

SHANTANU KALLAKURI

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<https://www.chemystery.org/> | [Google scholar](https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=shantkall) | [https://linkedin.com/in/shantkall](https://www.linkedin.com/in/shantkall)

EDUCATION

Cornell University

Ithaca, NY

M.S. with Thesis in Materials Science and Engineering

Aug. 2018 – May 2021

- Advisors: Prof. [Richard Robinson](#) and Prof. [Tobias Hanrath](#)
- Thesis: ‘*Development of multiscale hierarchical structures from nanocluster mesophases*’ (10.7298/x221-2n24)
- Honors: Graduated with MS thesis, a co-op, patents, and a publication; CGPA: 3.84/4

Birla Institute of Technology & Science (BITS) Pilani

Pilani, India

Dual degree - B.E. in Chemical Engineering and M.Sc. in Chemistry

Aug. 2010 – Jul. 2015

- Advisor: Prof. [Gokulnath Sabapathi](#), IICT (Indian Institute of Chemical Technology) (now at IISER-TVM)
- Thesis: ‘*Bi-conjugated Porphyrin and Sapphyrin macro-cycles for Dye-sensitized solar cells*’
- Honors: Graduated with Honors in both degrees & Dept. rank 3 in Chemical engineering; Major GPA: 9.11/10

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Applied Materials Inc.

Santa Clara, CA

Senior Process Engineer, Atomic Layer Deposition Group, Semiconductor Products Group *Aug. 2021 – Present*

- Process owner for [Olympia](#) - Applied’s primary line of Plasma-enhanced atomic layer deposition (PE-ALD) machines developing process & chemistry for emergent Gate-all-around (GAA) [transistors](#)
- Spearheading a 7 member team to develop plasma-based conformal film deposition of dielectrics for fill & liner applications in advanced-node logic & memory GAA processes and their integration (n+2, sub-1.5nm & beyond)
- Executed multiple IP-protected projects in this role leading to multi-million dollar sales for Applied Materials product for various logic and memory customers. Filed 6 technology patents (Four granted, others pending)

Process Engineering Co-op (Mid-degree), Varian division, Applied Materials (MA)

Sep. 2019 – Sep. 2020

- Developed, executed, and patented plasma-enhanced deposition & etch processes for the two applications below. Honored with an *AMAT excellence award* for performance during the internship.
 - 1) Two plasma-enhanced chemical vapor deposition (PECVD) & one reactive-ion etch (RIE) processes to deposit and etch AR/VR waveguides using plasma gradient & grayscale methods for nanotopographic patterning and
 - 2) A PECVD processes for directional seeding and seam-free selective deposition of metal on Silicon and mixed Silicon substrates in Buried word-line (BWL) DRAM applications

Cornell University

Ithaca, NY

Graduate Thesis (Advisor: Prof. Richard Robinson), Materials Science & Engineering

Aug. 2018 – May 2021

- Pioneered a one-pot synthesis of functional quantum dot magic-sized nanocrystals (MSNC) that hierarchically self-assemble into 99.9% pure, 6% monodisperse thin-films & fibers through a DNA-like biomimetic mesophase
- Developed and assembled novel chiral quantum dots using this system that are electrically and magnetically tunable. These dots are scalable across 7 orders of magnitude (nm-cm), support diverse chemical modifications, and can be easily analyzed using simple laser diffraction techniques. Published this research in [Nature Materials](#)

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Cambridge, MA

Research assistant (Advisor: Prof. Julia Ortony), MIT-DMSE

Feb. 2017 – Aug. 2017

- Developed initial precursors and head-group synthesis for amphiphilic self-assembly at Prof. Ortony’s lab that were later used in heavy metal remediation and catalysis applications.
- This material platform was further developed and published by the team in some great work in [Nature Nano](#)

Brigham & Women’s Hospital, Harvard-MIT HST

Cambridge, MA

Research assistant (Advisor: Prof. Hadi Shafiee), Engineering for medicine

Aug. 2016 – Feb. 2017

- Synthesized & surface-modified Janus Pt/Au nanomotors using Thiol cross-linking chemistry, Polymerase chain-reaction (PCR), Loop-mediated (LAMP) DNA amplification to spontaneously bind the nanomotors to pathogen DNA. Achieved 99% accurate HIV/Zika diagnosis by quantifying free vs bound motor velocity using a cellphone
- Published this research in [ACS Nano](#) & [Nature Communications](#)

- Designed and synthesized a light-harvesting push-pull expanded *Porphyrin* (*Sapphyrin*) and characterized it using electrochemical impedance spectroscopy (EIS) for Dye-sensitized solar cells (DSSC)
- Iterated through multiple pathways to successfully develop a high-yield solution based on *Thieno-pyrrole* (80%). The novelty was the donor-Pi bridge-acceptor dye which integrates usually disparate electronic regions
- Integrated the dye with a *TiO₂* scaffold and *Carbon, Indium Tin Oxide (ITO)* counter-electrode to build a working cell. Achieved the objective for a dye with broad Q, Soret bands to allow high-efficiency DSSC (10.3%)

CERTIFICATIONS

Stanford: *Harnessing the Power of AI/ML to Address New Engineering Challenges*: Comprehensive 15-week course

SKILLS

Advanced synthesis: *nanoparticles* - quantum-dots, spinel & core-shell nanoparticles; *self-assembly* - directed, hierarchical, amphiphilic; *Thin-films & nanopatterning*; *Conjugated systems* - donor-acceptor systems, conductive polymers, Porphyrins; *Surface modification* - Thio/Azo chemistry, ligand functionalization, trap-states
Thin-film growth: PE-ALD, PE-CVD, ALE, selective deposition/etch, directional deposition/etch, RIE, SIMS
Characterization: UV-Vis, XRD, NMR, FTIR, SAXS, OES, Ellipsometry, SRIM, EIS, Optical diffraction
Simulation & modelling: LAMMPS, GAMESS (Basic), Blender, Cinema4D, Solidworks, AutoCAD, Ansys Fluent
ML & AI: Convolutional neural networks, support vector regression, logistic & linear regression, kNNs, decision trees
Programming: Python (proficient), Java (proficient), MatLab, C/C++, VBA, SQL, JavaScript, HTML/CSS
Statistics: Pandas, NumPy, Scikit-learn, Tensorflow, SciPy, Seaborn, Matplotlib, SAS (JMP), DOE

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS & CONFERENCES

AIx conference, Applied Materials (2024) : "*Detect or defect: A CNN-powered AI-driven approach to semiconductor defect classification*" S. Kallakuri, Z. Zhang, R. Patil, L. Sun, M. Copic

Nature Materials, 21(5): 518-525 (2022) : "*Multiscale hierarchical structures from a nanocluster mesophase*" H. Han, **S. Kallakuri**, Y. Yao, C. B. Williamson, D. R. Nevers, B. H. Savitzky, R. S. Skye, M. Xu, O. Voznyy, J. Dshemuchadse, L. F. Kourkoutis, S. J. Weinstein, T. Hanrath, R. D. Robinson

Nature Communications, 9(1): 4282 (2018) : "*DNA-engineered micromotors powered by metal nanoparticles for motion-based cellphone diagnostics*" M. S. Draz, K. M. Kochehyoki, A. Vasan, D. Battalapalli, A. Sreeram, M. K. Kanakasabapathy, **S. Kallakuri**, A. Tsibris, D. R. Kuritzkes, H. Shafiee

ACS Nano, 12(6): 5709-5718 (2018) : "*Motion-based immunological detection of Zika Virus using Pt-nanomotors and a cellphone*" M. S. Draz, N. K. Lakshminaraasimulu, S. Krishnakumar, D. Battalapalli, A. Vasan, M. K. Kanakasabapathy, A. Sreeram, **S. Kallakuri**, P. Thirumalaraju, Y. Li, S. Hua, X. G. Yu, D. R. Kuritzkes, H. Shafiee

Functionalized engineering materials & their applications, 1(1):117-124 (2016) : "*Synthesis and characterization of templated Polyanilines: A new class of polymeric materials*" J. Avusula, **S. Kallakuri**, S. Jayanty

SELECTED PATENTS

US11956978B2 and US20240040808A1 | *Techniques & devices using directional seeding & selective deposition* (2024) M. Zeeshan, K. Chan, **S. Kallakuri**, S. Varghese. Two IPs describing selective, angular dielectric & metal deposition

US11749564B2 | *Techniques for void-free material depositions* (2023)

M. Zeeshan, K. Chan, **S. Kallakuri**, S. Varghese, J. Hautala. This IP covers a foundational way to deposit metal in void-free manner for Buried Wordline (BWL) DRAM application in advanced transistors since voids raise resistance

US11404314B2 | *Metal line patterning* (2022)

S. Varghese, M. Zeeshan, **S. Kallakuri**, K. Chan. This method describes a process-flow for selective fin patterning through deposition + etch using Plasma-enhanced CVD and/or ALD for transistor Wordline and Bitline application

US20220100078A1 | *Devices and methods for variable etch depths* (Submitted, Pending)

M. Zeeshan, R. Bandy, P. Kurunczi, **S. Kallakuri**, T. Soldi, J. Olson. This IP covers a process-flow crucial to plasma etch process of waveguides and gratings on special glass (Various glass types) for augmented reality (AR) applications

US20220119955A1 | *Techniques for variable deposition profiles* (Submitted, Pending)

M. Zeeshan, **S. Kallakuri**, J. Olson. This IP describes etch techniques to modulate refractive index for AR gratings

SCHOLASTIC ACHIEVEMENTS AND AWARDS

(2020) *Applied Materials internship excellence award* & cash prize | (2014-2015) *T.I.M.E* undergraduate engineering & management scholarship | (2013-2015) *BITS Pilani MCN* (merit cum need) undergraduate scholarship | (2015) *Three Bronze* and *Two Gold* medals for university in Carrom and Soccer at national sports fests BOSM, SPREE, and ARENA | (2014) *Runner-up in National selection* for Carrom from Andhra Pradesh

TEACHING AND MENTORSHIP

- *Teaching assistant: (2020) MSE5860 - Atomic structure*, Prof. Richard Robinson | *(2020) ENGRG1160 - Intro to Engineering*: Prof. Bruce Van Dover | *(2018) MSE4330 - Energy materials*, Prof. Richard Robinson
- Mentored 4 batches of 7th-10th grade students as an *Expanding your horizons (EYH)* student engineering mentor
- Taught and mentored 32 undergraduates in Chemistry and Physics on Chegg/InstaEdu over the course of 3 years

LEADERSHIP & OUTREACH

- *Project coordinator, Asha*: Raised over \$18000 in fund-raiser events (through concerts, workshops, and student-cooked dinners) for the non-profit, focused primarily on less privileged students in rural India
- *Artist Liaison, Spicmacay*: Organized 8 fund-raising concerts for the non-profit to help popularize Indian Carnatic & Hindustani music through artistes like Sikkil Gurucharan & Pt. Ronu Majumdar
- *Community outreach lead, Yuva (Youth under visionary action) & Nirmaan*: Organized over 6 summer education camps for 8th-10th grade students in Thimmapur & Dasarigudem villages focused on math and science education
- *Event planner, Make a Difference (MAD)*: Regularly organize blood-donation drives (3+) & vaccine camps (2+)