Shape of Small Silicon Clusters [Phys. Rev. Lett. 71, 727 (1993)]

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In our recent paper on a shape transition in small silicon clusters we stated that "Up to now, mostly spherical and compact clusters have been considered as theoretical models attempting to address this question (the only exception being Phillips' qualitative arguments for elongated models; see Ref. [4])." After publication of our work, we became aware of a paper by J. R. Chelikowsky, K. M. Glassford, and J. C. Phillips [Phys. Rev. B **44**, 1538 (1991)] (CGP in the following), in which elongated clusters were found for certain sizes, from simulations based on an empirical interatomic force field. Close inspection of Fig. 7 of CGP shows that most clusters of size between 21 and 25 atoms are elongated, whereas larger clusters have more compact shape. Although both the structural models in our work and our interpretation of the shape transition are qualitatively different from those of CGP, the possibility of such a transition was clearly predicted by the results of that earlier work. We regret the omission of this important reference.

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