

2011 is the 20th 'Anniversary' of the Nanotube.

**Will a recent discovery made at
Jefferson Lab revolutionize the field?**

NASA

Langley Research Center

Michael W. Smith
Peter Lillehei
Joycelyn Harrison (now AFOSR)
Sheila Thibeault
Sharon E. Lowther
William Humphreys
Catharine Fay
Joseph Lee
Peter Gnoffo
Ken Wright
Rob Bryant
Dennis Bushnell

Thomas Jefferson National
Accelerator Facility

Kevin C. Jordan
Steve Benson
Michelle Shinn
George Neil
Gwyn Williams
George Biallas
Matt Marchlick
Kandice Carter
Fred Dylla (now director, AIP)

W&M

Brian Holloway (now DARPA)

National Institute
of Aerospace

Cheol Park
Jae-Woo Kim
Roy Crooks
Godfrey Sauti
Jin Ho Kang
Luke Gibbons (VA Tech)

Old Dominion
University

Wei Cao



yes!



Boron Nitride Nanotubes

The Most Interesting 'Stuff' You May Have Barely Heard of...

EDITORS' PICKS



What's This Stuff?

Think you know your stuff? Identify 10 mystery materials from a set of clues.



Making Stuff: Stronger

David Pogue tests his mettle against the world's strongest stuff, from steel and Kevlar to bioengineered silk.



NOVA WEDNESDAYS

Making Stuff: Series Overview

Technology reporter David Pogue hosts a four-part special series exploring the materials that will shape our future. **Premiering January 19, 2011** on PBS

Posted 07.29.10

NOVA

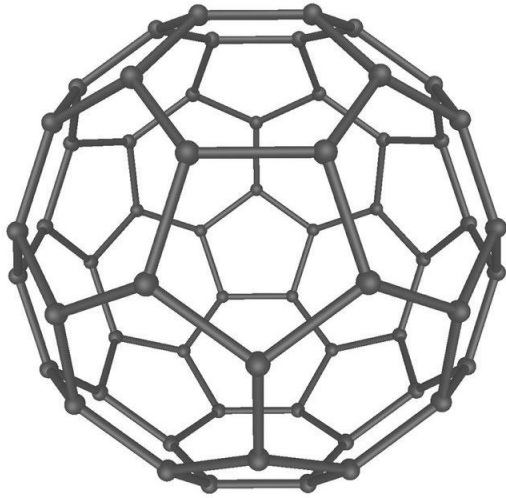


Watch Making Stuff: Series Overview

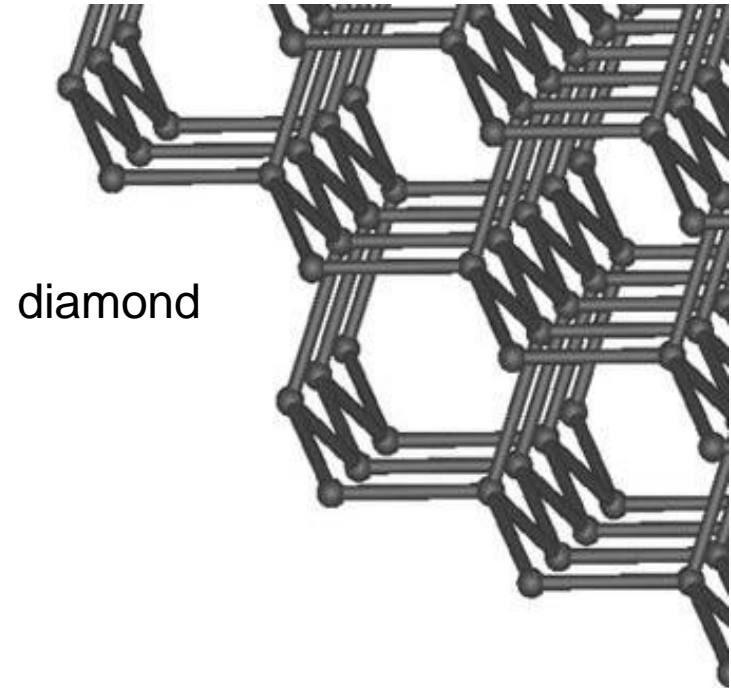
Premiering January 19, 2011 on PBS

www.pbs.org

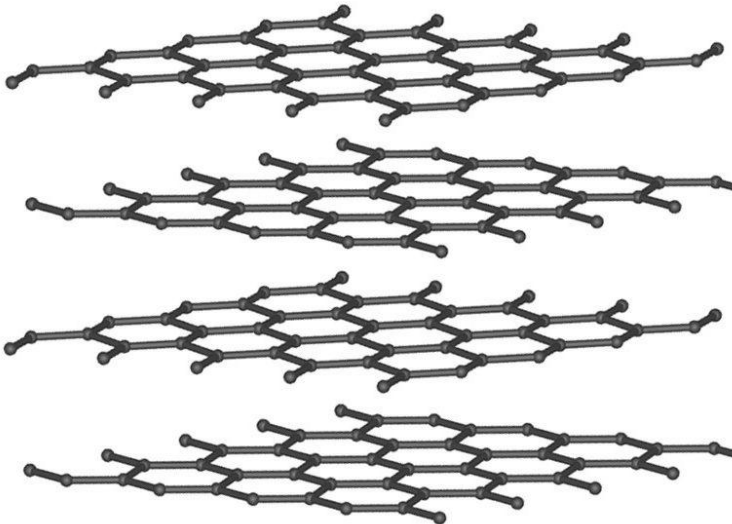
Forms (Allotropes) of Carbon



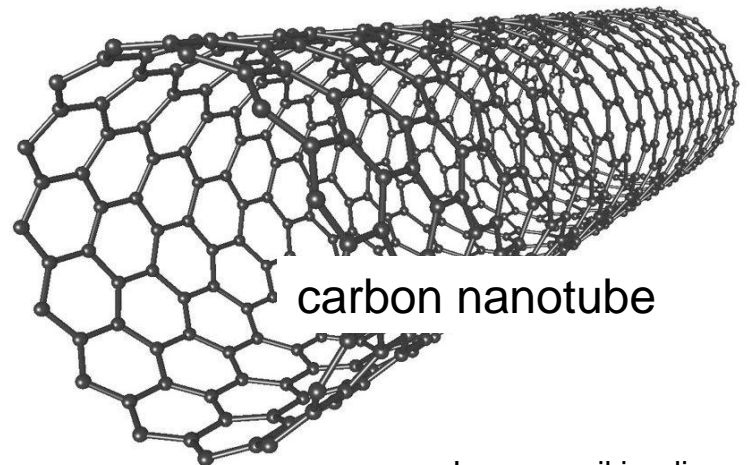
buckyball



diamond



graphite



carbon nanotube

Macro Forms of Carbon



From left to right: **C60**, **C70**, **C76/C78**, **C84**
in solution.

buckyballs



diamond

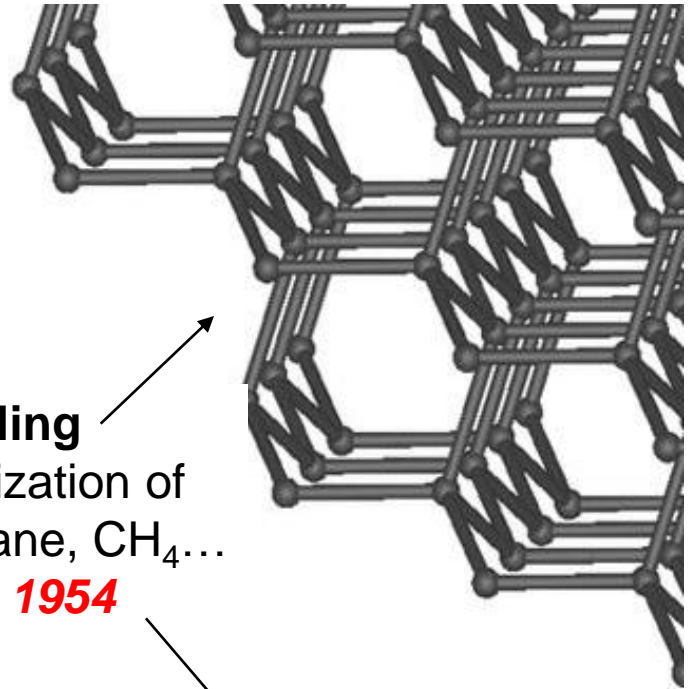
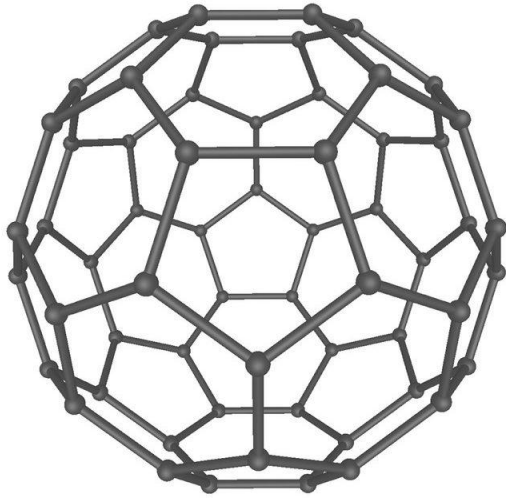


graphite



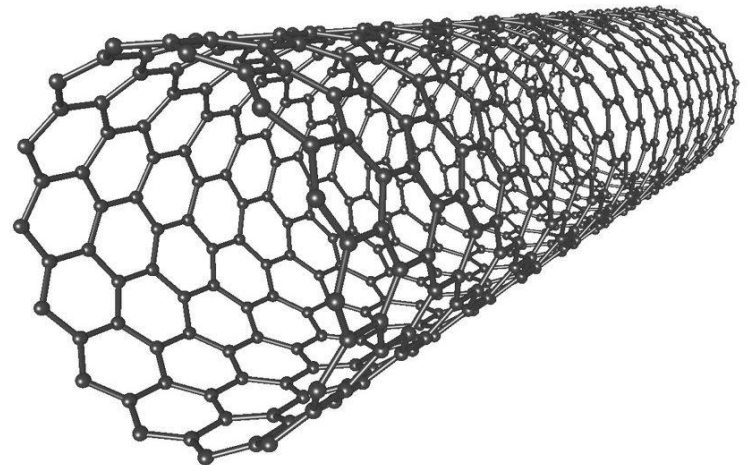
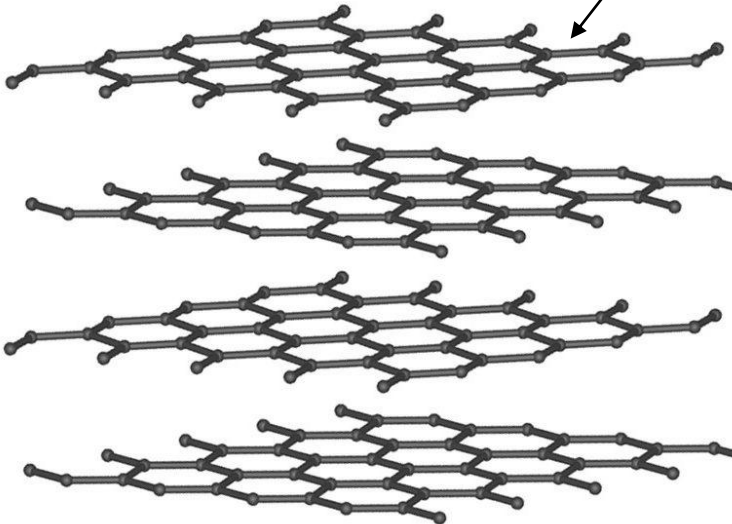
carbon nanotubes

Allotropes of Carbon

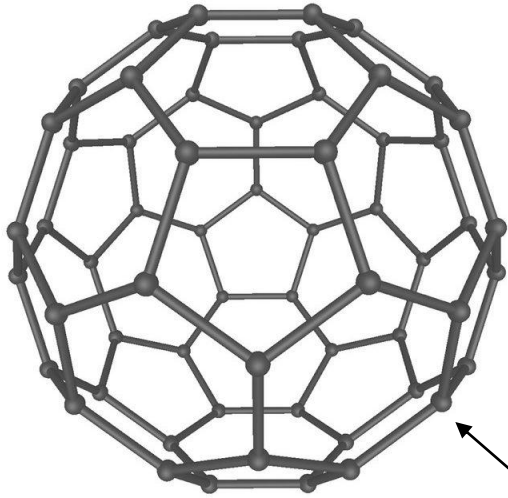


Linus Pauling
proposed hybridization of
sp bonds in methane, CH₄...

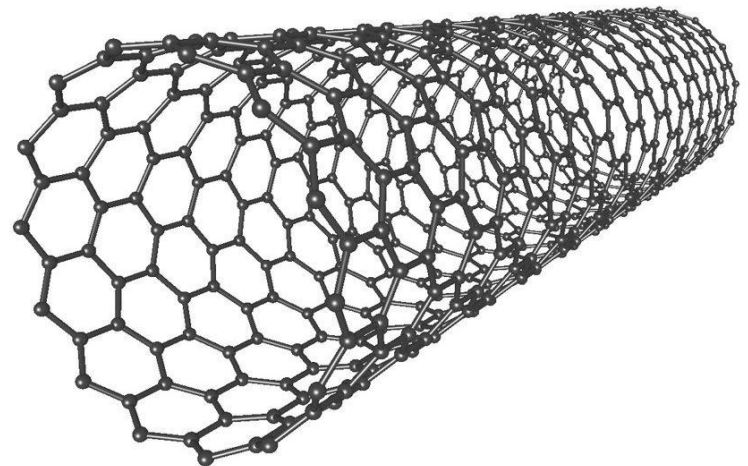
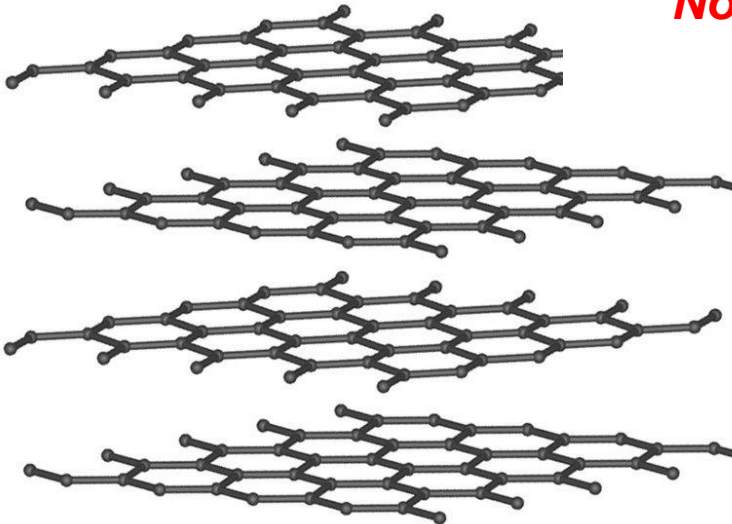
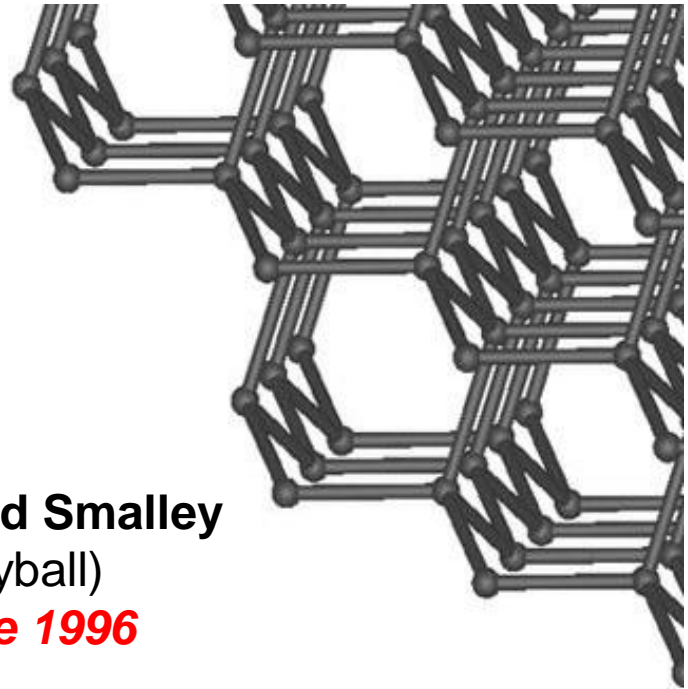
Nobel Prize 1954



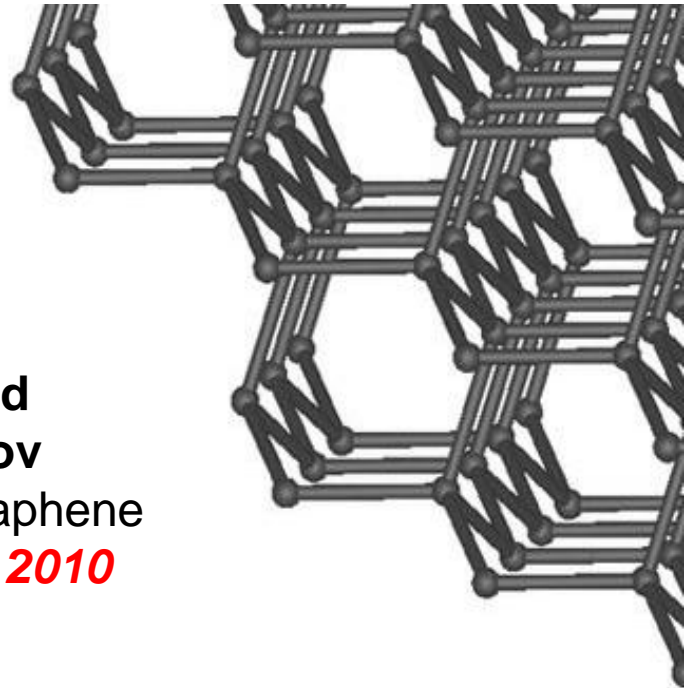
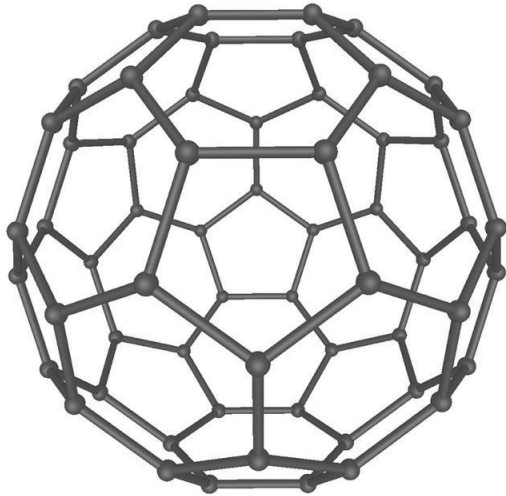
Allotropes of Carbon



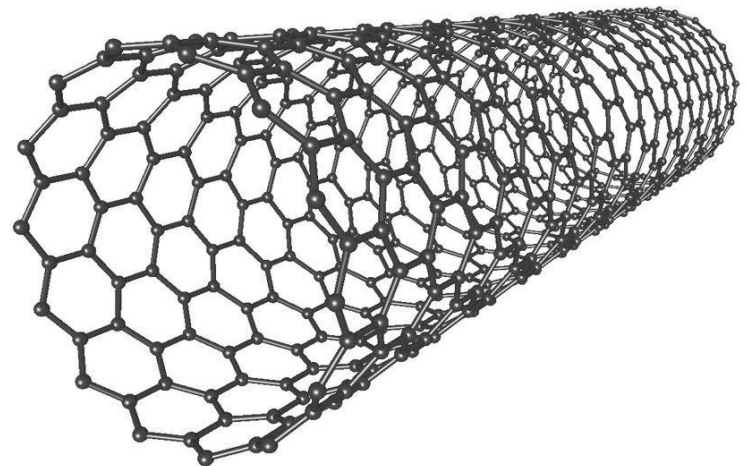
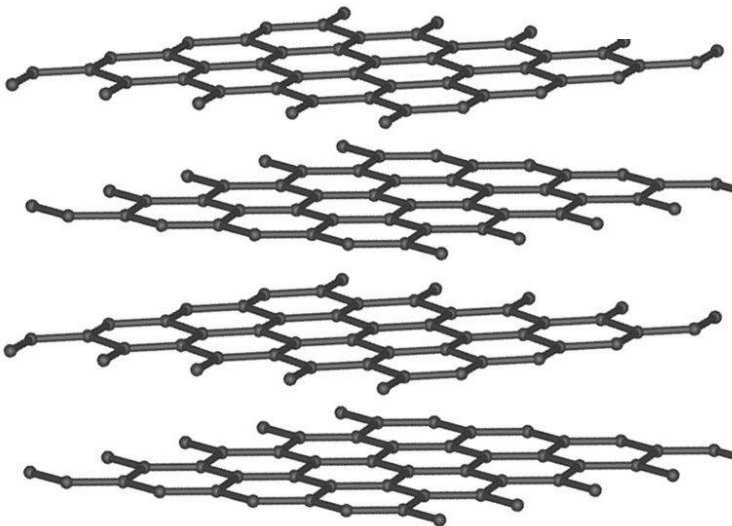
Kroto, Curl, and Smalley
C60 (buckyball)
Nobel Prize 1996



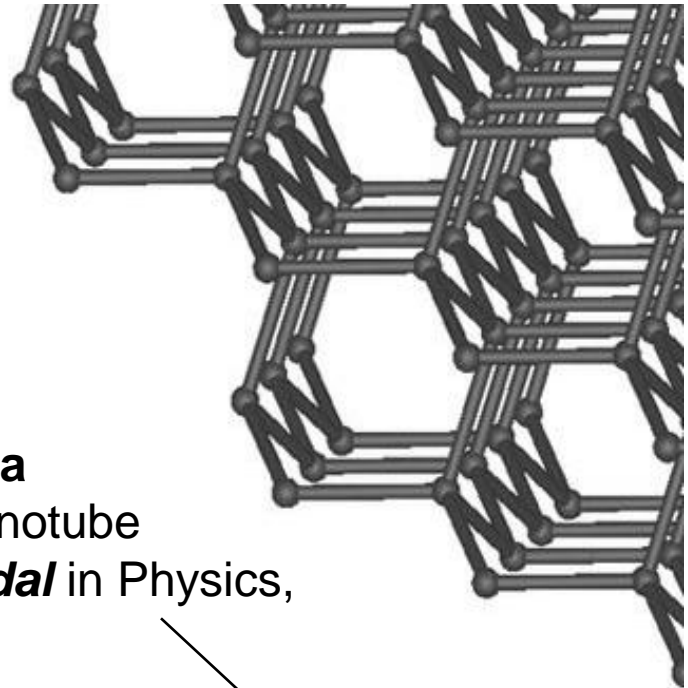
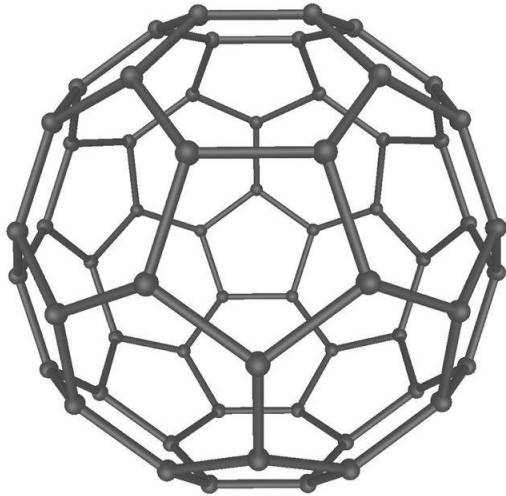
Allotropes of Carbon



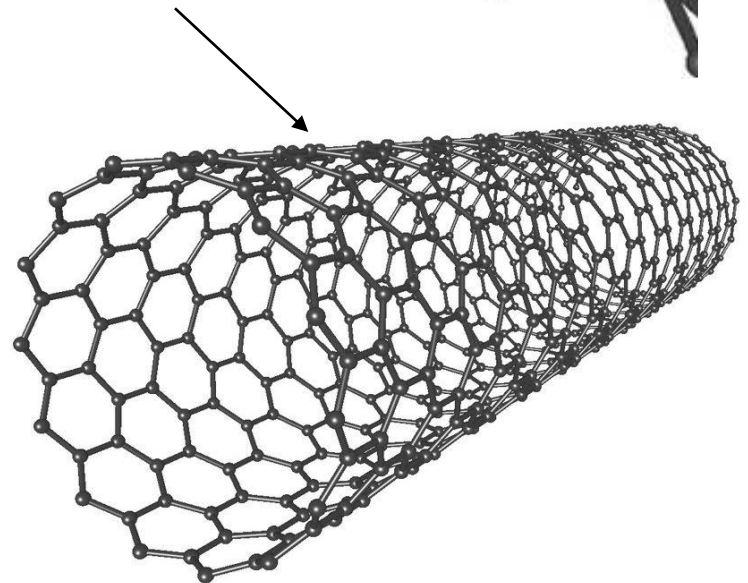
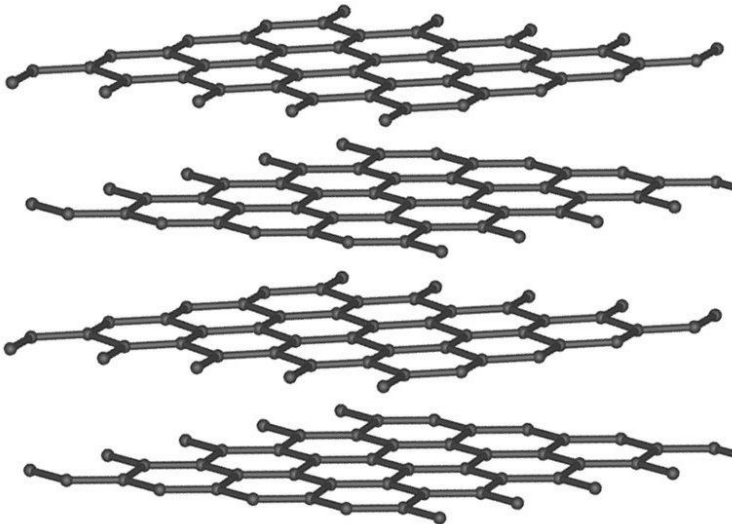
**Geim and
Novoselov**
Isolation of graphene
Nobel Prize 2010



Allotropes of Carbon



Sumio Ijima
2002 Carbon Nanotube
Benjamin Franklin Medal in Physics,



Periodic Table of the Elements

IA	IIA		III B										IIIA	IVA	VA	VIA	VIIA	VIIIA
1 H 1.0079	4 Be 9.0122												5 B 10.81	6 C 12.011	7 N 14.007	8 O 15.999	9 F 18.998	10 Ne 20.179
3 Li 6.941	12 Mg 24.305												13 Al 26.982	14 Si 28.086	15 P 30.974	16 S 32.06	17 Cl 35.453	18 Ar 39.948
11 Na 22.990	20 Ca 40.08		21 Sc 44.956	22 Ti 47.90	23 V 50.941	24 Cr 51.996	25 Mn 54.938	26 Fe 55.847	27 Co 58.933	28 Ni 58.71	29 Cu 63.546	30 Zn 65.38	31 Ga 69.72	32 Ge 72.59	33 As 74.922	34 Se 78.96	35 Br 79.904	36 Kr 83.80
19 K 39.098	38 Sr 87.62		39 Y 88.906	40 Zr 91.22	41 Nb 92.906	42 Mo 95.94	43 Tc (98)	44 Ru 101.07	45 Rh 102.91	46 Pd 106.4	47 Ag 107.87	48 Cd 112.41	49 In 114.82	50 Sn 118.69	51 Sb 121.75	52 Te 127.60	53 I 126.90	54 Xe 131.30
37 Rb 85.468	56 Ba 137.33		71 Lu 174.97	72 Hf 178.49	73 Ta 180.95	74 W 183.85	75 Re 186.21	76 Os 190.2	77 Ir 192.22	78 Pt 195.09	79 Au 196.97	80 Hg 200.59	81 Tl 204.37	82 Pb 207.2	83 Bi 208.98	84 Po (209)	85 At (210)	86 Rn (222)
55 Cs 132.91	88 Ra 226.03		103 Lr (260)	104* (261)	105* (262)	106* (263)	*Name Not Officially Assigned											

- Alkali Metals
- Alkaline Earth Metals
- Transition Metals
- Other Metals
- Nonmetals
- Noble Gases
- Inner Transition Metals
- E Gaseous State
- E Liquid State
- E Solid State
- E Synthetically Prepared

Lanthanide Series	57 La 138.91	58 Ce 140.12	59 Pr 140.91	60 Nd 144.24	61 Pm (145)	62 Sm 150.4	63 Eu 151.96	64 Gd 157.25	65 Tb 158.93	66 Dy 162.50	67 Ho 164.93	68 Er 167.26	69 Tm 168.93	70 Yb 173.04
Actinide Series	89 Ac (227)	90 Th 232.04	91 Pa 231.04	92 U 238.03	93 Np 237.05	94 Pu (244)	95 Am (243)	96 Cm (247)	97 Bk (247)	98 Cf (251)	99 Es (254)	100 Fm (257)	101 Md (258)	102 No (259)

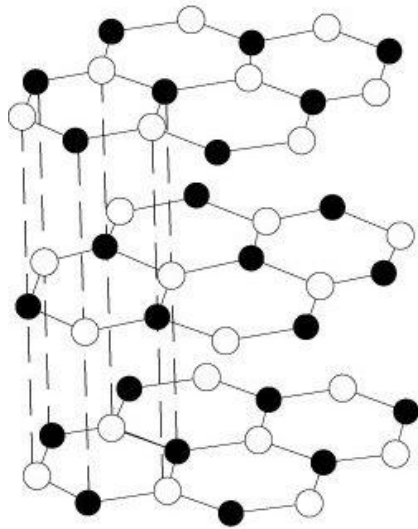
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37 Rb 85.468	56 Ba 137.33		57 La 138.91	58 Ce 140.12	59 Pr 140.91	60 Nd 144.24	61 Pm (145)	62 Sm 150.4	63 Eu 151.96	64 Gd 157.25	65 Tb 158.93	66 Dy 162.50	67 Ho 164.93	68 Er 167.26	69 Tm 168.93	70 Yb 173.04		
55 Cs 132.91	86 Rn (222)		87 Fr (223)	88 Ra 226.03	89 Ac (227)	90 Th 232.04	91 Pa 231.04	92 U 238.03	93 Np 237.05	94 Pu (244)	95 Am (243)	96 Cm (247)	97 Bk (247)	98 Cf (251)	99 Es (254)	100 Fm (257)	101 Md (258)	102 No (259)
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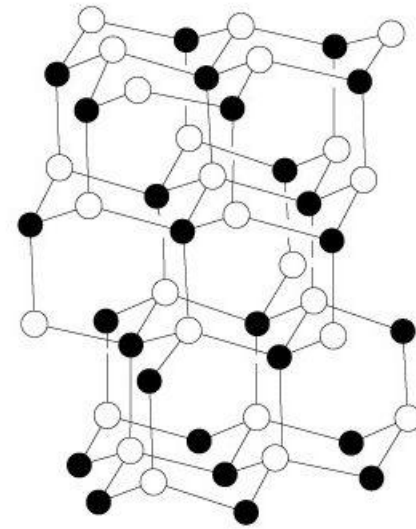
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Forms of Boron-Nitrogen

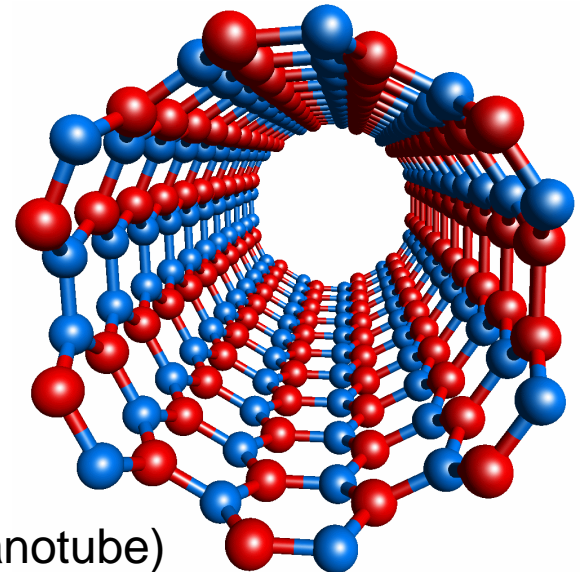
BN ball
?



Hexagonal BN (hBN)



Cubic BN (cBN)



BNNT
(BN nanotube)

Macro Forms of BN

X



Diamond-like cubic BN



White 'graphite'



Boron nitride nanotubes

Boron Nitride Nanotubes (BNNTs)...

Are just as **strong** as carbon nanotubes
and are good **thermal conductors** too, but...

Have **double the service temperature**,
Are highly **electro-active** (due to polar bond),
Are good **neutron shields** (due to boron content),
Have more **active surface chemistry**,
Are **white** (you can dye them!).
Are **non-cytotoxic** (to human cells, so far),

But, BNNTs were much harder to make than CNTs.

...until now.

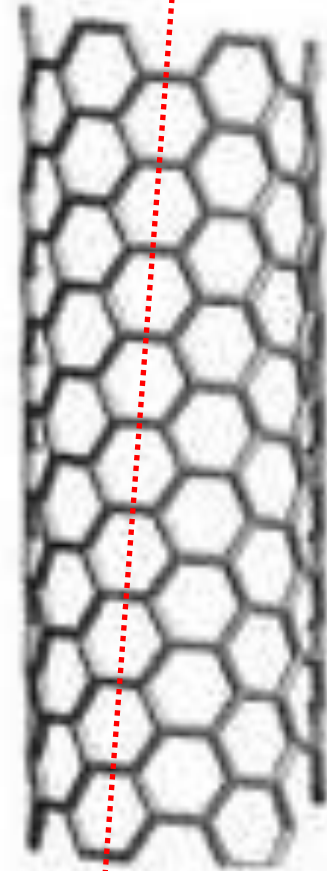
**Structural similarities and differences,
BNNT vs CNT...**



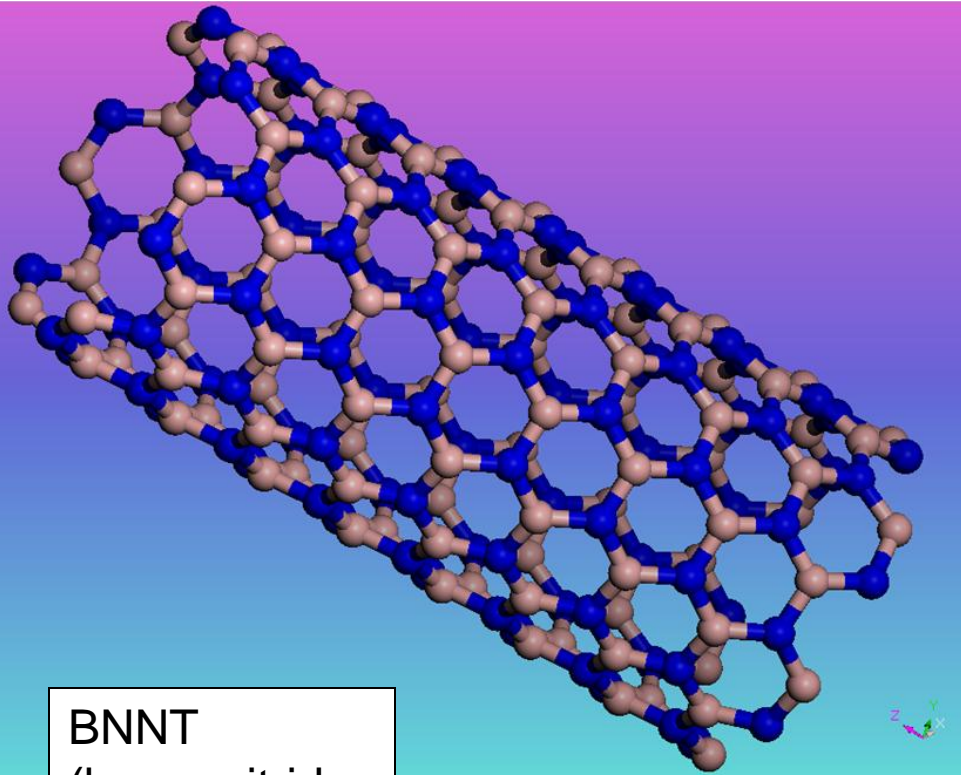
armchair



zigzag



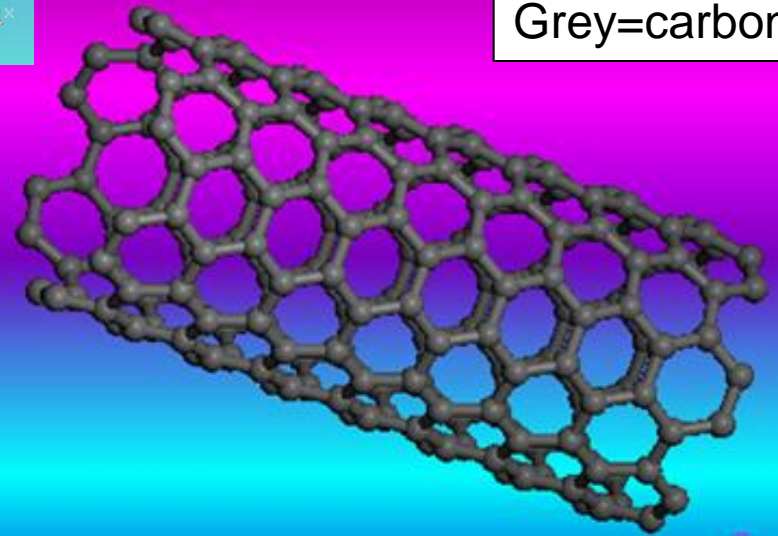
chiral



BNNT
(boron nitride
nanotube)

Blue=boron
Grey=nitrogen

CNT
(carbon
nanotube)
Grey=carbon



Chiral BNNT

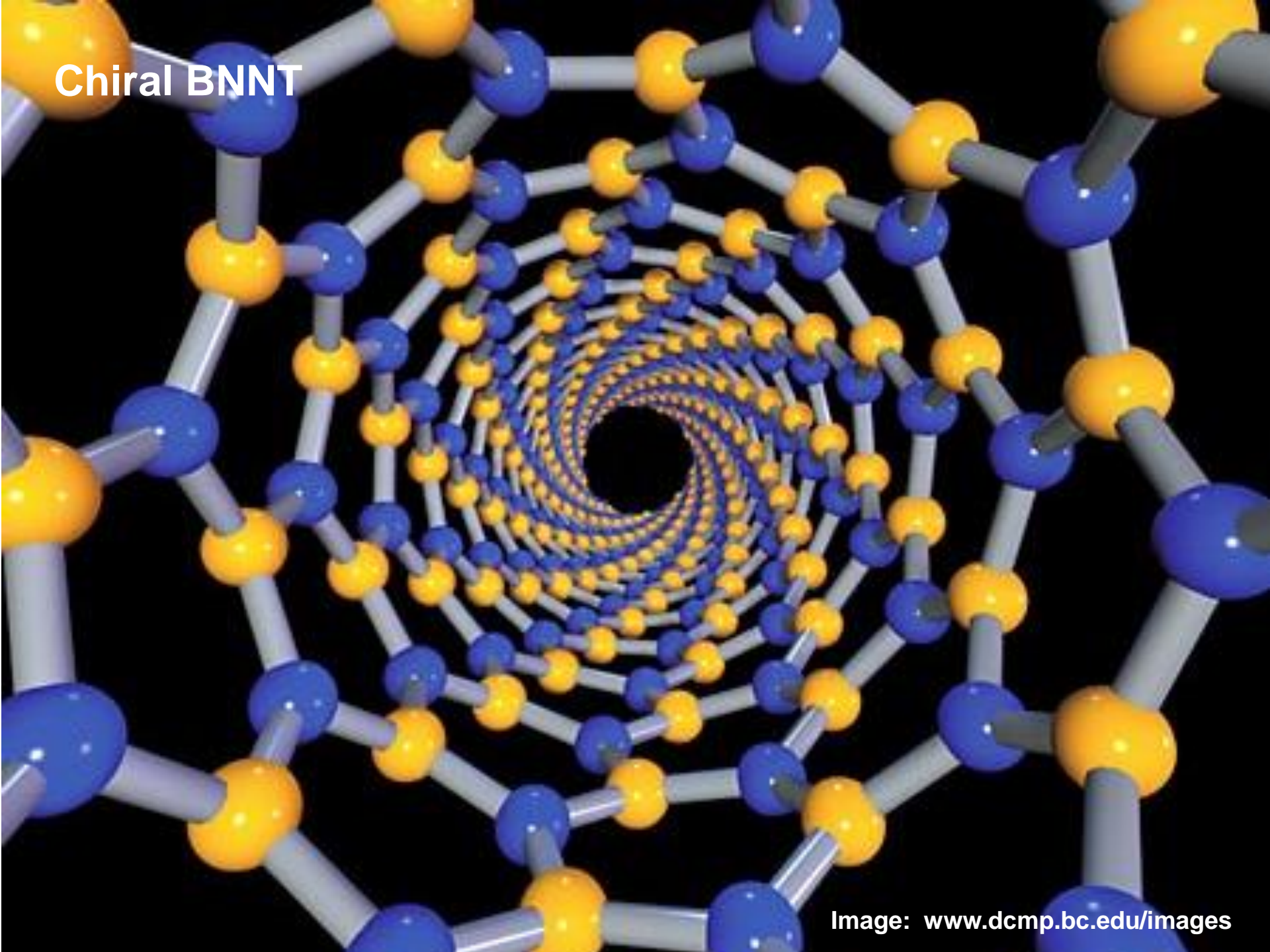


Image: www.dcmp.bc.edu/images

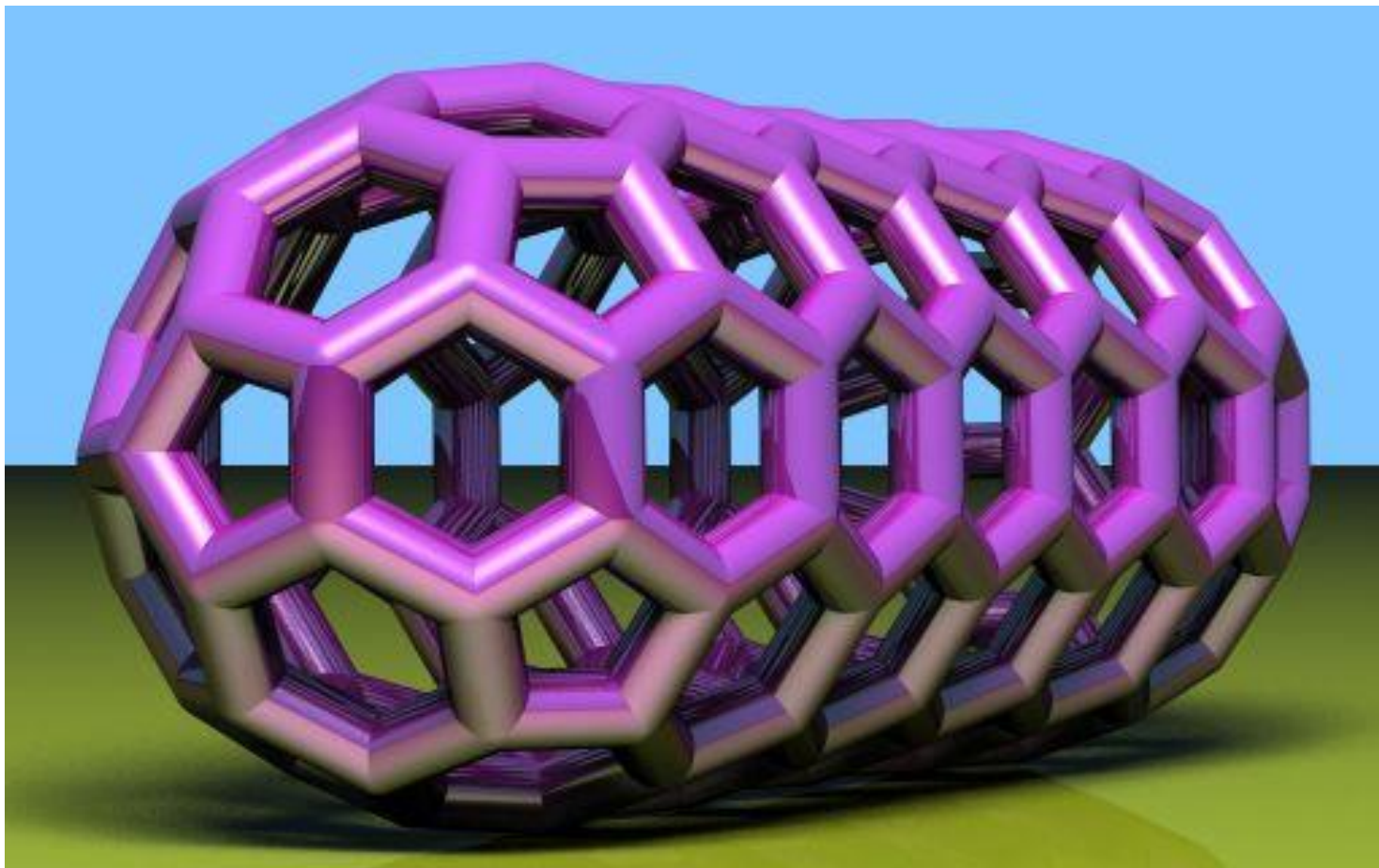
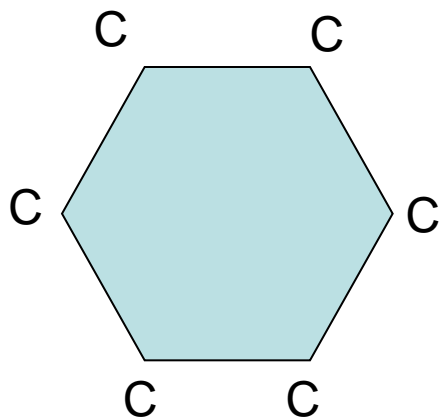
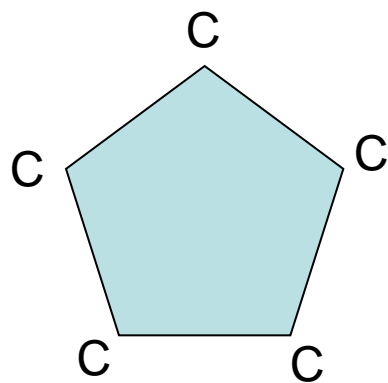


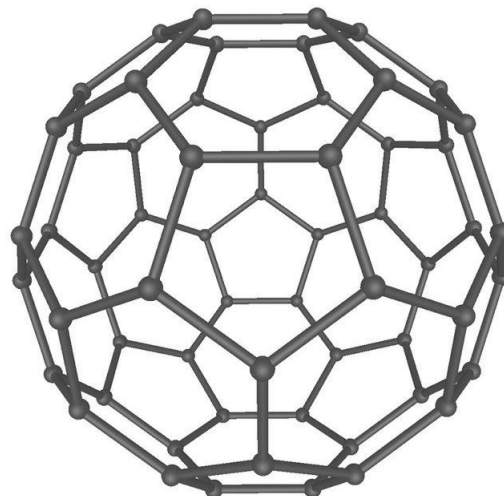
Image: <http://home.icpf.cas.cz>



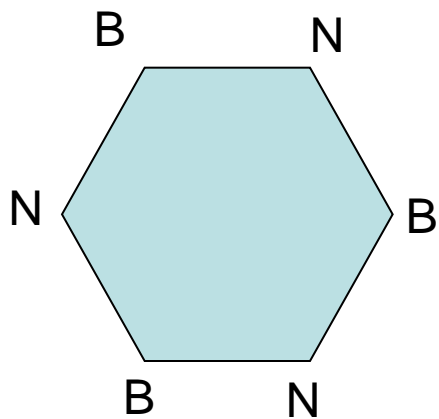
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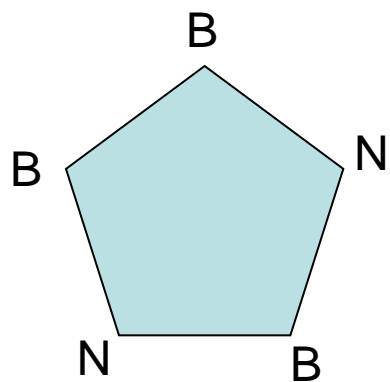
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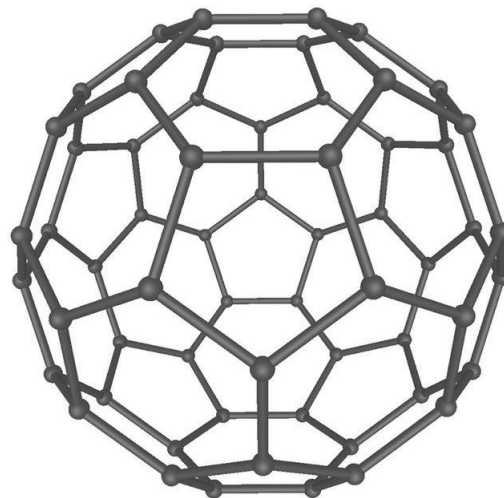
C₆₀



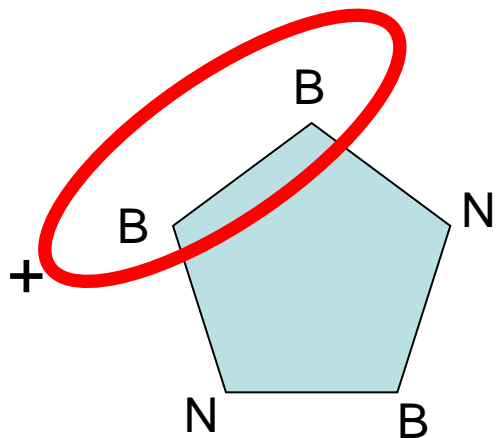
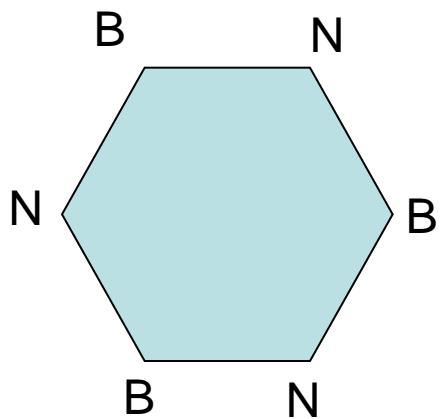
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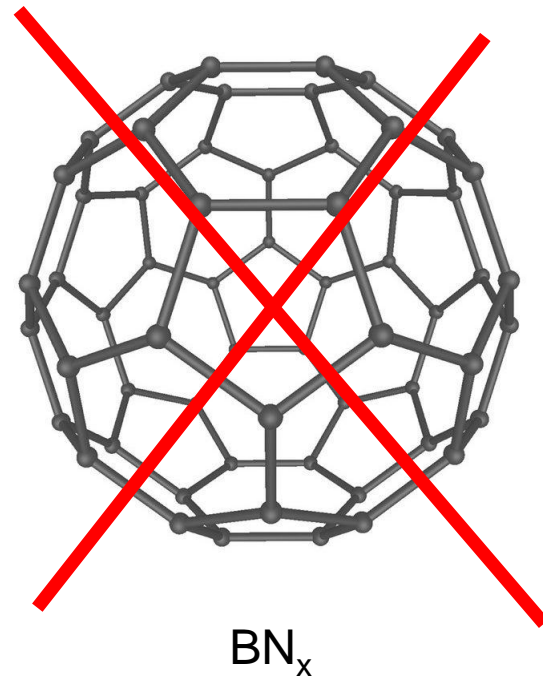
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BN_x



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BN_x

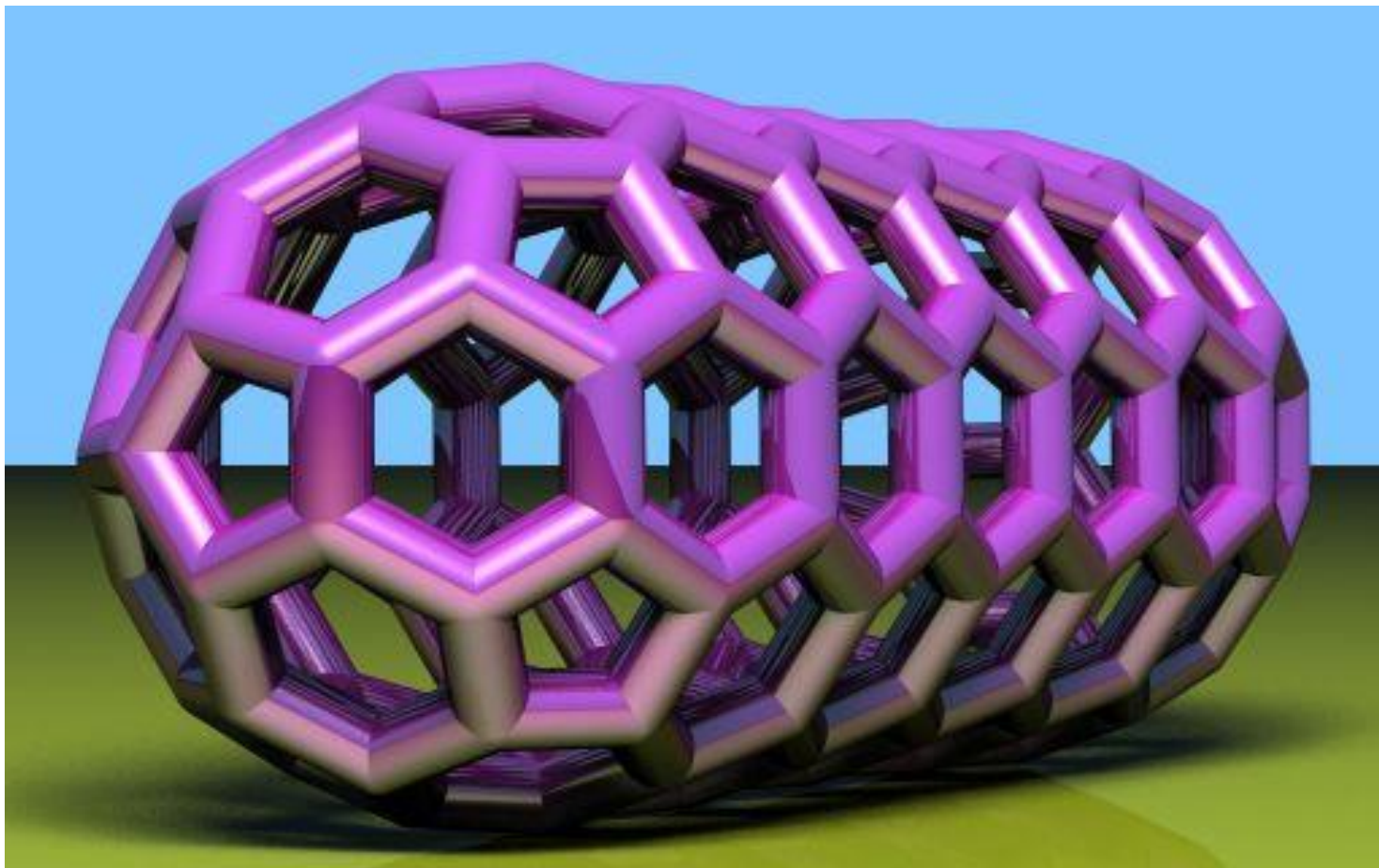
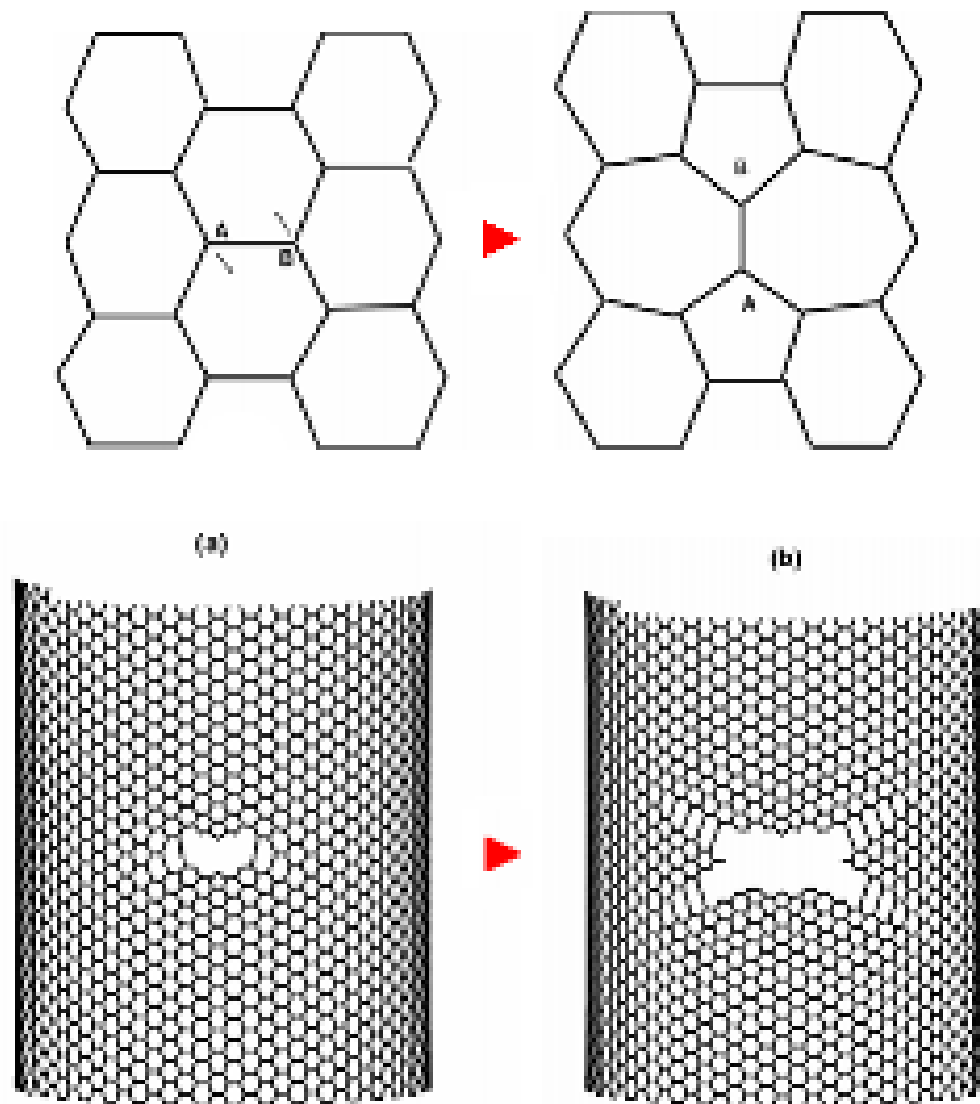
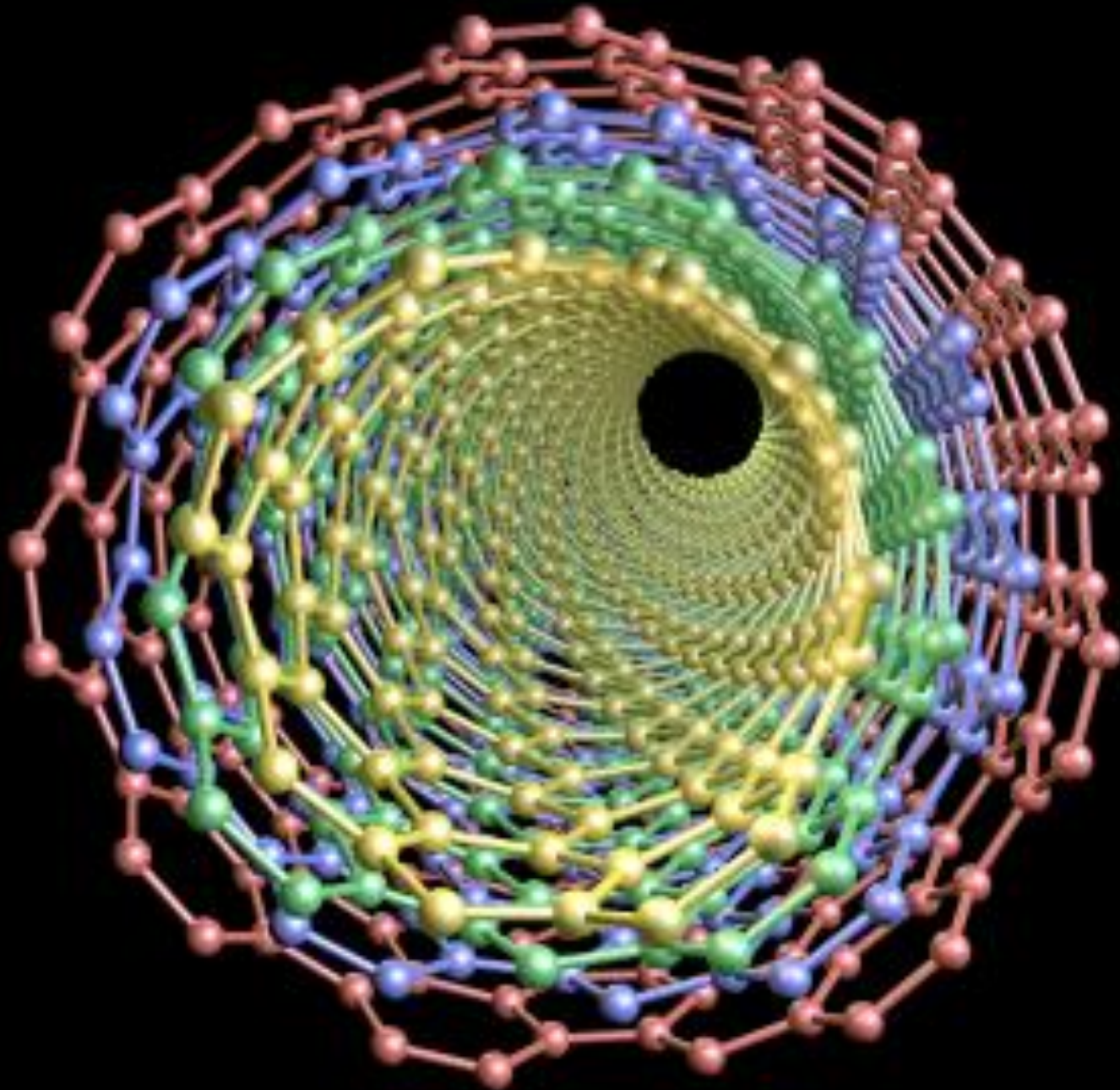


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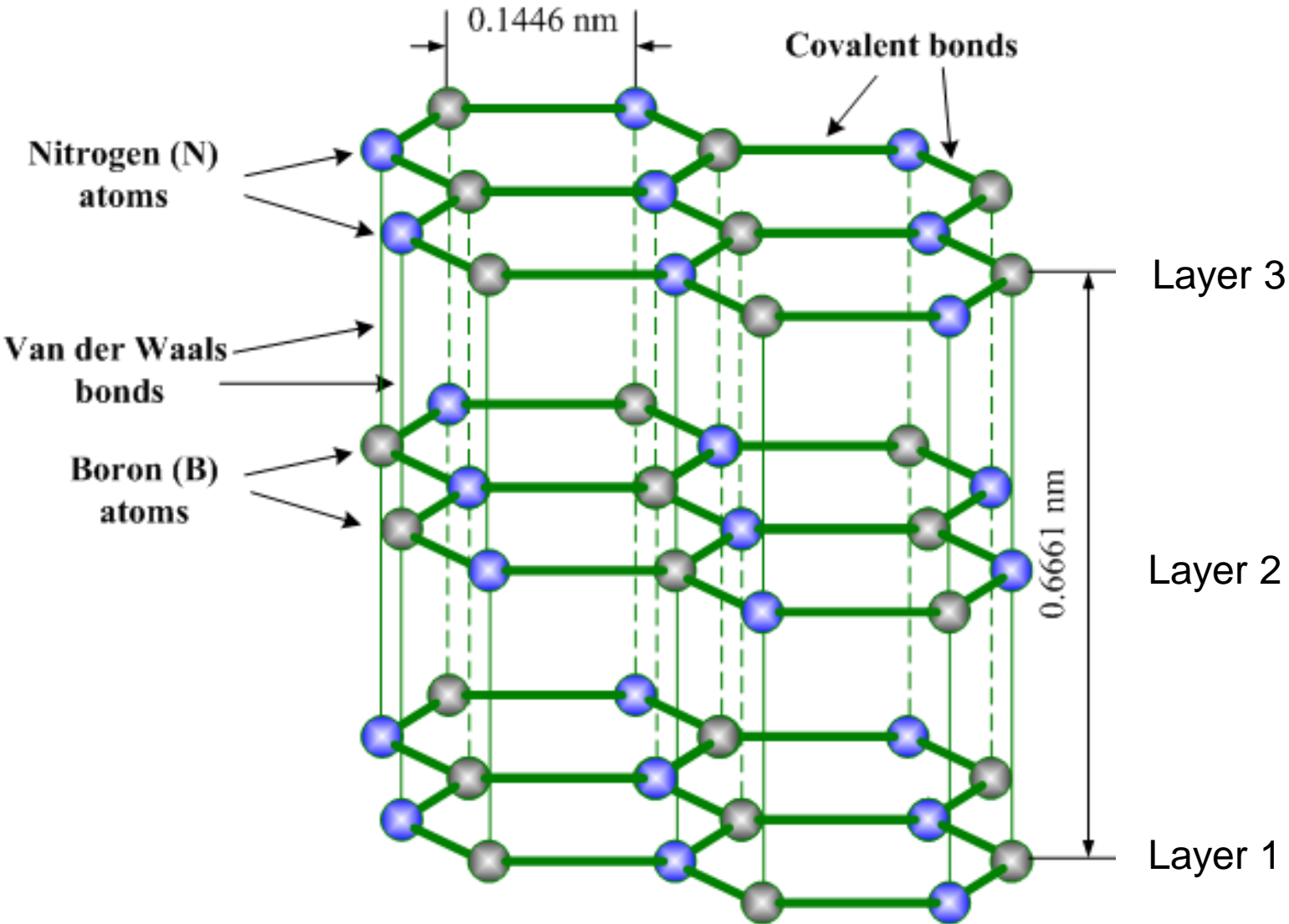
'Stone Wales'
Defects in
Carbon Nanotube
Under tensile stress

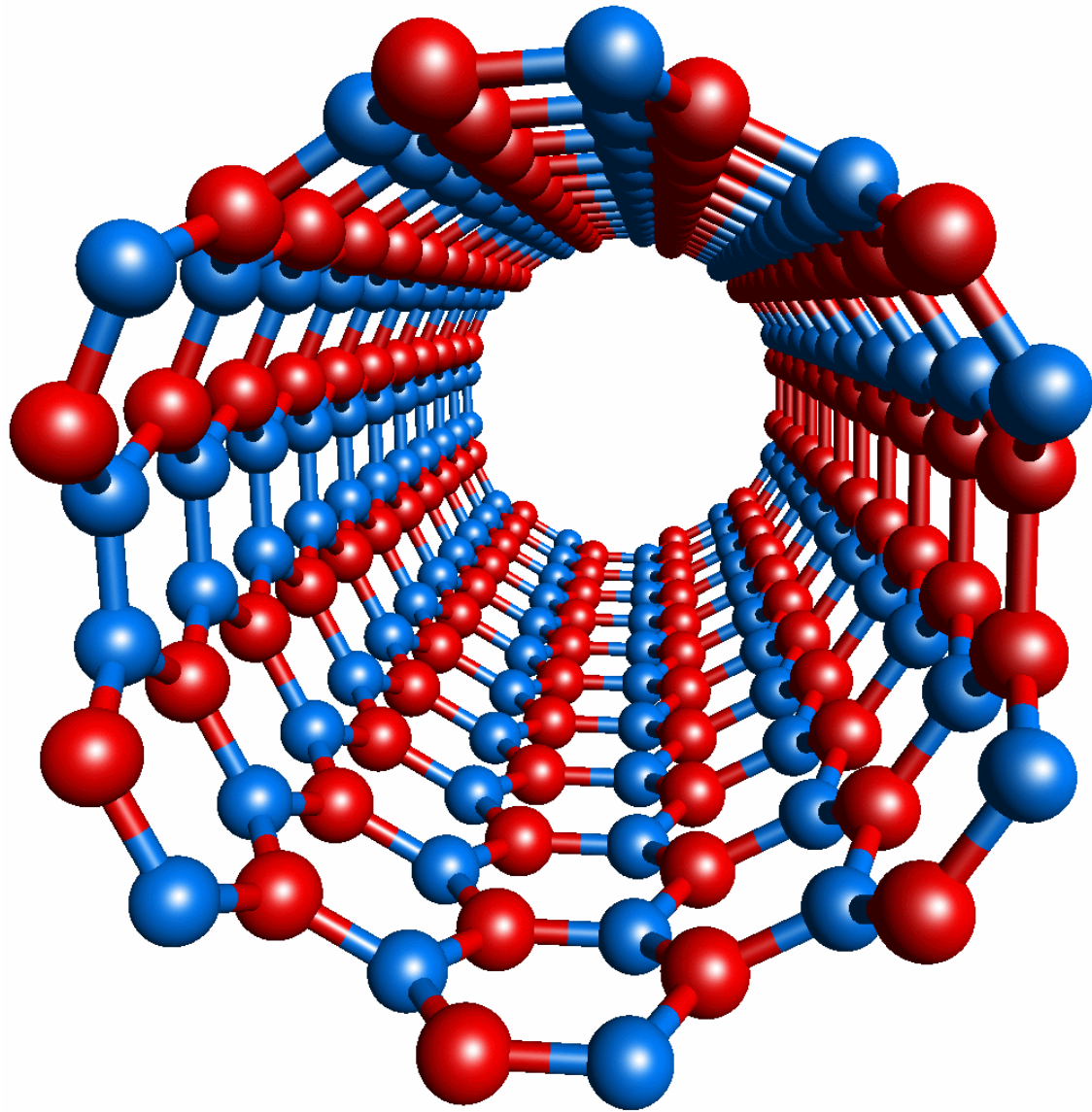


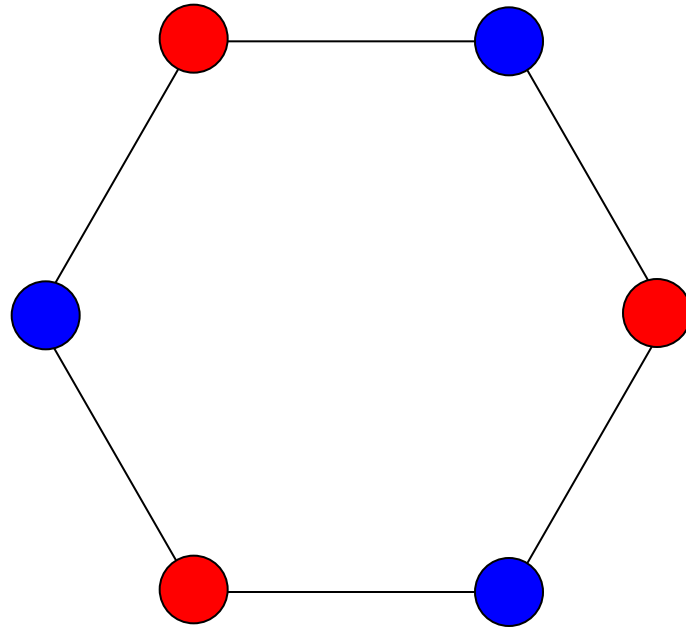
Four-wall carbon nanotube



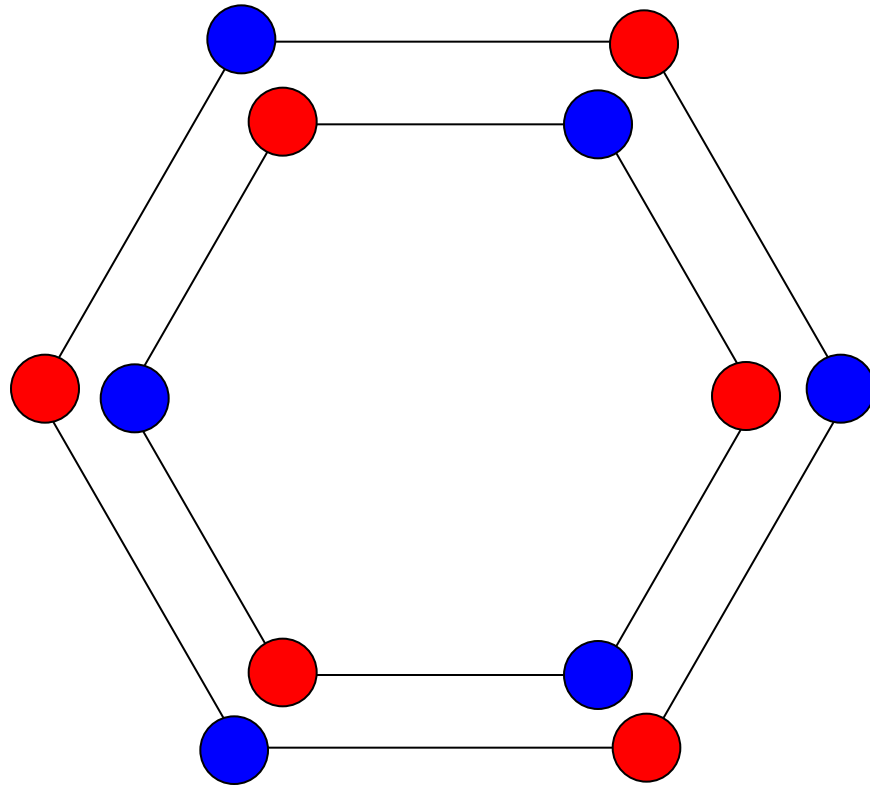
Three layers of graphite-like hBN, showing stacking structure



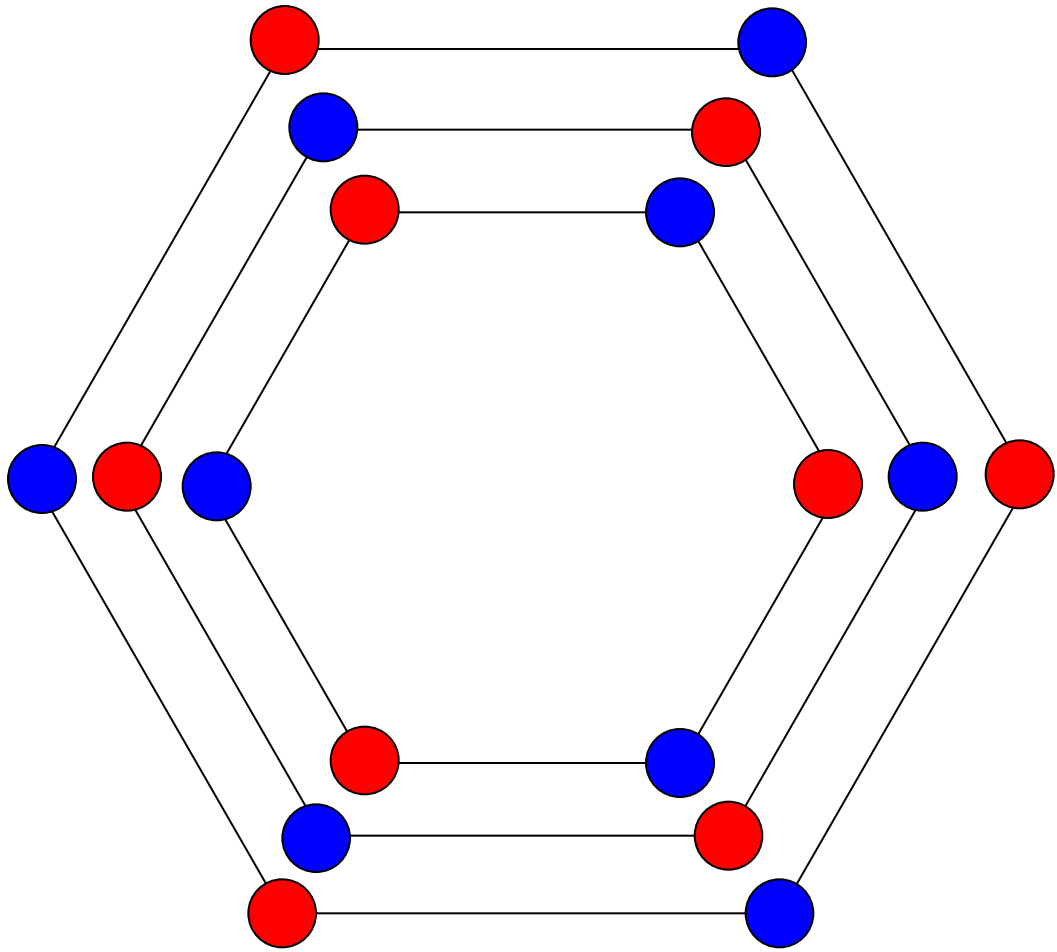




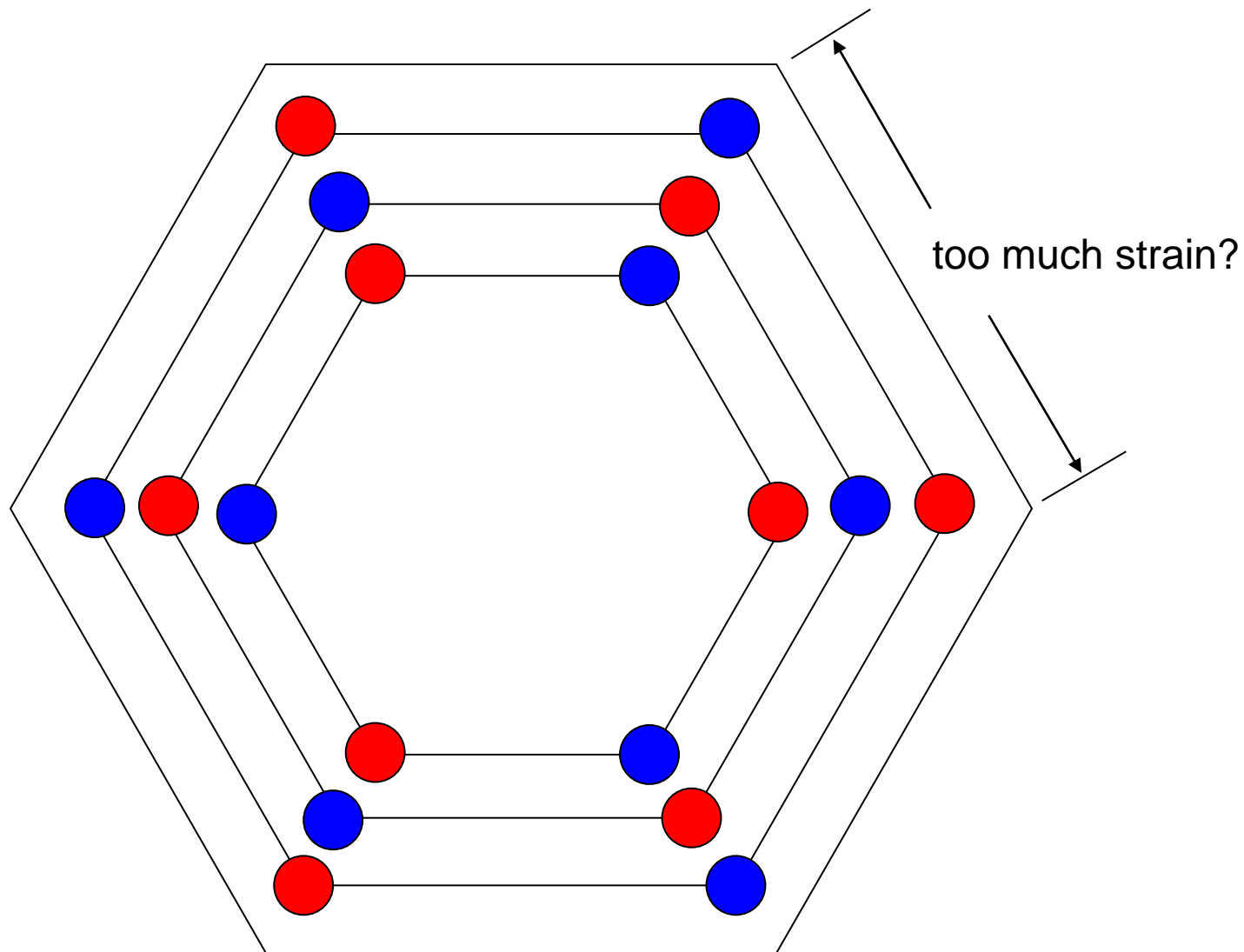
Cross-section, one-wall BNNT



Cross-section, two-wall BNNT

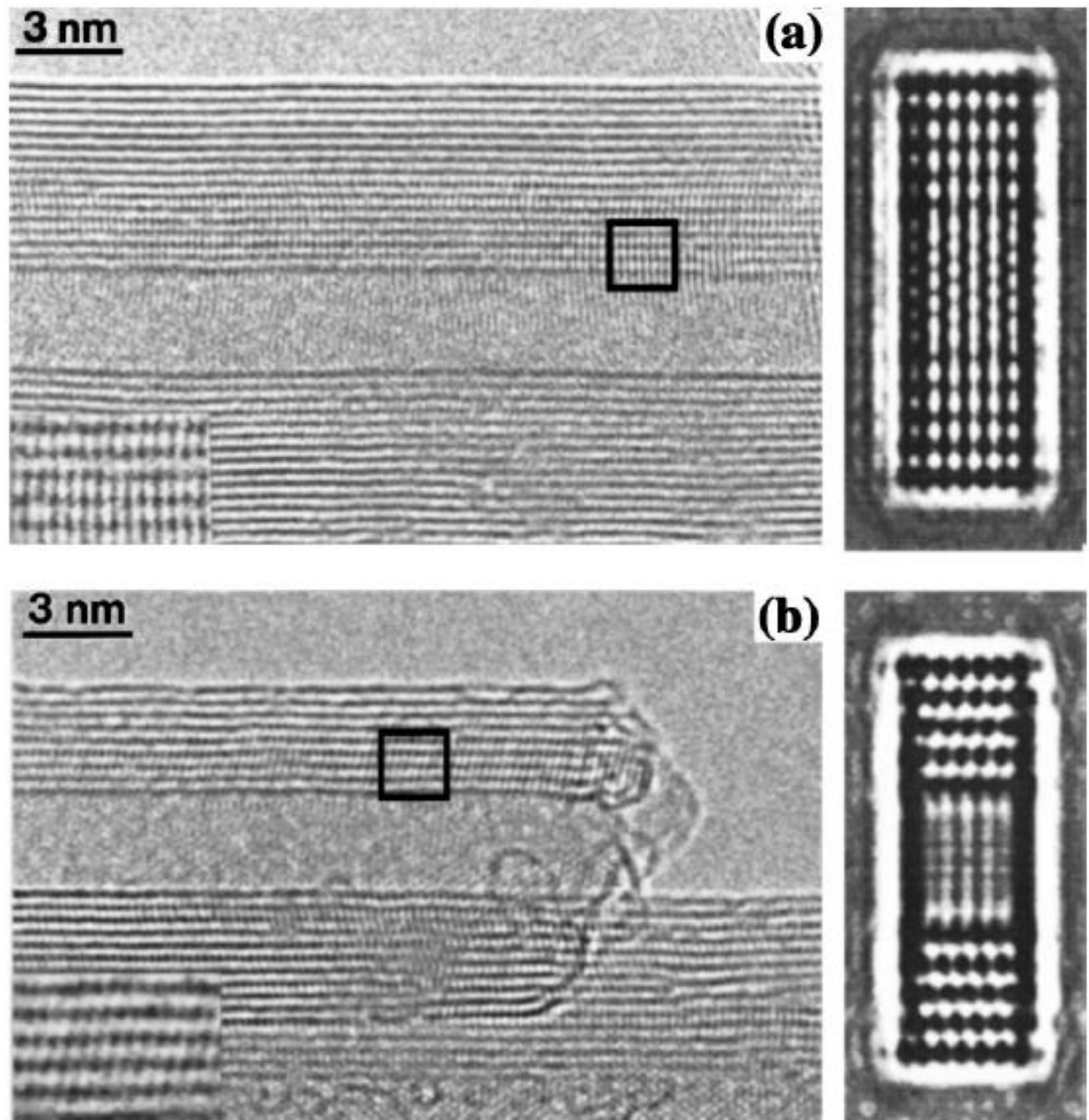


Cross-section, three-wall BNNT

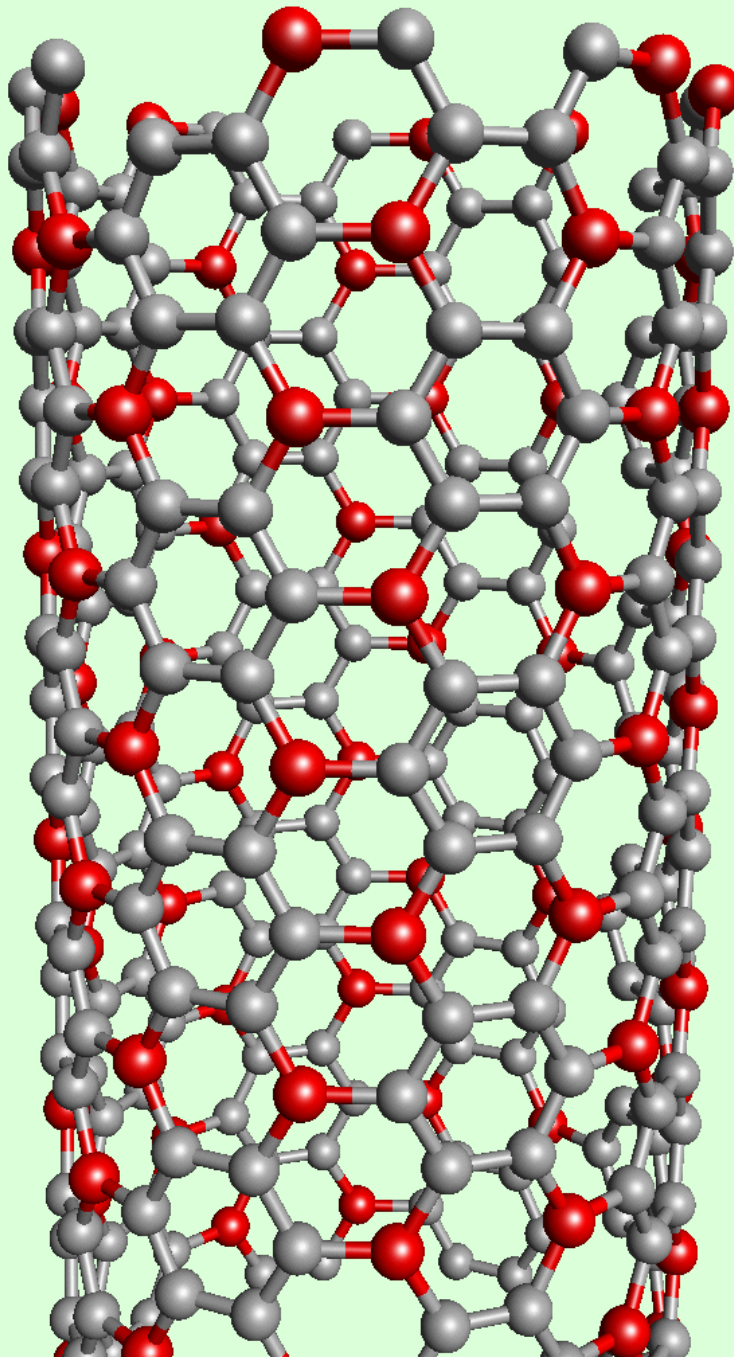


Cross-section, four-wall BNNT?

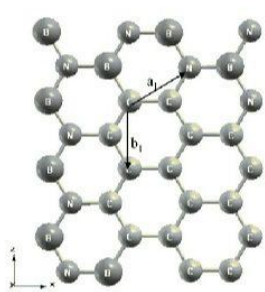
HRTEM images of multiwalled BN NTs found in the specimens synthesized using Ag_2O (a) and MoO_3 (b) promoters. Definite but different stacking order is apparent in marked areas in (a) and (b) as highlighted in the insets. Hexagonal type stacking in (a) and rhombohedral-type stacking in (b) are confirmed by corresponding computer simulated HRTEM images (right-hand side images) for BN NTs having the axes parallel to the $[10\bar{1}0]$ orientation (zigzag tubes).



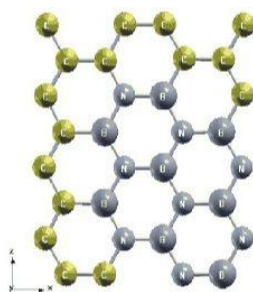
Example of BC_3
Nanotube



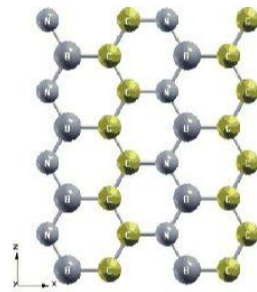
Possible Combinations of $B_xC_yN_z$



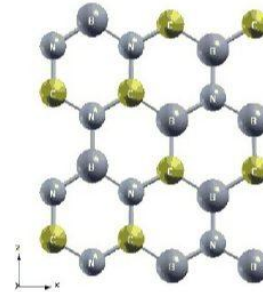
(a) island-like BC_2N



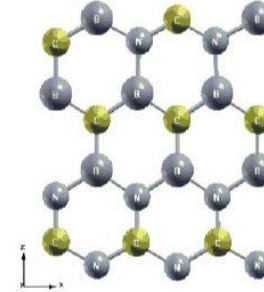
(b) island-like BC_2N



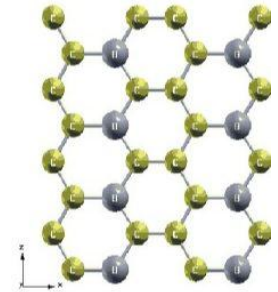
(c) stripe-like BC_2N



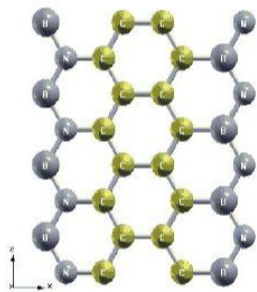
(g) BCN



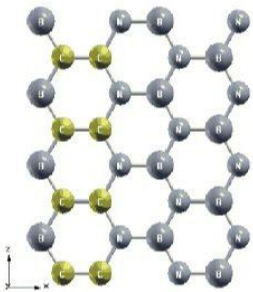
(h) BCN



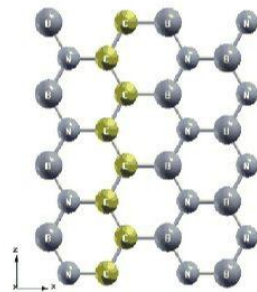
(i) BC_3



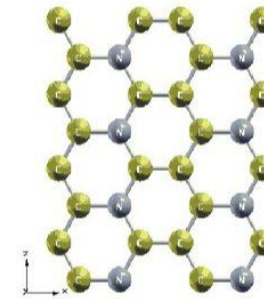
(d) stripe-like BC_2N



(e) $B_3N_3C_2$

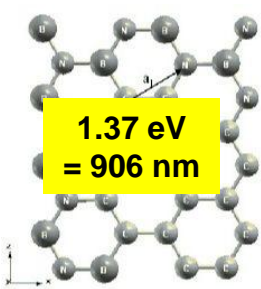


(f) $B_3N_3C_2$

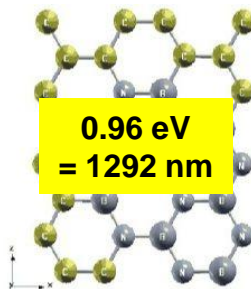


(j) NC_3

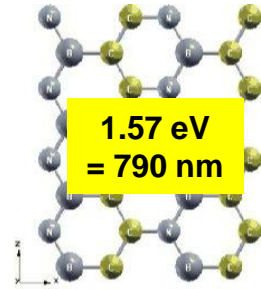
Possible Combinations of $B_xC_yN_z$



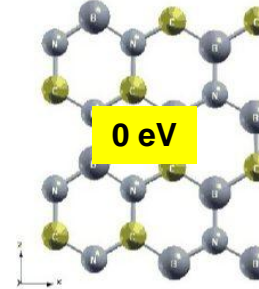
(a) island-like BC_2N



(b) island-like BC_2N



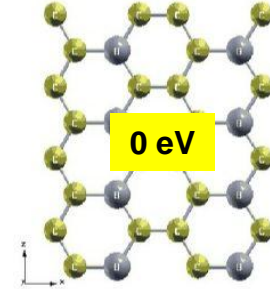
(c) stripe-like BC_2N



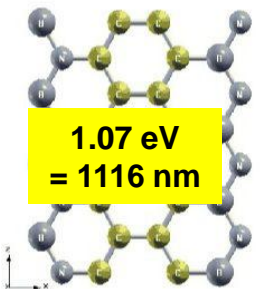
(g) BCN



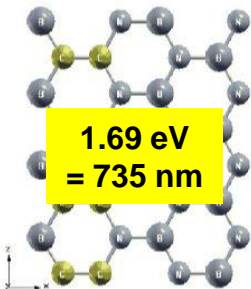
(h) BCN



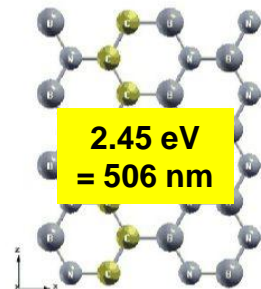
(i) BC_3



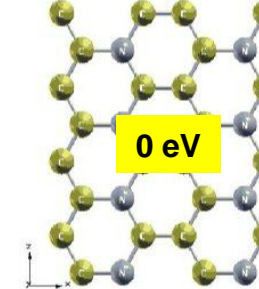
(d) stripe-like BC_2N



(e) $B_3N_3C_2$

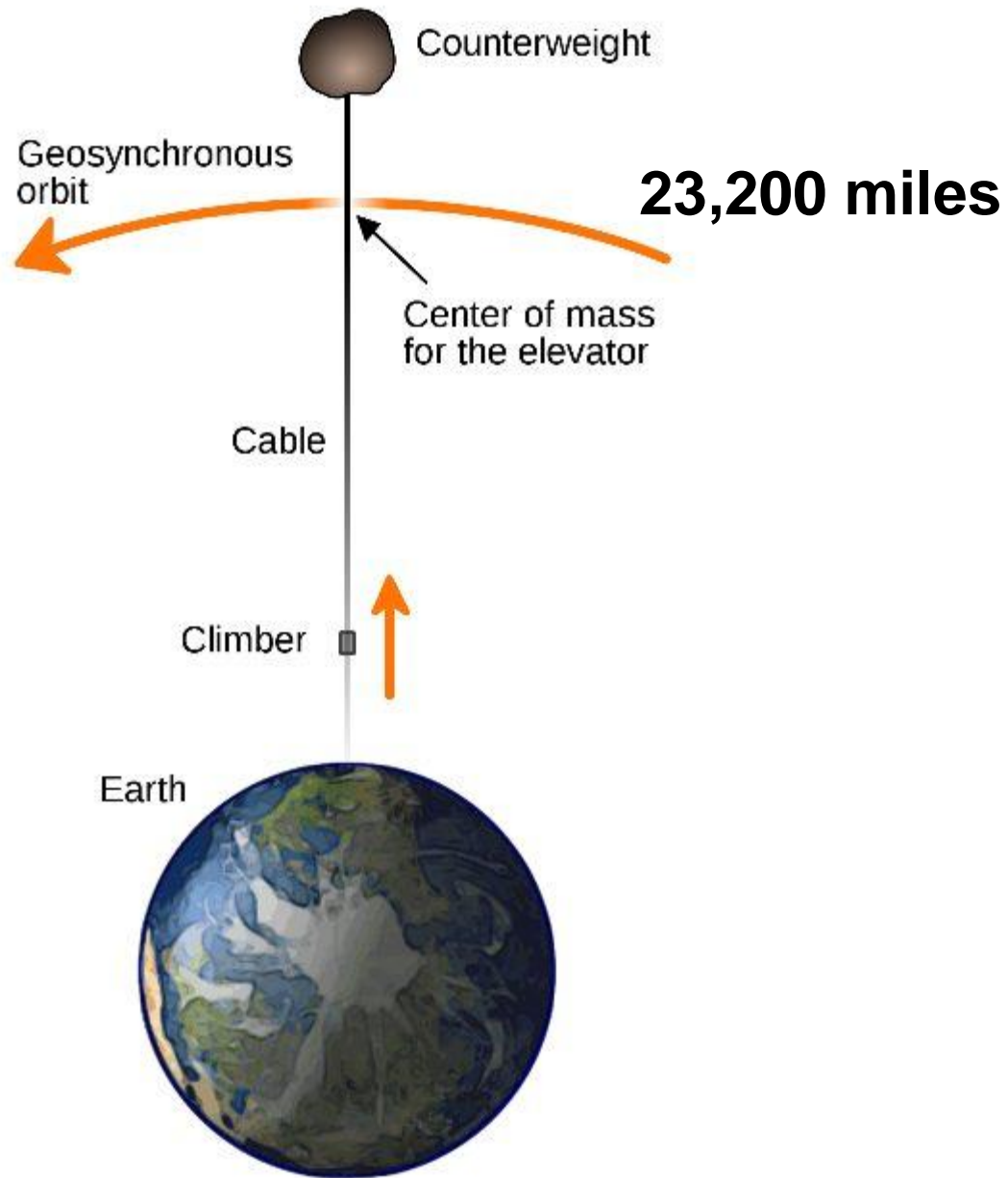


(f) $B_3N_3C_2$

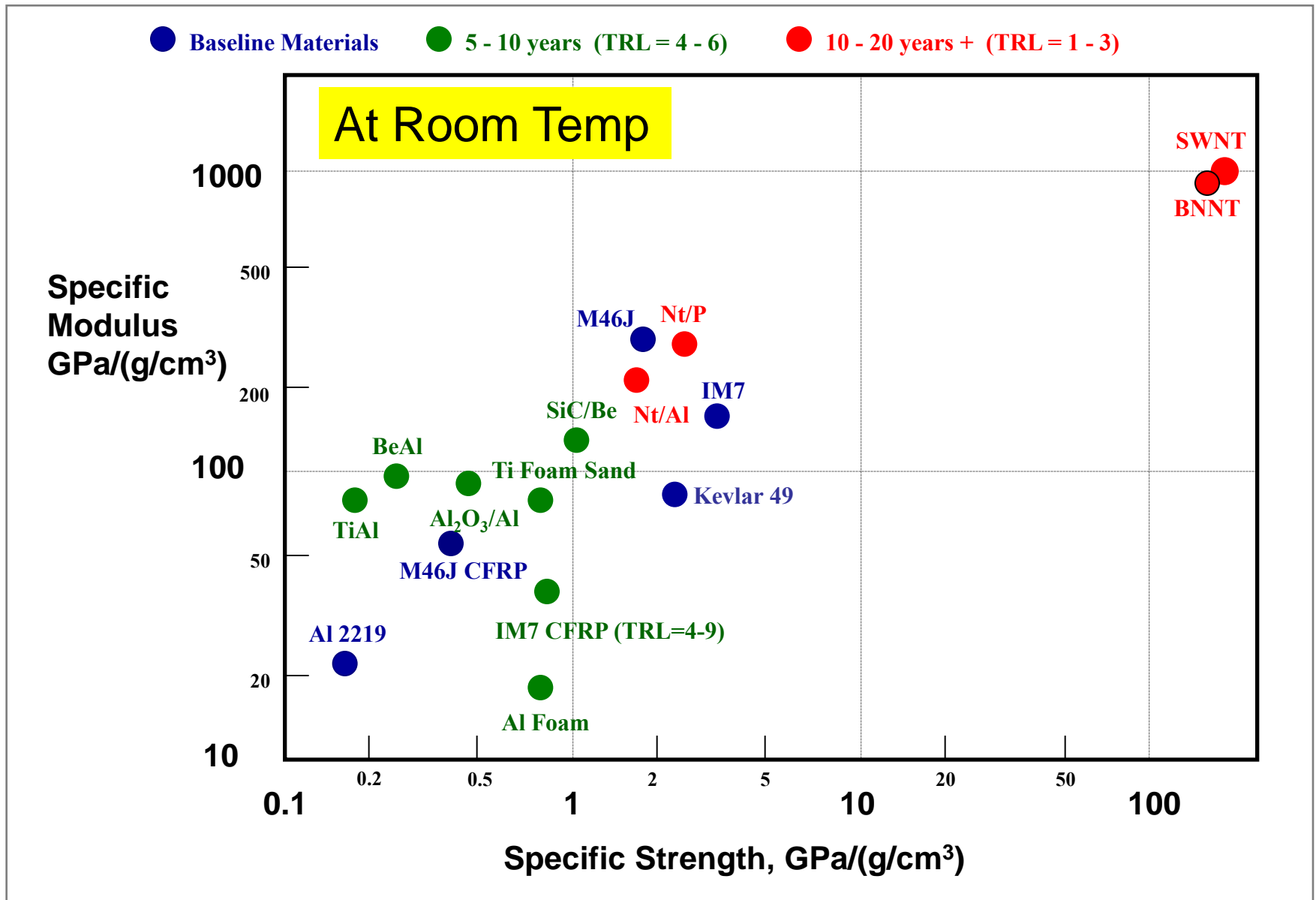


(j) NC_3

calculated band gaps

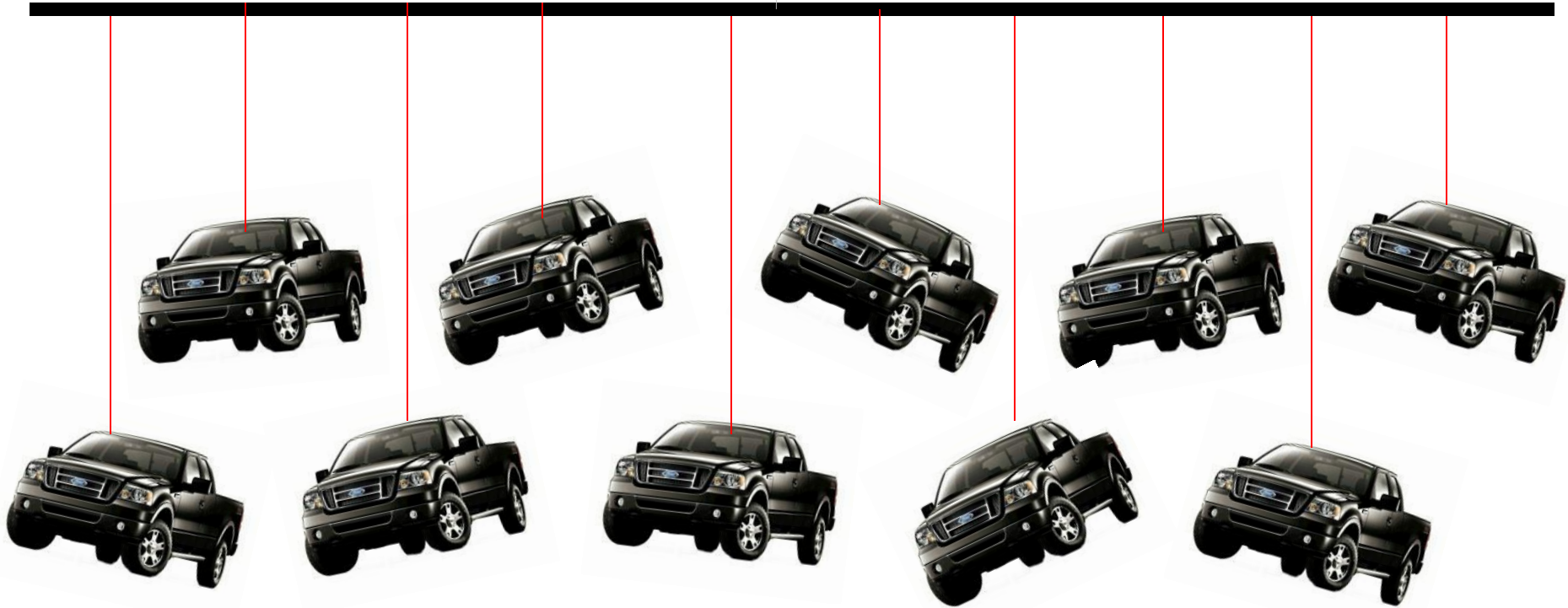


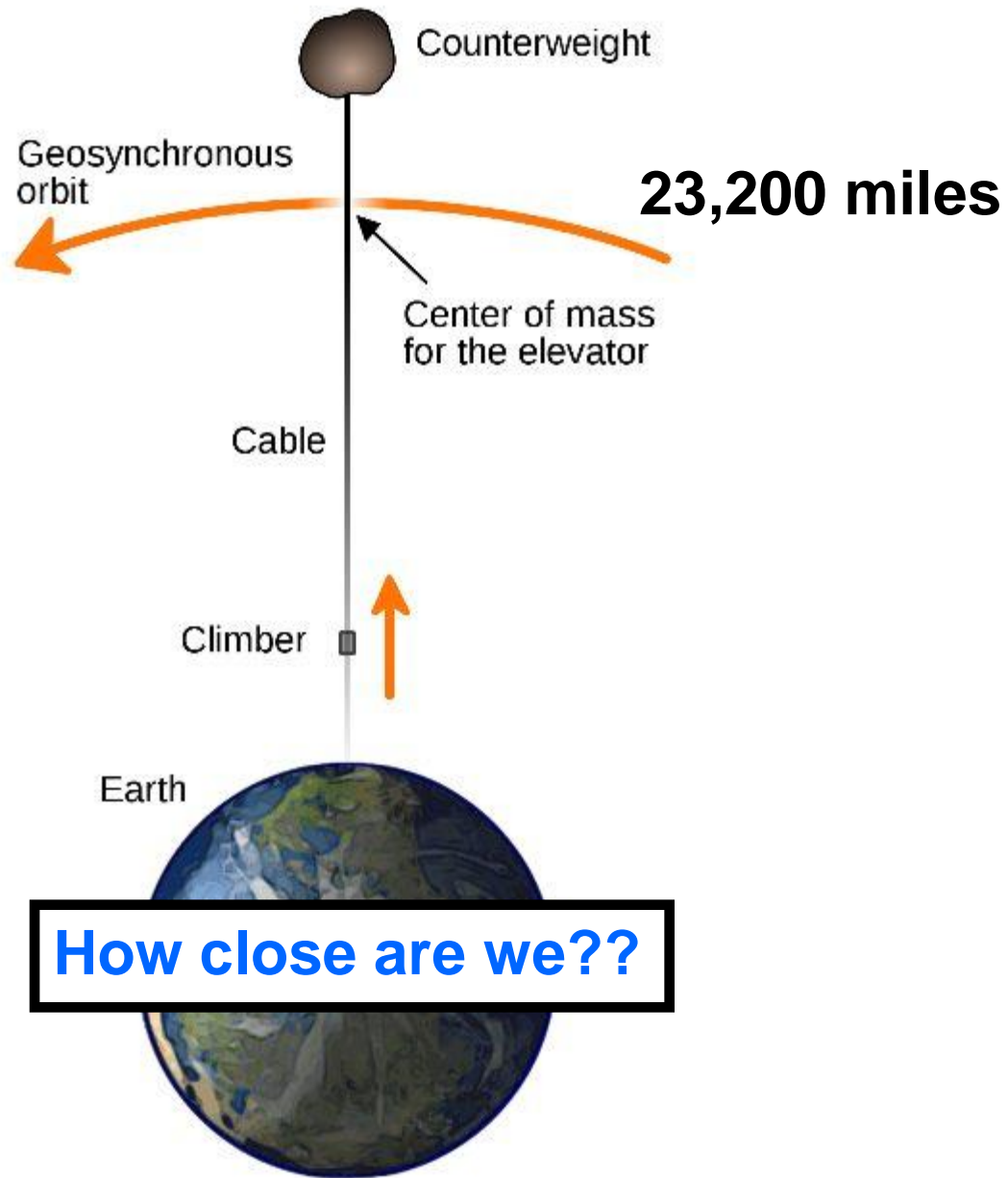
Properties of Materials for Vehicle Structure



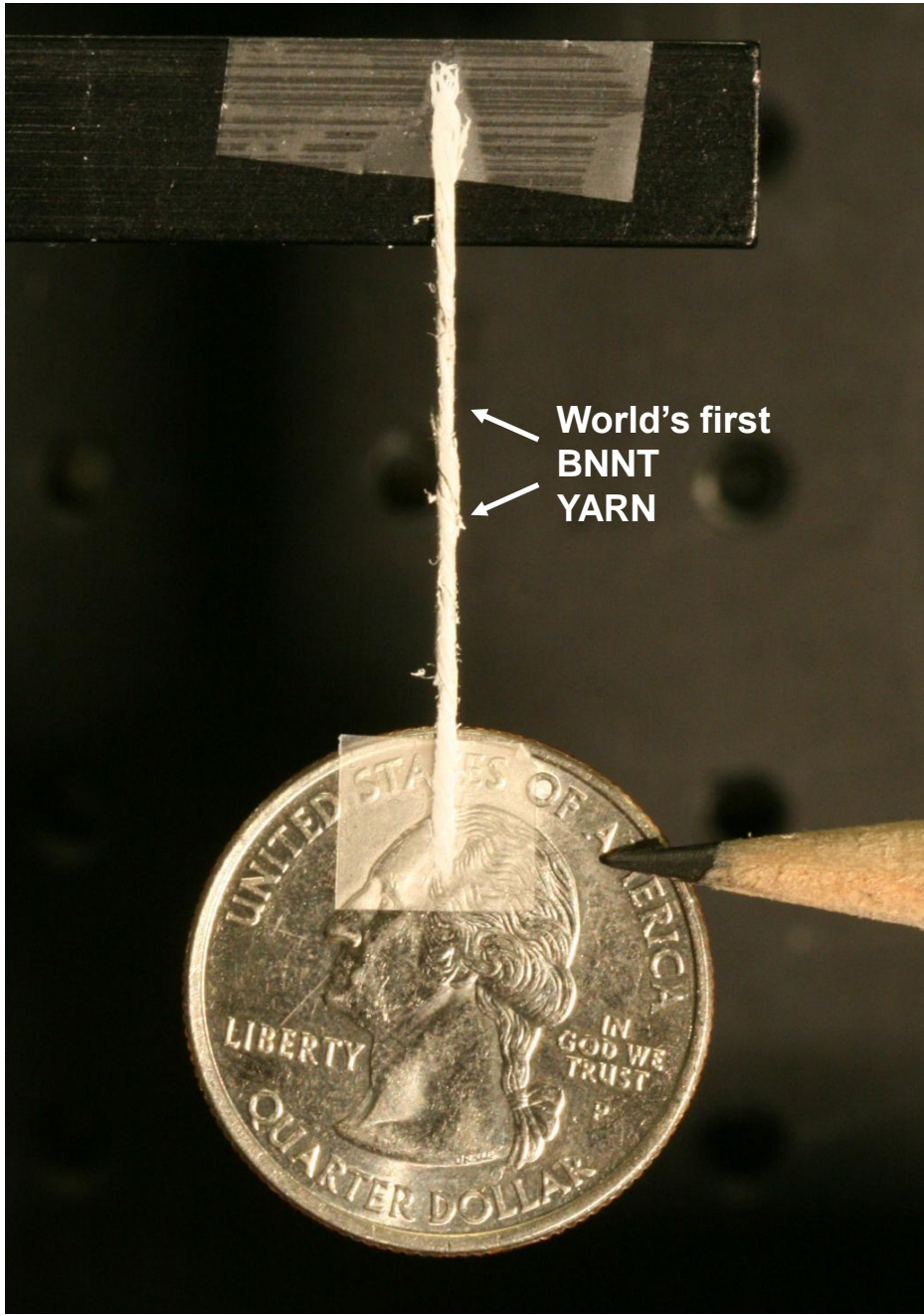


one *millimeter*
nanotube fiber!





How close are we??



(From: M. W. Smith et al, Nanotechnology, 20, 505604 (2009))

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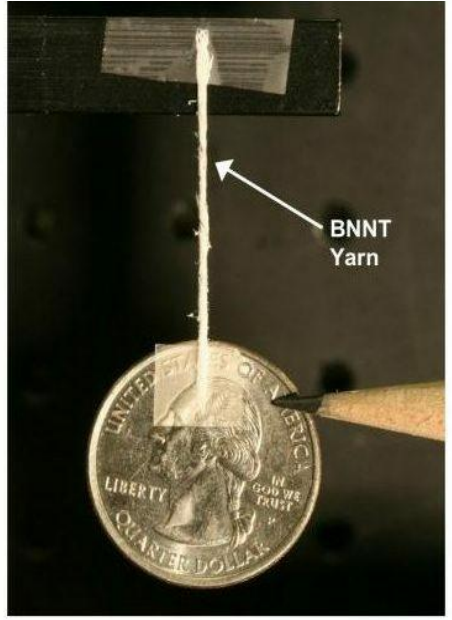
Russian...

Создана первая нить из нитрид-борных нанотрубок

8 декабря 2009, 10:23

При помощи лазеров исследователи создали первую макроскопическую нить из волокон нитрида бора, что открывает путь к целому ряду приложений – от противорадиационных щитов для космических кораблей до защитного облачения для тела. Техника синтеза высококачественных нитрид-борных нанотрубок (boron-nitride nanotube, BNNT) разработана в Исследовательском центре NASA в Лэнгли (NASA's Langley Research Center) и других лабораториях. Эти нанотрубки обладают микроскопическим диаметром, значительной длиной и структурно содержат несколько стенок. Нитрид бора не экзотический материал – он встречается в косметических средствах и пудре.

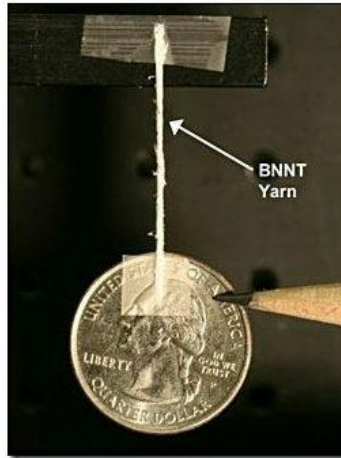
По словам учёного из Лэнгли Майка Смита (Mike Smith), до сих пор никому не удавалось изготовить достаточно длинные и при этом прочные нанотрубки, передает [3DNews](#). Техника синтеза, названная PVC (pressurized vapor/condenser – испарение и конденсация под давлением), стала возможной благодаря лазеру на свободных электронах и затем была усовершенствована для использования с коммерческими лазерами, применяемыми в сварке. Она состоит в следующем. Лазерный луч направляется в мишень, расположенную в закрытой камере, заполненной азотом. Мишень испаряется, формируя облако бора. Конденсация охлаждает испарения, вызывая формирование жидких капель бора, которые объединяются с азотом в BNNT. Получившиеся нанотрубки достаточно длинные, чтобы сплести из подобной хлопку массы макроскопическую нить миллиметровой толщины и длиной в сантиметры. Длина же самих нанотрубок – около миллиметра.



"Они большие и мягкие, как текстиль, - утверждает Кевин Джордан (Kevin Jordan) из Национального комплекса работы с ускорителем Томаса Джефферсона (Thomas Jefferson National Accelerator Facility). – Это означает, что возможно использовать коммерческий производственный процесс и распространённые техники для изготовления из трубок защиты для тела, солнечных ячеек и других устройств". TEM (Transmission electron microscope – просвечивающий электронный микроскоп) показывает, что толщина нанотрубок составляет несколько микрон. Особенность BNNT – это тенденция к "оборачиванию" их в несколько стенок. Следующим шагом исследователей будет тестирование свойств BNNT с целью определения наиболее подходящих областей применения нового материала. В теории, говорит Джордан, они найдут нишу и в энергетике, и в медицине, и в аэрокосмической

레이저로 나노튜브 실을 짜다.

레이저를 이용하여 질화붕소 섬유로부터 실용적인 최초의 거시적 실이 만들어짐으로써, 태양전지에서부터 더 강력한 방탄복에 이르기까지 다양한 분야에 응용할 수 있게 되었다.



질화붕소 나노튜브로 짠 실이 25센트 경화를 매달고 있다.

나사 랭글리연구센터(NASA's Langley Research Center), 토마스 제퍼슨 국립가속기시설(Thomas Jefferson National Accelerator Facility) 및 국립항공우주연구소(National Institute of Aerospace)의 연구진이 결정성이 크고 직경이 작은 고품질 질화붕소 나노튜브(BNNTs)를 합성하는 기술을 개발했다.

또한 이 나노튜브들은 구조적으로 몇 개의 벽을 갖고 있으며 매우 길다. 질화붕소는 어릿광대의 분장과 안분에 쓰이는 흰색 물질이다. "다른 연구소에서 만든 나노튜브들은 매우 우수하지만 짧고, 그렇지 않으면 길지만 너무 지저분하다. 우리는 아주 길면서도 매우 우수한 나노튜브를 제작하는 기술을 개발했다."라고 랭글리연구소 과학자인 마이크 스미스(Mike Smith)는 말했다.

...Korean...

다음 과제는 이 새로운 질화붕소 나노튜브의 특성을 시험하여 이 신물질의 가장 좋은 용도를 찾는 일이라고 연구진은 말한다. 이들은 또한 생산공정을 개선하고 확장하려고 한다. "이론적으로 이러한 나노튜브들은 에너지, 의료 및 항공우주 분야에 응용될 수 있다."라고 조던은 말했다. "이들 중 어떤 나노튜브들은 더 이상 가망이 없어지고 있고, 어떤 것들은 연구할 가치가 생기고 있지만, 물질을 손에 넣기까지는 알 수 없을 것이다."라고 스미스는 말했다. 이번 연구는 저널 'Nanotechnology' 12월 16일 호에 출판될 예정이며, 또한 미국재료학회의 2009년도 가을 학술회의에 제출되었다.



MATERIALIEN

GARN AUS NANORÖHRCHEN

KONTEXT: Nanoröhrchen gelten seit Jahren als Grundstoff für extrem stabile Seile. Bislang ließen sich die mikroskopisch kleinen Röhrchen aber noch nicht fest genug verbinden. Nun gelang US-Wissenschaftlern erstmals die Synthese langer Bornitrid-Fasern, die sich zu einem stabilen Garn verspinnen ließen.

METHODE: Die Gruppe um Mike Smith vom Langley Research Center der Nasa in Hampton verdampfte in einer mit Stickstoff gefüllten Druckkammer Bor mit einem Laser. An einem gekühlten Metalldraht bildeten sich daraufhin bis zu einen Millimeter lange, mehrwandige Nanoröhrchen mit Durchmessern von wenigen Mikrometern. Diese lagerten sich selbstständig zu Fasern von zehn Zentimetern Länge mit etwa einem Millimeter Durchmesser zusammen.



RELEVANZ: Das Verfahren liefert Nanoröhrchen, die etwa 100-mal länger sind als bisher. Die Fasern lassen sich zu einem weißen, baumwollartigen Garn verspinnen. Doch da Bor relativ teuer ist, bleiben Fasern aus günstigem Kohlenstoff weiterhin eine der wichtigsten Herausforderungen an die Materialforscher.

■ Quelle: „Very long single- and few-walled boron nitride nanotubes via the pressurized vapor/condenser method“, Michael W. Smith, Joycelyn S. Harrison, et al.; Nanotechnology, Vol. 20, S. 505604

...German...

...and Chinese.

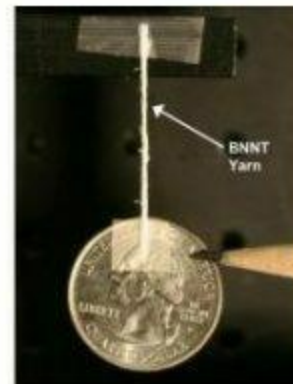


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Lasers used to make first boron-nitride nanotube yarn (w/ Video)

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Better Nanotubes May Be on the Way

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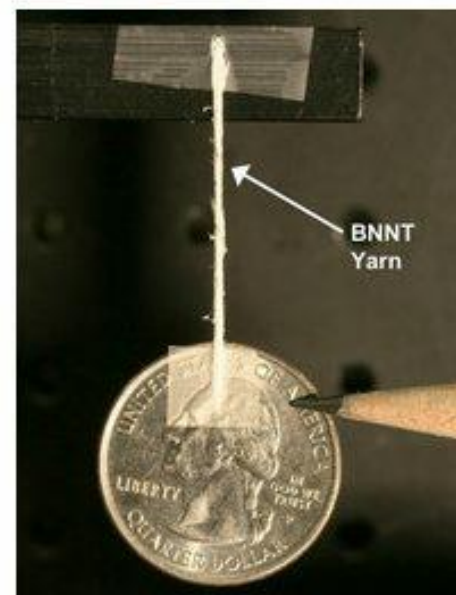
NEXT ARTICLE

In the world of nanotechnology, few things get as much billing as nanotubes. Experts say that these cylinders composed of one-molecule-thin sheets could someday be used in everything from superstrong jet engines to cancer cures. Now researchers think they've found a way to make large amounts of an elusive type of nanotube that could provide even more impressive applications.

Researchers have long been able to make nanotubes out of carbon, but they have struggled to craft them from boron nitride. The two have about the same strength, but boron nitride nanotubes (BNNTs) can survive temperatures that are twice as high as those carbon nanotubes can survive—800°C and higher. Scientists have only been able to create high-quality tubes a micron long; larger versions have been riddled with defects in the crystalline structure.

Now in a [paper](#) published 16 December in *Nanotechnology*, a team of materials scientists describe the first creation of high-quality, uniformly crystalline BNNTs in large quantities: Each piece of fiber is long enough that it can be spun into user-friendly yarn. To do this, the researchers aimed a laser at a cake of boron inside a chamber filled

[ENLARGE IMAGE](#)



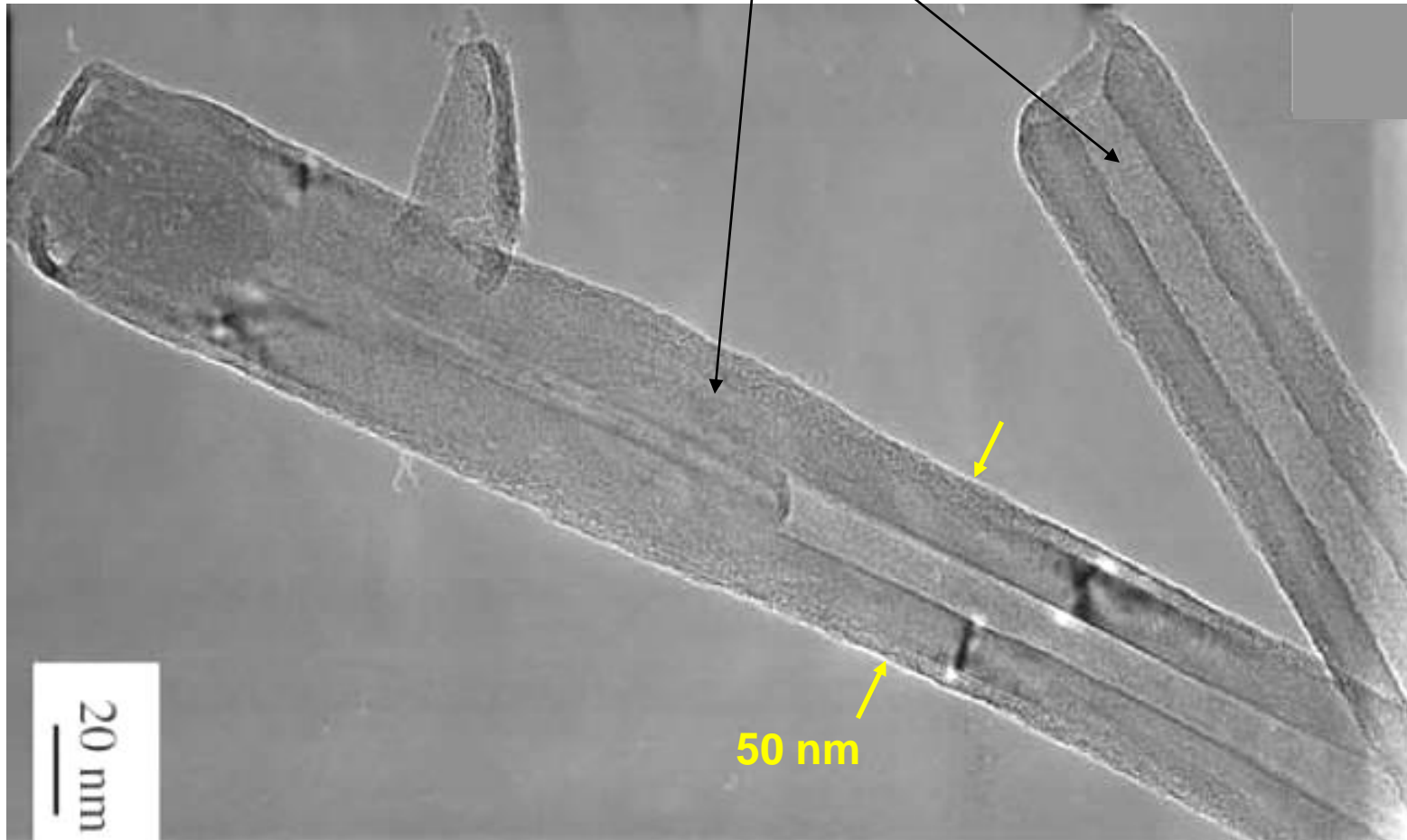
Small wonder. The first macroscopic, commercially usable BNNTs, spun into a 3-centimeter-long, 1-millimeter-diameter piece of yarn.

Credit: Michael Smith

Two reasons for interest:

1. Crystallinity + aspect ratio = 'quality'

Japanese NIMS, B_2O_2/NH_3 CVD-Grown BNNTs



C. Zhi, Y. Bando, C. Tan, D. Golberg,
Solid State Commun. 135, 67-70 (2005).

BNNT, new method (same scale)

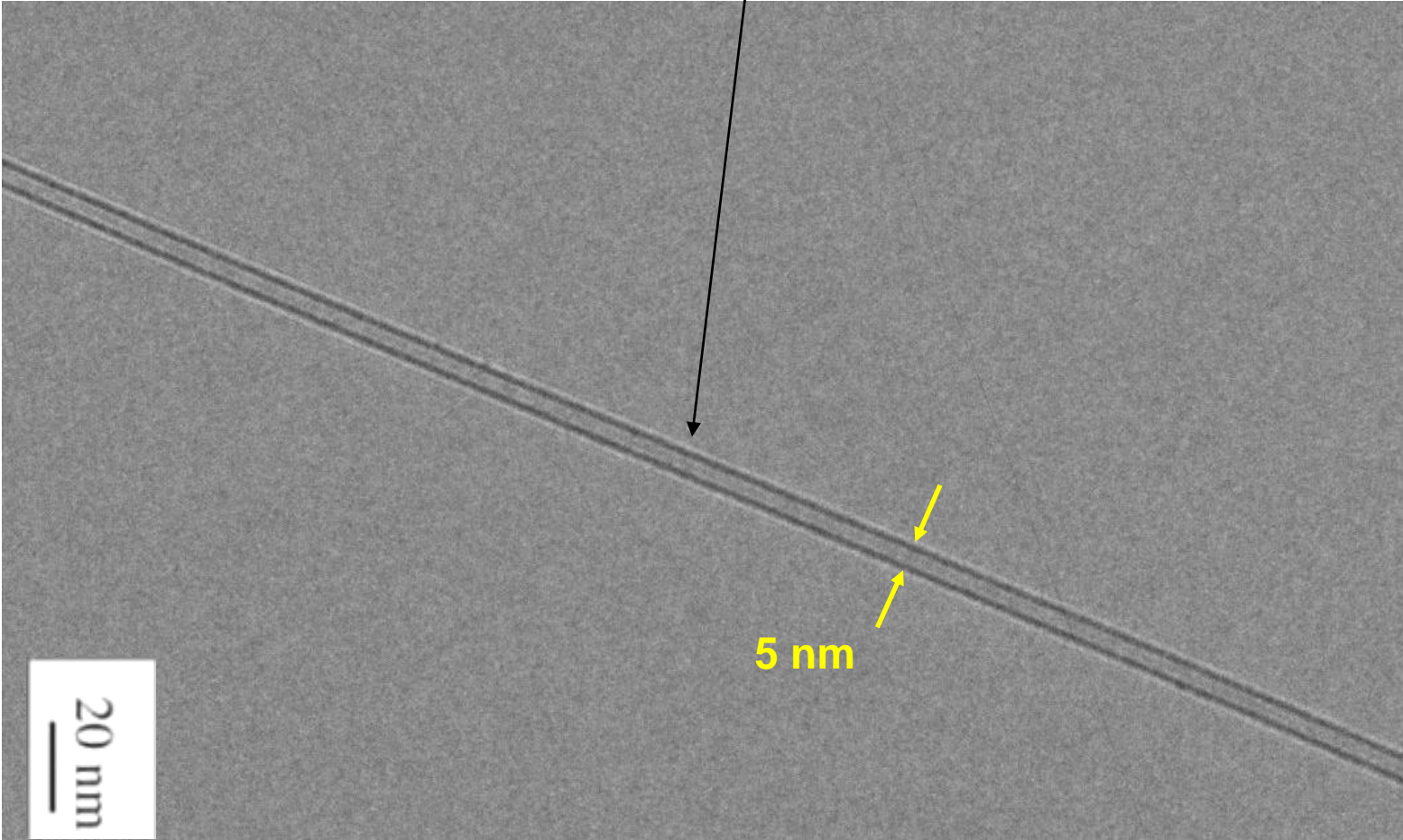


Image: Wei Cao, ODU/ARC

BNNT, new method (same scale)

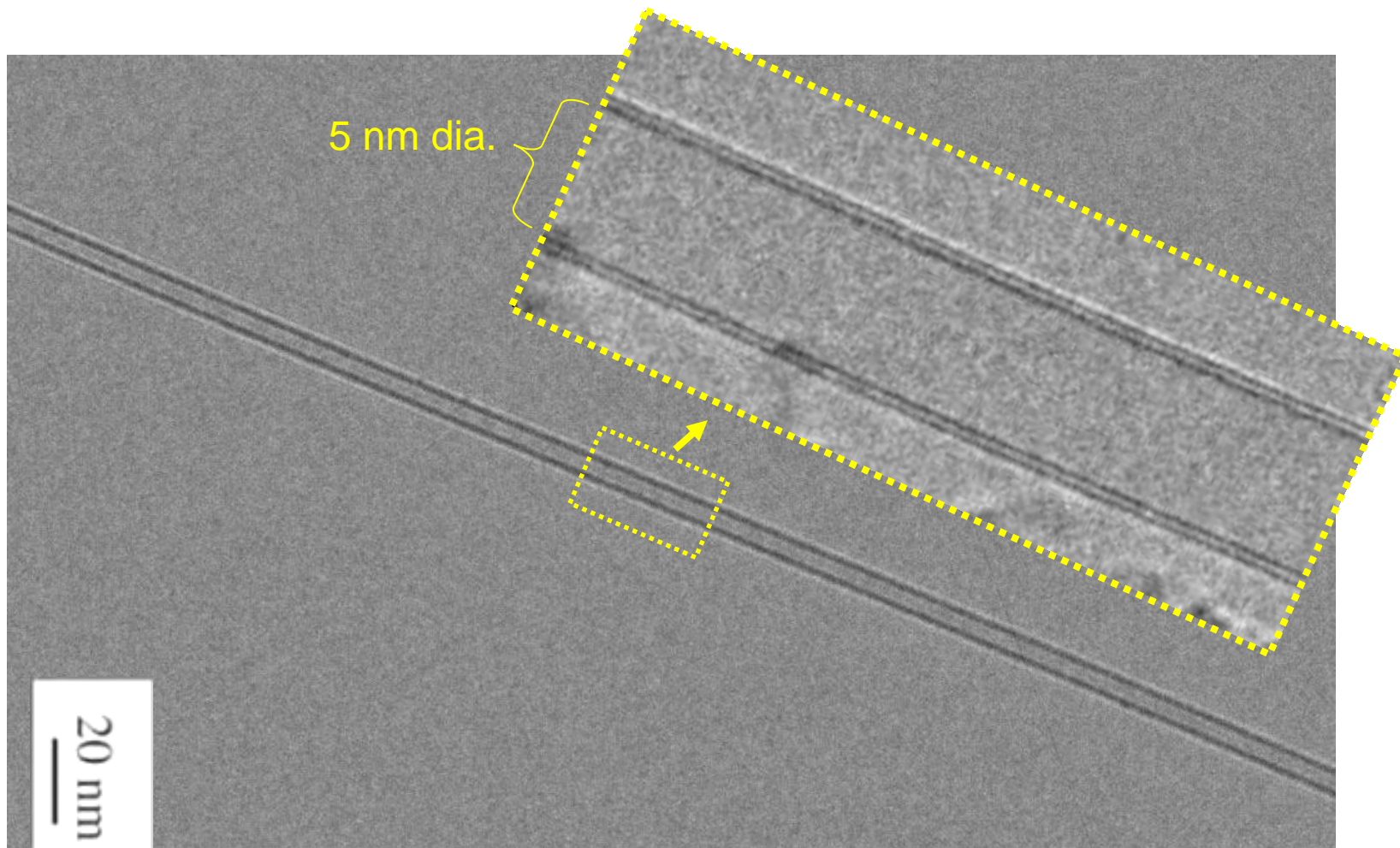
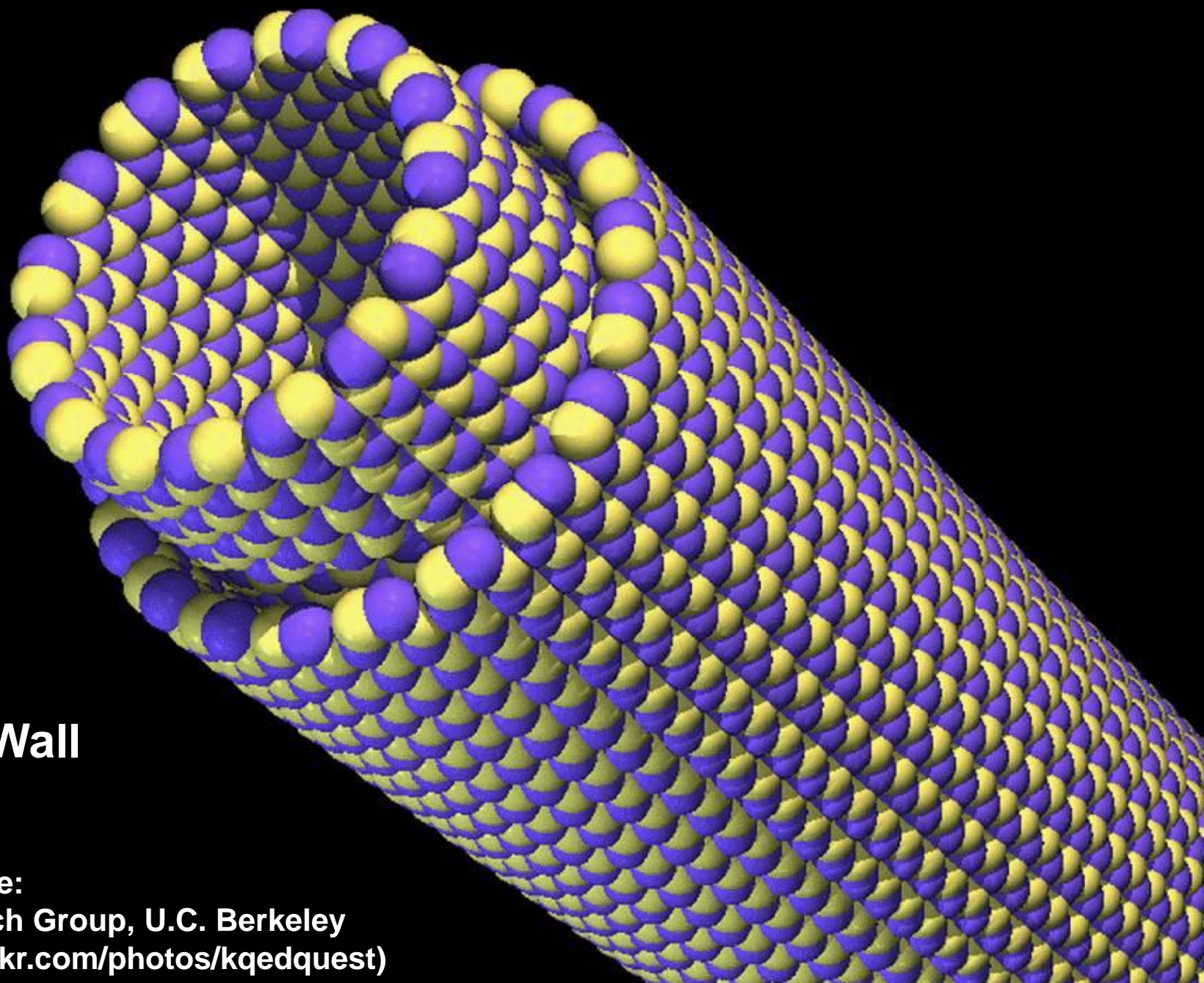
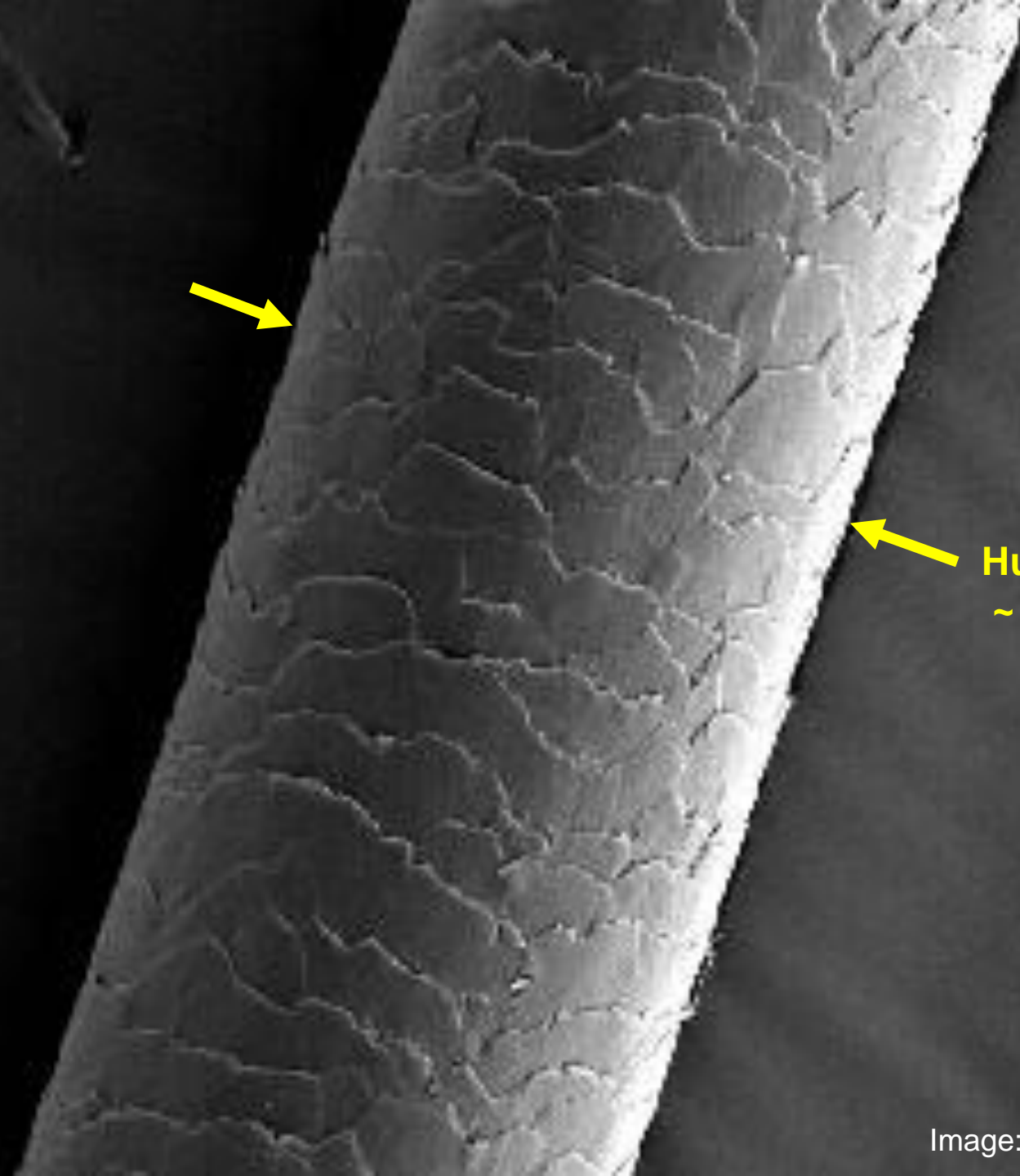


Image: Wei Cao, ODU/ARC

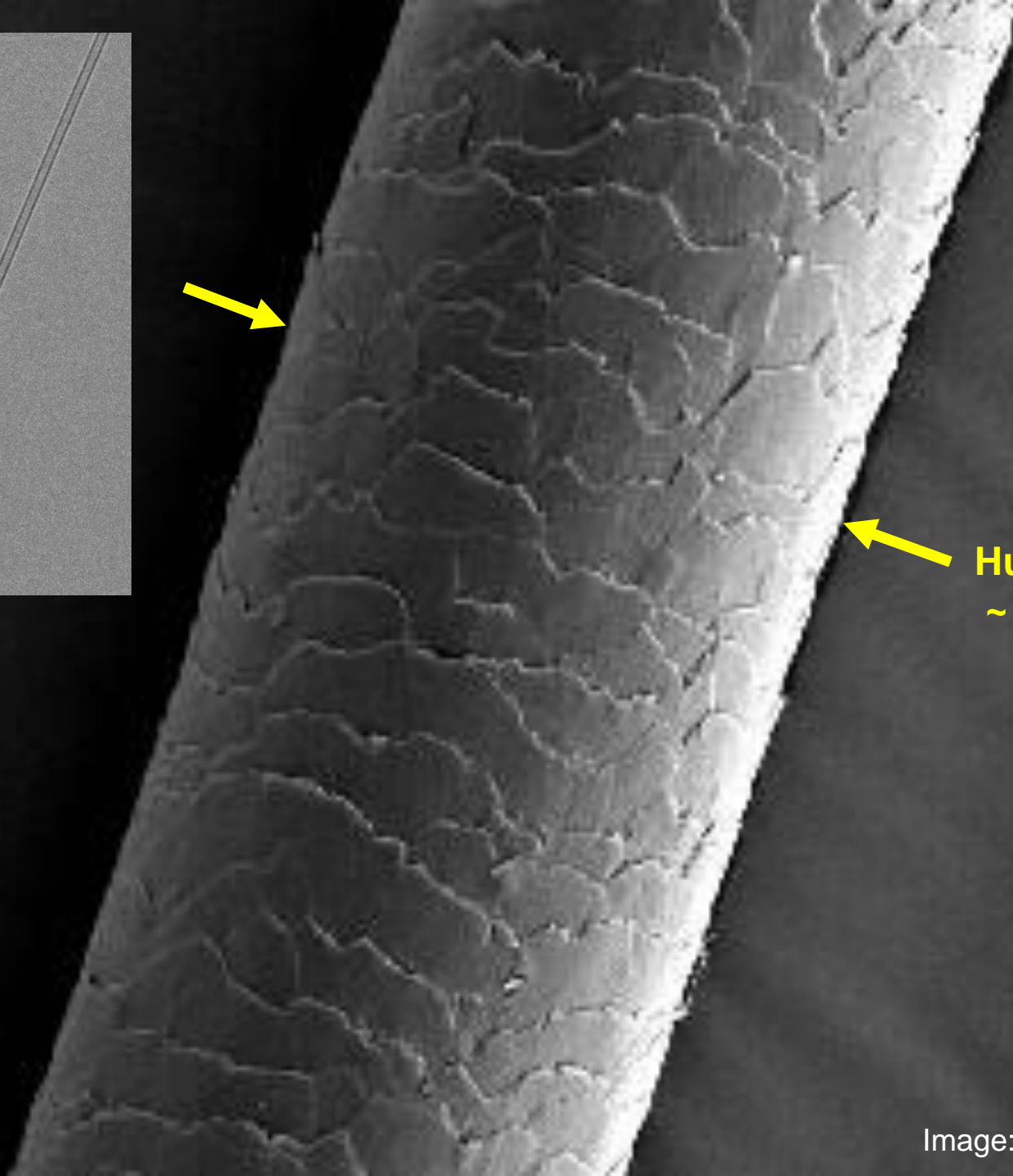
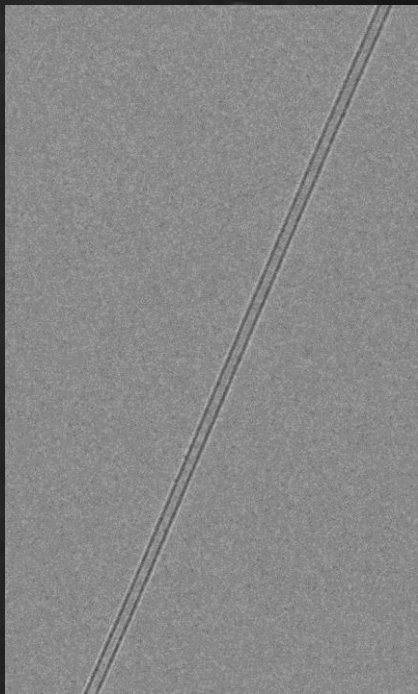


**Double-Wall
BNNT**

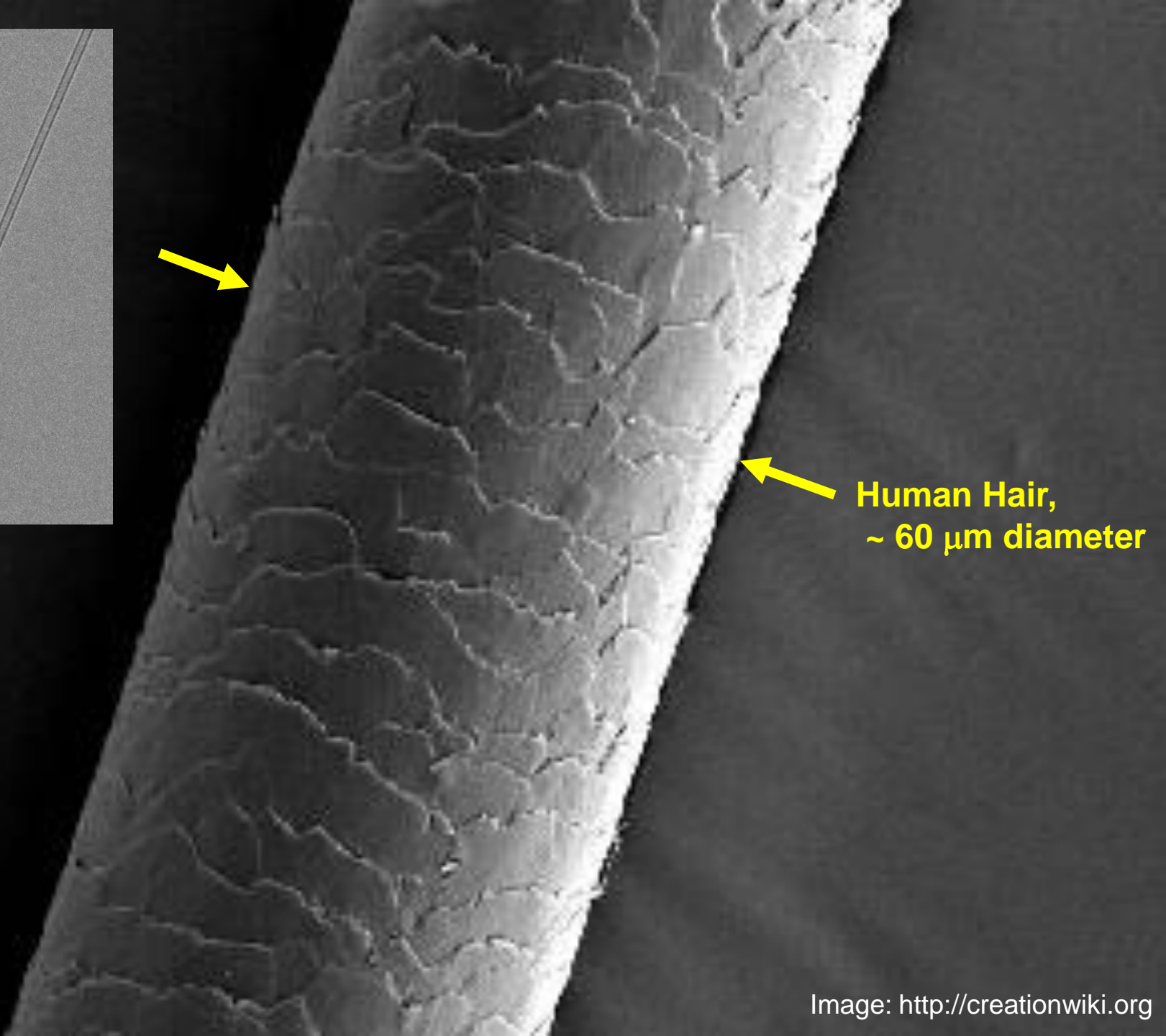
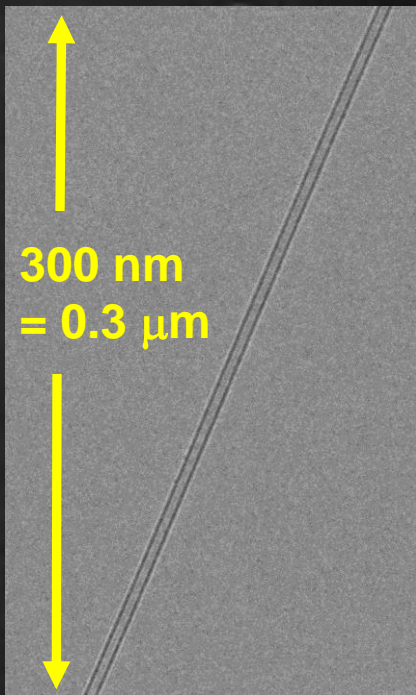
Image Source:
Zettl Research Group, U.C. Berkeley
(via www.flickr.com/photos/kqedquest)



**Human Hair,
~ 60 μm diameter**



**Human Hair,
~ 60 μm diameter**



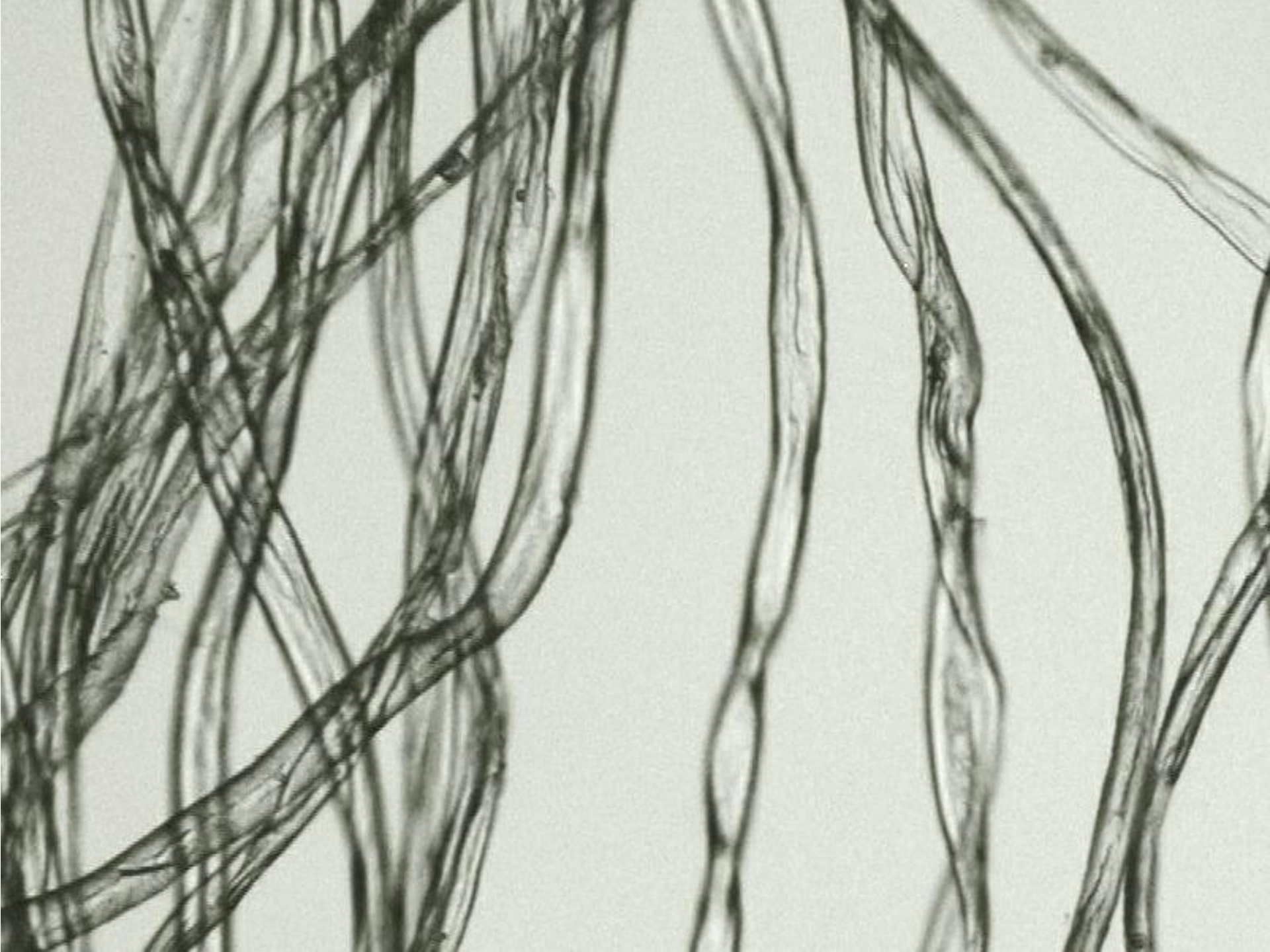


JFK



JFK

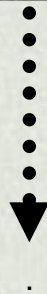
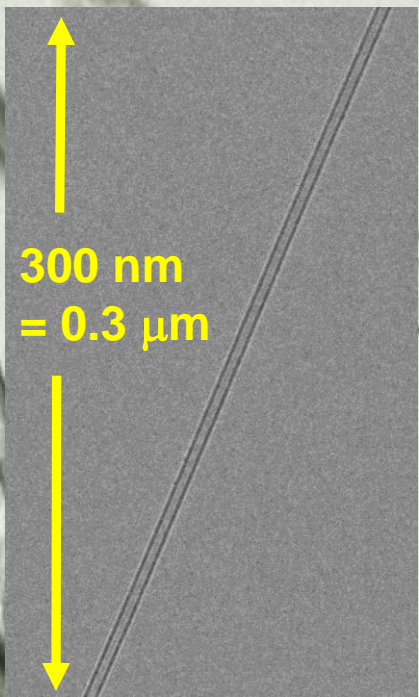
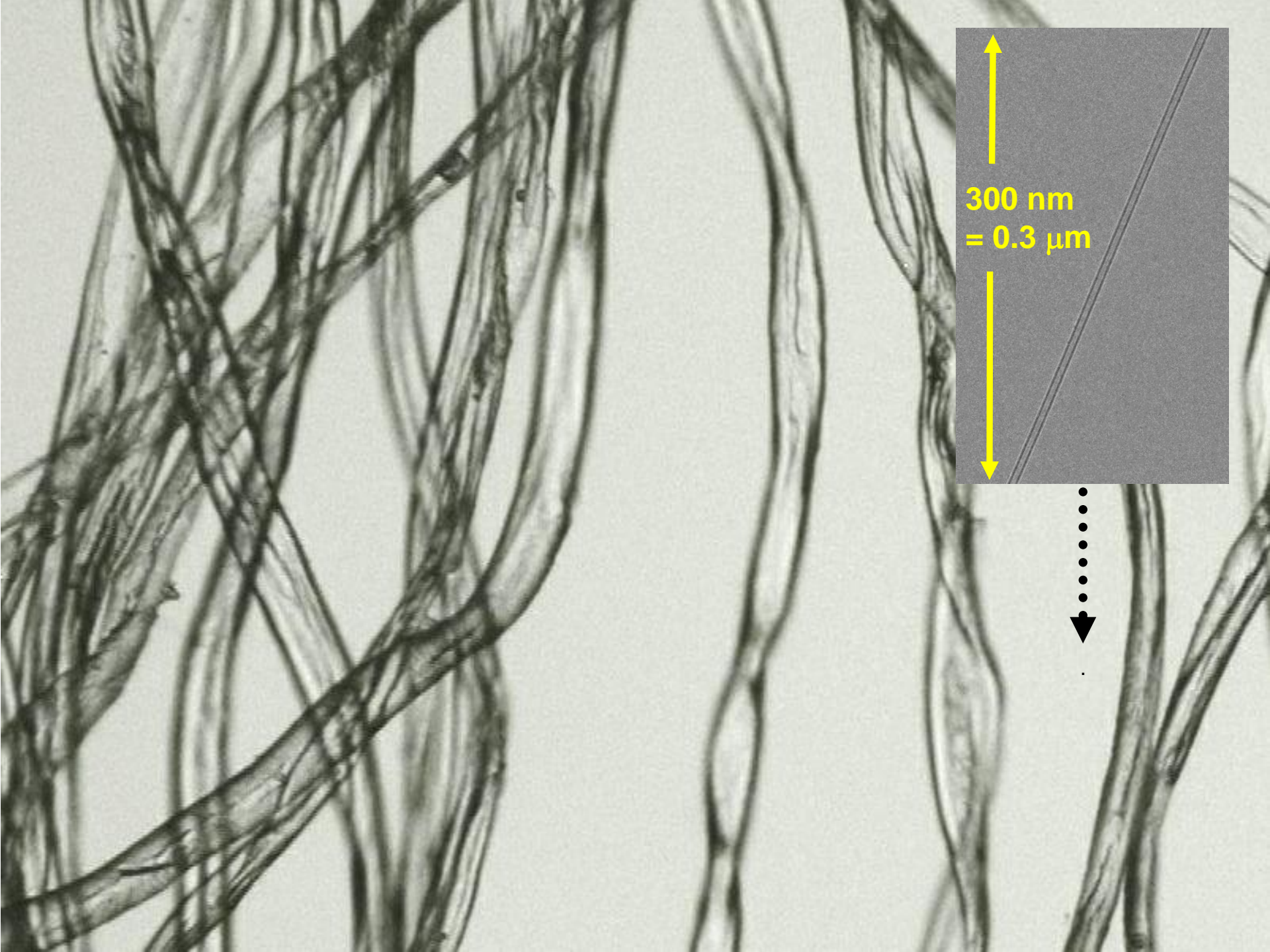
6300 miles!



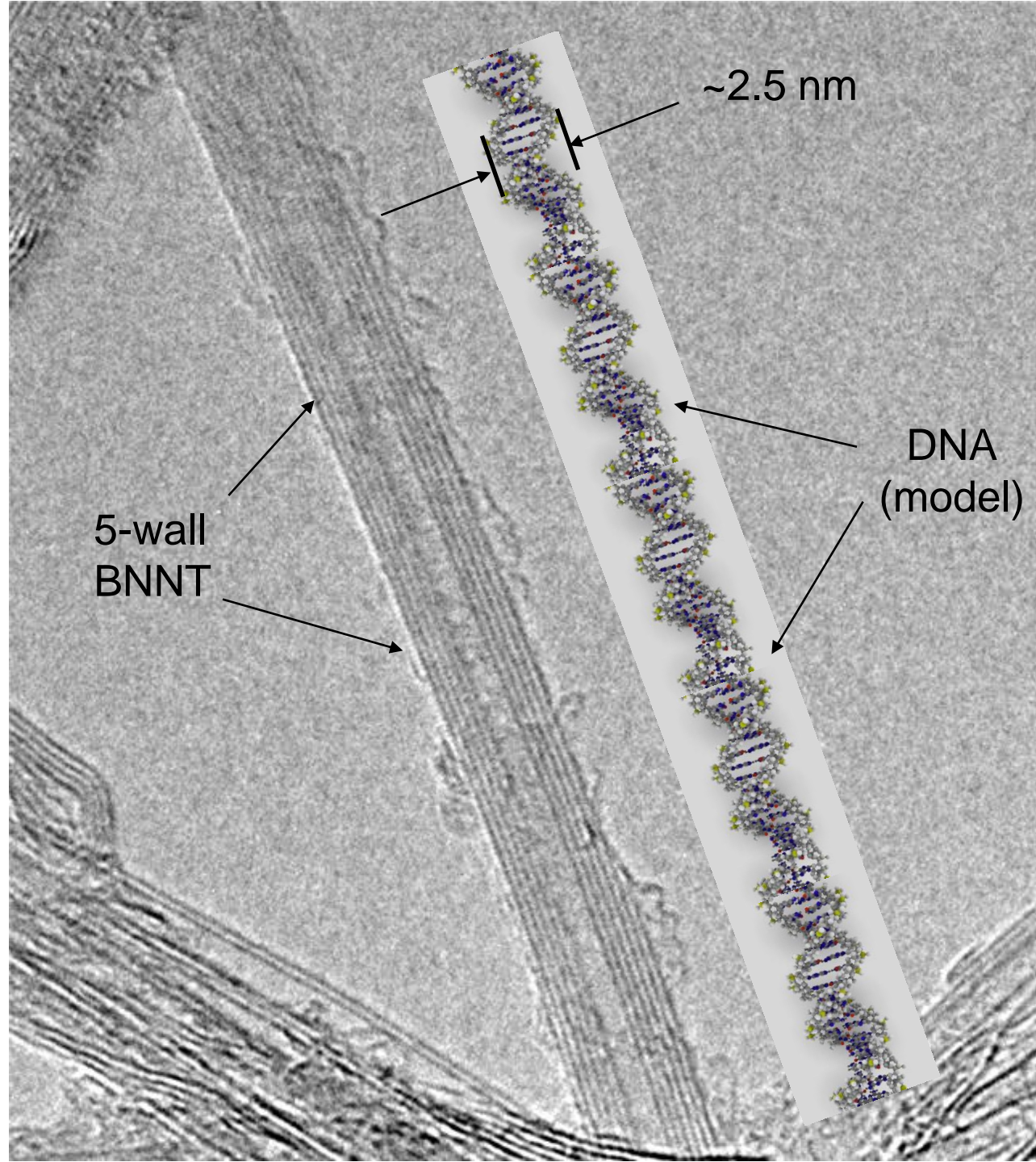
Natural Cotton Fiber

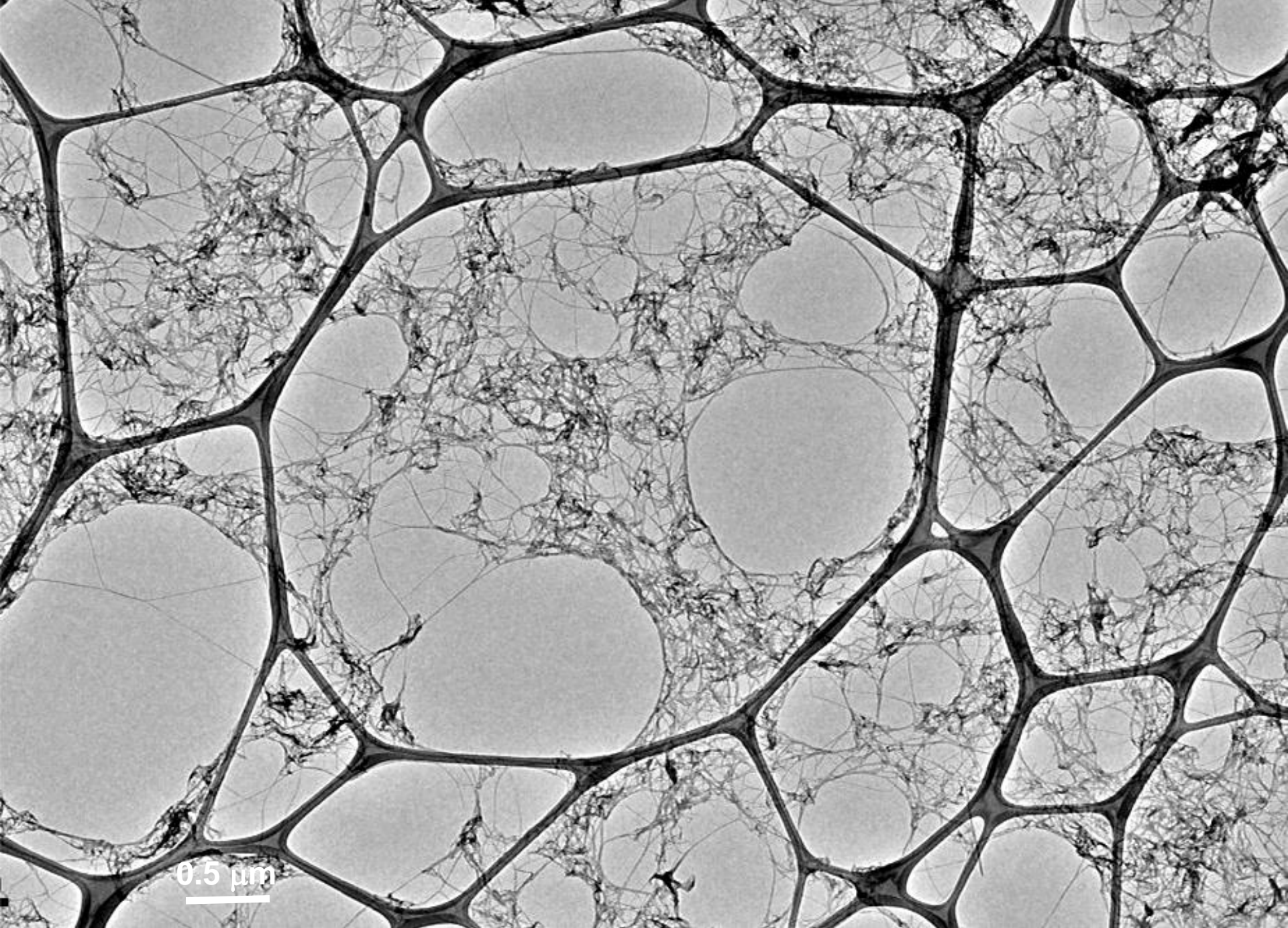


~ 15 μm
diameter

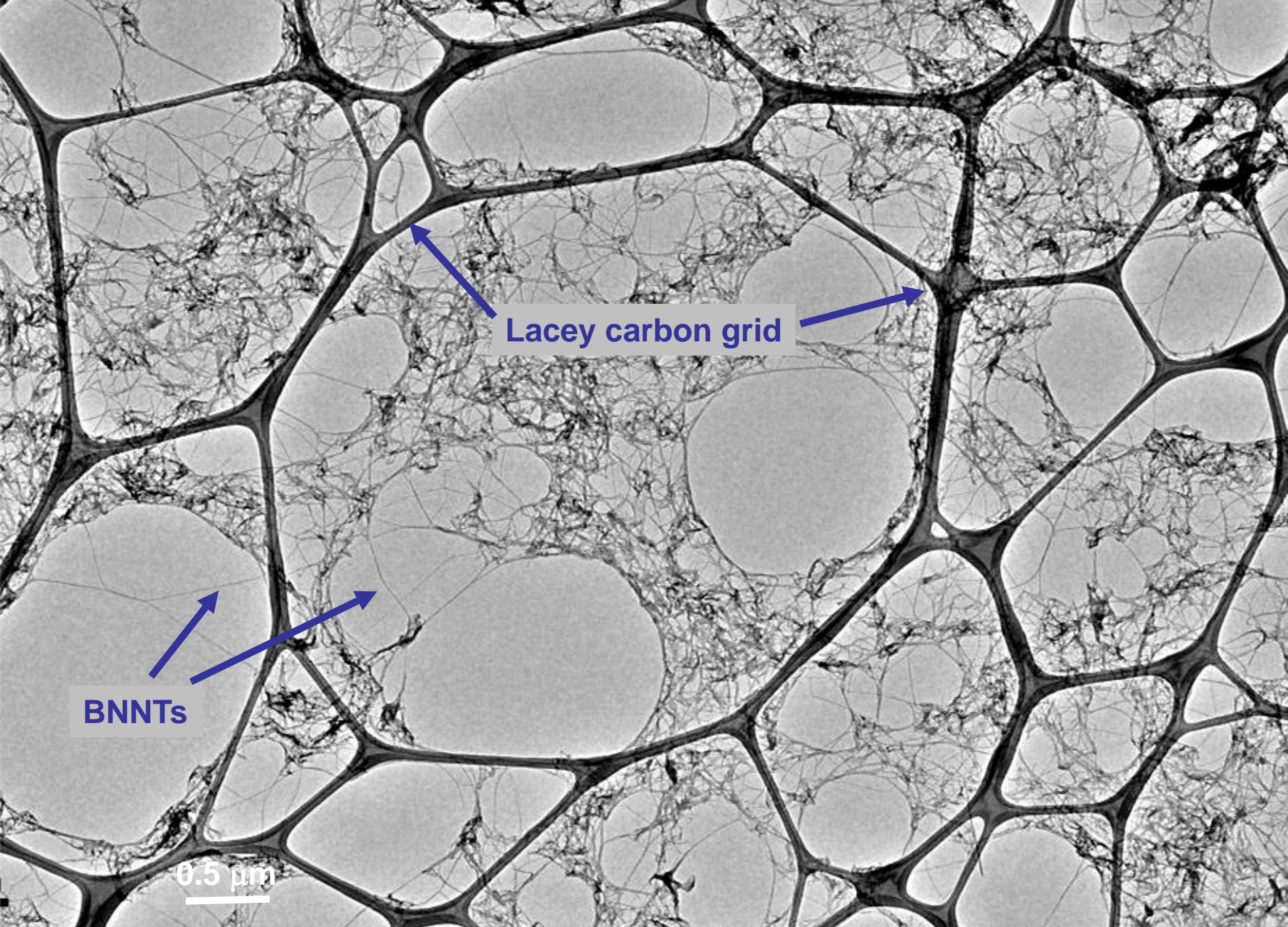


Scale Comparison: BNNT and DNA





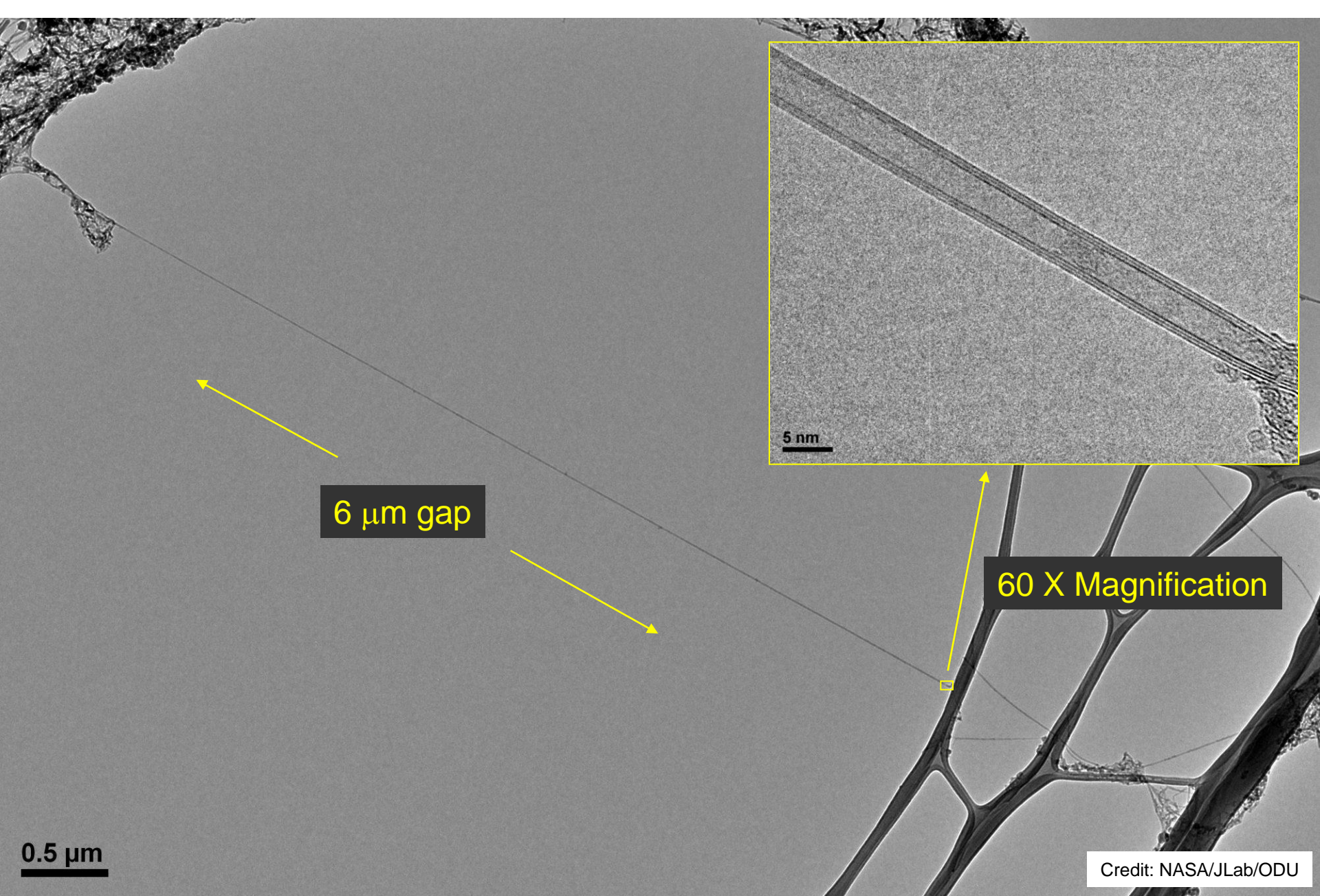
TEM image: Dr Wei Cao, ODU/ARC



BNNTs

Lacey carbon grid

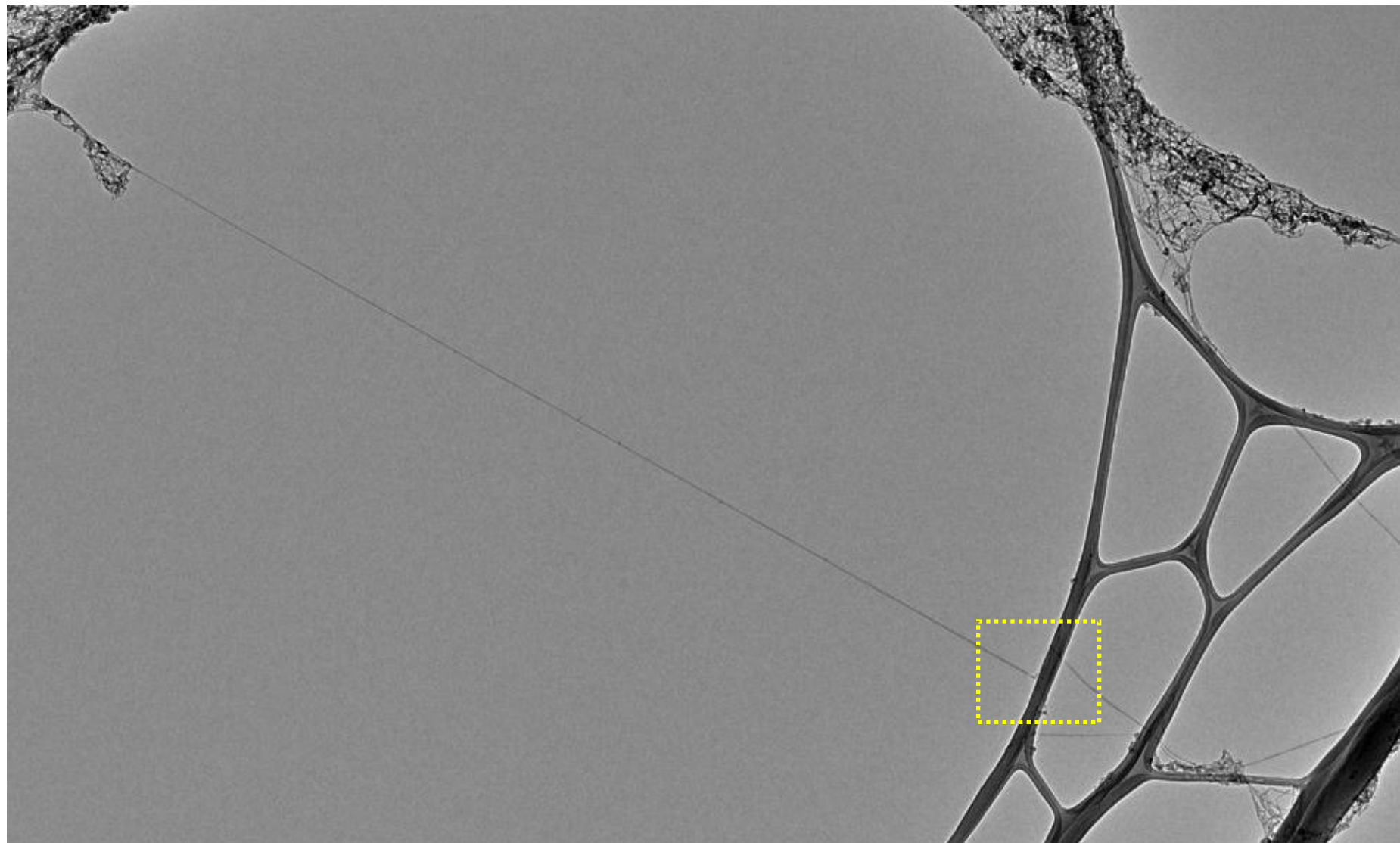
0.5 μm

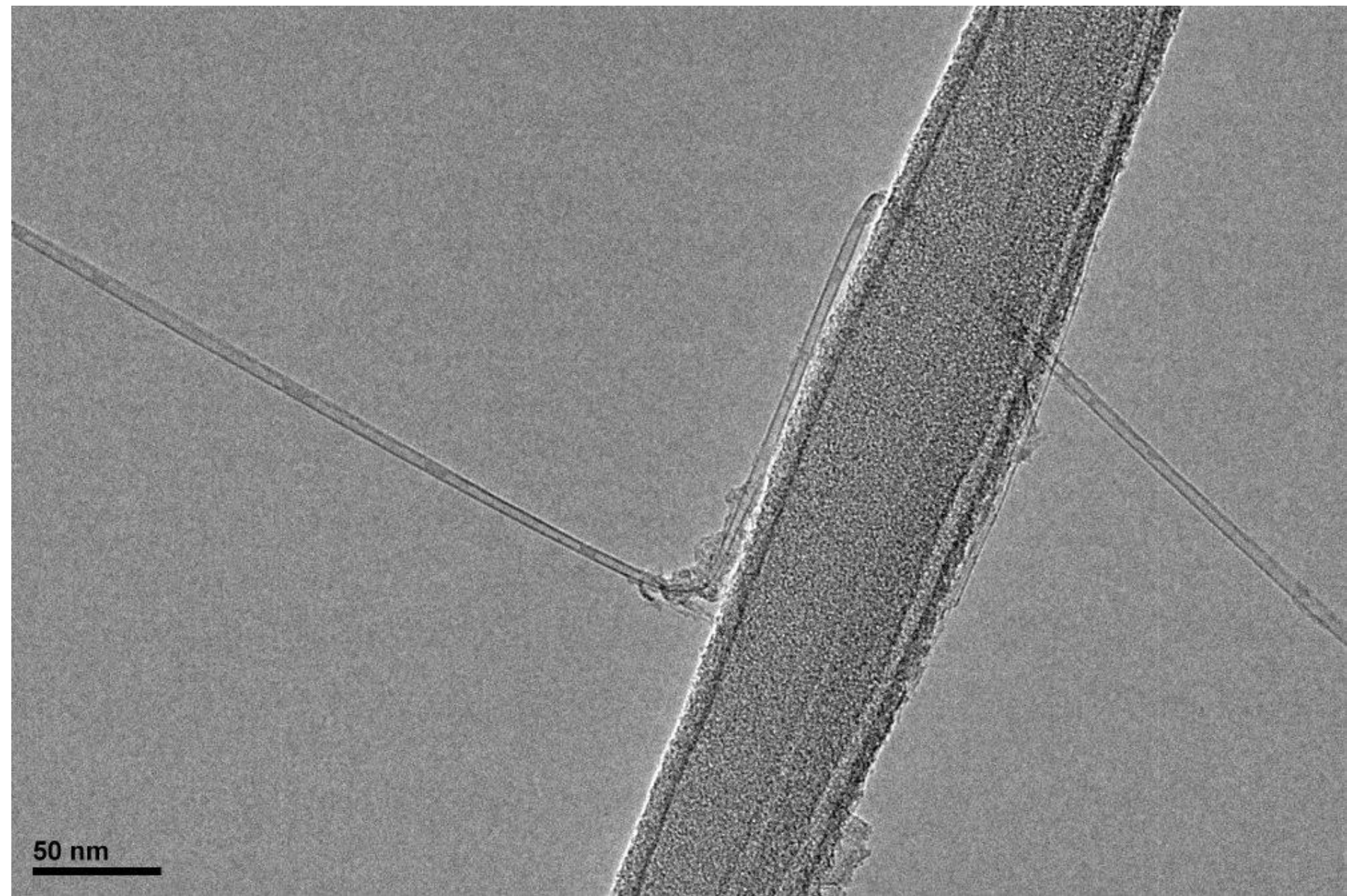


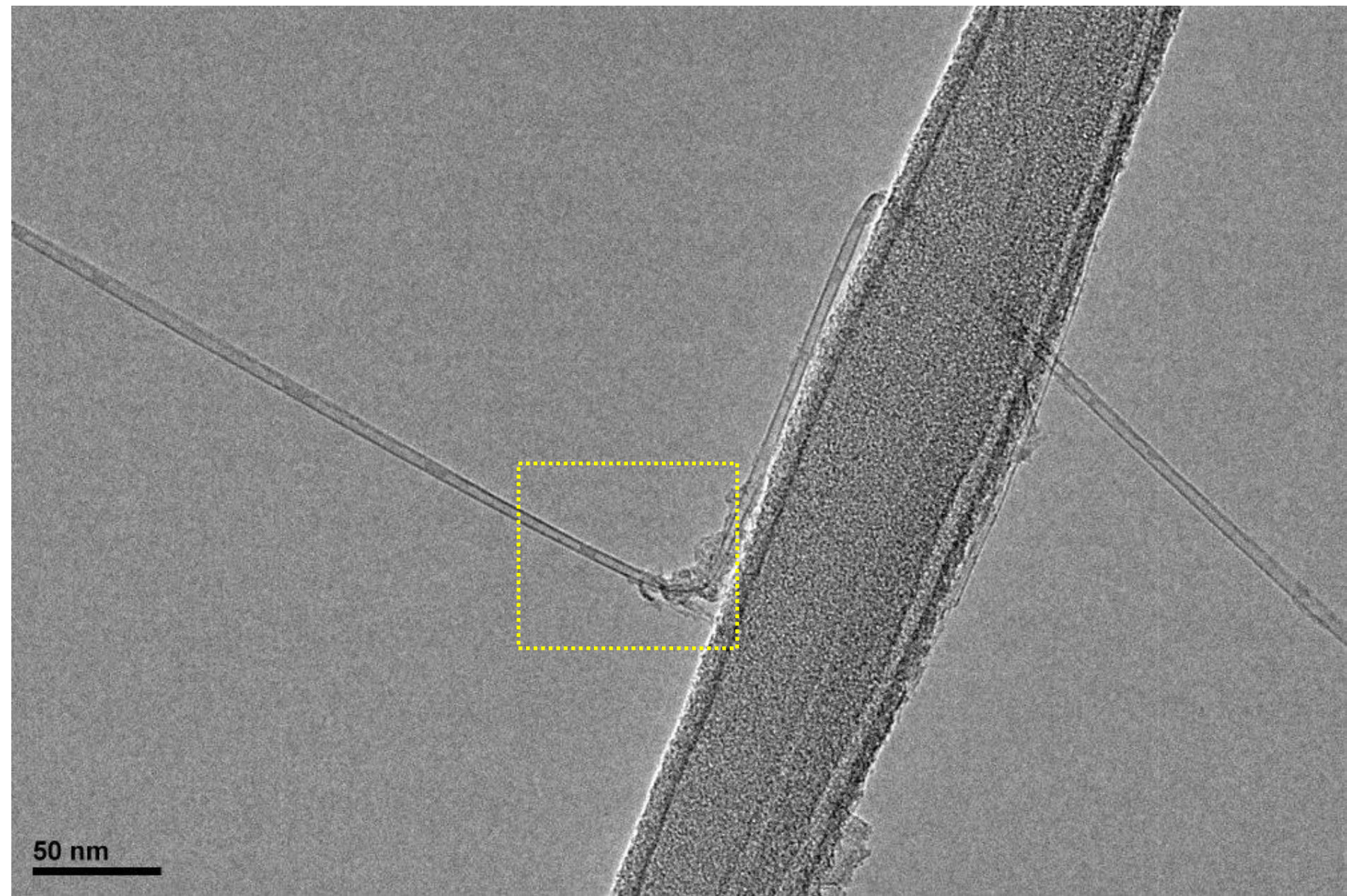
Isolated, highly crystalline, 10 μm x 4 nm, 3-wall BNNT, strung across air gap (aspect ratio > 2500).

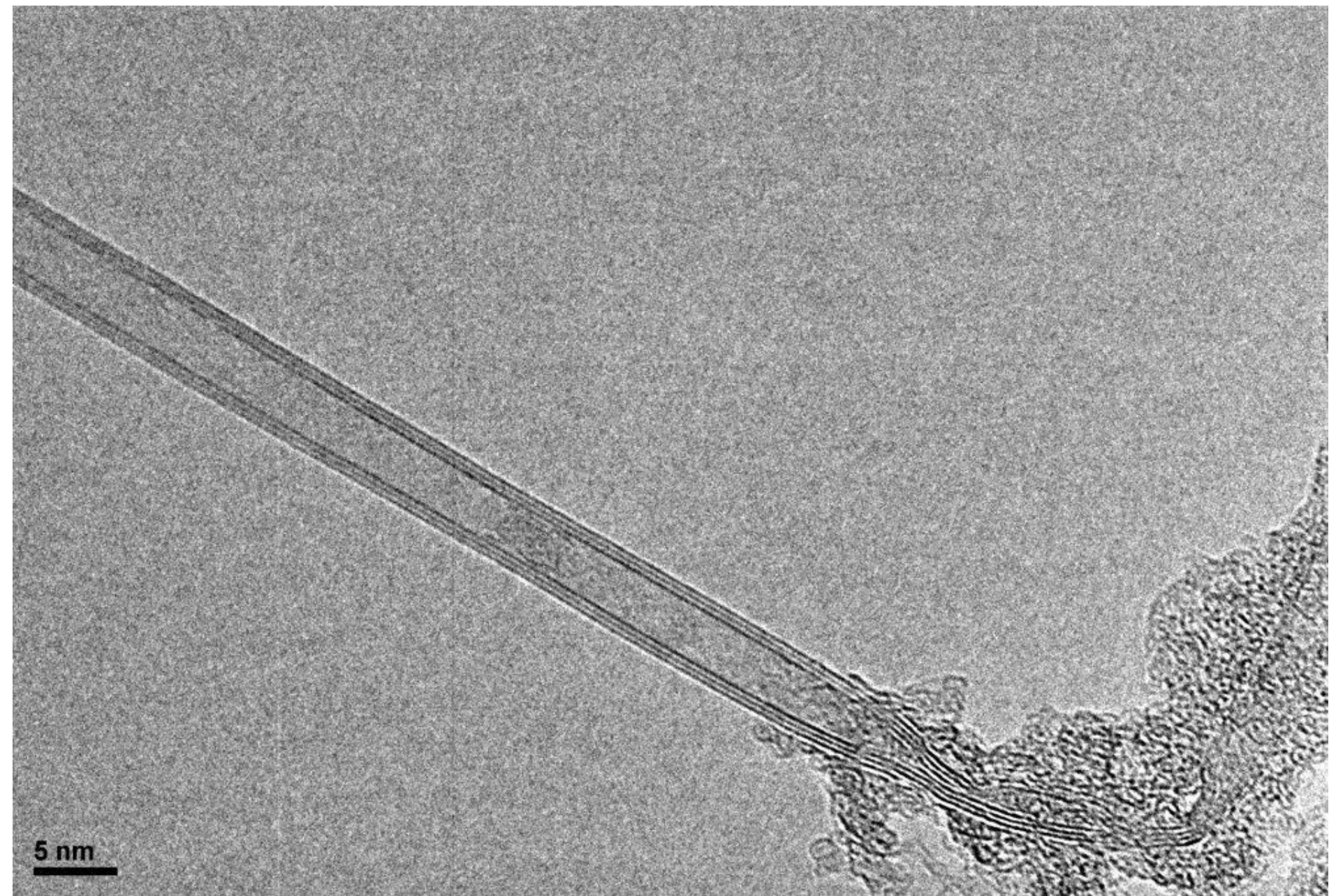


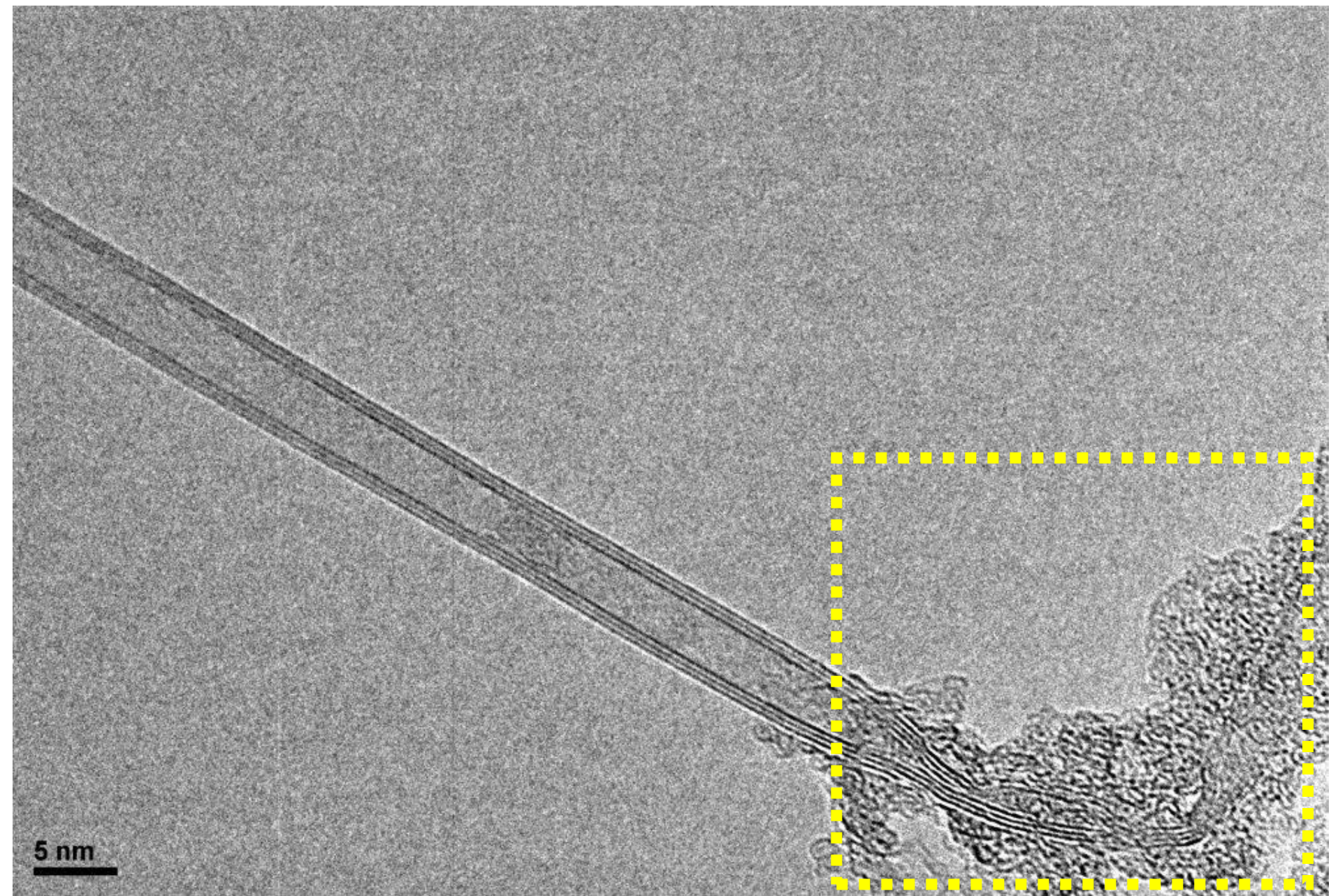


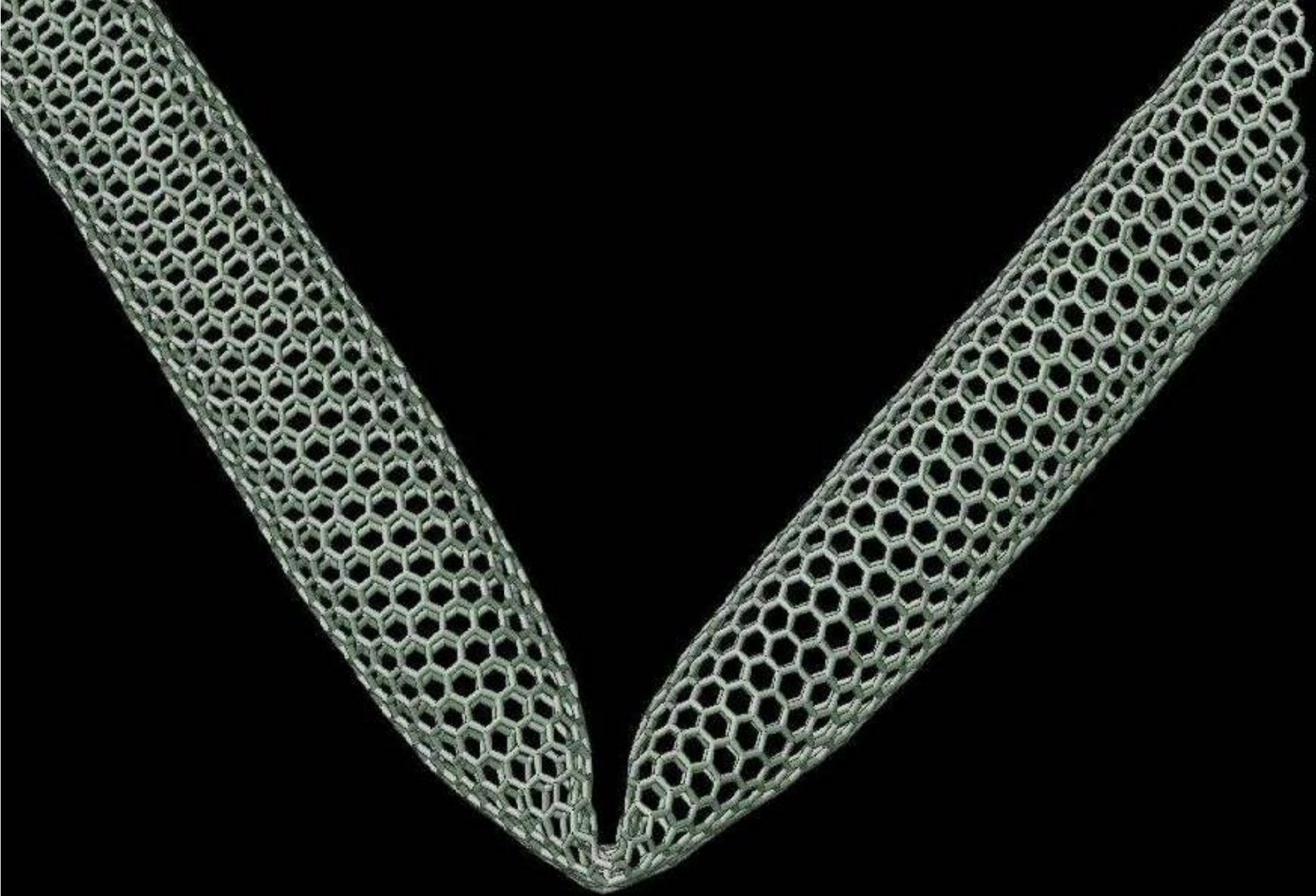








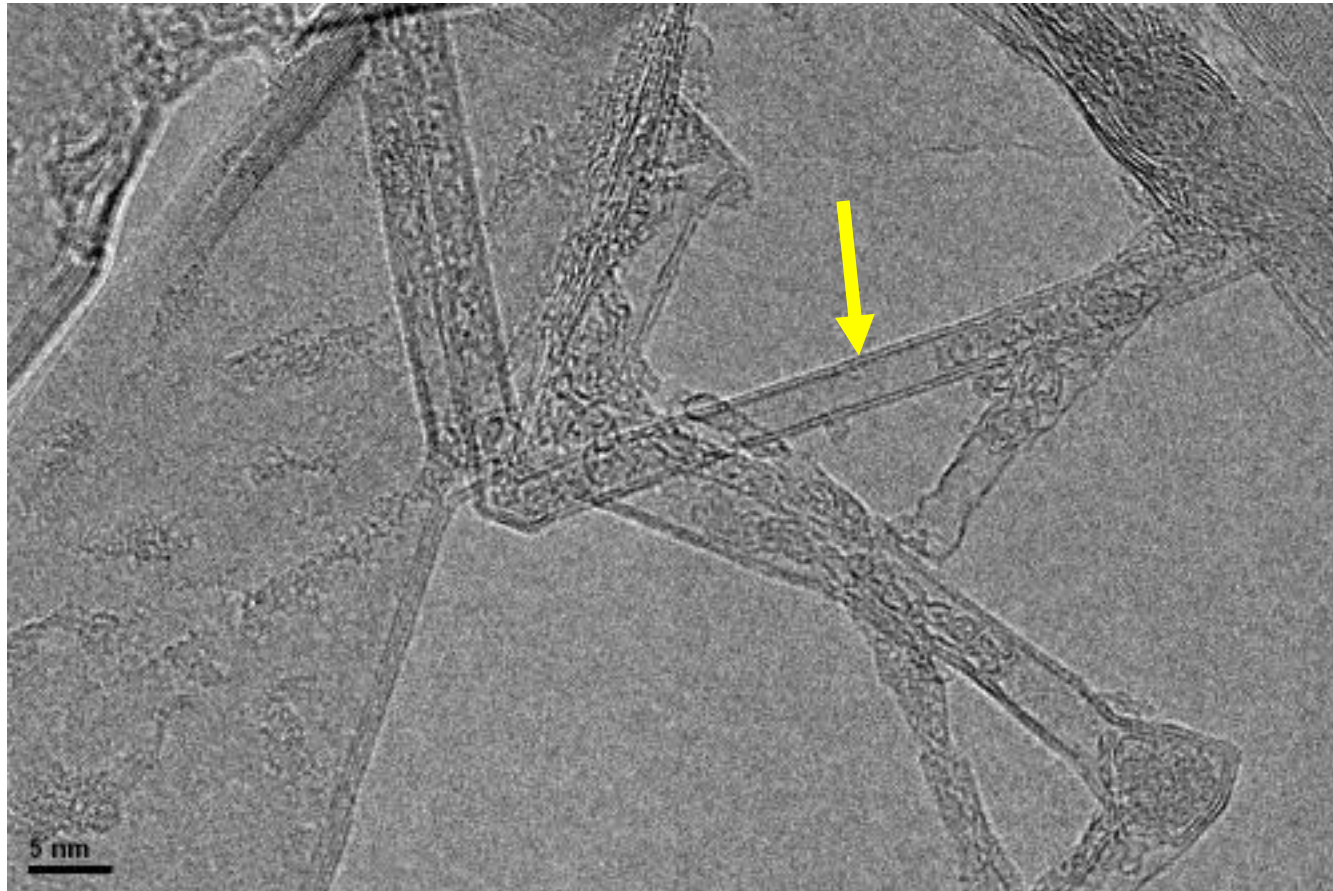


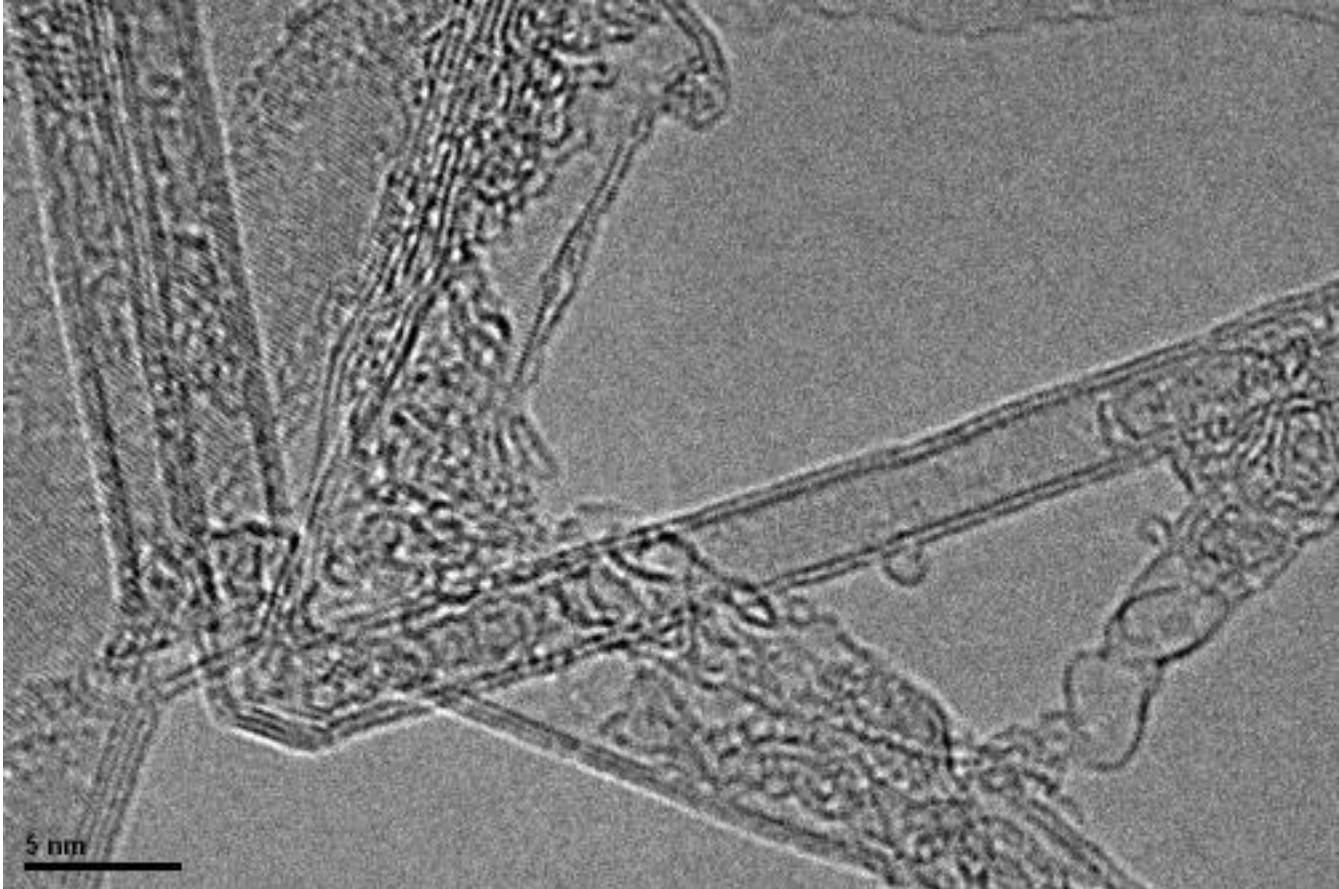


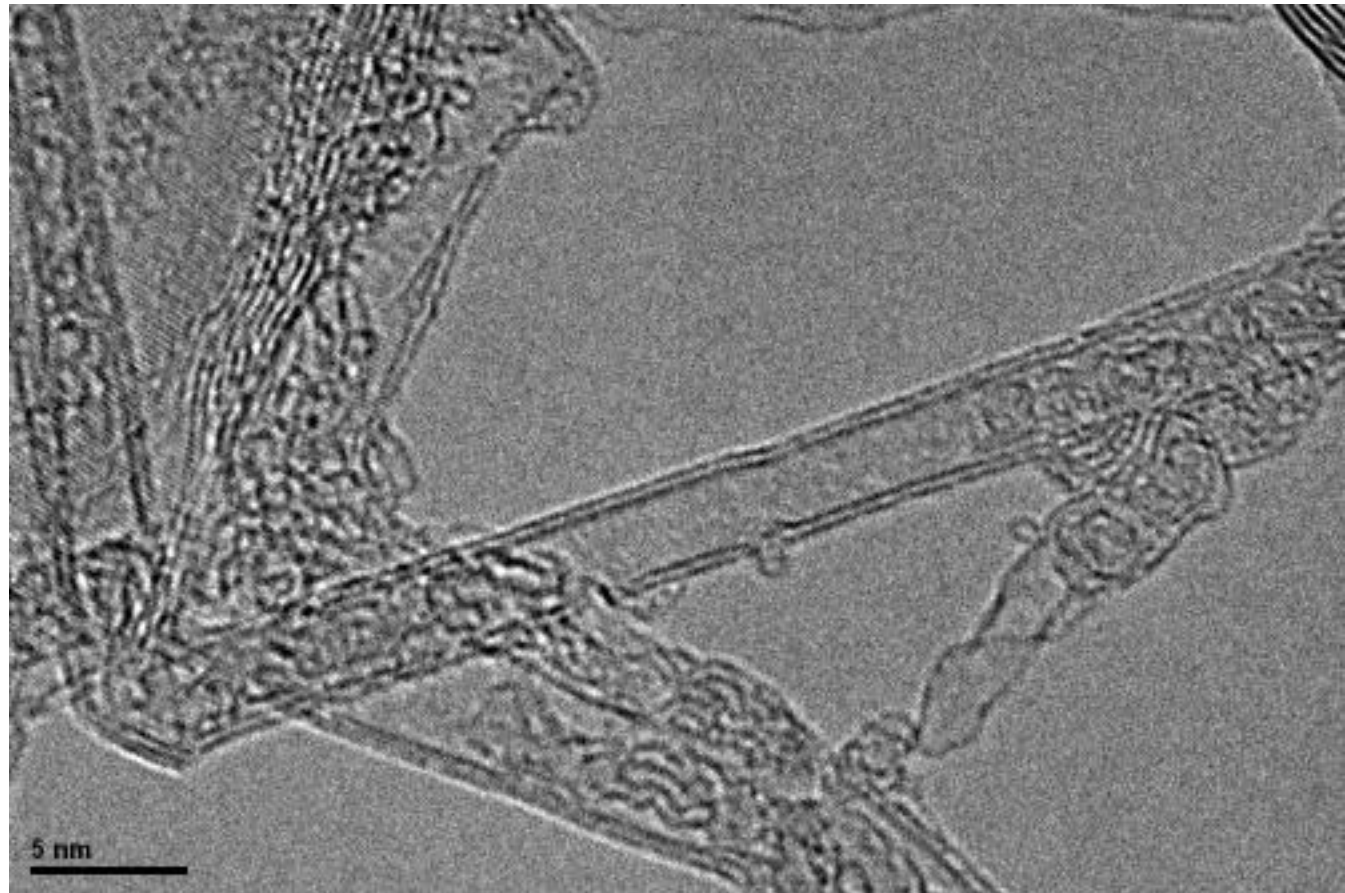
<http://mt.seas.upenn.edu>

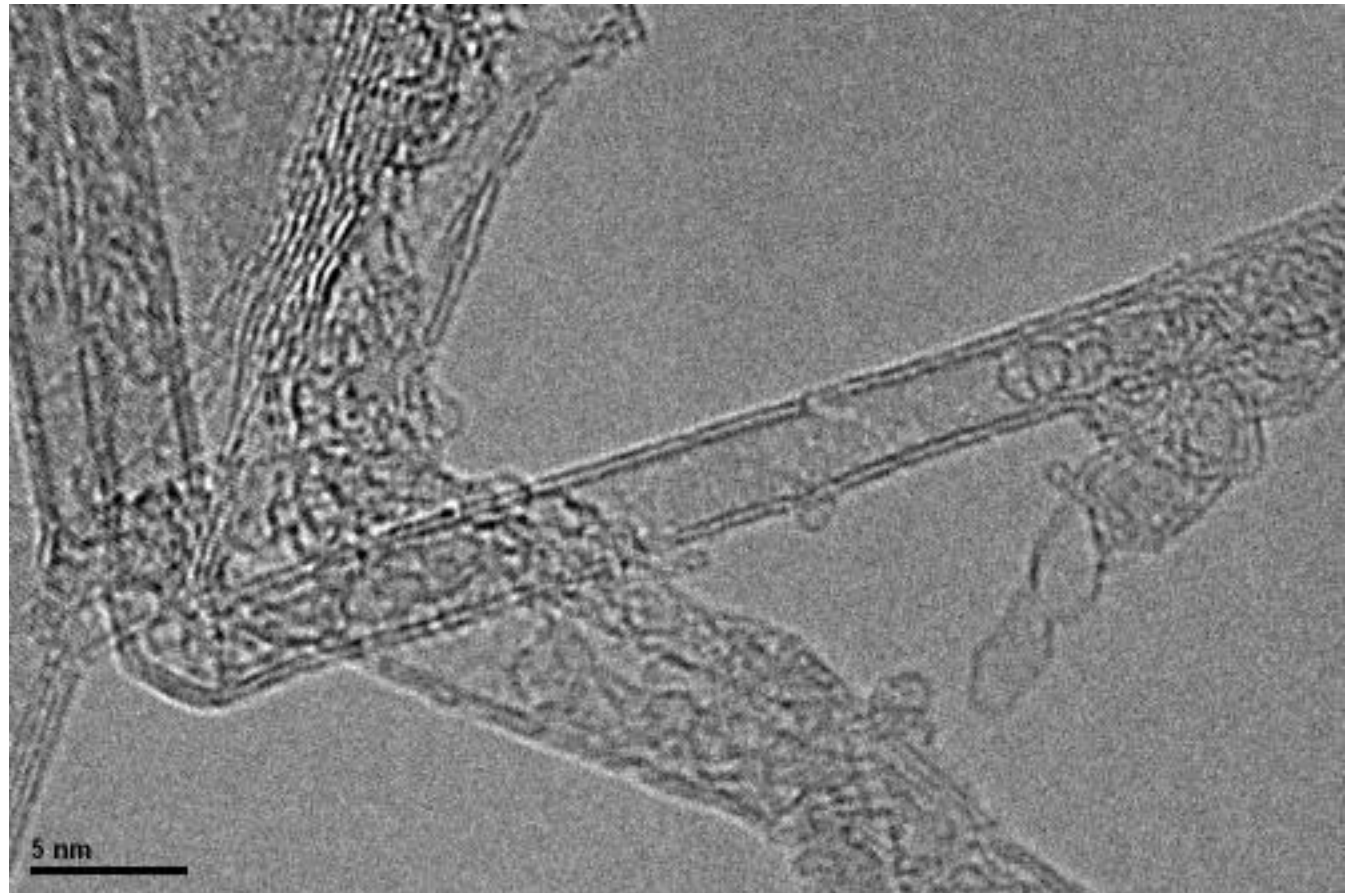
E-beam modification

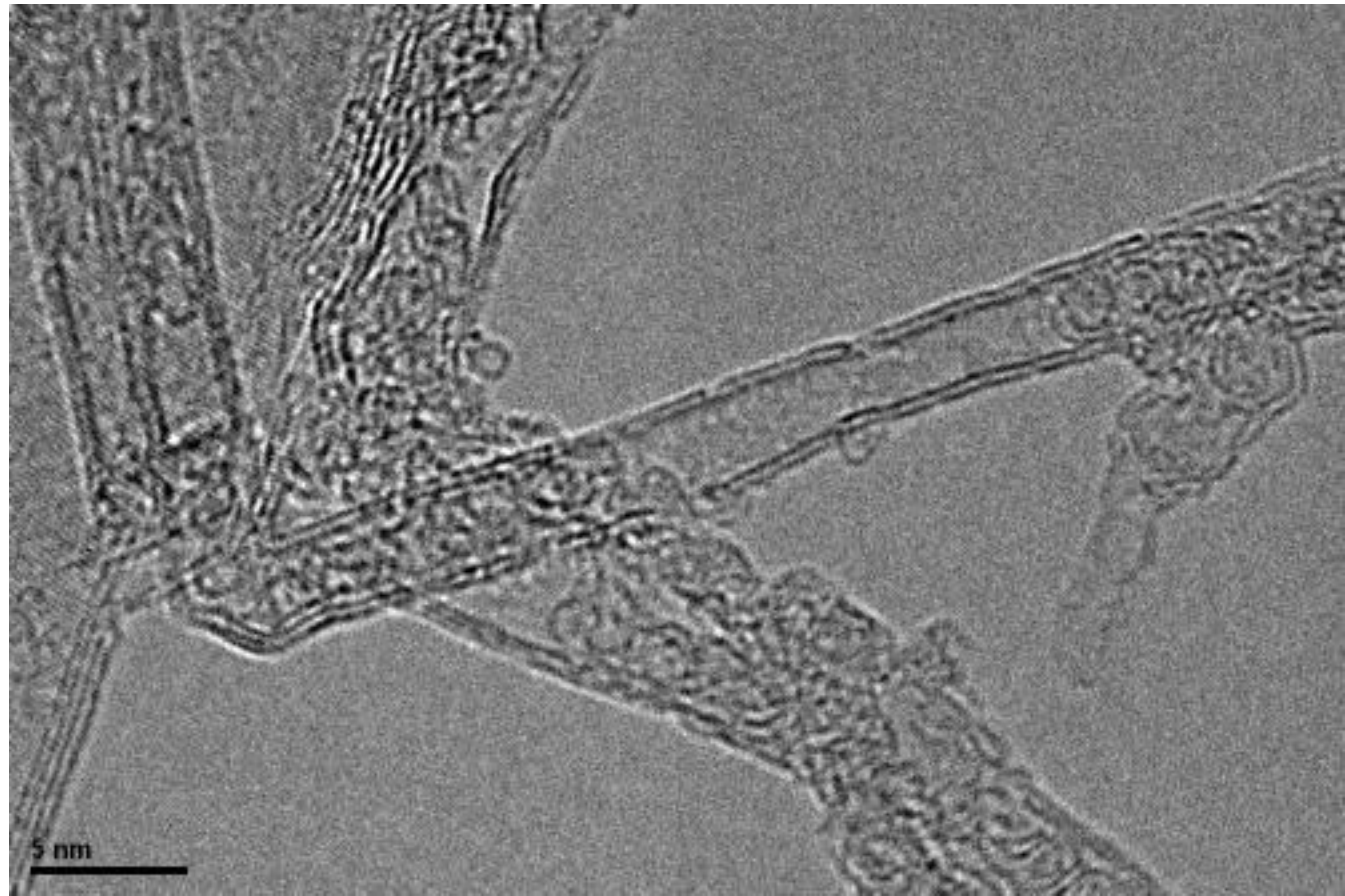
BNNT modification under 200 keV electron beam

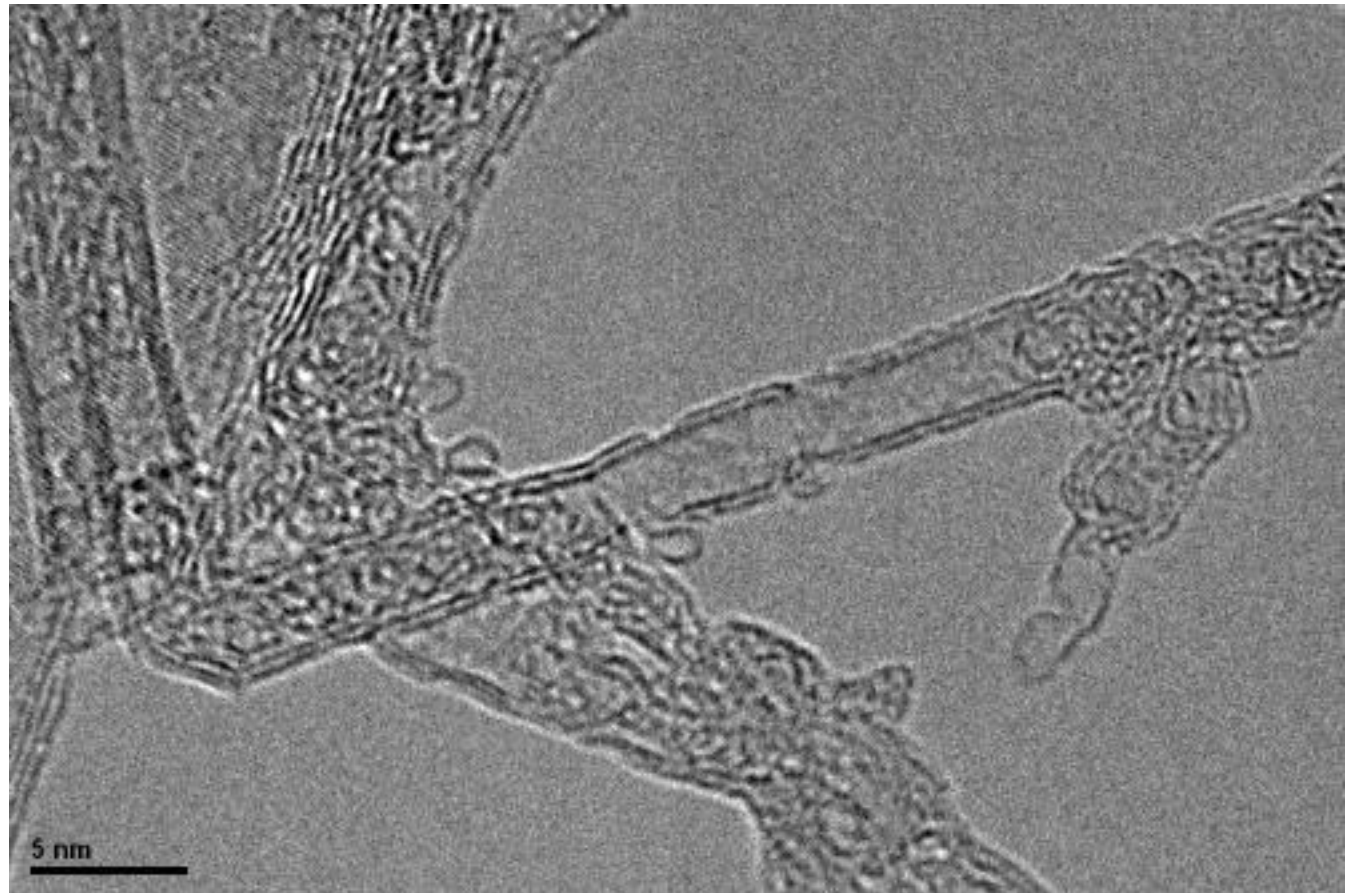


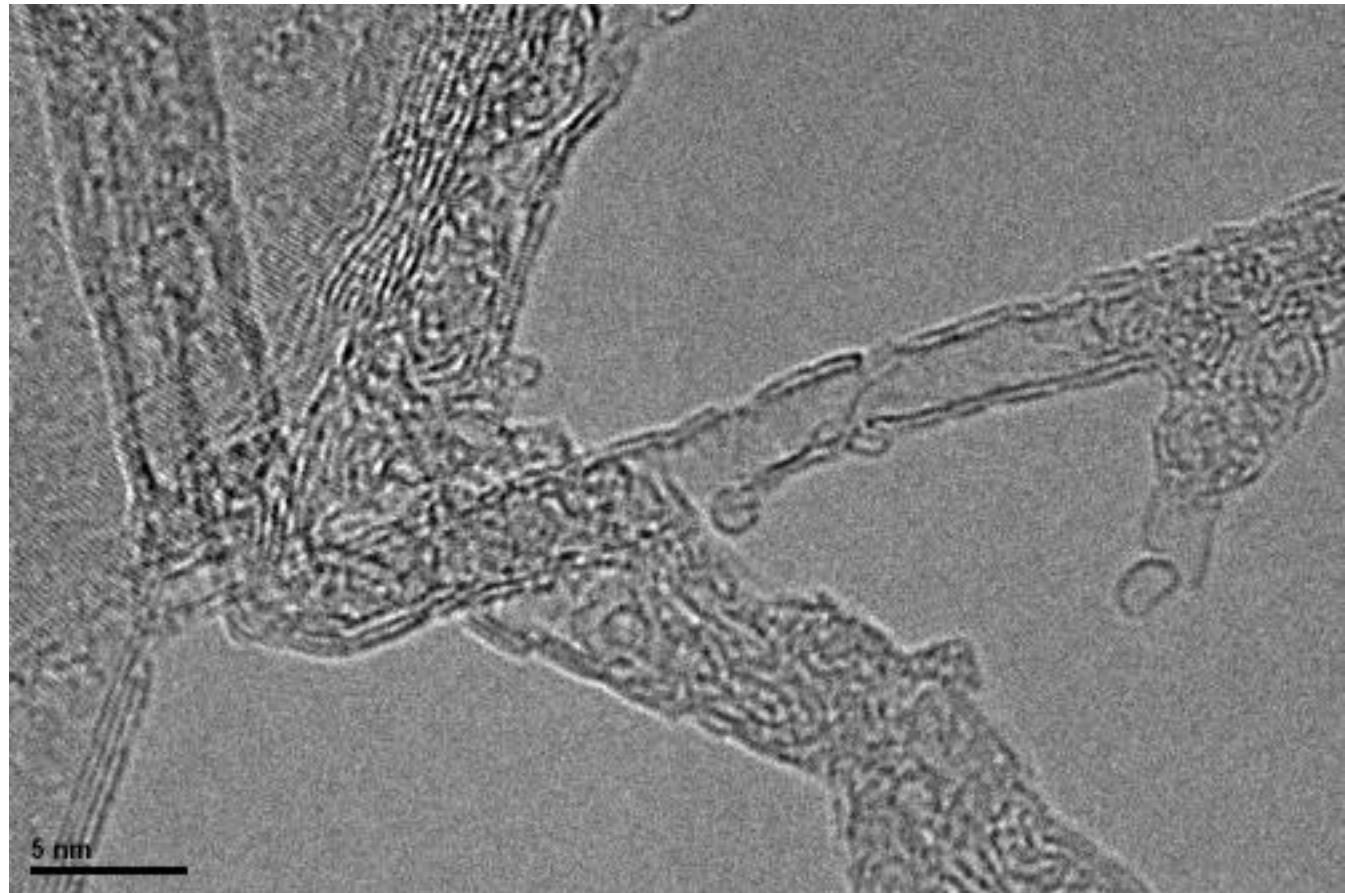


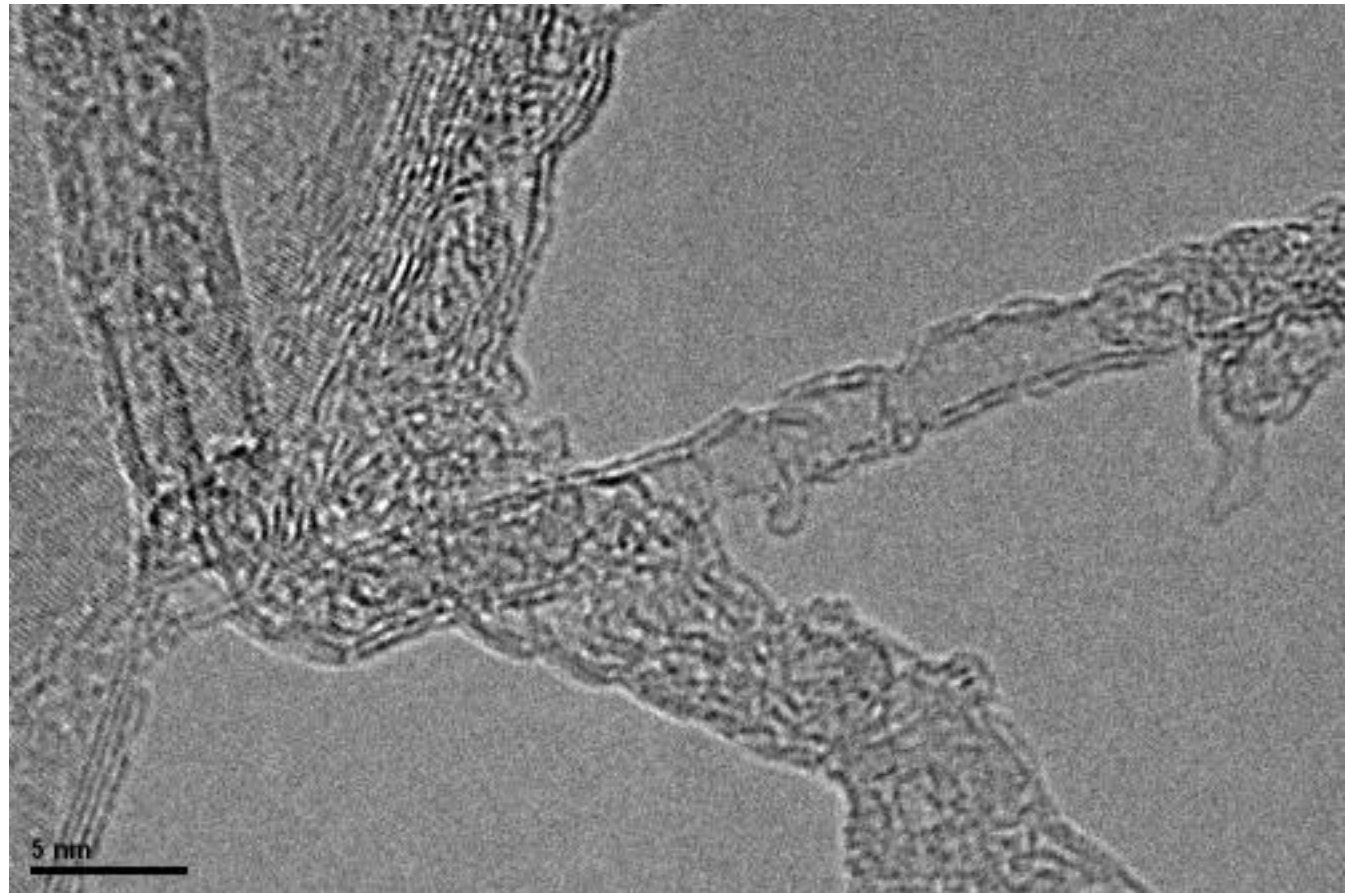


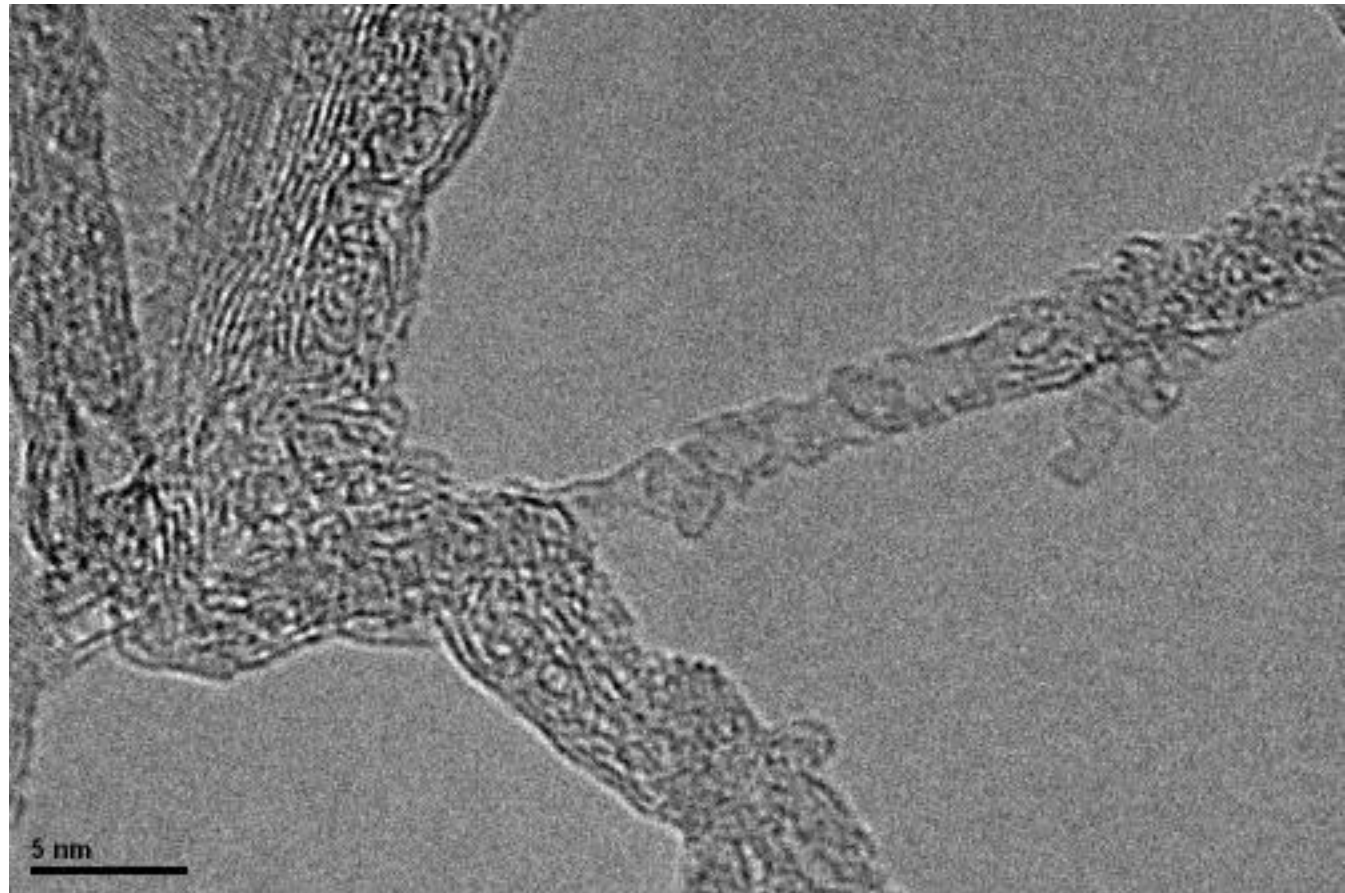


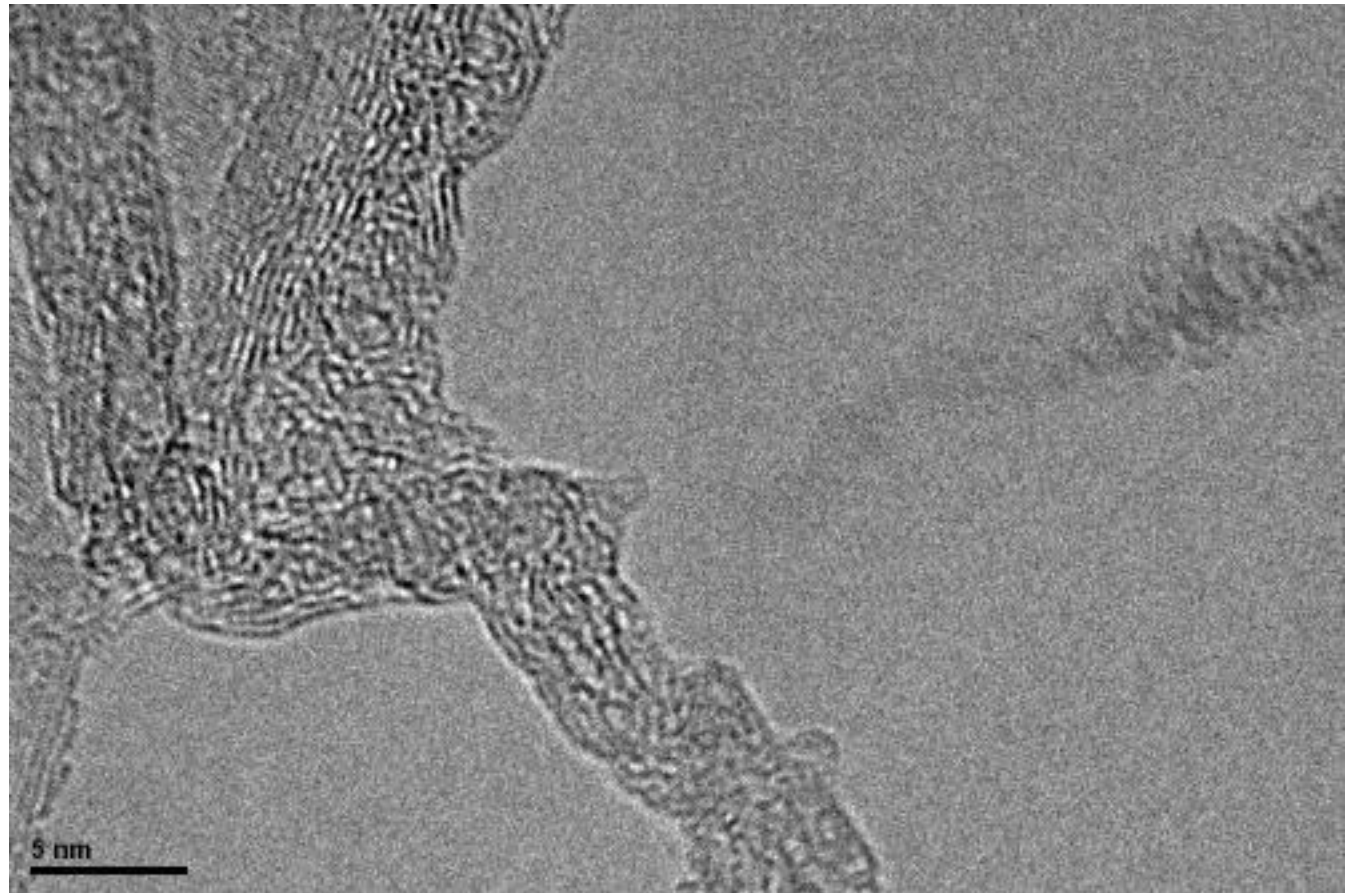


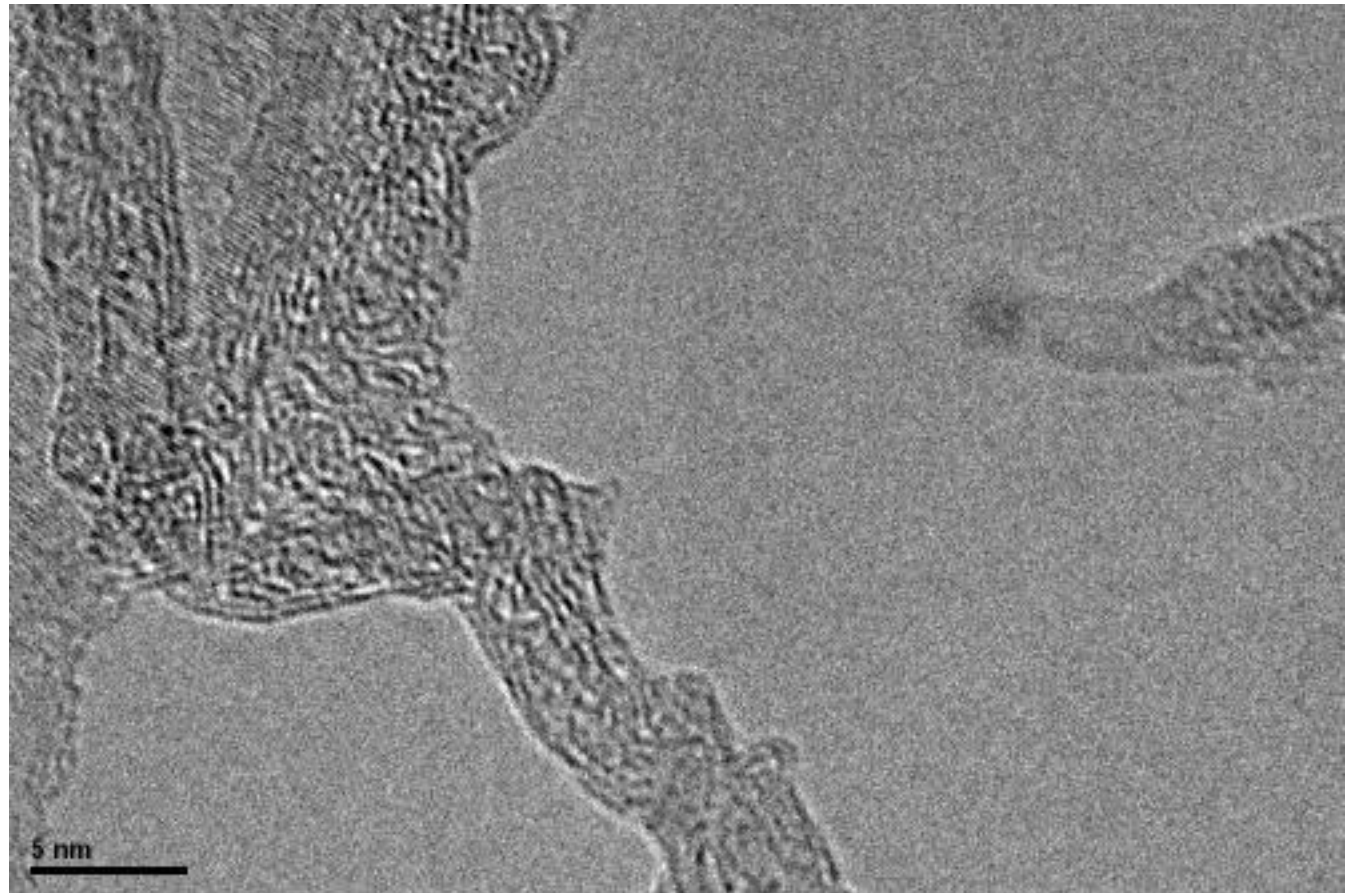




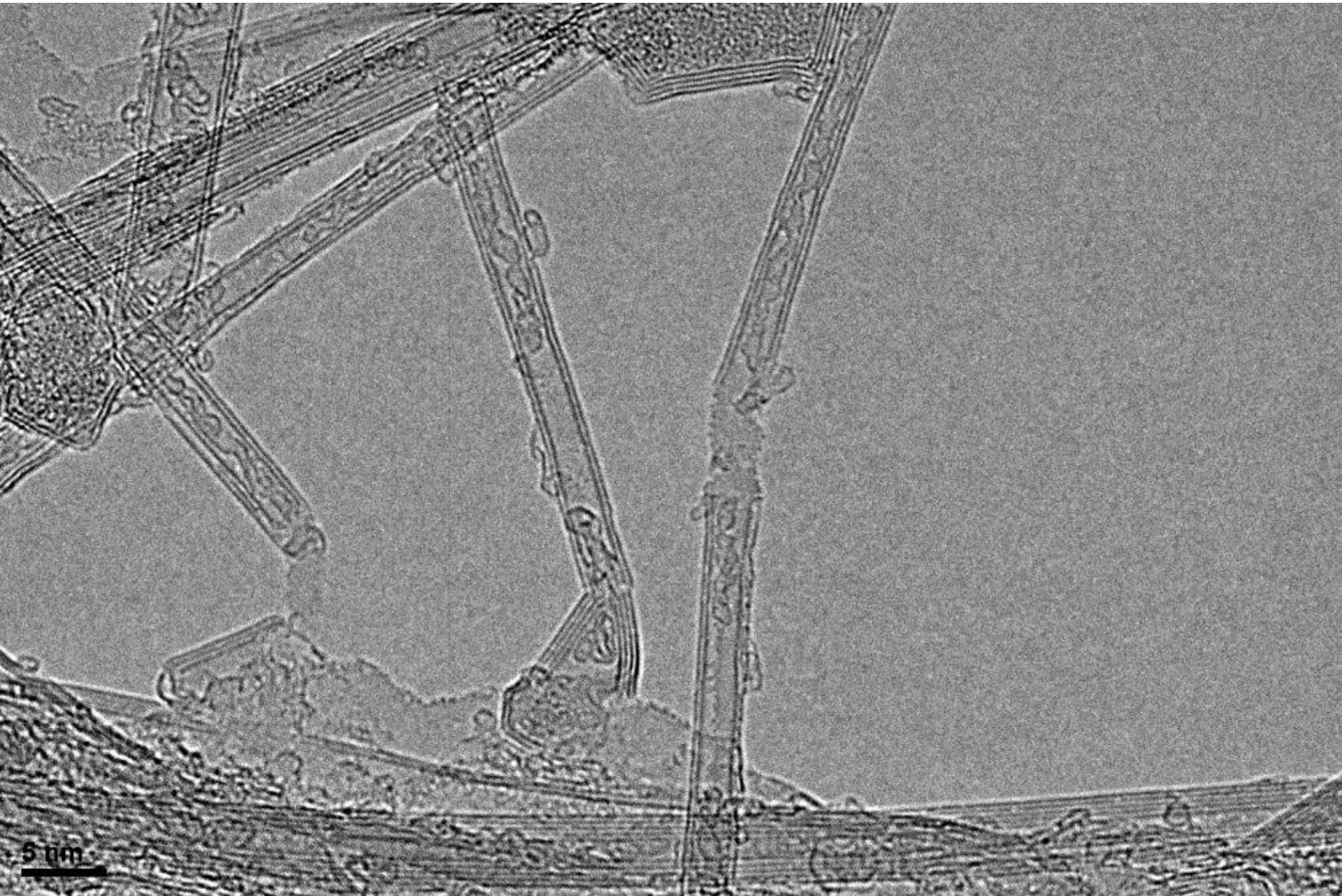




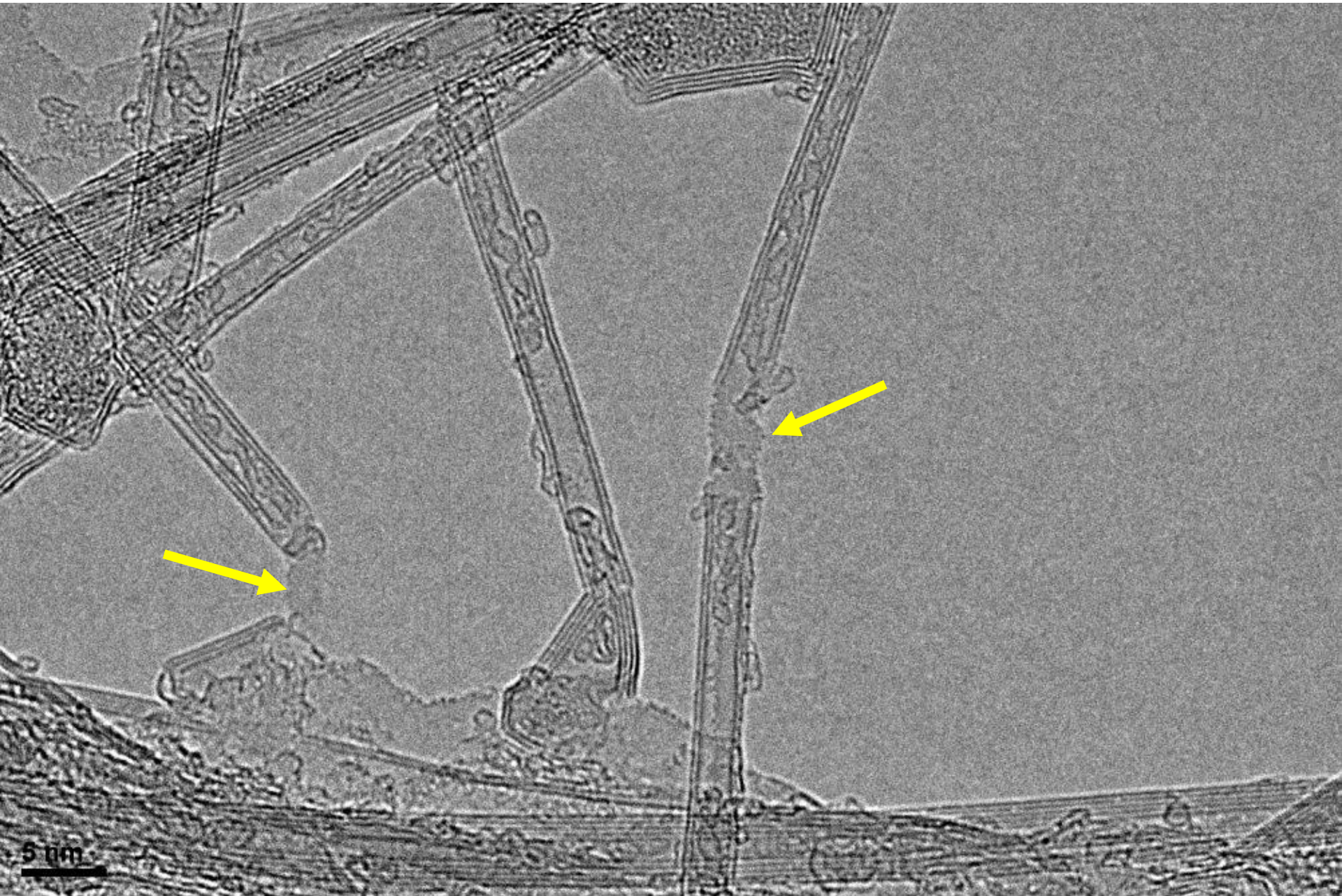




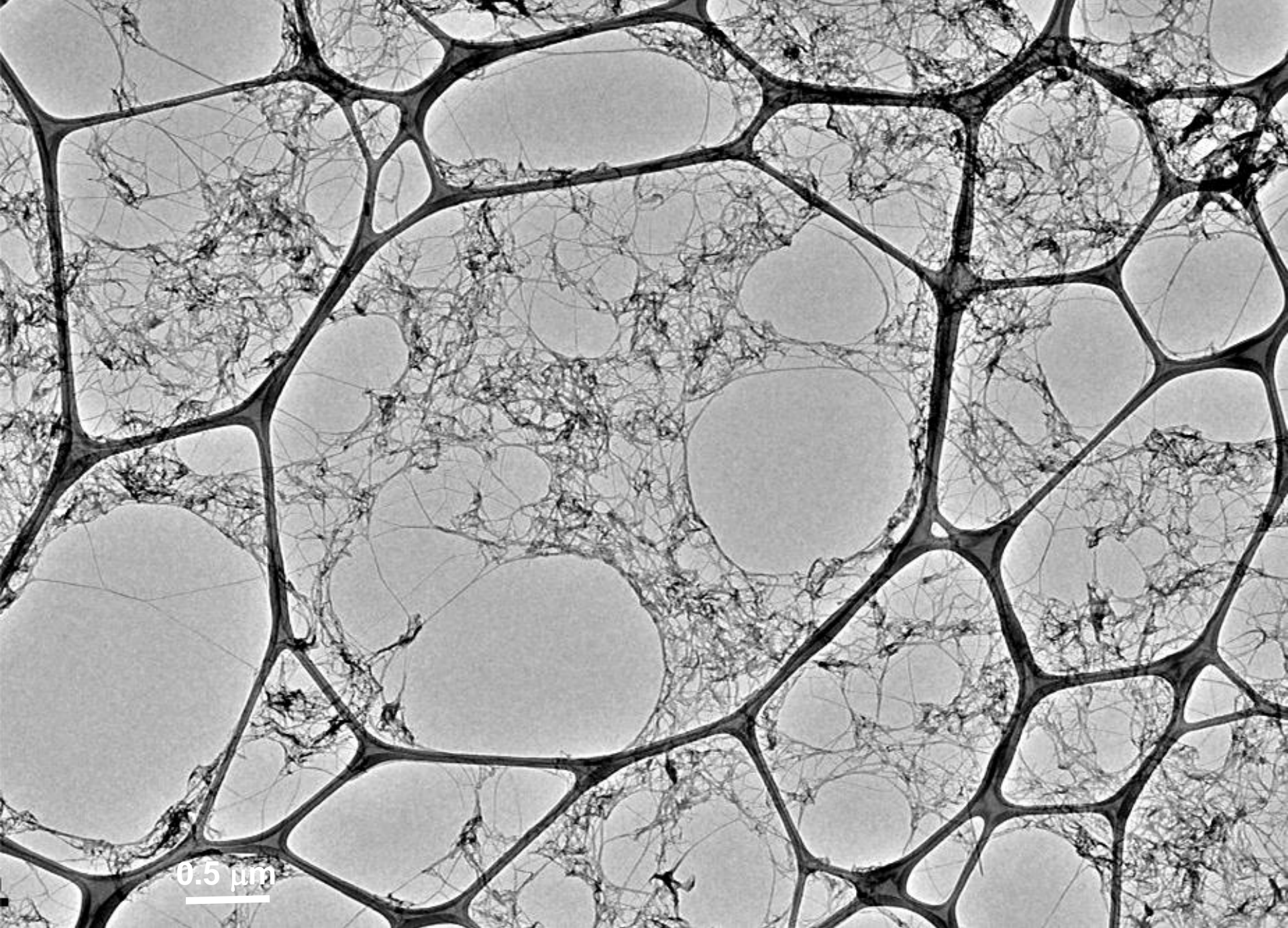
BN Nanoribbons (white graphene)



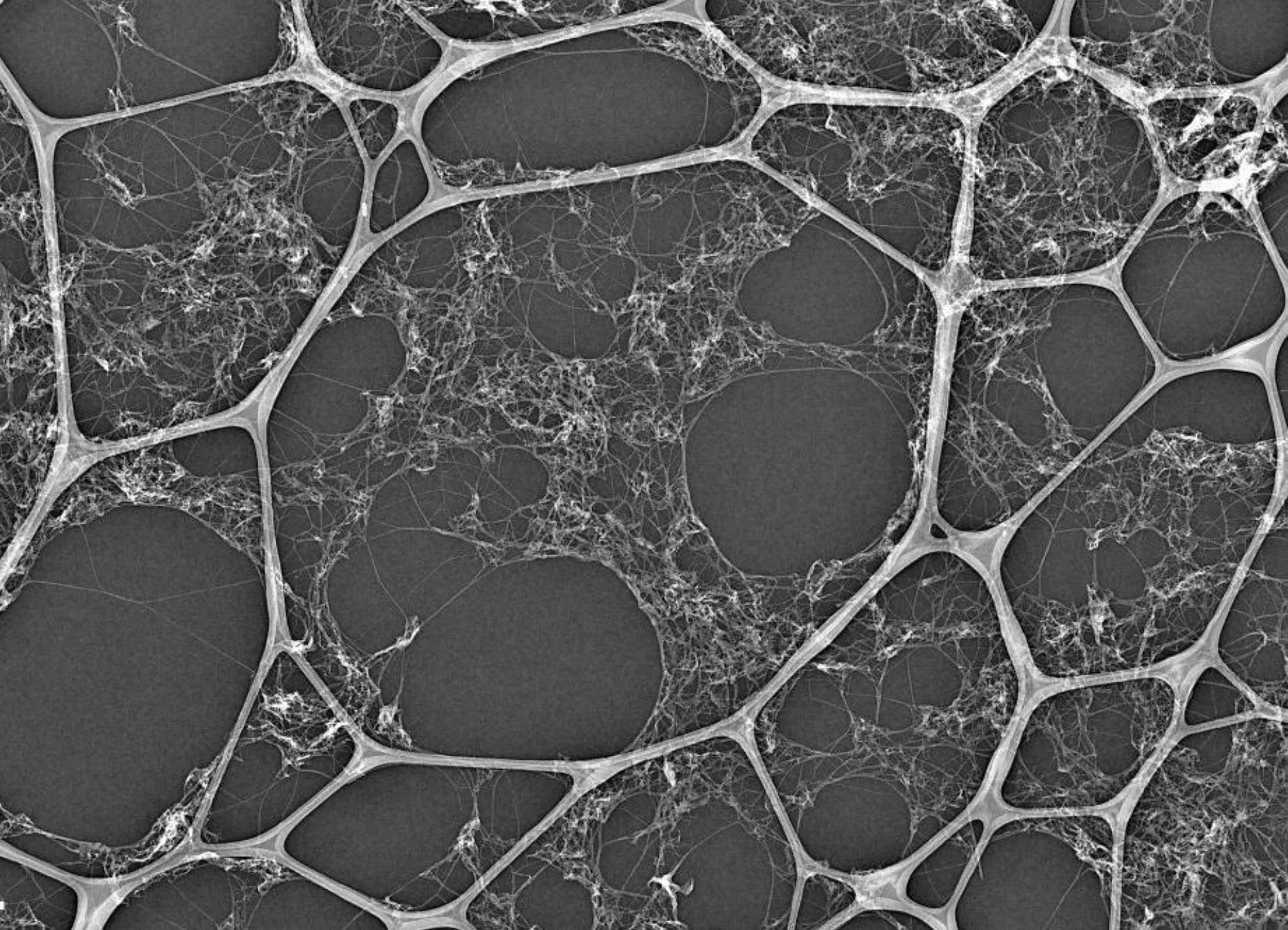
BN Nanoribbons (white graphene)



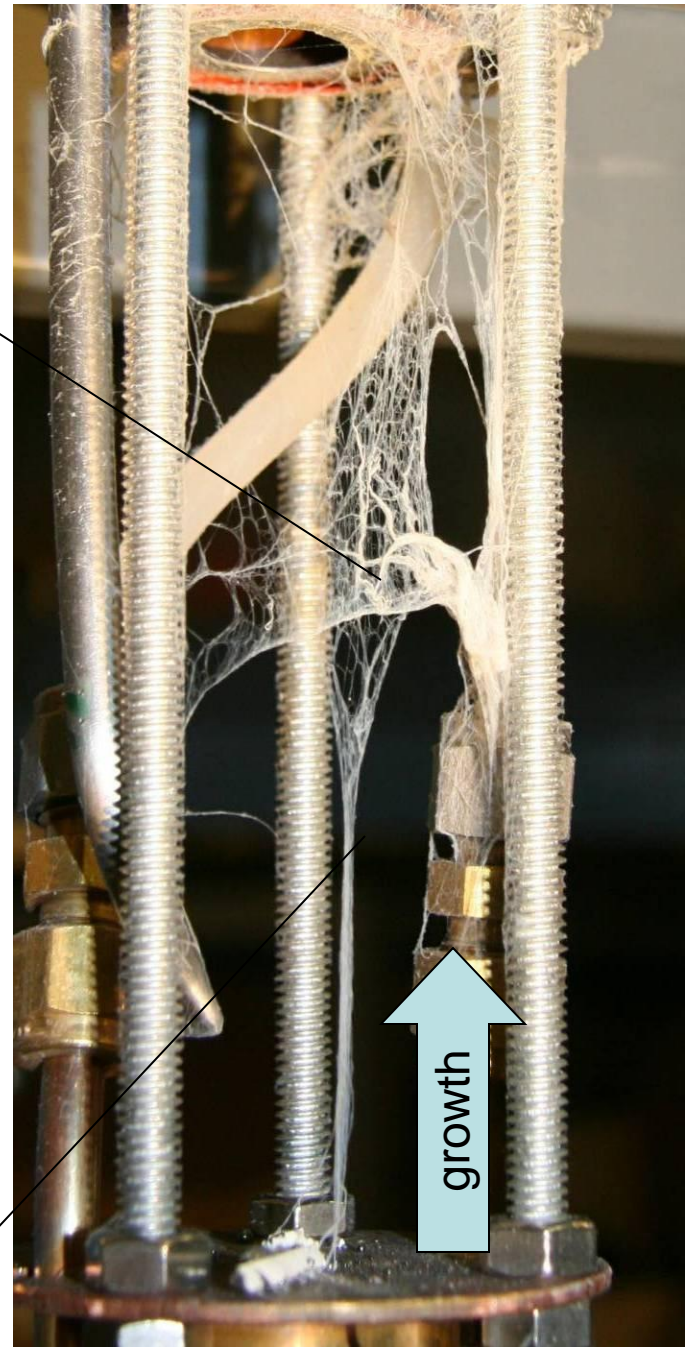
Fractal?



TEM image: Dr Wei Cao, ODU/ARC



15 cm fibril of PVC-BNNT resembling spider silk... ~3 seconds run time.



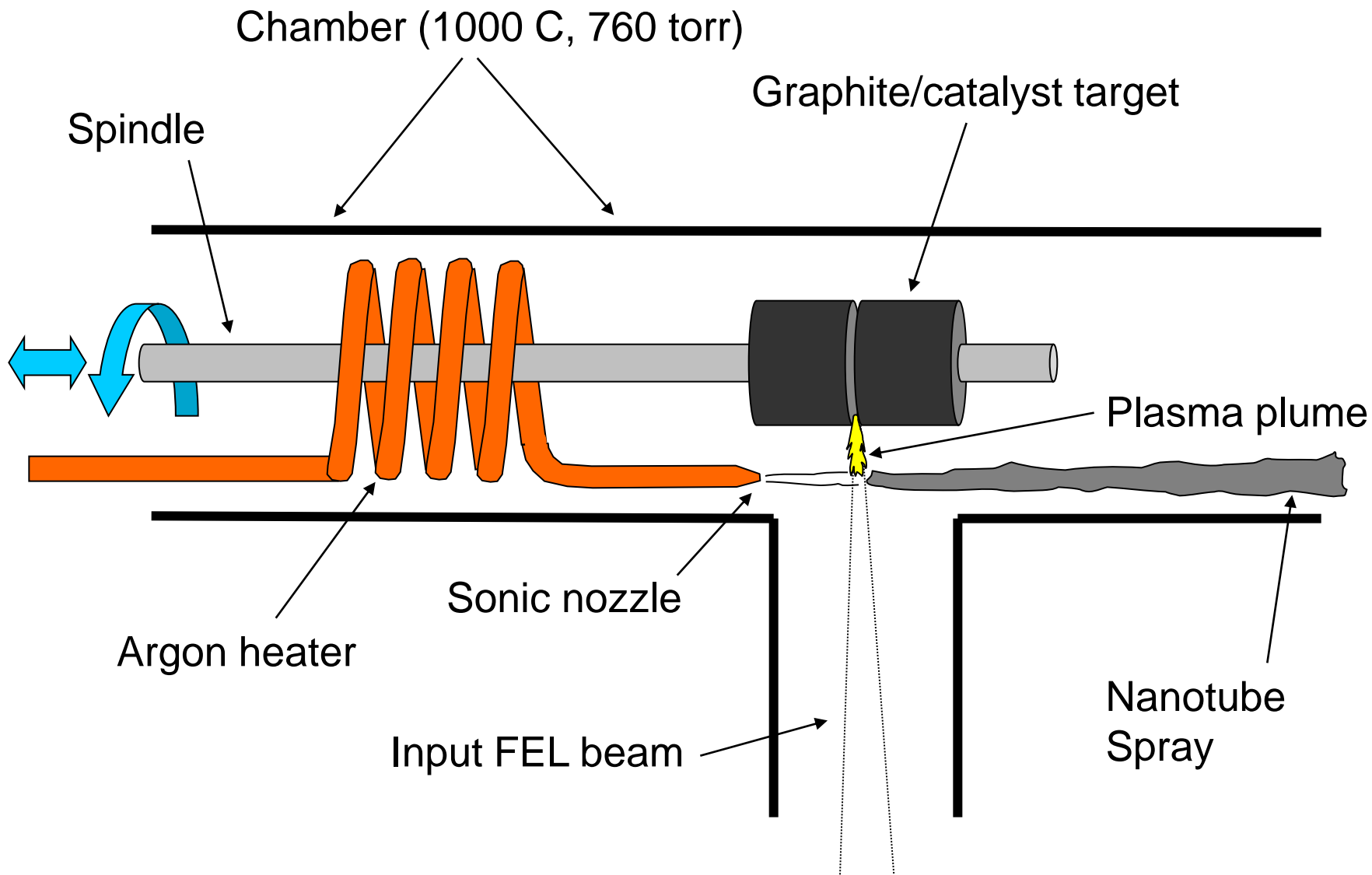
15 cm

Two reasons for interest:

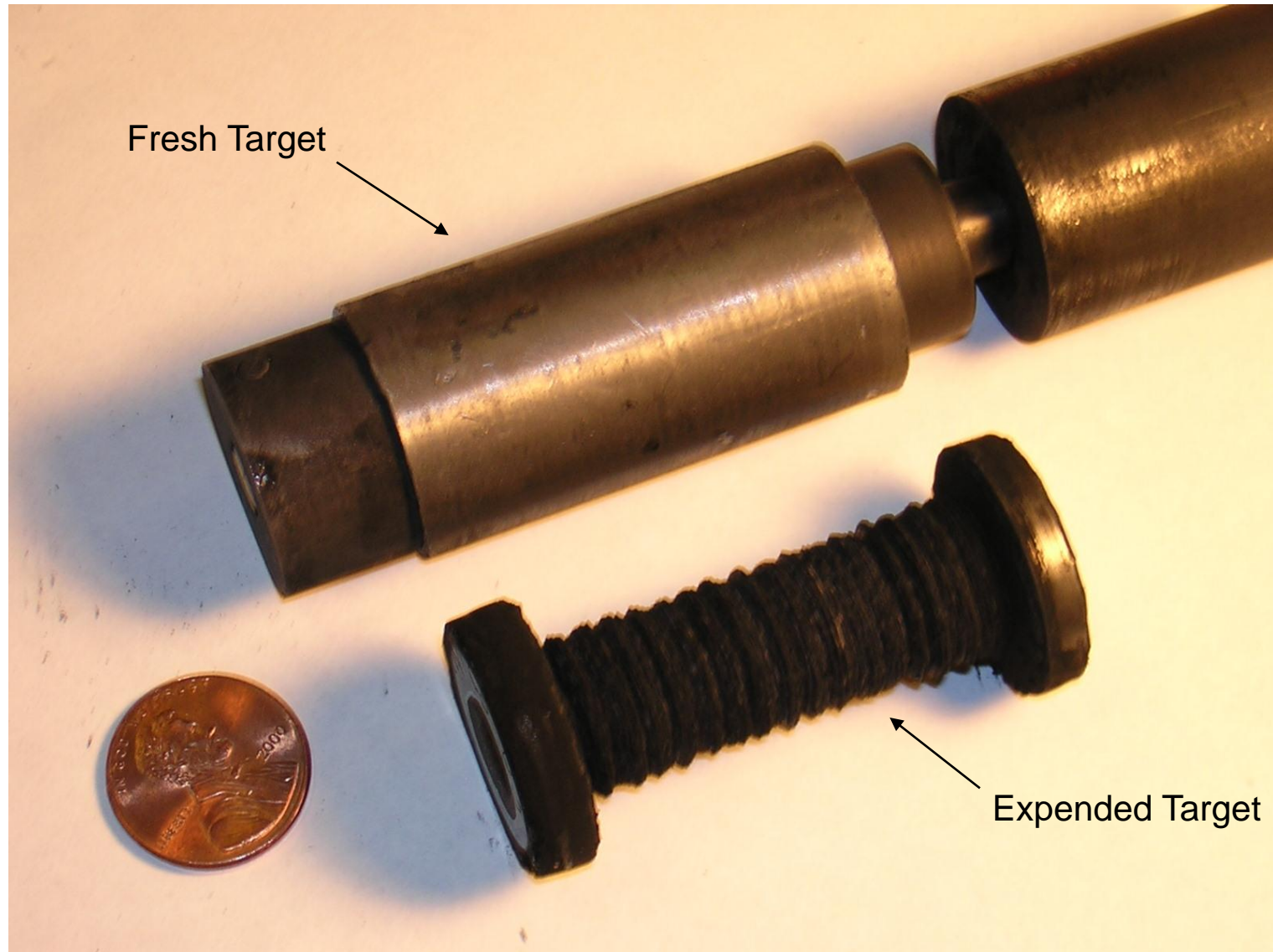
1. Crystallinity + aspect ratio = quality
2. Self assembly. Our BNNTS can vigorously self-assemble.

**A movie on self assembly,
but first a bit of history...**

Schematic of First Carbon Nanotube Side-Pumped Synthesis Chamber



4/05/06, Carbon Nanotube Targets,
75 Minutes Elapsed Time



4/05/06, 7.5 grams Raw Material Collected
1.25 Hour Exposure



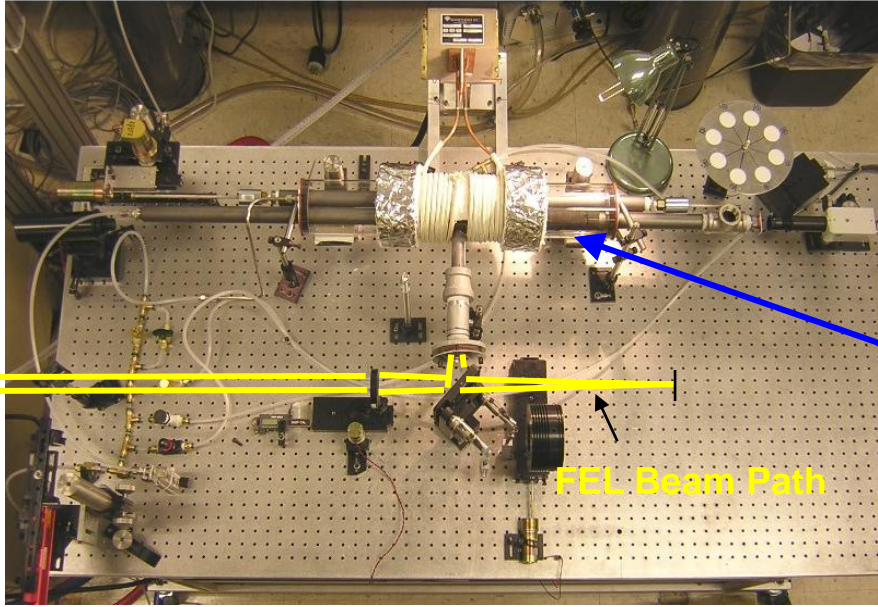
Hot-pressed
BN Target



Lightly-ablated
BN target
(hot-pressed with
Ni:Co catalyst)



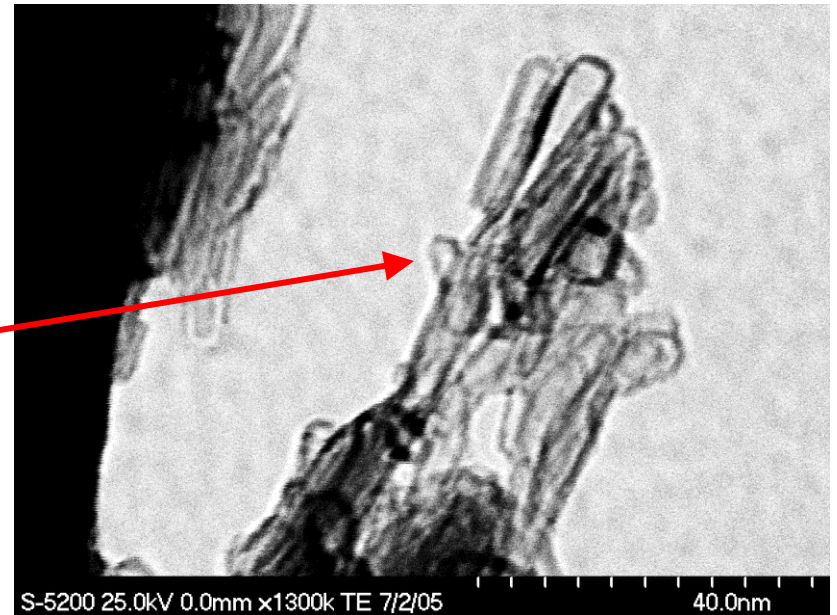
Use CNT Synthesis Rig for BNNT's?



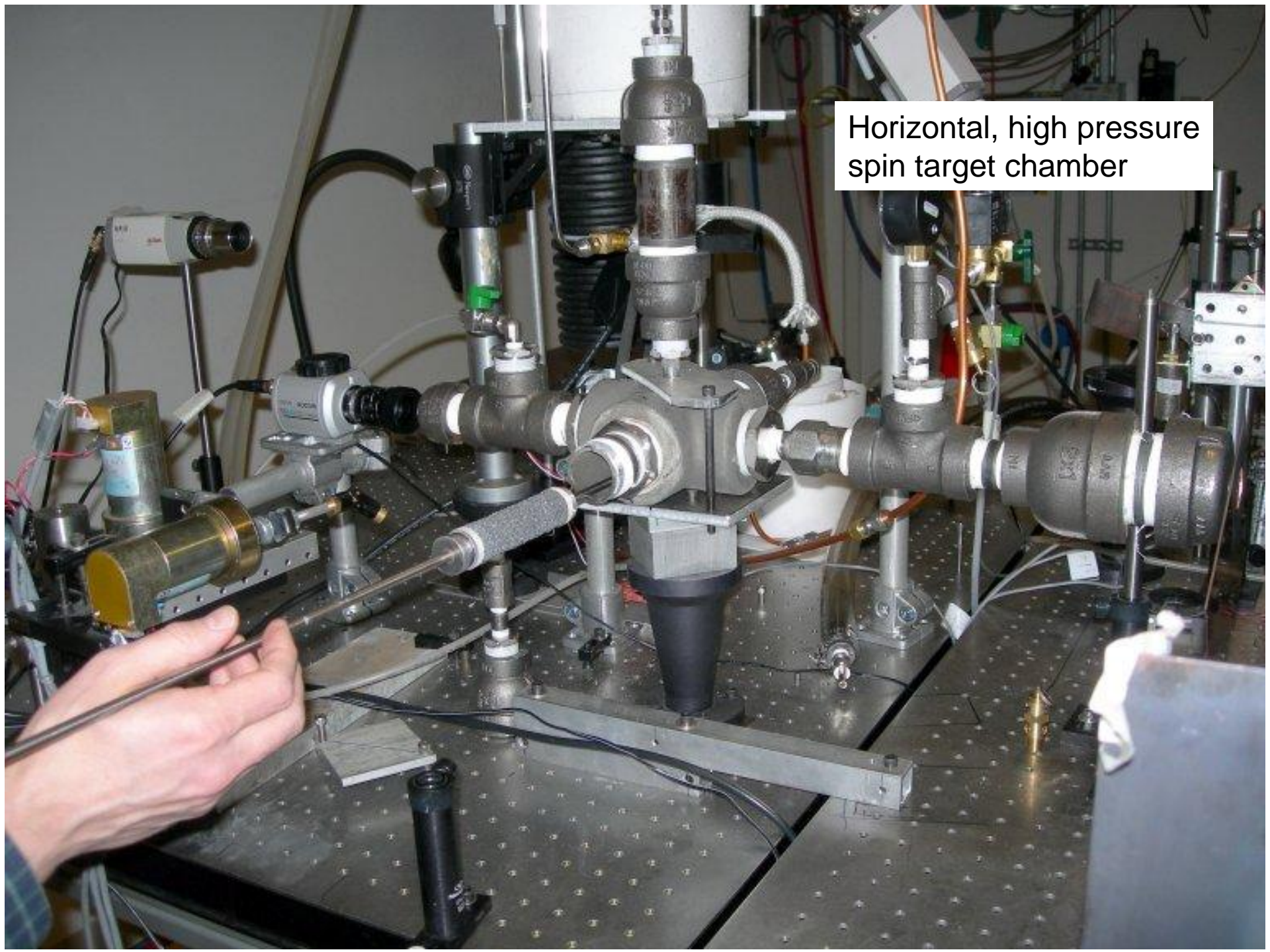
Laser ablation chamber normally used for Carbon Nanotubes

FEL Beam Path

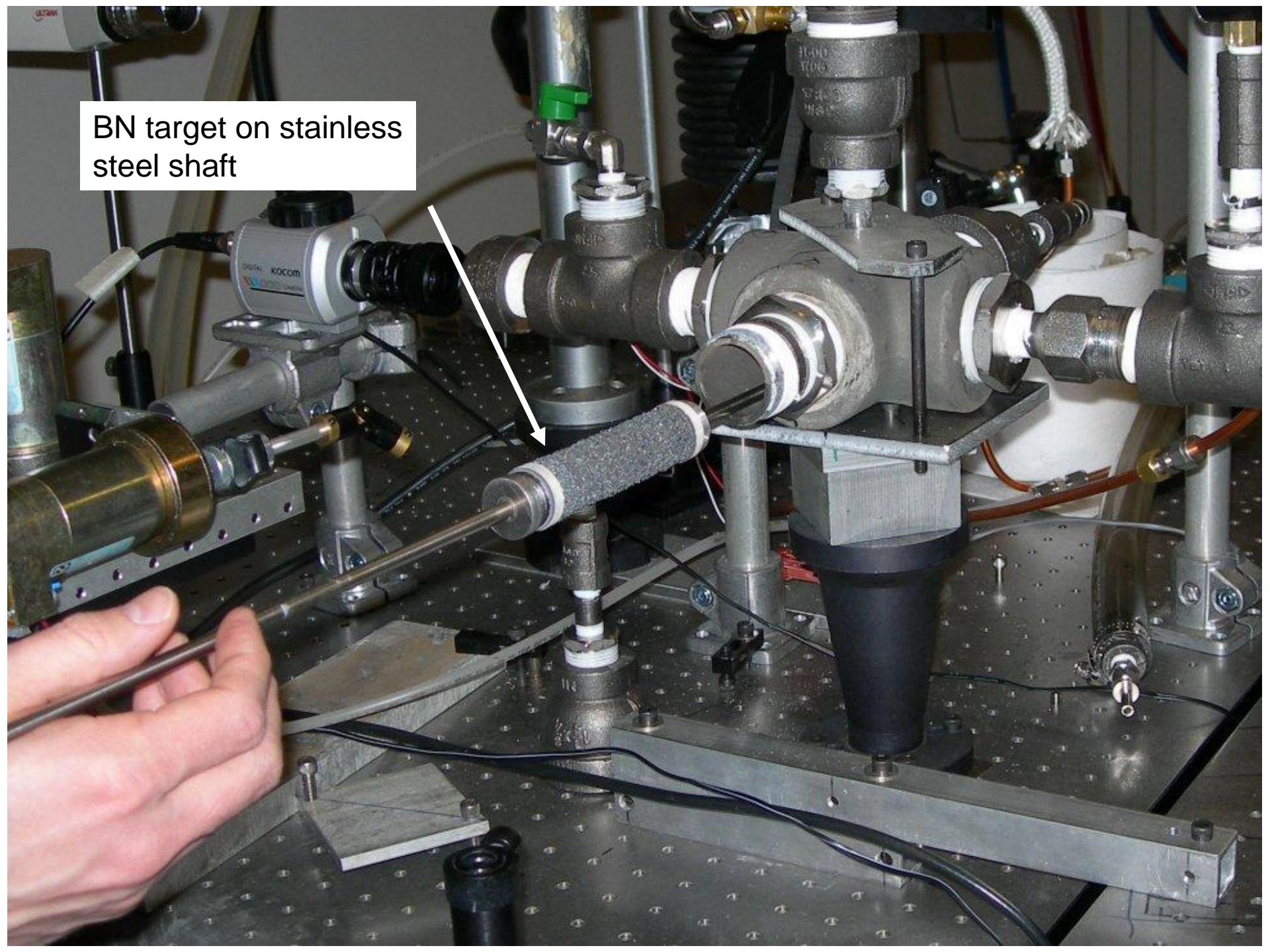
HRSEM image of BN material made by FEL



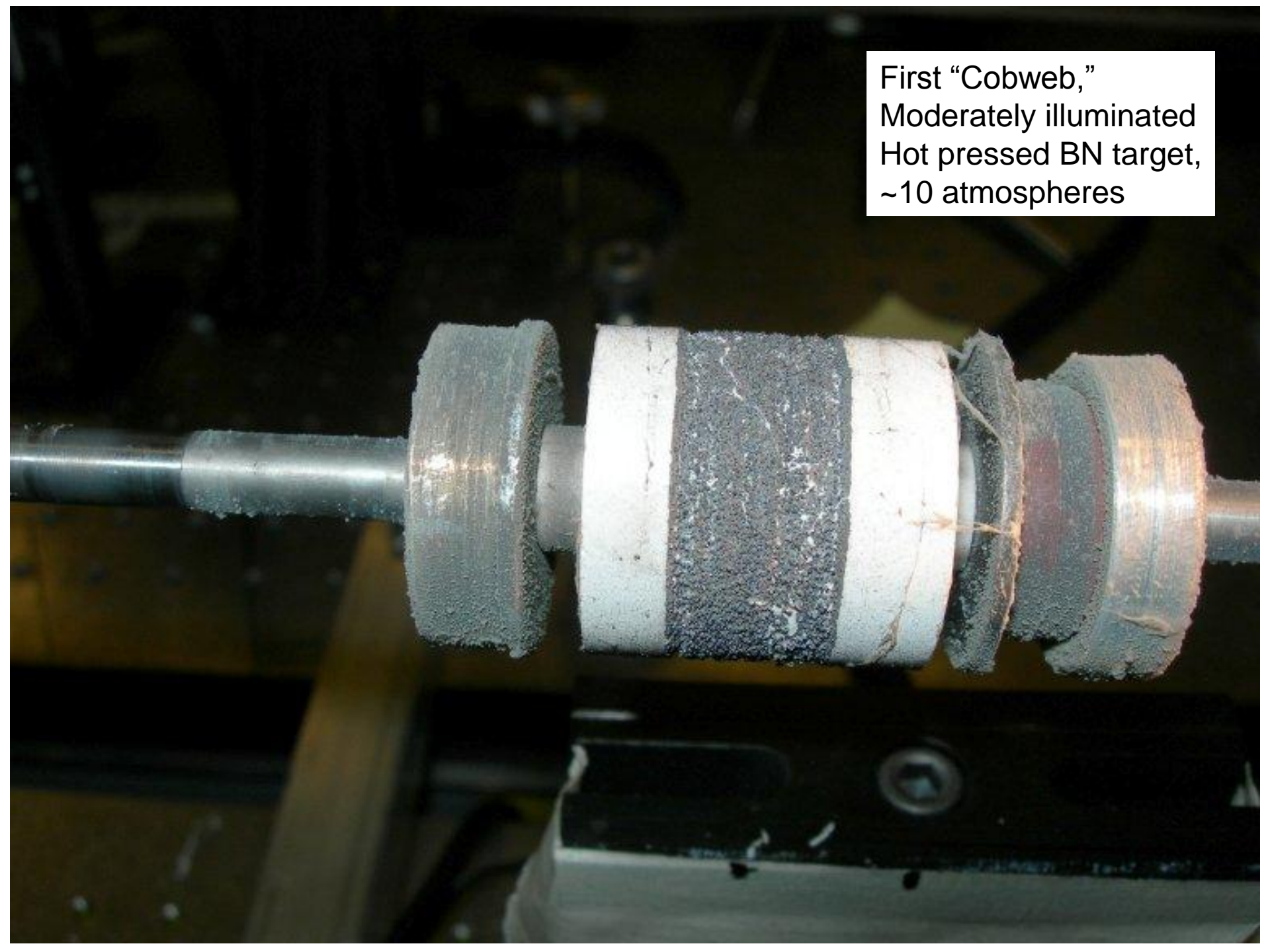
Horizontal, high pressure spin target chamber

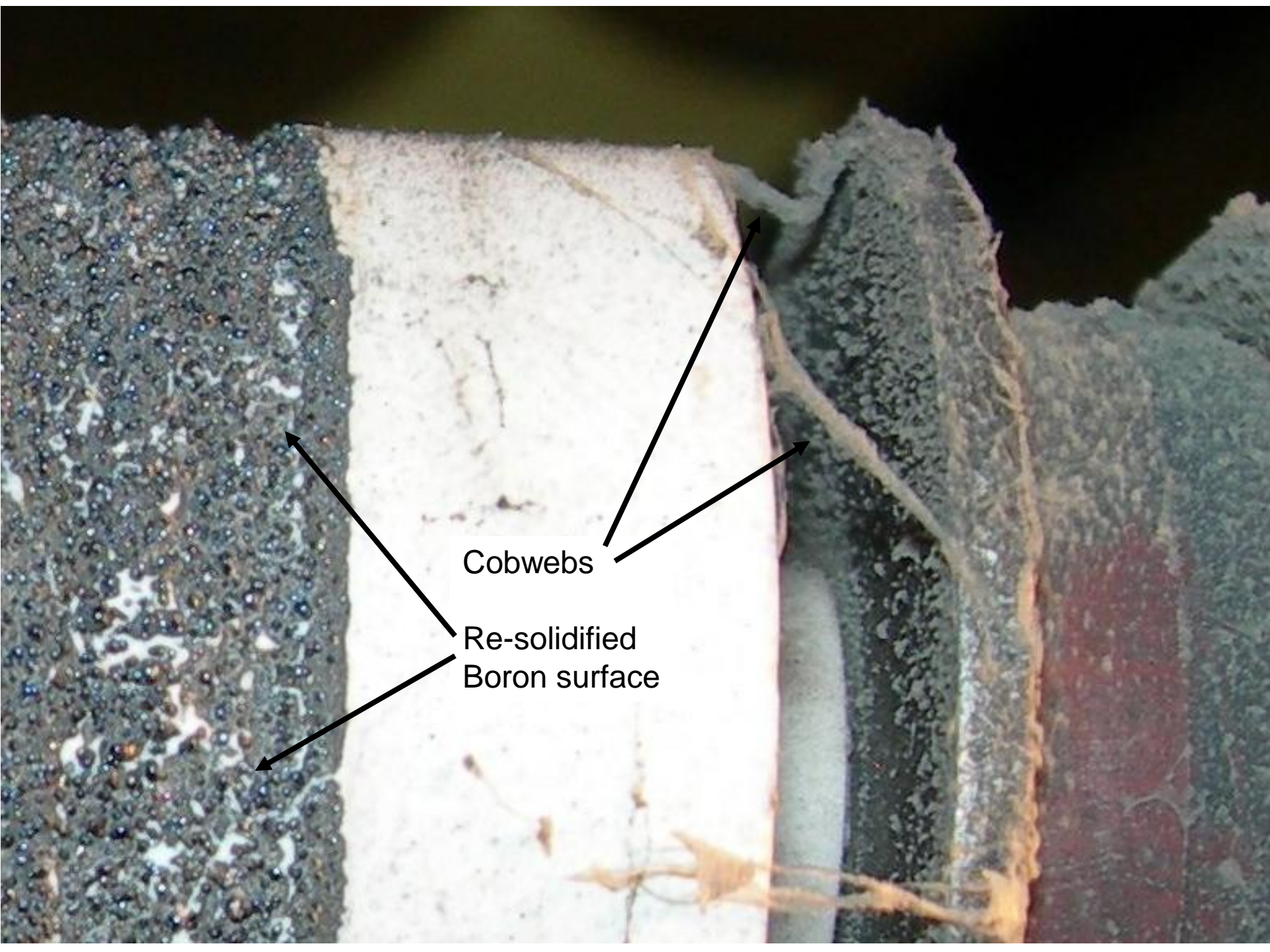


BN target on stainless steel shaft



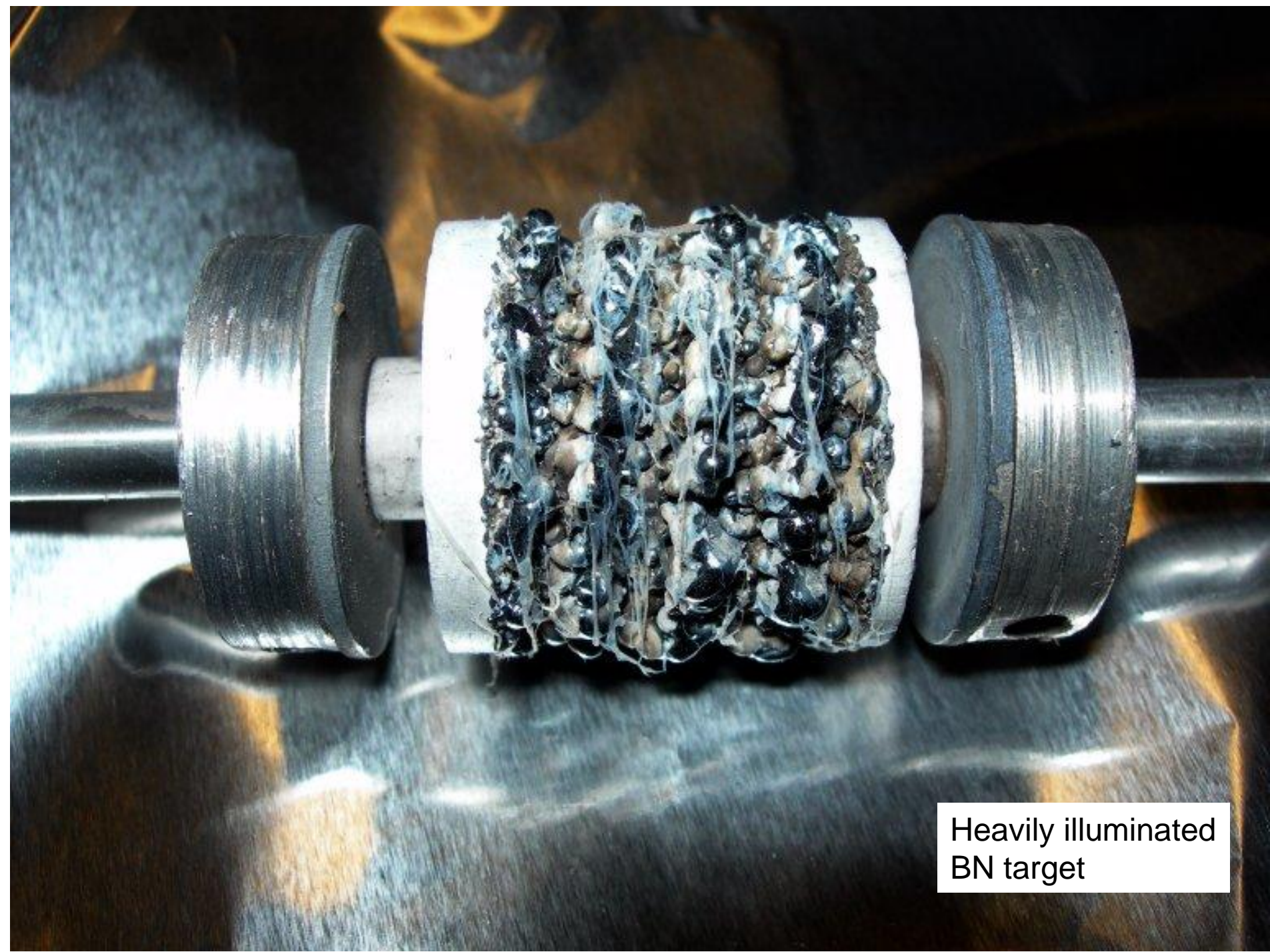
First "Cobweb,"
Moderately illuminated
Hot pressed BN target,
~10 atmospheres





Cobwebs

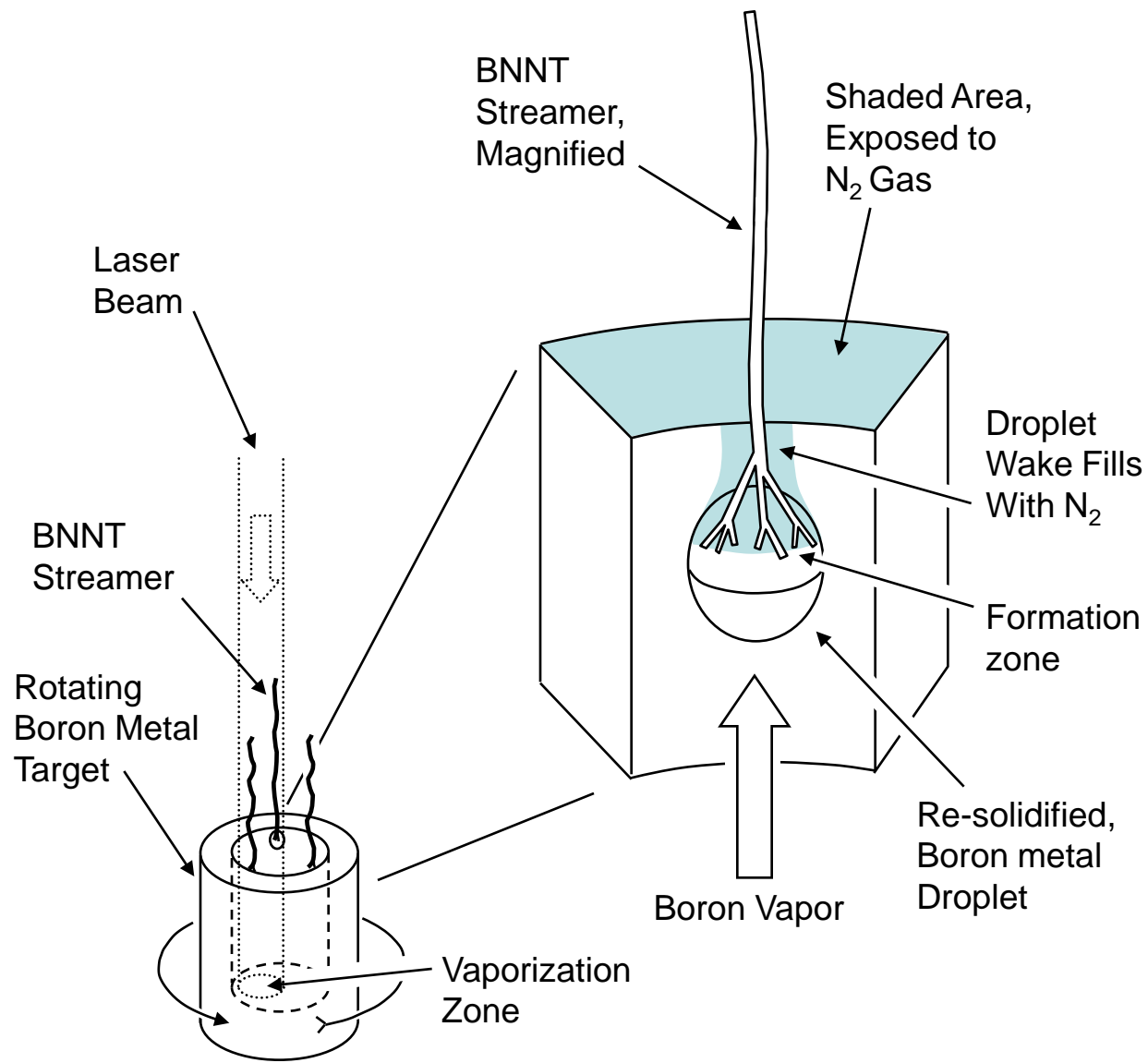
Re-solidified
Boron surface

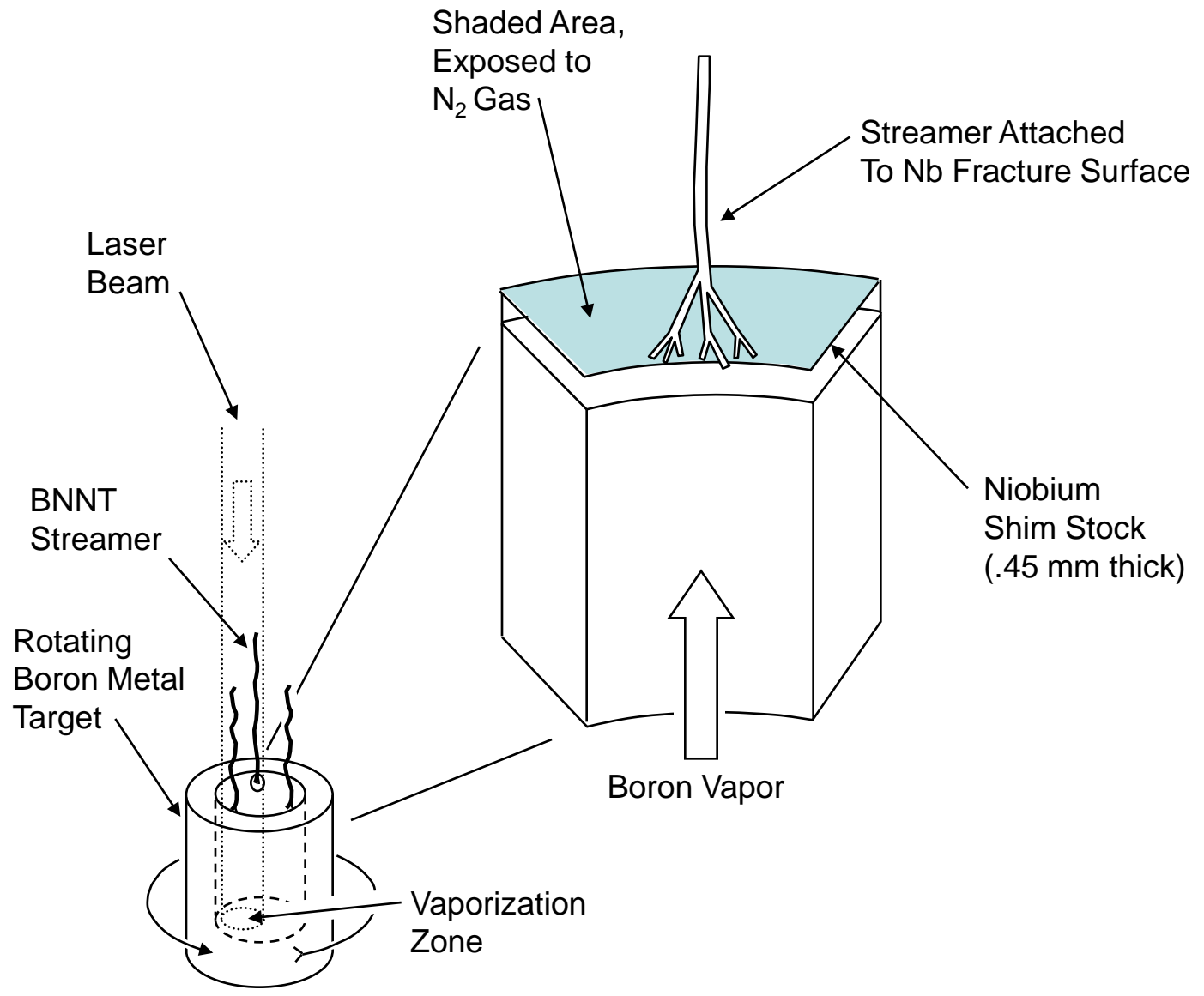


Heavily illuminated
BN target



Heavily illuminated
BN target







5 kW CO2 Industrial
Cutting/welding laser

5 kW CO₂ Industrial cutting/welding laser controls: 5 minute warm up, 1000's hours duty time.



Growth Movie

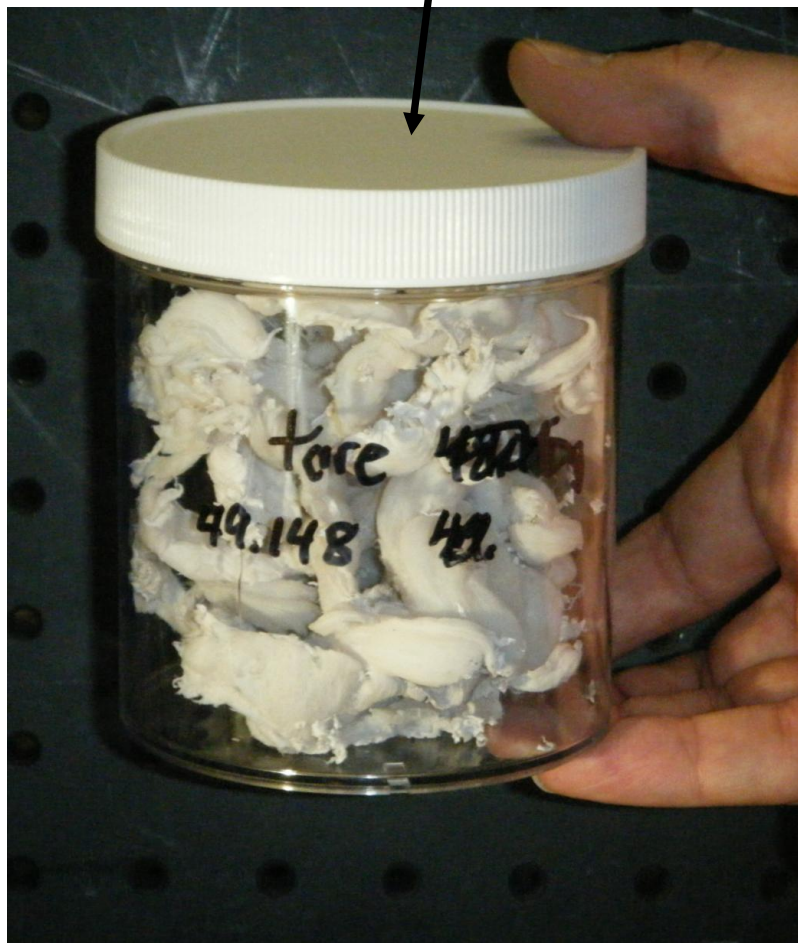
Cotton-like PVC-BNNT mass (~ 30 minutes run time)



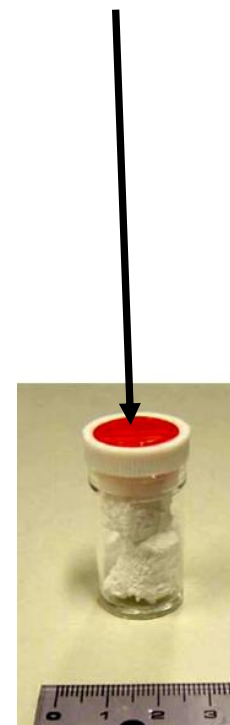
(From: M. W. Smith et al, Nanotechnology, 20, 505604 (2009))

Comparison: Equal Mass of PVC BNNT to NIMS CVD BNNT

200 mg BNNT
NASA/JLab PVC method



200 mg BNNT
Japanese NIMS
 B_2O_2/NH_3 CVD



C. Zhi, Y. Bando, C. Tan, D. Golberg,
Solid State Commun. 135, 67-70 (2005).

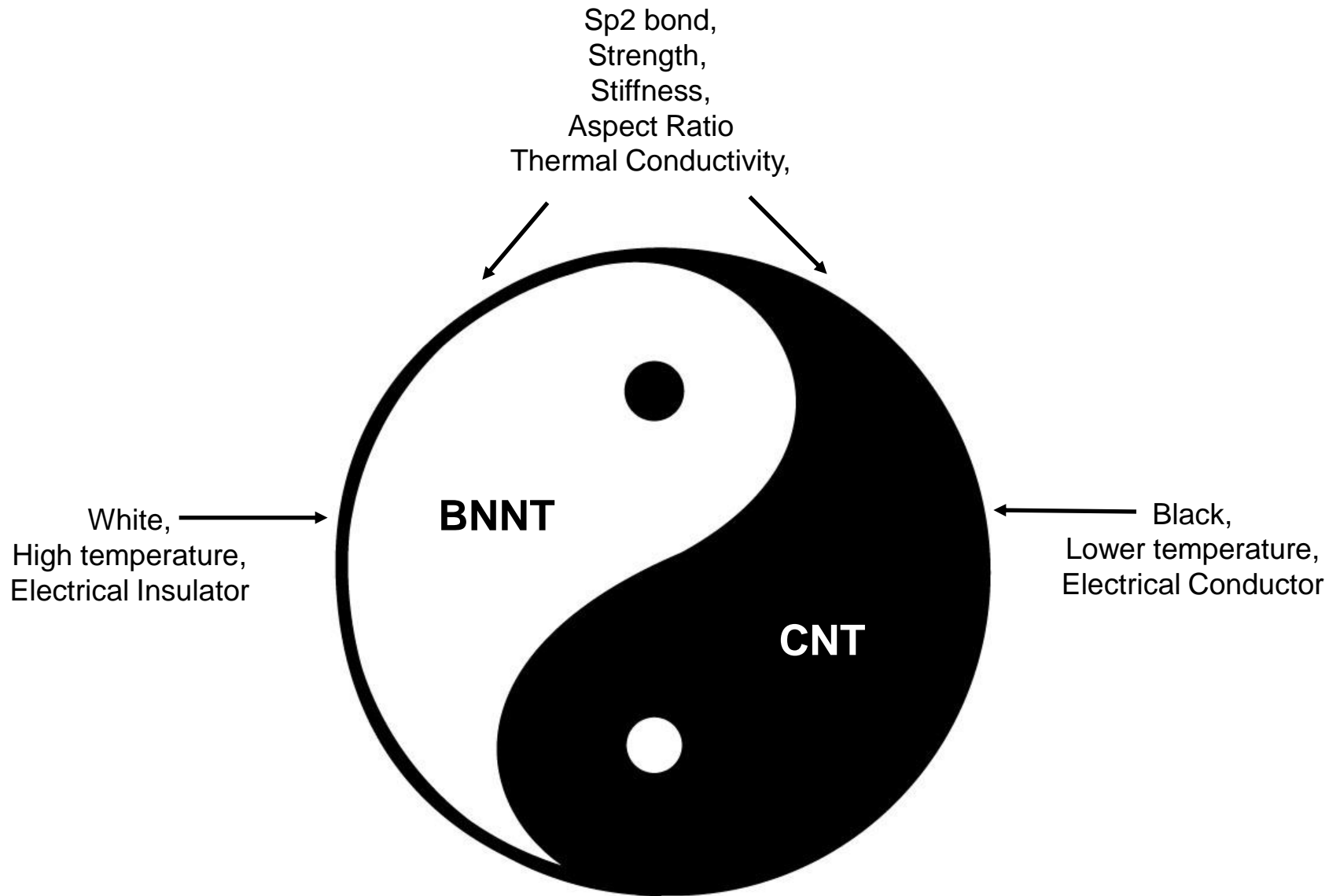
Jars are shown to scale

As-grown PVC-BNNT is a very low density, high surface area material.
One pound (.45 kg) would occupy about 30 cubic feet...



NASA Applications

The Yin-Yang of Nanotubes



Comparison of Material Properties, CNT v BNNT

	Carbon nanotubes	Boron nitride nanotubes
Electrical properties	Metallic or semiconducting	Always semiconducting (about 5.5 eV band gap)
Mechanical properties (Young's modulus)	1.33 TPa	1.18 TPa
Thermal conductivity	60 – 40,000 W/mK	~ 3000 W/mK (Cu = 400 W/mK)
Thermal oxidation resistance	Stable up to 300–400°C in air	Stable up to 800°C in air
Neutron scattering cross-section	C = 0.0035	B = 767 (B ¹⁰ ~ 3800) N = 1.9 Excellent radiation shielding
Polarity	Covalent bond (No dipole)	Permanent dipole Piezoelectric (0.25–0.4 C/m ²)
Surface morphology	Smooth	Corrugated
Color	Black	Gray
Coefficient_of Thermal Expansion	-1 x 10 ⁻⁶	-1 x 10 ⁻⁶



Image: nasa

Space Tethers



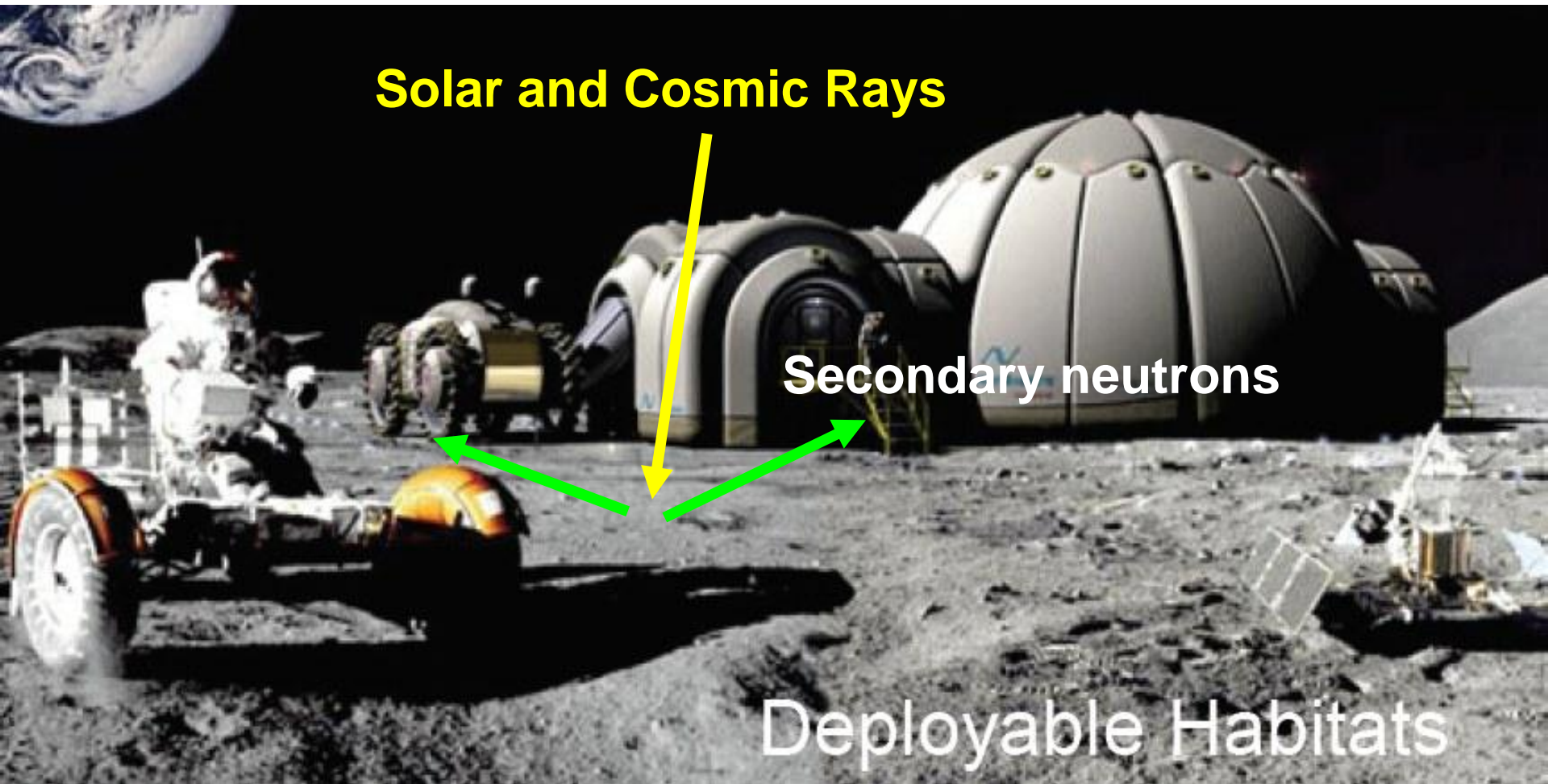
Super Sonic Transport (SST)

Image: nasa



Deployable Habitats

Image: nasa



Solar and Cosmic Rays

Secondary neutrons

Deployable Habitats



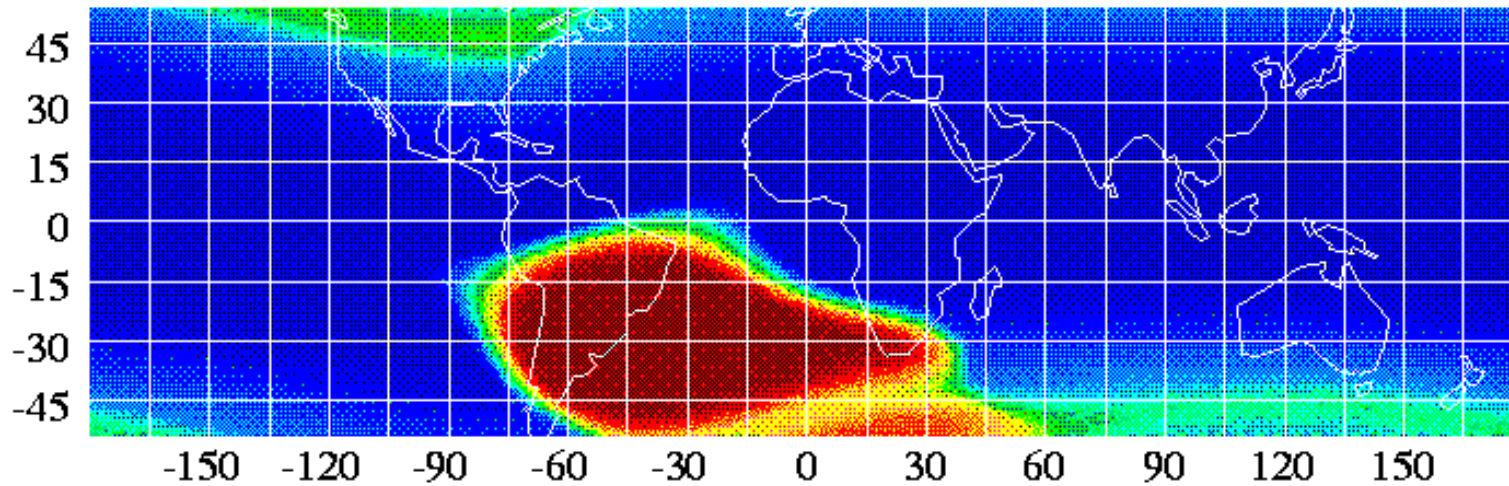
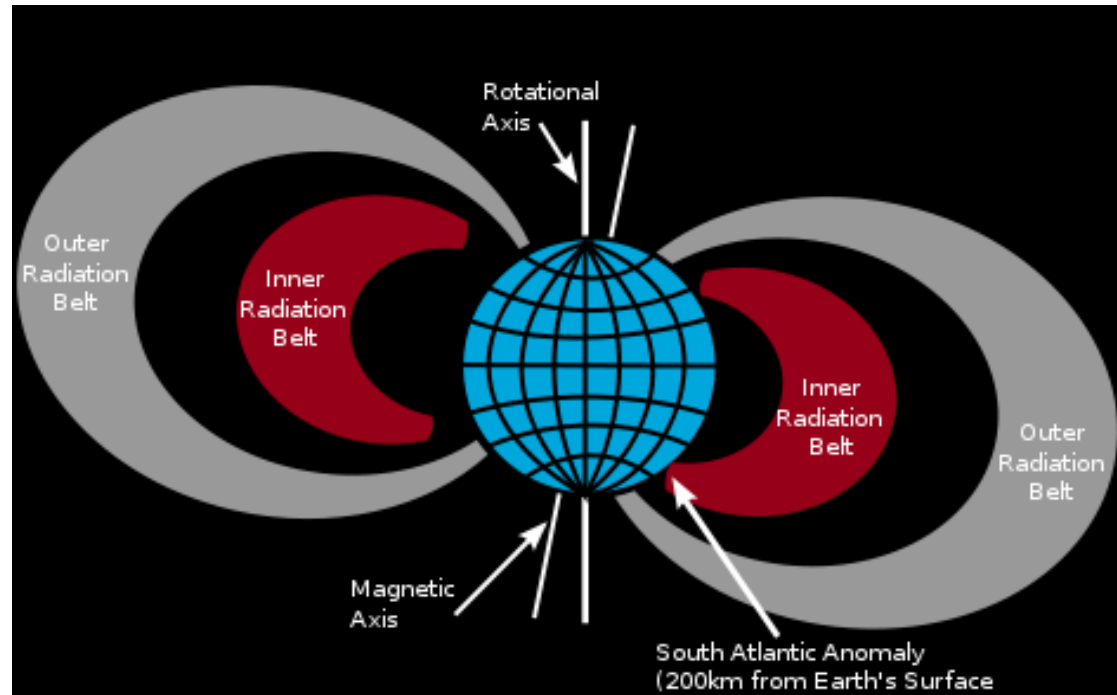
...aircrew are subjected to atmospheric secondary radiation produced by cosmic rays and solar particle events. European Union legislation requires the control of aircrew exposure* ...



* **Radiation Effects on Spacecraft & Aircraft (2001)**
Clive Dyer, *Space Department, QinetiQ, Cody Technology Park,*
Farnborough, Hampshire GU14 0LX, UK

<http://www.freedesktopwallpapers4u.com>

South Atlantic Anomaly



Radiation threatens avionics as chip geometries shrink, Jan 2004 *Military & Aerospace Electronics*

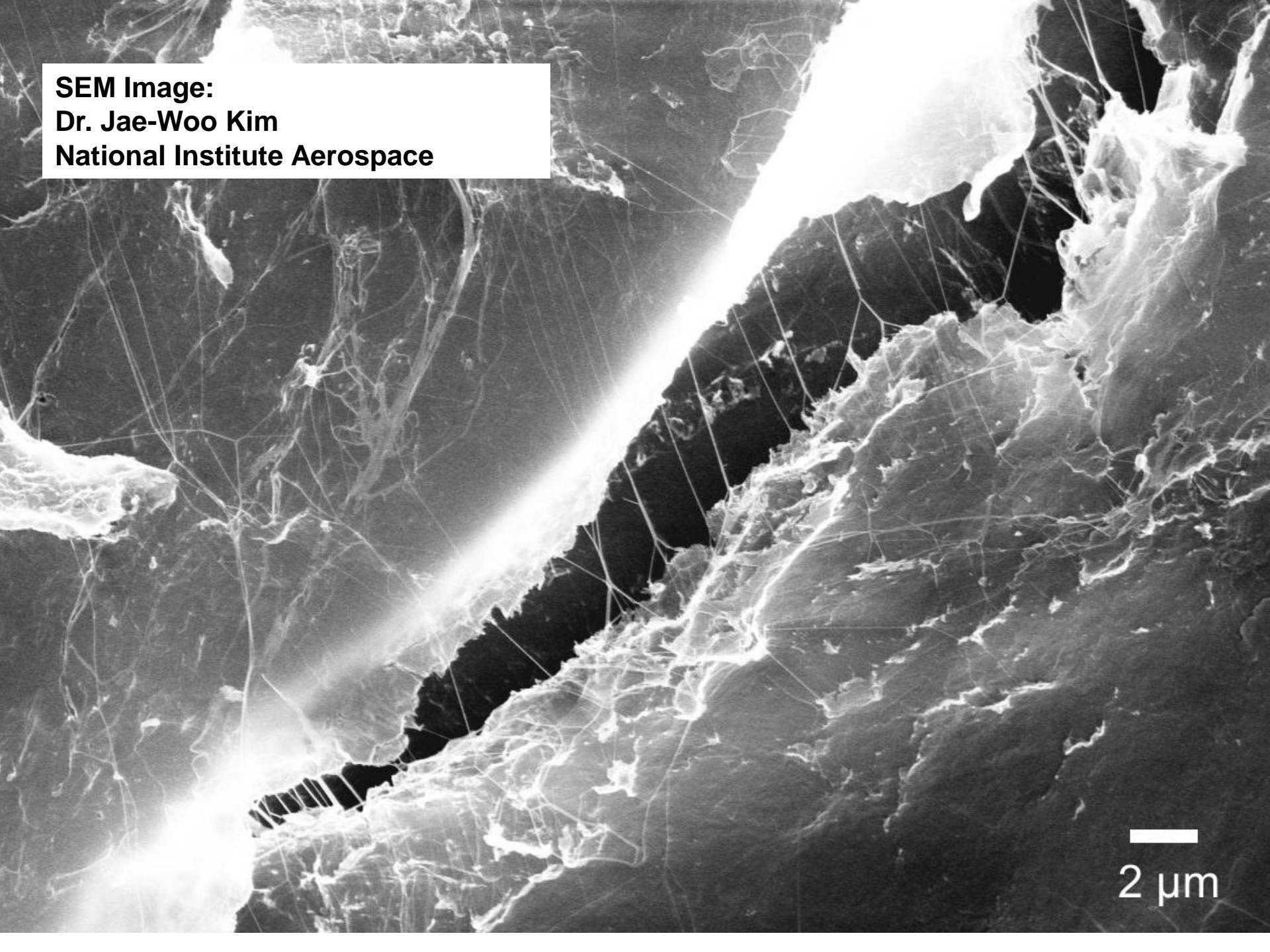
“Yet this trend has a fatal flaw. Electronic components become vulnerable to **neutron radiation** as they use ever-smaller feature sizes and lower supply voltages, says John Fink, staff engineer at Honeywell Commercial Avionics Products in Minneapolis”

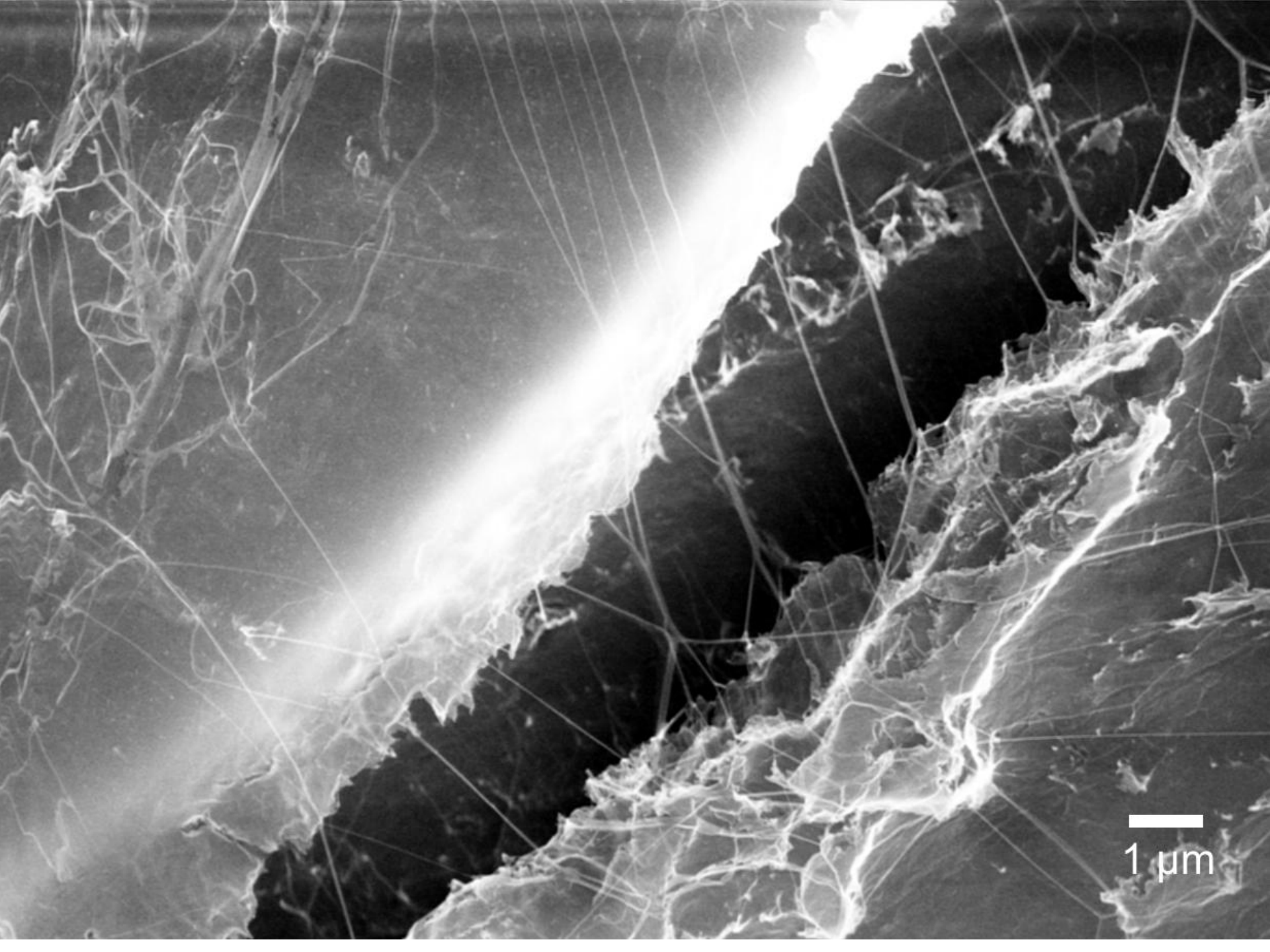
NASA has reported that modern laptops have crashed when the space shuttle flights passed through the anomaly. *

* http://www.nasa.gov/mission_pages/shuttle/flyout/flyfeature_shuttlecomputers.html

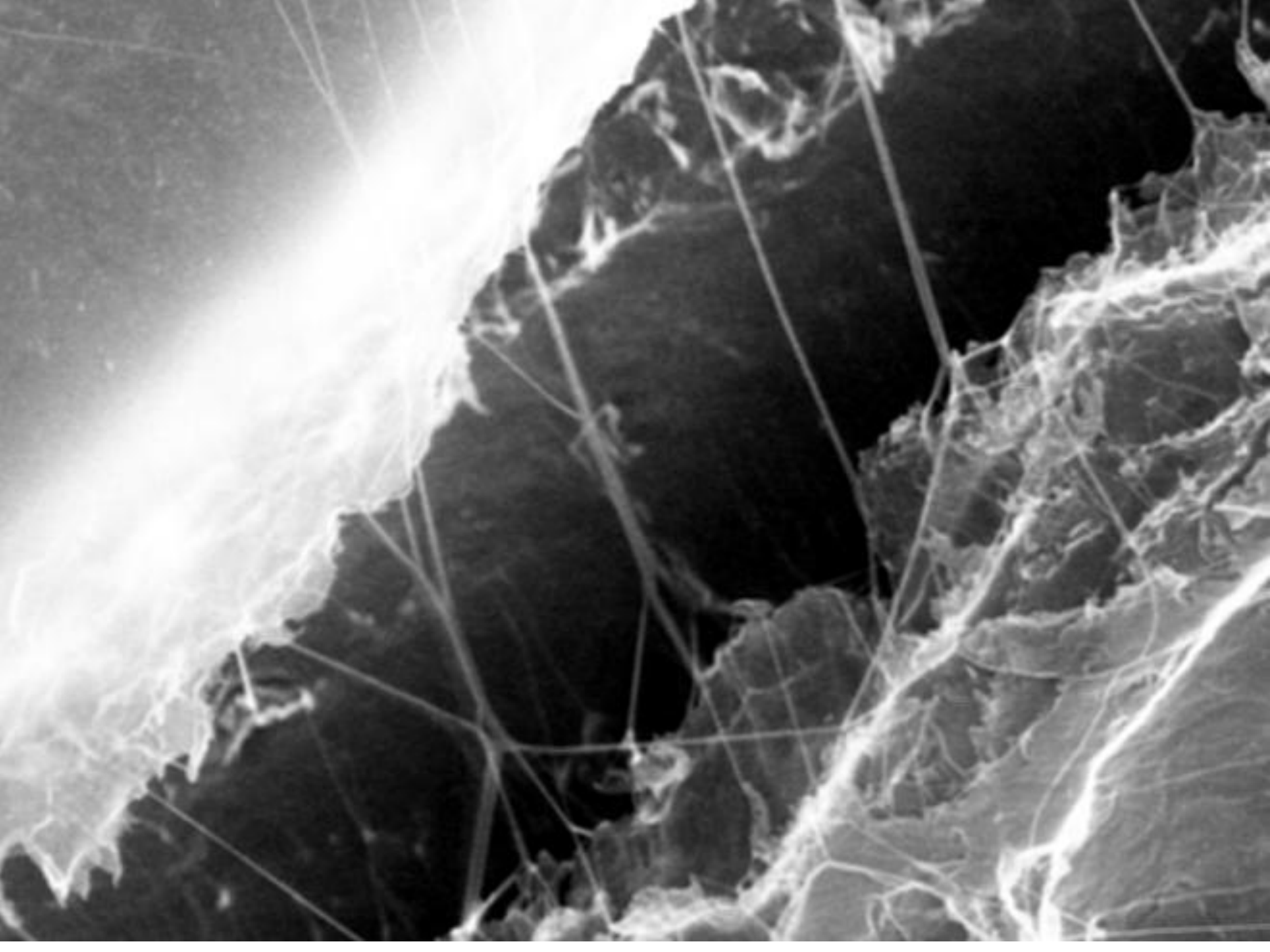
Polymer Composites

**SEM Image:
Dr. Jae-Woo Kim
National Institute Aerospace**

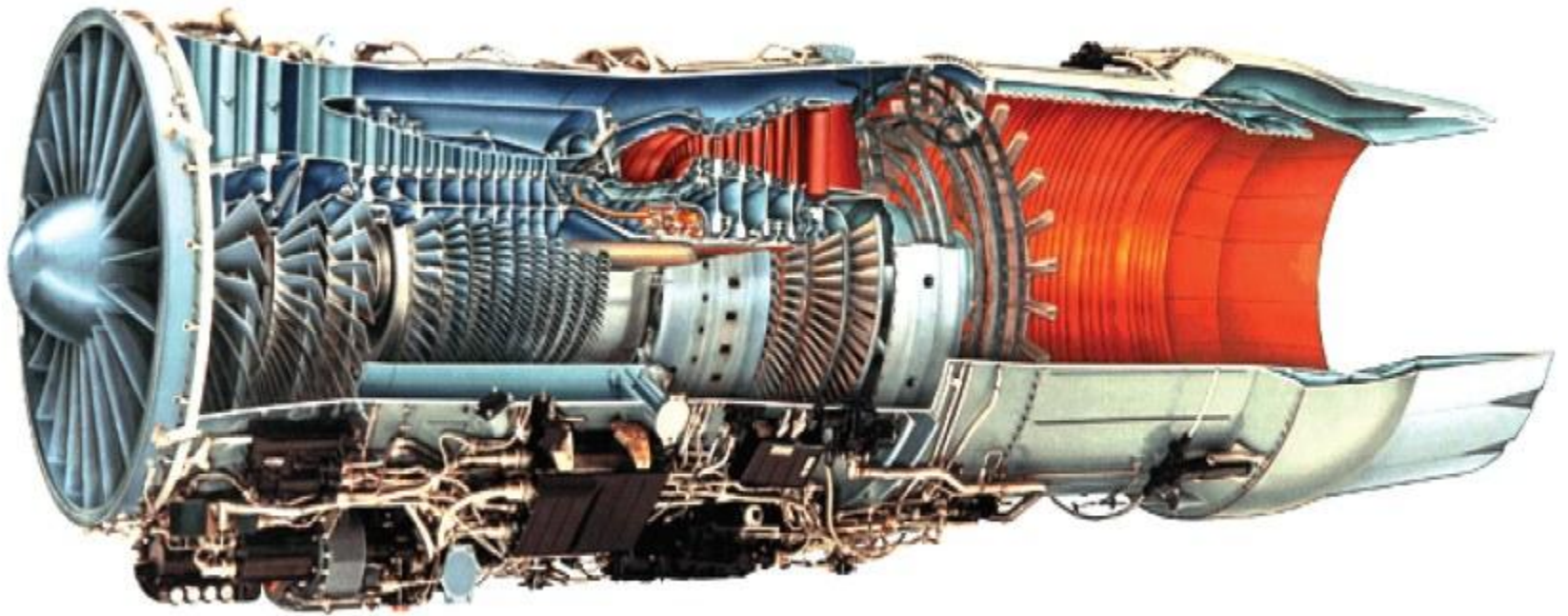




1 μm

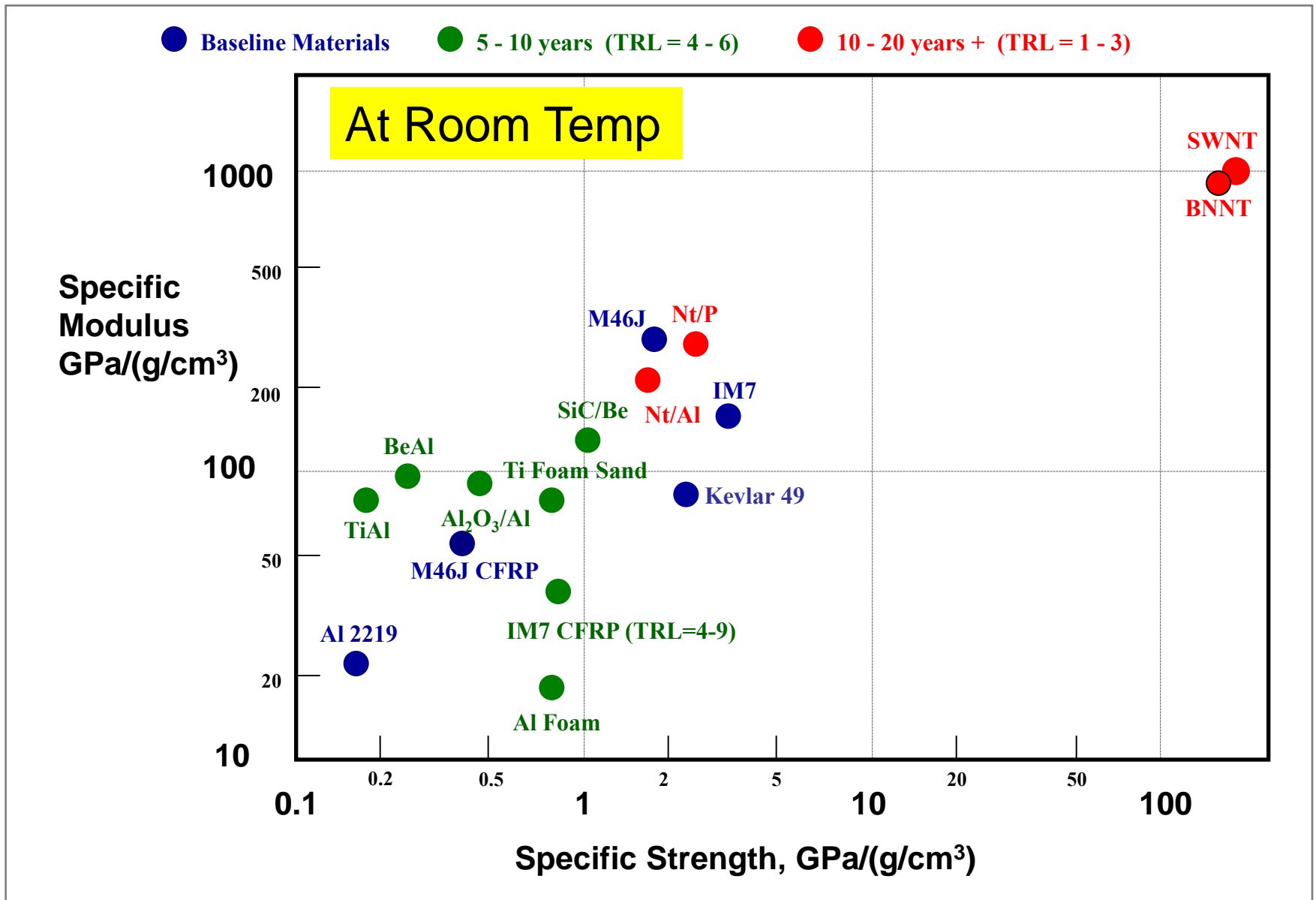


Ceramic Composites

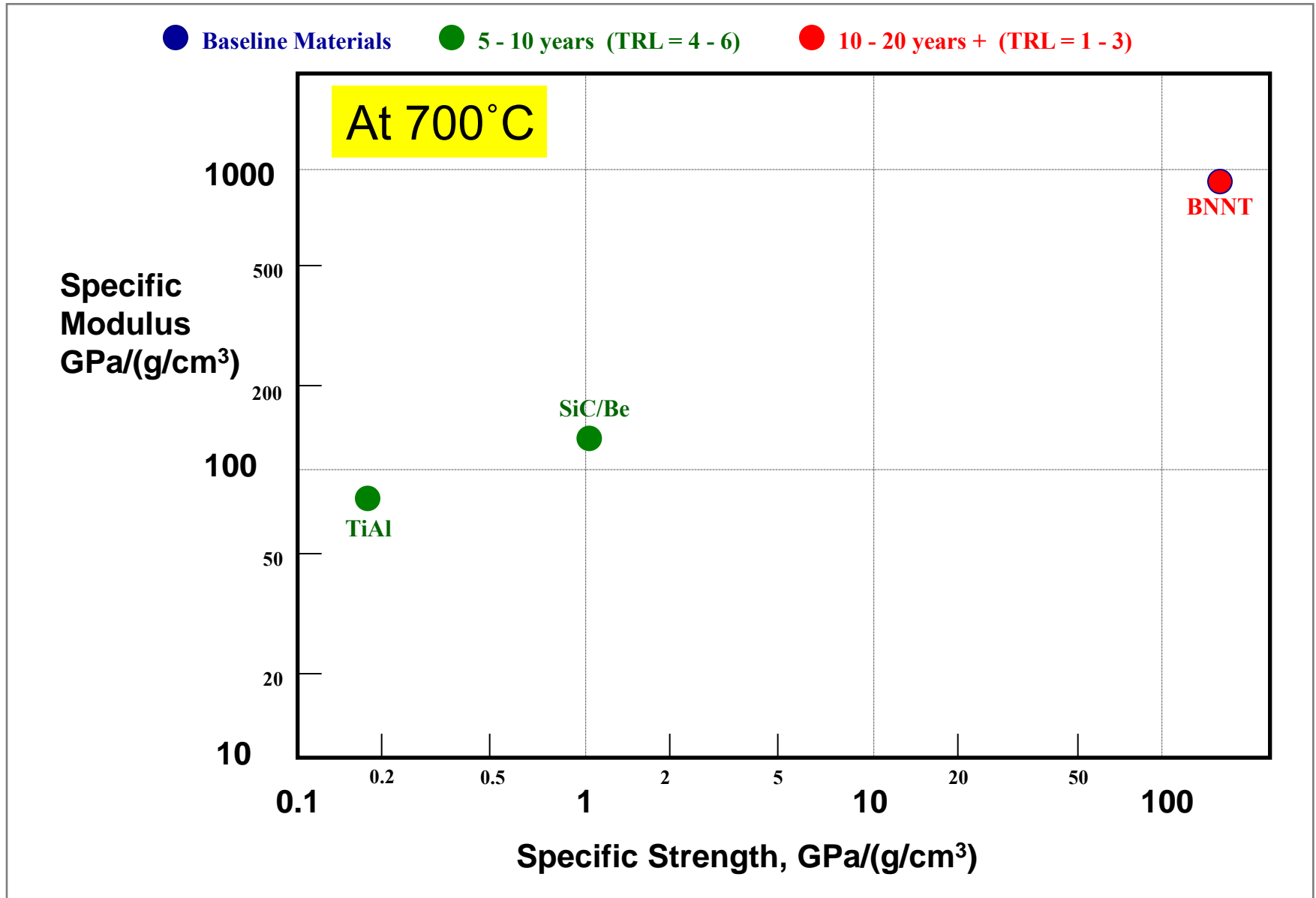


Turbo-machinery flow-path

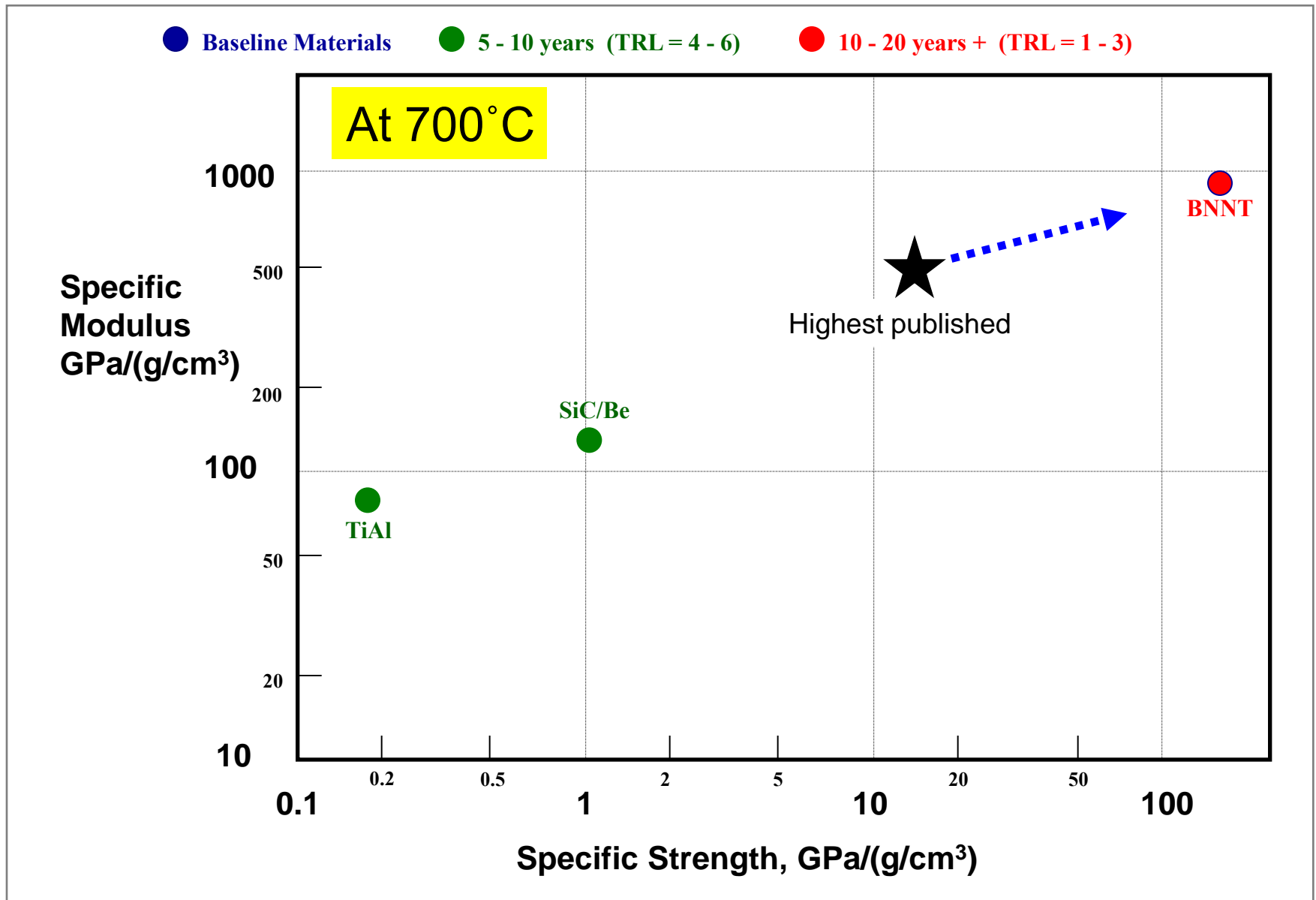
Properties of Materials for Vehicle Structure



Properties of Materials for Vehicle Structure



Properties of Materials for Vehicle Structure







**...formula one racing brakes (carbon/carbon) don't wear out,
they fail by oxidation!**

Other Applications

Solar Power: BNNTs and Organic Photovoltaics



Image: <http://www.thegreenergrass.org>

Spray-On Solar Cells Come One Step Closer to Reality

by Sarah Parsons, 04/02/10



Ever think about how amazing it would be if tech as complex as solar cells could be simply sprayed onto a surface? A group of researchers found that a common organic semiconductor may make that situation a reality. Scientists from the **National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST)** recently determined that poly(3-hexylthiophene), or P3HT, may be a useful material for creating **spray-on transistors**. Once the tech is optimized, we could see electronics like solar cells and displays that can be sprayed onto a surface just like paint.

contemporary furnishings
made in Brooklyn

St. Ann's Warehouse,
38 Water St. DUMBO,
Brooklyn

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200 ft
100 m

TECHNOLOGY UPDATE

Feb 26, 2008

Nanocomposite protects organic solar cells

Coating organic photovoltaics (OPVs) with a boron-nitride nanotube loaded polymer can significantly improve device lifetime, according to research published in *Nanotechnology*. Scientists at Wake Forest University (WFU), US, and the Indian Institute of Technology have shown that a nanotube concentration of 1.5% offers good thermal protection with excellent transparency in the visible region.

OPVs offer an affordable route to harnessing the sun's energy. Polymer-based photovoltaics are typically less efficient than silicon photovoltaics, but the material is more versatile and can be applied to flexible substrates. Device degradation remains an issue for OPVs as oxidation, exposure to moisture and photochemical reactions can greatly reduce the working life of the unit.



Encapsulated device

"The ultraviolet part of the spectrum can be devastating to polymer device performance," David Carroll, director of WFU's Center for Nanotechnology and Molecular Materials, told *nanotechweb.org*. "However, by removing it through scattering and absorption, devices live longer."



OPV testing

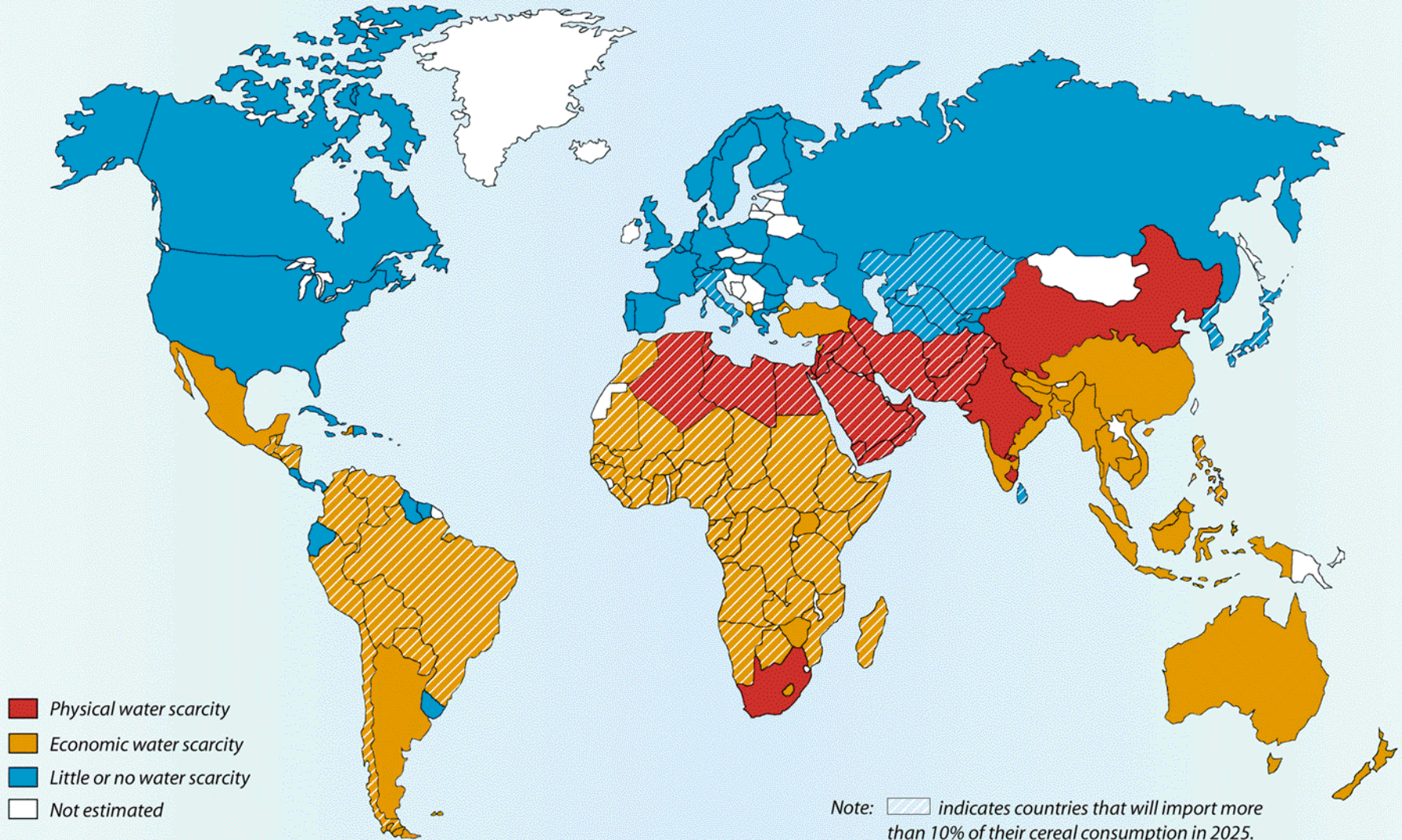
Boron-nitride materials are well matched to ultraviolet frequencies and act as a scattering centre for the incoming radiation. As Carroll explains, particle shape plays a key role in the process. "The high aspect ratio of the nanotubes provides increased oscillator strength, which allows better antenna behaviour," he said. "It means that this method of removing ultraviolet radiation is more effective than simply having the boron-nitride in the form of a thin film."

Source:
<http://nanotechweb.org>
supported by
AFOSR grant No. FA9550-04-1-0161

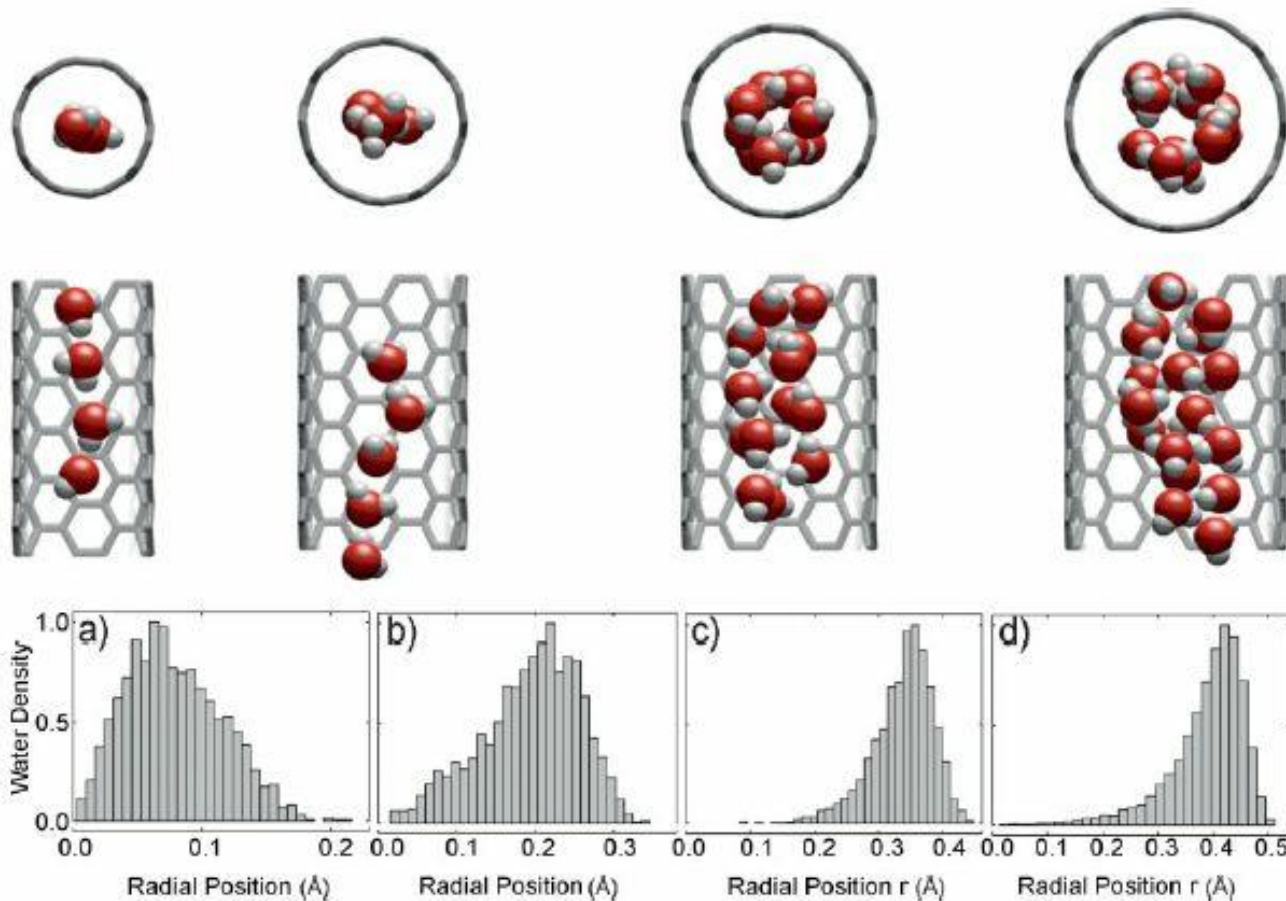


Desalination with BNNTs

Projected Water Scarcity in 2025



Salt Rejection and Water Transport Through Boron Nitride Nanotubes





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2009/10

Boron-nitride nanotubes speed desalination, says Australian research

Researchers from The Australian National University (ANU) claim to have discovered a way to speed the desalination of seawater by up to five times using nanotubes made from boron and nitrogen atoms.

In a paper published in the journal *Small*, researchers Dr Tamsyn Hilder, Dr Dan Gordon and group leader Professor Shin-Ho Chung from the Computational Biophysics Group at the Research School of Biology at ANU say that boron-nitride nanotubes have shown superior water flow properties compared with carbon nanotubes, and are thus expected to provide a more efficient water purification device.

"Using boron nitride nanotubes, and the same operating pressure as current desalination methods, we can achieve 100% salt rejection for concentrations twice that of seawater with water flowing four times faster, which means a much faster and more efficient desalination process," says Dr Hilder.

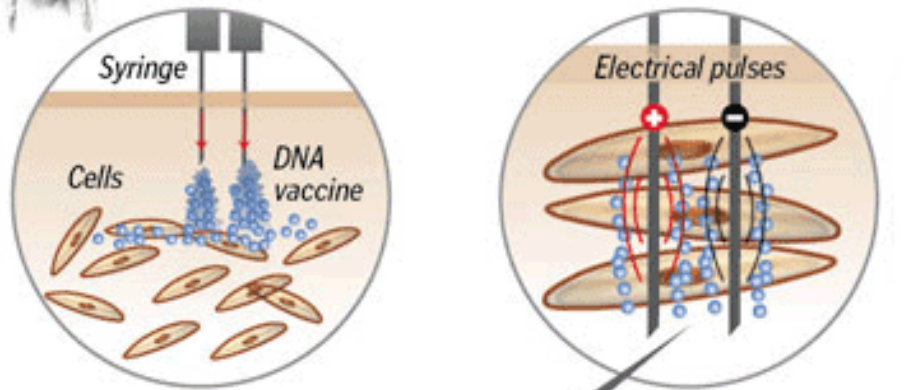
Hilder, Gordon and Chung use computational tools to simulate the water and salt moving through the nanotube. They found that the boron nitride nanotubes not only eliminate salt but also allow water to flow through extraordinarily fast, comparable to biological water channels naturally found in the body.

Can't find
what
you're
looking

Cancer Therapy No. 1: EP (Electroporation aka Electroporabilization)

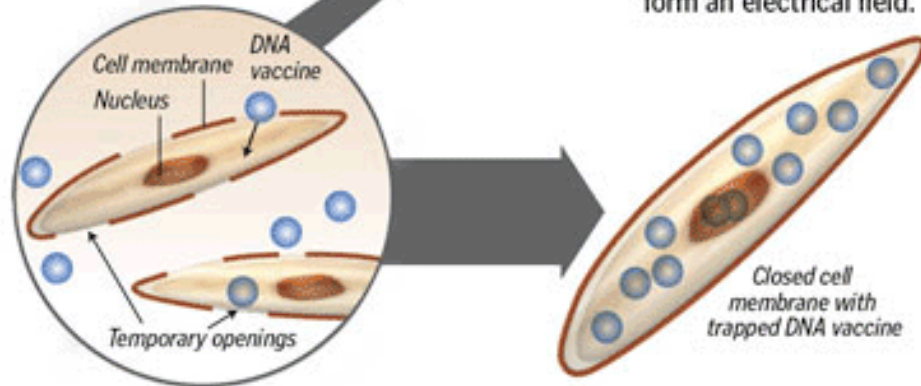


How electroporation delivers DNA vaccines



1 Syringe and needle electrodes are inserted into selected muscle tissue, and the DNA vaccine is injected.

2 Controlled, millisecond electrical pulses are applied to the needle electrodes, which then form an electrical field.



3 The electrical field creates temporary openings in the cell membrane, allowing significantly greater amounts of the DNA vaccine to enter cells.

4 The trapped DNA enables cells to produce antigen designed to control cancer and chronic infectious diseases such as HIV. The antigen can also trigger antibody production to prevent diseases.

Source:

<http://fredcobio.wordpress.com/2008/03/>
Inovio Biomedical Corp. of San Diego, CA

Enhanced low voltage cell electroporation by boron nitride nanotubes

V Raffa, G Ciofani and A Cuschieri

Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna, Piazza Martiri della Libertà 33, 56127 Pisa, Italy

E-mail: s.raffa@crim.sssup.it

Received 23 September 2008, in final form 10 December 2008

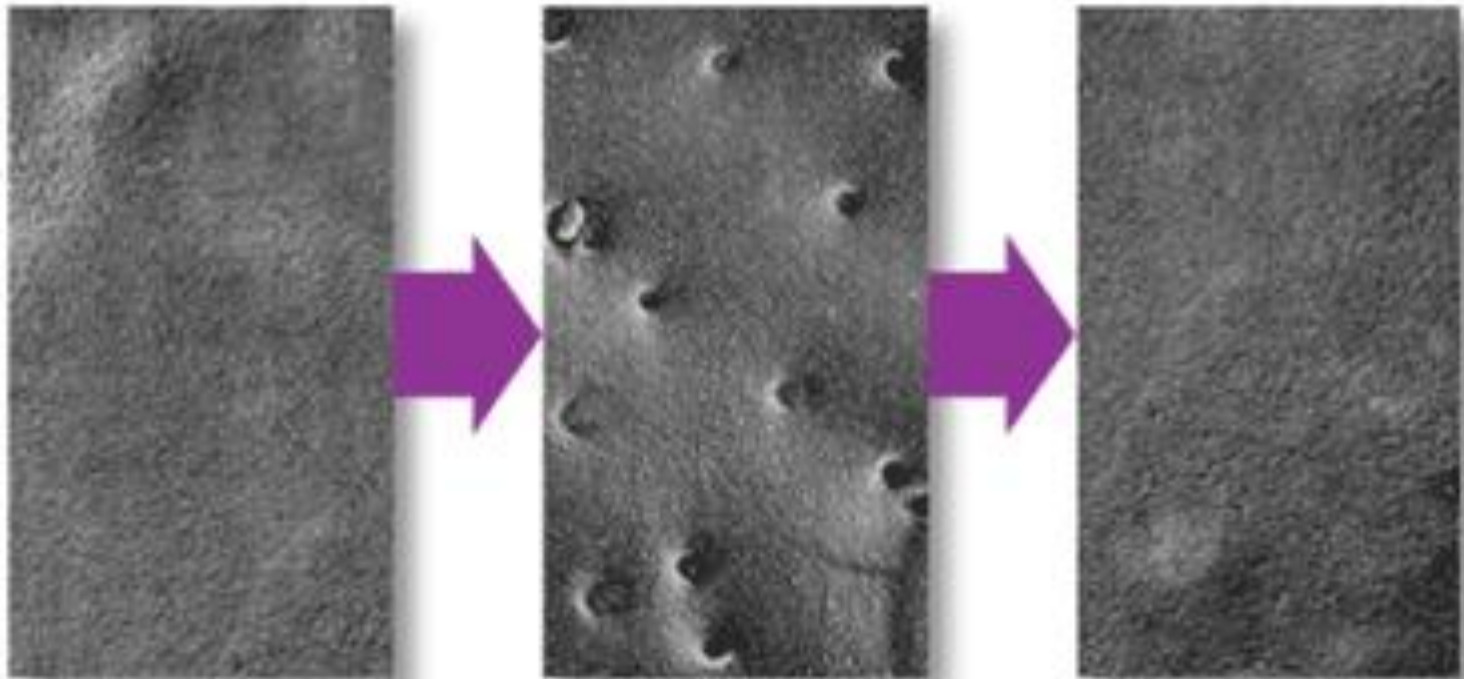
Published 23 January 2009

Online at stacks.iop.org/Nano/20/075104

Abstract

Boron nitride nanotubes (BNNTs) are a structural analogue of carbon nanotubes (CNTs), with alternating B and N atoms which entirely substitute for C atoms in a graphitic-like sheet with almost no change in atomic spacing. BNNTs have generated considerable interest within the scientific community by virtue of their unique properties. Very recently, biomedical applications of BNNTs have also been proposed. In the present *in vitro* study, we demonstrate that BNNTs can be used as nanotools to enable cell electroporation with very low electric fields (40–60 V cm⁻¹). An explanation of this behaviour based on the dielectric response of BNNTs to static electric fields is proposed.

The phenomenon of electroporation



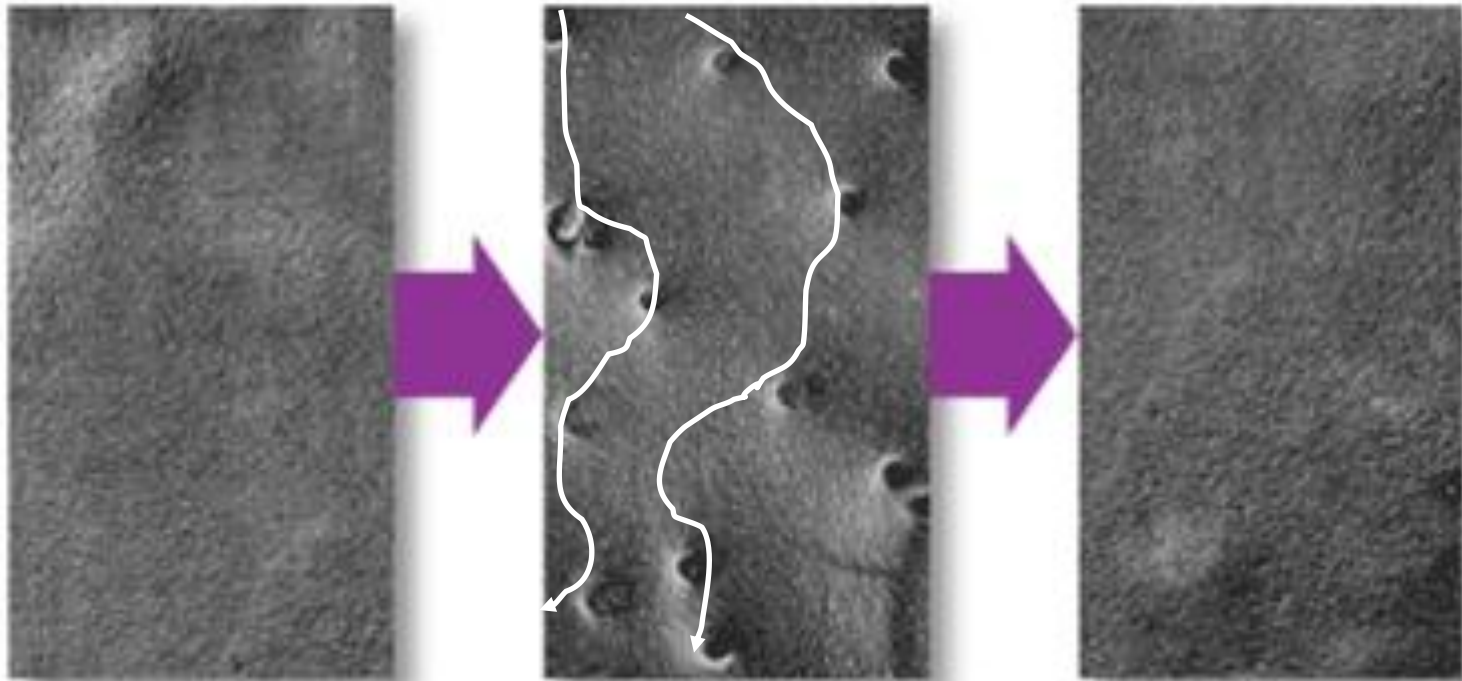
Cell membrane
before pulsing

Cell membrane
during pulsing

Cell membrane
after pulsing
(cell returns to

- *Controlled, millisecond electrical pulses induce temporary pores in the cell membrane*
- *Cell membrane reseals and is left unharmed*

The phenomenon of electroporation

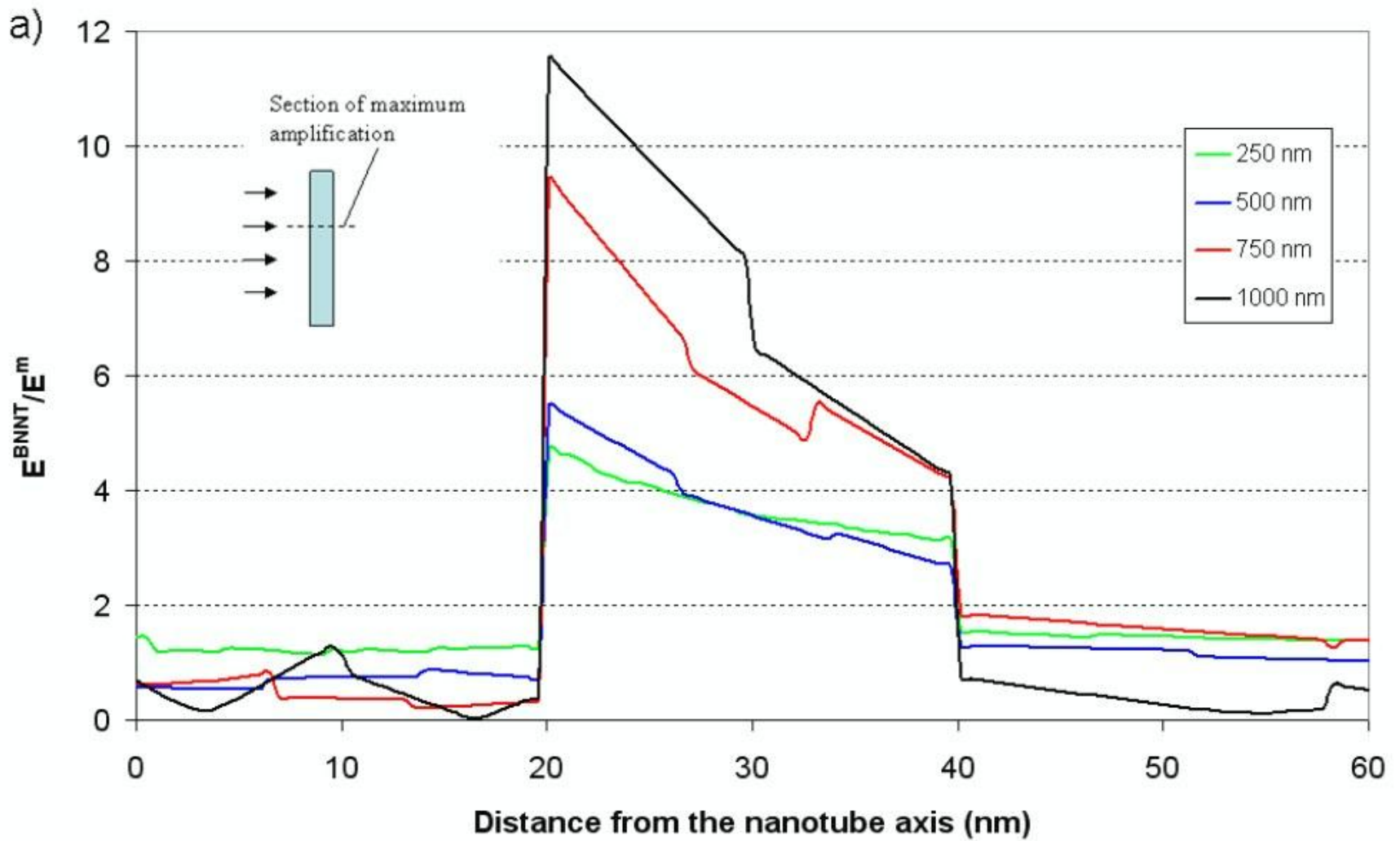


Cell membrane
before pulsing

Cell membrane
during pulsing

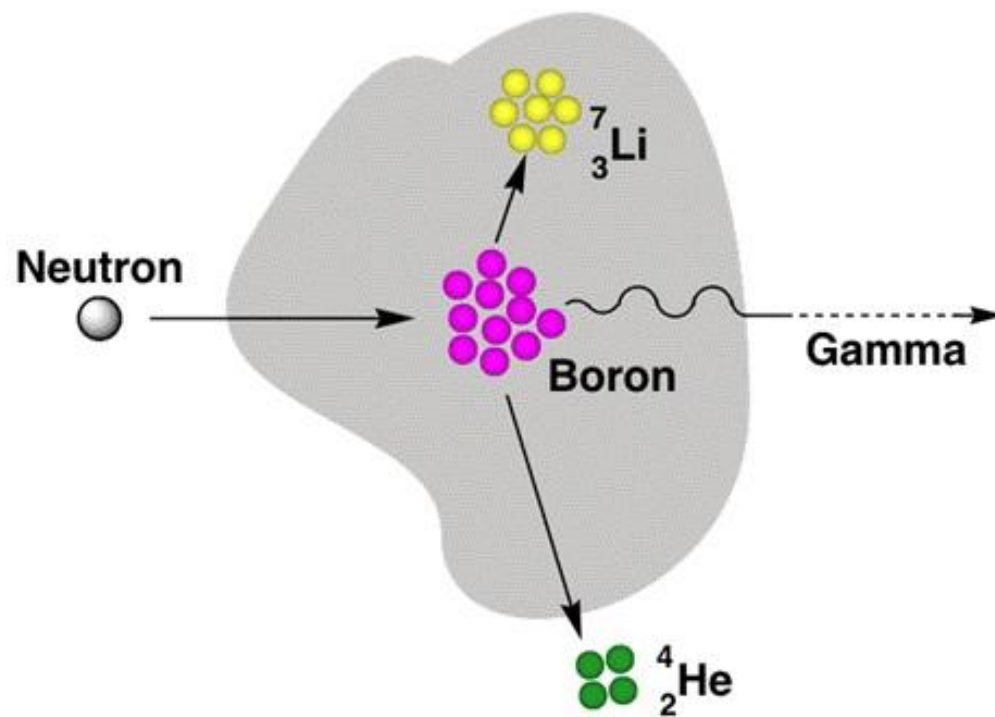
Cell membrane
after pulsing
(cell returns to

- ***Controlled, millisecond electrical pulses induce temporary pores in the cell membrane***
- ***Cell membrane reseals and is left unharmed***



Source: Nanotechnology 20 (2009) 075104 (5pp) Enhanced low voltage cell electropermeabilization by boron nitride nanotubes
V Raffa, G Ciofani and A Cuschieri

**Cancer Therapy No. 2: BNCT
(Boron Neutron Capture Therapy)**



Principle of Boron Neutron Capture Therapy (BNCT)

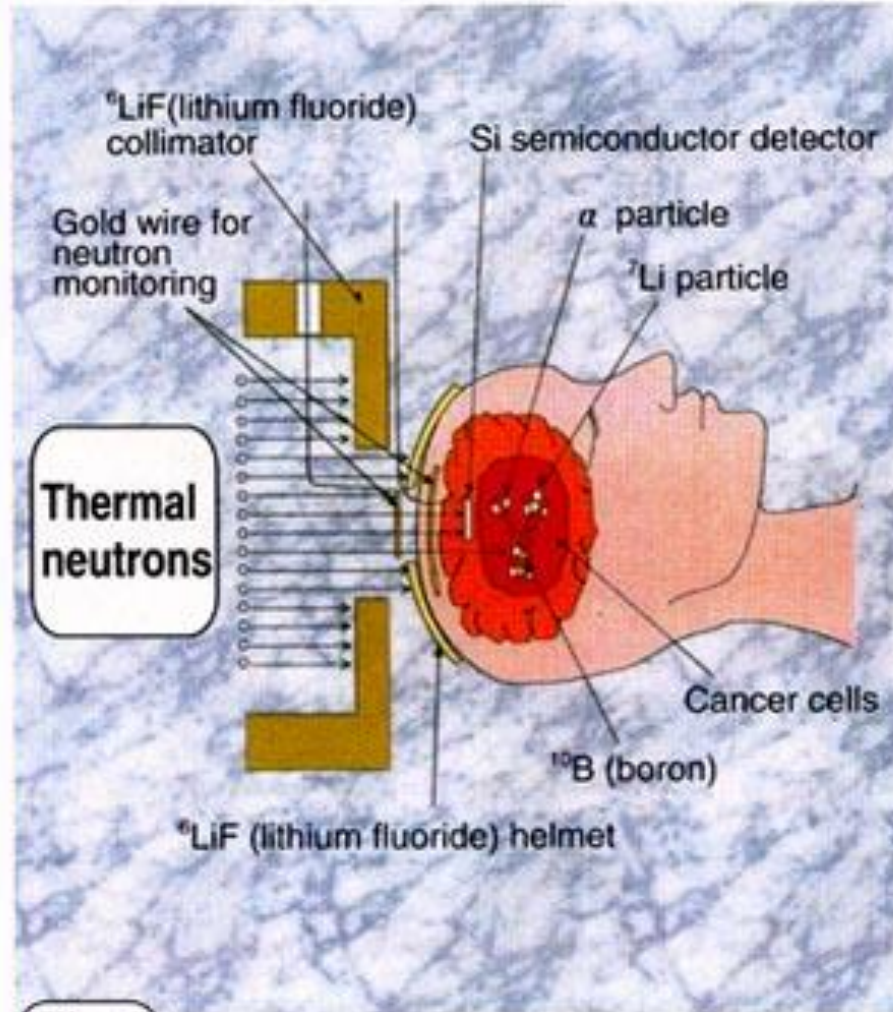


Fig.1

In boron neutron capture therapy (BNCT), boron compound is injected into a patient's body in advance. Owing to the blood-brain barrier function, boron compounds do not enter healthy brain cells easily but readily find their way into malignant tumor cells. Neutrons are irradiated on the affected part of the brain, enabling selective destruction of the tumor cells containing boron by the alpha and lithium particles generated from the ${}^{10}\text{B}(n, \alpha) {}^7\text{Li}$ reaction.

Neutron Beam Facility

Neutron beam irradiation mode can be changed according to remedy conditions

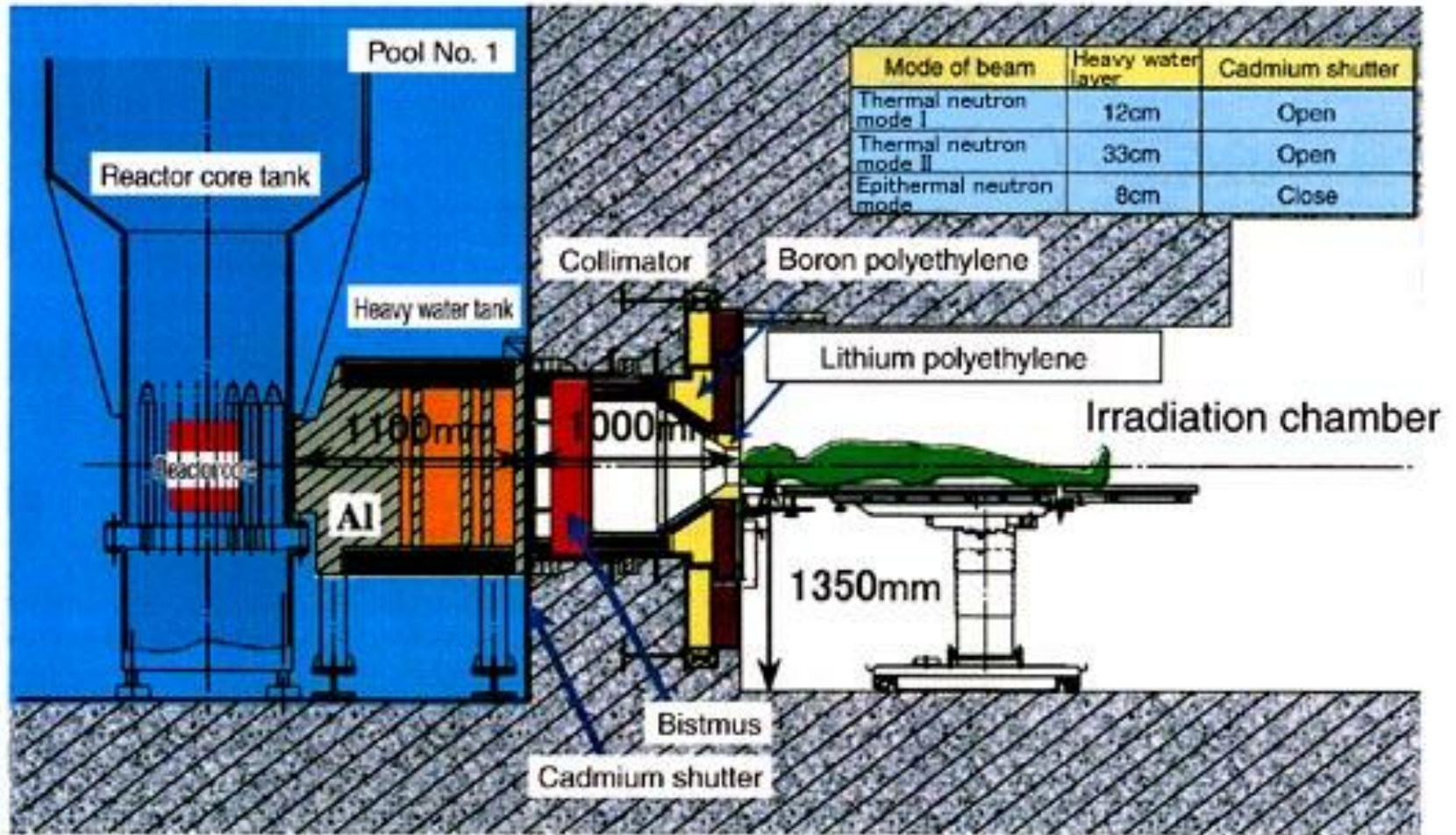


Fig.3

Folate Functionalized Boron Nitride Nanotubes and their Selective Uptake by Glioblastoma Multiforme Cells: Implications for their Use as Boron Carriers in Clinical Boron Neutron Capture Therapy

Gianni Ciofani · Vittoria Raffa · Arianna Menciassi · Alfred Cuschieri

Received: 17 October 2008 / Accepted: 11 November 2008 / Published online: 25 November 2008
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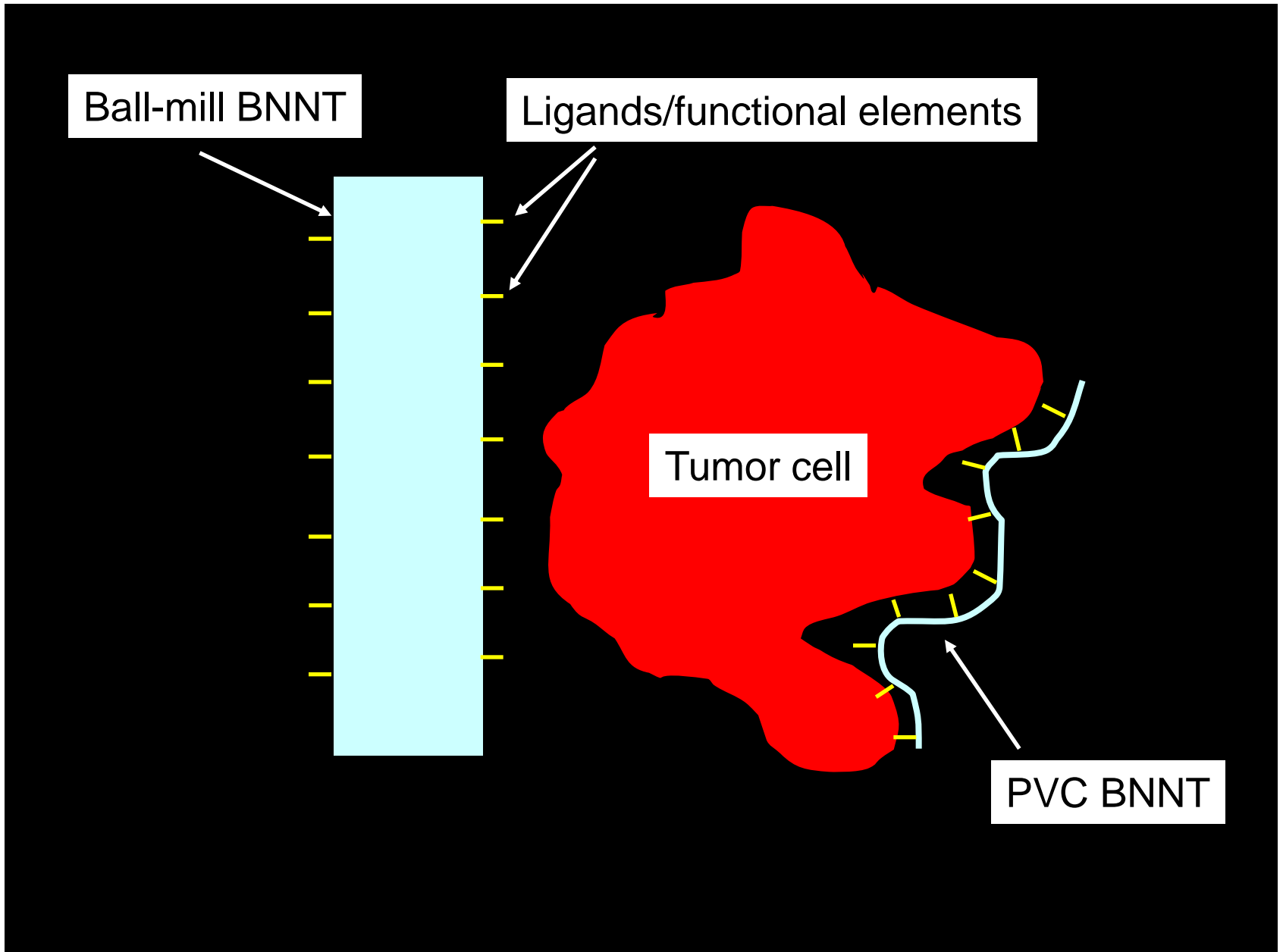
Abstract Boron neutron capture therapy (BNCT) is increasingly being used in the treatment of several aggressive cancers, including cerebral glioblastoma multiforme. The main requirement for this therapy is selective targeting of tumor cells by sufficient quantities of ^{10}B atoms required for their capture/irradiation with low-energy thermal neutrons. The low content of boron targeting species in glioblastoma multiforme accounts for the difficulty in selective targeting of this very malignant cerebral tumor by this radiation modality. In the present

Keywords Boron nitride nanotubes · Folate · Glioblastoma multiforme · Boron neutron capture therapy

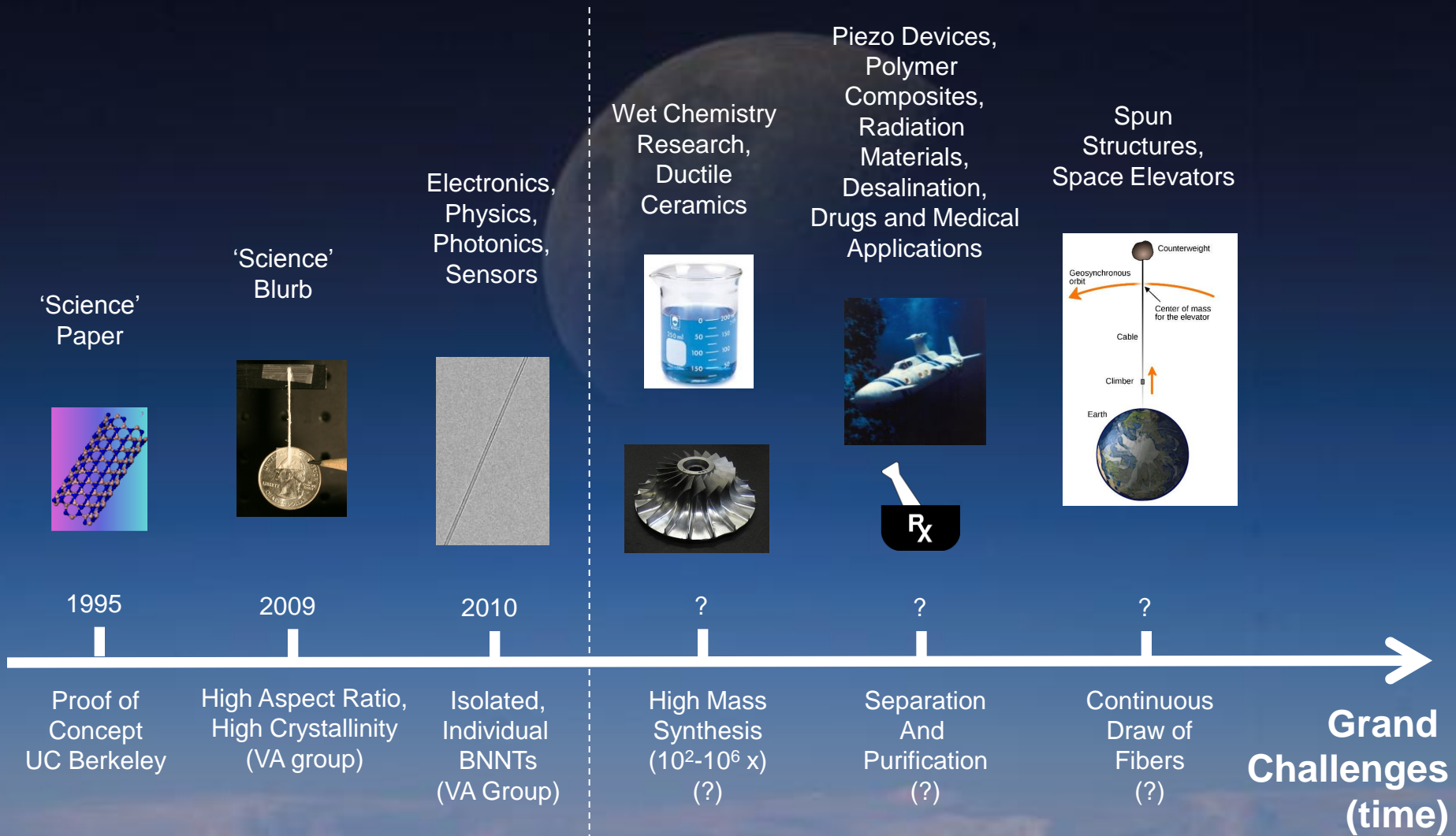
Introduction

High-grade glioblastoma multiforme is uniformly fatal and largely unresponsive to all available treatments. Patients with these tumors usually survive for <1 year from the time of first diagnosis. Conventional surgical excision, generally limited to the main tumor mass, does not remove

BNNT morphology affects cellular uptake



The Complete History of BNNTs (including the future)



Helical microtubules of graphitic carbon

Sumio Iijima

NEC Corporation, Fundamental Research Laboratories,
34 Miyukigaoka, Tsukuba, Ibaraki 305, Japan

THE synthesis of molecular carbon structures in the form of C_{60} and other fullerenes¹ has stimulated intense interest in the structures accessible to graphitic carbon sheets. Here I report the preparation of a new type of finite carbon structure consisting of needle-like tubes. Produced using an arc-discharge evaporation method similar to that used for fullerene synthesis, the needles grow at the negative end of the electrode used for the arc discharge. Electron microscopy reveals that each needle comprises coaxial tubes of graphitic sheets, ranging in number from 2 up to about 50. On each tube the carbon-atom hexagons are arranged in a helical fashion about the needle axis. The helical pitch varies from needle to needle and from tube to tube within a single needle. It appears that this helical structure may aid the growth process. The formation of these needles, ranging from a few to a few tens of nanometres in diameter, suggests that engineering of carbon structures should be possible on scales considerably greater than those relevant to the fullerenes.

Solids of elemental carbon in the sp^2 bonding state can form a variety of graphitic structures. Graphite filaments can be

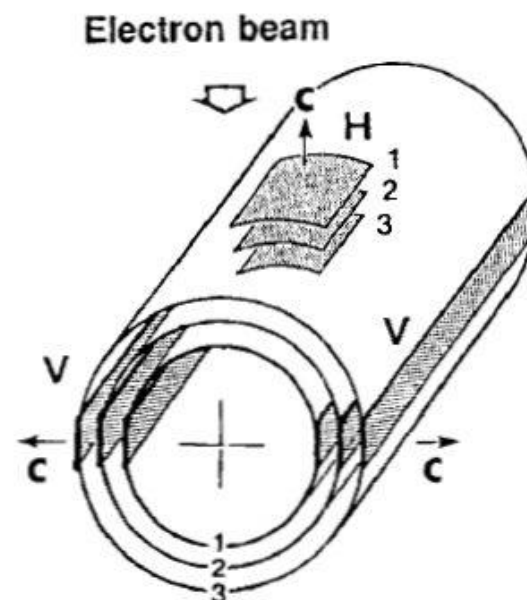


FIG. 2 Clinographic view of a possible structural model for a graphitic tubule. Each cylinder represents a coaxial closed layer of carbon hexagons. The meaning of the labels V and H is explained in the text.

graphite filaments⁵. The apparatus is very similar to that used for mass production of C_{60} (ref. 9). The needles seem to grow plentifully on only certain regions of the electrode. The electrode on which carbon was deposited also contained polyhedral particles with spherical shell structures, which were 5–20 nm in

Helical microtubules of graphitic carbon

Sumio Iijima

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THE synthesis of molecular carbon structures in the form of C_{60} and other fullerenes¹ has stimulated intense interest in the structures accessible to graphitic carbon sheets. Here I report the preparation of a new type of finite carbon structure consisting of needle-like tubes. Produced using an arc-discharge evaporation method similar to that used for fullerene synthesis, the needles grow at the negative end of the electrode used for the arc discharge. Electron microscopy reveals that each needle comprises coaxial tubes of graphitic sheets, ranging in number from 2 up to about 50. On each tube the carbon-atom hexagons are arranged in a helical fashion about the needle axis. The helical pitch varies from needle to needle and from tube to tube within a single needle. It appears that this helical structure may aid the growth process.

The formation of these needles, ranging from a few to a few tens of nanometres in diameter, suggests that engineering of carbon structures should be possible on scales considerably greater than those relevant to the fullerenes.

Solids of elemental carbon in the sp^2 bonding state can form a variety of graphitic structures. Graphite filaments can be

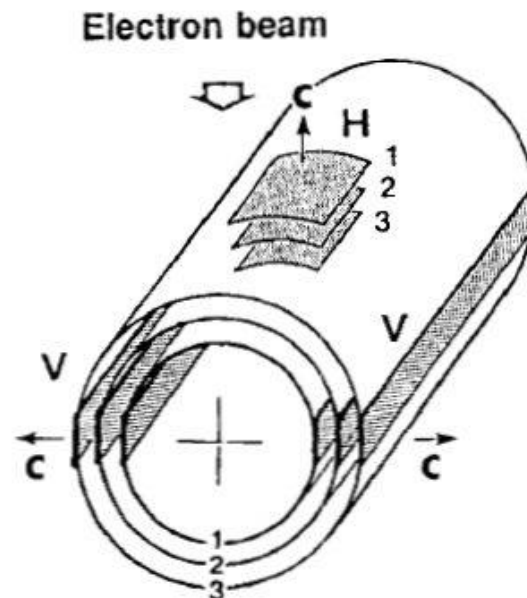


FIG. 2 Clinographic view of a possible structural model for a graphitic tubule. Each cylinder represents a coaxial closed layer of carbon hexagons. The meaning of the labels V and H is explained in the text.

graphite filaments⁵. The apparatus is very similar to that used for mass production of C_{60} (ref. 9). The needles seem to grow plentifully on only certain regions of the electrode. The electrode on which carbon was deposited also contained polyhedral particles with spherical shell structures, which were 5–20 nm in



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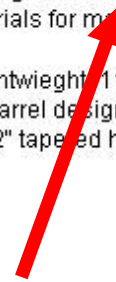
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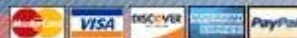
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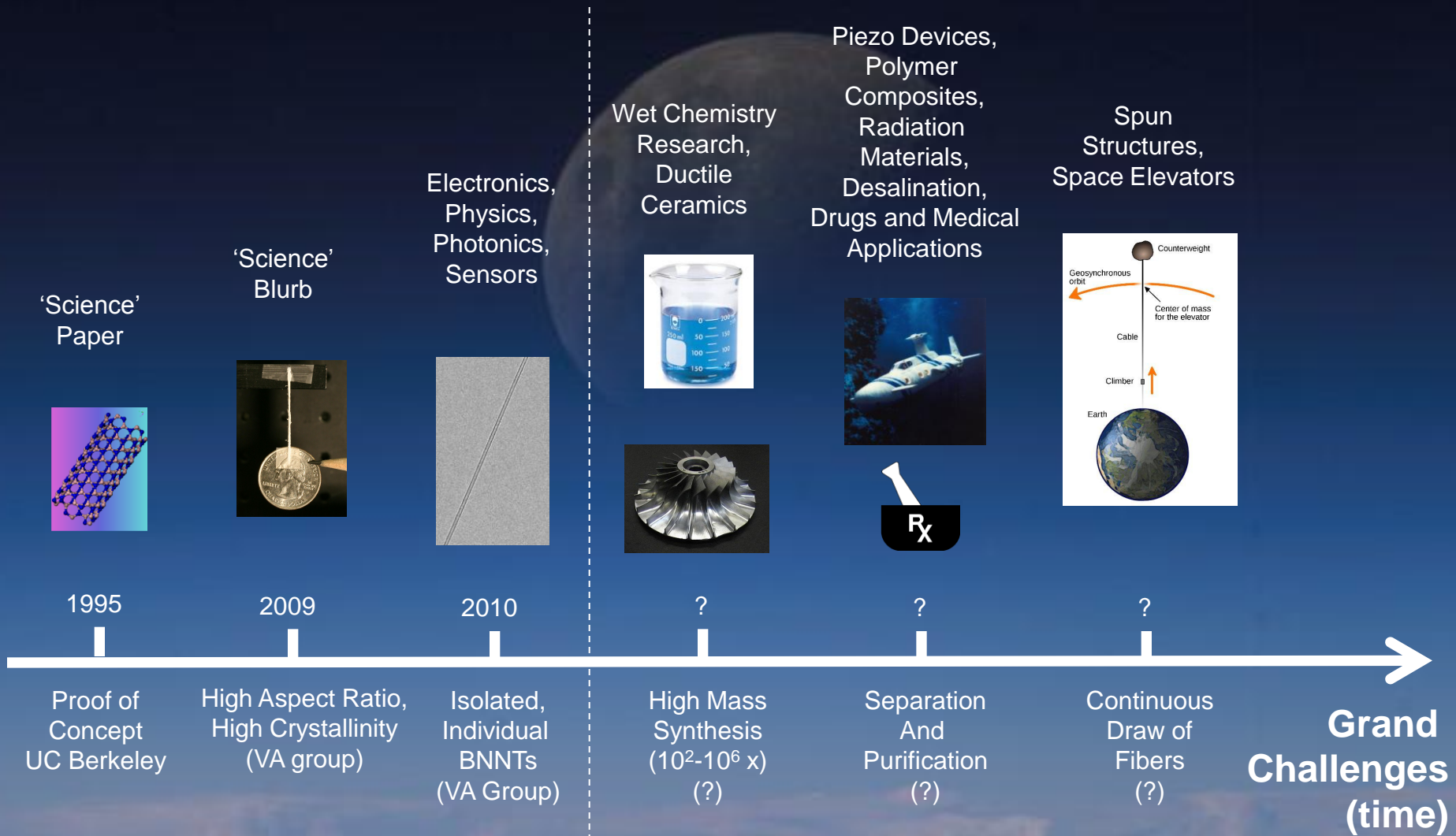
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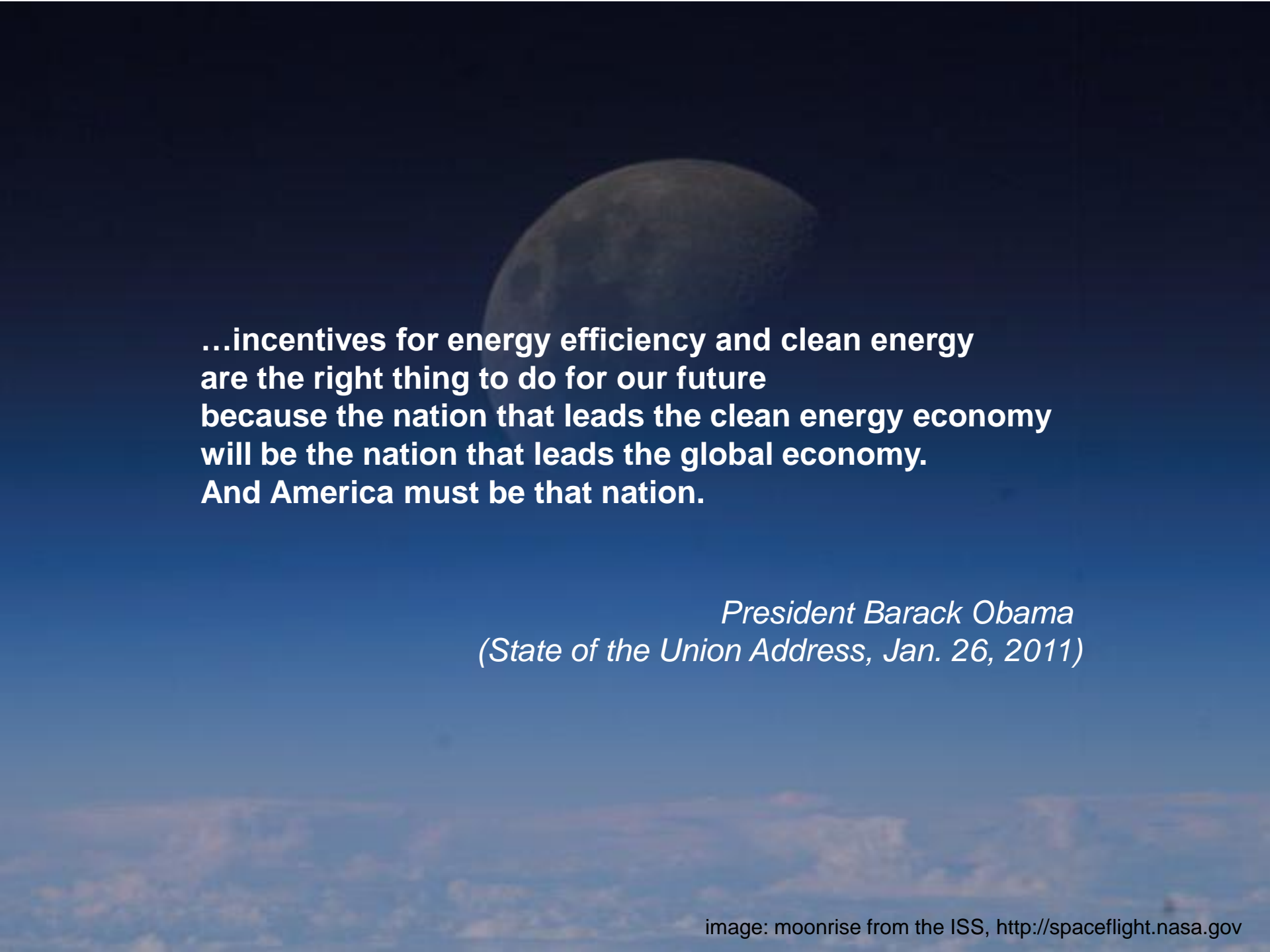
The Complete History of BNNTs (including the future)





“...(the nanotube is) the strongest fiber that you can make out of anything, **ever.**”

~ (the late) Prof. Richard Smalley
Nobel Prize, Chemistry, 1996



**...incentives for energy efficiency and clean energy
are the right thing to do for our future
because the nation that leads the clean energy economy
will be the nation that leads the global economy.
And America must be that nation.**

*President Barack Obama
(State of the Union Address, Jan. 26, 2011)*

...jars reminder.