

Since 1959



# Affordable clean water using advanced materials

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<https://pradeepresearch.org>

Dr. Maneesha Vinodini Ramesh

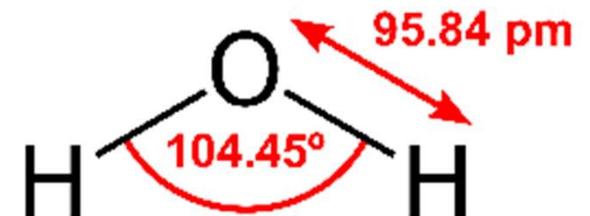
Co-founder

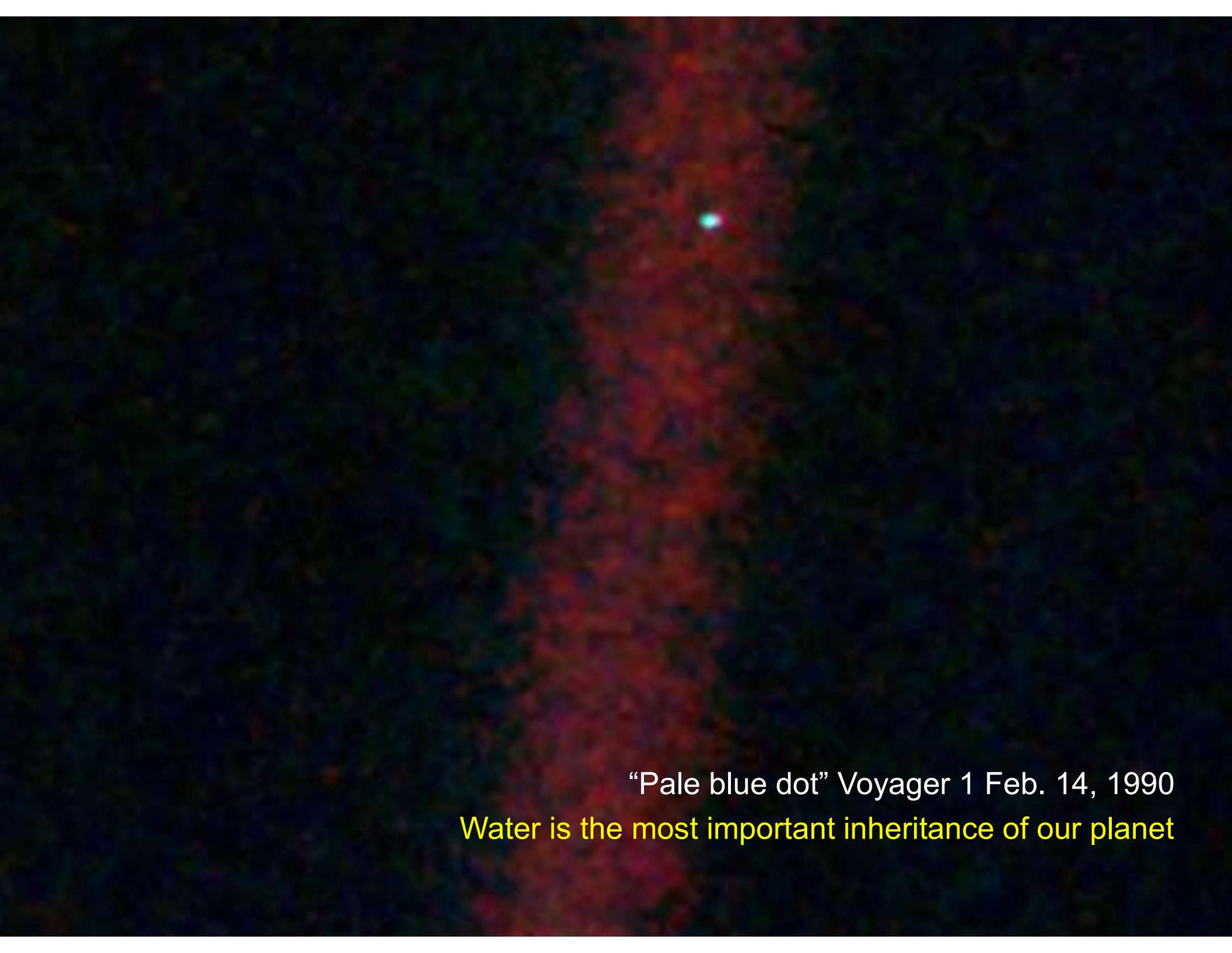
InnoNano Research Pvt. Ltd.  
InnoDI Water Technologies Pvt. Ltd.  
VayuJAL Technologies Pvt. Ltd.  
Aqueasy Innovations Pvt. Ltd.  
Hydromaterials Pvt. Ltd.  
EyeNetAqua Solutions Pvt. Ltd.  
DeepSpectrum Innovations Pvt. Ltd.

Professor-in-charge



International Centre for Clean Water





“Pale blue dot” Voyager 1 Feb. 14, 1990

Water is the most important inheritance of our planet

# The truth

Our economic, social and cultural outcomes can be traced to water.

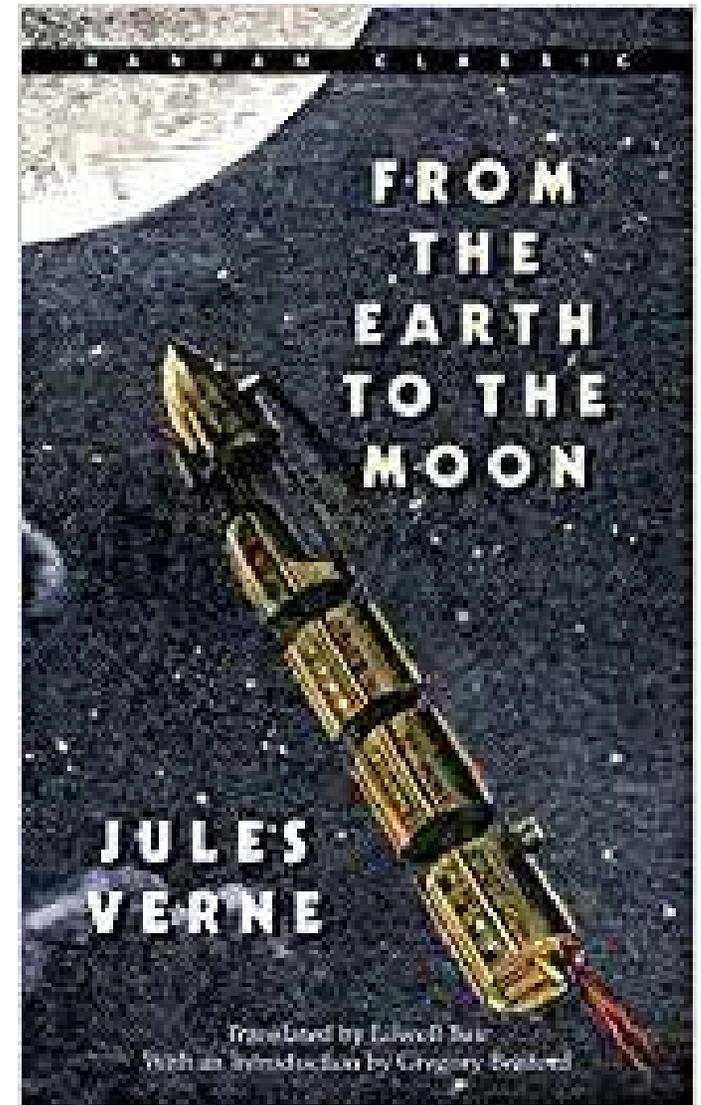
Water is the simplest and simultaneously the most complex problem of humanity.

Everything simplifies to water.

There is water in everything we do.



Our dreams become reality with materials



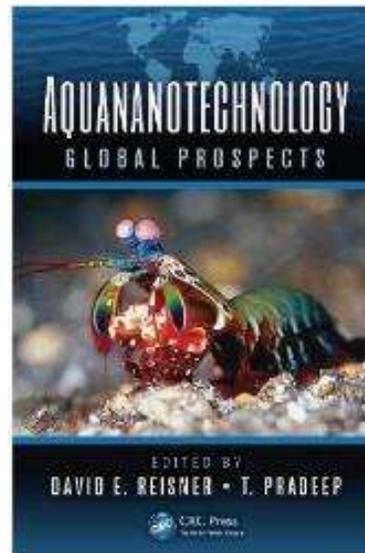
# Water purification, history

Important milestones in the history of water purification (1800–2007) from the perspective of noble metal nanoparticles in water treatment (compiled from multiple sources on the World Wide Web).

| Year | Milestone   |
|------|---|
| 1804 | Setup of world's first city-wide municipal water treatment plant (Scotland, sand-filter technology)                 |
| 1810 | Discovery of chlorine as a disinfectant (H. Davy)   |
| 1852 | Formulation of Metropolis Water Act (England)   |
| 1879 | Formulation of Germ Theory (L. Pasteur)   |
| 1902 | Use of chlorine as a disinfectant in drinking water supply (calcium hypochlorite, Belgium)                          |
| 1906 | Use of ozone as a disinfectant (France)   |
| 1908 | Use of chlorine as a disinfectant in municipal supply, New Jersey   |
| 1914 | Federal regulation of drinking water quality (USPHS)  |
| 1916 | Use of UV treatment in municipal supplies   |
| 1935 | Discovery of synthetic ion exchange resin (B. A. Adams, E. L. Holmes)   |
| 1948 | Nobel Prize to Paul Hermann Muller (insecticidal properties of DDT)   |
| 1959 | Discovery of synthetic reverse osmosis membrane (S. Yuster, S. Loeb, S. Sourirajan)                                 |
| 1962 | <i>Silent Spring</i> published, first report on harmful effects of DDT (R. Carson)                                  |
| 1965 | World's first commercial RO plant launched  |
| 1974 | Reports on carcinogenic by-products of disinfection with chlorine<br>Formulation of Safe Drinking Water Act (USEPA) |
| 1975 | Development of carbon block for drinking water purification   |
| 1994 | Report on use of zerovalent iron for degradation of halogenated organics (R. W. Gillham, S. F. O'Hannesin)          |
| 1997 | Report on use of zerovalent iron nanoparticles for degradation of halogenated organics (C-B. Wang, W.-X. Zhang)     |
| 1998 | Drinking Water Directive applied in EU  |
| 2000 | Adoption of Millennium Declaration during the UN Millennium Summit (UN Millennium Development Goals)                |
| 2003 | Report on use of noble metal nanoparticles for the degradation of pesticides (A.S. Nair, R. T. Tom, T. Pradeep)     |
| 2004 | Stockholm Convention, banning the use of persistent organic pollutants  |
| 2007 | Launch of noble metal nanoparticle-based domestic water purifier (T. Pradeep, A. S. Nair, Eureka Forbes Limited)    |

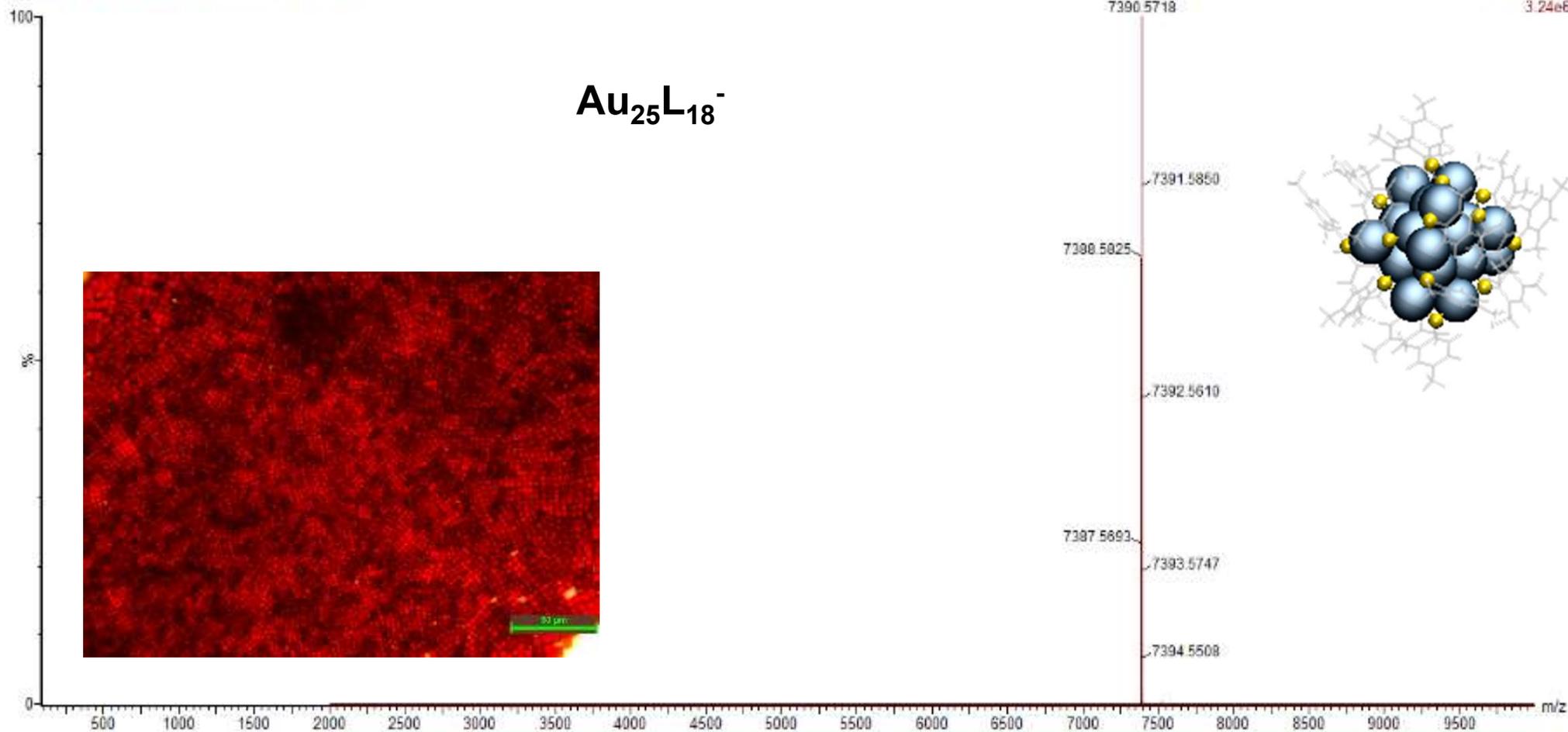
# Affordable clean water is a problem of advanced materials

- New adsorbents
- New sensors
- New catalysts
- Novel phenomena
- New devices



# Nanomaterials are now atomically precise

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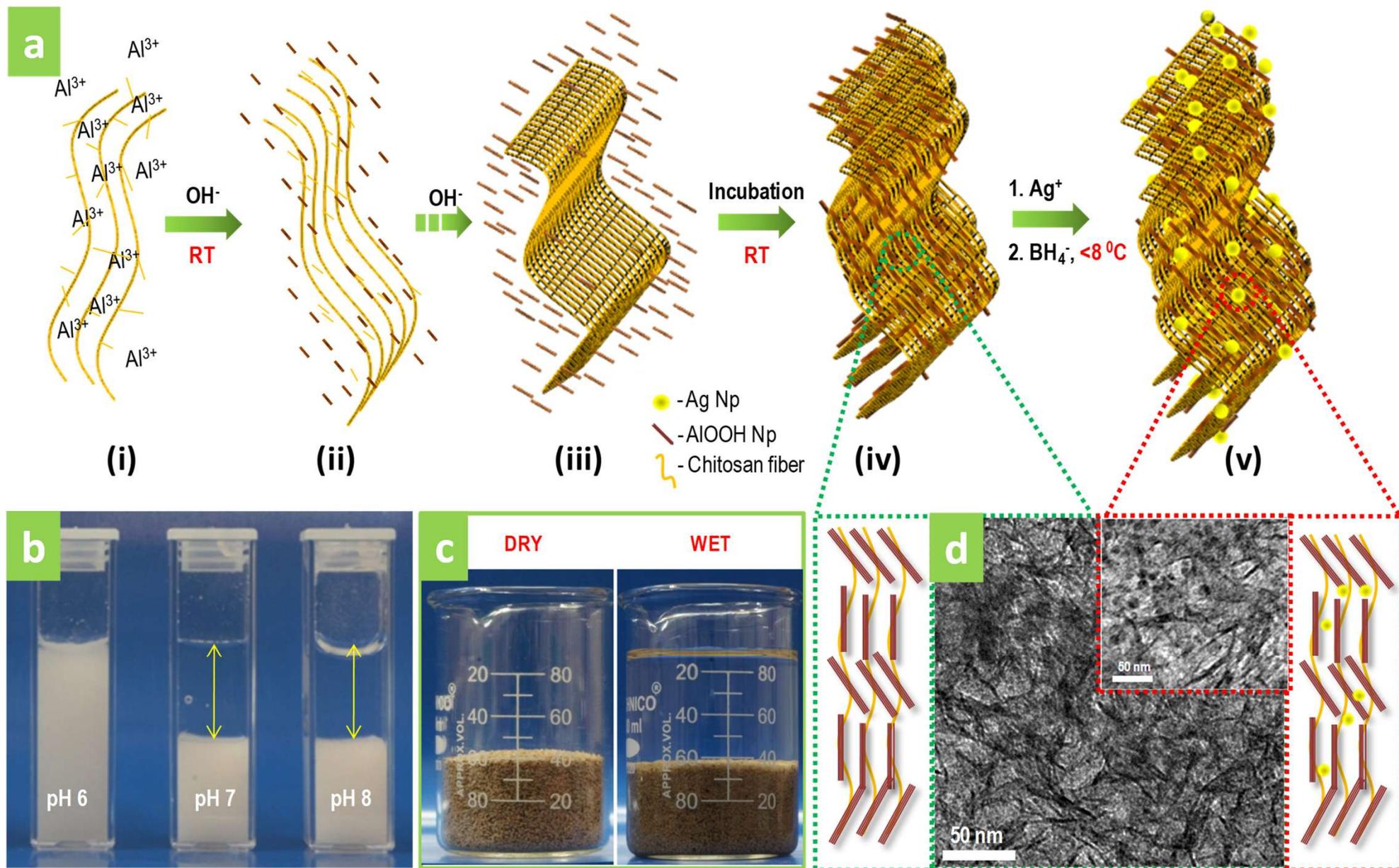
# Nanomaterials can solve real problems



ACS Sustainable Chemistry & Engineering Editorial, December 2016

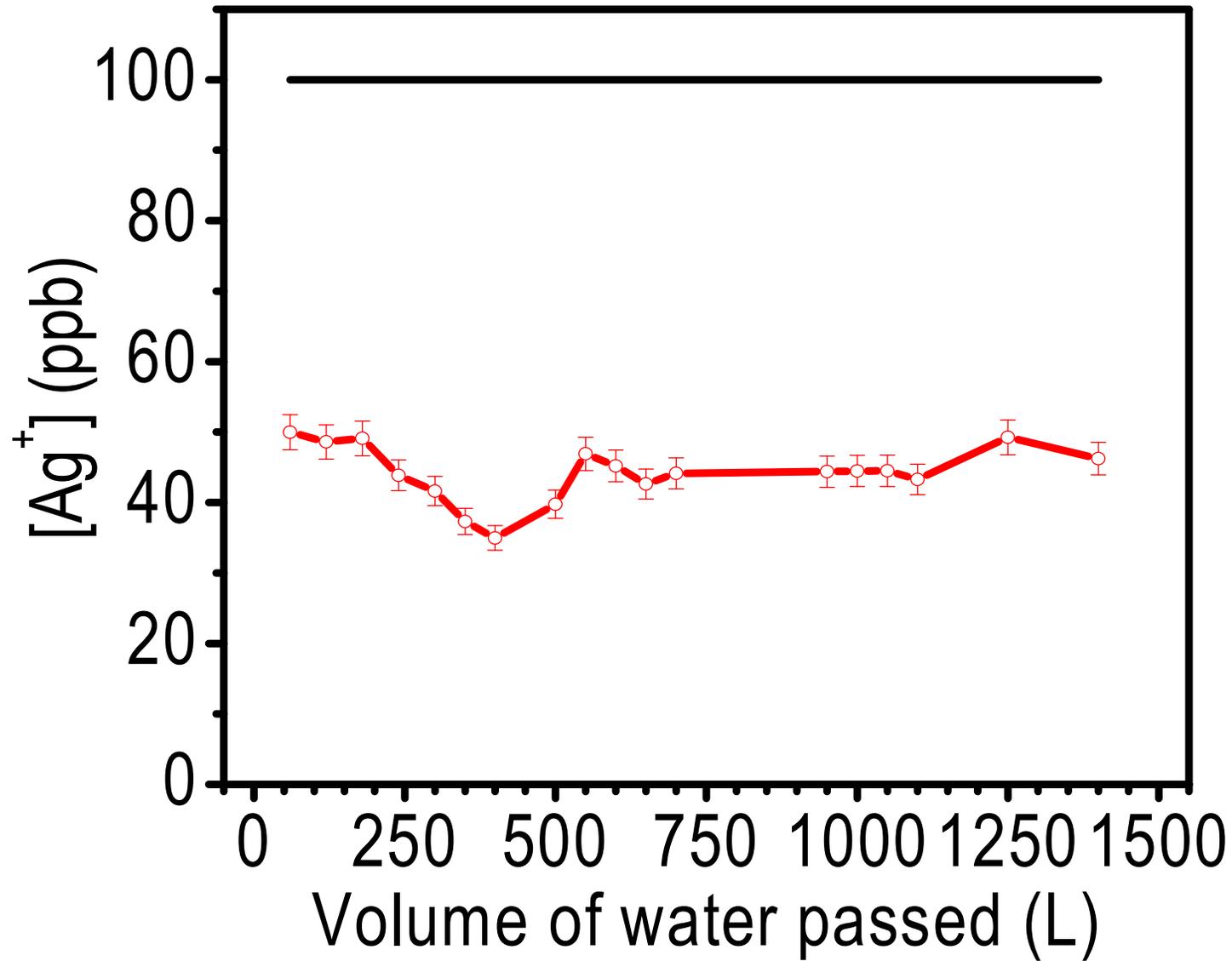


# New materials



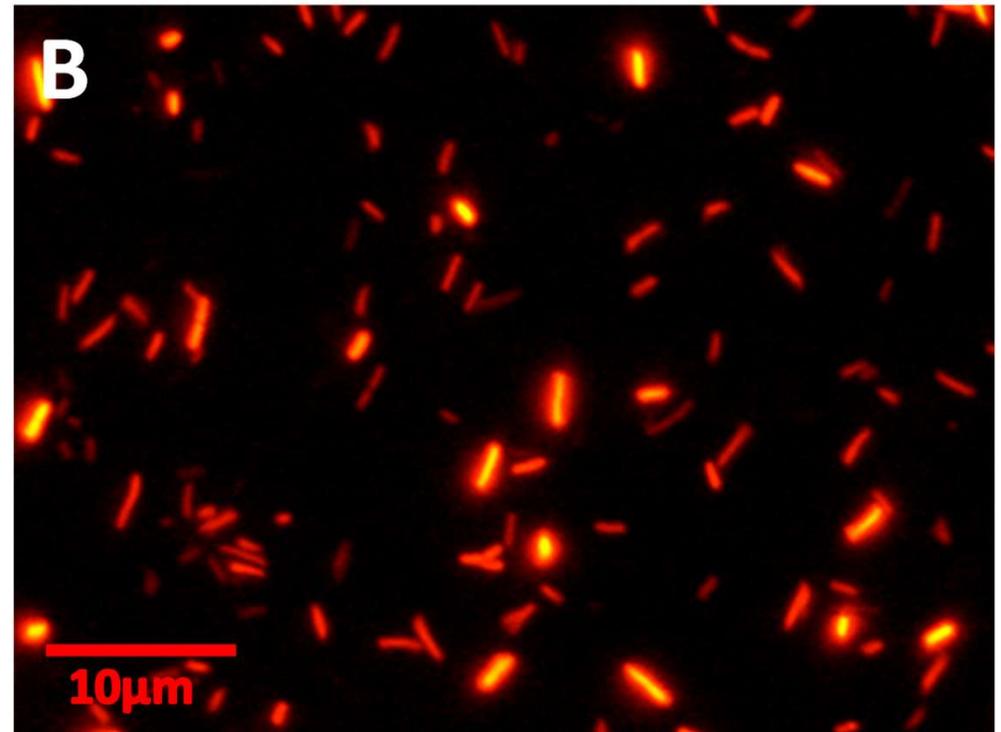
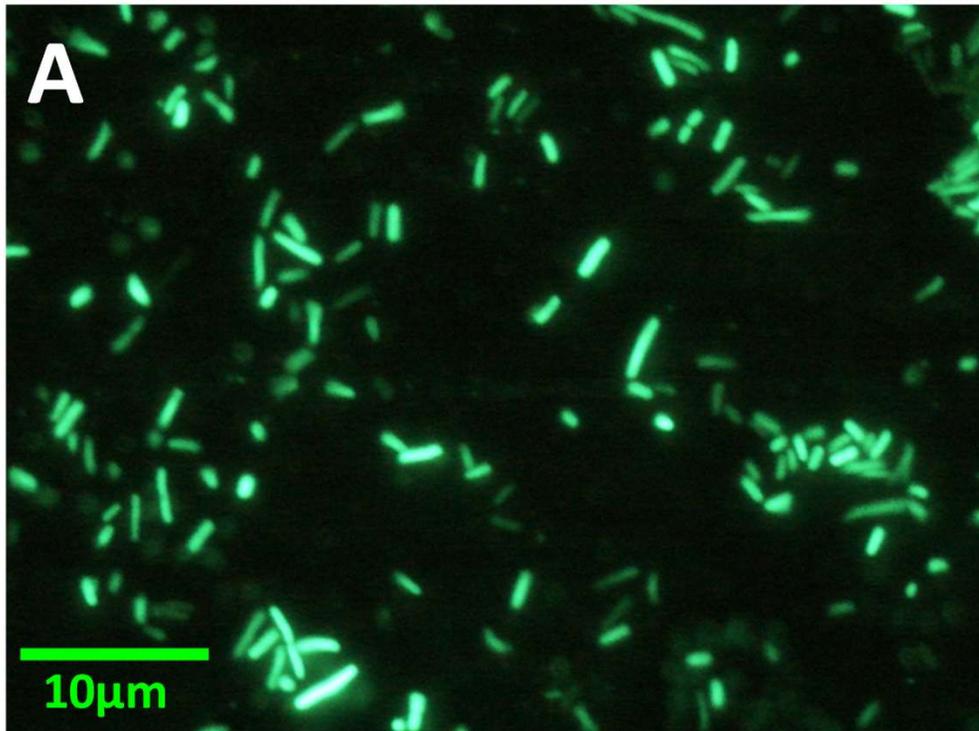
# What is special?

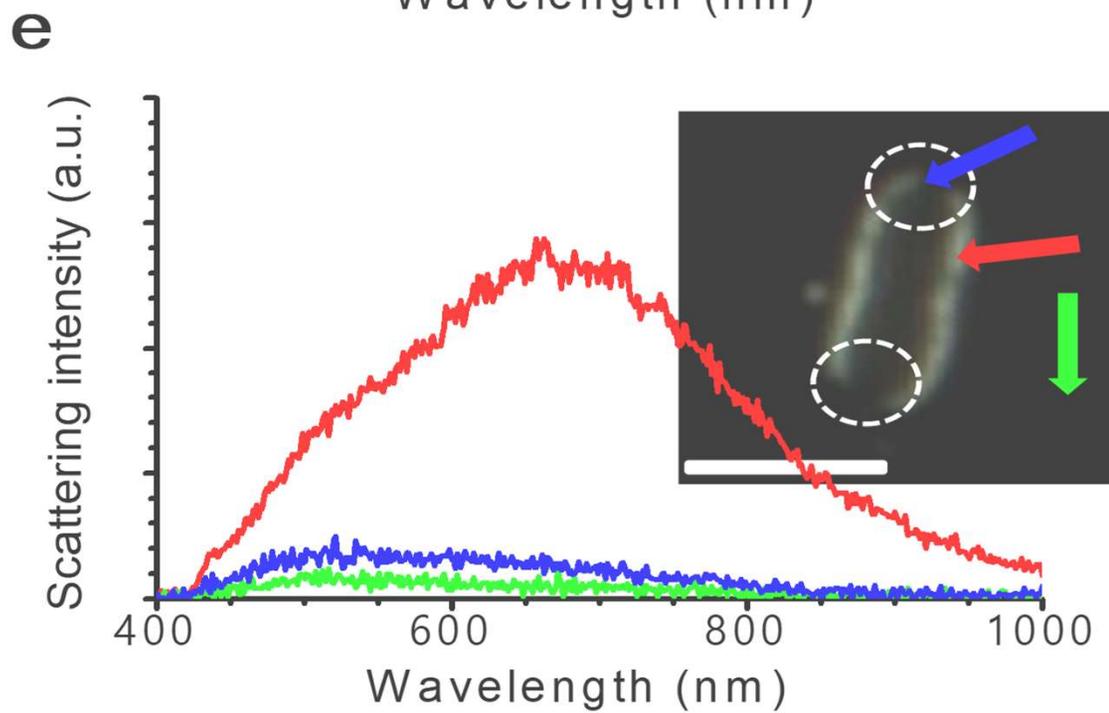
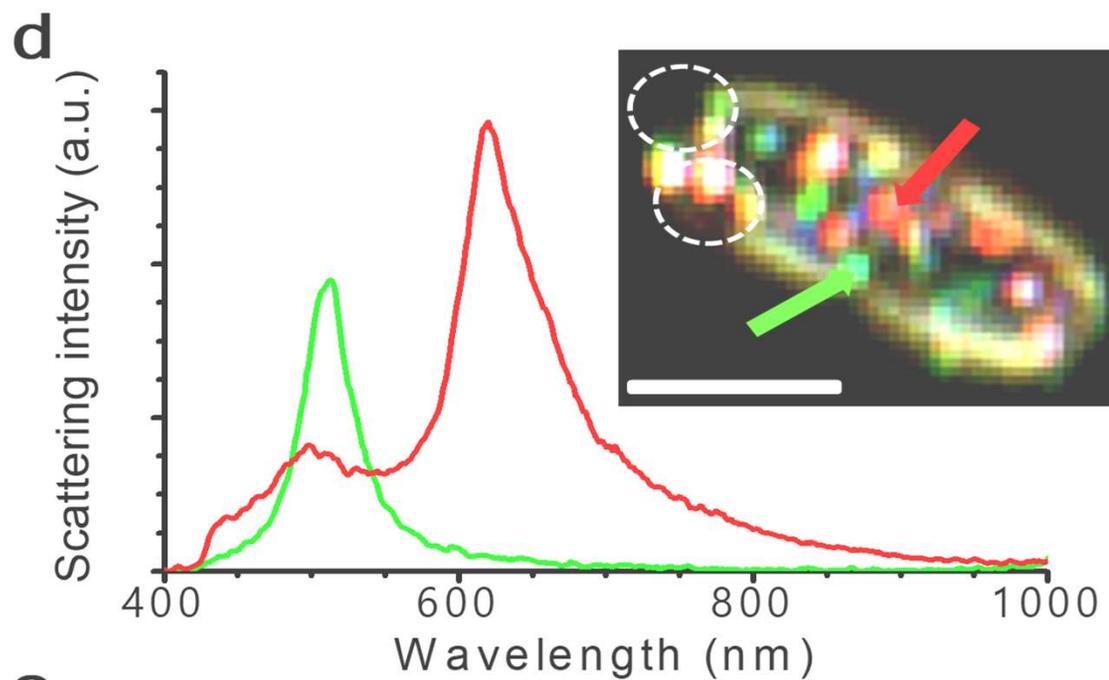
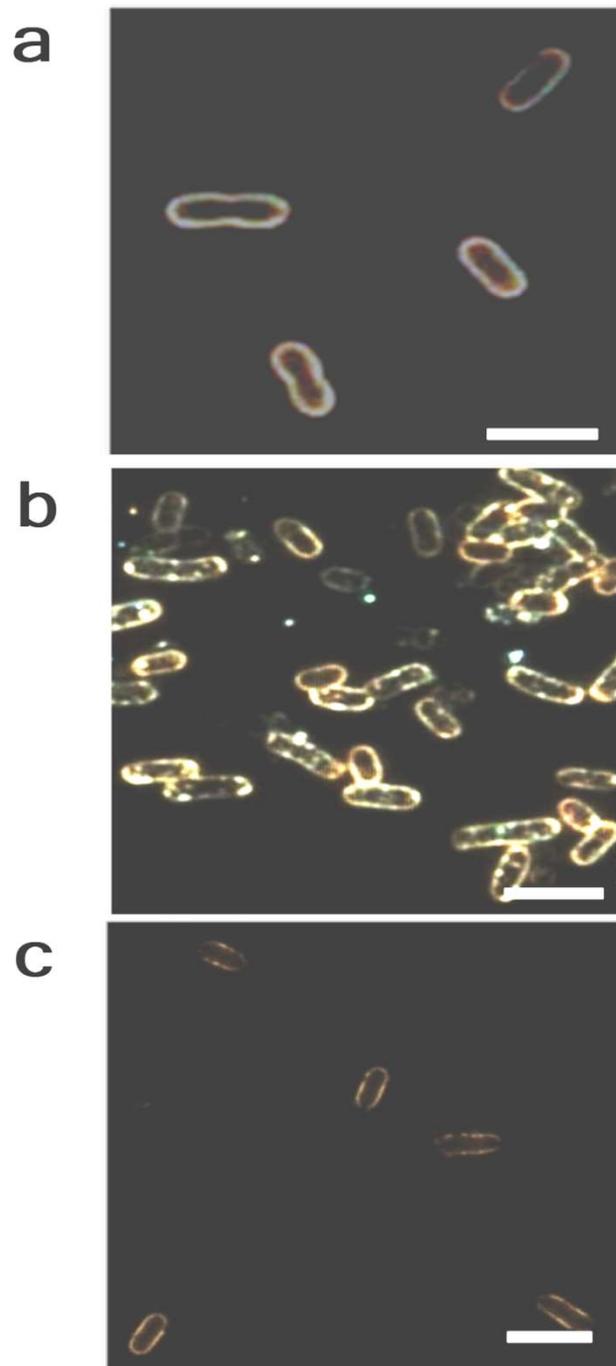
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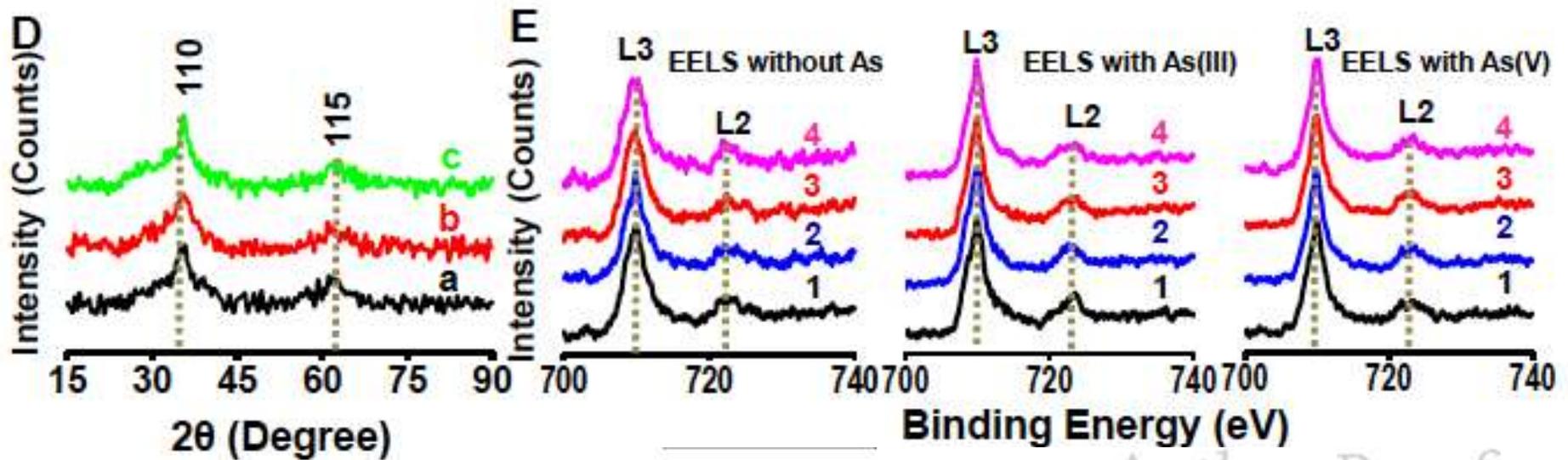
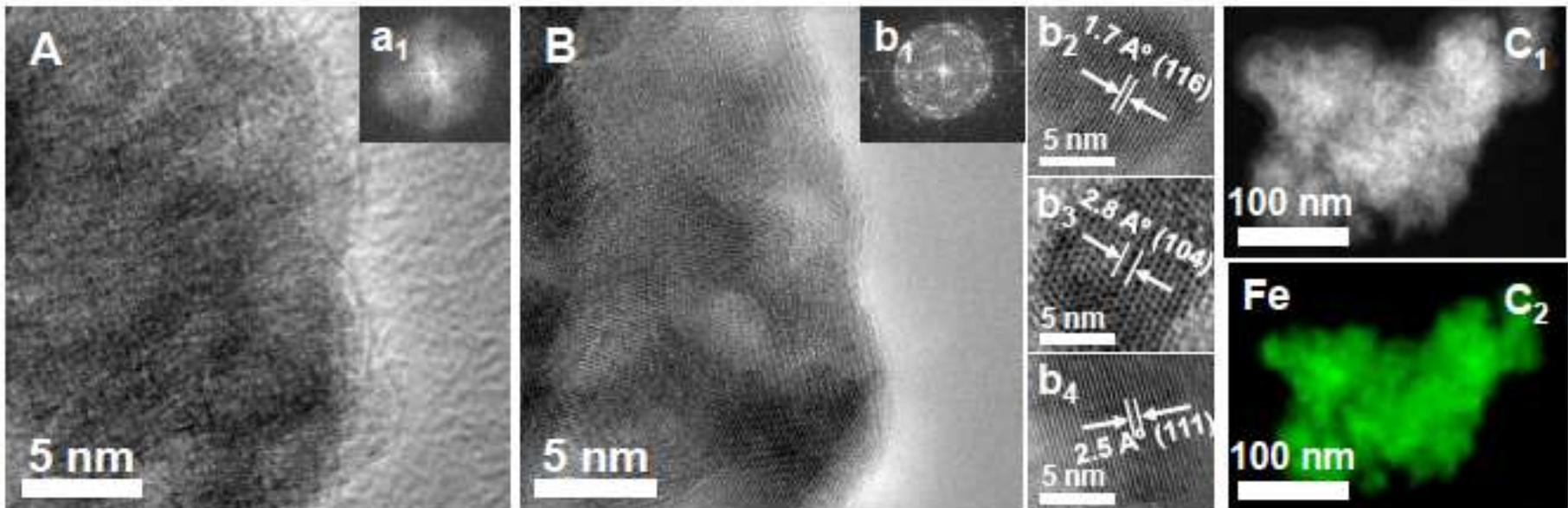


# Live/dead staining experiments

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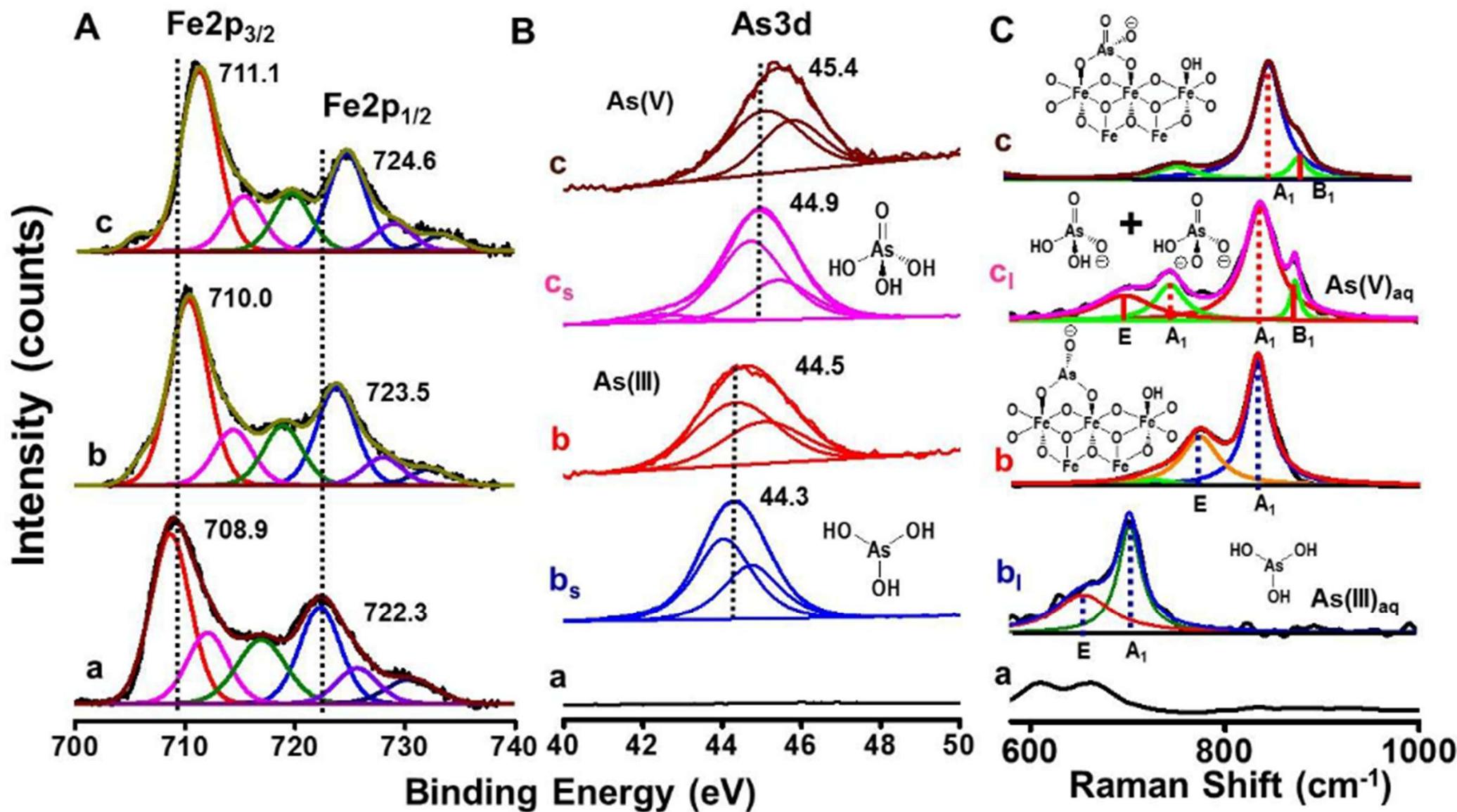
www.advmat.de

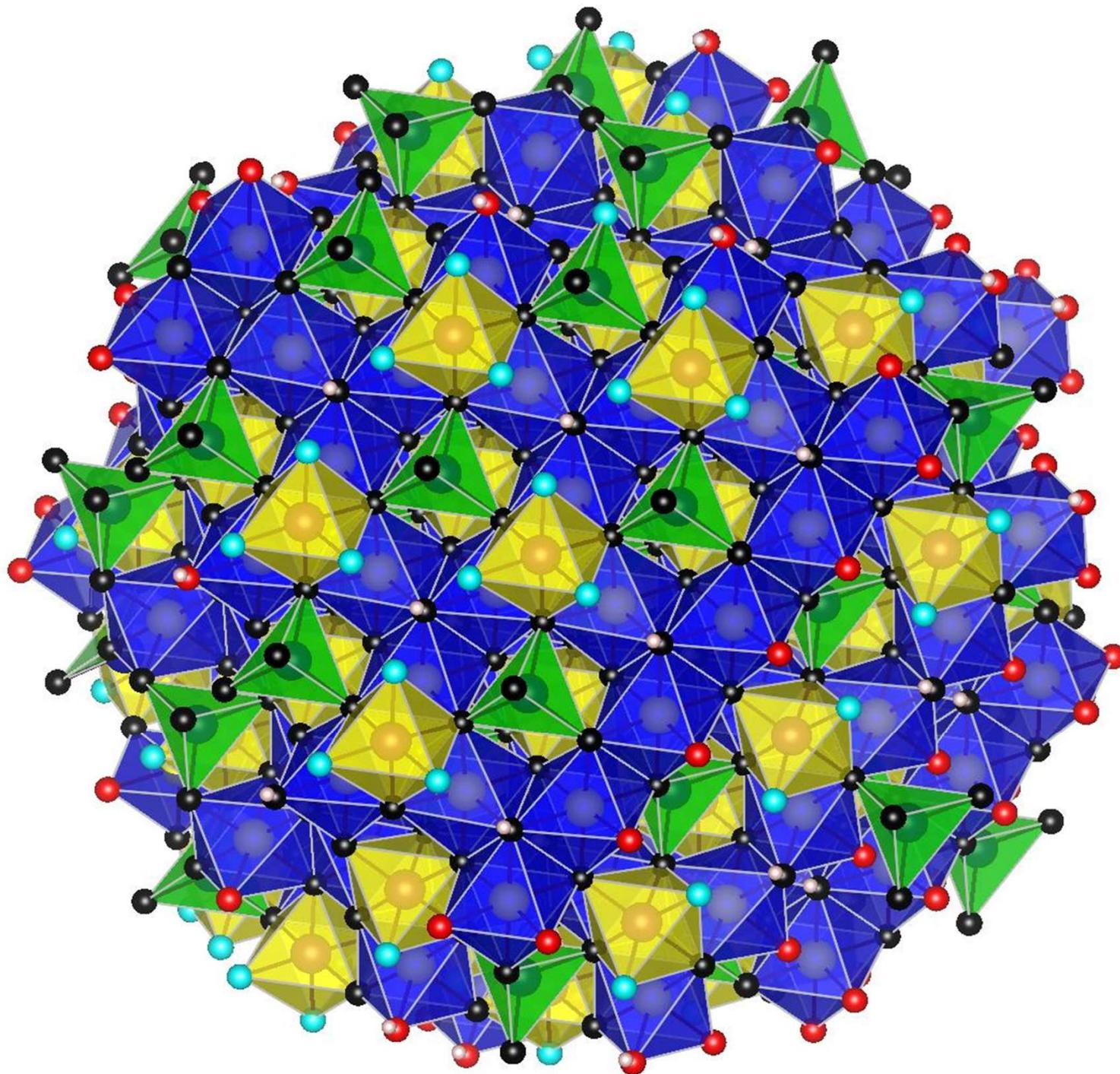
Author Pr <sup>6</sup> ADVANCED MATERIALS

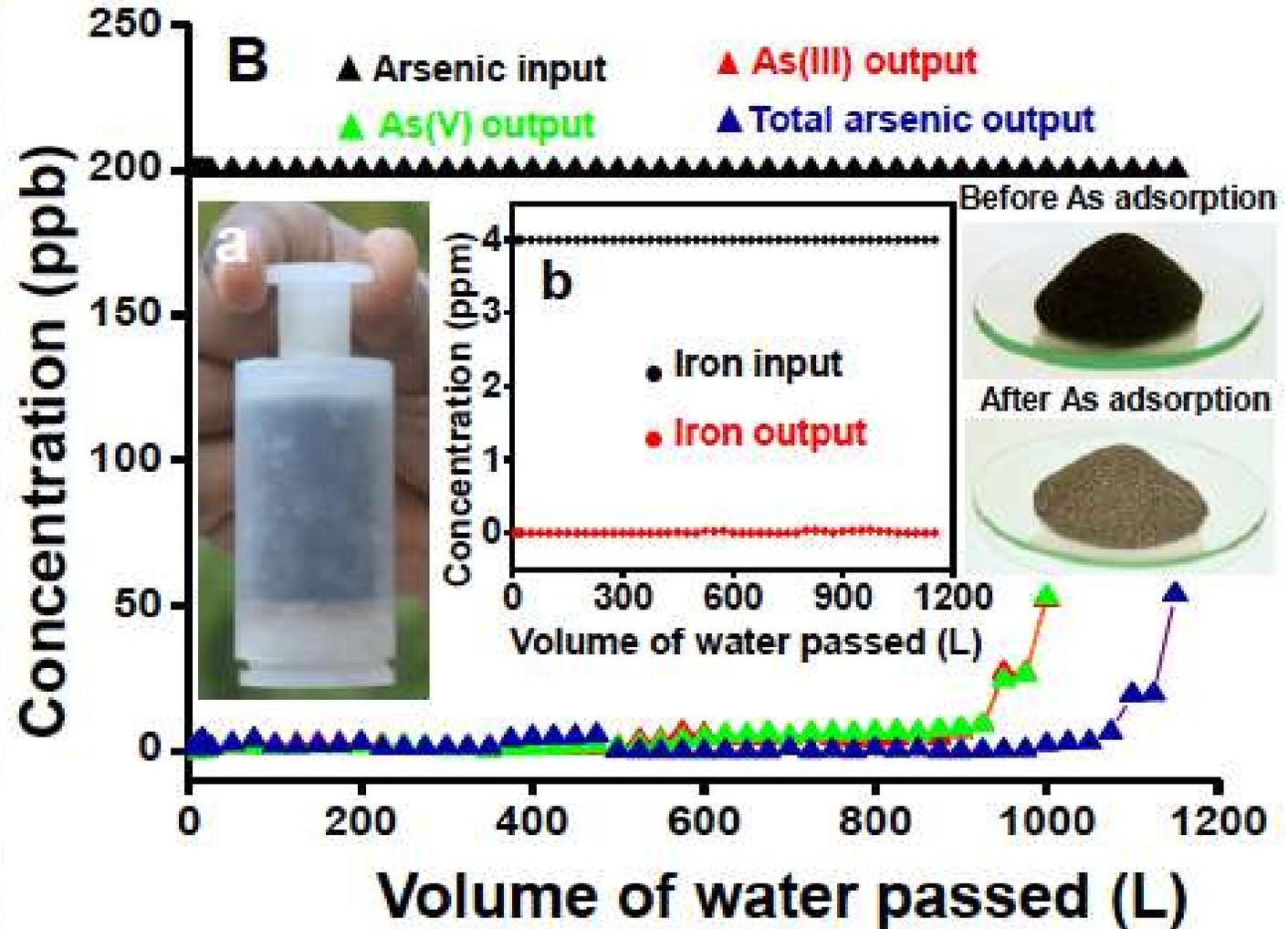
## Confined Metastable 2-Line Ferrihydrite for Affordable Point-of-Use Arsenic Free Drinking Water

By Avula Anil Kumar, Anirban Som, Paolo Longo, Chennu Sudhakar, Radha Gobinda Bhuin, Soujit Sen Gupta, Anshup, Mohan Udhaya Sankar, Amrita Chaudhary, Ramesh Kumar, and T. Pradeep\*

# Mechanism







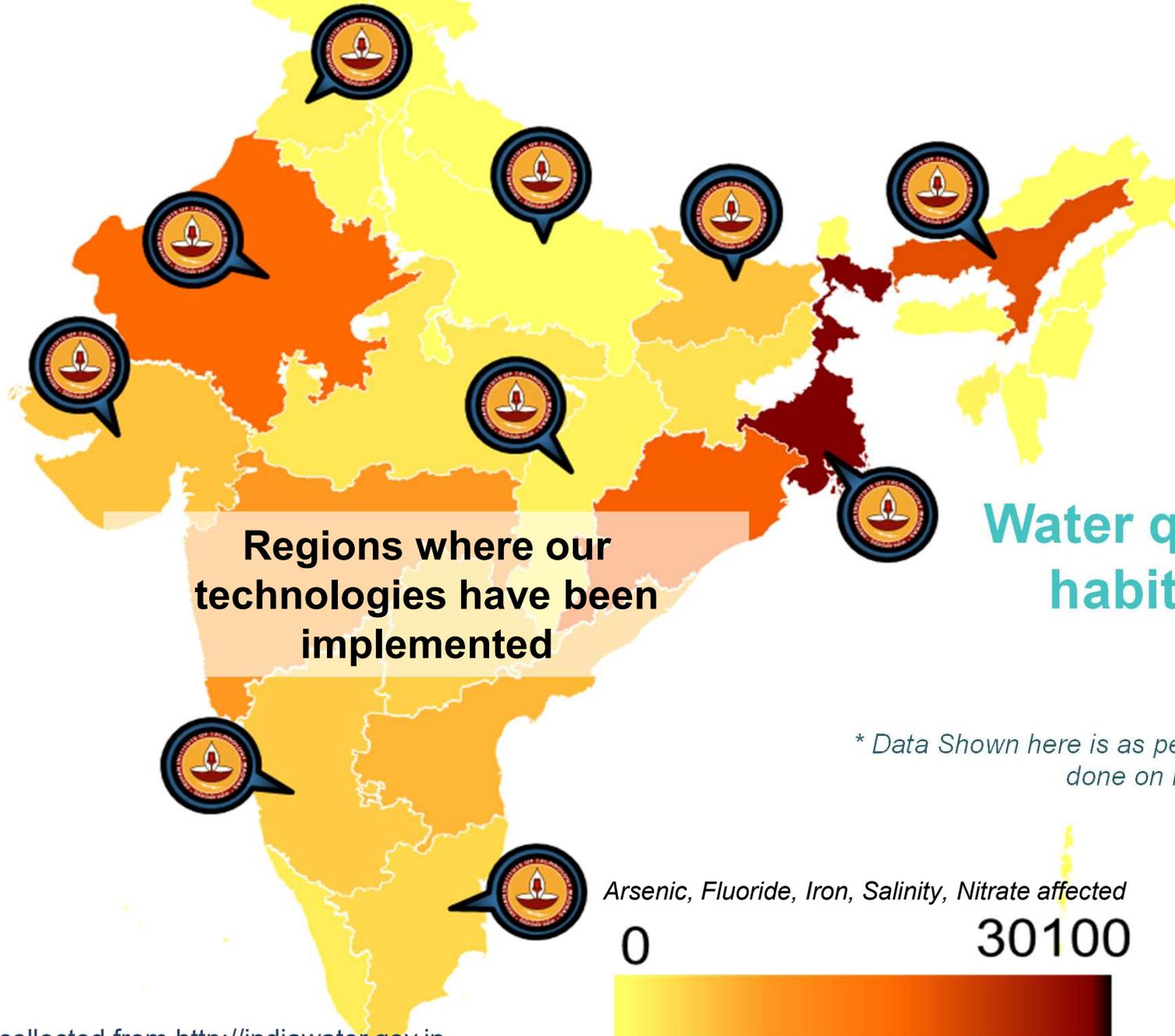
# Changing the dynamics in the field



- Existing unit for iron and arsenic removal – 20 m<sup>3</sup>/h
- Uses activated alumina and iron oxide (old generation of adsorbents)

- Existing unit for iron and arsenic removal – 18 m<sup>3</sup>/h
- Uses iron oxyhydroxide (new generation of adsorbents)
- Input arsenic concentration: 168 ppb
- Output arsenic concentration: 2 ppb

# OUR REACH



## Water quality affected habitations of India

*\* Data Shown here is as per laboratory testing results entry done on regular basis hence may change*

Collected on 29.05.2018

Completed 3 years maintenance (stipulated: 2 years)  
for 330 bamboo unit project in Nadia, WB



স্বল্পলারিত  
= 03471-250221  
ফোন-03471-  
লক্স-03471-

Minimum uptime: 91%, Maximum: 98%  
Only 4/330 have reported arsenic above 10 ppb  
Benefiting over 100,000 children and villagers

Glimpse of Installed units (330 nos)

Seeing how the new adsorbents are changing the dynamics at the ground level (type 1 of our efforts)



Name of the scheme: Mahilan Wala (TW9144), District: Amritsar  
Population: 2610, Daily demand@70 LPCD: 188 kLD, OHSR Capacity:  
100 kL

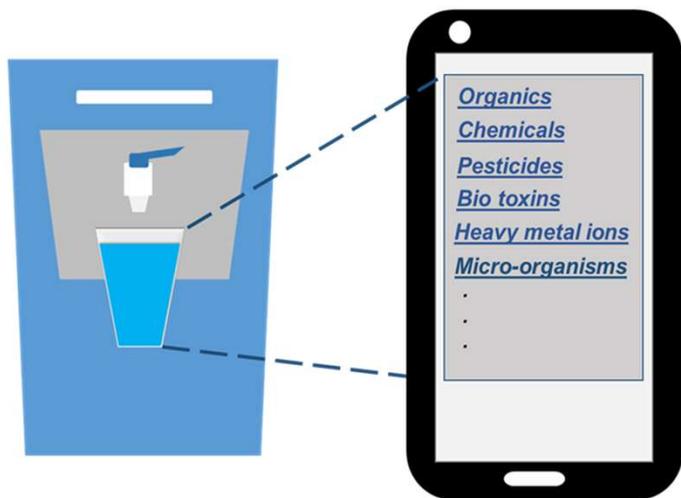
# Cleanwater at 2.1 paise per litre!

## Calculation for the Tariff to be collected for treated water (Revision if Required)

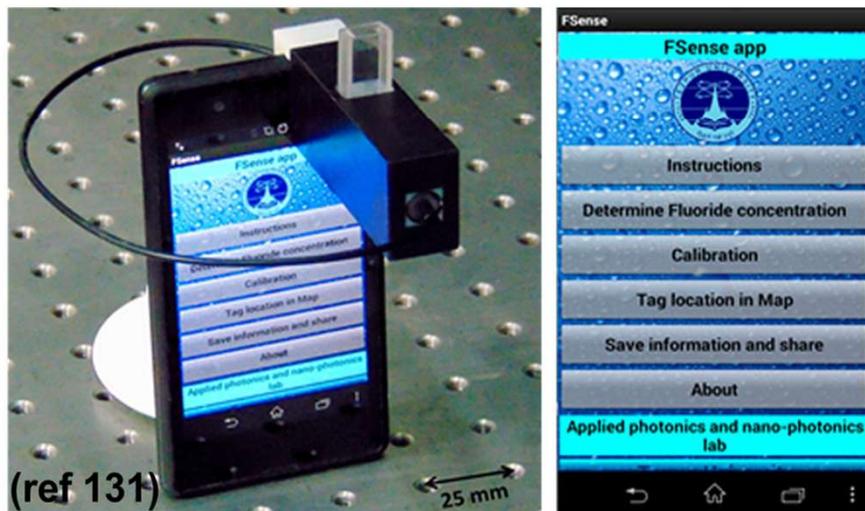
| Sr.No | Item/Description                                | Cost / Quantity          | Remarks   |
|-------|---|--------------------------|---|
|       | Design population                               | 1,071                    | Plant capacity/70 LPCD  |
| 1     | Cost of Replacement of Iron removal media       | 56400                    | After minimum two years if Iron concentration is more than 5 ppm. But iron concentration is more than 5 ppm at only two to three places. Therefore media may work for 3 years also.           |
| 2     | Cost of Replacement of Arsenic removal media    | 978660                   | After minimum two years if Arsenic concentration is more than 100 ppb. But arsenic concentration is more than 100 ppb at only two to three places. Therefore media may work for 3 years also. |
| 3     | Cost of replacement of Activated Carbon         | 28560                    |   |
| 4     | Total cost of Replacement of media              | 1063620                  | After minimum two years.  |
| 5     | Total cost of Replacement of media for one year | 531810                   |   |
| 6     | Plant capacity                                  | 75000                    | ltr per day   |
| 7     | Design population                               | 1,071                    | Plant capacity/70 LPCD  |
| 8     | Cost per liter of water                         | <b>2.1 Paise per ltr</b> |   |
| 9     | Cost of replacement of media                    | <b>1.36</b>              | Rs. per head per day<br>=Media replacement cost per year/365/Design population  |
|       |   | <b><u>40.80</u></b>      | per head per month for 70 LPCD water  |

# Smart water purifiers and big data

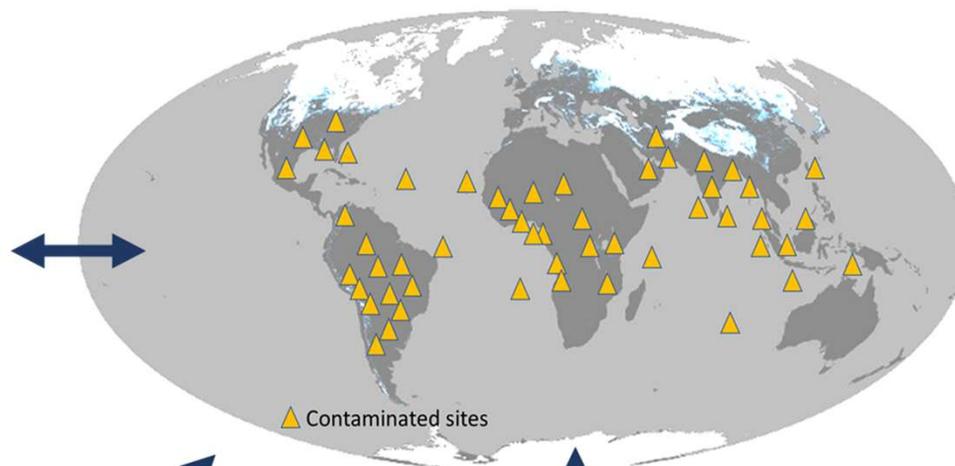
Smart Water Purifiers linked to IoT



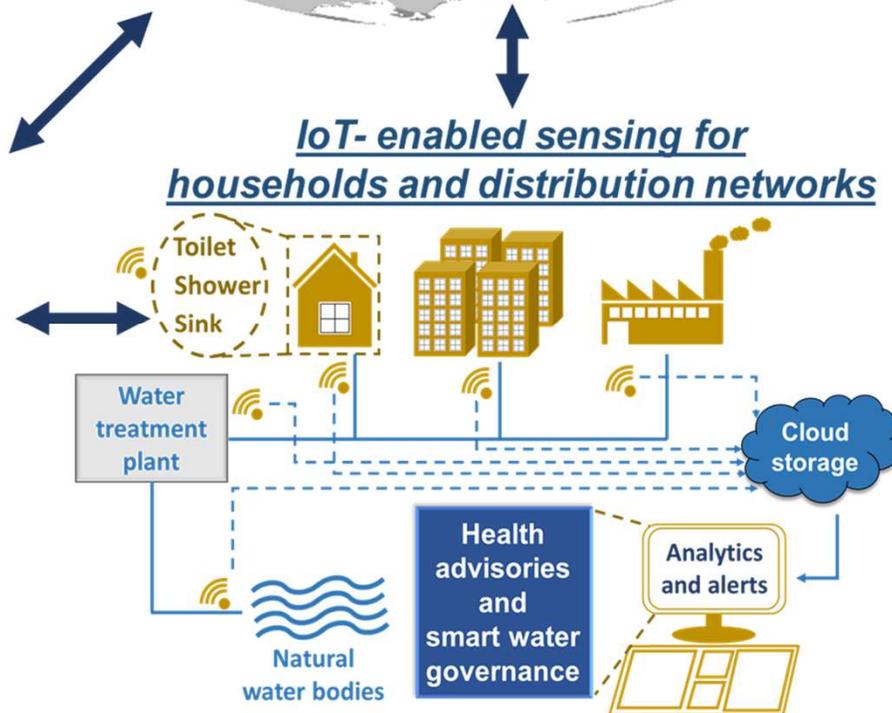
Cost-effective sensor accessory for point-of-use applications



Global Map of Water Health



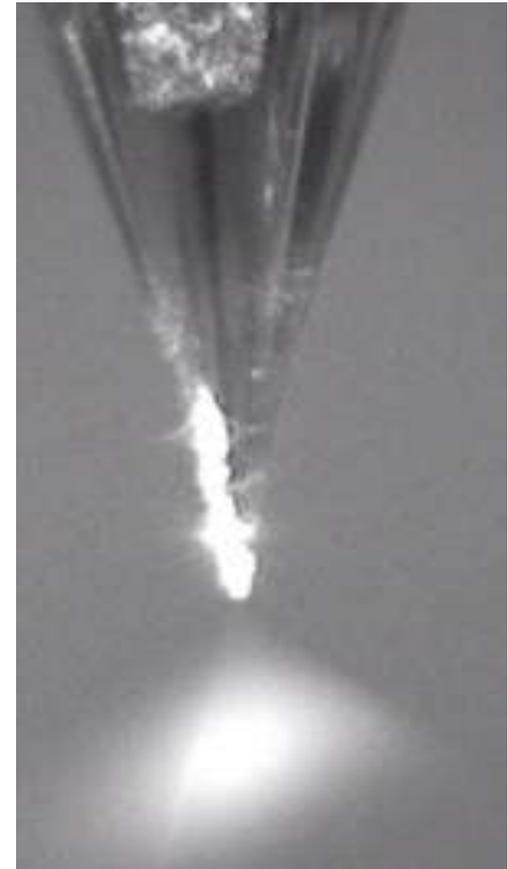
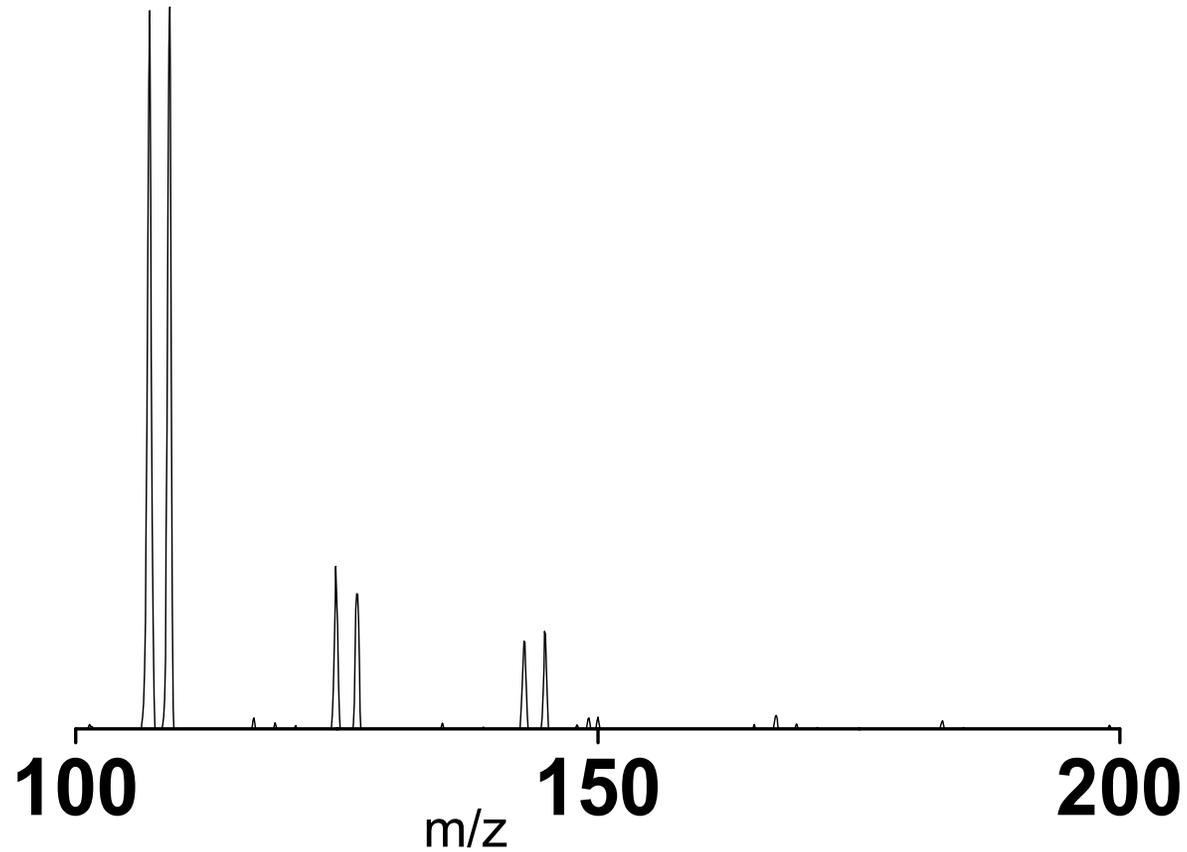
IoT-enabled sensing for households and distribution networks



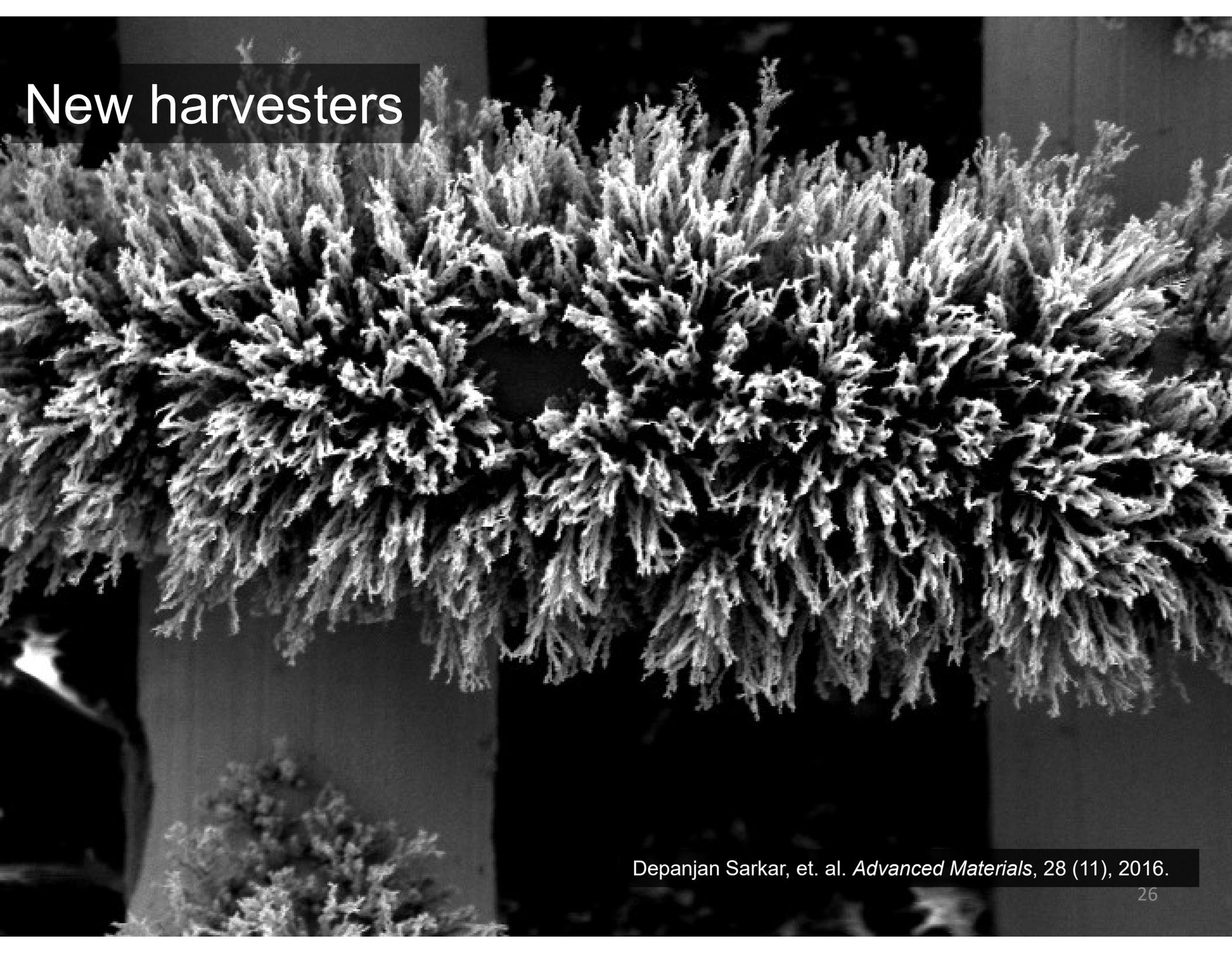


# Atmospheric water harvesting

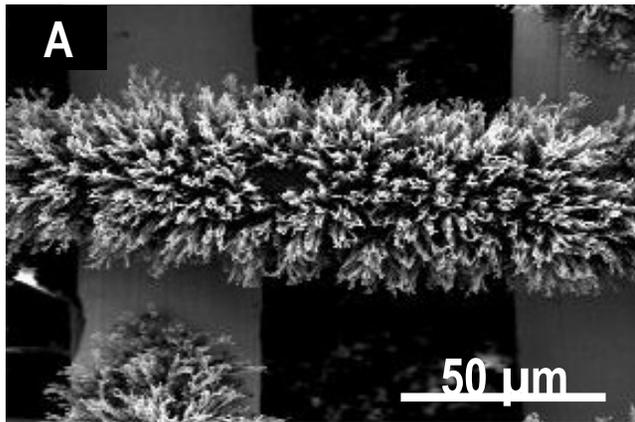
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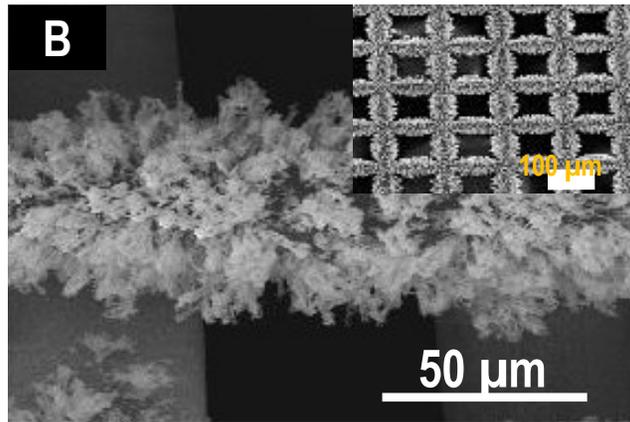
# New harvesters



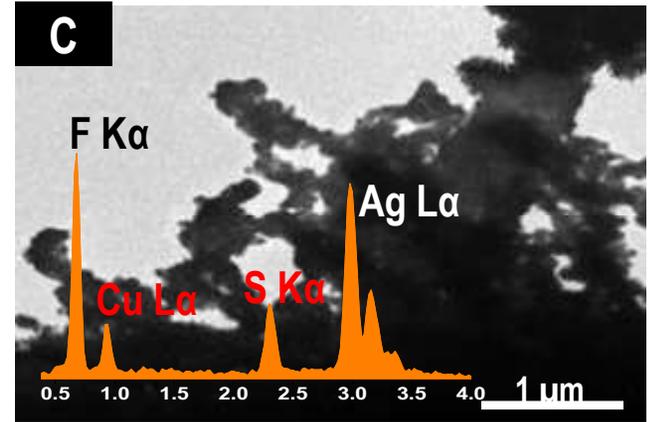
Depanjan Sarkar, et. al. *Advanced Materials*, 28 (11), 2016.



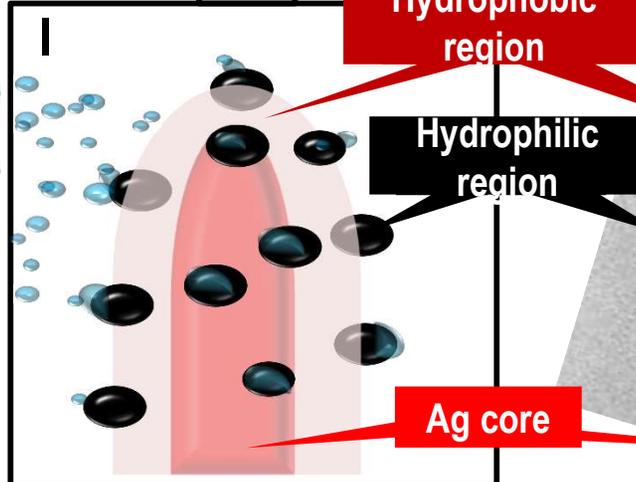
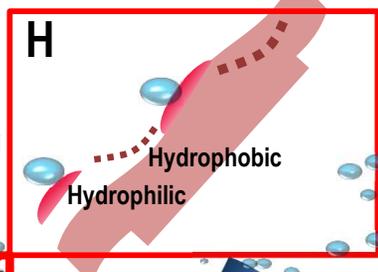
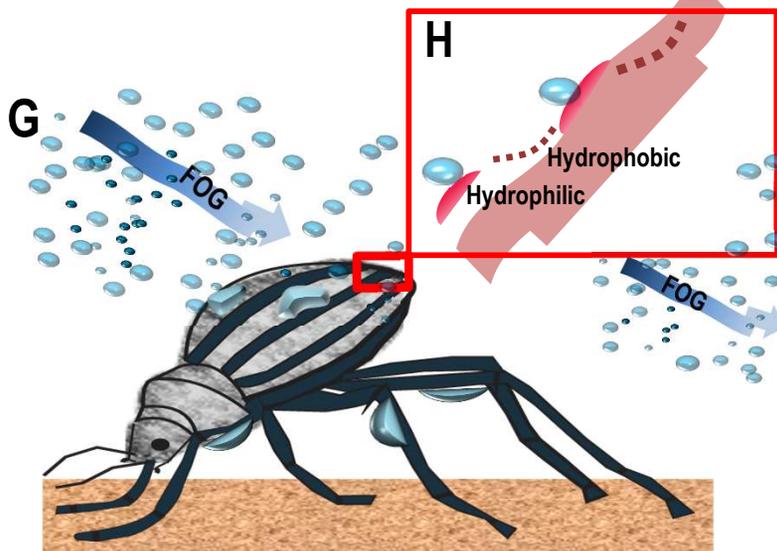
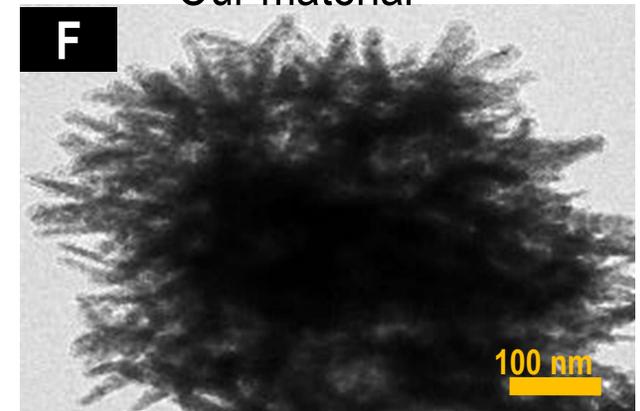
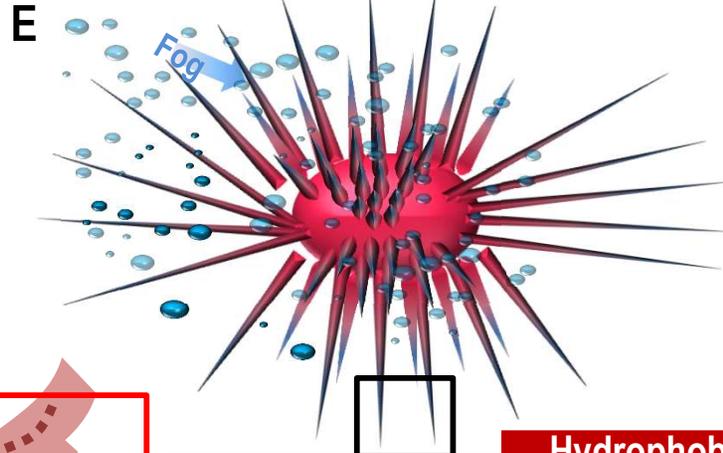
Nature



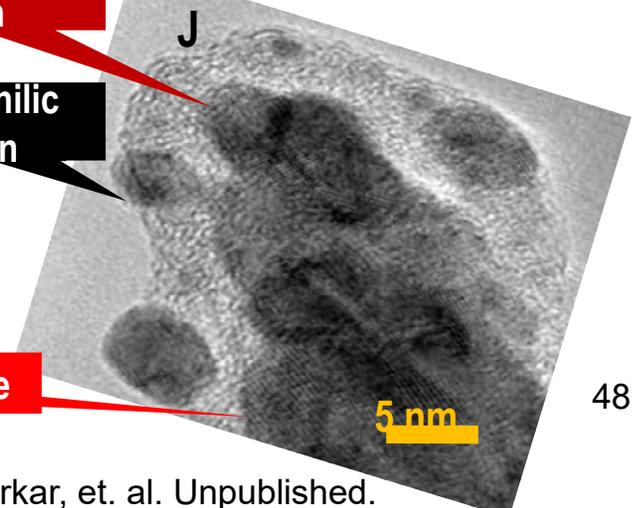
Schematic

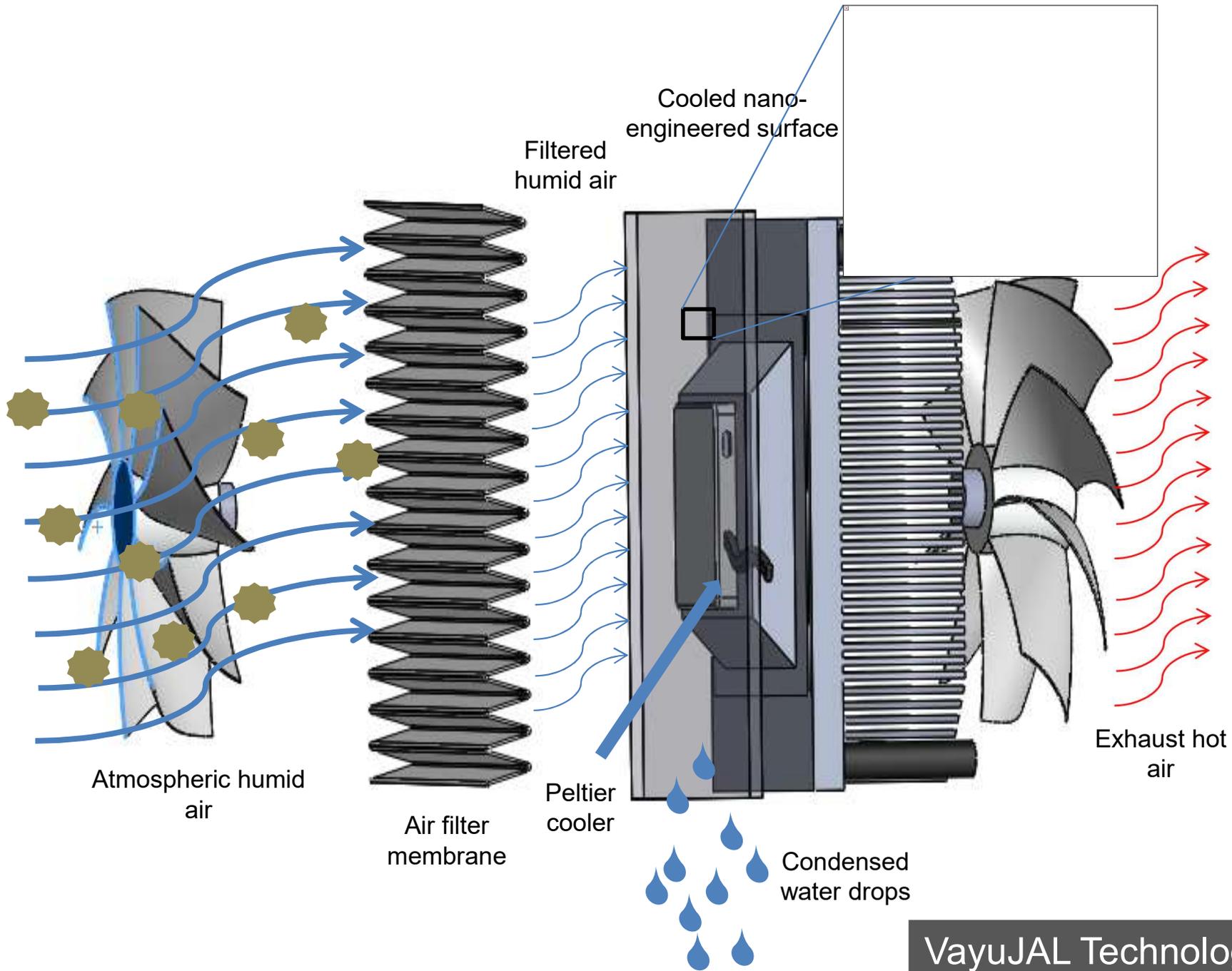


Our material



Combination of cactus and Namib desert beetle effect





VayuJAL Technologies Pvt. Ltd.  
Ramesh Kumar Soni and Ankit Nagar

# Products in the field



35 LPD 120 LPD

400 LPD

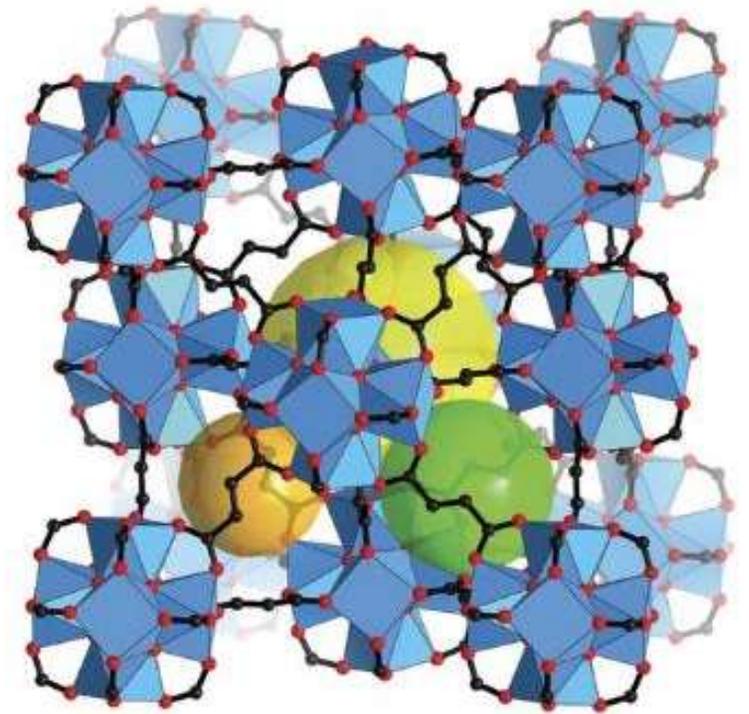
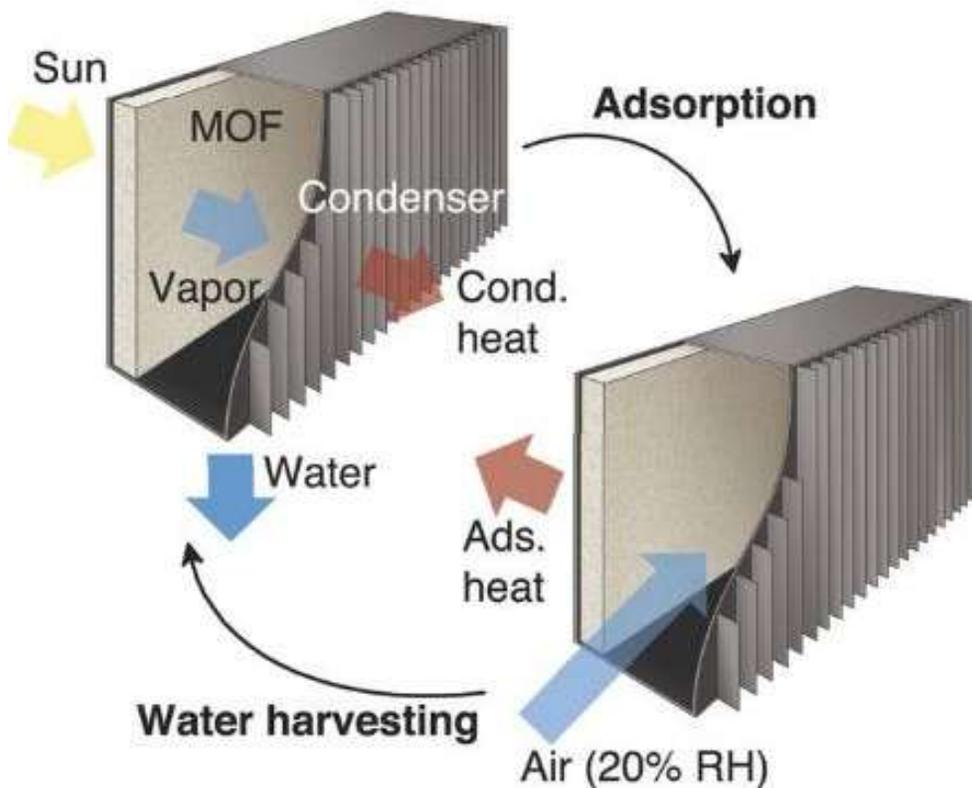
1000 LPD

2000 LPD

(LPD: Litres per day)

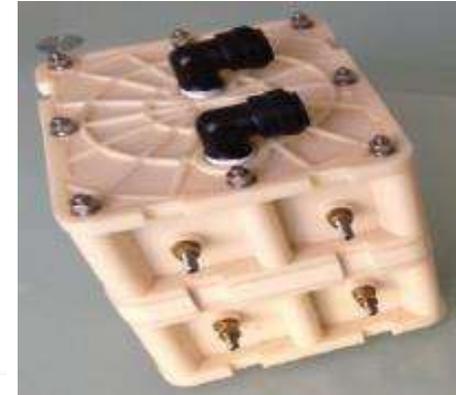
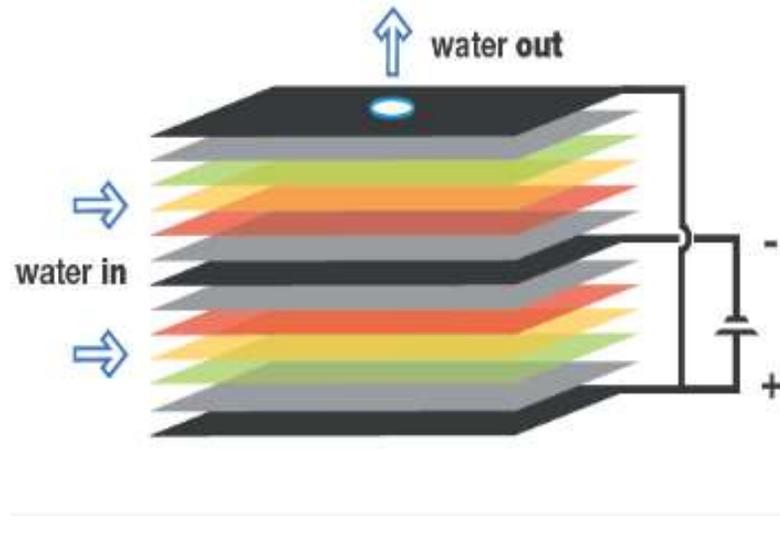
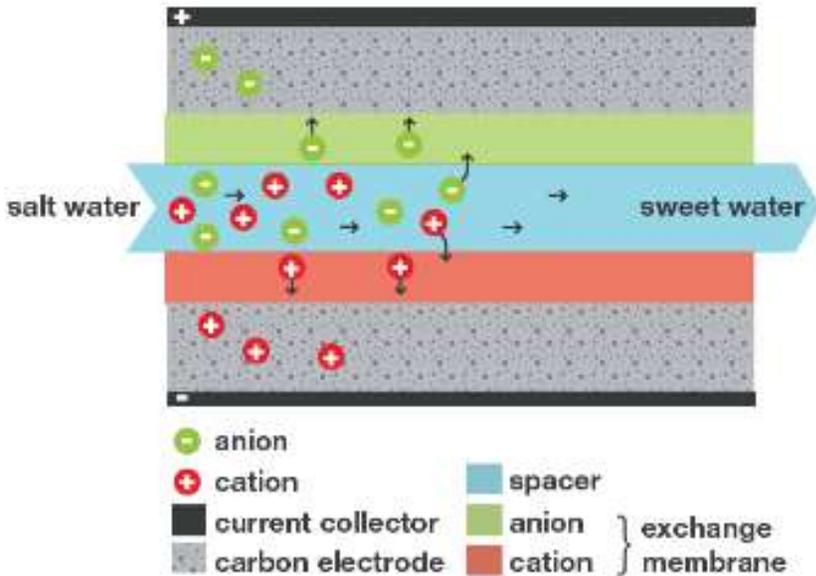
# Sustainable atmospheric water harvesting

Solar- heat-enabled atmospheric water capture at a relative humidity as low as 20%



Porous metal-organic framework (MOF-801,  $Zr_6O_4(OH)_4(\text{fumarate})_6$ )

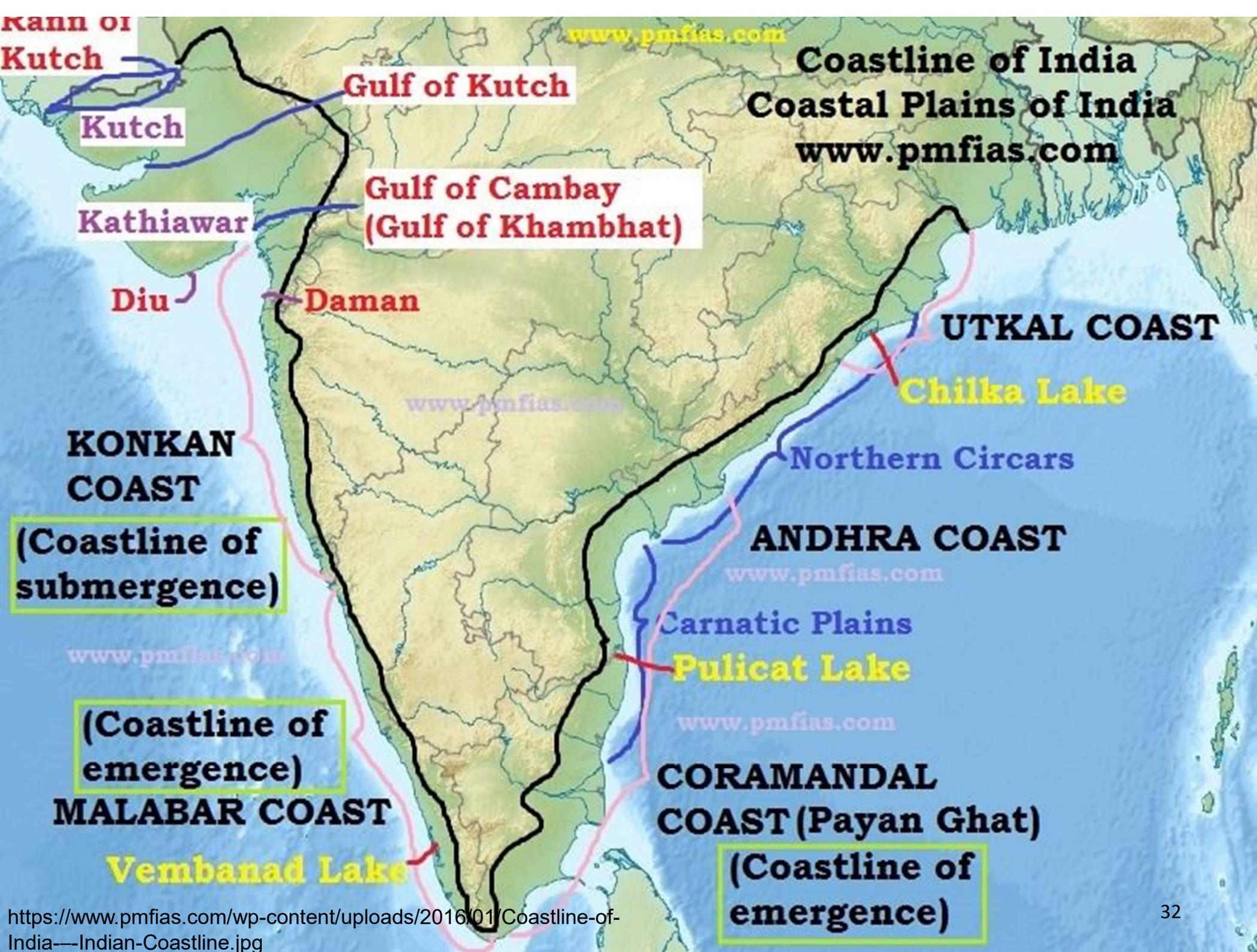
# Capacitive Desalination (CDI)



imODI

Our new company

Soujit Sengupta, Rabiul Islam and others



**Kann OI Kutch**

www.pmfias.com

**Coastline of India**  
**Coastal Plains of India**  
www.pmfias.com

**Gulf of Kutch**

**Kutch**

**Gulf of Cambay (Gulf of Khambhat)**

**Kathiawar**

**Diu**

**Daman**

**UTKAL COAST**

**Chilka Lake**

www.pmfias.com

**Northern Circars**

**KONKAN COAST**

**(Coastline of submergence)**

**ANDHRA COAST**

www.pmfias.com

**Carnatic Plains**

**Pulicat Lake**

www.pmfias.com

**(Coastline of emergence)**

**MALABAR COAST**

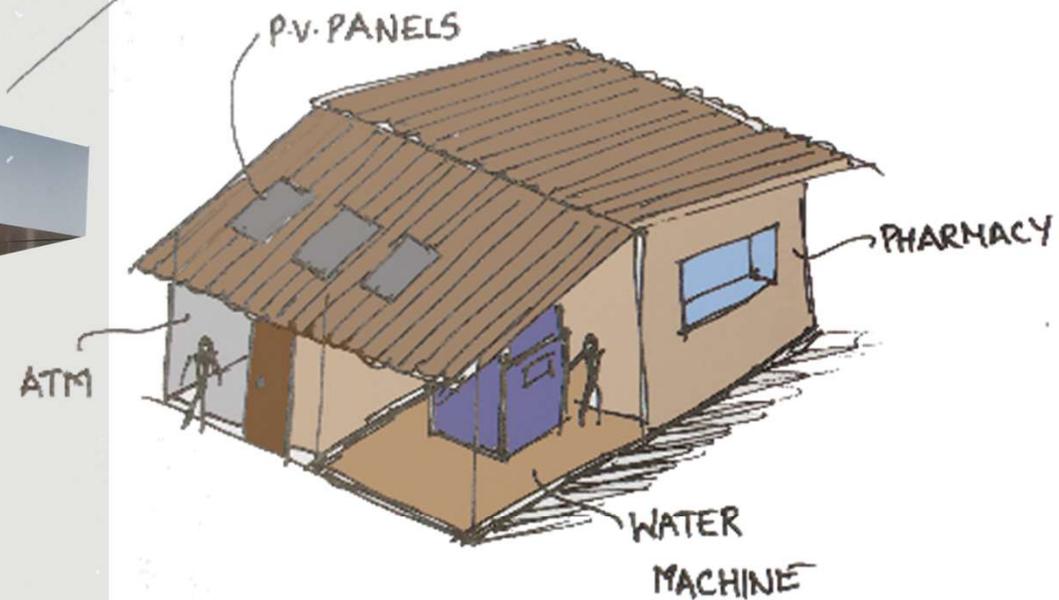
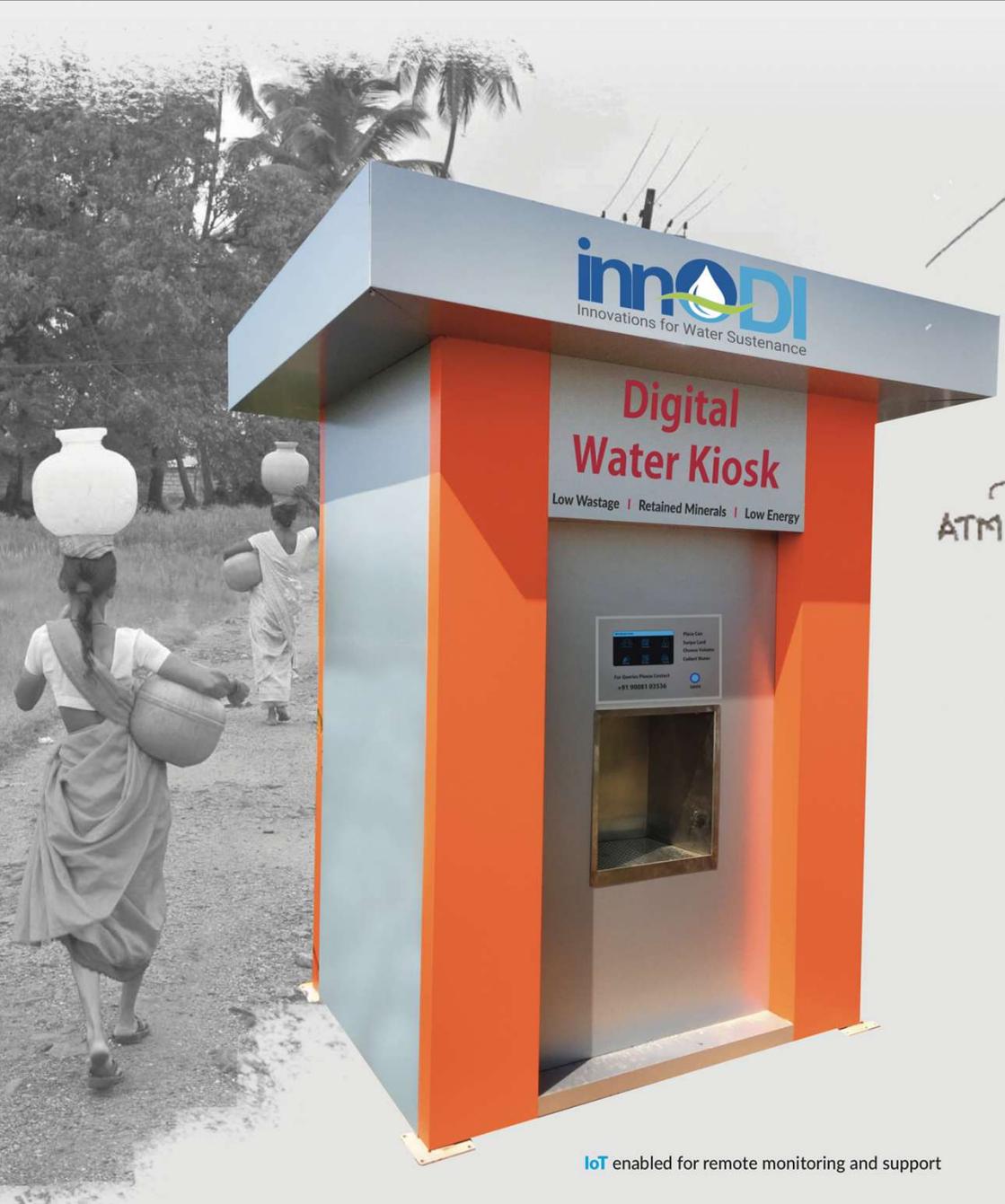
**CORAMANDAL COAST (Payan Ghat)**

**(Coastline of emergence)**

**Vembanad Lake**

# DIGITAL WATER KIOSK

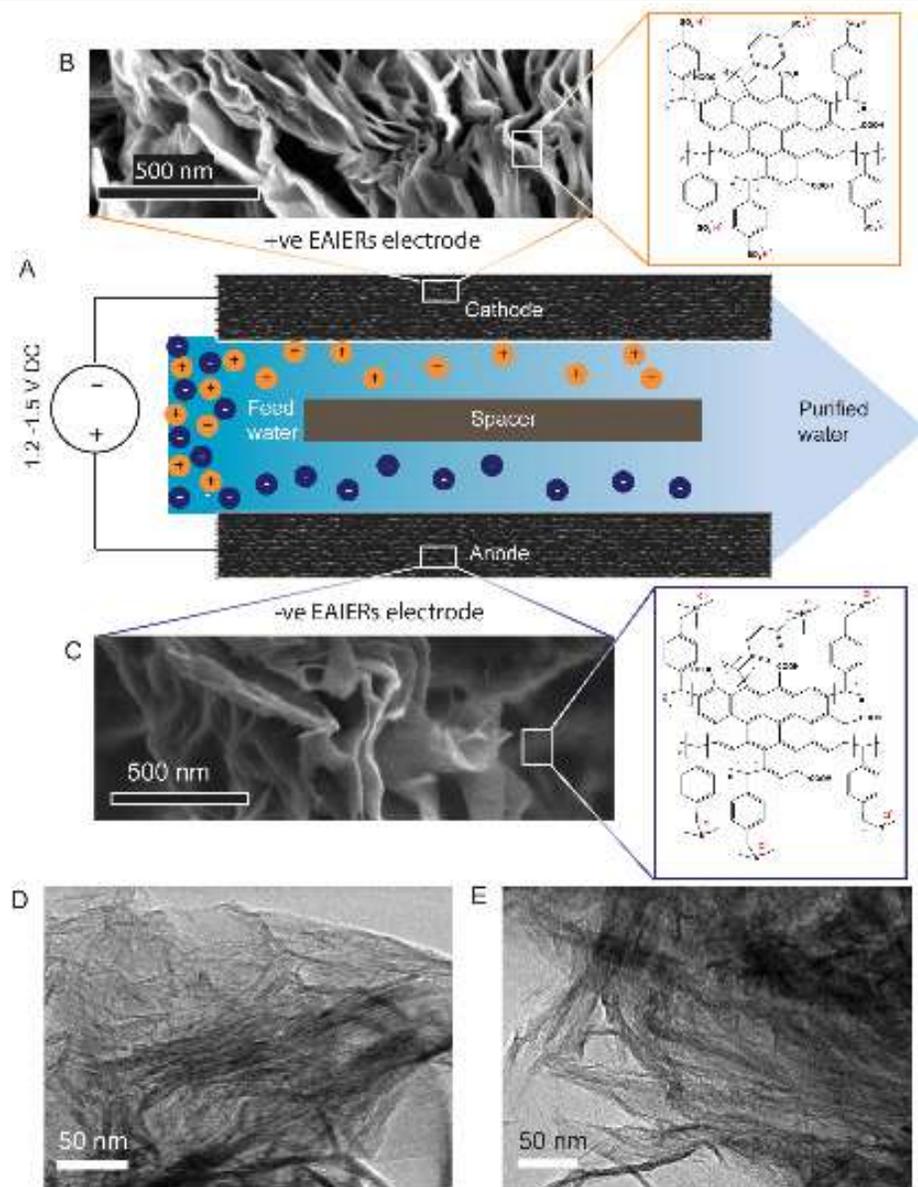
for community drinking using CDI Technology



Products under implementation

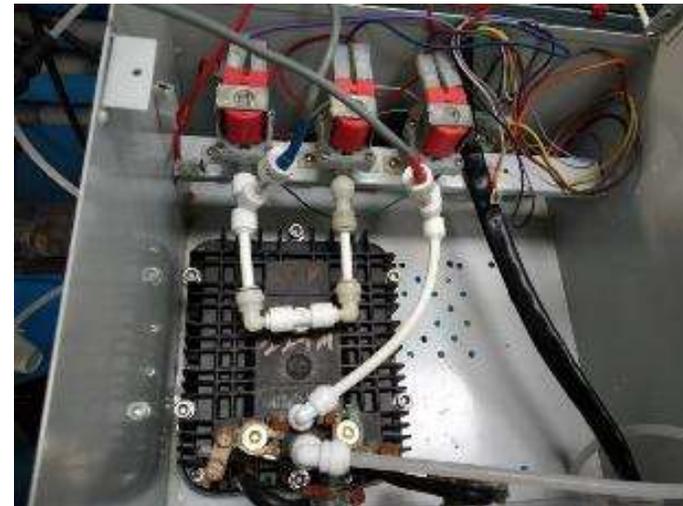
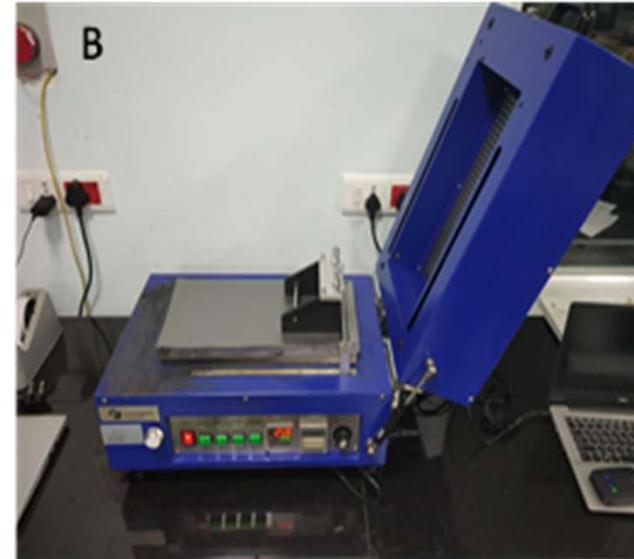
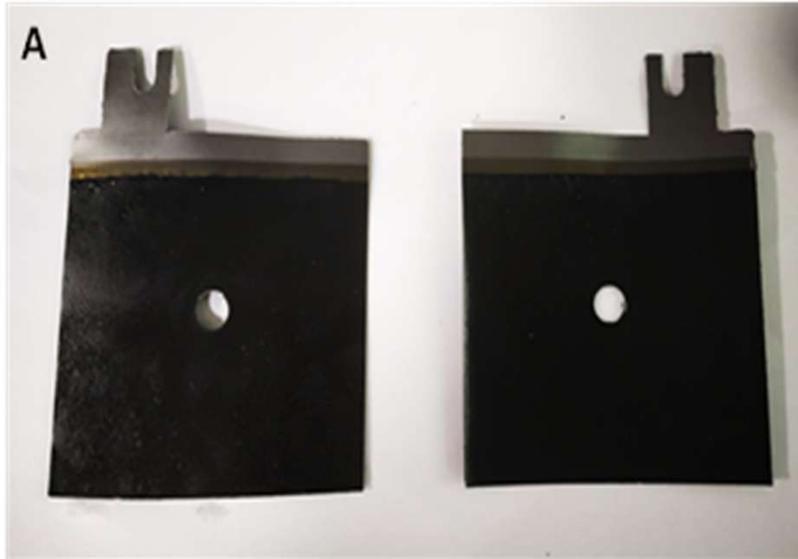
Vijay Sampath and Tullio Servida

# A Covalently Integrated Reduced Graphene Oxide -Ion Exchange Resin Electrode for Efficient CDI

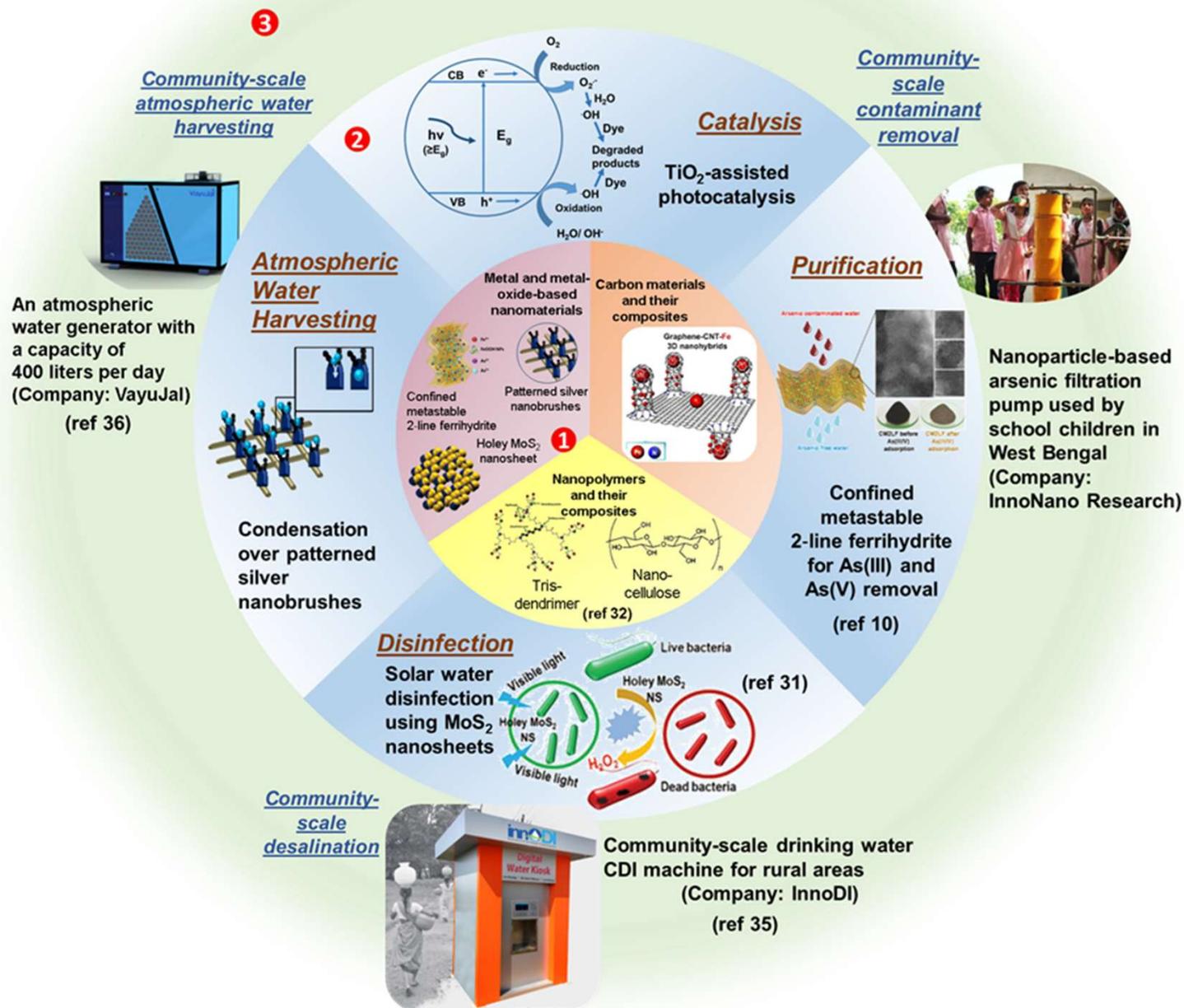


Rabiul et al., *Adv. Mater. Interfaces* **2021**, 8, 2001998

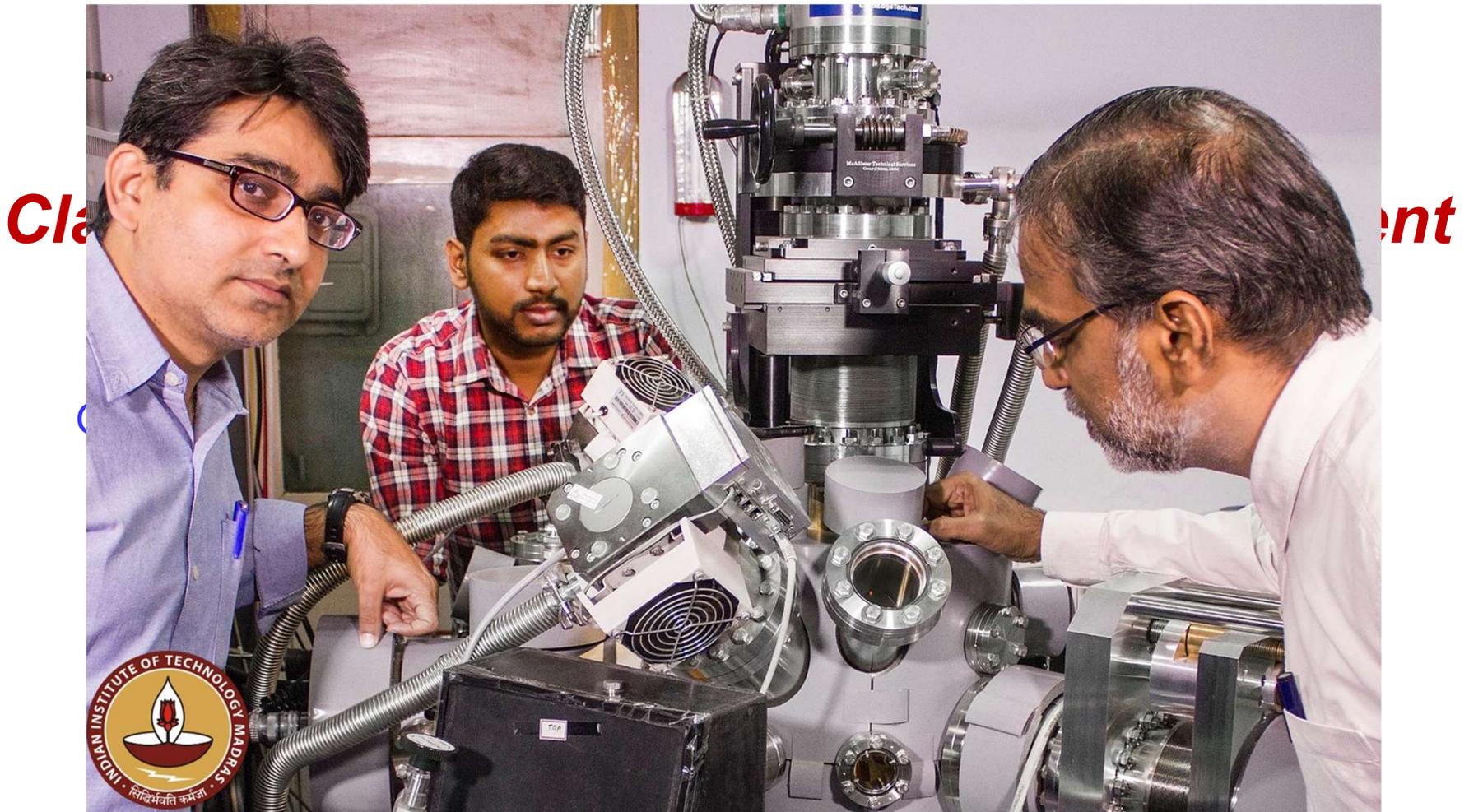
# Various stages of electrode preparation



# Evolution of materials to products

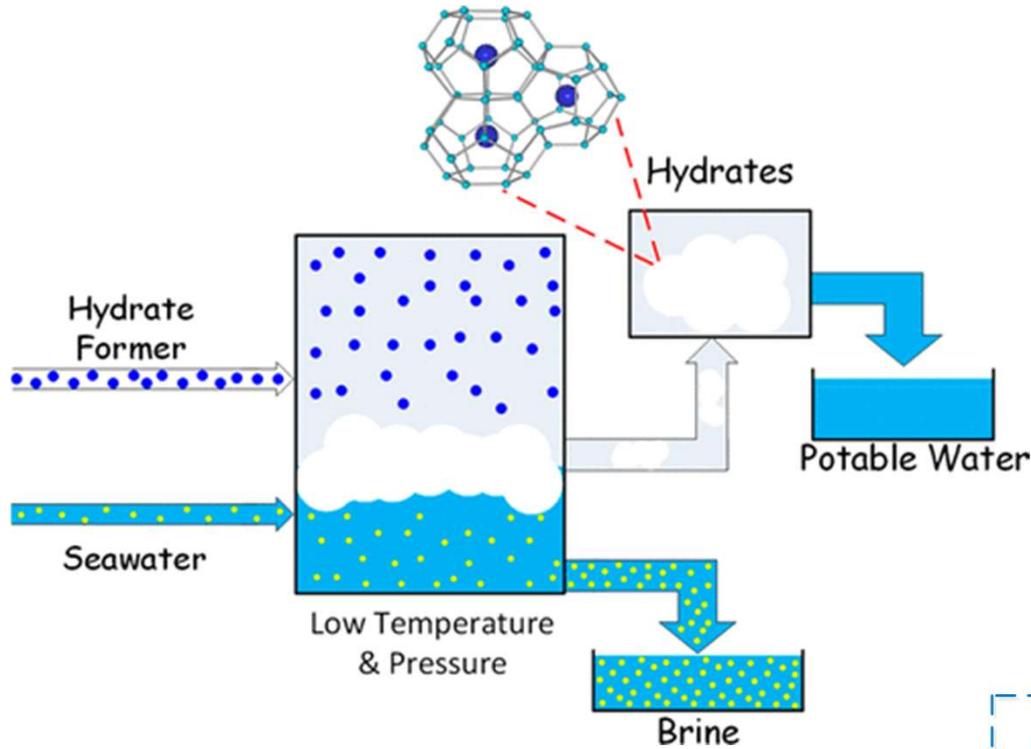


# New phenomena



With Rajnish Kumar

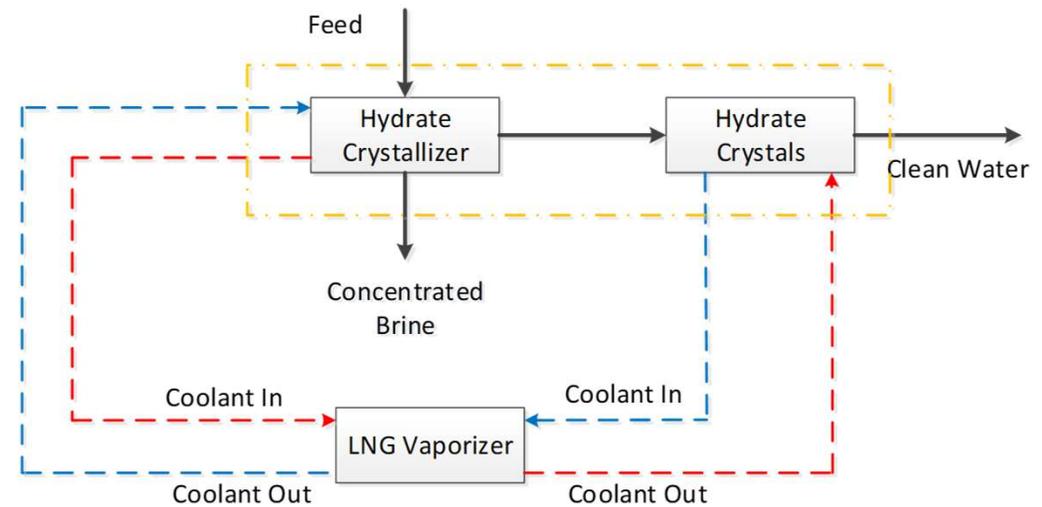
# Hydrate-based desalination (HyDesal)



Water dissociated from hydrate is pure

## HyDesal process advantages

- ✓ Salts get occluded
- ✓ No chemical reaction, recovery of water is very easy
- ✓ Hydrates consist of 85% water and rest guest gas
- ✓ Not sensitive to impurities or salt concentration



Cold Energy in LNG terminals can be harvested to produce water



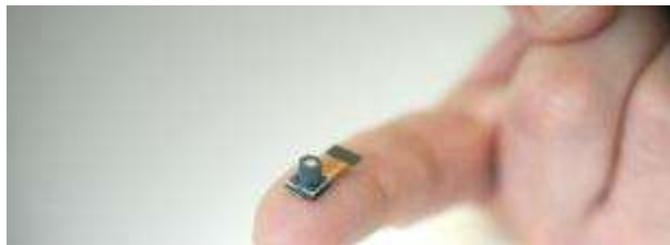
# Sensors and new opportunities



Analog/Grating  
Equipment  
\$ 5~6 Billion (2017)  
a few **100k units (2017)**



**Ultra compact Low Cost  
Spectral Sensor Module**  
~ **Billions units ( ? 2027 )**

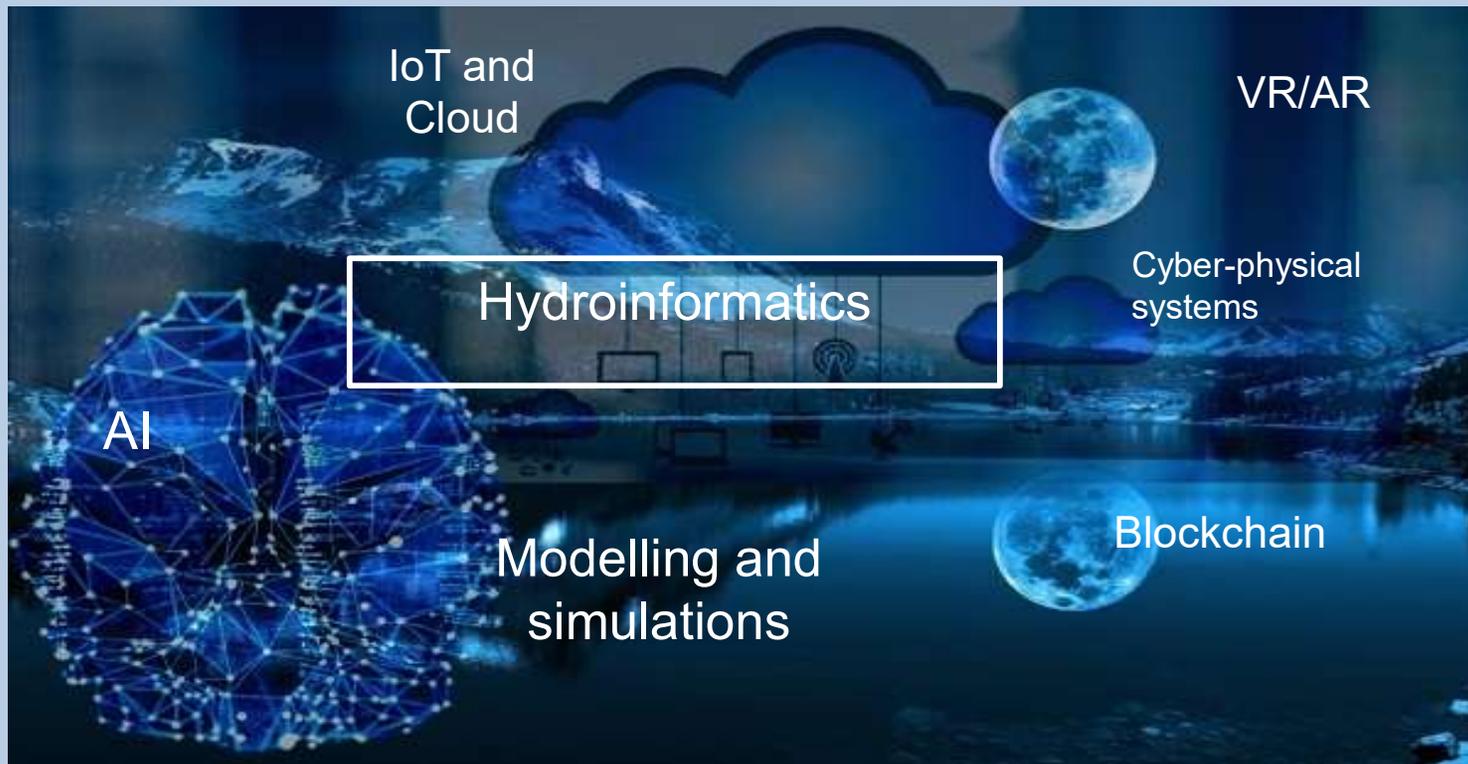


Water quality measurement – In the pipeline

nano $\lambda$

# Hydroinformatics

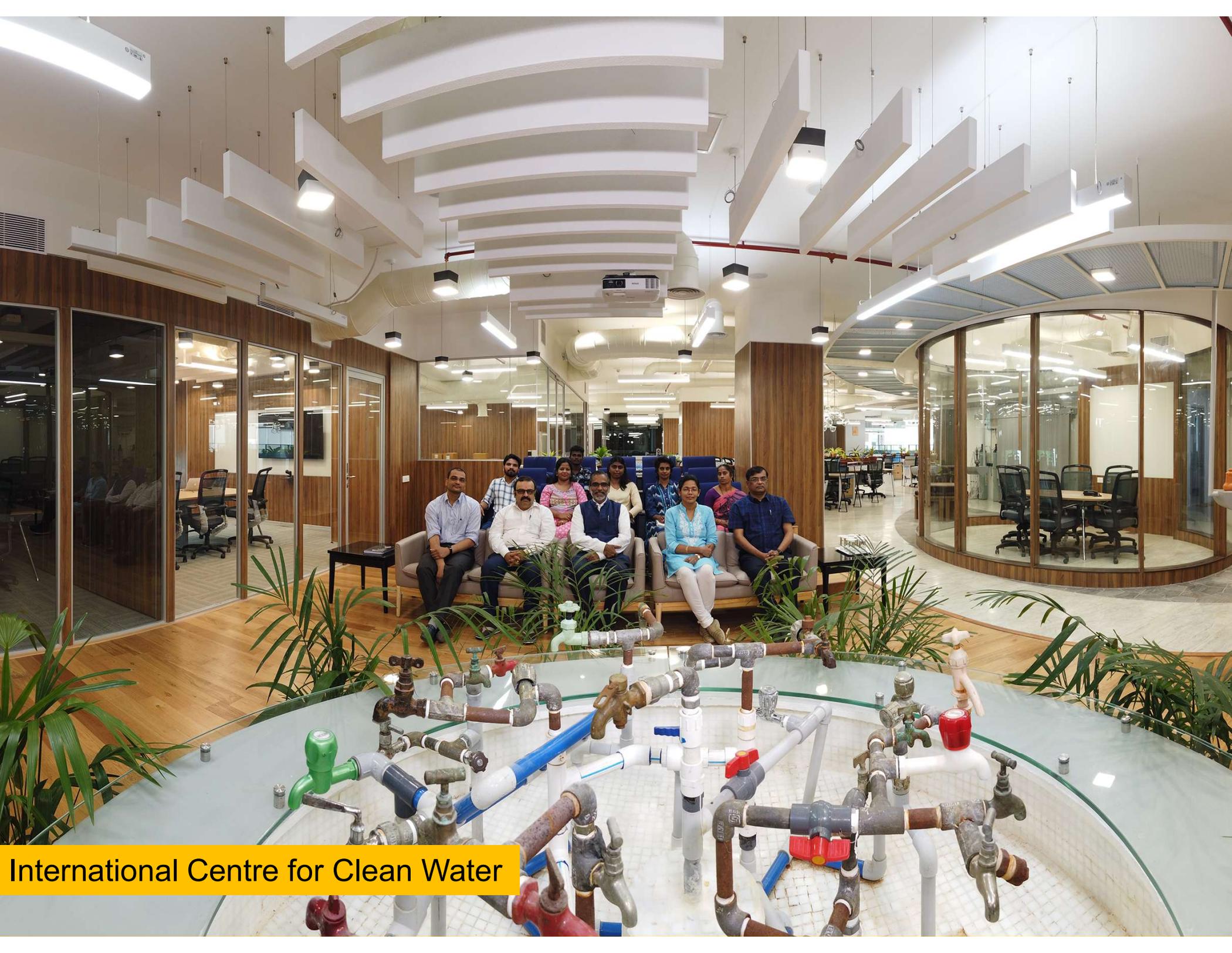
Application of computing technologies for efficient, sustainable and equitable water management.



Digital water or water 4.0 will revolutionize water management.



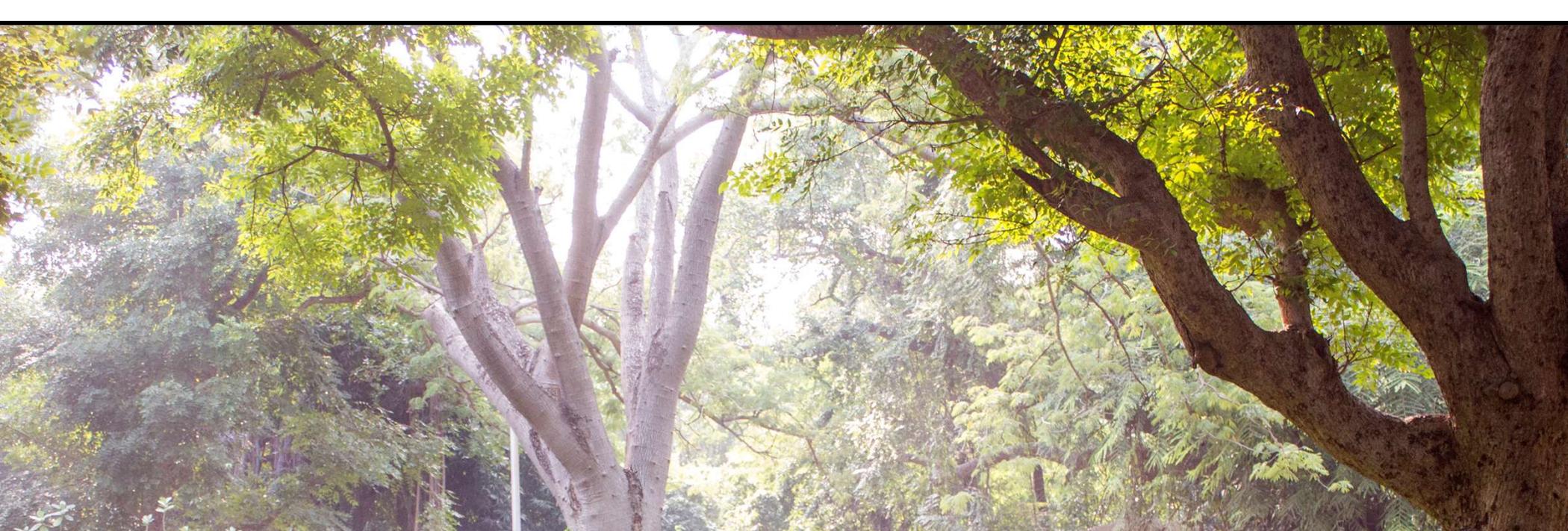
Policy



International Centre for Clean Water



# IIT Madras Research Park



The AMRIT Team, 2013



Group during 2018, along with Prof. Graham Cooks

**People:** A. Sreekumaran Nair, Anshup, M. Udhaya Sankar, Amrita Chaudhary, Renjis T. Tom, T. S. Sreeprasad, Udayabhaskararao Thumu, M. S. Bootharaju, K. R. Krishnadas, Kalamesh Chaudhari, Soujit Sengupta, Depanjan Sarkar, Avijit Baidya, Swathy Jakka Ravindran, Abhijit Nag, S. Vidhya, Biswajit Mondal, Krishnan Swaminathan, Azhardin Gnayee, Sudhakar Chennu, A. Suganya, Rabiul Islam, Sritama Mukherjee, Tanvi Gupte, Jenifer Shantha Kumar, A. Anil Kumar, Ankit Nagar, Ramesh Kumar Soni, Tanmayaa Nayak, Shihabudheen M. Maliyekkal, G. Velmurugan, Wakeel Ahmed Dar, Ganapati Natarajan, N. Pugazhenthiran, A. Leelavathi, Sahaja Aigal, S.Gayathri, Bibhuti Bhusan Rath, Ananthu Mahendranath, Harsh Dave, Erik Mobegi, Egor Moses, Hemanta R. Naik

**Funding:** Department of Science and Technology, Government of India

**Start-ups and partners:**



# Our collaborators



Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation, Govt. of India

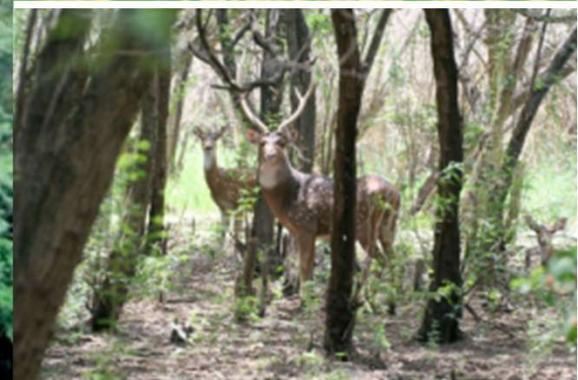


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# Thank you all

