

Use of Relative Purity in the Processing and Application of Single-Walled Carbon Nanotubes

September 26, 2007

Robert C Haddon
Center for Nanoscale Science and Engineering
UC Riverside

R. C. Haddon

Departments of Chemistry and Chemical & Environmental Engineering
University of California, Riverside, CA 92521-0403

Use of Relative Purity in the Processing and Application of Single-Walled Carbon Nanotubes

M. E. Itkis
E. Bekyarova
P. Ramesh
A. Yu
I. Kalinina
K. Worsley
X. Sun

J. Chen, Zyxvex, TX
Y. Chen, Nankai University, China
R. Sen, Nantero, MA
M. A. Hamon, Milsaps College, MI
J. Gao, Henkel Corp.
B. Zhao, ORNL
H. Hu, ORNL
S. Niyogi, LANL
J. Tang

V. Parpura
Y. Yan
N. Myung
R. Kawakami

NSF
DOD/DARPA/ DMEA

A Purity Standard for Single-Walled Carbon Nanotubes



Rapid, well defined, and quantitative

Widely available

Applicable to bulk samples

...but sensitive to nanostructure

Growing nanotech trade hit by questions over quality

Nature,
December,
2004



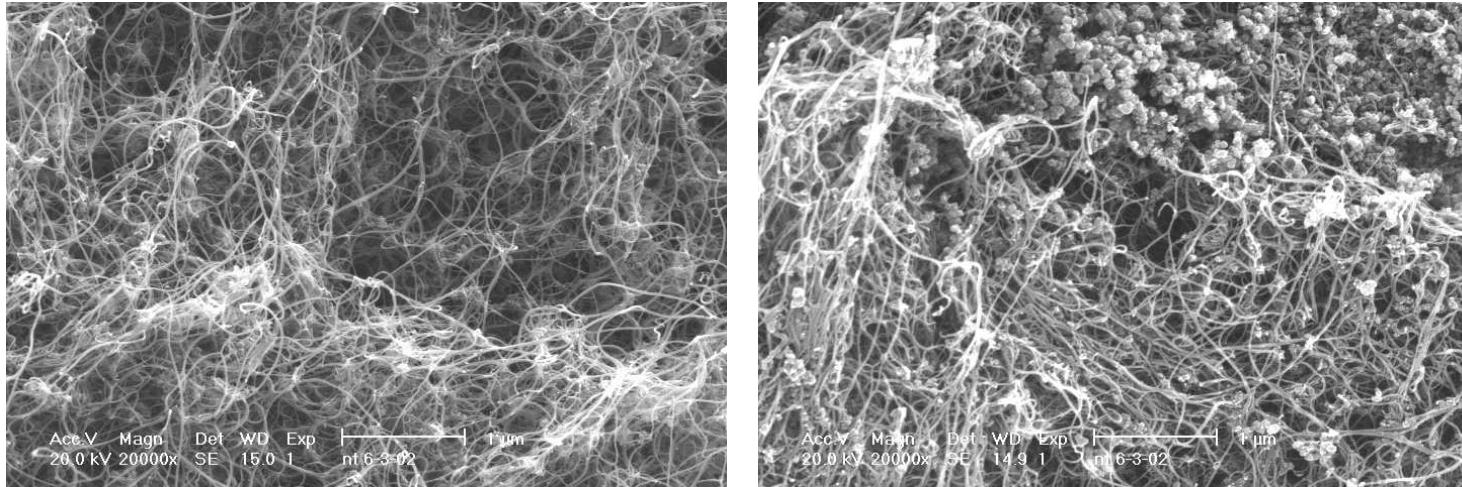
National Aeronautics and
Space Administration

Lyndon B. Johnson Space
Center

Joint Workshop on Measurement Issues
in Single-Walled Carbon Nanotubes
January 26-27, 2005

NIST
National Institute of
Standards and Technology
Technology Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce

SEM Images of As-Prepared SWNT Soot

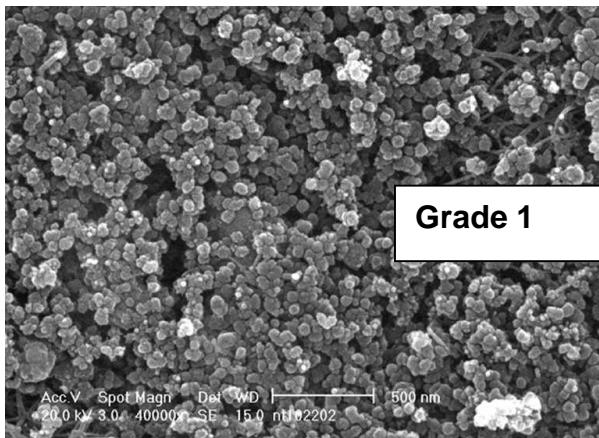
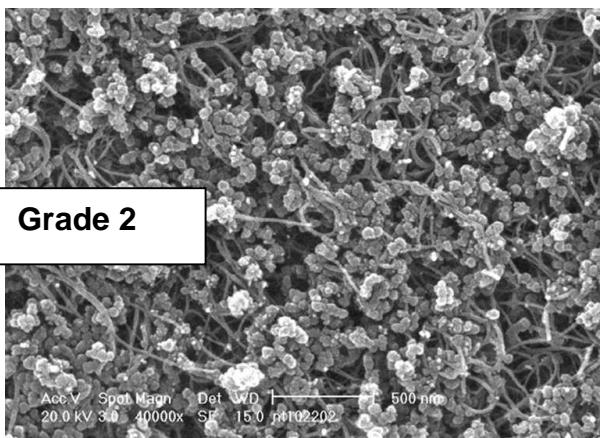
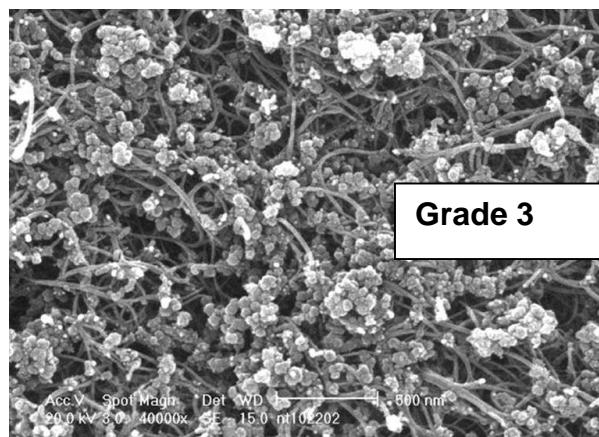
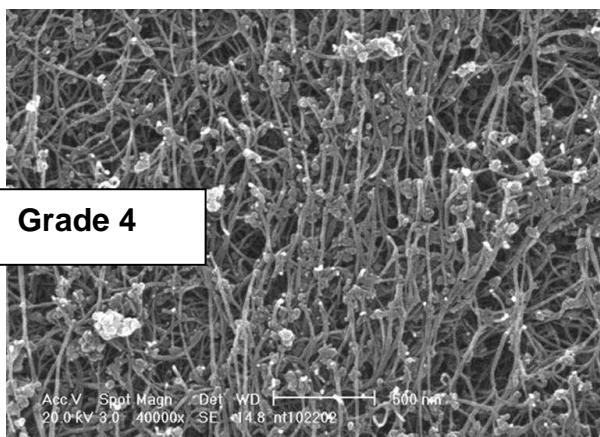
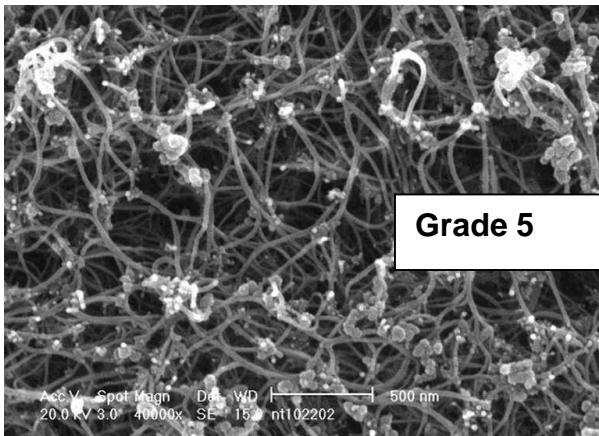
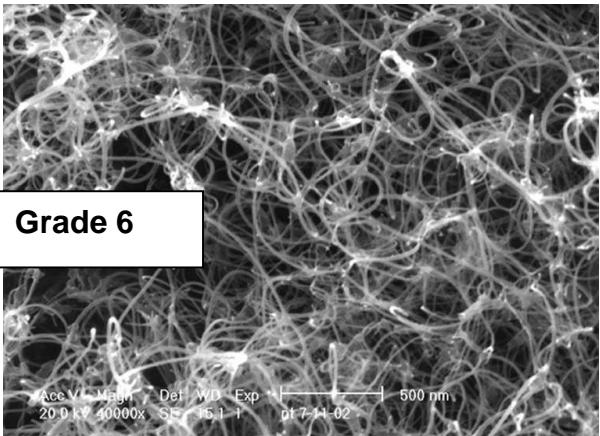


two regions of the same sample...

SEM: Less than 10^{-12} g of carbon nanotubes per frame

Bulk scale: 1-10 g (lab); 100 g - kg (industrial)

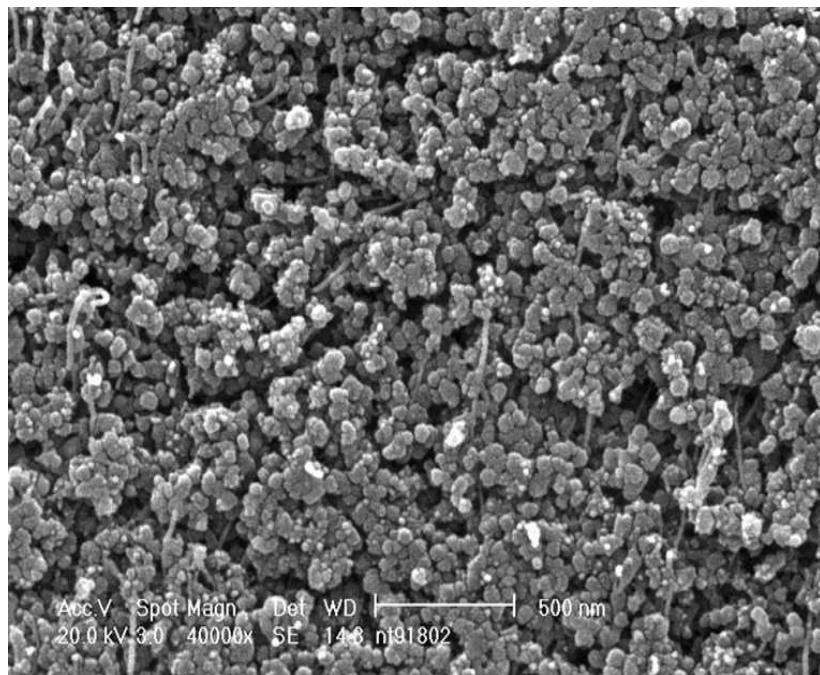
Itkis, M. E.; Perea, D.; Jung, R.; Niyogi, S.; Haddon, R. C.,
Comparison of Analytical Techniques for Purity Evaluation of Single-Walled Carbon Nanotubes.
J. Am. Chem. Soc. **2005**, 127, 3439-3448.



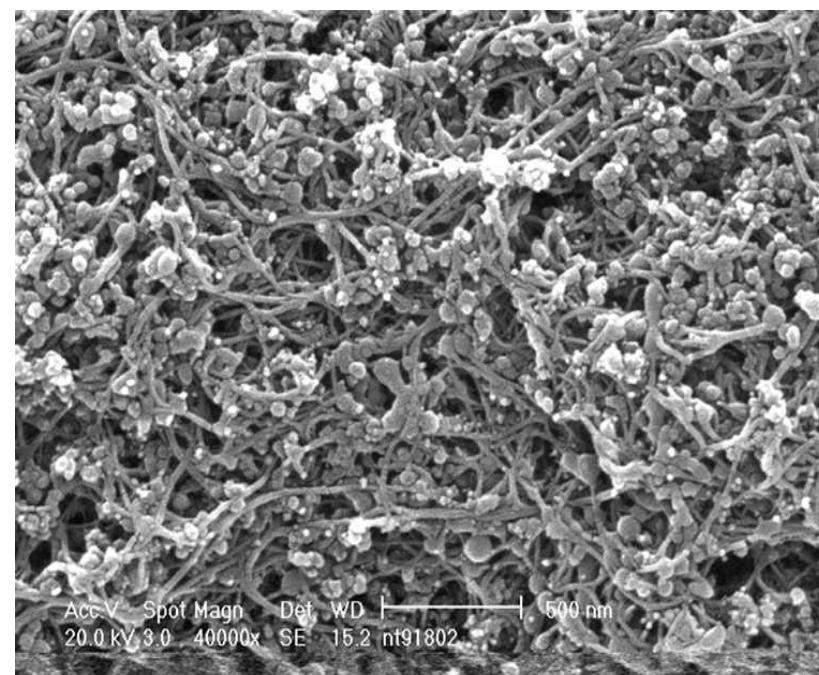
Reference SEM
images for grading
scheme of as-
prepared SWNT soot
unpublished, 1998-

Itkis, M. E.; Perea, D.; Jung, R.;
Niyogi, S.; Haddon, R. C.,
Comparison of Analytical
Techniques for Purity Evaluation
of Single-Walled Carbon
Nanotubes.
J. Am. Chem. Soc. **2005**, 127,
3439-3448.

Effect of sample preparation on SEM images and SEM grading for as-prepared SWNT soot.

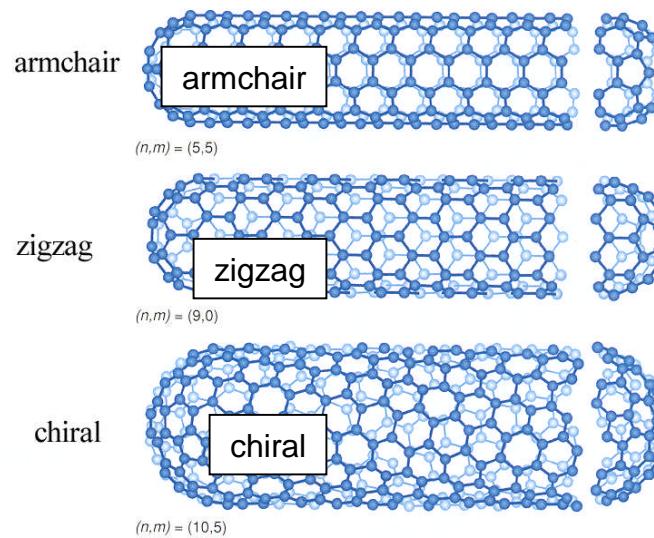
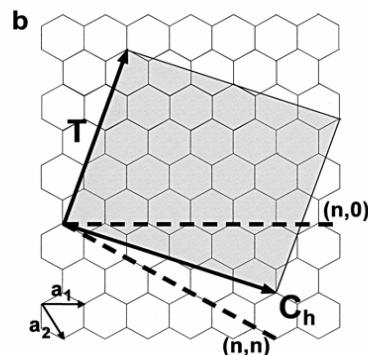
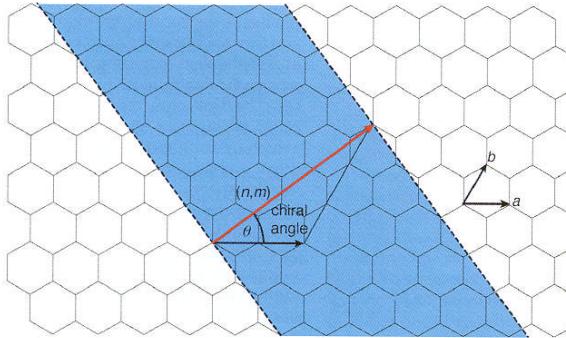
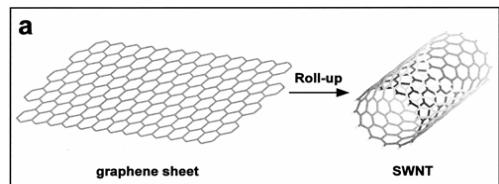


Unprocessed dry powder sample
SEM grade 1

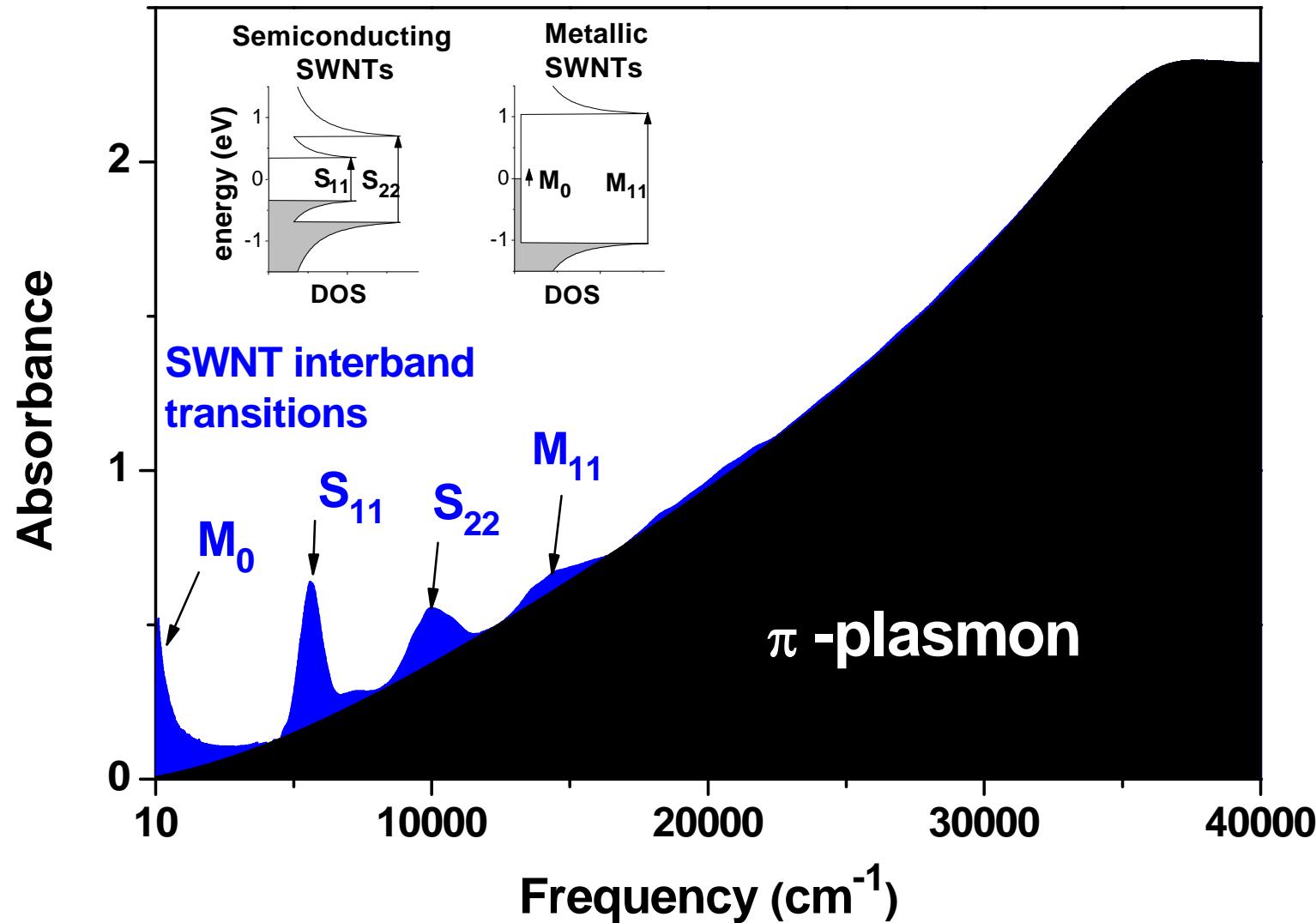


Sample mounted as DMF dispersion
SEM grade 2-3

Topology of Single-Walled Carbon Nanotubes



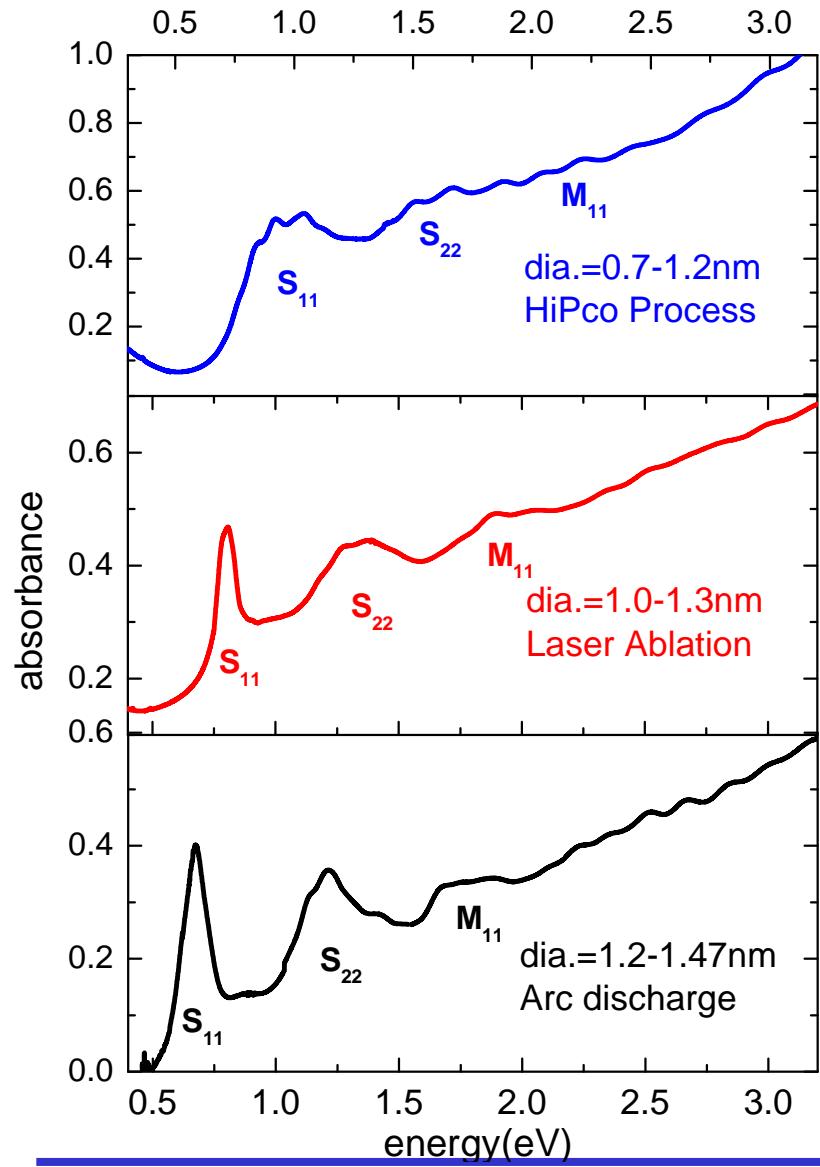
Density of States (DOS) and Optical Properties of SWNTs



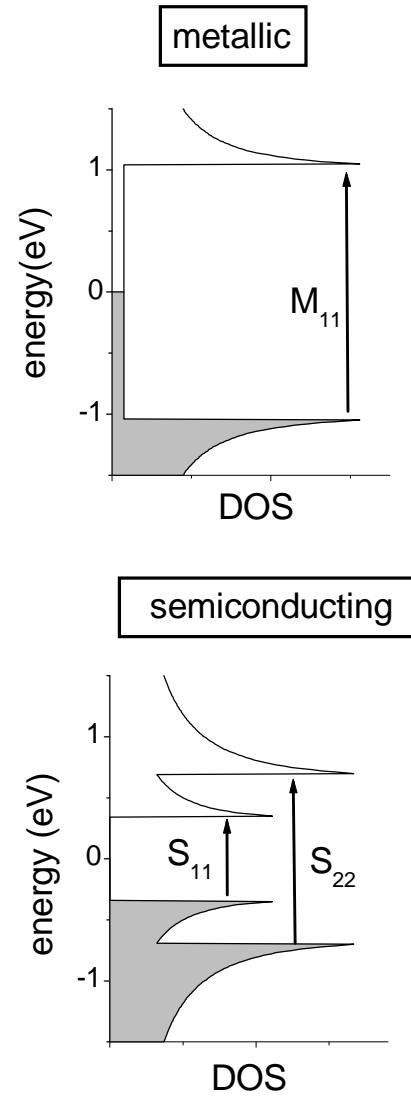
M. Itkis et al. *Nano Lett.* 2003, 3, 309.



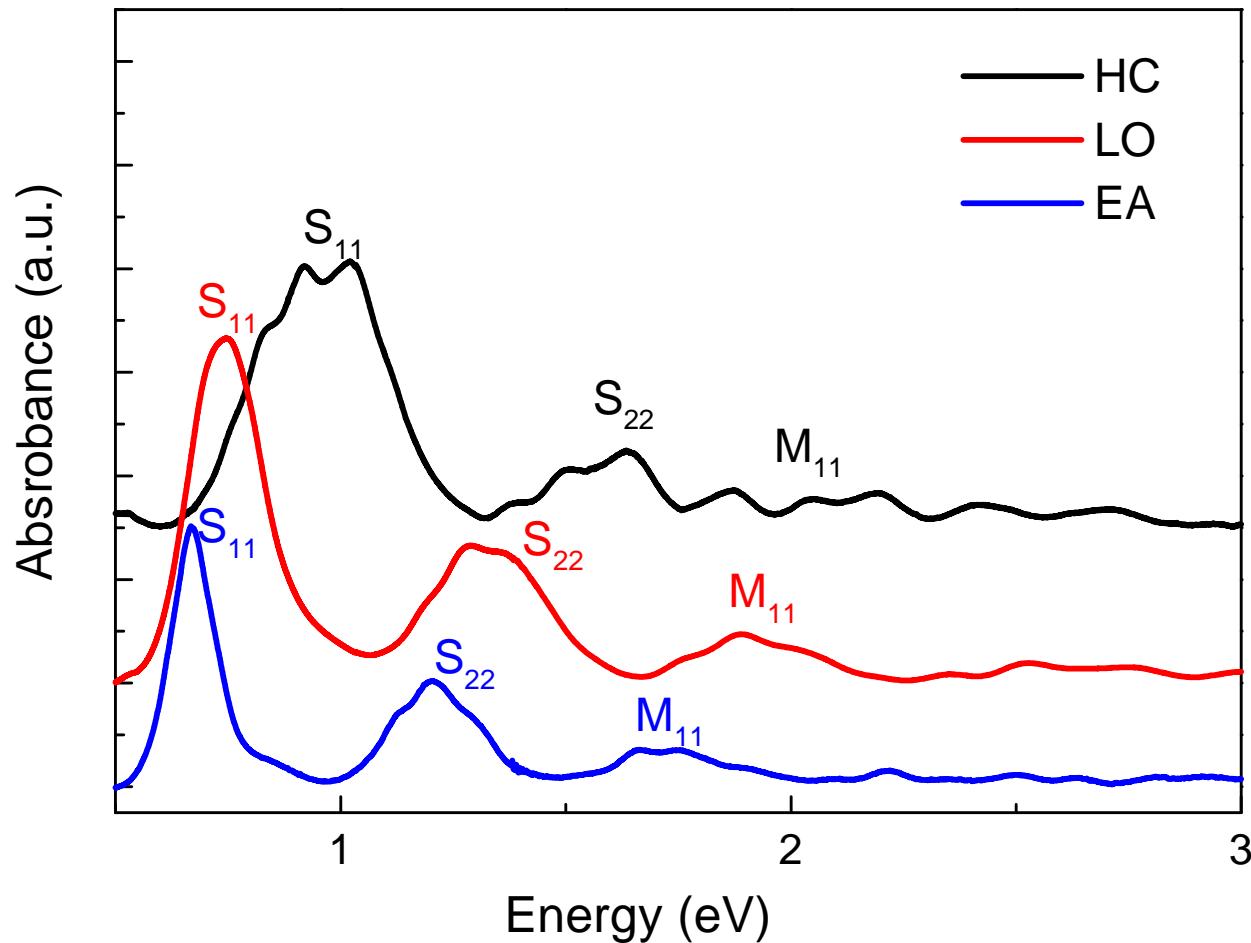
Near-IR transmission spectra of SWNT films



Schematic of electronic density of states

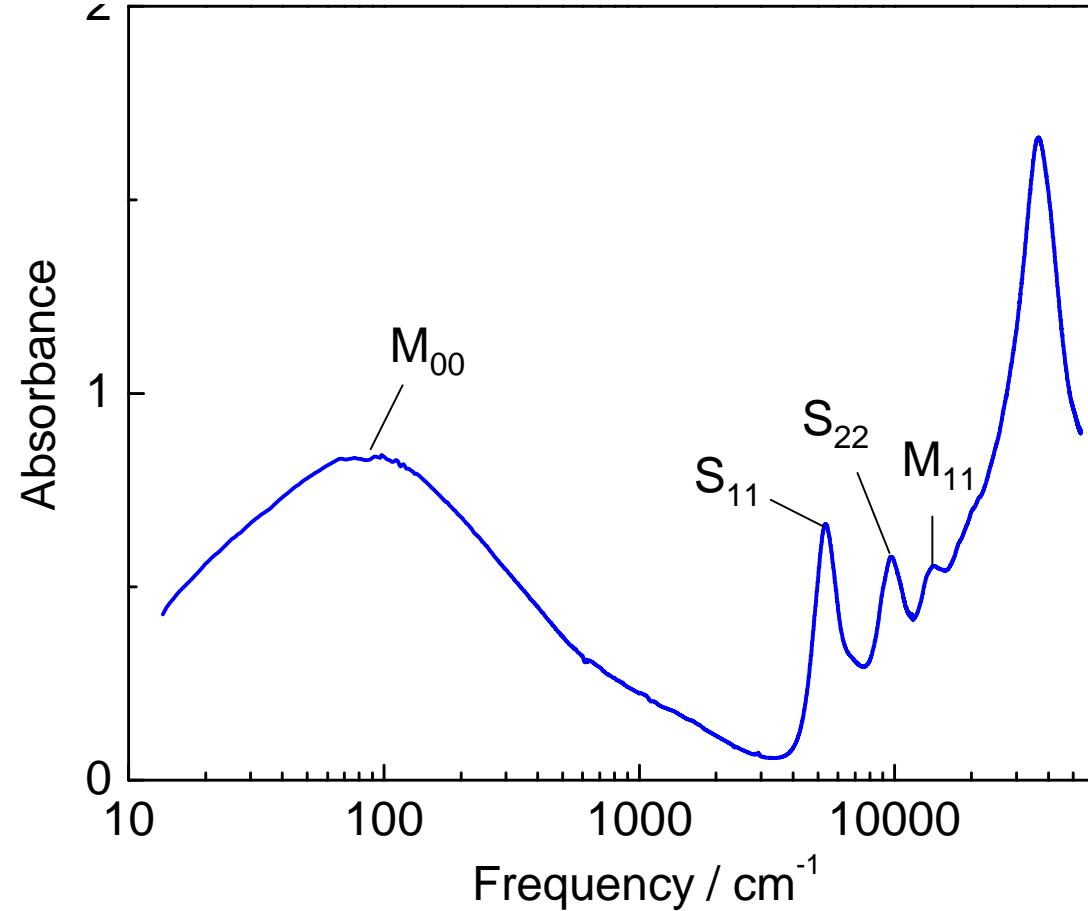
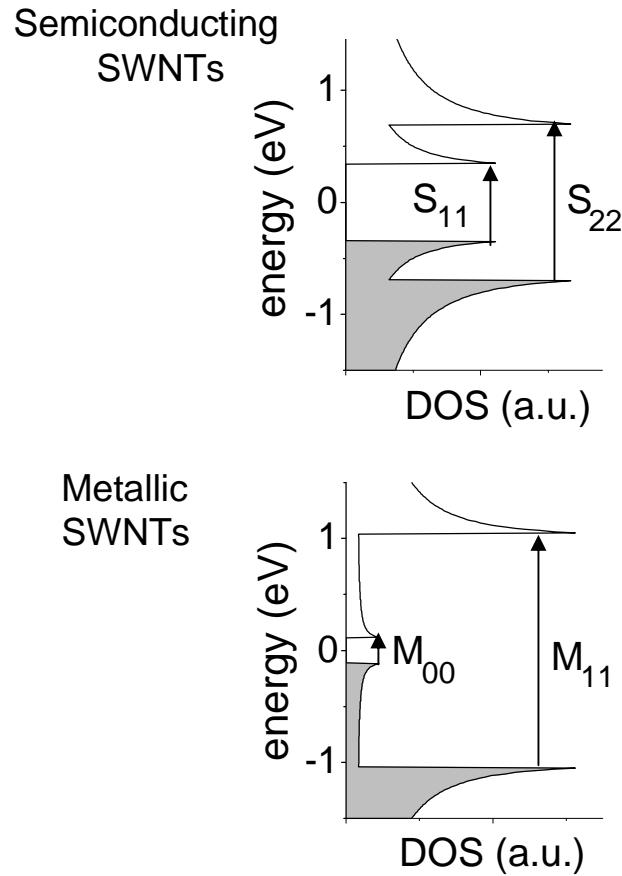


Interband electronic transitions of SWNTs produced by different methods



Hamon, M. A.; Itkis, M. E.; Niyogi, S.; Alvarez, T.; Kuper, C.; Menon, M.; Haddon, R. C.,
Effect of Rehybridization on the Electronic Structure of Single-Walled Carbon Nanotubes.
J. Am. Chem. Soc. **2001**, 123, 11292-11293.

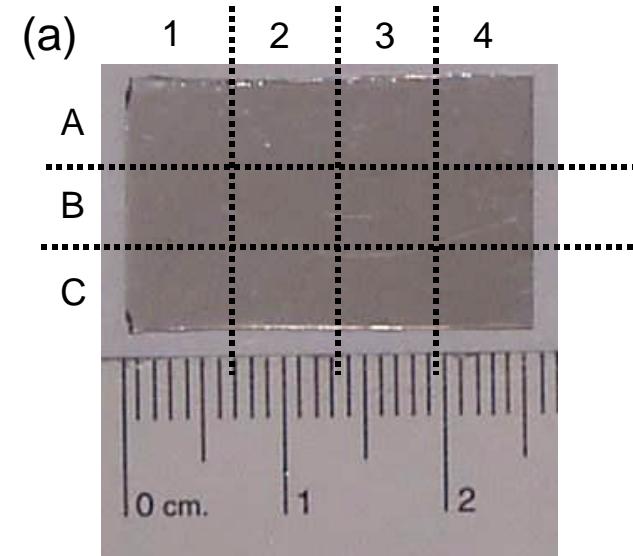
Optical excitations in SWNTs: Band Picture



Itkis, M. E.; Niyogi, S.; Meng, M.; Hamon, M.; Hu, H.; Haddon, R. C., Spectroscopic Study of the Fermi Level Electronic Structure of Single Walled Carbon Nanotubes. *NanoLett.* **2002**, 2, 155-159.

Purification of As-Prepared (AP-) SWNTs

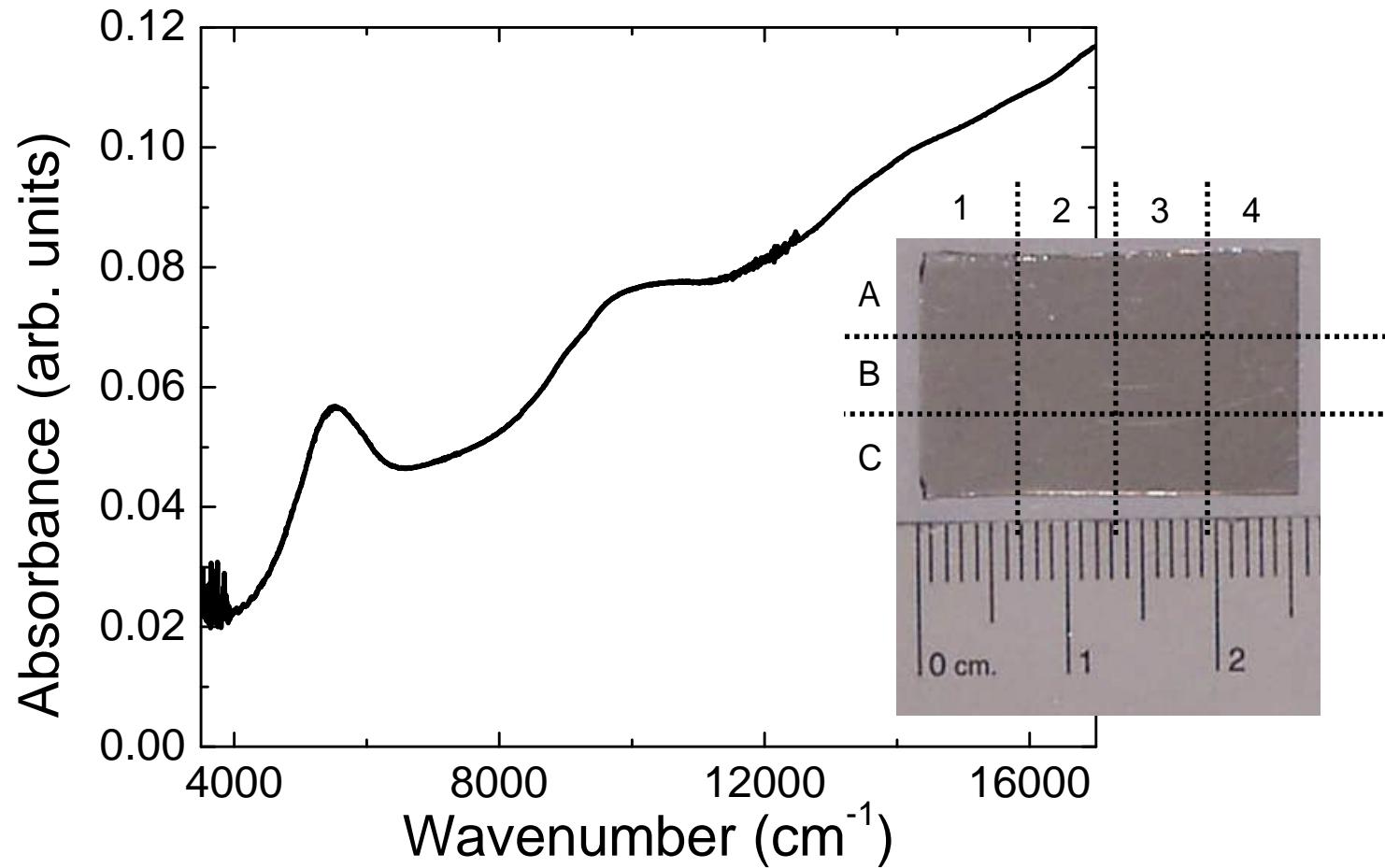
AP-SWNT films preheated in argon
and then subjected to flowing oxygen
at temperature



Sen, R.; Rickard, S. M.; Itkis, M. E.; Haddon, R. C.,
Controlled Purification of Single-Walled Carbon Nanotube Films by Use of
Selective Oxidation and Near-IR Spectroscopy. *Chem. Mater.* **2003**, 15, 4273-4279

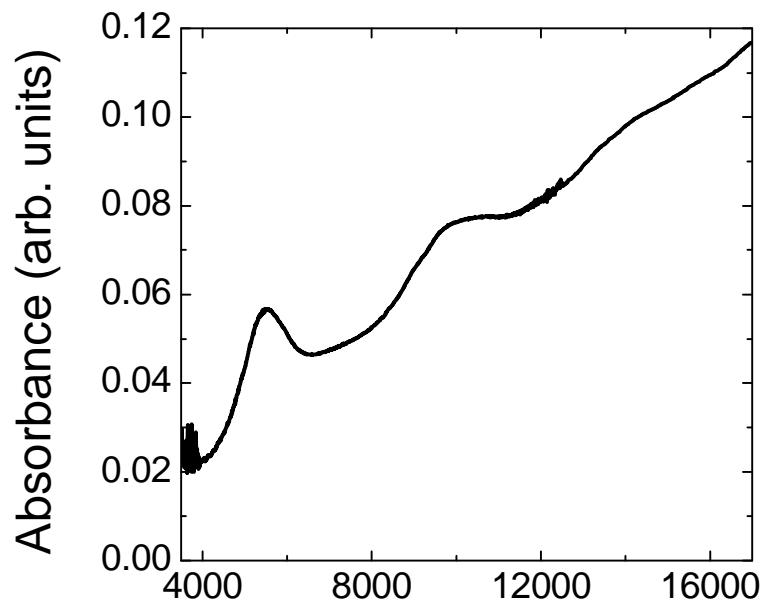


NIR Spectrum of As-Prepared (AP-) SWNT Film

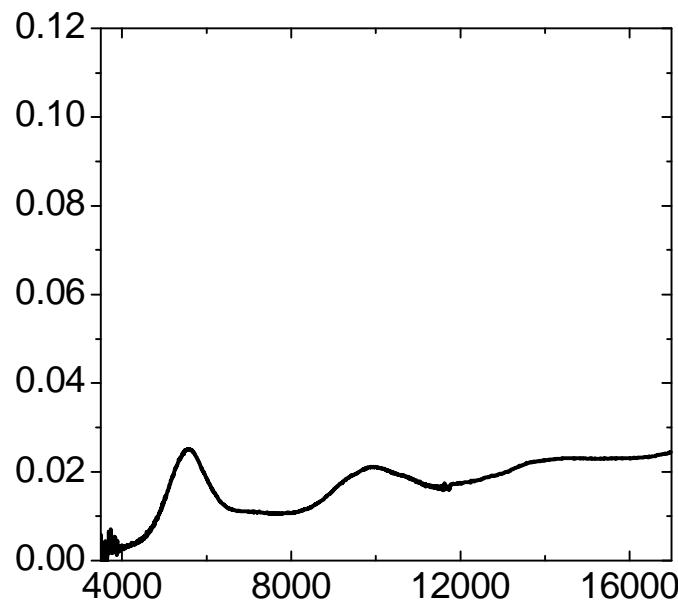


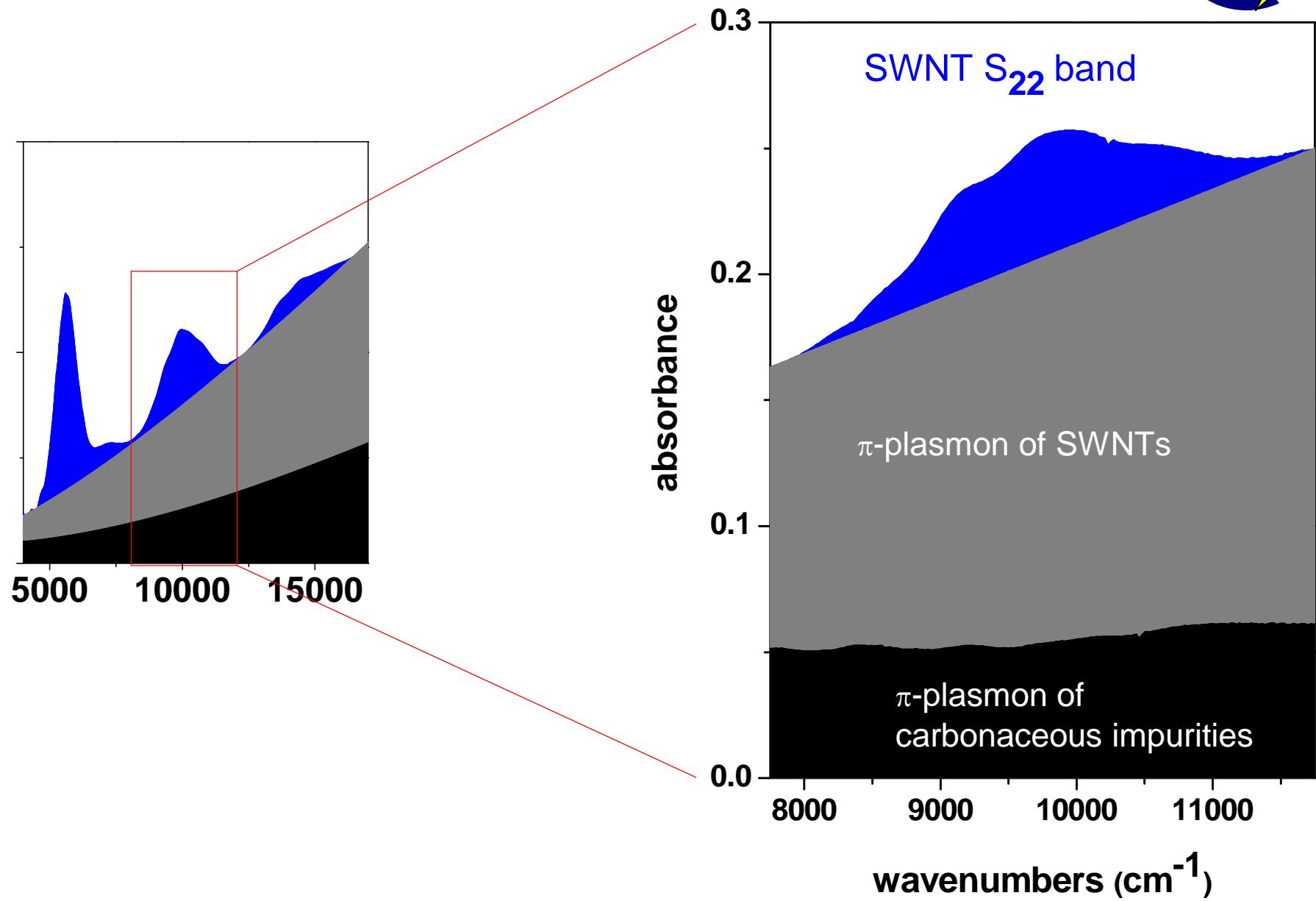


NIR spectra of as-prepared
(AP-) SWNT film

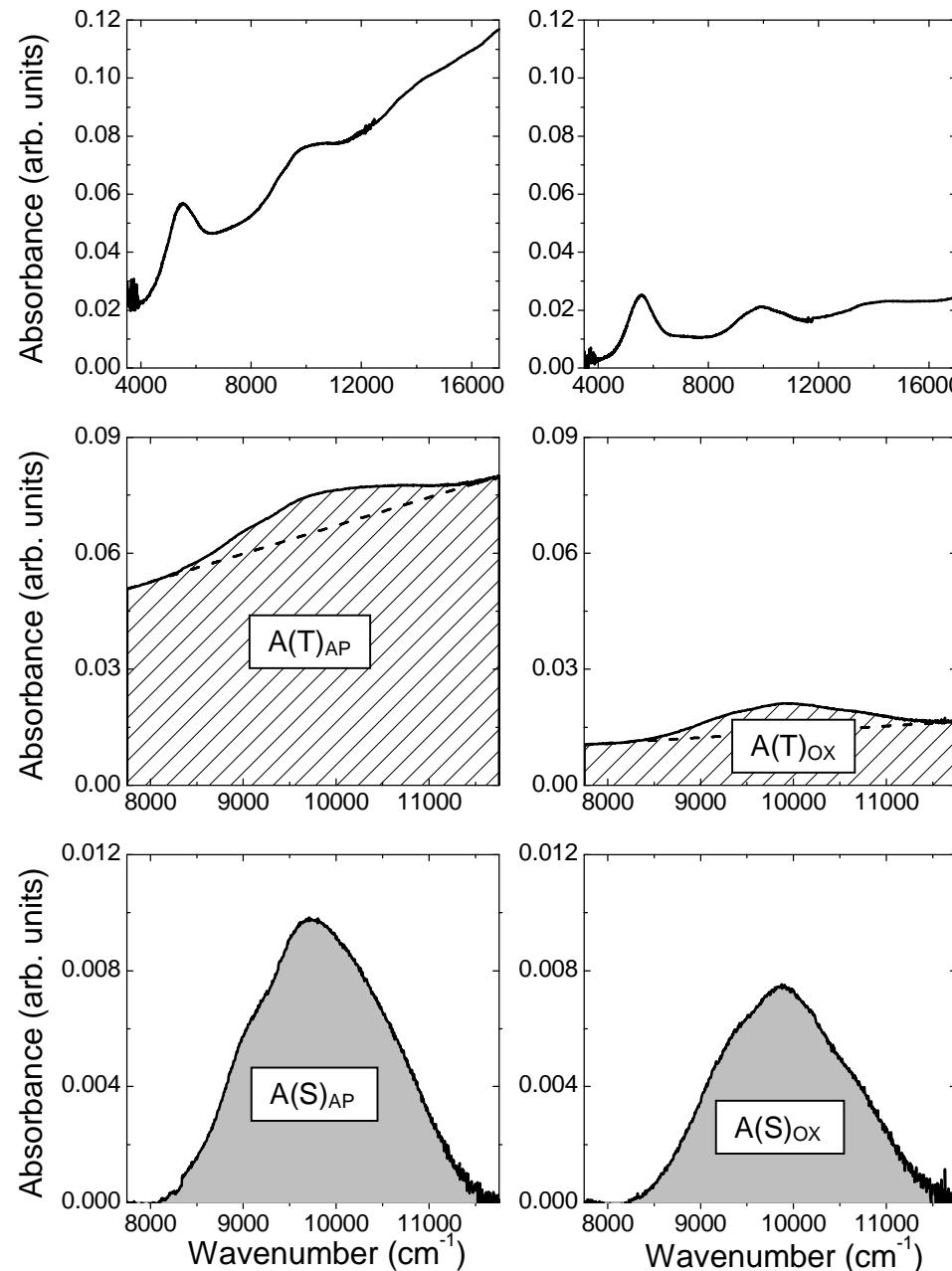


NIR Spectra of AP-SWNT
film after heating at 292°C
in flowing oxygen for 4h



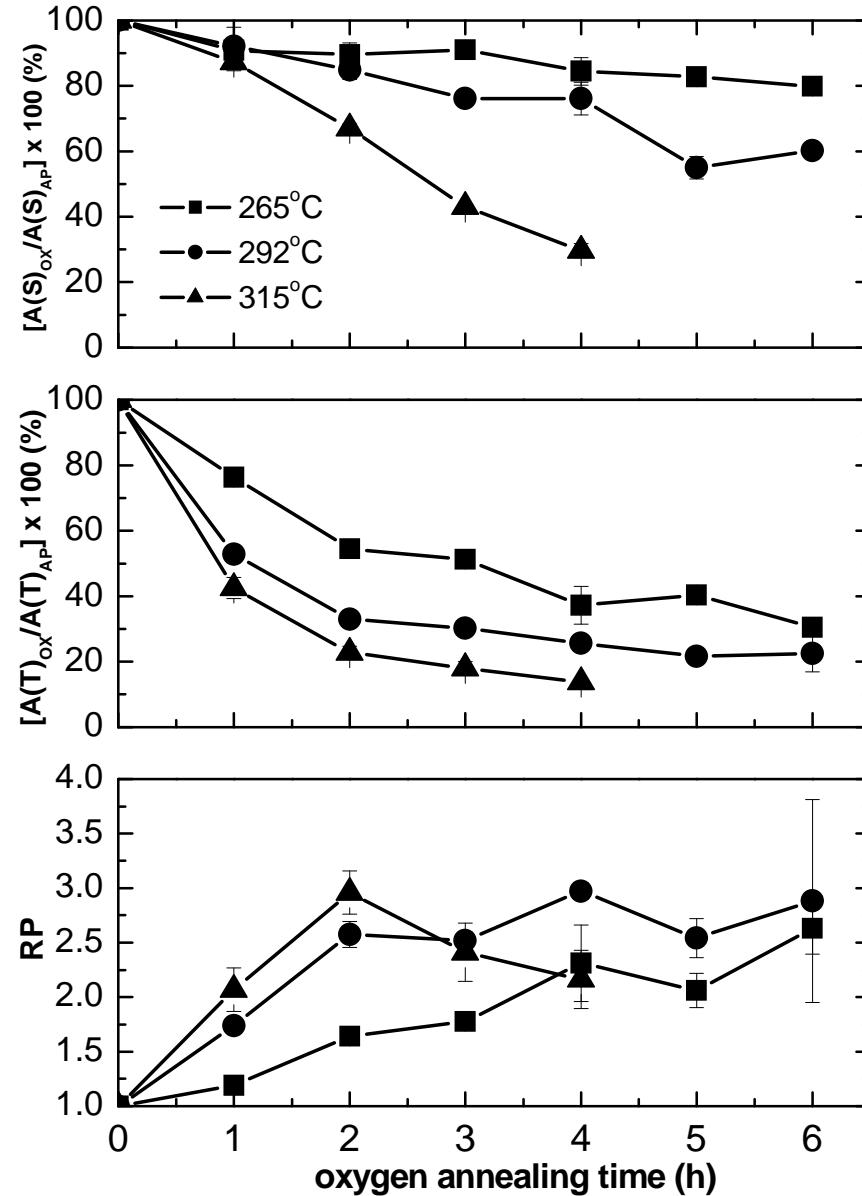


NIR spectra of as-prepared
(AP-) SWNT film



NIR spectra of
the film after
heating at 292°C
in flowing oxygen
for 4h

Evolution of NIR spectra of an as-prepared (AP-) SWNT film as a function of oxygen treatment

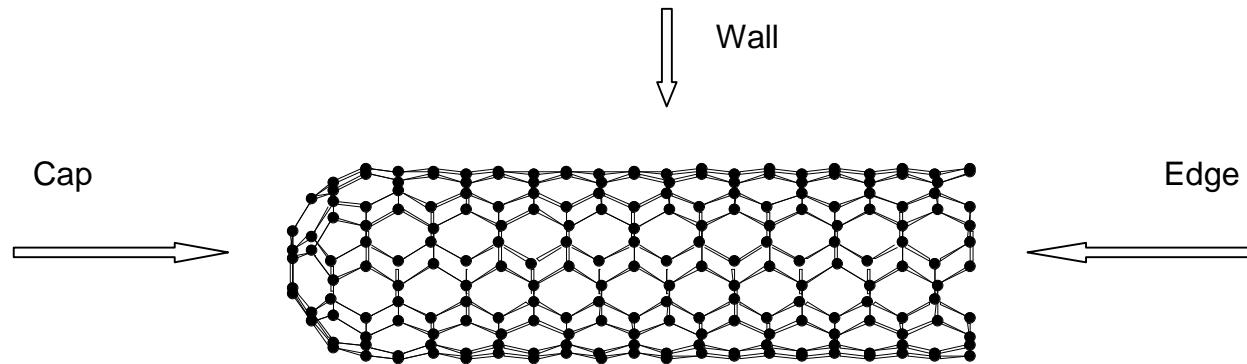




Sensitive to nanostructure and the presence of defects?

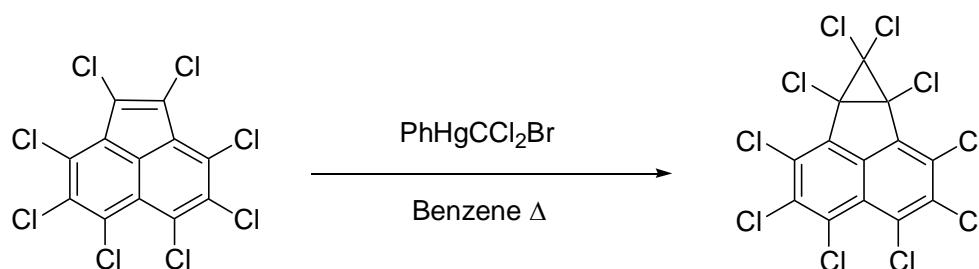
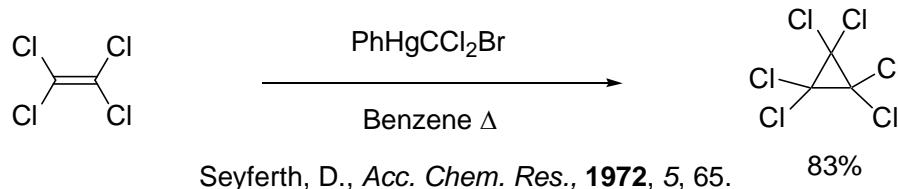
Nanotube Chemistry

COVALENT WALL CHEMISTRY

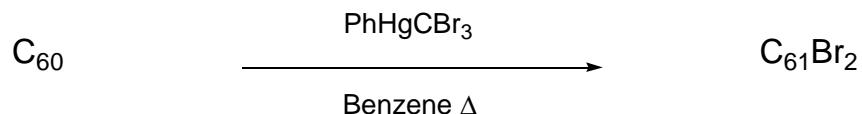


Y. Chen, R. C. Haddon, S. Fang, A. M. Rao, P. C. Eklund, W. H. Lee, E. C. Dickey, E. A. Grulke, J. C. Pendergrass, A. Chavan, B. E. Haley, R. E. Smalley, Chemical Attachment of Organic Functional Groups to Single-Walled Carbon Nanotube Material, *J. Mater. Res.* **1998**, 13, 2423.

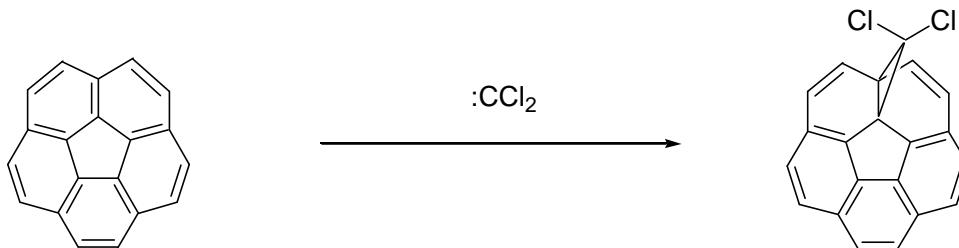
Dichlorocarbene Addition Chemistry



Haddon, R. C.; Chichester, S. V.; Stein, S. M.; Marshall, J. H.; Majsce, A. M., *J. Org. Chem.* **1987**, 52, 711.

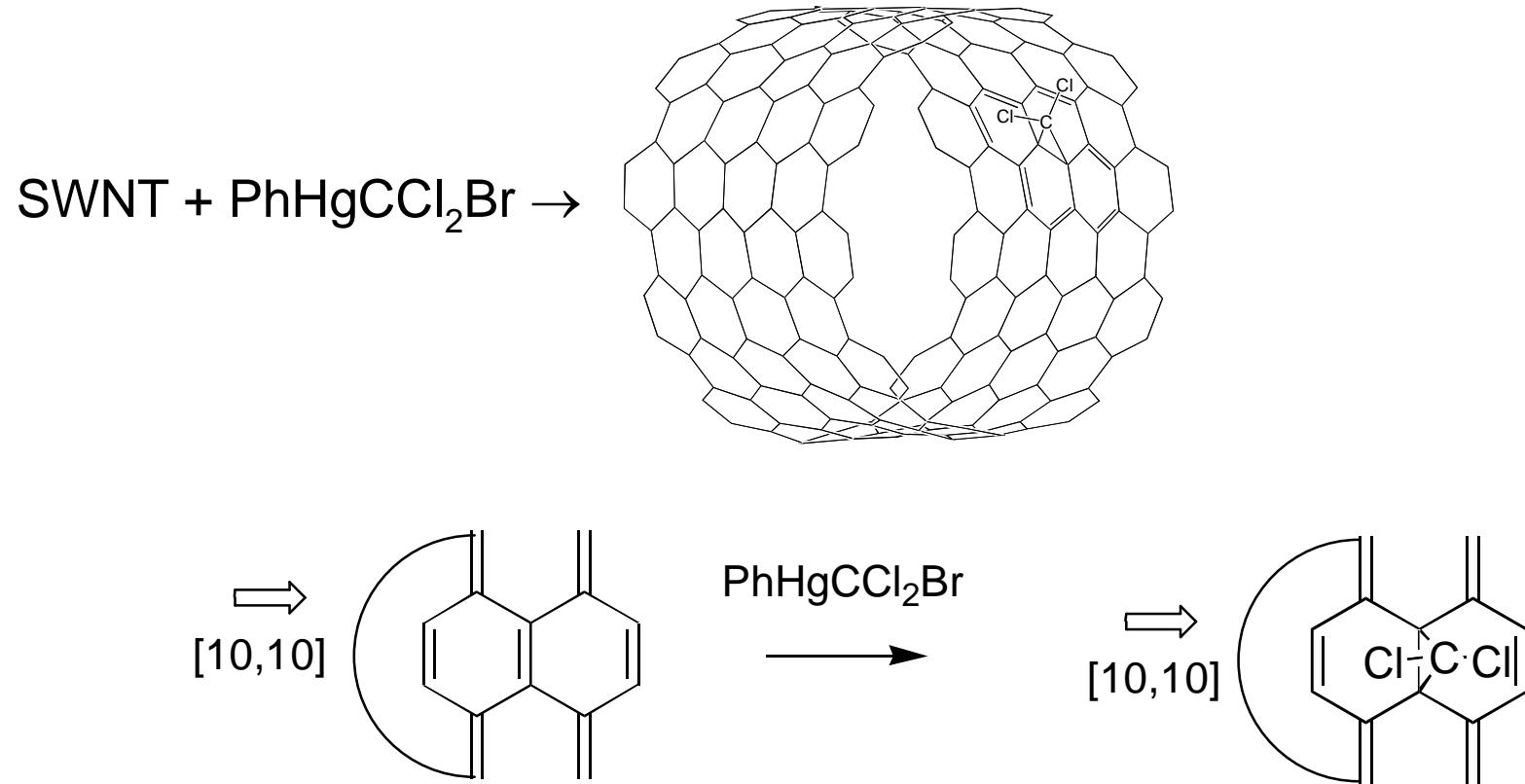


Osterrodt, J.; Vogtle, F., *J. C. S. Chem. Commun.* **1996**, 547.



Scott, L. T.; Preda, D. V., *C&EN*. **1998**, 46 (April 13th).

Reaction of SWNT with Dichlorocarbene



Chen, Y.; Haddon, R. C.; Fang, S.; Rao, A. M.; Eklund, P. C.; Lee, W. H.; Dickey, E. C.; Grulke, E. A.; Pendergrass, J. C.; Chavan, A.; Haley, B. E.; Smalley, R. E. *J. Mater. Res.* **1998**, 13, 2423-2431.

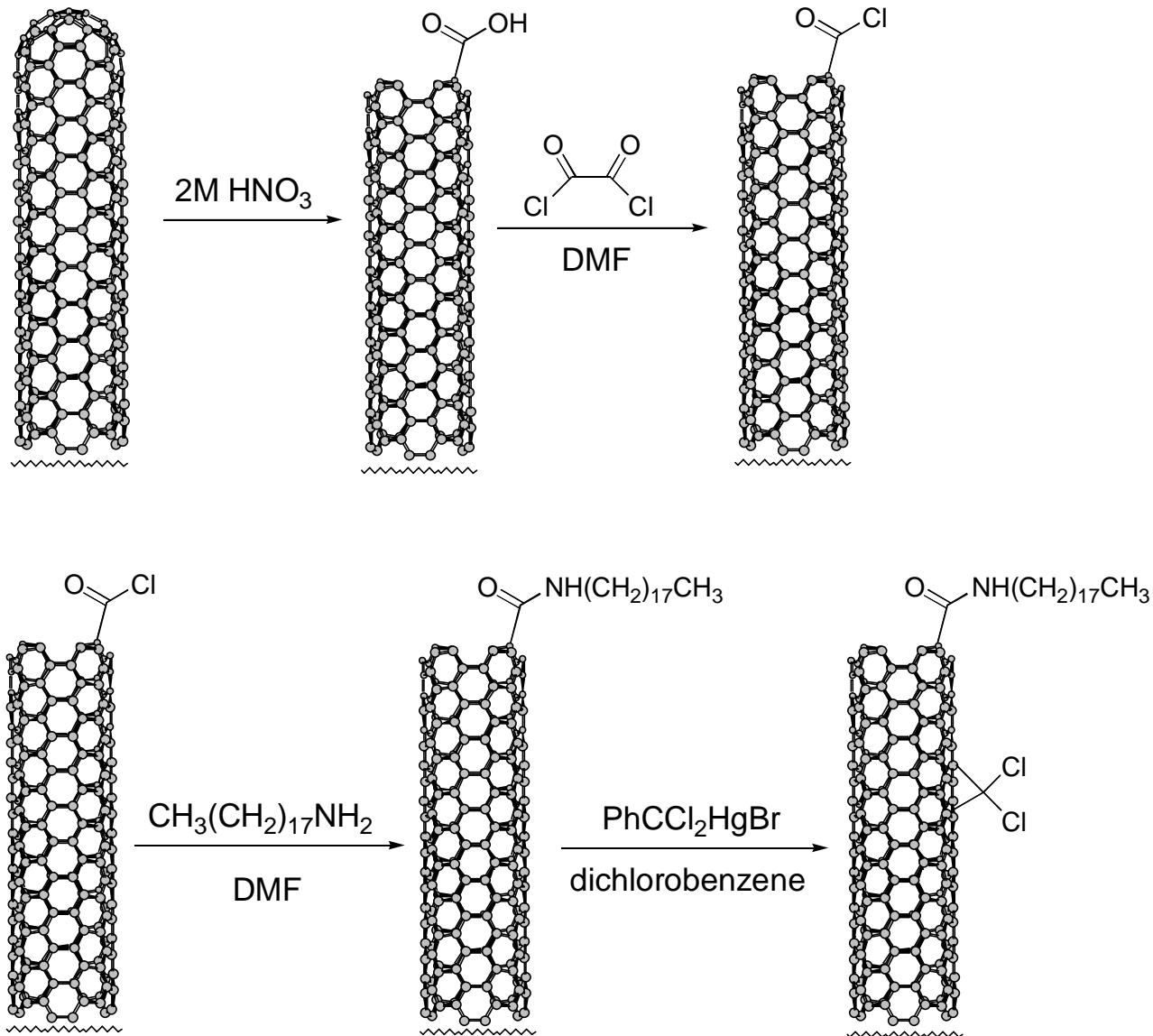
Chen, J.; Hamon, M. A.; Hu, H.; Chen, Y.; Rao, A. M.; Eklund, P. C.; Haddon, R. C. *Science* **1998**, 282, 95-98.

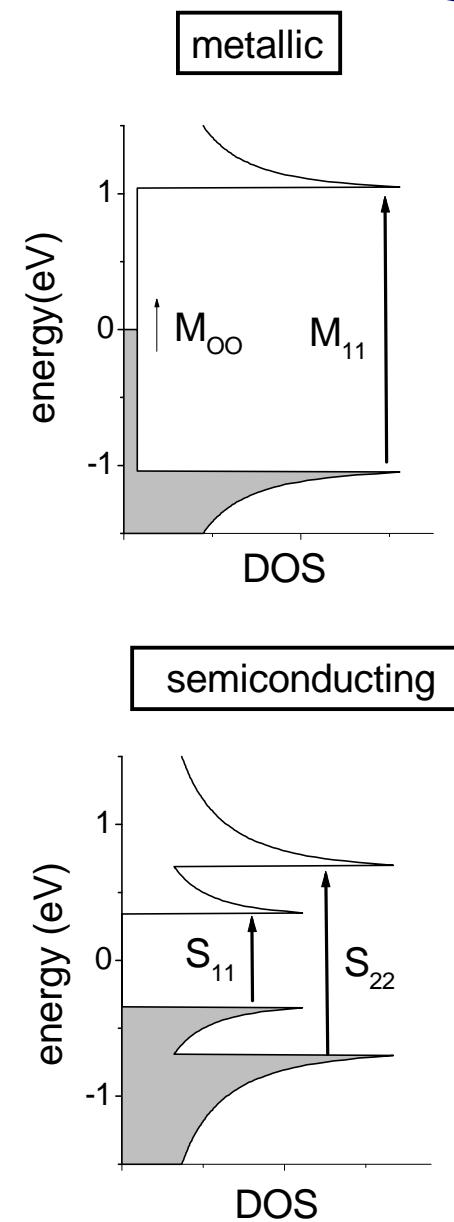
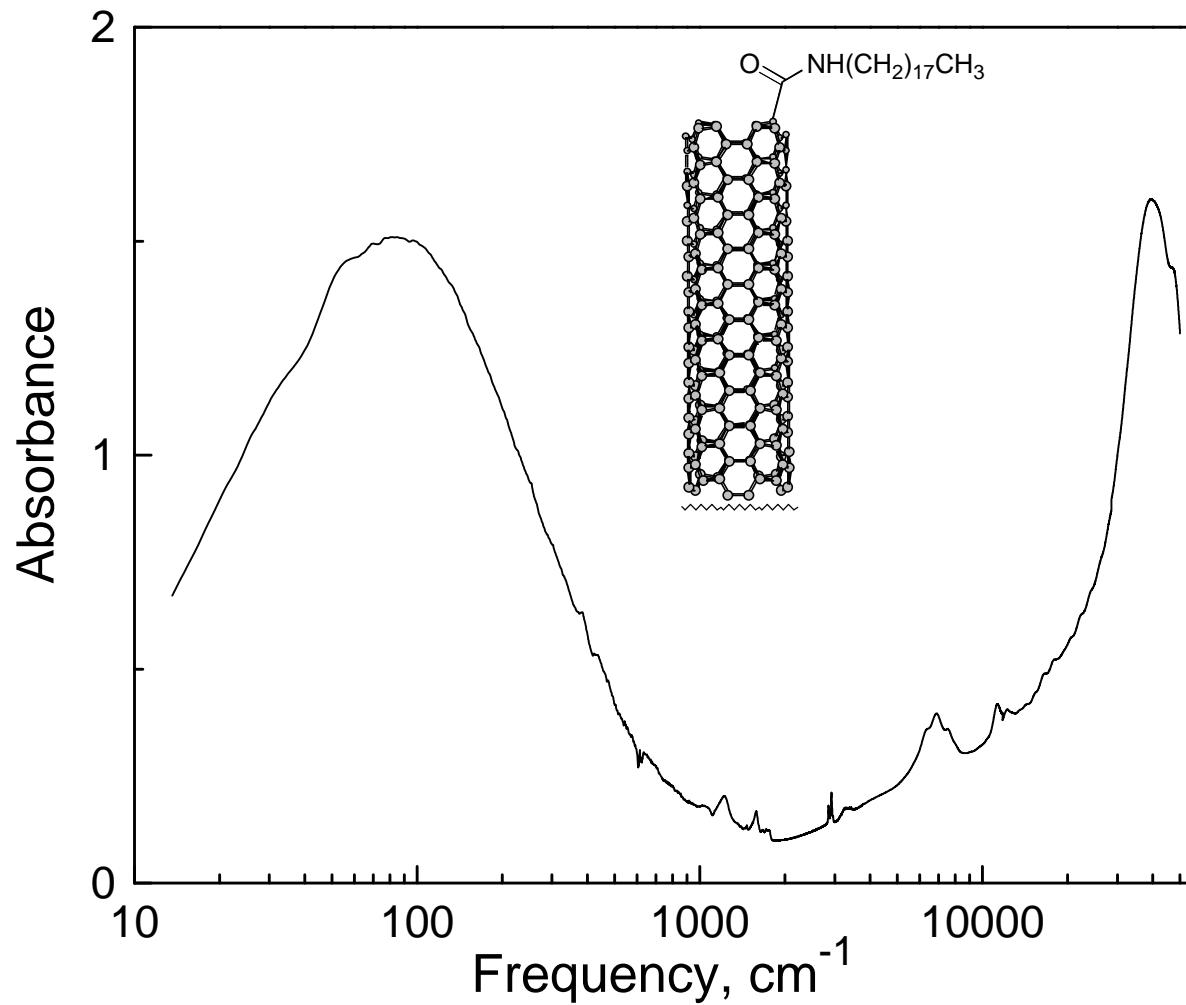
Hu, H.; Zhao, B.; Hamon, M. A.; Kamaras, K.; Itkis, M. E.; Haddon, R. C. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2003**, 125, 14893-14900.

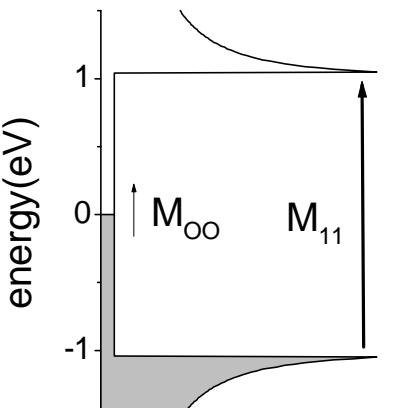
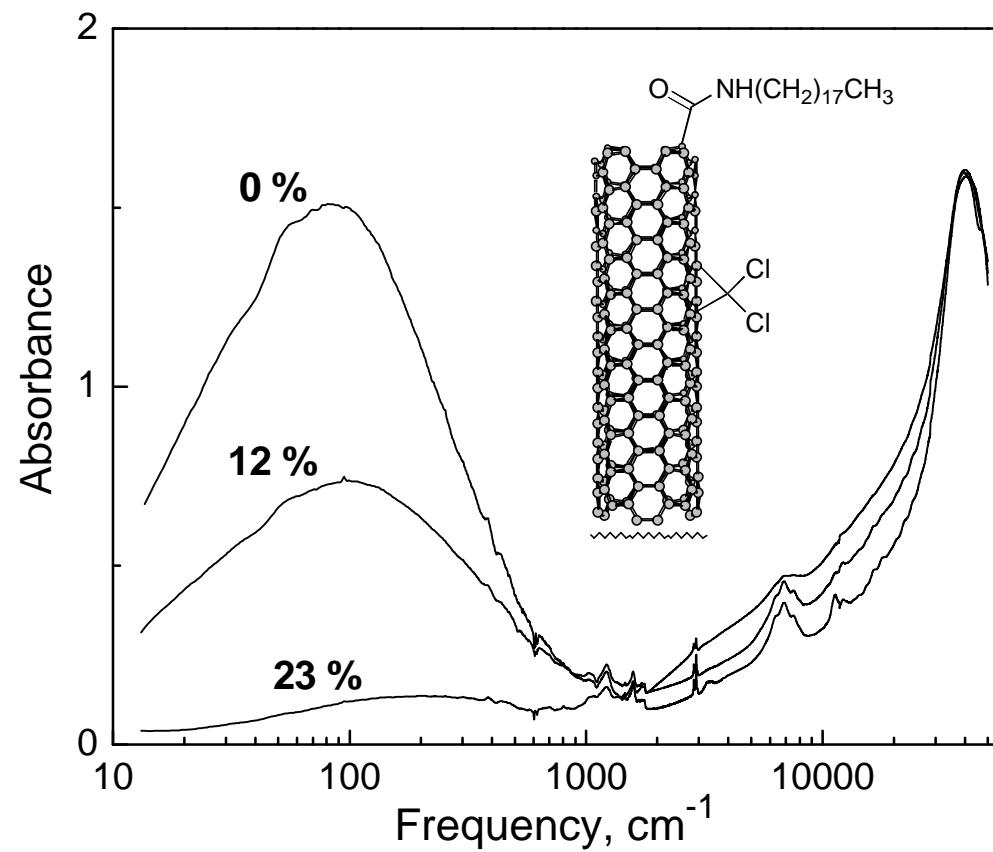
Kamaras, K.; Itkis, M. E.; Hu, H.; Zhao, B.; Haddon, R. C. *Science* **2003**, 301, 1501.



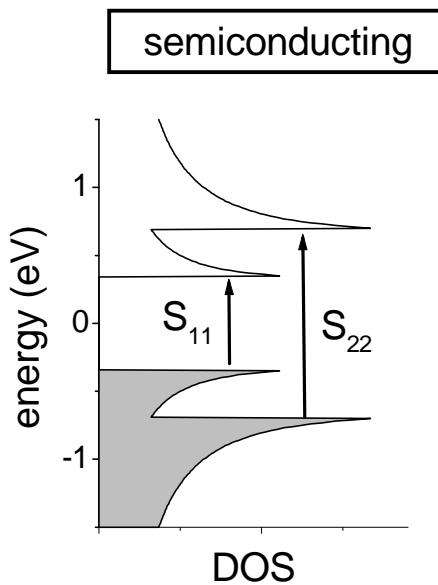
Side-Wall Functionalization of Soluble-SWNTs



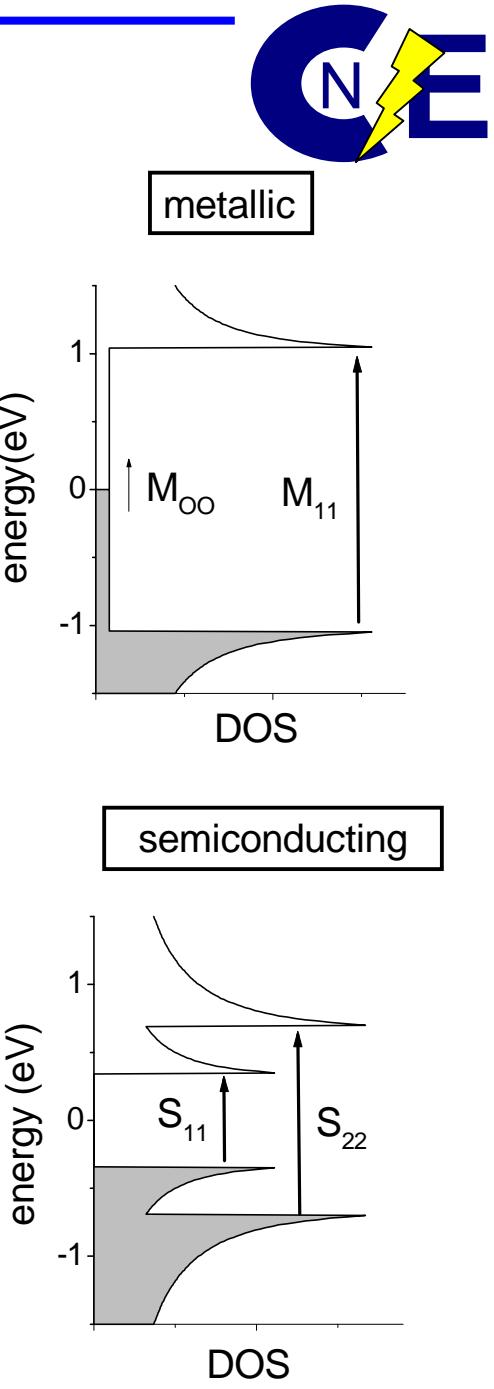
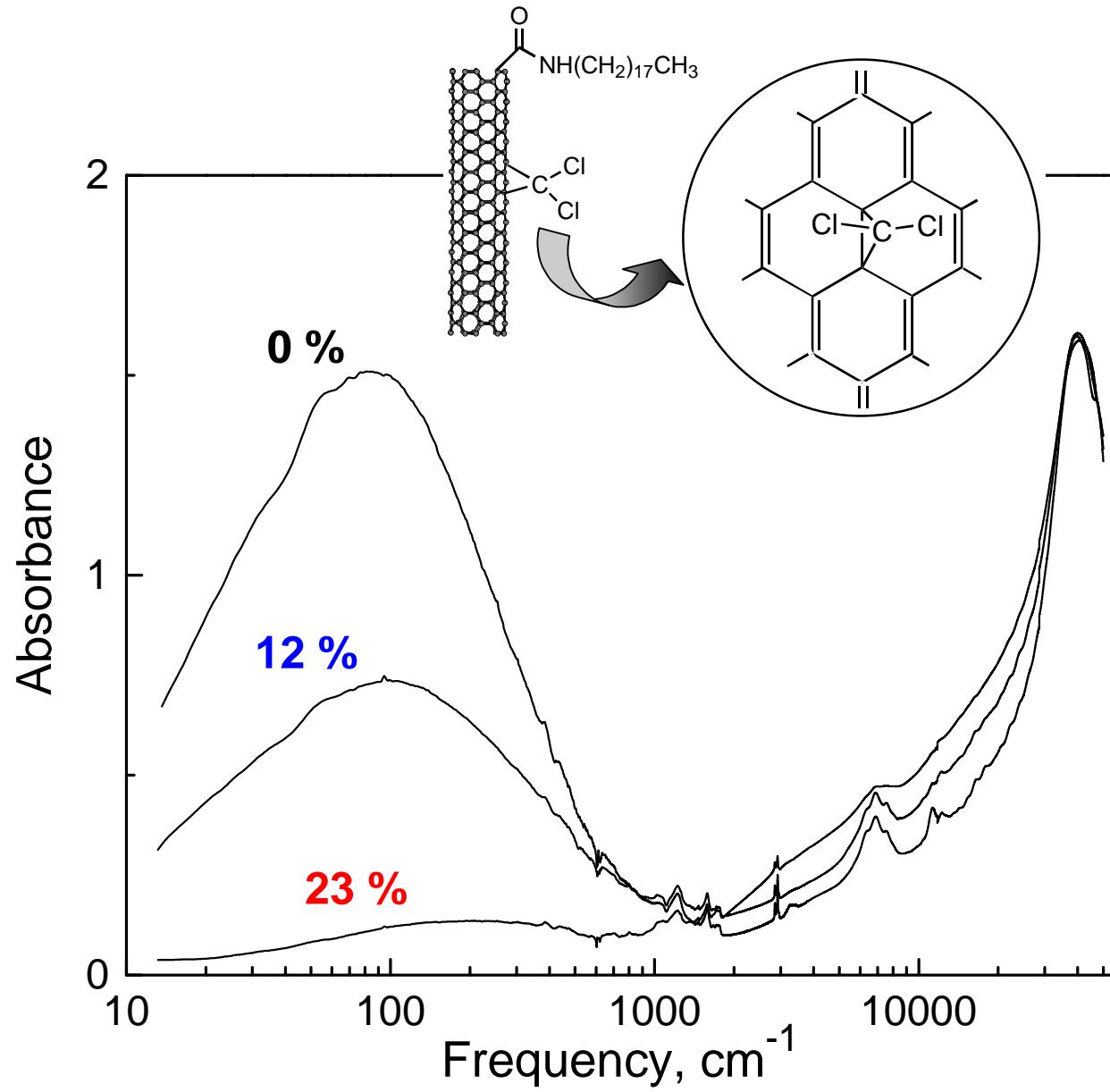




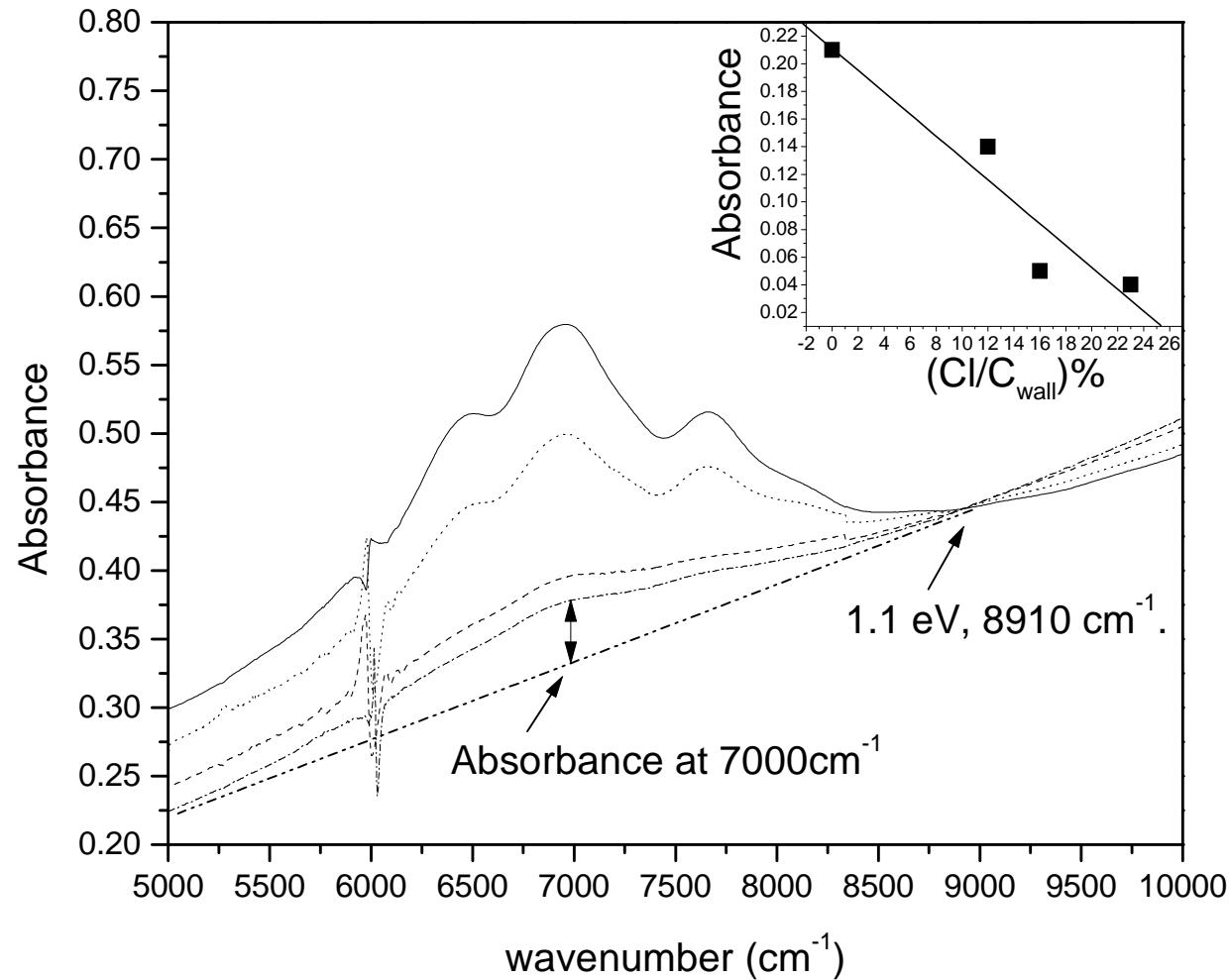
metallic



semiconducting



Near-IR Spectra of SWNTs versus Degree of Functionalization



Near IR Purity Standard for Single-Walled Carbon Nanotubes



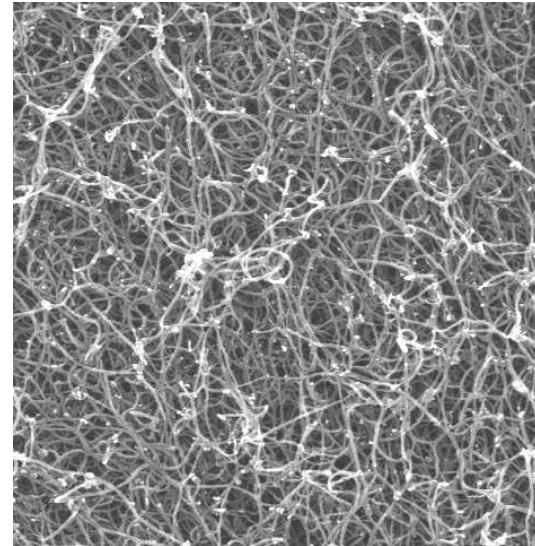
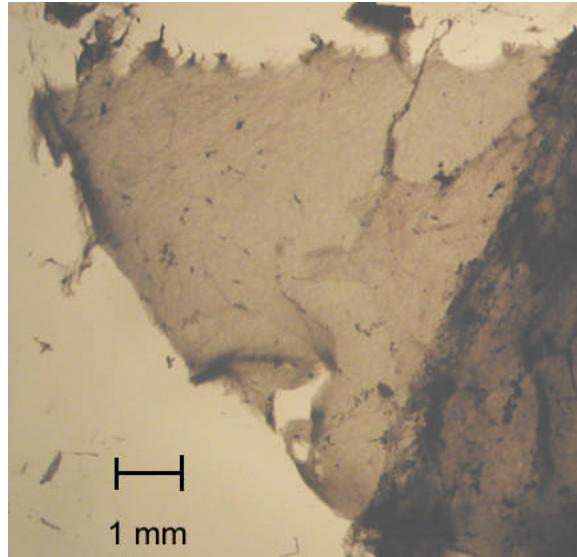
Rapid, well defined, and quantitative

Widely available

Applicable to bulk samples

...but sensitive to nanostructure

As-Prepared SWNT Soot

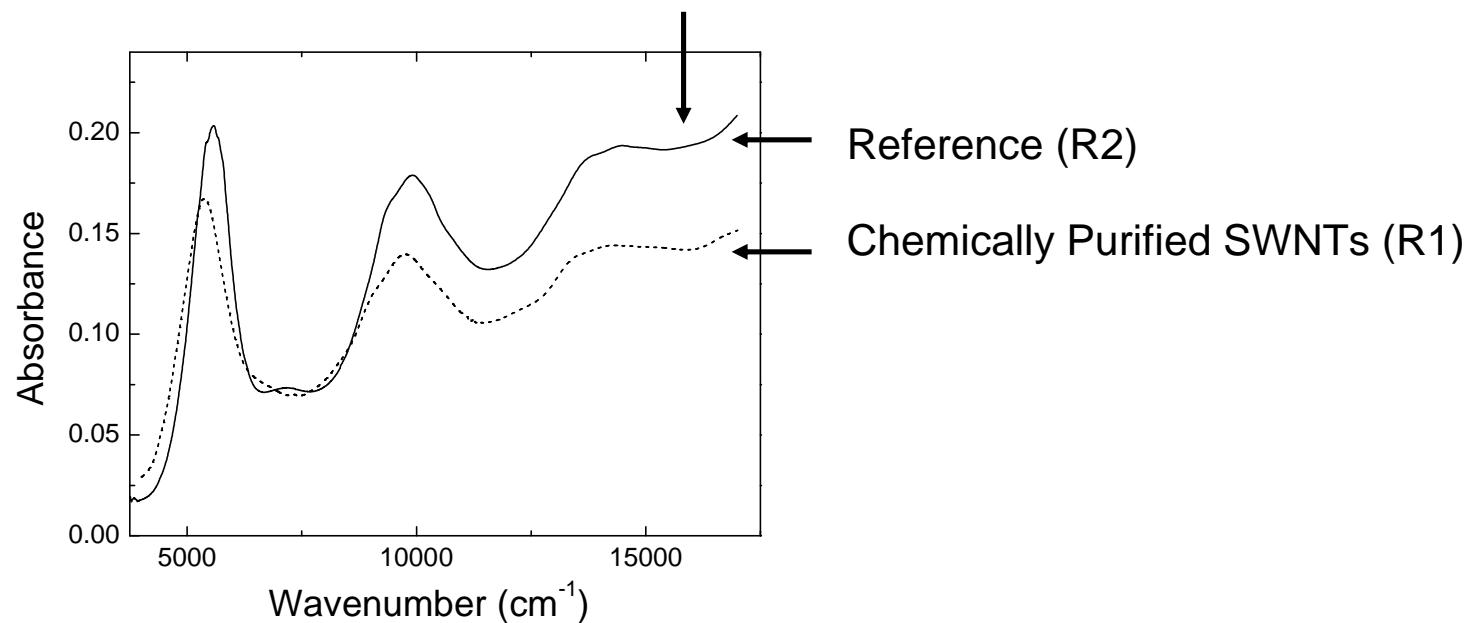
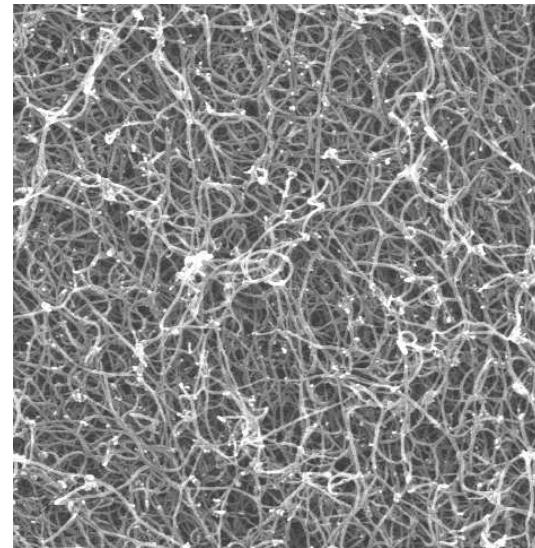
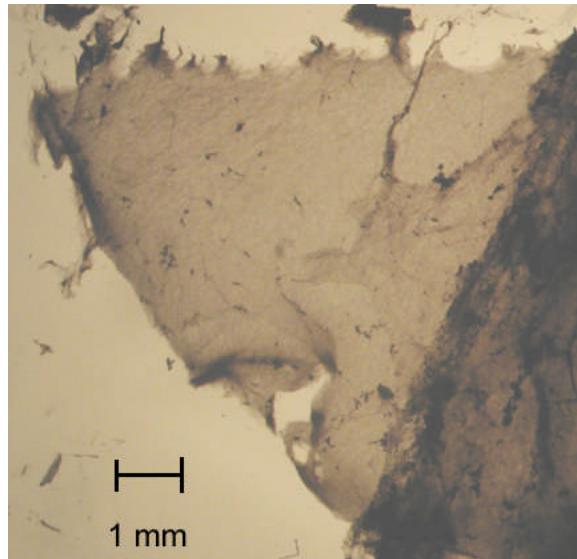


Web growth

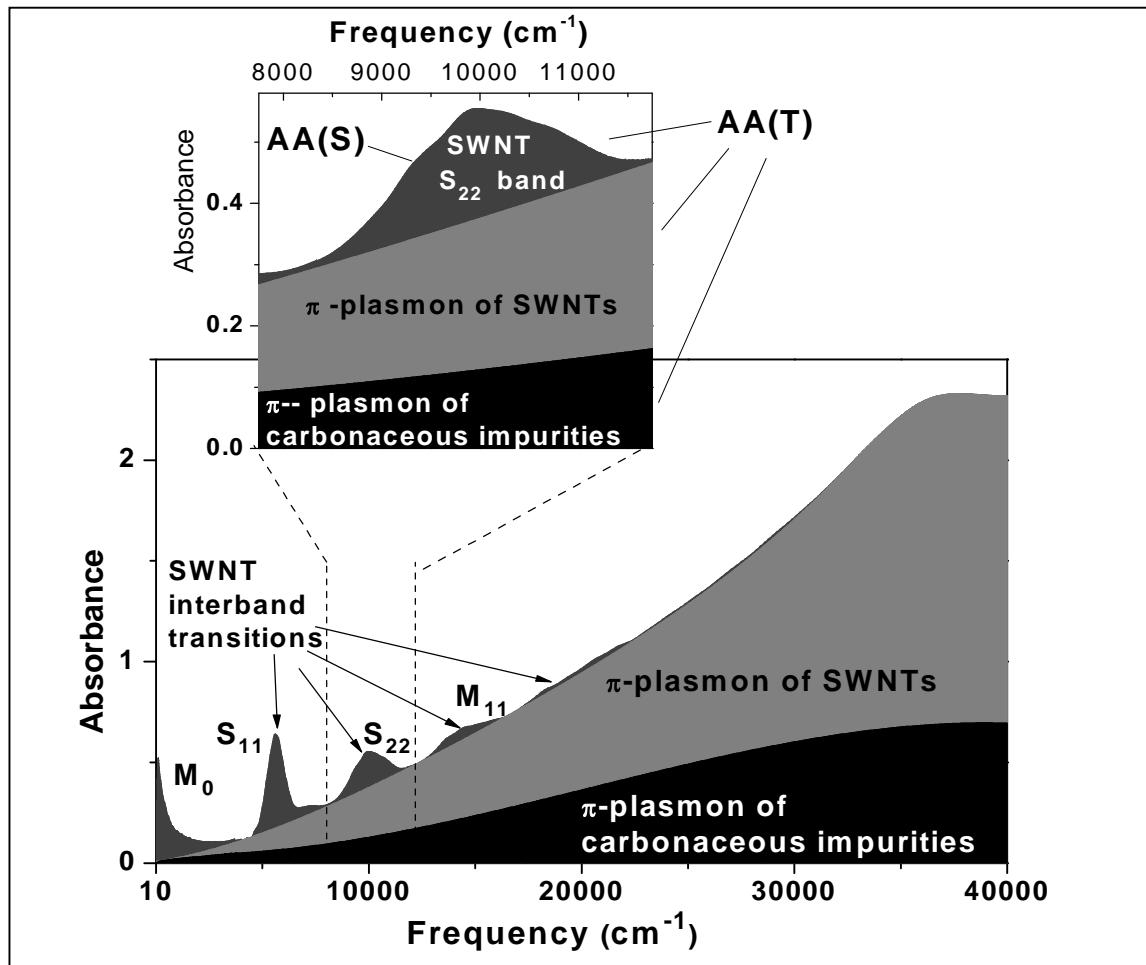
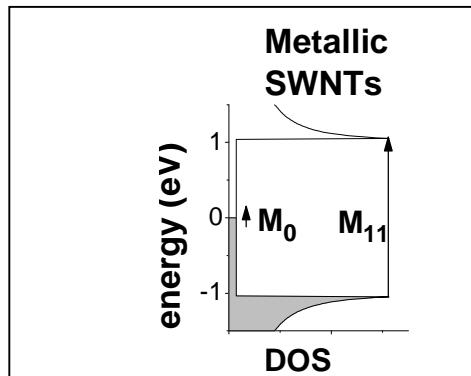
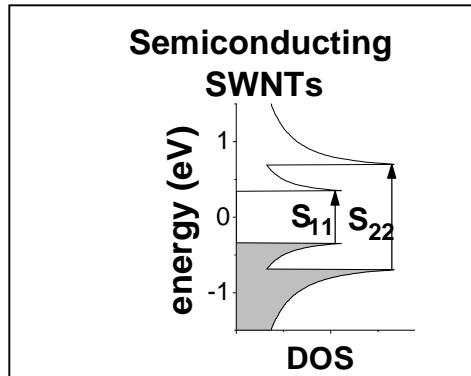
M. E. Itkis *et al.* *Nano Lett* **3**, 309 (2003).



As-Prepared SWNT Soot – Seeded Web Growth



Purity evaluation

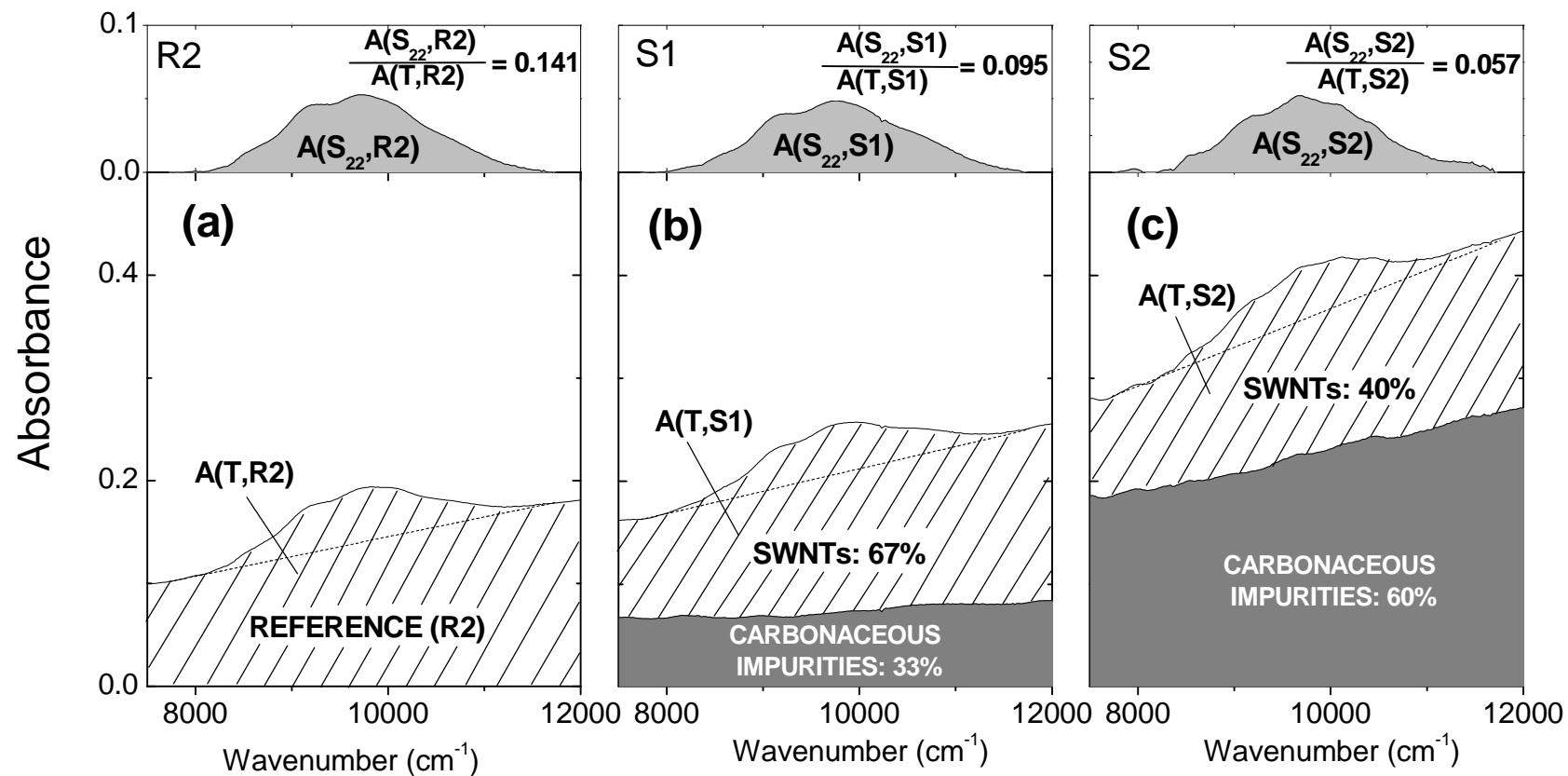


Solution phase near-IR spectroscopy provides relative purity (RP) of SWNTs against reference standard

Itkis M. et al Nanoletters, 2003, 3, 309; Haddon R. et al MRS Bulletin 2004, 29, 276.

NIST http://www.msel.nist.gov/Nanotube2/Carbon_Nanotubes_Guide.htm

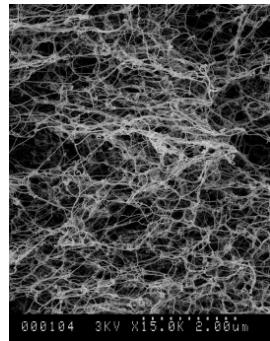
Purity Evaluation of As-Prepared SWNT Soot



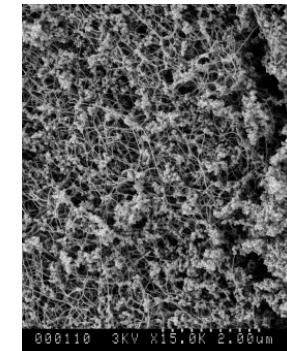
M. E. Itkis, et al. *Nano Lett* **3**, 309 (2003).



Chemistry of Single-Walled Carbon Nanotubes (SWNTs)



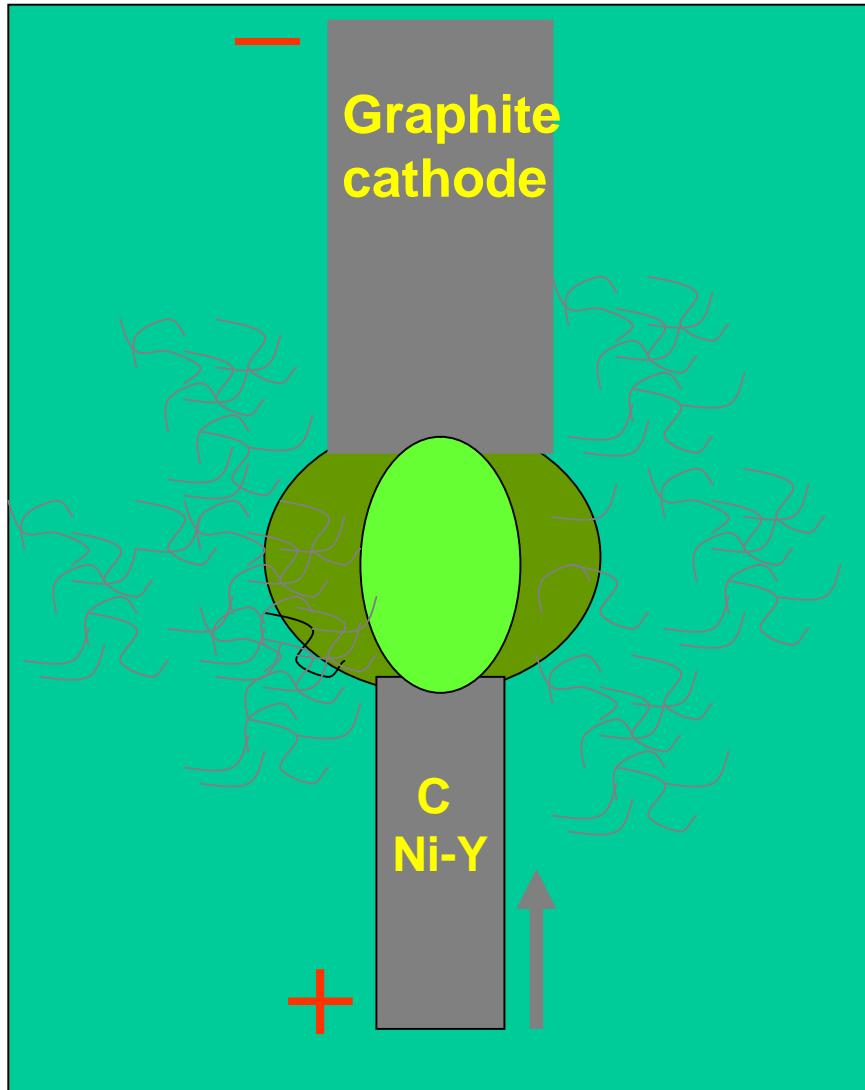
Analytical techniques
Measure of purity



Quality Control in the Carbon Nanotube Industry (2003)

Source	Advertised Purity (%)	NIR Purity (%)
Carbon Solutions Inc.	30-50	40
Aldrich Chemical	50-70	30
Alfa Aesar	10-20	15

Electric Arc Discharge Synthesis of SWNTs



Iijima and Ichihashi, *Nature* **1993**, 363, 603-605.

Bethune *et al* *Nature* **1993**, 363, 605-607.

Rate: 10-30g/hour

Problem – byproducts:
Carbonaceous impurities,
metallic nanoparticles

Parameters:

- Buffer gas – type, pressure
- Electrode composition
- Arc current/voltage
- Chamber geometry
- Temperature field

Metal Catalysts



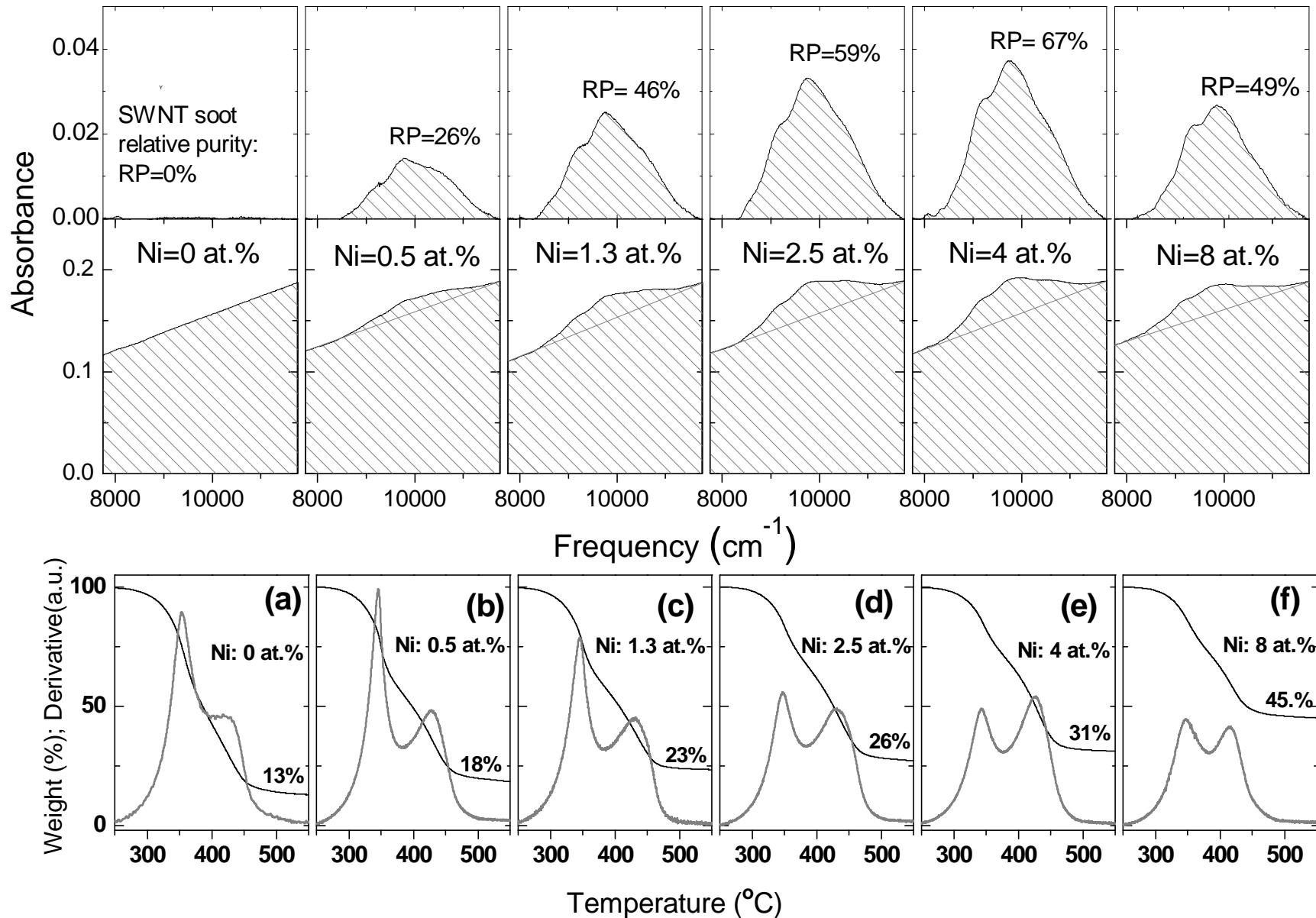
Co, Co/Ni, Co/Y, Co/Fe, Co/Pt, Co/Cu, Ni/Fe, Fe, Rh/Pt

Ni:Y 4:1 at.%, C=95 at.% , *Journet et al Nature 1997, 388, 756-758.*

Ni:Y (0.6-0.4):0.1 at.% , *Takizawa et al Chem. Phys. Lett. 2000, 326, 351-357.*

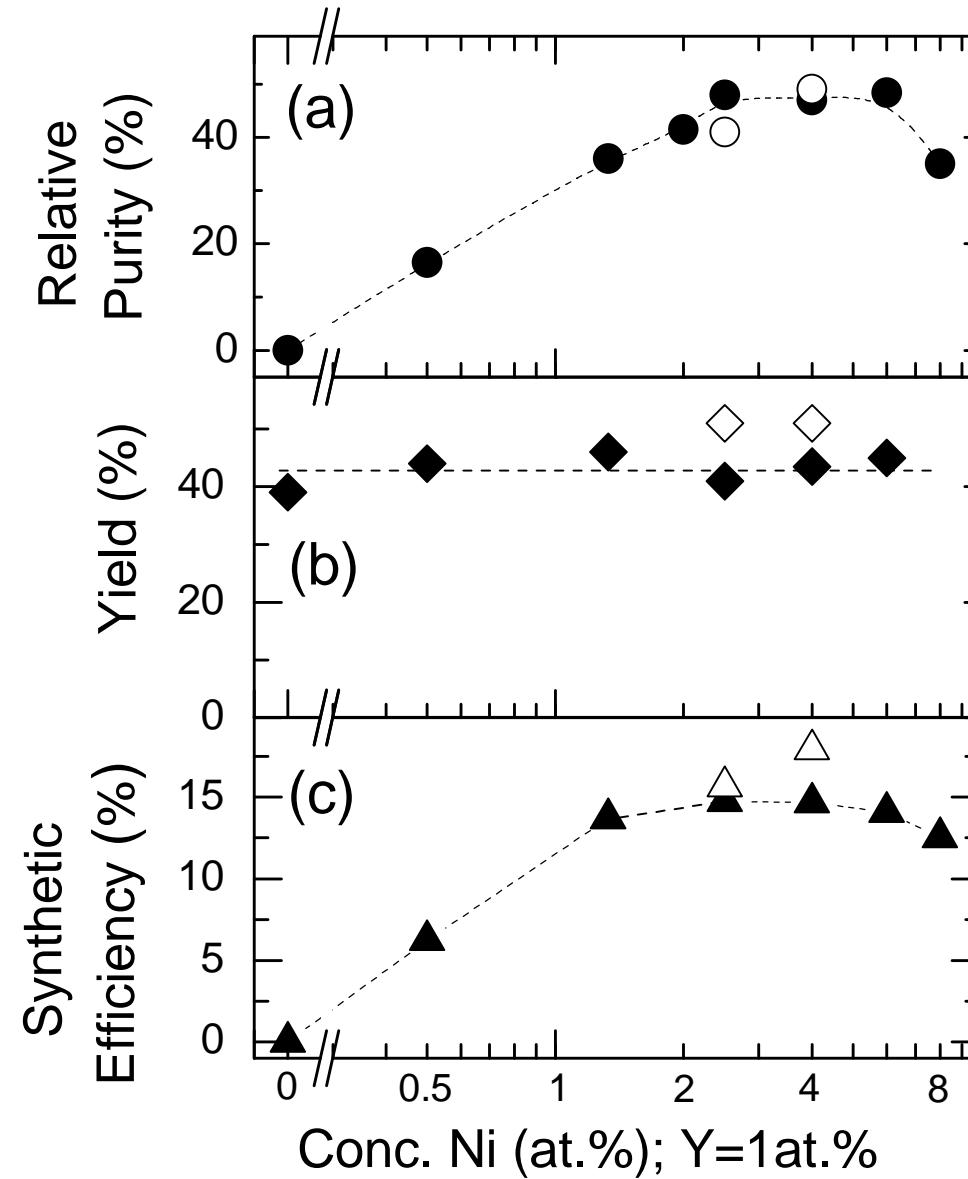
Analysis: SEM, TGA, Raman
(milligram scale)

Variation of Ni with Y held constant at 1 at%



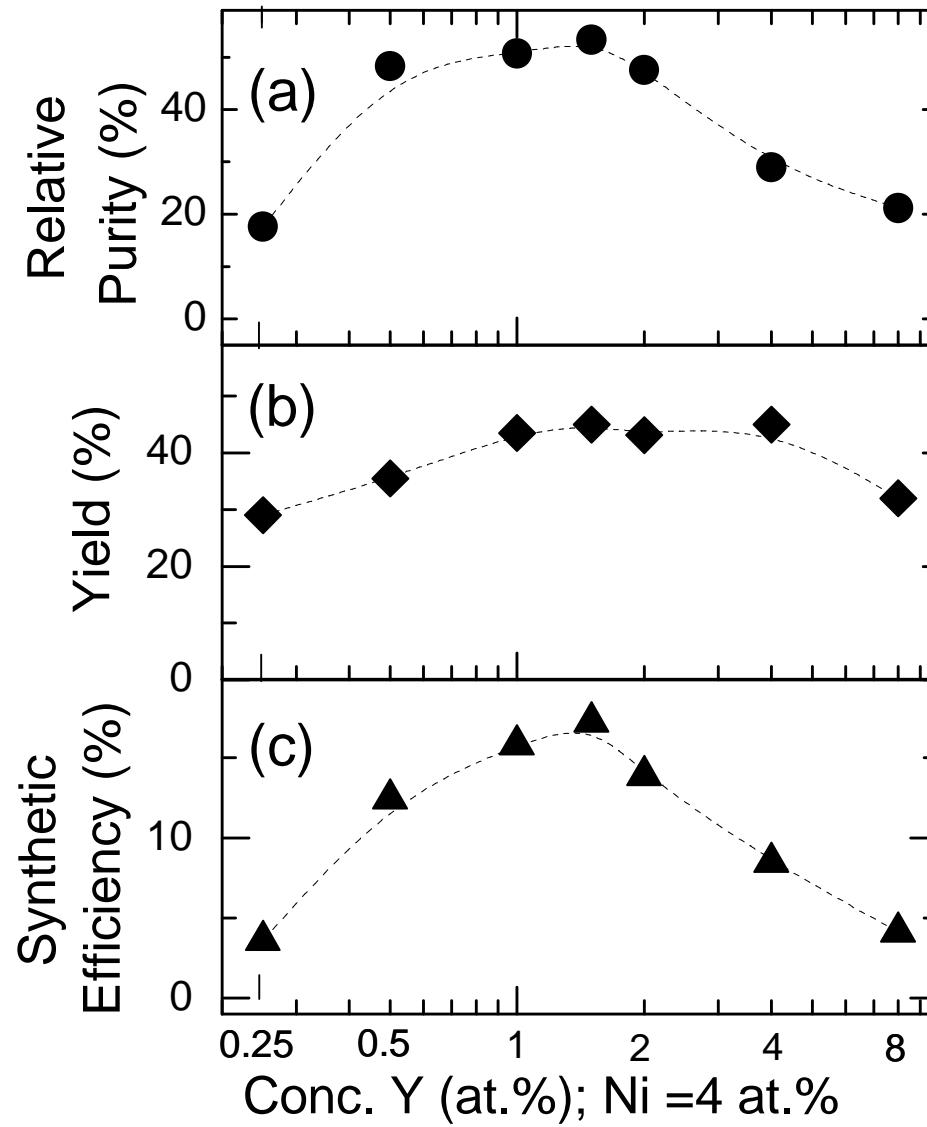


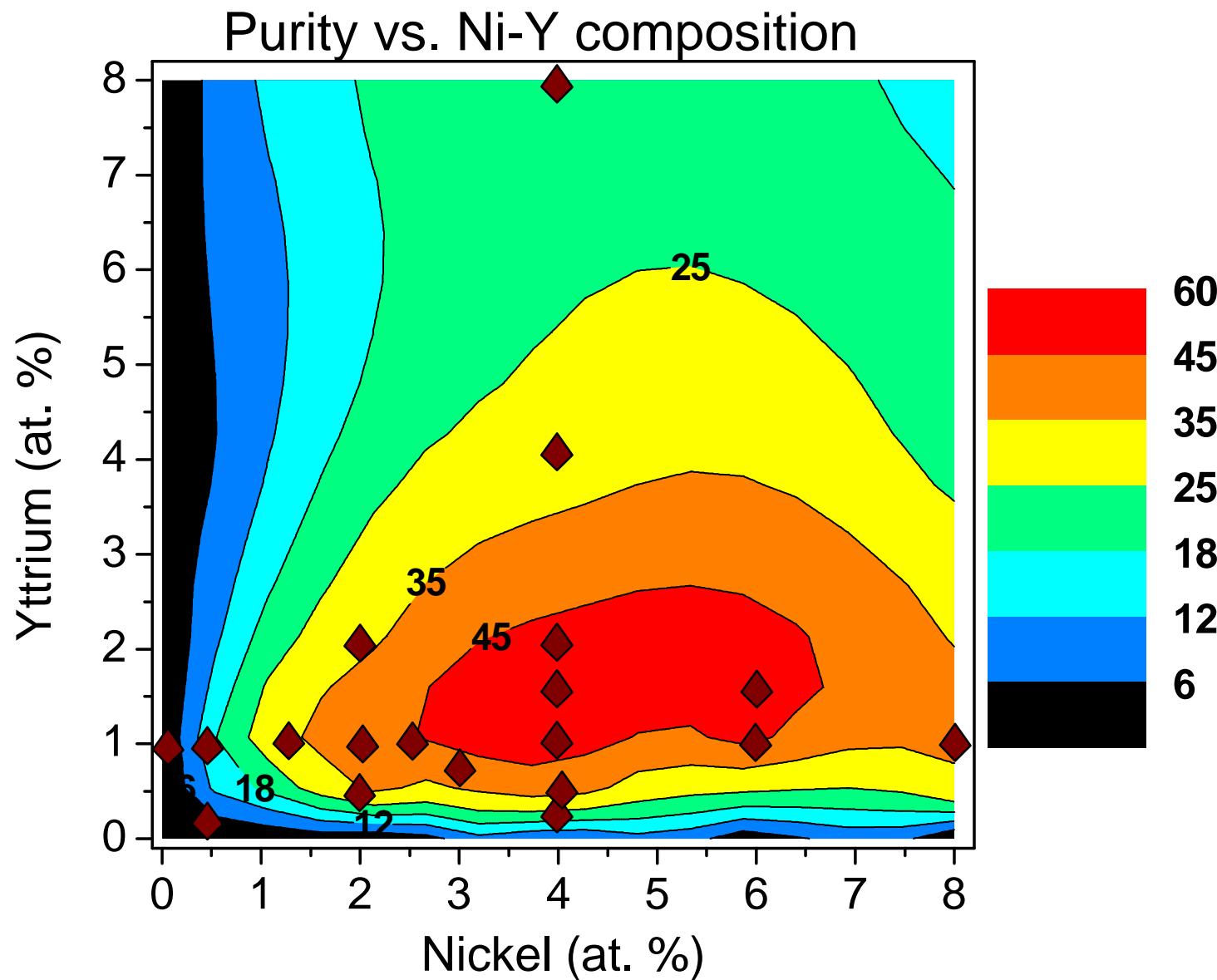
Variation of Ni with Y held constant at 1 at%





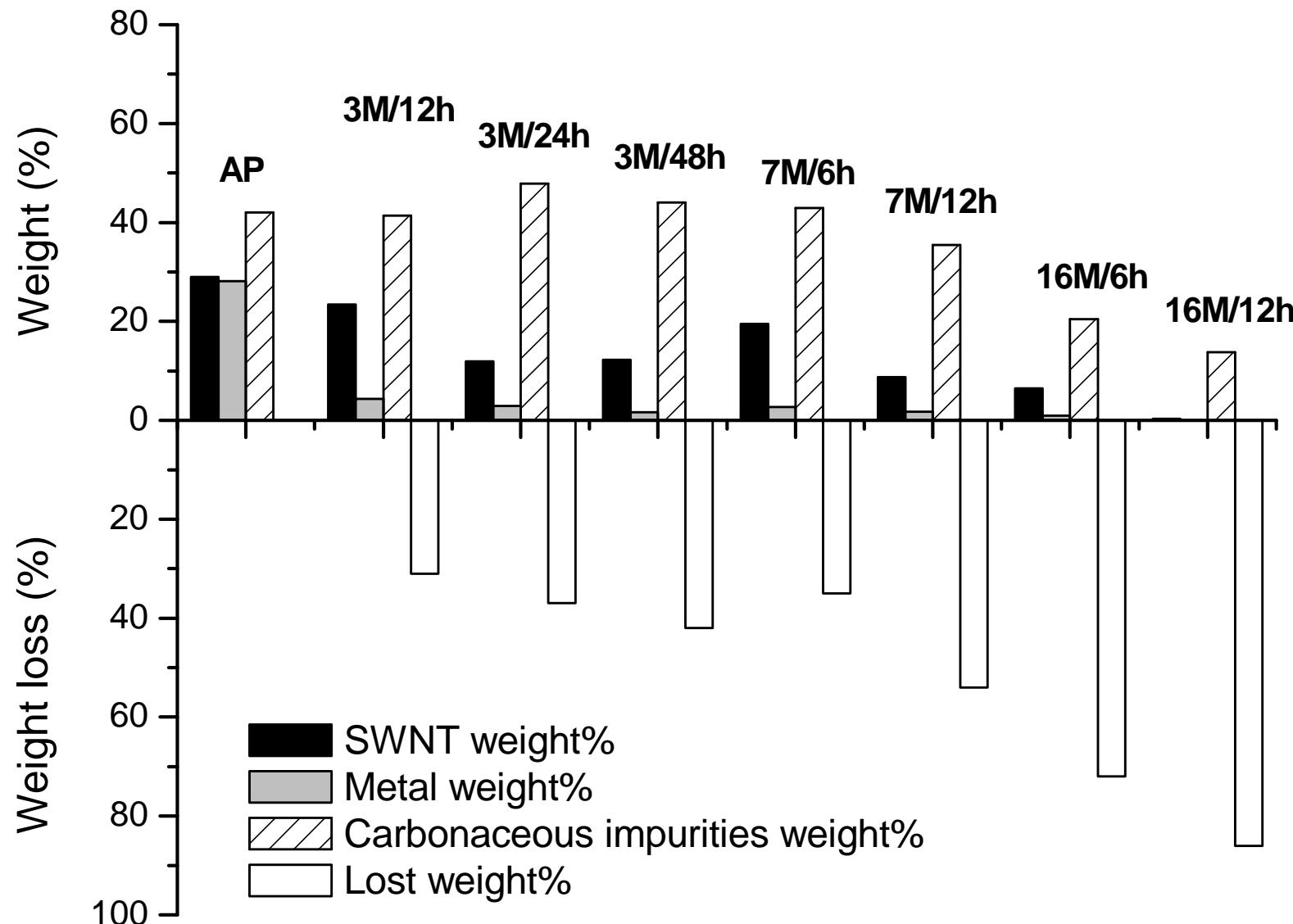
Variation of Y, with Ni held constant at 4 at%





Itkis, M. E.; Perea, D.; Niyogi, S.; Love, J.; Tang, J.; Yu, A.; Kang, C.; Jung, R.; Haddon, R. C., Optimization of the Ni-Y Composition in Bulk Electric Arc Synthesis of Single-Walled Carbon Nanotubes by Using Near-Infrared Spectroscopy. *J. Phys. Chem. B* **2004**, 108, 12770-12775.

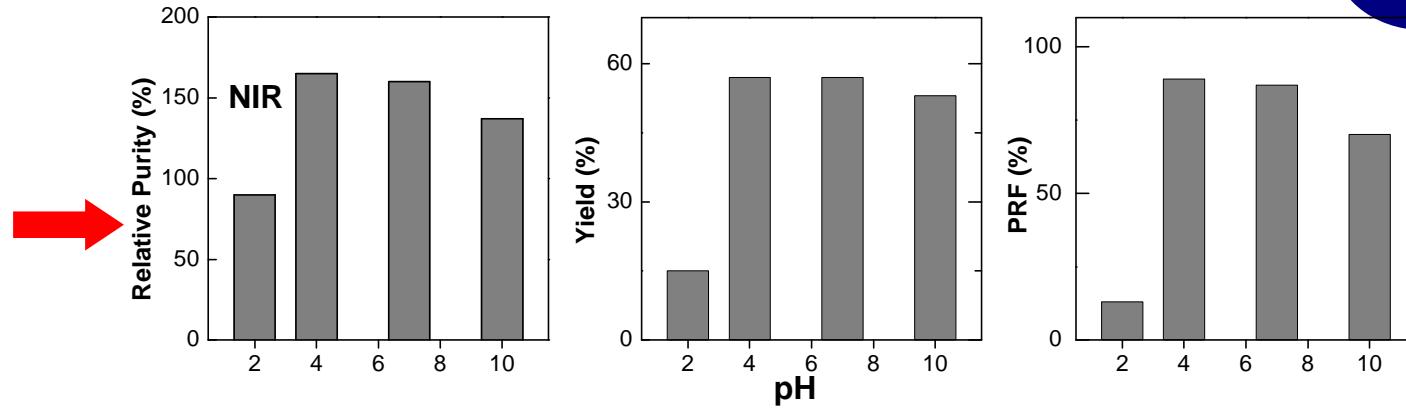
Nitric Acid Purification of Single-Walled Carbon Nanotubes



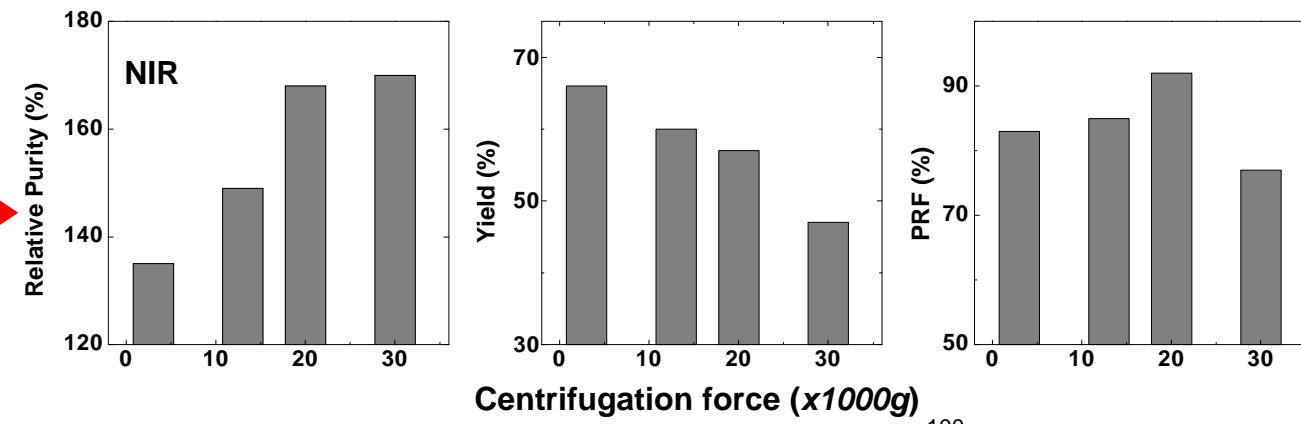
Process Optimization using NIR Spectroscopy



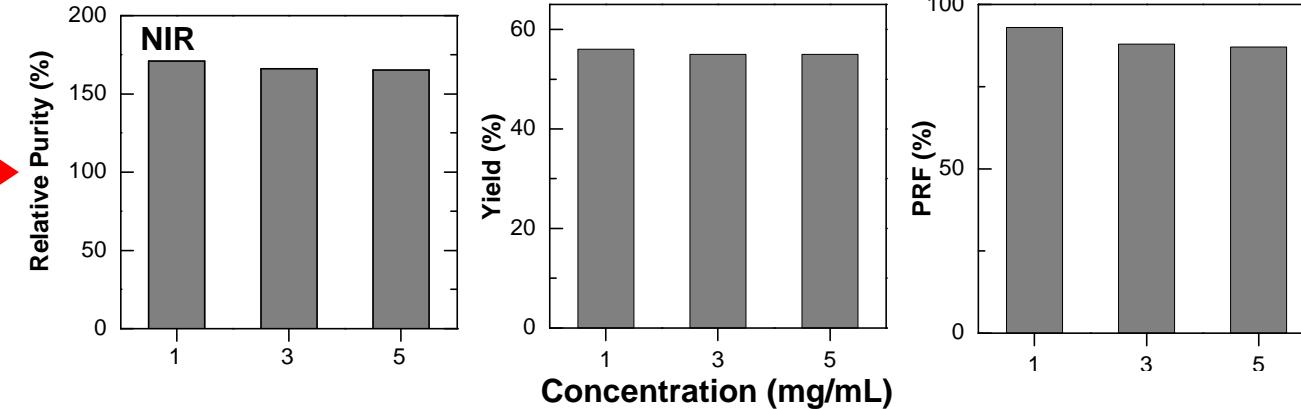
pH



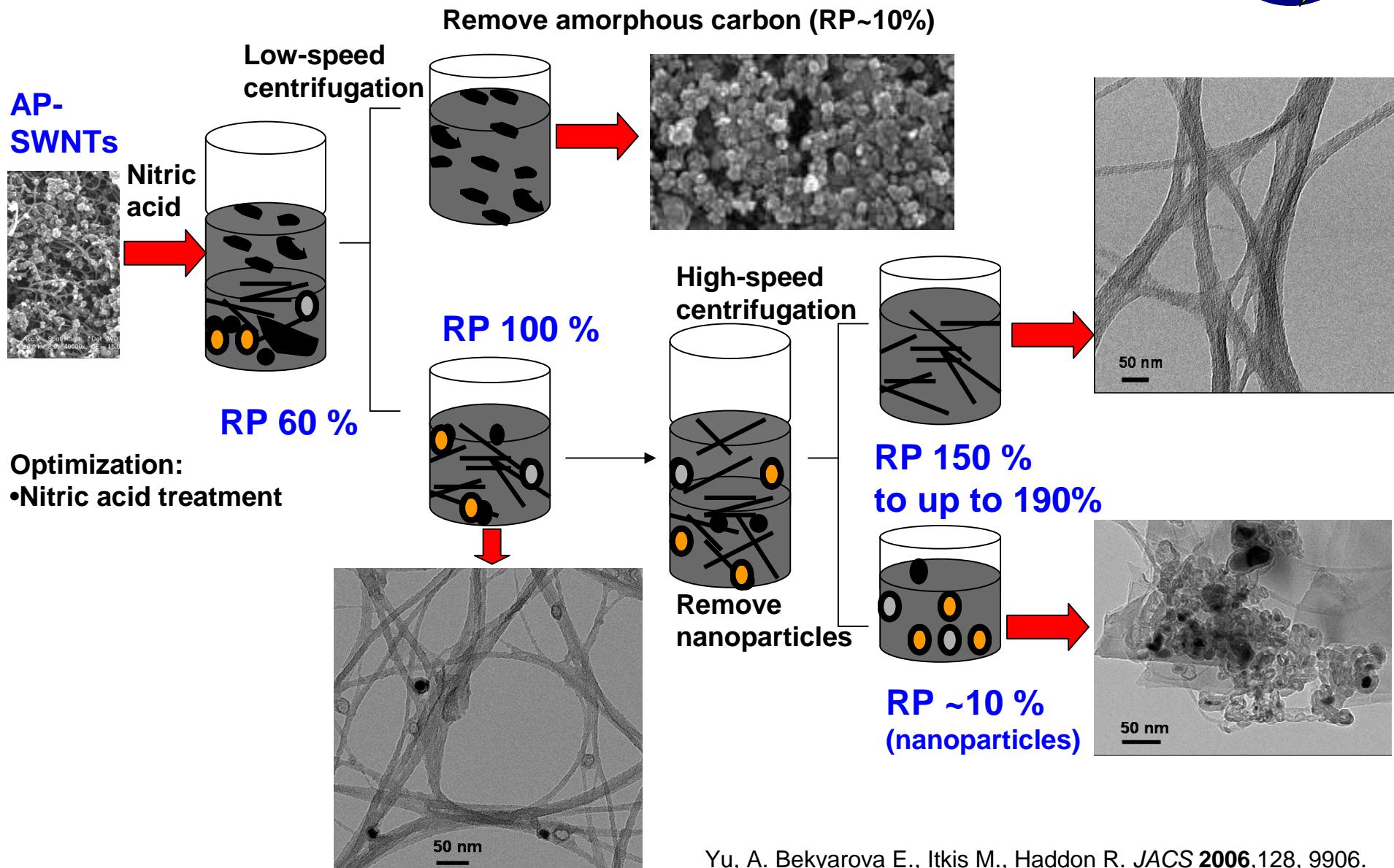
Centrifugation force



Starting concentration



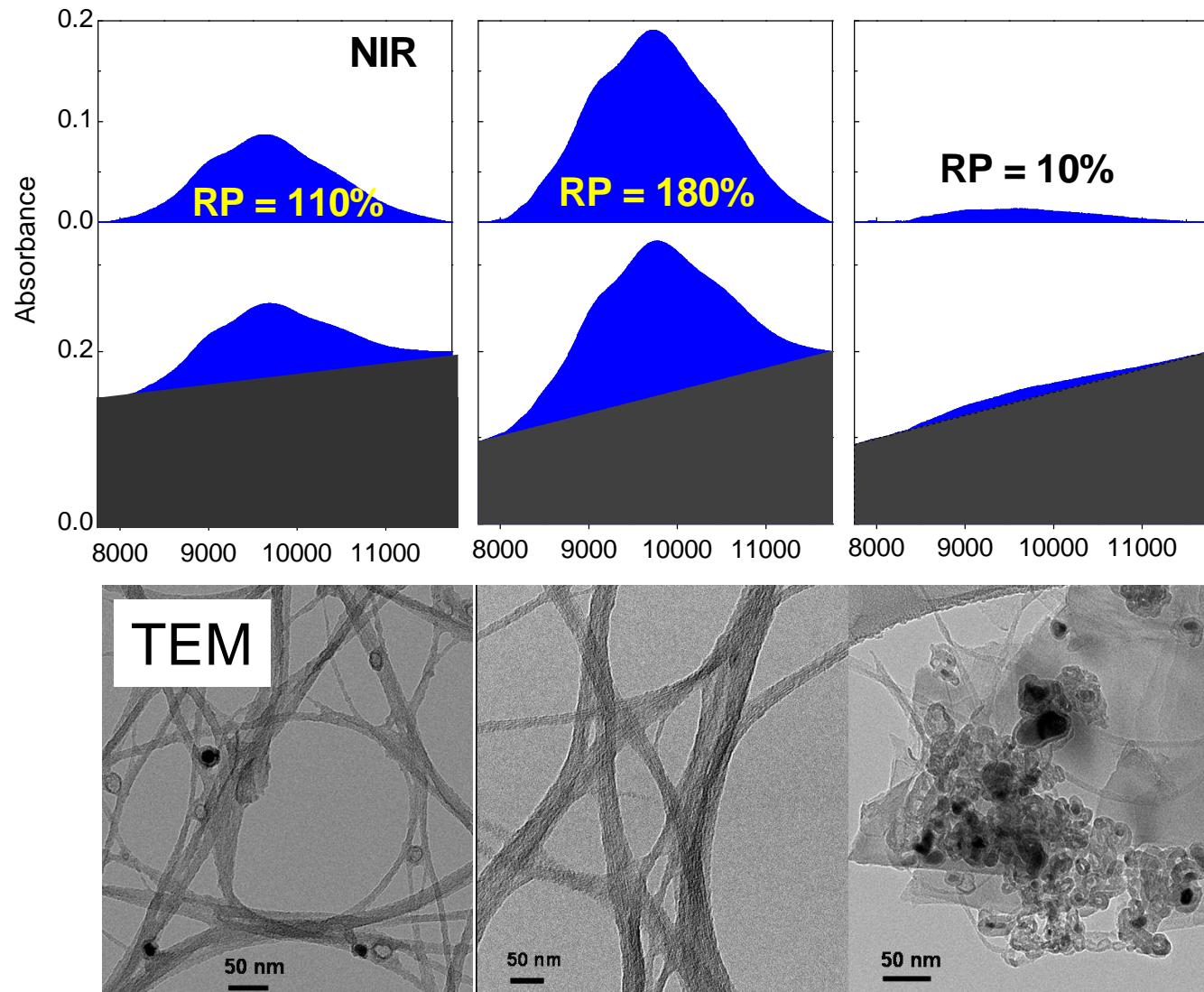
Large scale purification procedure



Yu, A. Bekyarova E., Itkis M., Haddon R. JACS 2006, 128, 9906.



Results of Purification: Removing of Nanoparticles



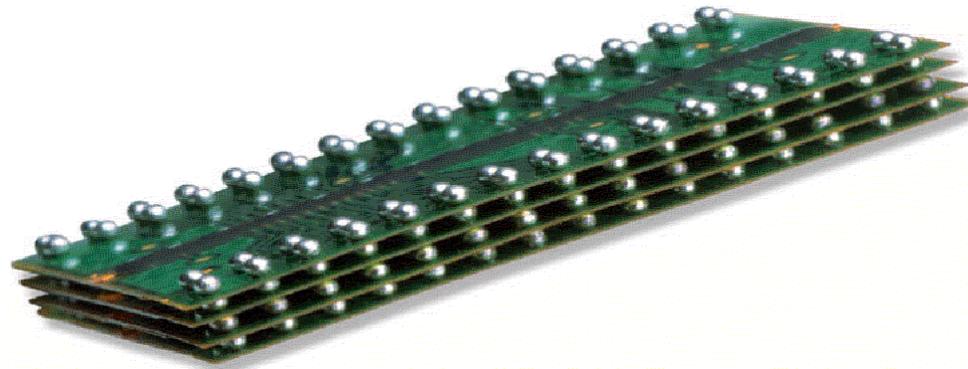
Yu, A. Bekyarova E., Itkis M., Haddon R., *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2006**, 128, 9902-9908.



Effect of Carbon Nanotube Purity on Physical Properties



Thermal management in high density modules: bonding, thermal interfaces



Component	Material	k (W/m.K)
Die	Silicon	f(T)
Tape	Polyimide	0.2
Elastomer	Silicone	0.2
Solder ball	Eutectic	50.1
Board dielectric	FR4	0.3
Traces	copper	390

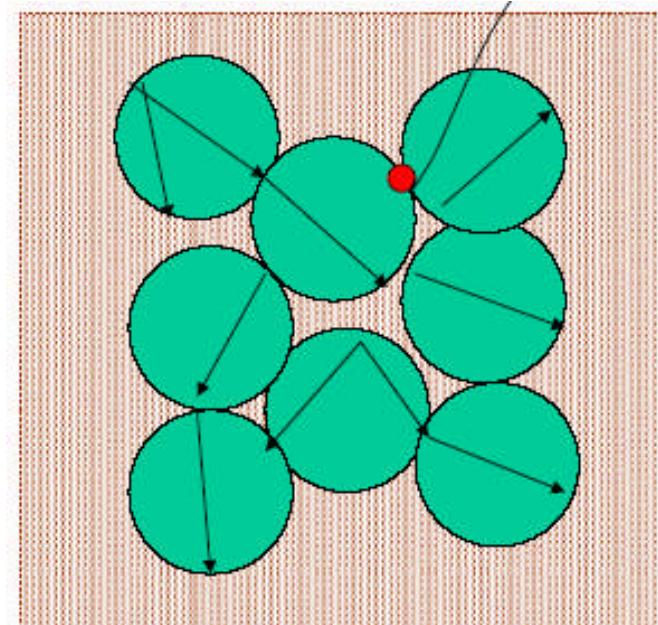
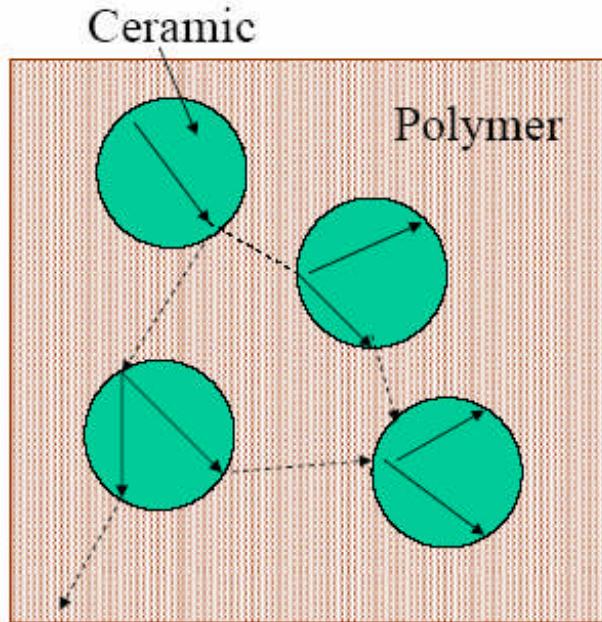
Thermal interface
materials need
improvement

Source: Tessera

Current approaches in thermal management



Addition of Ag, Al₂O₃ or SiC particles to polymer



$$k_{\text{polymer}} \sim O(0.1) \text{ W/m-K}$$

$$k_{\text{filler}} \sim O(1-1000) \text{ W/m-K}$$

$$k_{\text{TIM}} \sim O(1) \text{ W/m-K}$$

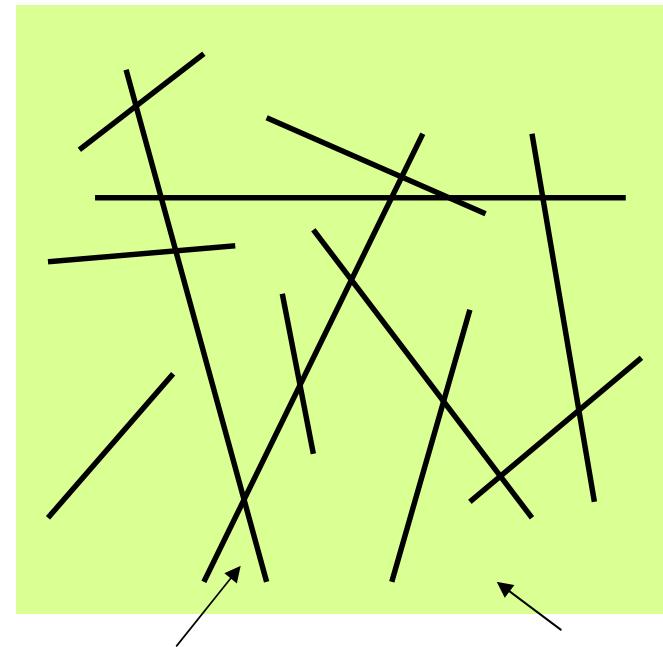
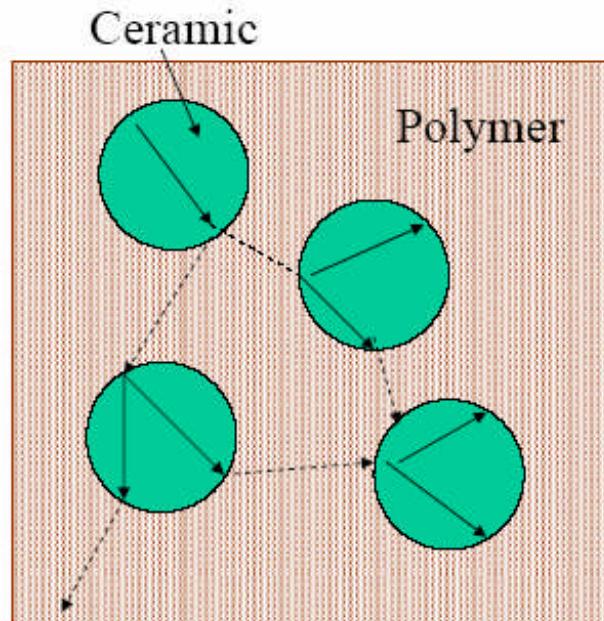
Drawbacks:

Poor particle-particle contact is a severe problem

Problem: Very high filler loading required (60-80wt%) – viscosity increases faster than thermal conductivity

Source: IBM

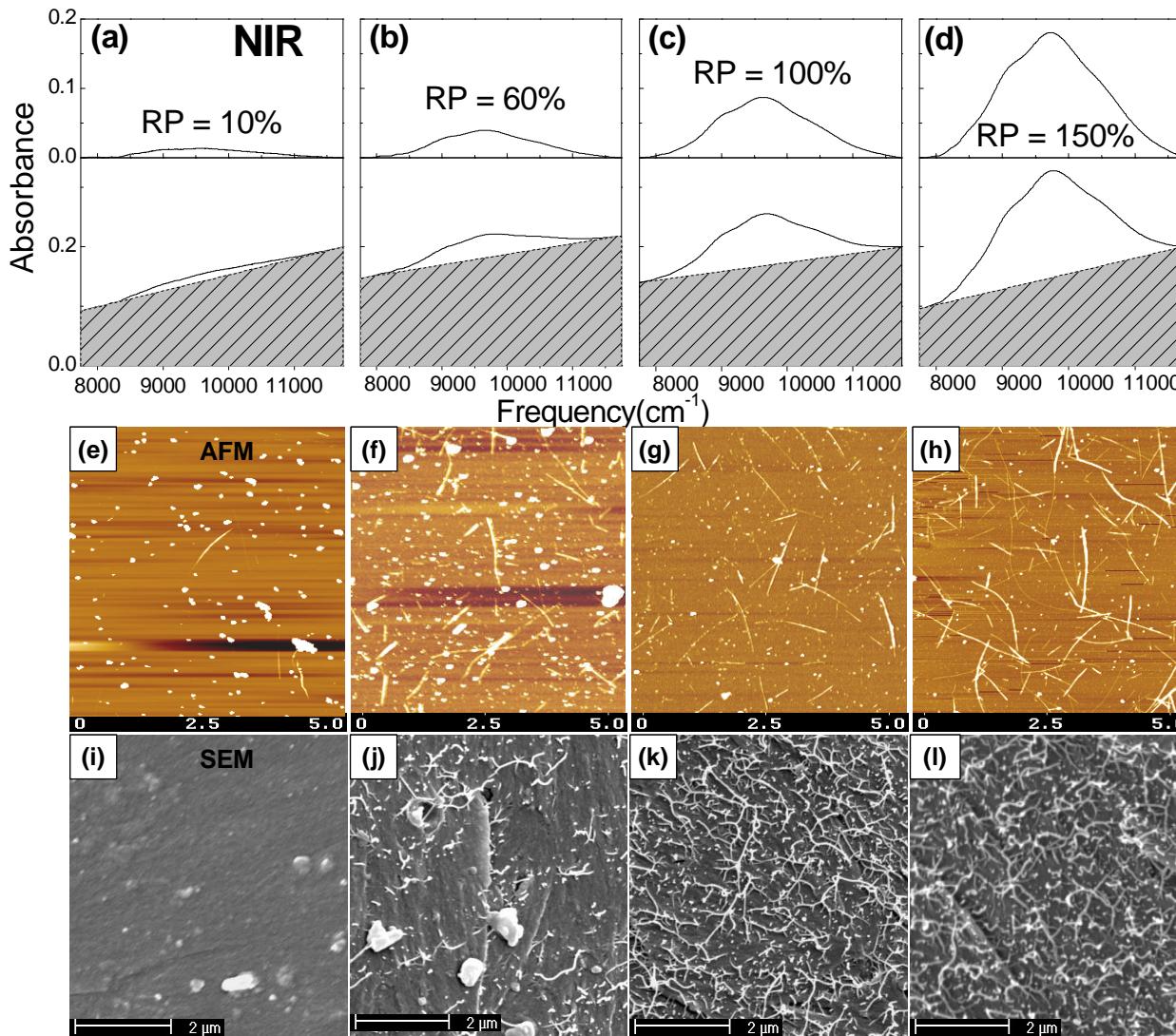
Utilization of carbon nanotubes



Source: IBM

SWNT epoxy

Single-walled carbon nanotube (SWNT) epoxy composite thin films as a function of SWNT purity

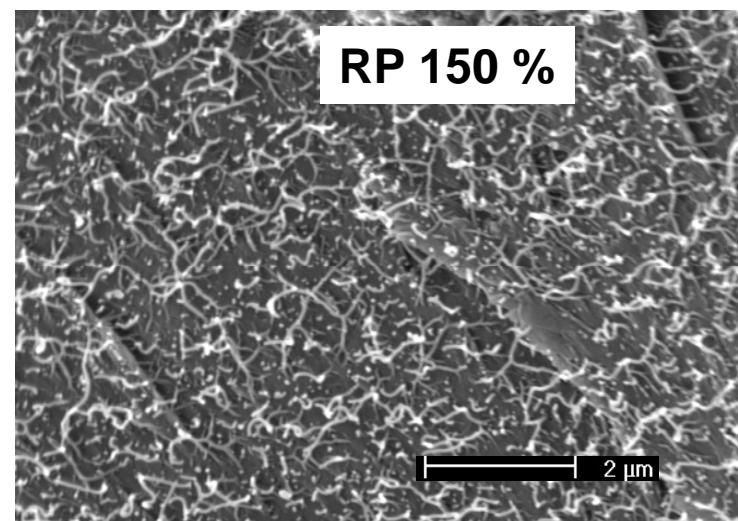
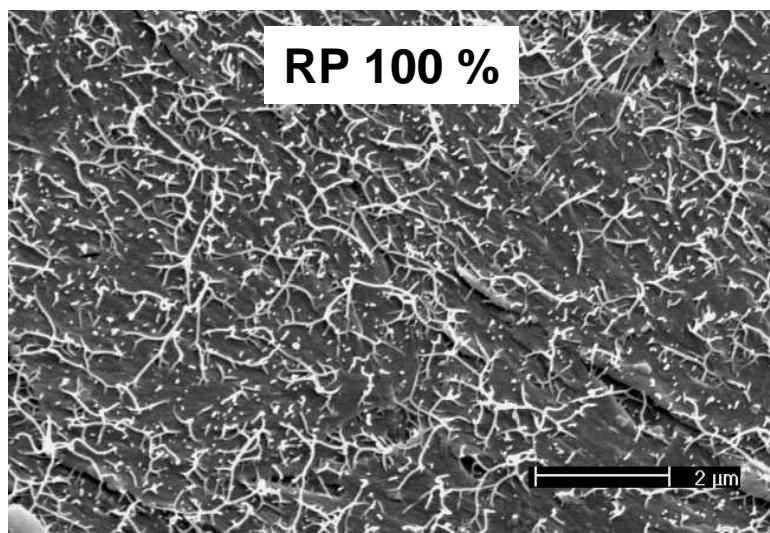
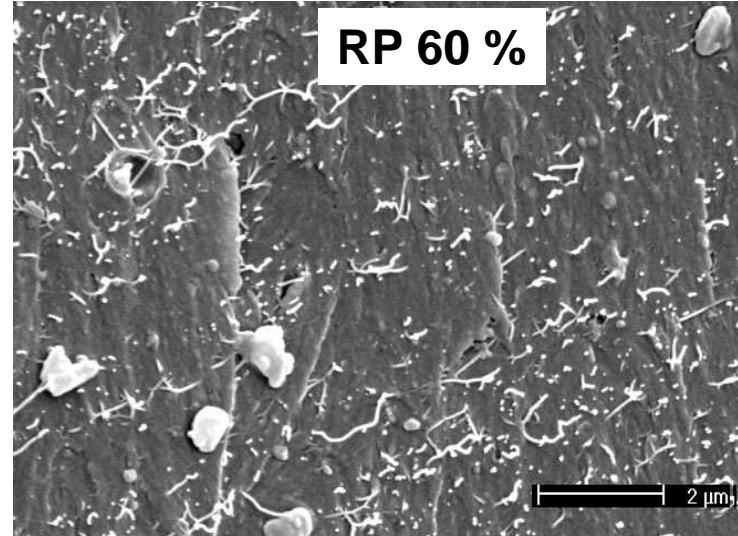
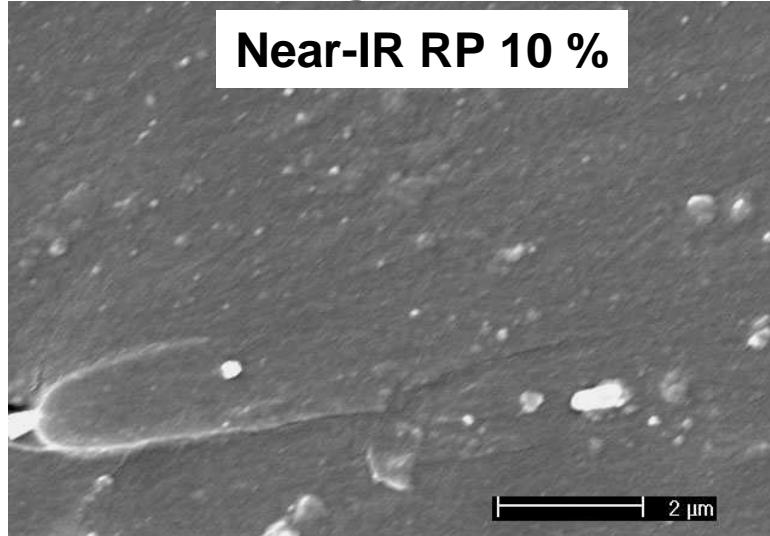


Yu, A.; Bekyarova, E.; Itkis, M. E.; Fakhrutdinov, D.; Webster, R.; Haddon, R. C., Application of Centrifugation to the Large-Scale Purification of Electric Arc Produced Single-Walled Carbon Nanotubes. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2006**, 128, (30), 9902-9908.

SEM of composites from different purity SWNT

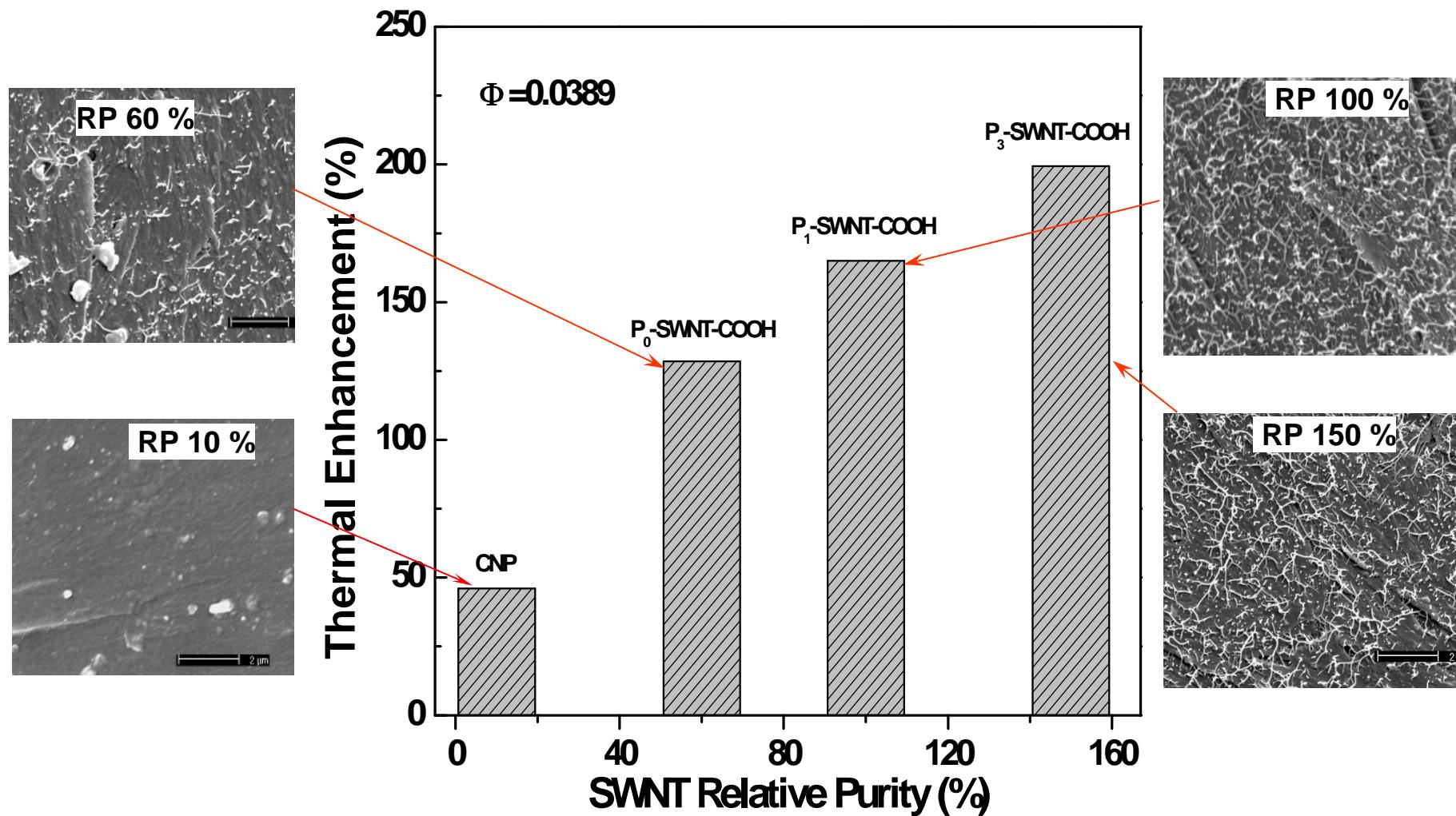


5 wt% loading



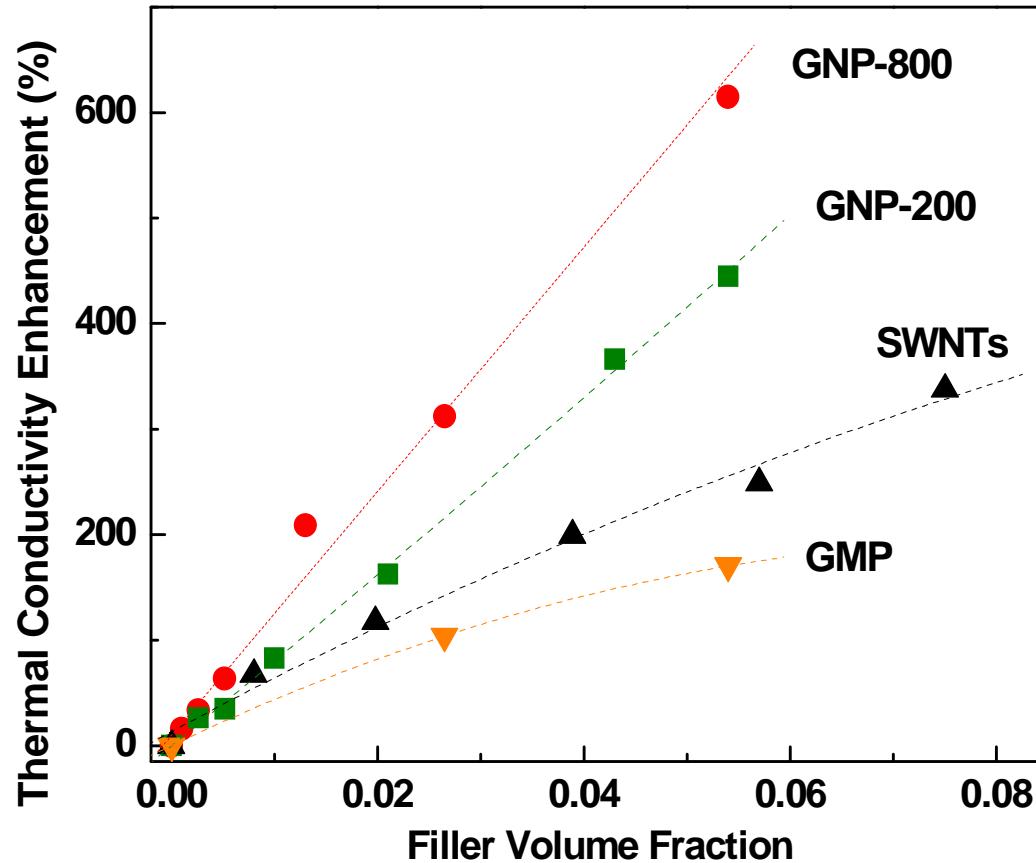
aspect ratio & thermal conductivity

SWNT purity effect on thermal conductivity of composites



Yu, A.; Itkis, M. E.; Bekyarova, E.; Haddon, R. C., Effect of Single-Walled Carbon Nanotube Purity on the Thermal Conductivity of Carbon Nanotube-Based Composites. *Appl. Phys. Lett.* **2006**, 89, (13), 133102.

Graphene Nanoplatelets

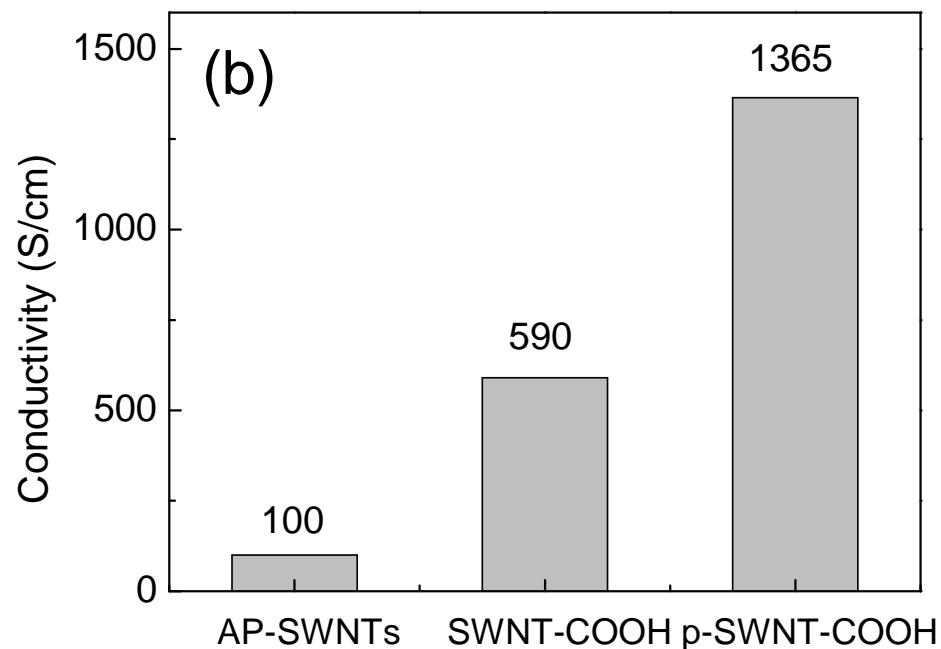
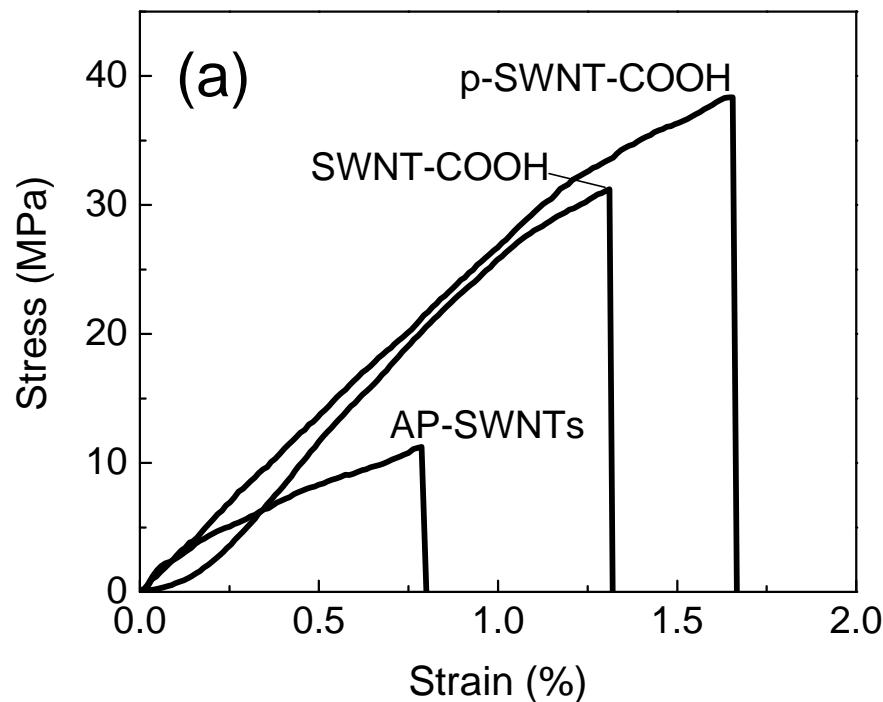


Yu, A.; Ramesh, P.; Itkis, M. E.; Bekyarova, E.; Haddon, R. C., Graphite Nanoplatelet-Epoxy Composite Thermal Interface Materials. *J. Phys. Chem. C* **2007**, 111, 7565-7569.

Properties of SWNT thin films as a function of purity

Free-standing films of thickness 40-70 μm prepared by vacuum filtration for three samples at various stages of purification:

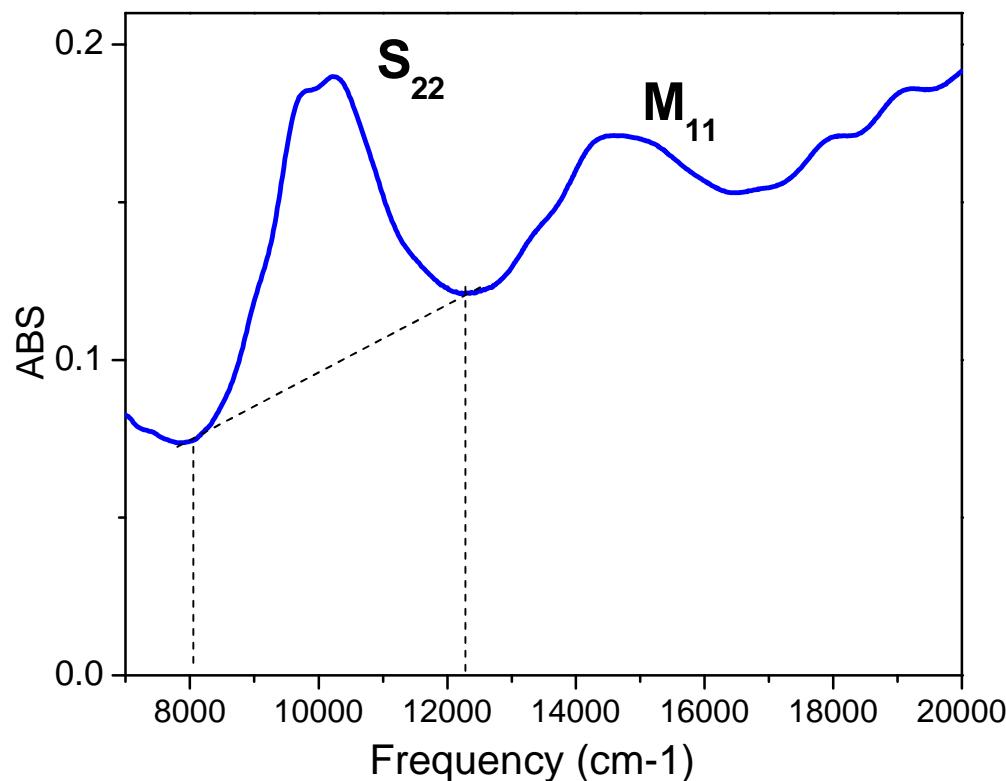
- As-prepared (**AP-SWNTs**, relative purity RP=60%)
- Nitric acid purified AP-SWNTs after removal of amorphous carbon (**SWNT-COOH**, RP=110%)
- SWNT-COOH after removal of carbon nanoparticles (**p-SWNT-COOH**, RP=170%)



Application to laser ablation SWNTs

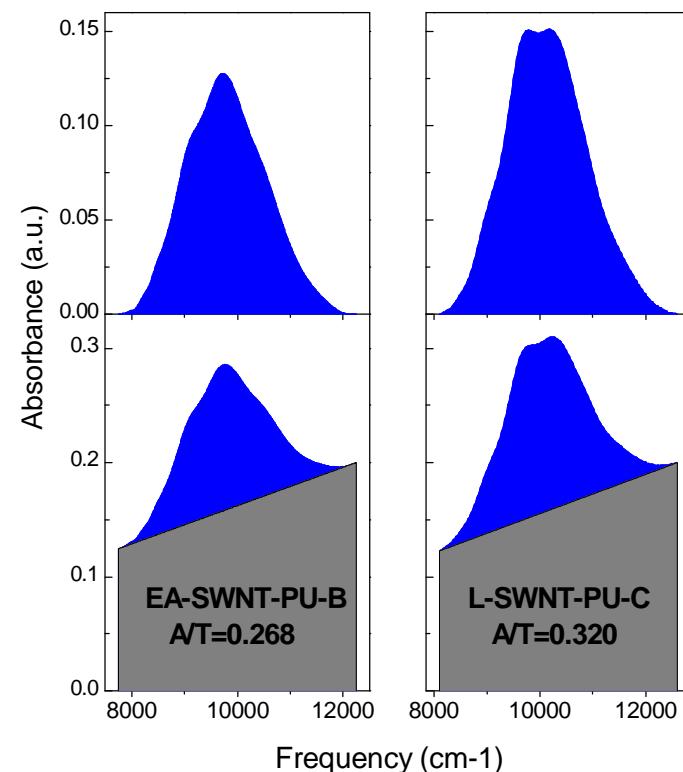


from A.C. Dillon (NREL)



EA-SWNTs
RP=190%

LA-SWNTs
RP=230%



Quest for an absolute purity standard

Conclusions



- Solution phase NIR spectroscopy provides a simple metric for the relative carbonaceous purity of SWNTs
 - Sensitive to nanostructure and SWNT chemistry
 - Efficient tool for optimizing SWNT synthesis, purification and processing
 - Well suited for providing quality control and quality assurance specifications for SWNT applications
 - Absolute purity standards are within reach
 - Wide distribution of SWNT diameters in HiPco and CVD makes the application of the NIR technique more difficult; not applicable to MWNTs
 - Individual and separated SWNTs remain to be addressed
 - Simplest approach - linear baseline subtraction
 - Extinction coefficients of all carbon atoms are assumed to be equal
-