



(Thermodynamically stable)

Graphene solutions



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Graphene
Nanotubes



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GraphITA



CNR IMM-Bologna



Università dell'Aquila

**A Multidisciplinary and Intersectorial
European Workshop on Synthesis, Characterization
and Technological Exploitation of Graphene**

15-18 May 2011
Gran Sasso National Laboratories
Assergi - L'Aquila, Italy



GraphITA



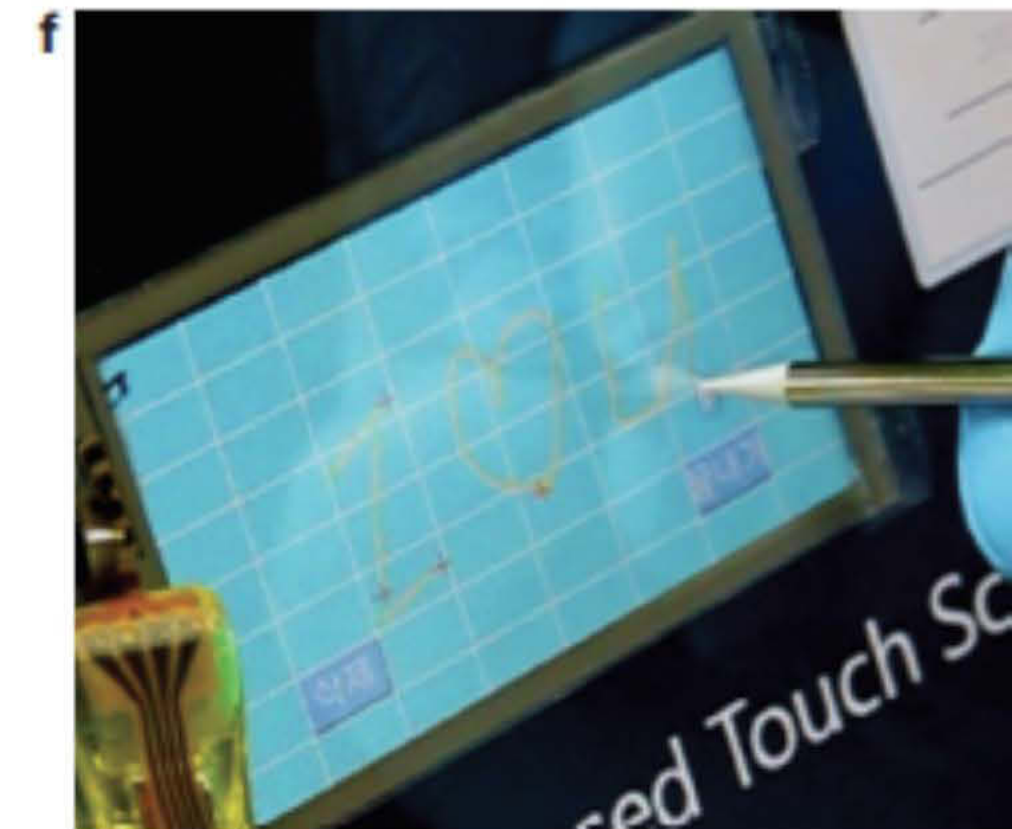
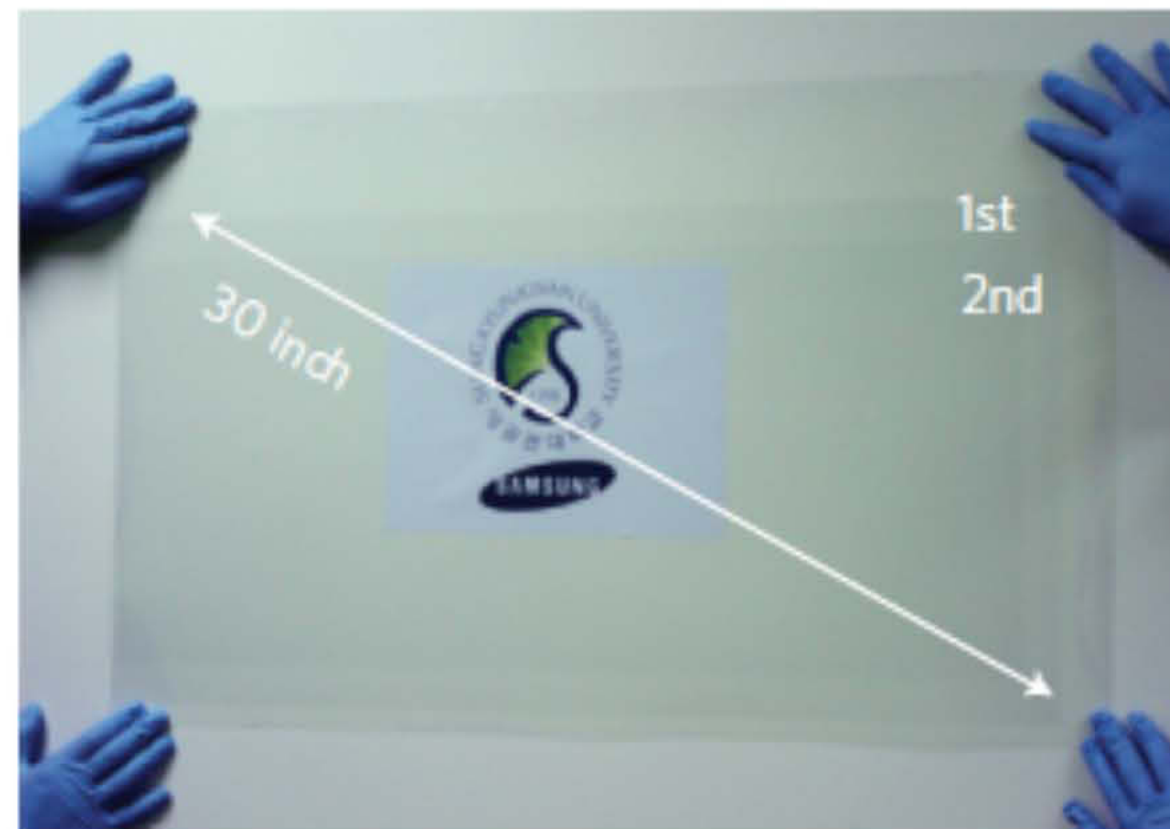
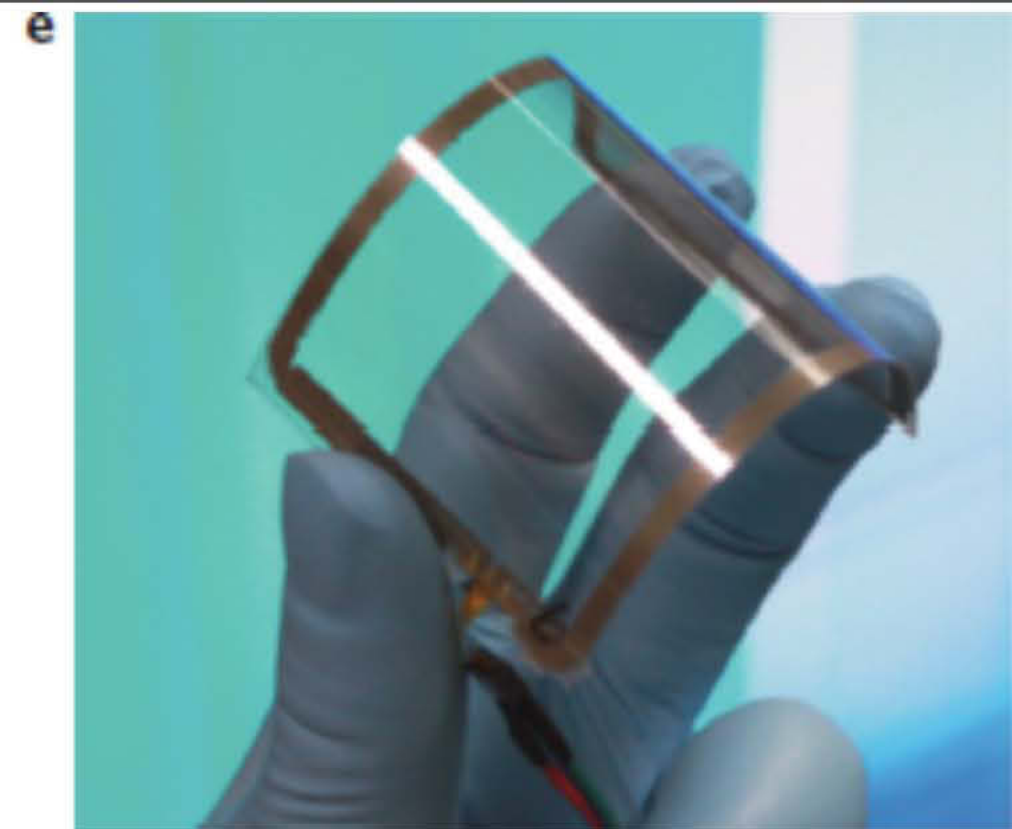
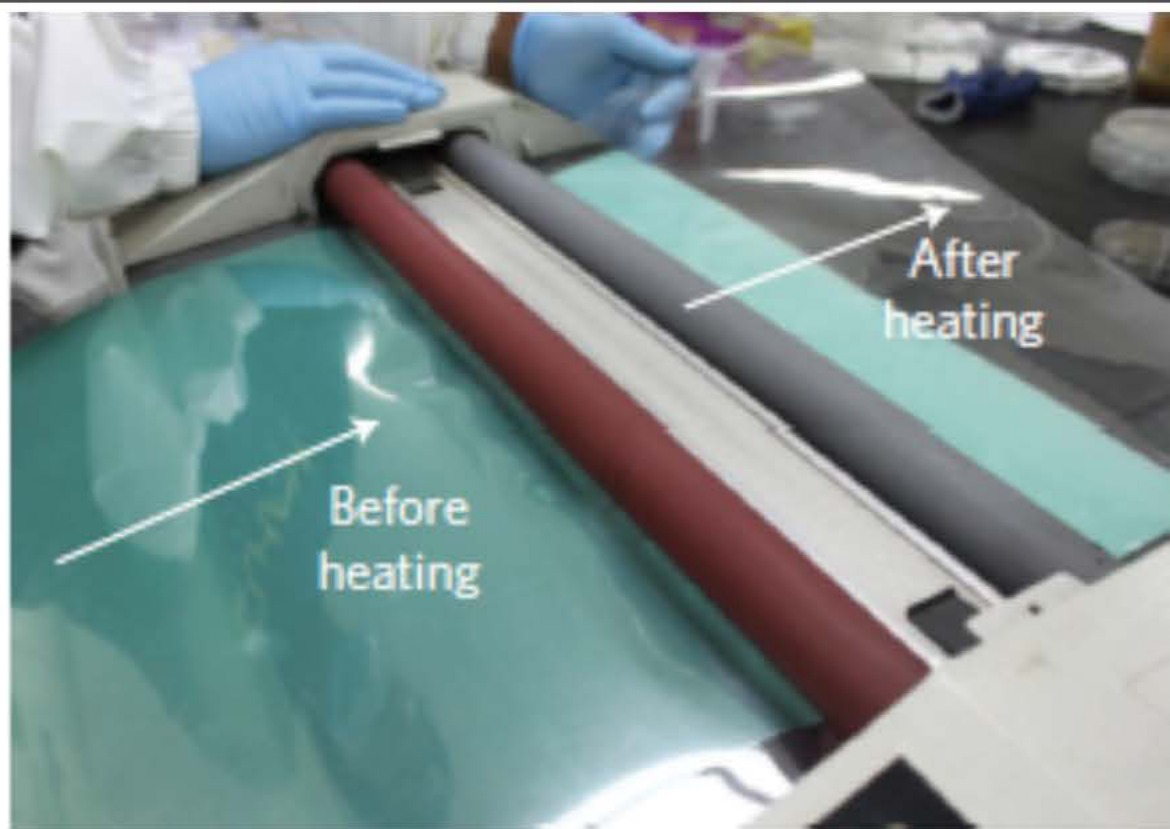
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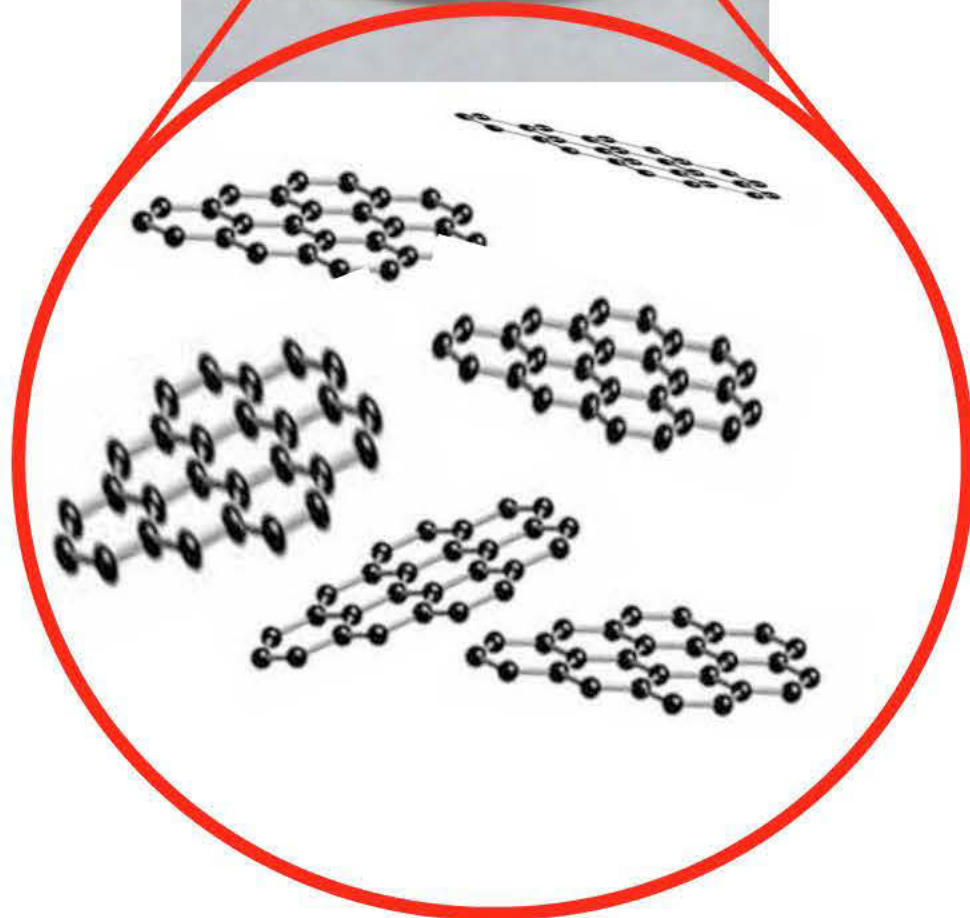
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Byung Hee Hong et al., Nature Nanotechnology, 2010

A true graphene solution....



process large quantities



assemble on surfaces



prepare composites



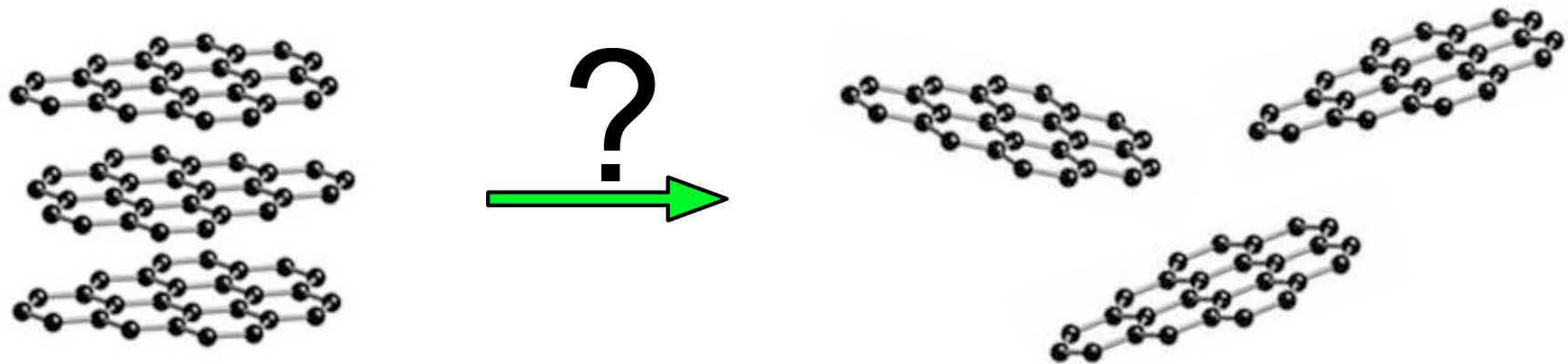
do chemistry



...



Visiting Nacional de Grafite, Minas Gerais, Brazil, 2009



Strong van der Waals (cohesive) energy



Image D.Voiry

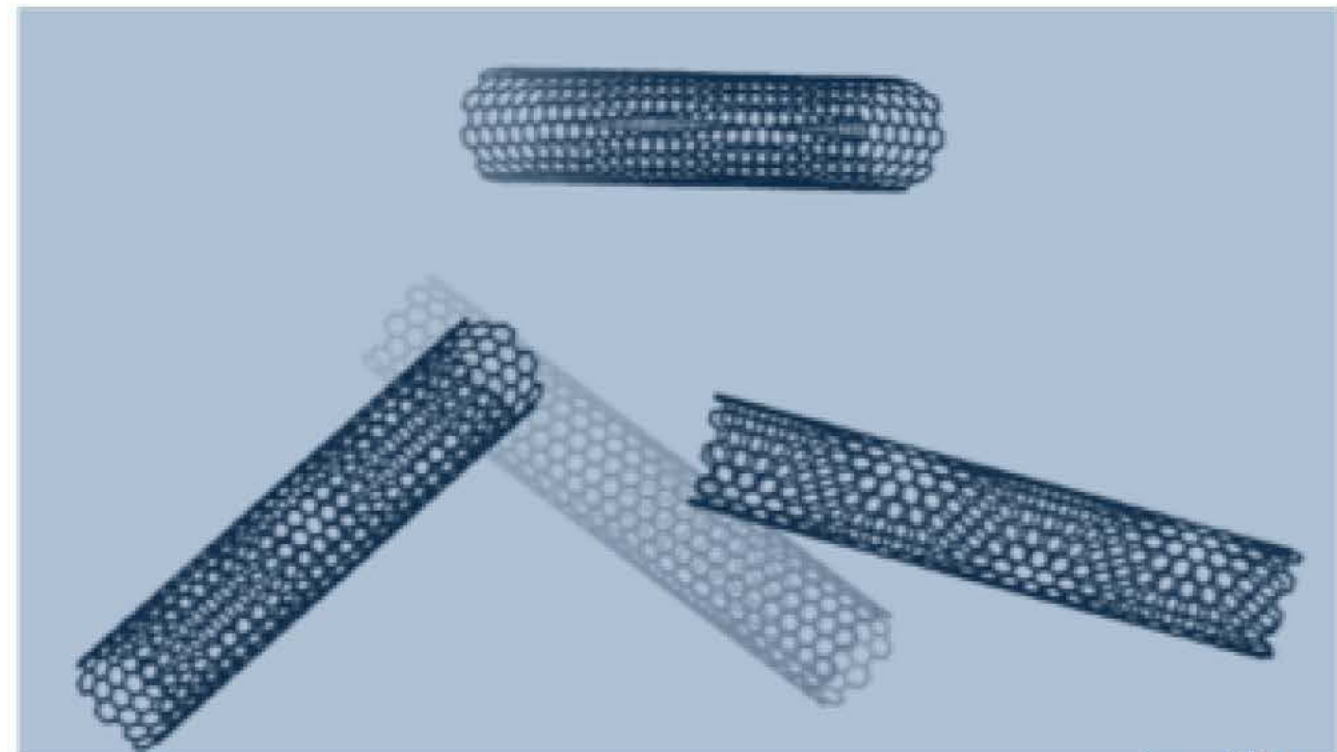
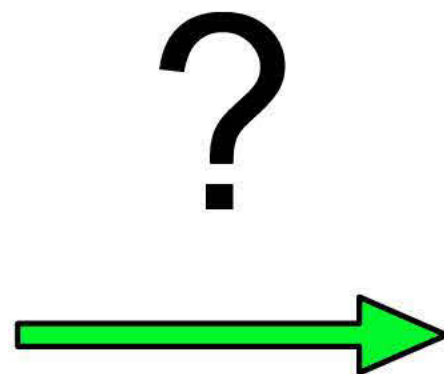


Image D.Voiry

Graphite Intercalation Compounds

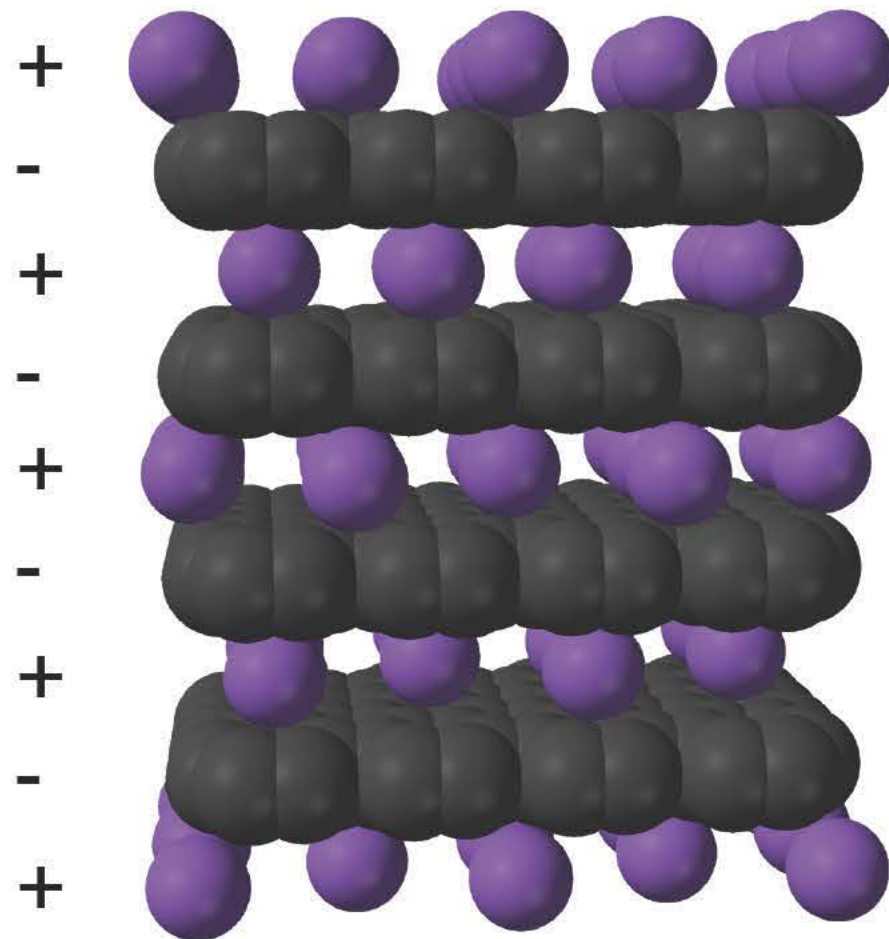
Graphite Intercalation Compounds



M. Dumas©Marabout

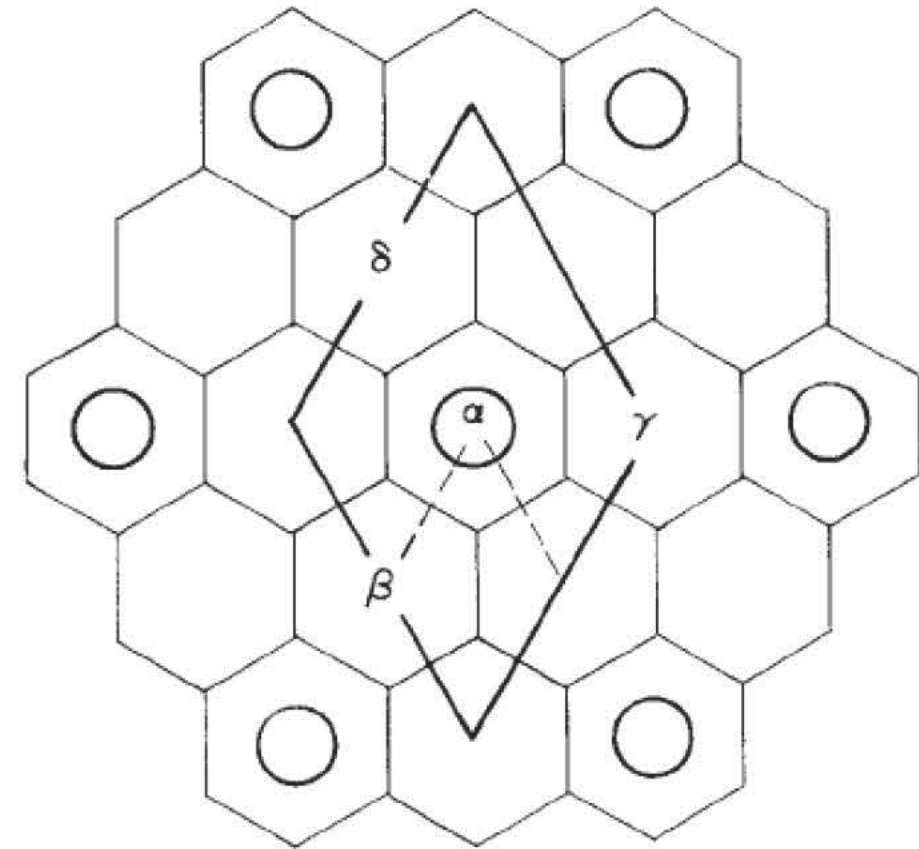
Graphene from Graphite Intercalation Compounds

Model for the structure of KC_8



Side view

(Image from Wikimedia Commons)
(data from P. Lagrange et al., Annales de chimie, 1978)



Top view

Dresselhaus and Dresselhaus, Adv. in
Physics, 1980



Graphene from Graphite Intercalation Compounds

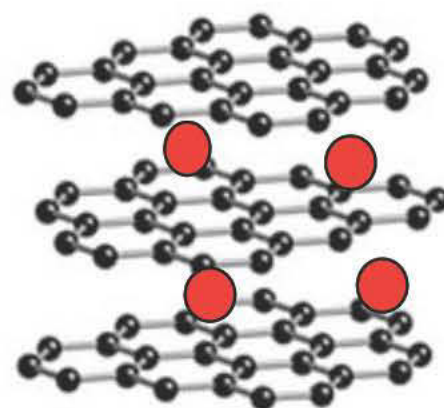
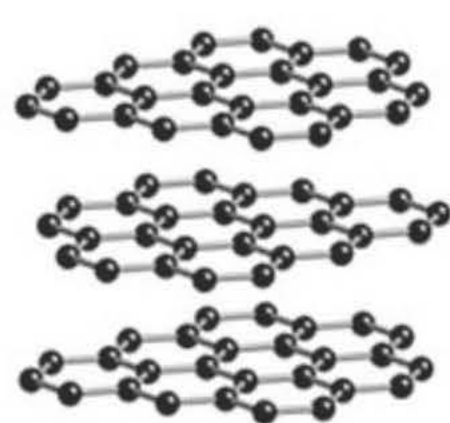
Thermodynamically stable solutions of graphene:



Nacional de Grafite, Brazil

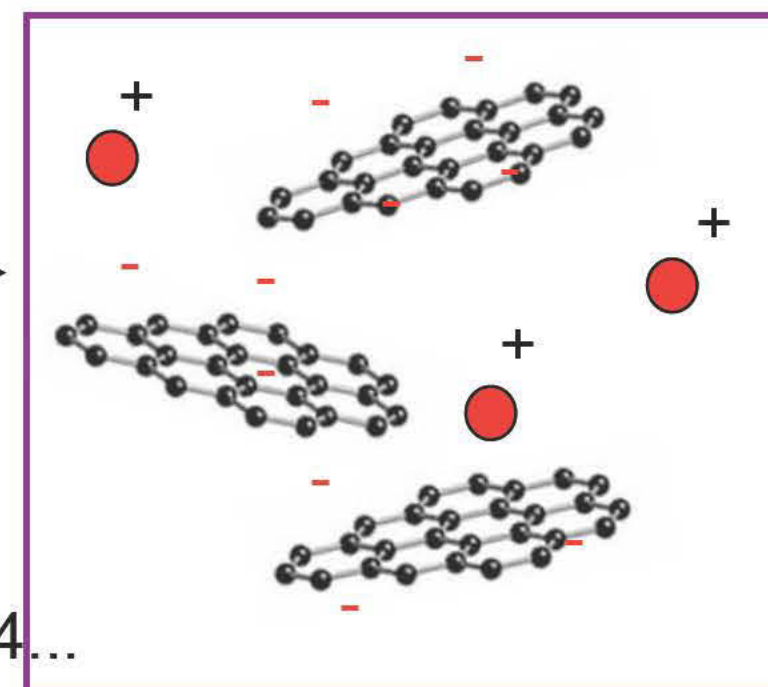


KC₈



GIC

NMP



Up to 0.7 mg/ml

reported since at least 1954...
Rüdorf and Schulze (1954)

C. Vallés et al., Patent (2007),

C. Vallés et al., J. Am. Chem. Soc. **130**, 15802 (2008)

A. Catheline et al. Chem. Commun, **47**, 5470 (2011).

Graphene from Graphite Intercalation Compounds

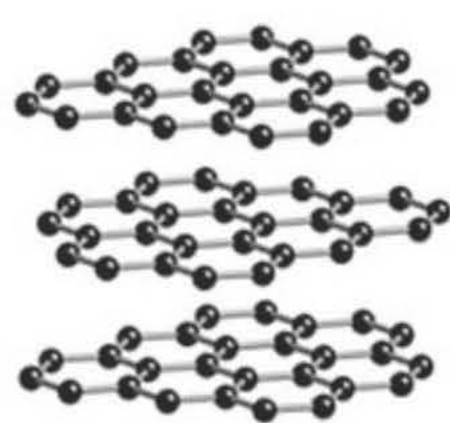
Thermodynamically stable solutions of graphene:



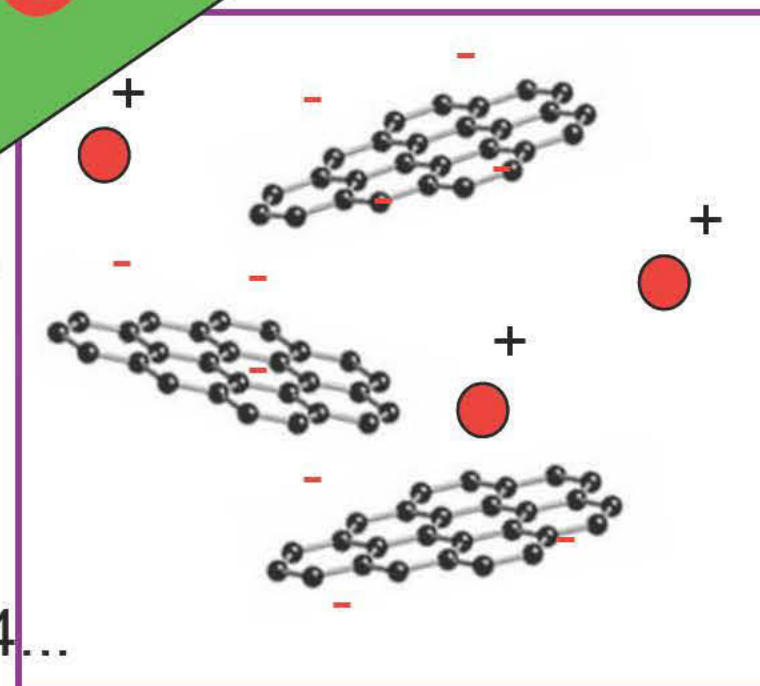
Nacional de Grafite, Brazil



KC₈



GIC



Up to 0.7 mg/ml

Sonication free

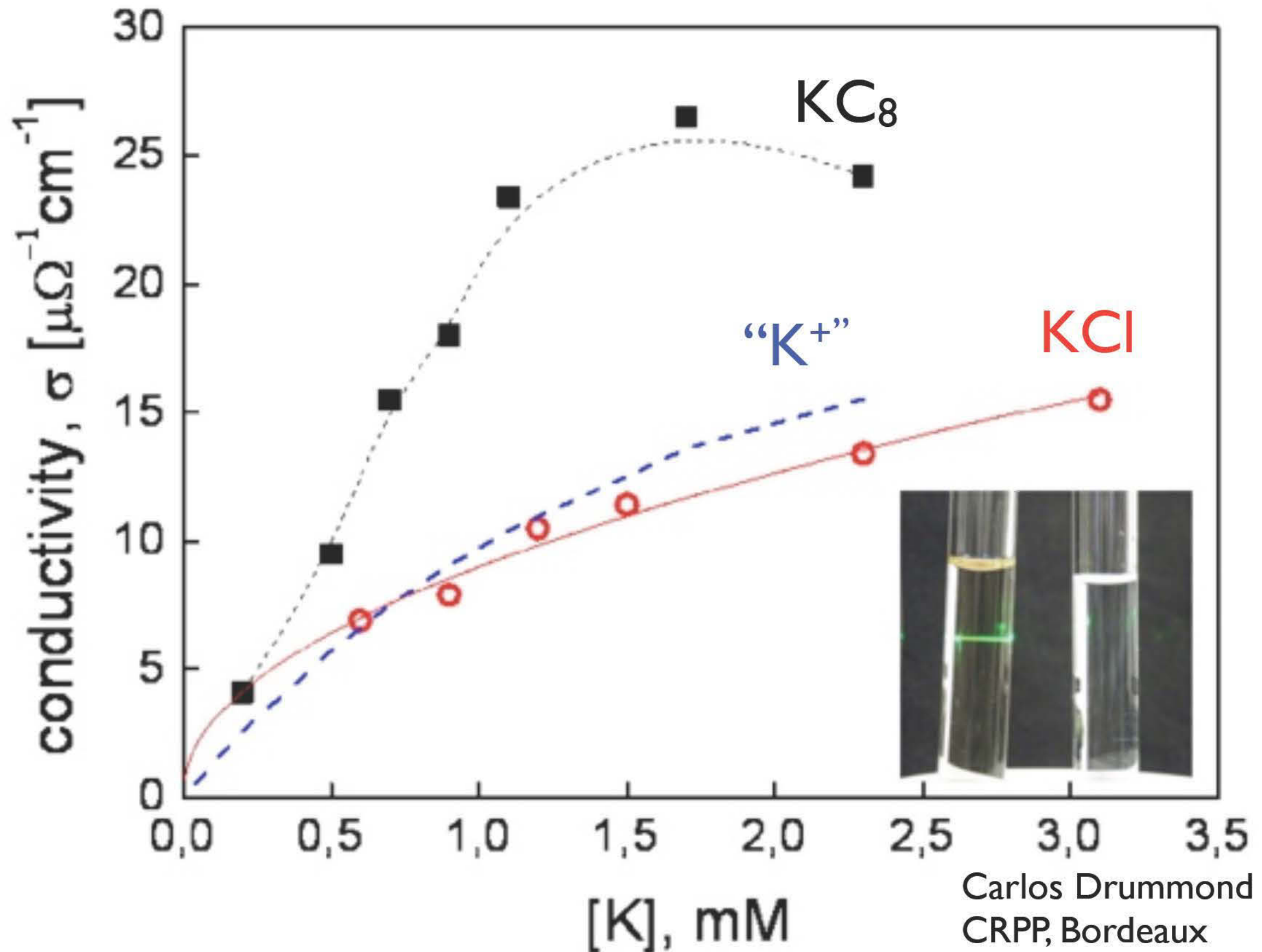
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C. Vallés et al., Patent (2007),

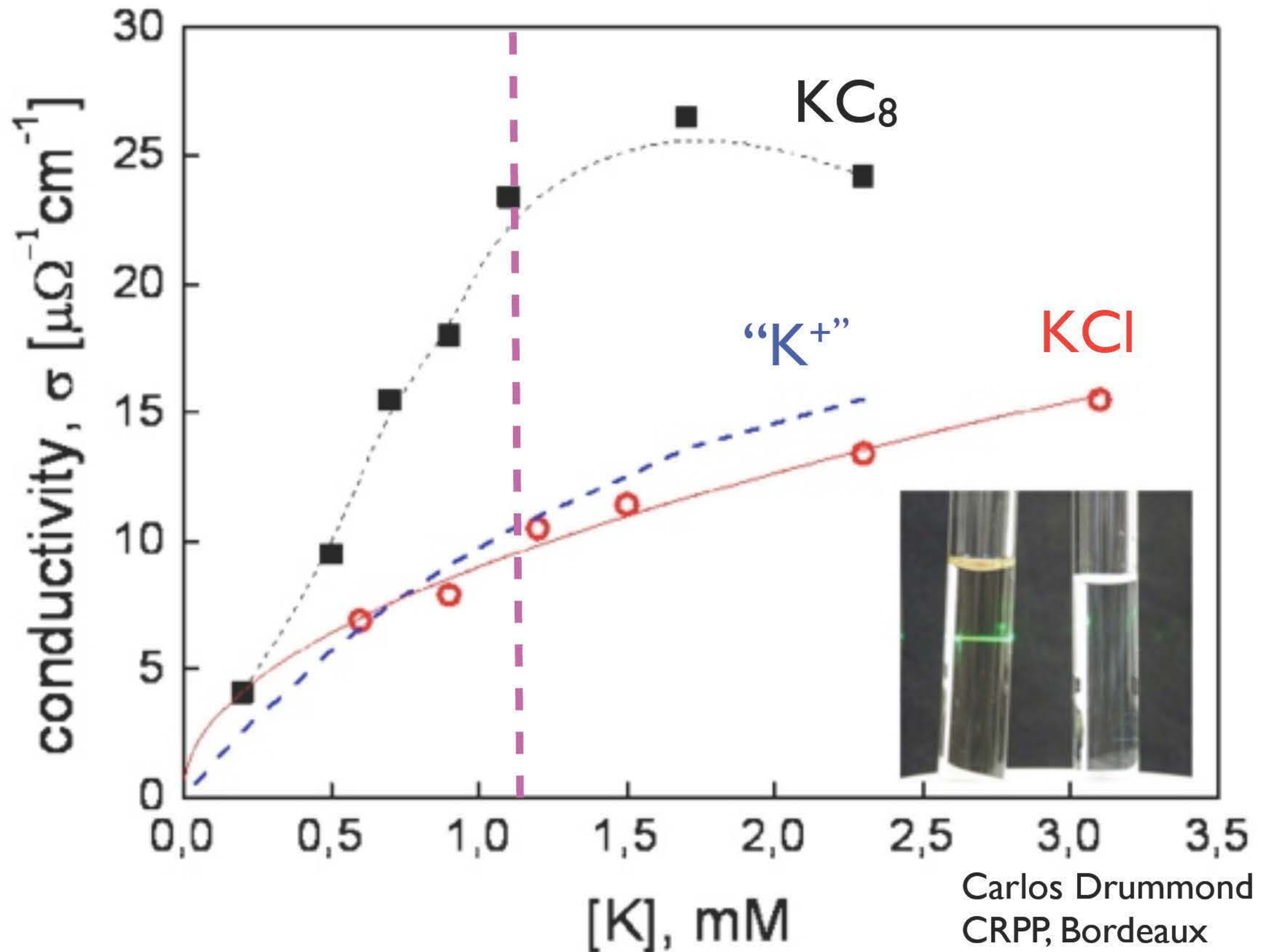
C. Vallés et al., J. Am. Chem. Soc. **130**, 15802 (2008)

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Graphene from Graphite Intercalation Compounds

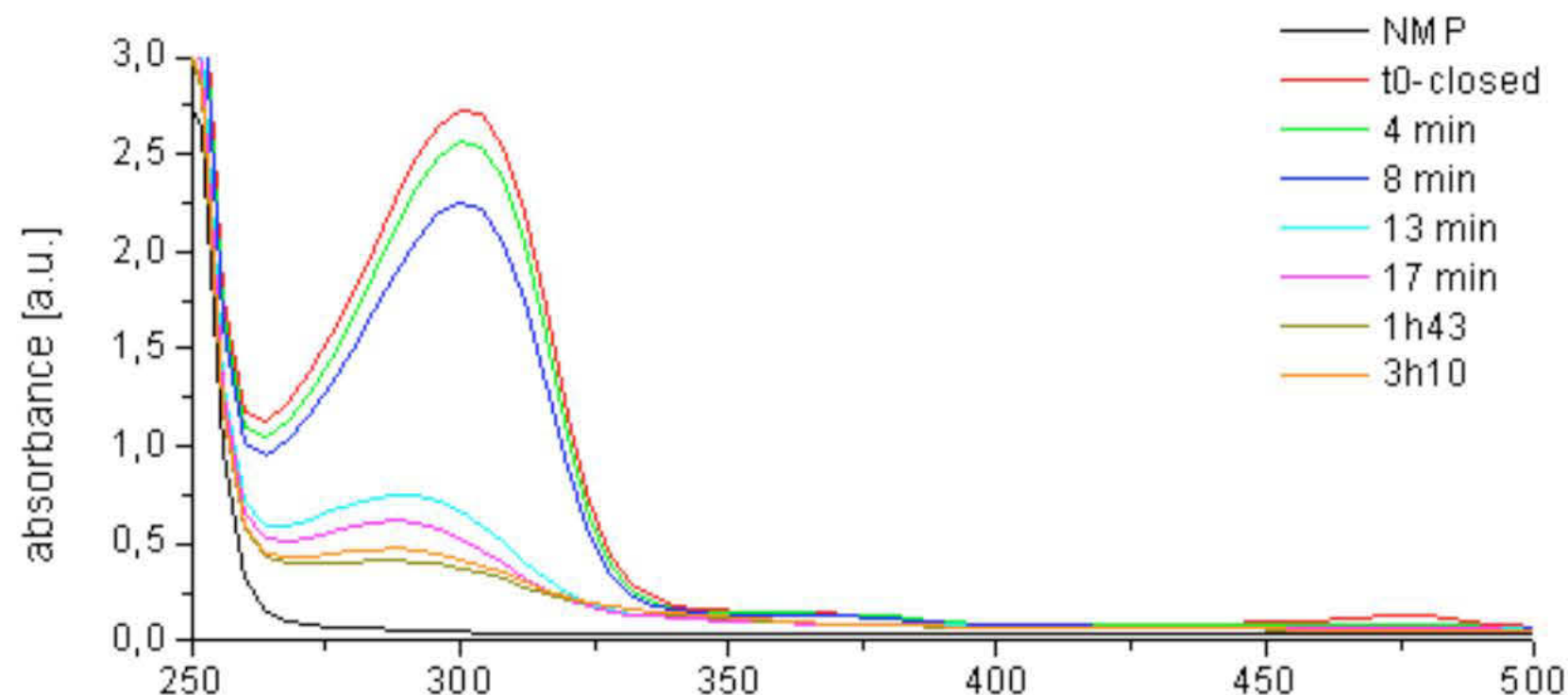


Graphene from Graphite Intercalation Compounds

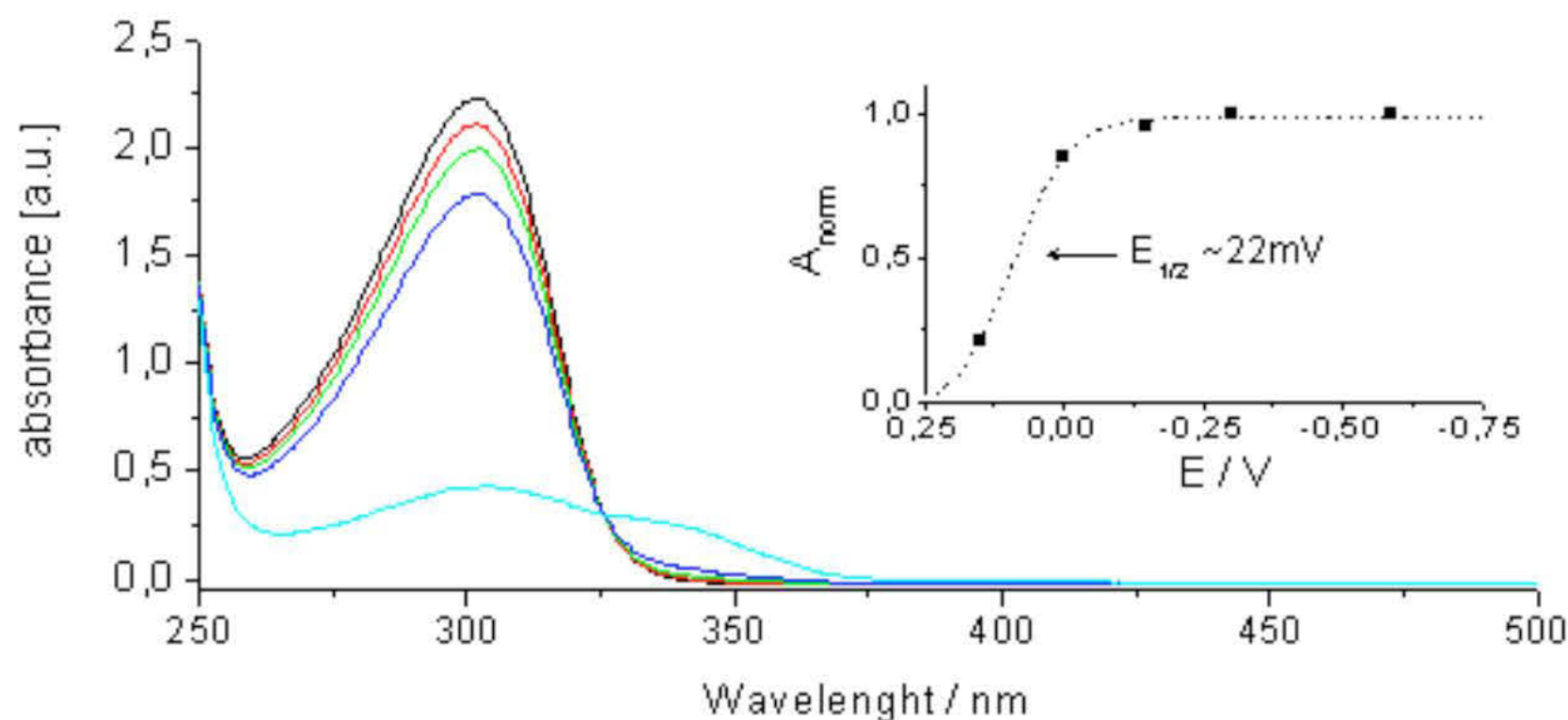


Oxidation (de-doping)

dry air



electrochemistry



Nernstian behaviour: $E^\circ = 22 \text{ mV}$ (vs SCE)

Graphene from Graphite Intercalation Compounds

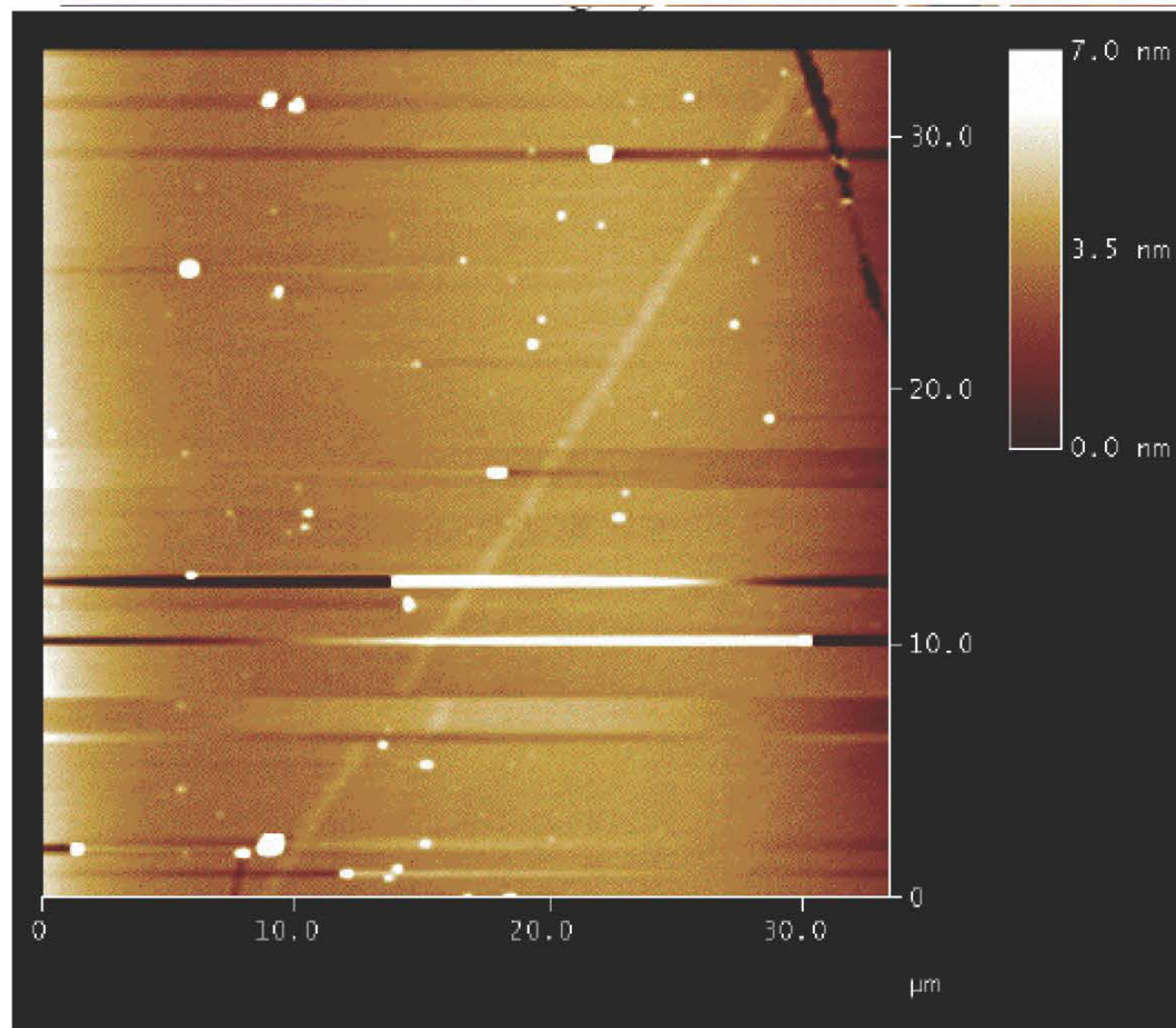


Image by C. Drummond

AFM on mica

End of a graphene ribbon , ca. 40 microns long - ca. 0.4 nm. height

Graphene from Graphite Intercalation Compounds

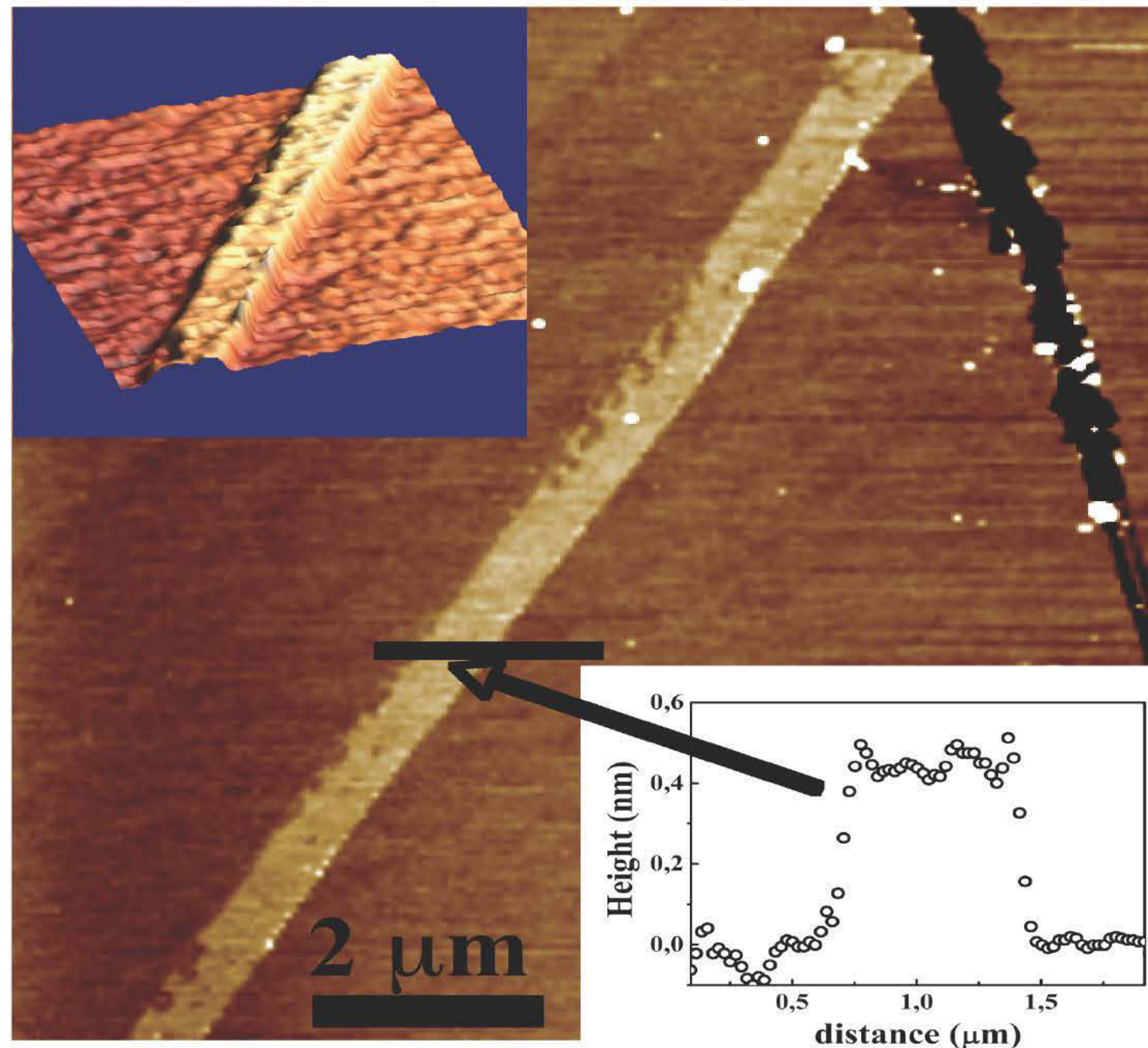
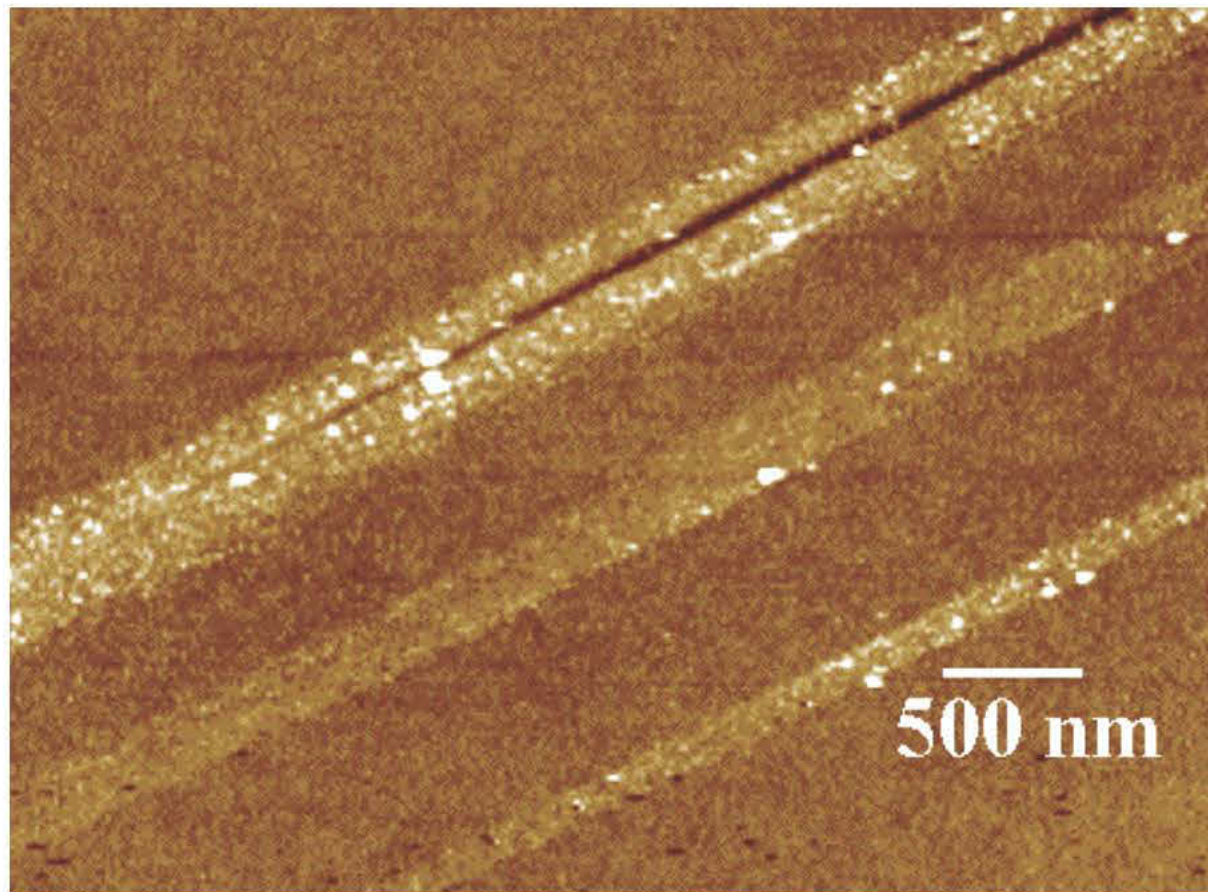
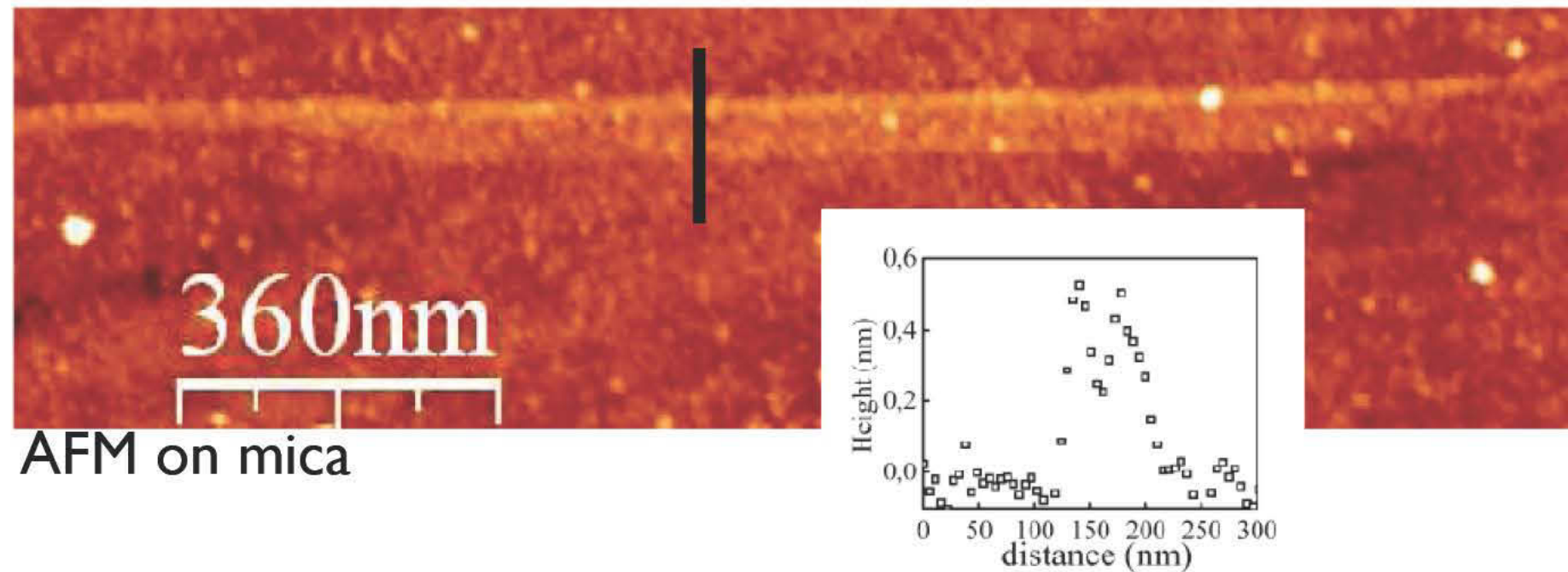


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AFM on mica

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Graphene from Graphite Intercalation Compounds



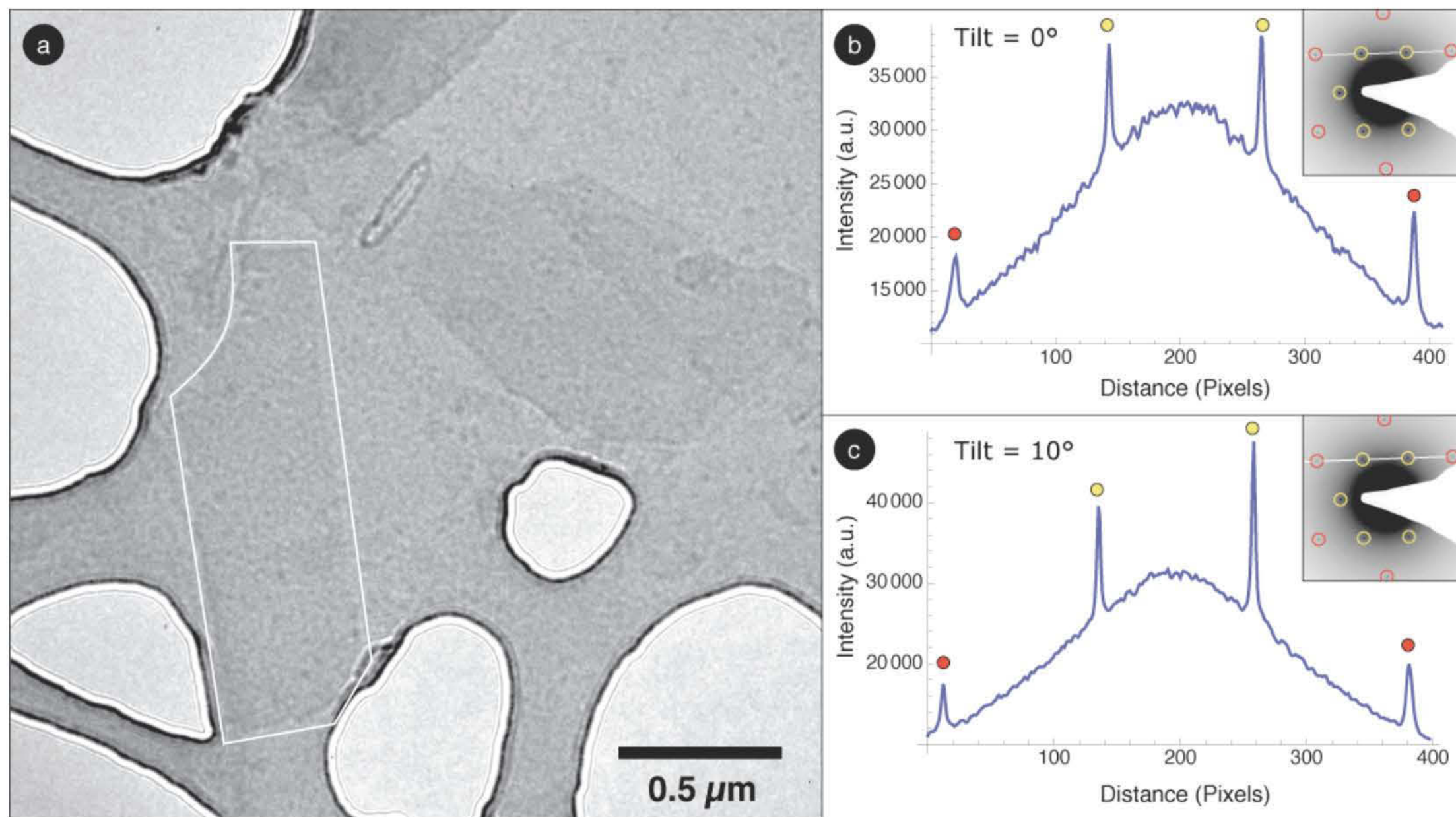
On Si/SiO₂ wafer

Image M. He

From KC₂₄(THF)_x

Graphene from Graphite Intercalation Compounds

Transmission electronic microscopy



Luca Ortolani, Bologna, Italy

A. Catheline et al., Chem. Commun., 2011, DOI: 10.1039/C1CC11100K

dispersions or solutions ?

metastable or stable?

Dissolution of Graphene salt or nanotube salt:

Spontaneous process: goes to the lowest energy state

can we go any further ?

Dispersions vs solutions

An ordinary solution is homogeneous whereas a heterogeneous system such as an emulsion of oil in water should be called a mixture.

L. Pauling, . General Chemistry , Dover 1988

Emulsions (for ex, droplets of oil in water) are dispersions

A powder finely divided in a liquid is also a dispersion (mud)

Dispersion

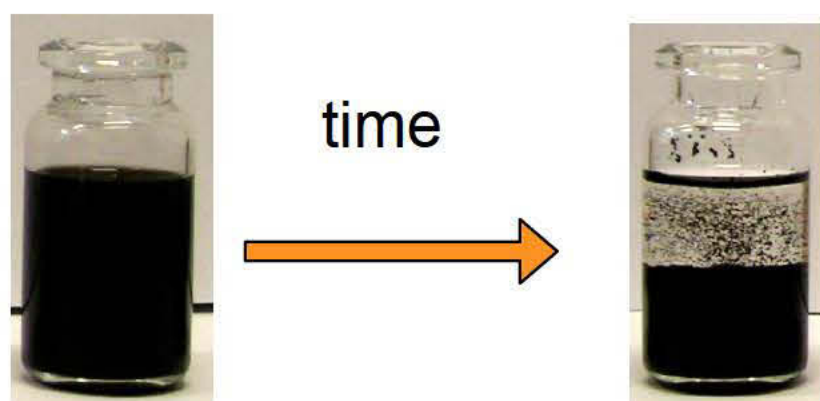
- Heterogeneous (mixture)
- Metastable :

Biphasic system is energetically more favorable

solutions

- Homogeneous
- Stable :

Solution is energetically more favorable than the biphasic system



Dispersions vs solutions

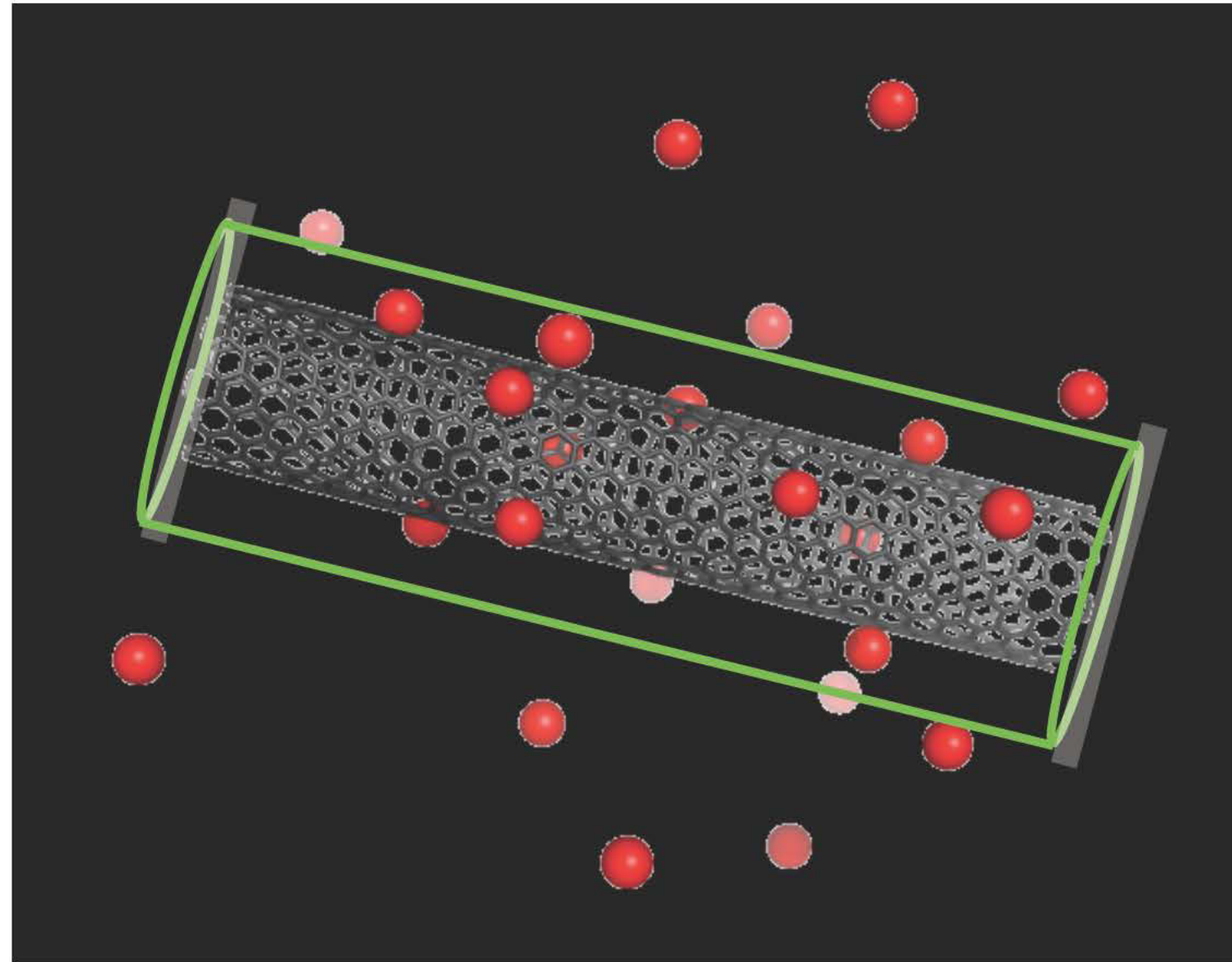
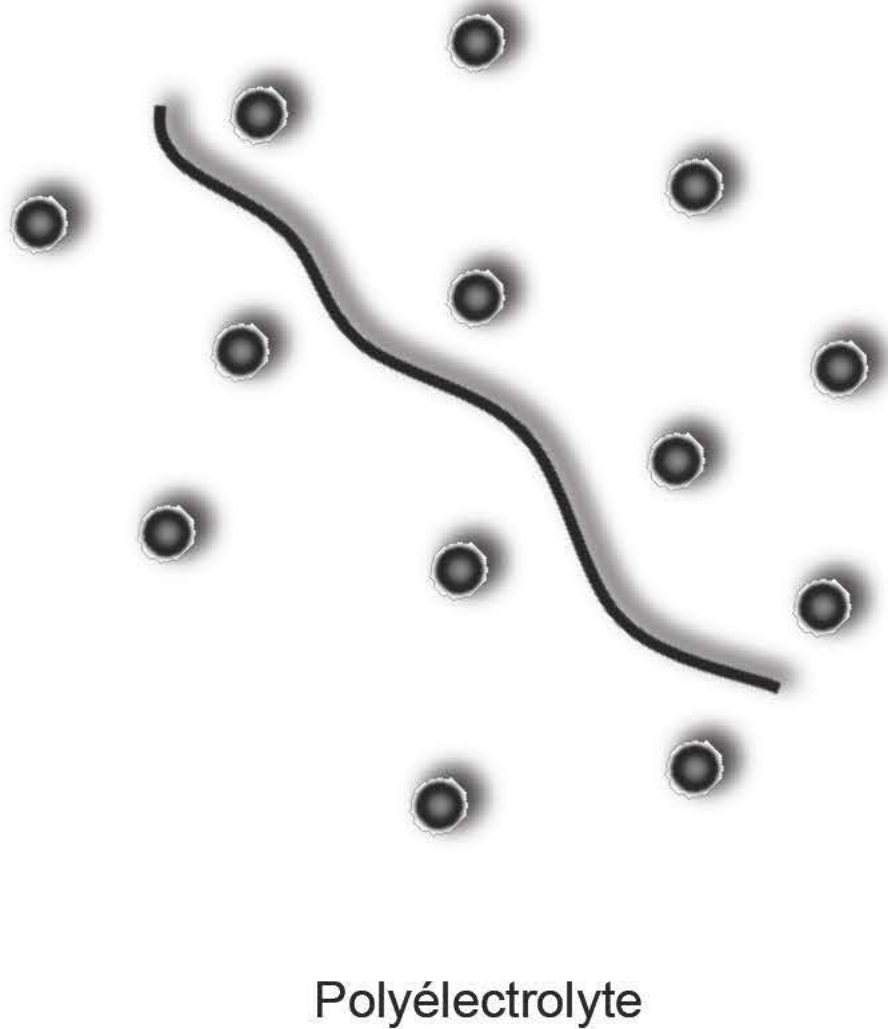
Upon mixing of the ingredients :

Solution will form spontaneously
(think of salt or sugar in water)

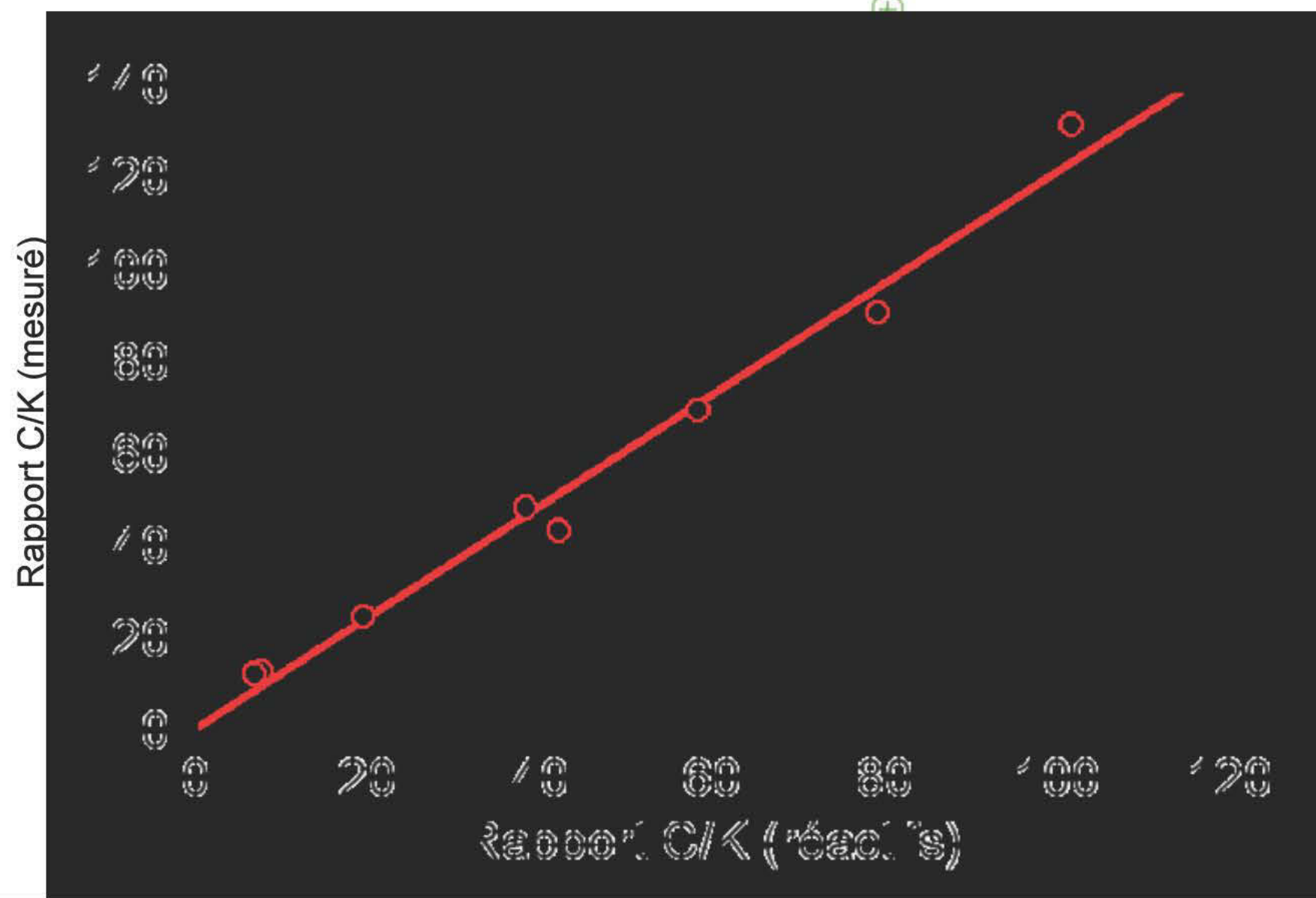
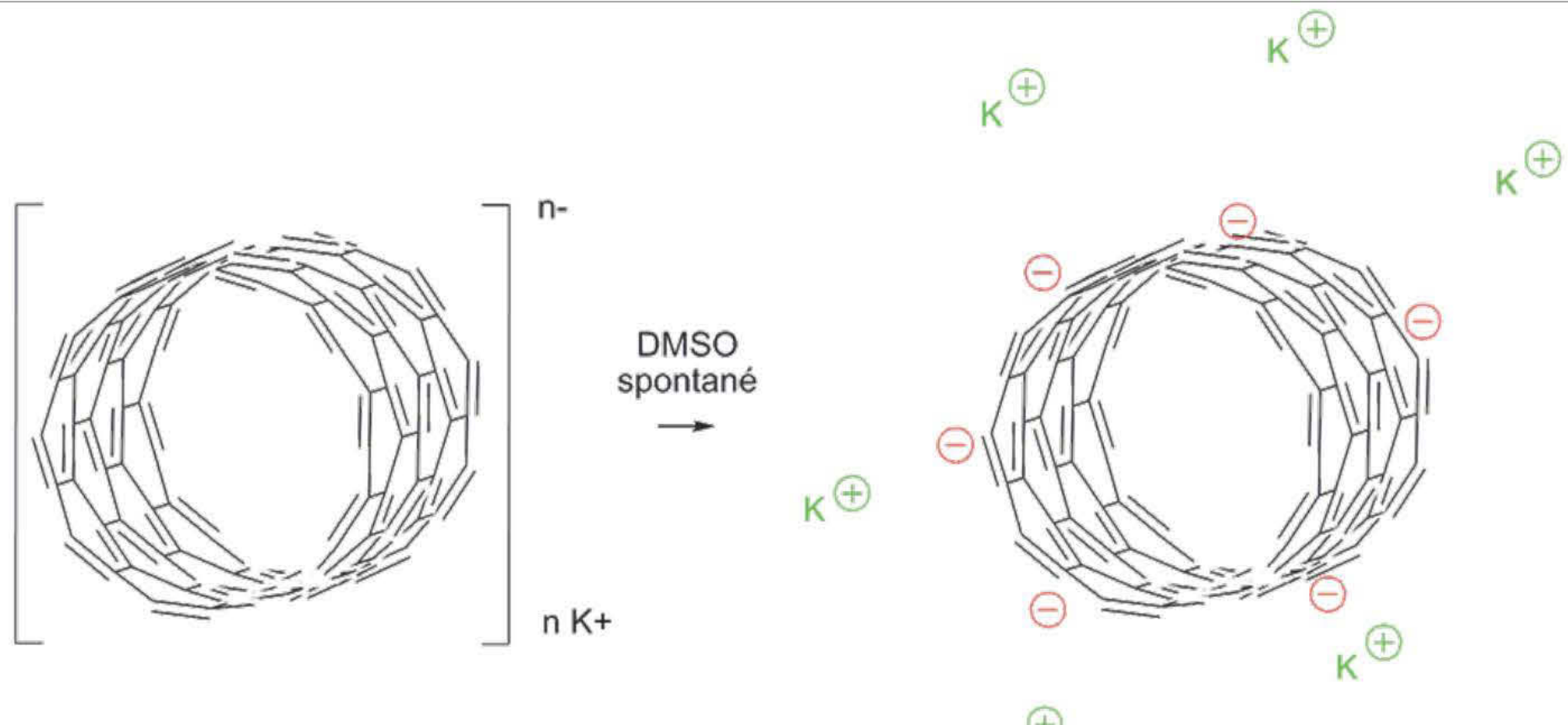
Dispersion will NOT form spontaneously
Think of a mayonnaise

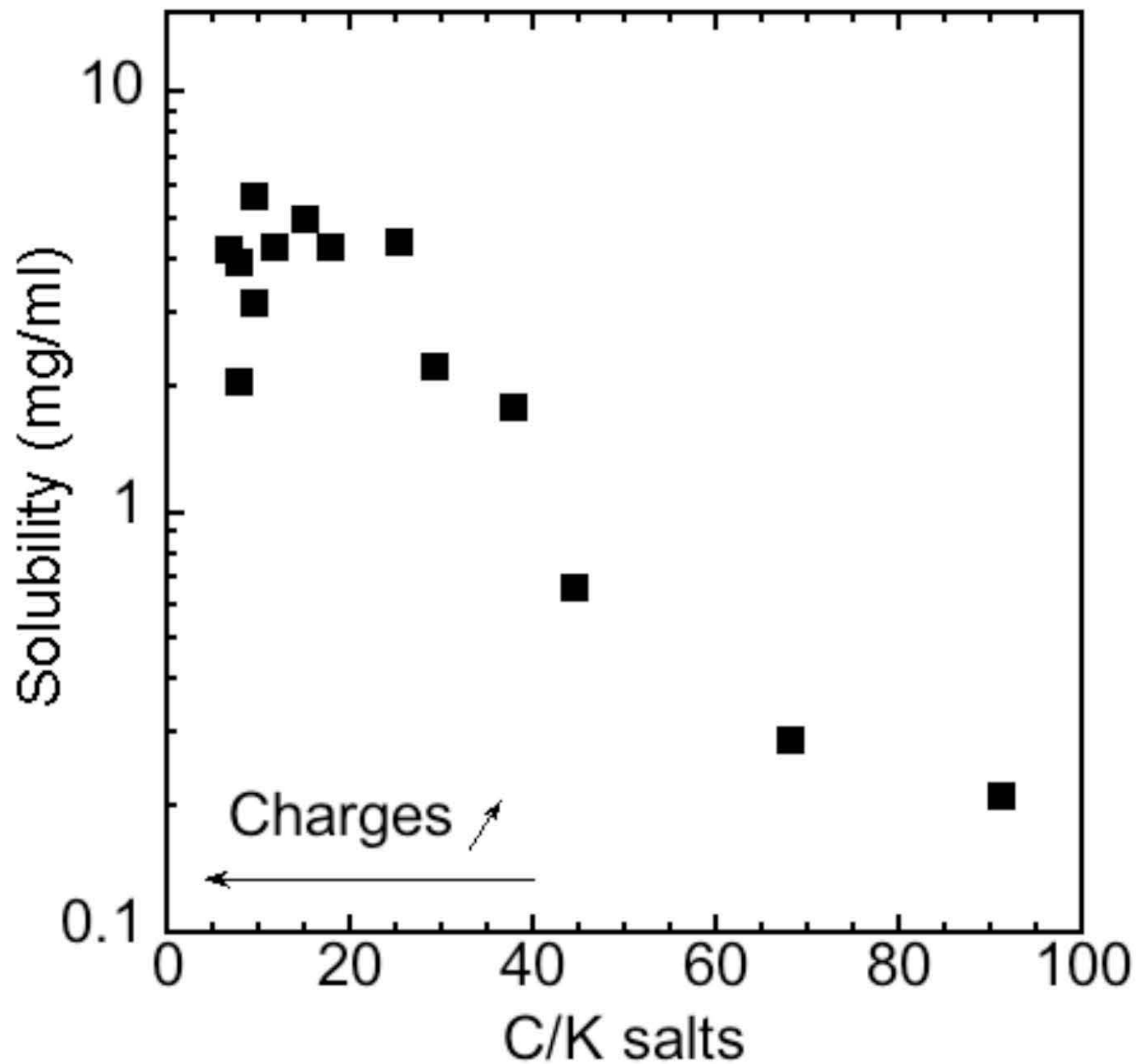
need for stirring, heating, shearing, **sonicating**....

Analogy between reduced nanotubes and polyelectrolytes



(reduced graphene: soft 2D polyelectrolyte)





can we modelize these results ?

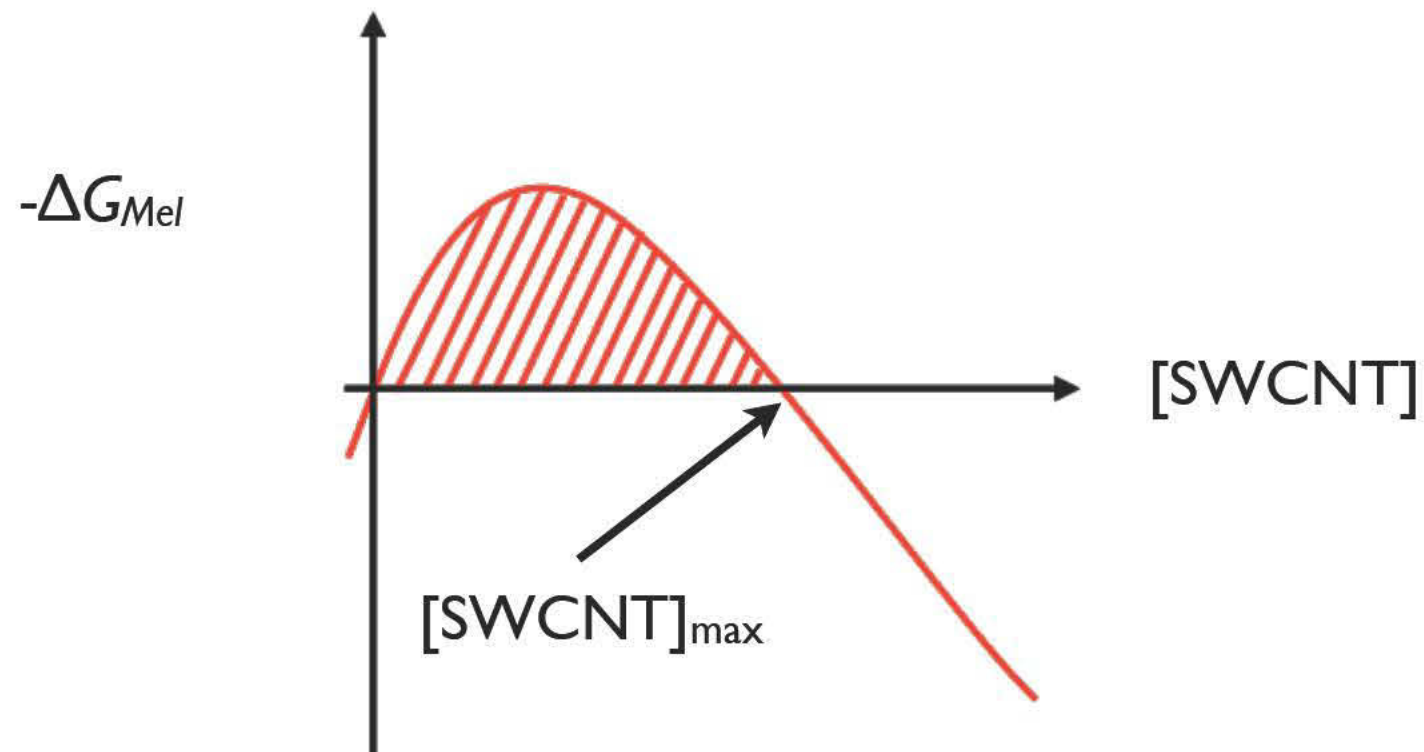


Free energy of mixing:

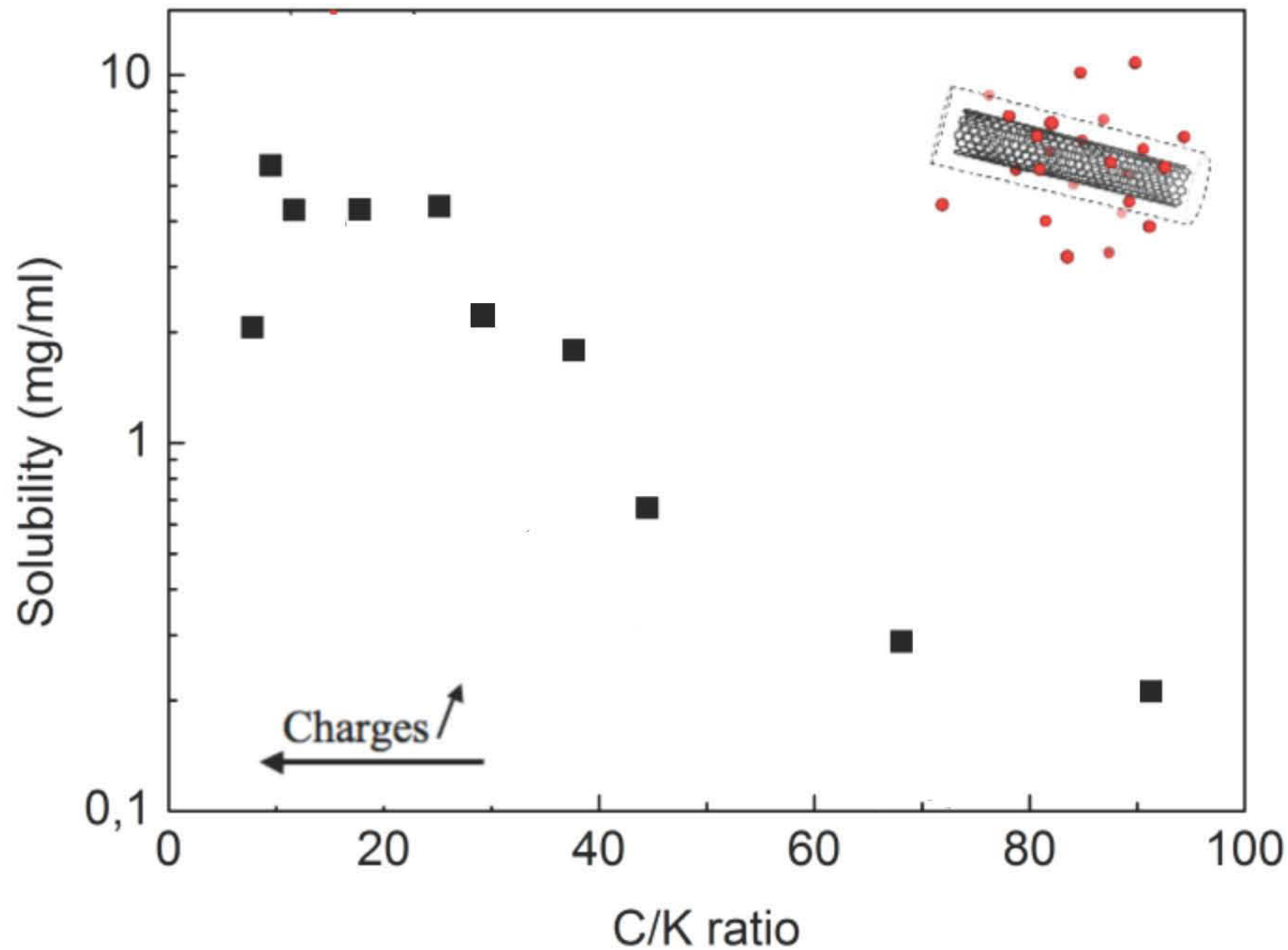
$$\Delta G_{\text{Mel}} = \Delta H_{\text{Mel}} - T\Delta S_{\text{Mel}}$$

mixture is stable if :

$$\Delta G_{\text{Mel}} < 0$$

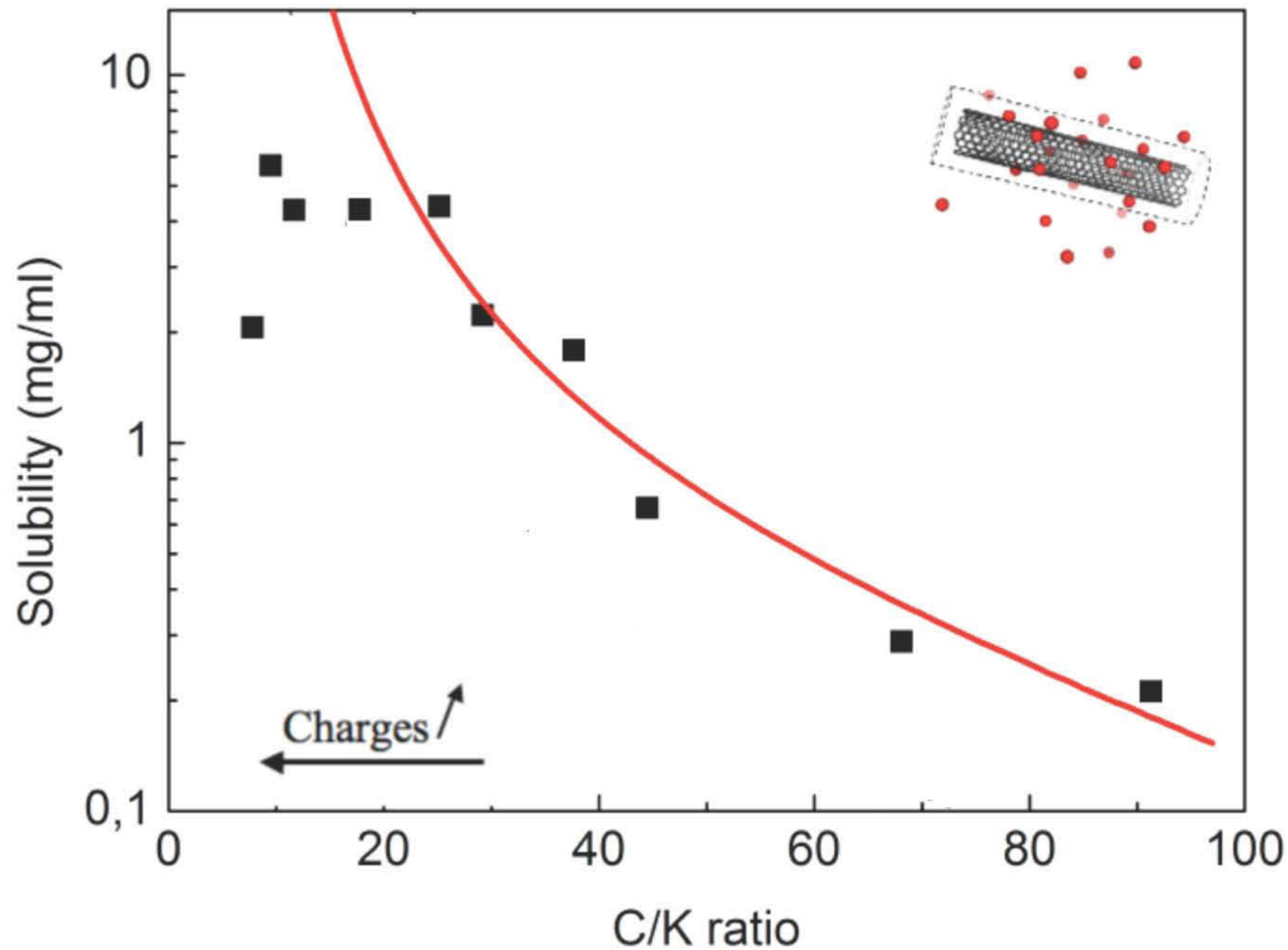


$$\Delta G_{Mel} = \Delta H_{Mel} - T[\Delta S_{Mel-SWCNT} + \Delta S_{Mel-Solvent} + \Delta S_{Mel-Counter-ion}]$$



D.Voiry
C. Drummond

$$\Delta G_{Mel} = \Delta H_{Mel} - T[\Delta S_{Mel-SWCNT} + \Delta S_{Mel-Solvent} + \Delta S_{Mel-Counter-ion}]$$



D.Voiry
C. Drummond

Graphene solutions

☒ Negatively charged graphene sheets

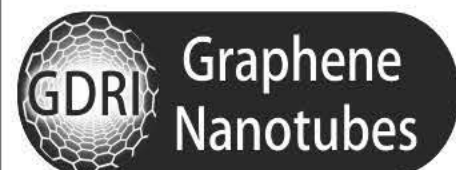
☒ 2D polyelectrolyte

☒ Spontaneous dissolution

☒ No mechanical energy needed

☒ Solutions of graphene 0.7 mg/ml

→ ☒ base for chemistry



The Nanotube team at CRPP, Octobre 2010

Amélie Catheline, Carlos Drummond, Hassan Saadaoui (CRPP)

Damien Voiry, Maryse Maugey, Cécile Zakri (CRPP)

Marc Monthieux, (CEMES Toulouse)

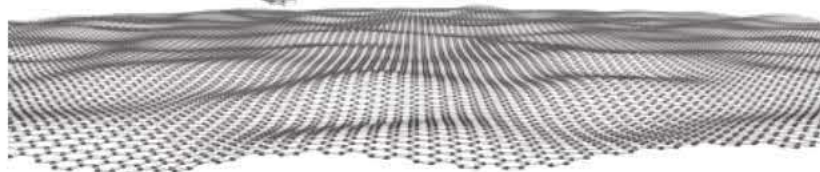
Luca Ortolani, Vittorio Morandi (CNR Bologna)

Cristina Vallés, CSIC, Zaragoza

C. Furtado, M. Pimenta, C. Fantini, A. Righi, (Belo Horizonte)

F. Paolucci, M. Iurlo, M. Marcaccio, S. Rapino, G. Valenti (Bologna)

Newton Rosas (Nacional de Grafite, Brazil)



International Meeting on the Chemistry of Nanotubes and Graphene

Scope

- Functionalization, dispersion, sorting
- Composites, foams, coatings
- Energy storage, conversion, harvesting
- Nanomedicine, biomaterials
- Functional materials
- Catalysis, filtration, membranes
- Organic electronics



Invited speakers

- K. Müllen (Mainz)
- R. Haddon, (U. California Riverside)
- J. Lagerwall (Séoul)
- C. Ewels (Nantes)
- N. Nakashima (Kyushu)

Abstract submission deadline: **December 15, 2011**

Registration deadline: **February 1, 2012**

Contact: chemontubes@crpp-bordeaux.cnrs.fr
<http://chemontubes2010.crpp-bordeaux.cnrs.fr>