## Increasing Functionality of Tin Oxide Nanowires

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#### Overview of project

 Use state of the art nanowire fabrication techniques to make tin oxide nanowires

- Increase functionality of nanowires by applying different materials to surface of wires
- Use the properties of the new material coatings in conjunction with knowledge of nanowire current behavior to classify different chemical sensing abilities of wires

#### Ultimate Goal

• Place multiple chemical sensors in centralized location to detect various chemicals simultaneously

#### Nanowire Fabrication

 Fabrication of tin nanowires using one of two nanowire fabrication techniques

VLS (Vapor/Liquid/Solid) Method

PAO (Porus Aluminum Oxide) template Method



# How the Wires are Checked Scanning Electron Microscope (SEM)



## My Vapor Liquid Solid Nanowires



#### Ideal Porus Aluminum Oxide Nanowires



## My Porous Aluminum Oxide Nanowires



#### Personal Achievements (to Date)

Nanowire fabrication techniques
 Vapor/Liquid/Solid

- Porus Aluminum Oxide
- SEM operation and control
- Gas Sensing Chamber Operation

#### Remaining Steps for Gas Sensing

#### Nanowire functionalization

- Placement onto Silicon Oxide Substrate
- Adding electrical contacts
- Running conductance test with different gases



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#### **Alumina Formation**



#### How Tin Oxide Sensing Works

Oxygen adsorbs reducing its conductance. CO reacts with the adsorbed O ions to form  $CO_2$ , returning the electrons to the bulk.

