

# **Fundamentals of Optoelectronic Materials and Devices**

**Topic: Chemical vapor deposition (CVD)**

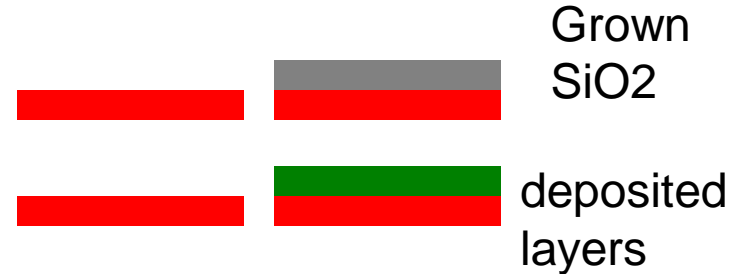
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Tsing-Hua University

# Four wafer-fabrication operations

## Layering

-Add metal, insulator, semiconductor thin layers onto the wafer surface



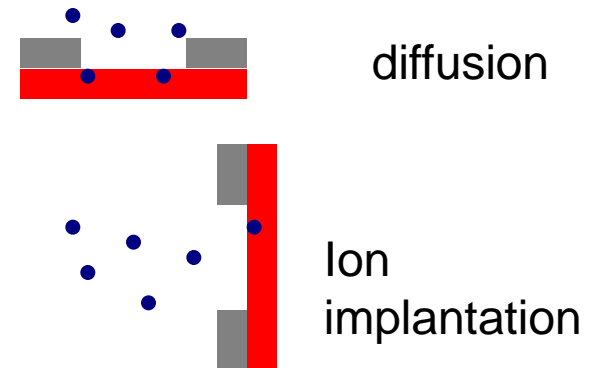
## Patterning

-form pattern by removing selected portions of added surface layers



## Doping

-incorporate dopants into a wafer



## Heat treatment

-remove contaminates, repair crystal structure of treated wafers



# Layering

Tool for layering should be capable to produce layers with

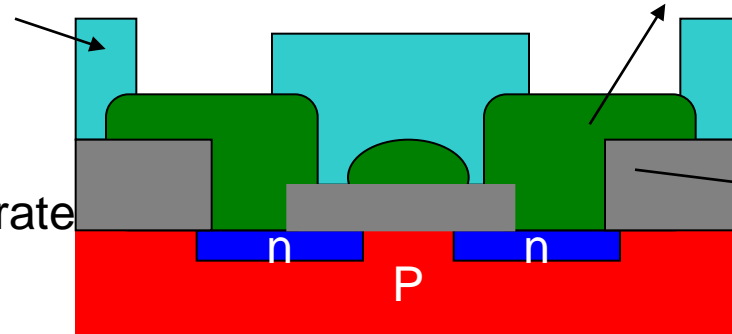
- ↓
- high quality
  - uniform thickness
  - great material selection
  - thickness tunable
  - form tight junction with substrate
  - composition tunable
  - etc....

deposited  
layers



Passivation layer

metal layer



Oxide layer

Various layering methods were developed to layer a thin film on a wafer

Materials

-Metal, oxide, and semiconductor

# Today's lecture references

- Hugh O. Pierson, "Handbook of Chemical Vapor Deposition Principles, Technology and Applications, Noyes Publications
- Hitchman, M.L. and K.F. Jensen, "Chemical Vapor Deposition – principles and applications," ed., Academic Press, San Diego, USA, 1993



# Chemical Vapor Deposition (CVD)

- A process can be used to produce thin solid films from gaseous reactants (so-called precursors) via chemical reactions – the most important thin-film deposition process.
- CVD can be extendedly used to produce ultra-fine (nano-sized) particles, fibers, foams, and powders.
- CVD can be used to almost any kinds, any shape, and any size of materials with precise control.

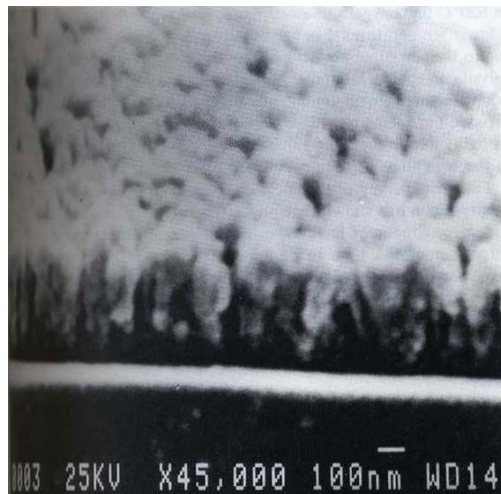
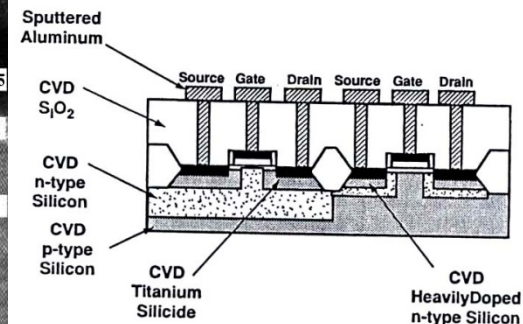
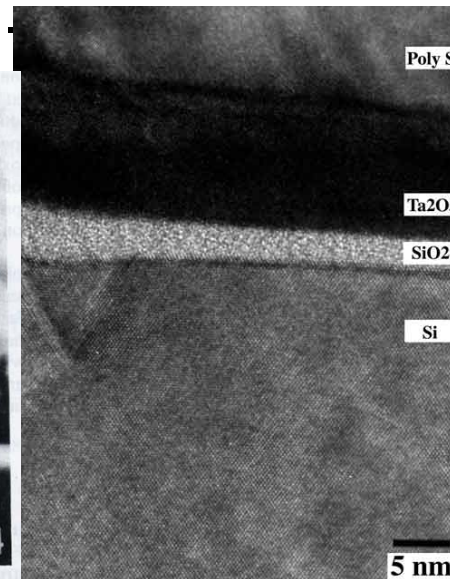


Figure 4.21. Structure of polycrystalline silicon layers (Trainor, 1989).

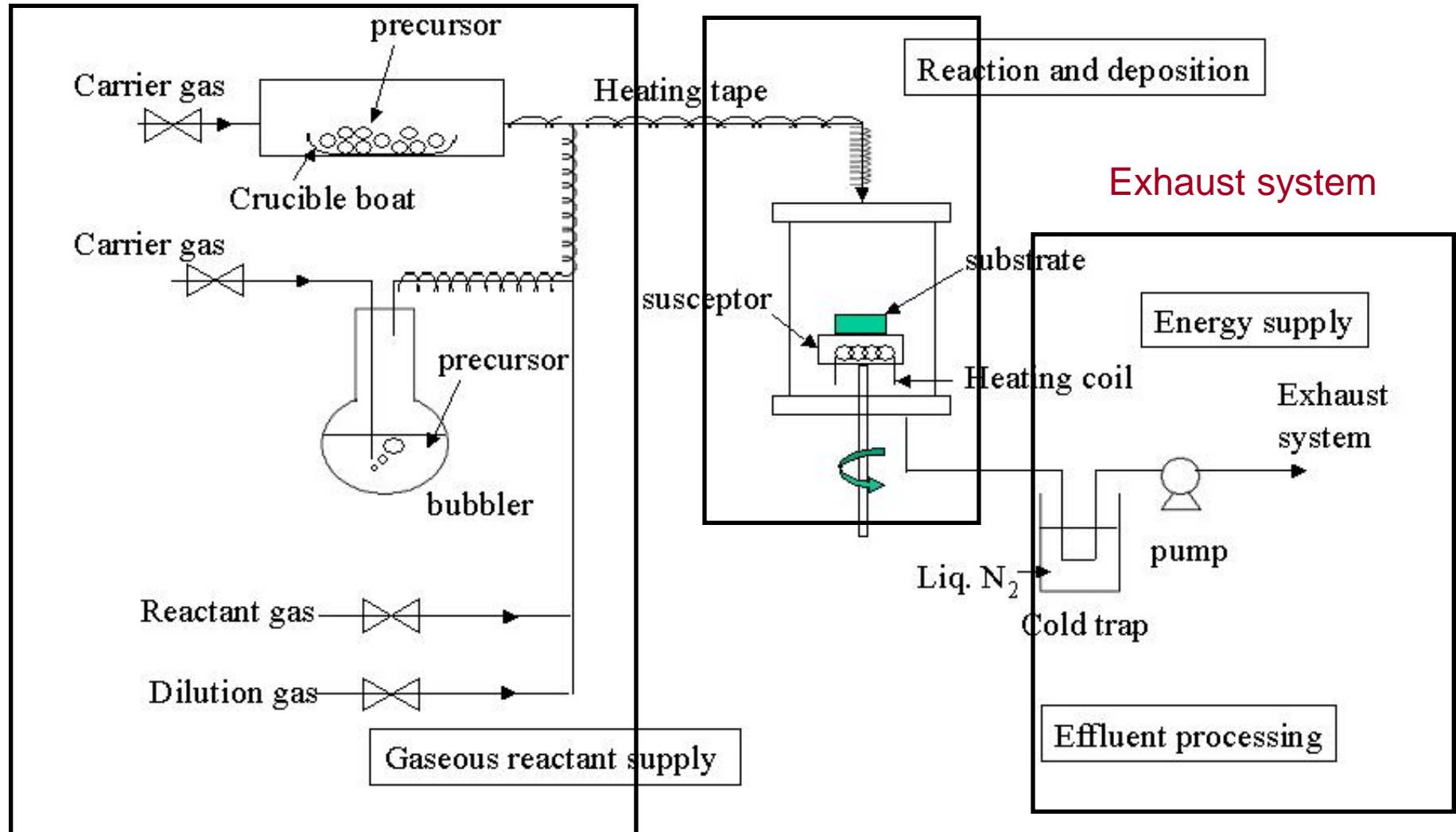


# A Typical CVD Apparatus

## Reactant supply

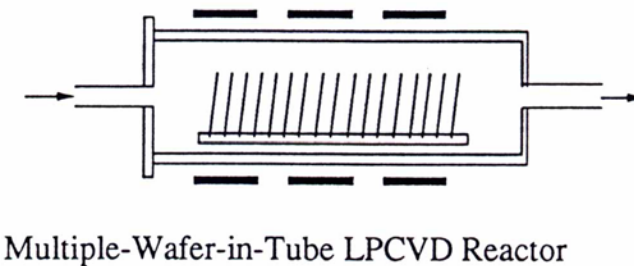
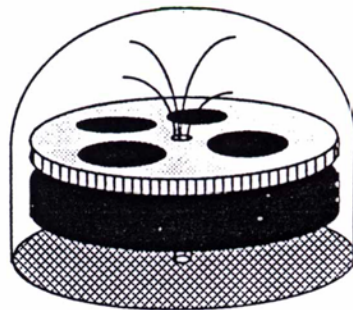
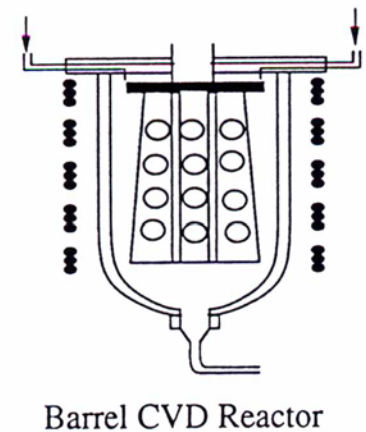
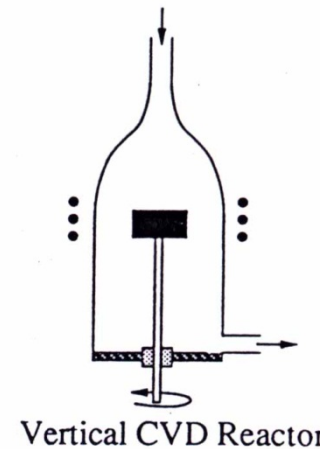
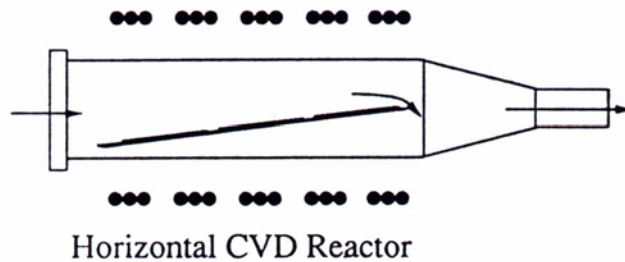
## Chemical reactions in a CVD reactor

## Exhaust system



# Classification of CVD reactors

- By reactor configuration:



# CVD applications in chip fabrication

## Electrical insulator

*Silicon dioxide ( $\text{SiO}_2$ )*

-Insulator, diffusion mask, ion-implantation mask, passivation against abrasion, scratches and the penetration of impurities and moisture

*Silicon nitride*

-Hard, scratch-resistant, excellent diffusion barrier for sodium and water to avoid corrosion

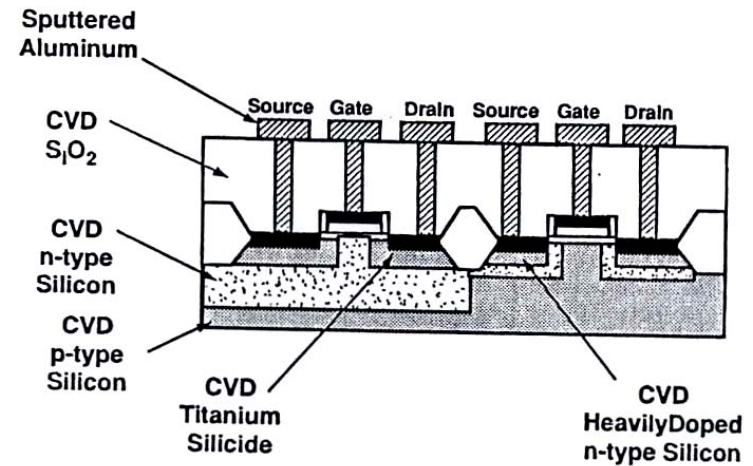
## Semiconductors

*Silicon, III-V and II-VI semiconductors*

## Electrical conductor for interconnection

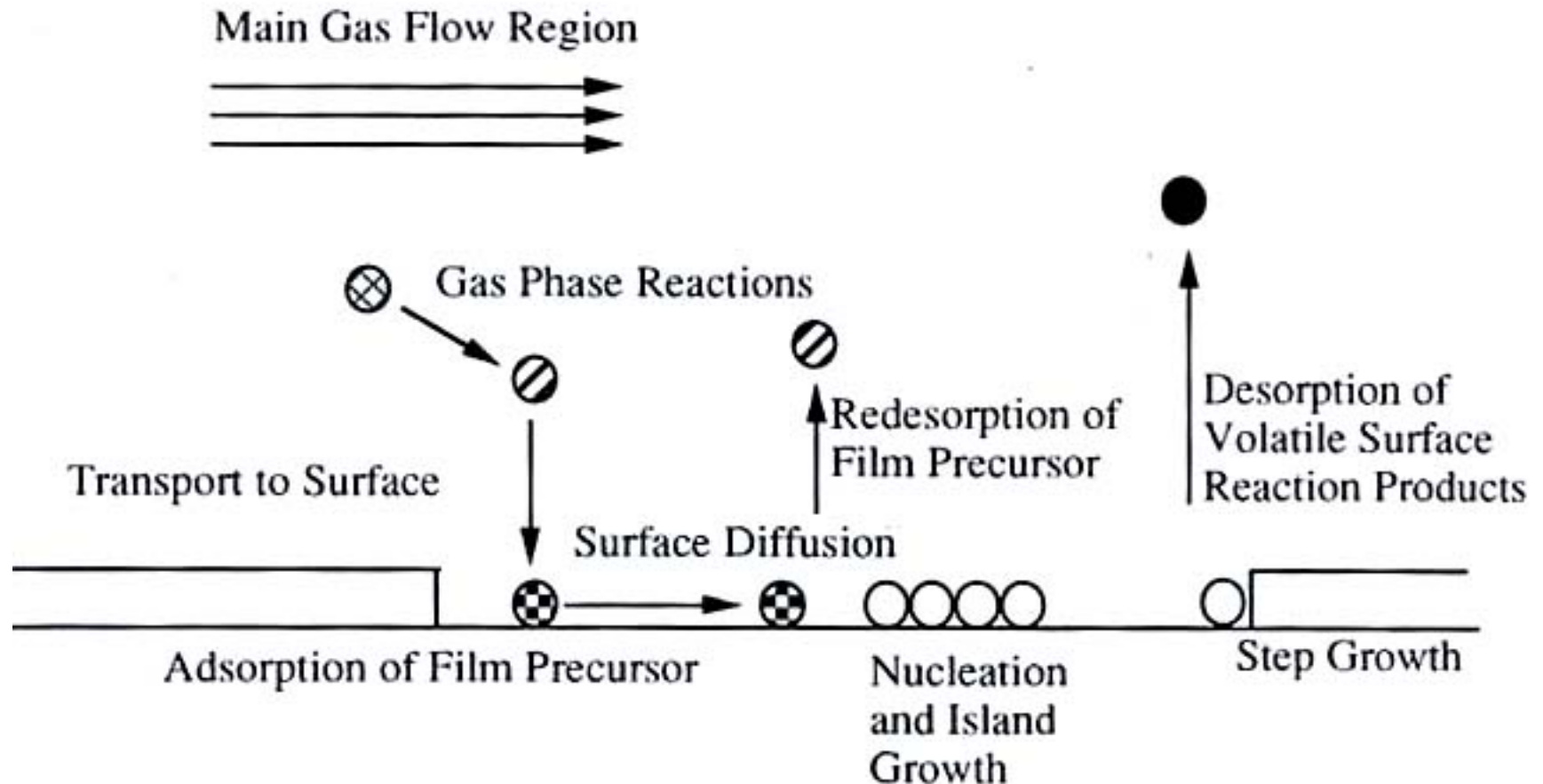
$\text{MoSi}_2$ ,  $\text{TiSi}_2$ ,  $\text{WSi}_2$ ,  $\text{TaSi}_2$ , and  $\text{CoSi}_2$

-Low resistivity, thermal stability, diffusion barrier, mitigation of the electromigration

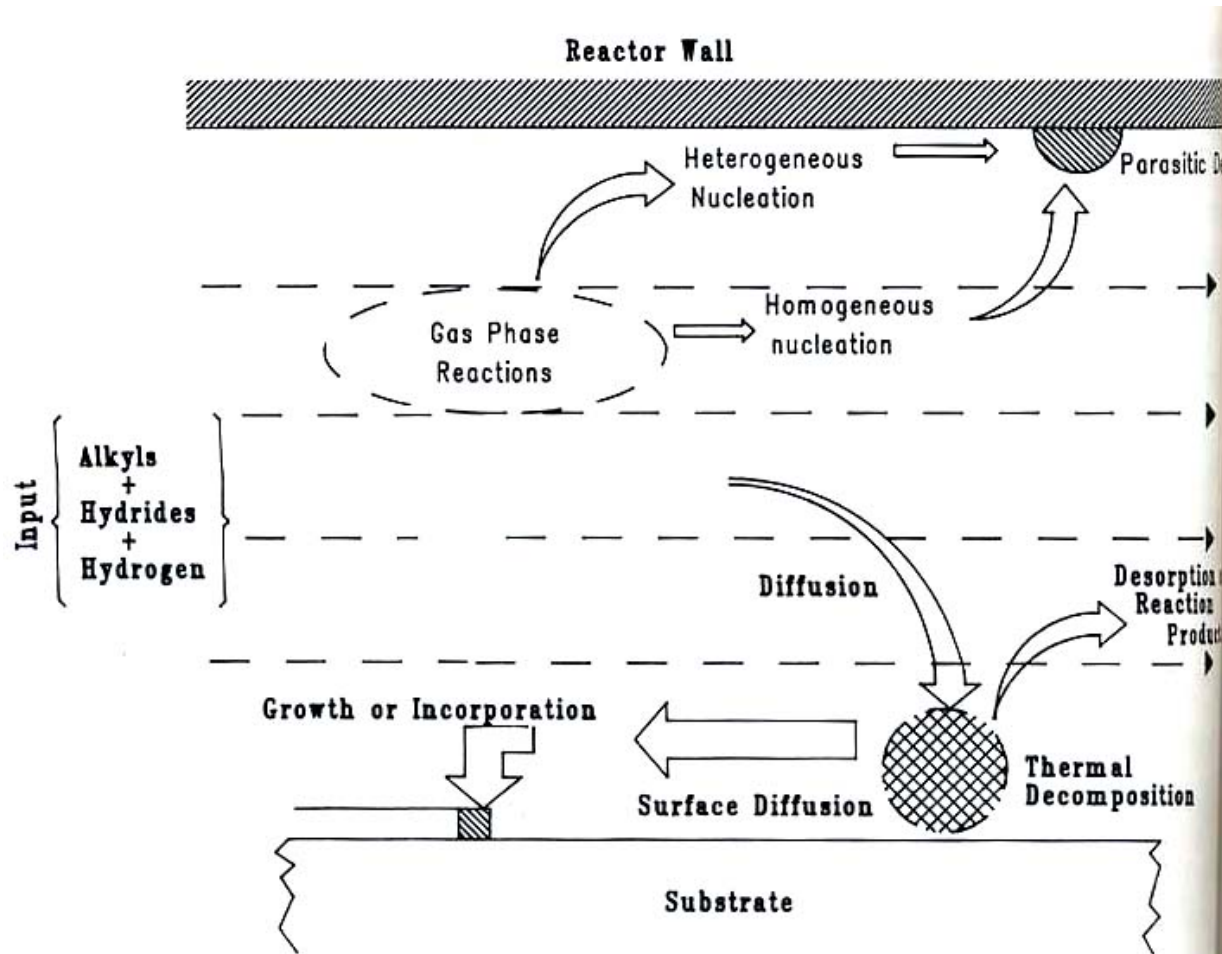


# Scheme of CVD transport and reaction processes

## Chemical Vapor Deposition



# Film growth from chemical reactions in a CVD



# Chemistry of CVD

Reactions can occur in either gas-phase and surface, leading to the formation of film precursors and byproducts

## ***Types of reactions***

-Pyrolysis, reduction, oxidation, hydrolysis, nitridation, carbidization, diproportionation

## ***Reaction decomposition mechanism***

- Gas-phase chemistry
- Surface chemistry

# CVD precursors

general characteristics preferred:

1. stability at room temperature – not to react before being transported to reaction zone, easy storage and transfer
2. sufficient volatility at low temperatures – convenient for transportation to reaction zone
3. capability of being produced in a high degree of purity – to avoid introducing contaminants
4. ability to react without producing unwanted side products – to avoid low volatility, toxic side products
5. cost effective enough



# Common CVD precursors

## halides:

{F, Cl, Br, I} + more electropositive elements →

{AlBr<sub>3</sub>, AlCl<sub>3</sub>, BCl<sub>3</sub>, BF<sub>3</sub>, CCl<sub>4</sub>, CF<sub>4</sub>, CrCl<sub>2</sub>, SiCl<sub>4</sub>, TiCl<sub>4</sub>, WF<sub>6</sub>, ZrBr<sub>4</sub>, ZrCl<sub>4</sub>...}

**metal-organics:** (reactive, volatile, moisture sensitive, low decomposition temperatures, not restricted to metals)

M {in IIa, IIb, IIIa, IVa, Va, VIa} + one or more carbon (oxygen) atoms of an organic hydrocarbon groups (alkyls: -CH<sub>3</sub>, -C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>, ...; aryls: -C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>, ...; acetylacetonates: -OC<sub>5</sub>H<sub>8</sub>O-, ...) →

(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>Al, (C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>)<sub>2</sub>B, (CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>Cd, (C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>)<sub>2</sub>Be, Ca(C<sub>5</sub>H<sub>8</sub>O<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub> ...

## metal carbonyls:

-(CO)- + transition metals with partially filled d-shell →

3d : Sc, Ti, V, Cr, Mn, Fe, Co, Ni

4d : Y, Zr, Nb, Mo, Tc, Ru, Rh, Pd, Ag

5d : Hf, Ta, W, Re, Os, Ir, Pt, Au

mononuclear, M(CO)<sub>x</sub> : Cr(CO)<sub>6</sub>, Fe(CO)<sub>5</sub>, Ni(CO)<sub>4</sub>, W(CO)<sub>6</sub>

dinuclear, M<sub>2</sub>(CO)<sub>x</sub> : Mn<sub>2</sub>(CO)<sub>10</sub>, Fe<sub>2</sub>(CO)<sub>9</sub>, Co<sub>2</sub>(CO)<sub>8</sub>

polynuclear : Fe<sub>3</sub>(CO)<sub>12</sub>, Co<sub>4</sub>(CO)<sub>12</sub>

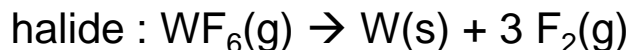
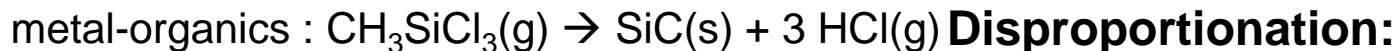
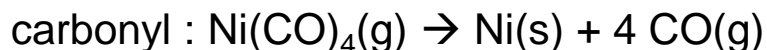
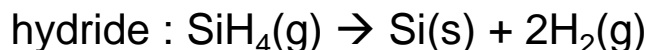
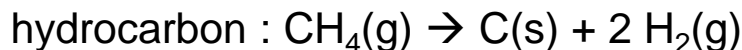
metal carbonyl complexes: Mn(CO)Cl, CoNO(CO)<sub>3</sub>

## hydrides:

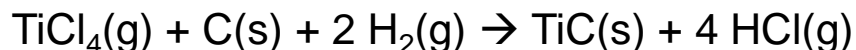
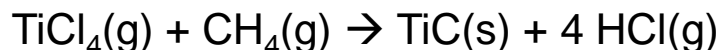
H<sub>2</sub> + {IIIa, IVa, Va, VIa} → AsH<sub>3</sub>, B<sub>2</sub>H<sub>6</sub>, SiH<sub>4</sub>, NH<sub>3</sub>, ...

# Chemistry of CVD, often involved reactions

## **Pyrolysis (thermal decomposition):**



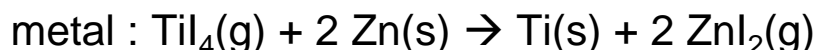
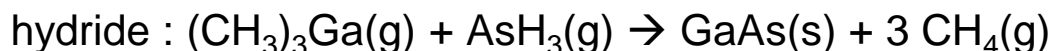
## **Carbidization:**



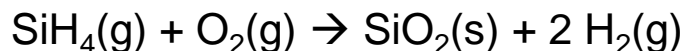
## **Disproportionation:**



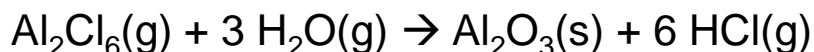
## **Reduction:**



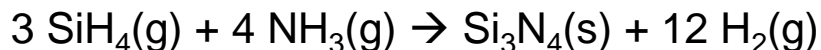
## **Oxidation:**



## **Hydrolysis:**



## **Nitridation:**

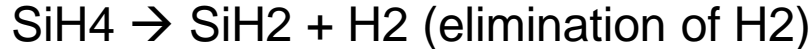


# Detailed decomposition mechanism: Silane chemistry

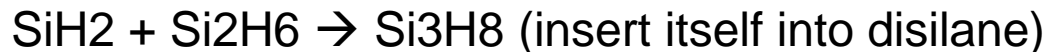
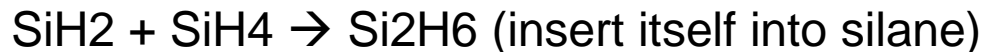
Pyrolysis of  $\text{SiH}_4$  is extremely complex, having 27 reactions, with 120 elementary reactions has been proposed.

**Some examples are as follows:**

**Initial decomposition reaction of  $\text{SiH}_4$**

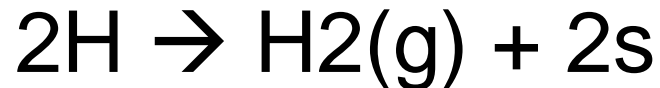
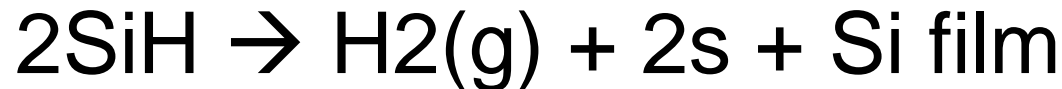
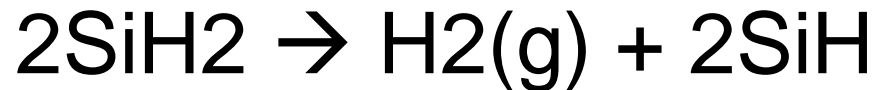


**Homogeneous decomposition**



- Careful temperature and pressure control are critical to lead to expected reactions

# Surface reactions: silane decomposition

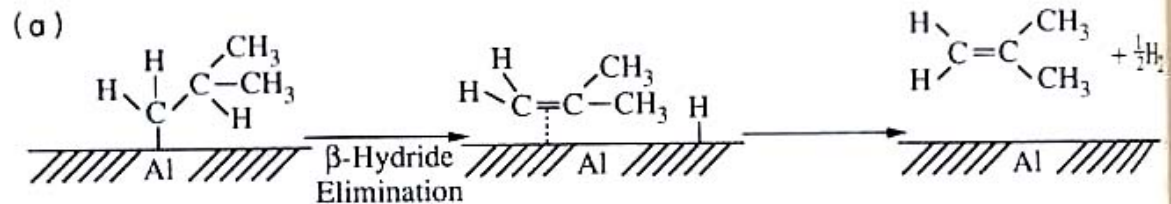


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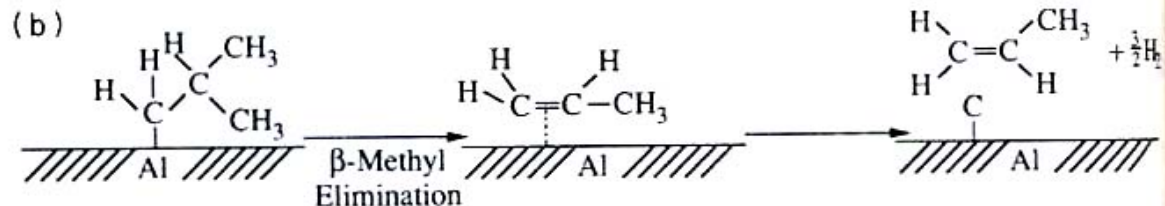
# Surface reactions of adsorbed alkyl aluminum compounds

Using triisobutylaluminum as a precursor to deposit aluminum film

175-300C →



>600C →



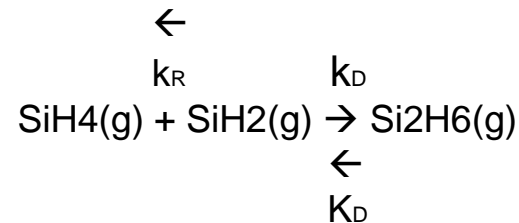
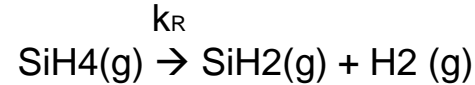
-Low temperature (175-300C), high purity Al film was formed because of  $\beta$ -hydride elimination reactions dominate.

-High temperature (>600C), carbon incorporation in aluminum film because of  $\beta$ -Methyl elimination reactions dominate

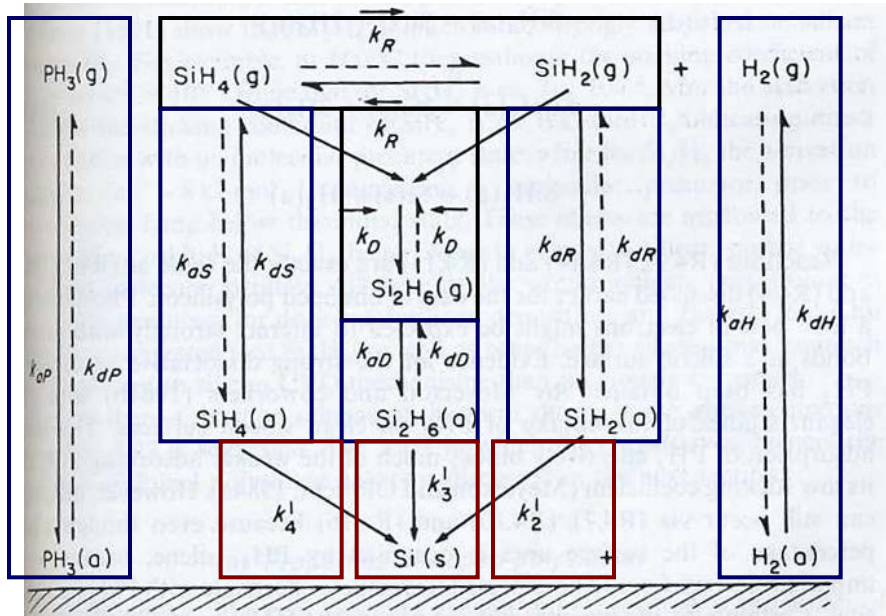
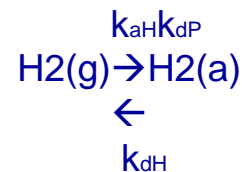
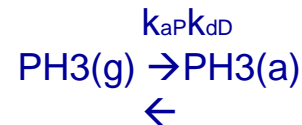
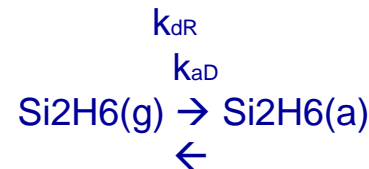
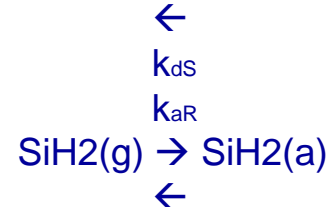
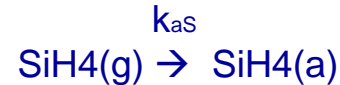
# An example: In-situ phosphorus-doped polycrystalline Si

Precursors:  $\text{SiH}_4 + \text{PH}_3/\text{N}_2$  Overall process:  $\text{SiH}_4 + x\text{PH}_3/\text{N}_2 \rightarrow \text{SiP}_x + x\text{N}_2 + (1.5x+2)\text{H}_2$

Gas-phase reactions:



Adsorption equilibria



Growth reactions

$k_4'$



$k_3'$



$k_2'$



# Polycrystalline silicon layer

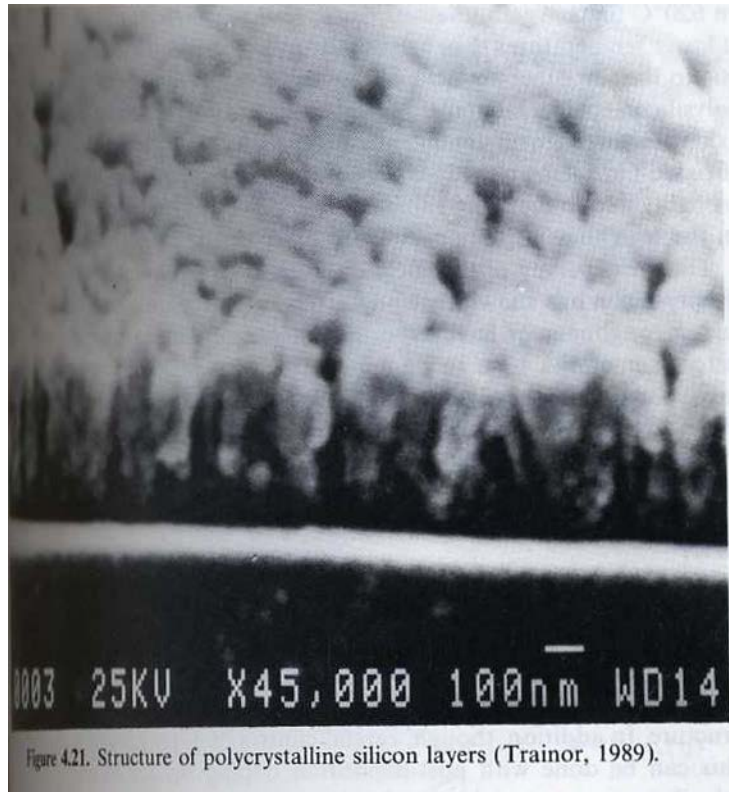
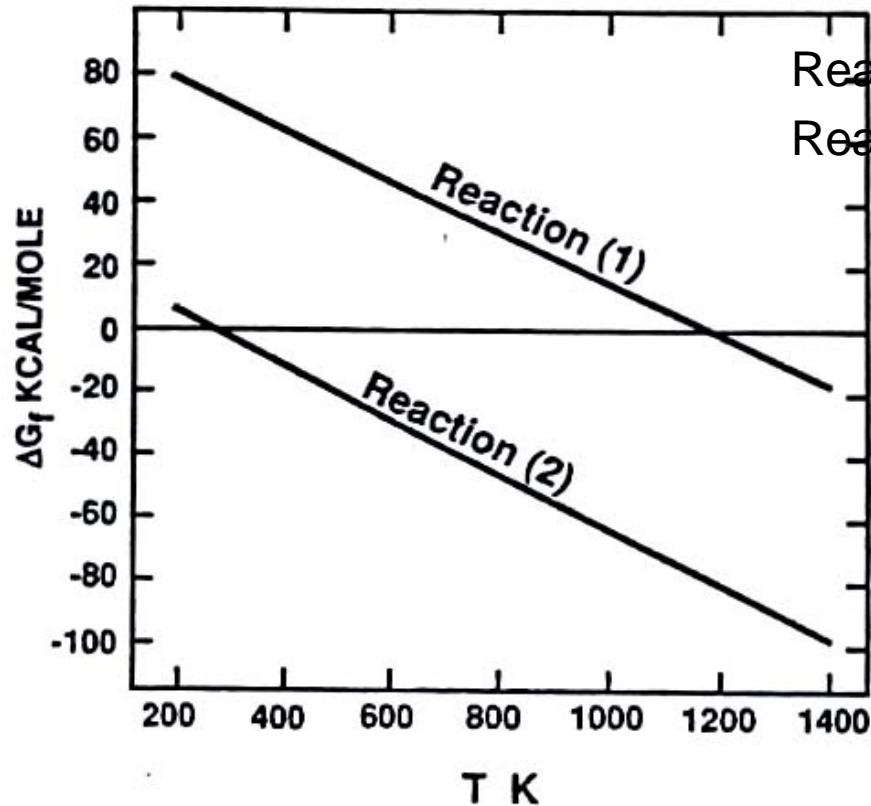


Figure 4.21. Structure of polycrystalline silicon layers (Trainor, 1989).

# Thermodynamics of CVD

$$\Delta G_r = \Delta G_f + RT \ln Q$$

Temperature is raised,  $\Delta G_r$  more negative, and the reaction proceeds.



Reaction 1:  $\text{TiCl}_4 + 2\text{BCl}_3 + 5\text{H}_2 \rightarrow \text{TiB}_2 + 10 \text{HCl}$

Reaction 2:  $\text{TiCl}_4 + \text{B}_2\text{H}_6 \rightarrow \text{TiB}_2 + \text{H}_2 + 4\text{HCl}$

Which reaction is more thermodynamically favorable?

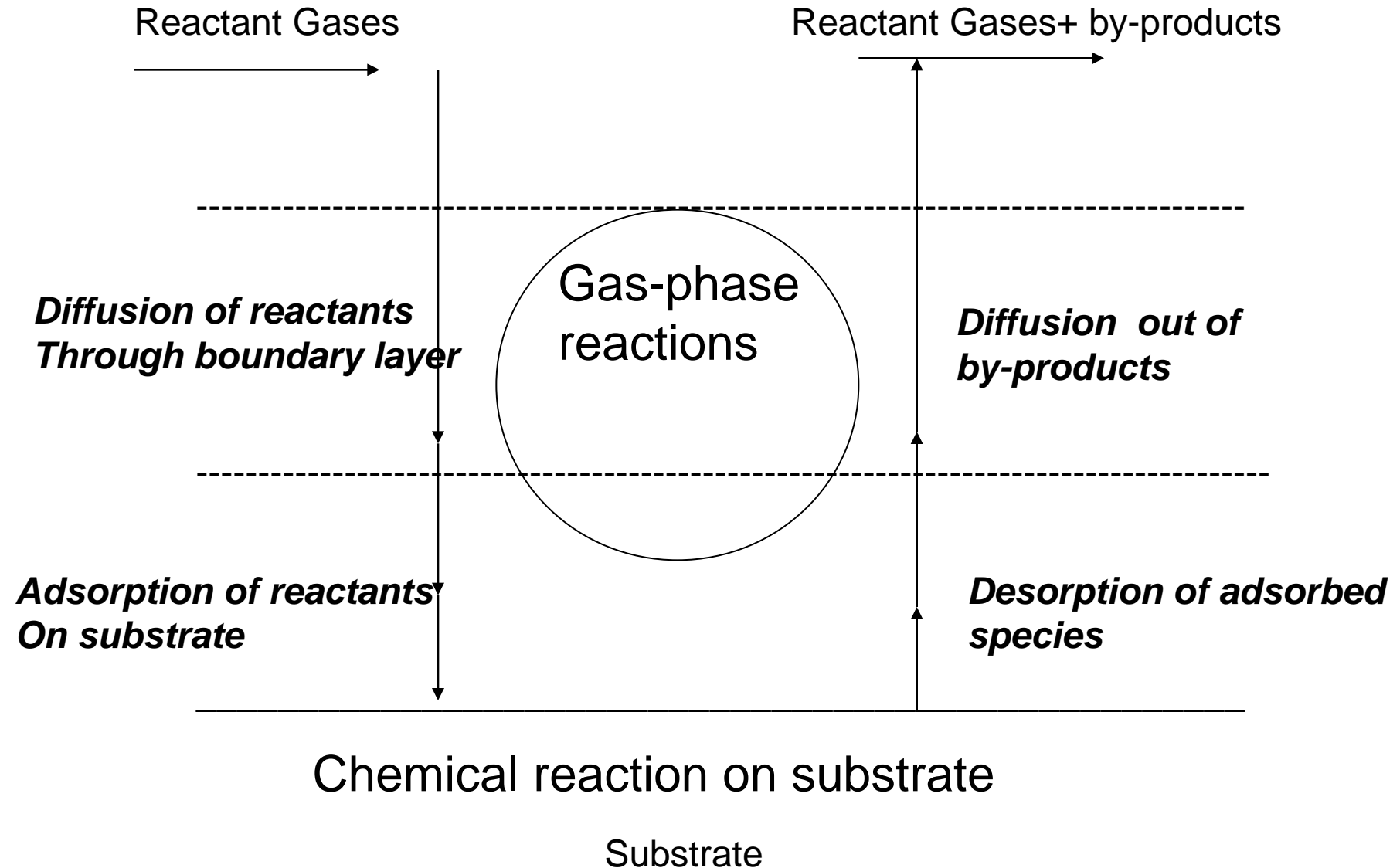
Reaction 2 is more thermodynamically favorable



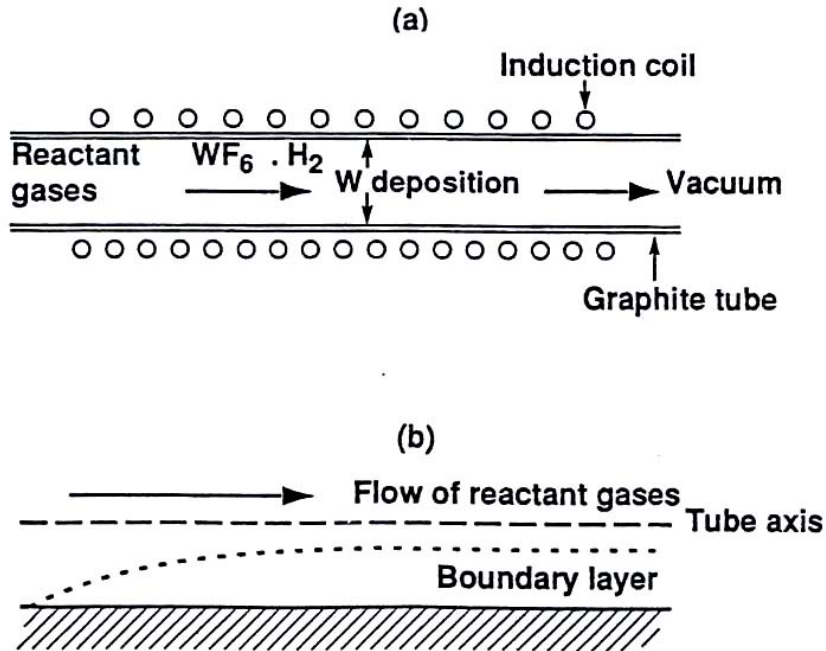
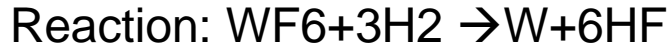
# Kinetics and Mass transport mechanism

- Deposition sequence
- Boundary layer
- Rate determining steps

# Processes contributing to CVD growth



# Boundary layer



$$D = \sqrt{\frac{x}{Re}} \quad Re = \frac{\rho u_x}{\mu}$$

$\rho$  = mass density

$u$  = flow density

$x$  = distance from inlet in flow direction

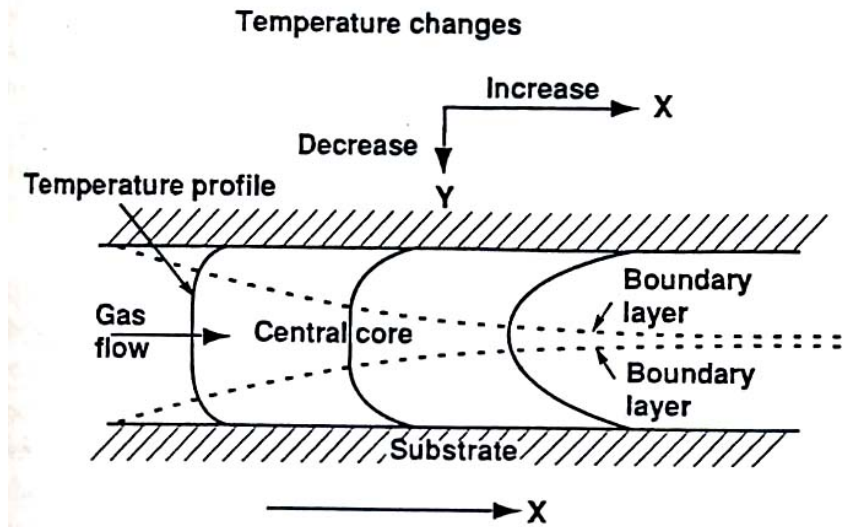
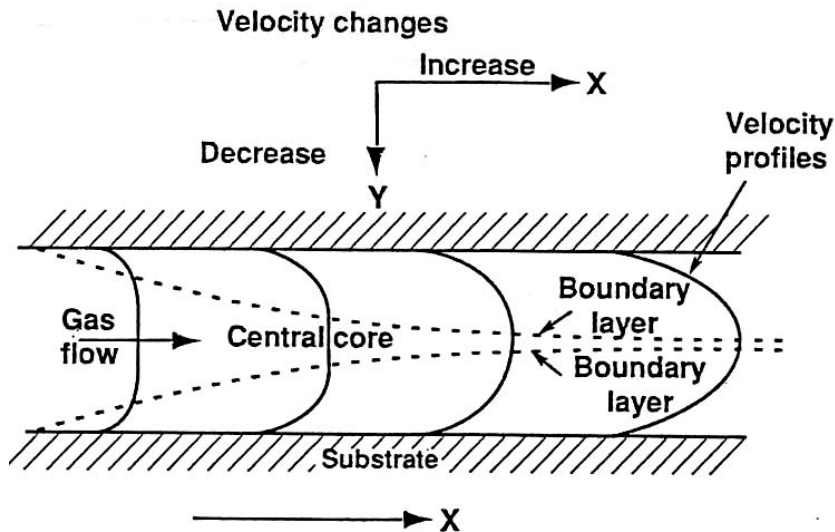
$\mu$  = viscosity

$$D \propto x^{1/2} \text{ and } u_x^{-1/2}$$

$$u_x \downarrow \rightarrow D \uparrow$$

- Boundary layer: the region in which the flow velocity changes from zero at the wall to the same as the bulk gas speed
- The thickness of the boundary layer increases with lowered gas flow velocity and with farther the distance from the tube inlet

# Velocity and temperature distribution profile

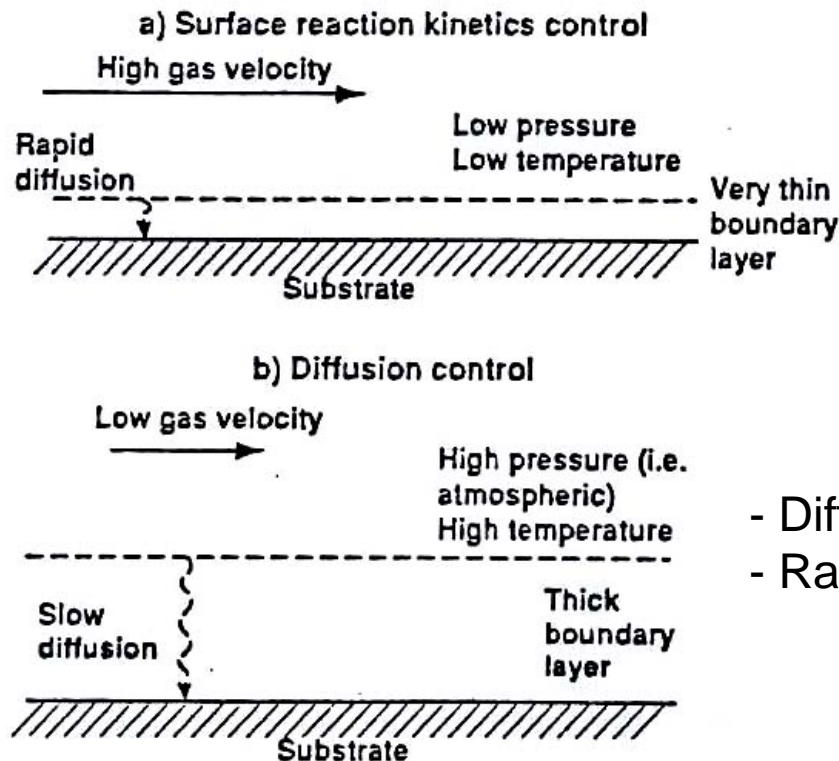


-A steep velocity gradient is noticeable when  $x$  is larger

-surface is the hottest  
-The shape distribution curve is similar to that of velocity

Reactant Gas is inverse proportional to  $x$

# Rate limiting Steps of a CVD reaction

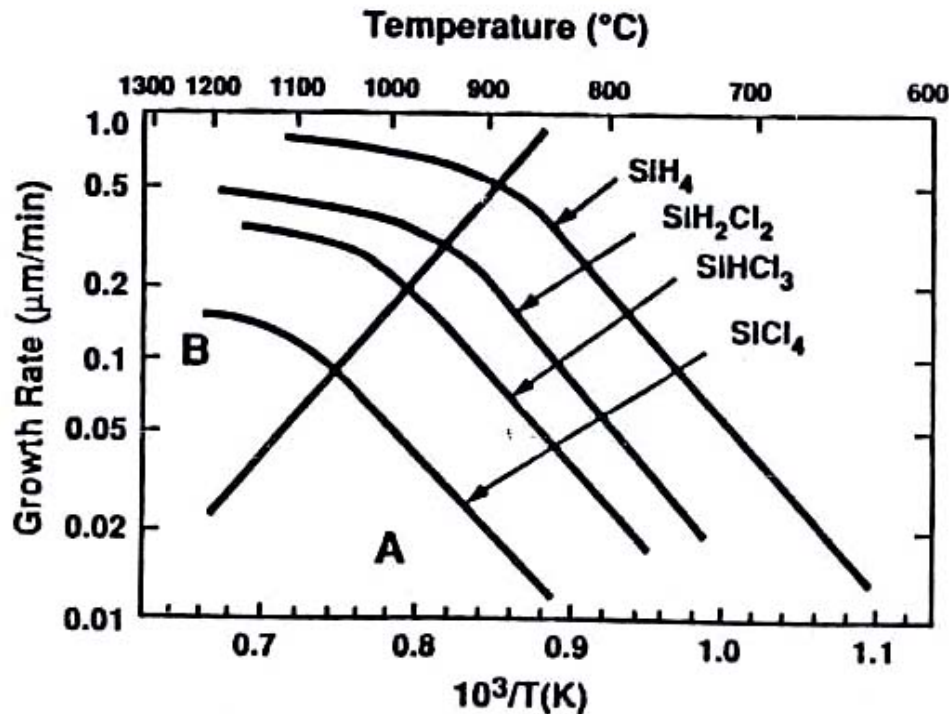


- Diffusion is fast due to thin boundary layer
- Rate limiting step is ***surface reaction***

- Diffusion is slow due to thick boundary layer
- Rate limiting step is ***mass transport diffusion***

**Figure 8. Rate Limiting Steps in a CVD Reaction**

# T(K) vs growth rate for silicon deposition using various precursors



Area A: lower temperature

\*Rate limiting step: (RLS)

growth rate is low

So, RLS is surface reaction

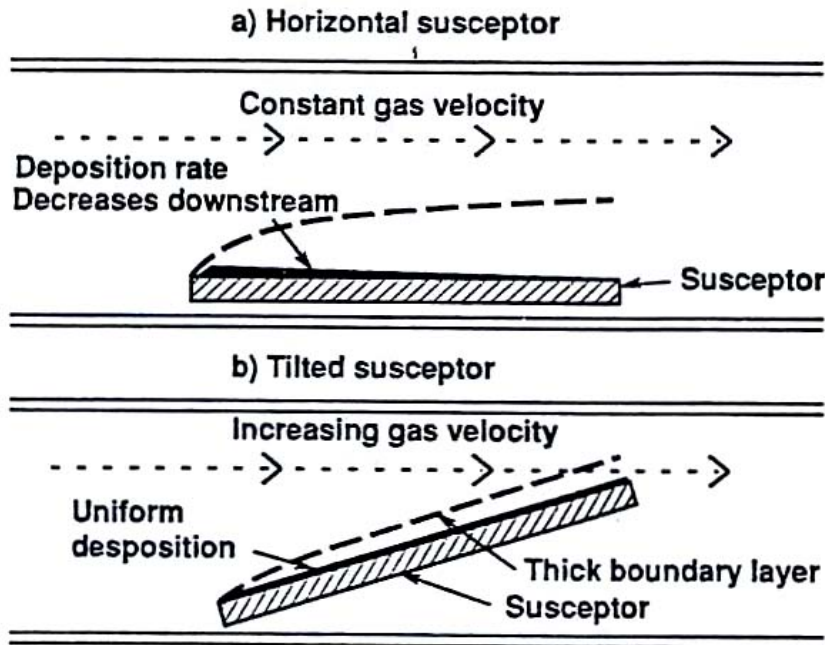
Area B: higher temperature

\*Rate limiting step:

growth rate is high

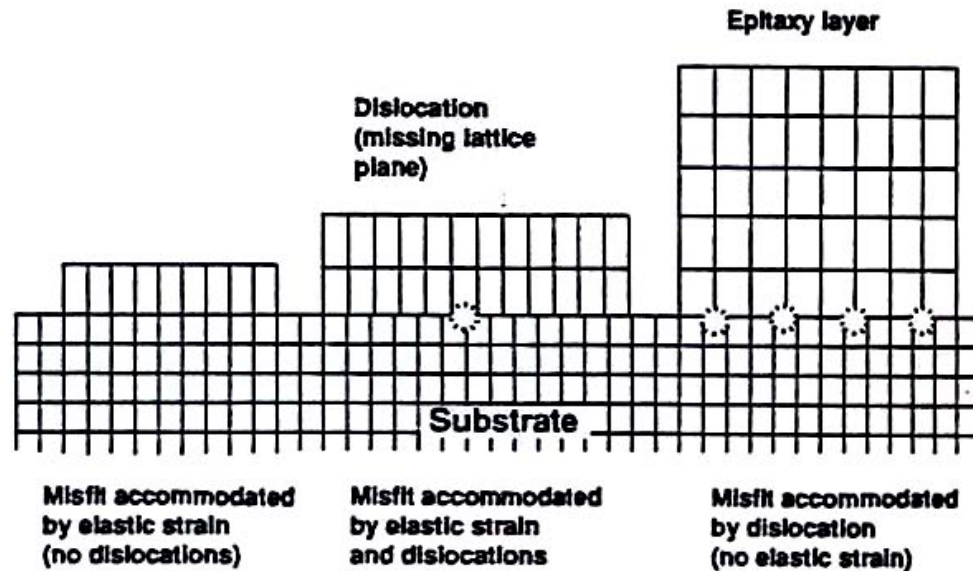
So, RLS is mass transport diffusion

# Control of deposition uniformity in a tubular reactor

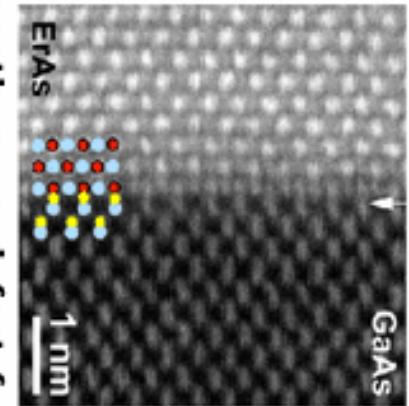


- Deposition rate decreases downstream because of thicker boundary layer along the tube
- Tilted susceptor makes boundary layers thinner because the increase of velocity from constriction of the flow → make the deposition layer more uniform

# Deposition mechanism - Epitaxy



Smooth, pure, defect-free epitaxial ErAs layers on GaAs



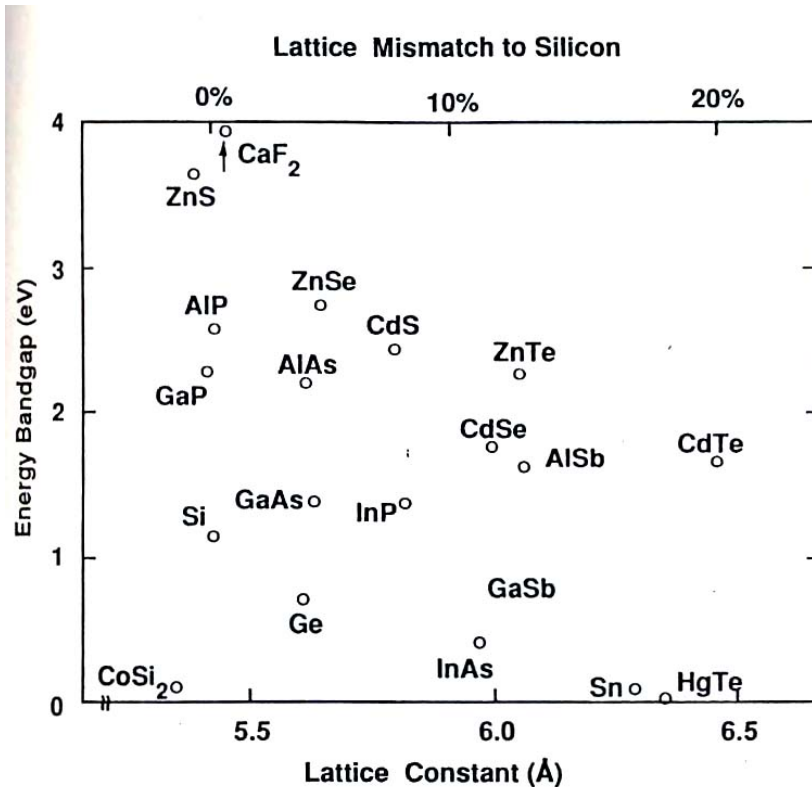
**Figure 11. Epitaxy Accommodations of Lattice Mismatch**

Defined as the growth of a crystalline film on a crystalline substrate

- Homoepitaxy – deposited materials are the same as substrate
- Heteroepitaxy - different
- Lattice mismatch of deposited materials with substrate needs to be small



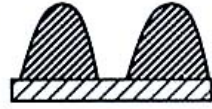
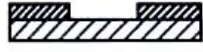
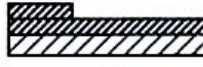

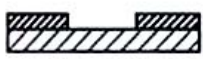
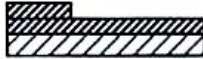
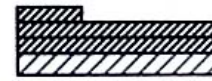


# Bandgap and lattice constant of semiconductor



Lattice mismatch larger than 8% is unlikely for deposited materials epitaxially growth on corresponding substrate

# Nucleation and growth modes

	Surface Coverage		
	$\theta < 1 \text{ ml}$	$1 \text{ ml} < \theta < 2 \text{ ml}$	$2 \text{ ml} < \theta$
(a)			
(b)			
(c)			

Hitchman p37

## Three-dimensional island growth-Volmer-Weber growth

film atoms are more strongly bound to each other than to the substrate (Si on SiO<sub>2</sub>, metals on insulators)

## Layer-Plus-island growth-Stranski-Kastanov growth

Combination of two modes

## Layer-by-layer-Franck-van der Merwe growth

Film atoms are equally or less strongly bonded to each other than to the substrate (silicon on silicon, homoepitaxy)

# CVD Processes and Equipment

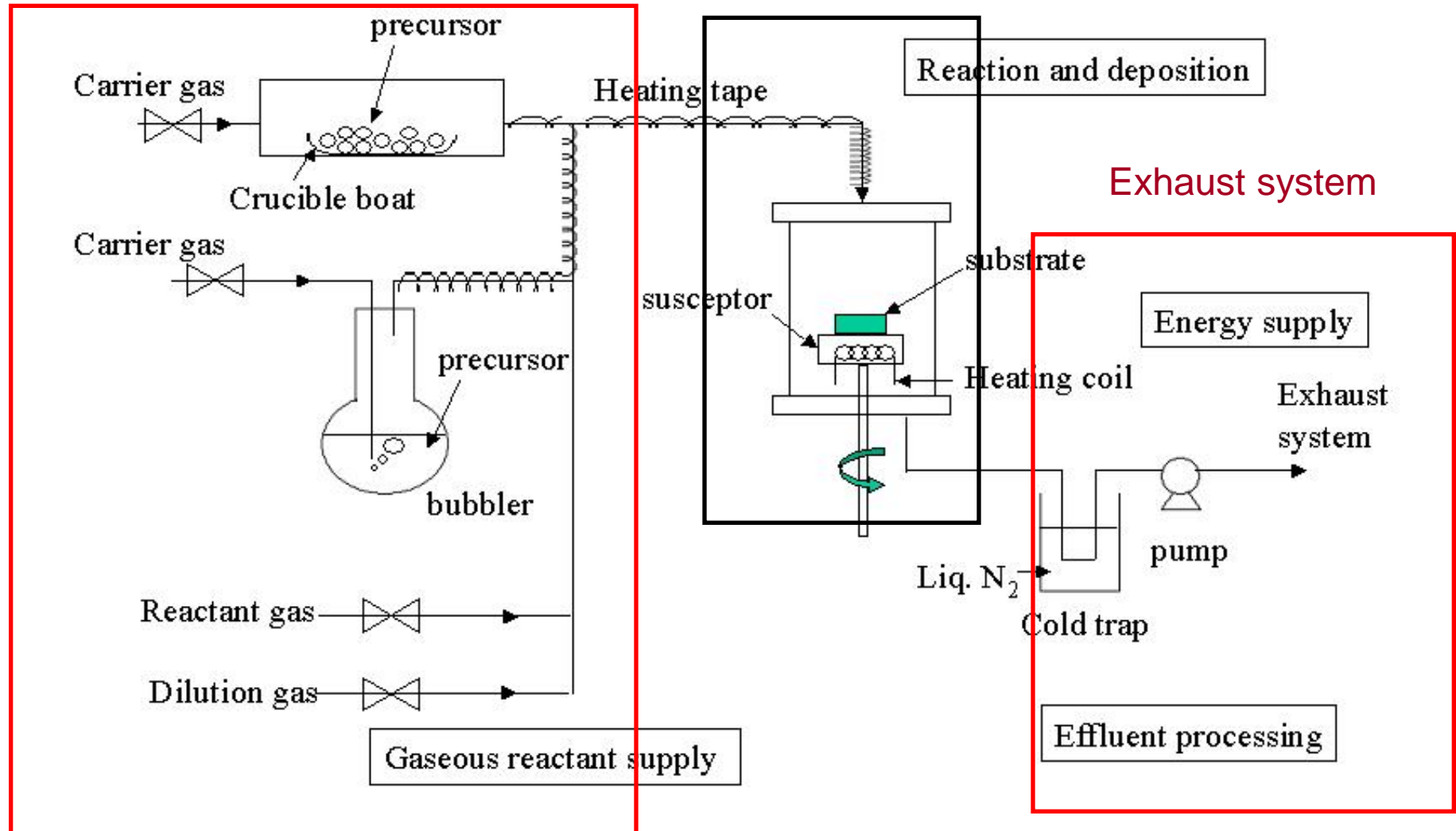
- Reactant supply
- Reactor types:
  - thermal CVD: hot and cold wall reactors
  - plasma CVD
  - MOCVD
  - laser CVD
- Exhaust and by-product disposal

# A Typical CVD Apparatus

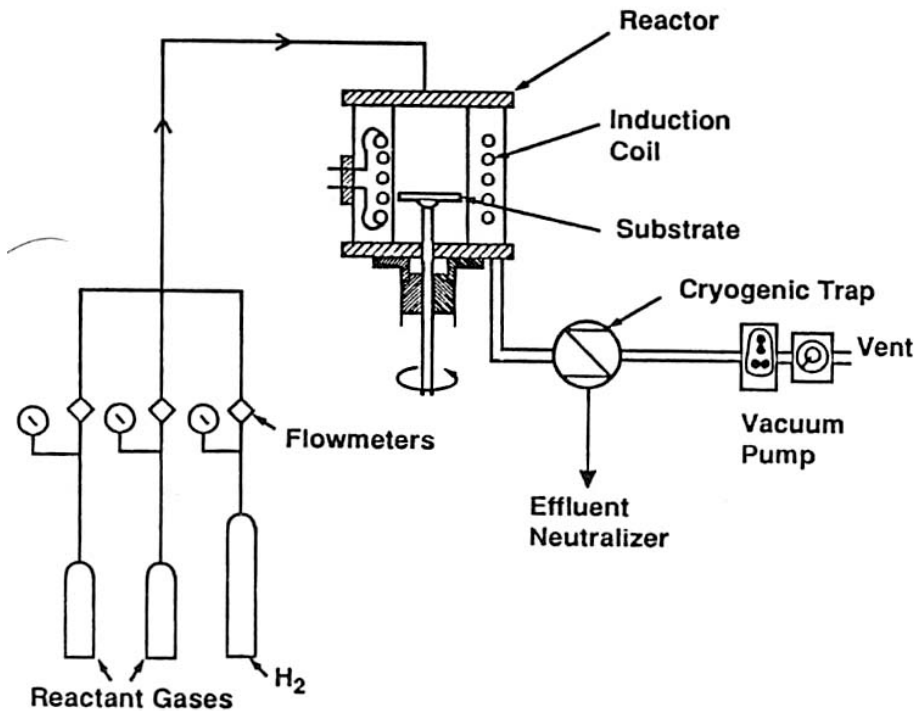
Reactant supply

Chemical reactions in a CVD reactor

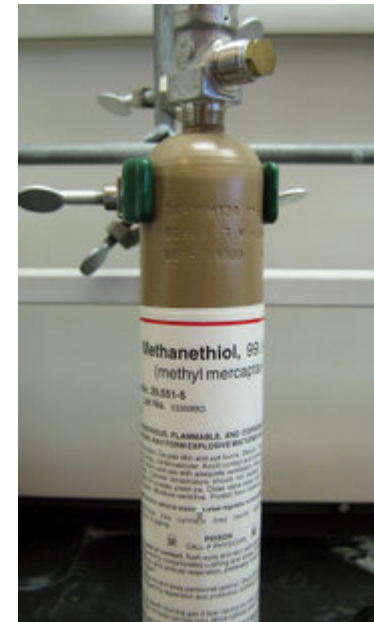
Exhaust system



# Reactant supply – gas precursor transport



A gas precursor tank



- Flowmeters to control the transport rate
- Carrier gas like H<sub>2</sub> or N<sub>2</sub> or O<sub>2</sub> is often used

# Reactant supply – liquid and solid precursor transport

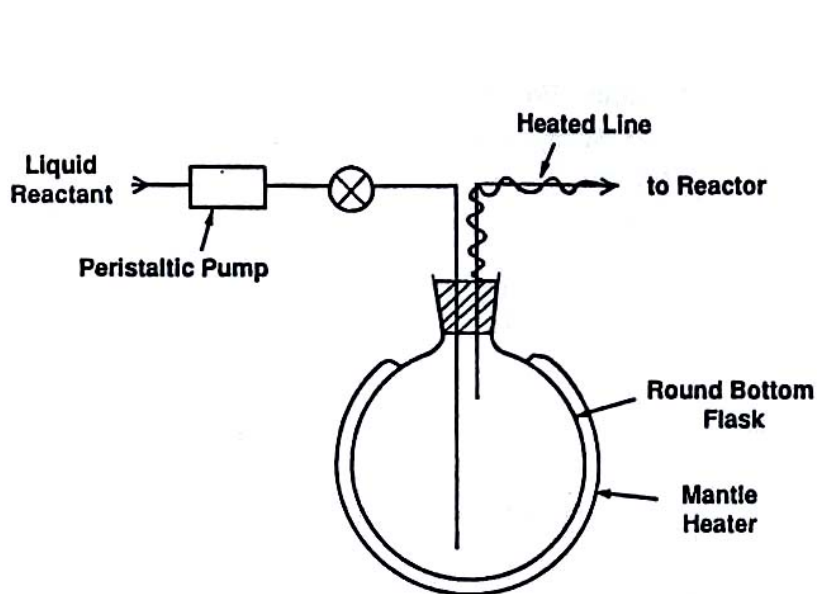
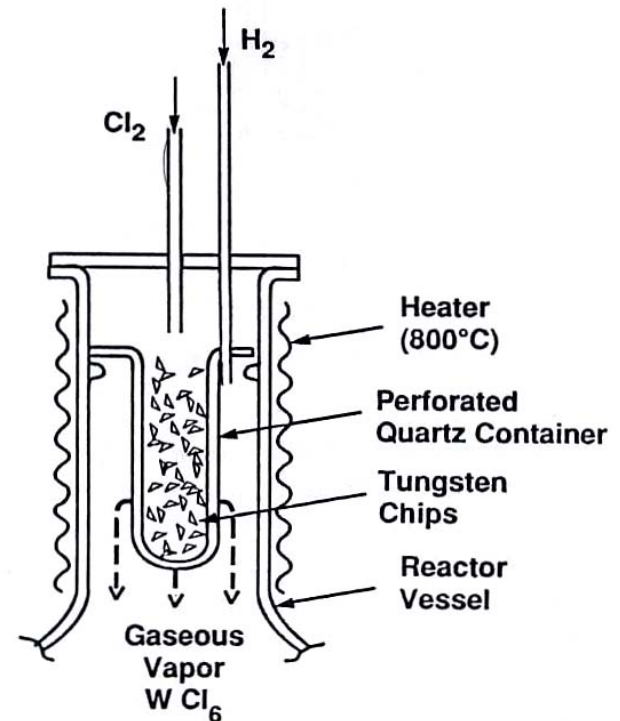


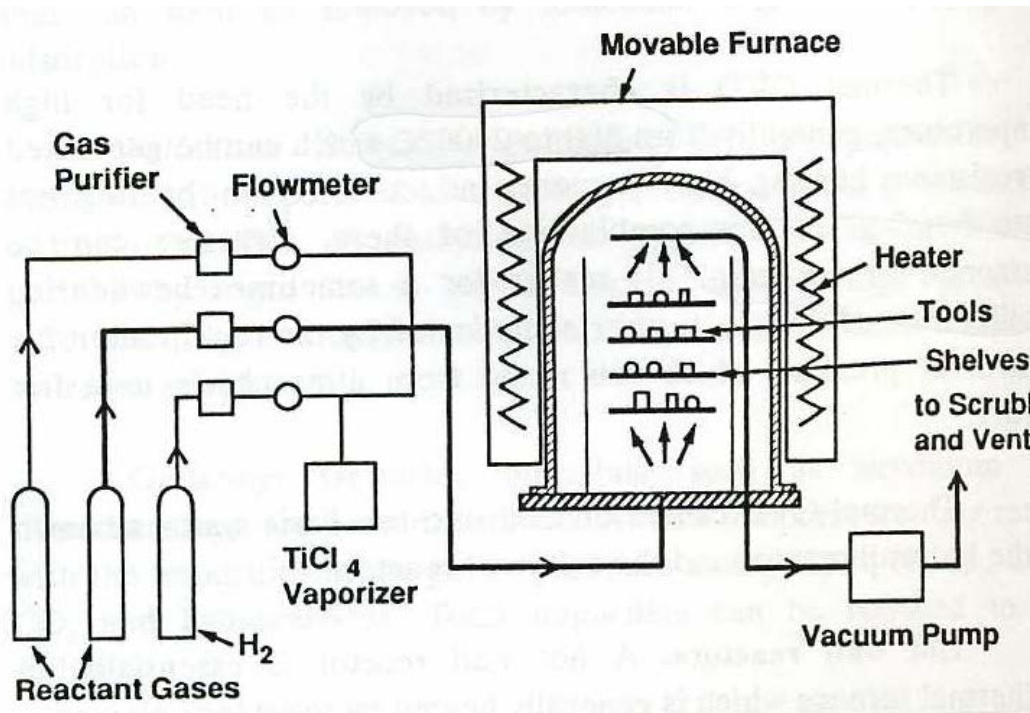
Figure 3. Vaporizer for Liquid Reactant



deposition step:



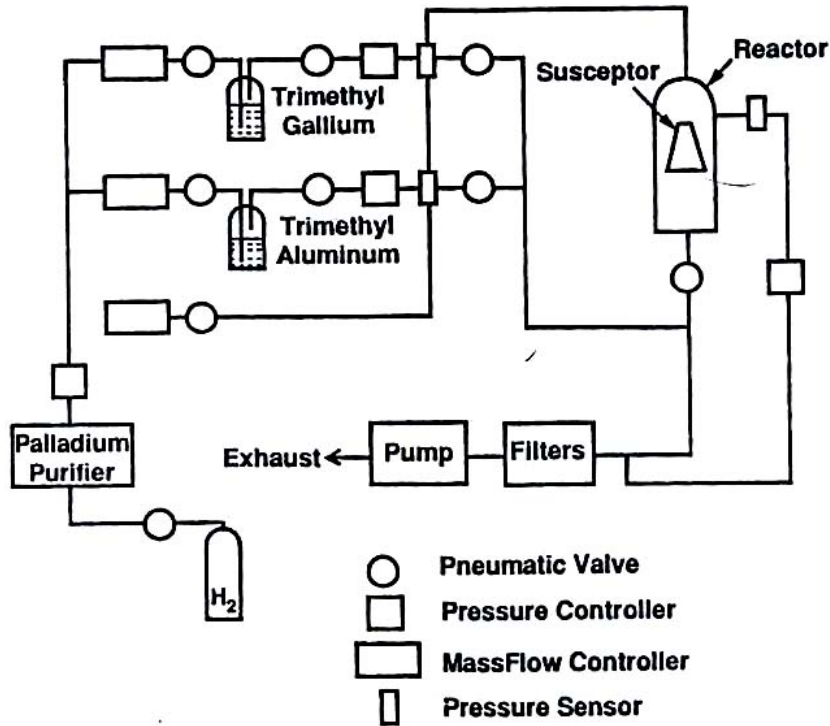
# Thermal CVD- hot wall reactor



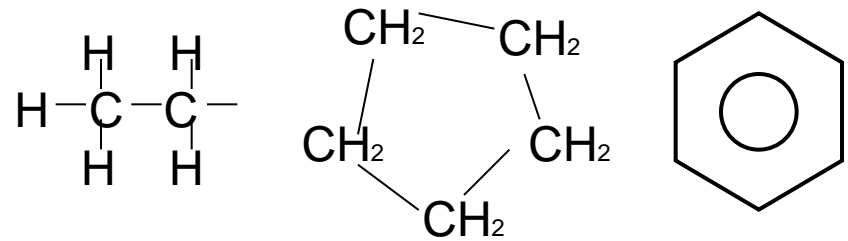
- Isothermal furnace
- Great temperature control
- Deposition occurs everywhere (clean is inconvenient)

# Metallo-Organic CVD (MOCVD)

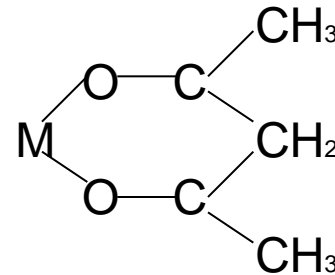
A MOCVD system



Alkyls or aryls substitute:



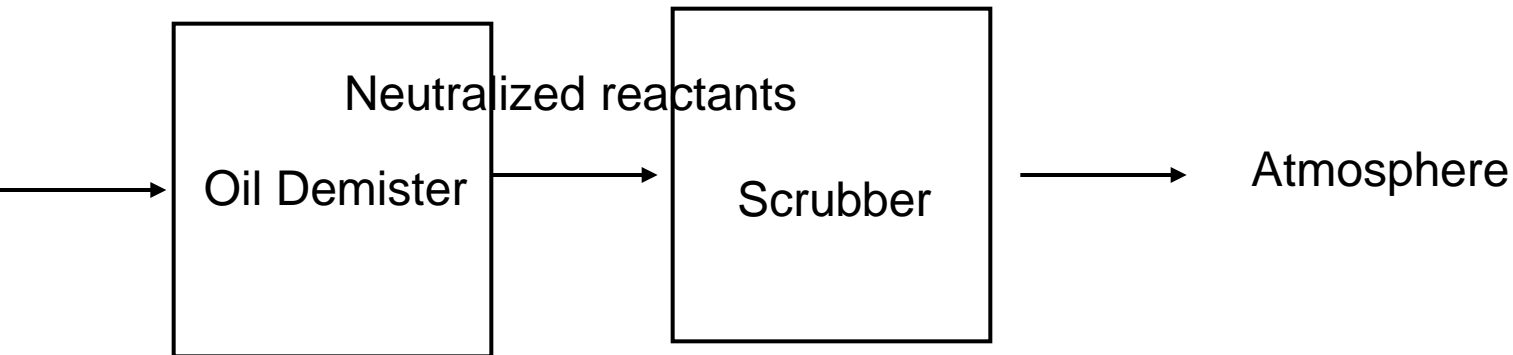
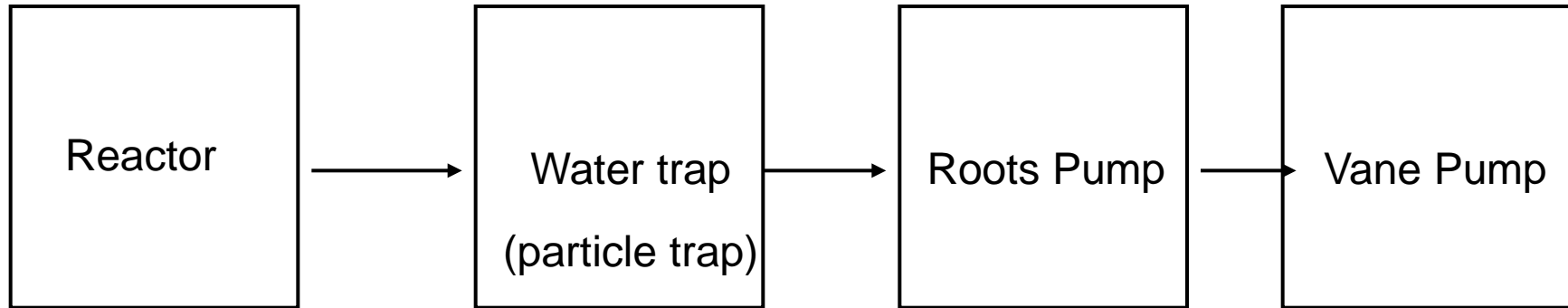
Acetylacetonates (乙酰丙酮基)



- A CVD system utilizes metallo-organic compounds as precursors.

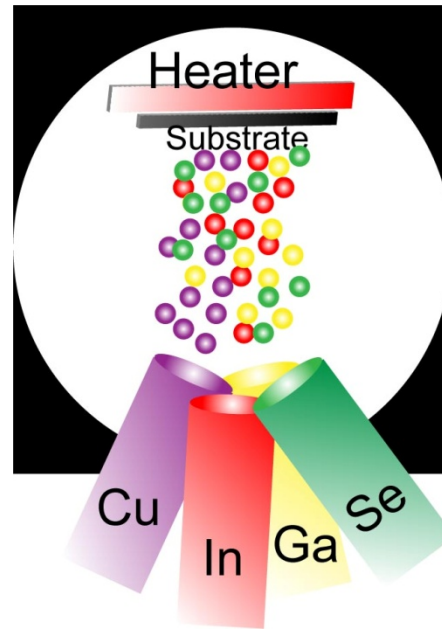
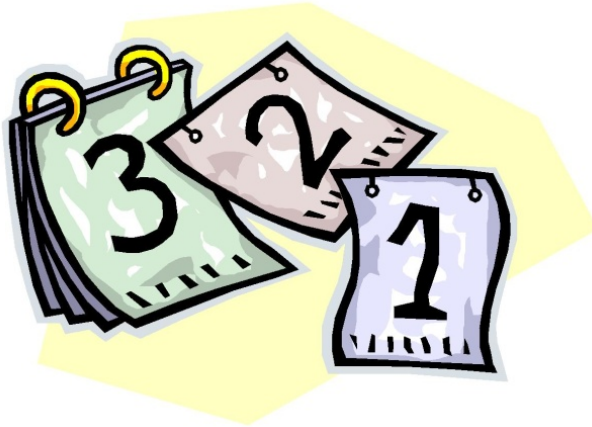


# Exhaust system



CVD precursors: toxic, lethal, and pyrophoric

# Vacuum-based film deposition



**TIME-CONSUMING**

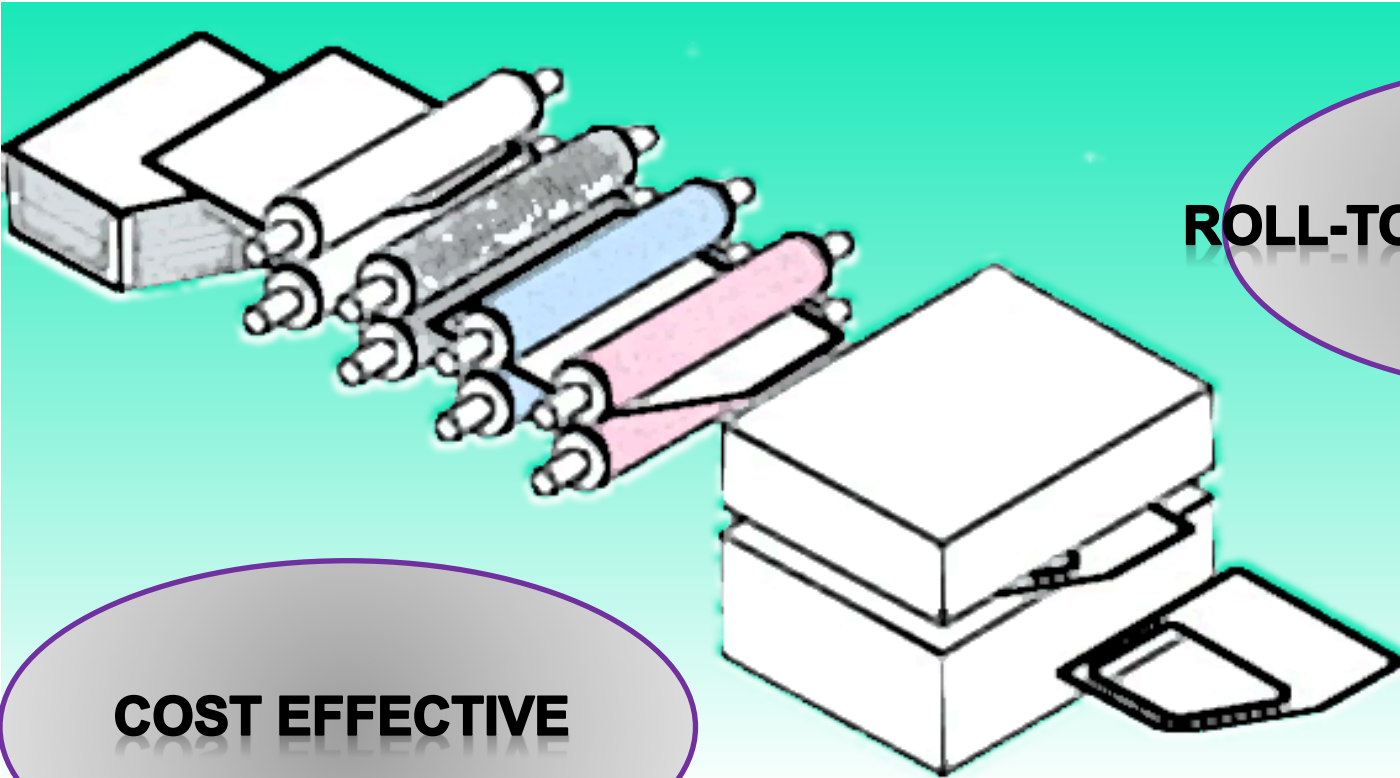
**EXPENSIVE**

**LOW THROUGHPUT**

**DIFFICULT TO CONTROL  
STOICHIOMETRY  
OVER LARGE AREAS**

**POOR MATERIALS  
UTILIZATION (30-50%)**

# Non-Vacuum Processing



**ROLL-TO-ROLL PROCESSING**

**COST EFFECTIVE**

**STOICHIOMETRY  
CONTROLLABLE**



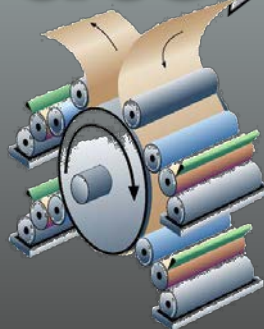
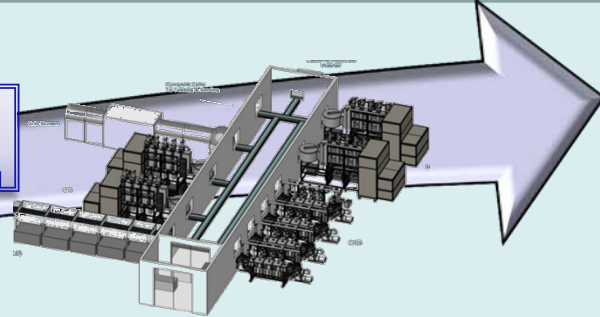
# Vacuum method

COST

Lab scale

Industry

Non-vacuum route



# Bottom-up material synthesis

Organic metallic compound

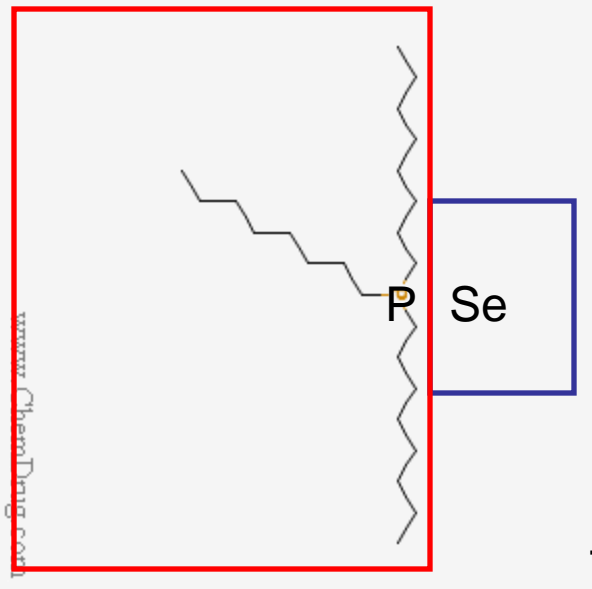
metal source



leaving group  $(\text{CH}_3)_2$   
, high reactive (short length)

TOP-Se

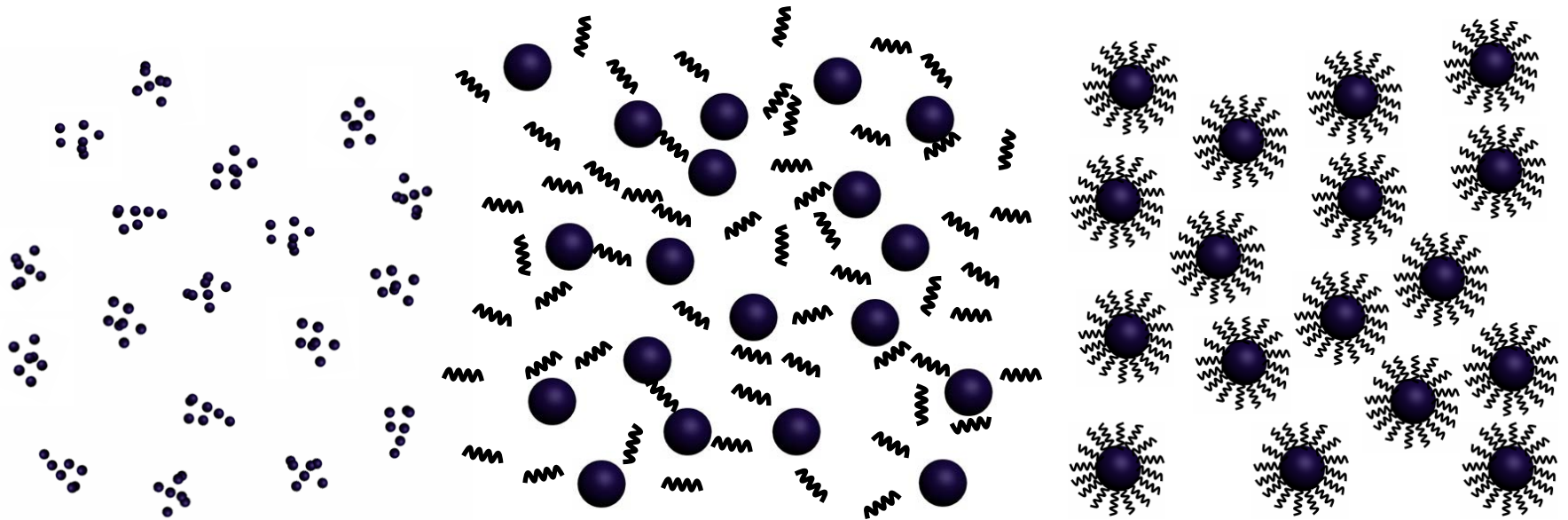
A metal-fat acid complex



**CdSe**

Theoretically, we can make any materials by this approach

# Bottom-up material synthesis



Nucleation

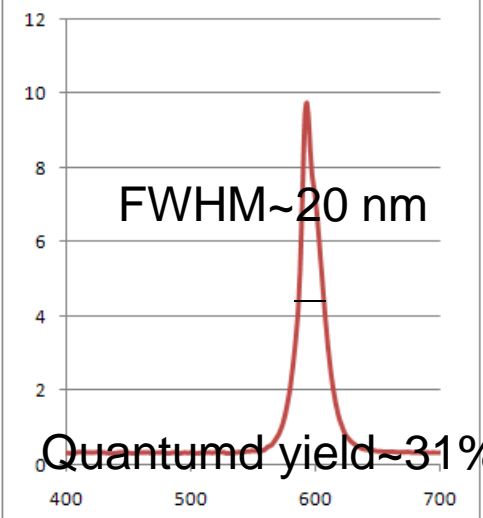
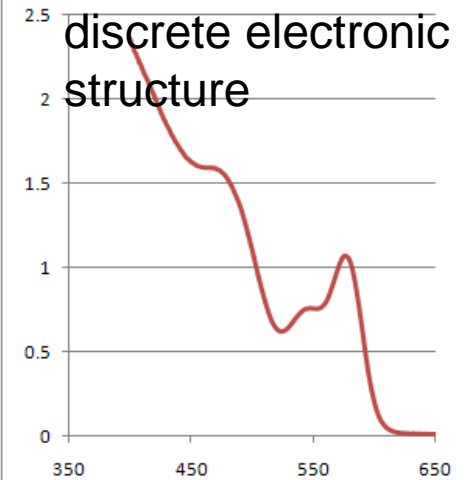
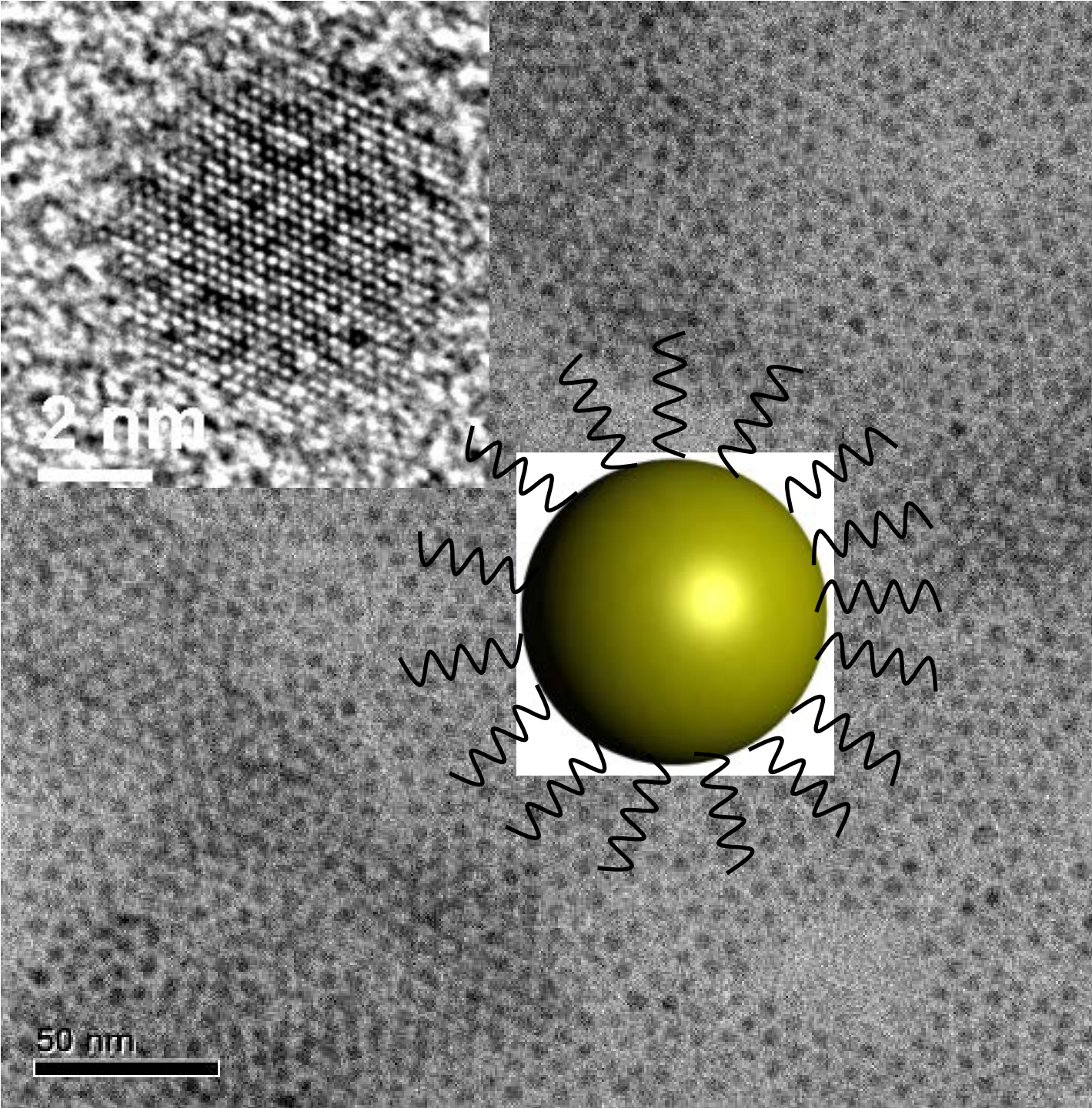
Growth

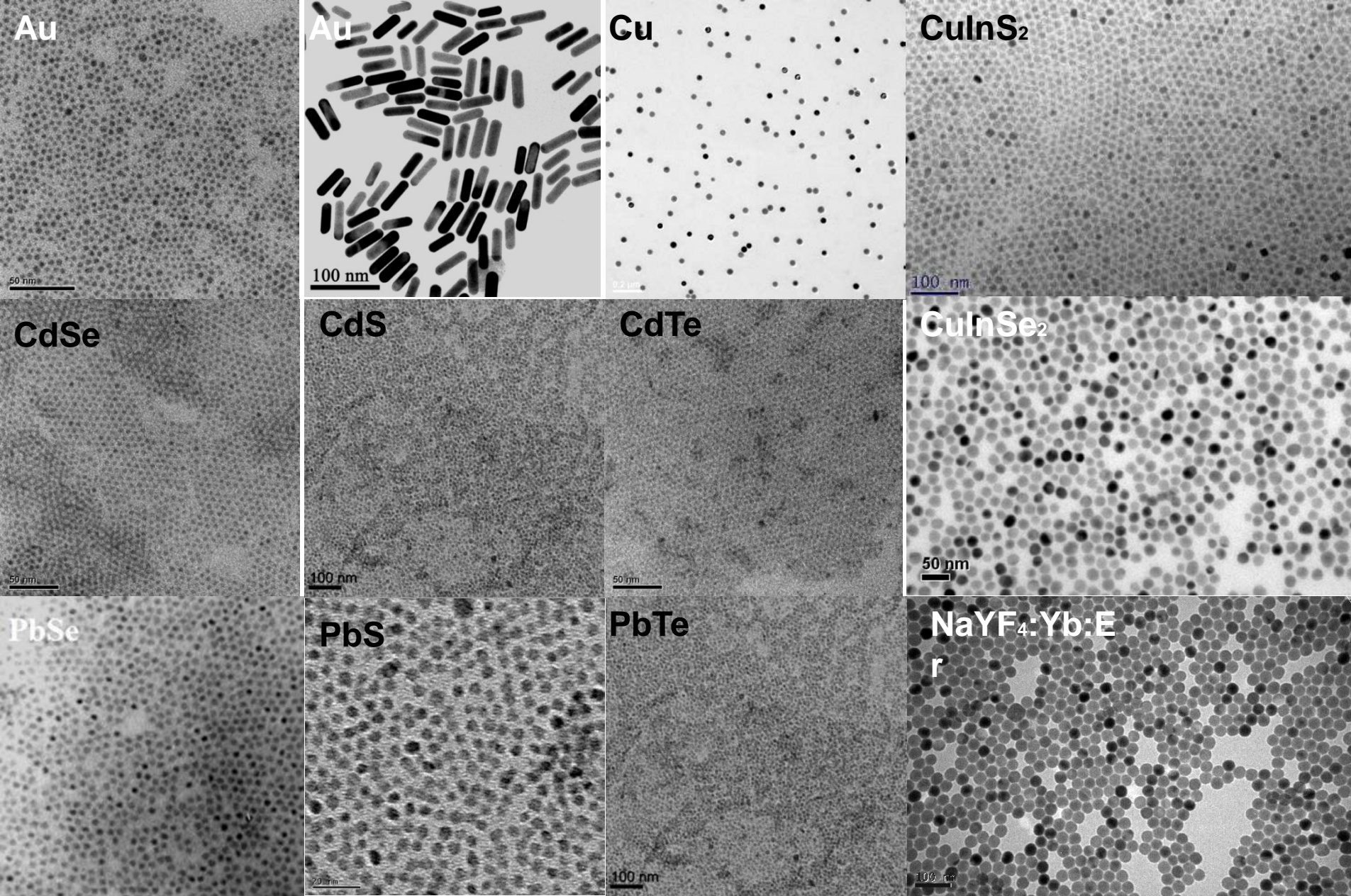


## CdSe nanocrystals

Average: 4.69 nm

Size variation less  
Than 20%





**A wide range of nanomaterials you can make for energy applications!**

Semiconductor nanocrystals: Cd chalcogenide ; Pb chalcogenide ; Cu-In- chalcogenide

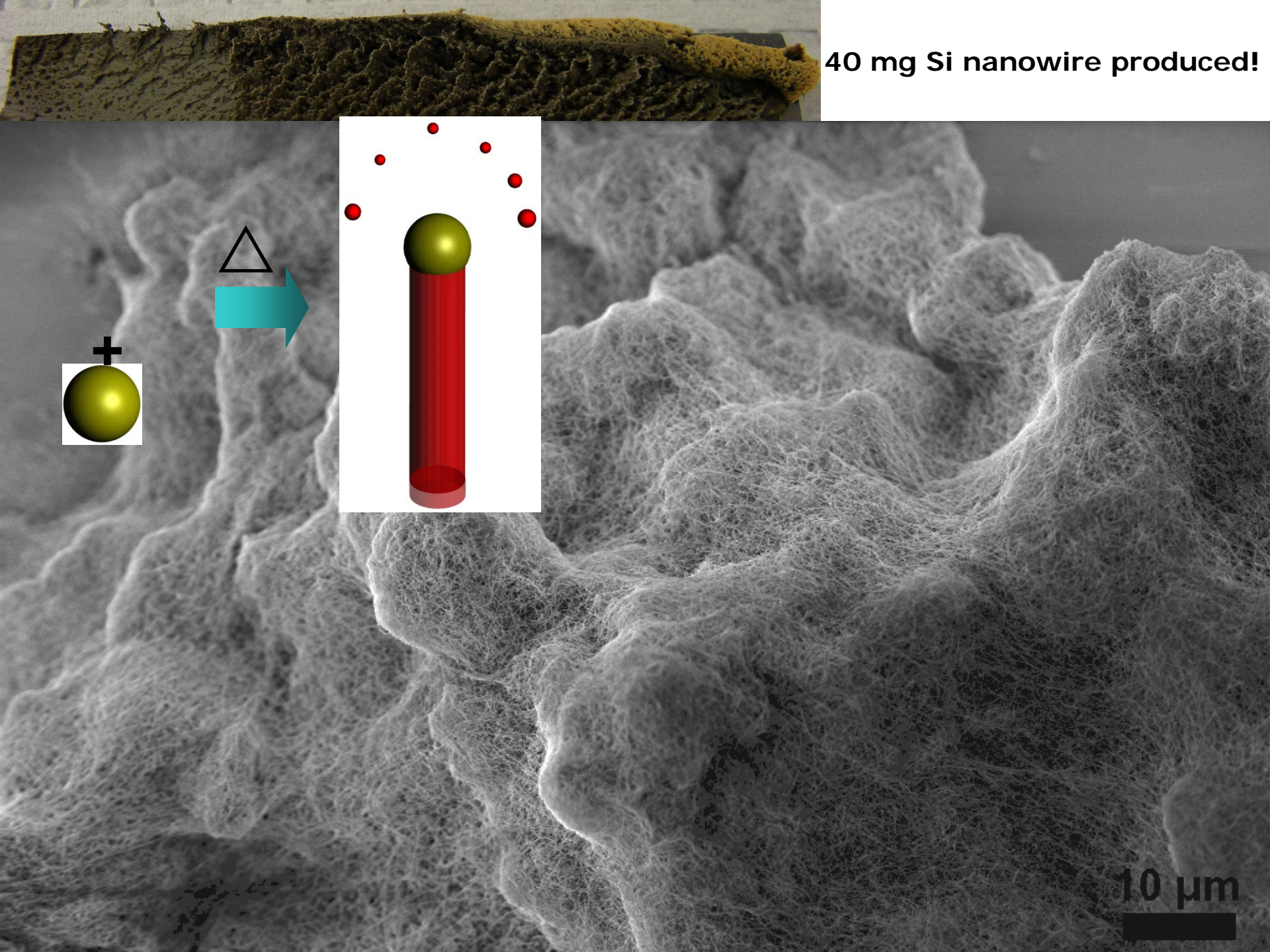
Metal nanostructures: gold and Cu

Upconversion nanocrystal: NaYF<sub>4</sub>: Yb: Er

段 et al. 未發表數據



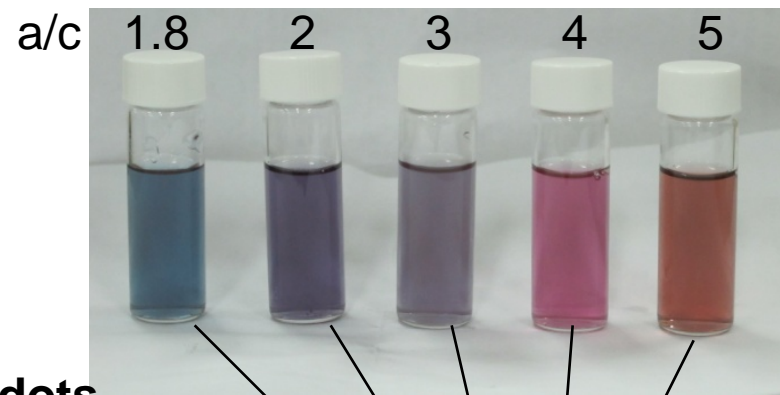
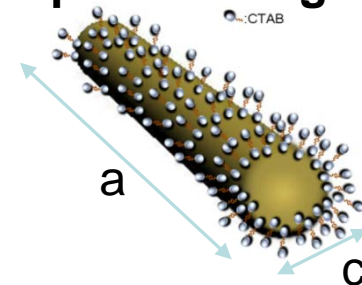
40 mg Si nanowire produced!



# Size Dependent optical properties of CdSe quantum dots



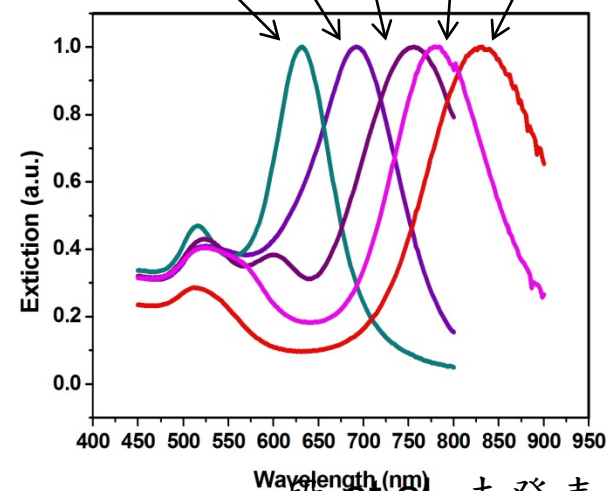
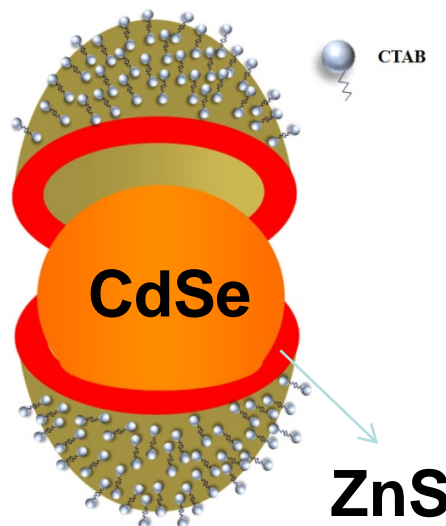
## Plasmon absorption tuning of gold nanorods



## Bright water-soluble CdSe/ZnS/CTAB quantum dots

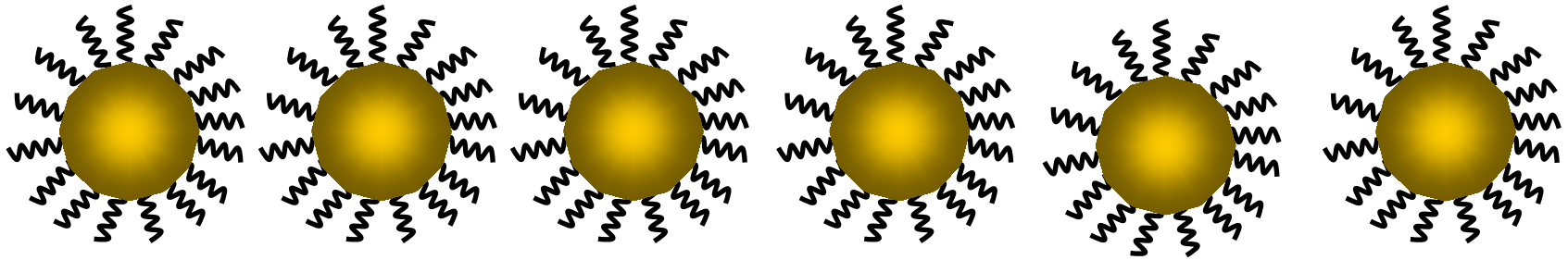


Quantum efficiency 40-60%



段 et al. 未發表數據

# CIQS nanocrystals as ink for thin film solar cell

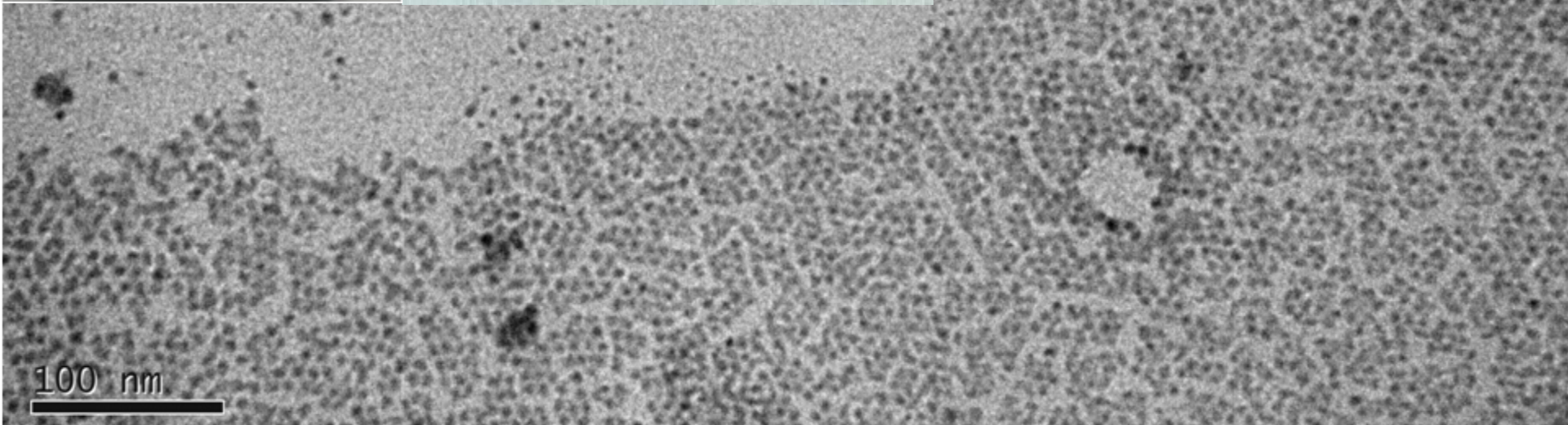
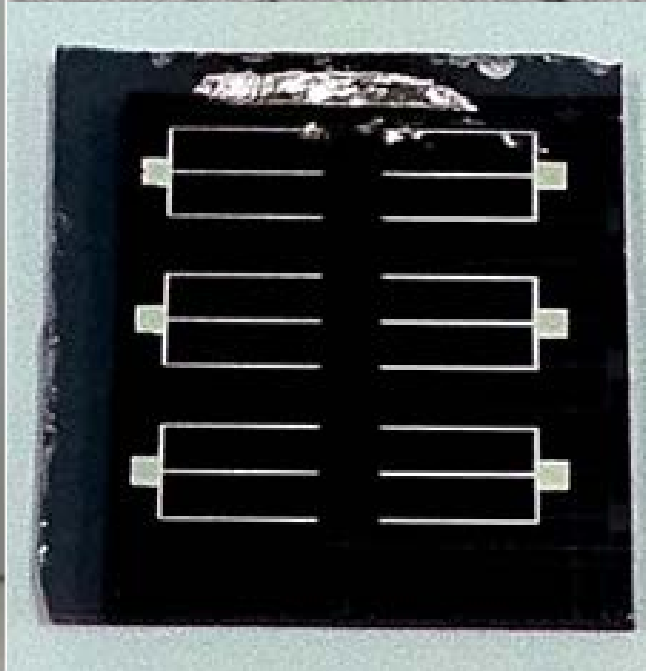


## Why?

- These nanocrystals are uniform size and composition and stable in solution
- These nanocrystals could be easily accessible in solution-processing procedures, such as dip-coating, in-jet printing, drop-casting and could be implanted for future roll-to-roll fabrication processing.
- These nanocrystals could be easily made in massive quantity using our proposed synthetic strategy.

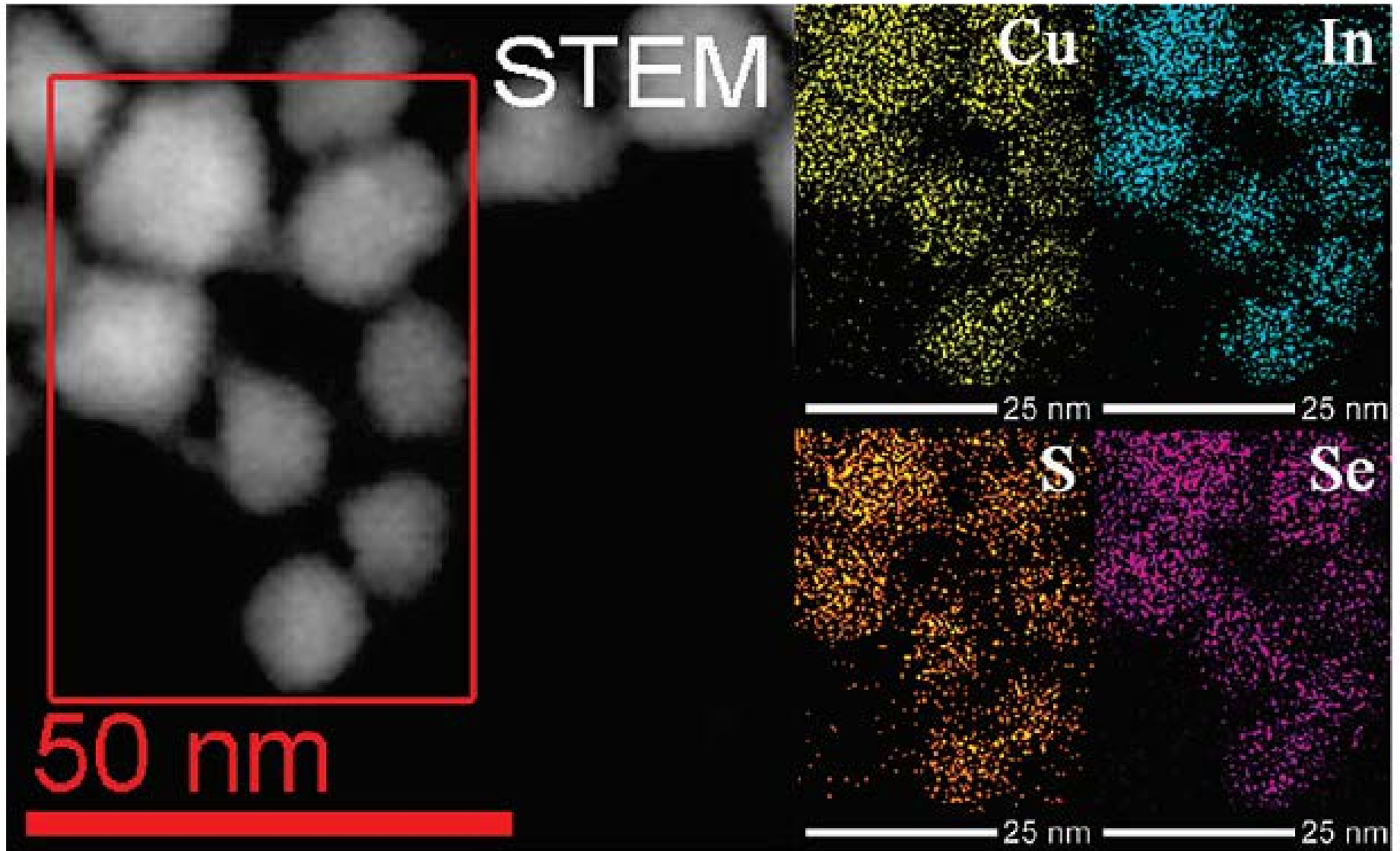


# Nanoparticle ink for CIGS solar cell



100 nm

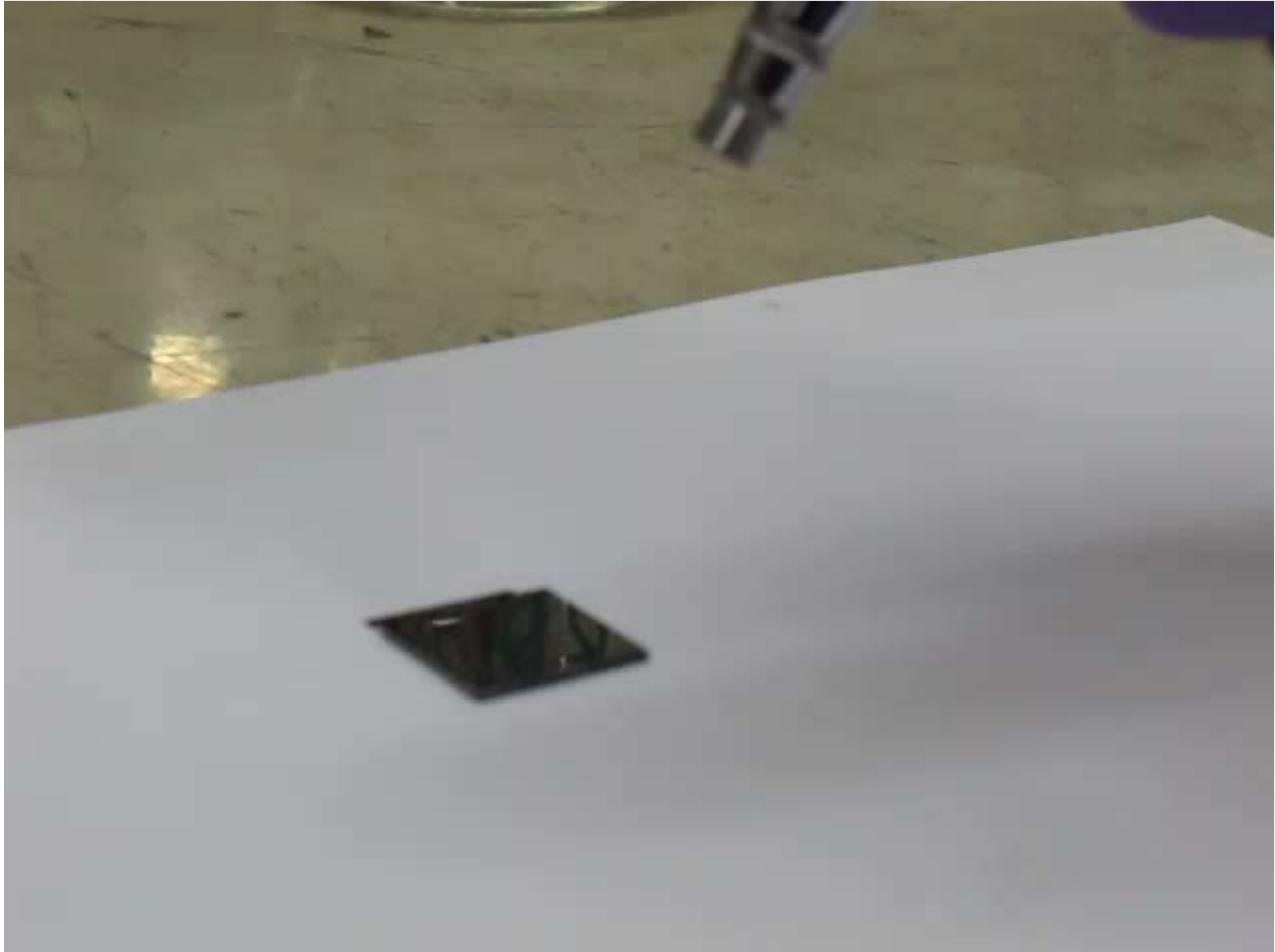
# $\text{CuIn}(\text{S}_{0.5}\text{Se}_{0.5})_2$ Nanoparticles



# Photos of $\text{CIS}_2$ , $\text{ClSe}_2$ , $\text{ClGaSe}_2$ nanocrystal solution



# Spray-depositing Nanocrystals on Mo-coated Soda Glass

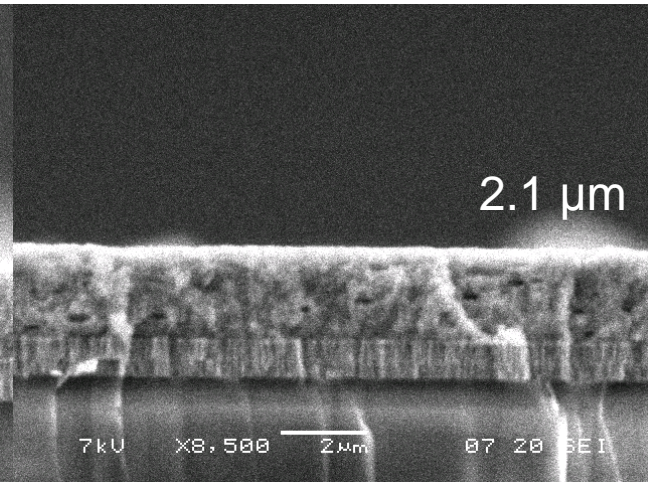
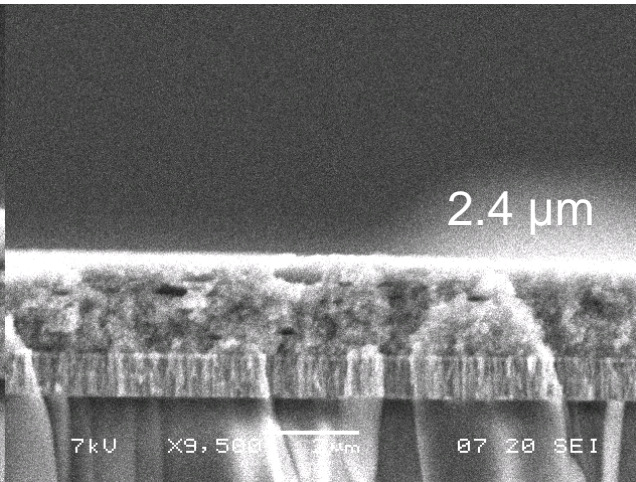
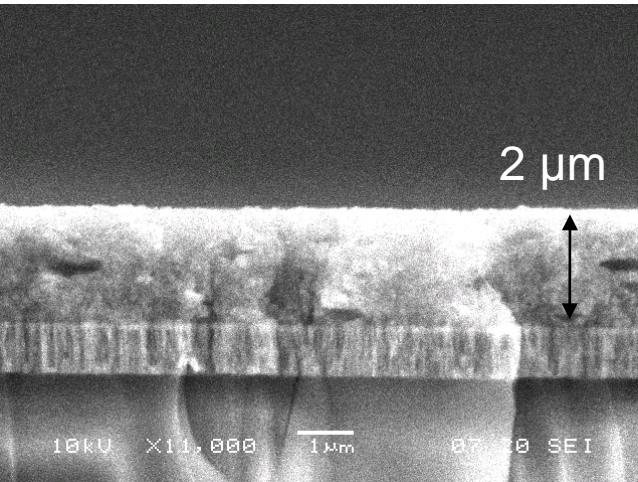
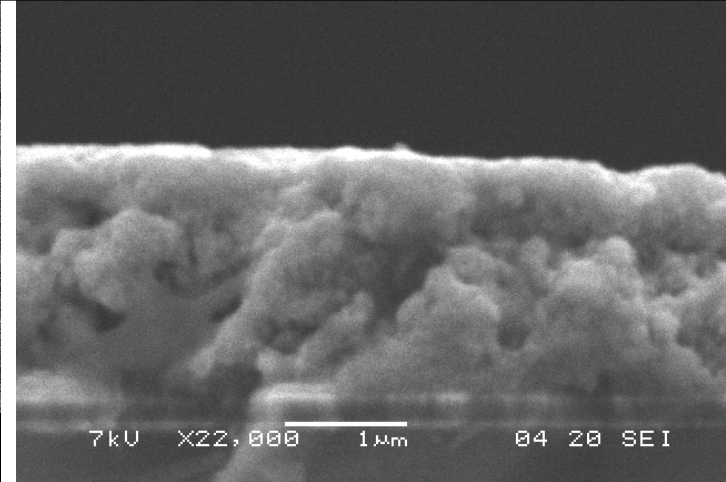
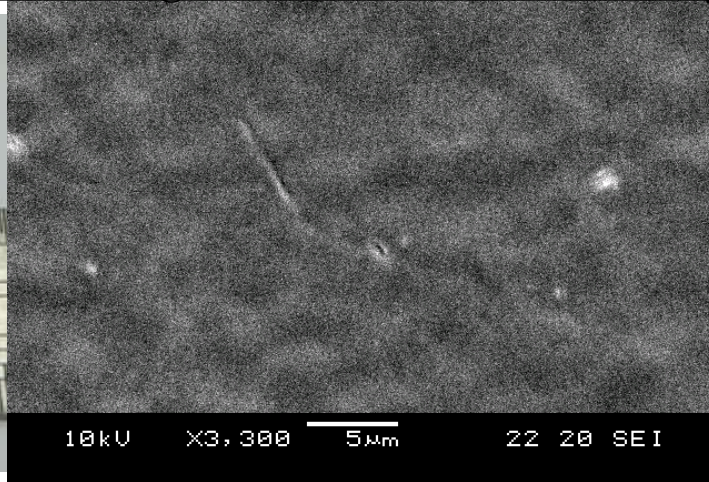
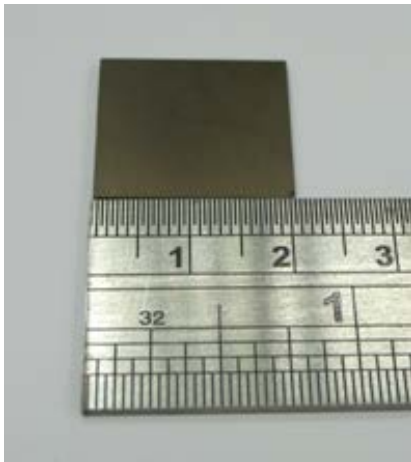




# Spray-deposited Film

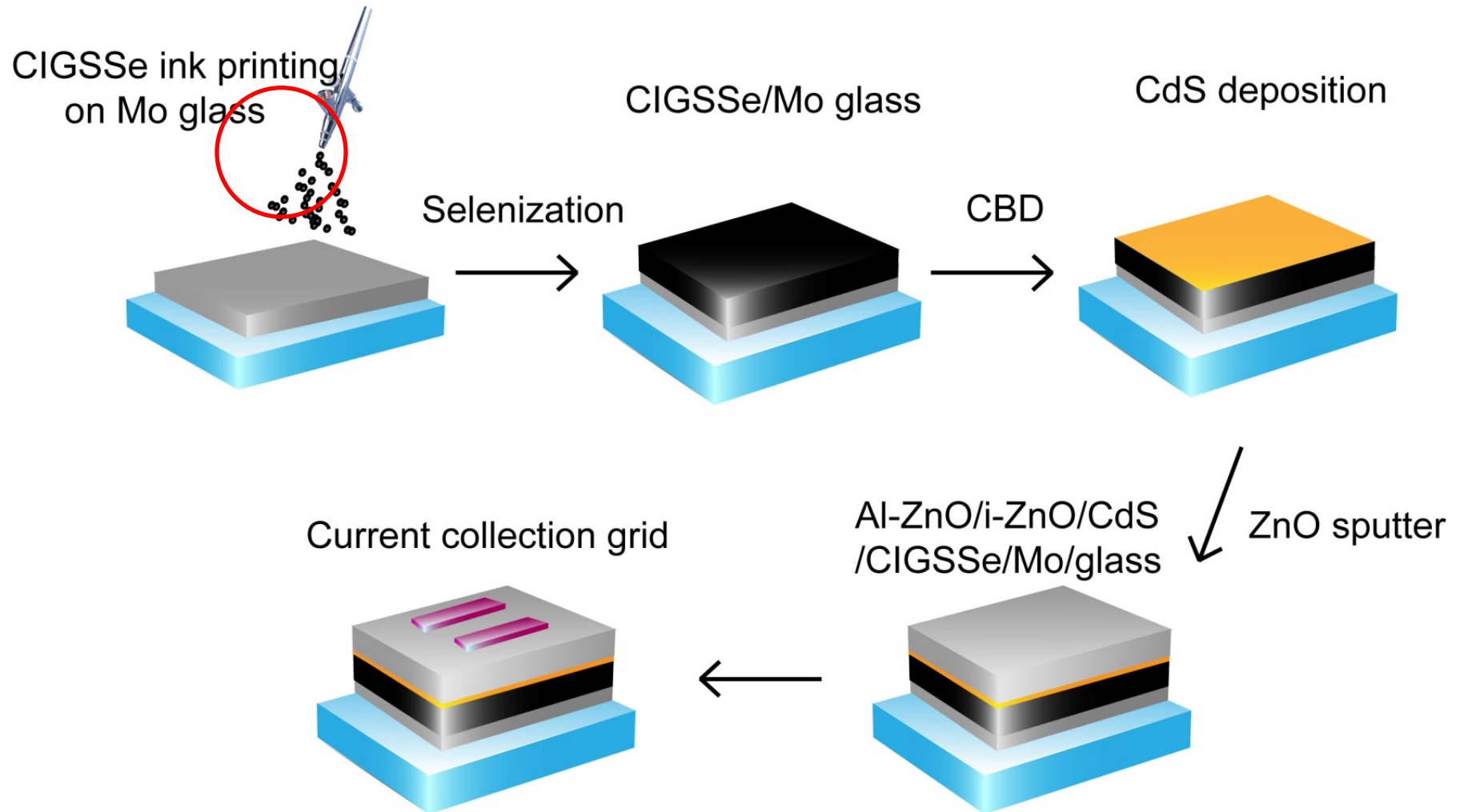
Spray

concentration : **20mg/ml toluene** • Annealing temp: 500°C •  
Annealing time: 60min • thickness: ~2μm •

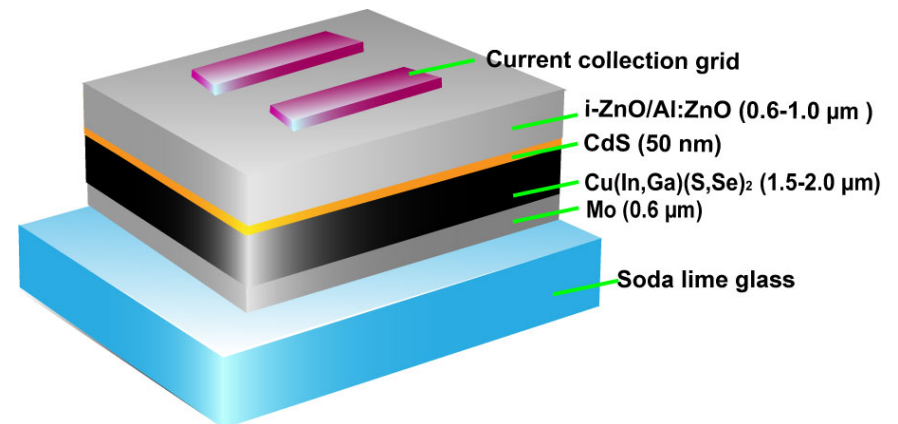
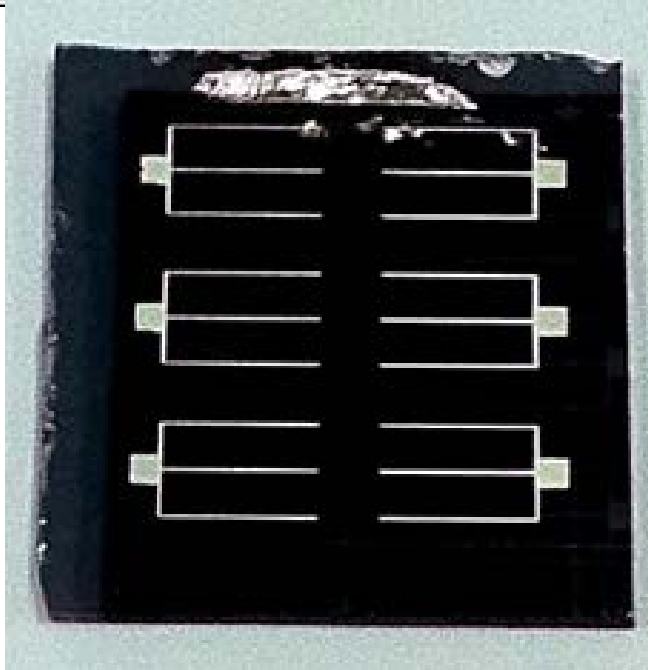
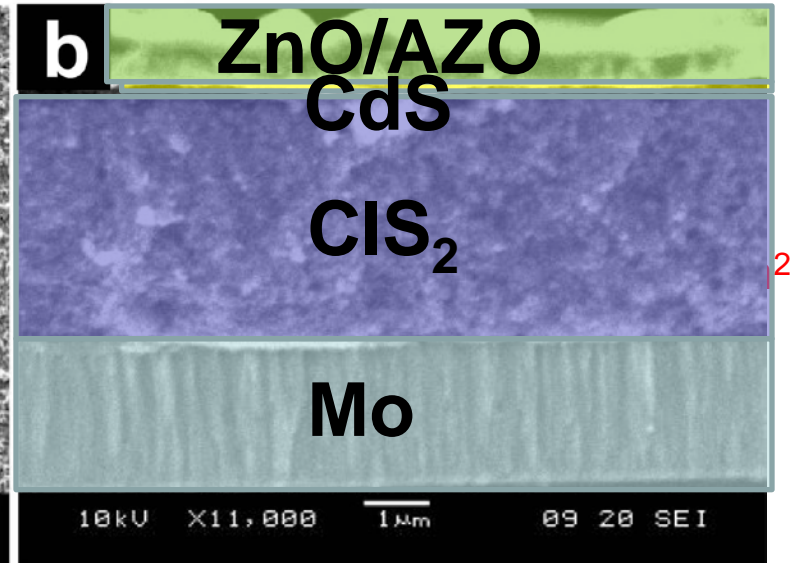
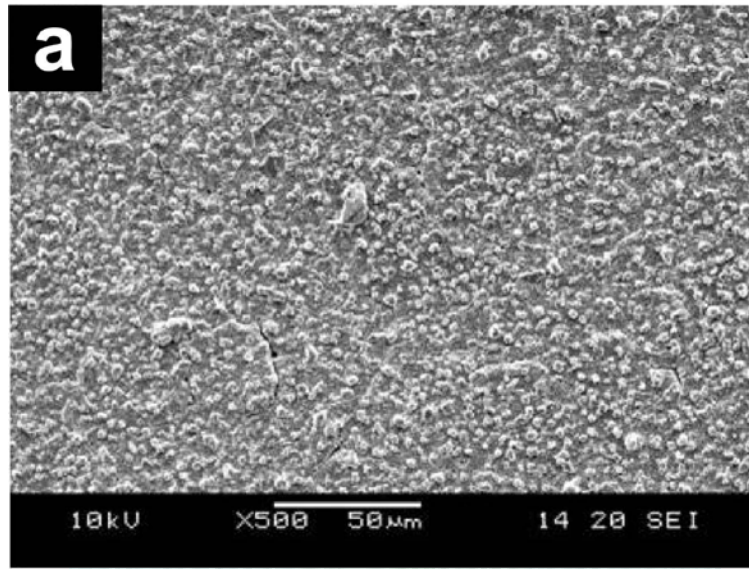




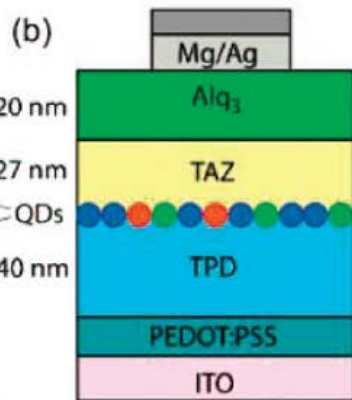
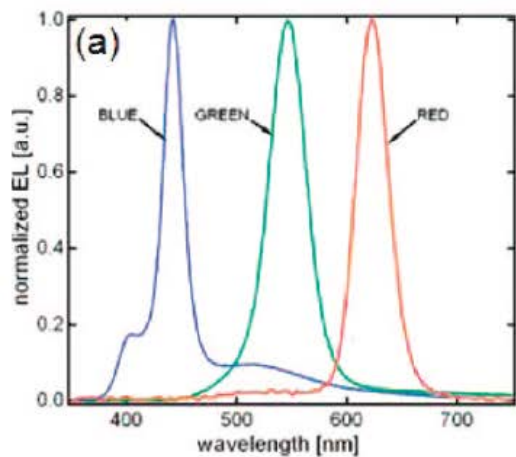
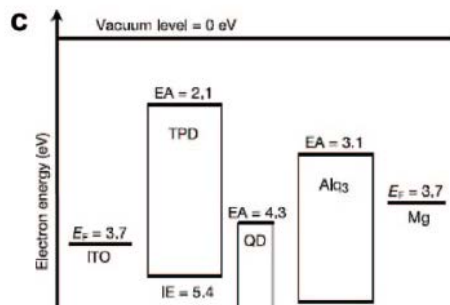
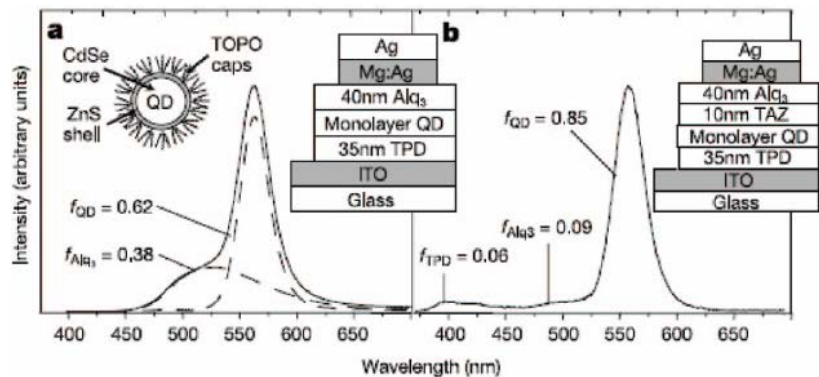
# Procedure of CIGS photovoltaic device fabrication



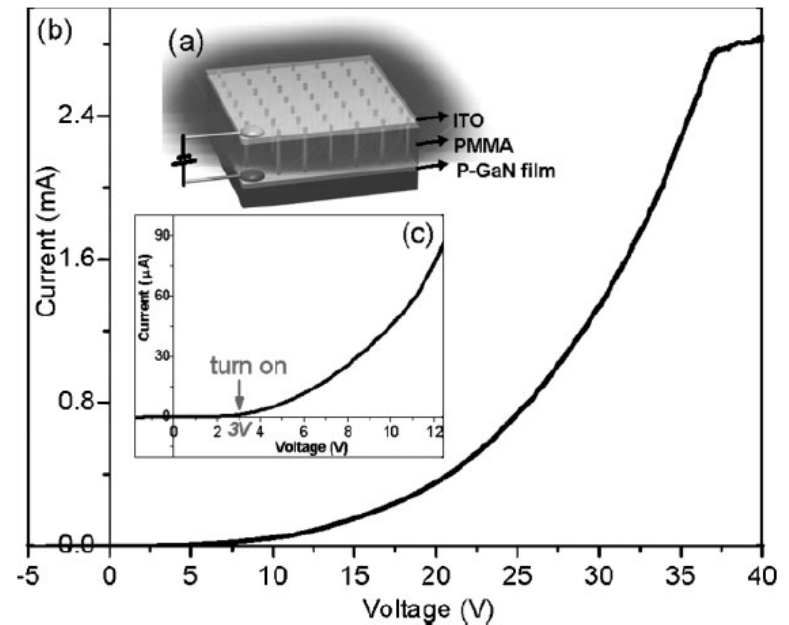
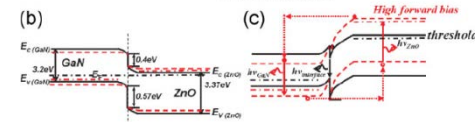
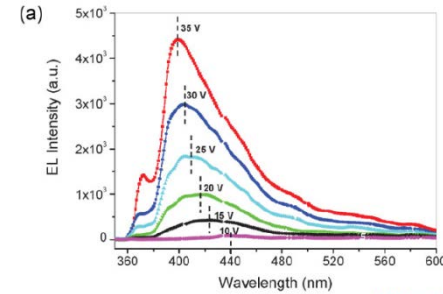
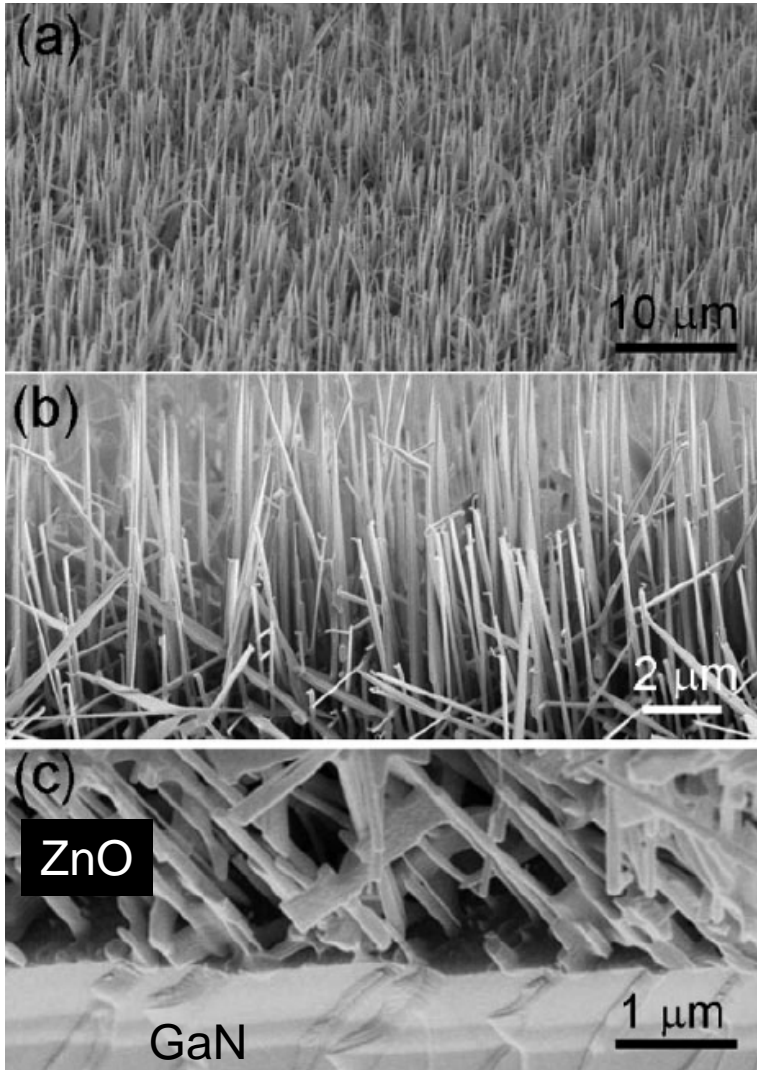
# Final Device Efficiency



# CdSe/ZnS nanocrystal LED



# ZnO nanowire /GaN substrate LED



Zhang et al., Adv Mater., 2009

**Thanks for your attendance on this class**