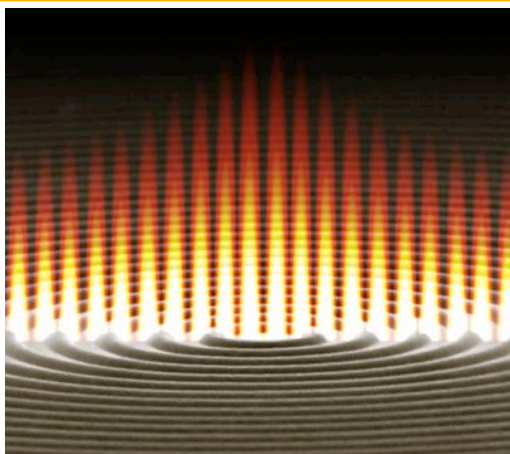


Carpenter Group, CNSE



Oh group, University of Minnesota

## Heat-activated Plasmonic Chemical Sensors for Harsh Environments

Dr. Michael A. Carpenter

College of NanoScale Science and Engineering  
Energy & Environmental Technology Applications Center  
University at Albany – SUNY

Dr. Sang-Hyun Oh

Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering  
University of Minnesota-Twin Cities

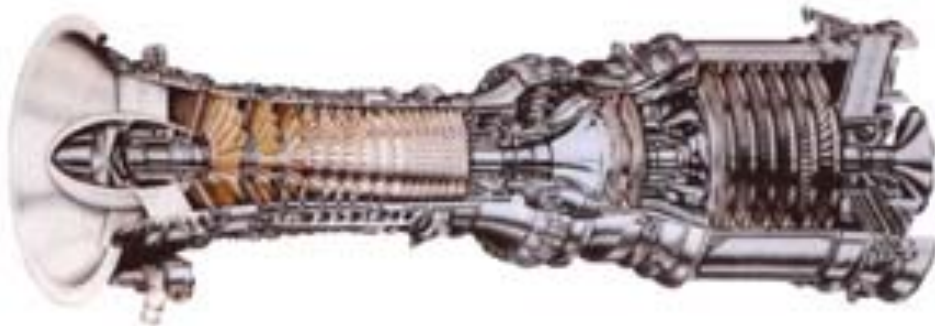
5/30/12



*Need for new sensing technologies to meet the requirements for zero emission energy sources*

### **Nanocomposite Materials**

- Optical analysis of Au SPR bands
- YSZ, TiO<sub>2</sub>, CeO<sub>2</sub> matrix materials
- 500-800°C operating environment
- SOFC, Jet engines, turbines
- CO, H<sub>2</sub>, NO<sub>x</sub>, R<sub>x</sub>S



## Harsh Environment Chemical Sensors

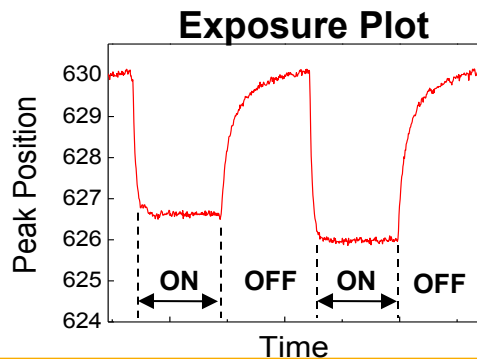
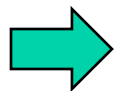
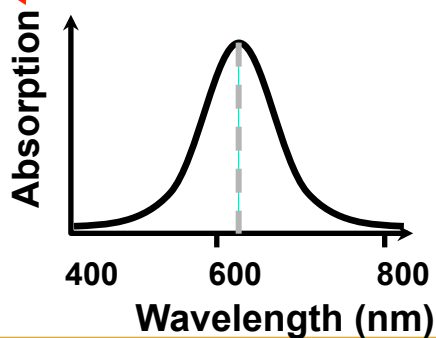
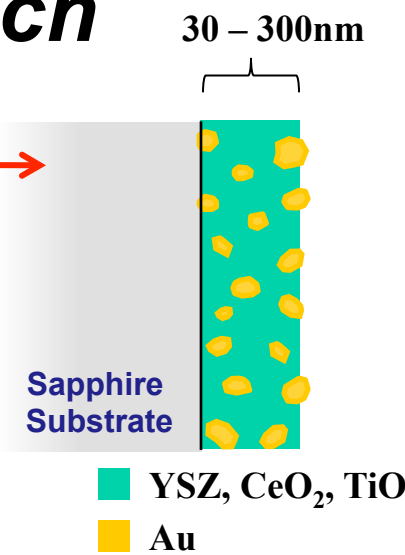
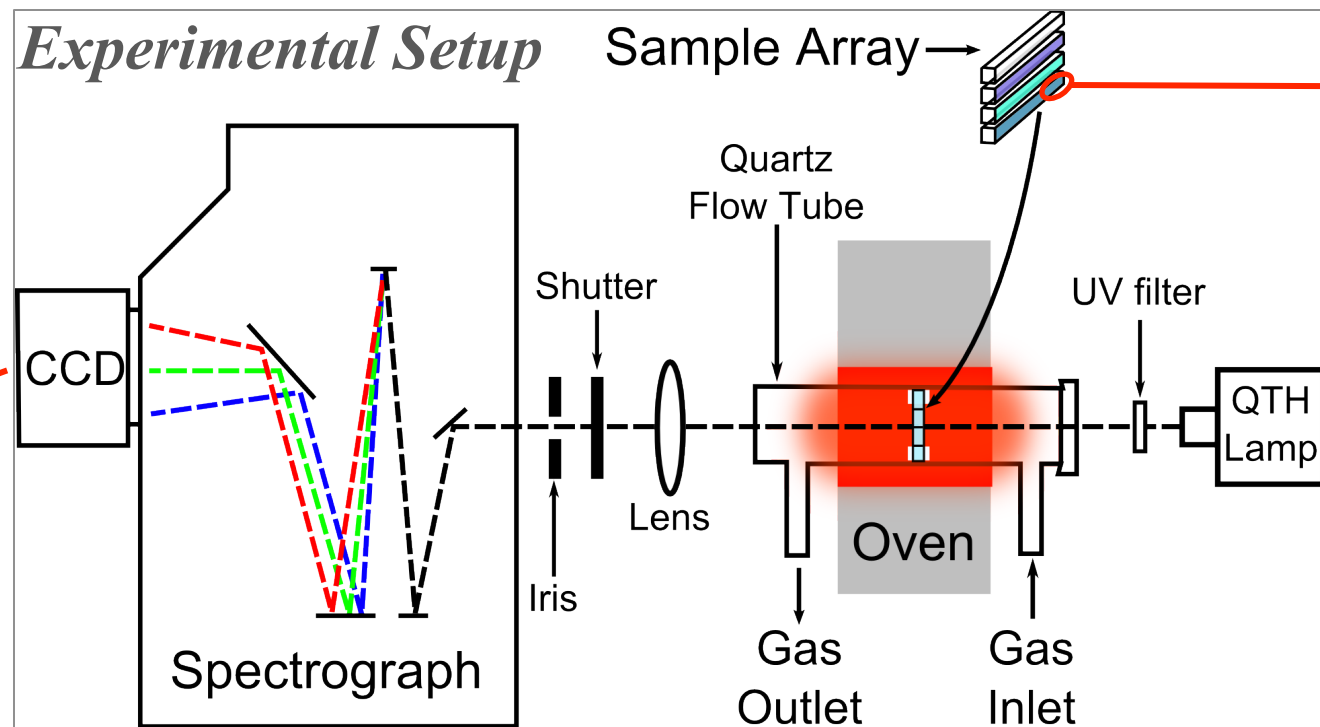
### **Goals of Research are Two-Fold**

1. Develop prototype nanorod materials for use in next generation sensing devices
  - Sensitivity, reliability, selectivity
2. Design and develop bulls-eye energy harvesting structures

**Why do we need energy harvesting?**



# General Overview of Lab Bench



**This is too complex  
for integration...**

YSZ = Yttria Stabilized Zirconia



# The Concept: Combine energy harvesting bulls-eyes with patterned nanorods

## Heat activated plasmonic based chemical sensor

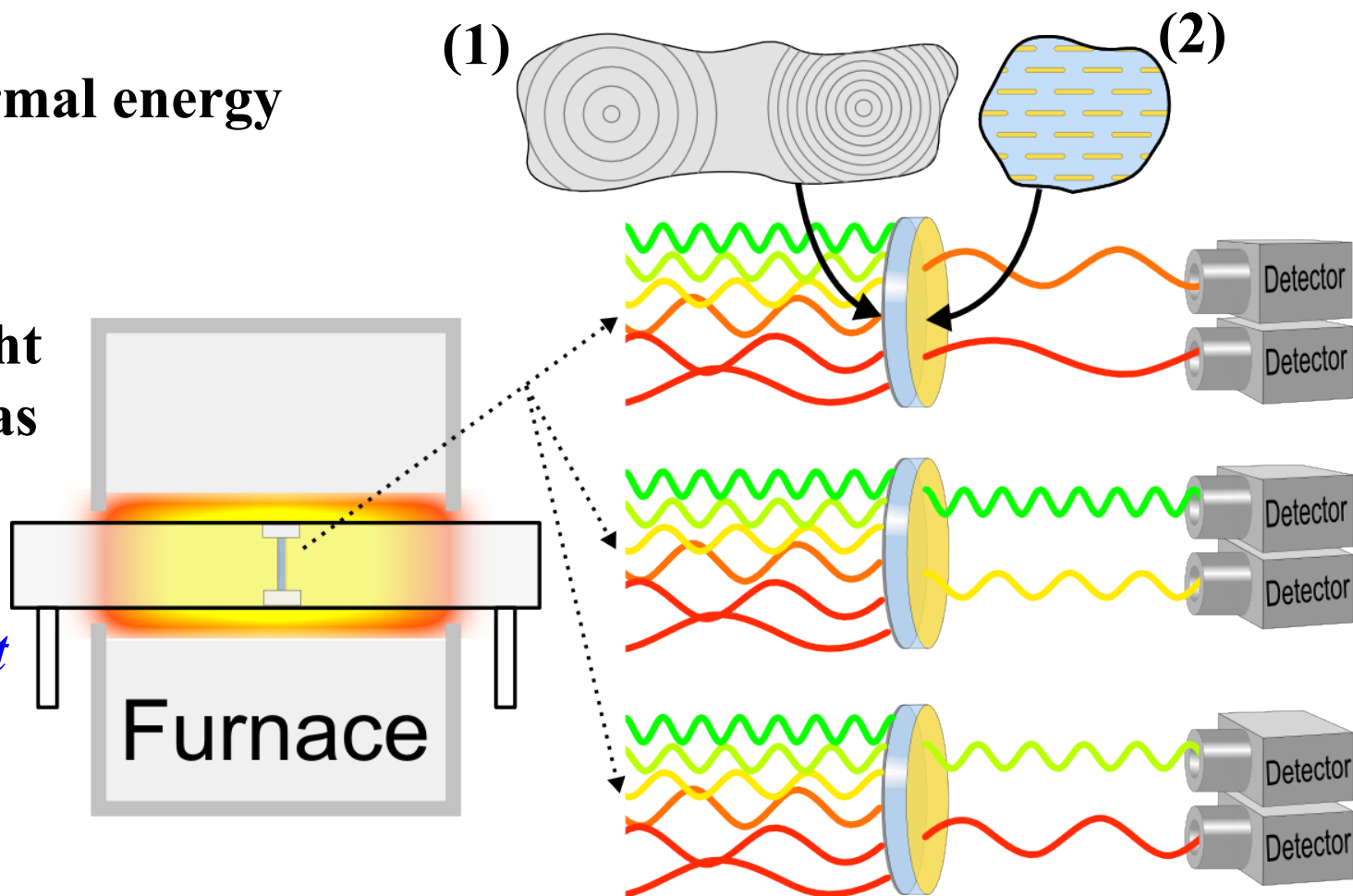
### (1) Bulls-eye

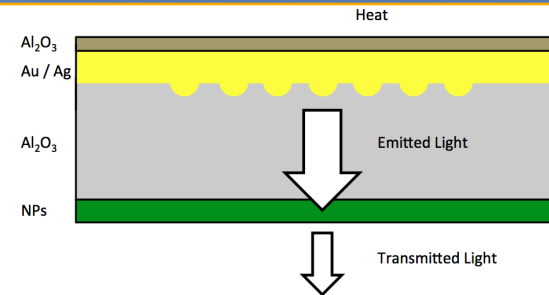
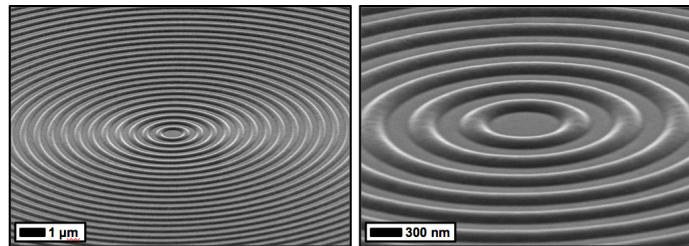
- Absorbs thermal energy
- Emits light

### (2) Nanorods

Transmitted light  
dependent on gas  
exposure

*No external light  
source required  
No expensive  
detectors needed*



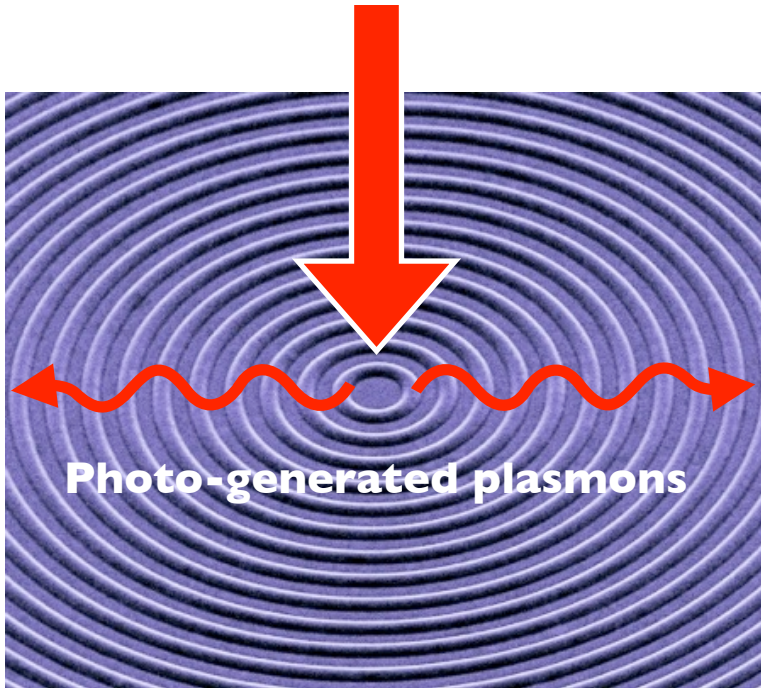


## Research Objectives:

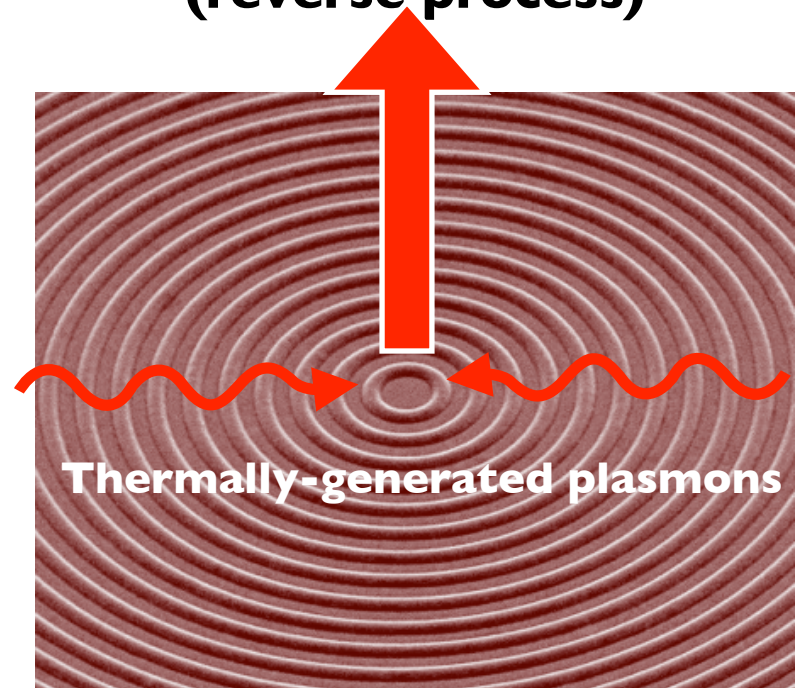
- 1) Optical modeling of both nanorod and energy harvesting plasmonic devices (FDTD)
- 2) Development of e-beam patterned arrays of Au nanorods embedded in metal oxide matrices with optical responses in the 600 nm to 1200 nm range.
- 3) Design and development of a plasmonic energy harvesting light source.
- 4) Stability and selectivity testing for the detection of target gases in the presence of interfering species. Principle component analysis (PCA)
- 5) Development of a single wavelength sensor testing station
- 6) Design of packaging details

# Bulls-eye Basics: Thermal Excitation of Plasmons

Light absorption



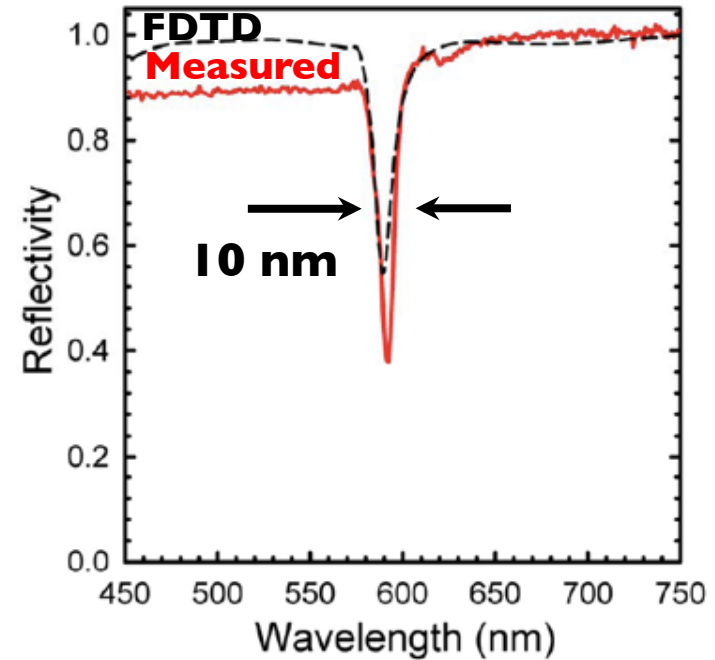
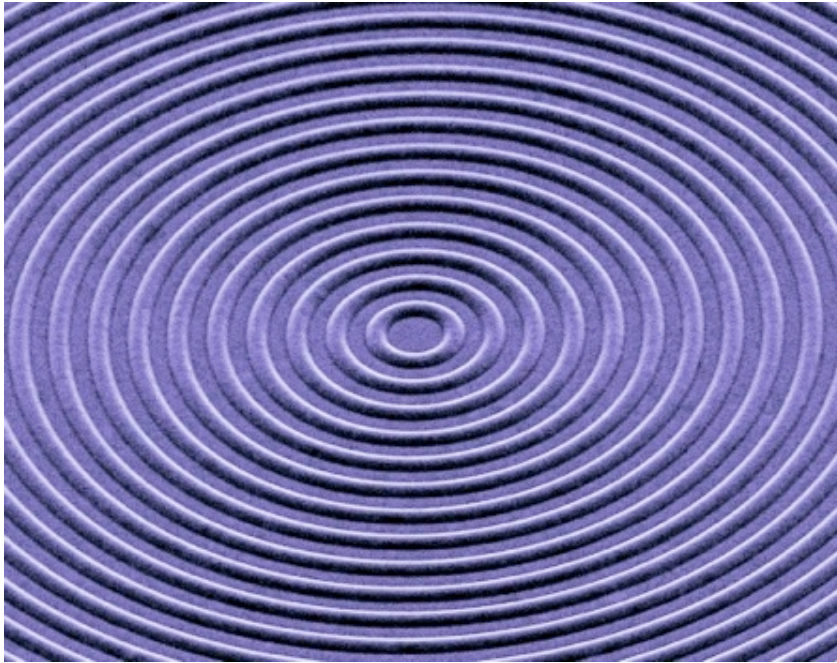
Thermal emission  
(reverse process)



- According to Kirchhoff's law, emissivity = absorptivity.
- Plasmonic structures such as metallic gratings, bull's eye etc. can modulate optical absorption. Conversely, they can also tailor thermal emission at higher temperatures, via converting thermally generated plasmons to light.

# Smoothness vs. Resonance Linewidth

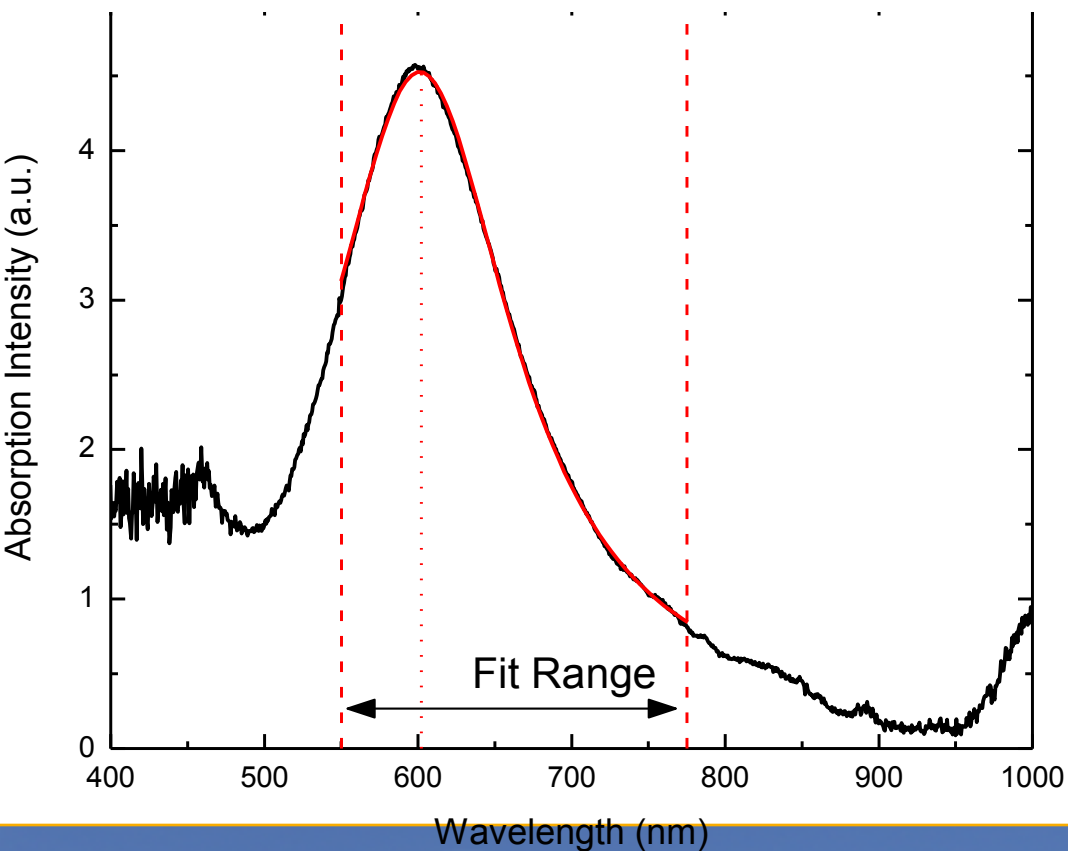
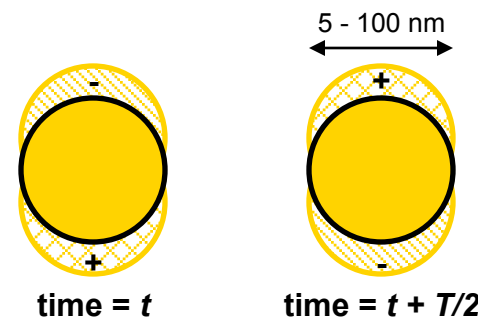
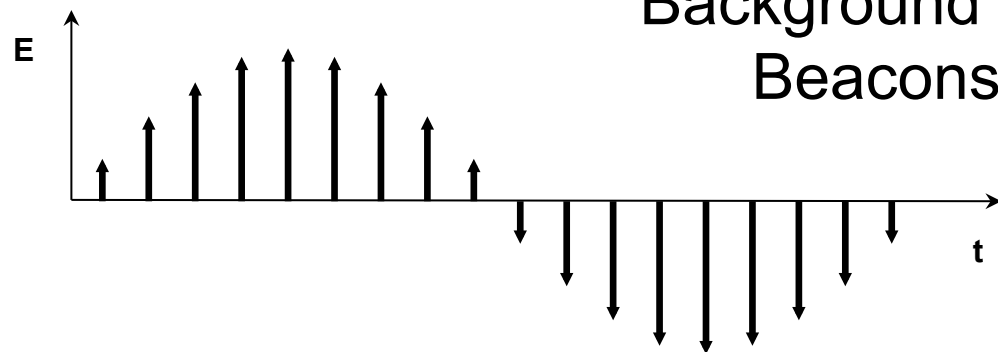
Nagpal, Lindquist, Oh & Norris, *Science* 325, 594 (2009)



- Resonators and gratings with ultra-smooth surfaces show sharp plasmon peaks
- Template-stripped Ag bull's eye shows a sharp and directional absorption dip with the linewidth below ~10 nm.
- The same structure made by direct FIB milling showed a broader and much weaker peak.



# Background - Au Nanoparticles as Optical Beacons For Transduction Events



$$\Omega = \sqrt{\frac{Ne^2}{(1 + 2\epsilon_m + \chi^{ib}(\Omega))m_e 4\pi\epsilon_0 R^3}}$$

$\Omega$  - SPR Frequency

$N$  - free electron number

$m_e$  - electron mass

$\epsilon_0$  - permittivity of free space

$\epsilon_m$  - matrix (YSZ) dielectric constant

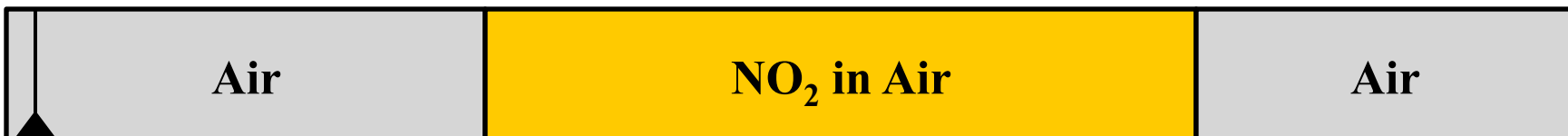
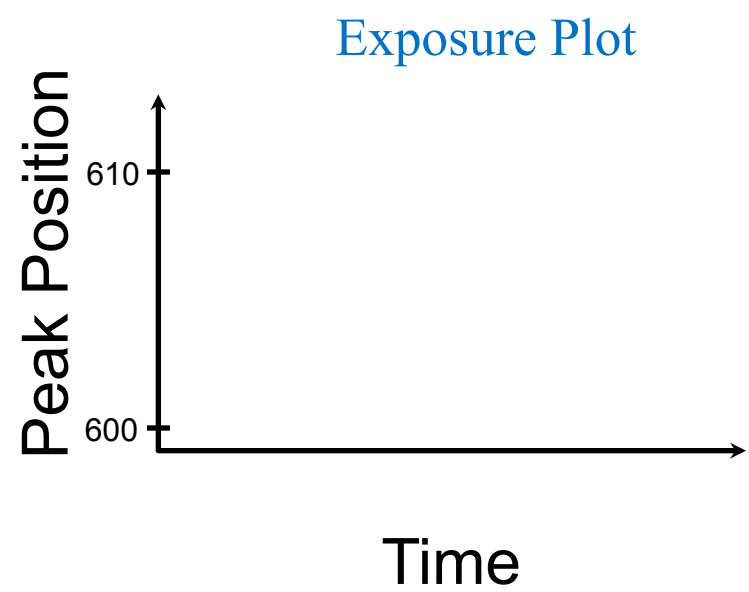
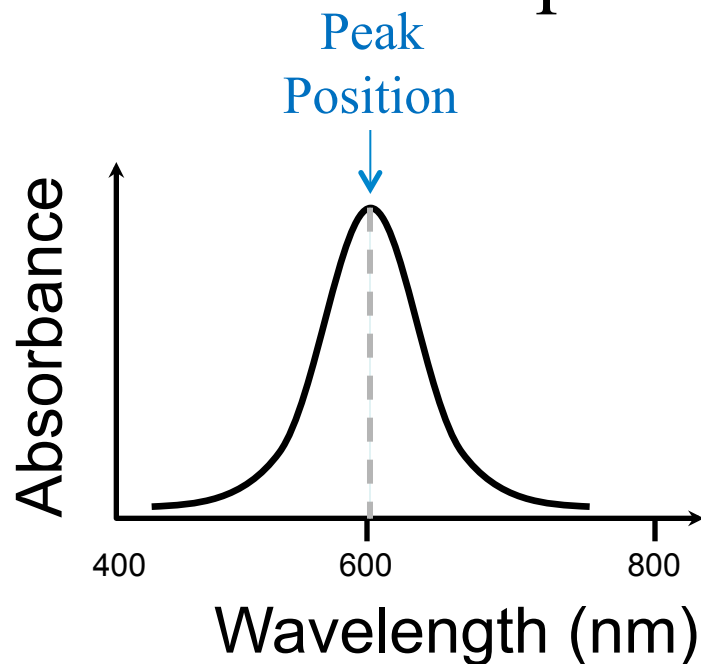
$\chi^{ib}(\Omega)$  - Interband trans. dielectric const.

$R$  - particle radius





# Example of Data Acquisition

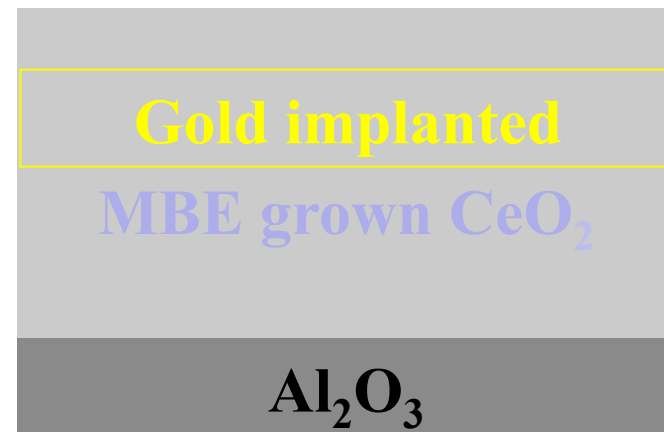


$$\Delta\Omega \propto \Delta \sqrt{\frac{N}{(1 + 2\epsilon_m)}}$$

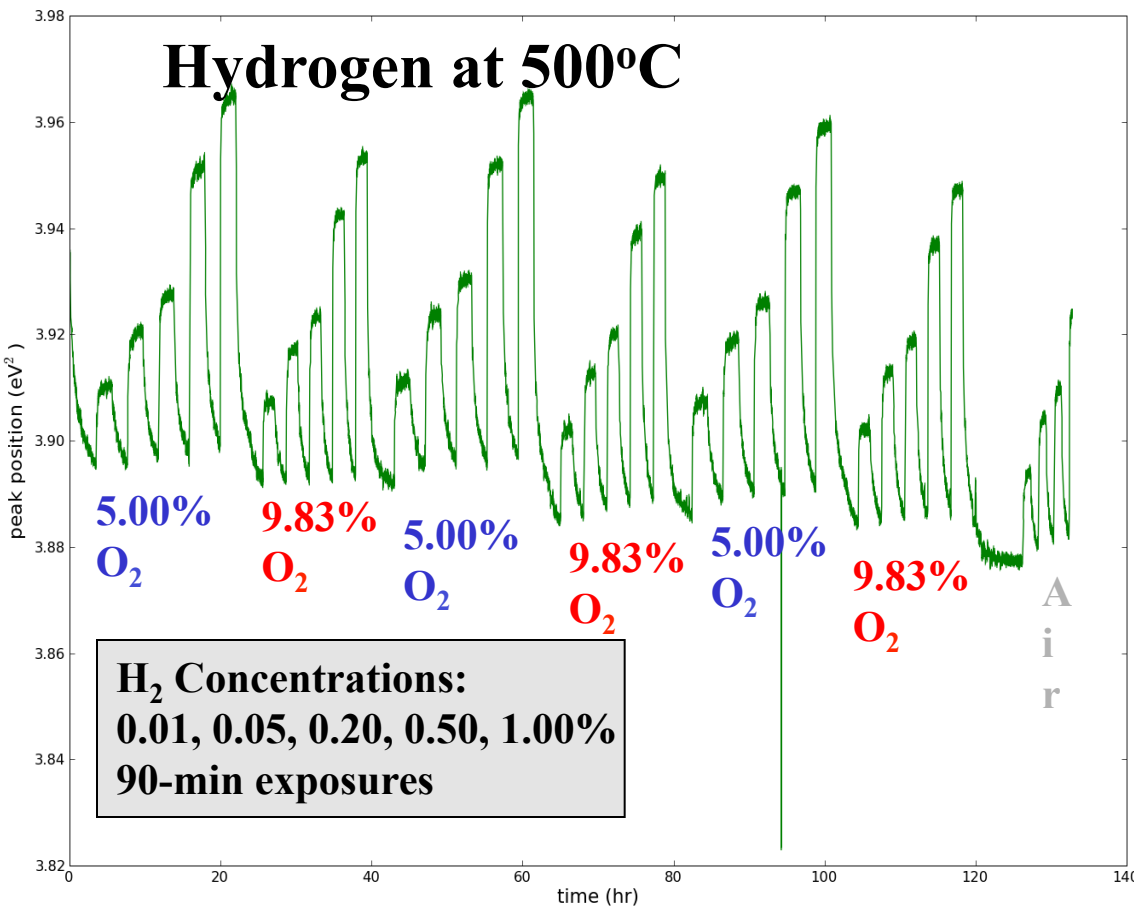
H<sub>2</sub> } Reducing  
CO }  
NO<sub>2</sub> — Oxidizing



# Sensing Tests on MBE grown Au-Ceria\*



- Ceria is 200nm thick
- Gold is implanted to depth of ~75nm
- Post annealed to 1000°C
- Gold particle size ~30nm



**Reliability has been tested into hundreds of hours**

Nicholas A. Joy, Manjula I. Nandasiri, Phillip H. Rogers, Weilin Jiang, Tamas Varga, Satyanarayana V N T Kuchibhatla, Suntharampillai Thevuthasan, and Michael A. Carpenter, Analytical Chemistry (published asap 2012)

\*In collaboration with M. Nandasiri, S. Kuchibhatla, T. Suntharampillai @ PNNL



# Selectivity Challenge

**How to Discriminate  
Between Gases?**

## Data Analysis

(extract selective information)

- Principal Component Analysis
- Linear Discriminant Analysis
- (Neural Networks, Cluster Analysis...)

## Exposure Conditions

- Temperature

## Materials

(influence selective reactions)

### Metal Oxide

- YSZ
- TiO<sub>2</sub>
- CeO<sub>2</sub>

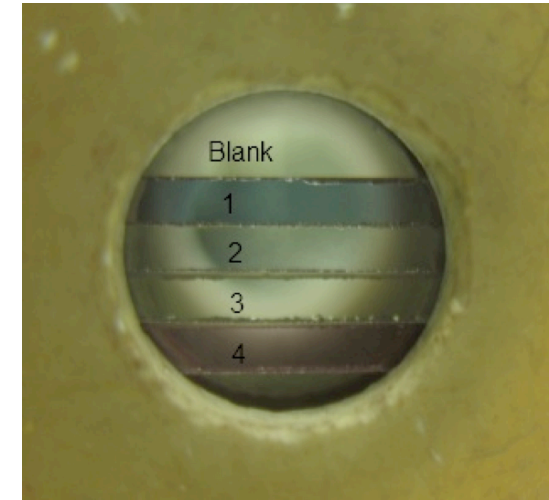
### Gold Particles

- Size
- Shape

# Sensor Array Studies

## Element 1: MBE grown $\text{CeO}_2$ with implanted gold

- Ceria is 200nm thick
- Gold is implanted to depth of ~75nm
- Post annealed to 1000°C
- Gold particle size ~30nm
- Au ~ 8 at. %



## Element 2: PVD Au-YSZ

- ~30nm thick Au-YSZ
- Au particle size ~25nm
- ~10 at.% Au

## Element 3: PVD Au-TiO<sub>2</sub>

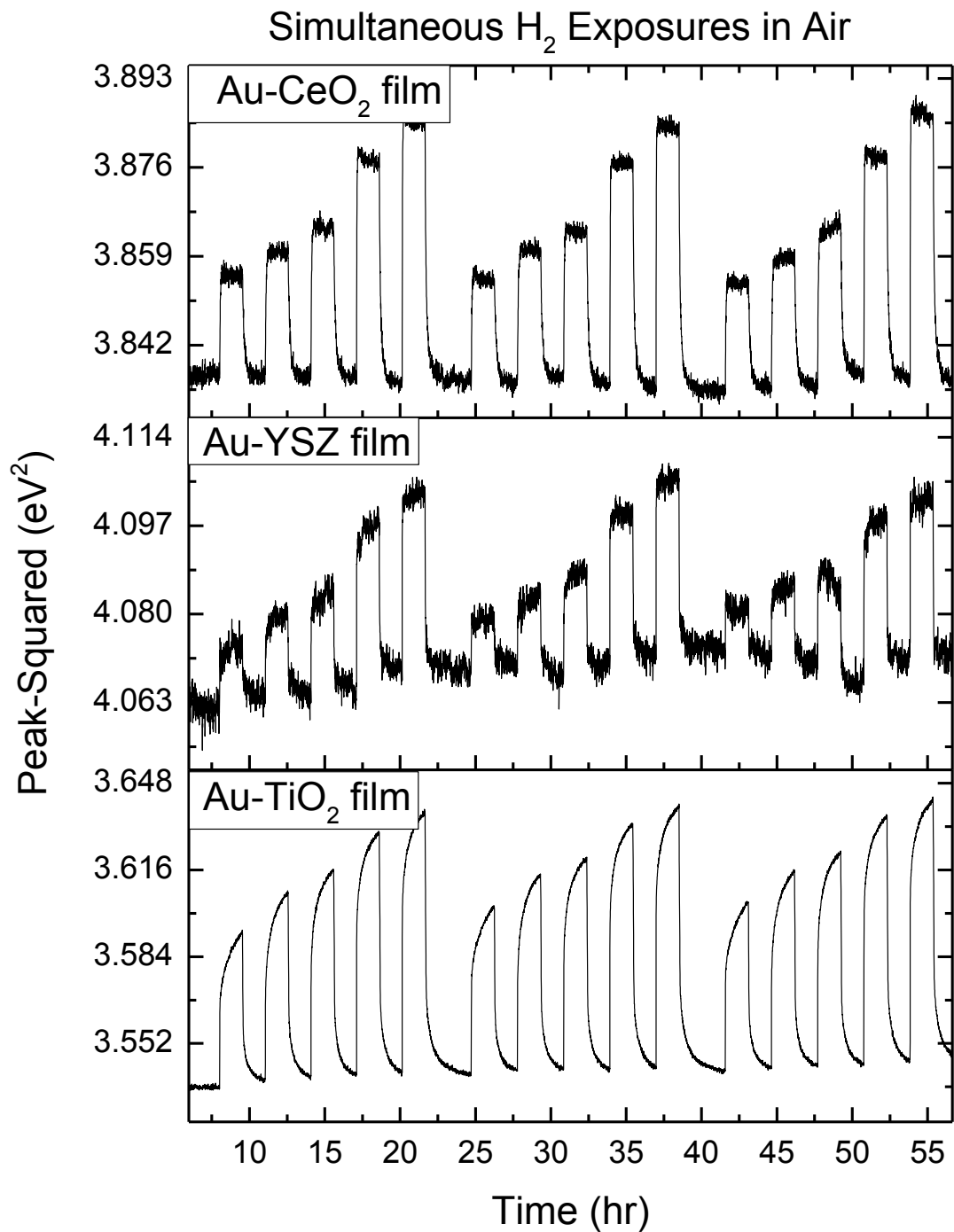
- ~30nm thick Au-TiO<sub>2</sub>
- Au particle size ~25nm
- ~10 at.% Au

500°C

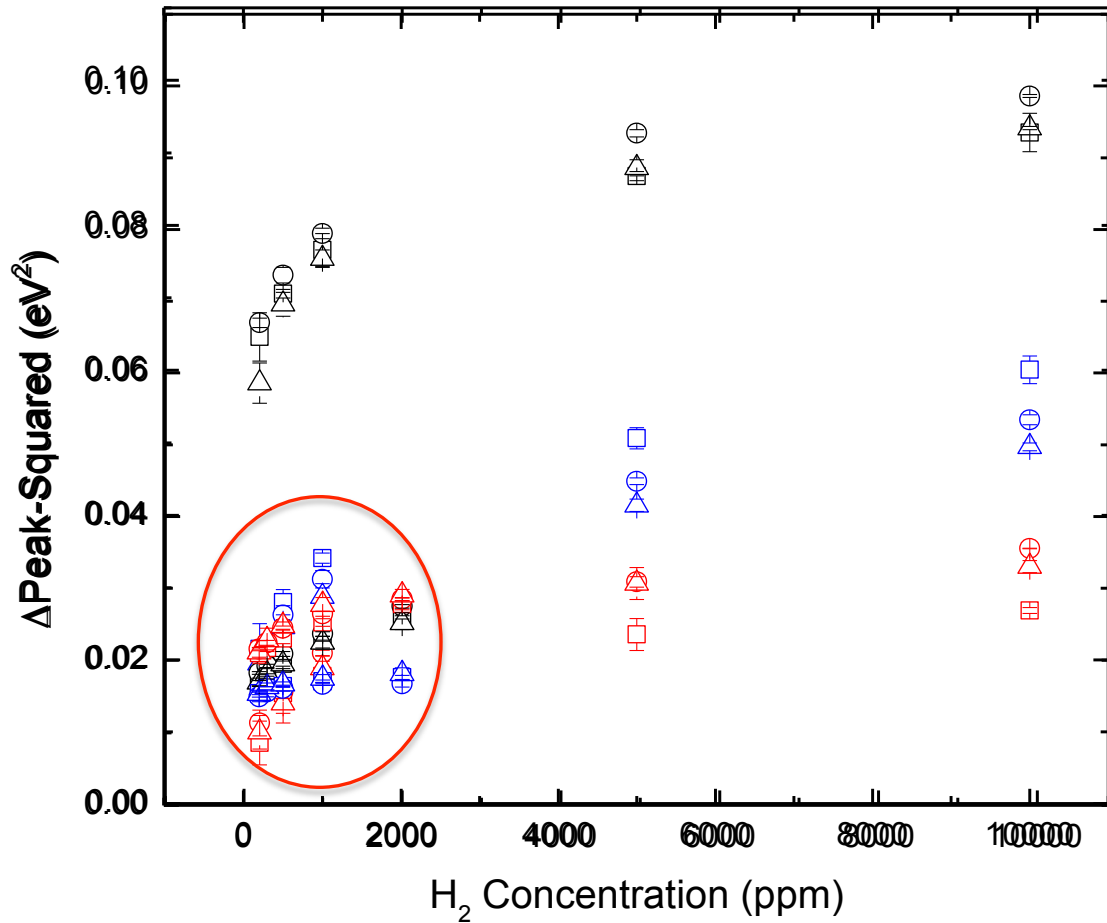
	H <sub>2</sub>	CO	NO <sub>2</sub>
Exposure 1	200	200	2
Exposure 2	500	300	5
Exposure 3	1000	500	10
Exposure 4	5000	1000	20
Exposure 5	10000	2000	98

- Simultaneously Compare Sensing Characteristics
- PCA performed for Selectivity
- Detailed analysis to be completed for sensing mechanism analysis

	<b>H<sub>2</sub></b>	<b>CO</b>	<b>NO<sub>2</sub></b>
<b>Exposure 1</b>	200	200	2
<b>Exposure 2</b>	500	300	5
<b>Exposure 3</b>	1000	500	10
<b>Exposure 4</b>	5000	1000	20
<b>Exposure 5</b>	10000	2000	98



# H<sub>2</sub> ΔPeak vs Concentration

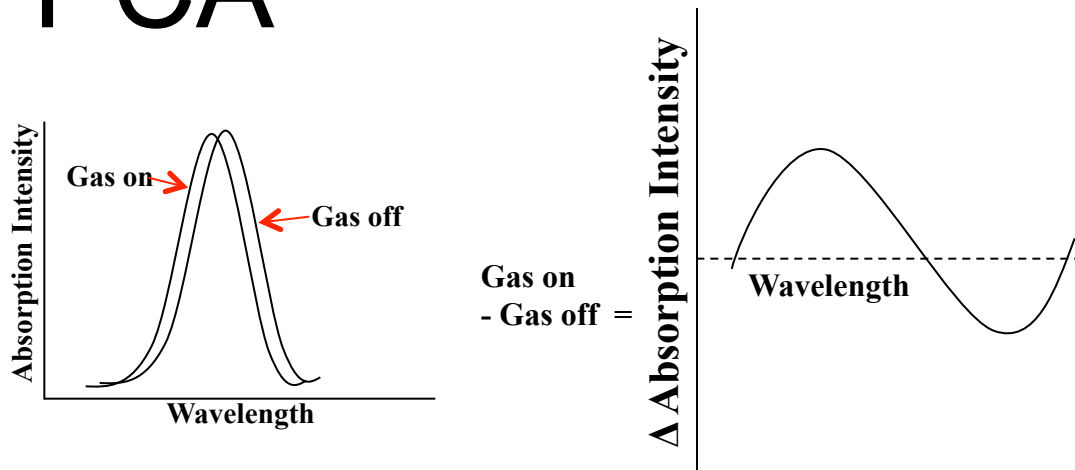
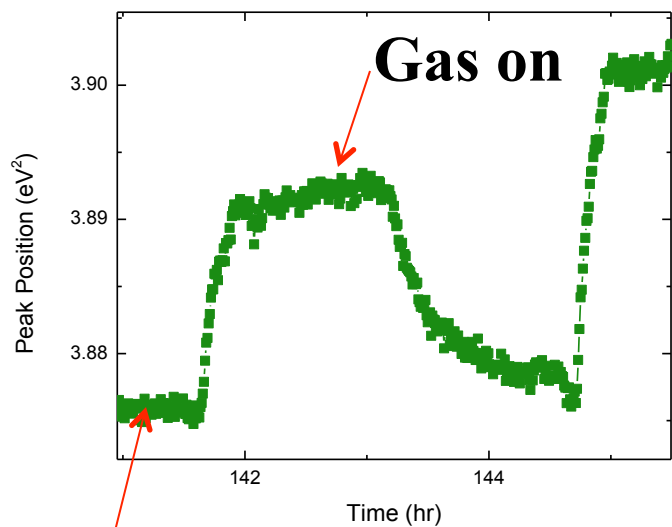


□	Au-TiO <sub>2</sub>	5% O <sub>2</sub>
○	Au-TiO <sub>2</sub>	10% O <sub>2</sub>
△	Au-TiO <sub>2</sub>	Air
<hr/>		
□	Au-CeO <sub>2</sub>	5% O <sub>2</sub>
○	Au-CeO <sub>2</sub>	10% O <sub>2</sub>
△	Au-CeO <sub>2</sub>	Air
<hr/>		
□	Au-YSZ	5% O <sub>2</sub>
○	Au-YSZ	10% O <sub>2</sub>
△	Au-YSZ	Air

	H <sub>2</sub>	CO	NO <sub>2</sub>
Exposure 1	200	200	2
Exposure 2	500	300	5
Exposure 3	1000	500	10
Exposure 4	5000	1000	20
Exposure 5	10000	2000	98

**Challenging selectivity issues for CO and H<sub>2</sub>!**

# Sensor Array Analysis: Applying PCA



Gas off

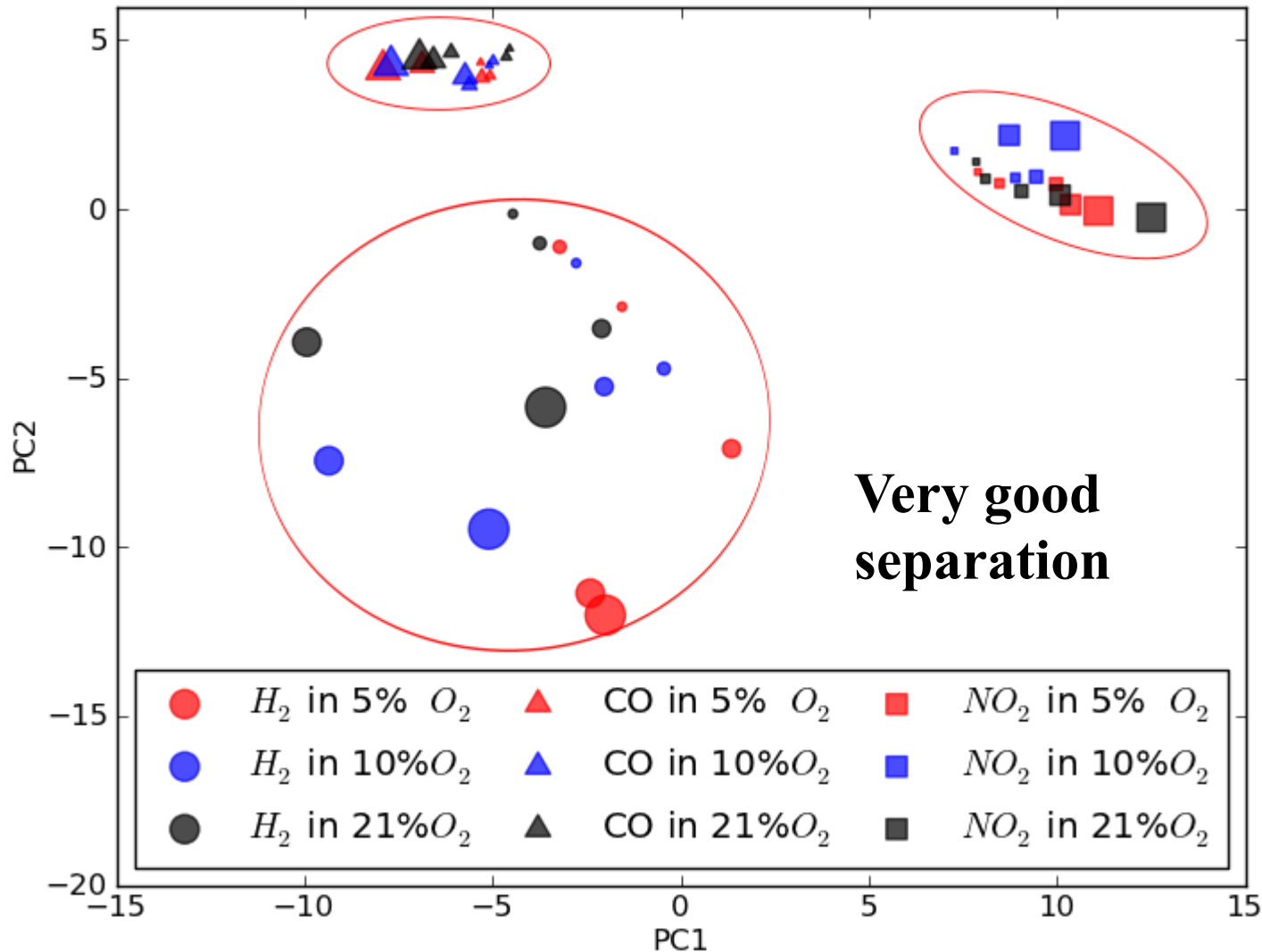
$\sim 390-1000\text{nm} = 630 * 3$  (sample #)

45 Observations:  
5 concentrations  
3 Analytes  
3 O<sub>2</sub> backgrounds

Normalized and Mean Adjusted Data		[ppm]	388.105	388.717	389.329	389.941	390.553	391.165	391.777	39
H2	5% O2 Average	100	1.023027	-0.39367	-0.72012	0.00611	0.013789	-0.33971	0.490287	-0.4
		500	-0.20441	0.056239	0.175303	-0.2122	-0.15136	0.090032	-0.42564	0.34
		1000	0.056563	0.093036	0.469755	-0.01796	0.179228	0.106737	0.026401	-0
		5000	0.73957	0.341386	-0.36616	0.173942	0.444829	-0.51202	0.002421	0.06
		10000	0.22457	-0.25529	0.099226	-0.28148	0.041378	0.326373	0.459625	0.30
H2	9.83% O2 Average	100	-0.51814	0.174142	0.399276	0.522277	0.369046	-0.09579	0.026065	-0.5
		500	0.46479	-0.19218	-0.28943	-0.27595	0.145434	-0.13233	0.203813	0

# PCA Analysis of Sensor Array Data

PC2 vs PC1



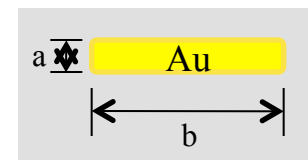
- 630 variables x 3 array elements = 1890 variables
- 45 observables ( 5 gas concentrations, 3 target gases & 3  $[O_2]$ )
- ~175 wavelengths used as inputs from the spectra





# Why Au Nanorods?

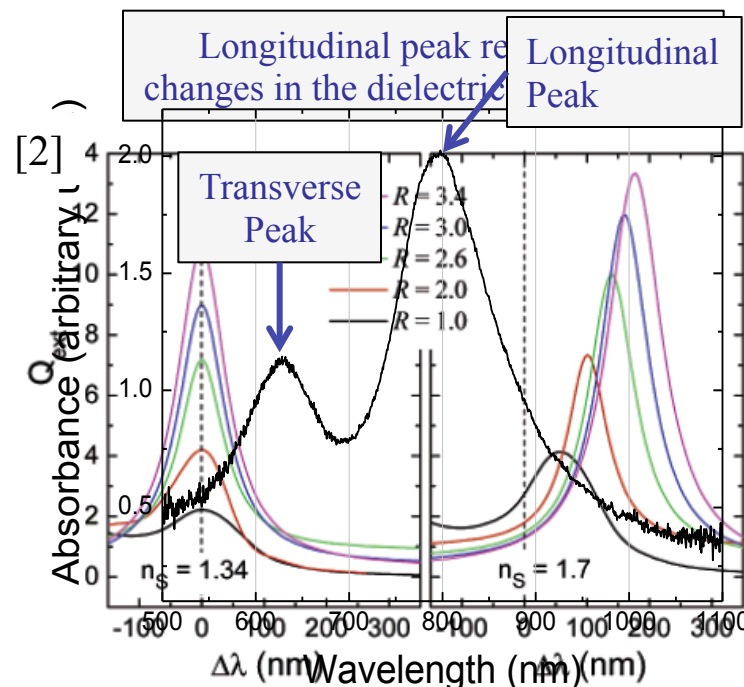
1. Two SPR absorbance peaks
2. Tunable longitudinal peak position
3. Catalysis by gold nanoparticles is size dependent<sup>[1]</sup>
4. Sensitivity is shape dependent<sup>[2]</sup>



aspect ratio =  $b/a$

## Challenges:

1. Thermal Stability
2. Show sensing response from both peaks



[1] M. Haruta, "Size- and support-dependency in the catalysis of gold," *Catalysis Today*, vol. 36, no. 1, pp. 153–166, Apr. 1997.

[2] K.-S. Lee and M. A. El-Sayed, "Gold and Silver Nanoparticles in Sensing and Imaging: Sensitivity of Plasmon Response to Size, Shape, and Metal Composition," *The Journal of Physical Chemistry B*, vol. 110, no. 39, pp. 19220–19225, Oct. 2006.



# Au Nanorod Fabrication Process

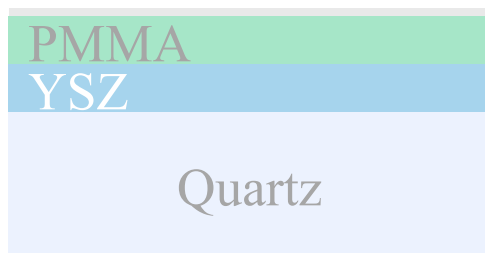
## 1. Quartz Substrate



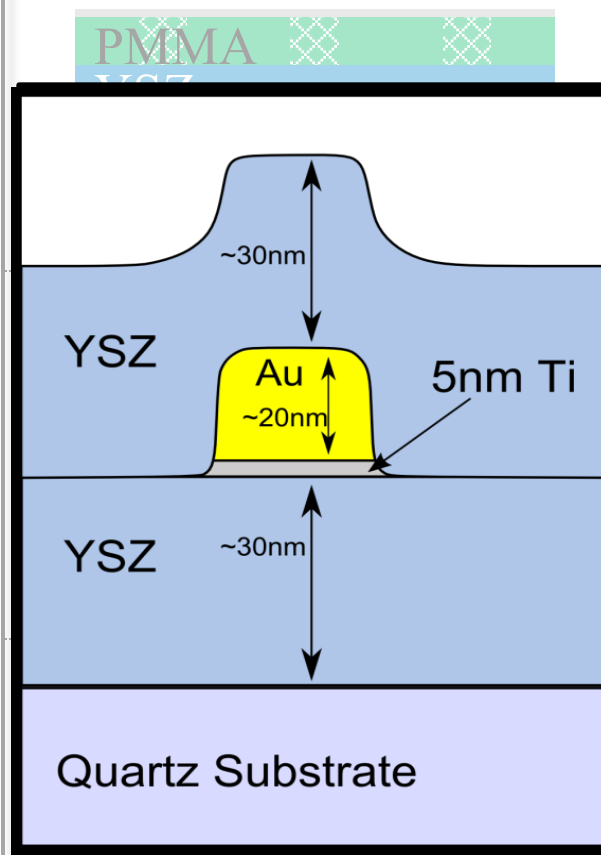
## 2. Deposit & Anneal YSZ



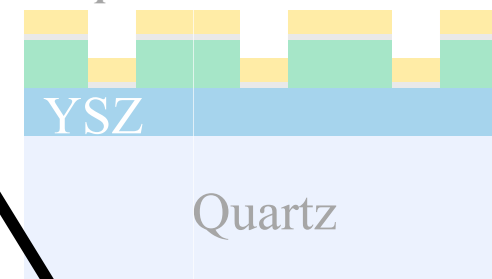
## 3. Spincoat PMMA, Evaporate Cr



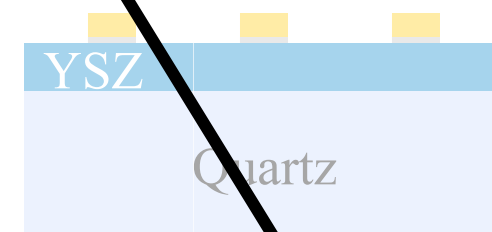
## 4. Pattern PMMA



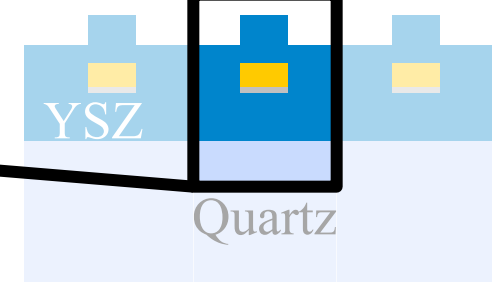
## 7. Evaporate Ti/Au



## 8. Liftoff PMMA

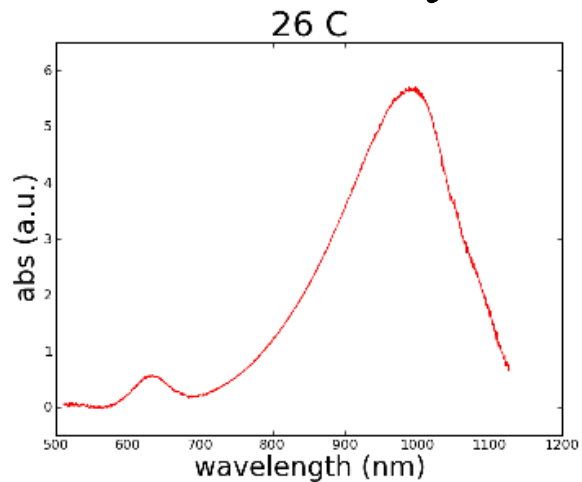


## 9. Deposit YSZ capping layer



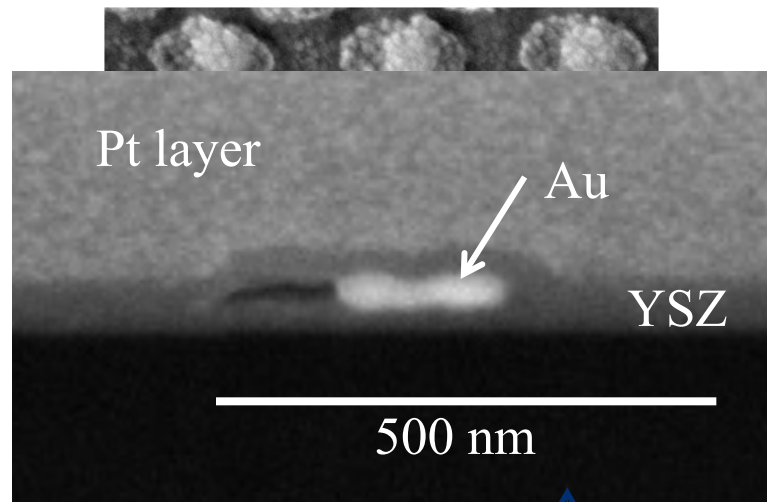


# Thermal stability monitored with optical spectroscopy and ESEM

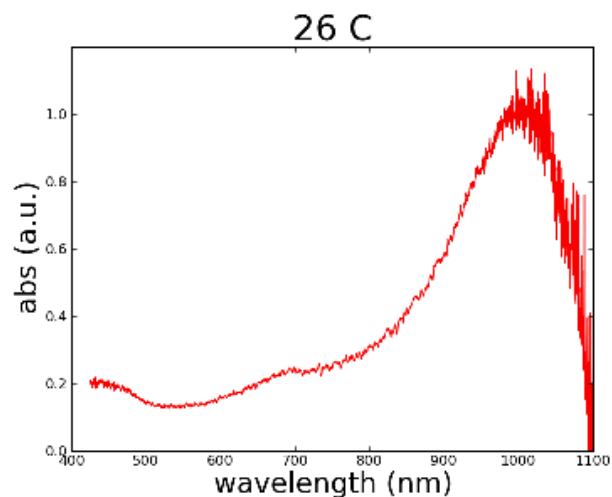


ESEM

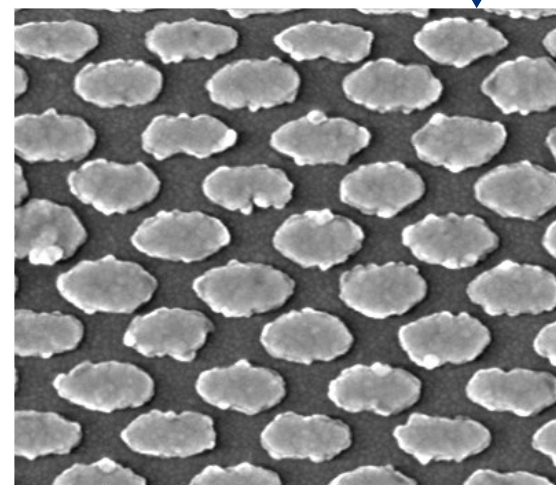
Thermal  
Instability →



150 nm  
Cross-section at 12° tilt\*\*



Thermal  
Stability →

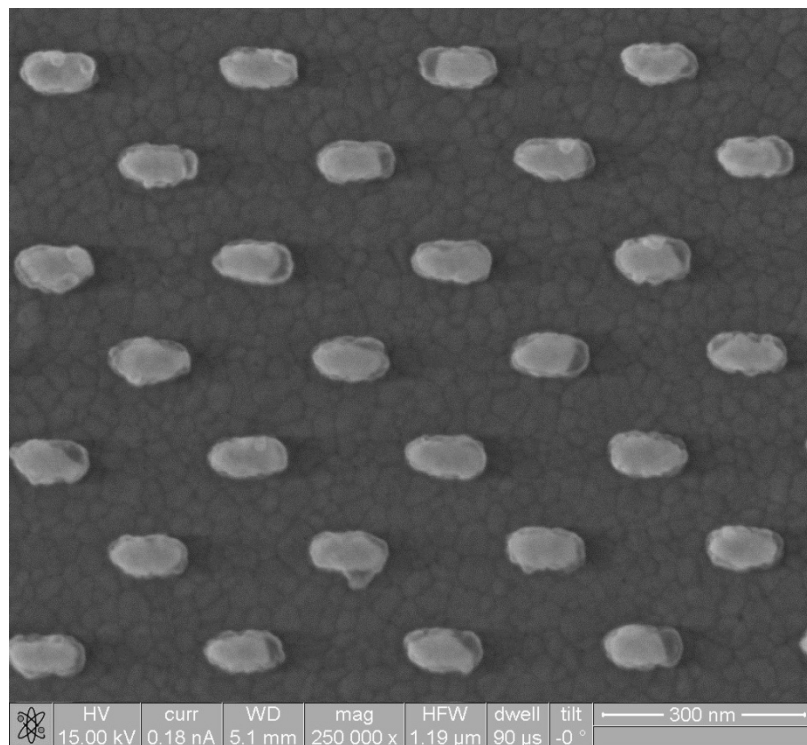


\*ESEM images Courtesy Zhouying (Joyce) Zhao

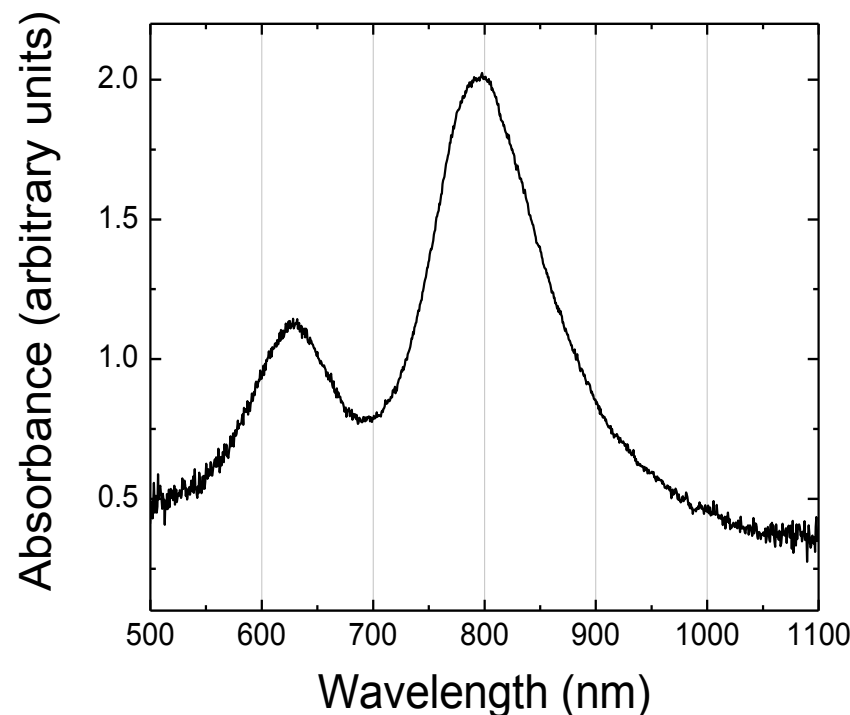
\*\*FIB Courtesy Tom Murray



# Summary of the Sample Used for Sensing Tests



- 44 x 130 nm nominal dimensions
- 15 nm YSZ capping layer
- Annealed up to 600°C for 6 hours

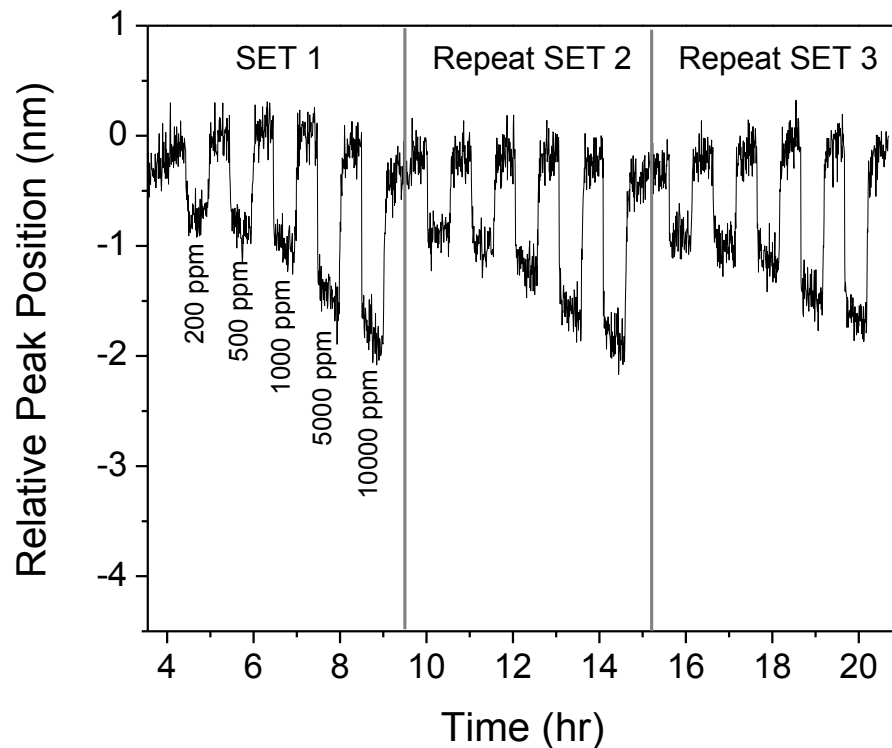


- 500°C, air background
- H<sub>2</sub>, NO<sub>2</sub>, and CO sensing tests
- Both peak positions monitored

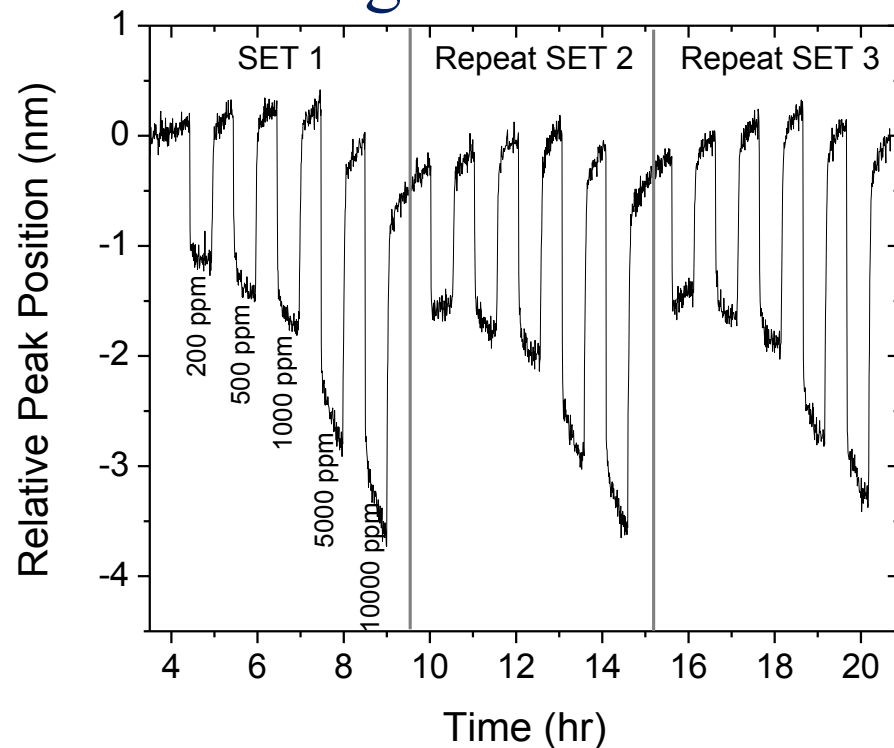


# H<sub>2</sub> Exposure Plots at 500°C in Air

## Radial Peak

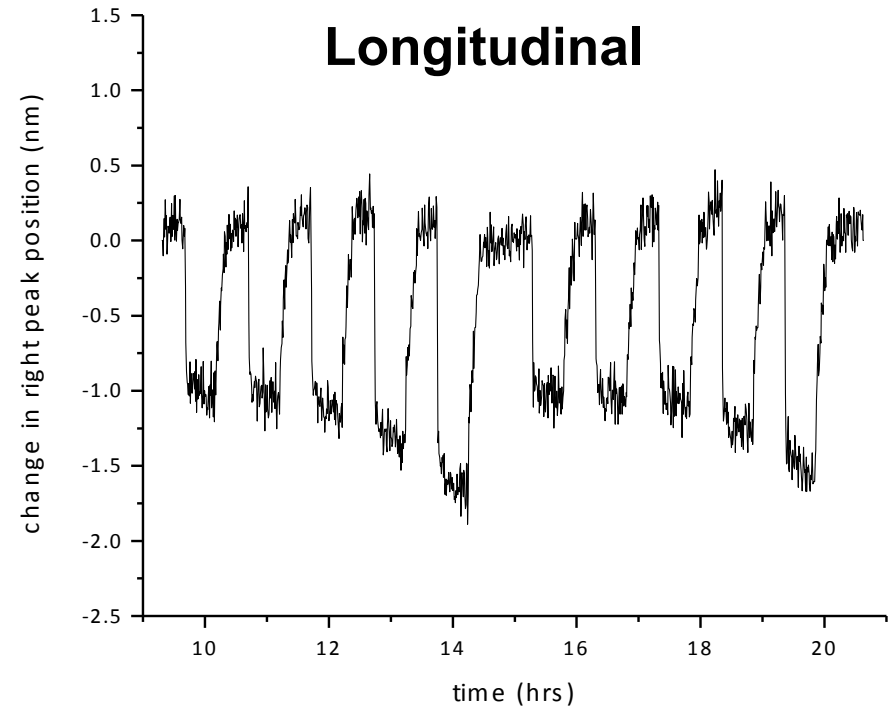
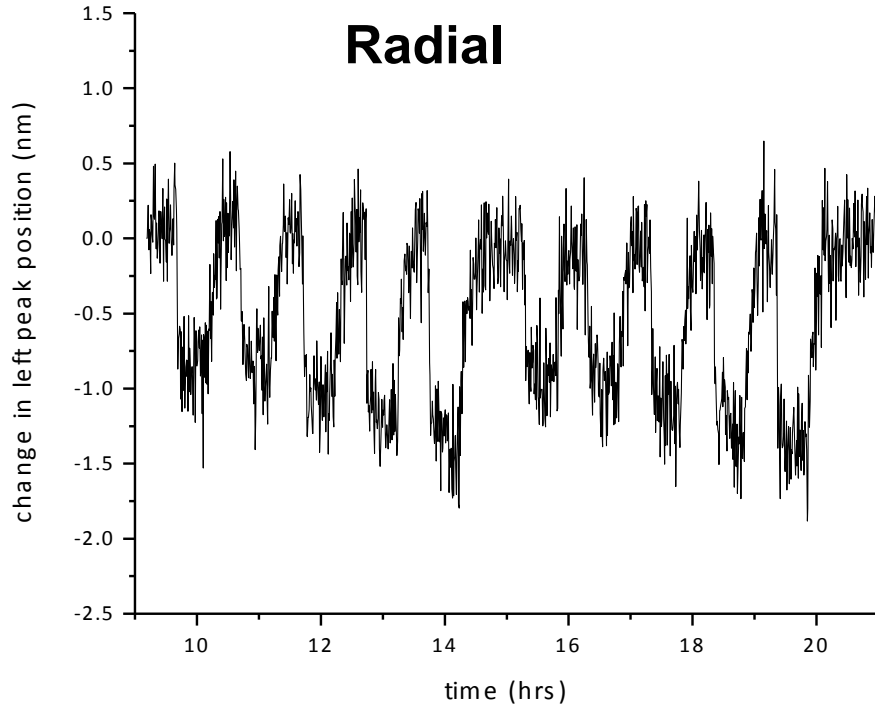


## Longitudinal Peak



# Nanorods: CO sensing data

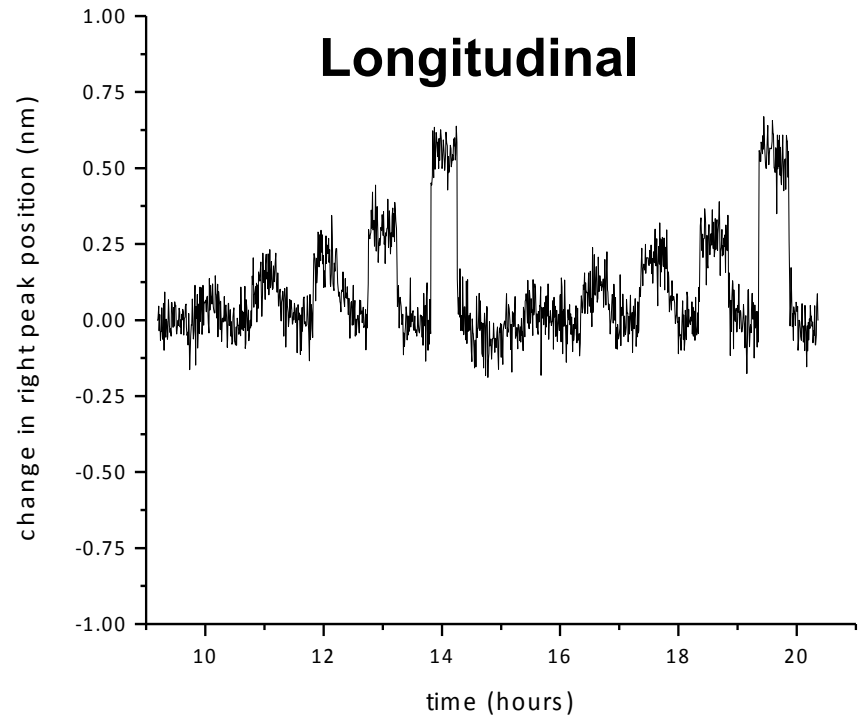
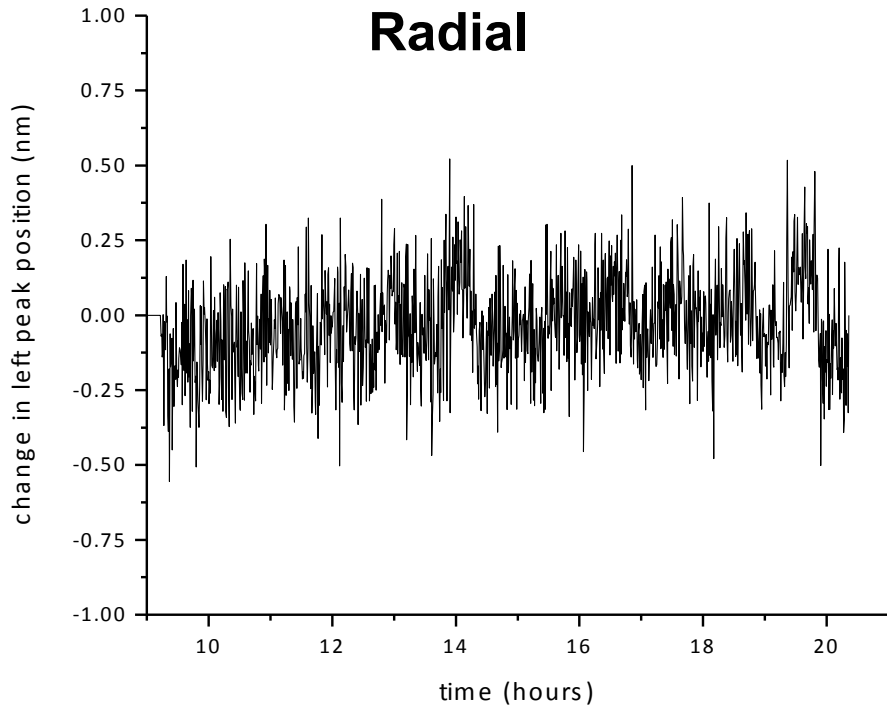
500°C in air, 44x130nm rods



	<b>H<sub>2</sub></b>	<b>CO</b>	<b>NO<sub>2</sub></b>
<b>Exposure 1</b>	200	200	2
<b>Exposure 2</b>	500	300	5
<b>Exposure 3</b>	1000	500	10
<b>Exposure 4</b>	5000	1000	20
<b>Exposure 5</b>	10000	2000	98

# Nanorods: NO<sub>2</sub> Sensing Data

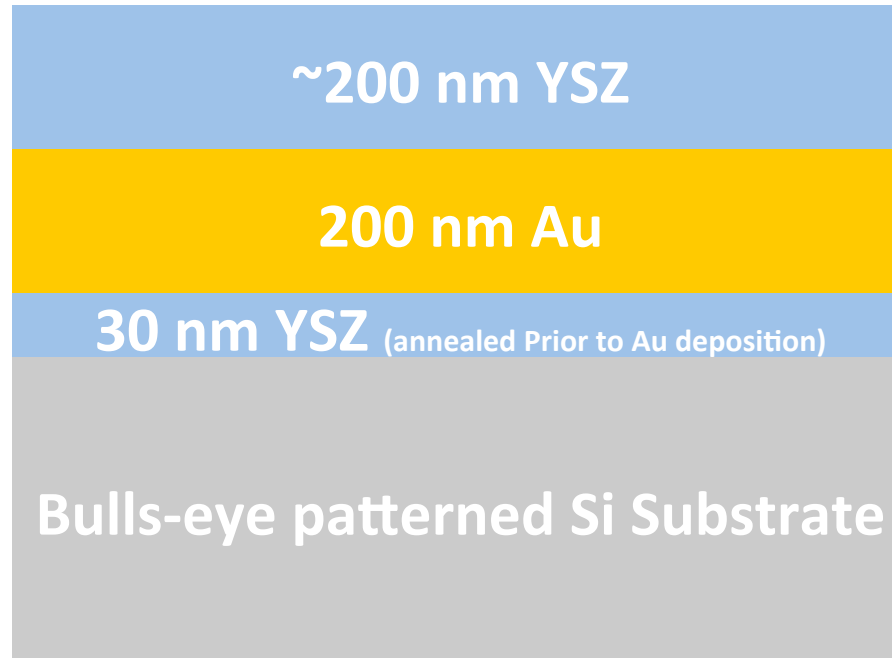
500°C in air, 44x130nm rods



	H <sub>2</sub>	CO	NO <sub>2</sub>
<b>Exposure 1</b>	200	200	2
<b>Exposure 2</b>	500	300	5
<b>Exposure 3</b>	1000	500	10
<b>Exposure 4</b>	5000	1000	20
<b>Exposure 5</b>	10000	2000	98

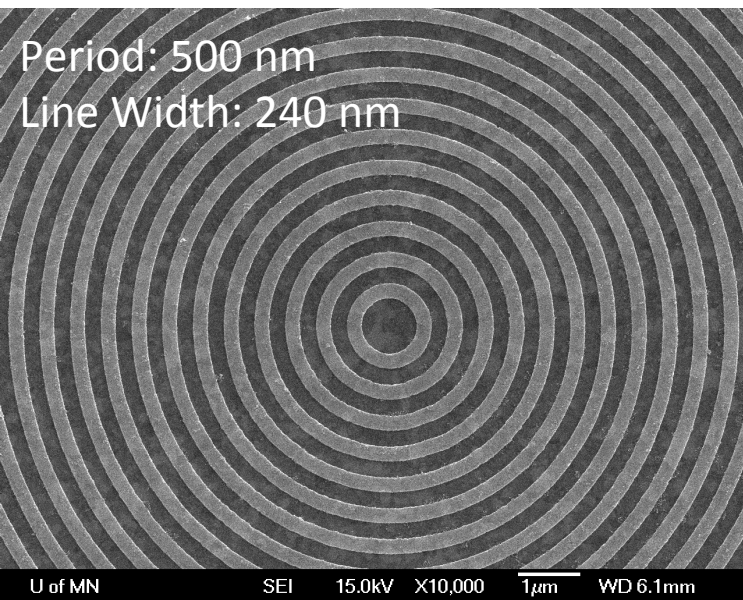
# Thermal Stability Tests of Bulls-eyes:

## Sample Cross-Section

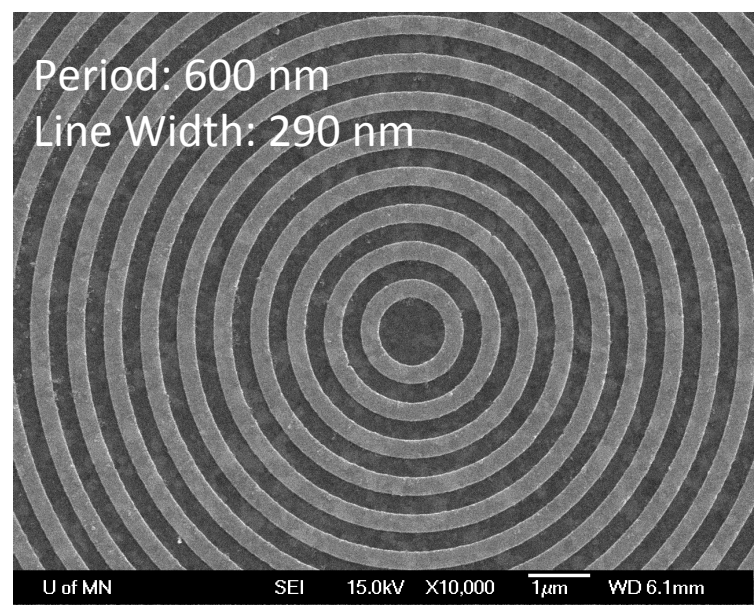
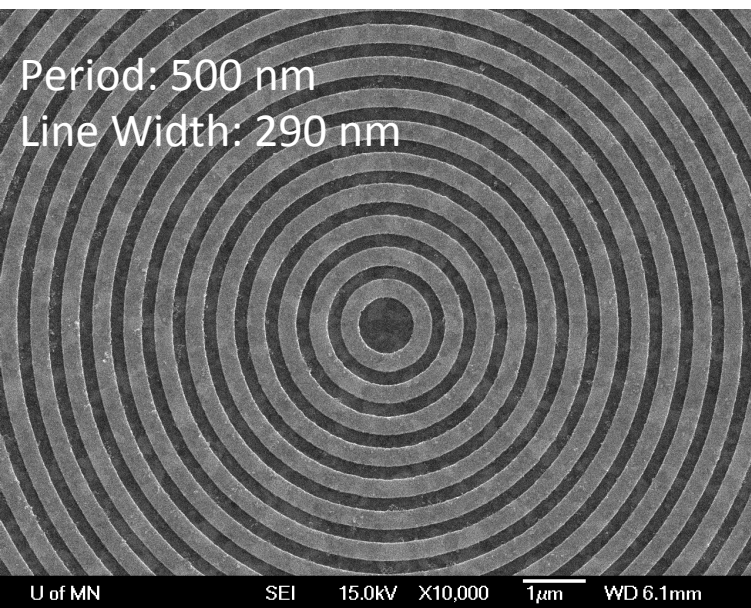
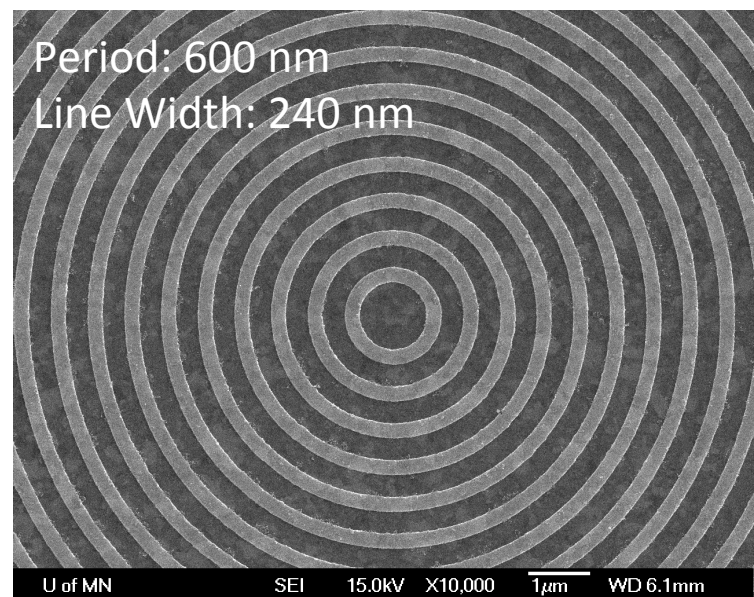




# Varying the Bull's Eye Dimensions

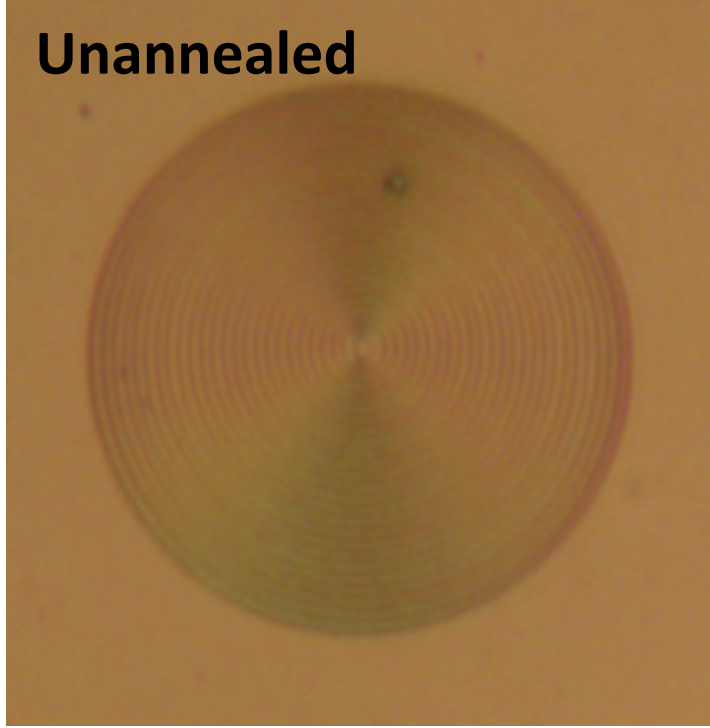


By changing the period and the line width of the grating the plasmonic spectra can be tuned to match that of the patterned nanorods

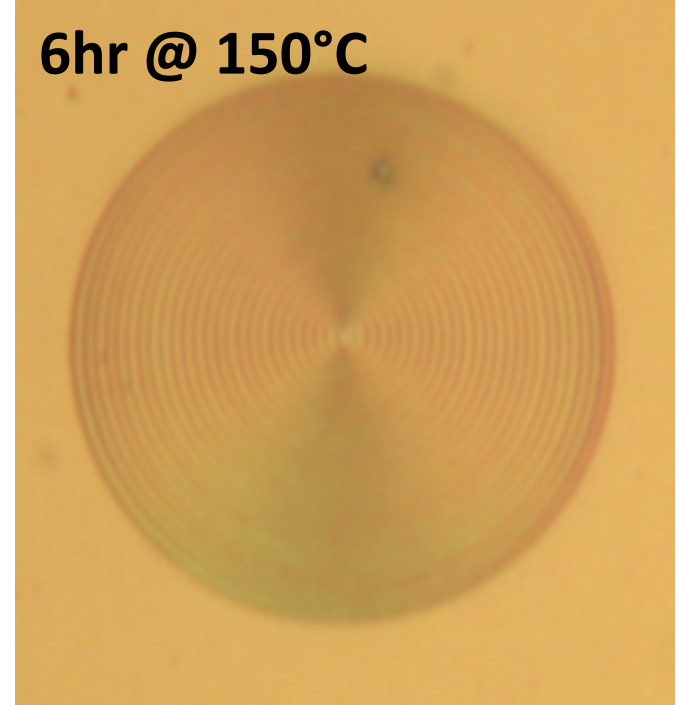


**Sample1  
D1-5**

**Unannealed**

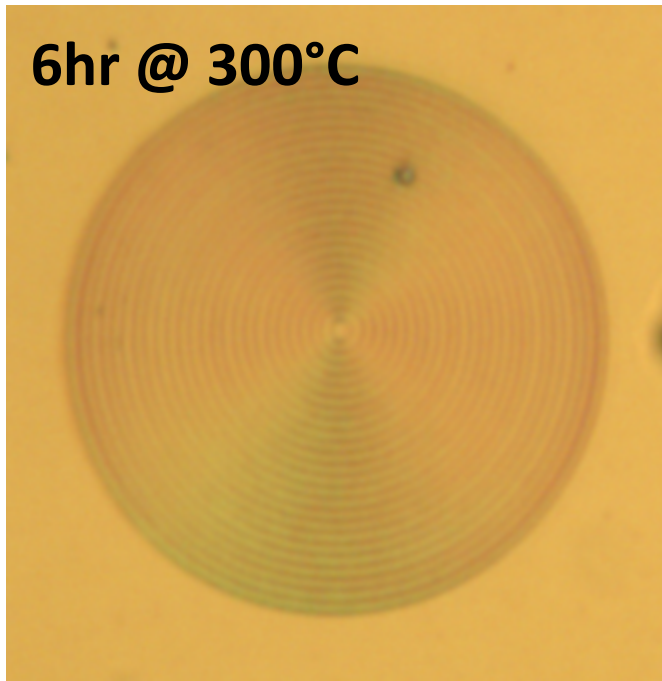


**6hr @ 150°C**

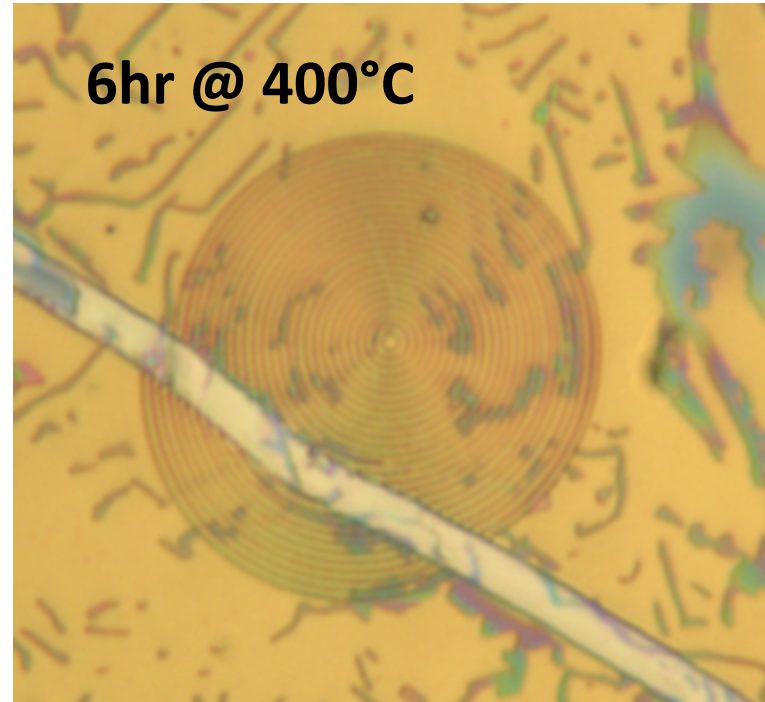


**\*A crack in the Au film happened to go through this bull's eye from the 400°C anneal**

**6hr @ 300°C**



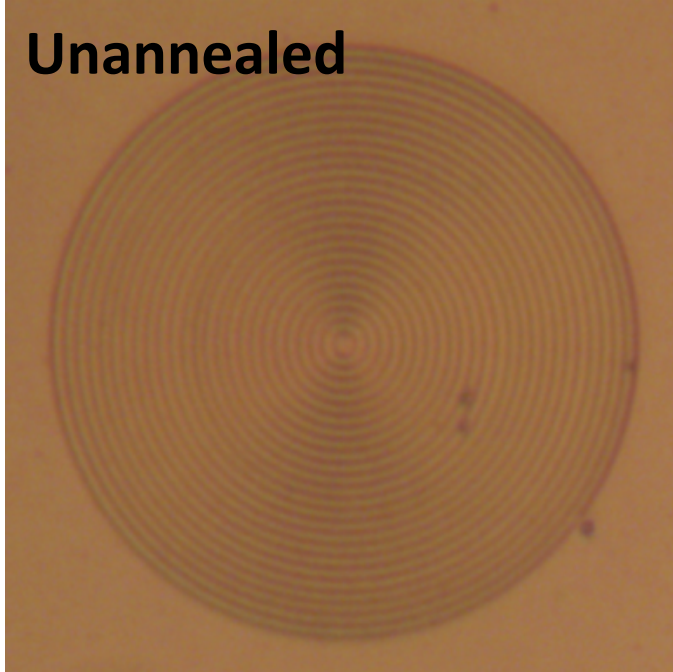
**6hr @ 400°C**



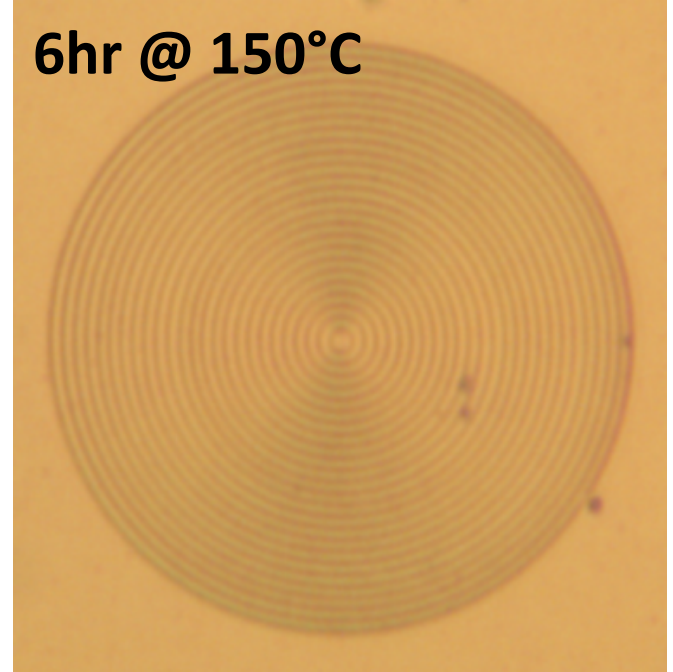
# Sample2 D2-7

While bulls-eye survived, thermal damage occurred across this substrate as well

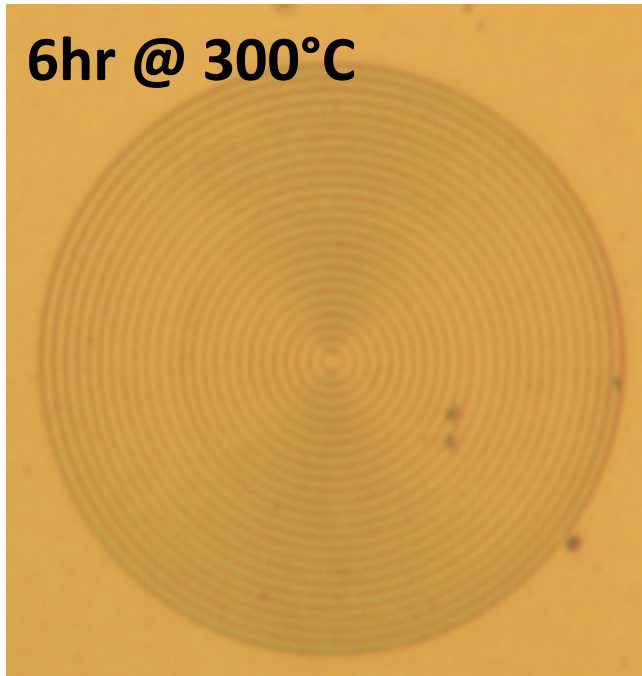
Unannealed



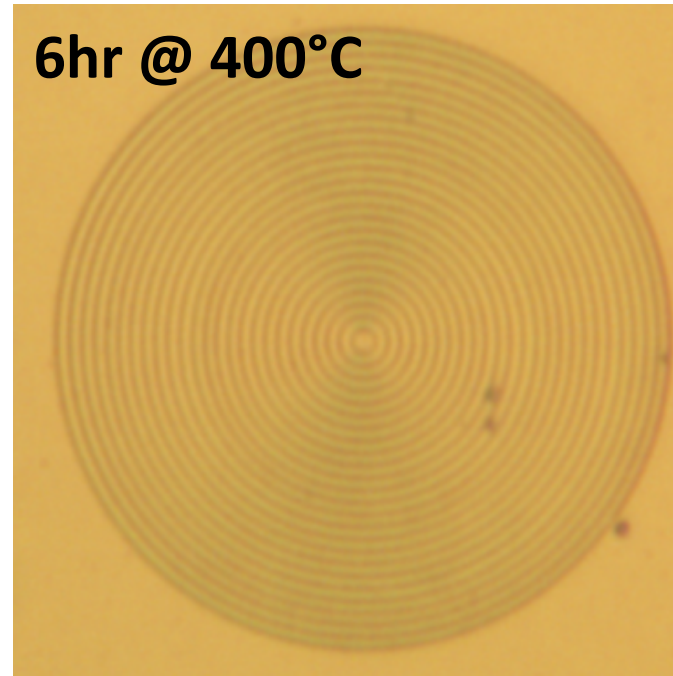
6hr @ 150°C



6hr @ 300°C



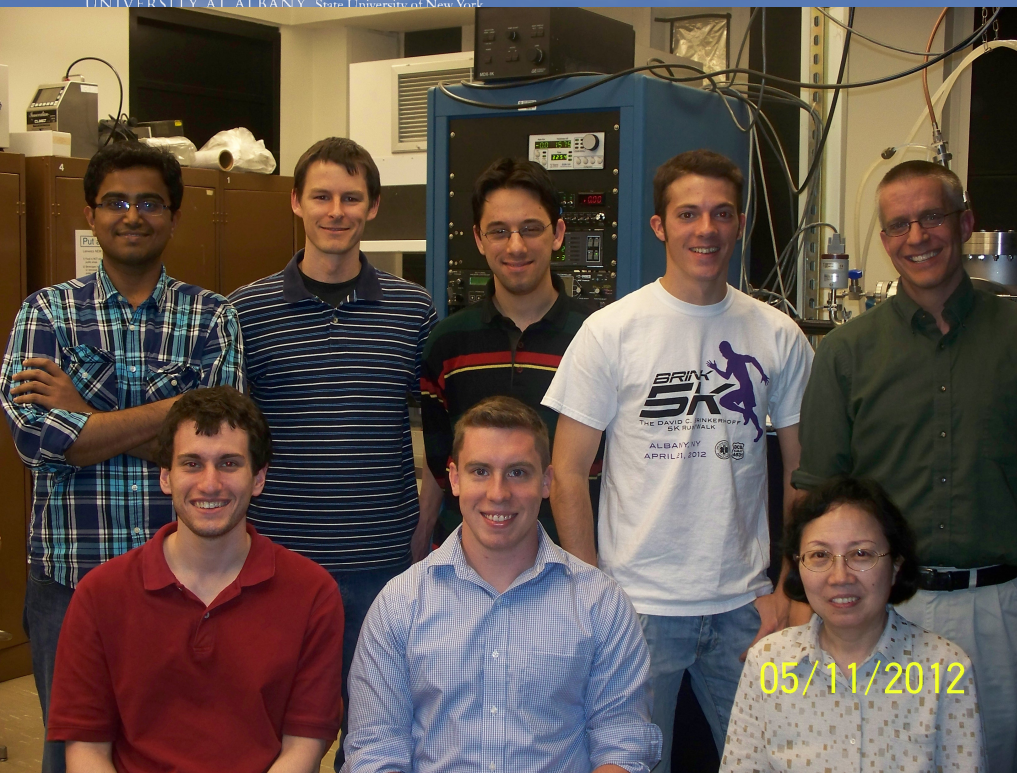
6hr @ 400°C





## *Summary and Future Work*

- ❑ **Developed ebeam lithography techniques for depositing patterns of Au-metal oxide nanoparticle arrays**
- ❑ **Demonstrated thermal stability characteristics of nanorod samples**
- ❑ **Sensor testing on rod arrays in progress**
- ❑ **Bulls-eye design and development in progress**
- ❑ **Thermal stability optimization steps continuing**



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