

Nanomedicine for human health

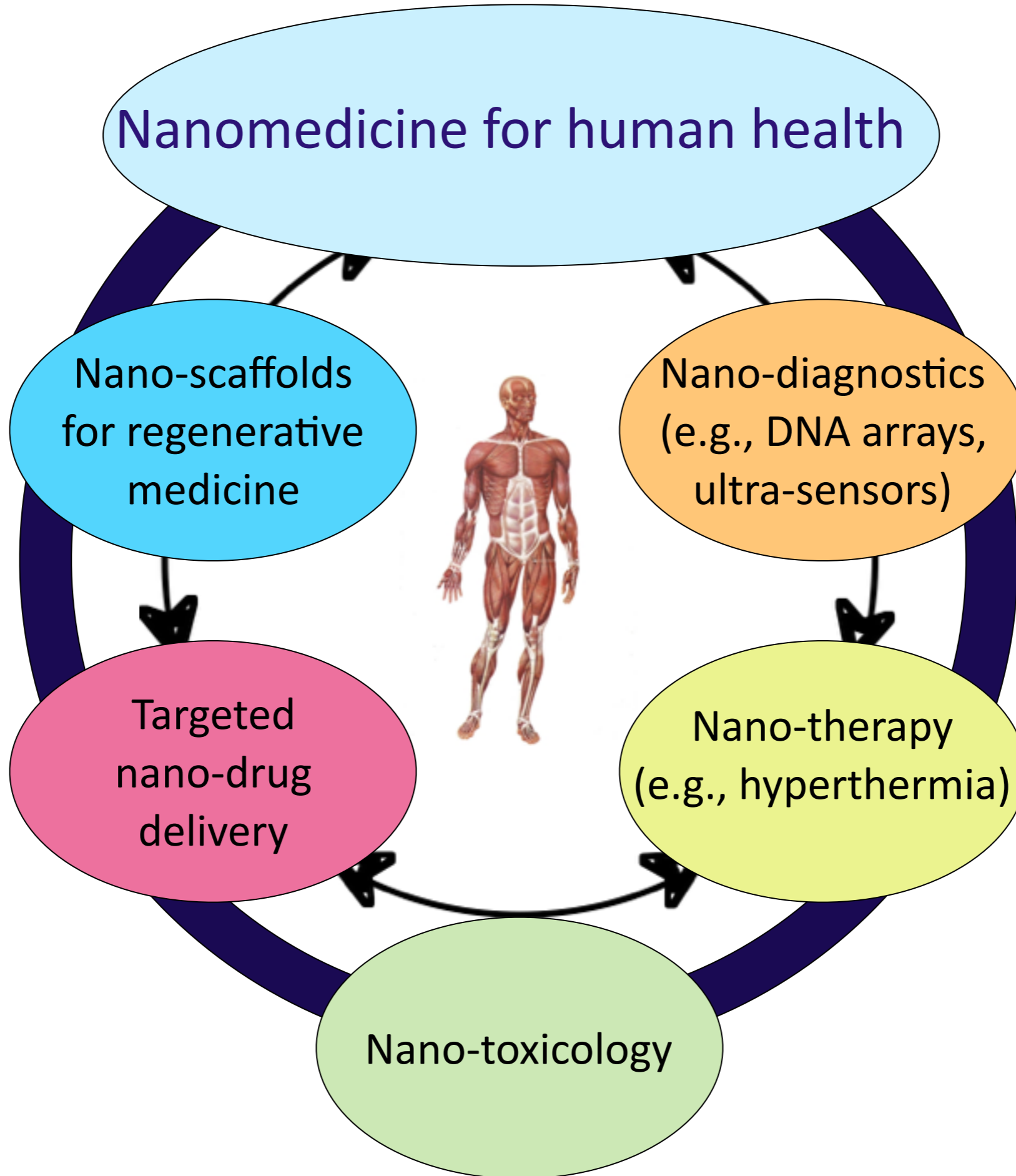
Nano-scaffolds
for regenerative
medicine

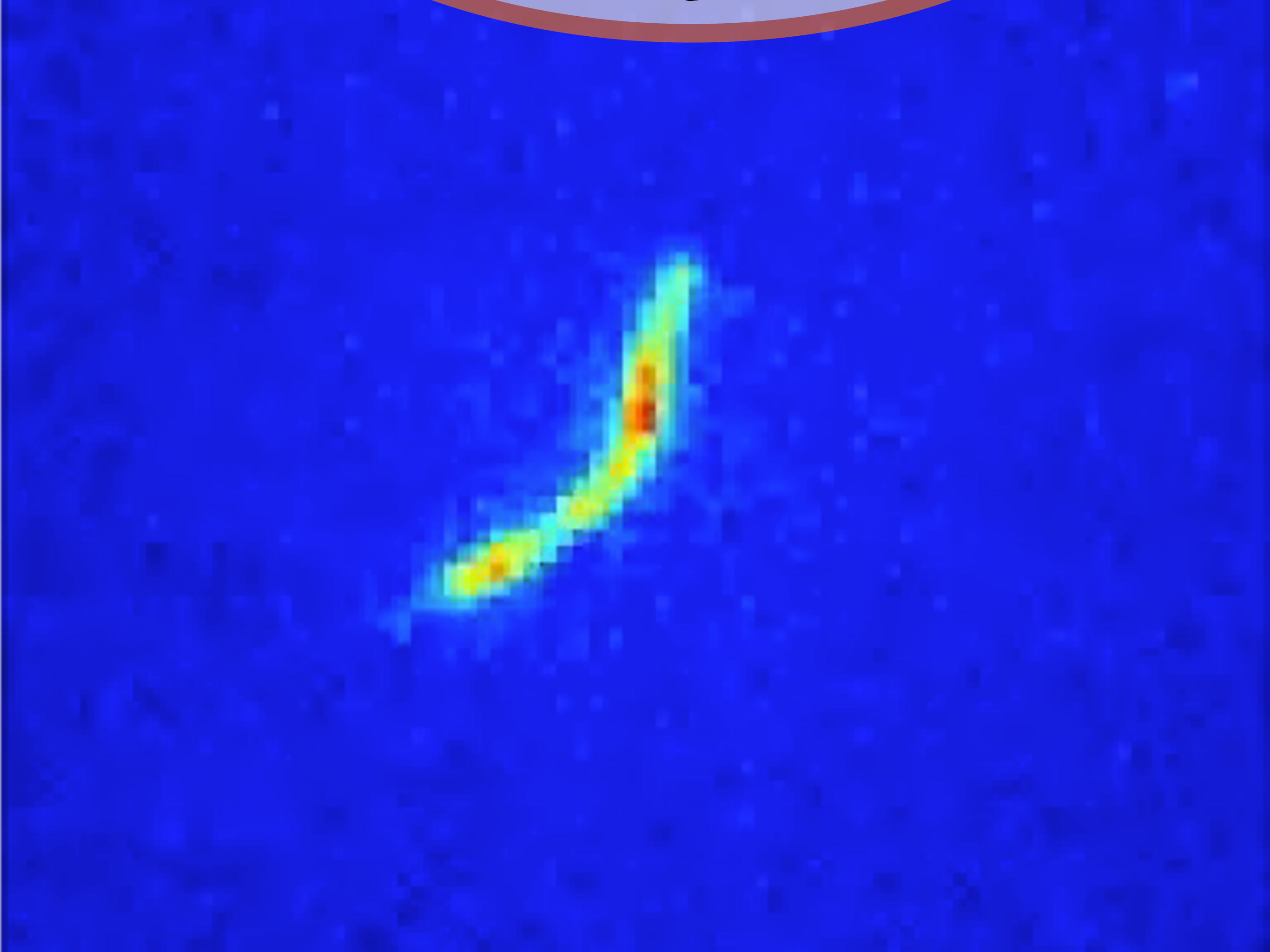
Nano-diagnostics
(e.g., DNA arrays,
ultra-sensors)

Targeted
nano-drug
delivery

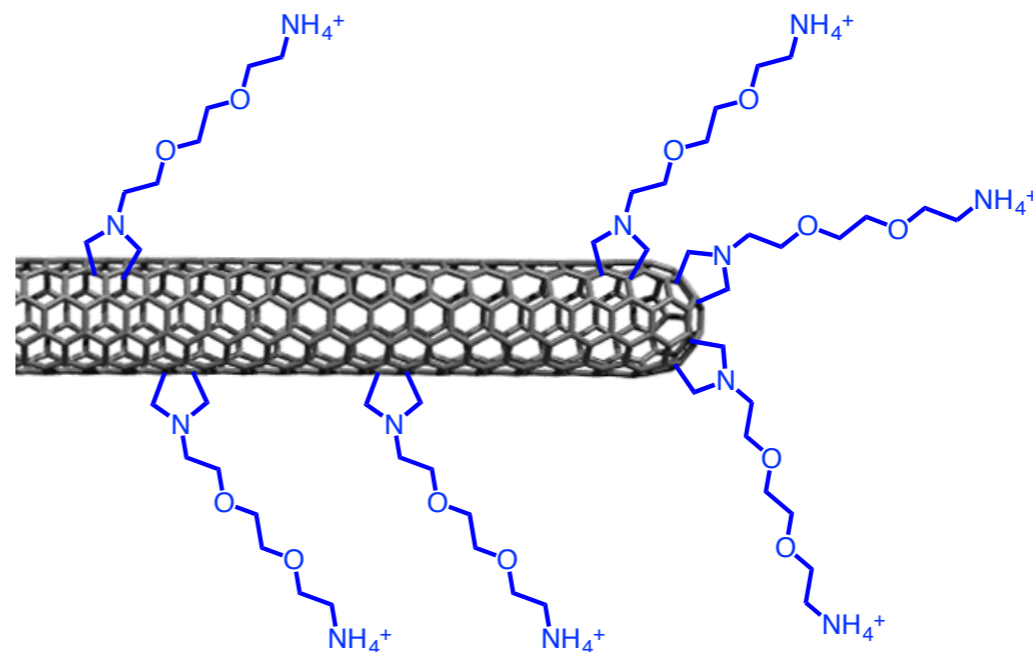
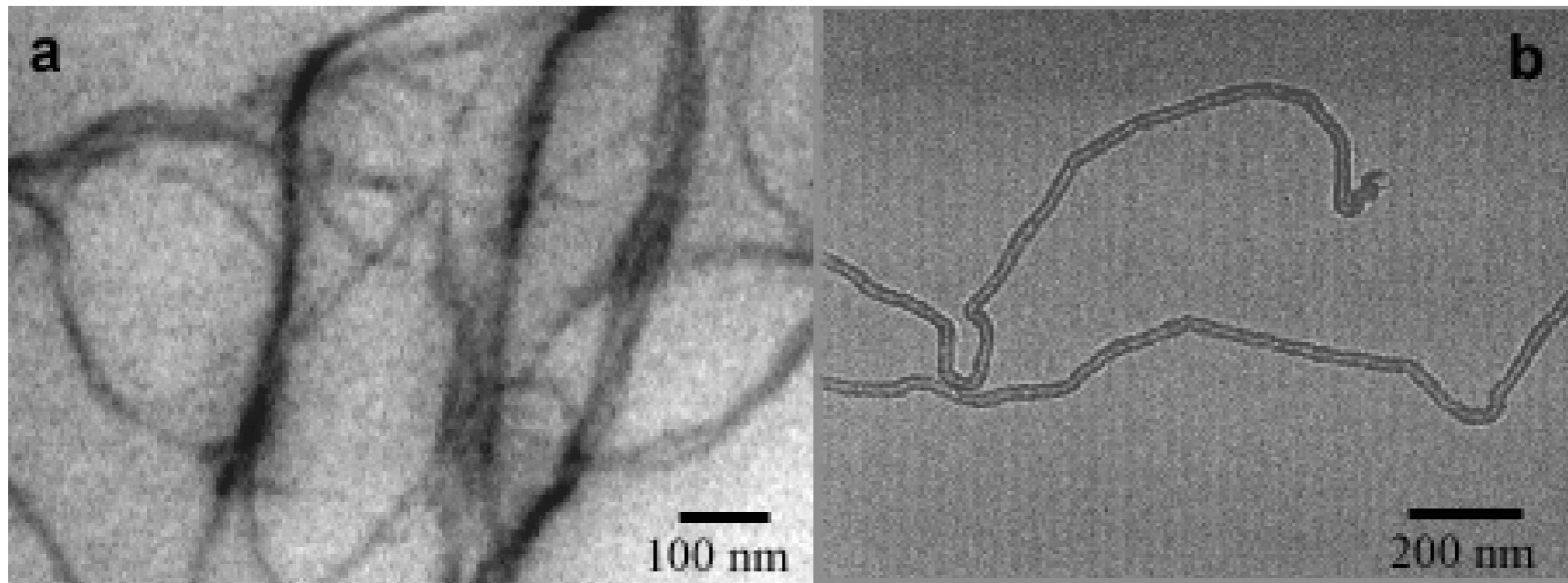
Nano-therapy
(e.g., hyperthermia)

Nano-toxicology





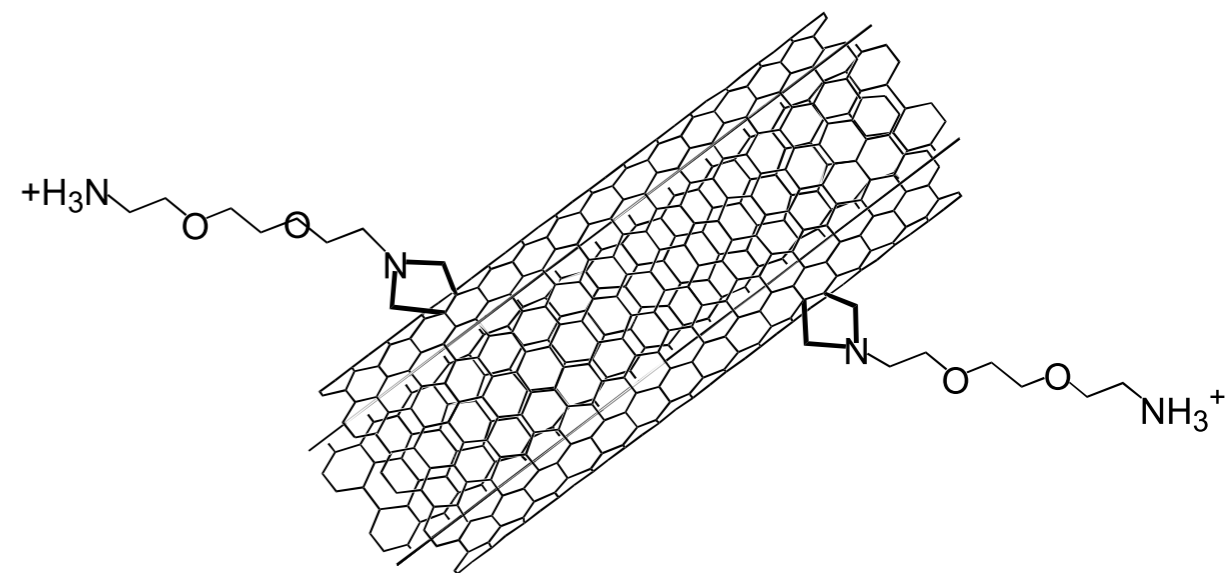
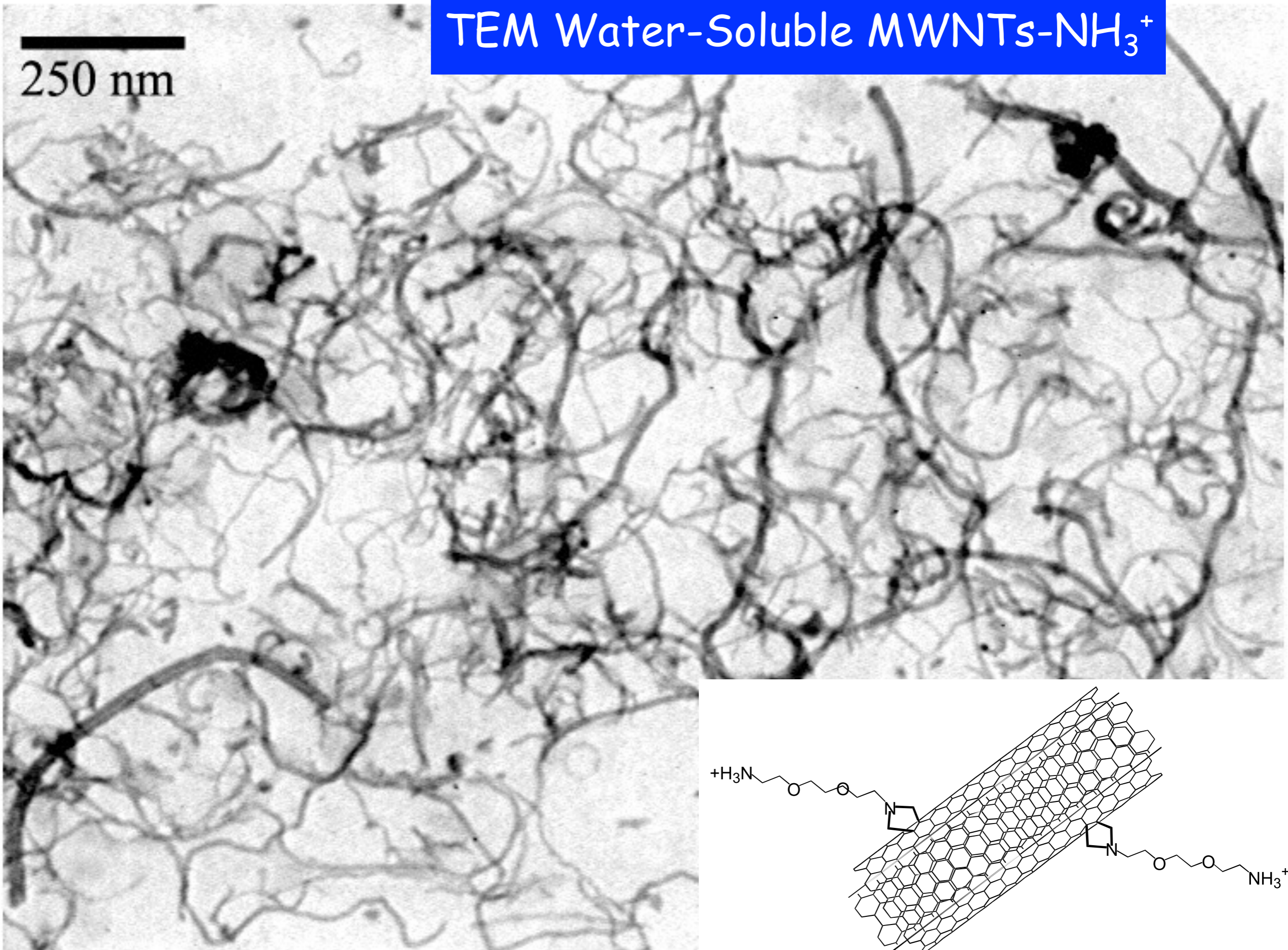
TEM OF WATER SOLUBLE SWNT AND MWNT



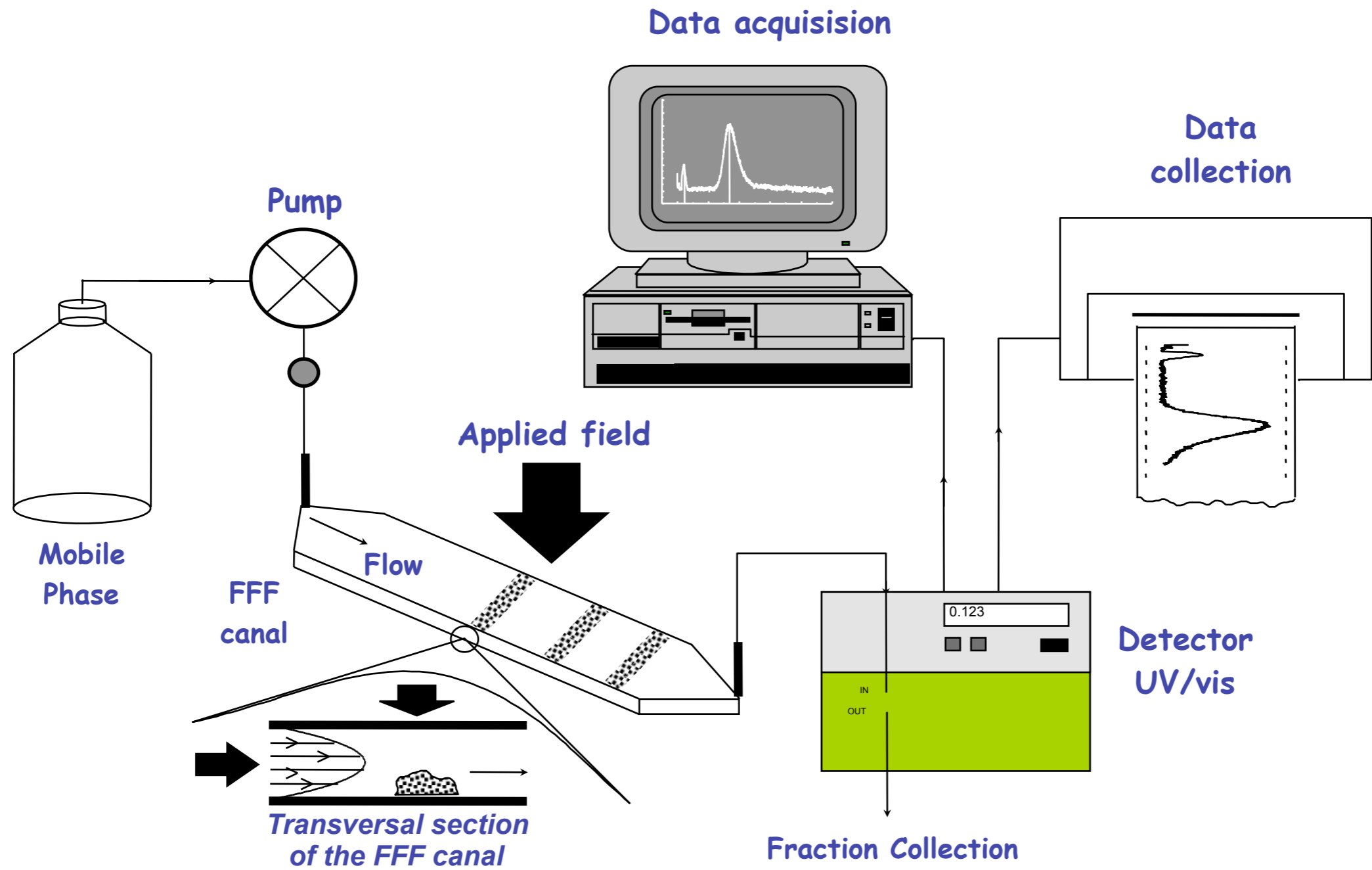
Chem. Commun. 2002, 3050-3051

TEM Water-Soluble MWNTs-NH₃⁺

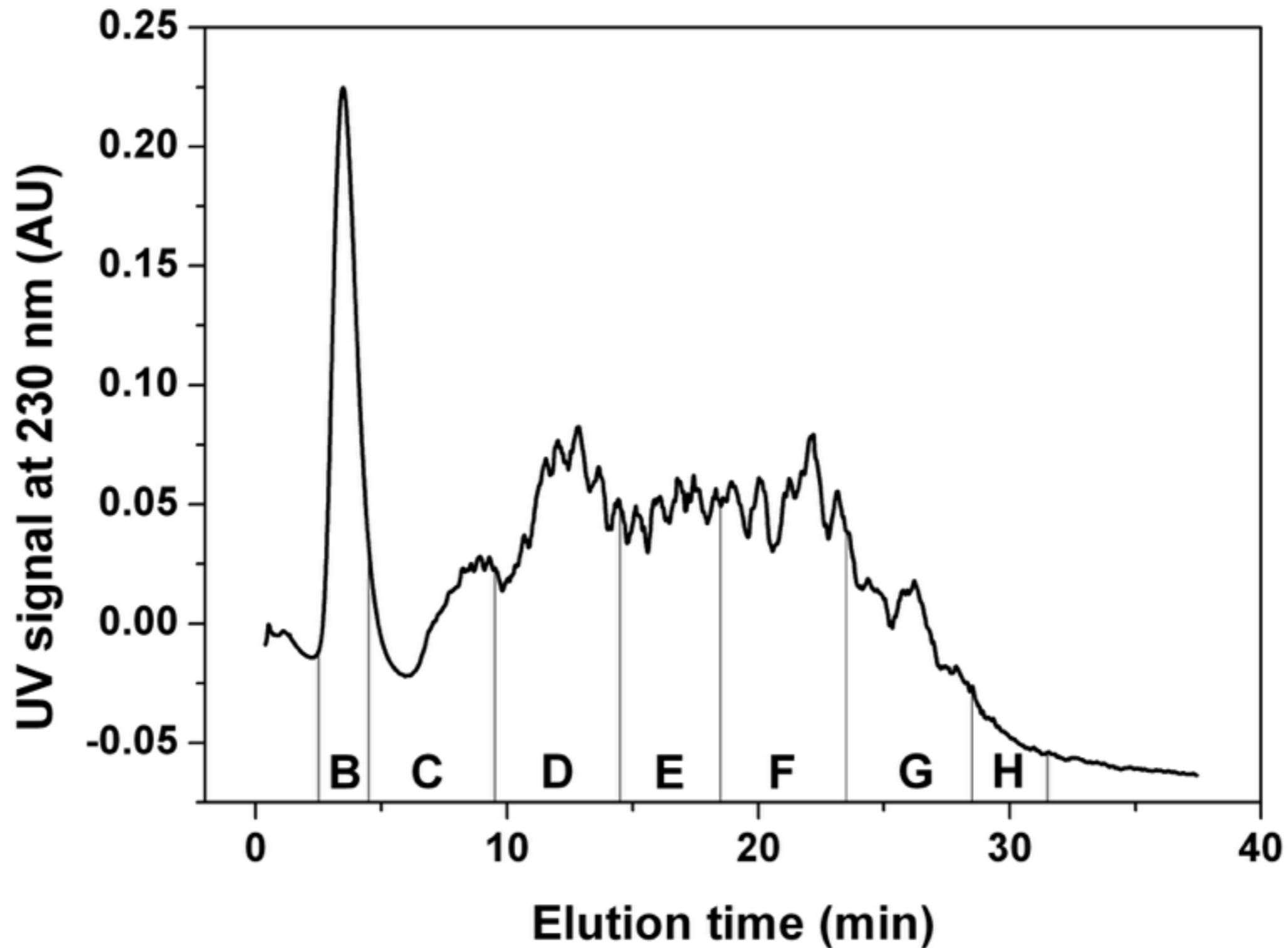
250 nm



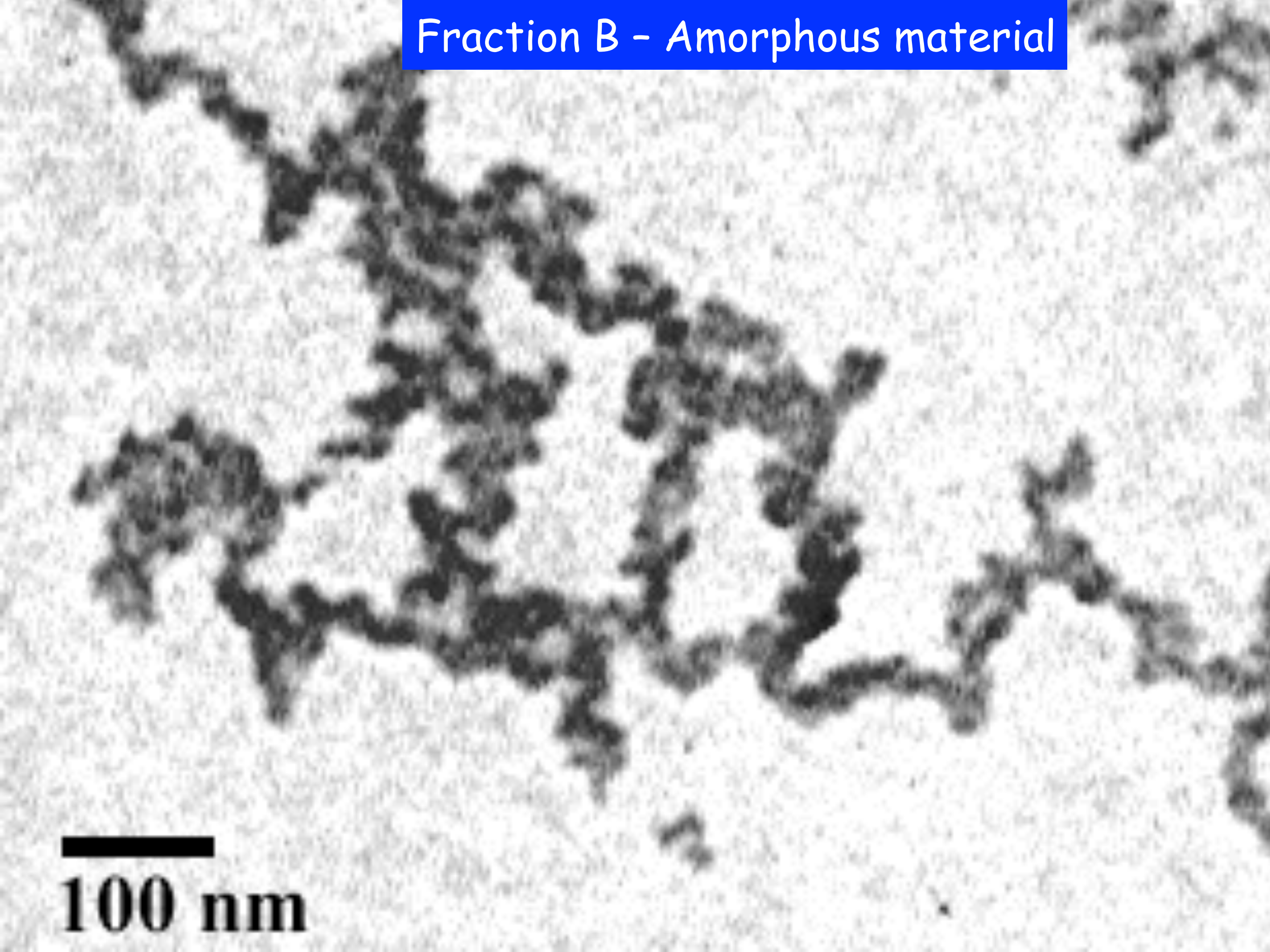
FFF instrumentation



Length Separation of Water-Soluble MWNT-NH₃⁺ by Field Flow Fractionation (FFF)



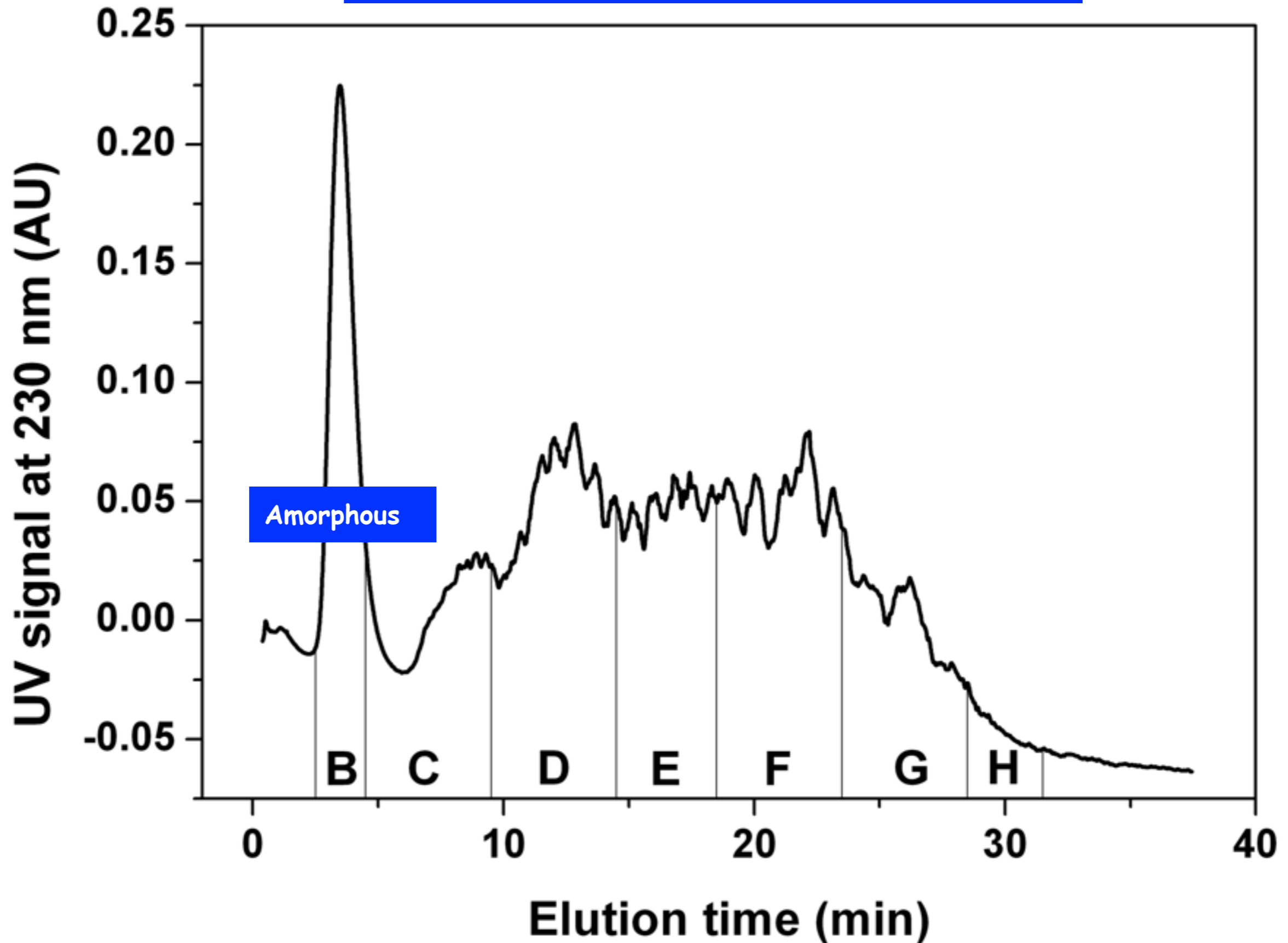
Fraction B - Amorphous material



100 nm

This transmission electron micrograph shows a complex, interconnected network of dark, irregularly shaped regions against a lighter, granular background. The dark regions form a dense, somewhat porous-looking structure that spans across the field of view. The overall appearance is consistent with an amorphous material, as there are no discernible crystalline lattices or regular geometric patterns. A scale bar in the bottom left corner indicates a length of 100 nm.

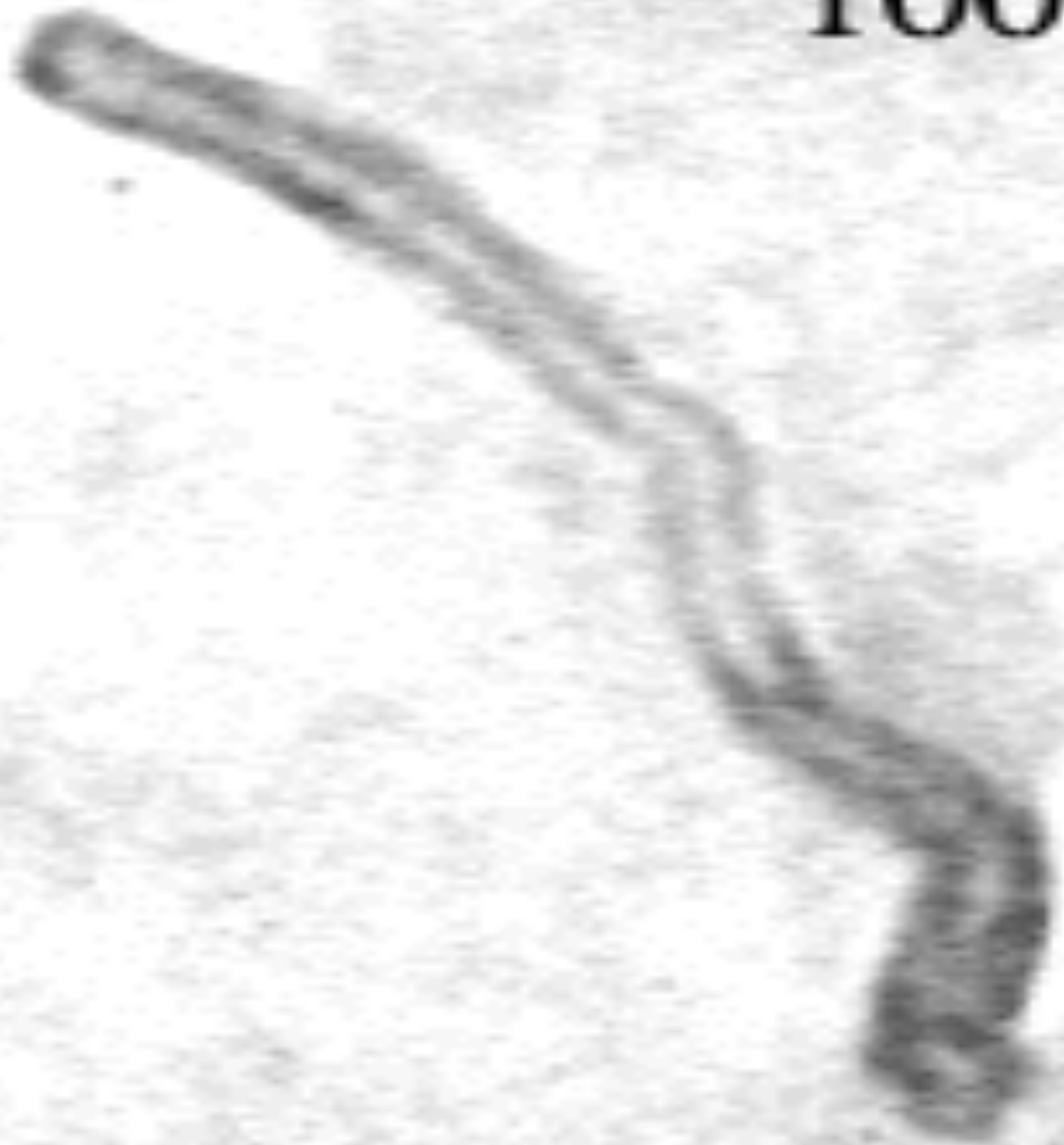
FFF Fractogram of Water-soluble MWNTs-NH₃⁺



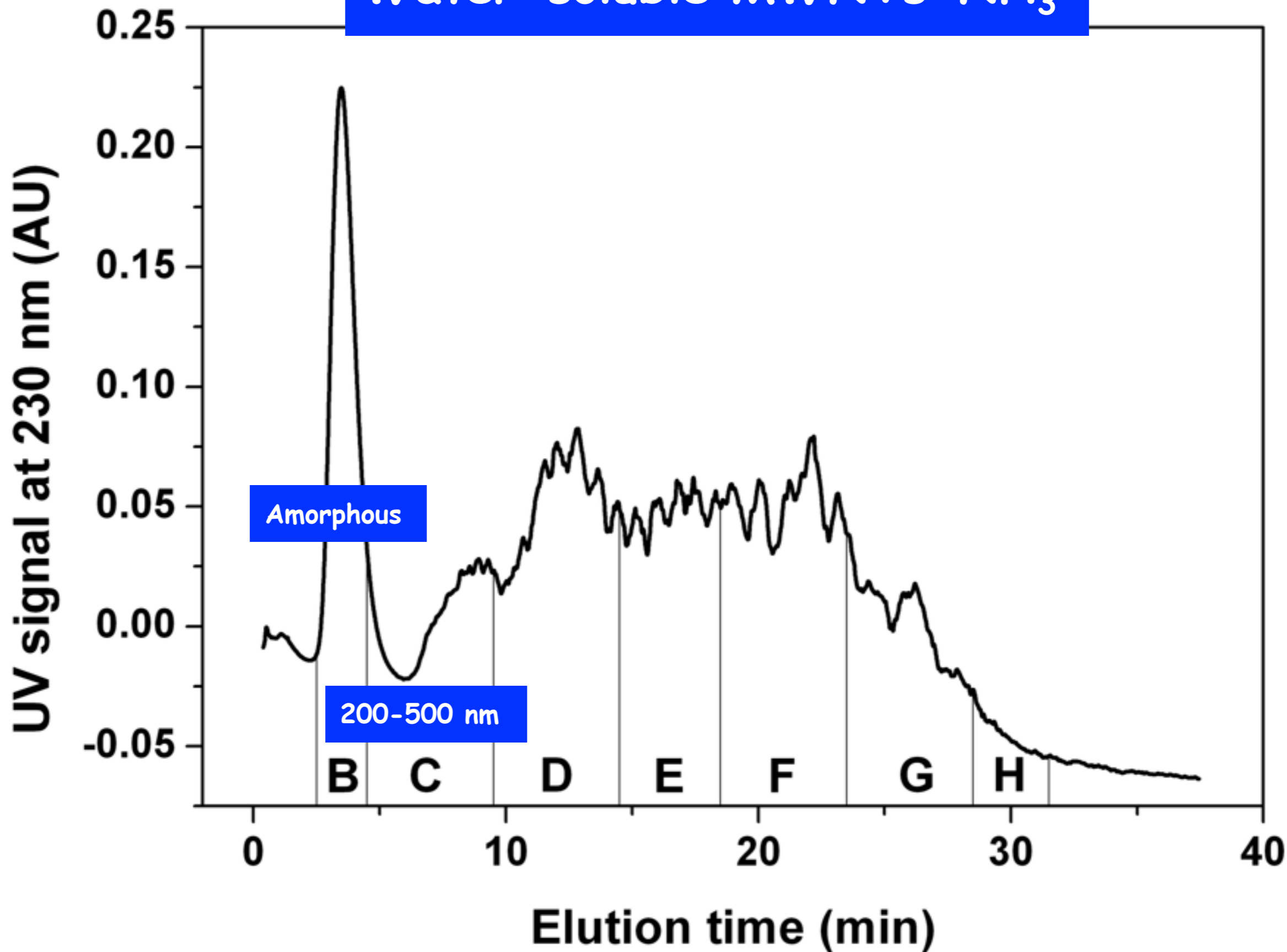
Fraction C - 200-500 nm



100 nm

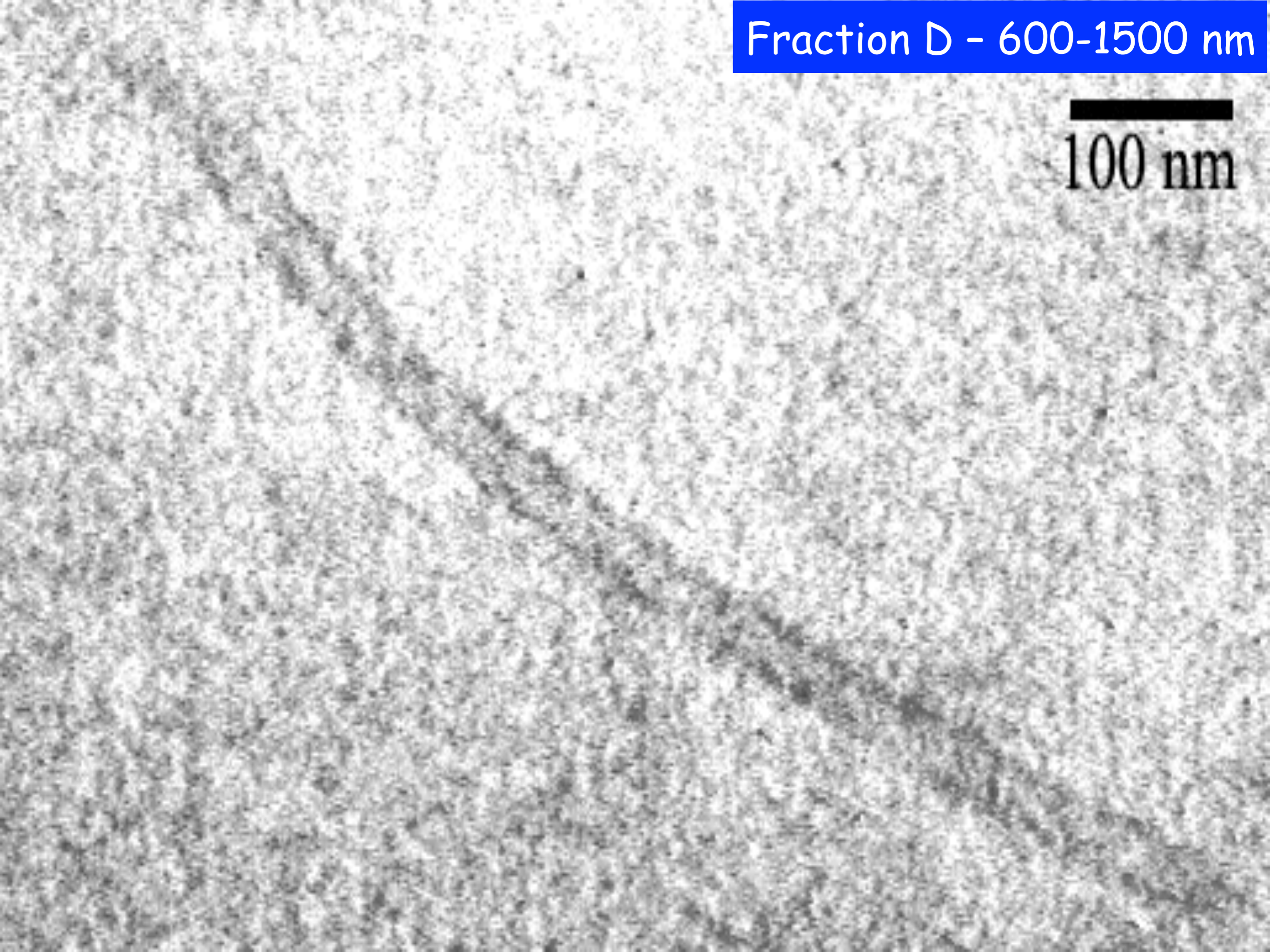


FFF Fractogram of Water-soluble MWNTs-NH₃⁺

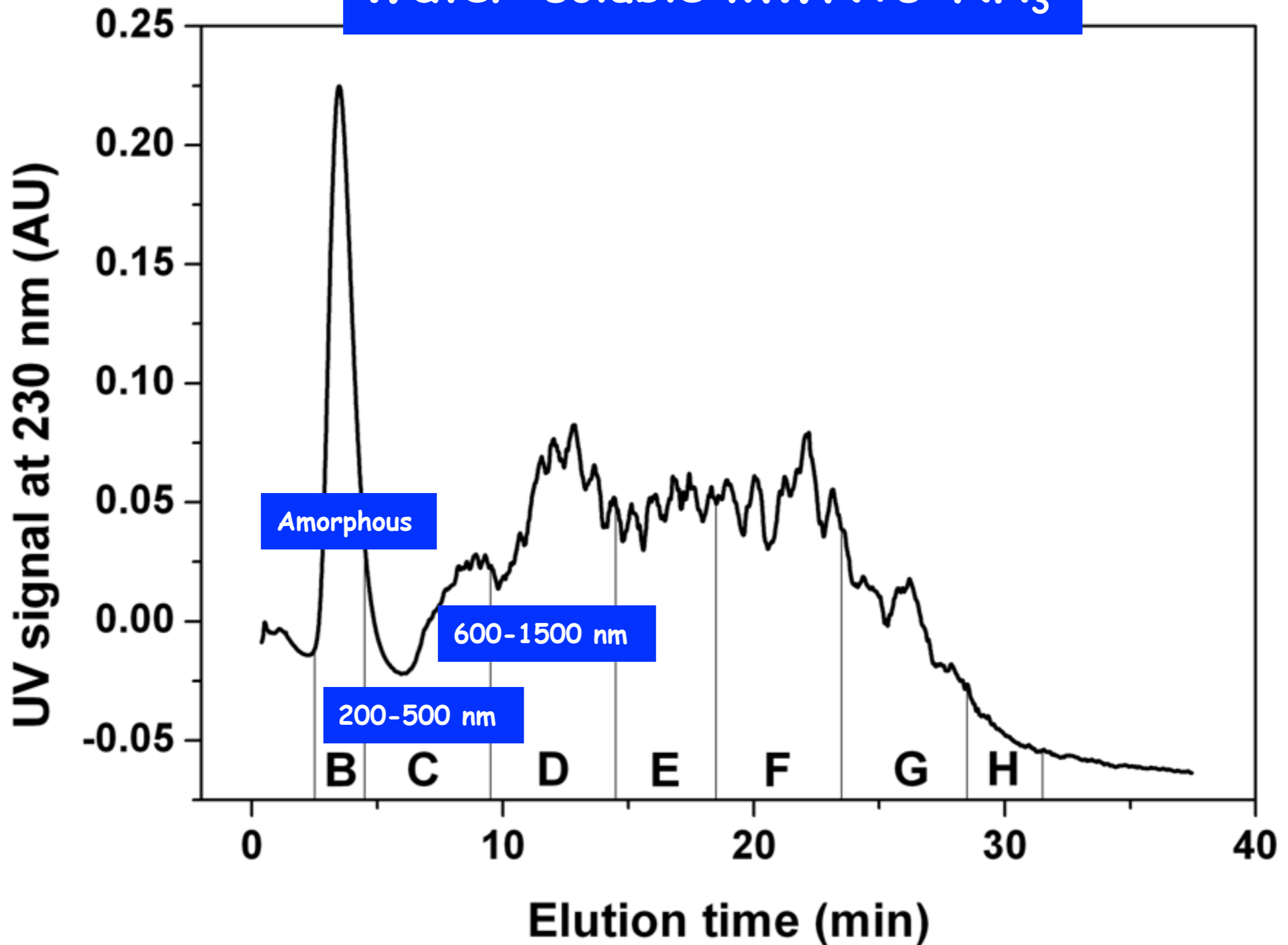


Fraction D - 600-1500 nm

100 nm

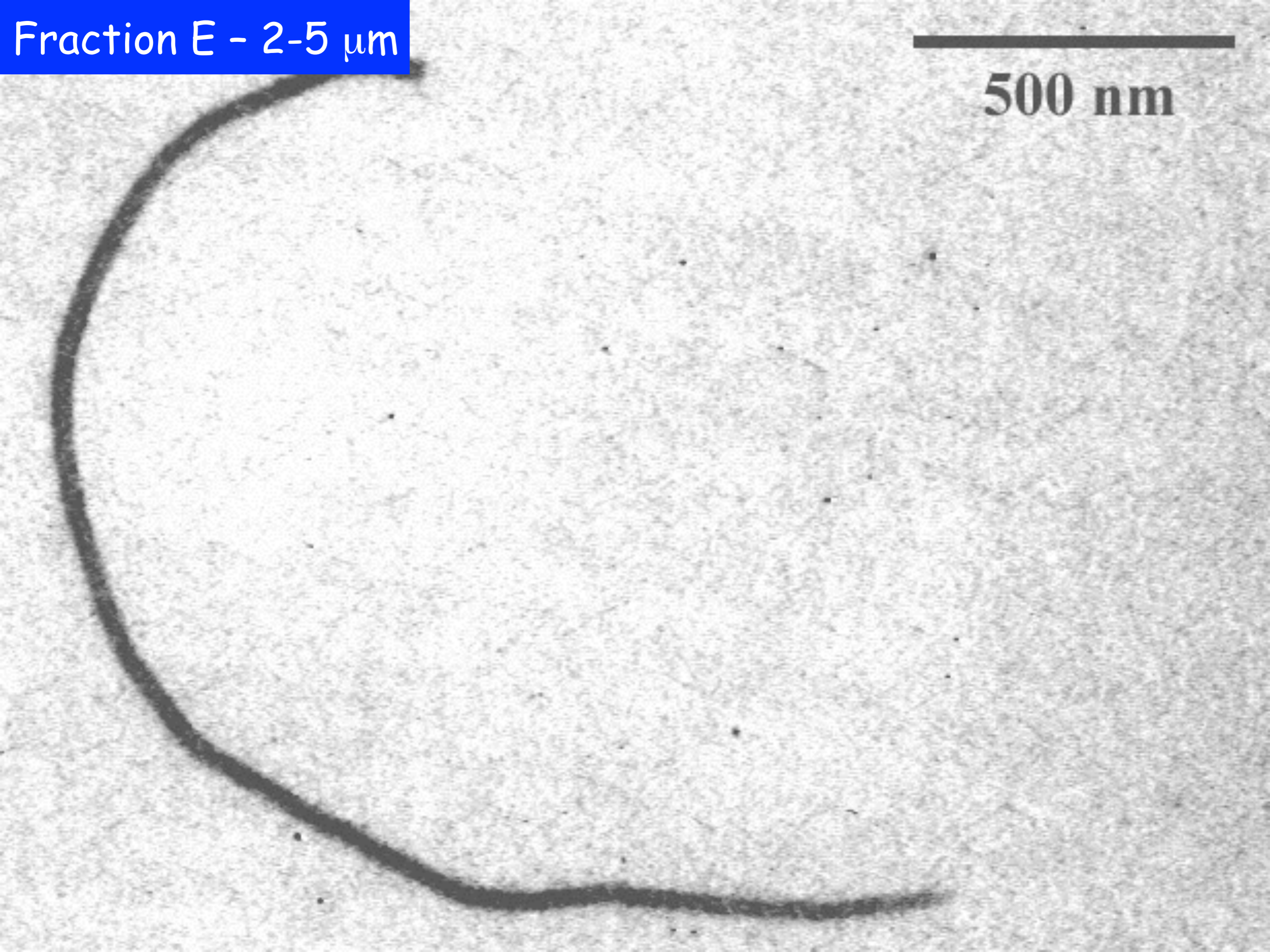


FFF Fractogram of Water-soluble MWNTs-NH₃⁺

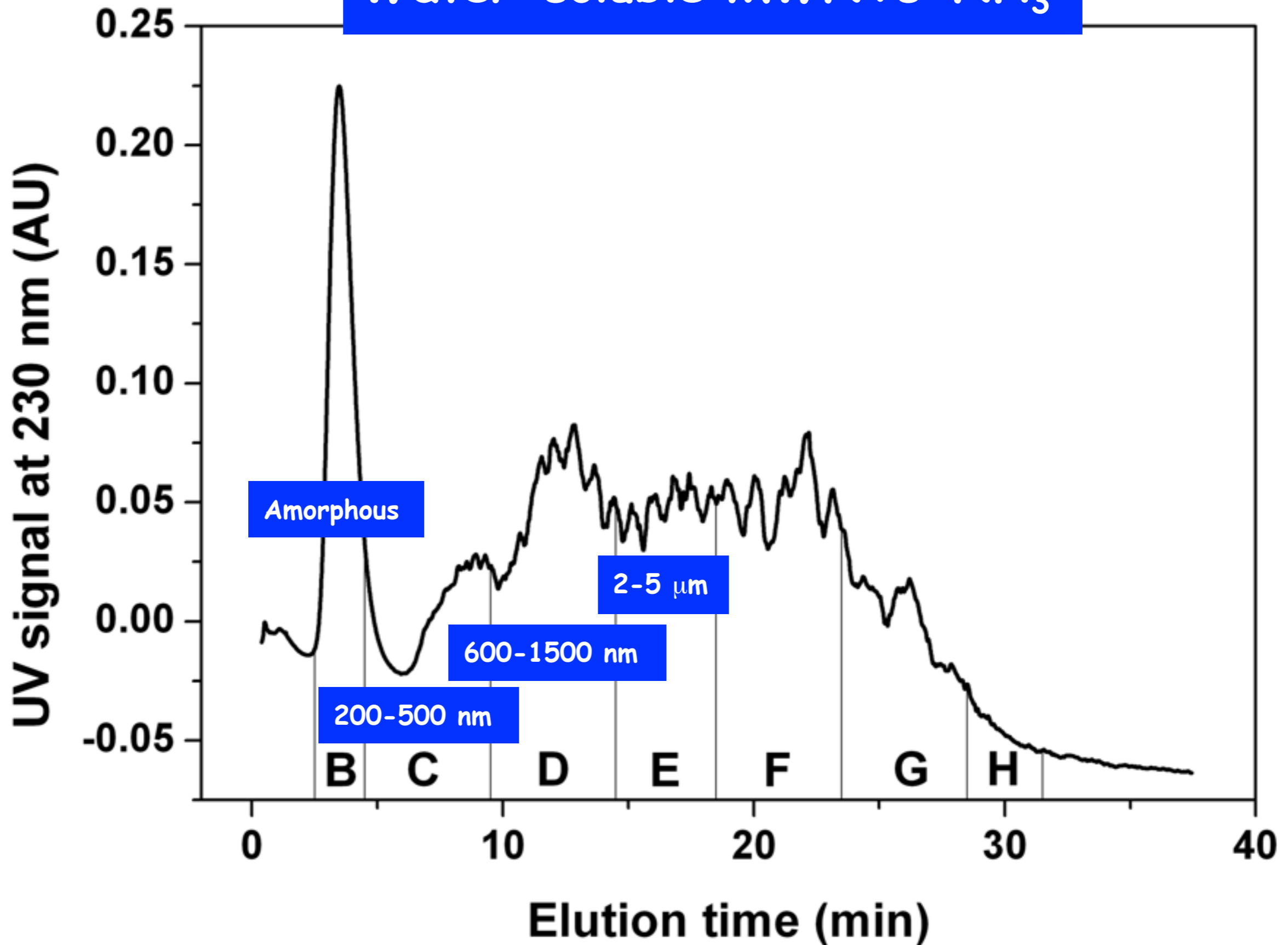


Fraction E - 2-5 μm

500 nm



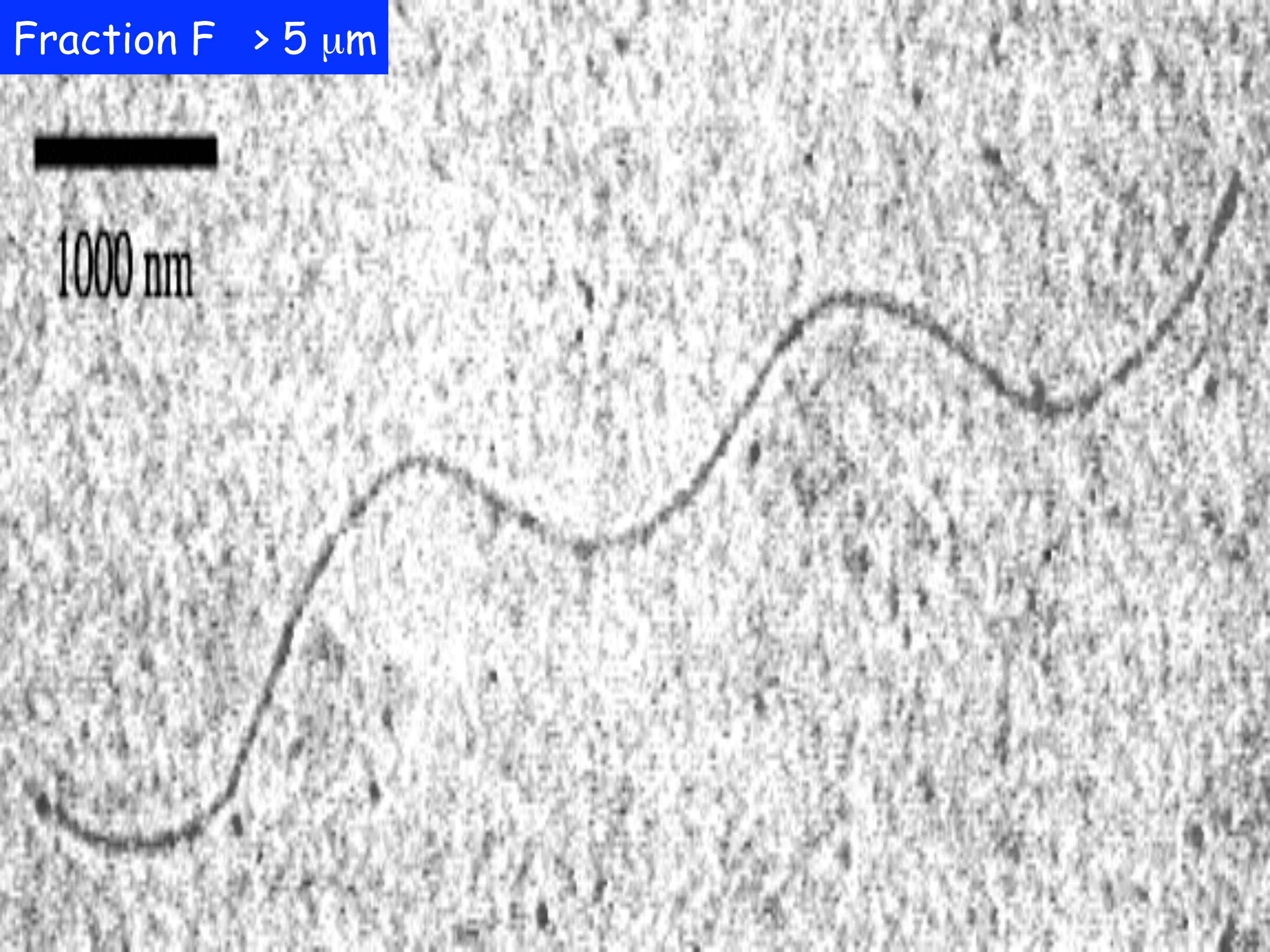
FFF Fractogram of Water-soluble MWNTs-NH₃⁺



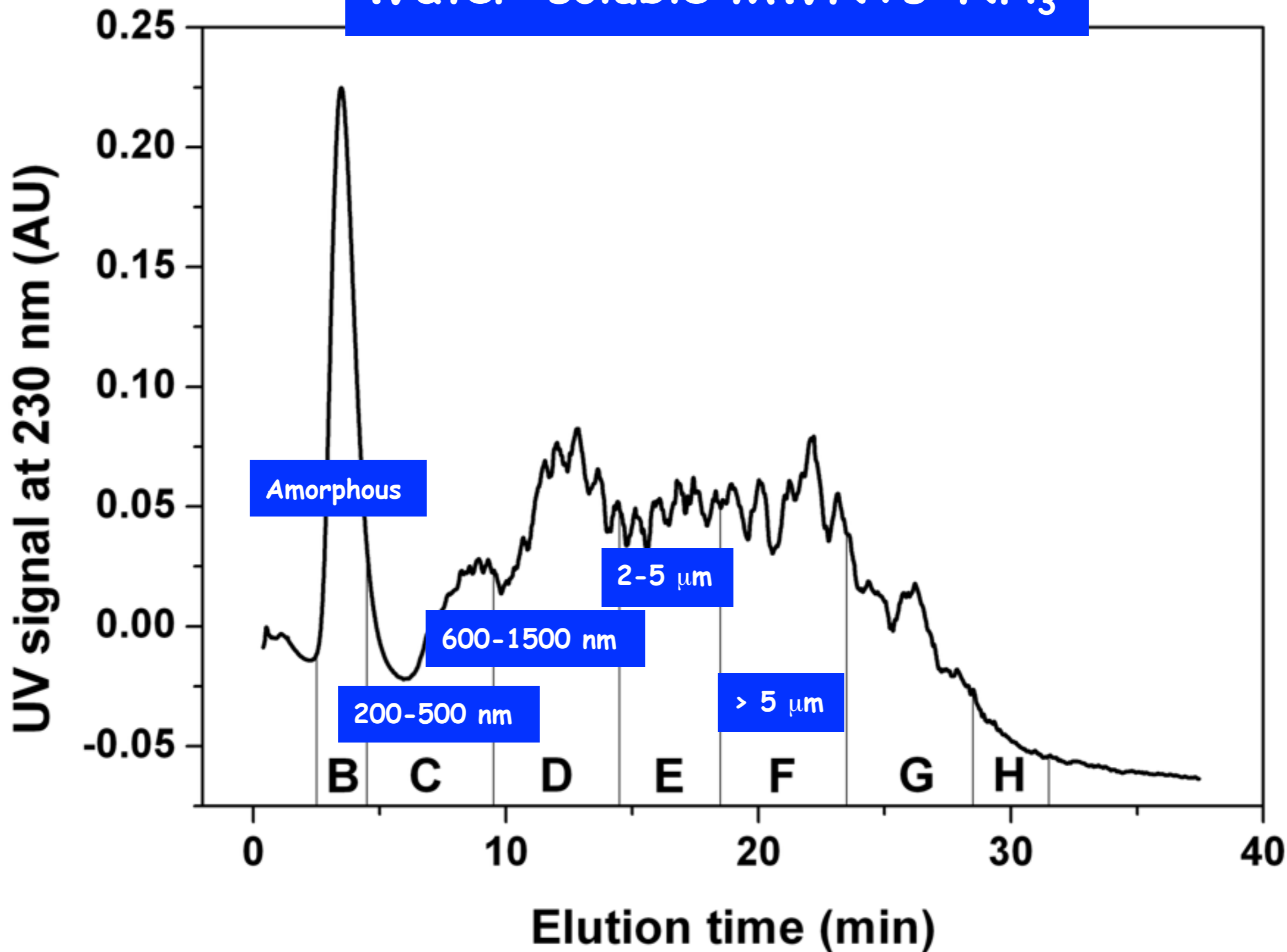
Fraction F > 5 μm

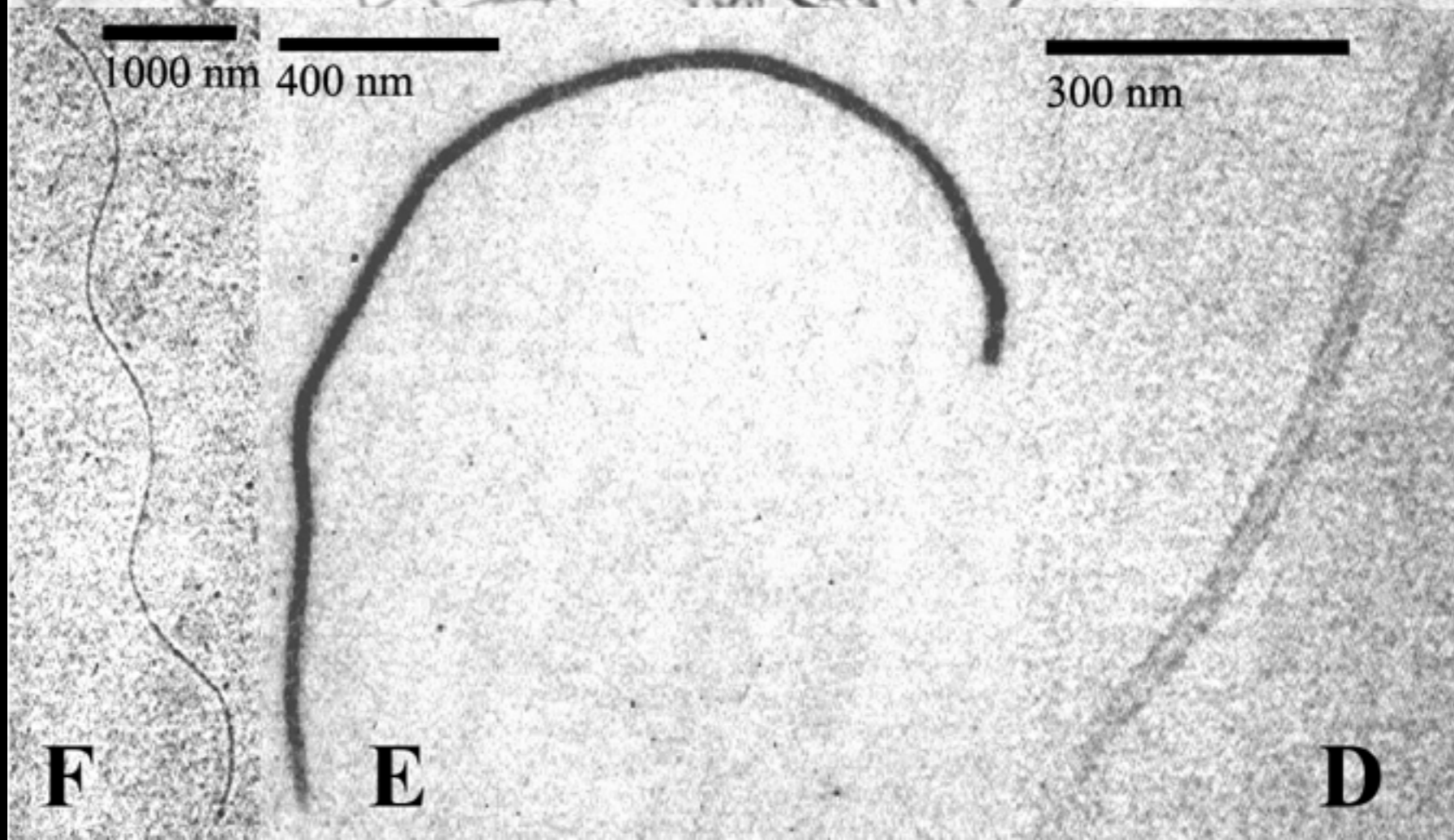
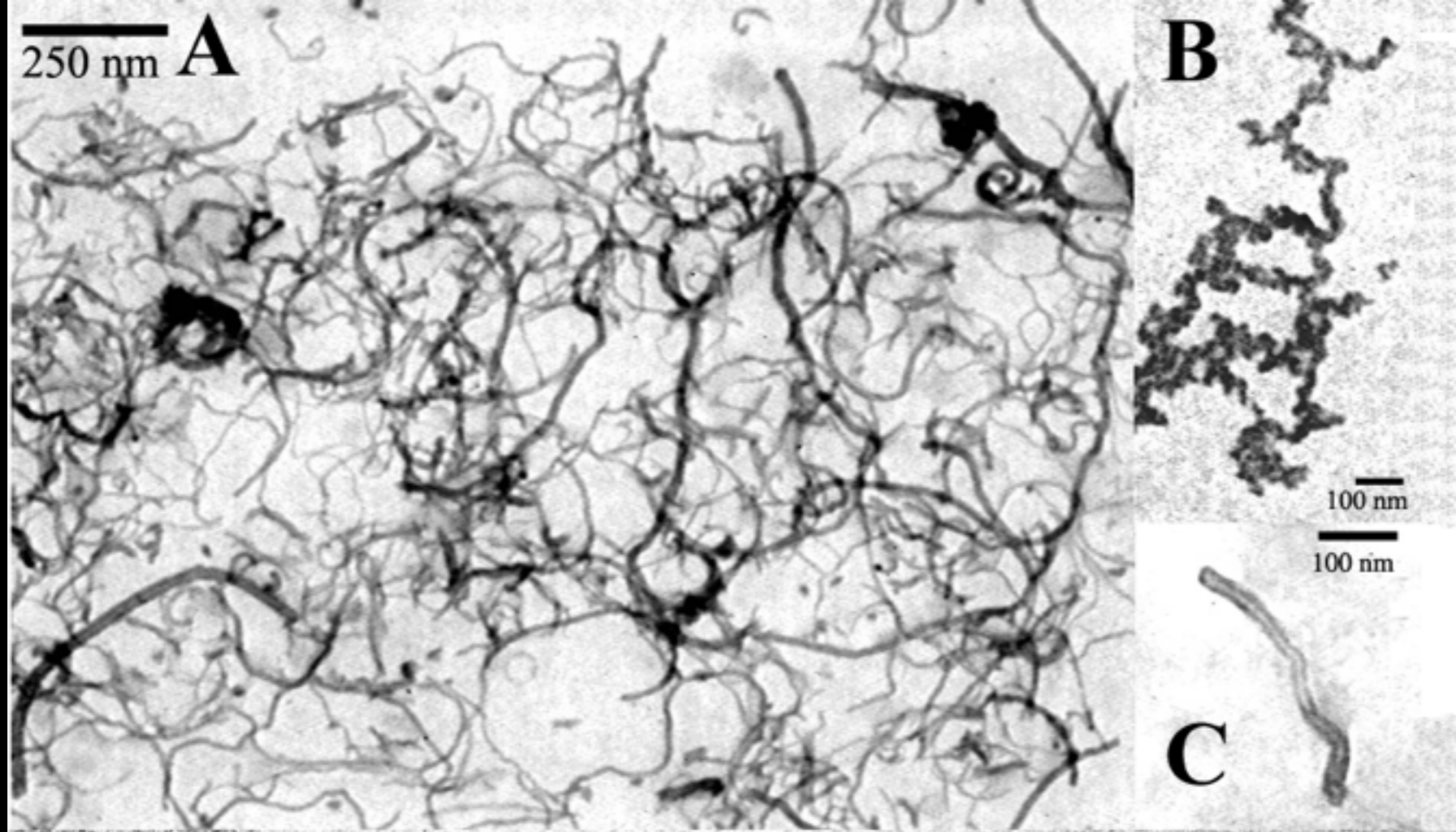


1000 nm

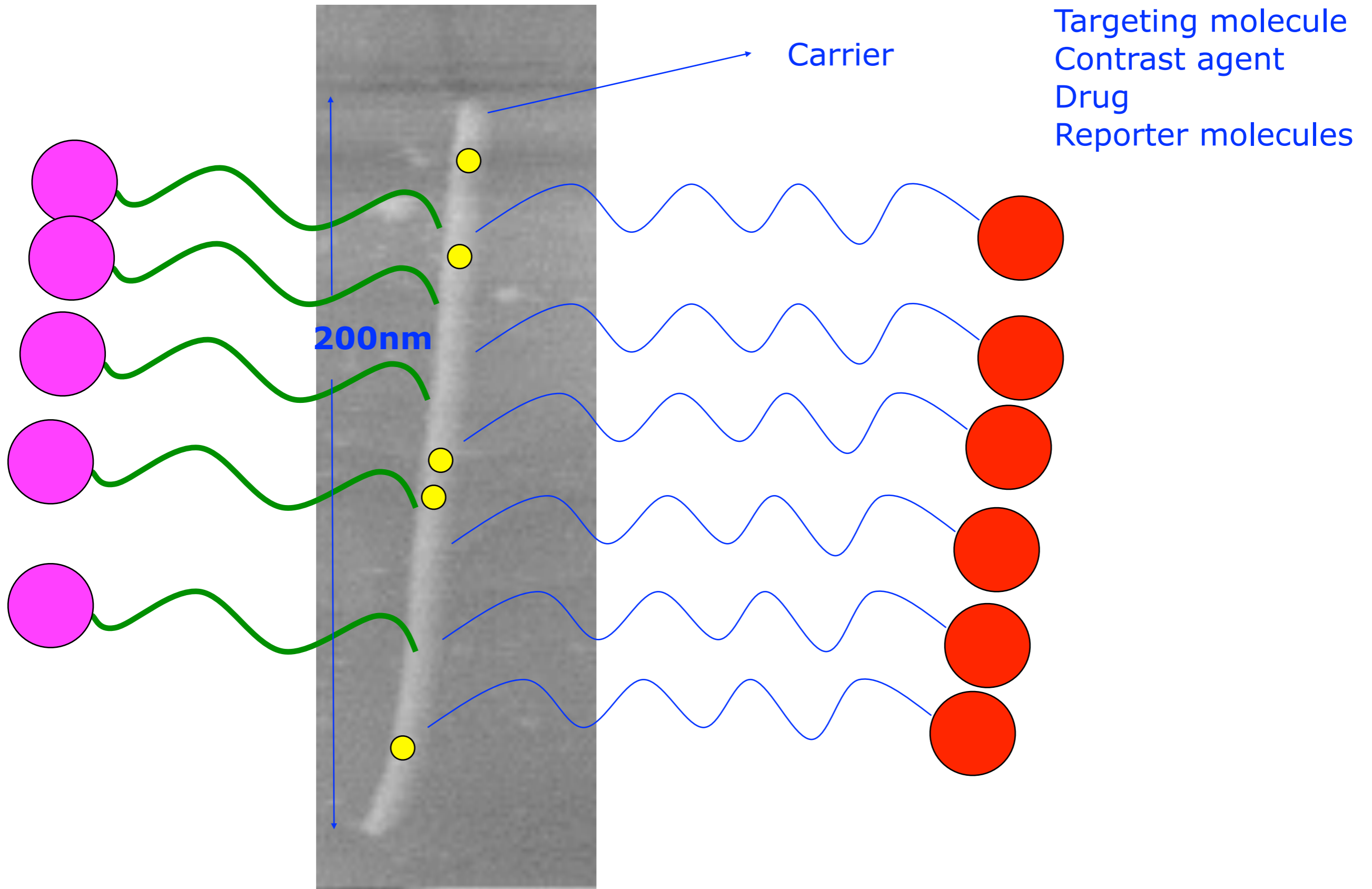


FFF Fractogram of Water-soluble MWNTs-NH₃⁺

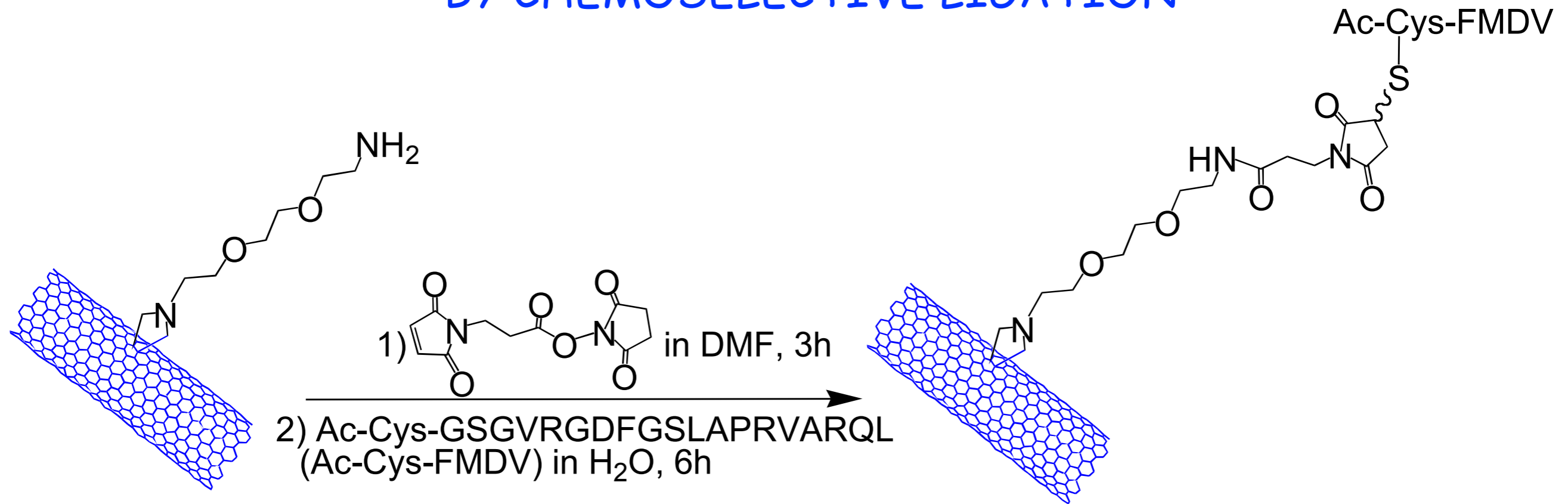




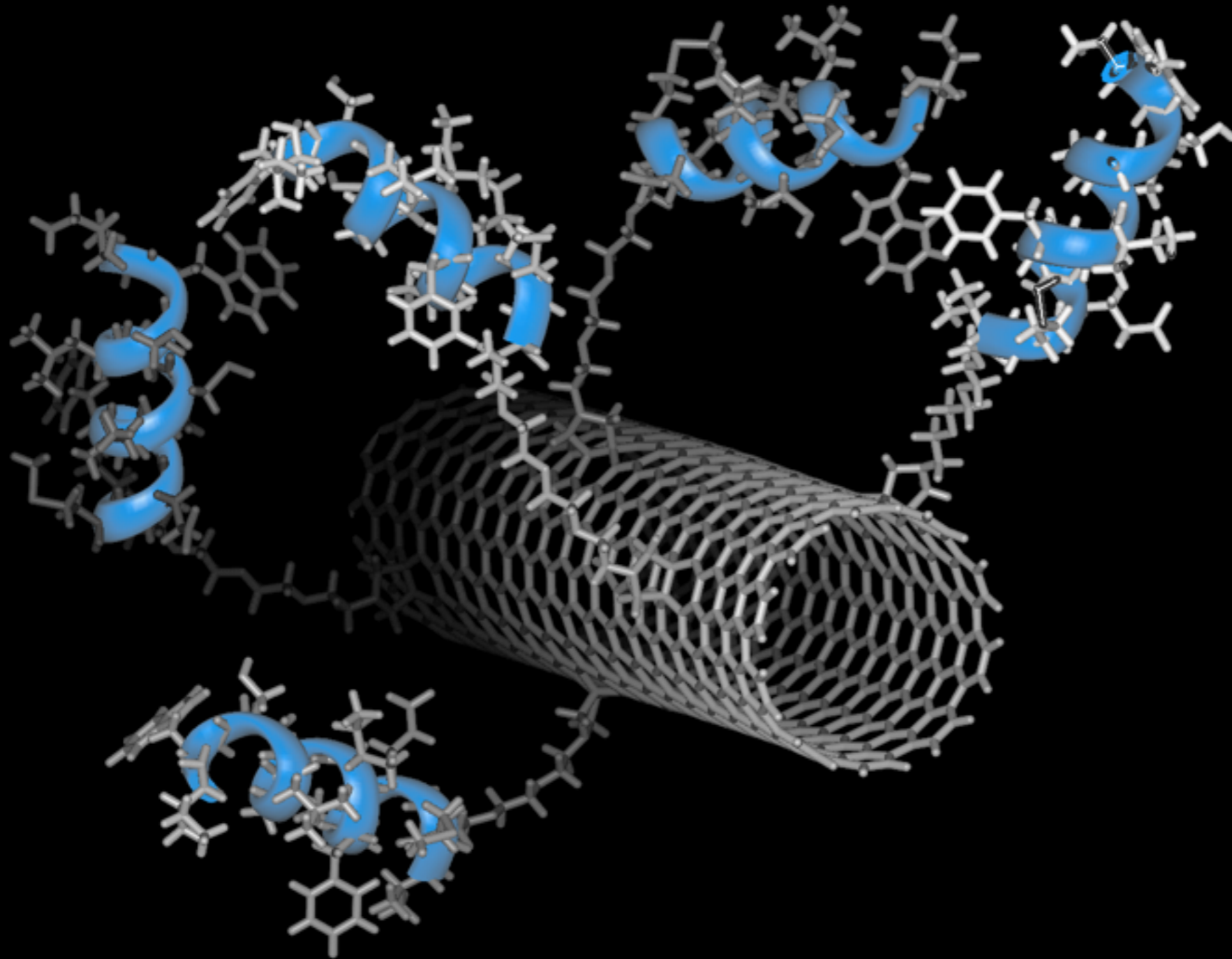
Approach to "Smart" Therapy



SYNTHESIS OF A BIOACTIVE SWNT EICOSAPEPTIDE BY CHEMOSELECTIVE LIGATION

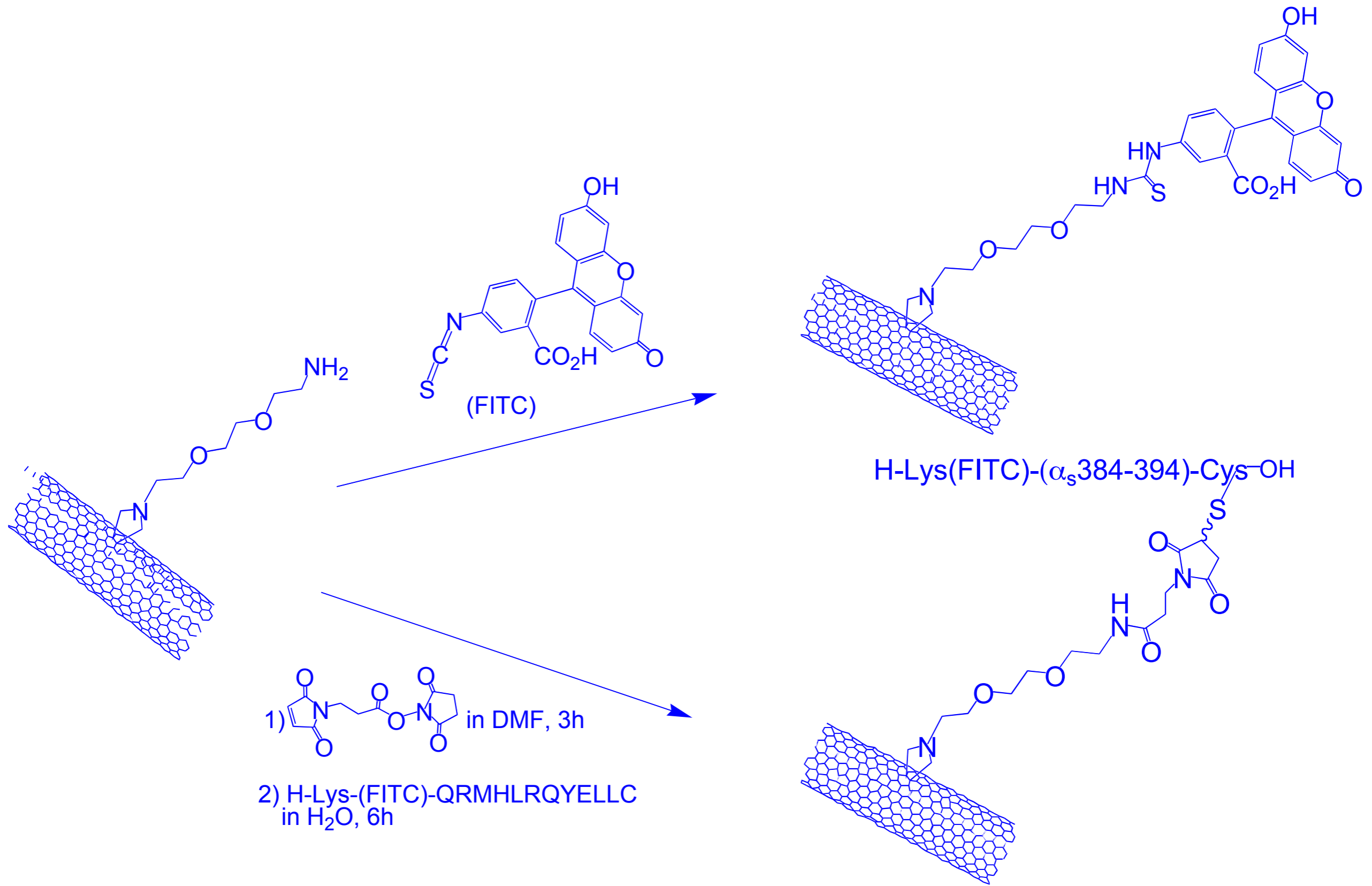


- 1) B-cell epitope from the foot-and-mouth disease virus (FMDV);
- 2) This peptide elicits neutralizing antibody response for protection;
- 3) On SWNT, this peptide keeps the same conformational behavior;
- 4) Antibodies recognize the FMDV peptide attached to SWNT;
- 5) No anti-SWNT antibodies are induced;
- 6) In vivo experiments demonstrate that peptide-nanotube conjugates are immunogenic, eliciting antibody responses of the right specificity.



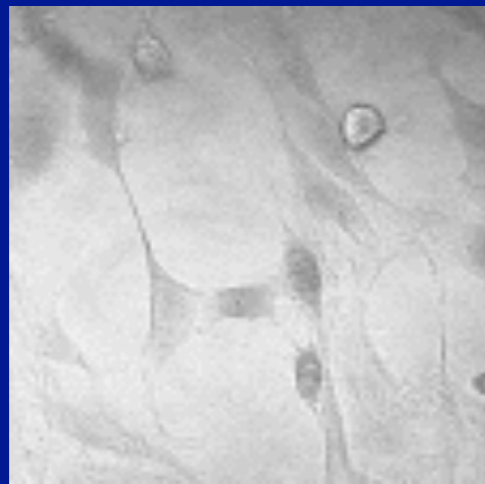
These findings highlight the potential use of peptide-carbon nanotube conjugates for diagnostic purposes and pave the way for their application in vaccine delivery

Can these monster molecules
pass through cell membranes???

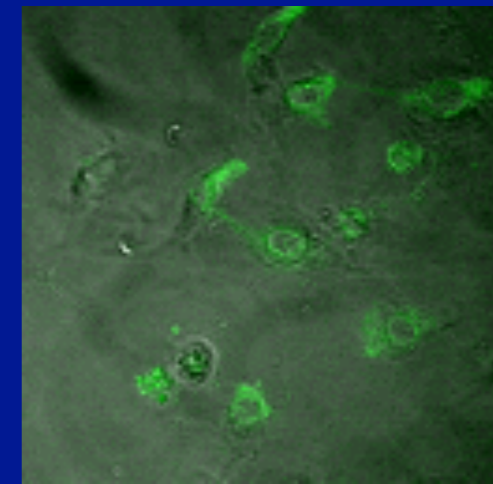
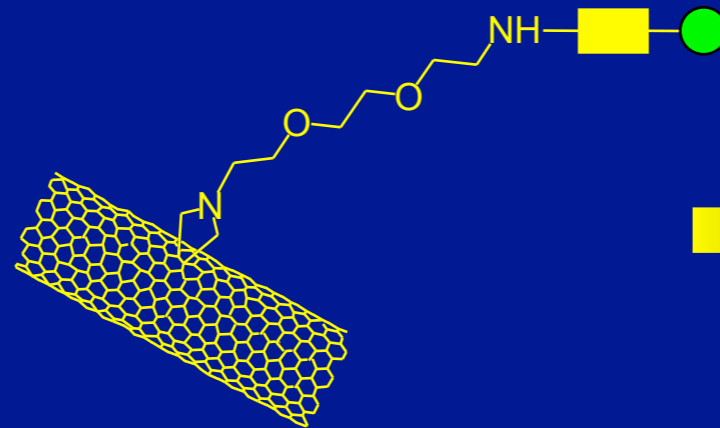


Shown to block β -adrenergic activation
of adenylyl cyclase in permeable cells

Cell Uptake of Fluorescent Carbon Nanotubes

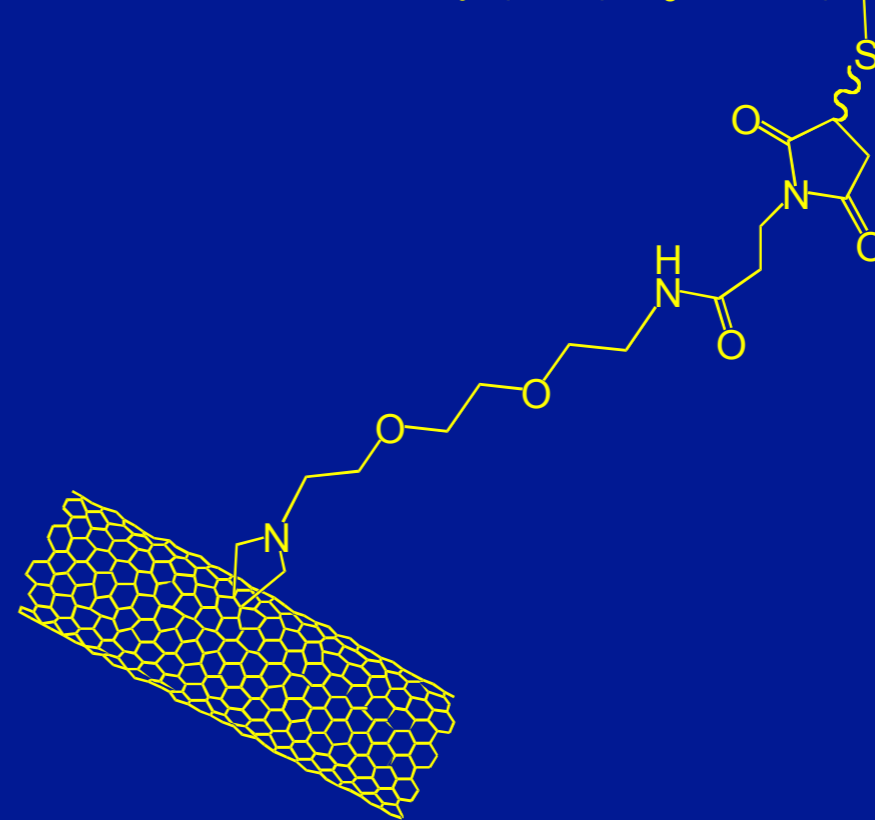
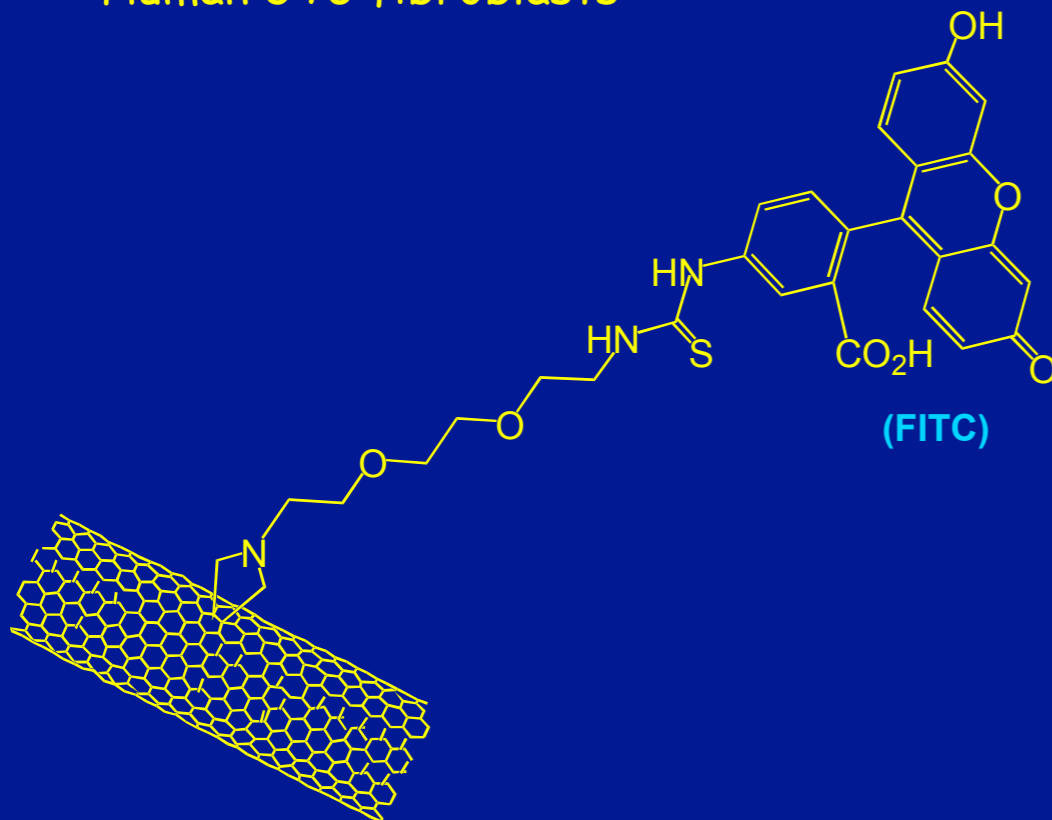


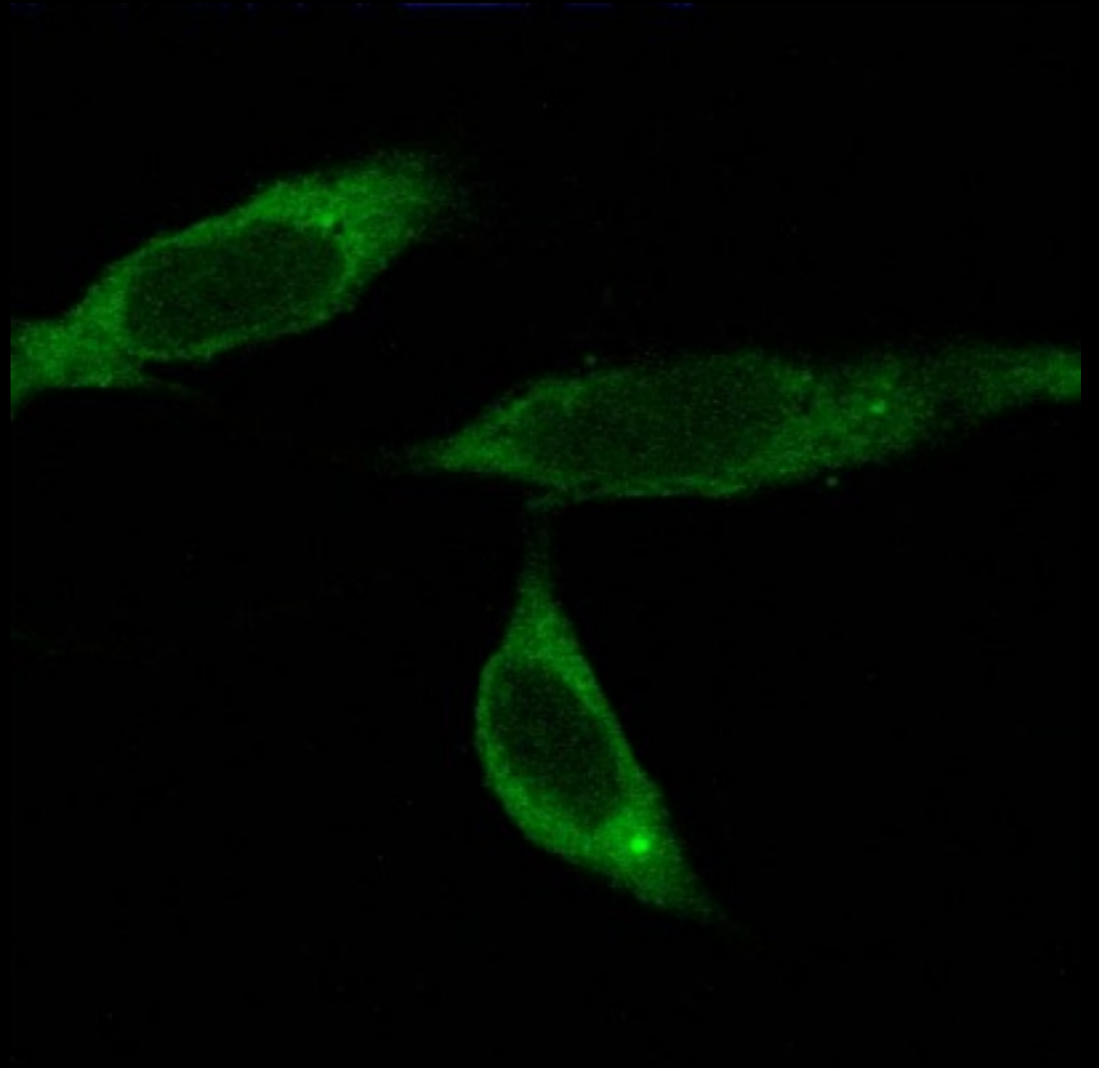
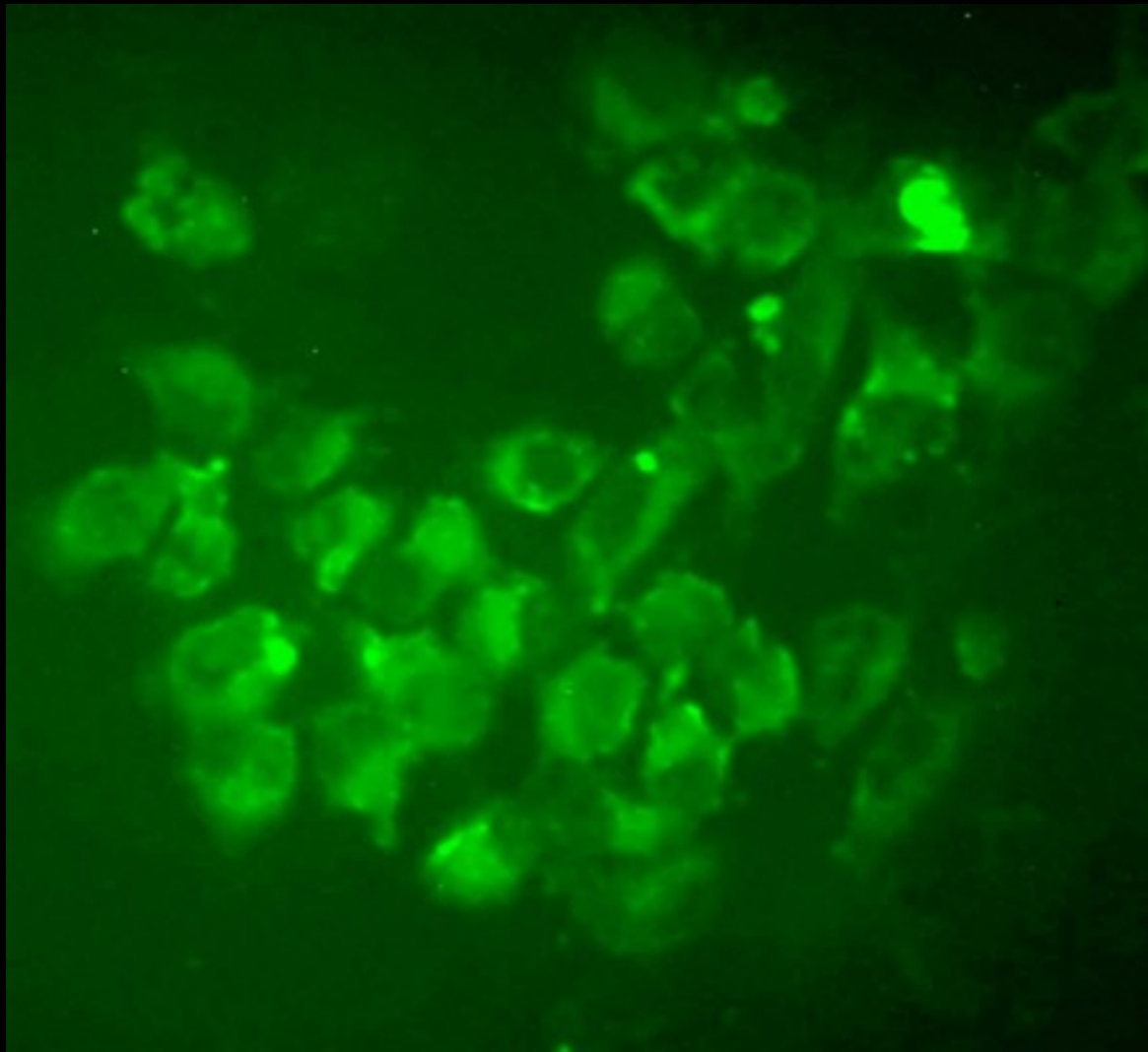
+



Human 3T6 fibroblasts

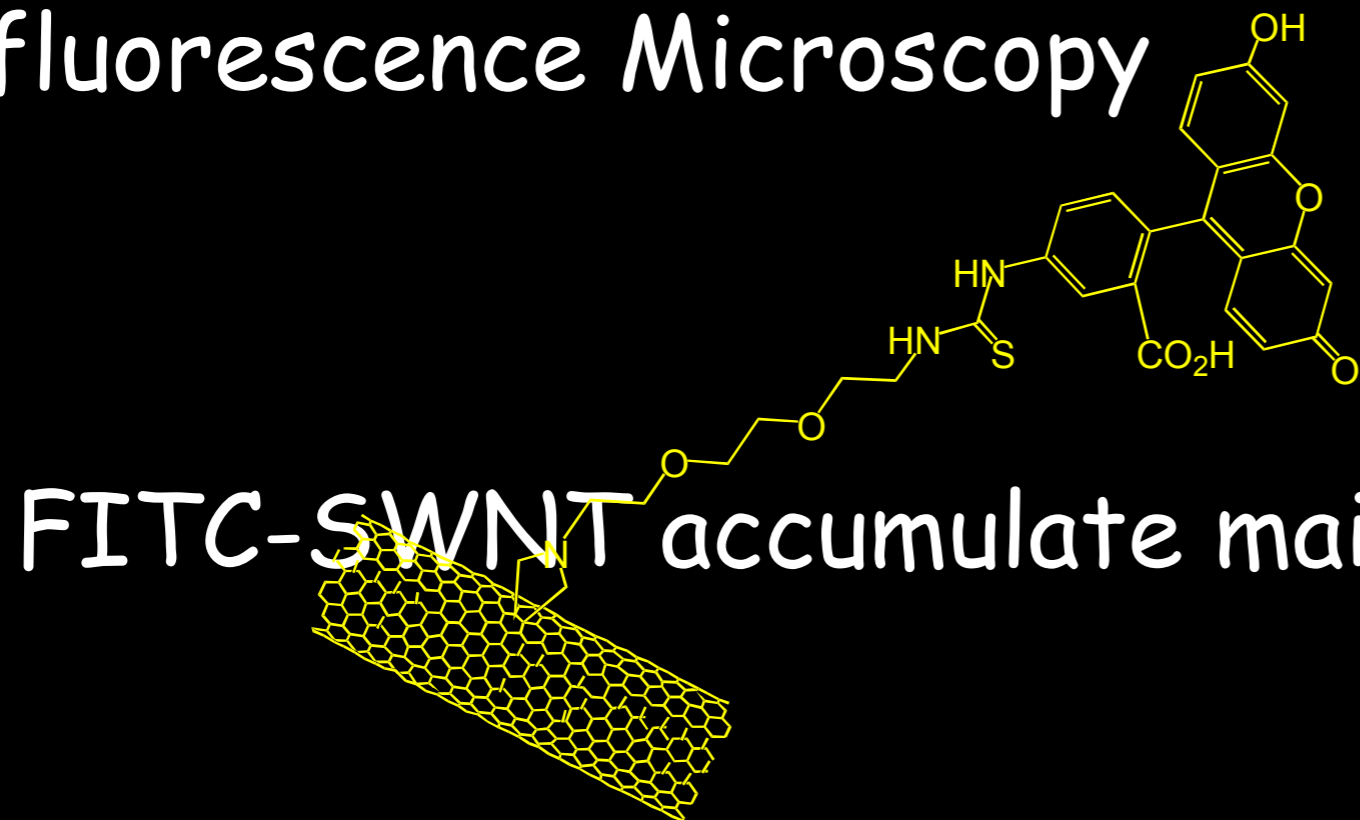
H-Lys(FITC)-(α_5 384-394)-Cys-OH





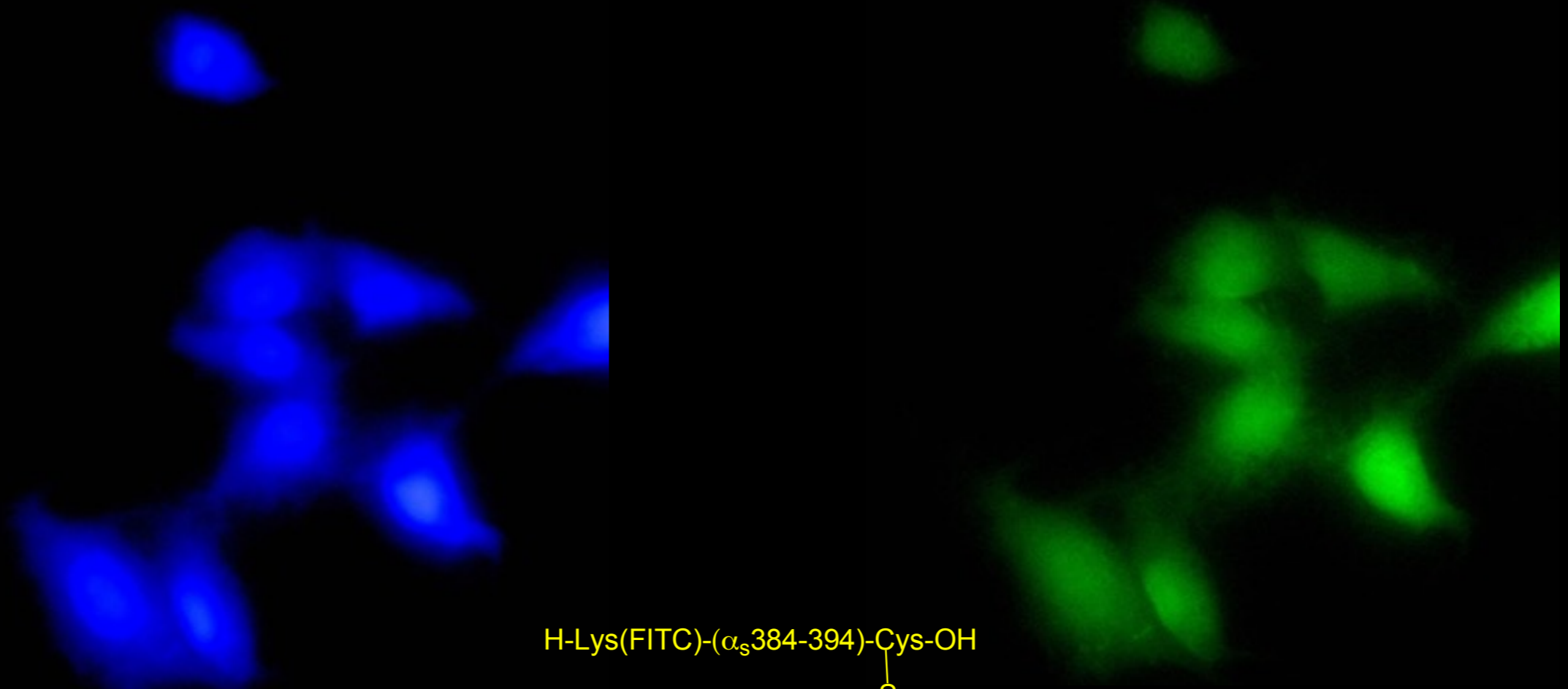
Epifluorescence Microscopy

Confocal Microscopy



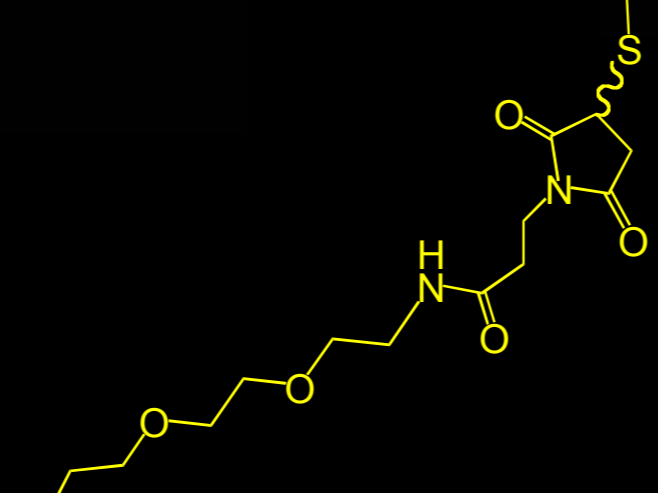
FITC-SWNT accumulate mainly in the cytoplasm

Epifluorescence Microscopy



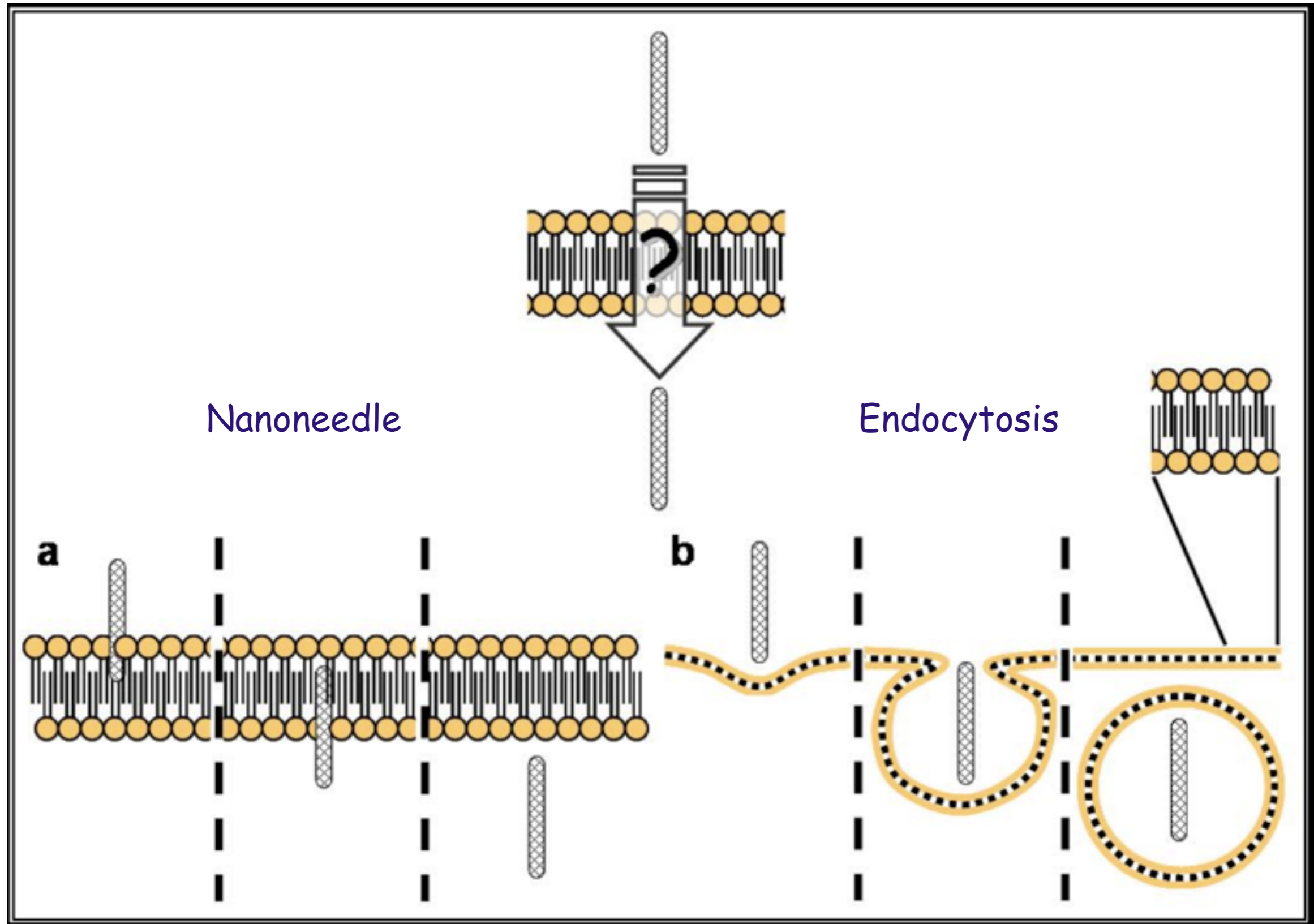
H-Lys(FITC)-(α_s 384-394)-Cys-OH

+ DAPI

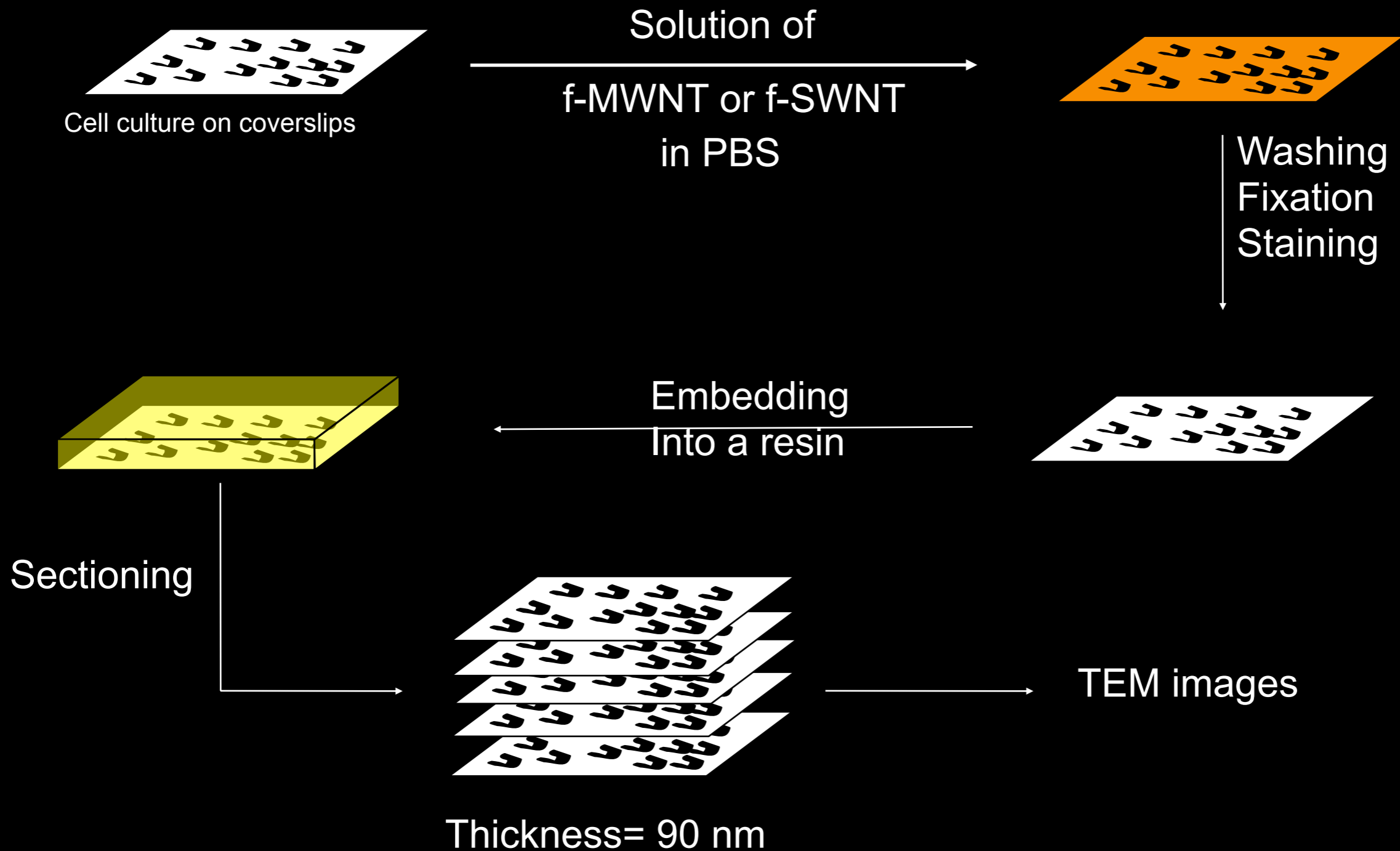


Peptide-SWNT accumulate mainly in the nucleus

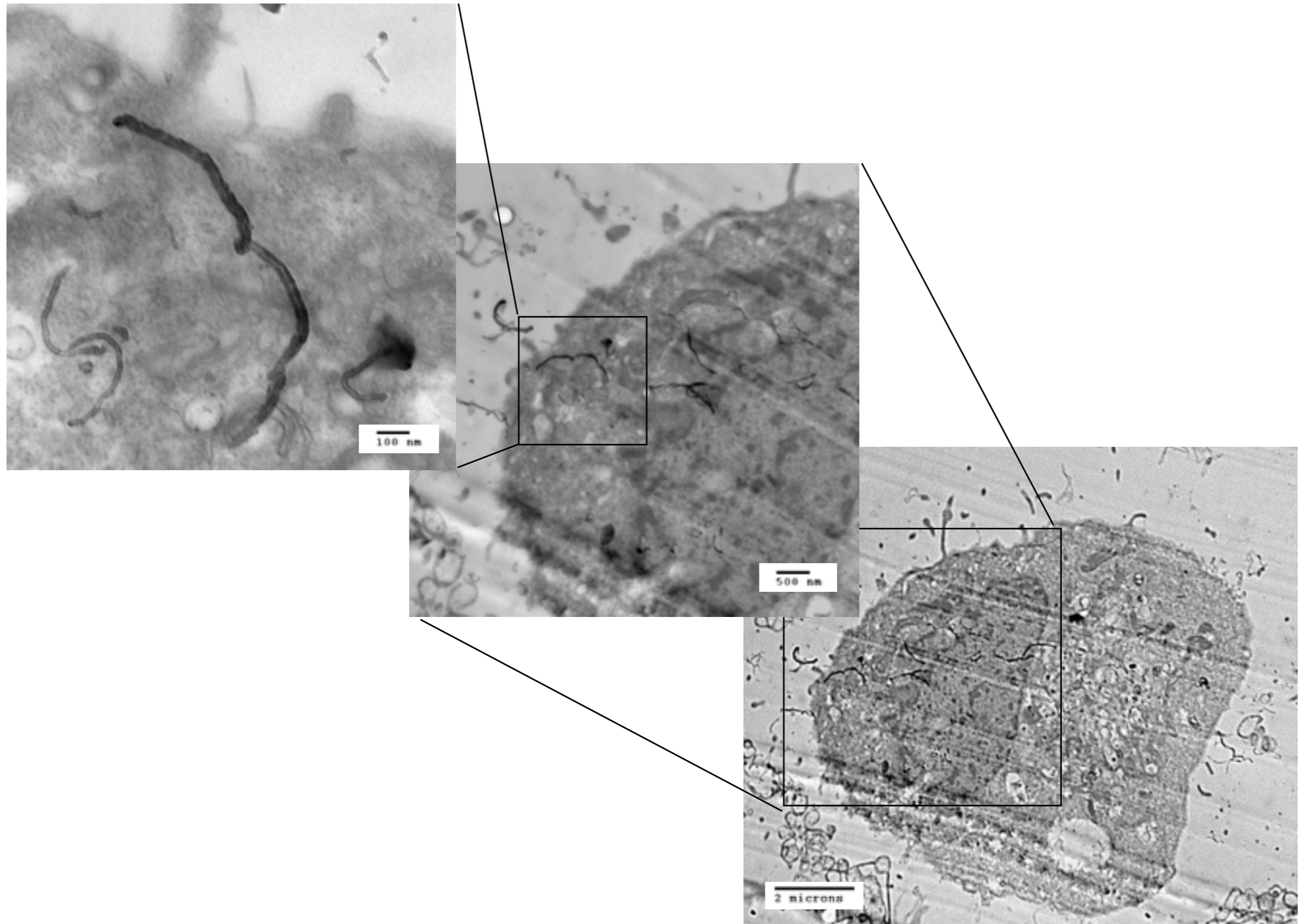
Possible mechanisms of membrane trespassing



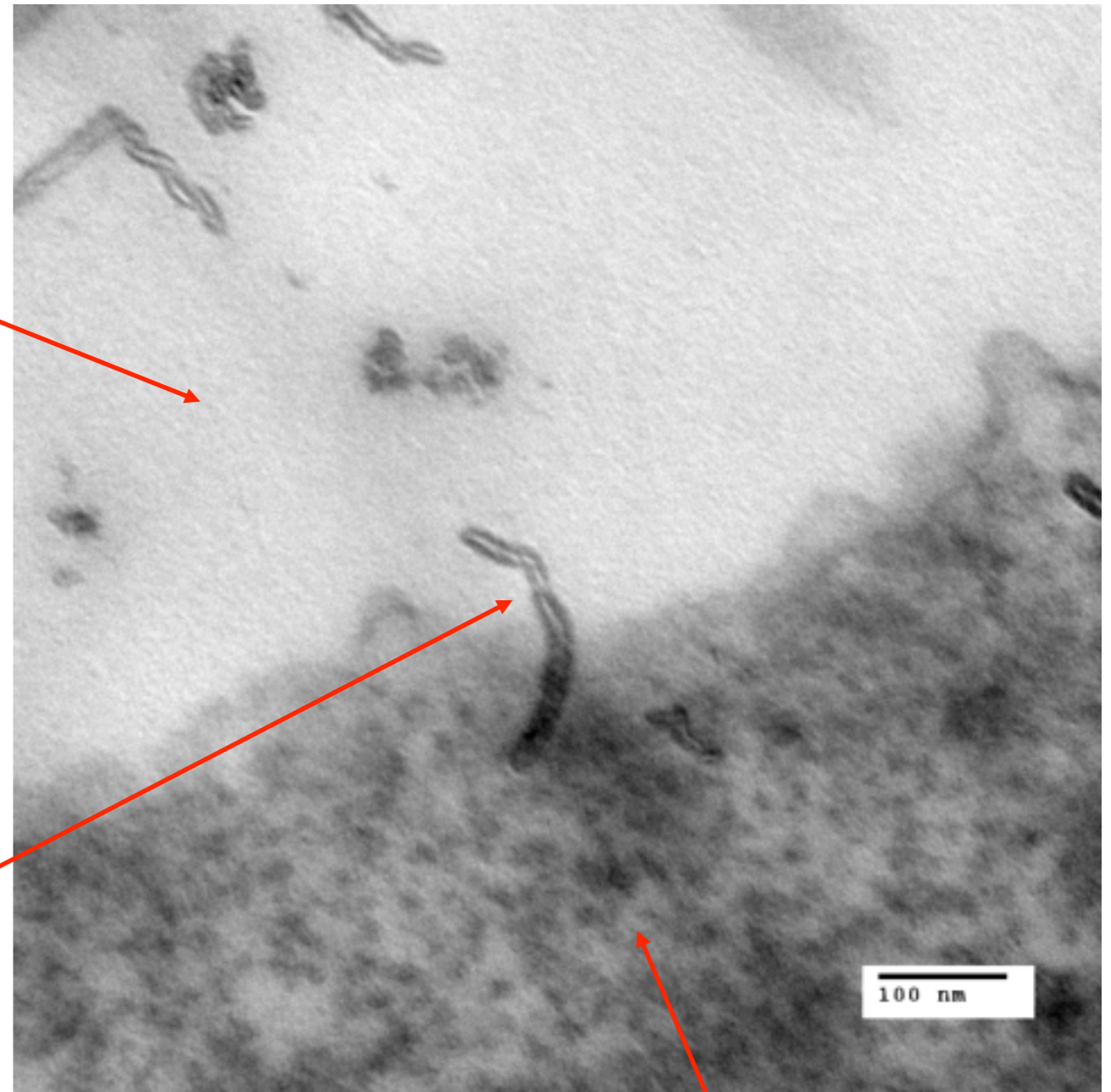
Cells Cut with a Microtome Knife



HeLa cells incubated with $10\mu\text{M}$ MWNT- NH_3^+Cl^- washed, fixed, stained, embedded, sectioned and analysed by TEM (75 kV).



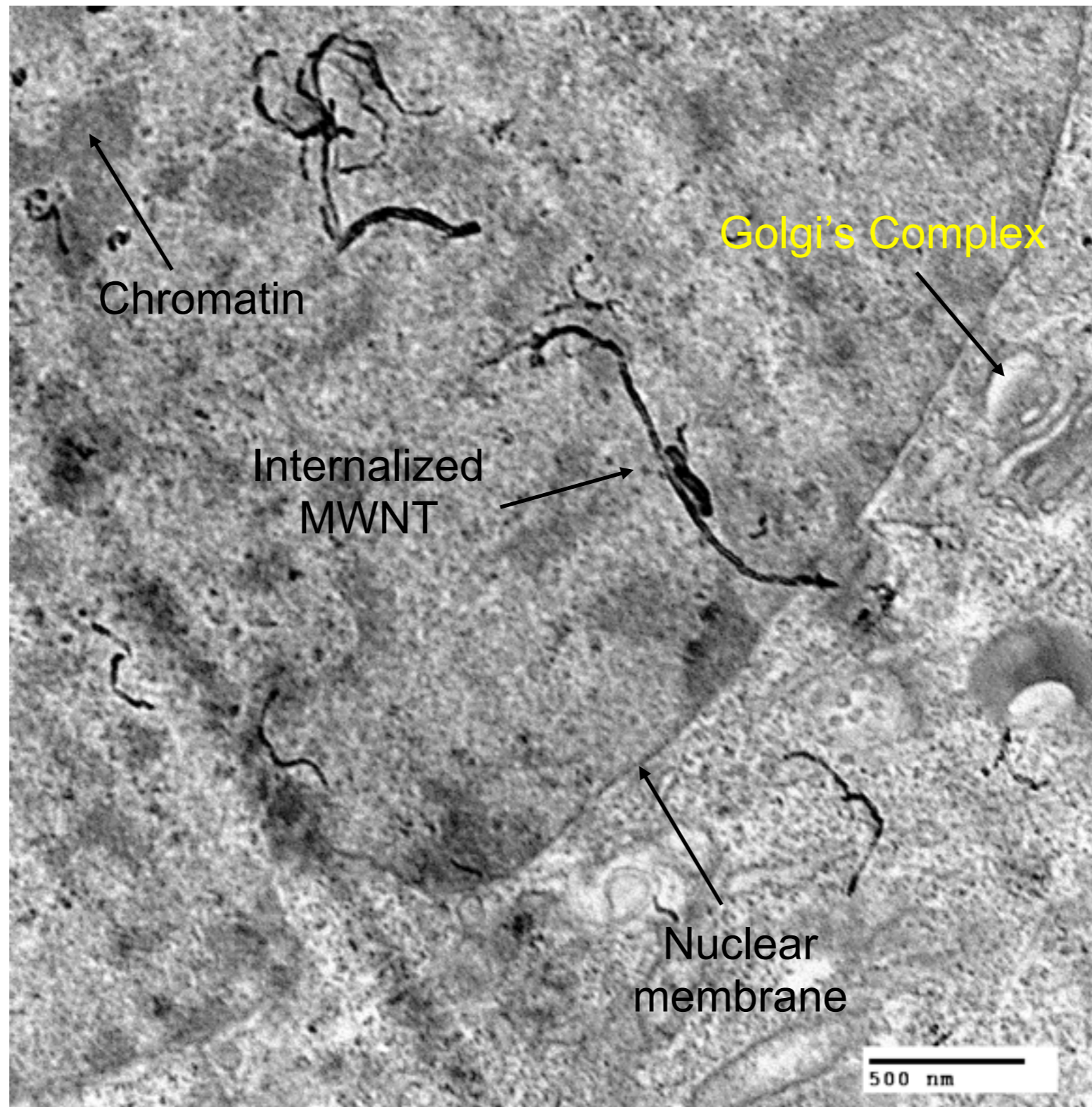
Outside the cell

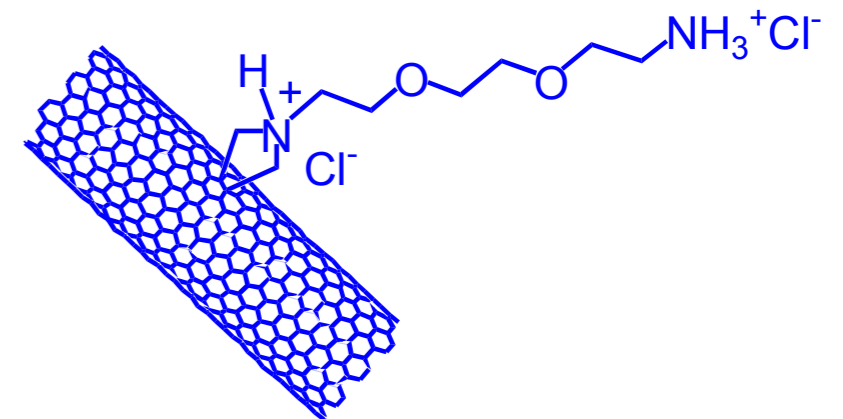
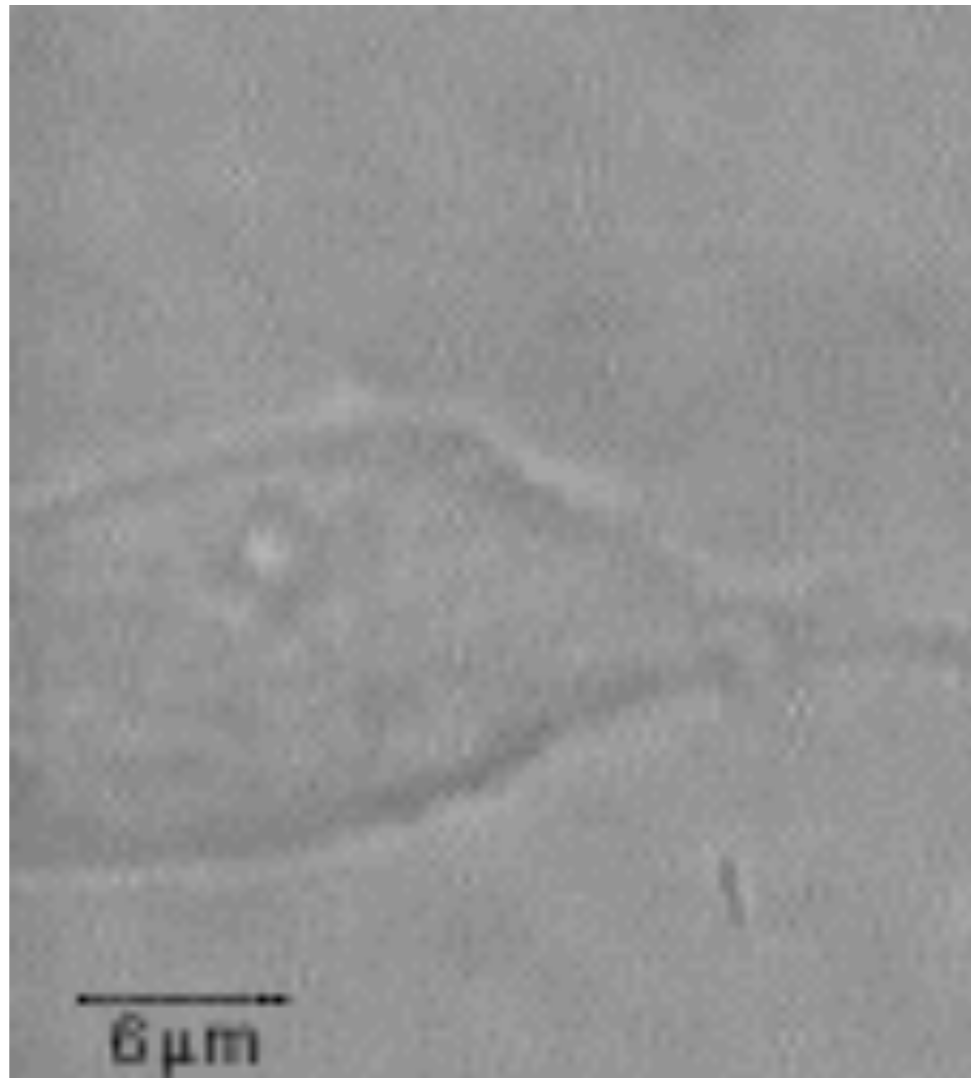


A MWNT is
crossing the cell
membrane

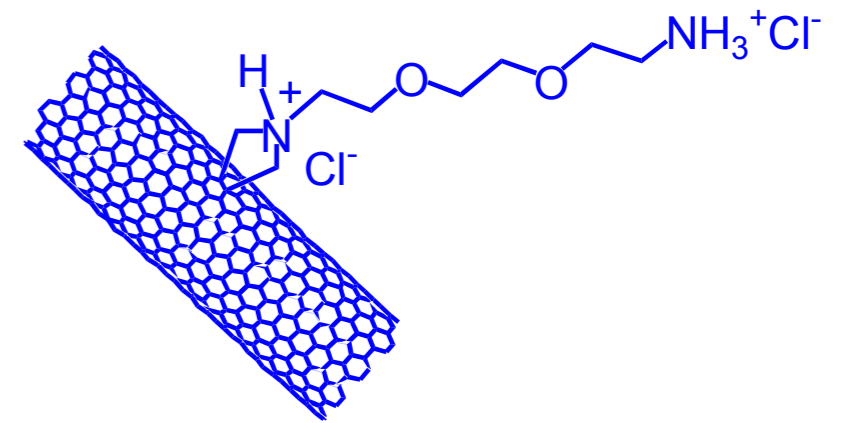
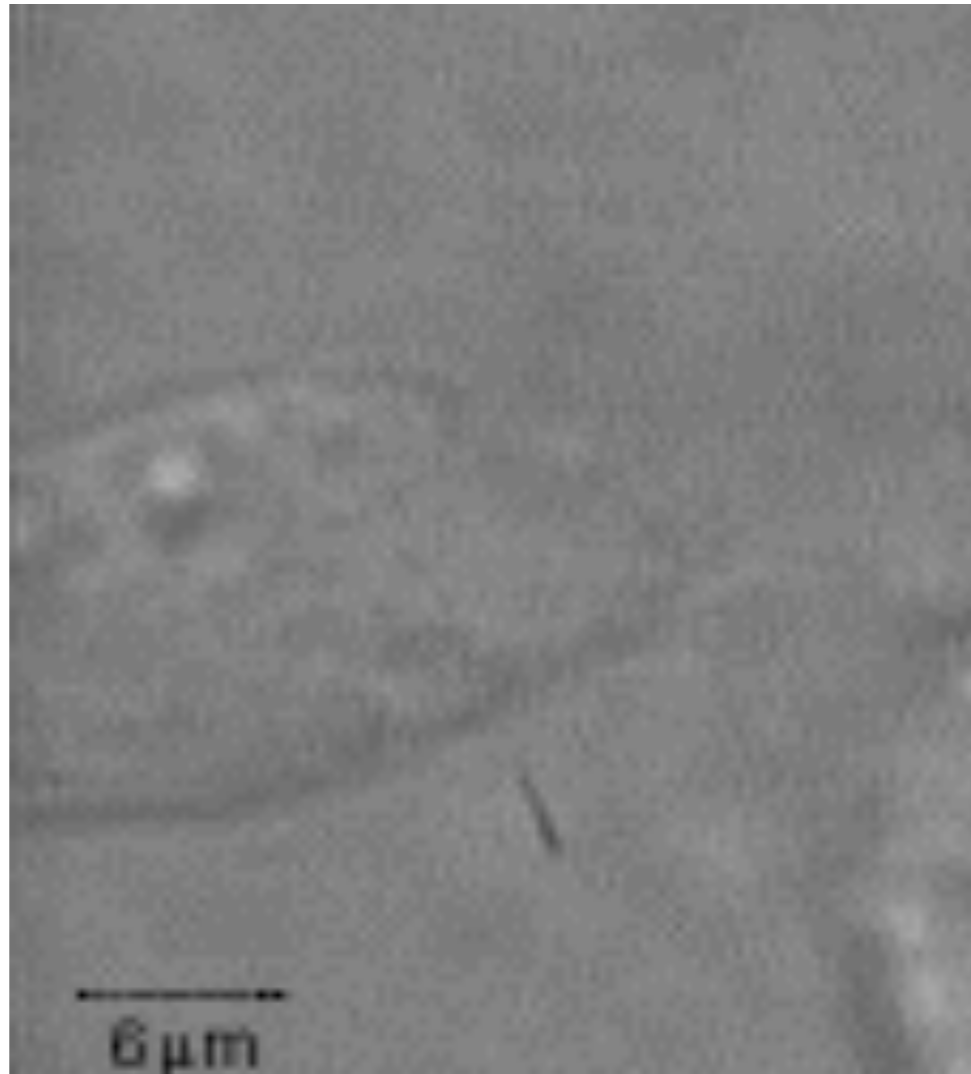
Inside the cell

Cell Uptake of Carbon Nanotubes

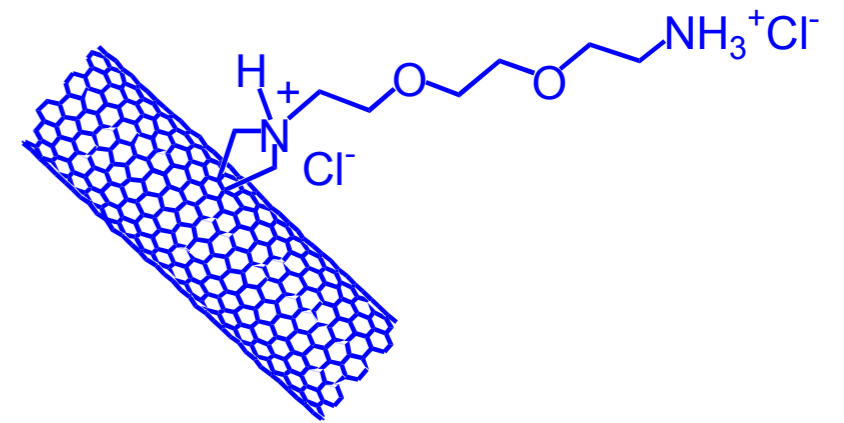
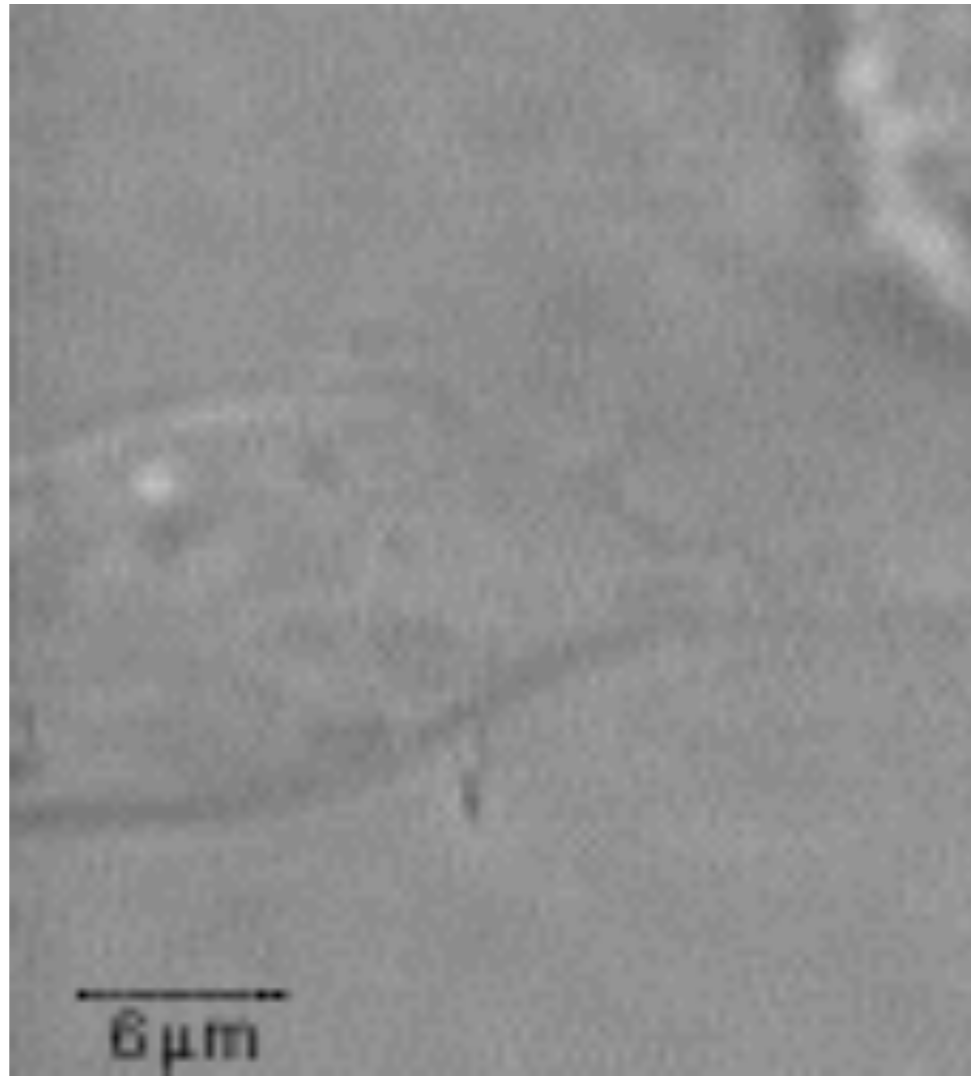


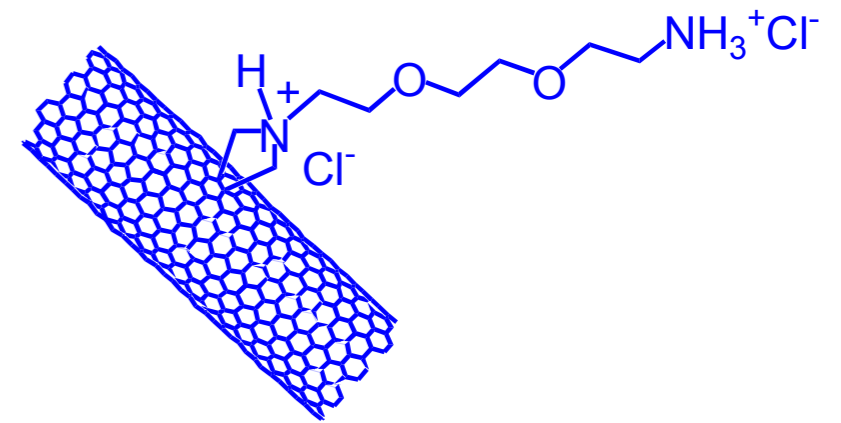
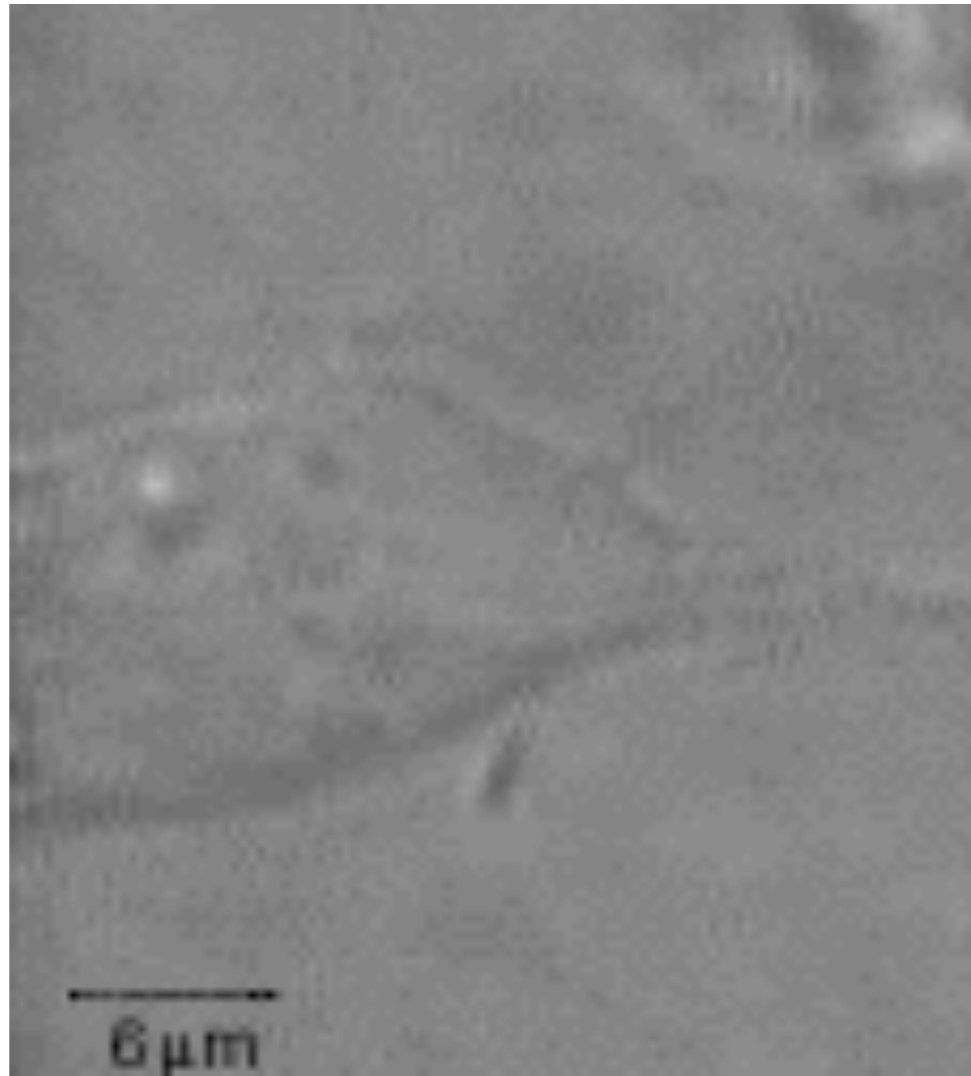


Optical videomicroscopy images showing interaction between MWCNT-NH₃ and human kidney epithelial 293 (HEK293) cells immediately after addition of CNT onto a cell culture.

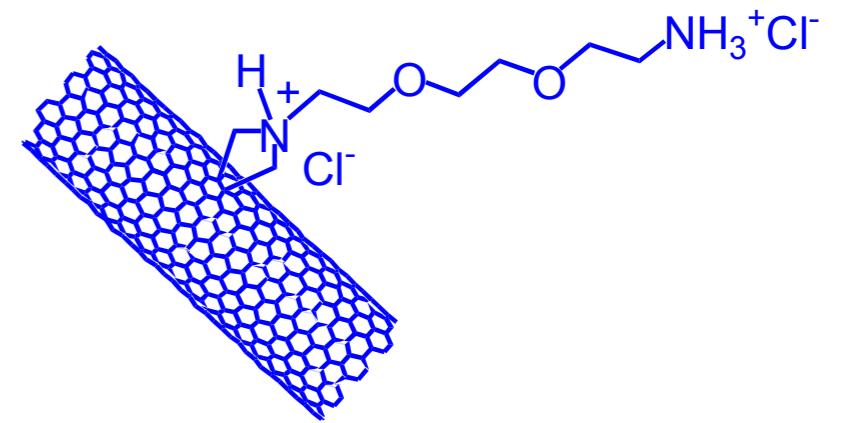
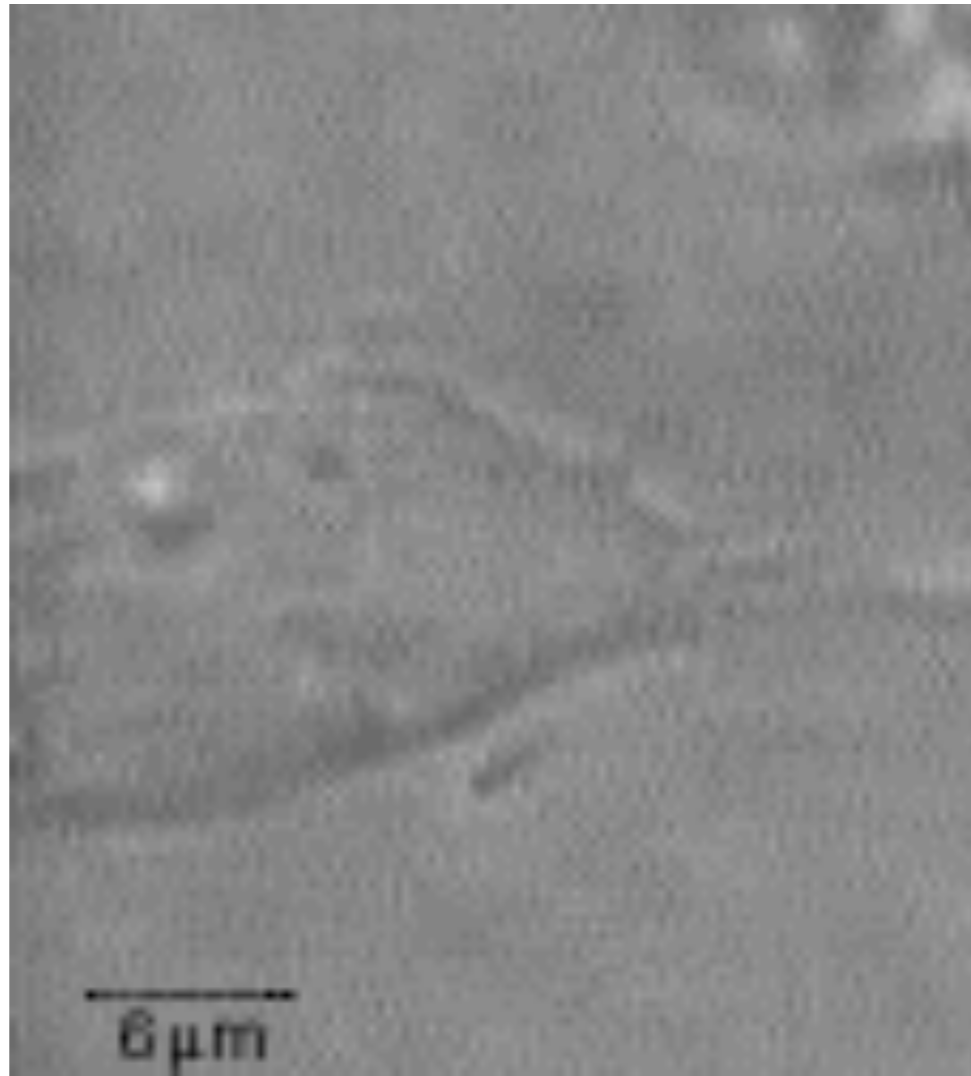


The CNT is approaching the cell surface moving on a perpendicular axis to the plasma membrane...

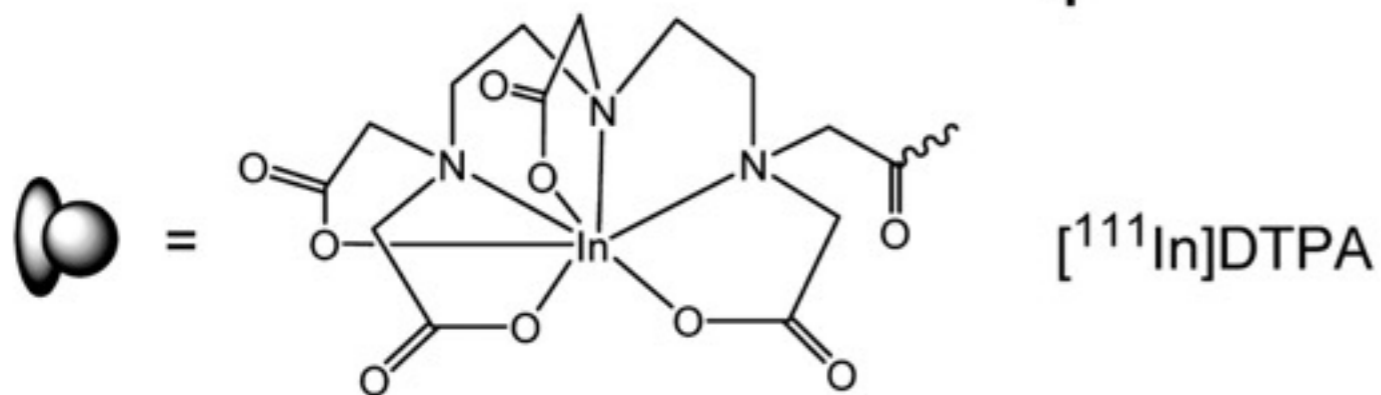
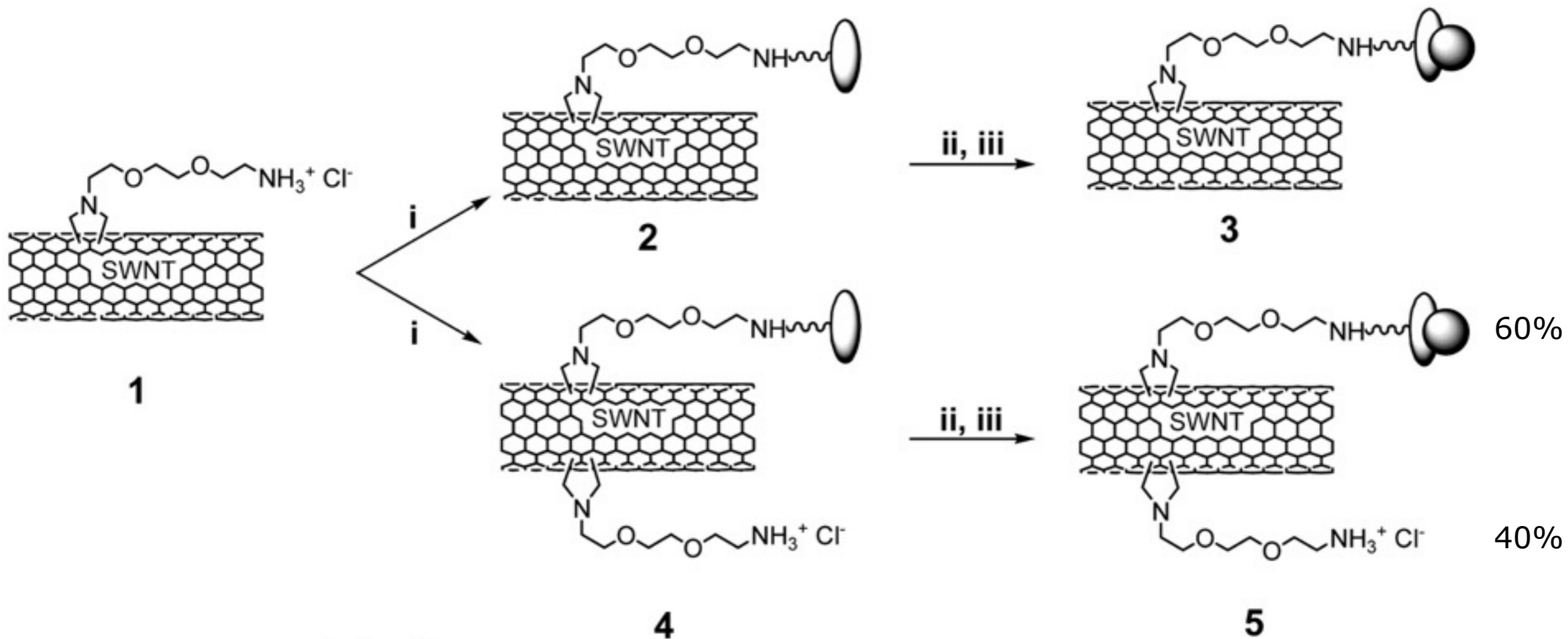




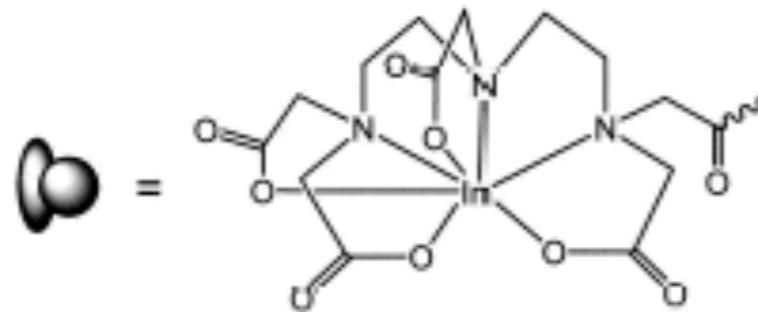
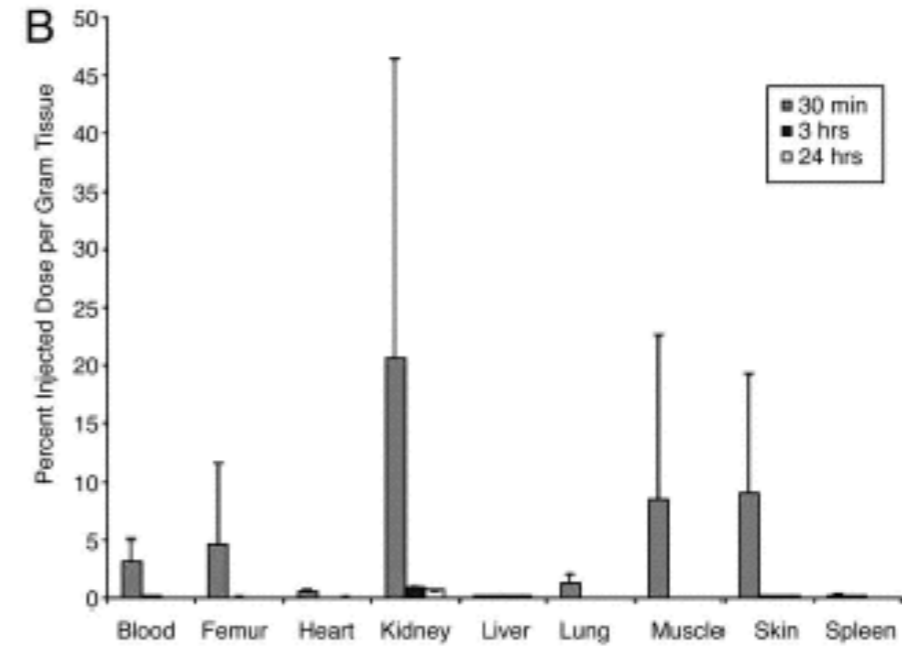
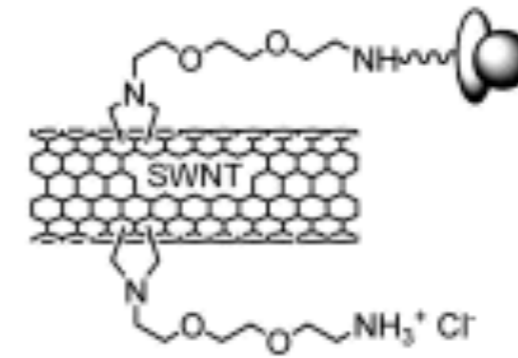
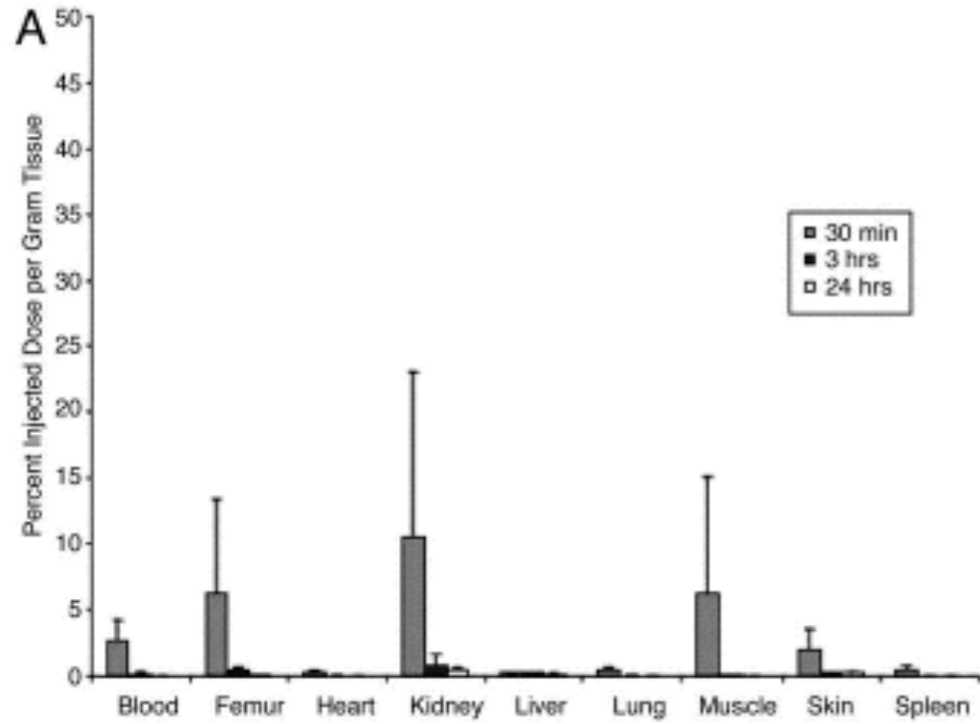
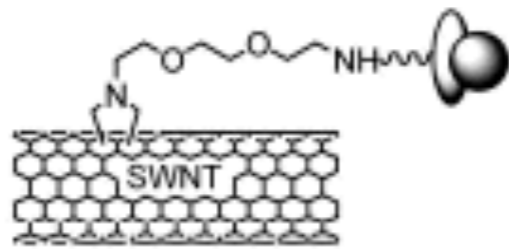
...and then re-aligning its position on a plane parallel to the plasma membrane



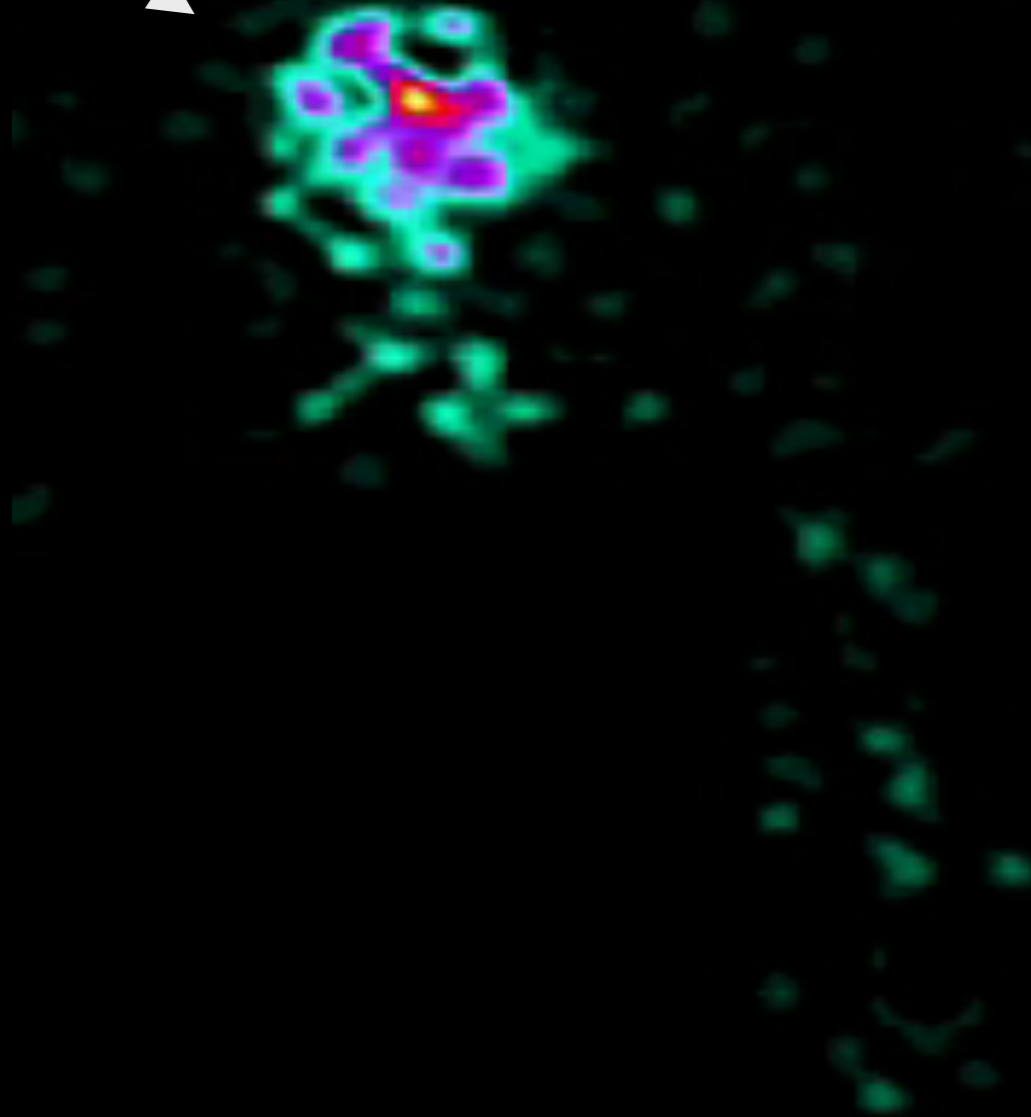
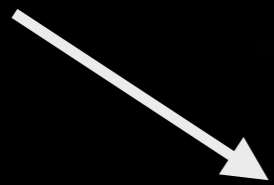
Preparation of $[^{111}\text{In}]\text{DTPA-SWNT}$ for (i.v.) administration



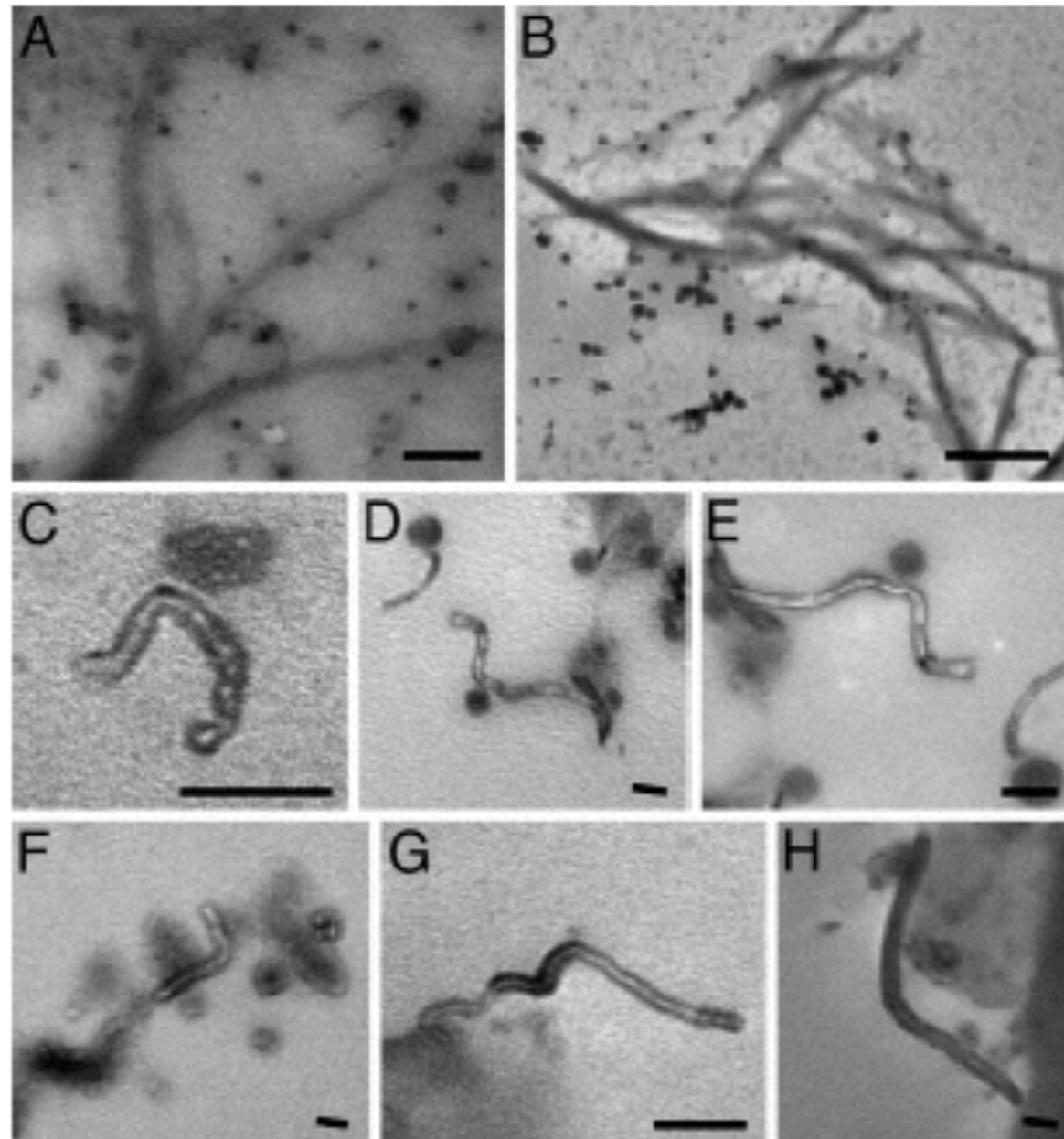
Biodistribution per collected gram of tissue of [¹¹¹In]DTPA-SWNT (i.v.)



external reference

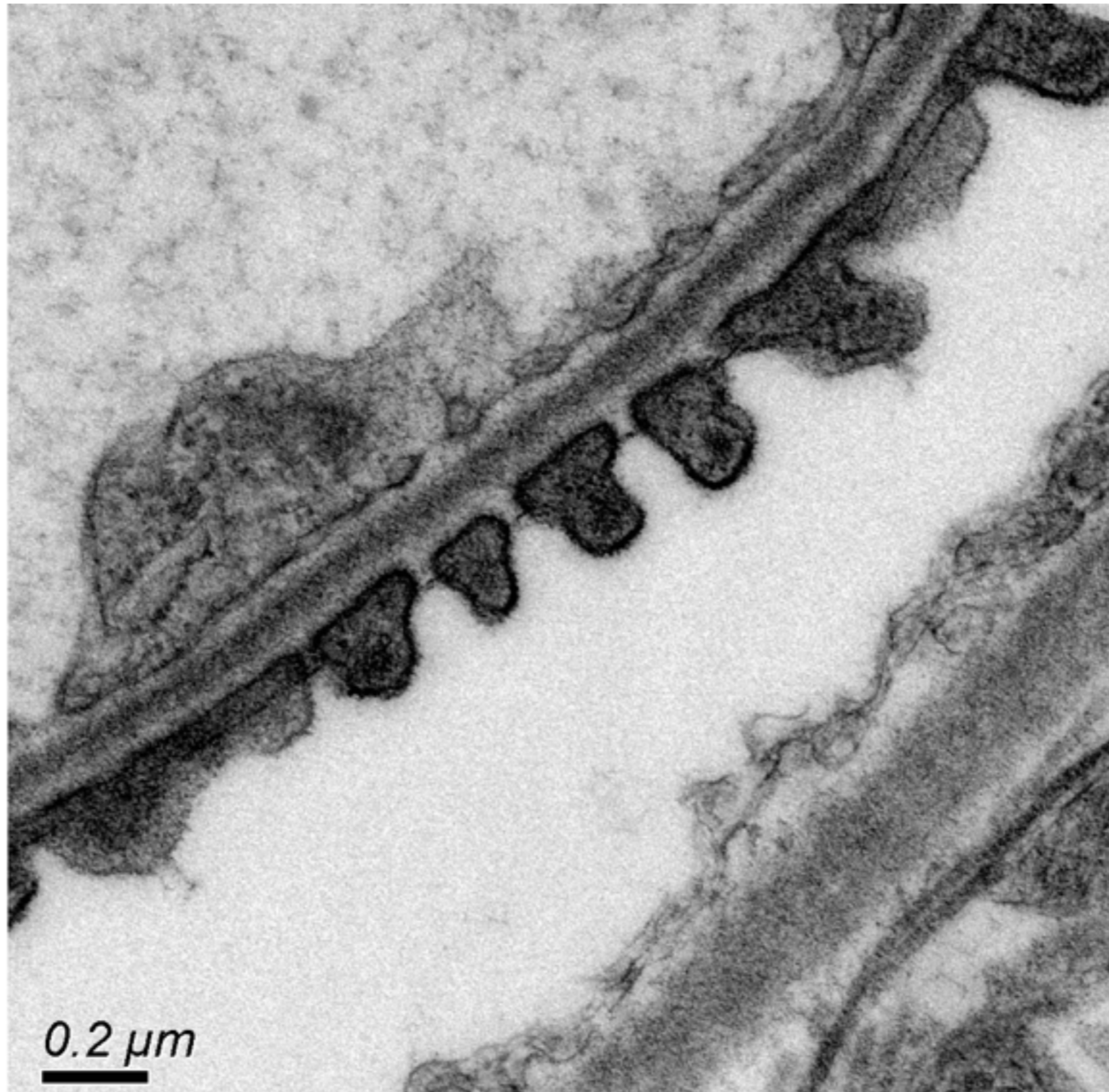


TEM images of excreted urine samples containing SWNT and MWNT DTPA



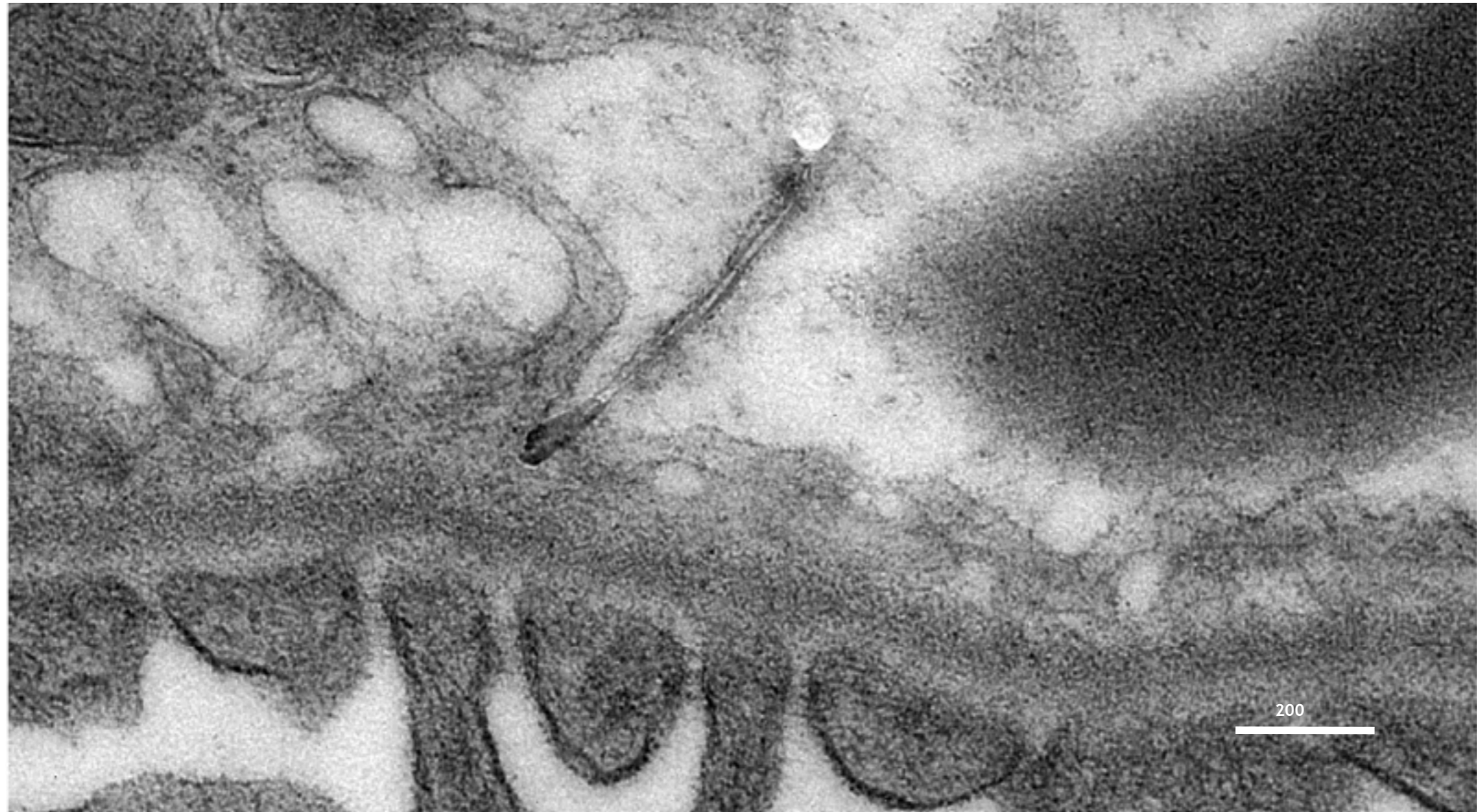
The urine samples were centrifuged, and both the supernatant and the precipitate were analyzed. A-B: DTPA-SWNT from the supernatant (scale bar 500 nm); C-E DTPA-MWNT in the supernatant; F-H: DTPA-MWNT from the precipitate (scale bars 100 nm).

Mechanism of CNT Renal Excretion

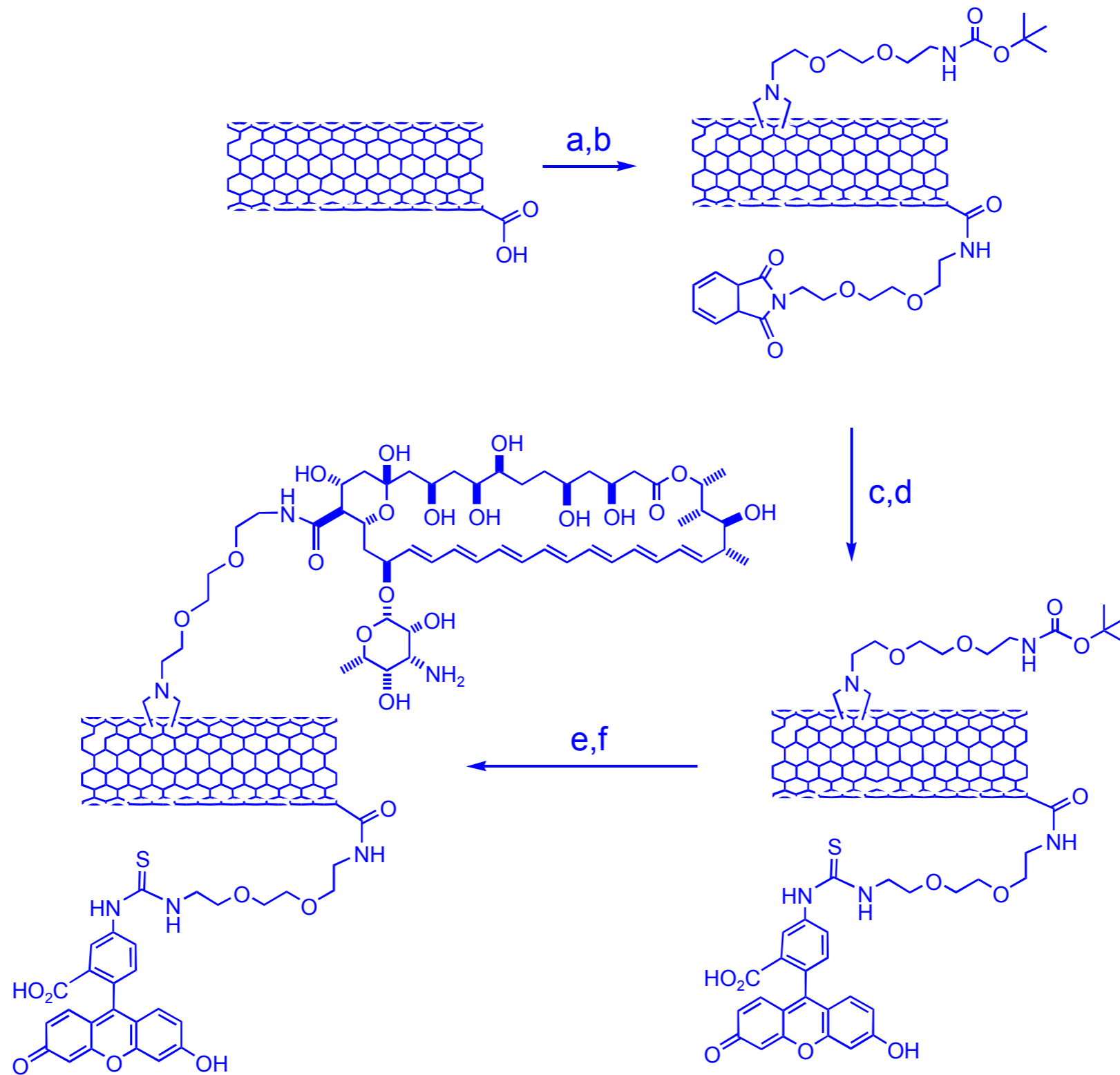


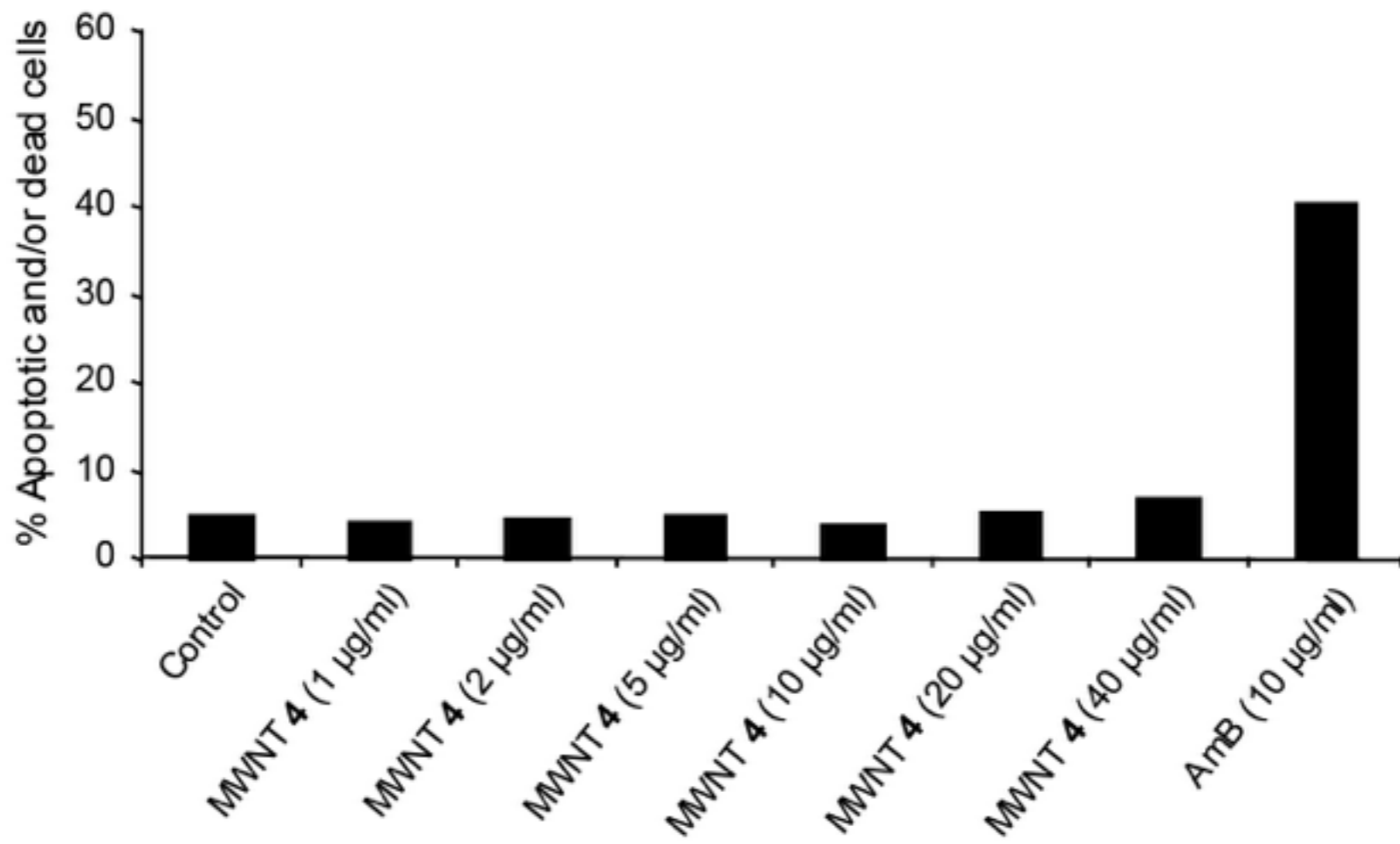
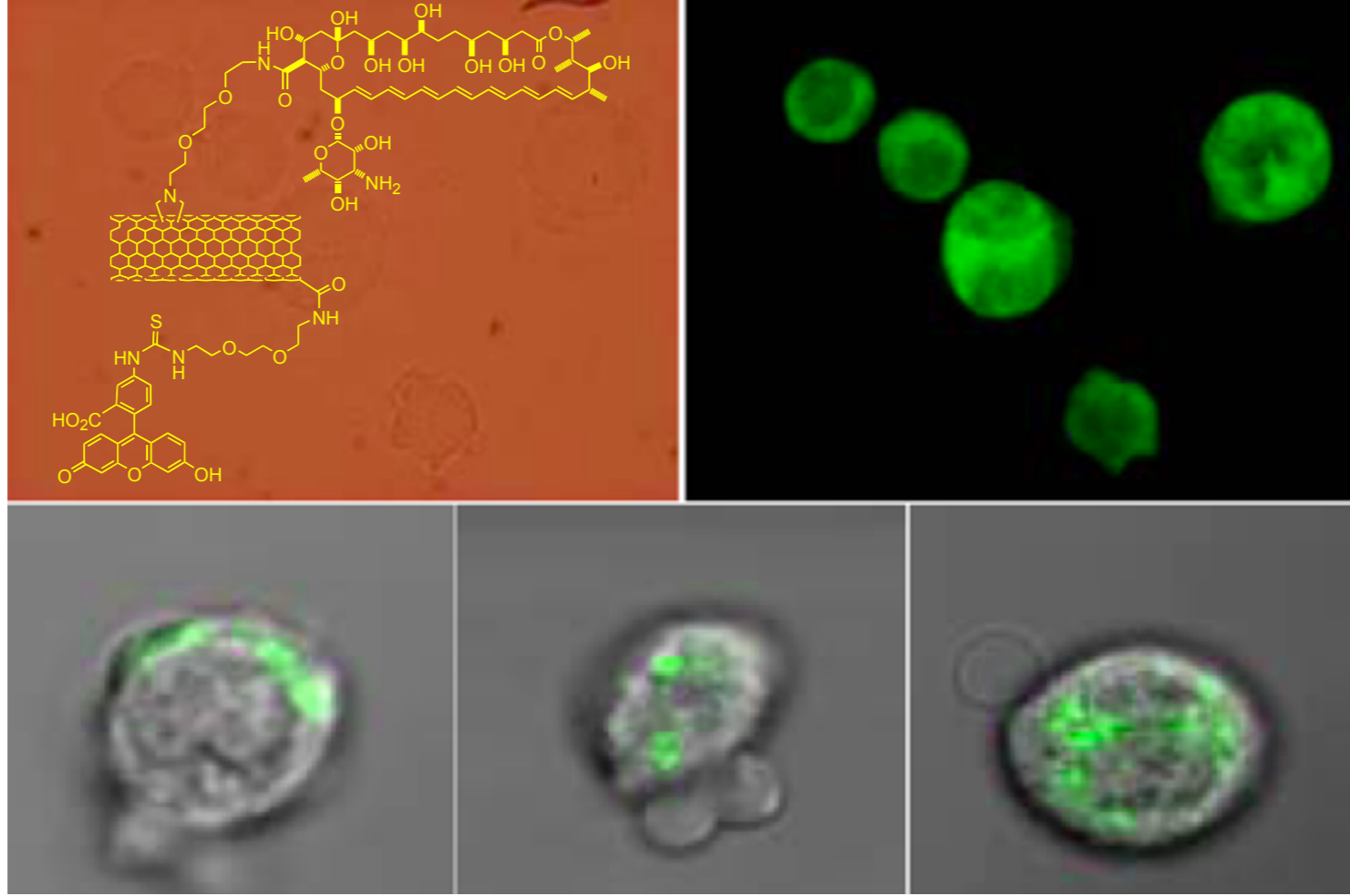
Mechanism of CNT Renal Excretion

f-MWNT crossing the glomerular filter



Both amphotericin and a fluorophore on *f*-CNT





	Cryptococcus neoformans	Candida albicans	Saccharomyces cerevisiae	Rhodotorula rubra
1	2.5	> 80	2.5	20
2	> 80	> 80	> 80	>80
3	2.5	20	2.5	5
4	2.5	40	5	5

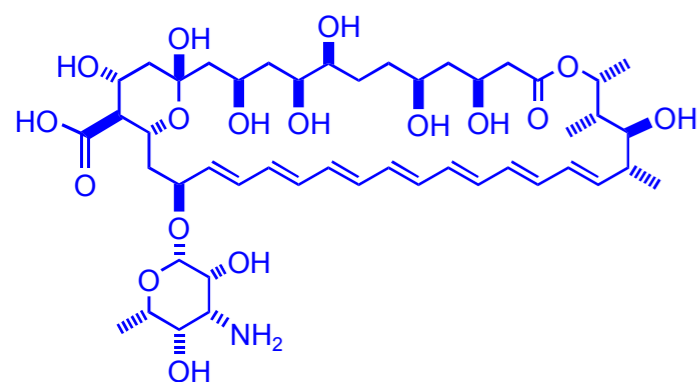
All the values are given in $\mu\text{g/mL}$ and represent the MIC (minimal inhibitory concentration)

1 = AmB

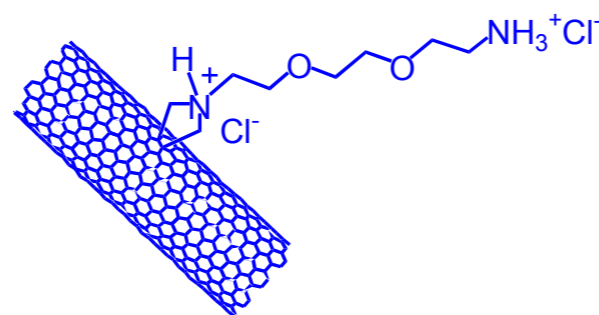
2 = SWNT-NH₃Cl

3 = MWNT-AmB; 2.6 mg loading 0.6 mmol/g, AmB about 25% of weight of MWNT-AmB

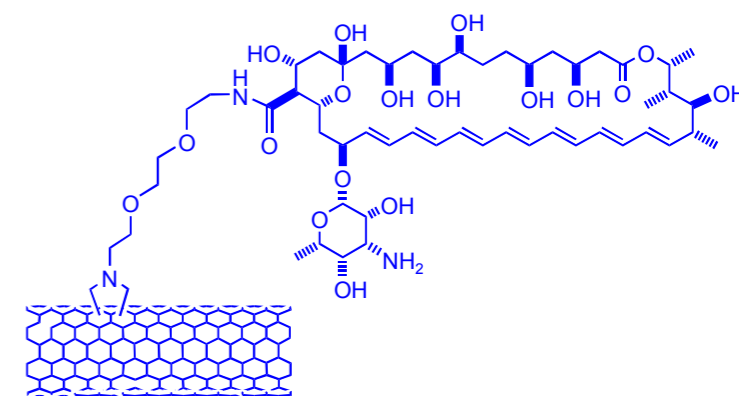
4 = SWNT-AmB; 2.3 mg loading 0.5 mmol/g, AmB about 25% of weight of SWNT-AmB



1



2

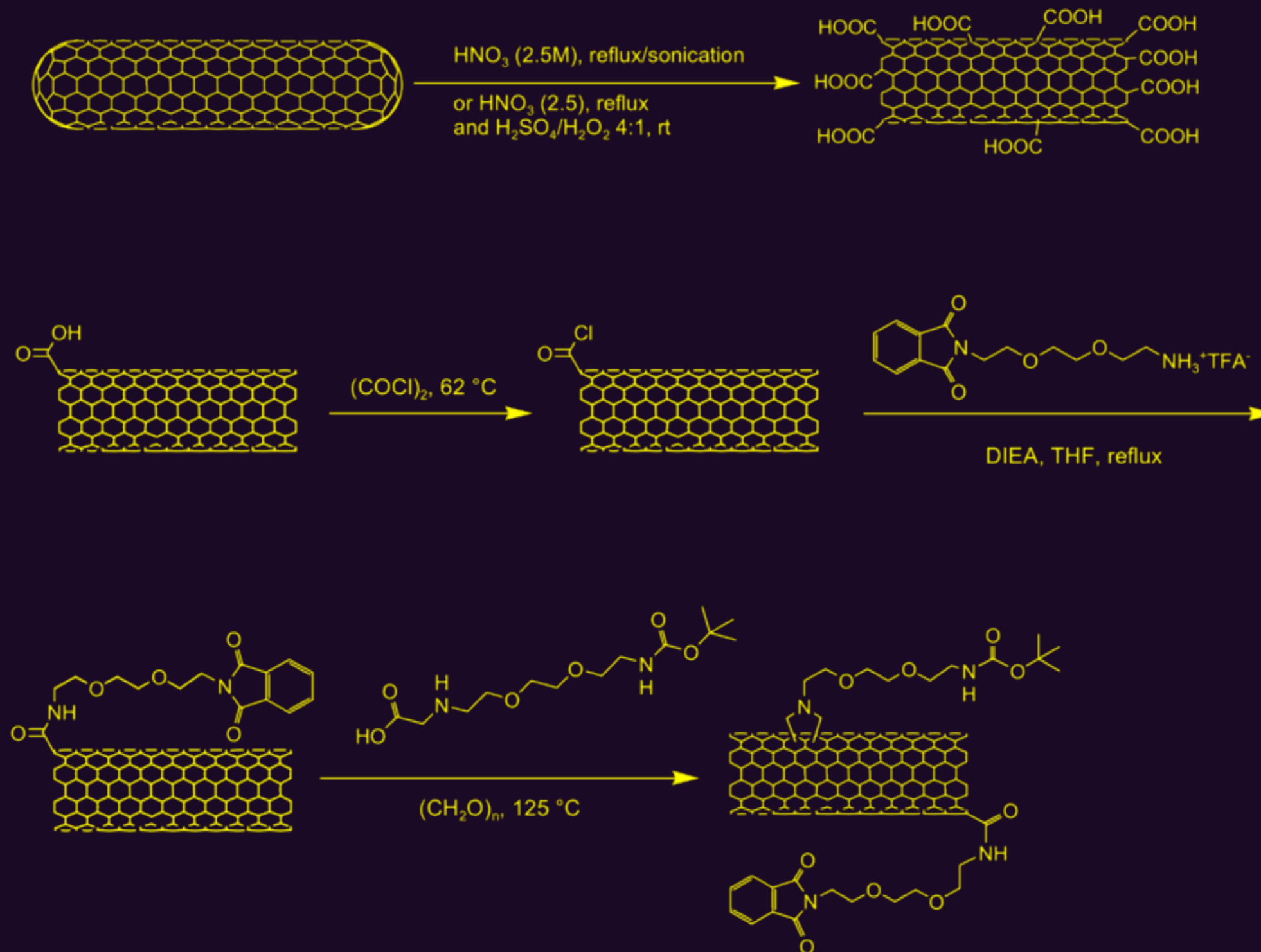


3,4

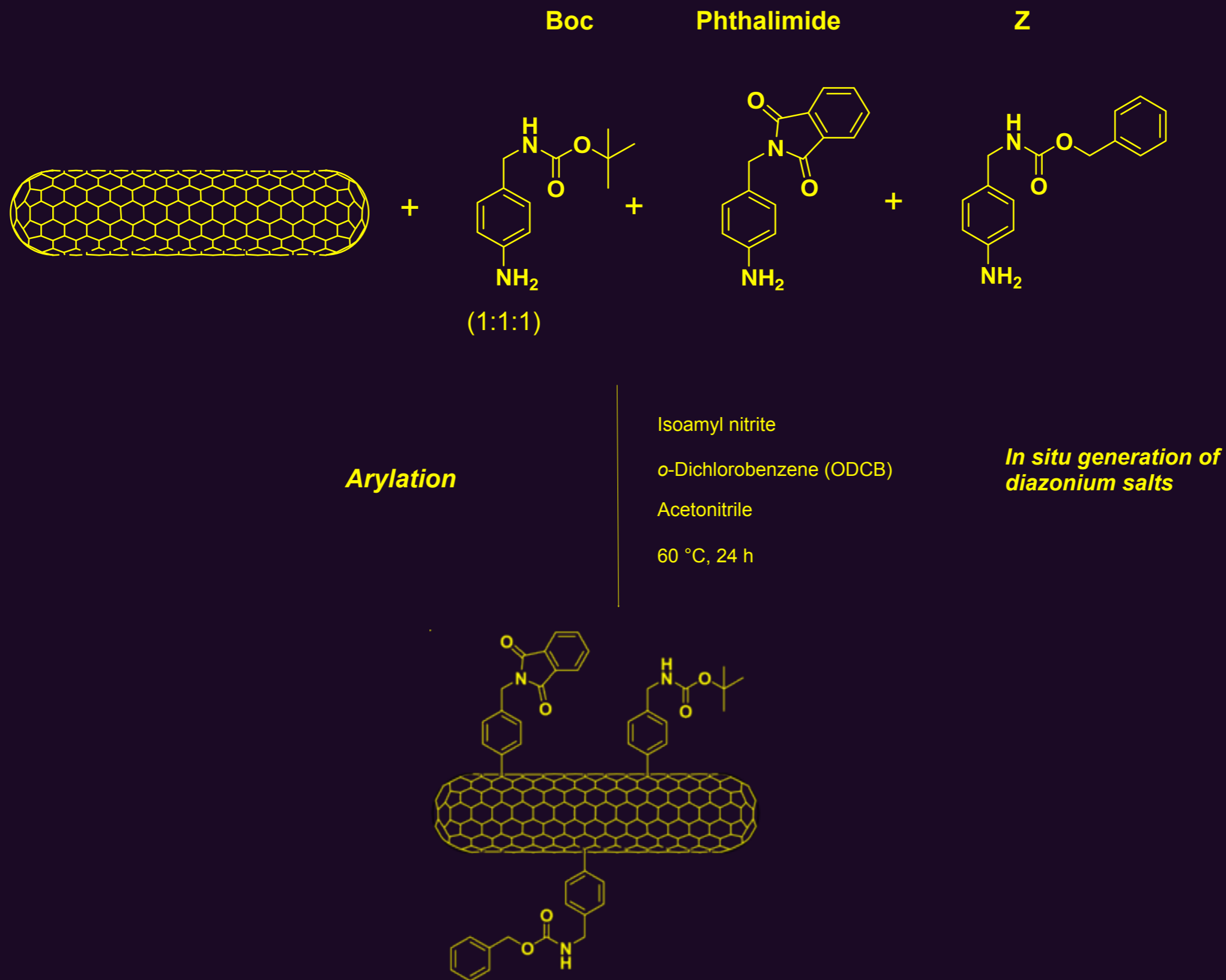
Antifungal activity of CNT–AmB conjugates

Fungal strain	MWNT-AmB	AmB
<i>C. albicans</i> ATCC 90029	10	> 80
<i>C. albicans</i> L21	10	> 80
<i>C. parapsilosis</i> ATCC 90118	2.5	5
<i>C. parapsilosis</i> L51	2.5	5
<i>C. dubliniensis</i> L70	2.5	1.25
<i>C. tropicalis</i> L42	1.25	2.5
<i>C. lusitaniae</i> 1557VC2	2.5	2.5
<i>C. guilliermondii</i> EMAT S	2.5	2.5
<i>C. famata</i> M100	2.5	10
<i>C. famata</i> SA550	20	> 80

Double Functionalization of Carbon Nanotubes



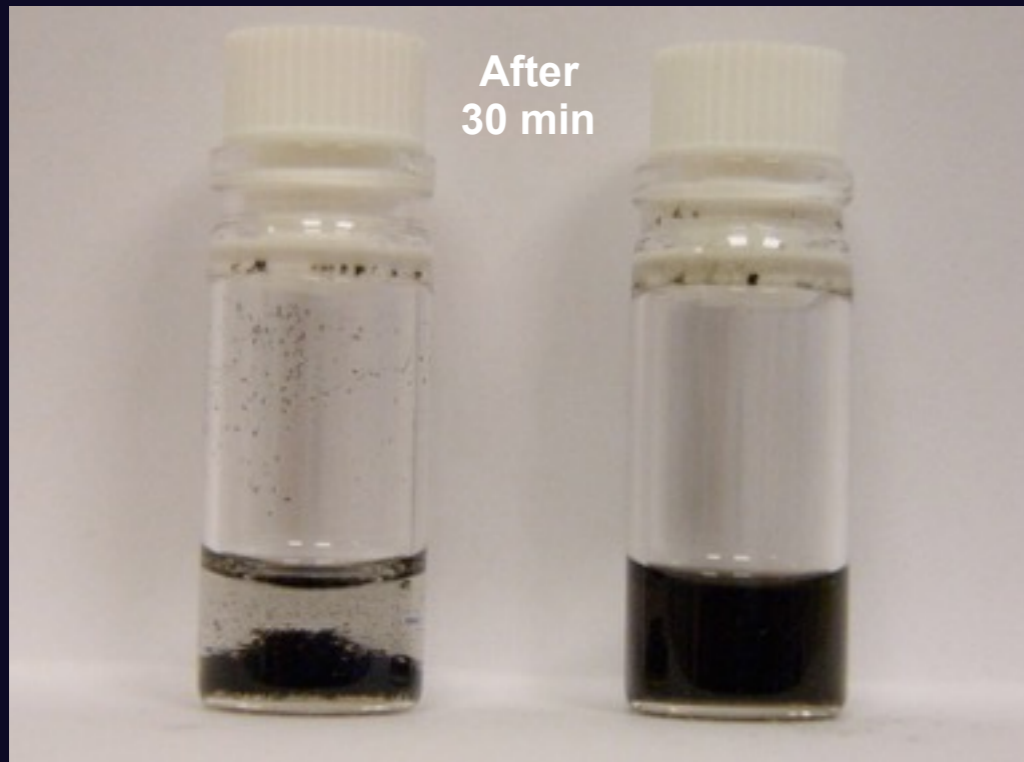
One-pot triple functionalization of carbon nanotubes



Characterization of trifunctionalized SWNTs

Solubility

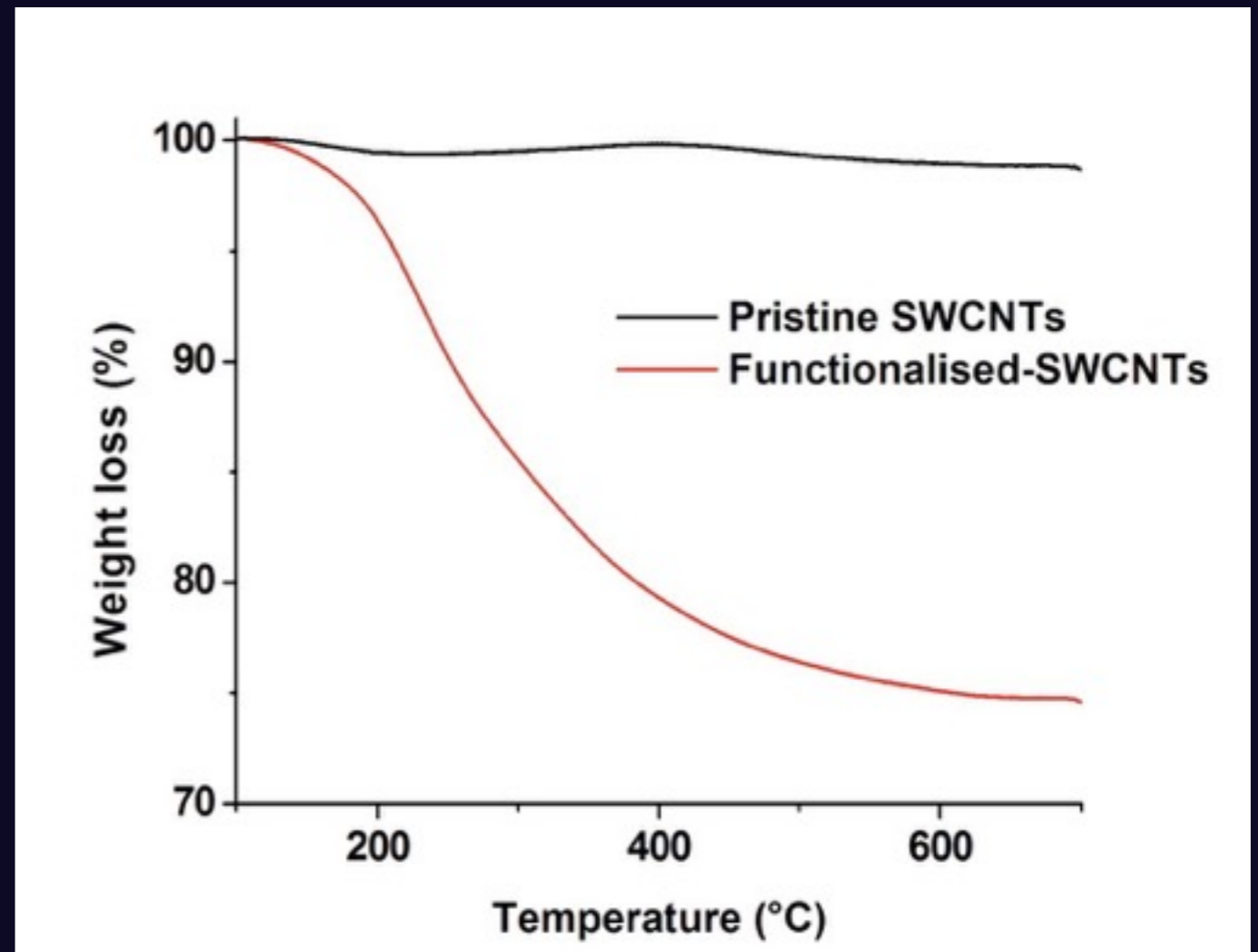
Sonication of CNTs in DMF (10 mg/mL)
for 1 min in a water bath



Pristine
SWCNTs

Trifunctionalized SWCNTs

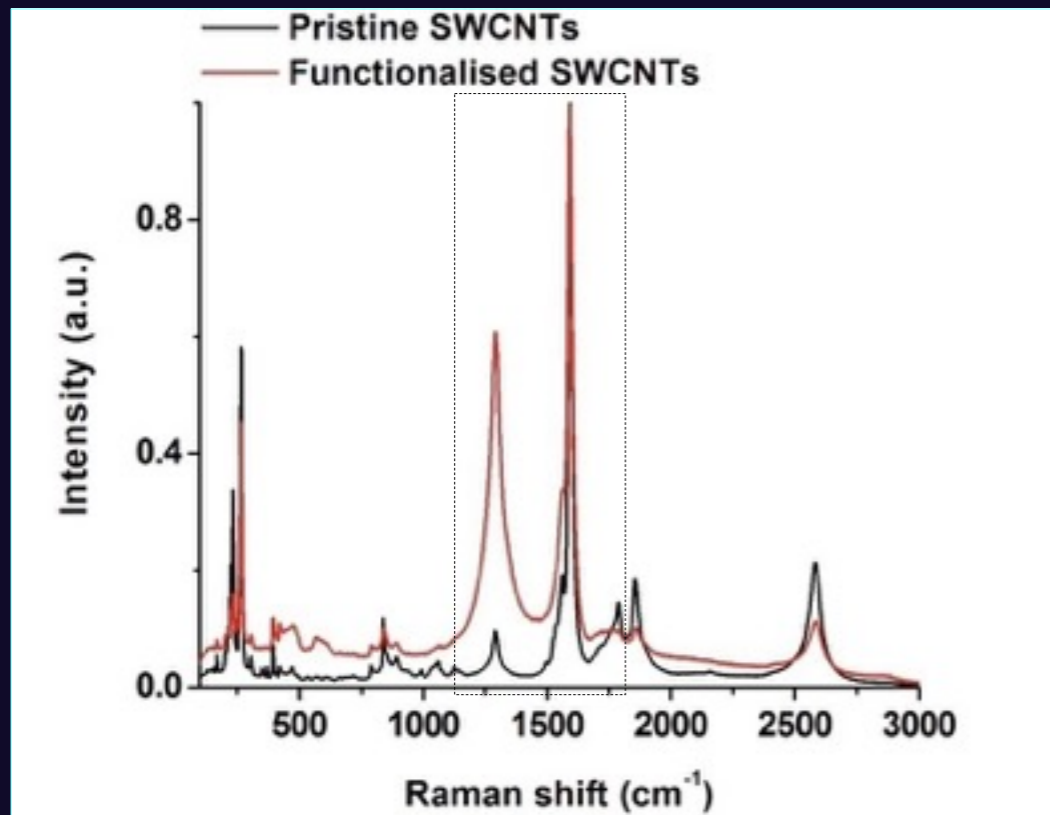
Thermogravimetric analysis (TGA)



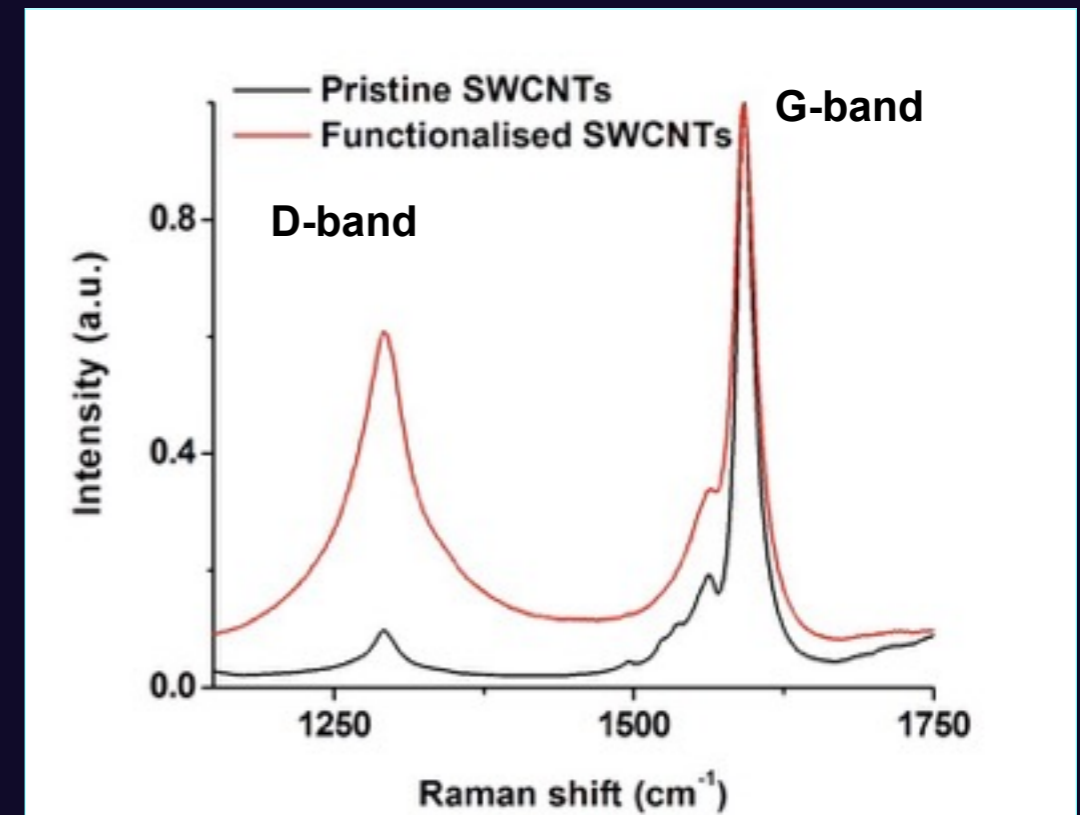
Characterization of trifunctionalized SWNTs

Raman spectroscopy: D-band

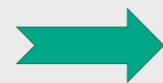
785 nm



785 nm



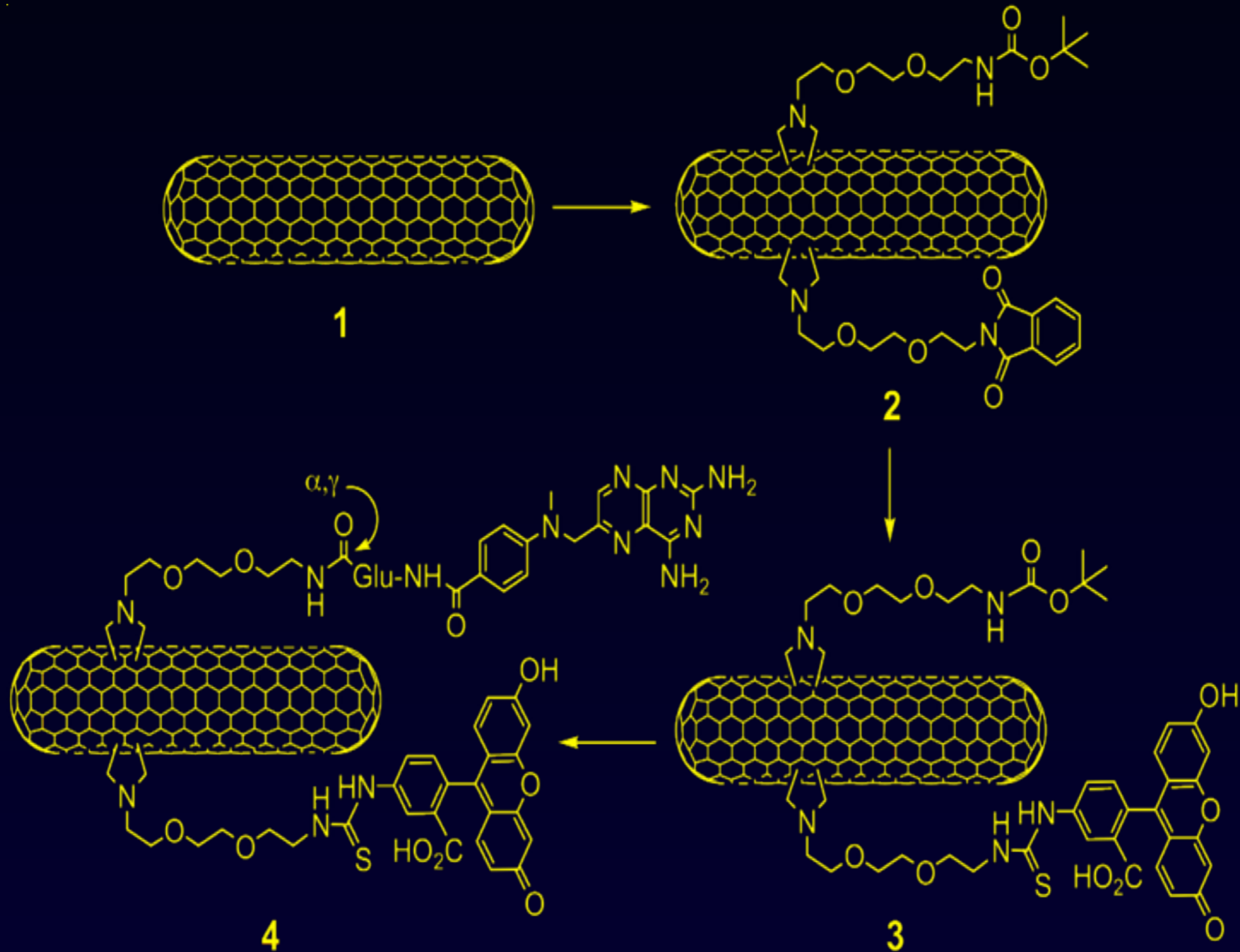
Increase of the relative intensity of the D-band



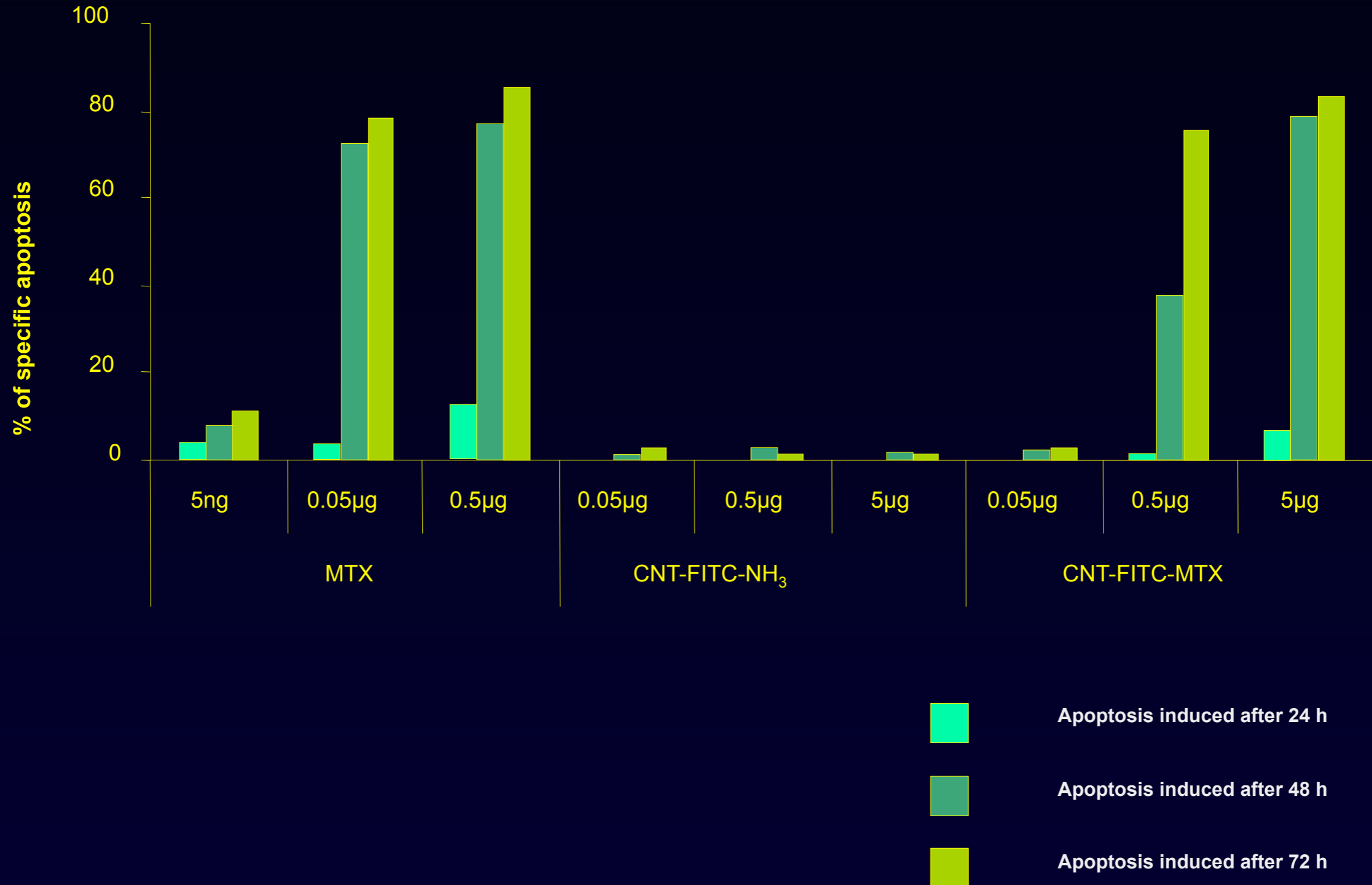
Functionalization is covalent

(Rehybridation of sp² to sp³ carbon atoms)

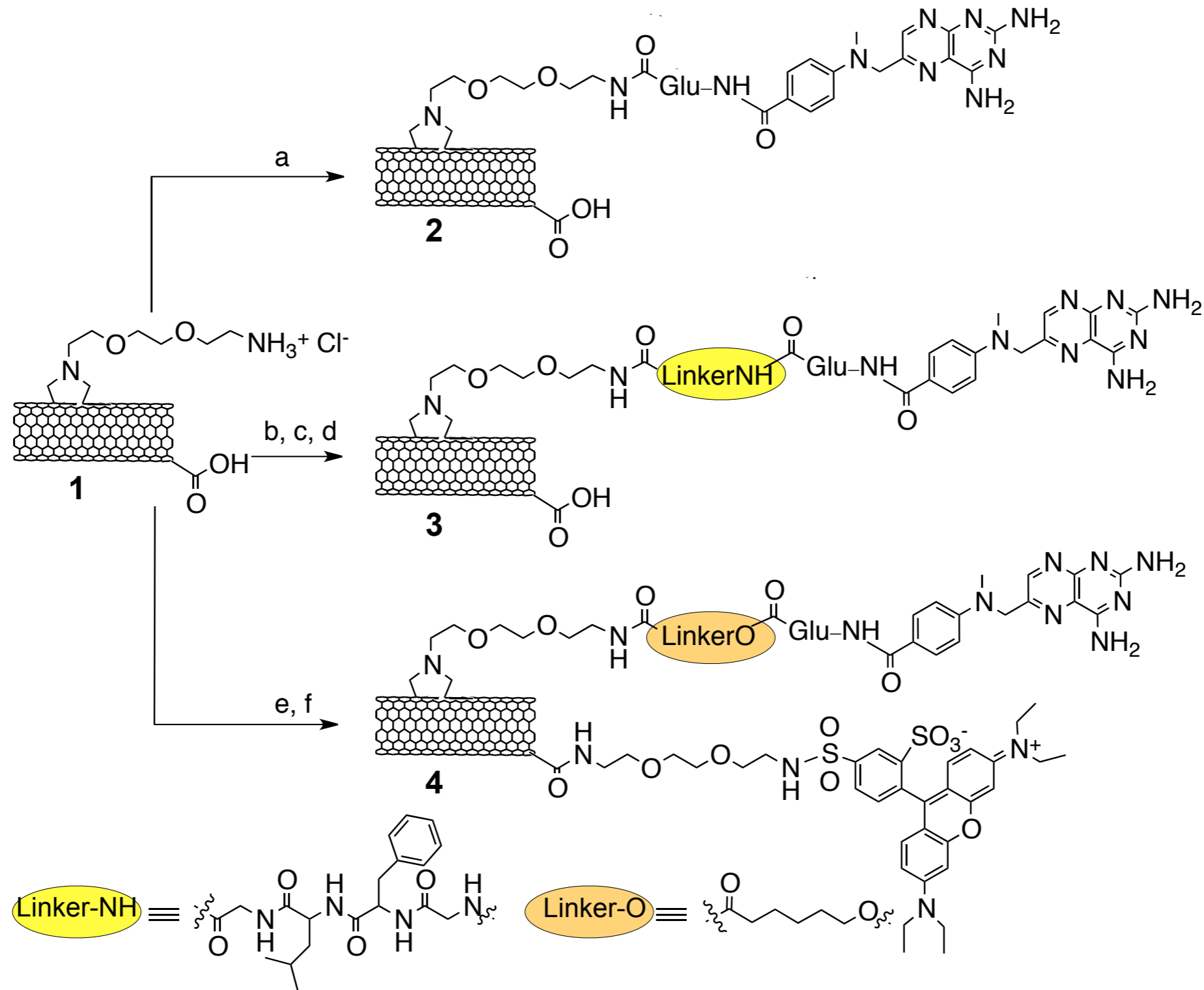
Functionalization of Carbon Nanotubes with Anticancer Molecules: Methotrexate



Apoptotic Activity of CNT Functionalized with Methotrexate (human breast carcinoma, MCF-7)

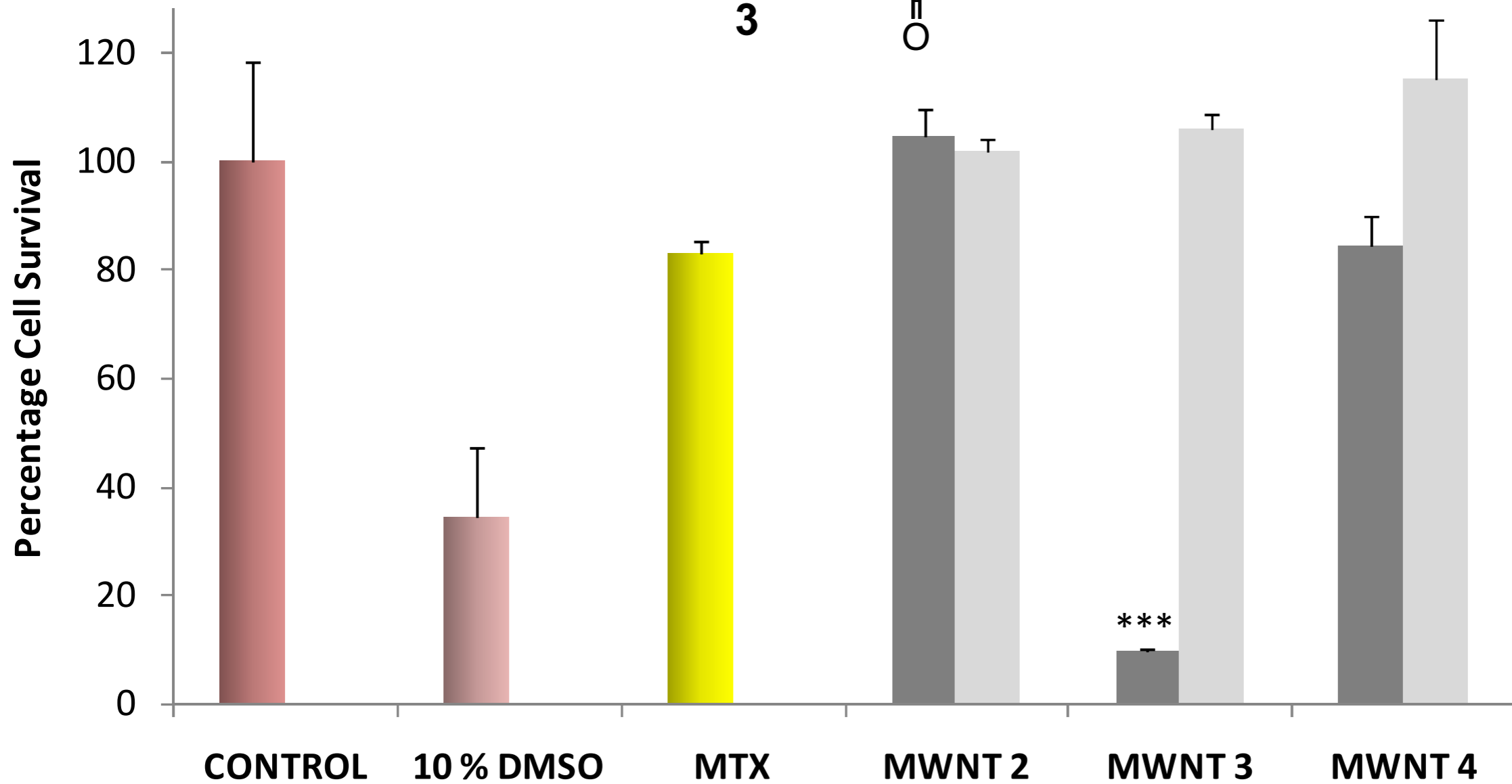
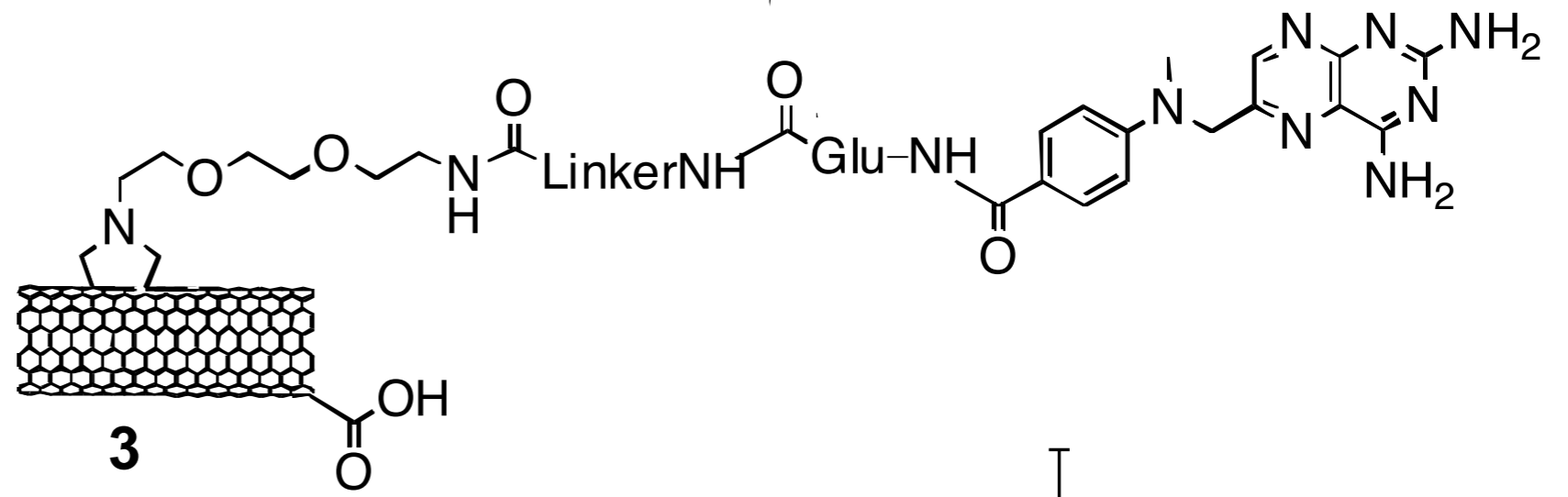


Synthesis of multi-walled carbon nanotube-methotrexate conjugates using cleavable linkers



This peptide linker is selectively cleaved by proteases over-expressed in tumor cells.

6-hydroxyhexanoic ester is an esterase-sensitive, hydrophobic spacer that has been widely used in prodrug conjugate synthesis.



Cell survival of MCF-7 cells after treatment with MWNT conjugates **2-4** for 24 h (dark grey bars). MTX concentration was kept constant at 10 μ M with and without MWNTs. Light grey bars correspond to the cytotoxicity effects of MWNT **1** devoid of the drug used as control at the same dose of the related MWNT-MTX conjugate. 10 % DMSO was used as a positive control for cytotoxicity. *** indicate statistical significance ($p < 0.005$) between MWNT **3** and MTX alone