



# Nanostructured Materials and Nanotechnology 2022-2023



[ermelinda.macoas@tecnico.lisboa.pt](mailto:ermelinda.macoas@tecnico.lisboa.pt)

# Carbon Nanomaterials

Img credit |  
<https://www.advancedsciencenews.com/carbon-nanomaterials-in-healthcare-video/>

# Content

1. Brief introduction to carbon nanomaterials
2. What is so special about carbon? Carbon hybridization
3. Fullerenes, 1<sup>st</sup> 0D carbon nanomaterial
4. Carbon nanotubes:

- SWNT, MWNT

- Chiral vector and characterization according to the electrical conductivity properties (metal and semi-conductor),

- Fabrication & purification methods

- Characterization techniques,

- Properties,

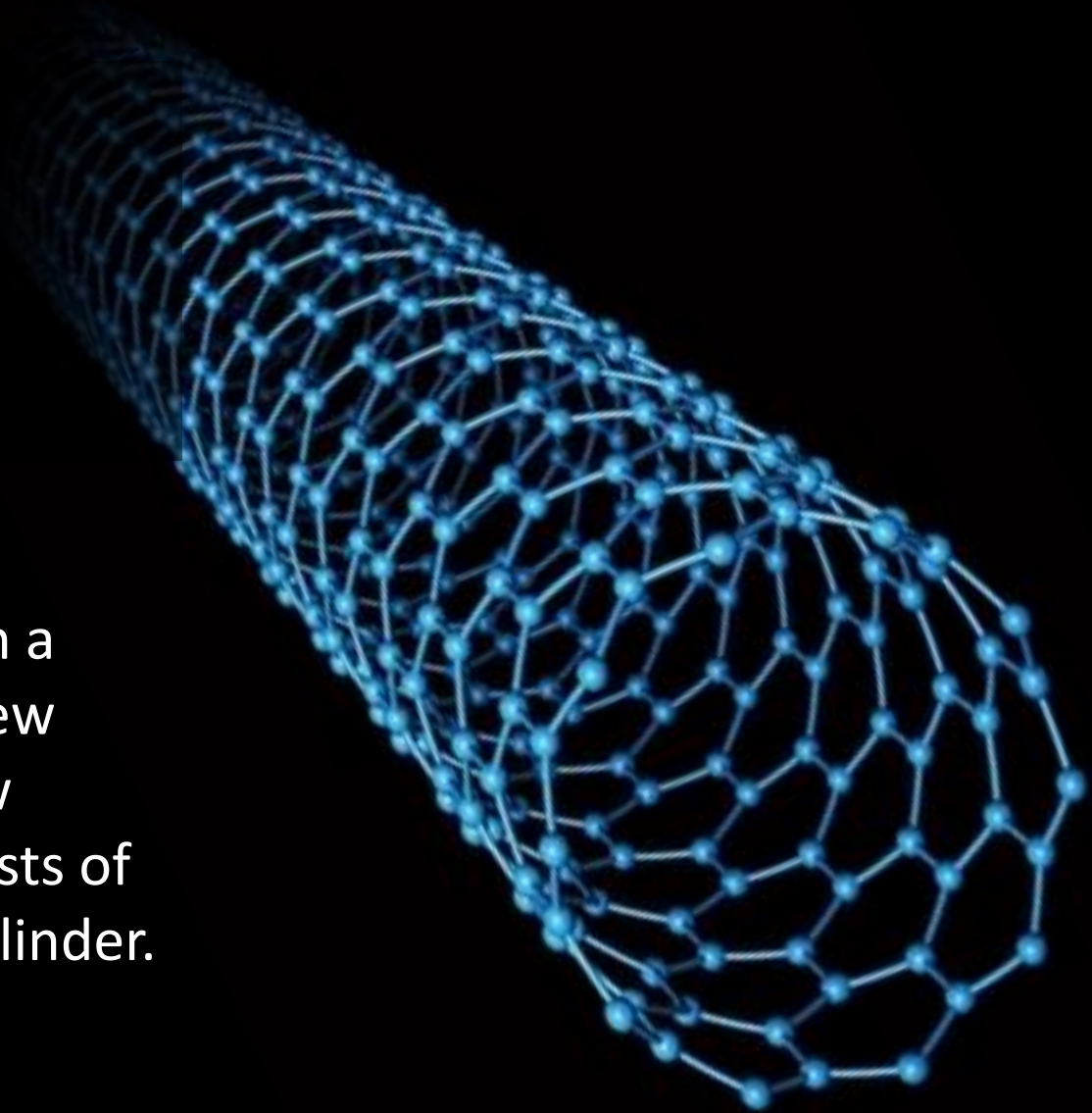
- Applications

- Market overview



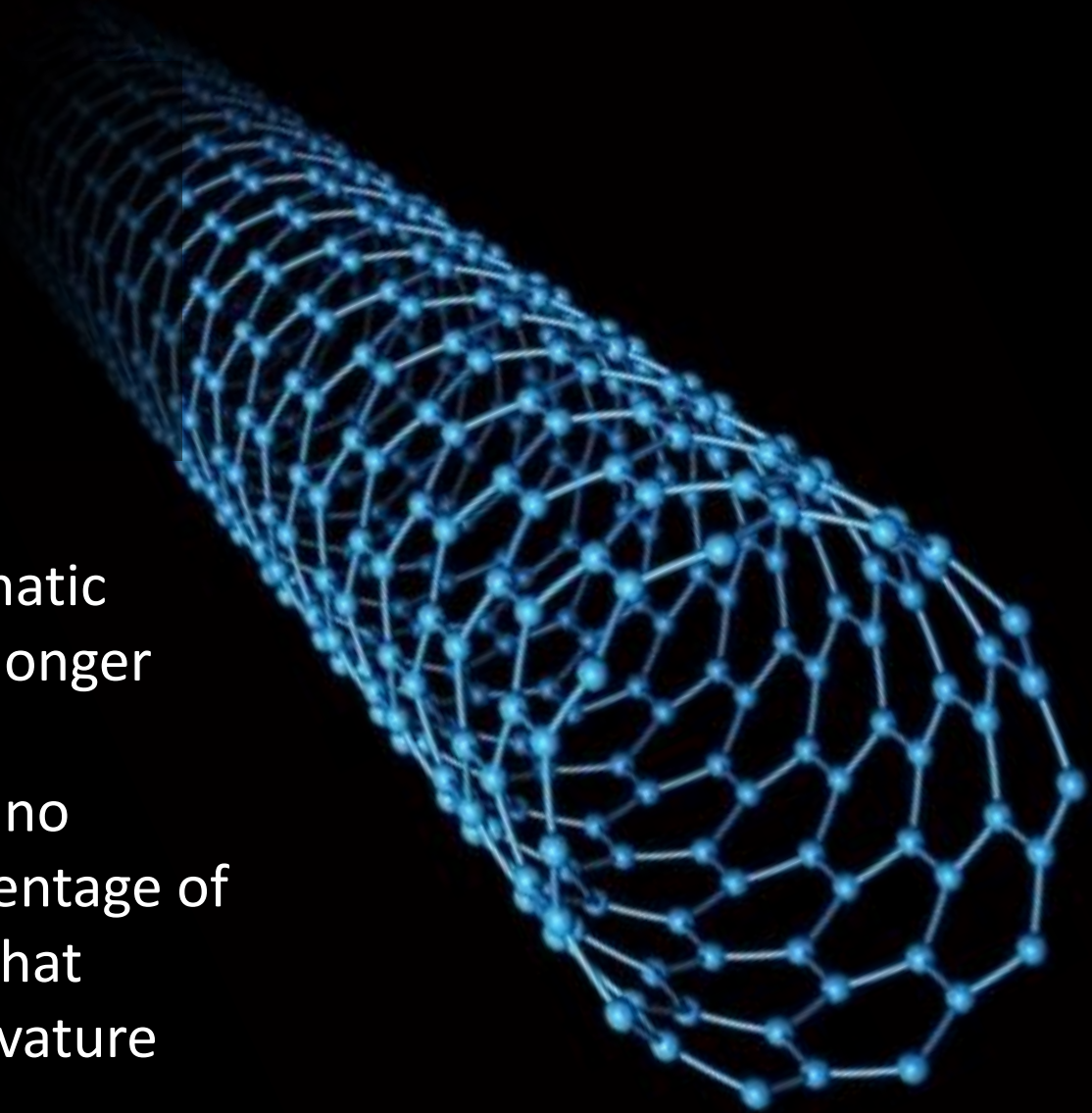
# Carbon NanoTubes

CNTs are cylindrical molecules with a diameter ranging from 1 nm to a few nanometers and length up to a few micrometers. Their structure consists of a graphite sheet wrapped into a cylinder.

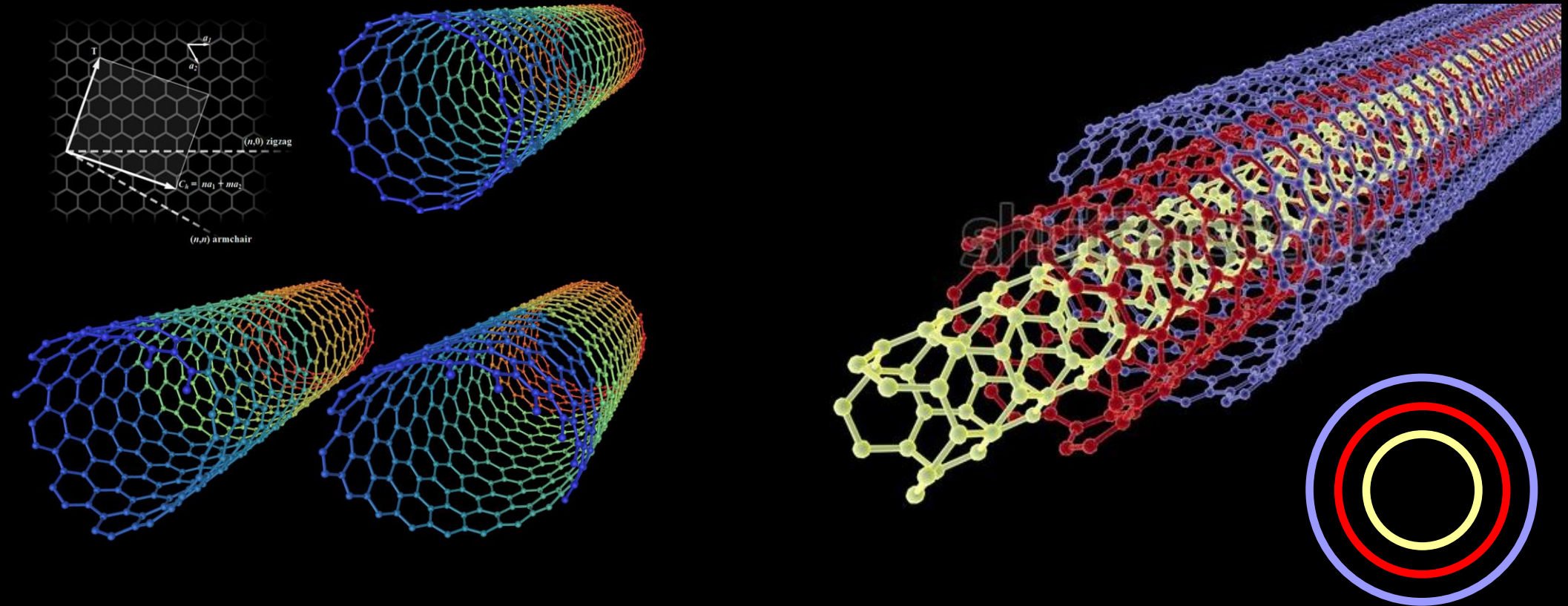


# Carbon NanoTubes

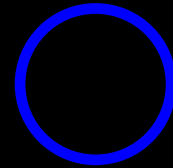
Carbon atoms are involved in aromatic rings, the C=C bond angles are no longer planar as they should ideally be. Hybridization of carbon atoms are no longer pure  $sp^2$  but get some percentage of the  $sp^3$  character, in a proportion that increases as the tube radius of curvature decreases



# Single Wall and Multiwall CNTs



- Controlled synthesis
- Poor purity
- More pliable



- One layer
- Diameter  $\sim 0.4 - 3$  nm

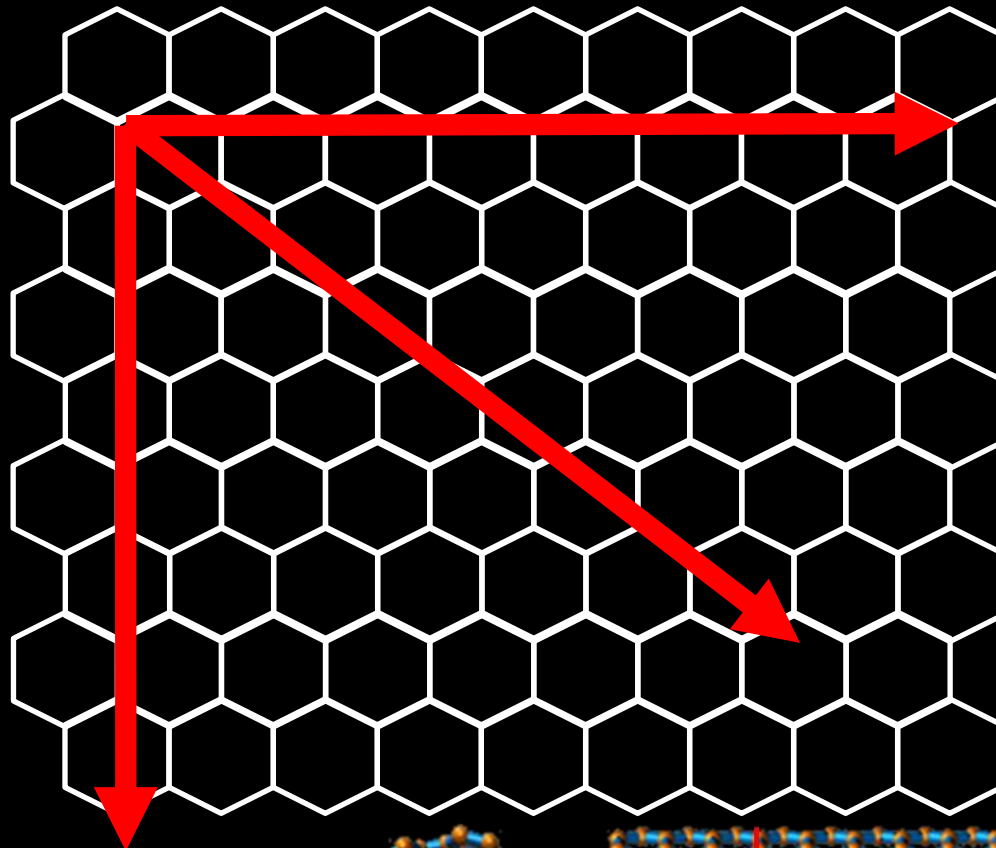
- Simple synthesis
- High purity
- More rigid

- Multiple layers
- Diameter  $\sim 3 - 100$  nm
- Inter-layer spacing  $0.35$  nm

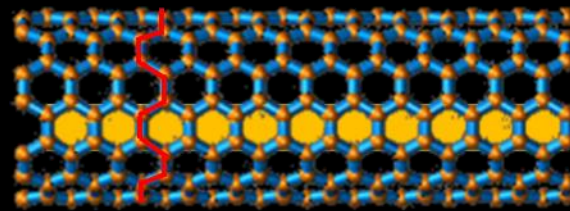
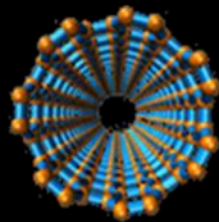


# SWNT

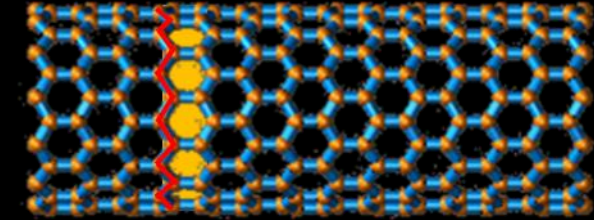
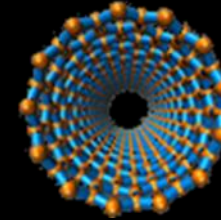
Properties depend on the orientation of the hexagonal network with respect to the nanotube long axis, a property known as chirality



Armchair  
metallic

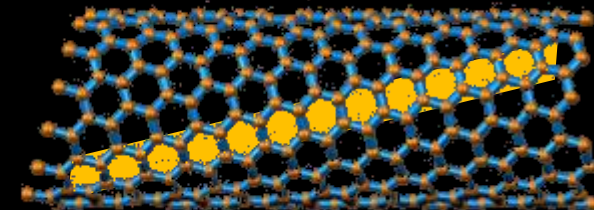
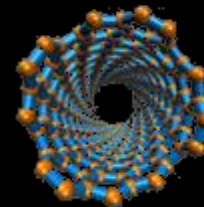


Zigzag  
semiconductors

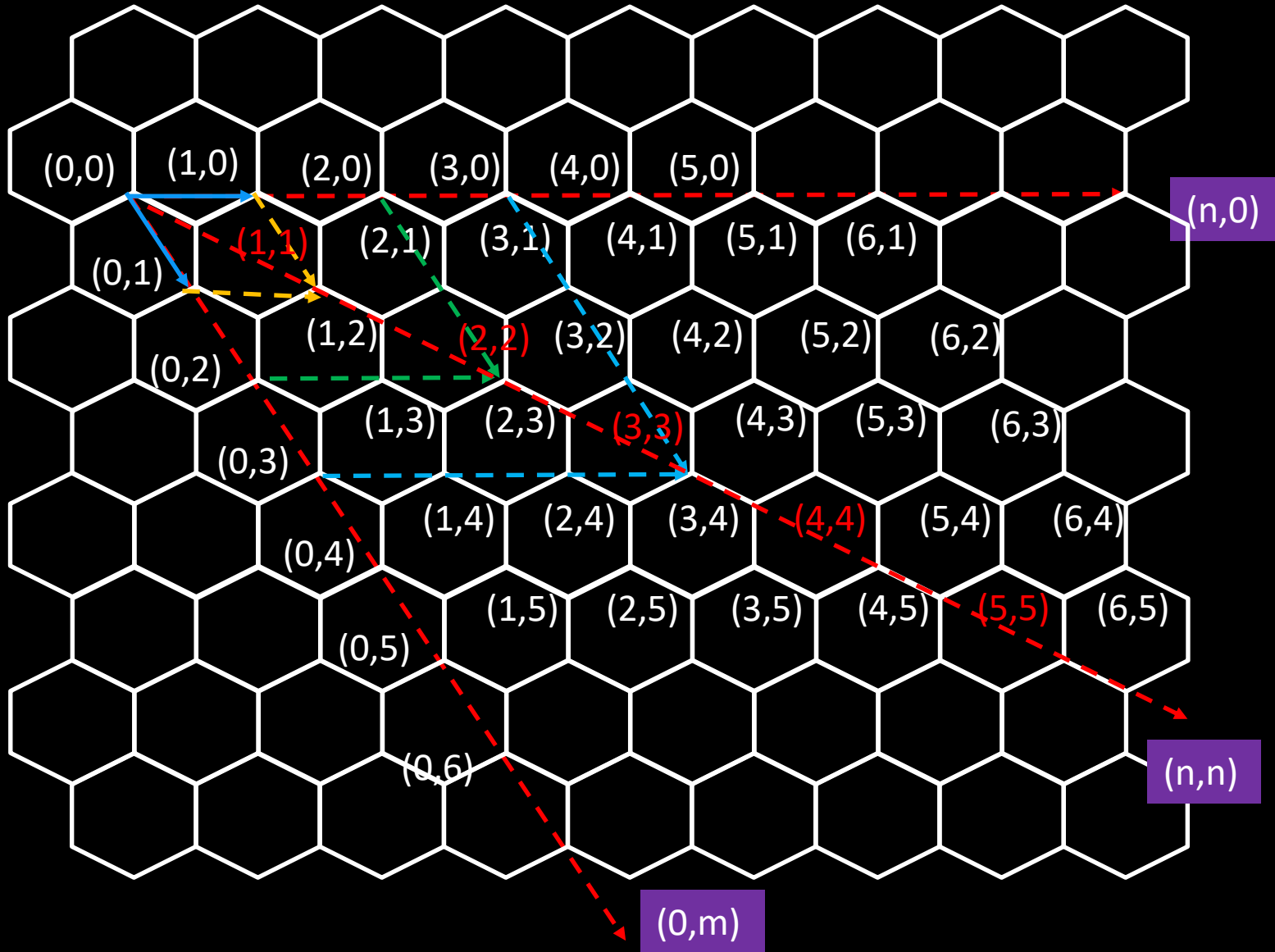


High current on/off  
High carrier mobility for  
FETs

chiral



Ballistic transport, ultrahigh current  
densities for interconnectors in  
circuits and conductive films



## Lattice vectors

$$a_1 = a_2 = a = 0.246 \text{ nm}$$

(a, lattice constant of graphite)

## Chiral Vector

Direction for rolling the sheet so that the origin of the vector coincides with the end point

$$\mathbf{Ch} = n \mathbf{a}_1 + m \mathbf{a}_2$$

## Nanotube diameter

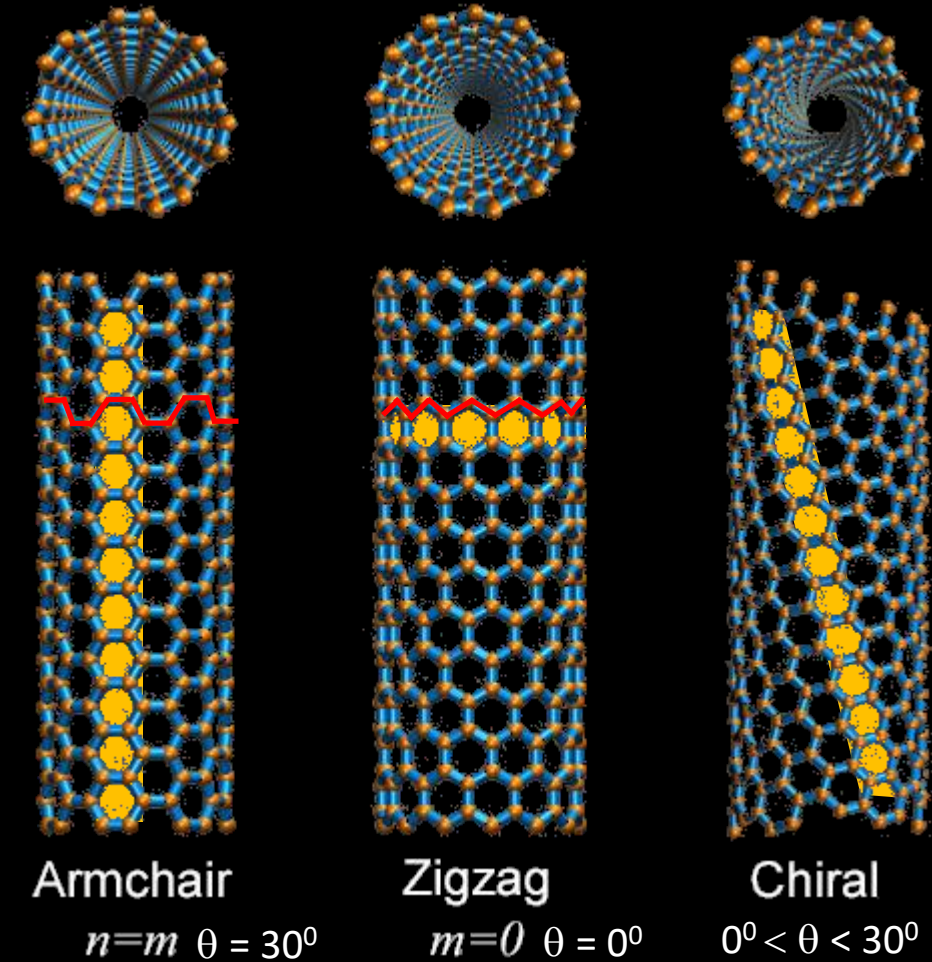
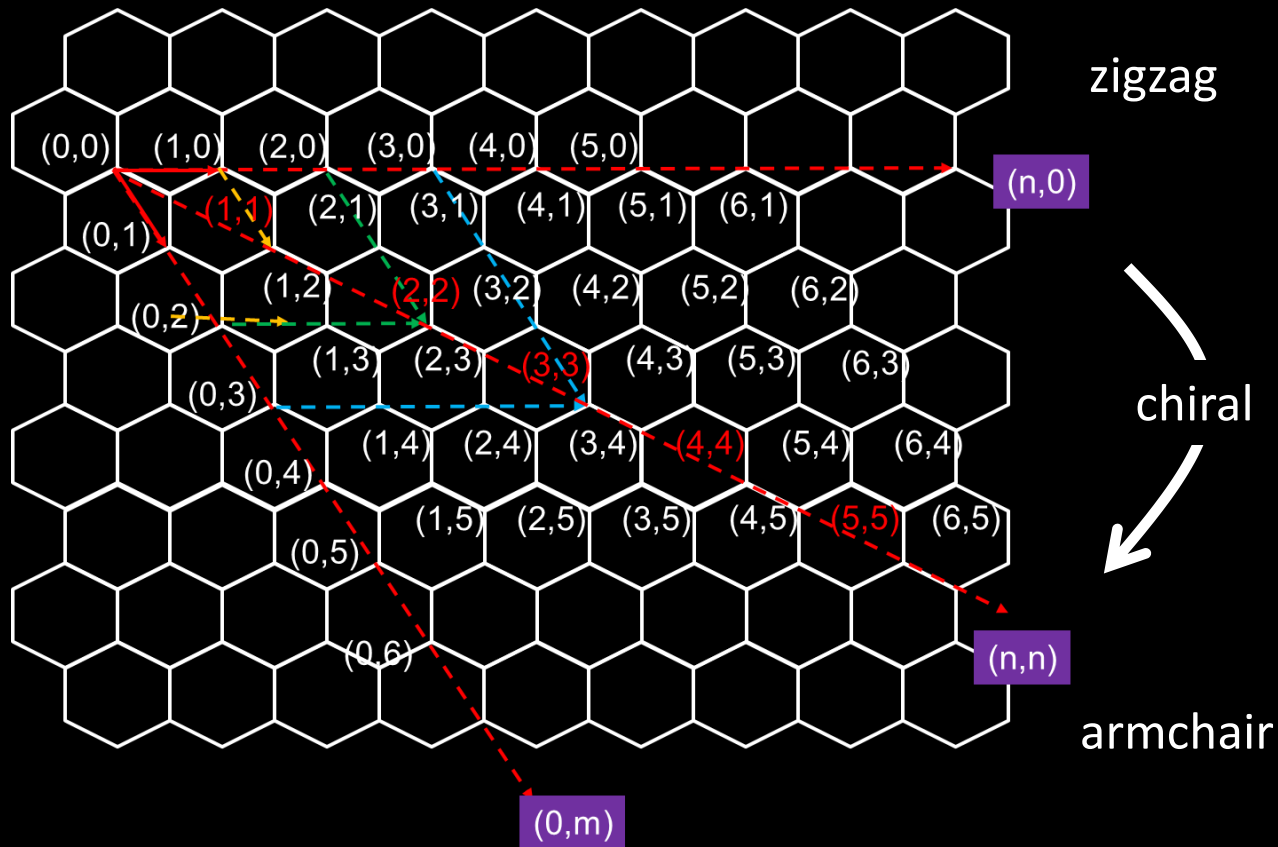
$$d = \frac{a \sqrt{m^2 + mn + n^2}}{\pi}$$

## Chiral angle

$$\theta = \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{m\sqrt{3}}{m + 2n} \right)$$

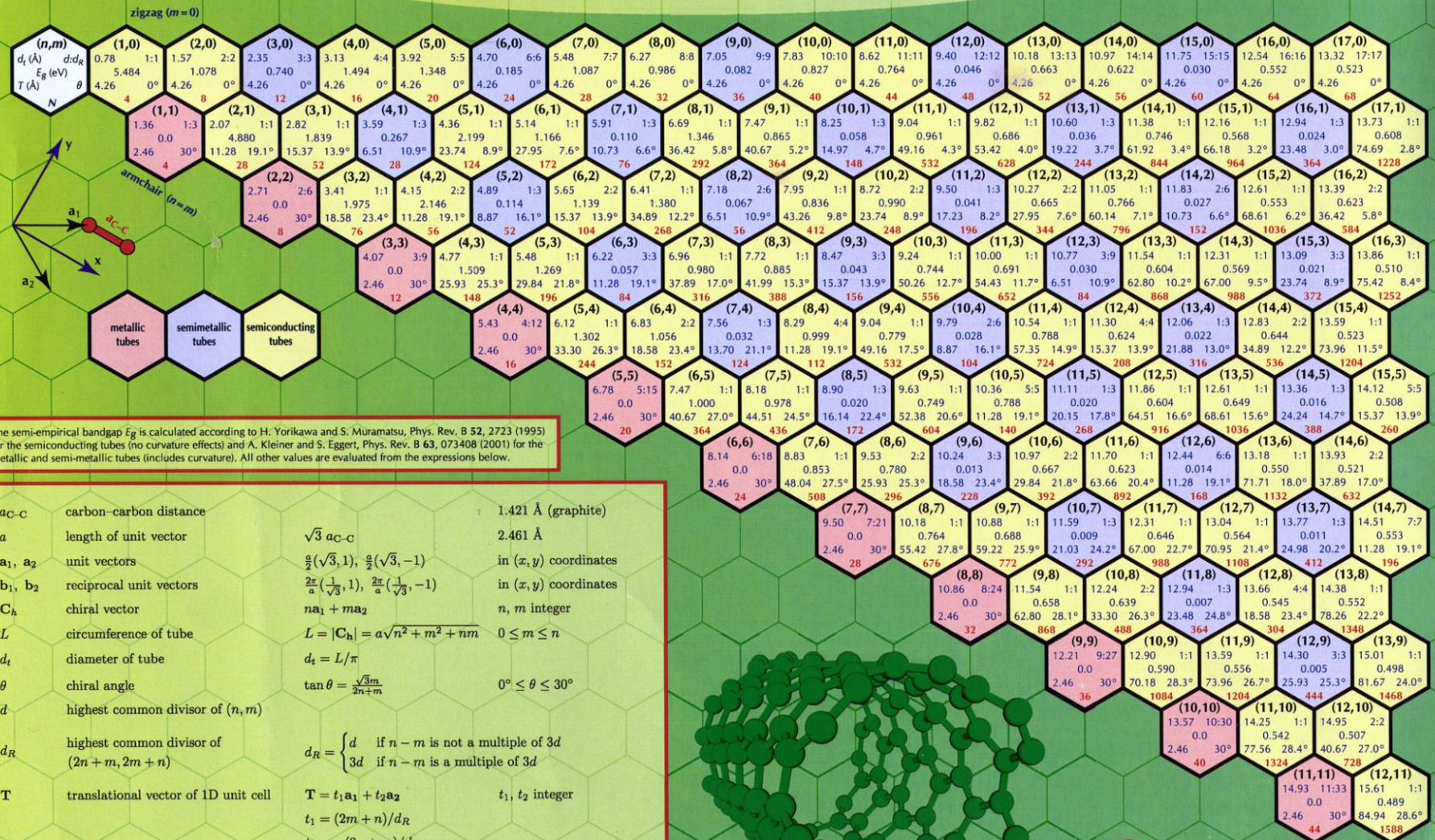


Armchair nanotubes and those where  $n-m$  is a multiple of 3 are metallic  
Other forms are semiconductor



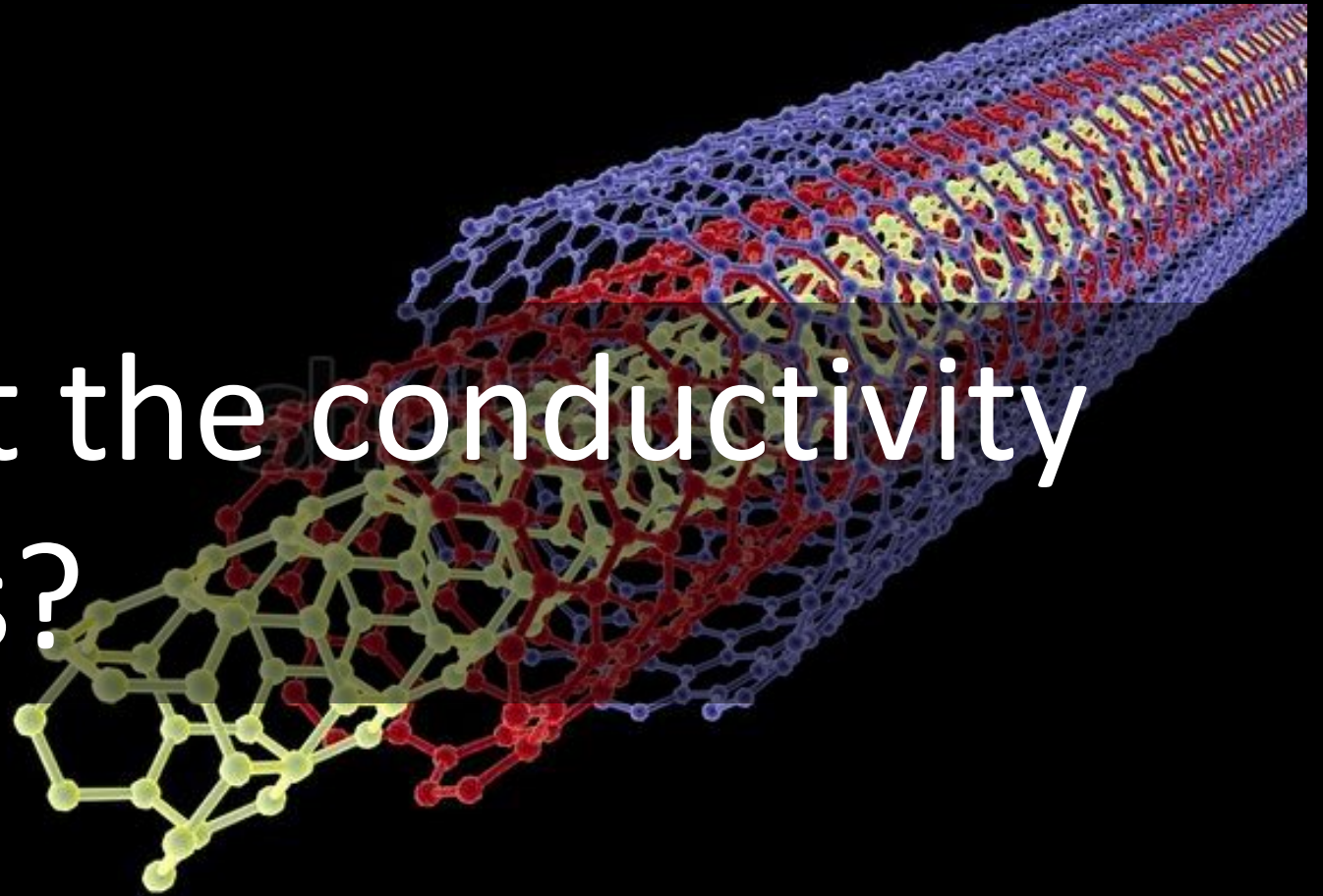


# Periodic Table of Carbon Nanotubes





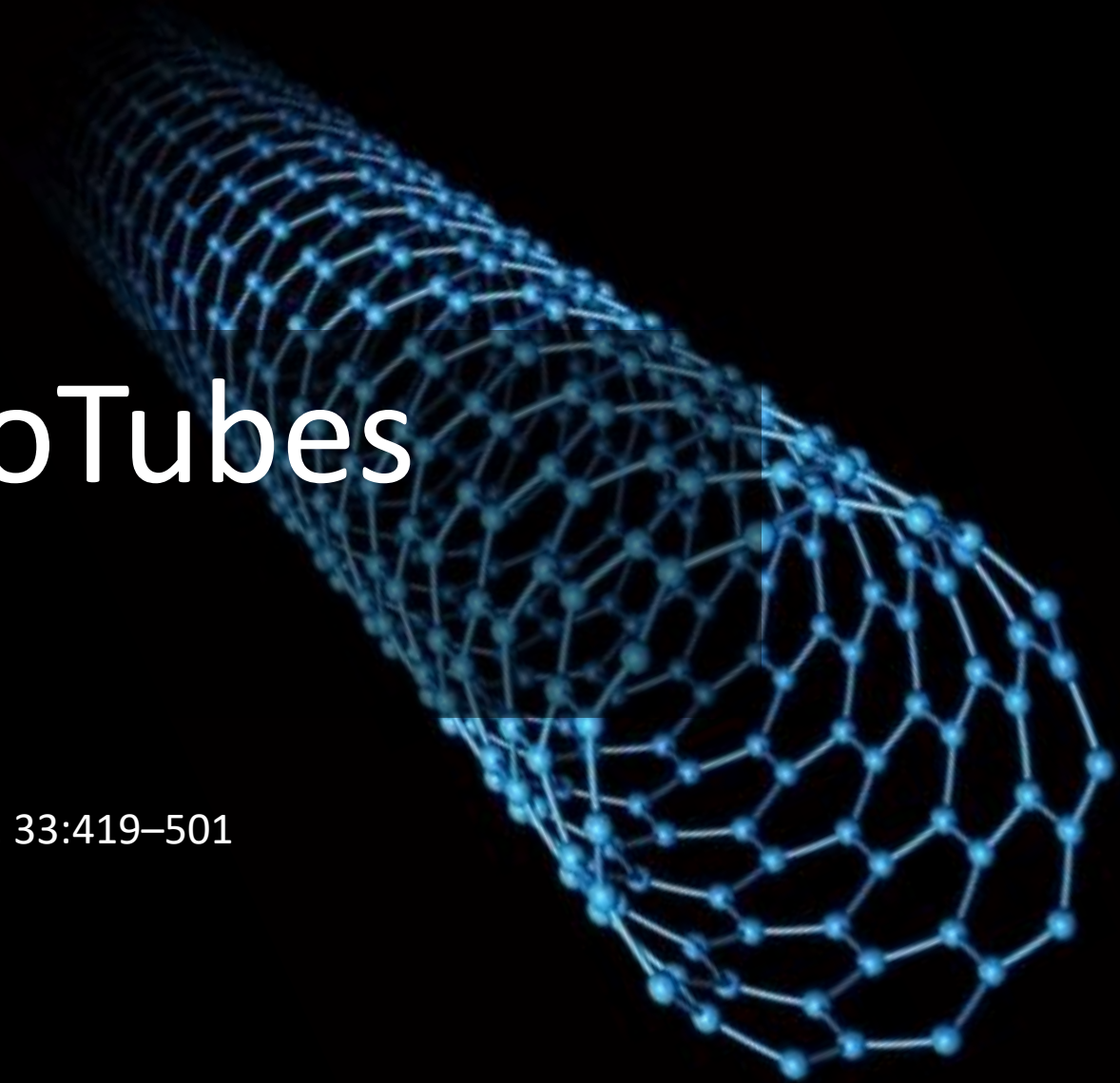
# What about the conductivity of MWCNTs?



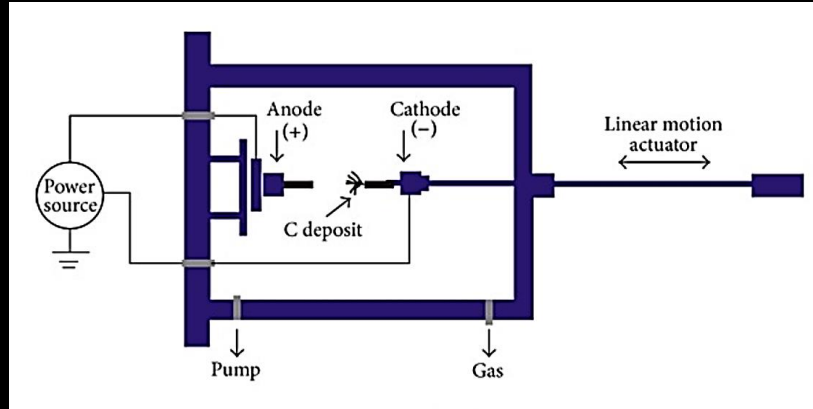


# Carbon NanoTubes Fabrication

M. Terrones, Annu. Rev. Mater.Res. 2003. 33:419–501

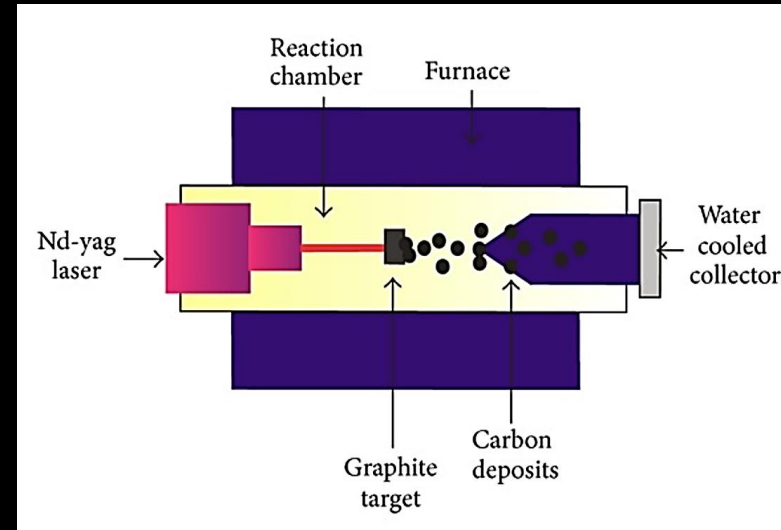


## Electric arc discharge (1<sup>st</sup> observation)

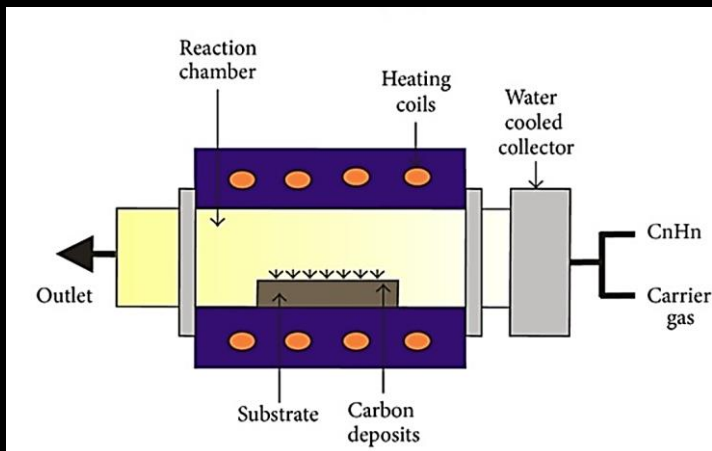


Carbon atoms are generated through an electric arc discharge at  $T > 3000^\circ\text{C}$  between two graphite rods. Nanotubes are formed in the presence of suitable catalyst metal particles (Fe, Co or Ni)

## Laser ablation

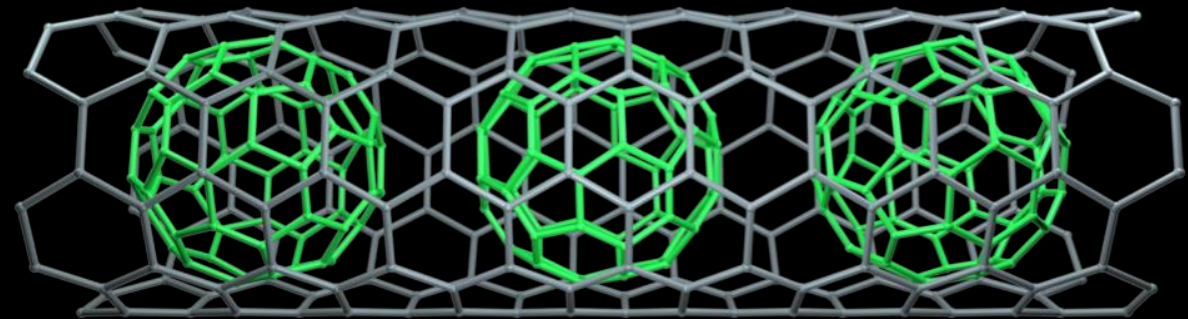
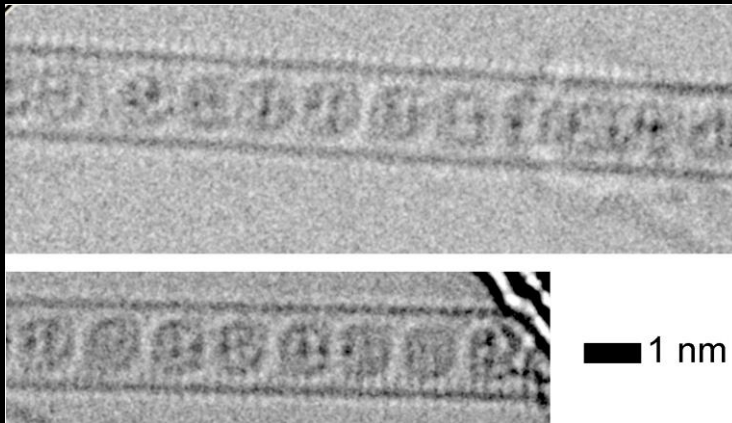


Generation of atomic carbons at  $T > 1200^\circ\text{C}$  through laser irradiation of graphite containing appropriate amounts of catalyst particles (Fe, Co or Ni) is followed by formation of nanotubes



## CVD with catalytic decomposition of hydrocarbon

Decomposition of a gaseous hydrocarbon source (acetylene, ethylene, ethanol or methane) is catalyzed by metal nanoparticles (Co or Fe). Particles can be prepared by pyrolysis of suitable precursors ( $\text{Fe}(\text{CO})_5$ ) at  $1000-1100^\circ\text{C}$  under high pressure and placed inside the chamber



Fullerene filled SWNTs are known as “peapods”

DWNTs are selectively produced by annealing carbon peapods in vacuum or inert gas atmosphere

*Nanoscale*, 2011, 3, 503–518. doi: 10.1039/c0nr00620c



WomenInNano



WomenInNano

in collaboration with  
nano2hybrids



and

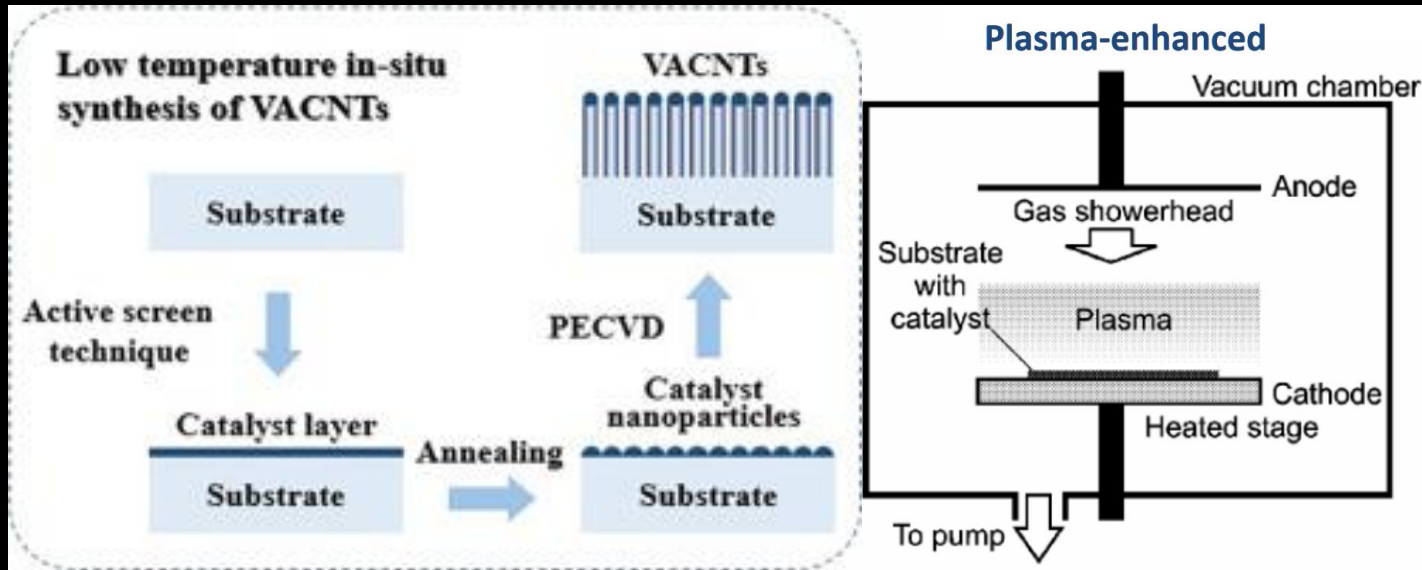
Vega Science Trust



presents

<http://vega.org.uk>

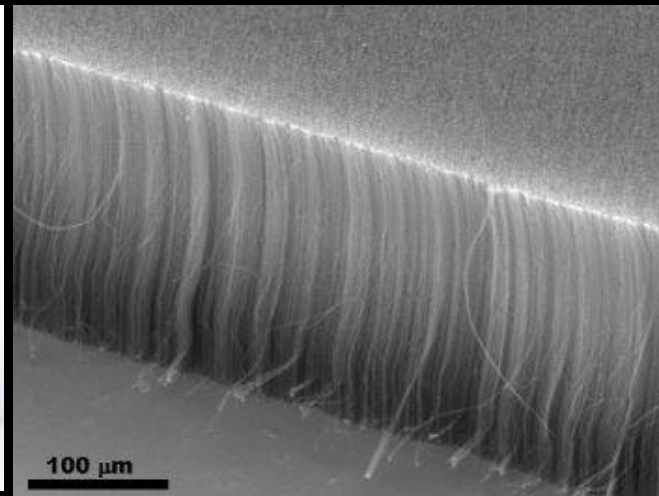
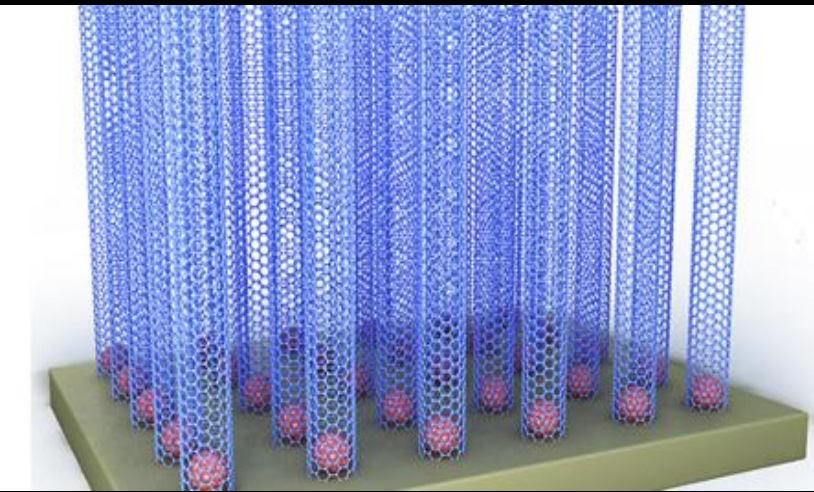
# Production methods: VANTAs



Catalyst nanoparticle deposition followed by Plasma Enhanced CVD

In VACNT carbon nanotubes are grown in an array oriented along their longitudinal axis normal to the surface

A sputtered thin film of catalyst (e.g. 1 nm of Fe) is applied. During heating, the film de-wets, creating islands of iron that nucleate nanotubes. The support must be conductive  $C_2H_2$  is typically the carbon source



In DC-PECVD a typical procedure is conducted at a pressure of 8 Torr in  $NH_3$  and at a growth temperature in the range of 450–600° High purity (99.98% carbon) VANTAs consisting of SWNTs have been grown as long as 0.5 cm



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fg2x0L4YAuU>



# The blackest black (Vantablack)



“It absorbs 99-plus percent of light. There are virtually no reflections. Seen against a black background, the car appears two-dimensional.”



Thermal oxidation  
in air ( 350°C)

Oxidation of  
carbonaceous impurities

Acid Reflux (HCl)

Dissolution of metallic  
impurities

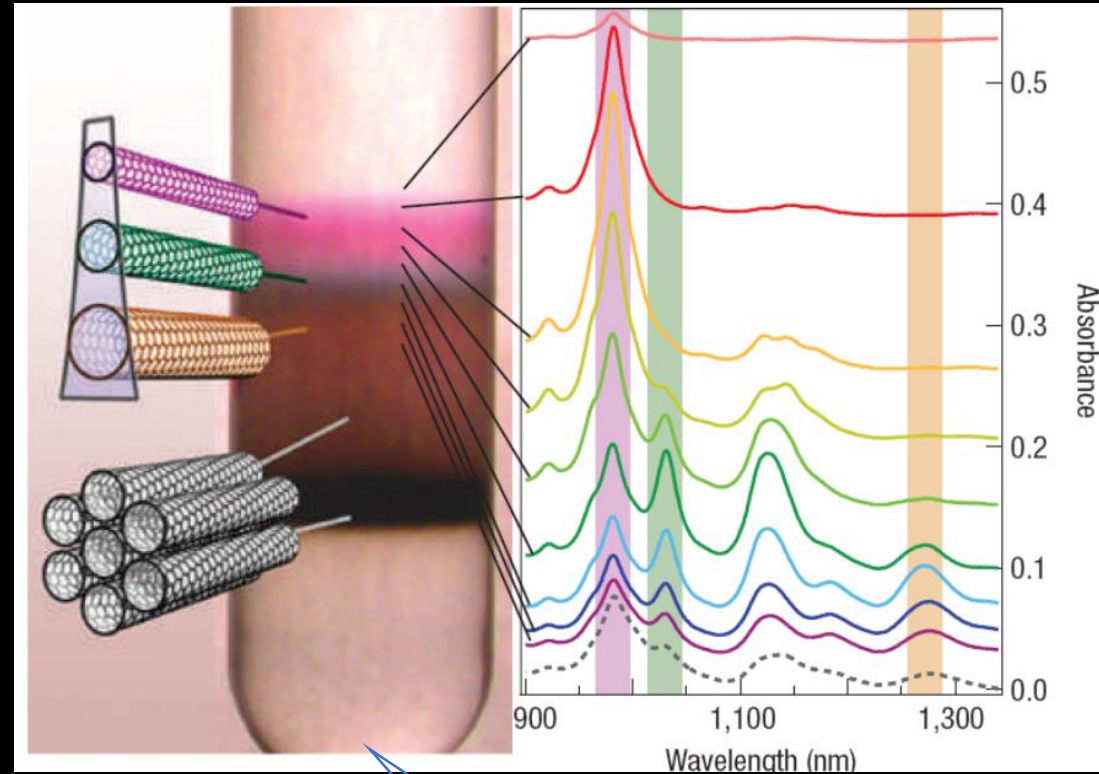
Filtration

Thermal annealing  
( 1100°C)



Carbon, 2008, 46(15) 2003

Remove catalyst, carbon particles/amorphous carbon, unvaporized graphite  
Tips opening  
Introduction of functional groups

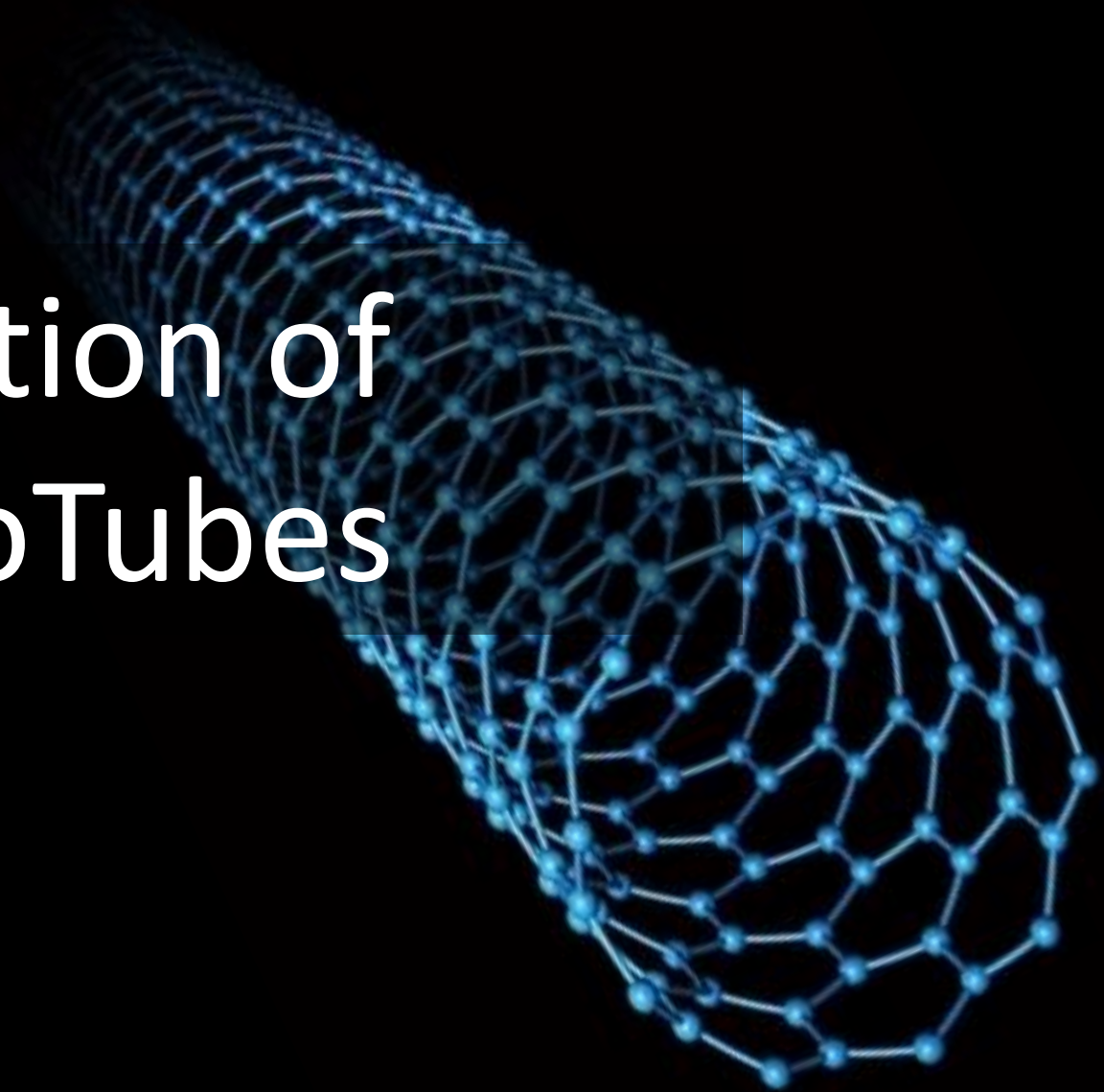


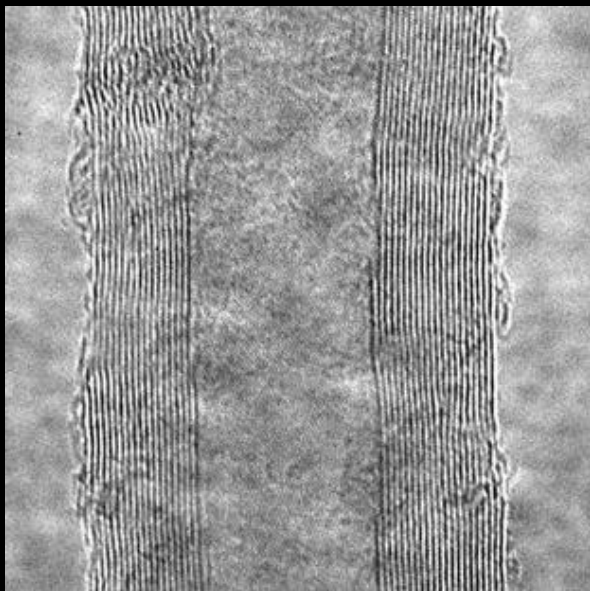
Ultracentrifuge  
( $\approx 50000$  rpm,  $\approx 12$ h)  
in a density gradient



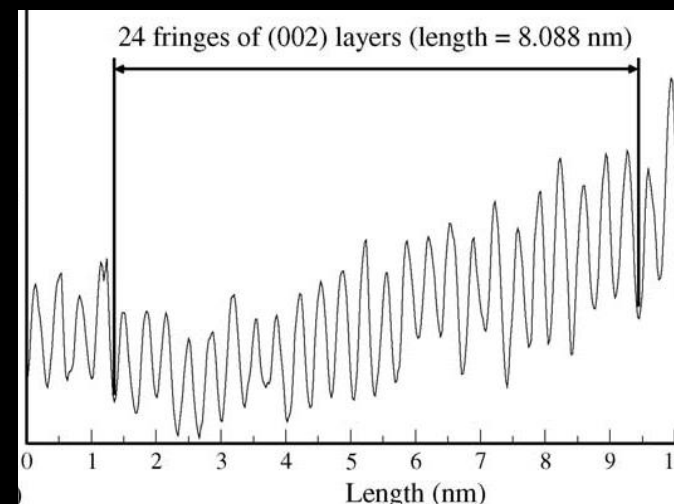
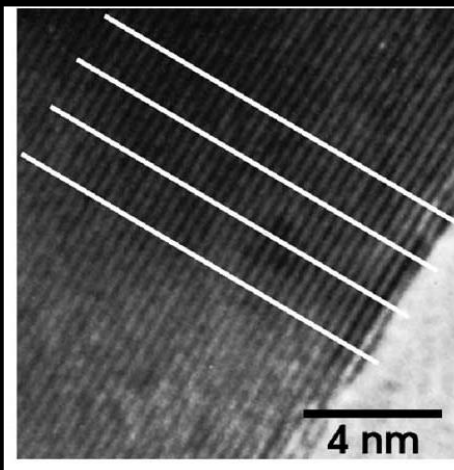
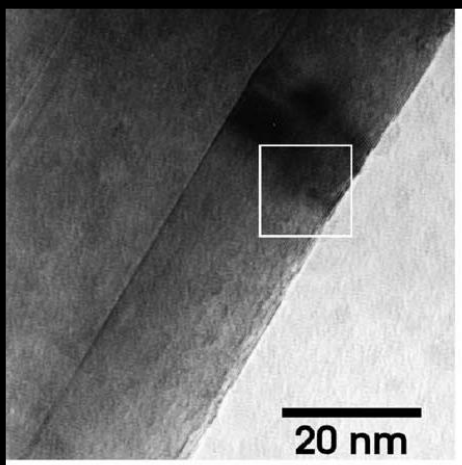
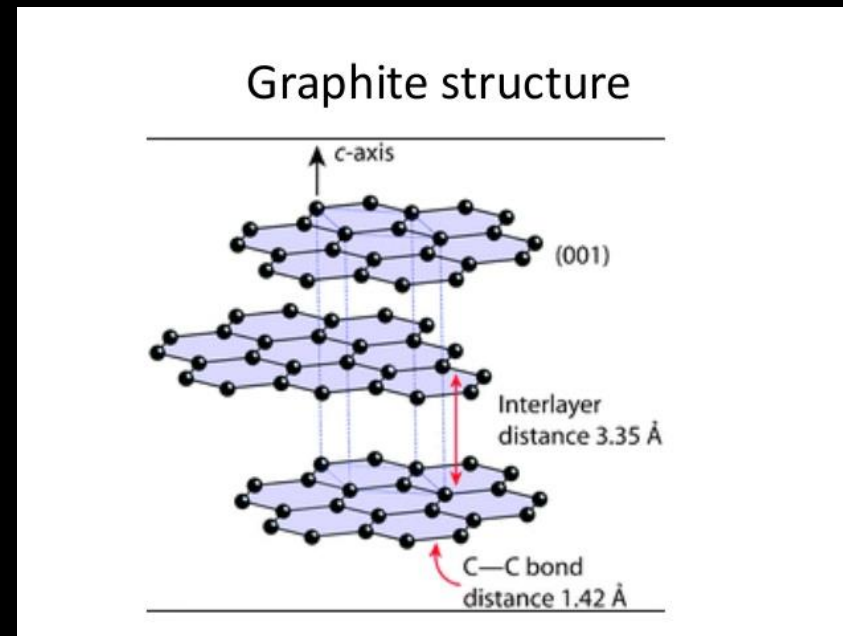


# Characterization of Carbon NanoTubes





**MWNT**



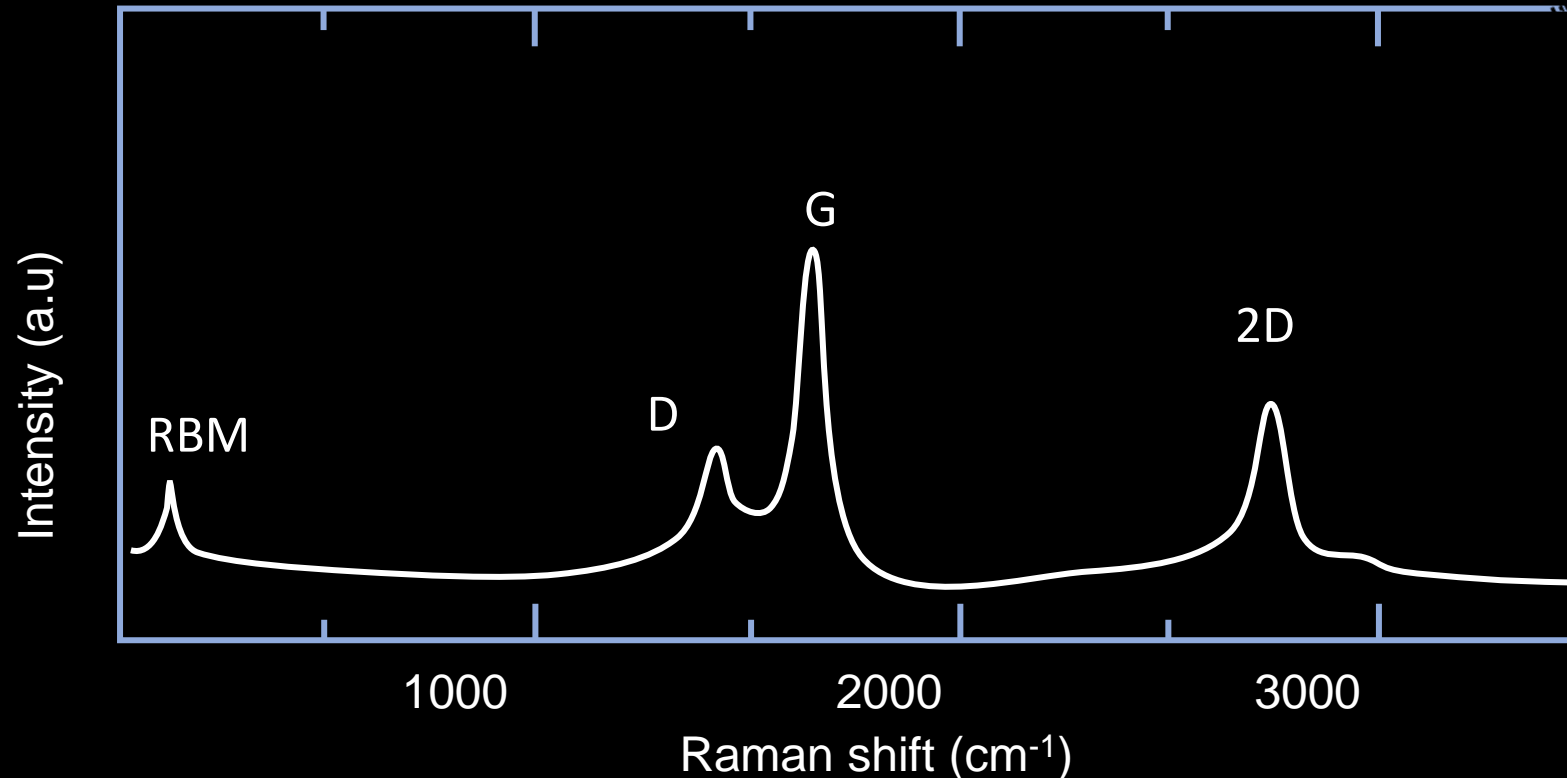
# Raman Spectroscopy

Inelastic scattering due to molecular and lattice vibrations

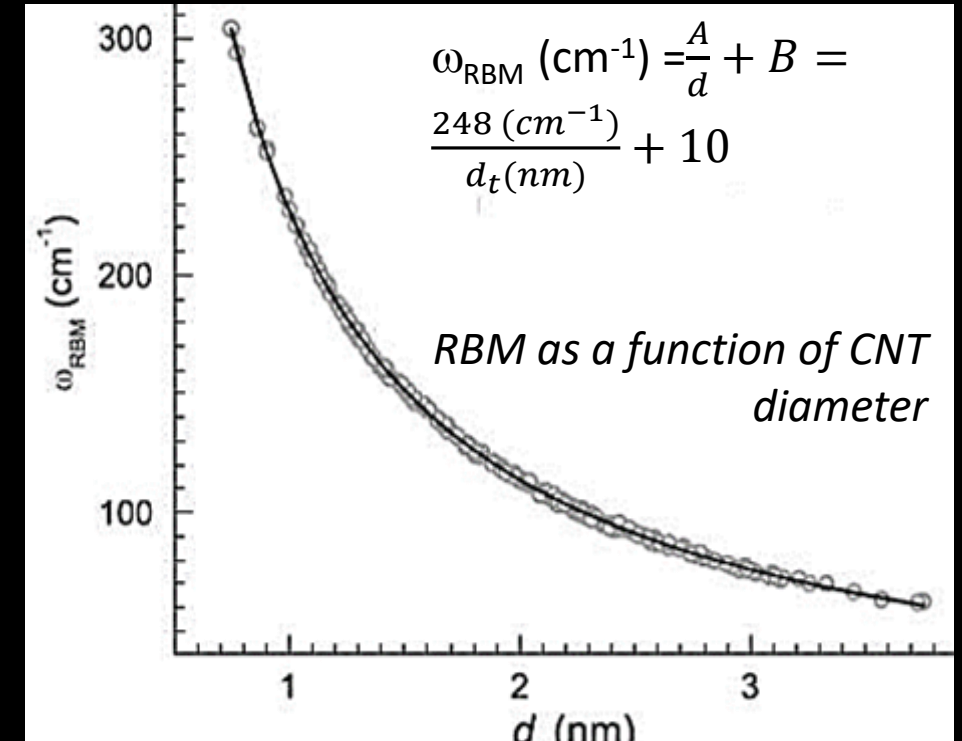
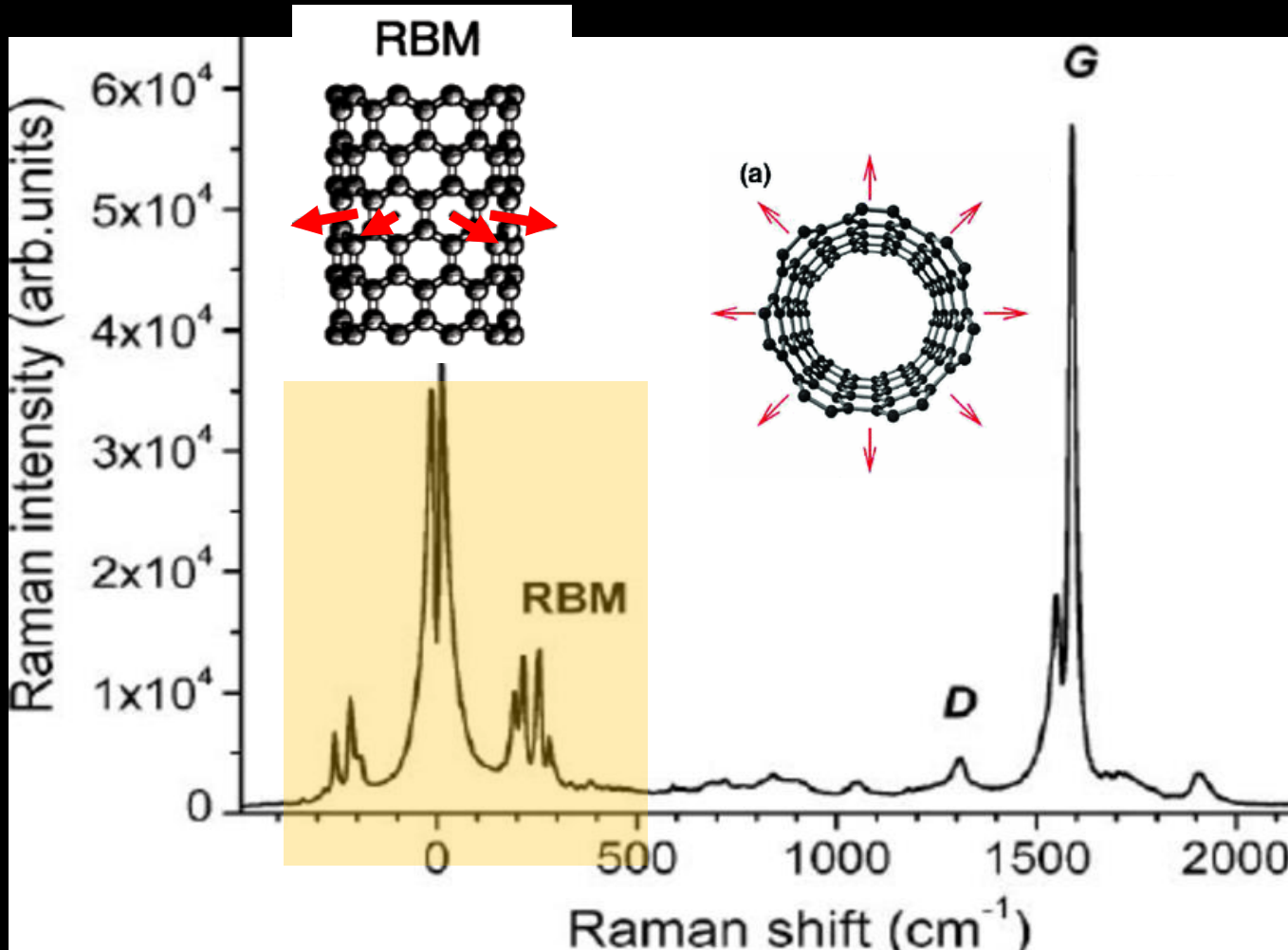
RBM: Distinguish, SWCNT, DWCNT, MWCNT

$I_D/I_G$  : amount of defects

Shape of G band: metallic vs semiconducting



# Raman Spectroscopy



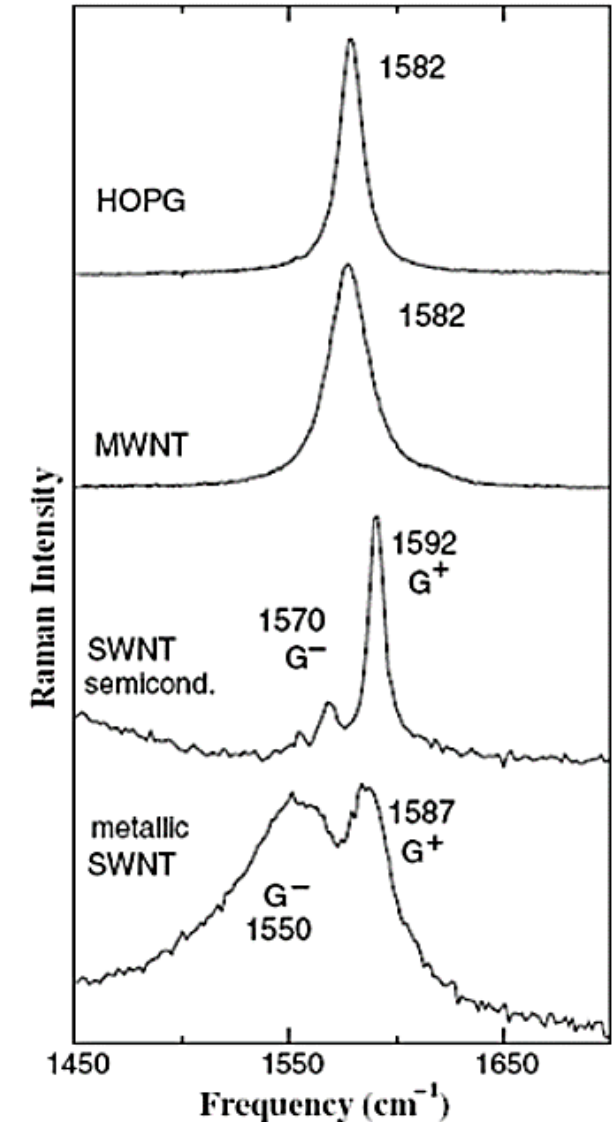
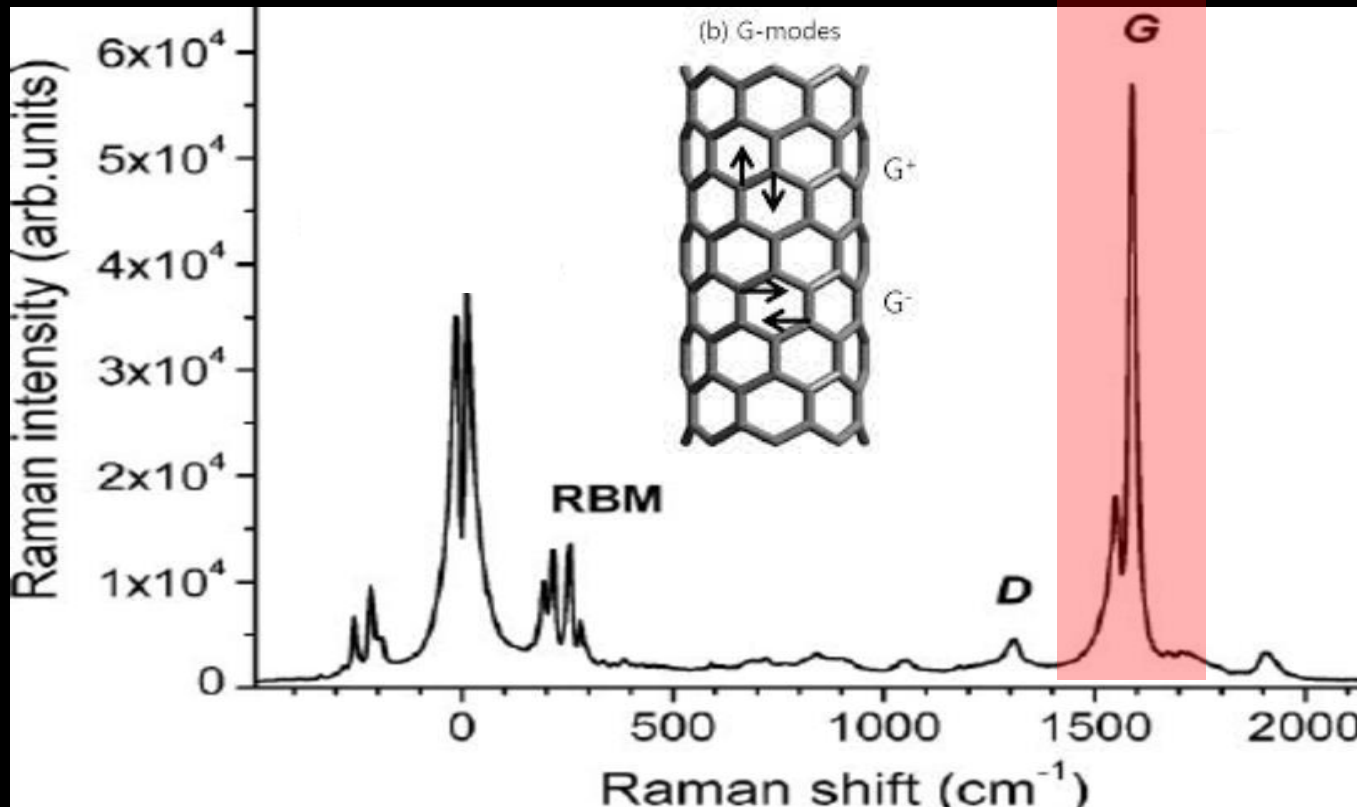
- Radial breathing mode (RBM) – exists only in SWNTs and DWNTs ( $\omega_{\text{RBM}}$  depends on SWNT diameter)

M.S. Dresselhaus et al. / Physics Reports 409 (2005) 47–99

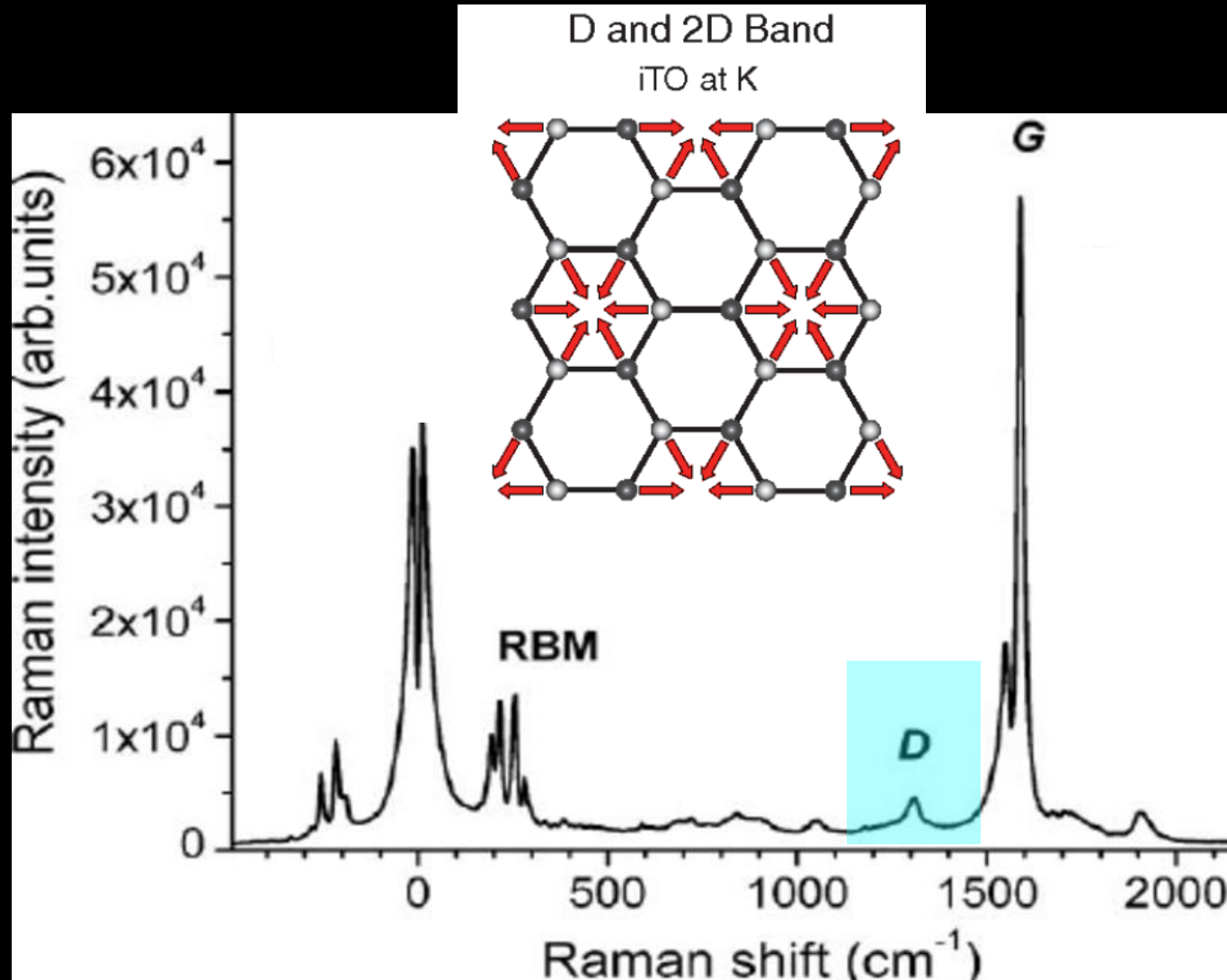


# Raman Spectroscopy

- G mode/ tangencial – in graphite-like materials (distinguish metallic or semiconductor SWNT)
- G<sup>-</sup> is downshifted, broader and depends on diameter in metallic tubes (phonon-plasmon interaction)



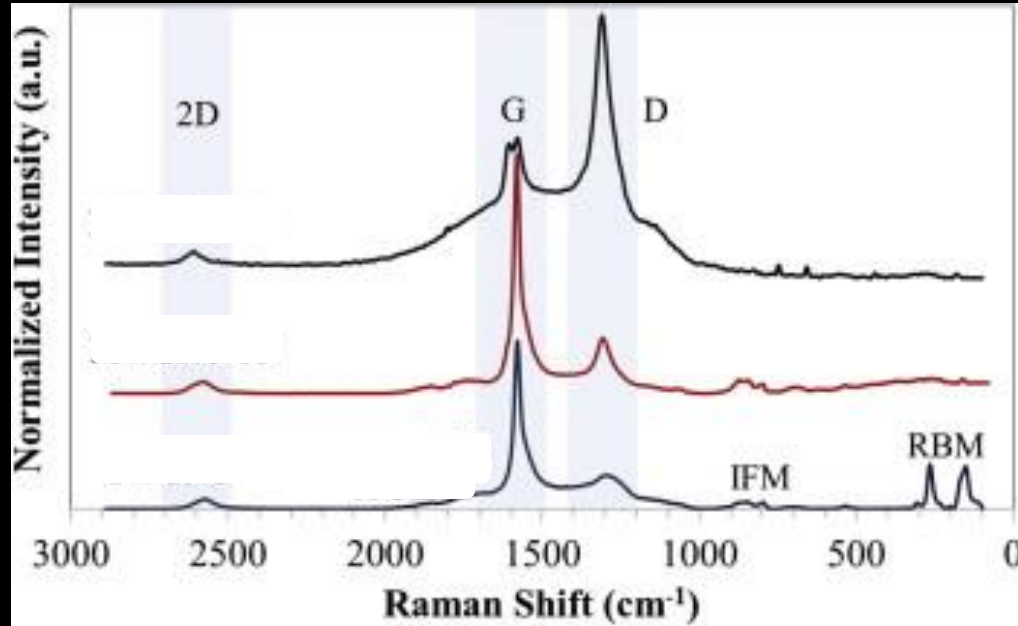
# Raman Spectroscopy



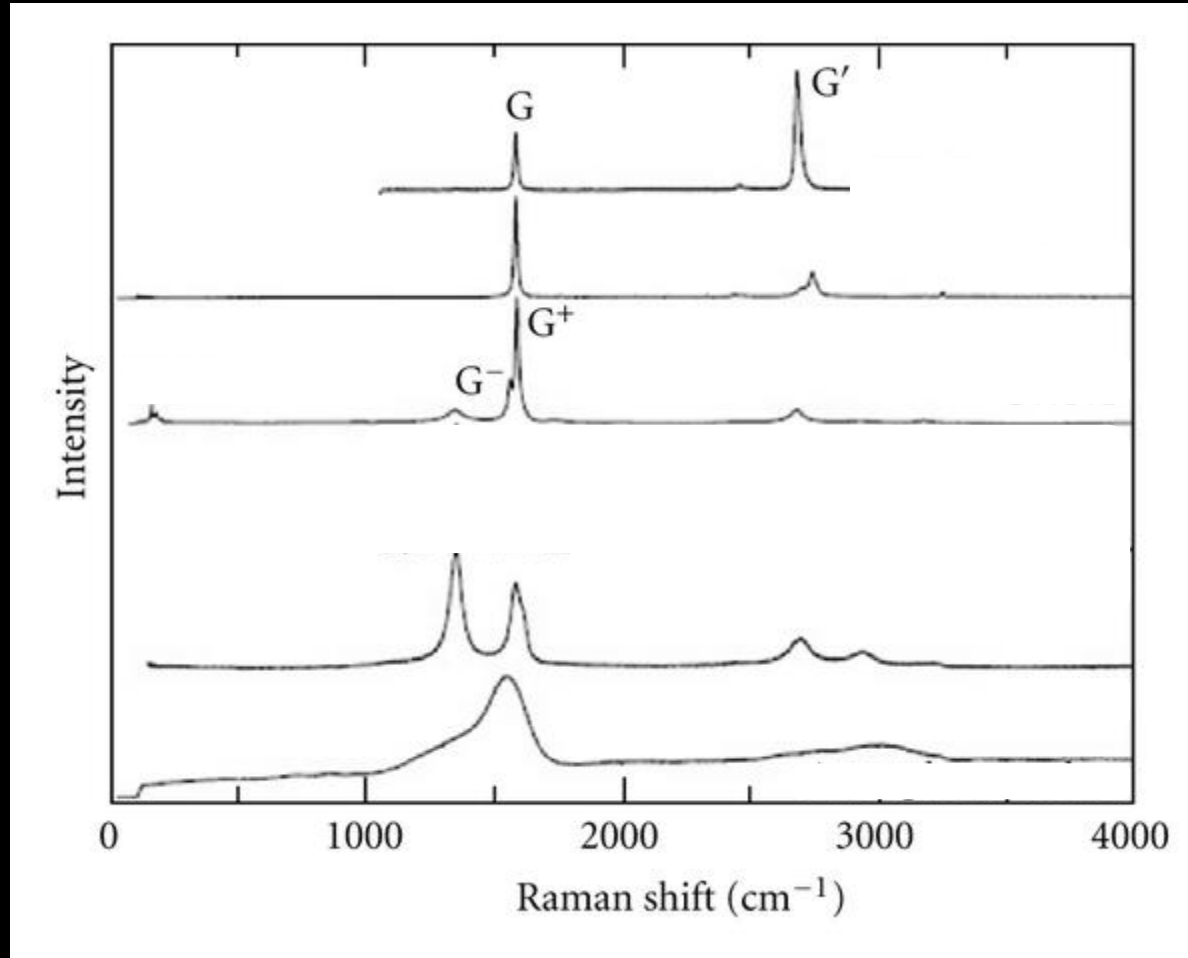
D mode – Highly symmetric ring breathing mode

Disorder induced mode requires a defect to appear in Raman  
(G/D measures quality of the CNTs)

Can you tell what type of tubes are here?

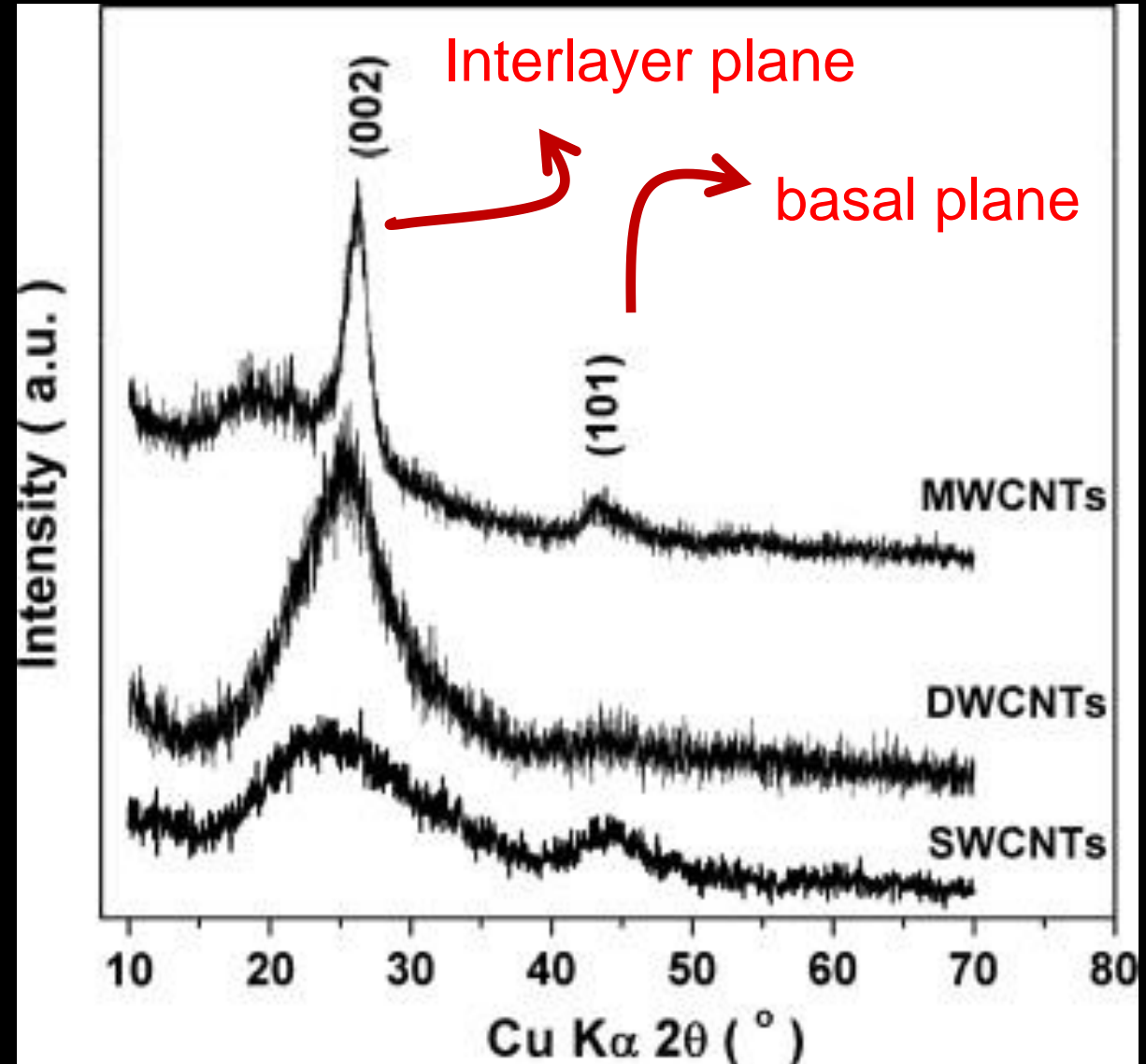
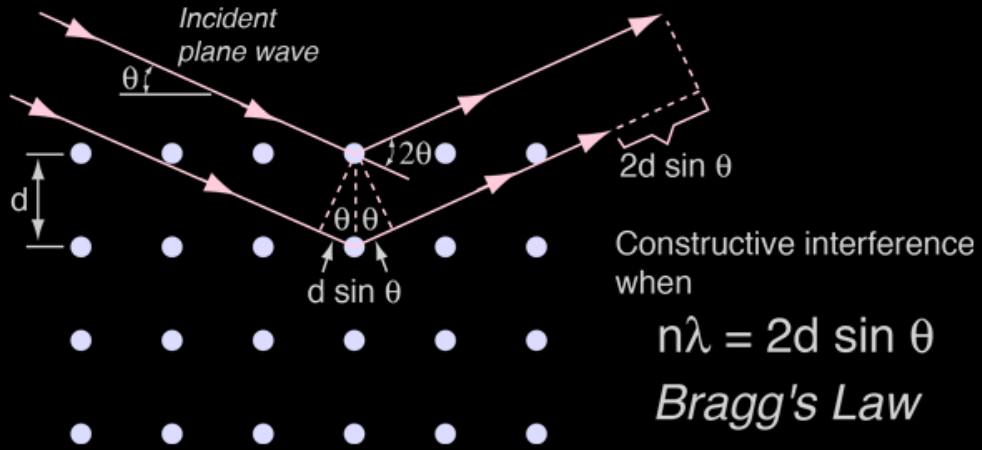


Can you tell which one corresponds to SWCNT?

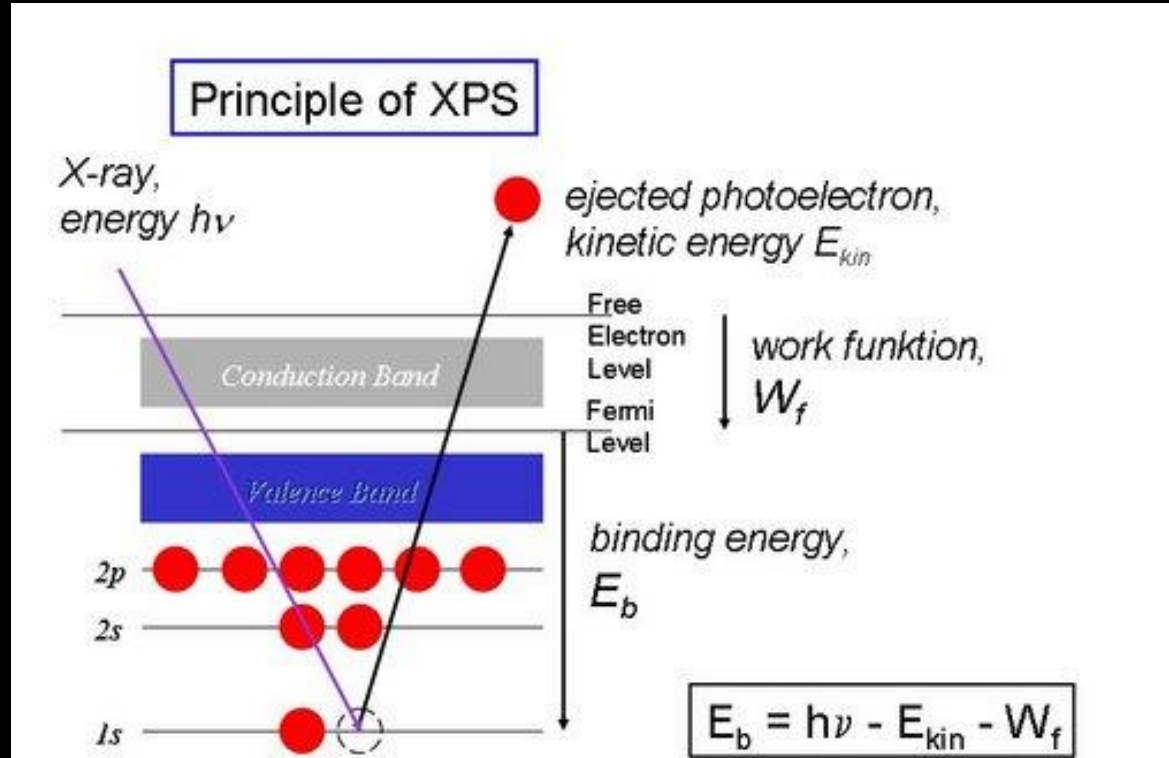




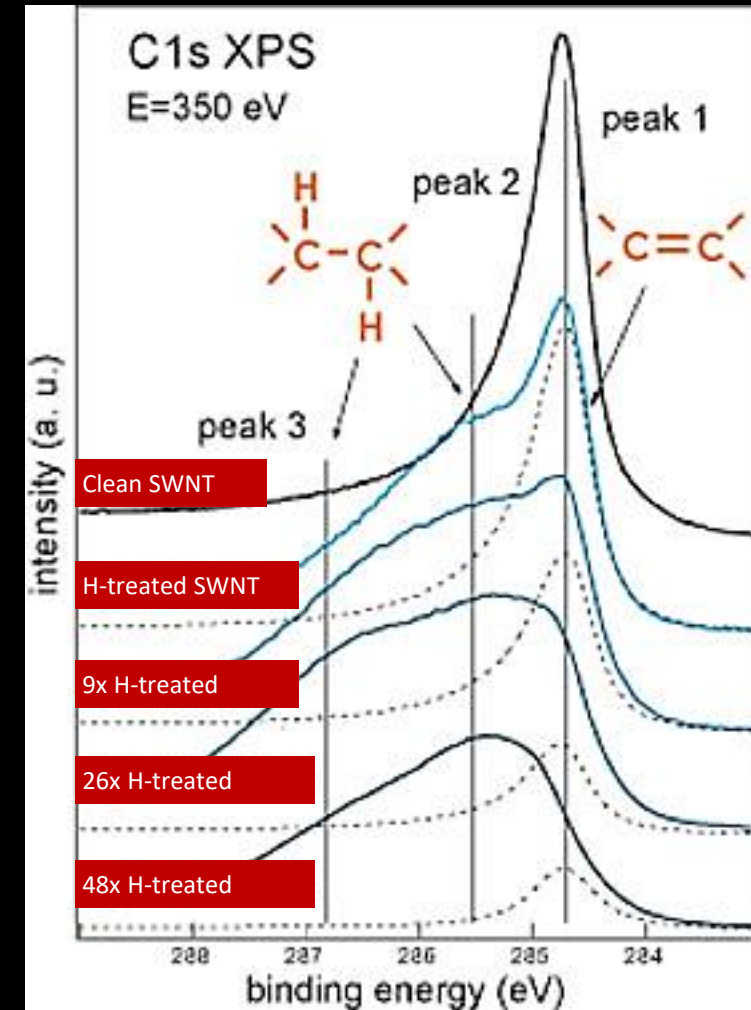
# X-ray diffraction



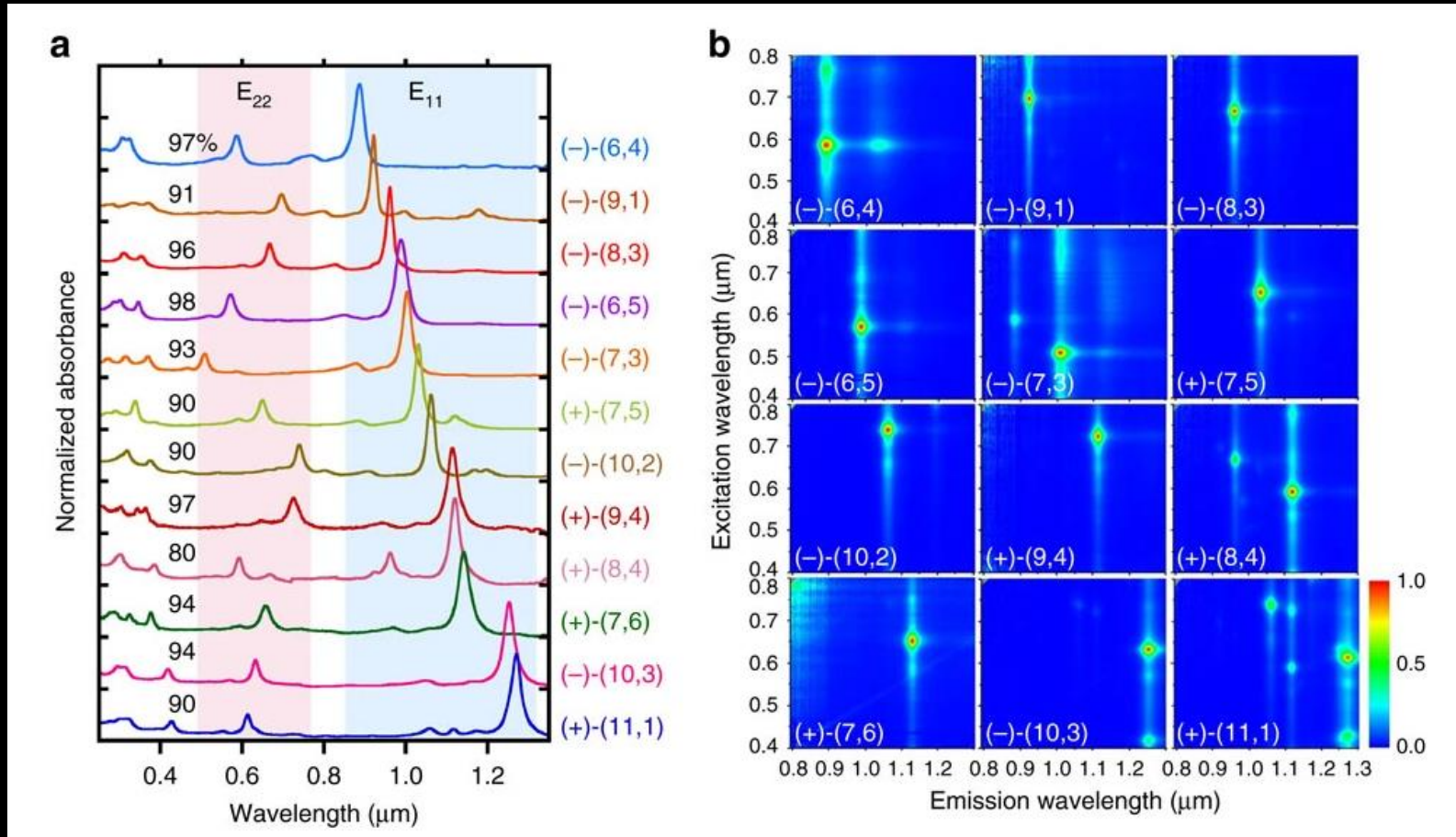
# X-ray photoelectron spectroscopy



Hydrogenation of CNT followed by XPS  
sp<sup>2</sup> carbon (peak1) vs sp<sup>3</sup> carbons (peak2)



# Optical characterization



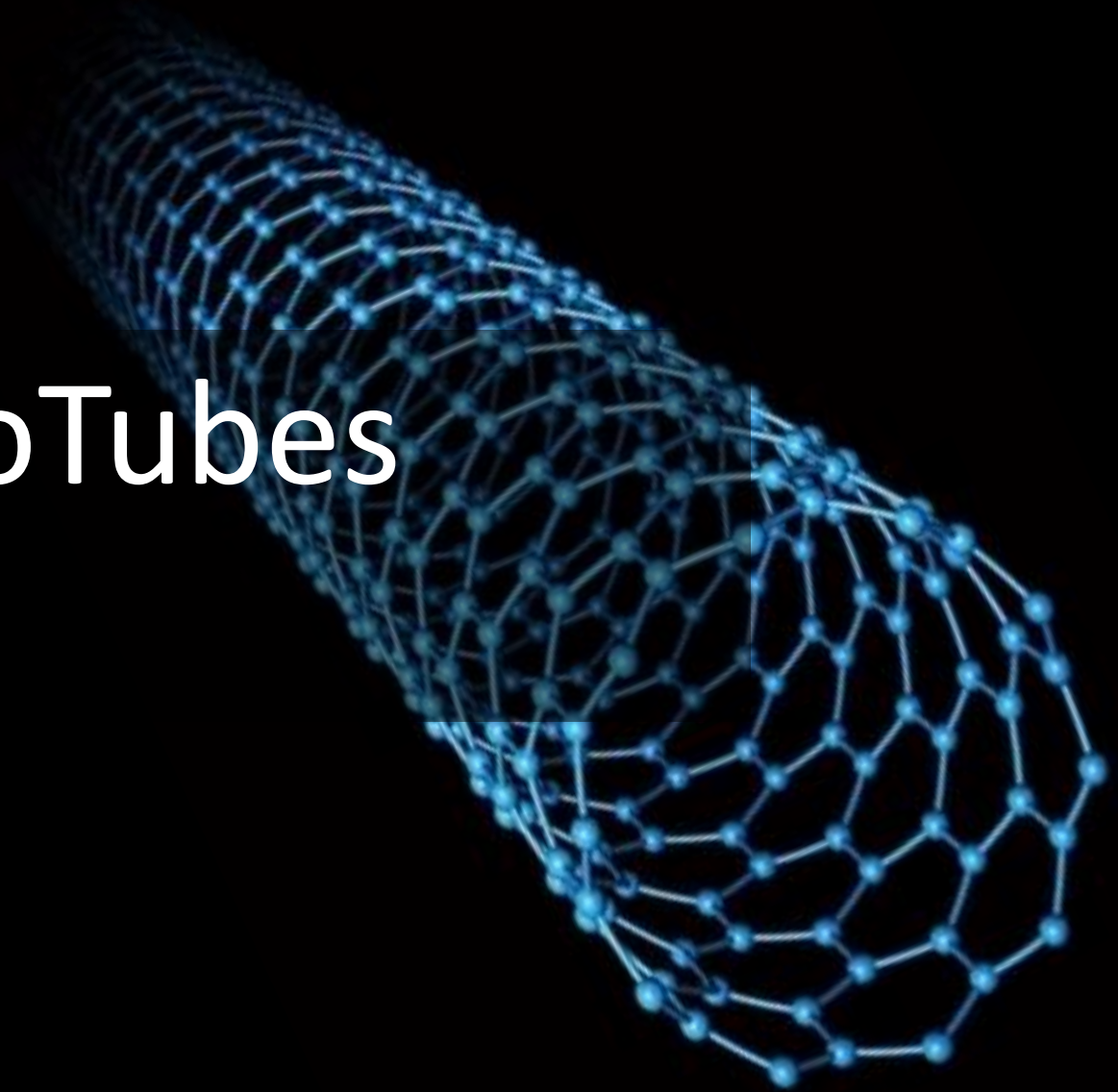
Optical absorption spectra (a) and photoluminescence contour maps (b) of the 12 sorted  $(n,m)$  semiconducting SWCNTs

Wei, X., Tanaka, T., Yomogida, Y. *et al. Nat Commun* **7**, 12899 (2016). <https://doi.org/10.1038/ncomms12899>



# Carbon NanoTubes

## Properties



Very low density

Excellent mechanical properties (up to 100x stronger than steel)

Young's modulus

SWNT  $\approx 1$  TPa

MWNT  $\approx 1.28$  TPa

Tensile strength  $>20$  GPa

Conducting CNTs estimated to carry 1000 times higher current density than copper

Current density  $1 \times 10^9$  A/cm<sup>2</sup>

High thermal conductivity

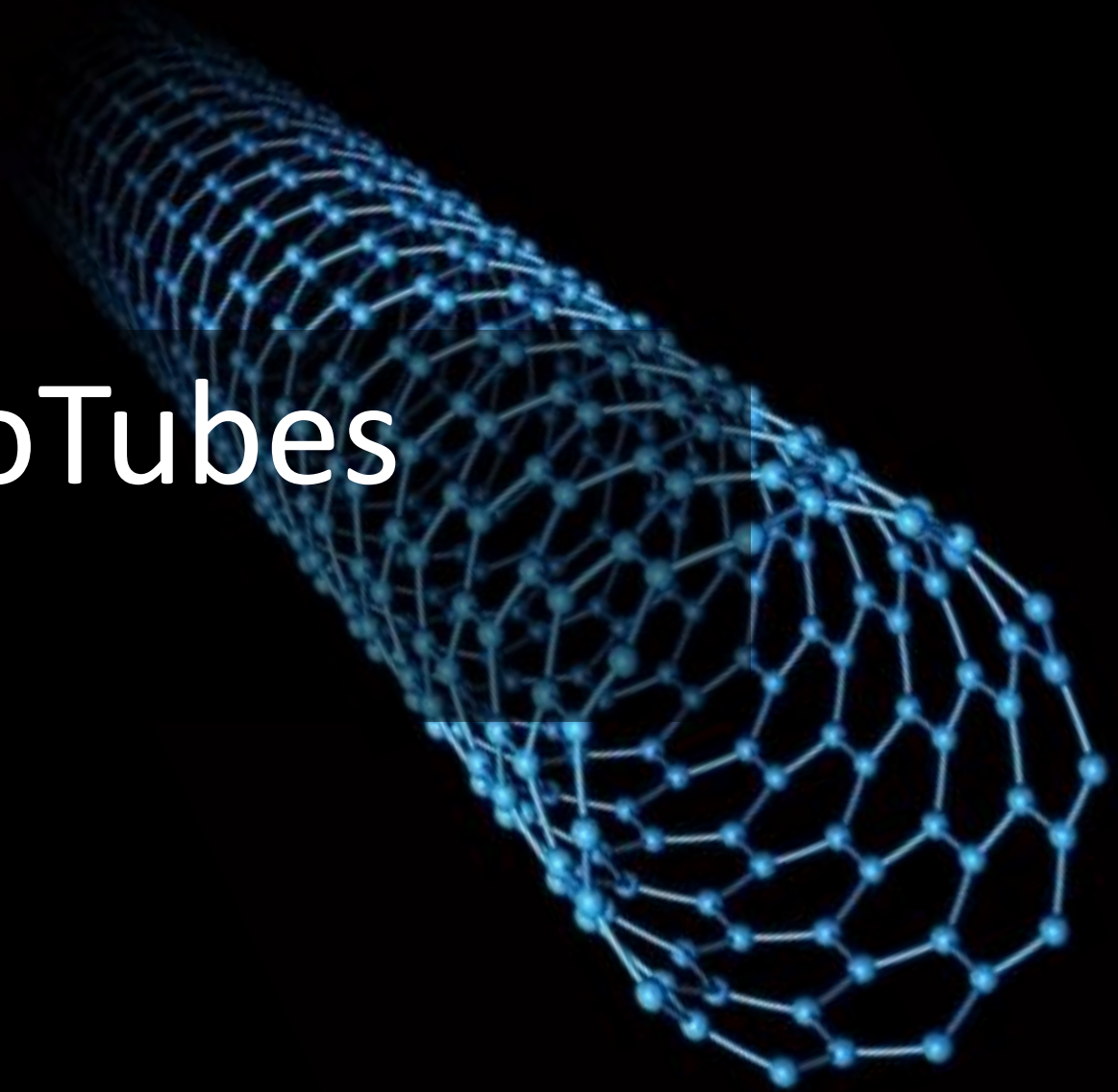
Thermal conductivity 6000 W/m.K

**Cost 1-700 k€/g SWCNT (gold is 60€/gram)**

**1-100 €/g MWCNT**

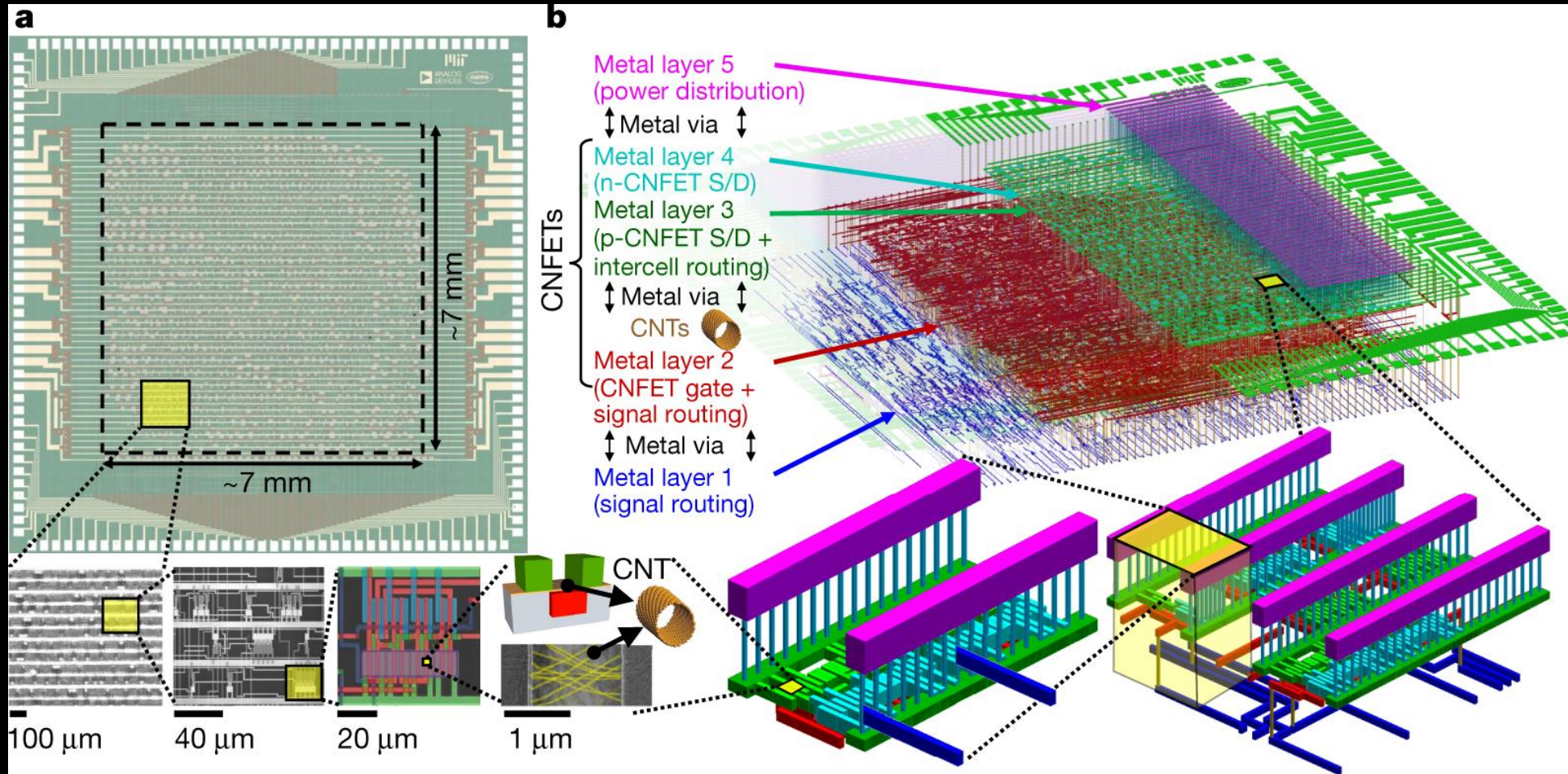
Property	Single-Walled CNT	By Comparison
Size	0.6 - 1.8 nm in diameter	Electron beam lithography can create lines 50 nm wide and a few nm thick
Density	1.33 – 1.40 g/cm <sup>3</sup>	Aluminum has a density of 2.7 g/cm <sup>3</sup>
Tensile Strength	$\approx 45 \cdot 10^9$ Pascals	High-strength steel alloys break at $\approx 2 \cdot 10^9$ Pascals
Resilience	Can be bent at large angles and re-straightened without damage	Metals and carbon fibers fracture at grain boundaries
Current Carrying Capacity	$\approx 1 \cdot 10^9$ A/cm <sup>2</sup>	Copper wires burn out at $\approx 1 \cdot 10^6$ A/cm <sup>2</sup>
Field Emission	Can activate phosphors at 1 – 3 V if electrodes are spaced 1 micron apart	Molybdenum tips require $\approx 50 - 100$ V/micrometer with very limited lifetimes
Heat Transmission	$\approx 6,000$ W/m.K at room temperature	Nearly pure diamond transmits $\approx 3,320$ W/m.K
Temperature / Thermal Stability	Stable up to 2,800 C in vacuum and 750 C in air	Metal wires in microchips melt at $\approx 600 - 1,000$ C
Cost	$\approx 1,500$ \$/g	Gold sells for $\approx 40$ \$/g
Preservation of the Quantum Property of Electron Spin	Optimal; Very high	Low in regular conductors
Power Consumption	Very low	Higher in metal wires
Speed	Very high $\geq 1 \cdot 10^{12}$ Hertz nanoscale switch	$\geq 1,000$ times as fast as processors available today
Electron Scattering (Resistance)	Almost none	Comparatively high
Energy Band Gaps	Easily tunable; Depends on CNT diameter and thus wide range of band gaps can be obtained: $\approx 0$ (like a metal), as high as band gap of Silicon, and almost anywhere in between	No other known material can be so easily tuned

# Carbon NanoTubes Applications





MIT engineers have built a modern microprocessor from carbon nanotube field-effect transistors (pictured), which are seen as faster and greener than silicon transistors. The new approach uses the same fabrication processes used for silicon chips



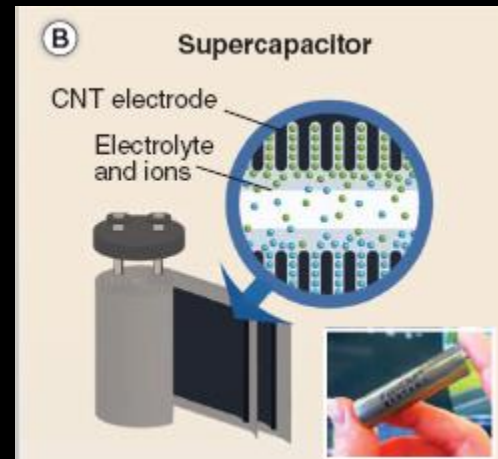
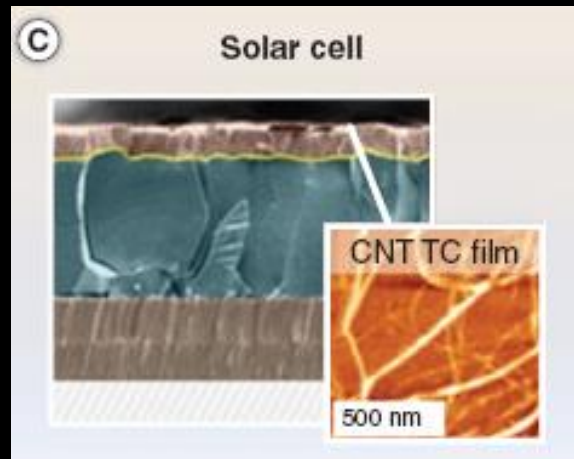
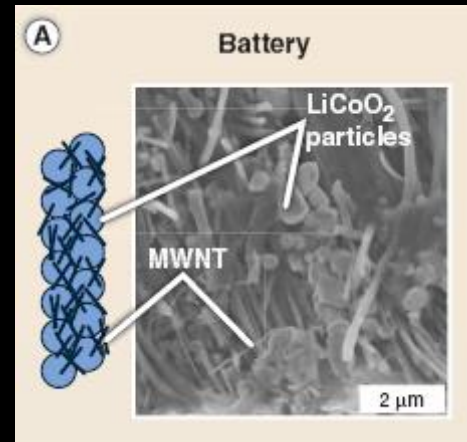
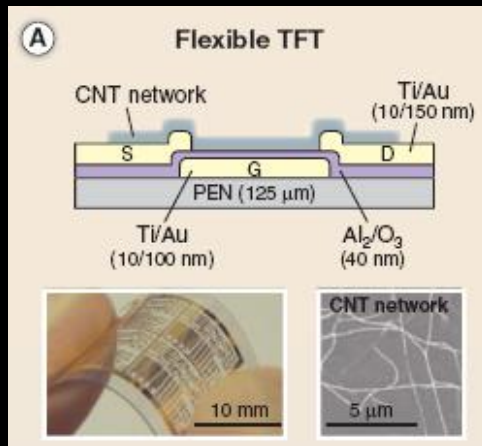
*Nature* 2019, 572, 595–602 (2019)

# Energy and microelectronics

Transparent electrodes for displays, batteries and solar cells

Super-capacitors for energy storage

Transistors and connectors for integrated circuits

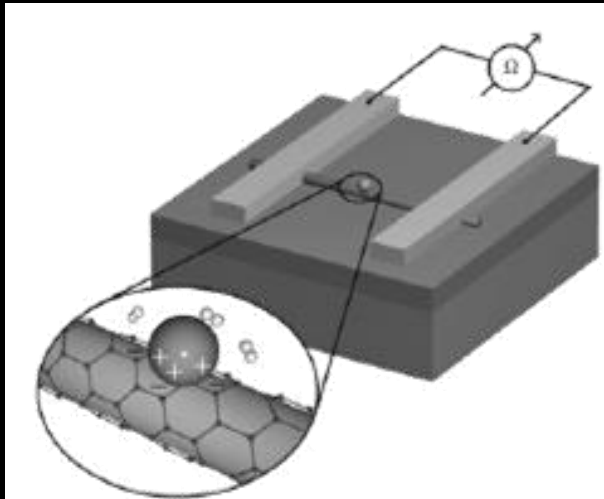


MWNTs are widely used as electrodes in lithium ion batteries for notebook computers and mobile phones, marking a major commercial success

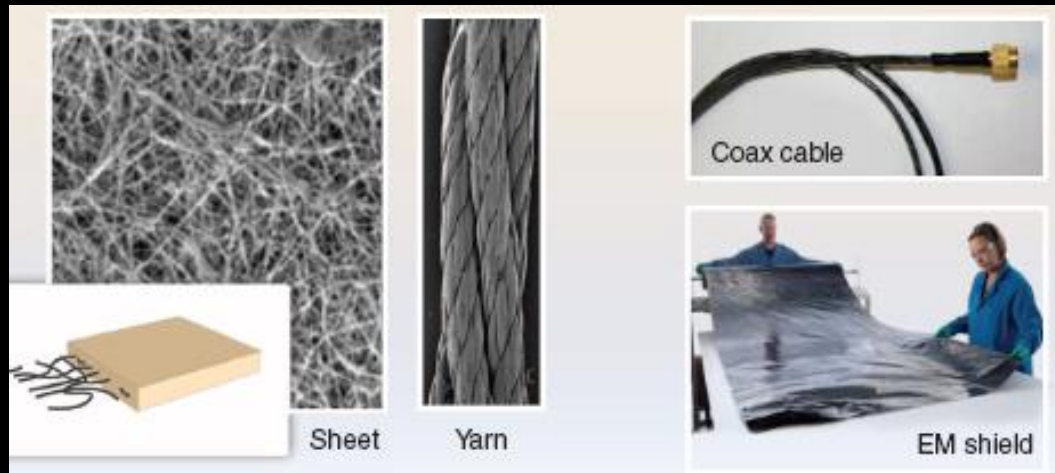


- Sensors (change in electrical resistance)

hydrogen sensor from a nanotube decorated with palladium nanoparticles



- EM shielding



- Environment

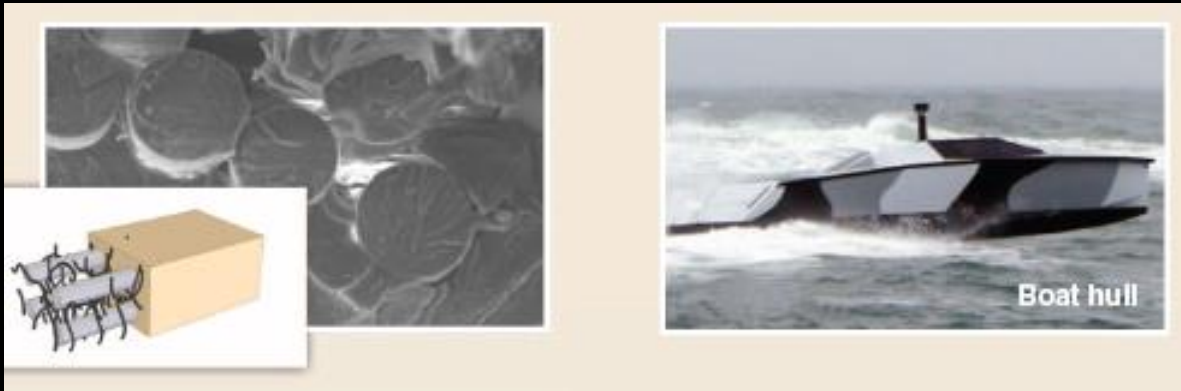


Prototype portable water filter using a functionalized tangled CNT mesh in the latest stage of development

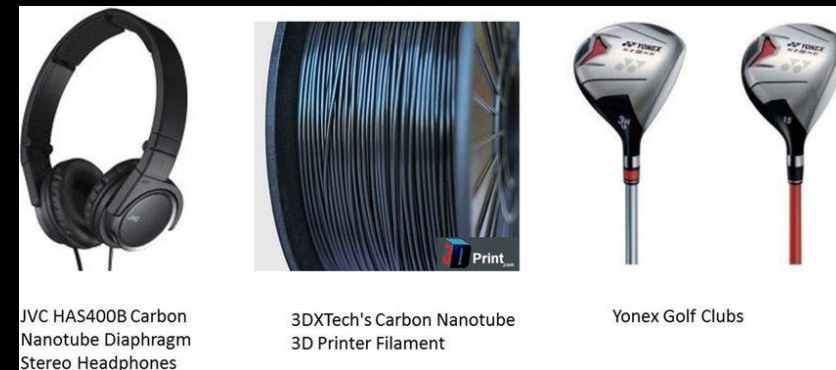
Volder et al, Science, 2013, 339, 535



- Nanocomposites (polymer reinforcement)

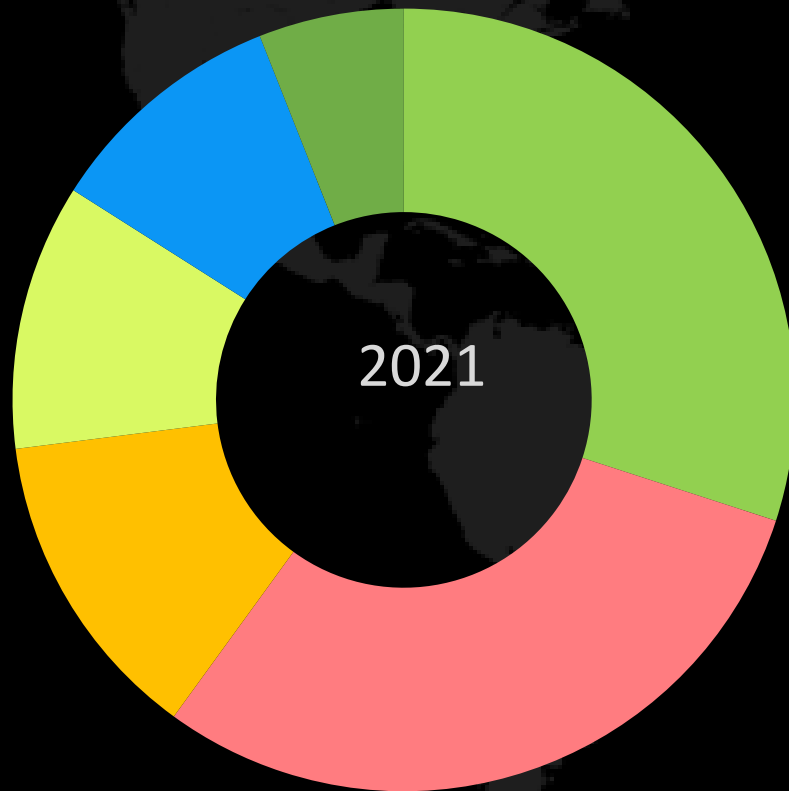


Sports equipment, headphones, soft body armor and much more made out of carbon nanotubes



The Beautiful Molecule: 30 Years of C<sub>60</sub> and Its Derivatives, Acquah et al, ECS Journal of Solid State Science and Technology, 6 (6) M3155-M3162 (2017)

# Global CNT Market Segmentation



■ electronics

■ energy

■ other end user industries

■ airspace and defense

■ healthcare

■ automobile

## Drivers

- Superior chemical and mechanical properties
- Emerging demand from APAC
- High growth in end-use industries such as electrical & electronics and automotive
- Increasing demand for lightweight and low carbon emitting vehicles

## Restraints

- Environmental concern and health & safety issues

## Challenges

- Maintaining quality
- Stringent and time-consuming regulatory policies
- High price & processing difficulties

# Global CNT Market Trends

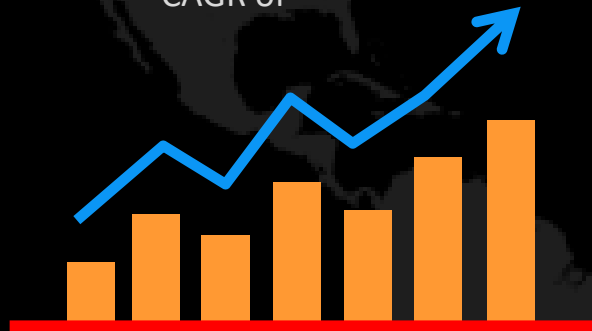
876 USD Millions  
2021



1.714 USD Millions  
2026



Market growth  
CAGR of 14.9 %



The market is **CONSOLIDATED** with  
few players accounting for the  
majority of revenues

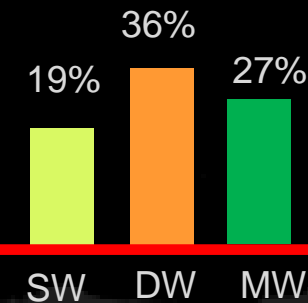


LG chemicals Ltd (South Korea),  
Jiangsu Cnano Technology Co Ltd (China) , Cabot Corporation  
(US), Chengdu Organic Chemicals Co Ltd (China) are key players



32.6 %

of global market  
revenues  
generated by  
APAC in 2021



2027



# Nanostructured Materials and Nanotechnology 2022-2023



[ermelinda.macoas@tecnico.lisboa.pt](mailto:ermelinda.macoas@tecnico.lisboa.pt)