

# Functionalization of carbon nanotubes for the self-assembly of hybrid structures

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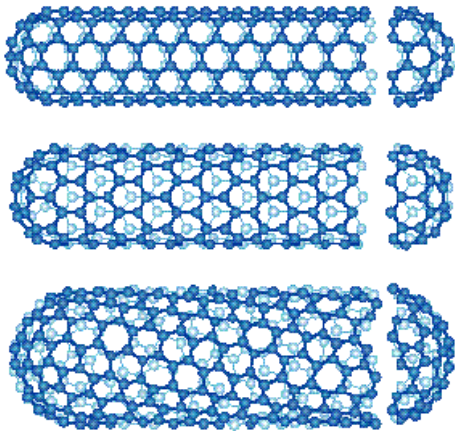
**LMU**

**Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München**

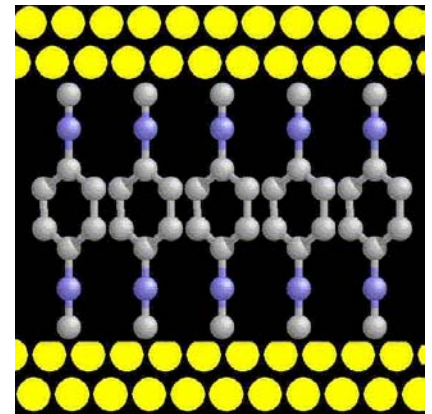


# Molecular electronics group activities:

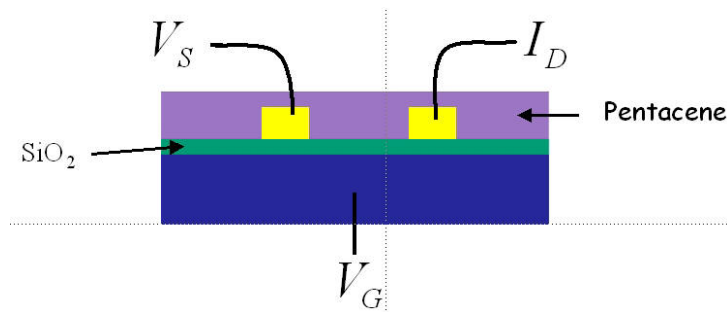
## Carbon Nanotubes



## Polyphenylene SAMs (= self-assembled monolayers)



## Pentacene TFTs



# Outline

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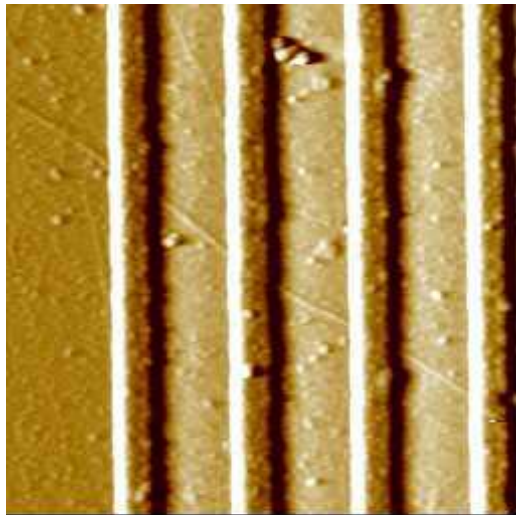
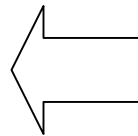
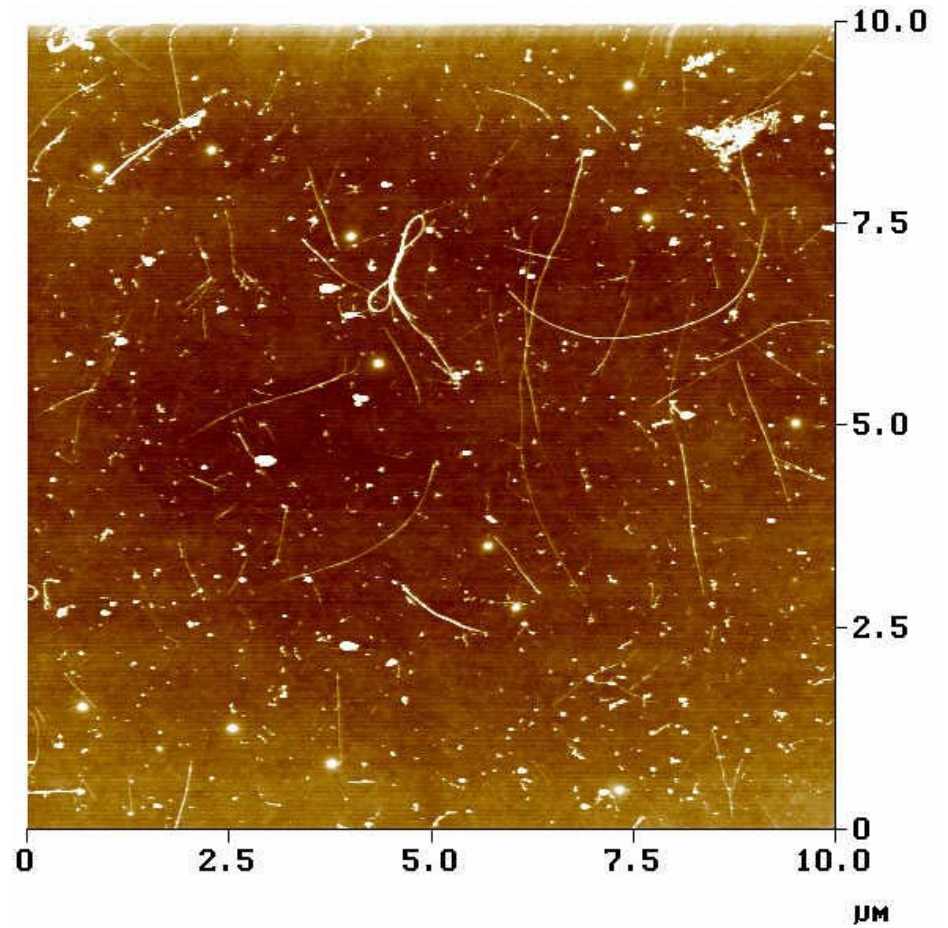
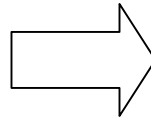
Non-covalent functionalization of CNTs

Covalent functionalization of CNTs

- chemical procedure
- attaching gold particles to CNTs by self-assembly
- electronic transport measurements
- catalytic gold enhancement
- thiolation of CNTs

Summary & Outlook

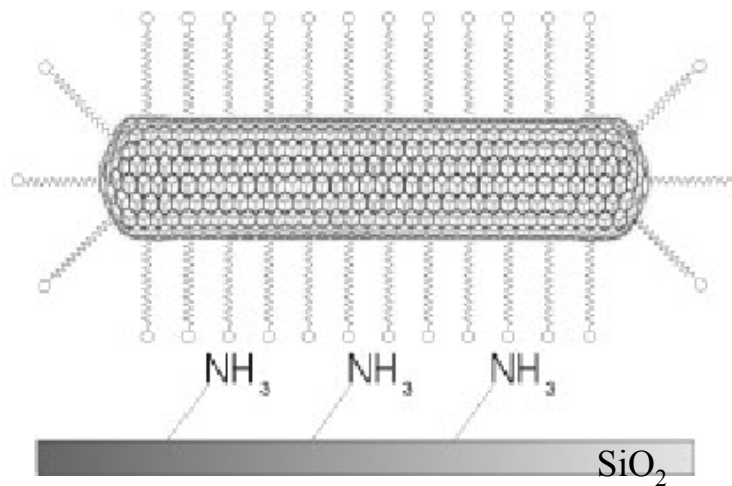
# Motivation



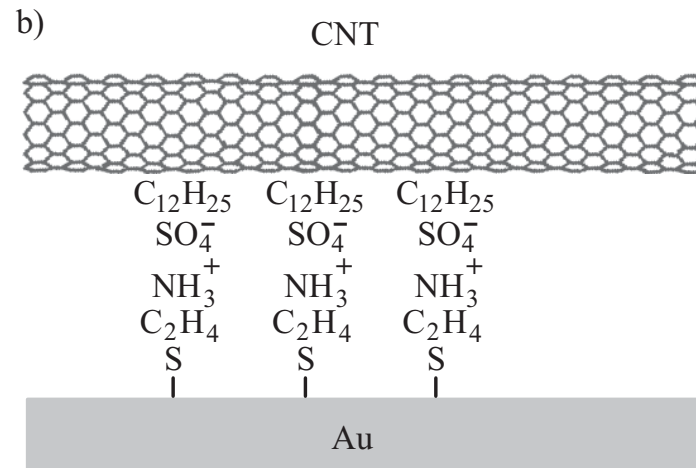
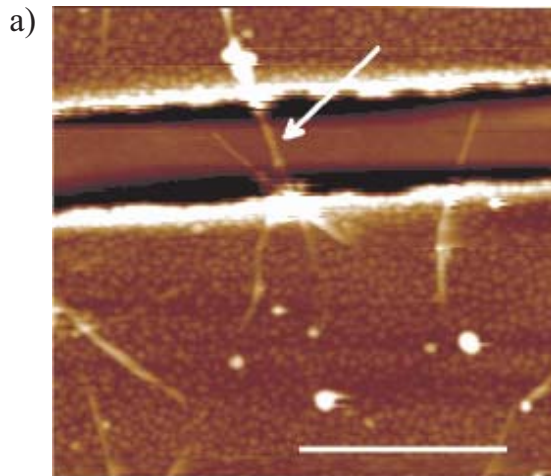
0 Data type Height 2.50  $\mu\text{m}$   
Z range 30.0 nm

# Non-covalent functionalization of CNTs

- Non-specific functionalization of carbon nanotubes with SDS:



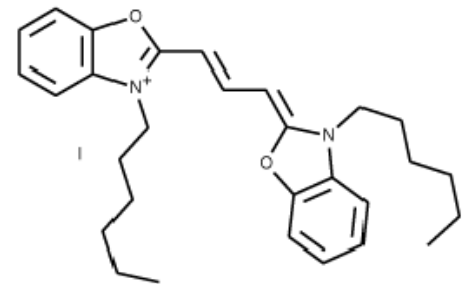
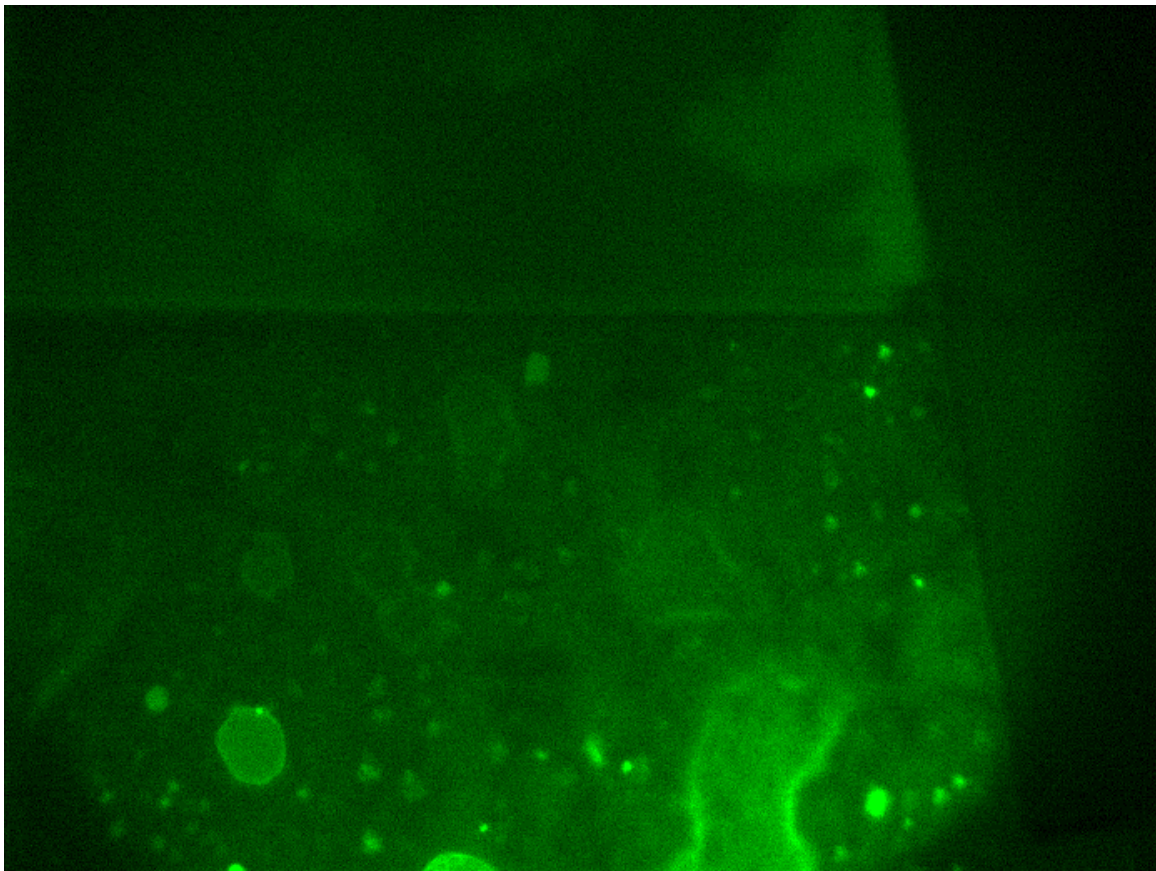
- Functionalization of gold electrodes with cysteamine:



AFM image of MWNTs bridging Au electrodes (scalebar: 1  $\mu\text{m}$ )

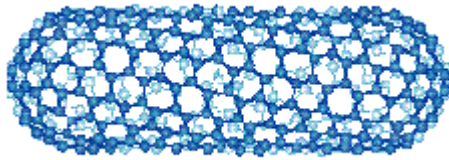


## Fluorescence labeling of MWNTs

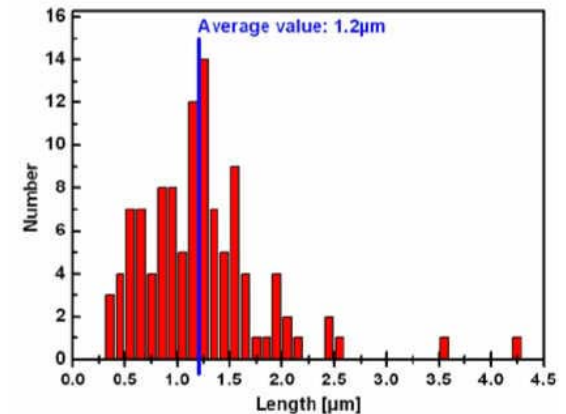
DiOC<sub>6</sub>

# Covalent functionalization: chemical procedure

1. step: acid treatment => carboxyl end-groups

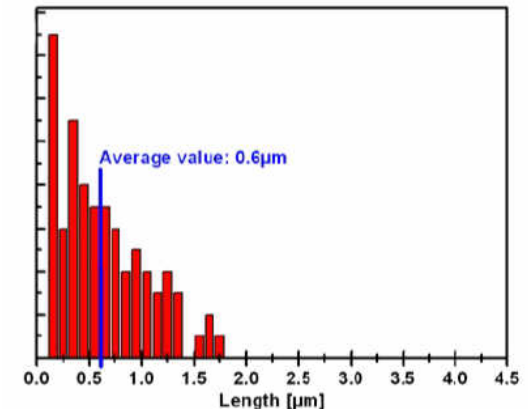
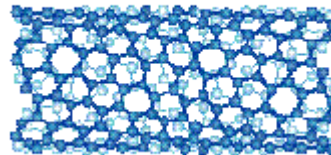


- nanotubes are usually endcapped
- length up to several microns

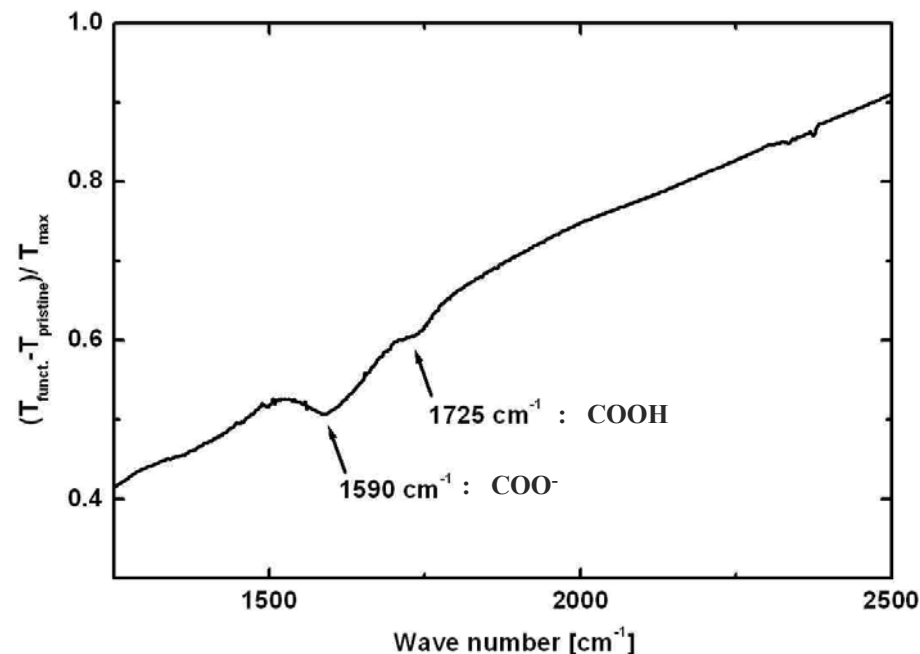
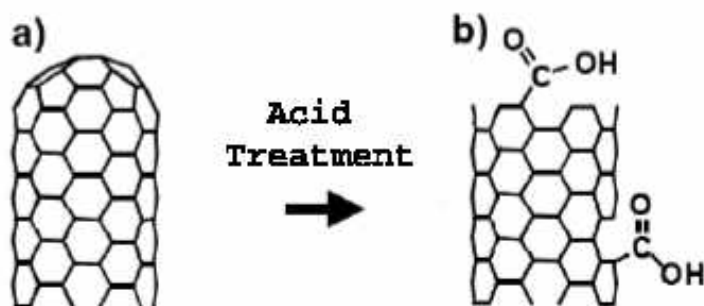


Ultrasonification in  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4/\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  or in  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4/\text{HNO}_3$   
+ filtration

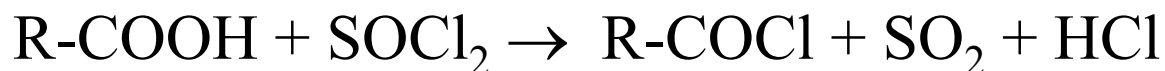
- nanotubes with open ends
- shortened in length
- „clean“ solution



# Carboxyl end-groups as a starting point for chemical modifications



2. step: Conversion of the carboxyl groups to the corresponding acid chloride by refluxing in thionyl chloride

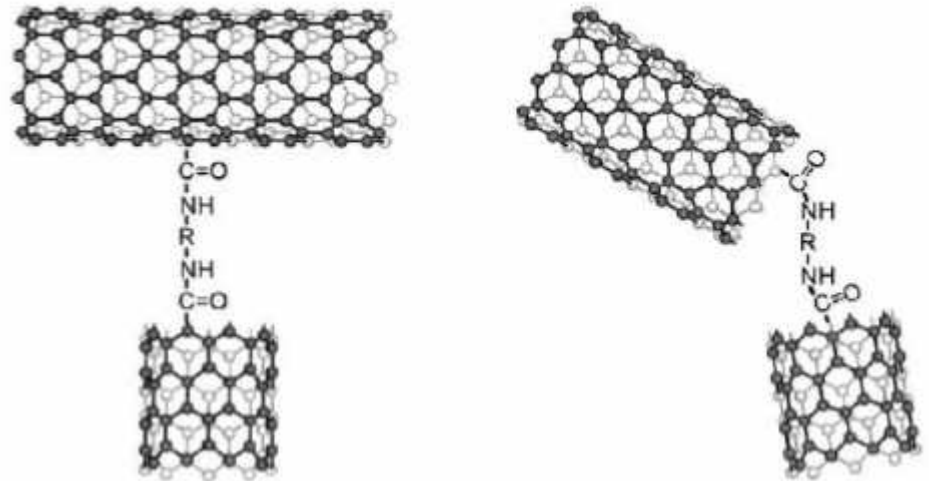
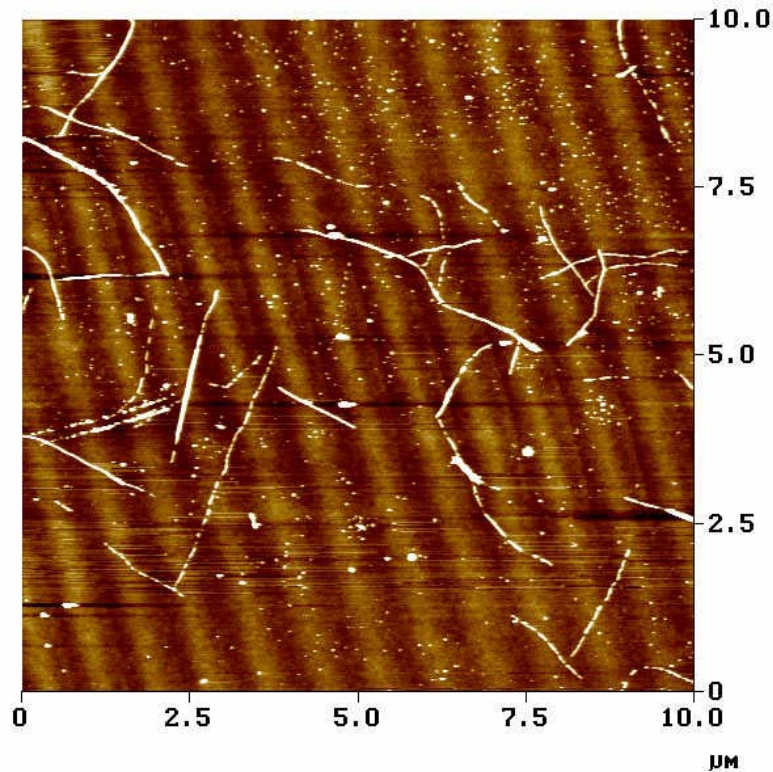


The chlorine group is very reactive and allows versatile modification

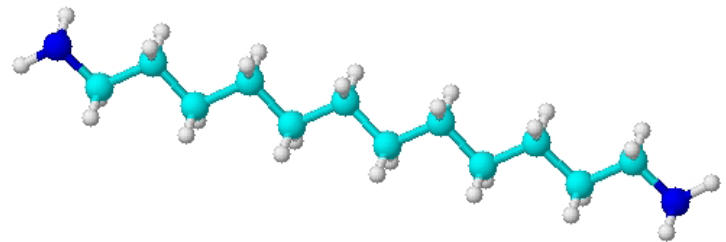


# Test experiment: Attachment of molecular linkers

- Allows end-to-side as well as end-to-end interconnections



- linker: alkane chain



### 3. step: Biotinylation

## Sortiment...

### **biovit Biotin 5 mg - Intensivkur für Haut, Haare und Fingernägel**

Schuppige Haut, brüchige Fingernägel und stumpfe Haare können Anzeichen für einen Biotin-Mangel sein.

Biotin, auch Vitamin H (H für Haut) genannt, unterstützt den Stoffwechsel und trägt dazu bei, dass der Körper genügend Keratin bilden kann. Für Haut, Haare und Fingernägel ist Keratin eine wichtige Voraussetzung für ein gesundes Wachstum und die richtige Versorgung. Es verleiht ihnen Festigkeit und Widerstandskraft. Biotin wirkt somit auf die Keratinstrukturen im Sinne einer sichtbaren und spürbaren qualitativen Verbesserung.

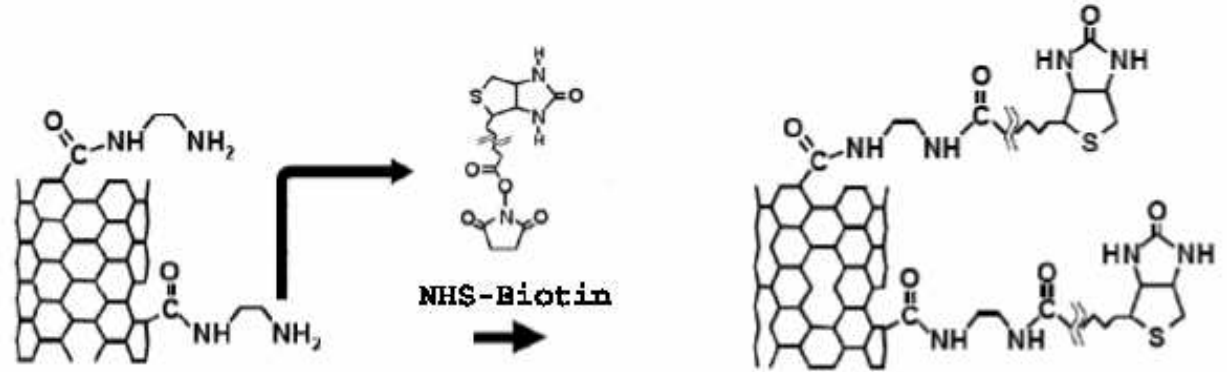


- Biotin is a vitamine that binds specifically to its corresponding protein streptavidin
- The biotin-streptavidin interaction is the strongest non-covalent binding in nature
- Up to four biotin molecules can bind to one streptadvidin

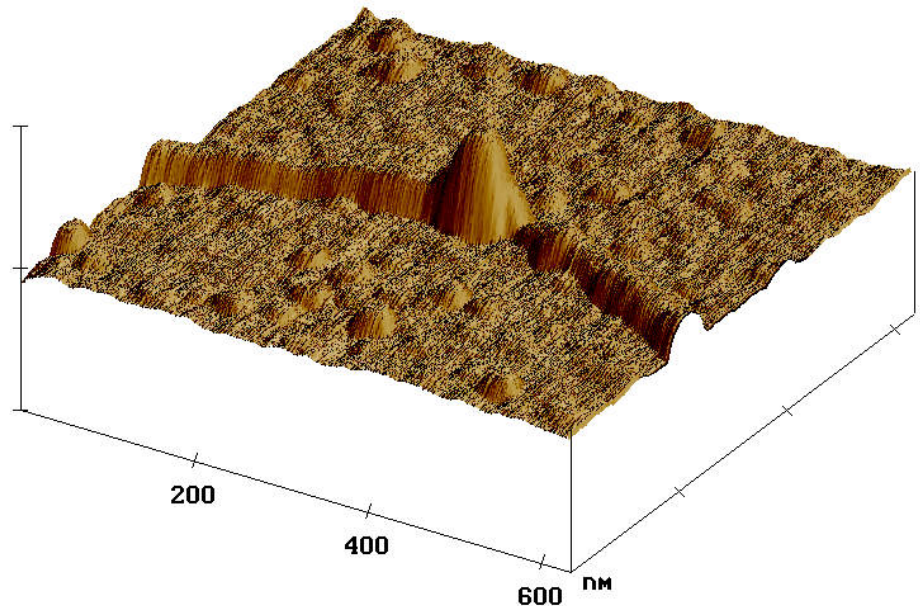


# Biotinylation

- replace chloride by ethylenediamine
- attach NHS-biotin



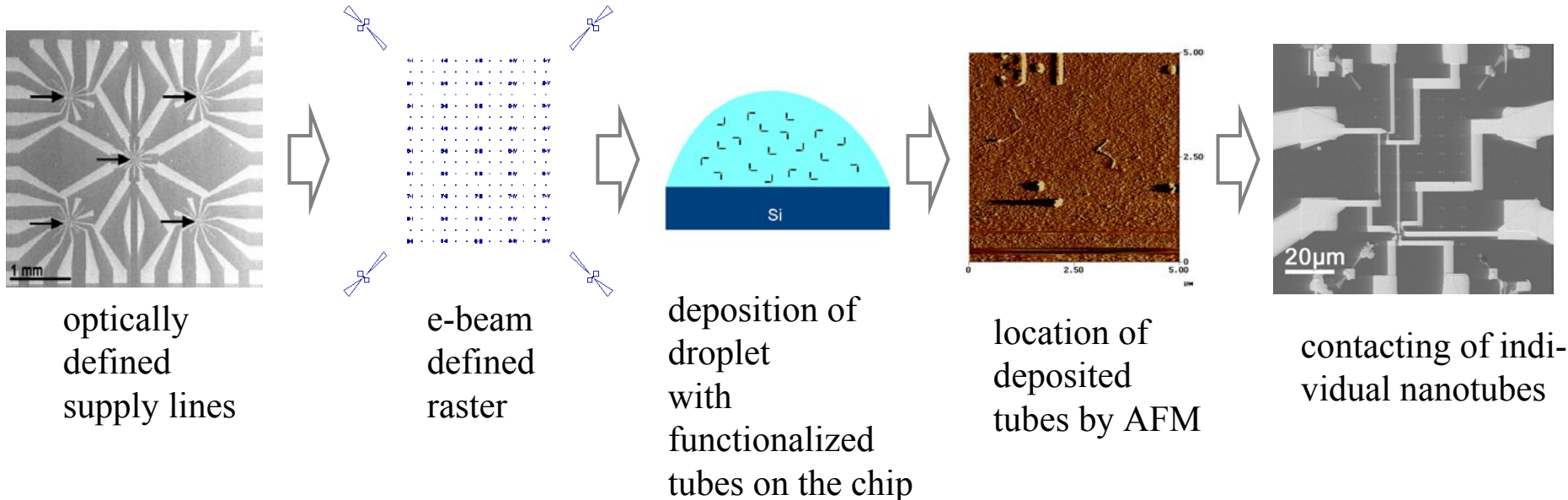
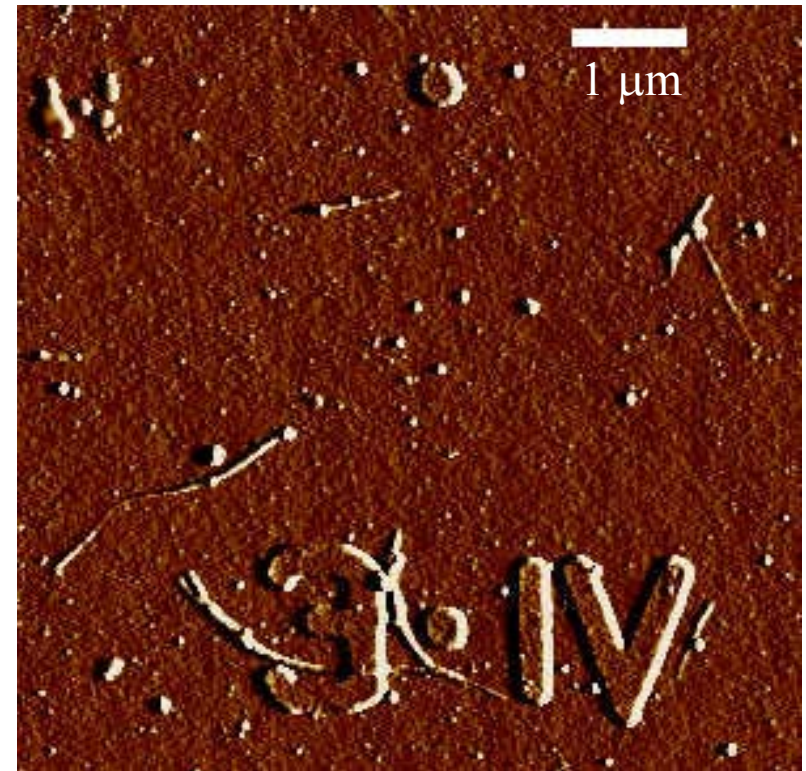
4. step: react with streptavidin-modified gold particles



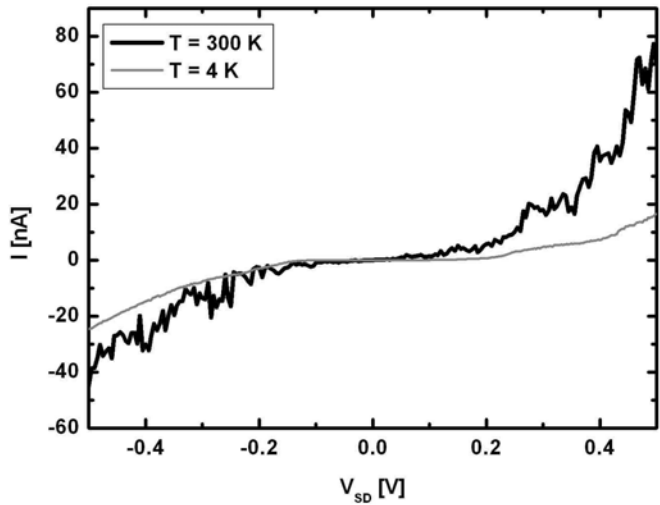


## 5. step: making contacts

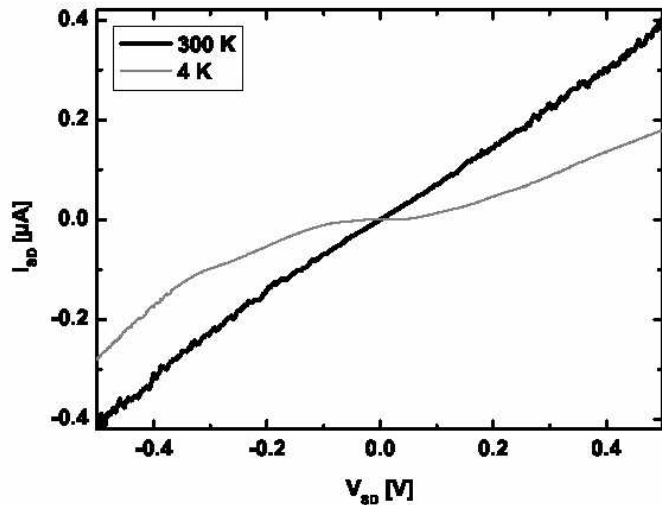
- apply CNT-nanoparticle solution on a Si chip
- locate interesting structures with AFM
- make contacts using optical and e-beam lithography



# Electronic transport measurements

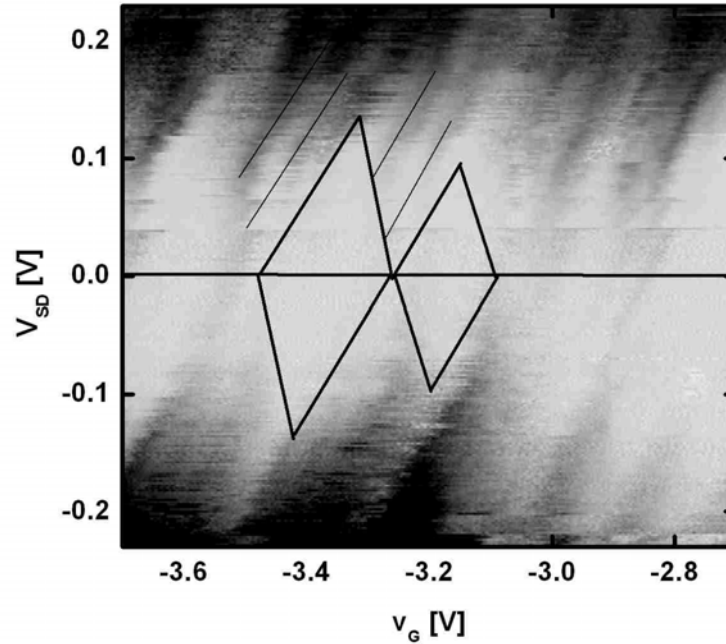
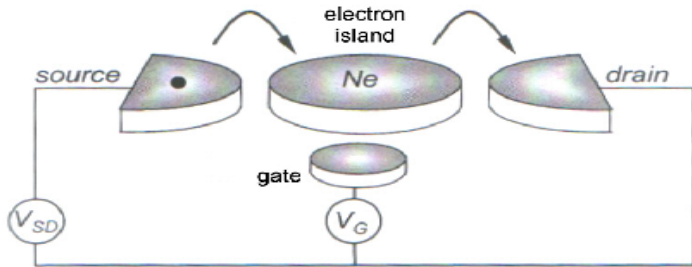


→ Non-linear source-drain curve at  $T = 300$  K and at  $T = 4.2$  K:  
At least one of the two SWNTs is semiconducting



→ Linear source-drain curve at  $T = 300$  K and non-linear at  $T = 4.2$  K:  
two metallic SWNTs  
Coulomb blockade at low T

# Coulomb blockade



$$E_C = \frac{e^2}{C}$$

$$C_{CNT} = \frac{2\pi\epsilon_r\epsilon_0 L}{\ln(2z/r)}$$

$$C_{Colloid} = 4\pi\epsilon_r\epsilon_0 r$$

Charging energies:

$$E_{C,small} \sim 93 \text{ meV}$$

$$C_{small} \sim 1.7 \text{ aF}$$

$$L_{CNT,small} \sim 94 \text{ nm}$$

$$r_{colloid,small} \sim 7.7 \text{ nm}$$

$$E_{C,big} \sim 135 \text{ meV}$$

$$C_{big} \sim 1.2 \text{ aF}$$

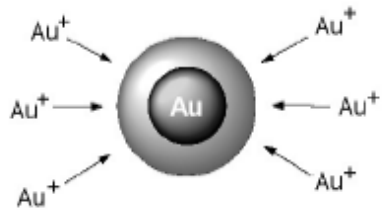
$$L_{CNT,big} \sim 65 \text{ nm}$$

$$r_{colloid,big} \sim 5.3 \text{ nm}$$

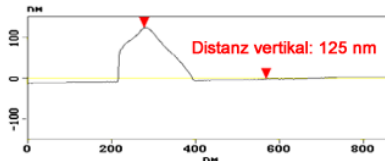
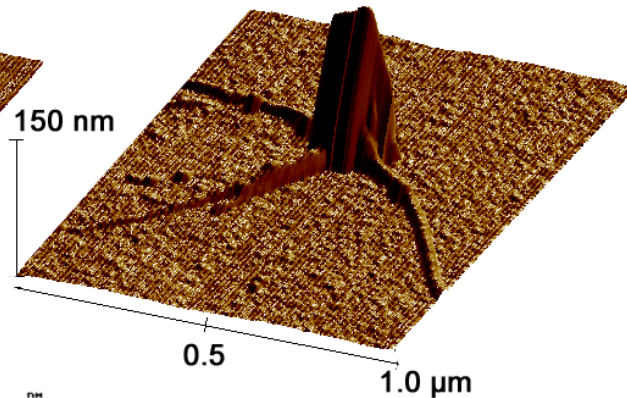
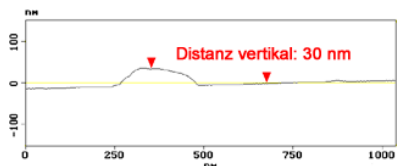
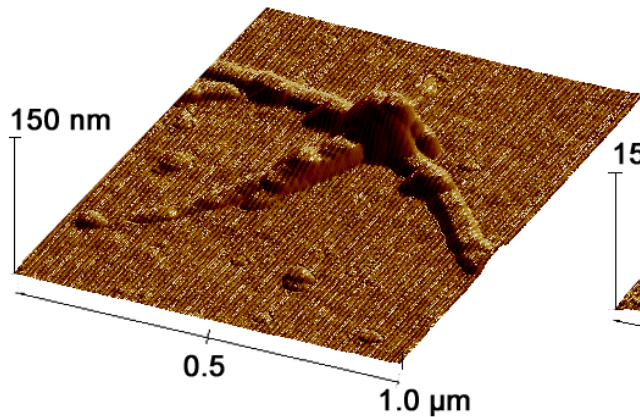


# Catalytic gold enhancement

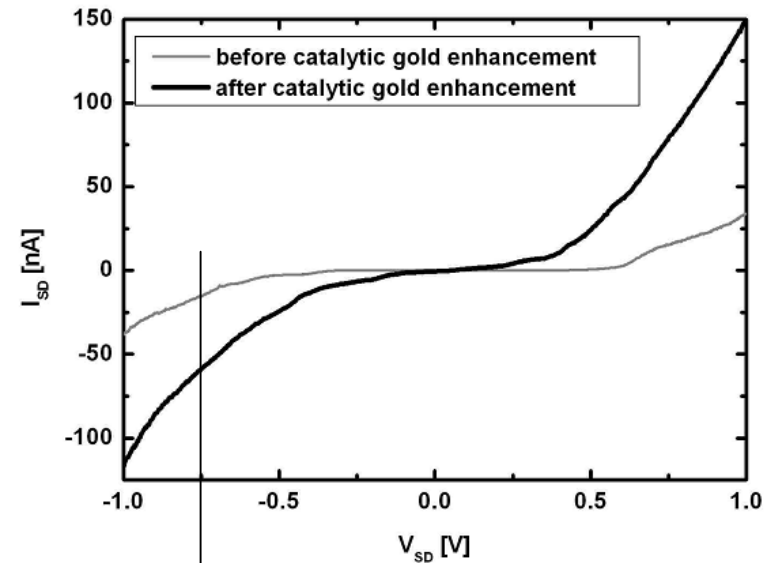
The contacted colloids with  $d = 25$  nm have been enlarged by catalytic gold enhancement



Au-ions are refined at the seed metal in the presence of a reducing agent



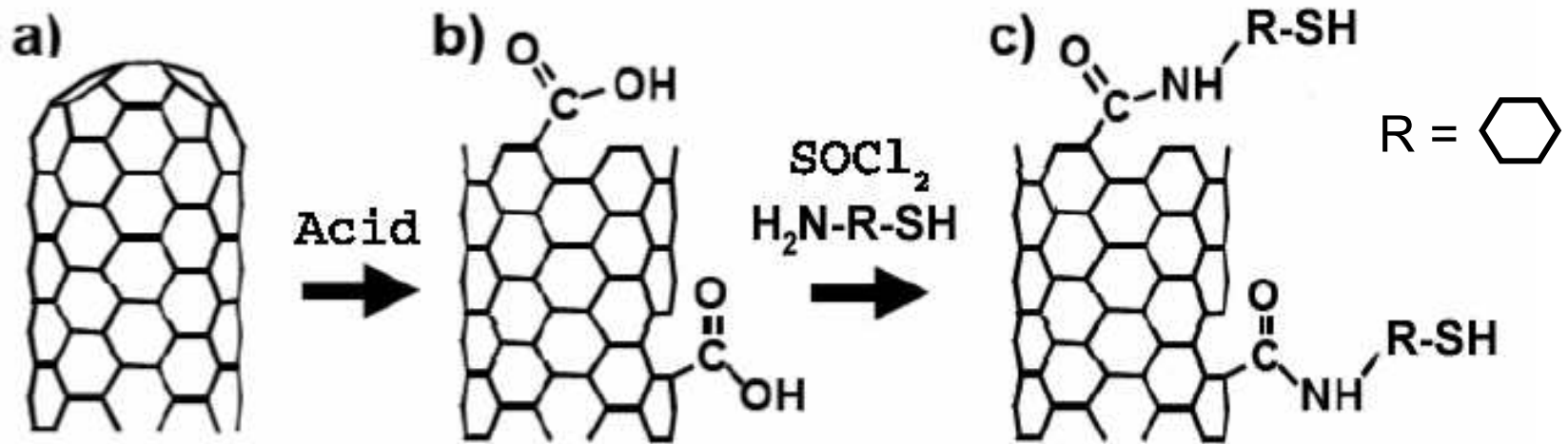
Two AFM-pictures of a colloid with  $d = 25$  nm, before and after 2 minutes incubation with Nanoprobe Goldenhance



Factors, the resistance was decreasing at  $V = -0.75$  V:

	factor
5 Samples	2 - 9
2 Samples	0
1 Sample	short circuit

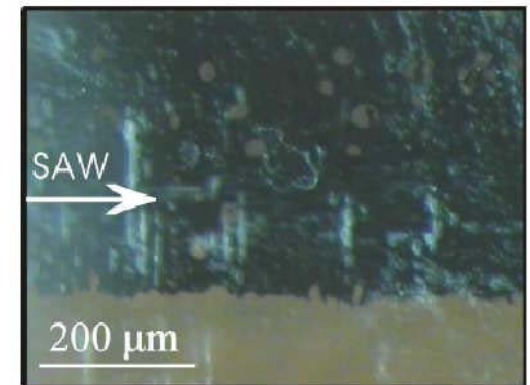
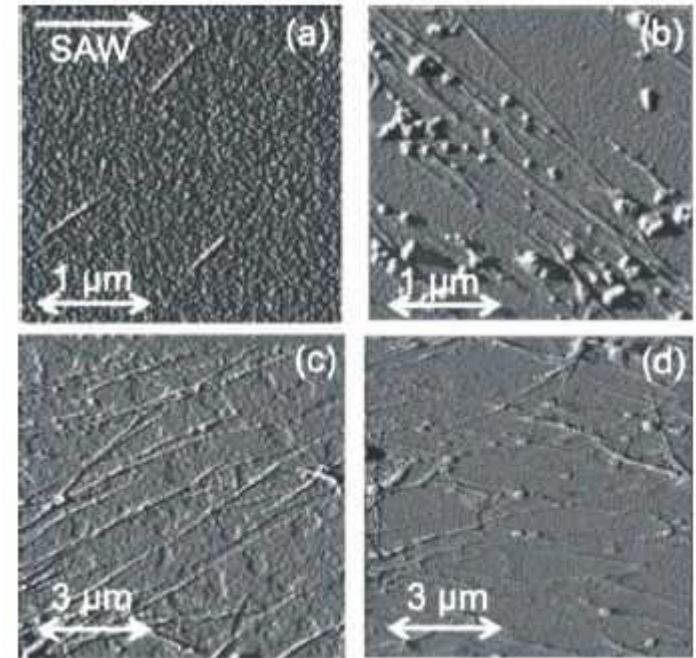
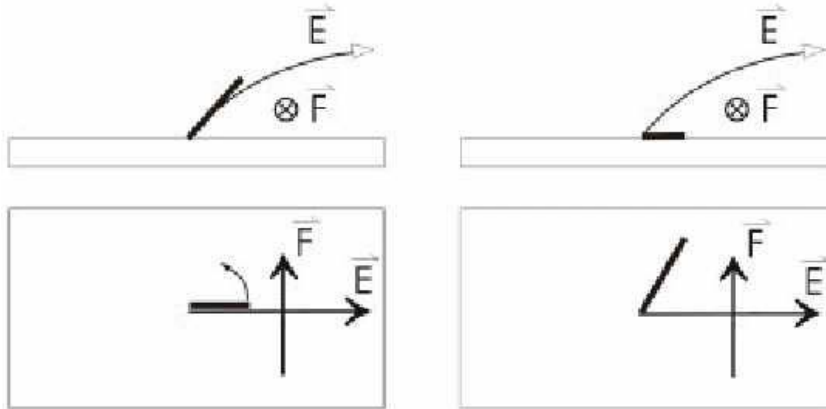
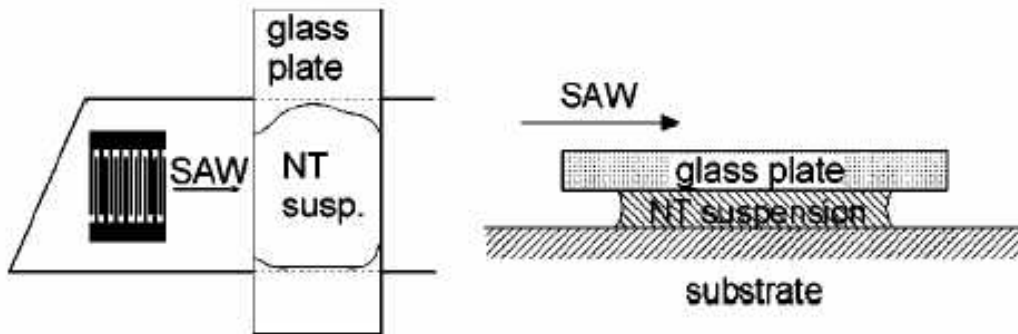
# Thiolation of CNTs



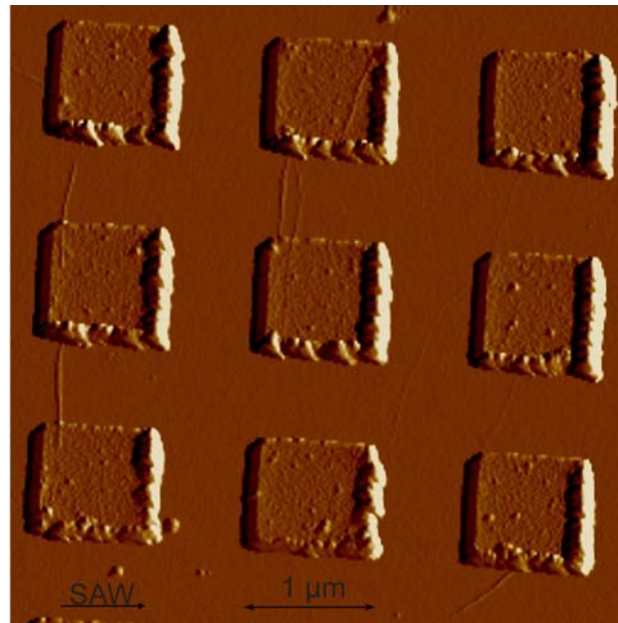
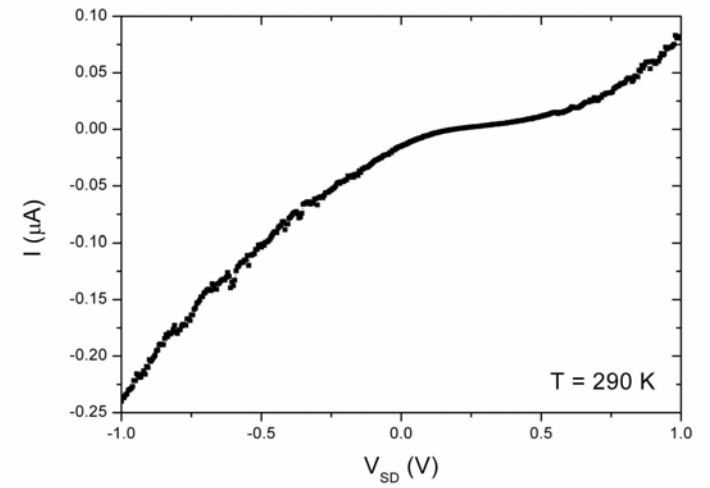
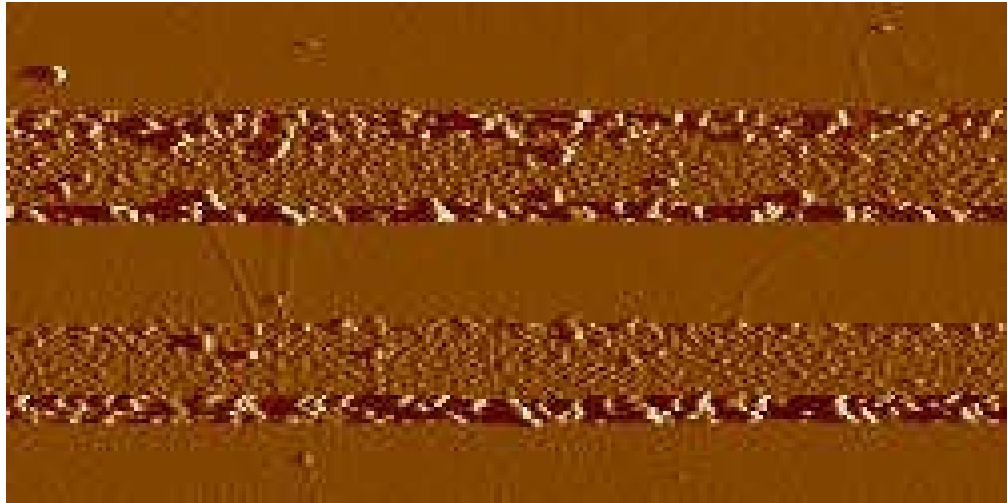
Self-assembly of CNTs on contacts?

# CNT alignment by surface acoustic waves

in collaboration with C. Strobl, J. Ebbecke, A. Wixforth, Uni Augsburg



# Thiolated CNTs on gold contacts

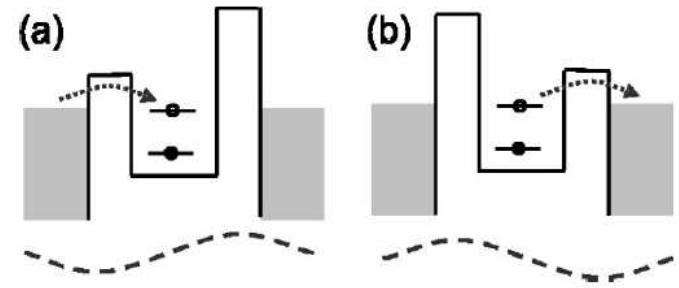
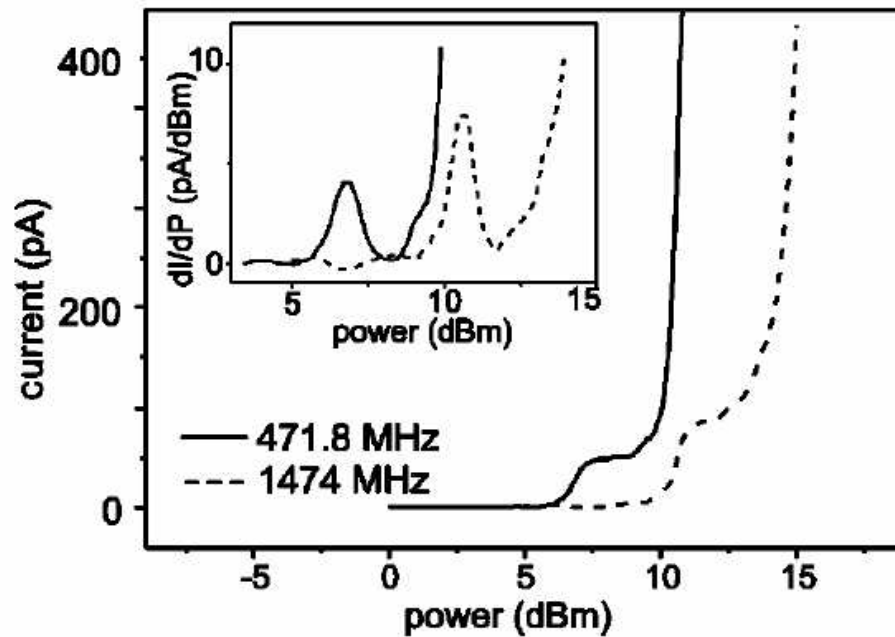


# Acoustoelectric current transport through single-walled carbon nanotubes

J. Ebbecke,<sup>1,\*</sup> C. J. Strobl,<sup>2</sup> and A. Wixforth<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*Institut für Physik der Universität Augsburg, Experimentalphysik I, Universitätsstrasse 1, 86135 Augsburg, Germany*

<sup>2</sup>*Sektion Physik der Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität and Center for NanoScience (CeNS), Geschwister-Scholl-Platz 1, 80539 Munich, Germany*



# Summary

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- CNTs can be chemically modified in order to achieve some degree of molecular recognition and self-assembly
- SWNTs were connected via gold colloids
- These systems were individually electrically contacted and characterized in their electronic properties
- SWNTs were attached to electrodes via thiol-groups using SAW



# Thanks



Christian J.-F. Dupraz



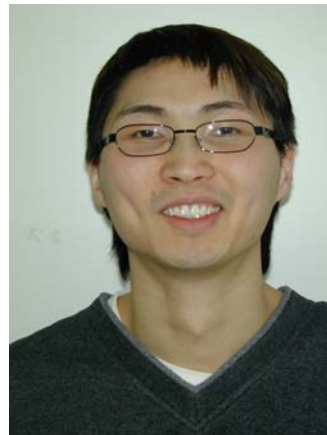
Tobias Smorodin



Carla Abilio

Prof. Jörg P. Kotthaus

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Nok Tsao



Matthias Fiebig