

*Forum Romanians in Micro- and Nanoelectronics, 7 November 2018, Romanian Academy, Bucharest, Romania*



# **Nanoarchitectonics with Silicon Nanowires**

Sorin Melinte, Université catholique de Louvain, Louvain-la-Neuve, 1348, Belgium

## Nanoarchitectonics

- Overview

## Nanoarchitectonics with silicon nanowires

- Synthesis
- Applications

## Silicon nanowires for Li-ion batteries

- Fabrication of anodes for Li-ion batteries with silicon nanowires
- Lithiation of silicon nanowires

# Nanoarchitectonics

A technology enabling the ordering of nanoscale structural units, which are usually a group of atoms or molecules, in an intended configuration

## Nano-synthesis

Synthesis of novel materials not existing in Nature [e.g. silicene]

## Nano-organization

Development of nanoelectronic circuits [e.g. silicene-based circuits]

**Richard Feynman [1959]** “There’s plenty of room at the bottom” – Nanotechnology

**Jean-Marie Lehn [1995]** “There’s even more room at the top” – Supramolecular technology



# Nanoarchitectonics with Si nanowires [SiNWs]

VLS [Vapour Liquid Solid]

CVD [Chemical Vapour Deposition]

LCG [Laser-ablation Catalytic Growth]

Low-temperature VLS

FLS [Fluid Liquid Solid]

SLS [Solution Liquid Solid]

OAG [Oxide Assisted Growth]

...

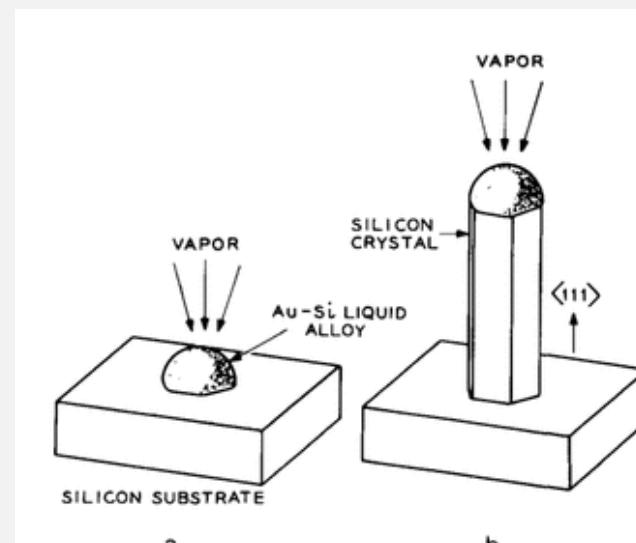
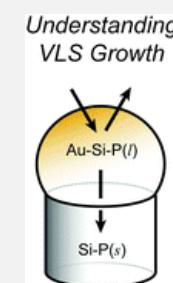
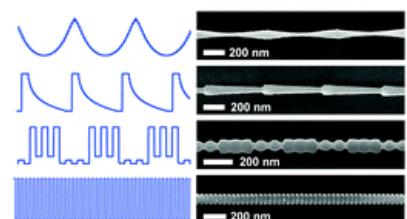


Fig. 1. Schematic illustration: Growth of a silicon crystal by VLS. a. Initial condition with liquid droplet on substrate. b. Growing crystal with liquid droplet at the tip.



A. M. Morales and C. M. Lieber, Science 279, 208 (1998)

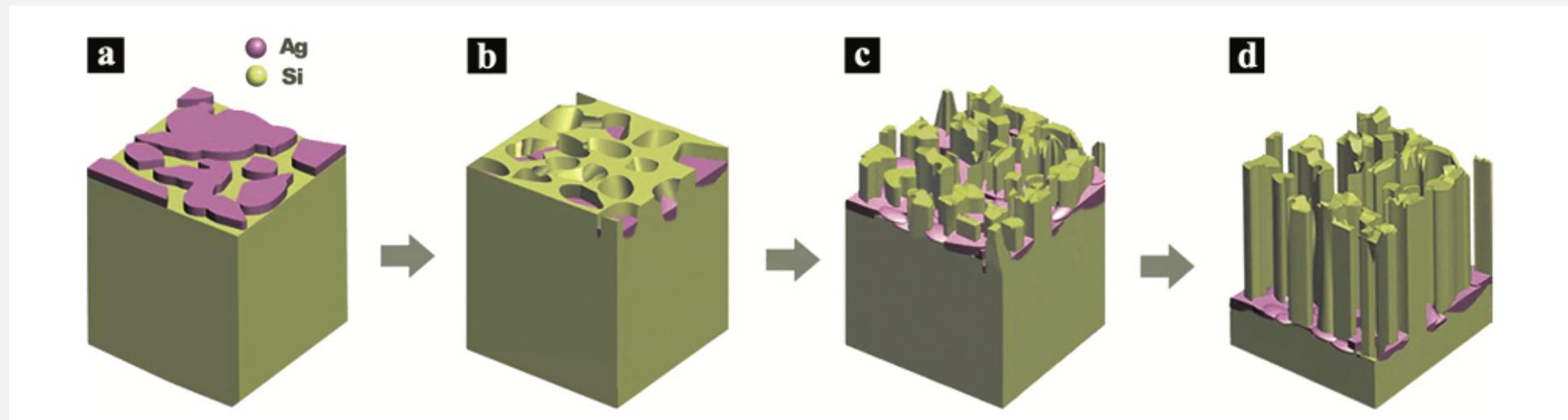
Understanding VLS Growth → Encoding High-Resolution 3D Nanowire Morphology



R. S. Wagner and W. C. Ellis, Appl. Phys. Lett. 4, 89 (1964) C. W. Pinion et al., J. Mater. Chem. C 4, 3890 (2016)

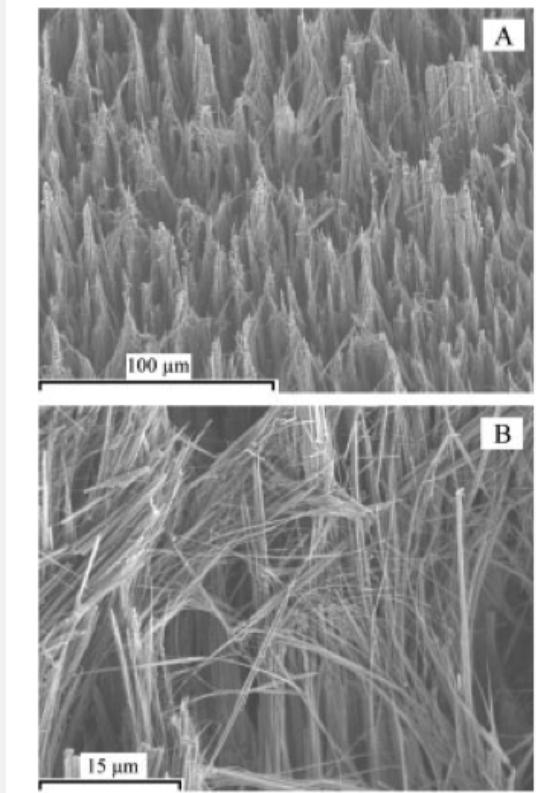
# Nanoarchitectonics with Si nanowires [SiNWs]

H. Fang *et al.*, Nanotechnology **17**, 3768 (2006)



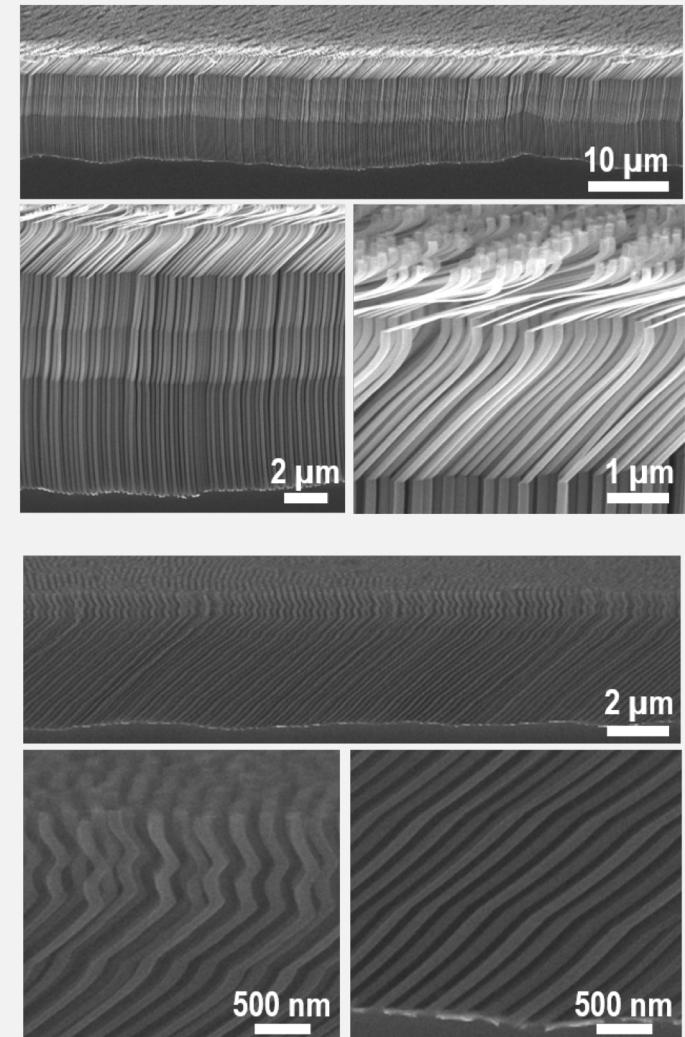
D. McIntosh, J. Phys. Chem. **6**, 15 (1902): Catalytic decomposition of  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$

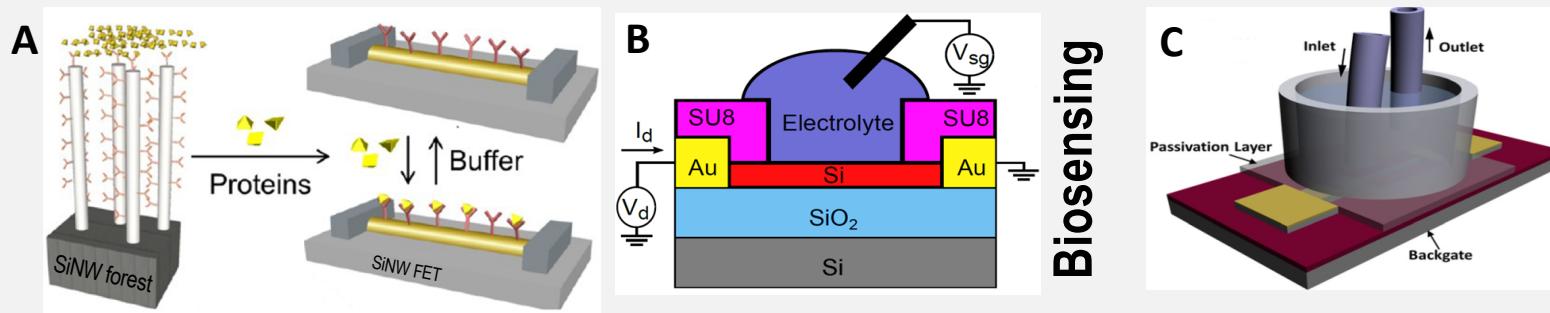
# Nanoarchitectonics with Si nanowires [SiNWs]



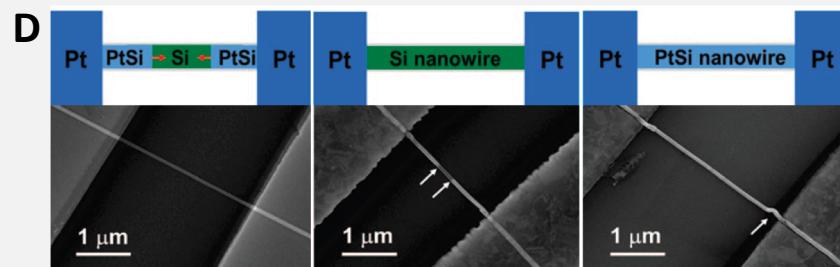
K.-Q. Peng *et al.*, Adv. Mater. **14**, 1164 (2002)

G. Sandu *et al.*, coming soon



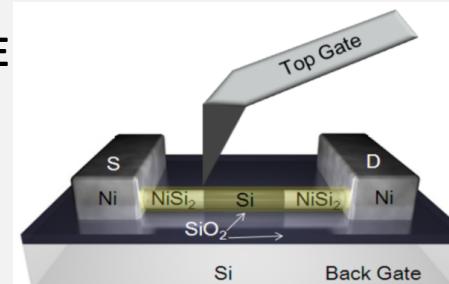


V. Krivitsky *et al.*, *Nano Lett.* **12**, 4748 (2012) N. K. Rajan *et al.*, *APL* **98**, 264107 (2011) Q. Guo *et al.*, *APL* **101**, 093704 (2012)

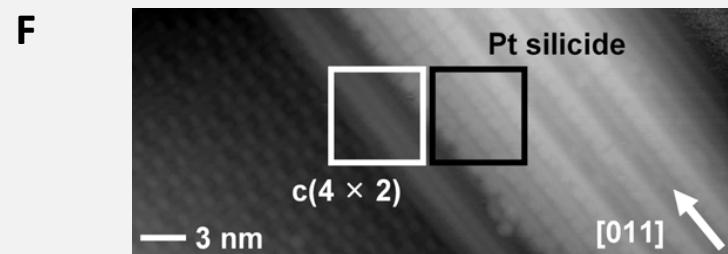


Y. C. Lin *et al.*, *Nano Lett.* **8**, 913 (2008)

## Biosensing

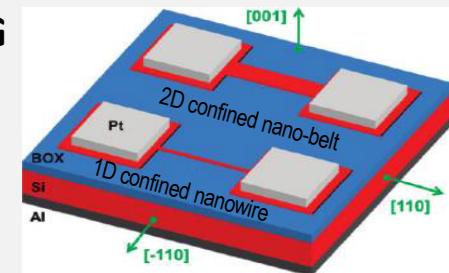


D. Martin *et al.*, *PRL* **107**, 216807 (2011)

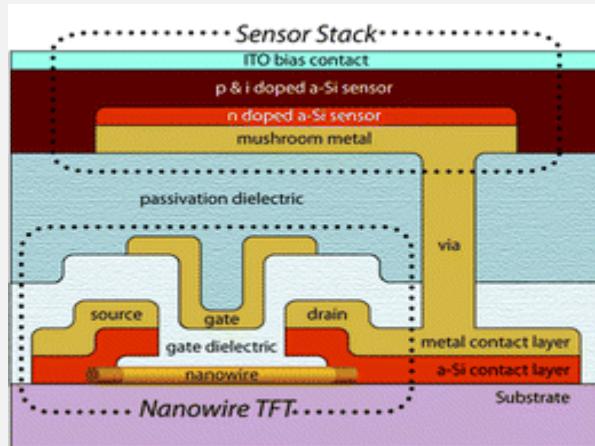
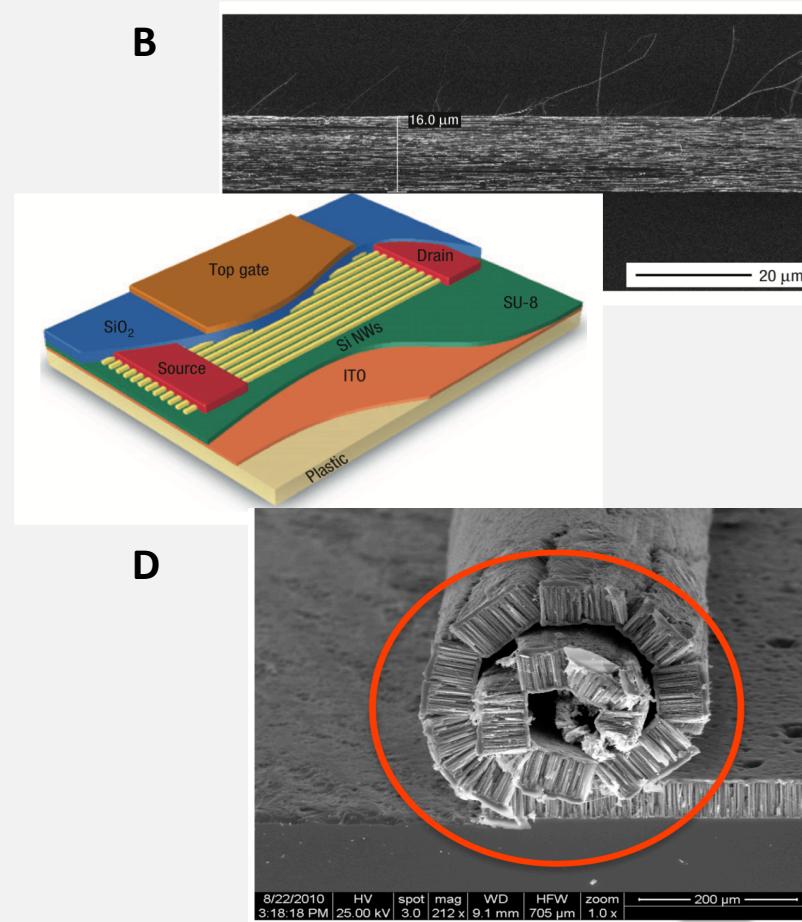
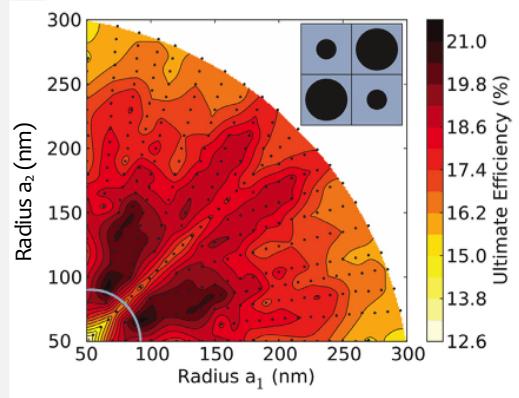


D. K. Lim *et al.*, *Nanotechnology* **18**, 095706 (2007)

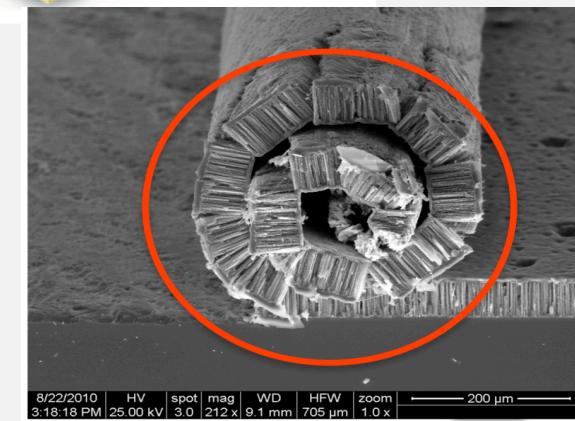
## Quantum Technology



K. Trivedi *et al.*, *Nano Lett.* **11**, 1412 (2011)

**A****B****C**

- [A] W. S. Wong *et al.*, *Nano Lett.* **11**, 2214 (2011)  
[C] P. Yu *et al.*, *Nano Today* **11**, 704 (2016)

**D**

- [B] M. C. McAlpine *et al.*, *Nat. Mater.* **6**, 379 (2007)  
[D] A. Vlad *et al.*, *PNAS* **109**, 15168 (2012)



$\approx 3600 \text{ mAh/g} \approx 8300 \text{ mAh/cm}^3$

$\approx 0.2 \text{ V vs. Li/Li}^+$

abundant & low cost

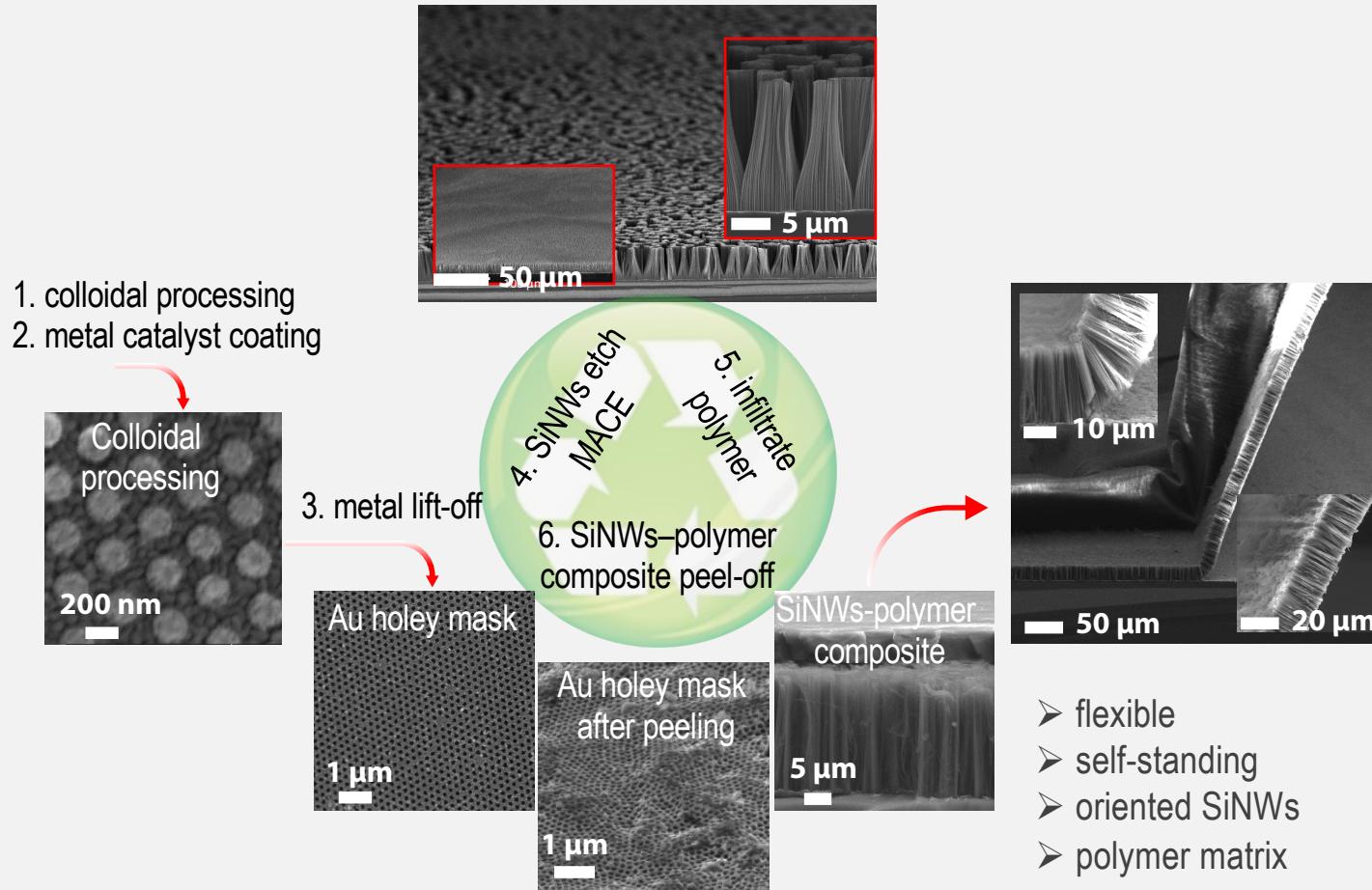
- $\approx 300\%$  volume expansion during lithiation & fracture & pulverization
- poor solid-electrolyte interphase [SEI] & low electronic conductivity
- limited cycling stability under real life battery operation conditions

*Nat. Nanotechnol.* **9**, 327 (2014)

thesis

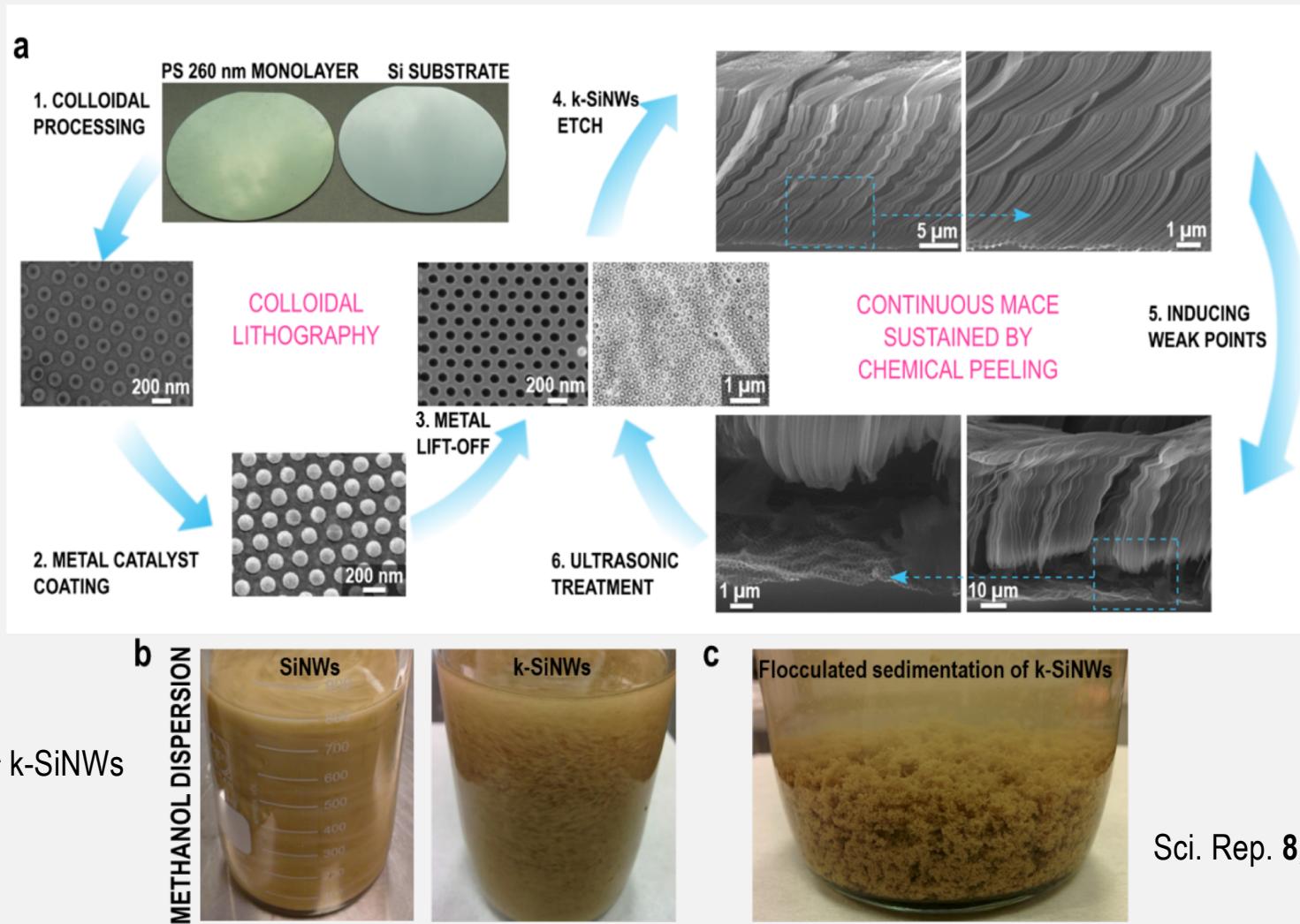
## Driving change in the battery industry

High-capacity silicon anodes could improve the performance of lithium-ion batteries for electric vehicles, but their cyclability has been limited. **Christian Martin** analyses recent progress in nanoscale engineering that addresses this shortcoming.

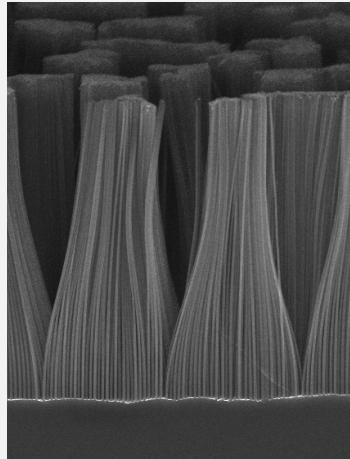


PNAS 109, 15168 (2012): Metal-assisted chemical etching [MACE] high-throughput SiNWs processing

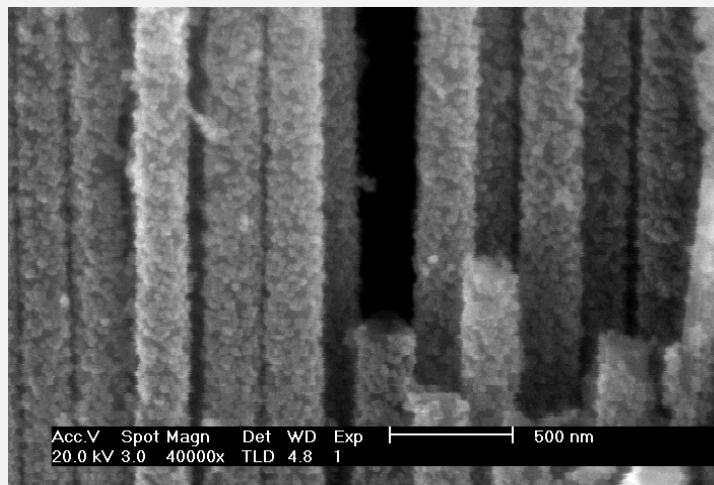
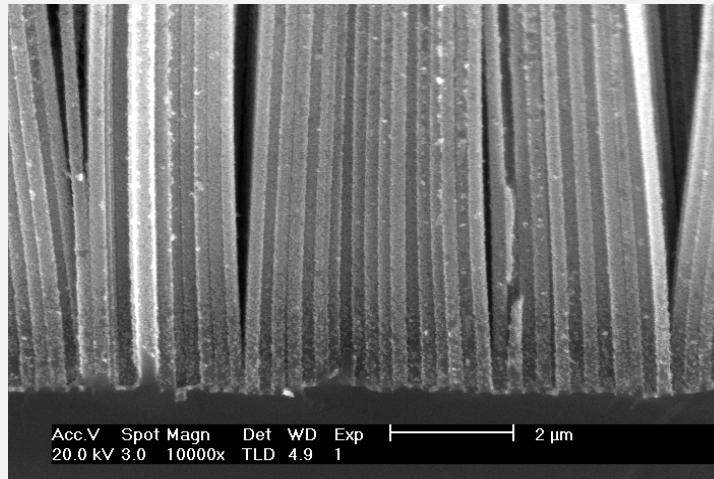
## Kinked silicon nanowires [k-SiNWs]



Sci. Rep. 8, 9794 (2018)

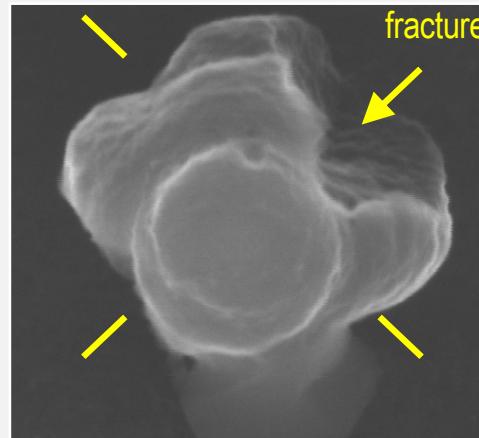
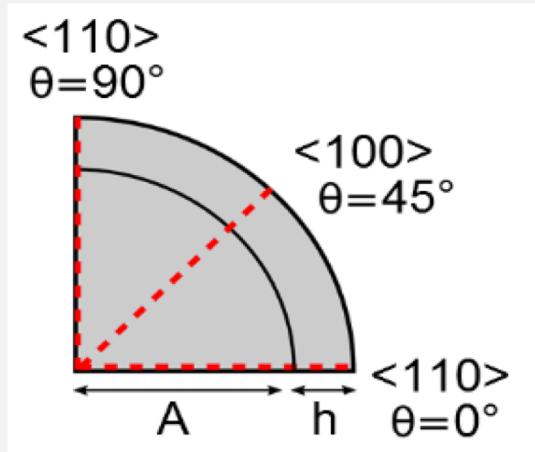


Sputtering, electron-beam physical vapor deposition, etc are too directional



Electroless plating





$$\emptyset = 2A = 480 \text{ nm}$$

$$h = 0 \text{ nm}$$

$$h/A = 0$$

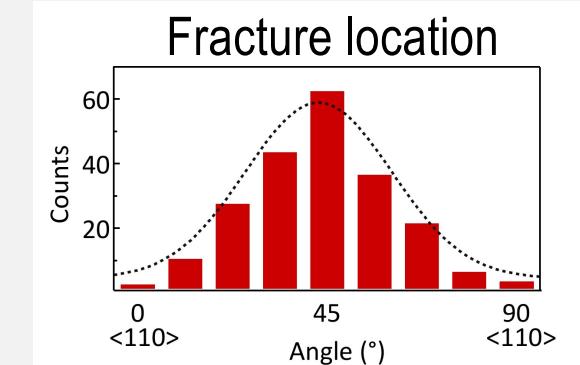
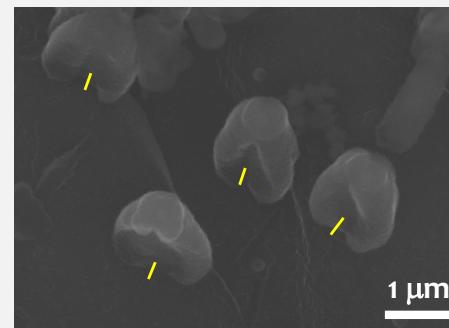
Swelling: **Anisotropic**

Fracture: **Along {100}**

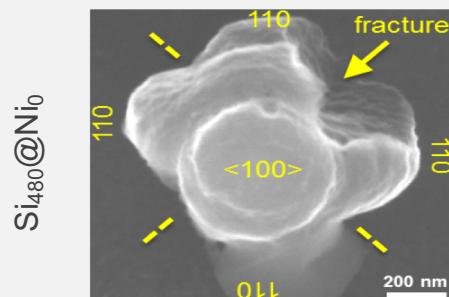
$\text{Si}_{2A}@\text{Ni}_h$

A – Si core radius

h – Ni shell thickness

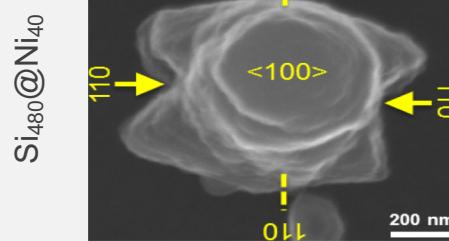


consistent with previous reports: Nano Lett. **11**, 3312 (2011); Adv. Mater. **23**, 1563 (2011);  
 Nano Lett. **11**, 3034 (2011); PNAS **109**, 4080 (2012)



$h/A = 0$   
Swelling: Anisotropic  
Cracks: {100}

- Lithium transport



$h/A = 1/3$  to  $h/A = 1/6$   
Swelling: Anisotropic  
Cracks: {110}

- $\text{Li}_x\text{Si} \sim 10^{-12} - 10^{-14} \text{ cm}^2/\text{s}$

- $\text{Ni} \sim 10^{-9} - 10^{-11} \text{ cm}^2/\text{s}$

**Not a diffusion limited process!**



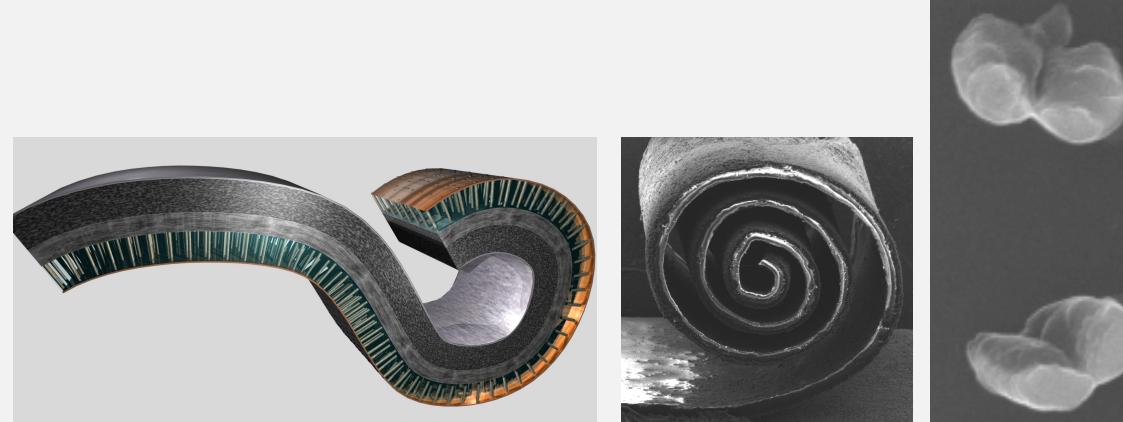
$h/A = 1/2$   
Swelling: Isotropic  
Cracks: Random

- Buffering effect of the Ni coating

- $V_{<110>} / V_{<100>}$

- Si Nanowires for Li-ion Battery Anodes:  
flexible design, high areal mass loading, aqueous binder formulation
- Enhanced Performances of Si@Cu and Si@Ni Nanowires:  
better metal-polymer interface
- Ni Shell Mediated Swelling in Si@Ni Nanowires:  
transition from anisotropic to isotropic fracture
- The isotropic single fracture regime is desirable as it resembles the thin-film configuration on a metallic Ni substrate

PNAS **109**, 15168 (2012)  
 ACS Nano **8**, 9427 (2014)  
 ACS Appl. Mater. Interfaces **9**, 34865 (2017)  
 Sci. Rep. **8**, 9794 (2018)



*Thank you for your attention!*



*Many thanks*

S. Blanco Alvarez, D. Caina, F. Chaltin, C.A. Duțu,  
P.O. Mouthuy, G. Sandu, D.A. Serban, A. Vlad, R. Ye  
**Université catholique de Louvain, Belgium**