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# **KOHLENSTOFF ALS KATALYSATOR / KOHLENSTOFF ALS TRÄGER – UNTERSCHIEDLICHE BLICKE AUF HOCHDISPERSE SYSTEME**





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# FUNDAMENTALS



# The function of a catalyst: The single crystal approach

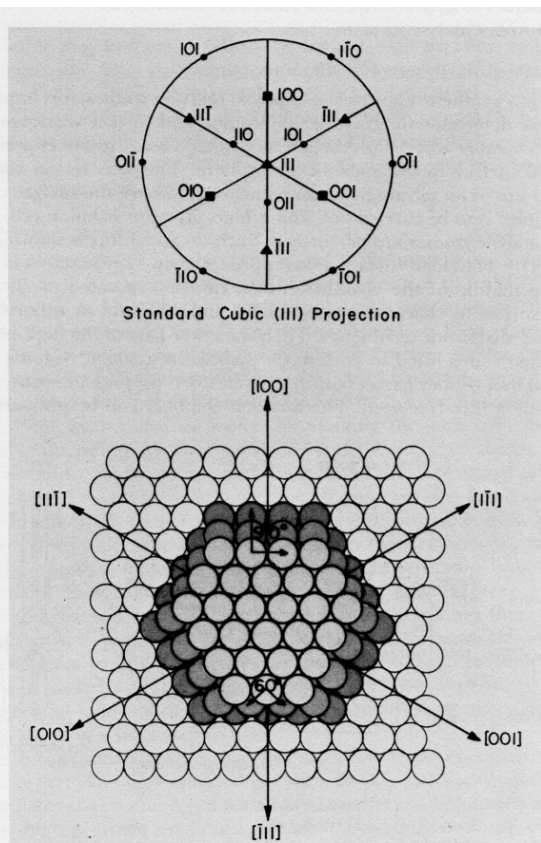
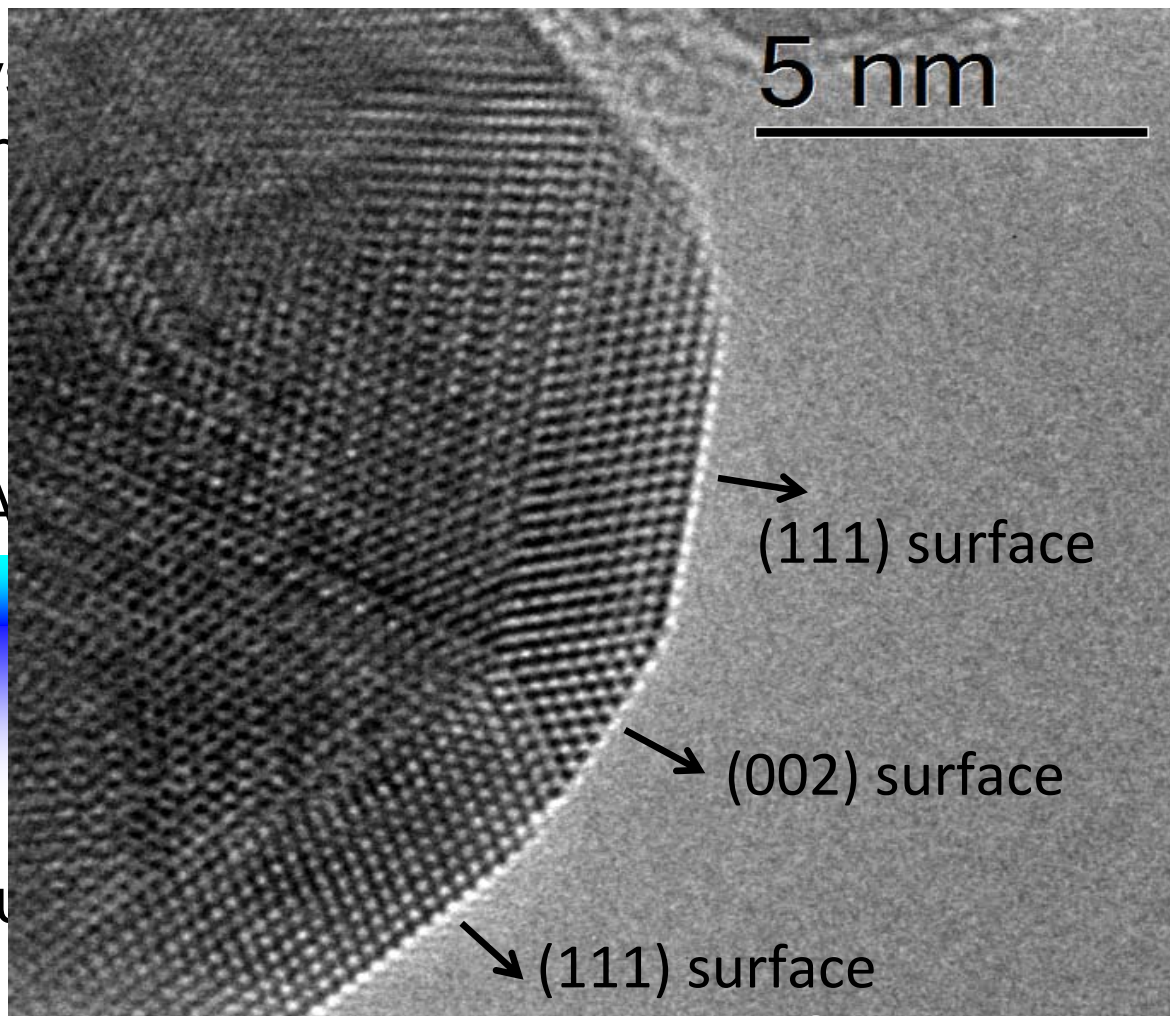


Figure 8.9. Catalyst particle viewed as a crystallite, composed of well-defined atomic planes.



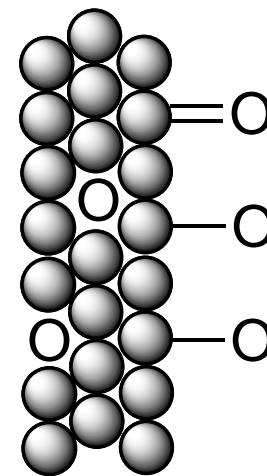
Bulk is "irrelevant",

Reactivity?



# Di-oxygen as oxidant

- Atomic chemisorbed oxygen (created typically in UHV) is amphoteric in redox properties: at “virtual pressure” → sub-surface
- Sub-surface oxygen is not reactive but
  - Polarizes the surface for adsorption
  - Restructures the surface by incorporation (autocatalytic)
  - Segregates to the surface as **O nucleo**
  - Polarizes atomic oxygen into **O electro**
- **Electrophilic oxygen**
  - Oxidizes functional substrates (CO, olefines)
  - Creates all oxygenate organic molecules
- **Nucleophilic oxygen**
  - Activates C-H bonds into functional substrates
  - Creates basicity and binds water (OH)

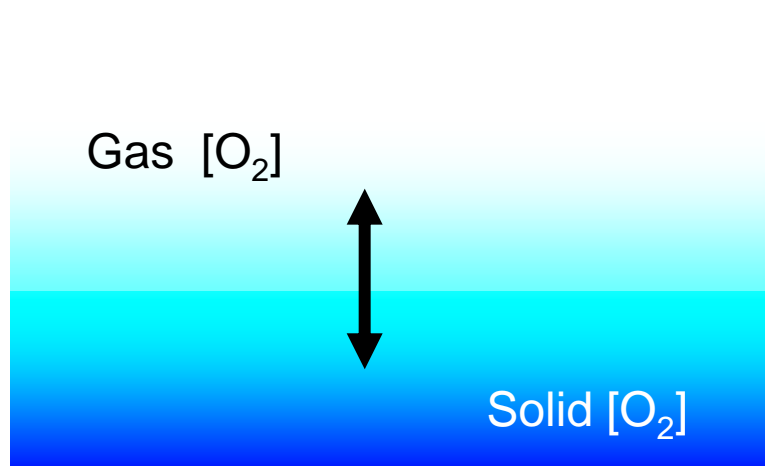


With metals



# Need for novel materials

traditional

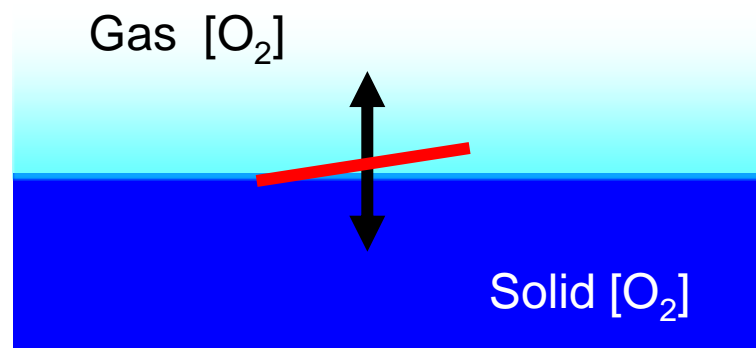


cat structure controlled by  $[\square O_2]$  gas

Examples:

VPO  
MoVTe  
Ag, Cu, Pd

new



cat structure independent of  $[O_2]$   
cat metastable, surface controlled  
by bulk

Example:

nanocarbon



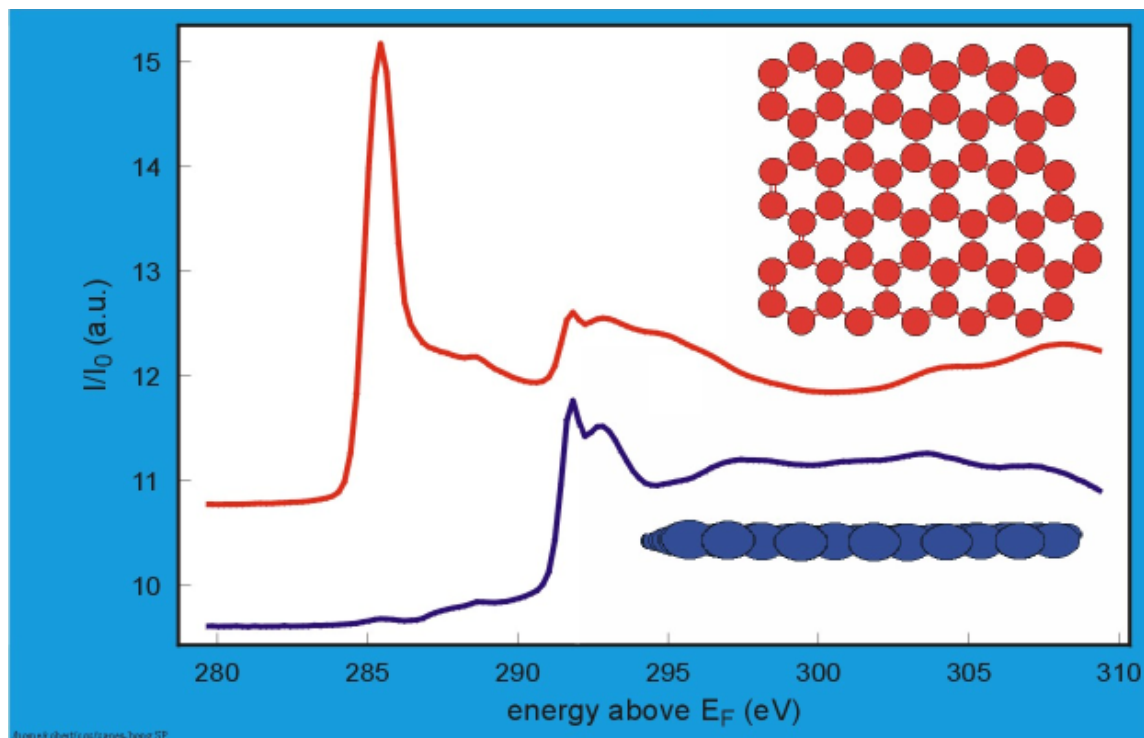
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# Some Facts about “Carbon”





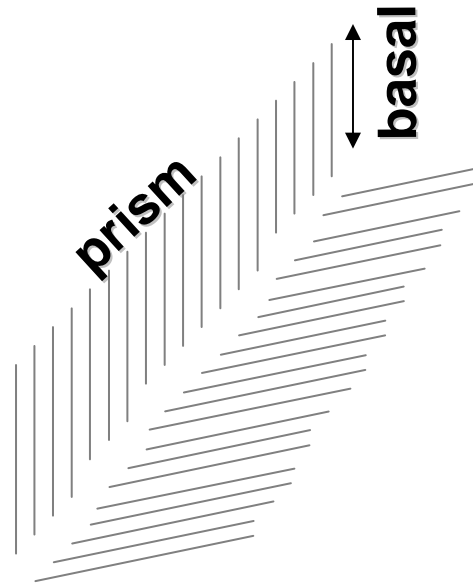
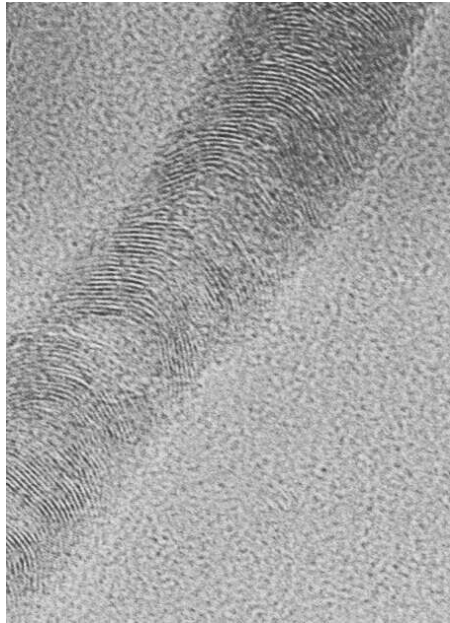
# Anisotropy



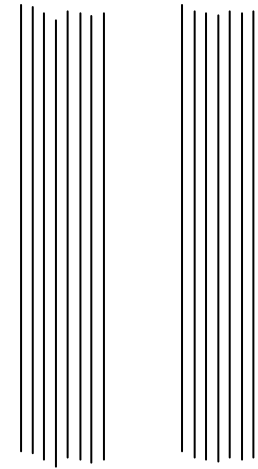
There is no other material than graphitic carbon showing such pronounced electronic structural anisotropy resulting from the anisotropy of the  $sp^2$  bonding: only the (blue) prism face is reactive, the (red) basal plane is inert



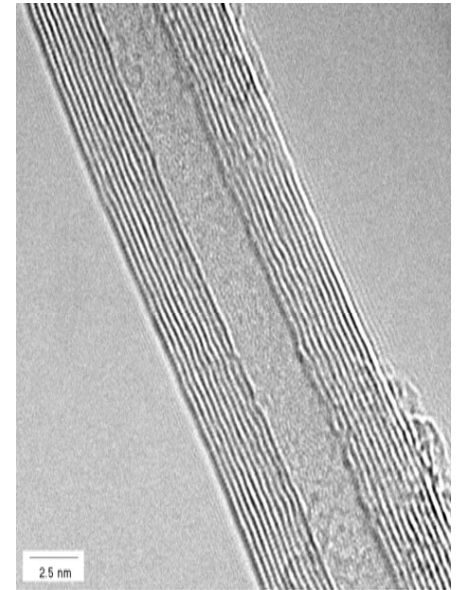
# Nanostructured anisotropy



**herring  
bone  
CNF**



**multiwall  
CNTs**



M = 1 083 000

Nanostructures allow flexibility in controlling anisotropy



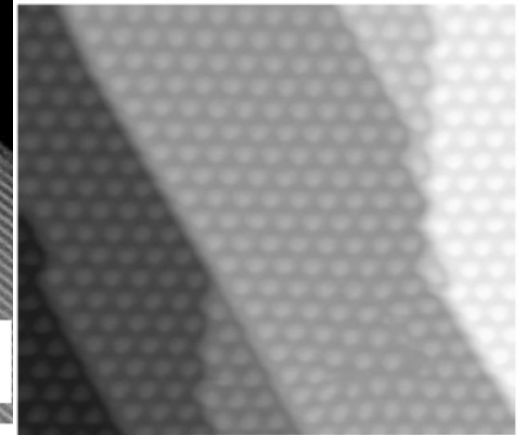
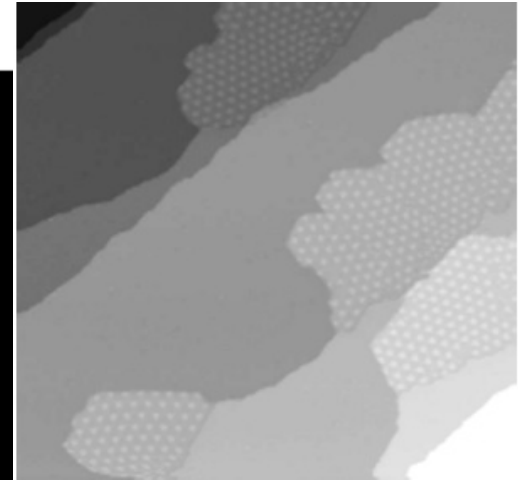
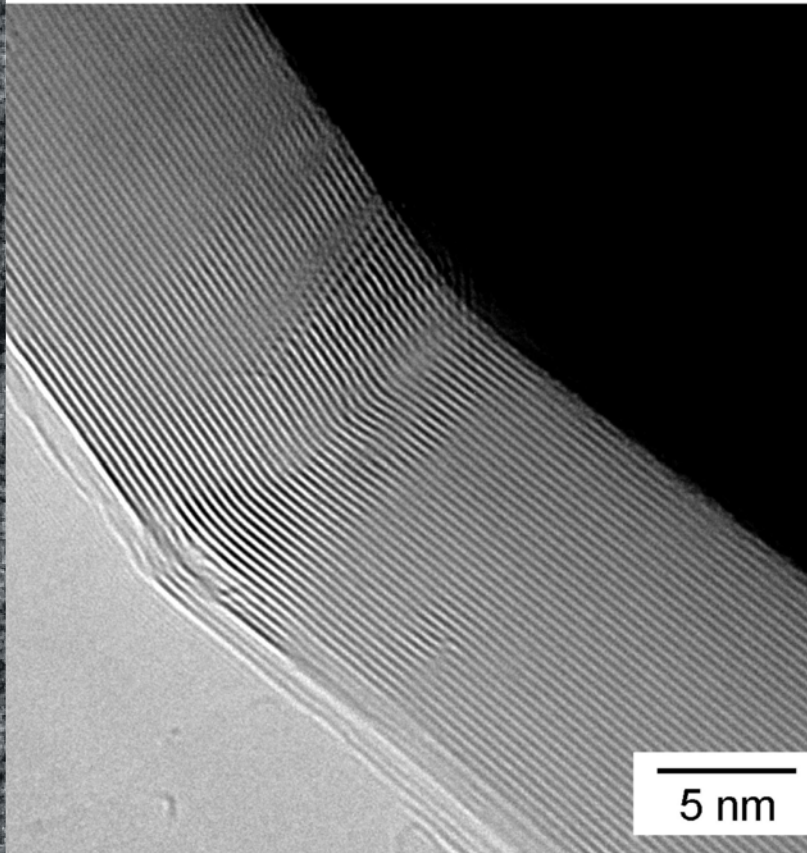
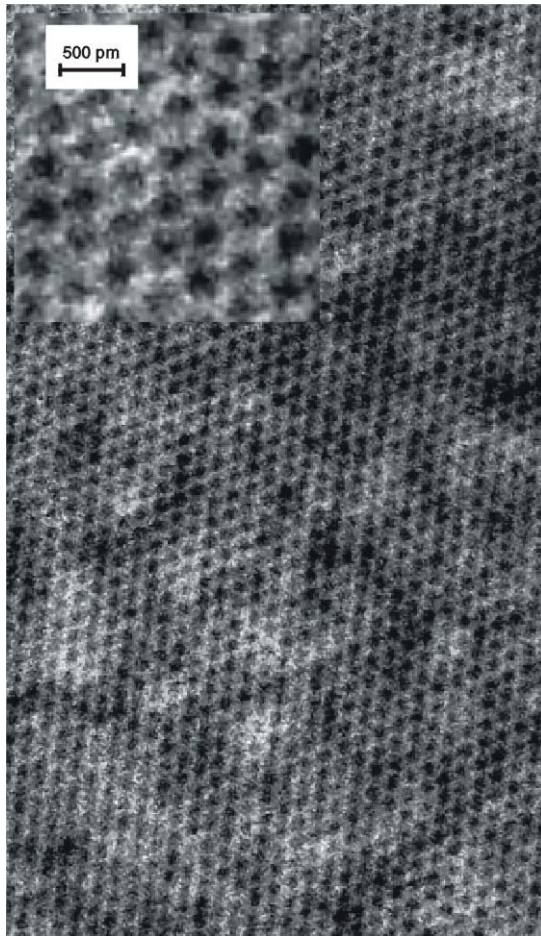
# Graphitic CNT with high surface area



Enhancement of  
surface area from  
16  $\text{m}^2/\text{g}$  to 347  $\text{m}^2/\text{g}$



# Graphene



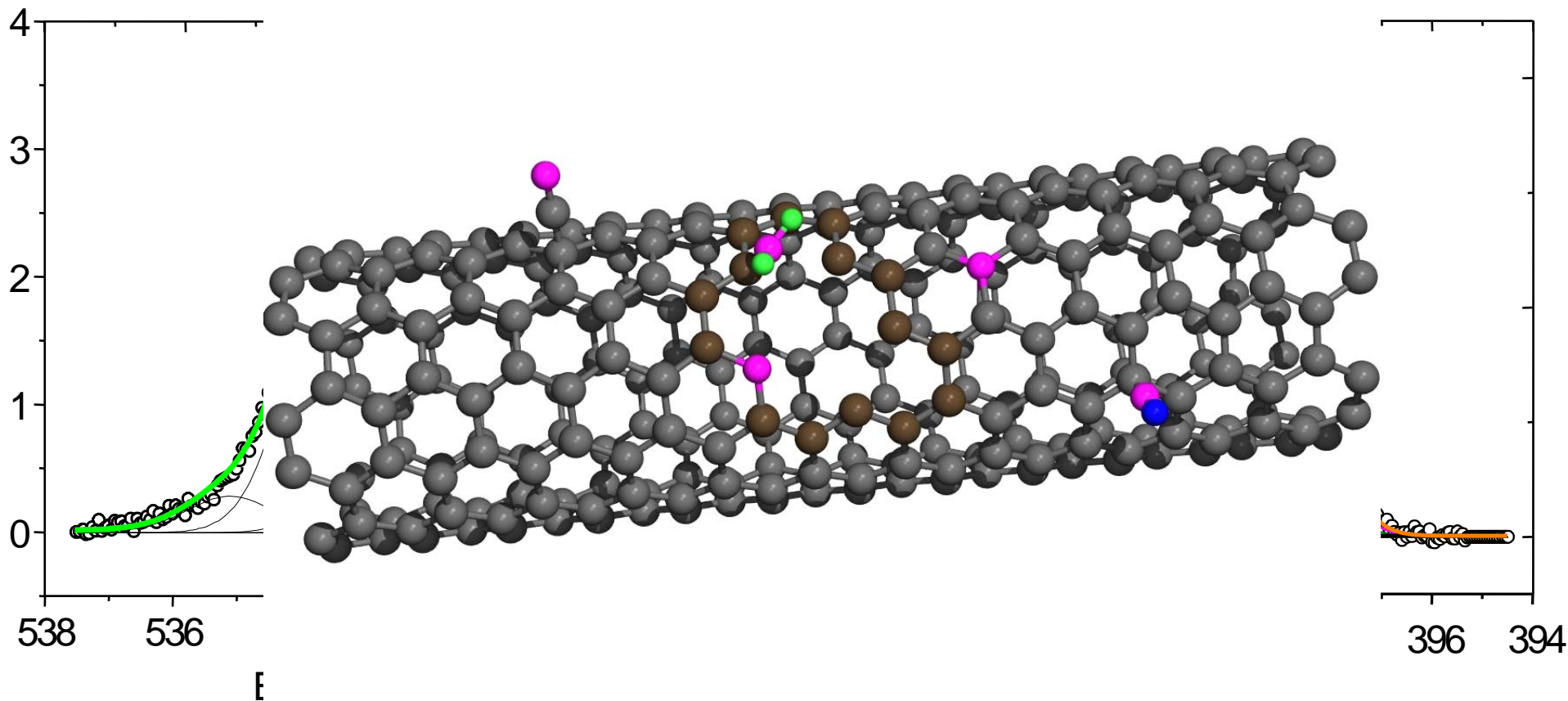
100 x 100 nm

Winterlin et al, PRB, 76, 2007

Department of Inorganic Chemistry  
www: fhi-berlin.mpg.de



# Surface functional groups



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# Carbon as Catalyst

## metal-free heterogeneous catalysis



# Concept: carbon as oxidation catalyst

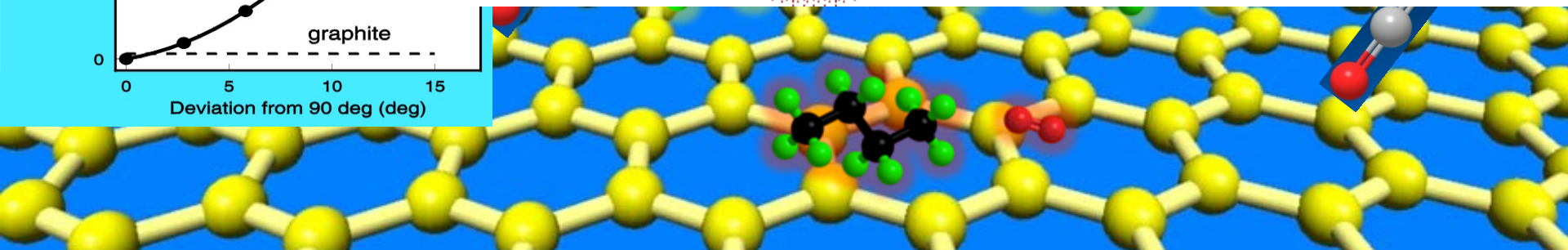
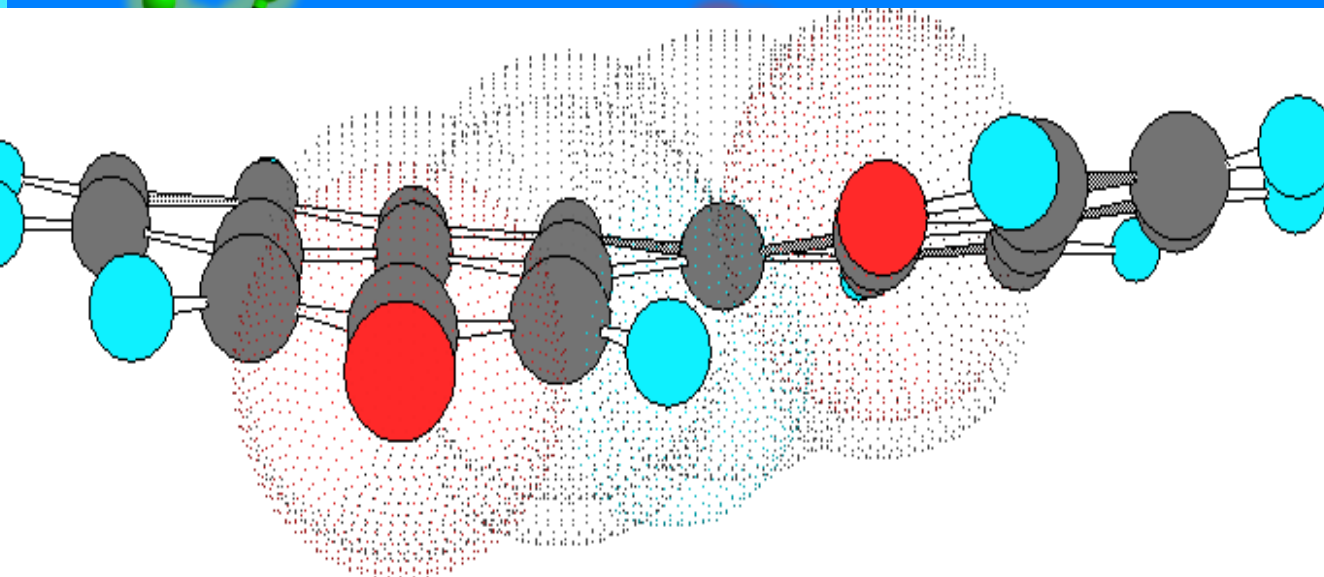
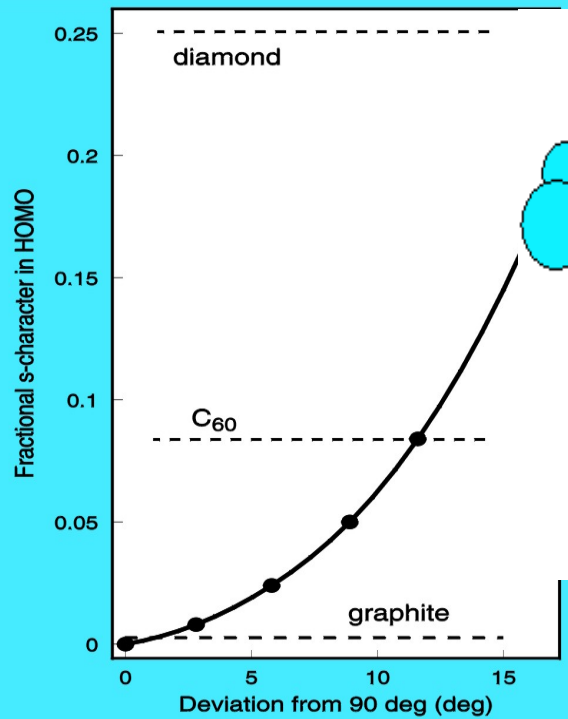
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- Advantage over metals and oxides: only required oxygen present: selectivity control
- Design
  - Avoid burning of surface by suitable ordering of the oxygen-activating surface.
  - Create terminations for bonding covalently oxygen species (acid-base-functions).
  - Bend the surface to control bond localization and to tune C-O interaction.
  - Assume that oxygen sites can activate additional oxygen (catalytically active).
- Defects become essential.



# Insufficient electronic localization at elevated temperature

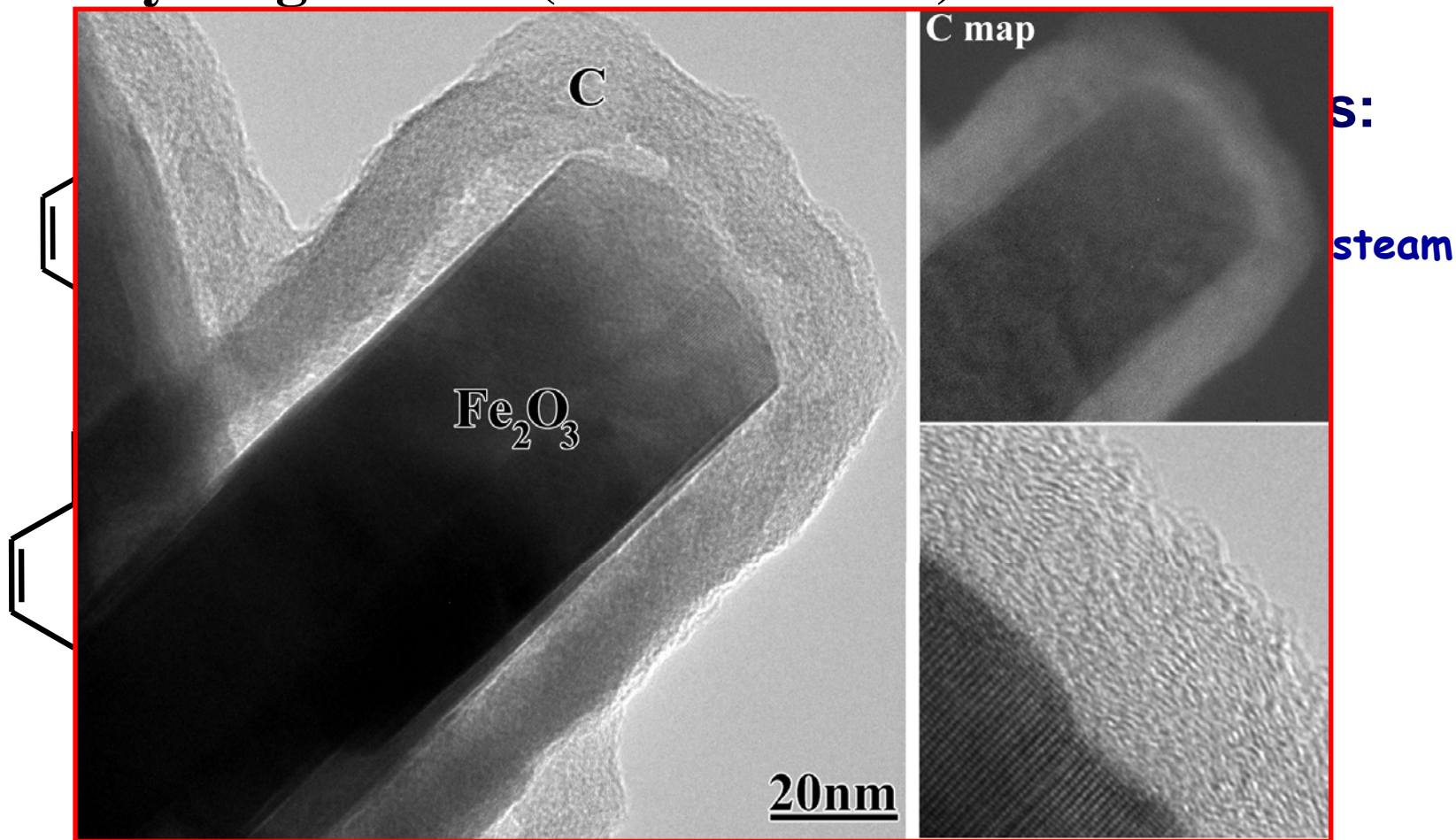
Forced localization by bending the graphene: CNT/CNF



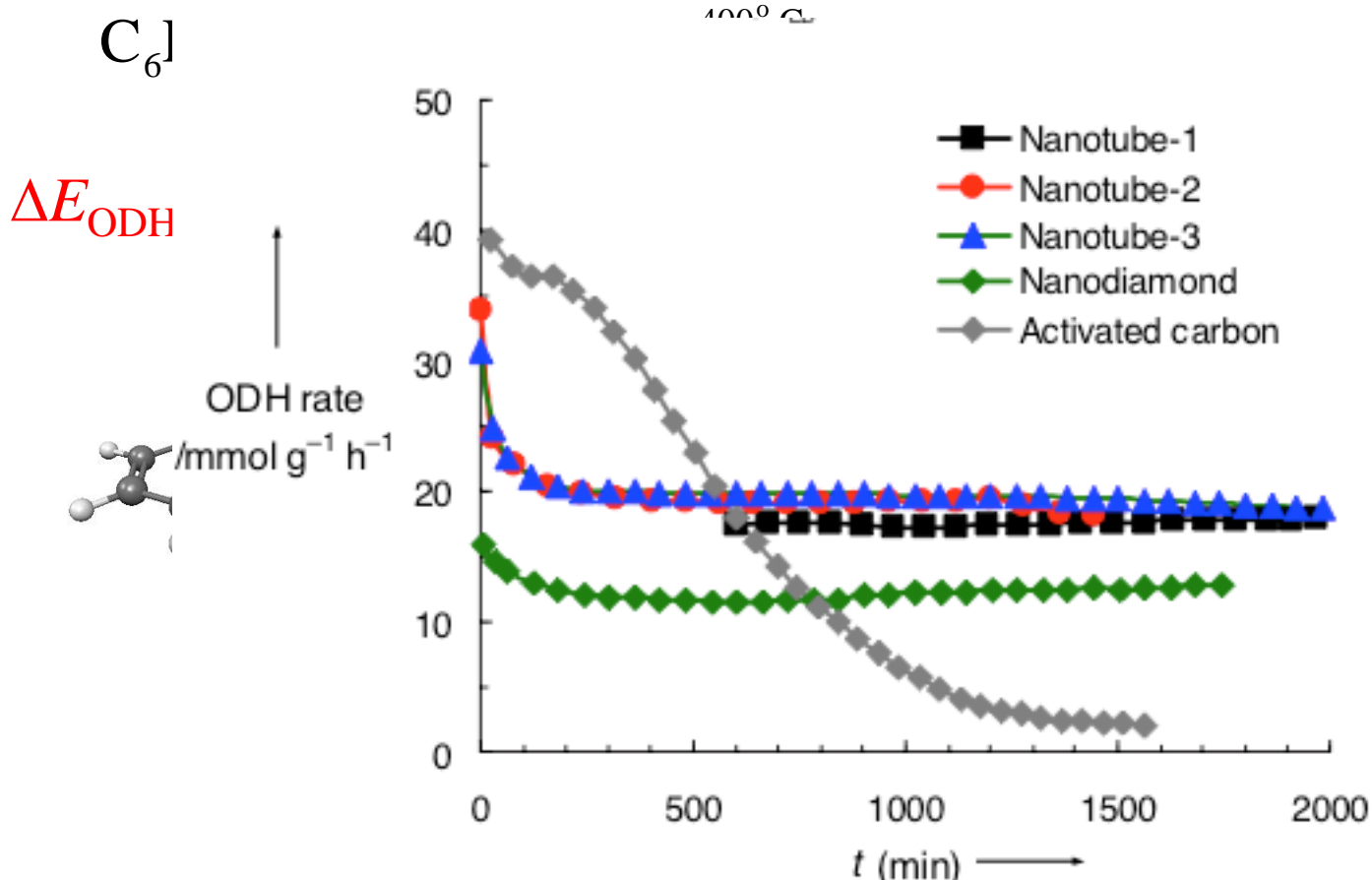


# Styrene synthesis from Ethylbenzene

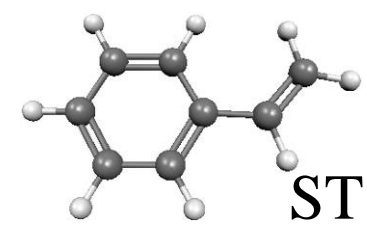
## Dehydrogenation (non oxidative)



# How it may work

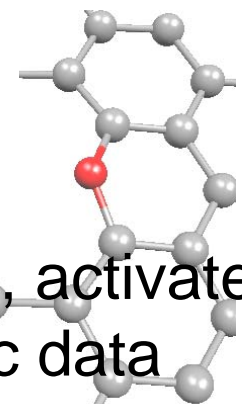


·124 kJ/mol



$\Delta E_{H_2O} = -1.92\ eV$

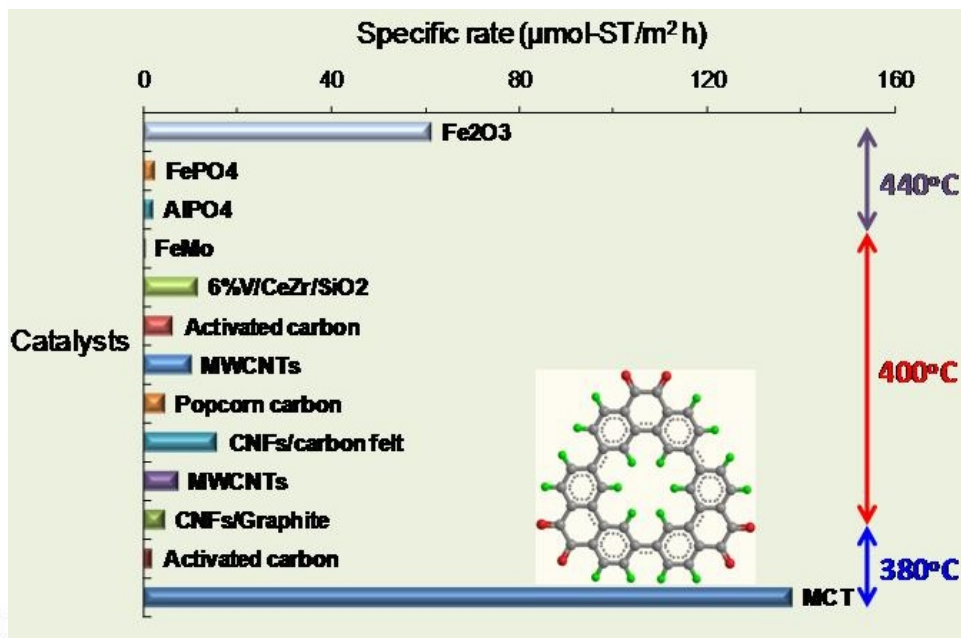
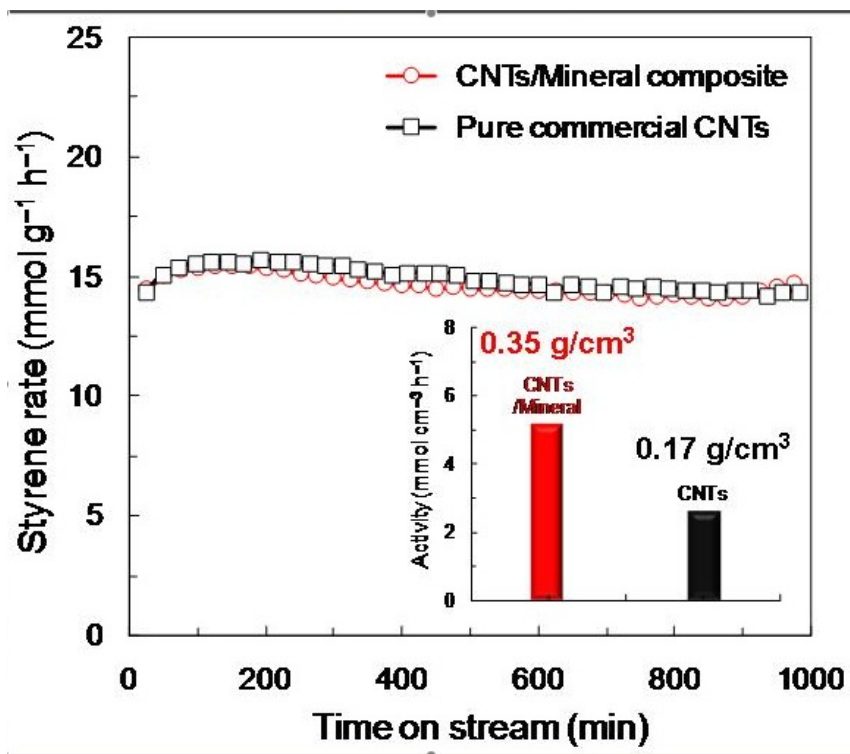
intermediate



At 673 K and O<sub>2</sub>:EB 1:1 clear stability of nanoC, activated carbon is instable, hence unreliable kinetic data



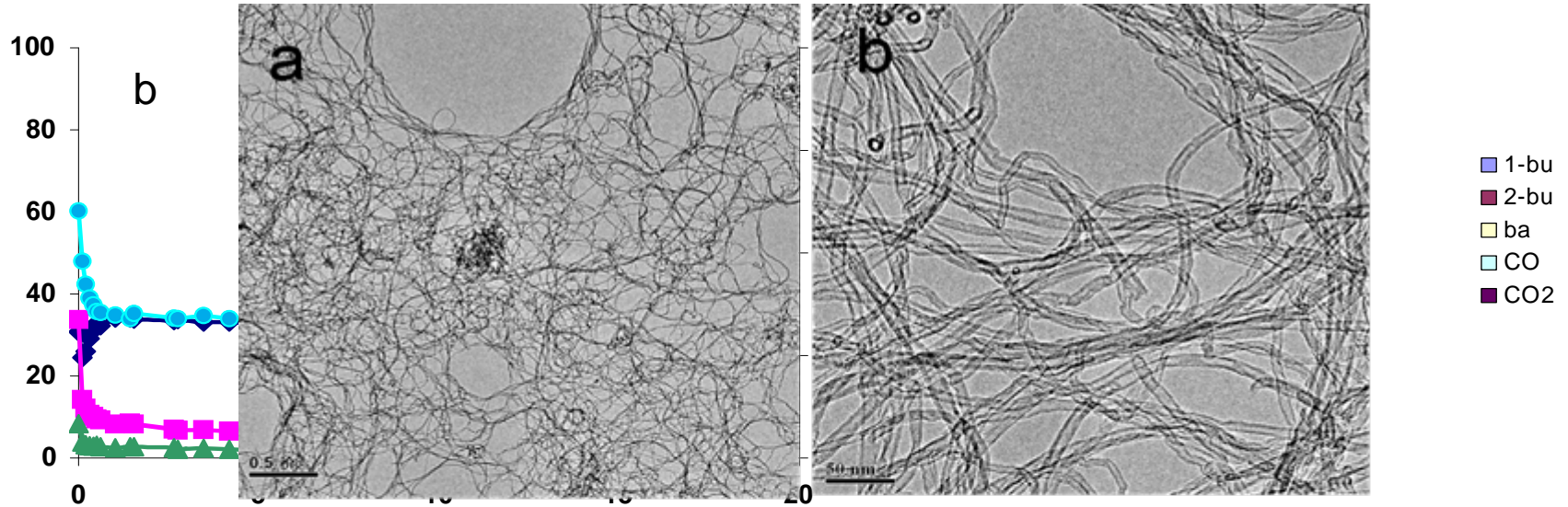
# Variants: Immobilized, molecular



Collab: FHI TH, MPI Mainz, FHI AC

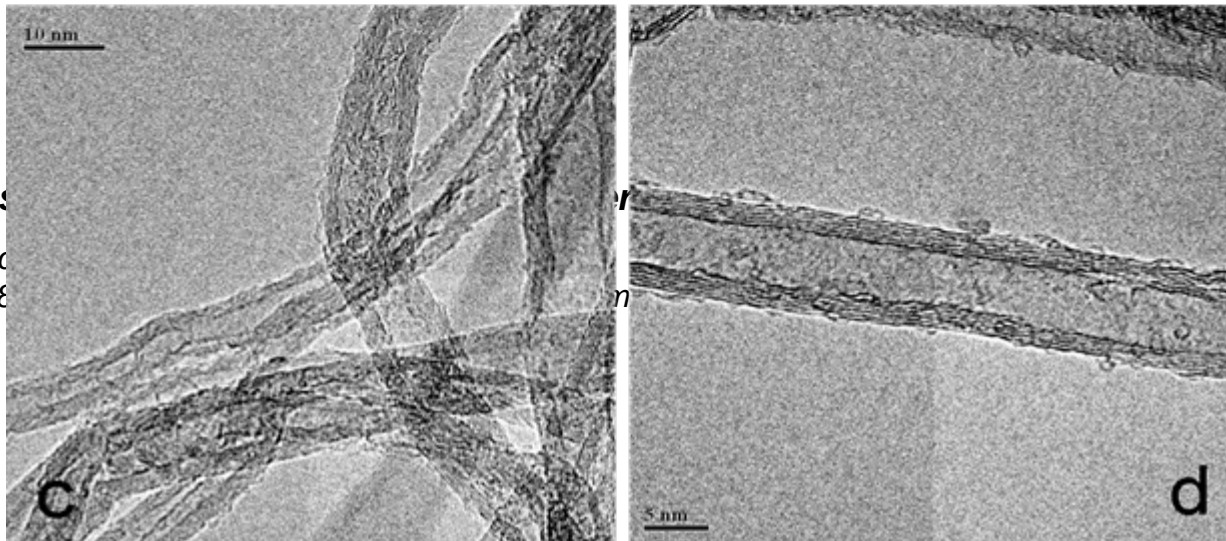


# Butane ODH: another challenge

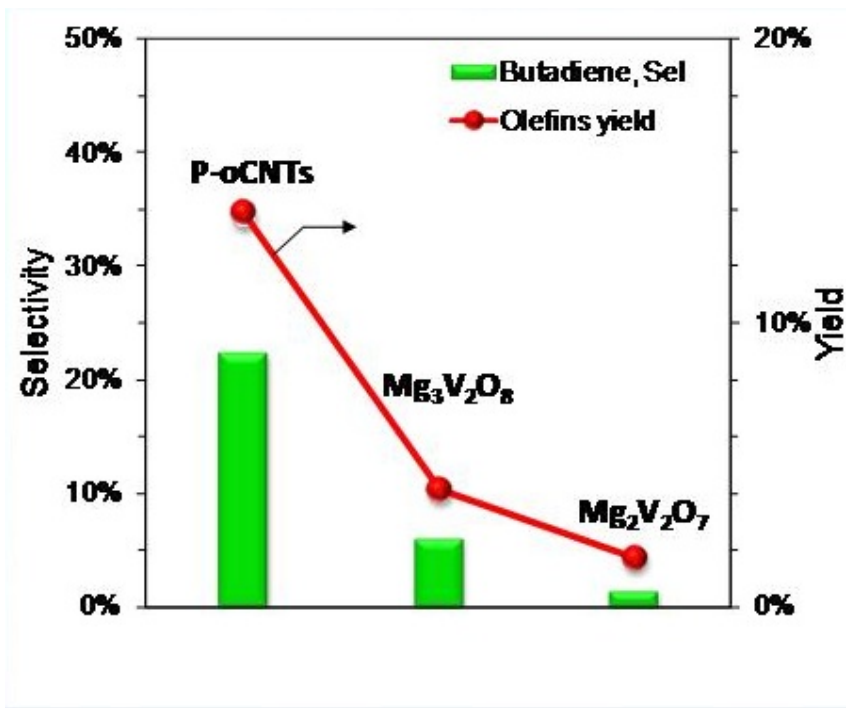


## Homogeneous

SN3833: pristine nanocatalyst  
Reaction conditions: 180 °C, 1 bar



# Improvement by tuning surface properties



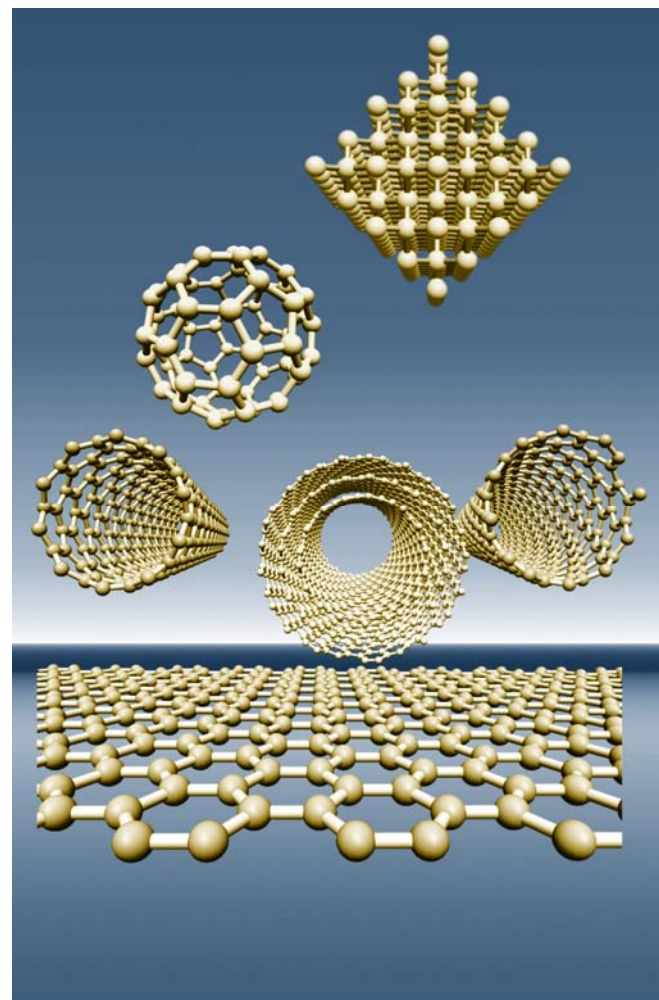
SN 4505: 5wt%P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> loading oxidized nanocyl CNTs  
 reaction conditions: 180mg, 1.32%O<sub>2</sub>, O<sub>2</sub>:C<sub>4</sub>=0.5, 10ml/min, 450 °C

	SN4505	5%FePO <sub>4</sub> /nanocyl (4517)	Palmshell AC
Bu Conv (%)	19	15	16
C <sub>4</sub> Selec(%)	59	41	46



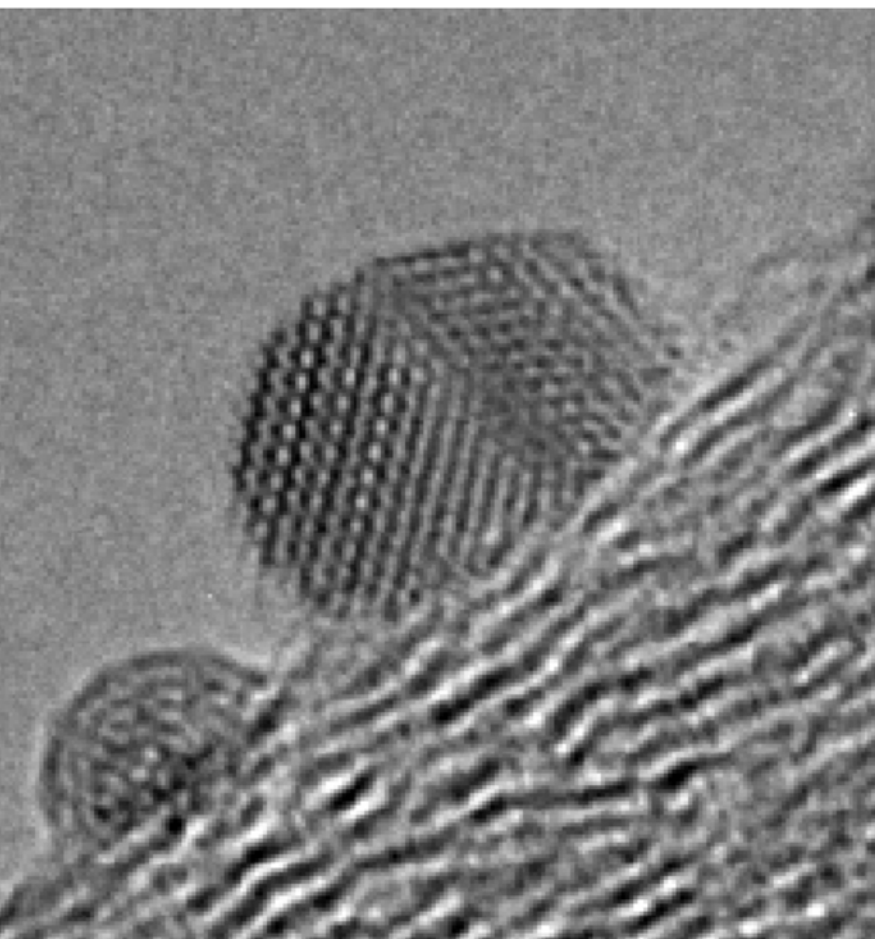
# Conclusion

- The control of carbon nanostructure is now possible to a sufficient extent for directed experimentation.
- Nitrogen functionalisation and organic grafting reactions together with improved metal deposition processes lead to the **synthesis** of functional materials (not “preparation”).
- The concept of “true surface catalysis” without sub-surface chemistry was demonstrated for selective oxidation:
- EB, butane and propane were activated with promising results.
- Bulk quantities of catalysts available.



# Liquid phase oxidation of benzyl alcohol:

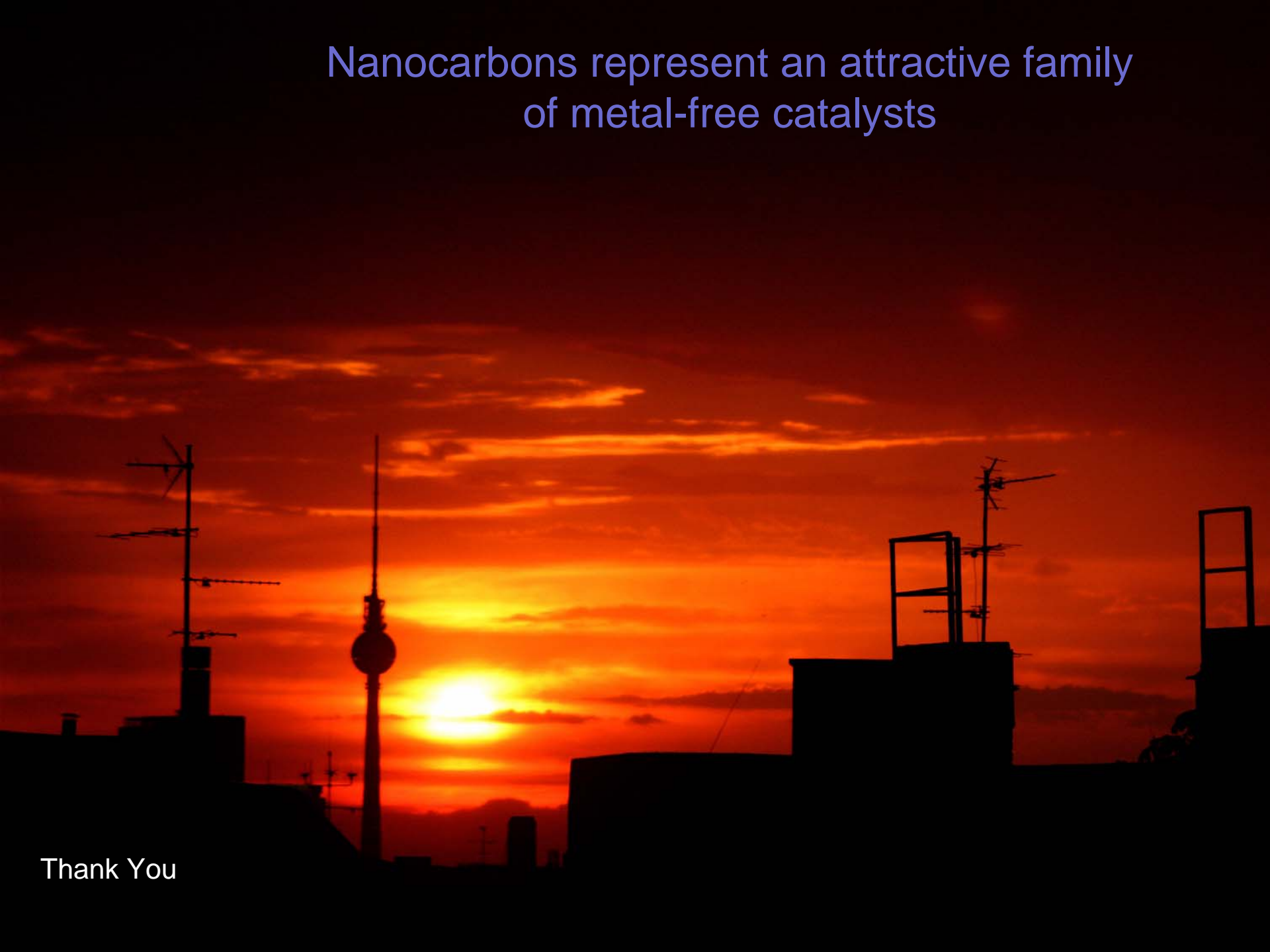
## hydrothermal stability



Catalyst	Conversion	Selectivity benzaldehyde
Pd@Au AC X40S	30	>99
Pd@Au PR-24	5	>99
Pd@Au PR-24 ox 4430	29	>99
Pd@Au [N-PR-24 (4441)]	59	>99
Pd@Au baytubes	68	>99
Pd@Au [baytubes ox (5028)]	67	98
Pd@Au [N-baytubes (5027)]	87 (30 min) 99	96 92
Pd@Au [N-baytubes (5053)]	57 (30 min) 99	>99

Nanocarbons represent an attractive family  
of metal-free catalysts

Thank You

A photograph of a city skyline at sunset. The sky is a vibrant orange and red, with the sun low on the horizon. Silhouetted against the bright sky are various structures, including a tall tower with a spherical top, several antennas, and rectangular frames on rooftops.



