
Robert Schlögl Fritz-Haber-Institut der MPG

NANOSTRUCTURED CARBON AS HETEROGENEOUS CATALYSTS





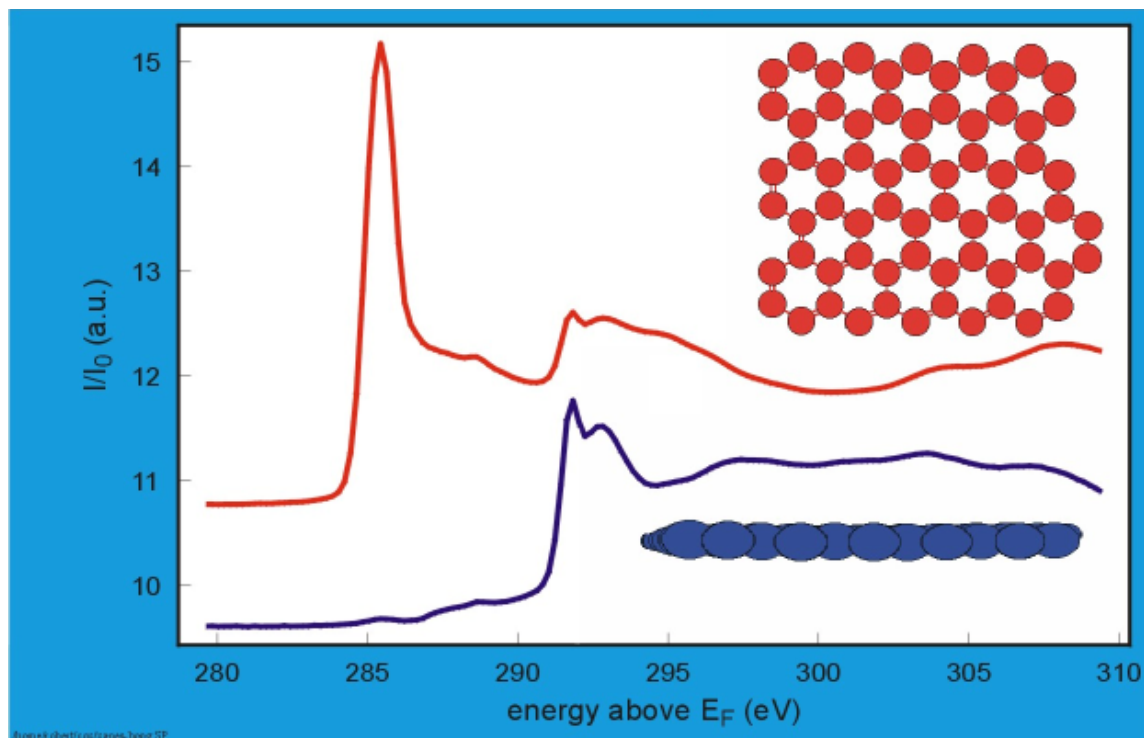
FUNDAMENTALS



Some Facts about “Carbon”



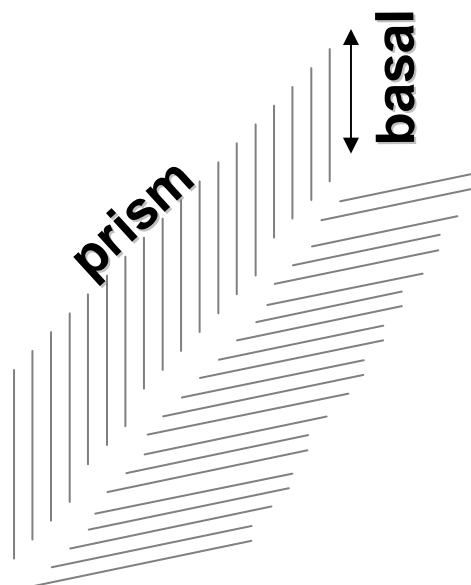
Anisotropy



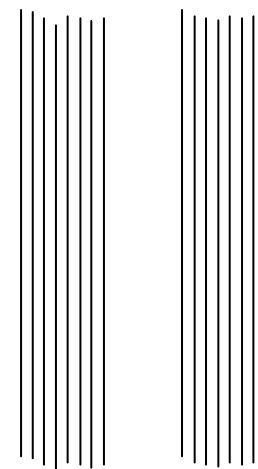
There is no other material than graphitic carbon showing such pronounced electronic structural anisotropy resulting from the anisotropy of the sp^2 bonding: only the (blue) prism face is reactive, the (red) basal plane is inert



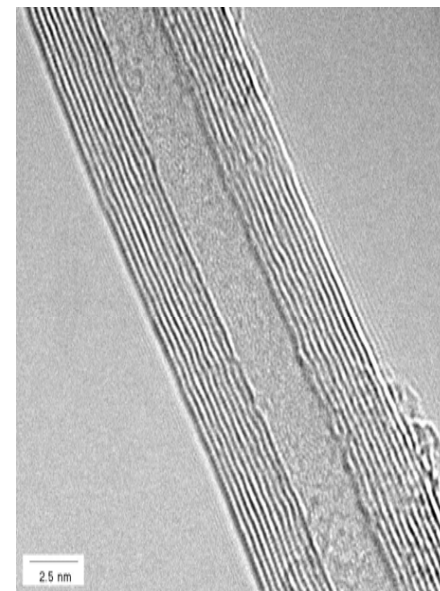
Nanostructured anisotropy



**herring
bone
CNF**



**multiwall
CNTs**



M = 1 083 000

Nanostructures allow flexibility in controlling anisotropy



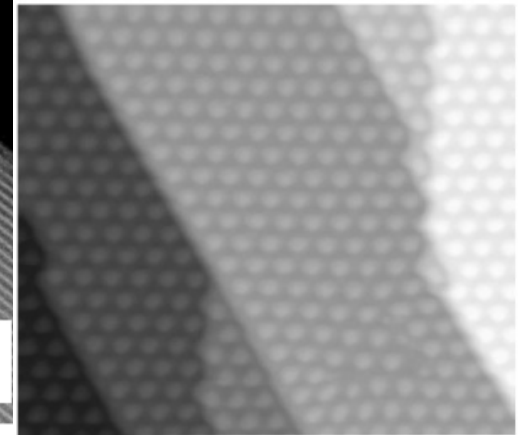
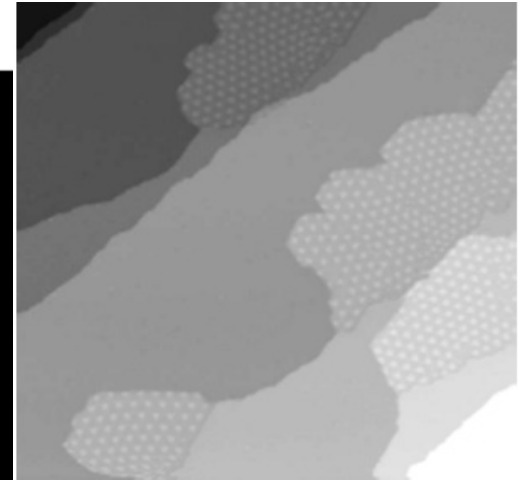
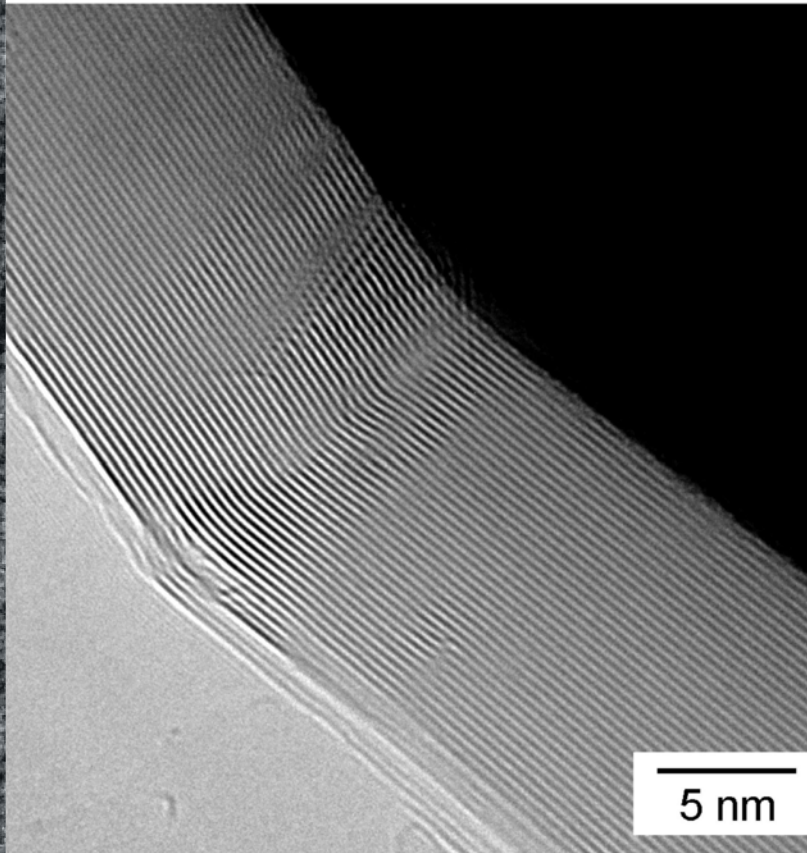
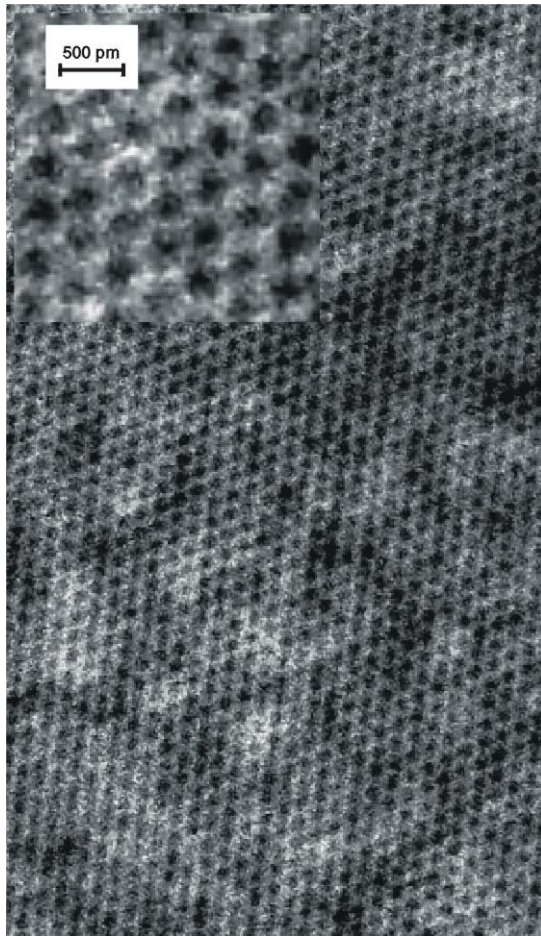
Graphitic CNT with high surface area



Enhancement of
surface area from
16 m²/g to 347 m²/g



Graphene



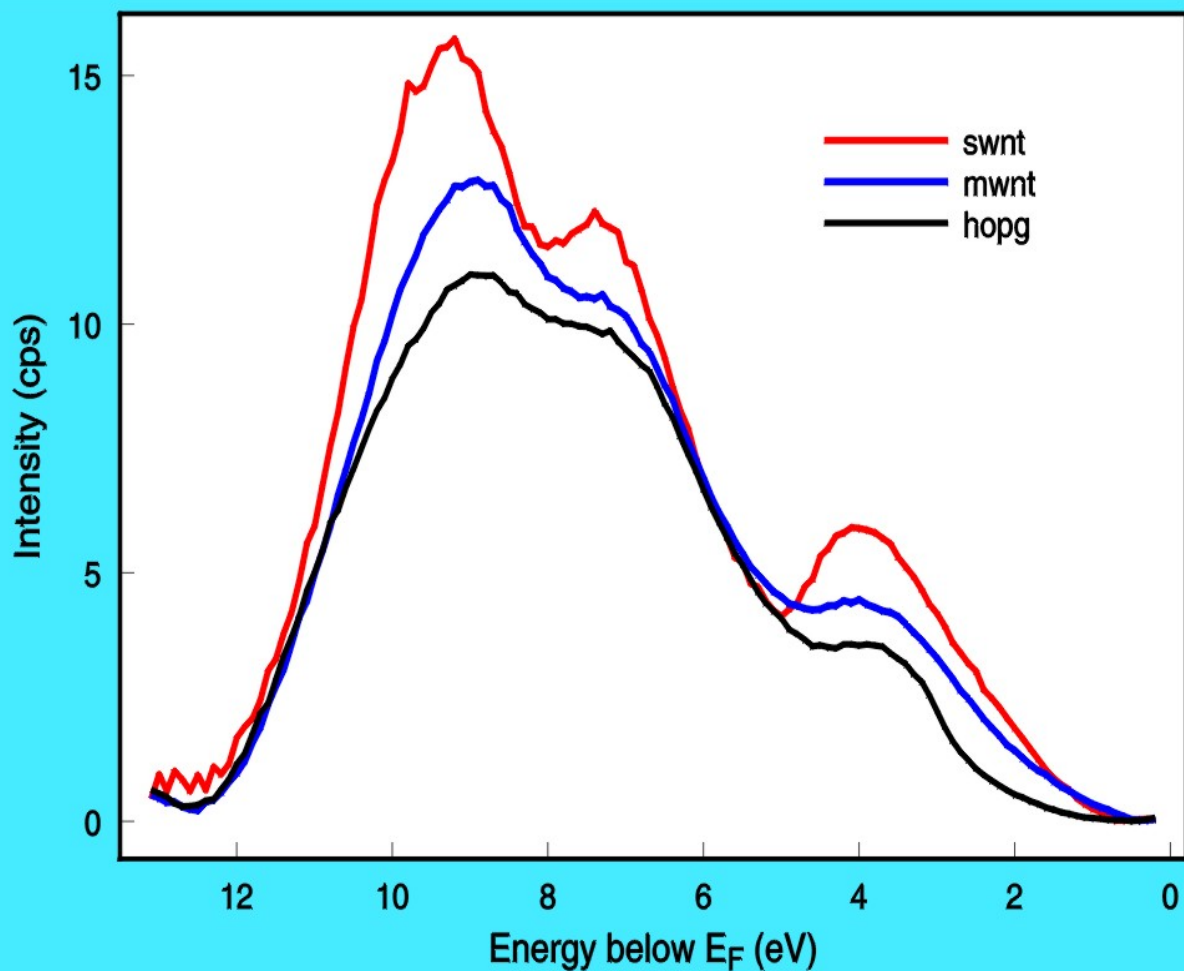
100 x 100 nm

Winterlin et al, PRB, 76, 2007

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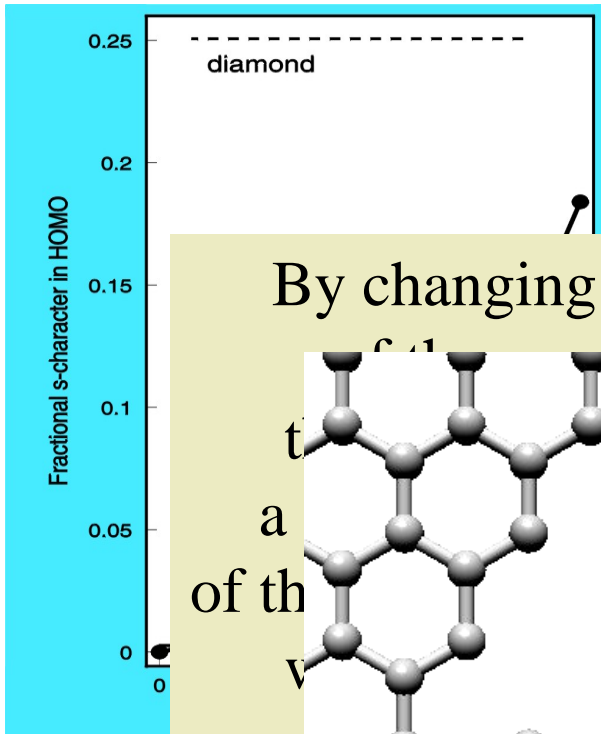
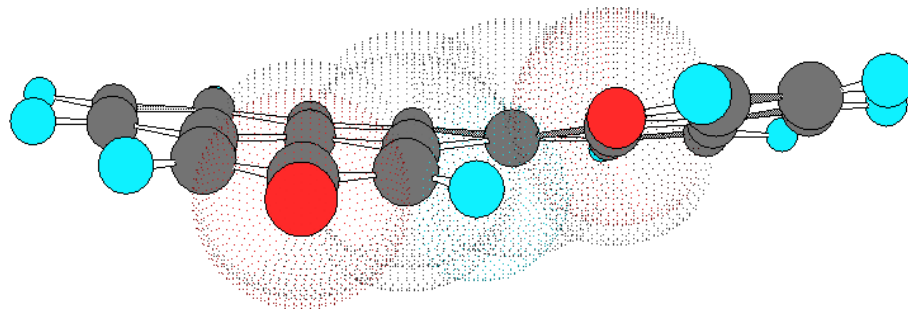
The electronic structure issue



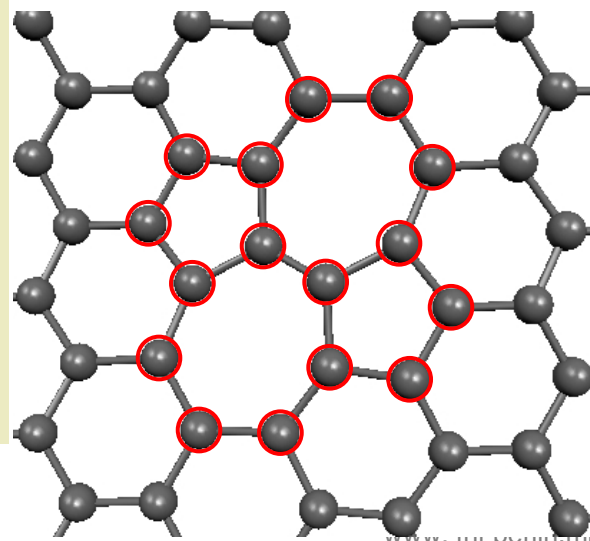
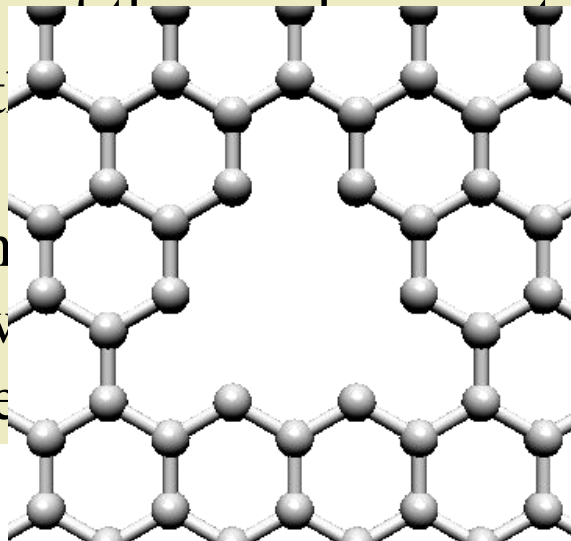
Bending with decreasing diameter causes localization of π states enhancing artificially the “density of states” of the semimetal graphite



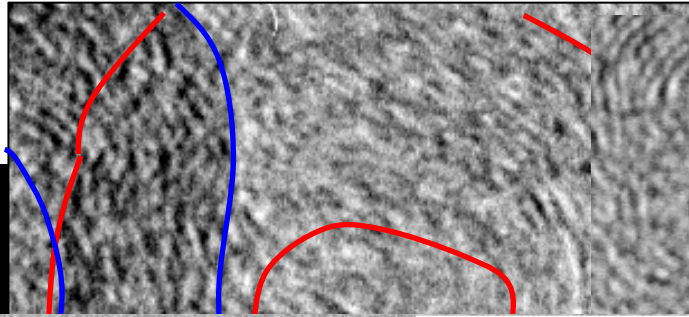
Concept: Tune the C-O bond properties



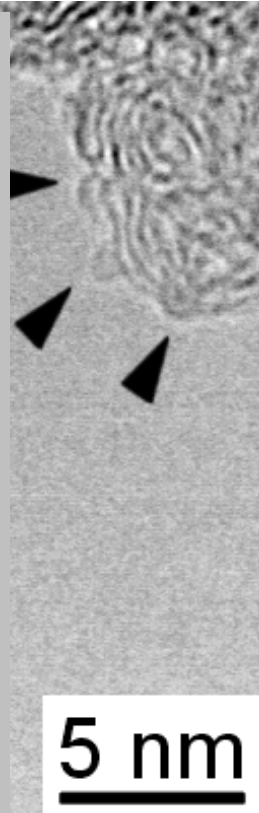
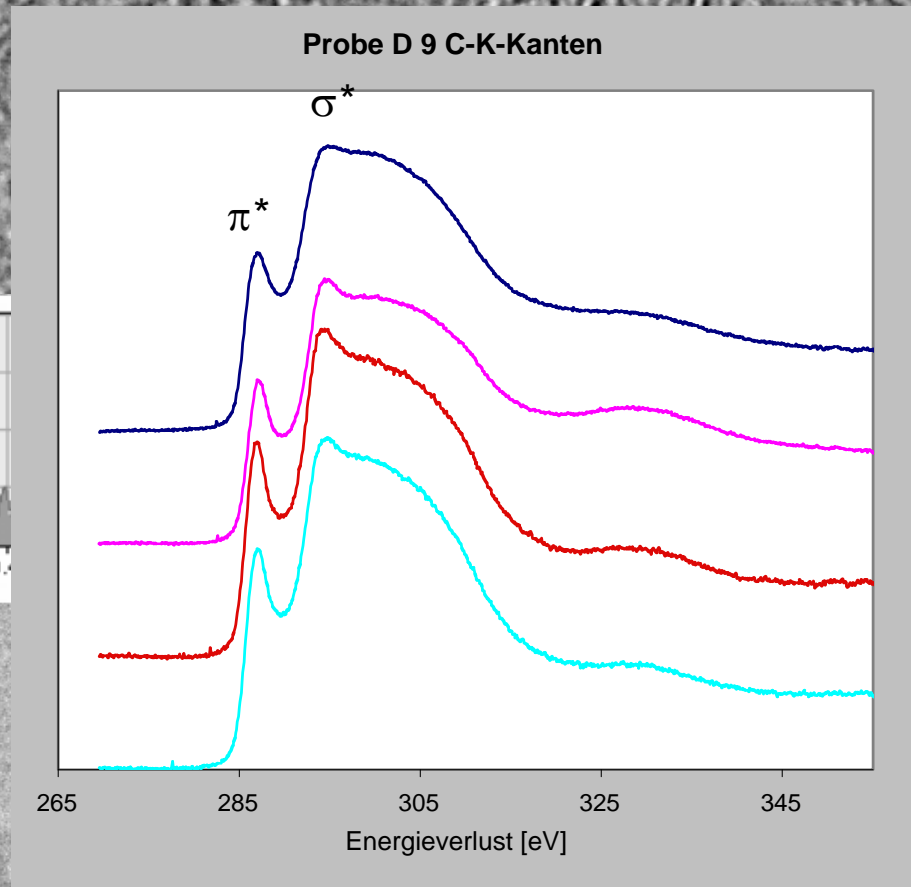
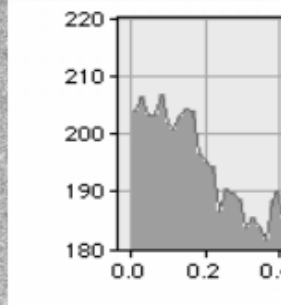
By changing the bending of the C-C bonds, the s-character of the C-C bonds can be tuned. This is achieved by changing the angle between the C-C bonds.



Soot and soot II



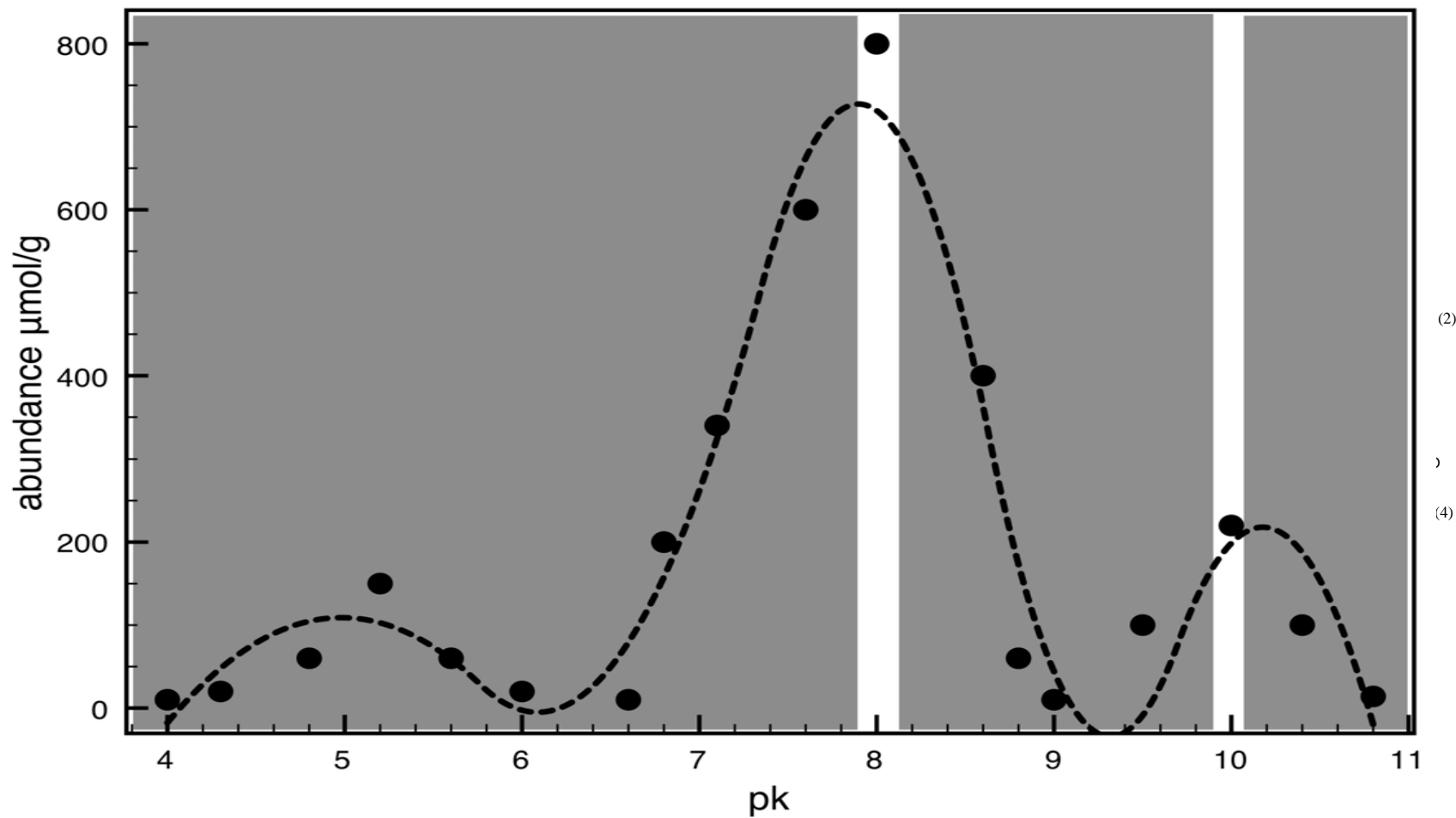
Fullerenoid
soot



1 nm



Acid-base groups

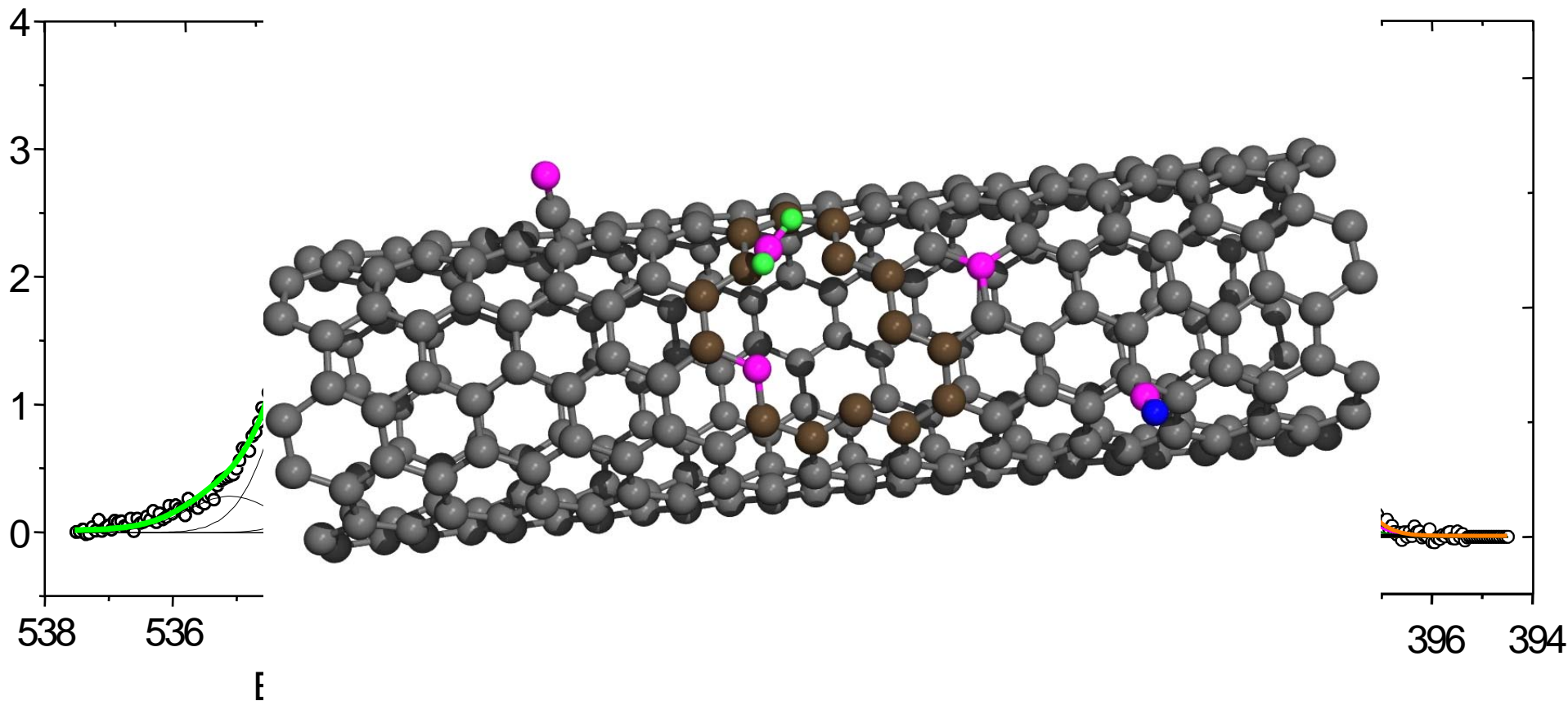


(2)

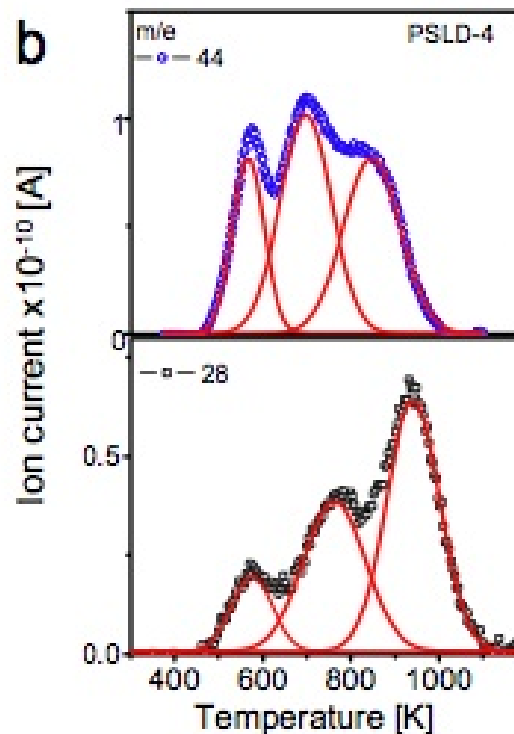
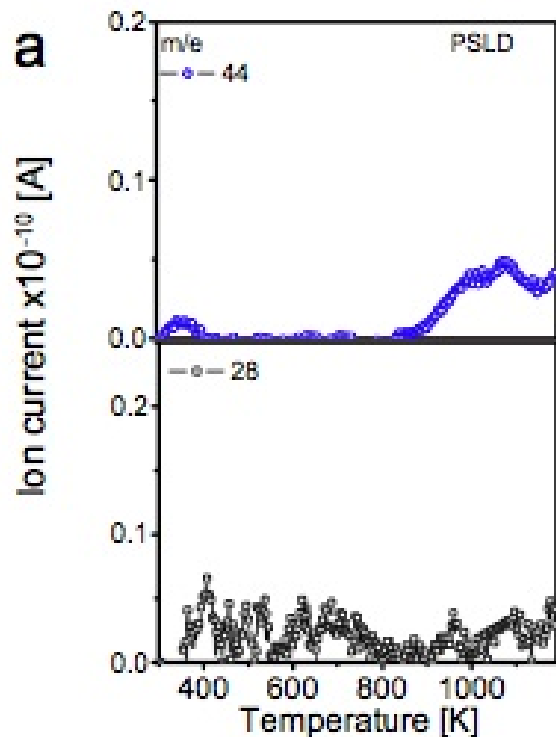
(4)



Surface functional groups



Synthesis of oxygen functional groups



High resolution
TPO through slow
heating rate and
back-mixing-free
operation

The combination of fluid phase oxidation followed by calcination to 600 – 900 K generates a specific set of OH-groups

PSLD CNT

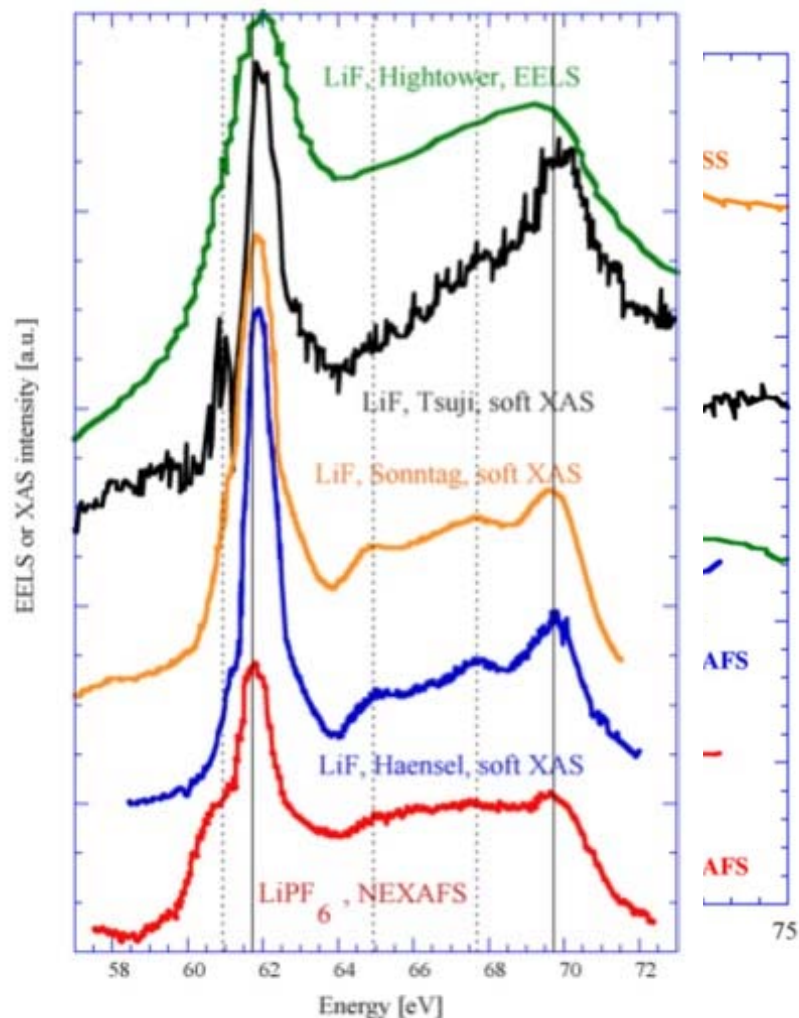
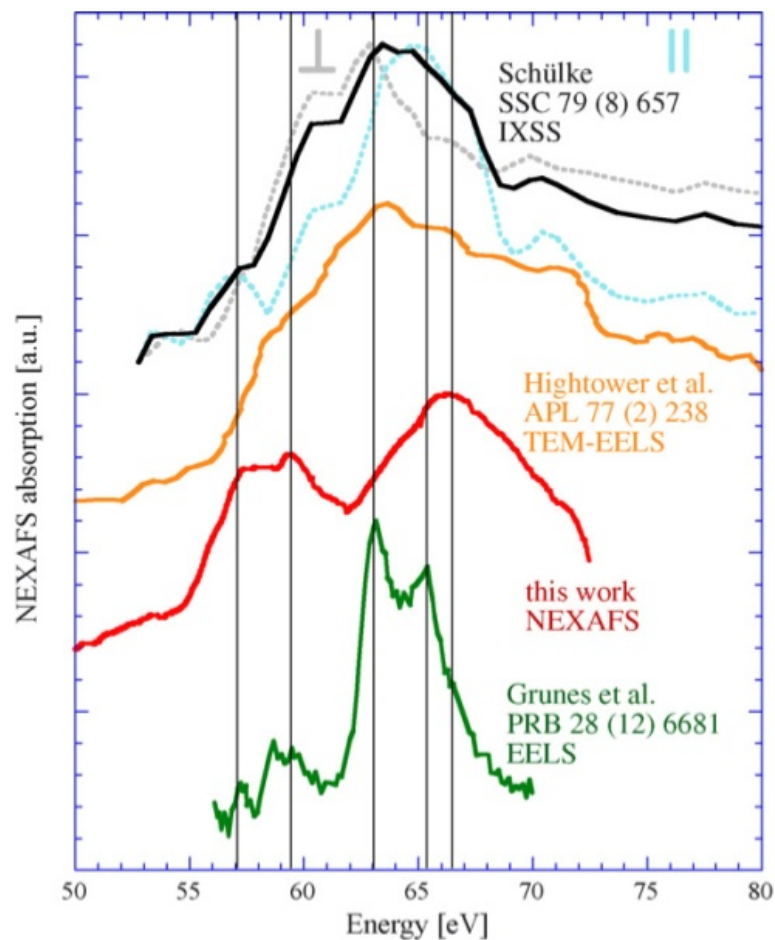


The Li C interaction

Li: a chameleon of chemical bonding



Nature of carbon Li interaction

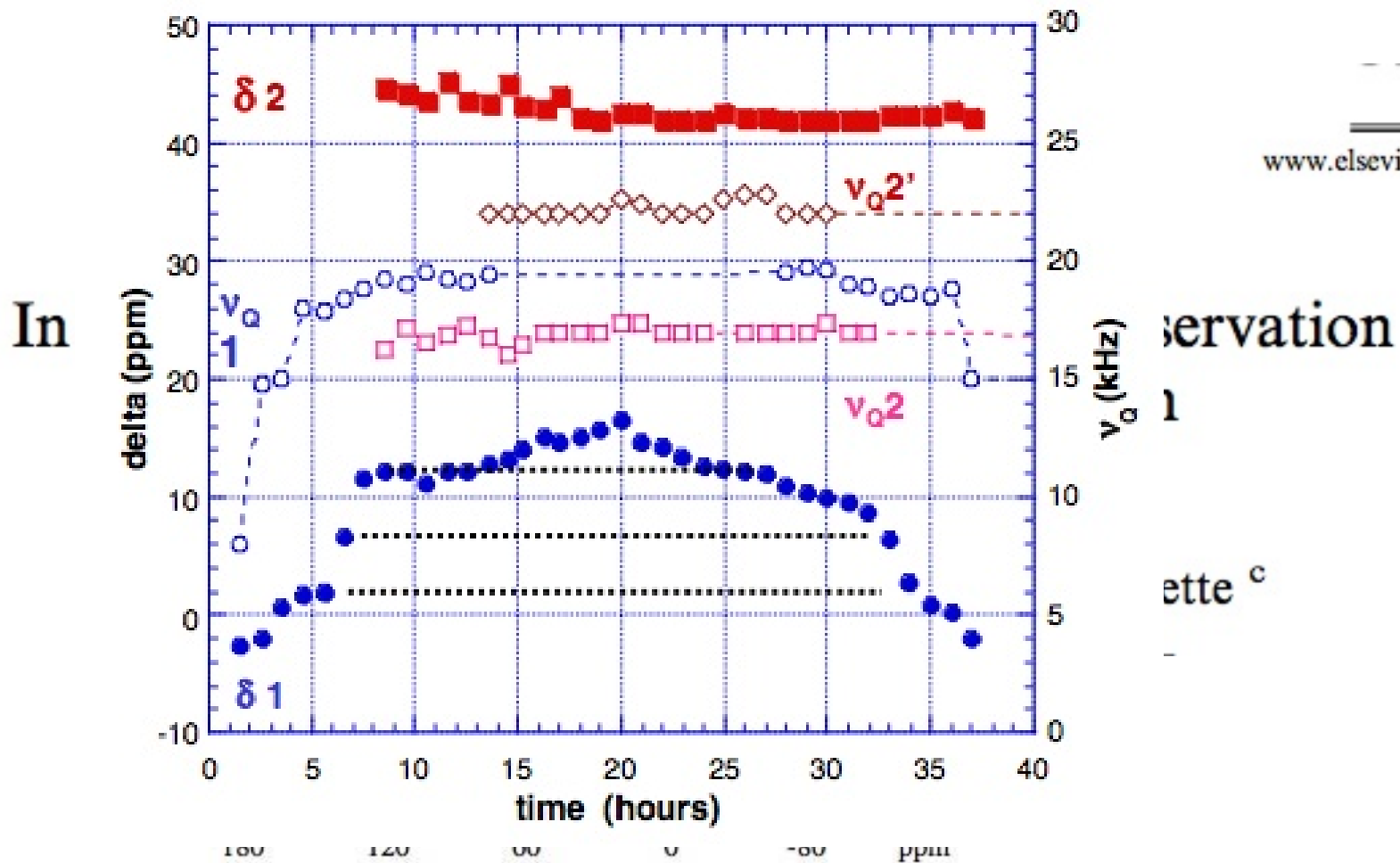


NEXAFS a critical method

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Nature of Carbon Li interaction



NMR: co-existence of bonding states

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Nature of carbon Li interaction



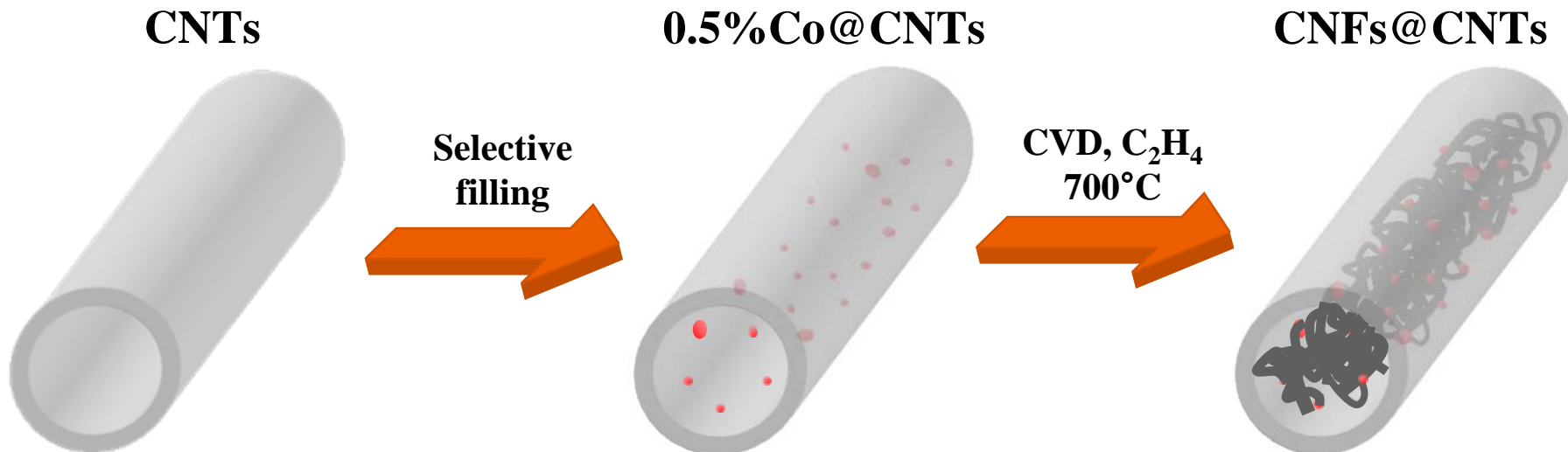
Carbon as Catalyst

metal-free heterogeneous catalysis



Nano-synthesis for Li-storage

CNFs@CNTs via CVD route

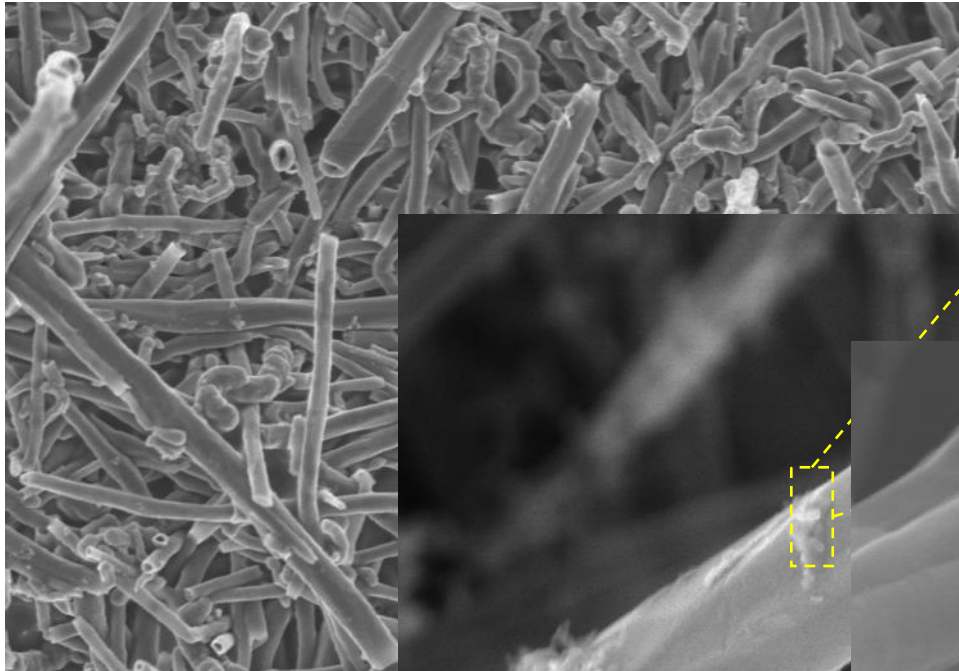


Technical Challenges:

1. Where do metal nanoparticles stay?
2. Can reactant diffuse inside of CNTs?
3. How big are the *children* CNFs

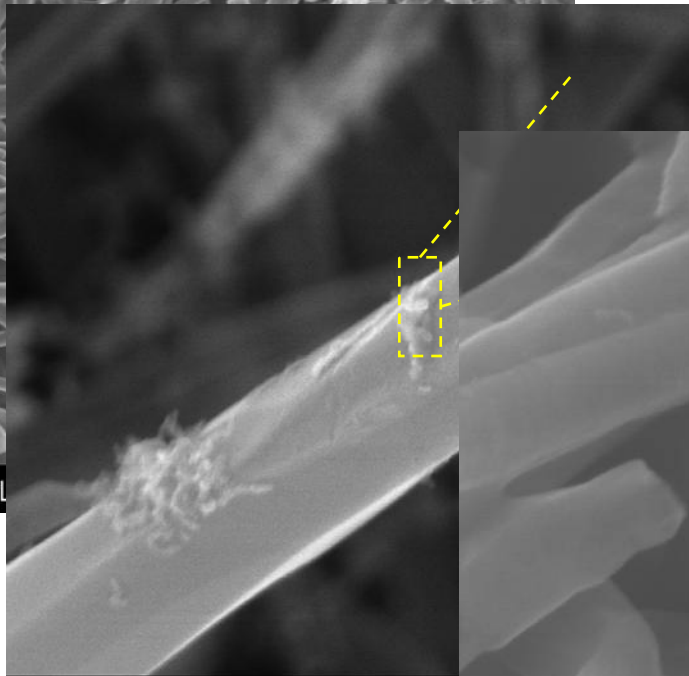


Analytics for controlled synthesis: Li storage

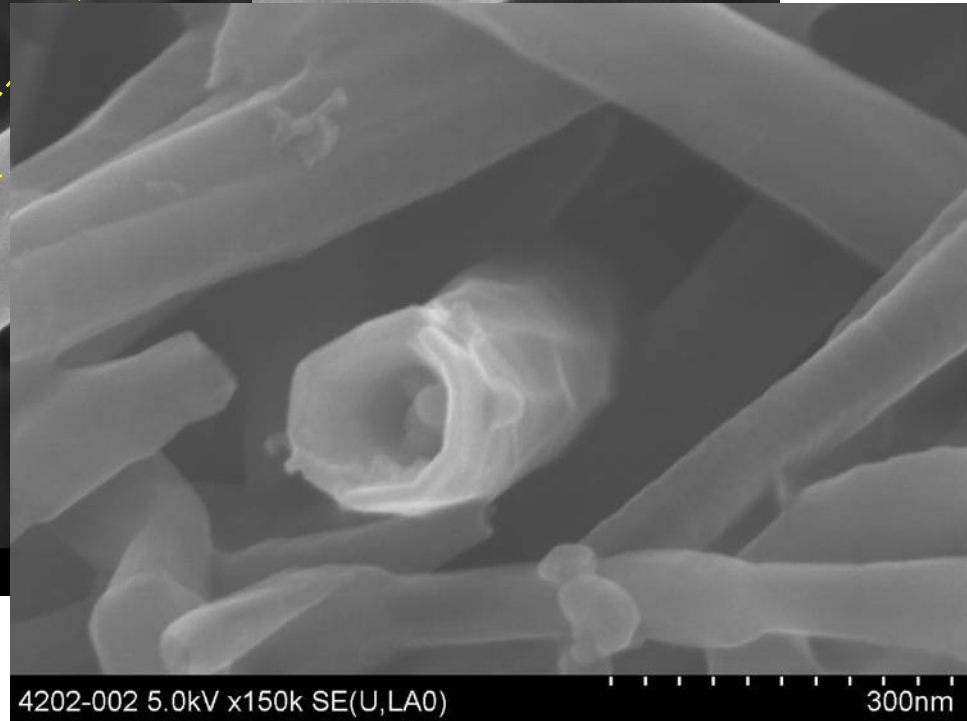
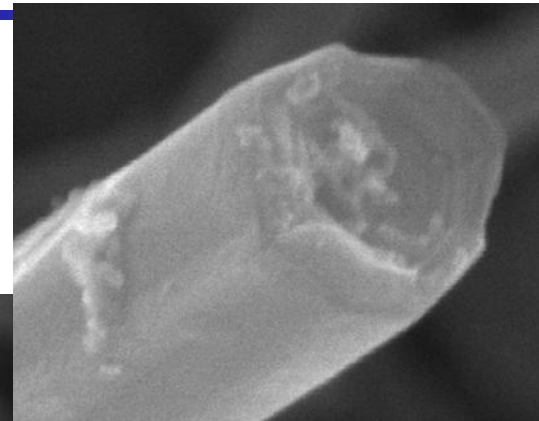


4201-001 1.5kV x25.0k SE(U,L)

CNFs@CNTs
after CVD at
700~750°C



4201-005 5.0kV x100k SE(U,LA0)

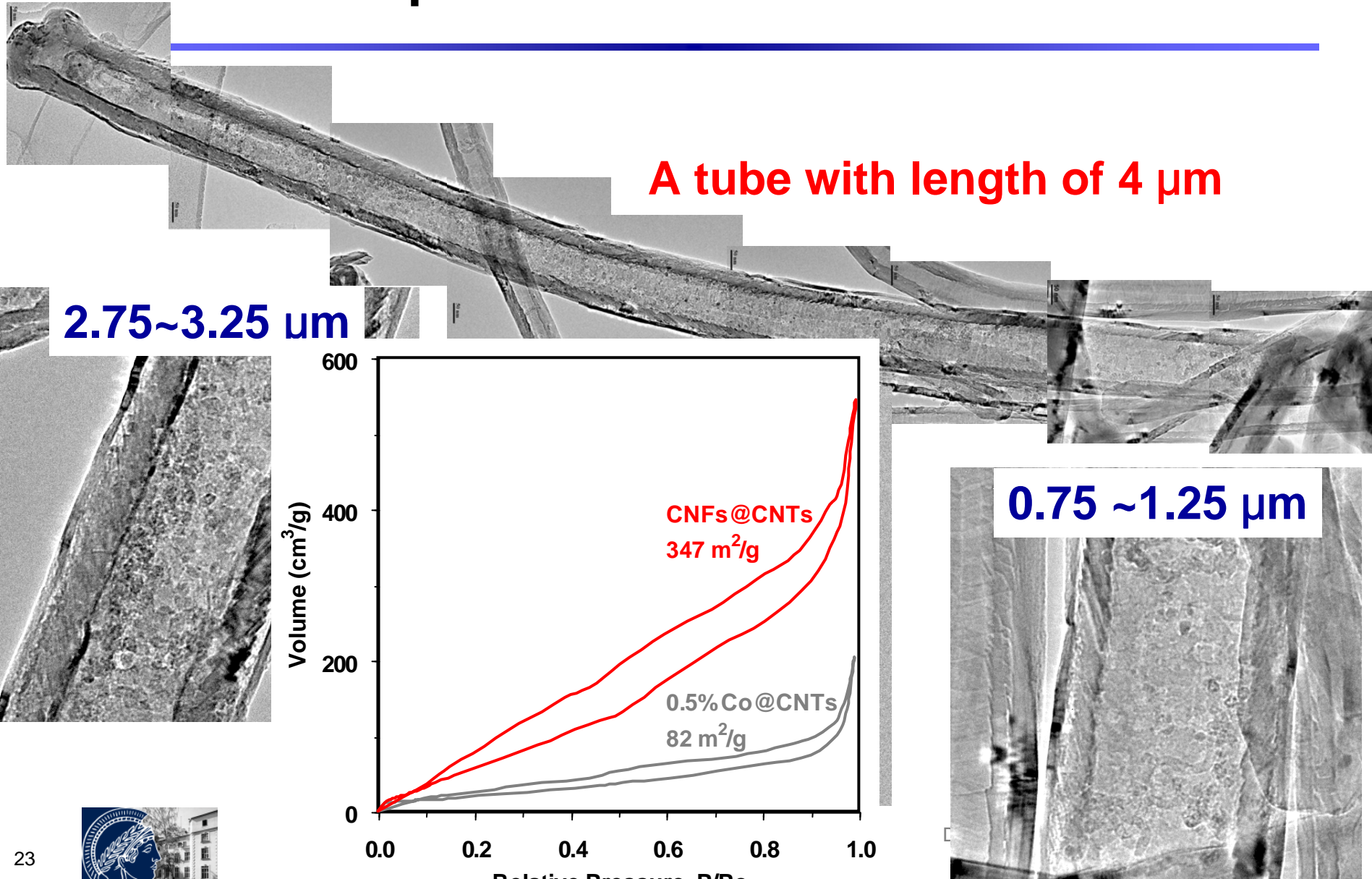


4202-002 5.0kV x150k SE(U,LA0)

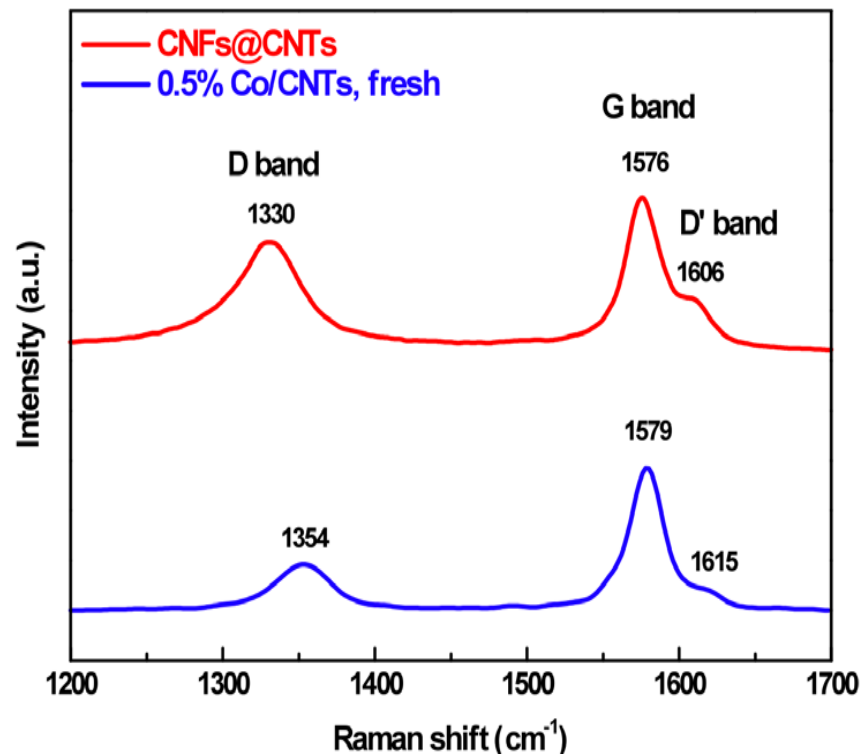
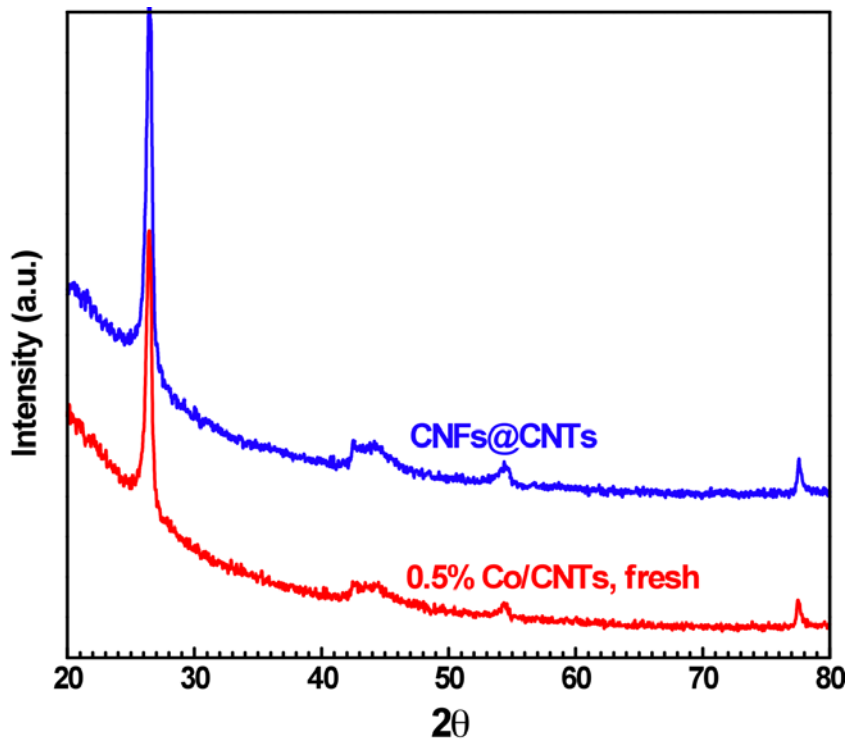
300nm



After optimization: a material

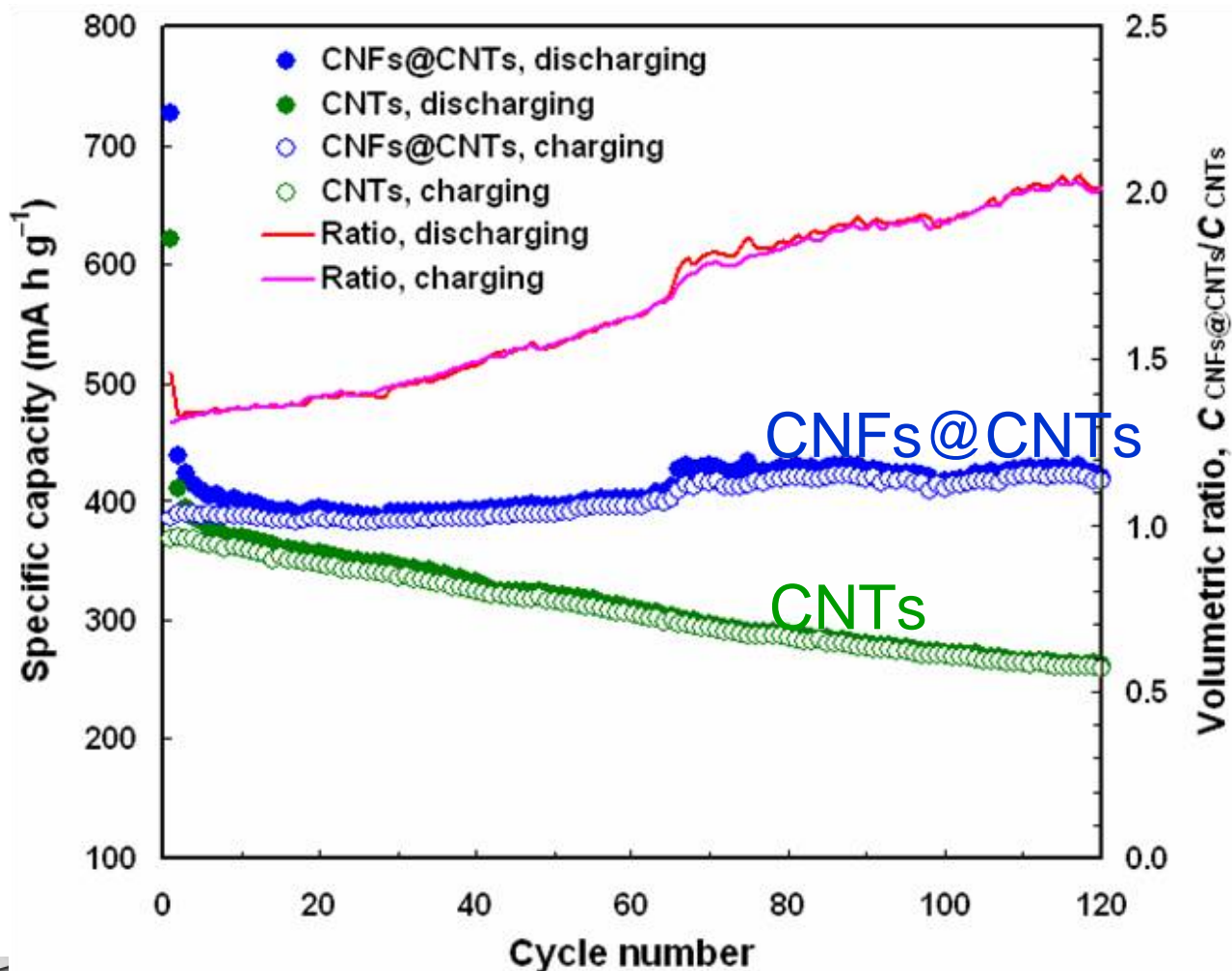


Structure of the C/C composite



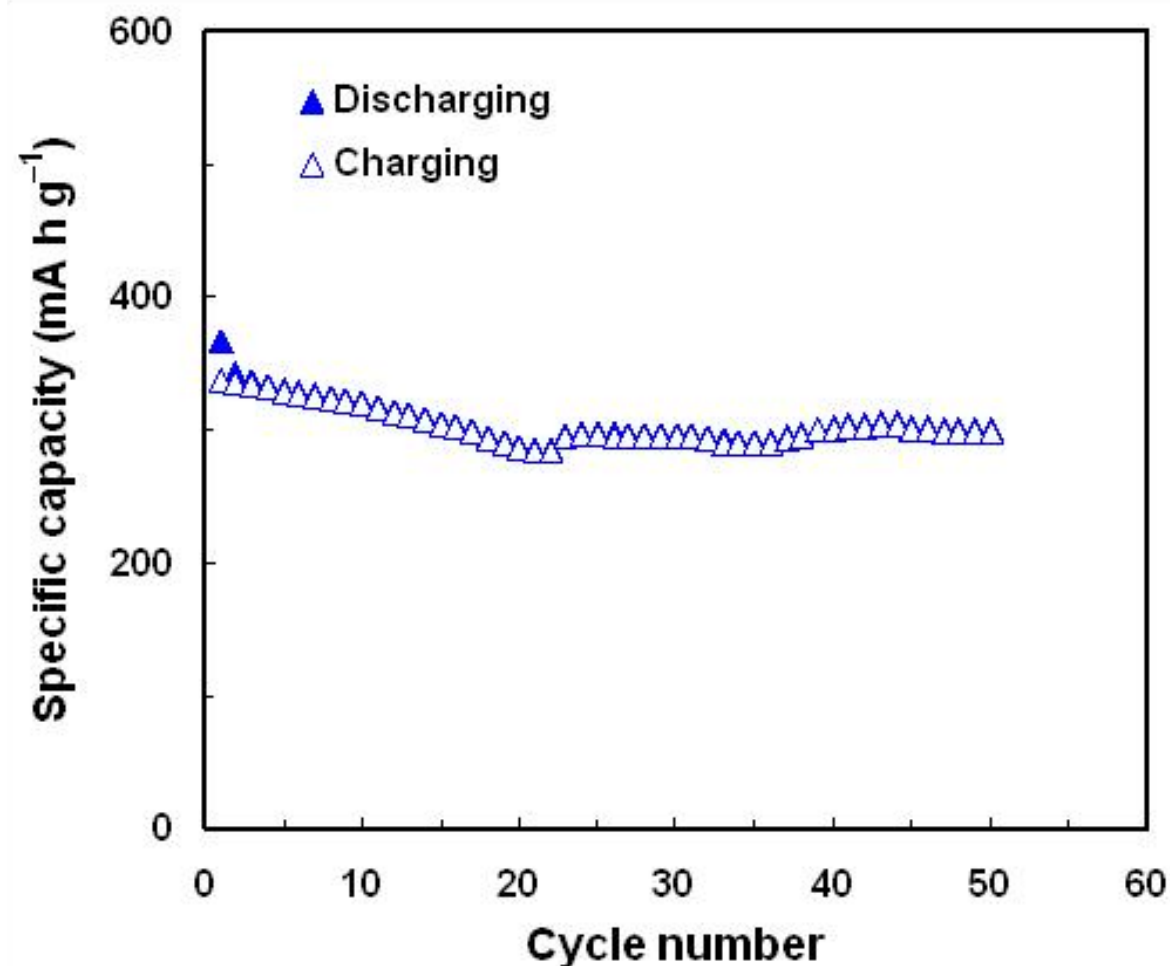
CNFs@CNTs in Li Batteries

Cycling stability in 1 M LiPF_6 in EC/DMC solution



CNFs@CNTs in Li Batteries

Electrochemical stability of CNFs@CNTs in 1 M LiPF₆ in EC/DMC solution at 1C after 120 cycles at C/5

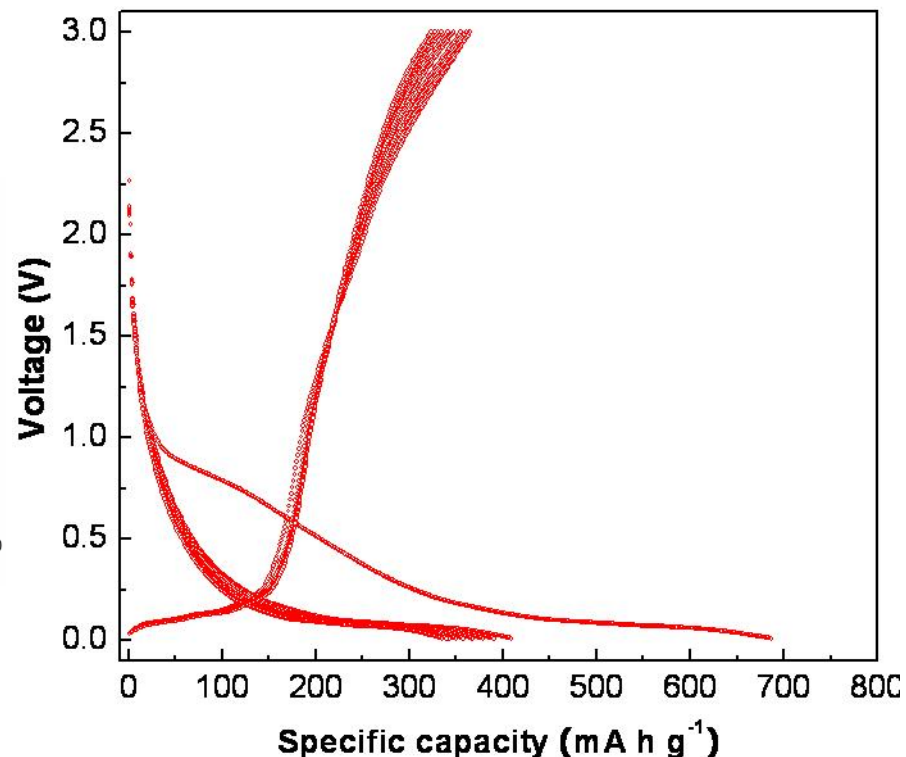
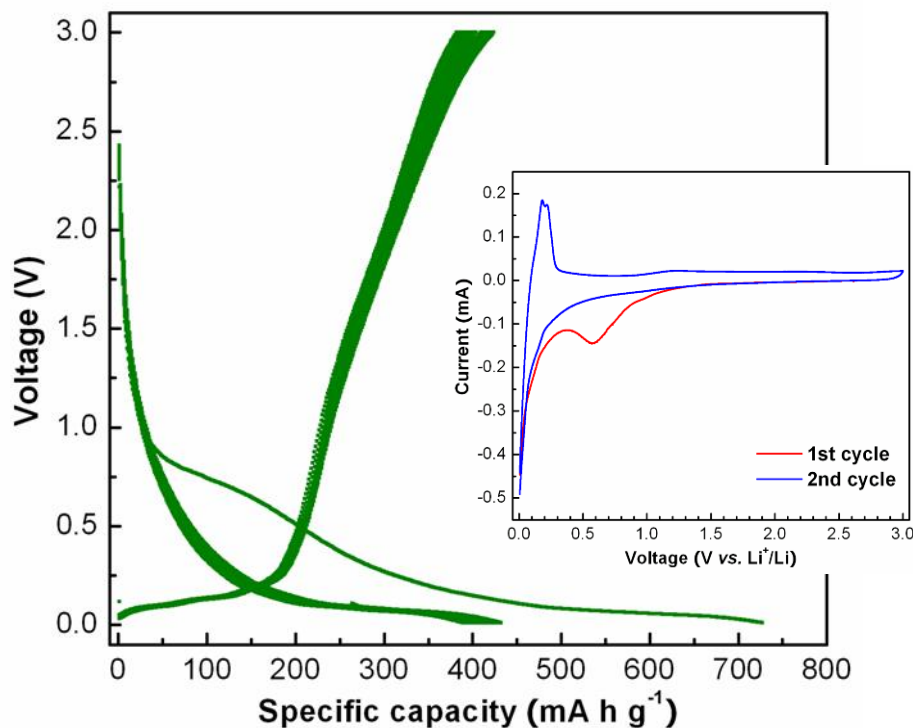


CNFs@CNTs in Li Batteries

Galvanostatic discharge curves of CNFs@CNTs (cycled at a rate of C/5)

in 1 M LiPF₆ in EC/DMC solution

in 1 M LiClO₄ in PC solution



Unlikely ethylene carbonate (EC), propylene carbonate (PC) is safe at low T.

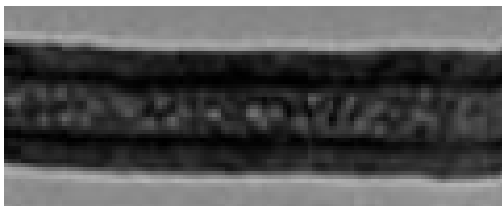
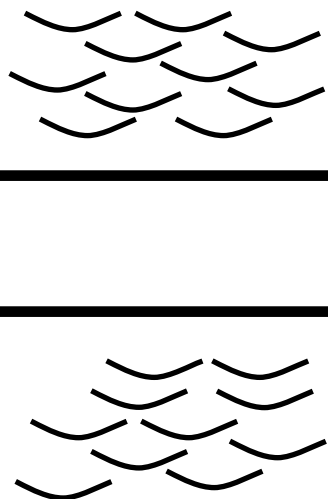
PC solvent and the solvated Li⁺ ions tend to co-intercalate into graphite, accompanied by severe exfoliation of graphite layers and thus destruction of structure.



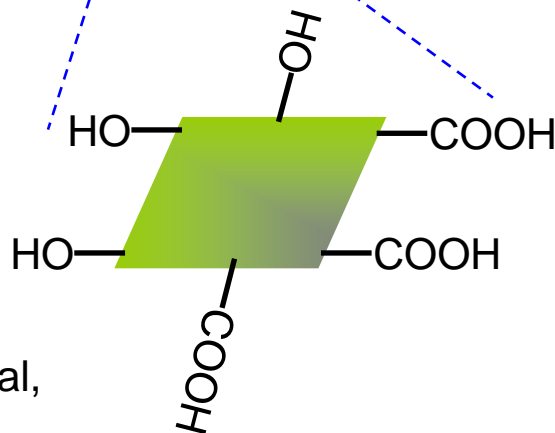
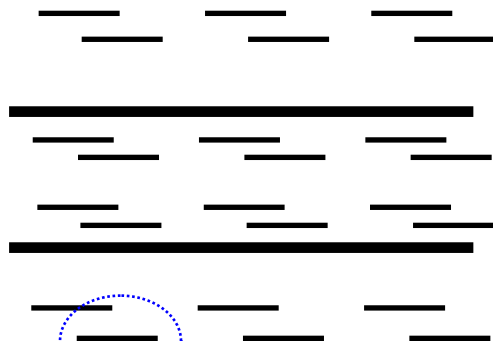
Novel Carbon-2: CTIT

Carbon tube-in-tube via wet chemical assembly

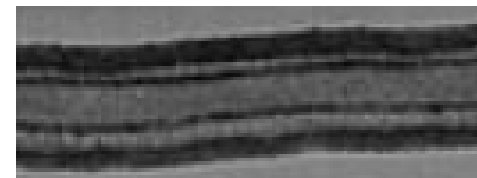
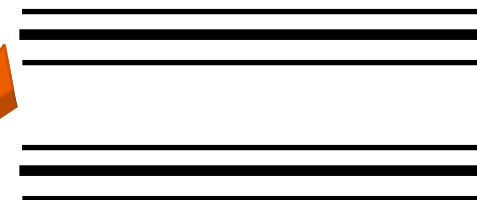
Pristine CNT



Functionalized



Tube-in-tube



Z.P. Zhu, D.S. Su, G. Weinberg, et al,

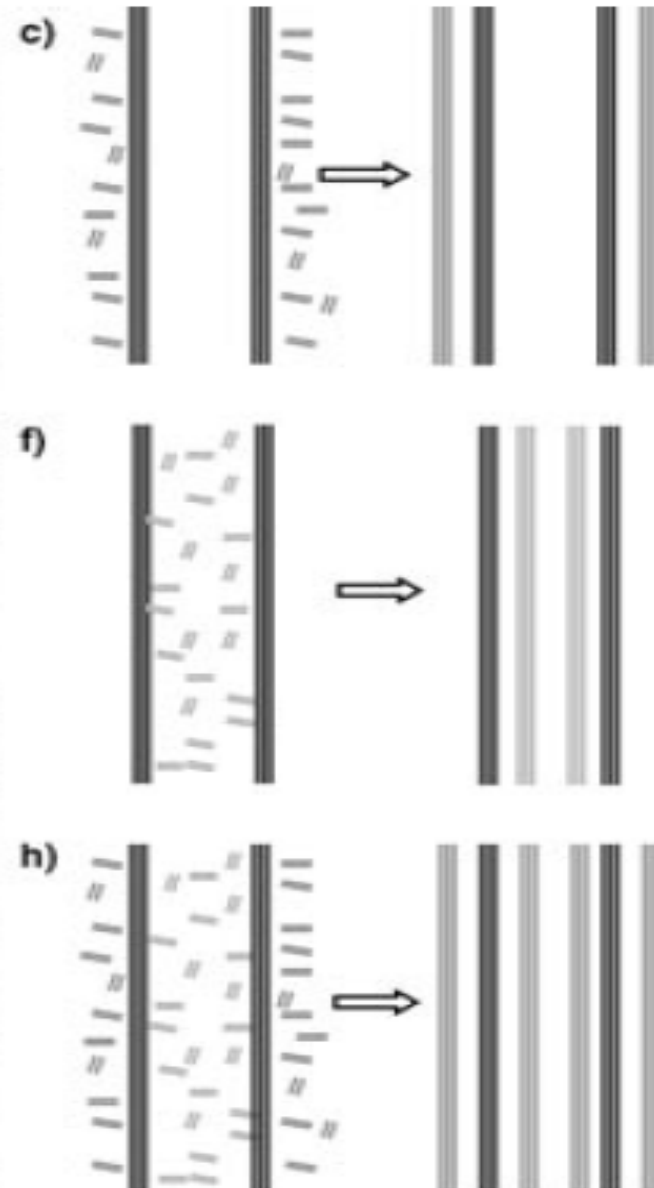
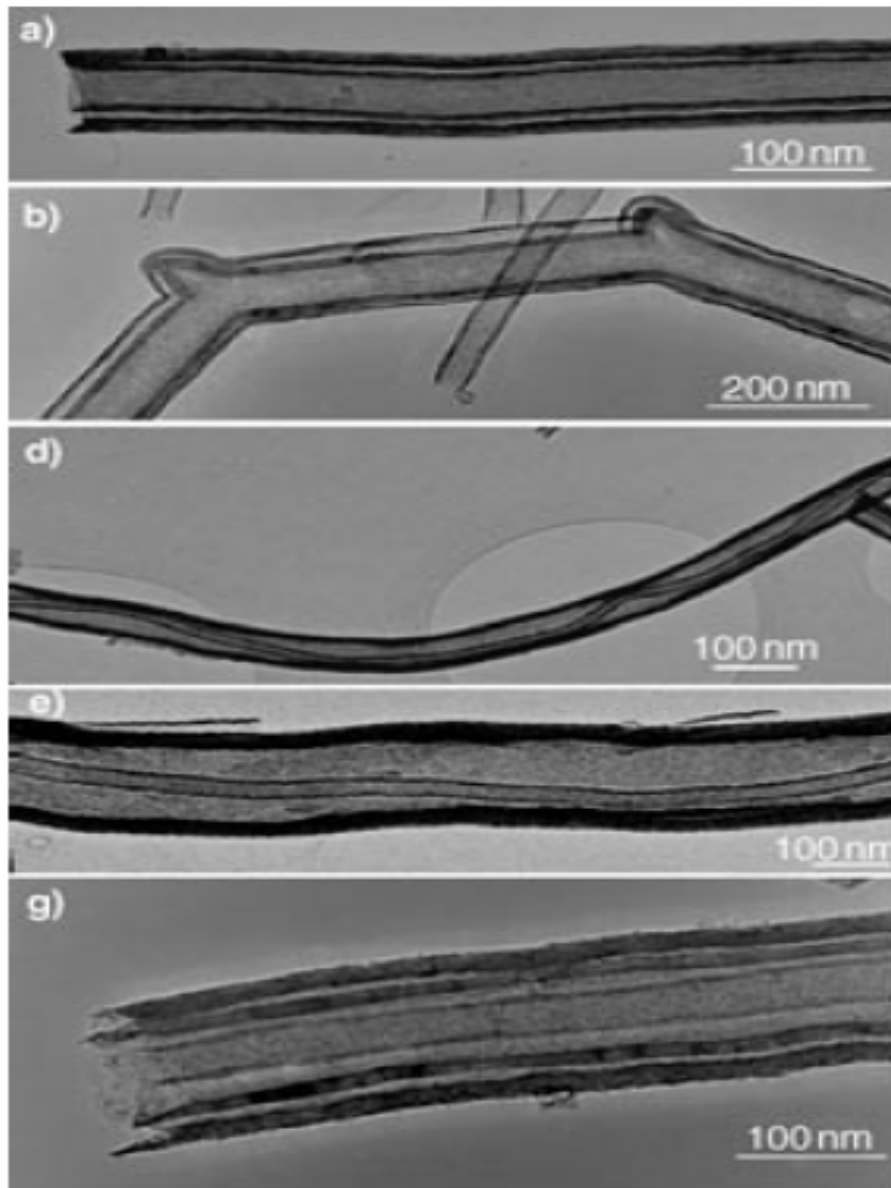
Smart Mater. (2005) 107

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Carbon tube-in-tube (CTIT)



y

www.mech.nyu.edu

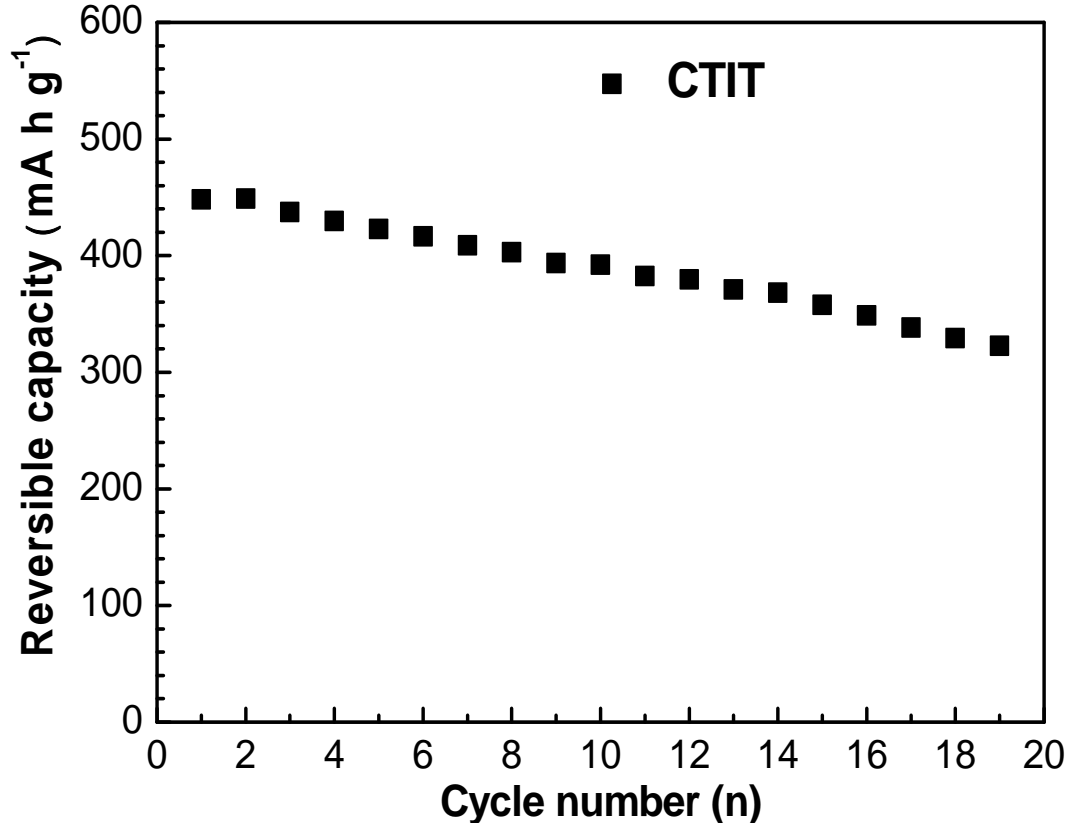
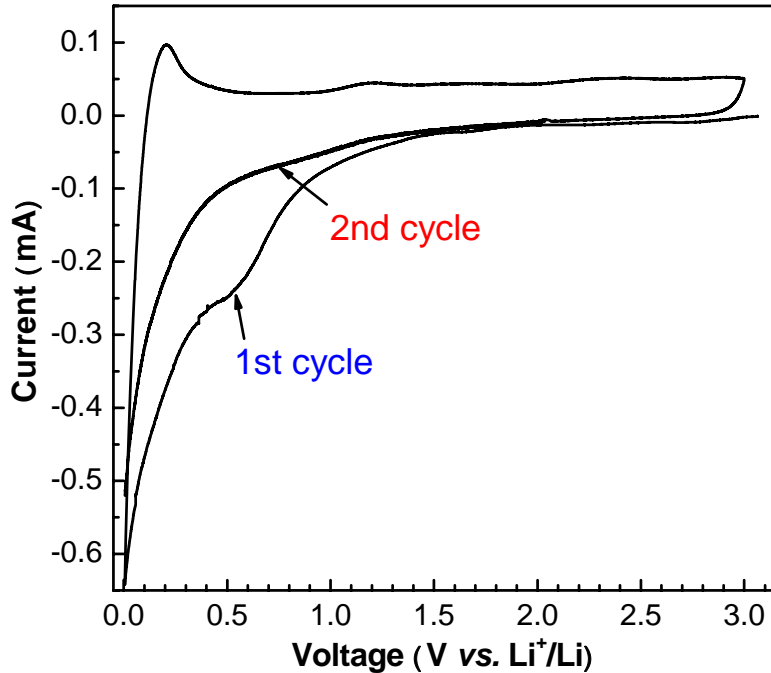


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Carbon tube-in-tube (CTIT)

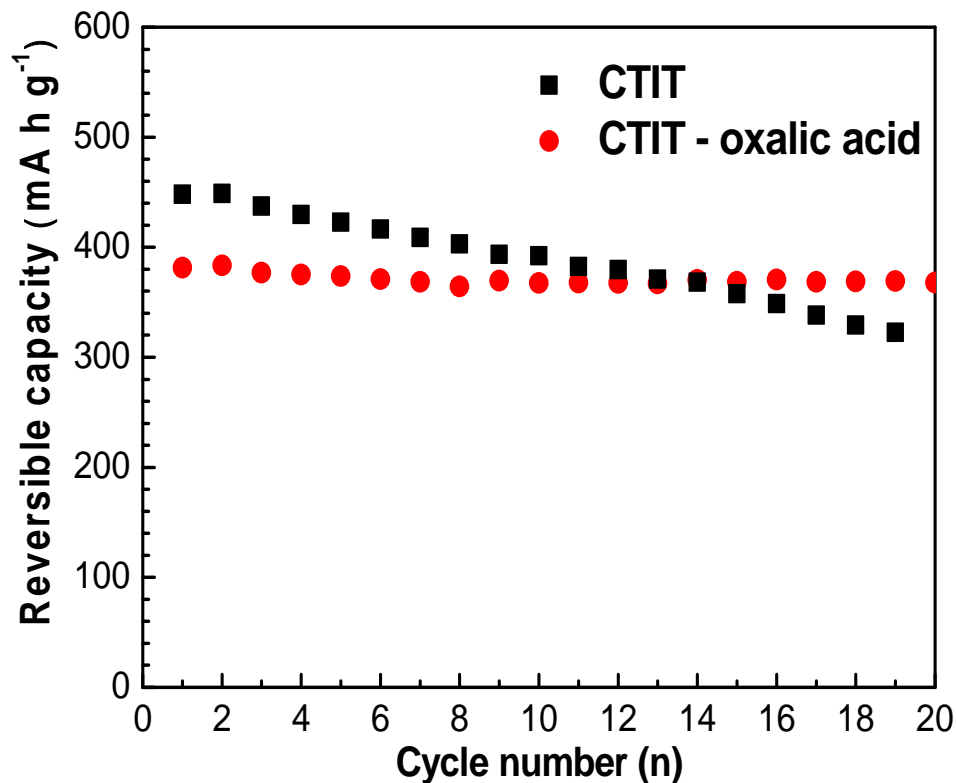
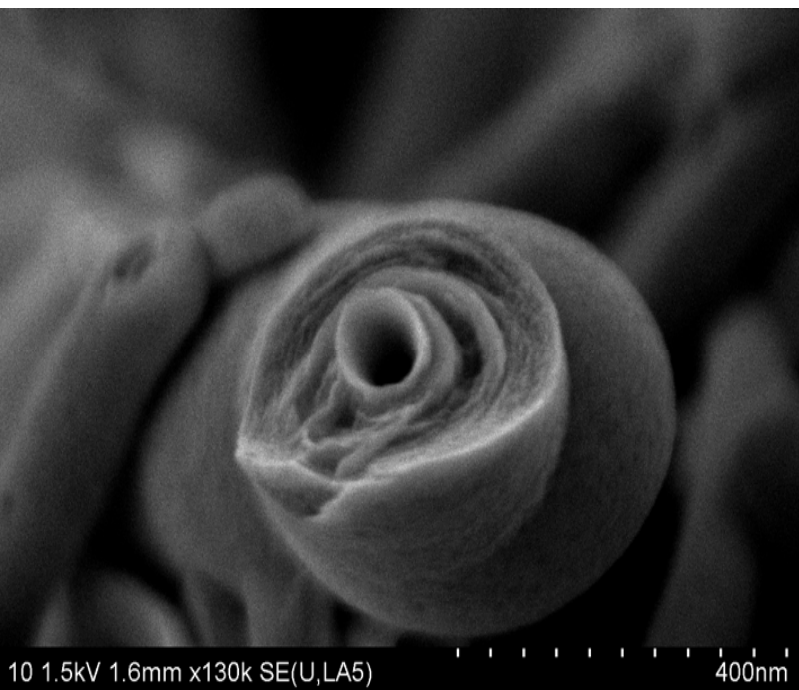
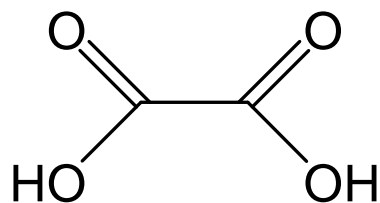
~~Unfortunately, performance decreased during 20 cycles~~



Cyclic voltammogram at a scan rate of 0.1 mV s⁻¹ in the voltage range of 0.01 and 3 V in 1 M LiPF₆ in EC/DMC



Fixation of oxygenate sites



From TPR: no more chemical reduction of oxygenate sites

Carbon as Catalyst

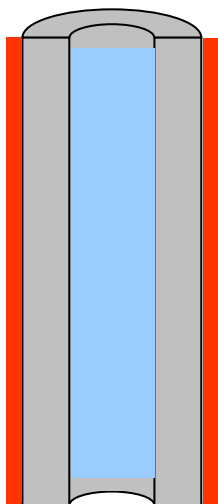
metal-free heterogeneous catalysis



Control of Localization

Oxide particles are killing nanocarbon: limit it to the bare minimum, avoid formation of lumps e.g. in the inner parts of nanotubes

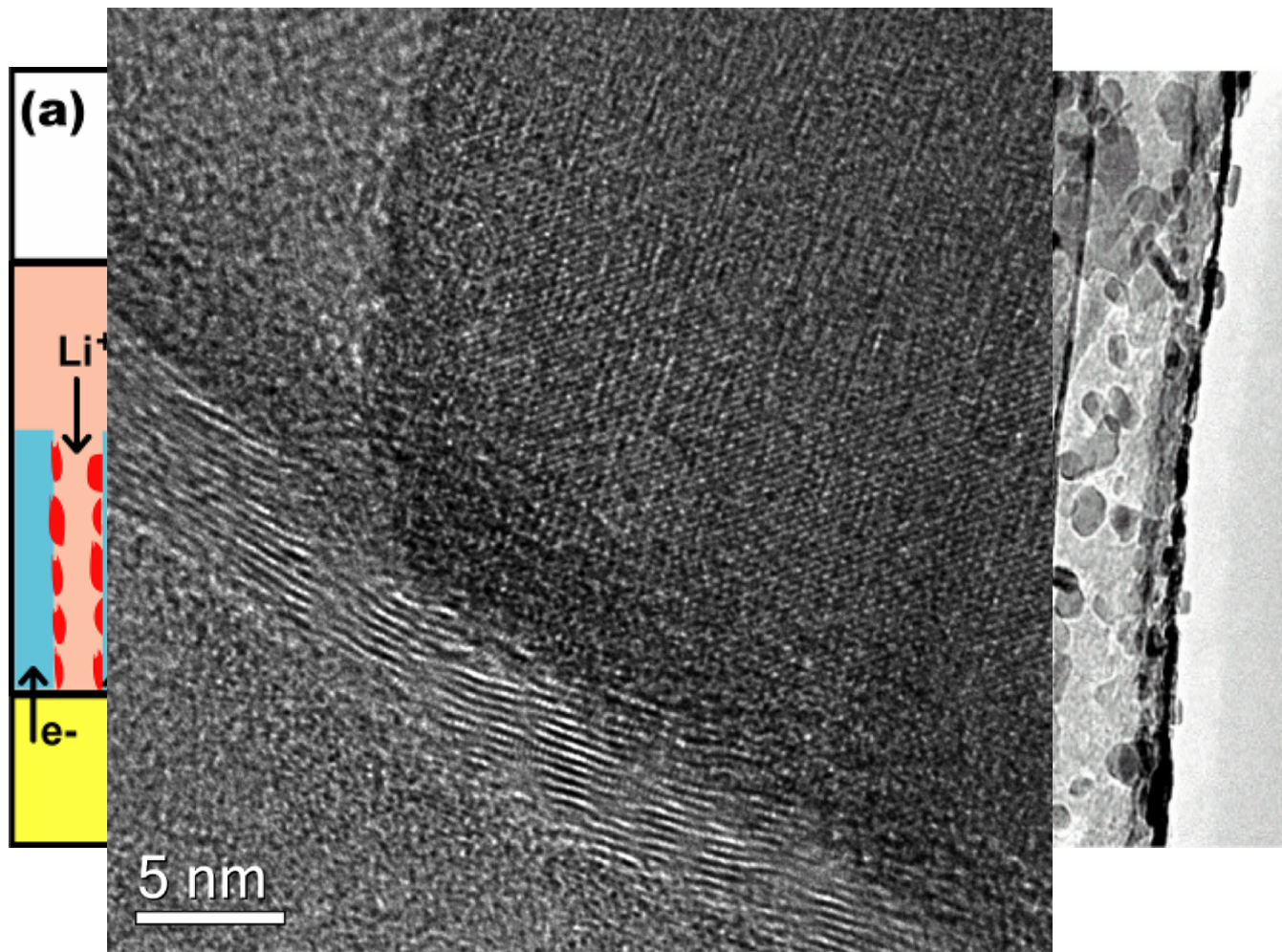
Steps for the selective decoration of the outer surface



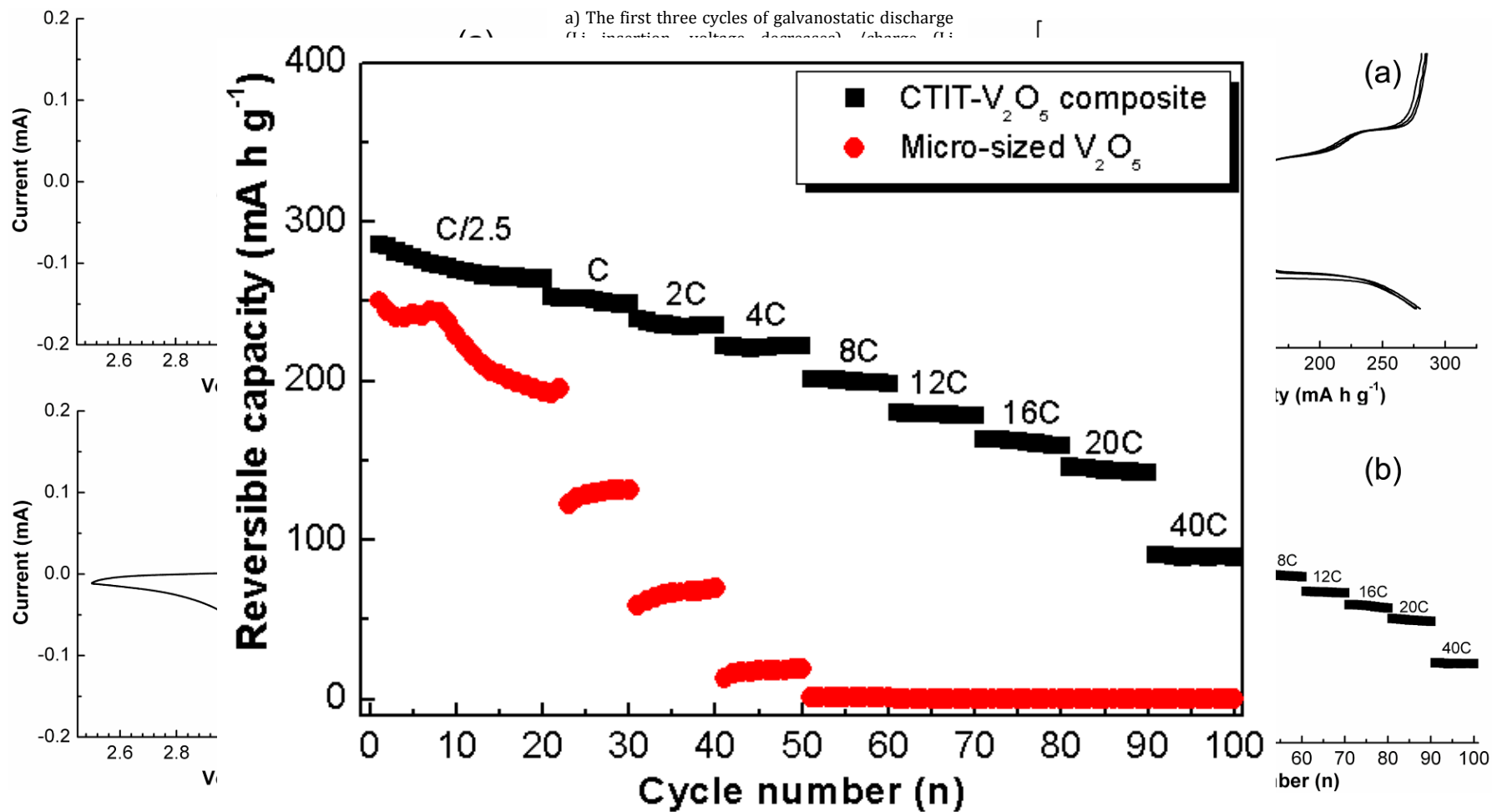
1. 250 mg of MWNT treated with HNO_3
2. Filling of the inner cavity with 1.4 ml n-C8 ($\gamma = 21 \text{ mN.m}^{-1}$ and **low miscibility with water**)
3. Impregnation with 1 ml of an aqueous solution containing metal-salt (final loading: 1 wt.%)
4. Drying, calcination. Metal oxide nano particles are **only outside**.



Control of localization with CNT



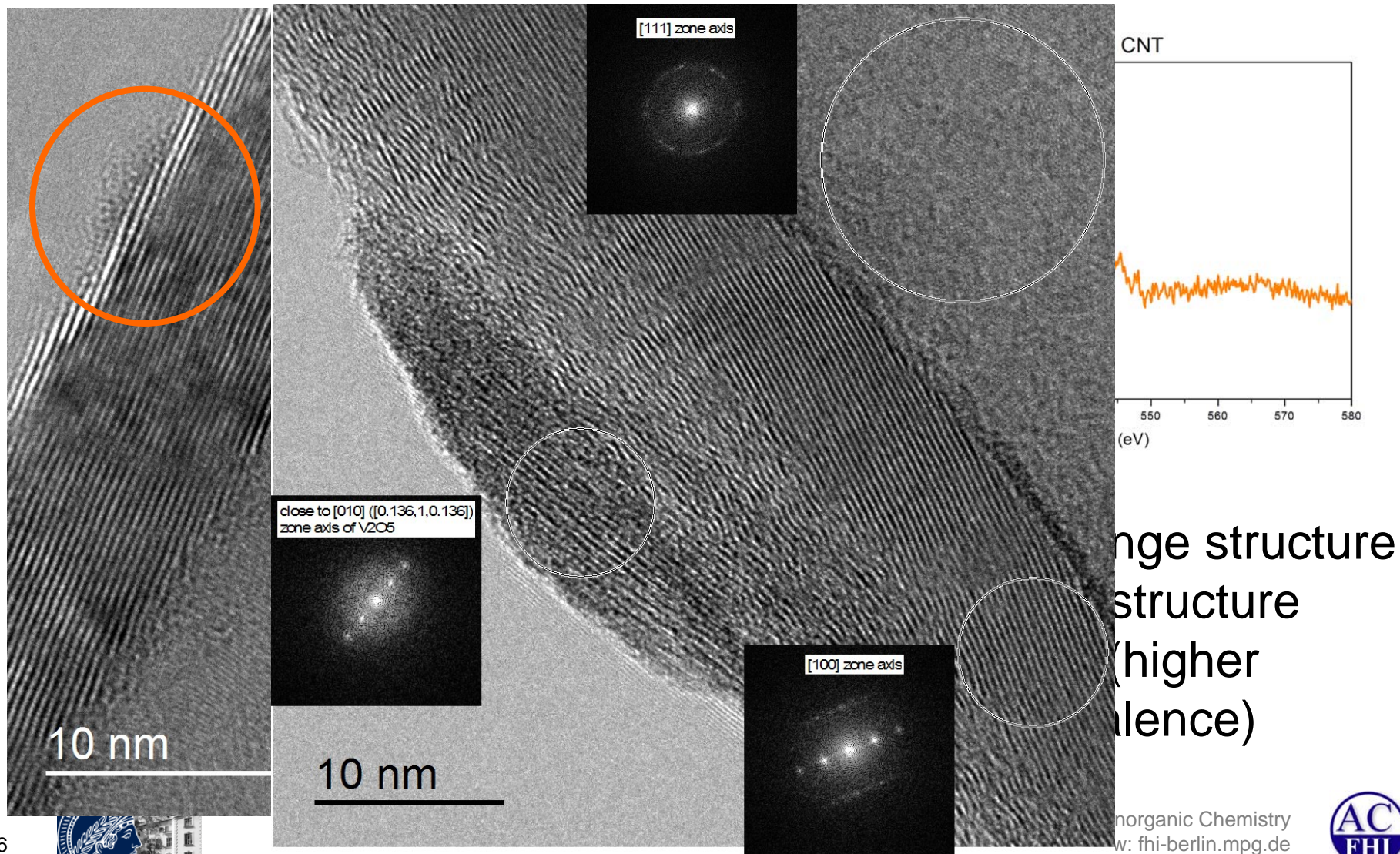
Cathode in Li storage



Cyclic voltammograms of a) the V_2O_5 /CTIT nanocomposite and b) micro-sized V_2O_5 at a scan rate of 0.1 mV/s.



Nano clusters



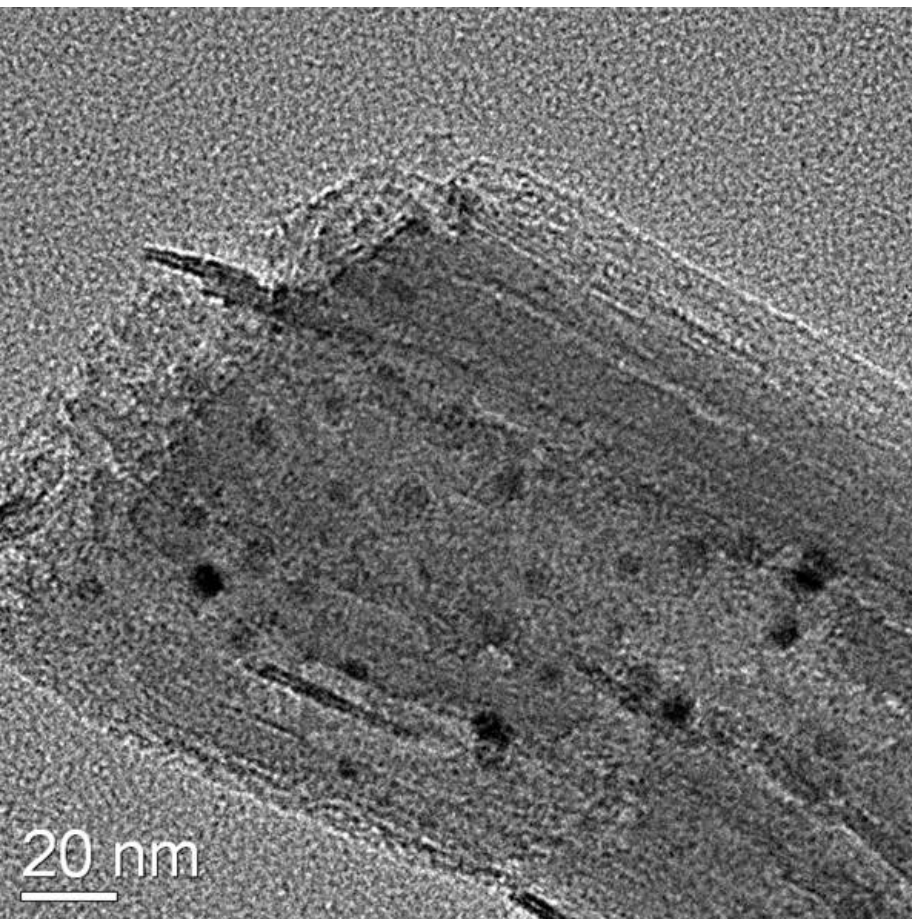
Nanocarbons represent an attractive family of catalytic materials: metal-free and as supports



Thank You

Application: Synthesis of Carbon Nanocomposite

0.5%Co@CNTs



CNFs@CNTs

