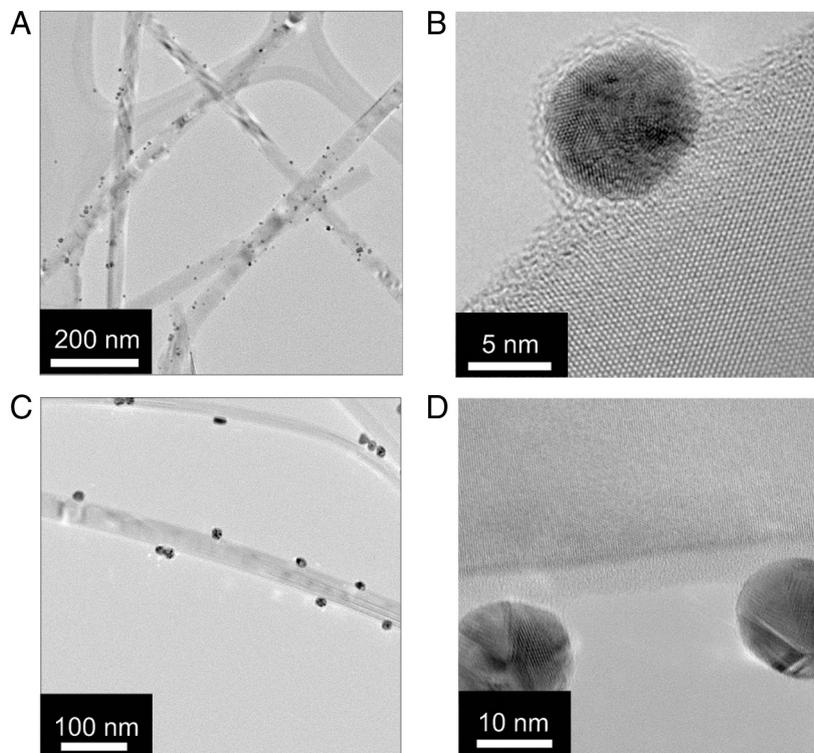
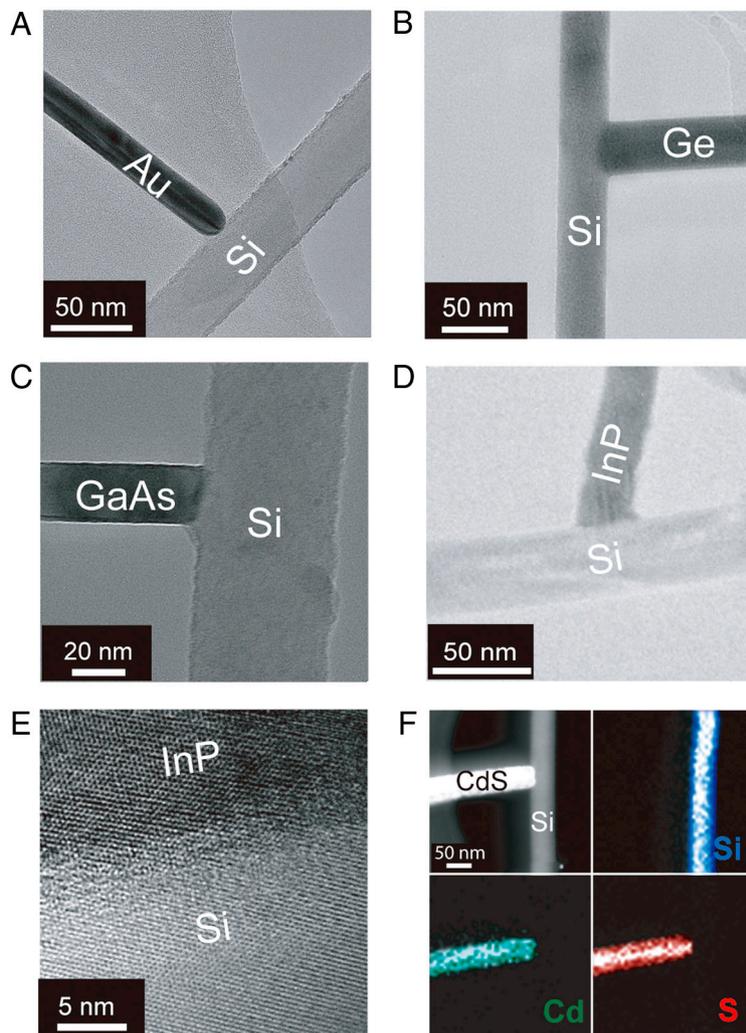


# Supporting Information

Jiang et al. 10.1073/pnas.1108584108



**Fig. S1.** Preparation of gold nanoparticles (Au-NPs) on Si and Si/SiO<sub>2</sub> nanowire (NW) backbones. (A and B) Low- (A) and high-resolution (B) transmission electron microscopy (TEM) images of Si NWs with Au-NPs on their surfaces. The selective deposition of Au-NPs on bare Si NW backbones was achieved via galvanic surface reduction (see *Materials and Methods*), in which hydrogen-terminated Si NW surfaces induced the in situ reduction of HAuCl<sub>4</sub> and formation of Au-NPs on the backbone. The Au-NPs prepared in this manner are well-dispersed along the Si NW surfaces. For HAuCl<sub>4</sub> concentration of 10<sup>-5</sup> M and reaction time of 5 min, the NP diameters were 10 ± 2 nm. (C and D) Low- (C) and high-resolution (D) TEM images of Si/SiO<sub>2</sub> core/shell NWs with Au-NPs. The Si/SiO<sub>2</sub> NWs were first functionalized with polylysine, and then citrate stabilized Au-NPs (Ted Pella) were adsorbed onto the NW surfaces (see *Materials and Methods*). The high-resolution image (D) shows clearly the SiO<sub>2</sub> thickness of approximately 3 nm and Au-NP diameters of approximately 15 nm.



**Fig. S2.** Structural characterization of type I branched NWs. (A–D) TEM images of Si/Au (A), Si/Ge (B), Si/GaAs (C), and Si/InP (D) branched NWs. (E) High-resolution TEM image of a representative Si/InP branch junction. The Si/InP interface remains structurally coherent despite the large lattice mismatch (8.1%). (F) Scanning TEM image (Upper Left) and corresponding energy-dispersive X-ray elemental mapping from a Si/CdS branched NWs. The maps for Si, S, and Cd are shown (Upper Right, Lower Right, and Lower Left, respectively). Data demonstrate the spatially controlled distributions of Si, Cd, and S in the backbone and branch. We note that the Si backbone is free of CdS homogeneous shell coating or islands formation due to the well-controlled branch synthesis. All branches were grown from Au-NPs prepared directly on Si-NW backbones without intervening shell layers using either solution- or gas-phase approaches (see *Materials and Methods*).



