



Since 1959

Materials for Water

Thalappil Pradeep

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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.



Associate Editor

ACS
Sustainable
Chemistry & Engineering

Professor-in-charge



International Centre for Clean Water





From S. Vishwanath

© Robert Szucs/Grasshopper Geography

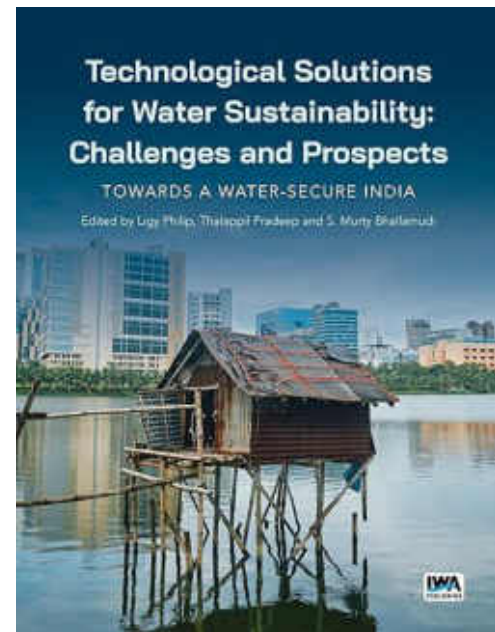
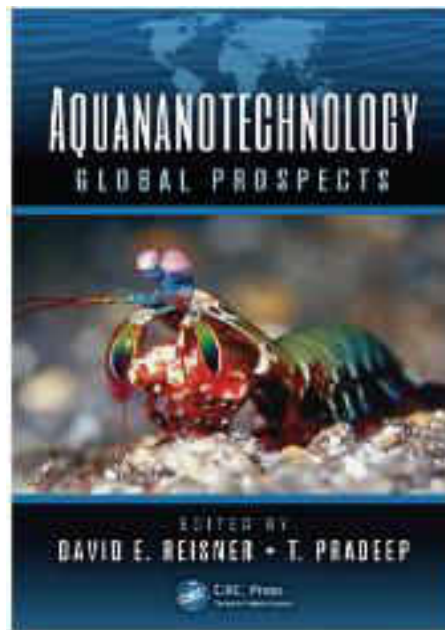
Water purification, history

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 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



World's first nanochemistry-based water purifier

RSC
Chemistry World

Pesticide filter debuts in India

20 April 2007

Kilipati 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. Jayachandrab Reddy, 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. The first Pesticide Filter was the team at IIT Chennai's Chemistry World. He and his student Suresh Kumar have discovered in 2003 that nanoparticles such as carbon nanotubes (CNTs) completely break down into metal ions and amorphous carbon upon reaction with gold and silver nanoparticles.

Pradeep said this prompted them to extend their study to include organochlorine and organophosphorus 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 that gold and silver nanoparticles loaded on alumina were more able to completely remove endosulfan, malathion and chlorpyrifos - three pesticides that have been found in drinking water supplies.

Use and recycle

The filter

Pradeep

Pradeep

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Chemistry world

First ever
nanotechnology
product for clean
water

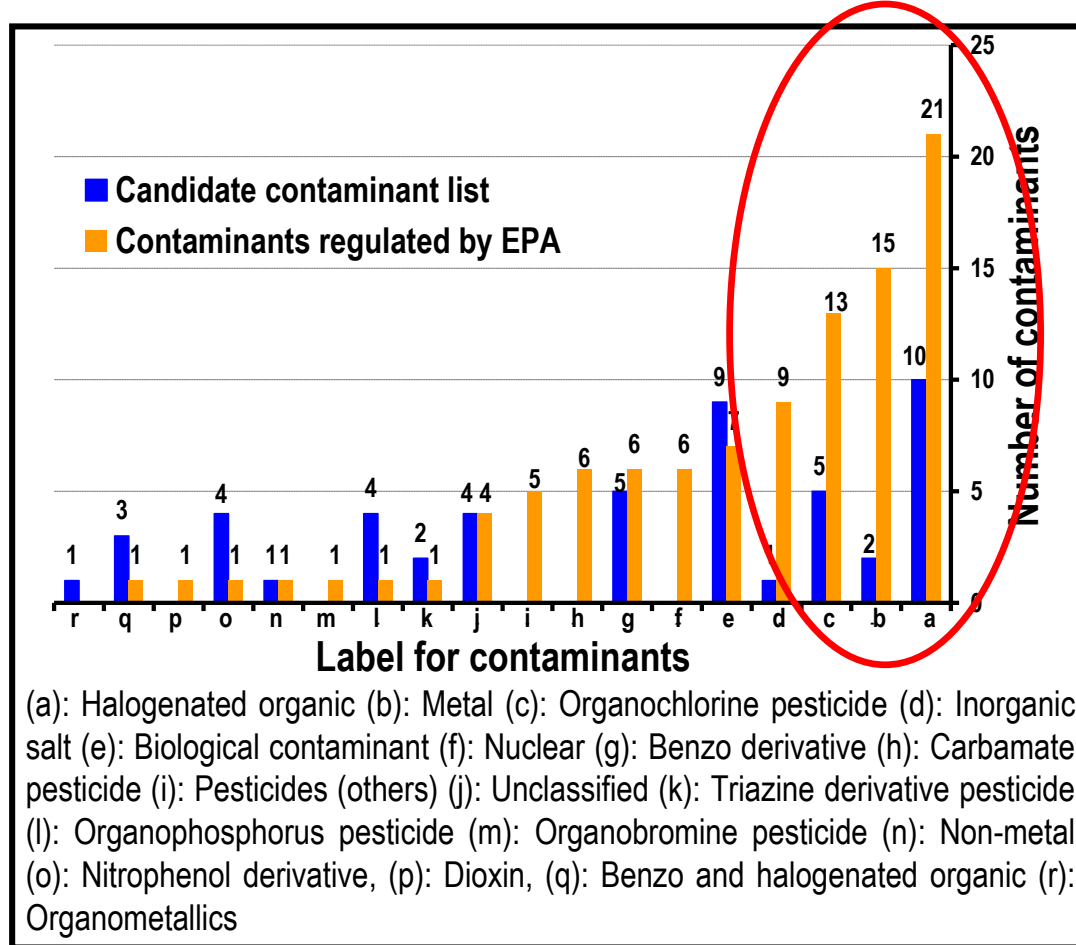


A plant to make supported nanomaterials for water purification; with capacity of 4.5 tons per month, 2007

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



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).

Clean water for everyone



Water positive materials

Biopolymer-reinforced synthetic granular nanocomposites for affordable point-of-use water purification

Mohan Udhaya Sankar¹, Sahaja Aigal¹, Shihabudheen M. Malyekkal¹, Amrita Chaudhary, Anshup, Avula Anil Kumar, Kamallesh Chaudhari, and Thalappil Pradeep²

Unit of Nanoscience and Thematic Unit of Excellence

Edited by Eric Hoek, University of California, Los Angeles

Creation of affordable materials for constant access to clean drinking water is one of the most promising ways to provide drinking water for all. Combining the capabilities of nanocomposites to scavenge toxic species such as heavy metals and other contaminants along with the above capabilities, we have created an affordable, all-inclusive drinking water purifier without electricity. The critical problem in the synthesis of stable materials that can reliably function in the presence of complex species in drinking water that deposit and cause scaling surfaces. Here we show that such constant-flow materials can be synthesized in a simple and effective fashion without the use of electrical power. The nanocomposite sand-like properties, such as higher shear strength, form. These materials have been used to develop a water purifier to deliver clean drinking water locally. The ability to prepare nanostructured composites at ambient temperature has wide relevance for water purification.



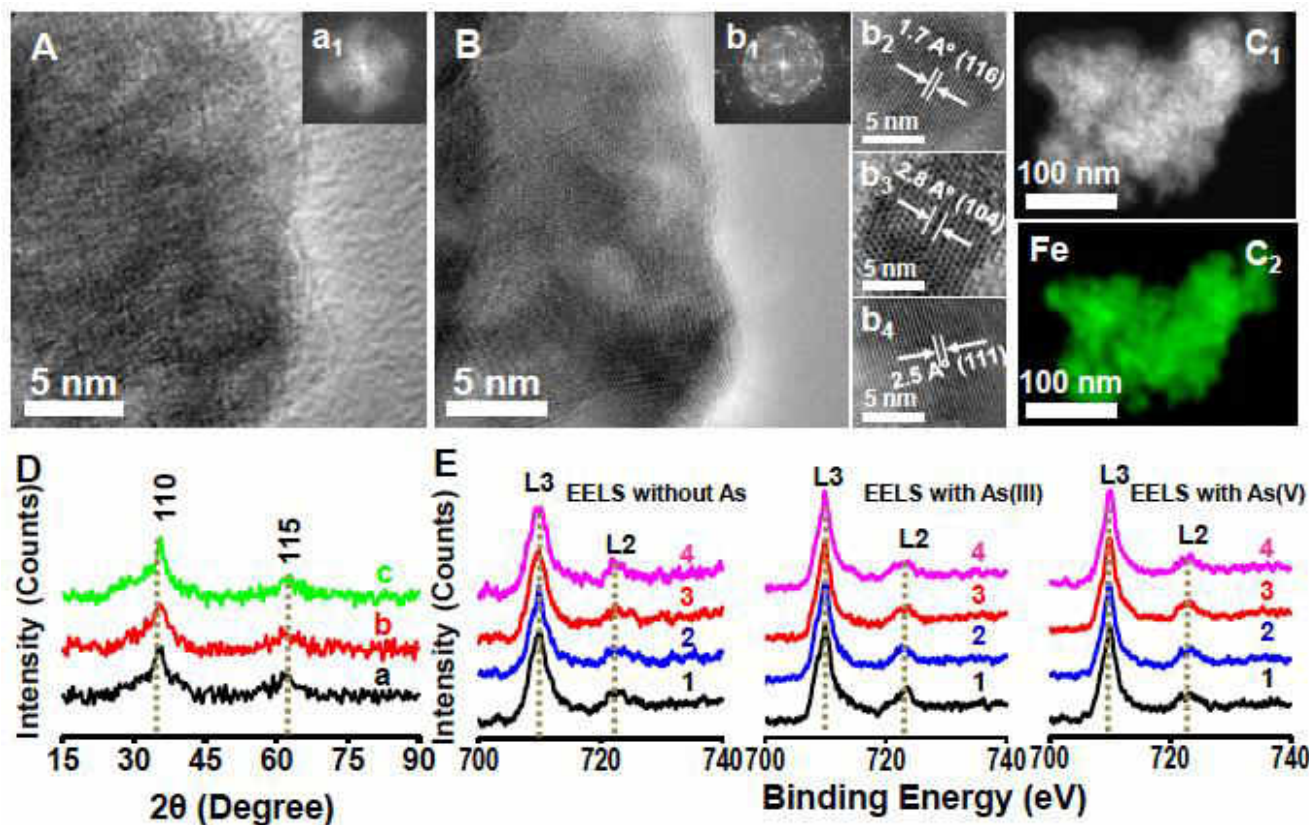
Chennai 600 036, India

Received for review November 21, 2012

able; and (c) continued retention of the material is difficult. A unique family of nanocrystalline granular composite materials prepared through an aqueous route. The retention is attributed to abundant -OH groups, which help in the crystallization and also ensure strong covalent bonding to the matrix. X-ray photoelectron spectroscopy confirms that the composition is rich in silver. Using hyperspectral imaging, the silver in the water was confirmed. The silver nanoparticles activate the silver nanoparticle antimicrobial activity in drinking water. We demonstrate an affordable water purifier that can purify water. We demonstrate an affordable water purifier that can purify water. We demonstrate an affordable water purifier that can purify water.

hybrid | green | appropriate technology | frugal science | developing world

Variety of materials



www.advmat.de

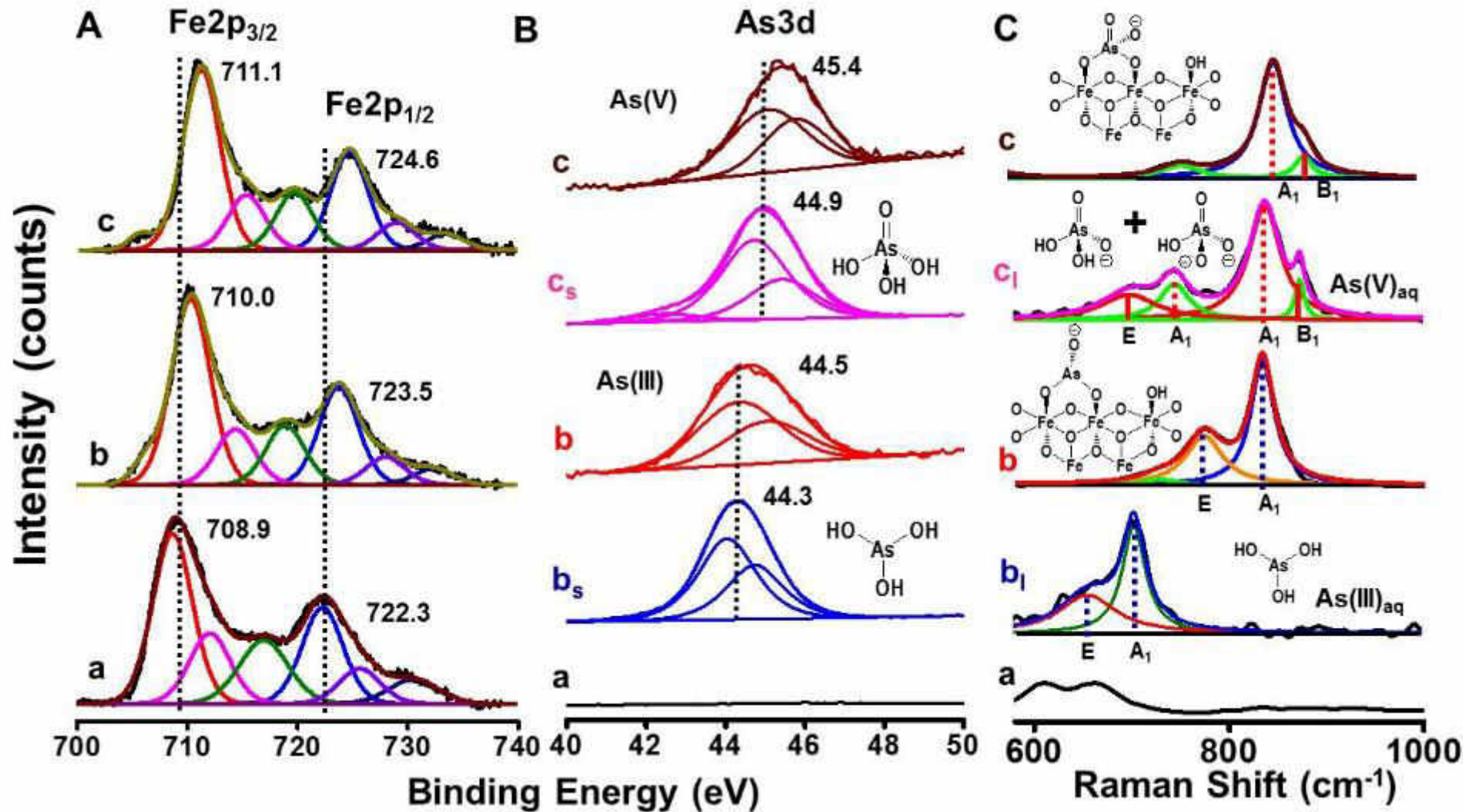
Author P **ADVANCED MATERIALS**

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

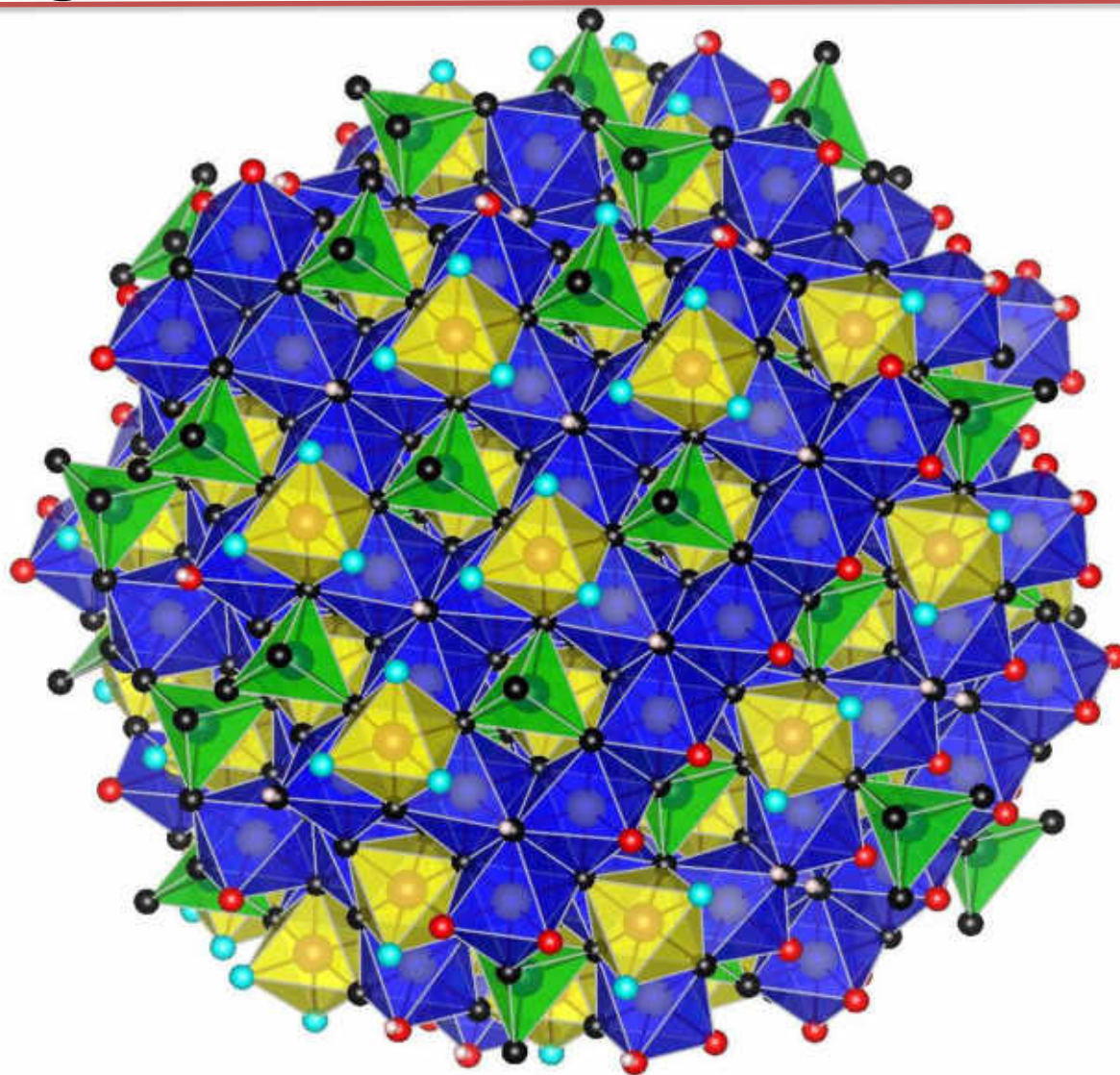
By Avula Anil Kumar, Anirban Som, Paolo Longo, Chennu Sudhakar, Radha Gobinda Bhui, Soujit Sen Gupta, Anshup, Mohan Udhaya Sankar, Amrita Chaudhary, Ramesh Kumar, and T. Pradeep*

Communication

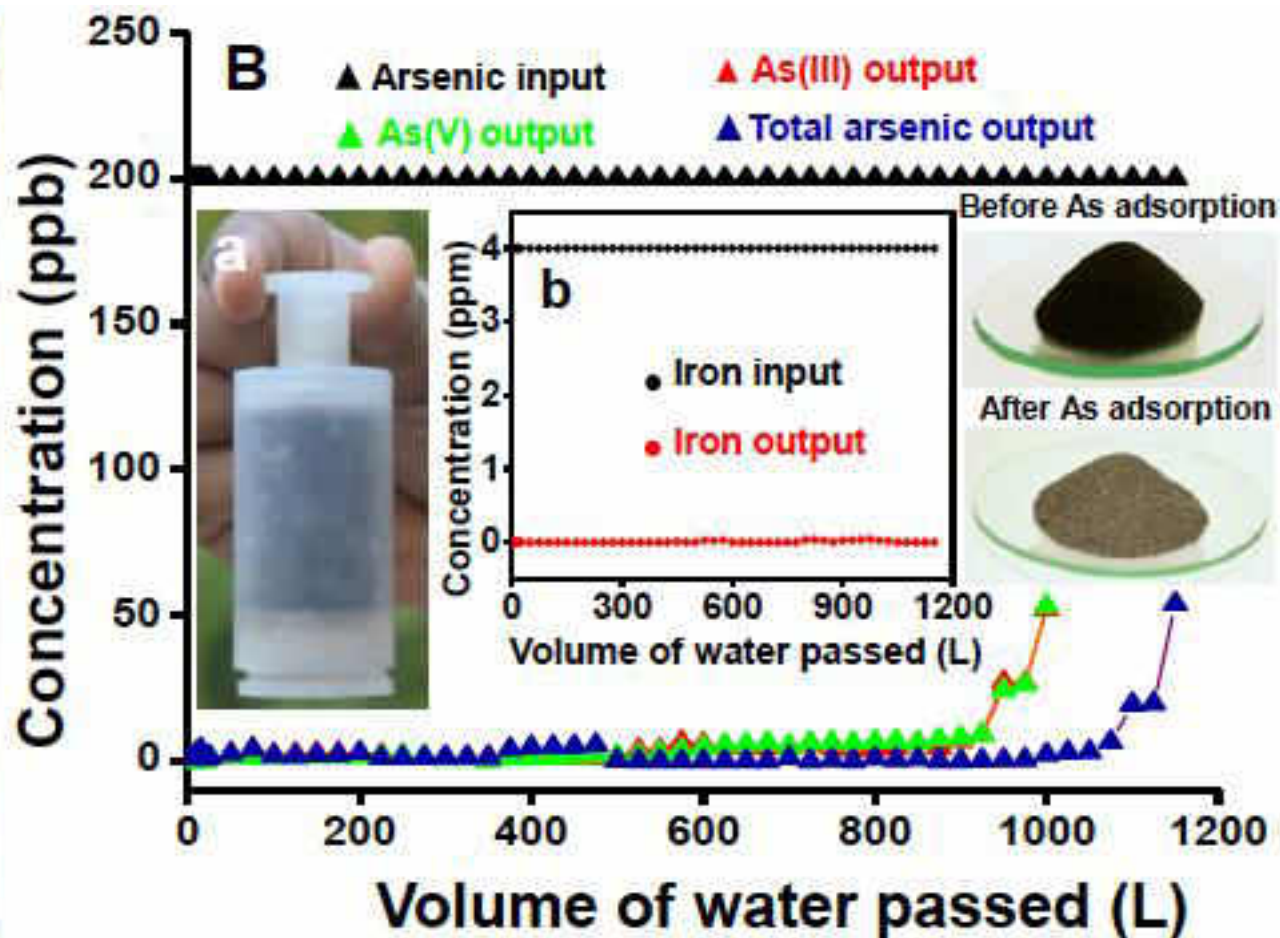
Mechanism



Modeling surfaces



Lab studies

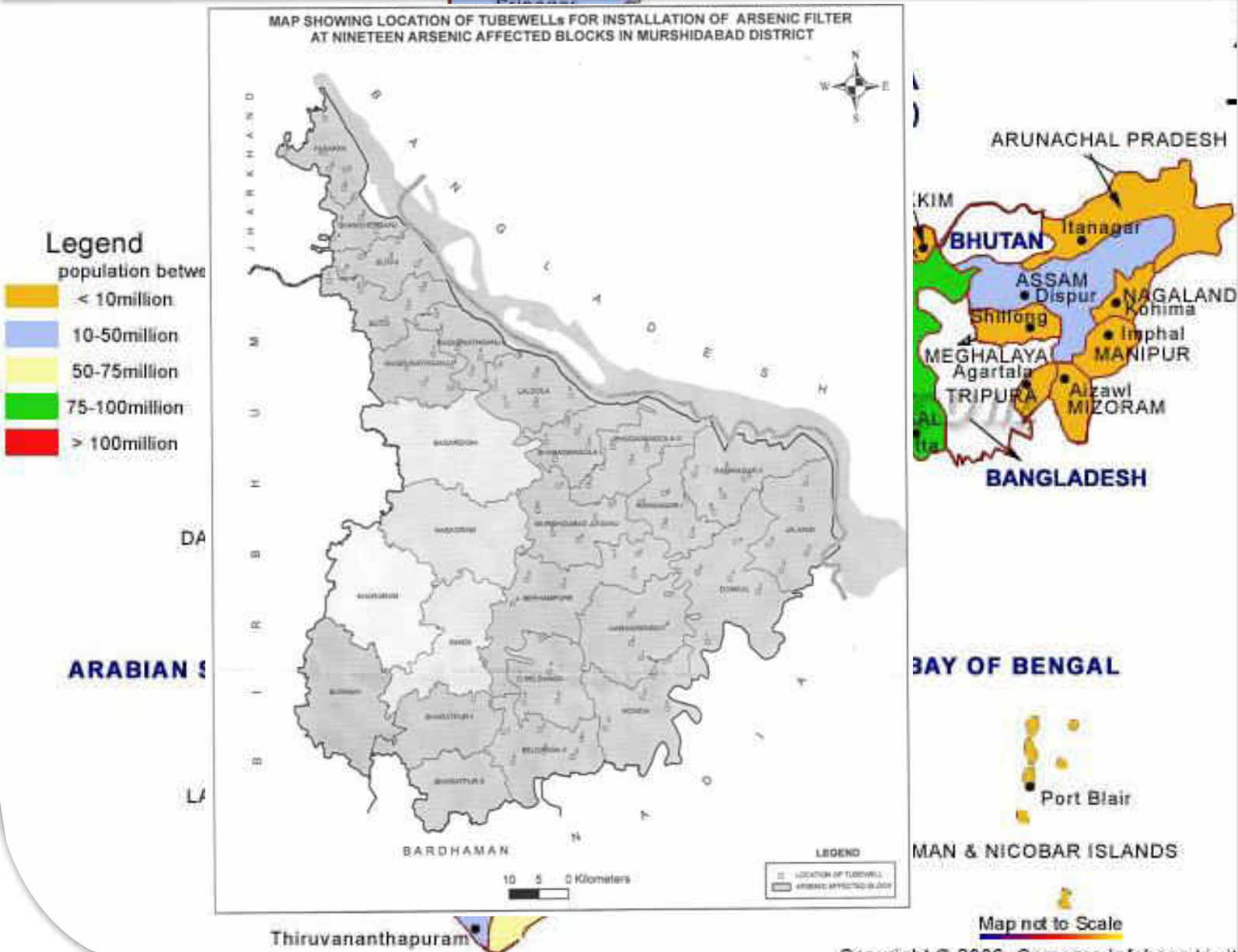


Initial pilot studies



Larger pilot studies

Population Map Of India-2001



Changing the dynamics in the field

A photograph of an existing water treatment plant. It features two large, dark blue cylindrical tanks mounted on a metal frame. The plant is situated outdoors on a dirt path with trees in the background. A sign is visible in the background.

Existing plant in 40 cents

- Existing unit for iron and arsenic removal – 20 m³/h
- Uses activated alumina and iron oxide (old generation of adsorbents)

A photograph of a new water treatment plant. It features three tall, blue cylindrical tanks connected by a complex network of white pipes and valves. The plant is enclosed in a metal fence.

New plant in 3 cents

- Existing unit for iron and arsenic removal – 18 m³/h
- Uses iron oxyhydroxide (new generation of adsorbents)
- Input arsenic concentration: 168 ppb
- Output arsenic concentration: 2 ppb

Implementation - From 25 KLD to 1 MLD



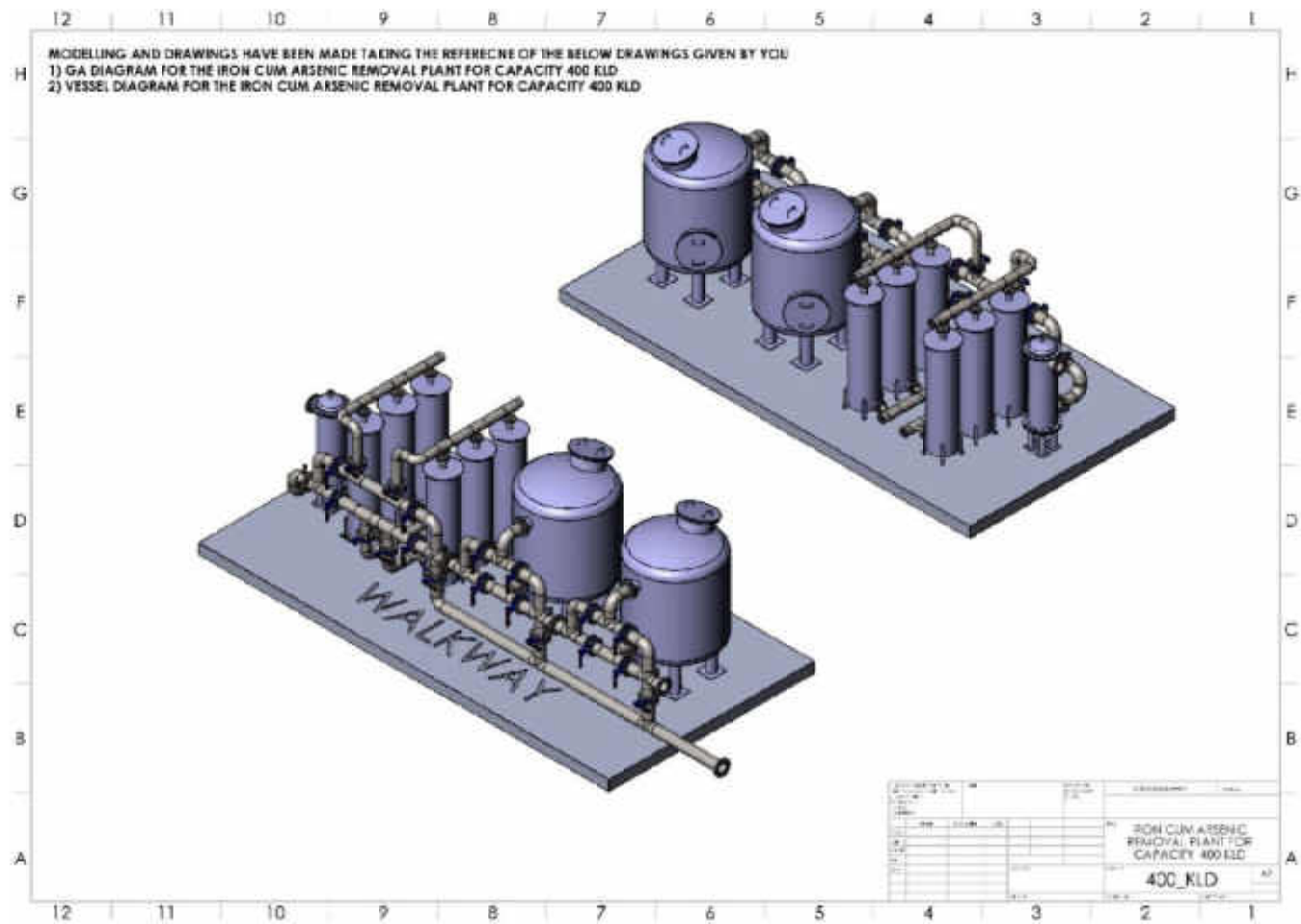
Large water supply schemes
Capacity: above 1 MLD

5 schemes in use across India



Retrofitted Water Purification Plant
Capacity: 0.1-1 MLD

Over 180 units in use across India



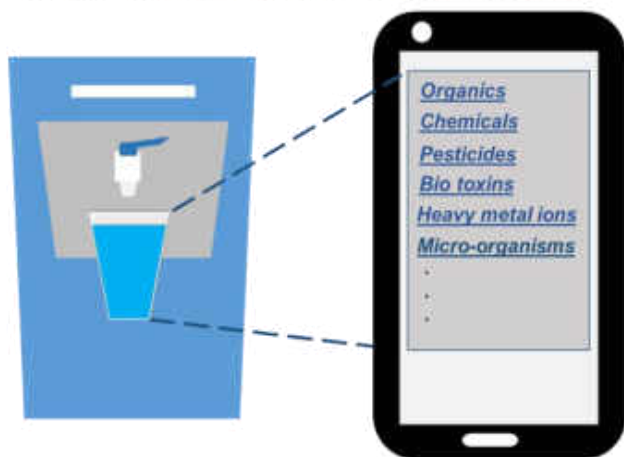
Cleanwater at 2.1 paise per litre!

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

Sr.No	Design population	1,071	Plant capacity/70 LPCD
	Item/Description	Cost / Quantity	Remarks
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	2.1 Paise per ltr	0.025 cents
		1.36	Rs. per head per day
9	Cost of replacement of media	40.80	=Media replacement cost per year/365/Design population
			per head per month for 70 LPCD water

Smart water purifiers and big data

Smart Water Purifiers linked to IoT



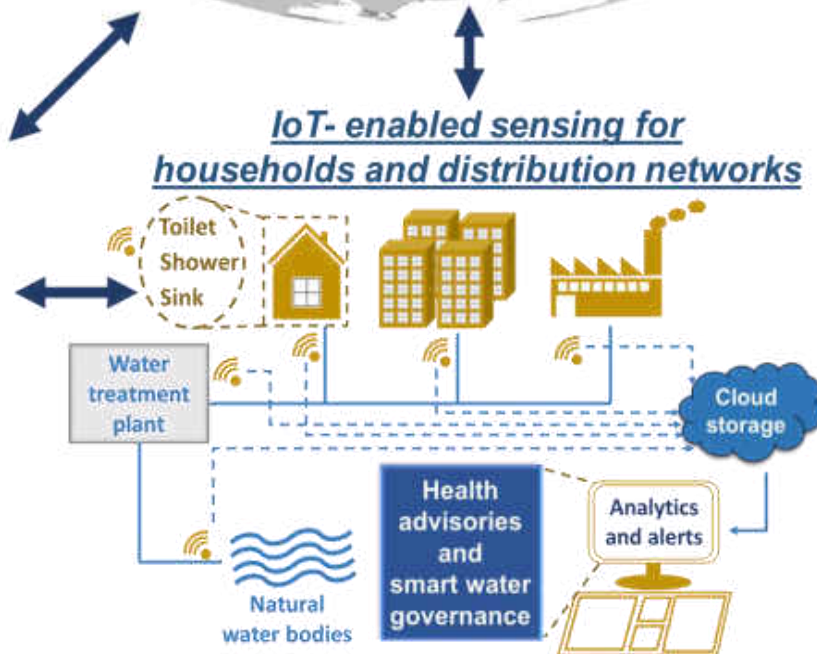
Cost-effective sensor accessory for point-of-use applications



Global Map of Water Health



IoT-enabled sensing for households and distribution networks



Waste management

Adsorbents conform to toxicity characteristic leaching procedure

Elemental waste goes back to local environment

Safe disposal of arsenic (or any other) laden waste

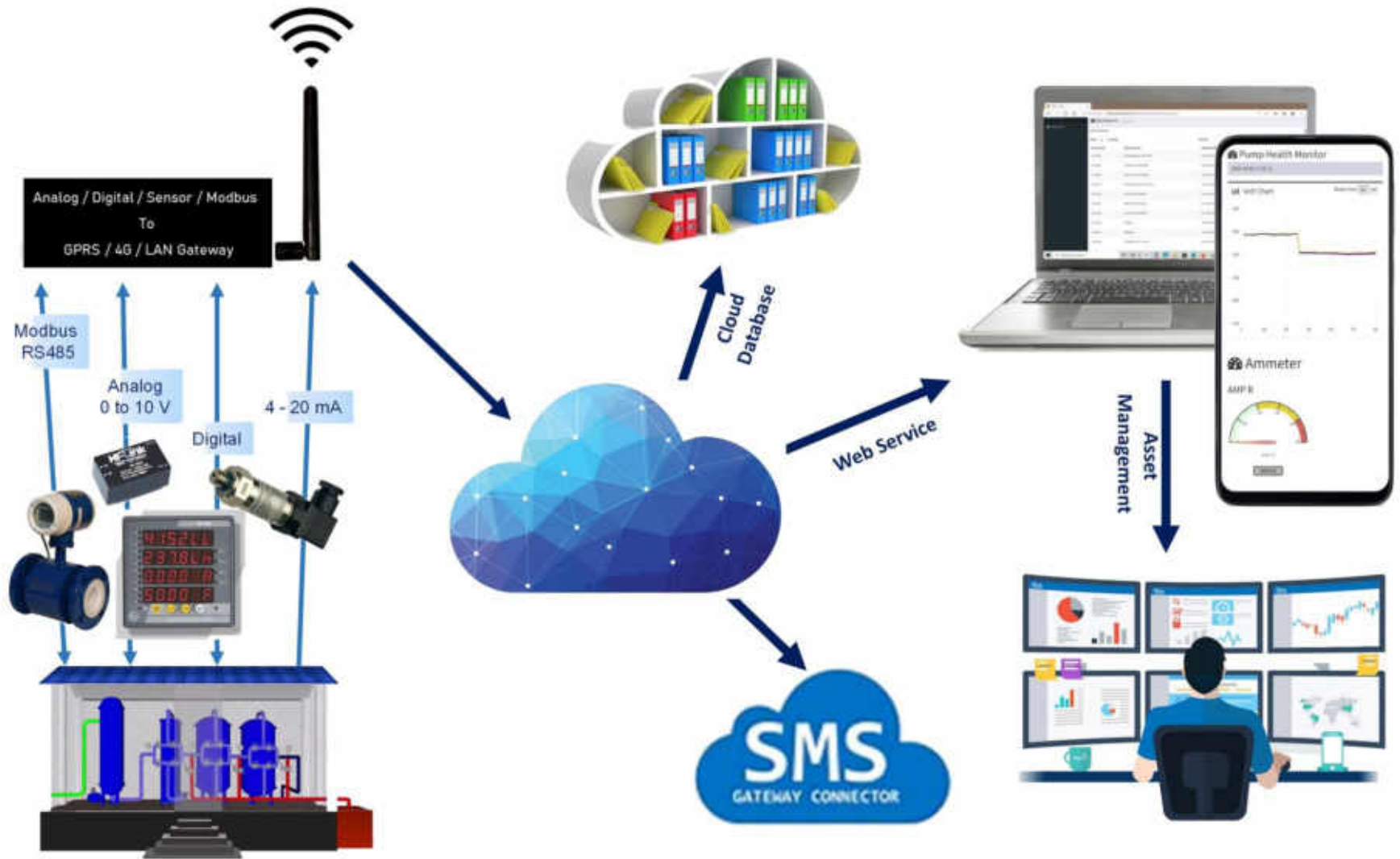
Additional protection could be considered, if necessary

Exploring viable uses

Across the country

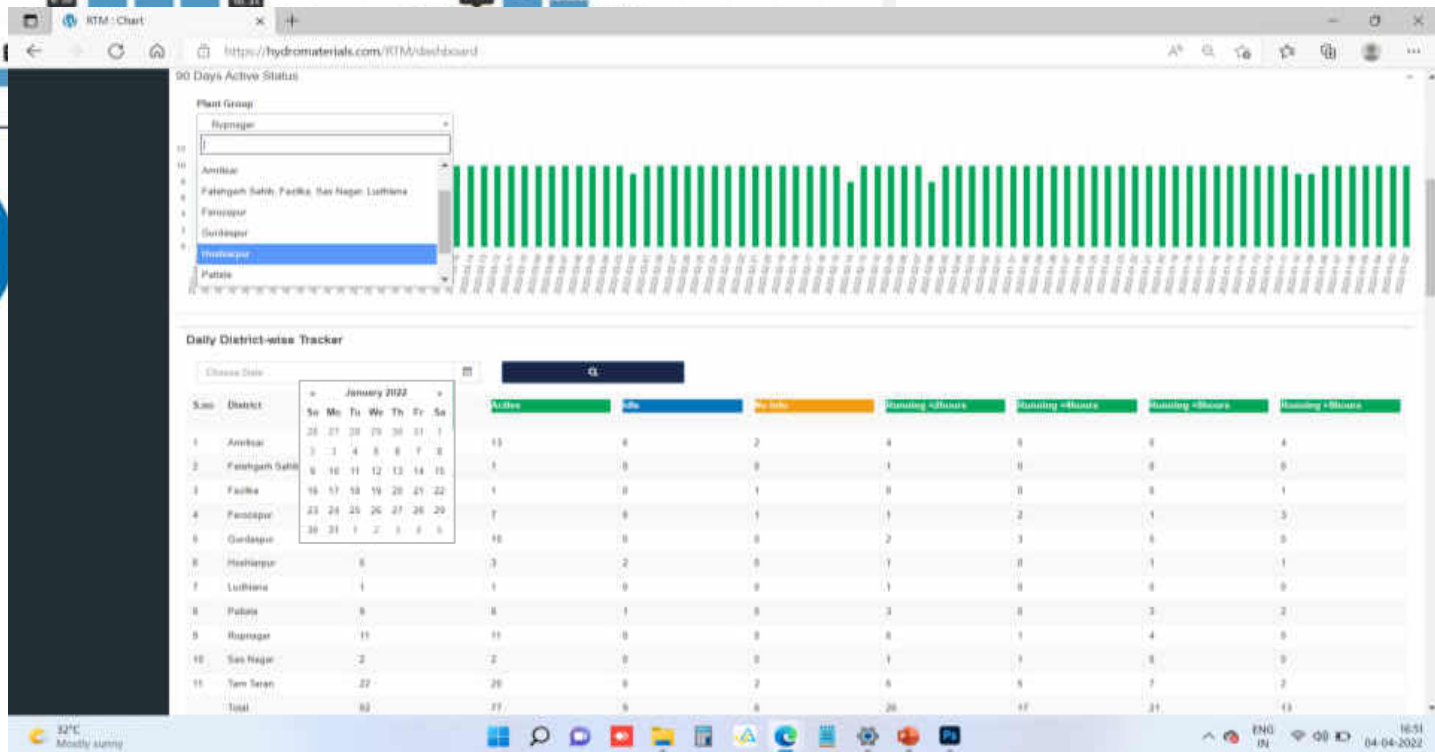
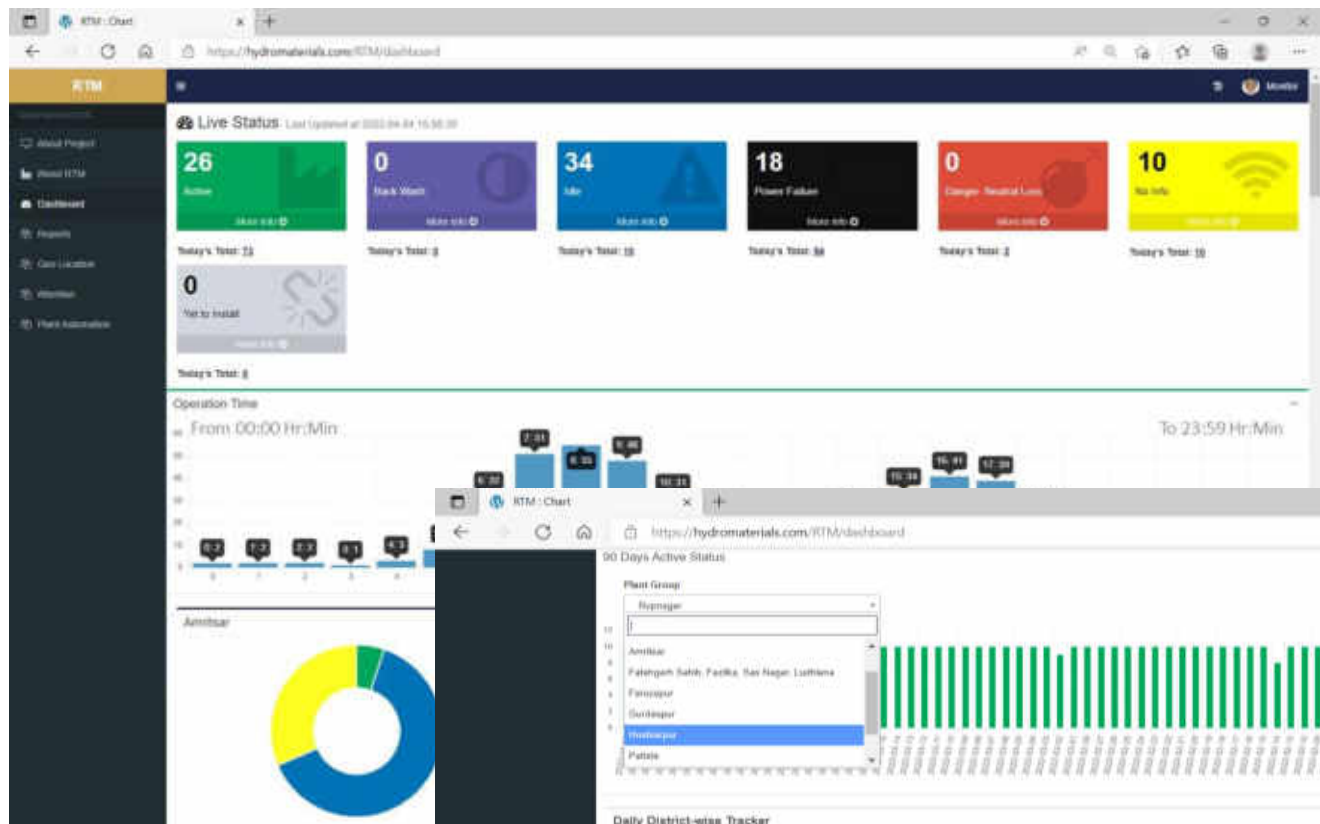


Components of IoT architecture implemented by DWSS, GoP

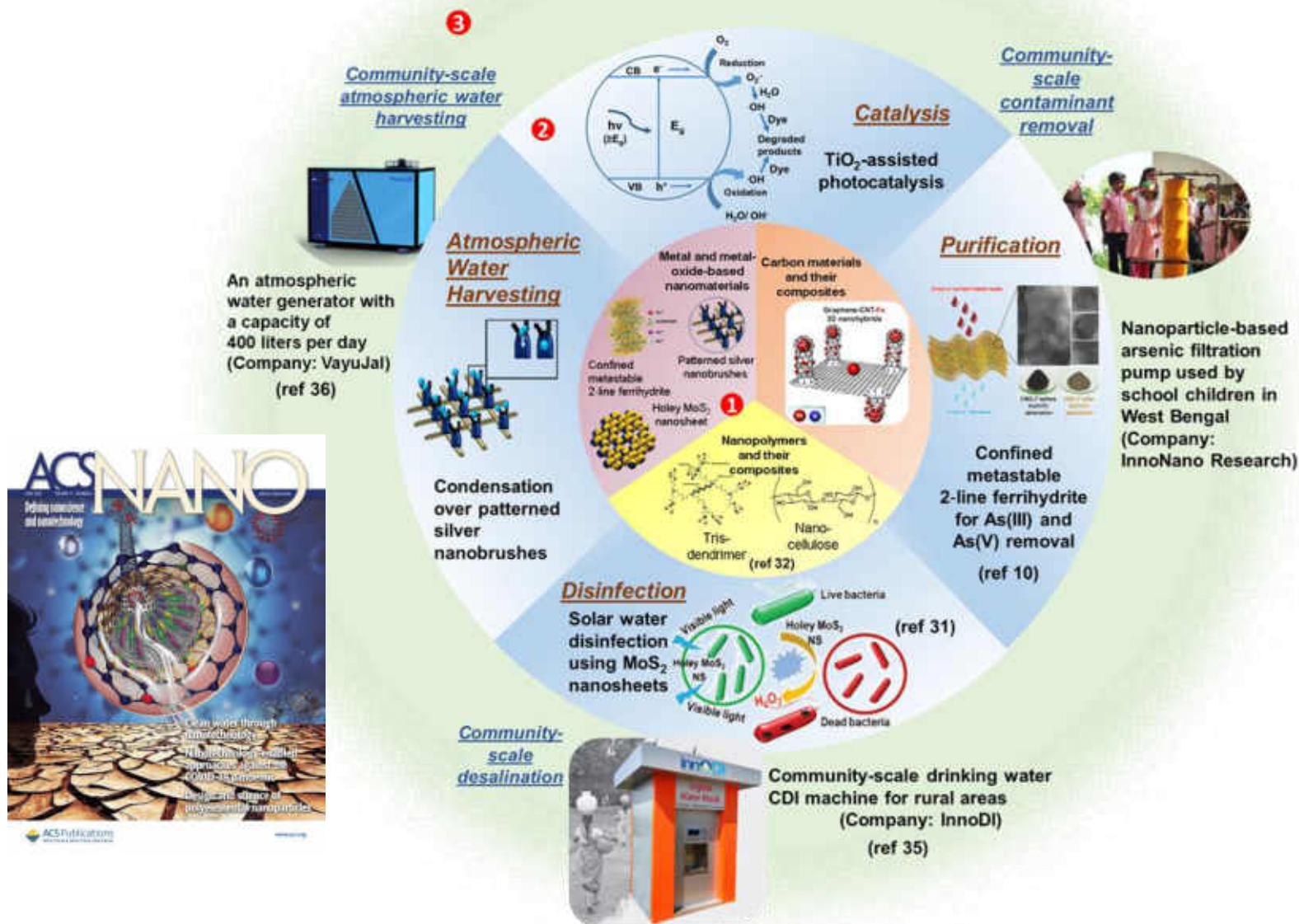


Typical IoT architecture comprises various sensors and meters, communication gateway, Cloud Server, SMS gateway, Webservices and mobile phone application for operator





Evolution of materials to products



Sensors and new opportunities



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



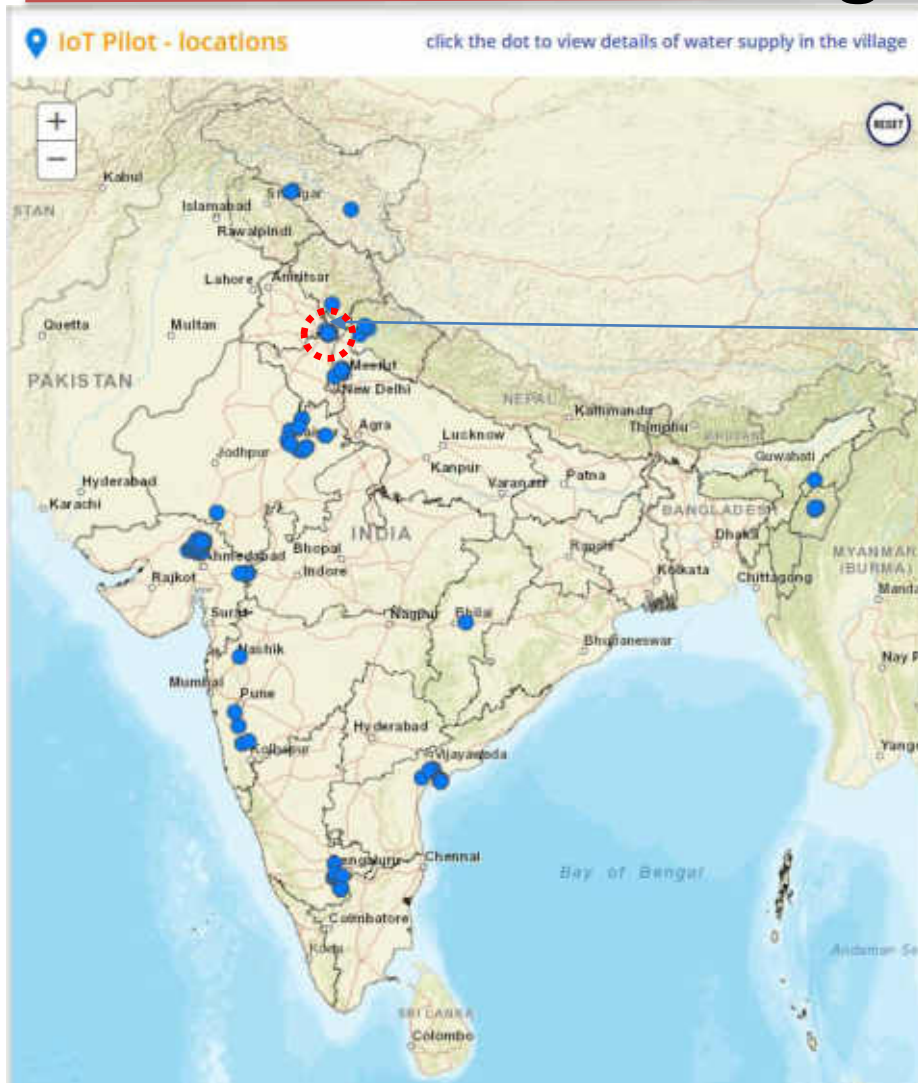
**Ultra compact Low Cost
Spectral Sensor Module**
~ **Billions units** (? 2027)



Water quality measurement – In the pipeline

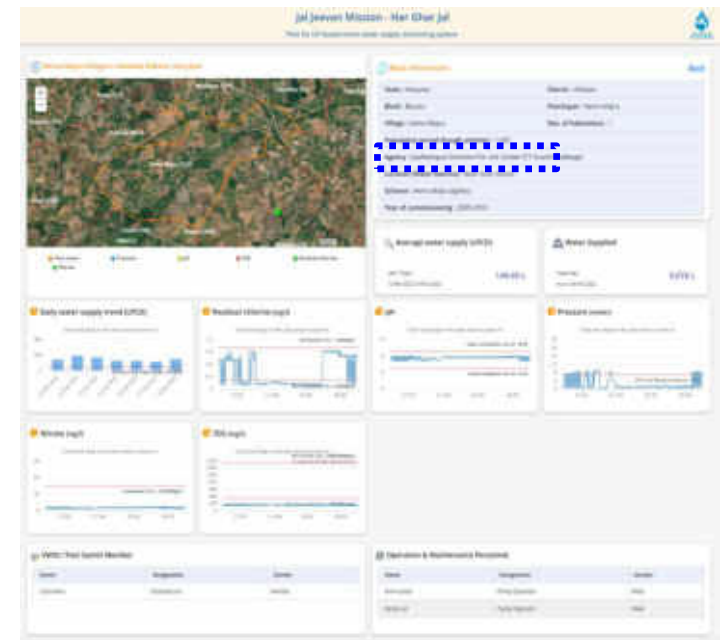
nano λ

India's water is being monitored



IITM/IISc

Installations made by four companies



Mobile unit - A reagent free mobile water quality analyser

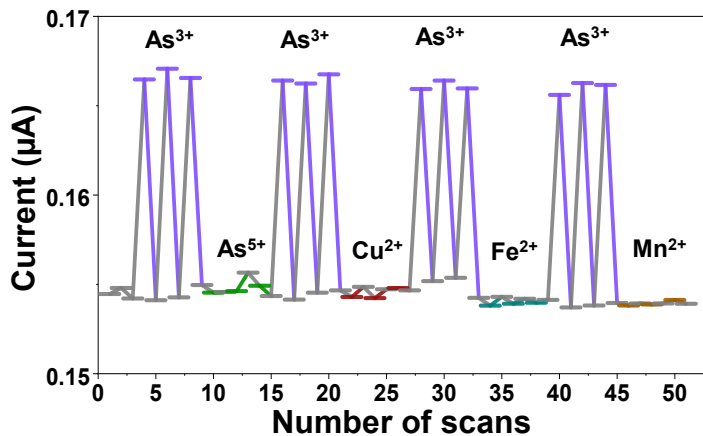


A drop-and-sense reagent free arsenic sensing test strips



IIT Madras patented
Arsenic sensing technology

Reagent free, Reusable test strip with selective arsenic sensing
Drop-and-sense technology with no pretreatment of samples



ACS APPLIED
NANO MATERIALS

www.acsnano.org

Article

Selective and Practical Graphene-Based Arsenite Sensor at 10 ppb

Sourav Kanti Jana,¹ Kamallesh Chaudhari,² Md Rabiul Islam, Ganapati Natarajan, Tripti Ahuja, Anirban Som, Ganesan Paramasivam, Addanki Raghavendra, Chennu Sudhakar, and Thalappil Pradeep^{3*}

Cite This: ACS Appl. Nano Mater. 2022, 5, 11876–11888

Read Online

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Organization
International Bureau

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09 December 2021 (09.12.2021)



WIPO | PCT



(10) International Publication Number
WO 2021/245689 A2



US 20230273151A1

(19) **United States**
(12) **Patent Application Publication**
(12) **PRADEEP et al.**

(10) Pub. No.: **US 2023/0273151 A1**
(43) Pub. Date: **Aug. 31, 2023**

(54) **A POINT-OF-CARE (POC) AMPEROMETRIC
DEVICE FOR SELECTIVE ARSENIC
SENSING**

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(71) Applicant: **INDIAN INSTITUTE OF
TECHNOLOGY MADRAS (IIT
MADRAS), Chennai (IN)**

(51) Int. Cl.
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G01N 27/30 (2006.01)
G01N 33/18 (2006.01)

(72) Inventors: **Thalappil PRADEEP, Chennai (IN);
Sourav KANTI JANA, Chennai (IN);
Kamallesh CHAUDHARI, Chennai
(IN); Md Rabiul ISLAM, Chennai (IN)**

(52) U.S. CL.
CPC *G01N 27/416* (2013.01); *G01N 27/307*
(2013.01); *G01N 27/308* (2013.01);
G01N 33/1813 (2013.01)

(57) **ABSTRACT**

A wide-angle photograph of a large, green, grassy field under a bright blue sky with scattered white clouds. In the background, there is a tall, grey, cylindrical water tower with a spiral staircase. To the left, there are some trees and a small building. In the foreground, there is a large black oval shape containing the word "Policy".

Policy



International Centre for Clean Water

Clathrate hydrates

Ice – why should we care?

Ice is big in scale - 10 percent of the land area on Earth is covered with glacial ice. Glacierized areas cover over 15 million square kilometers.

Ice is there everywhere, including in space - naturally

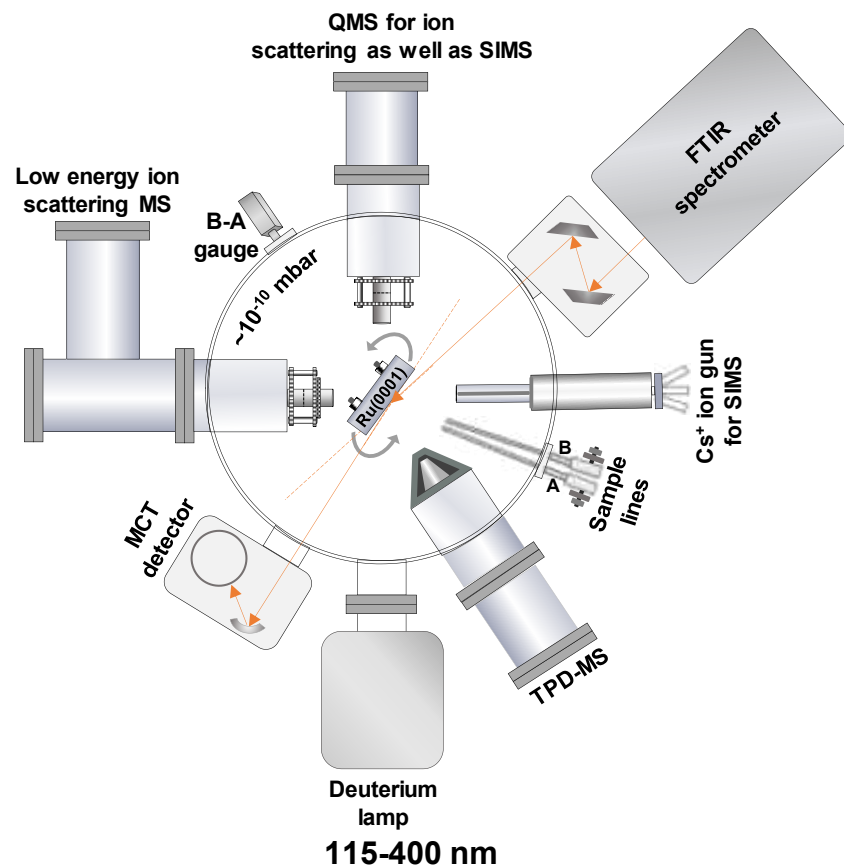
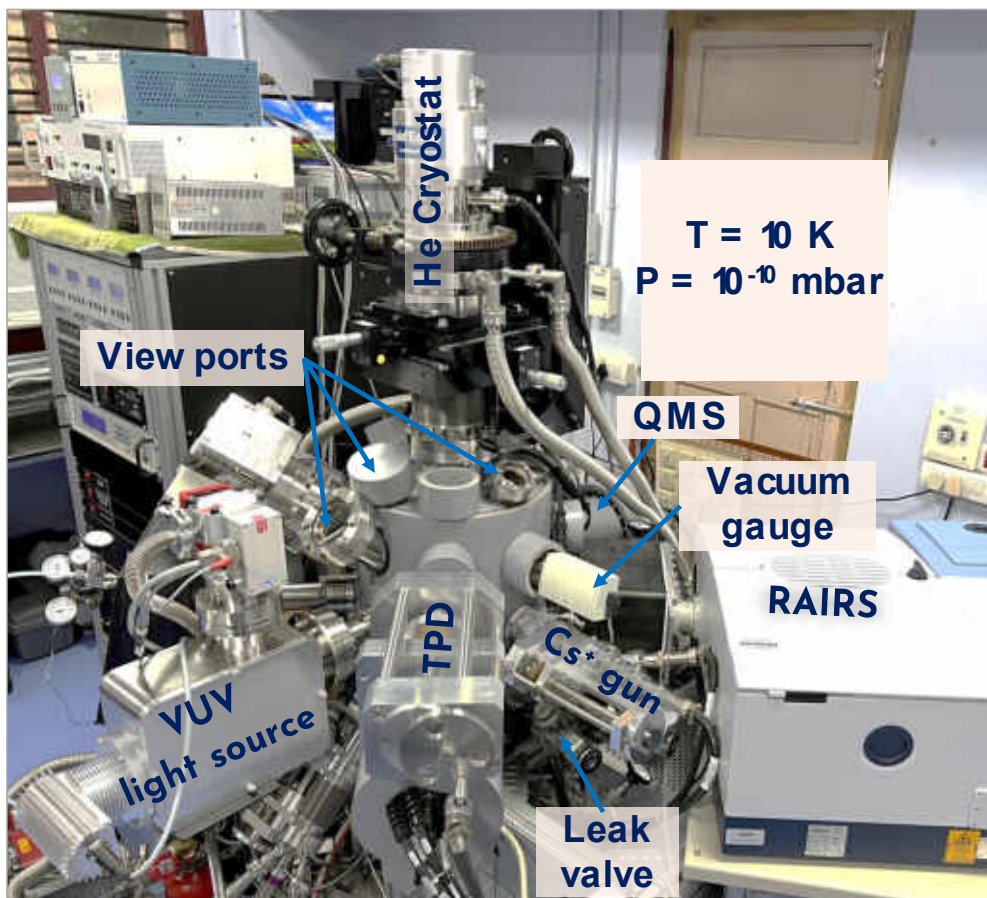
Ice could be a vehicle for life on Earth - astrobiology

Ice can make clathrates

Water is not understood – especially in its condensed form

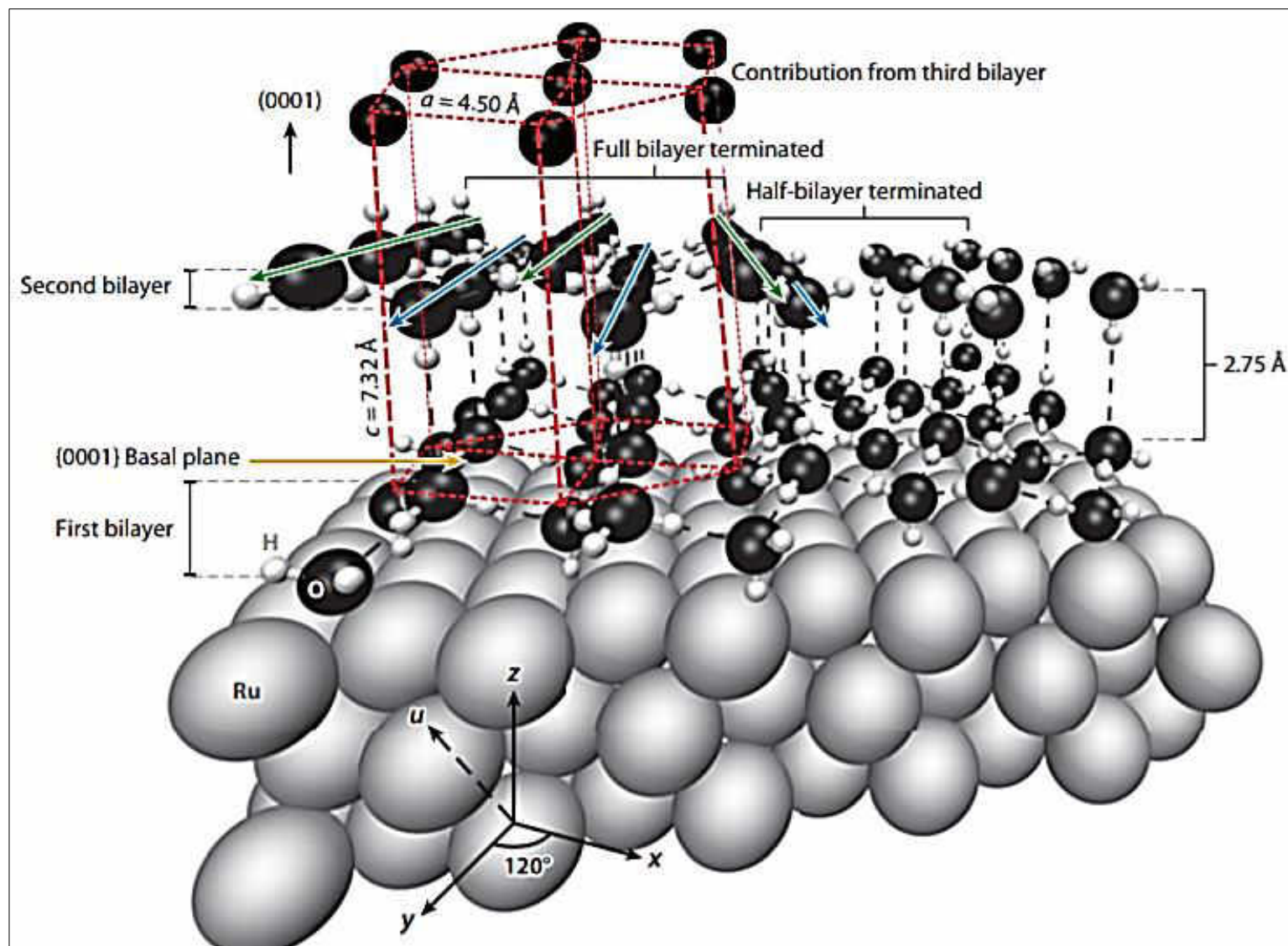
Condensed molecular solids are all ices

Instrumentation



Bag, S. et al., *Rev. Sci. Instrum.* **2014**, 85, 014103/1-014103/7

Viswakarma, G. et al., *J. Phys. Chem. Lett.*, **2023**, 14, 2823–2



Instrumentation



Formation and Transformation of Clathrate Hydrates under Interstellar Conditions

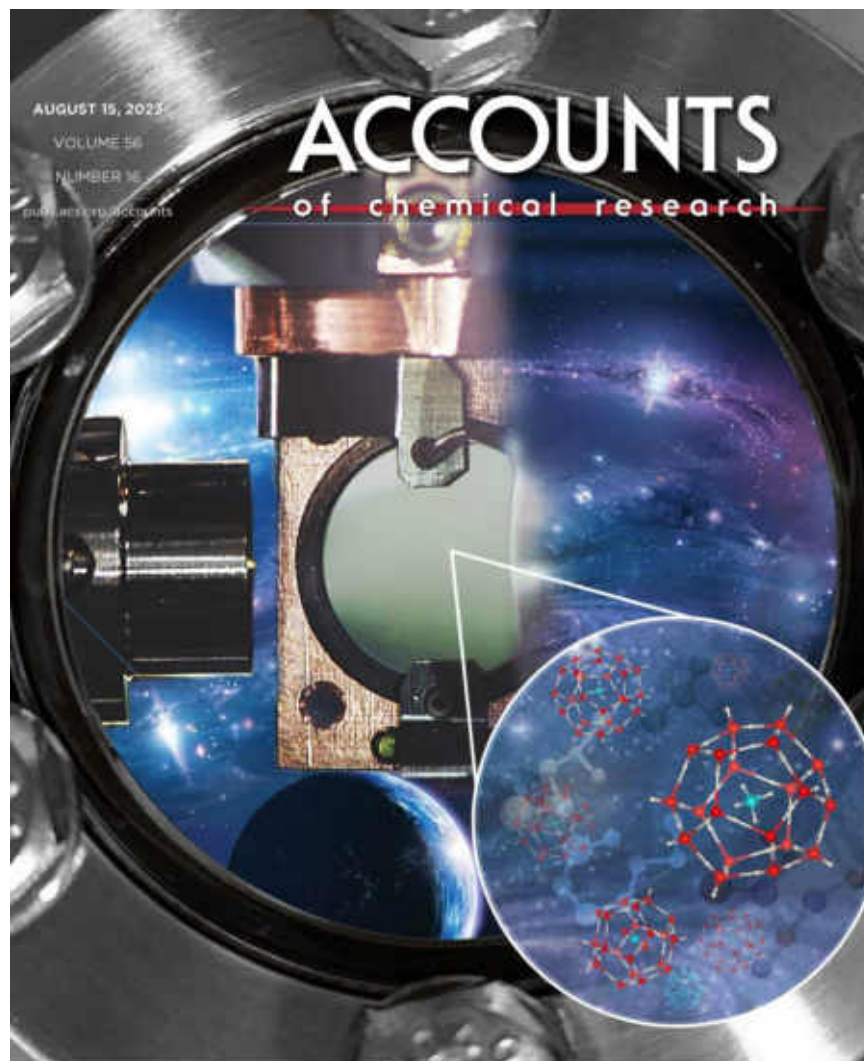
Jyotirmoy Ghosh, Gaurav Vishwakarma, Rajnish Kumar,* and Thalappil Pradeep*



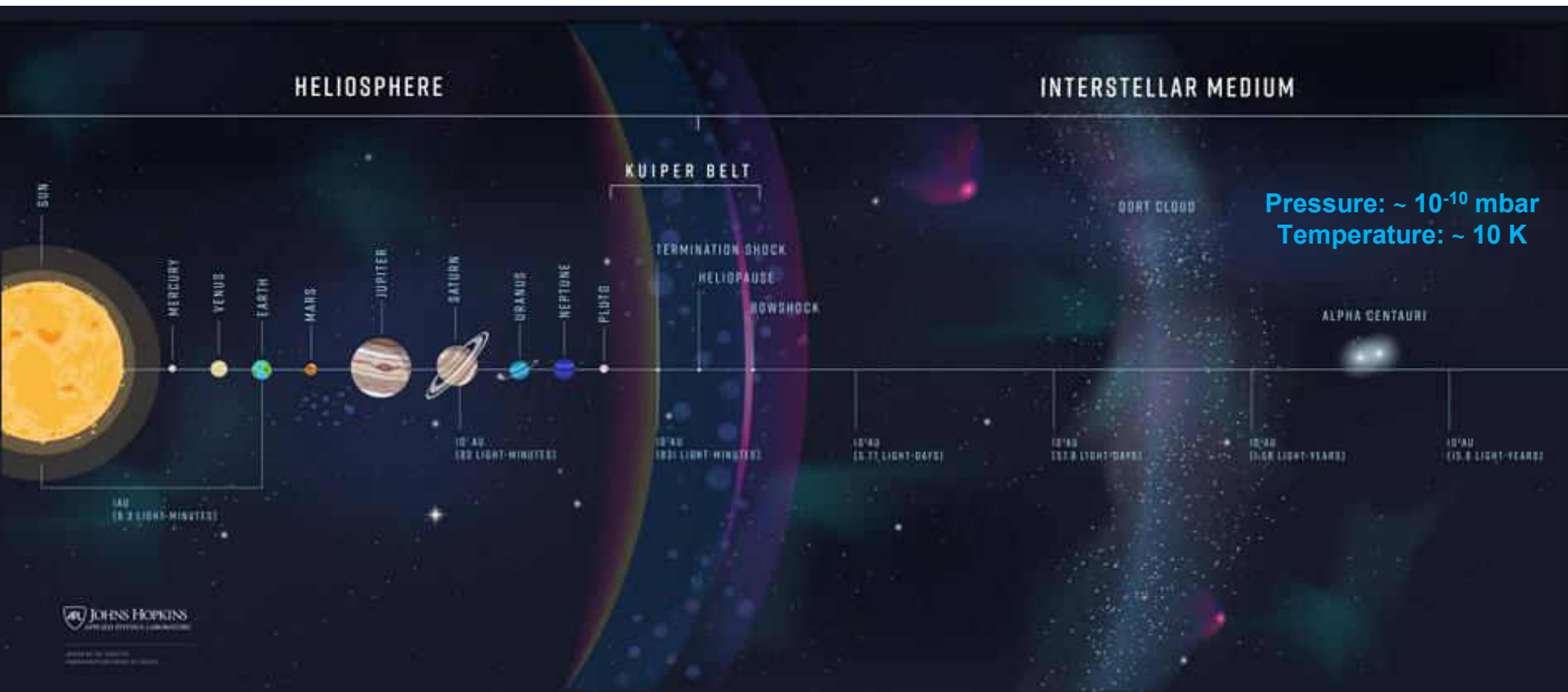
Cite This: <https://doi.org/10.1021/acs.accounts.3c00312>



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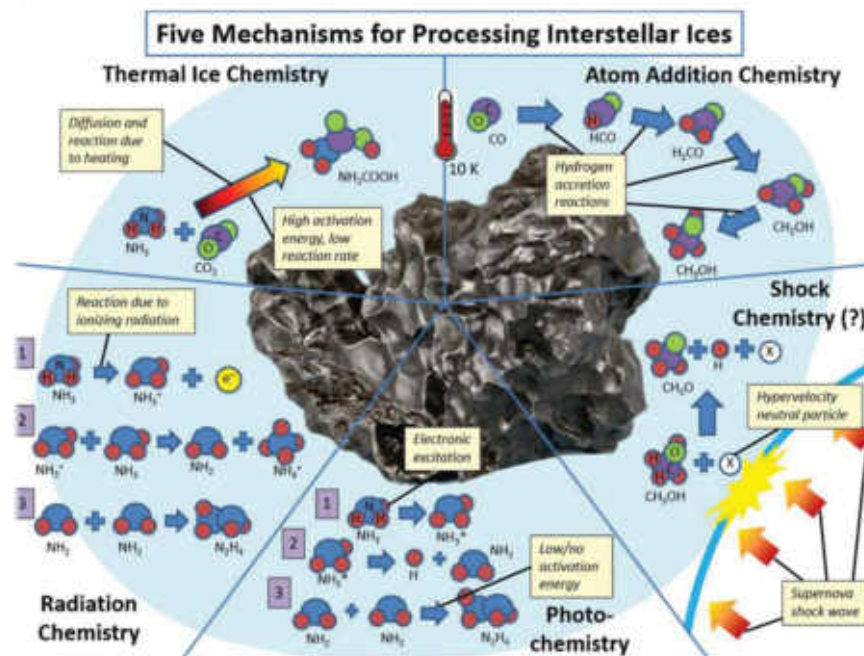
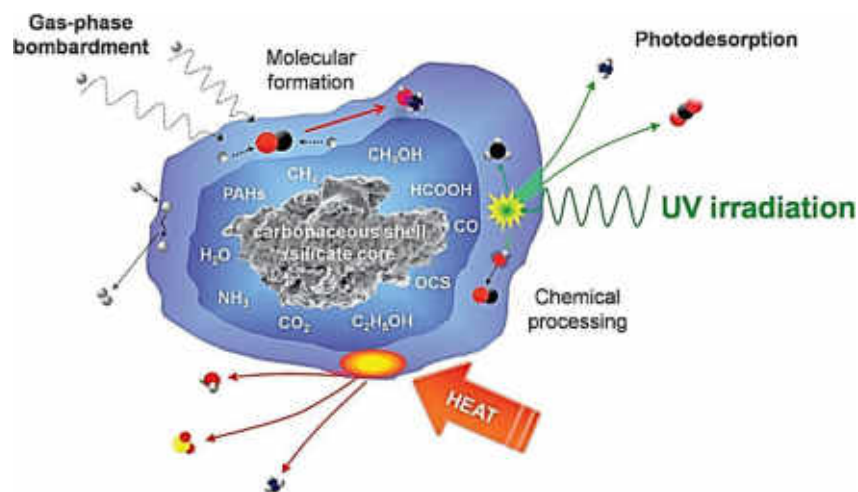


Interstellar medium



Diffuse clouds: $T \sim 100$ K, $n \sim 100$ molecules per cm^3
Dense clouds: $T \sim 10\text{-}100$ K, $n \sim 10^4\text{-}10^8$ molecules per cm^3
On Earth sea level: $T \sim 300$ K, $n \sim 3 \times 10^{19}$ molecules per cm^3

Interstellar ices



Silicates and carbonaceous material – 0.01-0.5 μm

Applications of clathrate hydrates



“Ice on fire” burning of methane hydrate

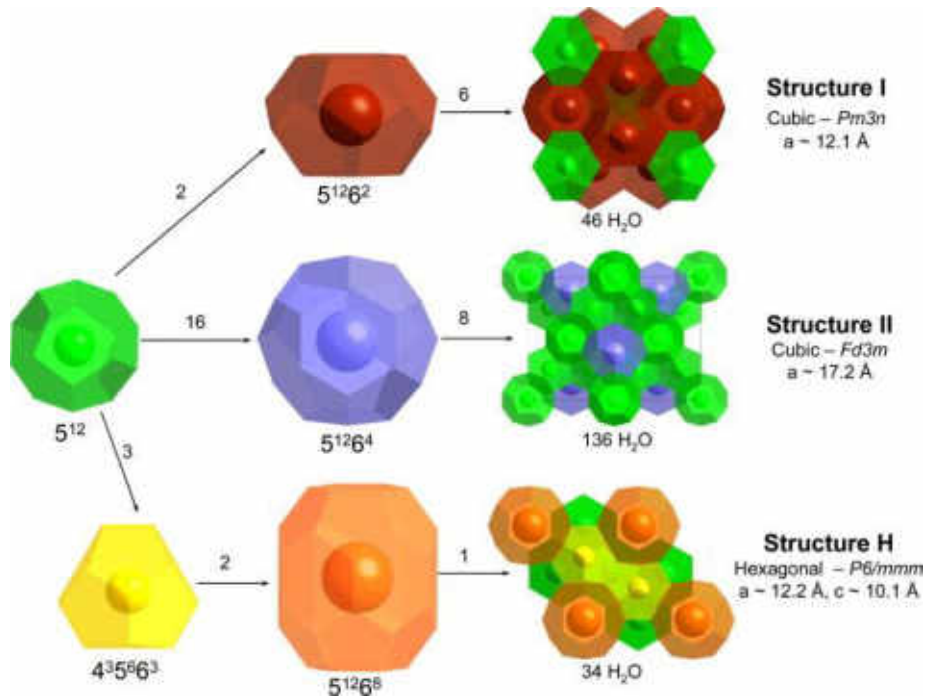


Gas hydrate plug recovered from a subsea pipeline

Applications:

- Renewable energy source.
- Storage of natural gases and hydrogen (H_2).
- Separation of flue gases and desalination of seawater.
- Flow assurance in gas pipelines.

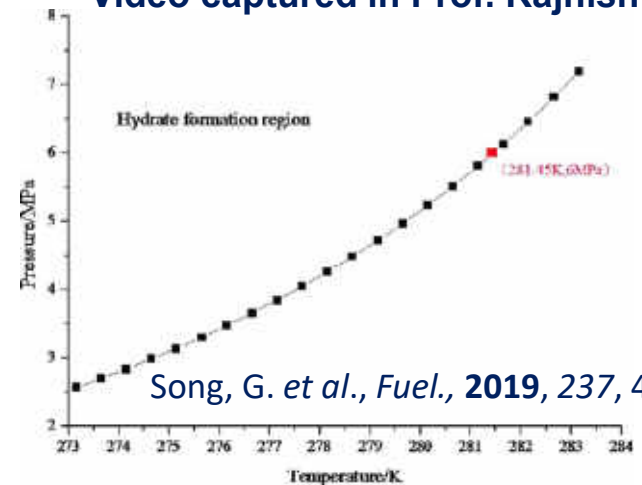
Clathrate hydrates



Strobel, T. A. *et al.*, *Chem. Phys. Lett.*, **2009**, 478, 97–109

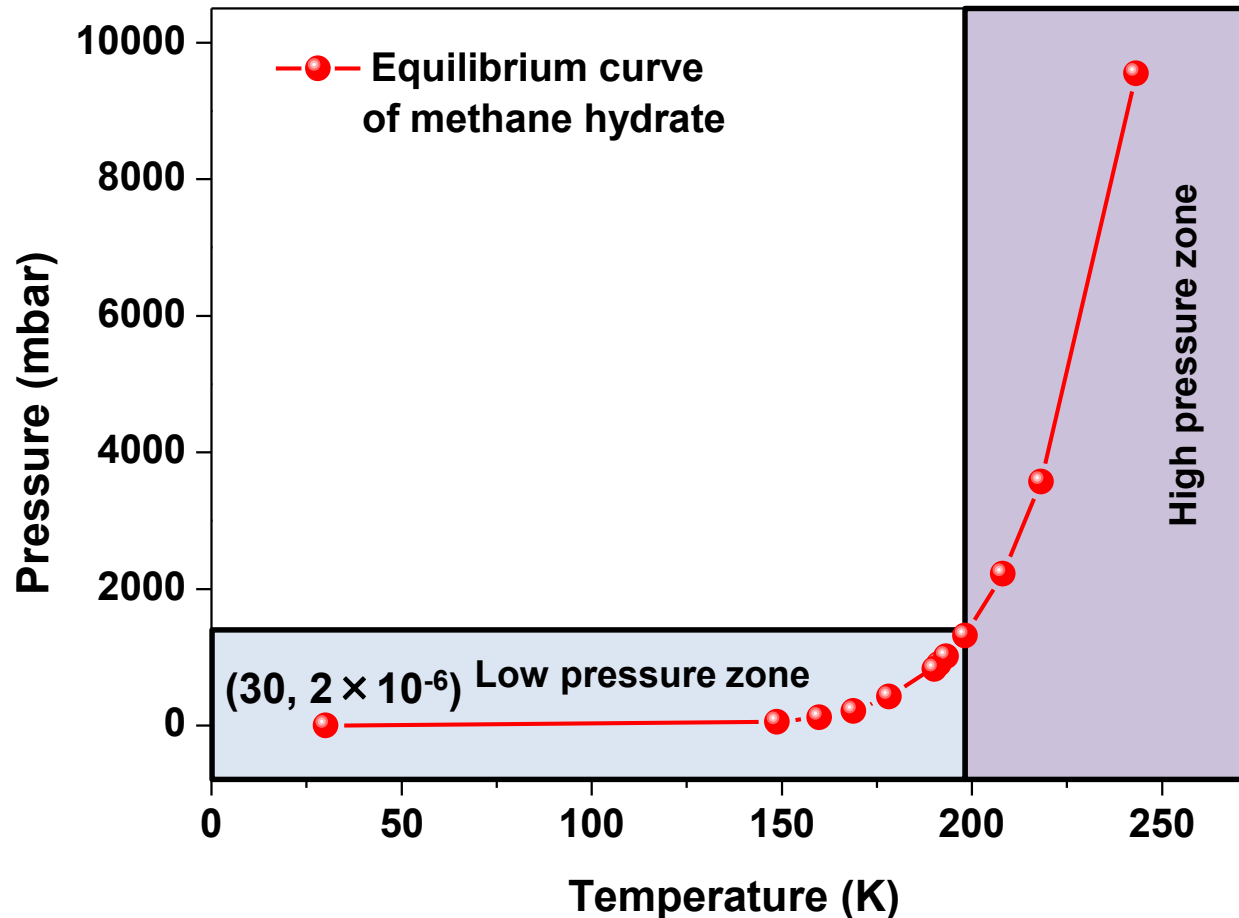


Video captured in Prof. Rajnish Kumar's



Song, G. *et al.*, *Fuel.*, **2019**, 237, 475-485

Clathrate hydrates at extreme low pressure

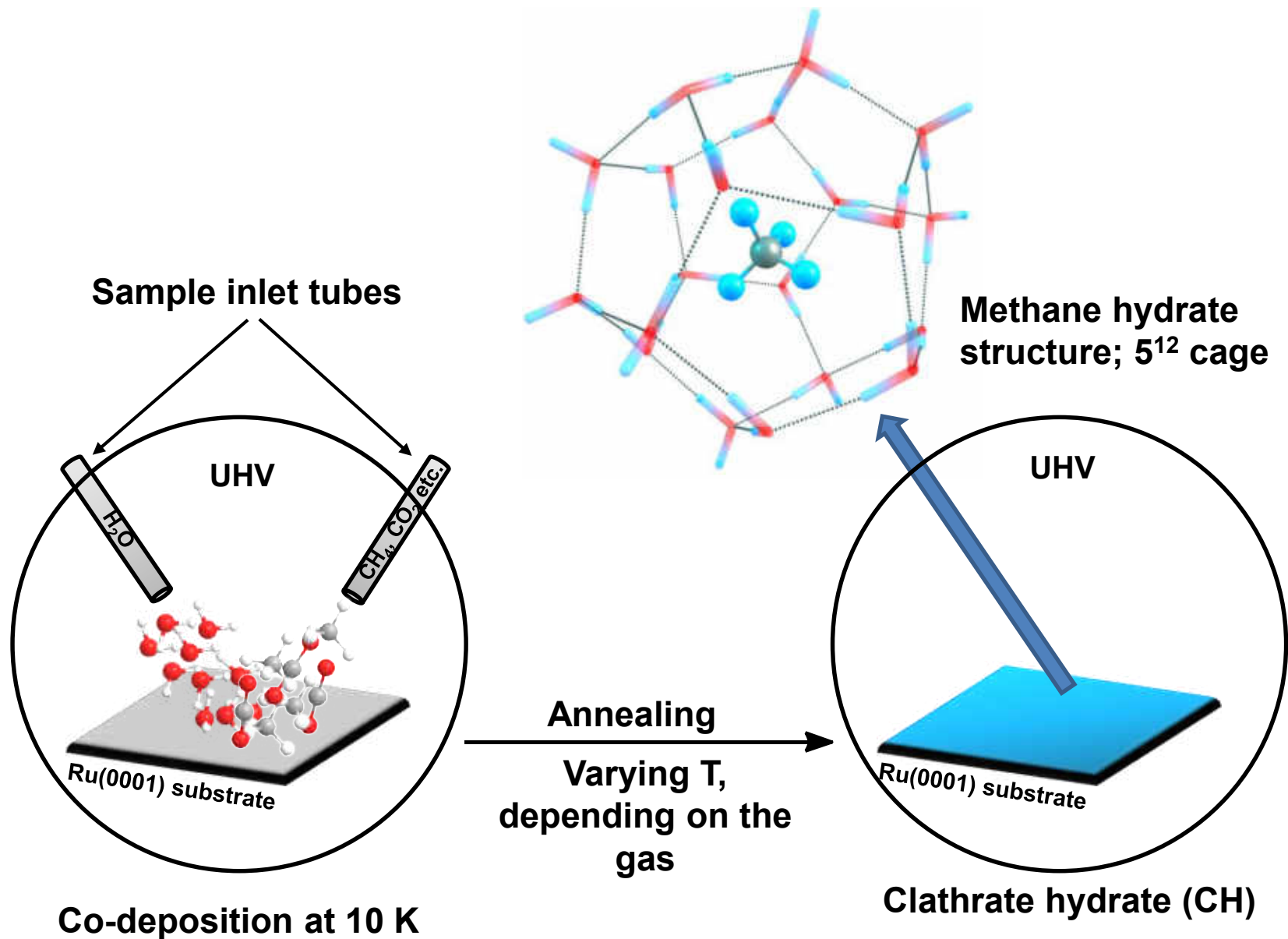


Sloan, E.D.; Koh, C. A., *Clathrate Hydrates of Natural Gases*, 3rd ed.; CRC Press: Boca Raton, FL, 2008

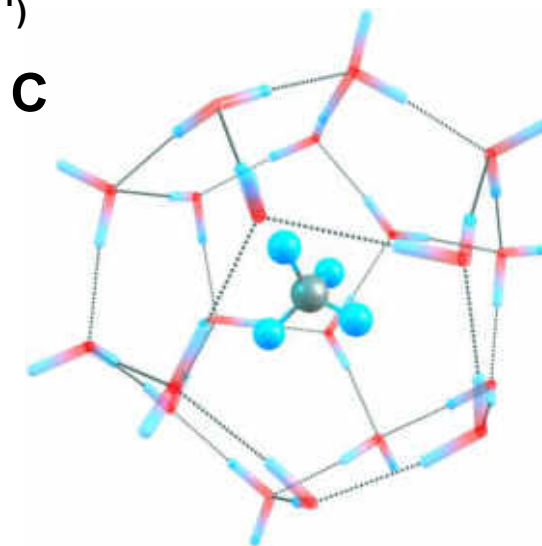
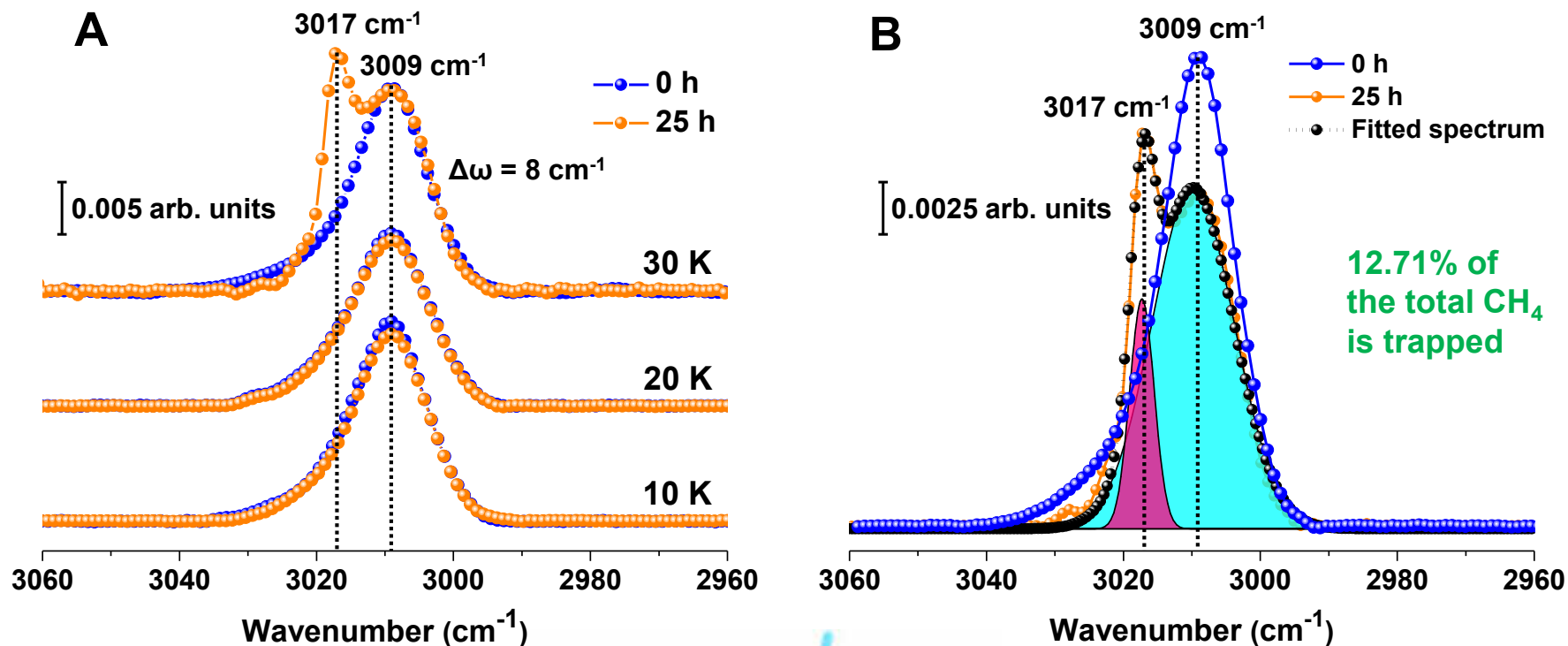
Clathrate hydrates in interstellar environment

Ghosh, J. *et al.*, *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A.*, **2019**, 116, 1526-1531

Experimental method

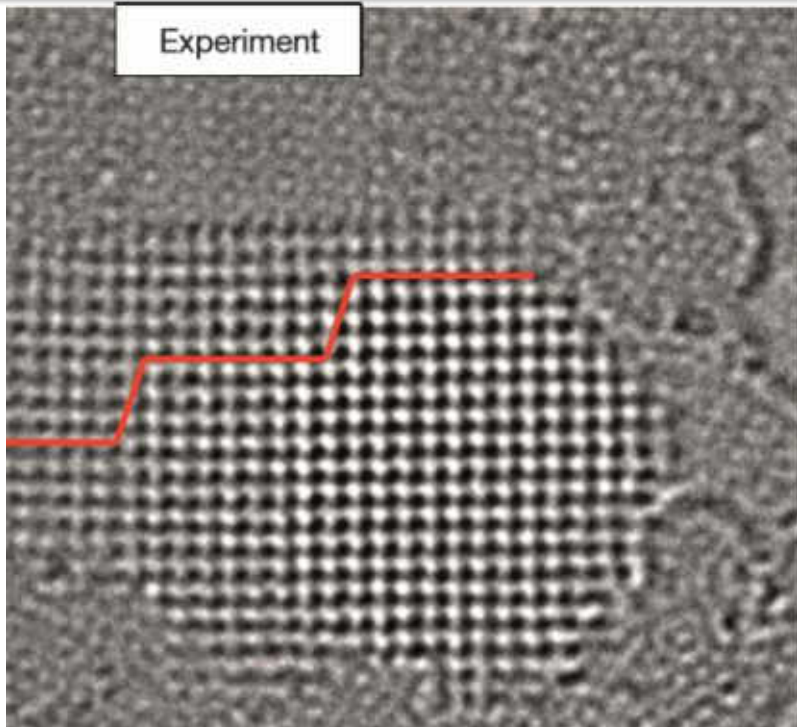


Clathrate hydrates in interstellar environment

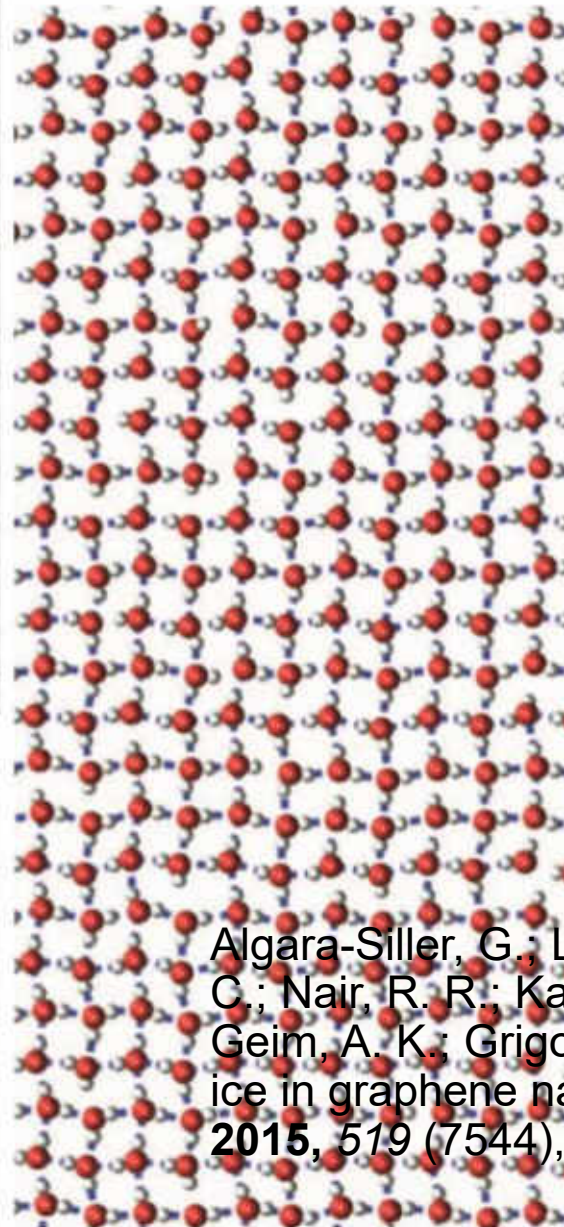
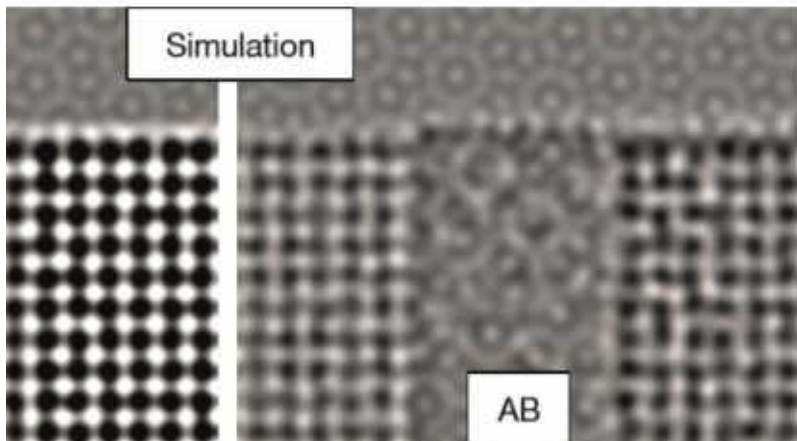


Future

Observing clathrate hydrates?



c

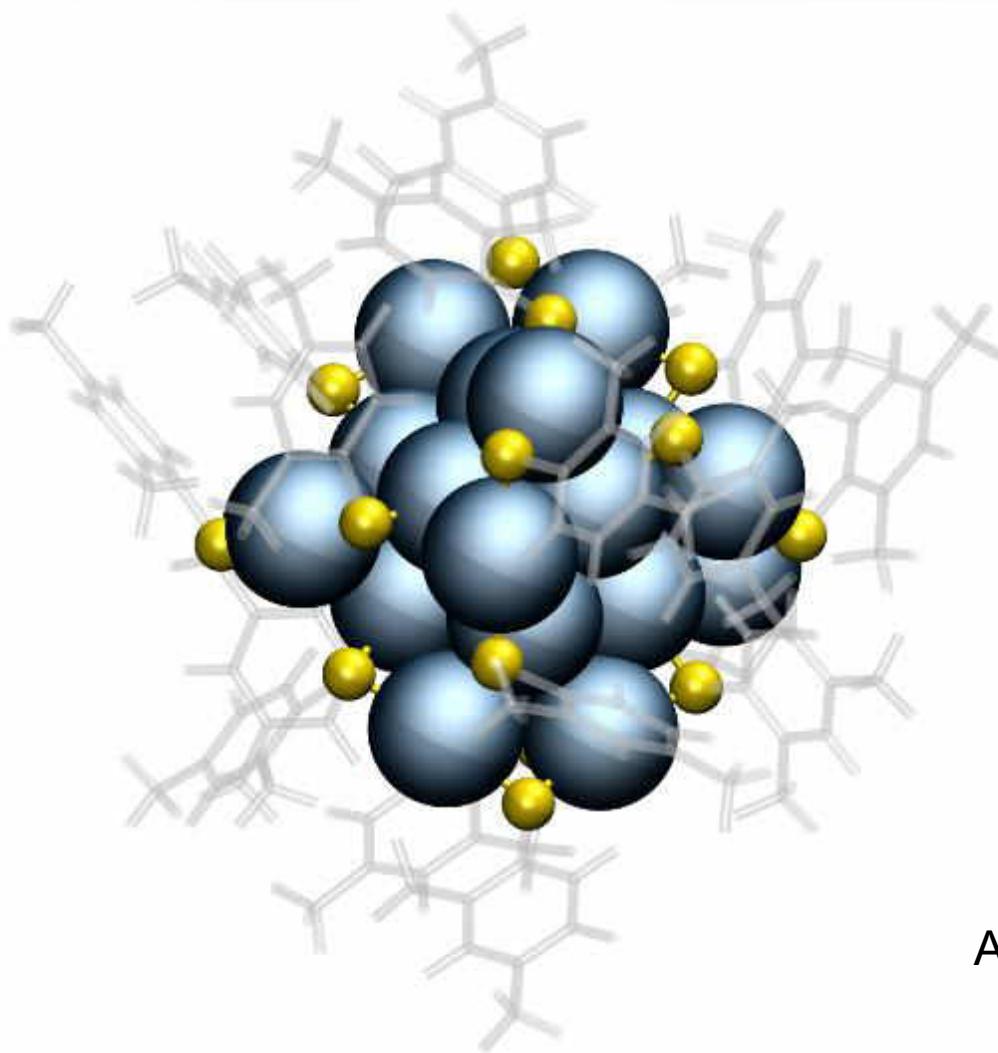


Algara-Siller, G.; Lehtinen, O.; Wang, F. C.; Nair, R. R.; Kaiser, U.; Wu, H. A.; Geim, A. K.; Grigorieva, I. V., Square ice in graphene nanocapillaries. *Nature* **2015**, 519 (7544), 443-445.



Atomically Precise Clusters

New molecules

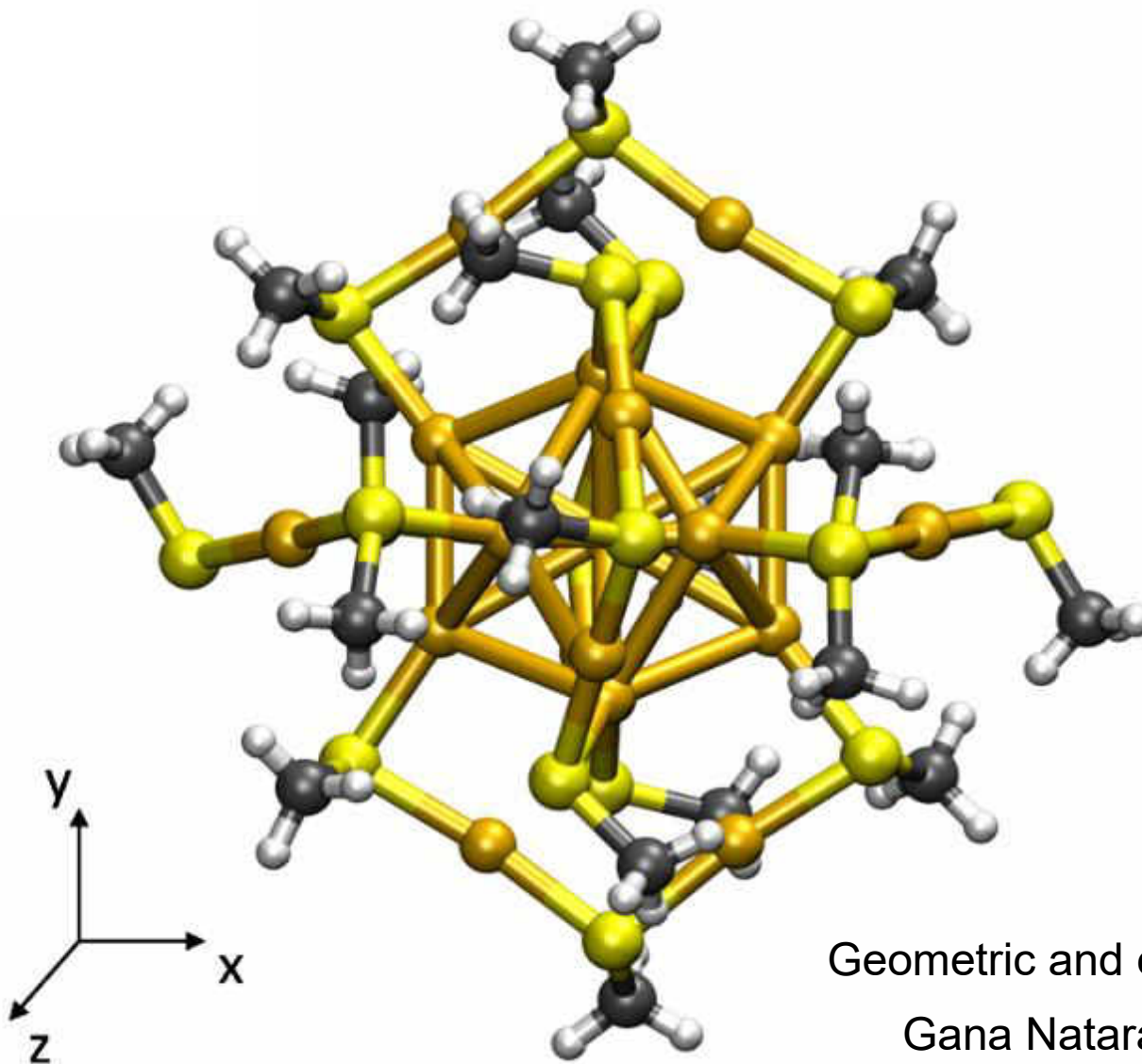


$\text{Au}_{25}, \text{Ag}_{25}, \text{Ag}_{29}$

They make high quality crystals

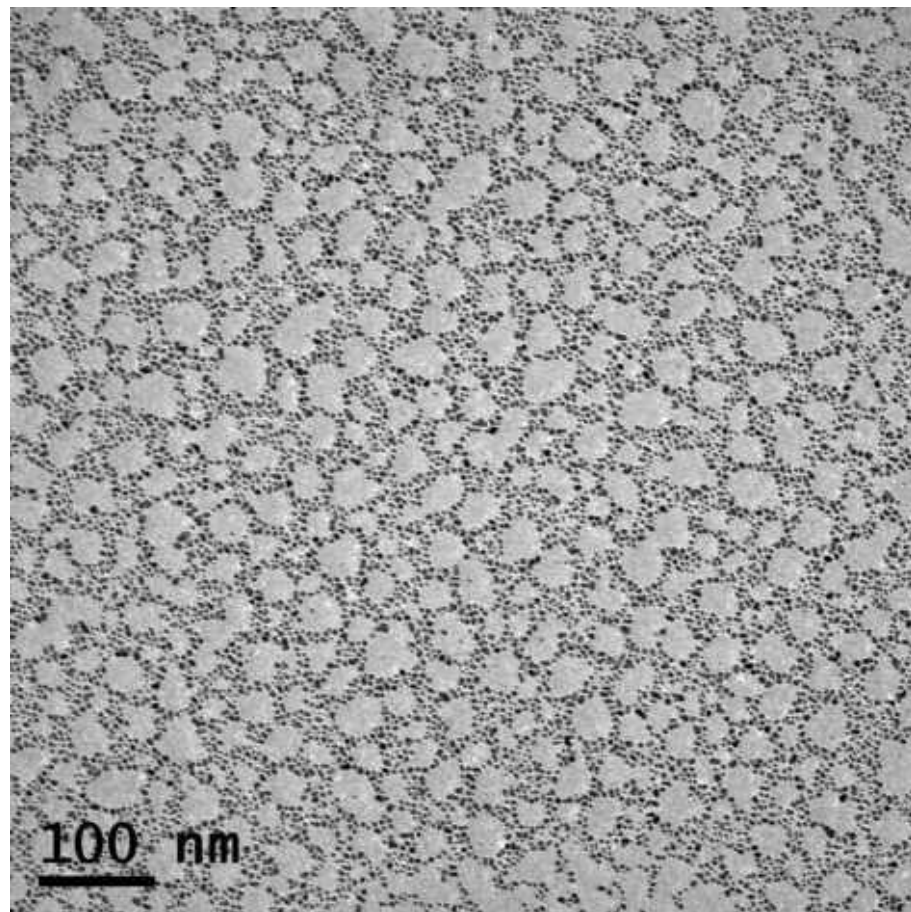
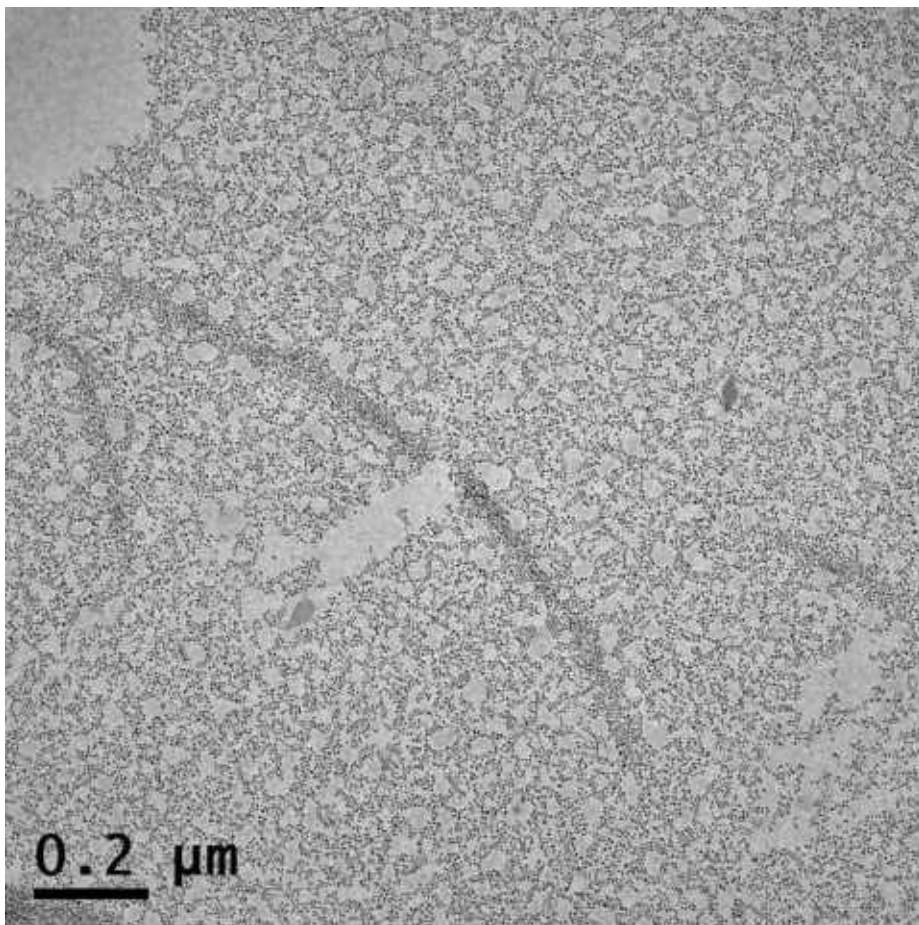
50 μm

Molecular structure

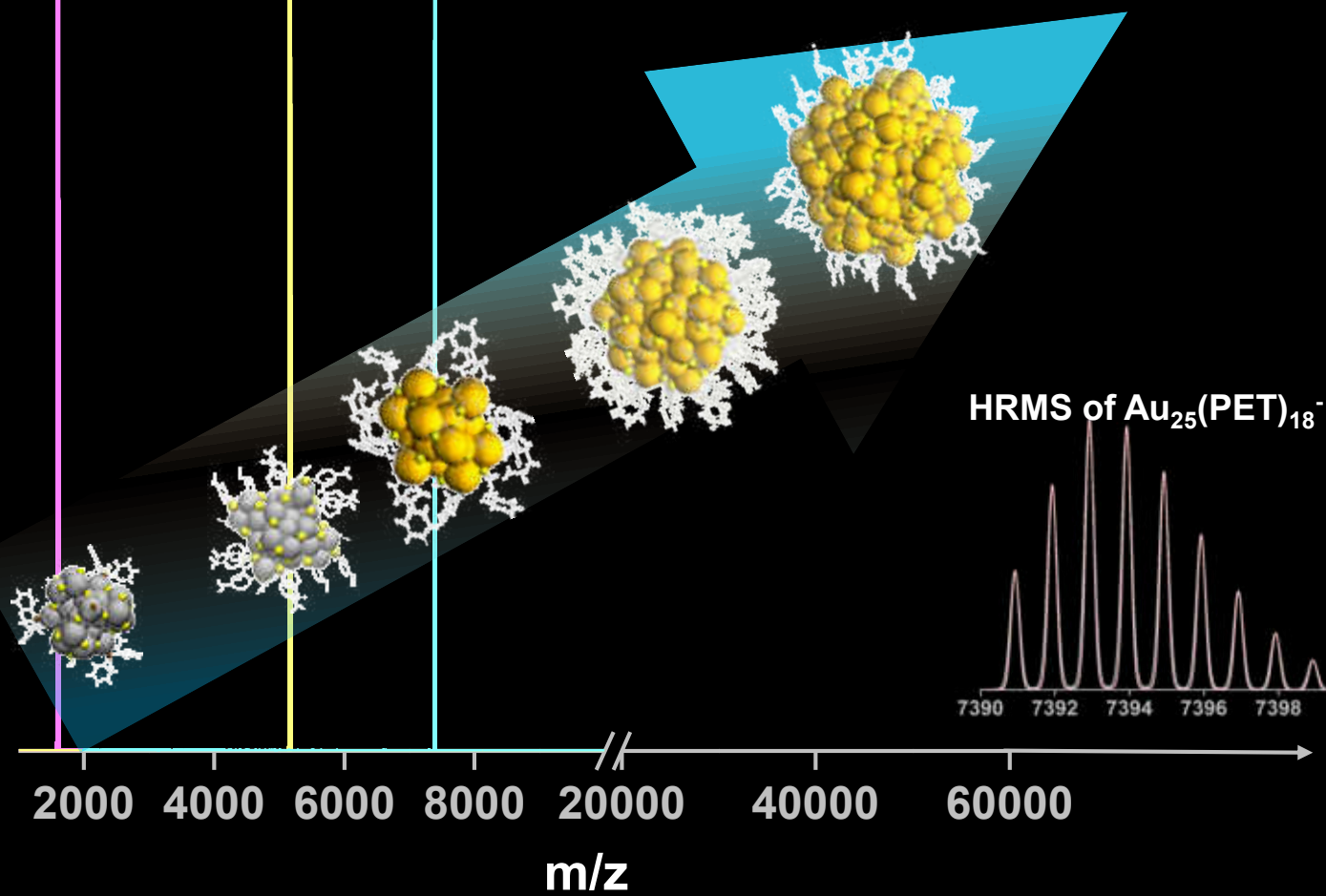


Geometric and electronic shells
Gana Natarajan

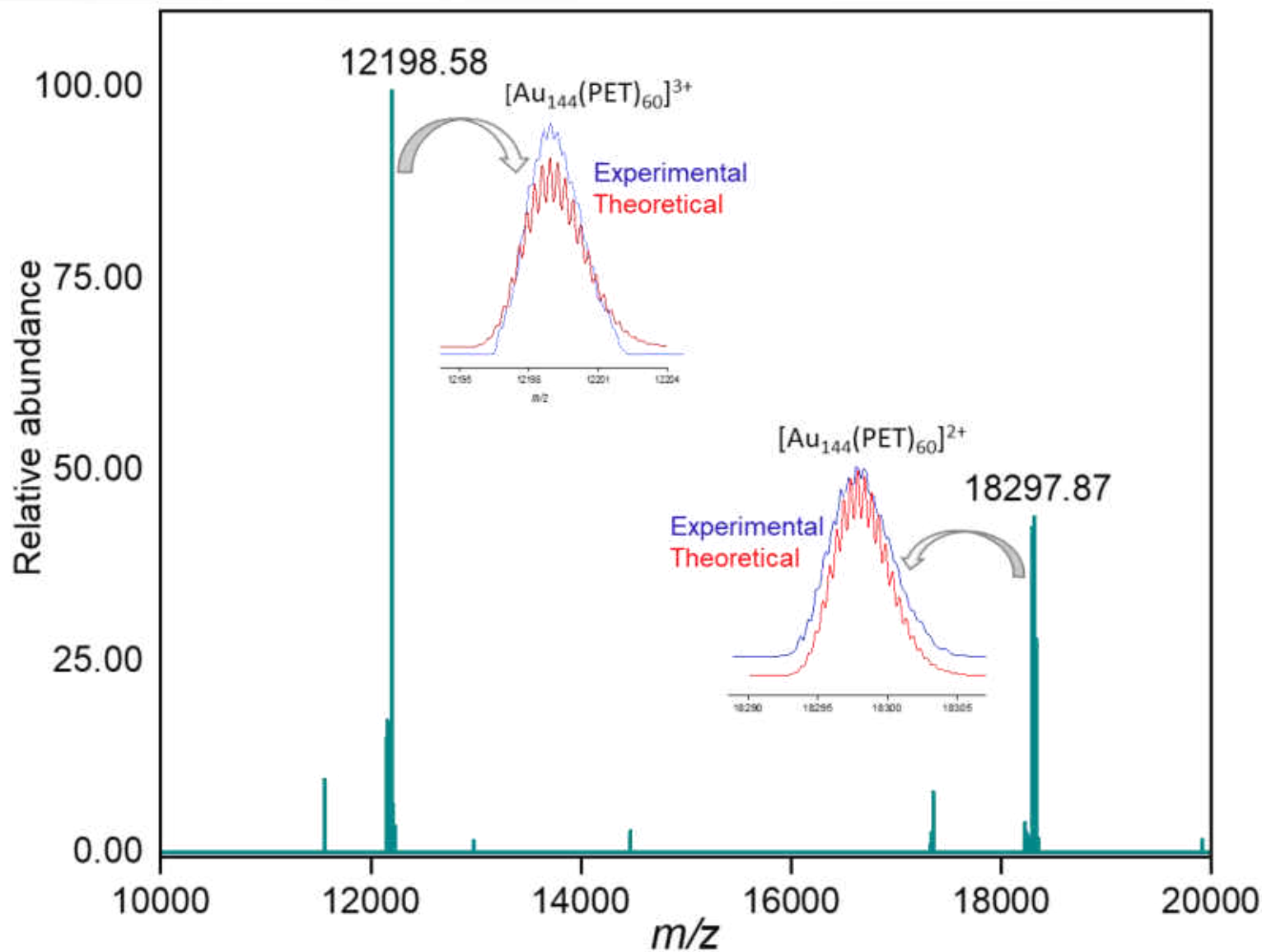
TEM images of Au₂₅ and Au₁₄₄



$\text{Ag}_{29}(\text{BDT})_{12}^{3-}$ $\text{Ag}_{25}(\text{DMBT})_{18}^{-}$ $\text{Au}_{25}(\text{PET})_{18}^{-}$

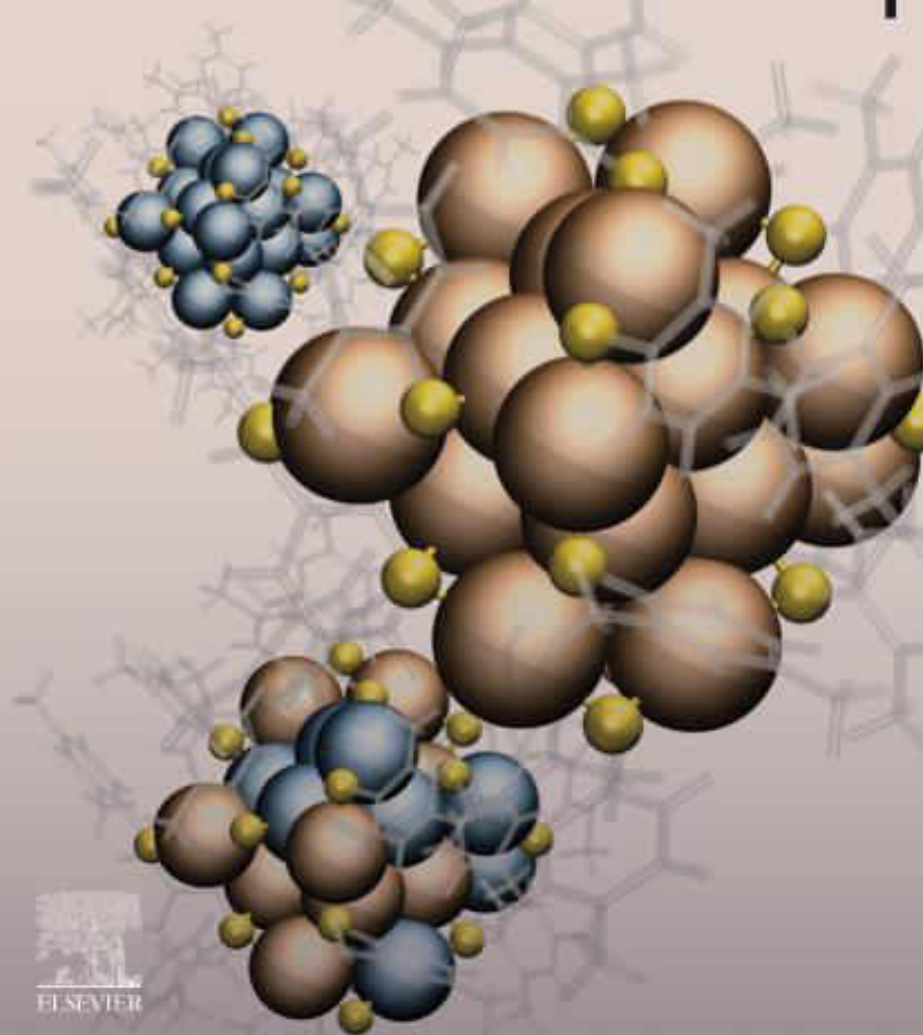


$\text{Au}_{144}(\text{PET})_{60}$



Edited by
Thalappil Pradeep

ATOMICALLY PRECISE METAL NANOCCLUSERS



Inter-cluster reactions



Article

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Intercluster Reactions between $\text{Au}_{25}(\text{SR})_{18}$ and $\text{Ag}_{44}(\text{SR})_{30}$

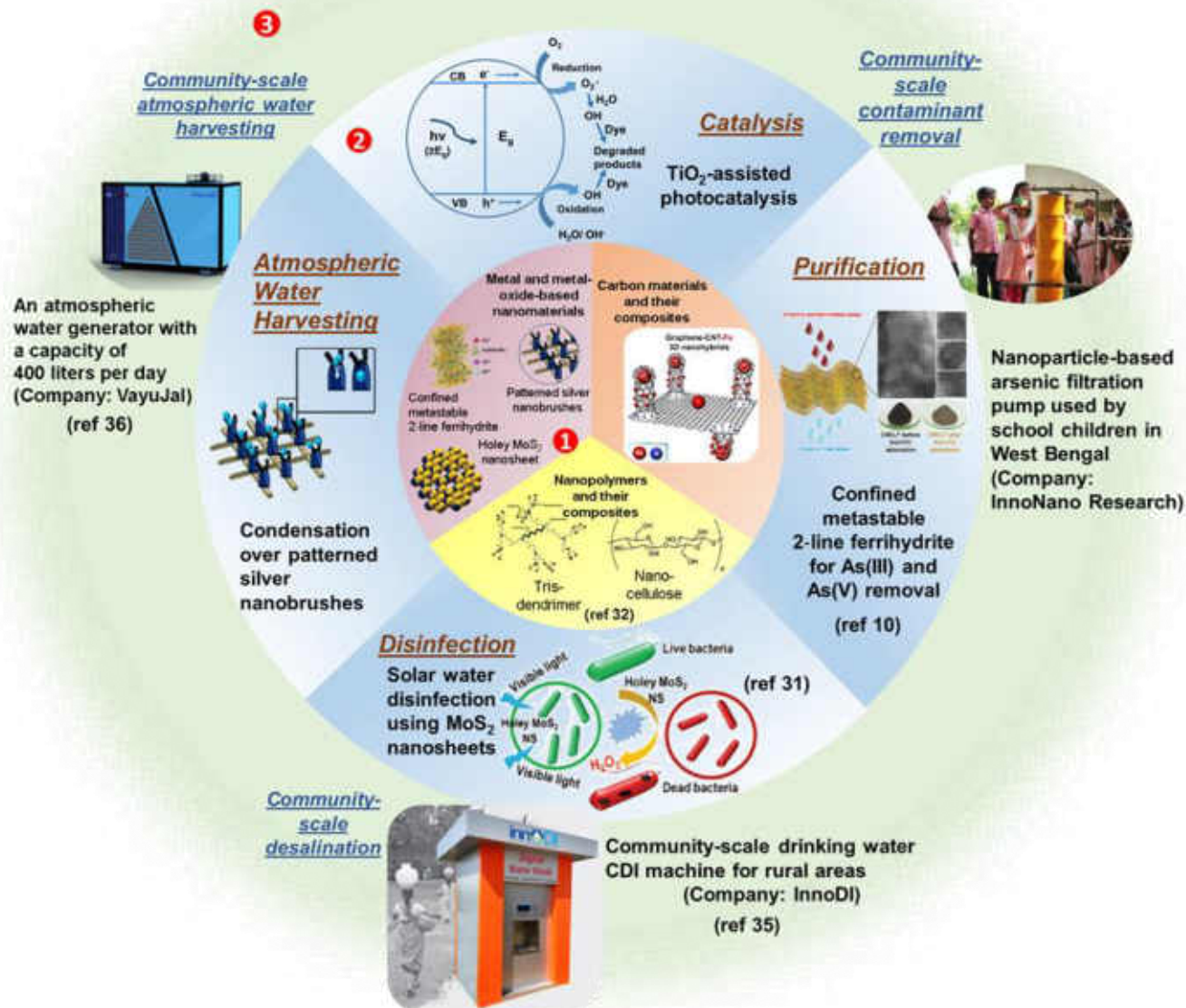
K. R. Krishnadas, Atanu Ghosh, Ananya Baksi, Indranath Chakraborty,[†] Ganapati Natarajan, and Thalappil Pradeep*

DST Unit of Nanoscience (DST UNS) and Thematic Unit of Excellence, Department of Chemistry, Indian Institute of Technology Madras, Chennai, 600 036, India

 Supporting Information

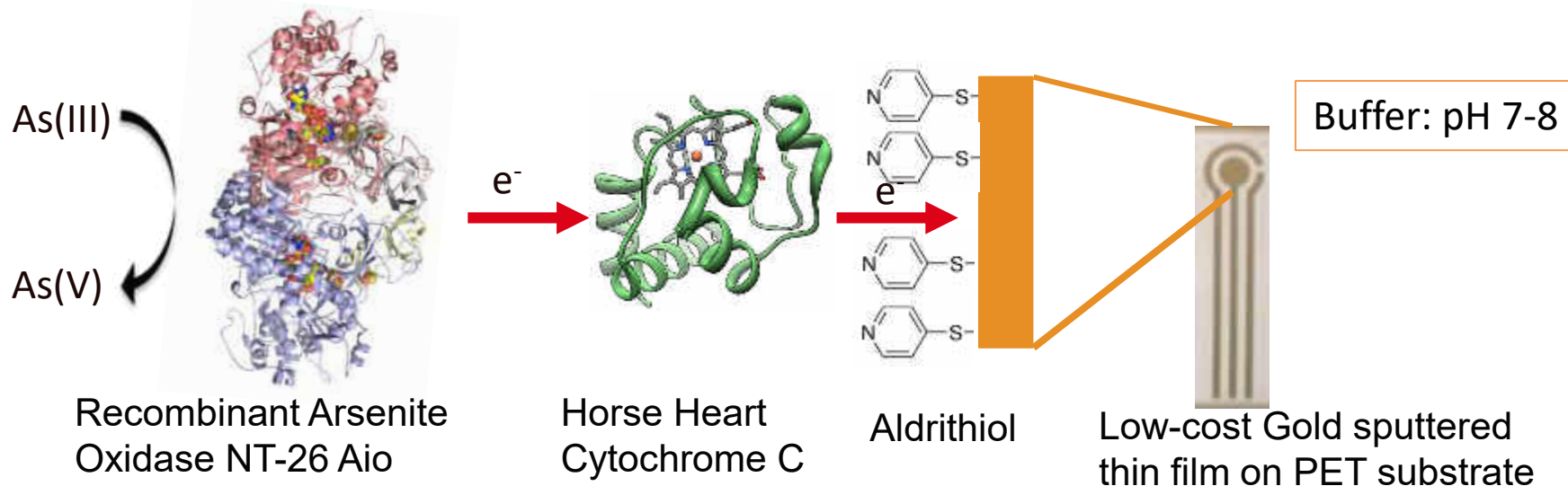


Evolution of materials to products

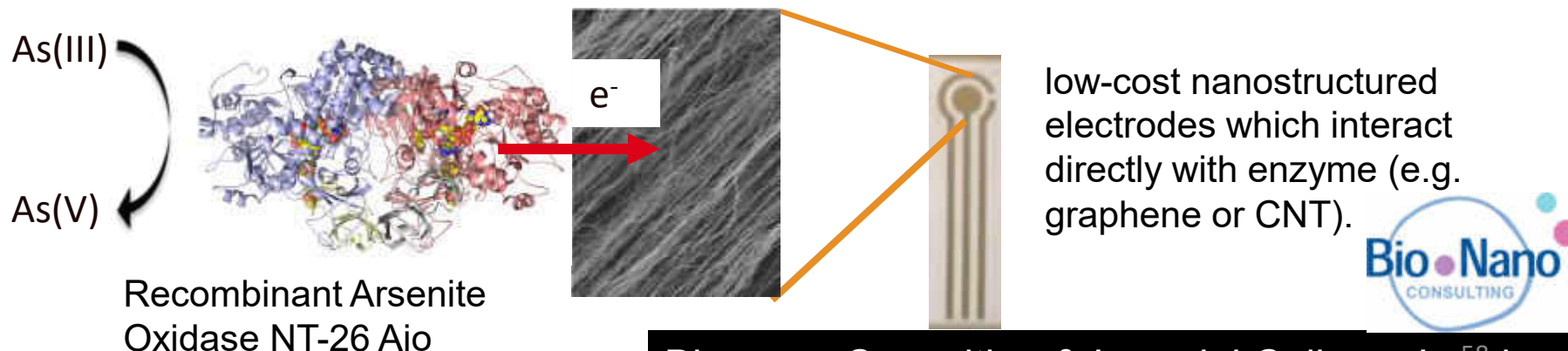


Biosensor Design

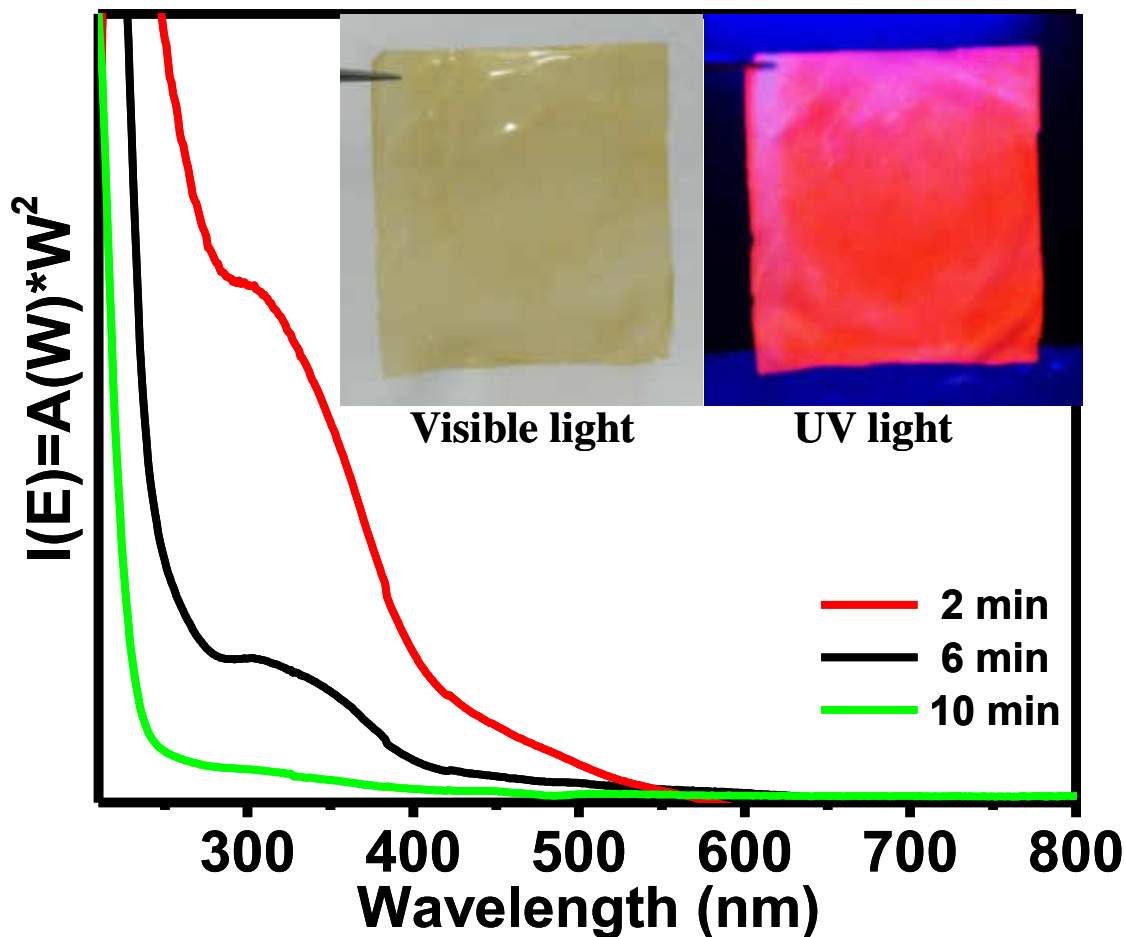
1st Generation Design (Mediated Electrochemistry)



2nd Generation Design (Direct Electron Transfer)

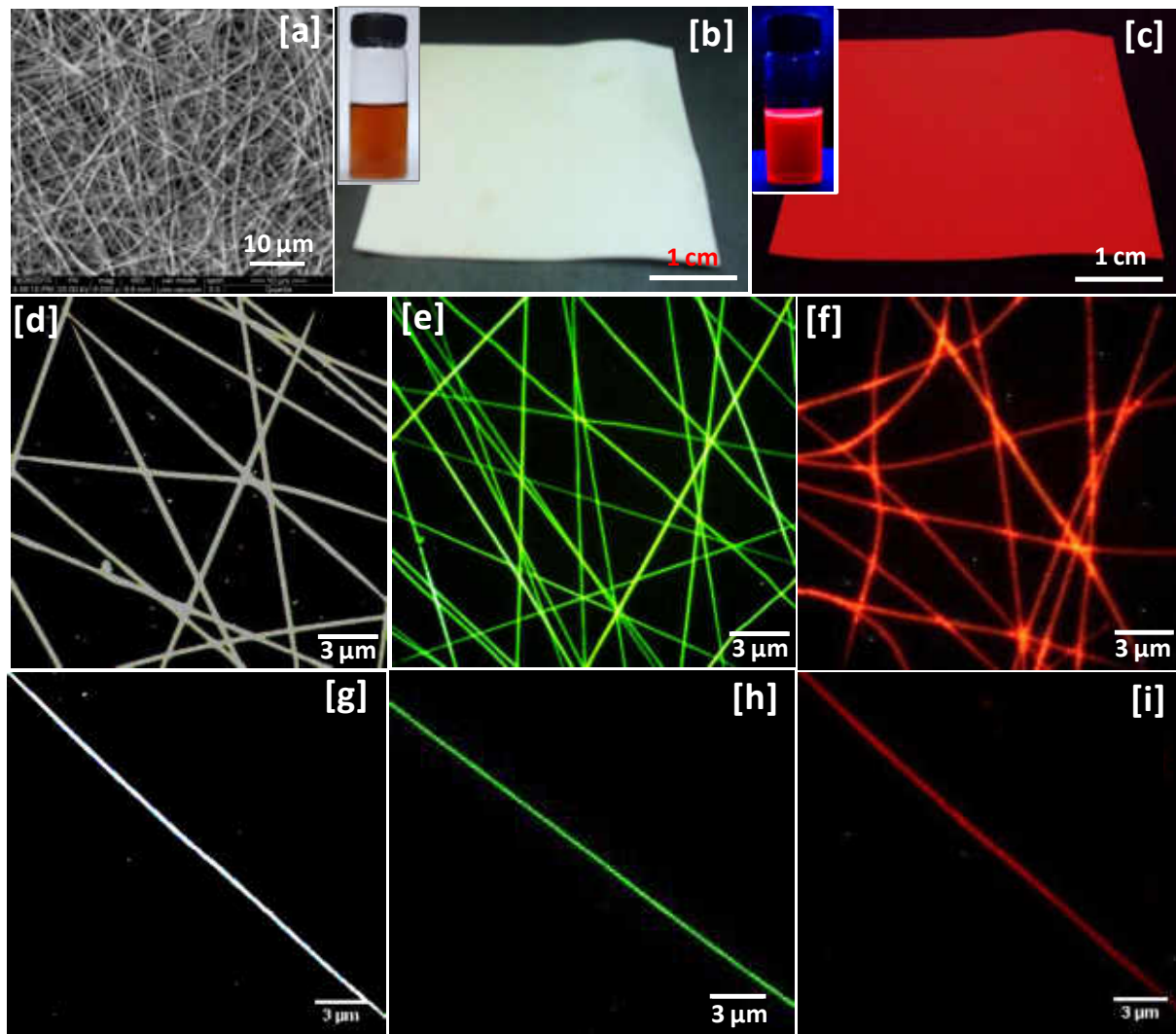


Cluster-based metal ion sensing



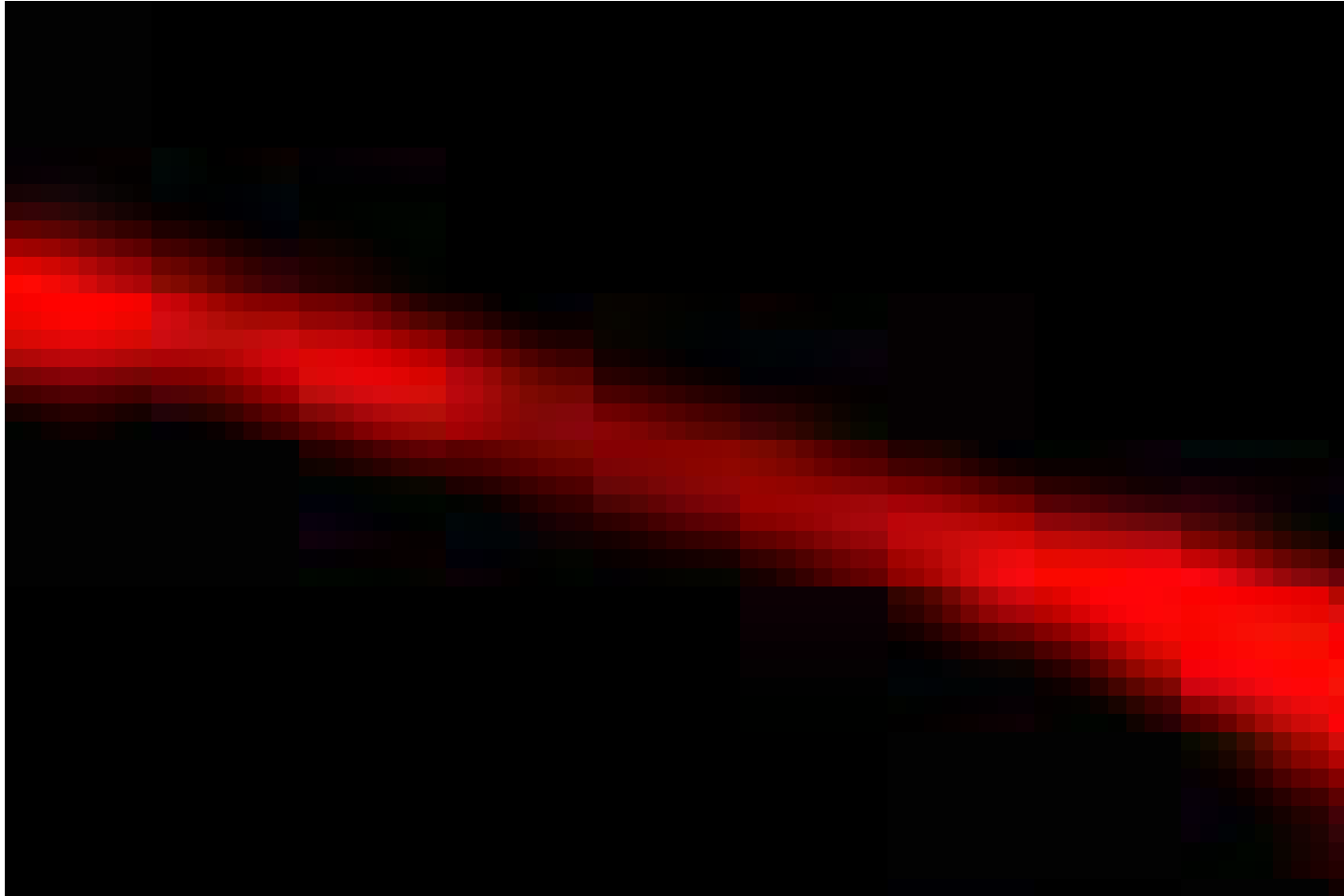
Decrease in the absorption of Au_{15} as a biofilm is dipped into the cluster solution. Inset: Free standing quantum cluster loaded film in visible light and UV light.

Approaching detection limits of tens of Hg^{2+}

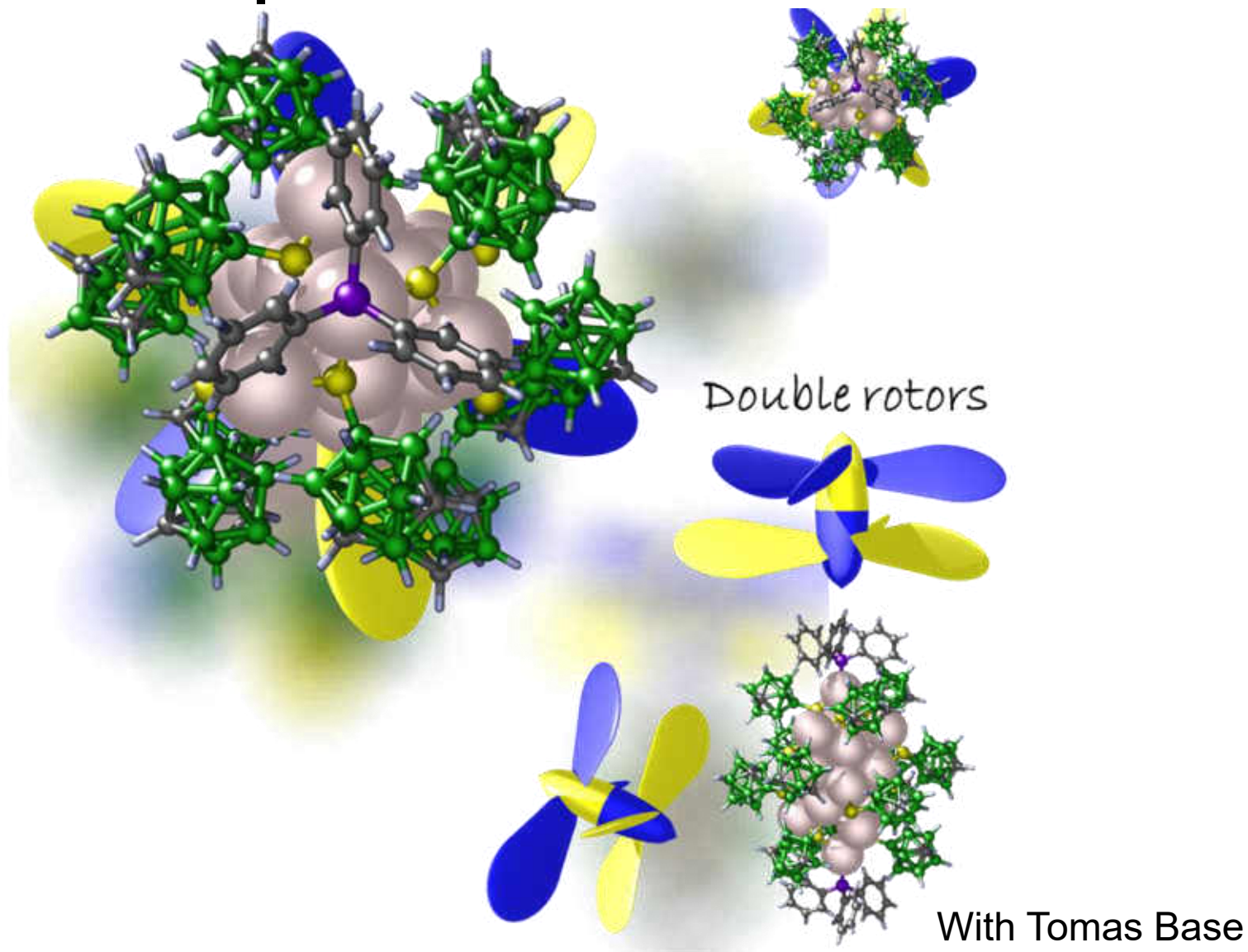


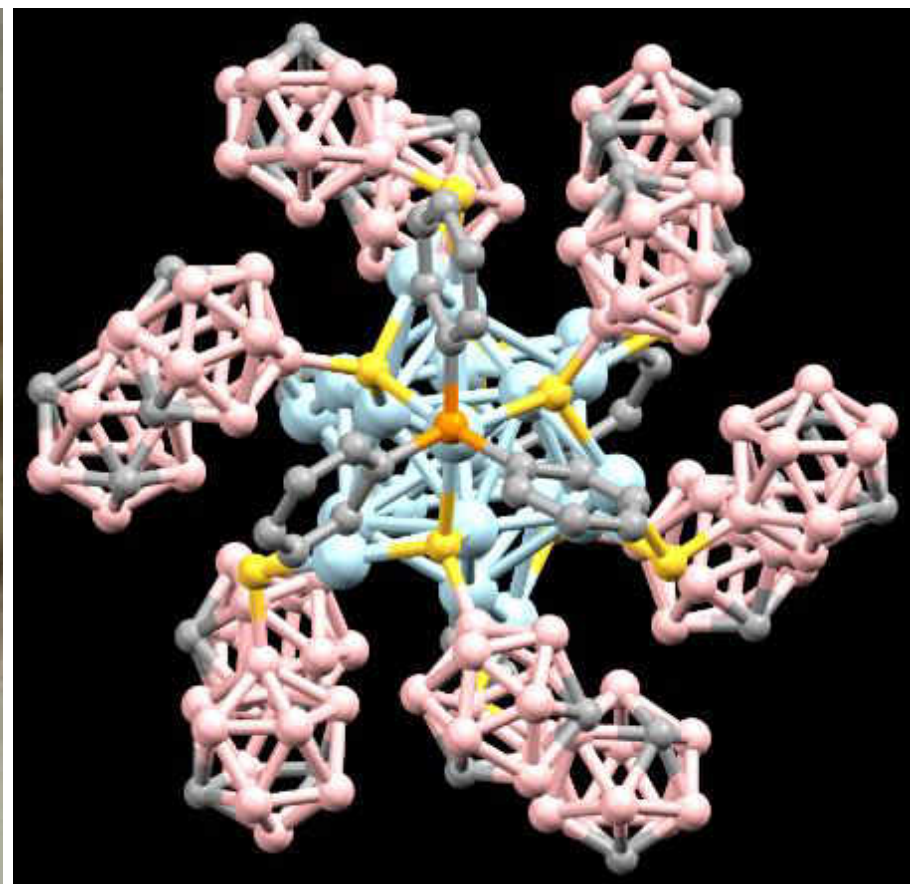
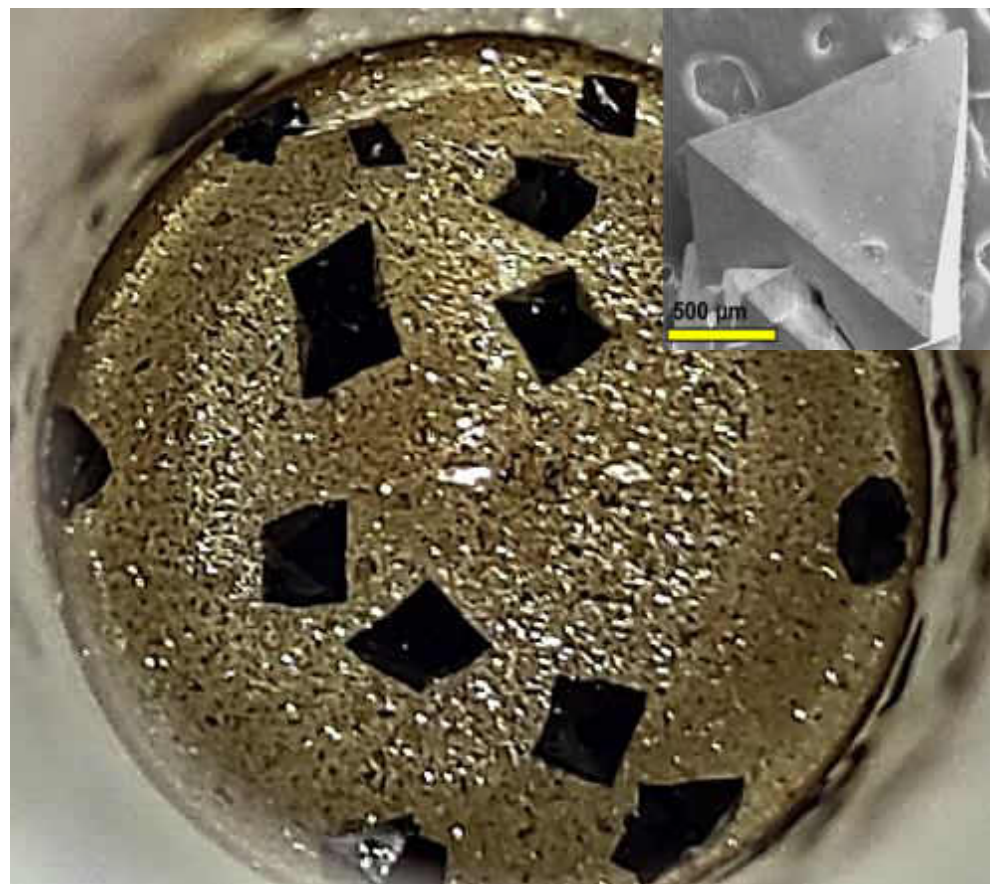
Atanu Ghosh et al. Anal. Chem. 2014.

Mercury quenching experiment using nanofiber

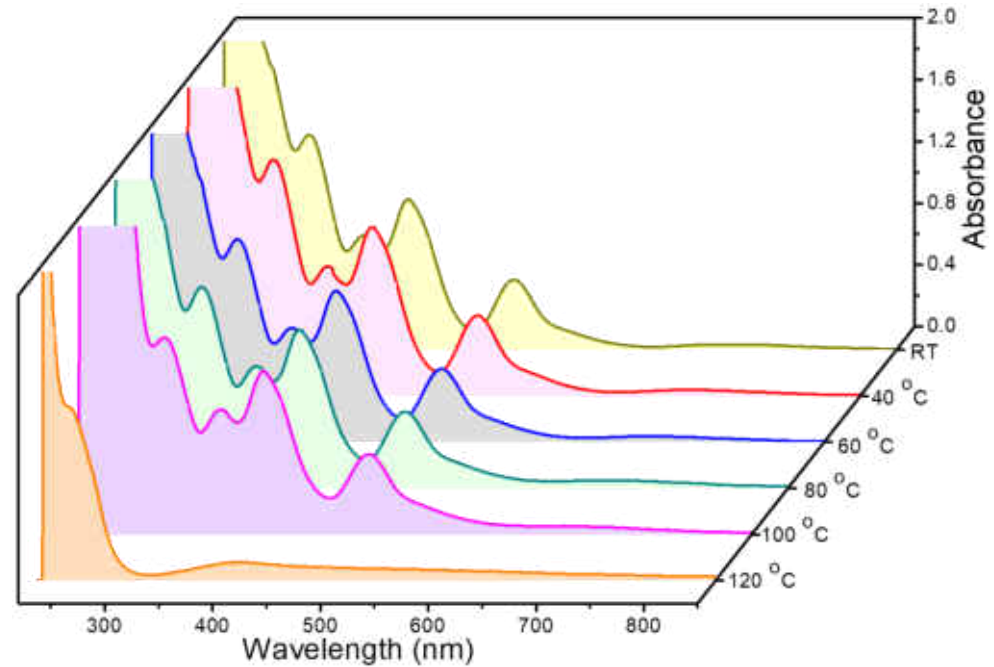
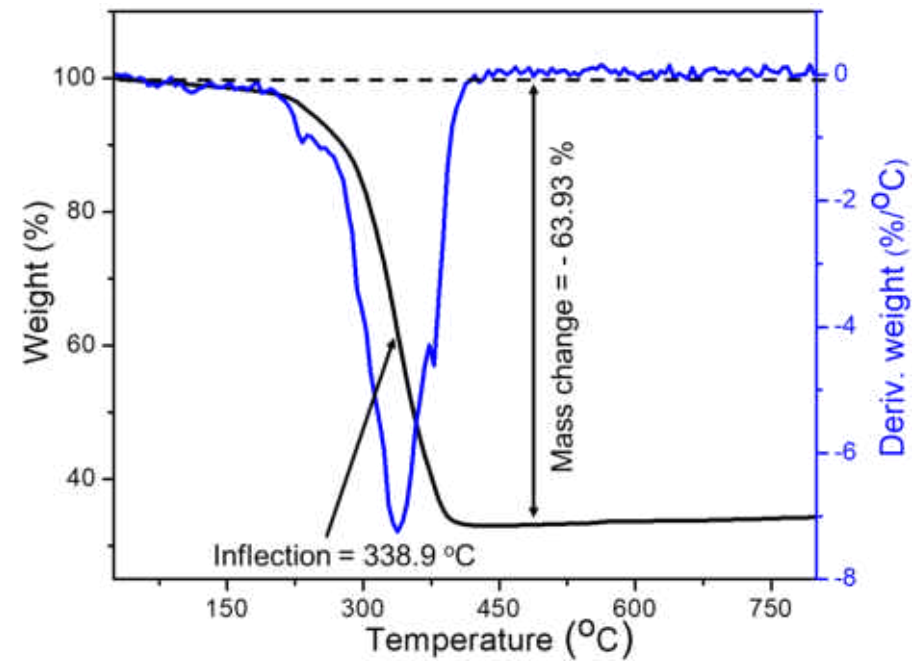


Carborane-thiol protected silver nanomolecule

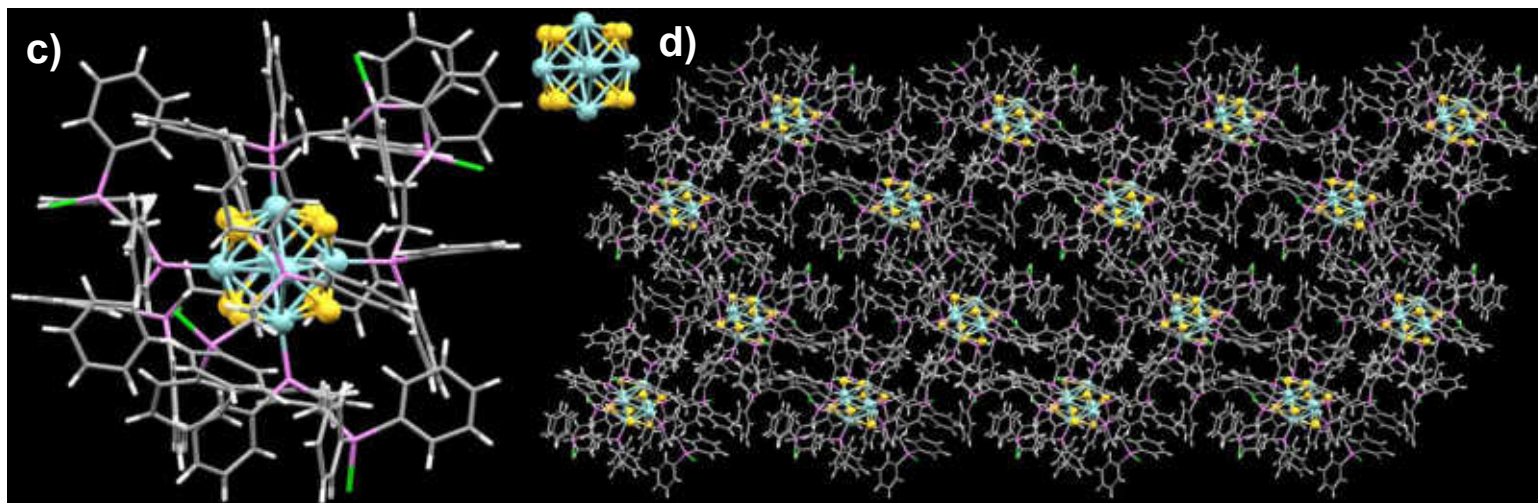
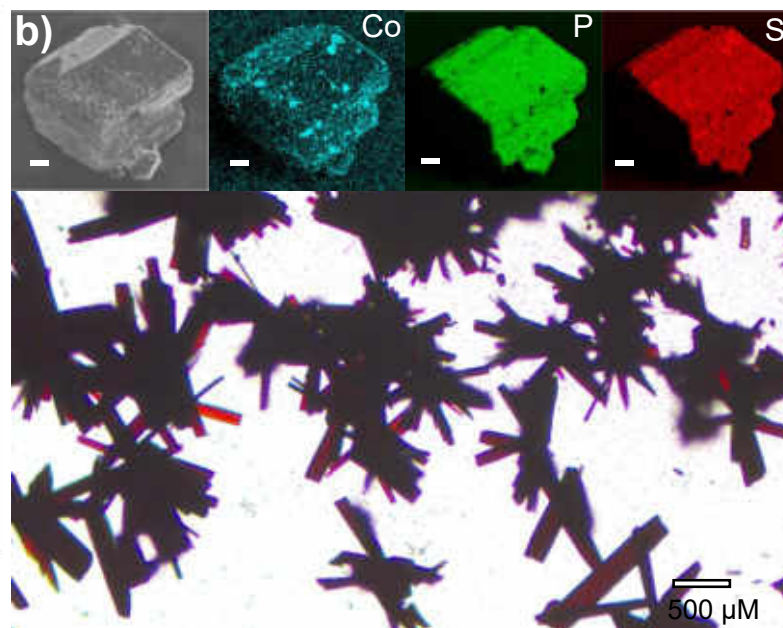
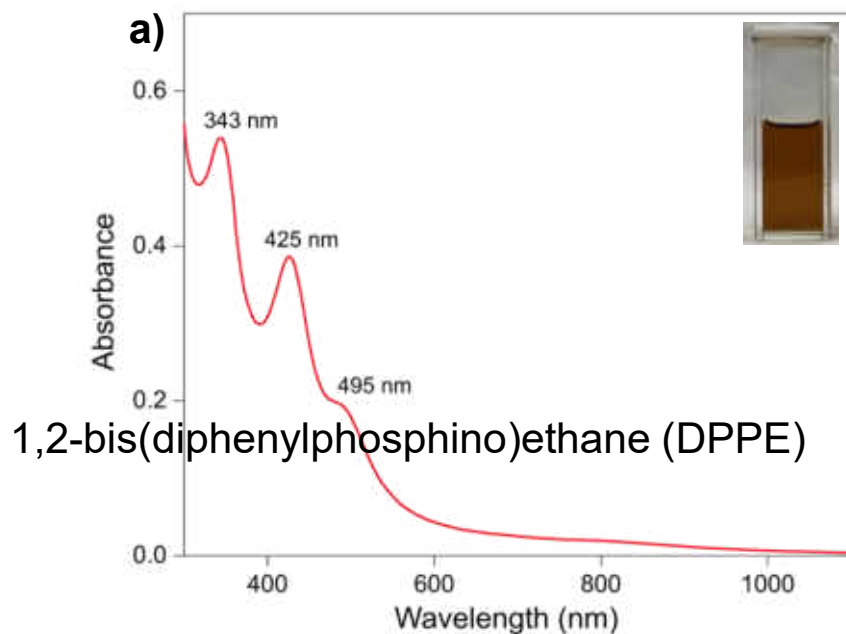




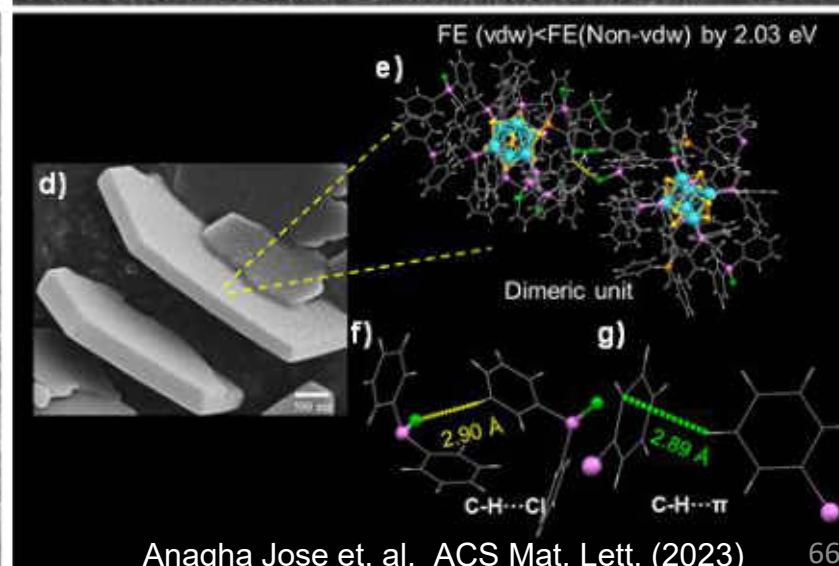
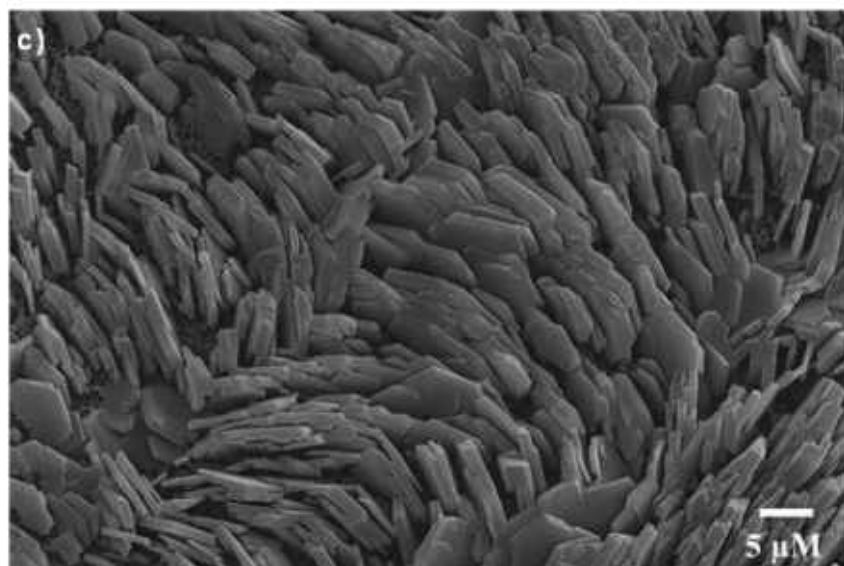
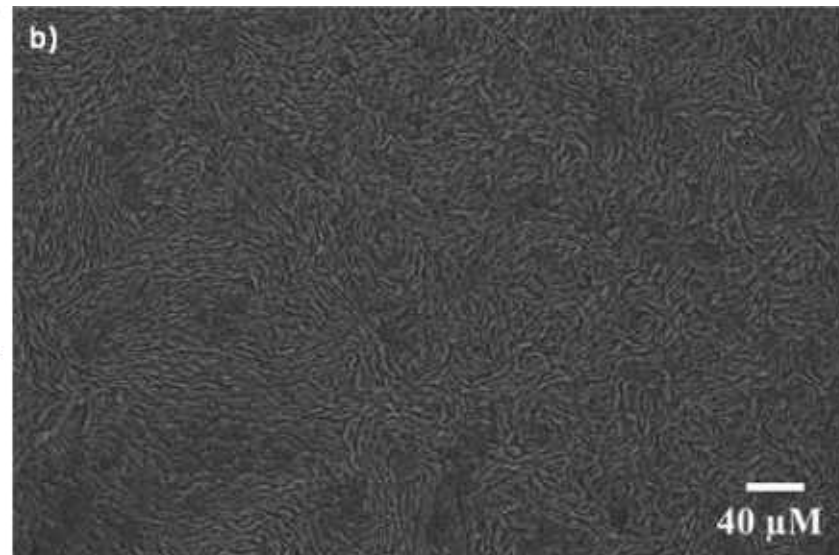
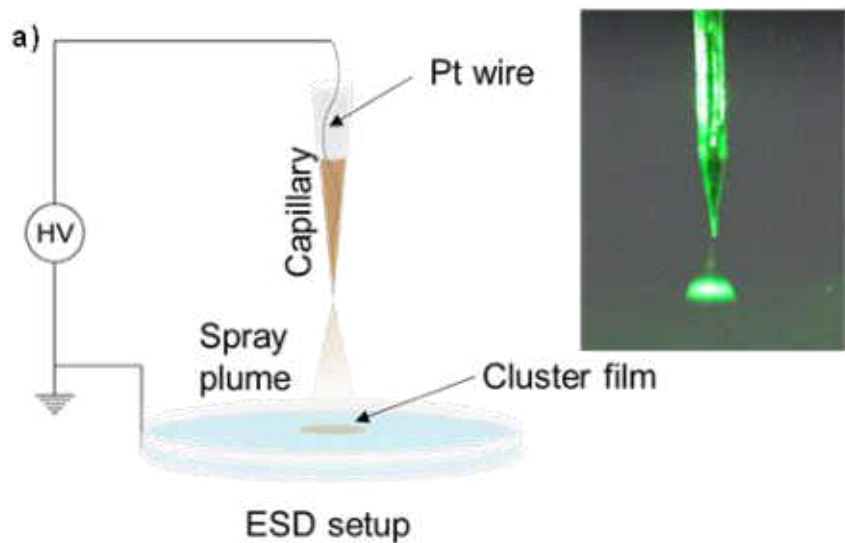
Thermal stability



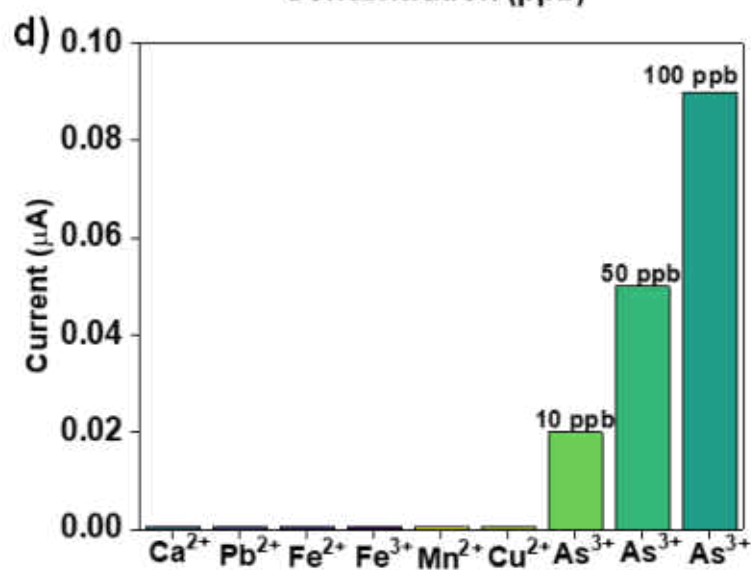
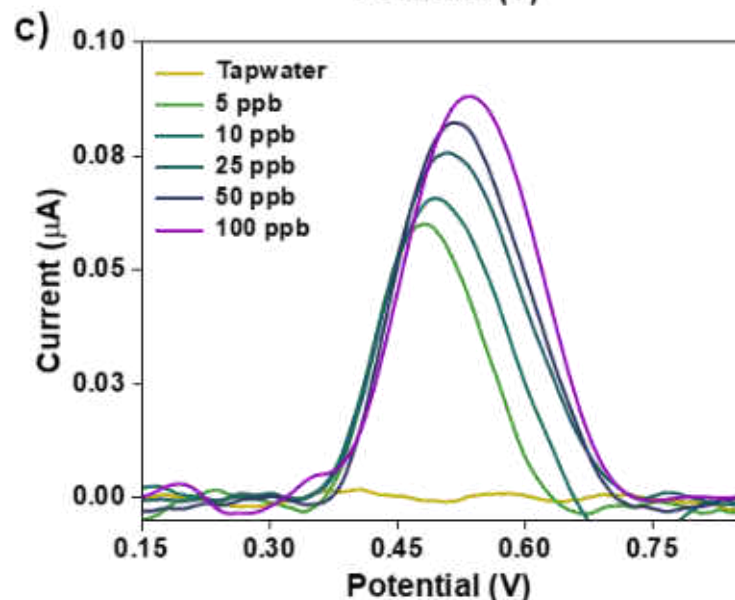
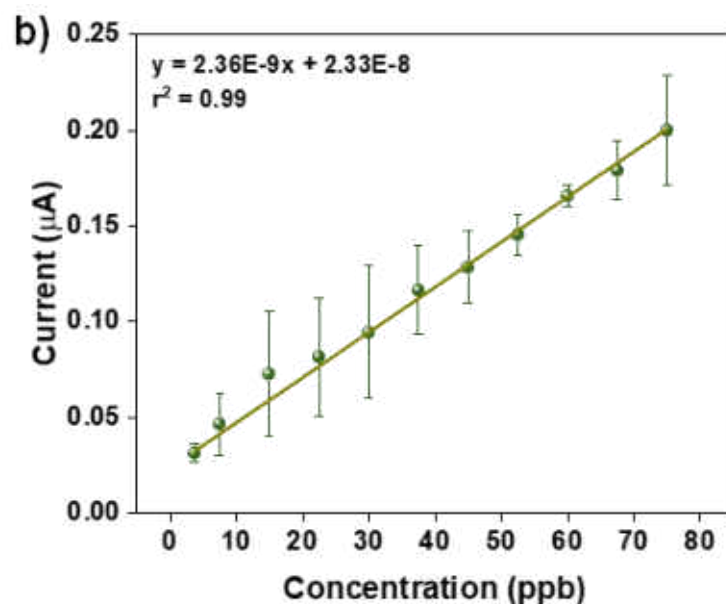
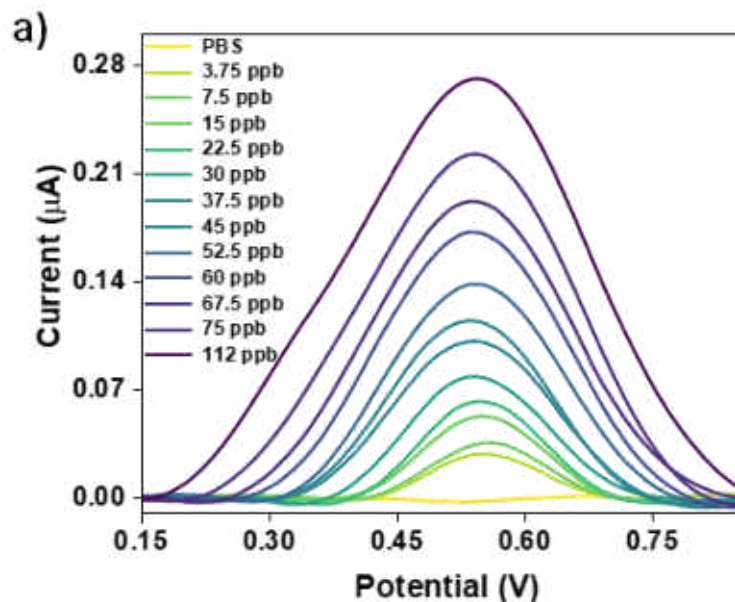
New electrodes - Aligned nanoplates of Co_6S_8



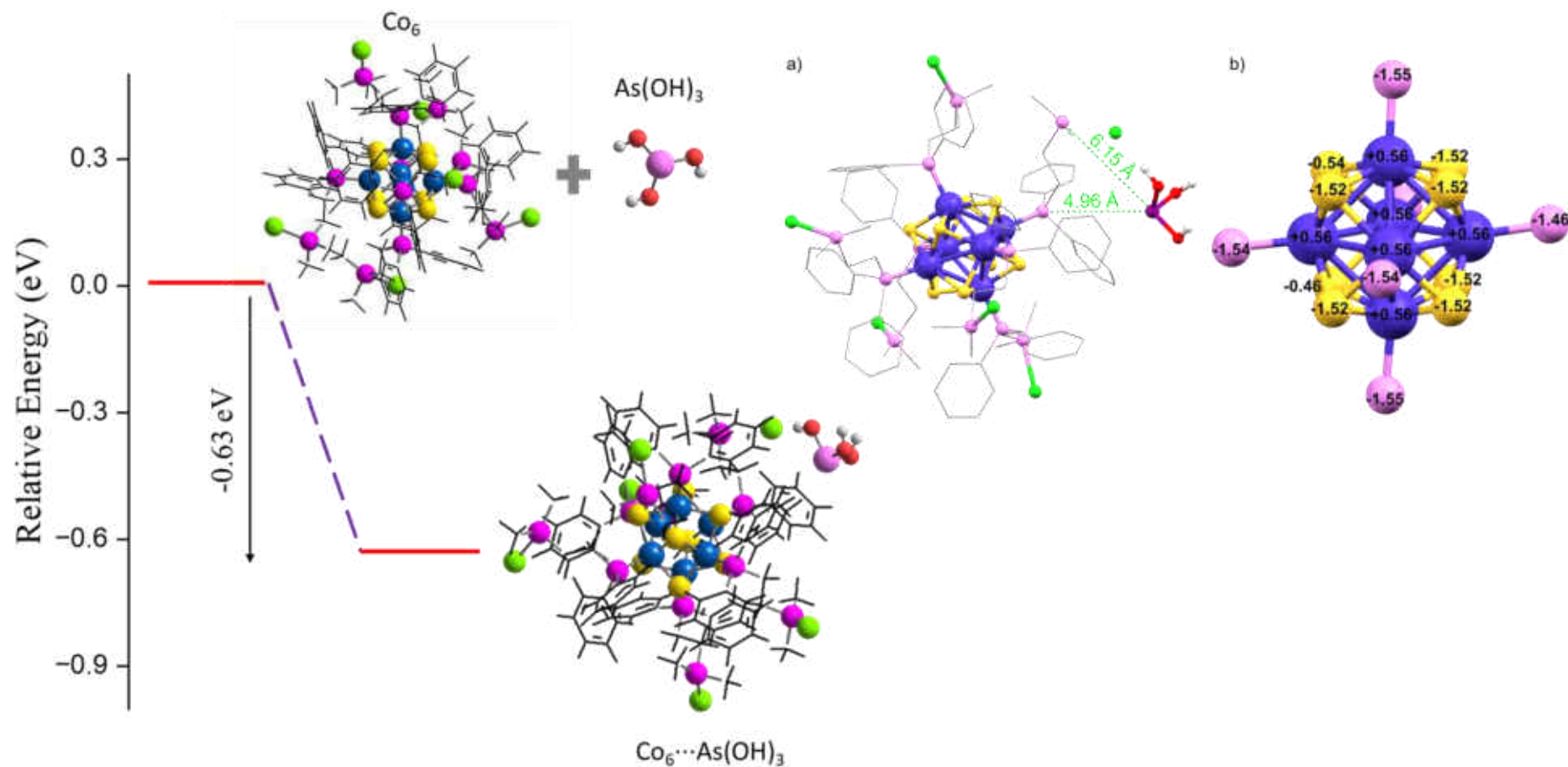
Electrospray deposition



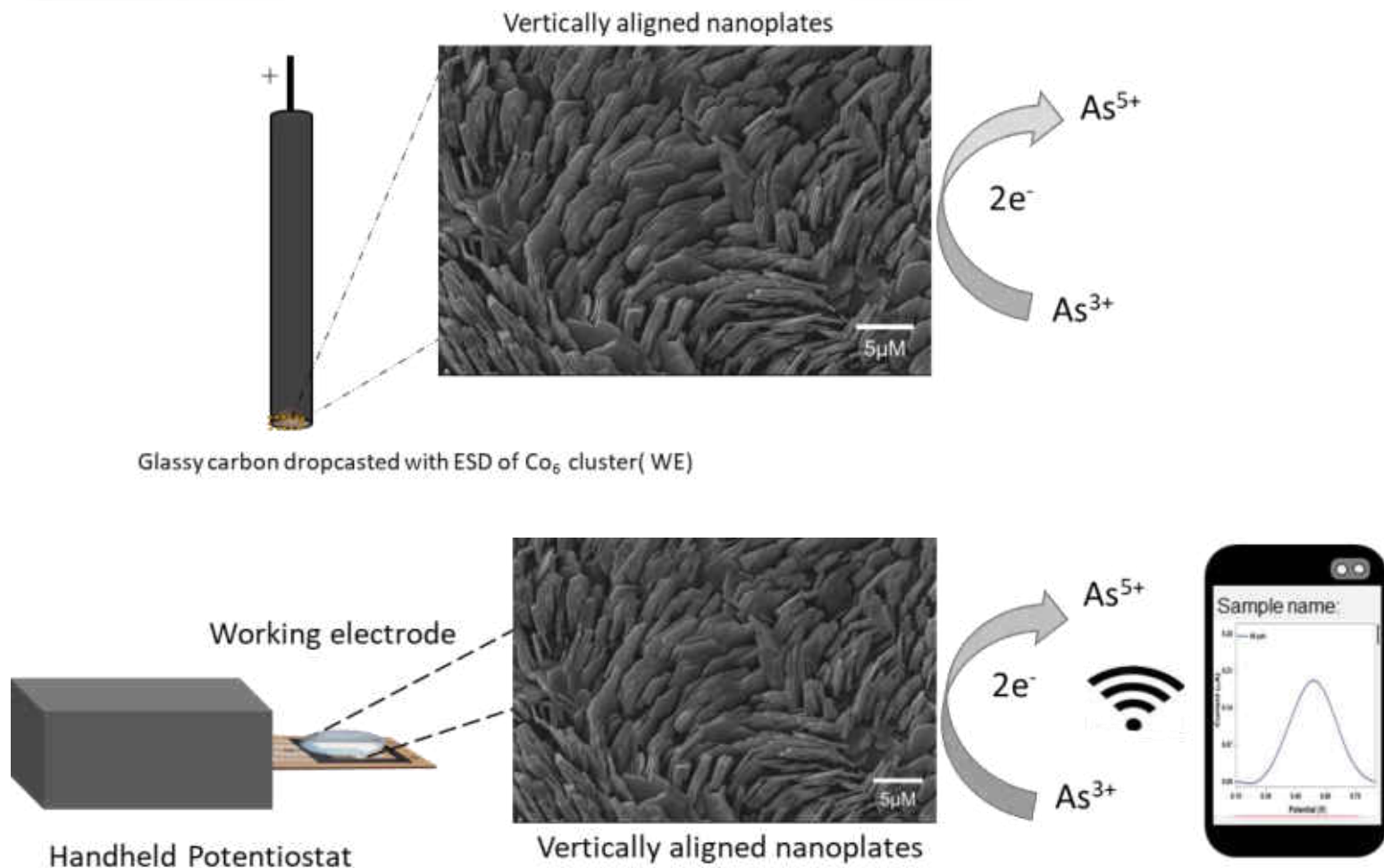
Sensing



Computational insights

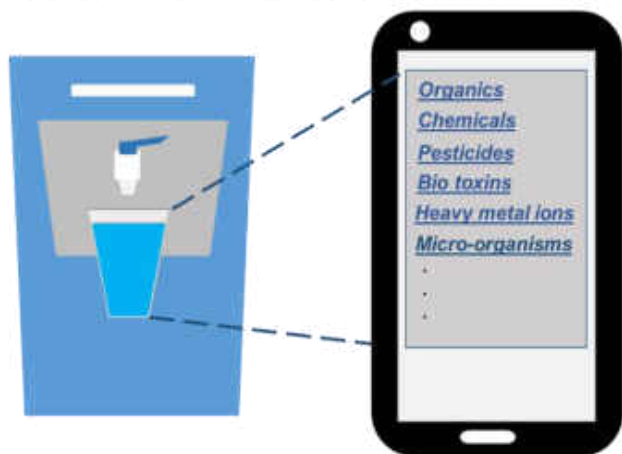


Working electrode

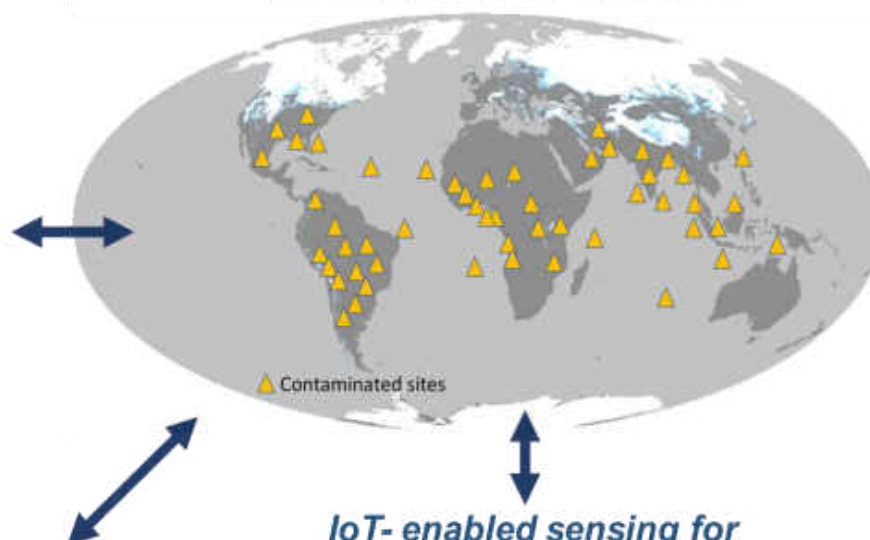


Smart water purifiers and big data

Smart Water Purifiers linked to IoT



Global Map of Water Health



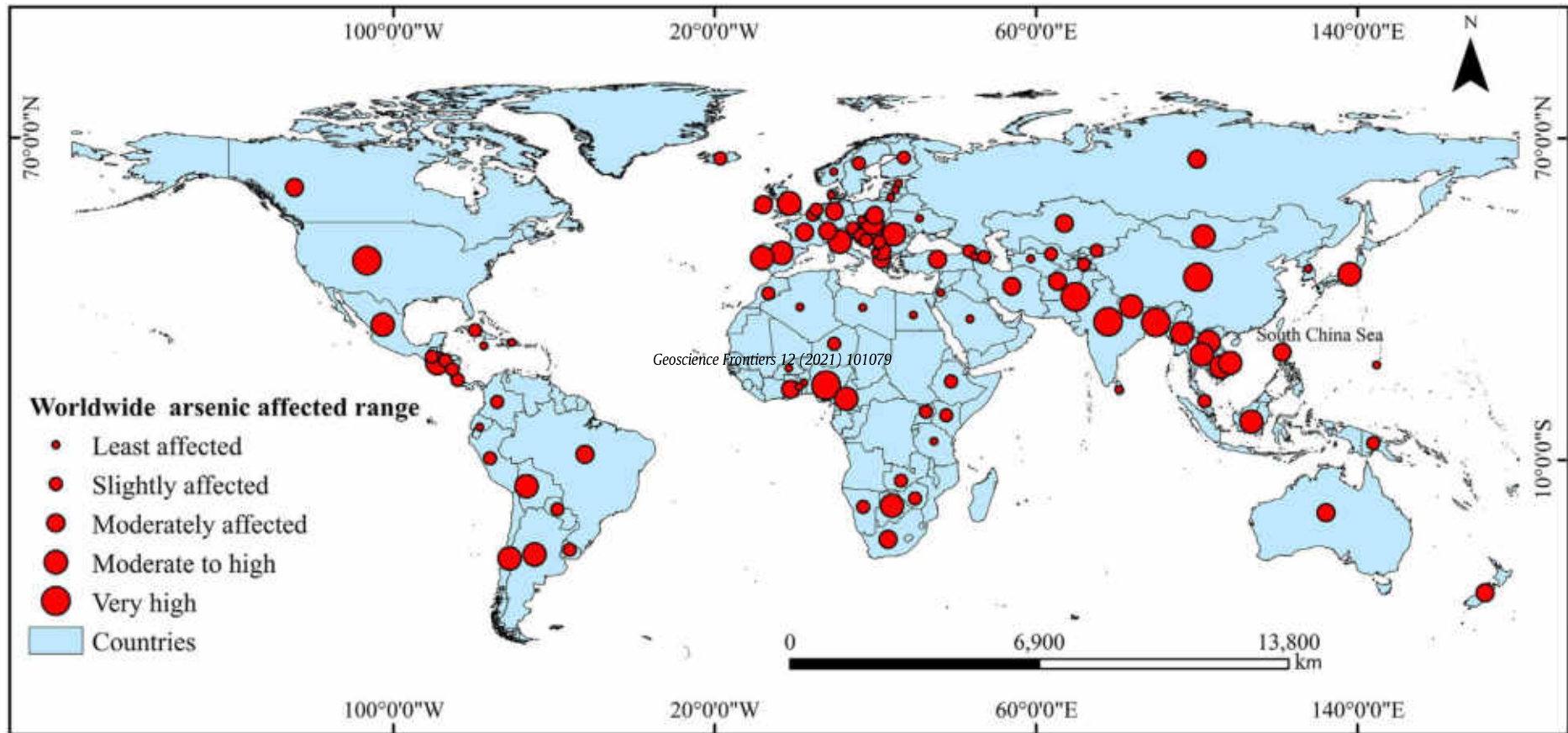
Cost-effective sensor accessory for point-of-use applications



IoT-enabled sensing for households and distribution networks



Arsenic poisoning across the world



Collaborators



Tatsuya Tsukuda
Keisaku Kimura
Yuichi Negishi
Uzi Landman
Hannu Hakkinen
Rob Whetten

Shiv Khanna



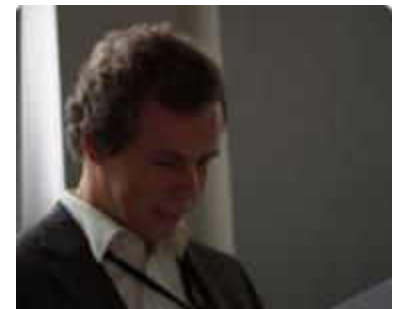
Robin Ras



Manfred Kappes



Nonappa



Tomas Base



Olli Ikkala



Horst Hahn



Biswarup Pathak



K. V. Adarsh



G. U. Kulkarni



Vivek Polshettiwar



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Avula Anil Kumar, Chennu Sudhakar, Sritama Mukherjee, Anshup, and Mohan Udhaya Sankar

Funding: Department of Science and Technology, Government of India

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>25 Post-doctoral fellows, >130 masters students and visitors

