

# Nanotechnology Approaches to Sensing and Detection

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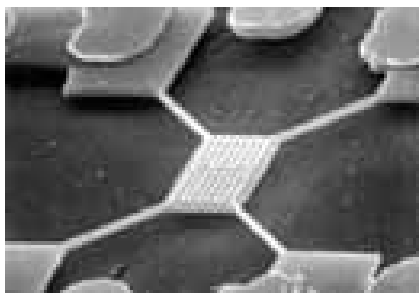
Dr. Richard J. Colton

Naval Research Laboratory

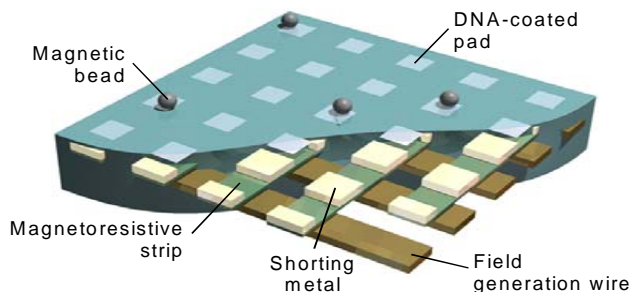
Washington, DC 20375-5342

[rich.colton@nrl.navy.mil](mailto:rich.colton@nrl.navy.mil)

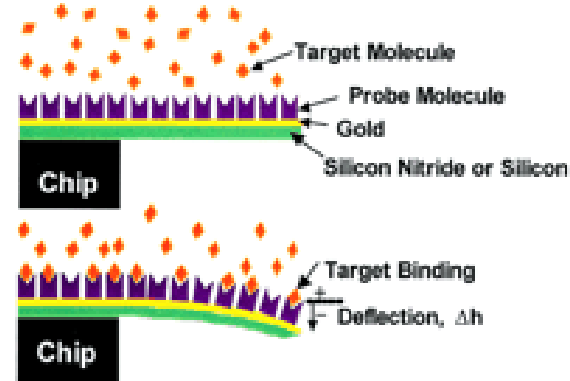
# Why Nanostructures for Sensing



Nanocalorimeter; Roukes CIT



GMR Biosensor; Whitman/Prinz, NRL



Cantilever Sensor; Thundat ORNL

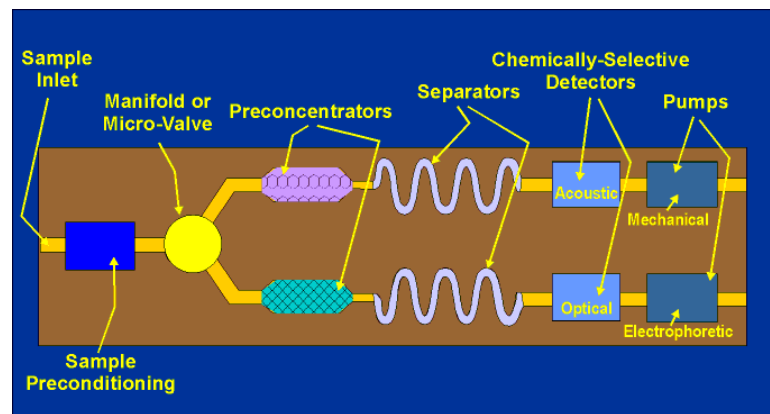
## •Signal to noise improvements:

yocto( $10^{-24}$ )joule,

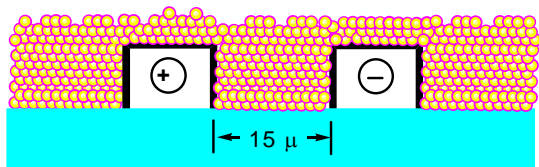
atto( $10^{-18}$ )newton,

single molecule, ....

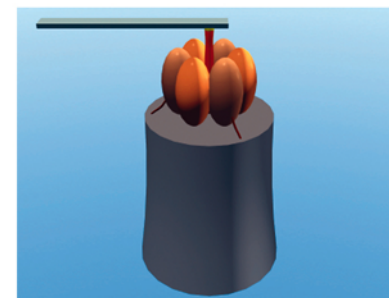
- Miniaturization – size/weight - arrays
- Lower power, potentially scavenged
- Locally process data into information



Lab-on-a-chip; Sandia



NanoAu Chemiresistor; Snow NRL



Molecular Motor; Montemagno Cornell

# Nanotechnology Approaches to Sensing & Detection

## Outline

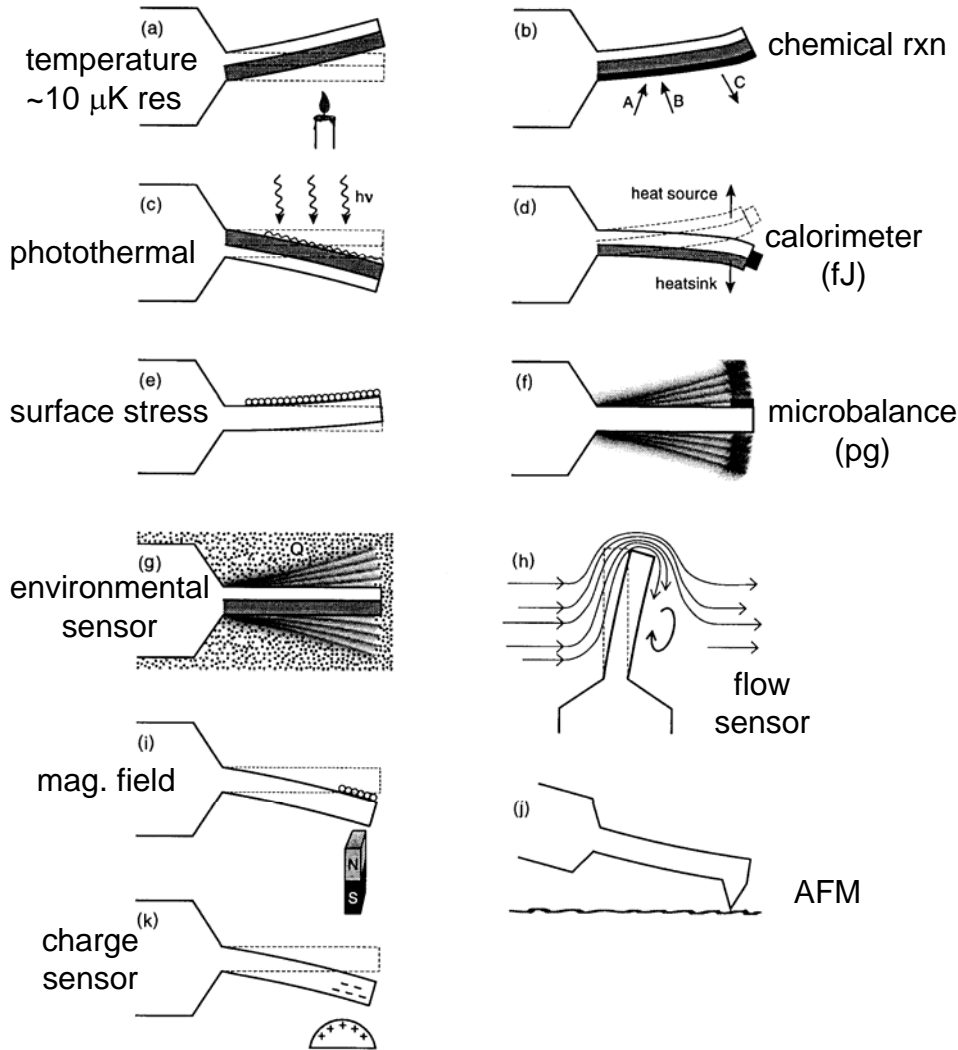
- Approaches
  - Electron tunneling transducers (STM inspired)
  - Micromechanical detection (AFM inspired)
  - Nanowire/tube
  - Nanoparticle
- Power sources
- Looking ahead

# Micromechanical Approaches – AFM inspired

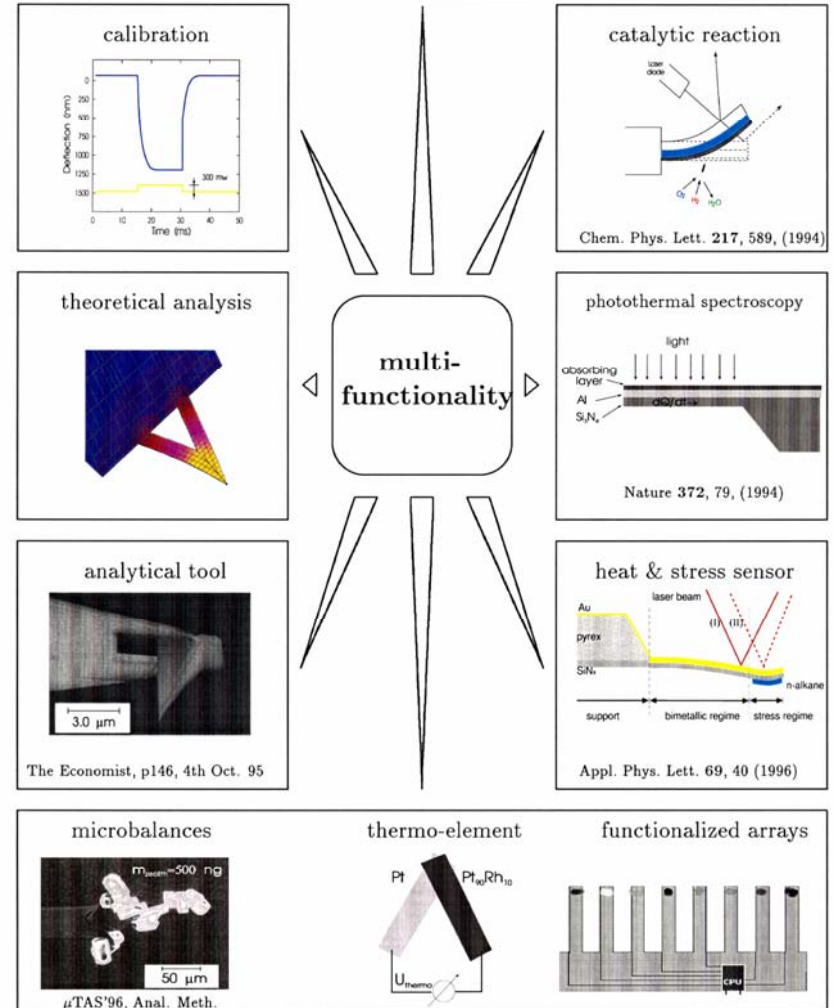
Thundat	ORNL	Protiveris – VeriScan 3000
Lang	IBM Zurich	Concentris – Cantisens
		Veeco - Scentris
Bashir	Purdue	
Craighead	Cornell	
Fadel	Univ Bordeaux	
Majumdar	UCB	
Whitman	NRL	
Ziegler	Univ Kaiserslautern	

# Micromechanical Sensing & Detection

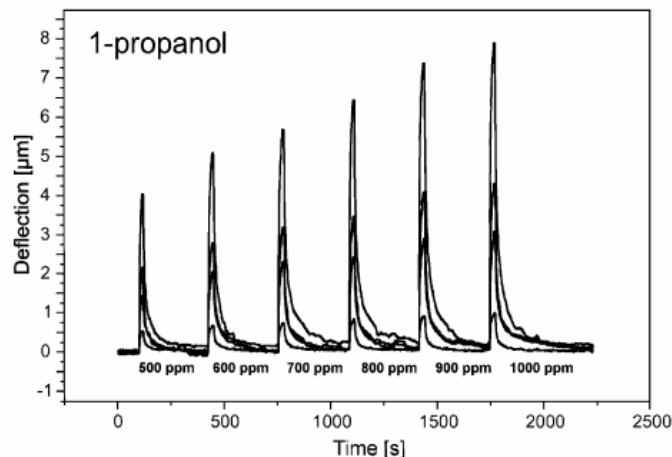
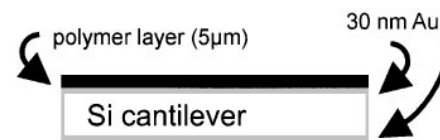
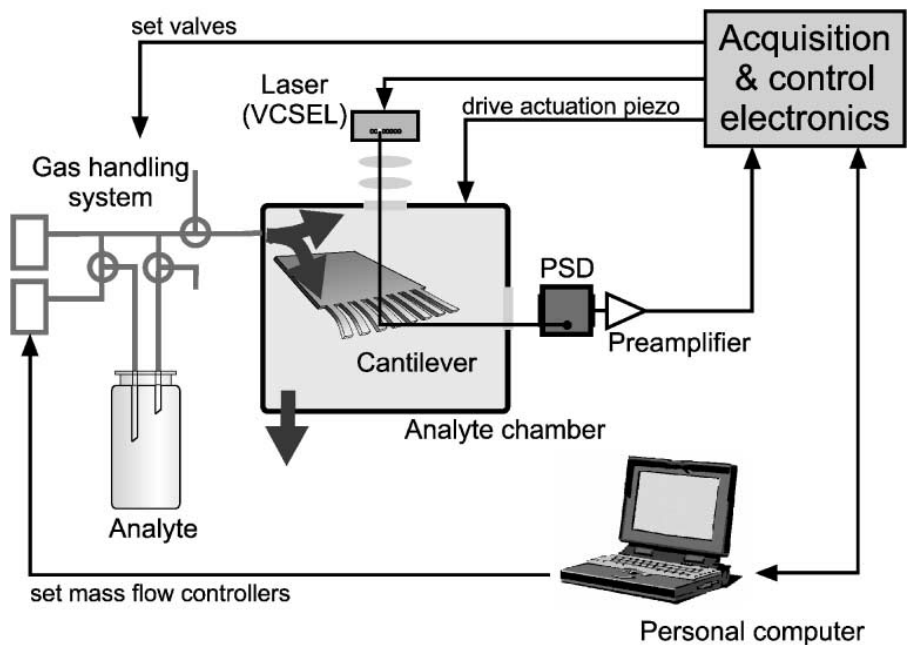
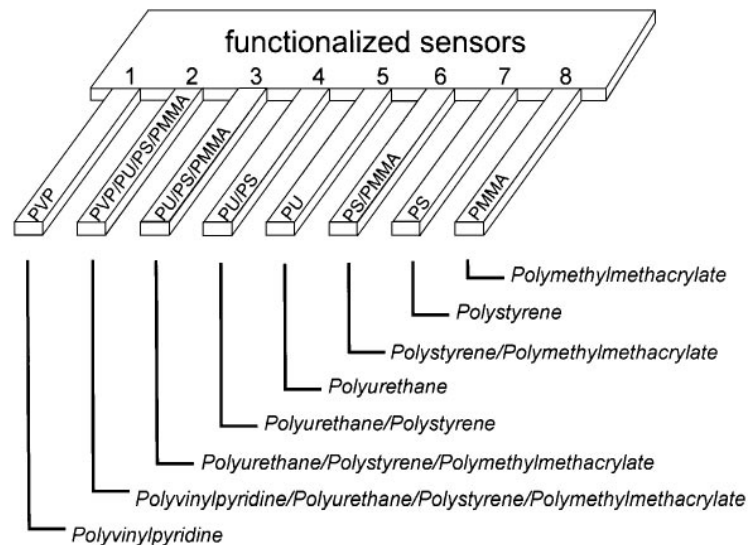
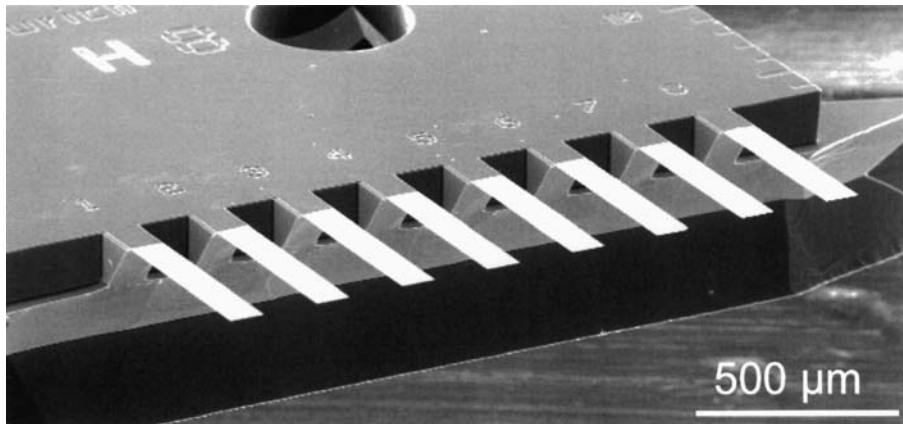
## Micromechanical cantilevers



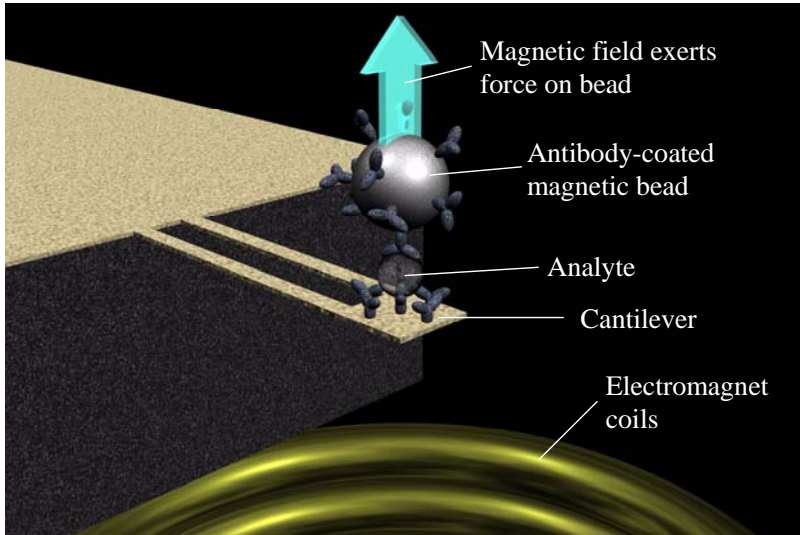
## A Micromechanical 'Bimetallic' Sensor A Tool for "Pico-Science"



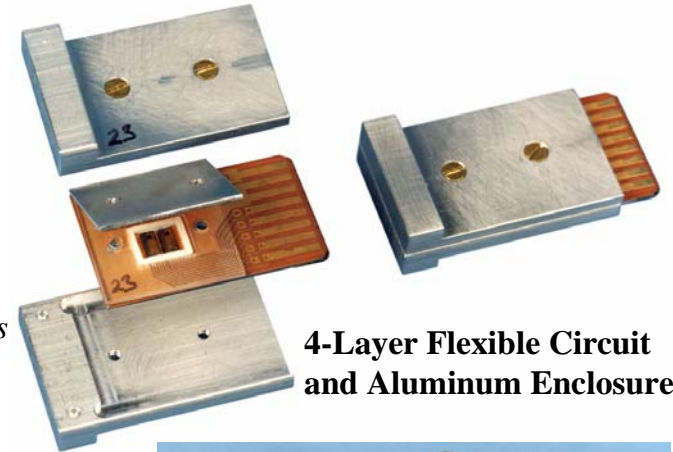
# Cantilever Array-based Artificial Nose



# Force Amplified Biological Sensor



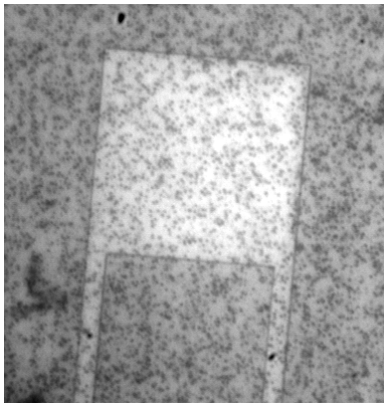
1 of 2  
4-cantilever dies



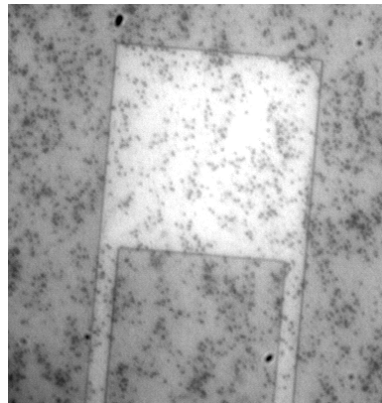
4-Layer Flexible Circuit  
and Aluminum Enclosure

## FABS Assay for Ovalbumin at 1 ng/mL

Before magnetic field



After magnetic field



D.R. Baselt, et al. *JVST B* **14**, 789 (1996);  
*Proc. IEEE* **85**, 672 (1997)

# Nanowire/Nanotube Approaches

Dai	Stanford
Dekker	Delft (ND)
Grimes	Penn State
Lieber	Harvard
Snow	NRL
Valentini	Univ Perugia (IT)

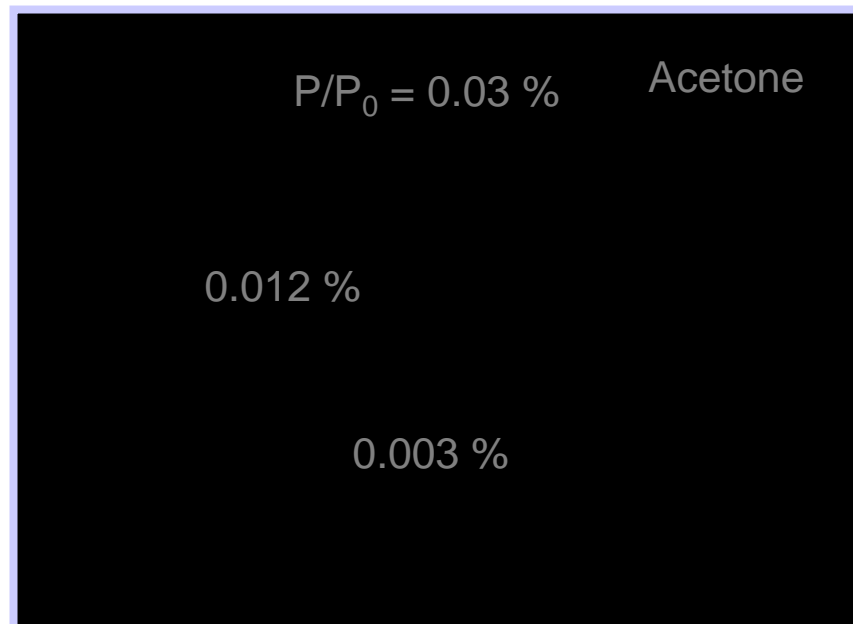
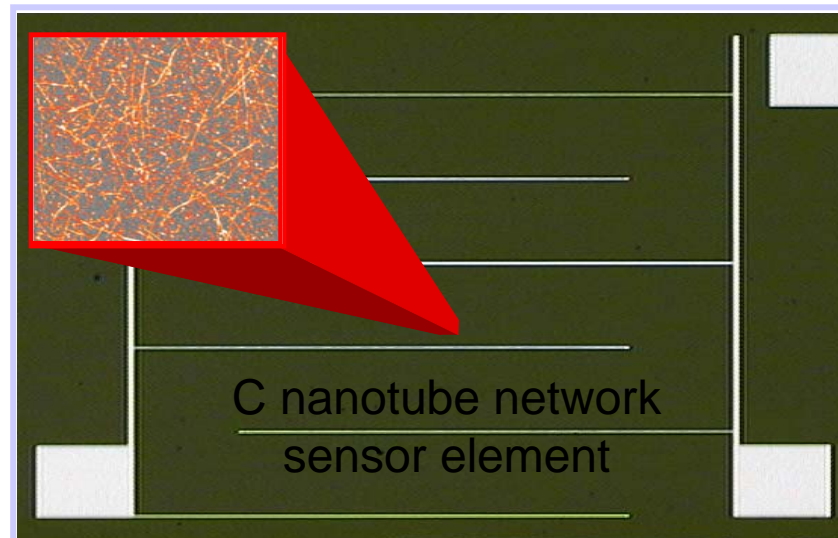




# Chemical sensing with C nanotube networks

E.S. Snow and F.K. Perkins

- Sensor based on capacitance of SWNT network
- Detection via field-induced polarization of adsorbates on SWNT surface
- Fast, low-power, and highly sensitive
- Responds to CWAs, TICs and explosives
- Chemical specificity achieved using chemically selective coatings
- Functionalized arrays for detection and identification

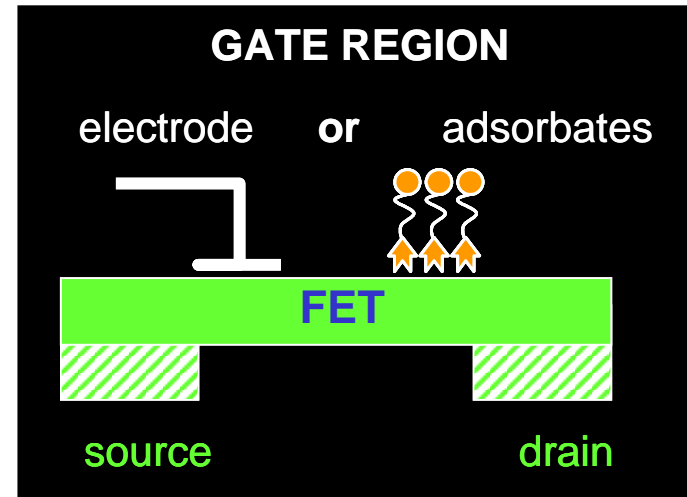


# III. Biosurfaces on III-V Substrates for

## → Versatility **bioFETs**

An ideal surface chemistry would:

1. Preserve the electronic integrity of the underlying substrate while remaining thin enough for efficient sensing (~2 nm).
2. Allow for specific attachment of DNA or protein molecules.
3. Resist the nonspecific adsorption of other biological materials (lower background & false positives).

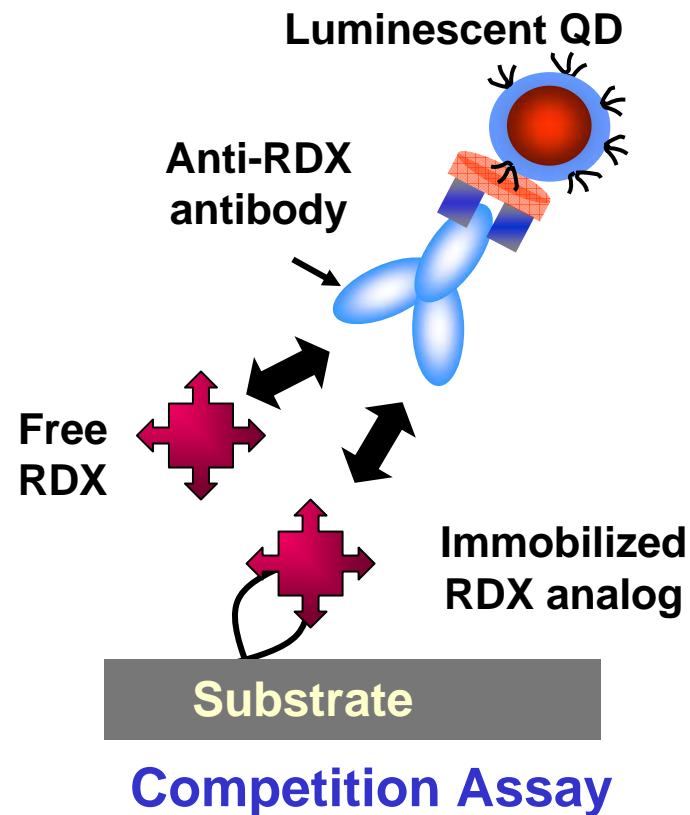
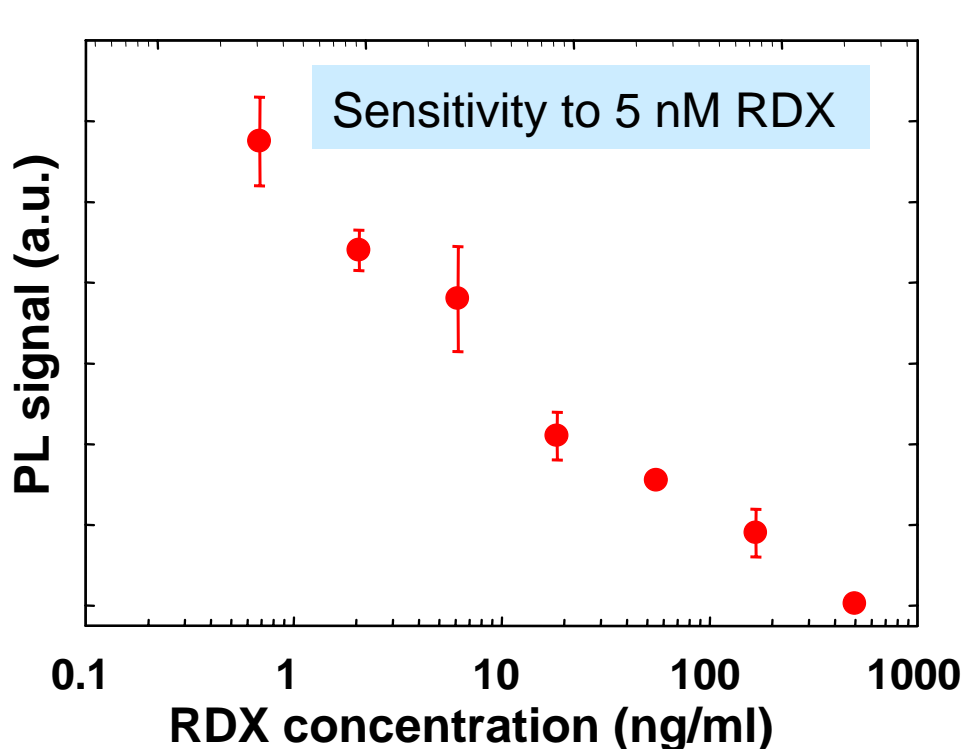


*For many substrates (e.g. InAs, GaN), no such chemistry currently exists.*

# (Nano)particle Approaches

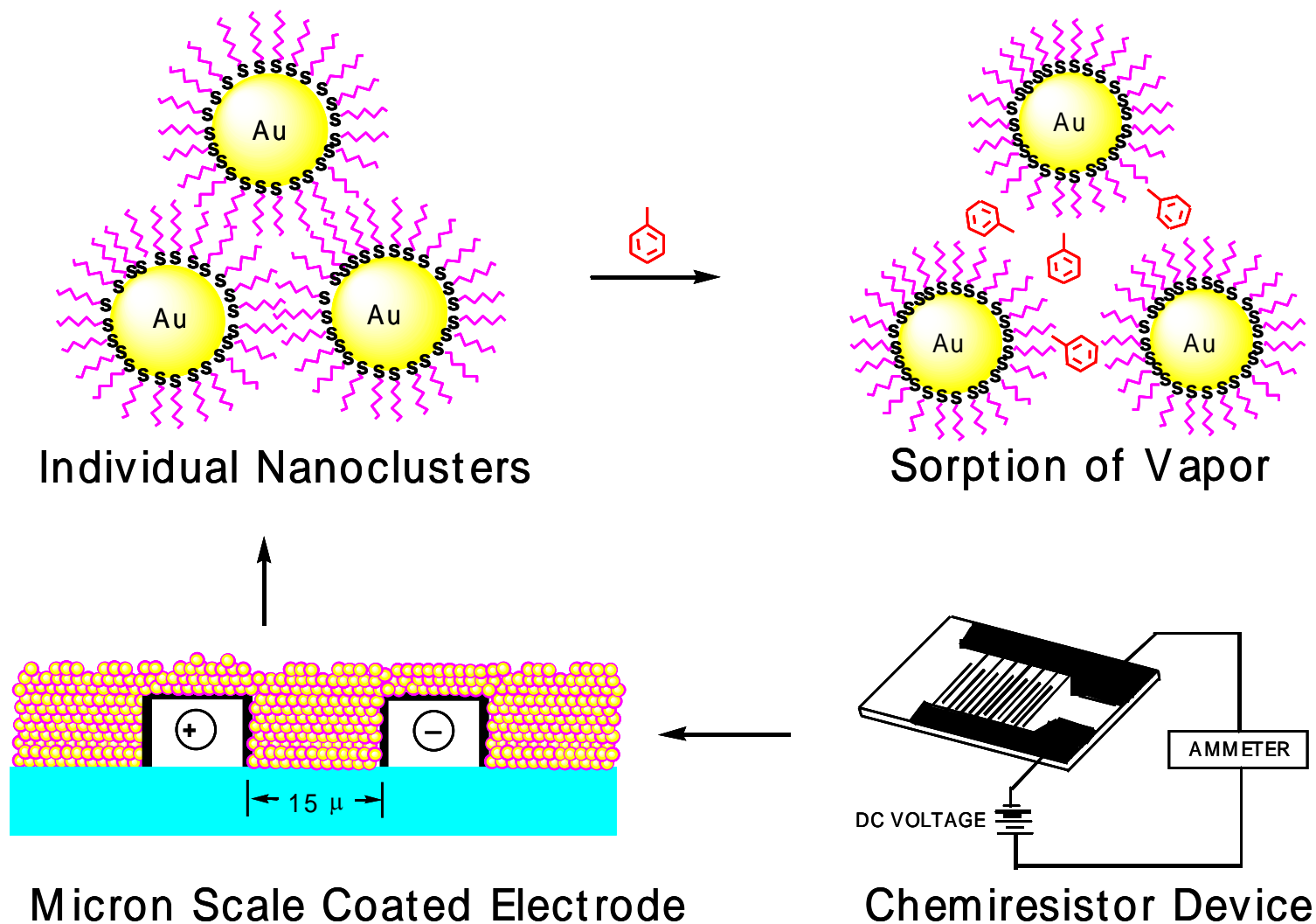
Alivasatos	UCB	Quantum Dot Corp – QDot Bioconjugates
Mirkin	Northwestern	Nanosphere, Inc - Verigene
Snow	NRL	Microsensor Systems, Inc
Whitman	NRL	Seahawk Biosystems
Lu	Univ Ill	
Tan	Florida	
Tan	Nanyang Tech Univ (PRC)	

# Detection of Explosives (RDX) in Seawater



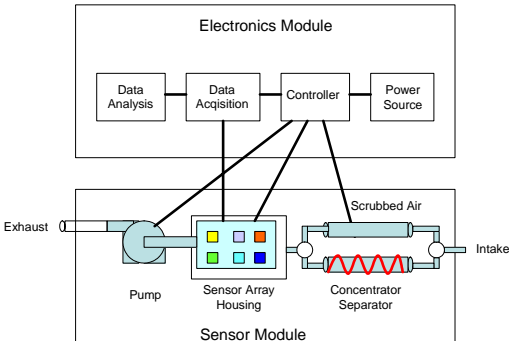
- Prepare QDs conjugated with anti-RDX antibodies
- Measure PL of QD-bioconjugates bound to a surface prepared with RDX analogs
- Free RDX competes for bioconjugate and reduces PL signal

# Gold Nanocluster Chemical Sensor

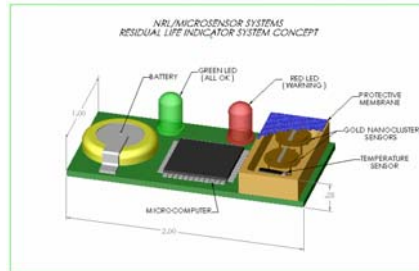


# Hybrid Silicon Chip Integrated MIME CW Agent Detection System

Schematic Sensor System Diagram



Artist's Depiction of a  
Micro Residual life indicator



Current Version (125 g/3x2x1")  
"cigarette pack size"



Future Version (10g/1x1x0.5")  
"wristwatch size"

Targeted Applications  
UAV Platforms  
Residual Life Indicators  
Drop-off Sensors

## Description of Effort:

- This proposal is a joint NRL-MSI effort to fabricate an integrated detector system as a silicon chip hybrid:
- Integration of gold cluster vapor sensitive materials and transduction mechanism with planar silicon technology
- Fabrication of sensor and supporting components (electronics, microprocessor, etc.) on separate silicon chips connected by vapor lines and pneumatics
- Design for minimal power consumption (mW)

## Benefit to Warfighter/First-Responders:

- Small size, light weight and low power consumption of this detector system permit unobtrusive incorporation into a garment, helmet or on a UAV.

## Challenges:

- Develop self-assembly chemistry for incorporation of gold cluster vapor responsive component into a silicon chip
- Reduce of supporting electronics and microprocessor functions to integrated silicon chip package
- Miniaturization/incorporation of vapor lines and pneumatics
- Integration/programmed electronic control of detector system

## Maturity of Technology: Applied Research (6.2)

## Business Area: Chemical Point Detector

**NRL POC:** Dr. Warren Schultz, 202-767-2479  
Dr. Art Snow, 202-767-5341

## Objective:

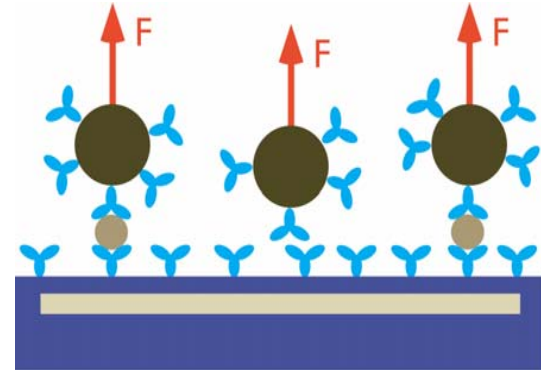
- Accelerate miniaturization of new gold cluster based toxic chemical vapor detection system from a printed circuit board configuration to a light weight/small volume hybrid silicon chip integrated package with an ultralow power requirement.

## Description:

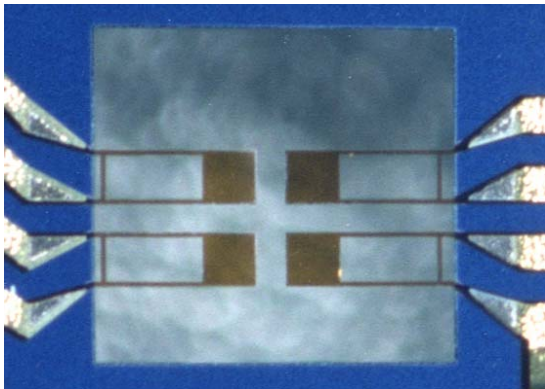
- An ensemble of nanometer scale gold clusters serves as a highly sensitive and selective solid-state element for adsorption of chemical species and transduction to an electronic signal.

# Single Molecule Biosensors

## Force Discrimination Assay



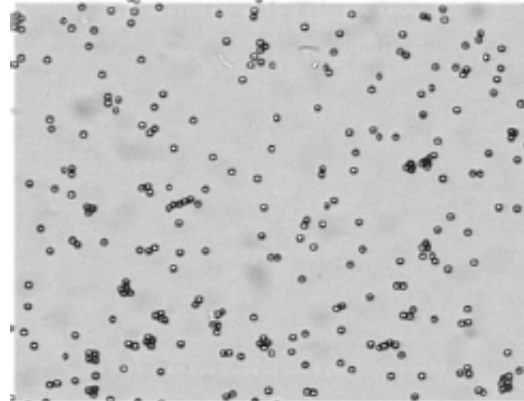
## Biosensor Platforms



Piezoresistive  
cantilever

**FABS**

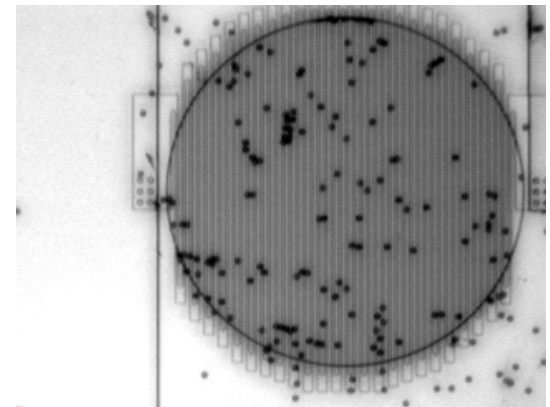
D.R. Baselt, *et al.*, *Proc. IEEE* **85**, 672 (1997)



Transparent substrate  
with optical detection

**FDB**

G.U. Lee, *et al.*, *Anal. Biochem.* **287**, 261 (2000)

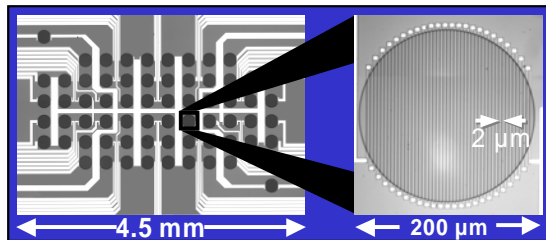


Magnetoresistive  
elements

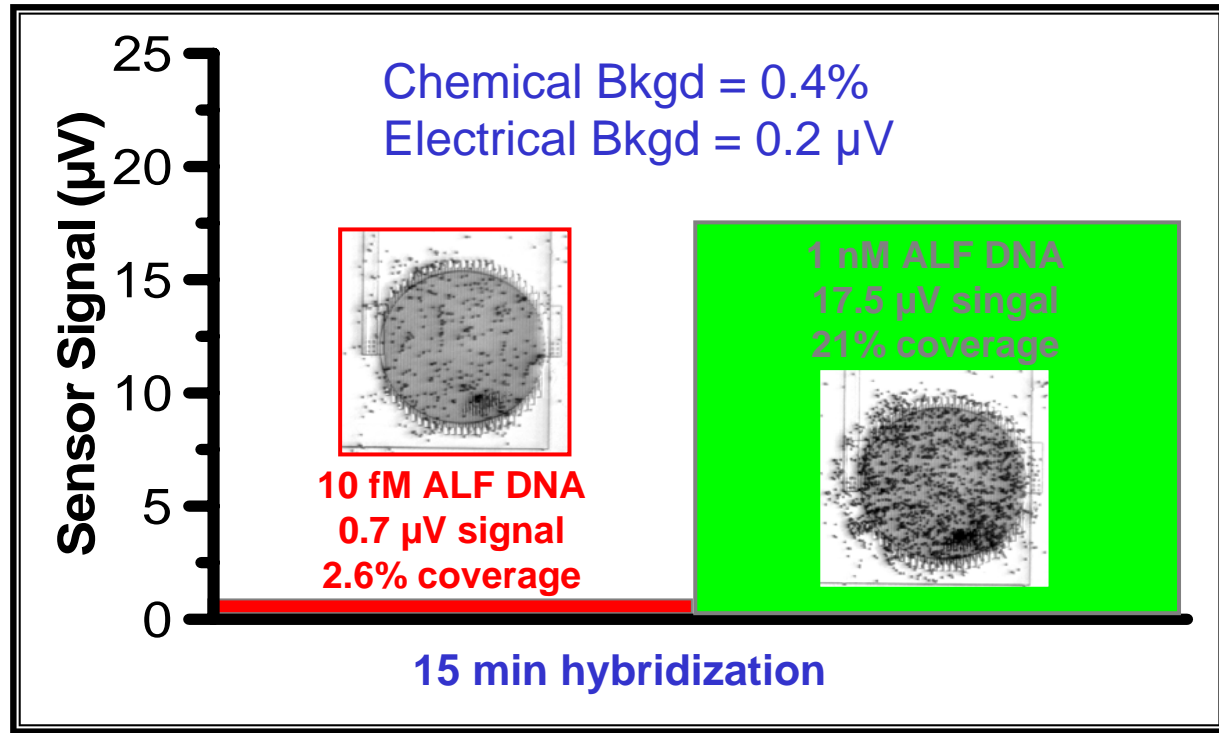
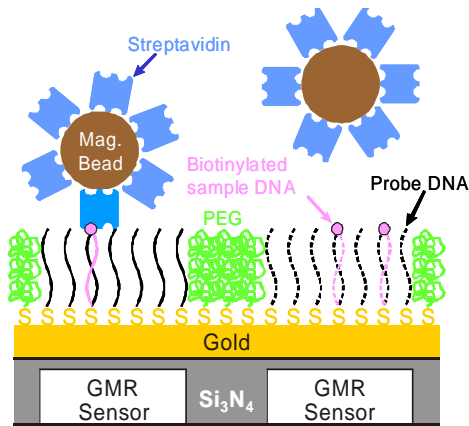
**BARC**

M.M. Miller, *et al.*, *J. Mag. Mag. Mat.* **225**, 138 (2001)

# Bead Array Counter



Fabricated by NVE



- Demonstrated sensitivity  $<1$  fM in  $\sim 30$  min total assay time
- Integrated prototype completed, licensed for environmental monitoring (Seahawk Biosystems)

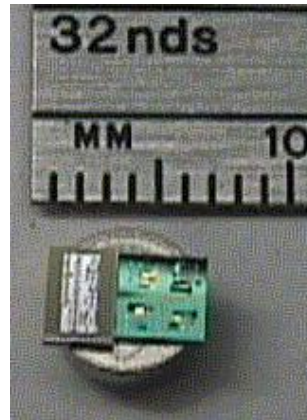


# Power Sources

**NSF MPS-IC Workshop  
on Approaches to  
Combat Terrorism  
19-21 Nov 2002**

*Opportunities for Basic  
Research in Energy and  
Power Sources*

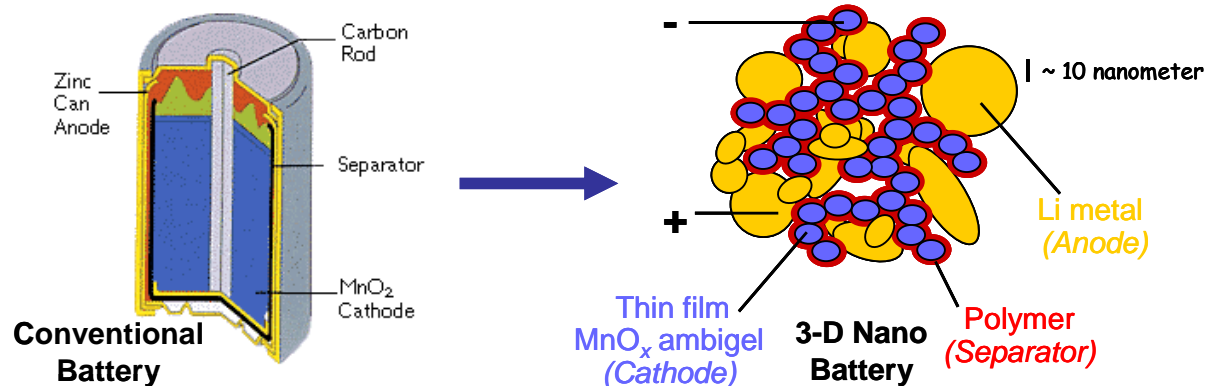
[http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/  
2003/nsf03569/nsf03569  
.htm](http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2003/nsf03569/nsf03569.htm)



Smart Dust  
K. Pister, UC Berkeley

K.E. Swider-Lyons & coworkers, "Power Sources for Nanotechnology," *Int. J. Nanotechnology* 1, 149 (2003)

Replacing conventional battery architecture with new 3-dimensional nanostructured architecture ...



D.R. Rolison & coworkers,  
*Nature* 406, 169-172 (2000)

...to achieve higher battery capacity and energy density

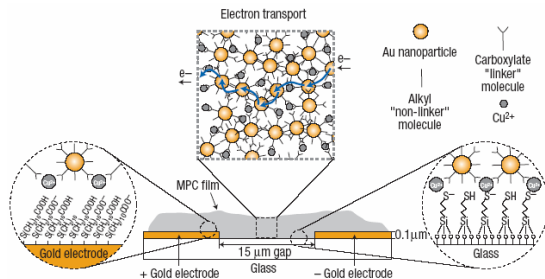
# Looking Ahead

- **Nanoscience**

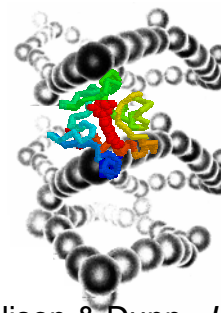
- Single molecule imaging, spectroscopy (e.g., near-field vibrational spectroscopy), force measurements (e.g., binding affinity) & manipulation (via probes & tweezers)
- Sample collection & handling issues for ‘single molecule sensors’
- TeraHz standoff imaging and detection

- **Nanomaterials**

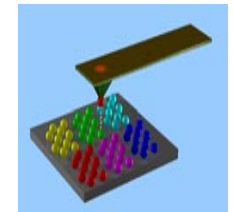
- Nanoparticles & rods (e.g., barcoded molecules)
- Nanostructured materials (e.g., aerogels & tubules) for sensing and energy storage/generation
- Top-to-bottom functional design (e.g., directed self-assembly of organized networks of nanoparticles)



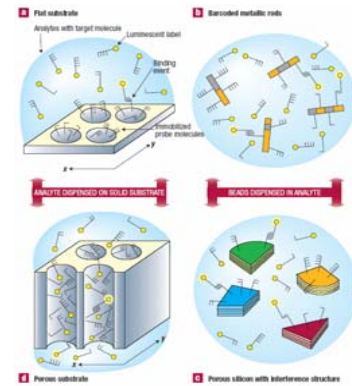
R. Murray & coworkers, *JACS* **124**, 8958 (2002);  
D.R. Walt, *Nature Mater.* **1**, 17 (2002)



Rolison & Dunn, *J. Mater. Chem.* **11**, 963 (2001)



J-B.D. Green, *Anal. Chim. Acta* **496**, 267 (2002)



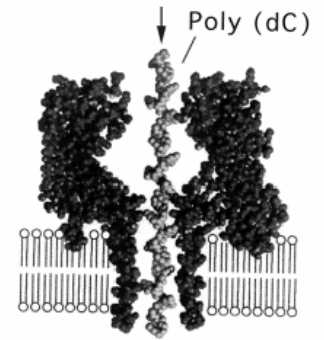
V. Lehmann, *Nature Mater.* **1**, 12 (2002)



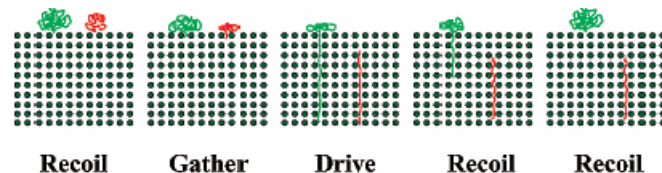
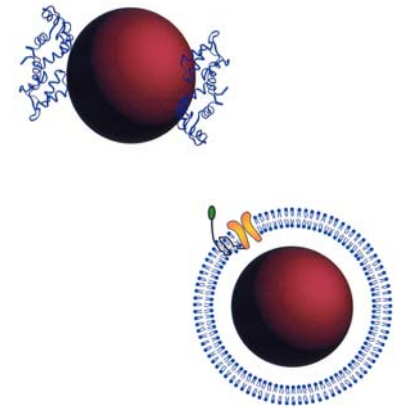
C.A. Mirkin & coworkers, *Science* **301**, 1884 (2003)

# Looking Ahead

- **Nano(bio)electronics**
  - Biotic:Abiotic interface studies
  - Magnetoelectronics
  - Natural & synthetic ion channels & pores
- **Biosensors (→ BioNEMS & other NanoDevices)**
  - Micro- & nano-fluidics (i.e. sample collection/delivery)
  - Specialty proteins (e-protein; QD-protein)
  - Single molecule detection; single molecules as sensors
- **Laboratory on a Chip**



D.W. Deamer & D. Branton,  
*Acc. Chem. Res.* **35**, 817 (2002)



[rich.colton@nrl.navy.mil](mailto:rich.colton@nrl.navy.mil)

H.G. Craighead & coworkers, *Anal. Chem.* **74**, 5169 (2002)