



Roma, September 21<sup>st</sup> -25<sup>th</sup> , 2015

*Ablazione laser con impulsi ultracorti:  
dal “direct surface processing” alla deposizione di film nanostrutturati*



*Laser Ablation with ultrashort pulses:  
from “direct surface processing” to deposition of nanostructured film*

Salvatore Amoruso



*Dipartimento di Fisica and CNR-SPIN - Università degli Studi di Napoli Federico II Napoli - Italy*

✉ [amoruso@na.infn.it](mailto:amoruso@na.infn.it) ; [salvatore.amoruso@unina.it](mailto:salvatore.amoruso@unina.it)

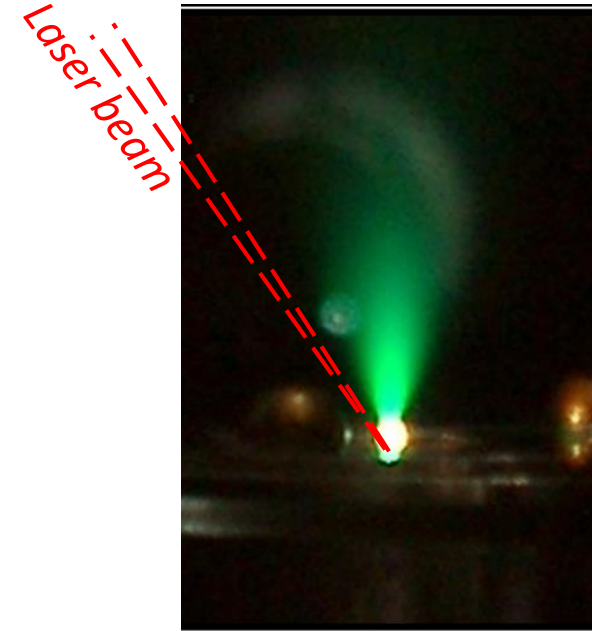




# Laser Ablation with ultrashort pulses: from “direct surface processing” to deposition of nanostructured film

## Outline

- ✓ Background and Motivations
- ✓ Overview of the basic mechanisms
- ✓ Generation of NPs and main features
- ✓ Deposition of NPs-assembled films
- ✓ Direct fs laser surface structuring
- ✓ Summary & Acknowledgements



# BACKGROUND AND MOTIVATIONS

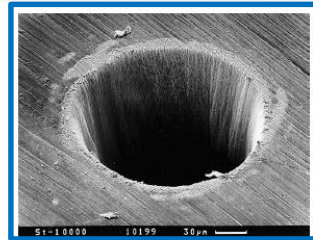


## Laser ablation with ultrashort pulses

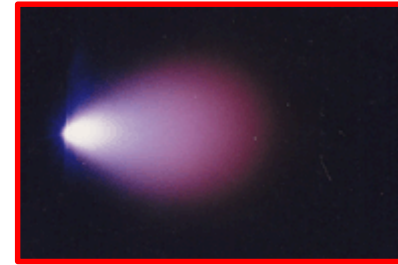
fs laser pulses on a metal/semiconductor

non-equilibrium state of matter and subsequent relaxation

① Surface processing



② Transient Plasma



### Other fields of application

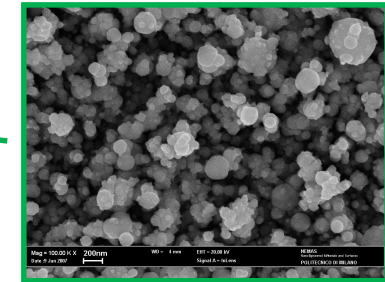
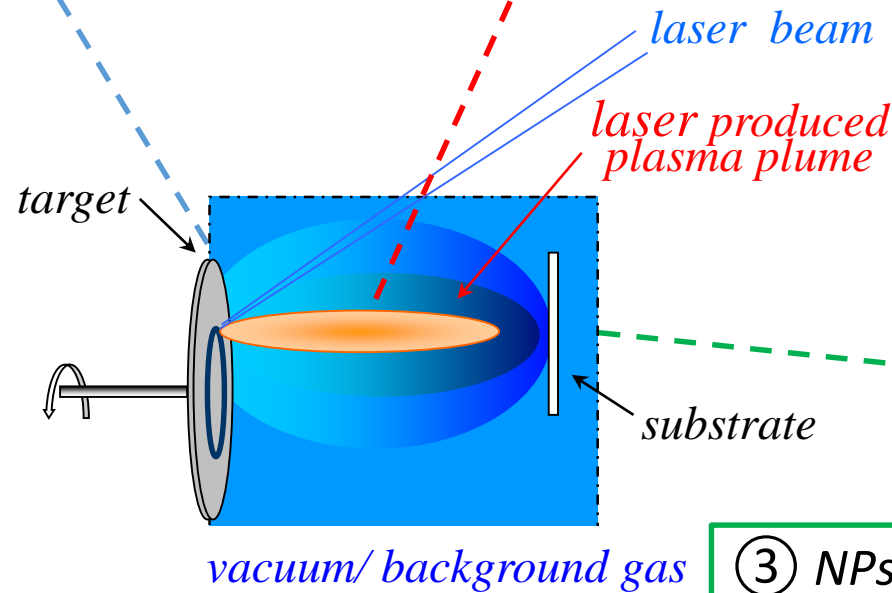
- LIBS for material analysis
- Ion beam generation
- EUV light generation
- $\mu$ -thruster for satellites
- 3D structuring (dielectrics)
- Templates for cell growth
- .....
- .....



① Quenching of peculiar states of surface  
[direct laser surface processing]

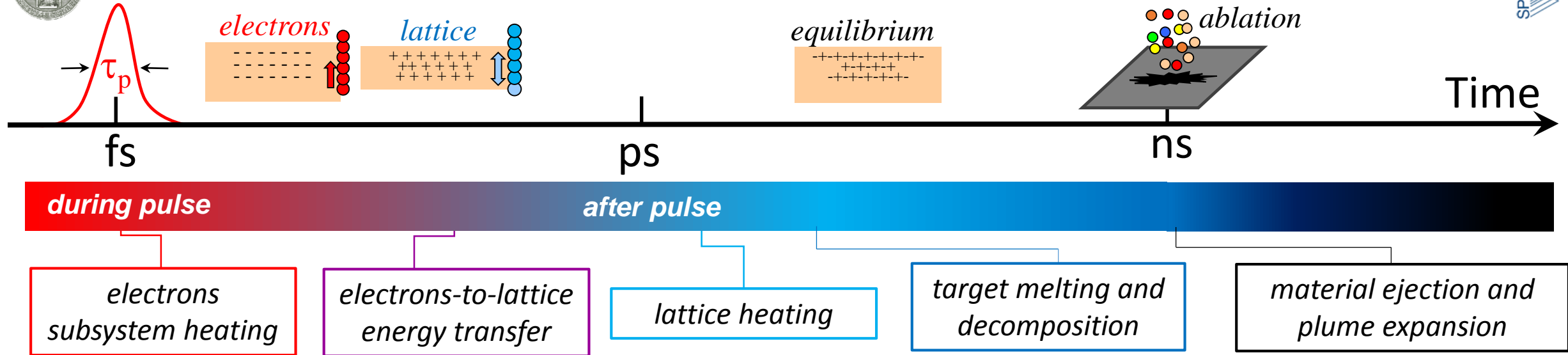
② Transient hot plasma  
[ions, atoms and nanoparticles (main part)]

③ Collection of nanoparticles on substrates  
[fabrication of nanoparticle-assembled films]



③ NPs & NPs-assembled films

# OVERVIEW OF THE BASIC MECHANISMS



... at later time

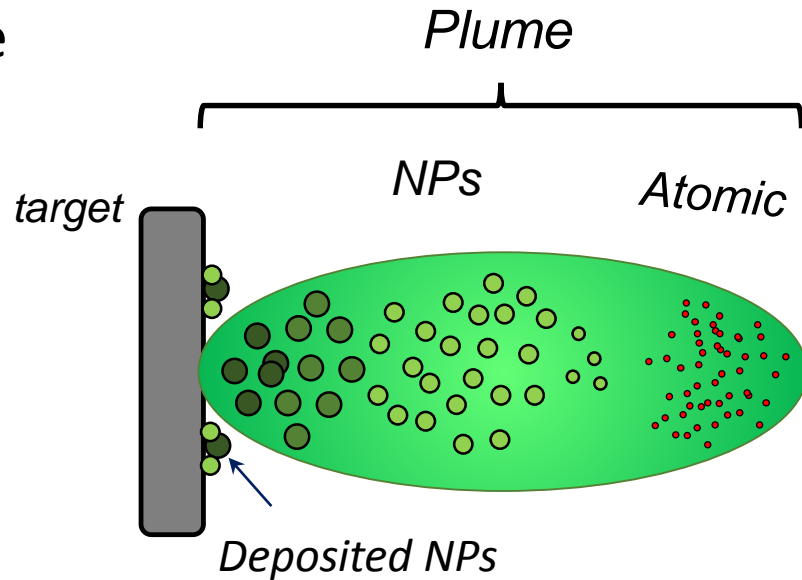
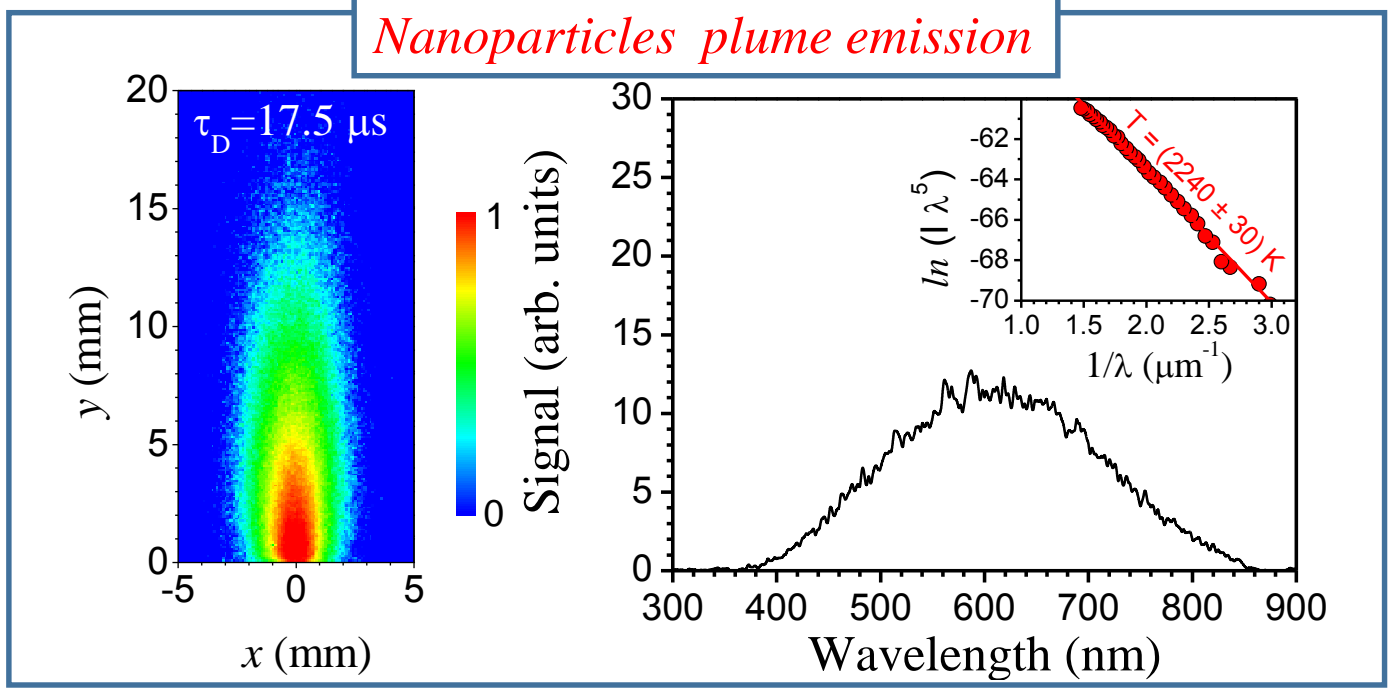
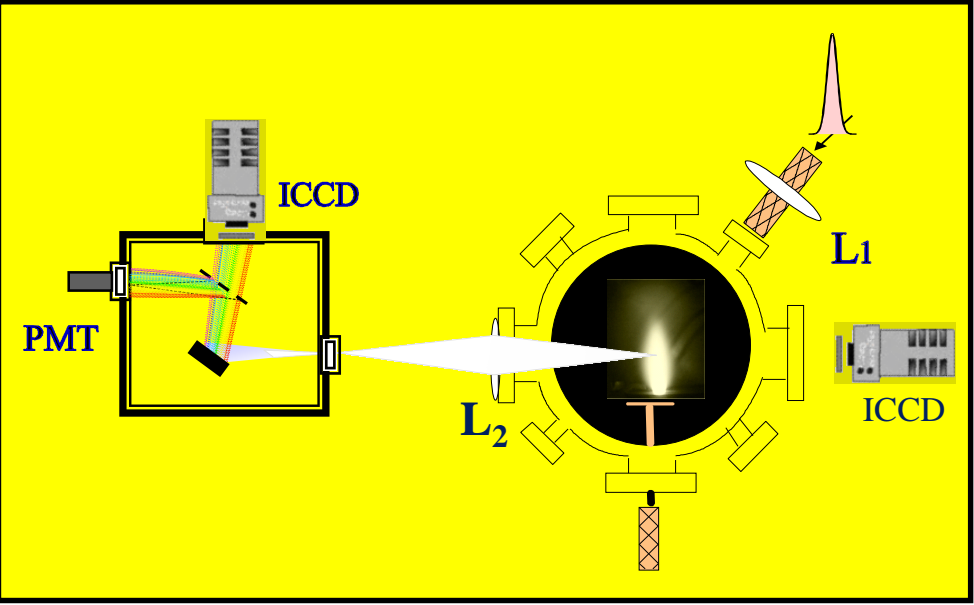
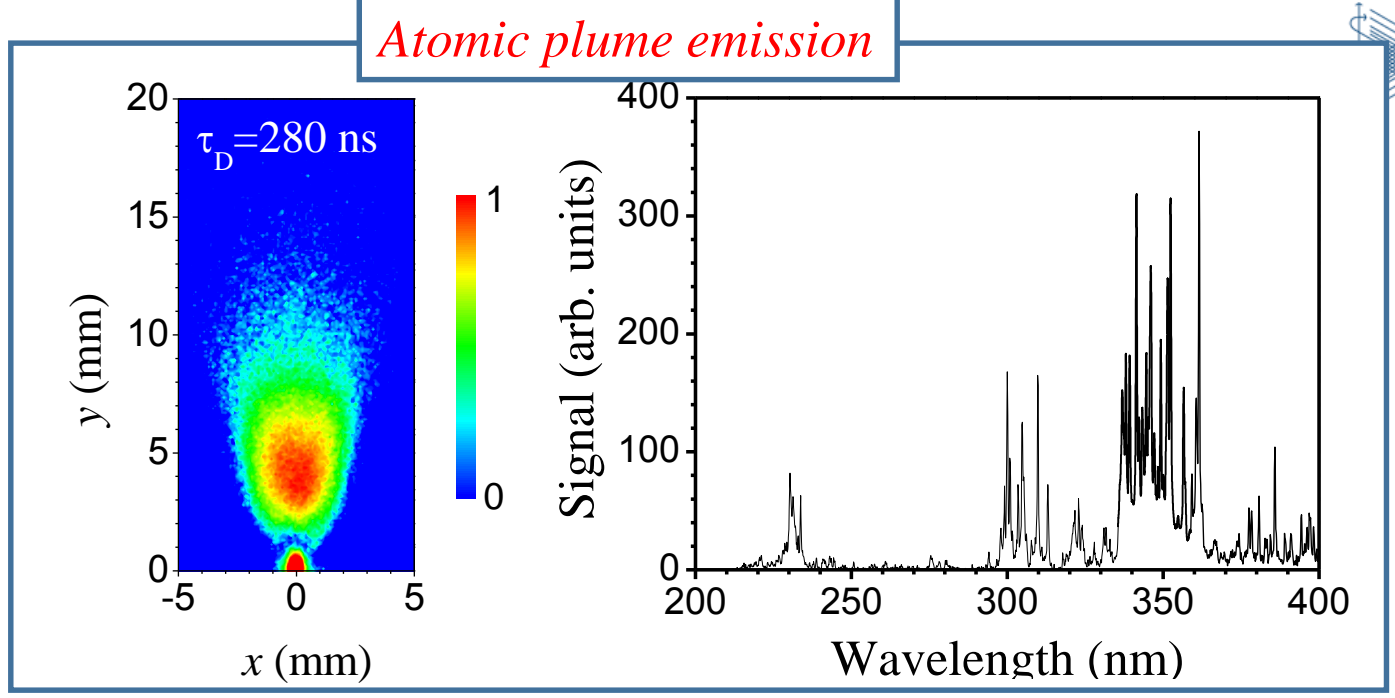
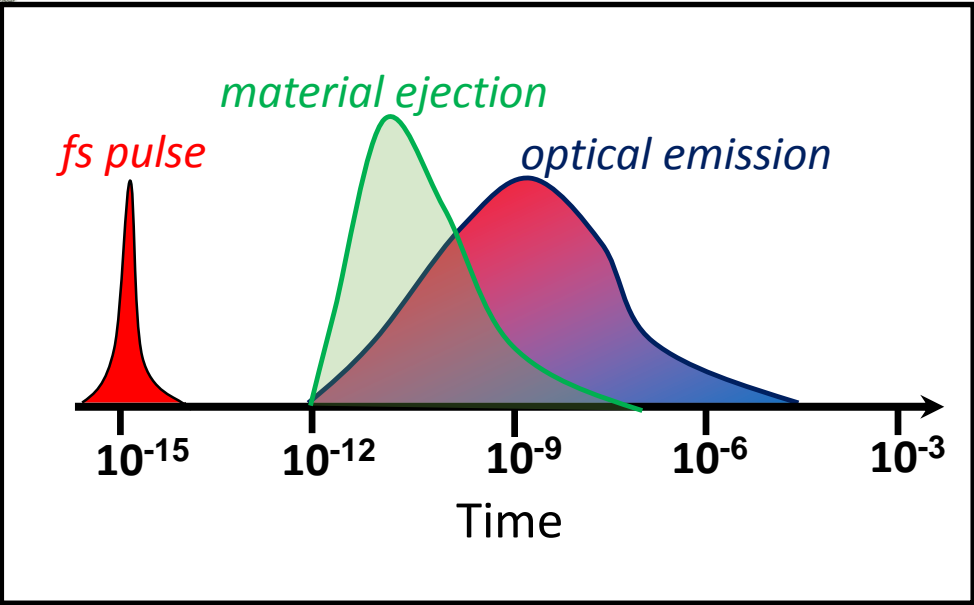


Photo of a silver fs ablation plume





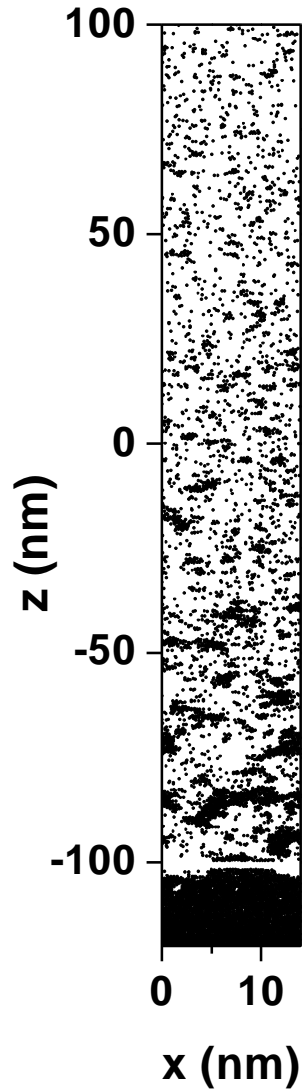
# The plume of ablated material



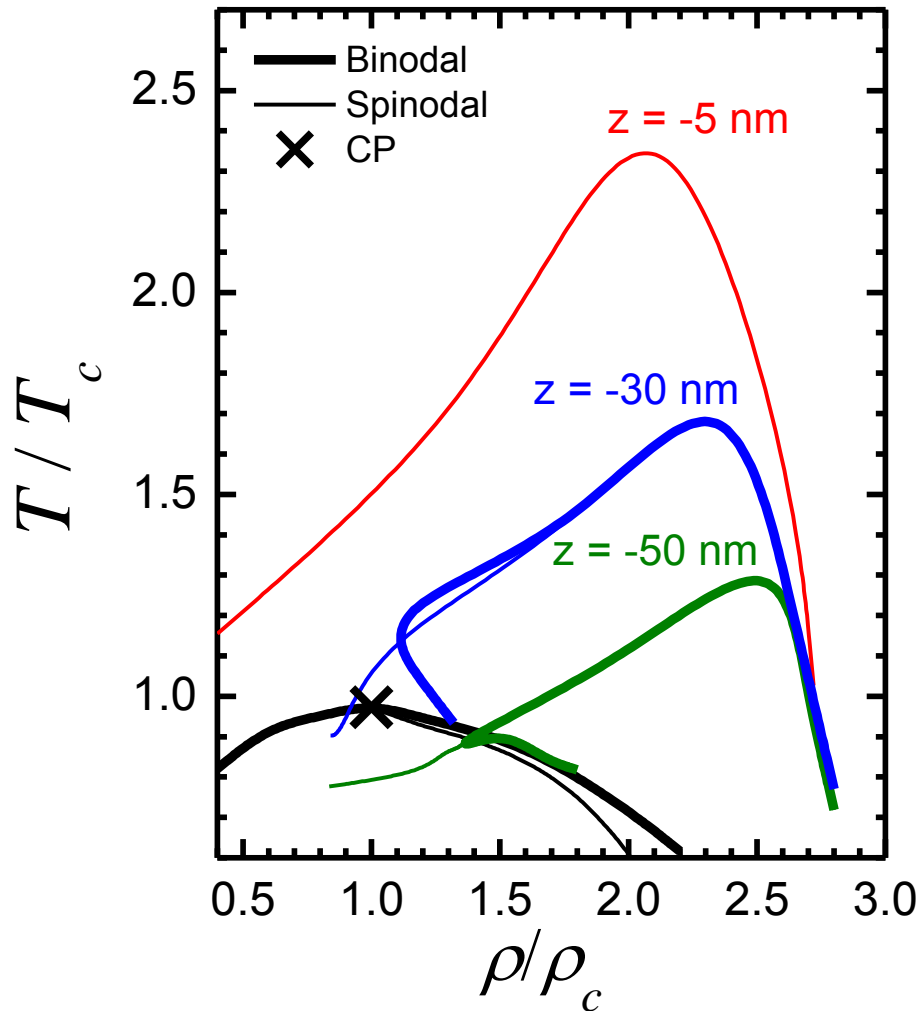
Amoruso et al., J. Appl. Phys. **84**, 4502 (2004)



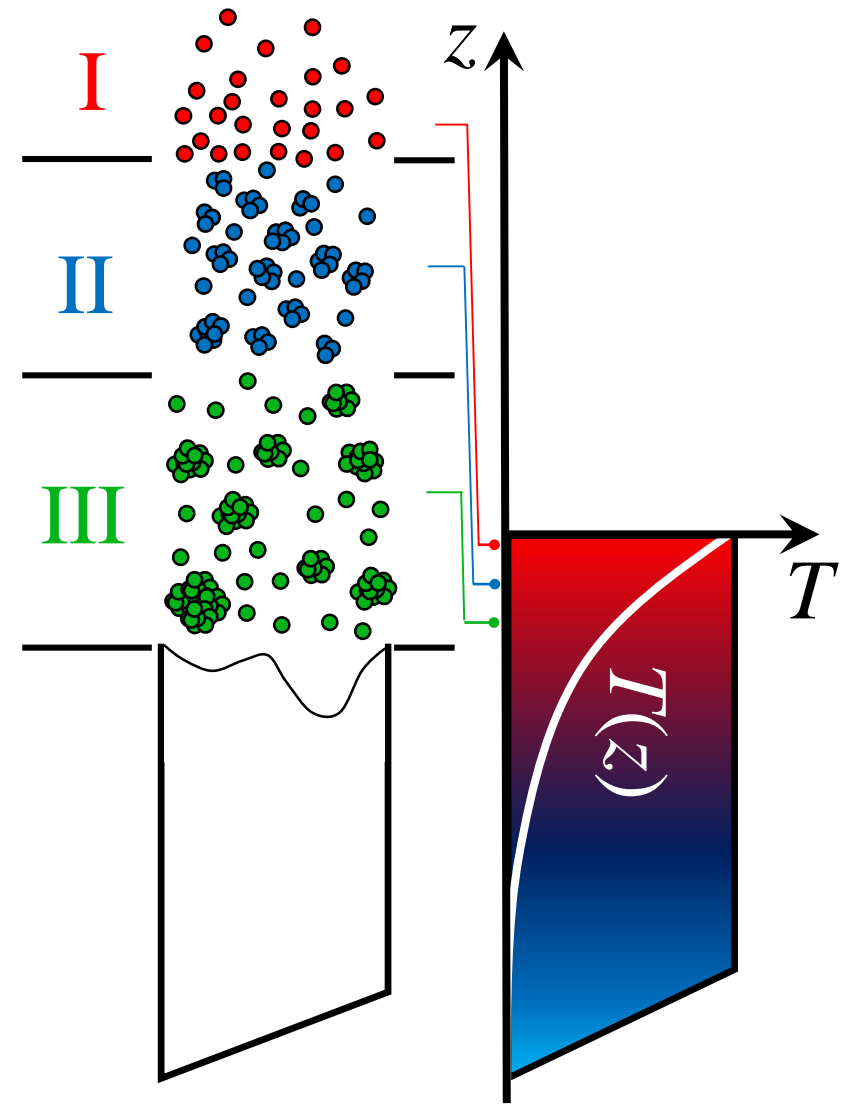
# Material decomposition – MD-TTM simulations



MD snapshot



Trajectory in phase diagram



Sketch of the process



# GENERATION OF NPs AND MAIN FEATURES

NPs of any material (metal, semiconductor, elemental/multicomponent)

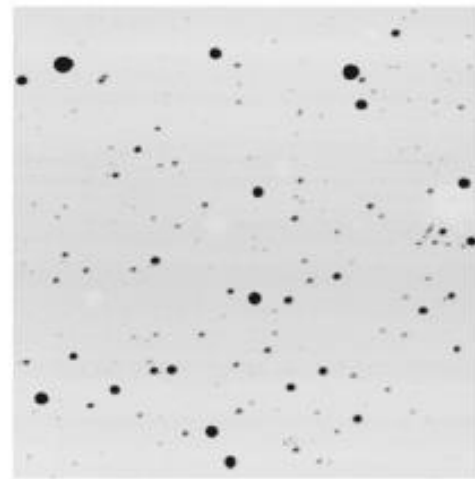
PHYSICAL REVIEW B 71, 033406 (2005)

## Femtosecond laser pulse irradiation of solid targets as a general route to nanoparticle formation in a vacuum

S. Amoruso, G. Ausanio, R. Bruzzese, M. Vitiello, and X. Wang

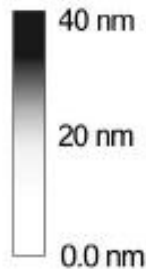
*Coherentia - INFM and Dipartimento di Scienze Fisiche, Univerità di Napoli Federico II, Complesso Universitario di Monte S. Angelo, Via Cintia, I-80126 Napoli (Italy)*

(Received 29 June 2004; published 21 January 2005)

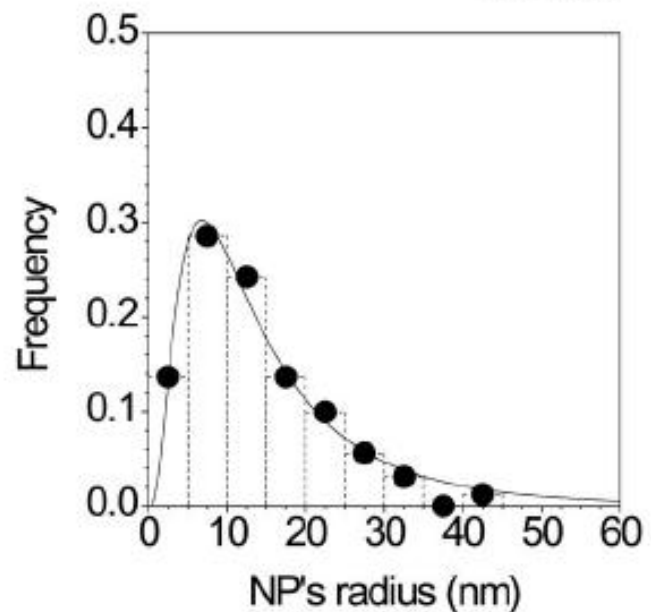


500 nm

(a)



Silver



(b)

## List of materials

Al, Ag, Au, Cu, Pd, ...

Ni, Co, Fe, Mn, ...

—

Si, Ge, ...

—

NiFe, CoCu, SmCo, AlN, ...

—

CdS, ZnS, TiO<sub>2</sub>, ZnO, VO<sub>2</sub>, ...

—

LSMO, TbDyFe, ...

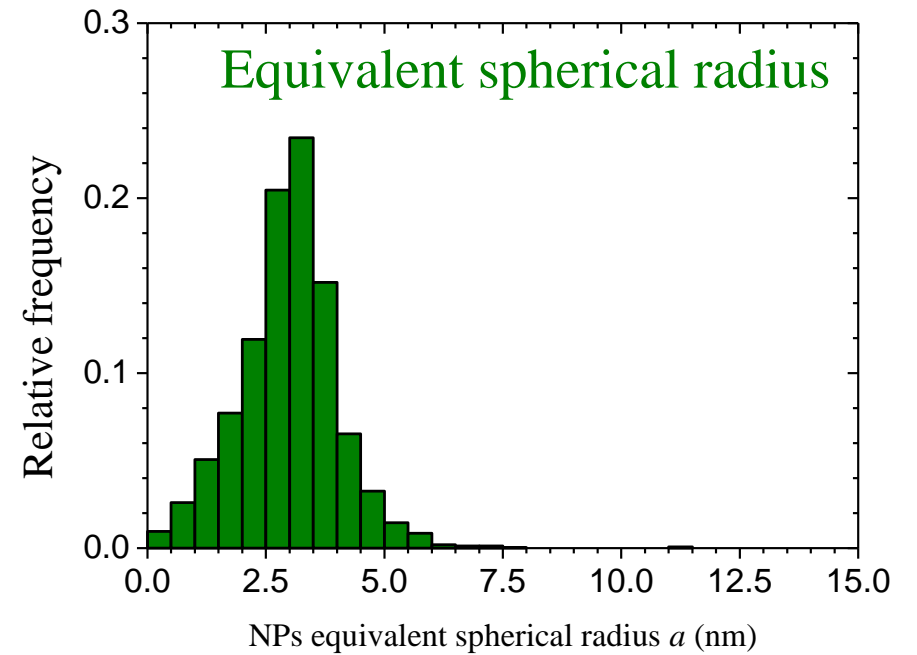
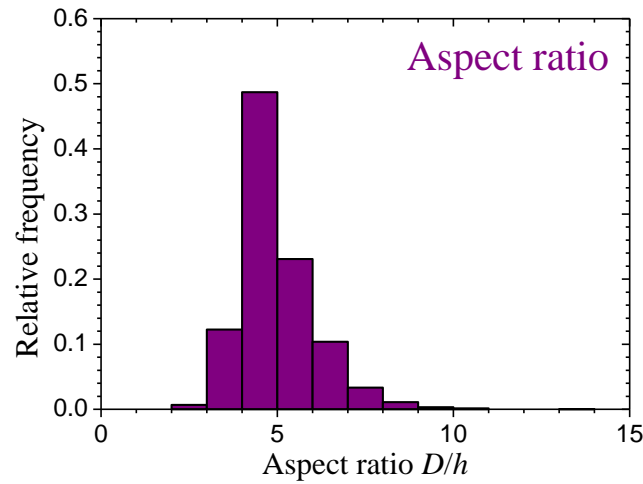
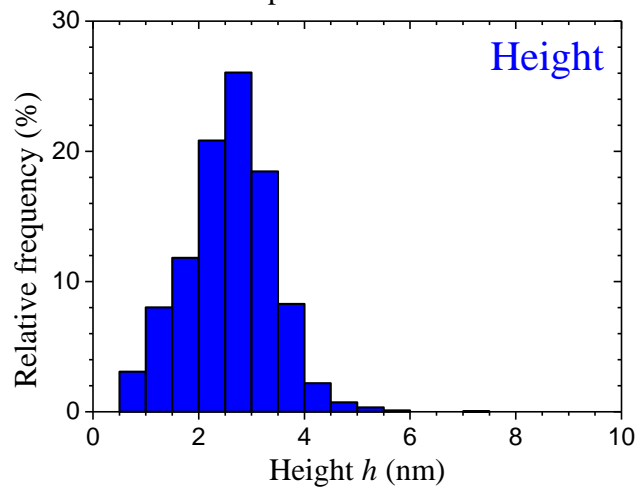
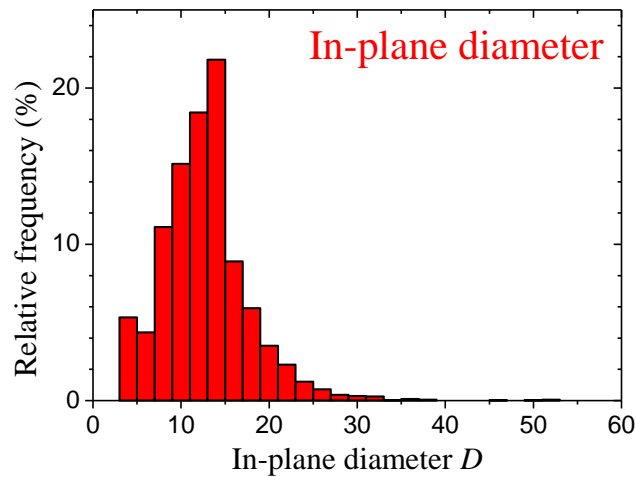
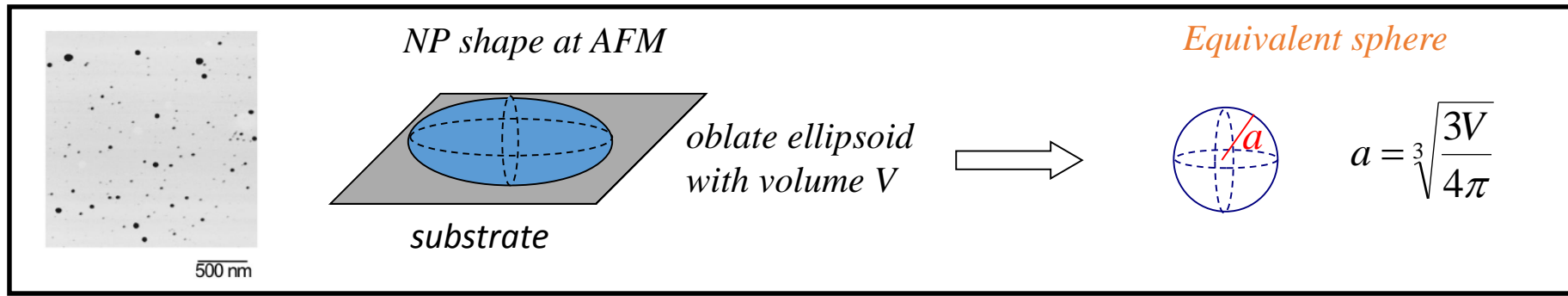
—

!/? *What is next ?!*

(a) AFM image of a dispersed Ag NPs; (b) Size distribution of Ag NPs in-plane radius.



# NPs shape and size properties

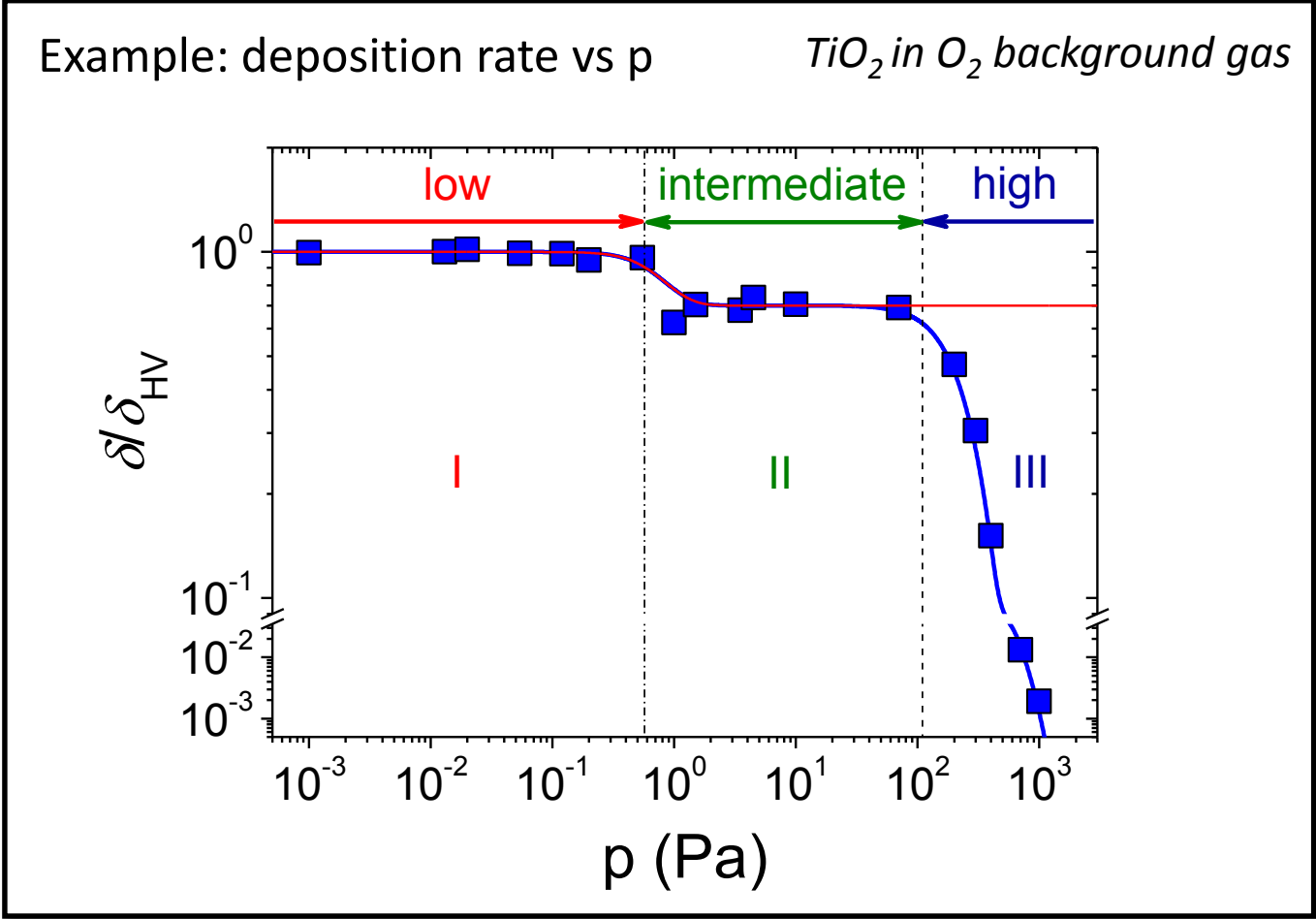




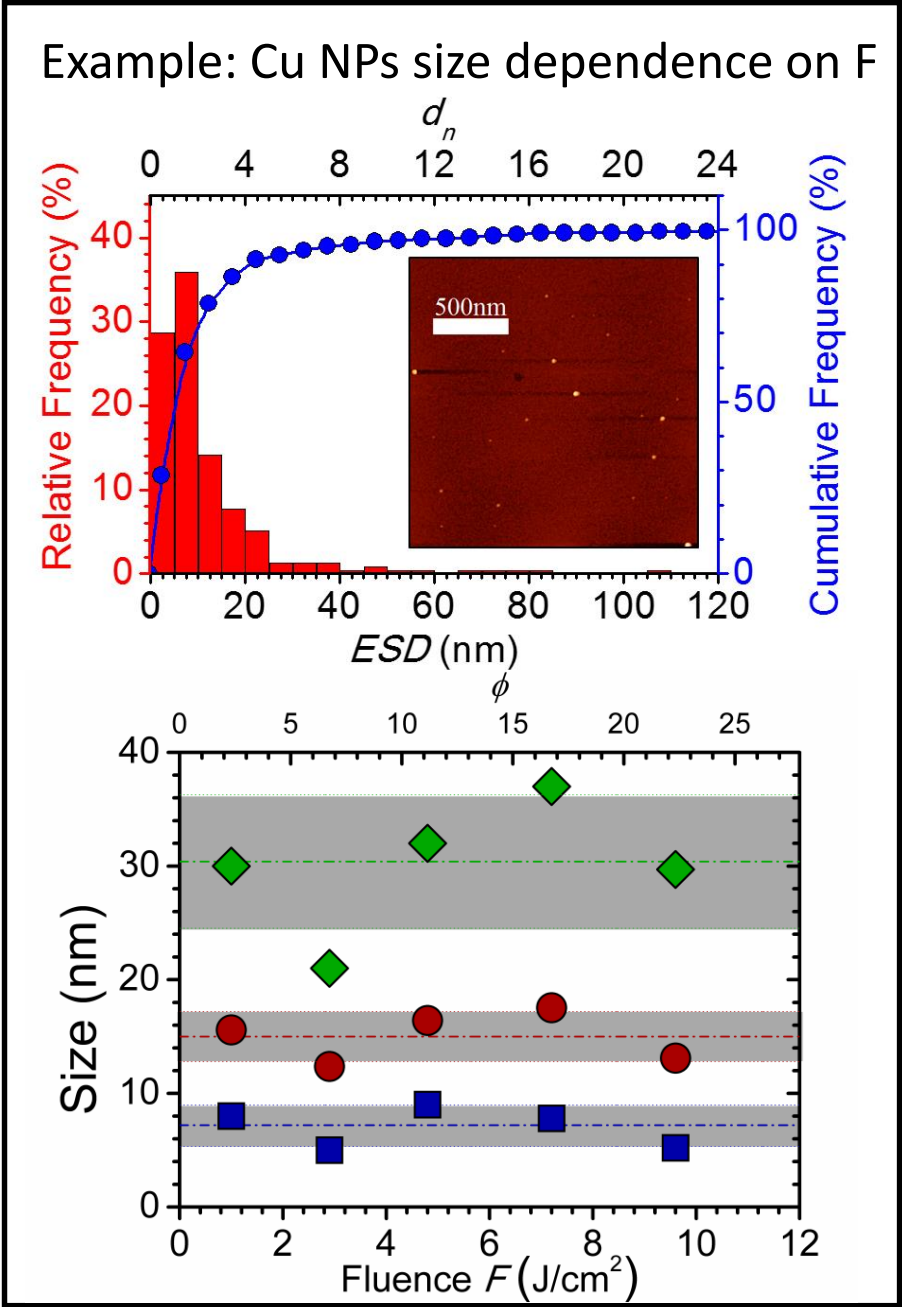


✓ NPs size and size distribution depend slightly on laser fluence

✓ NPs constitute the main part of the ablated material (70-90 %)



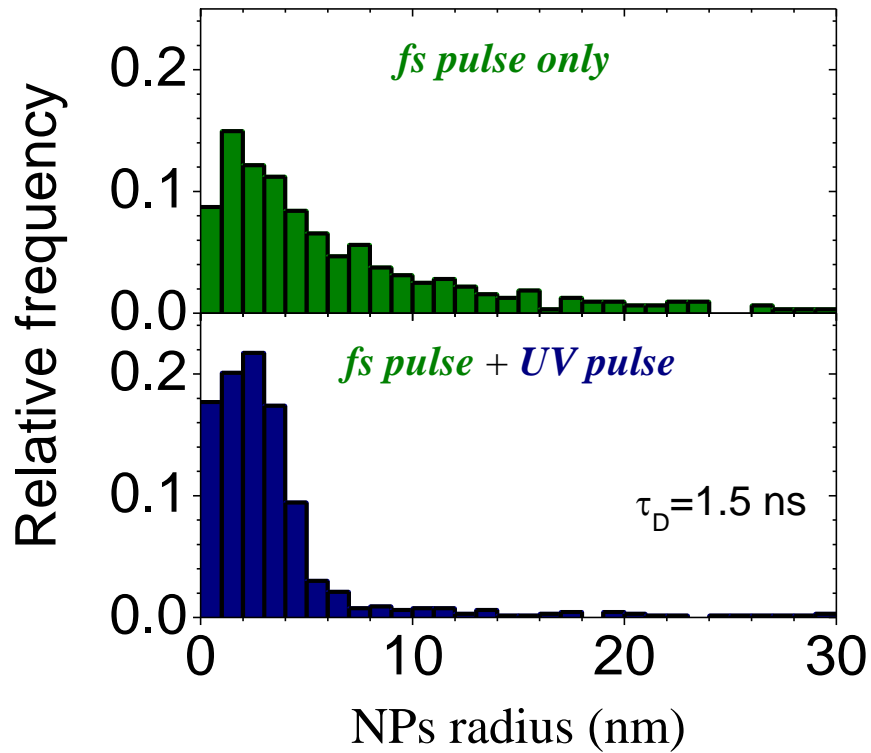
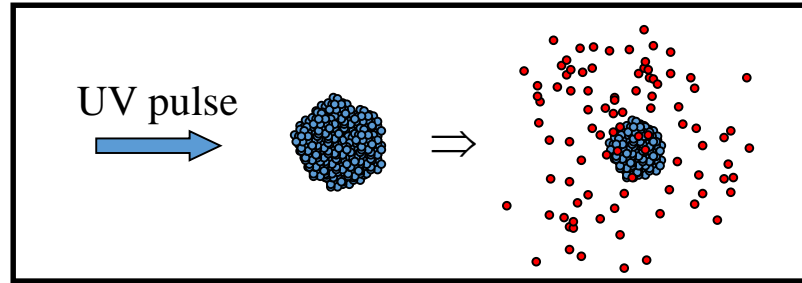
Tsakiris et al., J. Appl. Phys. 115, 243301 (2014)





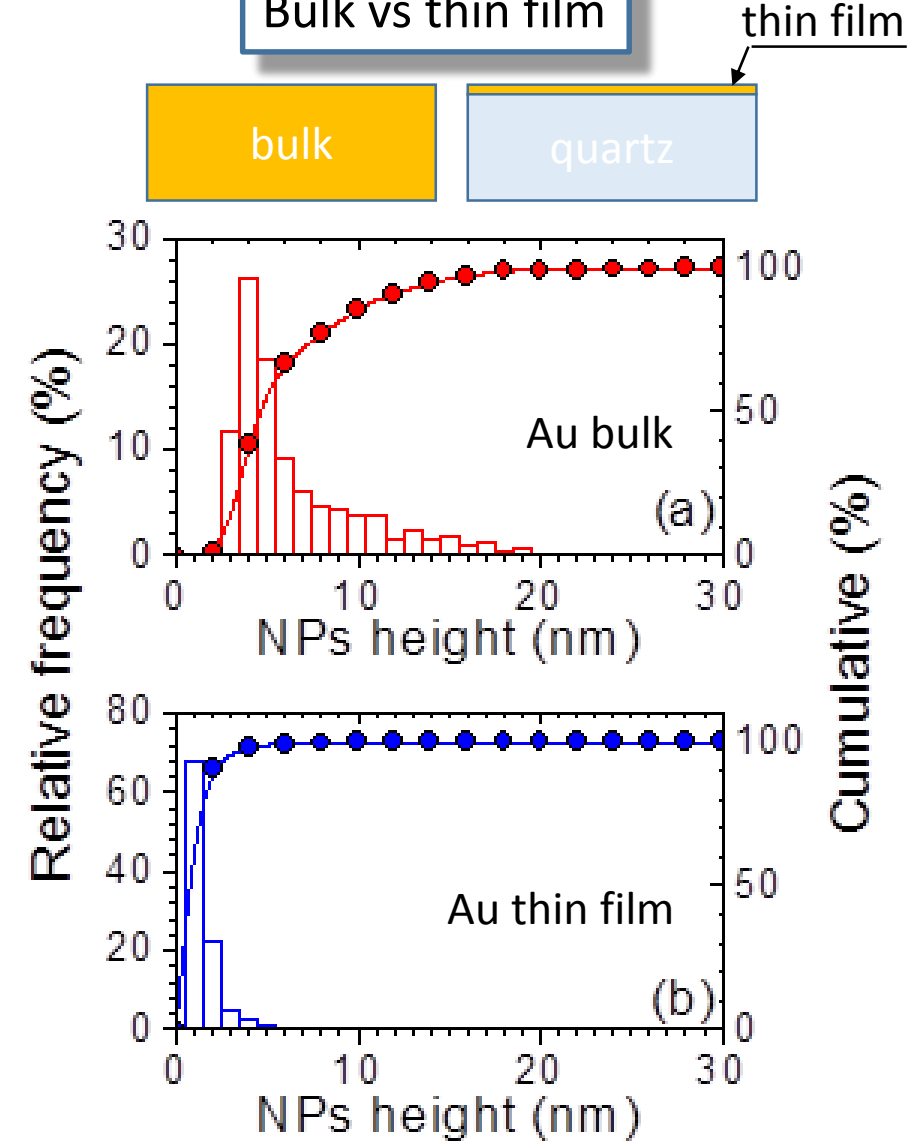
# Possible strategies to control NPs size

UV laser vaporization



Amoruso et al., J. Phys. B. 40, 1253 (2007)

Bulk vs thin film



Amoruso et al., J. Appl. Phys. 110, 124303 (2011)

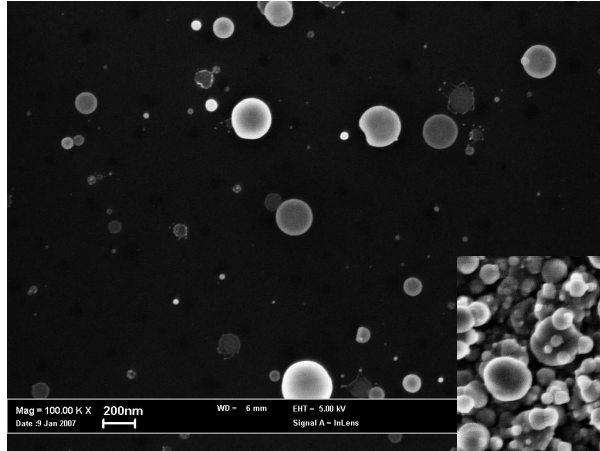


# DEPOSITION OF NPS-ASSEMBLED FILMS

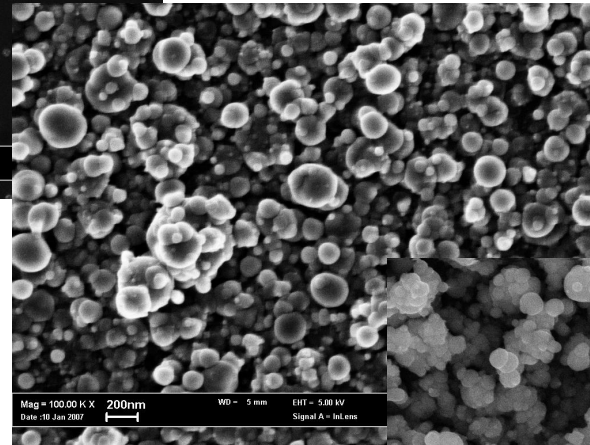


## SEM images

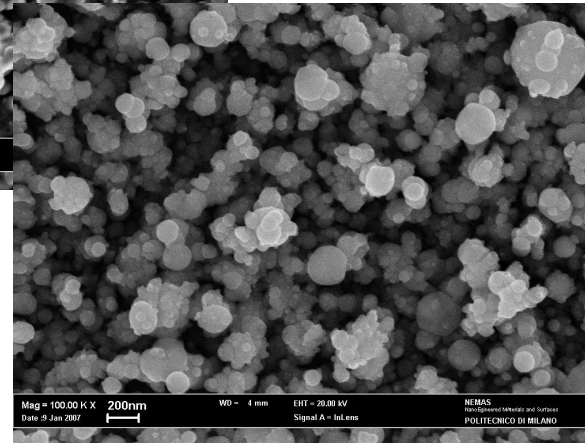
*few laser shots*



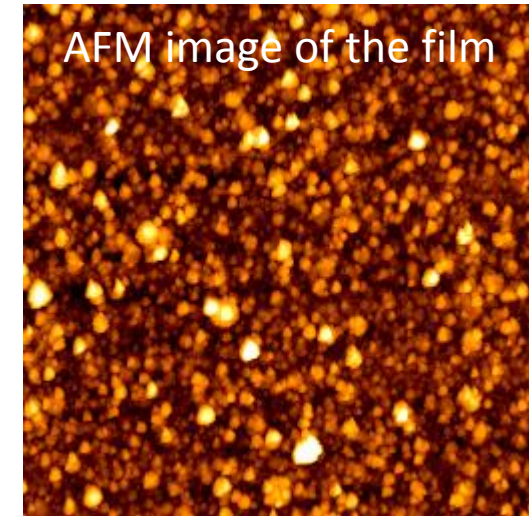
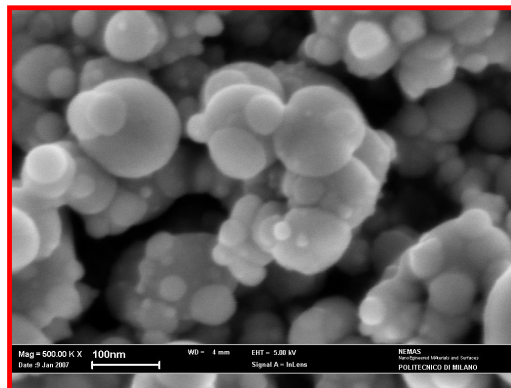
*several laser shots*



*many laser shots (~10<sup>5</sup>)*



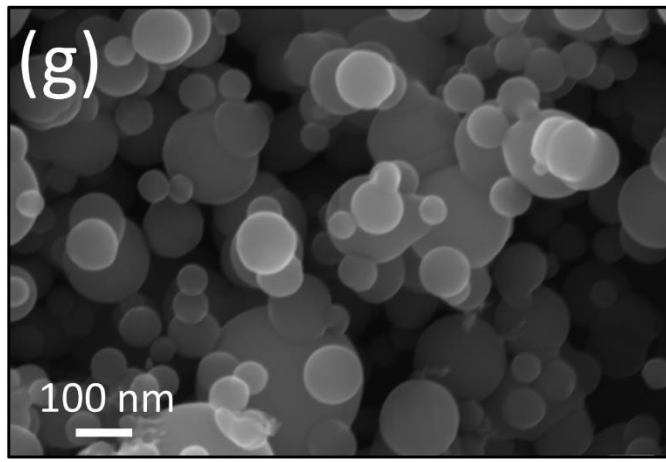
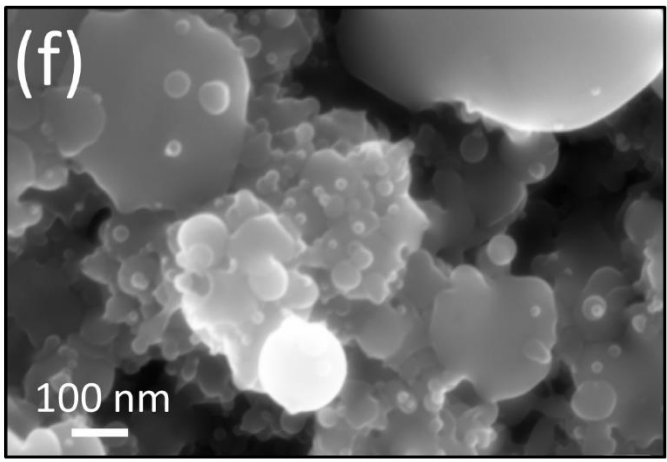
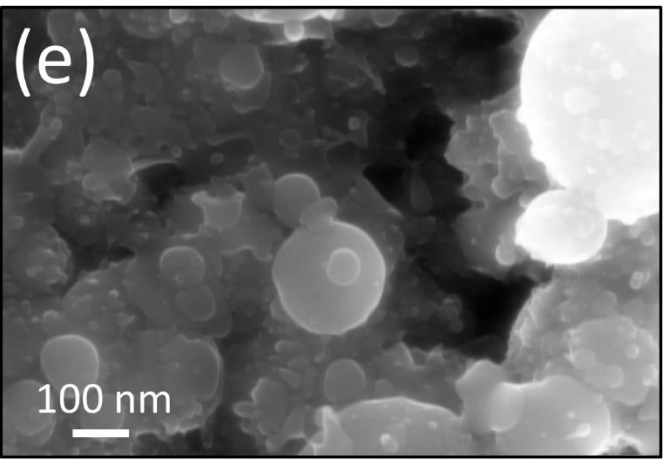
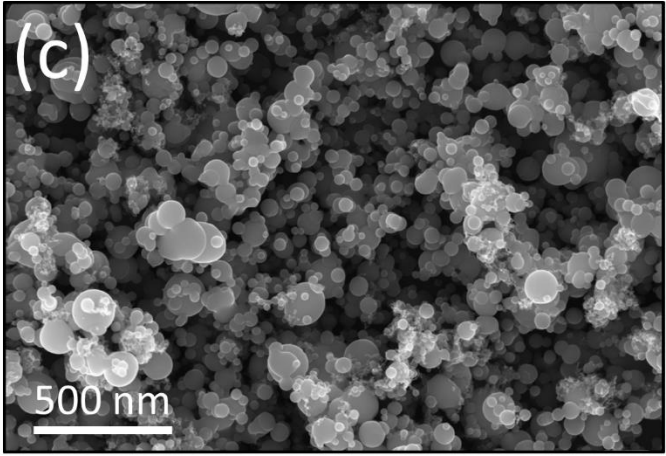
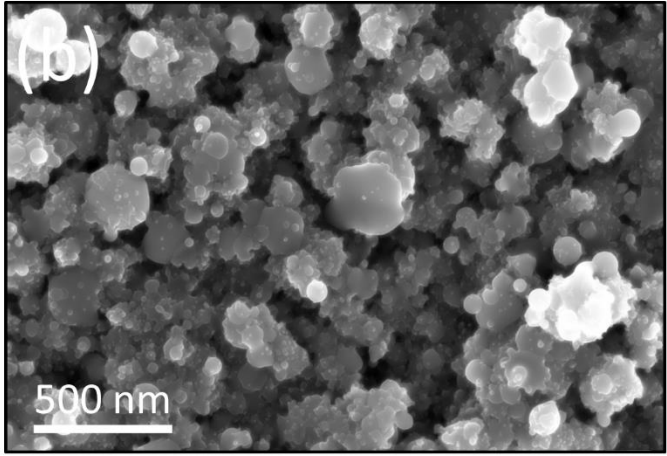
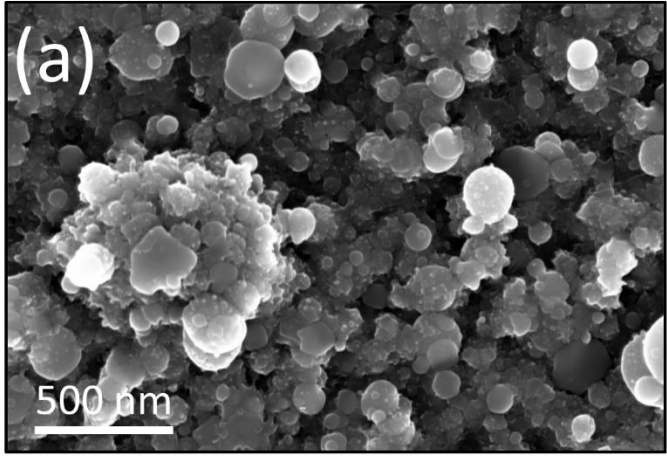
*zoomed image*





# Background pressure can allow controlling the NPs-assembled film morphology

Example:  $TiO_2$  in  $O_2$  background gas



*I - low pressure*



*II - intermediate pressure*

*III - high pressure*

Amoruso et al., Appl. Surf. Sci. **270**, 307 (2013)








We studied the generation of NPs and the deposition of NPs-assembled film of diverse material for a number of applications in collaboration with other groups

Domestic Collaborations

- G. Ausanio, V. Iannotti, L. Lanotte  
✓ *Magnetic NPs-assembled films*
- C. Altucci & R. Velotta,  
✓ *Decoration of QCM for biosensing*
- S. Lettieri & P. Maddalena  
✓ *PL and optical-based gas sensors*
- G. Rusciano, A. Sasso,  
✓ *NPs of noble metals for SERS/TERS*

International collaborations

- M. Castillejo & C.  
✓ ULA of semiconductors
- P. A. Atanasov  
N. Nedyalkov  
✓ MD simulations ✓ Thin films
- J. G. Lunney  
✓ Plasma and ions  
✓ DP ULA  
Trinity College Dublin
- M. Hu & X. Ni  
✓ ULA of metal-oxides
- S. Canulescu & N. Pryds  
✓ ULA of metal-oxides
- L. J. Lewis  
✓ Ablation modeling  
✓ Comparison with experiments  
Université de Montréal



# EXAMPLE #1 - NPs-assembled films of magnetic materials



APPLIED PHYSICS LETTERS

VOLUME 85, NUMBER 18

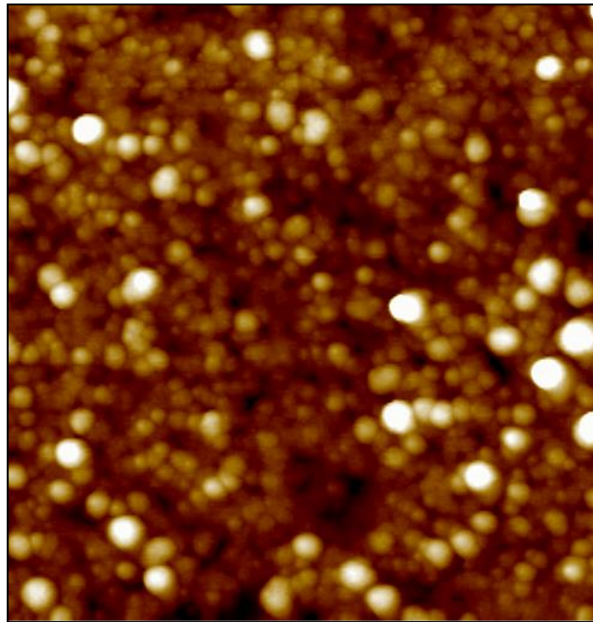
1 NOVEMBER 2004

## Magnetic and morphological characteristics of nickel nanoparticles films produced by femtosecond laser ablation

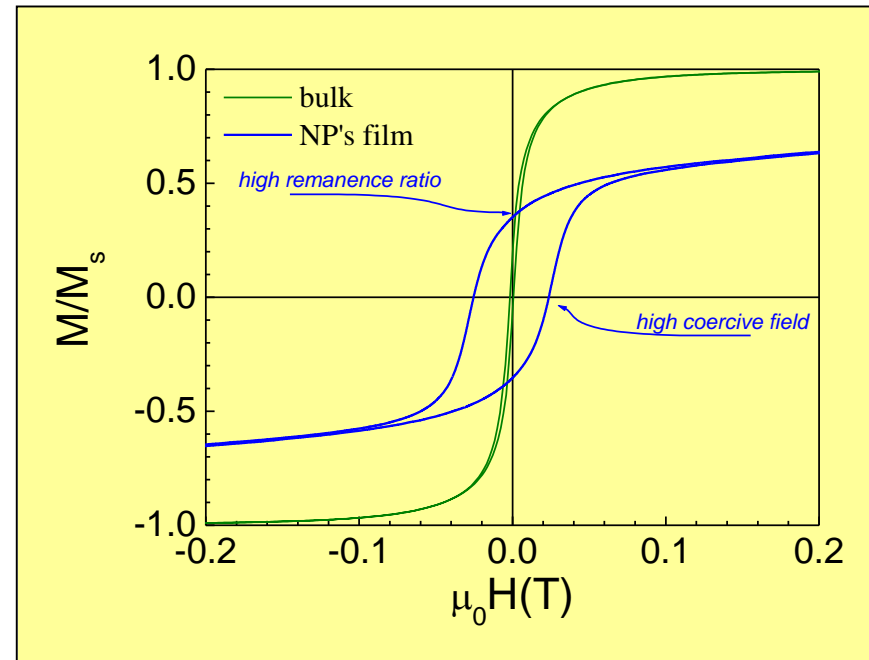
G. Ausanio, A. C. Barone, V. Iannotti, and L. Lanotte<sup>a)</sup>  
*Coherentia—INFN and Dipartimento di Scienze Fisiche, Università degli Studi di Napoli, Piazzale Tecchio 80, I-80125 Napoli, Italy*

S. Amoruso, R. Bruzzese, and M. Vitiello  
*Coherentia—INFN and Dipartimento di Scienze Fisiche, Università degli Studi di Napoli, Complesso Universitario di Monte S. Angelo, Via Cintia, I-80126 Napoli, Italy*

*NPs as building blocks of magnetic system with a peculiar response*



*AFM image of a nickel NPs-assembled film.*



*Hysteresis loop of a Nickel NPs-assembled film*



# EXAMPLE #2 - II-VI direct semiconductors (CdS, ZnS)

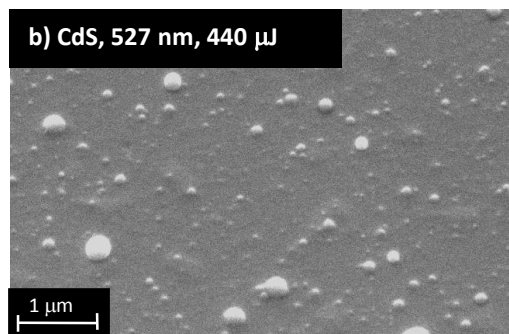


## Ultrafast Laser Ablation and Deposition of Wide Band Gap Semiconductors

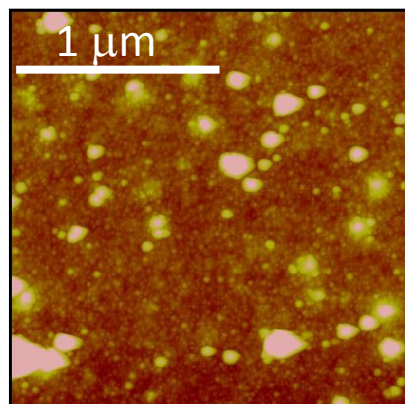
Mikel Sanz,<sup>†</sup> Marien López-Arias,<sup>†,‡</sup> José F. Marco,<sup>†</sup> Rebeca de Nalda,<sup>†</sup> Salvatore Amoruso,<sup>§,||</sup> Giovanni Ausanio,<sup>§,||</sup> Stefano Lettieri,<sup>||</sup> Riccardo Bruzzese,<sup>§,||</sup> Xuan Wang,<sup>||</sup> and Marta Castillejo<sup>\*,†</sup>

*Nanostructures of II-VI semiconductor materials*

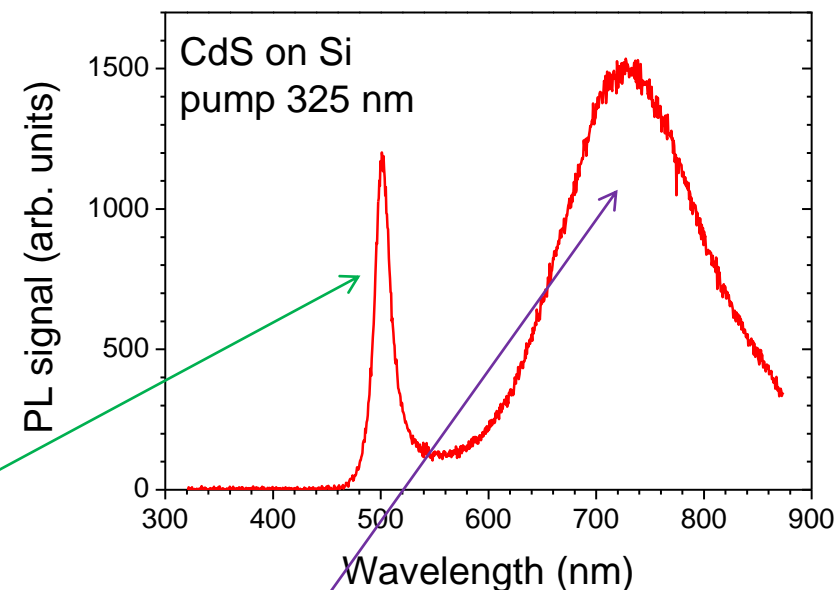
SEM



AFM



Photoluminescence



Decay of photogenerated charge carriers by radiative recombination at the band edge.

Decay from trap states localized at the surface crystalline defect sites and having energy levels within the forbidden band gap.



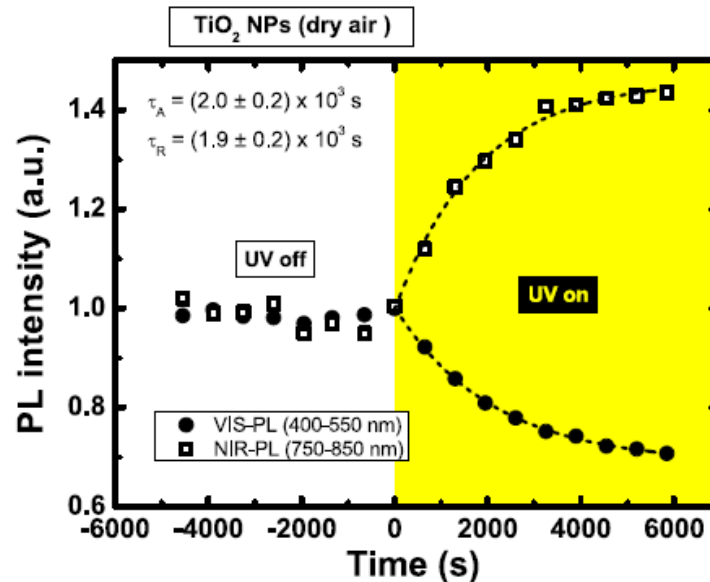
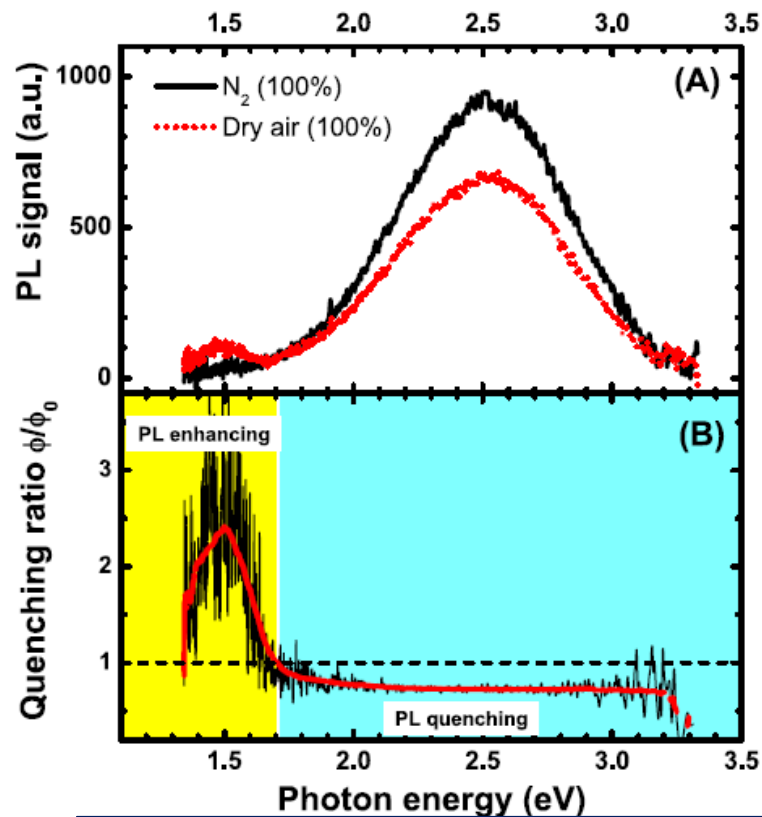
# EXAMPLE #3 – Metal-oxide semiconductors ( $TiO_2$ )

APPLIED PHYSICS LETTERS 105, 031903 (2014)



## Modulation of mixed-phase titania photoluminescence by oxygen adsorption

D. Pallotti,<sup>1,2</sup> E. Orabona,<sup>1,2</sup> S. Amoruso,<sup>1,2</sup> P. Maddalena,<sup>1,2</sup> and S. Lettieri<sup>2,a)</sup>



*NPs-assembled metal-oxide semiconductors for PL-based gas sensors*

The opposite response to a unique analyte ( $O_2$ ) offers a valuable example of possible advantages of an optical approach to chemical sensing and appears to be a promising first step towards PL-based sensing with titania.

VIS and NIR PL bands of  $TiO_2$  NPs-assembled films show an opposite response to oxygen adsorption





# EXAMPLE #4 – Metal-oxide semiconductors ( $TiO_2$ ) on Ti foil

INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF HYDROGEN ENERGY 40 (2015) 779–785

## Hydrogen-evolving photoanode of $TiO_2$ nanoparticles film deposited by a femtosecond laser

Lixia Sang <sup>a,\*</sup>, Hongjie Zhang <sup>a</sup>, Xiaochang Ni <sup>b,c,\*\*</sup>, K.K. Anoop <sup>c</sup>, Rosalba Fittipaldi <sup>d</sup>, Xuan Wang <sup>b,c</sup>, Salvatore Amoruso <sup>c</sup>



*TiO<sub>2</sub> NPs film for hydrogen production from H<sub>2</sub>O splitting*

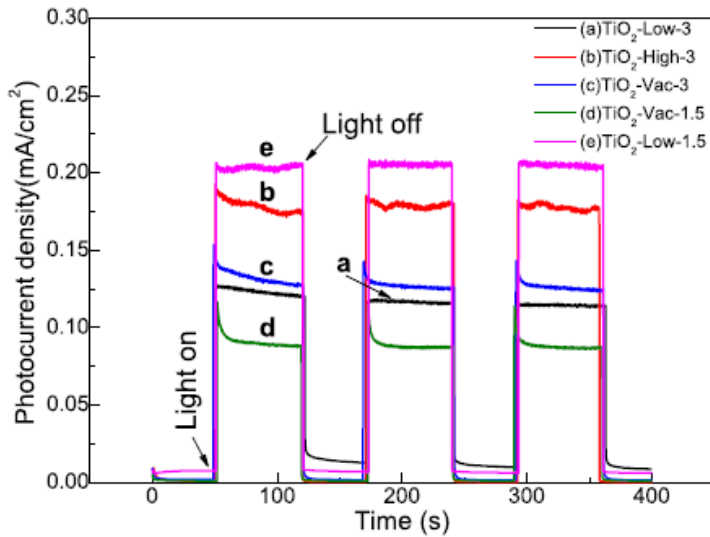


Fig. 4 – Potocurrent density–time curves (I-t) obtained from fs-PLD deposited  $TiO_2$  NPs films in 1 M KOH at 0 V Ag/AgCl under interrupted illumination with a solar simulator (with AM 1.5 filter, 100 mW/cm<sup>2</sup>) (a:  $TiO_2$ -Low-3; b:  $TiO_2$ -High-3; c:  $TiO_2$ -Vac-3; d:  $TiO_2$ -Vac-1.5; e:  $TiO_2$ -Low-1.5).

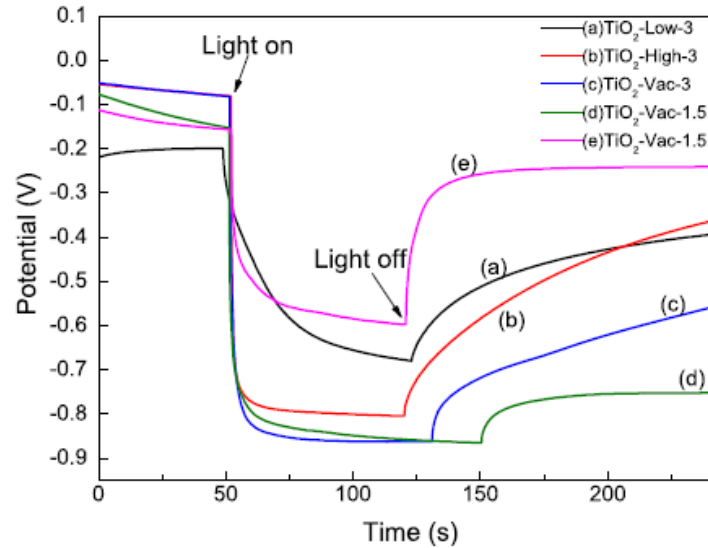


Fig. 5 – Open potential transient curves obtained from fs-PLD deposited  $TiO_2$  NPs films in 1 M KOH at 0 V Ag/AgCl under interrupted illumination with a solar simulator (with AM 1.5 filter, 100 mW/cm<sup>2</sup>) (a:  $TiO_2$ -Low-3; b:  $TiO_2$ -High-3; c:  $TiO_2$ -Vac-3; d:  $TiO_2$ -Vac-1.5; e:  $TiO_2$ -Low-1.5).

Table 1 – The deposition conditions of $TiO_2$ NPs films produced by fs-PLD.			
Samples	Chamber pressure (mbar)	Deposition time (h)	Area (cm <sup>2</sup> )
$TiO_2$ -Low-3	0.1	3	0.08
$TiO_2$ -High-3	1	3	0.18
$TiO_2$ -Vac-3	10 <sup>-6</sup>	3	0.12
$TiO_2$ -Vac-1.5	10 <sup>-6</sup>	1.5	0.23
$TiO_2$ -Low-1.5	0.1	1.5	0.23

The NPs-assembled films show comparatively higher photocurrent density even if their thicknesses is less than 400 nm.

**Biosensing based on a nanostructured quartz-crystal microbalance (QCM) device**

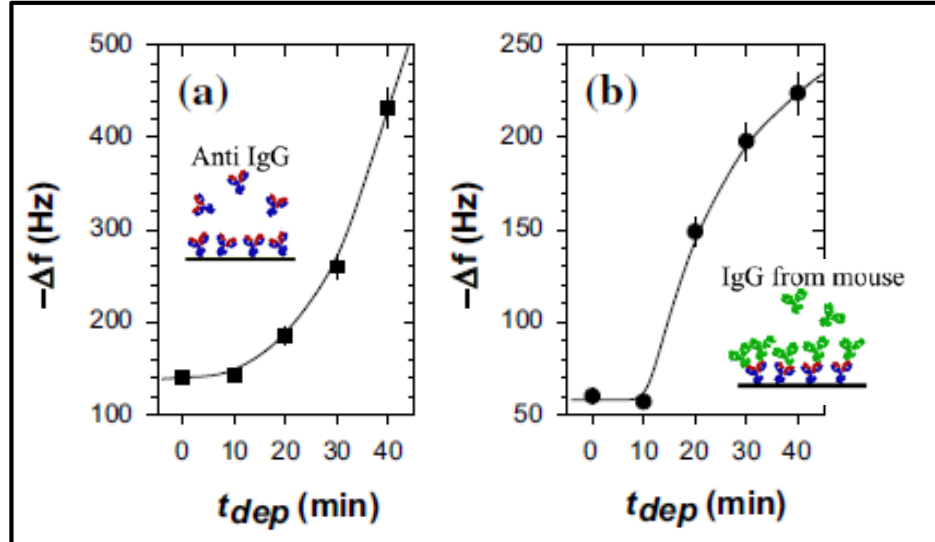
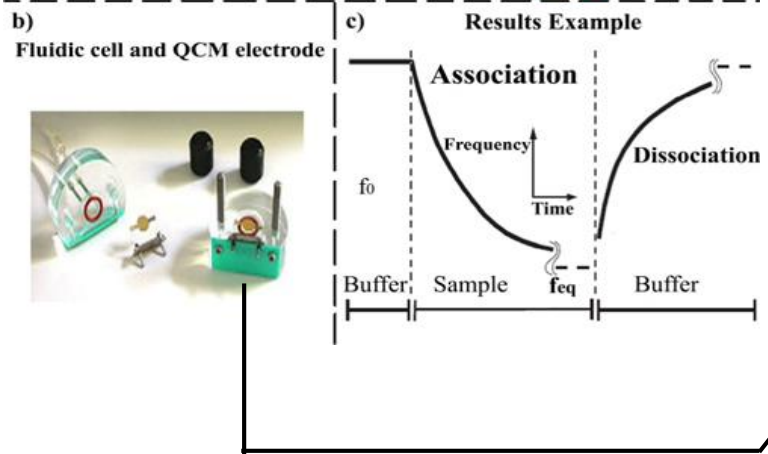
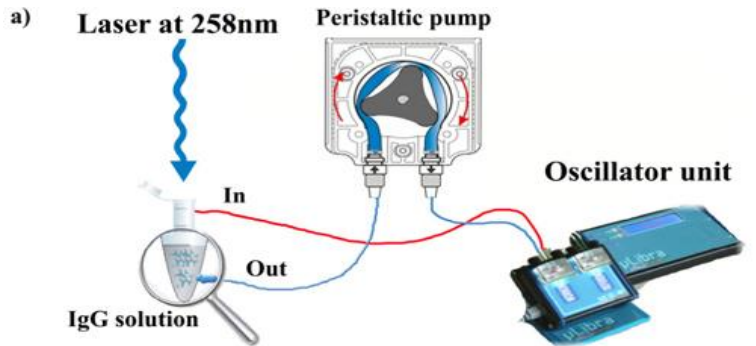
Appl. Phys. B (2015) 119:497–501  
DOI 10.1007/s00340-015-6091-3

**Applied Physics B**  
Lasers and Optics

## Nano-machining of biosensor electrodes through gold nanoparticles deposition produced by femtosecond laser ablation

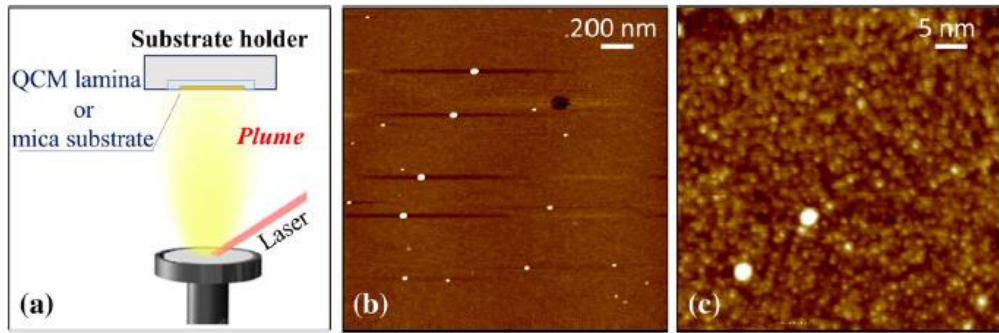
B. Della Ventura<sup>1</sup> · R. Funari<sup>1</sup> · K. K. Anoop<sup>1,2</sup> · S. Amoroso<sup>1,2</sup> · G. Ausanio<sup>1,2</sup> · E. Gesuele<sup>1</sup> · R. Velotta<sup>1</sup> · C. Altucci<sup>1</sup>

### QCM experimental setup



**(a)** functionalization with anti-IgG from goat  
**(b)** recognition of the IgG antigen from mouse

Proof of principle  
The NPs-assembled films on QCM surface allows increasing the sensitivity!

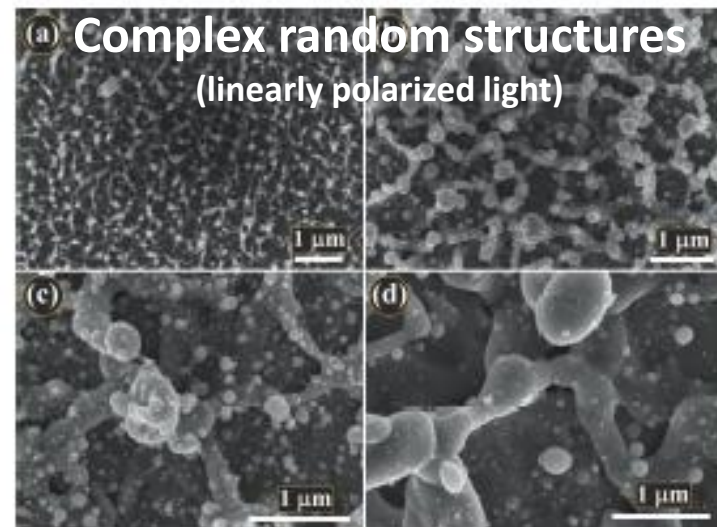
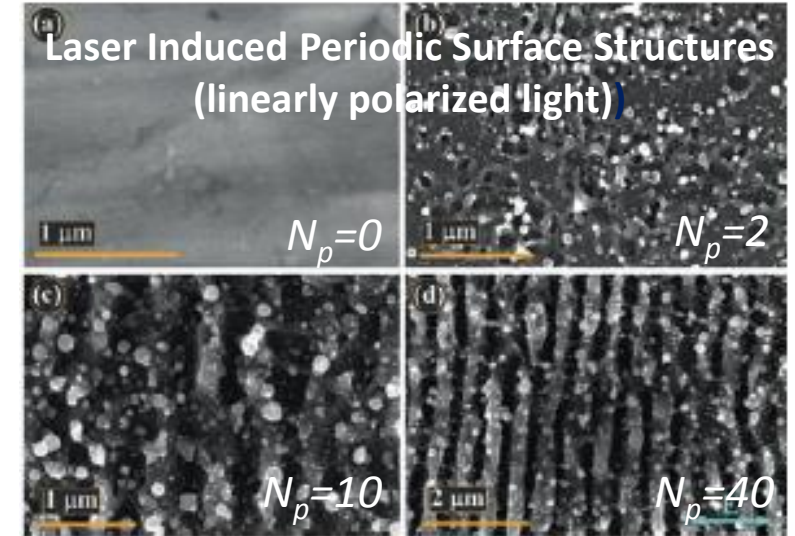
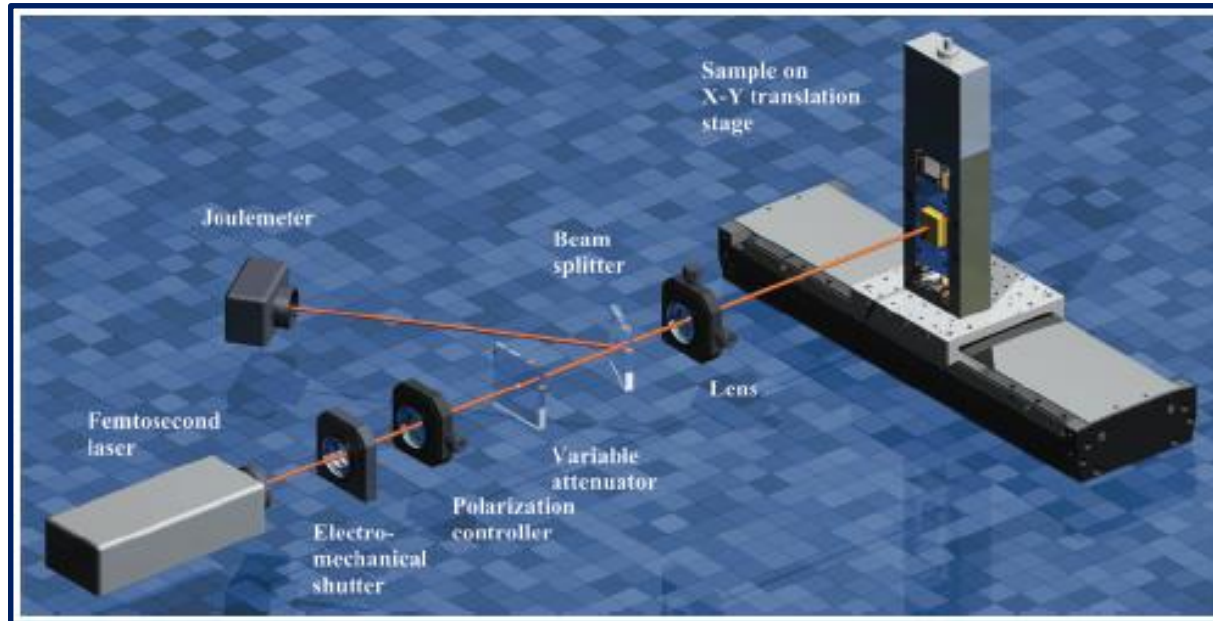


# DIRECT FS LASER SURFACE STRUCTURING

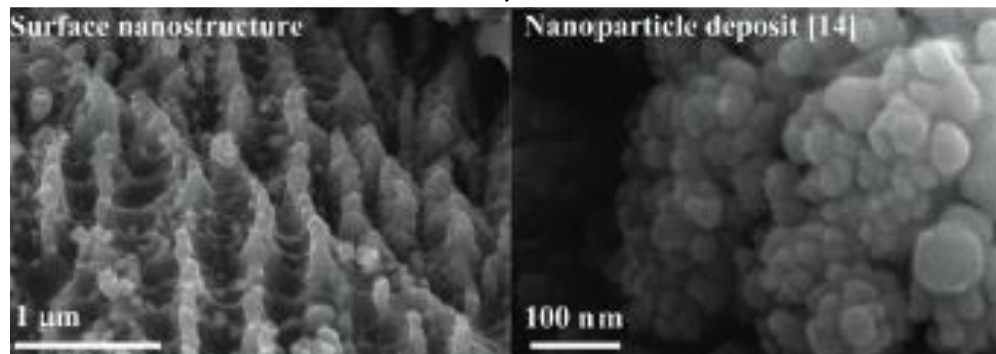
**LASER & PHOTONICS  
REVIEWS**

**Direct femtosecond laser surface nano/microstructuring and its applications** Laser Photonics Rev. 7, No. 3 , 385–407 (2013) / DOI 10.1002/lpor.201200017

Anatoliy Y. Vorobyev and Chunlei Guo\*

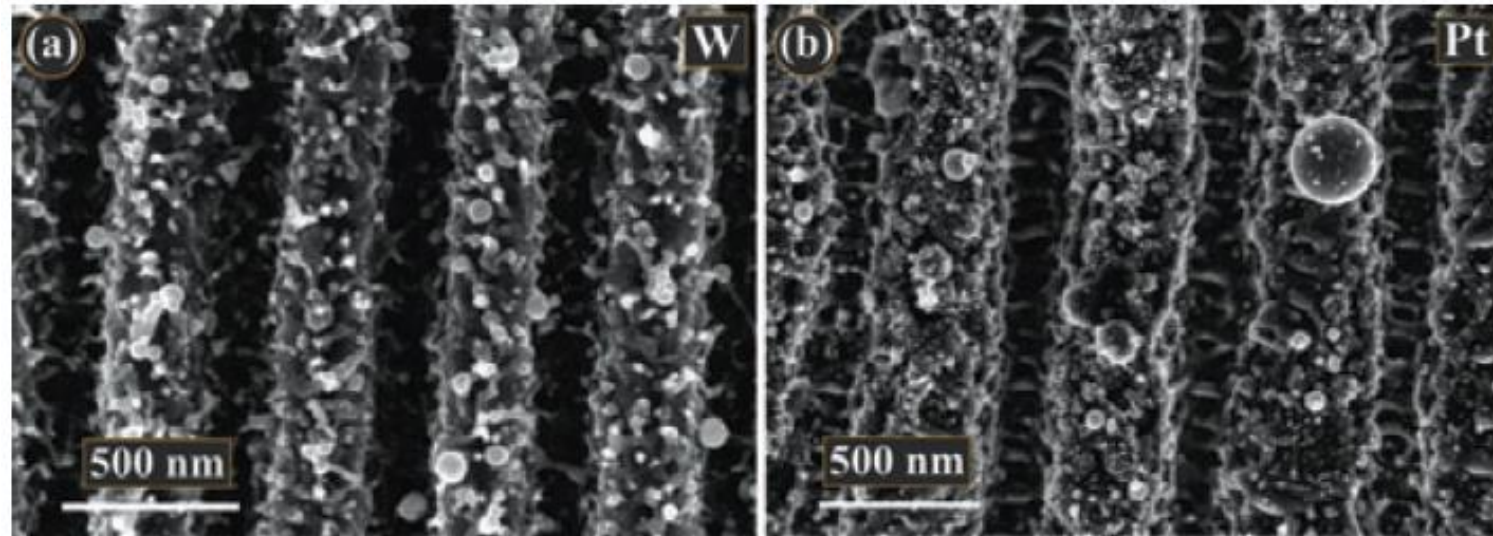


**Examples of nano/micro structures**



## General features of fs LIPSS

- **hierarchical structures** are formed (micro & nano)
- The period and structure depend on the **number of laser shots**
- Gaussian beam: LIPSS at center or periphery depending on  $F_L$



*Ridges and valleys are extensively textured with nanostructures*

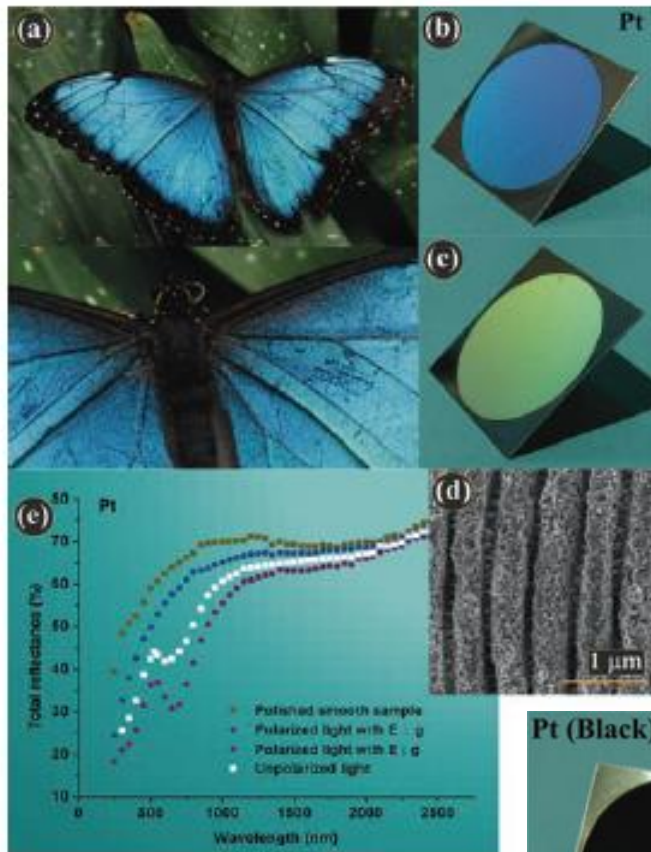
*Surface structures affect physical and chemical properties*

*Surface functionalization*

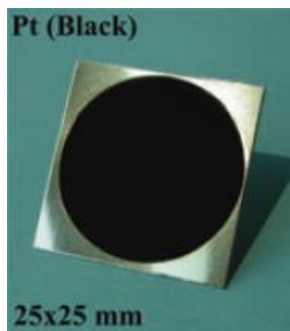
# Some optical properties of the structured surfaces...

## Colorizing or blackening of Metals

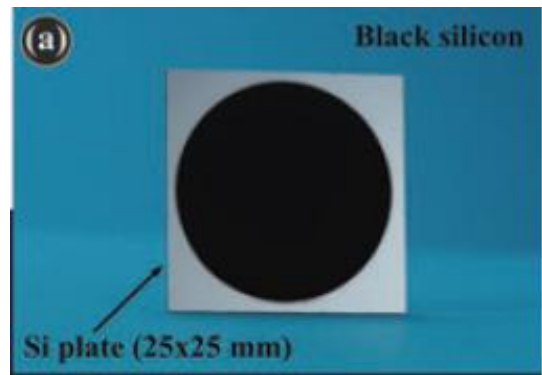
Morpho Butterfly wings like effect on Pt



(a) Morpho butterfly iridescent blue wings. (b) and (c) iridescent colors of a Pt sample with LIPSS-textured surface. (d) SEM image of LIPSS texture on Pt. (e) Reflectance spectrum of the LIPSS texture. Side panel: black Pt.



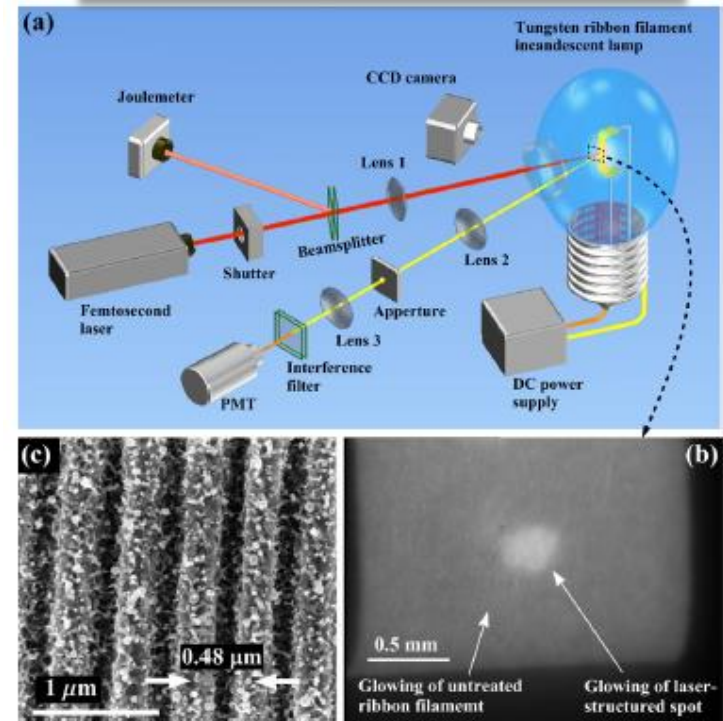
## Black Silicon



## Black Al as absorber for TEG module



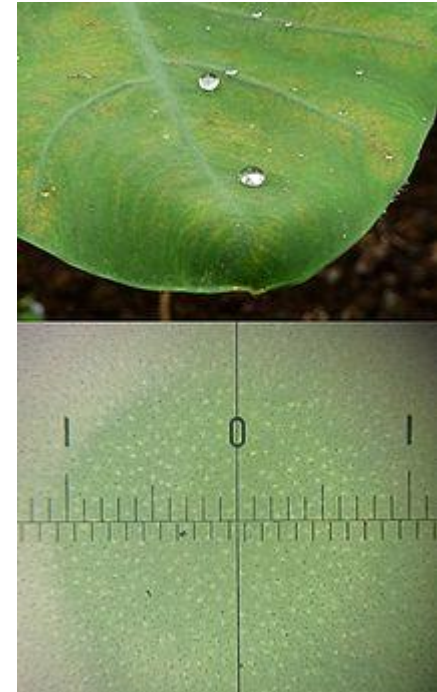
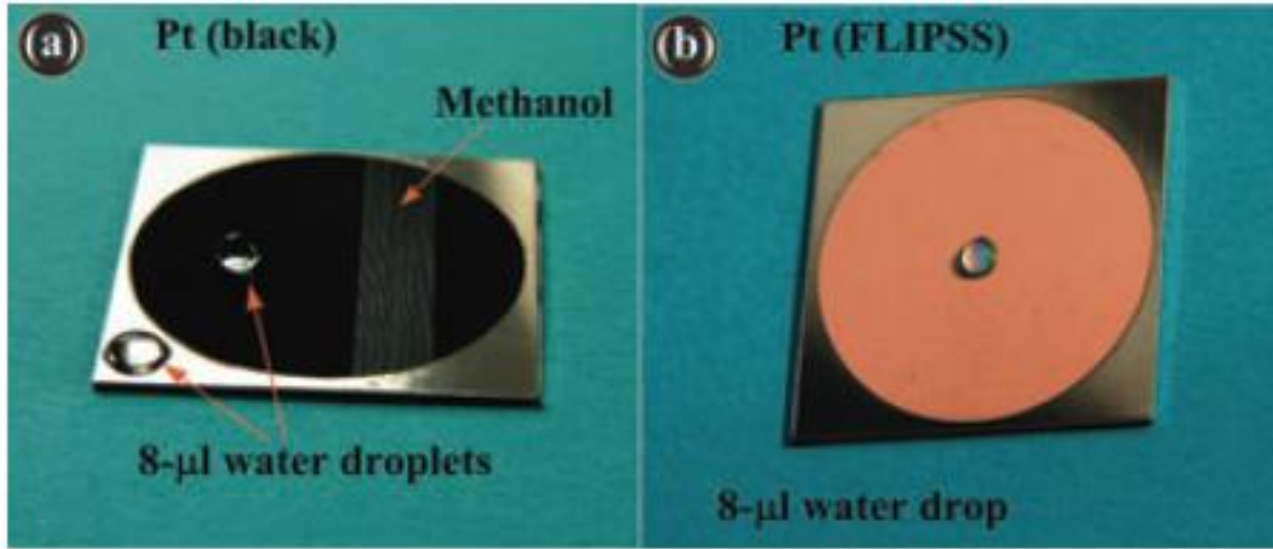
## Light bulbs with nanostructured filaments



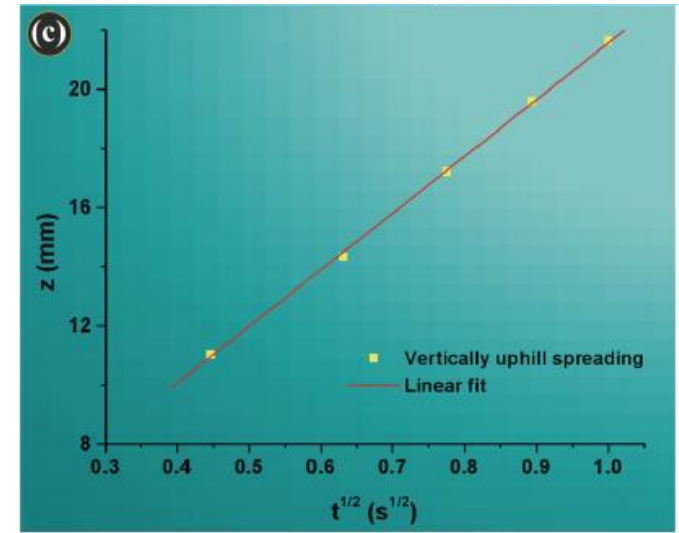
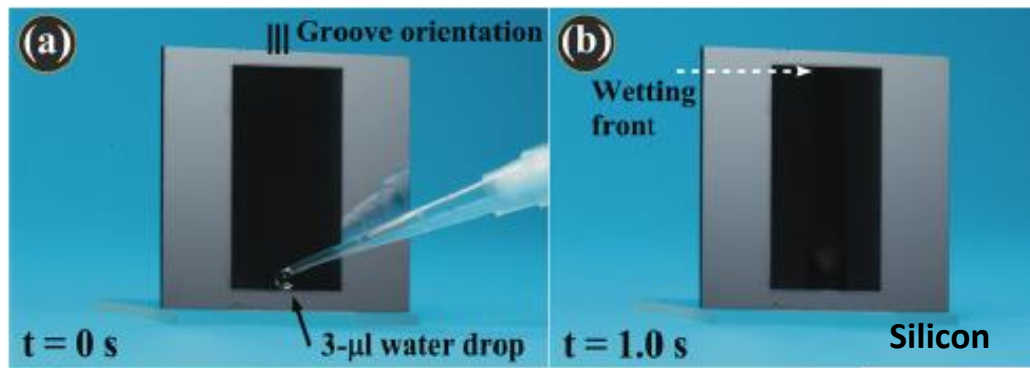
Improved efficiency on W-filament for incandescent bulb lights

# Wetting properties of the nanostructured surfaces...

**Lotus leaf effect: hydrophobic and hydrophilic surfaces**



**Pumping water (liquids) uphill with surface  $\mu/n$ -structures**

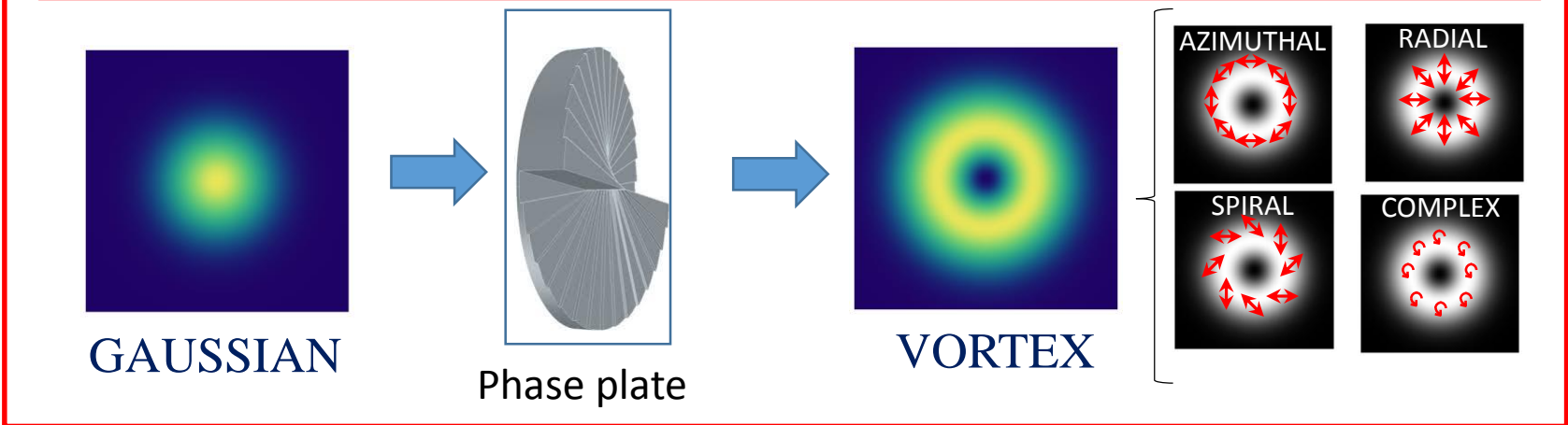




# We are pursuing the use of fs laser beams with complex State of Polarization

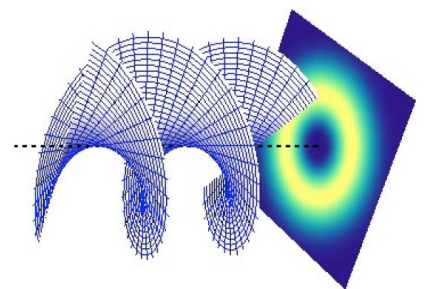
Shaped optical beams offer novel routes in material ablation and processing  
(e.g. Temporal pulse tailoring has been already explored at a rather large extent)

**Optical Vortex beams carrying Orbital Angular Momentum can open up further opportunities!**

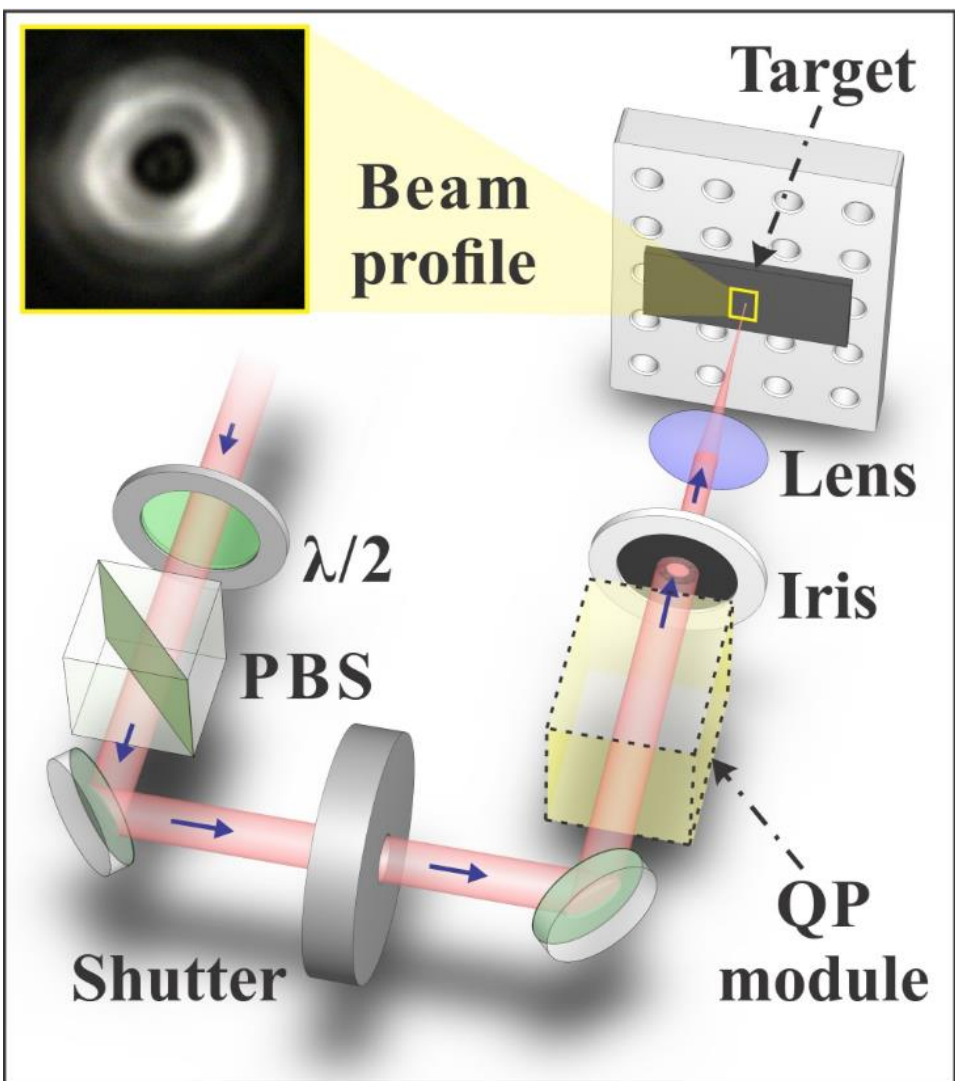


## OPTICAL FUSILLI

*"pasta spirals"*

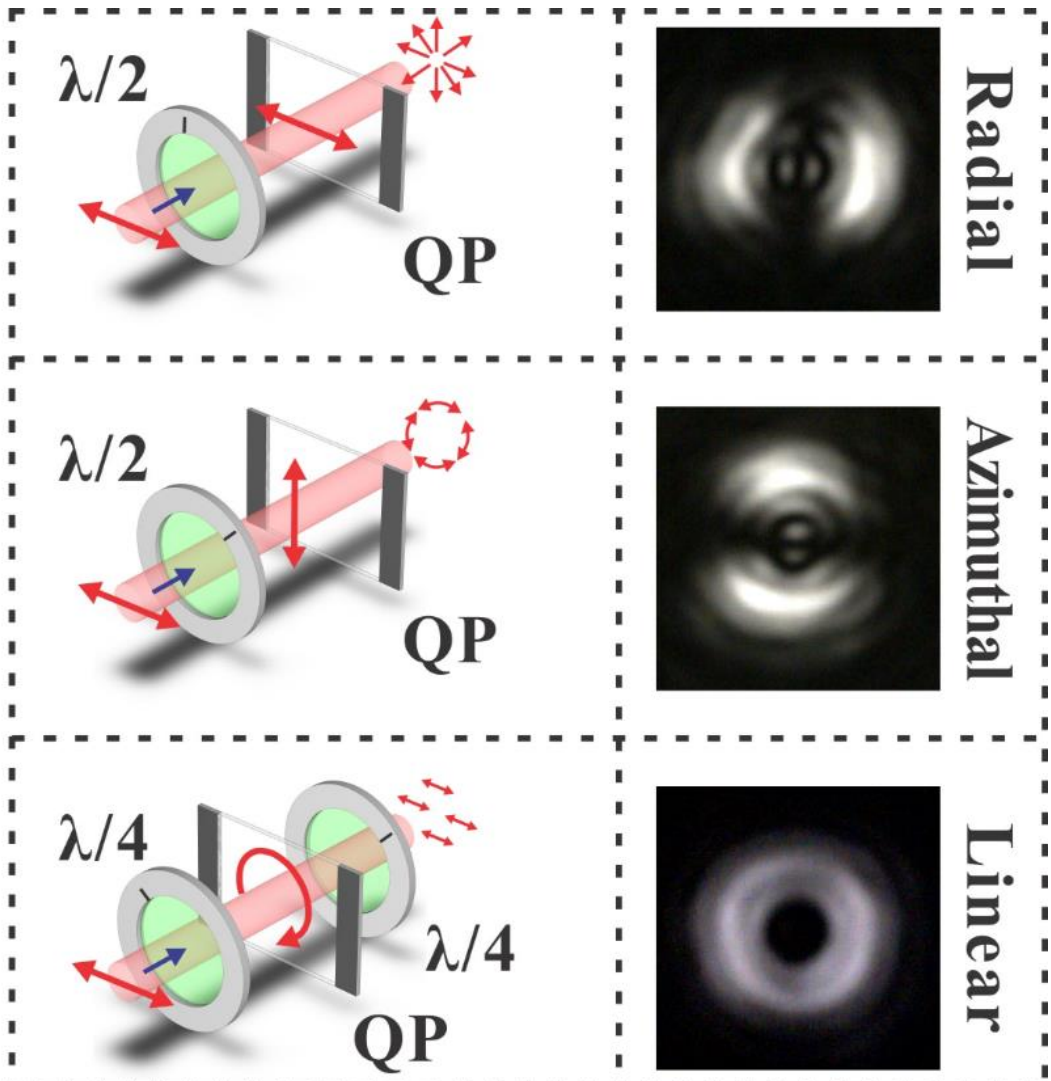


  
**In collaboration with  
 Nonlinear Optical  
 Spectroscopy Group  
 (L. Marrucci, D. Paparo)**



(a)

Sketch of the experimental setup

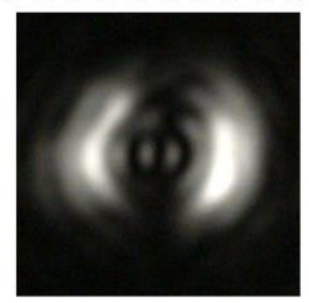


(b)

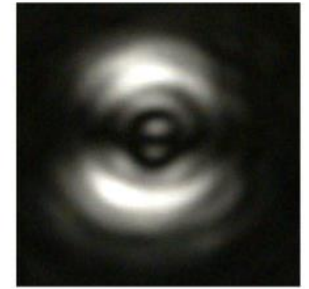
Q-plate module

(c)

Check of SoP



Radial



Azimuthal

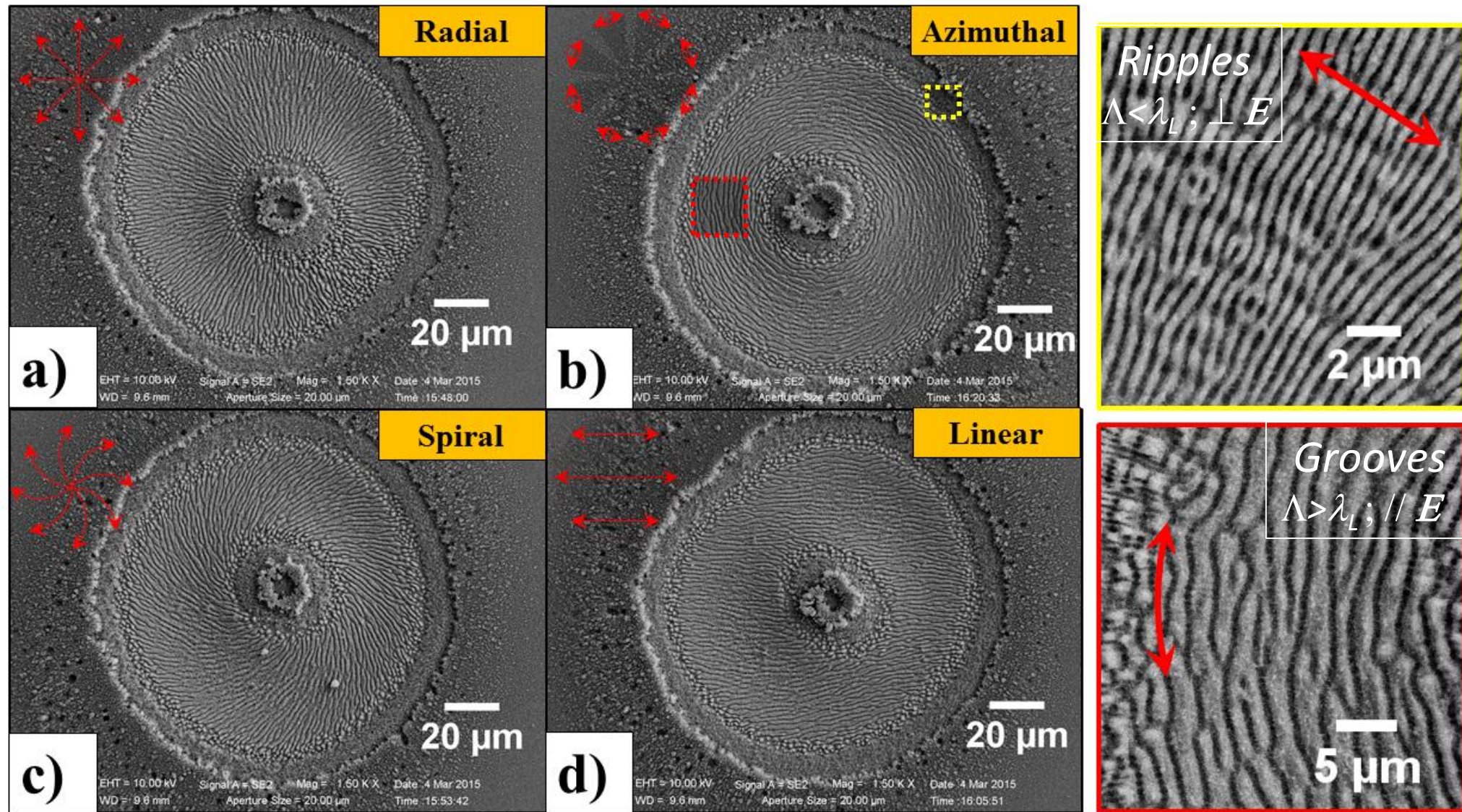


Linear





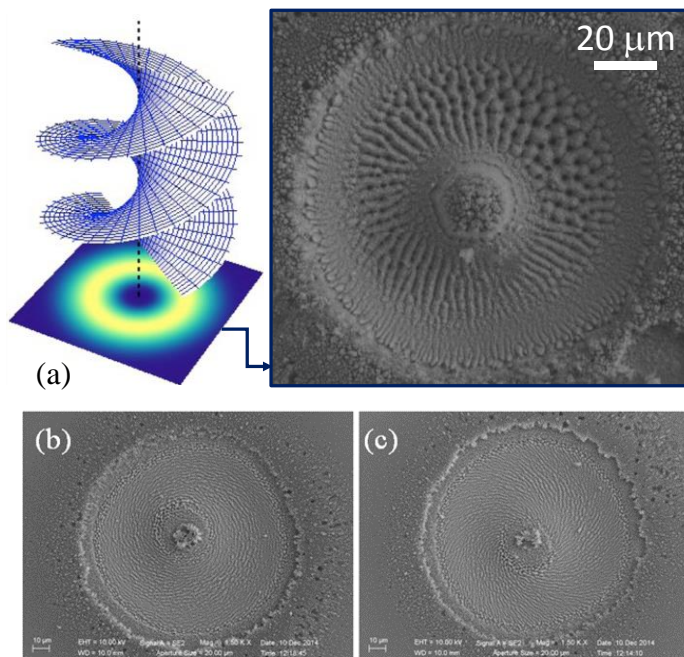
# Examples of surface ordered structures on Silicon





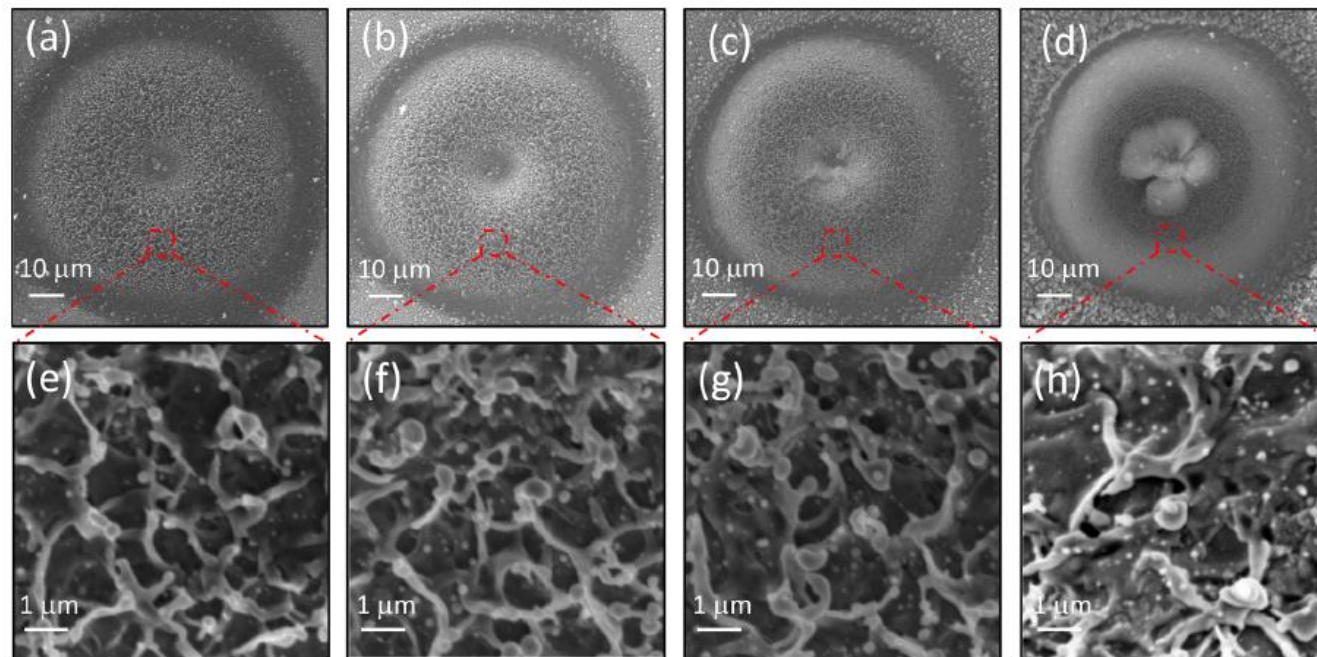
## Femtosecond laser surface structuring of silicon using optical vortex beams generated by a *q*-plate

K. K. Anoop,<sup>1,2</sup> A. Rubano,<sup>1,2</sup> R. Fittipaldi,<sup>3</sup> X. Wang,<sup>2</sup> D. Paparo,<sup>2</sup> A. Vecchione,<sup>3</sup>  
L. Marrucci,<sup>1,2</sup> R. Bruzzese,<sup>1,2</sup> and S. Amoruso<sup>1,2,a)</sup>



## Direct femtosecond laser ablation of copper with an optical vortex beam

K. K. Anoop,<sup>1,2</sup> R. Fittipaldi,<sup>3</sup> A. Rubano,<sup>1,2</sup> X. Wang,<sup>2</sup> D. Paparo,<sup>2</sup> A. Vecchione,<sup>3</sup>  
L. Marrucci,<sup>1,2</sup> R. Bruzzese,<sup>1,2</sup> and S. Amoruso<sup>1,2,a)</sup>



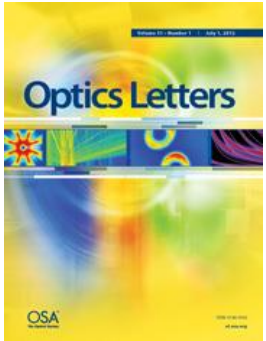
**Direct patterning/structuring  
of complex surfaces**



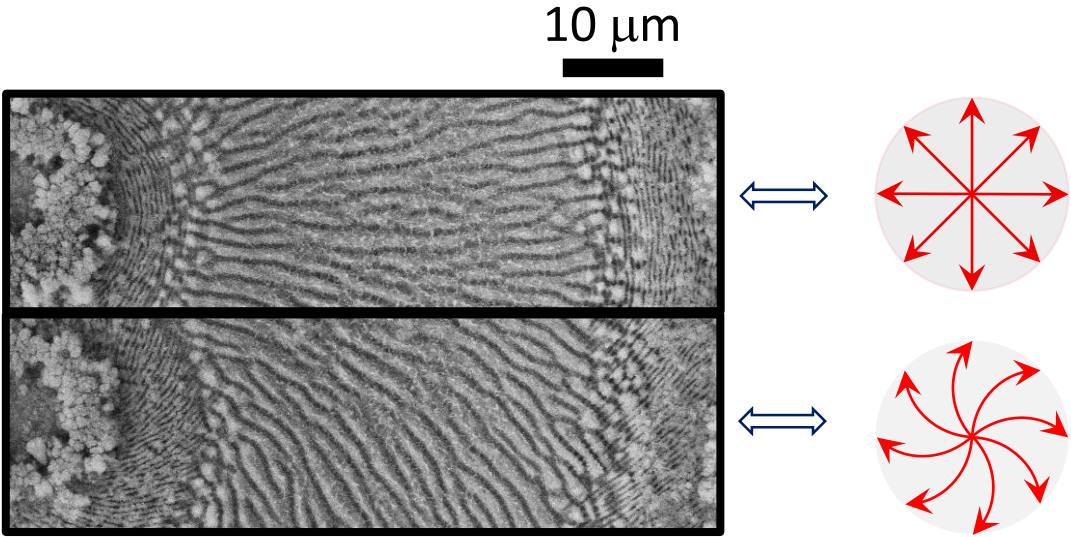
# Diagnostics of cylindrical vector beams

## Laser ablation of silicon induced by a femtosecond optical vortex beam

OL - in press



JIJIL JJ NIVAS,<sup>1,2</sup> HE SHUTONG,<sup>1,3</sup> ANOOP K.K.,<sup>1,2</sup> A. RUBANO,<sup>1,2</sup> R. FITTIPALDI,<sup>4</sup> A. VECCHIONE,<sup>4</sup> D. PAPARO,<sup>2</sup> L. MARRUCCI,<sup>1,2</sup> R. BRUZZESE,<sup>1,2</sup> AND S. AMORUSO<sup>1,2,\*</sup>



**We seek for applications**

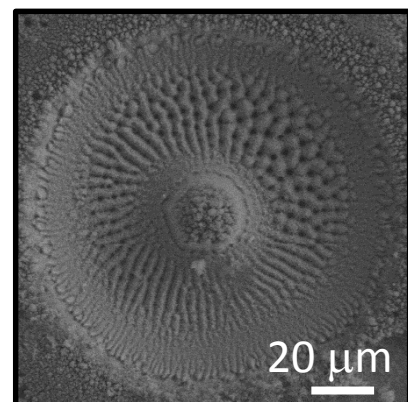
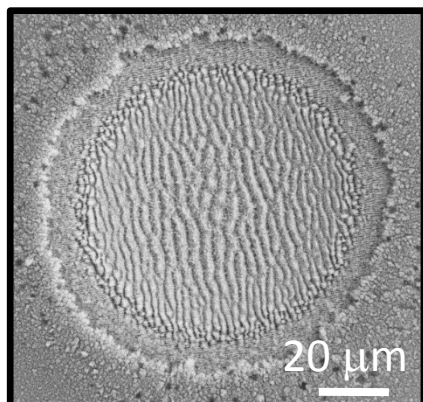
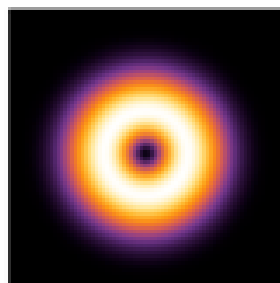
- ✓ .....
- ✓ .....
- ✓ .....
- ✓ .....
- ✓ .....
- ✓ .....



## ① Imprinting surface micro/nano-structures with diverse morphologies

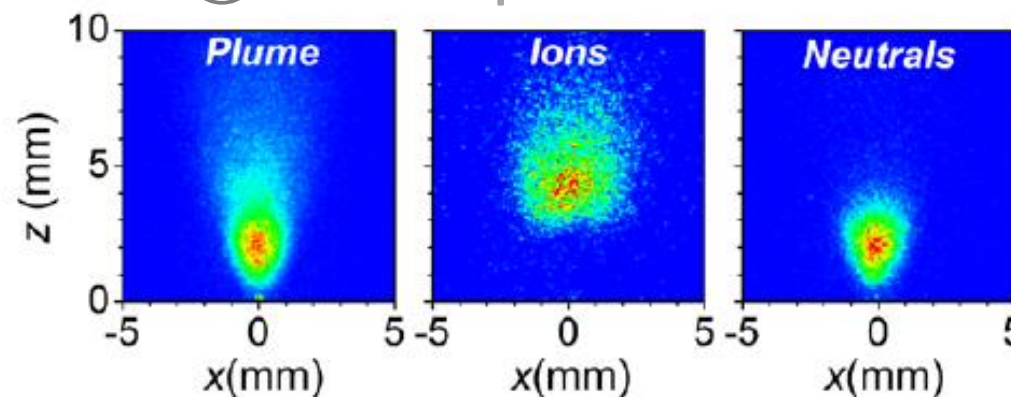
Gaussian beam

Vortex beam



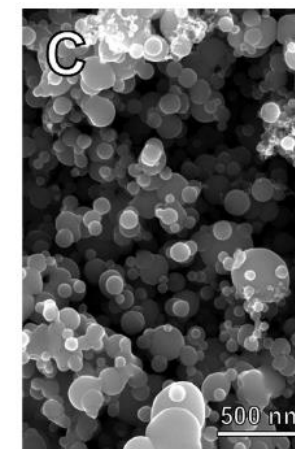
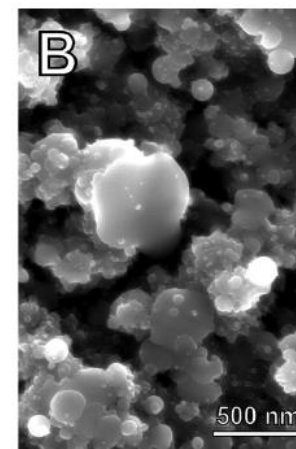
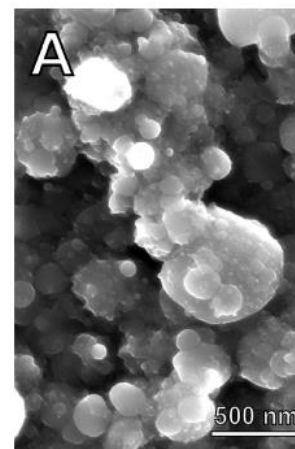
*Control and tailor physical properties of surfaces and probe vector laser beams*

## ② Peculiar plasma states



## NP-assembled films

### ③



*Magnetism, Optics, Gas-sensing, H<sub>2</sub>O-splitting for H<sub>2</sub> production, etc..*

# Acknowledgements

G. Ausanio, V. Iannotti, L. Lanotte  
*Magnetic NPs-assembled films*

C. Altucci & R. Velotta,  
*Decoration of QCM for biosensing*

S. Lettieri & P. Maddalena  
*PL and optical-based gas sensors*

L. Marrucci, D. Paparo, A. Rubano  
*Direct fs laser structuring with Vortex beams*



M. Castillejo & C.

✓ ULA of semiconductors



P. A. Atanasov  
N. Nedyalkov

✓ MD simulations ✓ Thin films



M. Hu & X. Ni

✓ ULA of metal-oxides



# THANK YOU!



**FLAG – Femtosecond Laser Ablation Group**

S. Amoruso, R. Bruzzese, X. Wang

K.K. Anoop, J. JJ Nivas, S. He

([web site: people.na.infn.it/amoruso/labpage](http://people.na.infn.it/amoruso/labpage))

✉ amoruso@na.infn.it ; salvatore.amoruso@unina.it

