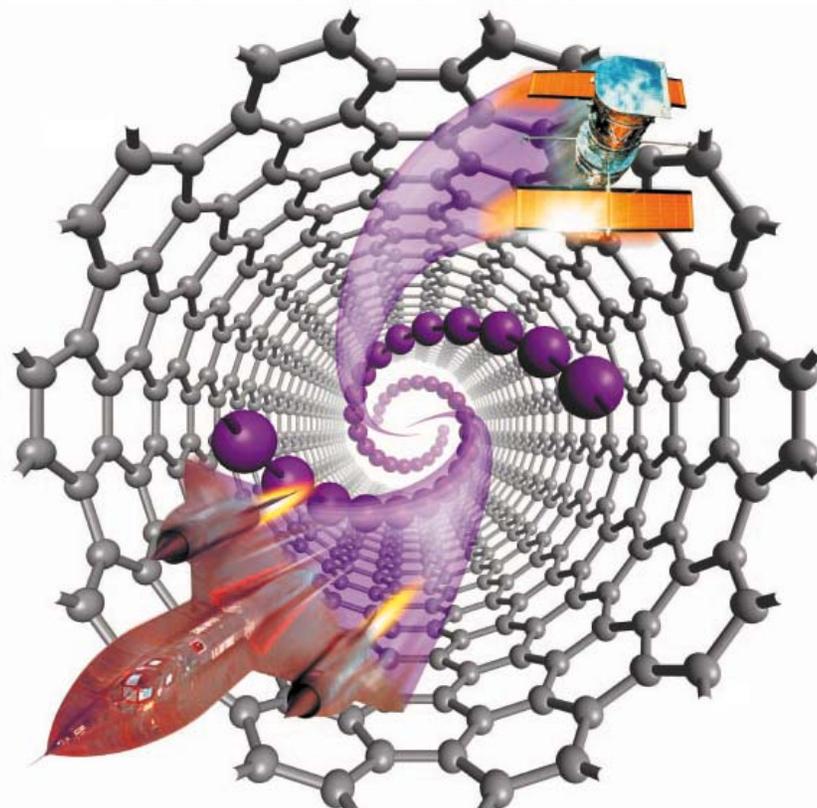


In situ Measurements of Nanotube Growth Kinetics – *The Race to Nanotube-Based Composites*

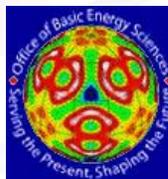
Alex Puretzy
David B. Geohegan
Iliia Ivanov
Stephen Jesse
Hans Christen
Gyula Eres
Jane Howe
Hongtao Cui
Sriram Viswanathan
Phil Britt
Kalayu Belay*

*Cond. Matt. Sci. Div., Oak Ridge National Laboratory
and the
Mat. Sci. & Eng. Dept., University of Tennessee
and
Florida A&M University*

OAK RIDGE NATIONAL LABORATORY
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OAK RIDGE NATIONAL LABORATORY
Laboratory Directed Research and Development

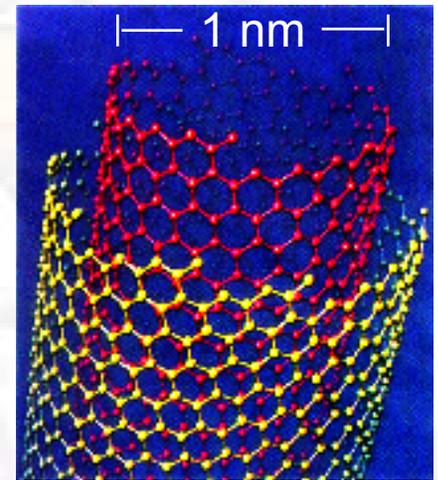
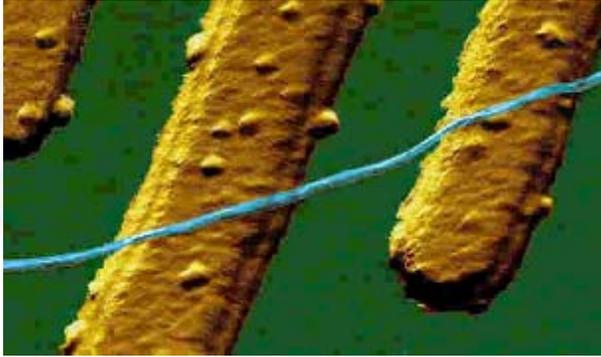


Outline

Carbon Nanotube Growth for Composites

- **Nanotube-based composites - *A brief introduction***
- **In situ diagnostics of growth -**
 - **Loose nanotubes - *grown by laser vaporization***
 - **Aligned nanotube arrays on substrates - *grown by chemical vapor deposition***
 - ***growth rates measured, lengths controlled, growth mechanisms elucidated***

Carbon Nanotubes - Properties



Electronic Properties - Devices

- ❖ The best field emitters known
- ❖ Already developed for field emission displays, lighting.
- ❖ Molecular wires
- ❖ Semiconducting or metallic
- ❖ Single-electron transistors demonstrated
- ❖ Ballistic transport (10^9 A/cm²) - up to 1 mA per tube!
- ❖ Sharp optical transitions - fluorescence/electroluminescence demonstrated

Needs: Small quantities, controlled structure, for predictable properties

Structural Properties - Composites

- ❖ Strongest material known to man
- ❖ > 1 TPa axial Young's modulus
- ❖ 130 GPa predicted bundled strength
- ❖ 100 times stronger than steel, only one-sixth the weight.
- ❖ Stiffness-to-weight ratio 40X higher than that of aluminum
- ❖ Electrical conductivity better than copper
- ❖ Thermal conductivity greater than diamond
- ❖ Hollow - Gas Storage, Drug delivery
- ❖ Actuation demonstrated

Needs: Large quantities, efficient fabrication into tough composite

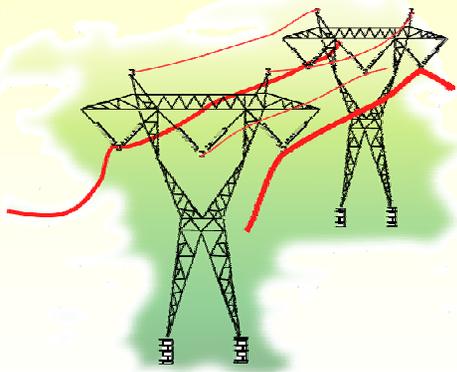
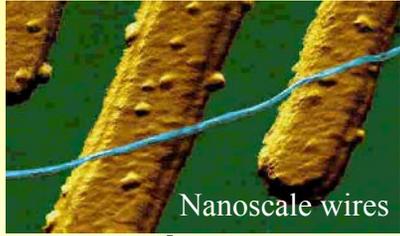
Aligned SWNT - Multifunctional Supermaterials

Mechanical



1 TPa Young's Modulus

Electrical Wires

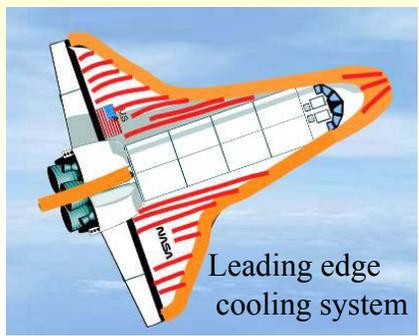
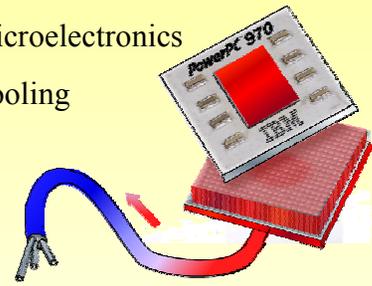


Power transmission cables

Ballistic Transport

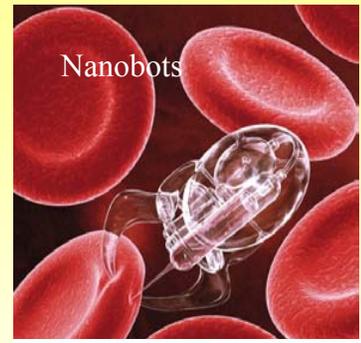
Heat Pipes

Microelectronics cooling



3000 W/mK

Actuators

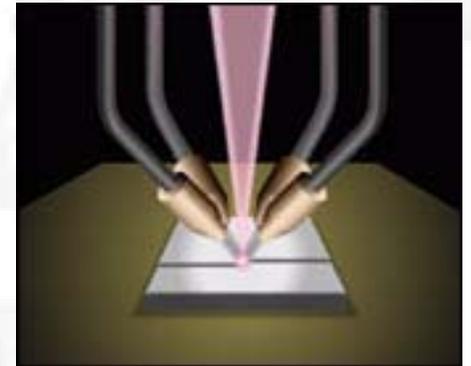
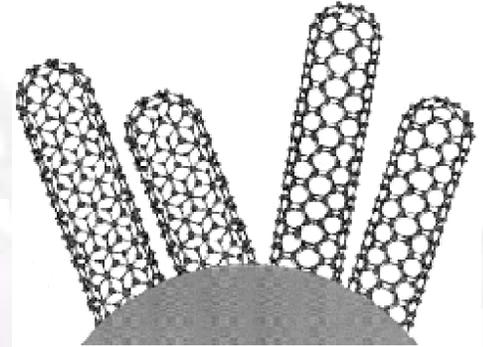


Low voltage

Alignment - The key to directional transport properties

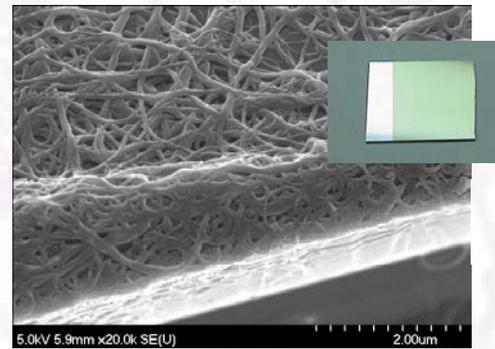
Grand Challenges in SWNT Synthesis

- **Atomic scale control over synthesis**
 - *Must understand nucleation step*
 - *Control over chirality*
 - *For predesigned electronic properties*
 - *And **controllable lengths***
- **Economic, large-scale production**
 - *Optimize growth process*
 - ***high rate** growth*
 - *to **long lengths** for fibers, composites*
 - *Ultimately, the growth of a perfect SWNT crystal*

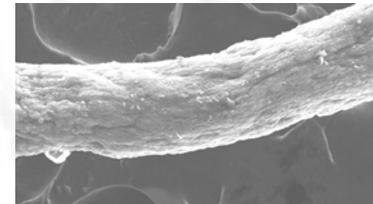
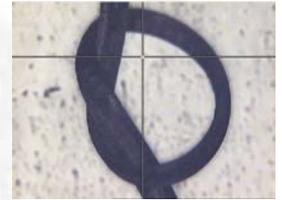


Two Approaches for Nanotube Composites

- **Loose Nanotubes**
 - Spun, cast, blended into fibers, sheets, monoliths
 - Synthesis Methods:
Arc, laser, floating catalyst CVD



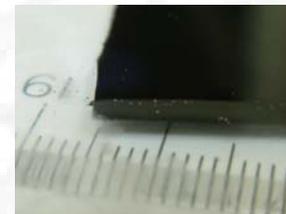
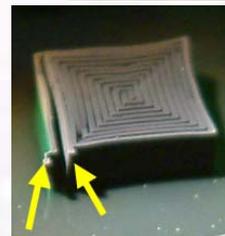
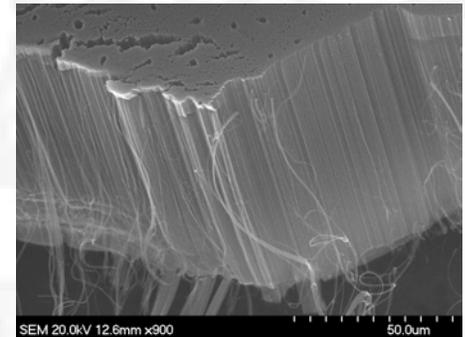
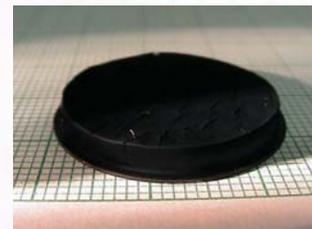
Films, sheets, coatings



Fibers

- **As-Grown Nanotubes**

- Directly aligned on substrates
- Synthesis Methods:
Chemical Vapor Deposition of Aligned Arrays



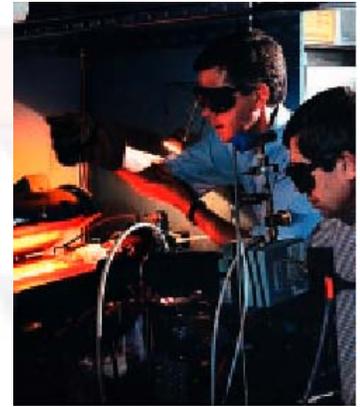
As-grown, vertical arrays



Loose SWNT Grown by Laser Vaporization

GOAL

Understand SWNT Synthesis Mechanism in order to Control and Scale Growth



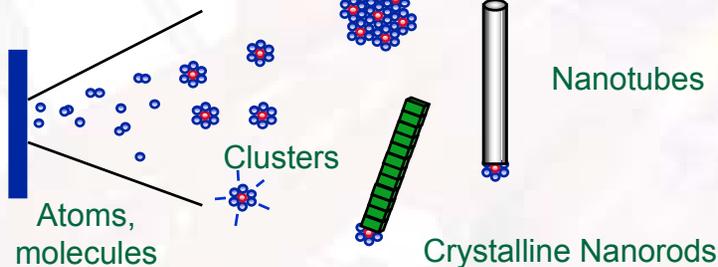
APPROACH

• Time-Resolved, In Situ Measurements

- Laser-Induced Luminescence
- Gated ICCD Imaging
- Optical Emission/Absorption Spectroscopy
- Laser-induced incandescence
- Rayleigh scattering

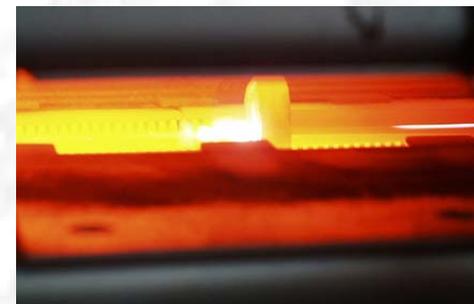


Laser ablation source

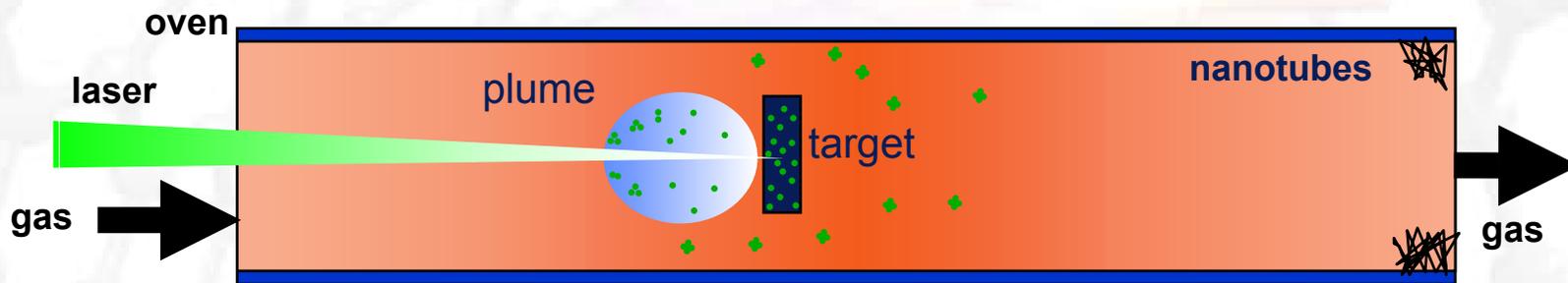


ADVANTAGES

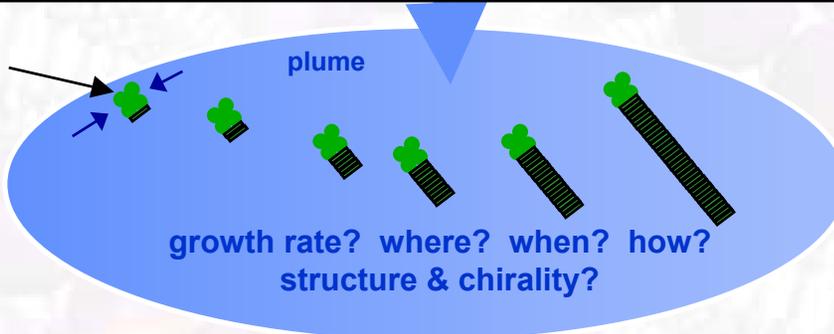
- Pulsed LV especially suitable for time-resolved measurements
- Vaporizing pulse lasts only ~ 10 ns
- SWNTs then grow undisturbed
- Measurements can extend to many seconds, and single laser shots



Synthesis of Single-Walled Carbon Nanotubes (SWNT) by Laser Vaporization



metal catalyst cluster
 $M = Ni, Co, Fe...$



- ❖ High purity
- ❖ Exclusively SWNT

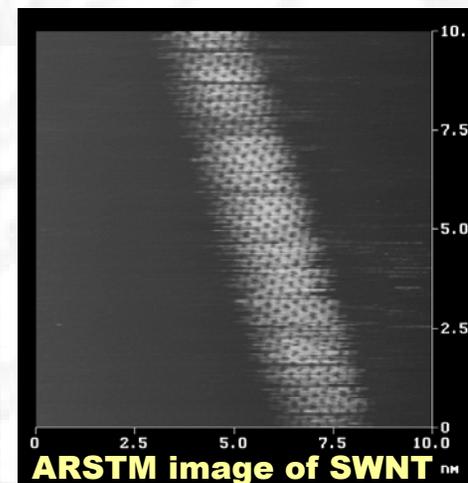
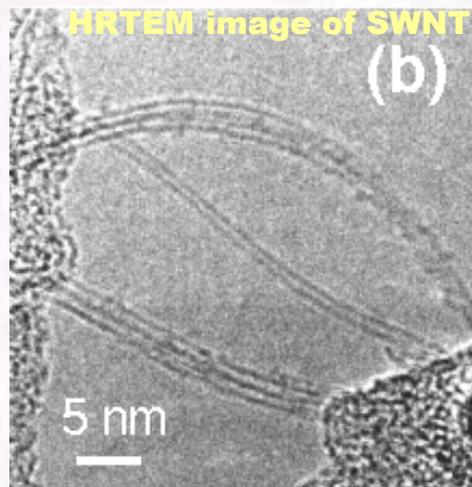
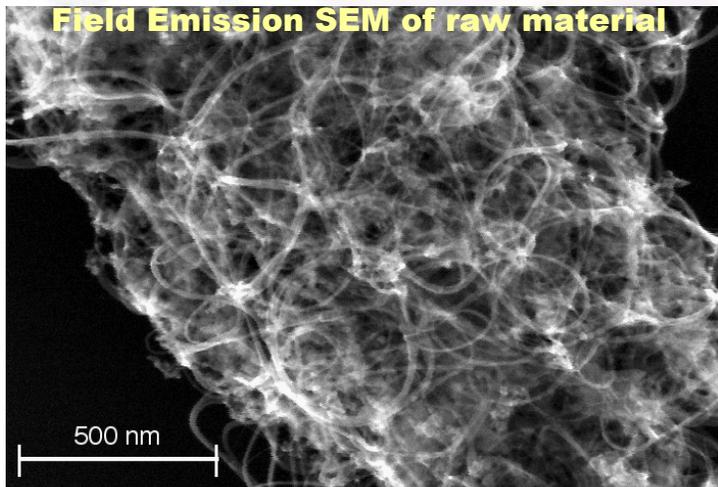


image by M. Guillorn

Mechanisms and general picture of SWNT growth

C/Co/Ni target
Molten particles of C/Co/Ni
Nanotubes
Laser beam

ijima et al, *J. Phys. Chem.* **103**, 6224 (1999)

Growth from ejected molten particles

Carbon/metal vapor
Carbon vapor clusters
Metal clusters
Laser beam
Ni atom
Liquid metal cluster
Nanotube
Atomic carbon vapor

Smalley et al, *Science* **273**, 473 (1996)

Scooter mechanism

Vapor Liquid Solid mechanism

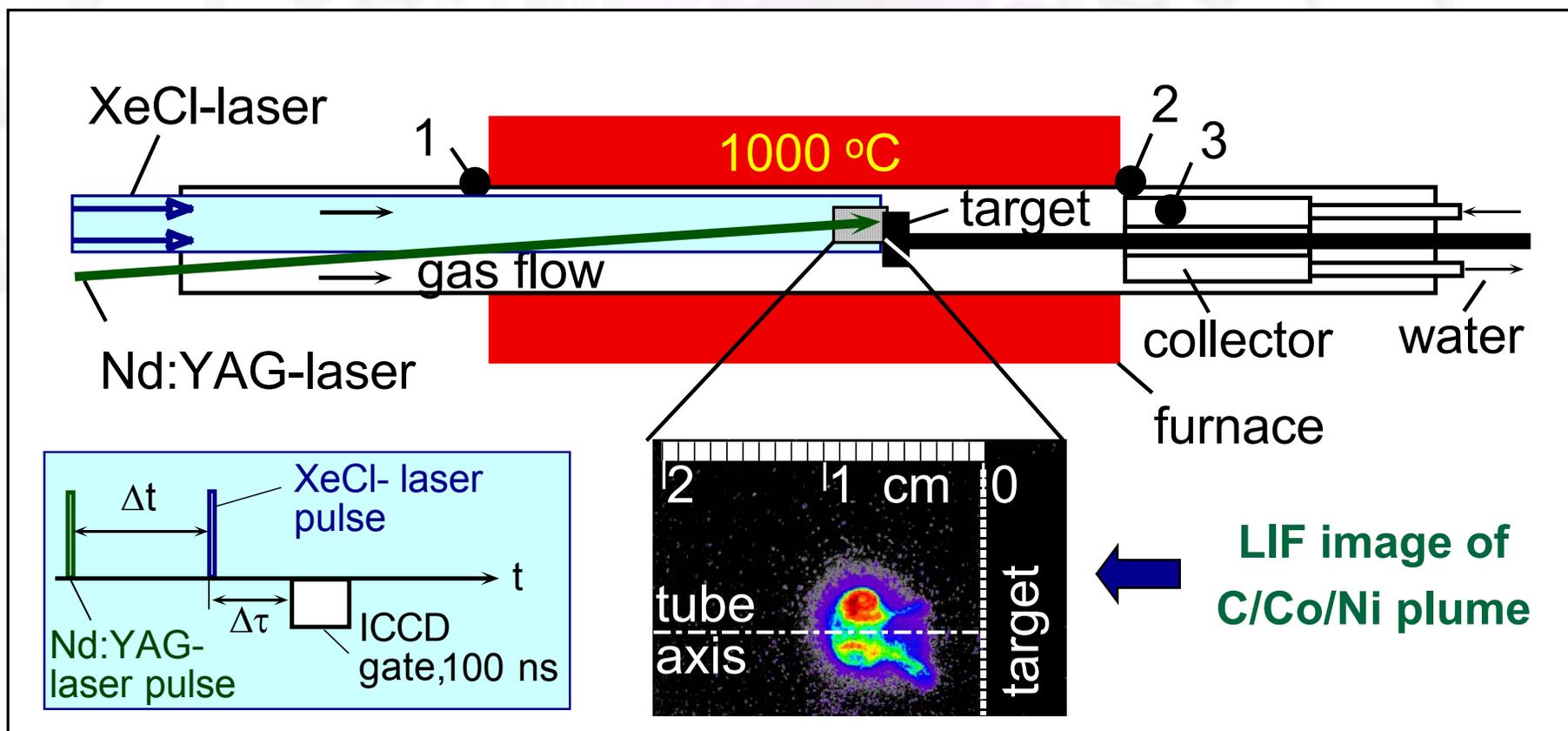
Condensed phase conversion
Carbon/metal vapor
Carbon clusters
Laser beam
Metal vapor
Nanotube

Geohegan et al, Fall MRS'99. *APL* **76**, 182 (2000)

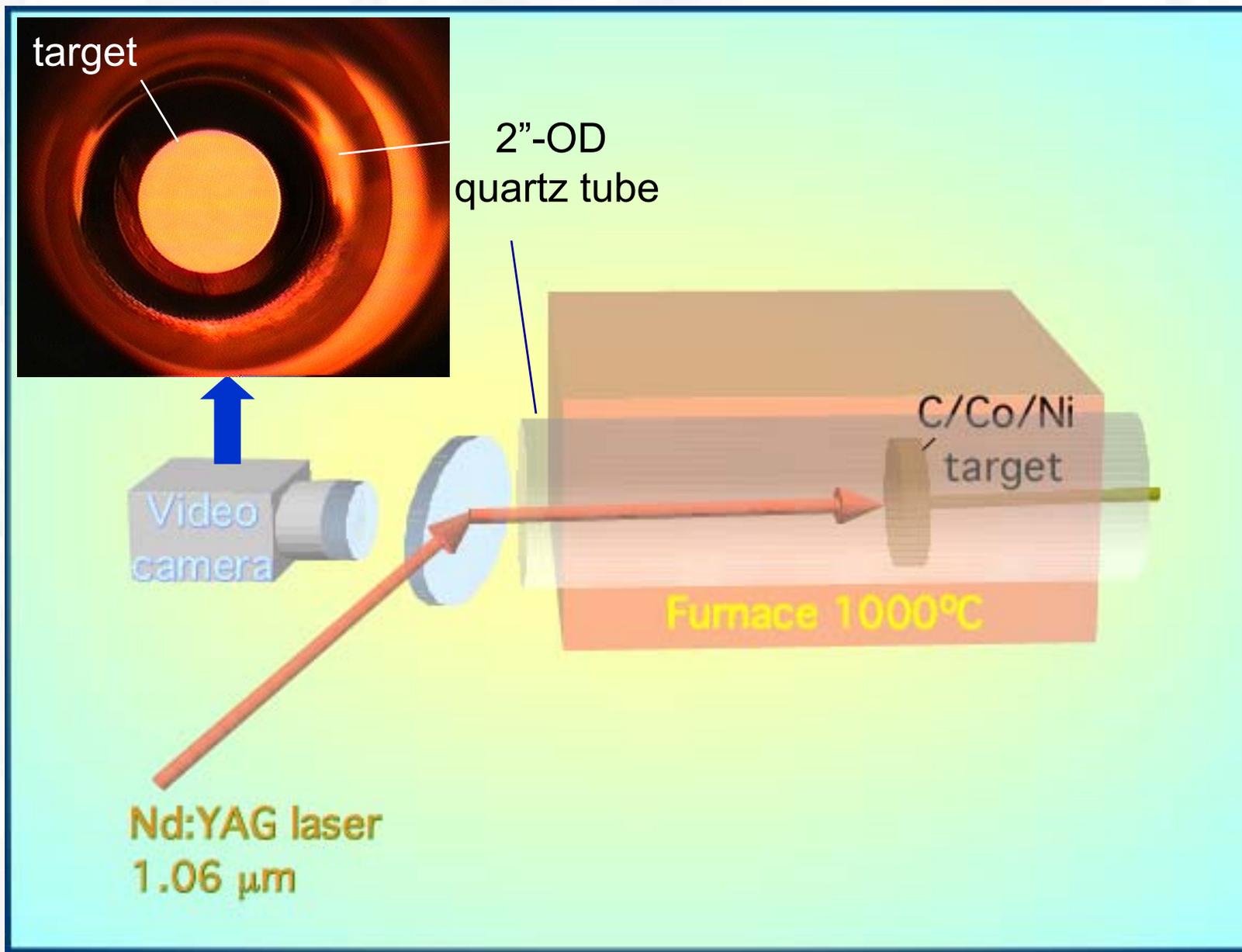
Fullerene nucleus growth model
STEP 1
STEP 2
STEP 3
Metal-Carbon Mixture

Kataura et al, *Carbon*. **38**, 1691 (2000)

Laser Induced Fluorescence Imaging of Nanotube Growth Environment



Video camera imaging of C/Co/Ni plume during SWNTs growth

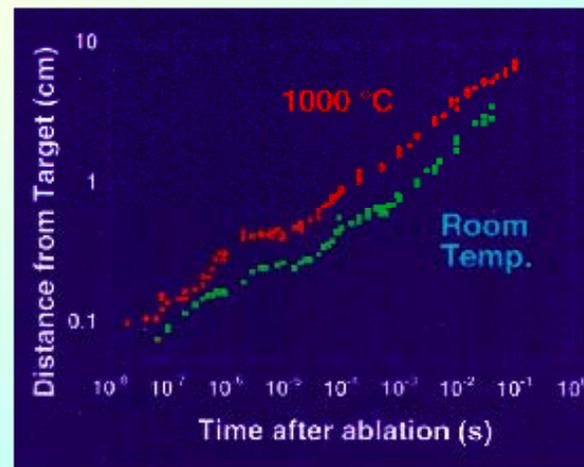
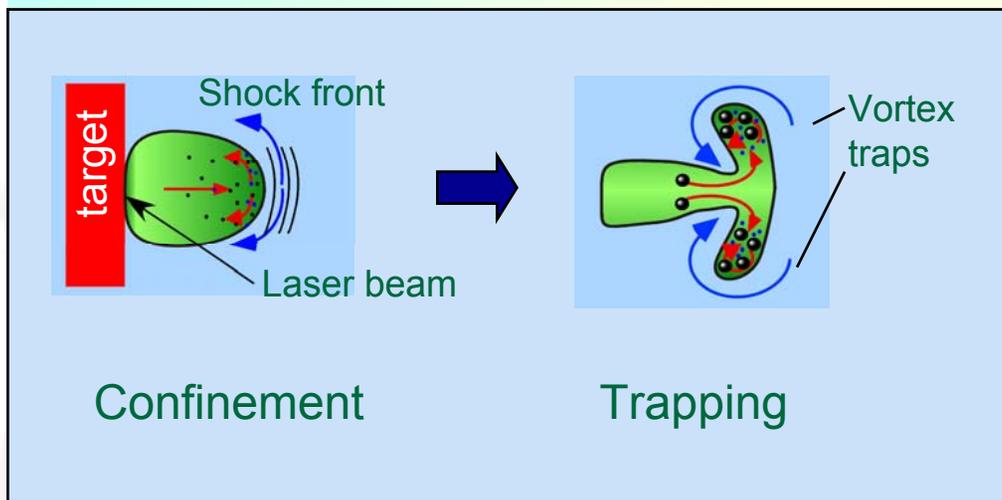
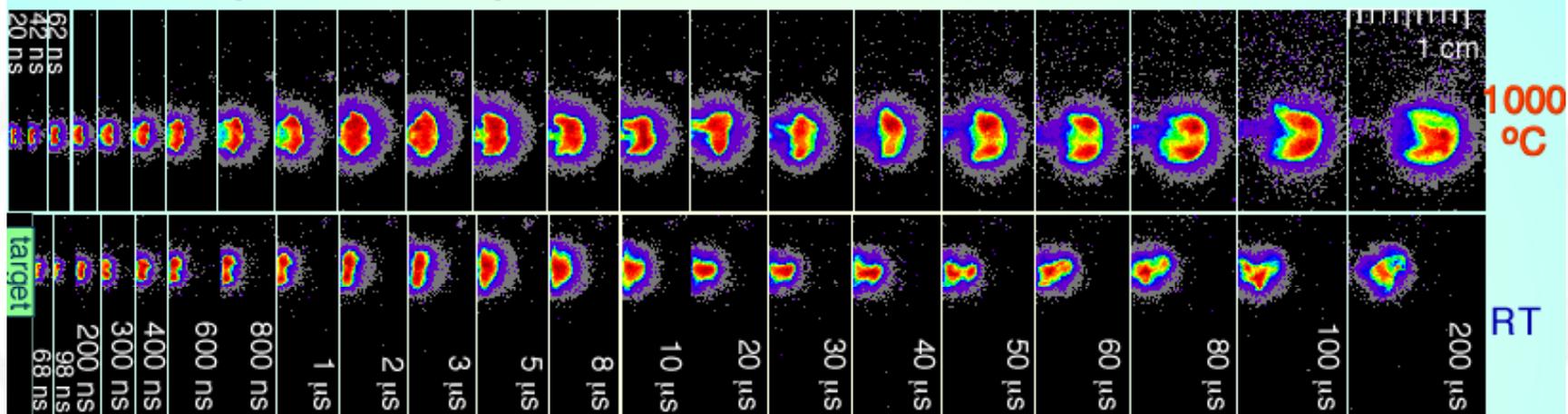


Early C/Ni/Co Plume Dynamics ($0 < \Delta t < 200 \mu\text{s}$)

ICCD Imaging of plasma emission

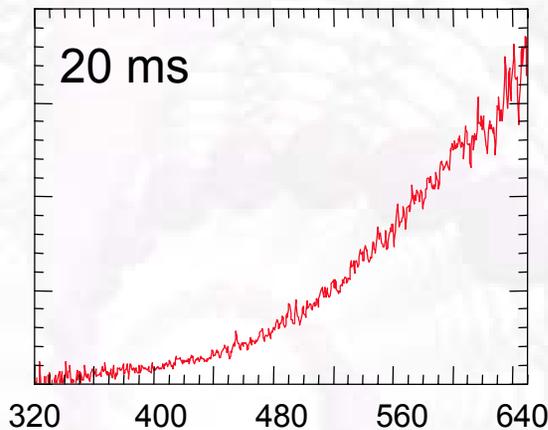
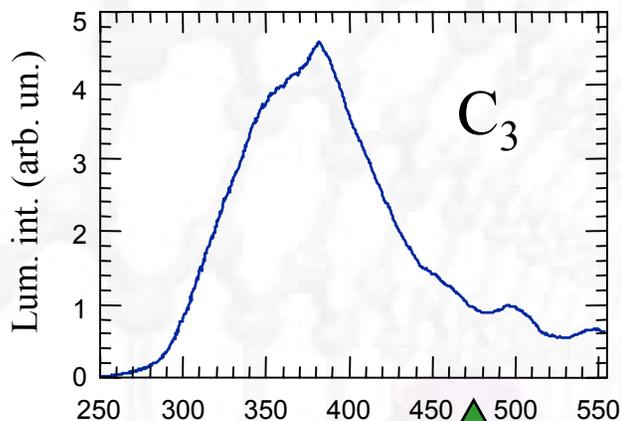
- 500 Torr Argon
- Expansion in stages

- Self-focusing
- Internal shocks

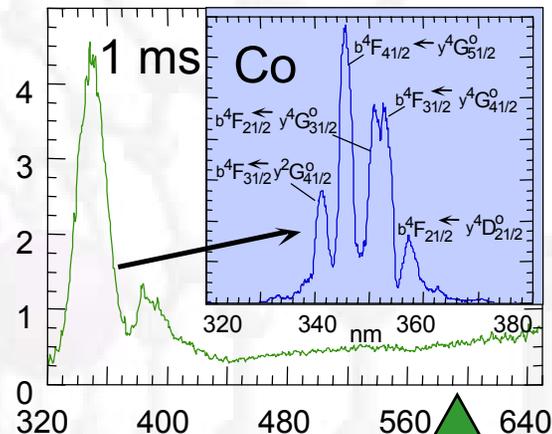


Shock wave and vortices confine and trap the ejected material in a small volume

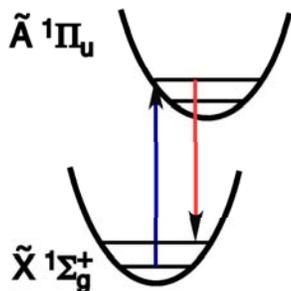
Laser-Induced Emission Spectra of C/Co/Ni Plume at 1000° C During Nanotube Growth



Wavelength (nm)



LIF of molecular C_3

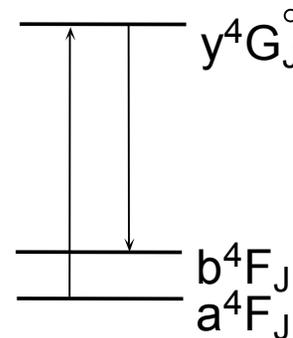


LII of nanoparticles

$$I = \sigma(T + \Delta T)^5$$

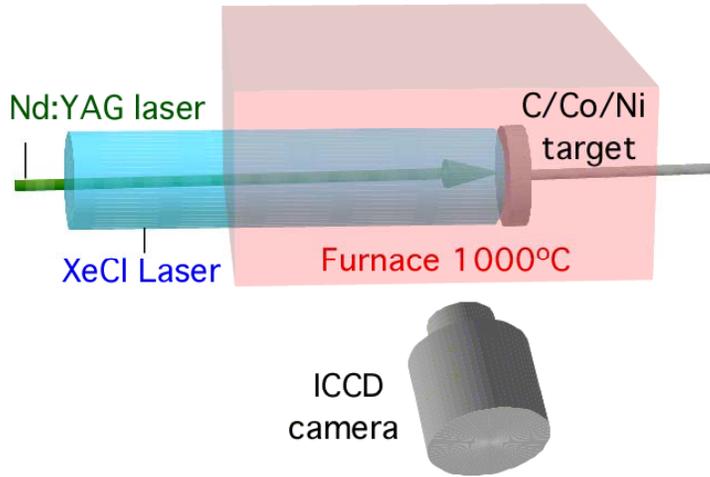
T is the oven temperature.
 ΔT is the temperature increase due to the 308 nm-laser heating

LIF of atomic Co

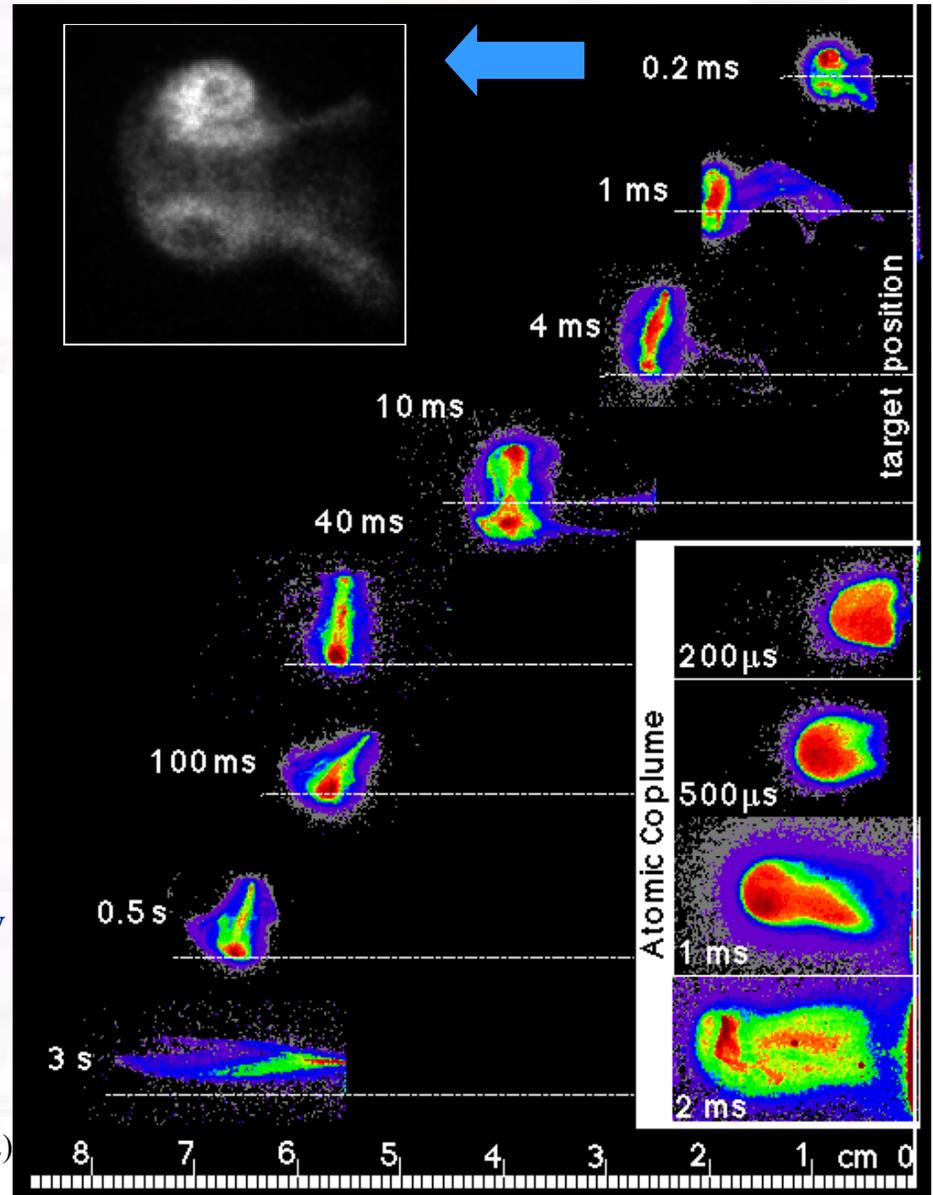


Using 308 nm-laser-induced emission we can monitor ground state species of C_3 and Co and probe carbon nanoparticles in the C/Co/Ni plume.

Imaging and Spectroscopy Diagnostics of SWNT Growth



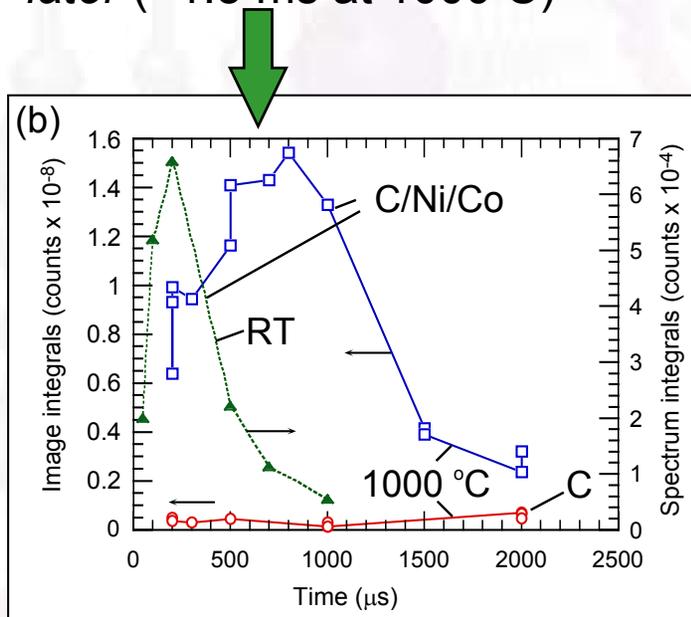
- First imaging of plume dynamics during SWNT growth by laser vaporization
 - ◆ Utilizes LIF-excitation
 - ◆ Permits first estimates of growth rates. (with ex situ TEM).
- Spectroscopy gives plume composition, nucleation times.
 - ◆ Reveals when/where nanotubes grow
 - ◆ Spectroscopic imaging spatially locates different plume species



Appl. Phys. Lett. **76**, 182 (2000). *Appl. Phys. A* **70**, 153 (2000).
Appl. Phys. Lett. **78**, 3307-3309 (2001). *Phys. Rev. B* **65**, 245525 (2002)

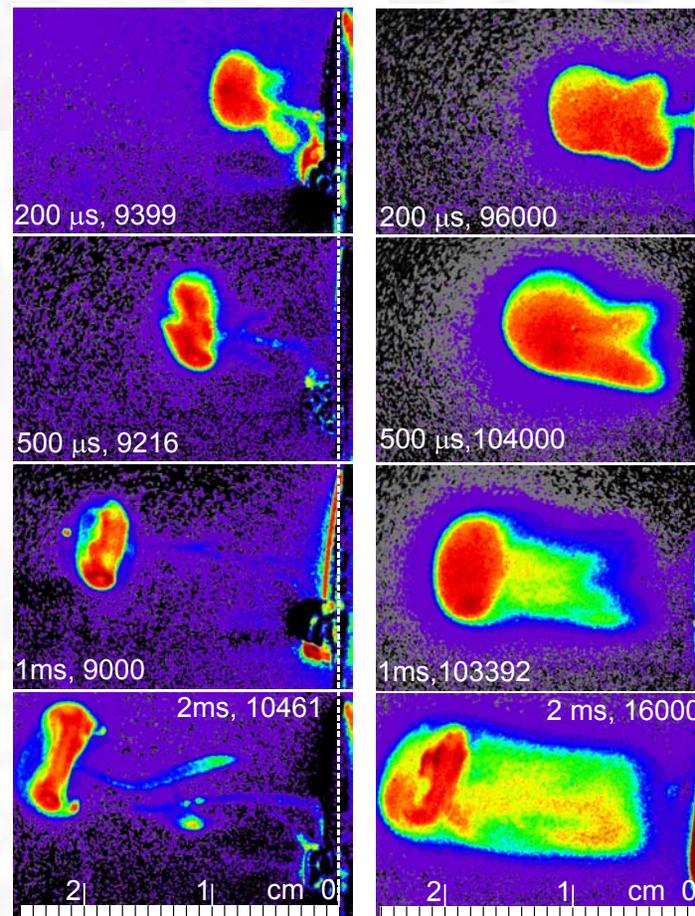
Spatially Locating Carbon Clusters and Cobalt Atoms in the Ablation Plume with Spectroscopic Imaging

- Integrated images give kinetic lifetimes
- Carbon converts to clusters very early (~ 0.2 ms at 1000 C)
- Cobalt converts to clusters *much later* (~ 1.5 ms at 1000 C)



Carbon clusters
(blackbody continuum)

Cobalt Atoms
(350 nm)



After $\Delta t \sim 2$ ms, nearly all species are condensed into clusters/nanoparticles

Condensed phase growth at extended times

Plasma and Laser Induced Luminescence Spectra of Different Species During SWNT Growth by Laser Ablation

5 μs
C₂^{*}, C₃^{*}

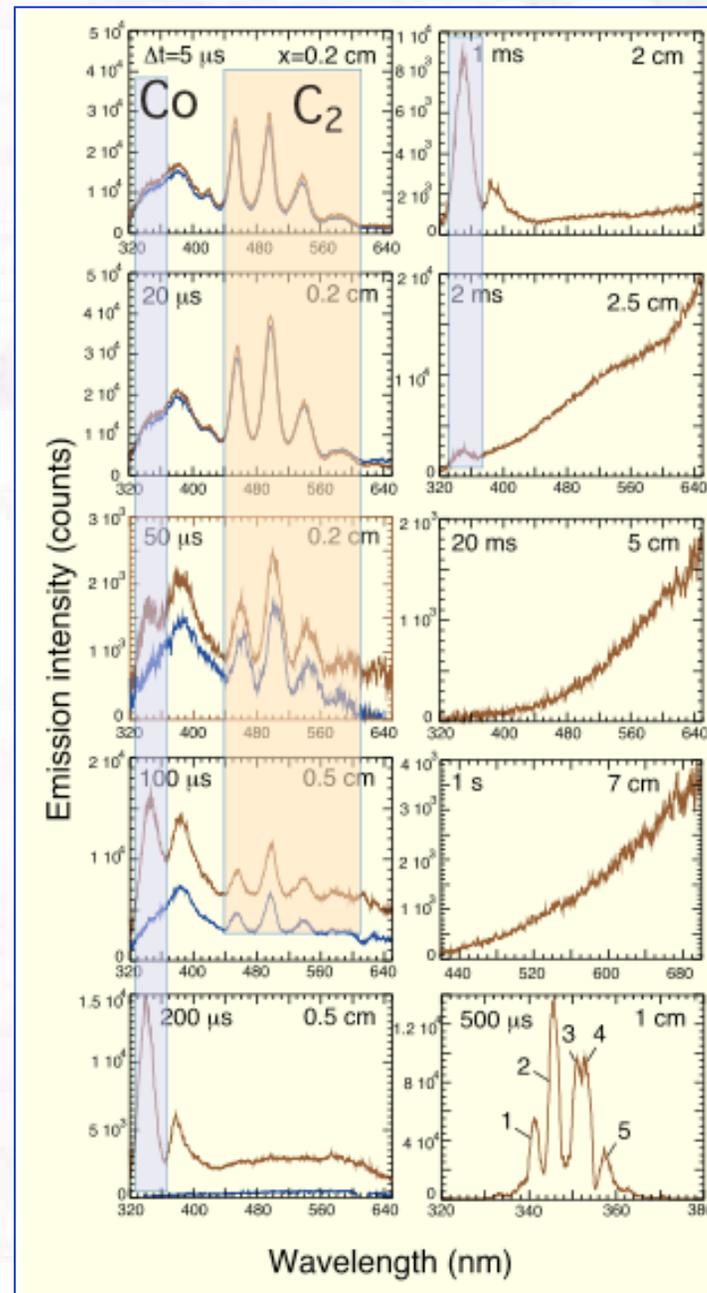
20 μs
C₂^{*}, C₃^{*}

50 μs
C₂^{*}, C₃^{*},
clusters

100 μs
C₂^{*}, C₃^{*}, Co,
clusters

200 μs
Co,
clusters

- Carbon converts to clusters very early (~ 0.2 ms)
- Co converts to clusters much later (2 ms)



1 ms
Co,
clusters

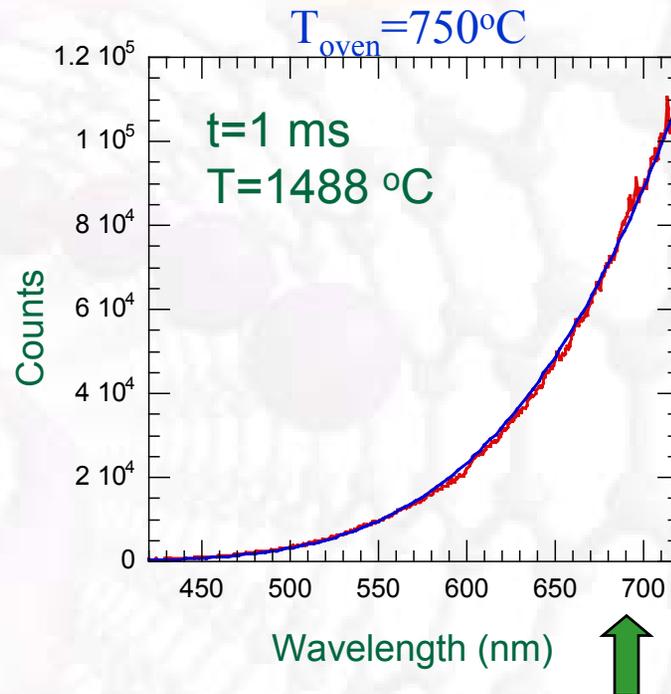
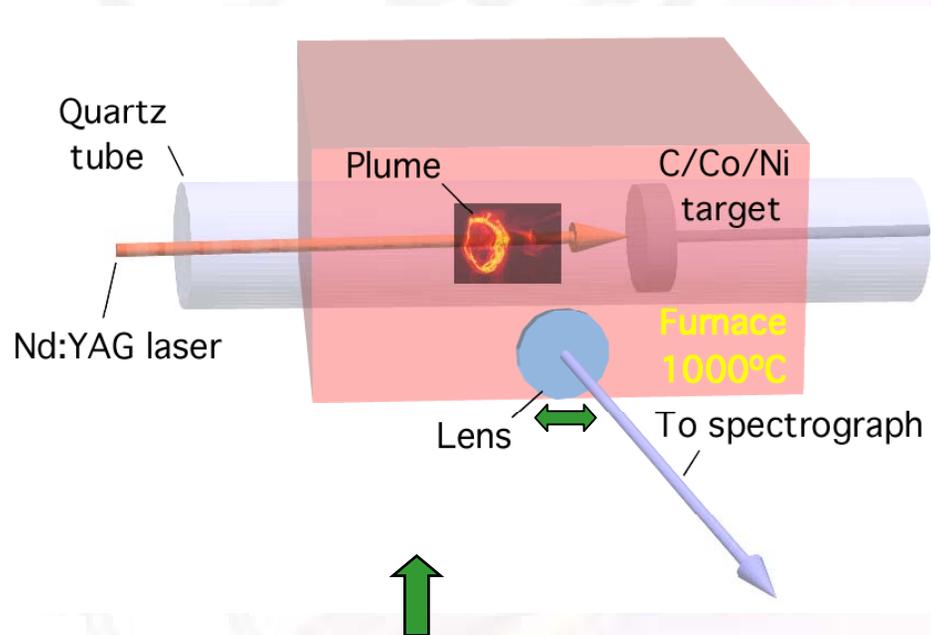
2 ms
clusters
nanotubes

20 ms
clusters
nanotubes

1 s
clusters
nanotubes

Co

Plume Temperature Measurements Inside the Propagating Microreactor

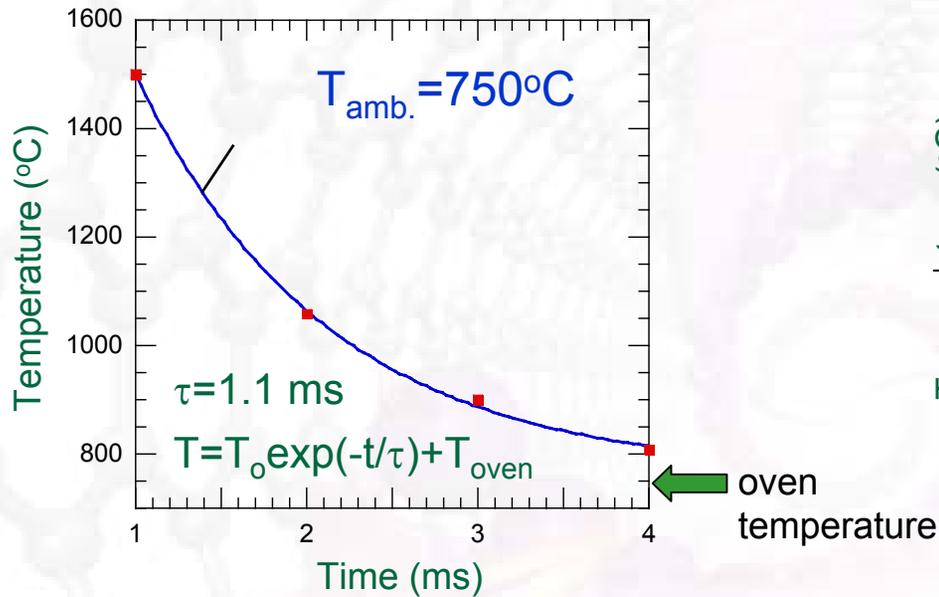


- Temperature vs. time
 - From blackbody emission spectra
 - At different positions and times

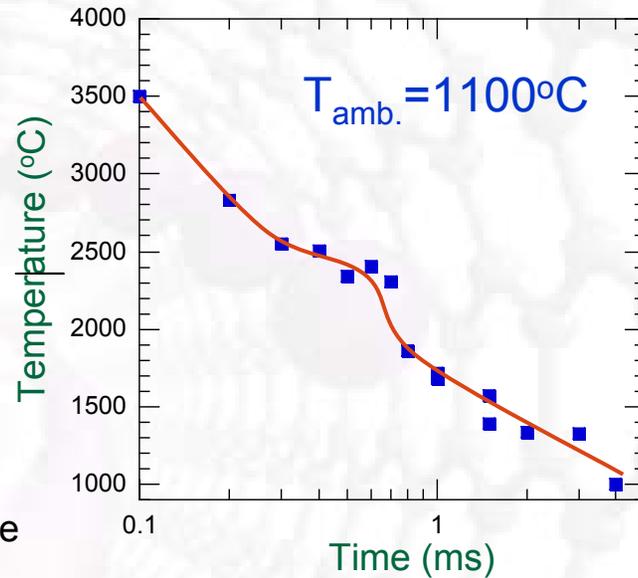
- The plume emission spectra were fitted with the Planck blackbody function
 - Small particles: emissivity, $\epsilon \sim 1/\lambda$
 - Large particles: $\epsilon \sim \text{const.}$

Measured blackbody emission spectra give particle temperatures

How does the plume cool?



- The temperature of the plume approaches the ambient temperature ~ 4 ms after ablation



- For $T_{amb.} = 1100^{\circ}\text{C}$ a plateau is observed at $T \sim 2500^{\circ}\text{C}$ in the time interval 0.3-0.7 ms

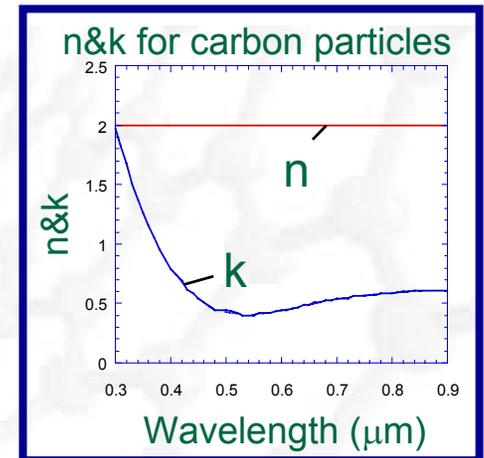
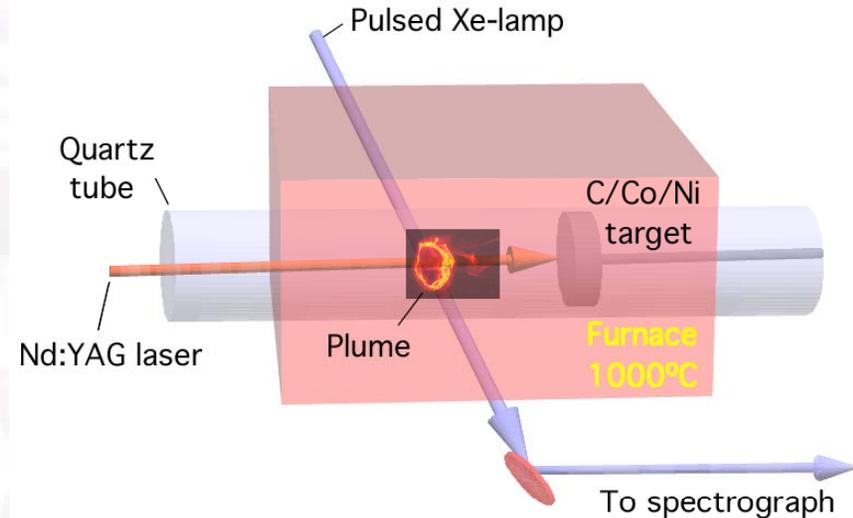
An exothermic process, probably formation of fullerene-like structures, keeps the plume temperature constant from 0.3 to 0.7 ms.

Similar plateau (in plume emission intensity) was observed by Y. Achiba et al.

In situ absorption spectroscopy of carbon nanoparticles

Estimating Particle Size

- Measuring extinction spectra, $Q_{\text{abs}}(\lambda, t)$
 - scattering
 - absorption
- Estimate particle size from shape of extinction spectrum
 - small particles: $2\pi a < 0.3\lambda$ ($\lambda = 300$ nm)
 - for $a < 14$ nm, $Q_{\text{abs}}(\lambda) \sim 1/\lambda$
 - no size information
 - larger particles
 - for $a > 14$ nm, Mie theory for spherical particles
 - $Q_{\text{abs}}(\lambda)$ sensitive to particle size

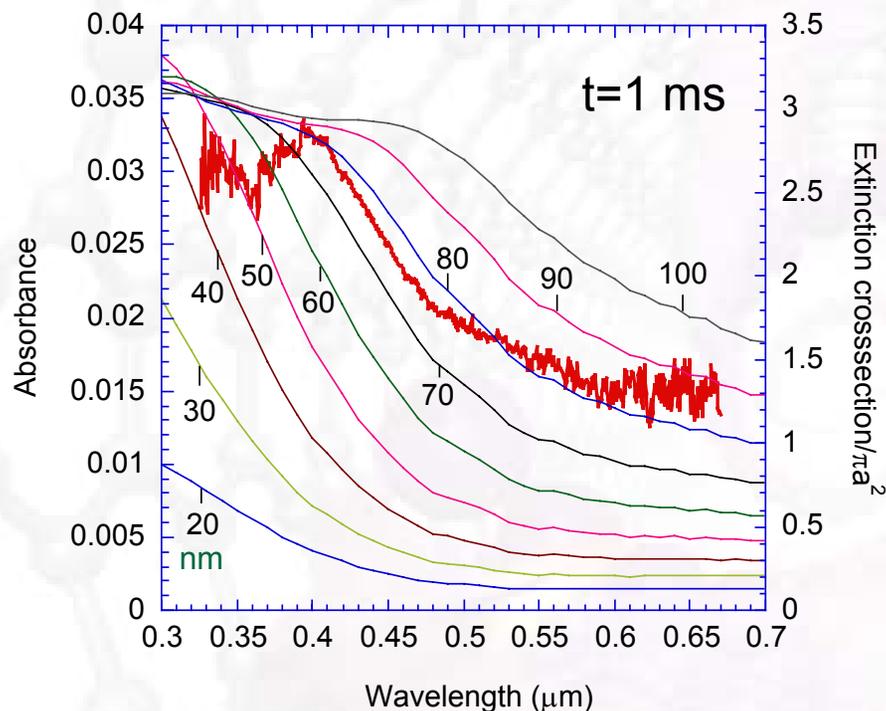


E.A. Rohlfing, *J.Chem.Phys.* **89**, 6103 (1988)

The shape of the extinction spectrum gives an estimate of the particle size

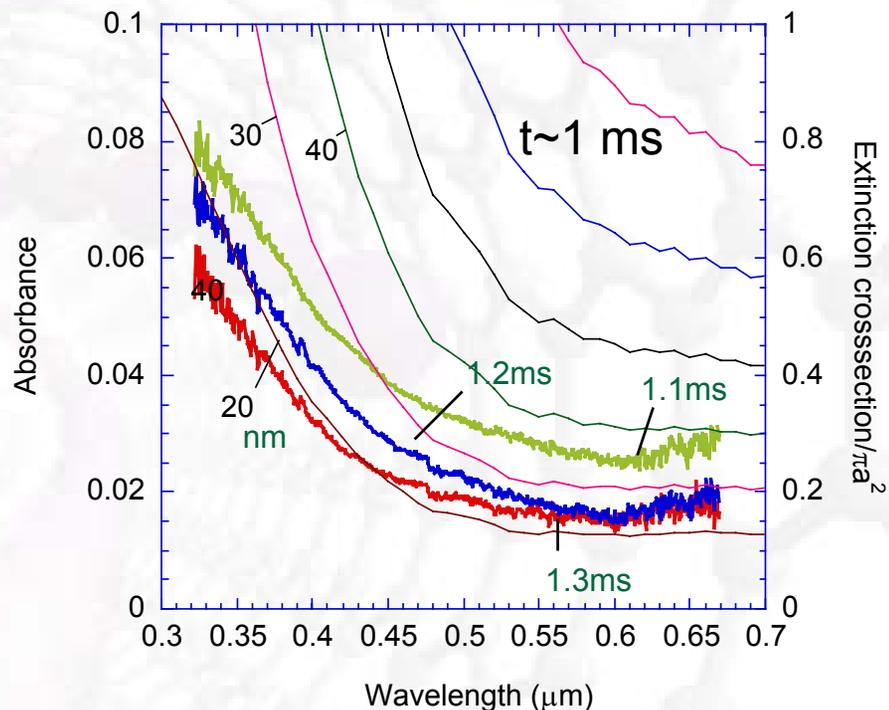
Extinction Spectra at Two Oven Temperatures

T=750°C



- At 750°C oven temperature aggregates have already reached 80 nm in size by $t=1\text{ ms}$

T=1100°C

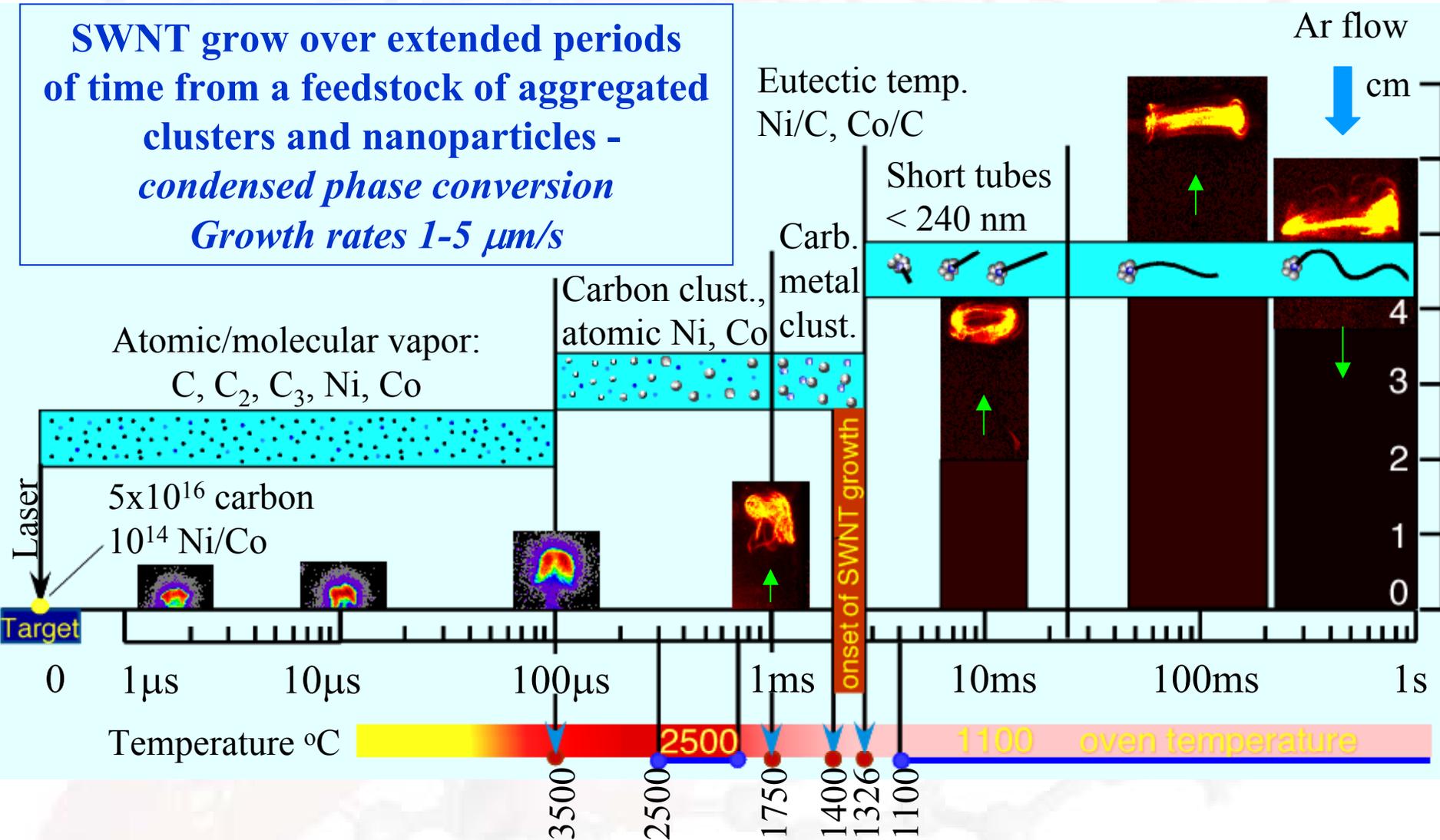


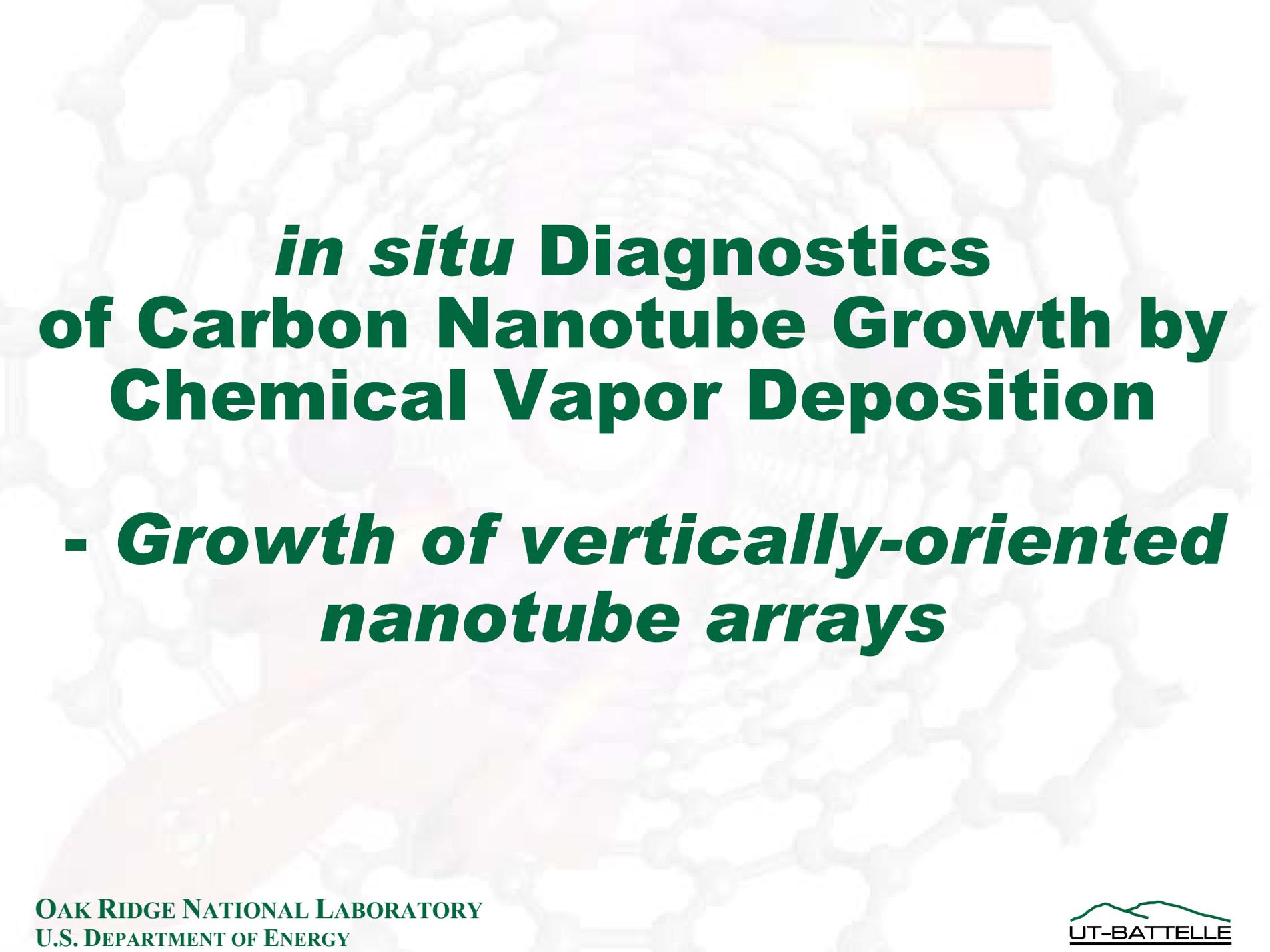
- In the 1100°C oven aggregates remain $< 20\text{ nm}$ in size up to 4 ms after ablation

Carbon nanoparticles aggregate much slower at higher temperatures

General picture of SWNT growth by laser vaporization based on spectroscopic diagnostics of ejected material

SWNT grow over extended periods of time from a feedstock of aggregated clusters and nanoparticles - condensed phase conversion
 Growth rates 1-5 $\mu\text{m/s}$



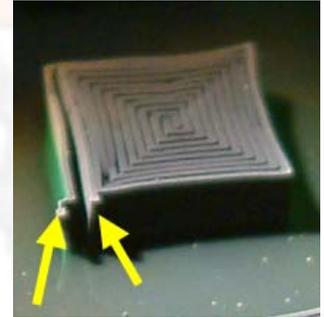
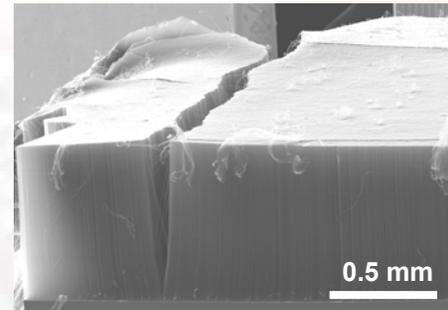


***in situ* Diagnostics
of Carbon Nanotube Growth by
Chemical Vapor Deposition**

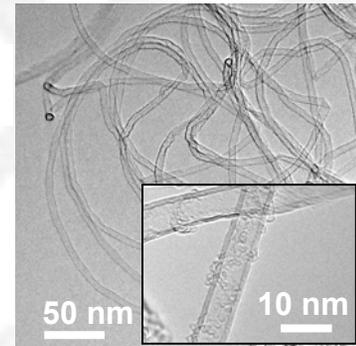
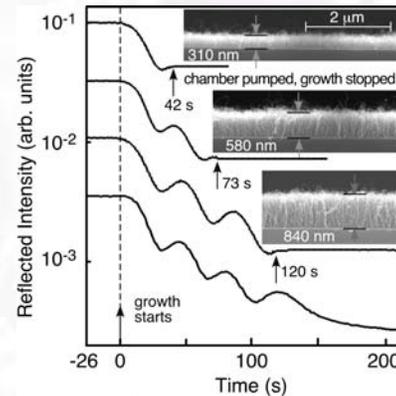
- Growth of vertically-oriented
nanotube arrays***

Vertically-Aligned Carbon Nanotube Polymer Composites

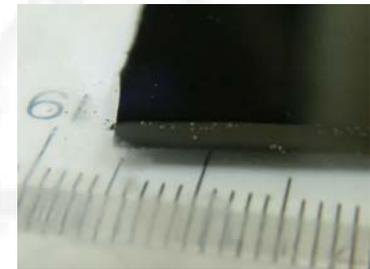
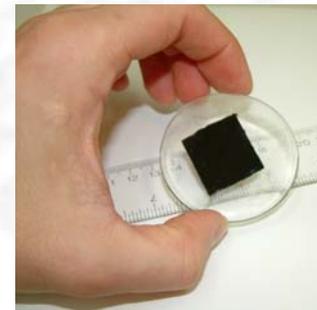
- Vertically-aligned multiwall carbon nanotubes (VA-MWNT) grown by CVD over large areas
 - or *selectively* grown on lithographically-patterned catalyst films
 - Rapid growth to millimeters lengths
 - Or controlled growth to precise lengths with *in situ* diagnostics (in the nanometers to microns regime)
 - Alignment achieved for large diameter multiwalled nanotubes (MWNT) down to double-walled nanotubes (DWNT)
- Infiltration of VA-MWNT with polymers for composites
 - Methods developed to preserve alignment
 - Young's modulus significantly enhanced
 - Increased oxidative thermal stability
 - Electrical conductivity in 3D, dissipates static charge
 - Enhanced thermal conductivity
 - Embedded sensor structures
 - Optically reflective coatings, optical filters



Macroscopic growth over large areas, or selective patterns



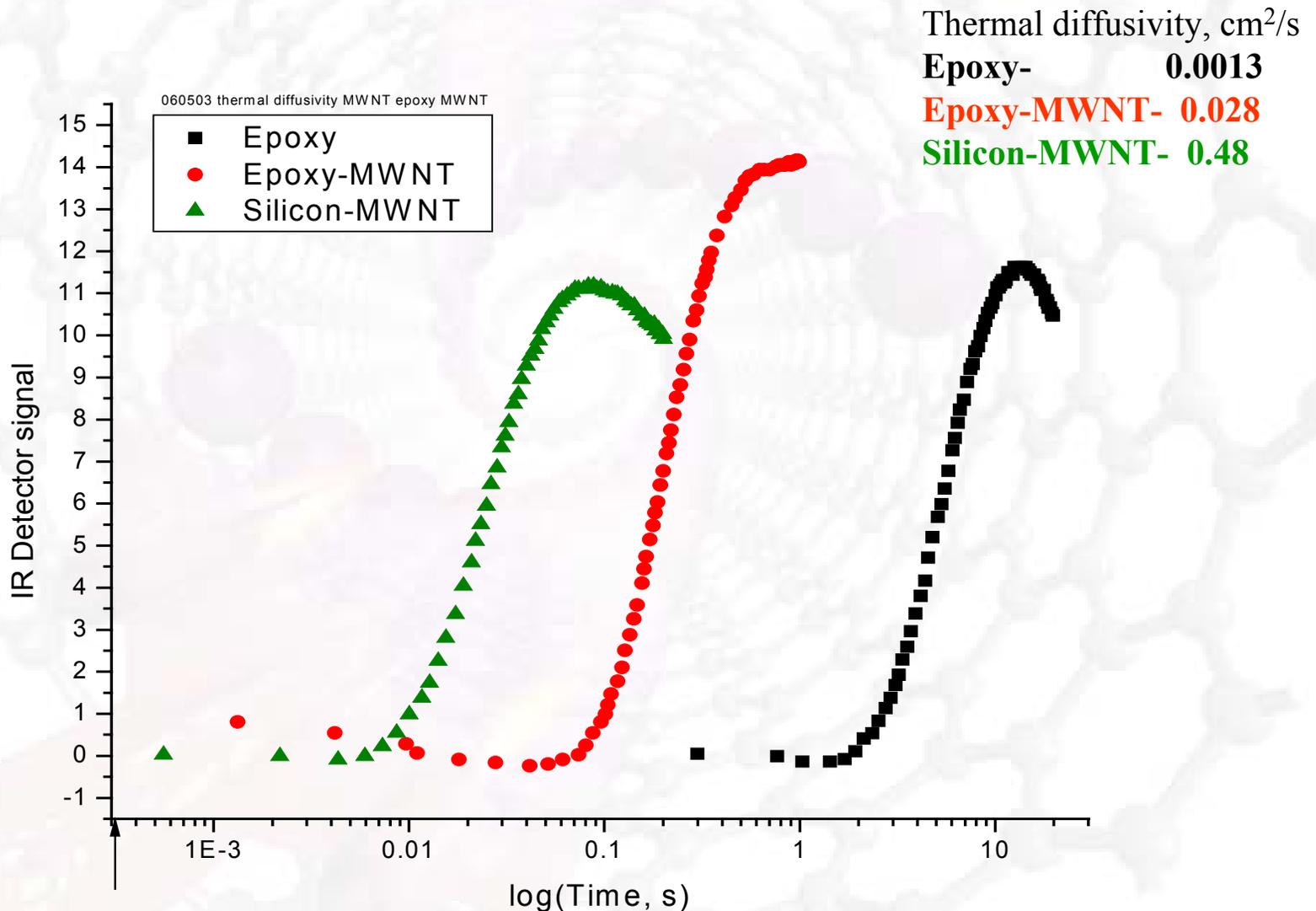
HRTEM of DWNT
In situ reflectivity controlled-growth



2 mm VA-MWNT in epoxy

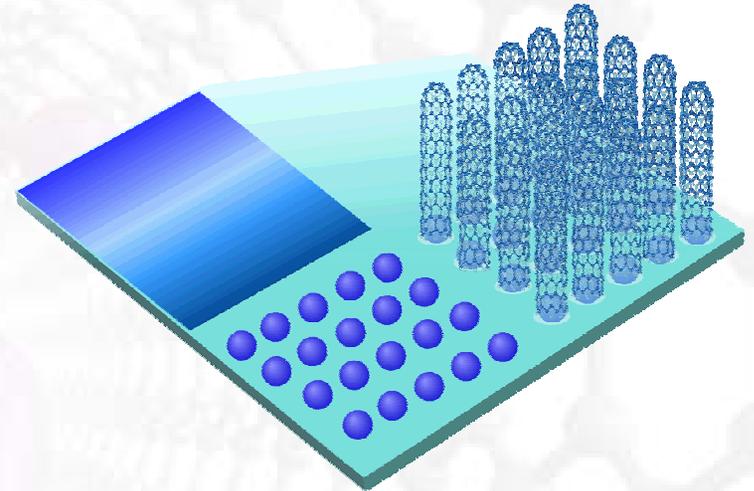
I. N. Ivanov, A. A. Puretzky, D. B. Geohegan, G. Eres, M. A. Guillorn and J. Y. Howe

Thermal Diffusivity of Epoxy-Infiltrated VA-MWNT

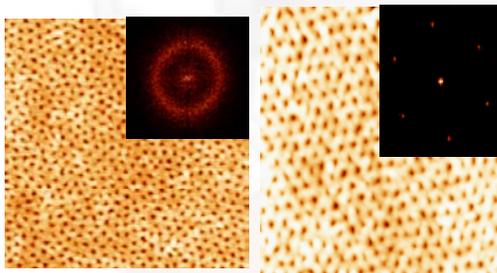


Growth of Aligned Nanotube Arrays – *from self-assembled templates*

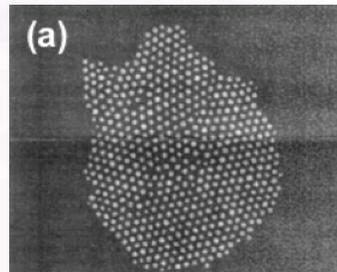
- Utilize self-alignment of nanotubes due to crowding and bundling to produce highly aligned fibers and monoliths
- Must produce high-densities of well-aligned catalyst nanoparticles AND induce high nucleation fractions
 - Thin metal catalyst film roughening
 - Self-assembled ensembles pre-synthesized nanoparticles
 - Use of block copolymer templates to order pre-synthesized nanoparticles



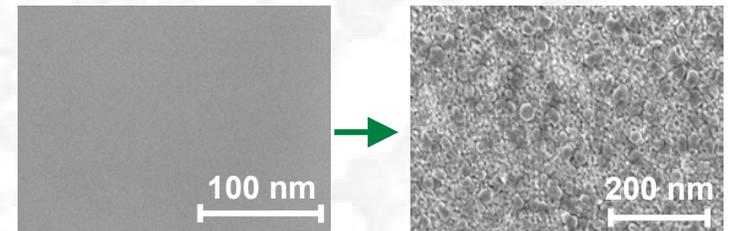
Catalyst self-assembly and nanotube growth



*Random and ordered block copolymer domains
(M. Dadmun, S. Fontana)*



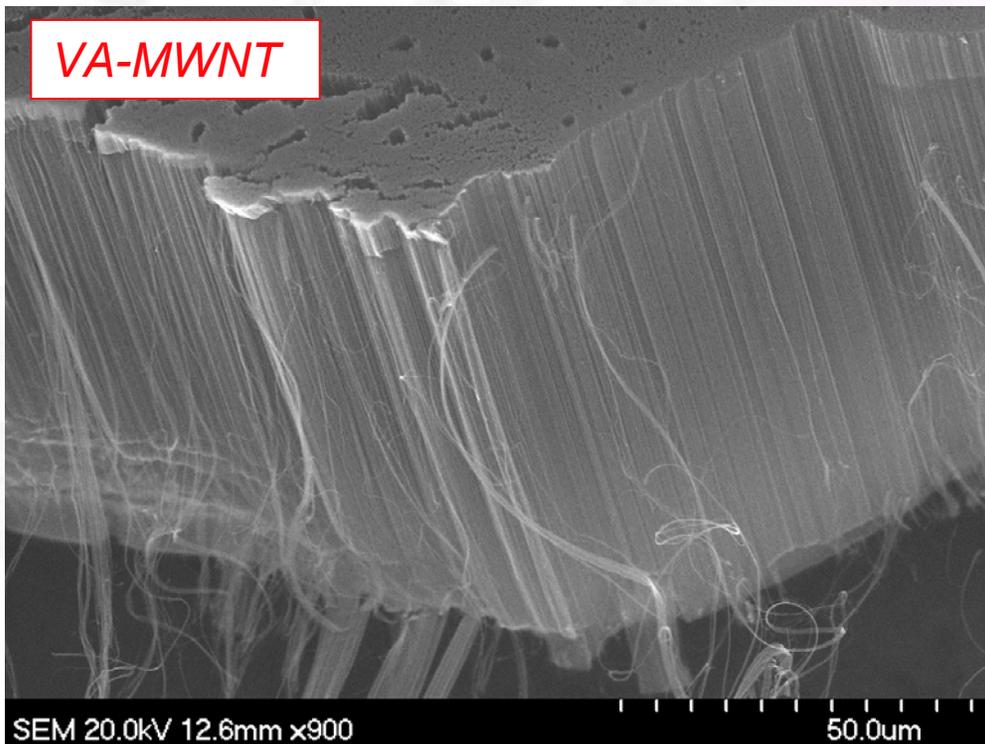
Self-assembled, chemically-synthesized nanoparticles - (Jie Liu)



*Roughening of thin metal catalyst film
(our work)*

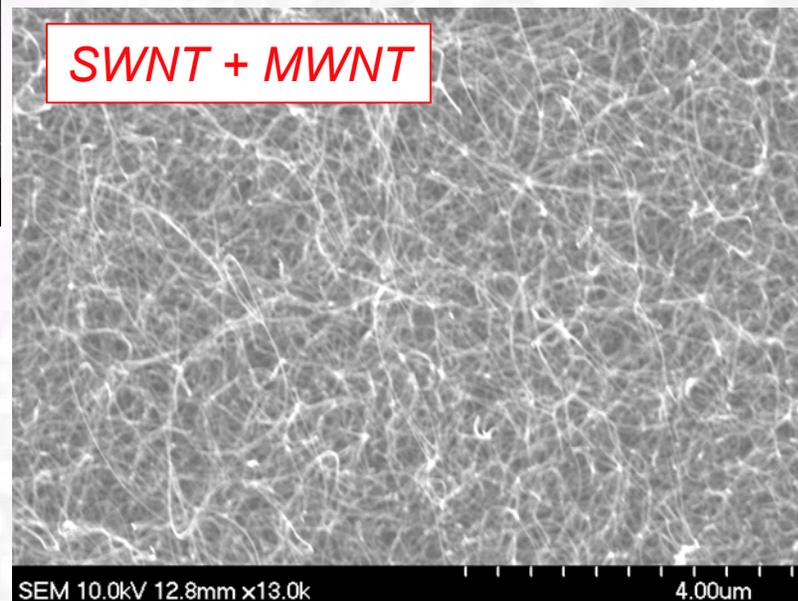
Vertically-Aligned MWNT by CVD (+ SWNT)

VA-MWNT



- Grown to 4 mm lengths
- Wide temp. range for vertical alignment
- Multiwalled, 5 to 20 nm diameter
- Mixed with SWNT for $T > 700\text{ C}$

SWNT + MWNT

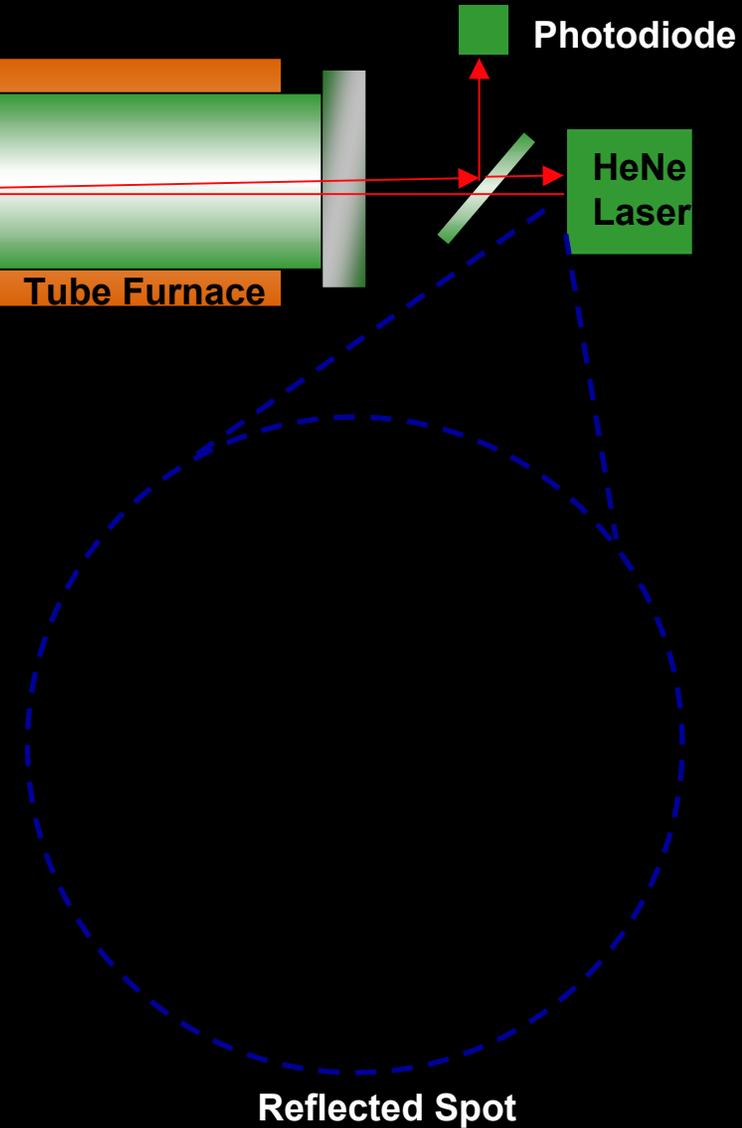
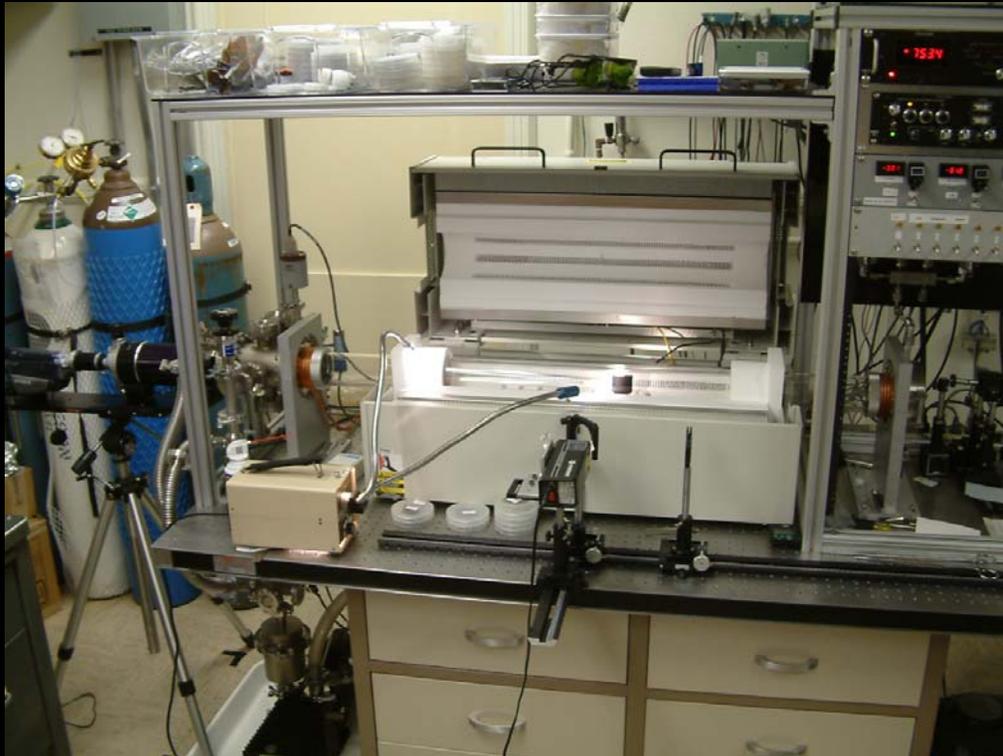
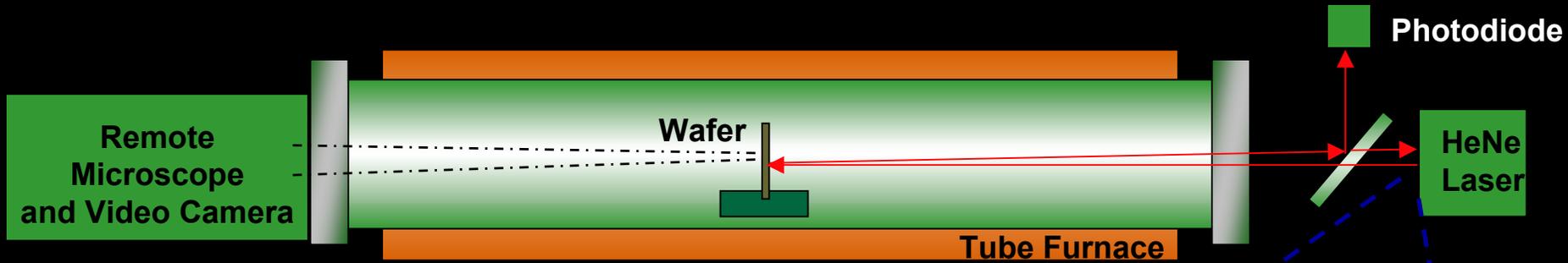


- Grown using evaporated metal catalyst multilayer films - applicable to large areas
Al(10nm)/Fe(1nm)/Mo(0.2nm)
- Ar/H₂/C₂H₂ ~700C

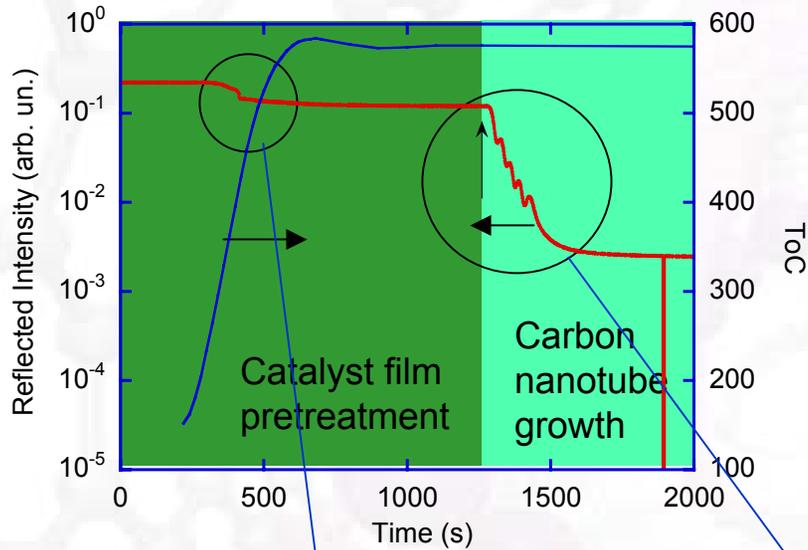


Mo (0.2 nm)
Fe (1 nm)
Al (10 nm)

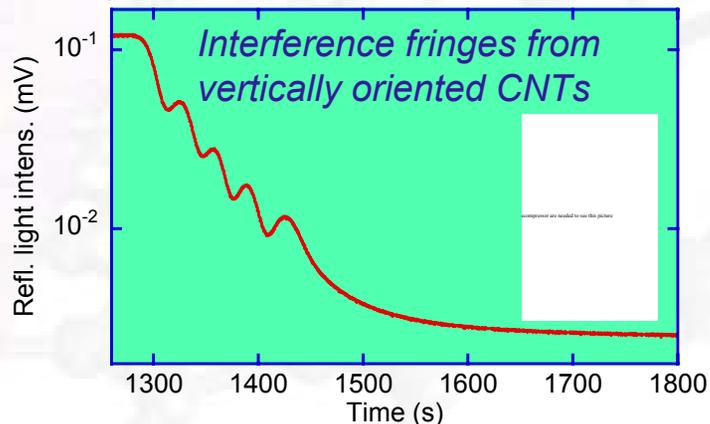
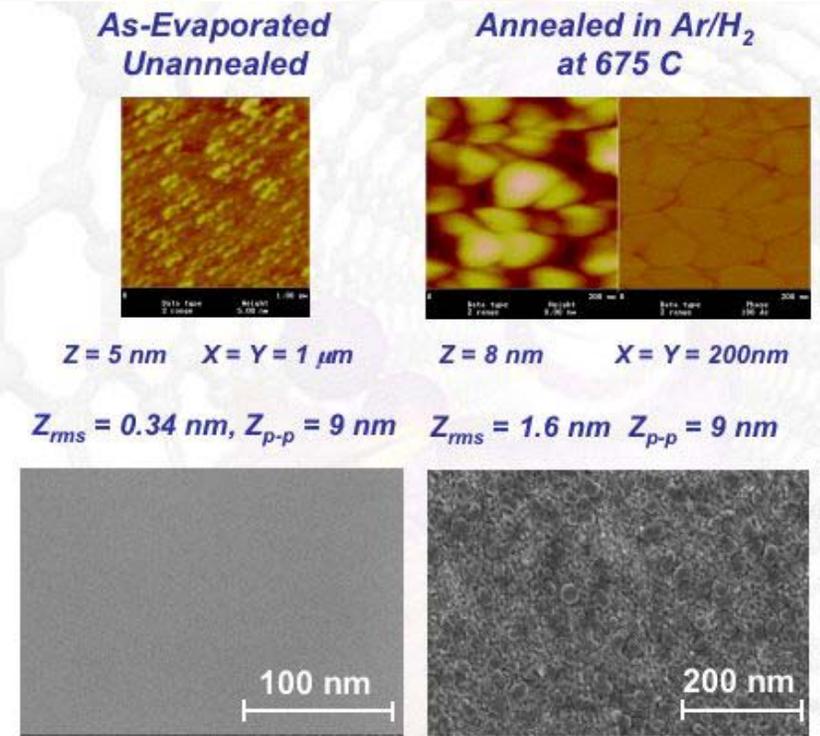
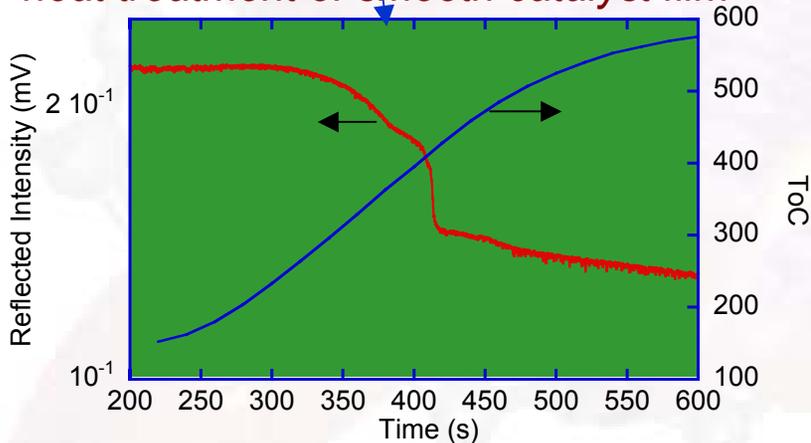
In situ laser-interferometry, irradiation, and imaging during CVD



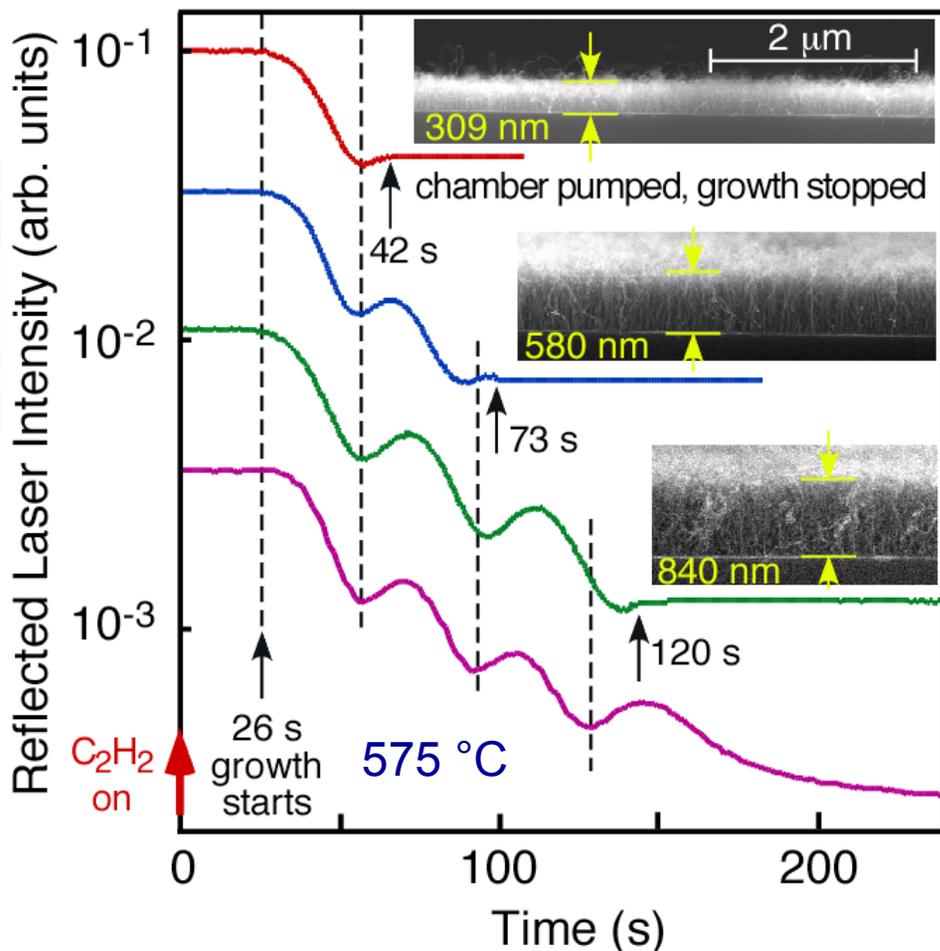
Reflectivity During Catalyst Pretreatment and Nanotube Growth



The sharp transition in reflectivity during heat treatment of smooth catalyst film

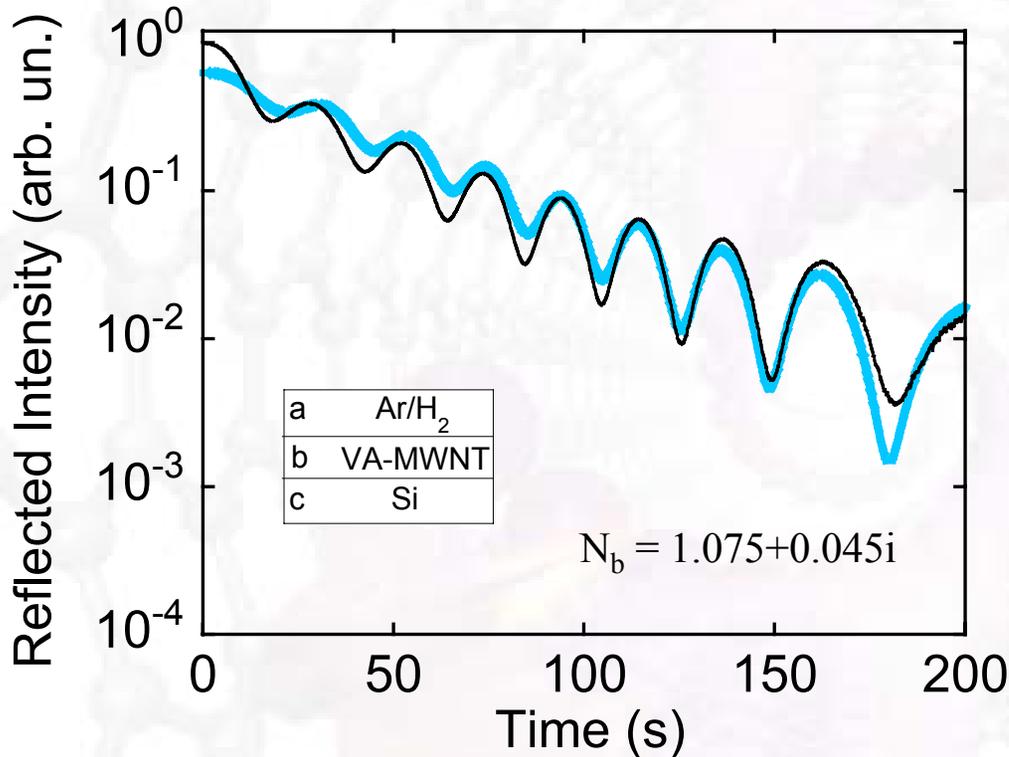


Controlling the length of VAA-MWNT



- Reflectivity can be used to monitor *and control* the length of vertically-aligned nanotube arrays
- Rapid evacuation of growth gas at predetermined lengths
- Can see growth stop.
- Can stop and restart growth of CVD grown “seeds”, as in LV.
- $n_{\text{eff}}d = m\lambda/2$ ($\lambda = 633\text{ nm}$)
 $d \approx 300 \pm 20\text{ nm}$
 $n_{\text{eff}} \approx 1.075$, $k = 0.047$
 absorption coefficient, $\alpha \approx 0.9 \cdot 10^4\text{ cm}^{-1}$

Modeling of experimental interference fringes



Porosity of VAA-MWNTs

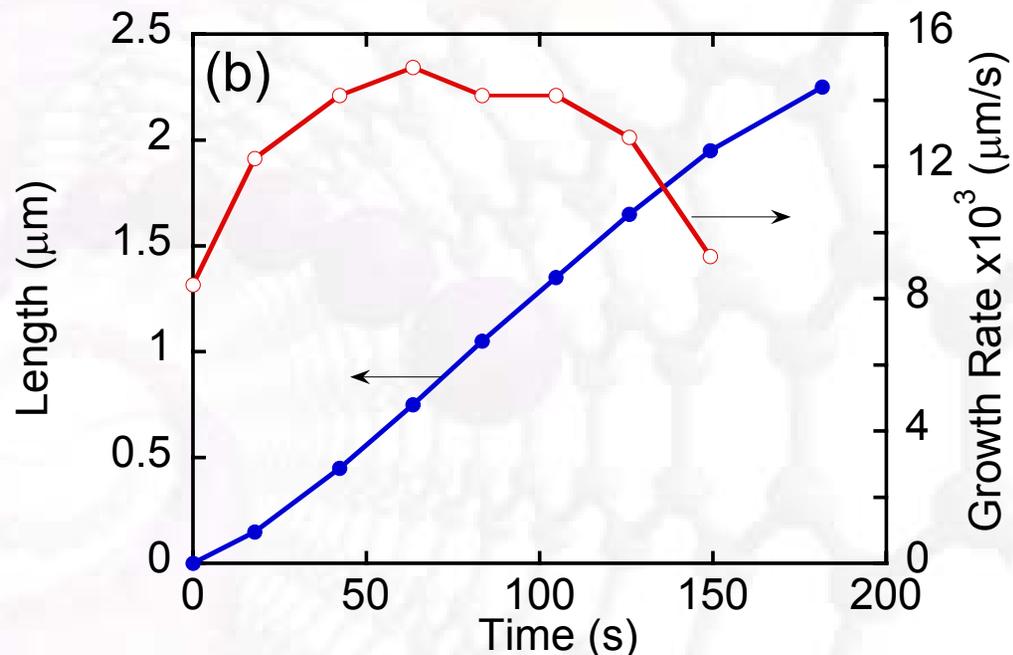
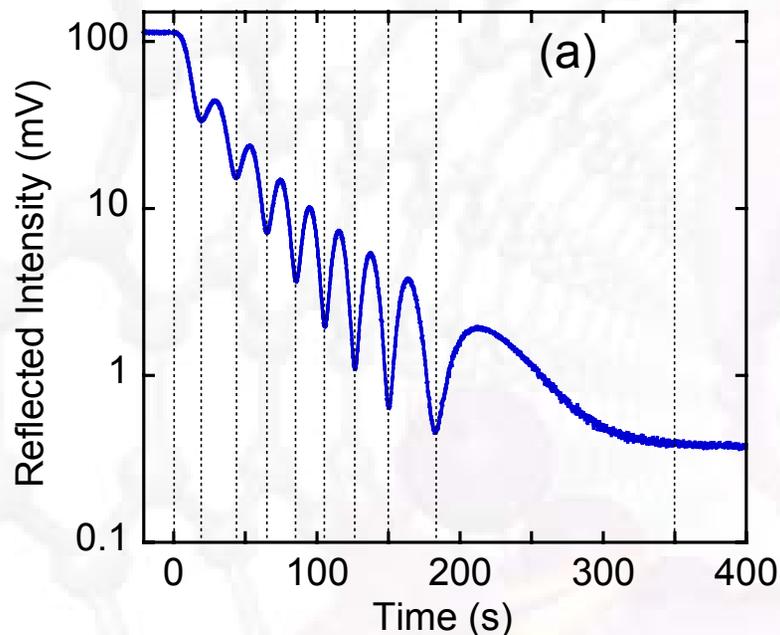
Looyenga formula:

$$\epsilon_{eff}^{1/3} = (1 - p)\epsilon^{1/3} + p\epsilon_m^{1/3},$$

where ϵ , ϵ_m are the dielectric functions of carbon nanotubes ($\epsilon \sim 4$), and the host material ($\epsilon_m \sim 1$), p is the porosity ($p \sim 0.92$)

- Theoretical modeling of the measured interference fringes gives the effective complex refractive index of VAA-MWNTs.
- The effective media refractive index permits estimate of VAA-MWNT porosity.

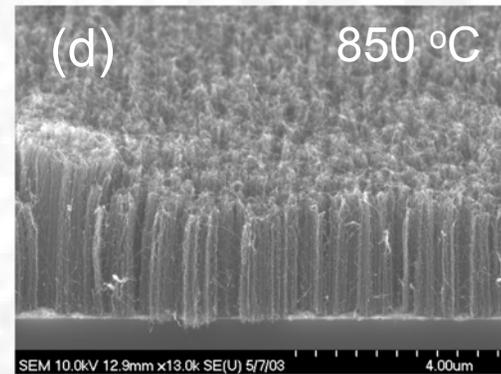
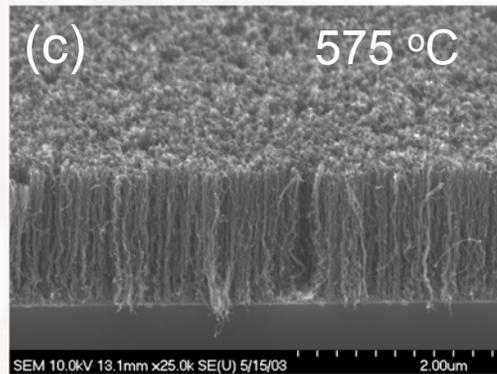
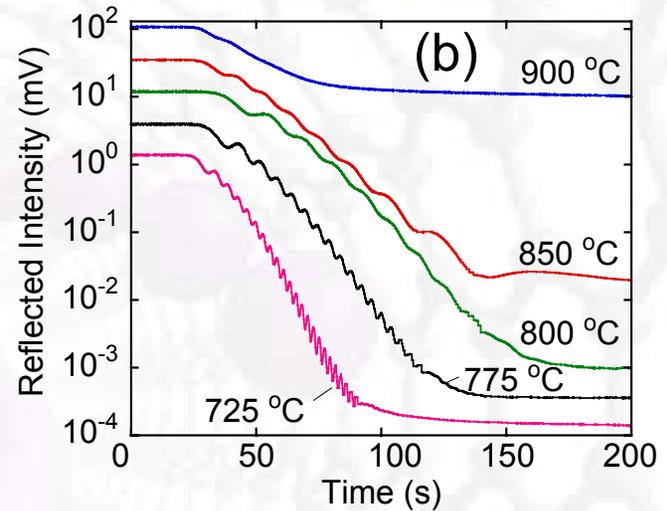
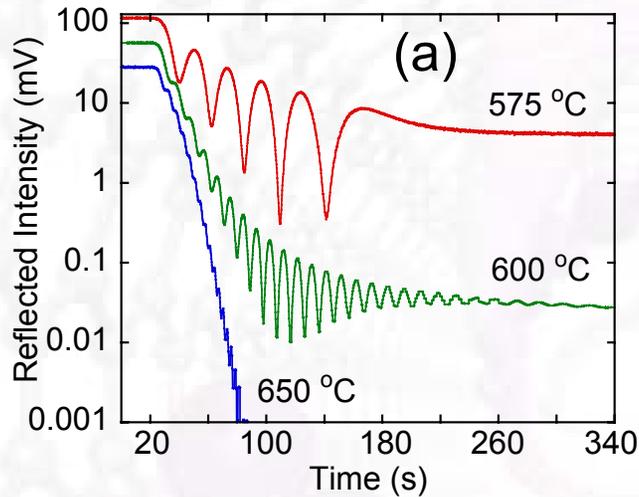
Measuring VAA-MWNT growth rates



Interference fringes in reflected light intensity permit array growth to be measured *throughout the run*

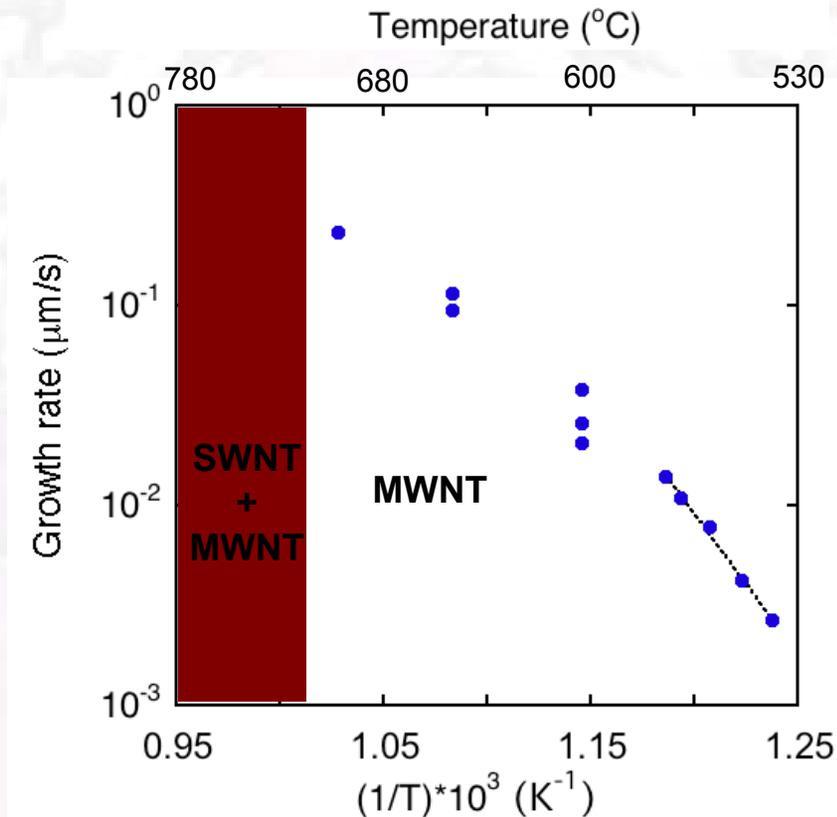
First direct kinetics information of nanotube growth during CVD

Time resolved reflectivity at different growth temperatures



Interference fringes in the TRR signal provide the method for fast *in situ* measurements of growth kinetics at different temperatures

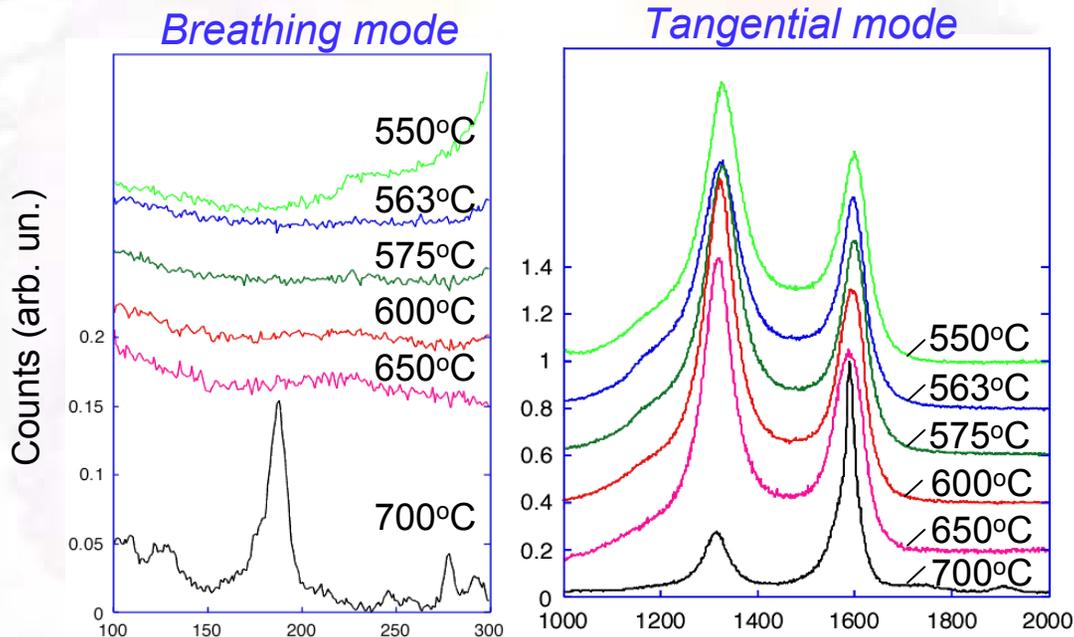
Temperature Dependence of VAA-MWNT Growth Rate



- Growth conditions: atmospheric pressure, 10 sccm C₂H₂, 400 sccm H₂, 2000 sccm Ar.
- SWNT/DWNTs grow together with MWNT at T > 700 °C.
- The temperature range 750-800 °C corresponds to highly unstable growth conditions as growth modes transition to prefer DWNT/SWNT formation over MWNT.

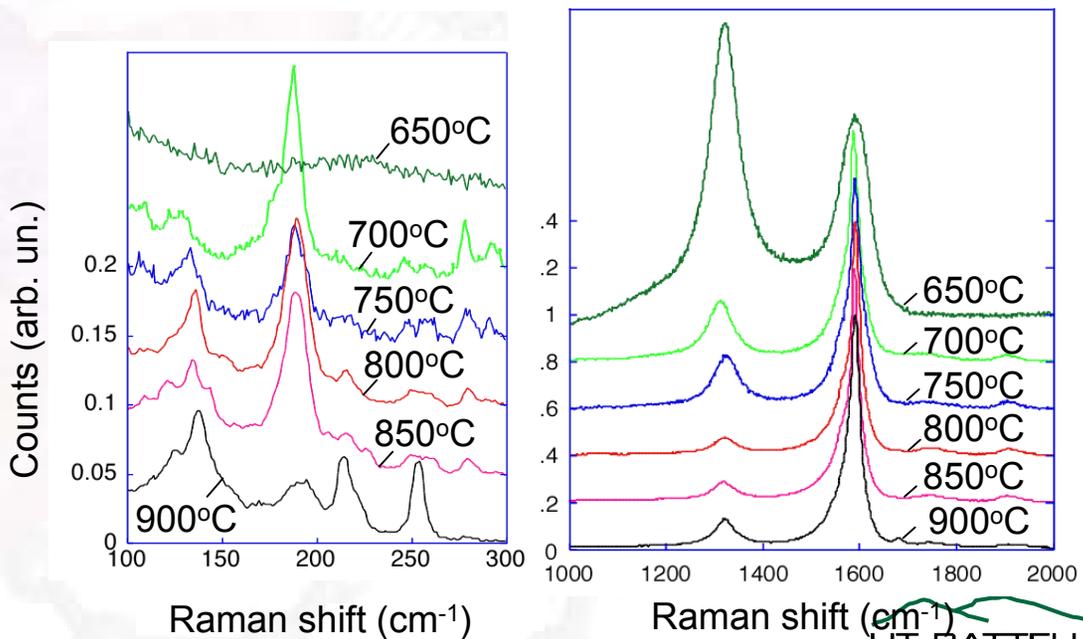
Raman Spectra of Nanotubes vs. Growth Temperature

The breathing and tangential modes in the Raman spectra show clear onset of SWNT/DWNT growth at $T > 700\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$

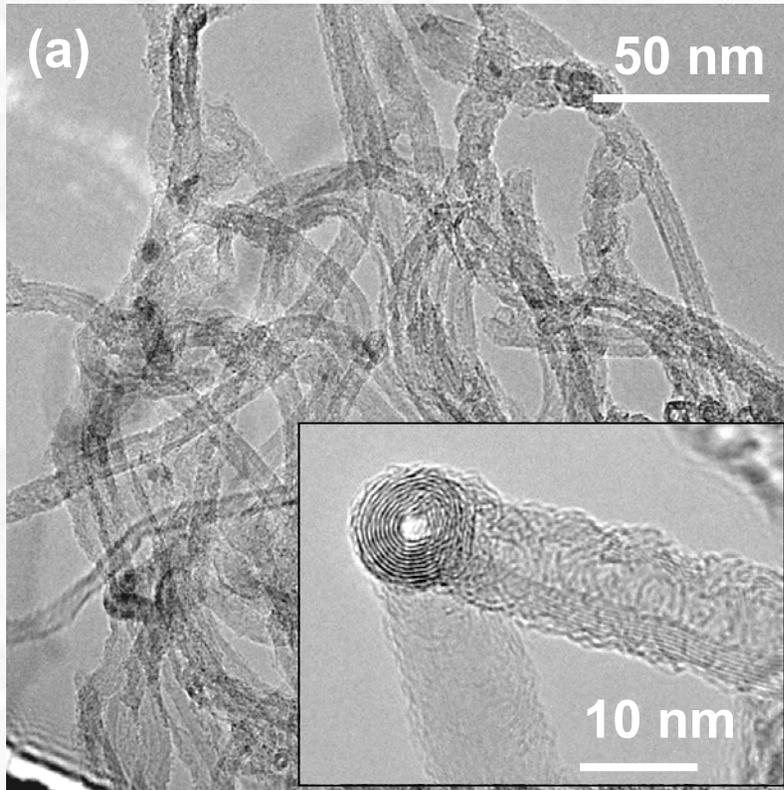


QuickTime™ and a TIFF (LZW) decompressor are needed to see this picture.

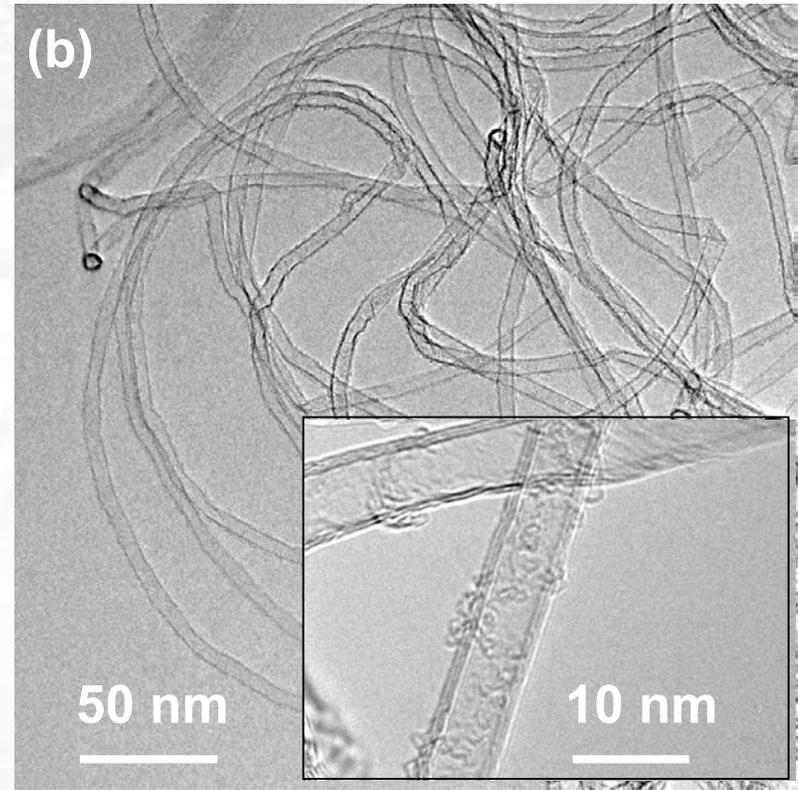
Nanotubes grown at 775 °C



TEM images of carbon nanotubes grown at different temperatures



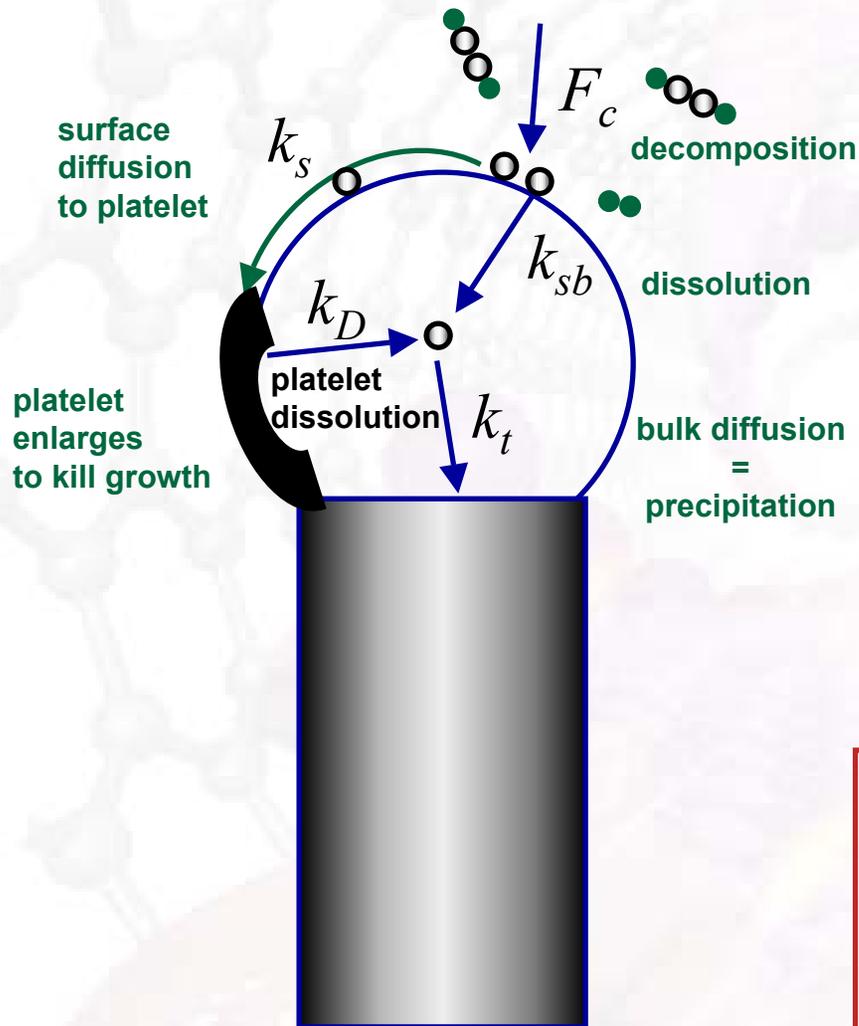
575 °C



725 °C

- The number of walls in MWNTs decreases at higher temperatures
- Optimizing the growth temperature yields VAA-MWNTs with a large fraction of DWNTs

Carbon Nanotube Growth Model



Feedstock Decomp.

$$\frac{dN_0}{dt} = F_c \left(1 - \frac{N_c}{S_0 \alpha N_m} \right) - (k_{sb} + k_s) N_0,$$

Surface Carbon

$$\frac{dN_c}{dt} = k_s N_0 - k_D N_c,$$

Dissolved Carbon

$$\frac{dN_b}{dt} = k_{sb} N_0 - k_t N_b + k_D N_c,$$

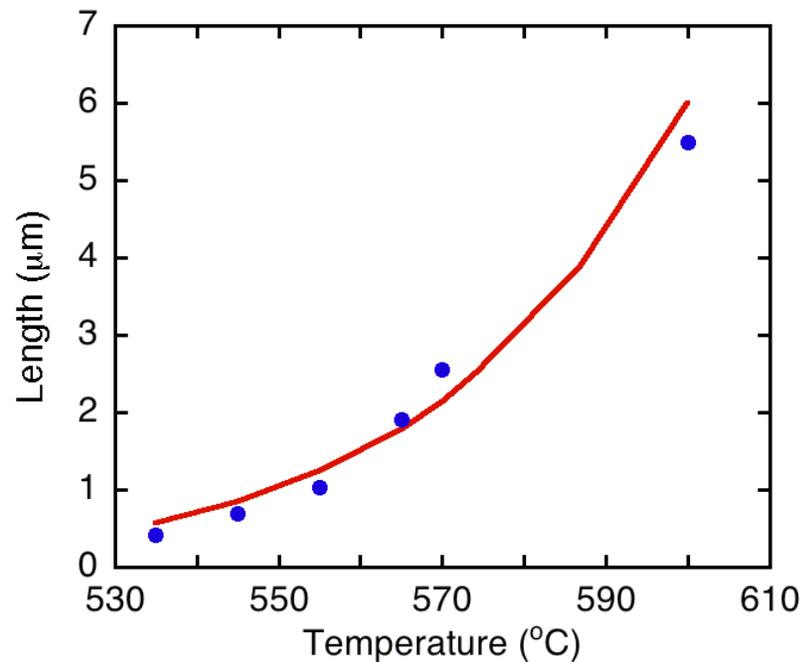
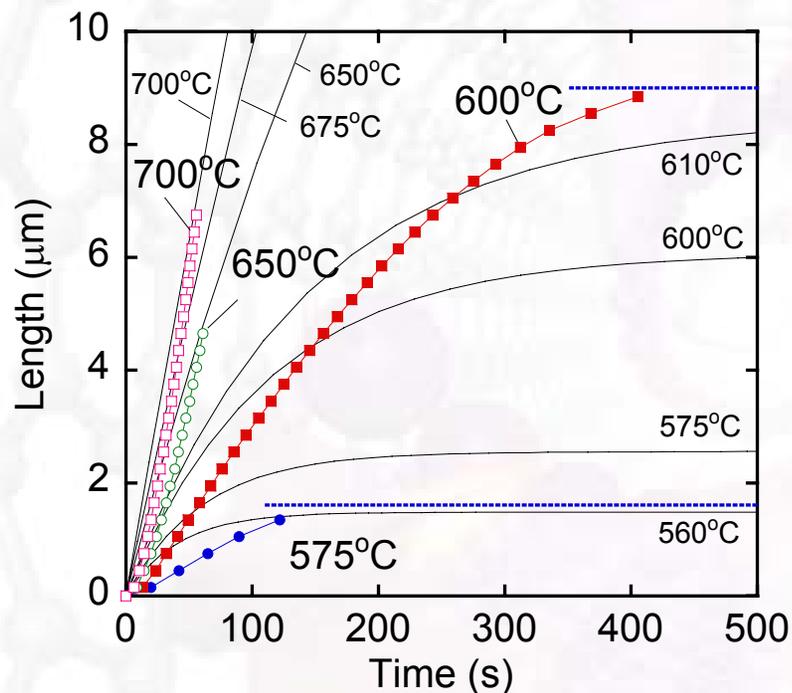
Precip. Carbon

$$\frac{dN_t}{dt} = k_t N_b,$$

- Simplified rate equation model - 5 rates
- Explains termination of growth
 - when surface of catalyst becomes covered with undissolved carbon
- Predicts ultimate lengths of nanotubes

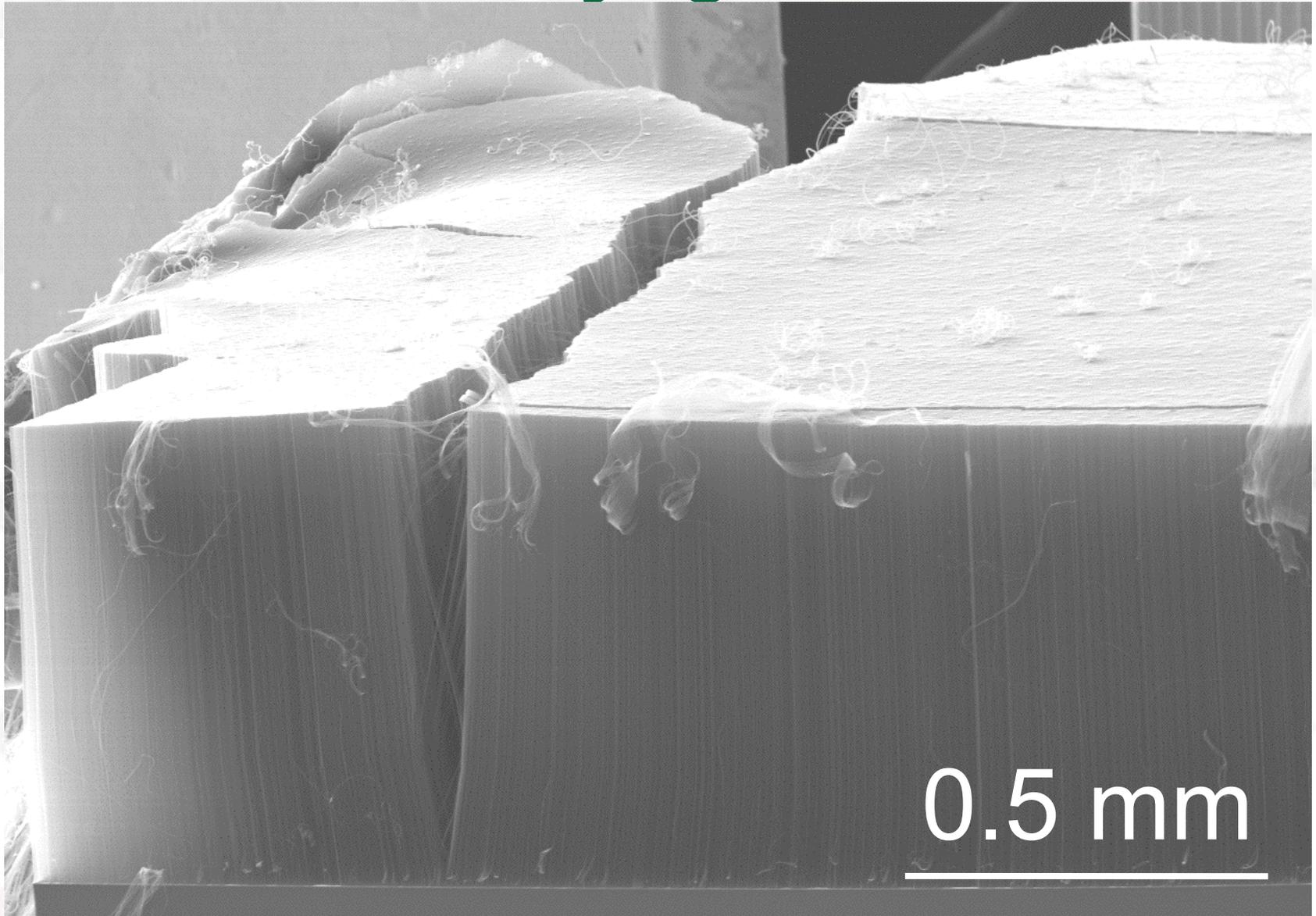
Terminal Nanotube Length

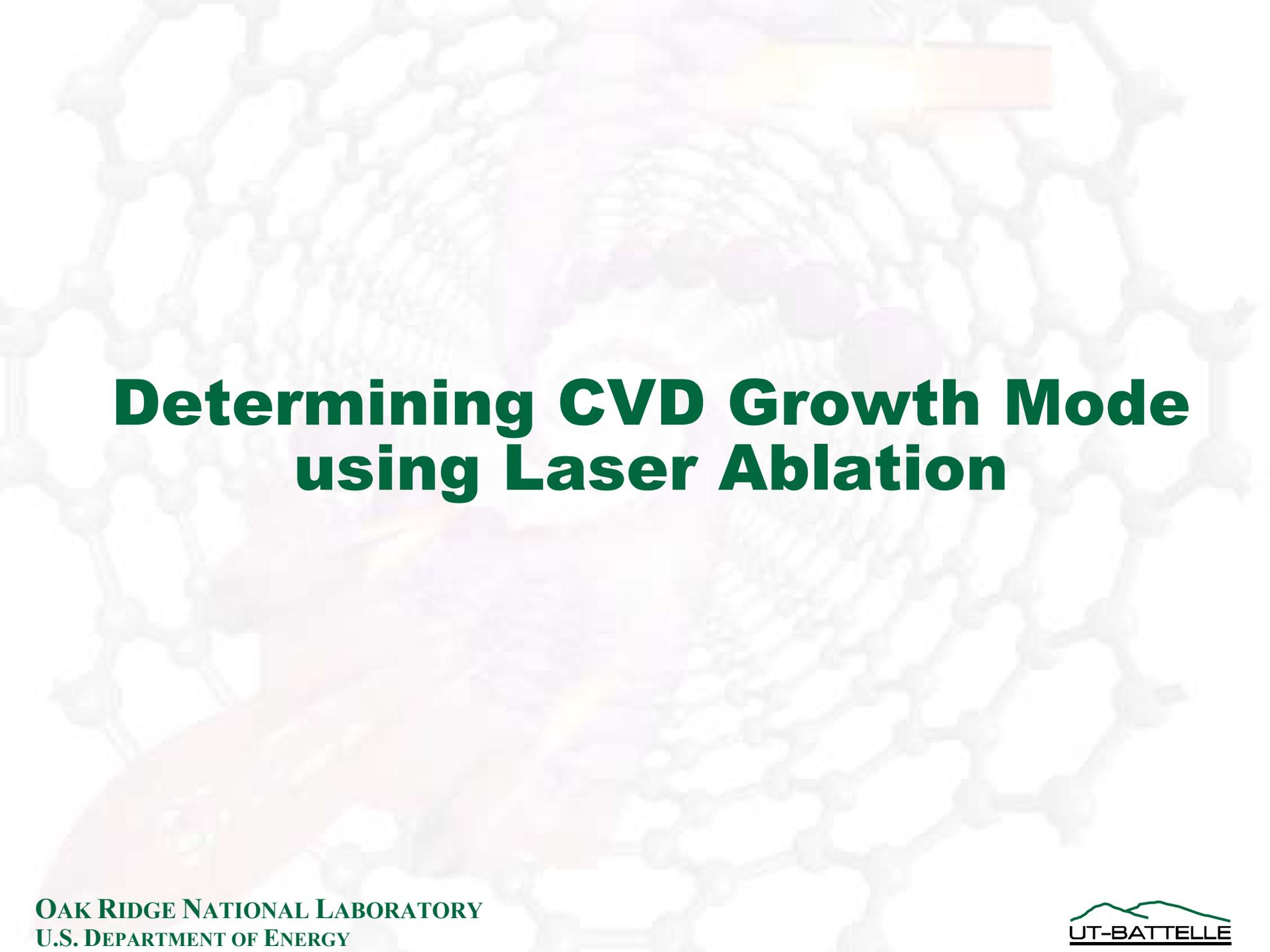
Experiment vs. Model



Good agreement between *both* model and experimentally-measured **growth rate** and **terminal length** over a range of temperatures

VAA-MWNT Arrays grown at 730°C

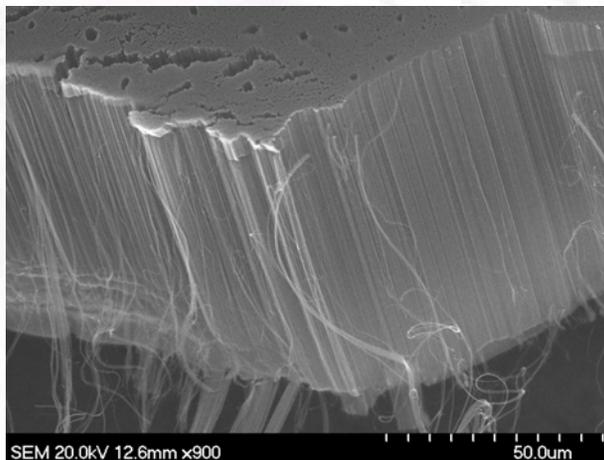




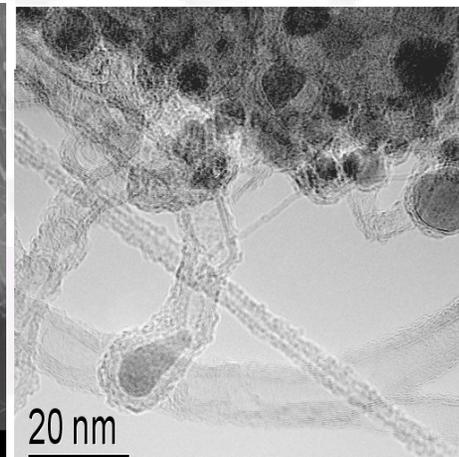
Determining CVD Growth Mode using Laser Ablation

Mechanisms of VAA-MWNT Growth

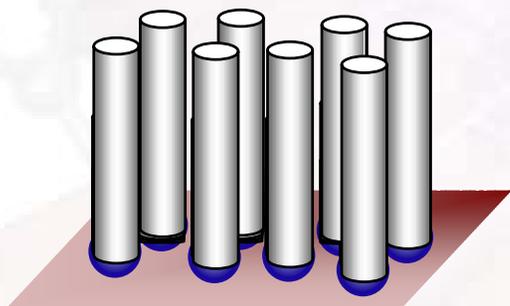
- Growth Mechanism?
 - Tip or base?
 - Uniform lengths
 - Coordinated tip growth?
- Laser ablation answers the question...
 - with *in situ* photography of nanotube growth



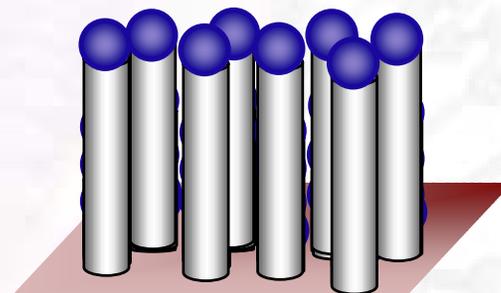
SEM - uniform lengths



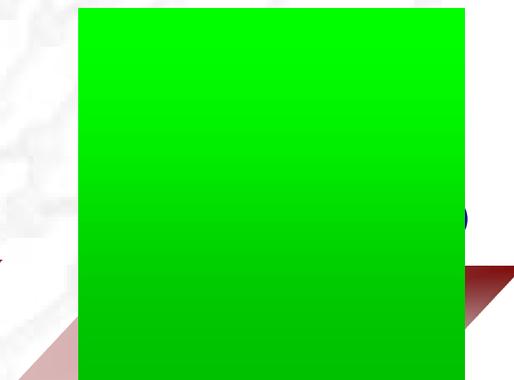
HRTEM - particles at tips and bases



Base Growth



Tip Growth



Experiment

Carbon Nanotube “Monolith”



Si wafer thickness is $380\ \mu\text{m}$

Summary

- **Laser Synthesis of SWNT**
 - Growth rates measured – 1-5 $\mu\text{m/s}$... for 0.2 g/hour production rates
 - Factor of 1000 improvement in both growth rate and production rate possible at high laser powers
- **Chemical vapor deposition of VAA-MWNT**
 - First direct *in situ* measurements - up to 1 $\mu\text{m/s}$ measured
 - Sustained at rates of 0.3 $\mu\text{m/s}$ to 4 mm lengths over large areas
 - Length monitored and controlled (to 20 nm accuracy) using laser interferometry
 - Time-resolved imaging and laser ablation used to understand growth mechanism, kinetics, and termination
 - Growth to long lengths sensitive to catalyst composition