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#### Silicon Carbide-Based One-Dimensional Nanostructures Growth: Towards Electronics and Biology Perspectives

Laurence Latu-Romain

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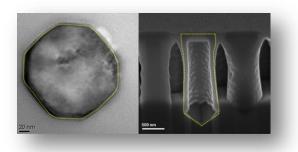
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#### Silicon Carbide-based one-dimensional nanostructures growth: towards electronics and biology perspectives



Grenoble University LTM-SIMaP



Laurence LATU-ROMAIN

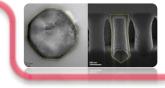




Outline

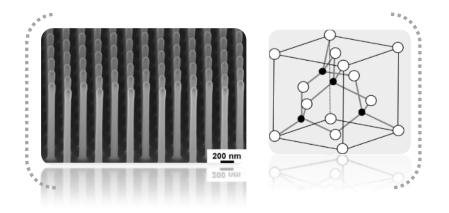
Introduction State of the art Study of the Si nanowires carburization - Si-SiC core-shell nanowires - SiC nanotubes - Existence diagram Alternative approach Potential applications

### Introduction



Interest of SiC nanostructures:

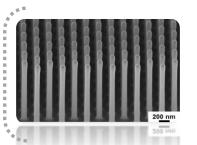
to associate a high S/V ratio and a material with exceptional properties

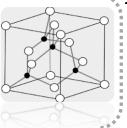


- SiC has excellent intrinsic properties:
  - Large bandgap semiconductor (2.2 eV, Cubic-SiC)
  - High electron mobility
  - High breakdown field: 15.10<sup>5</sup> V.cm<sup>-1</sup> (10x sup. to Si)
  - High thermal conductivity: 450 W.m<sup>-1</sup>.K<sup>-1</sup> (3x sup. to Si)

## Introduction







• SiC can be used in harsh and biological environments:

- High operating temperature: 900°C
- High chemical stability
- Biocompatibility

both hemo- and bio-compatible

"This material [SiC] system may prove to be the dream material for biomedical devices"

S. Saddow, Silicon Carbide Biotechnology, A biocompatible semiconductor for advanced biomedical devices and applications, Elsevier, 2012

-One of the most abundant materials on earth and in the universe

P. Merino,...,P. Soukiassian et al., Graphene etching on SiC grains as a path to interstellar polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons formation, Nature comm., 5, 3054, (2014) and INVITED TALK

- Potential applications:
  - Nano-electronics: high power/high T°/high frequencies or/and in extreme conditions
  - Bio-nanosensors

### State of the art

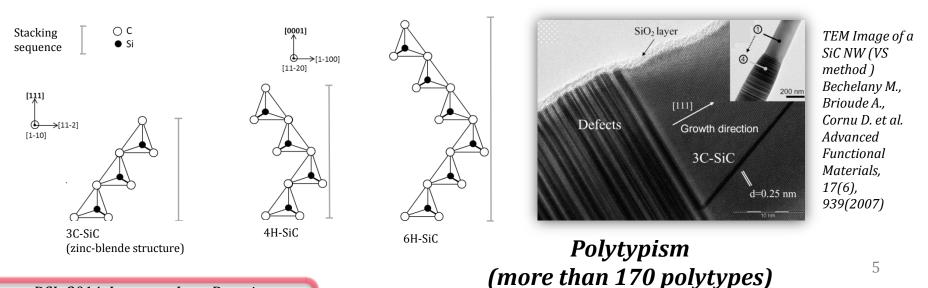


Quantum confinement effect in SiC:
 Bohr exciton radius of 3C-SiC is very low ~ 2.7 nm
 High sensitivity

2) The great majority of the grown nanostructures is SiC nanowires (NWs). Whatever the growth method, nanowires are :

- **cubic SiC NWs** because of the low growth temperature

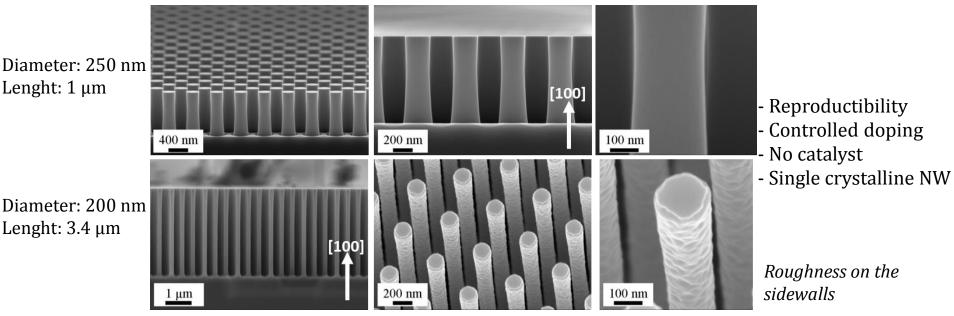
- and contain a high density of structural defects, stacking faults The doping is still not controlled.



### Si nanowires carburization

Very few previously studied

Advantage: Si nanowires obtained by plasma etching are an excellent basis



M. Martin, LTM

#### In order to explore original nanostructures

like Si-SiC core-shell nanowires and SiC nanotubes

### Characterization of choice

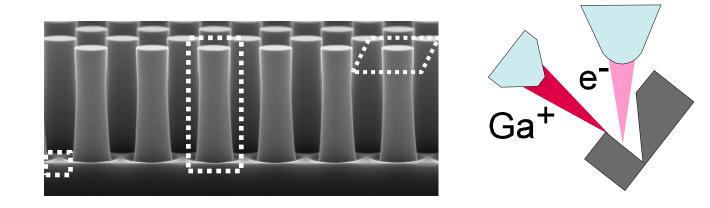


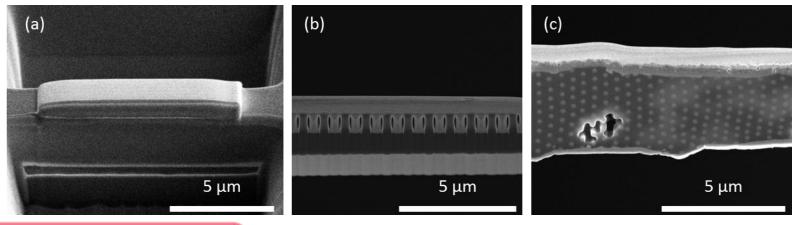
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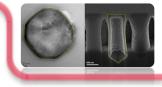
1) SEM observations and thin lamellas prepared by double column Focused Ion Beam-Scanning Electron Microscope (FIB-SEM):

Transversal cross section on the substrate (a) or along the nanostructure (b), or longitudinal cross section around the nanostructures (c)

2) Characterization by Transmission Electron Microscopy







- «Perfect » object for bio-sensing:
  - Electronic transport in the Si core
  - Biocompatibility and chemical inertness of the SiC shell (further functionalized)
  - NW-FET technology
- Objectives :
  - A protective and the best structural quality for the SiC shell
  - To keep intact the Si core



SiC shell Si nanowire core

### Si-SiC NWs: state of the art



#### Very few studies:

From:

(2007)

(2011)

Physics Letters,

a) Y.L. Li etal. Journal of the Ceramic Society of

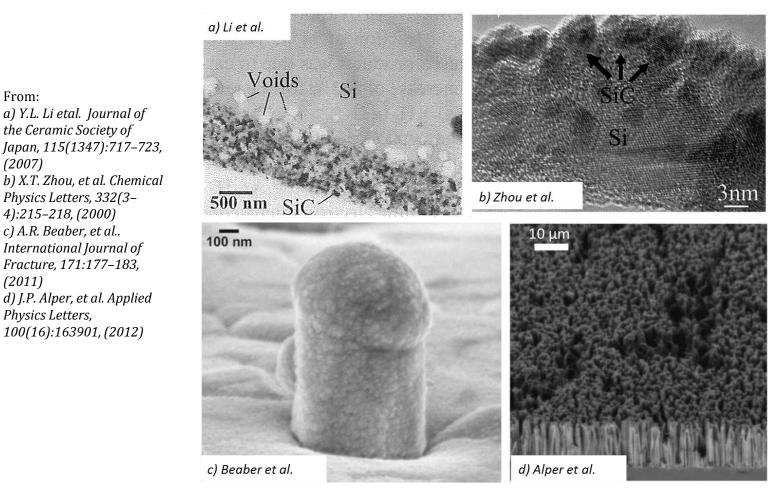
Japan, 115(1347):717-723,

Physics Letters, 332(3-4):215-218, (2000) c) A.R. Beaber, et al..

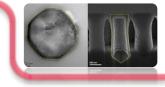
International Journal of Fracture, 171:177-183,

d) J.P. Alper, et al. Applied

100(16):163901, (2012)

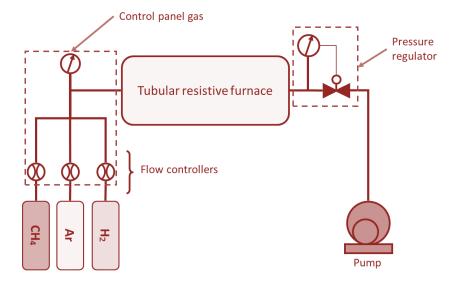


Various growth methods that lead to a discontinuous and a polycrystalline SiC deposit.

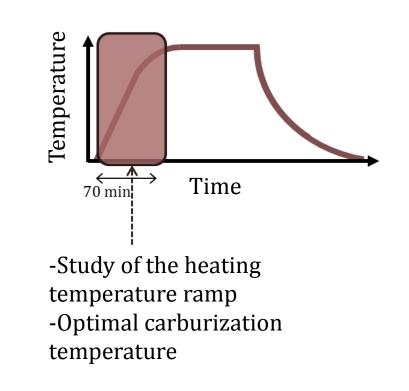


# To keep intact the Si core ?

#### Carburization experiments:

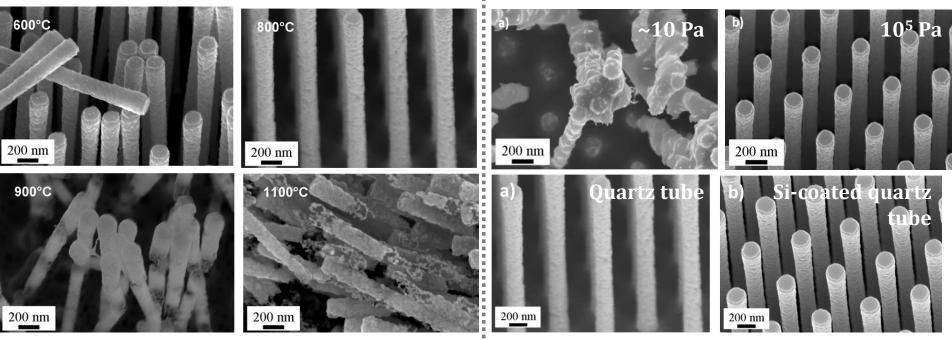


Horizontal tubular furnace: Temperature: 20 à 1200°C Pressure: 0,2 à  $10^5$  Pa -Ar flow: 0 — 200 mL.min<sup>-1</sup>, -H<sub>2</sub> flow: 0 — 200 mL.min<sup>-1</sup>, -CH<sub>4</sub> flow: 0 — 4 mL.min<sup>-1</sup>;



#### Si-NWs heating temperature





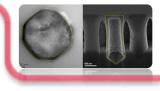
Heating temperature at ~10 Pa

Untill 900°C

- Si nanowires are damaged at high temperature

- Silicon sublimation is exacerbated at low pressure and with the presence of residual oxygen

#### Si-NWs heating temperature

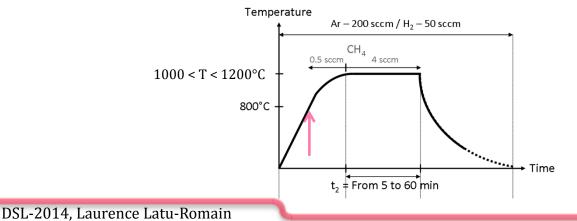


Supported by thermodynamical considerations (free enthalpy minimization, Factsage simulation)

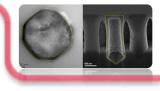
| Initial system                                      | <si></si>                 | [H <sub>2</sub> ]  | <si></si> | [H <sub>2</sub> ]            | <b>[0</b> <sub>2</sub> ] |  |
|---|---------------------------|--------------------|-----------|------------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| Initial quantities (moles)                          | 2                         | 1                  | 20        | 10                           | 1                        |  |
| Final system (1200°C)                               | <si></si>                 | [H <sub>2</sub> ]  | <si></si> | [H <sub>2</sub> ]            | Si vapor<br>phase :      |  |
|   |                           |                    |           |                              | [SiO]                    |  |
| Final quantities (moles)<br>at P=10 Pa              | 2-10-4                    | 1-10 <sup>-3</sup> | 18        | 10 <b>-</b> 10 <sup>-3</sup> | 2                        |  |
| Final quantities (moles)<br>at P=10 <sup>5</sup> Pa | <b>2-10</b> <sup>-5</sup> | 1-10-4             | 19,98     | 10-10 <sup>-4</sup>          | 0,02                     |  |
|   | GactSage                  |                    |           |                              |                          |  |

L. Latu-Romain et al., Journal of Nanoparticle Research 13, 5425-5433, 2011

Solution: Introduction of methane at low T° (800°C) at atmospheric pressure in order to grow a protective SiC seed layer



#### Si-NWs heating temperature

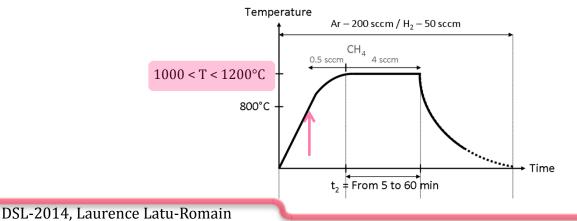


Supported by thermodynamical considerations (free enthalpy minimization, Factsage simulation)

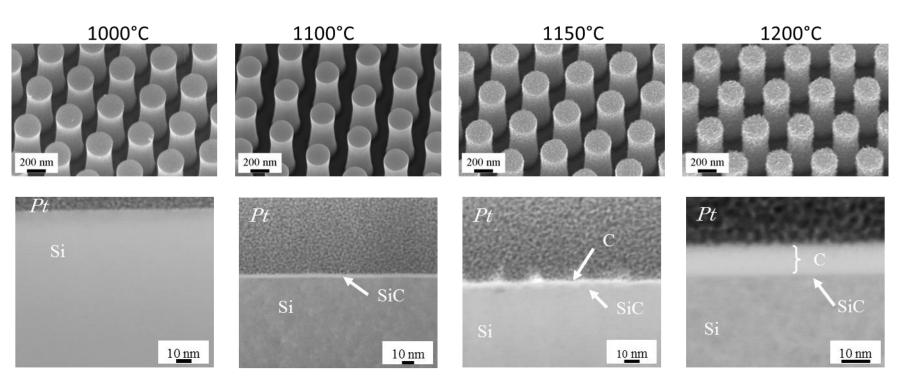
| Initial system                                      | <si></si>                 | [H <sub>2</sub> ]  | <si></si> | [H <sub>2</sub> ]   | <b>[0</b> <sub>2</sub> ]     |  |  |
|---|---------------------------|--------------------|-----------|---------------------|------------------------------|--|--|
| Initial quantities (moles)                          | 2                         | 1                  | 20        | 10                  | 1                            |  |  |
| Final system (1200°C)                               | <si></si>                 | [H <sub>2</sub> ]  | <si></si> | [H <sub>2</sub> ]   | Si vapor<br>phase :<br>[SiO] |  |  |
| Final quantities (moles)<br>at P=10 Pa              | 2-10-4                    | 1-10 <sup>-3</sup> | 18        | 10-10 <sup>-3</sup> | 2                            |  |  |
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|   | GactSage                  |                    |           |                     |                              |  |  |

L. Latu-Romain et al., Journal of Nanoparticle Research 13, 5425-5433, 2011

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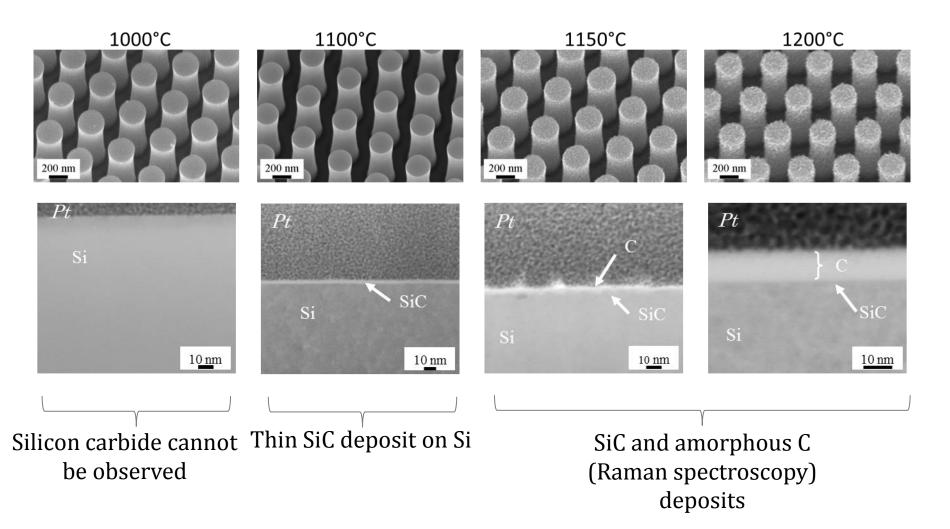
### **Carburization temperature**

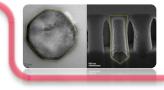


Nanowires SEM images

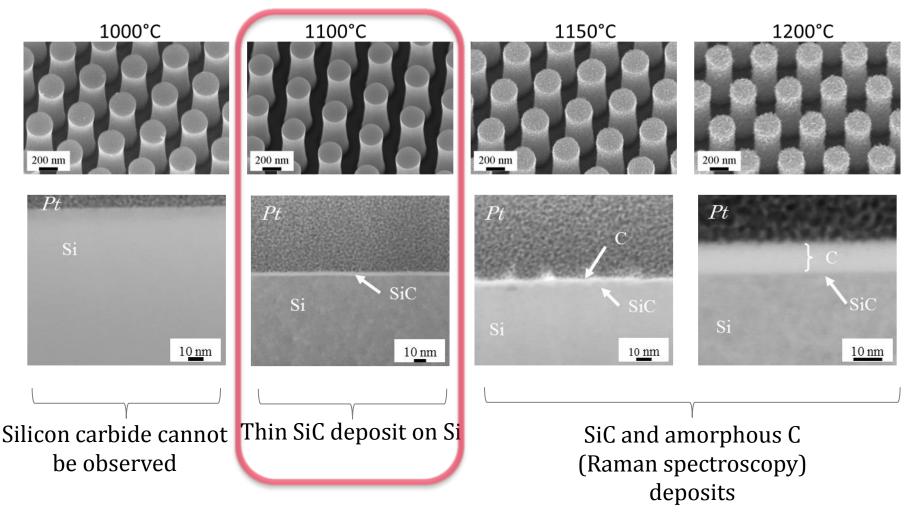
FIB-SEM in-situ STEM images (30 kV) of transversal cross section on (100) Si

### **Carburization temperature**

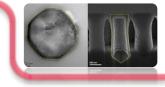


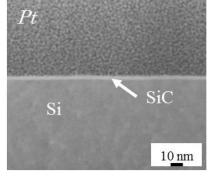


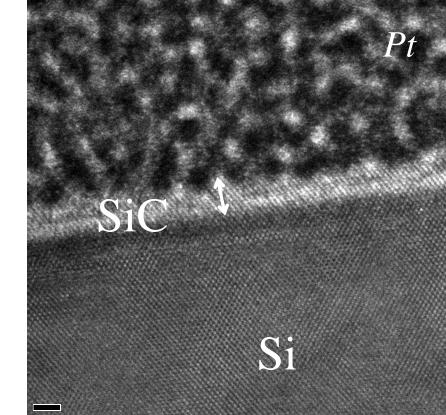
### Carburization temperature



In these conditions, 1100°C seems to be the optimal carburization temperature.



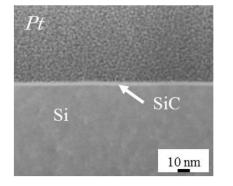




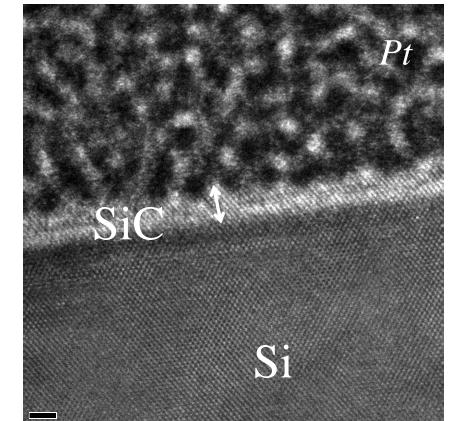
HRTEM image (200 keV) of the **single crystalline cubic SiC** layer of a thickness of 2.8 nm on (100) Si by carburization at 1100°C.

 $\Delta a/a = 20 \%$ 



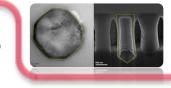


 $\Delta a/a = 20 \%$ 

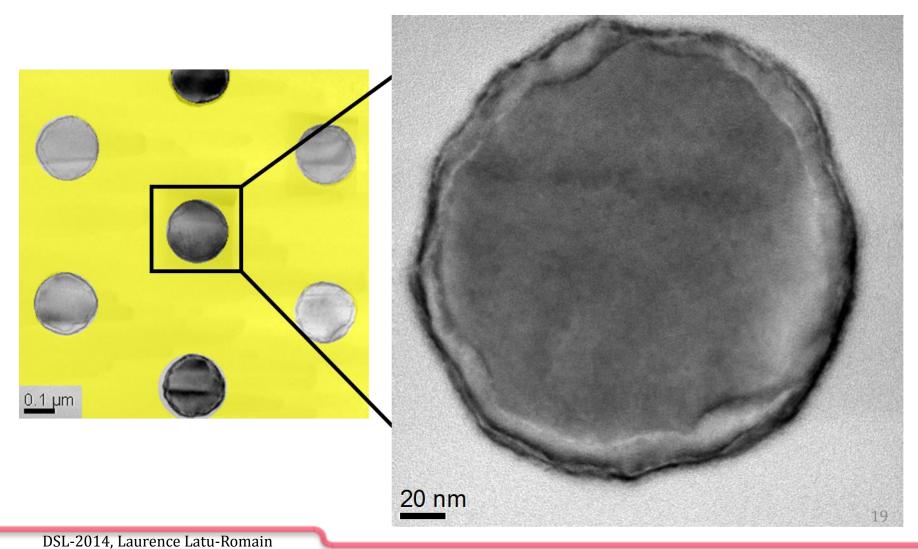


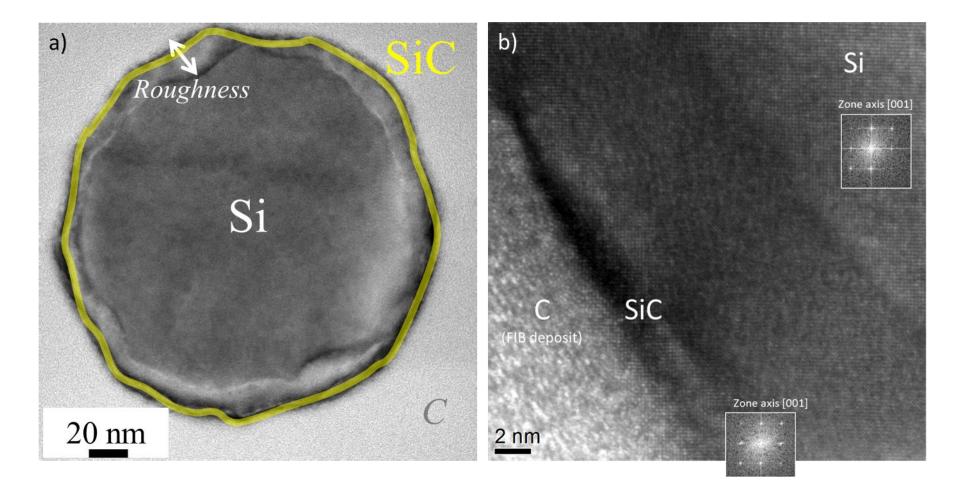
HRTEM image (200 keV) of the **single crystalline cubic SiC** layer of a thickness of 2,8 nm on (100) Si by carburization at 1100°C.

And what about the other surfaces, all around the nanowire?

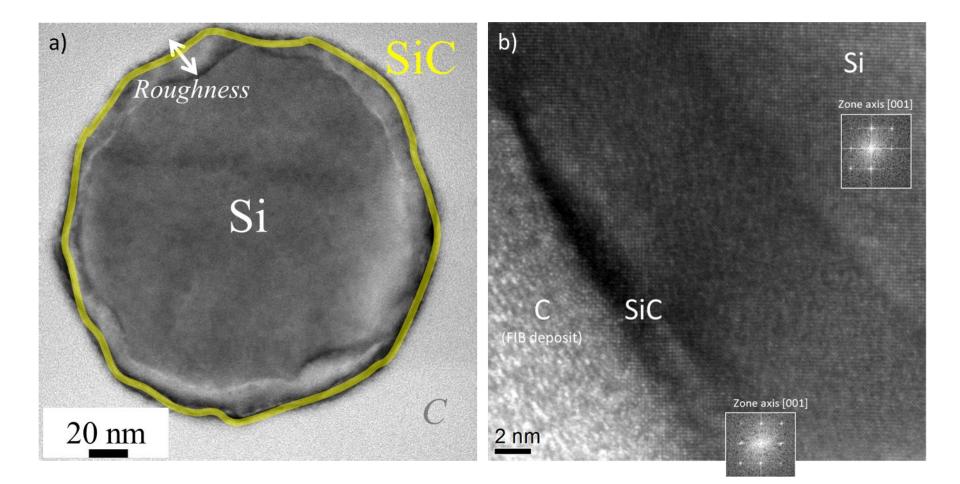


Longitudinal cross-section of Si-SiC NW, prepared by FIB-SEM, observed by TEM:





Si-SiC core-shell nanowire observed in [001] zone axis: 2.8 nm SiC on all the Si surfaces Single crystalline SiC shell



2.8 nm SiC on all the Si surfaces Single crystalline SiC shell

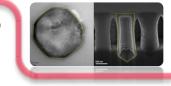


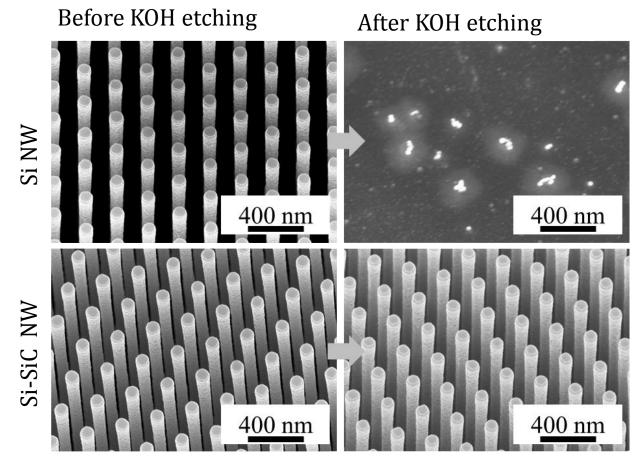
Observation at a local scale

Si NW 400 nm Si-SiC NW

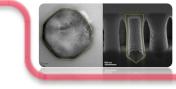
Before KOH etching

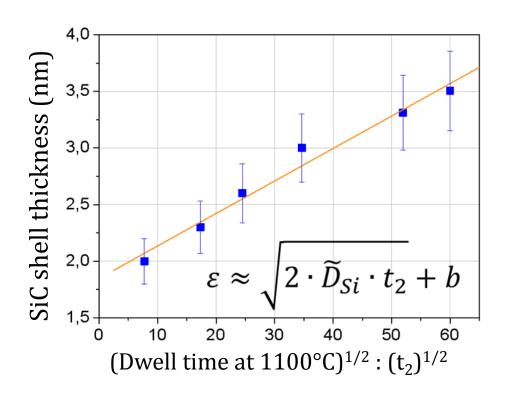
1) Identical morphology after carburization





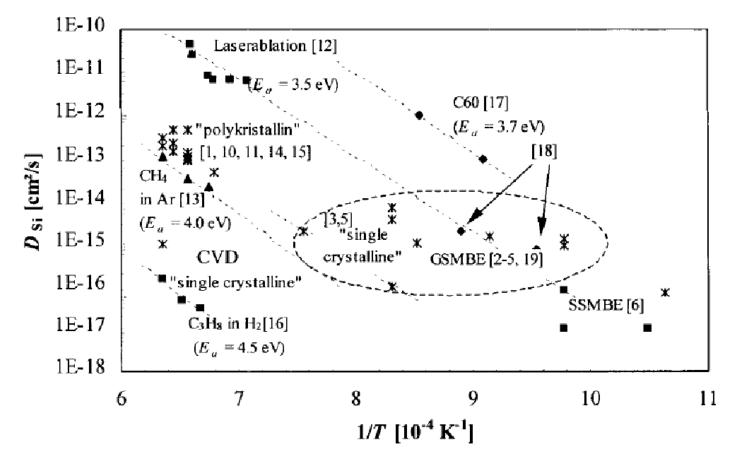
- 1) Identical morphology after carburization
- 2) The SiC shell is conform on all the surfaces





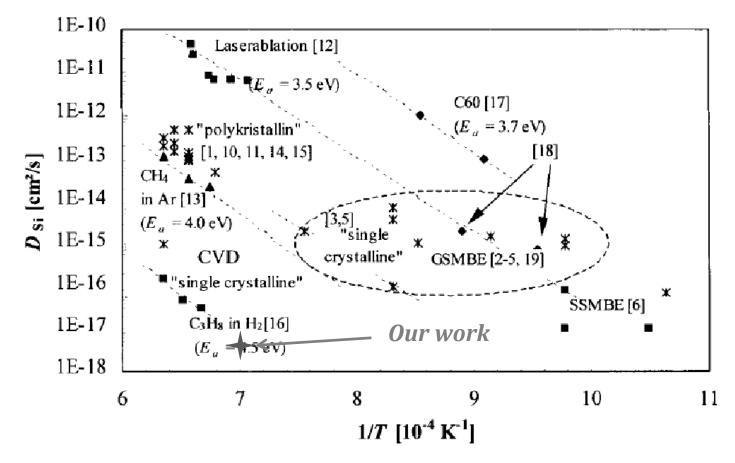
Einstein-Smoluchowski Relation:  $\varepsilon = \sqrt{2Dt}$ The carburization is limited by the diffusion Which diffusion ? Si out-diffusion through SiC\*  $D_{Si} = 3,7.10^{-18} \text{ cm}^2.\text{s}^{-1} \text{ at } 1100^{\circ}\text{C}.$   $b \sim 1,9 \text{ nm seed layer during methane injection from 800^{\circ}\text{C to } 1100^{\circ}\text{C}$ At this nanometer scale, Fickian diffusion. \* G. Ferro HDR, Université Claude Bernard - 2006





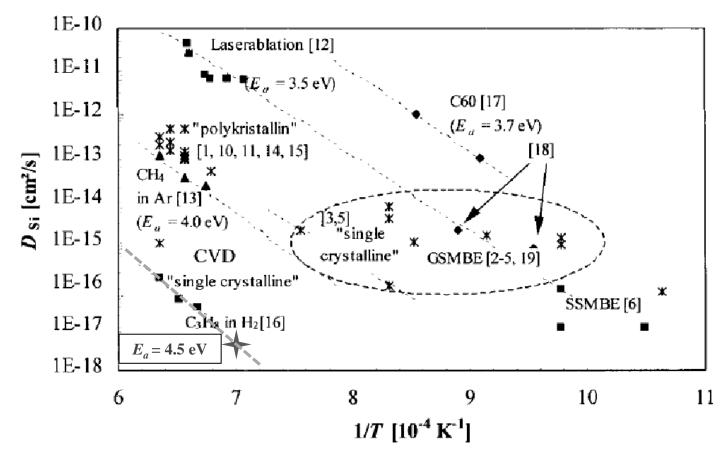
From V. Cimalla et al. Materials Science Forum, Silicon carbide and related materials, 321–324, 2000





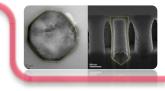
From V. Cimalla et al. Materials Science Forum, Silicon carbide and related materials, 321–324, 2000





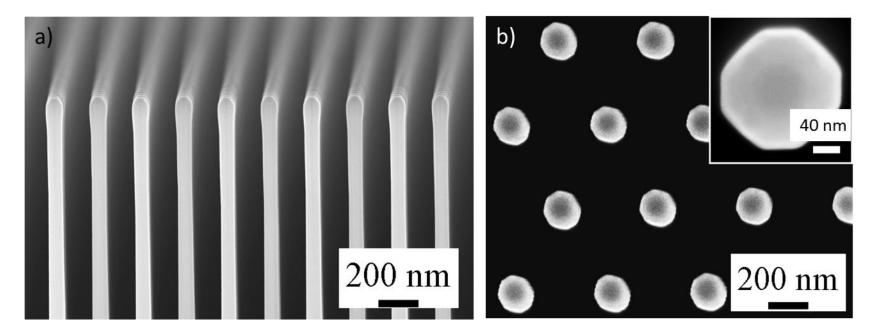
From V. Cimalla et al. Materials Science Forum, Silicon carbide and related materials, 321–324, 2000

Si out-diffusion in a CVD growth regime of a single crystalline SiC deposit



High purity carburization and epitaxy set-up Collaboration with G. Ferro and V. Soulière (LMI, Lyon)

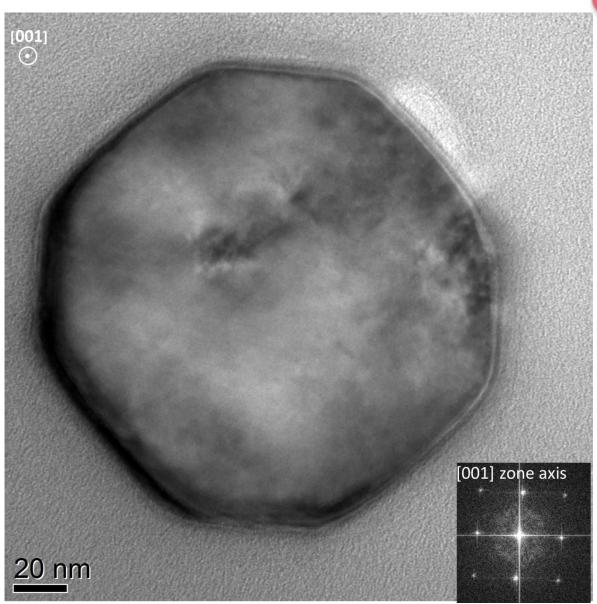
After heating-up (2°C.s<sup>-1</sup>,  $D_{H_2}$ ~ 16L.min<sup>-1</sup>), Si nanowires are smooth and facetted,



and makes appear an octogonal cross section.

After carburization:

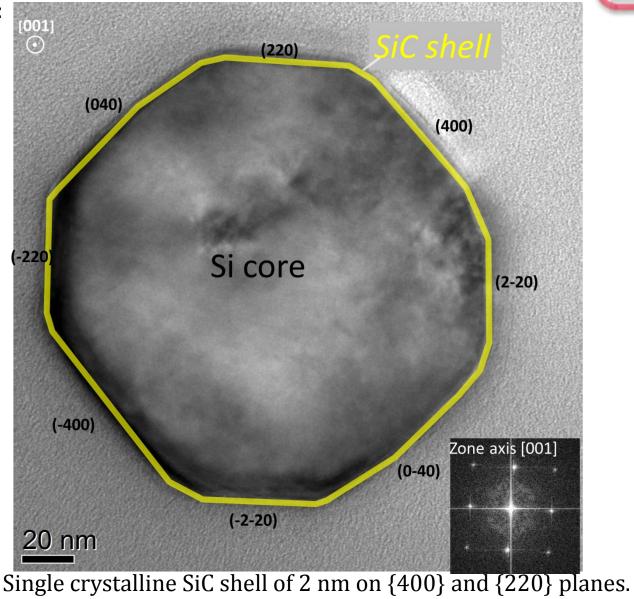
TEM image of a longitudinal cross section observed in [001] zone axis



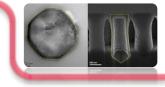
#### Single crystalline SiC shell of 2 nm

After carburization:

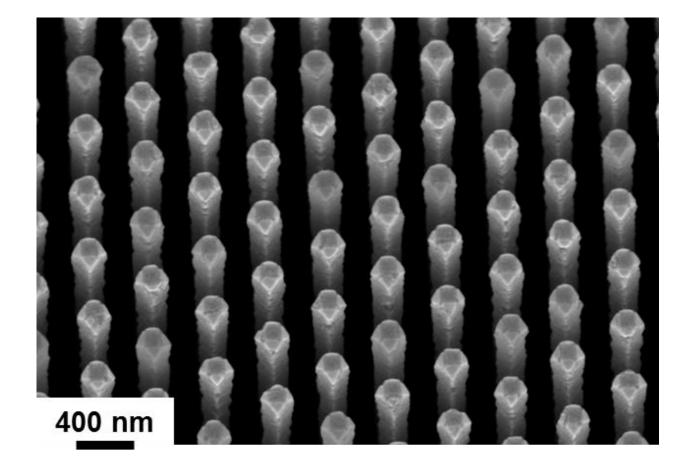
TEM image of a longitudinal cross section observed in [001] zone axis



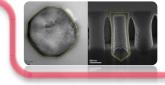
{400} planes are longer than {220} planes.



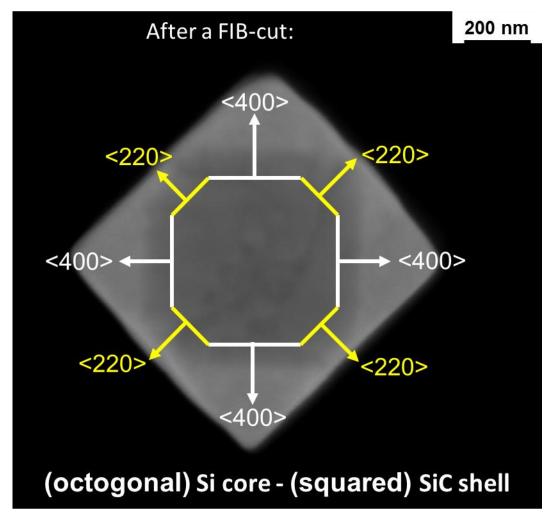
After 3C-SiC epitaxy:



SEM image of Si-SiC nanowires



After 3C-SiC epitaxy:



Growth of 3C–SiC on carburized Si NWs is favored toward <400> directions at the expense of the <220> ones.

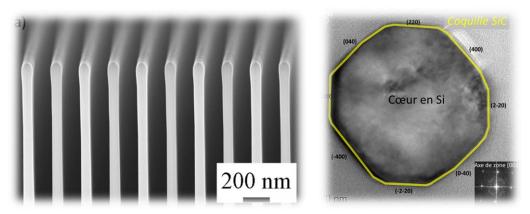
SiC lateral growth anisotropy of 6 between these two directions.



Carburization of Si NWs priory obtained by plasma etching allows to demonstrate:

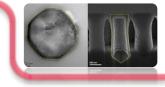
- Smooth and facetted sidewalls (H<sub>2</sub> fast heating-up)
- Si-SiC nanowires with a crystalline quality never observed before: single crystalline core / single crystalline shell
- Moreover, the doping of the Si core is controlled.

An interesting object for the bio-detection...



M. Ollivier, L. Latu-Romain et al. Journal of Crystal Growth 363, 158-163, (2013)

#### SiC nanotubes



SiC nanotubes are very interesting...

T.A. Hilder et al. Silicon Carbide Nanotube as a Chloride-Selective Channel. Journal of physical chemistry C, 116(7):4465, 2012.

#### SiC nanotubes



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How tranform Si NW into SiC NT? By increasing Si out-diffusion trough SiC (Kirkendall effect).



SiC nanotubes are very interesting...

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#### How tranform Si NW into SiC NT? By increasing Si out-diffusion trough SiC (Kirkendall effect).

How?

Increasing the temperature and the carburization time would not be sufficient.



SiC nanotubes are very interesting...

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How tranform Si NW into SiC NT? By increasing Si out-diffusion trough SiC (Kirkendall effect).

How?

Increasing the temperature and the carburization time would not be sufficient.

Which solution?

Idea: Via carburization pressure



SiC nanotubes are very interesting...

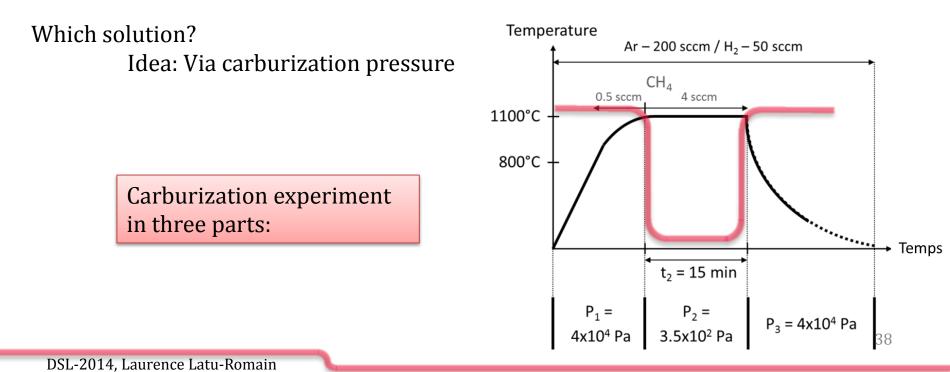
T.A. Hilder et al. Silicon Carbide Nanotube as a Chloride-Selective Channel. Journal of physical chemistry C, 116(7):4465, 2012.

#### How tranform Si NW into SiC NT?

By increasing Si out-diffusion trough SiC (Kirkendall effect).

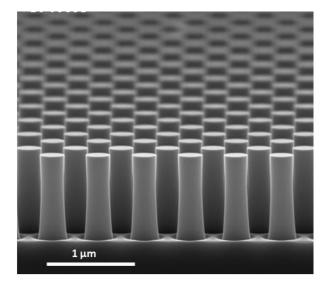
#### How?

Increasing the temperature and the carburization time would not be sufficient.



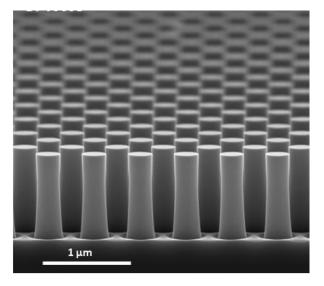


Si nanowires Initial diameter: 280 nm

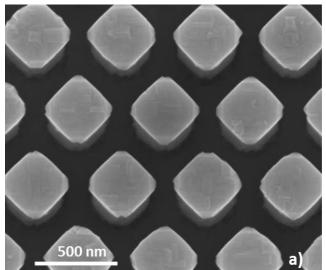




#### Si nanowires Initial diameter: 280 nm



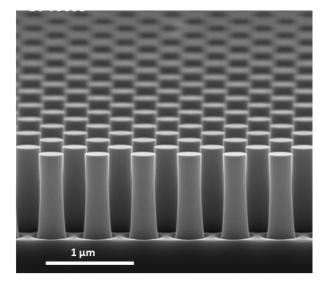
After carburization :



Nanostructures with a squared cross-section



#### Si nanowires Initial diameter: 280 nm



#### Cut with the FIB-SEM

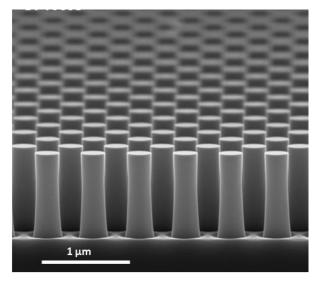
Nanostructures with a squared cross-section

carburization :

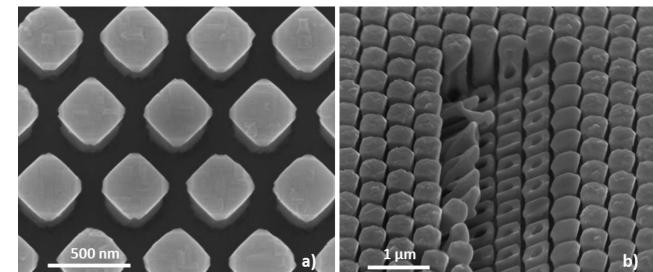
After



#### Si nanowires Initial diameter: 280 nm



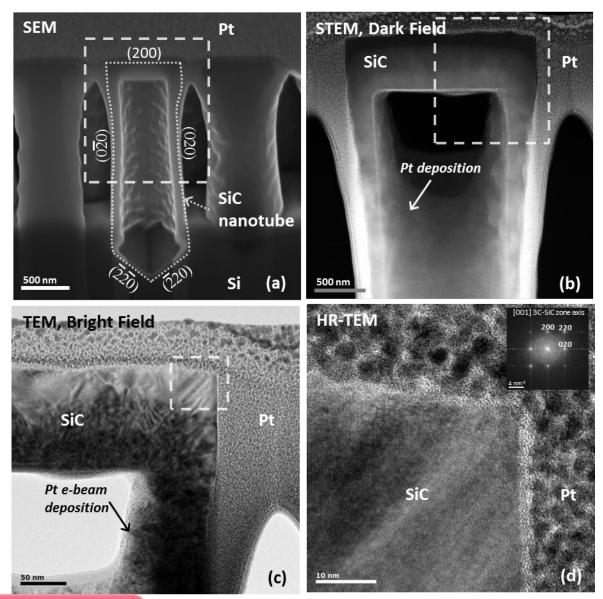
After carburization :

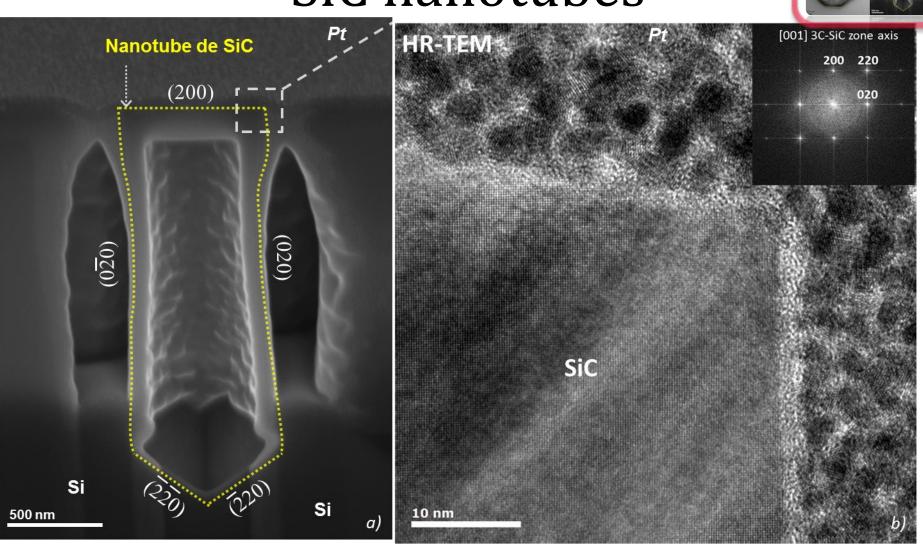


Empty nanostructures with a squared cross-section!



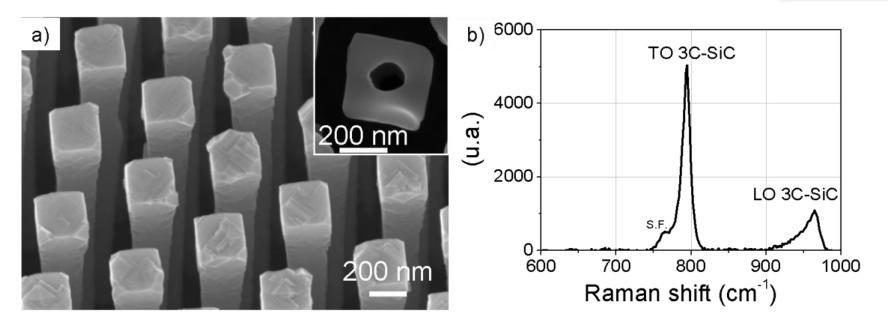
TEM observation of transversal cross section of the nanotube:



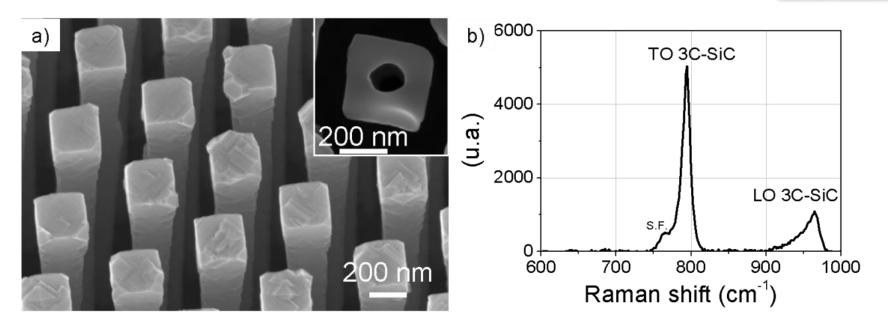


3C-SiC nanotubes with an external diameter ~ 300 nm with {200} facetted and dense sidewalls (40-100 nm) *L. Latu-Romain, M. Ollivier et al.* 

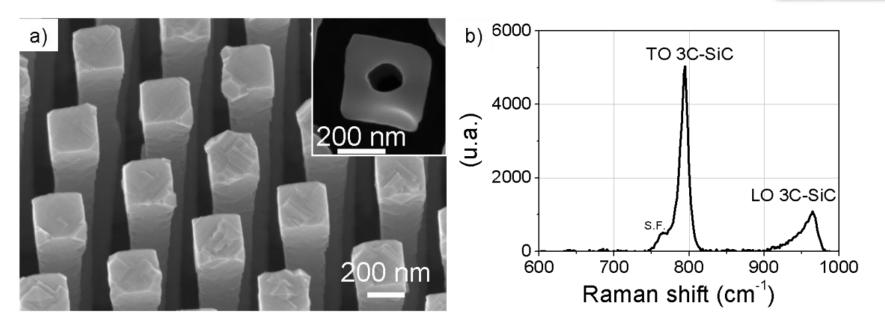
Journal of Physics D: Appl. Phys. 46, Fast Track Comm 092001 (2013) **Highlights 2013** 



- a) Long SiC nanotubes de SiC and in inset SEM image after a FIB cut.
- b) Raman Spectrum of 3C-SiC nanotubes (514, 5 nm ; 0,1 mW). Stacking faults can be put in evidence.
- Long SiC nanotubes can also be obtained:
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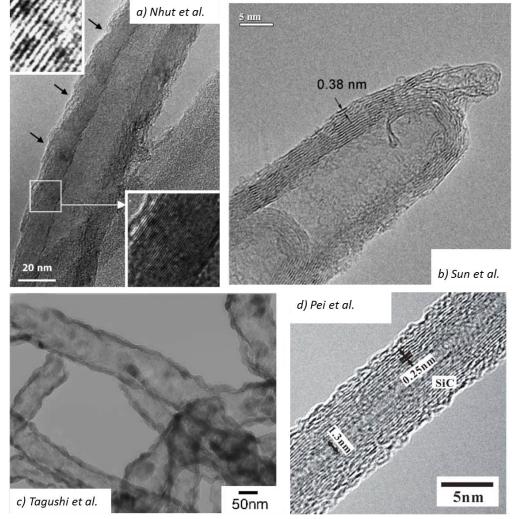


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- Si out-diffuses through SiC ! Same limiting step.
- Carburization pressure allows to control the out-diffusion speed (chemical potential gradient).

### State of the art -Discussion

In the litterature, C NT siliciuration leads to SiC NWs and SiC NTs.

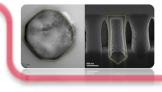
Porous sidewalls.



J.M. Nhut et al. Catalysis Today, 76(1), 11–32, (2002) T. Taguchi et al. Physica E: Low-dimensional systems and nanostructures, 28(4), 431– 438, (2005) X.H. Sun et al. Journal of the American Chemical Society, 124,14464–14471, (2002) L.Z. Pei et al. Journal of Applied Physics, 99, 114306, (2006)

By carburization: Control of the size with dense sidewalls Good crystalline quality

### Carburization mechanisms

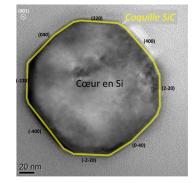


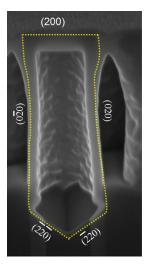
Carburization at 1100°C and Patm, limited by Si out-diffusion



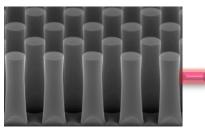
Single crystalline Si-SiC core-shell nanowire

(3 nm thick and continuous shell)





Cubic SiC nanotube with dense sidewalls and a controlled size.



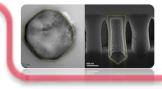
Silicon nanowire

Carburization from 800°C to 1100°C at Patm: growth of very thin SiC layer (2 nm)



Carburization at 1100°C and and at a low pressure, Si out-diffusion is increased

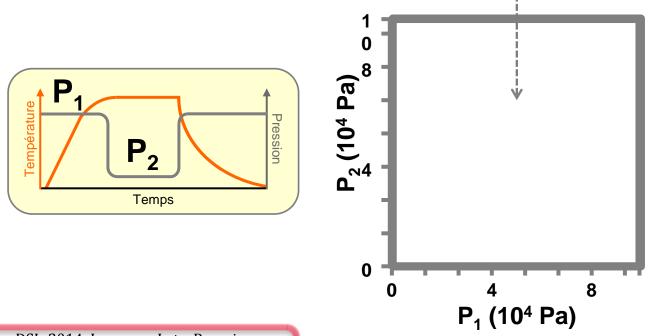
### Existence diagram



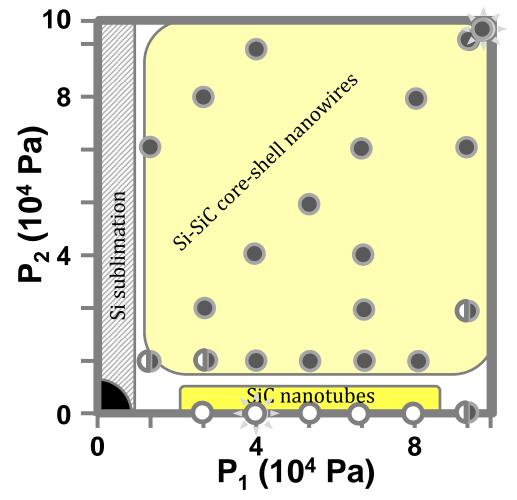
To the generalization of growth mechanisms Existence diagram: X Axis: pressure during the heating temperature, P<sub>1</sub> Y Axis: pressure during the carburization dwell, P<sub>2</sub>

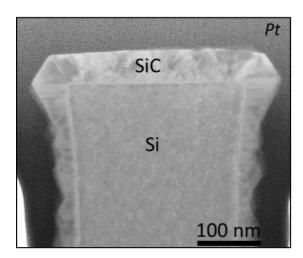
For carburization experiments at 1100°C during 15 minutes with 200 nm diameter Si nanowires.

The kind of nanostructure is identified by FIB-SEM.



### Existence diagram



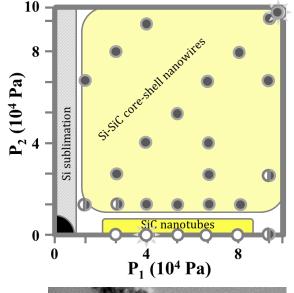


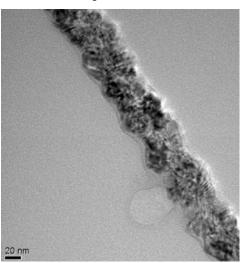
Transversal STEM image of a Si-SiC core-shell NW (P<sub>1</sub>,P<sub>2</sub>)

i) If P<sub>1</sub> and P<sub>2</sub> are high: Si-SiC core-shell nanowires
ii) If P<sub>1</sub> high and P<sub>2</sub> low: SiC nanotubes

L. Latu-Romain, M. Ollivier, Journal of Physics D: Appl. Phys, topical review 47, 203001 (18pp) (2014)

#### SiC nanowires





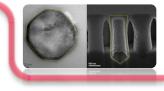
The existence domain of SiC nanowires is necessarily very narrow

TEM image of a SiC nanowire with 50 nm diameter: Complete carburization of a Si nanowire.

Growth direction:<111> The SiC NW contains a high density of structural defects.

The way to obtain single crystalline SiC NW remains a challenge... An alternative has to be proposed.

### Si nanowires carburization

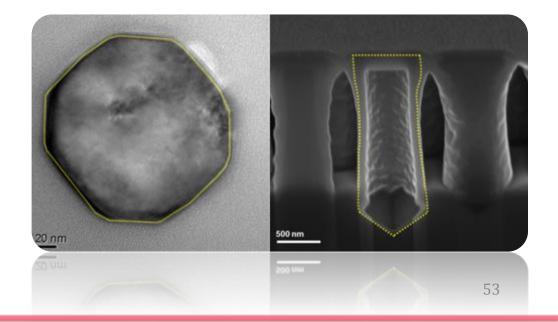


Two original nanostructures:

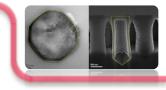
-single crystalline Si-SiC core-shell nanowires, with a doping control of the Si core, -SiC nanotubes with a high crystalline quality and dense sidewalls

With controlled sizes (external diameter, lenght, spacing of the network).

Carburization pressure modifies the chemical species concentration gradient. This is the key parameter to tune the Si out-diffusion through SiC.



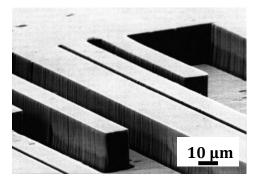
### **Alternative Approach**



Bulk and epitaxial growth of silicon carbide has made a lot of progress, single crystalline 4H- and 6H-SiC wafers can be grown with a controlled doping level.

#### Top-down approach by plasma etching (« top-down approach »):

inductively coupled plasma etching in  $SF_6/O_2$  plasma, already studied for micro-trenches fabrication (MEMS applications)



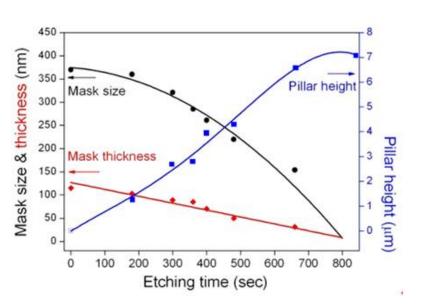
Kim *et al.* Thin Solid Films 447–448 (2004) 100

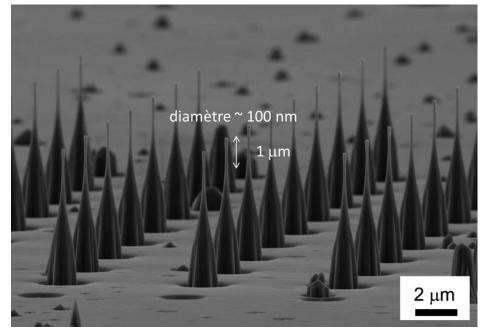
$$\begin{split} [\mathrm{SF}_6] + \mathrm{e}^- &\longrightarrow \ [\mathrm{SF}_5^+] + [\mathrm{F}] + 2\mathrm{e}^- \\ \langle \mathrm{SiC} \rangle + 8[\mathrm{F}] &\longrightarrow \ [\mathrm{SiF}_4] + [\mathrm{CF}_4] \\ \mathrm{ou} \ \langle \mathrm{SiC} \rangle + [\mathrm{SF}_x^+] &\longrightarrow \ [\mathrm{SiF}_x] + [\mathrm{CF}_y] + [\mathrm{SF}_z^+] \end{split}$$

Challenge? Etch the material in order to get a high aspect ratio with a small diameter ...to approach the nanowire

### Alternative Approach

Process parameters study (chemical nature of the mask–Cu, **Ni**, Al-, polarization, gas dilution...)





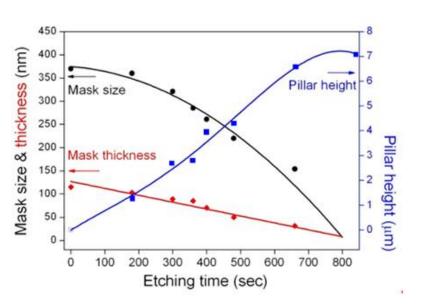
SiC nanopillars with an aspect ratio of about 7 (and a total length of 7  $\mu m$ ) and a diameter of about 100 nm on the latest 1  $\mu m$ 

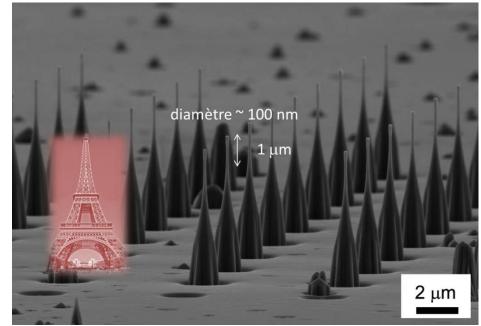
Object that can be integrated into a transitor...

J.H. Choi, L. Latu-Romain, E. Bano et al. J. Phys. D: Appl. Phys., 45, 235204, (2012)

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#### **Alternative Approach** (c) <sub>[1120]</sub> (a) (b) (d) [1120] (e) mask [1100] [1100] m n 200 nm 200 nm 480 sec 200 nm 660 sec 360 sec 200 nm 400 sec 6H-SiC etching vs etching time (Ni mask). m b) d) e) a C) [1120] 1120 $d_2$ 1100 200 nm 200 nm 200 nm 200 nm 400 nm 1101 4H-SiC 6H-SiC 6H-SiC 3C-SiC 3C-SiC

Top view of the nanopillars after long etching time for various polytypes and crystallographic orientations.

(001)

(111)

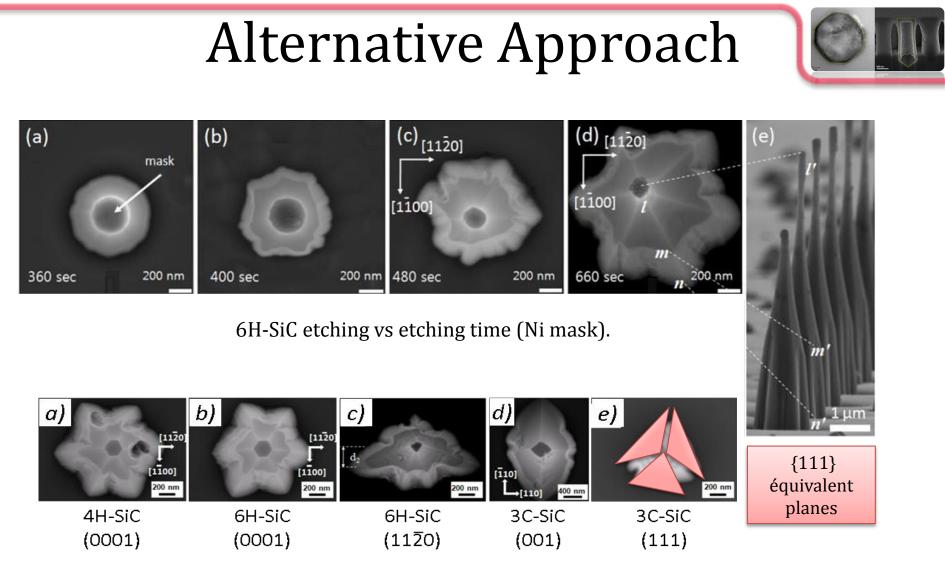
 $(11\bar{2}0)$ 

J.H. Choi, L. Latu-Romain, E. Bano et al., Materials Letters, 87, 9-12, (2012)

(0001)

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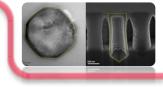
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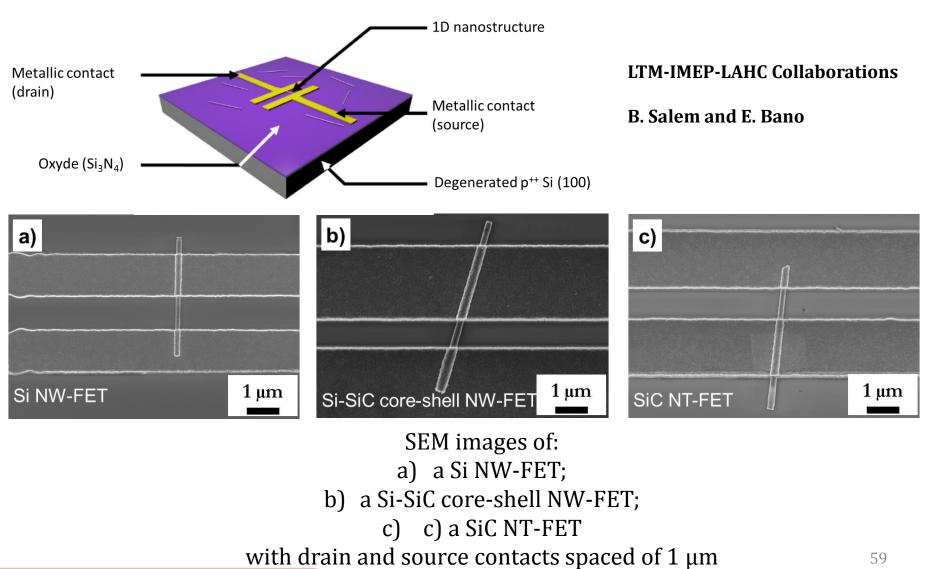


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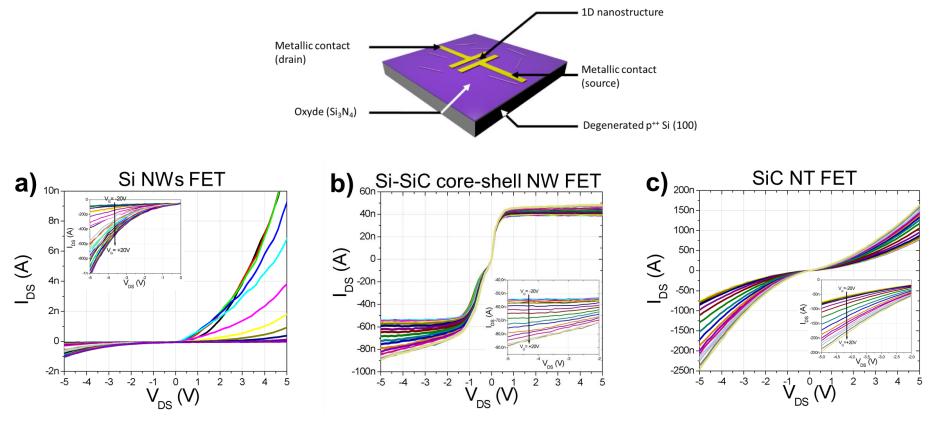
For long etching time, nanopillars are facetted, making appears planes of lowest surface energy, Wulff theorem 58

## SiC-1D nanostructures into nano-Field Effect Transistors





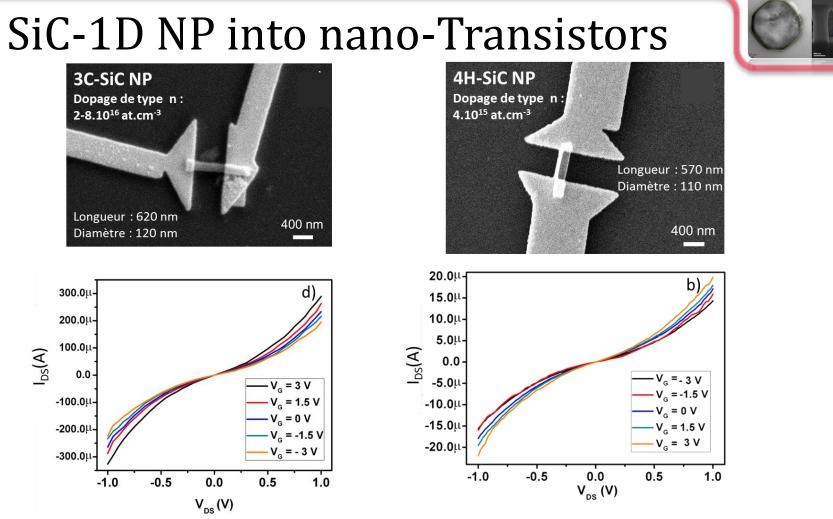
### SiC-1D nanostructures into nano-Field Effect Transistors



Transistor effect

Extracted apparent mobility for these three different nano-FETs is very low (absence of contact annealing)

*M. Ollivier, L. Latu-Romain et al. Materials Science in Semiconductor Processing, http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.mssp.2014.03.020i, (2014)* 



Contact silicidation during the annealing. Transistor effect. Apparent carrier mobilities (record<sup>\*</sup>): **40** cm<sup>2</sup>.V<sup>-1</sup>.s<sup>-1</sup> (**4H-**) and **140** cm<sup>2</sup>.V<sup>-1</sup>.s<sup>-1</sup> (**3C-**).

Thanks to a high crystalline quality associated to a low doping level.

Cubic polytype mobility > hexagonal polytype mobility.

W.M. Zhou et al. IEEE Electron Device Letters, 27(6), 463-465, (2006) : 16 cm<sup>2</sup>.V<sup>-1</sup>.s<sup>-1</sup>

M. Ollivier, L. Latu-Romain et al. Materials Science in Semiconductor Processing, (2014)

### Towards applications

#### Mechanics applications: new composites

Y. Zhang et al. Advanced Functional Materials, 17:3435–3440, (2007)

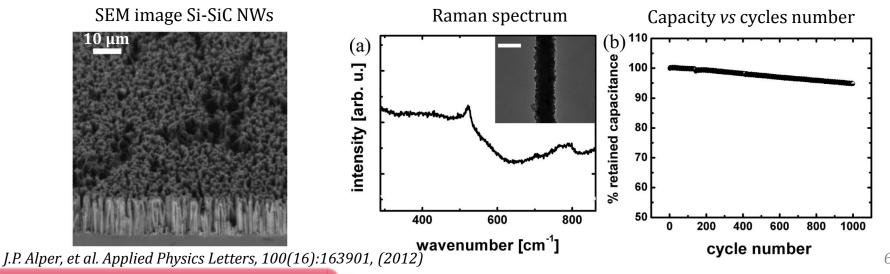
### **For energy**: New anode materials (Li-ion batteries...Si NW...Si-SiC NW)

T. Sri Devi Kumari et al. Nano silicon carbide : a new lithium-insertion anode material on the horizon. RSC Advances, 3 :15028–15034, (2013)

Supercapacity:

Alper et al.

Thanks to the SiC coating, the supercapacitor remains stable over 10<sup>3</sup> charge/discharge cycles compared to 1 charge/discharge cycle without coating.



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fracture ti

Superplasticity

of a SiC NW (200%)

### Towards applications

#### Electronics:

The possible use of one-dimensional SiC nanostructures in nanoelectronics is exclusively restricted for the moment to the study of SiC-NWs Field Effect Transistors

Nano-transitors functioning in extreme conditions Chemical, gas dectectors (SiC-NT, *ab-initio* studies)

#### **Biology**:

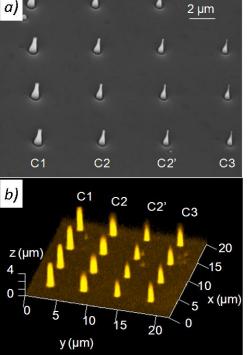
Biocompatibility & high developped surfaces

a) SEM view of SiC-NPs obtained by plasma etching
b) 3D reconstructed view of fluorescent DNA on NPs obtained
by confocal scanning laser fluorescence microscopy

L. Fradetal et al. Journal of Nanoscience and Nanotechnology 14, 3391-3397, (2014)



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### Perspectives

#### Material:

- 3C-SiC growth by carburization 3D towards 2D
- SiC doping
- Cubic III-V epitaxy (GaN)
- Synthesis of suspended graphene on our arrays

#### To evaluate the new applications:

testing new anode materials

integrating nanostructures into Bio-nano-sensor (DNA: model molecule...specific molecules)

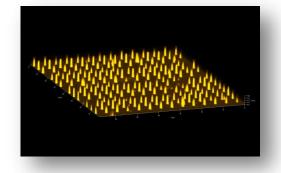
500 nm

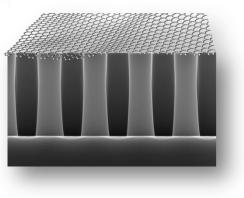
#### drug delivery

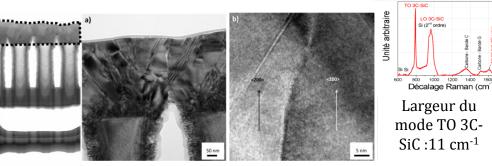
L. Latu-Romain, M. Ollivier Journal of Physics D: Appl. Phys, topical review, 47, 203001 (18 pp), (2014)

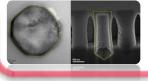
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# Many thanks for your attention

