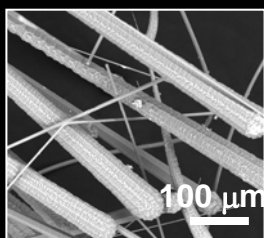




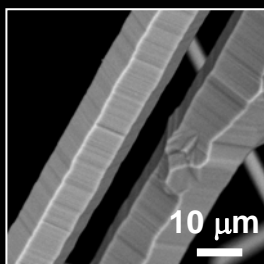
Condition1

Needle-like



SEM images

↓ enlargement

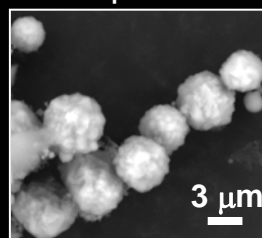


Characteristics

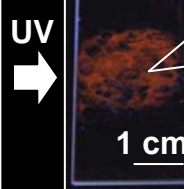
- Single crystal
- High purity > 99.9999%

Condition2

Microparticles

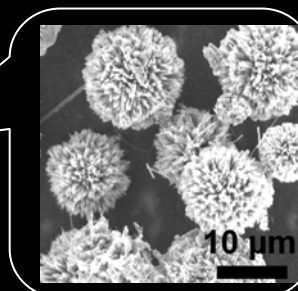


↓ etching



UV

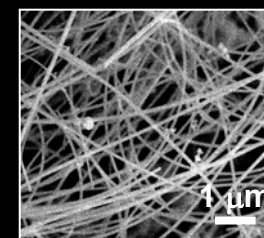
- Orange-red photoluminescence under UV light



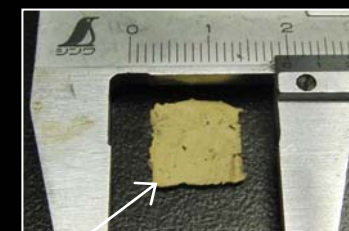
- Drastic change in morphology → "echinus-like"

Condition3

Nanowires



- Diameter < 100 nm
- Rough surface of nanowires



Fabric of nanowires

Application

Solar cells (photovoltaics)

· Chemical sensor
· Bio-imaging material

· Silicon anode for Lithium-ion batteries

· Thermoelectric material

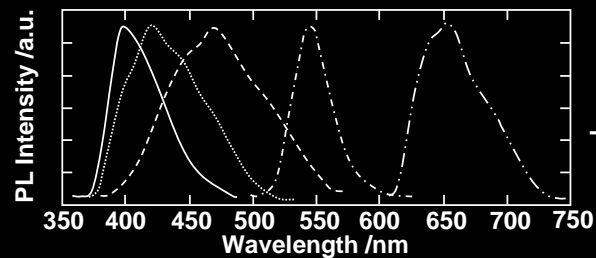
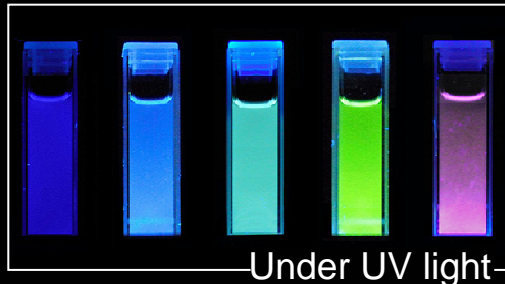
Various Silicon Materials via the same reaction

Our recent interest : How to selectively produce them?

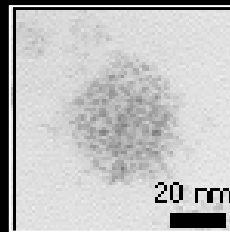
Si nanoparticles by plasma decomposition of SiBr_4 or SiCl_4

Characteristics

Multi-color photoluminescence(PL)
(dispersed in ethanol)

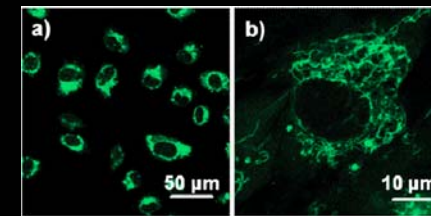


PL Spectra of the above samples



TEM image of an "aggregate"
of Si-nanoparticles

Application as a bio-imaging material



Fluorescent images
of live cells labeled with Si-nanoparticles.
(Human umbilical vein endothelial cells)

- Good stability in PL intensity
- Possibility as a new bio-imaging material

However, production rate is still small so far.....

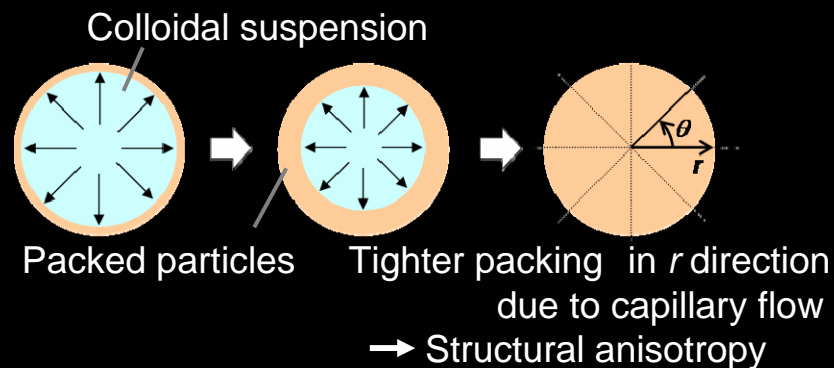
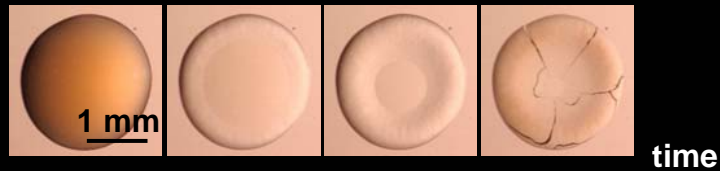
Our recent interest : How to scale up production rate?

Film formation kinetics during drying of a suspension

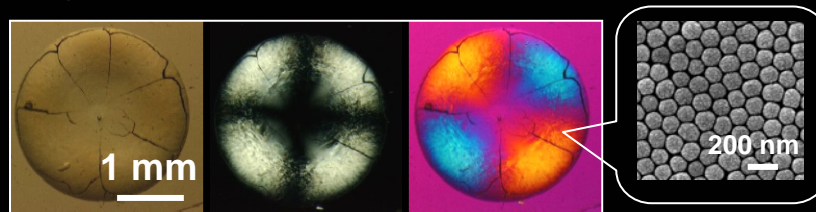
How films and “defects” in films form during drying?

Distortion in film structure due to drying

Colloidal film formation by drop drying method



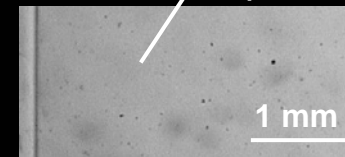
Birefringent film of spherical colloidal particles



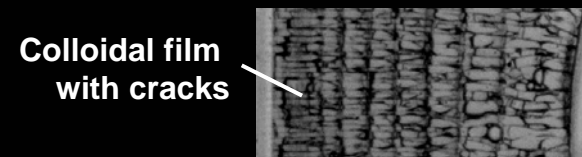
Normal light + crossed polarizers + compensator

Crack formation in films due to drying

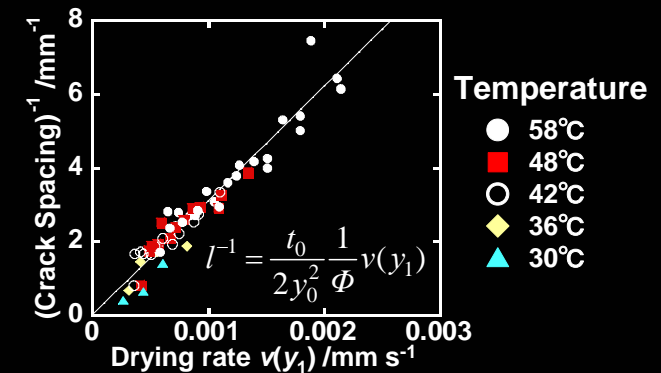
Suspension of silica colloids
(diameter ~ 10 nm)



↓ Drying and film formation
with cracks



Crack spacing l



Not drying temperature, but drying rate is a dominant factor for crack spacing.