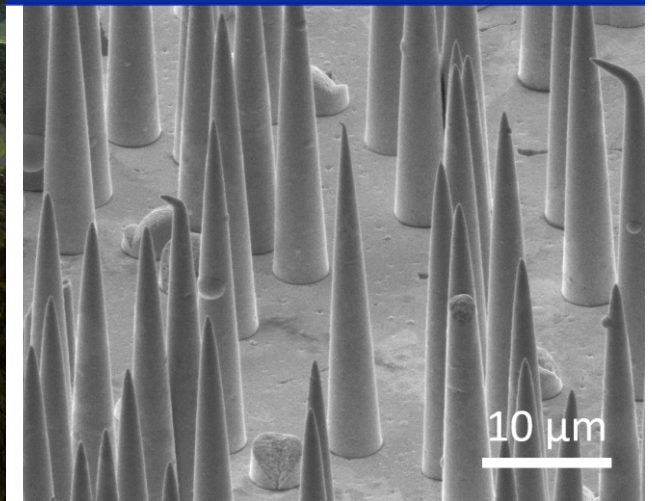
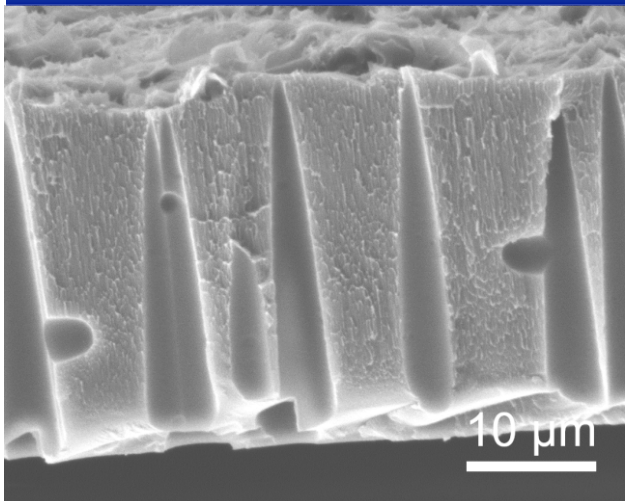


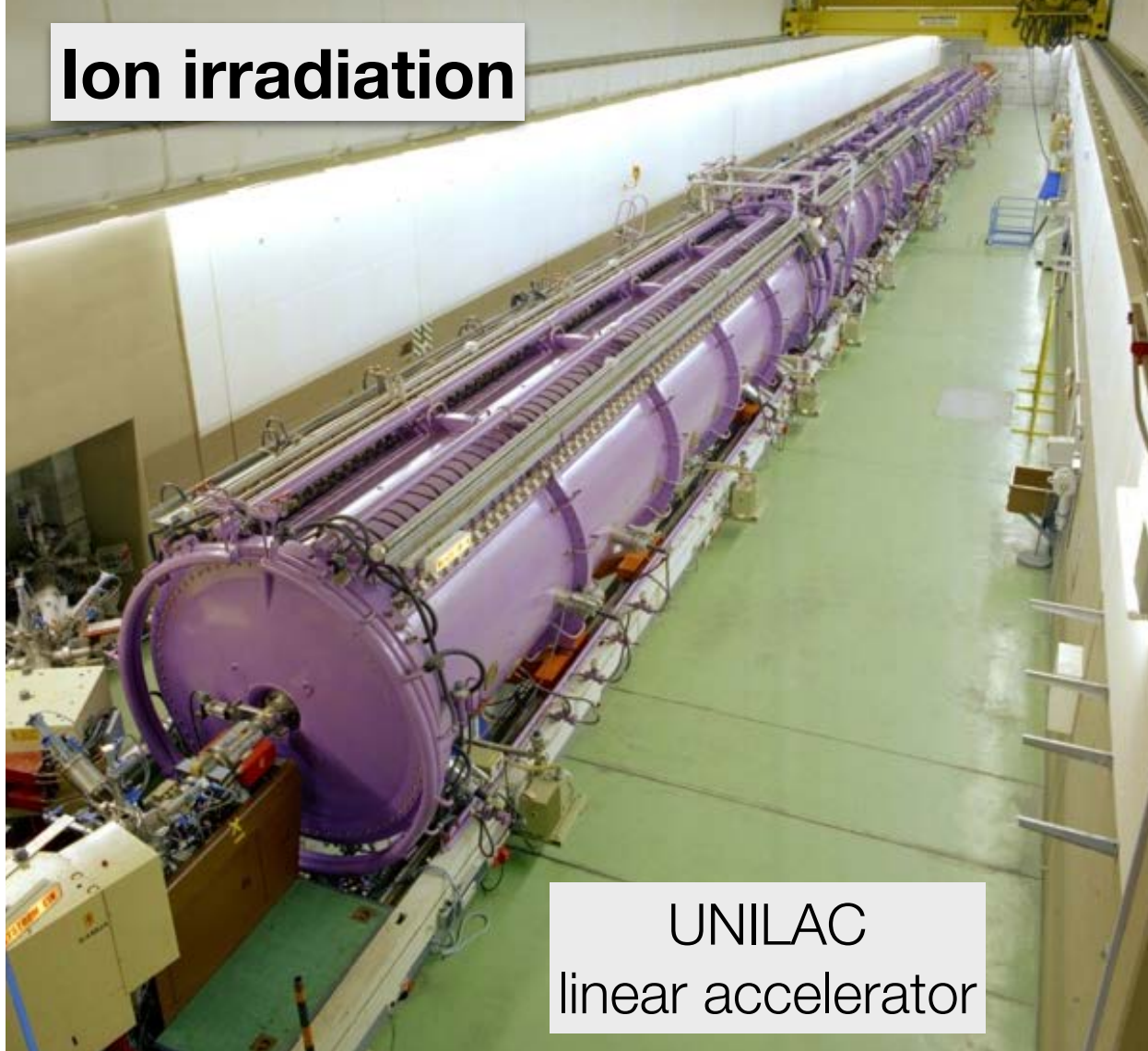
# Ion-Track Nanotechnology With High-Energy Heavy Ions

**M.E. Toimil-Molares and C. Trautmann**

Materials Research Department  
GSI Helmholtz Center for Heavy Ion Research  
Darmstadt



# Ion irradiation

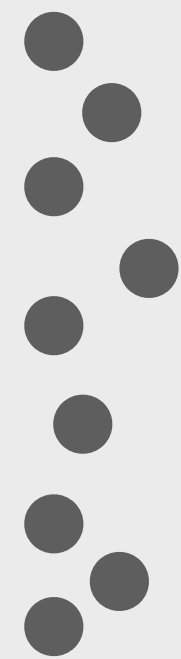


UNILAC  
linear accelerator

e.g. Au ( $E \sim 2 \text{ GeV}$ )



12  $\mu\text{m}$  - 100  $\mu\text{m}$



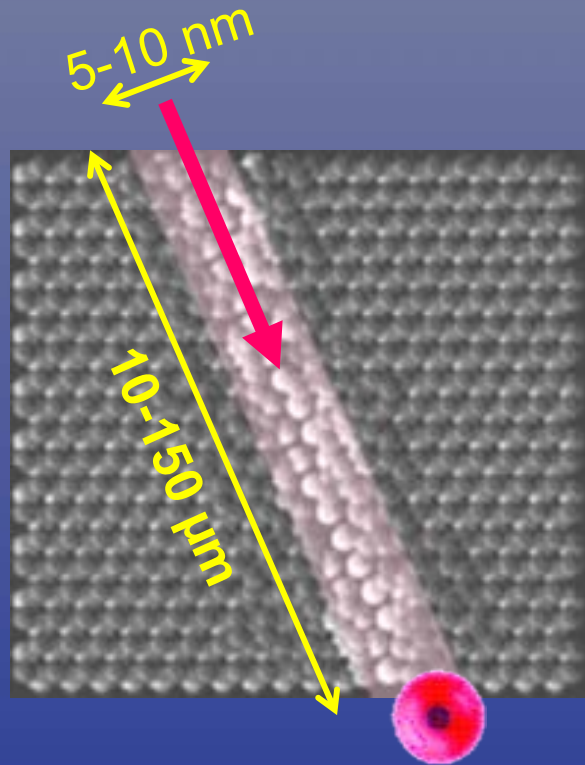
e.g. polyethylene terephthalate,  
polycarbonate, polyimide,...



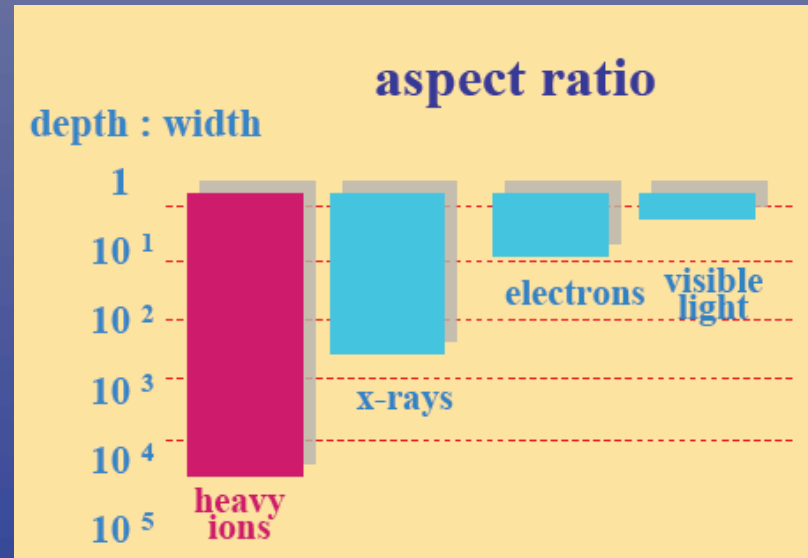
Control room



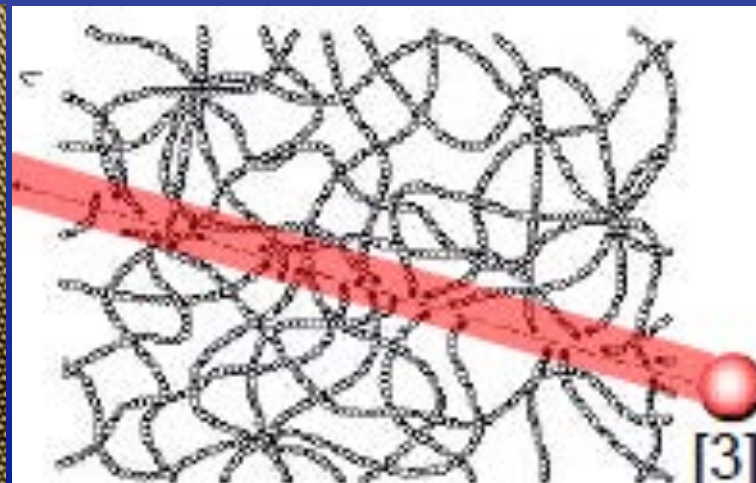
# What is unique about heavy ions in matter?



## Very high aspect ratio

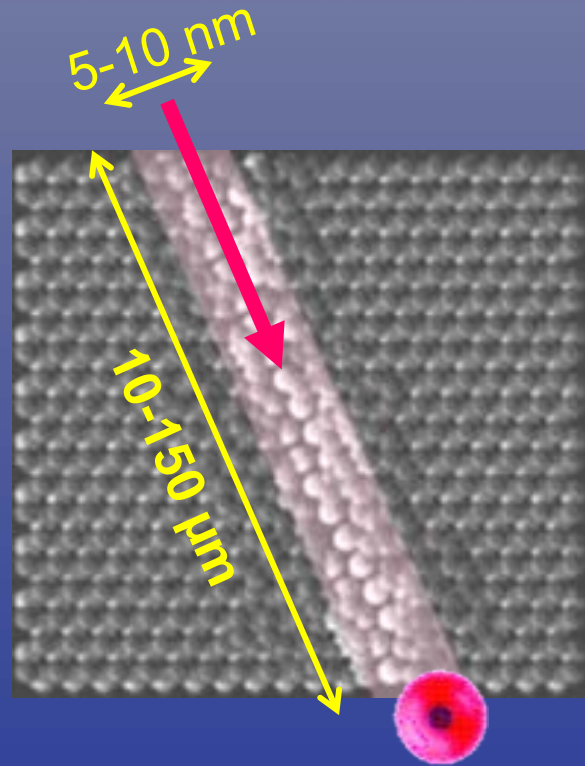


Ion track  
in mica



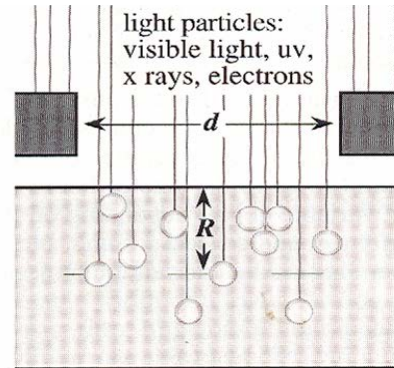
Ion track  
in  
polymer

# What is unique about heavy ions in matter?

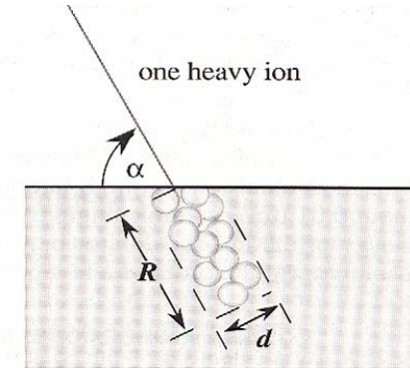


One ion = one track

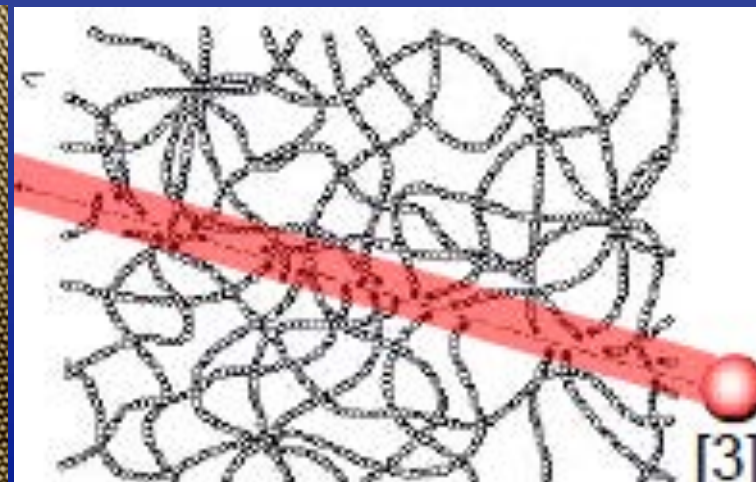
Joint effect of many particles



Single particle recording



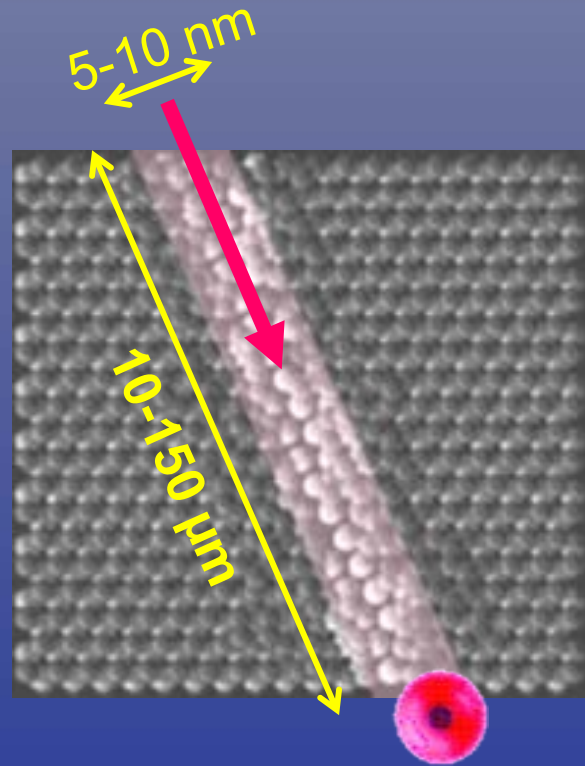
Ion track in mica



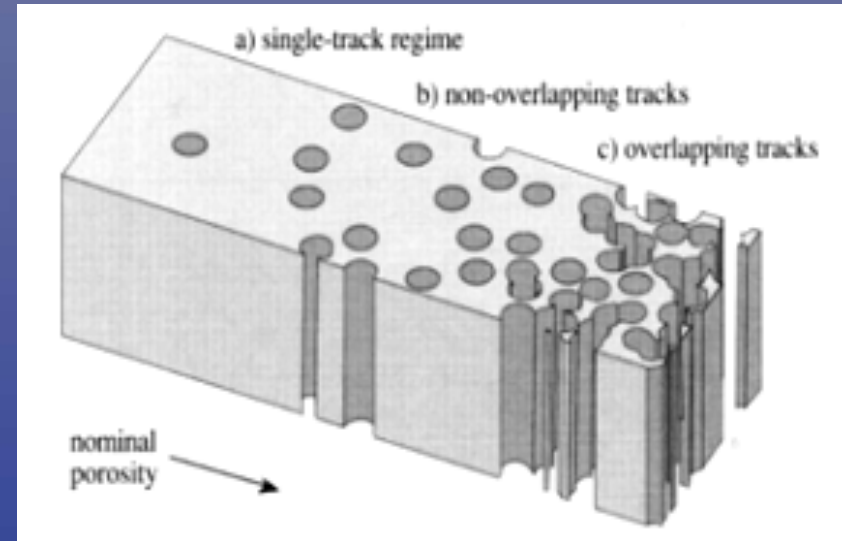
Ion track in polymer



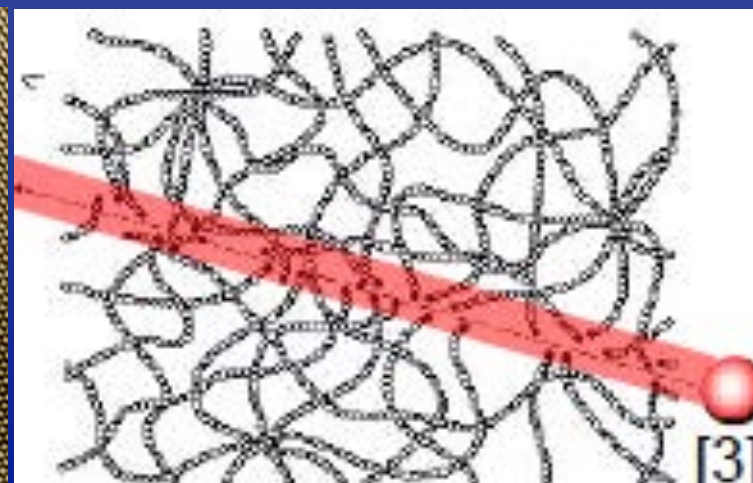
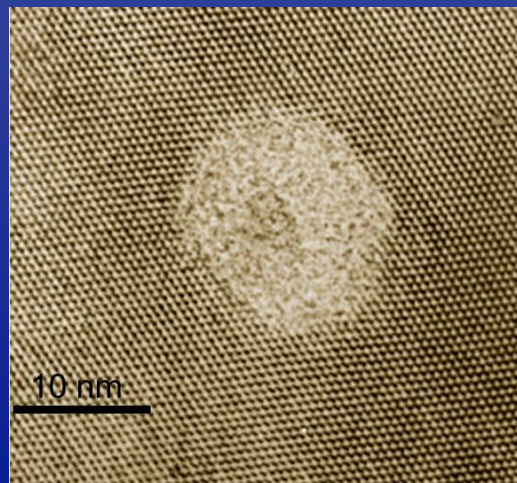
# What is unique about heavy ions in matter?



Adjustable fluence:  $1 - 10^{11} \text{ cm}^{-2}$



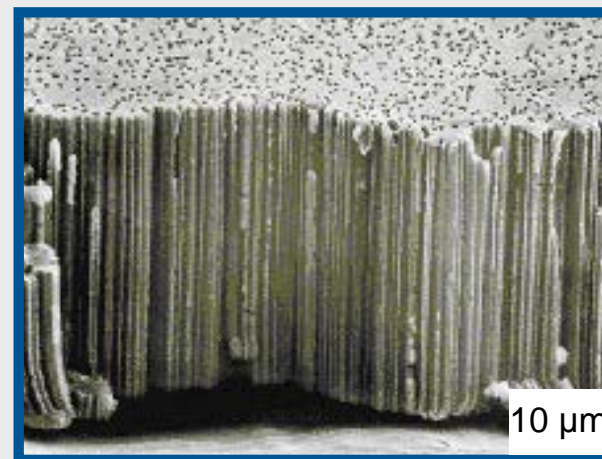
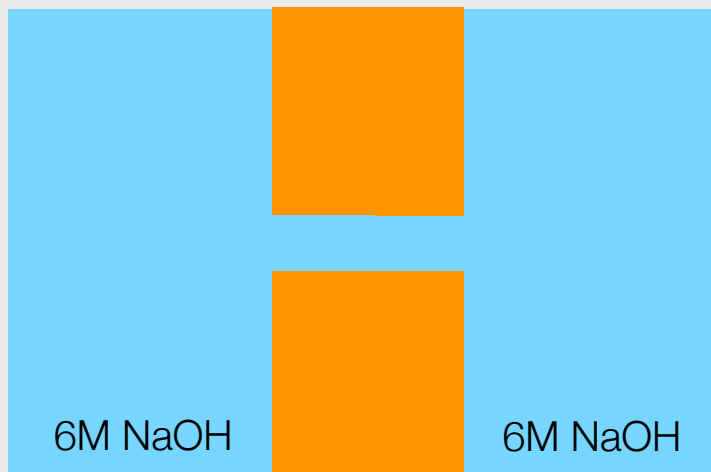
Ion track  
in mica



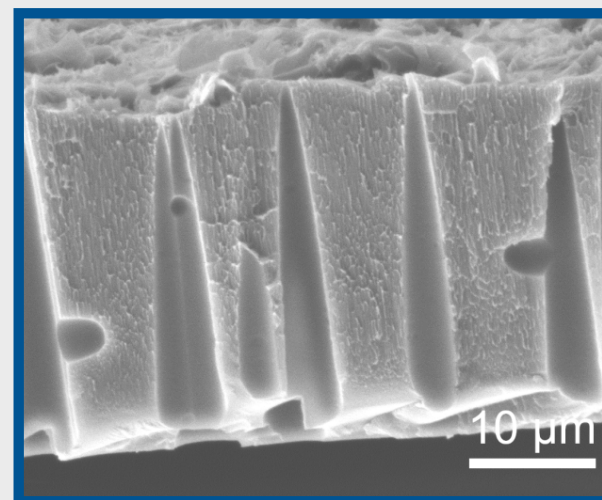
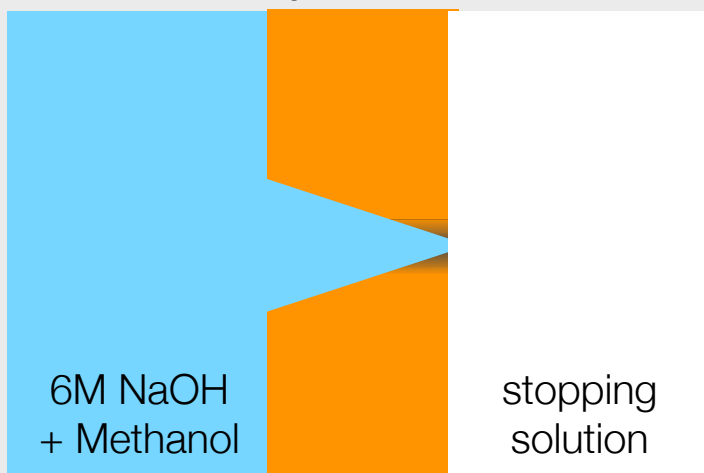
Ion track  
in  
polymer

# Chemical Etching

## Symmetric



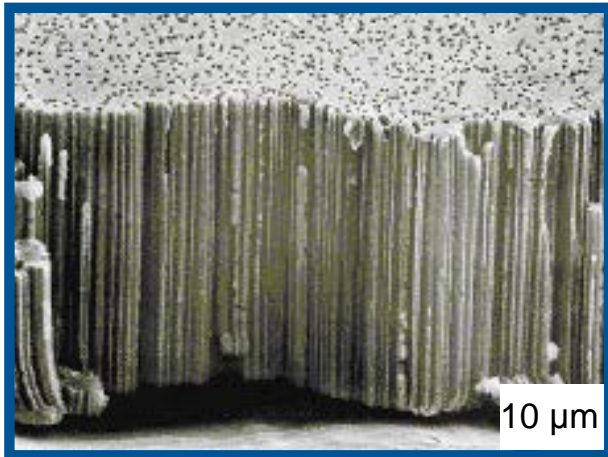
## Asymmetric



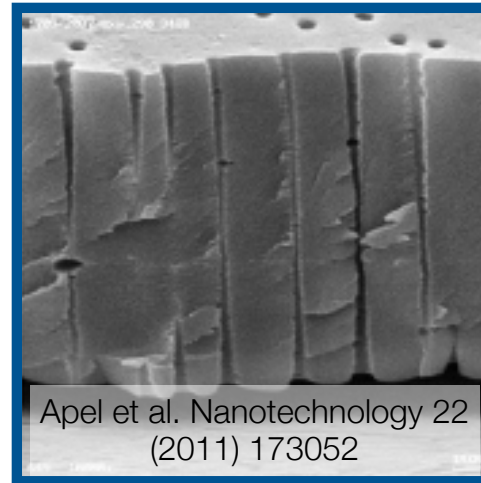
# Etched Ion-Track Membranes

Polymeric

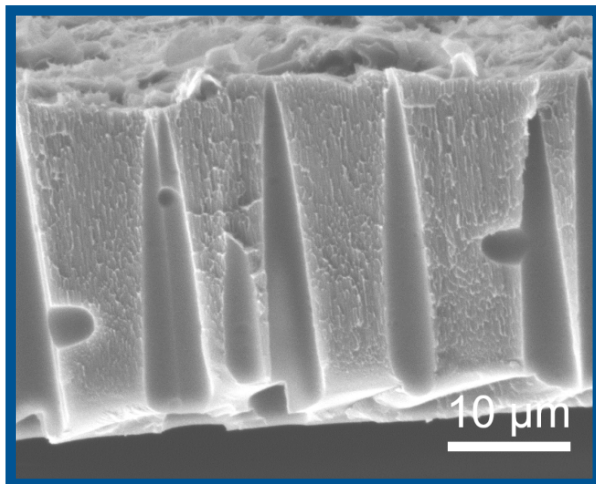
Cylindrical



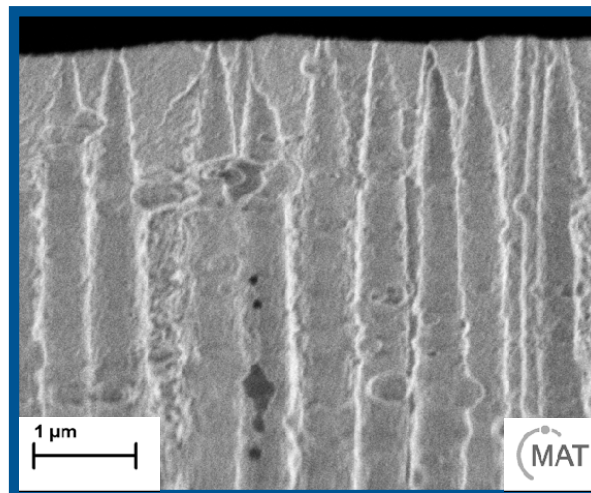
Biconical



Conical

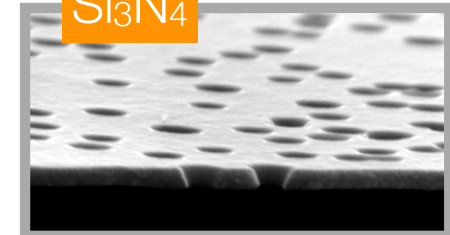


Bullet



Inorganic

Si<sub>3</sub>N<sub>4</sub>

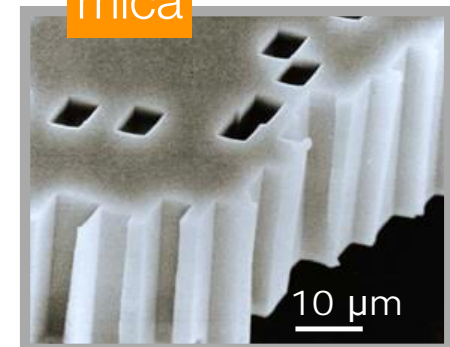


Vlassioug et al. PNAS 15 (2009) 21039

glass



mica



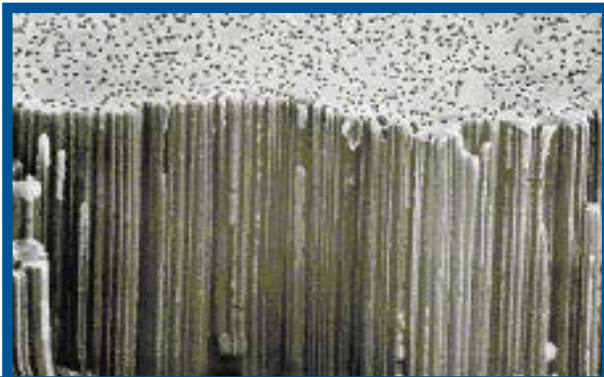
Fischer et al. Naturwissenschaften 75 (1988) 57



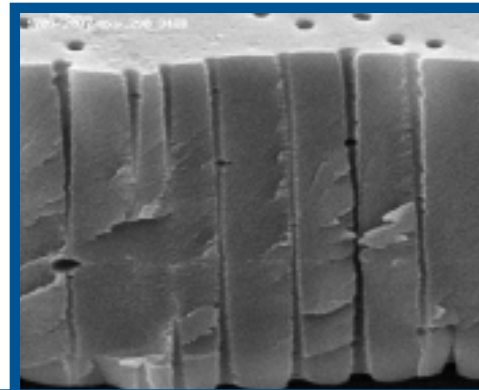
# Etched Ion-Track Membranes

Polymeric

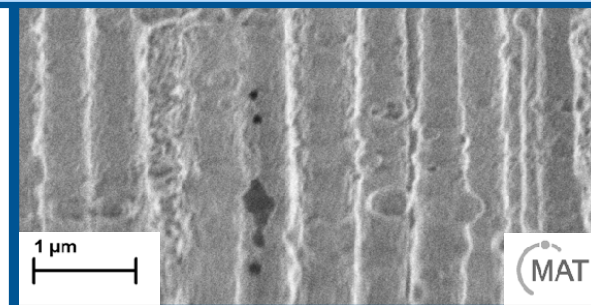
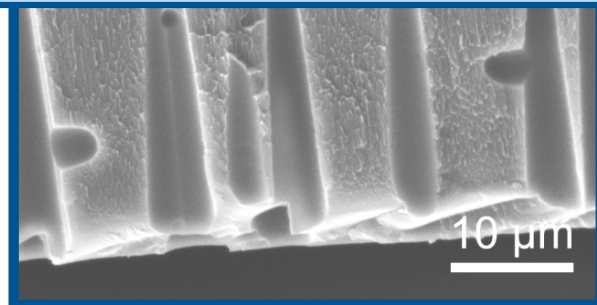
Cylindrical



Biconical

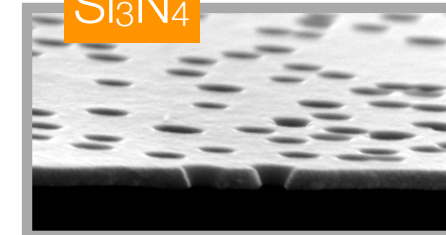


Various channel geometries  
Diameter increases with etching time (~15 nm -  $\mu\text{m}$ )  
Foil thickness up to 100  $\mu\text{m}$   
Monodisperse channels  
Highly parallel oriented channels



Inorganic

$\text{Si}_3\text{N}_4$

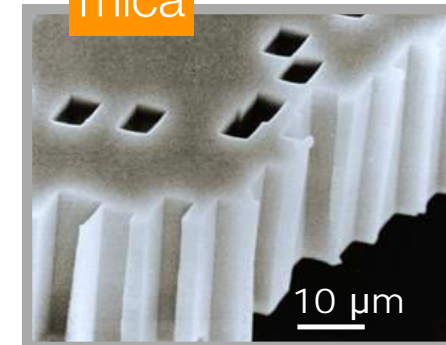


Vlassioug et al. PNAS 15 (2009) 21039

glass



mica

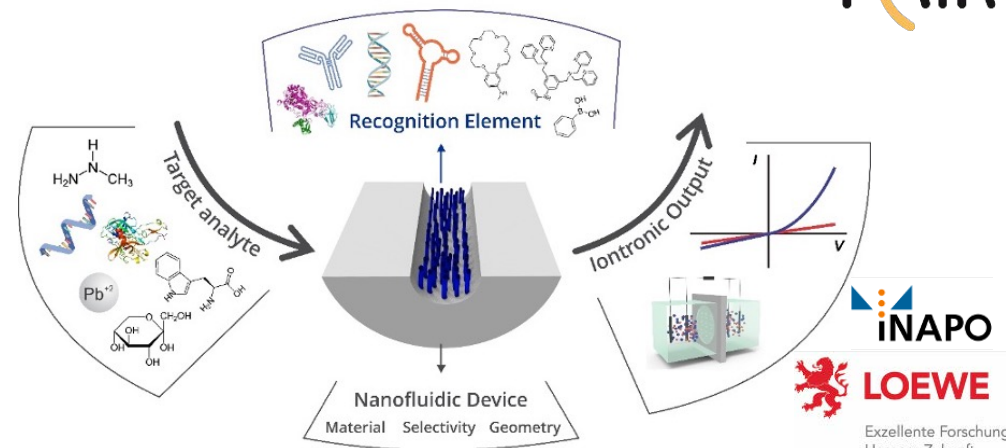


Fischer et al. Naturwissenschaften  
75 (1988) 57



## 1. Single nanochannel platform

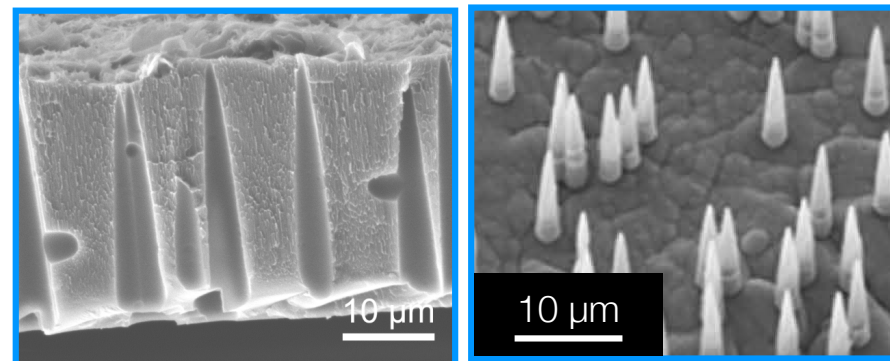
- unique facility for single ion irradiation
- channel engineering and characterization
- more than 20 groups world-wide
- novel bio- and chemical nanopore sensors



Laucirica, *Trends in Analytical Chemistry*, 144 (2021) | 16425

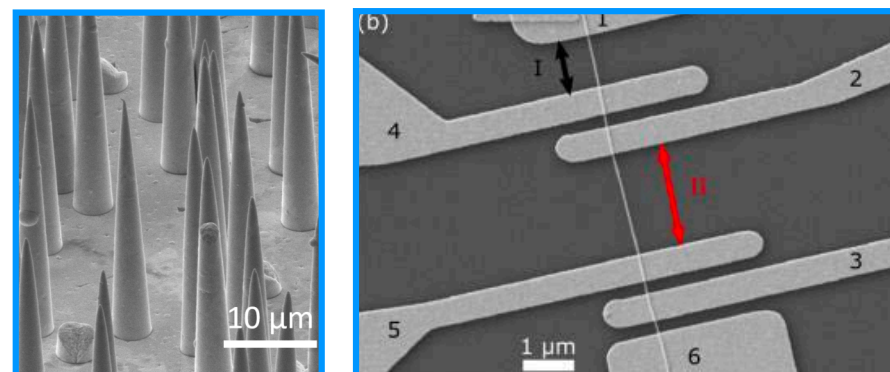
## 2. Tailored multichannel membranes

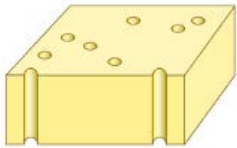
- special pore geometries
- new pore arrangements
- surface coatings



## 3. Electrodeposited nanowires

- tailored composition and crystallinity
- controlled geometry
- size-dependent properties

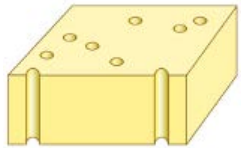




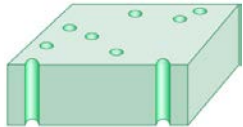
**Can we conformally coat the polymer membranes by ALD?**



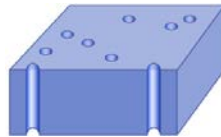
# Tailored multichannel membranes



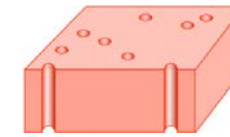
Can we conformally coat the polymer membranes by ALD?



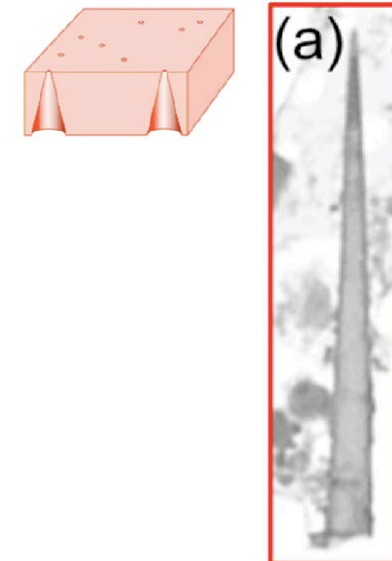
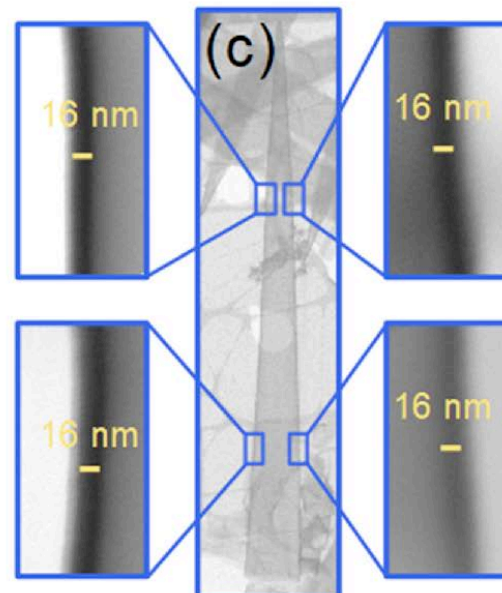
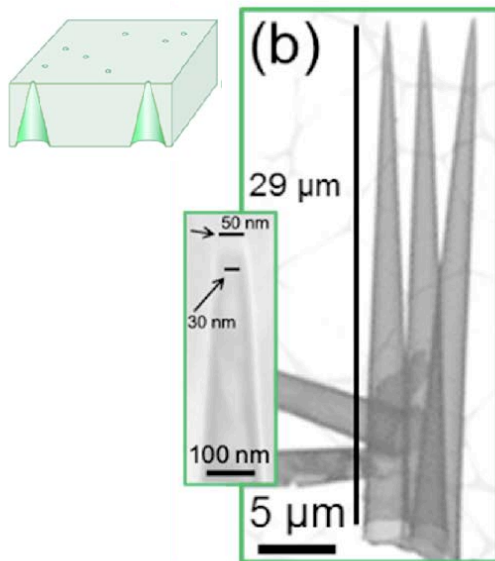
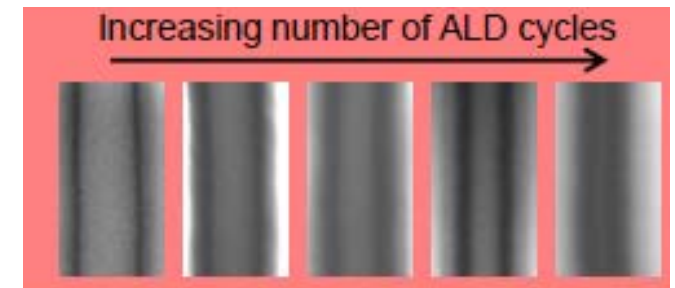
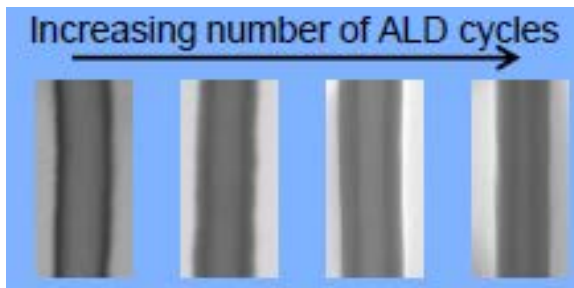
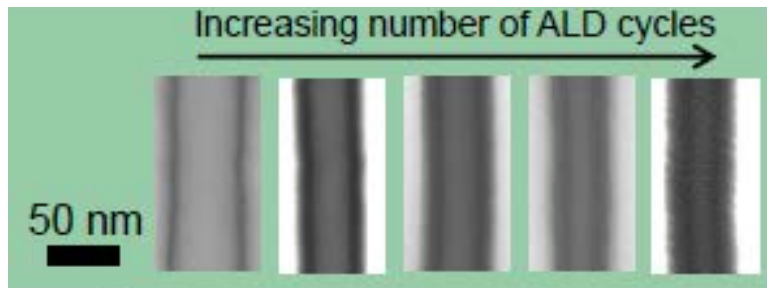
**TiO<sub>2</sub>**

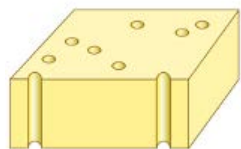


**SiO<sub>2</sub>**

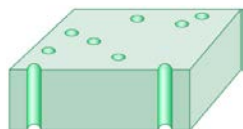


**Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>**

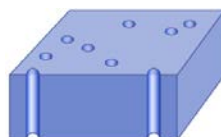




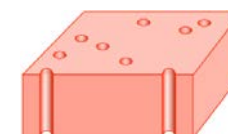
Can we conformally coat the polymer membranes by ALD?



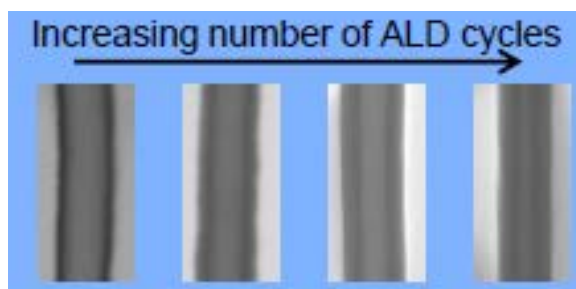
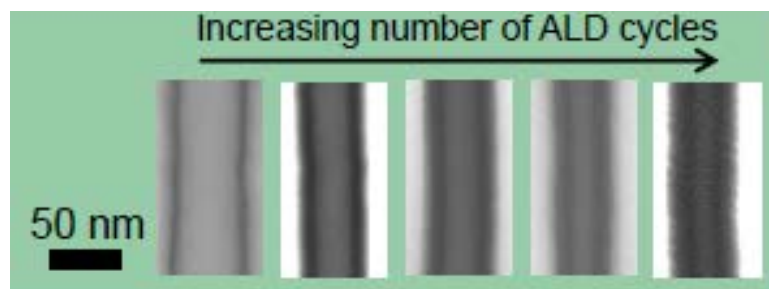
$\text{TiO}_2$



$\text{SiO}_2$



$\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$



- controlled oxide layer thickness
- very small pore sizes (~ 6 nm)
- material determines isoelectric point of membrane surface
- new membrane applications e.g. for sensing, battery separators, ...
- approach suitable for other materials

Lee, Thangavel, Guery, Trautmann, Toimil-Molares, Morcrette, *Nanotechnology* 32 (2021) 365401.

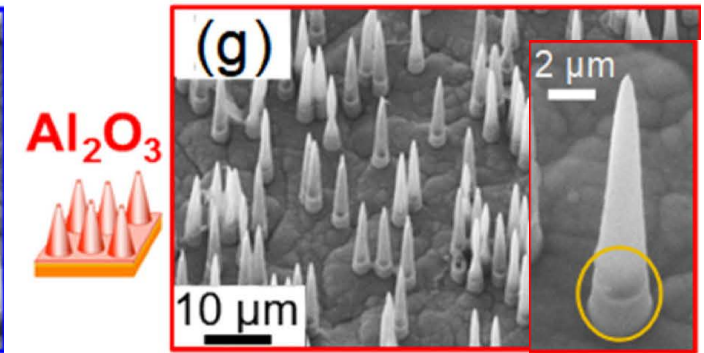
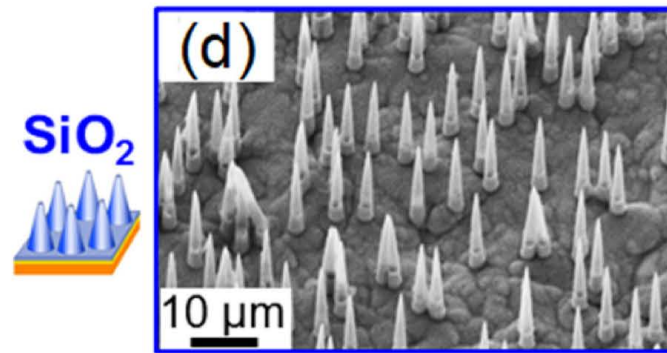
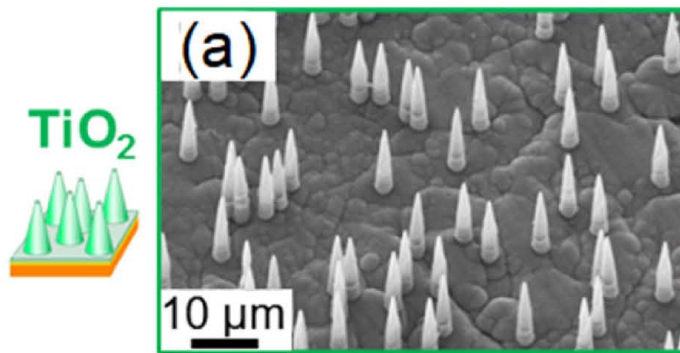
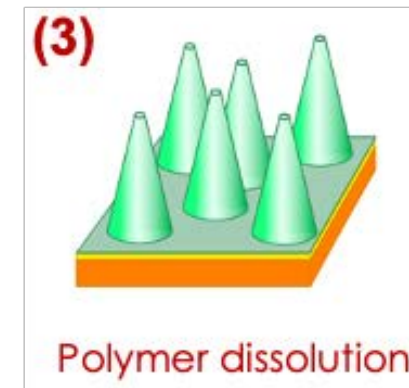
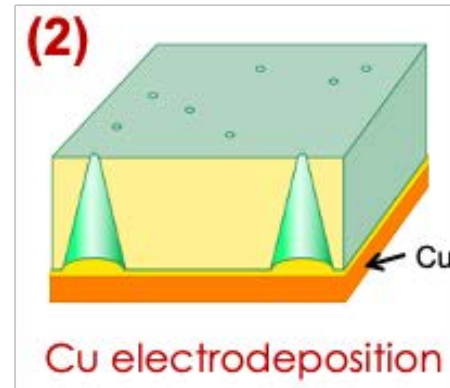
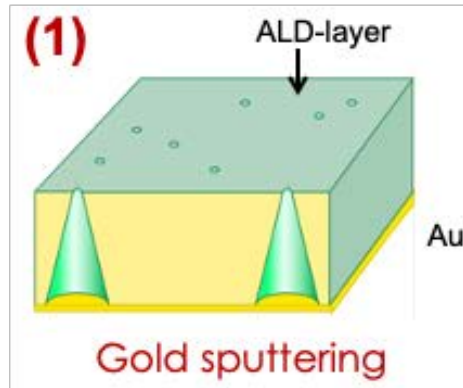
Ulrich, Spende, Burr, Sobel, Hess, Schubert, Trautmann, Toimil-Molares, *Nanomaterials* 11 (2021) 1874.

Spende, Sobel, Lukas, Zierold, Riedl, Gura, Schubert, Moreno, Nielsch, Stühn, Hess, Trautmann, Toimil-Molares, *Nanotechnology* 26 (2015) 335301.

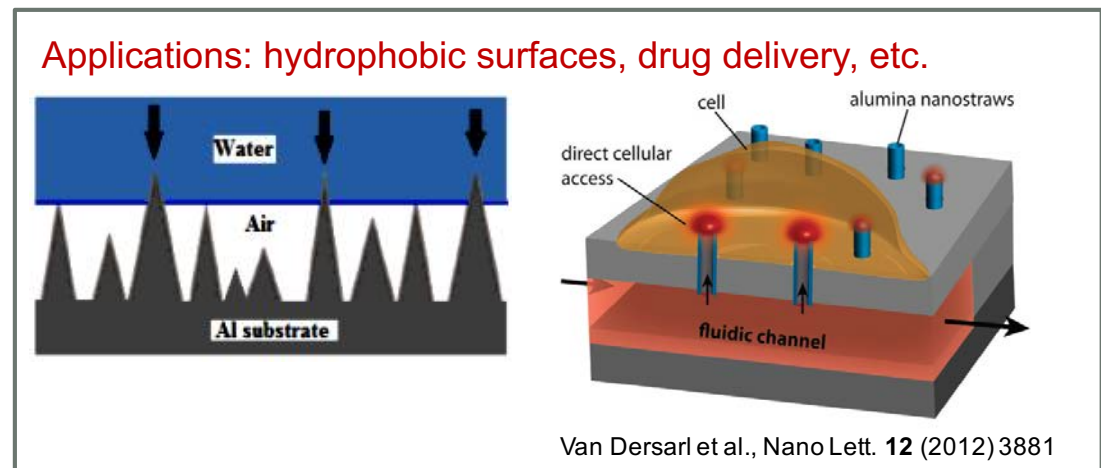
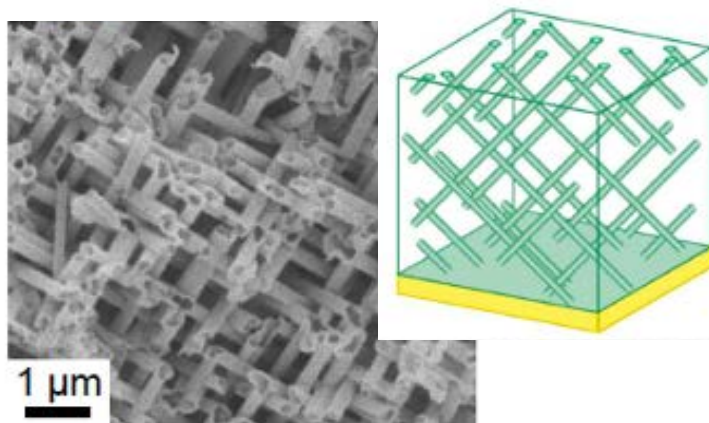
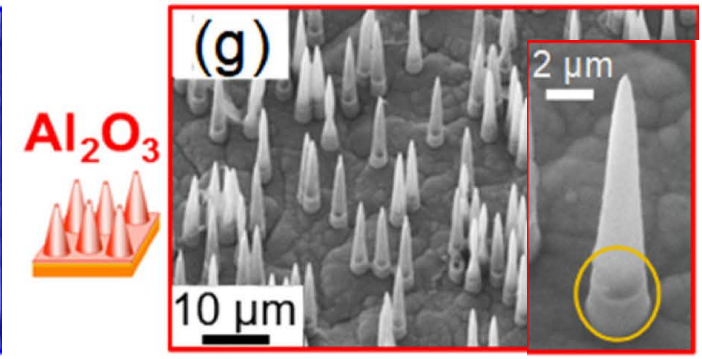
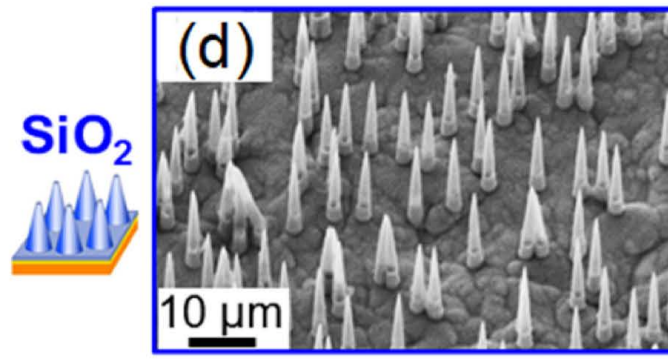
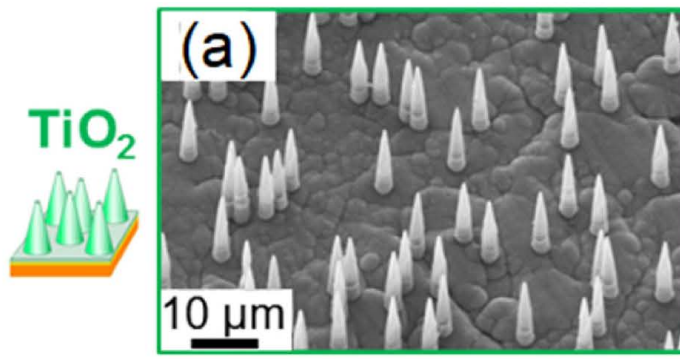
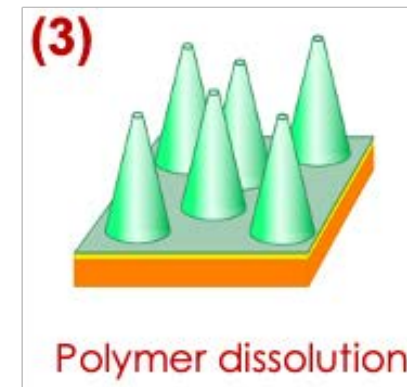
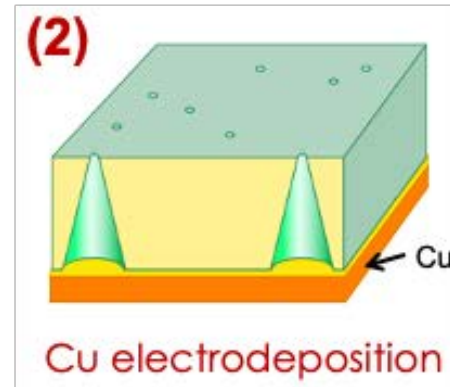
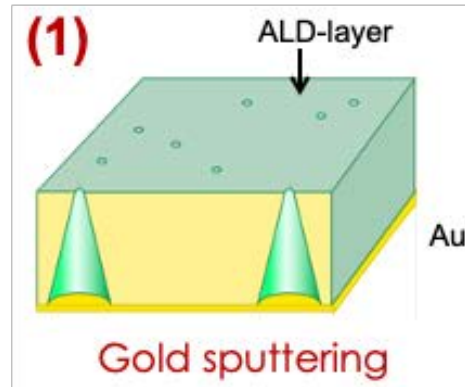
Sobel, Hess, Lukas, Spende, Stühn, Toimil-Molares, Trautmann, Beilstein J. of Nanotechnol. 6 (2015) 472.



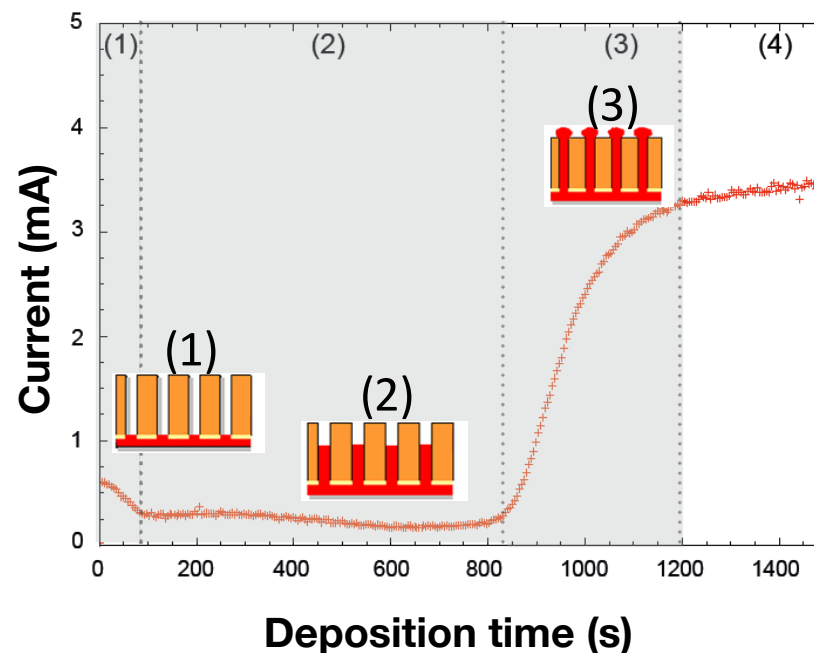
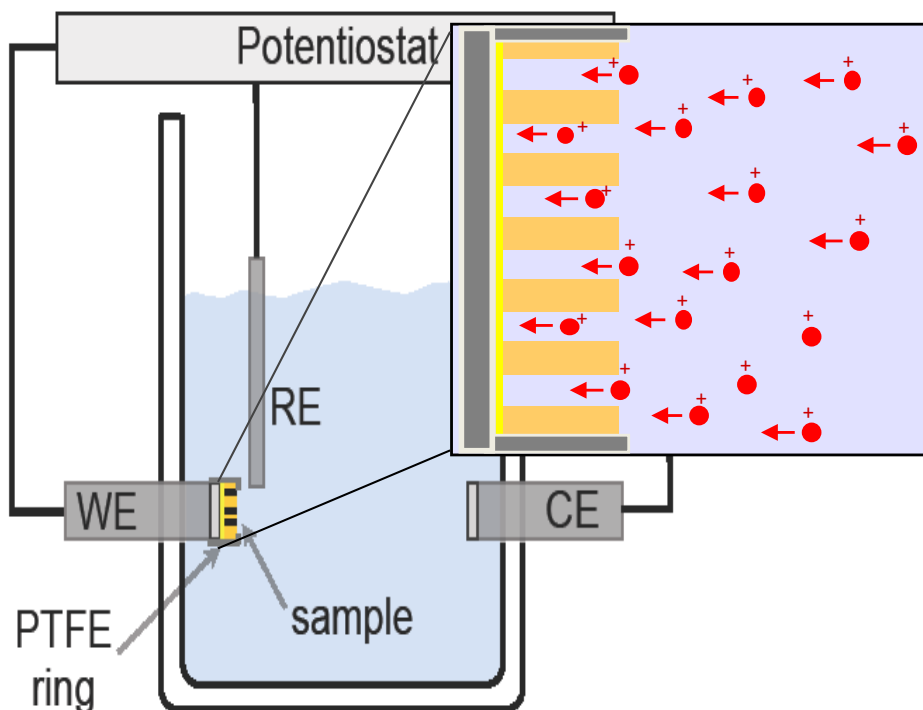
# Oxide nanotube assemblies



# Oxide nanotube assemblies







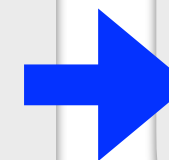
Nanowires adopt size and shape of hosting channel: control on size and geometry

## Parameters:

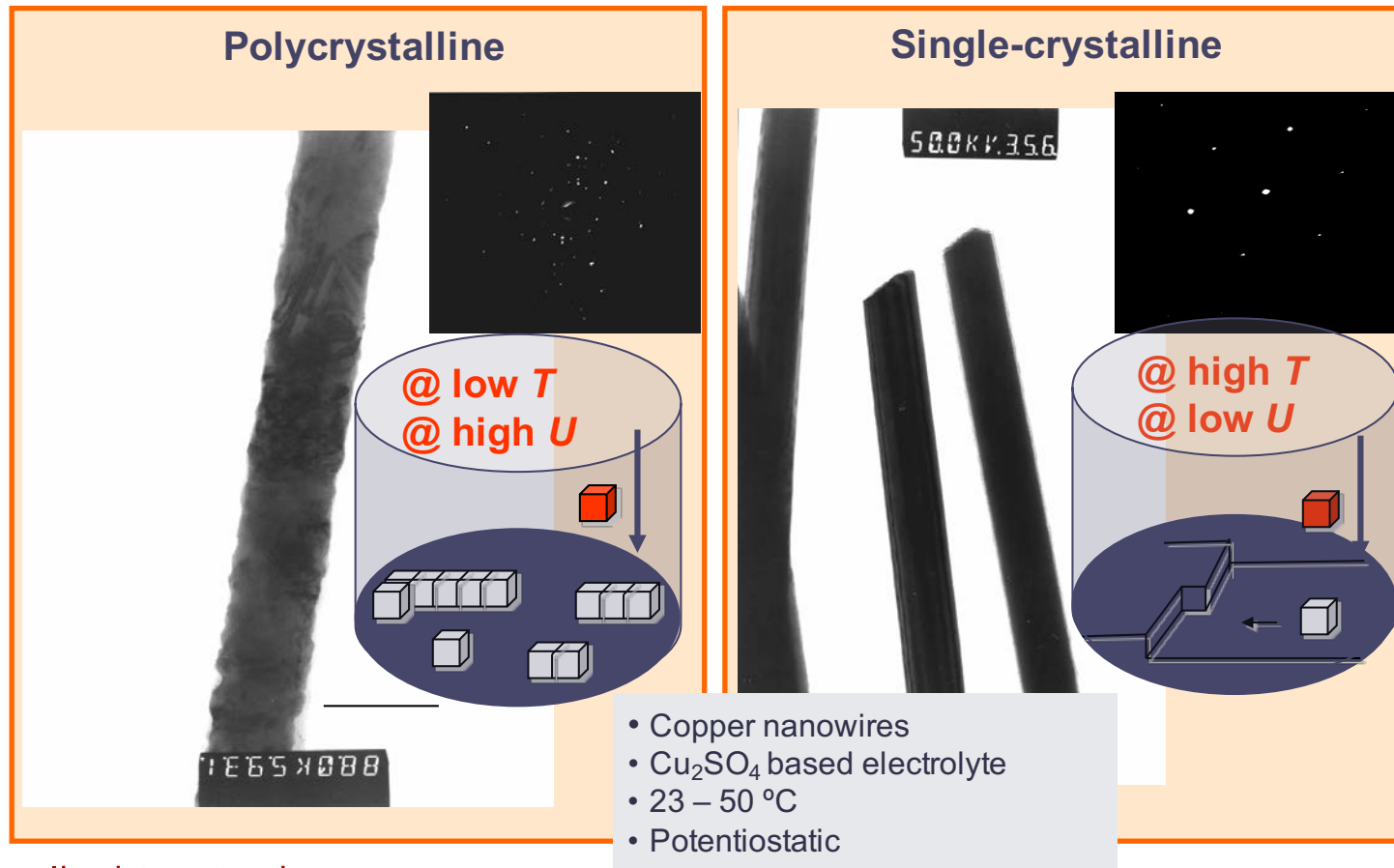
Temperature  
Electrolyte  
Potential  
 Convection  
 Electrodes  
 Cell geometry

## Control:

Composition  
Crystallinity  
Roughness



Crystallinity and crystallographic orientation controlled by deposition conditions



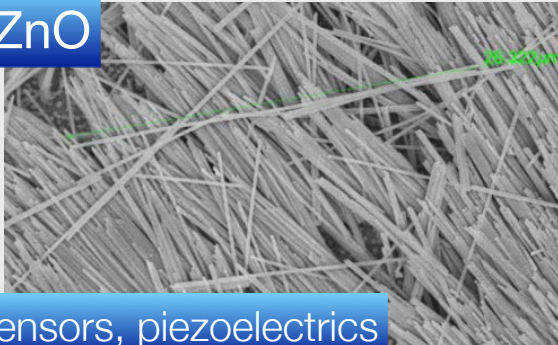
- Applied to study:
  - Crystal growth in confinement
  - Influence of grain size on electrical conductivity, thermal stability, etc.
- Applied to various materials: copper, gold, bismuth, antimony, etc.



# Control on geometry and composition

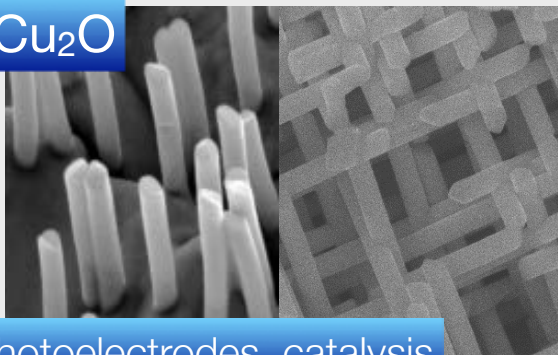
## Semiconductors

ZnO



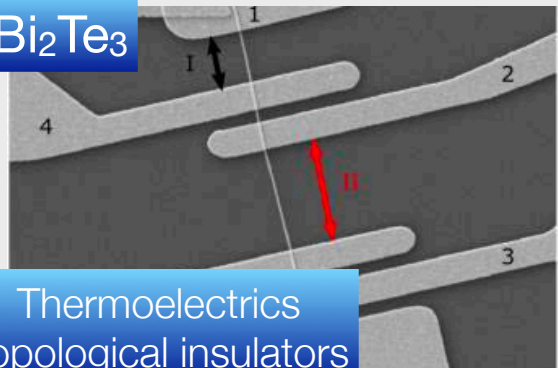
Sensors, piezoelectrics

Cu<sub>2</sub>O



Photoelectrodes, catalysis

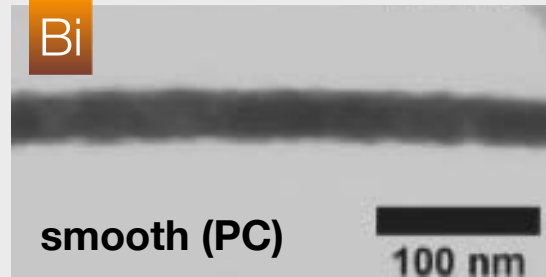
Bi<sub>2</sub>Te<sub>3</sub>



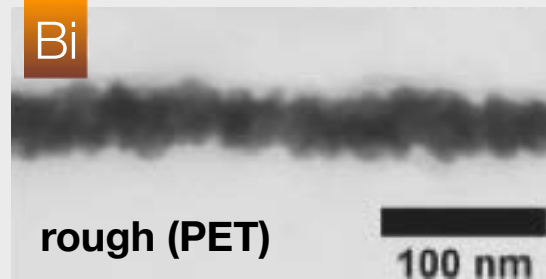
Thermoelectrics  
Topological insulators

## Semimetals

Bi

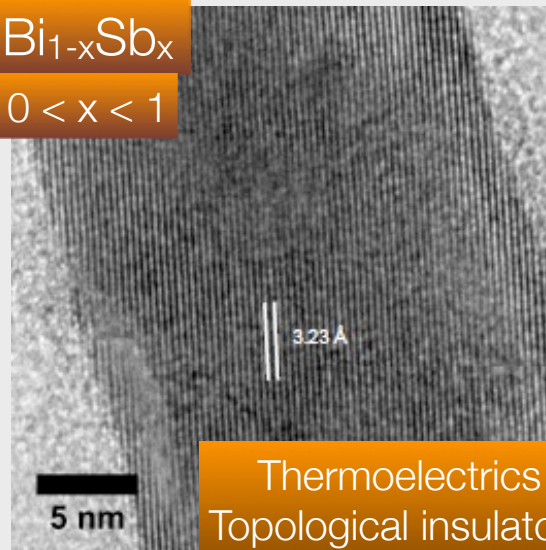


Bi



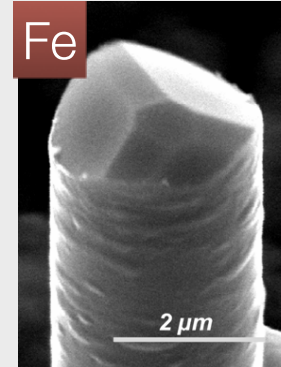
Bi<sub>1-x</sub>Sb<sub>x</sub>

0 < x < 1

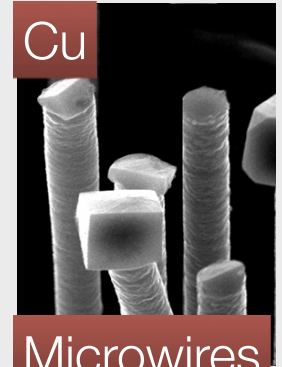


## Metals

Fe

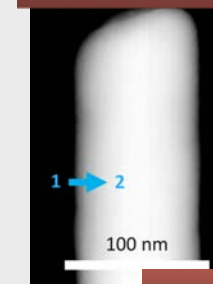


Cu

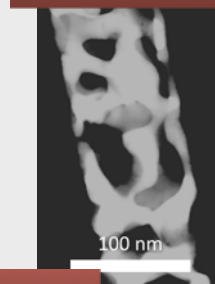


Microwires

Au<sub>0.4</sub>Ag<sub>0.6</sub>

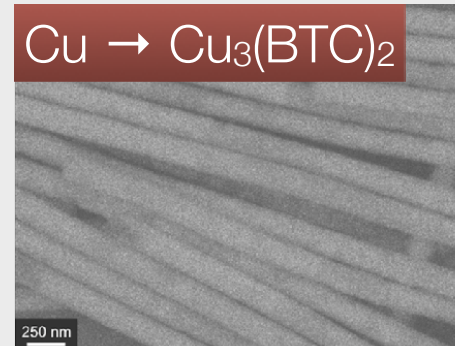


Porous Au



Plasmonics

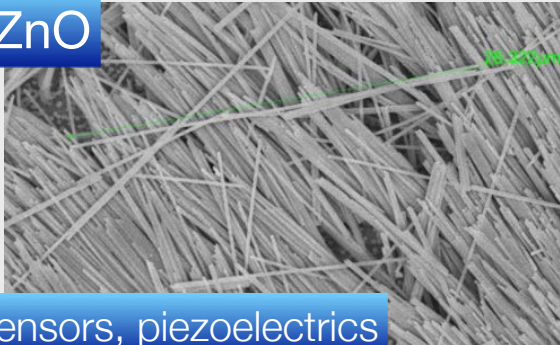
Cu → Cu<sub>3</sub>(BTC)<sub>2</sub>



# Control on geometry and composition

## Semiconductors

ZnO



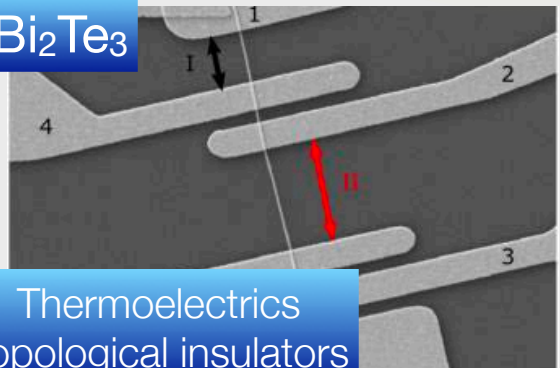
Sensors, piezoelectrics

Cu<sub>2</sub>O



Photoelectrodes, catalysis

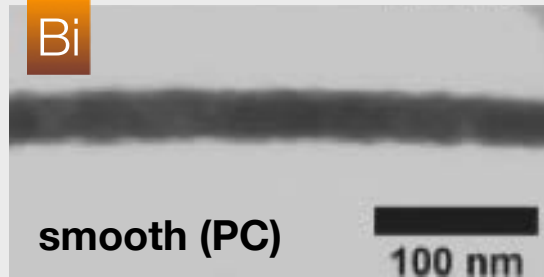
Bi<sub>2</sub>Te<sub>3</sub>



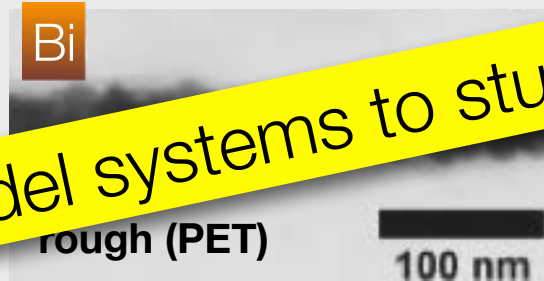
Thermoelectrics  
Topological insulators

## Semimetals

Bi

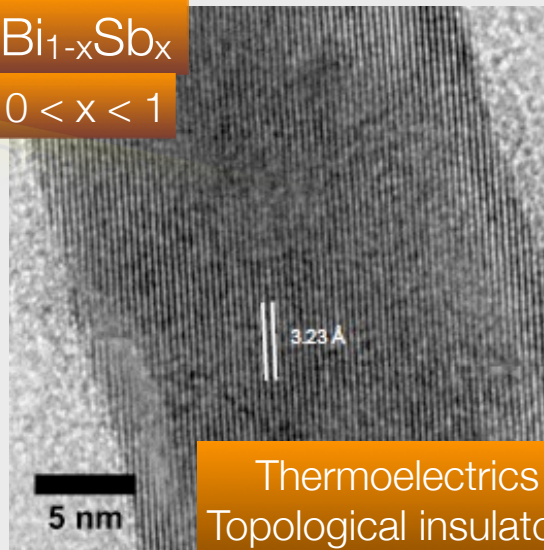


Bi



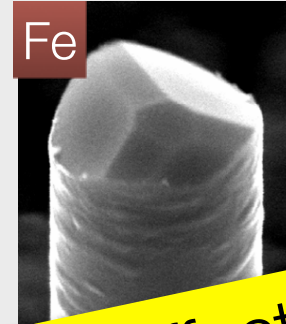
Bi<sub>1-x</sub>Sb<sub>x</sub>

0 < x < 1

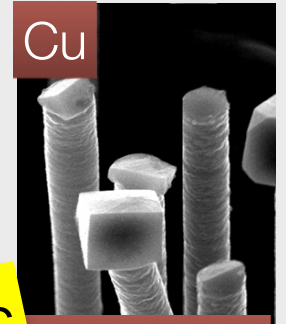


## Metals

Fe

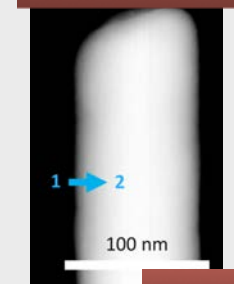


Cu

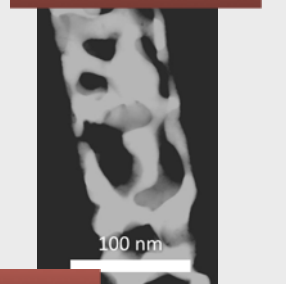


Microwires

Au<sub>0.4</sub>Ag<sub>0.6</sub>

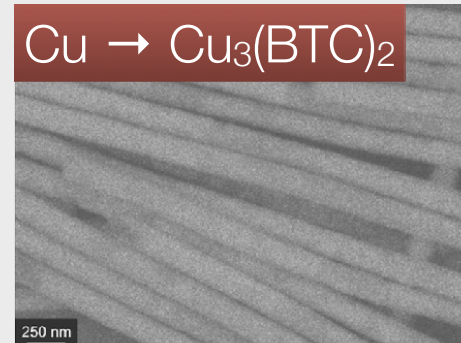


Porous Au



Plasmonics

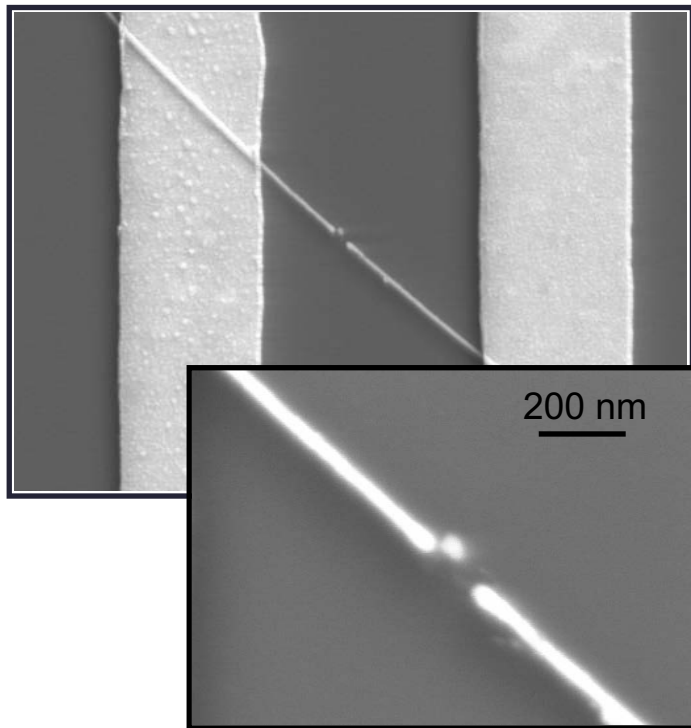
Cu → Cu<sub>3</sub>(BTC)<sub>2</sub>



Excellent model systems to study size-effects

Some examples...

## Rayleigh Instability



Nanowires break during electrical measurements due to Joule heat and electromigration

**Cu**  $r_i \sim 30 \text{ nm}$

cylindrical Cu wire

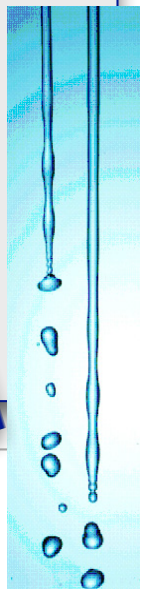
400 °C  
wire fragmentation

500 °C  
cylindrical sections

600 °C  
spheres

$D_s = 73 (9) \text{ nm} \sim 3.78 r_i$   
 $l = 165 (57) \text{ nm} \sim 8.89 r_i$

surface diffusion  
 at  $T \ll T_{\text{melting}}$



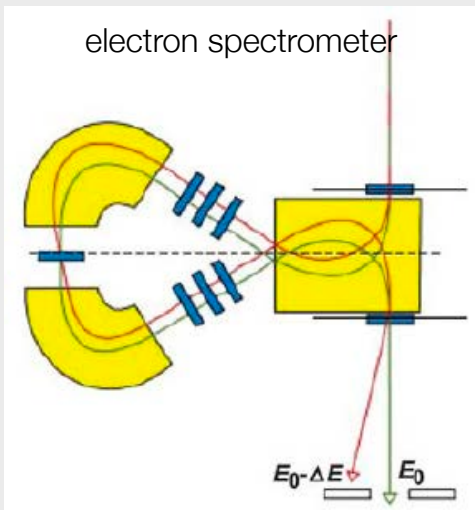


Some examples...

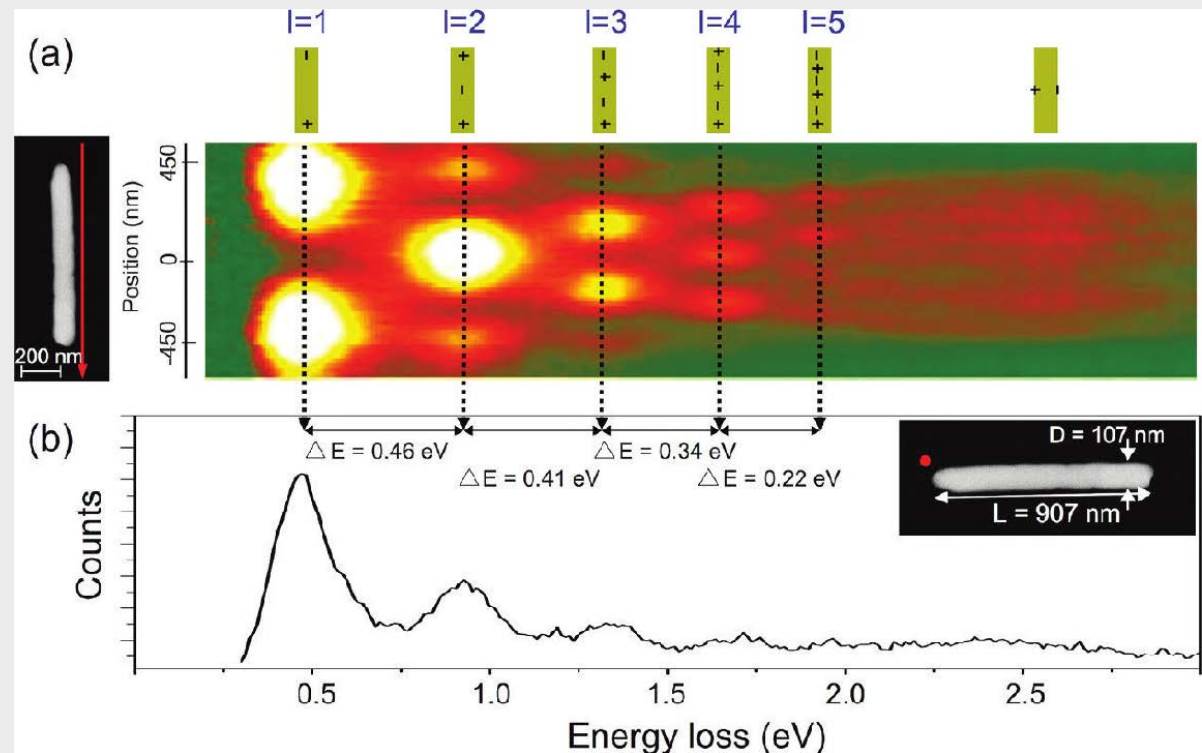
@ Stuttgart Center for  
Microscopy, MPI for Solid  
State Research



electron spectrometer



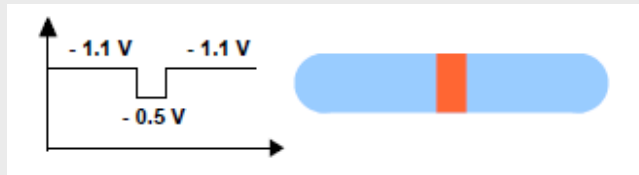
Sigle, Ann. Rev. Mater. Res. 35 (2005) 239



- Plasmonic resonances by electron energy loss spectroscopy (EELS).
- longitudinal resonances up to 5th order.
- Energy difference between two consecutive modes decreases.
- Resonance energy shifts with nanowire length, diameter, and substrate.

# Nanowire Dimers and Nanogaps

## Au-Ag-Au nanowires

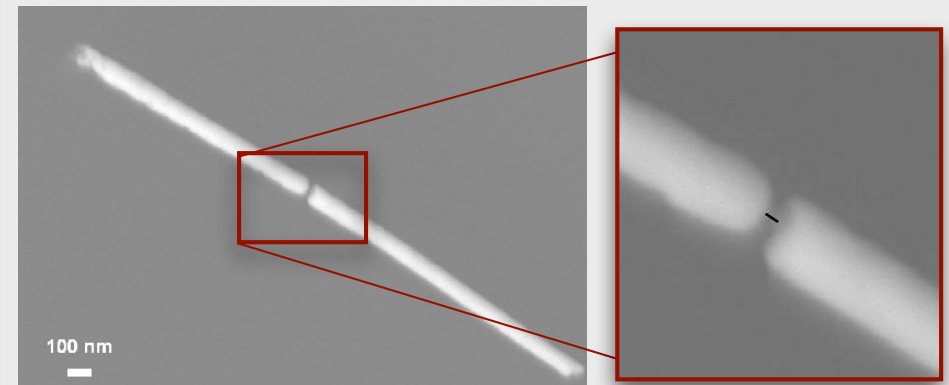
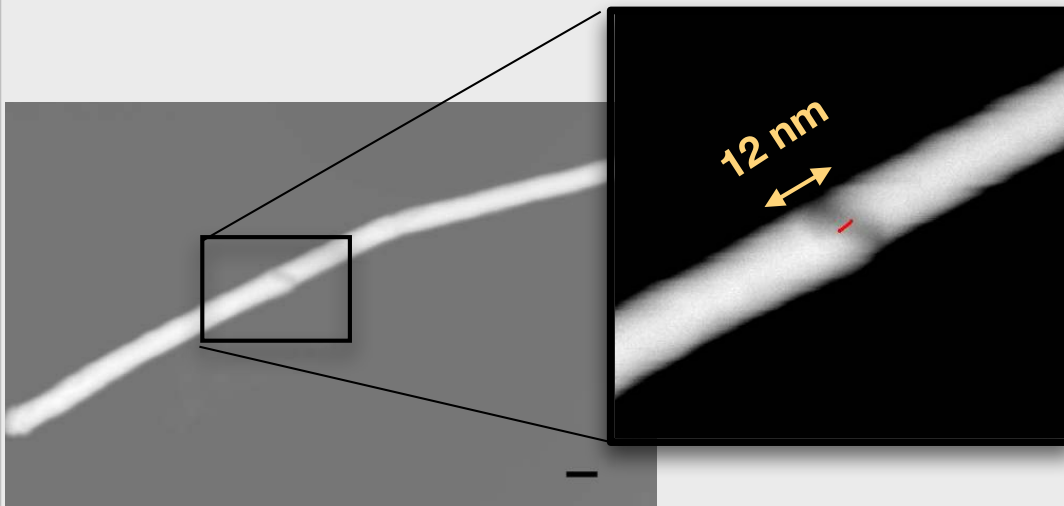


$\text{HNO}_3$  at RT

## Au wire dimers

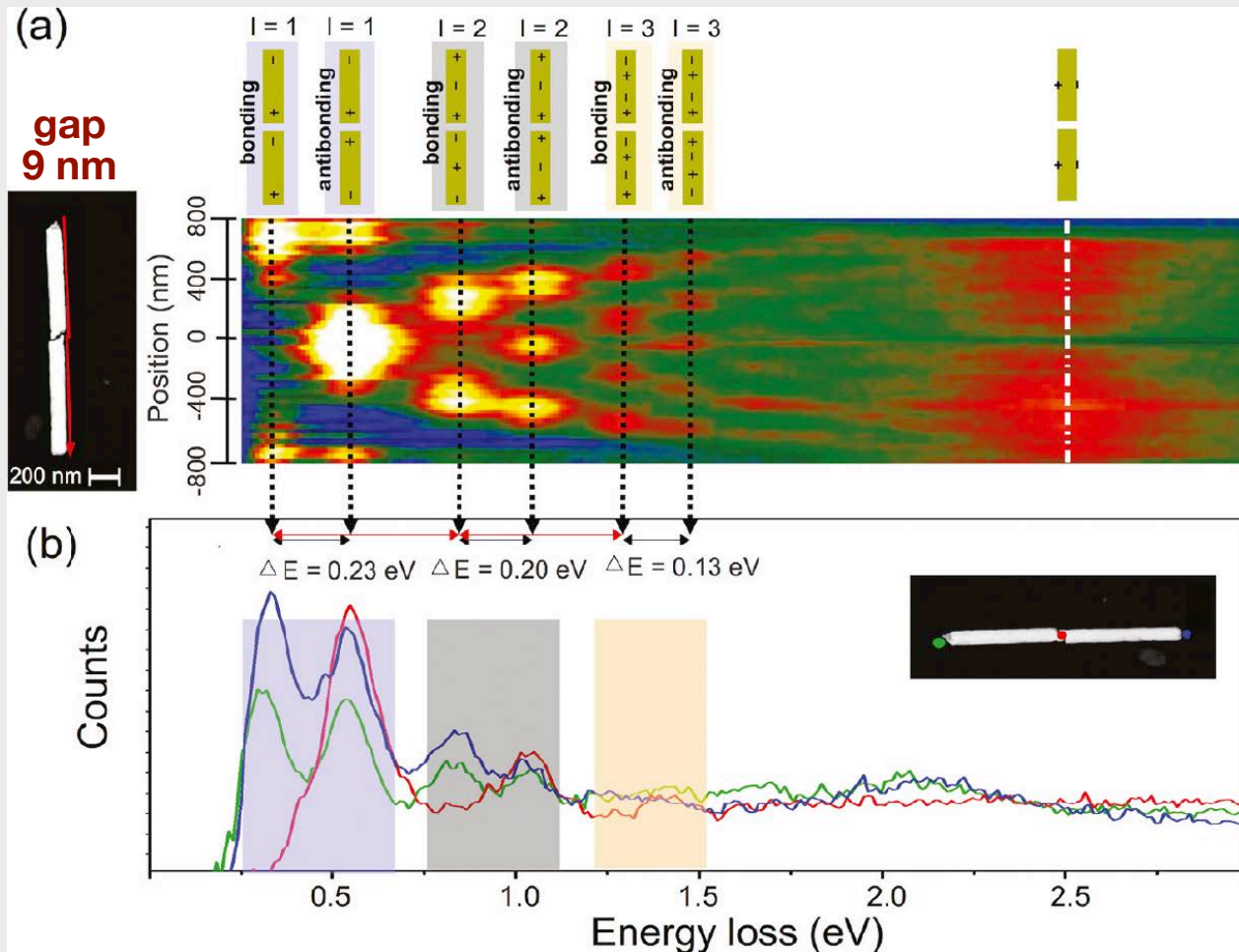


6-10 nm gaps!

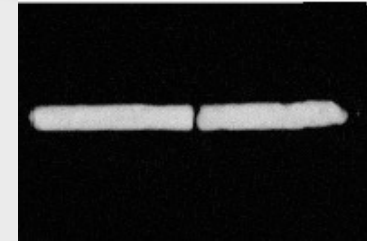


- Gap size down to few nm.
- Interesting as electrical contacts or hot spots.

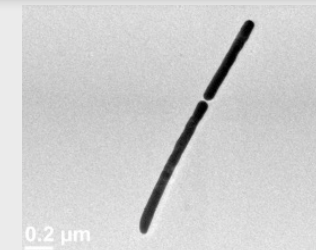
# Plasmonic properties of nanowire dimers



**symmetric dimers**



**asymmetric dimers**



Relevant for, e.g. sensors based on SEIRA (surface enhanced IR-absorption spectroscopy)

- Splitting into bonding and antibonding modes up to 3rd multipole order.
- Energy splitting decreases with increasing multipole order.

Schubert, Huck, Kröber, Neubrech, Pucci, Toimil-Molares, Trautmann, Vogt, Adv. Opt. Mater. 4 (2016) 1838.

Schubert, Sigle, van Aken, Trautmann, Toimil-Molares, Nanoscale 7 (2015) 4935.

Alber, Sigle, Müller, Neumann, Picht, van Aken, Toimil-Molares, ACS Nano, 5 (2011) 9845.

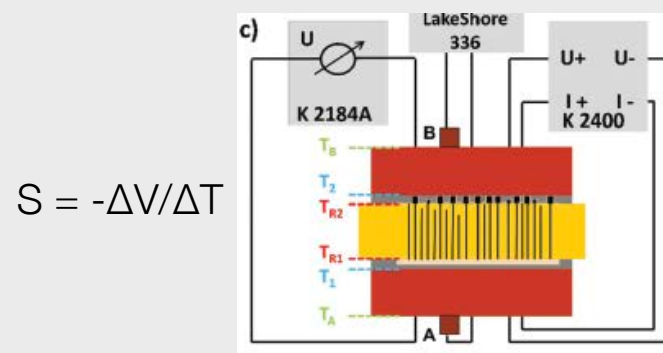
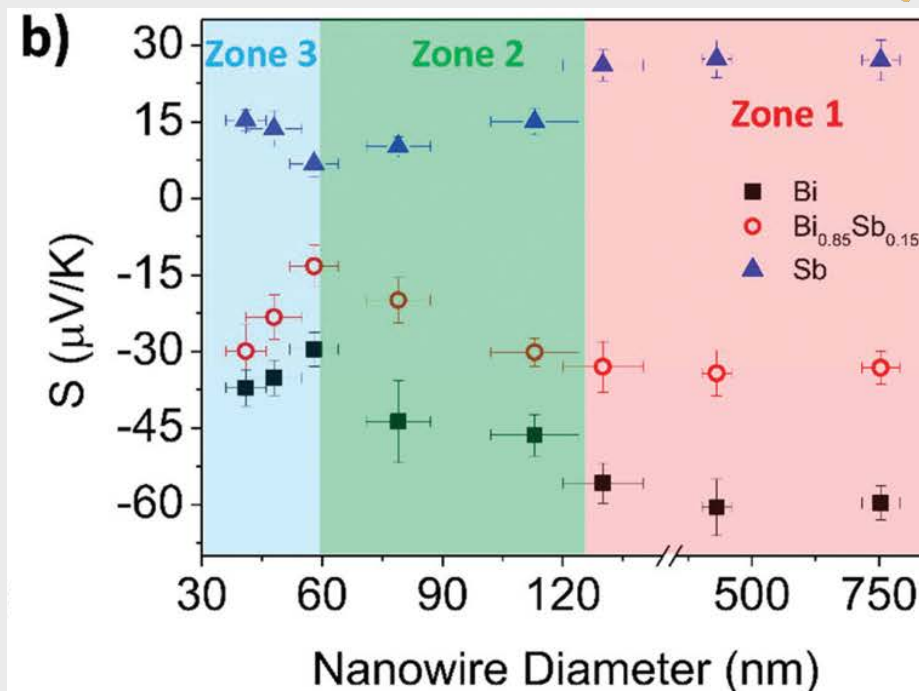
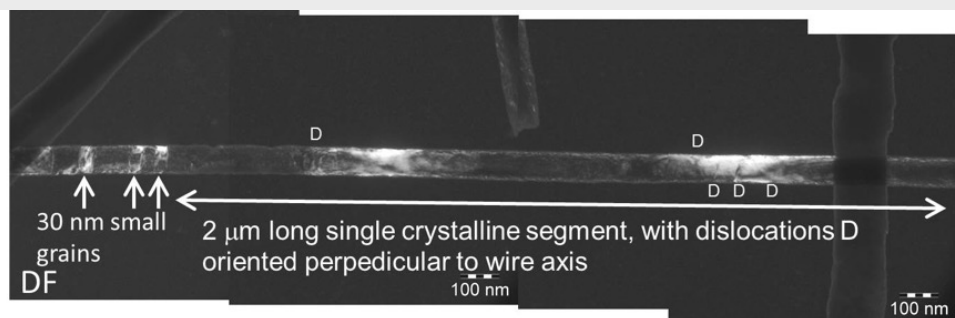
Alber, Sigle, Demming-Janssen, Neumann, Trautmann, van Aken, Toimil-Molares, ACS Nano 6 (2012) 9711.



- $\text{Bi}_{1-x}\text{Sb}_x$  excellent model system
  - electron mean free path  $l_{el} \sim 100$  nm
  - phonon mean free path  $l_{ph} \sim 10\text{-}100$  nm
  - Fermi wavelength  $\lambda_F \sim 40$  nm
- finite- and quantum size effects
- thermoelectric properties
- transport properties

## Synthesis

- Bi, Sb, and  $\text{Bi}_{1-x}\text{Sb}_x$  nanowires
- crystallographic orientation and grain size (TEM, XRD)



- Non-monotonic  $S$  as a function of wire diameter attributed to surface states, and finite and quantum size effects

Wagner, Paulus, Voss, Trautmann, Völklein, Toimil-Molares, Adv. Electron. Mater. 7 (2021) 3.

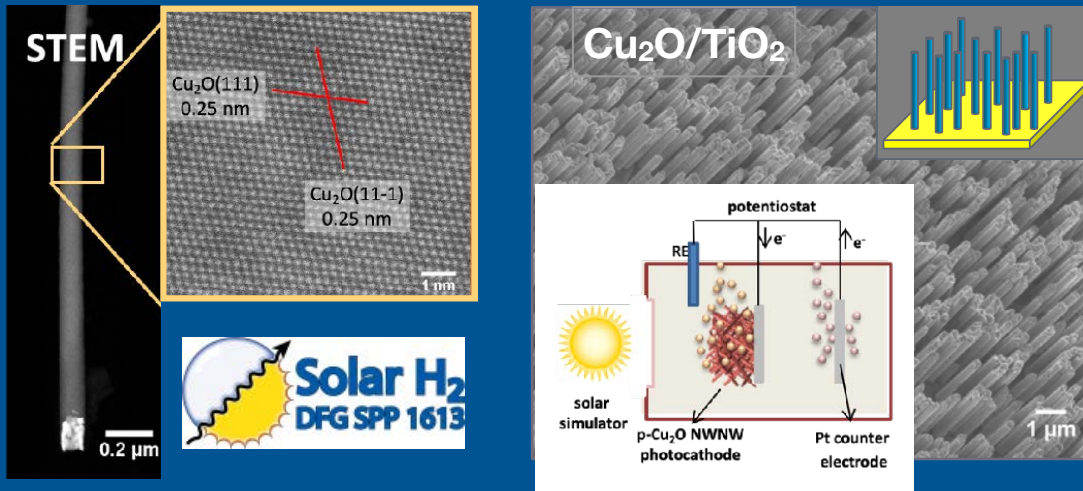
Cassinelli, Müller, Voss, Trautmann, Völklein, Gooth, Nielsch, Toimil-Molares, Nanoscale 9 (2017) 3169.

Cassinelli, Müller, Aabdin, Peranio, Eibl, Trautmann, Toimil-Molares, Nucl. Instr. and Meth. in Phys. Res. B 365 (2015) 668.

Müller, Schötz, Picht, Sigle, Kopold, Rauber, Alber, Neumann, Toimil-Molares, Crystal Growth and Design 12 (2012) 615.

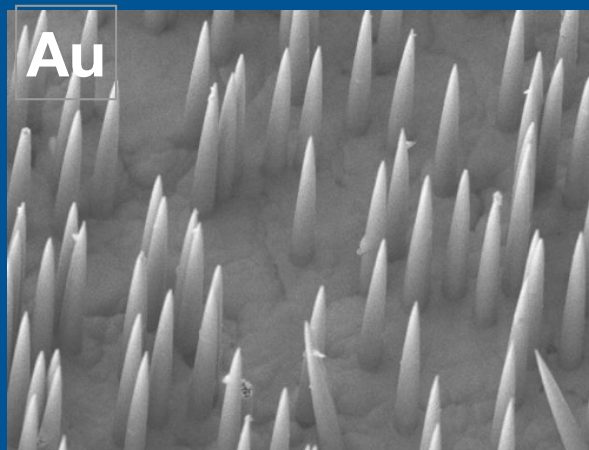
# From single wires... to nanowire assemblies

## Cylindrical arrays as photoelectrodes



Movsesyan, Yang, Kaiser, Jaegermann, Toimil-Molares et al., *Nanomaterials* (2018) 8, 693.  
 Yang, Schröck, Toimil-Molares et al., *Zeitschrift für Physikalische Chemie* 234 (2020) 1205.

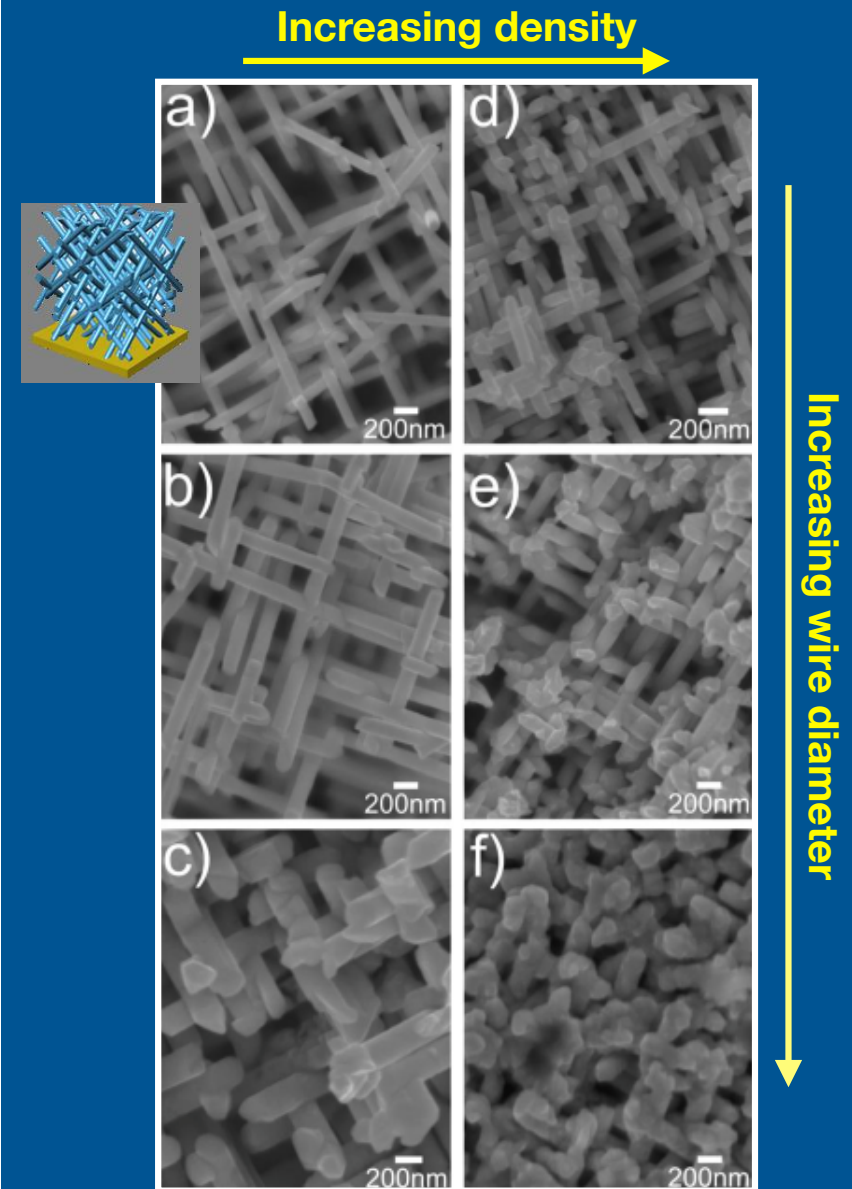
## Conical arrays



- base ~ $\mu\text{m}$
- tip ~few tens nm
- up to 100  $\mu\text{m}$
- all same height
- excellent thermal & electrical contact to base
- mechanically very stable

Burr et al. In preparation

## Thermoelectric networks



Wagner et al., *Physica Status Solidi (a)* 213 (2016) 610. 20



## Materials Research at GSI

