

Abstract Submitted  
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**Student Excellence Award Finalist: Binary quantum dot arrays:  
A plasma-based deterministic approach** AMANDA RIDER, KOSTYA (KEN)  
OSTRIKOV, Plasma Nanoscience, The University of Sydney — Fabrication of size-  
uniform, compositionally controlled binary quantum dot (QD) [1] arrays is of great  
interest to the multidisciplinary research community. The increasing number of QD  
applications in fields ranging from biology to optoelectronics - each with precise  
structural requirements, necessitates that a more rigorous approach to fabrication  
be adopted. Conventional fabrication techniques are unable to cope with the myriad  
requirements for highly tailored QDs. In this paper, emphasis is placed on plasma-  
related effects such as substrate heating, surface activation energy and the benefits  
of low-temperature growth offered by thermally non-equilibrium, low-temperature  
plasma routes. The competitive edge in using plasmas as versatile nanofabrication  
tools is examined via a comprehensive analysis of available experimental results  
and numerical simulation of the deterministic plasma-assisted nanofabrication of  
compositionally controlled, size-uniform QD arrays. The commercial potential of a  
plasma-based approach compared to common fabrication techniques such as thermal  
chemical vapor deposition (CVD) and molecular beam epitaxy (MBE) is explored,  
as is the application of plasma grown QDs in novel biosensors and third generation  
solar cells. [1] A. E. Rider et al, J. Appl. Phys. 101, 044306 (2007); I. Levchenko,  
A. E. Rider, K. Ostrikov, Appl. Phys. Lett. 90, 193110 (2007).

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