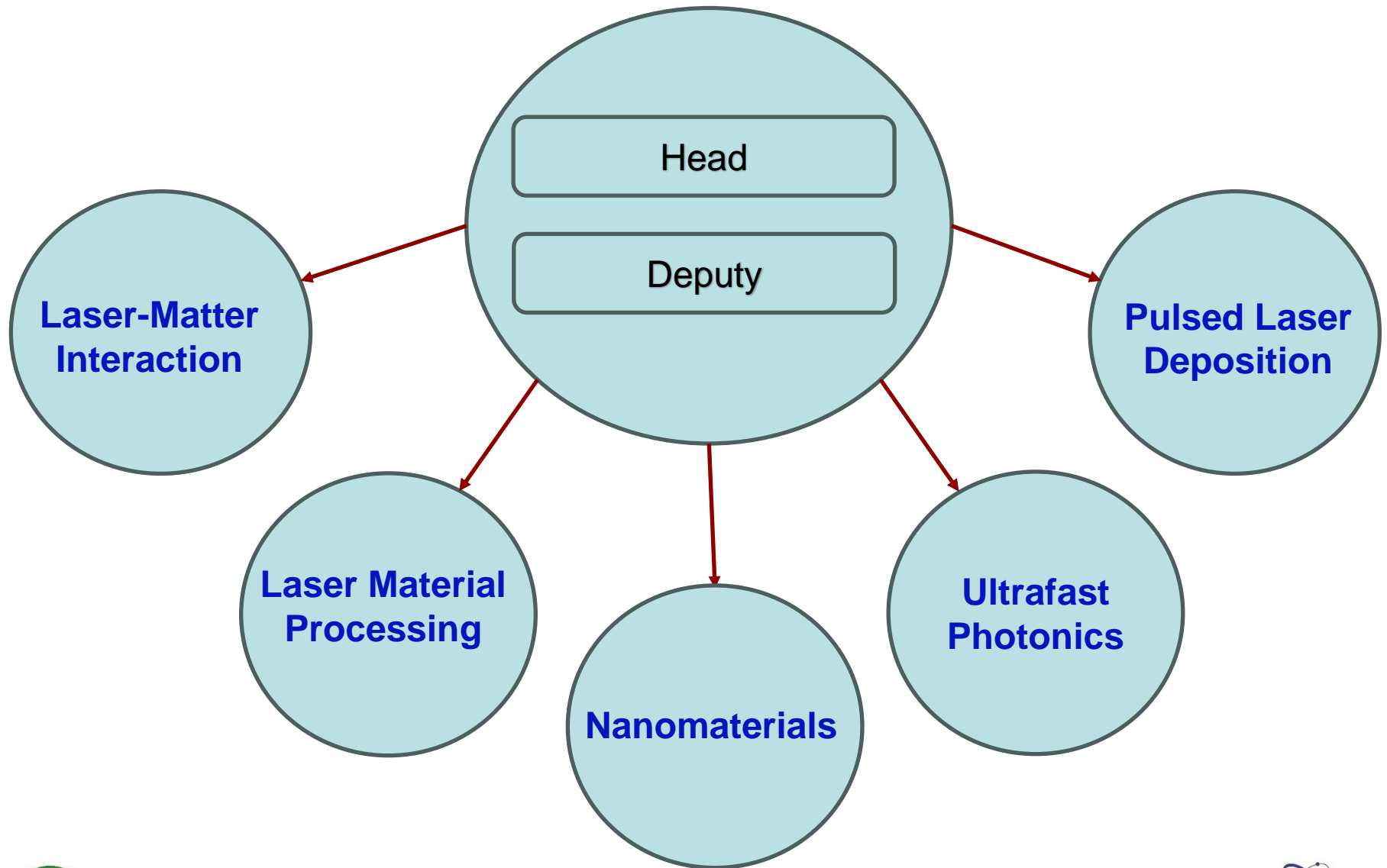


# Overview of activities of the Department of Scientific Laser Applications and the major results



# SLA experimental lab

**Pharos Laser**  
from Light Conversion  
250 fs, 1030 nm,  
200 kHz, 6W  
2nd, 3rd and 4th  
harmonics



**Astrella Laser**  
from Coherent  
35 fs, 800 nm, 1 kHz, 7W  
2nd and 3rd harmonics

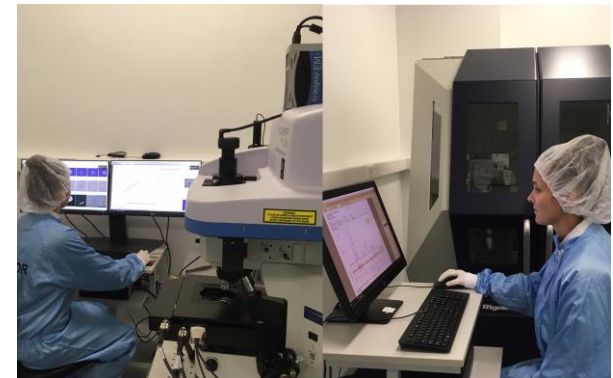


**Topas OPA**  
from Light Conversion  
for Astrella laser  
50-100 fs, 1.15-15  $\mu\text{m}$



**Nanosecond Lasers:**  
Nd:YAG with 2nd and 3rd harmonics  
ArF, 193 nm

**High-vacuum chamber** with  
Time-Of-Flight  
**Mass Spectrometer**



**LIFT in air and vacuum**

**Thermal CVD**

**Spectrometers**

**Hamamatsu Streak camera**  
1-2 ps time resolution

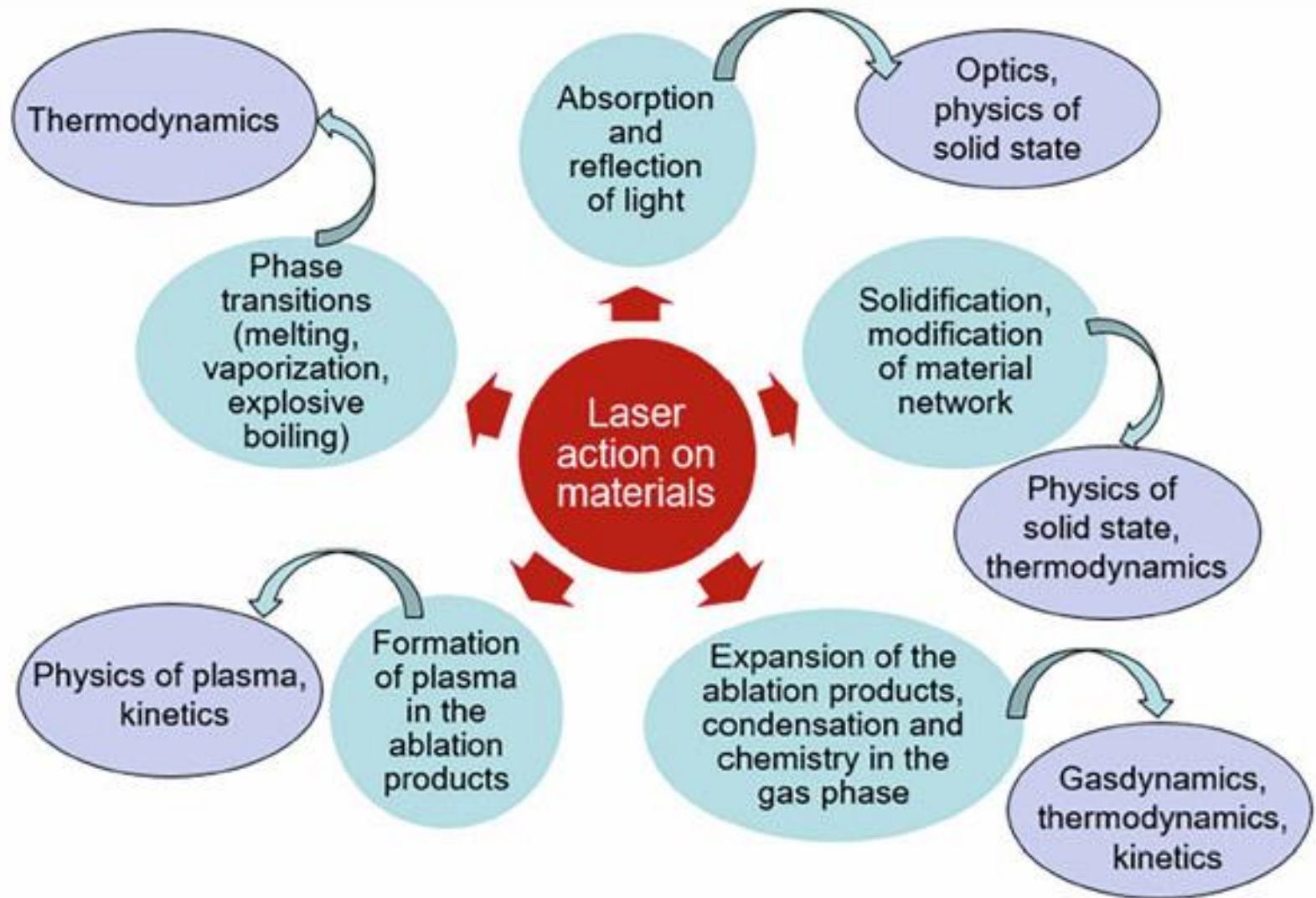


**ICCD Camera**  
< 2 ns time resolution



**Material characterization lab L4**  
AFM + Raman;  
XRD; SEM

# SLA concept: linking experiment with theory



# Our theoretical methods

**Modeling predictions** of laser-irradiation conditions for material micro/nano processing with **one- and two-temperature modeling** (damage thresholds, optimal irradiation conditions for surface structuring, ablation, and annealing).

**Modeling predictions** and optimization **of volumetric modification of bandgap materials** for photonics applications

**Predictive plasmonic theory** (predicting periodicity and regularity of laser-induced periodic surface and interface structures, including dynamic models for semiconductors)

**Quantum simulations** of material response at high nonequilibrium at ultrashort irradiation timescales including extreme thermodynamic conditions



Nadezhda Bulgakova



Yoann Levy



Thibault Derrien



Kryštof Hlinomaz



Jiří Beránek



Kristýna Gazdová

# Modeling based on Maxwell's equations

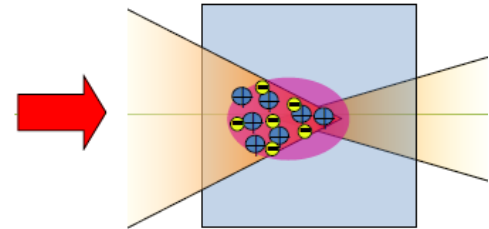
N.M. Bulgakova et al. *JOSA-B* **31**, C8-C14 (2014)

N.M. Bulgakova et al. *JAP*, **118**, 233108 (2015)

V.P. Zhukov et al. *JOSA-B*, **34**, 463-471 (2017)

N.M. Bulgakova et al. *JOSA-B* **36**, 1556-1564 (2019)

M. Zukerstein et al. *Photonics* **10**, 882 (2023).



$$\nabla \times \vec{E} = -\frac{1}{c} \frac{\partial \vec{B}}{\partial t},$$

$$\nabla \times \vec{H} = \frac{1}{c} \frac{\partial \vec{D}}{\partial t} + \frac{4\pi}{c} \vec{J},$$

Equation for the electric field accounting free carrier generation:

$$\frac{1}{c} \frac{\partial D}{\partial t} - i \frac{\omega}{c} D = -\frac{4\pi}{c} j + \text{rot } H - \frac{8\pi e^2}{mc\omega^2} W_{PI0} \frac{\rho_a}{\rho_0} \left( \frac{|E^2|}{E_*^2} \right)^{\alpha-1} (1 + E^2 / (4E_*^2)) E$$

$$\vec{E} = (\vec{E}_0 e^{-i\omega t} + \vec{E}_0^* e^{i\omega t}) / 2$$

$$D = E + \sum_m P_m + P_{nl} \quad P_{nl} = \frac{c}{4\pi} n^2 n_2 \left( (1 - f_r) |E^2| + f_r \int_0^\infty R(\tau) |E^2(t - \tau)| d\tau \right) E$$

coupled with hydrodynamic model for free carriers

$$j = -\rho e v \quad \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} = W_{PI} + W_\sigma - \frac{\rho}{\tau_{tr}} \quad \frac{\partial(\rho v)}{\partial t} - i\omega \rho v = -\rho \frac{e}{m_e} E - \rho \frac{v}{\tau_c}$$

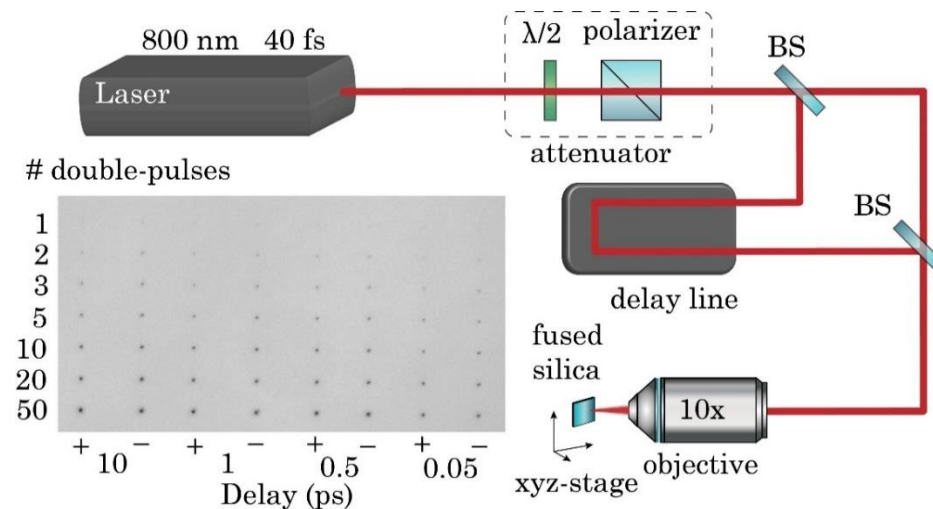
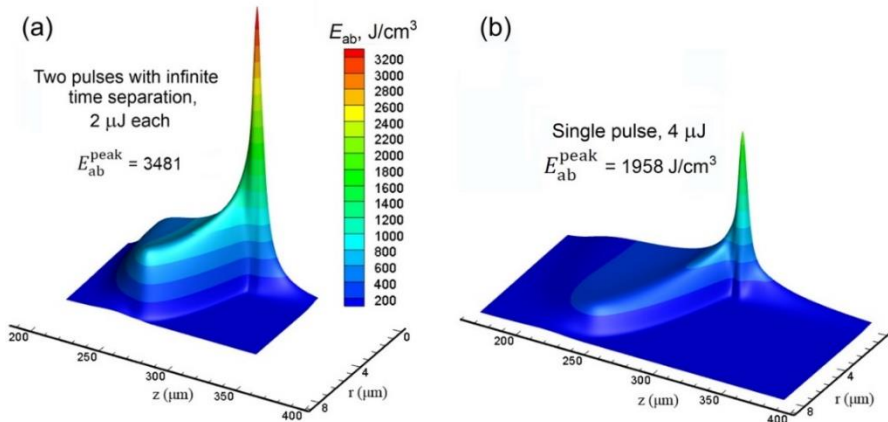
# Theory and experiments for volumetric modifications of bandgap materials

**Theoretical approach:** Multiphysics large scale model based on nonlinear Maxwell's equations supplemented by the equations of electron excitation to the conduction band and their oscillations under the action of the laser wave

**Experiments:** Ultrashort laser pulses (Astrella, Coherent, 40 fs, 800 nm and harmonics). Application of spatiotemporal pulse shaping techniques (Gaussian, doughnut-shaped, pump-probe)

M. Zukerstein et al. *Photonics* **10**, 882 (2023)

M. Zukerstein et al. *Opt. Express* **32**(7), 12882-12891 (2024)



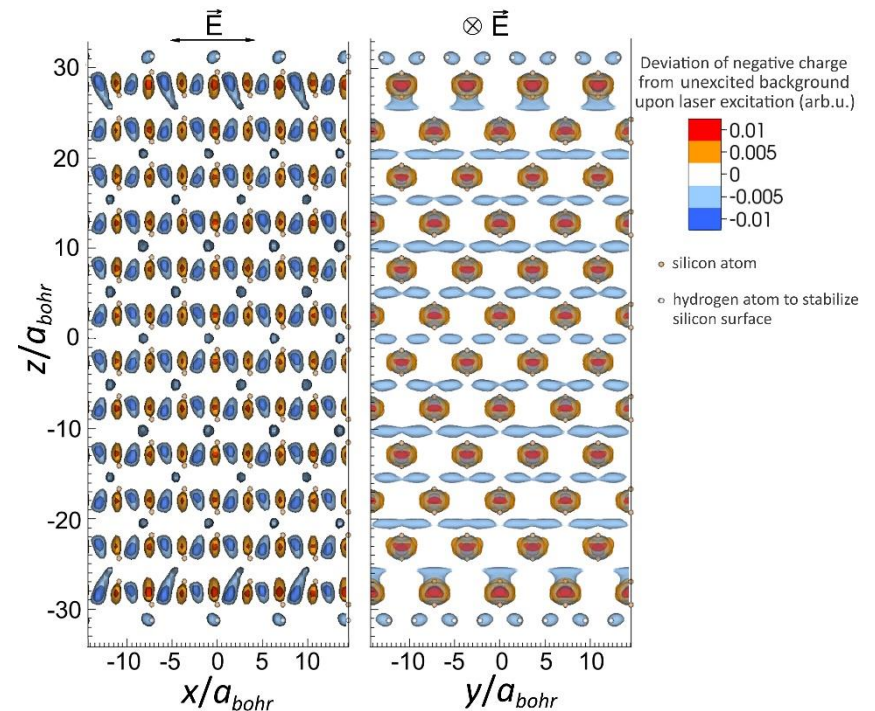
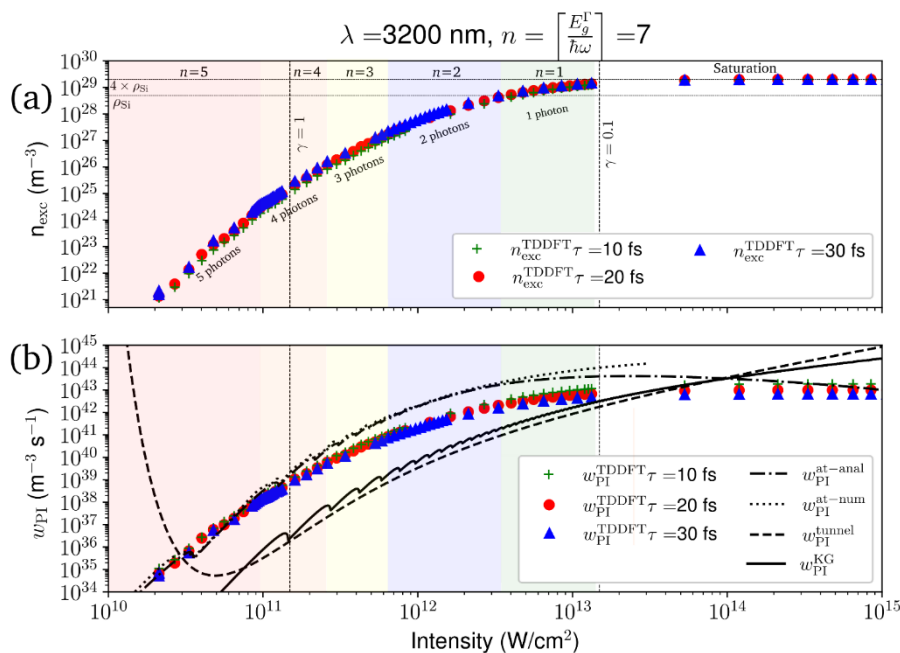
# Simulations from first principles

**Theoretical approach:** Time-dependent density functional theory (TDDFT) simulations. Materials: semiconductors, dielectrics, metals (bulk). Now – extension to 2D materials and bio-molecules.

Deep understanding on photoinduced processes in various materials. Deriving photo-ionization rates beyond the validity of Keldysh theory. Insight into harmonics generation.



Thibault Derrien



T.J.-Y. Derrien et al. *Phys. Rev. B* **104**, L241201 (2021);

P. Suthár et al. *Commun. Phys.* **5**, 288 (2022); P. Suthar et al. *Commun. Phys.* **7**, 104 (2024)

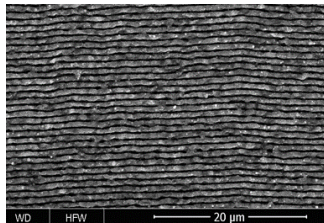


# Laser nanostructuring of material surfaces

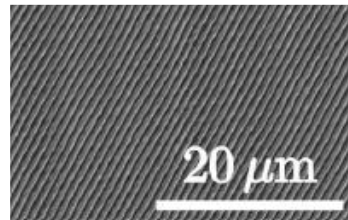
Ultrashort laser writing of highly-regular periodic nanostructures on material surfaces at high throughput

Patent of Czech Republic (June 2018): WO2018010707

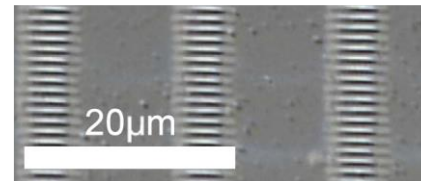
European patent (January 2021): EP3481583B1



Silicon

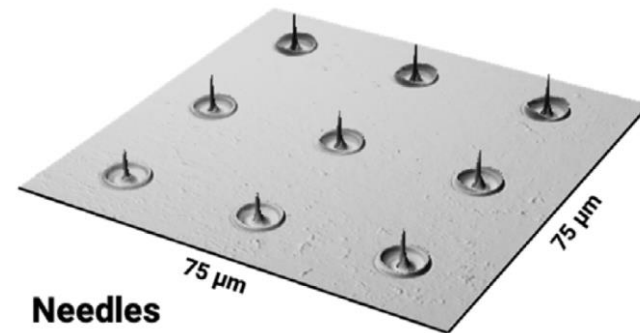
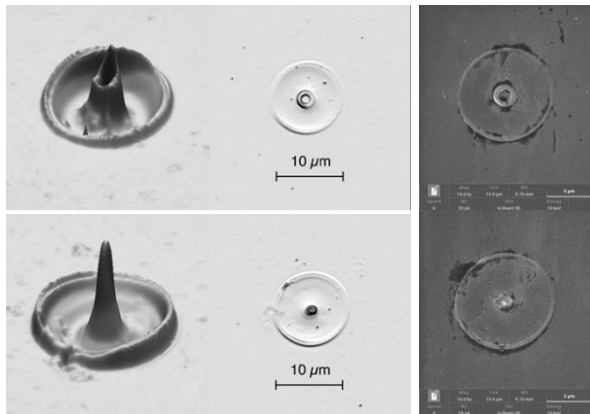


Metals (Mo)



Silicon

J. Gnilitzky et al. *Sci. Rep.* **6**, 39133 (2017)  
J. Sladek et al., *Appl. Surf. Sci.* **605**, 154664 (2022)  
J. Sladek et al. *Materials*, **16**, 2883 (2023)



Needles

Silicon

M. Zuckerstein et al., *Appl. Surf. Sci.* **592**, 153228 (2022)



Inam Mirza

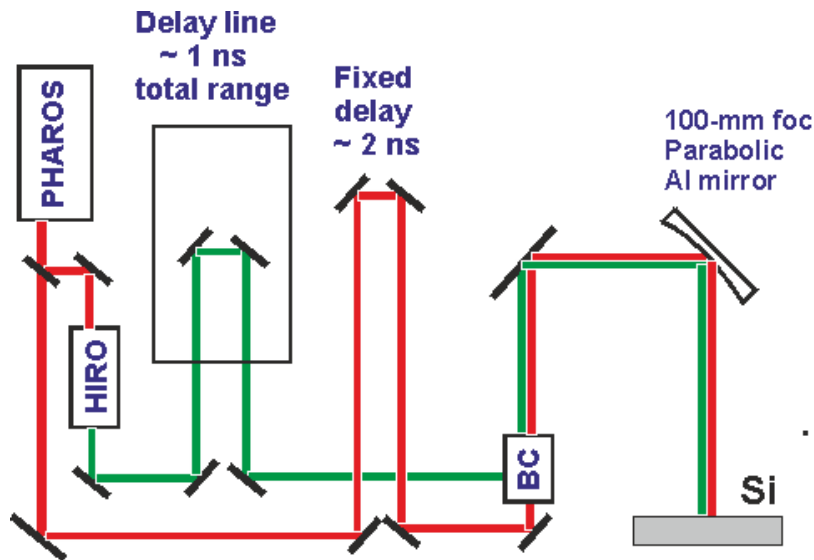


Yoann Levy



Jan Hrabovsky

# Dual wavelength laser processing



Crater volume at femtosecond dual-wavelength (1030 and 515 nm) ablation of Si as a function of delay between the pulses and selected crater images. Negative delays are for the visible pulse coming first.



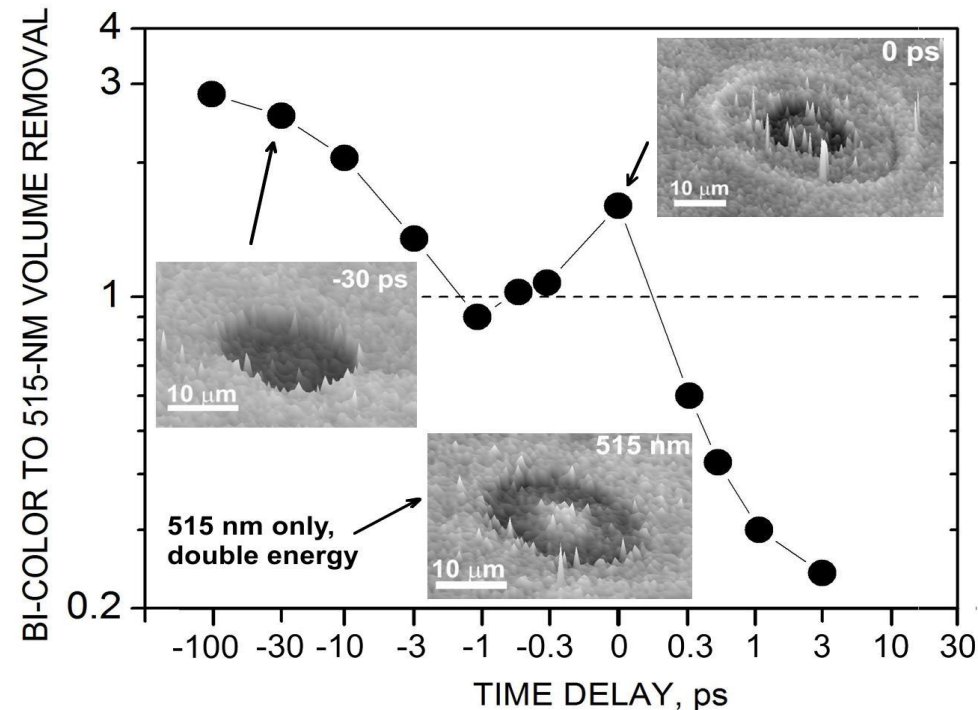
Alexander Bulgakov



Nadezhda Bulgakova



Jan Hrabovsky

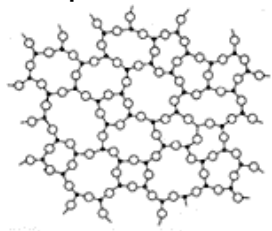


- A.V. Bulgakov et al. *Appl. Surf. Sci.* **643** (2024) 158626  
 A.V. Bulgakov et al. *Proc. SPIE*, **12939**, 129390F (2024)  
 V. P. Zhukov & N. M. Bulgakova, *Materials* **17** (2024) 1763

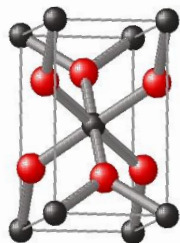
# Laser annealing of anodized TiO<sub>2</sub> nanotubes to anatase

## Some titania polymorphs

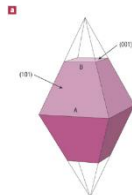
amorphous



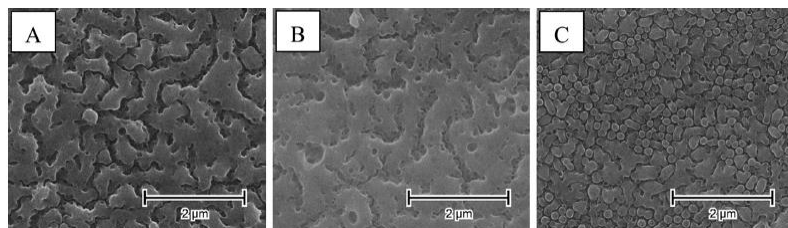
rutile



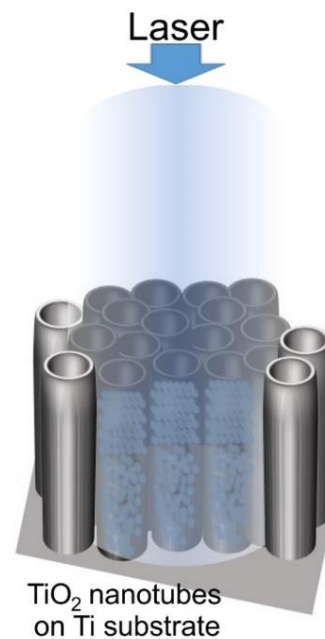
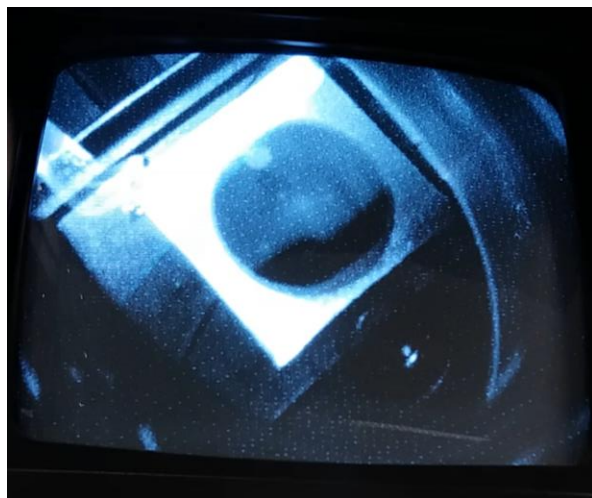
anatase



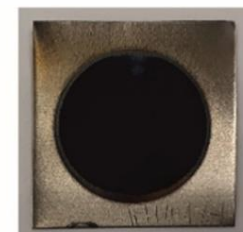
Inam Mirza



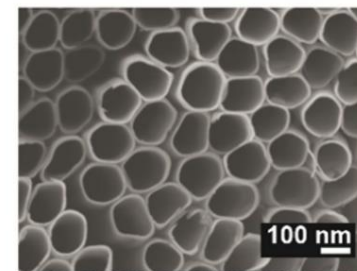
Typical laser annealing: *Appl. Surf. Sci.* 508 145143, (2020)



TiO<sub>2</sub> nanotubes on Ti substrate



Laser-annealed sample, area of 1 cm<sup>2</sup>



Magnified top view of laser-annealed TiO<sub>2</sub> nanotubes with the height of 20 μm

H. Sopha et al., *RSC Adv.* **10**, 22137 (2020)

I. Mirza et al. *Front. Nanotechnol.* **5**, 1271832 (2023)

# Selective laser annealing of a-Ge/a-Si nanolayer stacks

without damage and intermixing

V.A. Volodin et al.

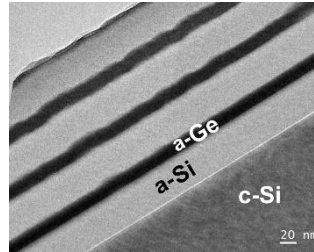
*Opt. Las. Techn.* **161**, 109161 (2023);

A.V. Bulgakov et al.;

*Materials* **16**, 3572 (2023)

I. Mirza et al. *Front. Nanotechnol.* **5**,  
1271832 (2023)

a-Si/a-Ge nanolayers



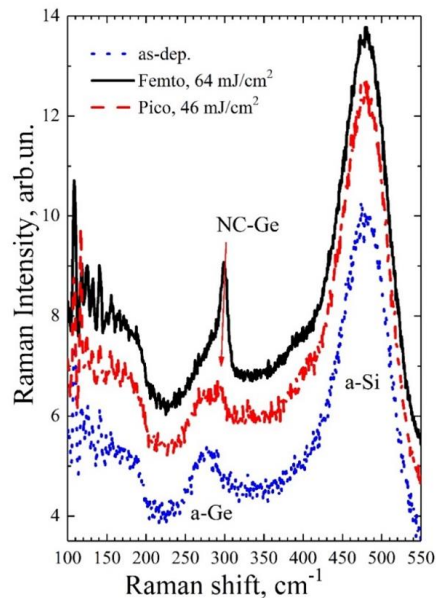
Alexander Bulgakov



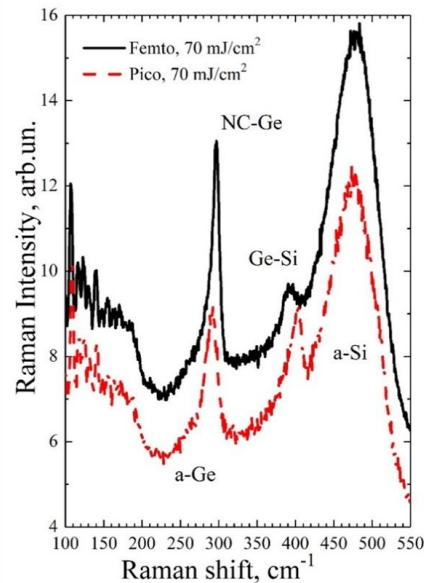
Nadezhda Bulgakova



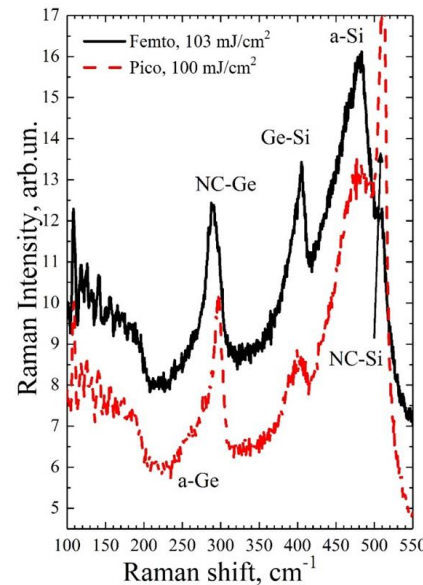
Jiří Beránek



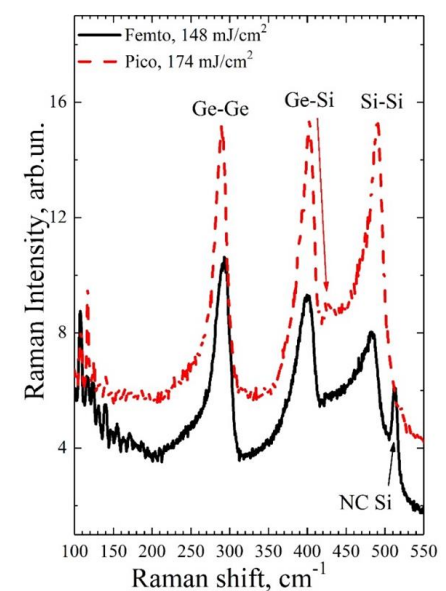
Laser fluence  
below the melting  
threshold



Fluence slightly higher  
than the damage  
threshold



Fluence close to  
the ablation  
threshold

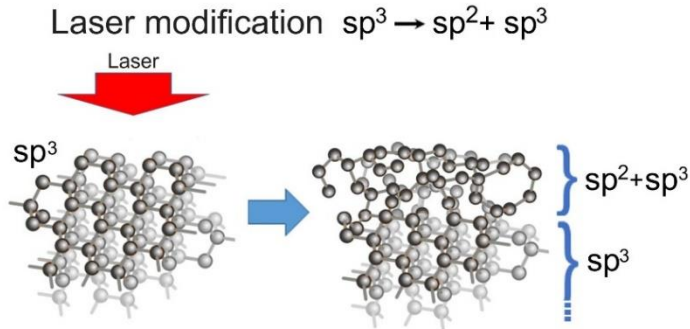


Fluence higher than  
the ablation threshold

# Toward neuron networks on diamond-based chips

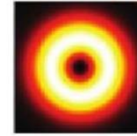


Jan Hrabovsky



Laser beam shaping

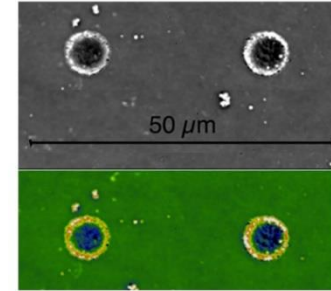
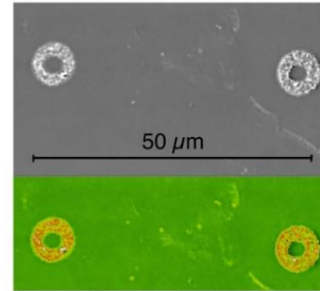
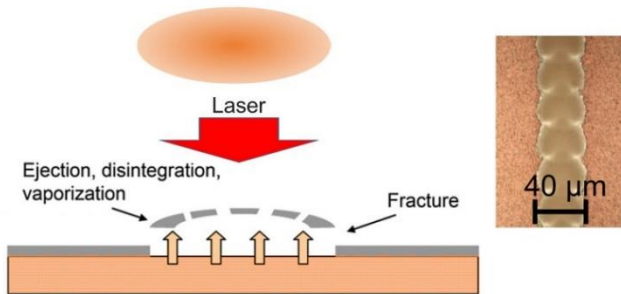
Doughnut-shape



Gaussian



Laser scribing of diamond film

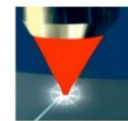
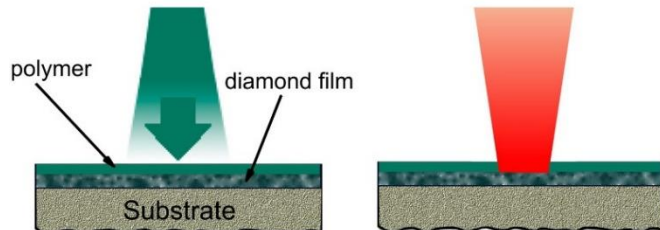


Selective removal of polymer coating

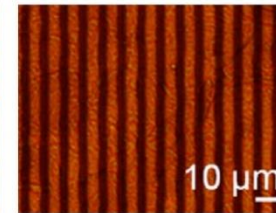
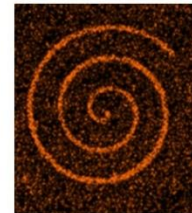
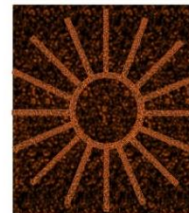
Polymer coating



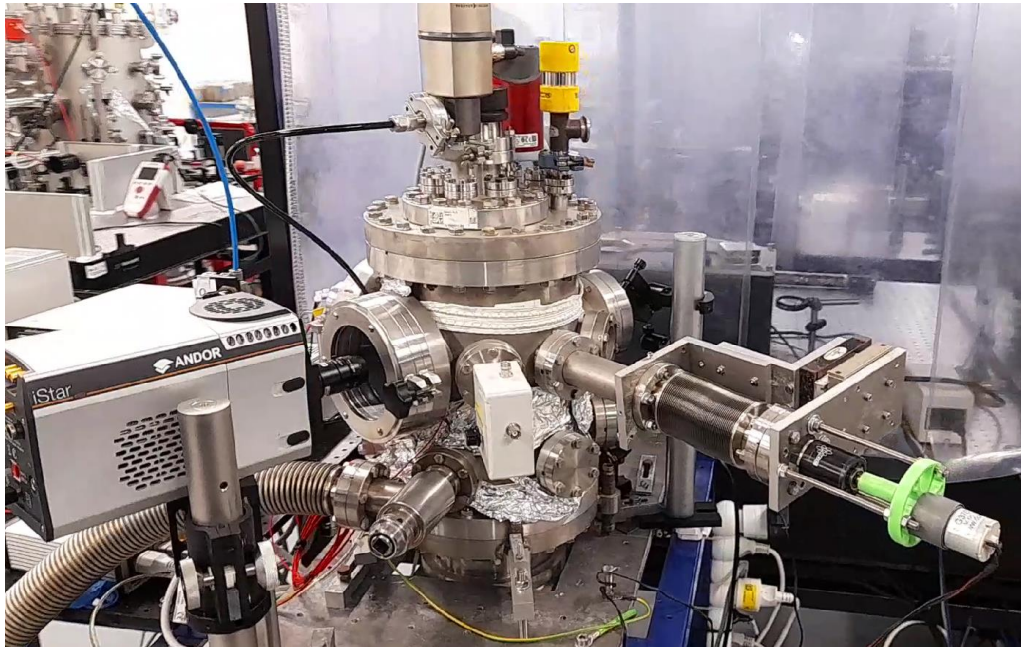
Selective laser removal



Programmable surface microstructuring



# Pulsed laser deposition of various materials

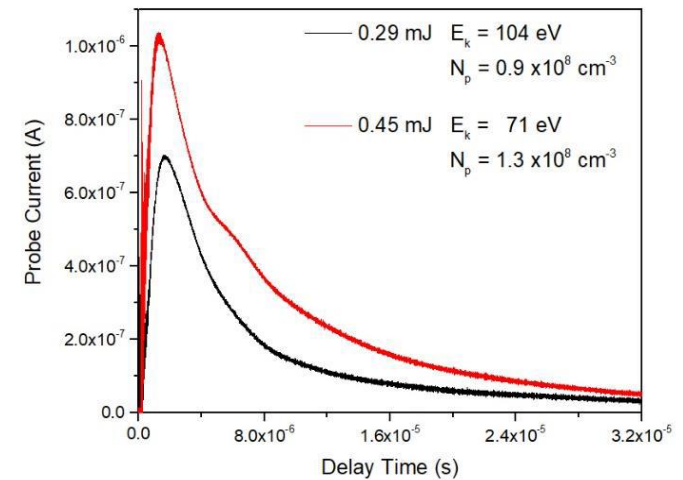
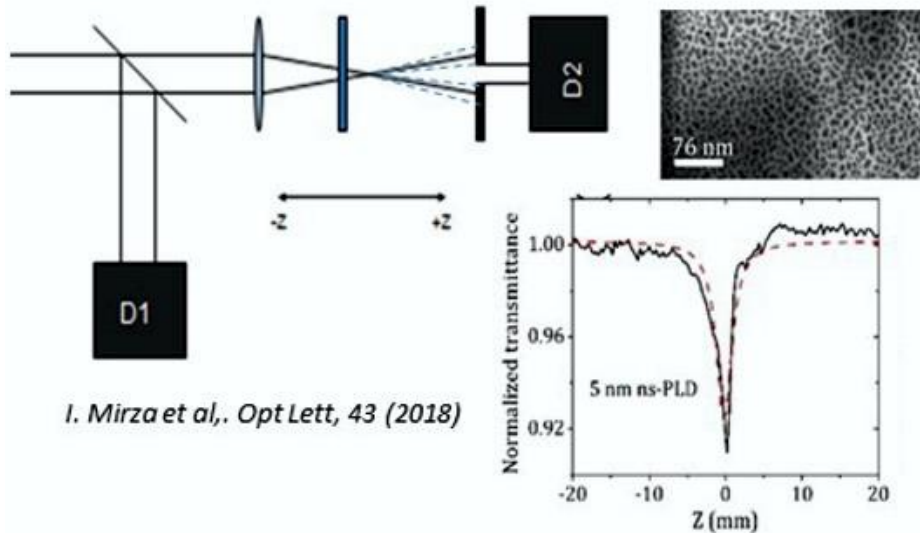


Inam Mirza



Alexander Bulgakov

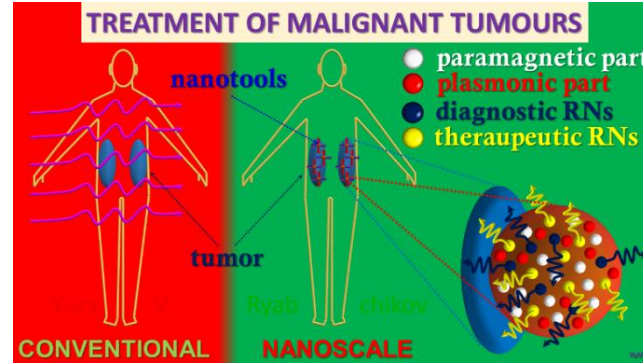
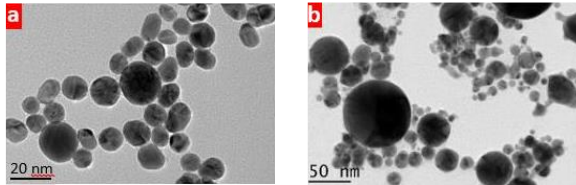
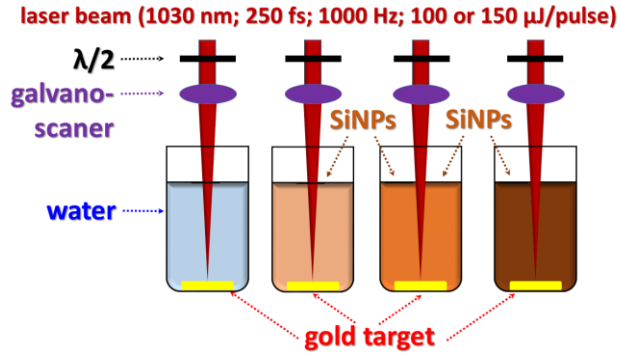
Thin films of any kind of materials can be deposited in vacuum or in a controllable gas atmosphere, including 2D materials, semiconductors, noble metals (e.g. for SERS application). Various in situ diagnostics, including ToF mass-spectrometry



J.G. Quinones-Galvan et al.  
*MM Science* June, 6421-6425 (2023)

# Nanoparticle synthesis

## Hybrid (on demand) nanostructures



Yuri Ryabchikov

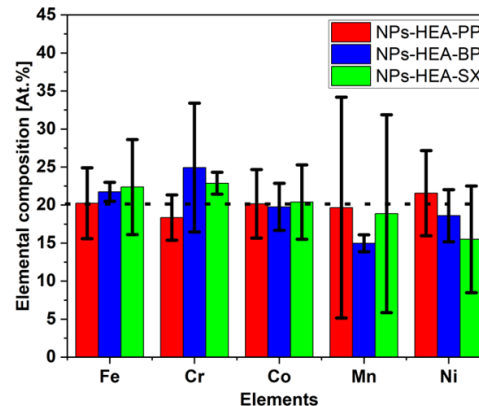
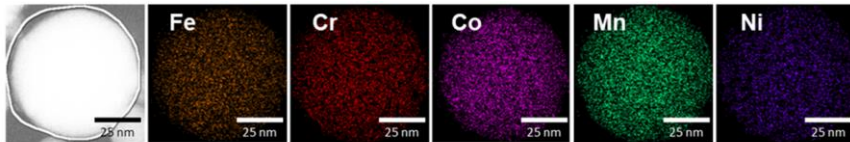
M. Flimelova et al. *Nanomaterials* **13**, 764 (2023)

Yu. V. Ryabchikov, *Crystals* **13**(9), 1381 (2023)

Yu. V. Ryabchikov et al. *Nanomaterials*, **14**(4), 321 (2024)

## High-entropy alloy nanoparticles

### Elemental powder – pressed (PP)



Alexander Bulgakov

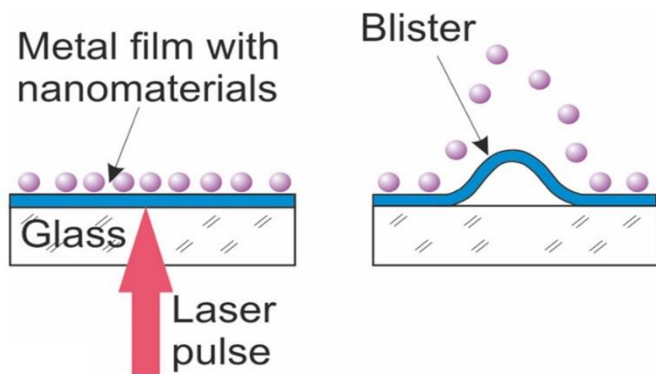


Oleksandr Gatsa

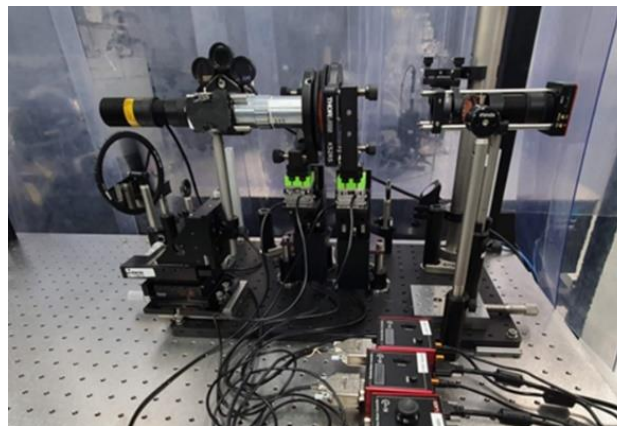
O. Gatsa et al. *Nanomaterials* **14**, 365 (2024)

S. Tahir et al. *ChemNanoMat* **10**, e202400064 (2024)

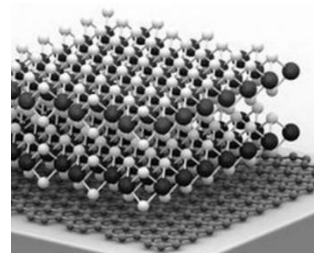
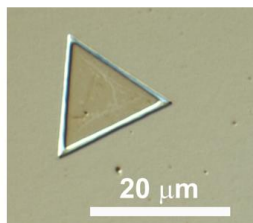
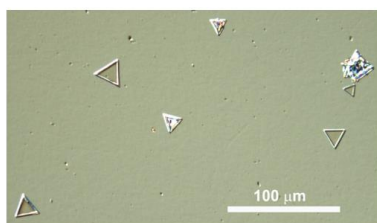
# Nanomaterial synthesis, printing and functionalization



Patents: LU102294 (21. 06. 2022);  
US 11801704 B2



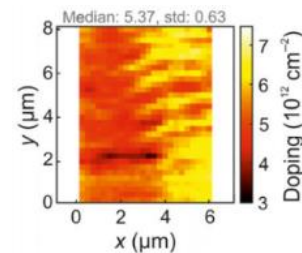
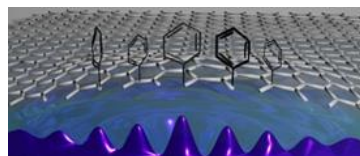
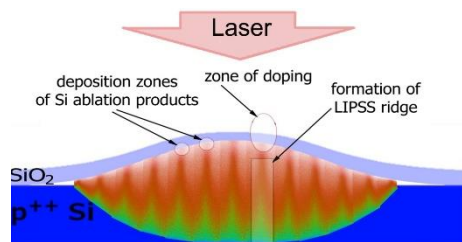
Alexander Bulgakov



Oleksandr Gatsa

N. Goodfriend et al. *Nanotechnology* **29**, 385301 (2017)

## Chemical functionalization of 2D materials via laser nanostructuring



Inam Mirza

K.A. Drogowska-Horna, *Nano Research* **13**, 2332–2339 (2020)



# Time-of-flight mass-spectrometry: studying building blocks of nanomaterials at pulsed laser ablation

A sophisticated apparatus which include a customized high-resolution high-sensitivity reflectron time-of-flight mass spectrometer connected with a vacuum chamber. A variety of short- and ultrashort-pulse lasers with wavelengths ranging from 193 to 1030 nm and pulse durations ranging from 35 fs to 5 ns can be used.



Alexander Bulgakov



Oleksandr Gatsa

