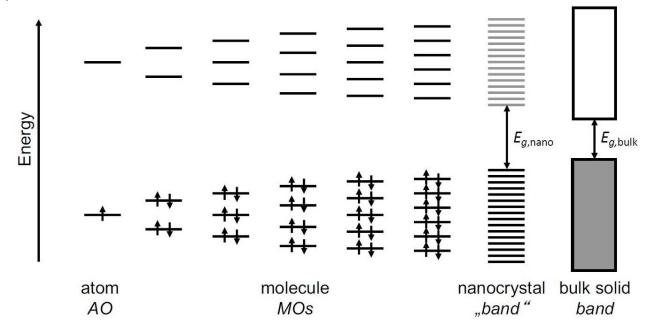


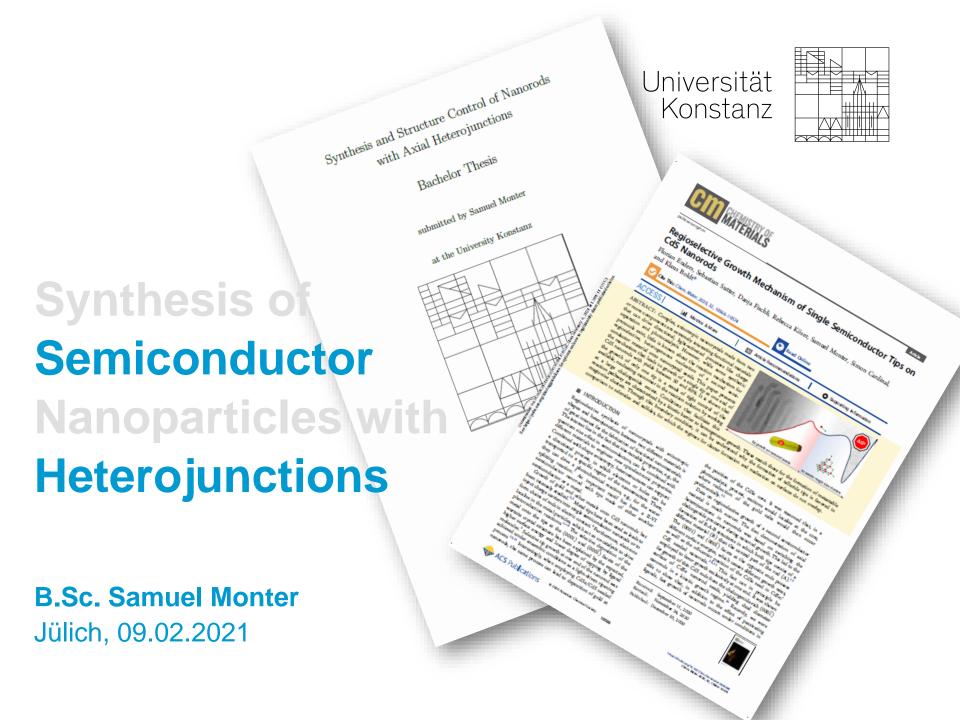


#### **Semiconductor Nanoparticles**

- Nanoparticle size: 1nm 1000nm
- Material Properties become size dependent below a certain size
- Electronic structure:
  - Molecules → discrete energy levels
  - Bulk solids → continuous energy bands
  - Nanoparticles → size dependent electronic structure
    - Quantum Size Effect

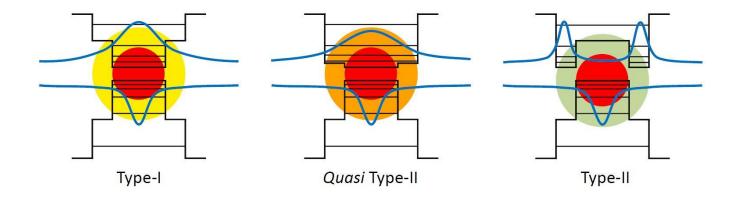






### **Semiconductor Heterojunctions**

- Combination of different materials → complex band structure in single particle
  - Charge separation → catalysis, solar cells
  - Charge protection → high fluorescence quantum yields



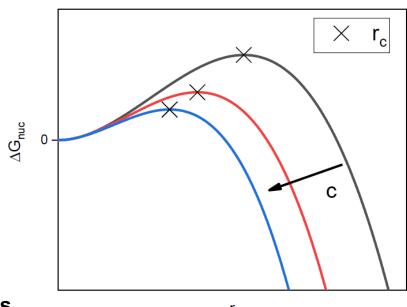


## **Synthesis of Nanoparticles**

- Bottom-Up Approach
- Classical Nucleation Theory

$$\Delta G = \frac{4}{3}\pi r^3 \Delta G_V + 4\pi r^2 \gamma$$
$$\Delta G_V \propto \ln\left(\frac{c_{sat}}{c}\right)$$

- Nucleation is hindered by surface energy
- Nucleation if  $\Delta G^{\dagger} < kT$
- Homogeneous Nucleation
  - New particle in solution
- Heterogeneous Nucleation
  - Lower/higher interfacial tension
  - Lower/higher activation barrier
  - New particle on existing surface
- Competition between Homo- & Heterogeneous Nucleation



### **Synthesis of Nanoparticles**

#### - LaMer Theory [1]

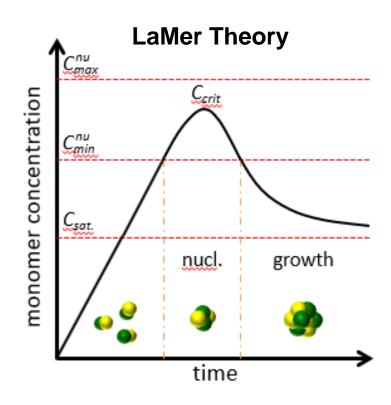
A short nucleation period yields a narrow particle size distribution

#### - Hot injection synthesis for II-VI-semiconductors

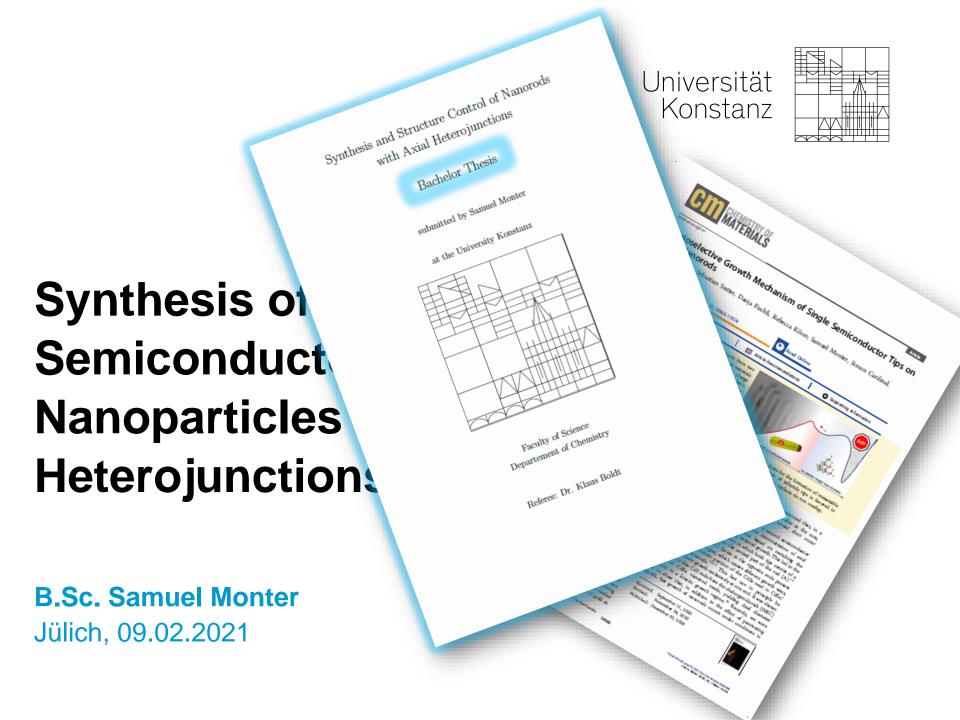
- Prepare a hot metal precursor solution
- Quickly inject chalcogenide precursor
- Stop reaction through rapid cooling

#### Seeded growth synthesis

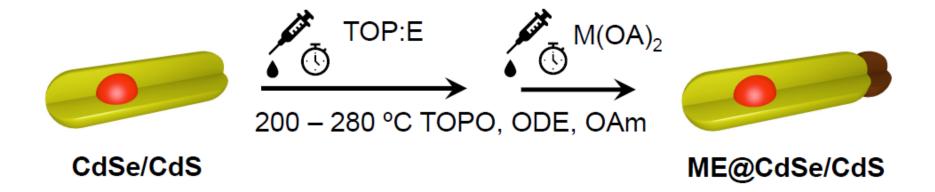
- Add seed particles to metal precursor solution
- Build hetero structures through heterogeneous nucleation



[1] LaMer et al. Theory, production and mechanism of formation of monodispersed hydrosols. Journal of the American Chemical Society 1950



#### Aim of my Bachelor Thesis

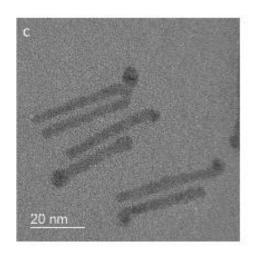


- **Existing synthesis for ZnTe tips**
- Adapt protocol for ZnSe, CdTe, CdSe tips
- Gain insight into the reaction mechanism
  - [2] Carbone et al. Synthesis and micrometer-scale assembly of colloidal CdSe/CdS nanorods prepared by a seeded growth approach
  - [3] Deutsch et al. Luminescence upconversion in colloidal double quantum dots. Nat Nanotechnol 2013

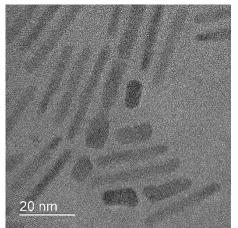
  - [4] Boldt et al. Switchable Dissociation of Excitons bound at Strained CdTe/CdS Interfaces, Nanoscale 2018

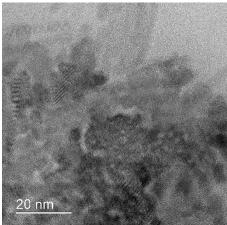
## **Variation of Reaction Parameters**

- Variation of chalcogenide precursor showed no success



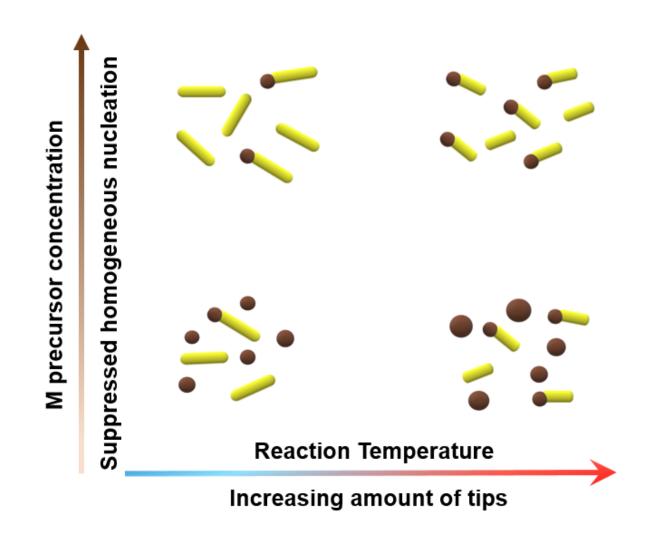
successful synthesis of ZnTe tips

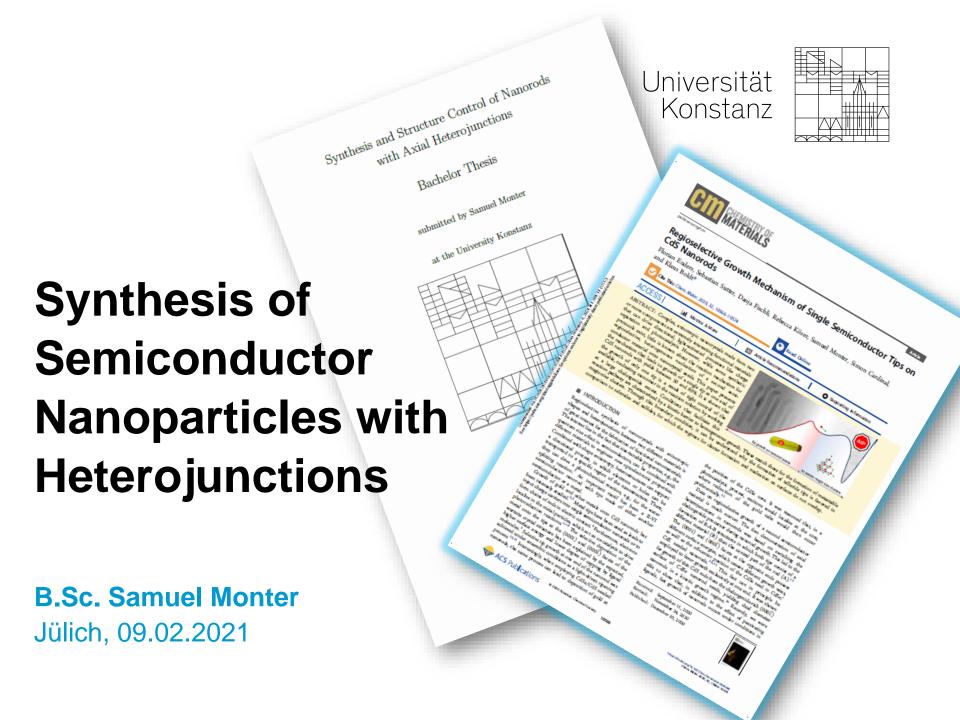




unsuccessful synthesis if ZnSe tips

#### **Variation of Reaction Parameters**

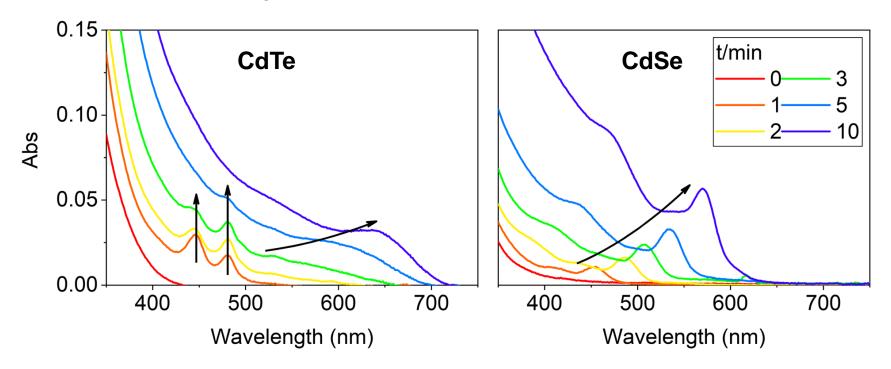




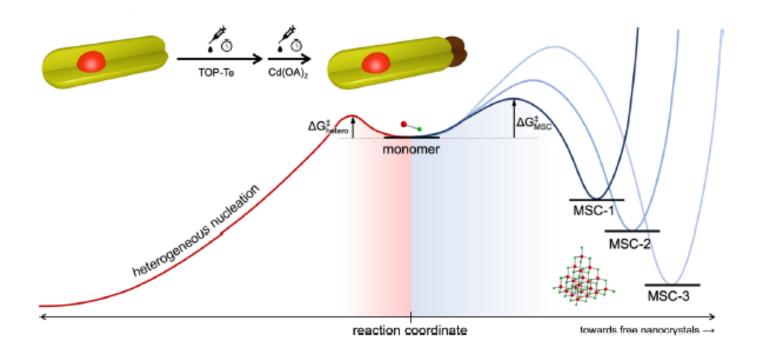
#### Magic Sized Clusters as Intermediates

#### - UVVIS spectroscopy of reaction process

- CdSe: Continuous shift of absorption onset
- Continuous growth of nanoparticles
- CdTe: additional stable absorption peaks
- Formation of magic sized clusters



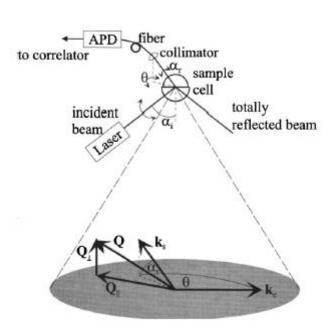
#### Final reaction mechanism



[5] Boldt et al. Regioselective Growth Mechanism of Single Semiconductor Tips on CdS Nanorods. Chemistry of Materials 2020

## Coming up in Jülich....

- EWDLS measurments at liquid-liquid-interfaces
  - Cell alignment procedure
  - Proof of principle experiment design





[6] Lang et al. Colloidal dynamics near a wall studied by evanescent wave light scattering: Experimental and theoretical improvements and methodological limitations. The Journal of Chemical Physics 2007

# Thank you for your kind attention!

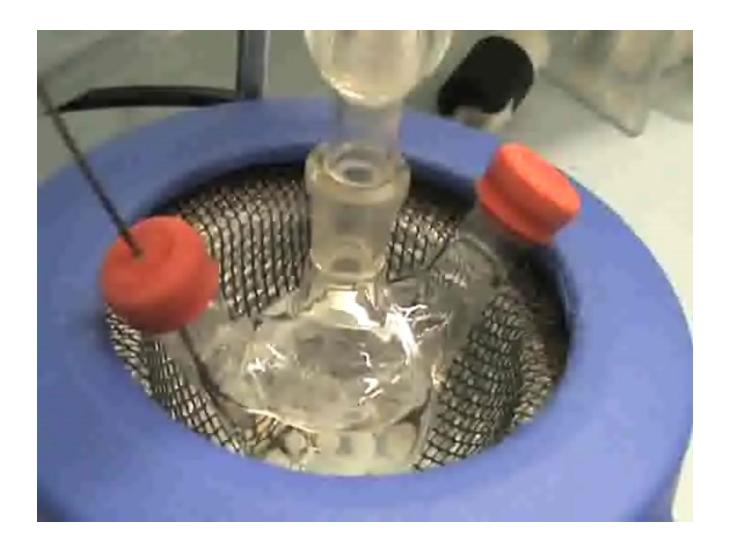
#### Let's discuss!

Thanks to Klaus Boldt and his group for

the shared materials



## How it is done



#### **Semiconductors**

#### Electronic structure

- Continuous energy bands
- Fully occupied valence band
- Unoccupied conduction band
- Excitation creates mobile charge carriers: electron and hole

