Electronic Supplementary Information

Controlled convective self-assembly of silver nanoparticles in volatile organic solvent and its application in electronics

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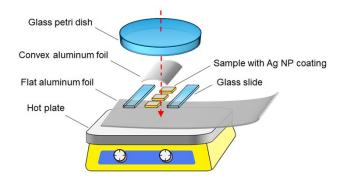


Fig. S1 Schematic illustration of the nanoparticle sintering setup.

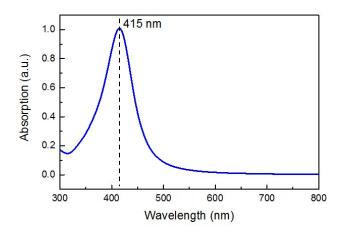


Fig. S2 UV-Vis absorption spectrum of the as-synthesized Ag nanoparticles dispersed in chloroform.

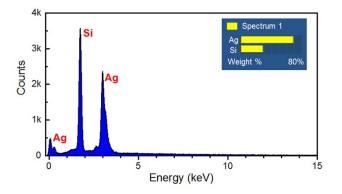


Fig. S3 EDS spectrum of the sintered Ag NP coating on Si substrate. Assembly condition: $r_w = 50 \ \mu L \ min^{-1}$, $\rho = 37.5 \ mg \ mL^{-1}$, $\theta = 22^{\circ}$. Sintering condition: 200 °C, 15 min.

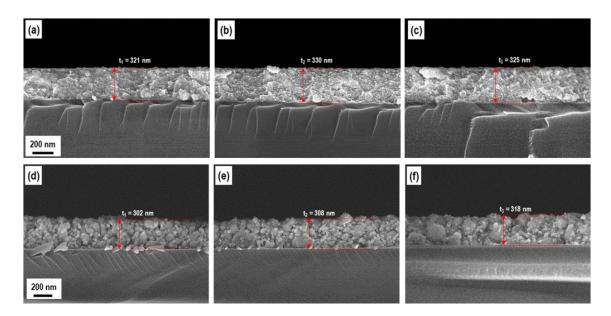


Fig. S4 SEM cross-section images of an unsintered Ag NP coating preliminarily heated at 160 °C (a–c) and a sintered Ag NP coating heated at 200 °C (d–f). Each group of images (a–c; d–f) were taken at different locations (spaced at ~1000 µm along the assembly direction) of the coatings. Assembly condition: $r_w = 100 \ \mu L \ min^{-1}$, $\rho = 37.5 \ mg \ mL^{-1}$, $\theta = 22^\circ$. The scale bar in (a) is valid for a–c, and the scale bar in (d) is valid for d–f.

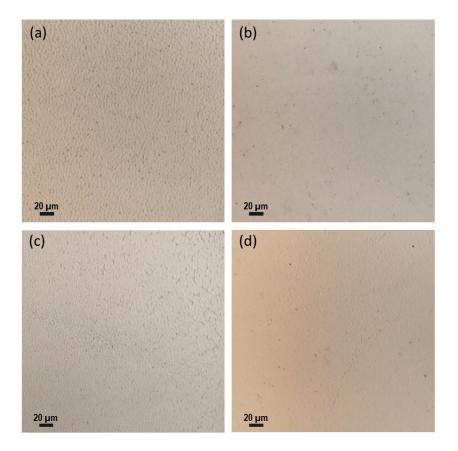


Fig. S5 Typical optical microscopic images of the sintered Ag NP coatings on Si substrates. Assembly condition: (a) $r_w = 50 \ \mu L$ min⁻¹, $\rho = 37.5 \ \text{mg mL}^{-1}$, $\theta = 22^\circ$; (b) $r_w = 100 \ \mu L \ \text{min}^{-1}$, $\rho = 37.5 \ \text{mg mL}^{-1}$, $\theta = 22^\circ$; (c) $r_w = 50 \ \mu L \ \text{min}^{-1}$, $\rho = 25 \ \text{mg mL}^{-1}$, $\theta = 22^\circ$; (c) $r_w = 50 \ \mu L \ \text{min}^{-1}$, $\rho = 31.25 \ \text{mg mL}^{-1}$, $\theta = 22^\circ$. Sintering condition: (a)–(d) 200 °C, 15 min. Notes: (a), (b), (c), and (d) in this figure correspond to b, d, h, and i in Fig. 5, respectively.