



Now in the 58<sup>th</sup> year

# Nanomaterials and Clean Water

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Co-founder

InnoNano Research Pvt. Ltd.

InnoDI Water Technologies Pvt. Ltd.

VayuJAL Technologies Pvt. Ltd.

Aqueasy Innovations Pvt. Ltd.



IIT Madras Incubated Companies



Associate Editor

ACS  
**Sustainable**  
Chemistry & Engineering

International Conference on Biological Applications of Nanoparticles, ICON-BIO 2017, December 4-5, 2017

# Challenges and opportunities

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- About 780 million people live without clean drinking water.
- More than two billion people worldwide rely on wells for their water.
- By 2025, an estimated 1.8 billion people will live in areas plagued by water scarcity.
- Half of the global population lives in countries where water tables are rapidly falling - Ogallala Aquifer in the United States is an example.
- Over the past 40 years the world's population has doubled and use of water has quadrupled.
- Agriculture accounts for ~70% of global freshwater withdrawals and up to 90% in some fast-growing economies.

- By 2035, energy consumption will increase by 35 percent, increasing water use by 15 percent.
- In the US, thermoelectric power plants account for nearly 50% of all freshwater withdrawals.
- 46% of the globe's (terrestrial) surface is covered by transboundary river basins which can lead to future conflicts over water.
- 67% of Indian agriculture is based on ground water.
- The global middle class will surge from 1.8 to 4.9 billion by 2030, which will result in a significant increase in freshwater consumption.



# SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

17 GOALS TO TRANSFORM OUR WORLD





# Indian realities

- Over xx million suffer due to arsenic
- Over xx million suffer due to fluoride
- Cr, Mn, Pb, U, and many more are found in water
- uCKD and others are around
- Endocrine disrupting chemicals are plenty

.....

GHI was released a month ago

Should we continue to be where we are?

*.....Long-term exposure to arsenic from drinking-water and food can cause cancer and skin lesions. It has also been associated with developmental effects, cardiovascular disease, neurotoxicity and diabetes.*

<http://www.who.int/mediacentre/factsheets/fs372/en/>

Where is Liberty, Equality, Fraternity?

**T. Pradeep**

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Founder  
InnoNano Research Pvt. Ltd.  
An IIT Madras Incubated Company

Co-founder  
**innODI**  
InnoDI Water Technologies Pvt. Ltd.  
An IIT Madras Incubated Company



hary

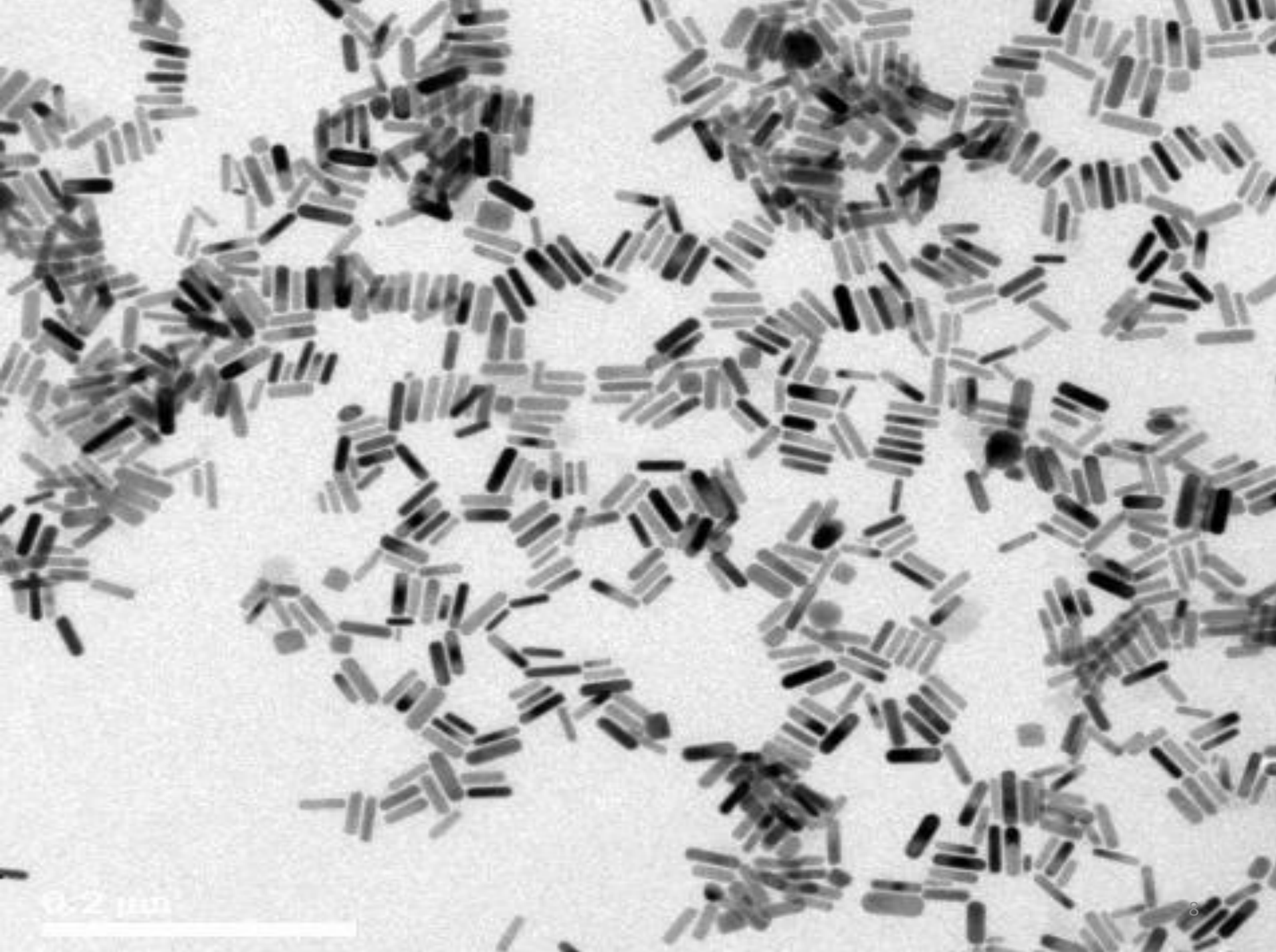


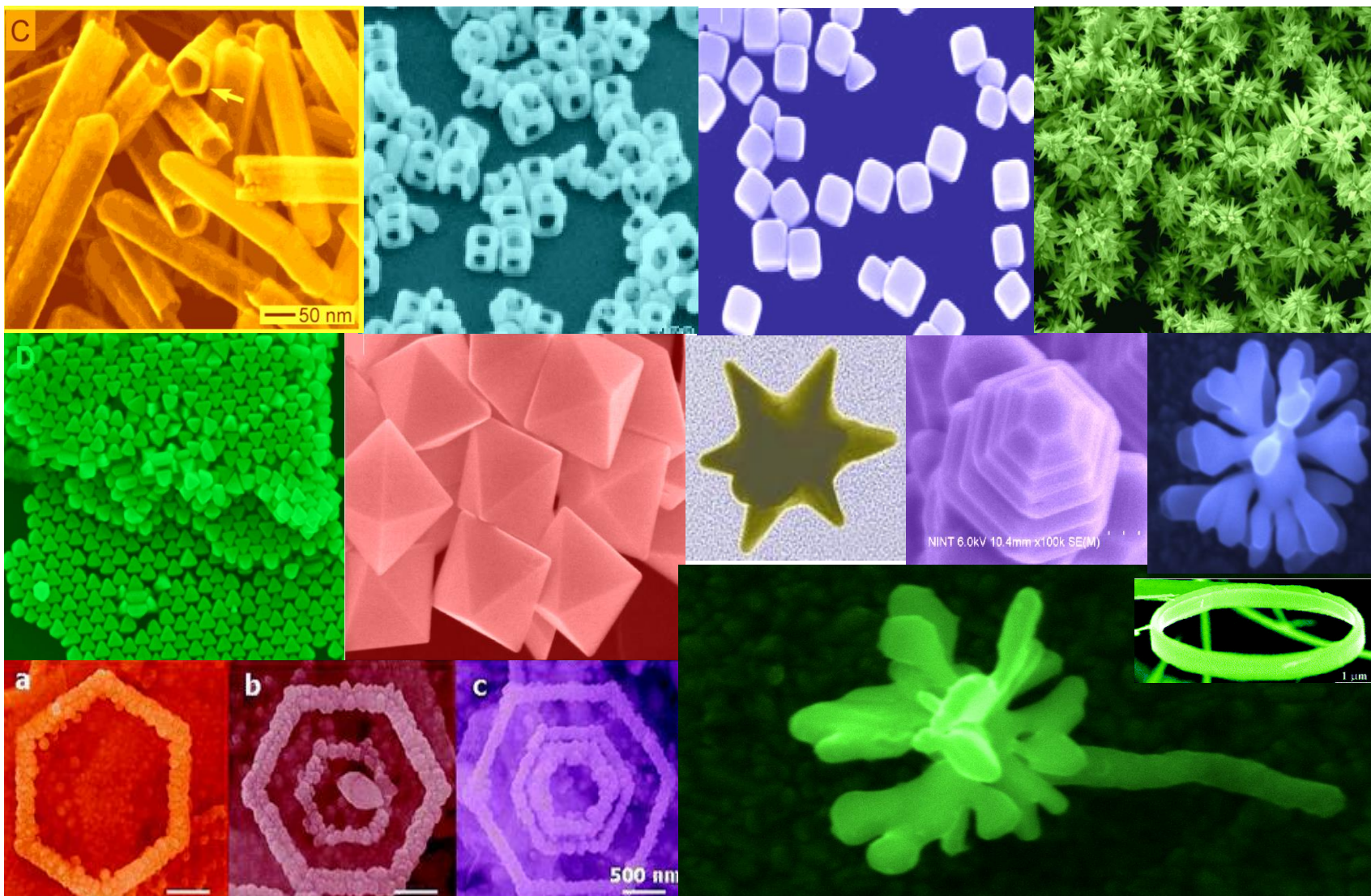
सत्यमेव जयते

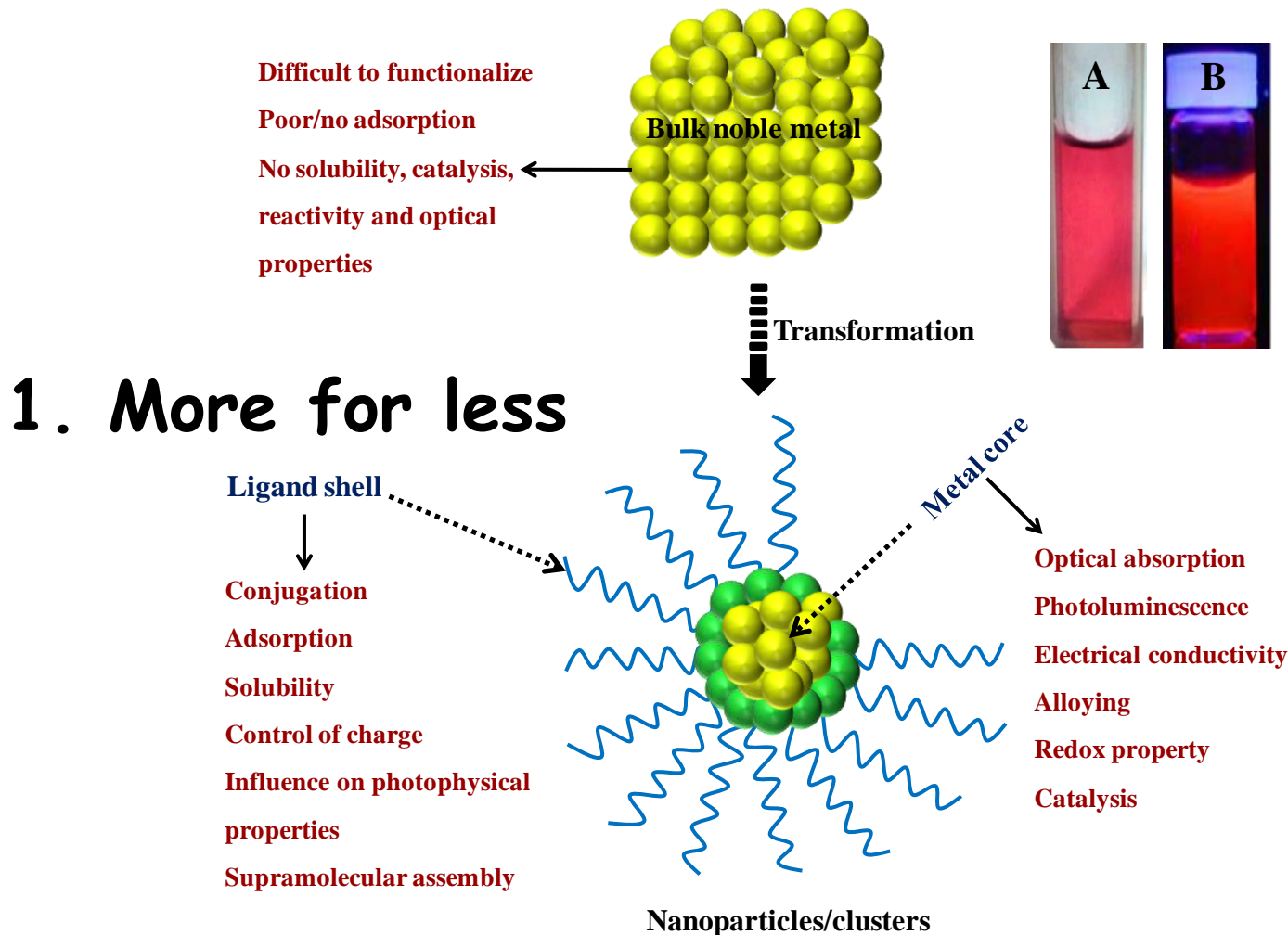


Nano  $10^{-9}$





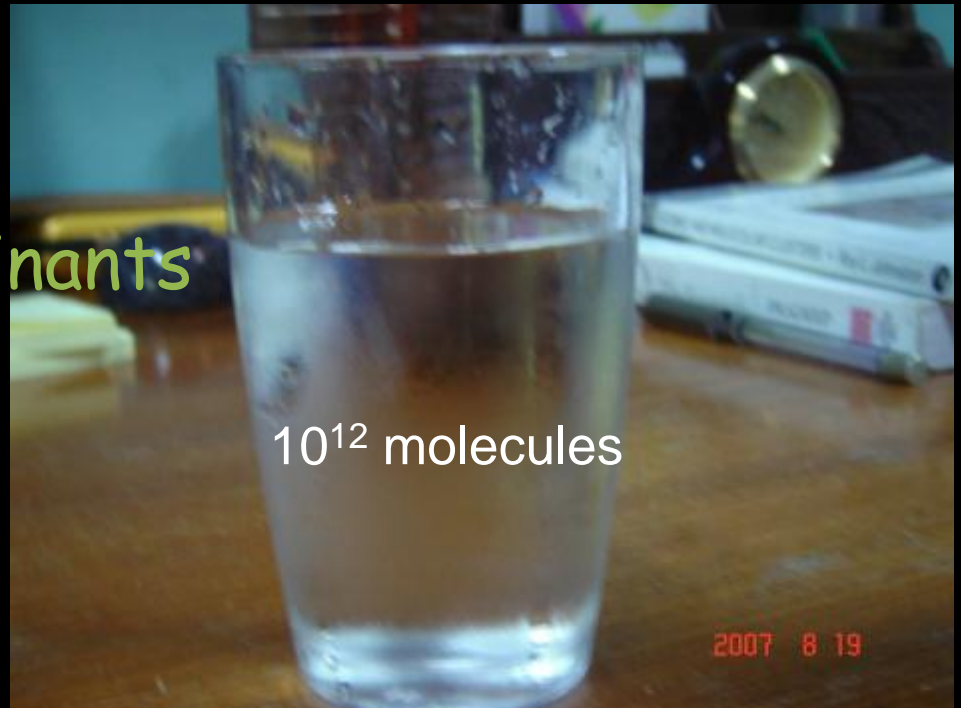
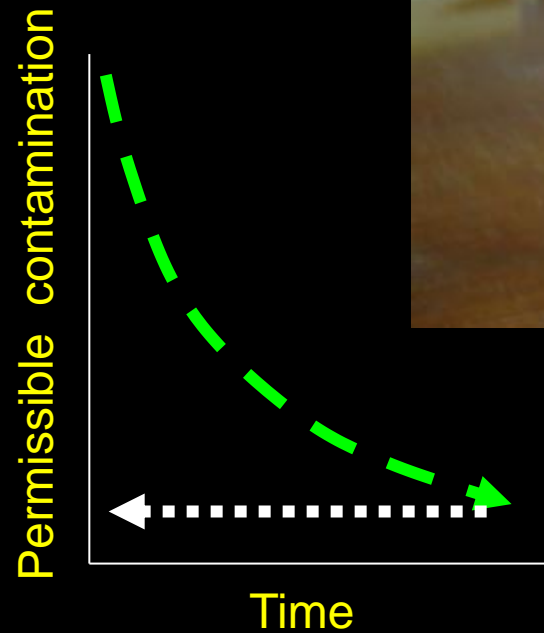




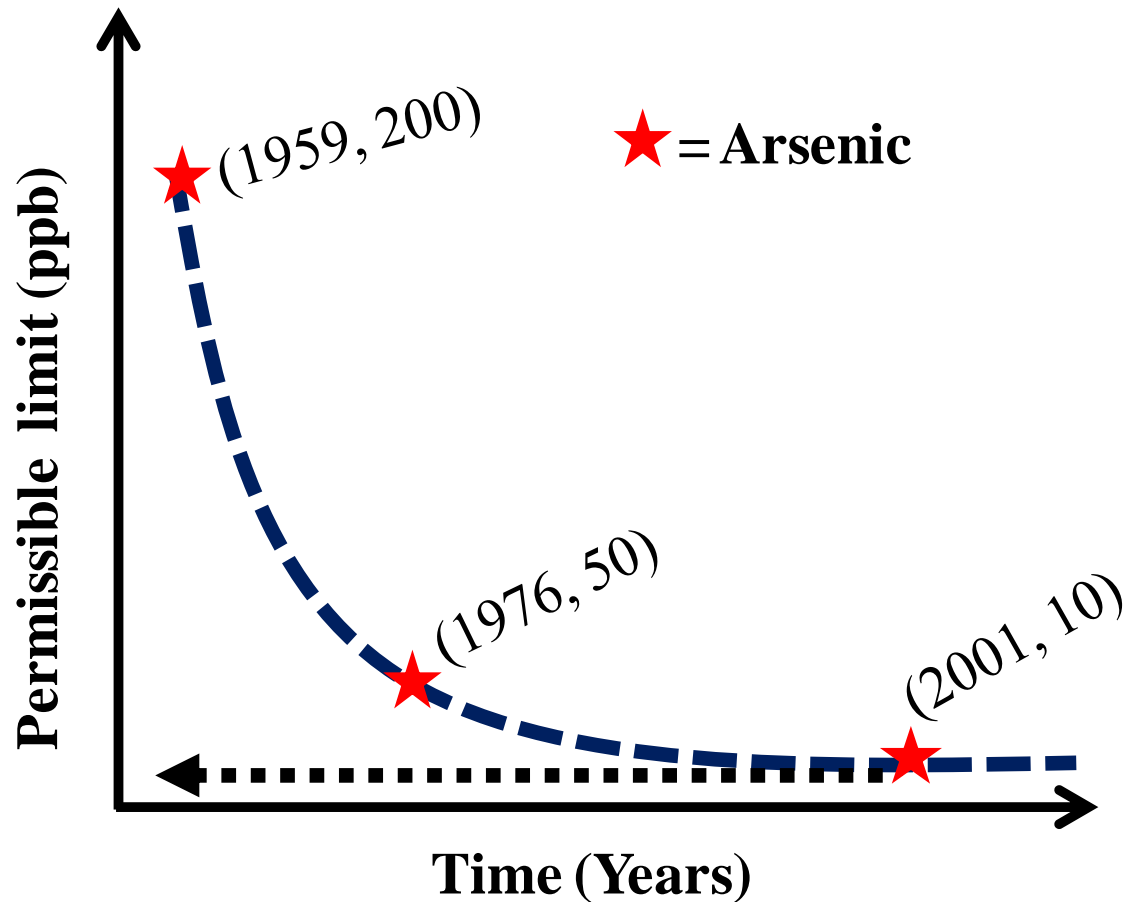
Variation in properties originating from ligand shell and metal core as bulk noble metals transform to nanoparticles/clusters. Sizes are not to scale. New properties such as color and photoluminescence arise in such size regime. Photographs of Au@citrate nanoparticles (inset A) showing intense absorption of visible light and Au@SG (SG corresponds to glutathione thiolate) clusters (inset B) showing intense photoluminescence upon ultraviolet irradiation (from the author's work).



## 2. Limits of contaminants



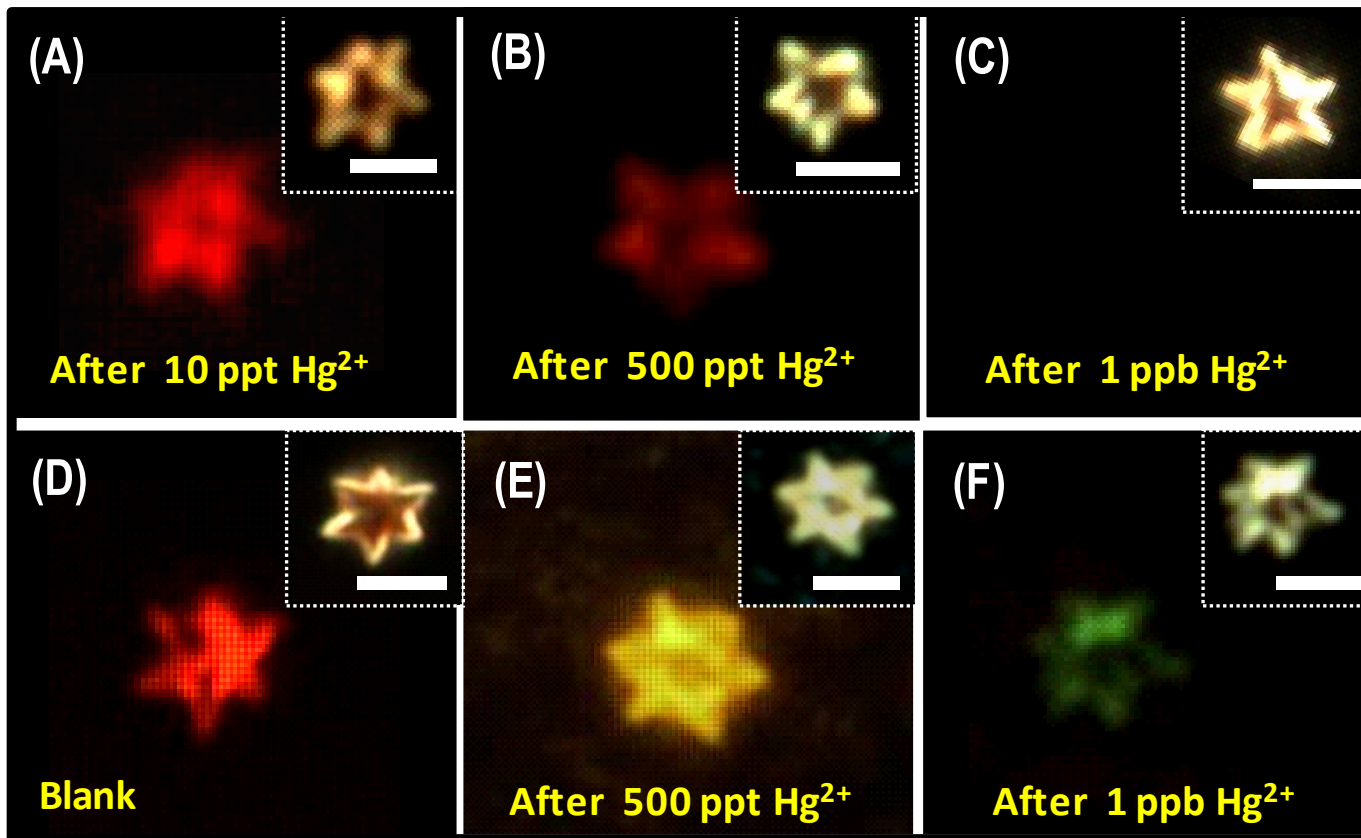
Permissible contamination reaches limits of detection



Decrease in the permissible limit of arsenic in drinking water, according to US EPA, with time. The graph indicates a general trend.

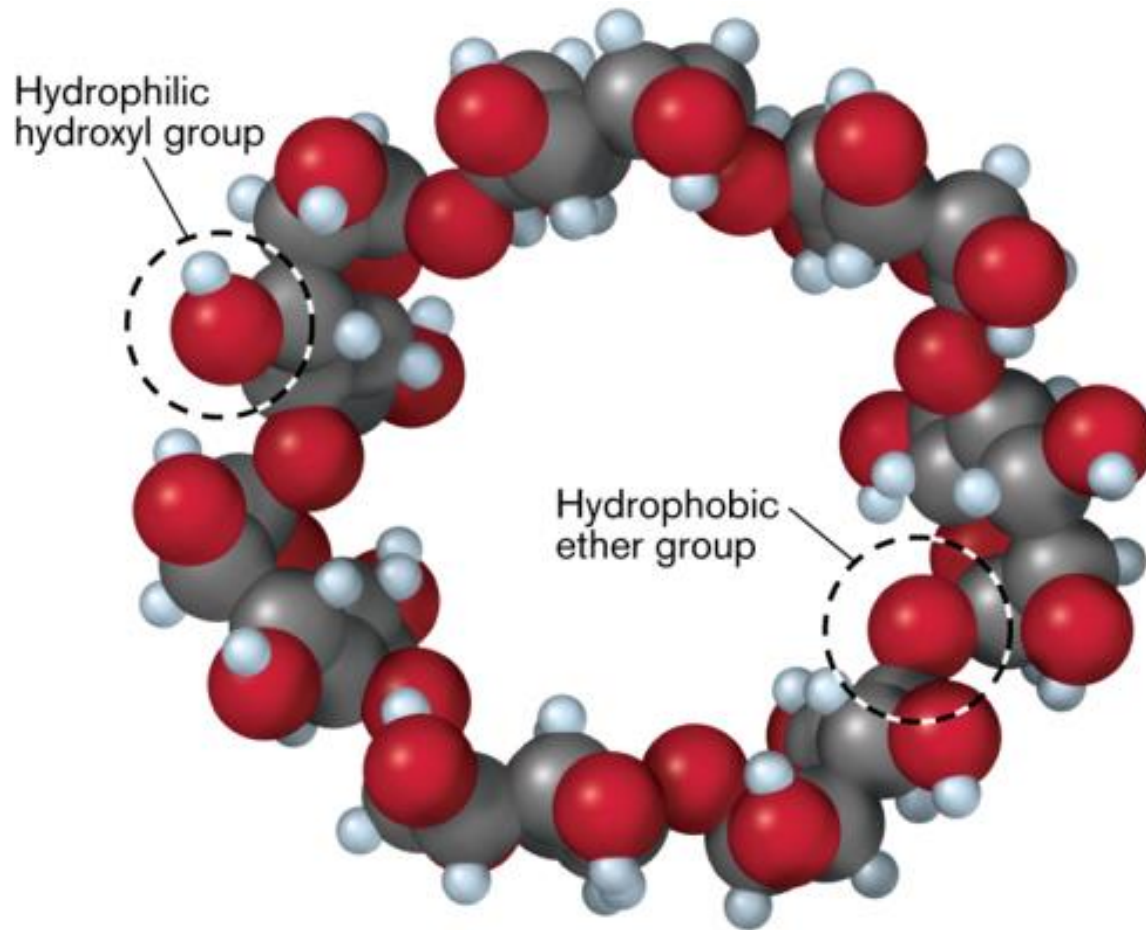


### 3. Can we reach limits?



(A)–(C) Dark field fluorescence images of  $\text{Au@SiO}_2\text{@Ag}_{15}$  MFs showing the gradual disappearance of luminescence with increasing  $\text{Hg}^{2+}$ . (D)–(F) Fluorescence images showing variation in color during the addition of  $\text{Hg}^{2+}$  of different concentrations to  $\text{Au@SiO}_2\text{-FITC@Ag}_{15}$  MFs. Insets in all images show the corresponding optical images of the MFs; scale bars are 3  $\mu\text{m}$ .

# Cavities, channels, imprints, assemblies, fibres, ...



# Nanotechnology research in clean water

## New adsorbents

Nanoparticles, nanotubes, graphene, polymers, 2D materials

## New sensors

Colorimetric, fluorescence, FRET, DNA, assembly, biosensors

## New catalysts

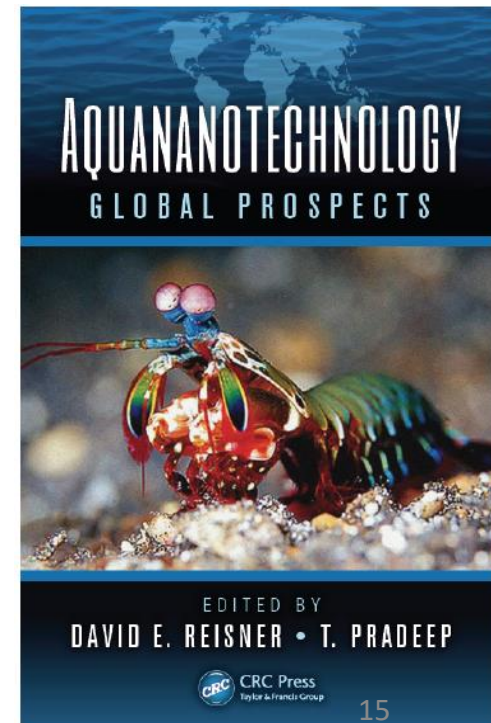
Emerging toxins, heterojunctions

## Novel phenomena

Graphenic analogues, nanopores, aquaporins

## New devices

CDI, atmospheric water capture, novel membranes



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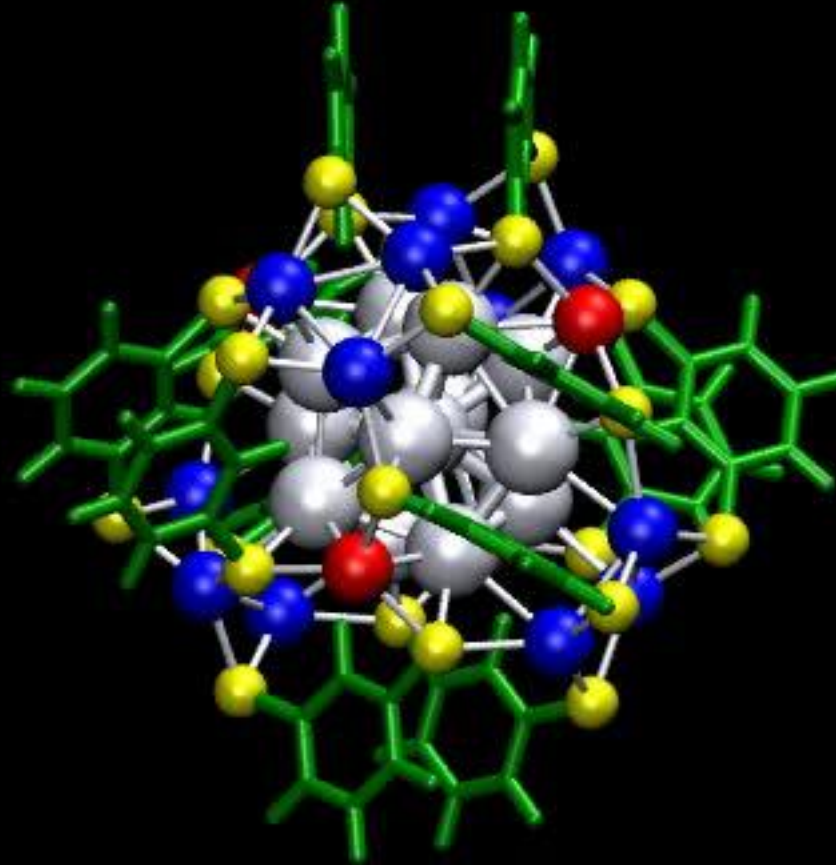
Inquisitive science

Technology

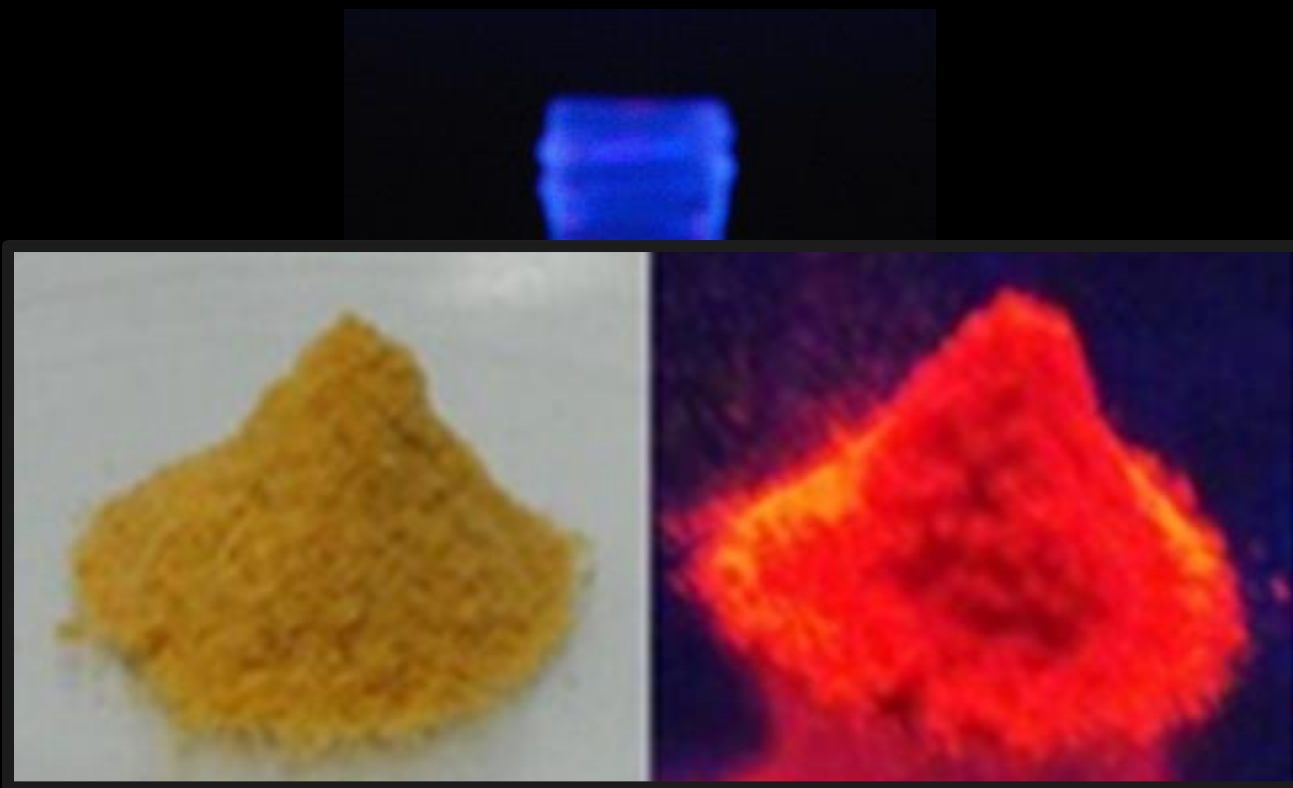
Translation

What next?

# Clusters



Science of nanomaterials has advanced tremendously in the recent past. 17



Shibhu, Habeeb, Uday, Kamalesh, Lourdu, Ammu, Ananya, Indranath, Atanu, Krishnadas, Shridevi, Papri, Esma, Debasmita, Abhijit, Amrita, Jyoti, Sugi, Bodi, Paulami, ....

## Atomically Precise Clusters of Noble Metals: Emerging Link between Atoms and Nanoparticles

Indranath Chakraborty<sup>†</sup> and Thalappil Pradeep<sup>\*</sup>

DST Unit of Nanoscience (DST UNS) and Thematic Unit of Excellence, Department of Chemistry, Indian Institute of Technology Madras, Chennai 600036, India

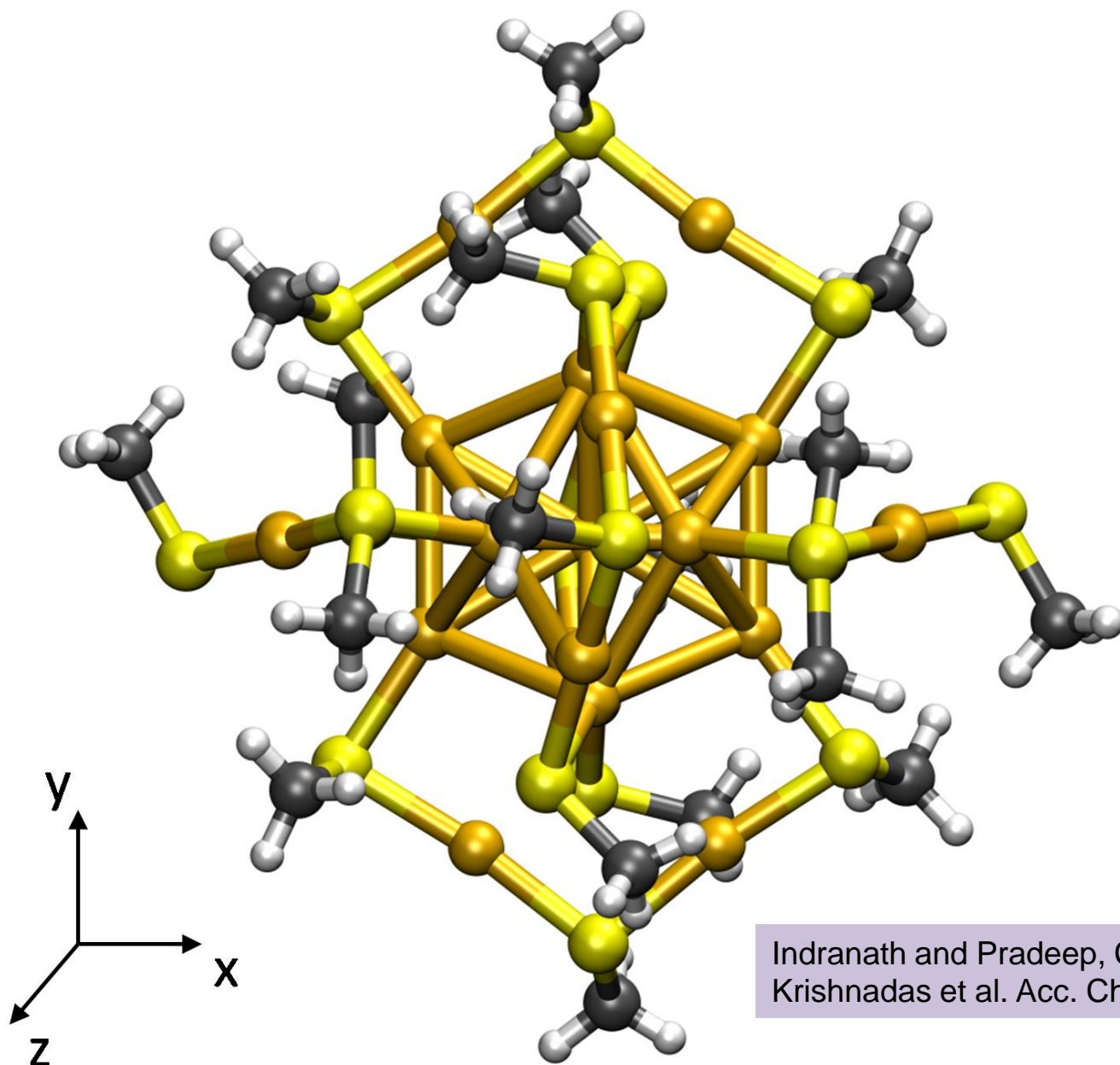
### Supporting Information

**ABSTRACT:** Atomically precise pieces of matter of nanometer dimensions composed of noble metals are new categories of materials with many unusual properties. Over 100 molecules of this kind with formulas such as  $\text{Au}_{25}(\text{SR})_{18}$ ,  $\text{Au}_{38}(\text{SR})_{24}$ , and  $\text{Au}_{102}(\text{SR})_{44}$  as well as  $\text{Ag}_{25}(\text{SR})_{18}$ ,  $\text{Ag}_{29}(\text{S}_2\text{R})_{12}$ , and  $\text{Ag}_{44}(\text{SR})_{30}$  (often with a few counterions to compensate charges) are known now. They can be made reproducibly with robust synthetic protocols, resulting in colored solutions, yielding powders or diffractable crystals. They are distinctly different from nanoparticles in their spectroscopic properties such as optical absorption and emission, showing well-defined features, just like molecules. They show isotopically resolved molecular ion peaks in mass spectra and provide diverse information when examined through multiple instrumental methods. Most important of these properties is luminescence, often in the visible–near-infrared window, useful in biological applications. Luminescence in the visible region, especially by clusters protected with proteins, with a large Stokes shift, has been used for various sensing applications, down to a few tens of molecules/ions, in air and water. Catalytic properties of clusters, especially oxidation of organic substrates, have been examined. Materials science of these systems presents numerous possibilities and is fast evolving. Computational insights have given reasons for their stability and unusual properties. The molecular nature of these materials is unequivocally manifested in a few recent studies such as intercluster reactions forming precise clusters. These systems manifest properties of the core, of the ligand shell, as well as that of the integrated system. They are better described as protected molecules or *aspicules*, where *aspis* means shield and *cules* refers to molecules, implying that they are “shielded molecules”. In order to understand their diverse properties, a nomenclature has been introduced with which it is possible to draw their structures with positional labels on paper, with some training. Research in this area is captured here, based on the publications available up to December 2016.



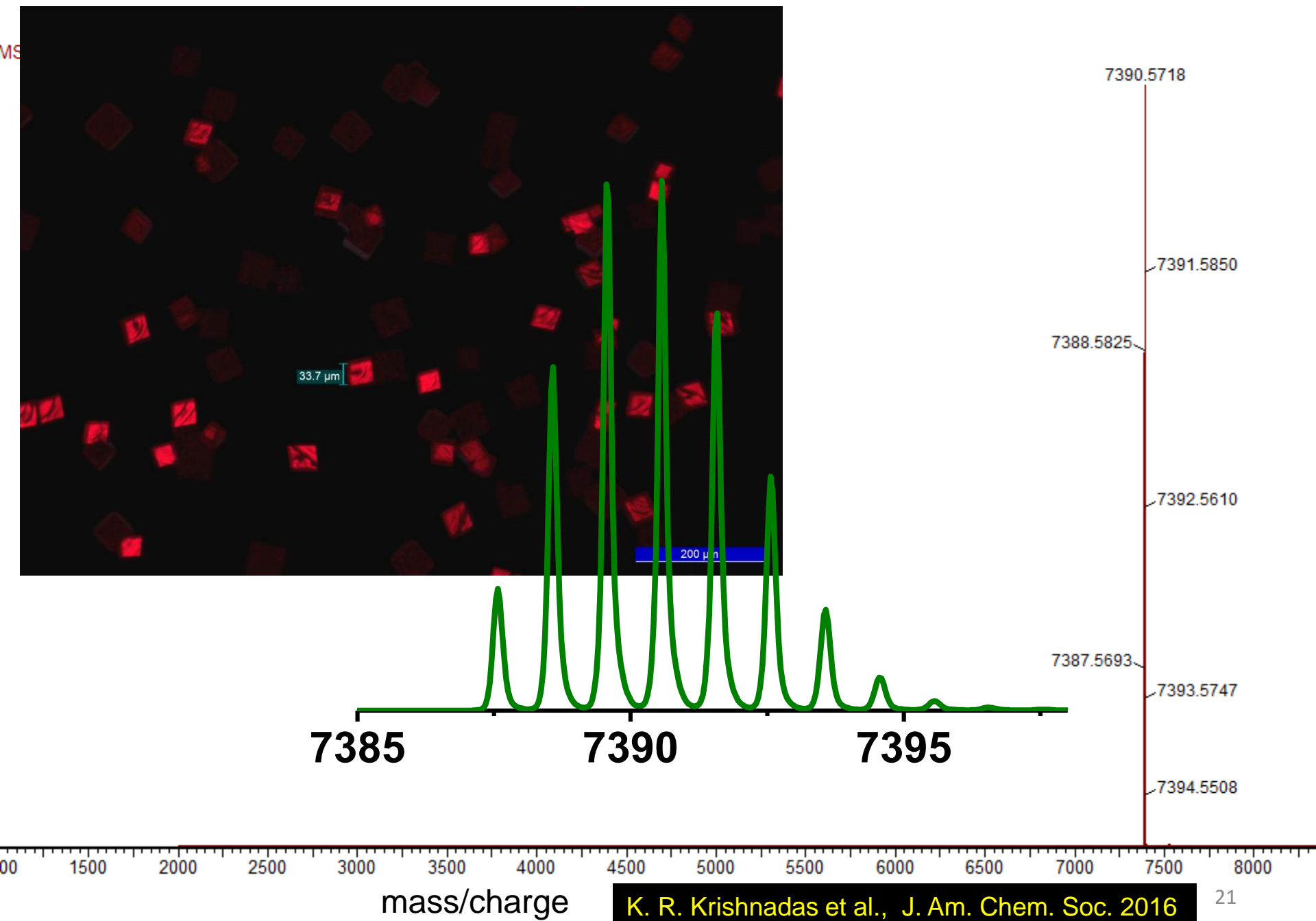
Also the pioneering work of R. W. Murray, Robert L. Whetten, Uzi Landman, Tatuya Tsukuda, Yuichi Negishi, Hannu Hakkinen, R. Jin, Nanfeng Zheng, Terry Bigioni, Osman Bakr, Kornberg, Jianping Xie, C. M. Aikens, Thomas Buergi, Amala Dass, .... A. W. Castleman Jr., H. Schmidbauer, ...





Indranath and Pradeep, Chem. Rev. 2017  
Krishnadas et al. Acc. Chem. Res. 2017





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# Biopolymer-reinforced nanocomposite for water purification

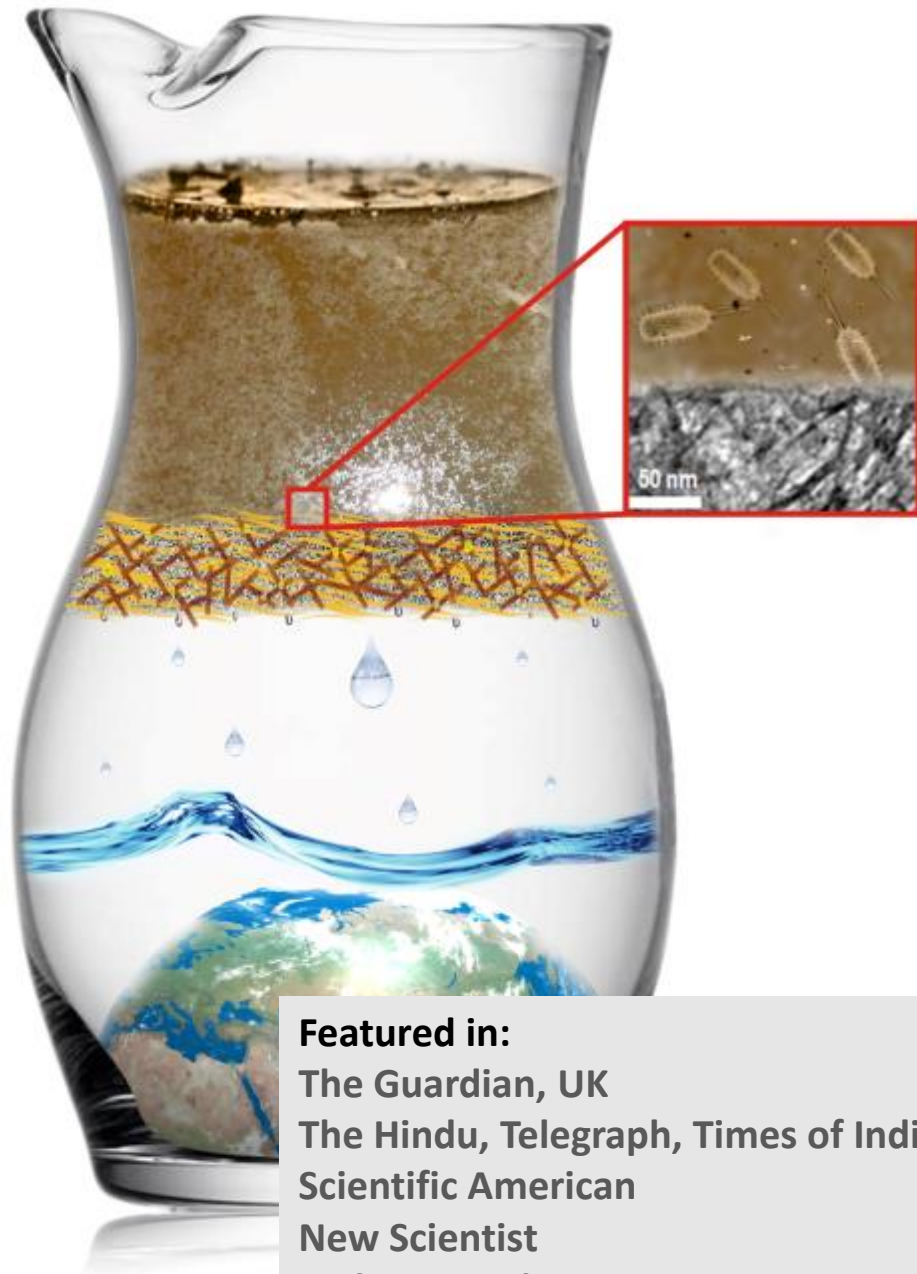
Mohan Udhaya Sankar<sup>1</sup>, Saha Kamalesh Chaudhari, and Thangavelu Sankar

Unit of Nanoscience and Thematic Unit of Nanoscience

Edited by Eric Hoek, University of California, San Diego

Creation of affordable materials for water purification is one of the most promising drinking water for all. Combining nanocomposites to scavenge toxic species and other contaminants along with the use of affordable, all-inclusive drinking water without electricity. The critical property is the synthesis of stable materials that can be used in the presence of common contaminants in drinking water that deposit and form on surfaces. Here we show that such materials can be synthesized in a simple and effective way without the use of electrical power. The materials have sand-like properties, such as high mechanical strength and forms. These materials have been used as a water purifier to deliver clean drinking water. The ability to prepare nanocomposites at ambient temperature has wide implications for water purification.

hybrid | green | appropriate technology



Featured in:

The Guardian, UK

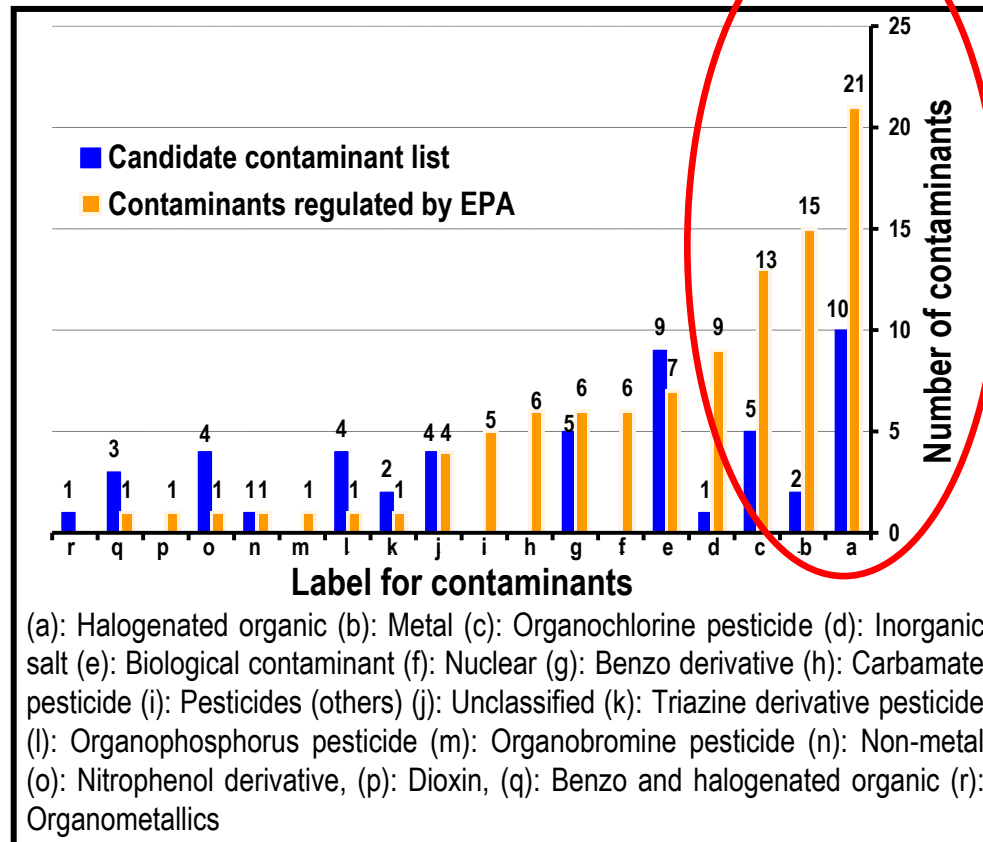
The Hindu, Telegraph, Times of India, etc.

Scientific American

New Scientist

and many others

# Future of water purification: An enigma with some pointers



Category-wise distribution of contaminants regulated by USEPA and future contaminants

Noble metal nanoparticles for water purification: A critical review, T. Pradeep and Anshup, Invited critical review, Thin Solid Films, 517 (2009) 6441-6478 (DOI: 10.1016/j.tsf.2009.03.195).

# World's first nanochemistry-based water purifier

RSC | Advancing the  
Chemical Sciences  
Chemistry World

## Pesticide filter debuts in India

20 April 2007

Kilugudi Jayaraman/Bangalore, India

A domestic water filter that uses metal nanoparticles to remove dissolved pesticide residues is about to enter the Indian market. Its developers at the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) in Chennai (formerly Madras) believe it is the first product of its kind in the world to be commercialised. Mumbai-based Eureka Forbes Limited, a company that sells water purification systems, is collaborating with IIT and has tested the device in the field for over six months. Jayachandran Radity, a technical consultant to the company, expects the first 1000 units to be sold door-to-door from late May.

'Our pesticide filter is an offshoot of basic research on the chemistry of nanoparticles,' Thilappai Pradeep who led the team at IIT Chennai told Chemistry World. He and his student Sreekumaran Nair discovered in 2003 that heterocyclic compounds such as carbon tetrachloride (CCl<sub>4</sub>) completely break down into metal halides and amorphous carbon upon reaction with gold and silver nanoparticles<sup>1</sup>.

Pradeep said this prompted them to extend their study to include organochlorine and organophosphorous pesticides, whose presence in water is posing a health risk in rural India. In research funded by the Department of Science and Technology in New Delhi, his team found<sup>2,3</sup> that gold and silver nanoparticles loaded on alumina were indeed able to completely remove endosulfan, malathion and chlorpyrifos – three pesticides that are commonly found in drinking water supplies.

Use and recycle

The mechanism

Pradeep

Forbes

limited

will be

available

from

late

May.

The

first

1000

units

to

be

sold

door-

to-

door

from

late

May.

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first

1000

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late

May.

The

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1000

units

to

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sold

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to-

door

from

late

## Chemistry world

First ever  
nanotechnology  
product for clean  
water



A plant to make supported nanomaterials for water purification; with capacity of 4.5 tons per month, 2007

1. Patents: A method of preparing purified water from water containing pesticides, **Indian patent 200767**
  2. Extraction of malathion and chlorpyrifos from drinking water by nanoparticles, **US 7,968,493** A method for decontaminating water containing pesticides, **EP 17,15,947**
- Product is marketed now by a Eureka Forbes Ltd.  
Several new technologies are now available



A. Sreekumaran Nair et al. 2003

# Affordable materials for water purification - Bioinspired

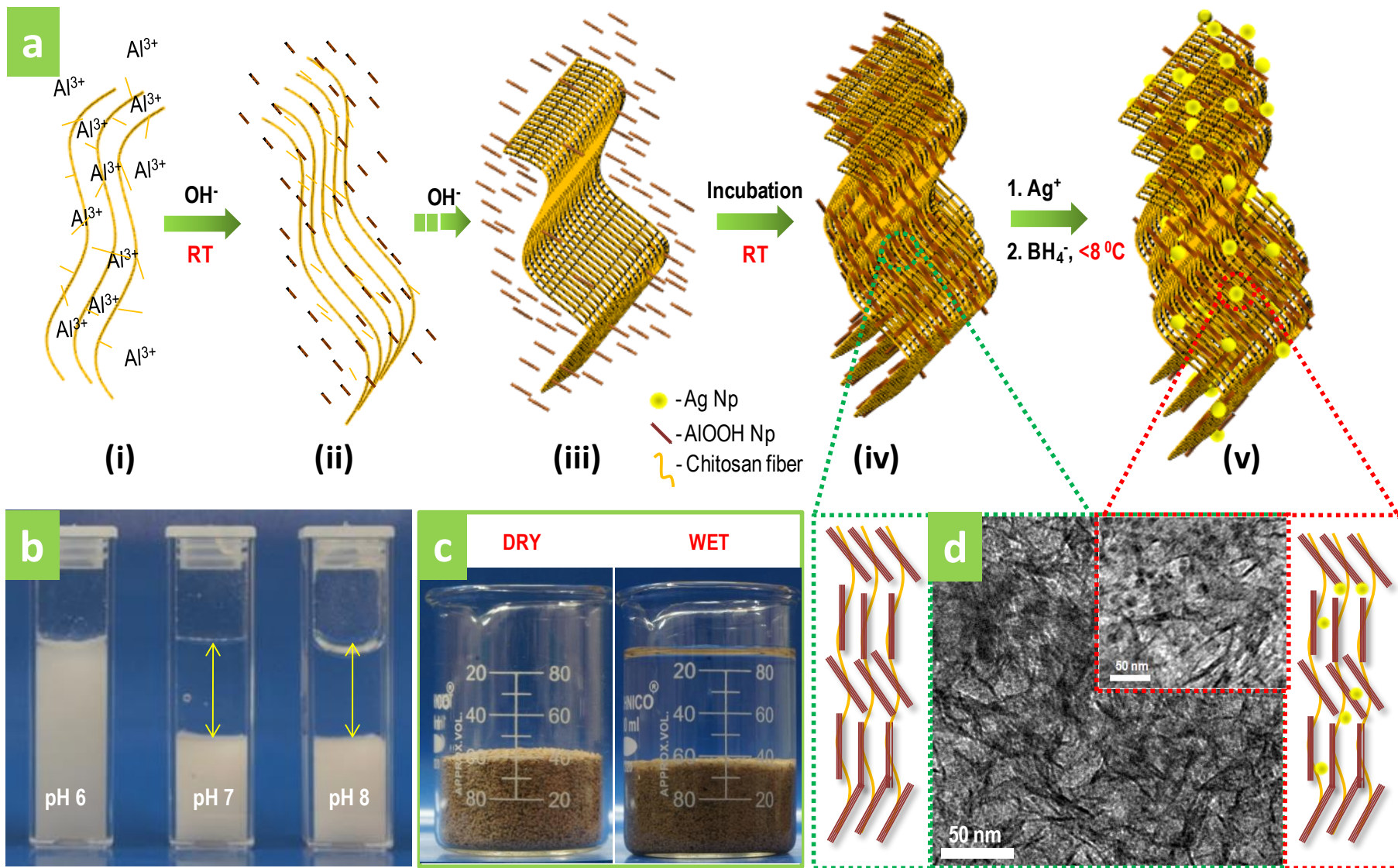
Water positive

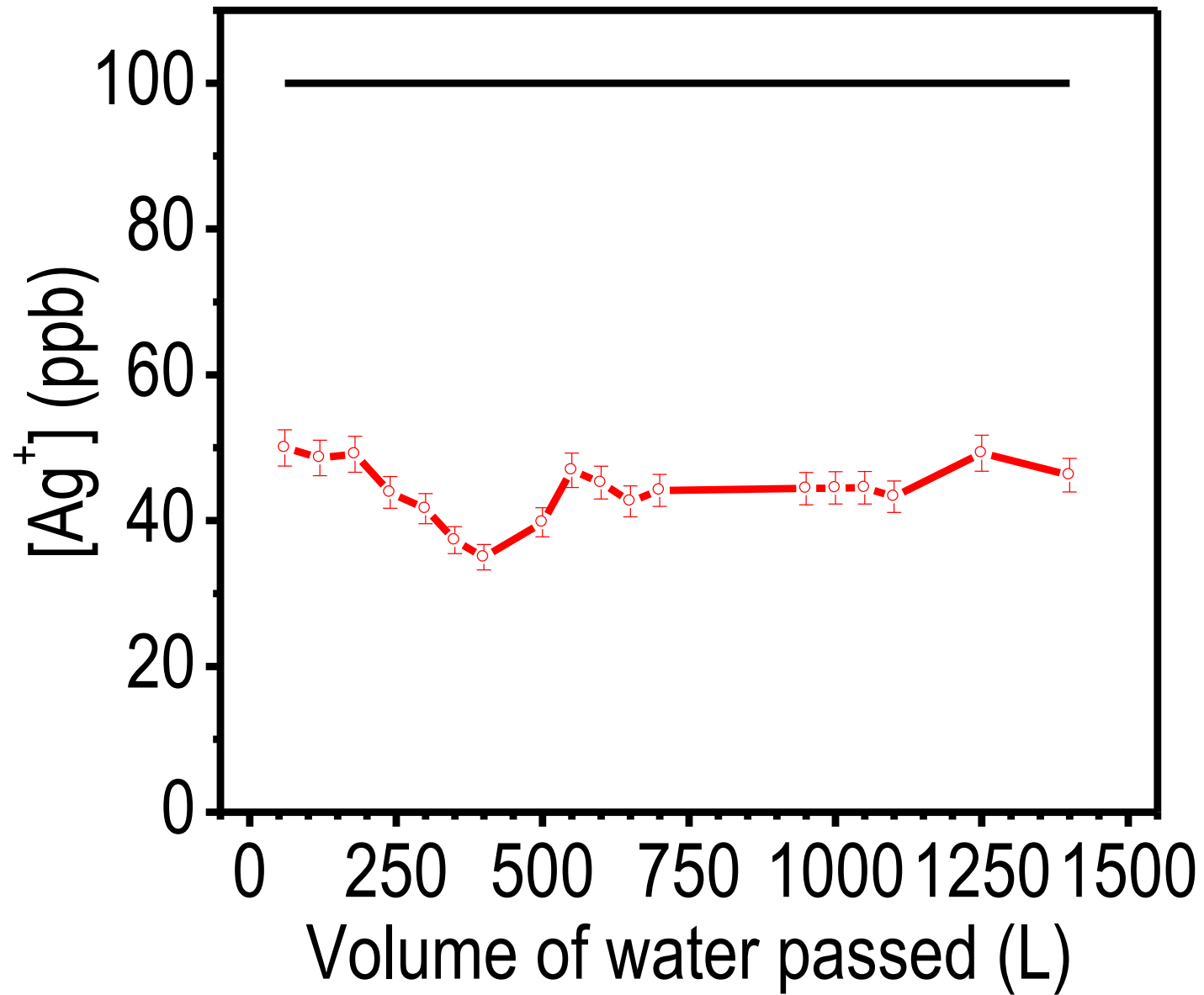
Water-based, room temperature, water stable

Green

M. U. Sankar et al, PNAS 2013

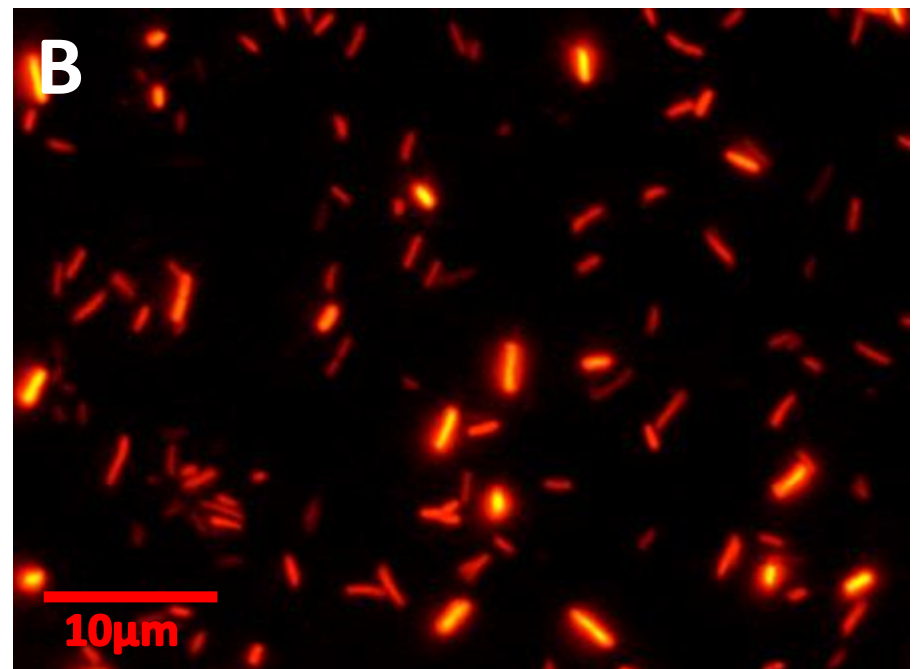
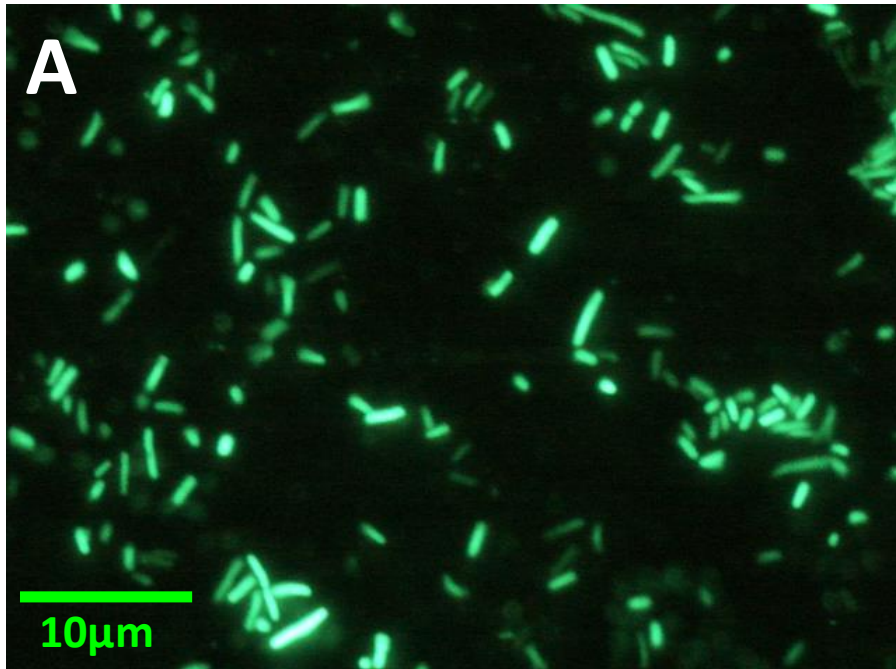


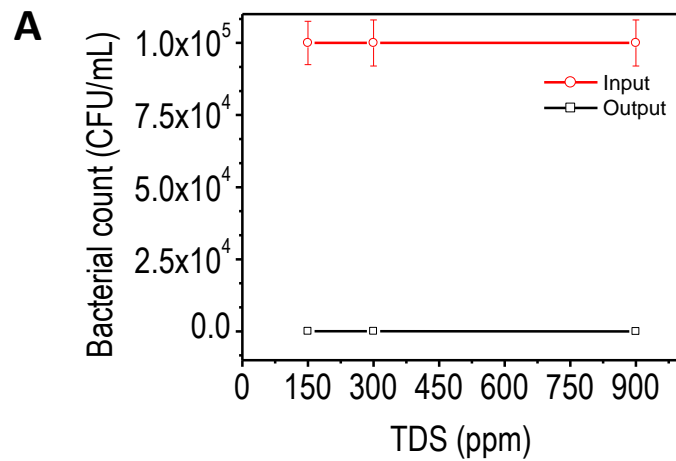




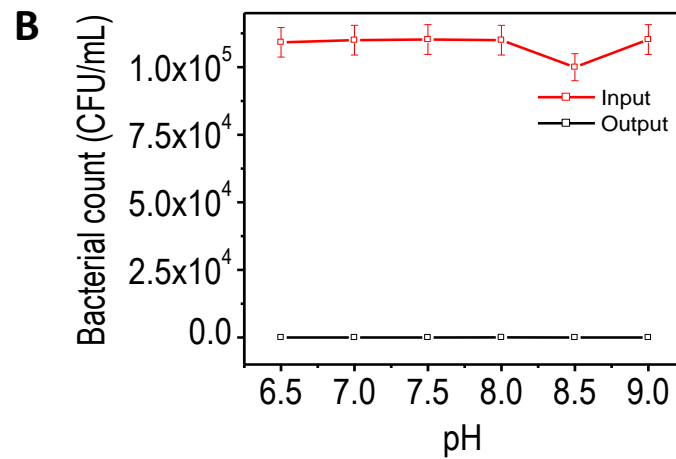


## Live/dead staining experiments



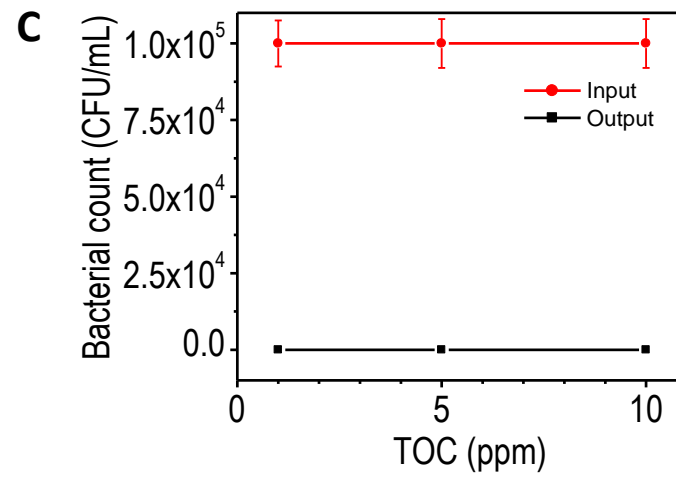


TDS

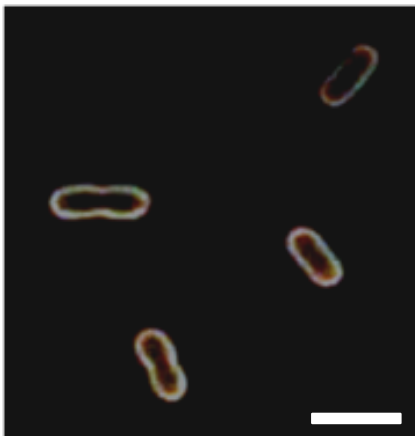
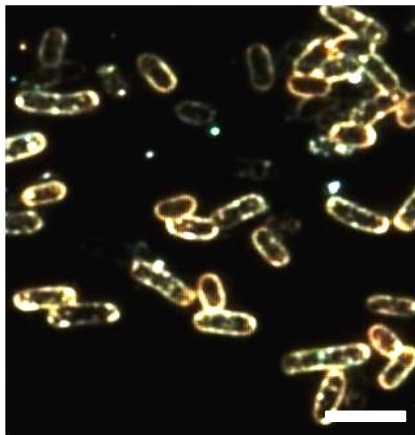
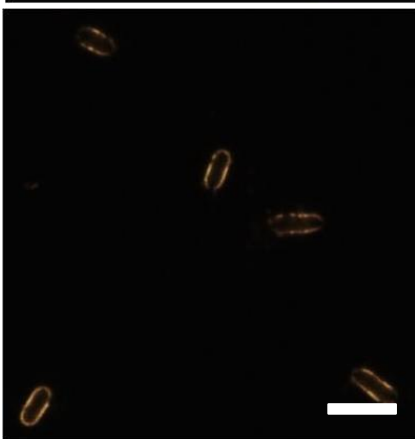
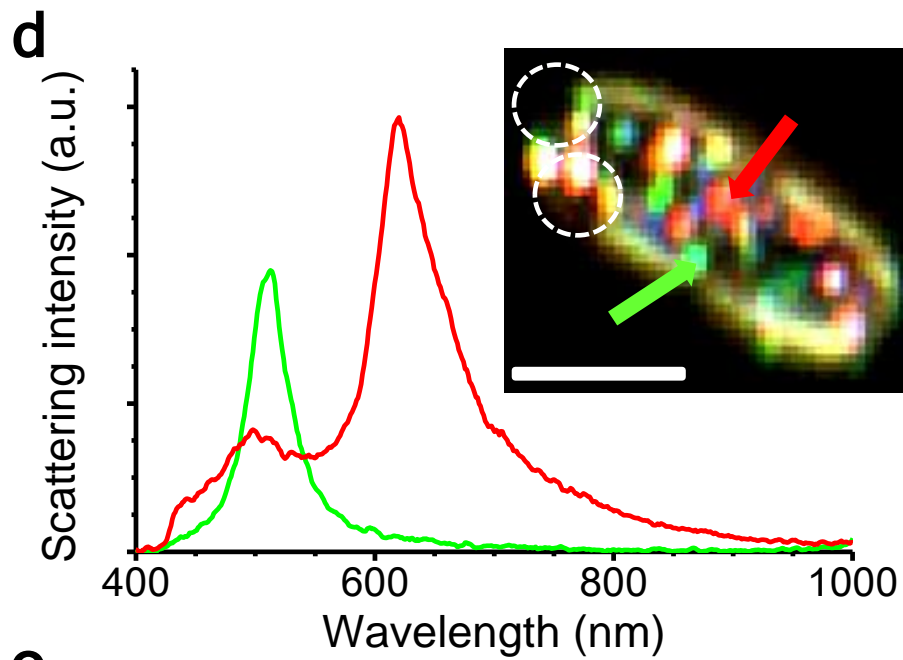
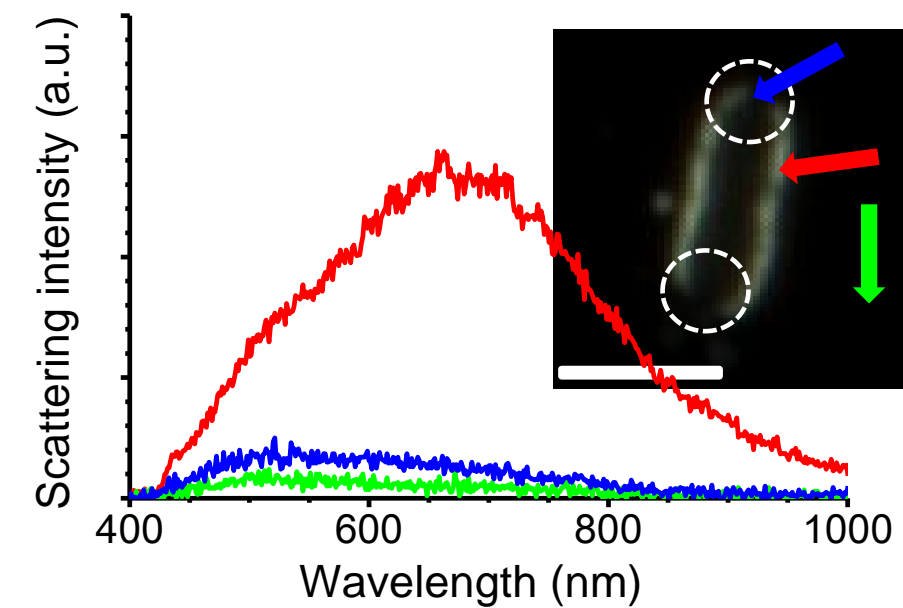


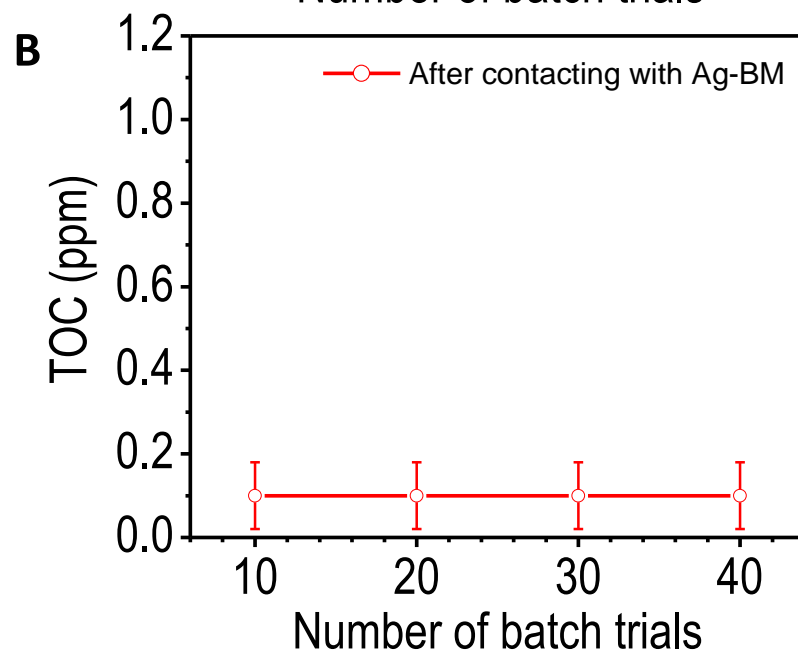
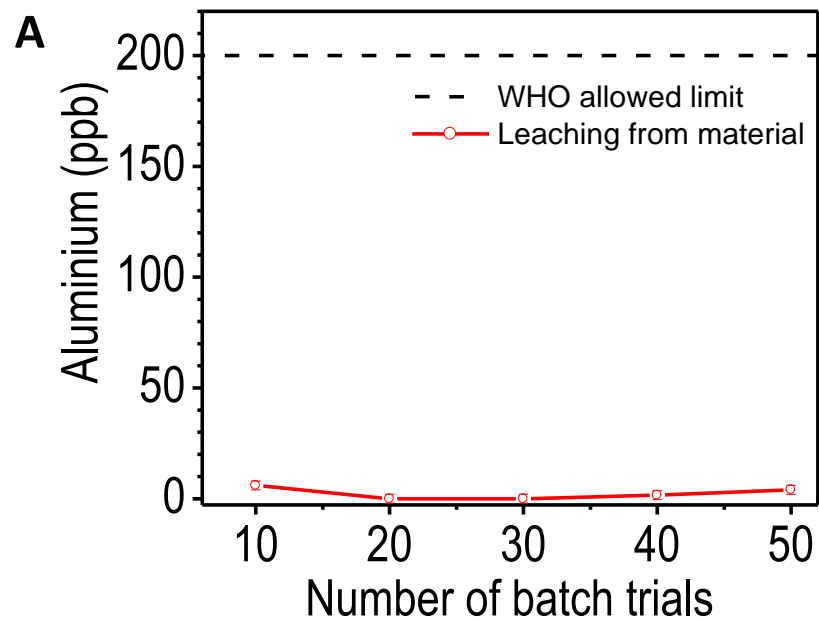
pH

Real water experiments

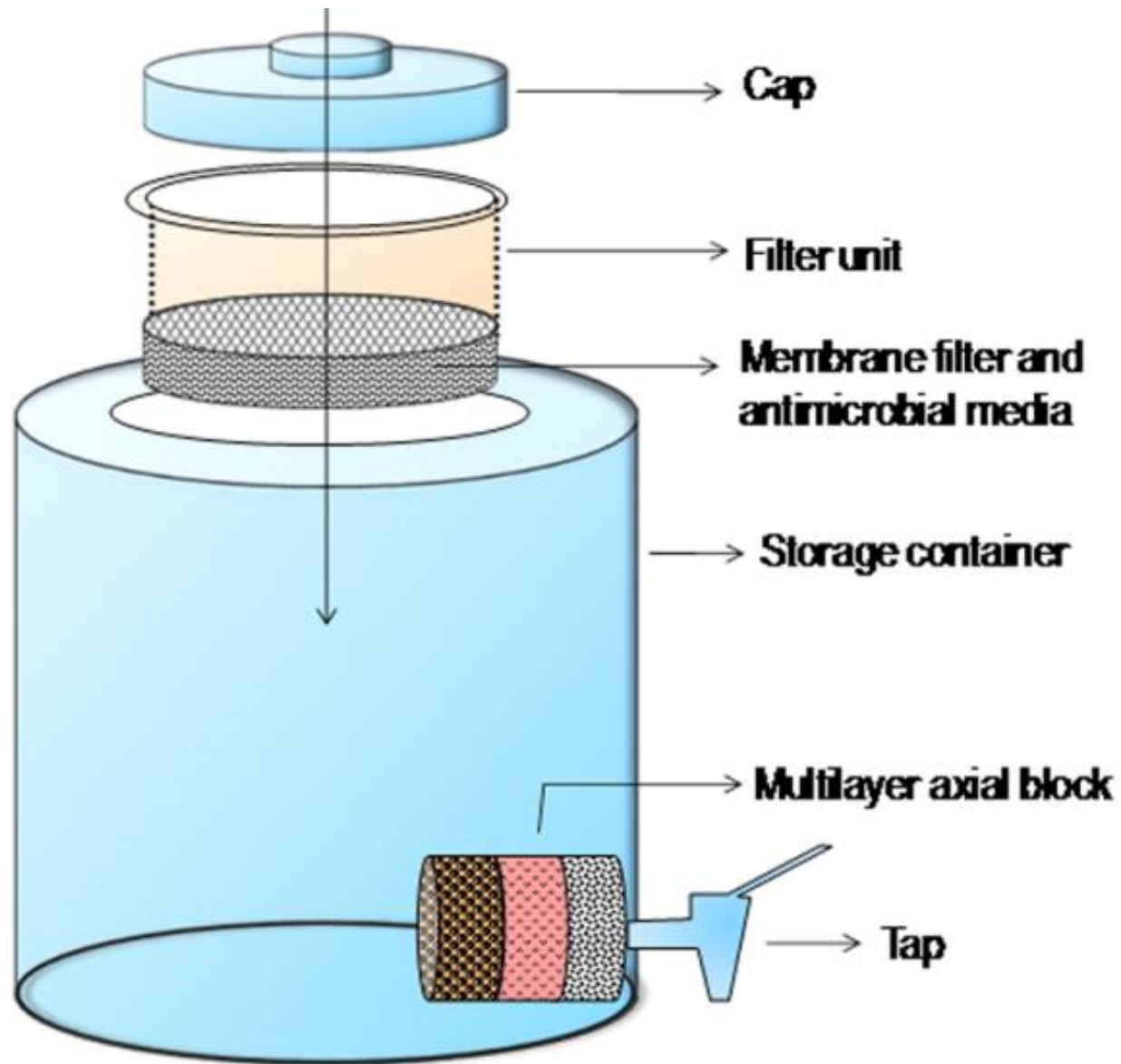


TOC - Humic acid

**a****b****c****d****e**



Leaching experiments



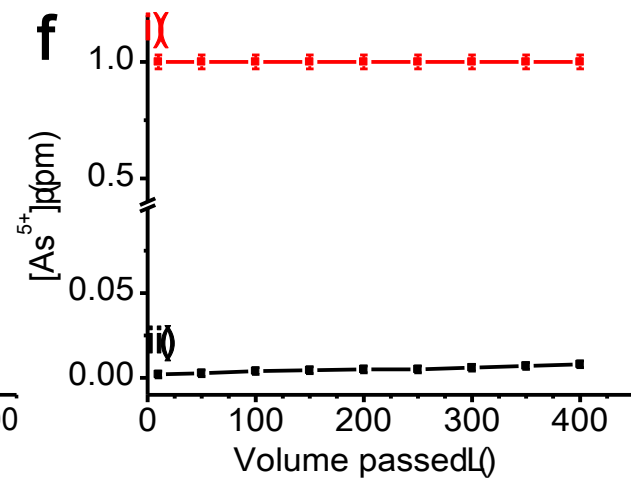
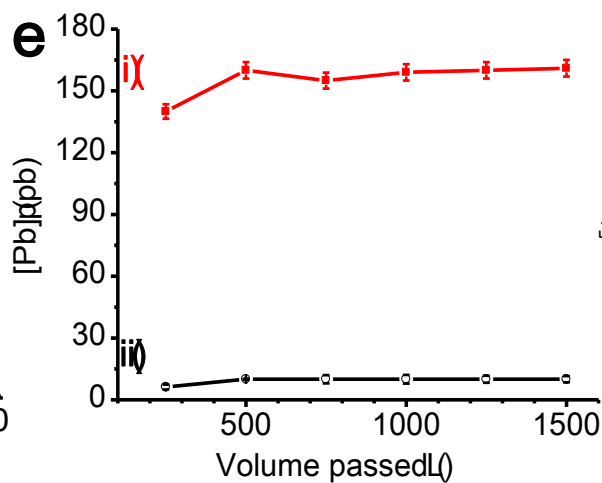
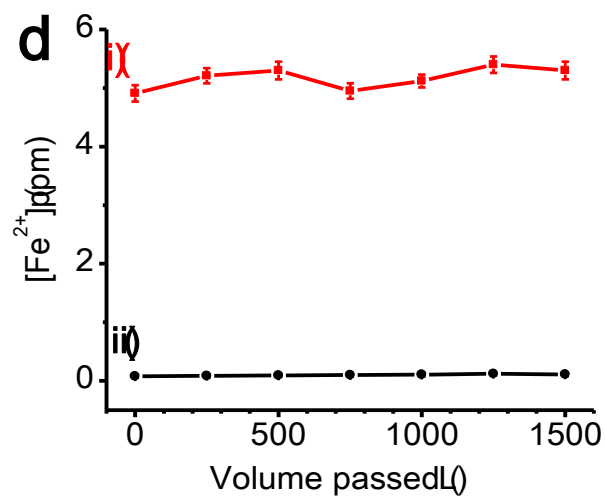
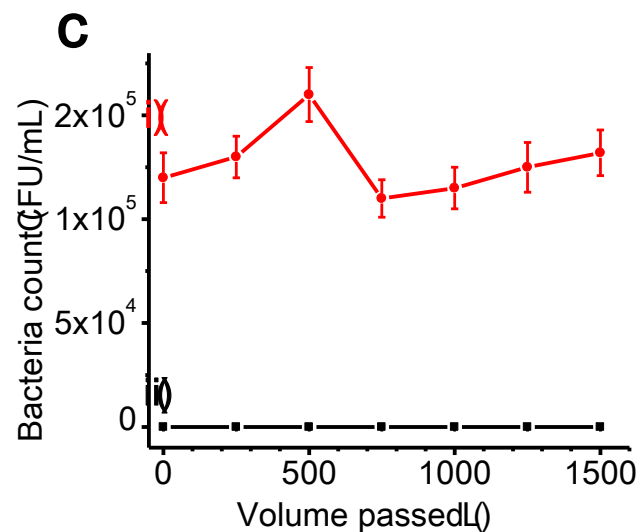
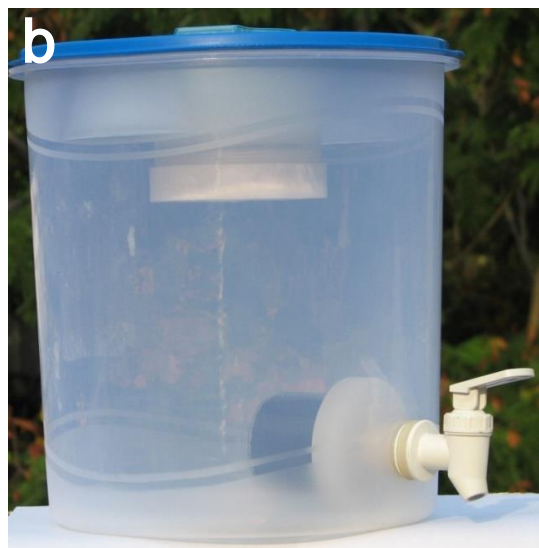
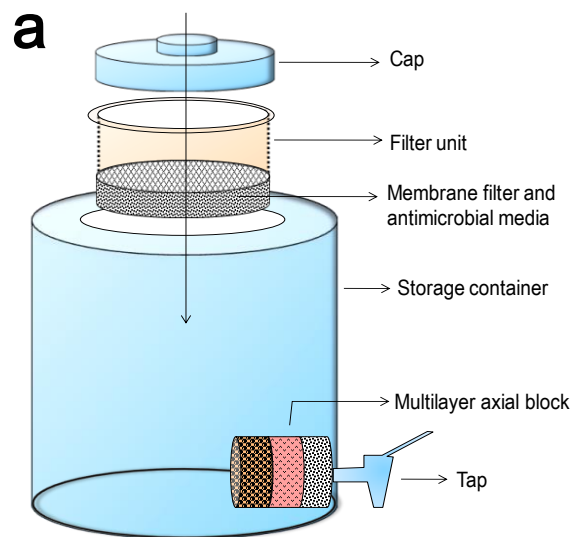
## Physicochemical characteristics of influent natural drinking water

(Note: All parameters are expressed in mg L<sup>-1</sup>, except for pH and conductivity)

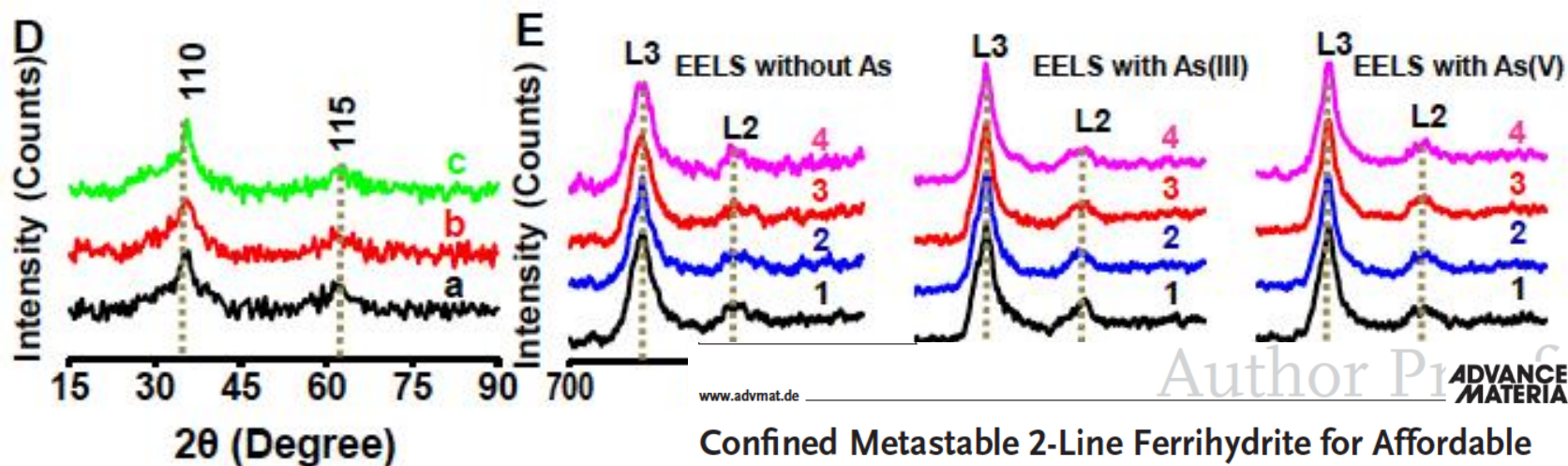
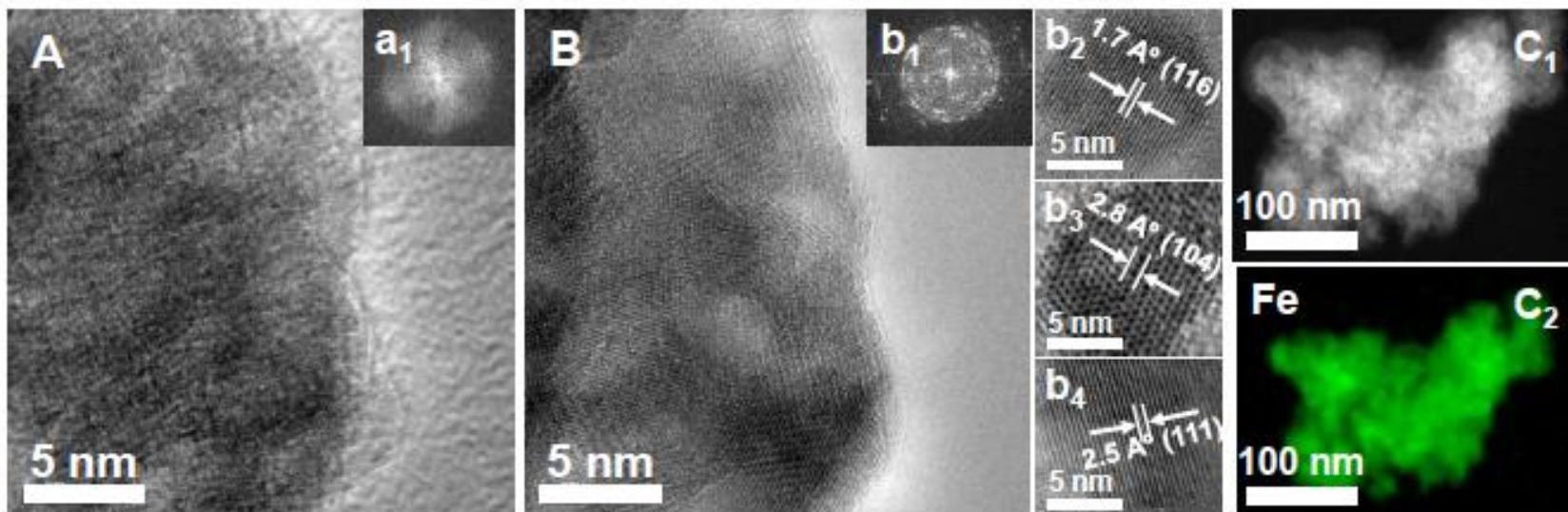
ND-not detected

Natural drinking water (without treatment so that there is a residual bacterial count in it) was used for testing to ensure that the material functions in the field.

Parameters	Value
Total coliforms (CFU/mL)	1-2 x 10 <sup>3</sup>
p H @25° C	7.8
Conductivity (μS/cm)	640.000
Fluoride	0.573
Chloride	86.340
Nitrate	1.837
Sulphate	32.410
Silicate	15.870
Lithium	ND
Sodium	53.740
Ammonium	ND
Potassium	2.330
Magnesium	14.340
Calcium	28.720







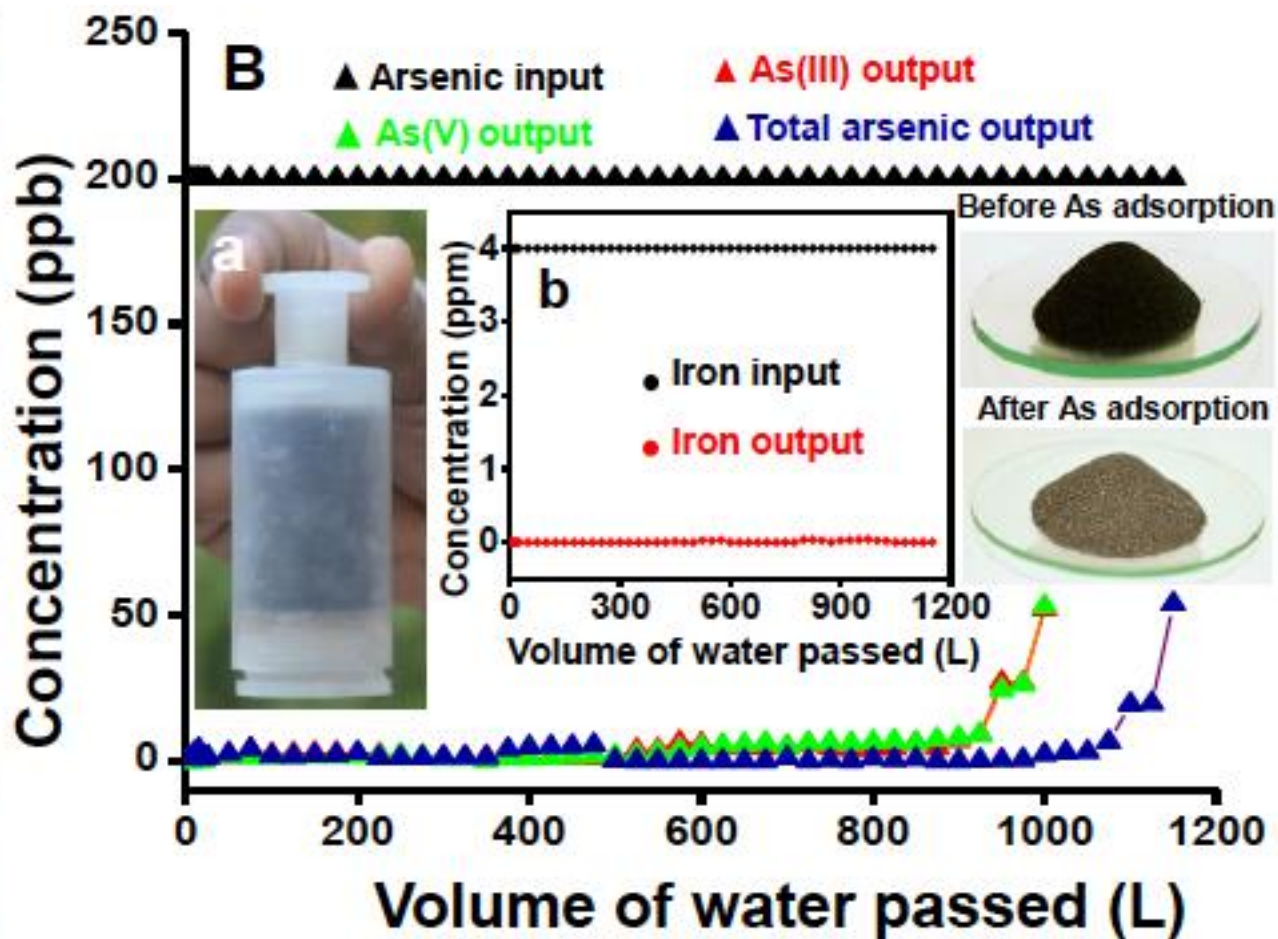
www.advmat.de

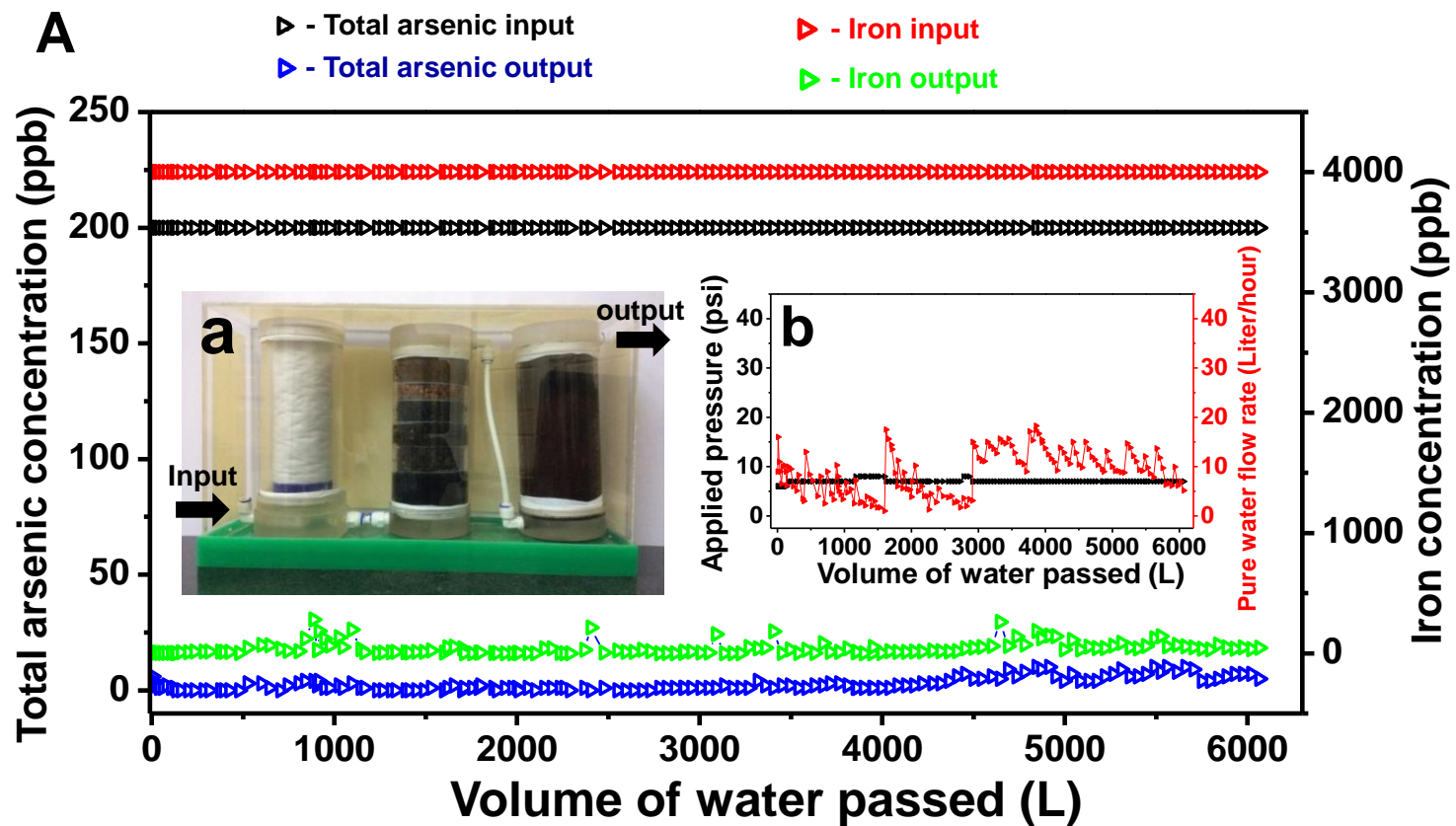
Author Pre-proof ADVANCED MATERIALS

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

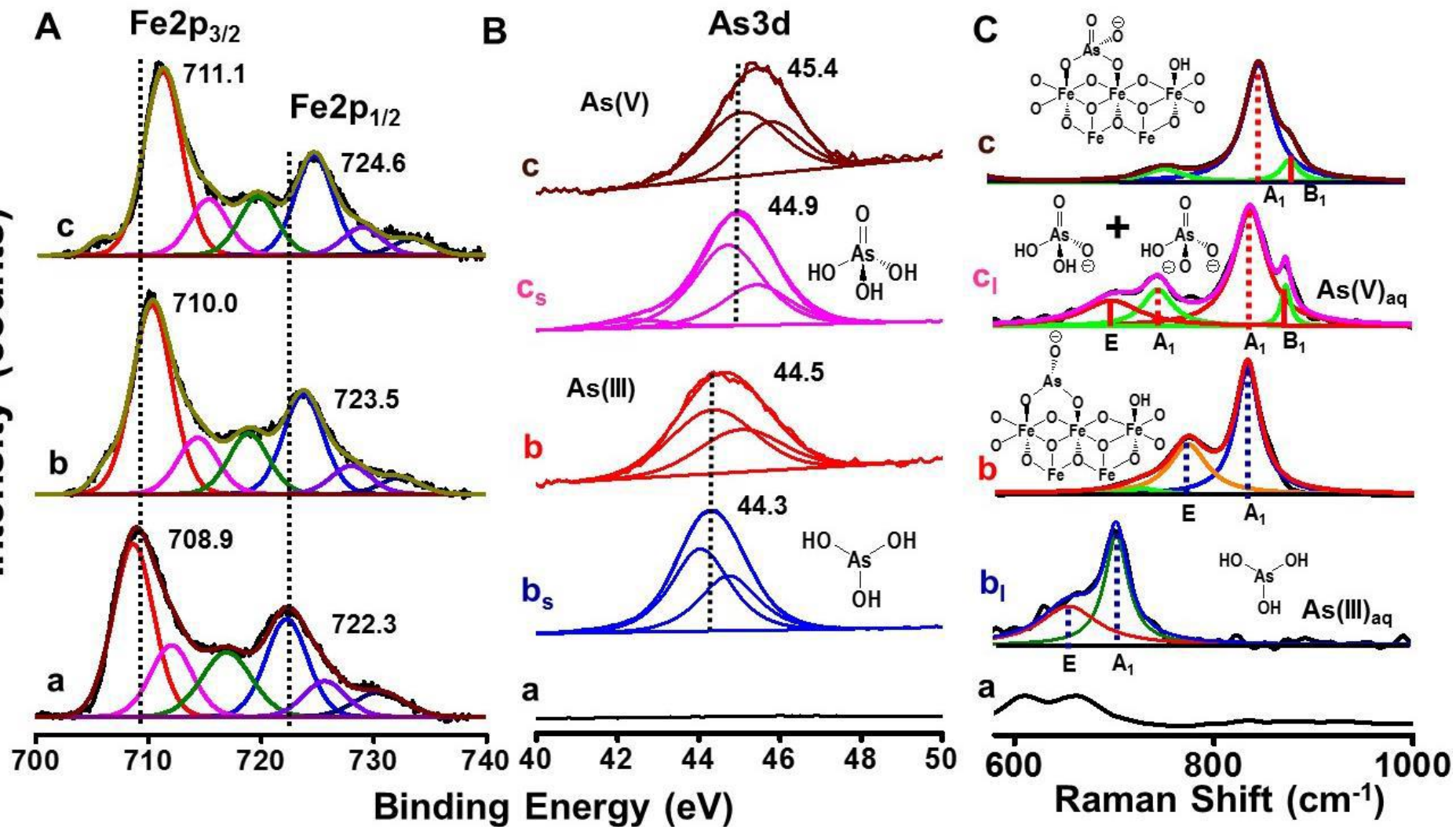
By Avula Anil Kumar, Anirban Som, Paolo Longo, Chennu Sudhakar, Radha Gobinda Bhui, Soujit Sen Gupta, Anshup, Mohan Udhaya Sankar, Amrita Chaudhary, Ramesh Kumar, and T. Pradeep\*



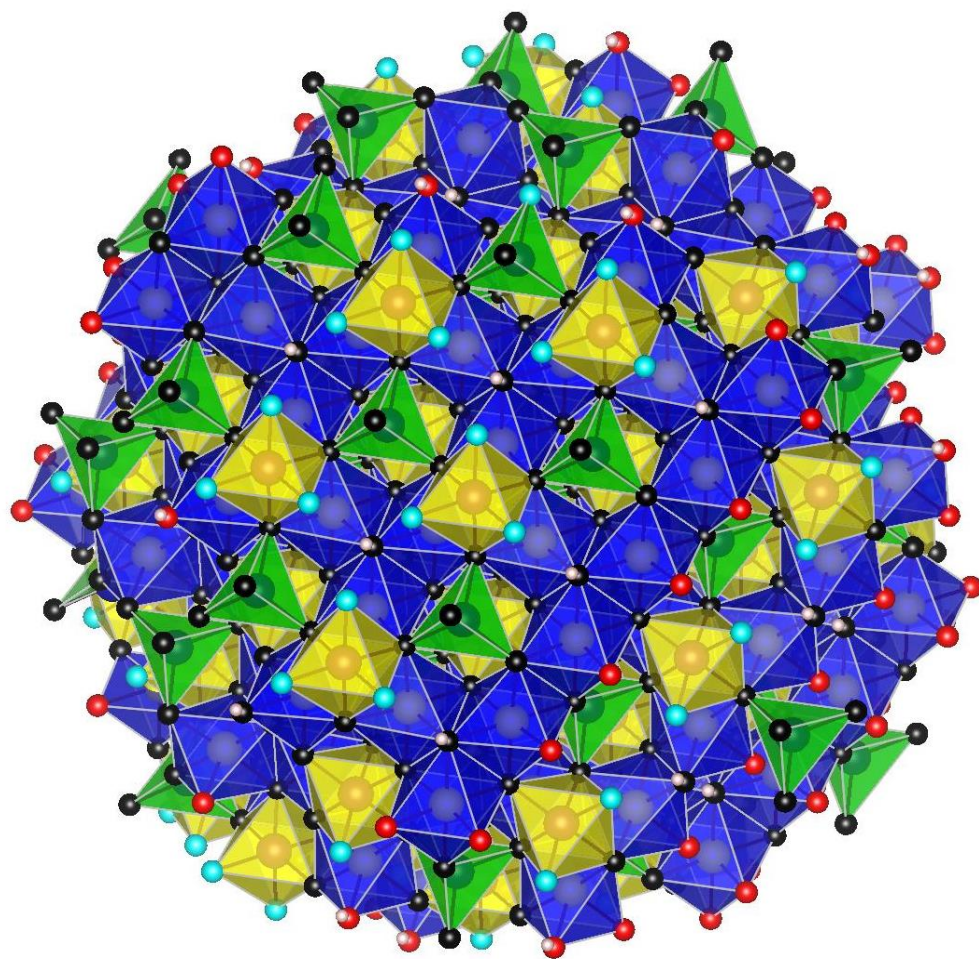




Intensity (counts)

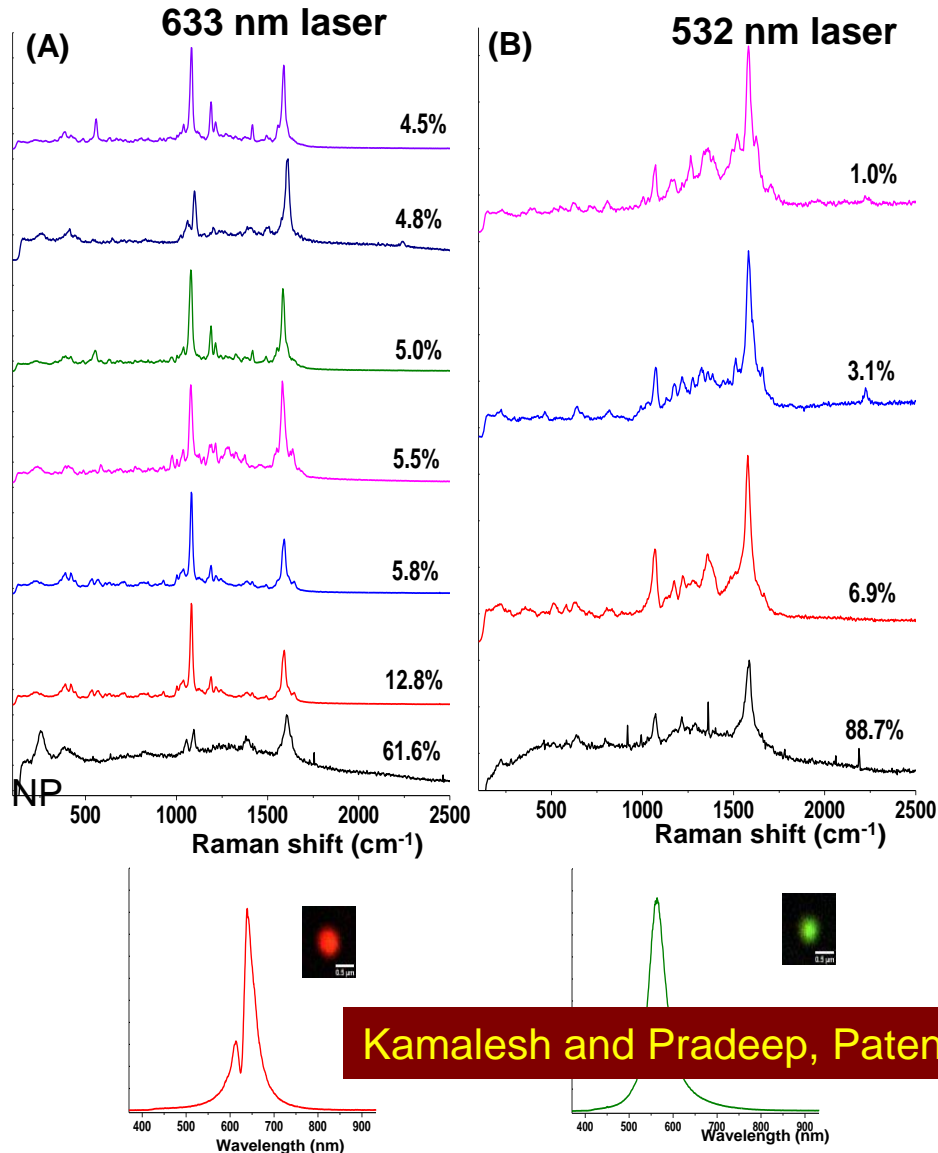
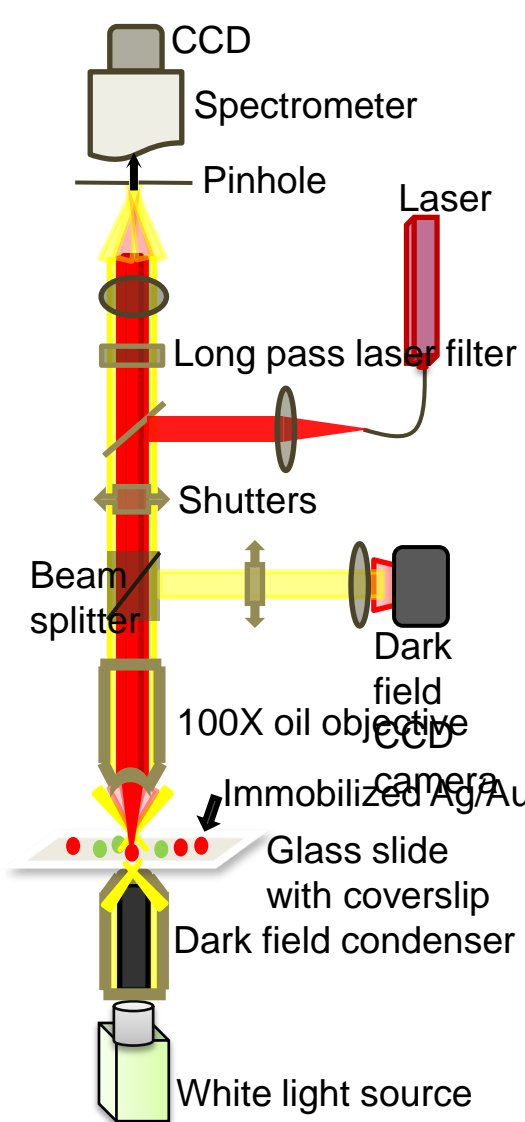






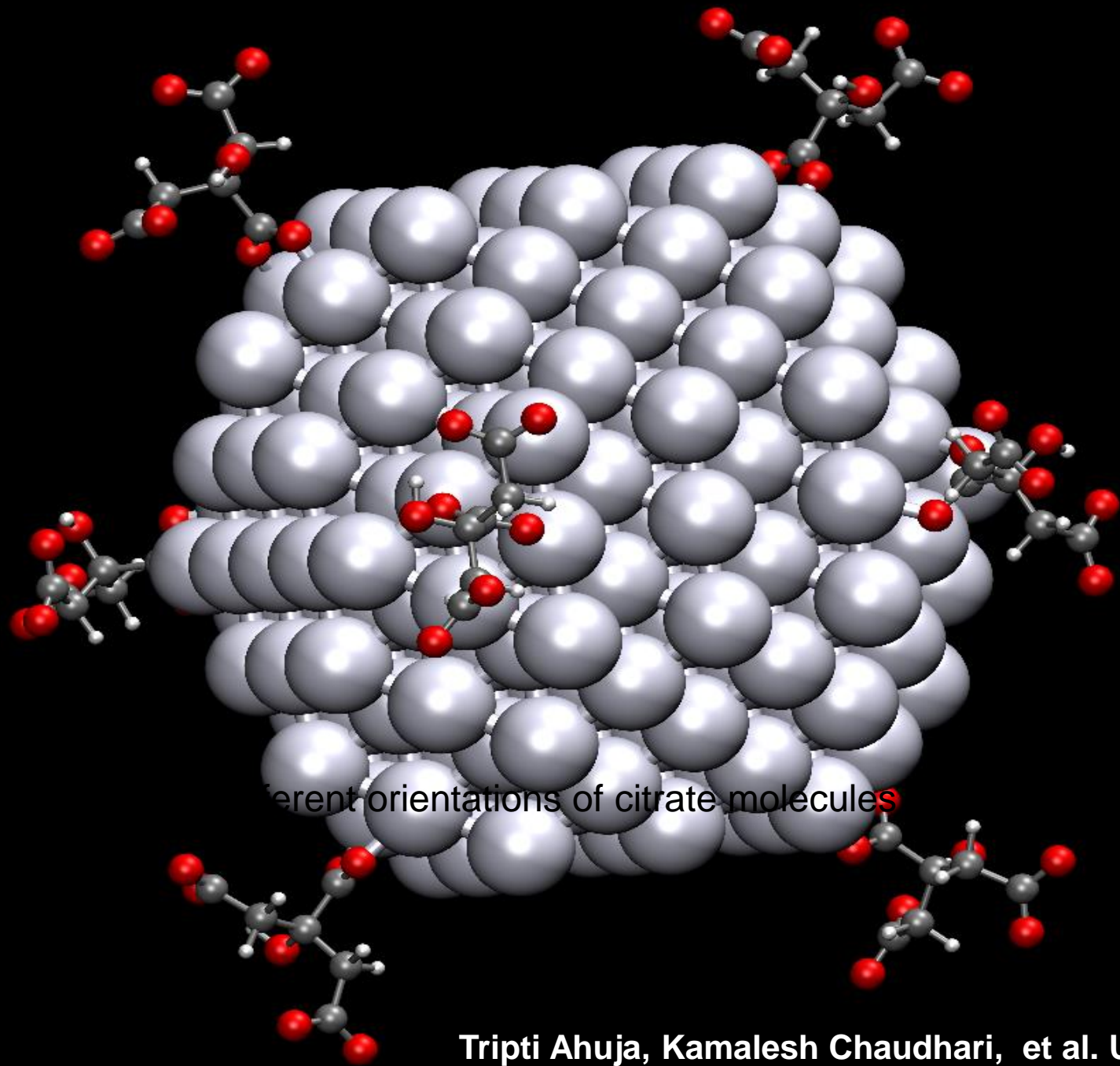
Chennu Sudhakar et al. Unpublished

# Vibrational Tomography of Citrate Adsorbed on Single Isolated Silver Nanoparticles by Real Time Raman Spectroscopy



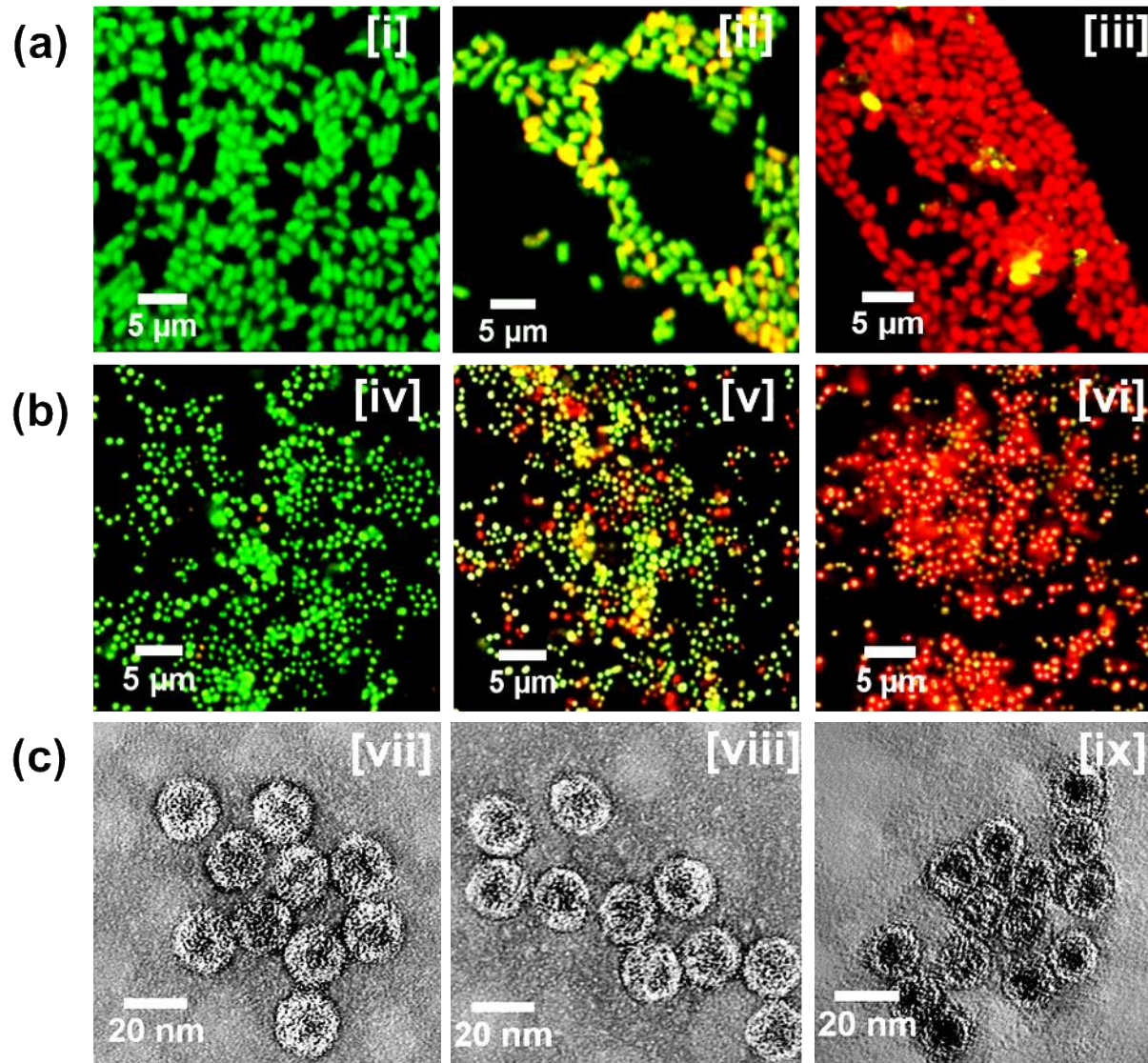
Schematic of dark field confocal Raman microspectroscopy set-up

Real time SERS measurements of citrate molecule adsorbed on single silver nanoparticles





# Anion effect





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**MAP SHOWING LOCATION OF TUBEWELLS FOR INSTALLATION OF ARSENIC FILTER AT NINETEEN ARSENIC AFFECTED BLOCKS IN MURSHIDABAD DISTRICT**

**LEGEND**

- LOCATION OF TUBEWELL
- ARSENIC AFFECTED BLOCK

10 5 0 Kilometers

**CHINA (Tibet)**

**ARUNACHAL PRADESH**

**SIKKIM**

**BHUTAN**

**ASSAM**

**NAGALAND**

**MANIPUR**

**MEGHALAYA**

**TRIPURA**

**MIZORAM**

**BIHAR**

**WEST BENGAL**

**BANGLADESH**

**BAY OF BENGAL**

**ANDMAN & NICOBAR ISLANDS**

**Map not to Scale**

# A glimpse of performance data for installations in Murshidabad

S.No	Sample Name	Input arsenic (ppb)	Output arsenic (ppb)	Number of days running
1.	Topidanga Jumma Masjid, Bhagwangola-II	31	0	30 days
2.	Bhandahara Jumma Masjid, Bhagwangola-II	20.7	0.4	30 days
3.	Horirampur Jumma Masjid, Bhagwangola-II	37	0	45 days
4.	Dhipara Jumma Masjid, Bhagwangola-II	4.8	1.8	30 days
5.	Bahadurpur High School, Bhagwangola-I	9.4	0.2	30 days
6.	Charlabangola Higher Sec School, Bhagwangola-I	28.2	0.1	245 days
7.	Mahisasthali Girls’ High School, Bhagwangola-I	0	0	30 days
8.	Orahar Girls’ High School, Bhagwangola-I	0.53	0	10 days
9.	Rabindratola BN Pandey High School, Bhagwangola-I	84.3	0	245 days
10.	Karbalajamam Masjid, Berhampore	6.8	0	150 days
11.	PHED office, Berhampore	32	0	10 days
12.	Nabipur Bazar Jumma Masjid, Raninagar-II	1.3	0	60 days
13.	Rukunpur Jumma Masjid, Hariharpara	25.6	2.2	60 days
14.	Klyanpur Jumma Masjid, Domkal	64.7	0	200 days
15.	Benadaha Mondalpara Hanafi Jamat, Beldanga-I	9.04	0	180 days

# Performance data from Murshidabad (continued)

S. No.	Sample Name	Input arsenic (ppb)	Output arsenic (ppb)	Number of days running
23.	Babaltali Jumma Masjid, Raninagar – II	10.7	0	180 days
24.	Sargachhi Paschimpara Jumma Masjid, Beldanga – I	1.26	0.04	180 days
25.	Pratappur Jumma Masjid, Hariharpara	27.19	0.13	180 days
26.	Fakirabad Jumma Masjid, Domkal	24.67	0	180 days
27.	Shialmari Jumma Masjid, Raninagar – II	287.5	0.09	240 days
28.	Bhabta Ahelahadis Jumma Masjid, Beldanga	8.6	5.7	240 days
			(ppb)	
1.	Dhapadia Junior Madrasah	46.5	2.15	30 days
2.	Khidirpur Shishu Shiksha Kendra	14.99	0	260 days
3.	Junior Madrasah	12.7	0	60 days
4.	Dhapana Board High School	14.96	0.6	45 days
5.	Birpur Primary School	19.56	0	90 days
6.	Bethuaduari JCM High School	4.56	0	45 days
7.	Jugnuthala Primary School	23.36	0	60 days
8.	Dahakula Primary High School	36.6	0	60 days
9.	Bargachi Primary School Nagadi	9.56	0	90 days
10.	Dahakula Primary School	22.7	0	60 days
11.	BJ Kumari Primary School	5.9	0	100 days
12.	Arijnagar Primary School	0.13	-	60 days
13	Patikpari Girls Primary School	9.6	0	60 days
14.	Patikpari Girls Primary School	9.6	0	60 days

# Now in Punjab

InnoNano Research Pvt. Ltd.

# Problems in the field

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Diverse water quality

Spent media

Sludge management

Reactivation

Cost

Weather conditions, accessibility

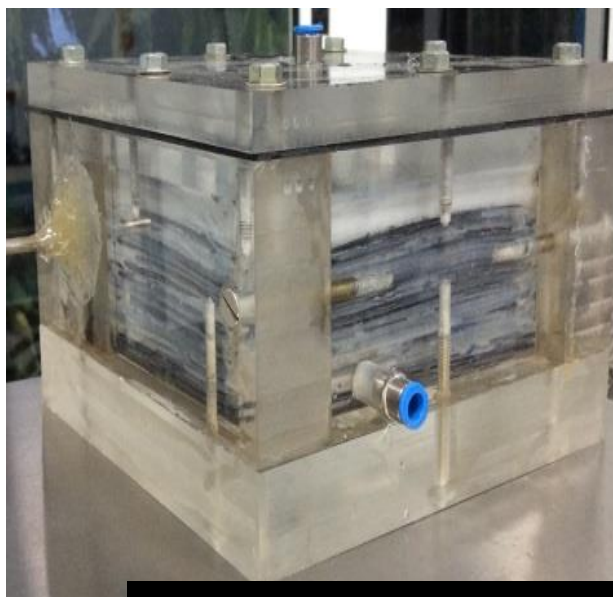
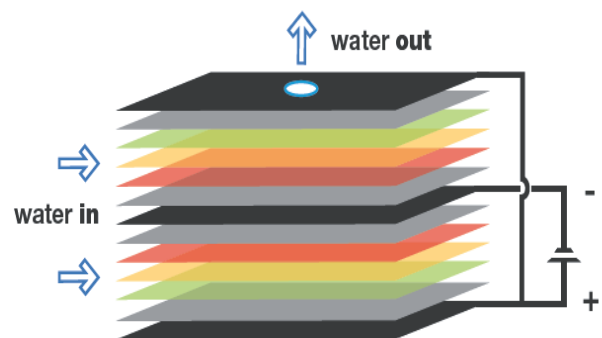
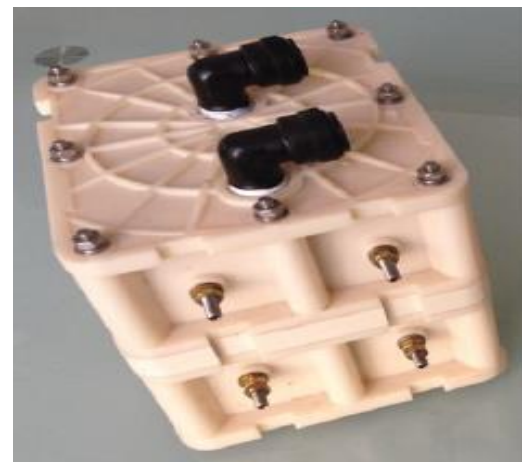
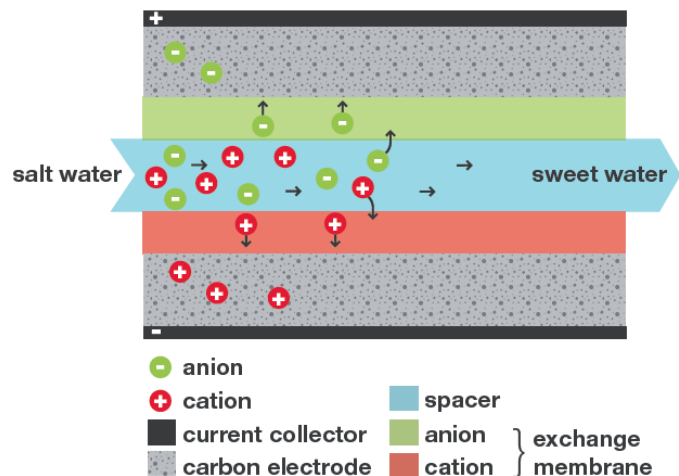


# Work was featured in several journals



Nature Nanotechnology, July 2014 issue

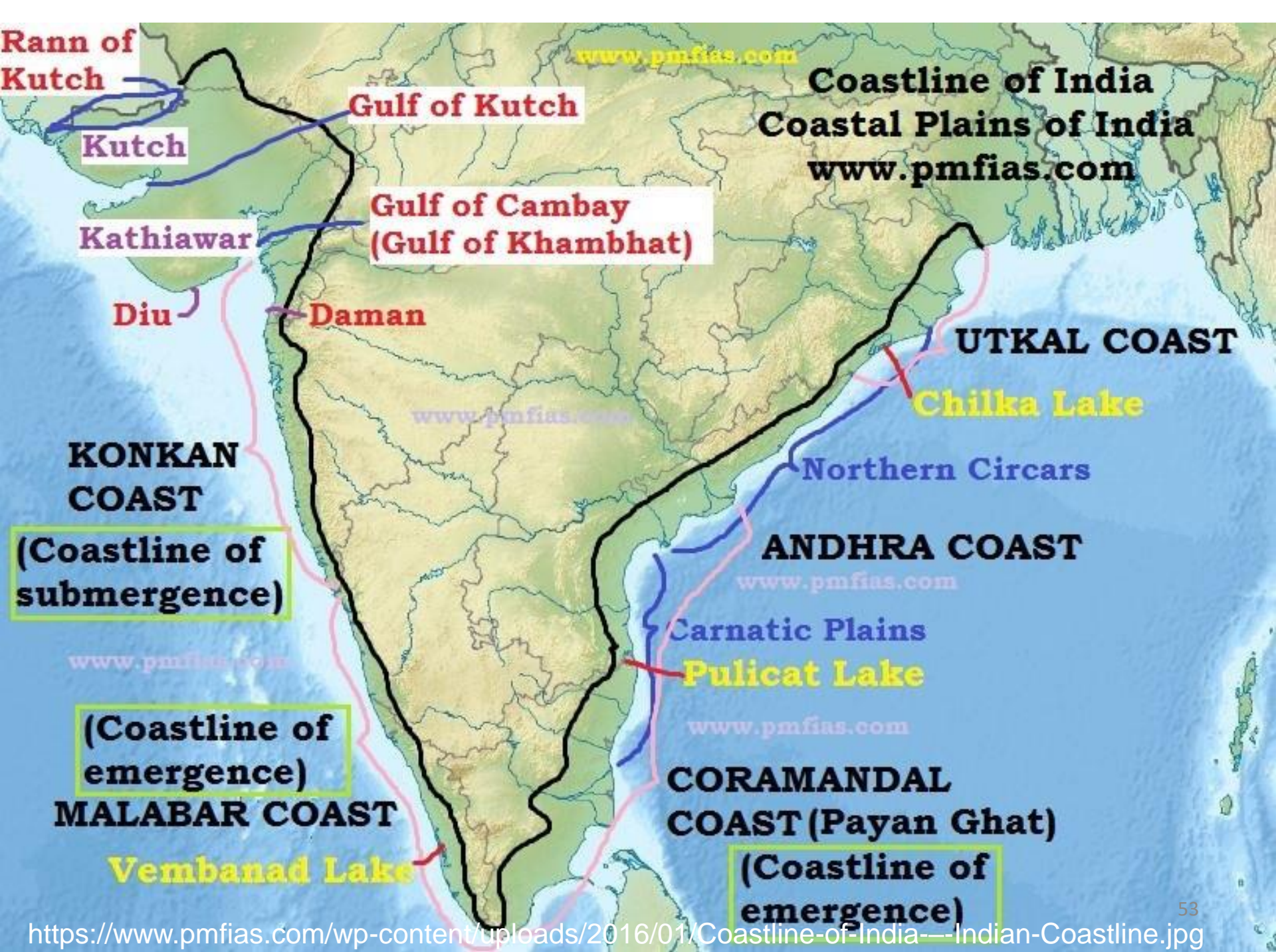
# Capacitive Desalination (CDI)



**innODI**  
Our new company

Soujit Sengupta, Rabiul Islam and others





**Rann of Kutch**

**Gulf of Kutch**

**Coastline of India**  
**Coastal Plains of India**  
[www.pmfias.com](http://www.pmfias.com)

**Kutch**

**Kathiawar**

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

**Diu**

**Daman**

**KONKAN  
COAST**

**(Coastline of  
submergence)**

**UTKAL COAST**

**Chilka Lake**

**Northern Circars**

**ANDHRA COAST**

**Carnatic Plains**

**Pulicat Lake**

**CORAMANDAL  
COAST (Payan Ghat)**

**(Coastline of  
emergence)**

**(Coastline of  
emergence)**

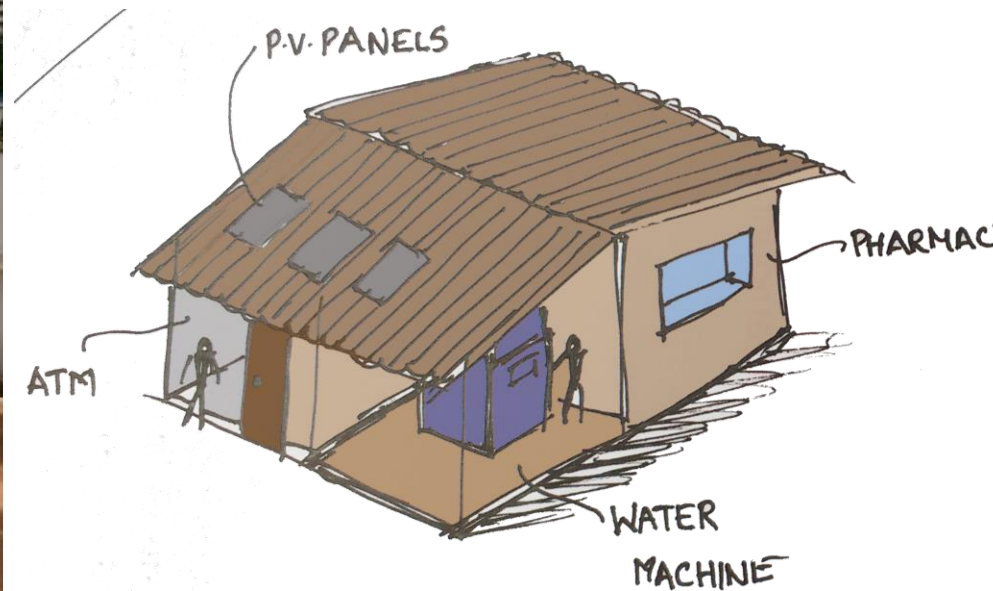
**MALABAR COAST**

**Vembanad Lake**





innODI



Products under implementation

Vijay Sampath, Tullio Servida

# Plan for immediate future



India Mark II hand water pump – most common water pump used globally

InnoNano Research's in-line arsenic removal filtration system



In-line arsenic sensor and remote data management – indicates when filtration systems require maintenance.

**IMPROVED FILTER  
SUSTAINABILITY**

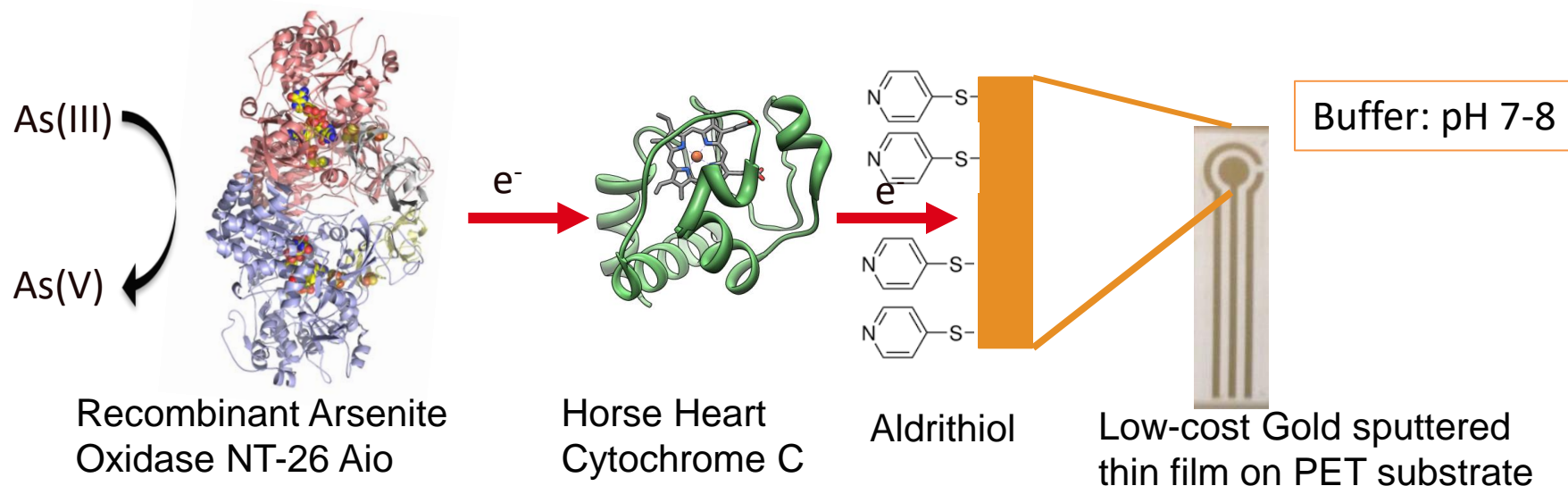
**SUSTAINABLE  
SOURCE OF  
ARSENIC FREE  
SAFE DRINKING  
WATER**



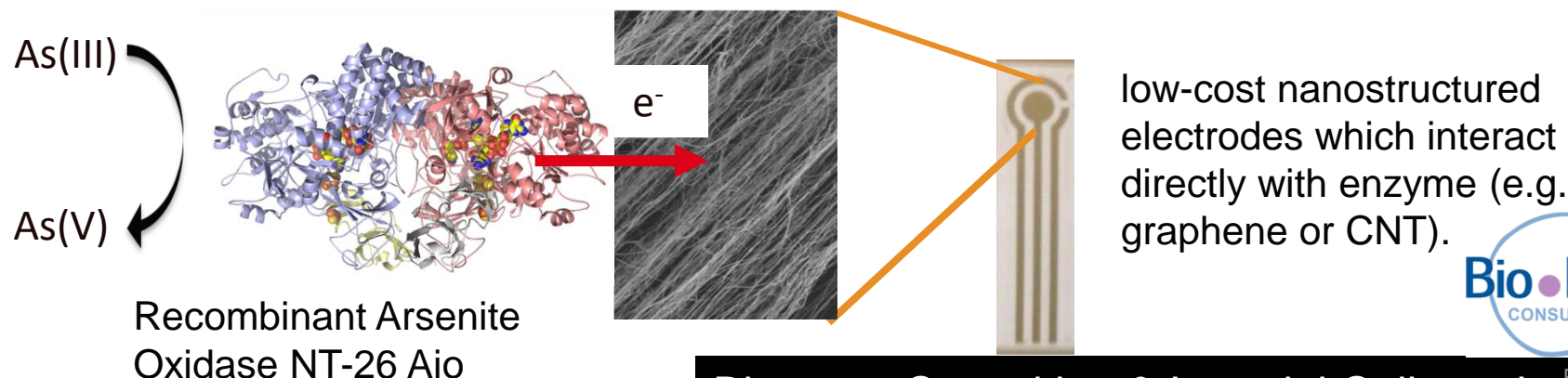
Anshup, Udhaya Sakar and Amrita

# Biosensor Design

## 1<sup>st</sup> Generation Design (Mediated Electrochemistry)

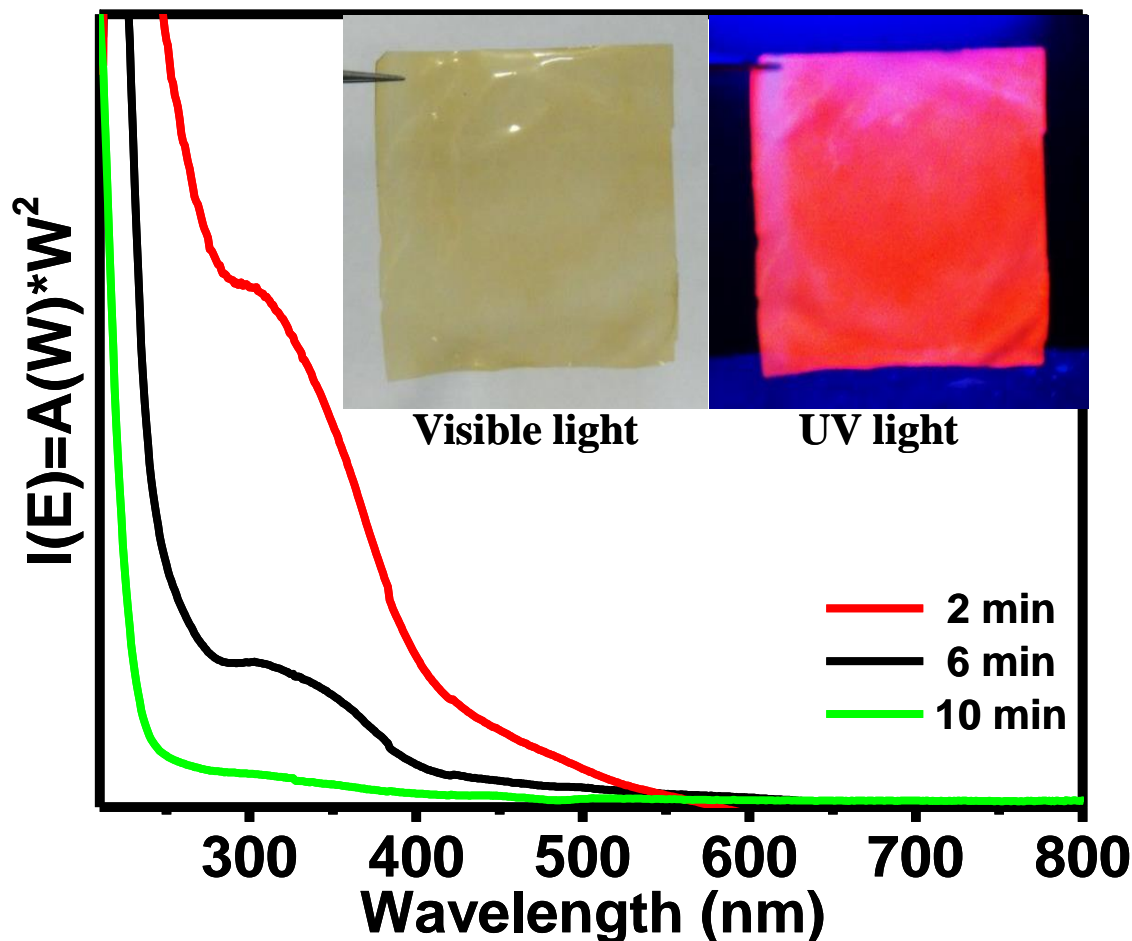


## 2<sup>nd</sup> Generation Design (Direct Electron Transfer)



# Quantum cluster based metal ion sensing paper

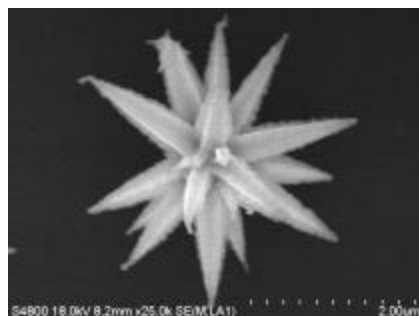
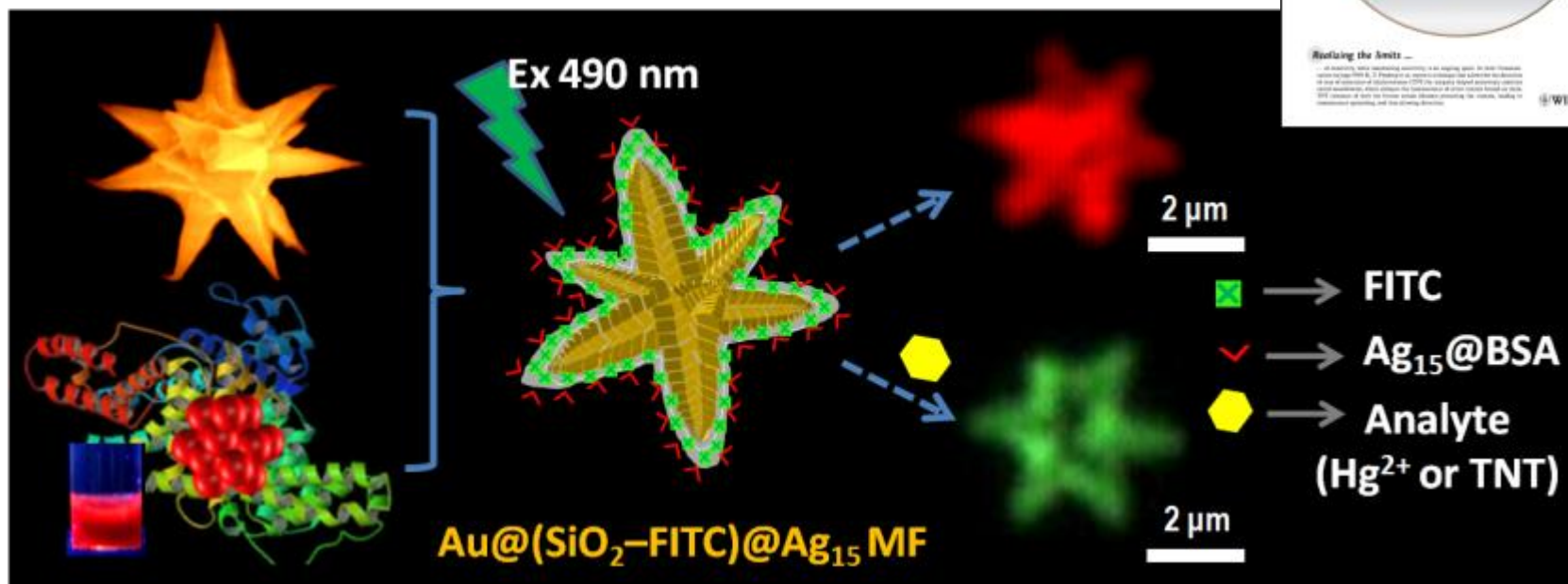
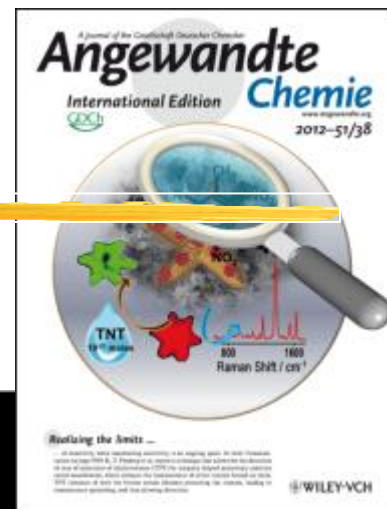
## Large area uniform illumination using quantum cluster



Decrease in the absorption of  $Au_{15}$  as a biofilm is dipped into the cluster solution. Inset: Free standing quantum cluster loaded film in visible light and UV light.



# Sub-zeptomolar detection



Featured in:

The Hindu, Telegraph, Times of India, etc.  
C&E News  
and many others

**Ammu Mathew, et al. Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. 2012**

# Contents

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Inquisitive science

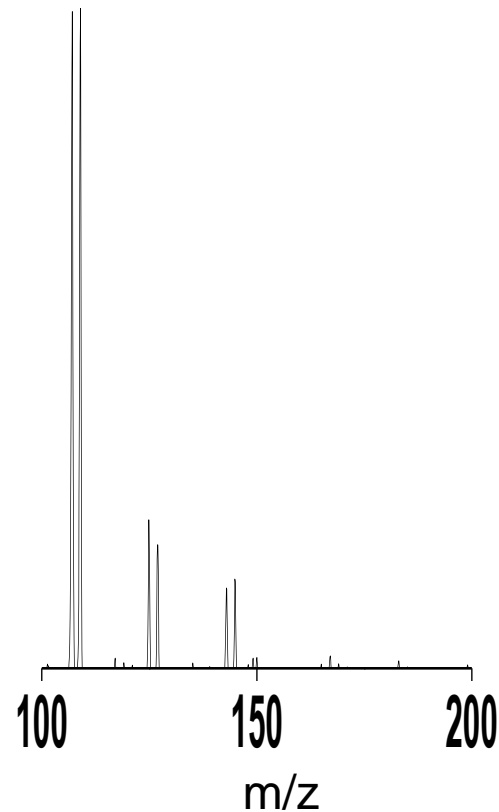
Technology

Translation

What next?

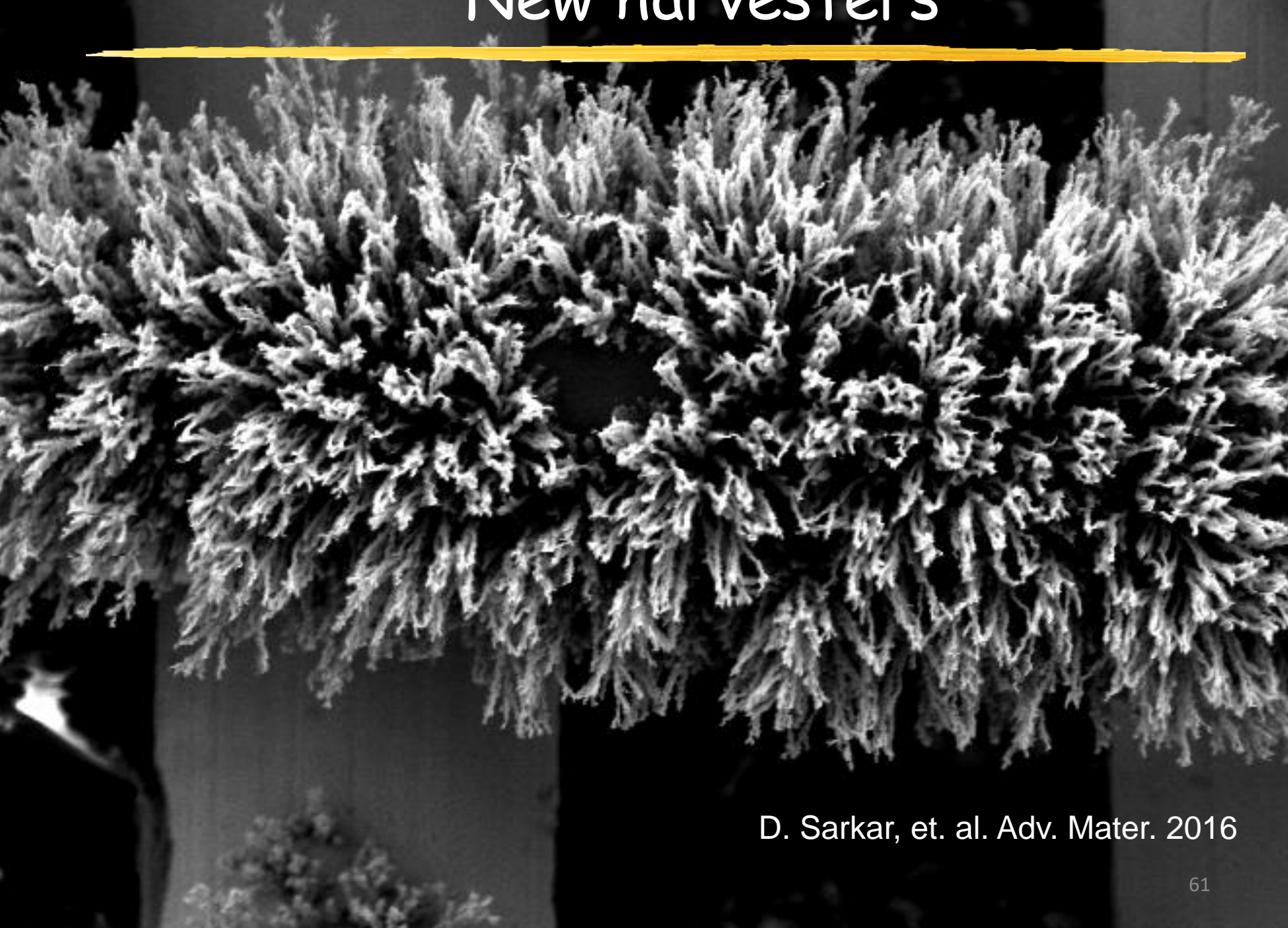
# Atmospheric water harvesting

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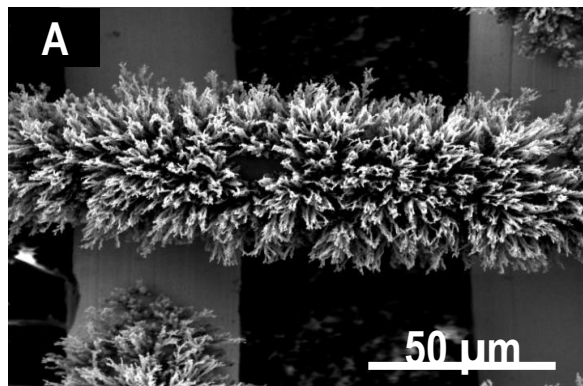
# New harvesters

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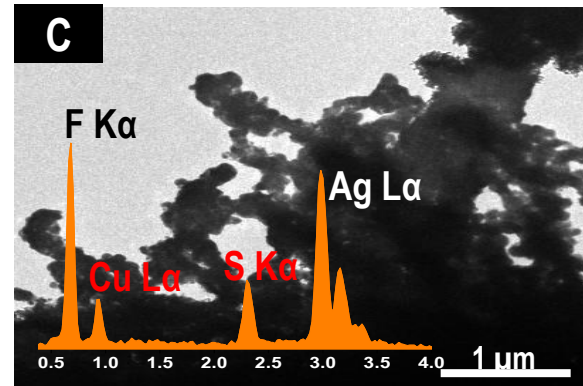
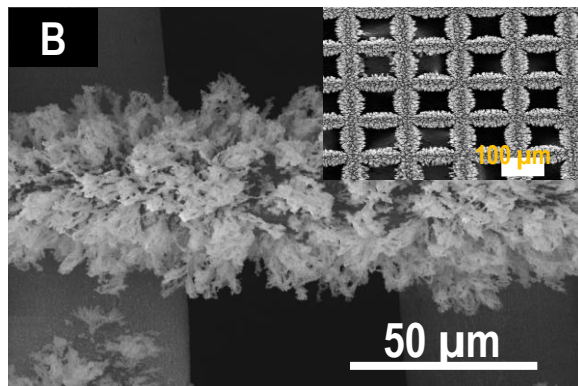


D. Sarkar, et. al. Adv. Mater. 2016

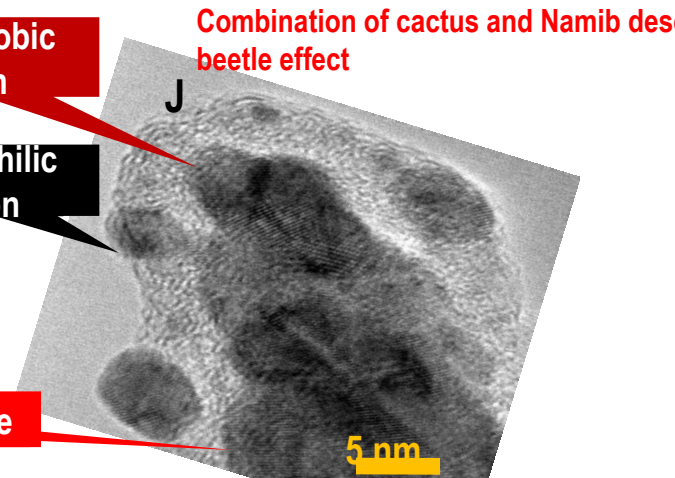
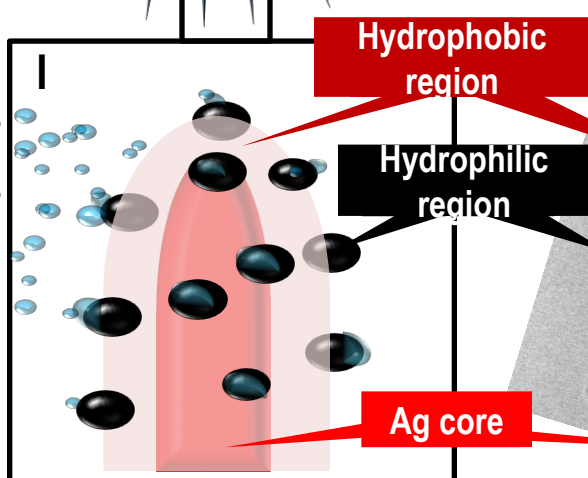
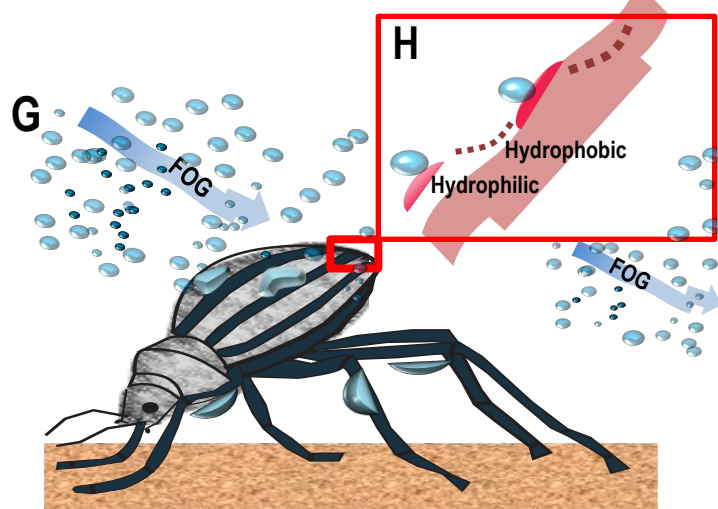
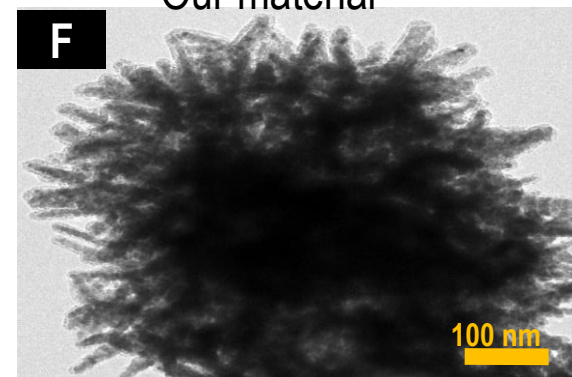
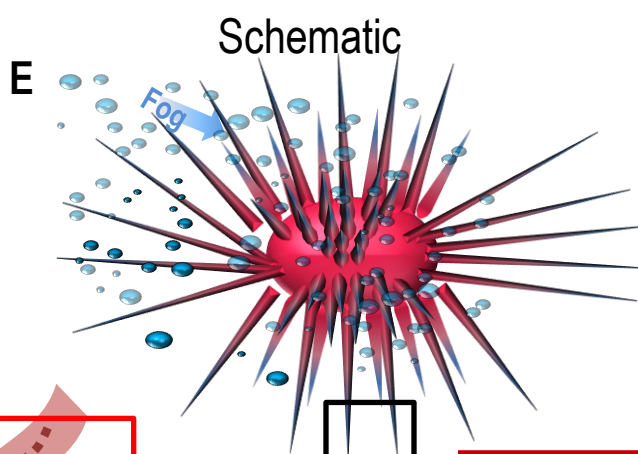
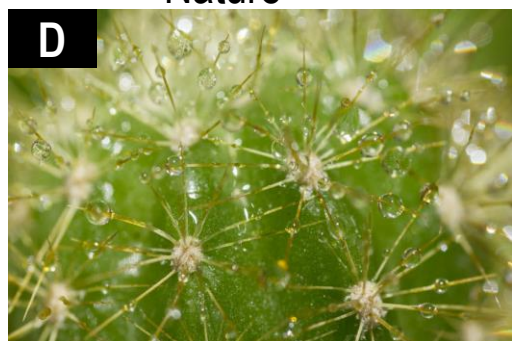


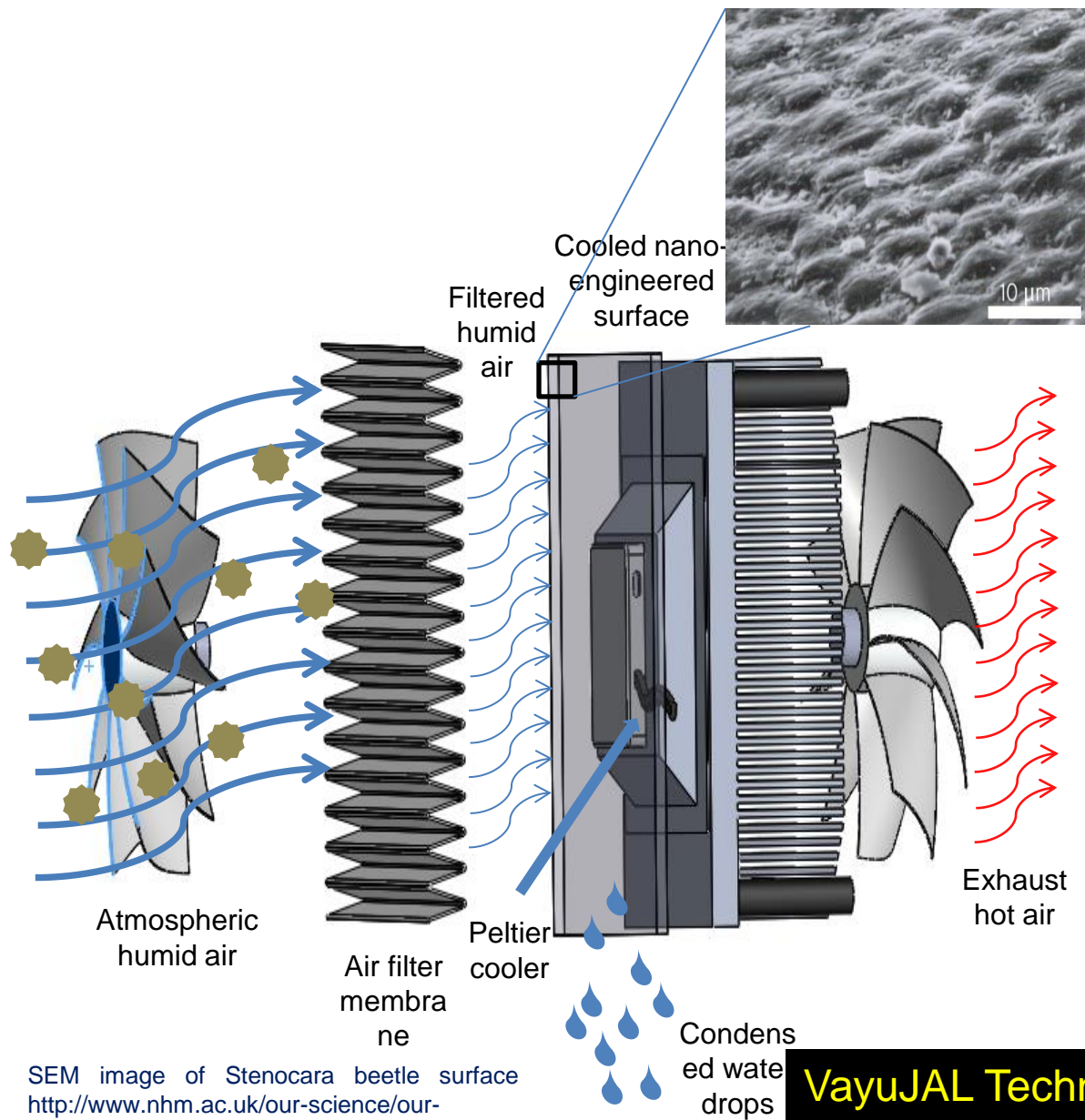


Nature



Our material



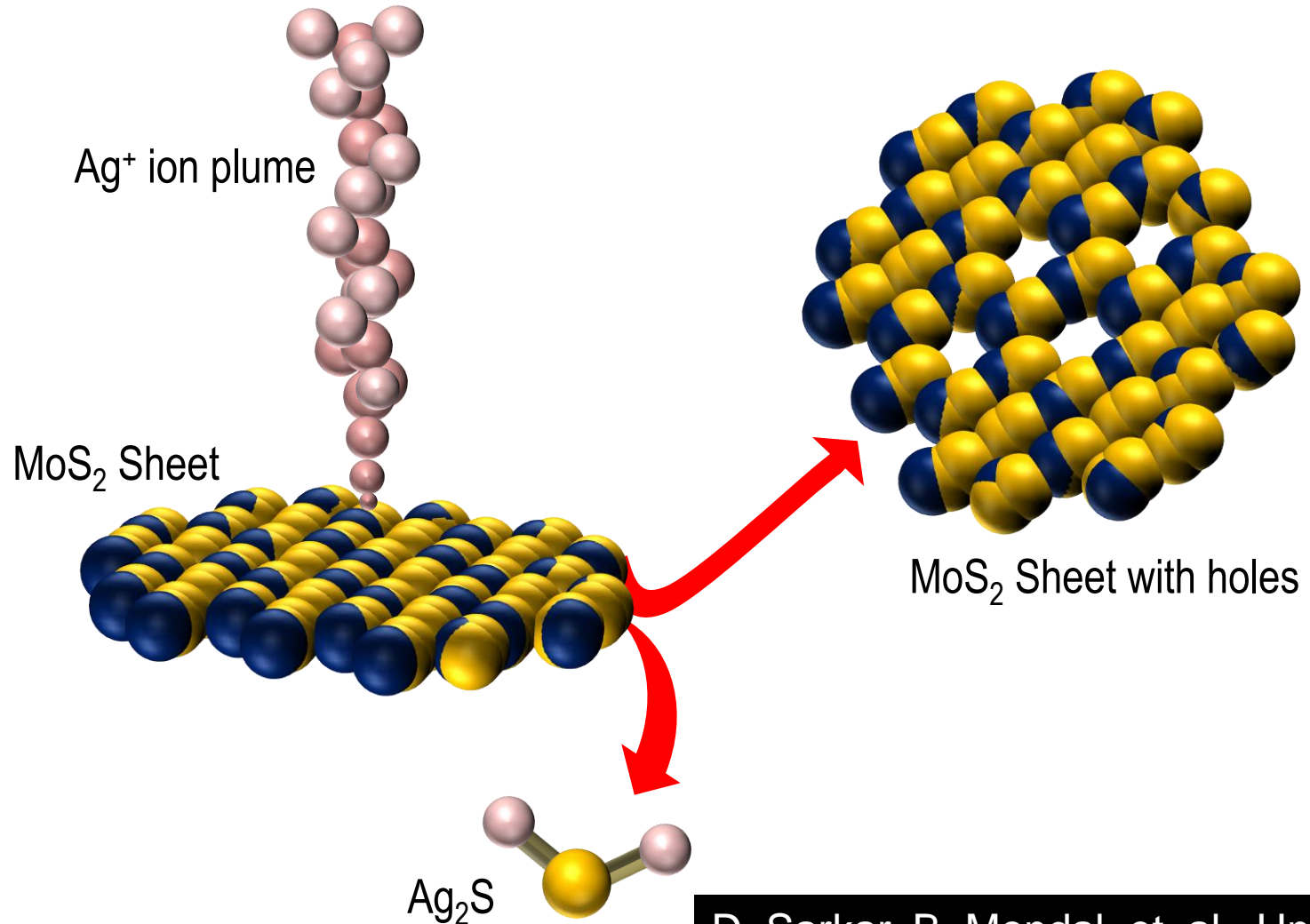


**VayuJAL Technologies Pvt. Ltd.**

**Ankit Nagar and Ramesh Kumar Soni**

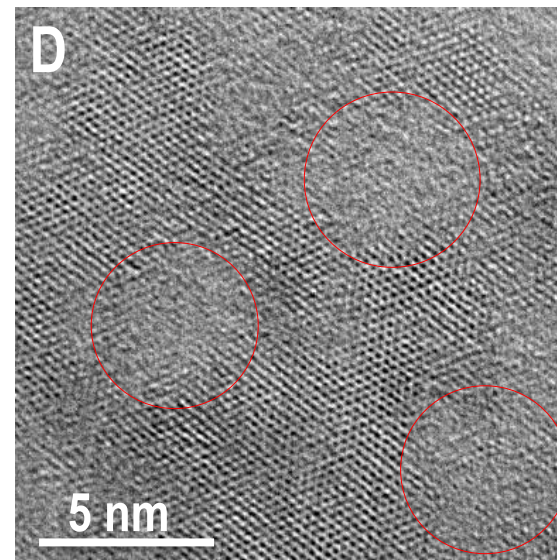
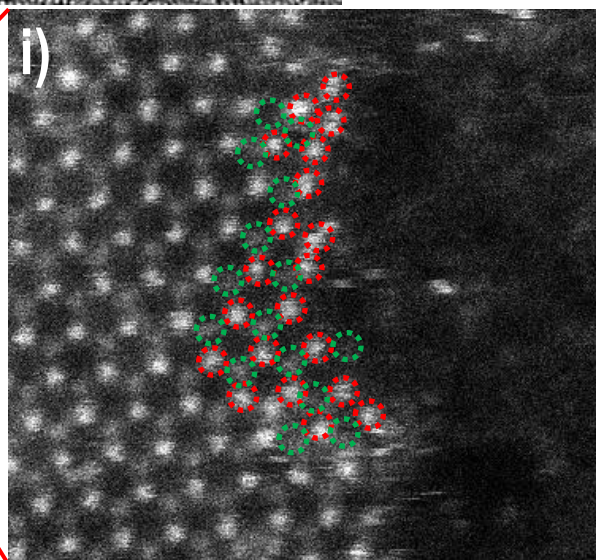
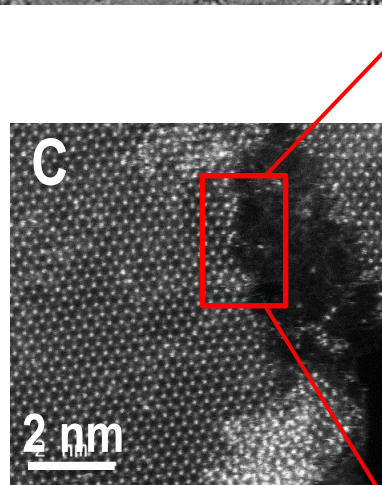
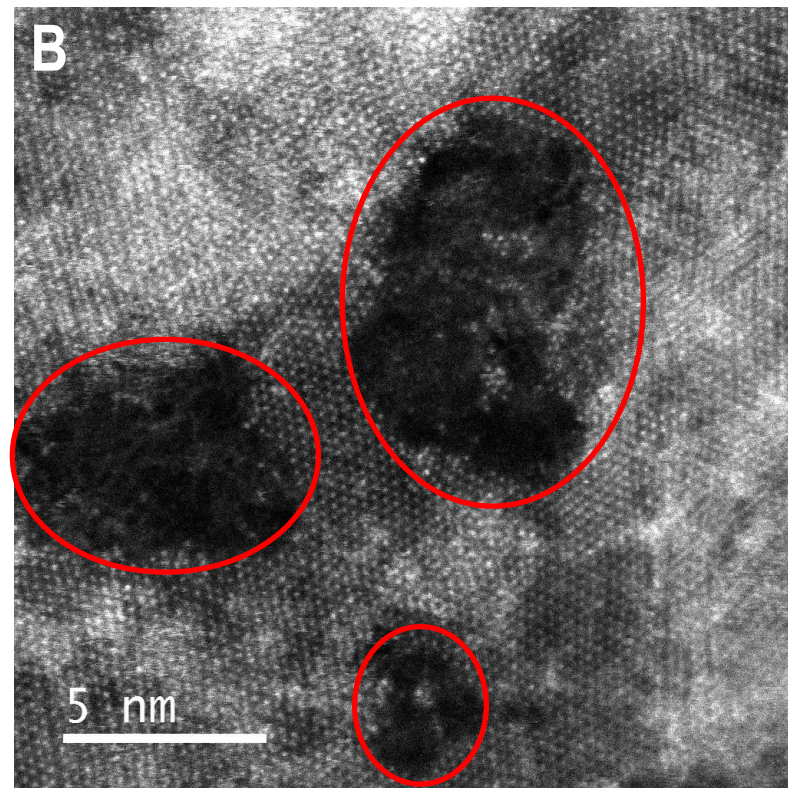
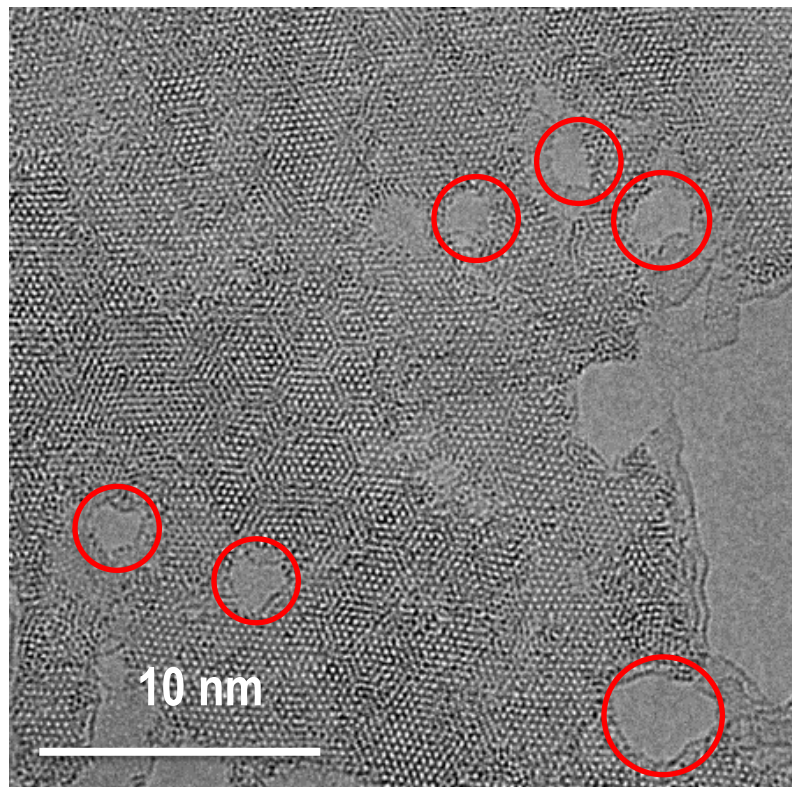


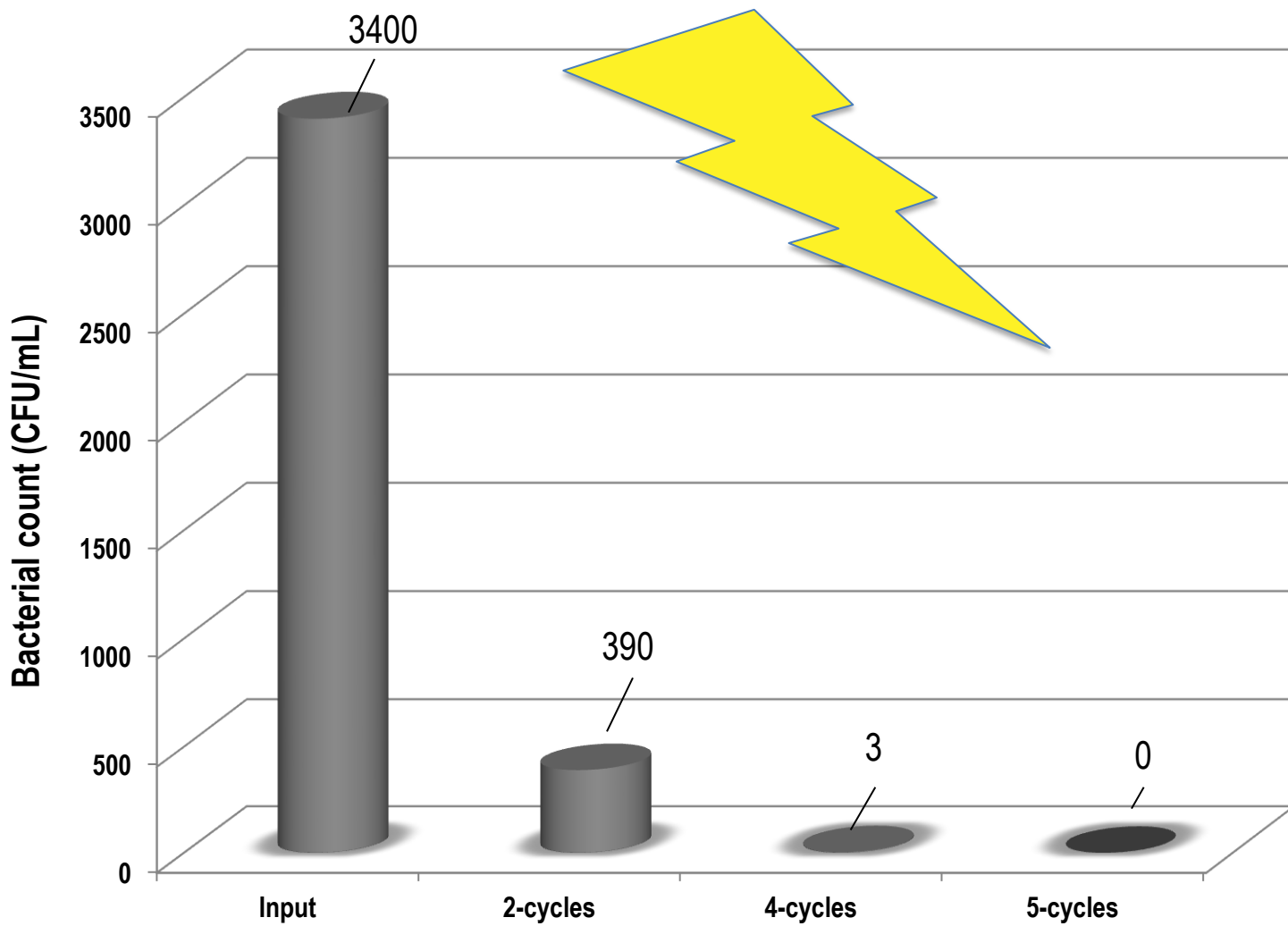
# Atomically precise holes



D. Sarkar, B. Mondal, et. al., Unpublished Patented







# Road ahead

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We can solve ALL the DRINKING WATER problems affordably.

Better mechanisms of monitoring are needed to ensure that the nation stays healthy.

Affordable and sustainable solutions for water harvesting are needed.

We need to create mechanisms of delivery.

Expanding to clean air, sustainable and healthy water, food

Global efforts



World population density 1994

# International centre for clean water

Every problem is dwarfed in front of the giant water crisis looming large on the planet.

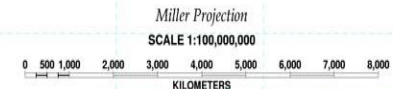
Water stress - in quantity and quality- is felt most severely by the populous countries.

Indian subcontinent is at the centre of action.

Many of the problems of water quality can be handled affordably by new technologies.

More solutions are needed with international participation.

Available technologies have to reach other parts of the world.



















January 2016









**Thank you**

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Where there is clean water, there is hope.