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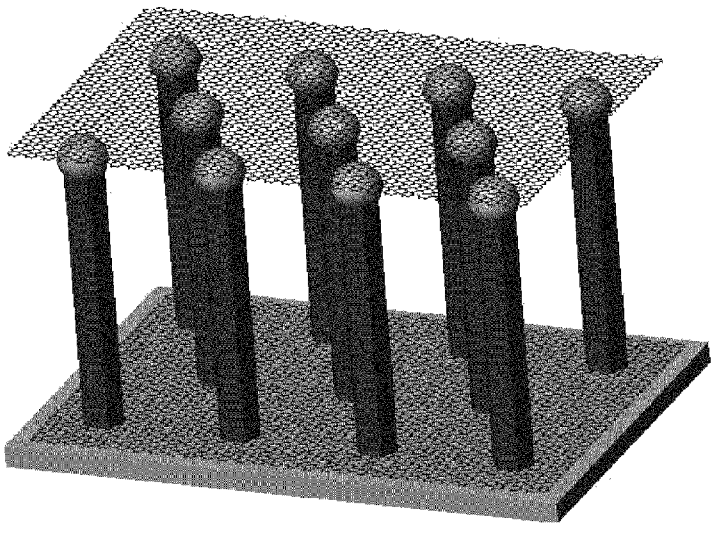


Fig 5b

(57) Abstract: A composition of matter comprising a plurality of nanowires on a substrate, said nanowires having been grown epitaxially on said substrate in the presence of a metal catalyst such that a catalyst deposit is located at the top of at least some of said nanowires, wherein said nanowires comprise at least one group lll-V compound or at least one group II-VI compound or comprises at least one non carbon group IV element; and wherein a graphitic layer is in contact with at least some of the catalyst deposits on top of said nanowires.

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