

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

# **Nanotechnology Applications for Environmental Sensors: *Integrated Devices for Real-Time Analyses***

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**Arizona State University**



# Need of Environmental Sensors

## The Washington Post

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 1995

### High Lead Levels Found in Water At 9 D.C. Schools

Untested For

By JUSTIN BLUM  
Washington Post Staff Writer

Recent testing at 15 public school buildings for water samples at several drinking fountains—had high lead, officials said yesterday.

In addition, the Arc of Washington reported elevated levels of lead in water from fountains at two of its 2

### District to Issue Warning on Lead

Health Advisory on Water to Target Pregnant Women, Small Children

### Youngsters, Fetuses Are Most Vulnerable

Studies Find IQ, Socialization Problems

By AVRAHAM GOLDSTEIN  
Washington Post Staff Writer

City health officials who plan to issue an alert about lead in tap water are most concerned about children younger than 6 and fetuses—those most susceptible to permanent damage from lead poisoning.

Rapidly growing bodies and unborn children are far more likely to absorb lead that has been swallowed or inhaled, and it poses a grave threat to their long-term health and well-being, experts say.

Children who ingest lead—usually in the form of dust from deteriorating lead-based paint or

juvenile delinquency. Lead is a serious social problem as well as a drag on our educational system.

Lead tricks brain cells into absorbing lead when they seek calcium, the most abundant mineral in the human body and one that is necessary to enable thoughts to form. Calcium is critical to cardiac health, the development of bones and teeth and other functions.

The CDC estimates that each year more than 400,000 children in the United States have lead in their blood at levels that exceed the national standard, which is 10 micrograms of lead per deciliter of blood. A deciliter is about 100 milliliters, and 10 micro-



WASA official Jodye Levy Russell takes a water sample from a faucet at Leckie Elementary in Southwest during a testing demonstration earlier this month.

# Water Quality Monitoring



**Current**  
Manual test



**Near Term**  
Wireless system  
With single probe



**Future**  
Wireless system with  
PWB array probes

# Air Quality Monitoring

## Current

Only select personnel (Hazmat) typically carry portable equipment



## Near Term

Provide wireless connectivity of portable equipment to communicate to incident commander



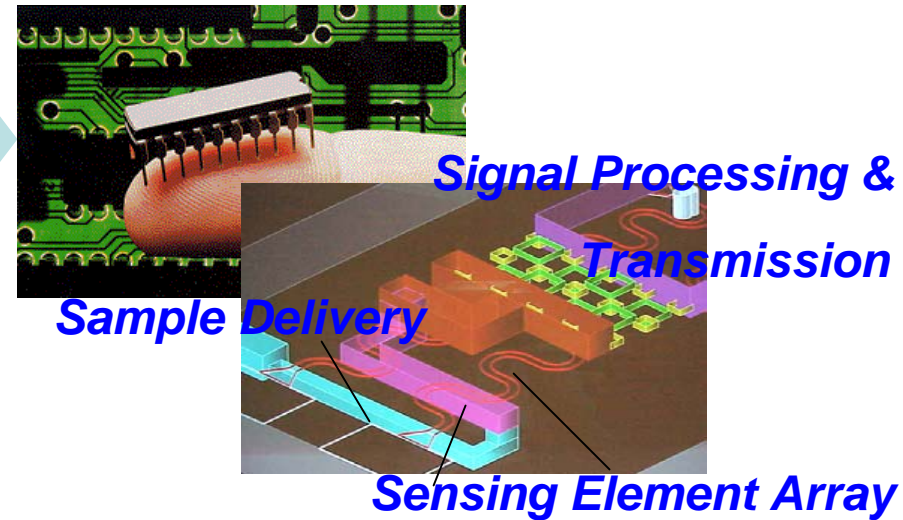
## Future

Essential monitoring is integrated into communications equipment

# Need: Miniaturization & Integration



This will happen no matter what !!!

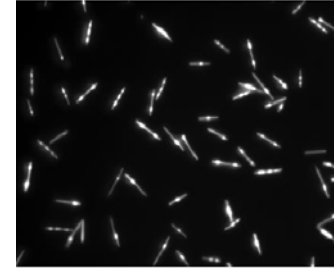
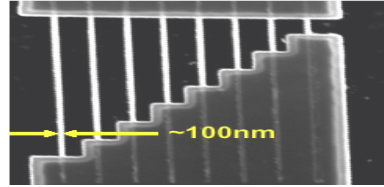
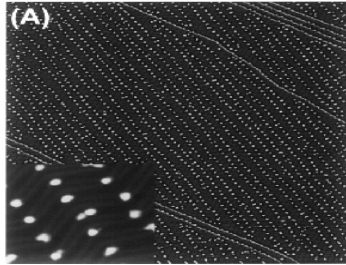


## An Integrated Sensor

- Sample Delivery
- Sensing Elements
- Signal Processing & Transmission

What role will 'NANO' play?

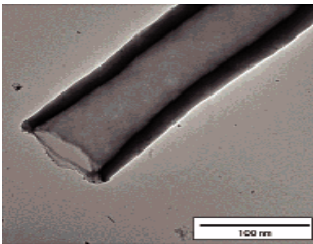
# NANO-Solution ?



Particle

Resonator

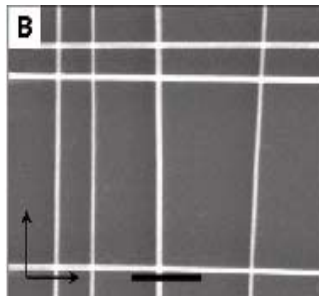
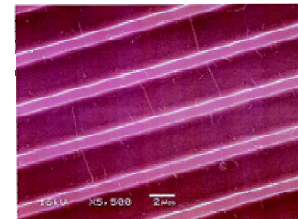
Rod



Peptide Tube



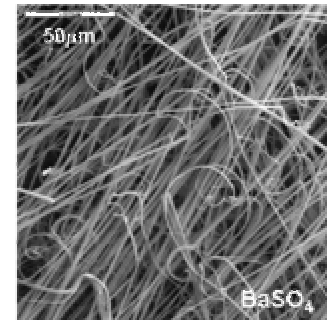
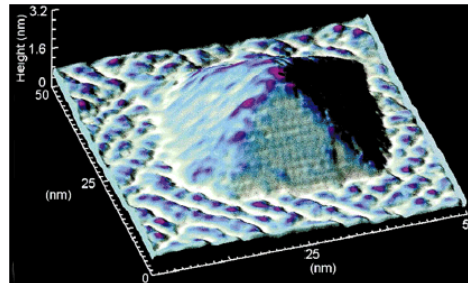
Carbon Tube



Wire

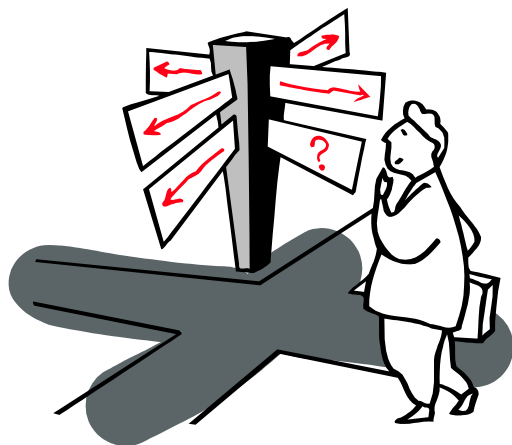
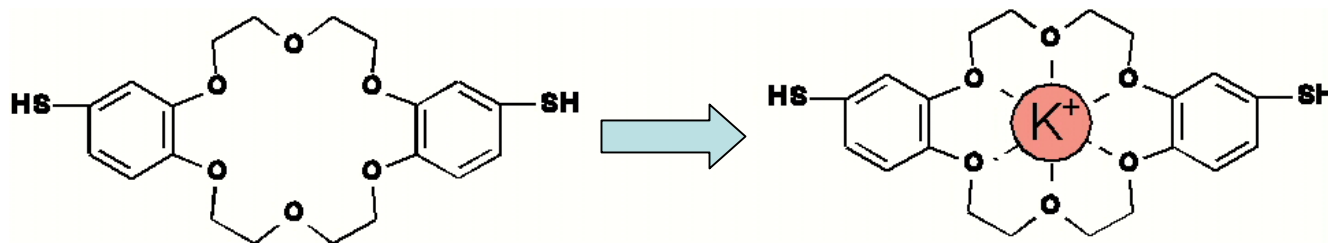
Pyramid

Belt



# Signal Transduction

- Convert a Chemical Binding Event into a Readable Signal

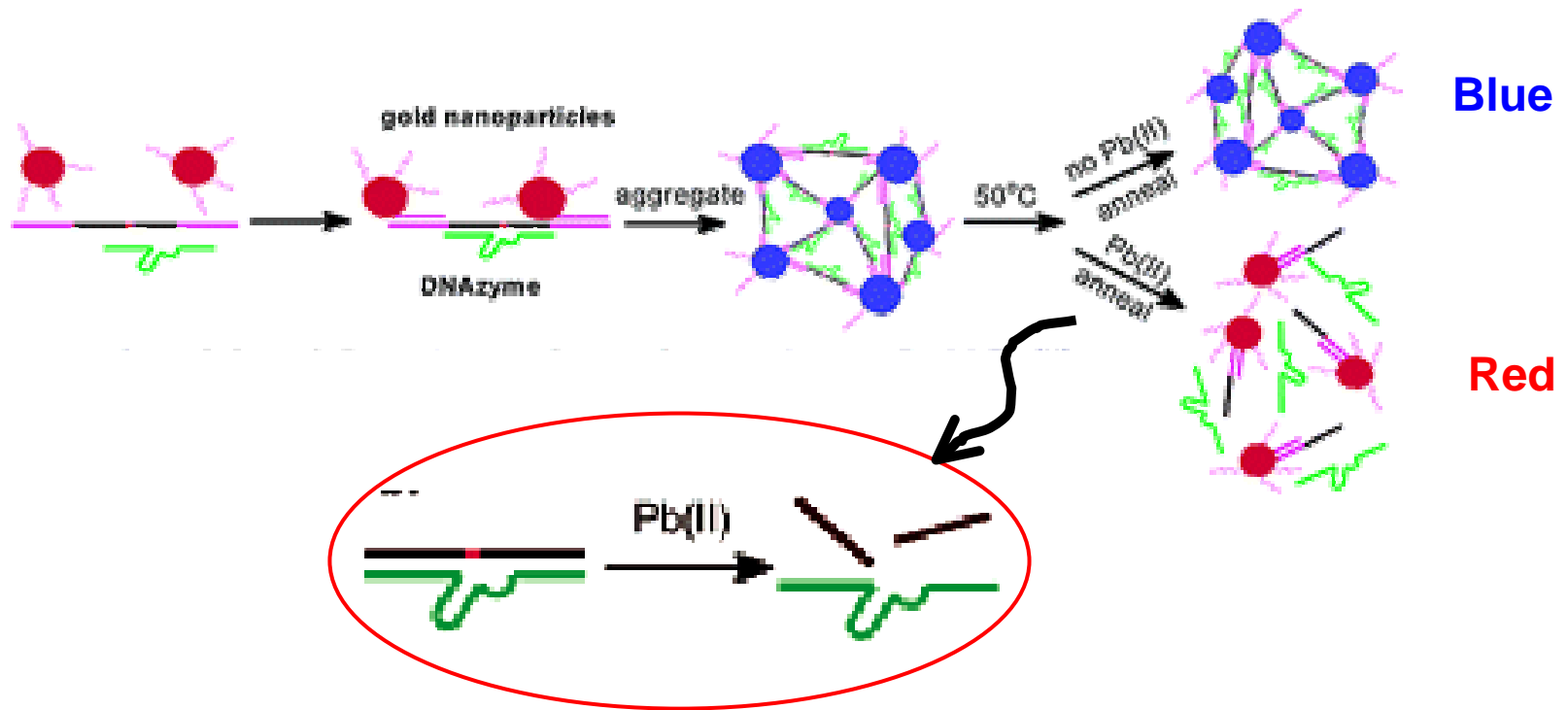


- Optical (Trogler/Gawley/Lavine/Anderson)
  - Electrochemical (Wang/Sadik/...)
  - Mechanical (Shih/...)
- Electrical (Kan/Mitra/Subramanian/Tao)



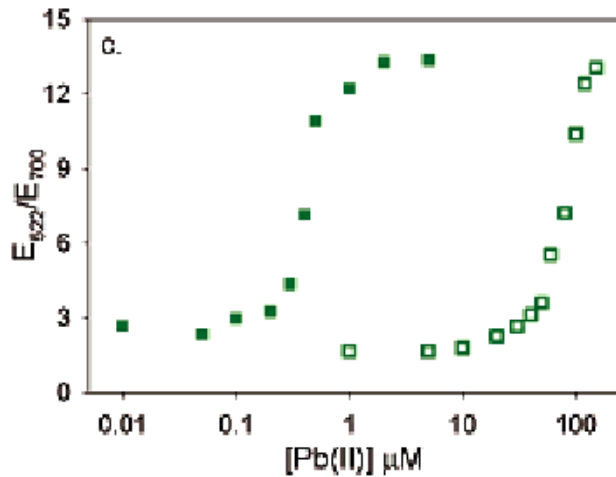
# Optical Detection - Nanoparticles

## Metal Ion Colorimetric Sensor



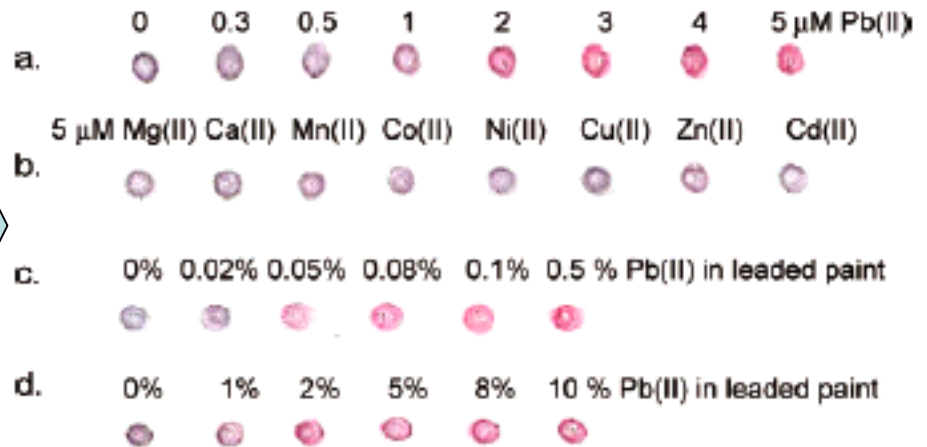
# Optical Detection- Nanoparticles

## Metal Ion Colorimetric Sensor



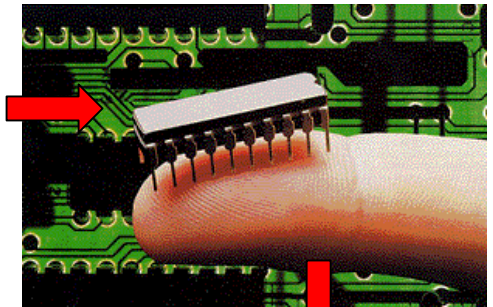
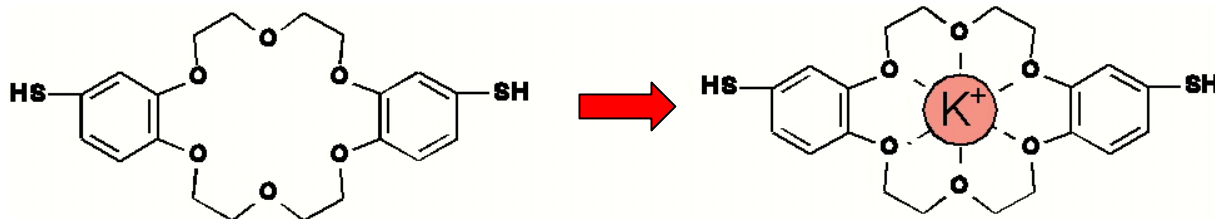
**Adjustable Dynamic Range.** When the enzyme strand is the active 17E only, the Pb(II) detection range is 0.1-4  $\mu\text{M}$  (solid green squares). When the ratio of 17E and 17Ec is 1:20, the Pb(II) detection range is 10-200  $\mu\text{M}$  (open green squares).

The color of the sensor developed on an alumina TLC plate with different metal ions and Pb(II) concentrations.



**You just look at it !**

# Electrical Detection – Reading chemical information electronically

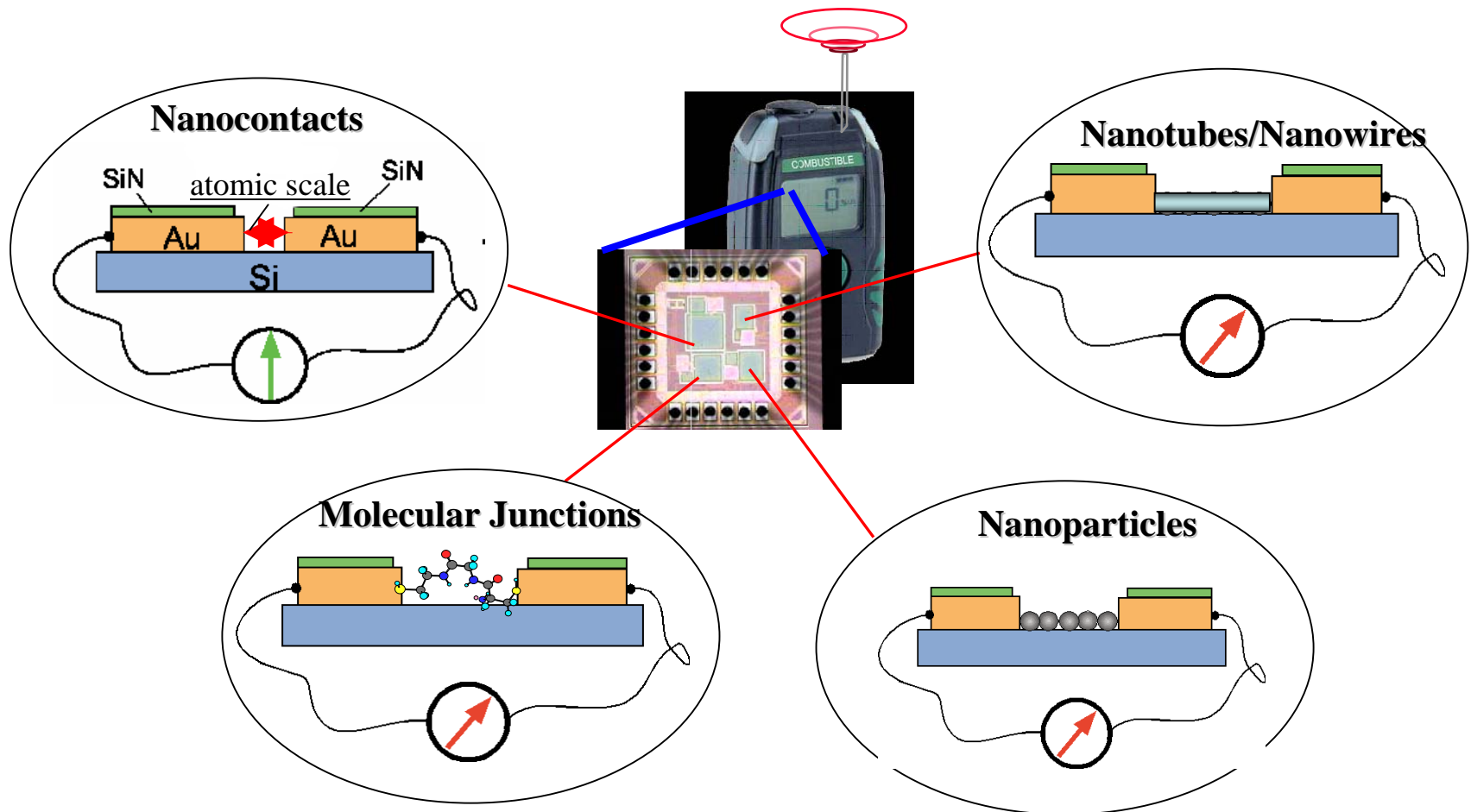


- Easy to process/display/transmit the data
  - needed for a fully automated device
- High degree of integration - for a miniaturized device for simultaneous detection of different species
- Compatible with microelectronics
  - taking advantage of existing microtechnology

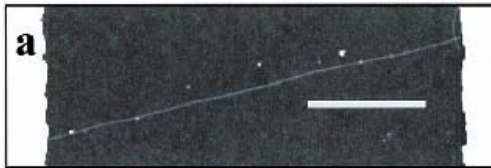


# Arrays of Electrically Wired Nanosensing Elements

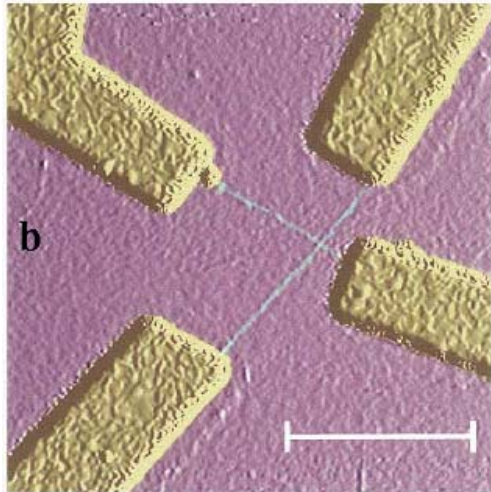
- An integrated sensor that can detect different species



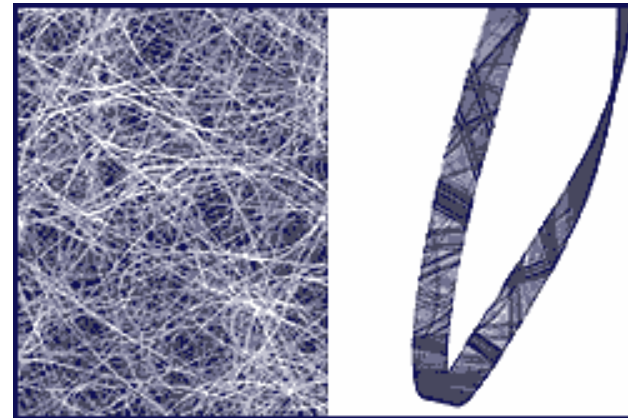
# Nanotubes/wires/belts Sensors



**Nanowires**

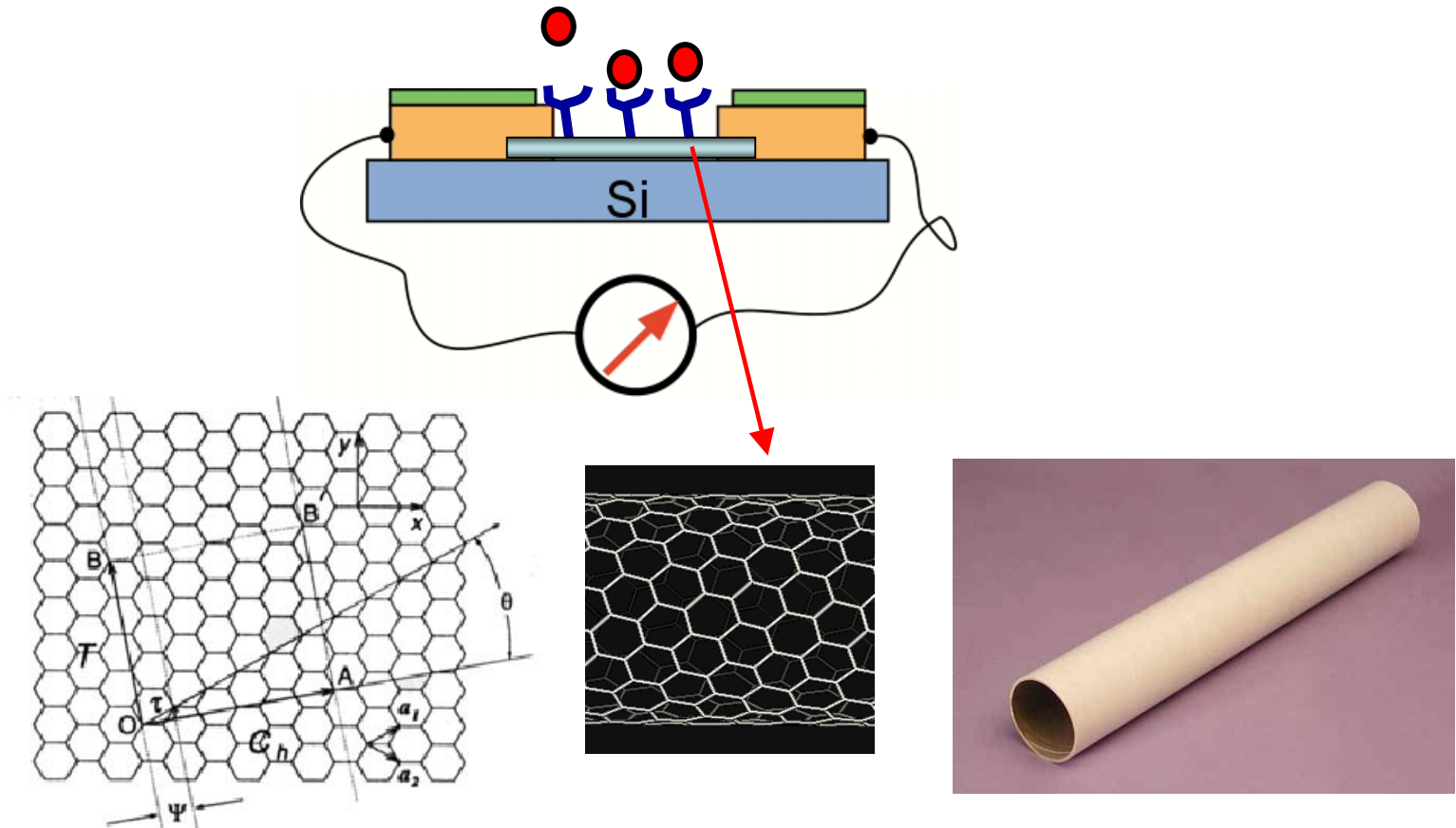


**Nanotubes**



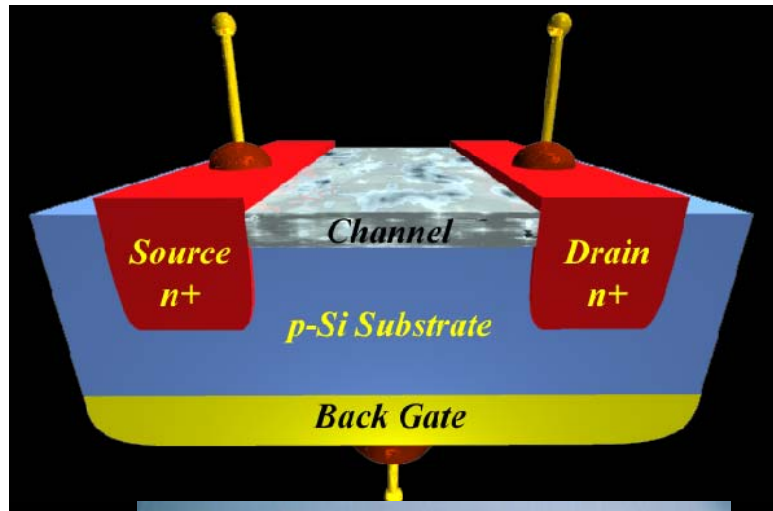
**Nanobelts**

# Carbon Nanotube FET Sensors

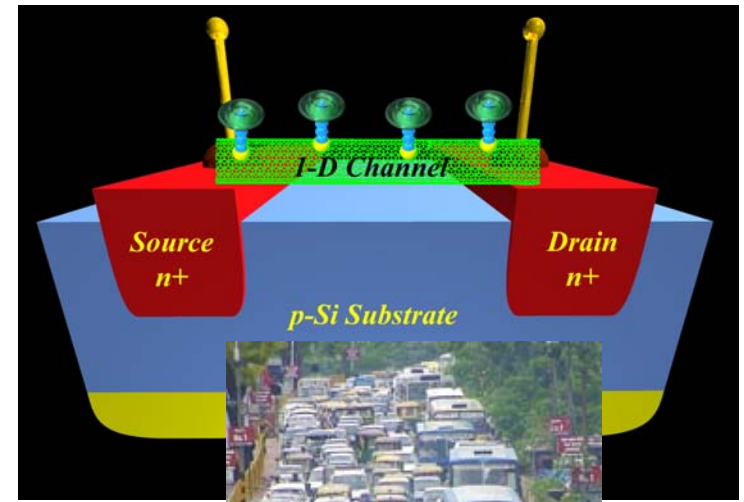


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- Zhou, C.; Kong, J.; Dai, H. *Appl. Phys. Lett.* **2000**, 76, 1597.
- Collins, P. G.; Bradley, K.; Ishigami, M.; Zettl, A. *Science* **2000**, 287, 1801.

# The Principle



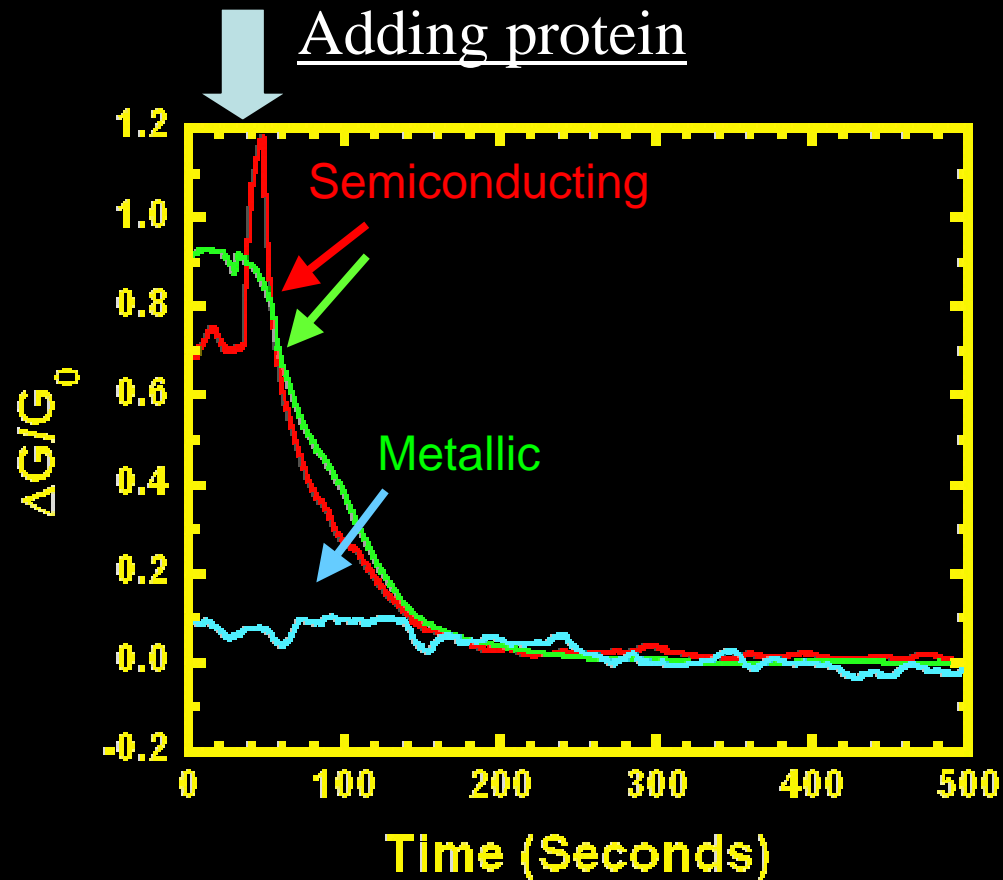
In a conventional FET, conduction through the channel region is two dimensional (i.e., many pathways).



Narrowing the channel to one dimension, detection sensitivity is enhanced.

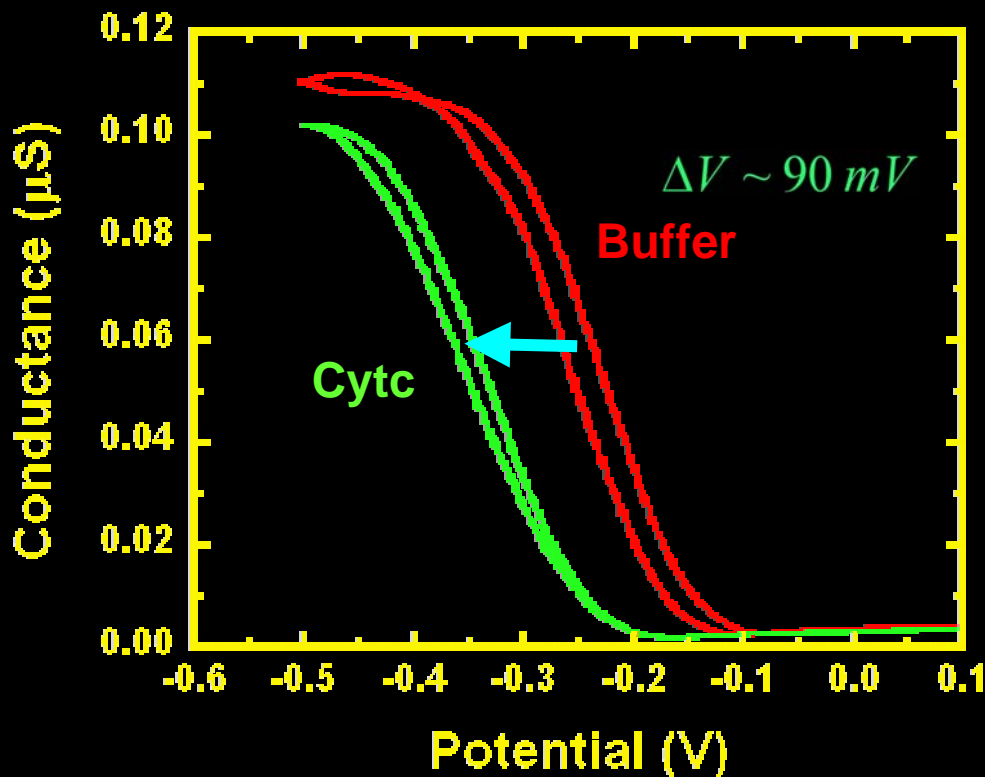
***ChemFET (Kan/Mitra/Subramanian)***

# Protein Adsorption on p-SWNTs





# Conductance vs. Electrochemical Gate Potential



$$\Delta Q = C \Delta V$$

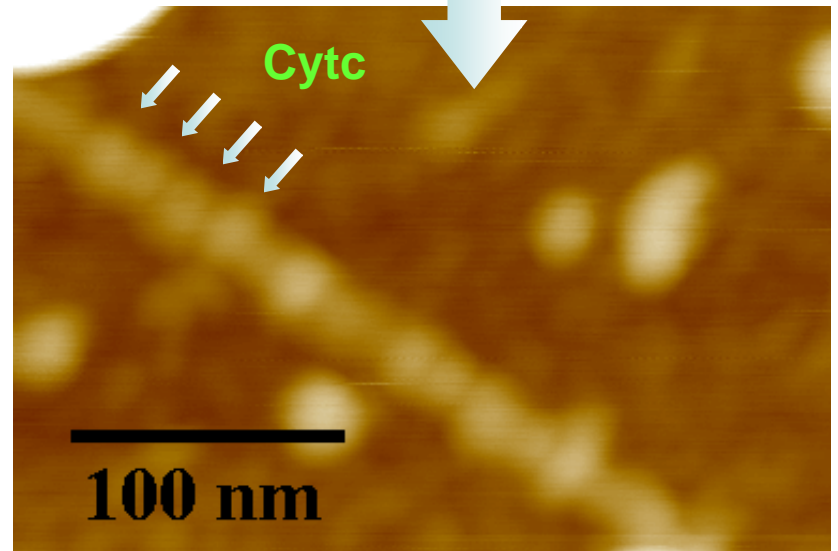
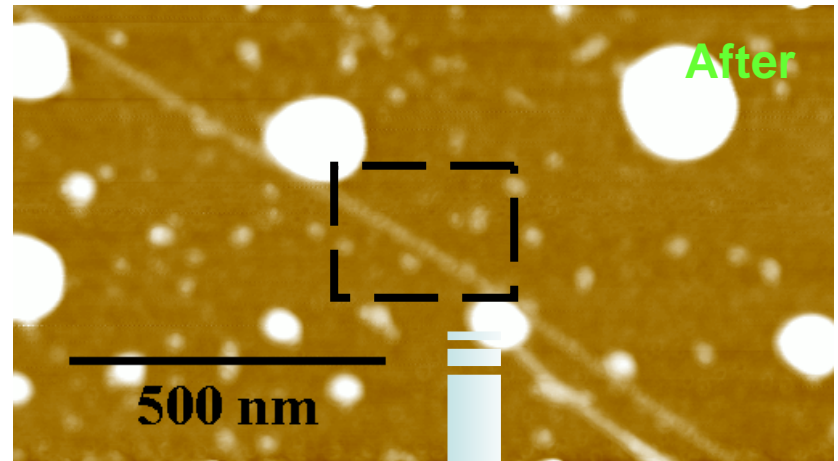
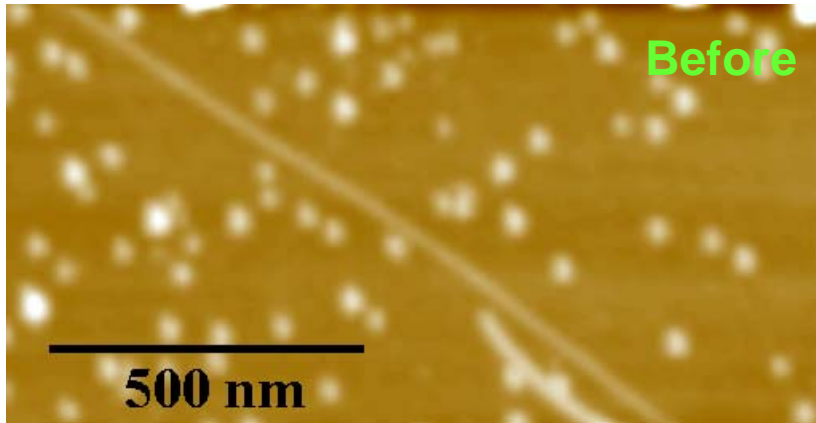
$$C_{\text{SWNT}} = 4 \times 10^{-10} \text{ F/m}$$

$$L_{\text{SWNT}} = 1 \text{ } \mu\text{m}$$

$$\text{Cytc} = +10 e / \text{protein@ pH7}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \# \text{ Cytc} &= \frac{4 \times 10^{-10} \text{ F/m} \times 10^{-6} \text{ m} \times 0.09 \text{ V}}{10 \times 1.6 \times 10^{-19} \text{ C}} \\ &= \sim 20 \text{ Cytc molecules} \end{aligned}$$

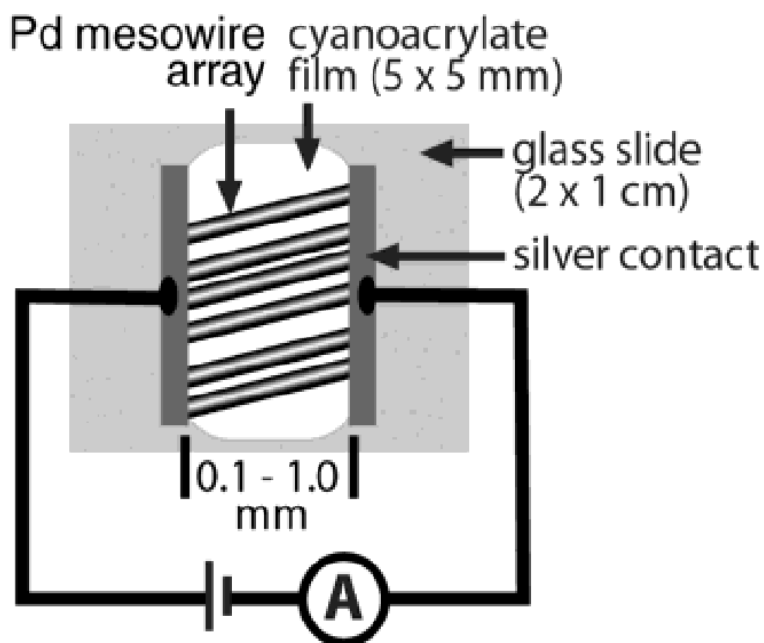
# AFM Measurements



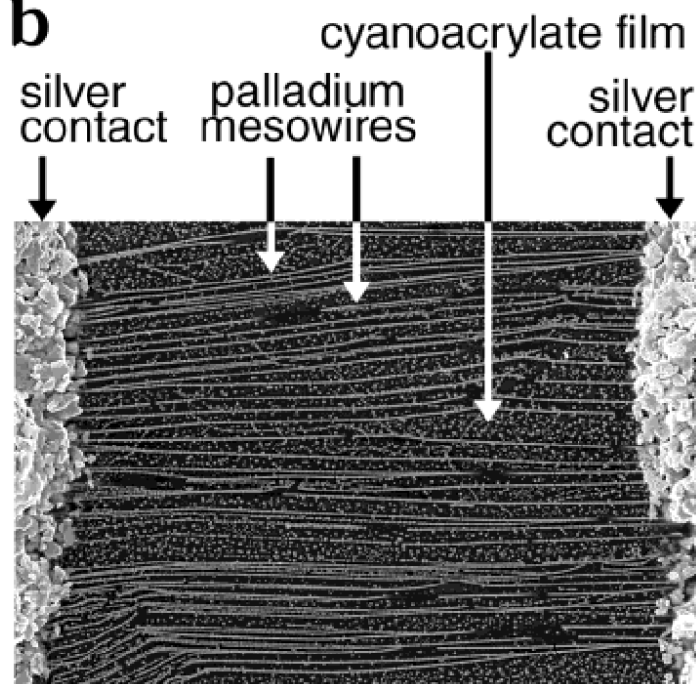
Based on the AFM images, the number of cytc molecule adsorbed onto the SWNT is ~30-40.

# Pd Nanowire Hydrogen Sensor

**a**

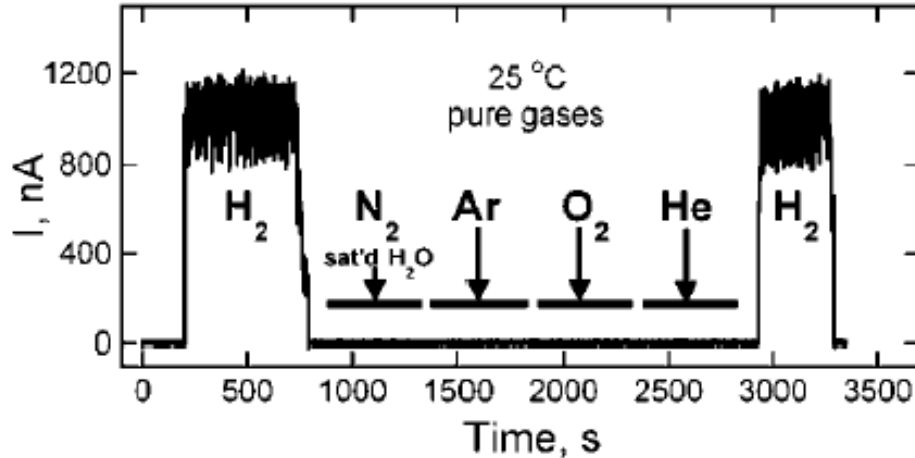


**b**



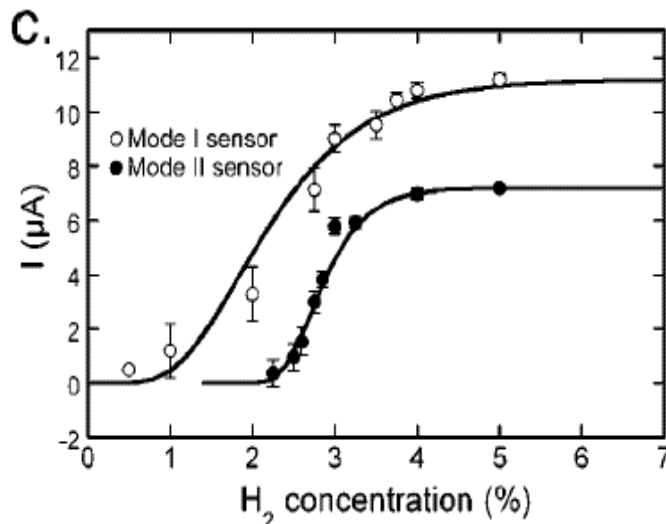
- Walter, E. C.; Favier, F.; Penner, R. M. *Anal. Chem.* **2002**, *74*, 1546.
- Favier, F.; Walter, E. C.; Zach, M. P.; Benter, T.; Penner, R. M. *Science* **2001**, *293*, 2227

# Pd Nanowire Hydrogen Sensor



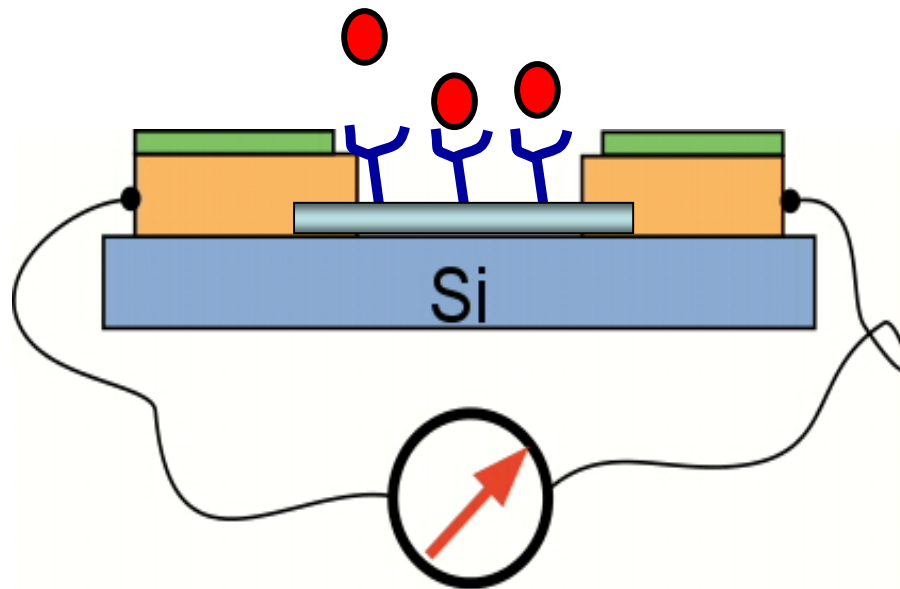
- Response to hydrogen only!
- The conductance **increases from zero** in the presence of hydrogen

Response of the sensor to four gases

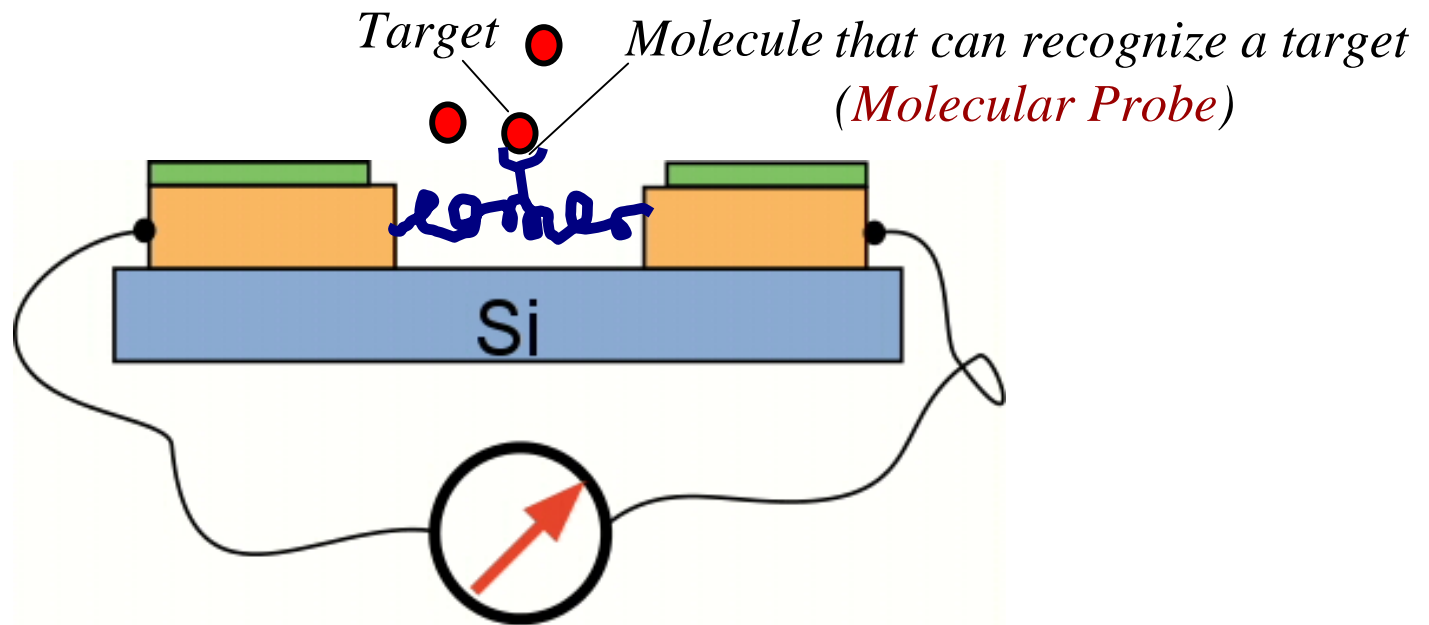


- ✓ The detection limit of the sensor is  $\sim 0.5\%$   $H_2$ .
- ✓ Response time  $\sim$  ms.
- ✓ Different wires for different gas molecules

# Nanotube/wire/belt FET Sensors



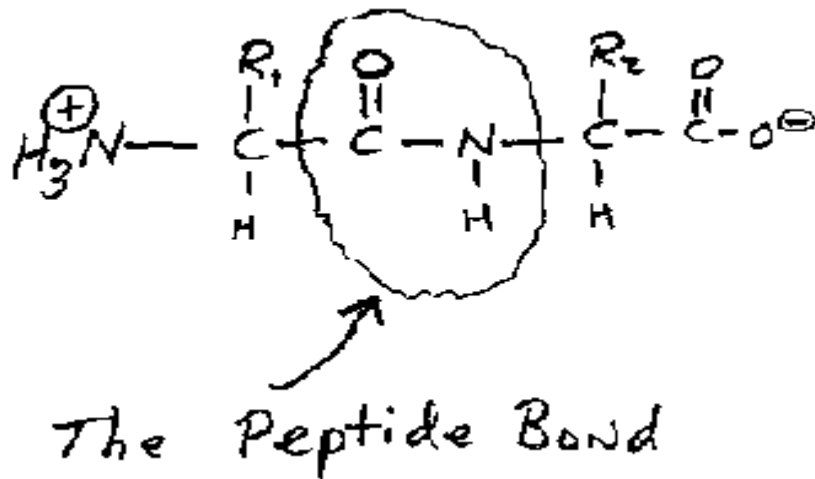
# Molecular Junction Sensor



- ✓ Direct approach
- ✓ Single molecule detection

# Peptides

Molecular Probe:  = peptides

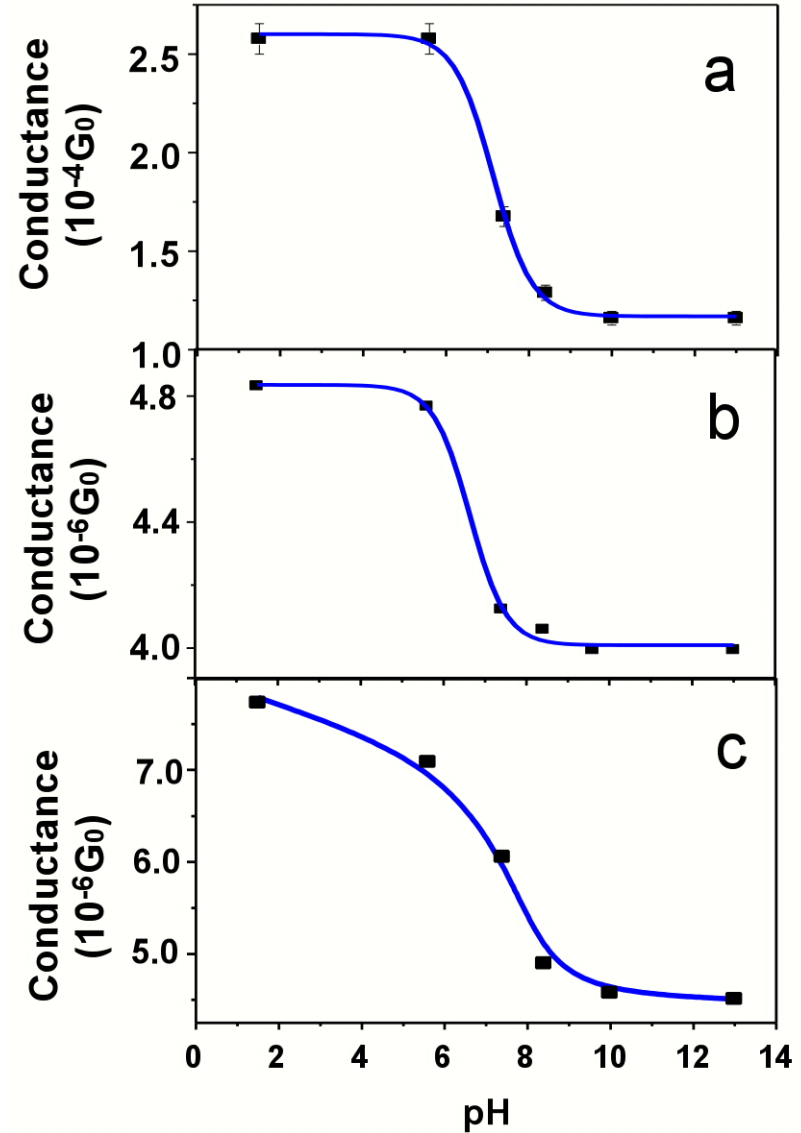
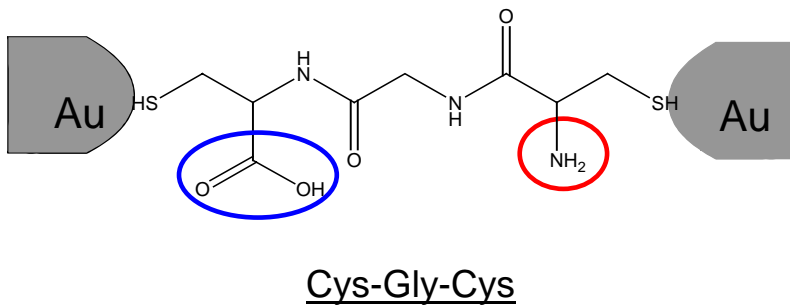
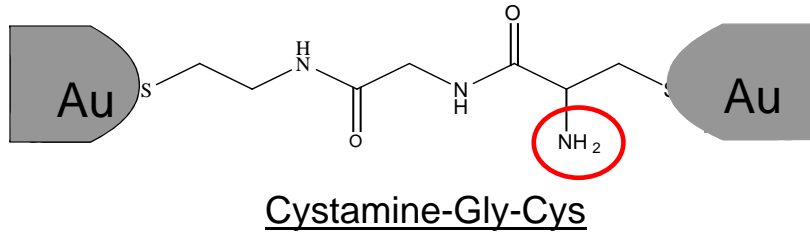
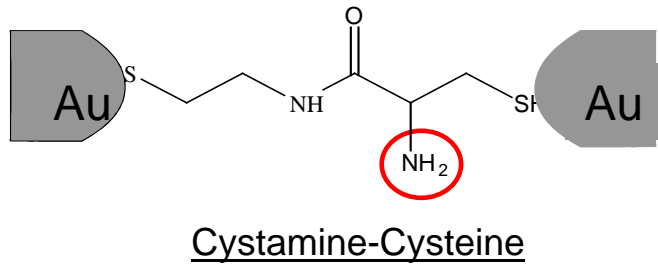


20 amino acids:

Gly	Ala
Val	Leu
Ile	Pro
Pen	tyros
Tyr	Ser
Thr	Met
Cys	His
Lys	Arg
Asp	Glu
Apn	Gln

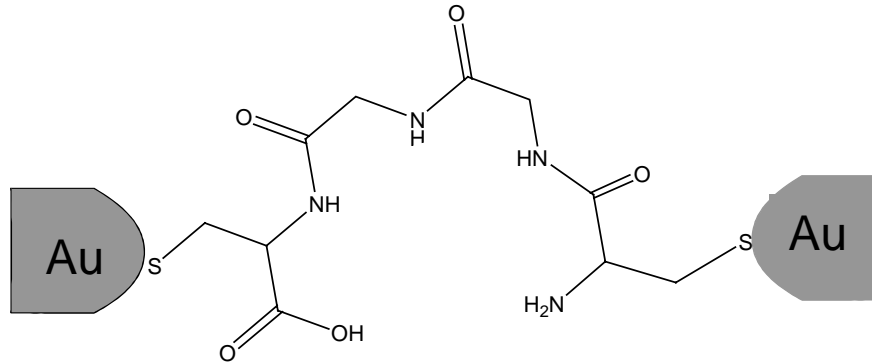
- ✓ Building blocks of protein – Proteins in Nature as guidance
- ✓ Unlimited Choices (4 amino acids  $\rightarrow 20 \times 20 \times 20 \times 20 = 160,000!$ )
- ✓ - Powerful Combinatorial Chemistry

# pH Sensor

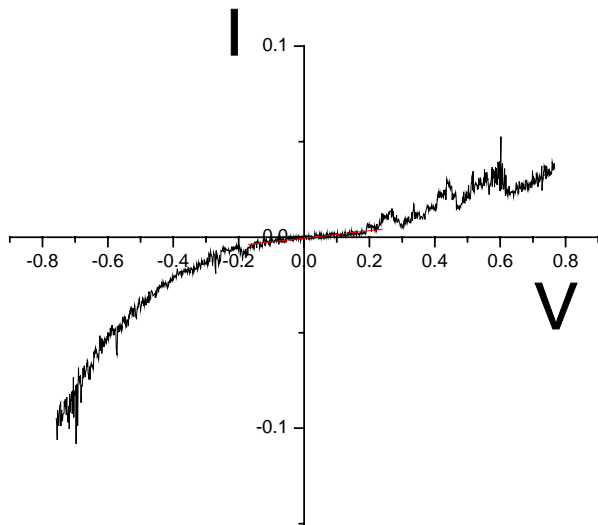




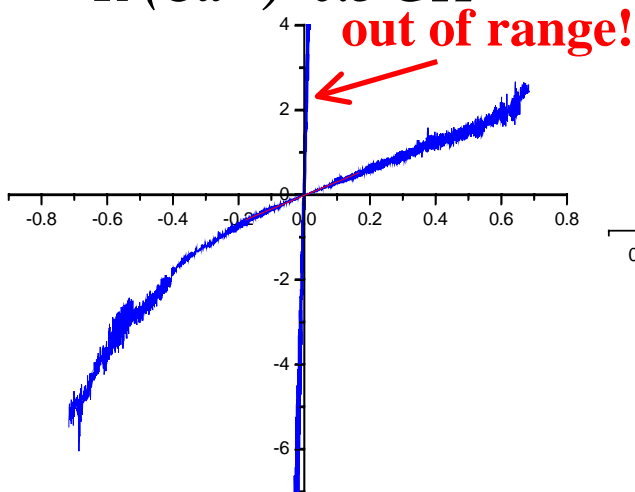
# Metal Ion Detection



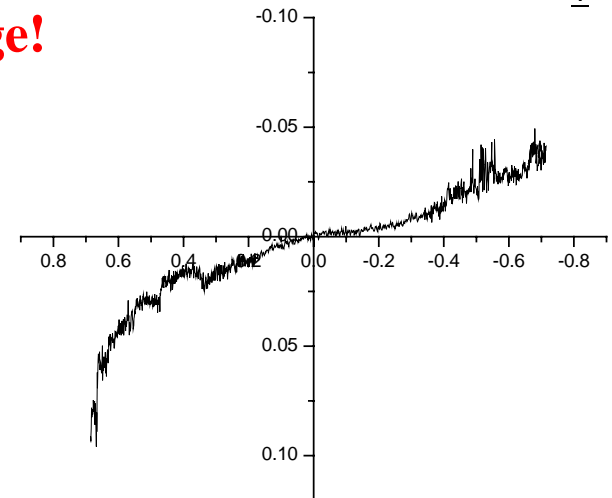
$R=52\text{ G}\Omega$



$R(\text{Cu}^{2+})=0.3\text{ G}\Omega$



Release  $\text{Cu}^{2+}$  w  $\text{HClO}_4$



# Metal Ion Detection

## - Sequence Dependence

Peptides	Number of Ligands	Conductance of peptide	Conductance of Cu complex	Conductance ratio
Cysteamine-Cys	2	$1.8 \times 10^{-4} G_0$	$1.9 \times 10^{-4} G_0$	~1.1
Cysteamine-Gly-Cys	3	$4.2 \times 10^{-6} G_0$	$9.1 \times 10^{-6} G_0$	~2
Cys-Gly-Cys	4	$5.3 \times 10^{-6} G_0$	$2.3 \times 10^{-5} G_0$	~4
Cysteamine-Gly-Gly-Cys	4	$5.0 \times 10^{-7} G_0$	<u>Cu<sup>2+</sup>: <math>1.6 \times 10^{-4} G_0</math></u> <u>Ni<sup>2+</sup>: <math>5.5 \times 10^{-5} G_0</math></u>	~300 ~100 (for Ni <sup>+</sup> )

- ✓ Conductance increases upon Cu<sup>2+</sup> binding
- ✓ Longer peptides give larger conductance changes
- ✓ Metal ion dependence (Cu<sup>2+</sup> vs. Ni<sup>+</sup> ions)

# An Integrated Nanosensor for Simultaneous Detection of A Range of Species

Sample Delivery - **Signal Transduction** – Signal Processing – Data Communication

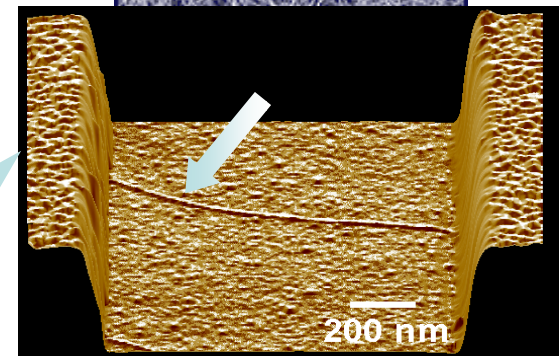
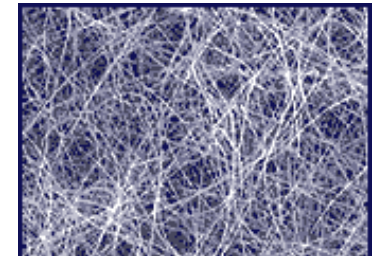
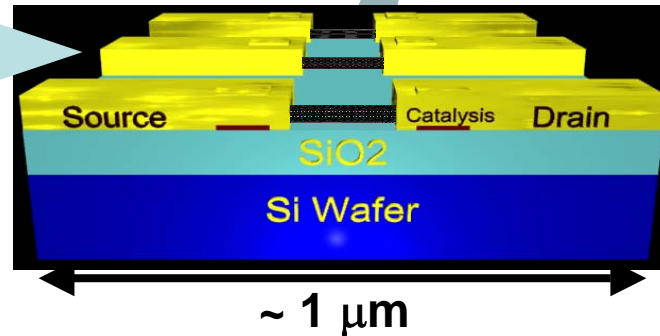
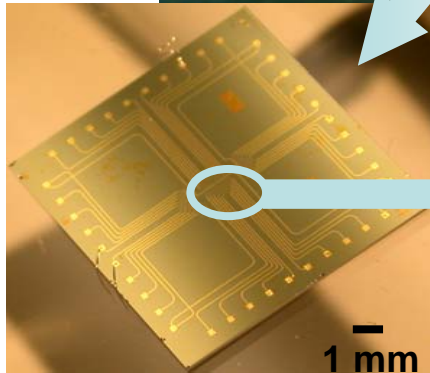
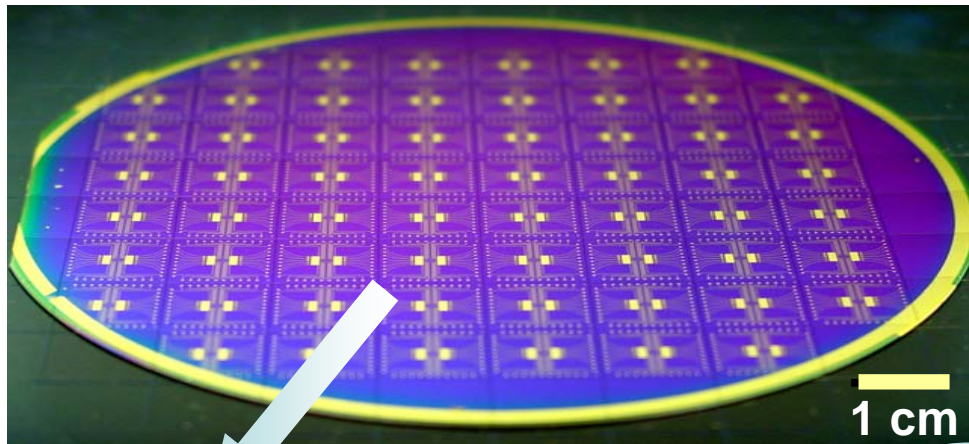


## Progress Achieved to Date:

- Highly sensitive and selective individual nanosensors demonstrated.
- Common platforms for simultaneous detection of different species demonstrated.

# Challenges Ahead

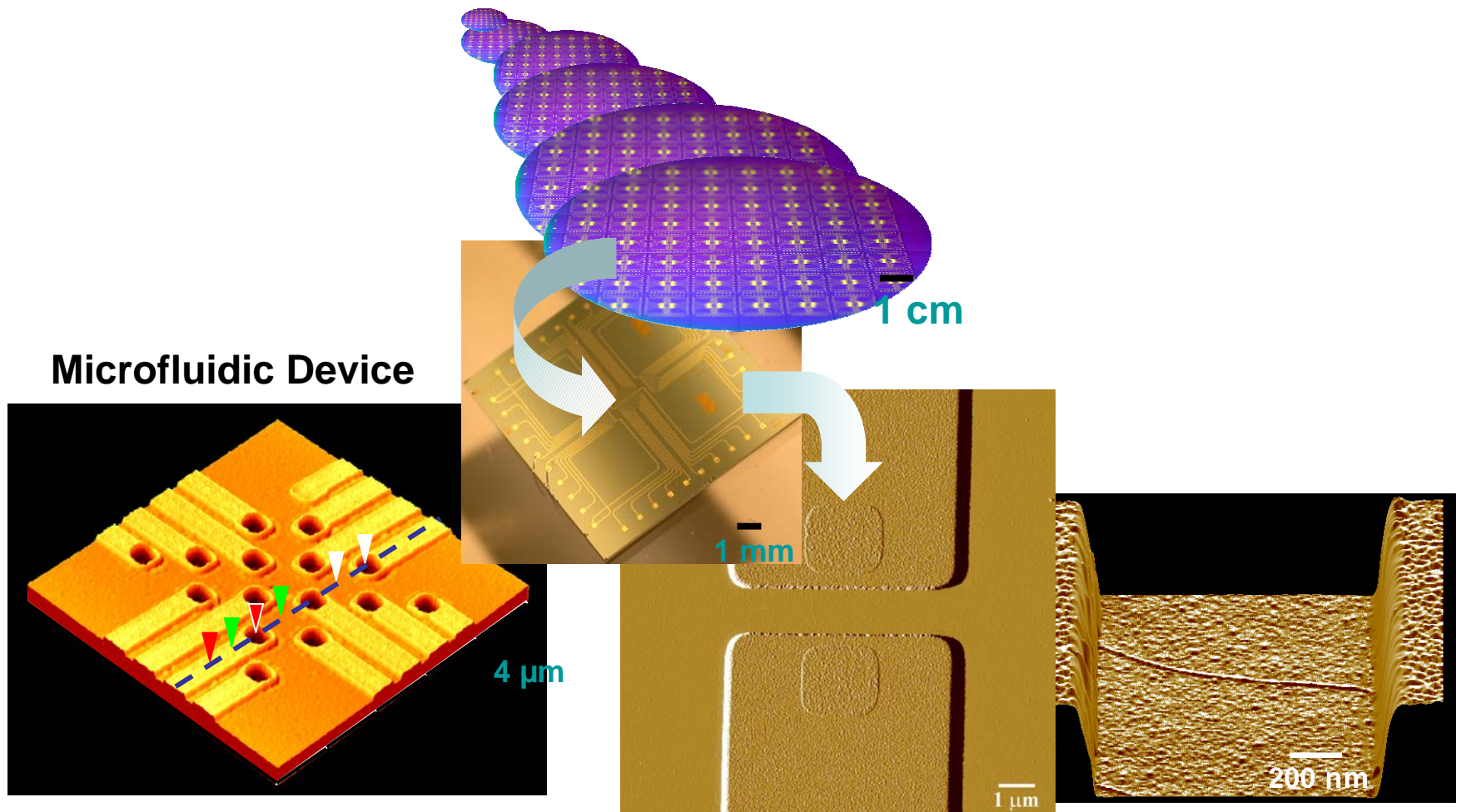
## Microtechnology Meets Nanotechnology - Interconnection Issues



Self-assembly?

# Challenges Ahead

## Microtechnology Meets Nanotechnology - Sample Delivery



# Nano-Solution to Big Sensor Problems?

(A)

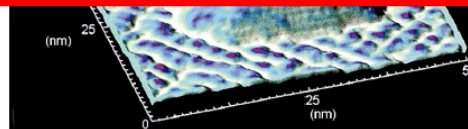
## Unique Features:

- Reduced sample solutions
- Small size promises high degree of integration
- High sensitivity for single molecule/ion analysis
- Fast response time

## Remaining Challenges:

*An **integrated** device needs to solve the interface between Nano- and Micro-technology:*

- Interconnection issues
- Sample delivery



# Acknowledgements



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**MOTOROLA LABS**

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