

Optics at the Nanoscale

Merging Nanoparticles with Light

Naomi J. Halas

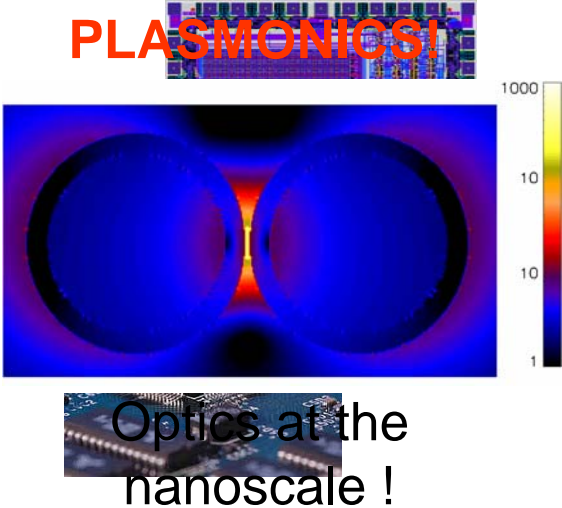
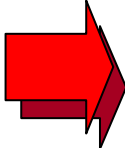
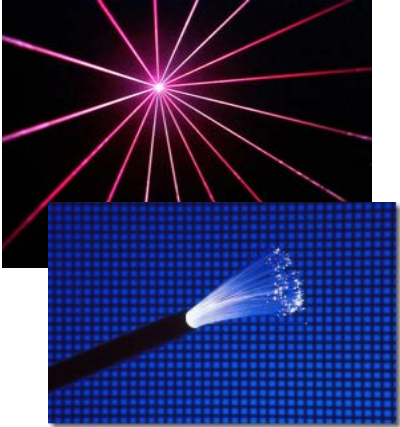
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Rice University, Houston, TX, USA**



*COMSOL Conference, Boston, MA,
October 9–11, 2008*



Nanophotonics: an emerging technology



CURING RABIES • EYE MOVIES: WHAT THE RETINA SEES

SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN

**Cannibal
Galaxies:**
Tearing Apart
the Neighbors

APRIL 2007
WWW.SCIAM.COM

THE DAZZLING FUTURE OF PLASMONICS

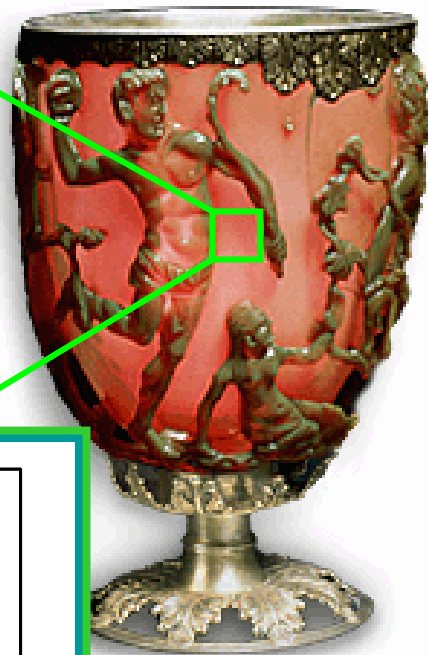
New optical technology
yields faster computing,
brighter LEDs ... oh, and
Invisibility

- Storing Hydrogen Fuel
- Genetics of Alcoholism
- Raven Intelligence

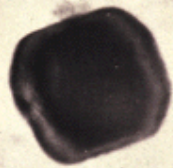


Plasmonic nanoparticles: shape matters!

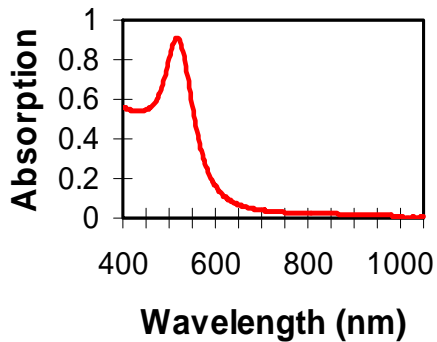
Lycurgus Cup
4th Century A.D., Roman



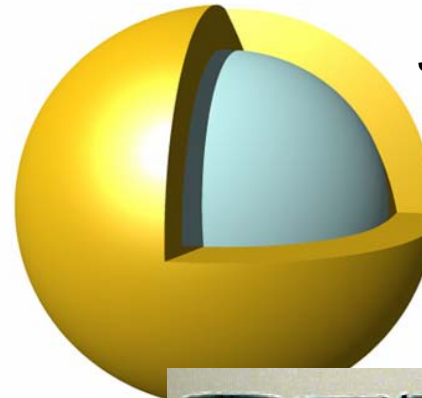
7:3 (Ag:Au)



50 nm



Gustav Mie, *Ann. Physik* 25,
377 (1908)



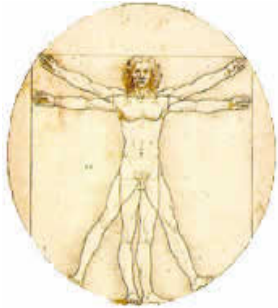
A.L. Aden and M. Kerker,
J. Appl. Phys. 22, 1242 (1951)



S. Oldenburg et al., *CPL* 288, (1998) 243-247.
E. Prodan et al., *Science* 302 (2003) 419-21.

Getting a sense of the nanometer scale:

Person
1.7
meters

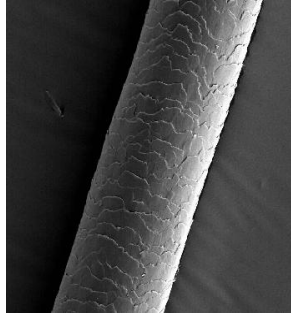


Pencil lead
2
millimeters



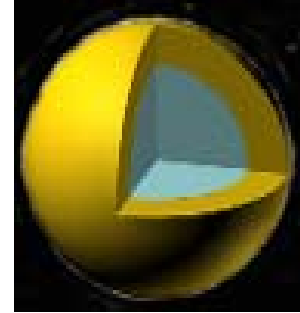
850 pencil
leads per
person

Human hair
70
micrometers



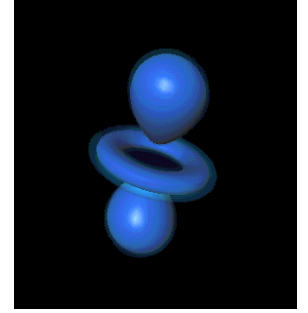
30 human
hairs per
pencil lead

Nanoshell
100
nanometers



700
nanoshells
per human
hair

Atom
0.15
nanometers



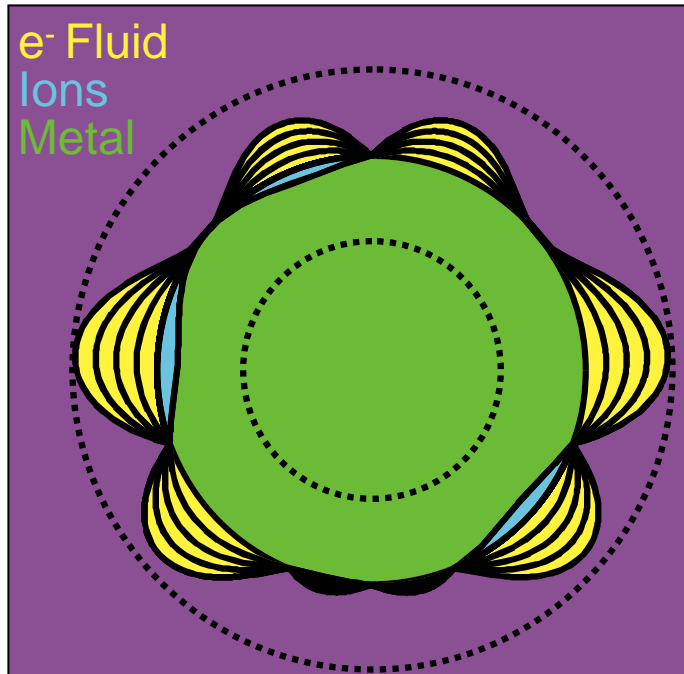
670 atoms
per
nanoshell
diameter

Anything 1 billionth - 1 millionth of a meter in size:

- Molecules
- Viruses
- Transistors

Nanoparticle Plasmons

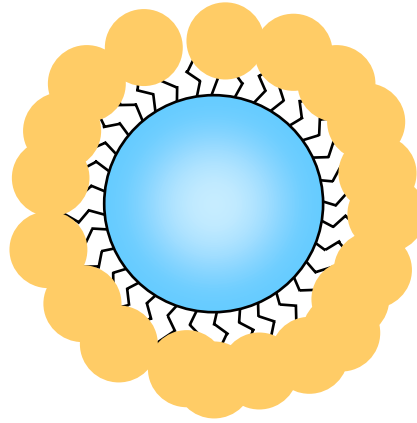
Metal = Fixed Ions + Incompressible Electron Fluid



Metal Sphere
↓
Excitation
=
Incompressible
Deformation
↓
Oscillates

Fabrication of Silica-Gold Nanoshells

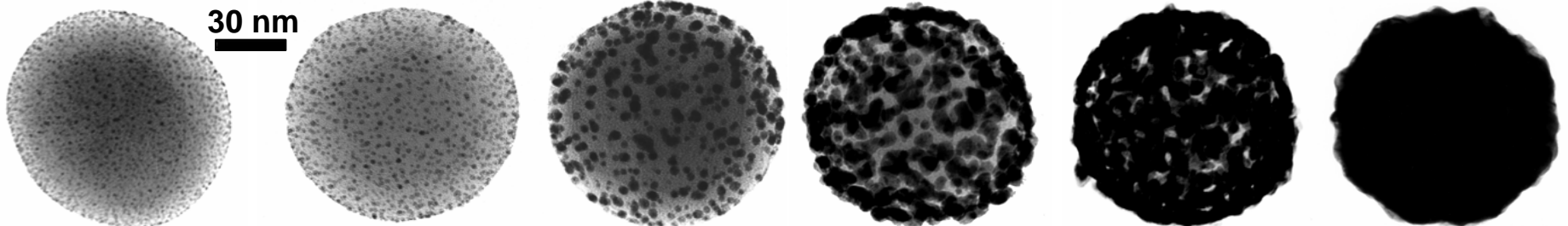
SiO₂ nanoparticle
core (~100 nm)



surface
terminated with
amines

ultrasmall (1-2 nm)
gold colloid attached

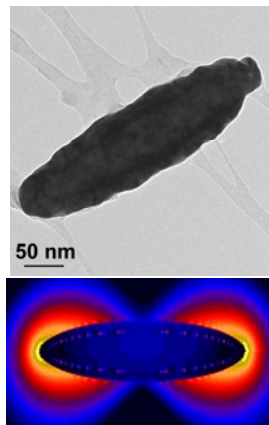
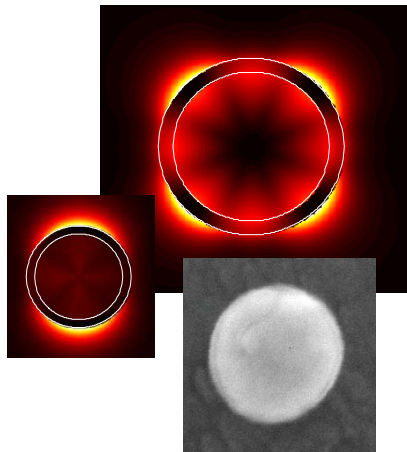
additional gold plated
until gold shell is
complete



Plasmonics: manipulating light at the nanoscale

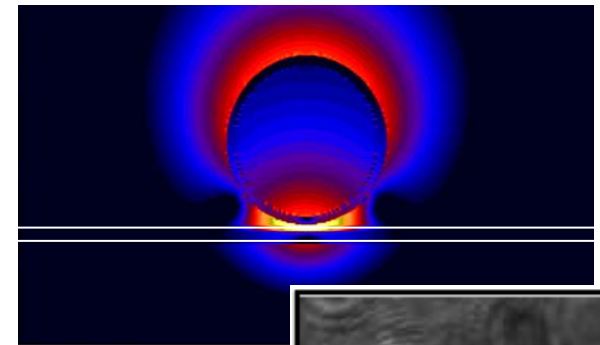
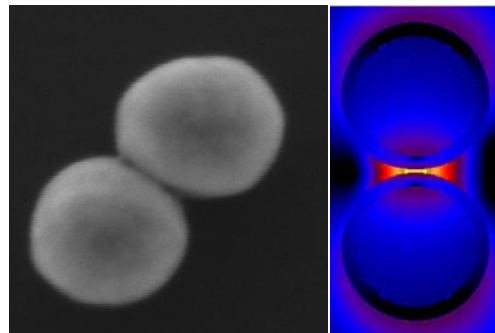
Plasmon: collective oscillation of all delocalized electrons in a metal
Properties: energies, near field spatial distributions, linewidths controlled by metal, shape and interactions

nanoshells

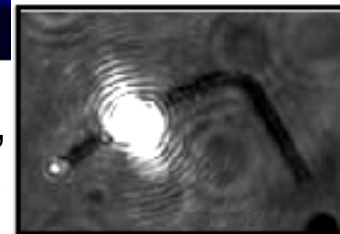


nanorice

“dimers”: nanocavities



Particle-film,
particle-wire



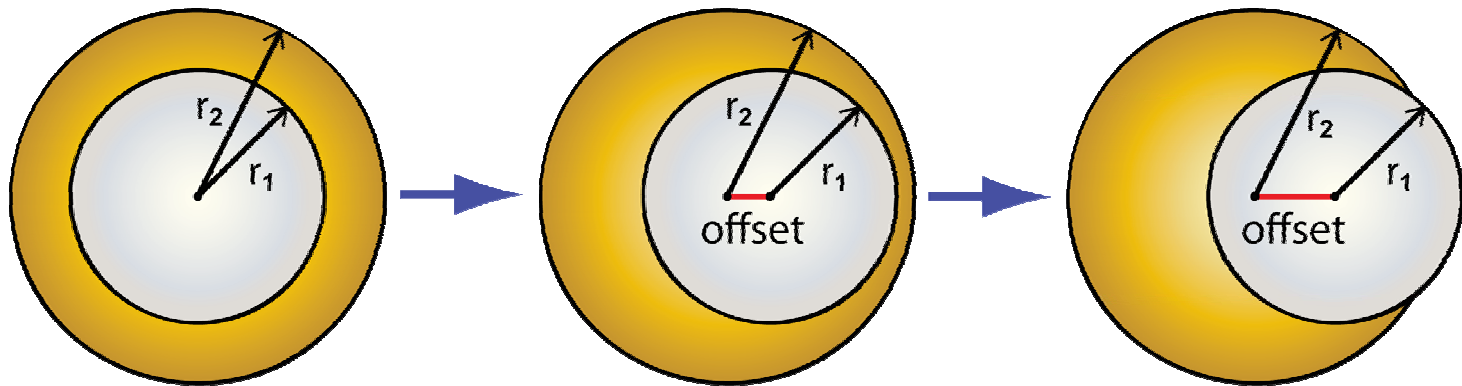
Symmetry breaking at the nanometer scale:

Nanoshells to Nanoeggs to Nanocups

Nanoshells, Nanoeggs, Nanocups

- Three related particle types, all based on core-shell geometry
 - Dielectric core: silica ($\epsilon = 2.04$)
 - Metallic shell: J&C gold, linear interpolation

Johnson P and Christy R *Phys. Rev. B* **6** 4370–9 (1972)



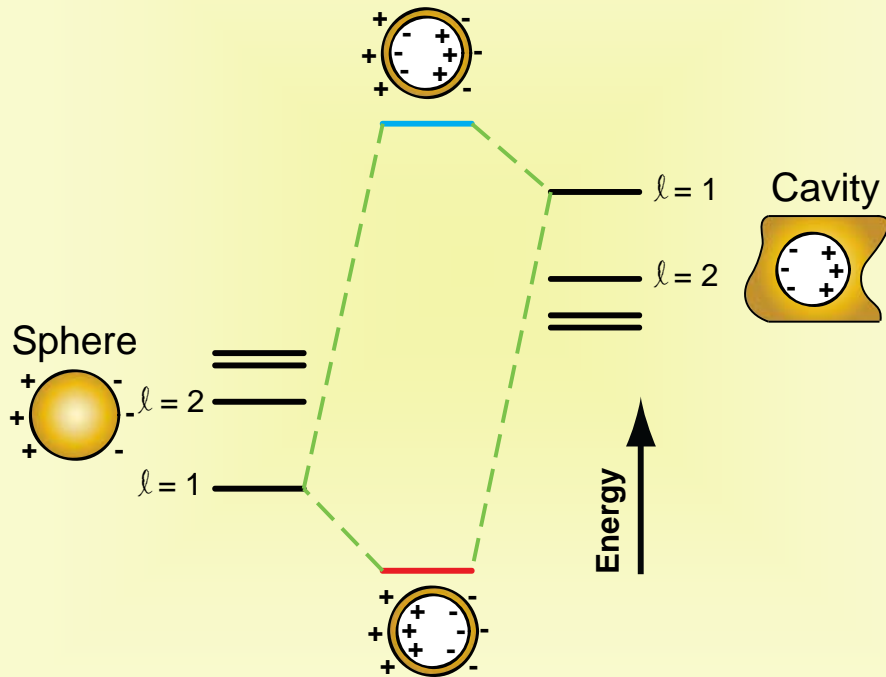
- Single symmetry parameter

$$D = \text{offset} / (r_2 - r_1)$$

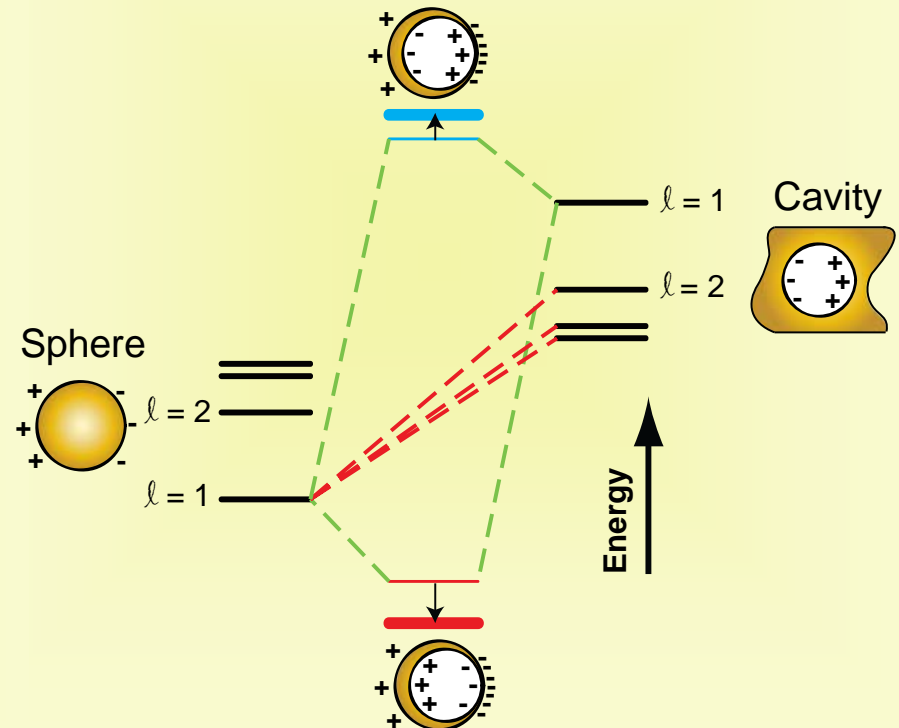
- Parameters considered
 - Near-field enhancements
 - Far-field absorption, scattering spectra

Plasmons interact just like electron wave functions

Nanoshells



Nanoeggs, nanocup

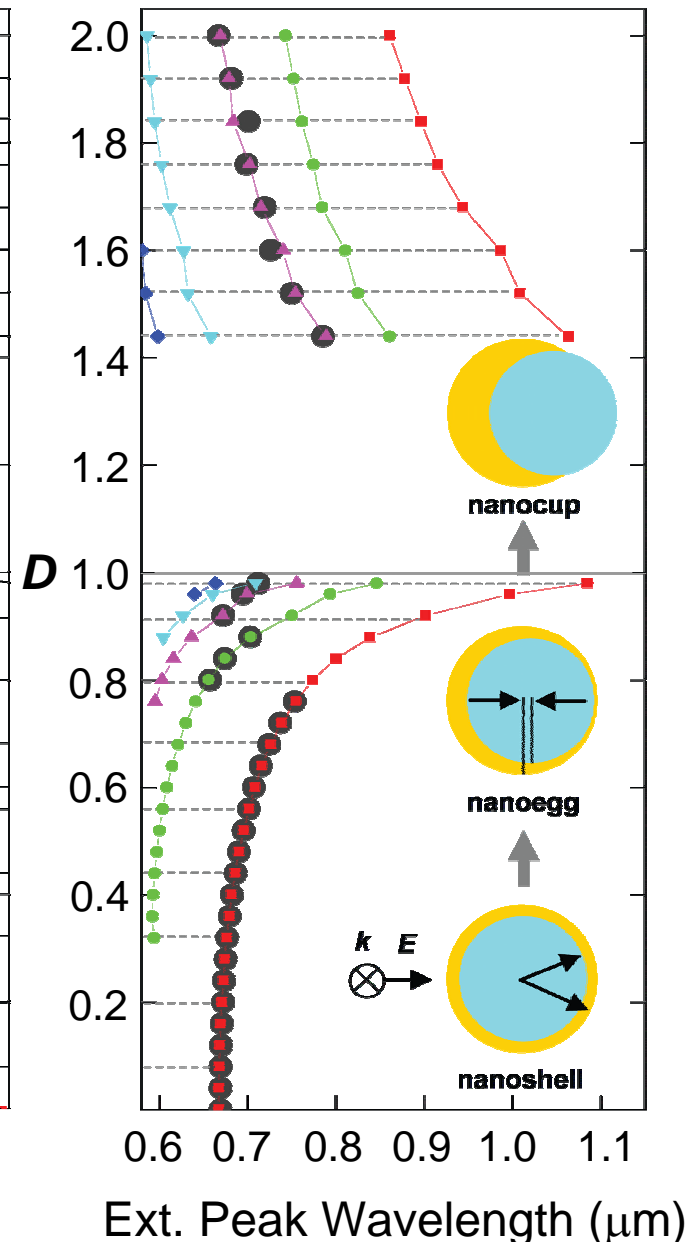
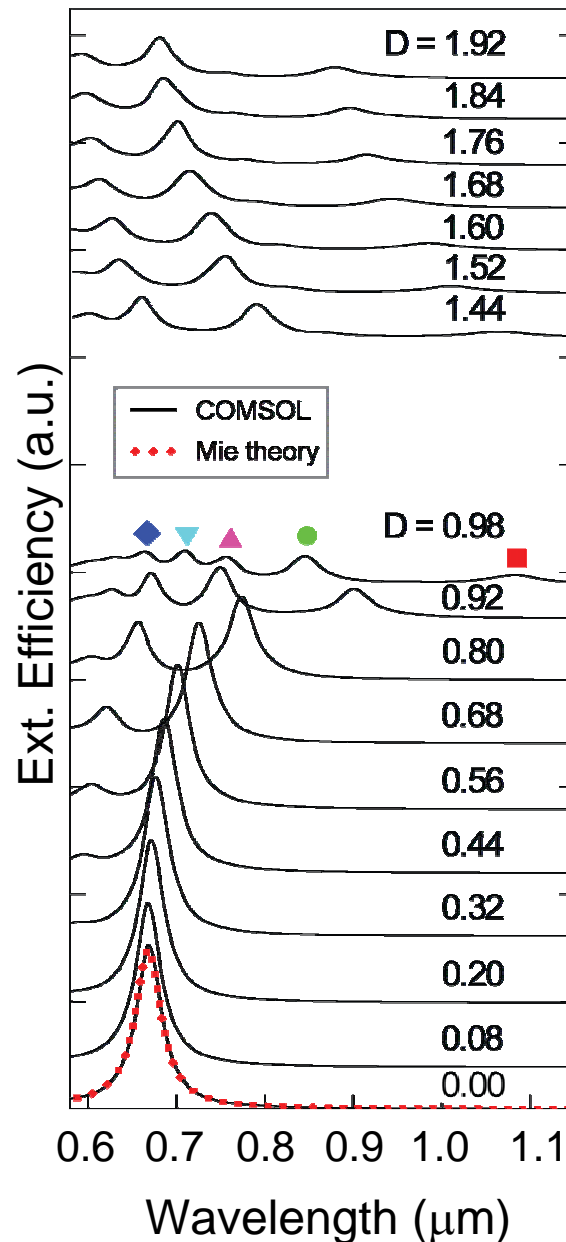


- Only primitive modes with identical angular momentum indices hybridize

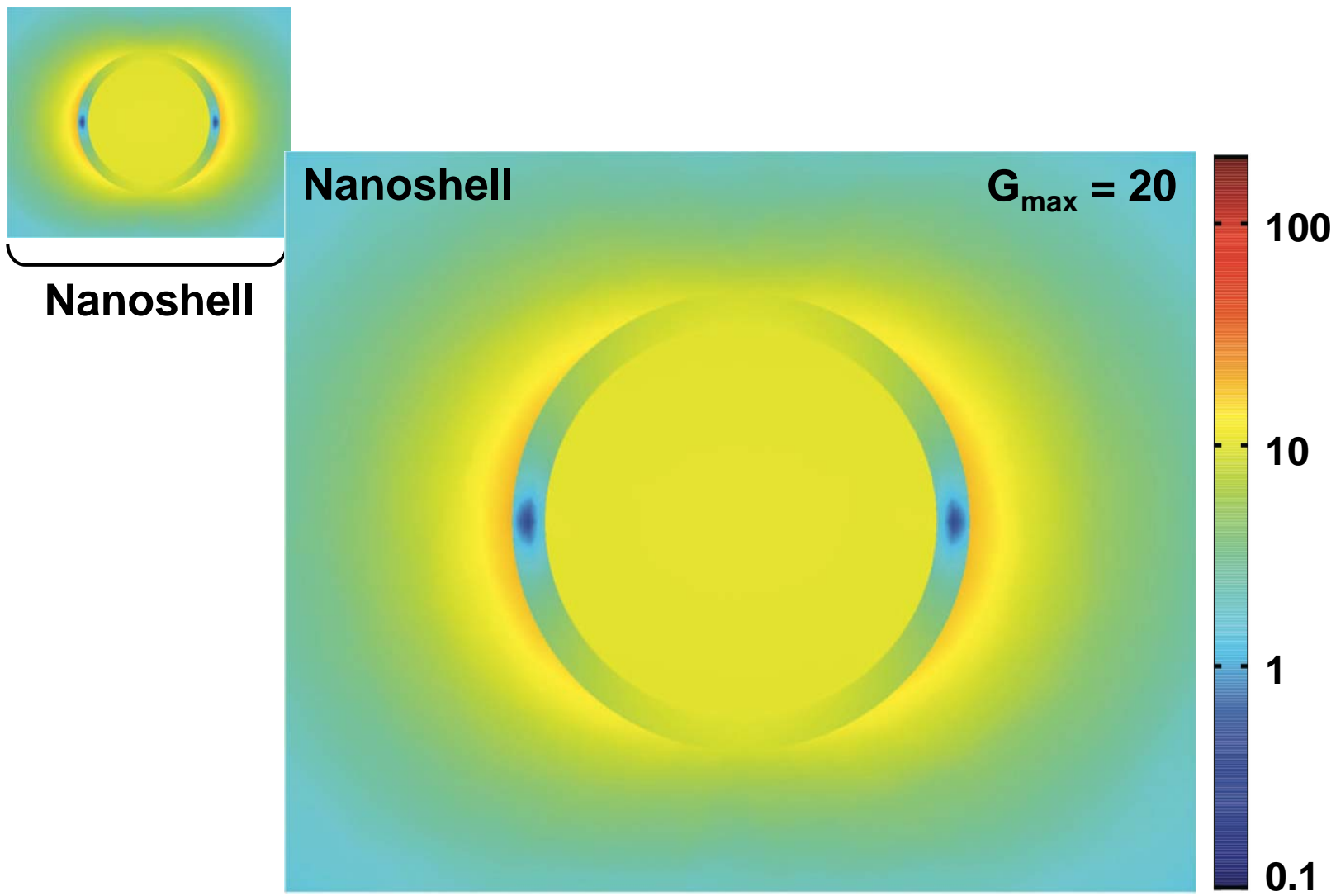
- All primitive modes can hybridize
- Core offsets approaching shell thickness cause stronger hybridization, larger energy level splitting

Far-field Spectra of Nanoparticles

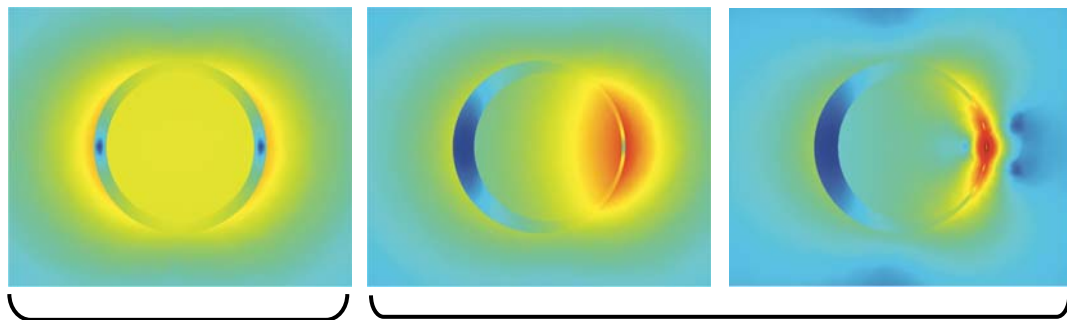
- Increased offsets cause:
 - Redshift hybridized peaks
 - Higher order peaks
- Hybridization view
 - Mixed higher-order primitive modes become dipole active with increased offsets
 - Hybridization strongest with thinnest shell



Near-field Enhancements – [30, 35] nm



Near-field Enhancements – [30, 35] nm



Nanoshell

Nanoeggs

Nanoeggs

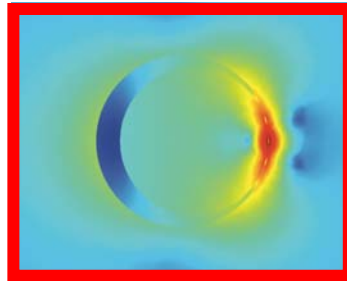
$D = 0.72$

$G_{\max} = 55$

$D = 0.92$

$G_{\max} = 169$

Near-field Enhancements – [30, 35] nm



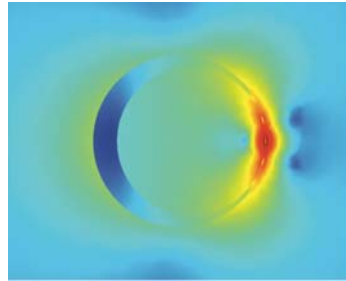
Nanoshell

Nanoeggs

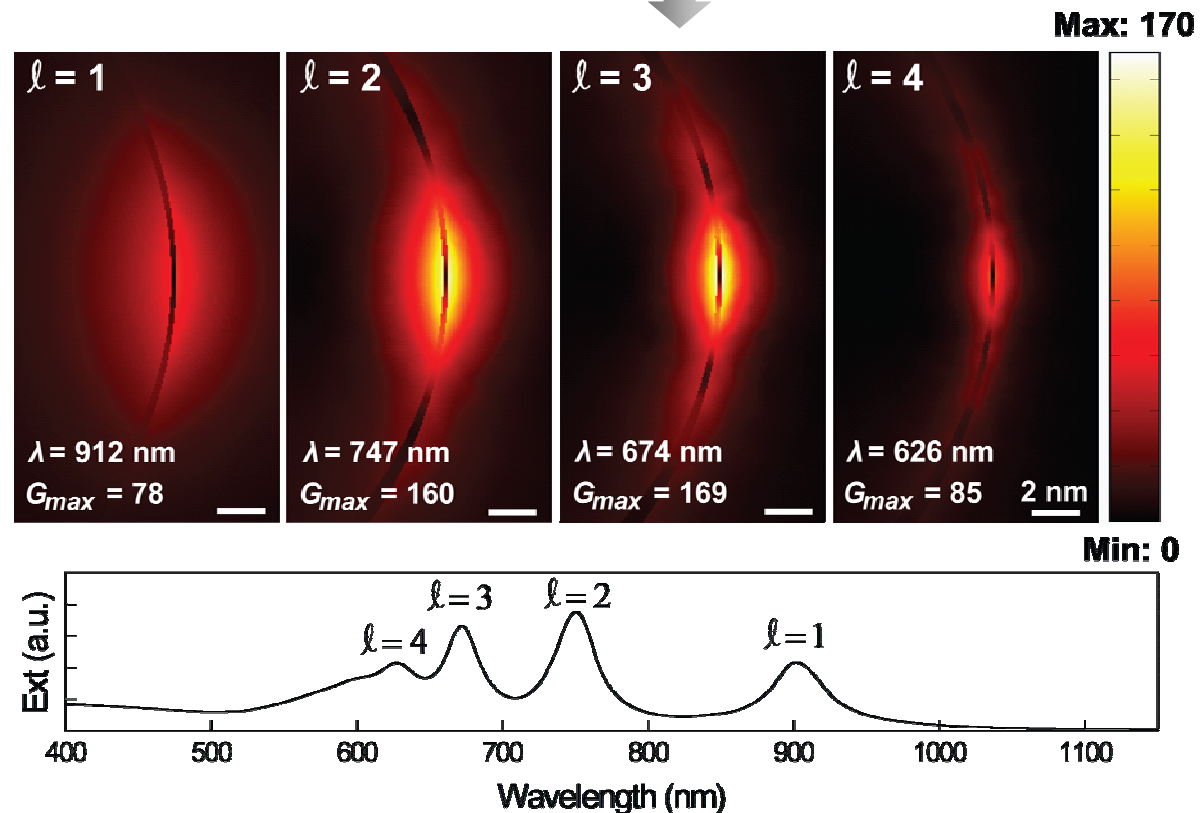
Nanocups

- Offsets near $D = 1$ give largest enhancements
- Field enhancements are on an open surface, not a gap
 - Potential for use as surface-enhanced spectroscopy substrate
- For each offset, other resonances also show significant enhancements

Near-field Enhancements – [30, 35] nm



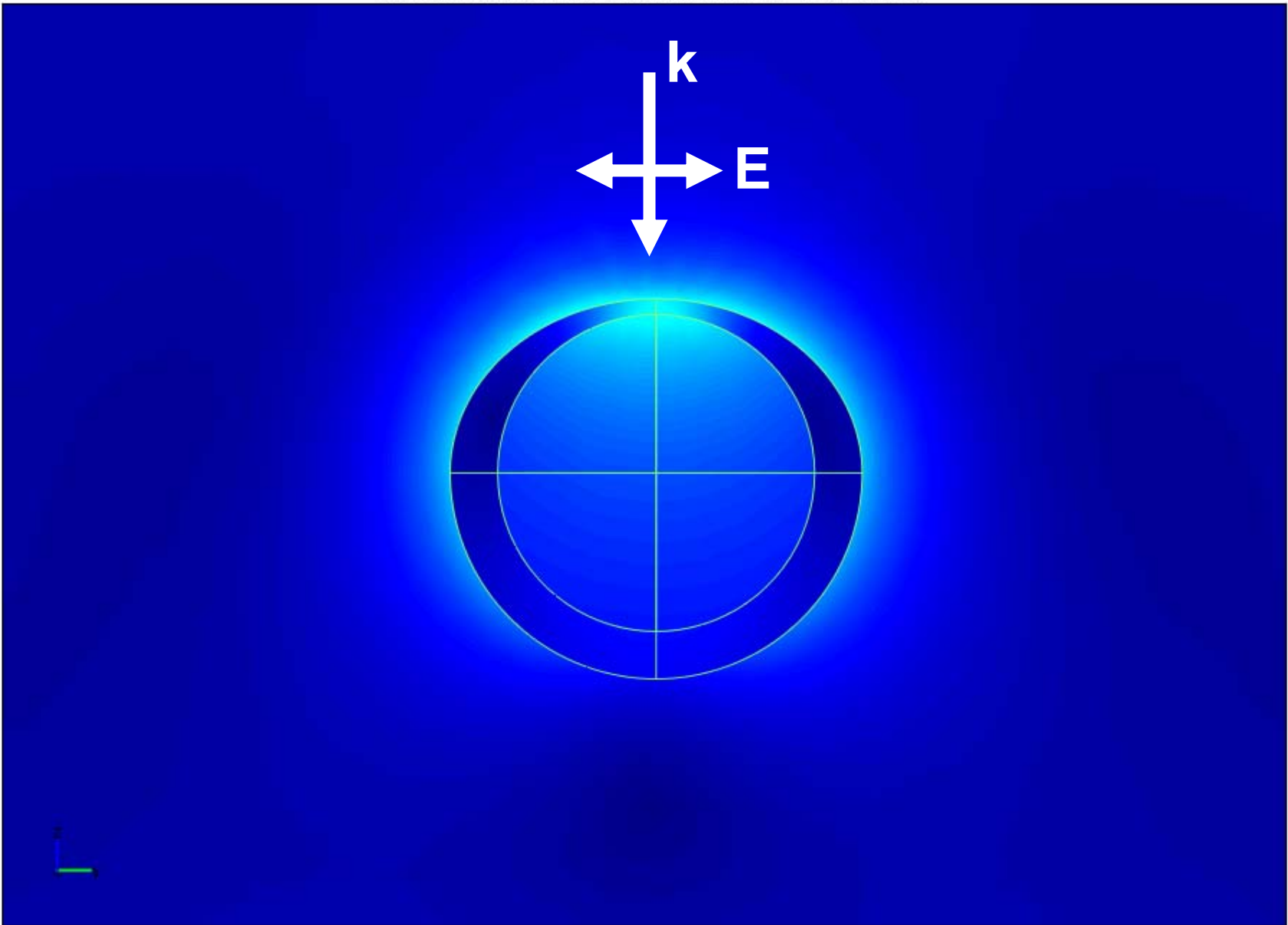
- Near-field focusing depends on which resonance is excited
- Nanoeggs function as chromatic nanolenses
- Maximum enhancement does not correspond to largest extinction peak



thetaWave(1)=1

Slice: Electric field, norm [V/m] Edge: if(sqrt(x^2+y^2+z^2)<60e-9,1,NaN)

Max: 27.0



Min: 0

Coupling Light into a Nanowire

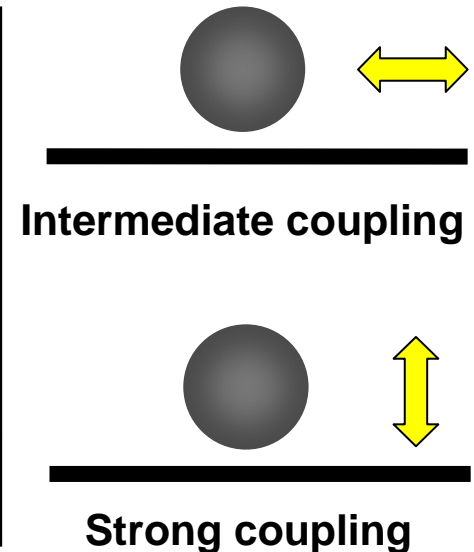
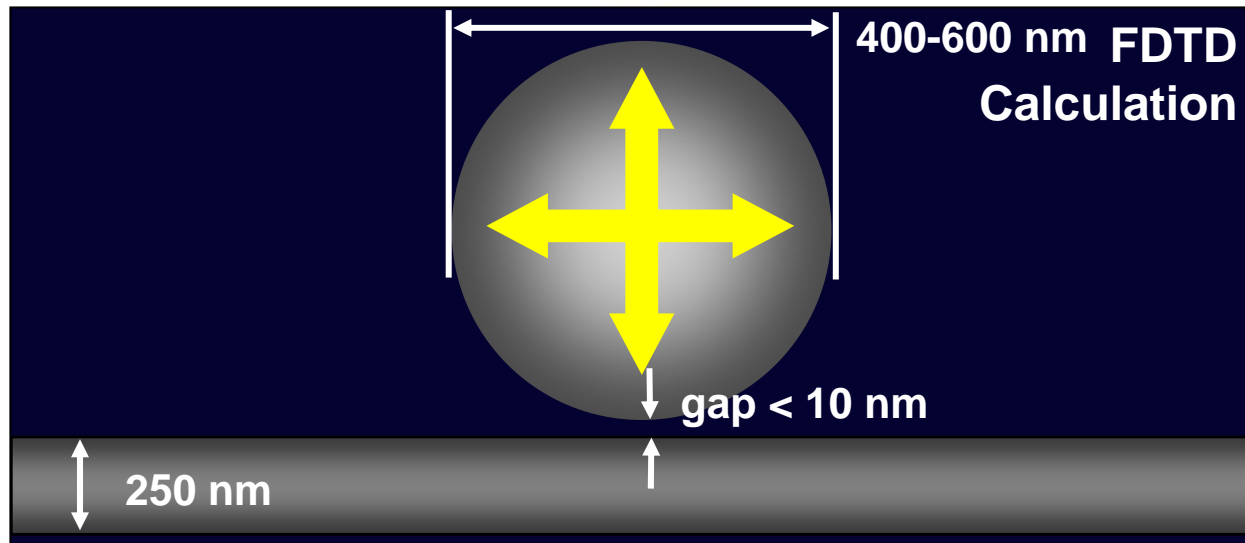
Connecting nanoscale optics to the macroscale

Desired: *Simple input/output port for nanowire waveguides*

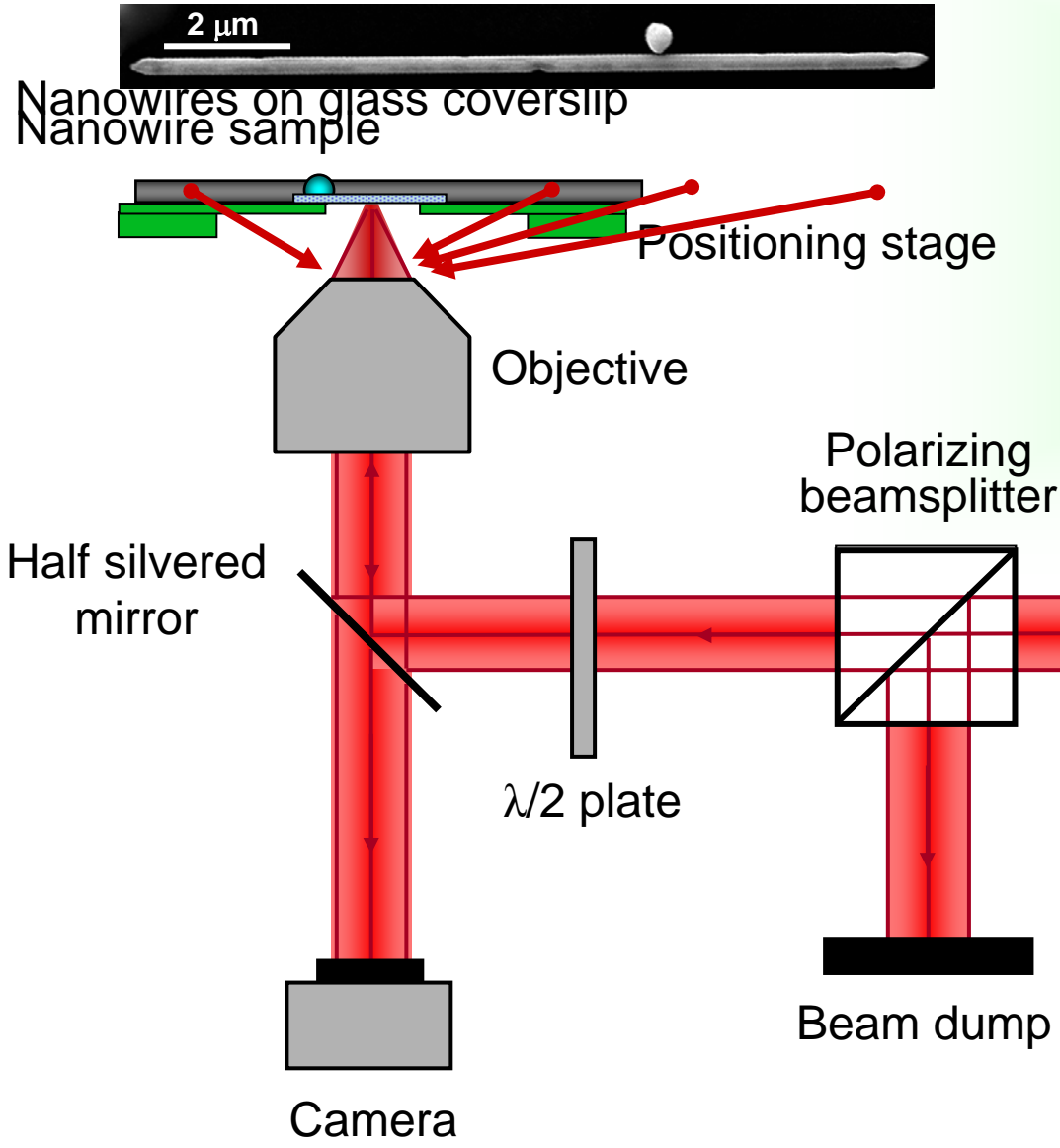
Possible use: basic geometry scalable, possibly useful for planar on-chip interconnects

Experimental test of particle/wire plasmon hybridization

- **Theory:** F. Hao and P. Nordlander. *Appl. Phys. Lett.*, **89**, 103101 (2006)
- Increasing particle diameter relative to wire diameter redshifts resonance
- Decreasing gap relative to particle diameter increases coupling intensity

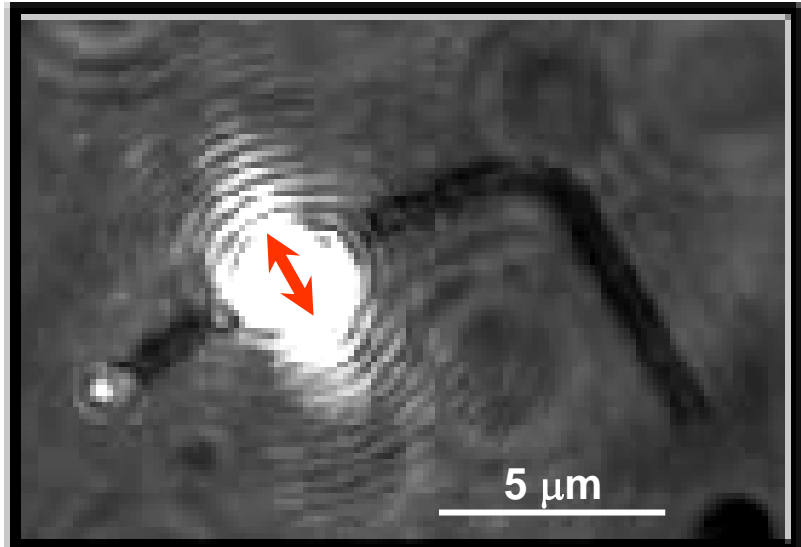
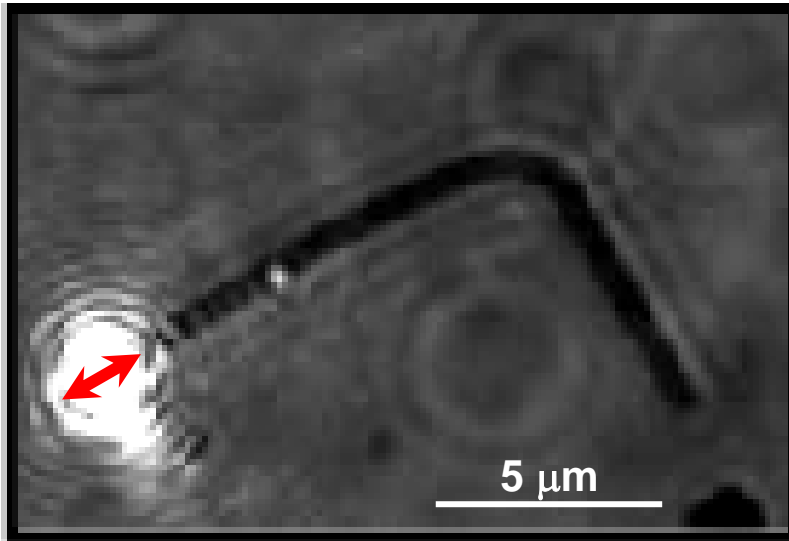


Experiment:

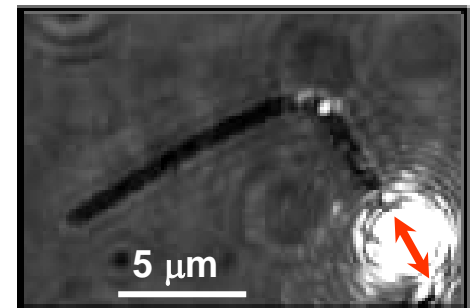
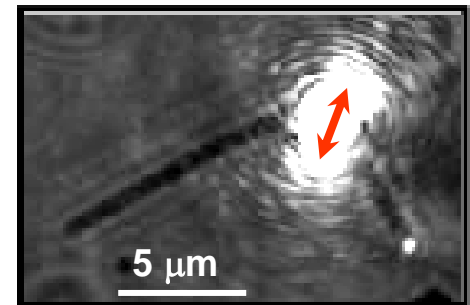


- Wires, particles deposited via drop casting
- Laser used to excite plasmons at:
 - Particle wire junction
 - End of wire
- Emission from remote coupling sites used to measure relative coupling intensity

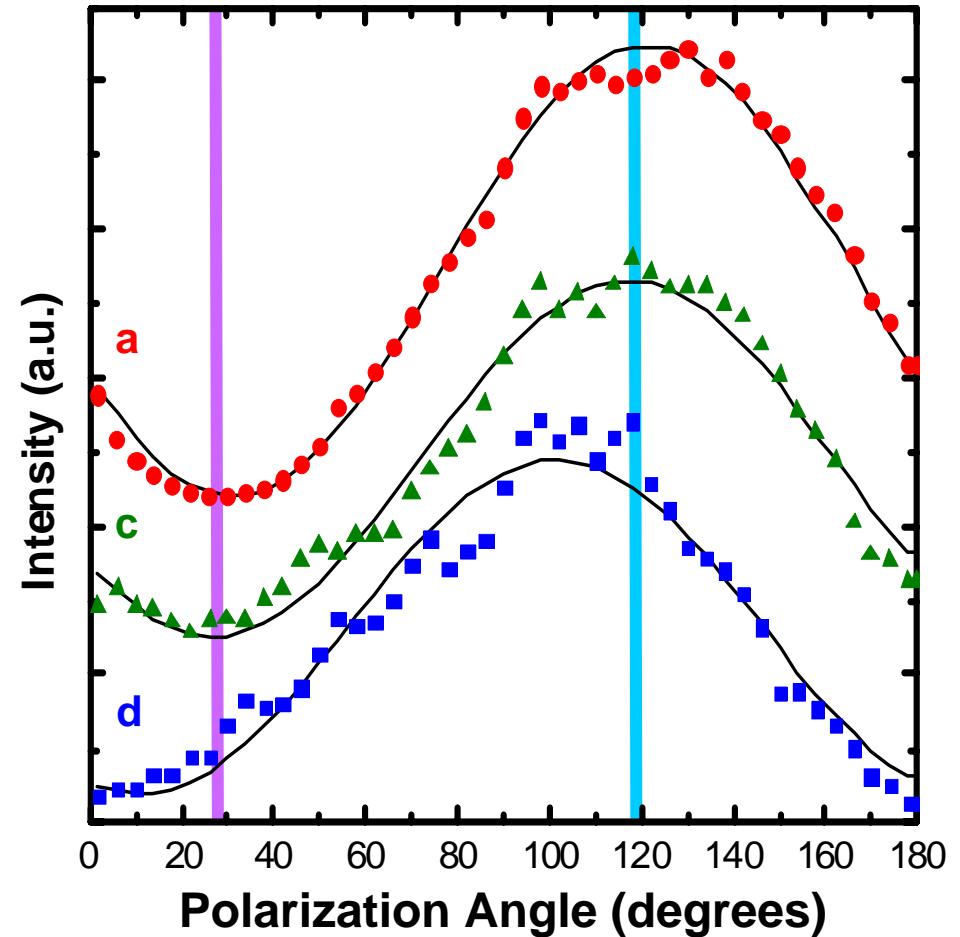
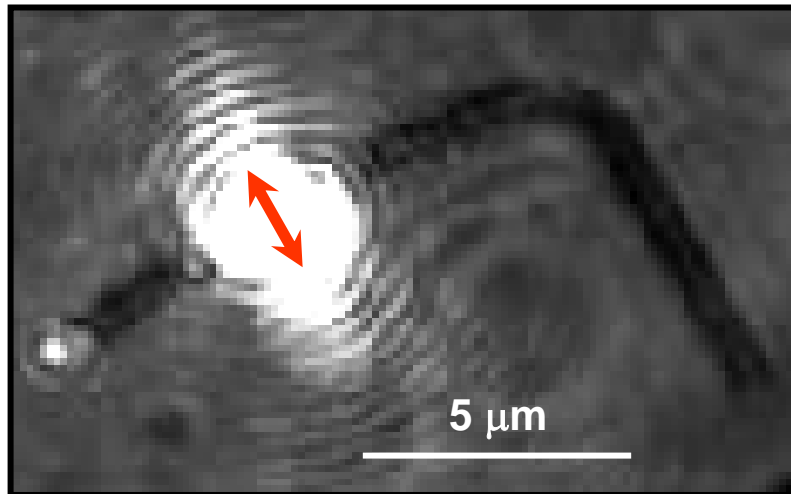
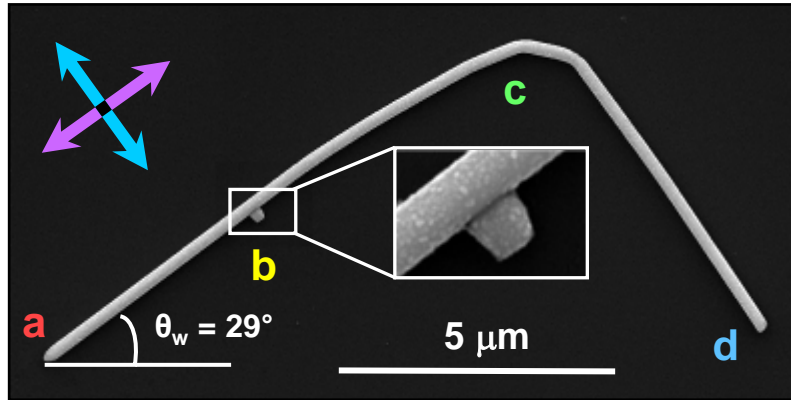
Images of Coupling into a Nanowire



- All sites of broken symmetry can be used to couple light into the nanowire:
 - Ends
 - Kink
 - Particle
- Red arrows indicate excitation laser polarization

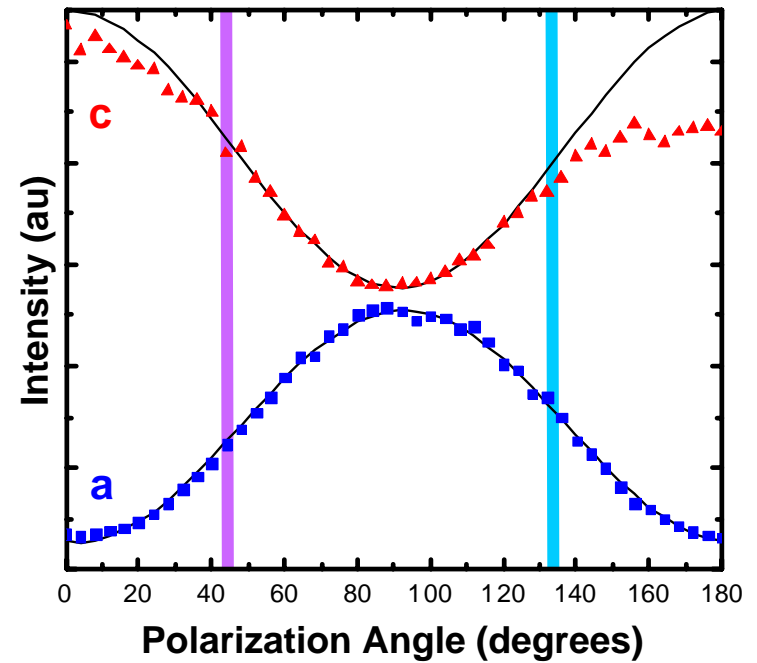
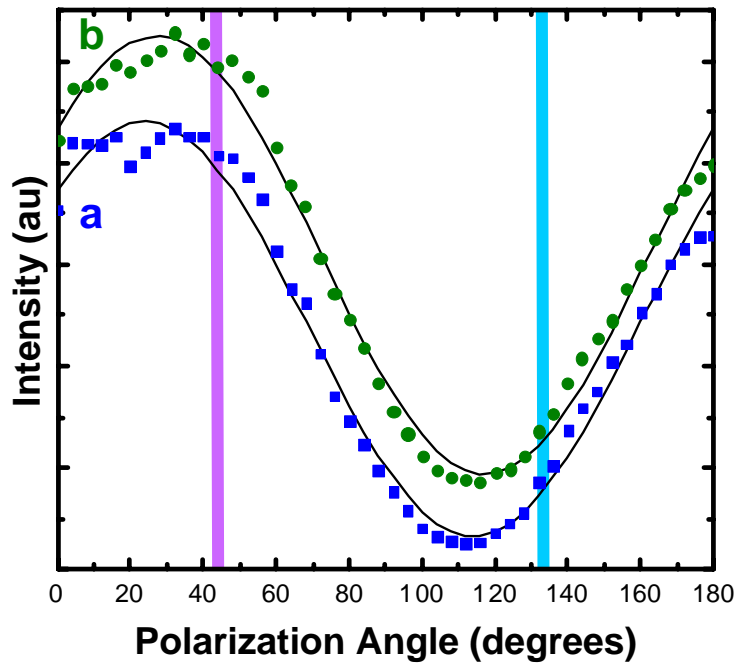
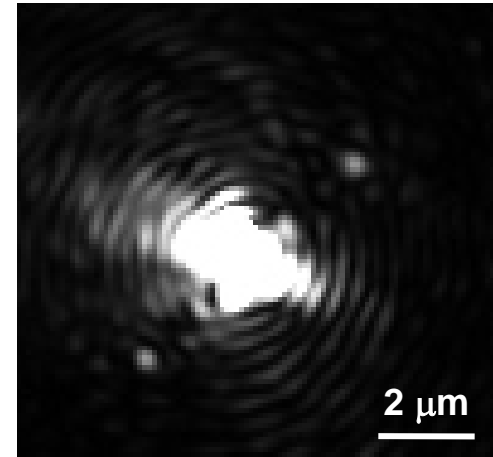
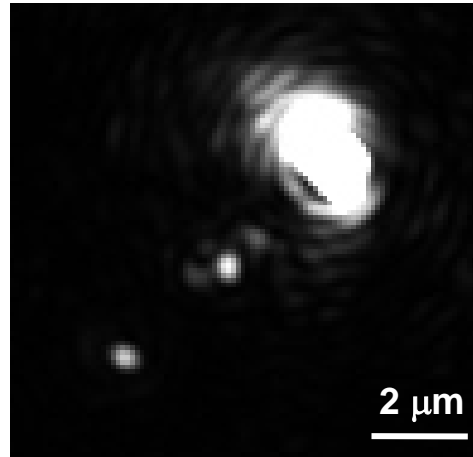
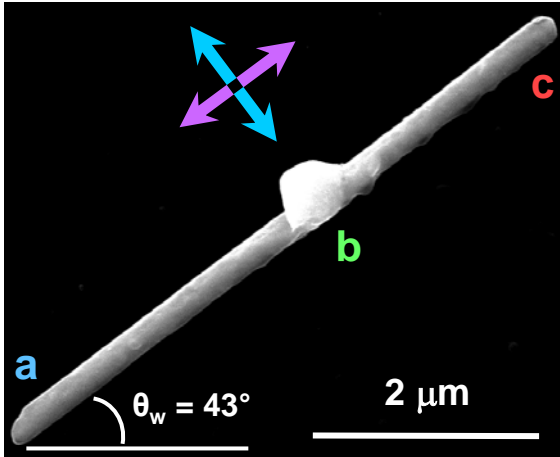


Polarization Dependence of Long Wire Coupling



In agreement with theory, long wires show aligned emission peaks

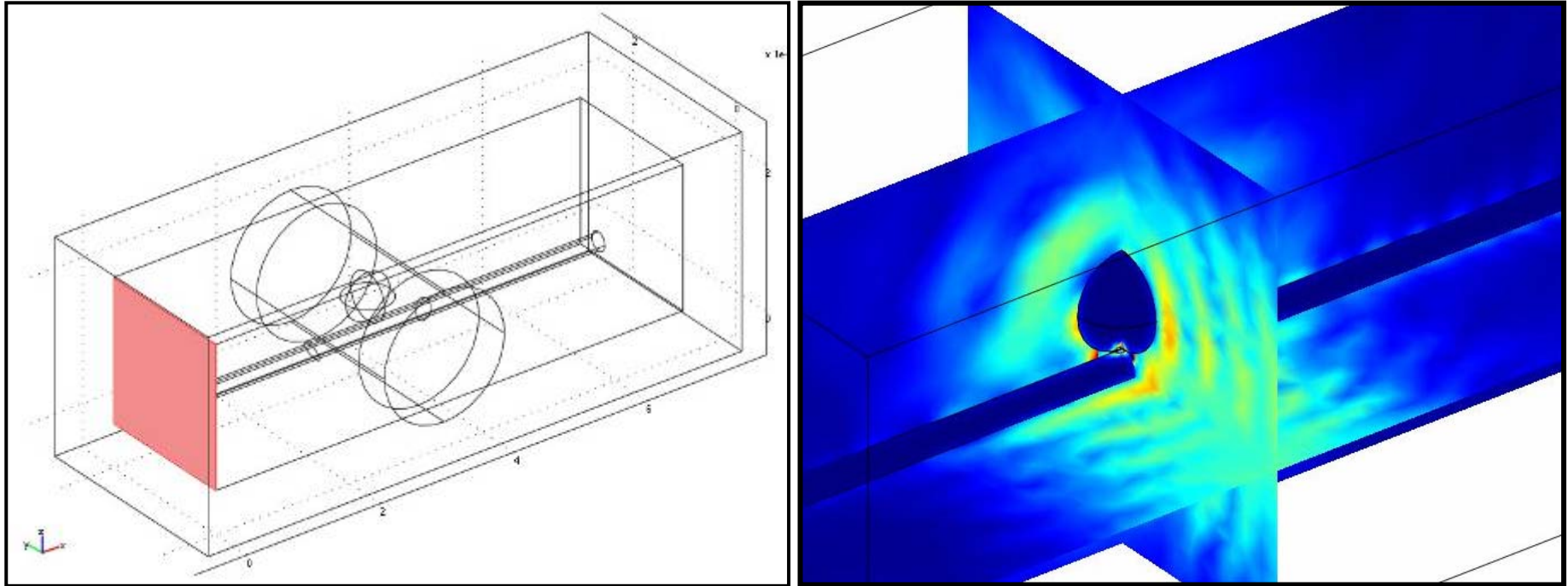
Short Wires behave differently!



Localized Plasmons + Extended Structure = Multiscale

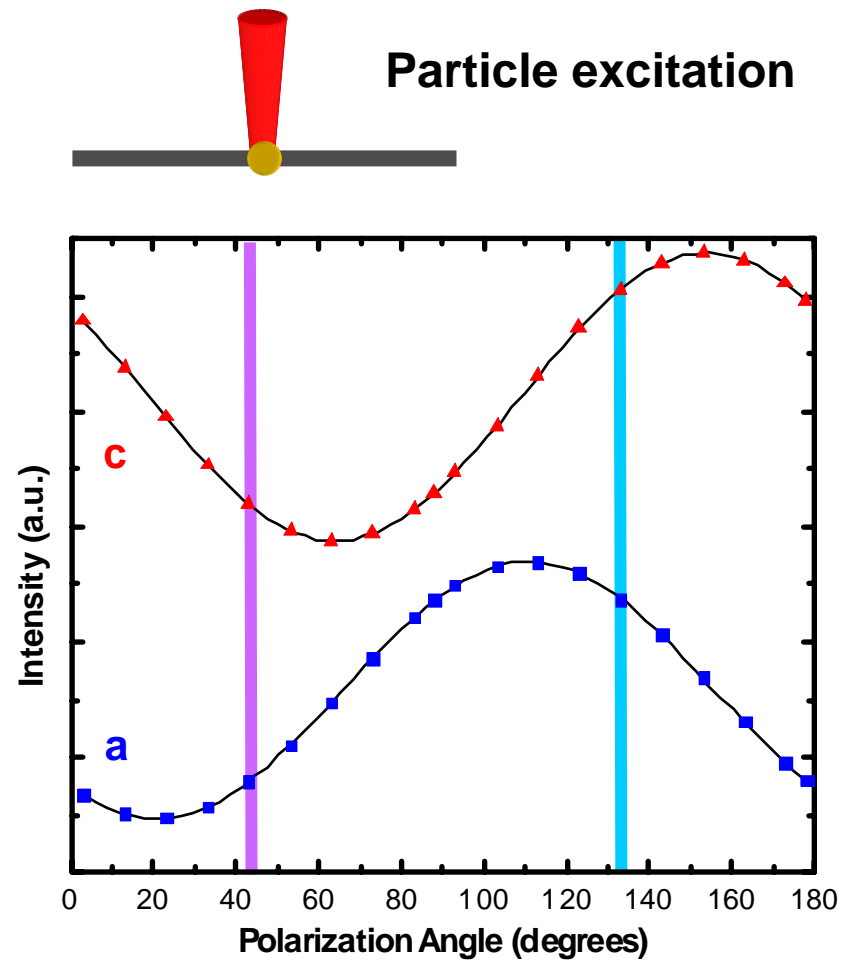
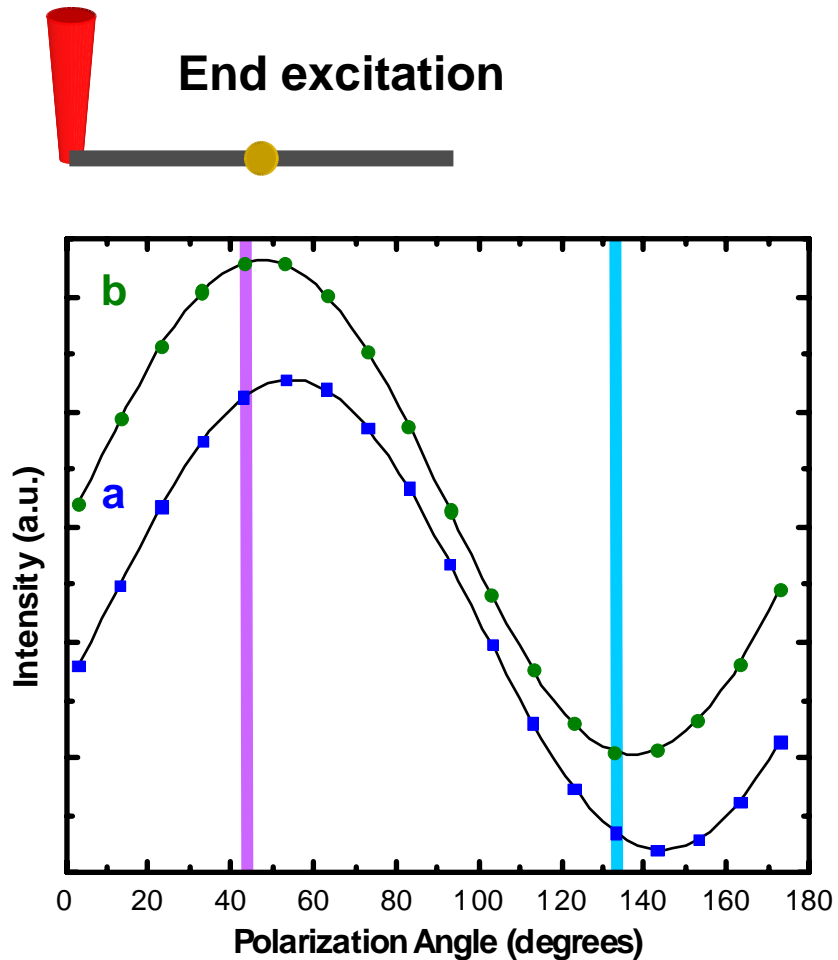
- FDTD, FEM both useful for isolated nanoparticles
- For multiscale problems, the fixed Cartesian grid size used in FDTD makes determining a solution computationally difficult
- Adaptive meshing in COMSOL allows treatment of extended, multiscale structures
 - Particle & wire problem

COMSOL Simulations of Short Wire



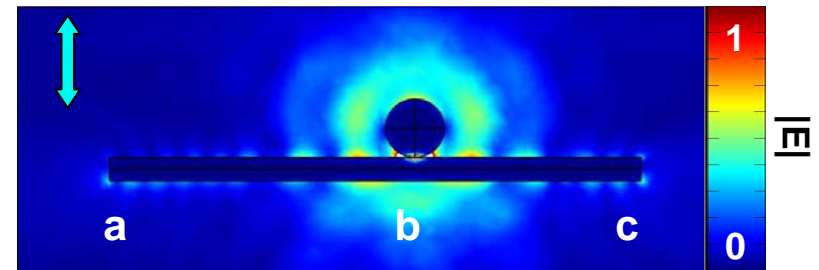
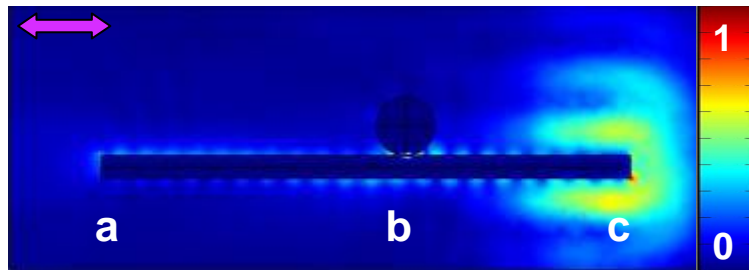
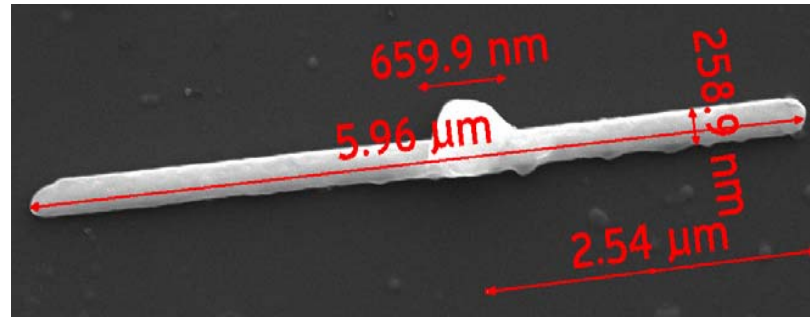
- Model dimensions identical to measured dimensions of nanowire/particle pair
- Scattering boundaries on outer surface
- Polarized, Gaussian beam used for excitation
- Far-field transforms applied near each point of broken symmetry to calculate far-field emissions

Calculated Polarization Dependence



- Normalized far-field intensities show the same trend observed experimentally
- Sensitive dependence on wire length corresponds to Fabry-Perot response of plasmonic cavity

Standing-wave response of wire



- Near-field response of nanowire shows standing waves

Plasmonic Nanocups

Effects of Geometry and Dielectric Resonance

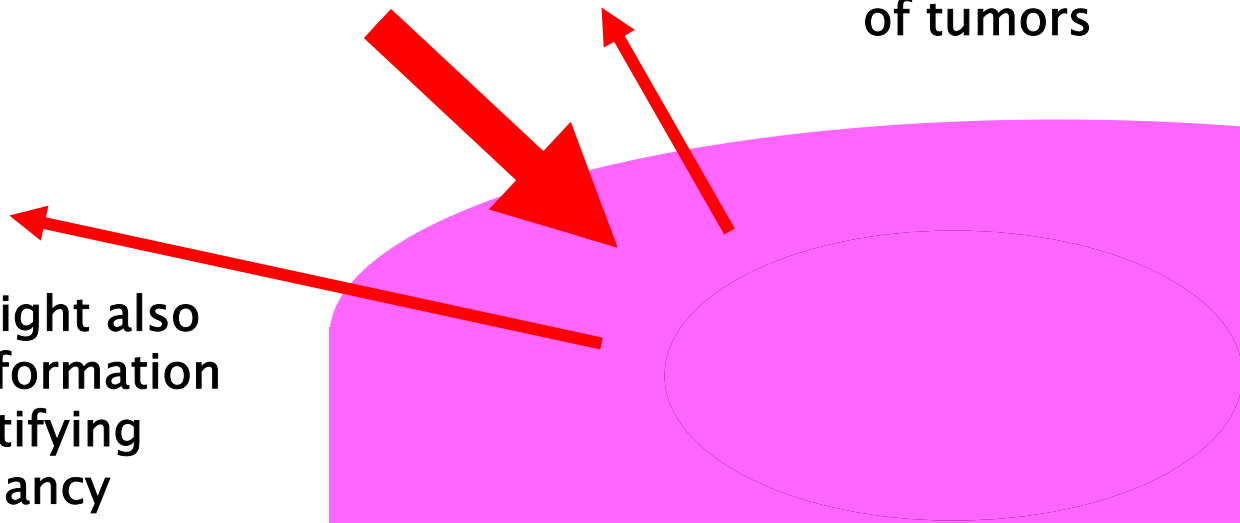
Nanoshell-assisted Seamless Integration of Screening and Therapy: “See and Treat”

nanoshells provide vivid contrast enhancement, increase image resolution

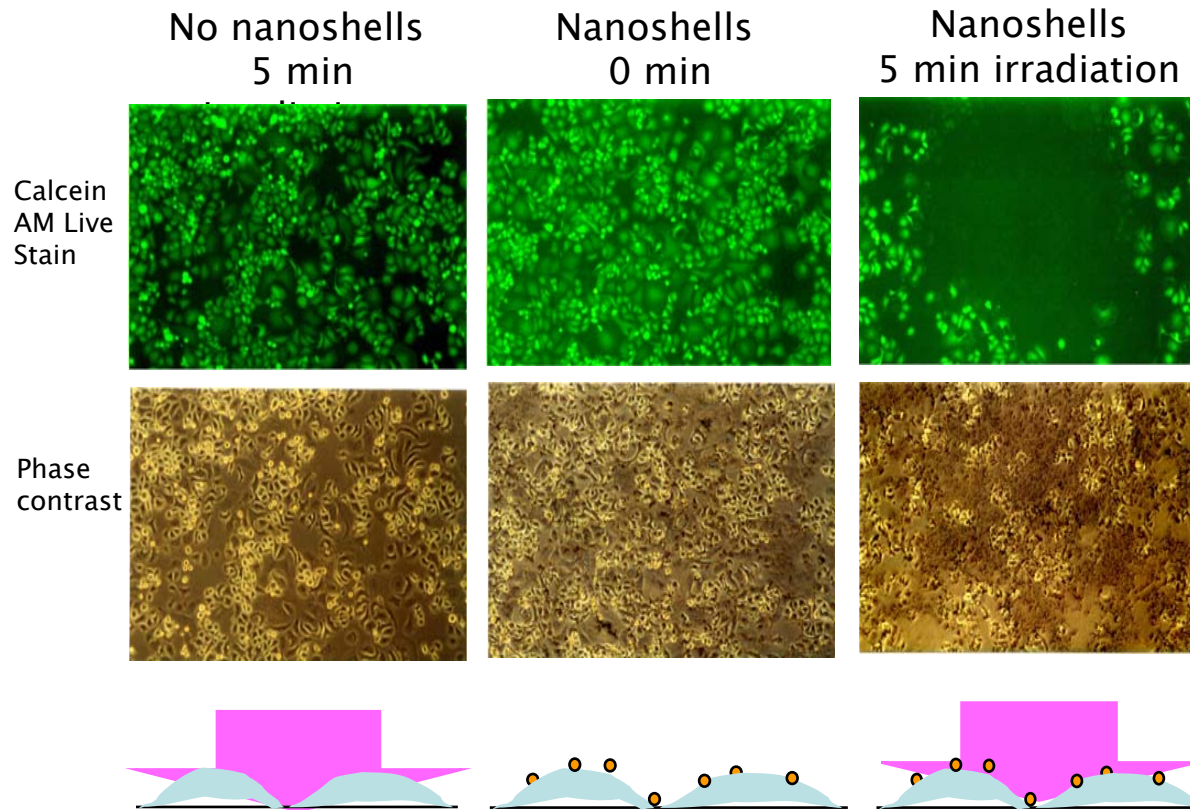
nanoshells are a photothermal heat source for remote destruction of tumors

scattered light also provides information for identifying malignancy (Nanoshell-enhanced Raman Scattering)

deliver nanoshells to tumor site



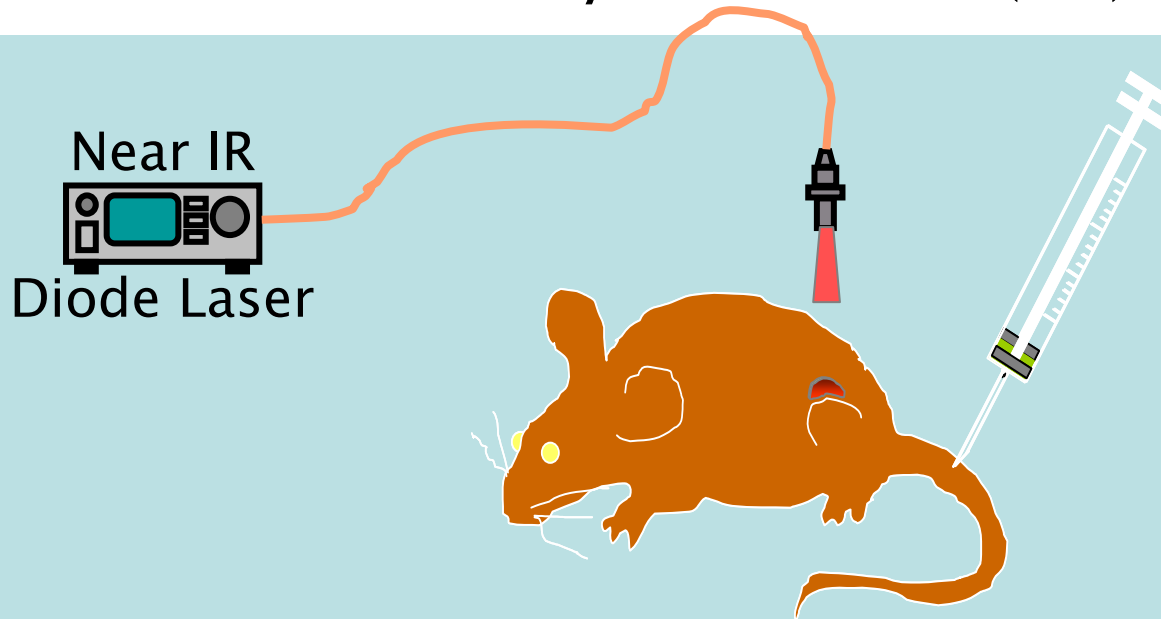
Nanoshell-assisted Cancer Therapy



L. R. Hirsch, R. J. Stafford, J. A. Bankson, S. R. Sershen, R. E. Price, J. D. Hazle, N. J. Halas, and J. L. West, "Nanoshell-Mediated Near Infrared Thermal Therapy of Tumors Under MR Guidance", PNAS 100, 13549-13554 (2003).

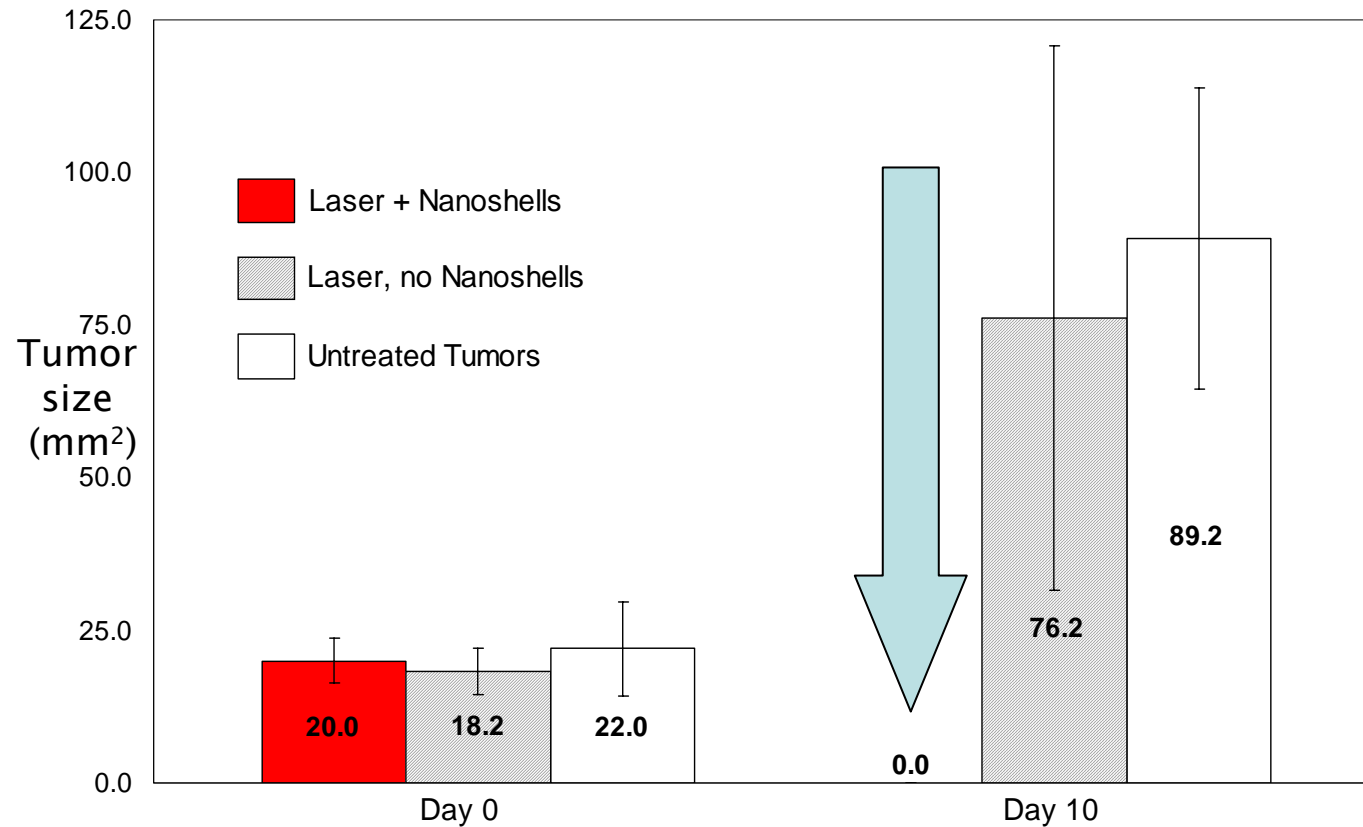
Systemically delivered nanoshell therapy

Nanoshell uptake entirely due to Enhanced Permeability and Retention (EPR) Effect



- BALB/c mice inoculated with CT26.wt mouse colon carcinoma cell line
- Systemically delivered pegylated nanoshells via tail vein injection
- 6 hrs post injection, tumors irradiated with 4 W/cm^2 810 nm diode laser source for 3 min
- Tumor surface temp. monitored using infrared thermometer.
- Resultant tumor size monitored for up to 2 months

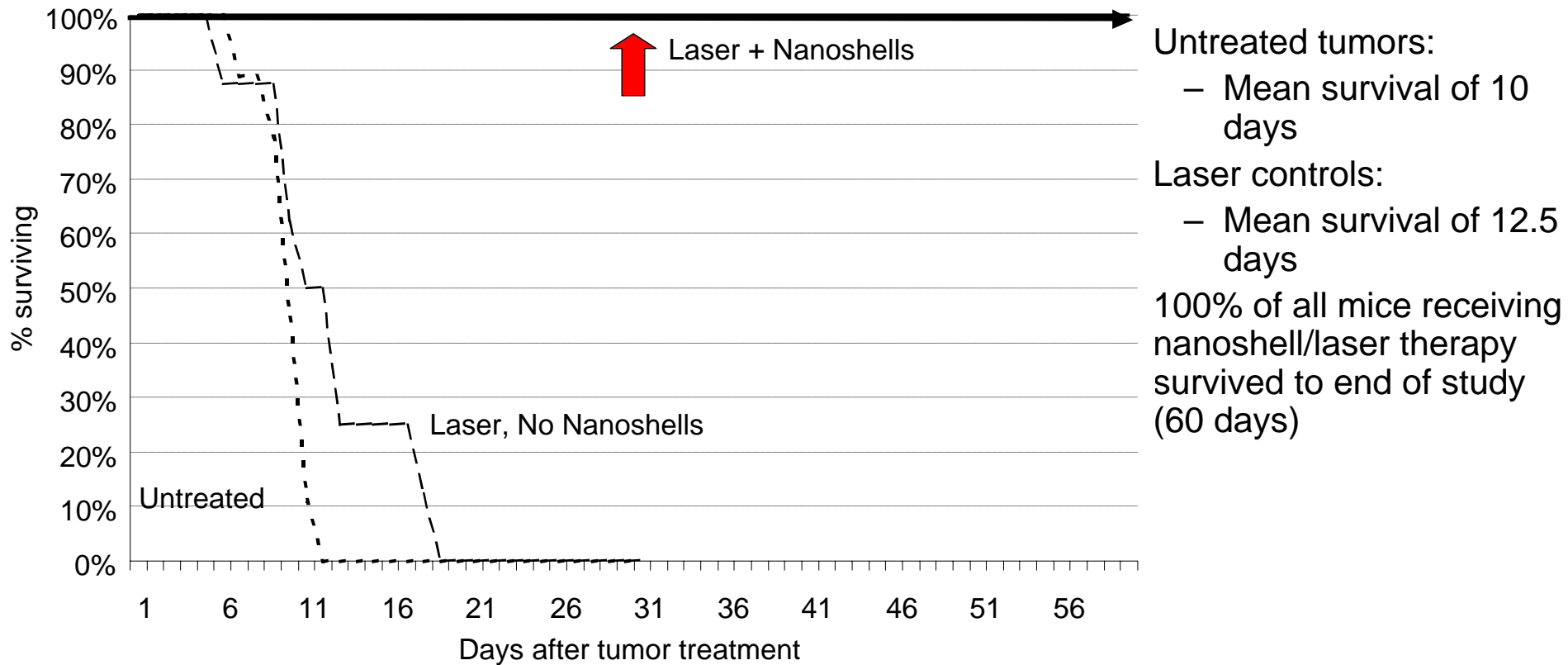
Tumor size before and after therapy



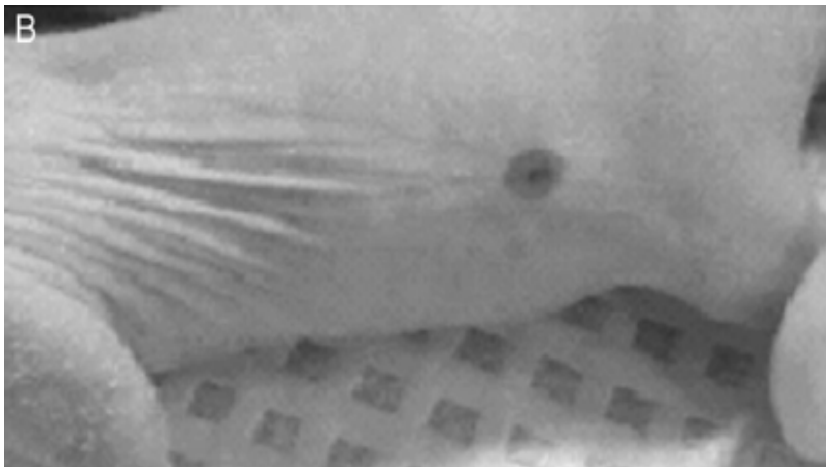
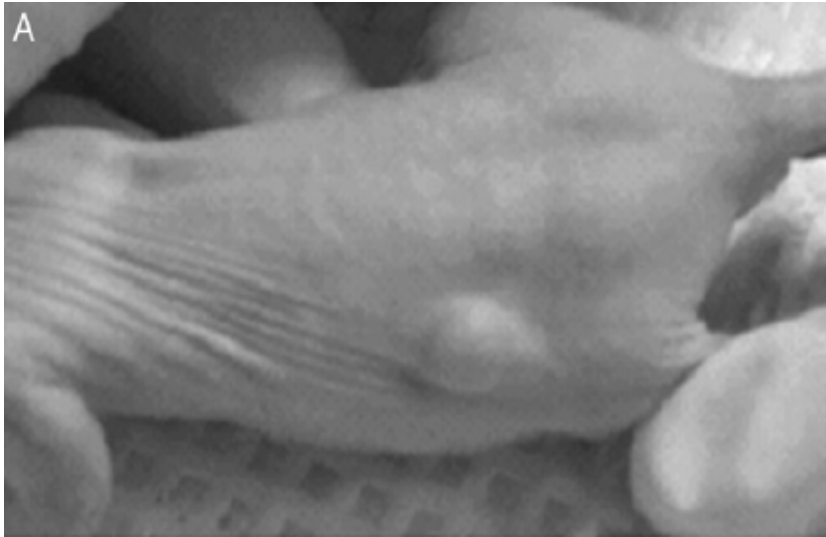
No measurable tumor mass was found in any nanoshell/laser treatments after 10 days

Complete regression of all tumors receiving nanoshell/laser treatments

Mouse Survival after Therapy



Nanoshell-based photothermal cancer therapy



Pilot-phase clinical trials of AuroLase™ therapy FDA-approved and ongoing 2008: untargeted head and neck cancer
UT San Antonio, UTSW Dallas, BCM (Houston), Tulane (NO)

J. Cadeddu et al., J. Urology 179, 748-753 (2008)



Conclusions

Plasmonics: an emerging science and technology

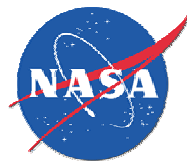
Simulations help both theorists and experimentalists!

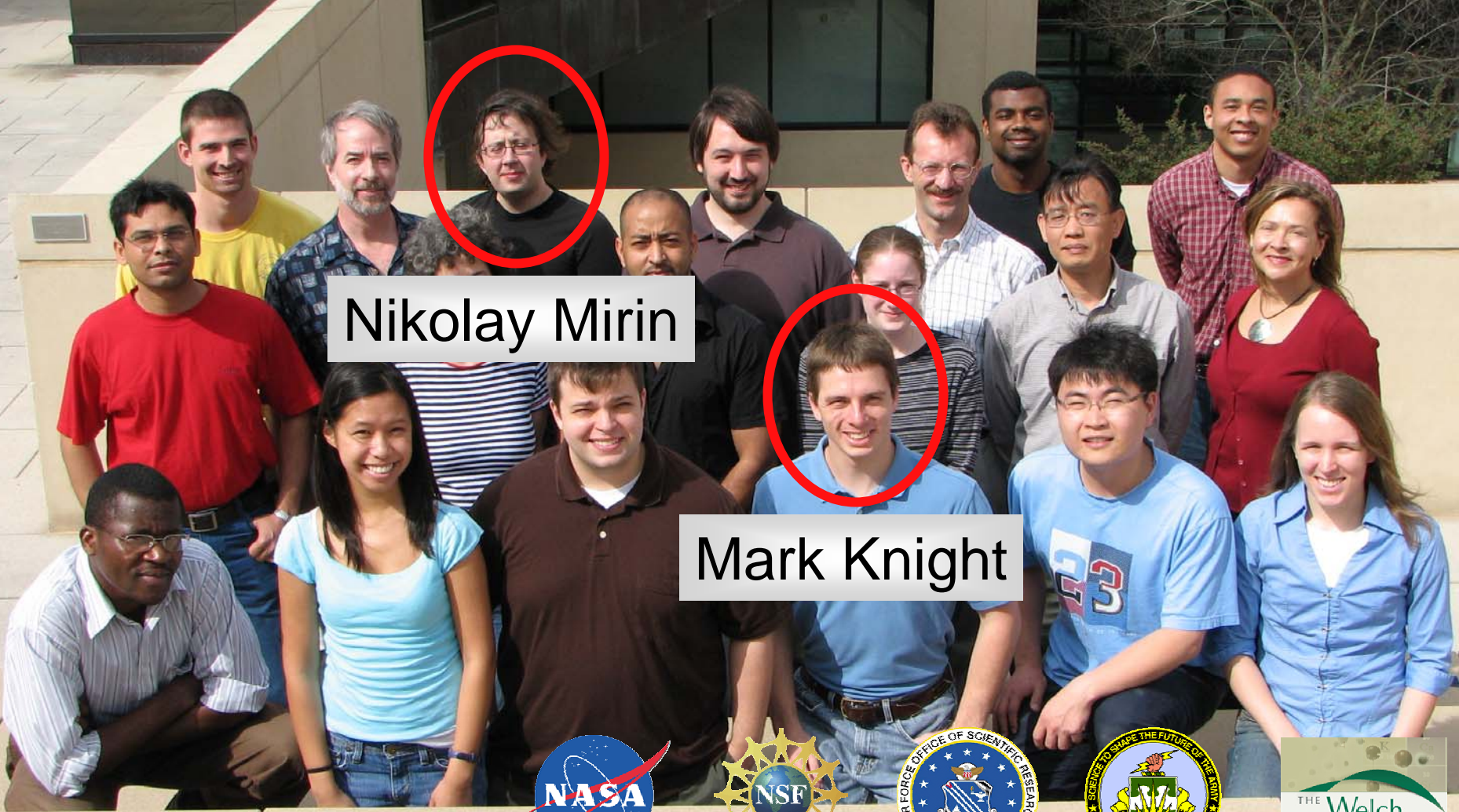
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- Hongxing Xu





Nikolay Mirin

Mark Knight

