

# Nanoscience and Nanotechnology at the National Institute of Materials Physics



Lucian Pintilie  
General Director of NIMP

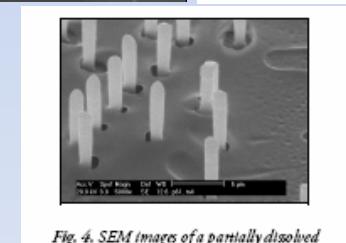
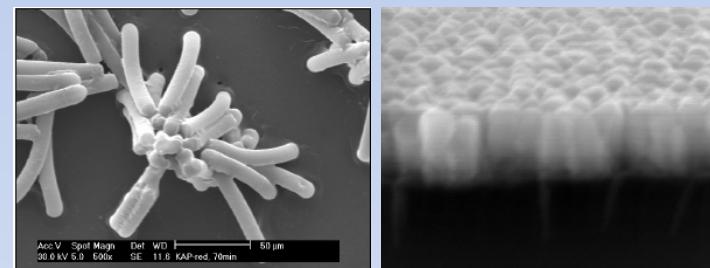


Fig. 4. SEM images of a partially dissolved membrane in which an array of potassium hydrogen phthalate rods was grown.

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## Outlines

- Presentation and strategy
- Resources
- Funding and results
- Some “success stories”
- Conclusions

NIMP Bucharest is devoted to **fundamental and applied research** in the fields of **solid state physics and materials research**.

***Priority in the NIMP's strategy for 2006-2010:***

- **Nanostructured materials and nano-composites: synthesis, characterization and applications**

**Initiativa NANO**

(physical phenomena and the preparation-structure-properties relation in structures below 1 micron, preferably below 100 nm)

- thin films, multilayers and super-lattices
- nanostructured materials, nanocomposites, (even in bulk form at the beginning)
  - nanowires, nanorods, nanotubes, nanobelts, nanodots
    - quantum structures, clusters
    - 2D and 3D interfaces/surfaces
    - defect engineering

***Laboratories***

- 10. Multifunctional Materials and structures**
- 20. Magnetism and Superconductivity**
- 30. Nanoscale condensed matter physics**
- 40. Optical processes in nanostructured materials**
- 50. Atomic structures and defects in advanced materials**

# Resources

## Human Resources

The institute has presently about **250 workers**, including **177 scientific workers** (**15 PhD supervisors, 94 doctors, 40 PhD students**)

## *Infrastructure:*

About 5 millions EUR invested in research infrastructure, from projects and Core program (XRD powder and thin films; SEM; AFM+PFM; MBE; PLD; RF-sputtering with in-situ structural and compositional analysis; VSM; RES; advanced XPS equipment; STM; SNOM; various characterization equipments for physical properties)

A POS-CCE project of about 10 millions EUR (2009-2011), exclusively for research infrastructure, which will provide:

- atomic HR-TEM with state of the art equipment for analysis (STEM, EELS, EDX, etc.)
- clean room with nanolithography facilities (E-beam, FEG-SEM-FIB)
- LEEM+PEEM
- multimode SPM
- PPMS+SQUID



Complex cluster for surface physics: MBE, RHEED,  
STM, XPS, LEEM



SEM with Cathodoluminescence



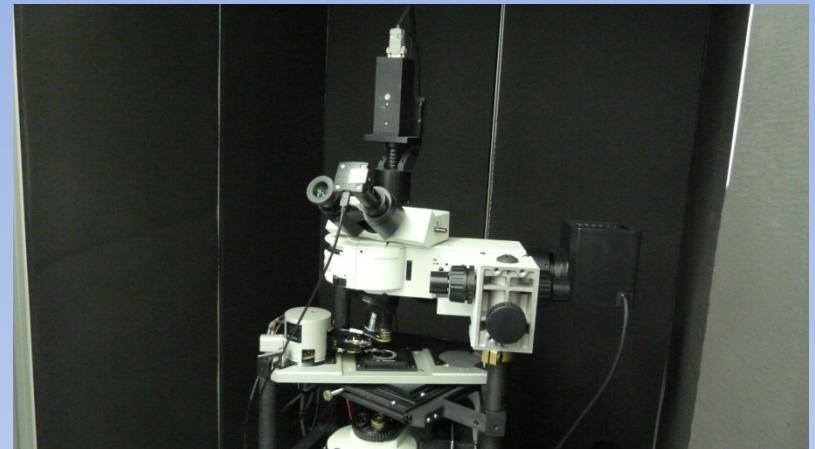
RF-sputtering with in-situ characterization  
techniques: Auger, ellipsometry



PLD with excimer laser



Scanning near field fluorescence  
microspectrometer



SNOM+AFM



Raman Microscope



AFM+PFM

## ***Financing 2005-2009:***

30 projects containing in the title a word based on NANO

CEEX 2005-11 projects with 13,950,000 lei

CEEX 2006-9 projects with 13,500,000 lei

PN II 2007-5 projects with 10,000,000 lei

PN II 2008-5 projects with 10,000,000 lei

**TOTAL: 27,45 millions lei**  
(equivalent of about 7 millions EUR)

## ***International participation (Nano-related projects):***

2 network of excellence (FP6-NMP); 1 large collaborative project (FP7-NMP);  
4 COST actions; 8 bilateral cooperations; collaboration with over 30  
universities and research institutes from all over the world.

**TOTAL: about 500,000 EUR**

## **Scientific publications:**

-An average of about 140 articles/year in ISI ranked journals

Web of Science-Romania-2005-2009

Key words related to nanoscience and nanotechnology

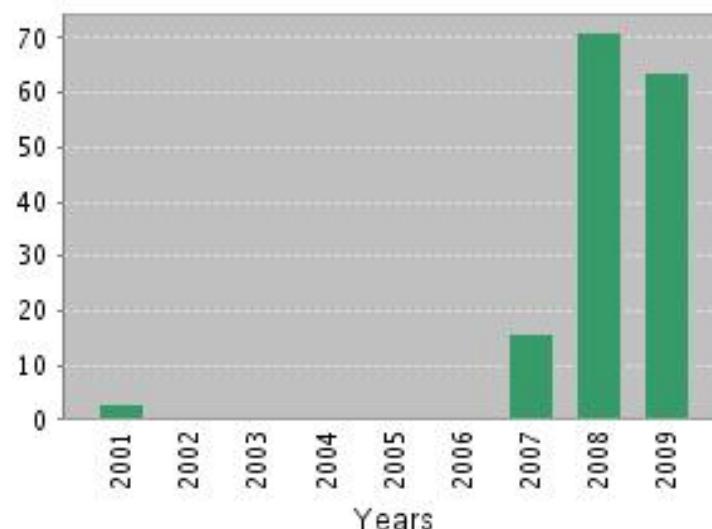
**NATL INST MAT PHYS (154)**

UNIV BUCHAREST (83)

NATL INST LASERS PLASMA & RADIAT PHYS (68) UNIV  
POLITEHN BUCURESTI (68)

ALEXANDRU IOAN CUZA UNIV (55)

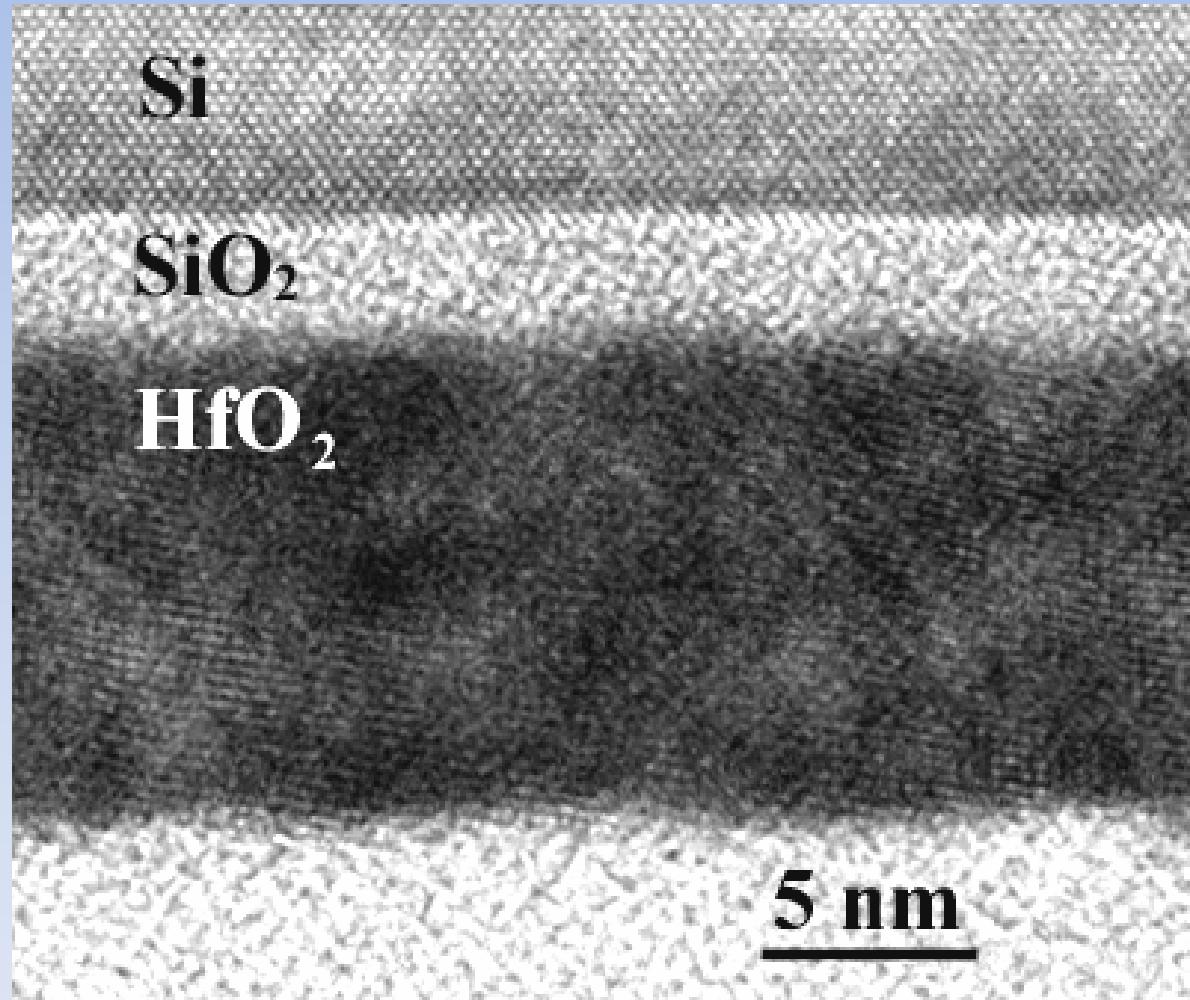
**Published Items in Each Year**



## Some “success stories”

### Fabrication and structural study of sol-gel HfO<sub>2</sub> thin films

Laser processing of nanostructured oxide thin films for transparent  
and conventional electronics PROLAF project PN2 nr 11061/2007



XTEM image ( cross section) of a HfO<sub>2</sub> sol-gel thin film with 12nm thickness, obtained by dip-coating on Si[100] wafer substrate, using an etoxide precursor, densified and crystallized by conventional thermal treatment of 30 minutes at 500°C. The interfacial SiO<sub>2</sub> layer is about 3nm thick.

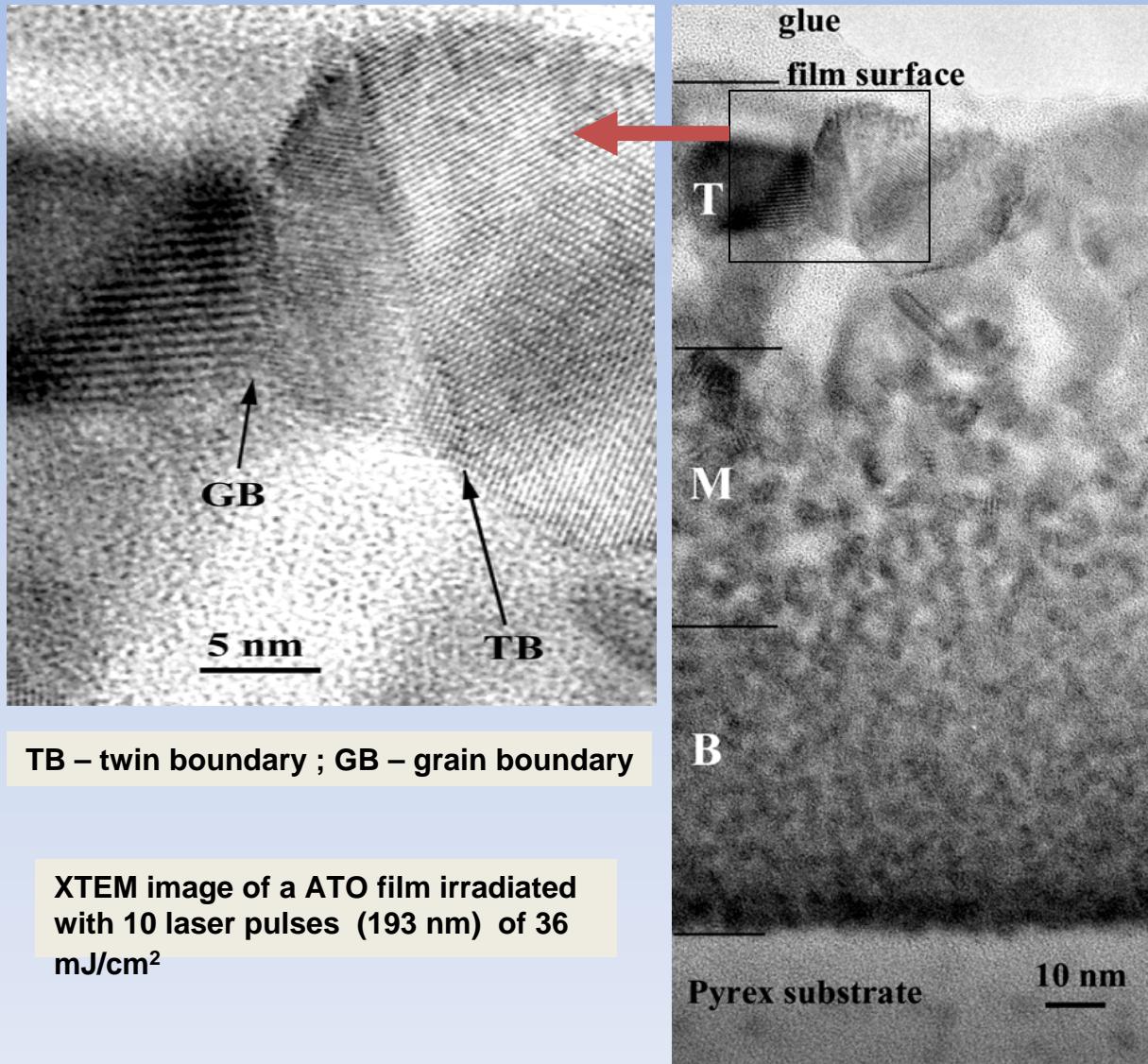
#### References

Teodorescu VS, Blanchin MG,  
*Microscopy and Microanalysis*, 15, (2009), 15-19

M-G. Blanchin, B.Canut, Y.Lambert, V.S.Teodorescu, A.Barau, M.Zaharescu, *Journal of Sol-Gel Science and Technology*, 47, (2008), 165-172

M.Zaharescu, V.S.Teodorescu, M.Gartner, M-G.Blanchin, A.Barau, M.Anastasescu, *Journal of Non-Crystalline Solids*, 354 (2008), 409-415

# Laser proccesing of sol-gel transparent conducting oxide thin films: ATO, ITO, project CEEEX nr:104/2003, Romanian- French collaboration INCDFM-Univ Lyon-DPM



**layer B**, In this area the film nanostructure is not modified, practically is idendical with nanostructure of the nonirradiated film.

**Layer M**, median area, some structural modifications are present, due to the crystallization proces induced by the heat diffusion in the film thickness

**Layer T** , top surfaceis crystallized by the direct laser pulse heating showing in fact the absorption depth of the laser radiation, of

## REFERENCES

V. S. Teodorescu, C. Ghica, C. S. Sandu , A. V. Maraloiu, M-G. Blanchin, B. Canut, J. A. Roger, Digest Journal of Nanomaterials and Biostructures ,1, (2006), 61 - 69

CS Sandu, VS Teodorescu, C Ghica, B Canut, MG Blanchin, JA Roger, A Brioude, T Bret, P Hoffmann, C Garapon , Applied Surface Science, 208, 382-387, 2003

CS Sandu, VS Teodorescu, C Ghica, P Hoffmann, T Bret, A Brioude, MG Blanchin, JA Roger, B Canut, M Croitoru , Journal of Sol-Gel Science and Technology , 28, 227-234, 2003

# **STRUCTURAL INVESTIGATIONS OF Ge NANODOTS EMBEDDED IN SiO<sub>2</sub>**

## **Project No. 471/2009 (ID 918/2008), Ideas Program**

### **Applications**

- LEDs based on quantum confinement effects
- Photovoltaic cells (the 4-th generation) based on quantum confinement effects
- Non-volatile memories (due to strong memory effect)
- Single Electron Devices
- Integrated opto-couplers in microsystems for biotechnology

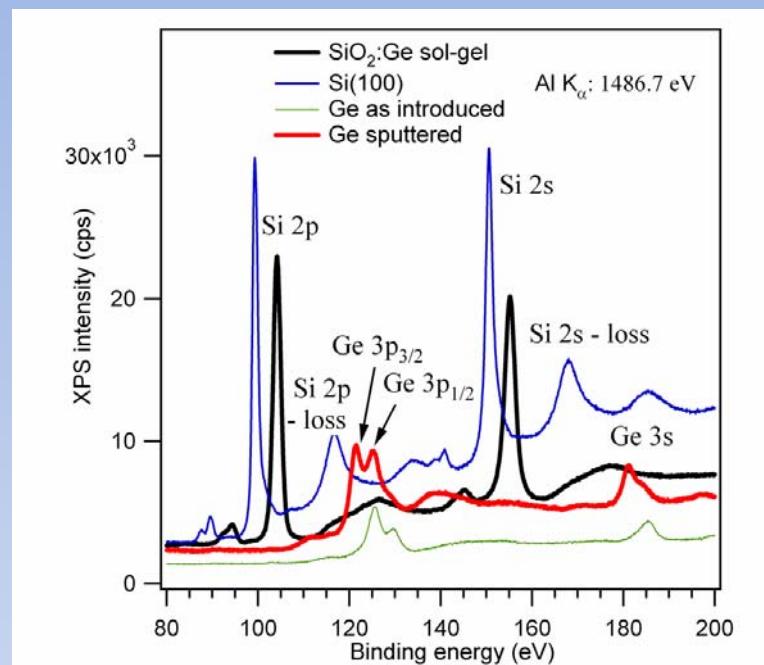
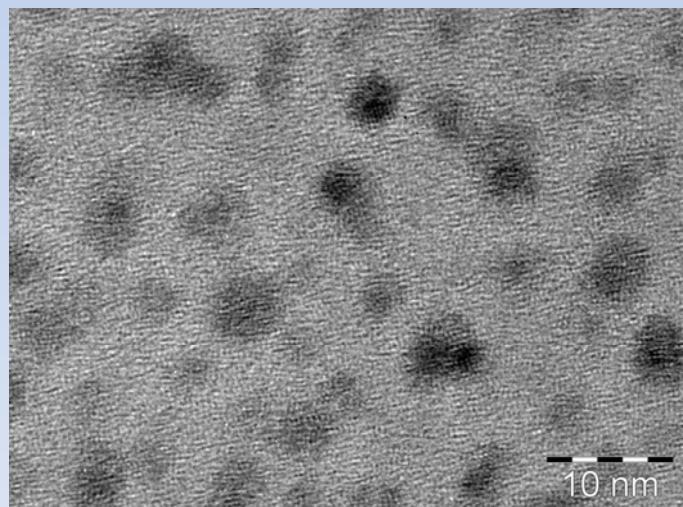
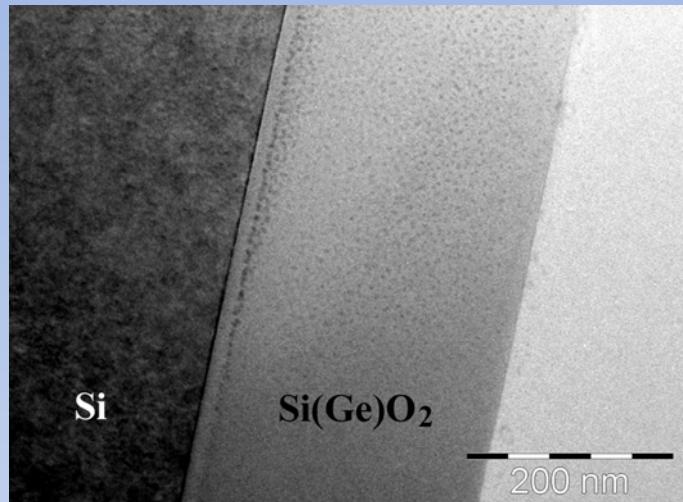
### **Output:**

- I. Stavarache, A.-M. Lepadatu, N. G. Gheorghe, M. A. Husanu, G. Stan, D. Marcov, A. Slav, G. Iordache, T. F. Stoica, V. Iancu, V. S. Teodorescu, C. M. Teodorescu, and M. L Ciurea, **STRUCTURAL INVESTIGATIONS OF Ge NANODOTS EMBEDDED IN SiO<sub>2</sub>**, *J. Nanopart. Res.* (submitted)
- I. Stavarache, A.-M. Lepadatu, T. F. Stoica, G. Stan, D. Marcov, A. Slav, V. S. Teodorescu, C. M. Teodorescu, A. M. Vlaicu, I. Pasuk, S. Lazanu, G. Iordache and M. L. Ciurea, **STRUCTURAL INVESTIGATIONS OF Ge DOTS EMBEDDED IN SiO<sub>2</sub>**, *ROMANIAN CONFERENCE ON ADVANCED MATERIALS: ROCAM 2009*

### **Work team:**

Drd. I. Stavarache, Drd. A.-M. Lepadatu, Drd. A. Slav, N. G. Gheorghe, Drd. M. A. Husanu, Drd. G. Stan, Drd. D. Marcov, Dr. G. Iordache, Dr. T. F. Stoica, Dr. V. S. Teodorescu, Dr. C. M. Teodorescu, and Dr. M. L. Ciurea

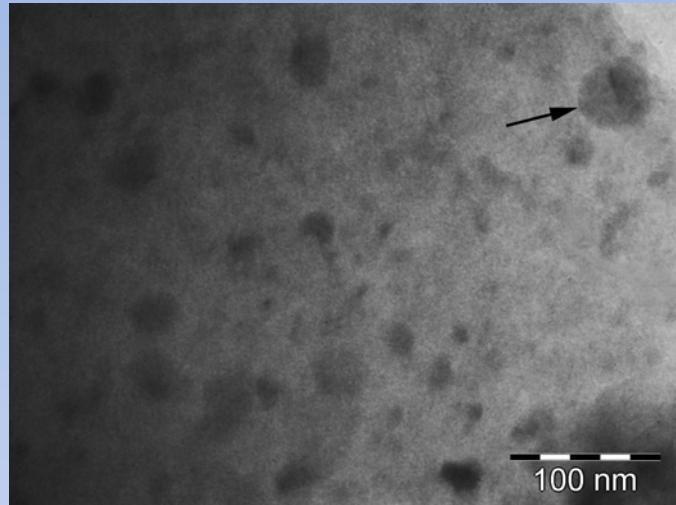
## Sol-gel films



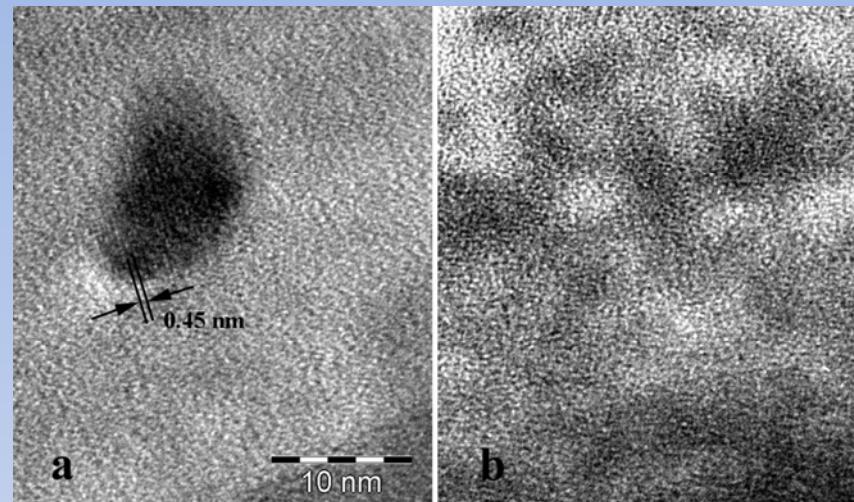
**Sol-gel films:** amorphous Ge nanodots in amorphous  $\text{SiO}_2$  matrix.

- ❖ *Left up:* the clear  $\text{SiO}_2$  band is formed by the oxidation of the Si wafer during the annealing.
- ❖ *Left down:* the mean size of nanodots increases from 3.8 nm (3% Ge) to 4.3 nm (12% Ge).
- ❖ *Right up:* the film surface is formed by a mixture of  $\text{GeO}_2$  and  $\text{SiO}_2$ .

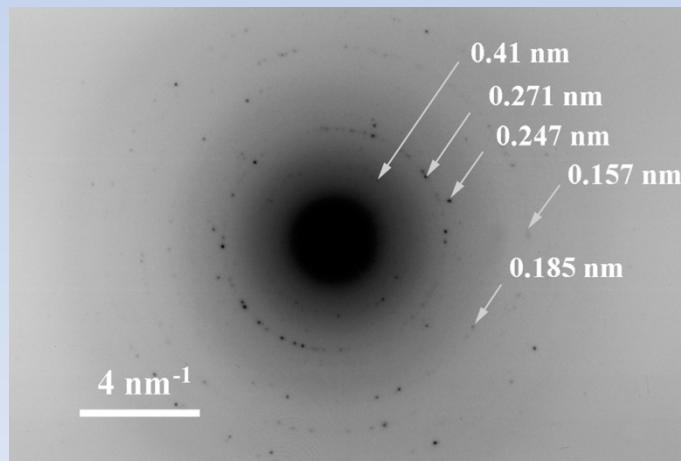
## Magnetron sputtered films Si(40%Ge)O<sub>2</sub>



TEM image: Ge nanodots; arrow: 50 nm nanodot



HRTEM image: (a) lattice fringes contrast for Ge **tetragonal phase**; (b) amorphous network nanostructure



SAED pattern: **tetragonal phase** for Ge nanodots

**Magnetron sputtered films:** mixture of **tetragonal Ge nanodots** (specific for **high pressure**) and amorphous ones in amorphous SiO<sub>2</sub> matrix.

- ❖ *Left up:* mean size of nanodots is 20 nm.
- ❖ *Left down:* main diffraction data originate from crystalline nanodots larger than 50 nm.
- ❖ *Right up:* (a) lattice interfringe 0.45 nm, specific to **tetragonal Ge phase**; (b) amorphous network consists of a mixture of Ge and Si oxides.

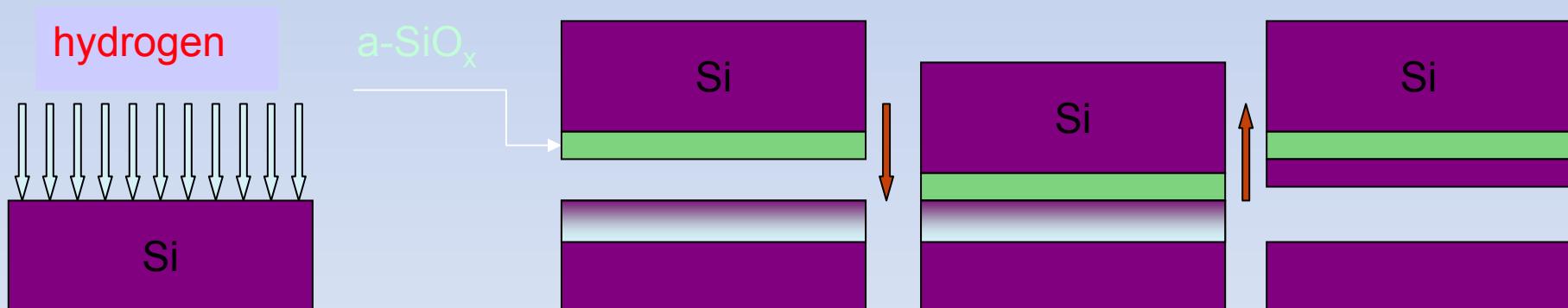
# Smart –cut process:

## Quantitative HRTEM: atomic scale measurement of strain field around extended defects

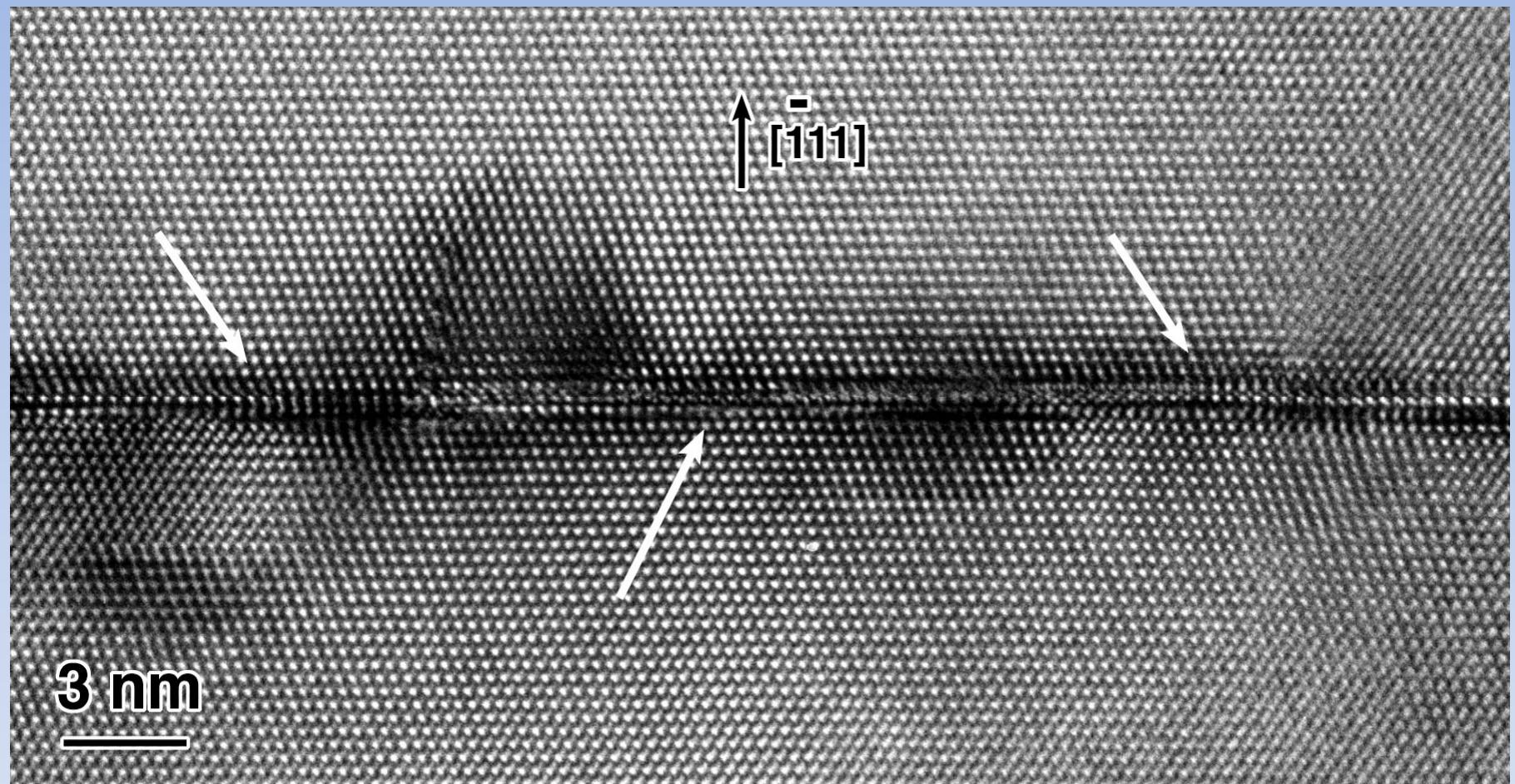
### References

1. C. Ghica, L. C. Nistor, H. Bender, O. Richard, G. Van Tendeloo, A. Ulyashin, *Philosophical Magazine* **86**, 5137-5151 (2006).
2. C. Ghica, L. C. Nistor, H. Bender, O. Richard, G. Van Tendeloo, A. Ulyashin, *Journal of Physics D: Applied Physics* **40**, 395-400 (2007).
3. C. Ghica, L. C. Nistor, M. Stefan, D. Ghica, B. Mironov, S. Vizireanu, A. Moldovan, M. Dinescu  
*Applied Physics A DOI 10.1007/s00339-009-5527-1*
4. C. Ghica, Qualitative and quantitative HRTEM characterization of extended defects induced in silicon by H-plasma treatment  
Invited lecture at 2nd Croatian Microscopy Congress with International Participation, Topusko, Croatia, May 18-21, 2006.

The schematics of the “Smart cut” process used to produce SOI devices:



HR image of a {111} defect induced in Si by H-plasma treatment.

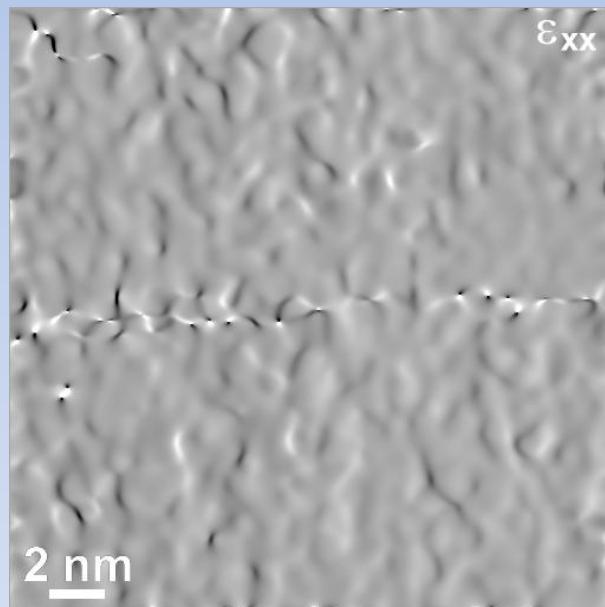


HR pattern of the defect is highly dependent on the recording conditions (thickness, defocus) and position along the defect.  
• Frequent common feature: ...ABCAABC...-like stacking sequence.

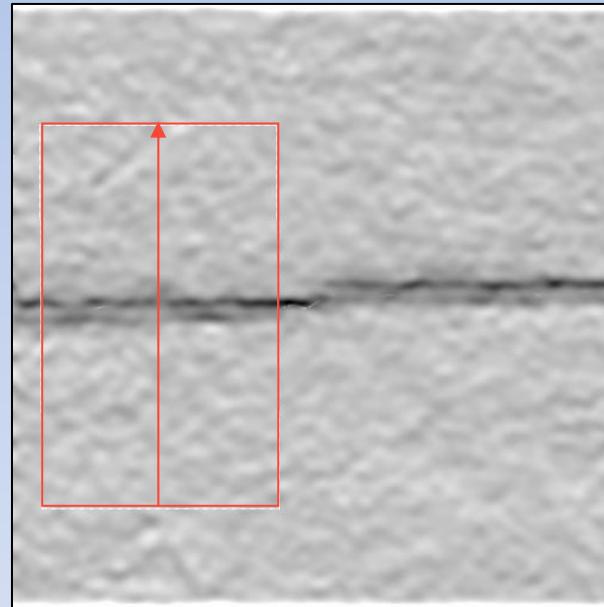
## Calculation of the strain field around the defect

$$e = \begin{pmatrix} e_{xx} & e_{xy} \\ e_{yx} & e_{yy} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \partial u_x / \partial x & \partial u_x / \partial y \\ \partial u_y / \partial x & \partial u_y / \partial y \end{pmatrix}$$

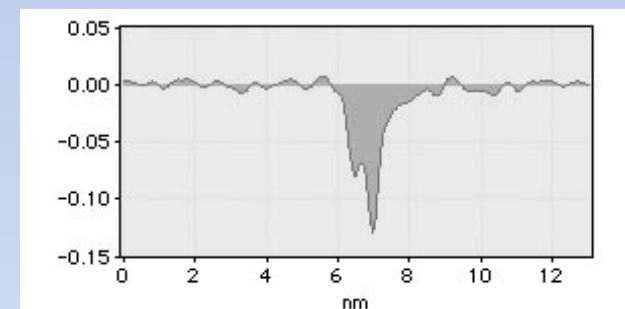
$$\varepsilon = \frac{1}{2}(e + e^T)$$
$$\omega = \frac{1}{2}(e - e^T)$$



$$\varepsilon_{xx} = \partial u_x / \partial x$$



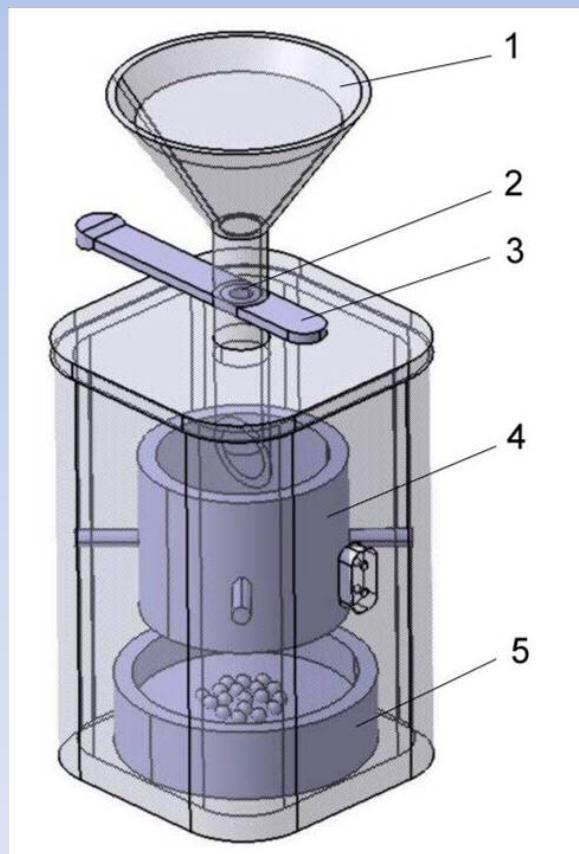
$$\varepsilon_{yy} = \partial u_y / \partial y$$



Averaged line profile of  
 $\varepsilon_{yy}$

# Micro-lenses for optoelectronic circuits

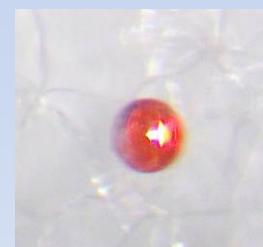
Schematic representation of the apparatus used to produce chalcogenide micro-lenses



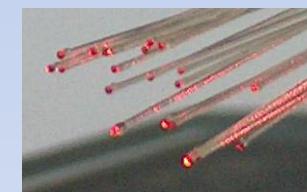
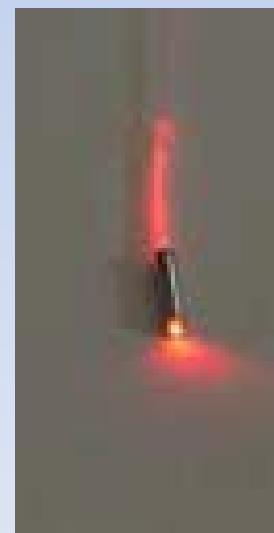
**Patent:** "Procedeu si Aparat pentru Producerea de Microlentile Calcogenice". Documentul a fost înregistrat la OSIM sub nr. A00243 / 07.04.2006.  
Brevet acordat de OSIM (Nr. Hotarare de acordare 6 / 146 / 30.11.2009).

**Autori:**  
M. Popescu, F. Sava, A. Lorinczi / **INCDFM**  
S. Micloş, D. Savastru, M. Mustăta, R. Savastru / **INOE-2000**

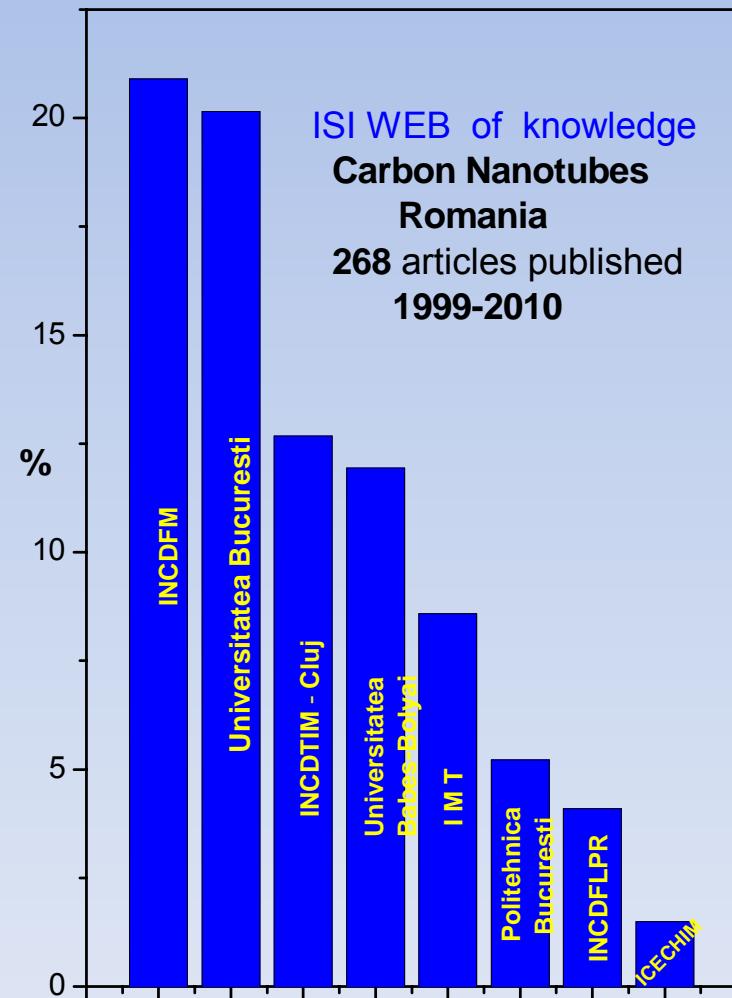
Photograph of a micro-lense



Laser collimator



# Nanostructured materials based on carbon nanotubes (CNT)1999-2010



From 22 most cited papers,  
7 are from NIMP,  
In journals like  
*Physical Review B* 65,235401,2002,  
*Chemistry of Materials* 15, 4149,2003  
*Carbon* 42,3143, 2004  
*Journal Raman Spectroscopy* 36, 676, 2005  
*Synthetic Metals* 100, 13,1999  
*Synthetic Metals* 101, 184,1999  
*J. Nanoscience&Nanotechnology* 6, 289, 2006

# Research directions

Physical properties  
investigated by optical  
methods

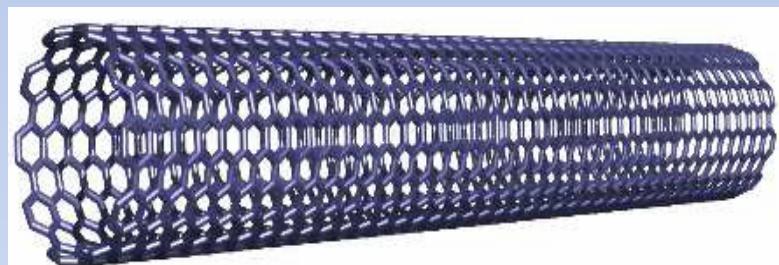
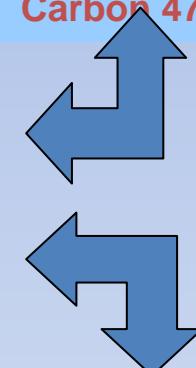
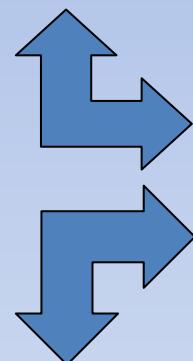
Chem.Phys.Lett. 406,222,2005

Chemical properties: p  
type doping,  
functionalization

Carbon 40,2201, 2002

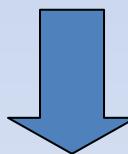
Electrochemical properties: n  
type doping, functionalization  
with organic compounds and  
polymers

Carbon 47, 1389,2009



Polymer/CNT composites  
Polymer 48,5279,2007

Semiconductor/CNT composites  
J.Phys. Cond. Mat. 21,445801, 2009



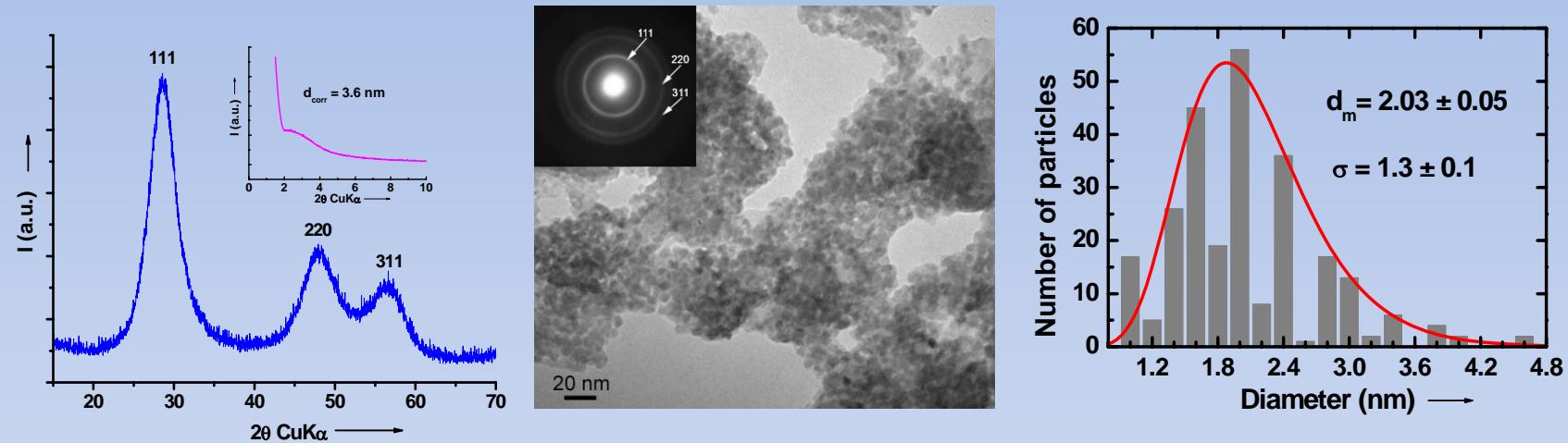
## Applications

Energy storage  
Small 2,1075, 2006

Non-linear optics  
Phys. Rev. B72, 245402, 2005



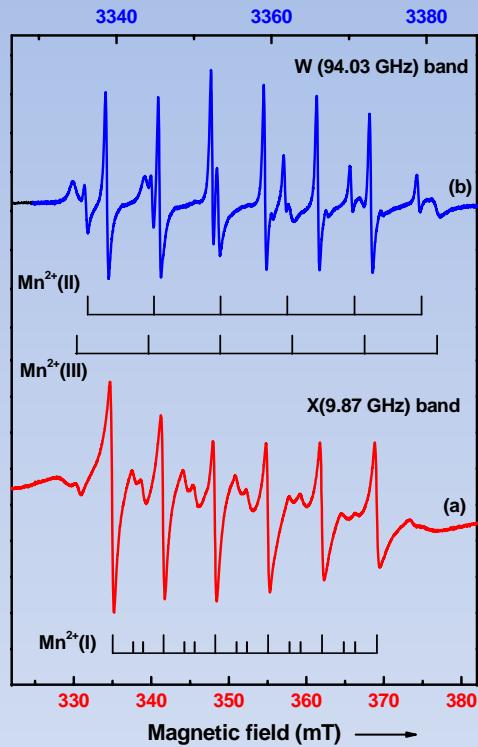
# *Synthesis of luminescent, cubic ZnS:Mn nanocrystals.*



- Luminescent ZnS cubic nanocrystals, doped with Mn<sup>2+</sup>ions, were prepared by wet synthesis in the presence of a non-toxic surfactant.
- Self assembling results in a mesoporous structure, with a high crystallinity and narrow size distribution centered on  $d_m = 2$ nm.

*L. C. Nistor, C. D. Mateescu, R. Birjega and S. V. Nistor, Appl. Phys. A 92, 295 (2008)*

*S. V. Nistor, L. C. Nistor, M. Stefan et al., Superlattices & Microstructures 46, 306 (2009)*

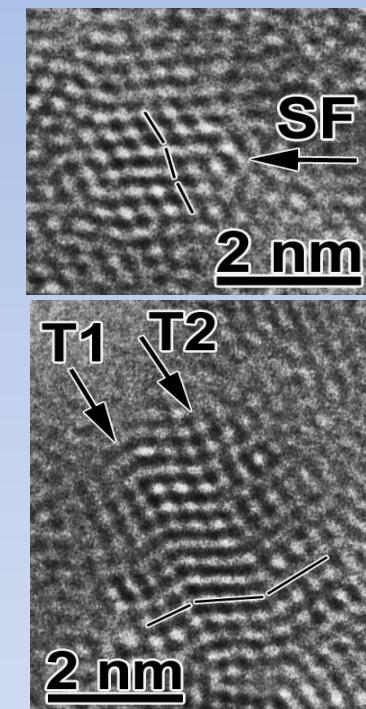


### EPR spectra (multi-frequency)

← indicate: substitutional Mn<sup>2+</sup> ions, (Mn(I) center) + surface centers Mn(II) si Mn (III).

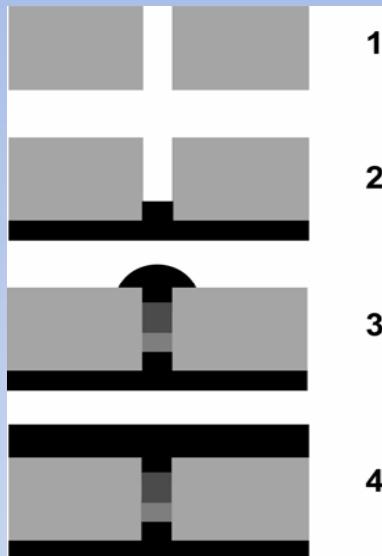
- Mn<sup>2+</sup> ions are substitutions in Zn<sup>2+</sup> nodes next to extended defects as twins (T) or stacking faults (SF).

HRTEM images  $\Rightarrow$   
Showing the presence of defects.



S. V. Nistor, M. Stefan, L. C. Nistor, E. Goovaerts and G. Van Tendeloo,  
Physical Review B 81 (3) 035336 (2010)

## Multi-segment nanowires based photodetectors



**Template method**

**Nanoporous membranes+electrochemical deposition**

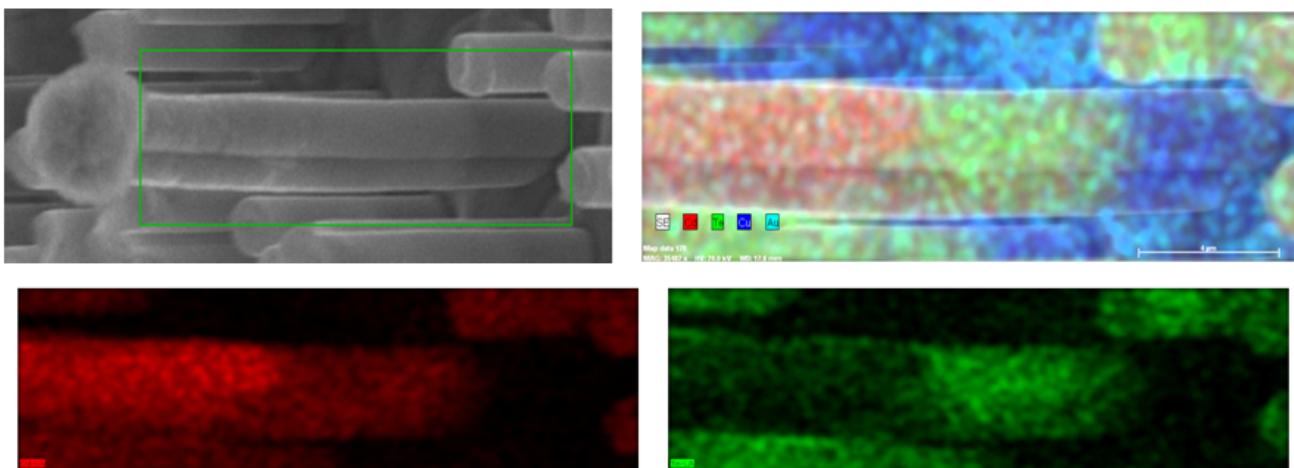
⇒nanowire photodetectors (photoconductors, photodiodes) of up to 80 nm diameter

⇒single bath deposition-easy to transfer to industry

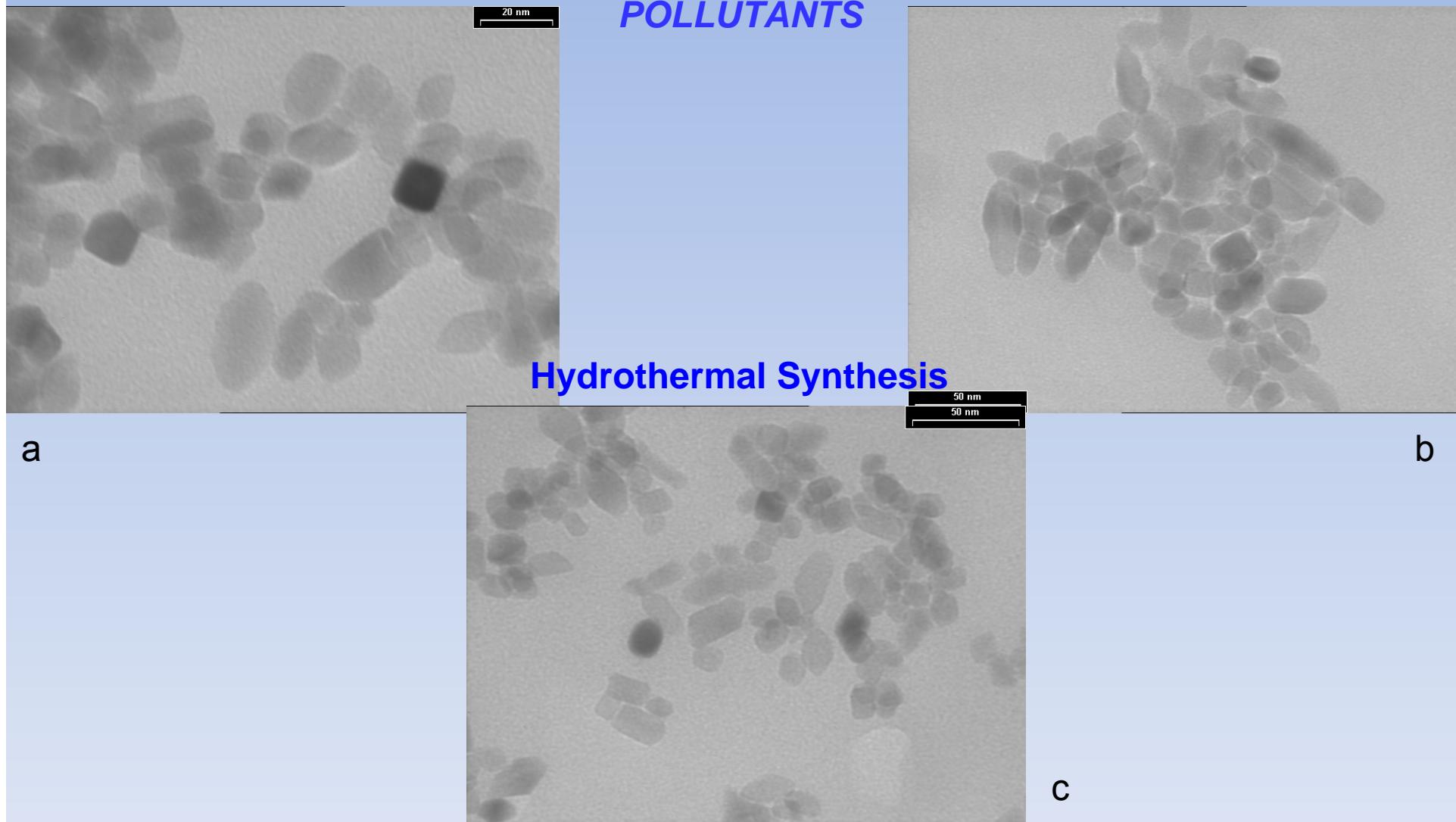
Deposition and properties  
of CdTe nanowires  
prepared by template  
replication

Enculescu I, Sima M,  
Enculescu M, et al.

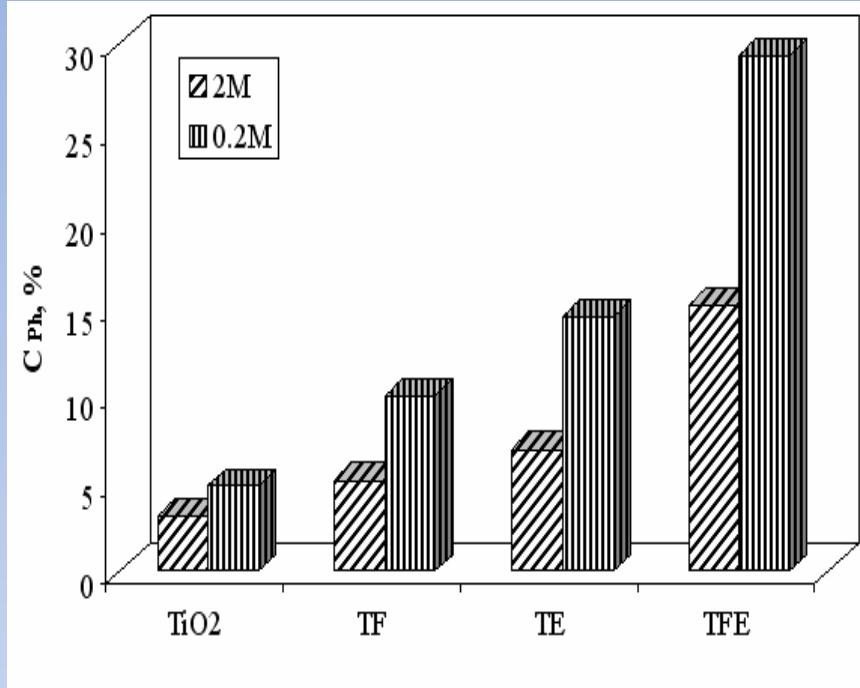
**PHYSICA STATUS  
SOLIDI B-BASIC SOLID  
STATE PHYSICS**  
244(5), 1607-1611 (2007)



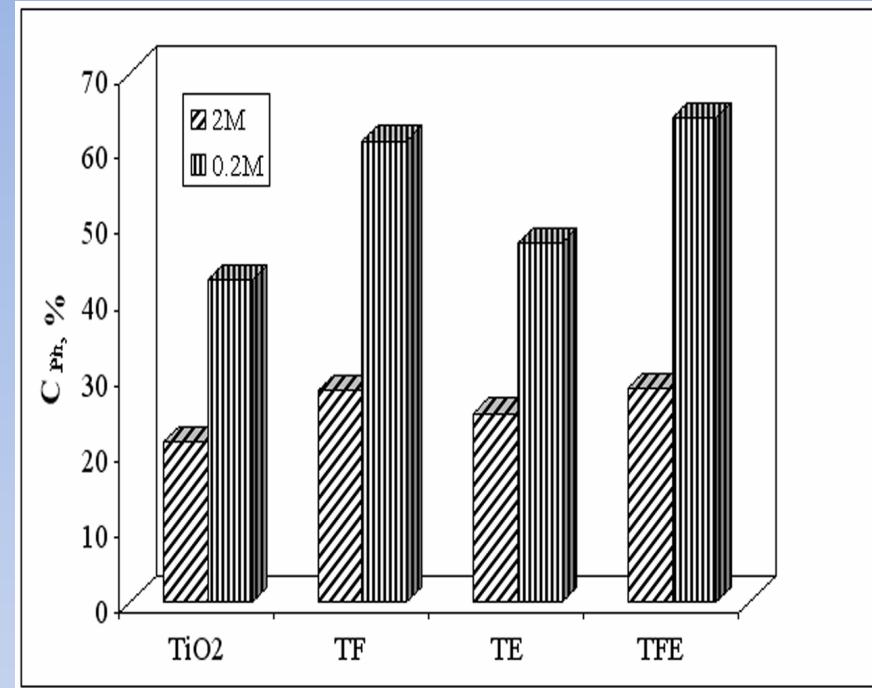
***TiO<sub>2</sub> NANOCRYSTALS AND NANOSTRUCTURED THIN FILMS  
FOR PHOTO-CATALYTIC DEGRADATION OF ORGANIC  
POLLUTANTS***



TEM images of undoped TiO<sub>2</sub> (a), Eu-doped TiO<sub>2</sub> (b) and Fe- and Eu-doped TiO<sub>2</sub> (c).



Phenol conversion degree CPh (%) after 5 h of **UV illumination** ( $\lambda = 312$  nm) for the hydrothermally synthesized  $\text{TiO}_2$  samples; 2M and 0.2 M are the initial Phenol concentrations.

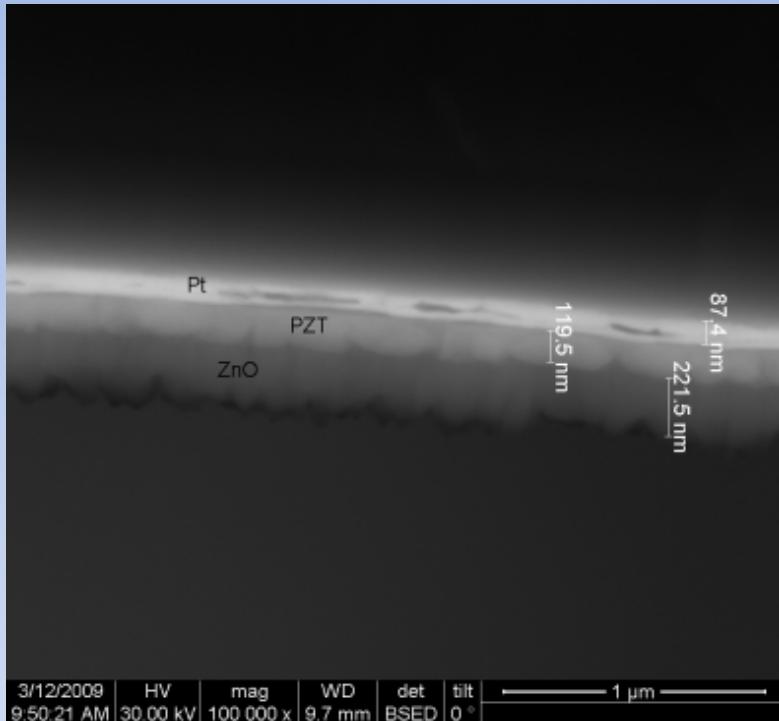


Phenol conversion degree CPh (%) under **visible irradiation** ( $\lambda > 380$  nm) catalysed by Fe and Eu doped and codoped  $\text{TiO}_2$ .

## STRUCTURAL AND PHOTOCATALYTIC PROPERTIES OF IRON AND EUROPIUM DOPED $\text{TiO}_2$ NANOPARTICLES OBTAINED UNDER HYDROTHERMAL CONDITIONS

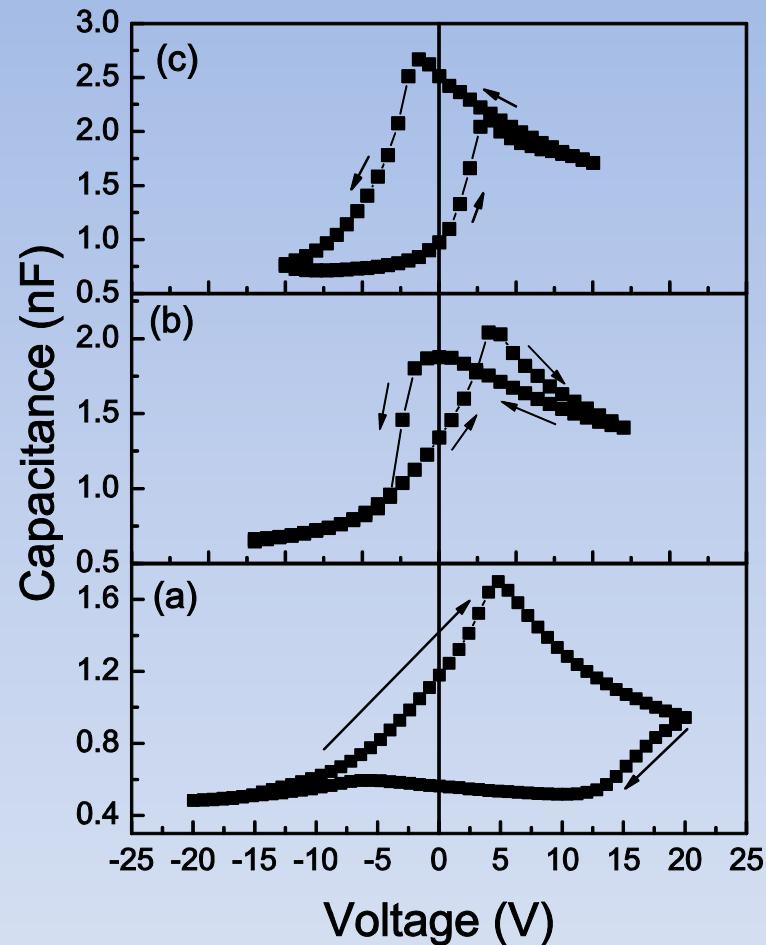
**L. Diamandescu, F. Vasiliu, D. Tarabasanu-Mihaila, M. Feder, A. M. Vlaicu, C.M. Teodorescu, D. Macovei, I. Enculescu, V. Parvulescu, E. Vasile (Mat. Chem. Phys.112, 146–153 (2008)).**

# Ferroelectric-ZnO heterostructures based on nanometric thin films



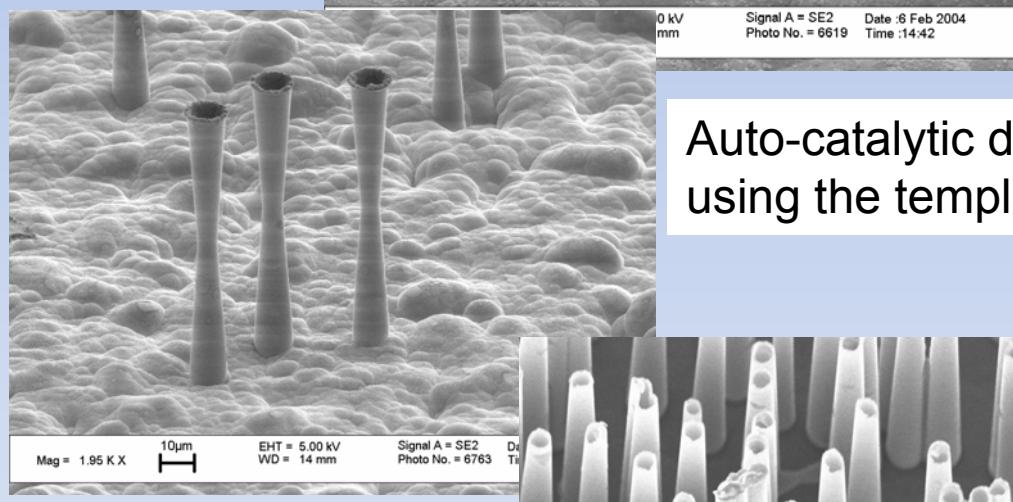
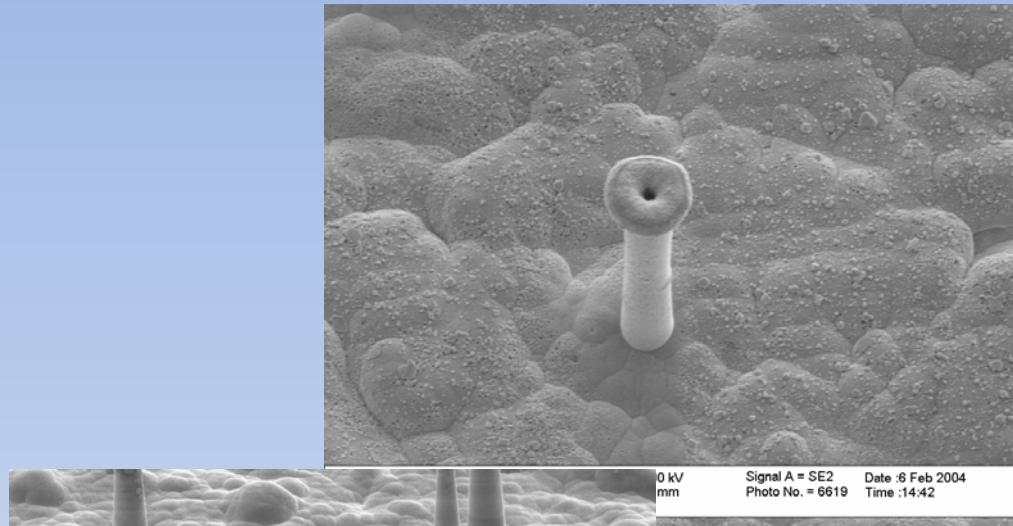
SEM image (left) and C-V characteristics at different temperatures (right)

*Application: non-volatile memories*

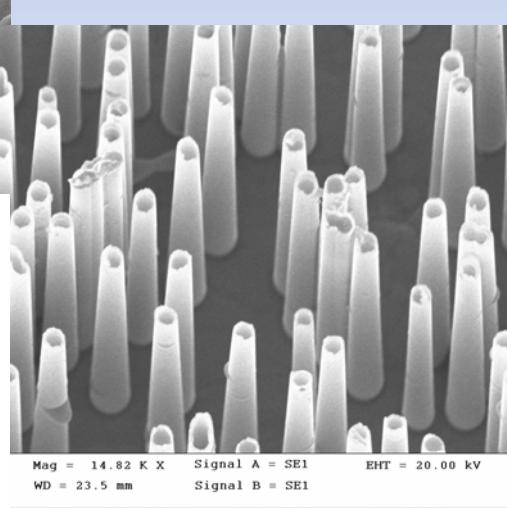
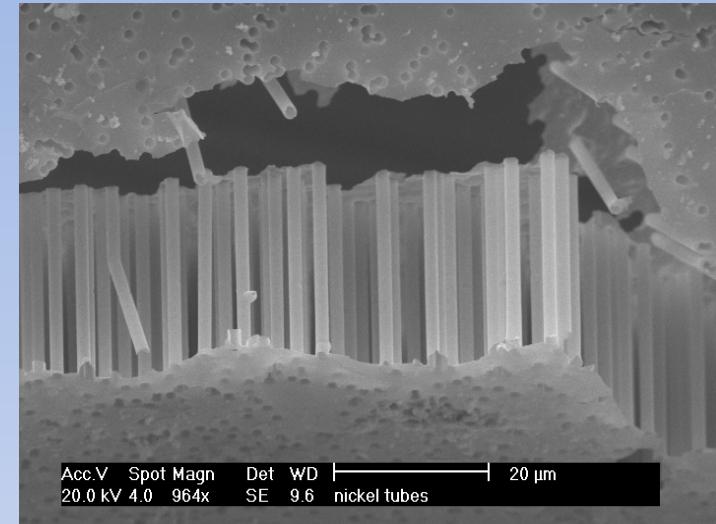


Temperature induced change in the hysteretic behavior of the capacitancevoltage characteristics of Pt–ZnO–  
 $Pb_{0.2}Ti_{0.8}...O_3$ –Pt heterostructures, L. Pintilie, C. Dragoi, R. Radu, A. Costinoiaia, V. Stancu, and I. Pintilie,  
APPLIED PHYSICS LETTERS 96, 012903 (2010)

## Metallic micro and nanotubes

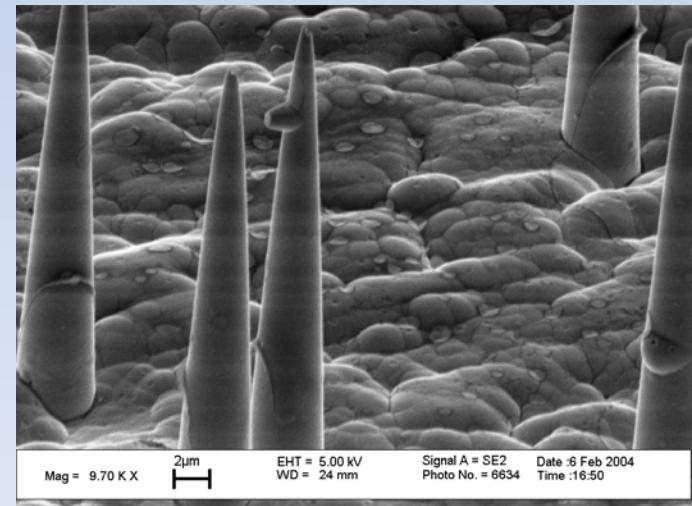


Auto-catalytic deposition  
using the template method

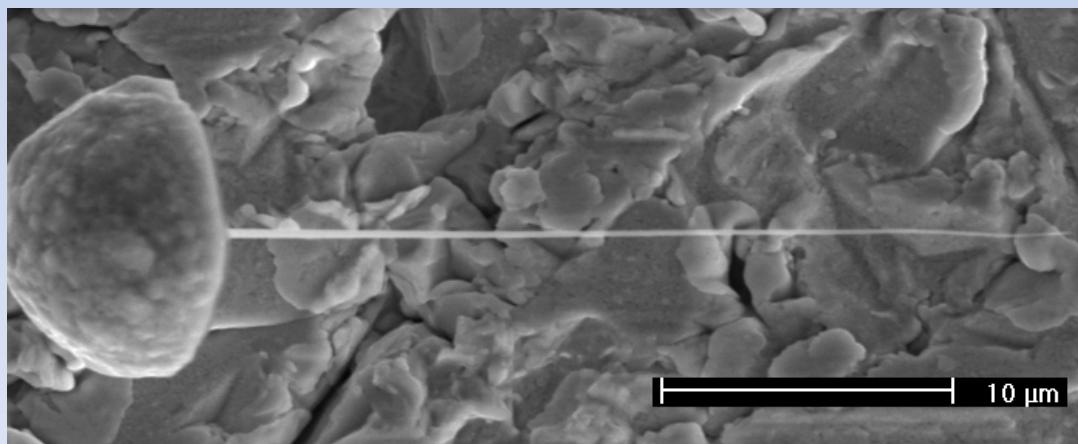
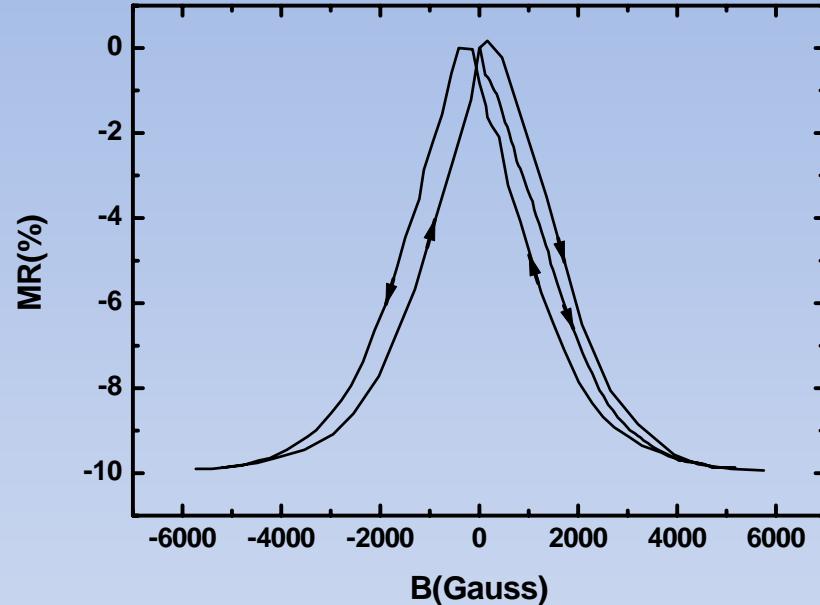
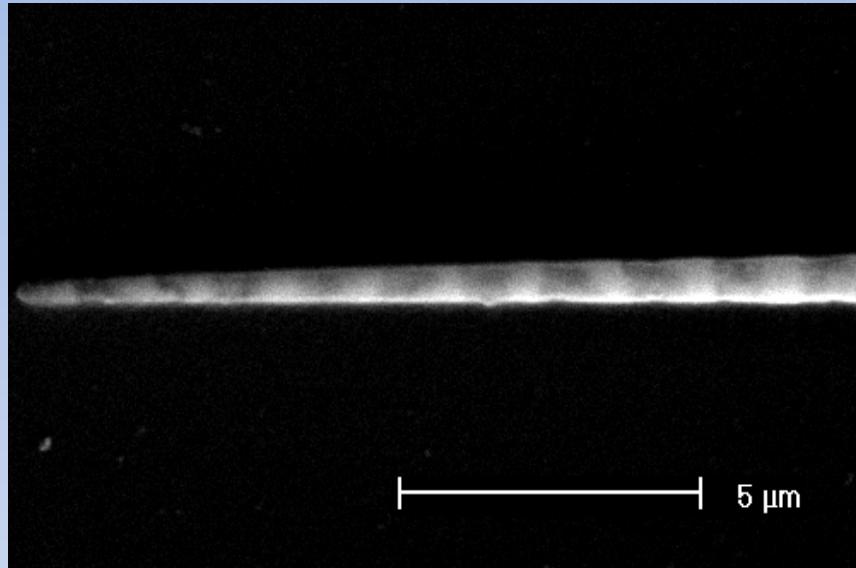


Copper tubes prepared by  
electroless deposition in ion track  
templates

B. Bercu, I. Enculescu, R. Spohr  
**Nuclear Instruments and  
Methods in Physics B**, Vol 225/4  
497-502 (2004)



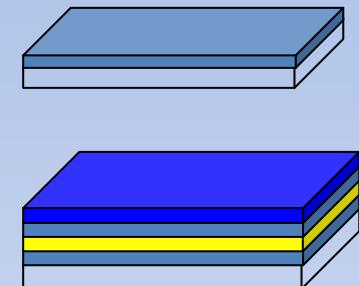
## Magnetic field detectors based on giant magnetoresistance of multi-segment nanowires



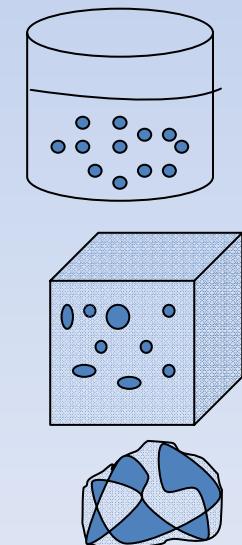
*Current perpendicular to plane single-nanowire GMR sensor*  
I. Enculescu, M. E. Toimil-Molares, C. Zet, M. Daub, L. Westerberg, R. Neumann, R. Spohr  
**APPLIED PHYSICS A-MATERIALS SCIENCE & PROCESSING** 86 (1): 43-47 (2007)

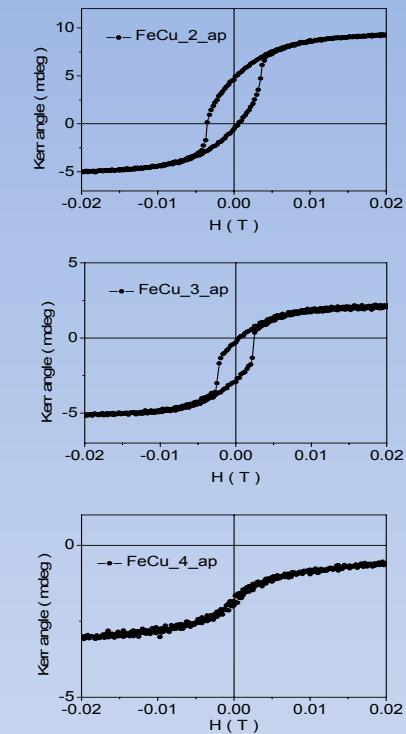
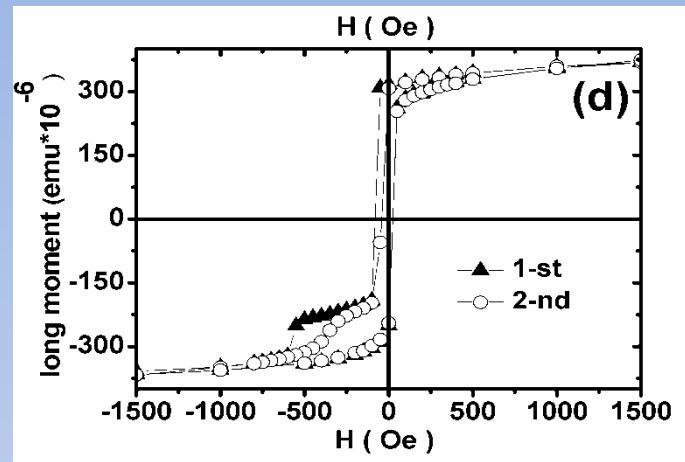
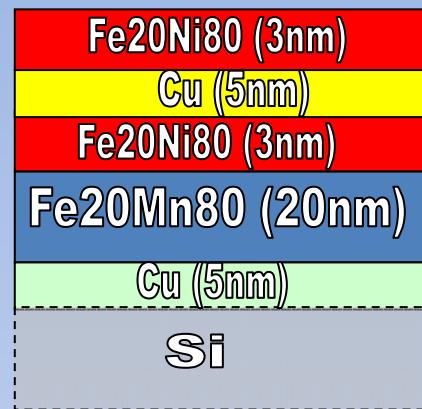
# Examples of magnetic nano objects that are of our interest:

- **Thin films/multilayers**
  - **exchange coupled bilayers**  
(exchange bias, spring-magnets)
  - **spin valves** as multilayers and as nanogranular thin films



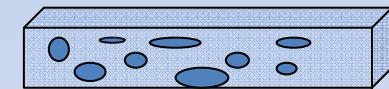
- **Magnetic nanophases /nanocomposites:**
  - magnetic nanopowders
  - core-shell nanoparticles (colloidal, clusters)
  - magnetic nanoparticles in liquids (ferrofluids)
  - magnetic nanoparticles in polymers
  - magnetic nanophases in solid matrix





## Spin valves:

- multilayers
- nanoglobular t.f.



Studied vs conc./comp.  
of the ferromagnet by:

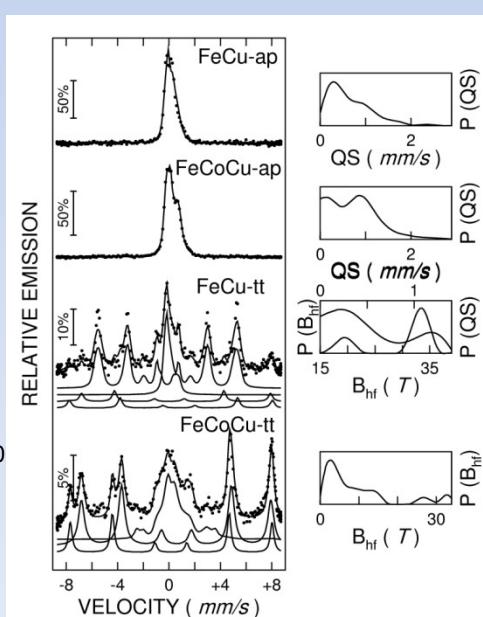
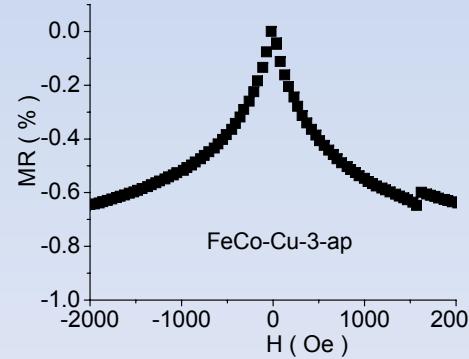
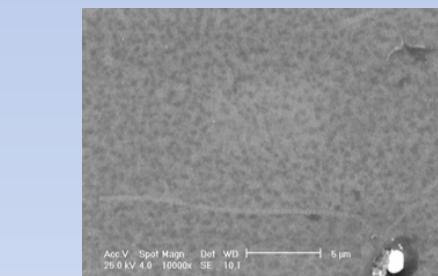
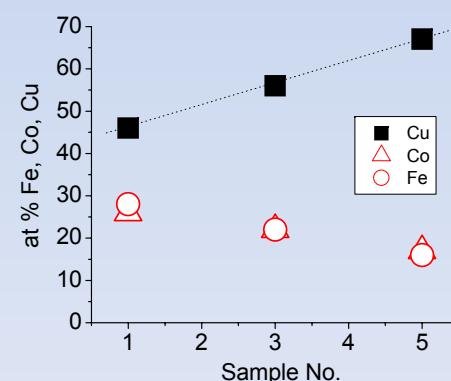
**-SEM,EDX,TEM**

**-VSM**

**-MOKE**

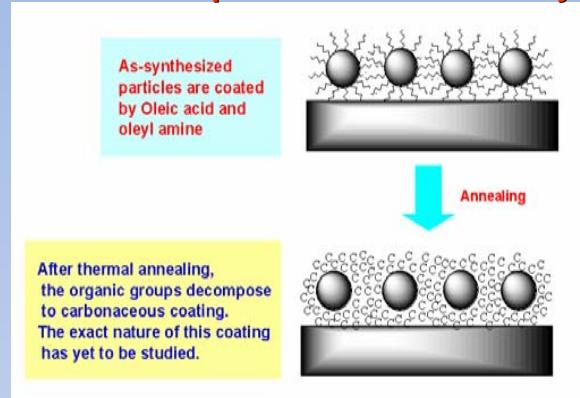
**-CEMS**

**-Magnetoresistance**

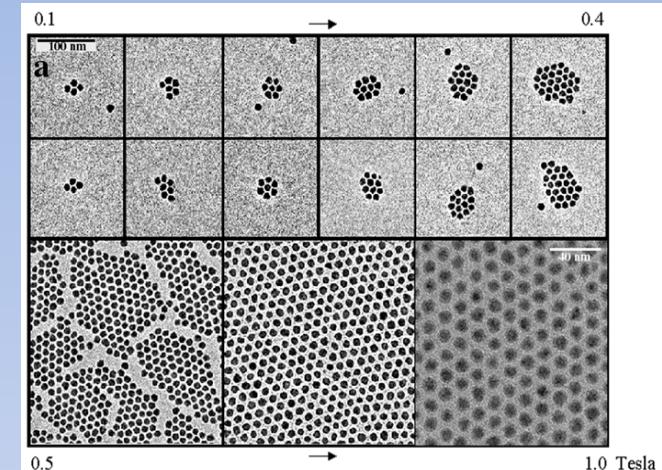
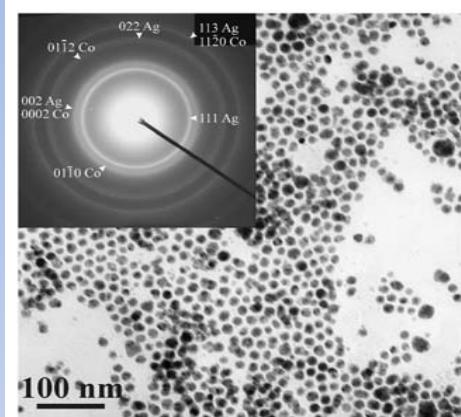


## SELF - ASSEMBLED CORE\_SHELL COLLOIDAL MAGNETIC NANOPARTICLES

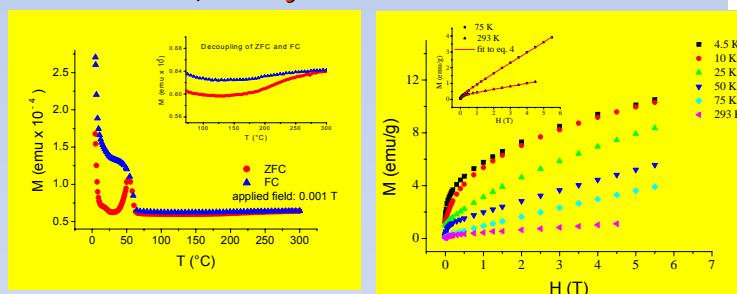
### ❖ Principle of the self-assembly



### Core-shell Ag-Co nanoparticles



### ❖ Breakthrough in data storage, biomedicine, catalysis and nanoelectronics



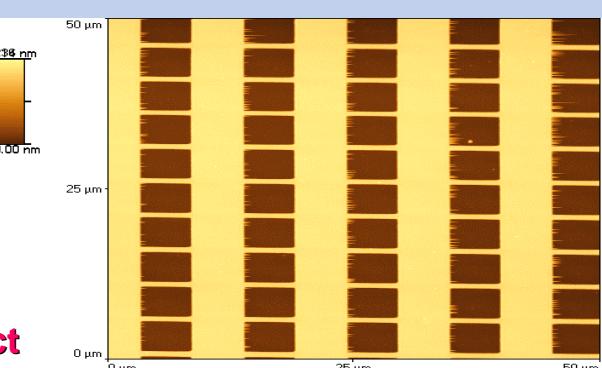
## APPLICATIONS

### ❖ Magnetic-conducting bimetallic nanosystems that exhibit GMR effect

### ❖ Use of patterned substrates with logic capabilities

### ❖ 2D regular arrays of GMR nanosensors on a single chip may be achieved!

PN II 12-129 / 2008 with IMT Bucharest



### **Scientific output 2005 – 2010 on magnetic nano-materials:**

- Over 70 scientific articles in ISI journals and 100 communications at international conferences
- Cumulated ISI Impact Factor: 120
- Over 250 citations in ISI journals

### **Participation in international projects 2005 – 2010 on nano-materials:**

- 15 bilateral cooperations
- 2 NATO projects & linkage grants
- 2 EU FP 6 and FP 7 projects

### **Technological output 2005 – 2010 on nano-materials:**

- 2 national patents

### **National projects CEEX and PN II 2005 – 2010 on nano-materials: 14**

## Conclusions

NIMP has expertise, resources and results in Nanoscience and Nanotechnology

NIMP can be a reliable partner in any collaboration in Nanoscience and Nanotechnology

Thank You!