

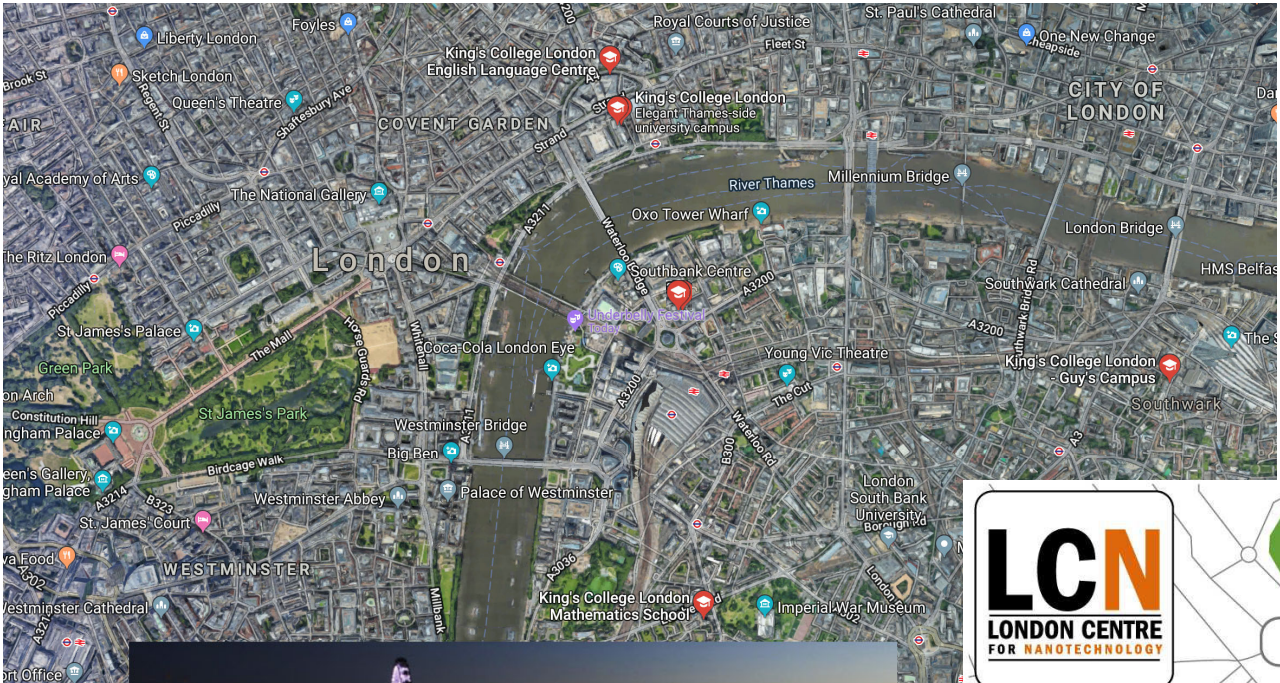
# Active and passive control of nanomaterials for photonic and biosensing applications

---

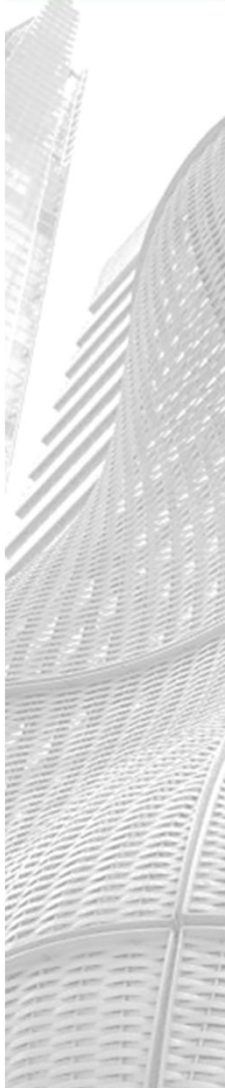
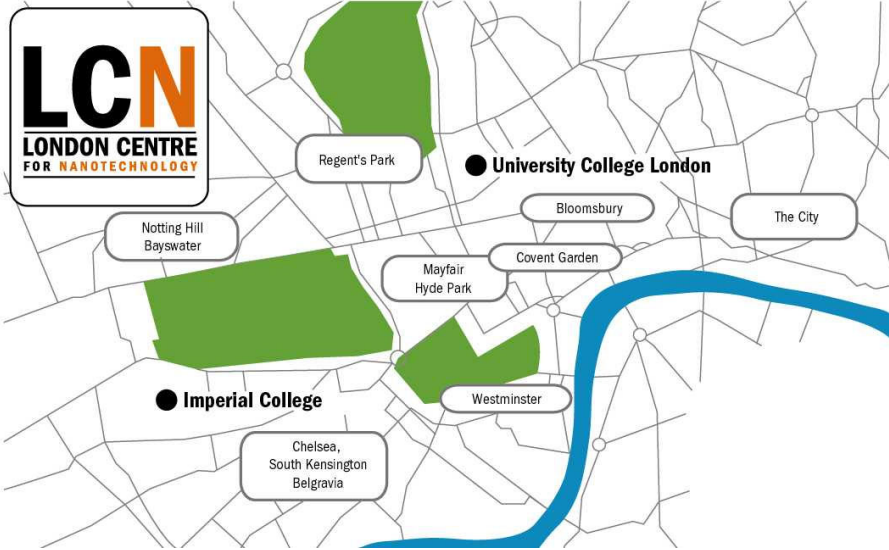
Sasha Rakovich

Turku University, 27<sup>th</sup> of October 2023

# Physics@King's College London

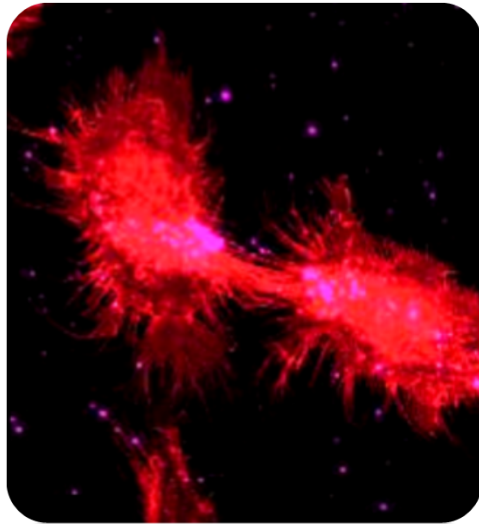


- **Photonics & Nanotechnology**
- **Biological Physics & Soft Matter**
- **Theory & Simulation of Soft Matter**
- **Theoretical Particle Physics & Cosmology**
- **Experimental Particle & AstroPhysics**

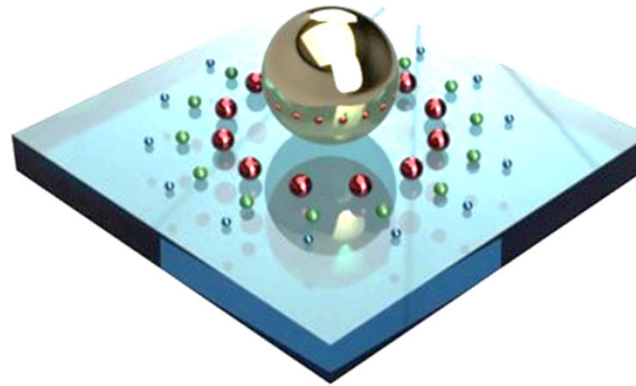


# NanoBioPhotonics @ KCL-Physics

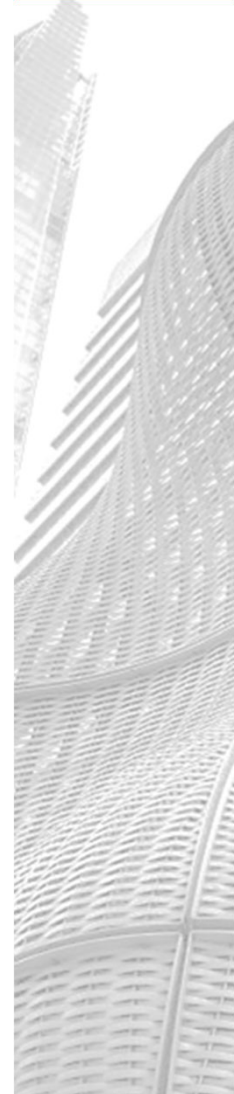
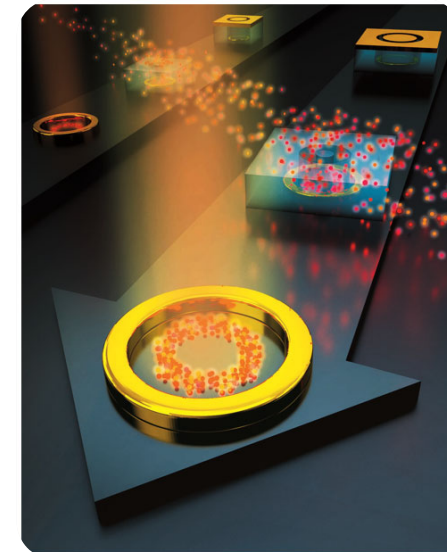
## Nanophotonics for bioapplications



## Nanophotonics for clean energy and sustainability

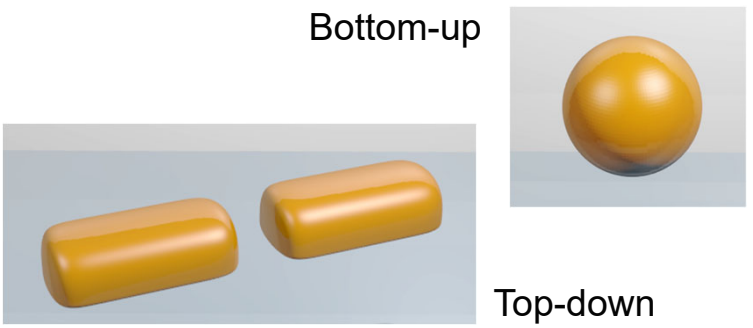


## Nanomaterials assembly and control



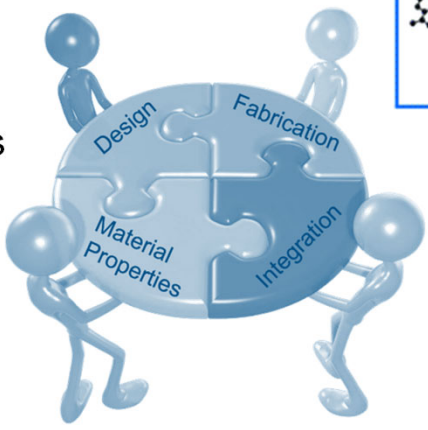
# Why colloidal nanomaterials?

## Fabrication of nanomaterials



## Considerations

- Material systems / sizes
- Scalability of fabrication
- Cost of fabrication & precursors
- Reproducibility
- Pre-determined localization
- Compatibility with pre-existing structures



**Inorganic Nanomaterials**

Metal: Ag, Au, Pd, Cu, etc.

Metal oxide/hydroxides: ZnO, CuO, TiO<sub>2</sub>, Fe<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>, etc.

Metal chalcogenides (TMCs): TMCs - MoS<sub>2</sub>, Bi<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>3</sub>, etc.

QDs

**Organic nanomaterials**

Micelle, Liposome, Hybrid, Dendrimer, Nanosphere, Nanocapsule

Compact polymeric

**Carbon nanomaterials**

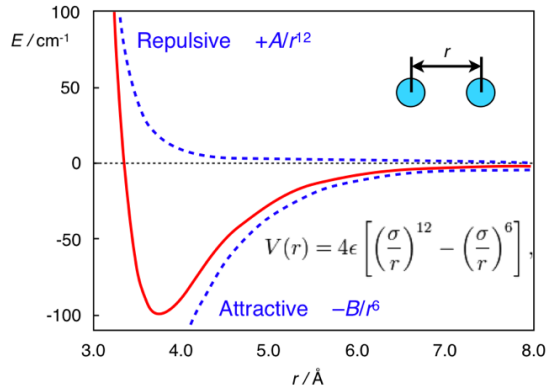
Graphene, Fullerene, CNTs, Carbon dots, g-C<sub>3</sub>N<sub>4</sub>

## Applications:

- Renewable energy
- Environment
- Electronics
- Biomedical
- Textiles
- Industrial
- Food
- Agriculture
- Materials for sport

# Material immobilization toolbox

## Long-range attractive forces



Delivery

+



Fixation

## Intermolecular forces

Ion-dipole



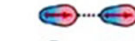
Ion charge-dipole charge

H bond



Polar bond to H-dipole charge (high EN of N, O, F)

Dipole-dipole



Dipole charges

Ion-induced dipole



Ion charge-polarizable  $e^-$  cloud

Dipole-induced dipole



Dipole charge-polarizable  $e^-$  cloud

Dispersion (London)

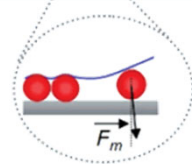
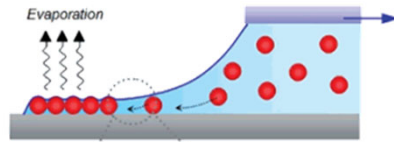


Polarizable  $e^-$  clouds

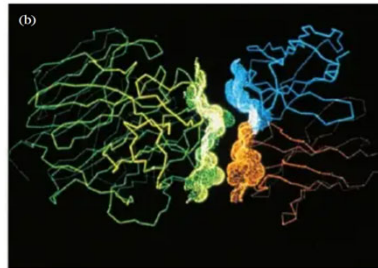
## Other driving forces

- Electrostatic
- (Di-)electrophoretic
- Brownian motion
- Gravity
- Optical
- Convective
- Capillary

Typically more than type contributes



Malaquin, Langmuir 23, 11513 (2007)



## Intramolecular forces

Force	Model	Basis of Attraction
Intramolecular Ionic		Cation-anion
Covalent		Nuclei-shared $e^-$ pair
Metallic		Cations-delocalized electrons

cscsdashaicechem.weebly.com

Kuby Immunology, Ed. J.A. Owen, J. Punt, S.A. Stranford.  
7<sup>th</sup> edition, W. H. Freeman and company, New York (2013)

# Outline

---

## Introduction

Control of nanomaterials for applications

## Self-assembled systems

Nano-bio hybrids

Plasmonic superclusters

## Deterministic localization of NPs

QDs coupling to plasmonic structures

Large area localization of metallic NPs

## Active control of NPs

Exploiting Brownian motion for long range transport

## Conclusions & future outlook

### Introduction

### Self-assembly

Nano-bio  
hybrids

Superclusters

### Localization

2-step EBL

Template  
dissolution

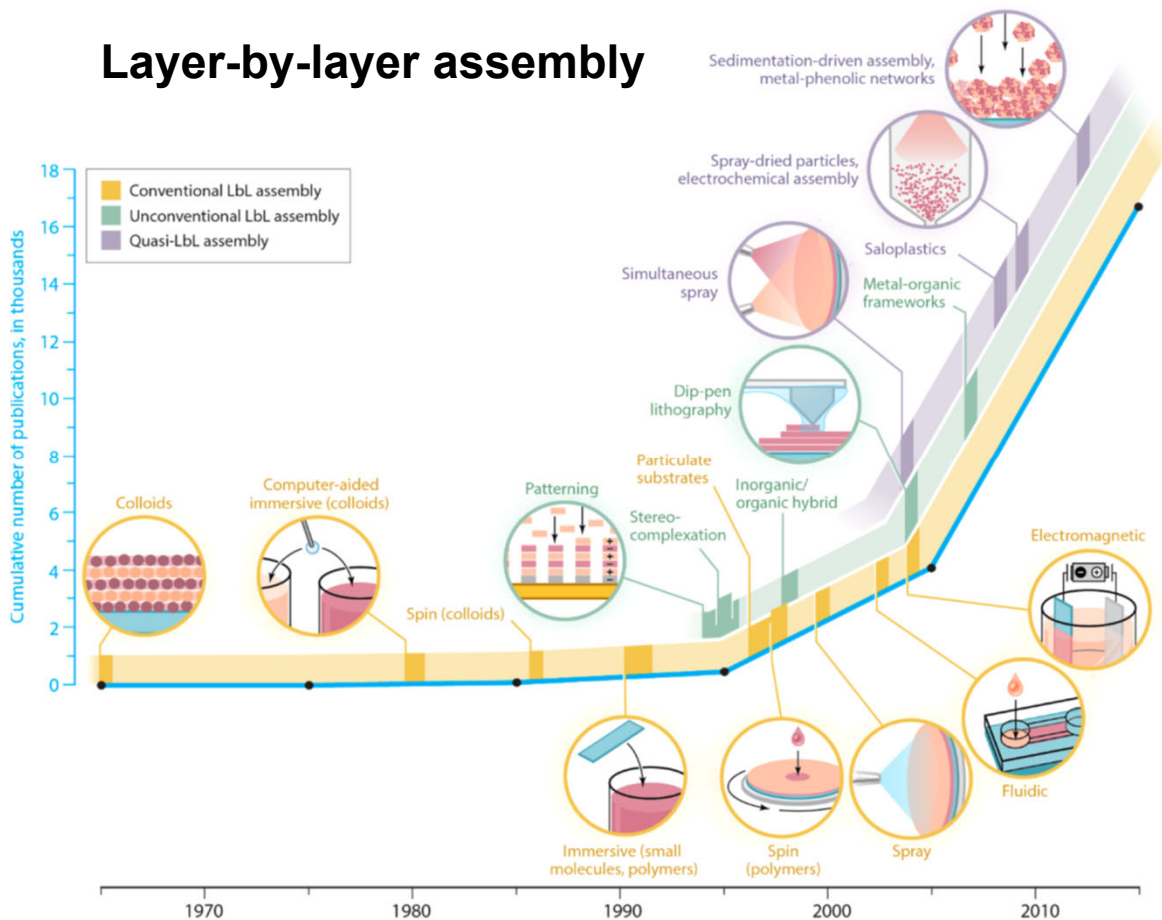
### Active control

Brownian  
ratchets

### Conclusions

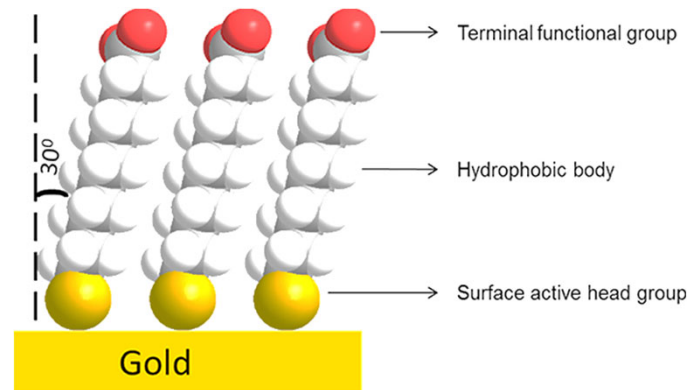
# Self-assembly

## Layer-by-layer assembly



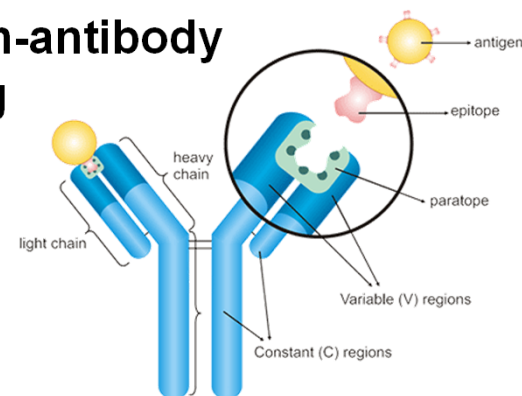
DOI: 10.1021/acs.chemrev.6b00627  
Chem. Rev. 2016, 116, 14828-14867

## SAM formation



<https://www.intechopen.com/books/carbohydrate/self-assembled-monolayers-of-carbohydrate-derivatives-on-gold-surfaces>

## Antigen-antibody binding



<https://www.cusabio.com/c-21045.html>

Introduction

Self-assembly

Nano-bio hybrids

Superclusters

Localization

2-step EBL

Template dissolution

Active control

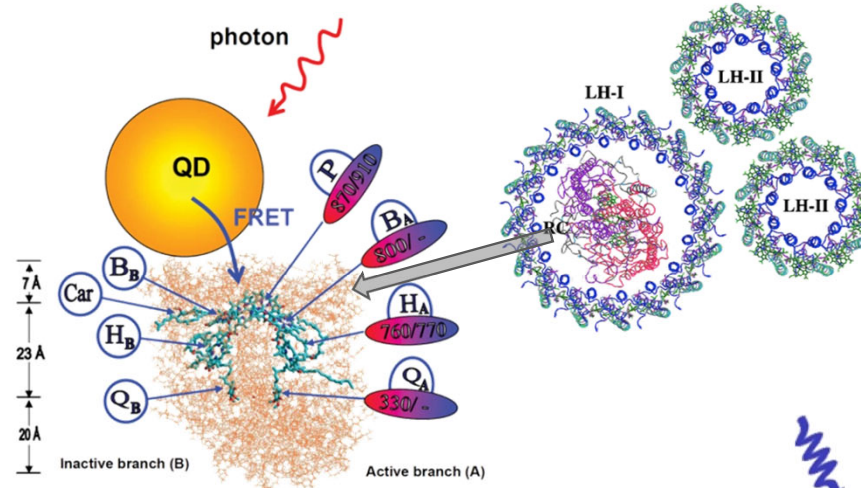
Brownian ratchets

Conclusions

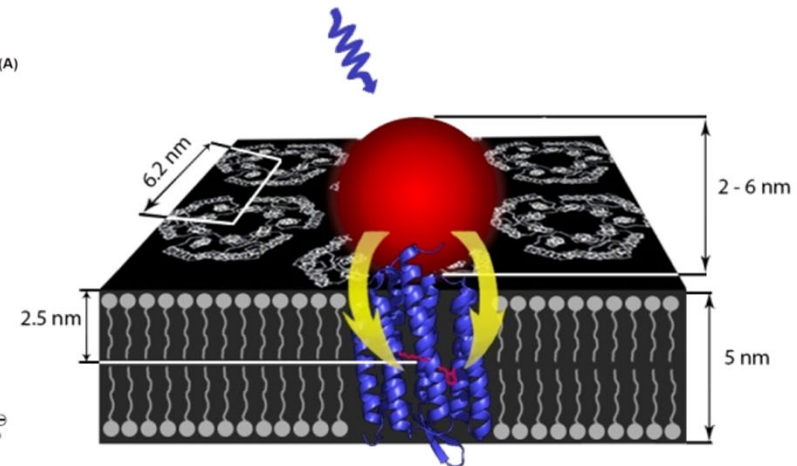
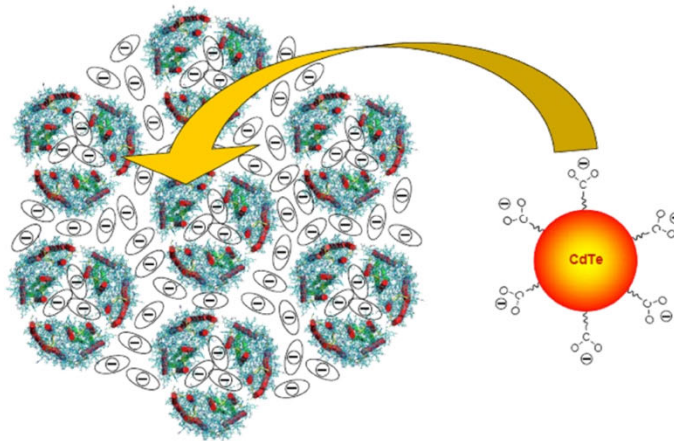
# Self-assembly of nano-bio hybrids

## Biomaterials:

- Typically have many amino acids
- In solutions, some of end groups can be charged
- In many cases, electrostatic self-assembly with colloidal NPs is possible



## Assembly of QDs with bacterial reaction centres



## Assembly of QDs on Purple Membranes containing bR protein

Introduction

Self-assembly

Nano-bio hybrids

Superclusters

Localization

2-step EBL

Template dissolution

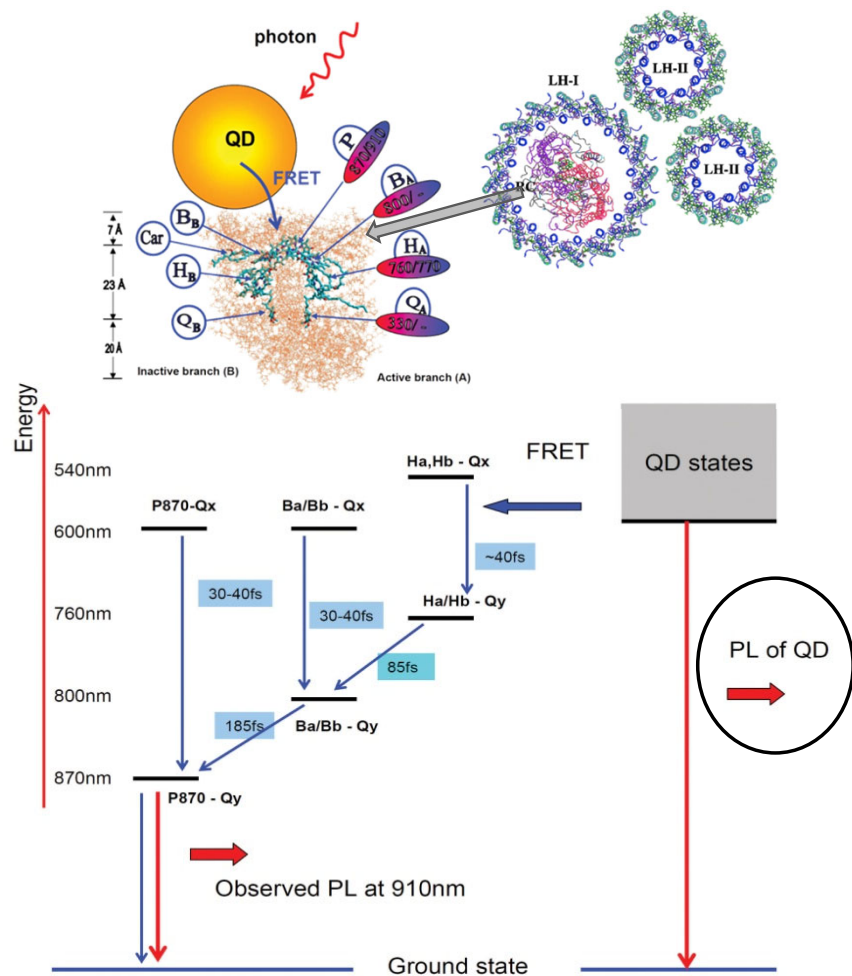
Active control

Brownian ratchets

Conclusions

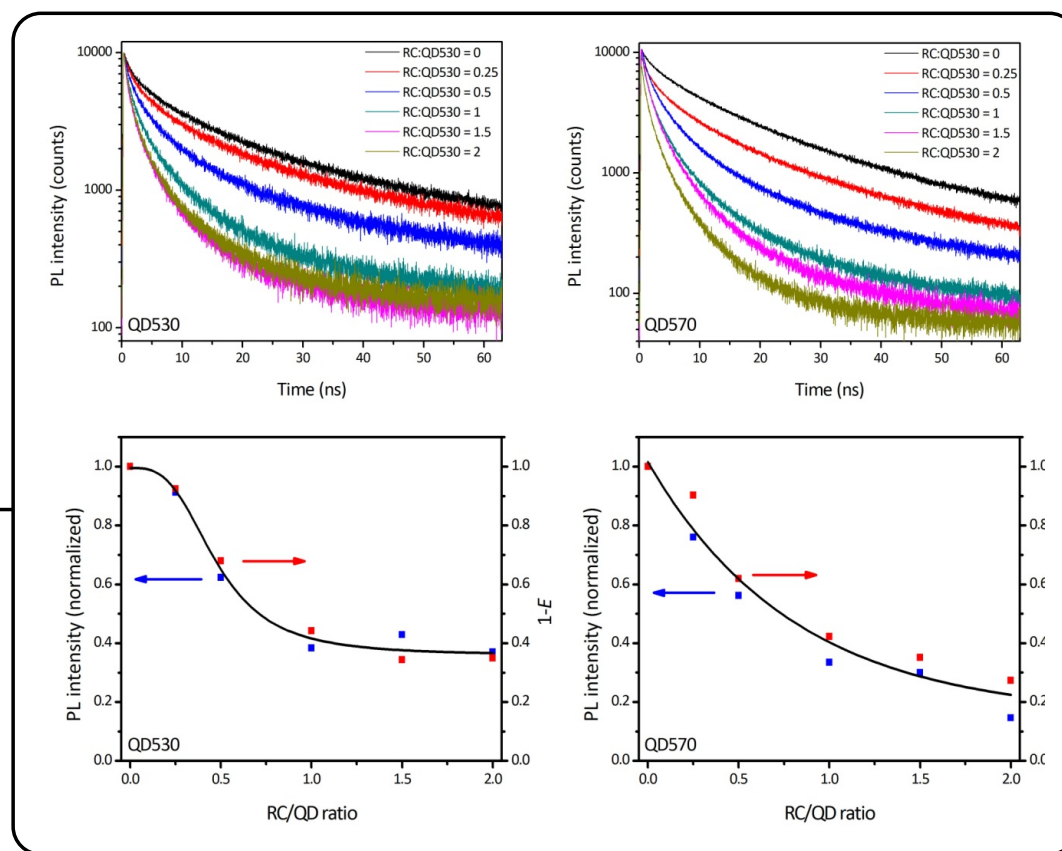


# QDs as artificial antenna for bacterial reaction centres



## FRET signatures:

- PL intensity reduction of donor
- Reduction of fluorescence lifetime of donor



Introduction

Self-assembly

Nano-bio  
hybrids

Superclusters

Localization

2-step EBL

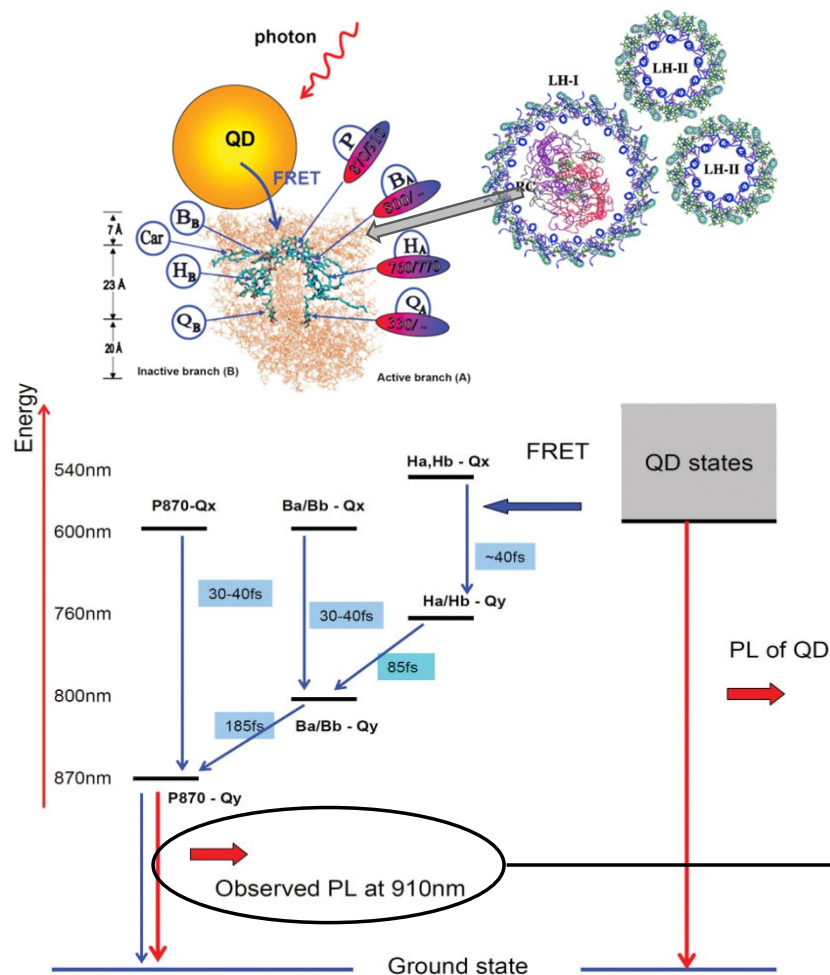
Template  
dissolution

Active control

Brownian  
ratchets

Conclusions

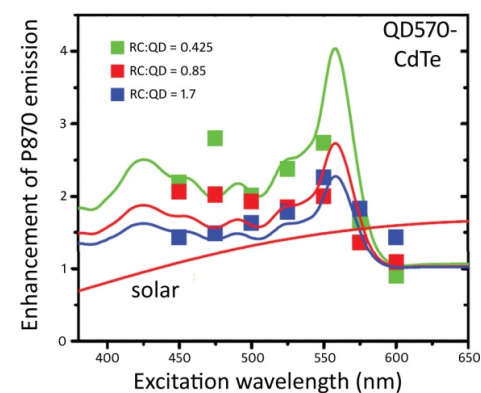
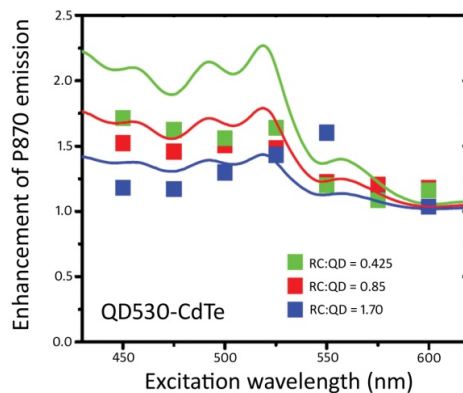
# QDs as artificial antenna for bacterial reaction centres



## FRET signatures:

- PL intensity enhancement for the acceptor
- Should be proportional to FRET efficiency

$$A_{920\text{ nm}} = \frac{I_{RC+QD}}{I_{RC}} = \frac{\int (PL_{RC+QD} - PL_{QD}) d\lambda}{\int PL_{RC} d\lambda} = 1 + E \cdot \frac{A_{QD}(\lambda_{exc})}{A_{RC}(\lambda_{exc})} = 1 + E \cdot x \cdot \frac{\epsilon_{QD}(\lambda_{exc})}{\epsilon_{RC}(\lambda_{exc})}$$



- Emission from Special Pair @920 nm is a measure of photosynthetic efficiency of complex

## Introduction

## Self-assembly

Nano-bio  
hybrids

## Superclusters

## Localization

2-step EBL

Template  
dissolution

## Active control

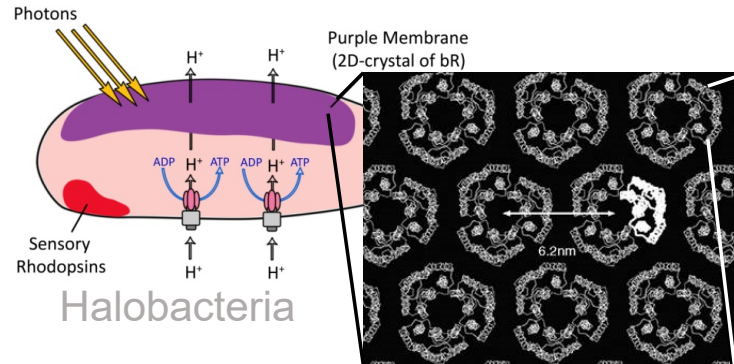
Brownian  
ratchets

## Conclusions

# QDs as artificial antenna for bacteriorhodopsin protein

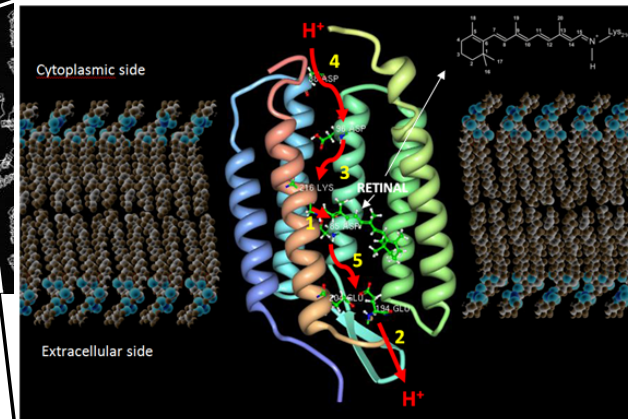
## Membrane protein with:

- Photoelectric properties
- Photochromic properties
- Charge transport properties



Halobacteria

## Bacteriorhodopsin protein (light-activated proton pump)



## Performance optimised by evolution:

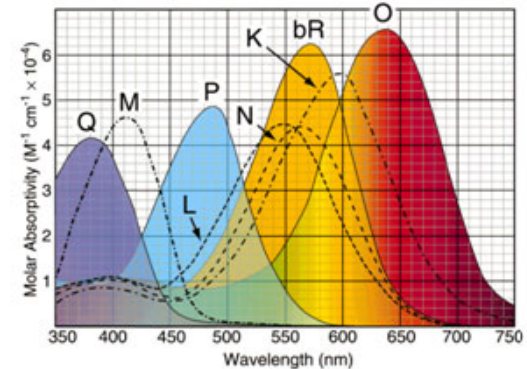
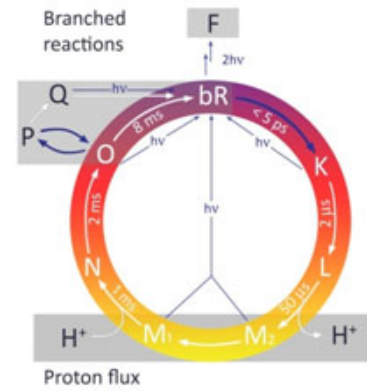
- High photo- chemical and thermal stability
- High fatigue resistance

Purple Membrane  
(2D crystal of PM)

## Not able to deal with UV-photons:

- Can destroy light-absorbing molecule
- Utilizes only 0.1-0.5% of solar light

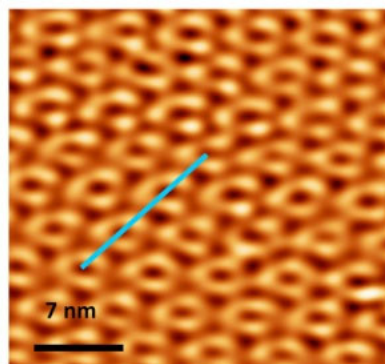
## Use QDs as artificial down- converting LH antenna



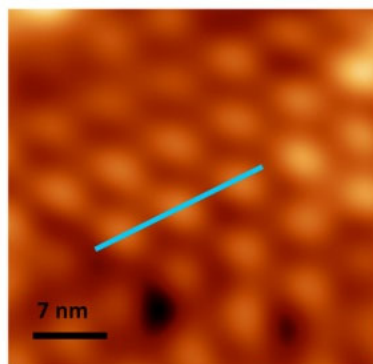
# QDs as artificial antenna for bacteriorhodopsin protein

Electrostatic self-assembly of QDs on Purple and White Membranes

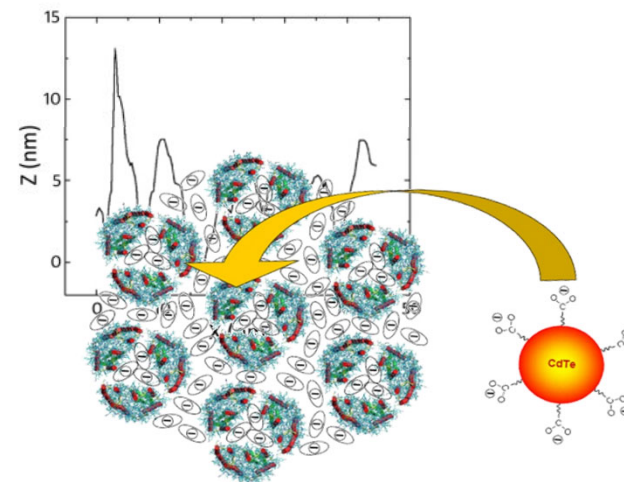
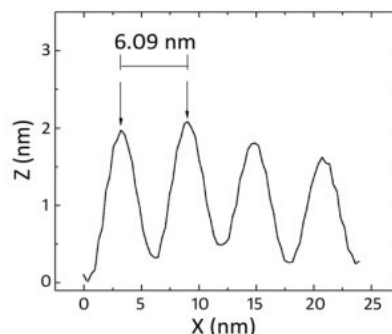
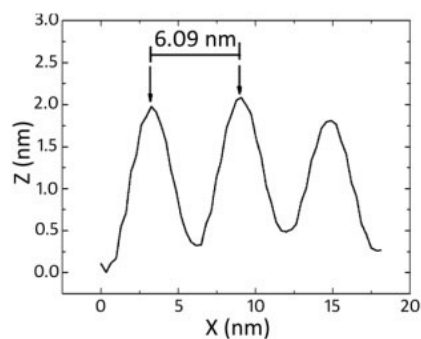
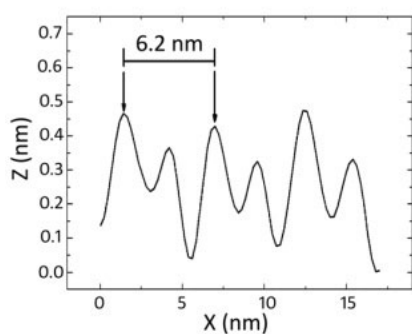
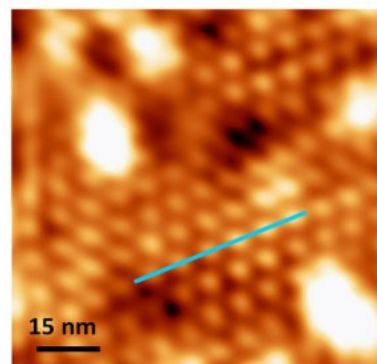
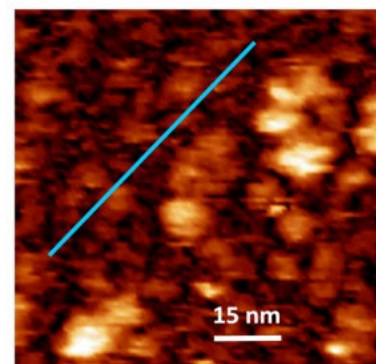
bR membrane



6 nm hydrodynamic radius QDs



Typical, high density



Introduction

Self-assembly

Nano-bio  
hybrids

Superclusters

Localization

2-step EBL

Template  
dissolution

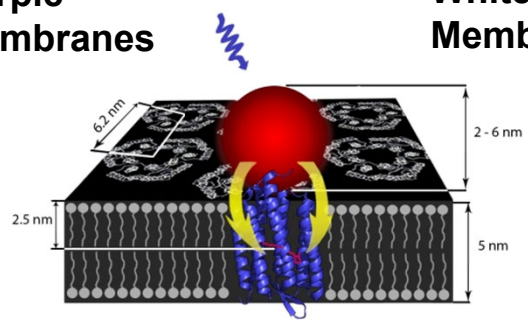
Active control

Brownian  
ratchets

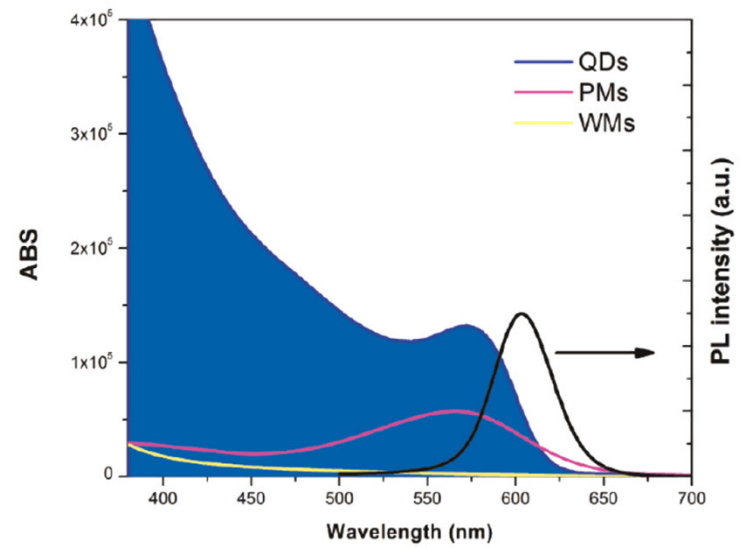
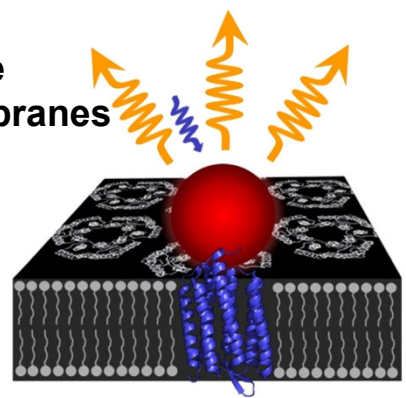
Conclusions

# QDs as artificial antenna for bacteriorhodopsin protein

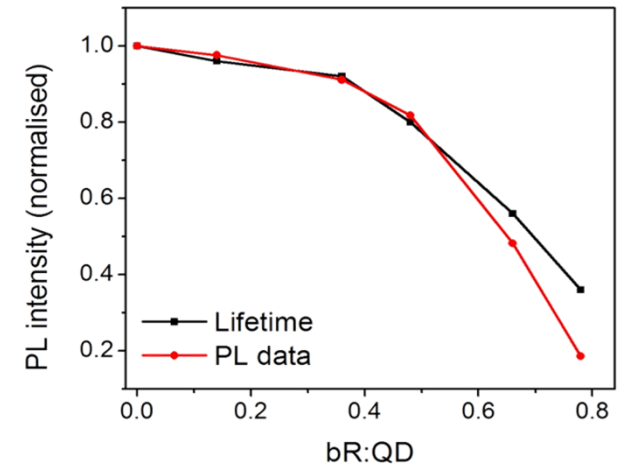
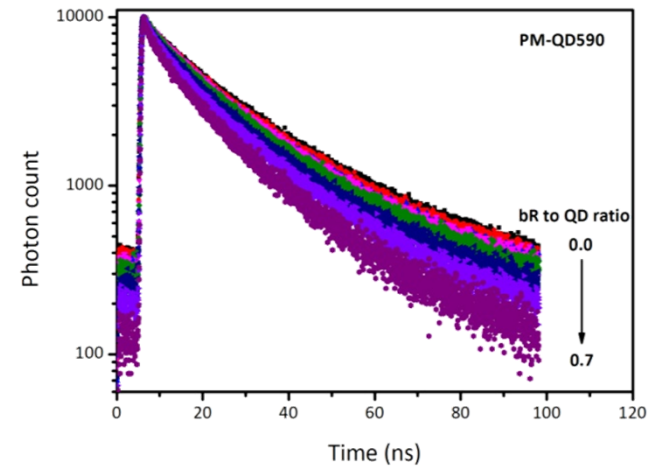
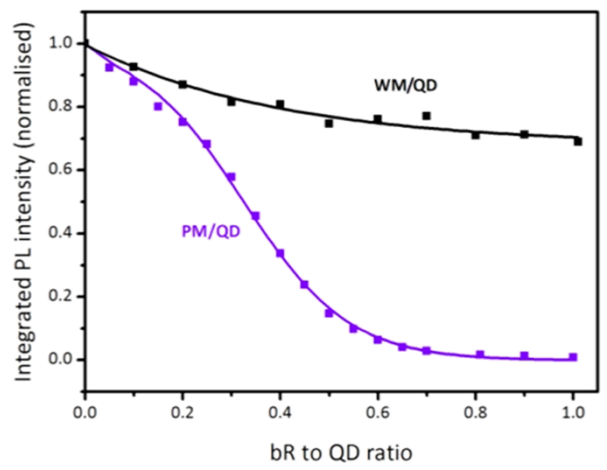
**Purple Membranes**



**White Membranes**



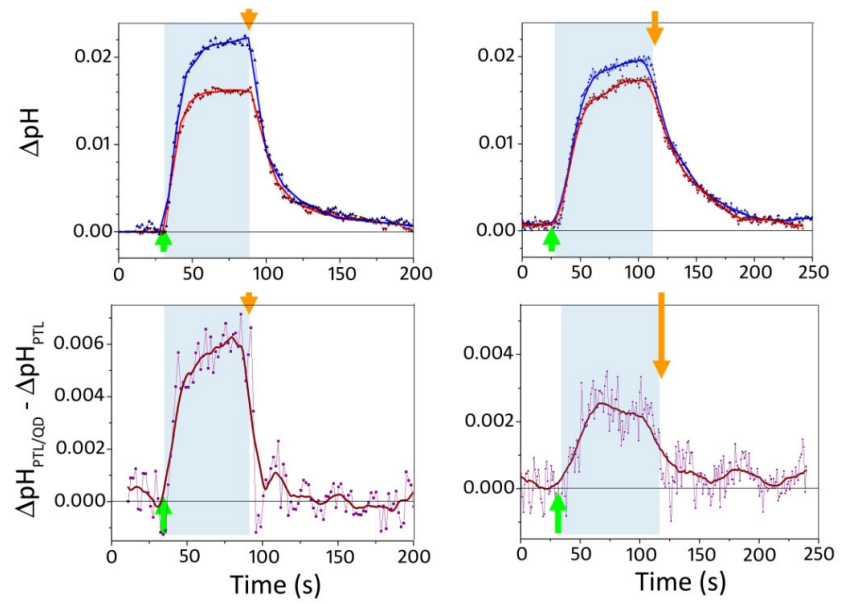
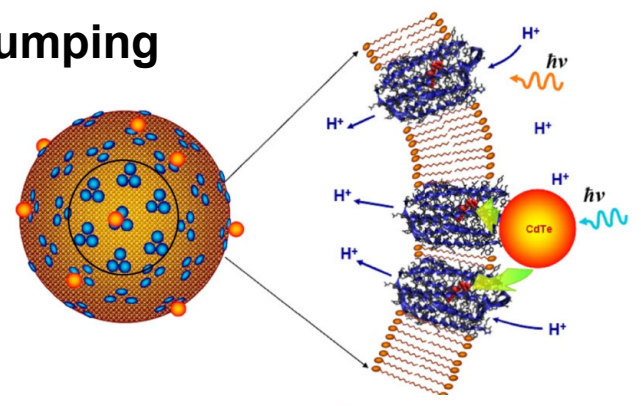
## Energy transfer in QD-PM complexes



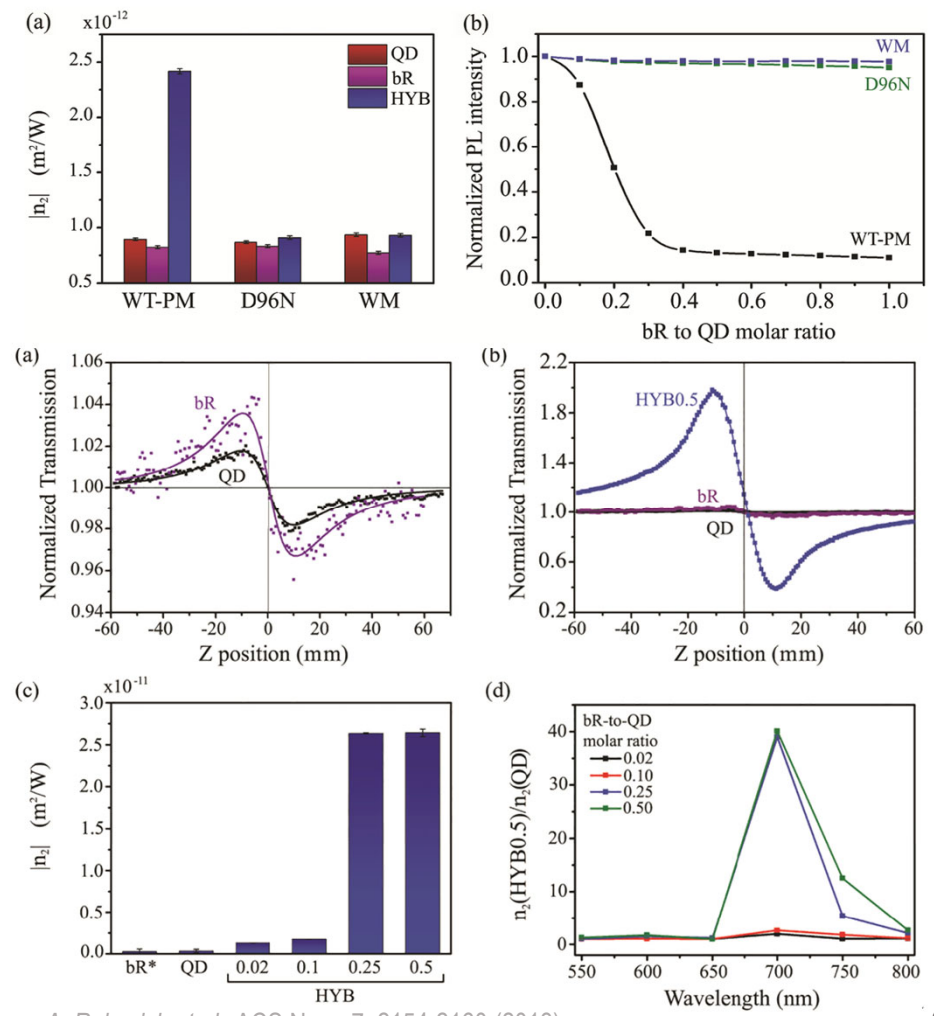
- Introduction
- Self-assembly
  - Nano-bio hybrids
  - Superclusters
- Localization
  - 2-step EBL
  - Template dissolution
- Active control
  - Brownian ratchets
- Conclusions

# QDs as artificial antenna for bacteriorhodopsin protein

## bR proton pumping efficiency



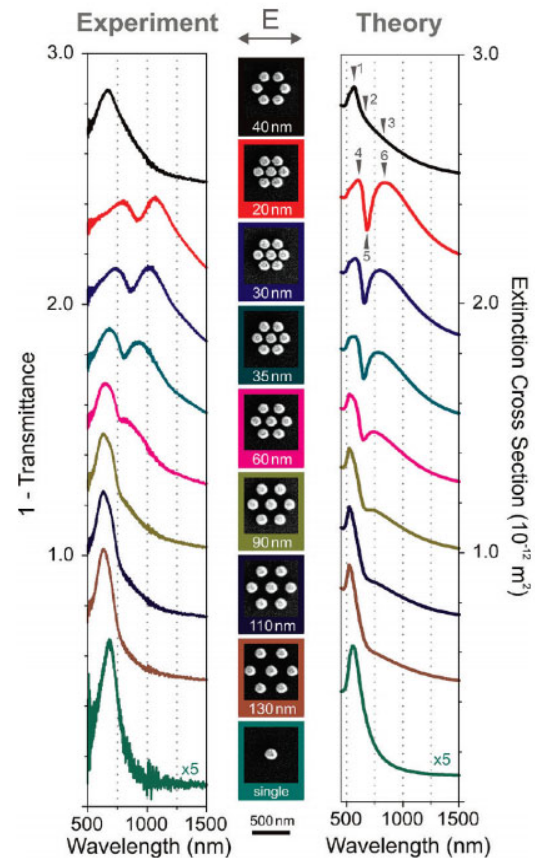
## Nonlinear refractive index



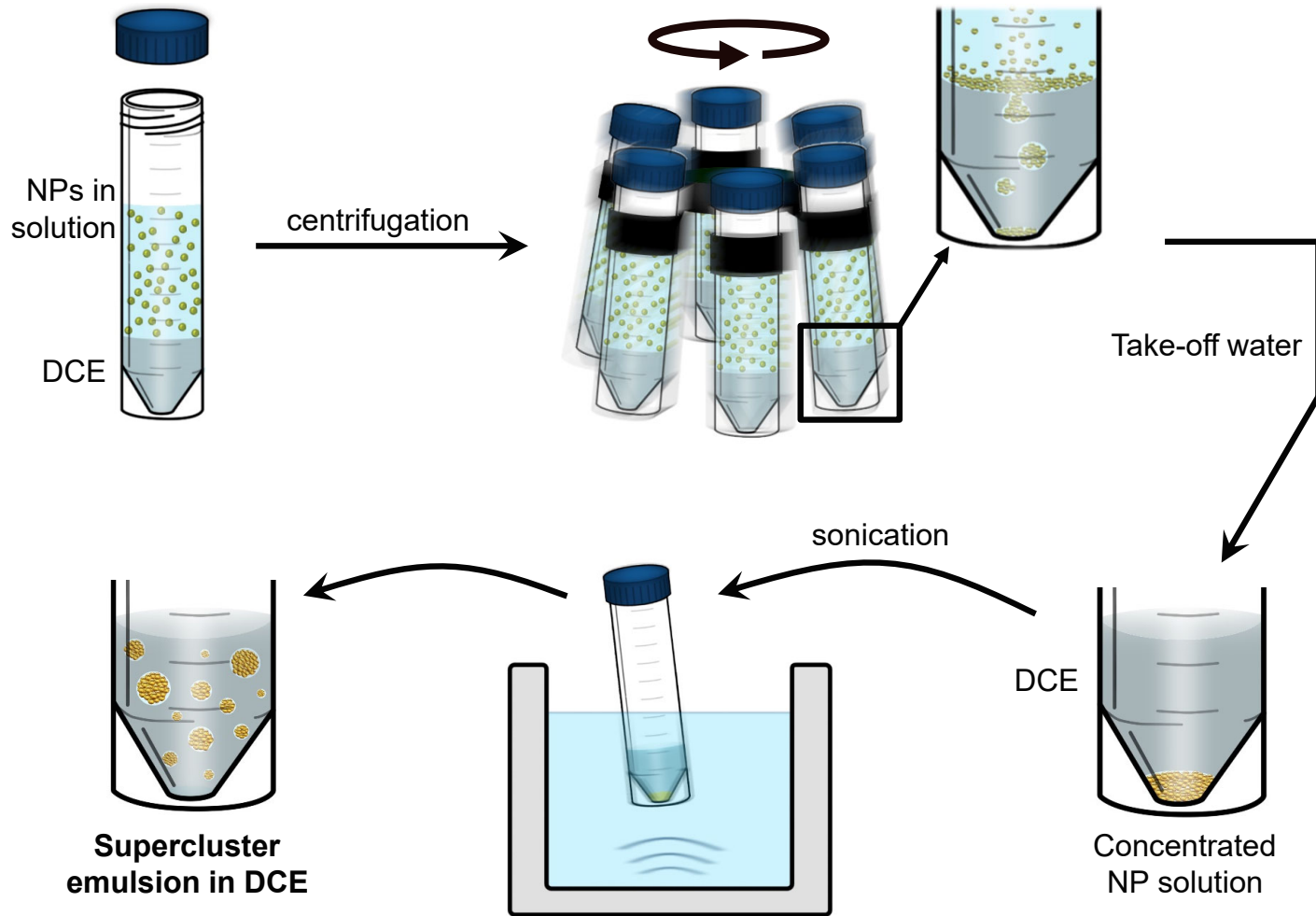
- Introduction
- Self-assembly
  - Nano-bio hybrids
  - Superclusters
- Localization
  - 2-step EBL
  - Template dissolution
- Active control
  - Brownian ratchets
- Conclusions

# Self-assembly of metallic superclusters

Based on hydrophobic effect



NanoLetters 10, 2721 (2010)



Introduction

Self-assembly

Nano-bio hybrids

Superclusters

Localization

2-step EBL

Template dissolution

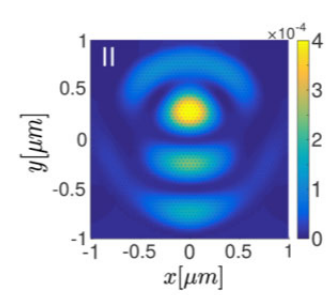
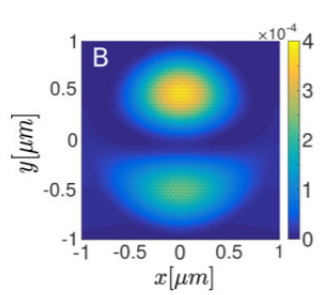
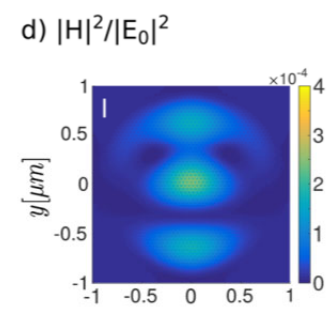
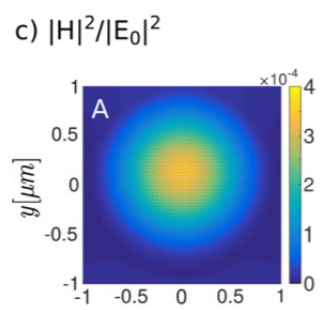
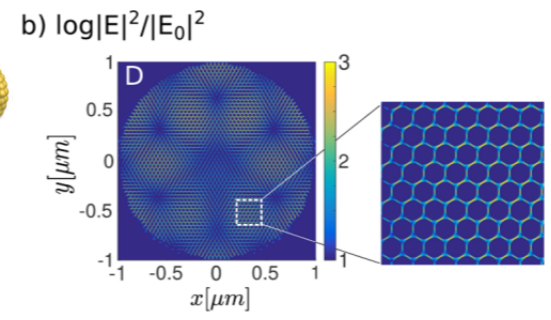
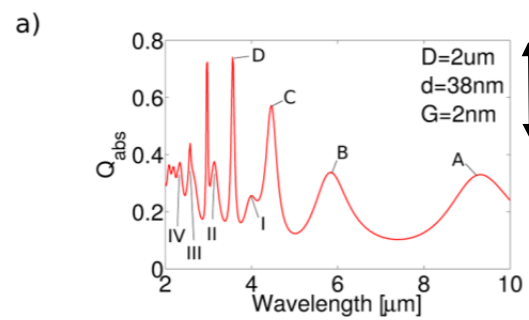
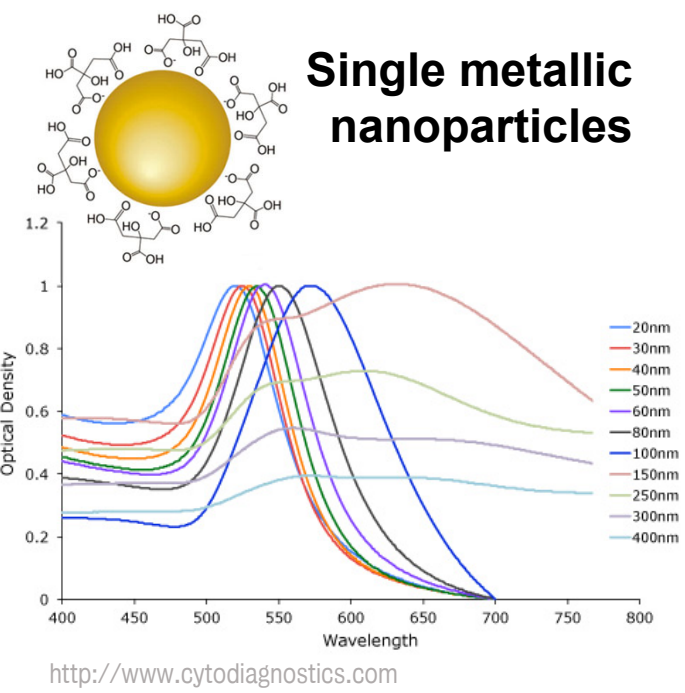
Active control

Brownian ratchets

Conclusions

# Properties of metallic superclusters

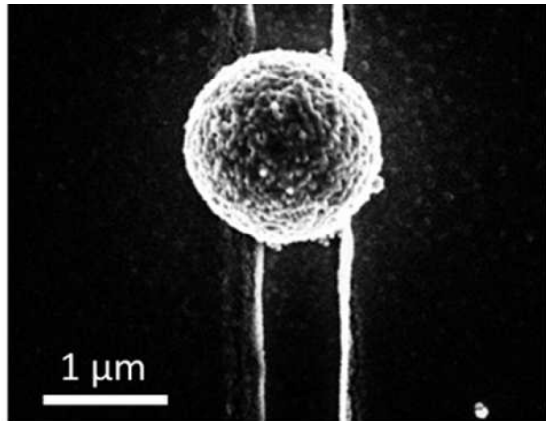
## Superclusters of metallic nanoparticles





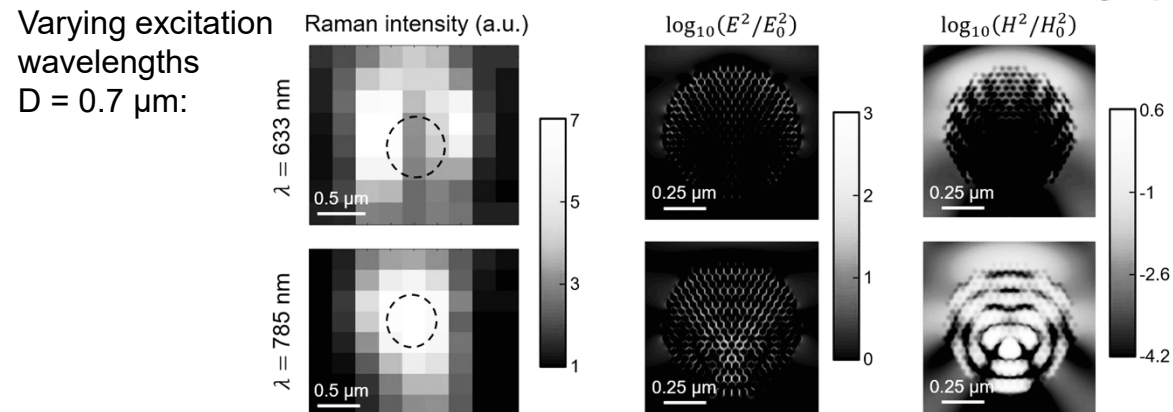
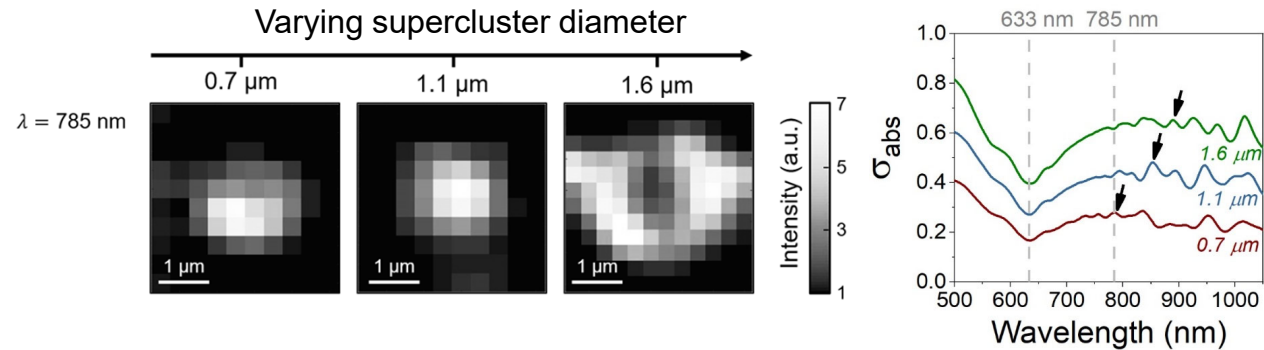
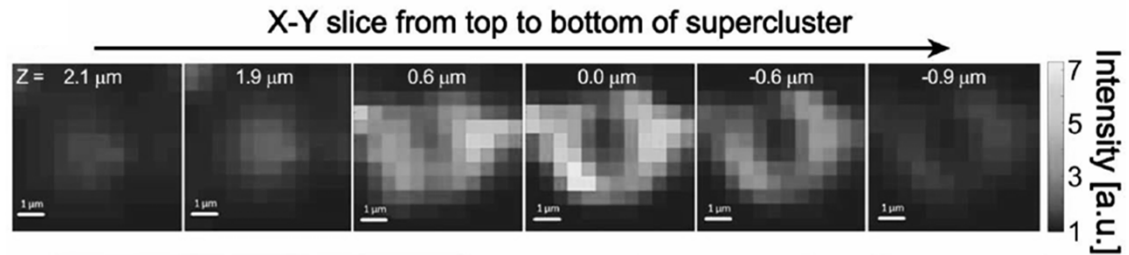
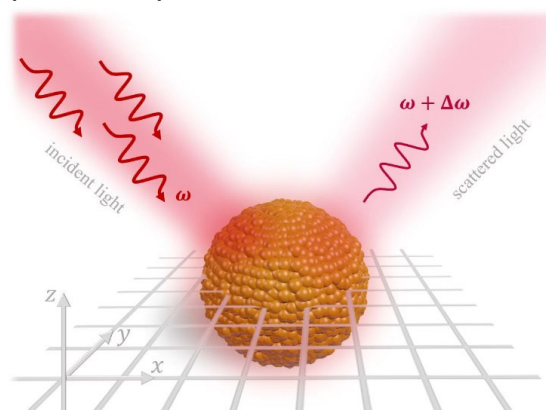
# Experimental verification of collective modes

## TEM: cluster size



## Raman: modal map

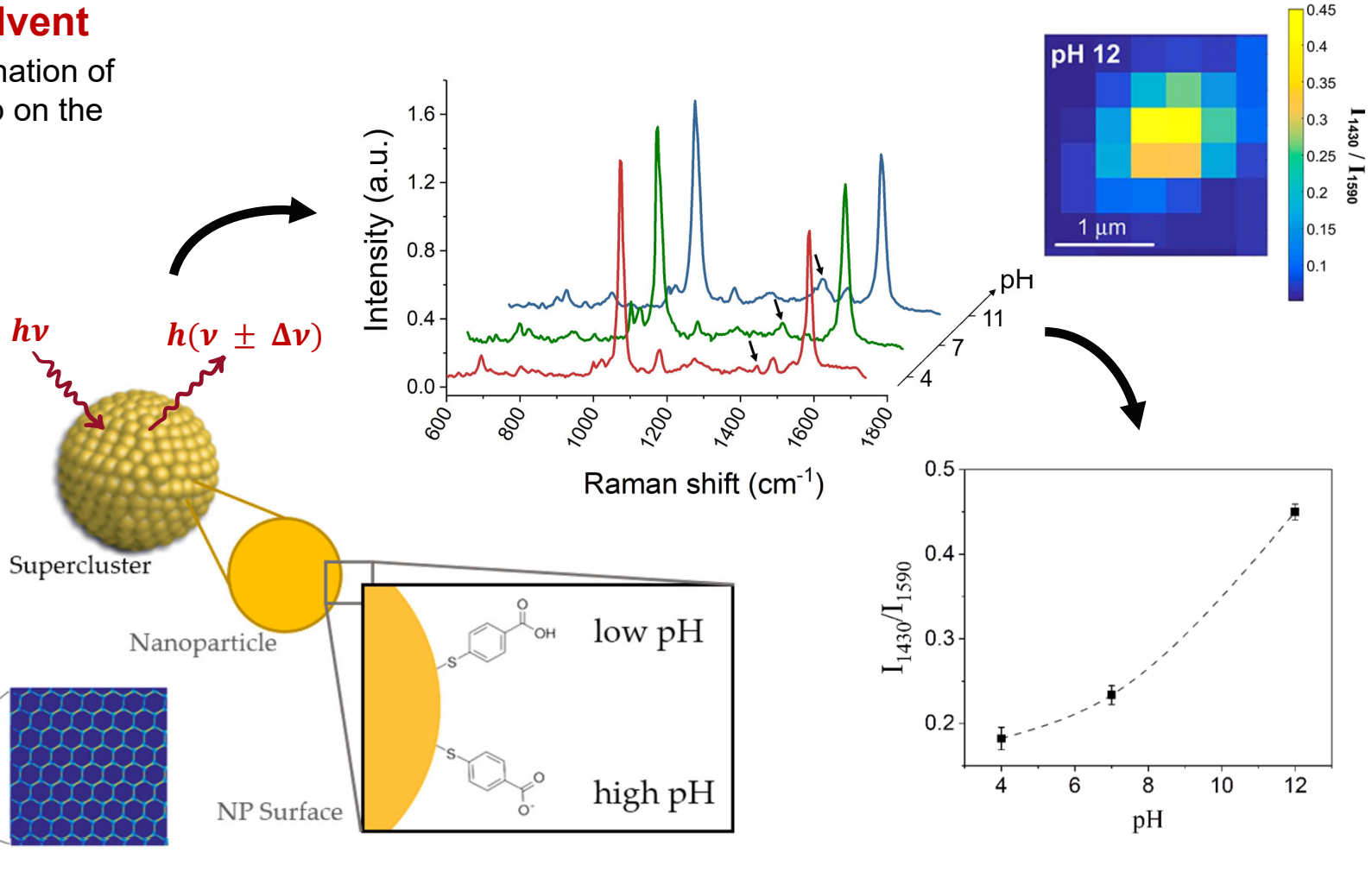
4-MBA self-assembled onto Au NPs prior to supercluster formation



# Sensing with metallic superclusters

## Varied pH of solvent

causing de-/re-protonation of carboxylic acid group on the 4-MBA molecule



# Selective localization for as-designed fabrication

## Tendency towards interdisciplinary science

- Exploit properties of different materials

## Drive for device minimisation & integration

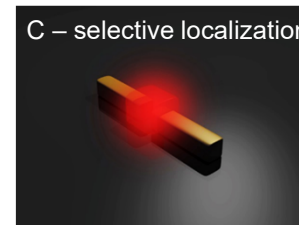
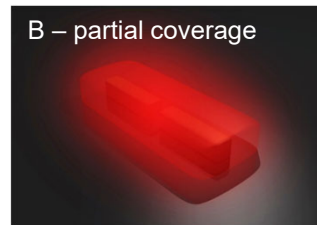
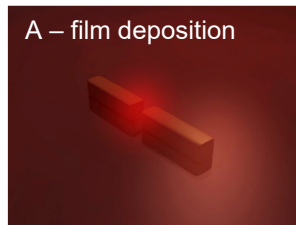
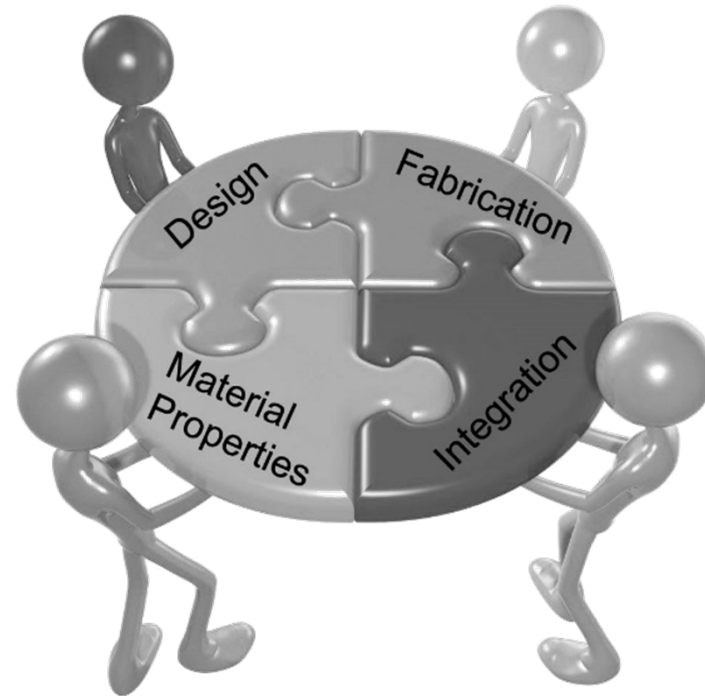
- Avoid cross-talk of different components
- Nanoscale control of materials

## Independent design of components

- Time-efficiency
- Collaborative efforts

## Reproducibility of performance

- Chemo- & photo- stability of components
- Reproducible characteristics

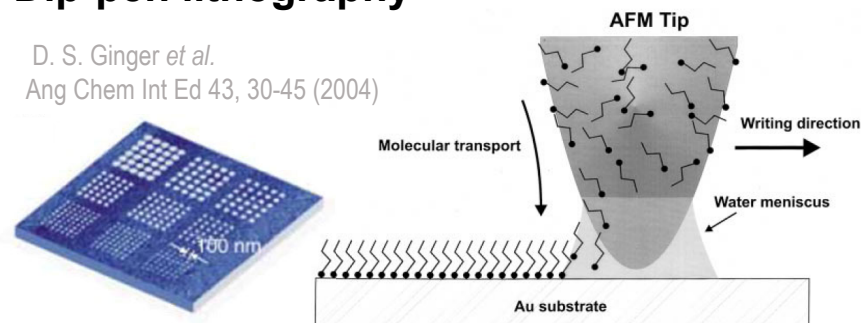


# Selective localization methods

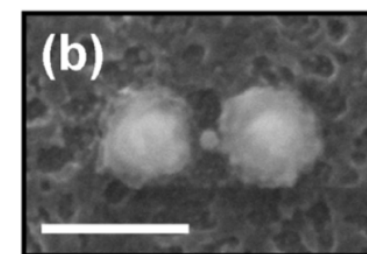
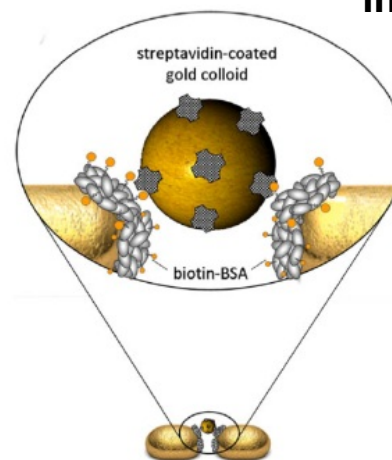
Technique	Advantages	Disadvantages
Directed self-assembly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fast</li> <li>Large area coverage</li> <li>Works on almost any substrate</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Weak adhesion</li> <li>Use of non-removable masks</li> </ul>
SAM patterning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Good precision</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SAM covers entire substrate</li> <li>Slow due to large area exposure</li> </ul>
MACE-ID	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Good control over amount deposited</li> <li>OK precision</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Precursor in EBL chamber</li> <li>Use of additional material as scaffolding (no functional purpose)</li> </ul>
Multi-step EBL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>OK precision</li> <li>Very flexible</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use of masks (can leave residues)</li> </ul>
AFM-based techniques	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>High precision</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Slow and labour intensive</li> <li>SAM cover entire substrate</li> <li>Difficult to do on samples with pre-existing structures</li> </ul>
Localised polymerization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>High precision</li> <li>No mask</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Deposition of additional material (polymer matrix)</li> <li>Only works with resonator structures</li> </ul>
LAMI-based approach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Very high precision</li> <li>"In-built" localisation</li> <li>No mask</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Low yield</li> <li>No mask: non-specific attachment can be an issue</li> <li>Only works with plasmonic structures</li> </ul>
Hot-carrier driven chemistry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>High precision</li> <li>"In-built" localisation</li> <li>No mask</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chemistry difficult to control</li> <li>Localisation not only in hotspot</li> <li>Only works with plasmonic structures</li> </ul>
Optical printing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Moderate precision</li> <li>No mask</li> <li>Very strong attachment</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Labour intensive</li> <li>Difficult to do with pre-existing structures</li> <li>Functionalisation of entire substrate</li> </ul>

## Dip-pen lithography

D. S. Ginger *et al.*  
Ang Chem Int Ed 43, 30-45 (2004)



## Light-activated molecular immobilization (LAMI)-based approach



C.M. Galloway *et al.*  
NanoLetters 13, 4299 (2013)

### Introduction

### Self-assembly

Nano-bio hybrids  
Superclusters

### Localization

2-step EBL  
Template dissolution

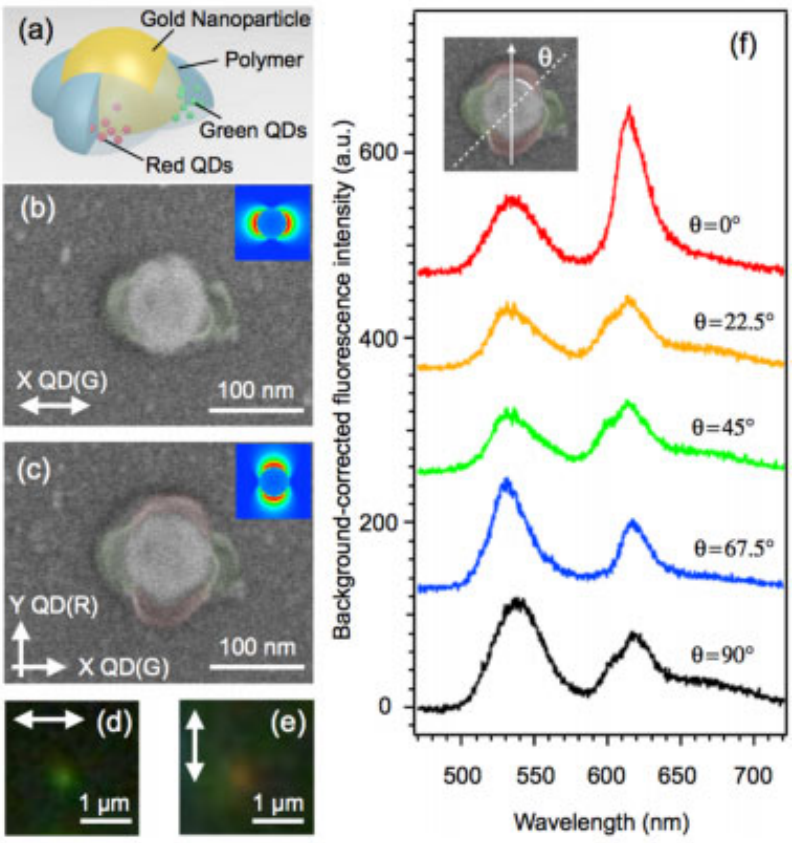
### Active control

Brownian ratchets

### Conclusions

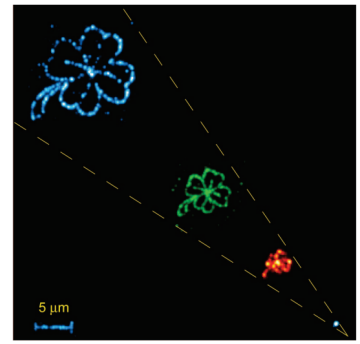
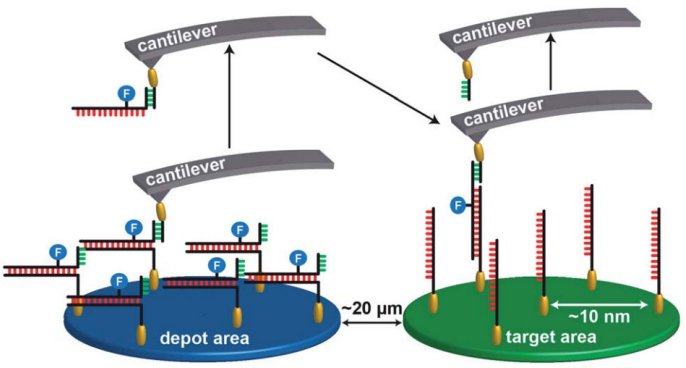
# Deterministic localization methods

## Photopolymerization



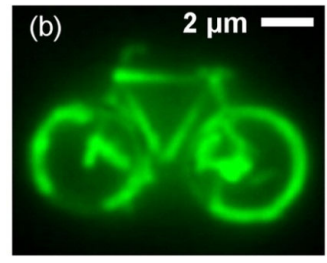
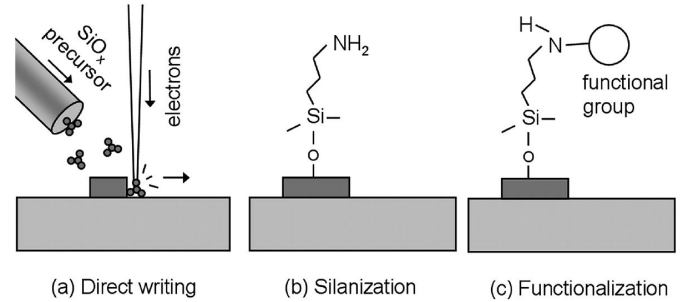
Zhou, Nano Lett. 15, 7458-7466 (2015)

## Cut and Paste



Jacobs, Chem. Sci. 5, 1680 (2014)  
 Puchner, NanoLetters 8, 3692-3695 (2008)

## MACE-ID



W. Slingenberg, ACS Nano 6, 9214 (2012)

Introduction

Self-assembly

Nano-bio hybrids  
 Superclusters

Localization

2-step EBL  
 Template dissolution

Active control

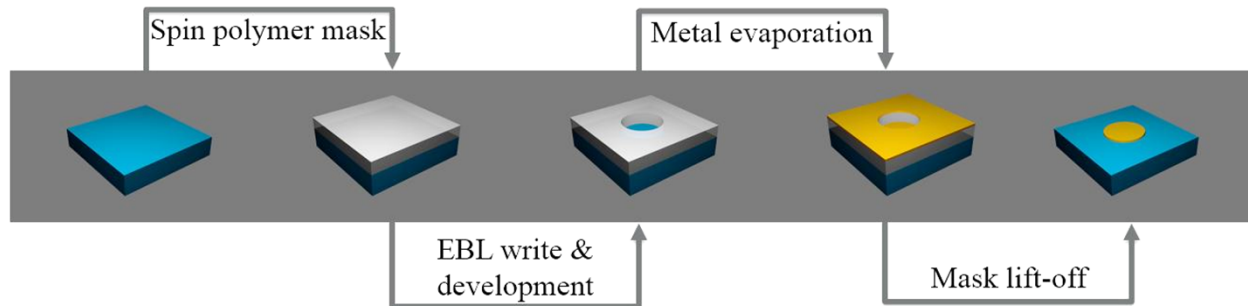
Brownian ratchets

Conclusions

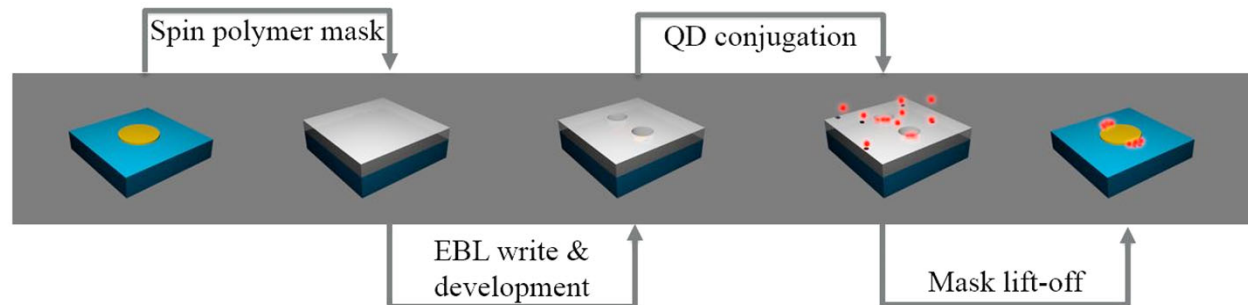
# 2-step EBL method

For localization of QDs in regions of interest near pre-existing structures

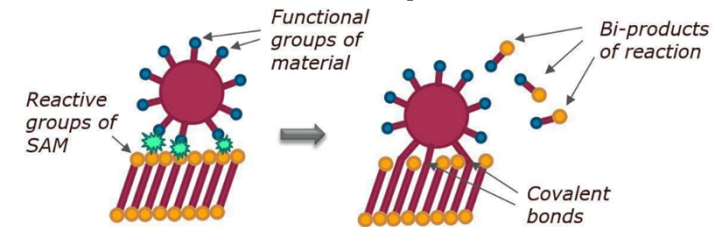
## Step 1: fabrication of nanoantenna



## Step 2: selective localisation of NPs



## QD attachment step



## SAM formation:

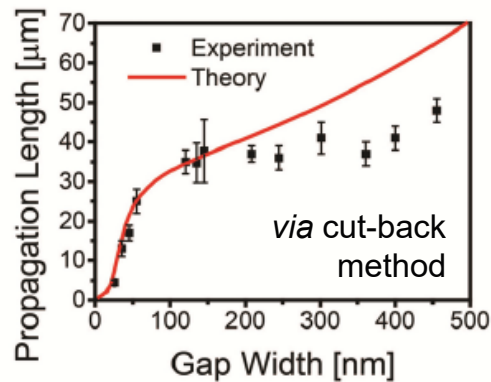
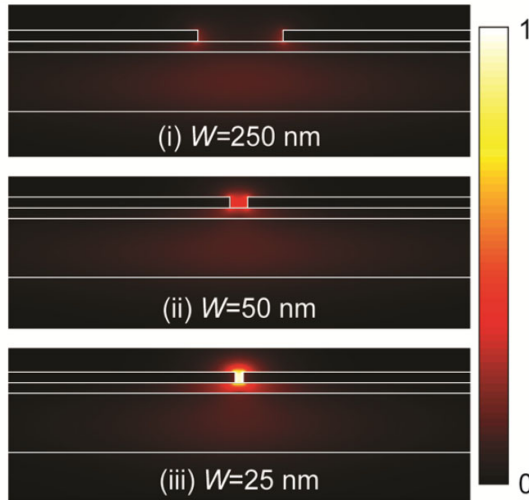
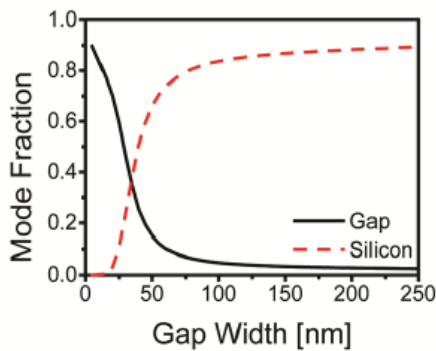
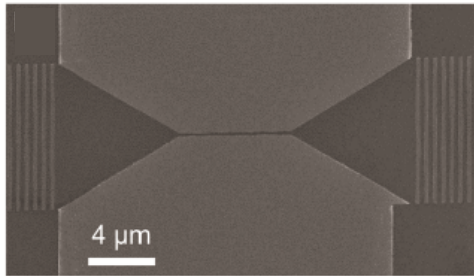
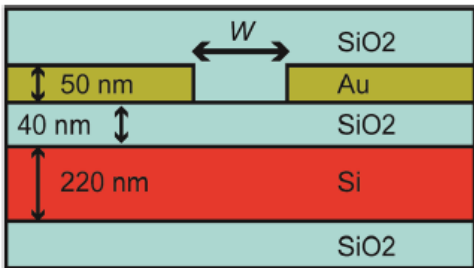
- Alkane-thiols and derivatives (e.g. 1-amino undecanethiol) for metals, some semiconductors
- Ethoxysilanes and derivatives (e.g. APTES) for oxygen- or silicon terminated surfaces

## QD conjugation to SAMs

- Covalent conjugation, e.g. via EDC-coupling reaction
- Antigen-antibody linkage

# Application of the 2-step EBL method

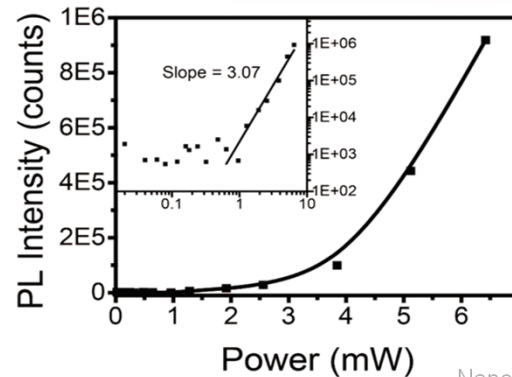
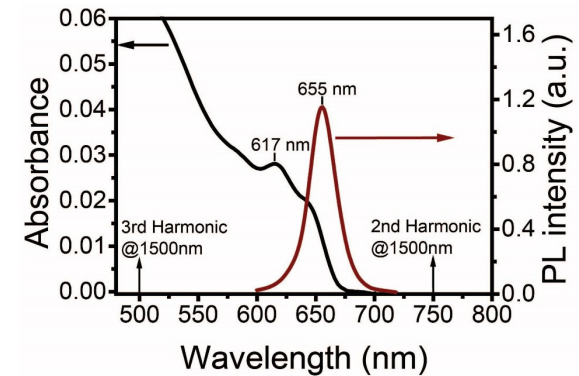
For characterization of SOI gap plasmon waveguides



## Cut-back method:

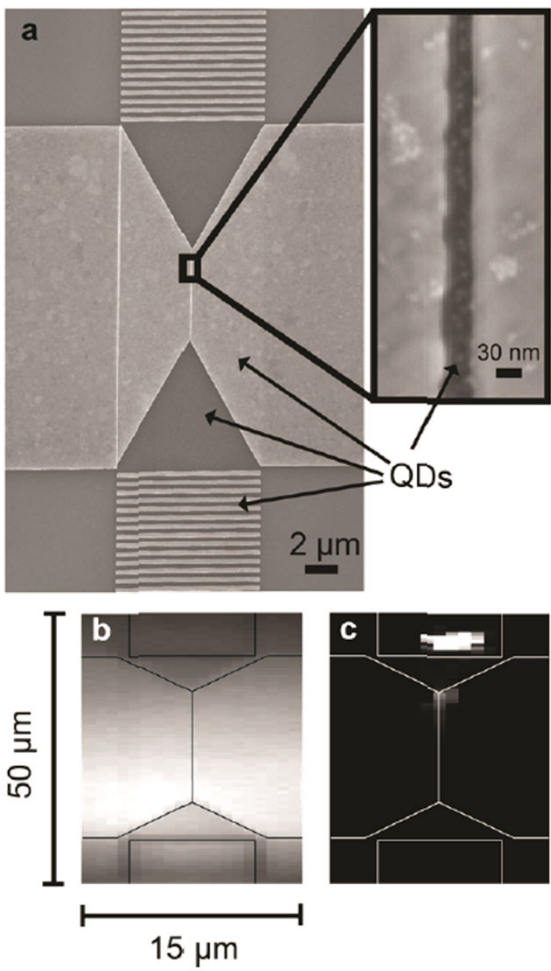
- Requires many sacrificial structures
- Measures propagation length
- Does not reveal mode location

## Use selectively deposited SQDs!

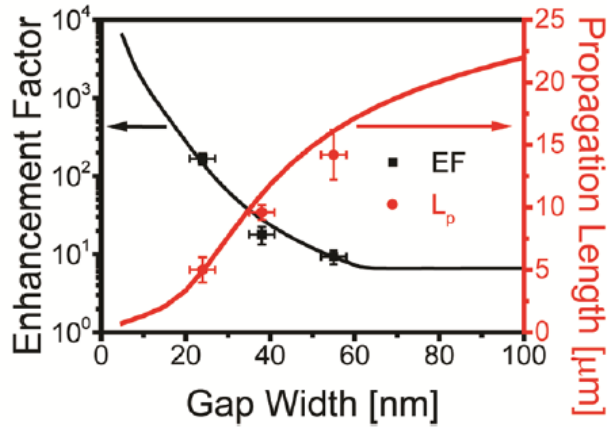
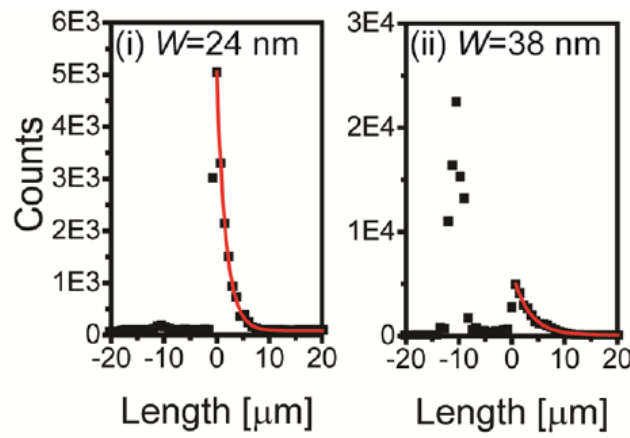


# Application of the 2-step EBL method

For characterization of SOI gap plasmon waveguides

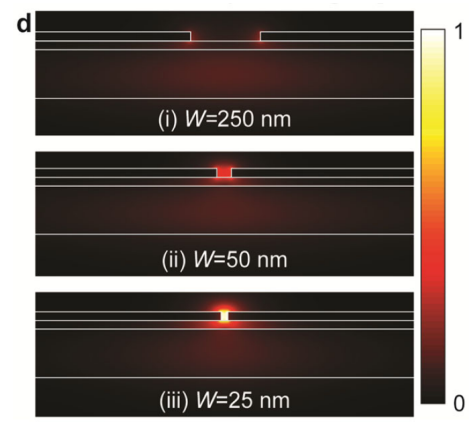


## QDs' TPE mapping



Characterization of a single sacrificial structure:

- Direct measurement of propagation length from TPE data
- Direct confirmation of “nano-squeezing” of light



$$EF = \left| \frac{I}{I_o} \right| = \frac{\left( \frac{C W_{\text{pixel}}}{C_o W} \right)^{1/3} \left( \frac{\rho_{\text{QD}}(W)}{\rho_{\text{QD}}(W_o)} \right)}{\eta_{\text{grating}}}$$

### Introduction

### Self-assembly

- Nano-bio hybrids
- Superclusters

### Localization

#### 2-step EBL

- Template dissolution

### Active control

- Brownian ratchets

### Conclusions

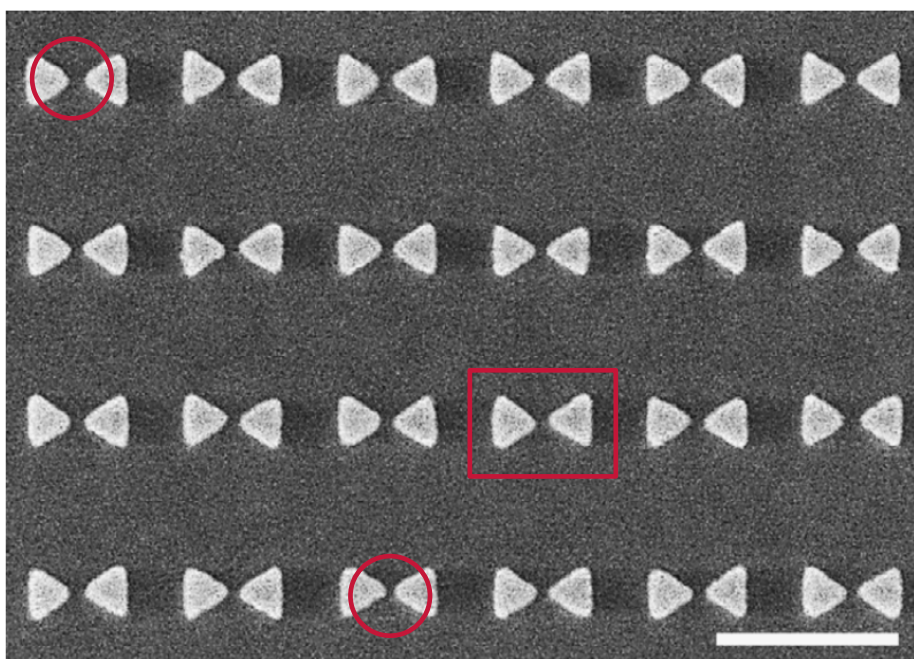


# Application of the 2-step EBL method

For deterministic control of radiative properties of QDs via exciton-plasmon coupling

## Plasmonic nanoantennas' performance depends on:

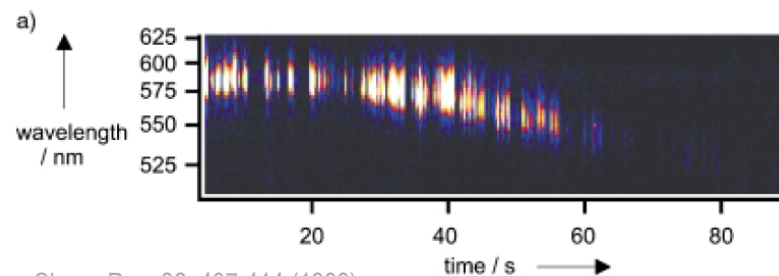
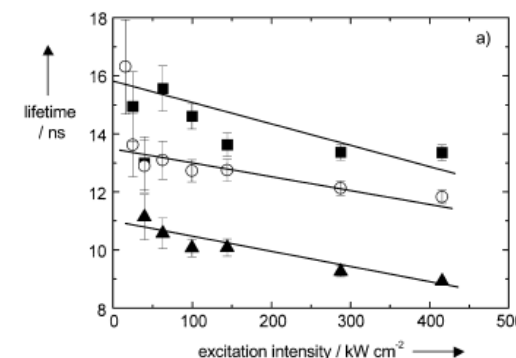
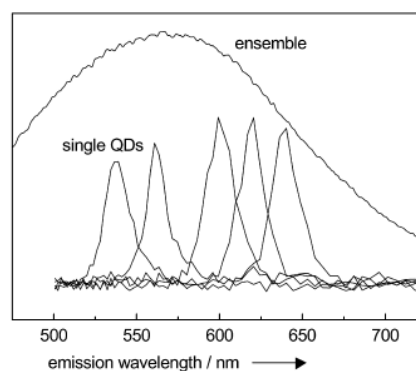
- Antenna shape & size
- Material from which it is made
- Dimension of gaps (if present)



Nature Comm. 5, 4427(2014)

## Colloidal QDs:

- Distribution of sizes ( $=\lambda_{em}$ ) in a sample
- Blinking behaviour on a few/single QD level
- Blue-shifts and shortening of lifetime at high excitation intensities



Acc. Chem. Res. 32, 407-414 (1999)  
ChemPhysChem 3, 871-879 (2002)

## Introduction

## Self-assembly

Nano-bio hybrids  
Superclusters

## Localization

### 2-step EBL

Template dissolution

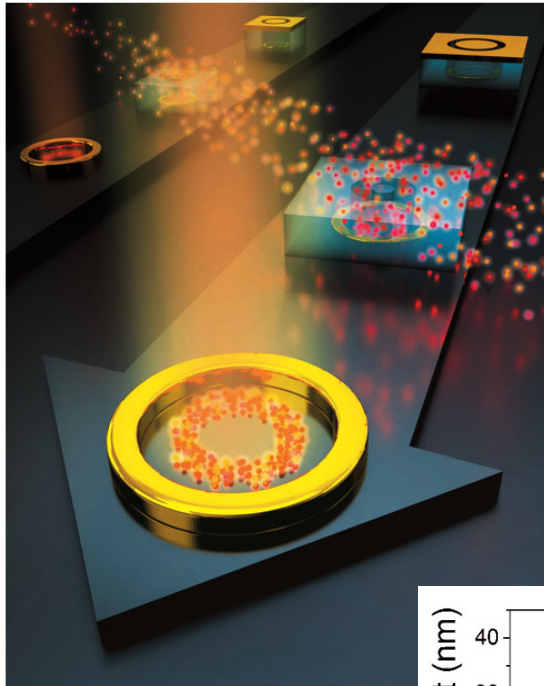
## Active control

Brownian ratchets

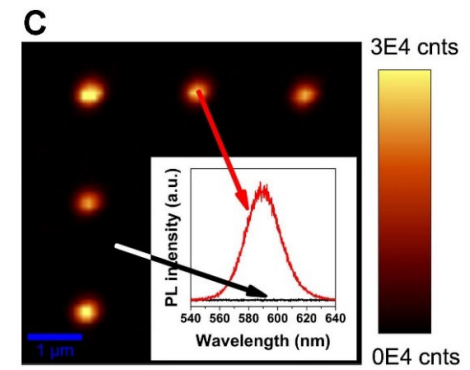
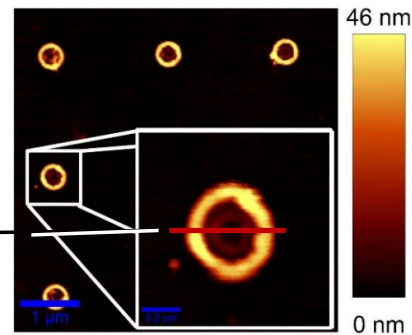
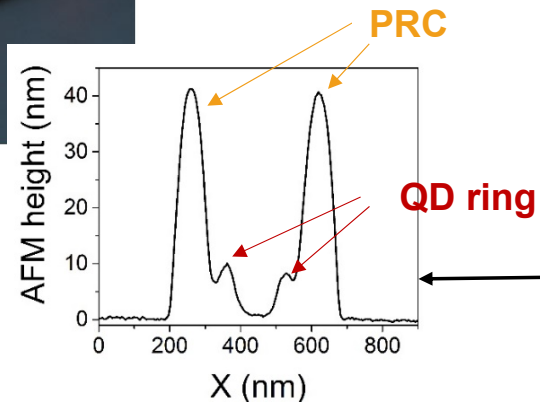
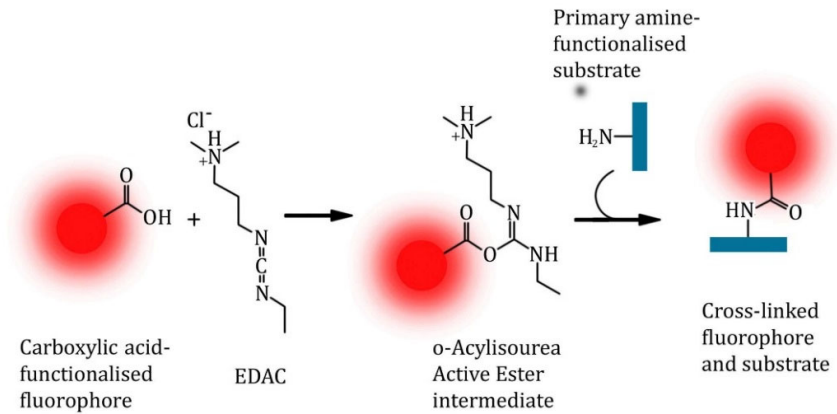
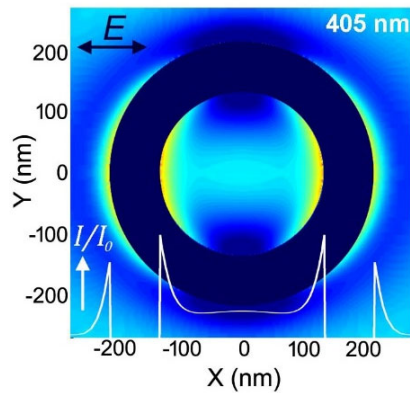
## Conclusions

# Application of the 2-step EBL method

For deterministic control of radiative properties of QDs via exciton-plasmon coupling



Selectively deposited colloidal QDs inside plasmonic ring cavities

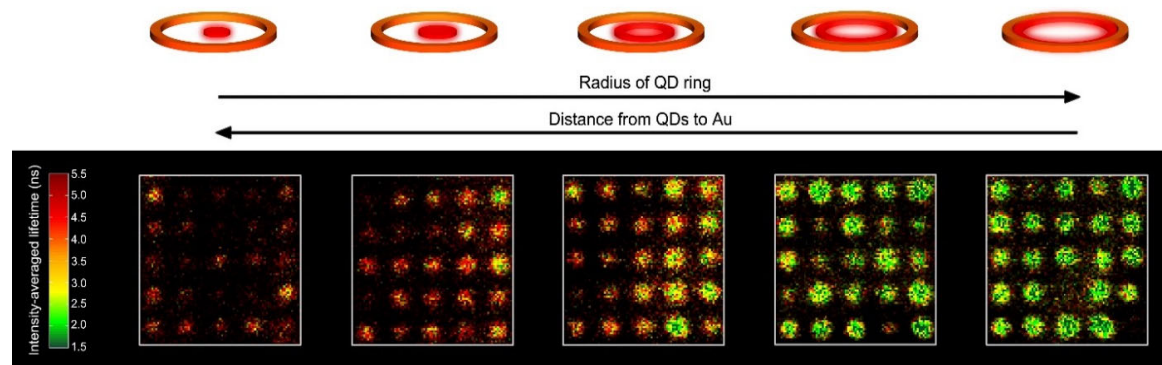
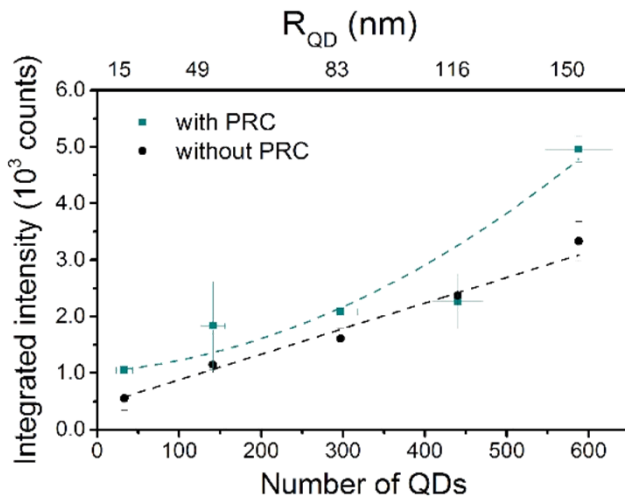
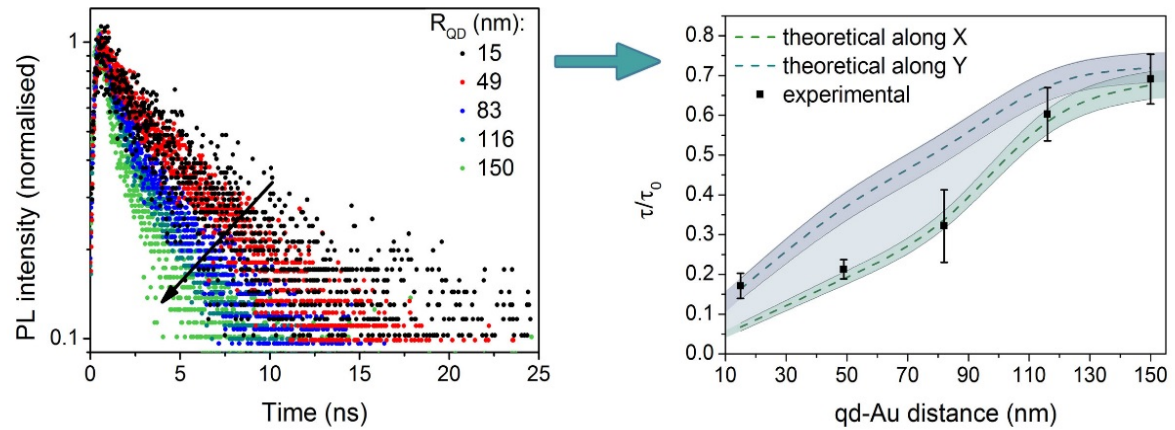


# Application of the 2-step EBL method

For deterministic control of radiative properties of QDs via exciton-plasmon coupling

## QD-PRC coupling

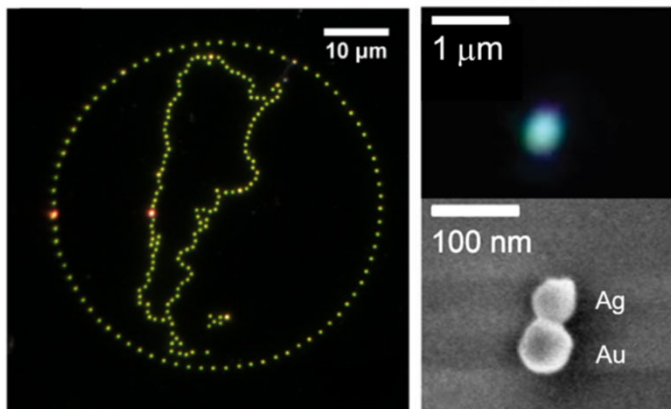
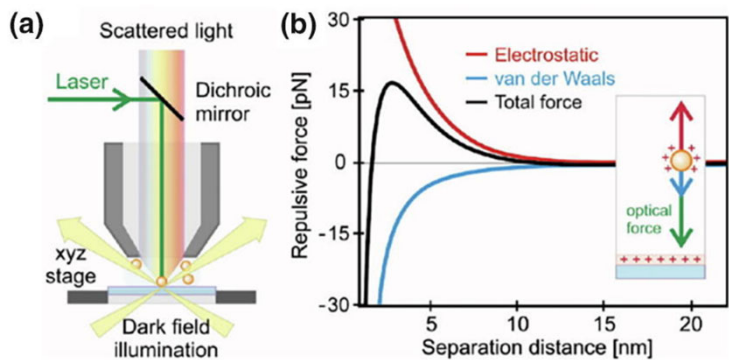
- Varied QD-PRC separation by increasing radius of QD ring
- Dimensions of PRC kept constant (D440t60)
- Strong change in radiative rates
- Good agreement with FDTD calculations



# Going big!

## Large-area printing & deposition techniques

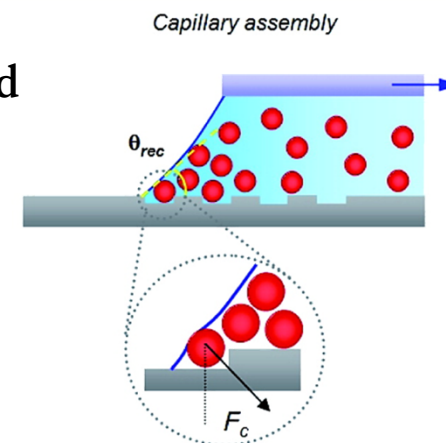
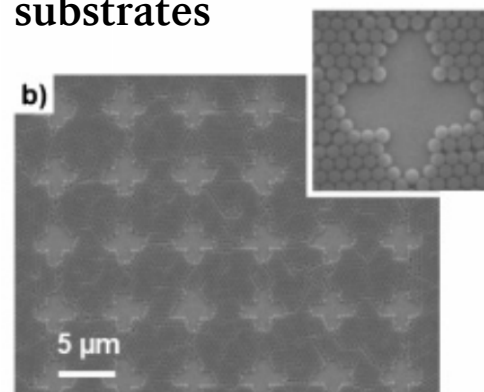
### Optical printing of metallic NPs



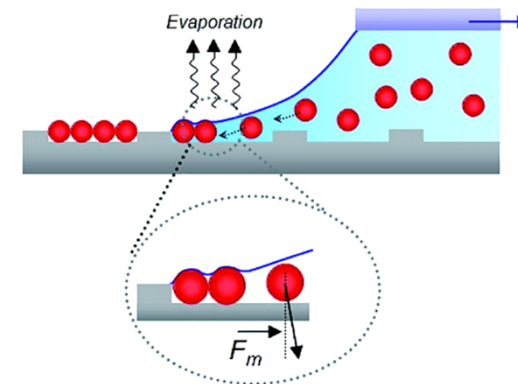
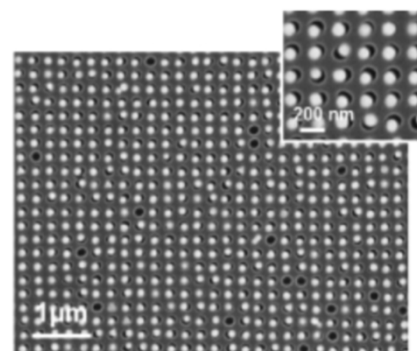
Linhan Lin et al. *Materials Today* 28, 49-62 (2019)

Julian Gargiulo et al. *NanoLetters* 16, 1224-1229 (2016)

### Capillary and convective assembly on pre-patterned substrates



Convective assembly on patterned substrates



L. Malaquin et al., *Langmuir* 23, 11513 (2007) 28

#### Introduction

#### Self-assembly

Nano-bio hybrids  
Superclusters

#### Localization

2-step EBL  
Template dissolution

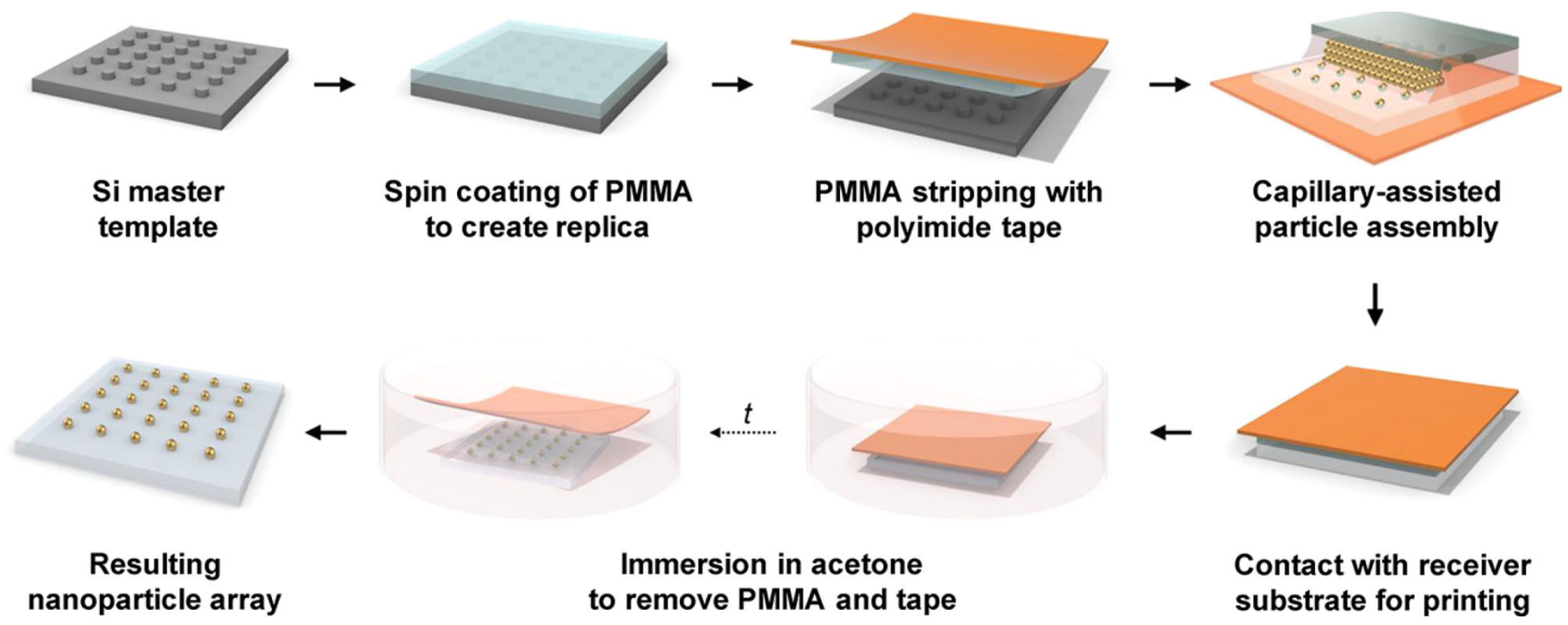
#### Active control

Brownian ratchets

#### Conclusions

# Large-area immobilization of Au NPs arrays

**CAPA (Capillary assisted particle assembly) + Stamping + Template-dissolution**



Introduction

Self-assembly

Nano-bio hybrids  
Superclusters

Localization

2-step EBL  
Template dissolution

Active control

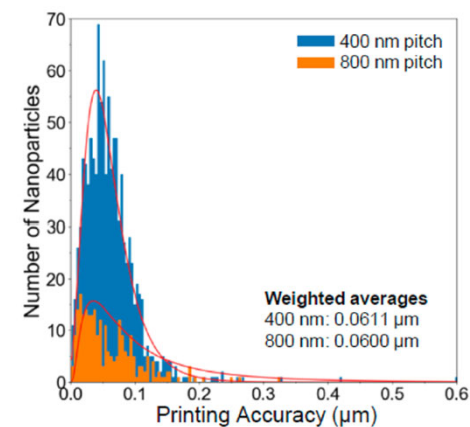
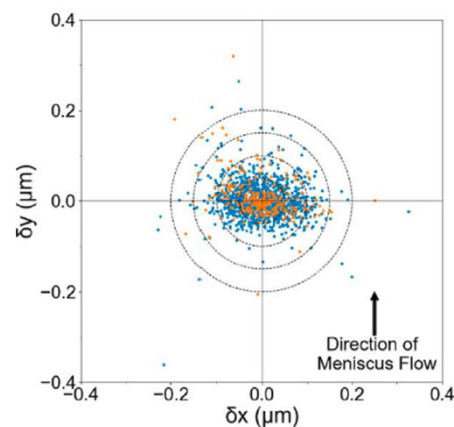
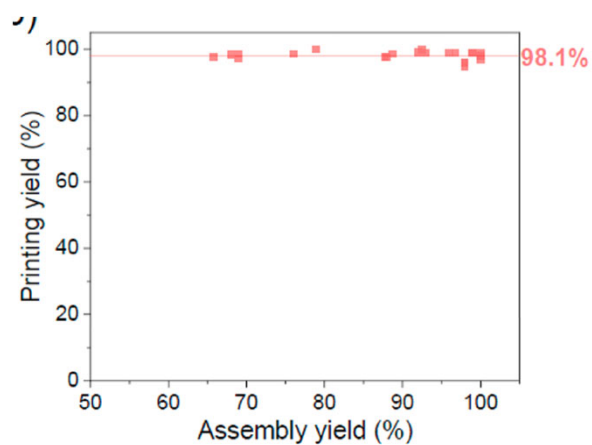
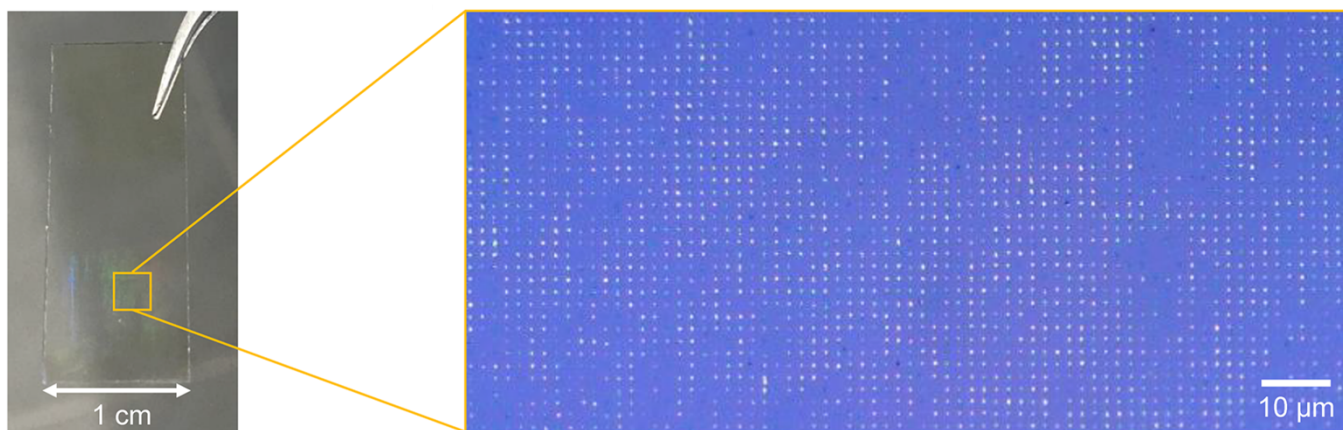
Brownian ratchets

Conclusions

In collaboration with LMU, ICL, KAIST, SUST  
J.B. Lee et al., ACS Nano 2020, 14, 17693

# Large-area immobilization of Au NPs arrays

## Printing accuracy and yield



In collaboration with LMU, ICL, KAIST, SUST

J.B. Lee et al., ACS Nano 2020, 14, 17693

Introduction

Self-assembly

Nano-bio hybrids  
Superclusters

Localization

2-step EBL  
Template dissolution

Active control

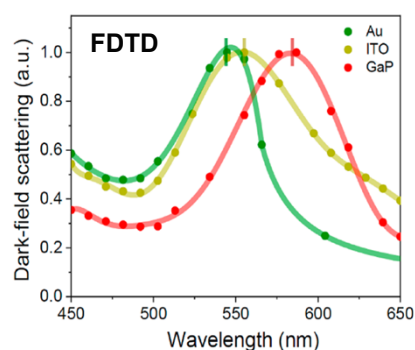
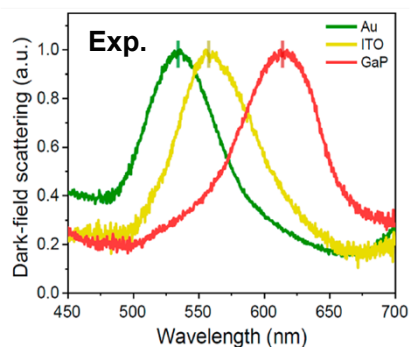
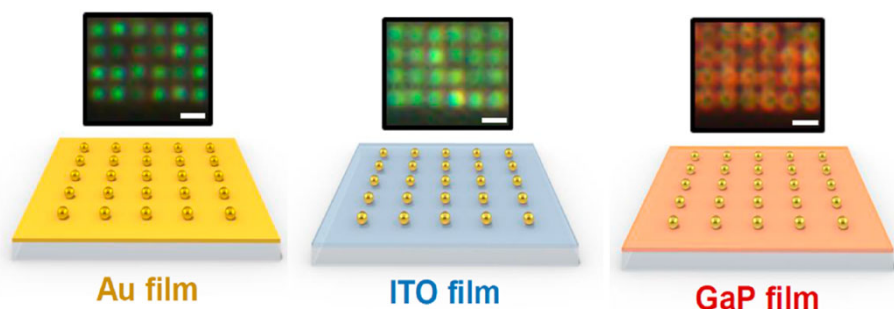
Brownian ratchets

Conclusions

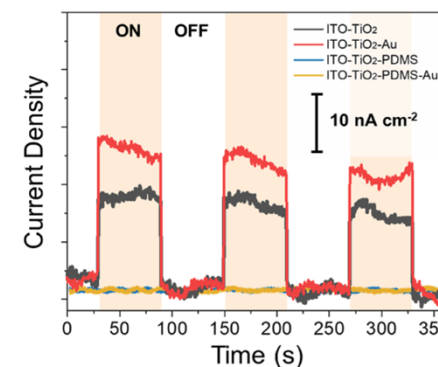
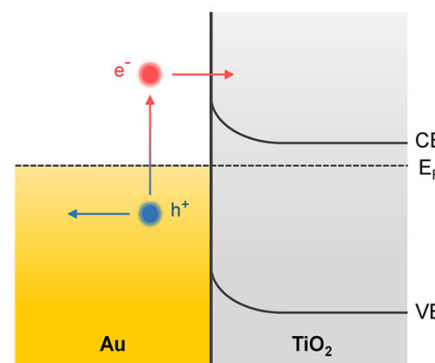
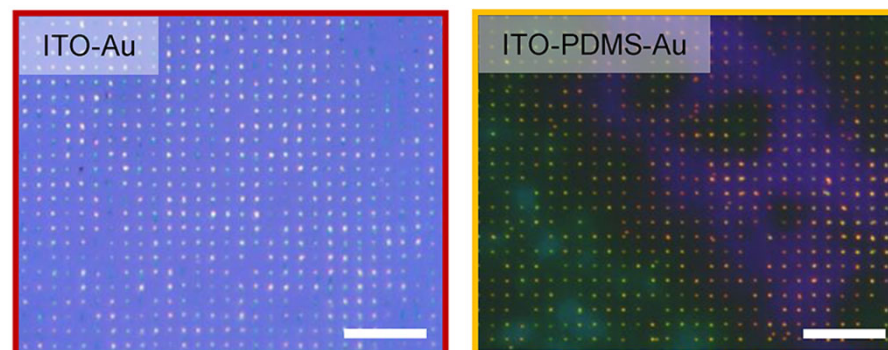
# Large-area immobilization of Au NPs arrays

## Printing on different substrates

- Assembly conditions depend on NP and substrate type
- Works for any substrate not soluble in acetone
- Can be used with pre-existing structures



## Hot-electron detection via an introduction of a tunnelling junction



Introduction

Self-assembly

Nano-bio hybrids  
Superclusters

Localization

2-step EBL  
Template dissolution

Active control

Brownian ratchets

Conclusions

In collaboration with LMU, ICL, KAIST, SUST

J.B. Lee et al., ACS Nano 2020, 14, 17693

# Active control of colloidal nanoparticles

In aqueous environments

## Active control can enable

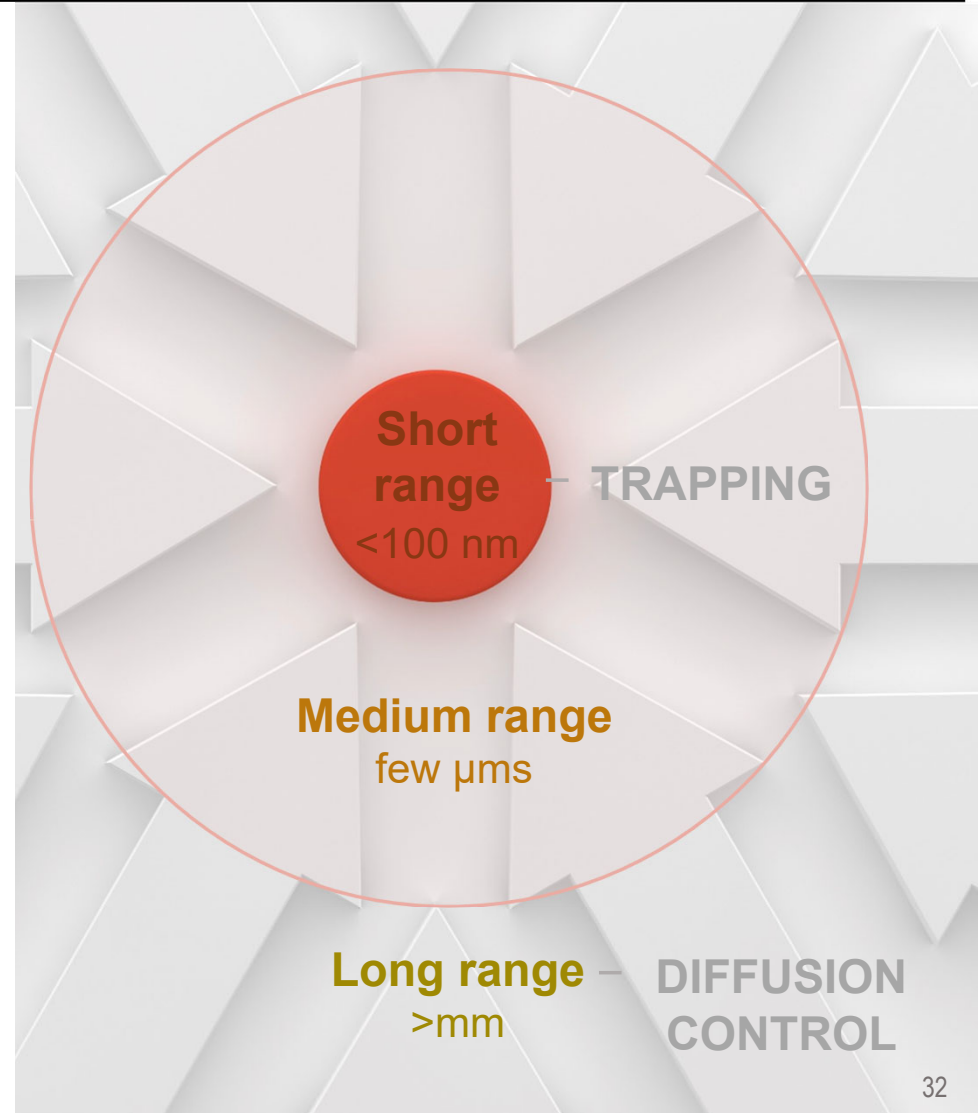
- Particle sorting
- Temporary/permanent concentration of samples
- Delivery of test materials to sensing areas

## Allowing

- Lower LODs in sensing schemes
- In-situ measurements ranging from on single-particle level to ensemble level on same sample

## Various forces can be utilized

- Have different action ranges



Introduction

Self-assembly

Nano-bio  
hybrids

Superclusters

Localization

2-step EBL

Template  
dissolution

Active control

Brownian  
ratchets

Conclusions



# Active control of colloidal nanoparticles

Introduction

Self-assembly

Nano-bio hybrids  
Superclusters

Localization

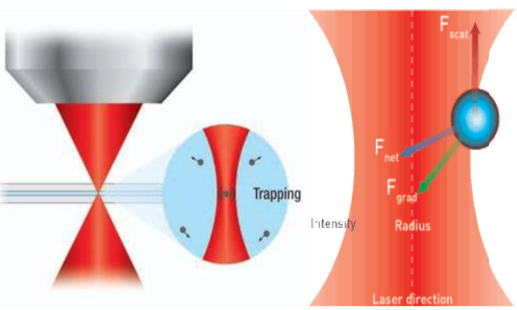
2-step EBL  
Template dissolution

Active control

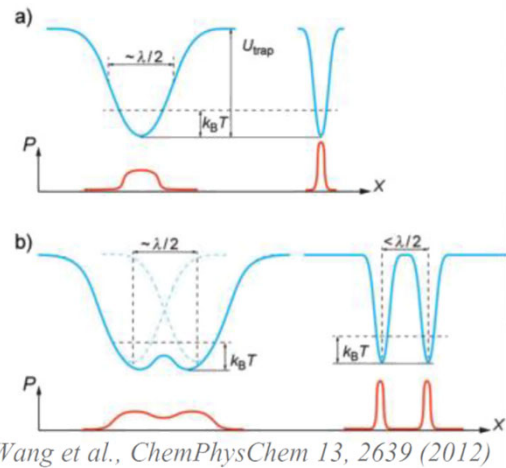
Brownian ratchets

Conclusions

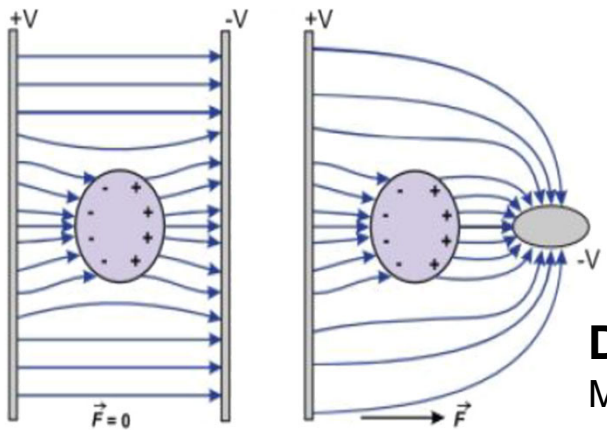
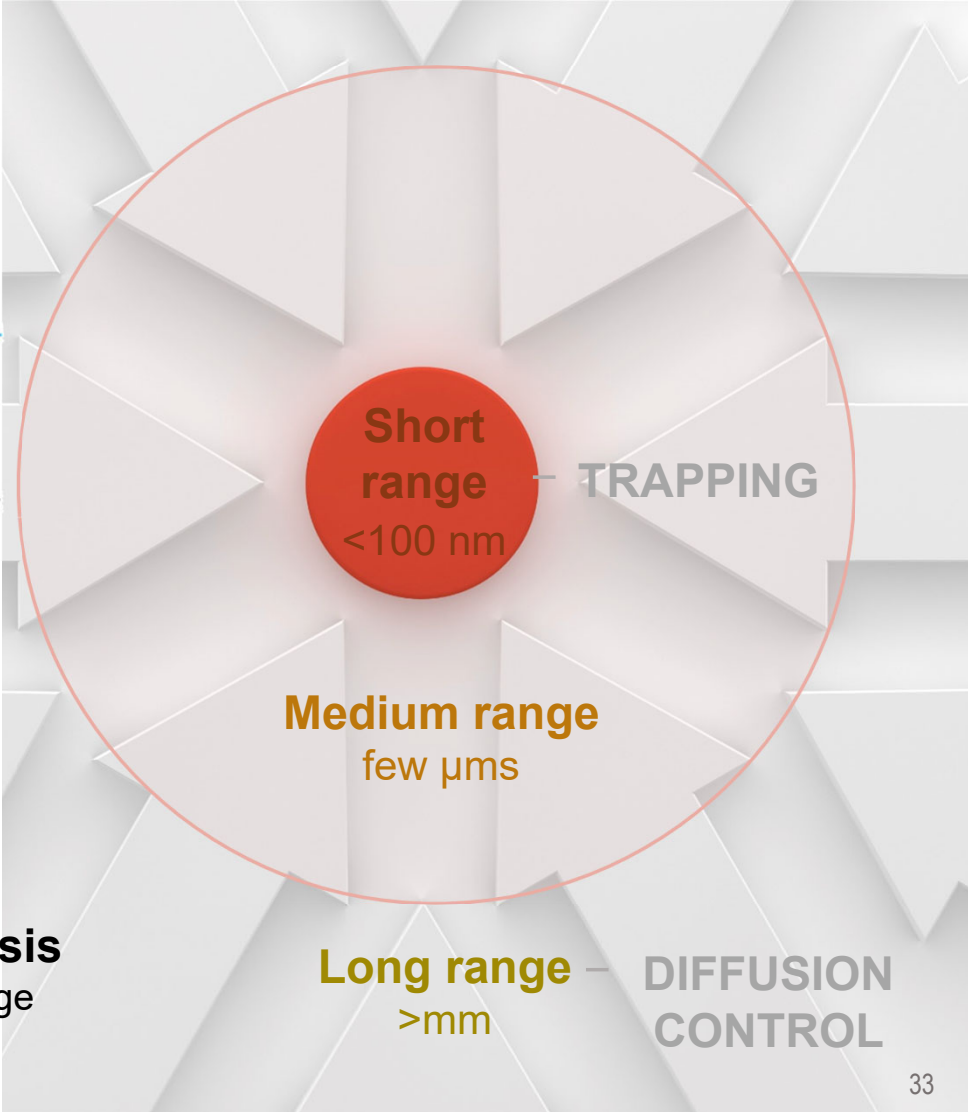
## Optical trapping (Usually) short range



Ashkin, (1986)



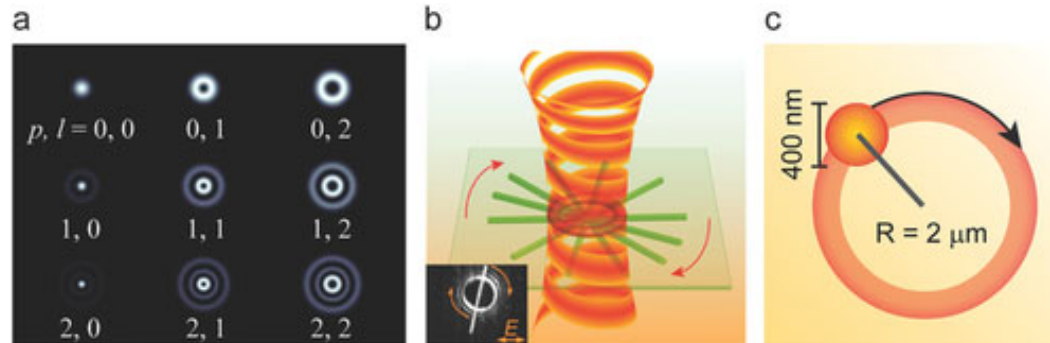
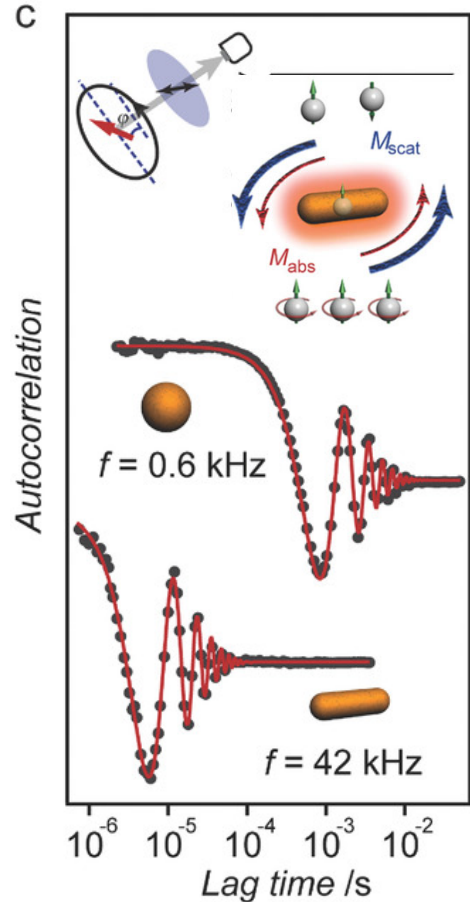
Wang et al., ChemPhysChem 13, 2639 (2012)



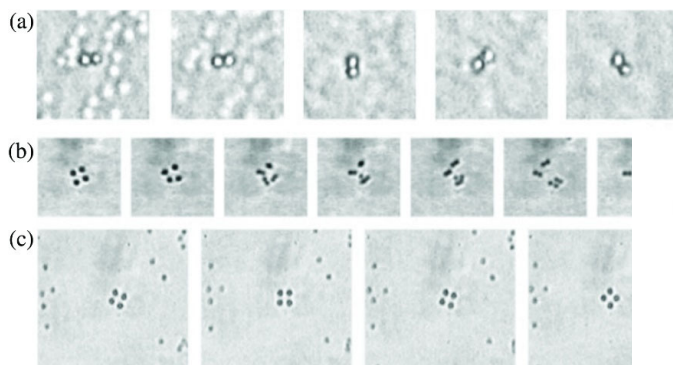
## Dielectrophoresis Medium-to-long range

# Control of nanoparticle motion in solution using SLMs

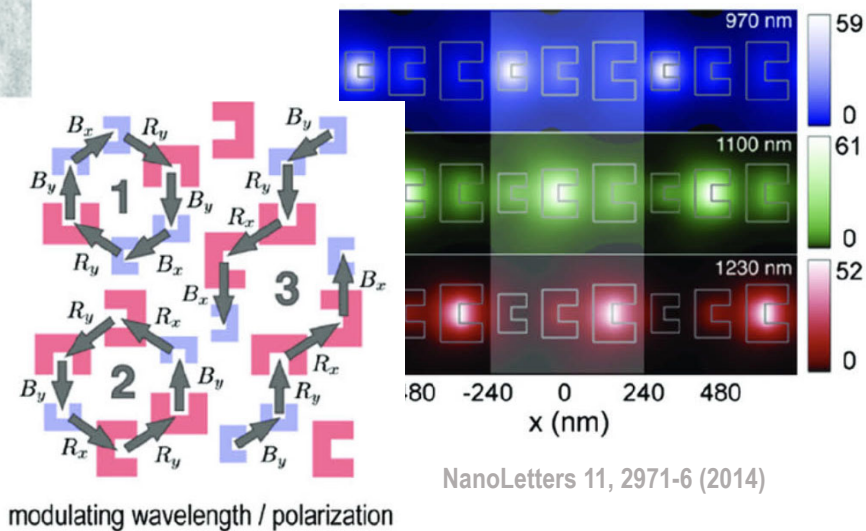
doi.org/10.1002/adfm.201706272



J. Phys. Chem. Lett. 2013, 4, 17, 2937–2942



Science, 296 (5570), 1101–1103 (2002)



## Introduction

## Self-assembly

Nano-bio hybrids  
Superclusters

## Localization

2-step EBL  
Template dissolution

## Active control

Brownian ratchets

## Conclusions

# Active control of colloidal nanoparticles

In aqueous environments

## Active control can enable

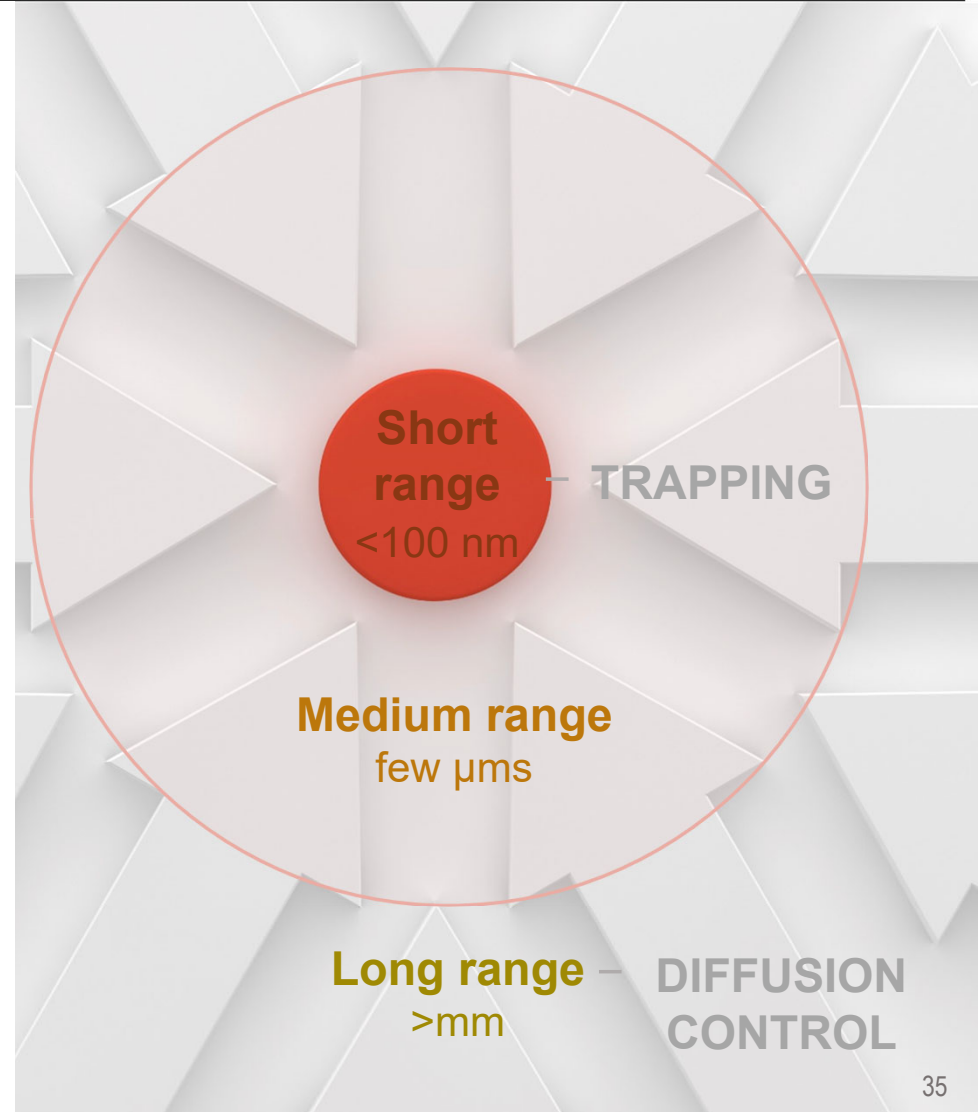
- Particle sorting
- Temporary/permanent concentration of samples
- Delivery of test materials to sensing areas

## Allowing

- Lower LODs in sensing schemes
- In-situ measurements ranging from on single-particle level to ensemble level on same sample

## Various forces can be utilized

- Have different action ranges



Introduction

Self-assembly

Nano-bio  
hybrids

Superclusters

Localization

2-step EBL

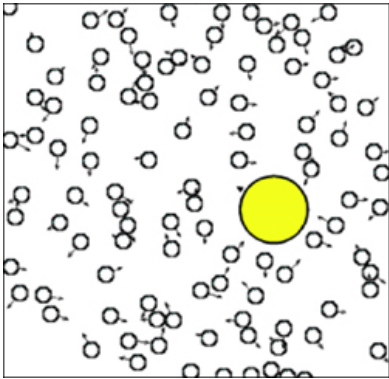
Template  
dissolution

Active control

Brownian  
ratchets

Conclusions

# Brownian motion of particles in solutions



## Brownian motion

- Stochastic process resulting in random motion
- Mean Square displacement for an ensemble:

$$\langle (x_t - x_0)^2 \rangle = 2Dt$$

where  $D$  is the diffusion coefficient:

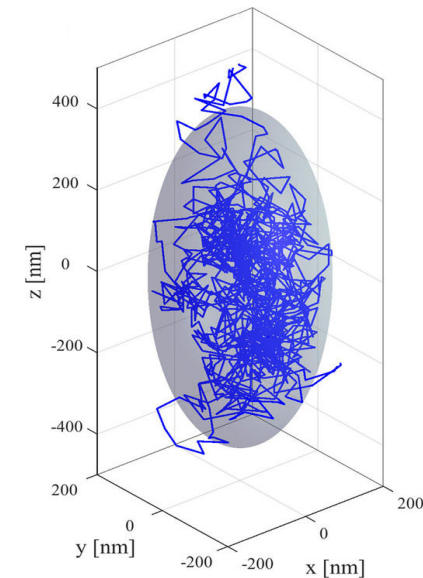
$$D = \frac{k_B T}{\gamma}, \quad \gamma = 6\pi\eta a$$

## Particle diffusion in presence of a potential

- Additional forces are exerted on particles
- Brownian motion “adds” thermal noise

**Can exploit this noise for long range transport!**

Particle motion in an optical trap



Eur. Phys. J. Plus 135, 949 (2020)

## Introduction

## Self-assembly

Nano-bio  
hybrids  
Superclusters

## Localization

2-step EBL  
Template  
dissolution

## Active control

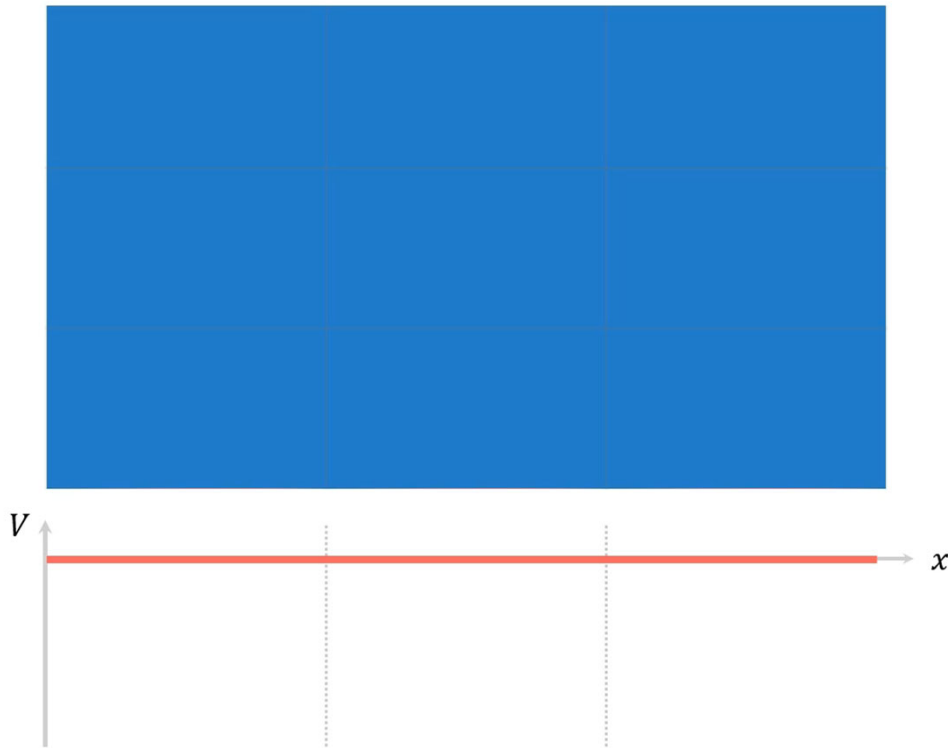
Brownian  
ratchets

## Conclusions

# Rectification of Brownian motion

Through application of period & asymmetric potential

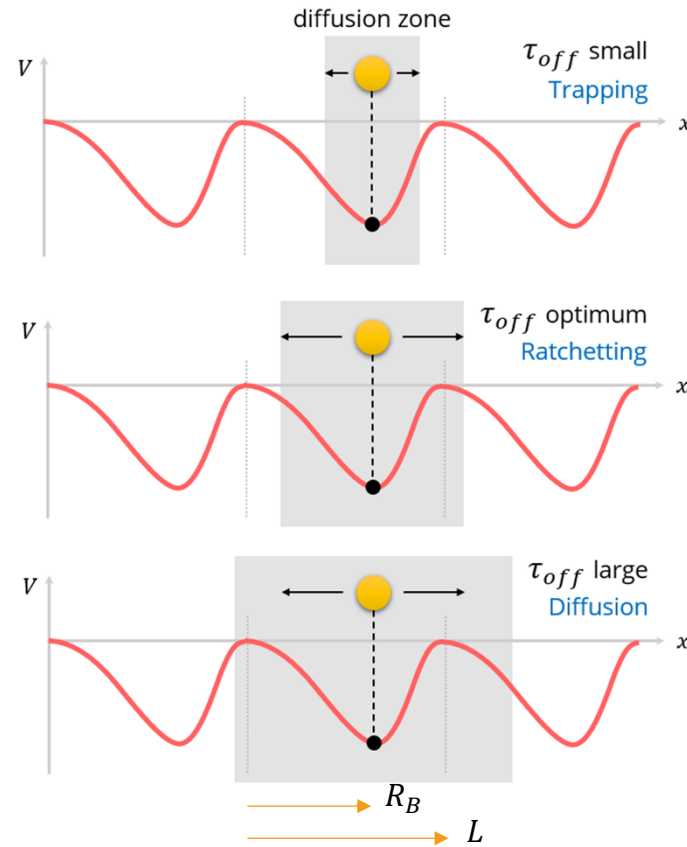
LASER: **OFF**



Can use any type of potential  
as long as it is switchable

Optimum time to keep the potential off:

$$\tau_i = \frac{(L-R_B)^2}{2D} < \tau_{off} < \tau_{\#} = \frac{R_B^2}{2D}$$

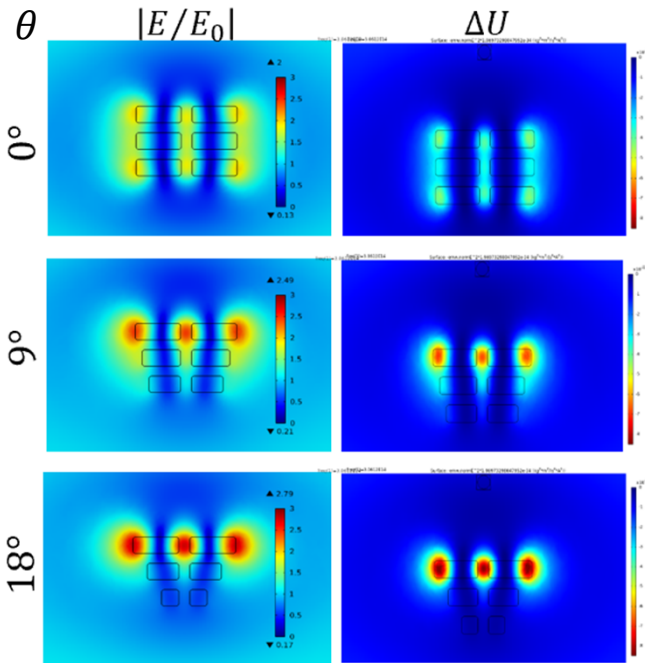




# Plasmonic Brownian ratchets

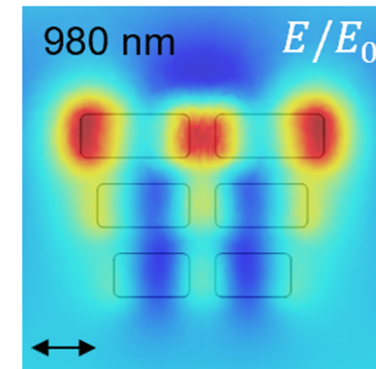
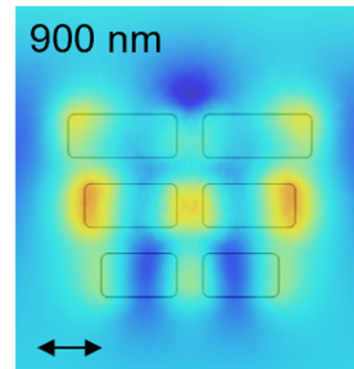
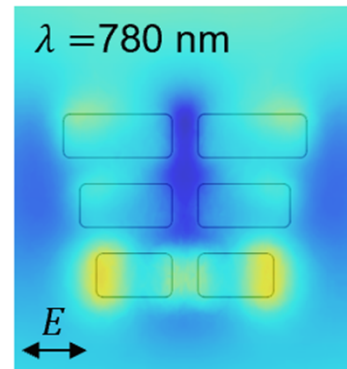
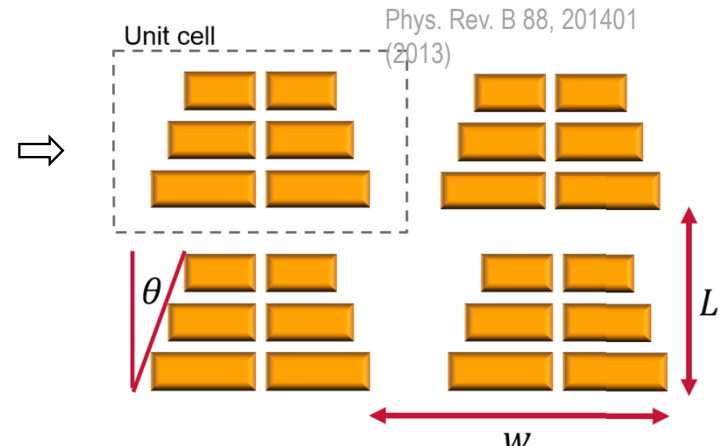
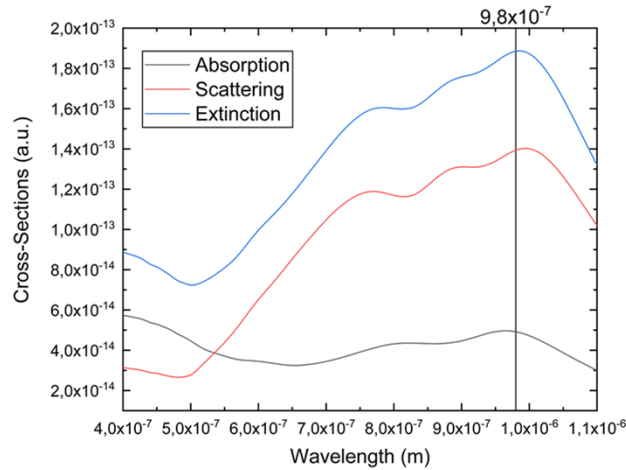
## Advantages

- Easily designed / fabricated
- Asymmetries easy to implement
- Reduced power requirements
- Simple implementation



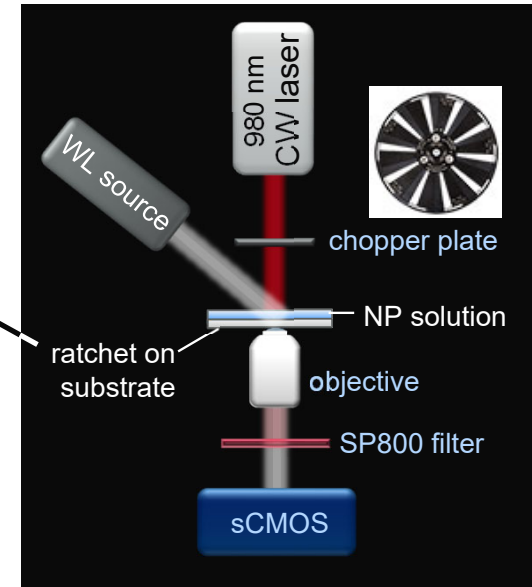
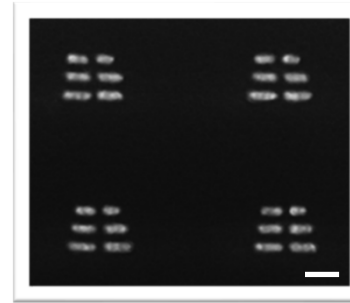
## Ratchet design

- Strong resonance at target  $\lambda$
- Asymmetric potential profile

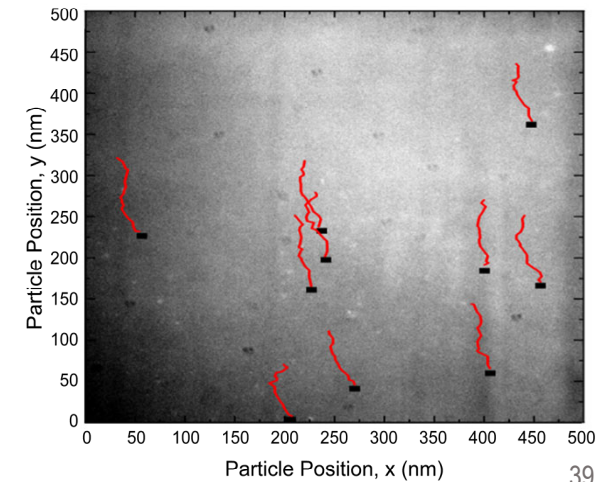
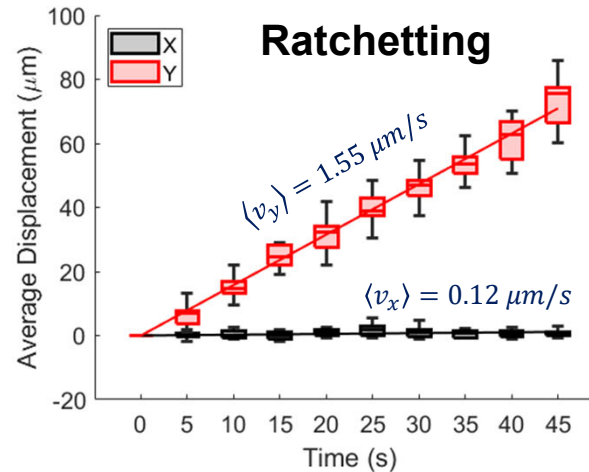
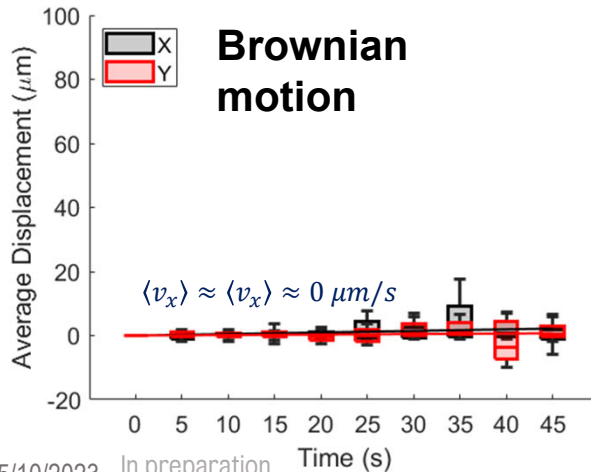


# Experimental implementation of plasmonic Brownian ratchets

- Chopped 980 nm CW excitation
- Max power used 2.5 kW/cm<sup>2</sup>
- Chopping: 50/50 duty cycle
- Adjustable frequency
- Aqueous solutions of various NPs



	Polystyrene (40 nm)	Polystyrene (200 nm)	PTB7 (180 nm)
$\langle v_x \rangle$	0.14 $\mu\text{m/s}$	0.12 $\mu\text{m/s}$	0.15 $\mu\text{m/s}$
$\langle v_y \rangle$	2.37 $\mu\text{m/s}$	1.55 $\mu\text{m/s}$	1.84 $\mu\text{m/s}$



# Experimental implementation of plasmonic Brownian ratchets

Introduction

Self-assembly

Nano-bio hybrids  
Superclusters

Localization

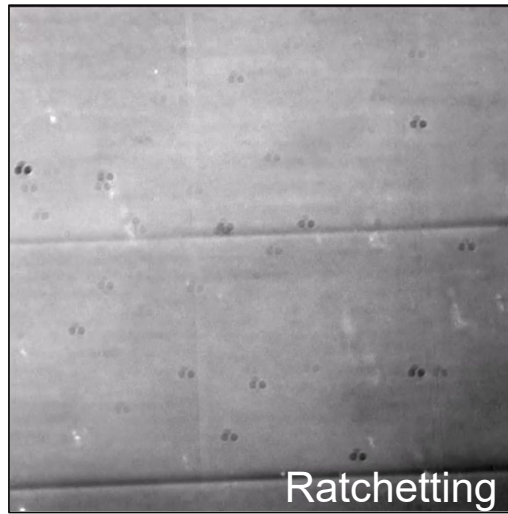
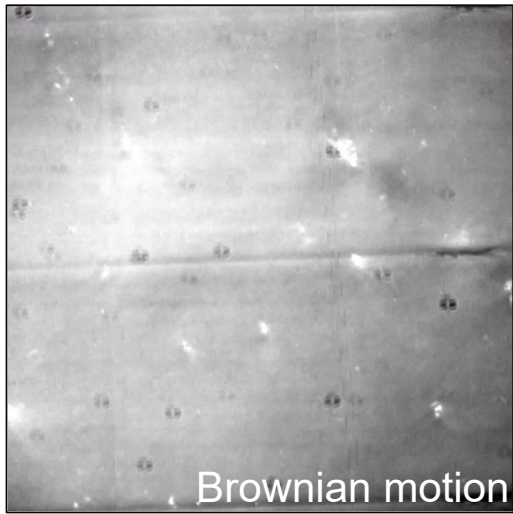
2-step EBL  
Template dissolution

Active control

Brownian ratchets

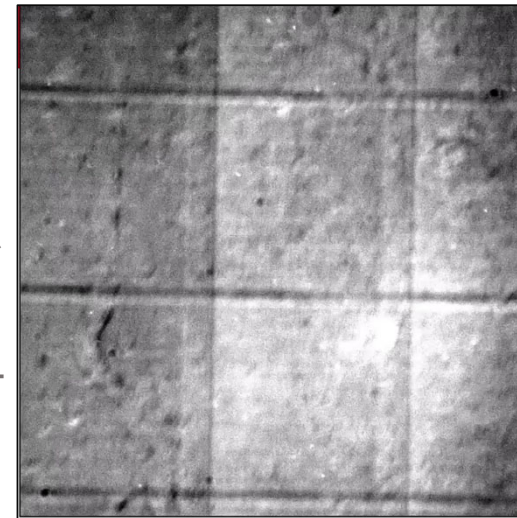
Conclusions

## Polystyrene spheres, 40 nm diameter

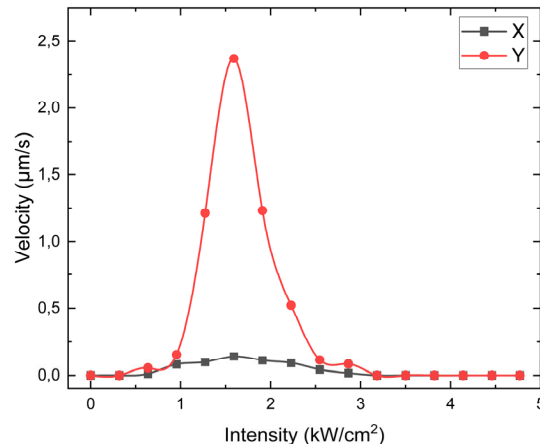
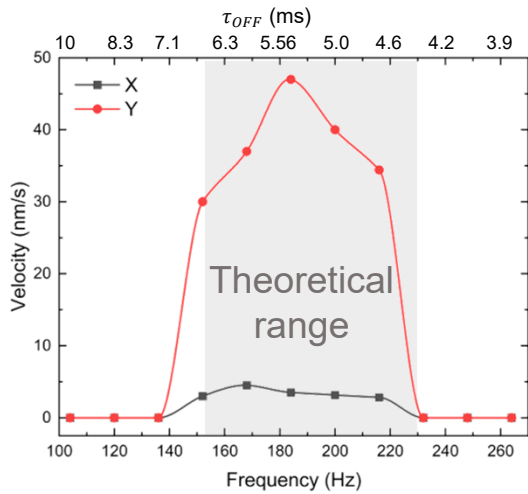
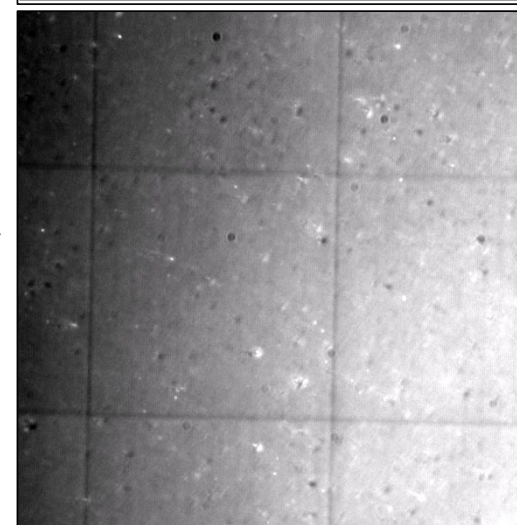


## Other sizes/materials

PS spheres, 200 nm



PTB7 CPNs, 180 nm





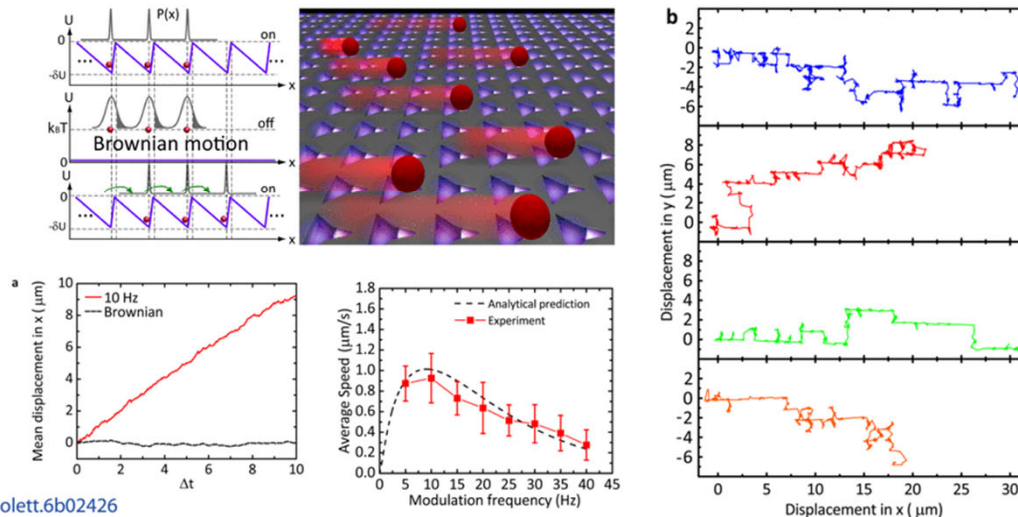
# Comparison to other optically-driven Brownian ratchets

## Optical ratchets

### Near-Field, On-Chip Optical Brownian Ratchets

Shao-Hua Wu, Ningfeng Huang, Eric Jaquay, and Michelle L. Povinelli\*

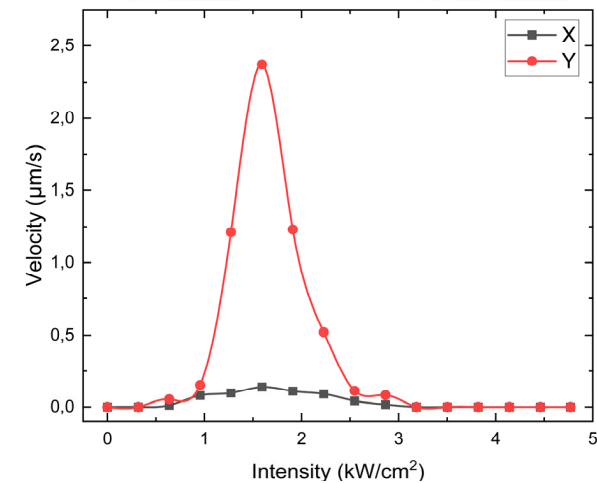
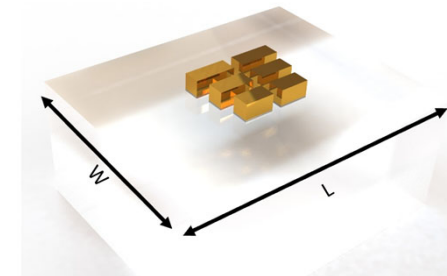
Ming Hsieh Department of Electrical Engineering, Viterbi School of Engineering, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, California 90089, United States



DOI: 10.1021/acs.nanolett.6b02426  
Nano Lett. 2016, 16, 5261–5266

Average speed = 1  $\mu\text{m/s}$   
Coupled power = 100  $\mu\text{W}/\mu\text{m}^2 = 10^8 \text{ W/m}^2$   
Analyte =  $\varnothing$ 520 nm polystyrene spheres

## Our plasmonic ratchets



Average speed  $\sim 2.5 \mu\text{m/s}$   
Incident power  $\sim 2 \text{ kW/cm}^2 = 0.2 \text{ W/m}^2$   
Analytes =  $\varnothing$ 40-200 nm polymer spheres

Introduction

Self-assembly

Nano-bio  
hybrids

Superclusters

Localization

2-step EBL

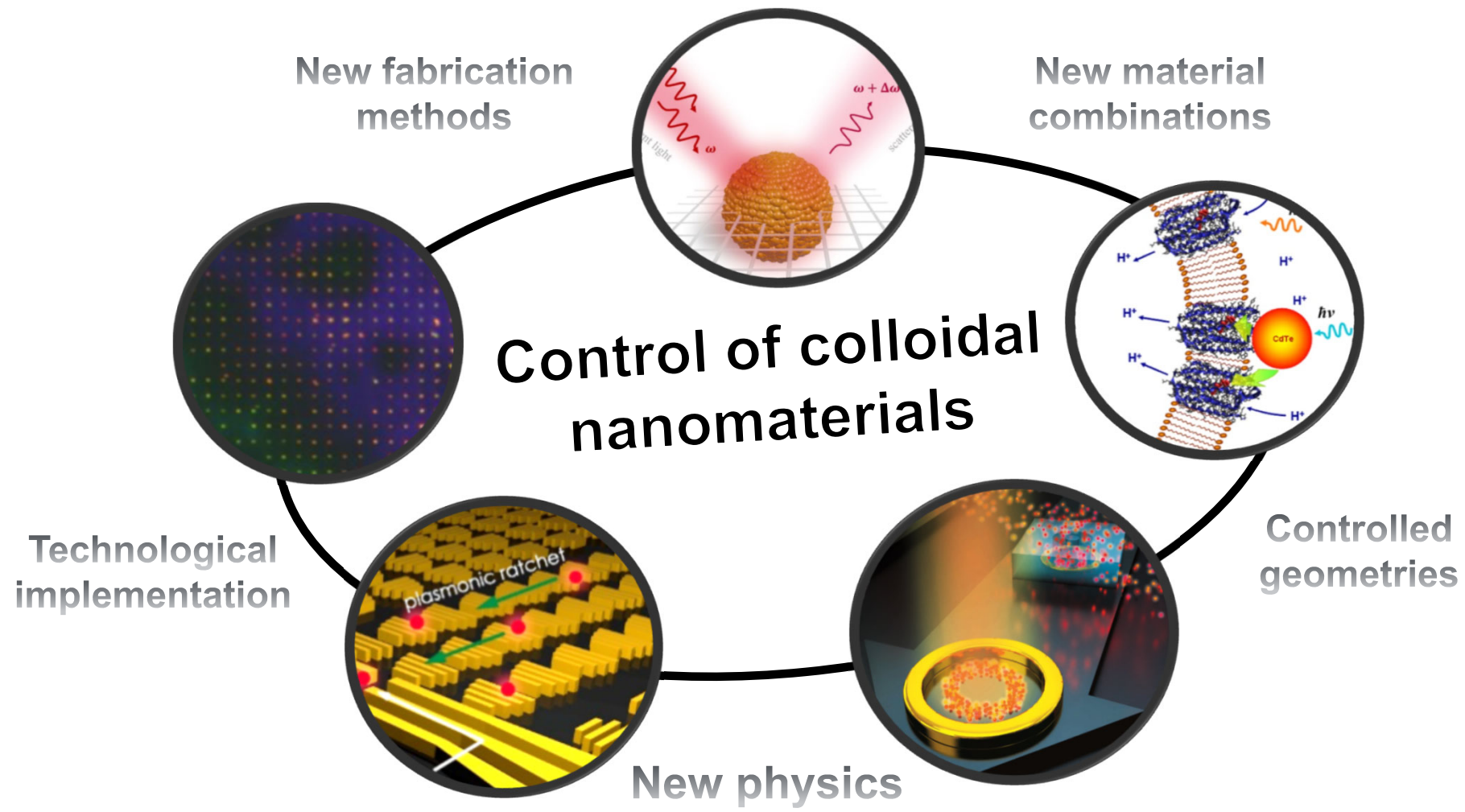
Template  
dissolution

Active control

Brownian  
ratchets

Conclusions

# Conclusions



# Acknowledgements

## People: Select main contributors

Marciano Palma do Carmo (KCL, UK)  
 Dr. Paloma Huidobro-Arroyo (UAM, Spain)  
 Dr. Alberto Lauri (ICL, UK\*)  
 Dr. Michael Nielsen (UNSW Sydney, Australia)  
 Dr. Emiliano Cortes (LMU, Germany)  
 Prof. Igor Nabiev (URCA, France)  
 Dr. Pablo Albella (University of Cantabria, Spain)  
 Dr Francisco Rodríguez Fortuño (KCL, UK)  
 Prof. Alexander Govorov (Ohio University, USA)  
 Dr. Mikhail Artemyev (BSU, Belarus)  
 Dr. Nikolai Gaponik (TUD, Germany)  
 Prof. Stefan Maier (Monash University, Australia)

## References:

### QD as artificial LH antenna for RCs

Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. **49**, 7217 (2010)

### QD as artificial LH antenna for bR protein

NanoLett. **10**, 2640 (2010)

### Superclusters of metallic nanoparticles

ACS Photonics **4**, 2070-2077 (2017)

### QD as probes for waveguide characterization

NanoLett. **16**, 1410-1414 (2016)

### QDs-Plasmonic Ring Cavities coupling

ACS Nano **9**, 2648-2658 (2015)

### Template dissolution method

ACS Nano **14**, 17693 (2020)

## Contact:

[aliaksandra.rakovic@kcl.ac.uk](mailto:aliaksandra.rakovic@kcl.ac.uk)

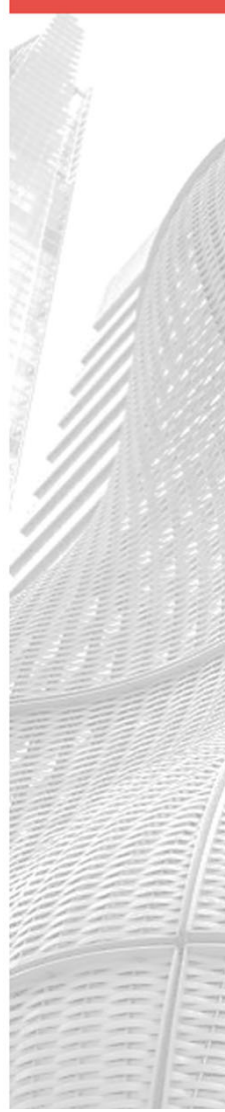
<http://nanobiophotonics-group.com/>

## Funding:



embarkinitiative  
Investing in People and Ideas





---

Thank you for your attention!