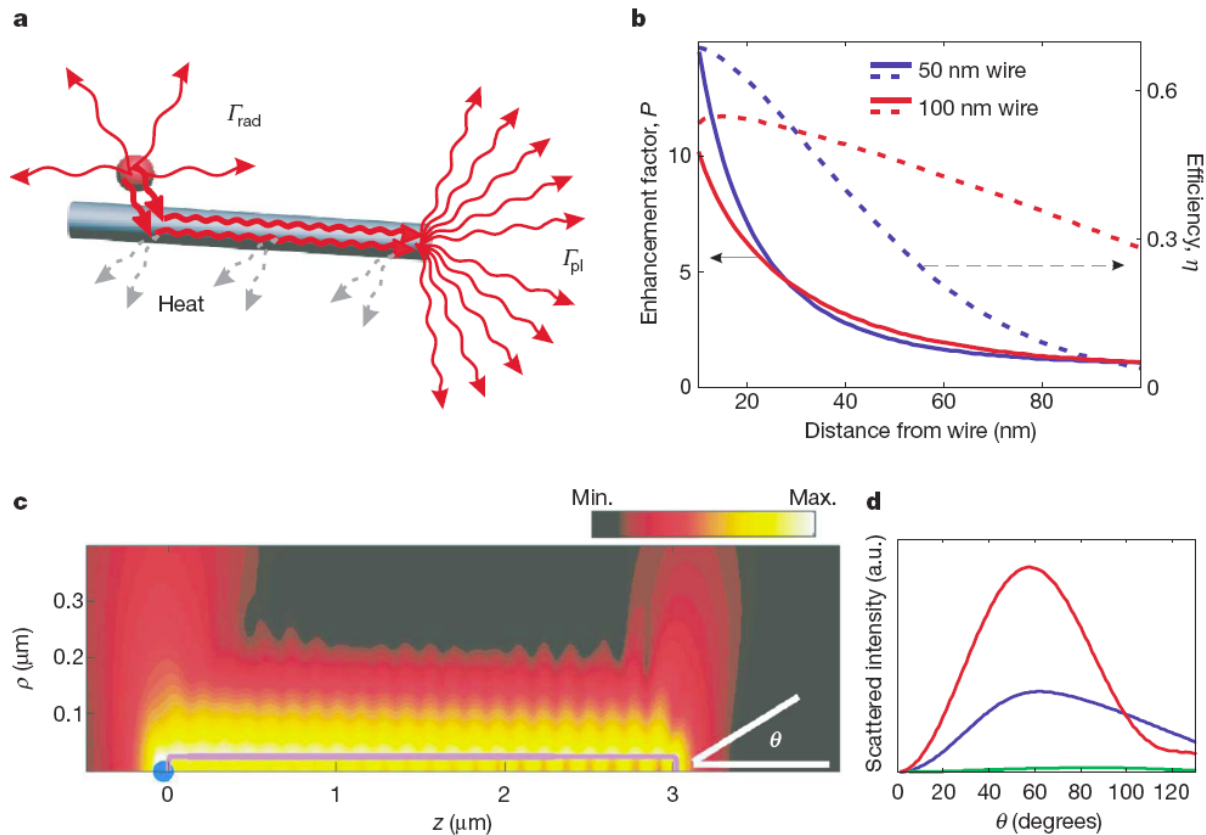
assembly line

Additional Material...

Quantum

Generation of single optical plasmons in metallic nanowires coupled to quantum dots

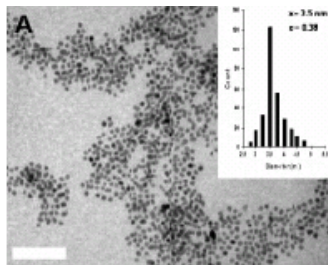
A. V. Akimov^{1,4*}, A. Mukherjee^{1*}, C. L. Yu^{2*}, D. E. Chang¹, A. S. Zibrov^{1,4}, P. R. Hemmer³, H. Park^{1,2} & M. D. Lukin¹



Chemical Control of Catalytic Particles

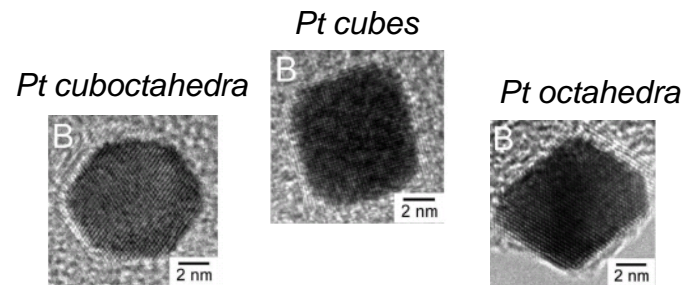
Design of Catalytic Nanostructures

Size control



K. Niesz et al. *Nano Lett.* 5 (2005) 2238

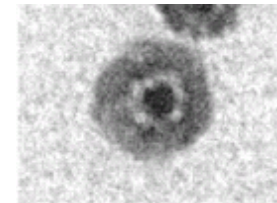
Shape control



H. Song et al. *J.P.C B* 109 (2005) 188

Morphology control

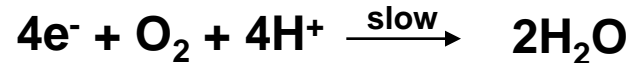
Pt nanoparticle embedded in hollow CoO shell



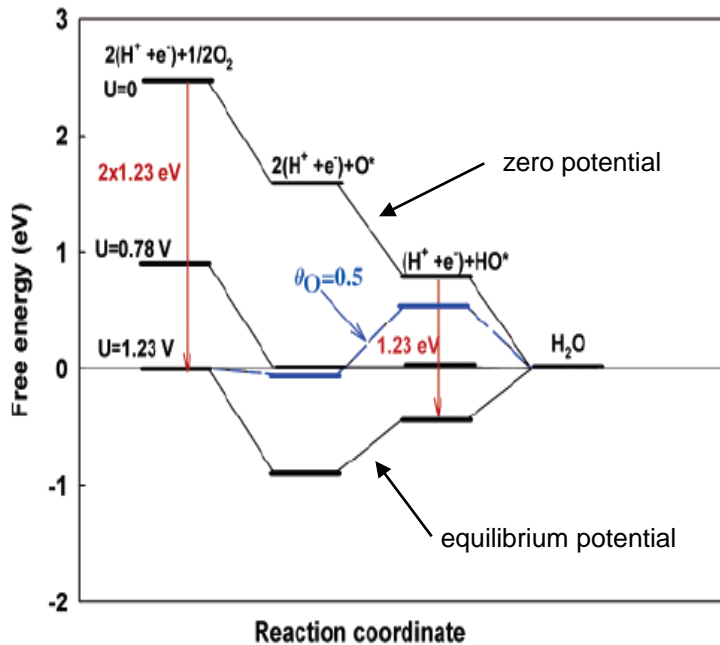
The Oxygen Electrode

Kinetics of cathode reaction are much slower than the anode reaction and limit economic viability of low temperature fuel cells

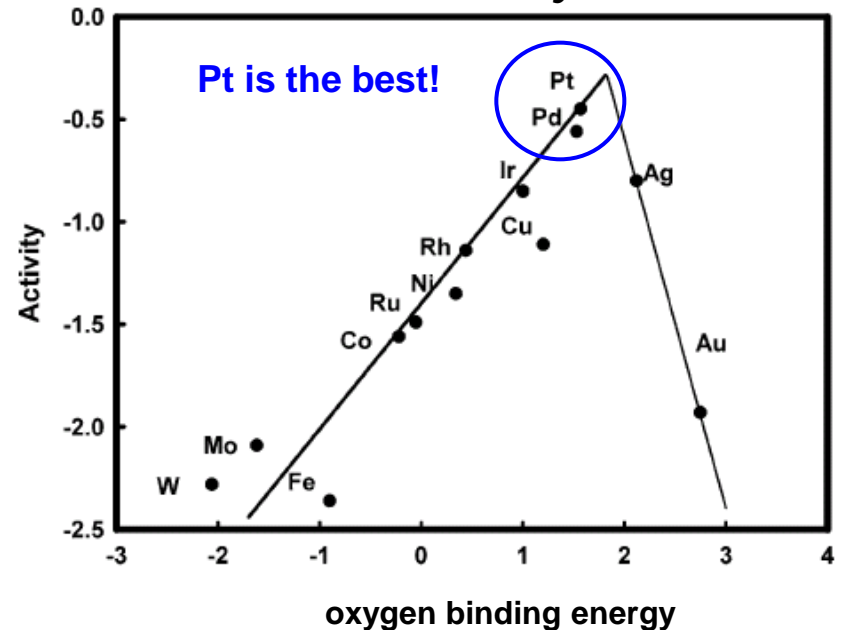
**Cathode
reaction:**



Free-energy diagram for O_2 reduction on Pt



Periodic trends in oxygen reduction activity



Volcano relationship between activity and oxygen binding energy suggest alloying improve activity

Challenges

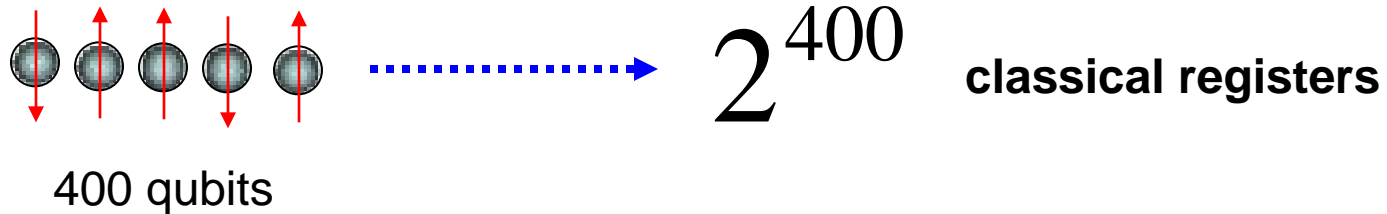
- **Defect-free assemblies**
- **Large-area assemblies**
- **Fine-tuning of interparticle spacing**
- **Precise manipulation of assemblies**

Vital to applications in optics and electronics

Need Solutions

- **A combination of 'bottom-up' and 'top-down' methods**
- **Nature-developed approaches (biological templates)**
- **New opportunities?**

Quantum Computing



- Binary digit (“bits”) replaced by a two-level quantum system (“qubits”) allowing for infinite superpositions of states
- Quantum operation could compute not just on one machine state at once!
- Factoring a 100-digit number

Factoring a 400 digit number would take 10^{10} years with today's fastest computers, but only 3 years with quantum computers!

Conclusions

The most important problems in nanoscience
depend on chemistry

New chemistry is essential

One final thought: *Risk*

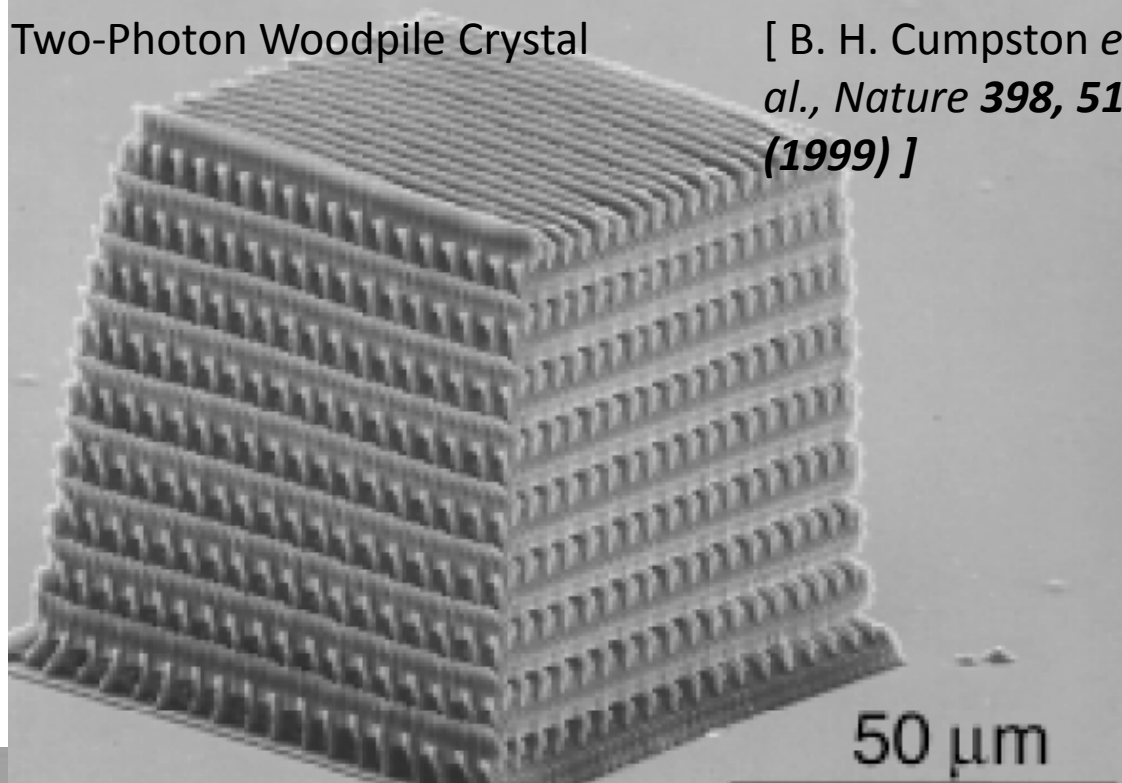
Successful?

Problem	Yes	No
Important	+++	+
Unimportant	-	---

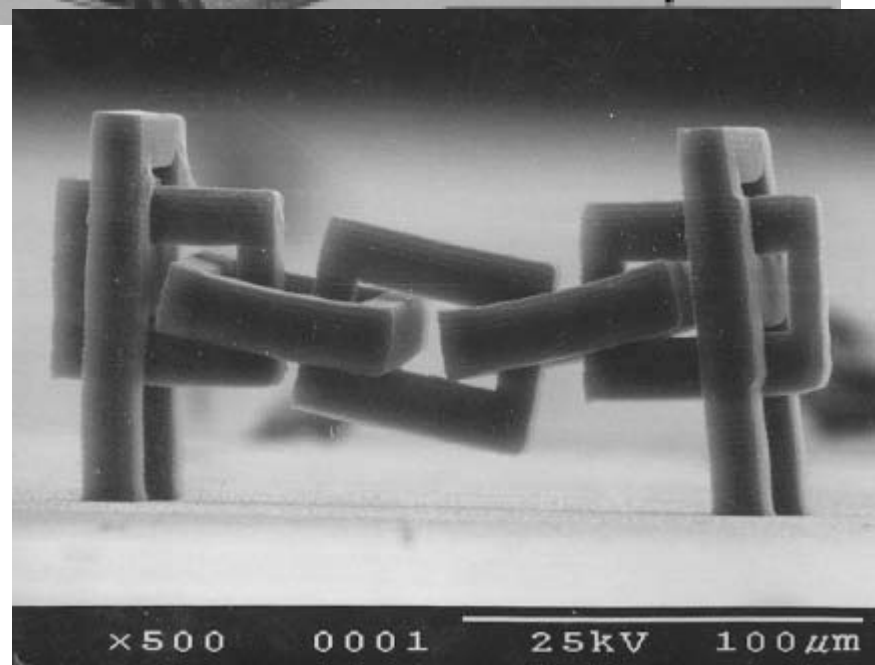
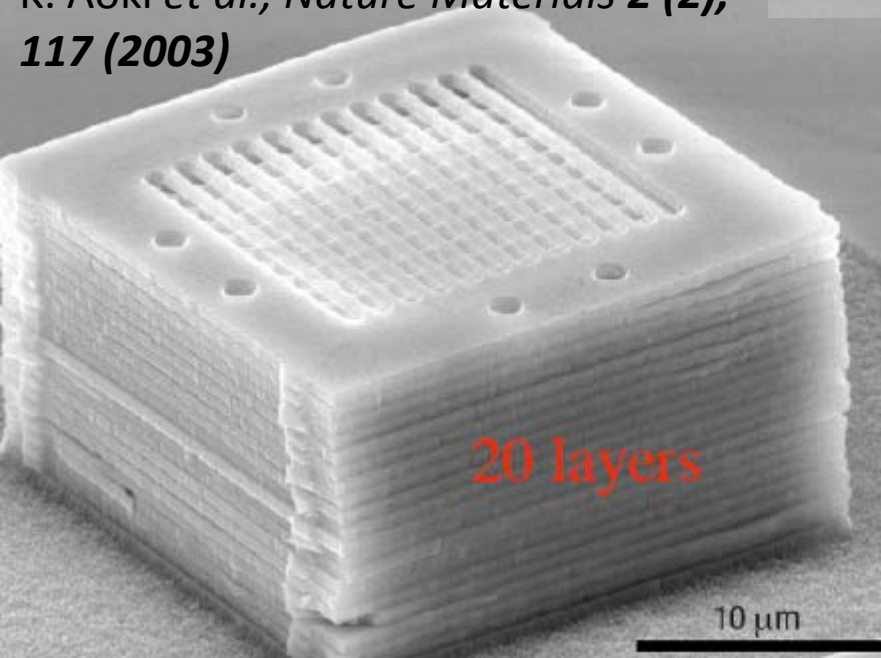


Two-Photon Woodpile Crystal

[B. H. Cumpston et al., *Nature* **398**, 51 (1999)]



K. Aoki et al., *Nature Materials* **2** (2), 117 (2003)



Holey fibers

endlessly
single-mode

[T. A. Birks *et al.*,
Opt. Lett. **22**,
961 (1997)]

polarization
-maintaining

[K. Suzuki,
Opt. Express **9**,
676 (2001)]

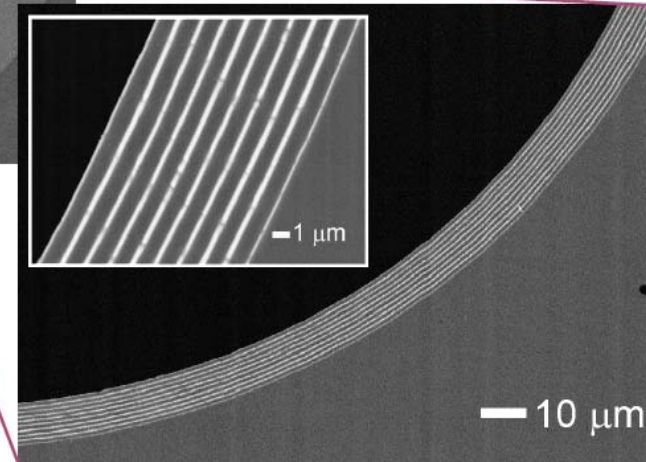
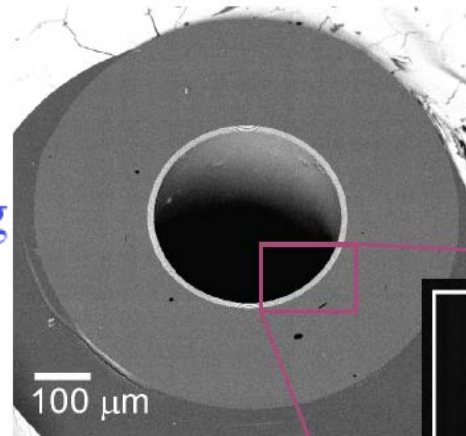
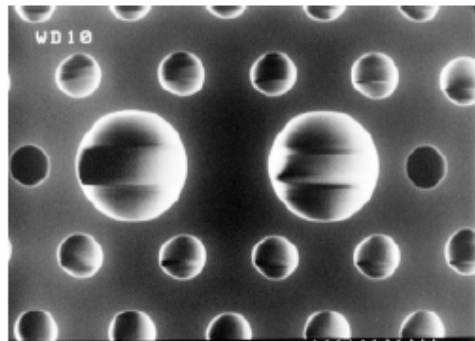
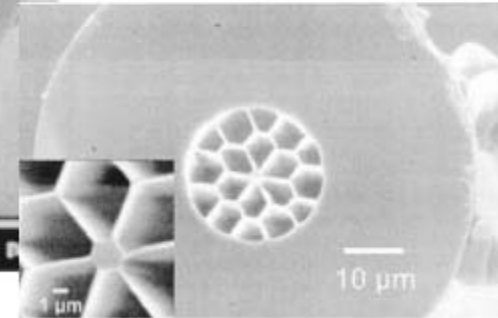
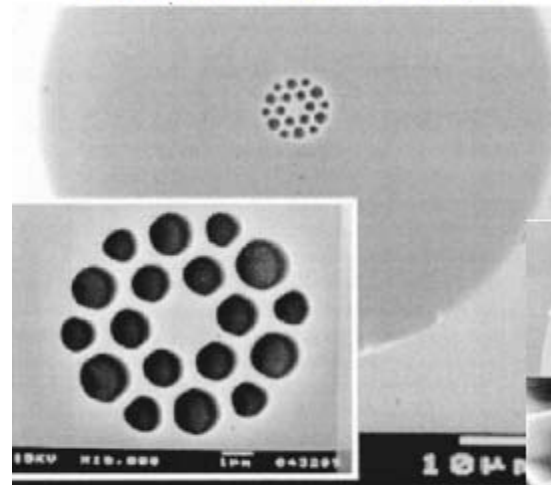
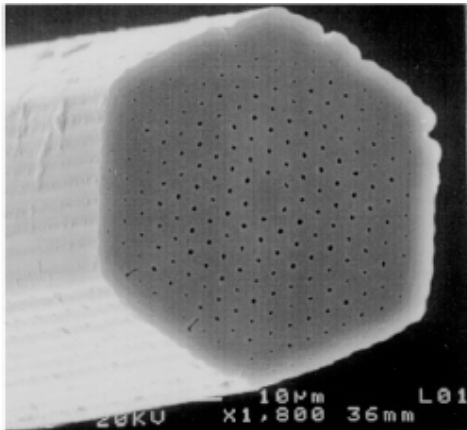
nonlinear fibers

[Wadsworth *et al.*,
JOSA B **19**,
2148 (2002)]

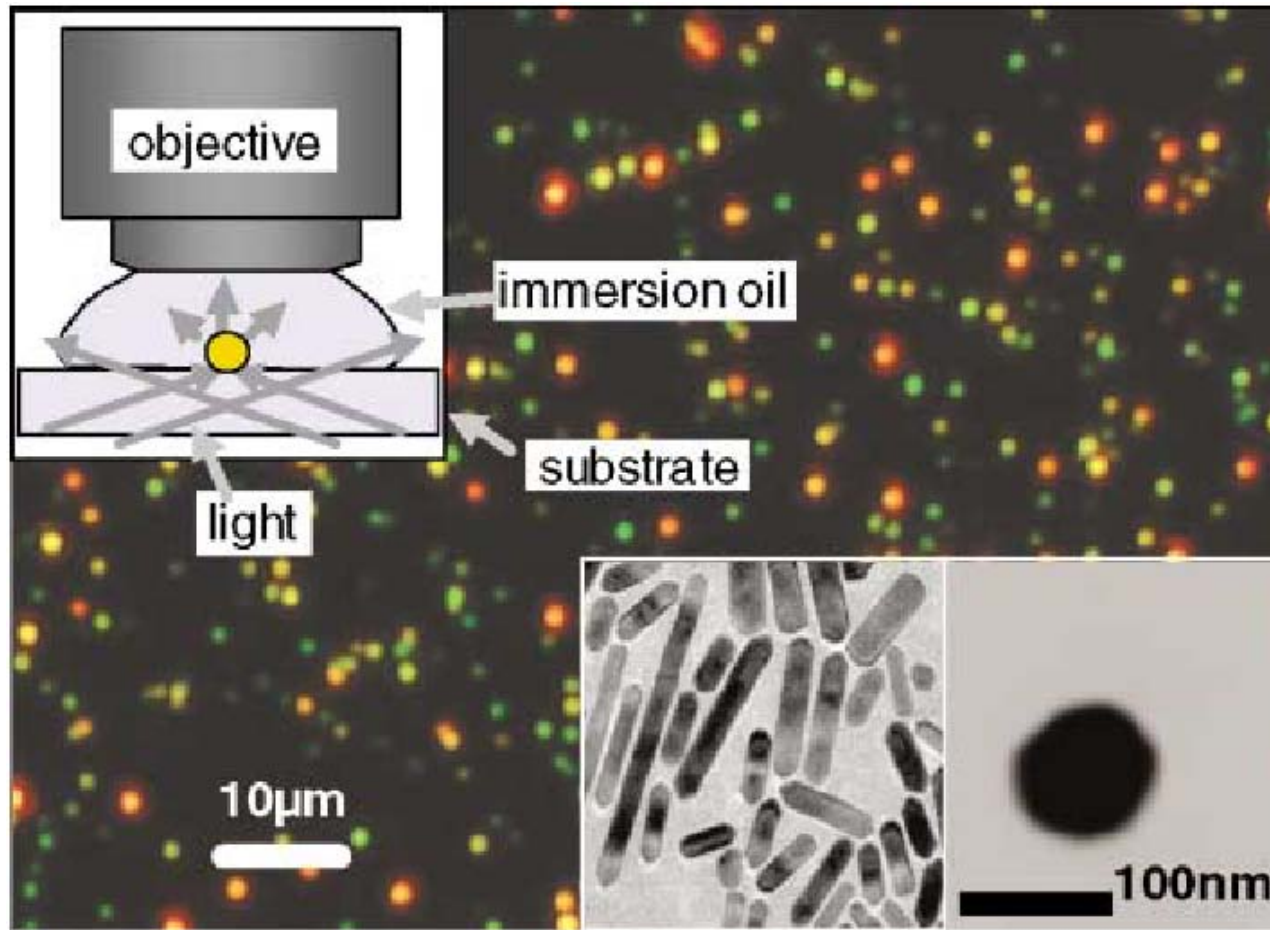
[figs courtesy Y. Fink *et al.*, MIT]

- Photonic crystal structural uniformity, adhesion, physical durability through large temperature excursions

white/grey
= chalco/polymer



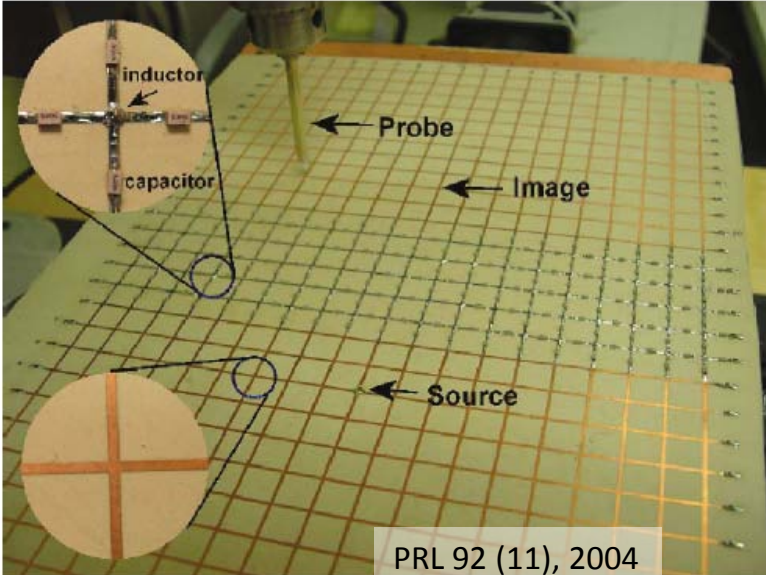
Optical Properties of Metal Nanostructures



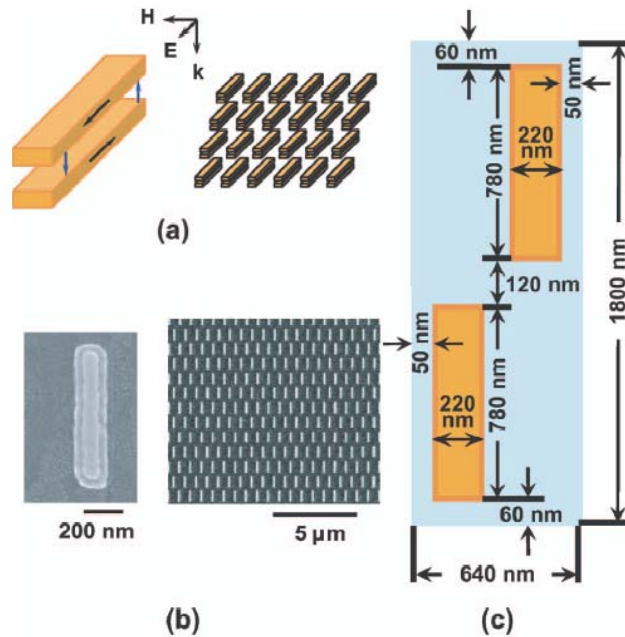
Gold Nanorods (red) and 60nm Gold Nanospheres (green) under Dark-field Illumination

Negative index materials

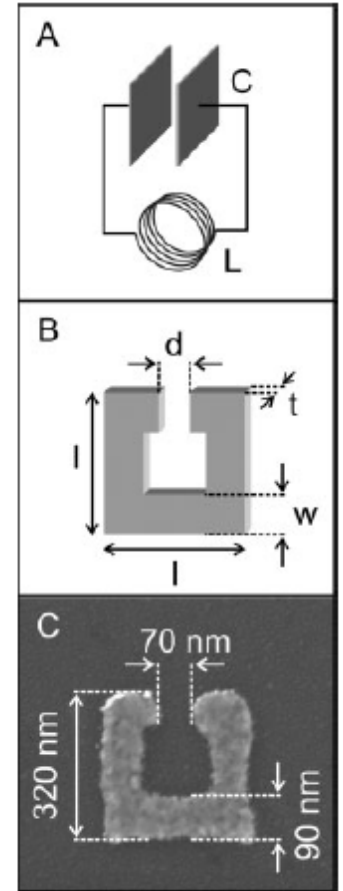
Science 292, 77 (2001)



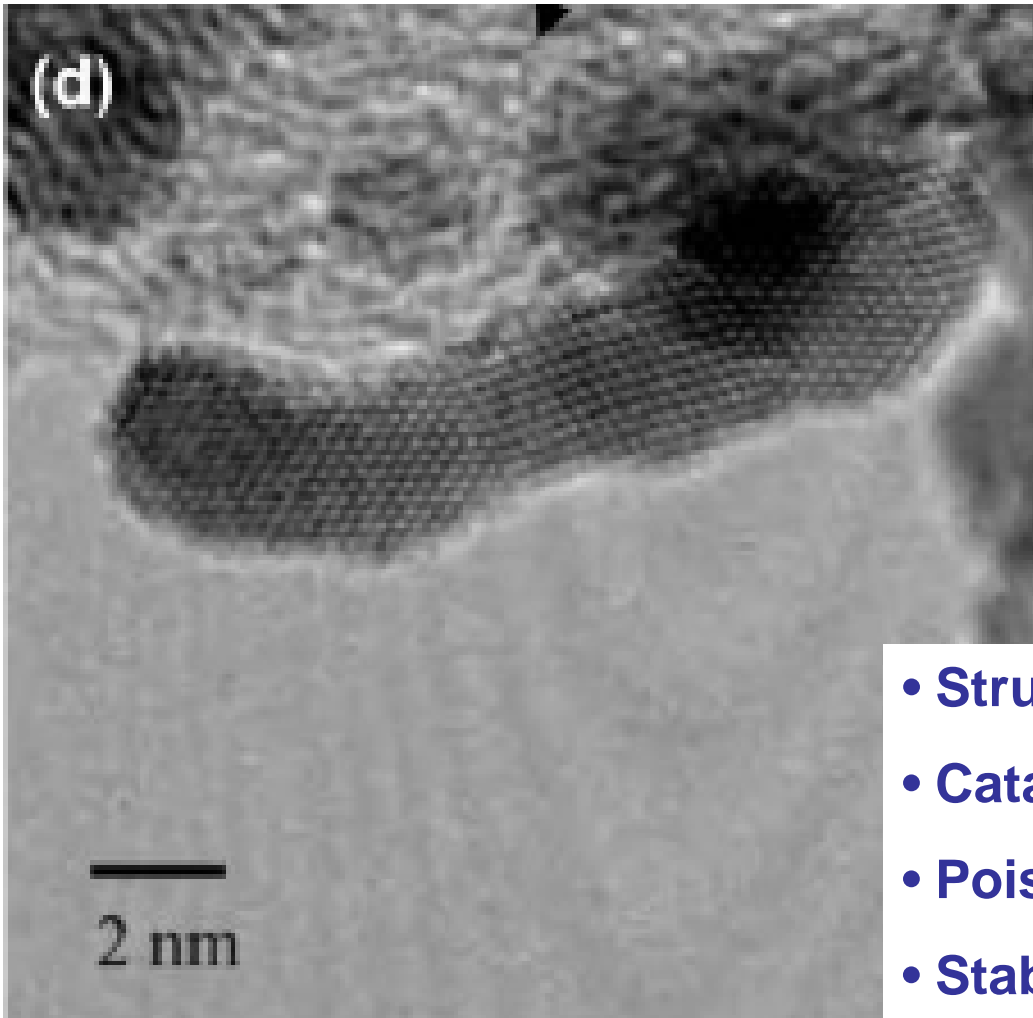
PRL 92 (11), 2004



Optics letters, 30, 24, 3356 (2005)



S. Linden, C. Enkirch,
M. Wegener, J. Zhou,
T. Koschny, C. M.
Soukoulis,
Science **2004**, 306,
1351.



- **Structure-reactivity relations**
- **Catalyst-support interactions**
- **Poisoning and Activation**
- **Stability**
- **Mass transport**

Nanotechnology in Energy



Berkeley, CA:
www.nrel.gov



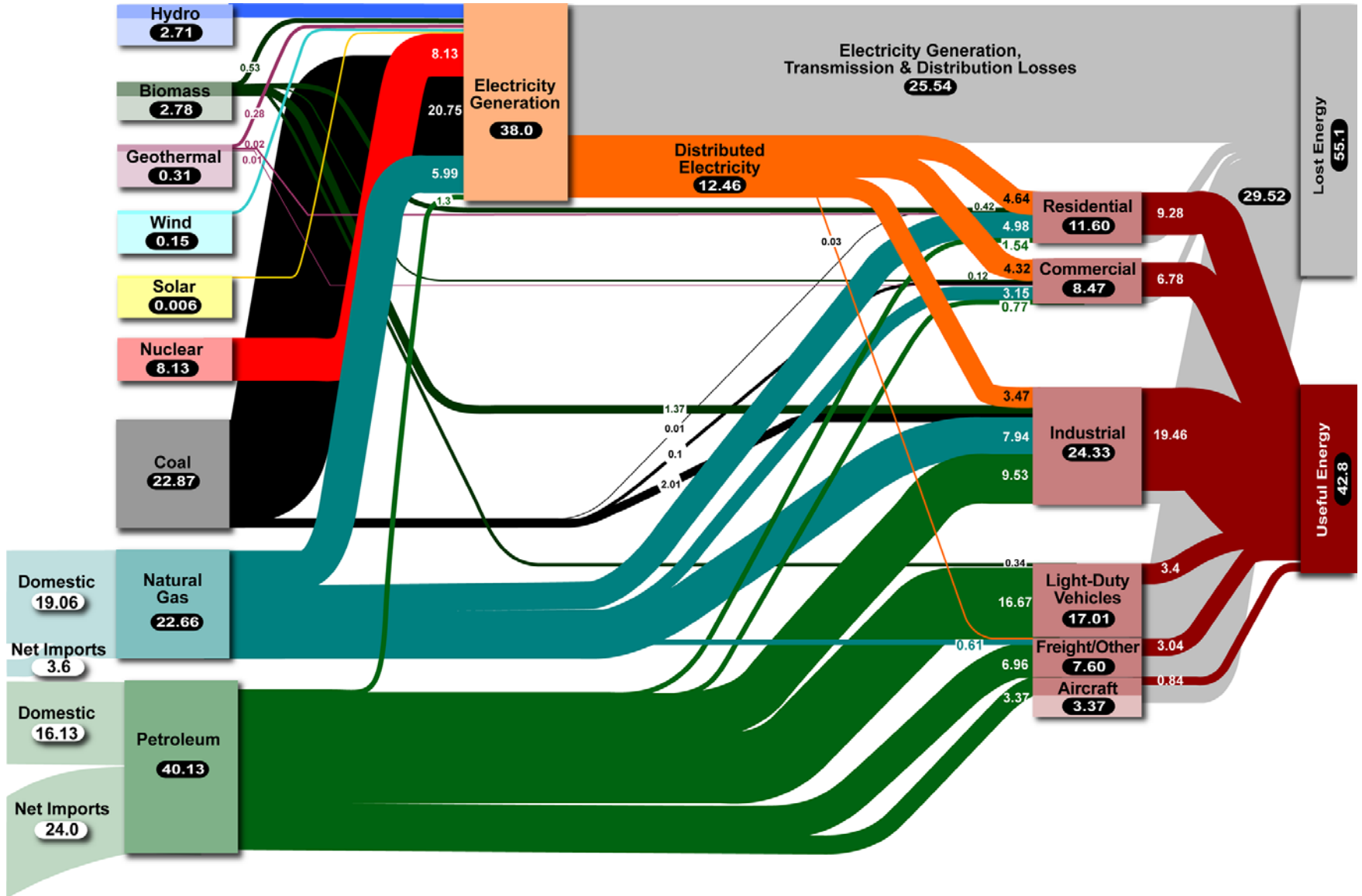
**A stack of 36 PEM
fuel cells**

Schatz Energy Research
Center:
www.humboldt.edu/~serc/animation.html



Plasma Display:

http://www.de.nec.de/pressfiles/42vp4_plasma_display.jpg



Is it possible to design catalysts?

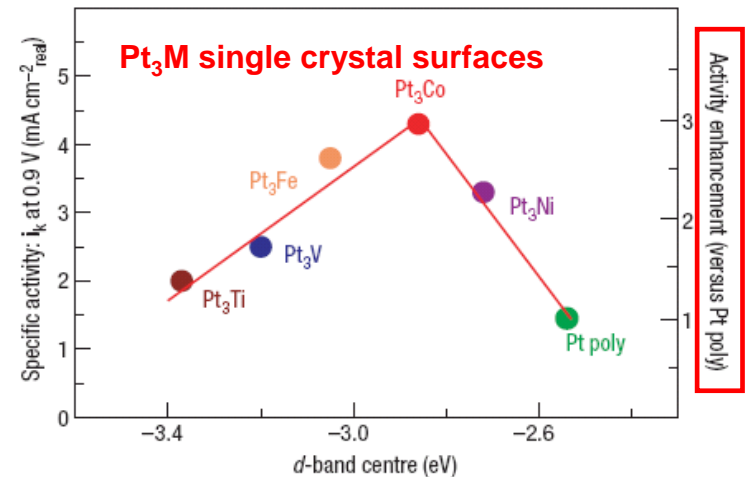
Tuning surface electronic structure of nanoparticle surface by alloying leads to improved reduction kinetics – Aided by *surface science* and *nanoscience*



Fundamental

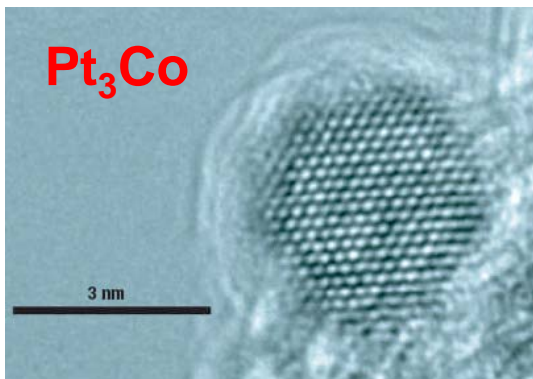
Research...

Alloying leads to reduction activity enhancements



DFT calculated surface electronic structure

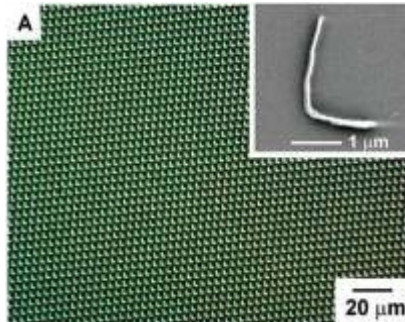
new generation of oxygen reduction catalysts



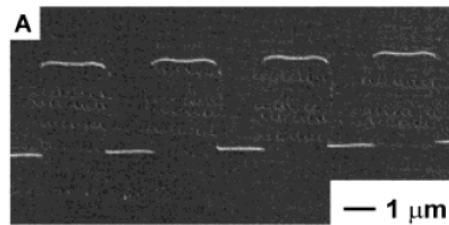
...coupled with nanoscience leads to the design

of better O₂ reduction catalysts

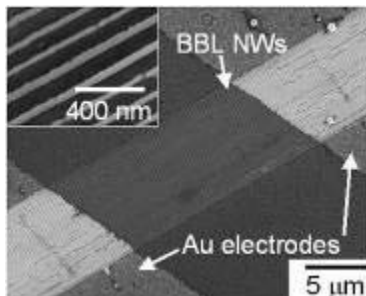
Applications of Nanoskiving



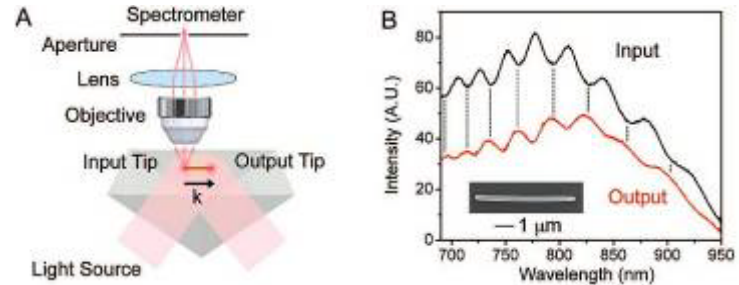
Frequency-selective surfaces
Xu et al. *Nano Lett.* **2007**



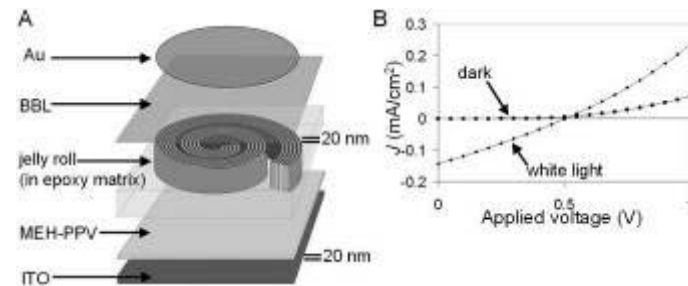
Electrodes for electrodeposition
Xu et al. *Nano Lett.* **2007**



Conducting polymer nanowires
Lipomi et al. *Nano Lett.* **2008**



Single-crystal nanowire plasmonic waveguides
Wiley et al. *Nano Lett.* **2008**



Organic photovoltaic device
Lipomi et al. *Adv. Funct. Mater.* **2008**

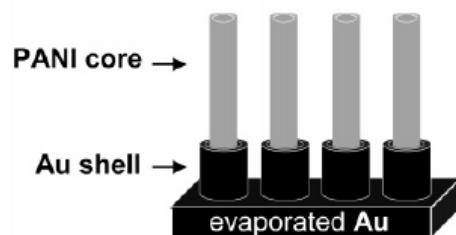


Electrically addressable parallel nanowires
Dickey et al. *Nano Lett.* **2008**

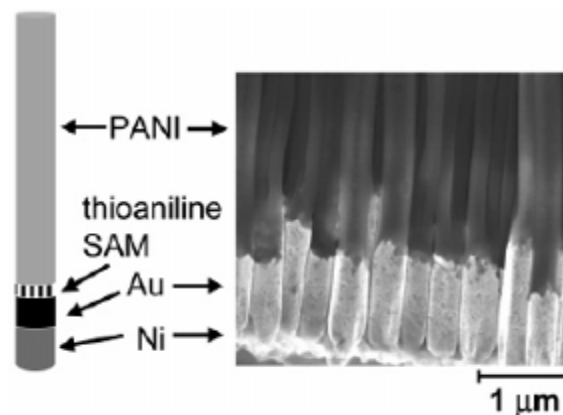
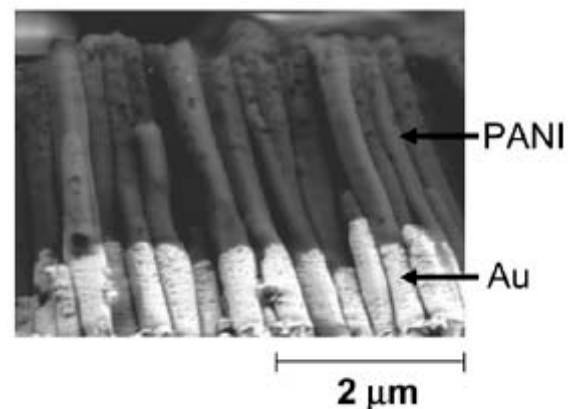
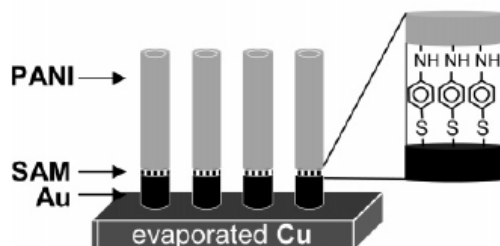
Templating

- Example: electrochemical growth of core-shell and segmented metallic and polymeric tubes in anodic alumina membranes

Structure 1: core-shell



Structure 2: segmented



C. Martin

Applications of Self-Assembled Particles

- **Sensing**
 - Chemi- and biosensors
 - Plasmonic rulers
- **Multifunctional carriers for delivery**

Developing quickly

- **Data storage devices**
- **Optoelectronic devices**
 - Plasmon waveguides
 - Focusing lenses
 - Light generators
 - Optical switches
- **Nanoelectronics**

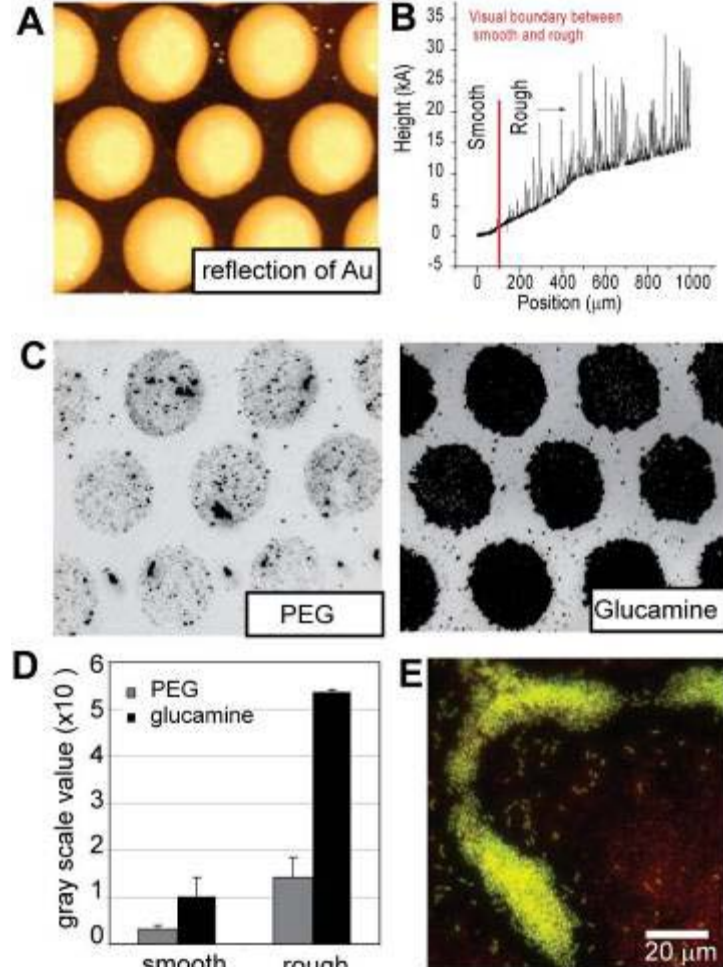
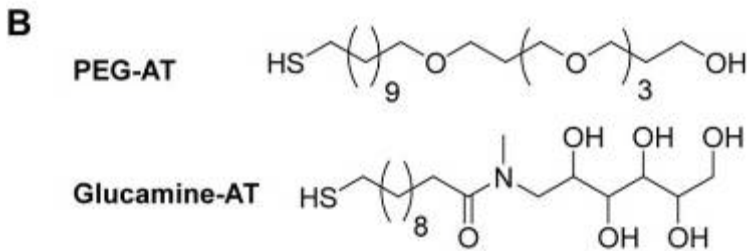
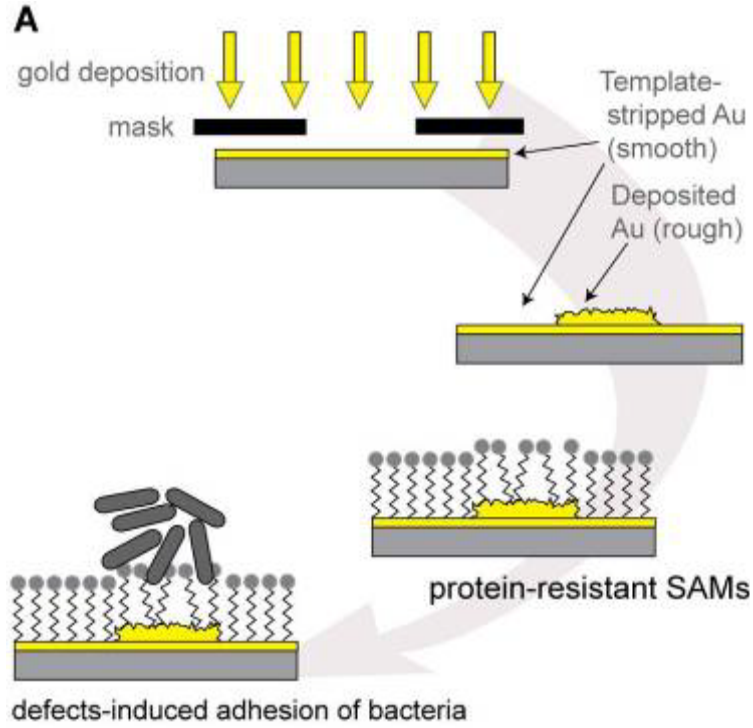
Developing slowly

Self-Assembly: Combining Top-down and Bottom-up

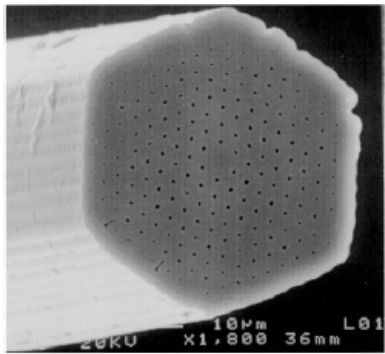
- **Assembly in solutions – “artificial molecules”**
 - Balance of attraction and repulsion forces
 - Molecular recognition
- **Assembly using templating methods**
 - Hard template: nanotubes, nanowires, nanofabricated templates
 - Soft template: synthetic polymers, proteins, DNA or viruses
- **Assembly at interfaces**
 - Langmuir-Blodgett technique
 - Sedimentation or evaporation-induced self-assembly
 - Adsorption of nanoparticles
- **Assisted assembly of nanoparticles**
 - Electric or magnetic fields
 - Shear forces
 - Light irradiation

SAMs

- Influence of defects in organic monolayers on growth of biofilms

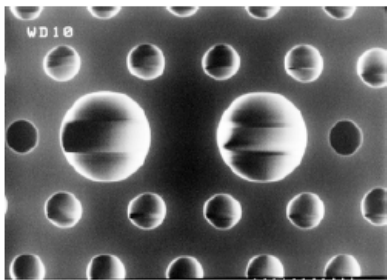


Holey Fibers



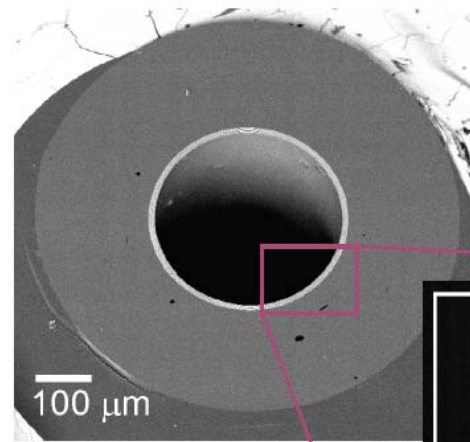
endlessly
single-mode

[T. A. Birks *et al.*,
Opt. Lett. **22**,
961 (1997)]



polarization
-maintaining

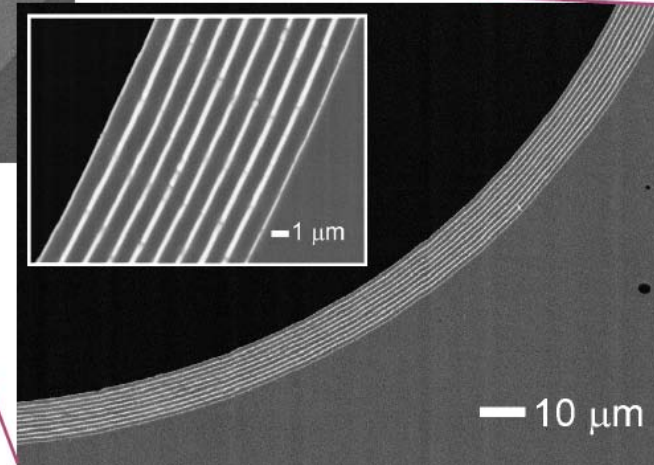
[K. Suzuki,
Opt. Express **9**,
676 (2001)]

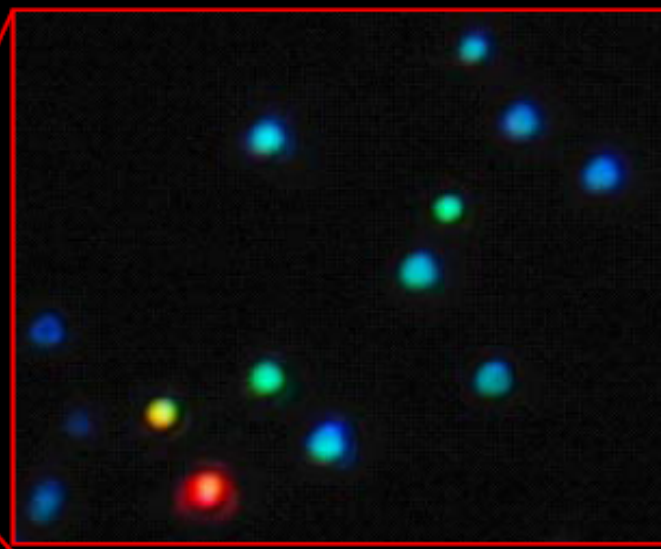
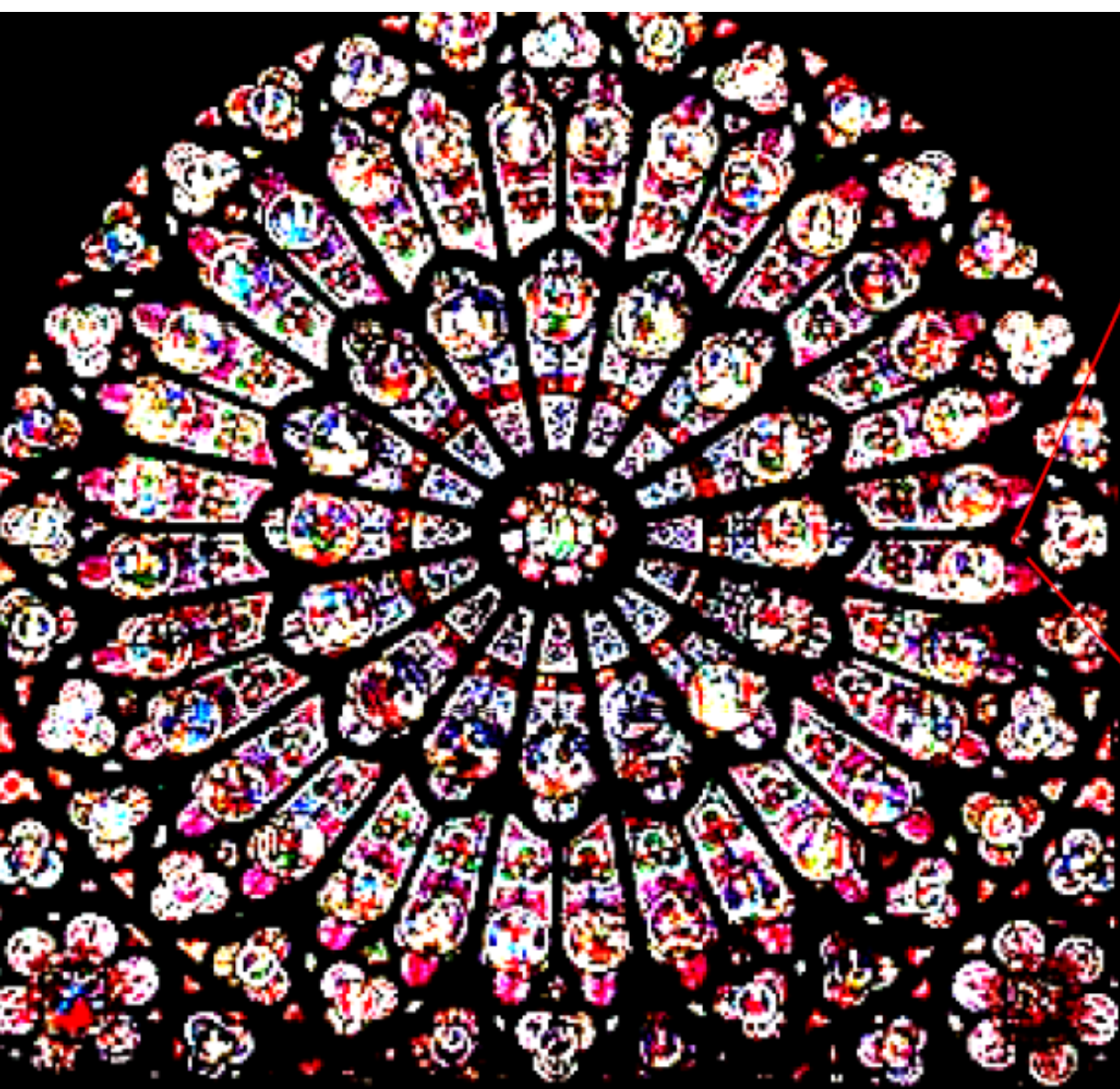


white/grey
= chalco/polymer

[figs courtesy Y. Fink *et al.*, MIT]

- Photonic crystal structural uniformity, adhesion, physical durability through large temperature excursions





Biology: Proving Function at the Nanoscale

rotary motor

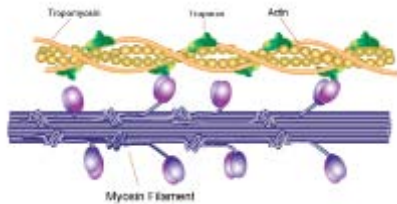


bacteria flagellum



electric motor

linear motor



actin / myosin



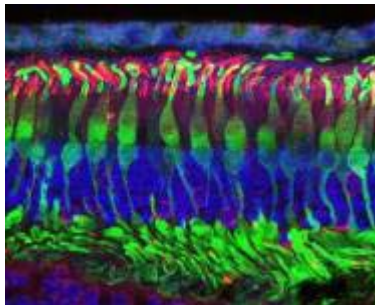
rack and pinion

energy transducer

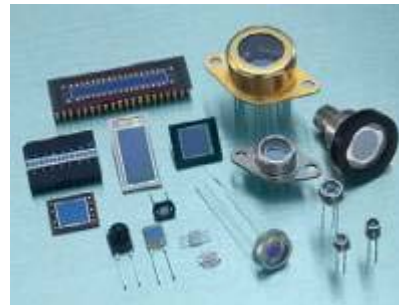


ATP synthase

photo-transducer



rhodopsin

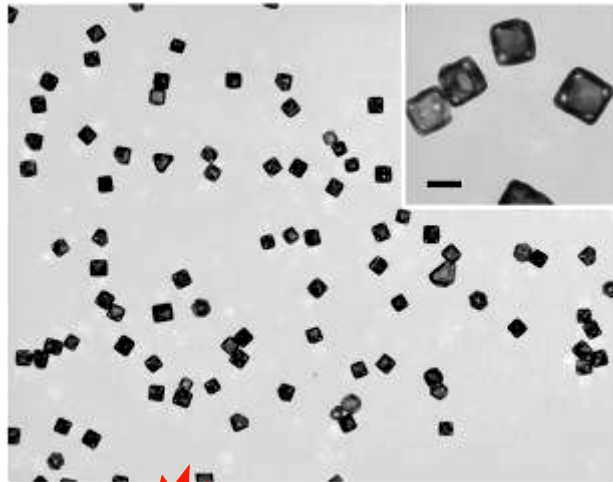


photodiode



steam engine

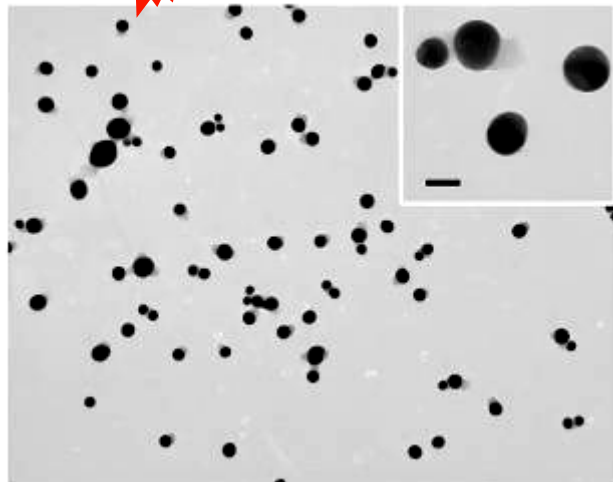
Particles for EM Heating



In air, gold nanocages melted under camera flash as the temperature was raised by 200 degrees. In water, the temperature increase was enough to kill breast cancer cells targeted by gold nanocage at a laser ($\lambda=820$ nm) power density of 0.9 W/cm².

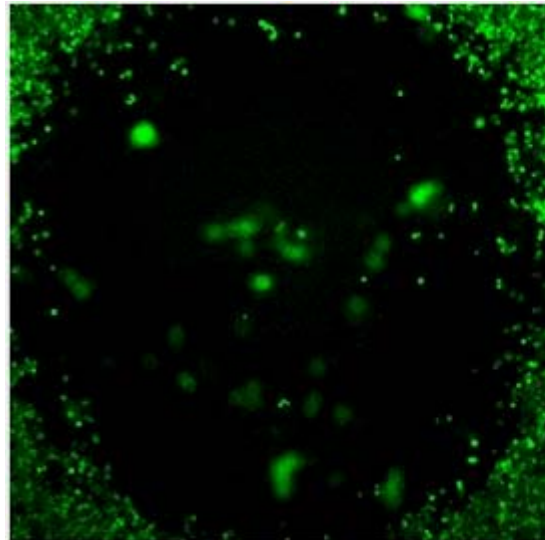


Camera flash

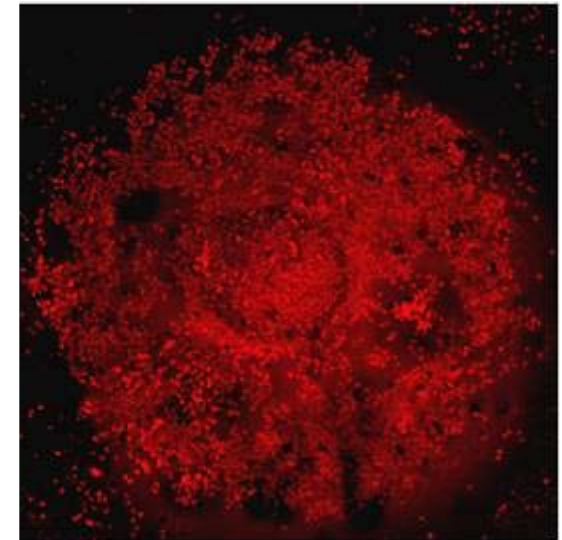


— 100 nm

Live cells, calcein-AM stain



Dead cells, EthD-1 stain

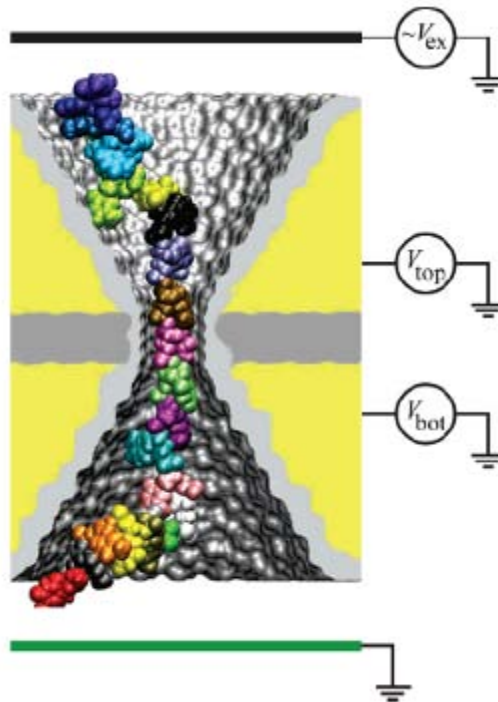


— 500 μ m

Nanoholes: DNA Sequencing

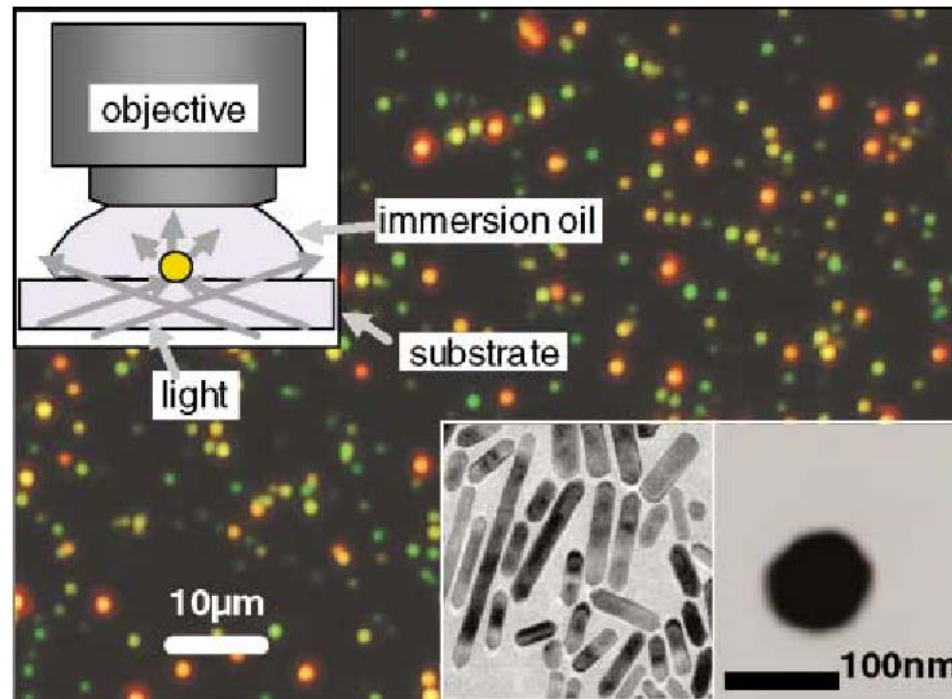
Detection of DNA Sequences Using an Alternating Electric Field in a Nanopore Capacitor

Grigori Sigalov,[†] Jeffrey Comer,^{†,‡} Gregory Timp,[†] and Aleksei Aksimentiev^{*,†,‡}



Nanooptics

- **Optical properties of metallic nanostructures**



Gold Nanorods (red) and 60nm Gold Nanospheres (green) under Dark-field Illumination

The Cell

