# Fabricating Solid State Gas Sensors by Aerosol-based Techniques

### **George Biskos**

Department of Chemical Engineering, Delft University of Technology, The Netherlands Department of Environment, University of the Aegean, Greece

#### May 24, 2013





**Delft University of Technology** 

# **Motivation**

- Gas Sensors
  - · Emissions control and safety
  - Diagnostics

### Need to go Nano



- Aerosol-based Techniques for Synthesizing Nanomaterials
  - Good control over particle size, morphology and composition
  - Tools for assembling nanostructures





# **Nanoparticles Synthesis in the Gas Phase**

- Evaporation/Condensation
  - Tube Furnaces
  - Spark Discharges
    - Glowing Wires
- Solution Spray
  - Atomization
  - Electrospray
    - Flame Syntehsis





# H<sub>2</sub> Sensor base on Pd Nanomaterials







# **Fabrication of a Pd-based Nanomaterials**







# **Structure of the Pd-based Nanomaterial**







# **Structure of the Pd-based Nanomaterial**







## **Stabilization of the Structure**







# **Response of the Pd Nanoparticle H<sub>2</sub> Sensor**





# Sensitivity of the H<sub>2</sub> Sensor







# **Electrospray Deposition**



### Heated Surface





# **Temperature-dependent Morphology Changes of WO<sub>3</sub> Nanostructures**



#### Gaury et al. (2012), Thin Films, submitted





# **Electrospray/Electrostatic Deposition**







## **Growth of Nanowires**



Silicon wafer







# **Controlling the Growth of Nanowires**







# **Sensitivity Measurements**







# **Sensitivity Measurements**







# **Preliminary Tests**







# Summary

- Aerosol Techniques for Synthesizing Nanostructures
  Materials for Gas Sensors
  - Nanoparticle Generation
  - Nanomaterial Assembly
- H<sub>2</sub> Sensor
  - Synthesis of Pd Nanostrucutres
  - Sintering by Annealing
- NO<sub>x</sub> Sensor
  - Synthesis of WO<sub>3</sub> Nanostrucutres
  - Decorate with Nanowires for Enhanced
    Performance...





# The Catch and Outlook

- Catch
  - Analyte in high purity Ar, N<sub>2</sub>, or synthetic Air
  - If we use ambient air, the story changes completely
- Further work
  - Selectivity
  - Repeatability (long term)
  - Sensitivity (?)



