



Nanostructured Polymers for Photonics

or

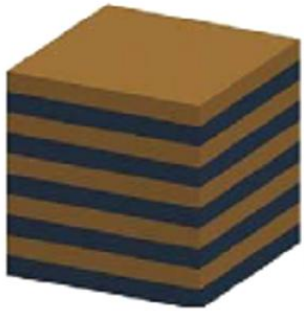
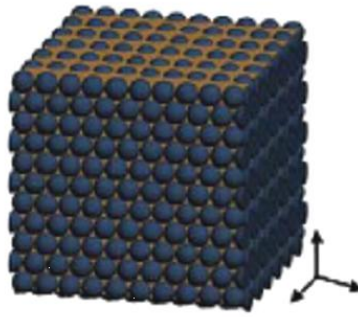
Polymer Materials with Periodic Structures

Eugenia Kumacheva
University of Toronto

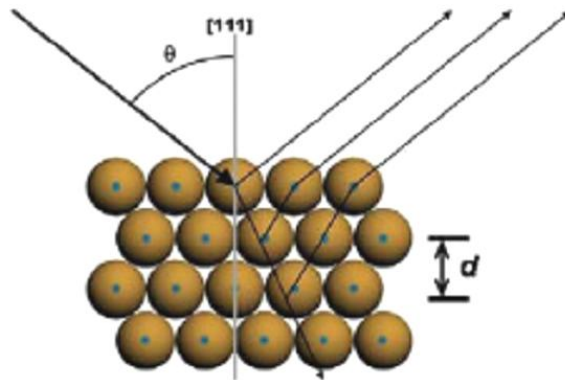


WHAT IS PHOTONICS?

- **Photonics** is an interdisciplinary field of science and technology with a focus on the transport and manipulation of light.
- In particular, interaction of light with materials possessing a periodic modulation in their structure leads to a range of interesting effects.
- **Applications:** Bragg mirrors, switches, filters, superprisms, waveguides, and optical resonators.

1D**2D****3D**

The arrows show the direction in which a periodic modulation in the refractive index exists



$$k\lambda_{sb} \approx 2d (n_{eff}^2 - \sin^2 \theta)^{1/2}$$



- Incident light with a wavelength predicted by a modified Bragg equation undergoes diffraction when propagating through a photonic crystal. The wavelength of light that is coherently scattered (λ_{sb}), is determined by the angle of incidence, θ , the effective refractive index of the PPC, n_{eff} , and the periodicity of the structure, d .

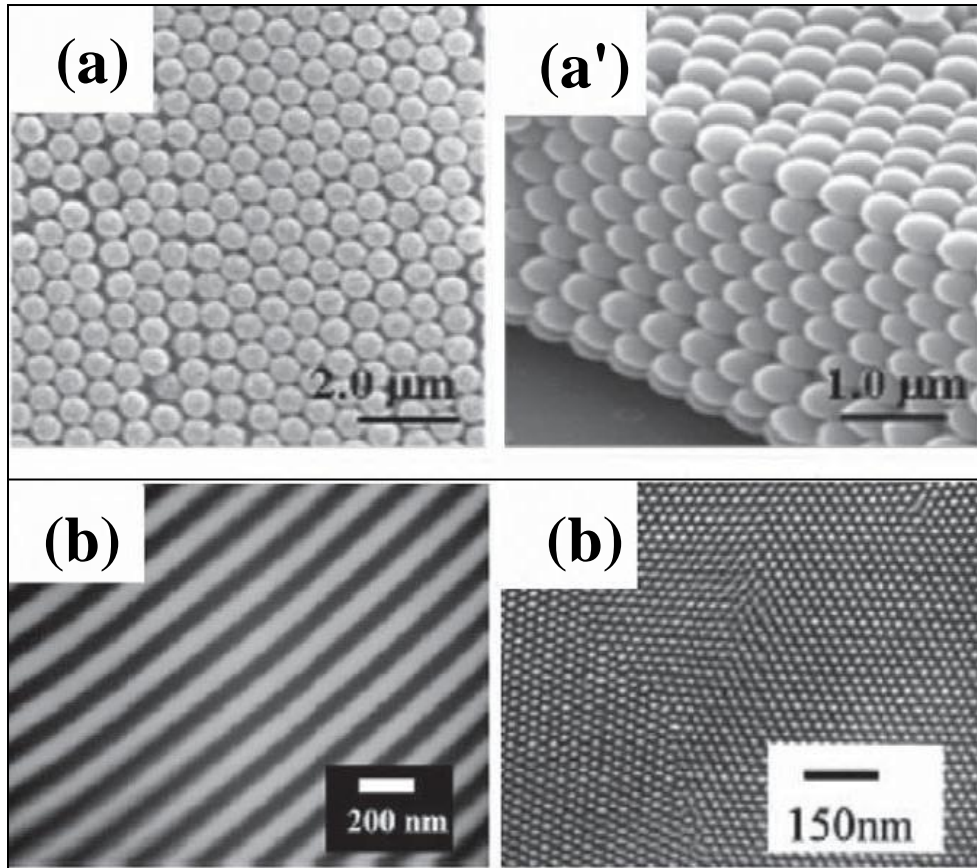
WHY POLYMERS?

Polymers are inexpensive, can be readily functionalized to achieve required optical, electronic, or mechanical properties and are compatible with various patterning methods

Polymers can be used as materials for photonics in several ways

- Polymers in themselves can possess useful optical properties, e. g., electroluminescence, photoluminescence, or nonlinear optical properties**
- Polymers can act as matrices for optically active species, e.g. for dyes, liquid crystals, semiconductor quantum dots, or metal nanoparticles**
- Polymers possessing topographic and/or compositional patterns can coherently scatter light**
- Polymer templates are routinely used for producing photonic materials**

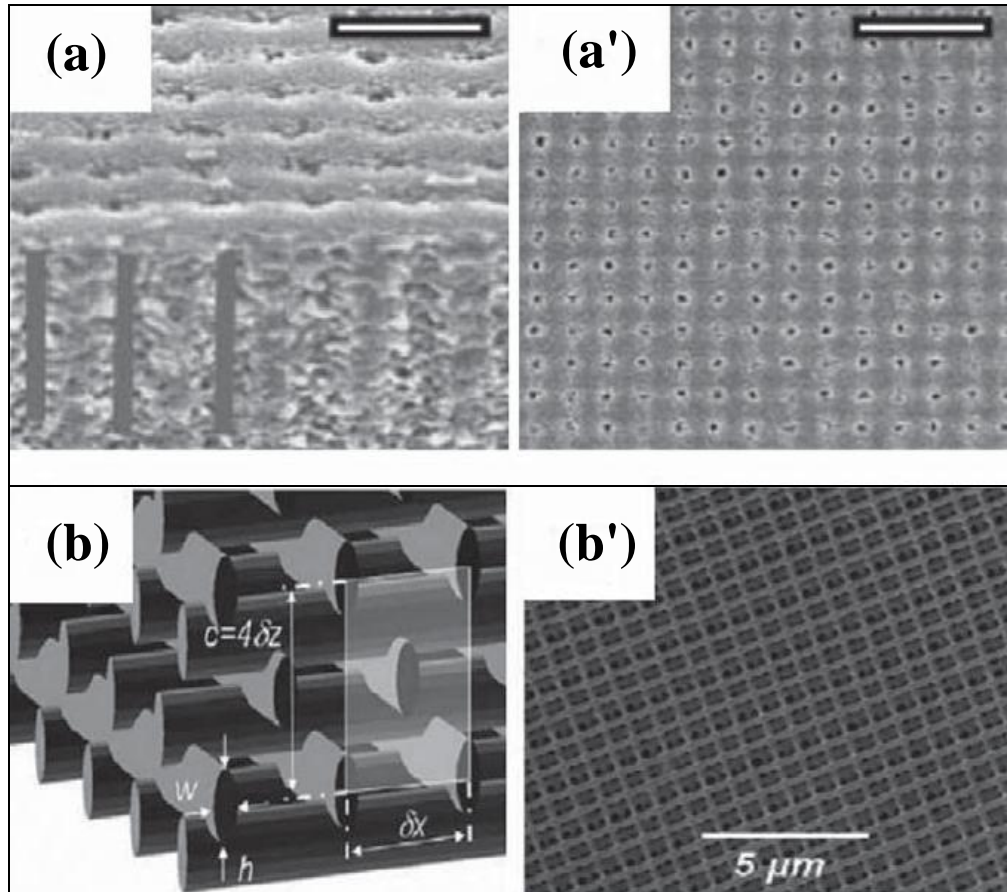
Fabrication of polymer photonic crystals: *self-assembly*



a, a': SEM images of a colloid crystal self-assembled from polystyrene particles

b, b': TEM images of self-assembled PS-b-PI BCP films

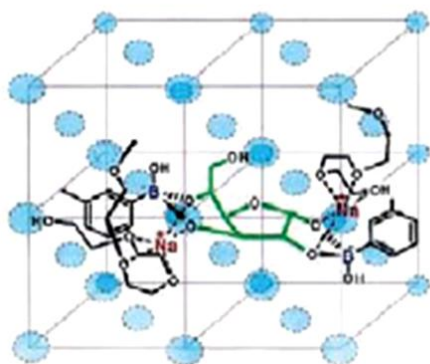
Fabrication of polymer photonic crystals: *microfabrication*



(a, a'): SEM images of a LC-polymer material obtained by holographic patterning of a LC-monomer mixture. The dark areas are void regions in which the LC droplets resided prior to SEM imaging.

(b, b'): Fabrication of materials by two-photon polymerization: (b) computer-generated sketch of a woodpile structure, and (d) SEM image of a woodpile structure fabricated in a polymer resin

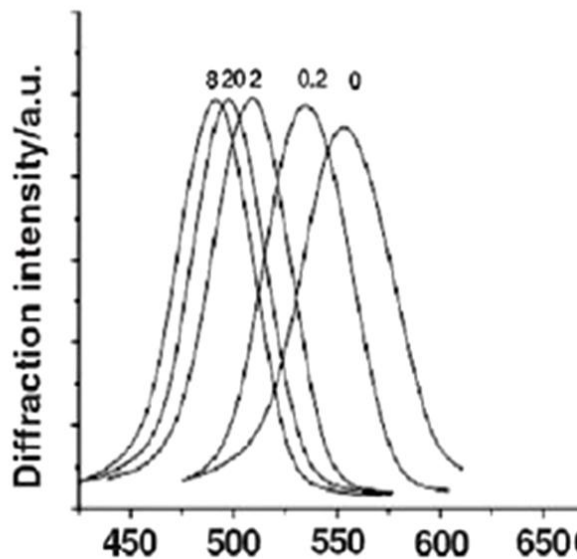
Applications of polymer photonic crystals: **chemical sensors**



1 Sensor derived from a colloid crystal embedded in a polyacrylamide-poly(ethylene glycol) hydrogel with pendant phenylboronic acid groups.

Complexation of glucose with the phenylboronic acid and poly(ethylene glycol) → reduction in the hydrogel volume

Dependence of the diffraction spectrum of the sensor on the concentration of glucose in an aqueous solution containing 2 mM tris-HCl (pH 8.5) and 150 mM NaCl

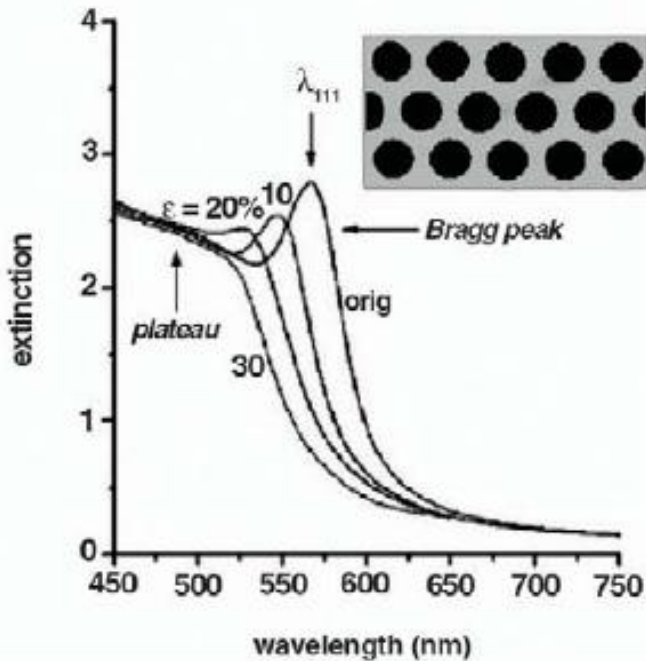


Applications of polymer photonic crystals: **deformation sensors**



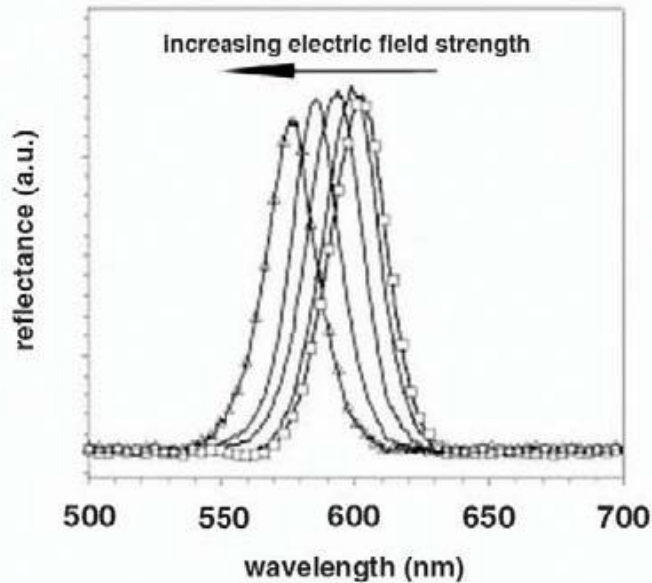
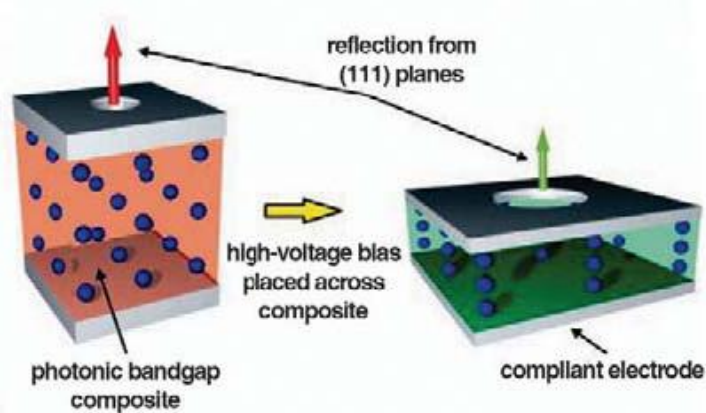
Particles: rigid polystyrene beads
Matrix: poly(ethyl acrylate)

Deformation applied to elastomeric material changes its lattice constant and causes a shift in the stopband (and hence, the color of diffracted light).



Hysteresis in stretching-contraction series was minimized by cross-linking the poly(ethyl acrylate) matrix.

Applications of polymer photonic crystals: **electric field sensors**

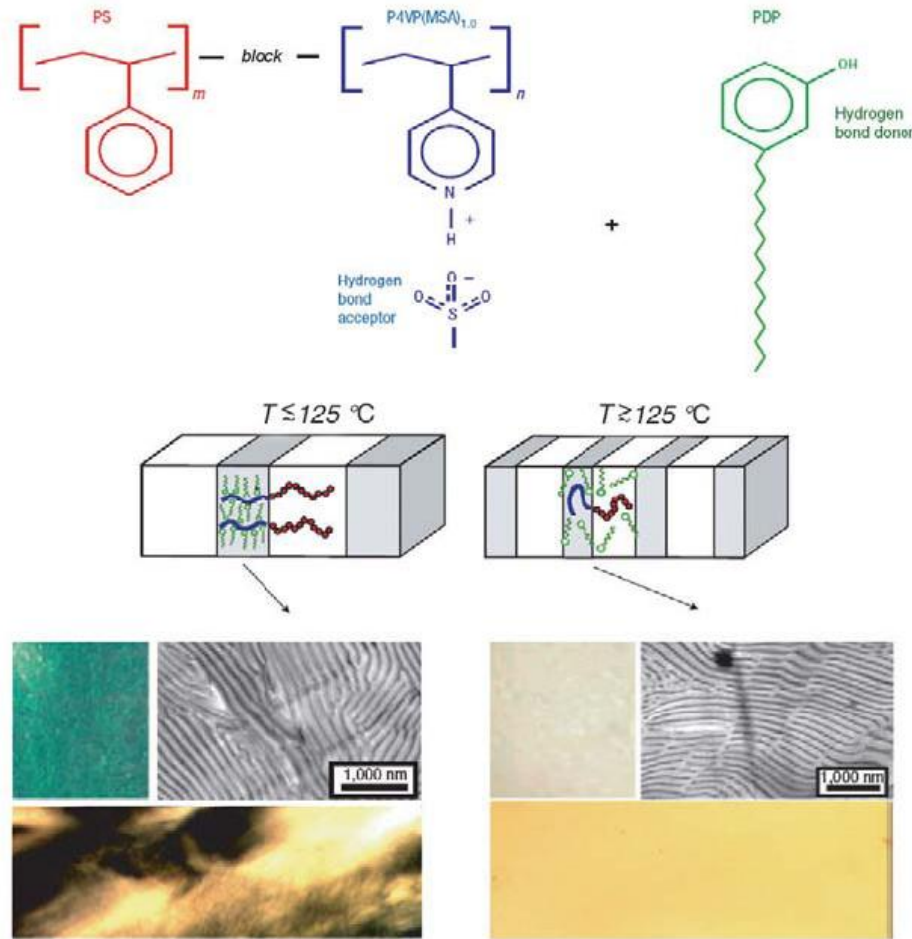


Application of an electric field to a colloid crystal fabricated in a poly(2-methoxyethyl acrylate) hydrogel loaded with Ag nanoparticles → contraction of the material in the plane perpendicular to the plane of electrodes.

The stress arises from Coulombic interactions between electrostatic charges on the opposing electrodes (via the Maxwell stress effect).

The change in interplanar distance of the the crystal led to a blue shift of the stopband

Polymer photonic crystals: block copolymers



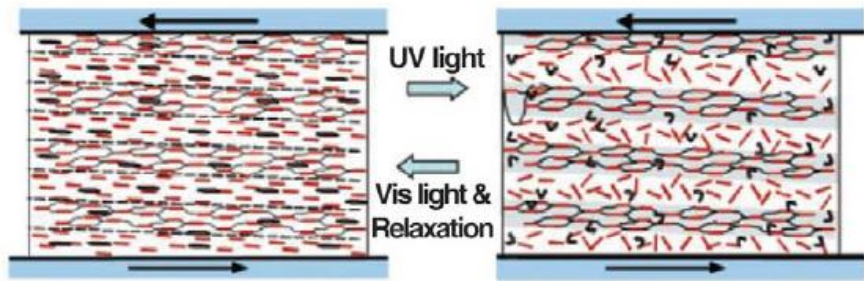
Hydrogen bonding and polymer phase behavior \rightarrow large, reversible temperature-controlled switching of the stopband.

A thermal response in the optical properties of polystyrene-*b*-poly(4-vinylpyridinium methanesulphonate) was induced by adding 3-*n*-pentadecylphenol.

Below $\sim 125^\circ\text{C}$, a complex of PS-*b*-P4VP (MSA) with PDP produced a supra-molecular comb-shaped architecture with a long lamellar period. The sample is green and birefringent.

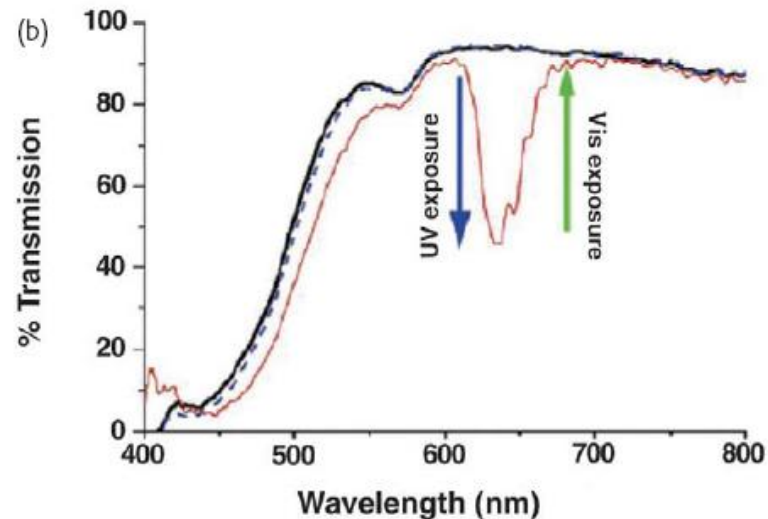
Above 125°C , the hydrogen bonds broke up and PDP dissolved in both PS and P4VP(MSA) \rightarrow transition to an uncolored and non-birefringent material.

Microfabricated Polymer photonic crystals:

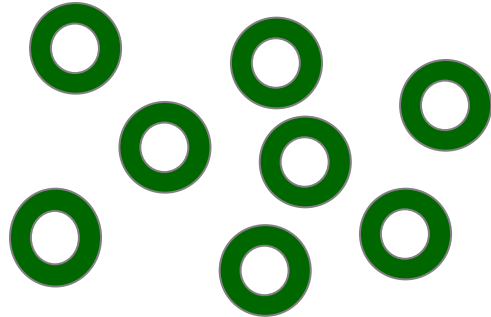


One-dimensional holographically patterned polymer-dispersed liquid crystals (H-PDLC) with primary LC molecules possessing alternating layers of nematic order and secondary LC molecules.

Opto-control of light reflection occurred by UV-irradiation: the photoisomerization of the secondary LC molecules disrupted the nematic order of the primary LC molecules and induced a refractive index mismatch in the photonic structure. The mismatch produced a stopband and a decrease in the transmission at the diffraction wavelengths.



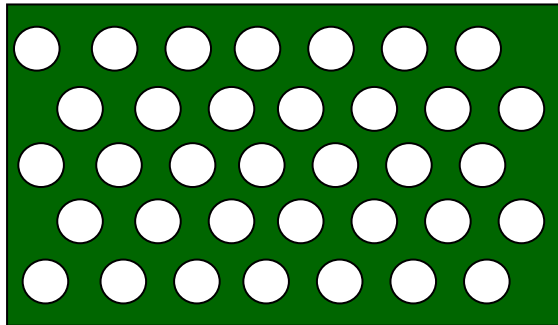
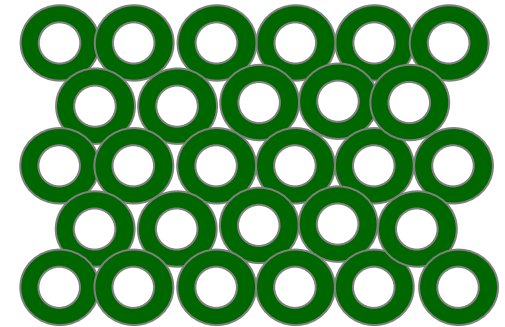
A 'CORE-SHELL' APPROACH TO PERIODICALLY NANOSTRUCTURED MATERIALS



SYNTHESIS

$$T_{\text{room}} < T_{g, \text{shell}} < T_{g, \text{core}}$$

ASSEMBLY



ANNEALING

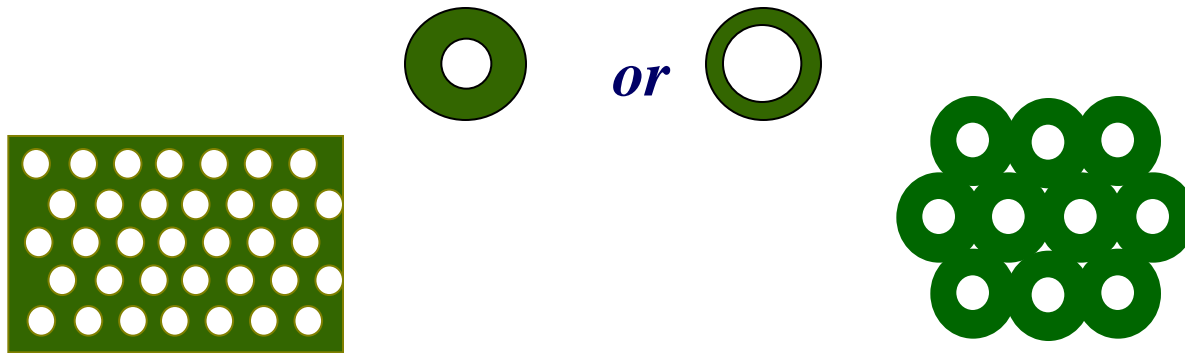
$$T_{g, \text{shell}} < T_{\text{annealing}} < T_{g, \text{core}}$$

'Structural' variables of core-shell strategy

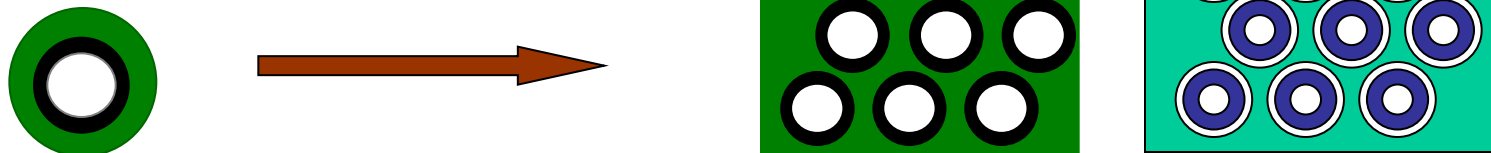
- Variation in particle size, core radius and shell thickness

Particle number density: 10^{12} - 10^{16} cm^{-3}

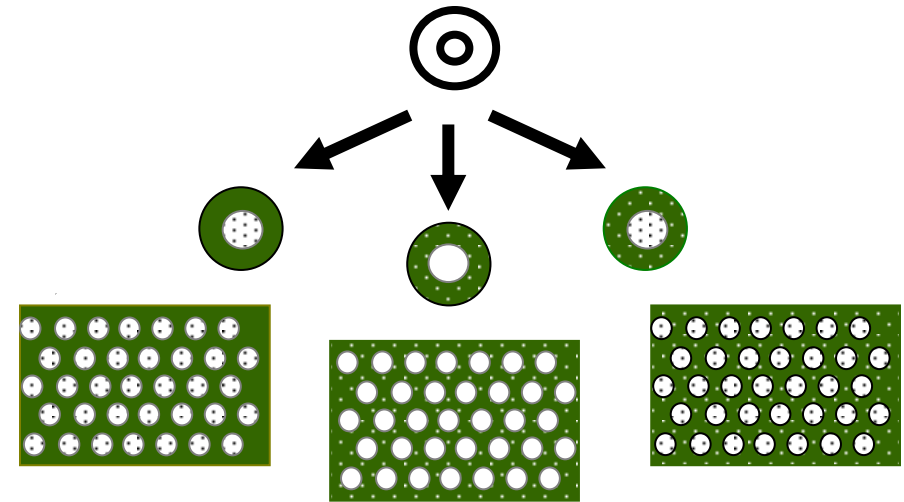
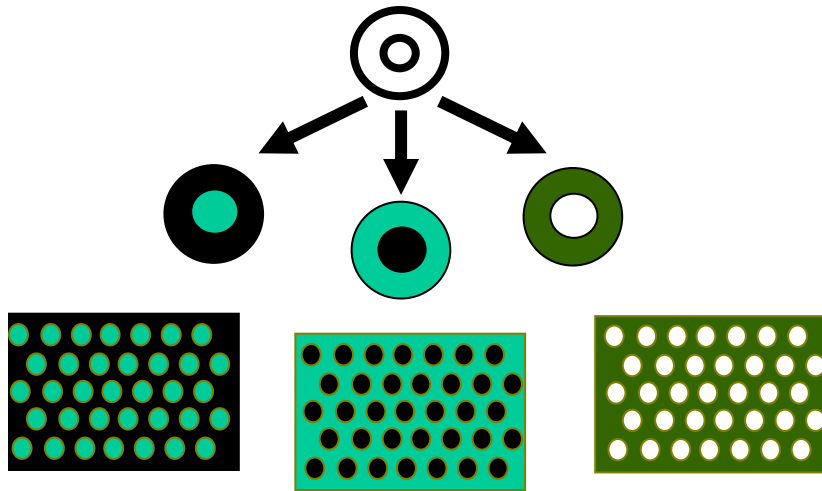
- Different size ratio between core radius and shell thickness



- Multilayer (multiphase) particles



'Compositional' variables of core-shell strategy



♦ Various combinations of core-forming material and shell-forming polymers

- acrylic polymers
- fluoropolymers
- styrene polymers
- polyacrylamide
- polypyrrole
- polyaniline
- poly(ferrocene silane)
- SiO₂
- TiO₂

♦ Various organic functionalities: fluorescent dyes, organic chromophores, nonlinear optics species

♦ Inorganic nanoparticles

Core-shell particles: PM-1 + PM-2 + LMW
PM-1 + PM-2 + LMW-1+ LMW-2

2³ = 8 materials

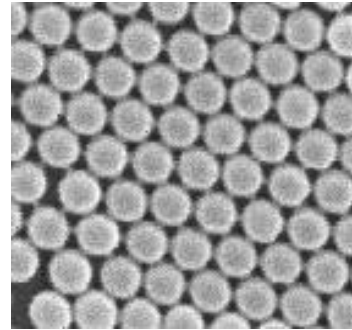
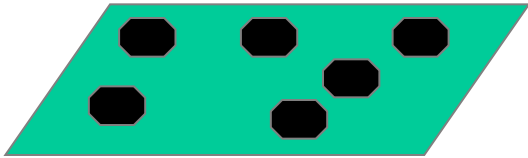
2⁴ = 16 materials

Three-layer particles: PM-1 + PM-2 + PM-3 + LMW-1+ LMW-2

2⁵ = 32 materials

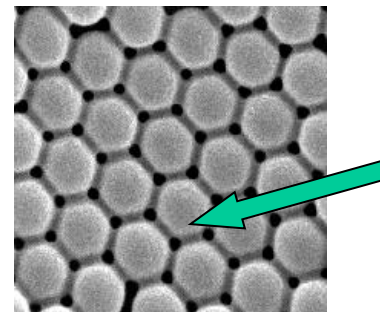
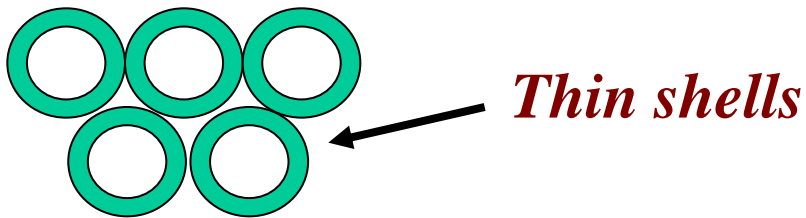
Requirements

- ❑ **Narrow size distribution** (for both cores and shells)



PDI = 1.05 ± 0.02

- ❑ **Sufficient thickness of shells for producing void-free materials**



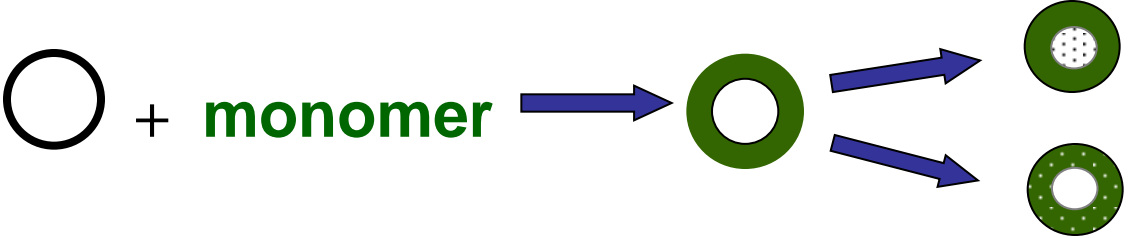
- ❑ **No diffusion between particle cores and shells**

Production of core-shell particles

Interfacial polymerization



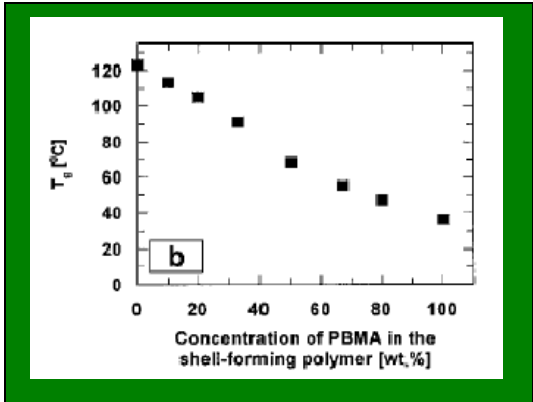
INTERFACIAL POLYMERIZATION



LMW : fluorescent dyes
chromophores

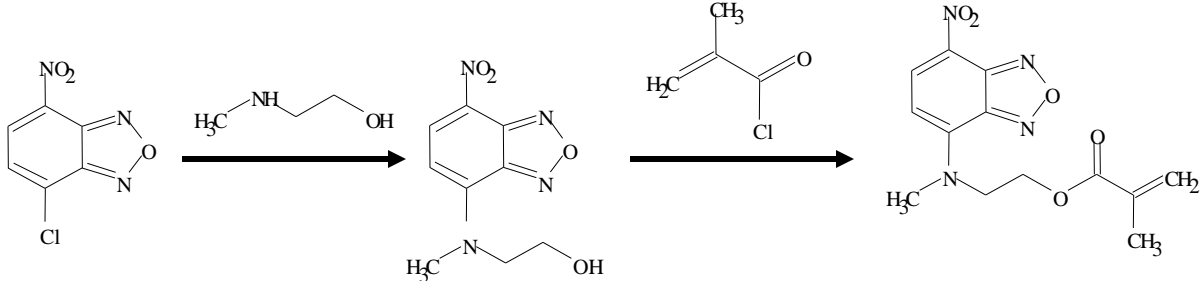
Latex cores: poly(methyl methacrylate)

Latex shells: poly(methyl methacrylate)/
poly(butyl methacrylate) copolymer



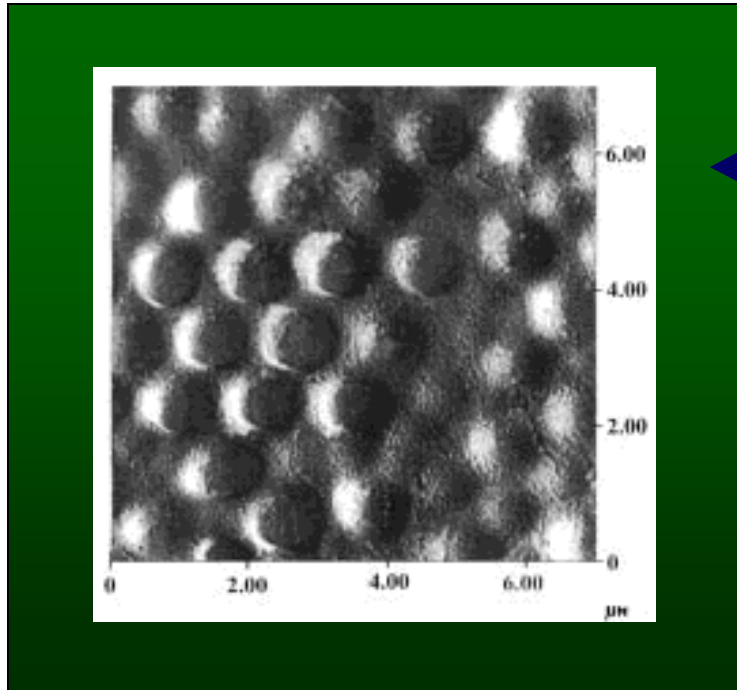
Fluorescent dye:

4-amino-7- nitrobenzo-2-oxa-1,3-diazole (NBD)



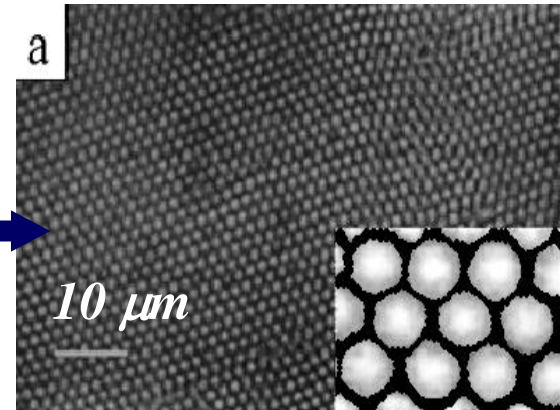
Nanostructured polymeric material

AFM

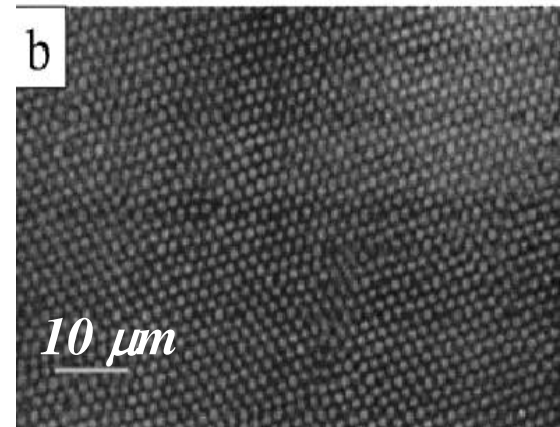


Laser Confocal Fluorescent Microscopy

Surface

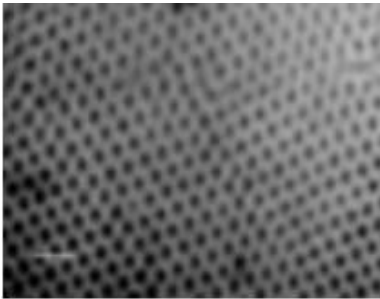


100 μm below
the surface

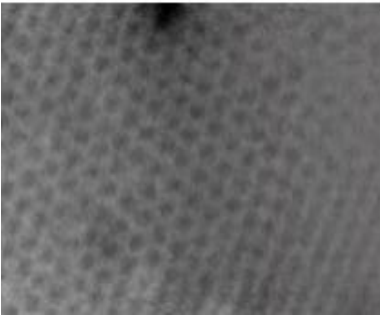
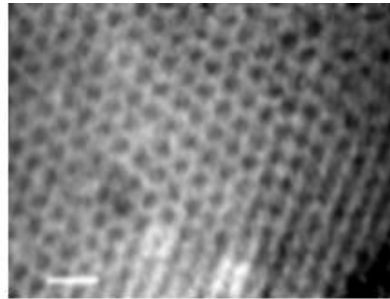


Nanostructured material with inverse structure

CA + C



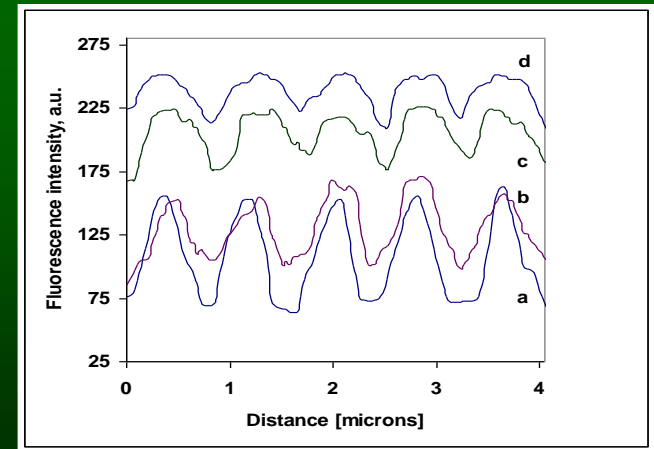
CA



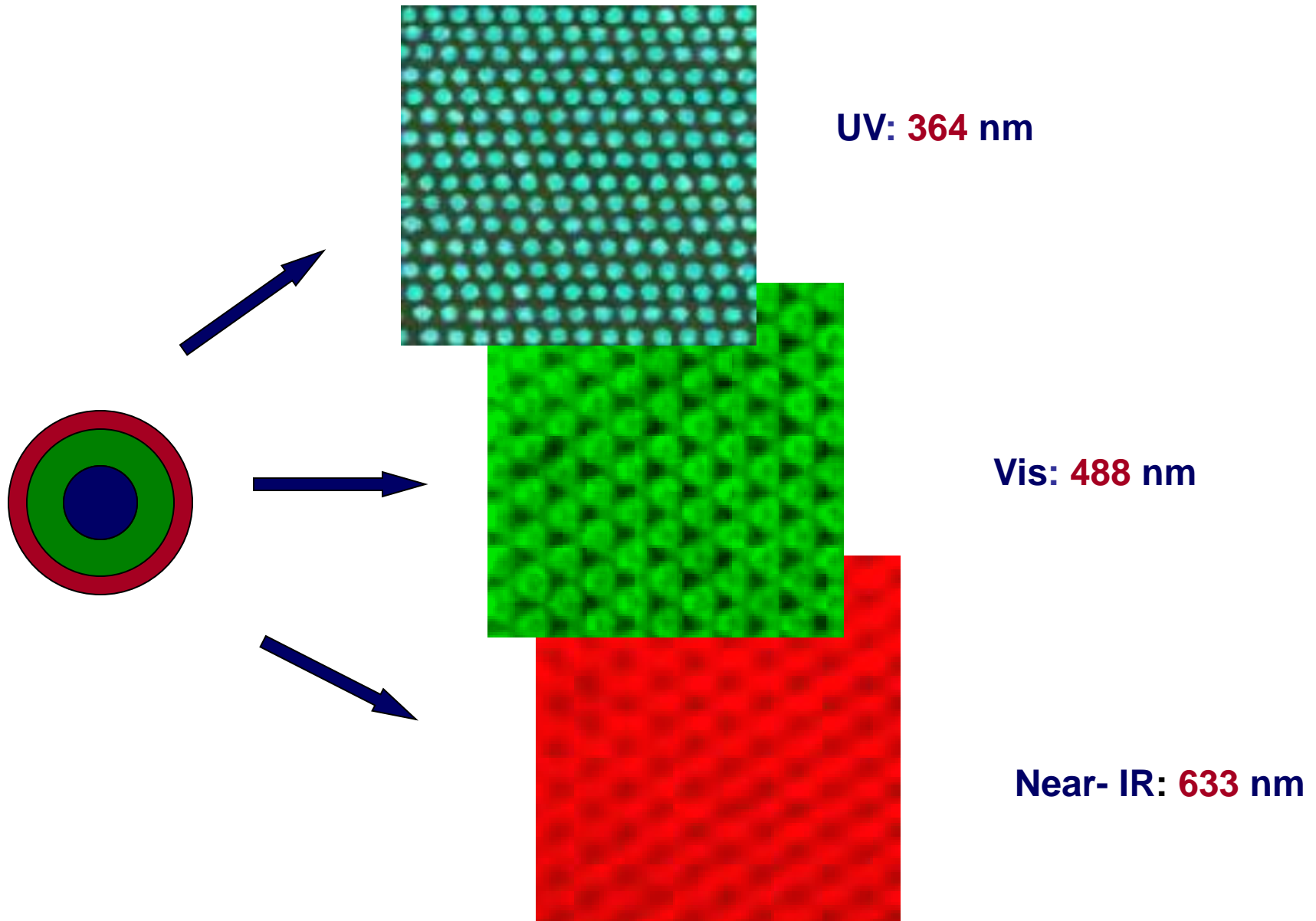
C

CA: covalent attachment of NBD to shell-forming polymer

C: cross-linking of shell-forming polymer

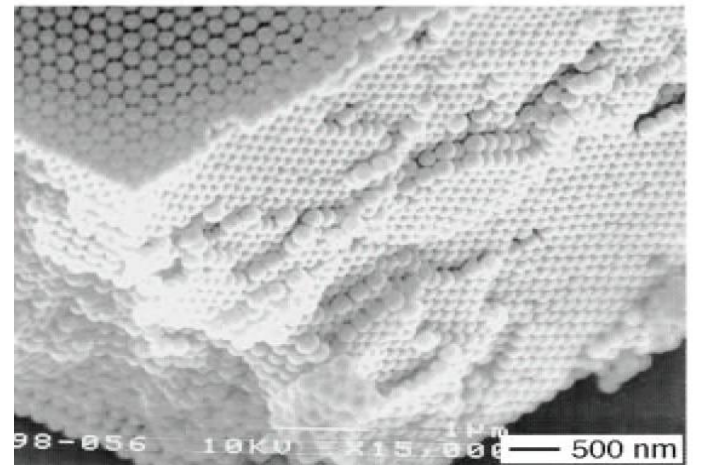
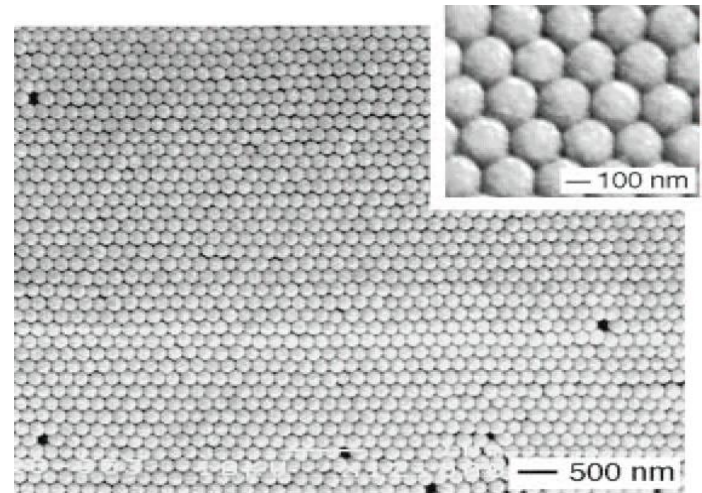


“Multicolor” Nanostructured Material



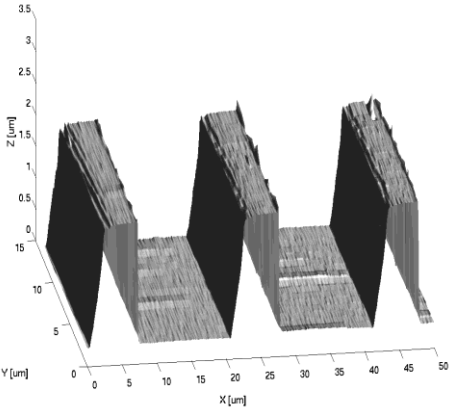
Colloid Crystallization

Colloid Crystallization

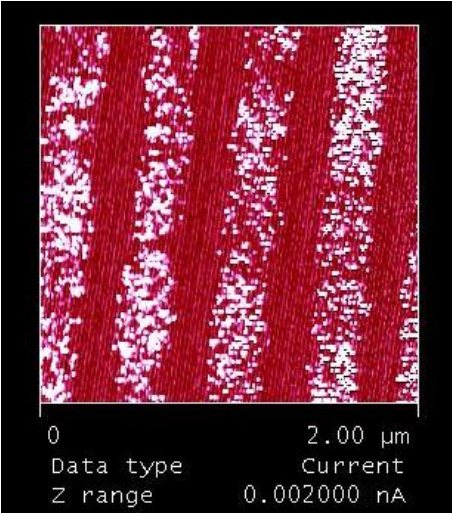


Crystallization on *patterned substrates*

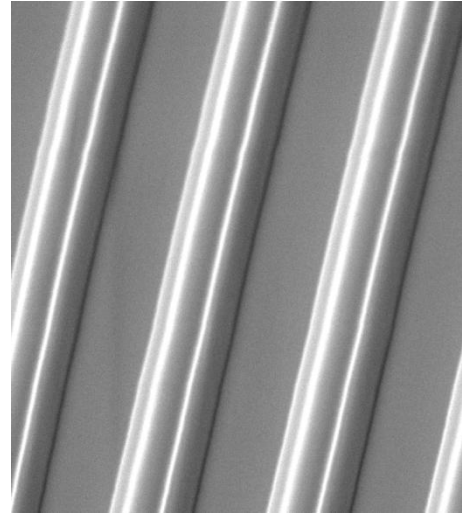
AFM



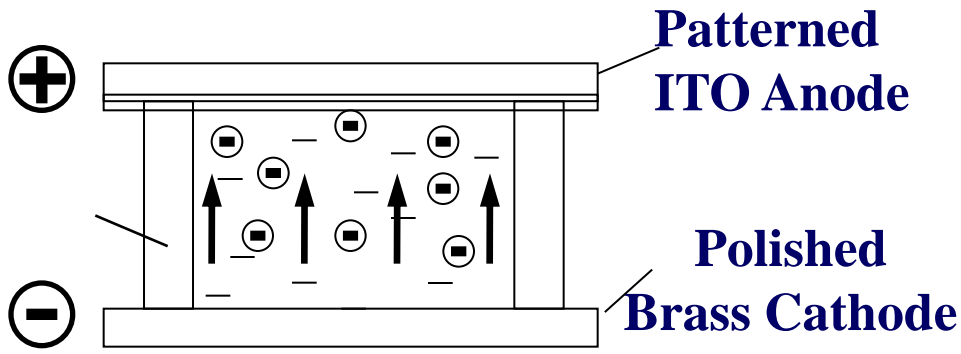
Conductivity



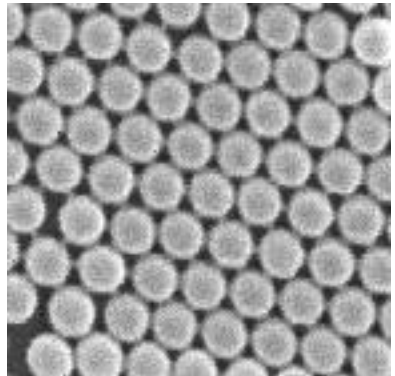
SEM



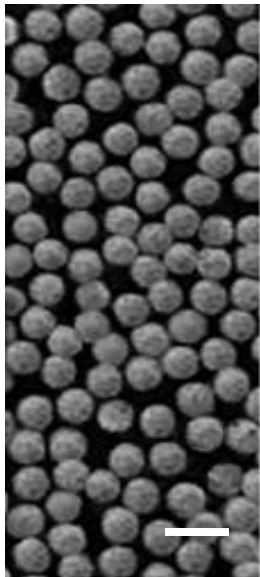
ELECTRODEPOSITION:



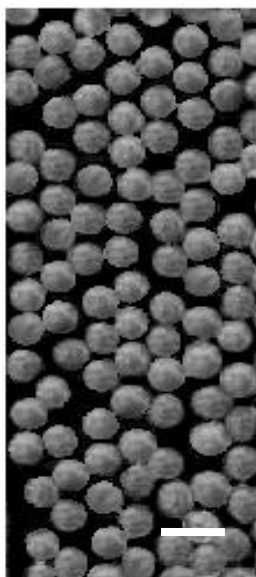
Colloid spheres



Electrodeposition on patterned substrates



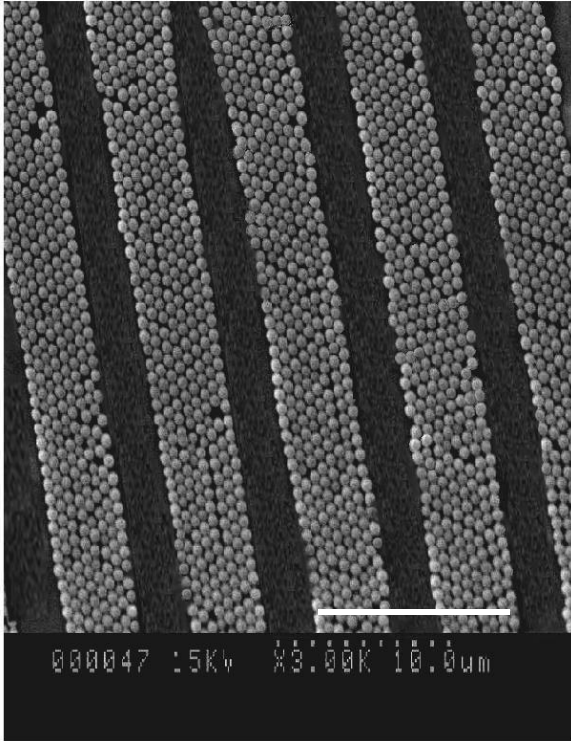
blank
substrate



patterned
substrate,
 $L = 5.5 \mu\text{m}$



patterned
substrate,
 $L = 4.2 \mu\text{m}$

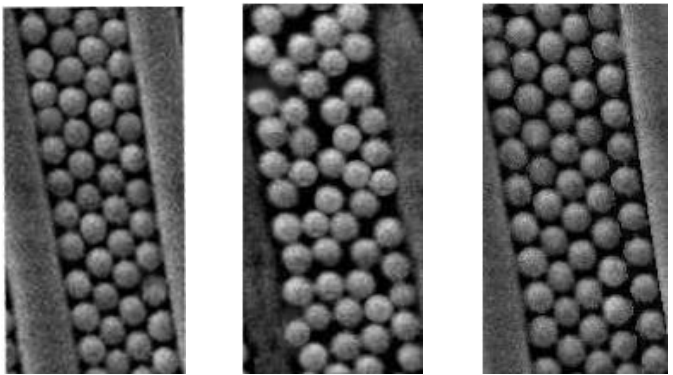


$$L/D = [(n-1)\cos 30^\circ + 1]$$

Crystallization on patterned substrates



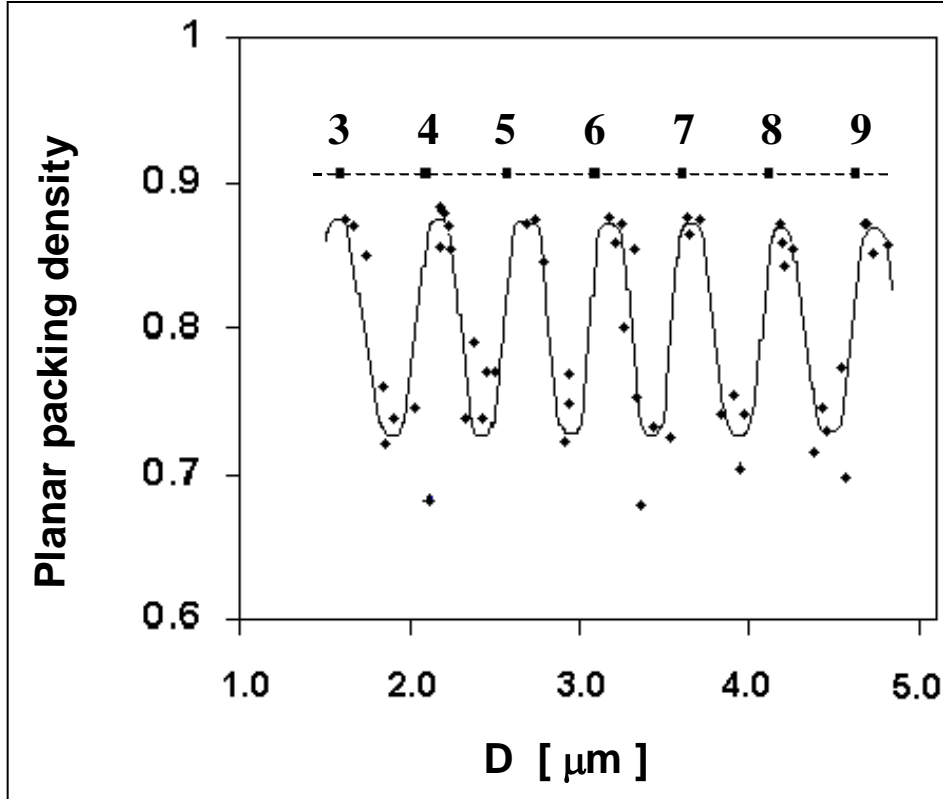
Increasing confinement



2.22 → 2.51 → 2.72 μm

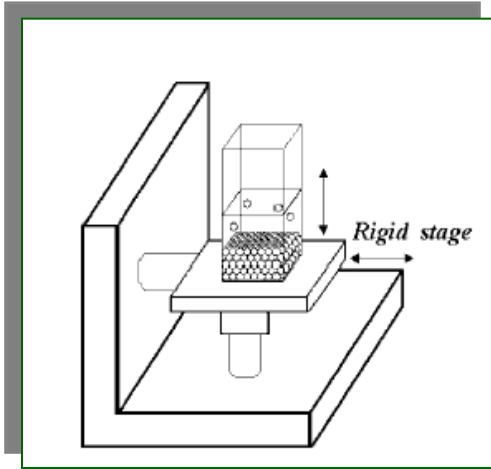
Order-disorder-order transition:

$$D_c = 2R [(n-1)\cos 30^\circ + 1]$$



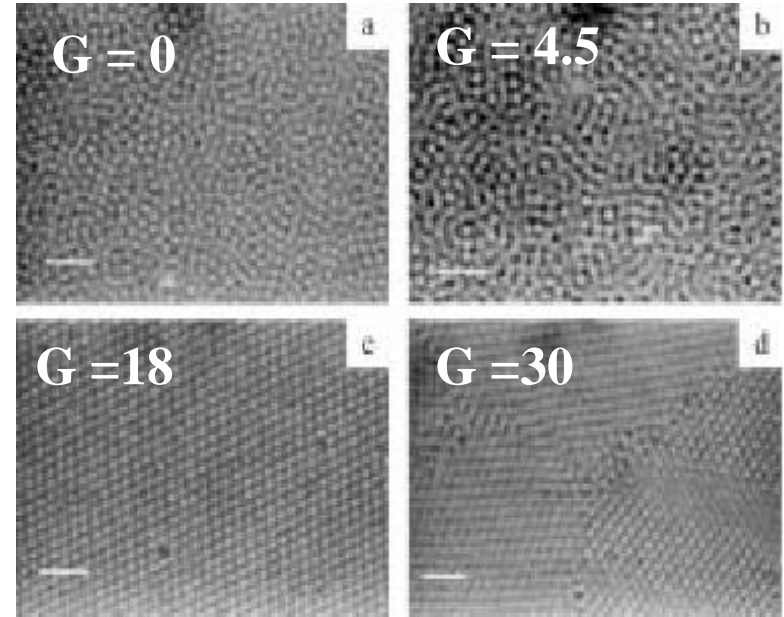
Periodicity 0.52 ± 0.02 μm

Colloid crystal growth *under oscillatory shear*

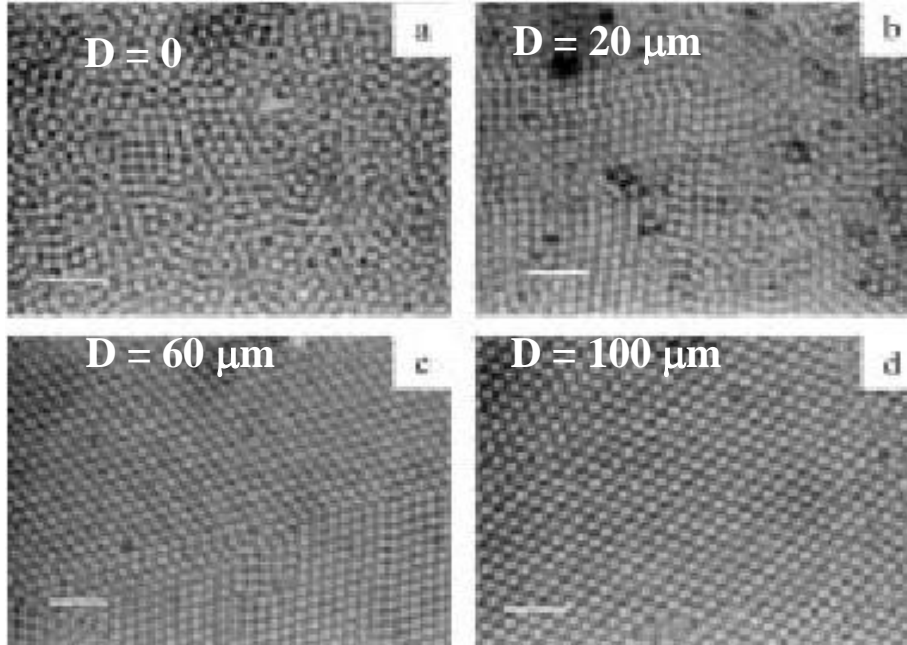


$$G = \Lambda \omega^2 / g$$

$$\omega = 2\pi f$$



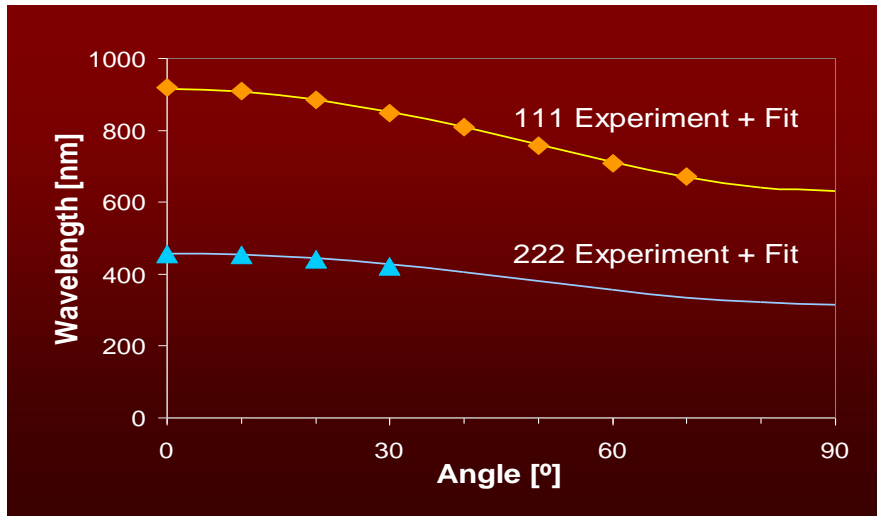
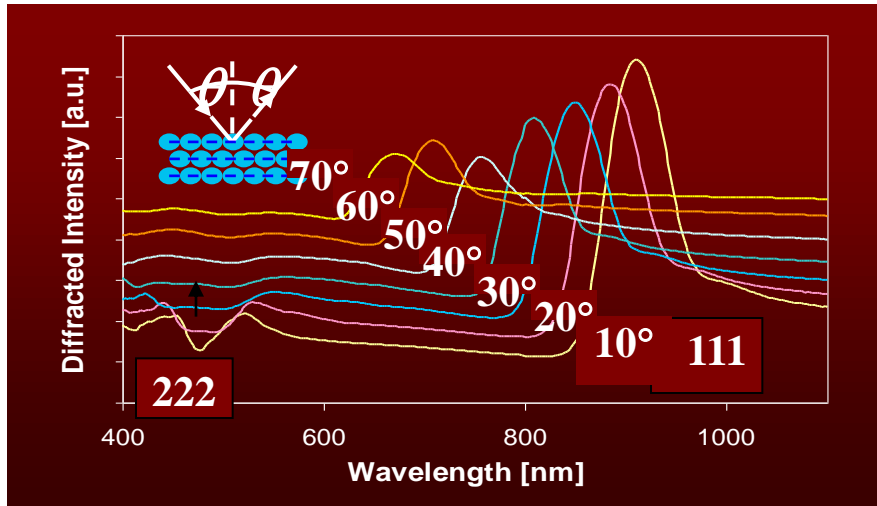
Effect of G



Self-healing

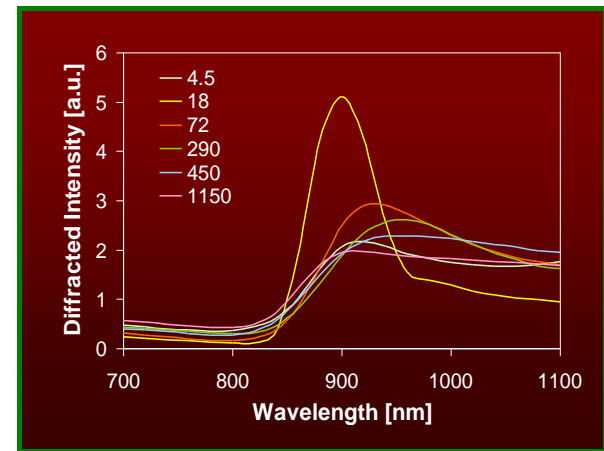
Kumacheva et al. *Adv. Mater.* 14, 221-224 (2002)

Colloid crystal growth under oscillatory shear



$d = 405 \text{ nm}$; $n_{eff} = 1.38$, précision: 0.5 %

- Peak position is predicted accurately by Bragg's law
- Sphere spacing and effective refractive index were obtained with high accuracy



Best samples exhibit the most intense Bragg diffraction

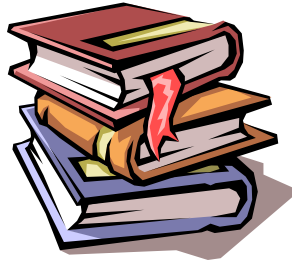
$$\lambda_B = \frac{2 d_{hkl}}{m} \sqrt{n_{eff}^2 - \sin^2 \theta}$$

$$n_{eff} = \sqrt{n_{air}^2 \phi + n_{spheres}^2 (1 - \phi)}$$

Applications

- **Materials for Optical data Storage**
- **Materials for the Recording of Biometric Features**
- **(Multilayer Dielectric Resonators)**

3D Optical Data Storage



versus



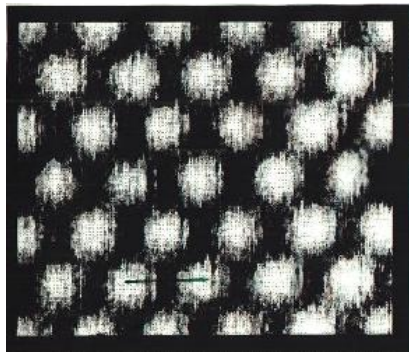
I think there is a world market for maybe five computers.

**Thomas Watson,
Chair of IBM, 1943**

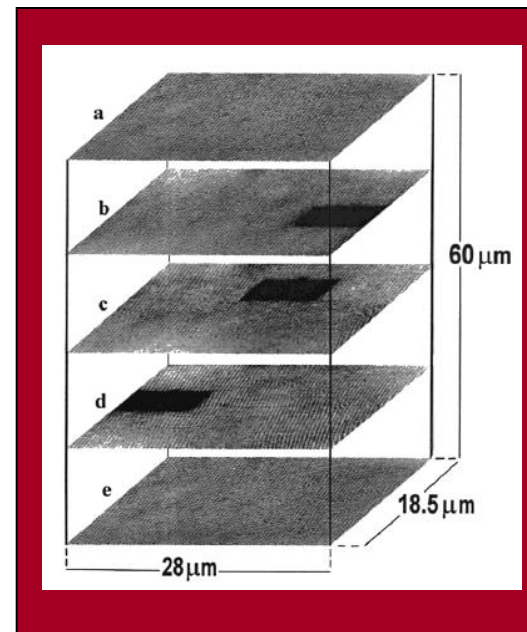
640 K ought to be enough for anybody!

Bill Gates, 1981

Three-dimensional optical data storage

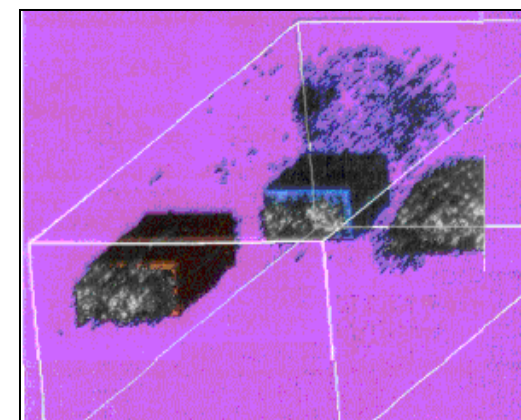
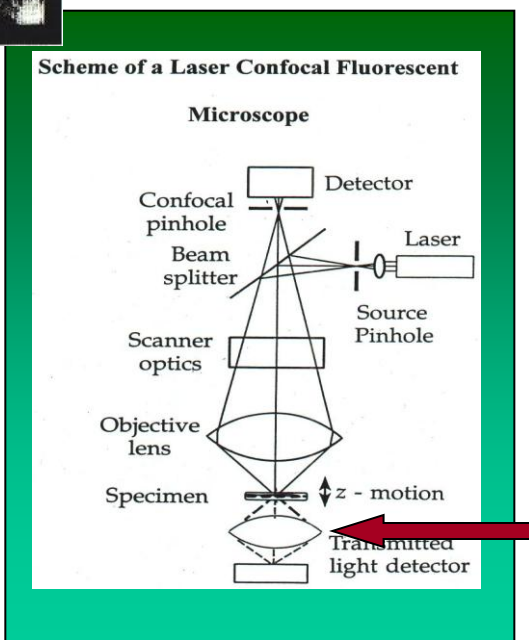


Polymer photonic crystal

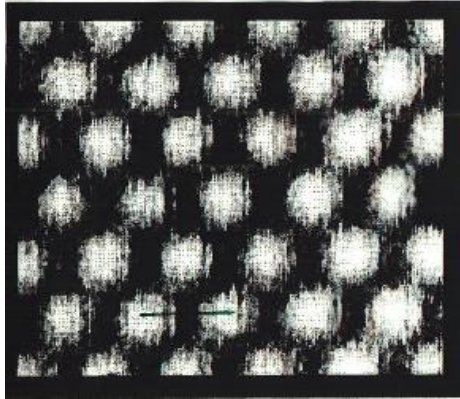


The first attempt to “write” in 3D nanostructured materials

Laser Confocal Fluorescent Microscopy: a specific plane can be imaged and photochemically changed



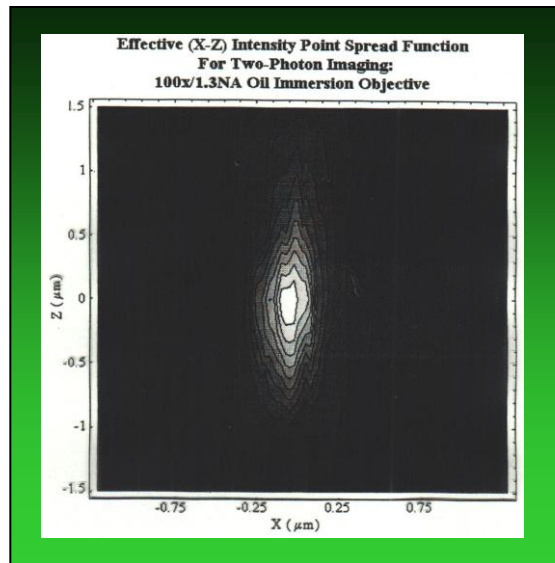
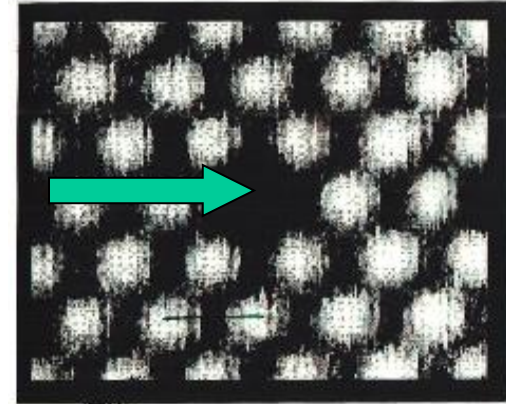
Three-dimensional optical data storage



Domain size $0.5 \mu\text{m}$

$$\lambda_{\text{abs}} = 470 \text{ nm}$$

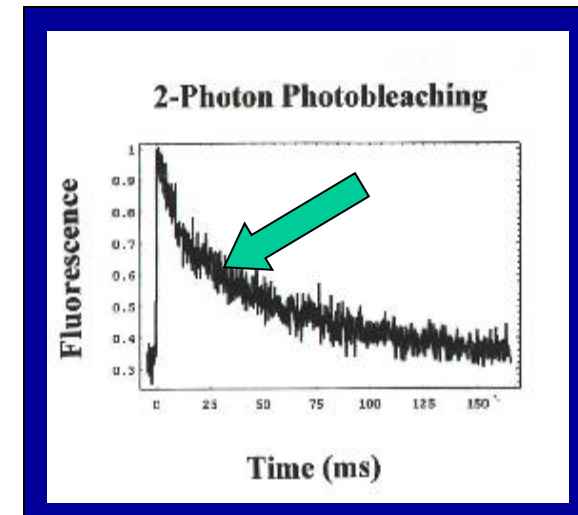
Writing in 3D!!



2-photon cross-section:

$$L = 0.5 \mu\text{m}$$

$$\lambda_{\text{abs}} = 840/2 = 420 \text{ nm}$$

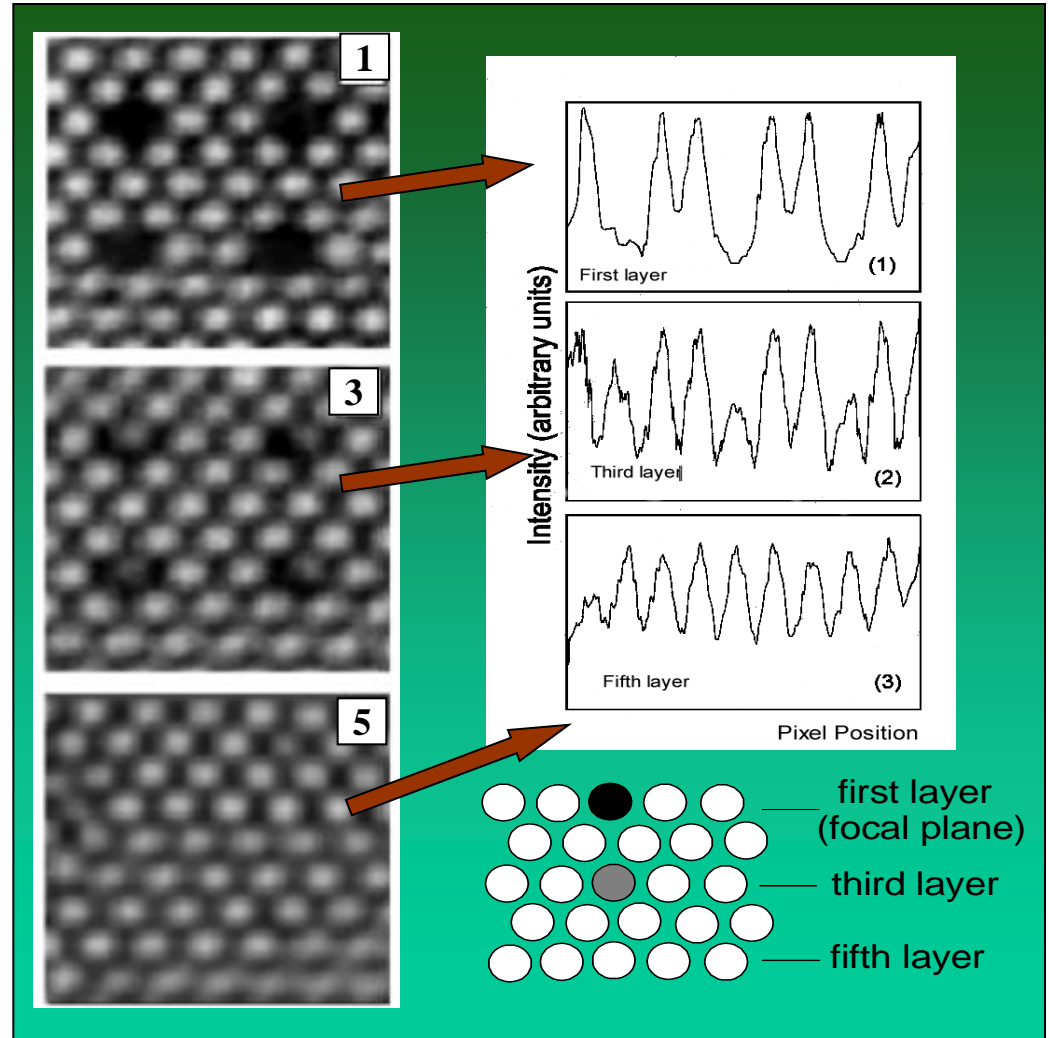


Three-dimensional optical data storage

Depth
Discrimination: $2.5 \mu\text{m}$

Storage density:

6×10^{12} bits/cm³ (3D)
versus
 3.5×10^8 bits/cm² (2D)



B. Siwick et al. J. Appl. Phys. 90, 5328 (2001)

Homogeneous versus Nanostructured Materials

Homogenous

Homogenous
("windowed" bit pattern)

Dwayne Miller:

Distribution of 1's (photobleached) and 0's (unphotobleached) intensities for a bit-pattern

Bit Intensity Distributions

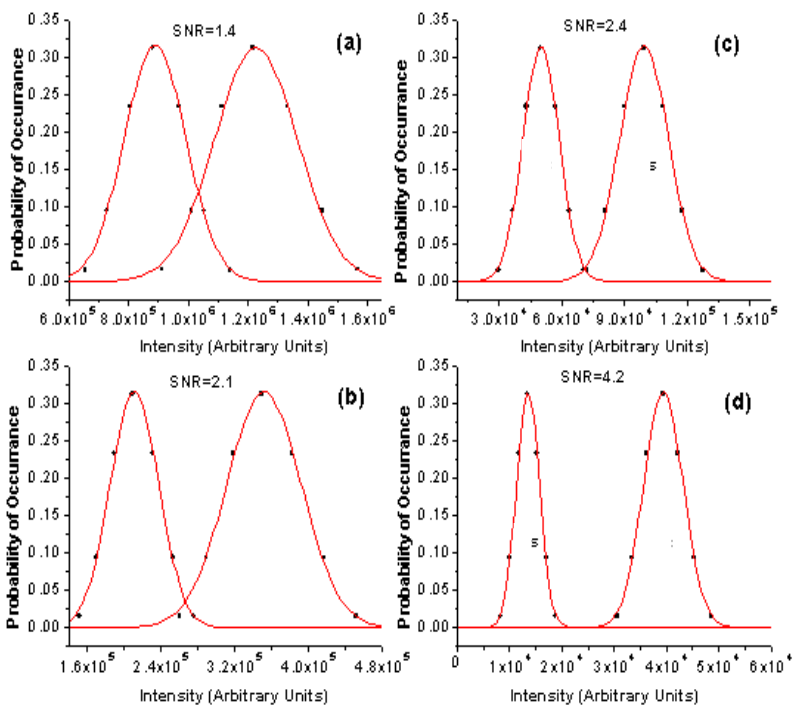


Image quality for the bit pattern photobleached into the nanostructured material is approximately twice as good as in the homogenous material.

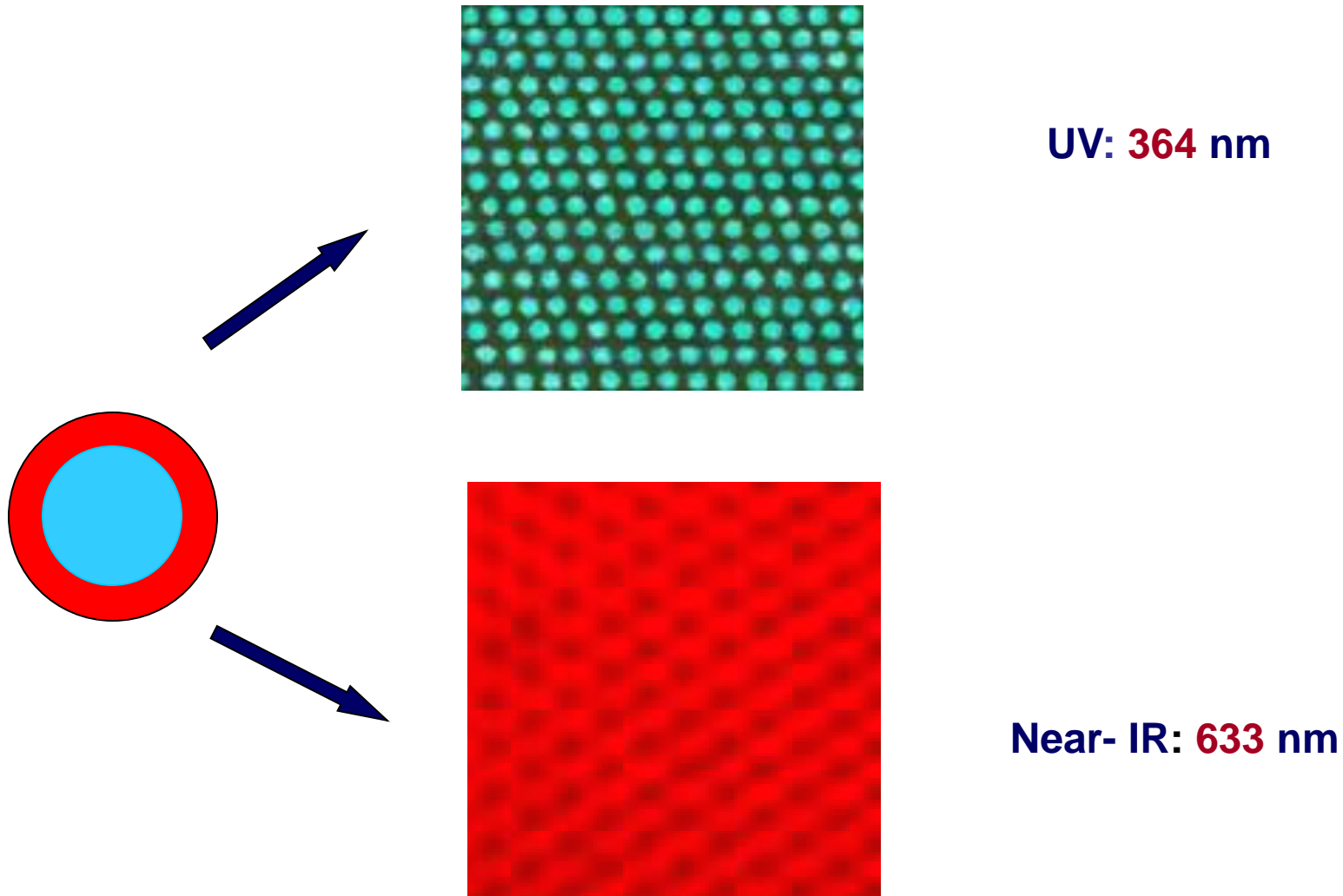
Nanostructured

Nanostructured
("windowed" bit-pattern)

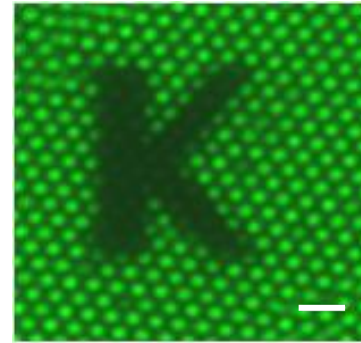
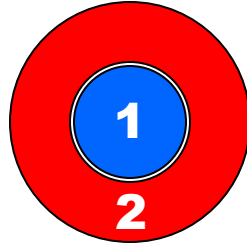
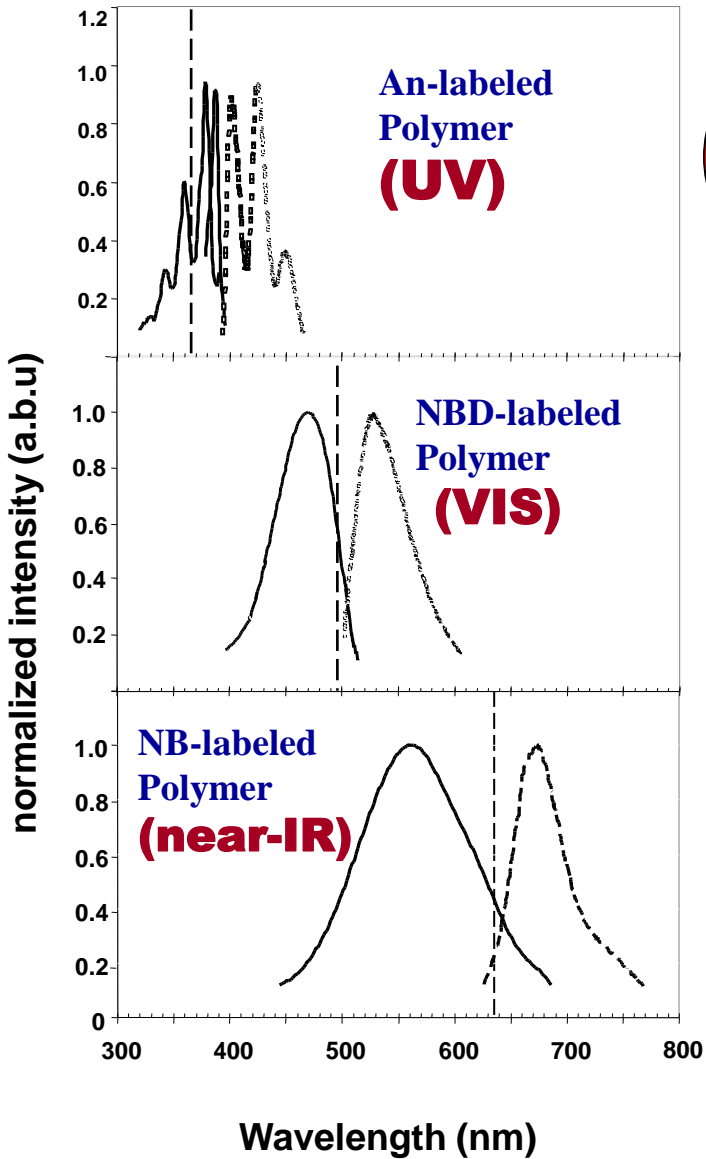
Applications

Materials for the Recording of Biometric Features

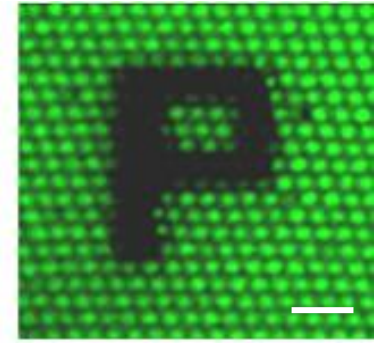
“Multicolor” Nanostructured Material



Security Writing



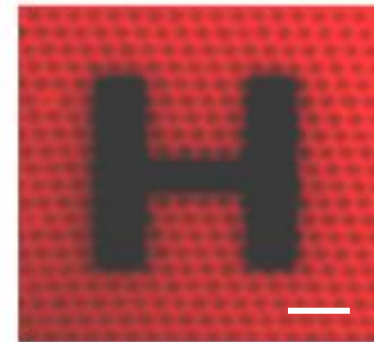
P: $\lambda = 488$ nm



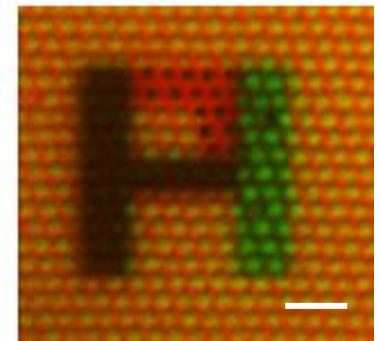
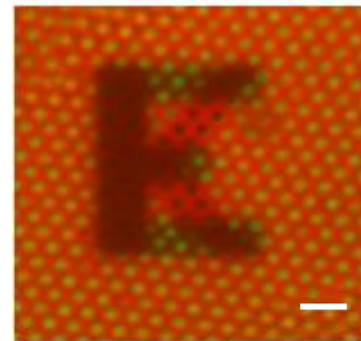
P: $\lambda = 364$ nm



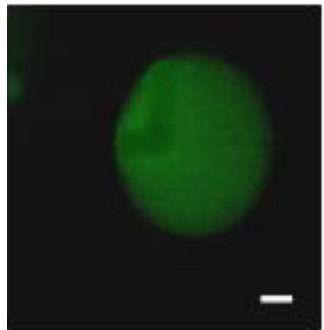
E: $\lambda = 630$ nm



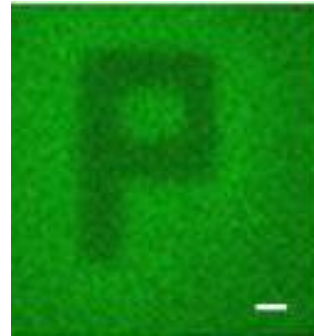
H: $\lambda = 488$ nm



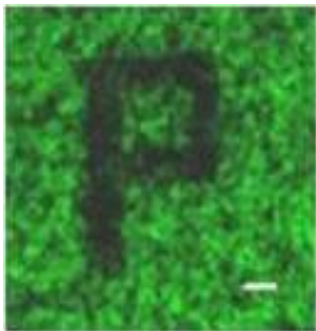
Security Writing



Solution of *two* dye-labeled polymers



Solution of *a single* polymer and *two* dyes

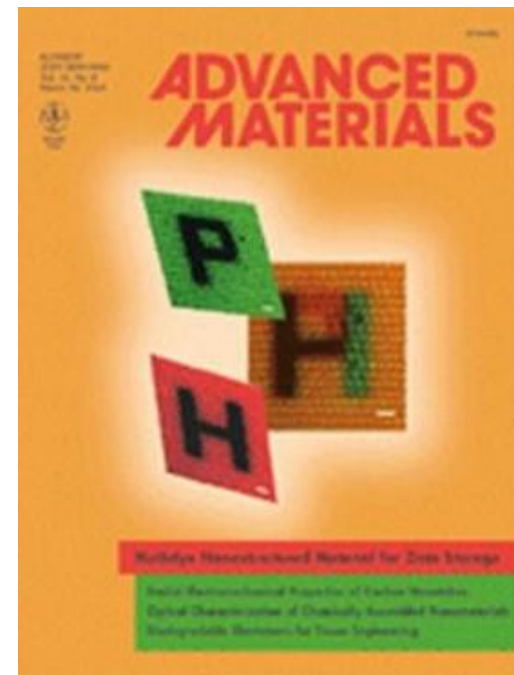


Mixture of dye-labeled particles

Advantages of nanostructured material

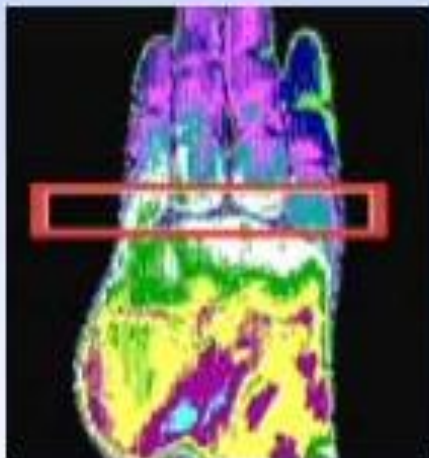
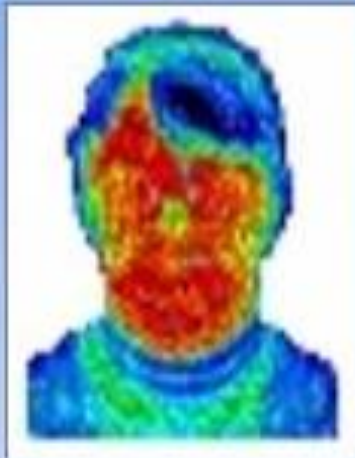
2^2 writing modes for two dyes
(2 modes: 1 or 0 for one dye)

Resolution: 10^8 dpi versus 10^5 dpi



Biometrics: utilizes "something you are" to authenticate identification: photographs, fingerprints, retina patterns, hand geometry or signature dynamics.

The user's biometric information is stored on a smart card, the card is placed in a reader, and a biometric scanner reads the information to match it against that on the card. This is a fast, accurate, and highly-secure form of user authentication



Joe Smith



December 2004



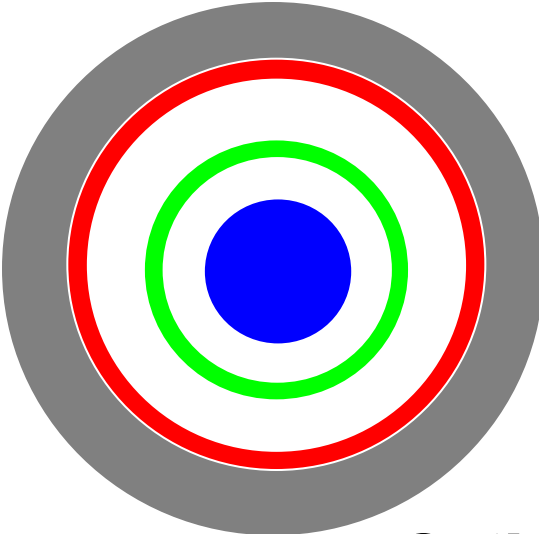
Hung Pham

Ilya Gourevich

James Jonkman

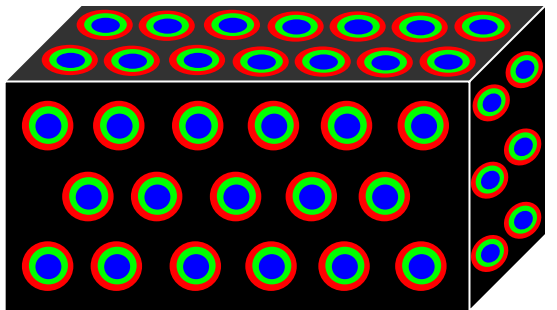
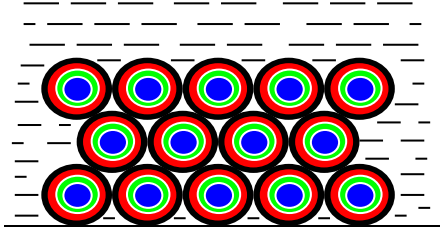
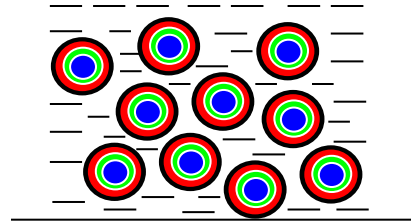
NEXT GENERATION: "Three-color" Material

2ⁿ modes in information encoding
3 dyes: 8 modes



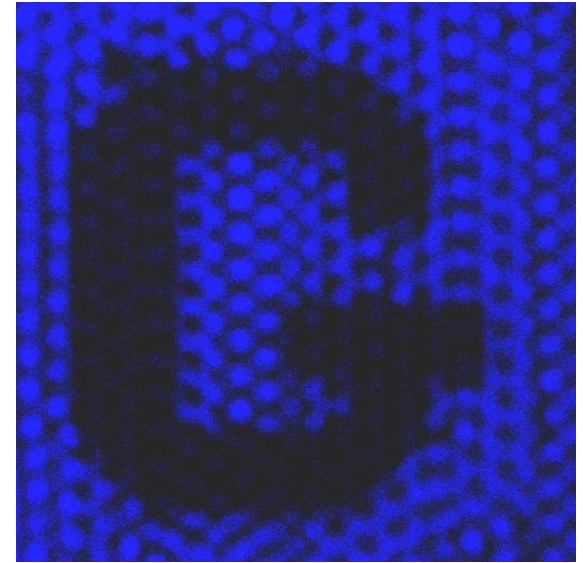
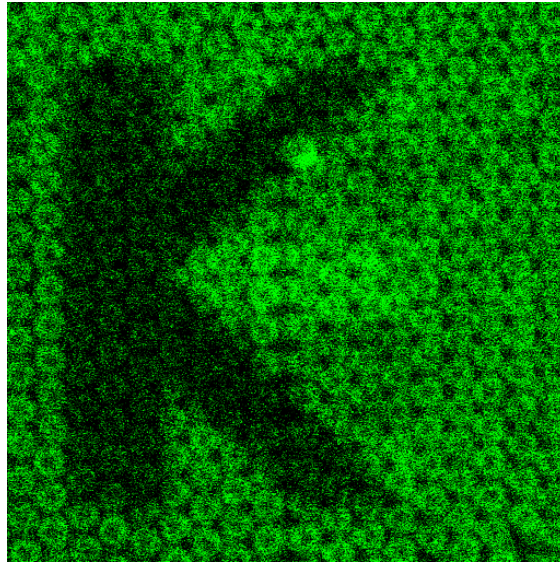
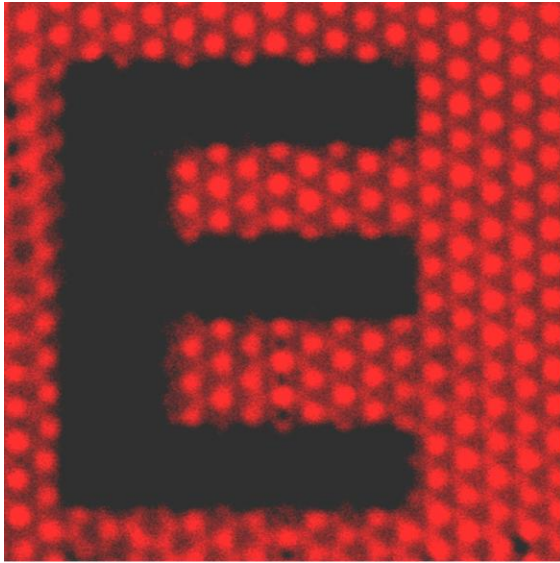
Optically inert non-labeled elastomeric shell

- Same polymer composition for all but the outmost layer (PMMA)
- Last layer: poly (MMA-BMA), T_g = 5 °C



Writing on the same location

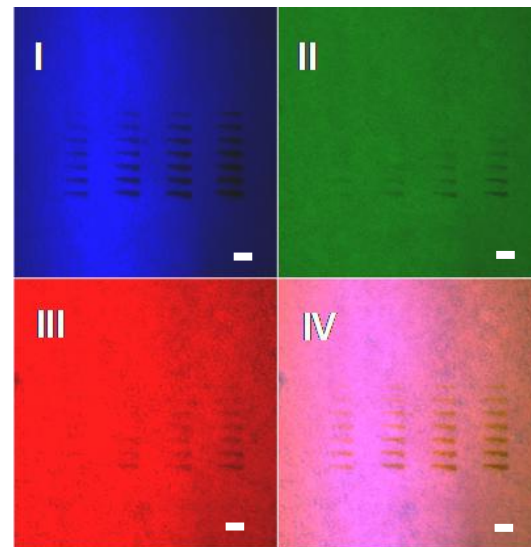
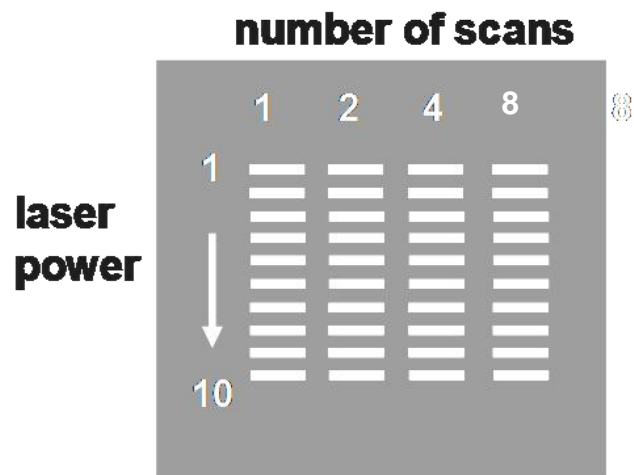
Eugenia Kumacheva Group



2ⁿ modes in information encoding

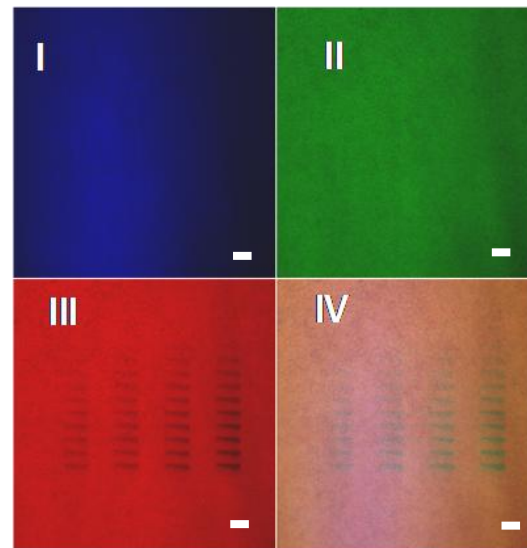
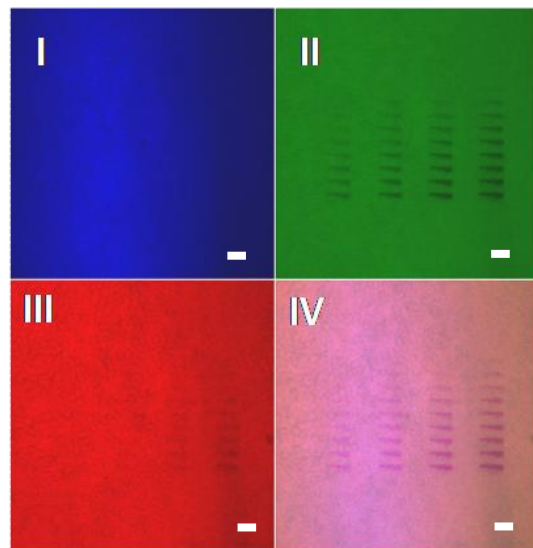
3 dyes: 8 modes

Writing in the same location



$\lambda = 354$ nm

$\lambda = 488$ nm



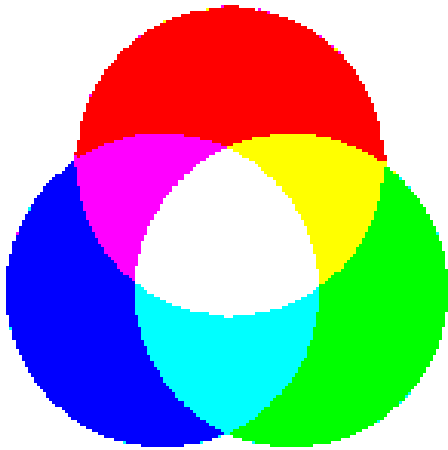
$\lambda = 633$ nm

Encryption of Biometric Features

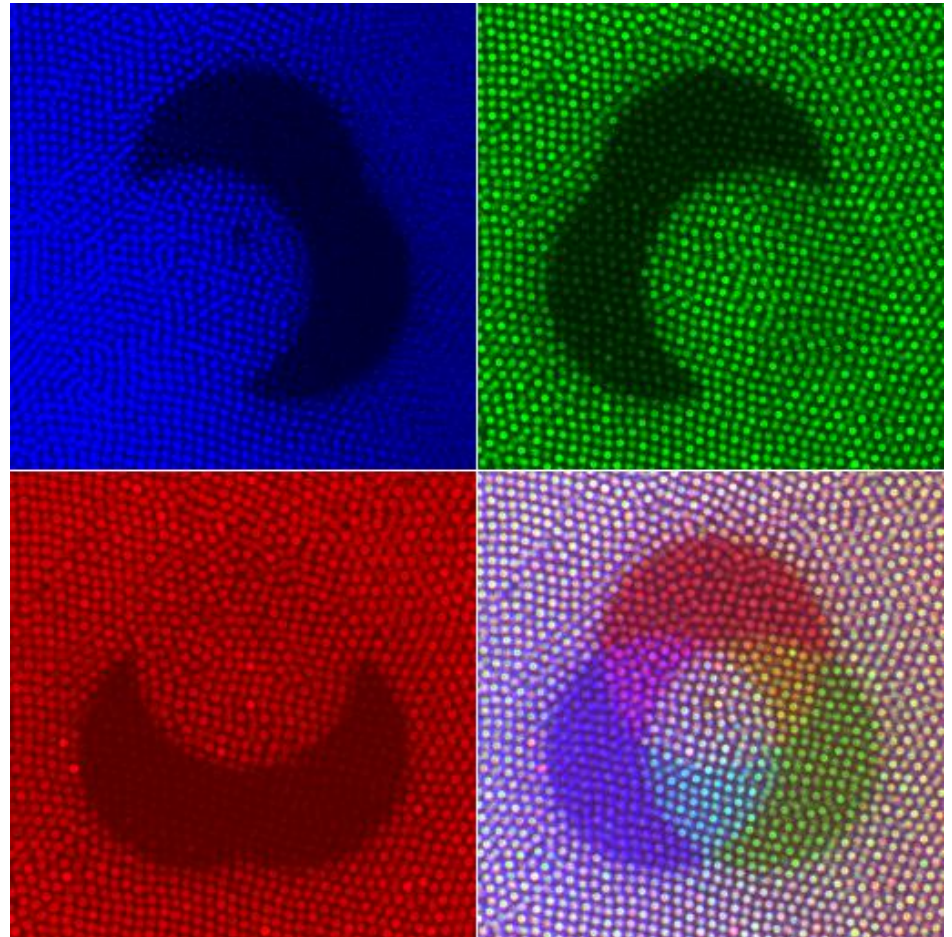


Scale bar

50 μm



REAL RGB Picture



**The same picture
recorded in the
polymer**



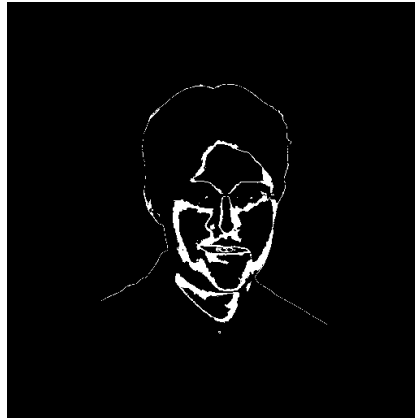
James Jonkman

- Split a 24-bit color digital photograph of **James** into the **red**, **green** and **blue** component images
- Each component **monochromatic** image comprising 256 gray scale levels was further split into **8 binary images**, each comprising 32 shades of gray
- Each binary image acted as the non-zero coordinates (as a 'mask')

Writing with Grayscale



0 - 31

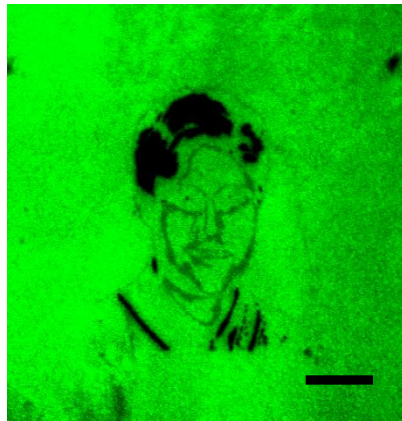
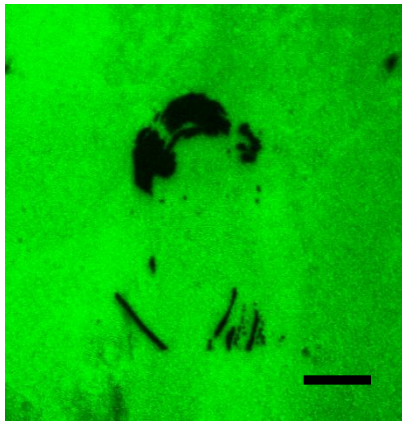


32 - 61



62 - 91

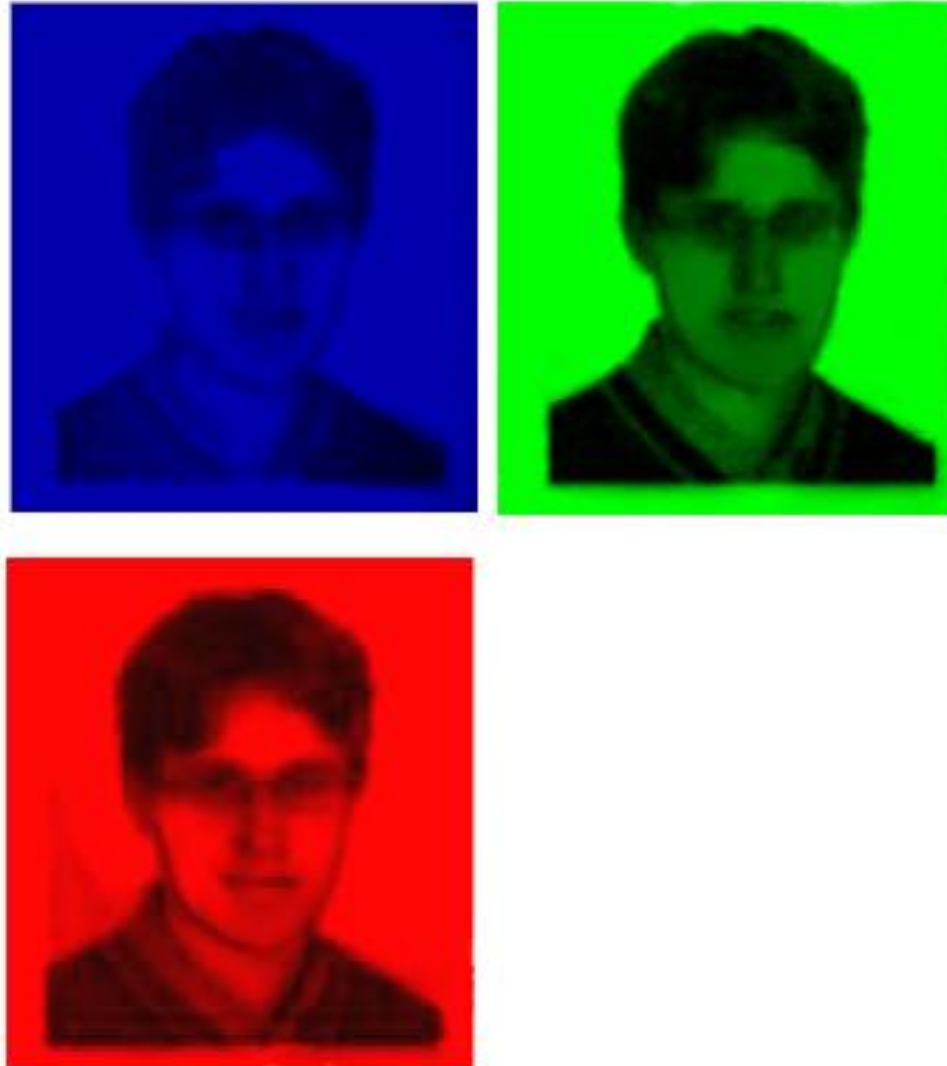
**Binary
images
(‘masks’)**



**Monochromatic
images
(recorded by
using ‘masks’)**

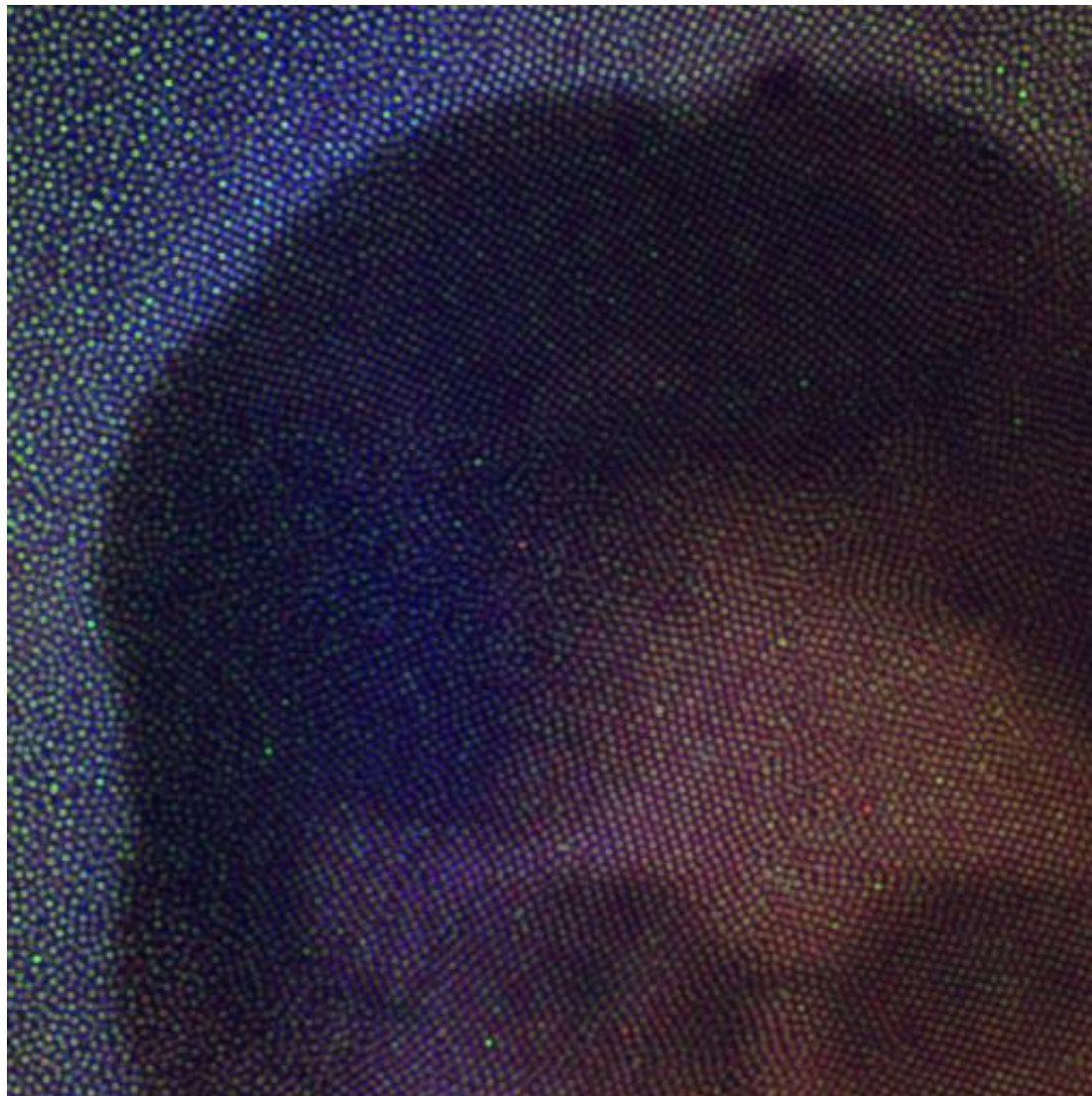
Scale bar 50 microns

Recording Pictures in RGB format

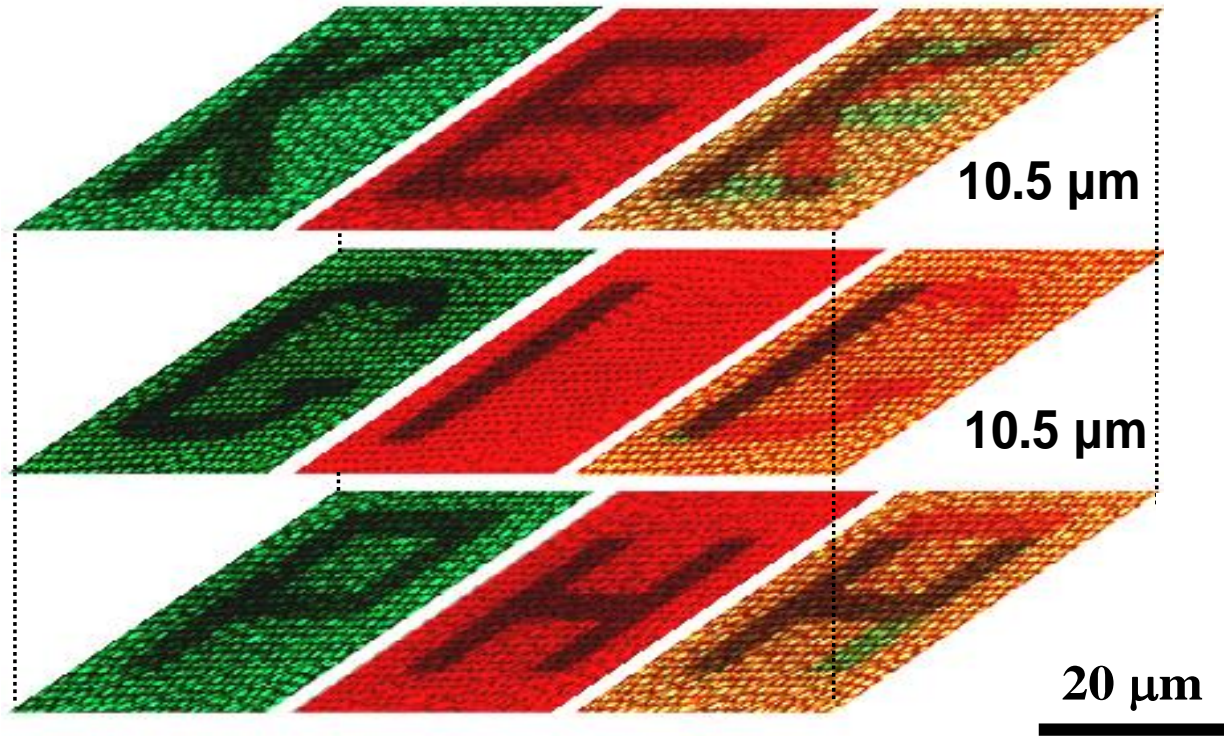


50 μm

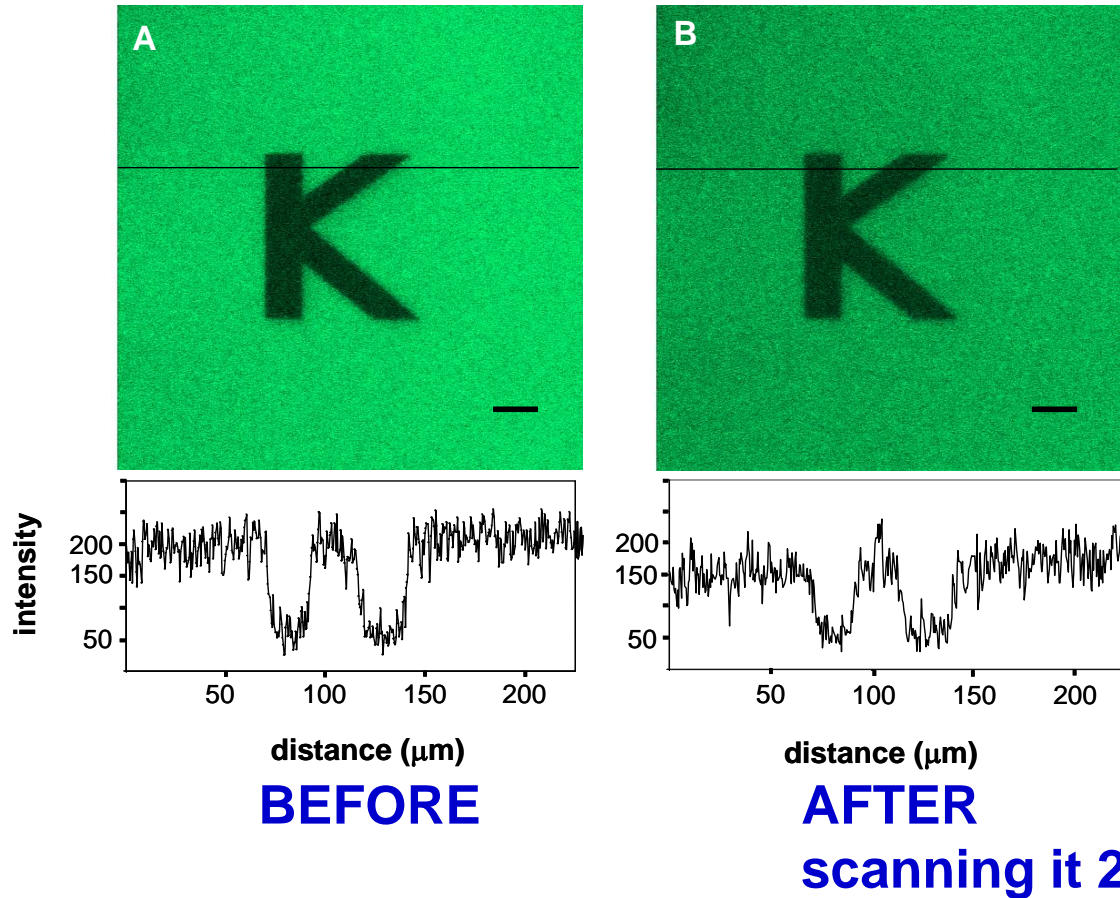
THIS IS NOT A DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPH!



Security Writing information in 3D



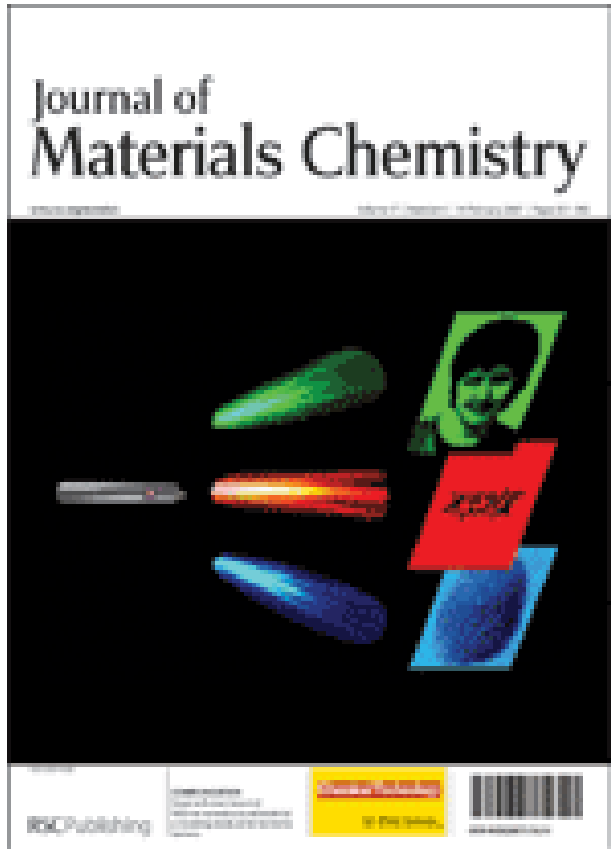
Security Writing: Destructive Readout information



**After 2000 scans fluorescence intensity decreases by 25%
The recorded patterns can be read every day for 4 years**

Conclusions

- Two new concepts for secure encryption of biometric features in identification documents and smart cards



- For 2D : up to 8 modes of recording
- For 3D : an unlimited number of modes.

Can take photographs every 5 years

- New concept of 'printing' pictures in RGB format

Gourevich, I. et al. *Chem. Mater.* 16, 1472-1479 (2004)
Pham, H. H et al. *J. Mater. Chem.* 17, 523-526 (2007)

Multilayer dielectric resonators (with J. Sipe)



- The reflectivity at an interface between two layers

$$R = 2\Delta n/n^2$$

- Reflectivity grows as

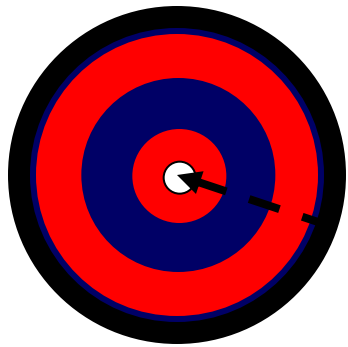
$$2N\Delta n/n^2$$

until it approaches unity and light is completely **rejected** from the material

- Each multilayer microsphere behaves as a **photonic crystal** in the radial direction

- **N** layers
- Average refractive index **n**

Multilayer dielectric resonators

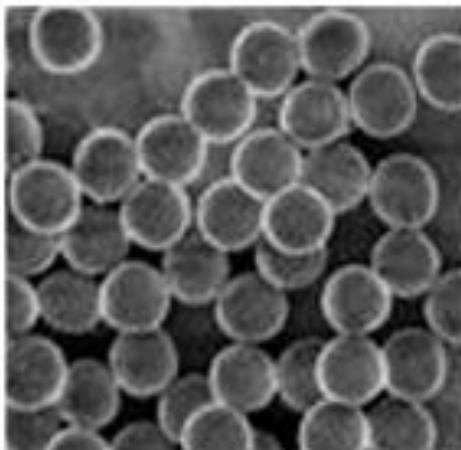


high n
low n
CdSe-CdS QDs

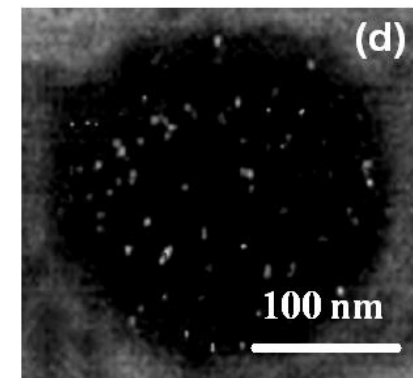
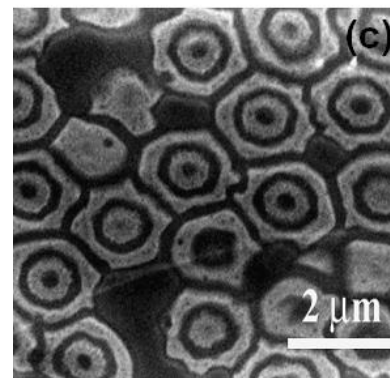
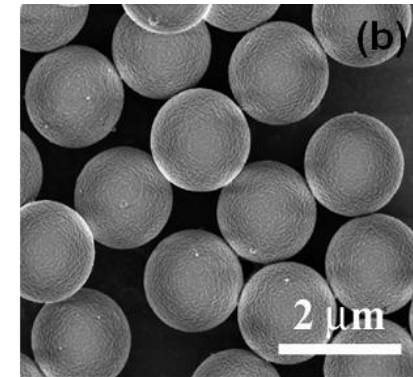
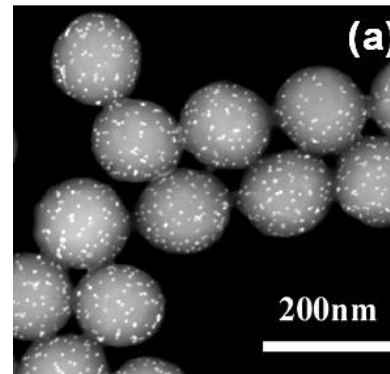
Poly(styrene-vinyl carbazole) $n = 1.64$
Fluorinated Acrylates $n = 1.36$

CdSe-CdS QDs

$N = 4$



$N = 4$

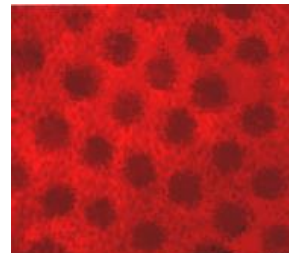
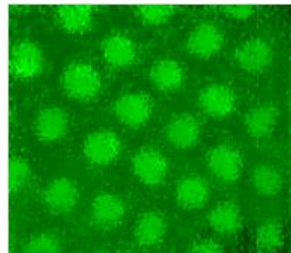


Conclusions

1. Core-shell particles have been used as multicomponent building blocks for nanostructured materials with periodic structures.
2. The structure of the core-shell particles was varied to produce complex structural and compositional patterns in nanostructured materials

Core-shell particles:	PM-1 + PM-2 +LMW	materials:	$2^3 = 8$
	PM-1 + PM-2 +LMW-1+ LMW-2	materials:	$2^4 = 16$
Three-layer particles:	PM-1 + PM-2 + PM-3 + LMW-1+ LMW-2	materials:	$2^5 = 32$

3. The extent of order in the nanostructured materials was controlled by assisted assembly of colloid particles
4. Various high tech applications of our materials, such as 3D memory storage, optical limiting and switching, 3D ultrasensitive strain sensors, and security paper and labels can be achieved



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Funding:

Canada Research Chair Fund
NanoIP Program
NSERC Canada CRD grant
Xerox Research Centre of Canada
Premier Research Excellence Award
Chorafas Foundation Award
Nortel Networks Corporation
Ontario Research Challenge and Development Fund

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- ◆ **Prof. Ted Sargent (Univ. of Toronto)**
- ◆ **James Jonkman (University Health Network)**

Every intelligent fool can make things bigger, more complex, and more violent.

It takes a touch of genius - and a lot of courage to move in the opposite direction.

Albert Einstein (1879-1955)