

Growth Modes and Chiral Selectivity of Single Wall Carbon Nanotubes

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What I'm going to talk about ...

A number of very promising and exciting paper have been published concerning SWNT growth, chiral selectivity and possible applications ...

Preferential Growth of Single-Walled Carbon Nanotubes with Metallic Conductivity

week ending
16 MAY 2008

JWth

Science 2009

Avetik R. Harutyunyan,^{1*} Gugang Chen,¹ Tereza M. Paronyan,² Elena M. Pigos,¹
Oleg A. Kuznetsov,¹ Kapila Hewaparakrama,² Seung Min Kim,^{3,4} Dmitri Zakharov,⁴
Eric A. Stach,^{3,4} Gamini U. Sumanasekera²

PHYSICAL

PRL 100, 195502 (2008)

Reduced Carbon Solubility in Fe Nanoclusters of Single-Walled Carbon

Chirality-specific growth of single-walled carbon nanotubes on solid alloy catalysts

Nature 2014

Xiao Wang¹, Daqi Zhang¹, Juan Yang¹, Da Luo¹, Ziwei Xu², Jiake Wei³, Jian-Qiang Wang⁴, Zhi Xu³, Fei Peng¹, Yilun Li¹, Meihui Li¹, Xuedong Bai³, Feng Ding² & Yan Li¹

Arrays of horizontal carbon nanotubes of controlled chirality grown using designed catalysts

Nature 2017

Shuchen Zhang^{1*}, Lixing Kang^{1,2*}, Xiao Wang^{3,4}, Lianming Tong¹, Liangwei Yang¹, Zequn Wang¹, Kuo Qi⁵, Shibin Deng¹, Qingwen Li², Xuedong Bai⁵, Feng Ding^{3,4,6} & Jin Zhang¹

What I'm **NOT** going to talk about ...

A number of very promising and exciting paper have been published concerning SWNT growth, chiral selectivity and possible applications ...

Too difficult for the moment ...

Focus on simpler, easier to reproduce results

Close interaction between experiments

and theory / computer simulations

Arrays of horizontal carbon nanotubes of controlled chirality grown using designed catalysts *Nature* 2017

Shuchen Zhang^{1*}, Lixing Kang^{1,2*}, Xiao Wang^{3,4}, Lianming Tong¹, Liangwei Yang¹, Zequn Wang¹, Kuo Qi⁵, Shibin Deng¹, Qingwen Li², Xuedong Bai⁵, Feng Ding^{3,4,6} & Jin Zhang¹

Understanding CVD synthesis of SWNT

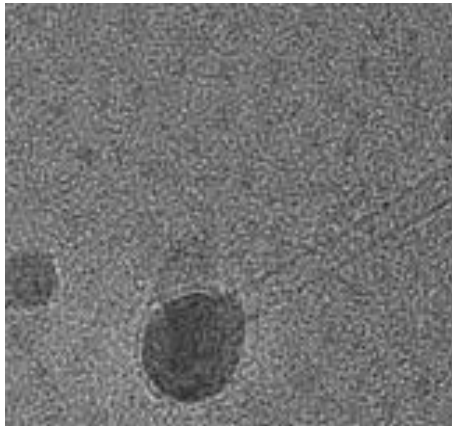
... using « simple » catalysts (Ni, Co, Fe)

State of catalyst nanoparticle under CVD conditions

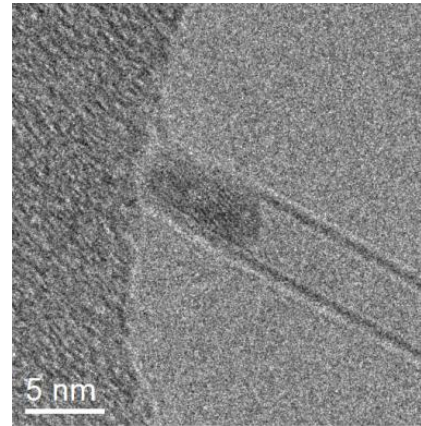
- Thermodynamics of isolated NPs + C / Phase diagrams / Nucleation

Tangential and perpendicular growth modes

- Understand why ? Can we control them ?
- Selectivity In perpendicular mode
- Role of tube/NP lateral interaction in tangential mode



Perpendicular mode : $R_d = \frac{D_{Tube}}{D_{NP}} < 1$

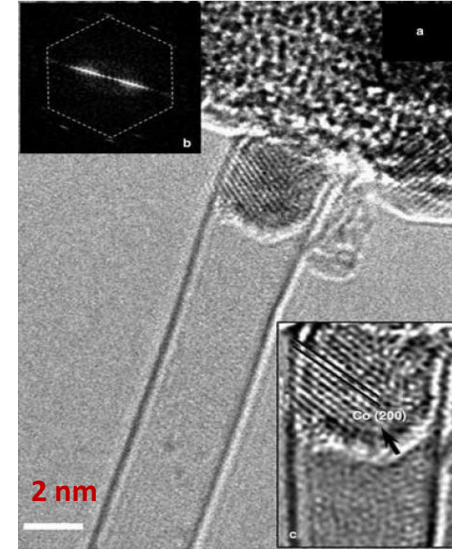
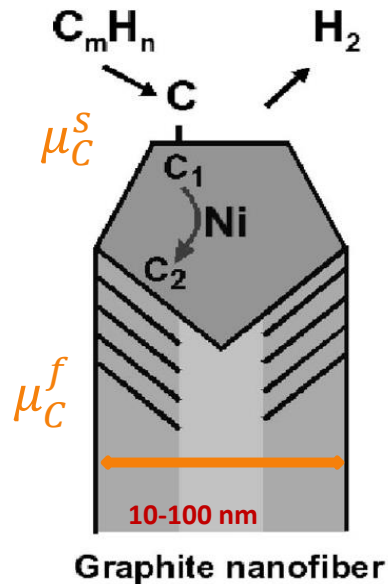


Tangential mode : $R_d = \frac{D_{Tube}}{D_{NP}} \sim 1$

Carbon fiber versus SWNT growth : nanoscale matters !

Growth results from gradient of μ_C

- μ_C^s is imposed on NP surface by thermochemistry of feedstock decomposition
- Once a tube is formed, it acts as a carbon sink, hence μ_C^f is fixed and lower than μ_C^s



Zhu et al., Small 2005

- Smaller NPs and tubes (1-4 nm)
- Experimental investigation are difficult
- **Surface and interface become important**
- **Computer simulations are essential to understand mechanisms**

Snoeck et al. *J. Catal.* 1997, 169, 240–249.

Abild-Pedersen et al. *Phys. A. B* 2006, 73, 1–13.

Computer simulation tools

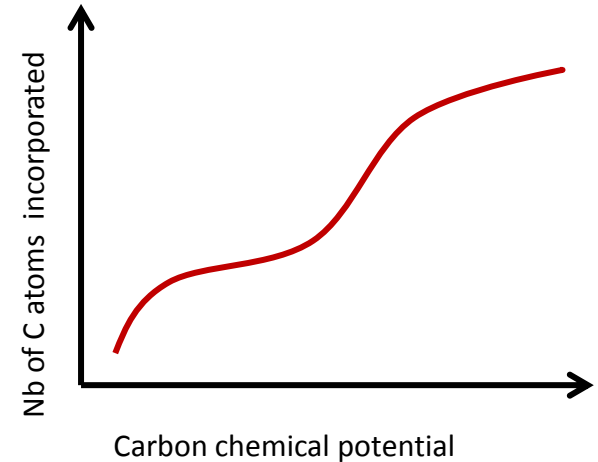
Parameterized **tight binding model** 4th moment approximation
for **Nickel + Carbon**, now also for Platinum + Carbon

Amara *et al.* Phys. Rev. B 73, 113404 (2006)

Phys. Rev. B 79, 014109 (2009)

J. H. Los *et al.* Phys. Rev. B 84, 085455 (2011)

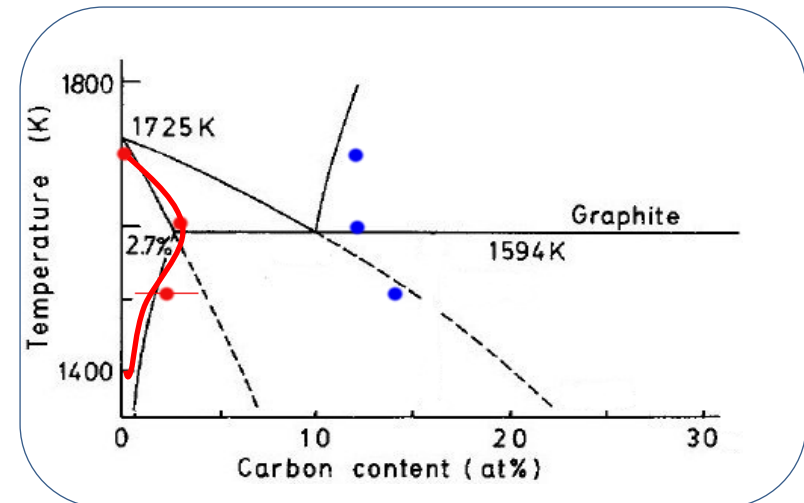
Grand Canonical Monte Carlo simulations
to focus on thermodynamics



Surface energy Ni (111) : 1.35 J/m²
Ni (100) : 1.64 J/m²

Ni clusters FCC 201 atoms : 2.10 J/m²
FCC 405 atoms : 2.05 J/m²
Liquid 405 atoms : 2.0 – 1.0 J/m²
(depending on C fraction)

Bulk solubility in agreement with experiments

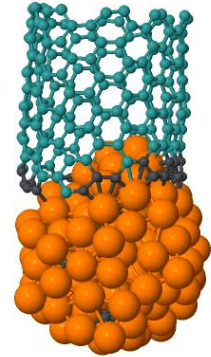


Computer simulation tools

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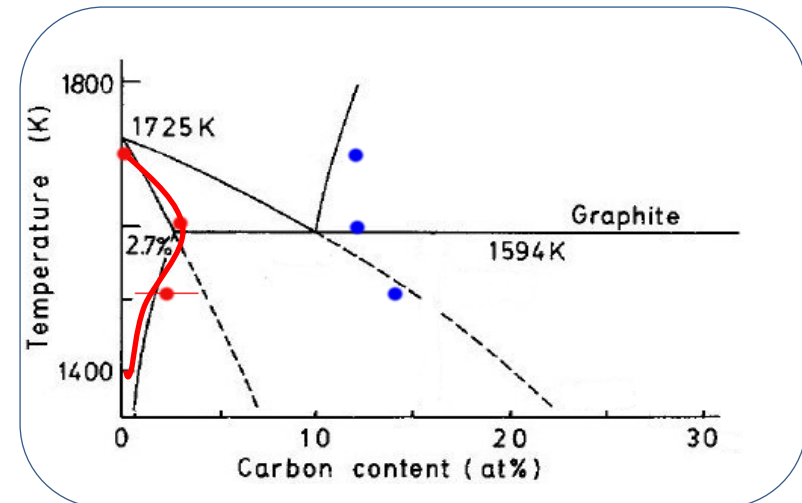
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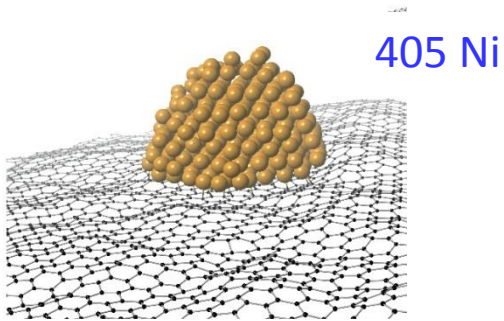
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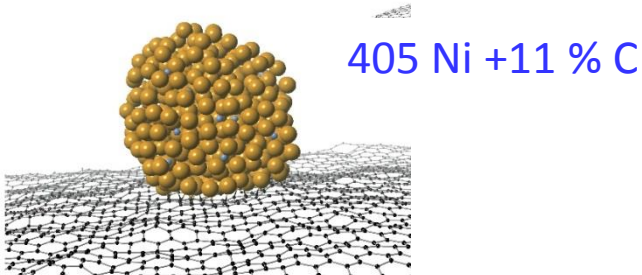


Wetting of Ni+C nanoparticles on graphene

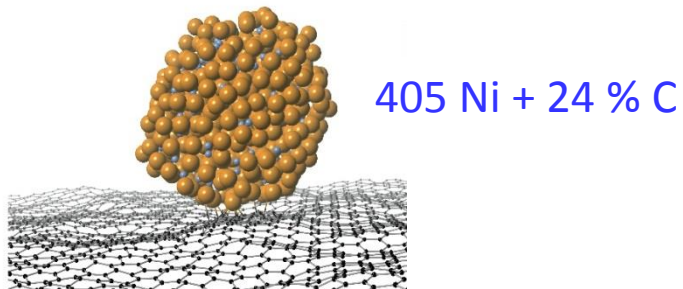
(a)



(b)

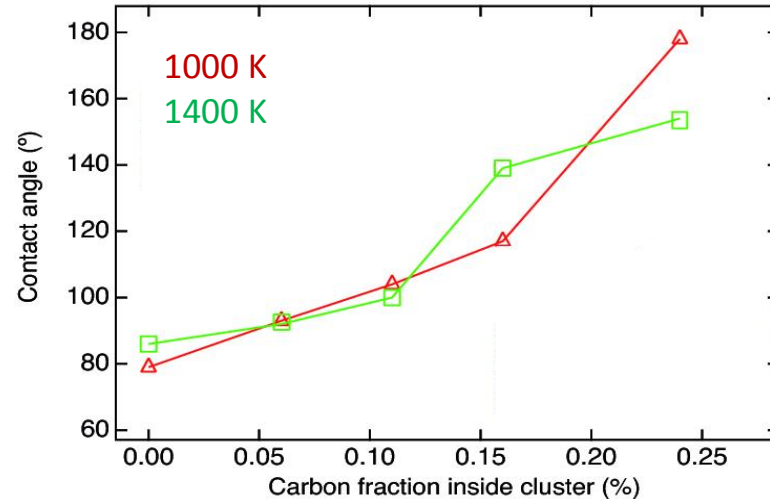
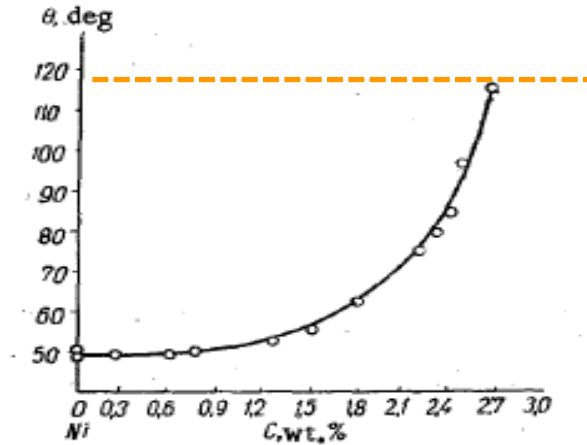


(c)



1400 K

Bulk Ni, Fe, Co : Naidich et al. 1971

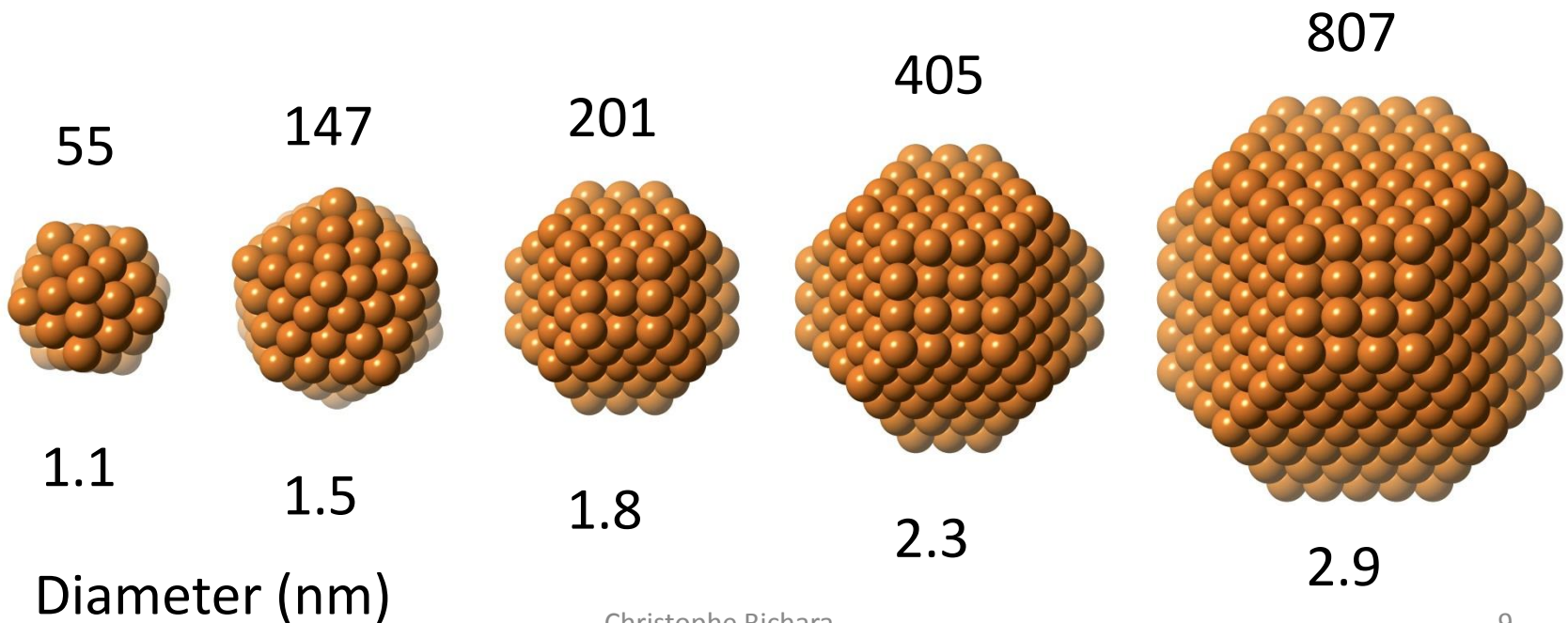


Contact angle increases (tendency to dewet graphene layer) for carbon rich Ni nanoparticles

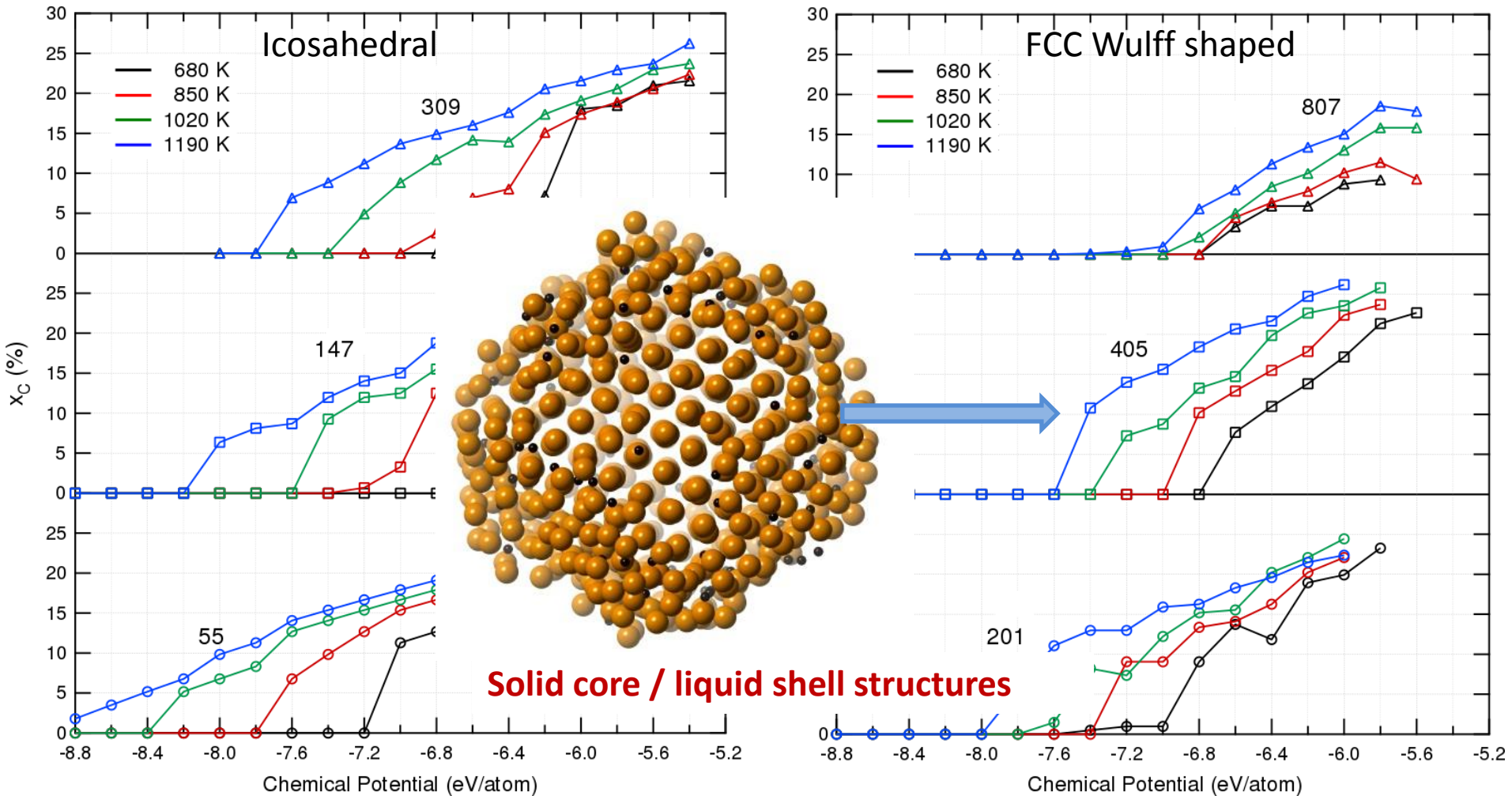
Interaction of C with Nickel nanoparticles

Calculate « sorption » isotherms:

- Mole fraction of carbon inside Ni NP, as a function of C chemical pot.
- At different temperatures
- For different nanoparticle sizes



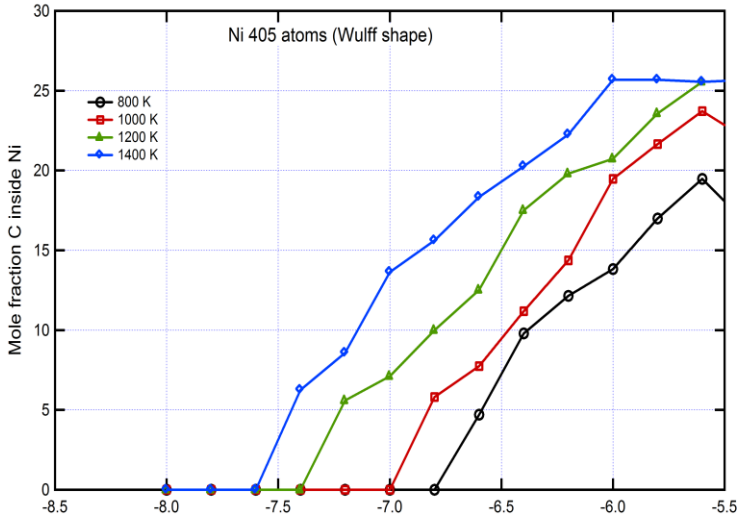
Carbon solubility in Nickel Nanoparticles



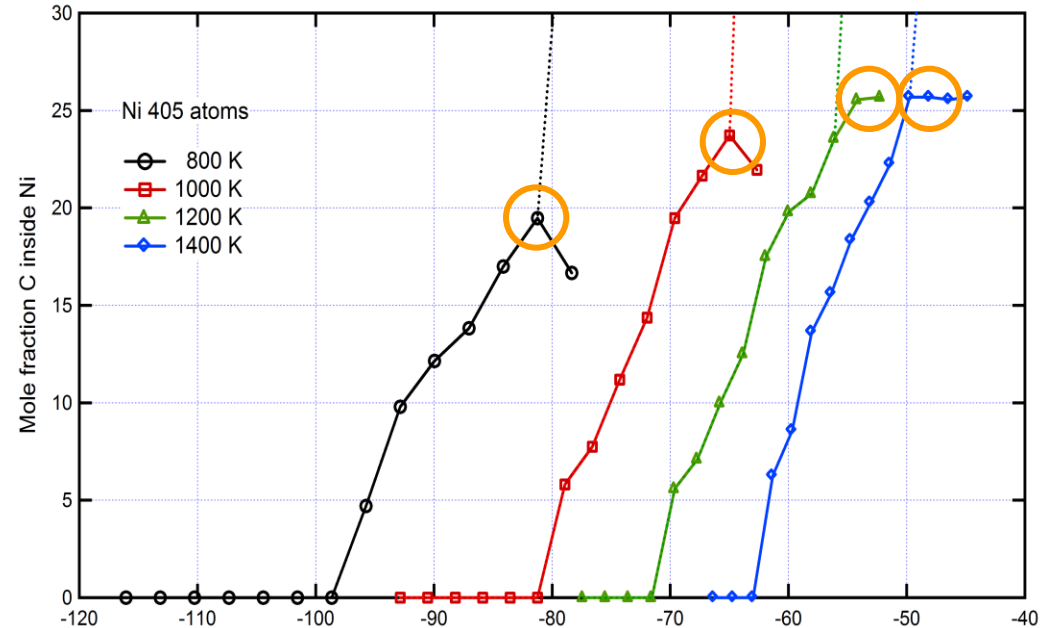
Grand Canonical Monte Carlo calculations

Carbon solubility in nanoparticles: effect of temperature

Same data, plotted as function of :



... Carbon chemical potential μ_C



$\mu_C / kT \sim \ln(\text{Pressure})$, if ideal gas

Solubility limits  increase with T

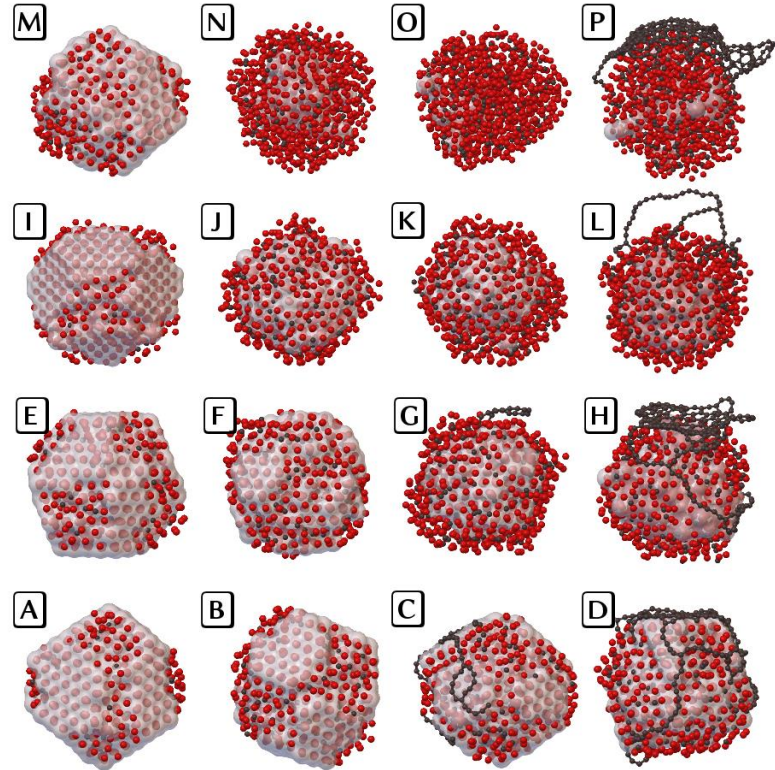
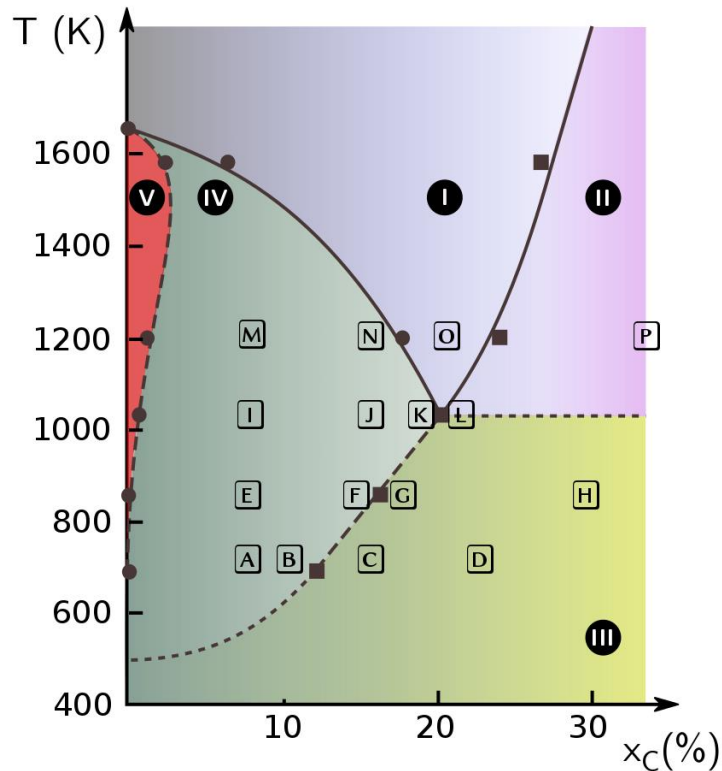
Pressure to reach this solubility limit also increases with T

Explains **pressure threshold** for nucleation of SWNT

- Cf : in situ Raman during SWNT growth

M. Picher *et al.* Nano Letters (2009), 9 (2), 542–547

Phase diagram for Ni₈₀₇ + C nanoparticle



I : homogenous liquid

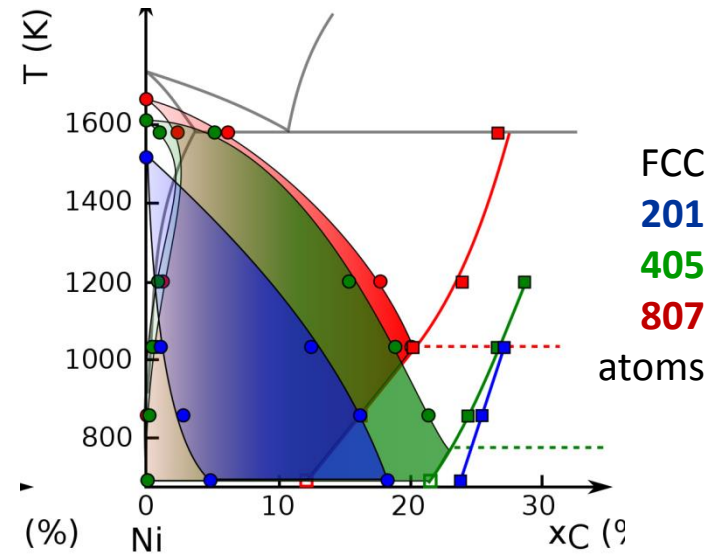
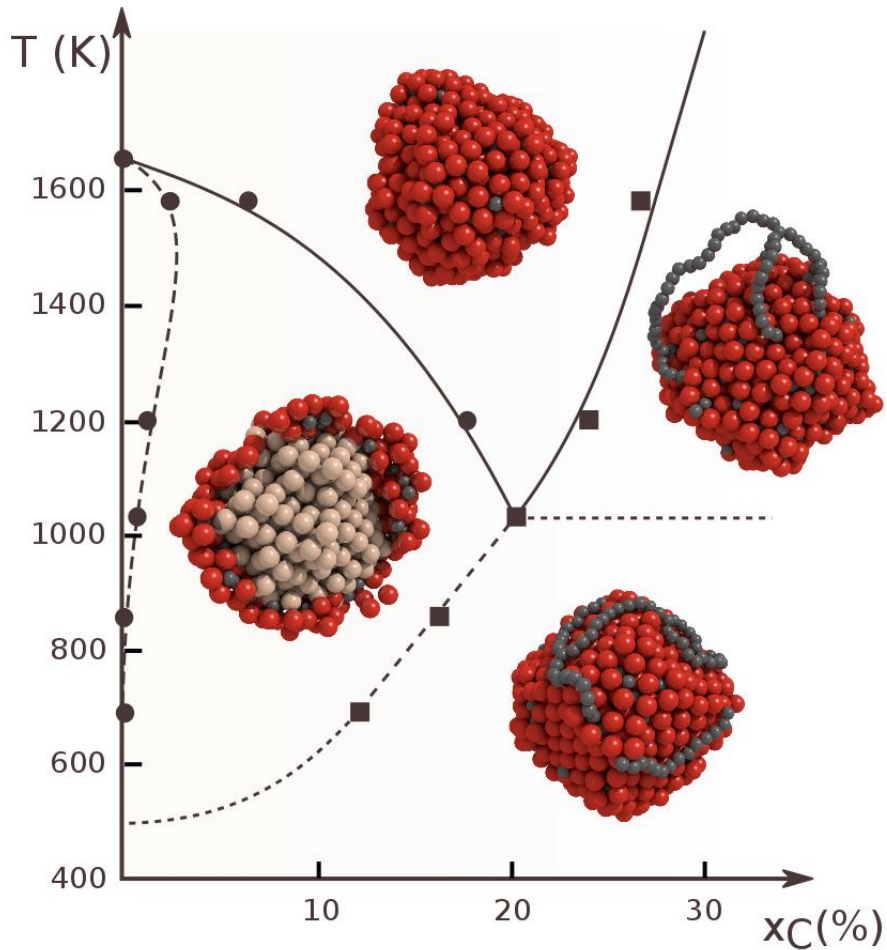
II : carbon segregation from homogenous liquid

III : carbon segregation from core / shell NP

IV : solid core / liquid shell ... different from bulk !

V : solid solution

Phase diagram for Ni₈₀₇ + C nanoparticle

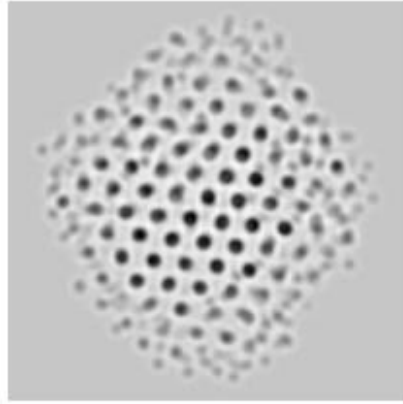


- Core / shell structure instead of liquid-solid coexistence
- Much deeper eutectic point
- (1000 K ~ 60% T_m of pure Ni)
- Carbon segregation from crystalline NPs only at very low T (850 K ~ 50% T_m of pure Ni)

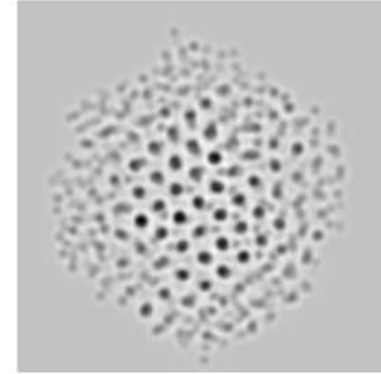
How would these NPs look like in a TEM ?



Config F: ~ 1 disordered layer



Config K: ~ 2/3 disordered layers

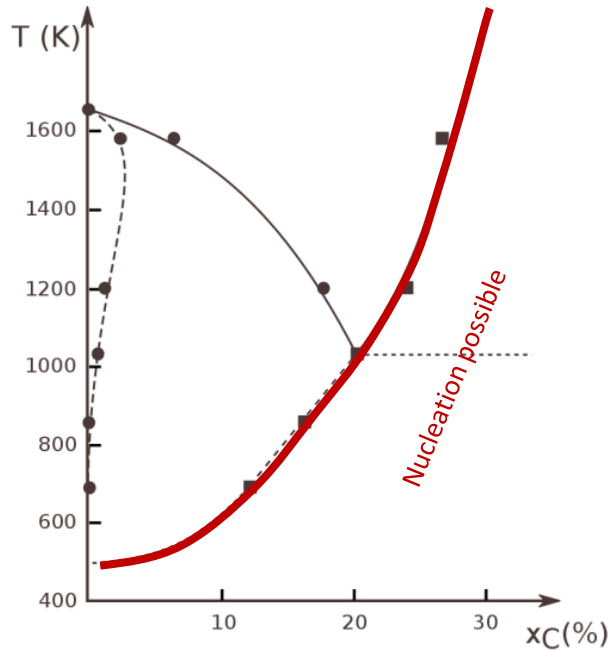


Images calculated on one single configuration, with parameters for a state of art TEM.

In solid core / disordered shell structures, the outer shell is hardly seen,

NPs appear smaller and crystalline

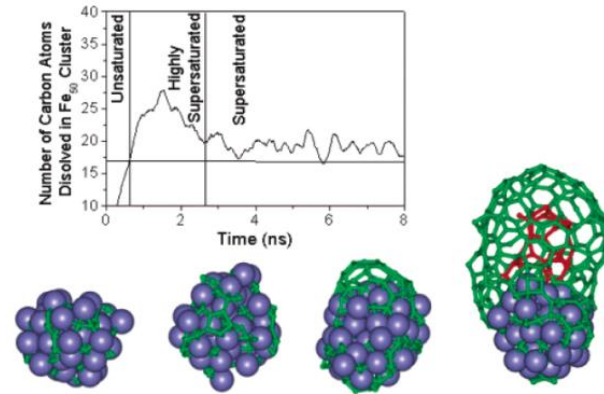
Relevance to SWNT synthesis ... nucleation



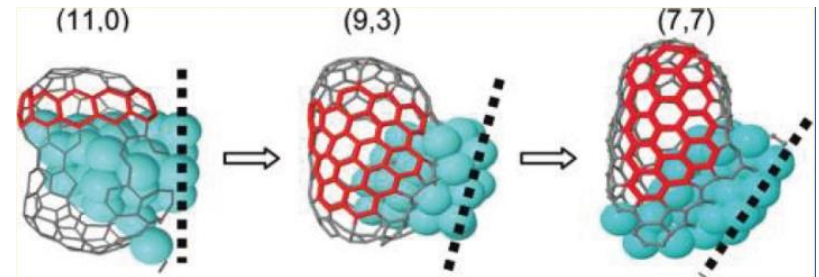
Nucleation possible beyond **saturation line**

Either on a liquid NP, saturated with C, or on essentially solid NP, with a disordered surface

Nucleation has been studied by other groups:



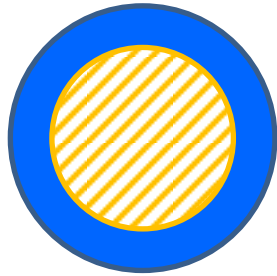
Feng Ding J. Phys. Chem B 2004



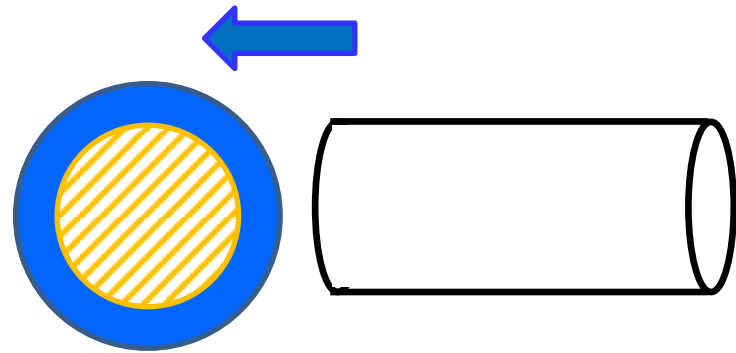
Neyts JACS 2011

**Chirality control at nucleation step ?
Highly debated ...**

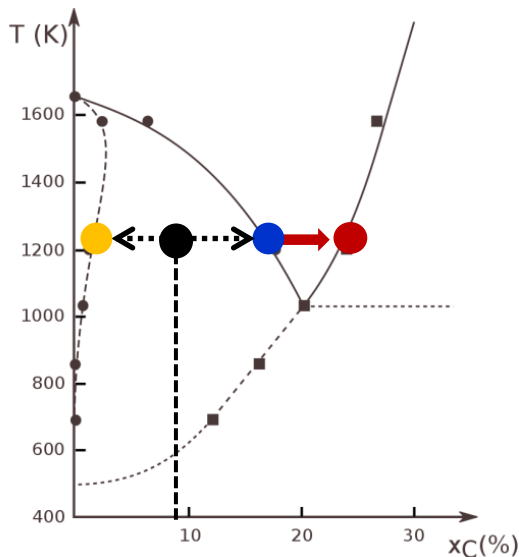
During **growth** Nanoparticle is in contact with SWNT



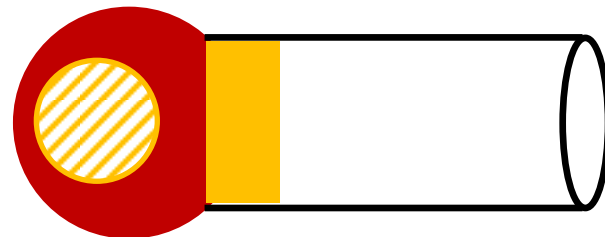
Isolated NP is **Core / Shell**



Contact of Nanoparticle with Nanotube



% C in nanoparticle should shift to **saturation line**
If possible (size, state of NP) Ni wets inner Nanotube



Complex thermodynamic system
requires computer simulation ...

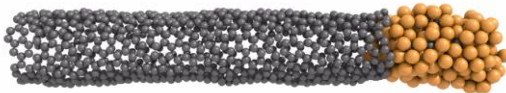
Catalyst / tube Interfacial properties

Wetting of **Nickel** on C sp² wall strongly depends on %C dissolved

0 % C : Nickel wets the tube



10 % C : partial wetting

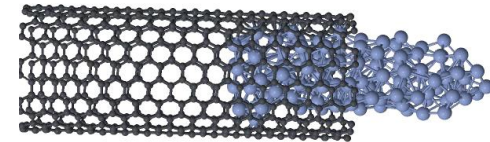


23 % C : complete dewetting



Different behavior for **Platinum**

0 % C : Pt does not wet the tube



Different wetting properties will lead to different **growth**

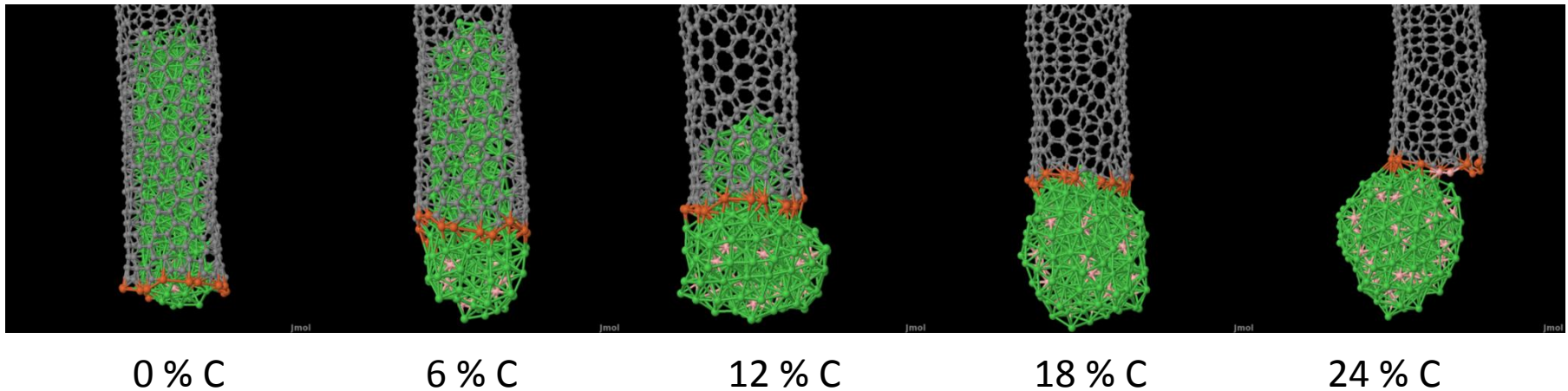
modes $R_d = D_{Tube} / D_{NP}$

that depend on

- Nature of **catalyst** : Ni, Fe, Co ... Pt, CoW, Mo₂C, WC ?
- Nature of C **precursor** (CO vs CH₄)

Fixed chirality, different carbon fractions

Tube chirality (10, 7)

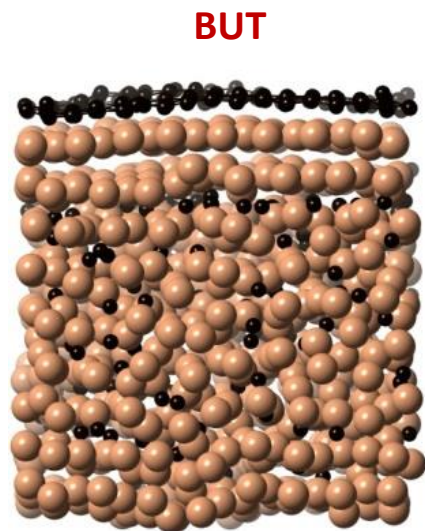


Tendency for dissolved C atoms (pink) to avoid tube lip and inner space

Similar to what we saw for graphene on Ni : *Depletion of C in Ni subsurface, once graphene layer is formed*

Unexpected behavior of carbon metal interfaces with Ni (Co, Fe)

Subsurface interstitials most favorable to incorporate individual Carbon atoms on free Ni surface

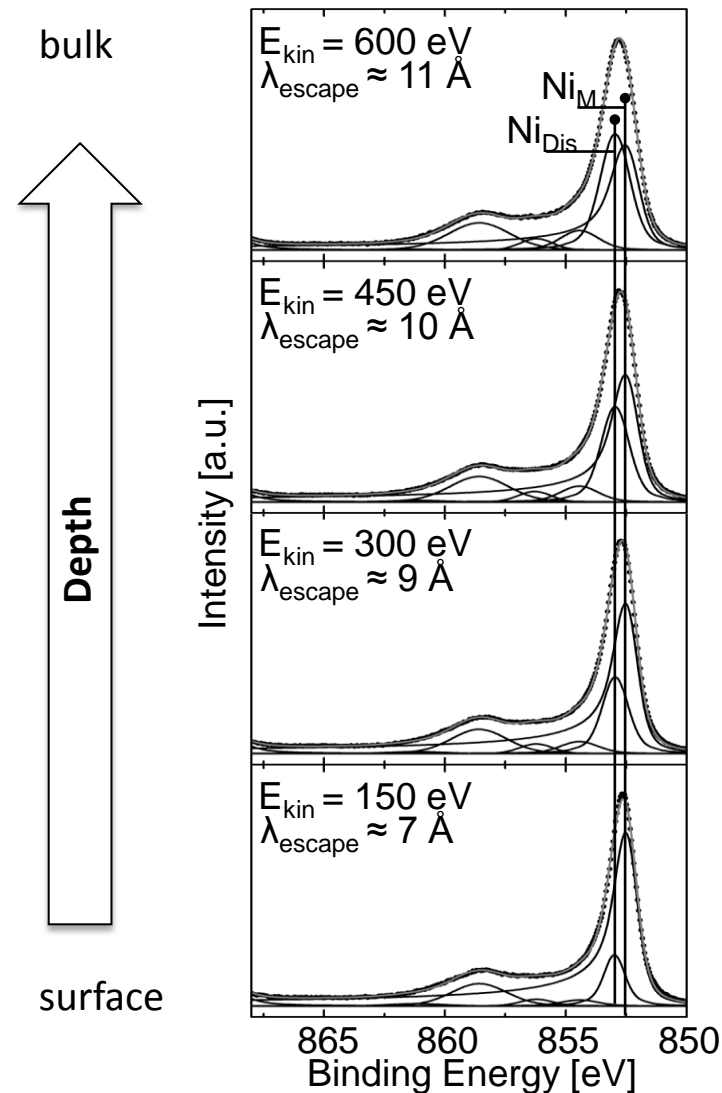


Depletion of dissolved C close to graphene wall ...

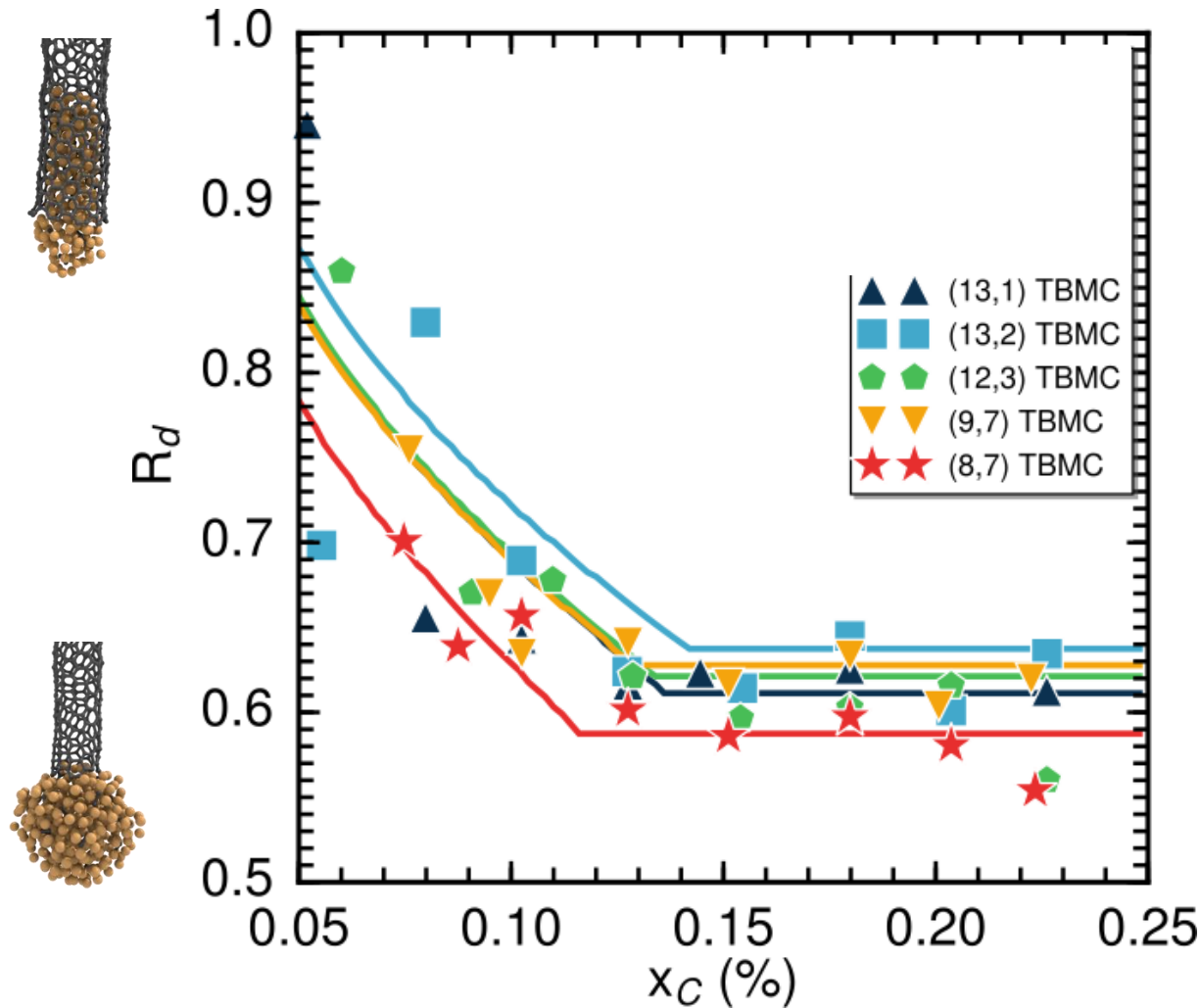
confirmed by *in situ* XPS

Weatherup *et al.* JACS **136**, 13698 (2014)

Benayad *et al.* J. Phys. Chem. C **117**, 4727 (2013)

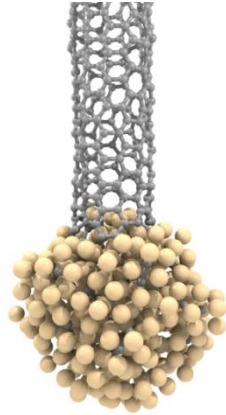
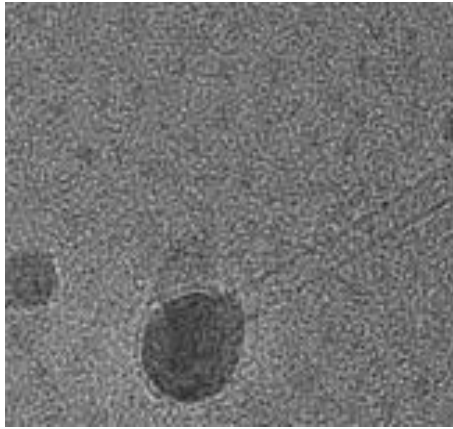


Quantitative analysis of Monte Carlo data: SWNT/NP diameter ratio



Aspect ratio $R_d = \frac{D_{Tube}}{D_{NP}}$ depends : strongly on %C dissolved
weakly on tube chirality

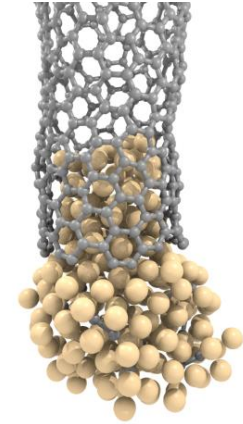
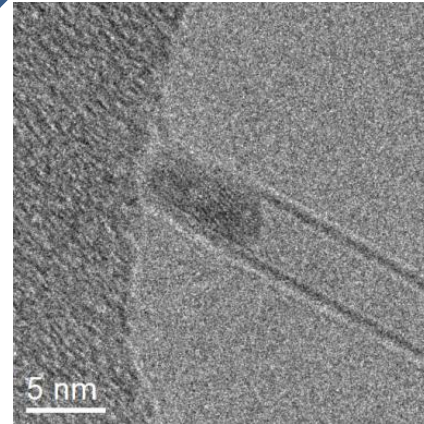
TEM observation of different growth modes



Perpendicular mode

$$R_d = D_{Tube} / D_{NP} < 1$$

Line contact between Tube and NP



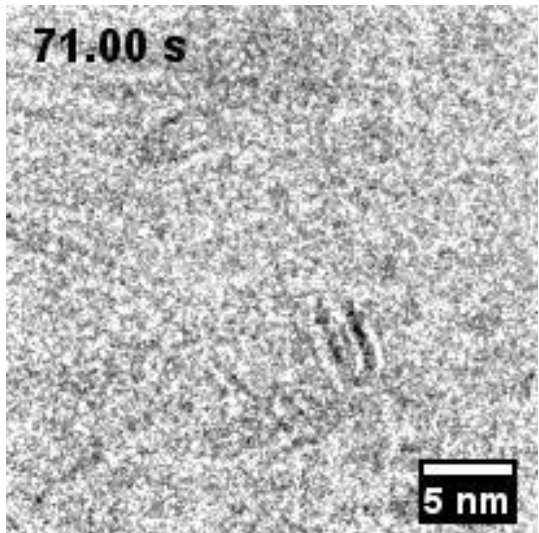
Tangential mode

$$R_d = D_{Tube} / D_{NP} \sim 1$$

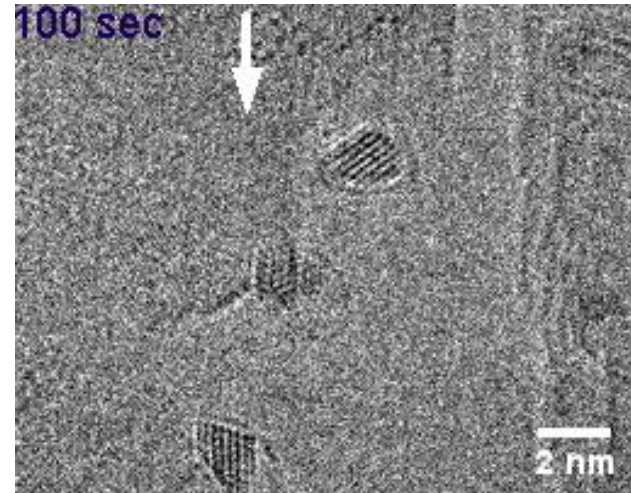
Surface contact between tube and NP

TEM performed **after synthesis** (Maoshuai He, Aalto Univ. + LEM/ONERA)

In situ TEM observation of different growth modes



Co on MgO + EtOH – 700°C



Pt on MgO + EtOH – 550°C

In situ TEM during growth : Jens Kling, Lili Zhang, J. B. Wagner (DTU Denmark)

Can we control SWNT growth modes ?

Idea is to control metal – carbon interfacial properties. How can this be achieved ?

1 Use surfactant

- Has been done : Windle + others : adding Sulfur or ...

2 Temperature changes during growth

- Yao et al. : Nat. Mat. 2007; J. Phys. Chem. C 2009

3 Control carbon fraction in catalyst

- Experimentally : icosahedral versus f.c.c. Au nanoparticles
He *et al.*, *Nanoscale* **2015**, 7, 20284–20289.
- Numerically, thanks to our Tight Binding model
Aguiar et al. , submitted to Carbon ([arXiv:1702.06742](https://arxiv.org/abs/1702.06742))

4 Control via gas phase : ambient, feedstock

- Chenguang Lu and Jie Liu; J. Phys. Chem B 2006; Thurakitserree ACS Nano (2011)
- Alternating CH₄ and CO feedstocks

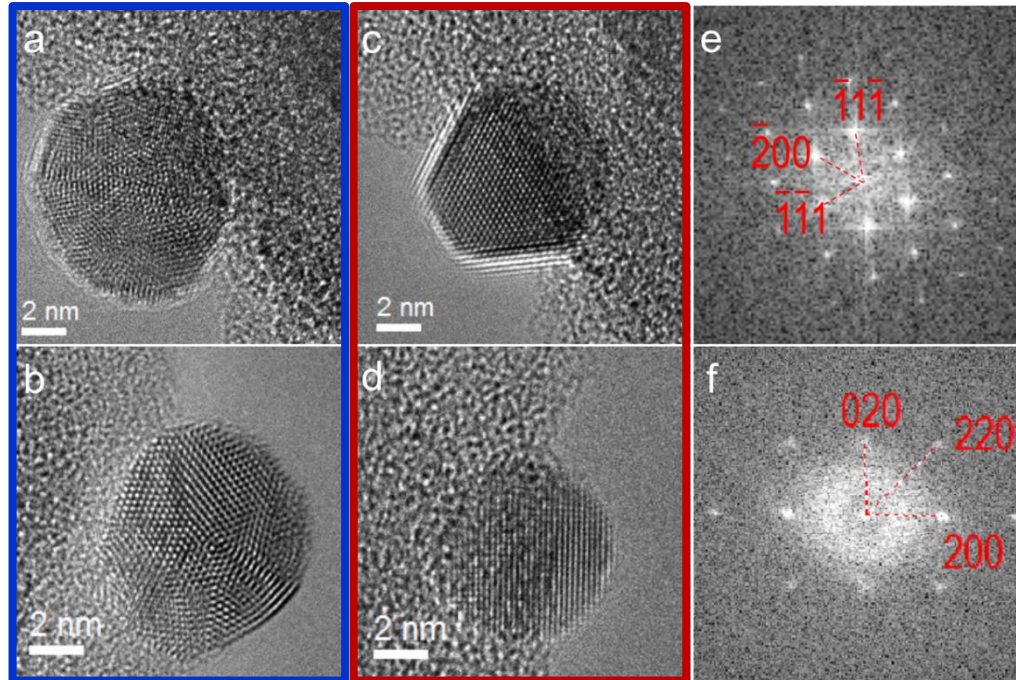
5 Use bimetallic catalyst ?

- Not very clear yet

CVD on Au : growth when FCC, no growth when icosahedral

Expt^{al} work : Maoshuai He, E. Kauppinen + Aalto group, Annick Loiseau

As prepared Au NPs are Icosahedral

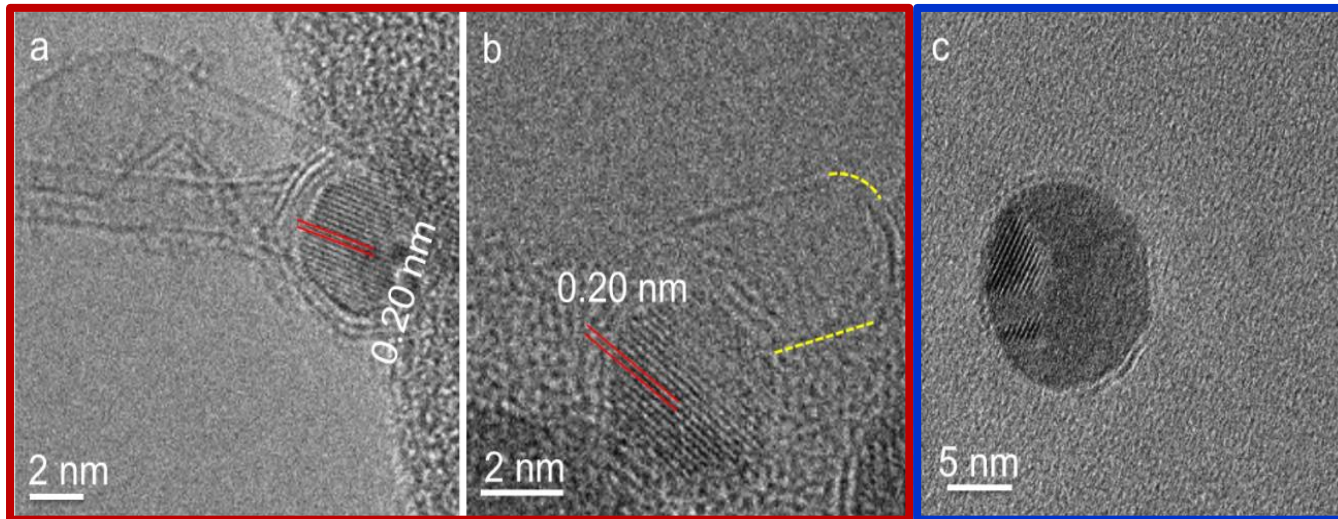


After 2h @ 800°C in air

- some NPs transform into FCC (top)
- some remain Icosahedral (bottom)

CVD on Au : growth when FCC, no growth when icosahedral

CVD growth with CO at 1 atm and T ranging from 600°C to 800°C



800 C
FCC Au nanoparticles promote
SWNT growth

600 C

Icosahedral NPs are encapsulated
by C and don't grow tubes

Can we explain why ?

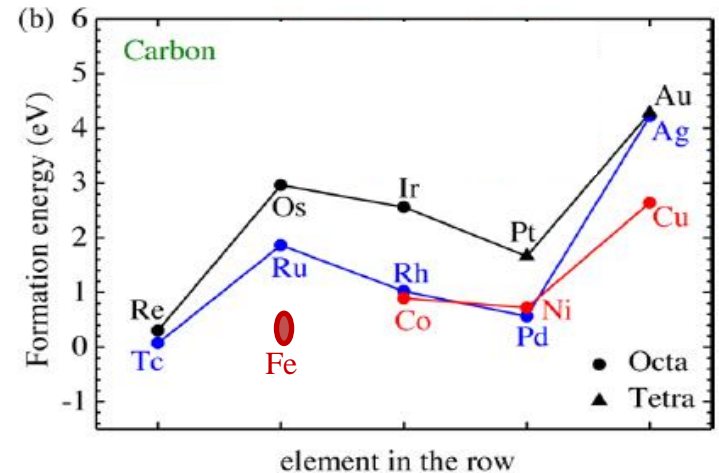
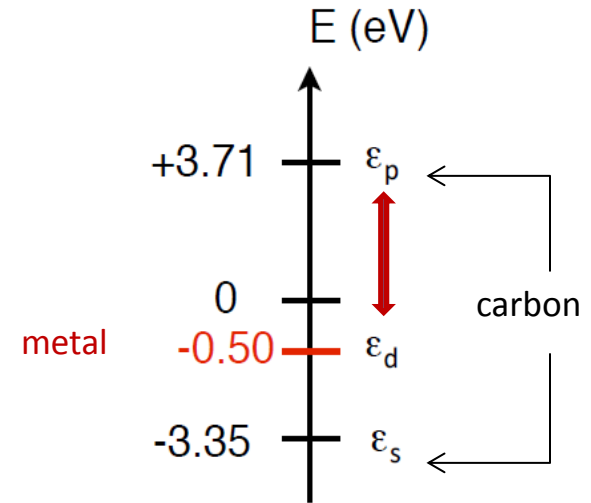
Change C solubility in Nanoparticle

Thanks to Tight Binding model, it's easy to change heat of C solution in metal ...

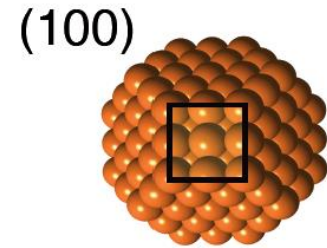
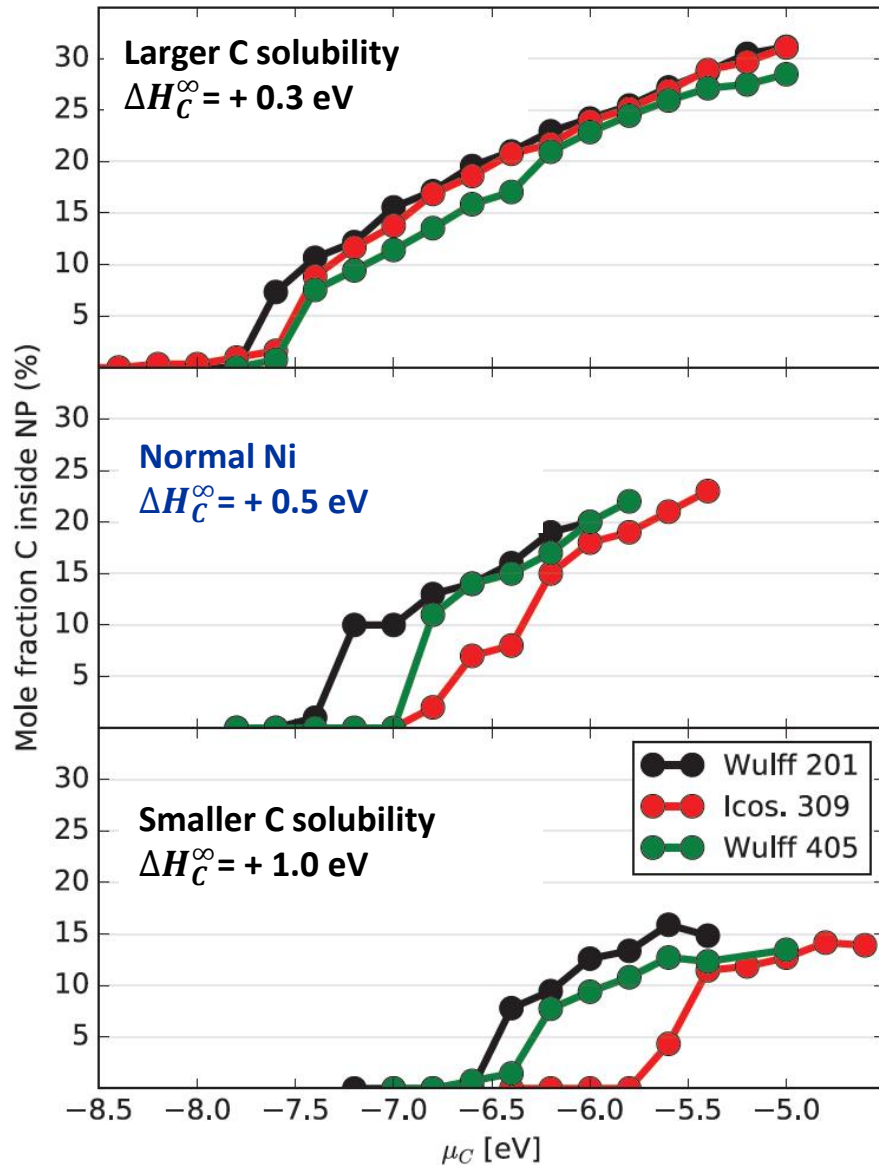
Key parameter

Heat of solution of C atom in bulk metal,
Driven by (carbon p-metal d) energy level difference

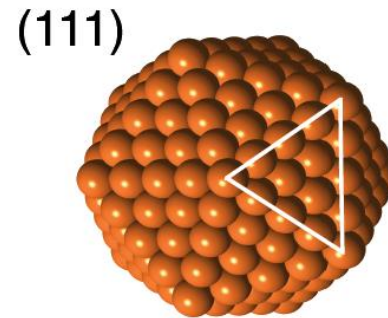
| | | |
|---|--|------------------------------|
| $(\epsilon_p - \epsilon_d) = -2.7 \text{ eV}$ | $\Delta H_C^\infty = + 0.3 \text{ eV}$ | $\text{Ni}^+ \sim \text{Fe}$ |
| $(\epsilon_p - \epsilon_d) = -4.2 \text{ eV}$ | $\Delta H_C^\infty = + 0.5 \text{ eV}$ | real Ni |
| $(\epsilon_p - \epsilon_d) = -5.2 \text{ eV}$ | $\Delta H_C^\infty = + 1.0 \text{ eV}$ | Ni ⁻ |
| | + 2.0 | Cu |
| | + 4.0 | Au |



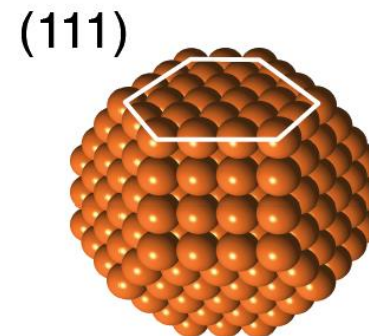
Why FCC Au NPs work and Icosahedral don't ...



Wulff 201

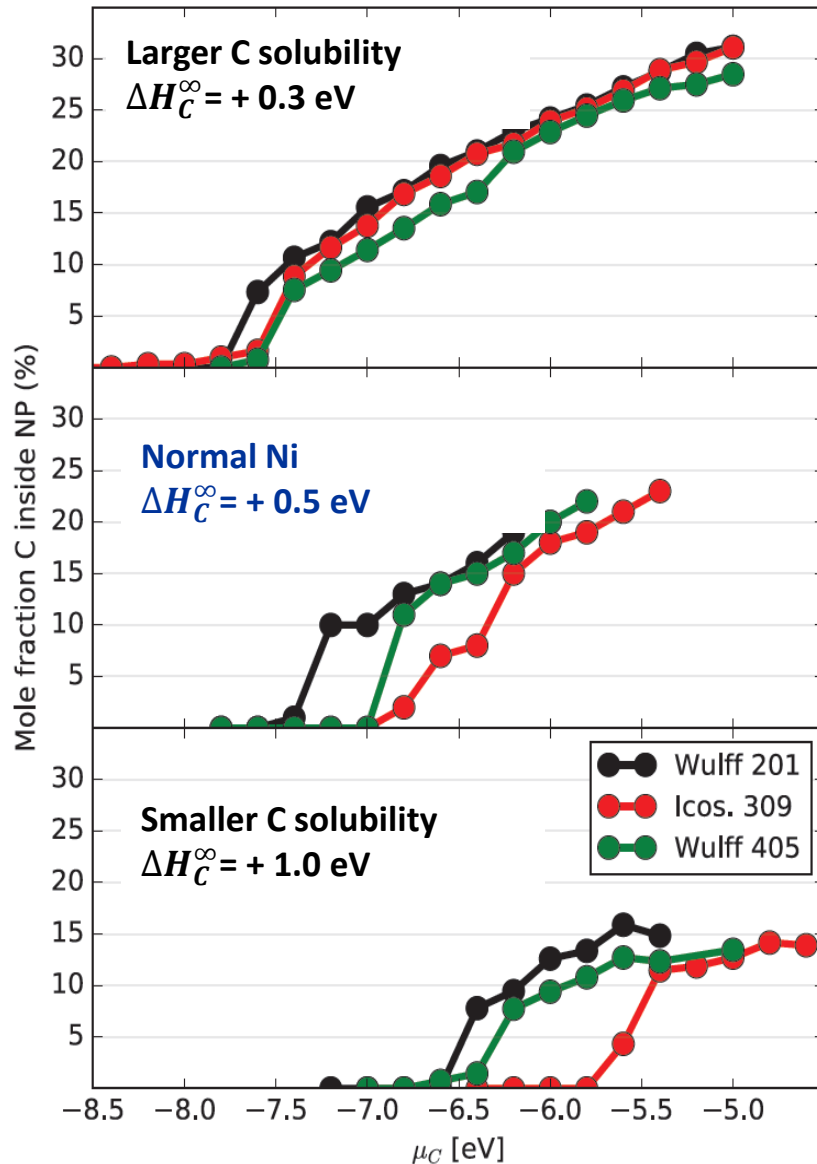


Icosahedral 309



Wulff 405

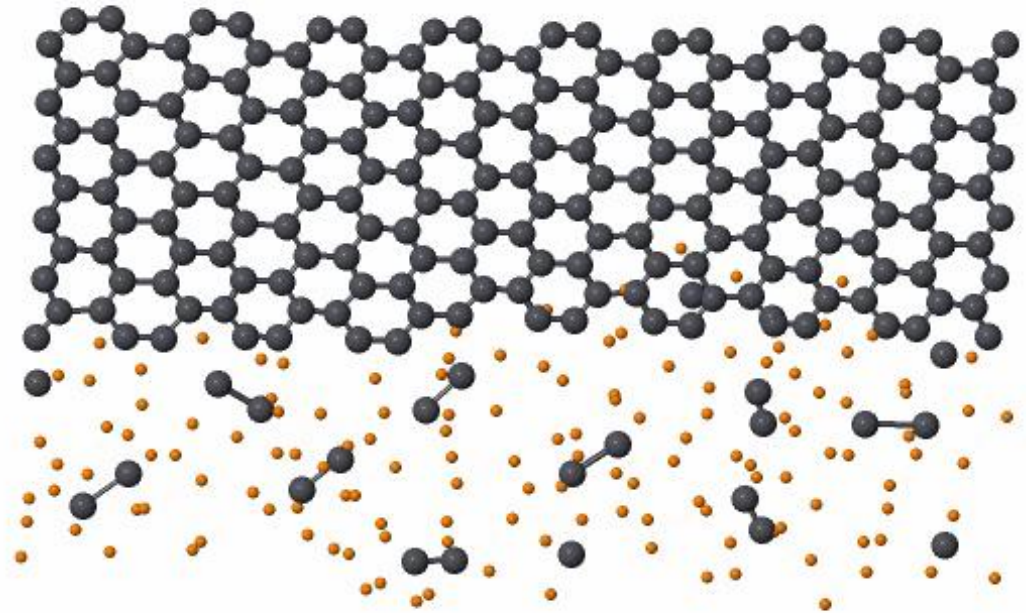
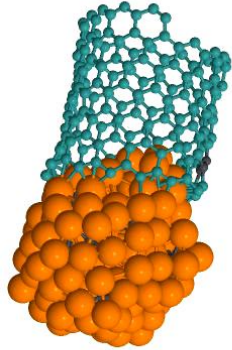
Why FCC Au NPs work and Icosahedral don't ...



- icosahedral NP :
 - Adsorption isotherm for is shifted for system with lower C solubility
 - C incorporation more difficult
- Pressure range where only fcc NP are activated for growth
- C goes in subsurface for fcc structure, enabling sp^2 cap lift-off
- C remains on surface for ico Au, leading to encapsulation

He et al. *Nanoscale* **2015**, 7, 20284

Growth sequence with Nickel

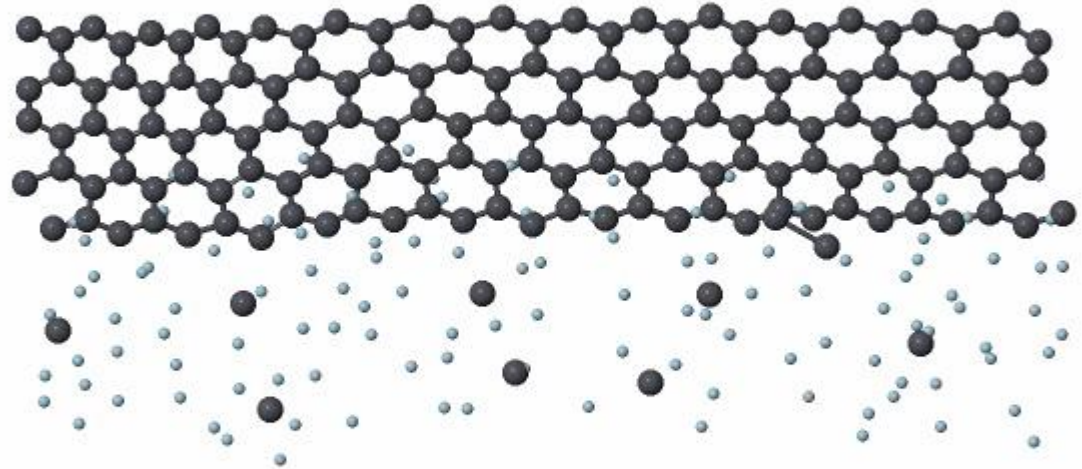
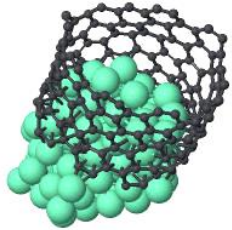


Grand Canonical MC simulations
1200 K, $\mu_C = -6.20$ eV/C

Carbon dimers are taken out of the NP, because larger %C dissolved
Long chains are formed, detached from surface
Tendency to dewet and detachment of NP
Alltogether, rather messy growth ... with defects

Jmol

Growth sequence with Nickel with reduced carbon solubility



Grand Canonical MC simulations
1200 K, $\mu_C = -6.20$ eV/C

Jmol

Shorter chains, in contact with metal when pure, avoiding contact with Ni+C dissolved
Tendency to encapsulate NP, because of more wetting tendency
Less defects, slower, more controlled growth

Can we control SWNT growth modes ?

Idea is to control metal – carbon interfacial properties. How can this be achieved ?

1 Use surfactant

- Has been done : Windle + others : adding Sulfur or ...

2 Temperature changes during growth

- Yao et al. : Nat. Mat. 2007; J. Phys. Chem. C 2009

3 Control carbon fraction in catalyst

- Experimentally : icosahedral versus f.c.c. Au nanoparticles
He *et al.*, *Nanoscale* **2015**, 7, 20284–20289.
- Numerically, thanks to our Tight Binding model
Aguiar et al. , submitted to Carbon ([arXiv:1702.06742](https://arxiv.org/abs/1702.06742))

4 Control via gas phase : ambient, feedstock

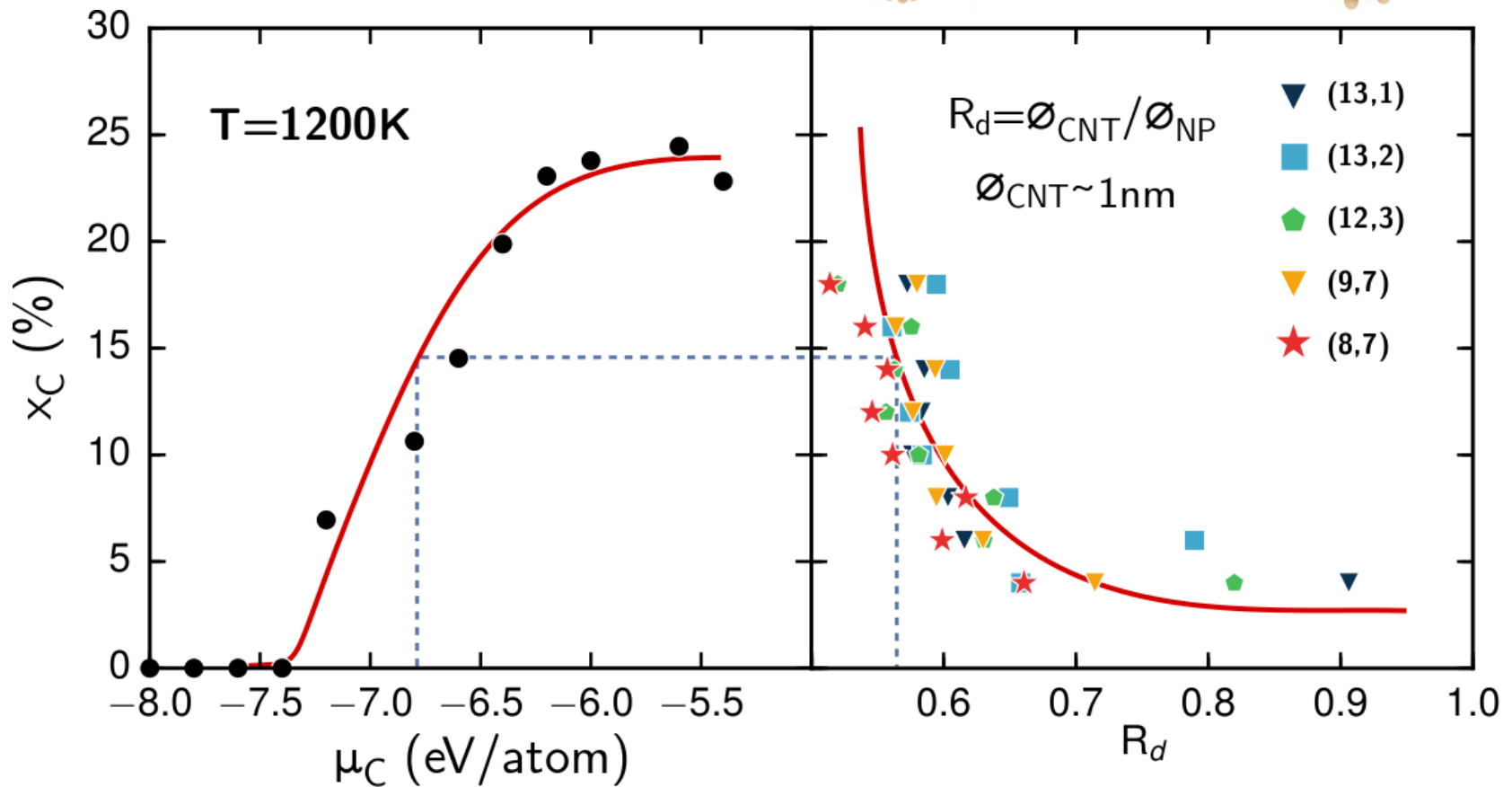
- Chenguang Lu and Jie Liu; J. Phys. Chem B 2006; Thurakitserree ACS Nano (2011)
- Alternating CH₄ and CO feedstocks

5 Use bimetallic catalyst ?

- Not very clear yet

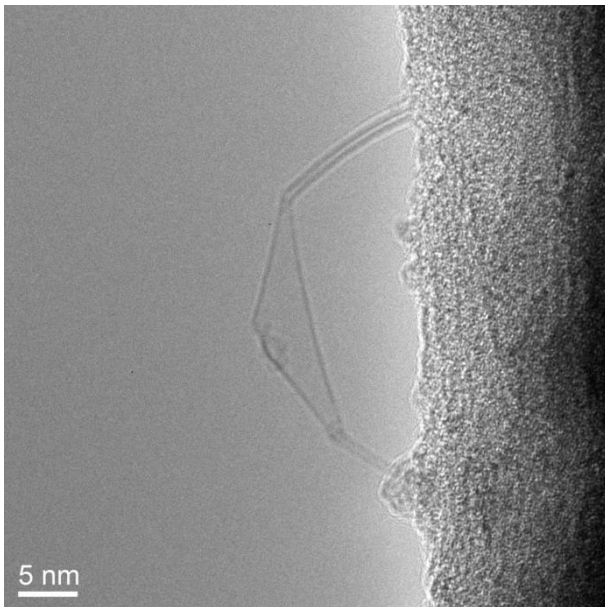
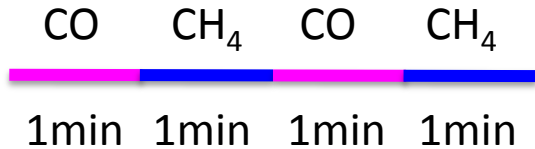
Growth modes controlled by carbon fraction dissolved in catalyst

Large x_C : perpendicular
 Small x_C : tangential



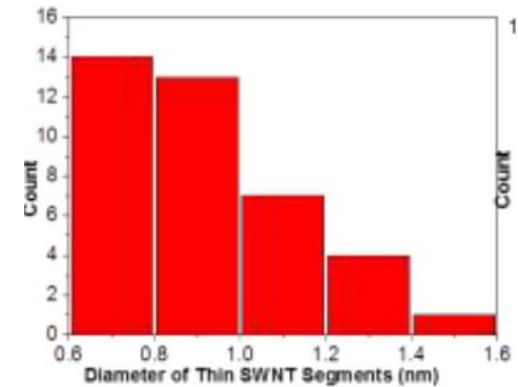
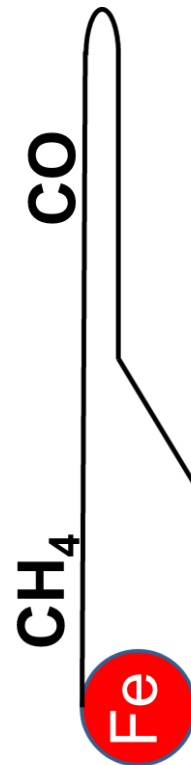
Reversibly tuning growth modes

Alternating 1min CO, 1 min CH₄ ⇒ nanotube junctions with large diameter difference

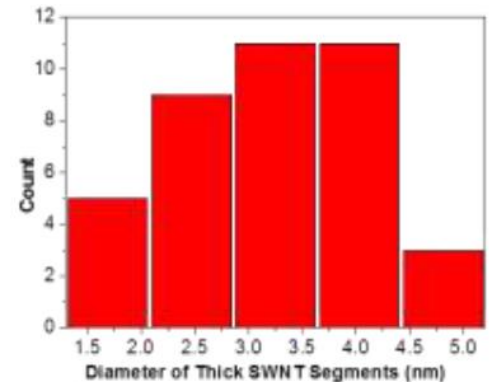


reversible ... !

Experiments by Maoshuai He



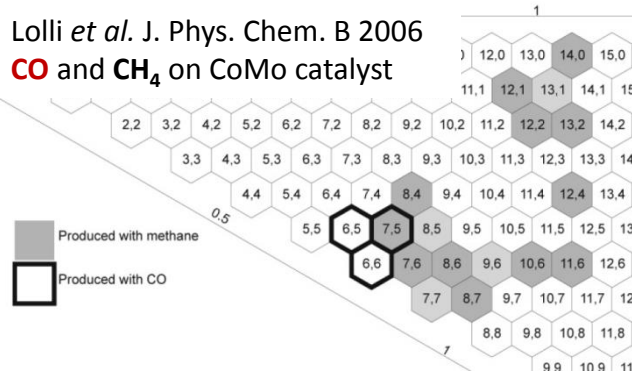
Narrow width distribution for thin segments : perpendicular mode



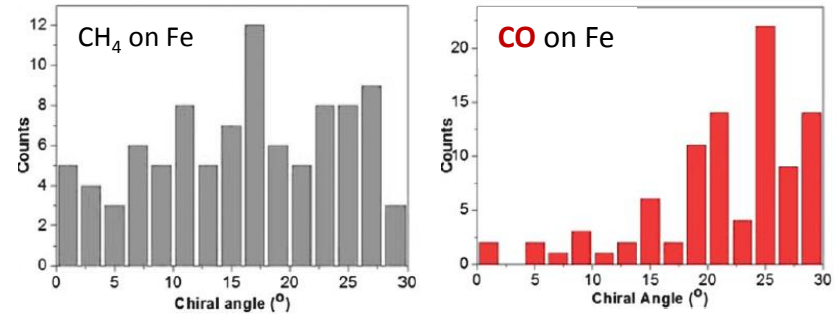
Broad width distribution for thick segments

Near armchair chiral preference in perpendicular growth mode ...

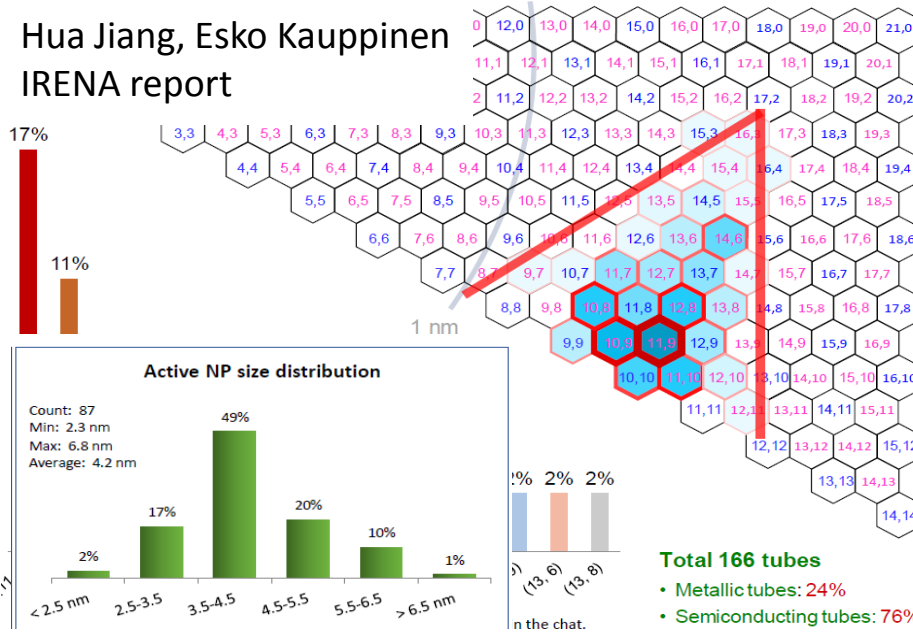
Lolli *et al.* J. Phys. Chem. B 2006
CO and **CH₄** on CoMo catalyst



Maoshuai He *et al.* *Nanoscale* 2012, 7394–7398.

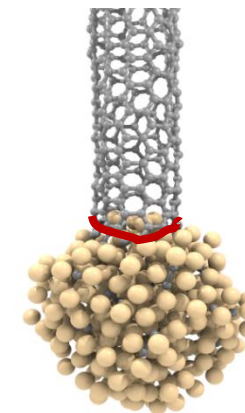


Hua Jiang, Esko Kauppinen
 IRENA report



CO is more active than CH₄ to carburize NP
 ○ Perpendicular mode with Fe
 ○ also with CoMo ?

Can we explain near armchair selectivity ?

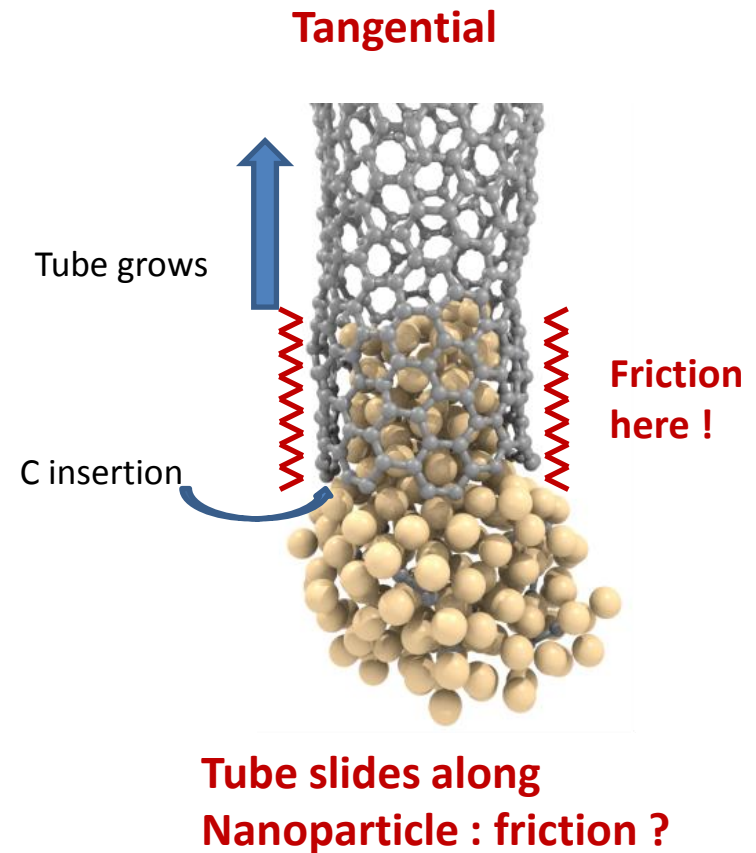
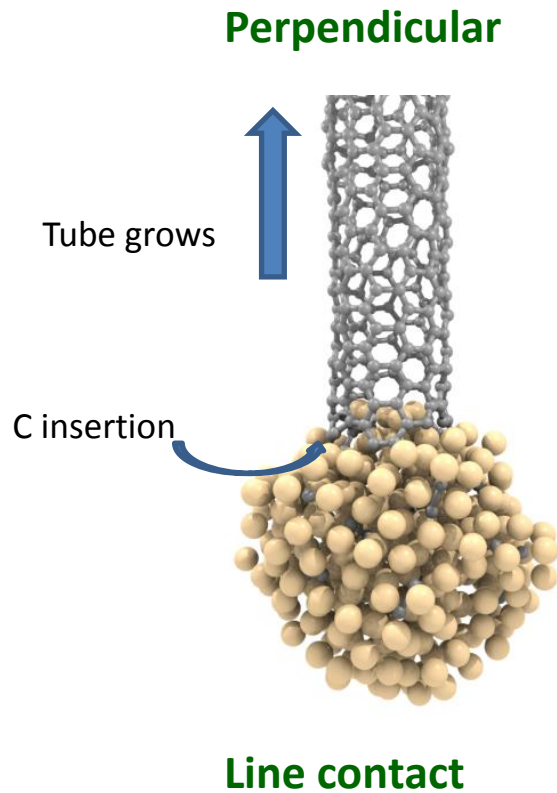


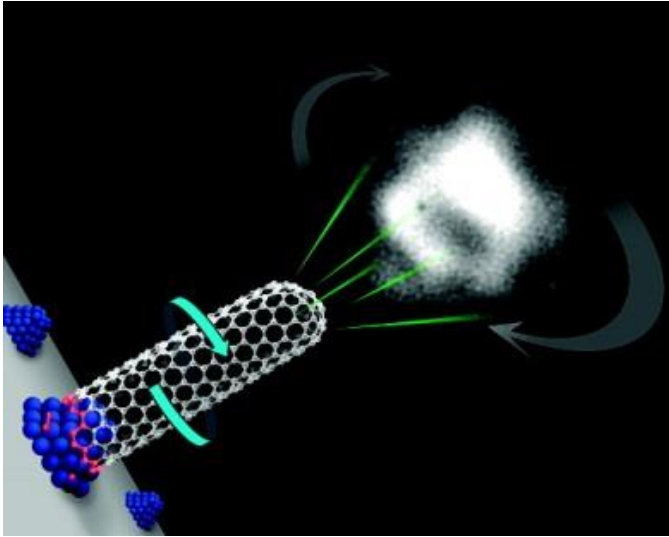
Perpendicular mode
 Line contact only !

34
 ara

Tangential growth mode ?

Different growth modes can be observed, and tuned by experimental conditions





Driving force for rotation ?
Yakobson proposed dimer incorporation at « cosy corner », thus supporting his spiral growth model ...

Growing a Carbon Nanotube Atom by Atom: “And Yet It Does Turn”

Mickaël Marchand,[†] Catherine Journet,[†] Dominique Guillot,[†] Jean-Michel Benoit,[†] Boris I. Yakobson,[‡] and Stephen T. Purcell^{*†}

**NANO
LETTERS**

**2009
Vol. 9, No. 8
2961-2966**

Idea : slide a piece of Nickel inside a SWNT ... and see what happens

ReaxFF Molecular Dynamics à 300 K. **Constant bias force along z axis for Ni atoms.** One C atom fixed
For appropriate parameters, **rotation of the metal inside the tube.** Blue atom follows a zig-zag line



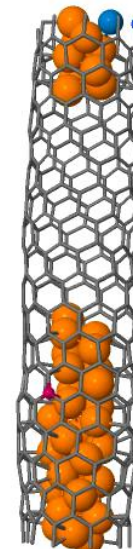
Jmol

(6, 6)



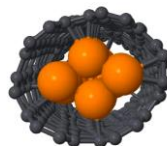
Jmol

(6, 5)

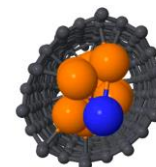


Jmol

(10, 0)



Jmol



Main findings

Carbon interaction with metal

- Surfaces / nanoparticles
- Size dependent phase diagram of Ni+C nanoparticles
 - Downshift of eutectic point
 - Solid core / disordered shell

Growth modes identified (Fiawoo PRL 2012), but now, *understood*

- Large carbon fraction in NP \Rightarrow perpendicular growth
- Low carbon fraction in NP \Rightarrow tangential growth

Growth modes can be tuned by

- Carbon solubility in metal catalysts
- Carbon feedstock nature and decomposition (μ_C^S)

Growth modes may play role in selectivity

- Perpendicular mode : line contact with NP, near armchair selectivity possible
- Tangential mode : line + surface contact with NP ... still to be explored

Thank you for your attention !



Thanks to :

Yann Magnin
Rafael Martinez Gordillo
Mamadou Diarra
Alexandre Zappelli

CINaM - CNRS and Aix Marseille Univ

Jan H. Los
Hakim Amara
Juan Aguiar
Maoshuai He
Annick Loiseau
François Ducastelle

Radboud Univ. Nijmegen

LEM - CNRS and ONERA

Very good question

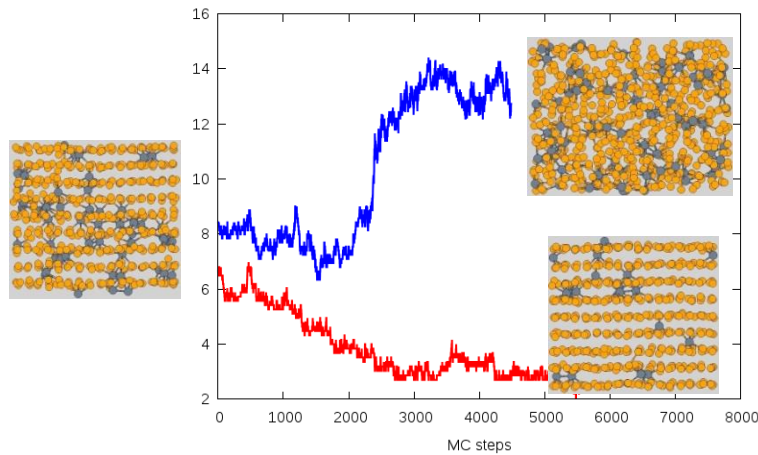
« In theory, there is no difference between practice and theory ...
... in practice, there is »

Yogi Berra



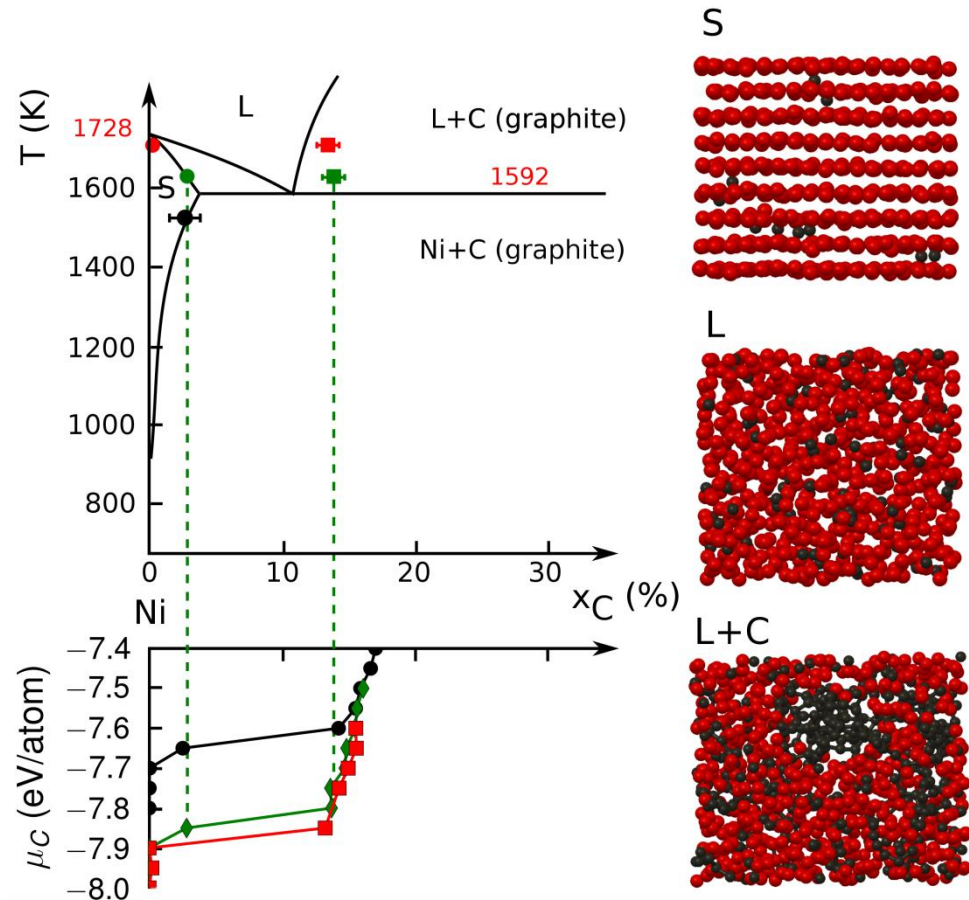
(base ball player and famous coach)

Model validation: carbon solubility in **bulk Ni**



Monte Carlo calculations in *osmotic*^(*) ensemble N_{Ni} , μ_C , $P_{ext} (=0)$, T fixed to account for lattice expansion upon C incorporation

^(*) *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2008**, *130*, 14294–14302



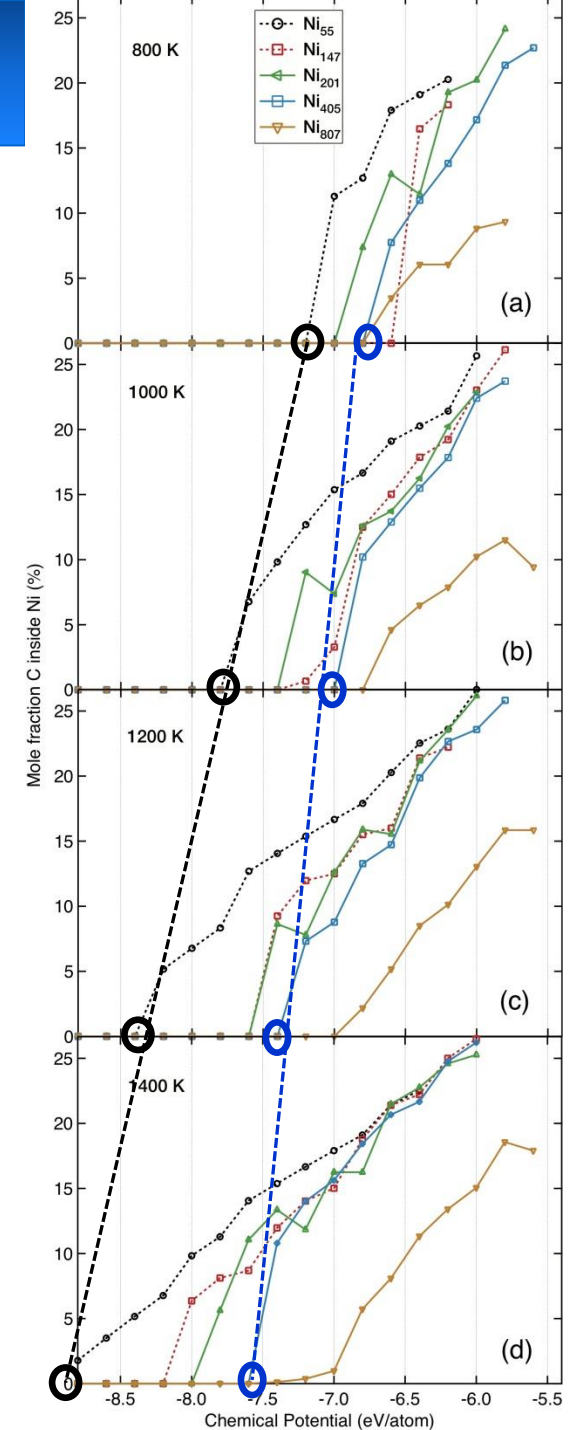
Calculated **solubility limit** below 5% in crystal agrees with experiment

Carbon solubility in nanoparticles

Adsorption thresholds \bullet \circ depend more strongly on temperature for smaller nanoparticles

Tuning growth conditions could be more difficult for smaller NPs and SWNTs ?

Diarra *et al.*,
Phys. Stat. Sol. 249, No. 12, 2629–2634, 2012



From adsorption isotherms to phase diagram ...

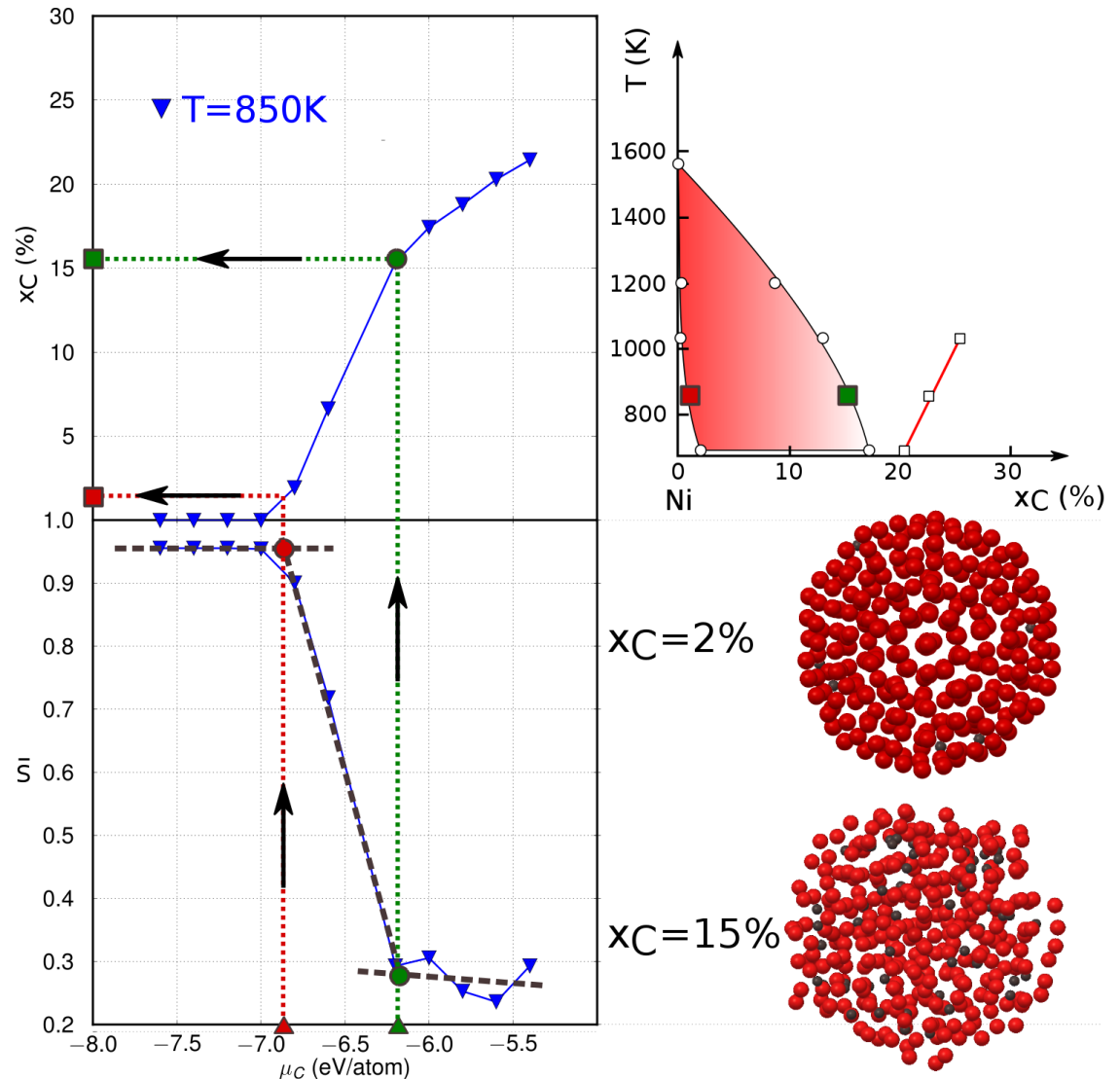
How to **quantitatively** define phase boundaries ?

Orientational order parameter S :

P. Steinhardt *et al.*
Phys. Rev. B, 28, 2, 784–805, 1983

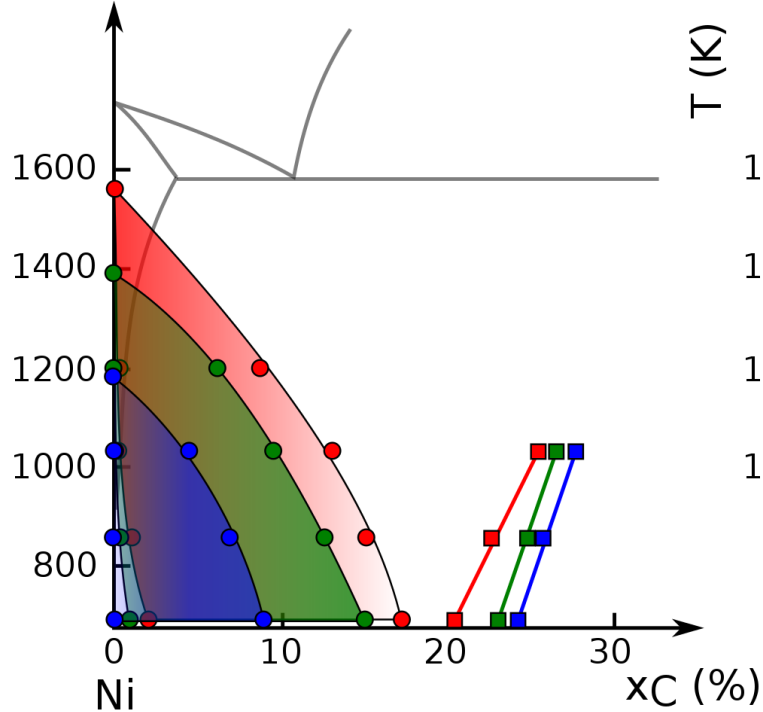
crystalline ($S > 0.85$)

liquid or amorphous ($S < 0.35$)

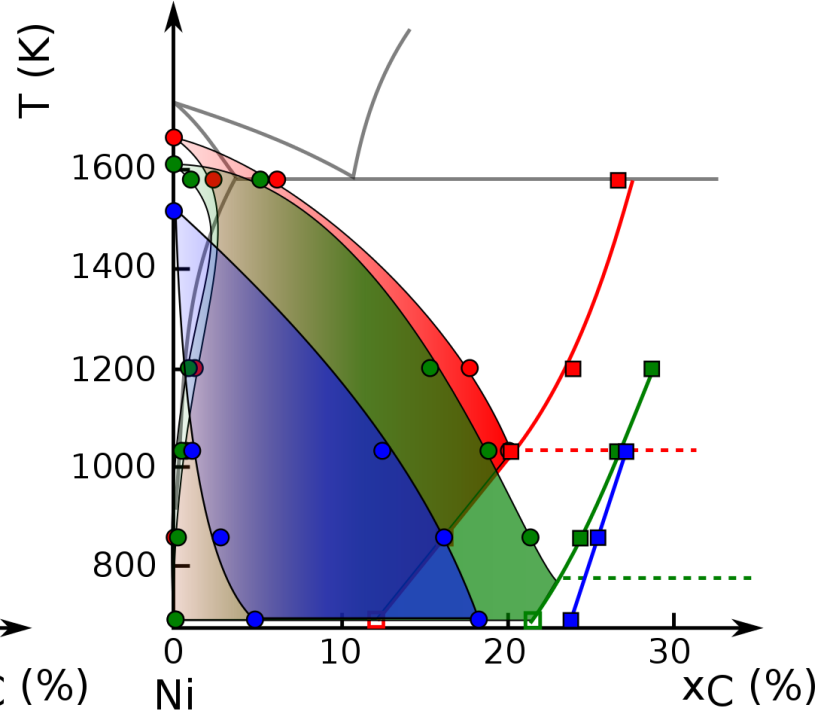


Size dependent phase diagram for Ni-C nanoparticles

Ico : 55, 147, 309 Ni atoms



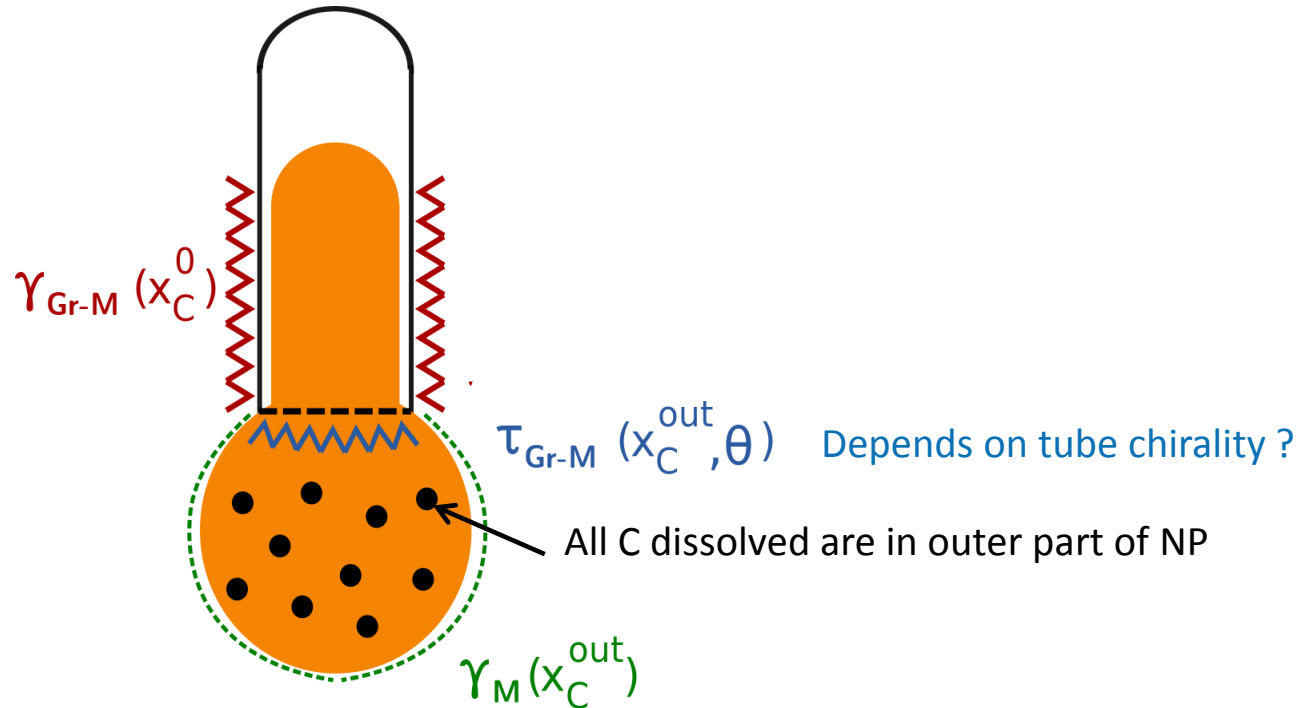
FCC : 201, 405, 807 Ni atoms



Red, green, blue areas are solid core / liquid shell

As compared to bulk, eutectic shifted to lower Temperature and larger %C
Liquidus lines shifted to large %C for larger NPs

Thermodynamic modeling of tube / NP interface

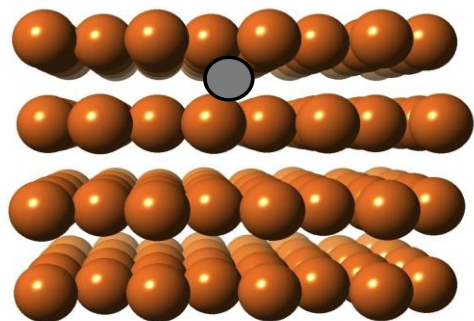


Gibbs energy of system, as a function of NP size, temperature, *fraction of C dissolved* in NP

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathcal{G}(x_c) &= \mathcal{G}_M^{out}(x_c^{out}) + 4\pi R^2(x_c^{out}) \gamma_M(x_c^{out}) \\
 &+ \mathcal{G}_M^{in}(x_c^0 = 0) + 2\pi r h(x_c^{out}) [\gamma_{C-M}(x_c^0 = 0) - \gamma_C] \\
 &+ \mathcal{G}_{cnt} + 2\pi r [\tau_C(\theta) - \tau_{C-M}(x_c^{out}, \theta)].
 \end{aligned}$$

Dissolution energy calculations : tight binding

Without graphene



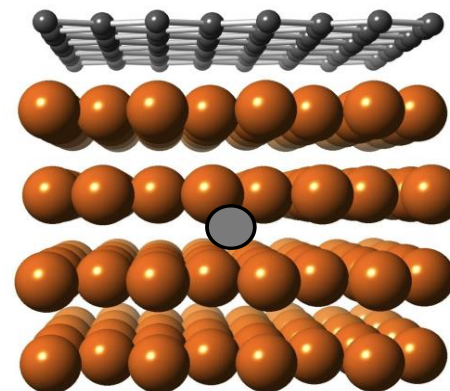
Subsurface :

Binding energy -8.21 eV

Subsubsurface :

Binding energy -7.31 eV

With graphene overlayer



Subsurface :

Binding energy -6.79 eV

Subsubsurface :

Binding energy -7.77 eV

Moors *et al.* ACS Nano, 2009, 3 (3), 511-516

Weatherup *et al.* JACS. **136**, 13698 (2014)

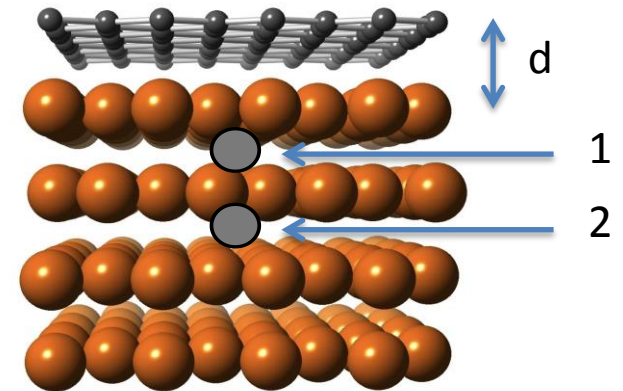
Dissolution energy calculations : DFT

DFT calculations

- VASP code – (PAW; GGA; spin-polarized,...)
- 6 atomic planes (9 Ni atoms)
- Graphene (18 C atoms)

Graphene - Ni distance varied :

| d(A) | ΔE (1-2) (eV) |
|------|-----------------------|
| 3.50 | -0.90 |
| 2.00 | -0.10 |
| 1.80 | +0.31 |



When graphene is closer to surface, subsurface carbon atoms are less stable than sub-surface

Tight Binding model
is qualitatively correct

Graphene – Ni interaction

Adhesion of graphene layer weaker when C is dissolved close to Ni surface

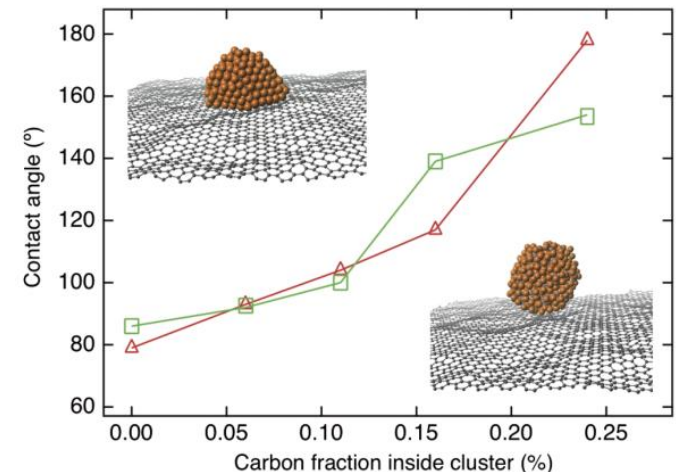
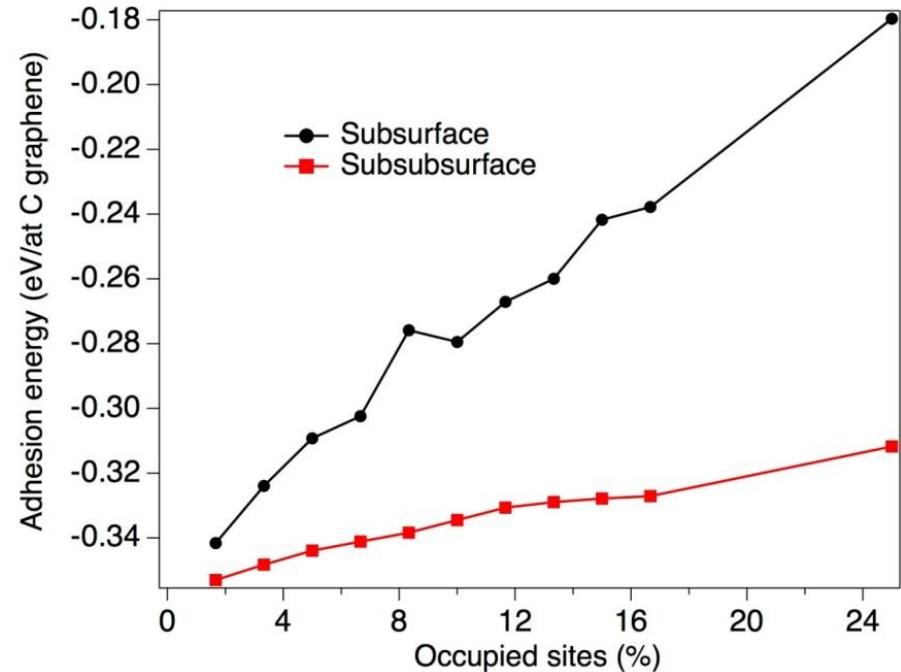
Young Dupré :

$$1 + \cos\theta = \frac{W_{adh}}{\gamma_{(Ni+C)}}$$

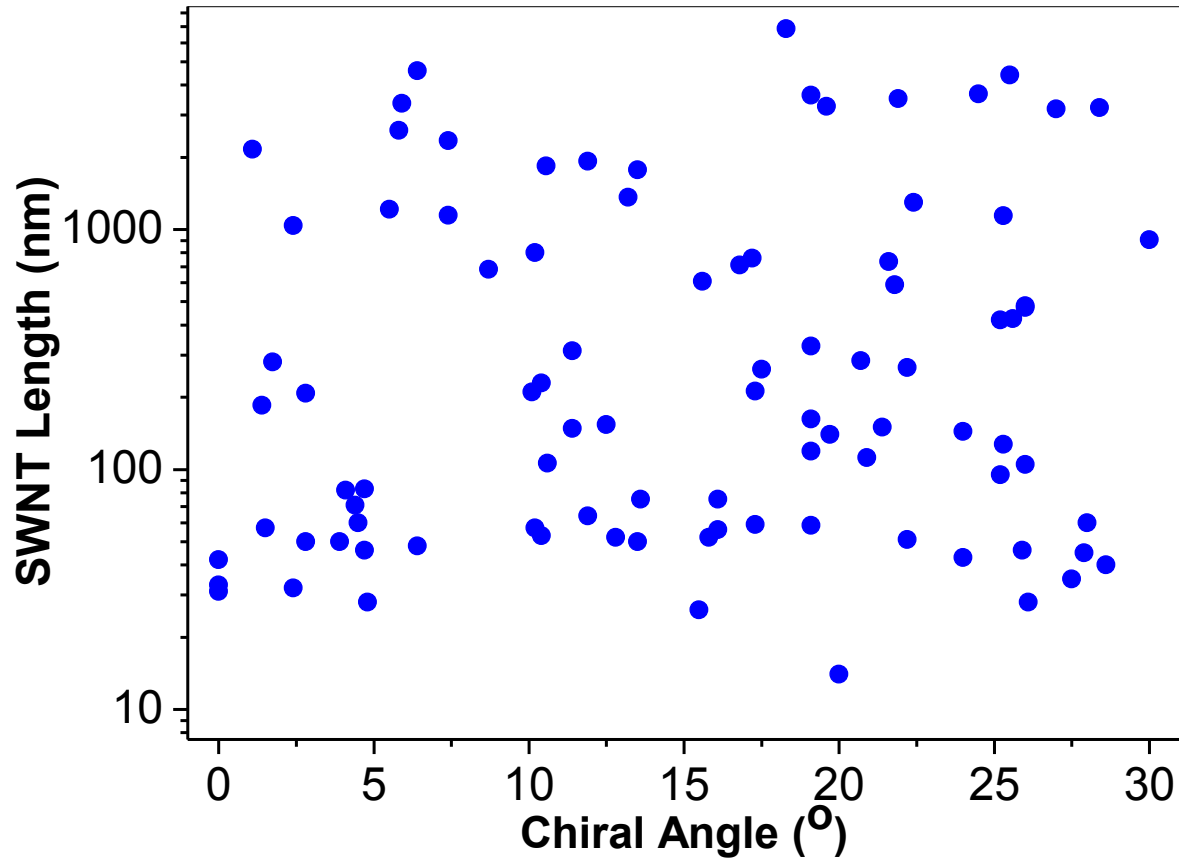
$$\theta = 90^\circ \rightarrow W_{adh} = \gamma$$

$$\theta = 180^\circ \rightarrow W_{adh} = 0 !$$

Explains dewetting of Ni NPs on graphene, when stuffed with carbon

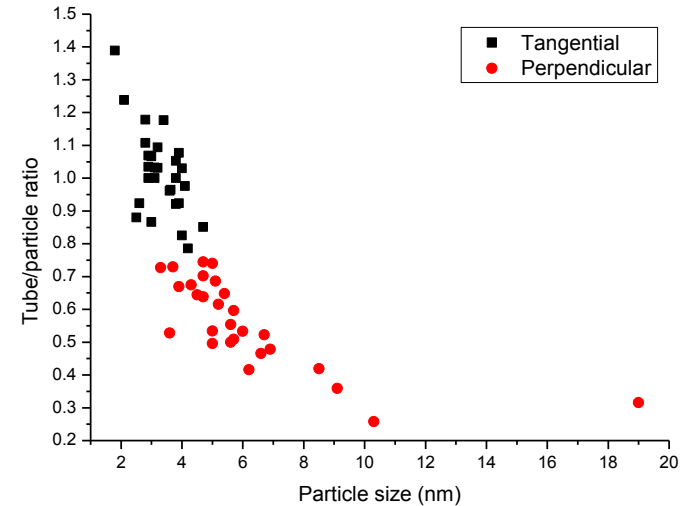
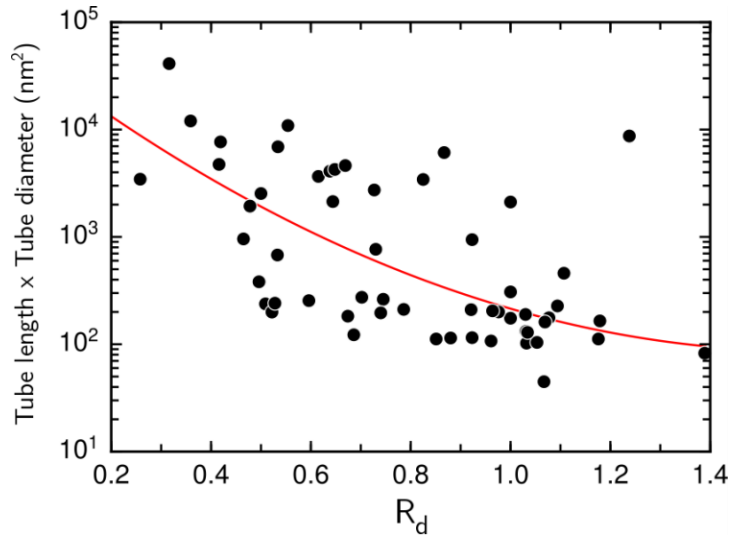


Statistics on 92 isolated SWNTs



There is ***no*** correlation between SWNT lengths and chiral angles.

CH₄ with Fe NPs on MgO : tangential growth leads to shorter tubes



Tangential mode : short tubes

Perpendicular long tubes

He, M. *et al.* Carbon N. **2017**, 113, 231–236.

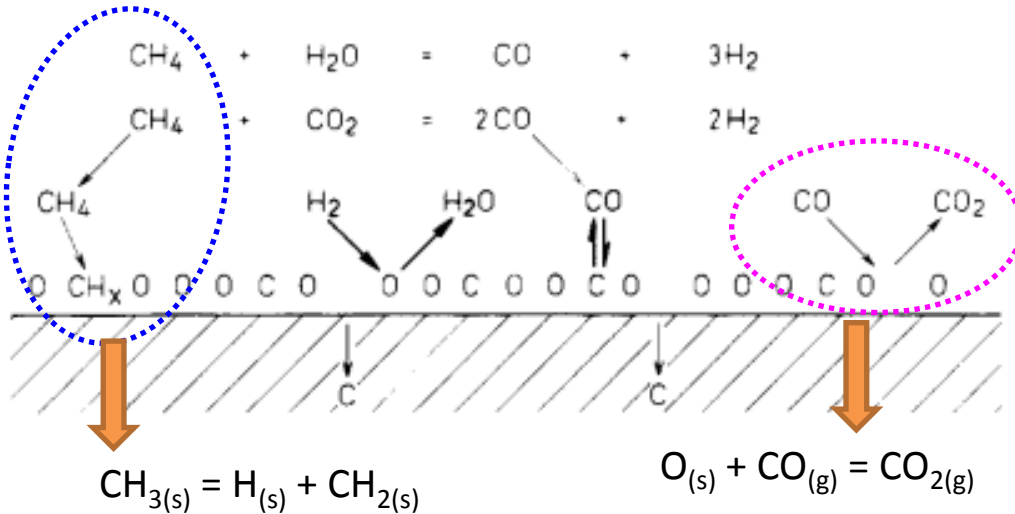
CH₄ Fe/MgO experiment

Smaller NP : tangential

Larger NP : perpendicular

Smaller NP, that sustain tangential growth, get more easily encapsulated (deactivated) than larger ones ?

Carburization efficiency of CO and CH₄ on Fe

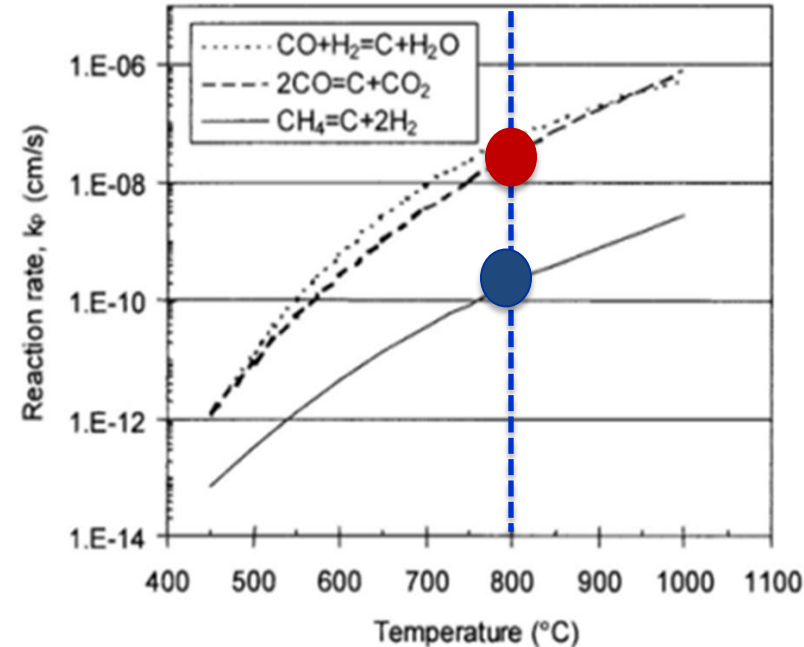


Grabke, H. J. *Mater. Corr.* **2003**, 54, 736. *MTAEC*, **2002**, 36, 297.

Rate constant for carburization on Fe (920°C):

CH₄: $1.9 \times 10^{-6} \text{ mol/cm}^2 \text{ s bar}$

CO: $1.5 \times 10^{-4} \text{ mol/cm}^2 \text{ s bar}$



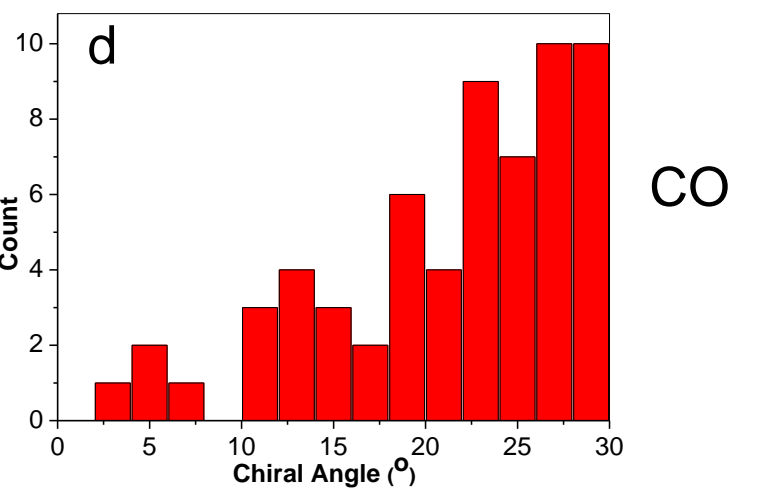
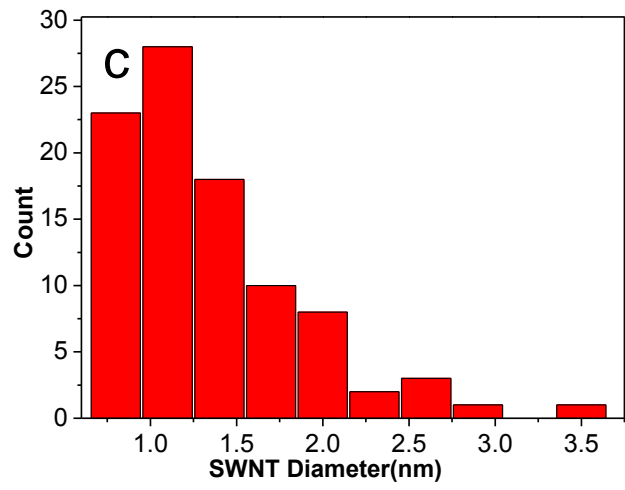
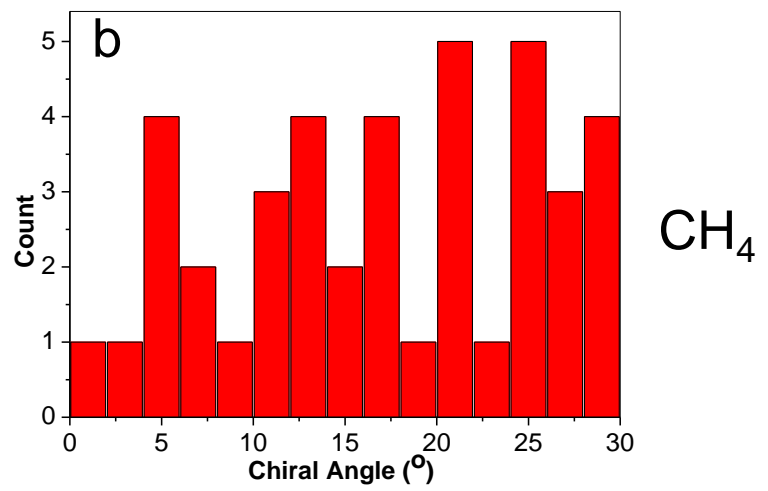
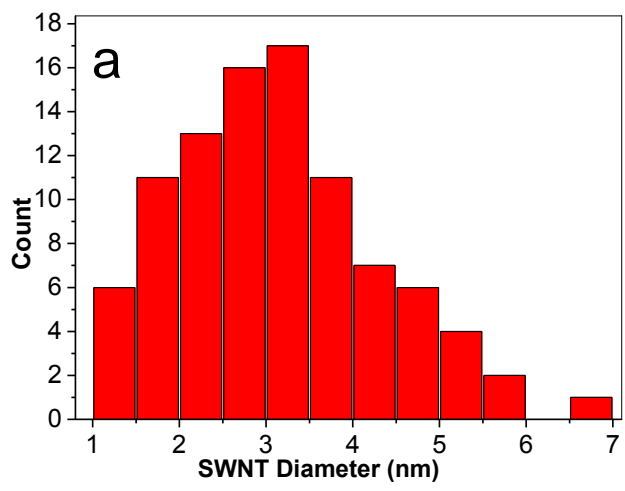
Hosmani, S. S. et al. *An Introduction to Surface Alloying of Metals*. Springer **2014**.

- Decomposition of **CO** on Fe is much easier than **CH₄**
- The carburization rate of **CO** is **2** orders of magnitude higher than **CH₄**

With CO, Fe nanoparticles are saturated with C → perpendicular mode

with CH₄, variable fraction of C, depending on NP size → all growth modes observed

CO favors growth of near-armchair SWNTs with small diameters

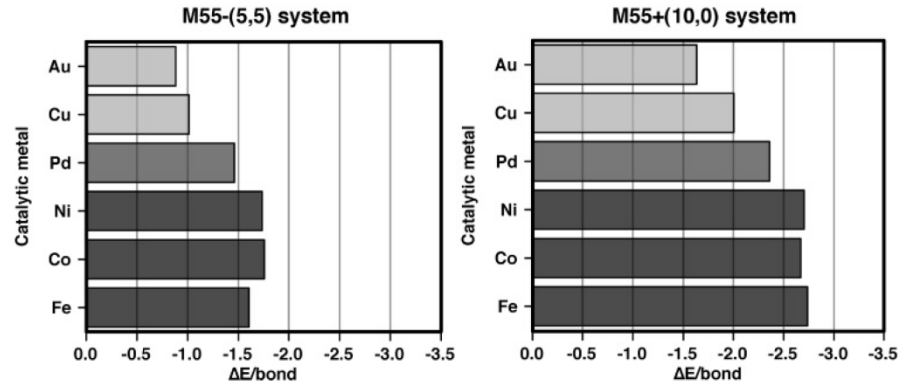
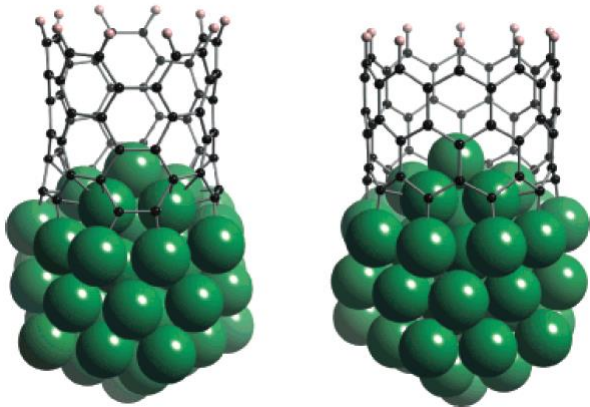


CH₄ mixed growth modes

CO perpendicular mode

data Maoshuai He

Ding ... Bolton NanoLett 2008



In perpendicular growth conditions ...

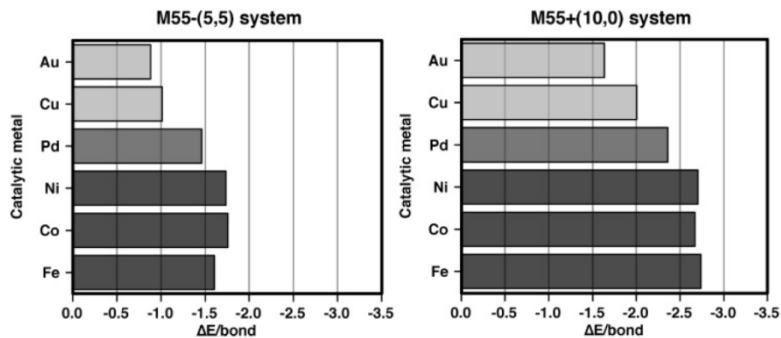
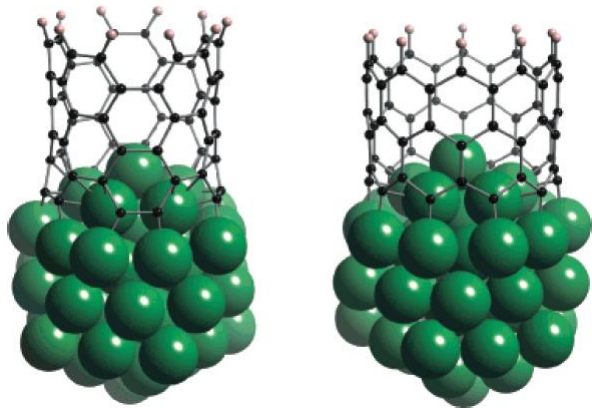
Tube / metal NP bonds are stronger for zigzag.
According to Ding/Bolton, the energy gained by reconnecting a cut tube to a metal NP is larger for Fe

Larger absolute values of (ZZ-Arm) will favor zigzag,
What would be the role of an alloy ?

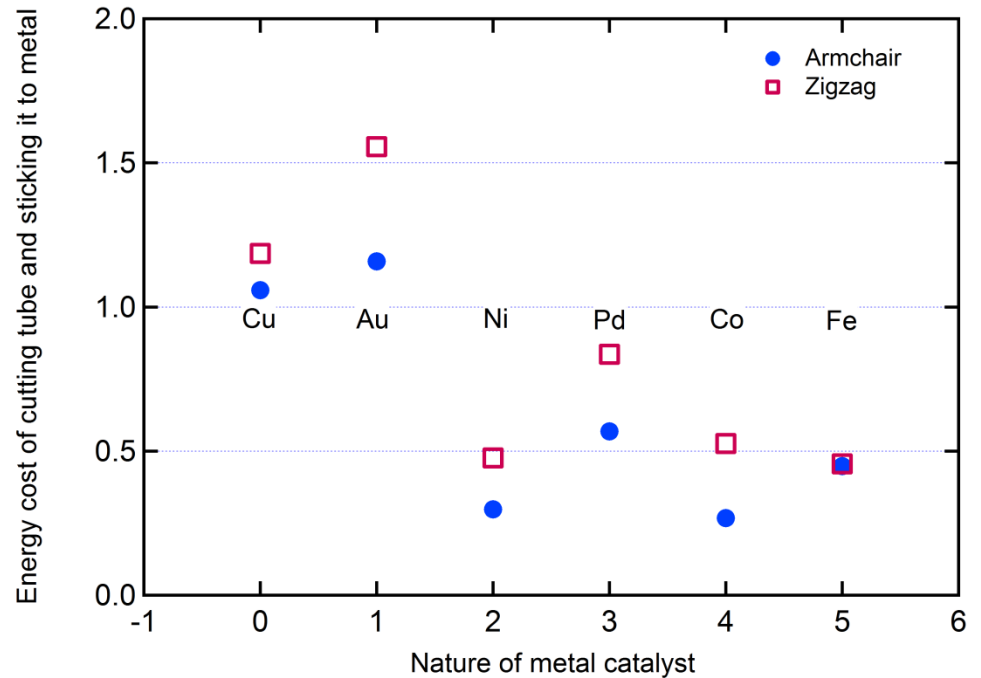
| Metal | Armchair | ZigZag | ZZ-Arm |
|-------|----------|--------|--------|
| Au | 0,9 | 1,63 | 0,73 |
| Pd | 1,49 | 2,35 | 0,86 |
| Co | 1,79 | 2,66 | 0,87 |
| Ni | 1,76 | 2,71 | 0,95 |
| Cu | 1 | 2 | 1 |
| Fe | 1,61 | 2,73 | 1,12 |

Using their DFT calculations ...

DFT calculations of edge energies



Adhesion energies calculated by :
Ding, F.*et al.* *Nano Lett.* **2008**, 8, 463–468.



For Ni, Co Fe :

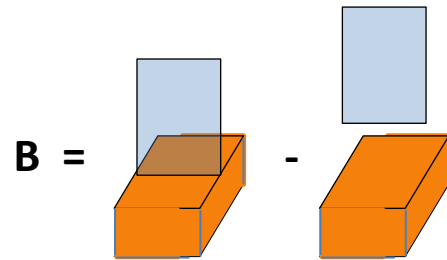
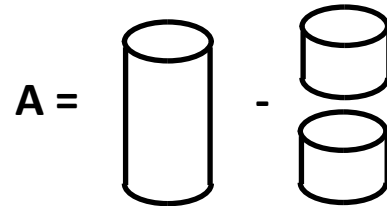
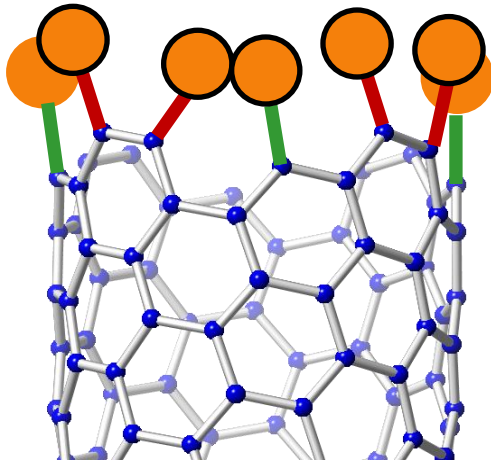
- E_A and E_Z are in 0.2-0.5 eV/bond range
- E_Z always $> E_A$
- Is it always like this ?

Calculation of edge energy

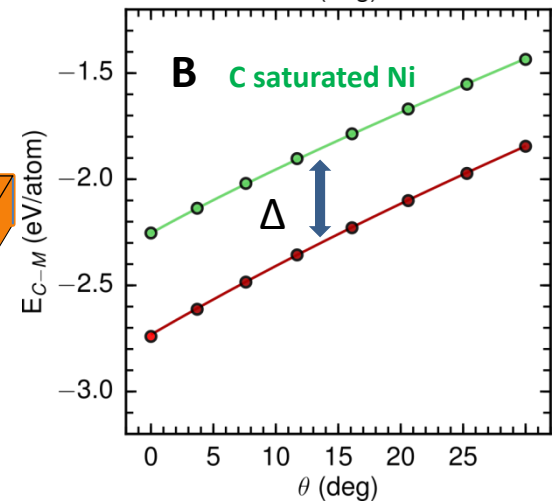
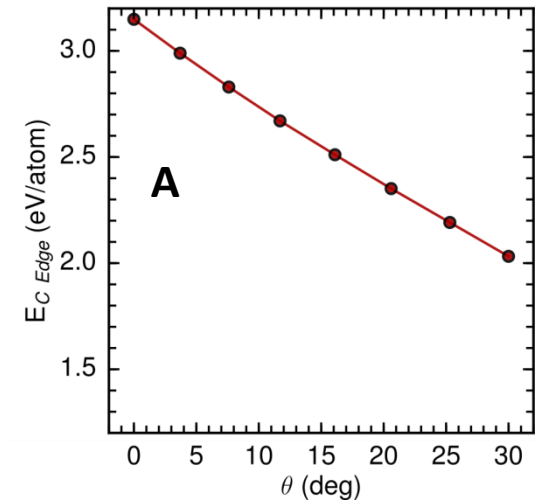
Approximation : chiral probability depends on :

- Edge **armchair** or **zigzag** bonds
- Tube curvature energy

Liu *et al.* Phys. Rev. Lett. **2010**, *105*, 235502.



DFT calculations C + Ni



Edge energy

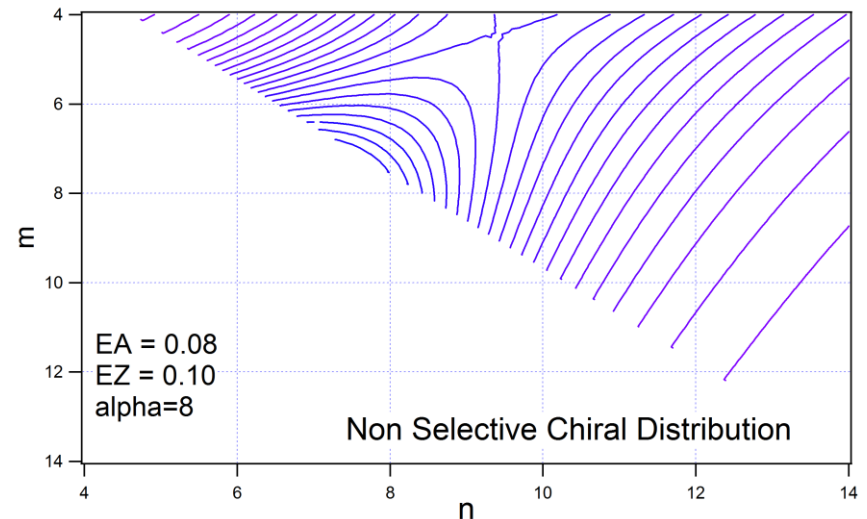
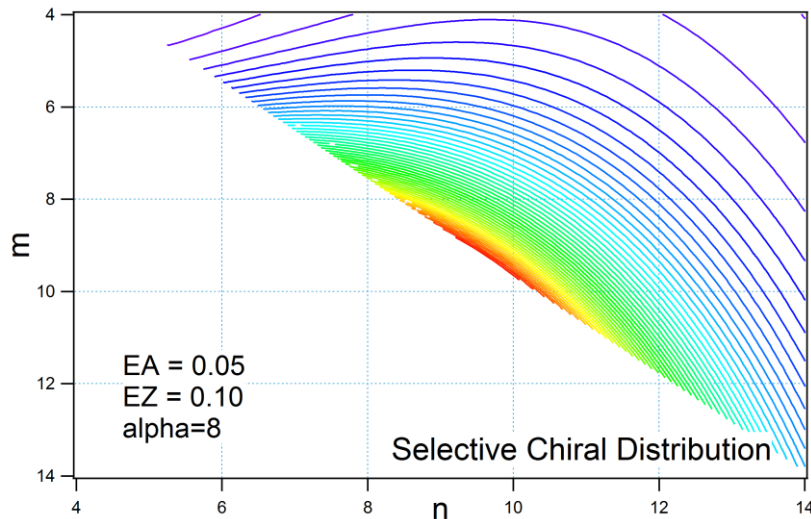
$A/2 + B$ = Energy cost of cutting tube

+ Energy gain by reconnecting it to metal NP + Δ = difficult to evaluate by DFT

Qualitative model for chiral selectivity in perpendicular mode

$$E_{Tot} = E_{Edge} + E_{Curv} = 2 m E_A + (n - m)E_Z + \alpha (n + m)(n^2 + m^2 + nm)^{-1}$$

Parameters (E_A, E_Z) might be calculated by DFT, or simply used as **toy model**



We can get either :

- near armchair selectivity for reasonable (E_A, E_Z)
- no selectivity
- near zigzag selectivity for unrealistic parameters

We never get $(2m, m)$ or single chiral tube dominant probability : so ?