

BioSensors and Bio-Inspired Sciences

5 September 2008

Morley Stone, Ph.D., ST
937-904-9536
morley.stone@us.af.mil

AFRL

THE AIR FORCE RESEARCH LABORATORY
LEAD | DISCOVER | DEVELOP | DELIVER



Biomimetics and Bio-Inspiration



- Bio-inspiration has always been a part of humanity's technological pursuits
- When do we copy nature versus just get inspiration from nature?



VS





NanoBio History: So What's Different Now?



Info Timeline

Intel 4004
1971

Bio Timeline

Nano Timeline

1973: "Modern" Era Begins

1975: Alsilomar Conference

1976: First Biotech Company

1978: Smith & Nathans
win Nobel Prize

1985: Mullis publishes PCR
paper

1993: Mullis wins Nobel Prize

1981: Binning and Rohrer invent STM

1985: Binning, Quate, and Gerber
invent AFM

1986: Binning and Rohrer win
Nobel Prize

1989: First commercial AFM



NanoBio History: So What's Different Now?



1985

Democratization Happened...

What Henry Ford did for automobiles, PCR and AFM did for biotechnology and nanotechnology, respectively and independently.



Economics \propto scope of adoption = N (collective of researchers)
A “Wisdom of Crowds” effect for the entire research area



Bionanotechnology Future



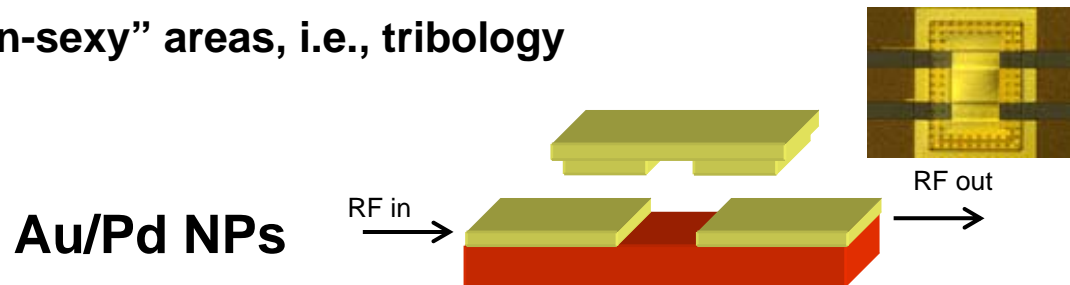
(Self-Assembled) Structures

Sensors

Optics

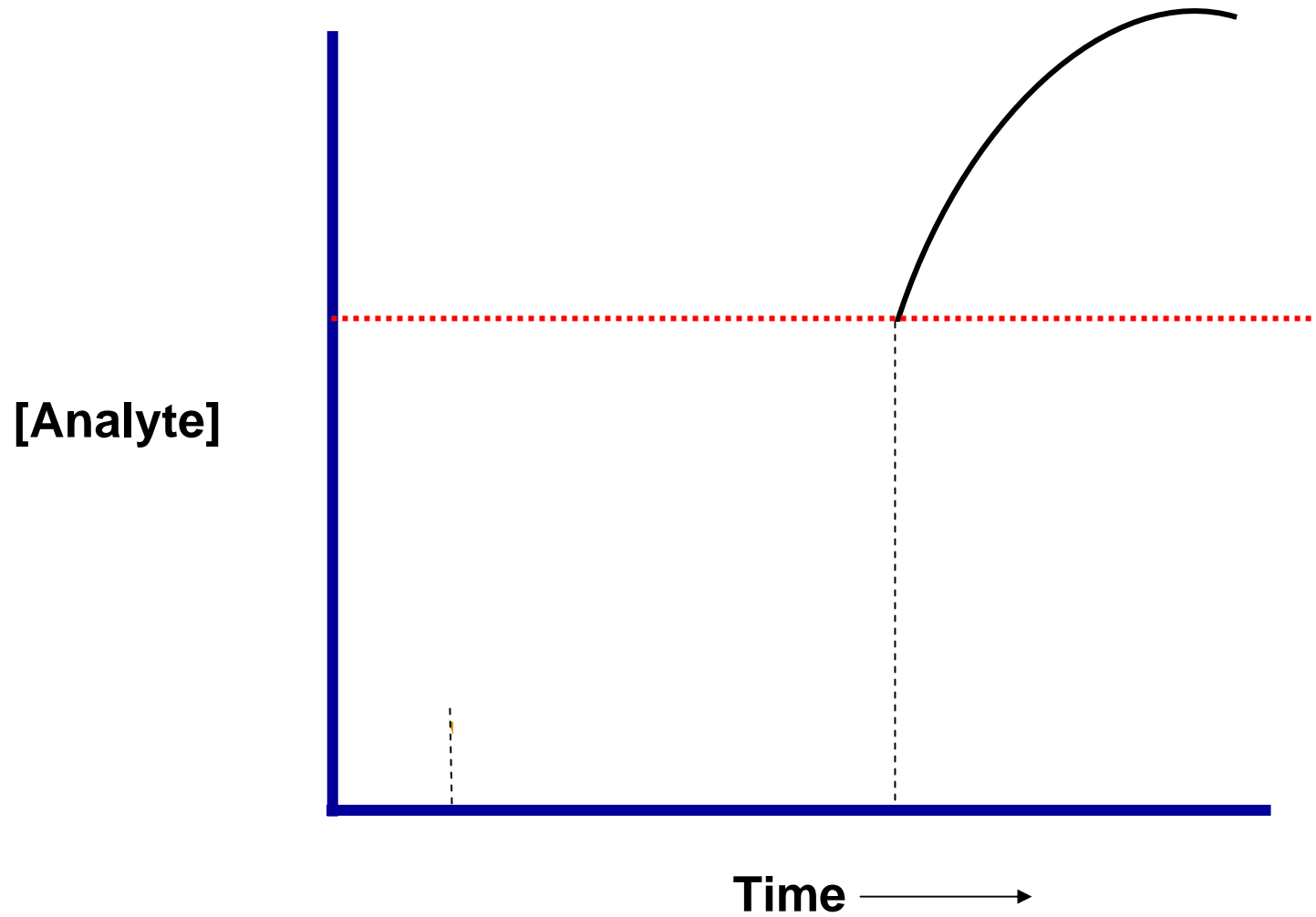
Materials

- **Diagnostics – medical and human performance**
- **Nano-Manufacturing – self-assembly and directed assembly, but, defect/error tolerance, design tools, thermodynamics are plotting against you**
- **“Non-obvious” and “non-sexy” areas, i.e., tribology**



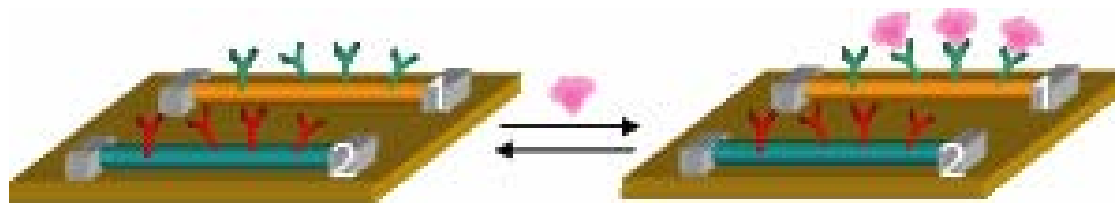
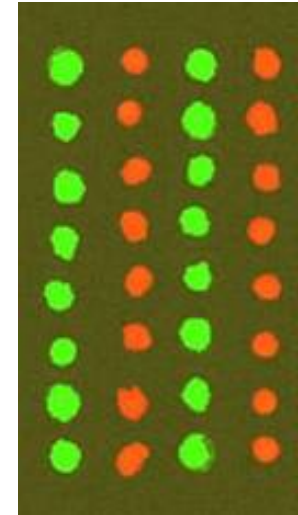
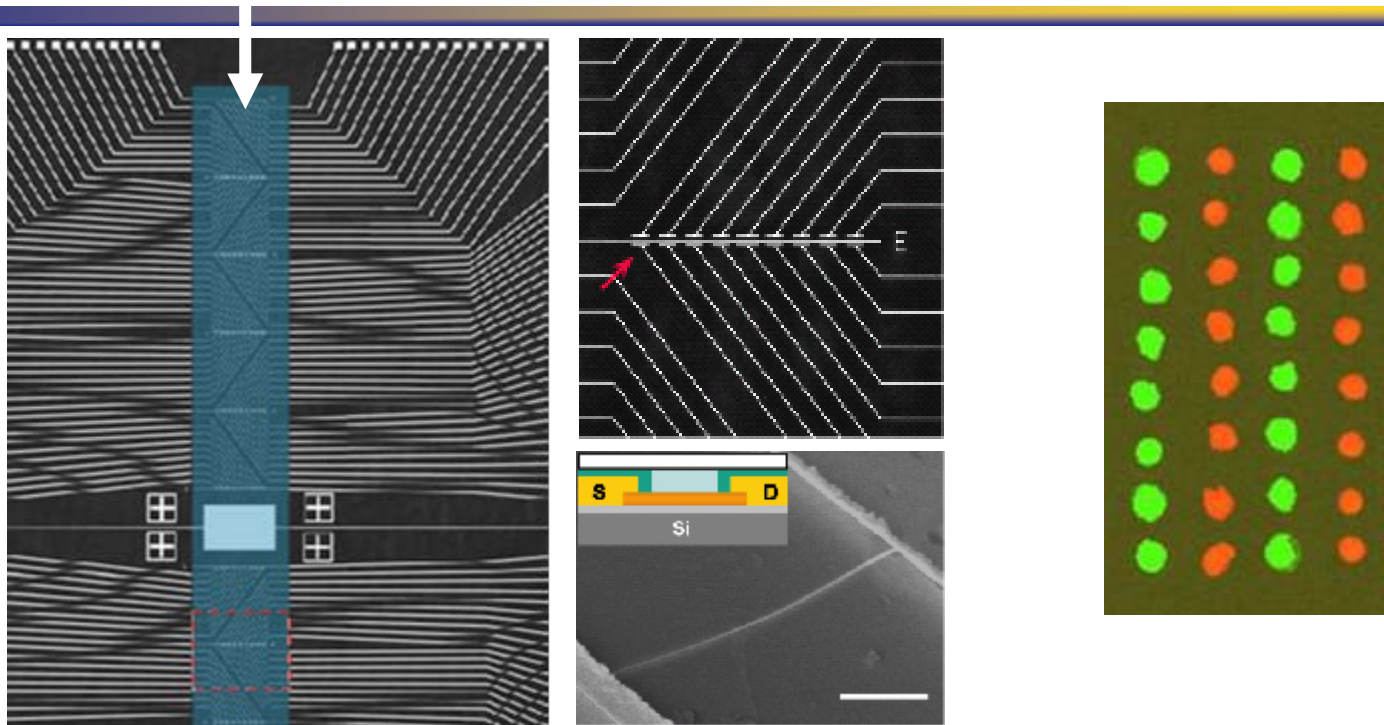


NanoDiagnostics Impact





Sensor Chip for Flexible Detection

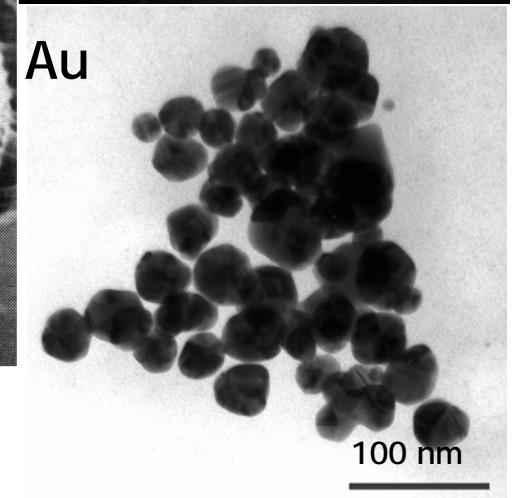
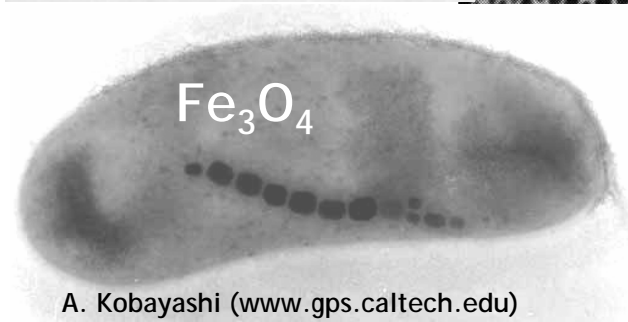
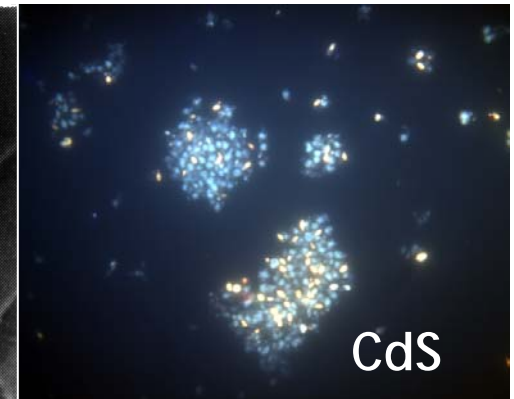
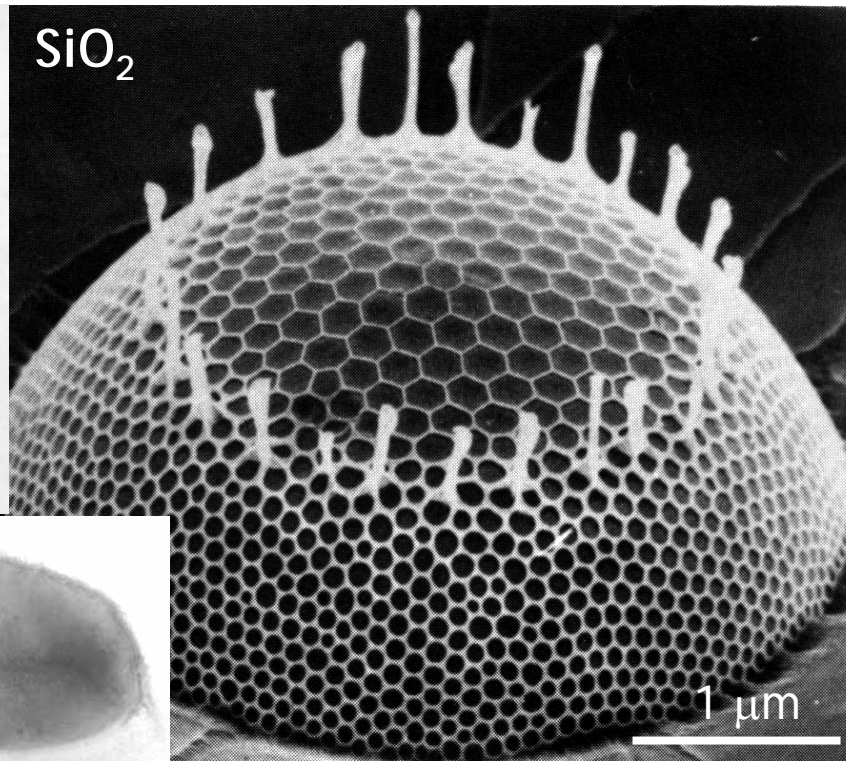
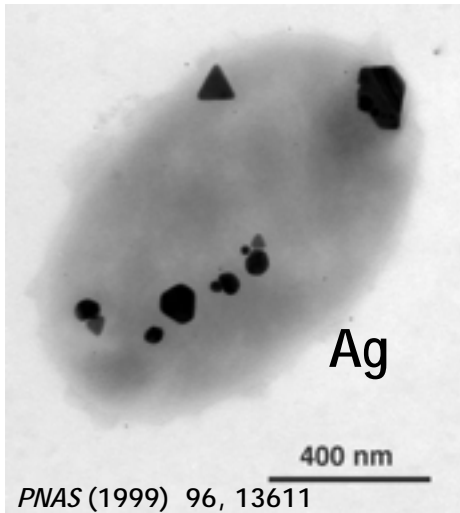


< pg/ml
sensitivity

Independently incorporate many distinct receptors and nanowires with excellent reproducibility!



Inorganic Structures in Biology



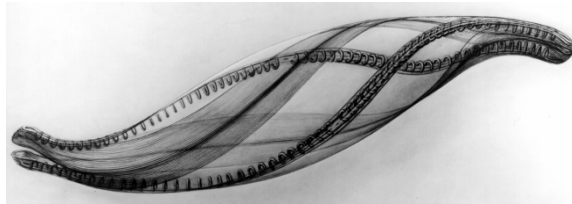
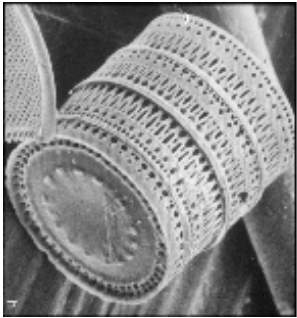
- Biology has evolved the ability to synthesize inorganic materials
- The master of “ambient conditions” materials science
- Proteins control the nucleation and growth of inorganic structures from nano- to macroscopic scales



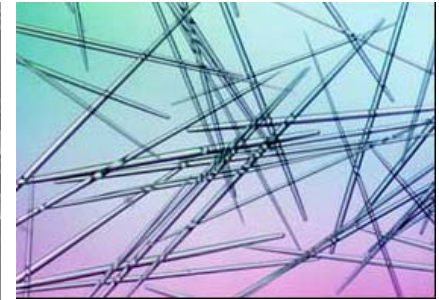
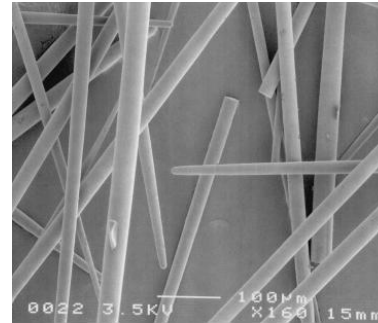
Silica in Biology



Biosilicification - formation of amorphous silica (diatoms, sponges mollusks)

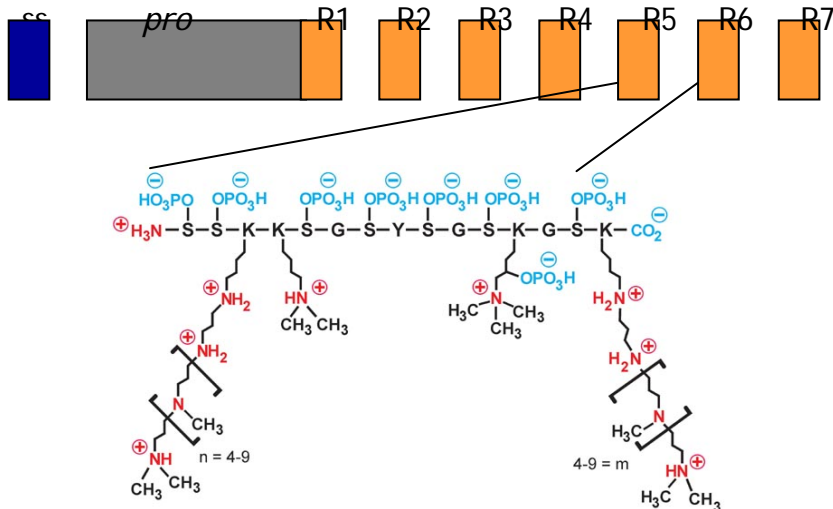


Diatoms



Marine Glass Sponge (*T. aurantia*) Spicules

Silaffin Protein



Silicatein α Protein

Diagram of the Silicatein α Protein structure. It consists of a signal sequence (ss) and a pro-peptide (pro). The primary structure is shown as a sequence of amino acids: $\text{AYPEVDWRTRKGAVTGIKSGDCGASVAFSAMGALEGINALATGKLTLYLS}$. The protein is shown as a long orange bar. The chemical structure below shows the side chains of the amino acids, including phosphate groups (HO_3PO , OPO_3H), methyl groups (CH_3), and ammonium groups (NH_2 , NH_3^+). The repeat regions are labeled with $n = 4-9$ and $4-9 = m$.

SILCATEIN	AYPEVDWRTRKGAVTGIKSGDCGASVAFSAMGALEGINALATGKLTLYLS
CATHEPSIN L	APRSVDWREKGYVTPVKNQGCSSNAFSATGALEGQMFRTGRLISLS
SILCATEIN	EQNIIDCSVPYGNHGCKGGNMYVAPFLYVAVANEGVDDGGSYPFRGKQSSCT
CATHEPSIN L	EQNLVDCSGPQNEGCGNGGLMDYAFQYVQDNGGLDSEESYPYEATEESCK
SILCATEIN	YOEQYRGASMSGSVQINSSESDDLEAAVANVGPVAVALDGESNAFRFYYS
CATHEPSIN L	YNPKYSVANDTGFVDIPK-QEKALMKAVATVGPISVAIDAGHESPLFYKE
SILCATEIN	GVIDSSRCSSSSLNEMVITGYGI---SNNQEYWLAKNSWGENWGLGELY
CATHEPSIN L	GIYFEPDCSSSEDMEGVLVVGYPFESTESDNNKYLVKNSWGEWGMGGY
SILCATEIN	VKMARNKYNQCGLASDASYPTL
CATHEPSIN L	VKMAKDRRNHCGIASAASYPTV

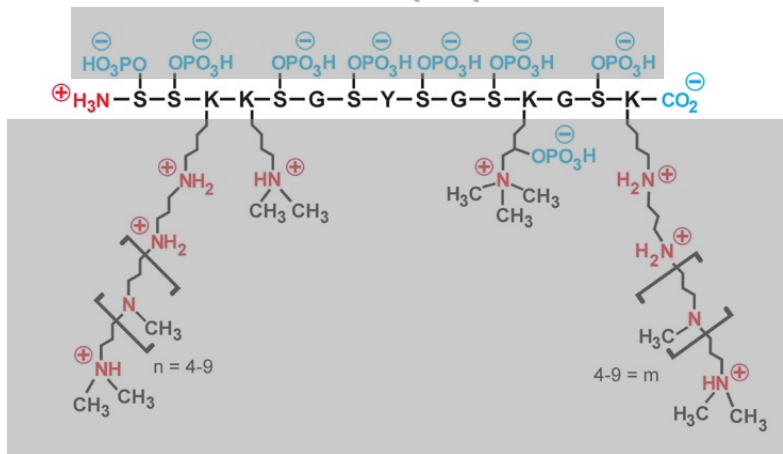


Formation of Biosilica

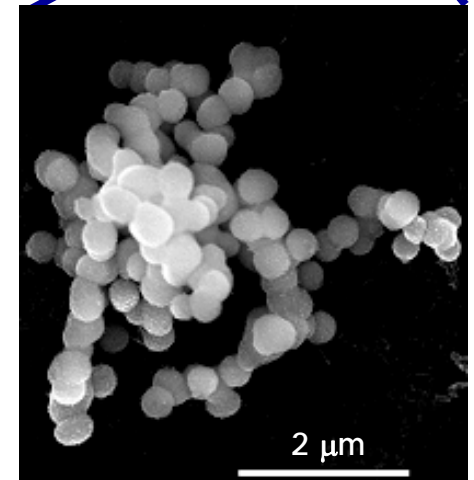


R5 peptide

Silaffin peptide



+ Silicic acid (TMOS)



Silica formation under ambient conditions:
room temperature, neutral pH



Peptide Binder Library



COBALT OXIDE

Co-12 **HYPTLPLGSSTY**
 Co-14 **QYKHHPOKAAHI**
 Co-17 **QLLPLTPSLLQA**
 Co-18 **CFSQLNALPLIL**
 Co-9 **KLHSSPHTPLVQ**

CARBON NANOTUBES

CN-1 **HSSYWYAFNNKT**
 CN-2 **HTSYWYAFNTKT**
 CN-3 **YTTHVLPFAPSS**
 CN-4 **HAWVDWIRPIHS**

GADOLINIUM

Gd-1 **TFFSHYANQVHR**
 Gd-2 **AETVESCLAKSH**
 Gd-3 **LPYGTSNRHAPV**
 Gd-6 **SLASYLQSWLGS**
 Gd-7 **TKNMLSLPVGPG**
 Gd-8 **EDNLAVRSQRIM**

GERMANIA

Ge-8 **SLKMPHWPHLLP**
 Ge-34 **TGHQSPGAYAAH**
 Ge-10 **SFLYSYTGPRPL**
 Ge-18 **HATGTHGLSLSH**

RUBY

Ru-1 **AHRPLSANPFTA**
 Ru-2 **HHKPWHPGKLLI**
 Ru-10 **HSNWRVPSPWQL**

IRON OXIDE

Fe-1 **LPDSHHYKSDDH**
 Fe-2 **QHMQQPQTQGIQ**
 Fe-4 **SLYSNPTVPYSY**
 Fe-7 **LPGSHOYQQQLL**
 Fe-8 **QHITQSIWPGVR**
 Fe-10 **QQLPKNGCLPAV**

TITANIA

Ti-1 **QPYL FATDSL IK**
 Ti-2 **DLNYFTLSSKRE**
 Ti-7 **SSWSSPITTA AV**
 Ti-5 **GHTHYHAVRTQT**

TIN OXIDE

Sn2-1 **KNAGOYPPSALM**
 Sn4-1 **SPSHSADHTPPT**
 Sn4-2 **TPTLRSMSSLLF**
 Sn4-3 **STLTQSTSSLVA**

SILVER

Ag4 **NPSSLFRYLPSD**
 Ag27 **PWATAVSGCFAP**
 Ag28 **SPLLYATTSNQS**
 Ag35 **WSWRSPTPHVVT**

SILICA

Si-3 **KPHHHHTHHMYT**
 Si-8 **KPSHHHHHTGAN**
 Si-7 **APPGHHHWHIHH**
 Si-1 **MSPHPHPRHHHT**
 Si-4 **MSASSYASFSWS**

ZINC OXIDE

Zn01 **GLHIPTGSYSHR**
 Zn02 **NLLTNSHWPPR**
 Zn03 **TPSATMQTRPGL**

COBALT PLATINUM

CoPt **KYHNLHSHPLHK**
 CoPt **KTHSLHSPLSHK**
 CoPt **HLKHLPHLPHK**
 CoPt **KLHSSPHTPLVQ**

PALLADIUM

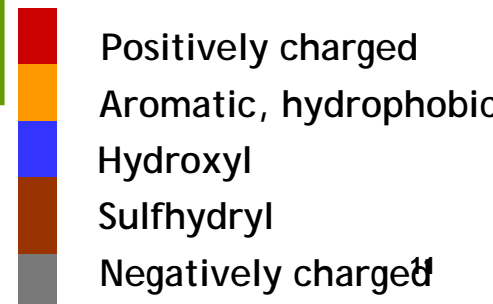
Pd2 **NFMSLPRLGHMH**
 Pd4 **TSNAVHPTLRHL**
 Pd5 **TTTKSITLTLV**

GOLD

Au3 **AYSSGAFPPMPFF**
 Flg1 **DYKDDDDK**

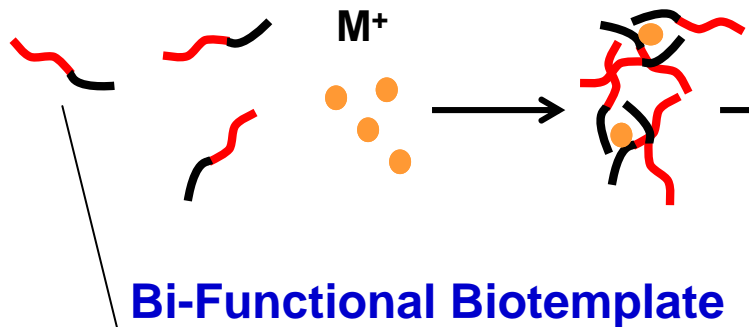
Na⁺-MONTMORILLONITE

Mt1 **WPSSYLSPIPYS**
 Mt4 **AVTTLTLVPAGT**

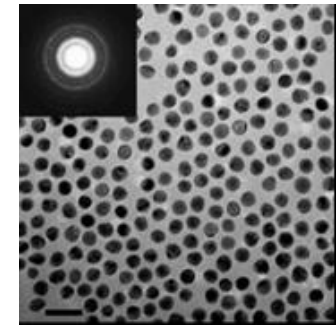




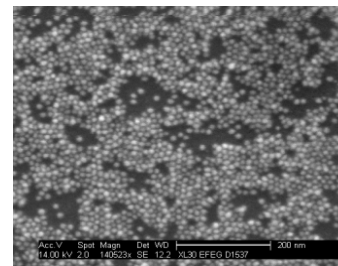
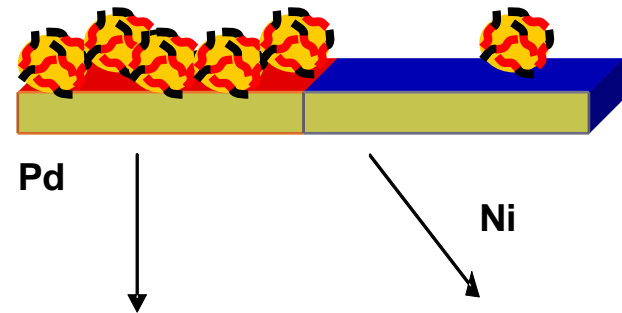
Addressable Biomolecular Domains on Nanoparticle Surfaces



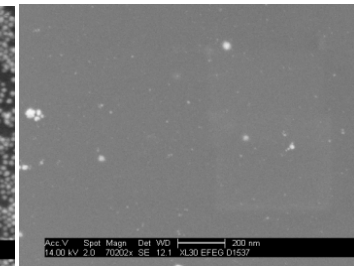
Biotemplate Coated Nanoparticle



Monodispersed NPs



4200 particles / μm^2



70 particles / μm^2

Site-Specific Deposition of Nanoparticles

Advanced Materials 2006, 18, 1988



Controlling Nanomaterial Properties

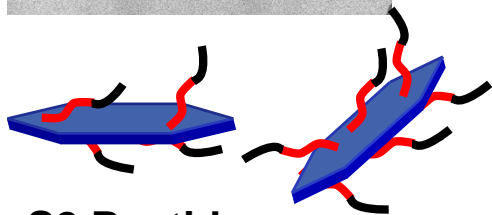
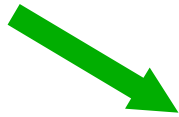
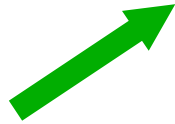
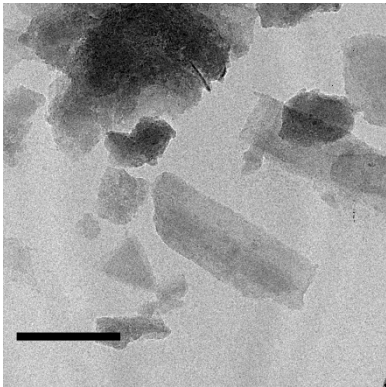


Clay Binding Domain Metal Binding/Bioactive Peptide

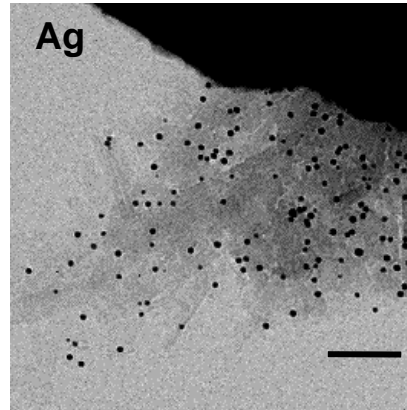


Bifunctional Biotemplate

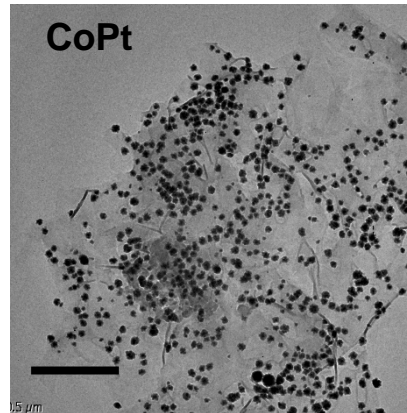
Peptide-functionalized Clays



S2 Peptide



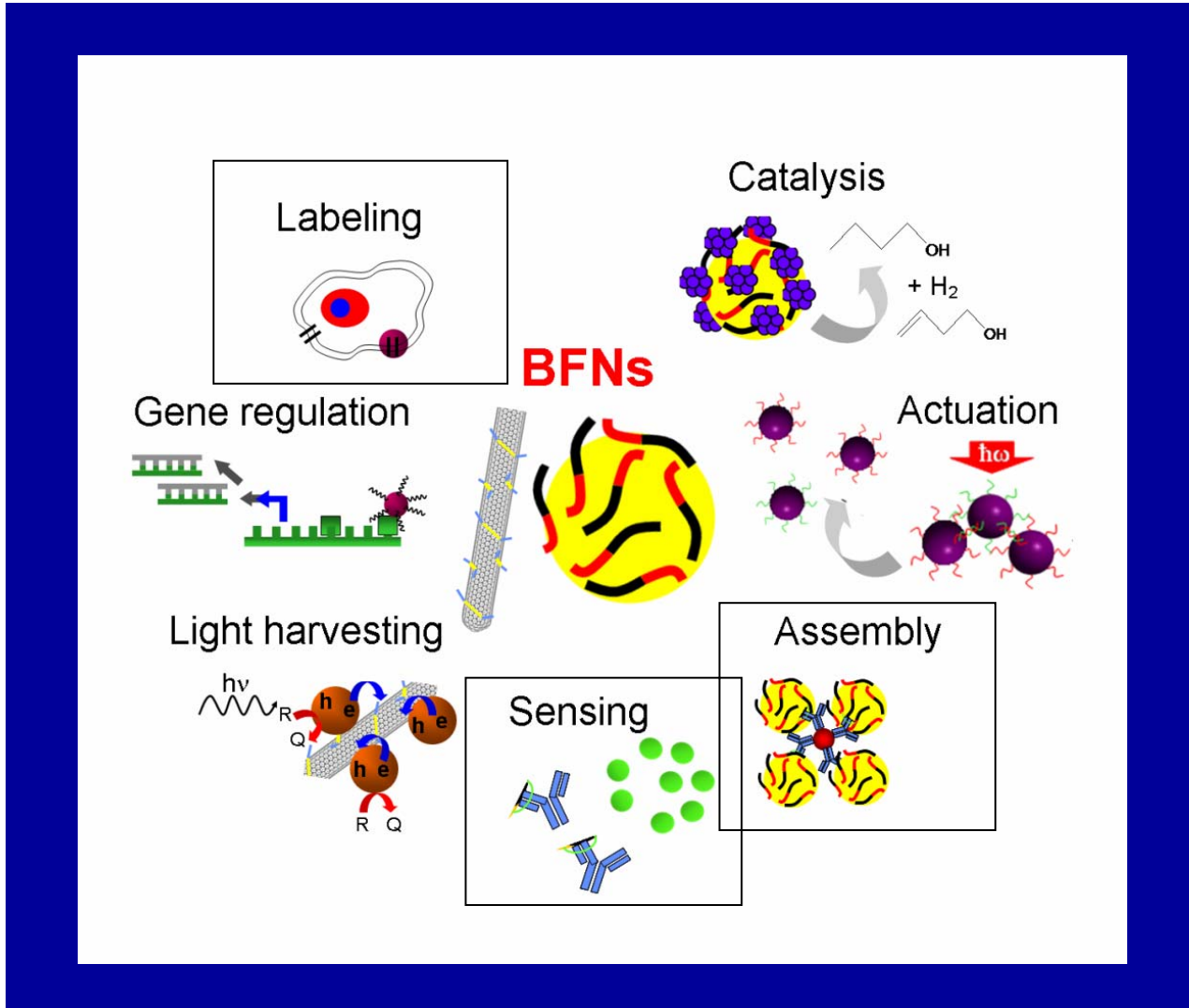
→ Antimicrobial



→ Magnetic

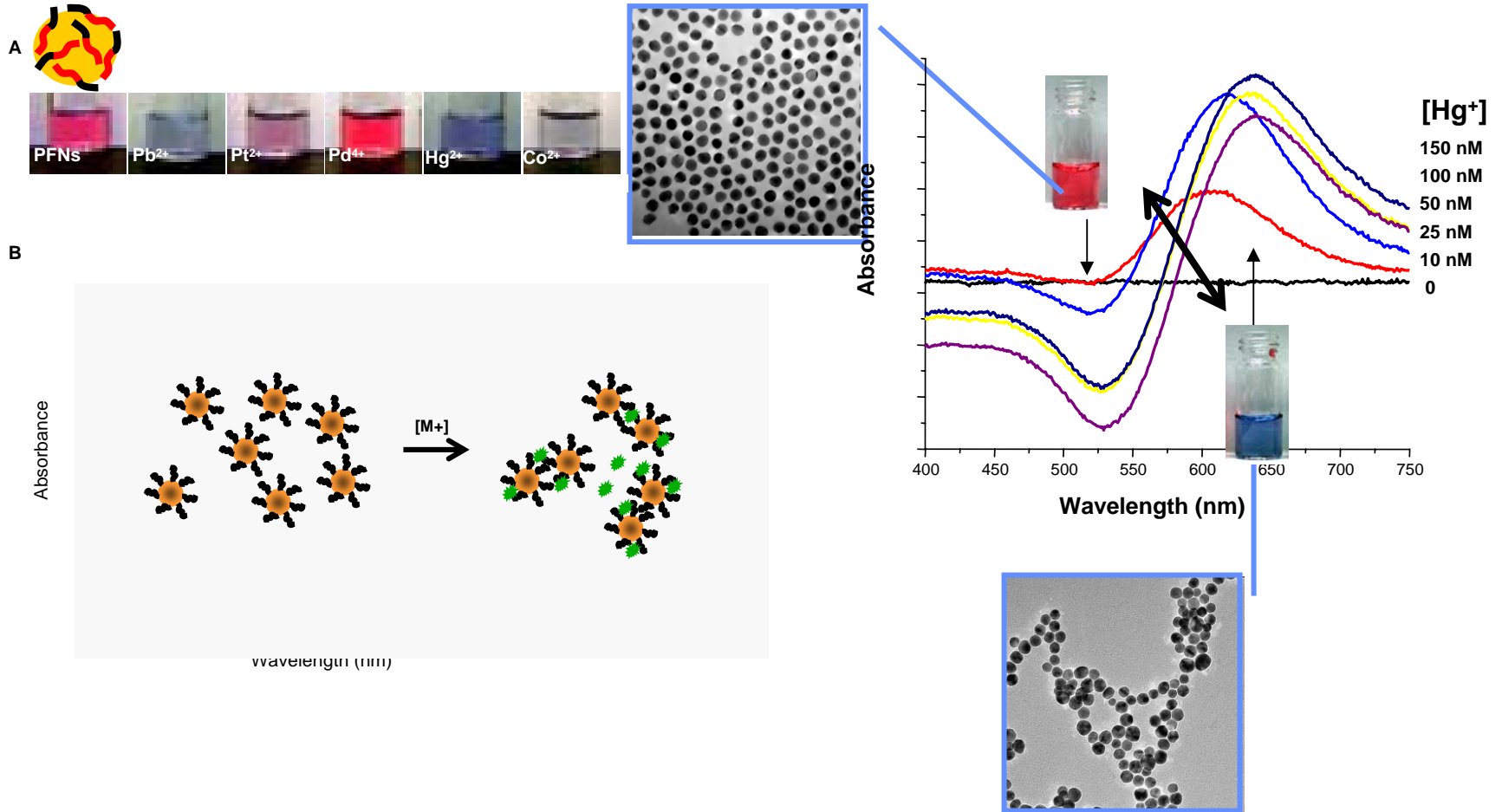


Bio-Functionalized Nanomaterials





Colorimetric Response of Biofunctionalized Nanoparticles



Small (2007) In Press



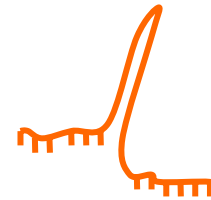
Molecular Target Assays 3 Part Design



UNAGGREGATED
Au nanoparticles



AGGREGATED
Au nanoparticle



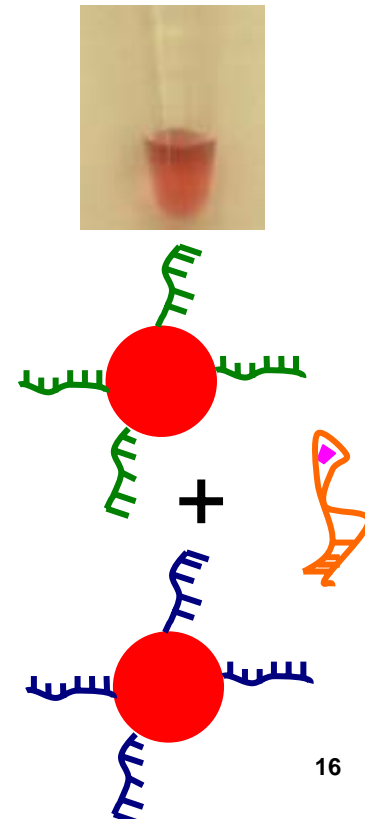
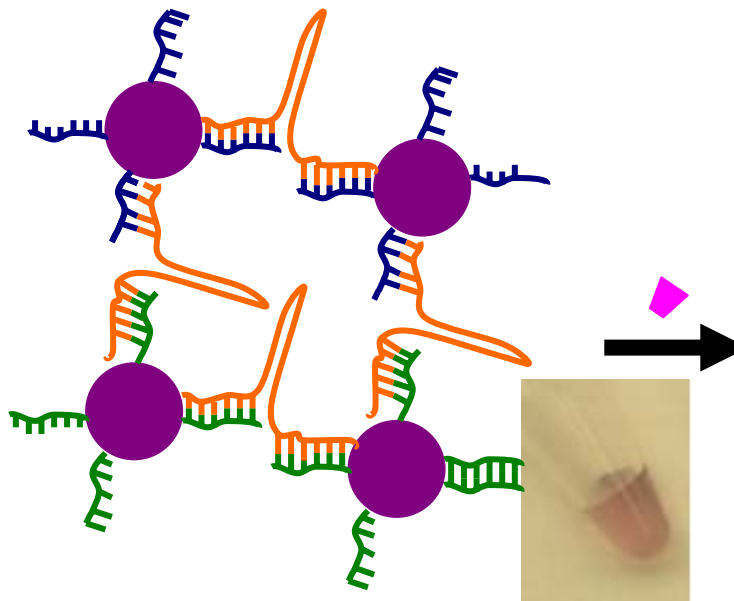
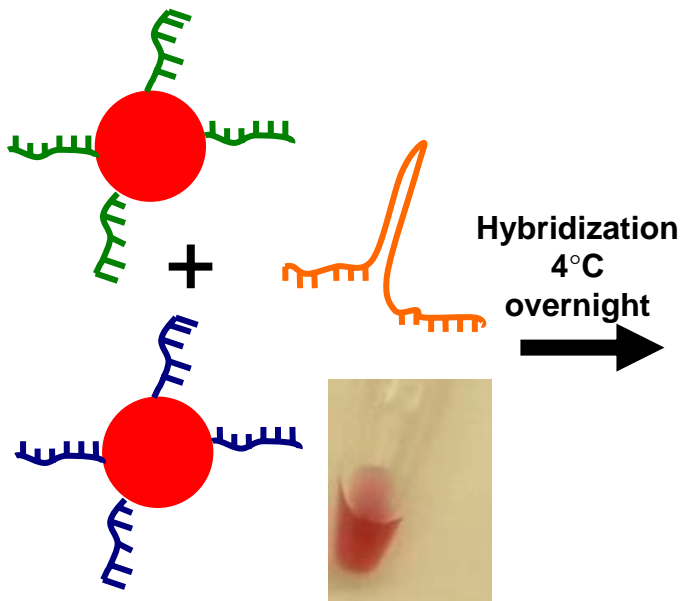
APTAMER ("Glue")



ANALYTE
("Disruptor")



OLIGONUCLEOTIDES





Air Force Research Lab



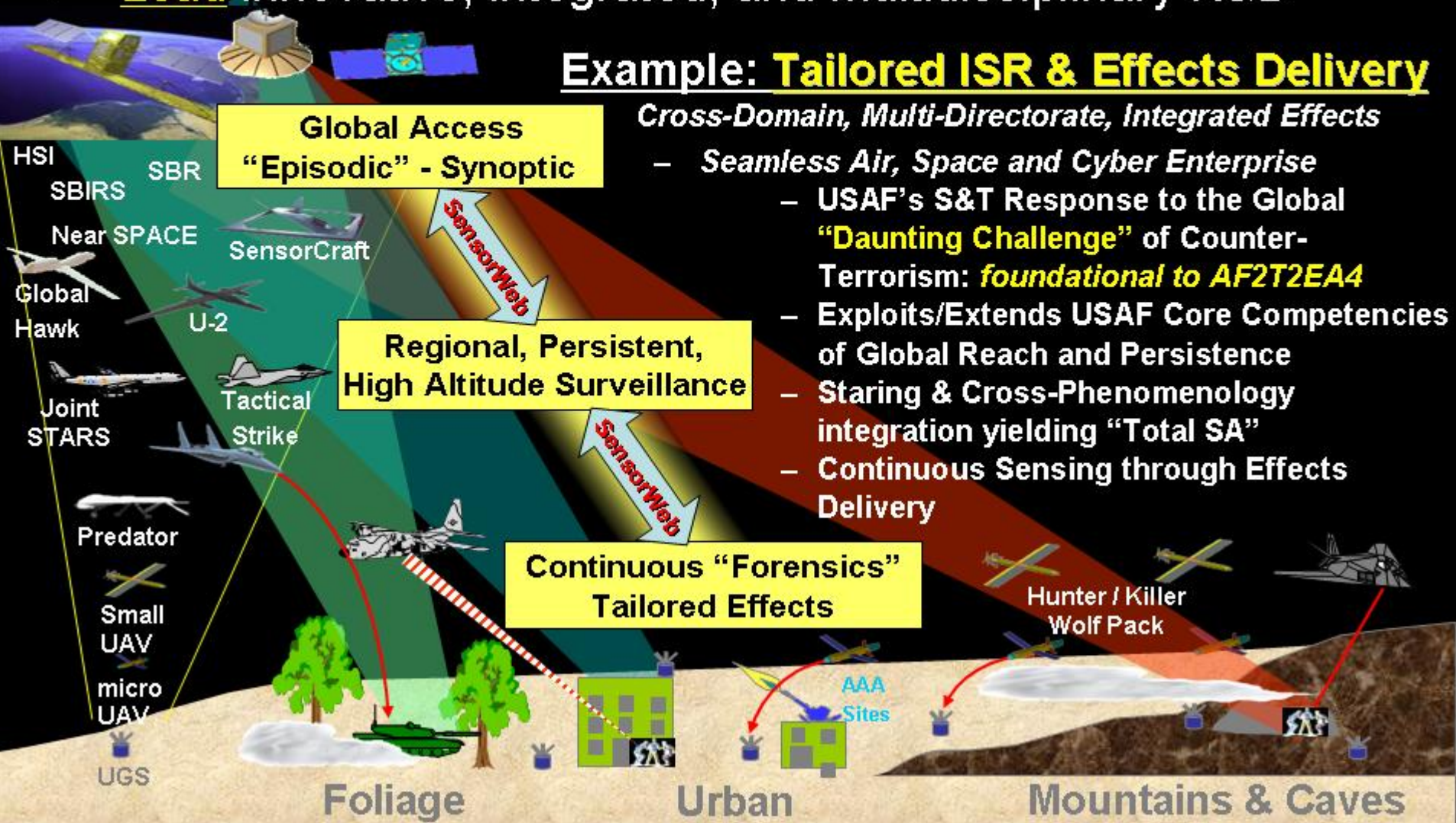
We must continue to:

- ▶ **Lead** innovative, integrated, and multidisciplinary R&D

Example: **Tailored ISR & Effects Delivery**

Cross-Domain, Multi-Directorate, Integrated Effects

- *Seamless Air, Space and Cyber Enterprise*
- USAF's S&T Response to the Global **"Daunting Challenge"** of Counter-Terrorism: **foundational to AF2T2EA4**
- Exploits/Extends USAF Core Competencies of Global Reach and Persistence
- Staring & Cross-Phenomenology integration yielding "Total SA"
- Continuous Sensing through Effects Delivery



Global Access
"Episodic" - Synoptic

Regional, Persistent, High Altitude Surveillance

Continuous "Forensics" Tailored Effects

Foliage

Urban

Mountains & Caves

Hunter / Killer Wolf Pack

AAA Sites

UGS

Small UAV

micro UAV

Predator

Joint STARS

Global Hawk

Near SPACE

SBIRS

HSI

SBR

SensorCraft

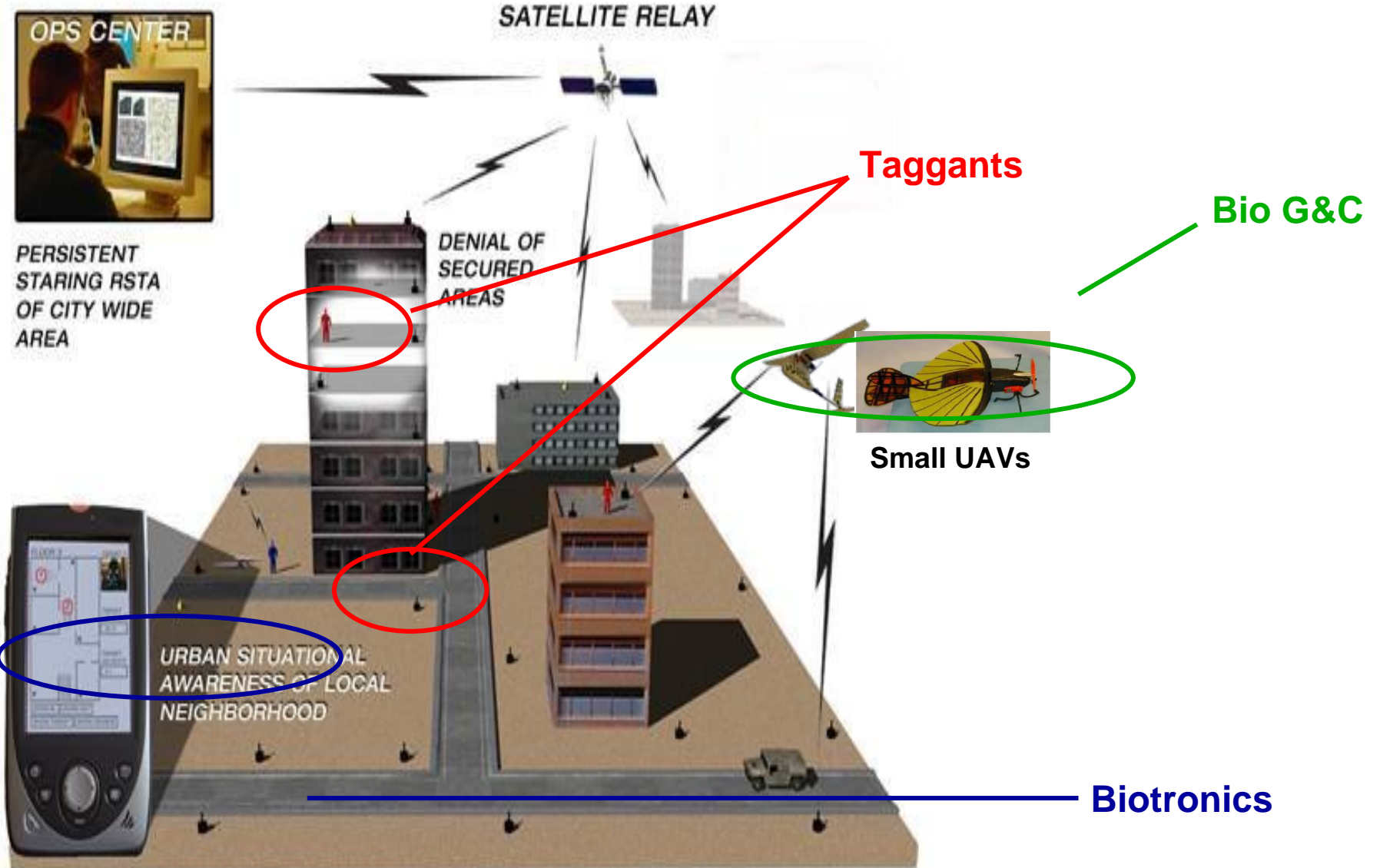
U-2

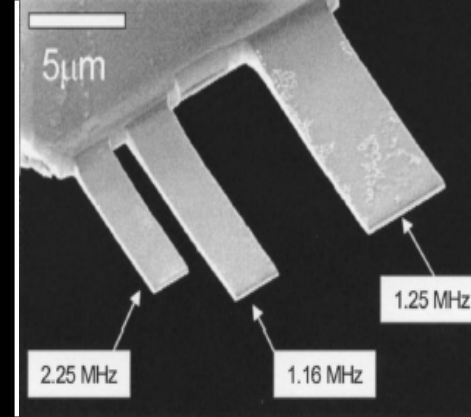
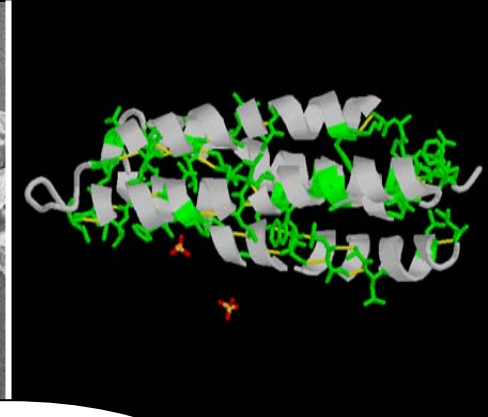
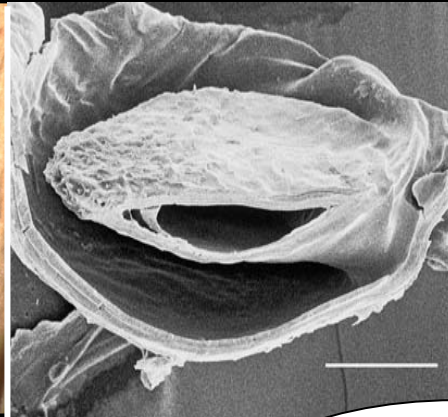
Tactical Strike



Bio-X STT

Urban Environment Game Changers

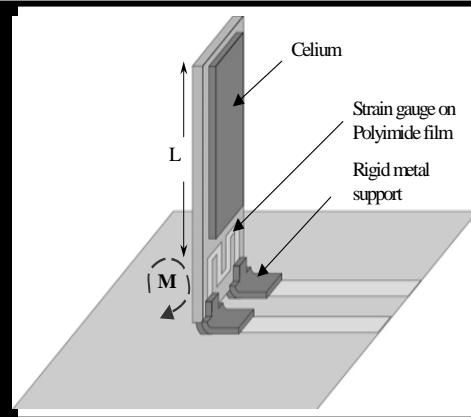
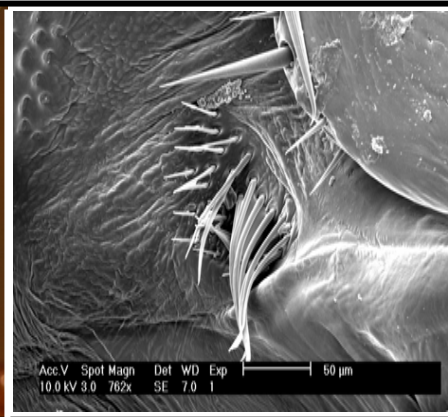
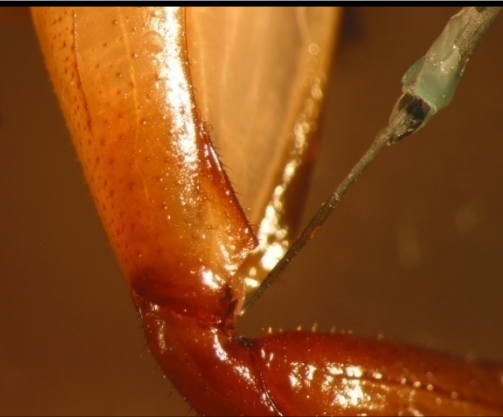




BIOLOGY

**Characterize
Understand
Emulate**

DEVICE

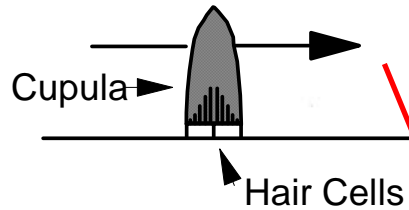




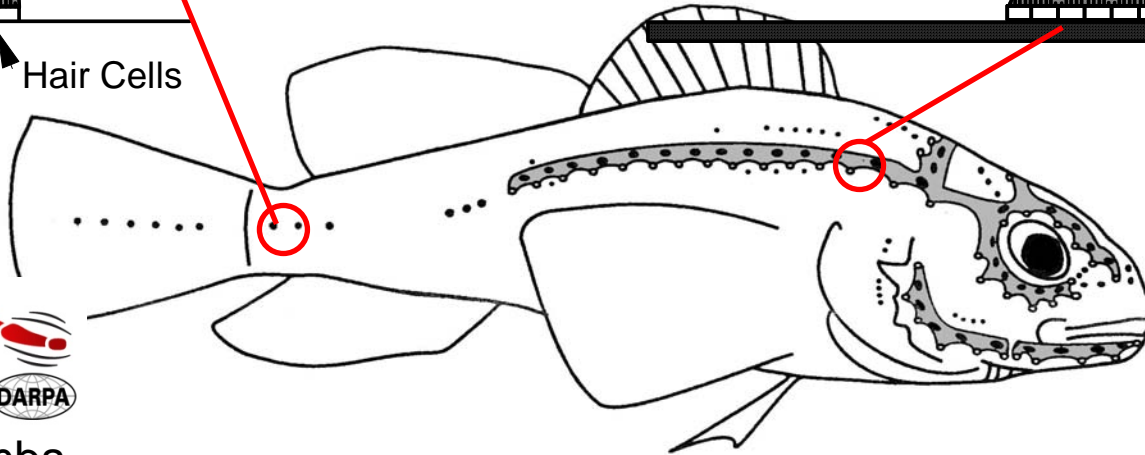
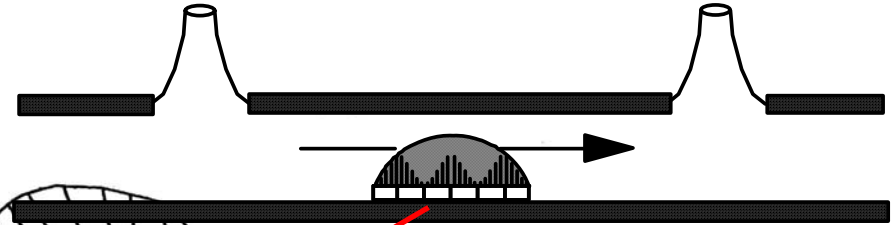
Lateral Line System



Superficial Neuromast



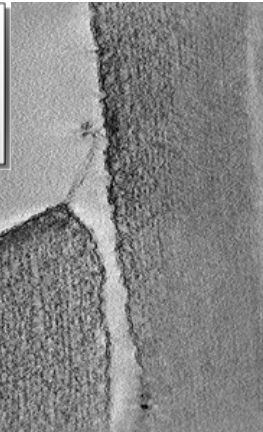
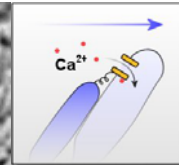
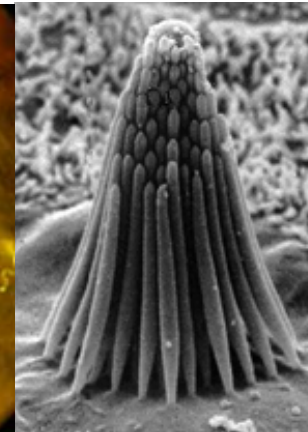
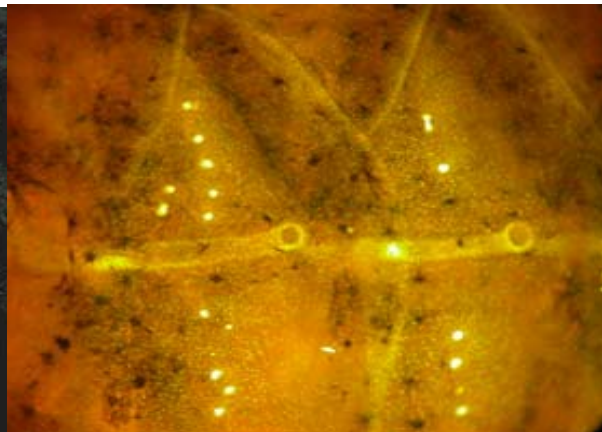
Canal Neuromast



- Protection
- High pass filter
- Amplification



C. Liu/C. Coombs

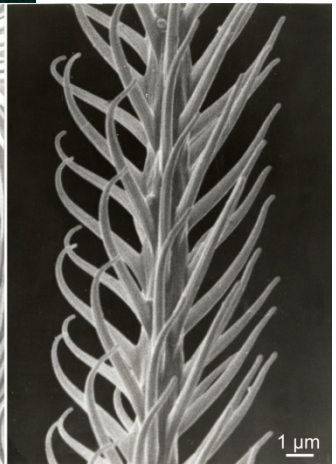




Spider flow and vibration tracking



Cupiennius salei ♀



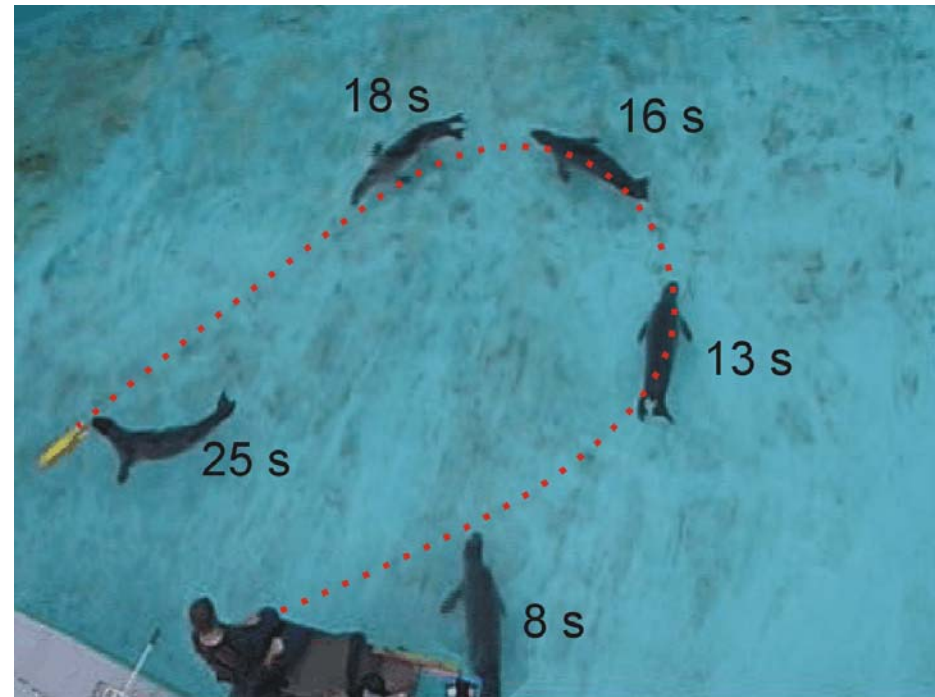
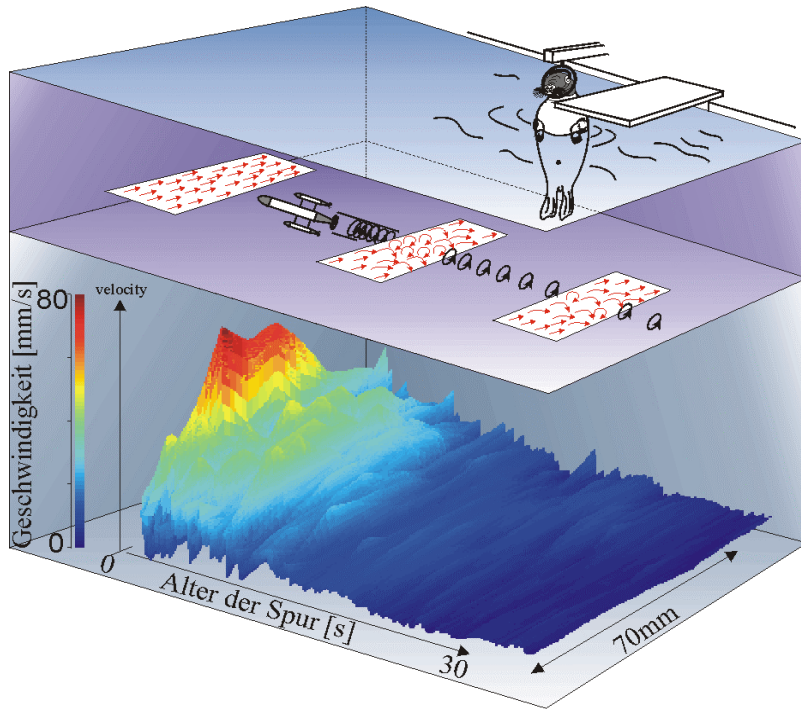
C. Liu/F. Barth



Wake tracking in seals



C. Liu/H. Bleckmann



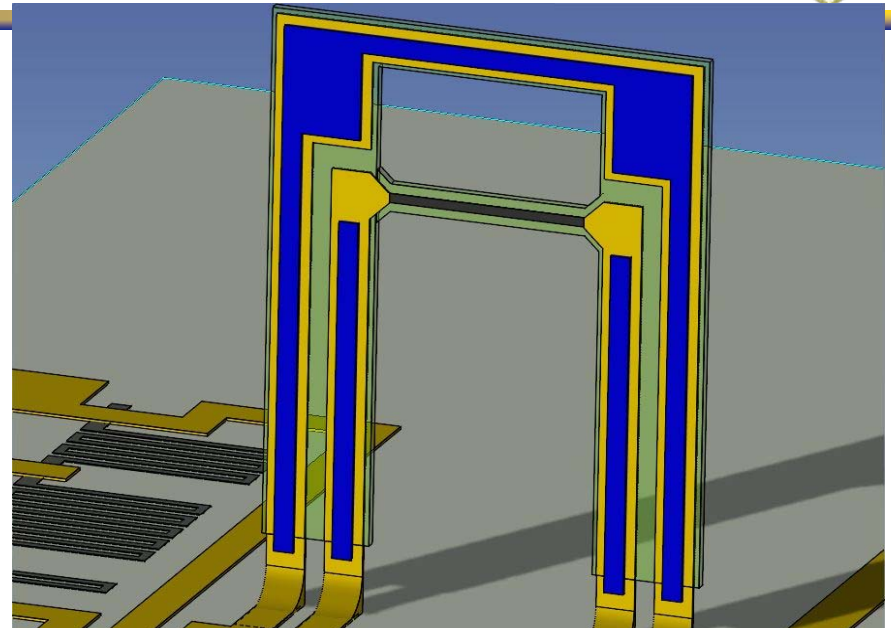
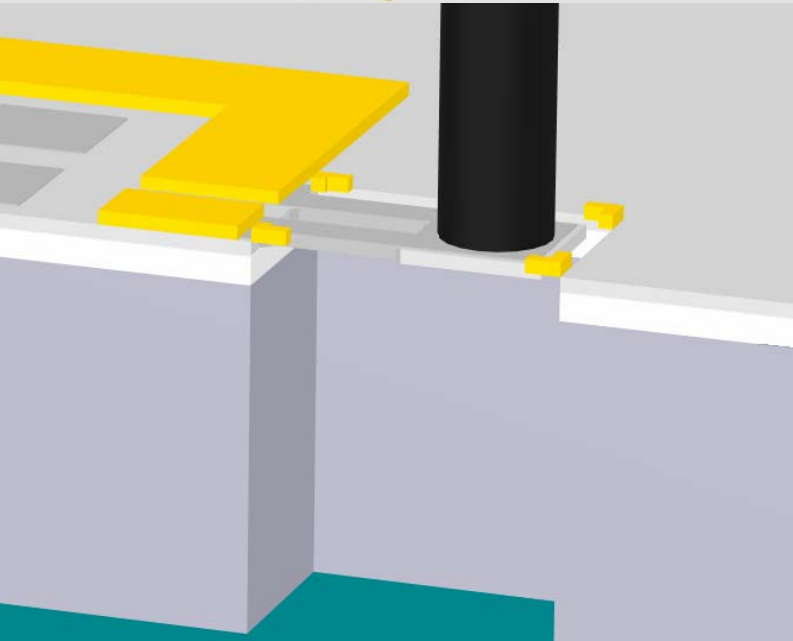
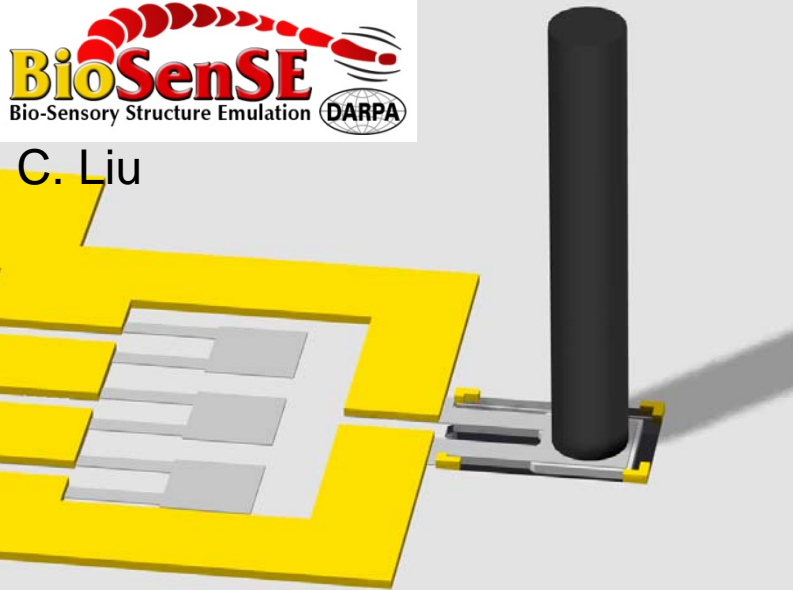
Dehnhardt, Mauck, Hanke & Bleckmann, Science 292 (2001)



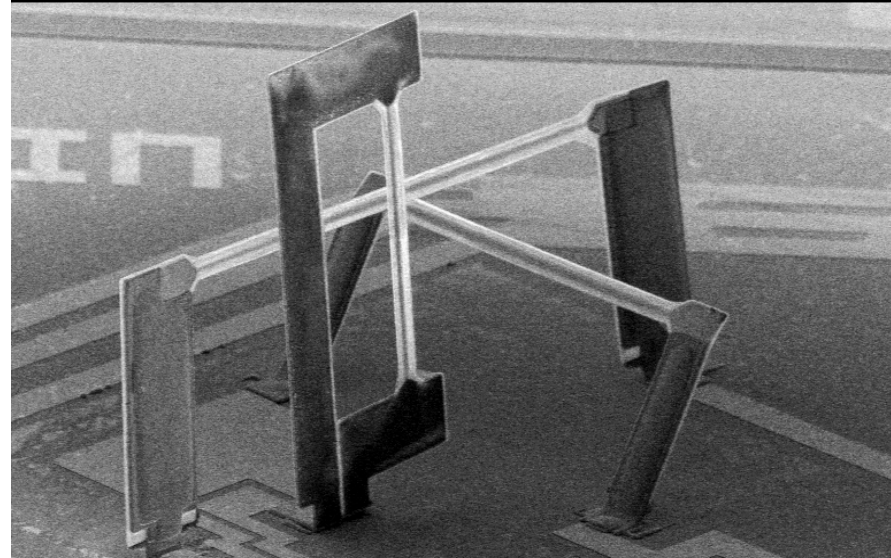
Artificial Hair Sensor



C. Liu

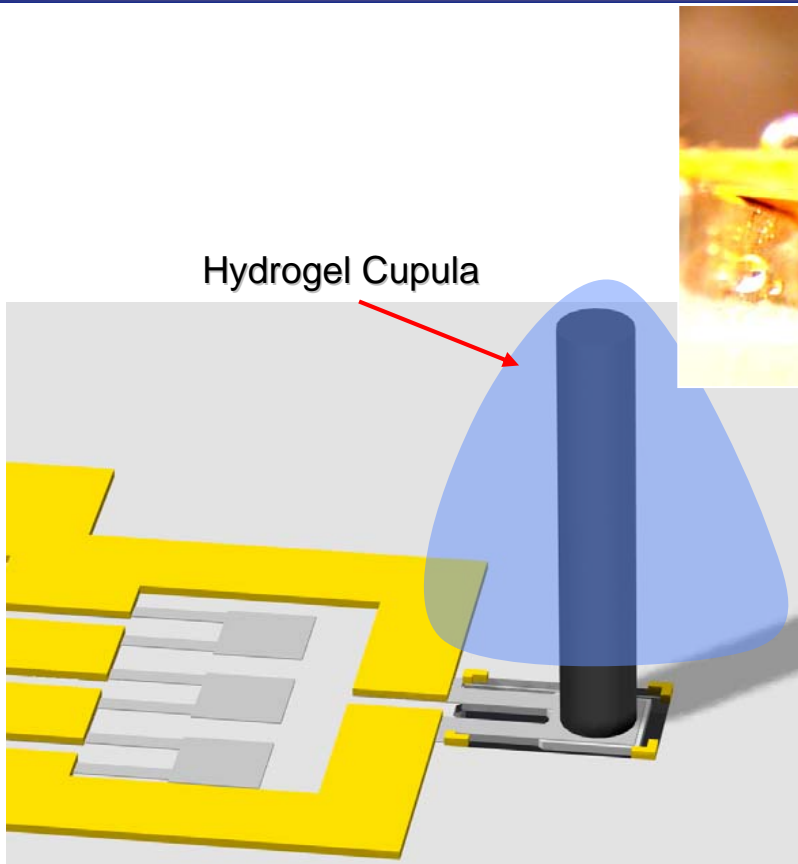


L= SE1 EHT= 20.0 KV WD= 16 mm MAG= X 100. PHOTO= 1
200 μ m

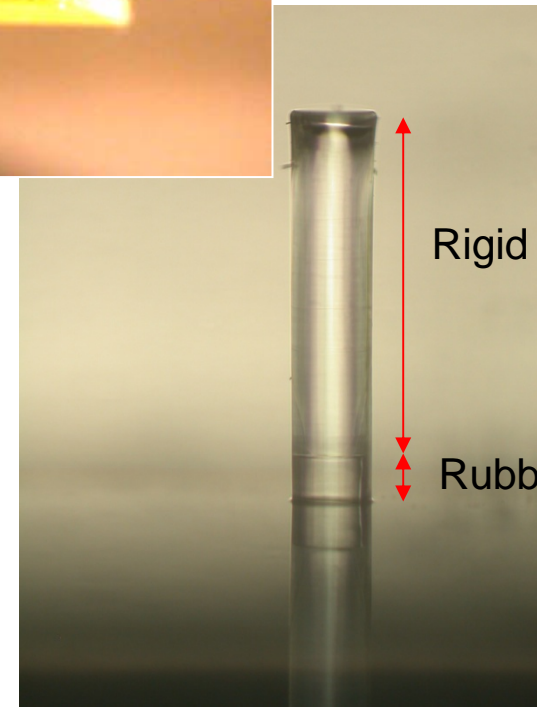
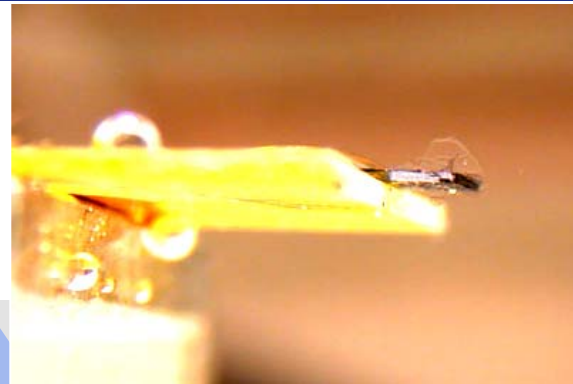




Device Improvement via Cupula



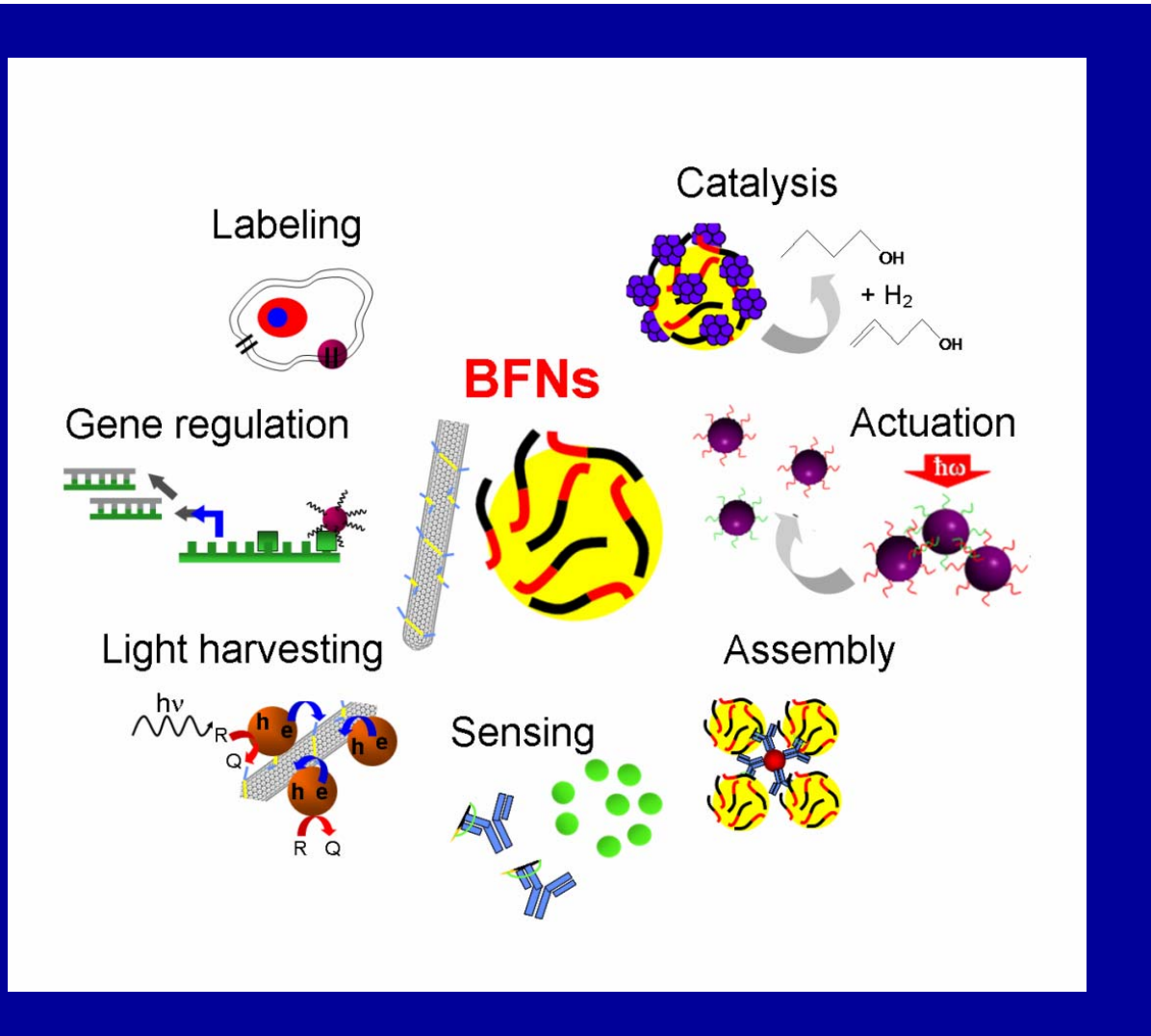
Hydrogel cupula is assembled to the hair to increase sensor sensitivity.



Bi-sectional hair with rubbery base is designed to improve device robustness.

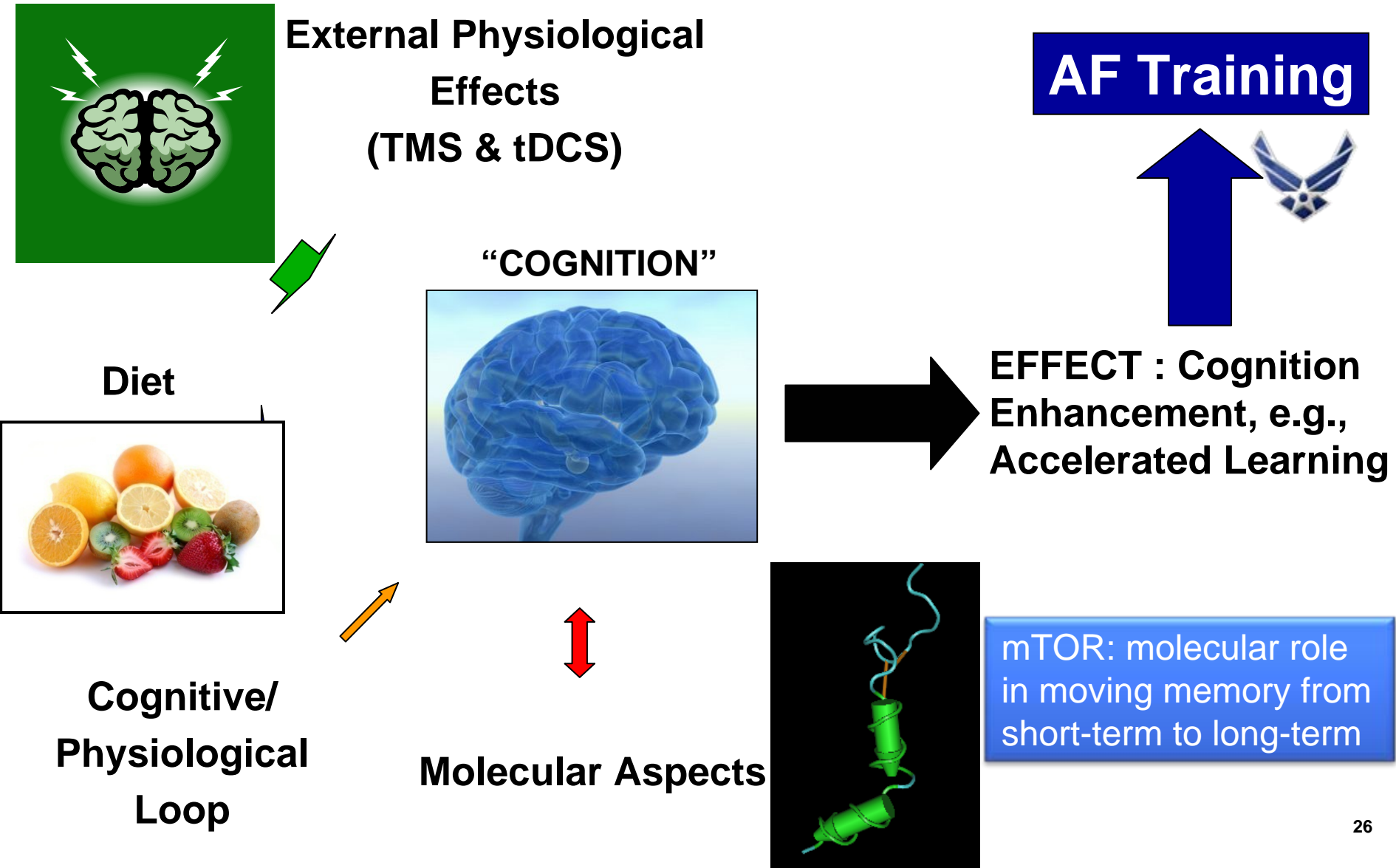


Bio-Functionalized Nanomaterials (BFN)





Cognition Impact





Molecular Targets of Opportunity: Cognition



Stress,
Sleep Deprivation
& Cognitive function



Molecular Signatures

Orexin

S6K+/- P

Stress hormones



Rodent Models:
Molecular and Neuro-Behavioral



+ leucine



Enhanced Molecular Signatures

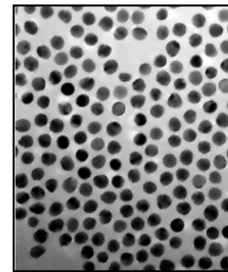


Orexin

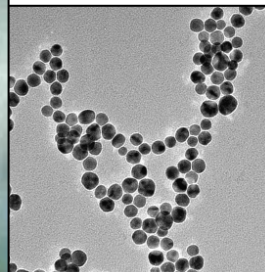
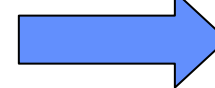
S6K-P



Stress hormones



+ cognitive
marker





Nano in Biology: Nanoshells / Nanoparticles



Nanoshells exhibit a unique electromagnetic resonance response

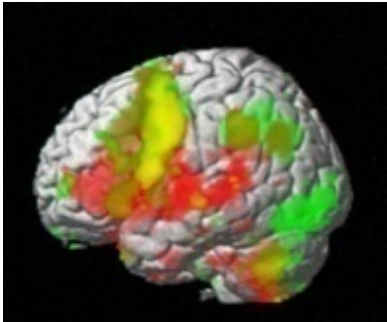


VS.





Revolutionized Airman Selection, Training, and Effectiveness via Innovation in Cognition



Academic partners are telling us which areas of the brain are important in a given task – i.e., visual acuity



We can *safely* stimulate the those regions of the brain via TMS or TDCS in RHP

We can directly measure warfighter improvement via Live, Virtual, Constructed (LVC) environment of RHA



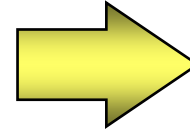
Revolutionize pilot training and effectiveness via recent advances in neuroscience and cognition!



Study Methodology



TMS Treatment



- **Subjects**

- 20 healthy volunteers (age 18-35)
- Medical/Neurological Evaluation
- Subjects with metal in the head, neurological disorders, seizure risk, history of seizures will be excluded

- **Task**

- **Difficult Surveillance and Reconnaissance (SAR) Task**
 - Target vehicles among similar distracter non-target vehicles
 - Three levels of search difficulty – vary # of targets and distracters
 - Accuracy and reaction time data will be recorded

Valid Targets

Invalid Targets

T 72

SCUD

SCHOOLBUS



Parting Thoughts **(truth in advertising)**



“The not so good...”

- **Bio-based approaches can be very expensive (good plug for bio-inspiration)**
- **Bio-based approaches can be very slow (but that is not always a bad thing)**
- **Response & signal transduction: What’s your ROC curve look like? (know your engineering brethren)**

“And now the good...”

- **Great lessons in the non-obvious**
- **Mastery of the ambient**
- **Truly unique surfactants for materials control**



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS



**Materials and Manufacturing Directorate
(R. Naik, Bio RL)**

Human Effectiveness Directorate

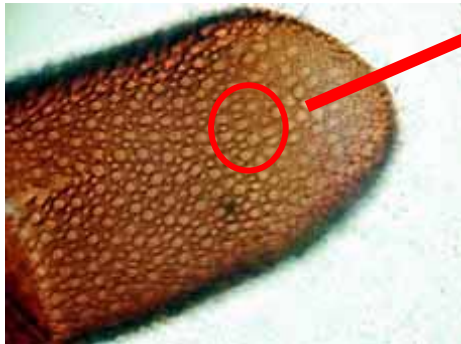
Bio-X STT

Air Force Office of Scientific Research

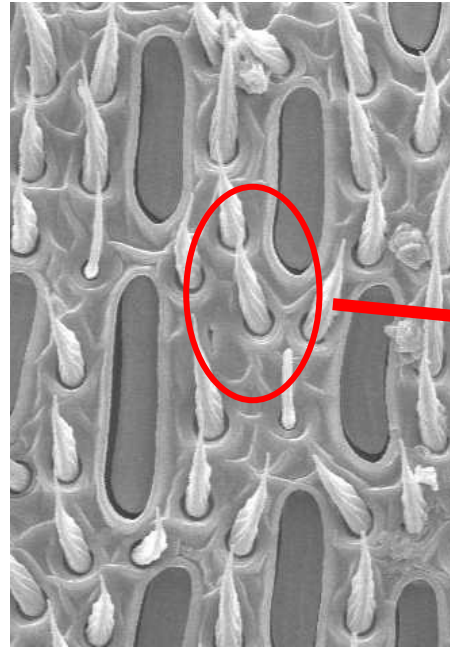
DARPA



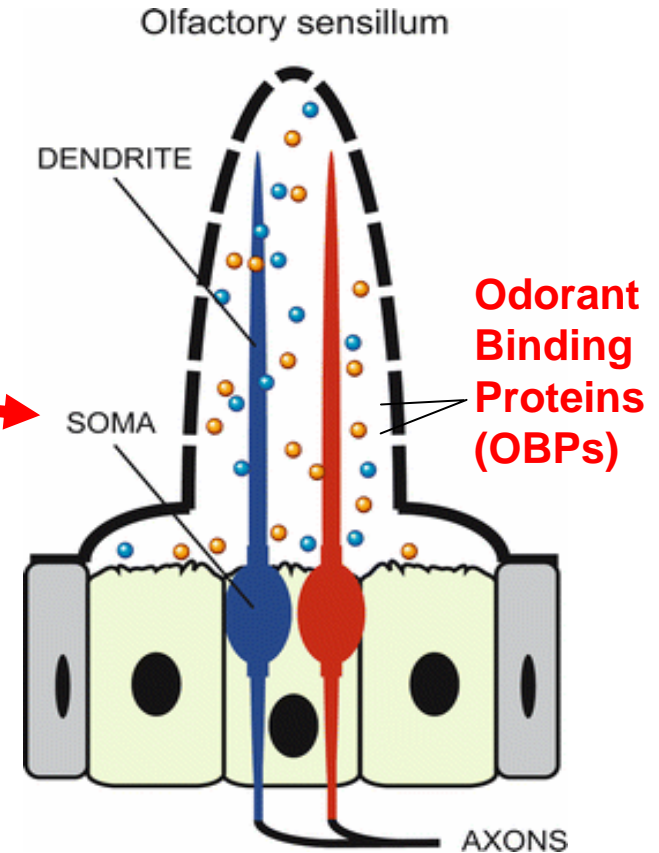
Insects Sensing Using OBPs



bee antennae, 400X



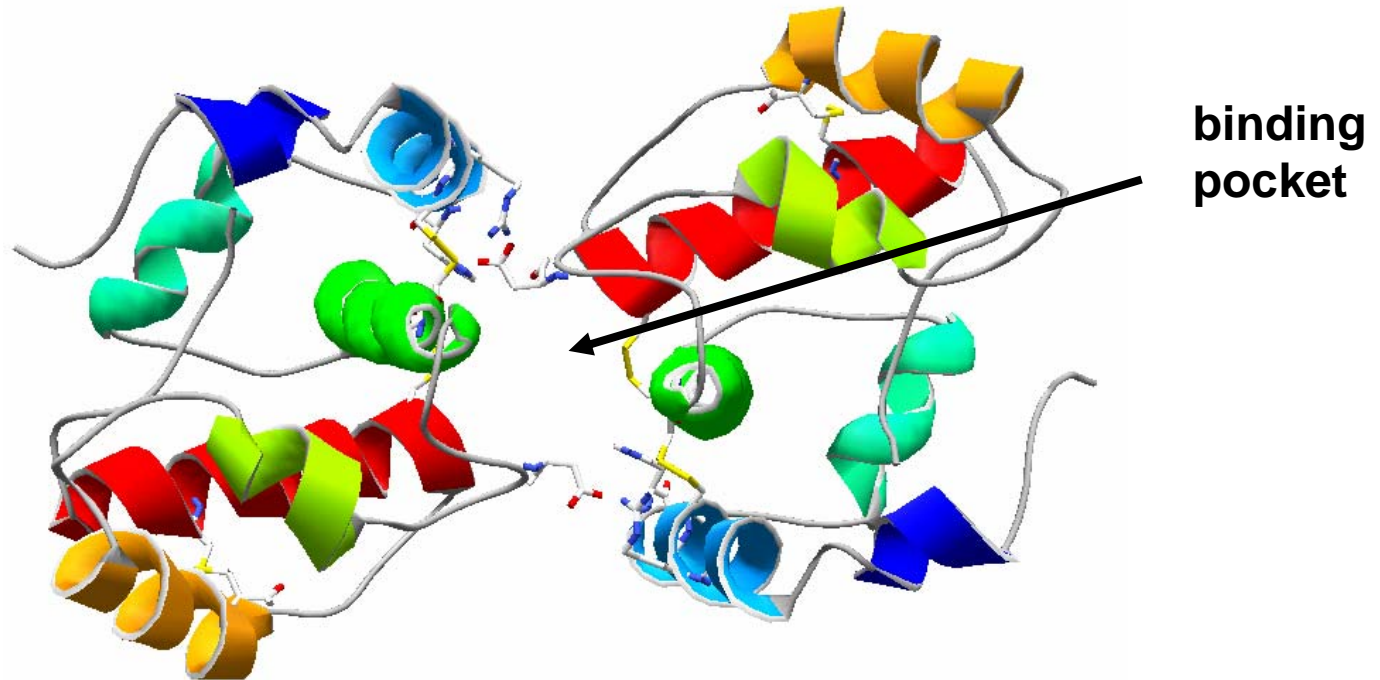
surface of bee antennae



M Rutzler and LJ Zwiebel, J Comp Physiol A (2005) 191: 777-790



Crystal Structure of ASP1 Homodimer



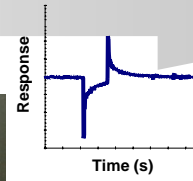
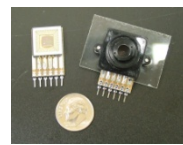
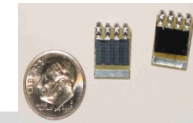
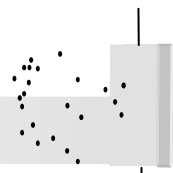
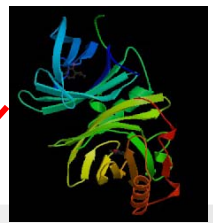
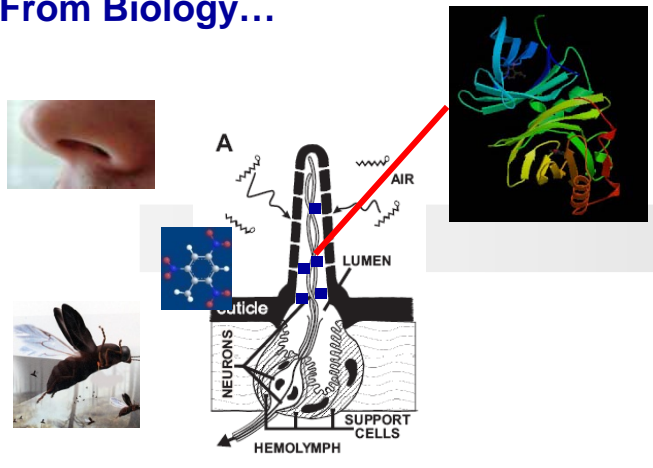
ASP1 has large hydrophobic binding pocket similar to pheromone binding proteins from other insects.



Biomimetic Sniffer



From Biology...



....to sensor platforms.



Goal: Genetic engineering of Odor Binding Protein (OBP) for chemical agent detection.

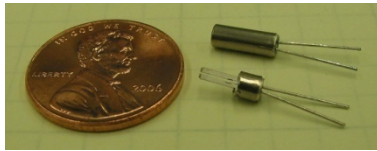
Specific Objectives: Clone OBPs from insects into systems that would allow genetic manipulation, screen against target compounds and incorporate into solid state device.

Approach: Develop a genetic screen for identifying OBP variants that bind to a specific chemical ligand using a molecular biology and computational approach. Develop a biomimetic sensor that can detect chemical signatures.

- Benefits:**
- Sense, and ID chemical threats/signatures.
 - Hybrid, multifunctional, sensors: Low-cost, distributed, omni-present lightweight sensors.

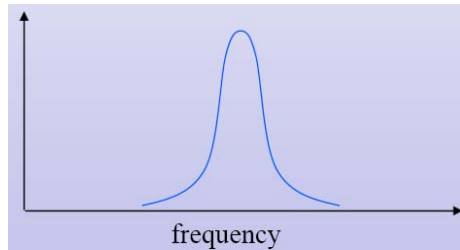


Quartz Tuning Fork (QTF) Sensor

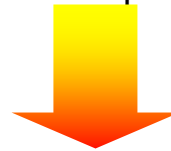


Quartz tuning fork

- Inexpensive
- Used in watches
- High quality factor of 90,000
- Low power consumption



Tuning fork vibrates at a highly defined frequency



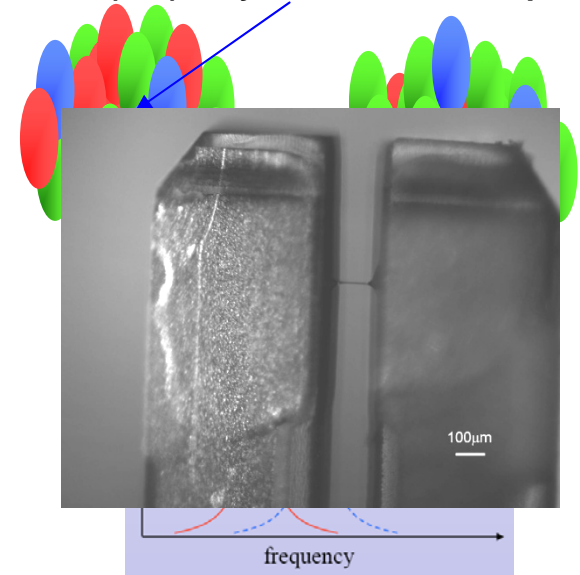
Sensor fabrication

- Using photolithography, bridge the forks with a polymer
- Polymer has a protein-binding functional group
- Immerse the tuning fork in a solution of OBPs
- OBPs are now attached to the polymer wire
- Expose the QTF to air
- As material bind to the OBPs, the tension of the polymer wire changes, which changes the frequency of the QTF

Benefits:

- Inexpensive.
- Highly selective.
- Tunable.
- Robust.

(Bio) Polymer Fiber with Asp1



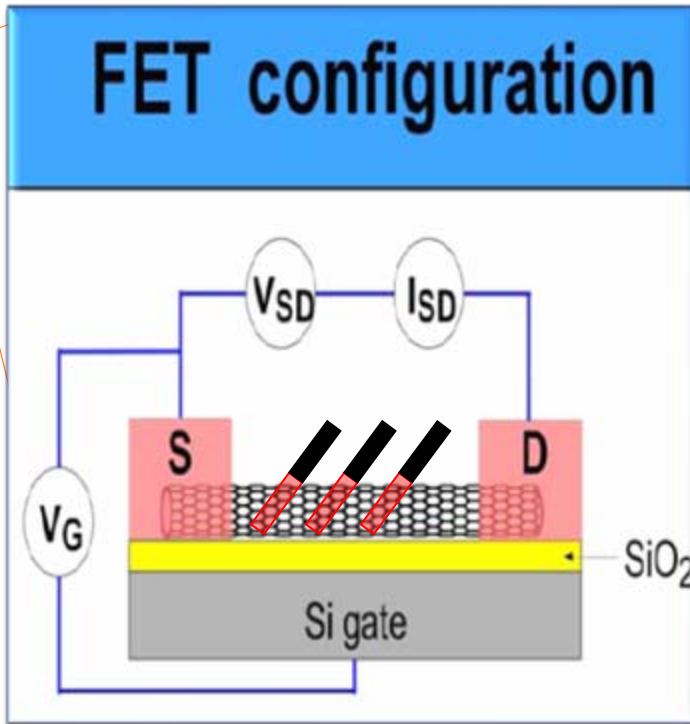


CNT Chemosensor



nanomaterials (sensitivity) + biomolecules (selectivity) = chemosensor

Insect Odor Sensing Mechanism

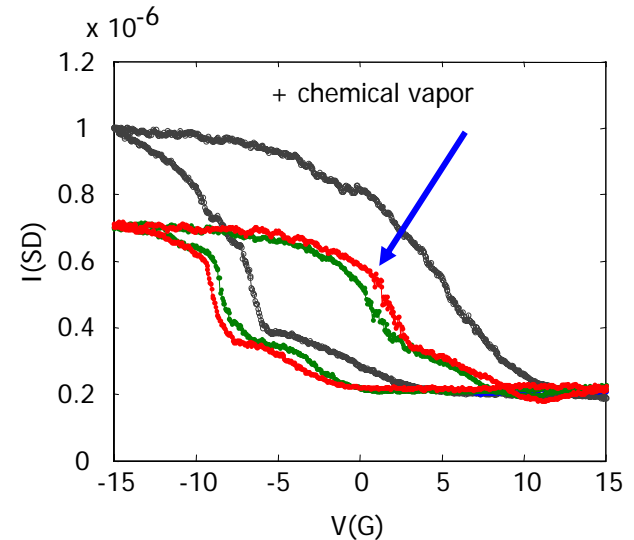


Functionalize CNTs with engineered biomolecules

CNT Binding Domain TNT Binding Domain



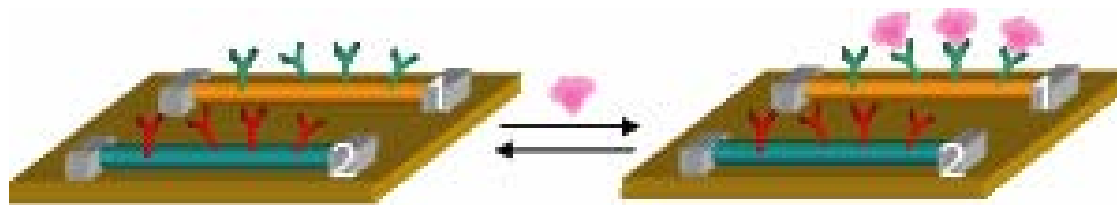
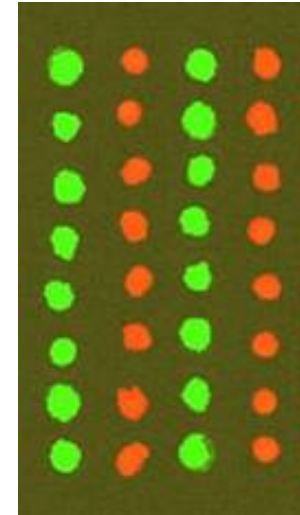
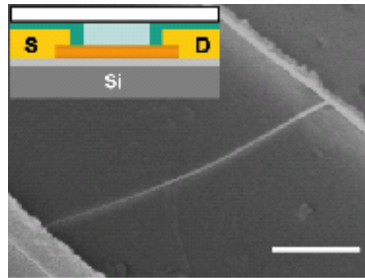
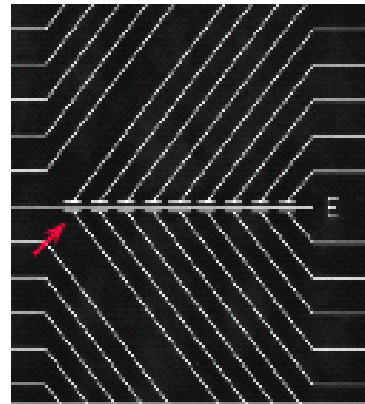
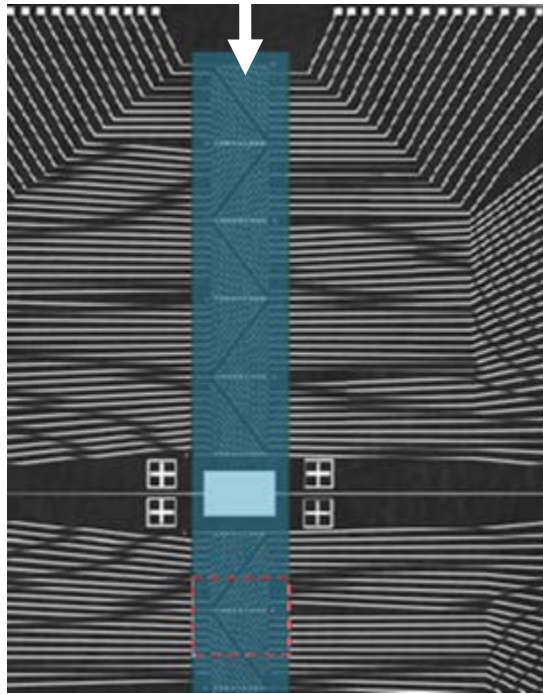
Bifunctional Biotemplate



Biomimetic Chemosensor



Sensor Chip for Flexible Detection



< pg/ml
sensitivity

Independently incorporate many distinct receptors and nanowires with excellent reproducibility!



NanoBio History: So What's Different Now?

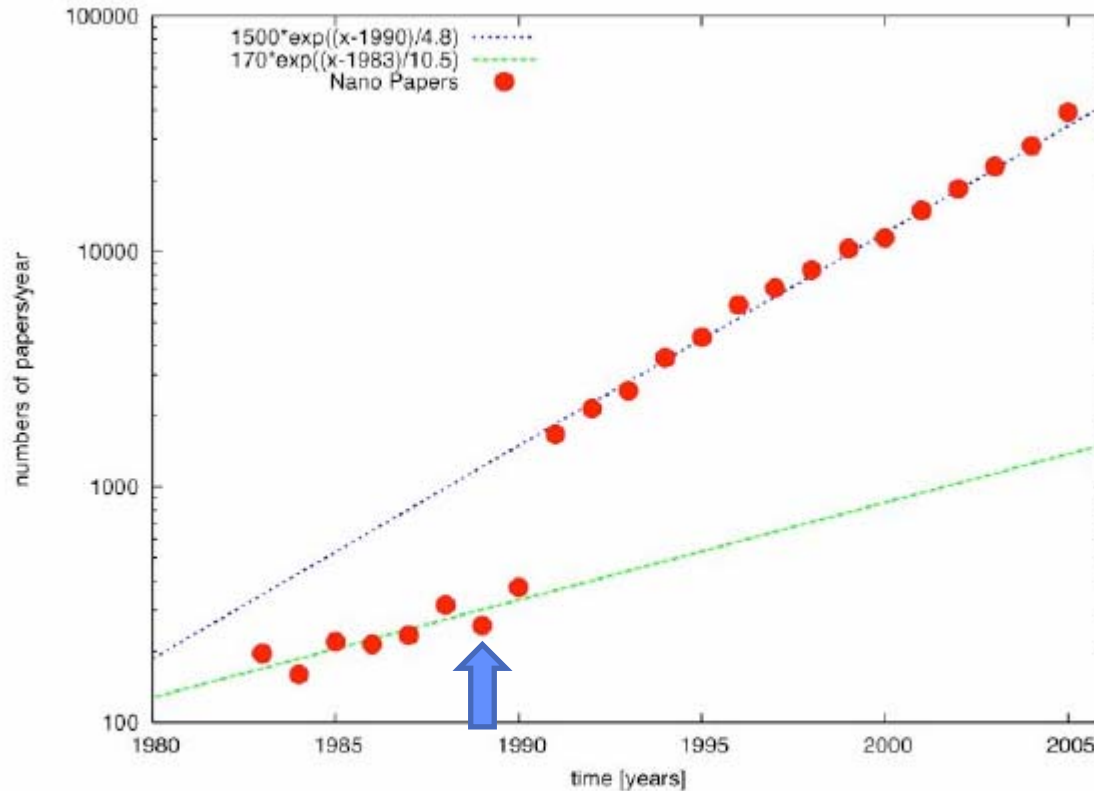


Fig. 1. Number of articles on nano science and engineering, based on the presence of the string “nano*” in article titles, abstracts, and keywords in the ISI Web of Science database. Data provided by David Wojick; figure prepared by Luis Bettencourt.



4 “Groups” in Synthetic Biology



1. **Biologists** – test current understanding of natural biological systems
2. **Chemists** – an extension of synthetic chemistry
3. **‘Re-writers’** – Genomes encoding natural biological systems can be ‘re-written’, producing engineered surrogates that might usefully ~~supplant~~ some natural biological systems
4. **Engineers** – biology is a technology with an emphasis on development of foundational technologies to make the design and construction easier

CONTROL

~~augment~~

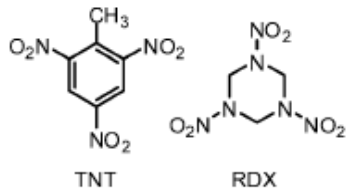
D. Endy (2005) “Foundations for engineering biology,” *Nature* **438** (24): 449.



In vivo circuits: Riboswitch Strategy



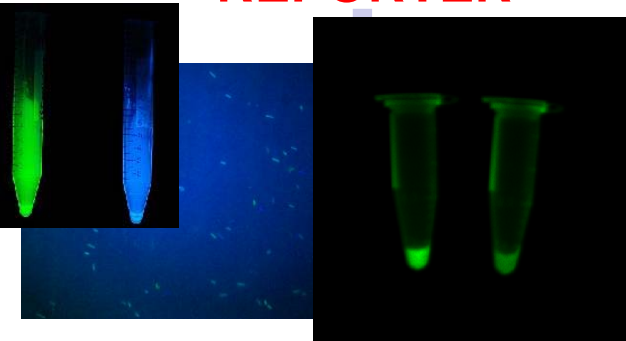
SWITCH/SENSOR



Identification/recognition elements that are coupled to genetic control



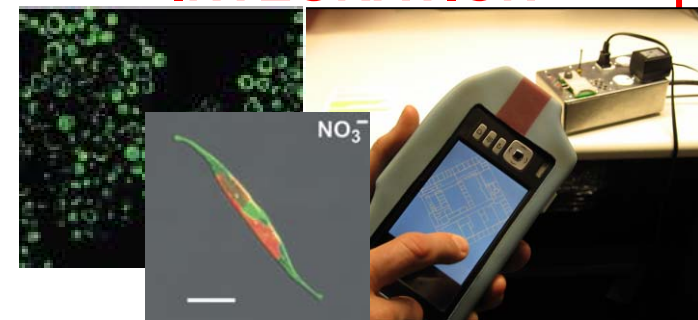
REPORTER



Development of pathway/reporter system (optical and redox-based assays)



INTEGRATION



Packaging of genetic switches and reporter assay for device integration

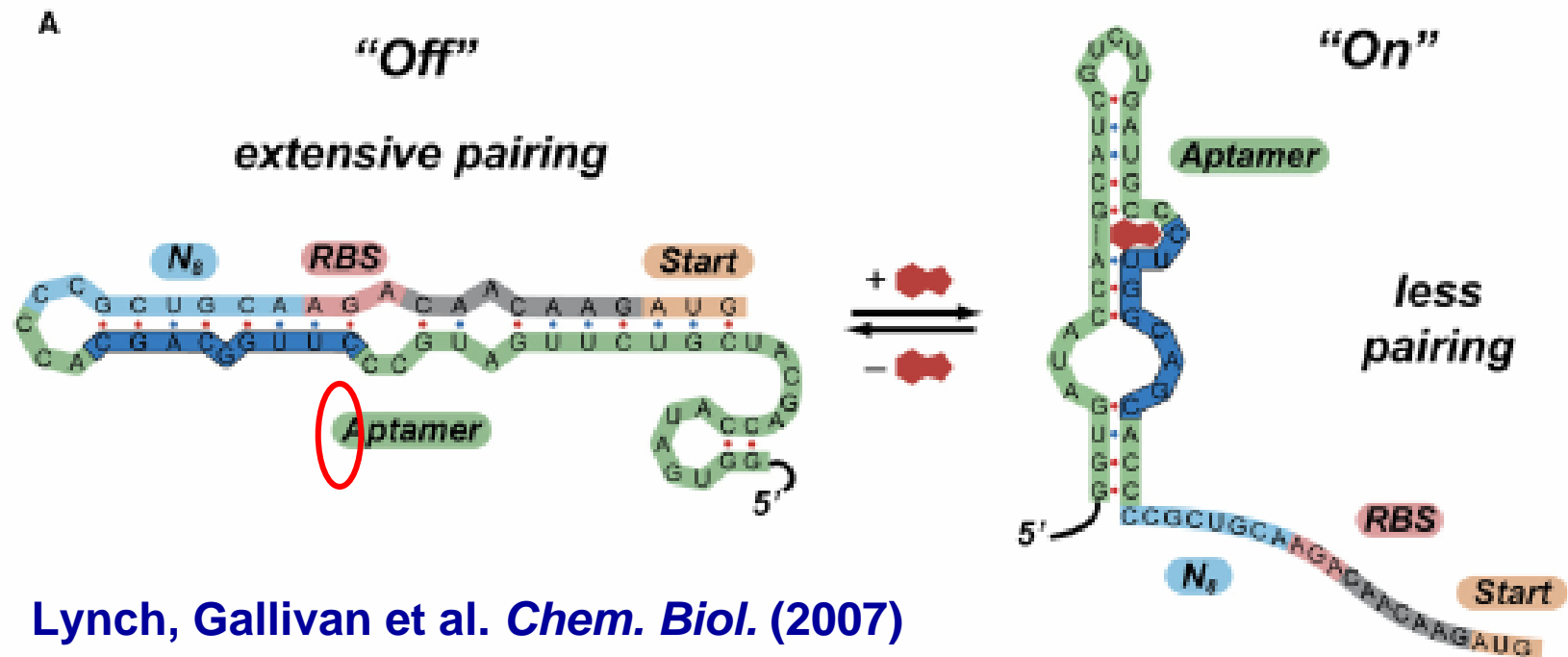


Riboswitch Mode of Action: *Modularity*



Engineer Synthetic Riboswitch triggered by small molecule

CELL



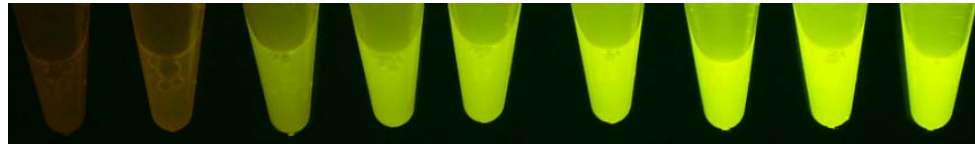


Cell-Based Sentinel

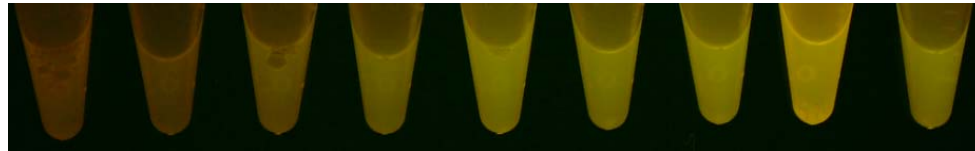


CELL LYSATES

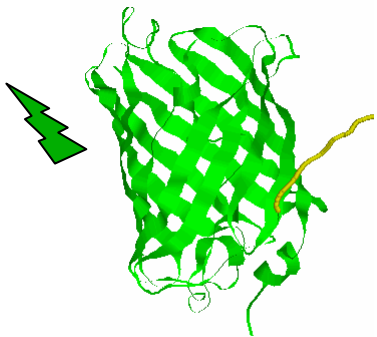
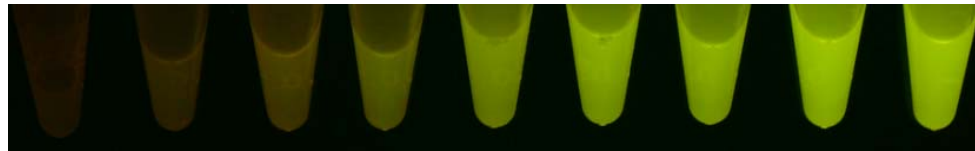
Positive Control 0-8hrs



Riboswitch Off 0-8hrs

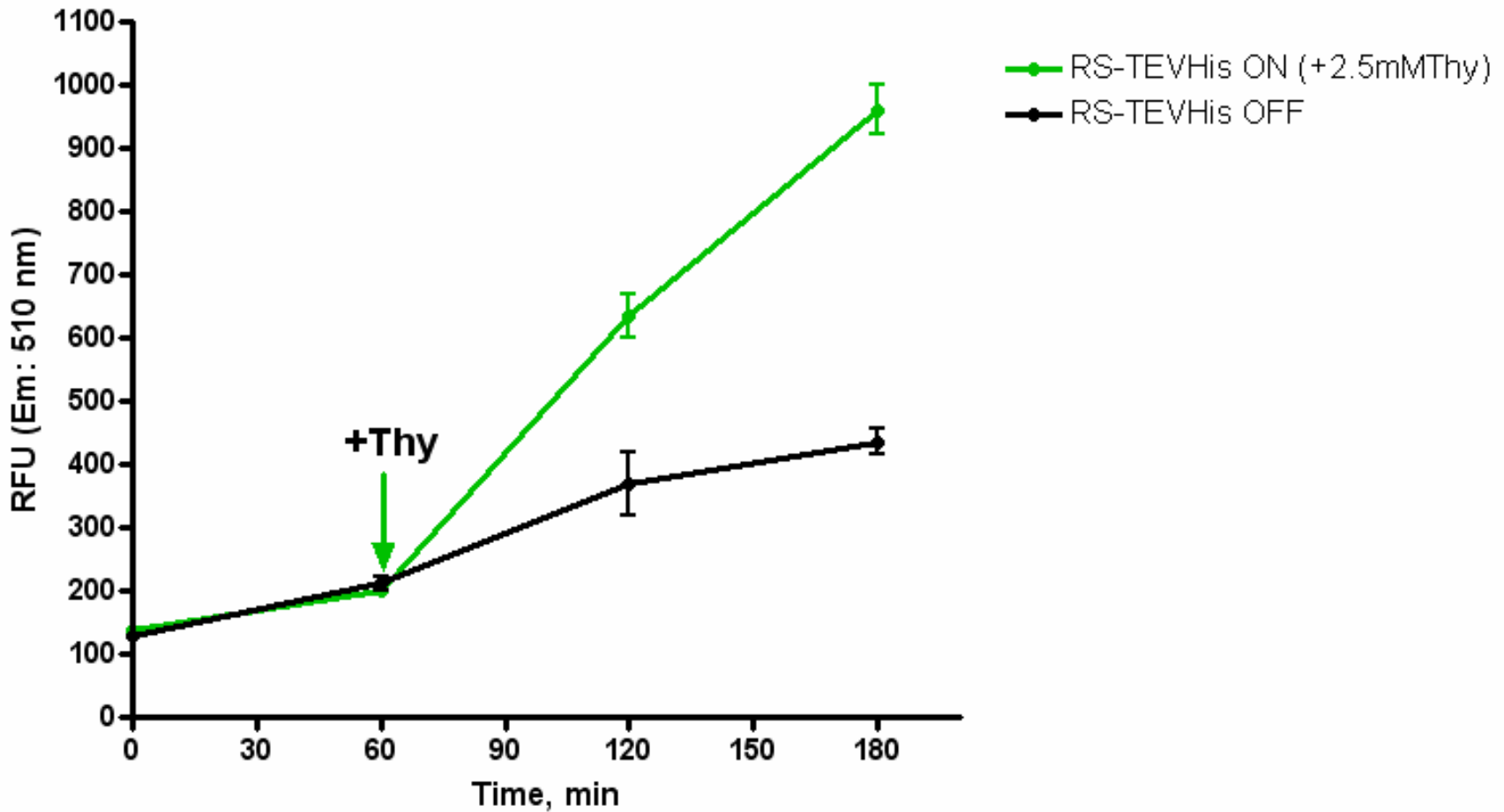


Riboswitch On 0-8hrs



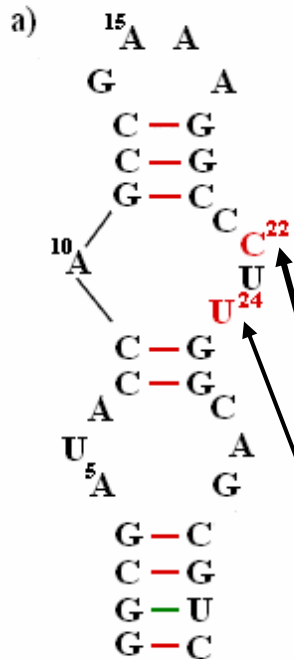


Cell-Based Sentinel Data

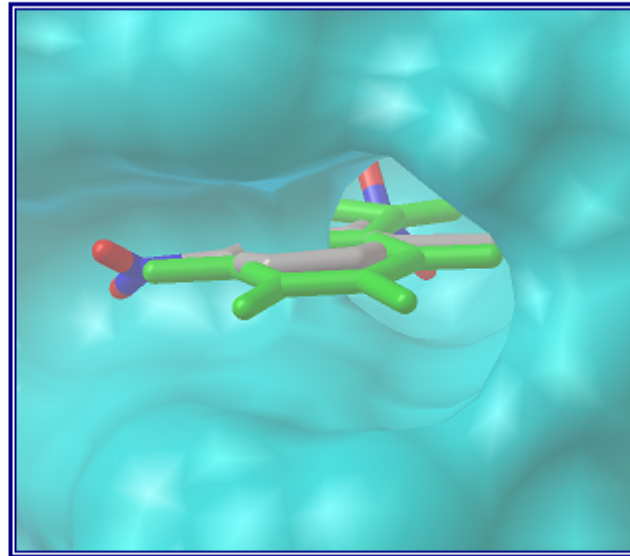




Autodock4* Results: Riboswitch Binding Pocket



b)



**Superimposition of 2,4-DNT
and theophylline within
aptamer binding pocket**

Critical role of cytosine and uracil at positions 22 and 24

Zimmermann et al., *Nature Struct. Biology*, 1997

Software - Autodock4 (Scripps Research Institute)

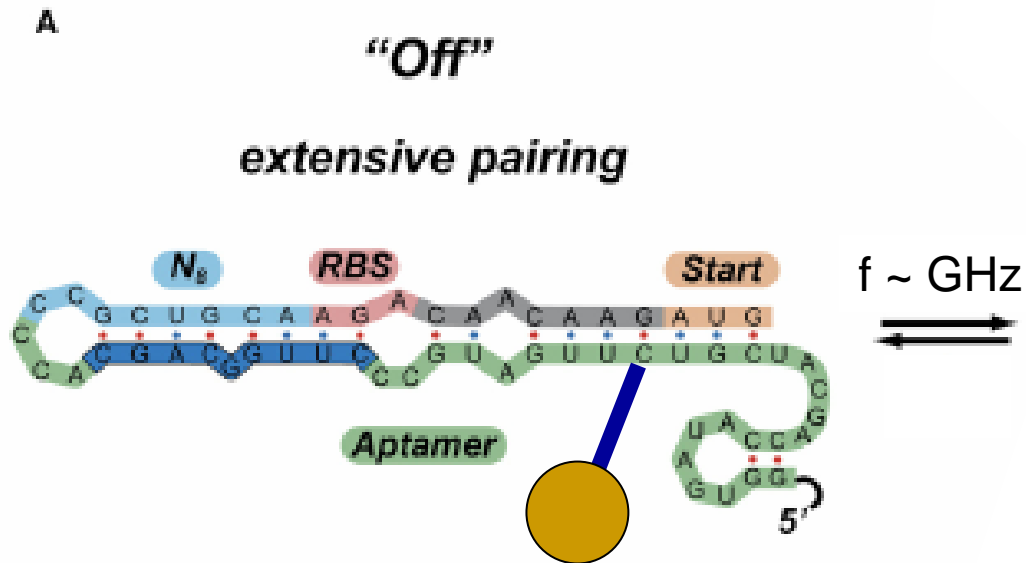
Huey, Morris, Olson and Goodsell, *J. Comput. Chem.* **2007**, 28, 1145.



Riboswitch Mode of Action: *Remote Activation*



Engineer Synthetic Riboswitch triggered by ~~small molecule~~ external field

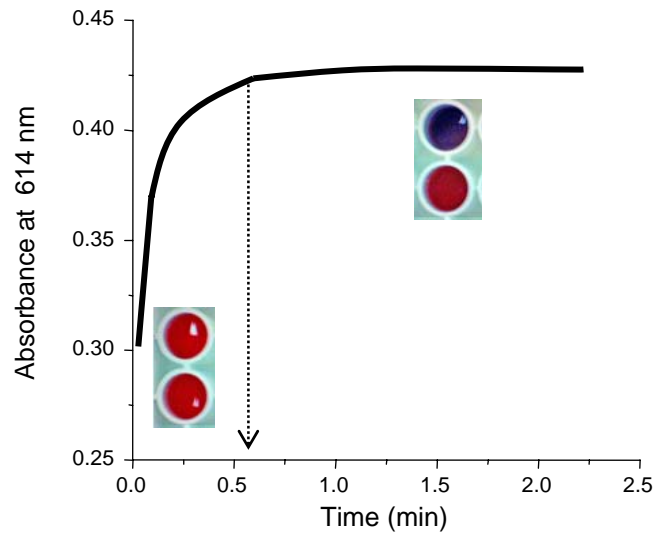




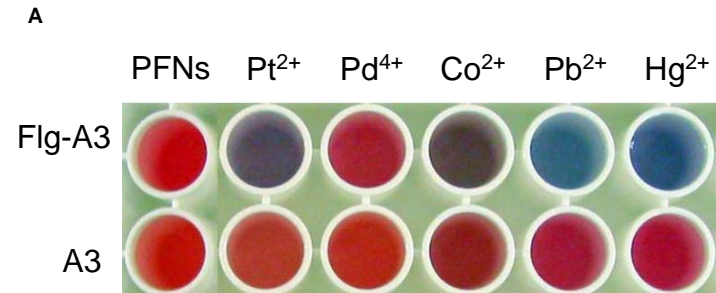
Response of PFN Sensor



Response Time



Flg Domain Effect



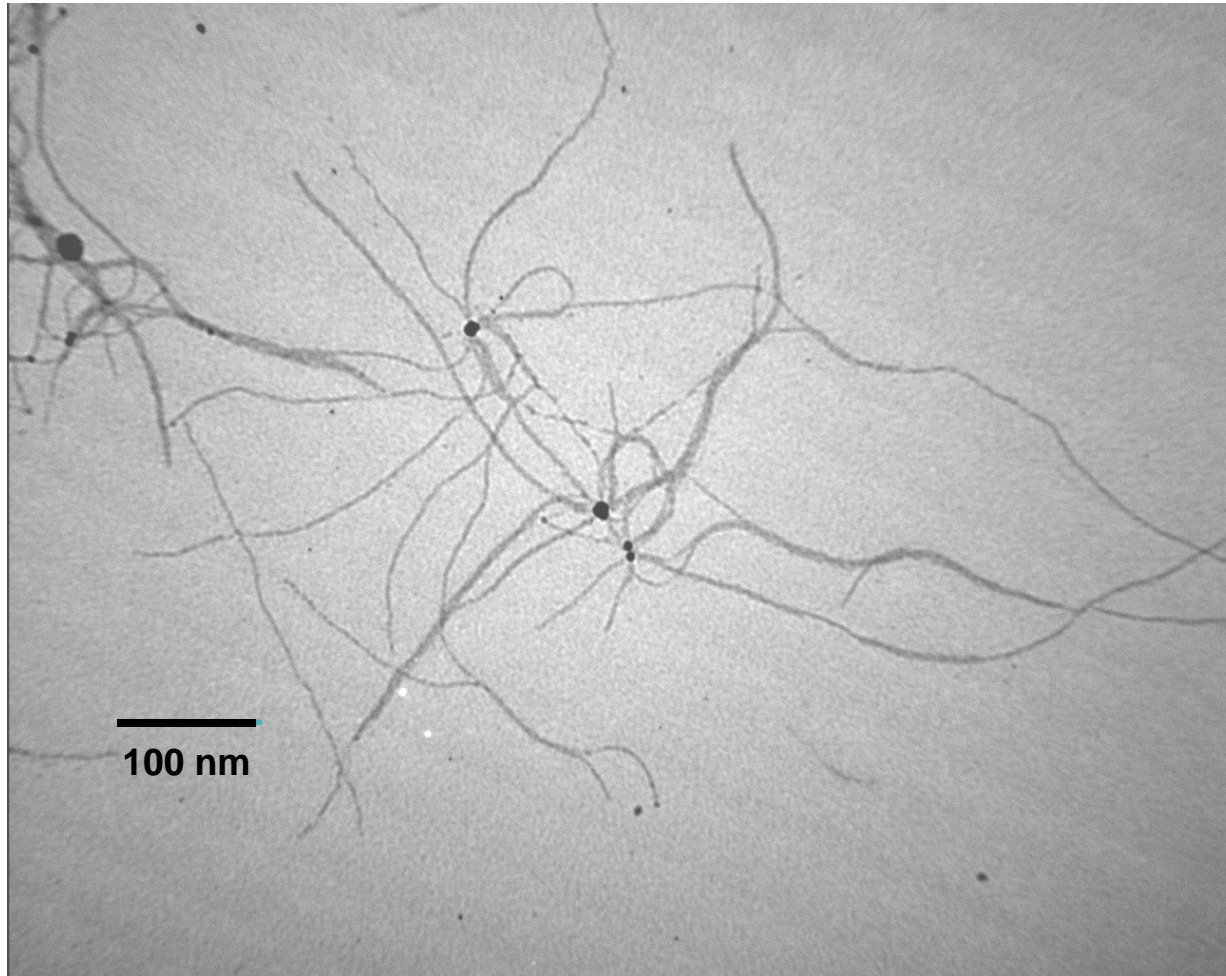
Small (2007) In Press



Phage Peptide Display (PD)

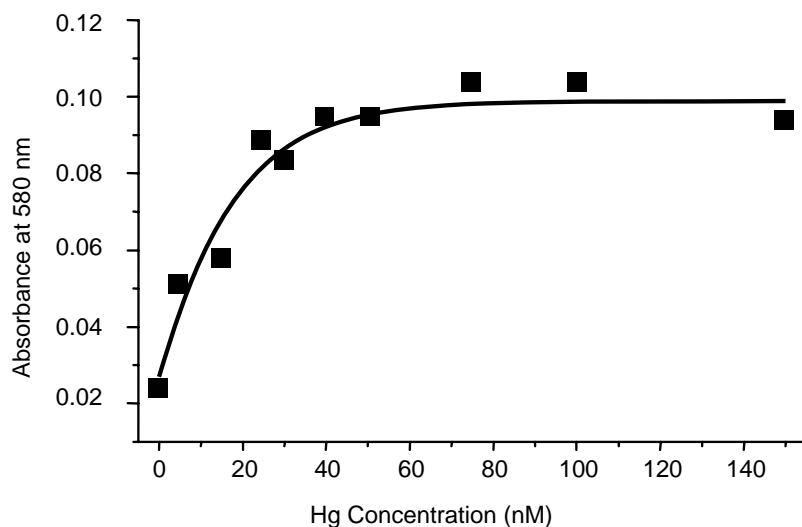


Low voltage TEM image of M13 phage
selected for binding to Co/Pt nanoparticles





Peptide Functionalized NPs Detection Limit



Peptide Functionalized NPs

PFN + [M+]	Absorbance (nm)	Metal ion Conc.(nM)	Metal ion Conc. (ppb)
PFNs	539	NA	NA
Pt ²⁺	542	22.6 ± 0.1	4.5 ± 0.1
Pd ⁴⁺	617	31.0 ± 11.0	3.3 ± 1.2
Co ²⁺	593	191.4 ± 52.7	11.3 ± 3.1
Pb ²⁺	614	242.0 ± 8.6	50.2 ± 1.8
Hg ²⁺	580	26.4 ± 11.3	5.3 ± 2.2

	Recognition element	Metal ion	Conc.
Mirkin	DNA	Hg ²⁺	100 nM
Chang	DNAzyme	Pb ²⁺	400 nM
Lu	mercapto	Hg ²⁺	3 μM

1. Lu, *Chem. Mater.* **2004**, 3231.
2. Chang, *Chem. Commun.* **2007**, 1215.
3. Mirkin, *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2007**, 4093