



EDMI Microsystems and Microelectronics

**MICRO-614:** Electrochemical Nano-Bio-Sensing  
and Bio/CMOS interfaces

## **Lecture #9**

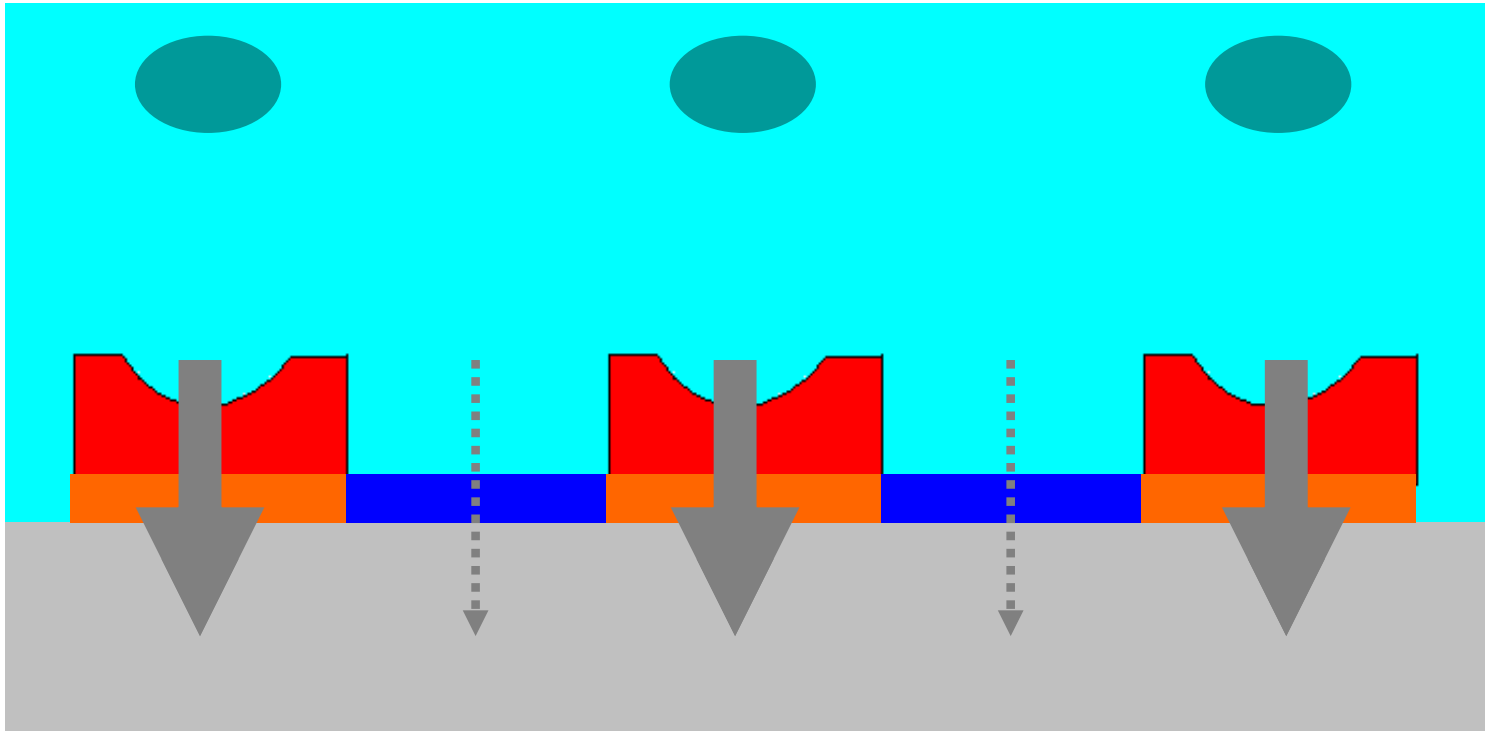
# Nanotechnology to enhance Electron Transfer

# Lecture Outline

(Book Bio/CMOS: Chapter' paragraphs § 8.9.1-4)

- How to integrate CNT
- Electrochemistry of CNT
- Nernst effect with CNT
- Layering effect with CNT
- Cottrell effect with CNT
- Randles-Sevcik effect with CNT
- How to integrate nanoPt (see the Appendix)

# CMOS/Sample interface



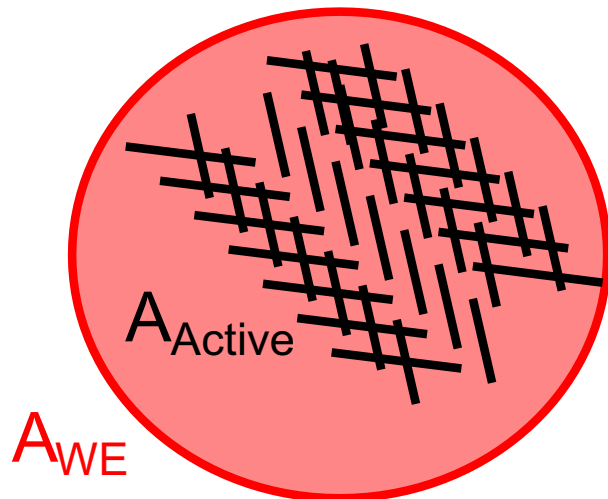
The interface between the CMOS circuit and the bio-sample needs to be deeply investigated and organized

# Geometrical Area vs Active Area

$$i(x,t) = \frac{nFA\sqrt{DC(x,t)}}{\sqrt{\pi t}}$$

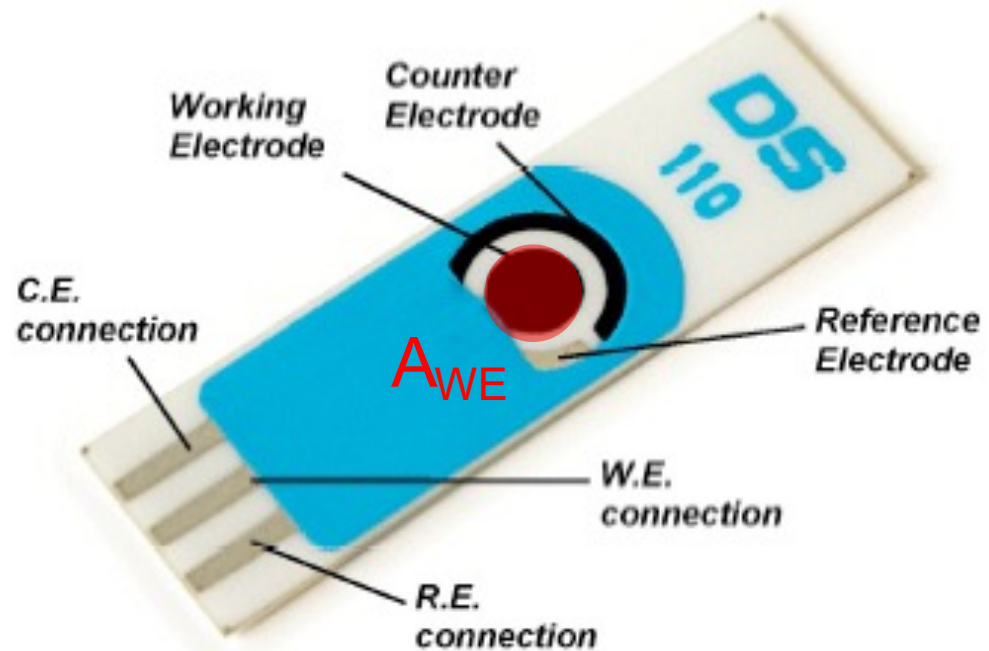
?

More Active Surface Area



$$A_{Active} > A_{WE}$$

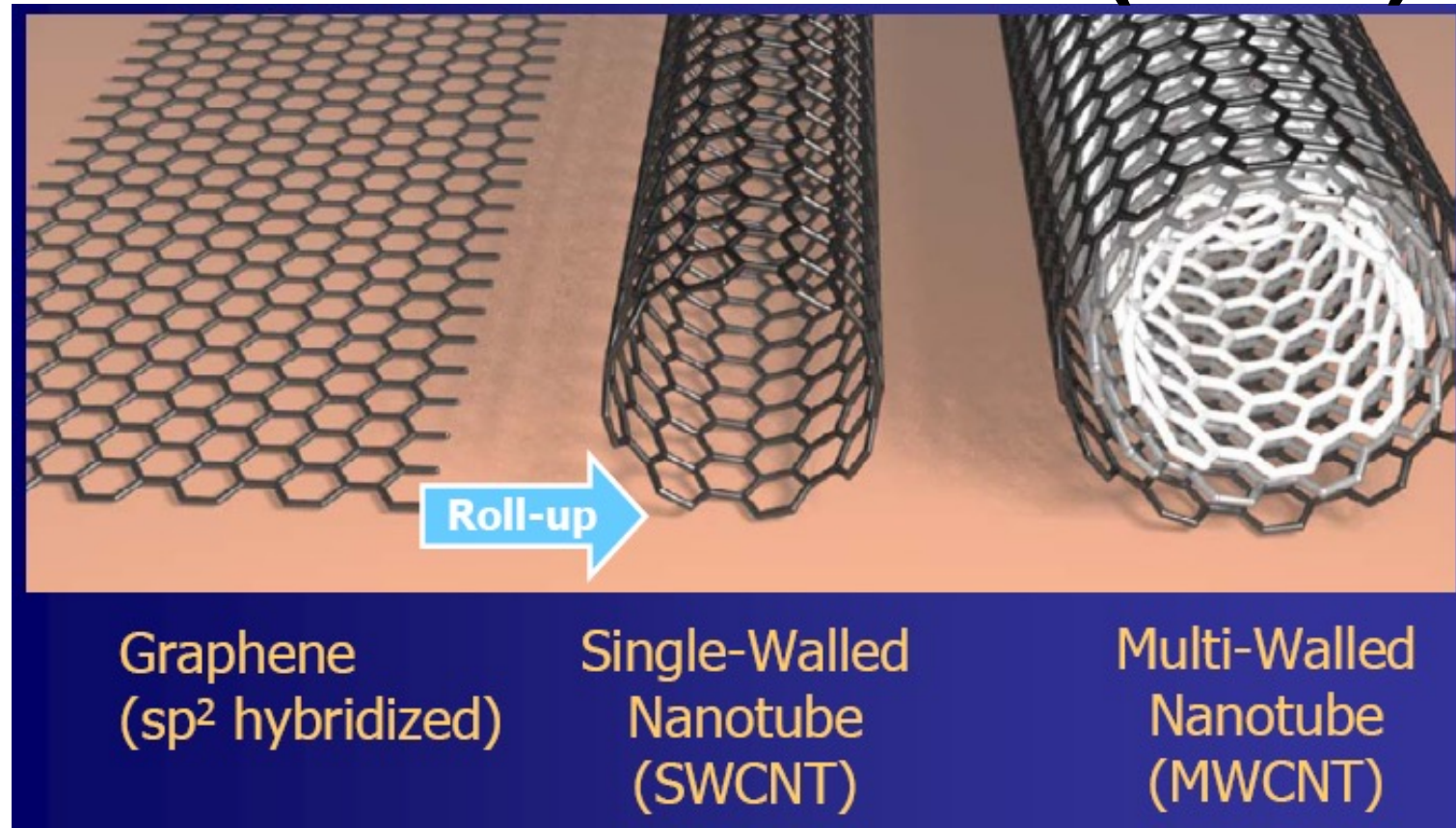
**Electrochemically Active Area**



$$i(x,t) = \frac{nFA_{Active}\sqrt{DC(x,t)}}{\sqrt{\pi t}}$$



# Carbon Nanotubes (CNT)



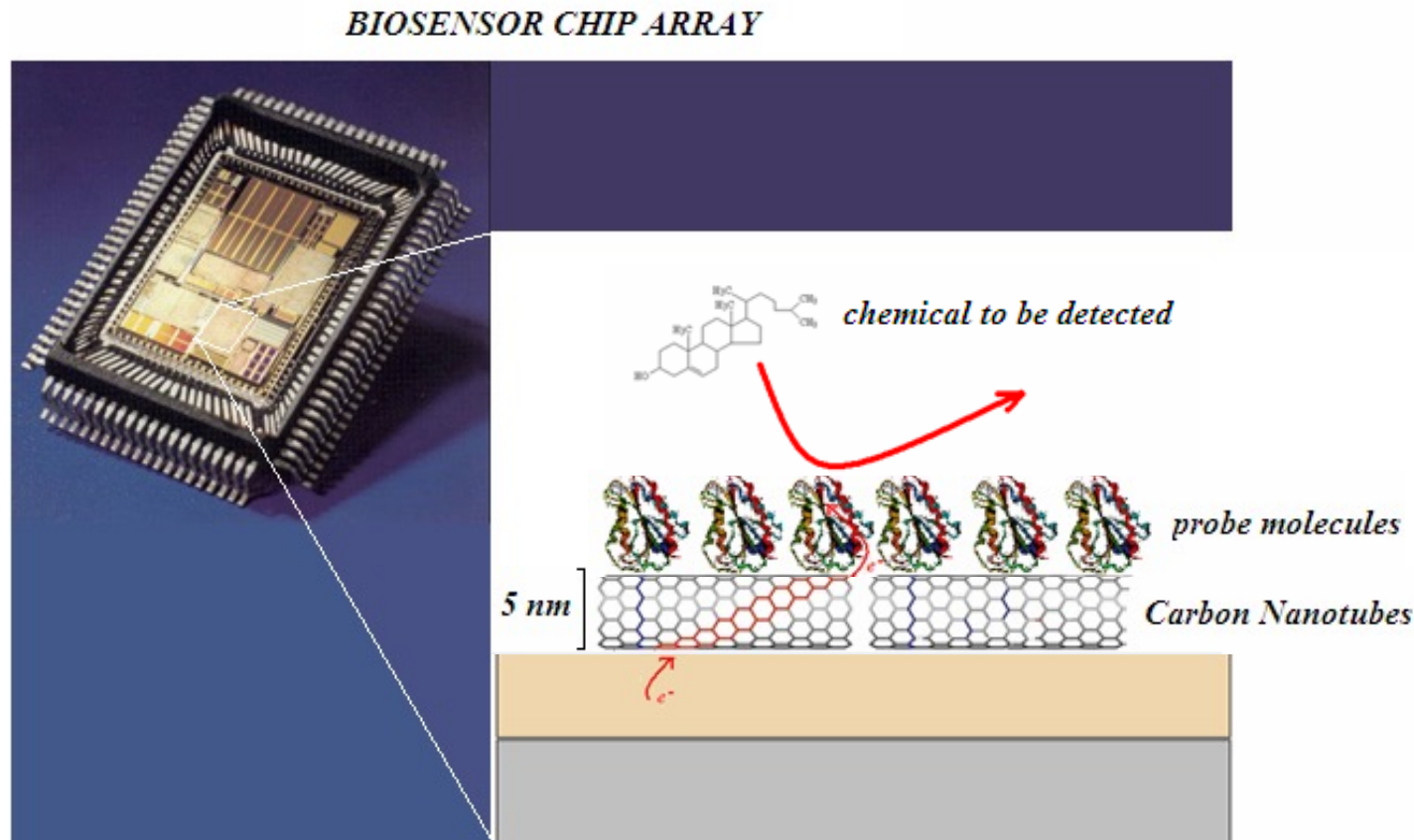
Courtesy: K. Banerjee/California Univ.

# CNT electrical conductivity

|                                          | Cu                          | SWCNT                                                                               | MWCNT                                                             |
|------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Max current density (A/cm <sup>2</sup> ) | <b>&lt;1x10<sup>7</sup></b> | <b>&gt;1x10<sup>9</sup></b><br><i>Radosavljevic, et al.,<br/>Phys. Rev. B, 2001</i> |                                                                   |
| Thermal conductivity (W/mK)              | <b>385</b>                  | <b>5800</b><br><i>Hone, et al.,<br/>Phys. Rev. B, 1999</i>                          | <b>3000</b><br><i>Kim, et al.,<br/>Phys. Rev. Let.,<br/>2001</i>  |
| Mean free path (nm)<br>@ room temp       | <b>40</b>                   | <b>&gt;1,000</b><br><i>McEuen, et al.,<br/>Trans. Nano., 2002</i>                   | <b>25,000</b><br><i>Li, et al.,<br/>Phys. Rev. Let.,<br/>2005</i> |

Single Walled or Multi-Walled Carbon Nanotubes  
leads to different electrical properties

# CNT to improve Bio/CMOS interfaces

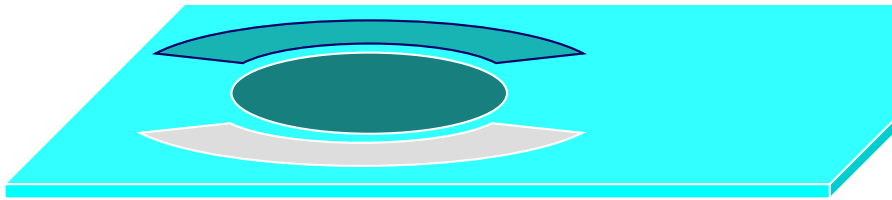
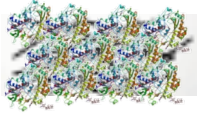


Improvements by Nanotechnology in Label-Free  
Diagnostics enhance Sensitivity and specificity

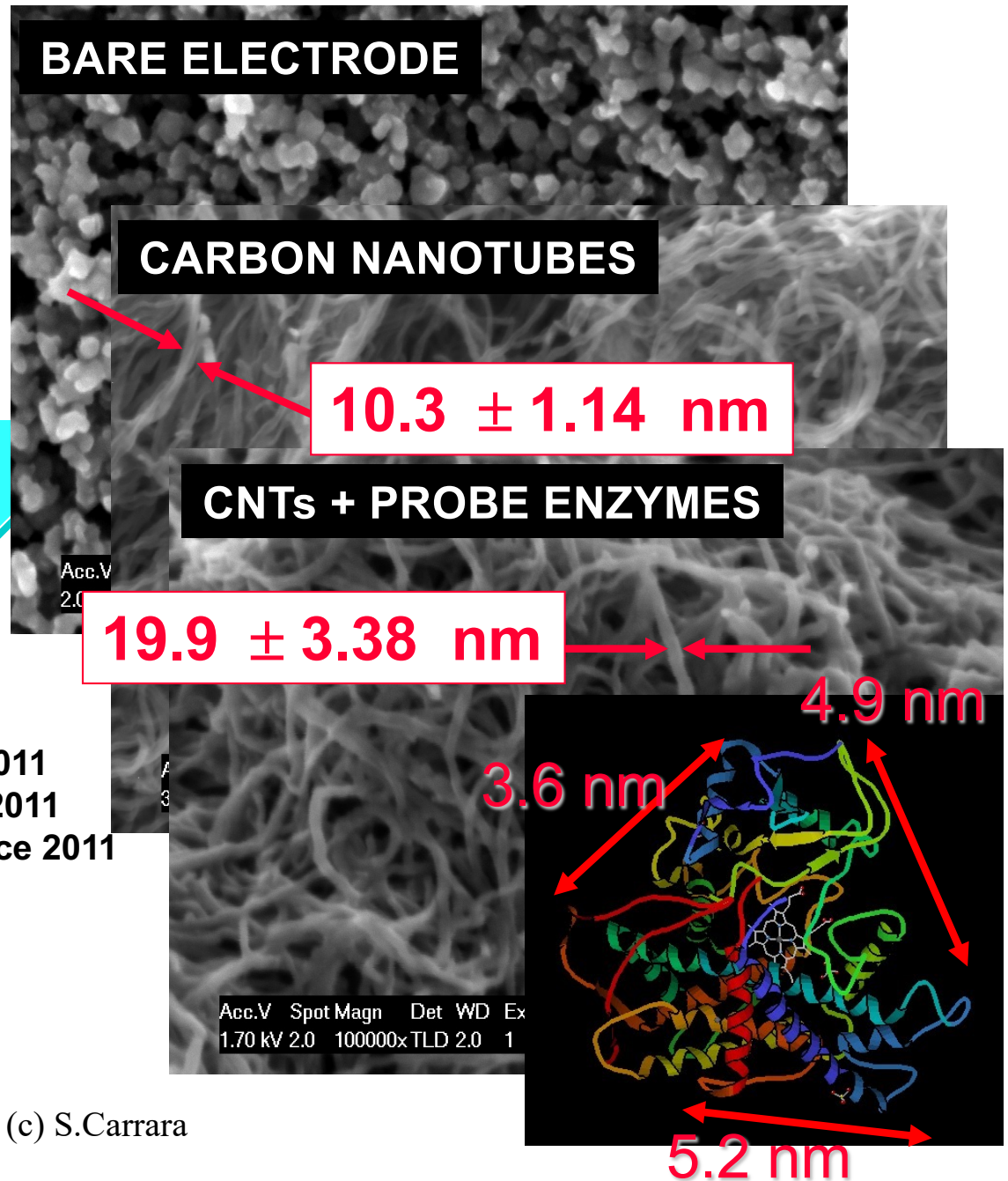
# Methods for CNT deposition

- Drop casting
- Micro-spotting
- Electrodeposition
- Growth by Chemical Vapour Deposition

# CNT integration by Drop-Casting



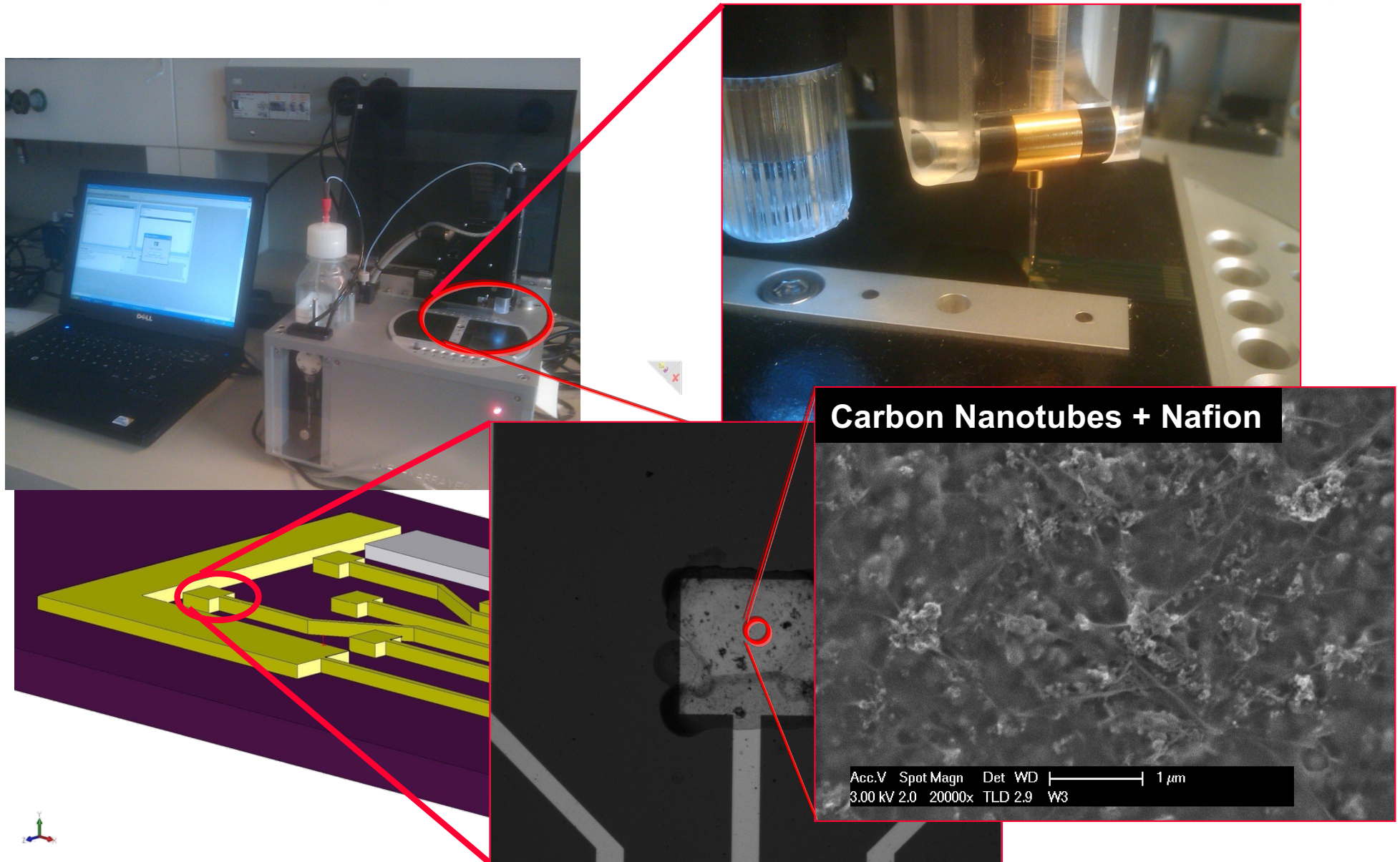
Boero, Carrara et al. / IEEE PRIME 2009  
Boero, Carrara et al. / IEEE ICME 2010  
De Venuto, al. et Carrara / IEEE Senors 2010  
Boero, Carrara et al. / Sensors & Actuators B 2011  
Carrara et al. / Biosensors and Bioelectronics 2011  
Boero, Carrara et al. / IEEE T on NanoBioScience 2011



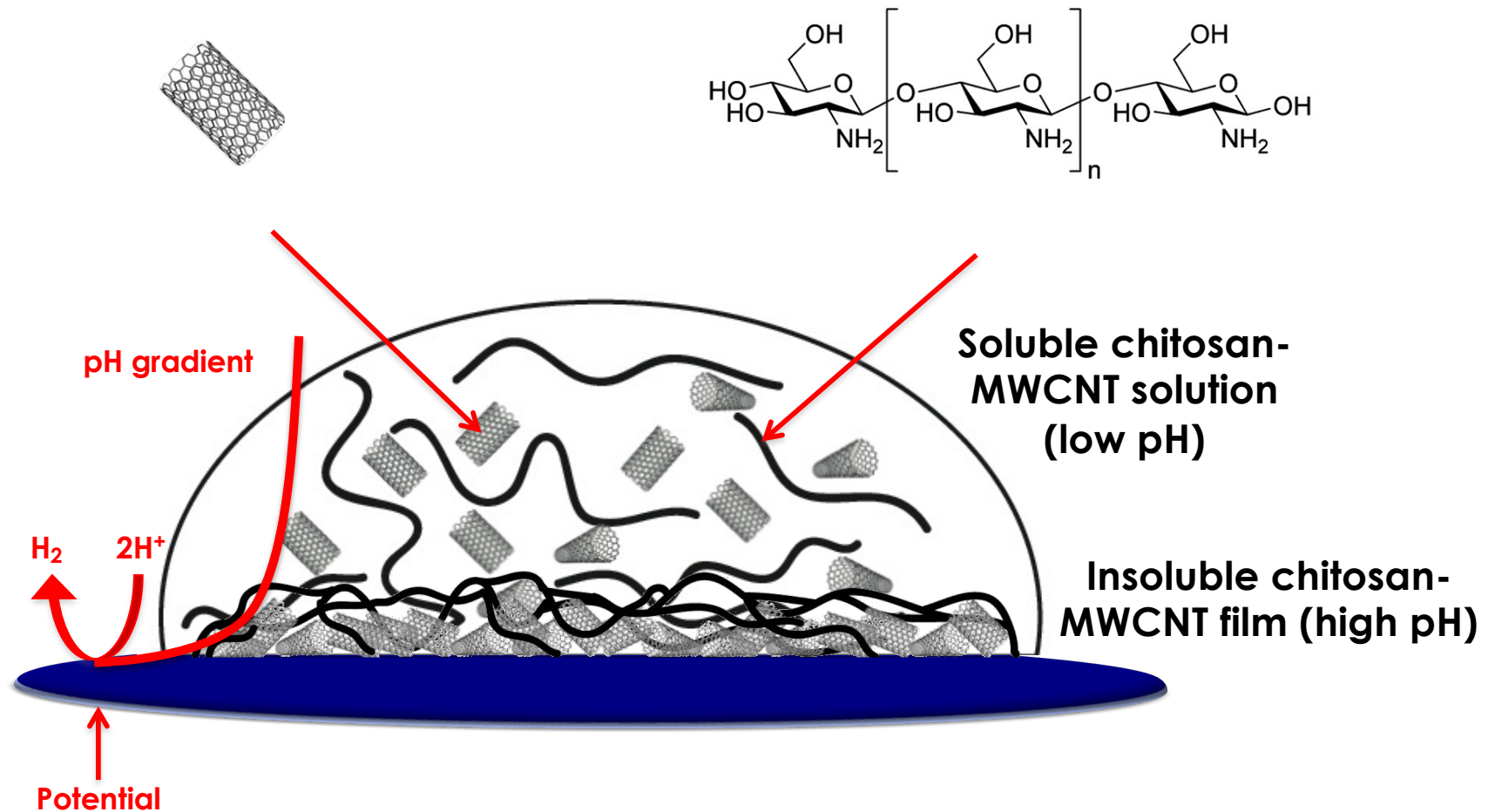
(c) S.Carrara



# CNT integration by Micro-Spotting



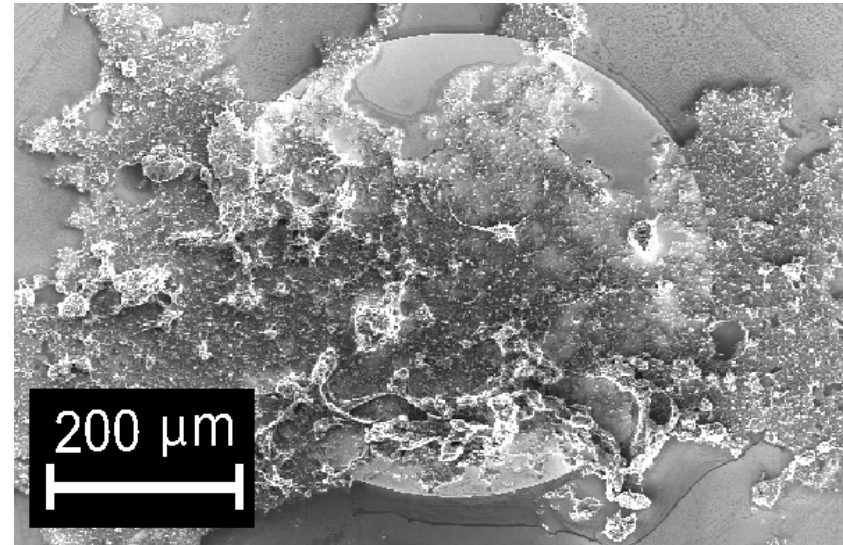
# CNT integration by Electrodeposition



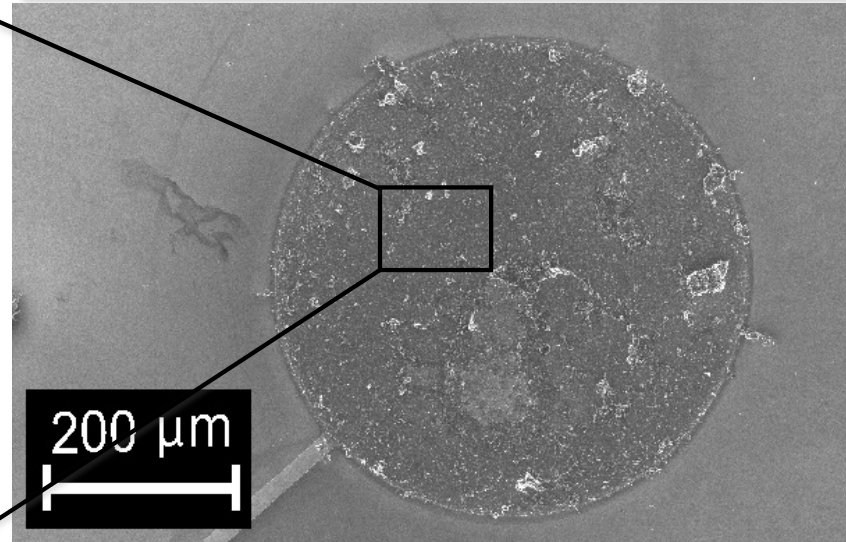
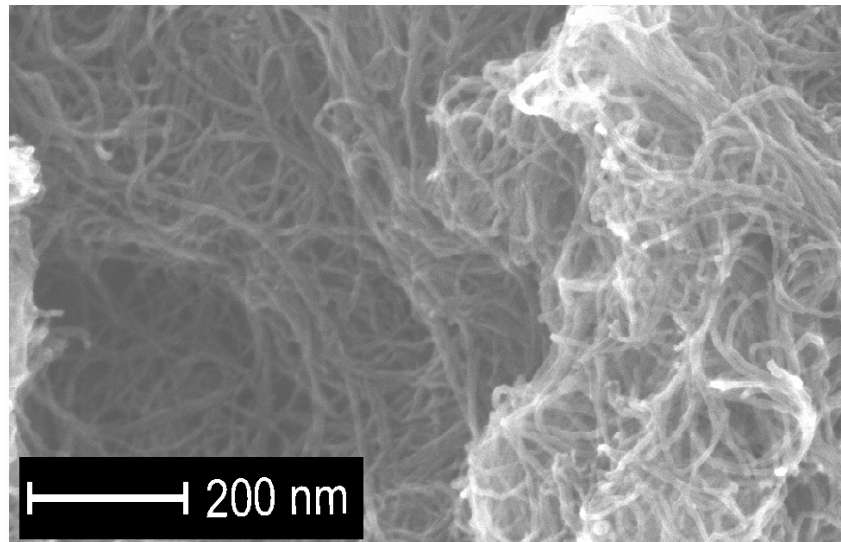


# CNT integration by Electrodeposition

DROP-CASTING



Results



(c) S.Carrara

ELECTRODEPOSITION



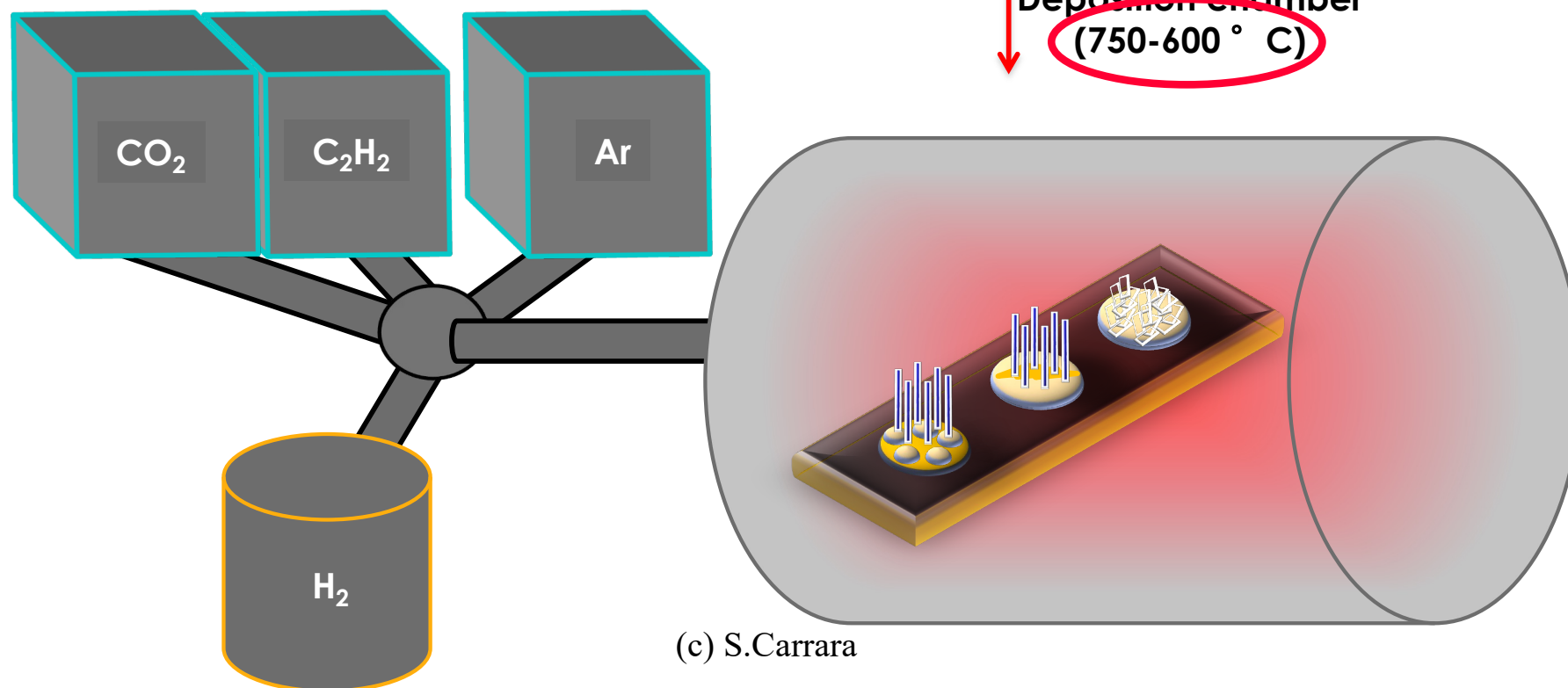
# CNT integration by CVD

## Integration by Direct Growth

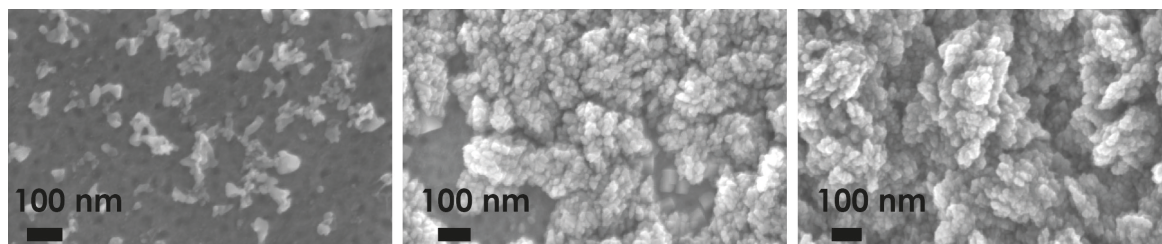
**Step I** Catalyst electrodeposition

**Step II** Annealing (3-10 minutes)

**Step III** Deposition ( $\text{CO}_2$  and  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_2$  flow)



# CNT integration by CVD

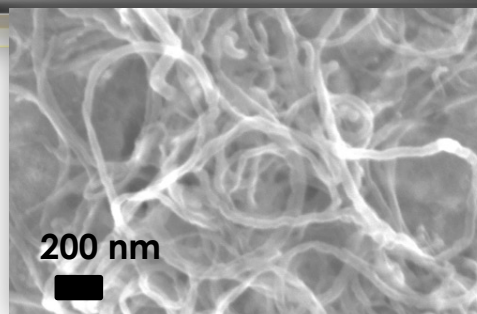


## Results

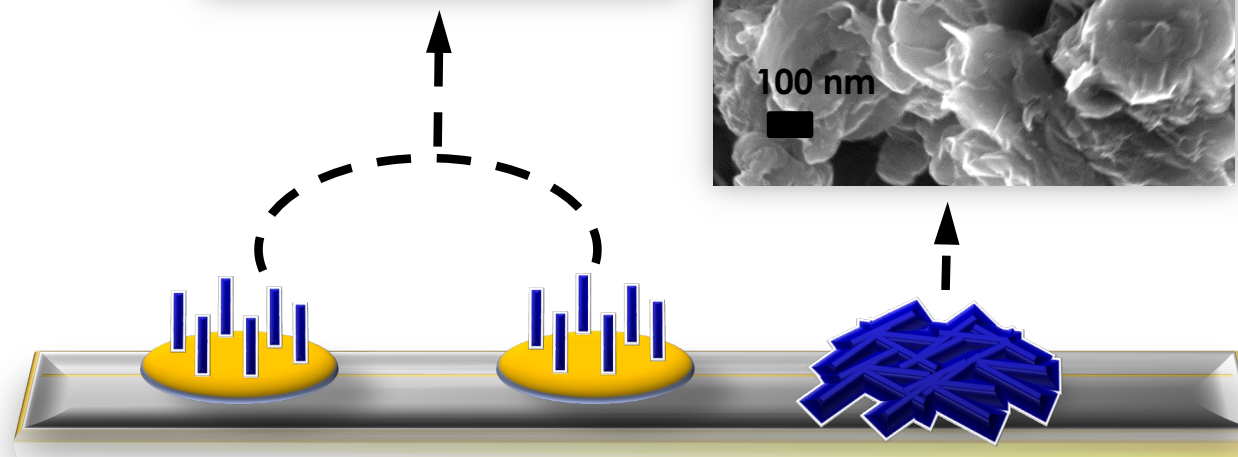
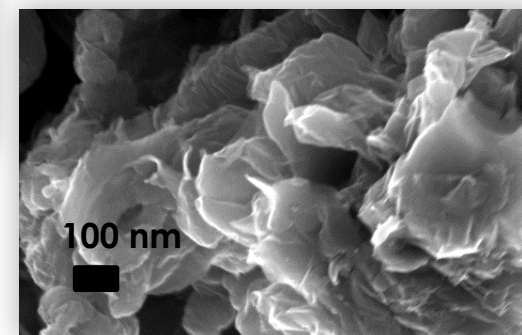
### 1. Fe electrodeposition

### 2. Deposition

- *10 min annealing*
- *5 min deposition*
- *750 ° C*
- *0.25 l/h C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>2</sub> flow*
- *0.25 l/h CO<sub>2</sub> flow*



Graphene Nanersoflow



# CNT integration contribution to Redox Reactions Efficiency

Nernst equation

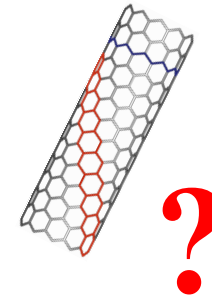
$$E = E^0 - \frac{RT}{nF} \ln \left( \frac{C_R(0,t)}{C_O(0,t)} \right)$$

Randles-Sevcik equation

$$i(0,t) \propto nFAD \left( \frac{nFvD}{RT} \right)^{1/2} C(0,t)$$

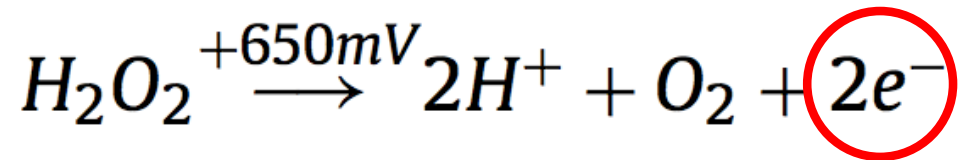
Cottrell equation

$$i(x,t) = \frac{nFAD^{1/2} C(x,t)}{\pi^{1/2} t^{1/2}}$$

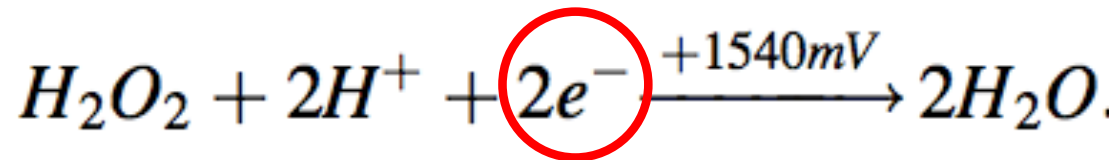


# Redox with oxidases

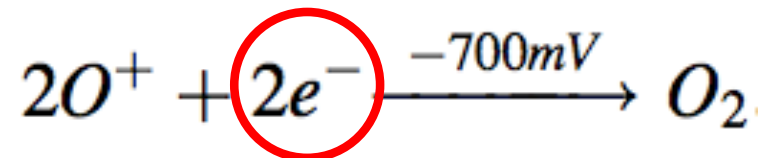
The hydrogen peroxide provide two possible redox reactions. An oxidation:



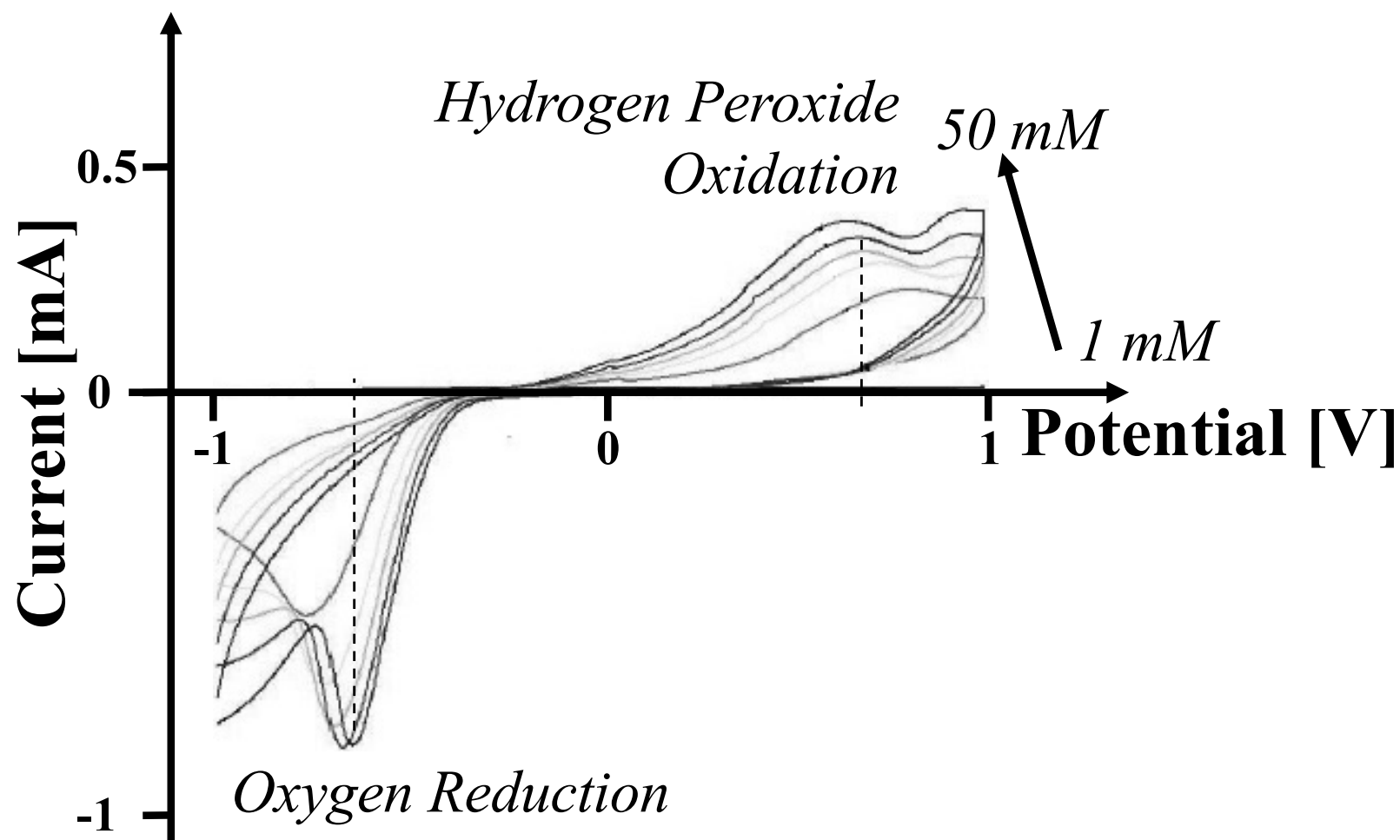
And a reduction:



A third redox is provided by the oxygen reduction:

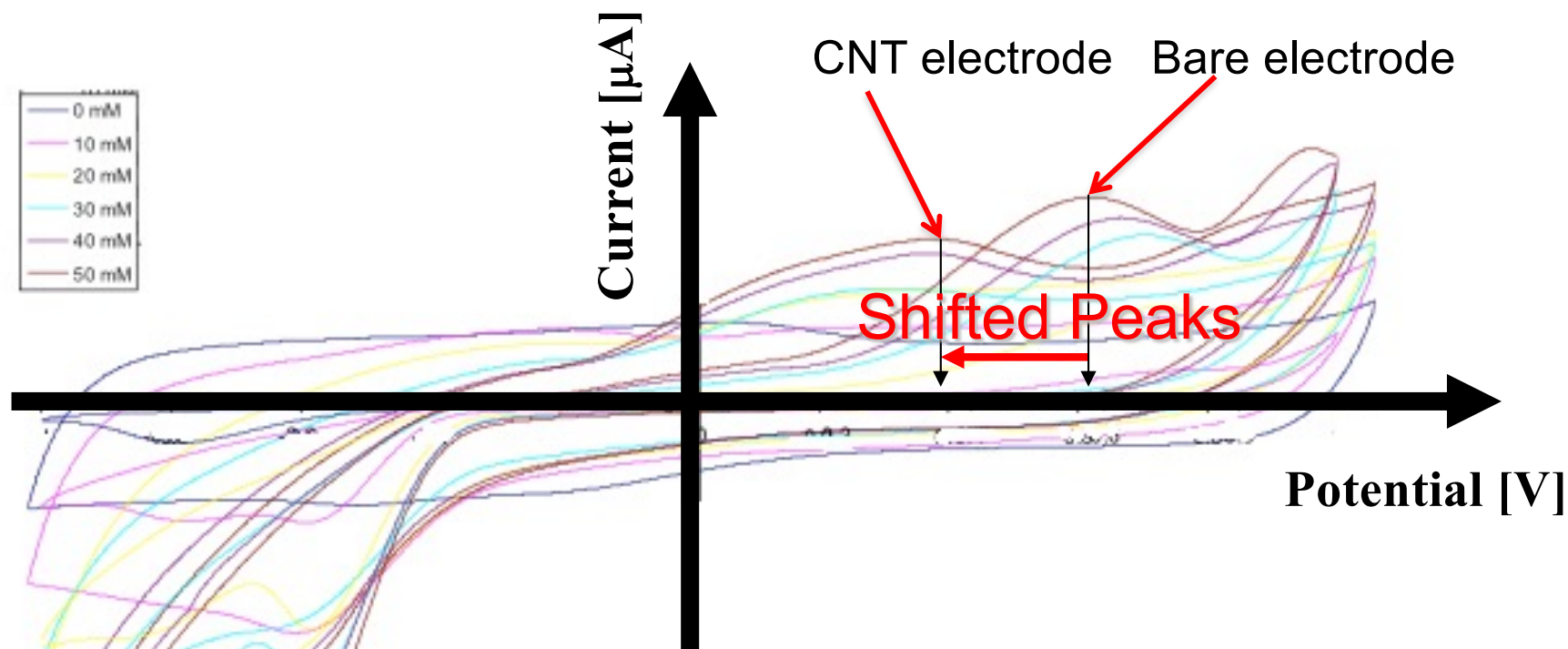


# Redox with hydrogen peroxide





# Nernst Effect on H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> oxidation

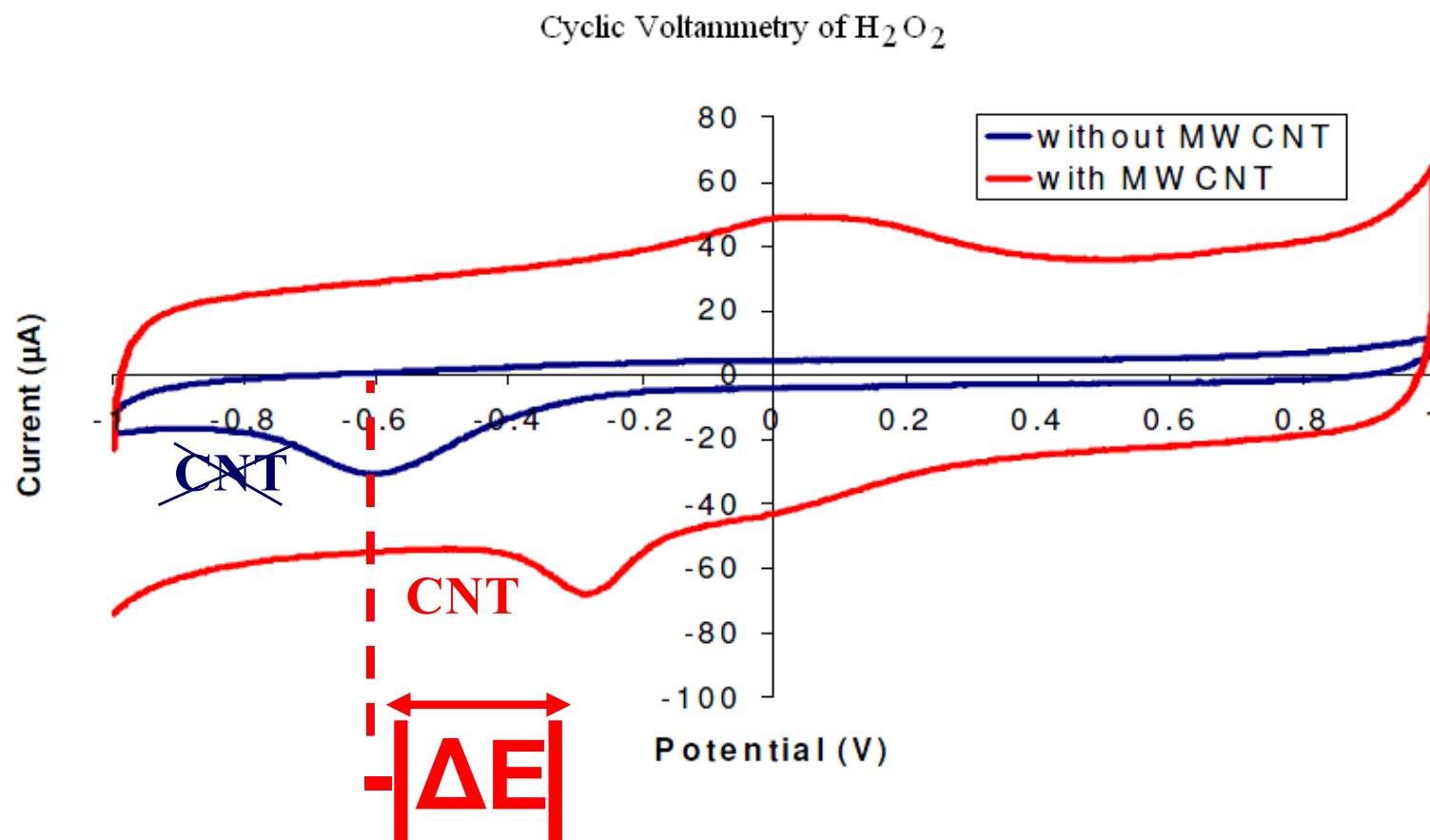


**Table 3**  
Largely evident Nernst effect on H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>.

| H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> Concentration | Bare         |                | CNT          |                |
|---------------------------------------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|----------------|
|                                             | Current (μA) | Potential (mV) | Current (μA) | Potential (mV) |
| 10 mM                                       | 3.9 ± 0.1    | 706 ± 0.4      | 9.1 ± 1.6    | 174 ± 2.7      |
| 20 mM                                       | 23.7 ± 0.1   | 682 ± 0.3      | 37.0 ± 1.9   | 204 ± 0.8      |
| 30 mM                                       | 49.5 ± 0.2   | 665 ± 0.3      | 70.5 ± 1.3   | 230 ± 0.8      |
| 40 mM                                       | 55.0 ± 0.2   | 623 ± 0.4      | 103.5 ± 2.4  | 291 ± 0.5      |
| 50 mM                                       | 64.4 ± 0.3   | 572 ± 0.3      | 115.0 ± 2.7  | 284 ± 0.5      |

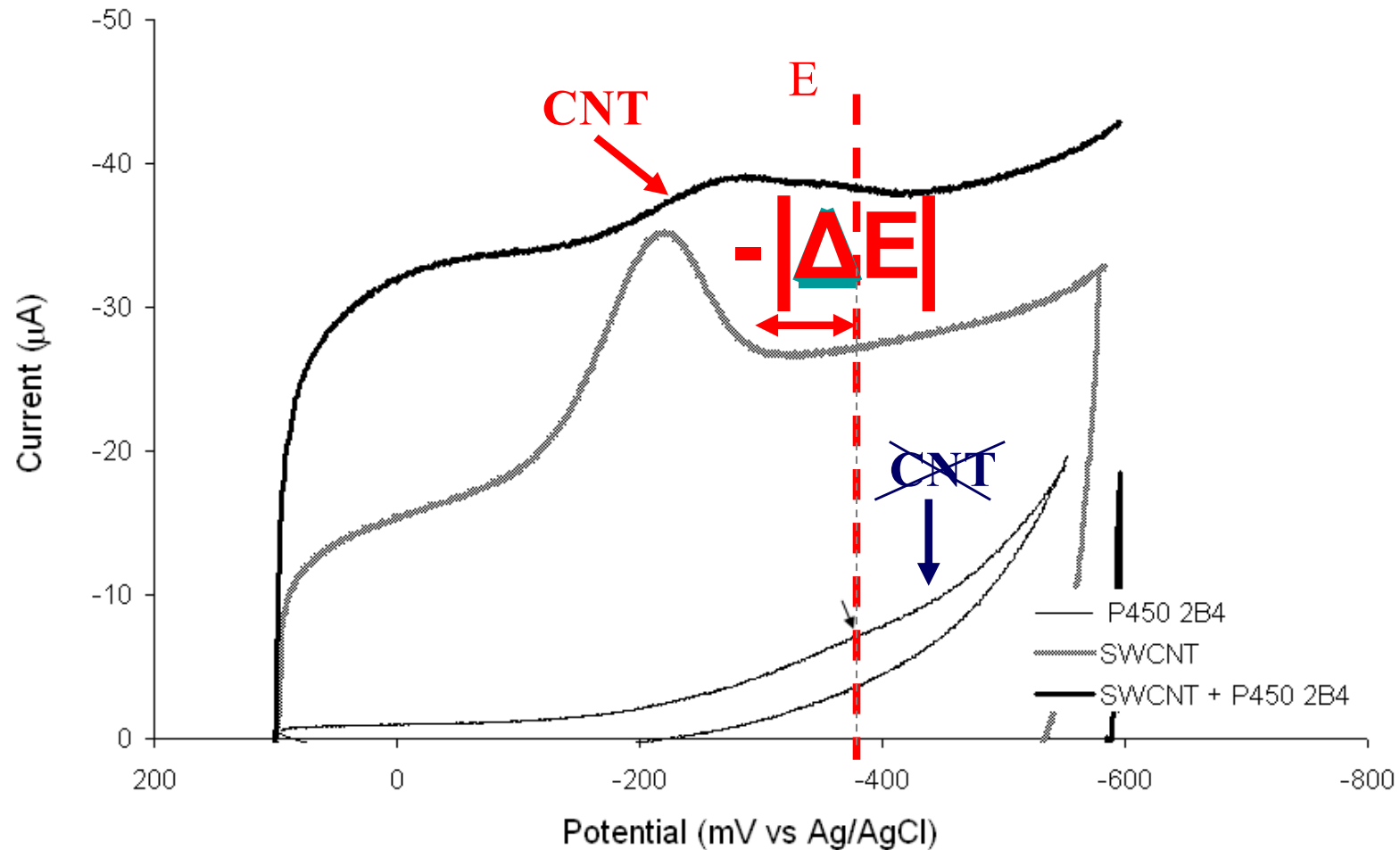
*S. Carrara et al. / Electrochimica Acta 128 (2014) 102–112*

# Nernst Effect on O<sub>2</sub> reduction



The peak potential is shifted toward lower potentials in case of electrons-transfer is mediated by carbon nanotubes

# Nernst Effect on P450 2B4



The peak potential is shifted toward lower potentials in case of electrons-transfer is mediated by carbon nanotubes

# Nernst effect on different P450s

**Table 1**

Randle-Sevcick effect and clear Nernst effect on Cyclophosphamide by P450 2B6.

| Cyclophosphamide Concentration | Bare                |                  | CNT                 |                  |
|--------------------------------|---------------------|------------------|---------------------|------------------|
|                                | Current ( $\mu A$ ) | Potential (mV)   | Current ( $\mu A$ ) | Potential (mV)   |
| 1 mM                           | $0.51 \pm 0.01$     | $-302.1 \pm 1.9$ | $0.64 \pm 0.01$     | $-285.0 \pm 3.8$ |
| 2 mM                           | $0.50 \pm 0.01$     | $-299.7 \pm 1.9$ | $0.77 \pm 0.00$     | $-280.1 \pm 1.1$ |
| 3 mM                           | $0.52 \pm 0.01$     | $-294.8 \pm 1.7$ | $1.03 \pm 0.01$     | $-265.5 \pm 3.6$ |
| 4 mM                           | $0.53 \pm 0.01$     | $-299.7 \pm 2.0$ | $1.51 \pm 0.01$     | $-265.5 \pm 3.8$ |
| 5 mM                           | $0.51 \pm 0.01$     | $-298.5 \pm 2.6$ | $1.99 \pm 0.01$     | $-248.4 \pm 3.6$ |

**Table 2**

Randle-Sevcick effect and clear Nernst effect on Cyclophosphamide by P450 3A4.

| Cyclophosphamide Concentration | Bare                |                  | CNT                 |                  |
|--------------------------------|---------------------|------------------|---------------------|------------------|
|                                | Current ( $\mu A$ ) | Potential (mV)   | Current ( $\mu A$ ) | Potential (mV)   |
| 1 mM                           | $0.82 \pm 0.01$     | $-288.6 \pm 3.8$ | $1.54 \pm 0.01$     | $-221.1 \pm 7.7$ |
| 2 mM                           | $0.82 \pm 0.01$     | $-279.7 \pm 2.8$ | $1.59 \pm 0.02$     | $-220.5 \pm 8.7$ |
| 3 mM                           | $0.84 \pm 0.01$     | $-272.7 \pm 3.1$ | $1.60 \pm 0.01$     | $-222.1 \pm 7.3$ |
| 4 mM                           | $0.86 \pm 0.01$     | $-264.4 \pm 2.9$ | $2.12 \pm 0.01$     | $-225.7 \pm 4.6$ |
| 5 mM                           | $0.85 \pm 0.01$     | $-262.2 \pm 3.1$ | $3.02 \pm 0.01$     | $-223.6 \pm 4.6$ |

*S. Carrara et al. / Electrochimica Acta 128 (2014) 102–112*

# Peak position by Ernst

the position ( $E$ ) of the redox and oxidation peaks of a species is related to the standard potential ( $E_0$ ) and to the concentration of the species in oxidized and reduced forms by the well-known Nernst equation

$$E_{Nerst} = E_0 + \frac{RT}{nF} \ln \left[ \frac{C_o}{C_R} \right]$$



# Peak position by Thin-layer effect

However, the semi-infinite planar diffusion model does not work when dealing with nano-structuring. In this case, the phenomenon is more accurately explained by thin-layer effects, which foresees a fully irreversible electron transfer system as driven by

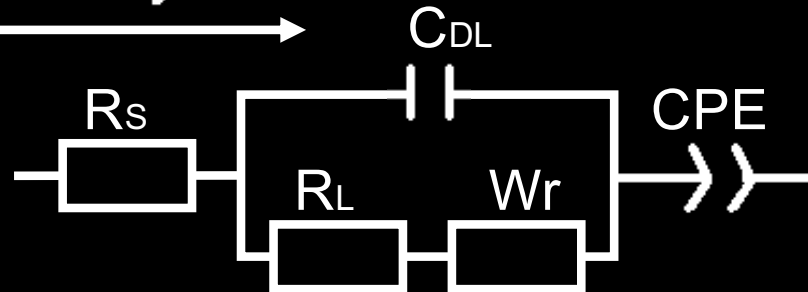
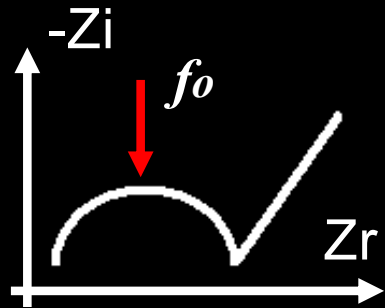
$$E = E_{Nerst} + \frac{ET}{\alpha F} \ln \left( \frac{\alpha F v}{RTlk_0} \right)$$

$l$  is the thickness of the thin layer,  $\alpha$  and  $k_0$  are the usual transfer coefficient and standard heterogeneous rate constant, respectively

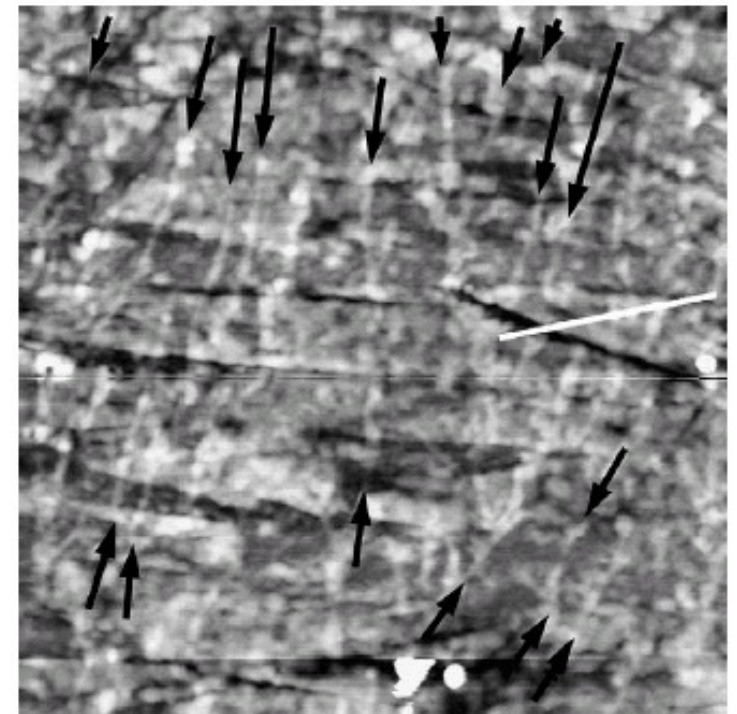
# CNTs contribution to Surface Concentration and Layering Effects

Nernst equation

$$E = E^0 - \frac{RT}{nF} \ln \left( \frac{C_R(0,t)}{C_O(0,t)} \right)$$

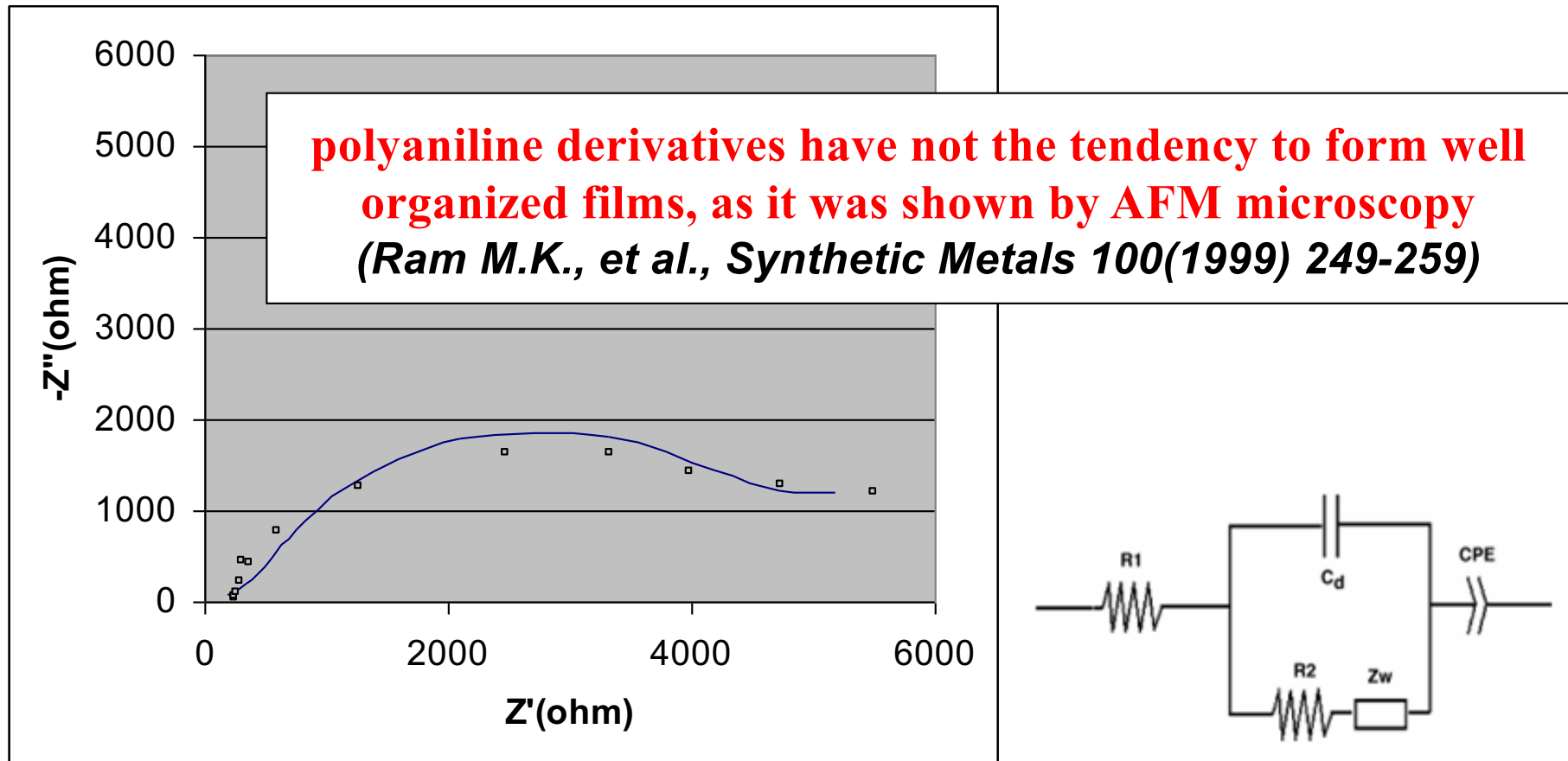


AFM on CNT & polymers



*S. Carrara et al. / Sensors and Actuators B 109 (2005) 221–226*

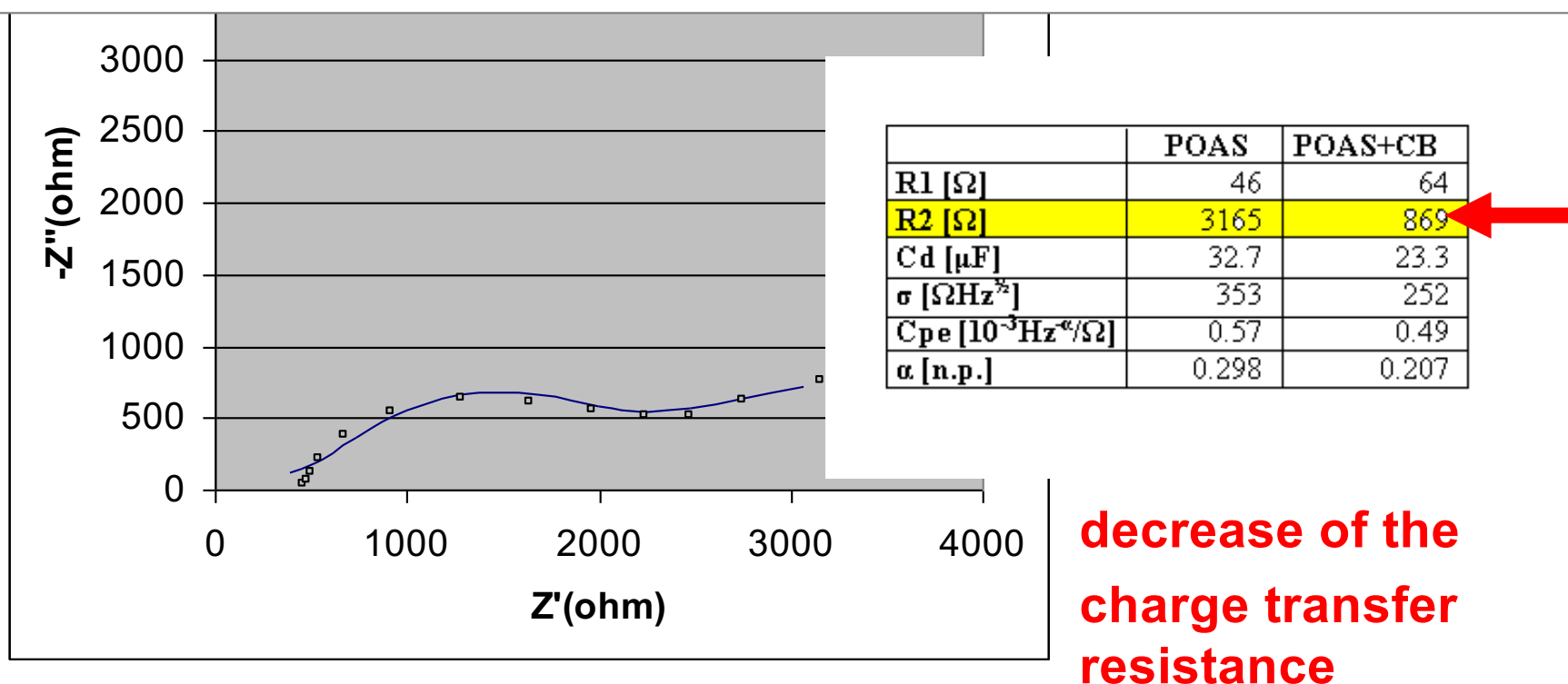
# Poly-(ortho)-anisidine (POAS)



Nyquist impedance diagram of a pure POAS film

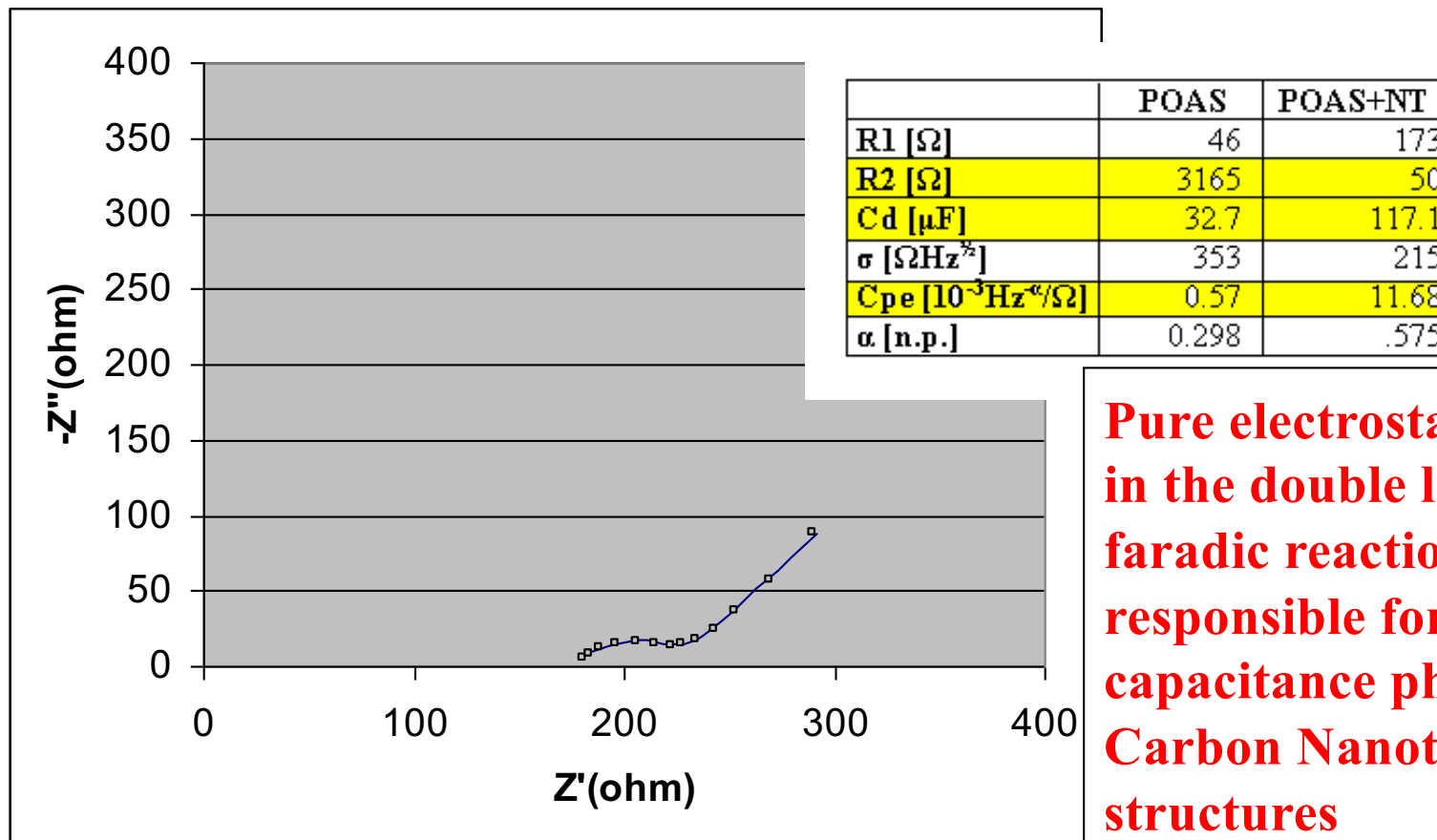
# Conducting Polymer + Carbon Particles

**Consistent with the Lundberg Theory of conducting mixtures**  
(B.Lundberg, B.Sundqvist, J.Appl.Phys. 60(1986) 1074-1079)



Nyquist impedance diagram of a POAS film. Experimental data are showed by boxes. Data are acquired in the frequency range from 1KHz down to 100mHz.  
The solid line shows the best fitting

# Conducting Polymer + Multi Walled CNTs



**Pure electrostatic attraction in the double layer and faradic reaction are responsible for the super-capacitance phenomena in Carbon Nanotubes structures**

*S.Carrara et al., Sensors and Actuators B: Chemicals 109 (2005) 221-226*

*Pan et al., Chem. Mater., Vol. 19, No. 25, 2007*

- Nyquist impedance diagrams of a POAS film synthesized with Carbon Nanotubes. Experimental data are showed by boxes. Data are acquired in the frequency range from 1KHz down to 100 mHz. The solid line shows the best fitting

# Carbon Nanotubes contribute to Redox Reactions Efficiency

Nernst equation

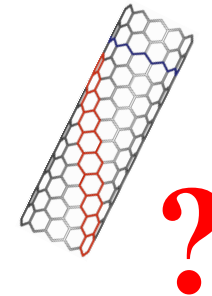
$$E = E^0 - \frac{RT}{nF} \ln \left( \frac{C_R(0,t)}{C_O(0,t)} \right)$$

Randles-Sevcik equation

$$i(0,t) \propto nFAD \left( \frac{nFvD}{RT} \right)^{1/2} C(0,t)$$

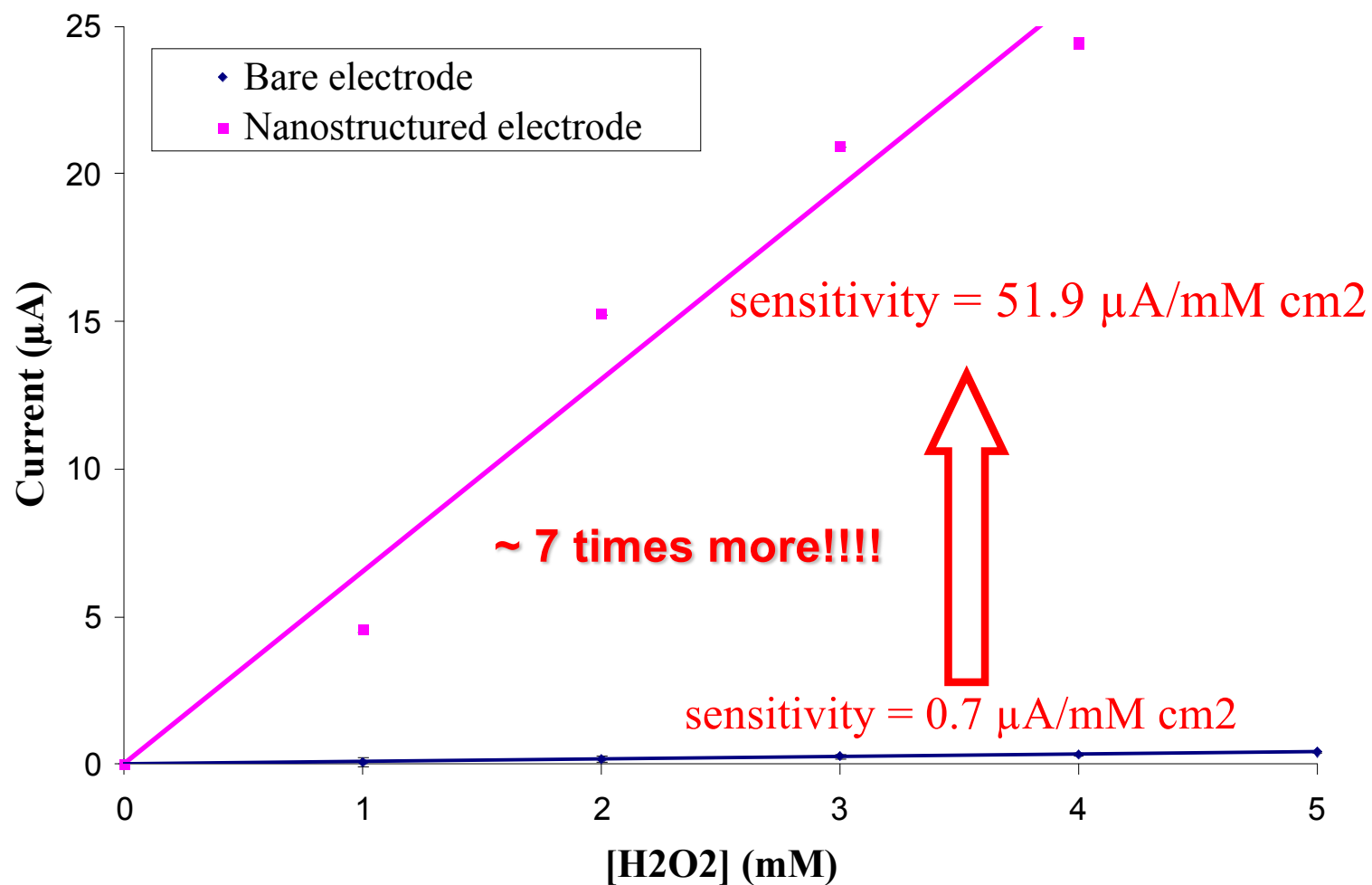
Cottrell equation

$$i(x,t) = \frac{nFAD^{1/2}C(x,t)}{\pi^{1/2}t^{1/2}}$$





# Cottrell Effects on H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>



# Peroxide Detection

TABLE I  
SENSITIVITY VALUES FROM LITERATURE

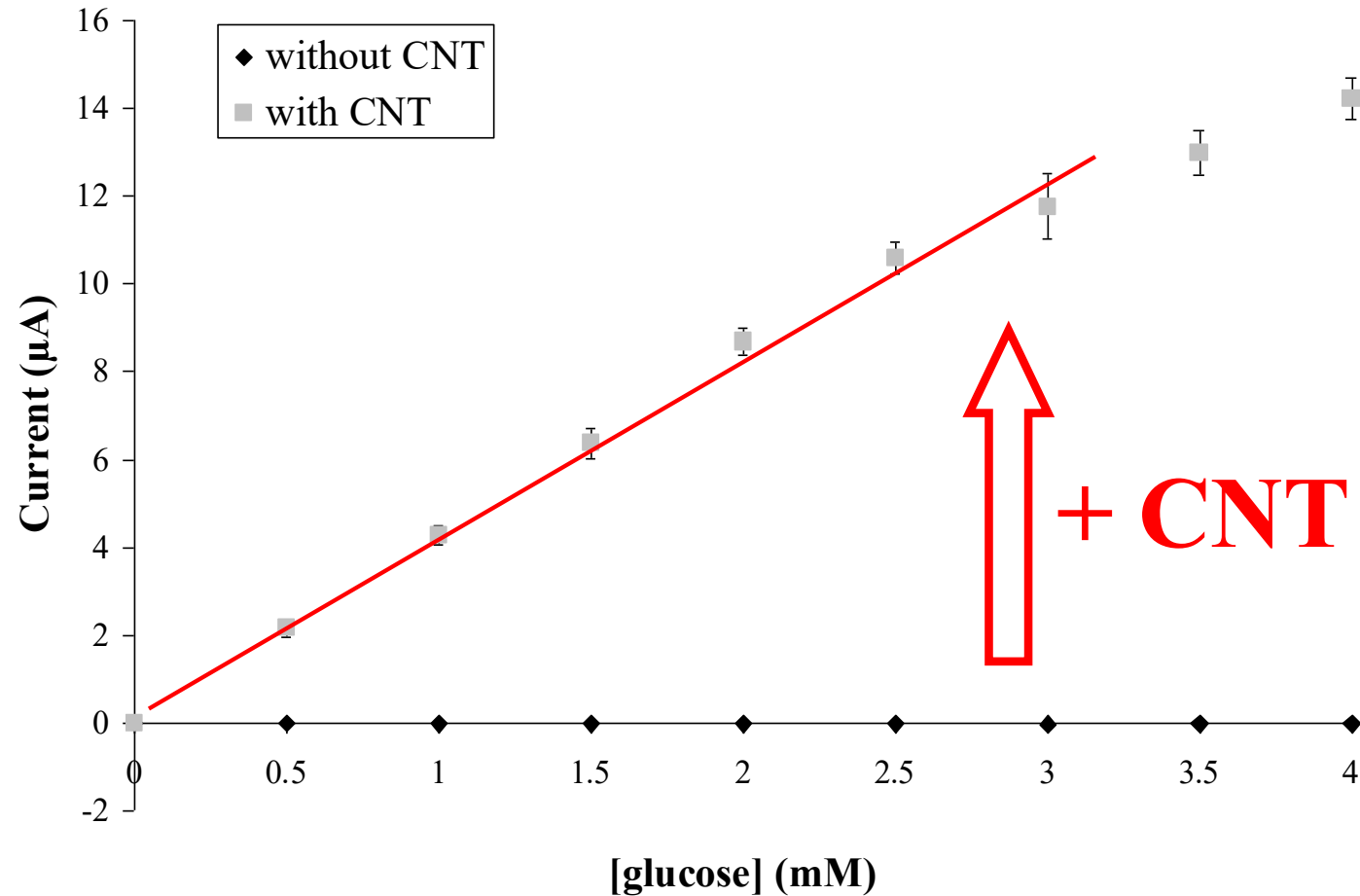
| Methods                          | Sensitivity                               |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| Au-Nafion®- TNTs [11]            | 0.24 $\mu\text{A mM}^{-1} \text{cm}^{-2}$ |
| Polypyrrole - polyanion/PEG [12] | 0.5 $\mu\text{A mM}^{-1} \text{cm}^{-2}$  |
| MWCNT-chitosan [13]              | 83 $\mu\text{A mM}^{-1} \text{cm}^{-2}$   |
| chitosan/PVI-Os/CNT [9]          | 19.7 $\mu\text{A mM}^{-1} \text{cm}^{-2}$ |

**2 order of magnitude!!!**

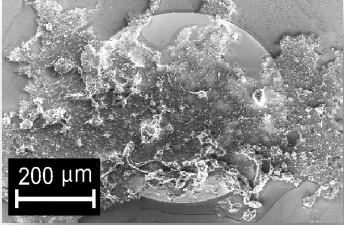
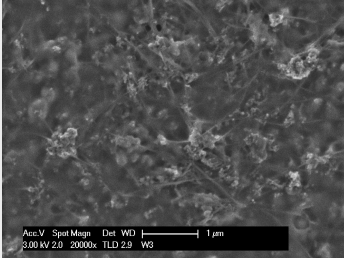
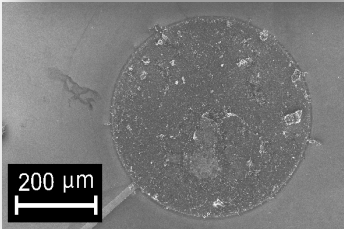
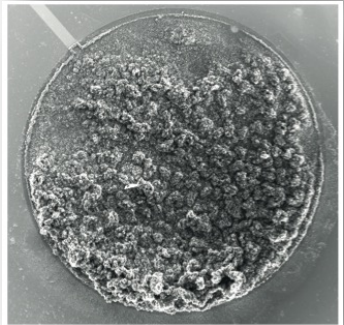
- [9] X. Cui, *Biosensors and Bioelectronics*, vol. 22, pages 3288-3292, 2007  
 [11] M. Yang, *Nanotechnology*, vol. 19, page 075502, 2008  
 [12] W.J. Sung, *Sensors and Actuators B*, vol. 114, pages 164-169, 2006  
 [13] Y. Tsai, *Sensors and Actuators B*, vol. 125, pages 474-481, 2007

The peroxide detection is highly improved  
by using carbon nanotubes

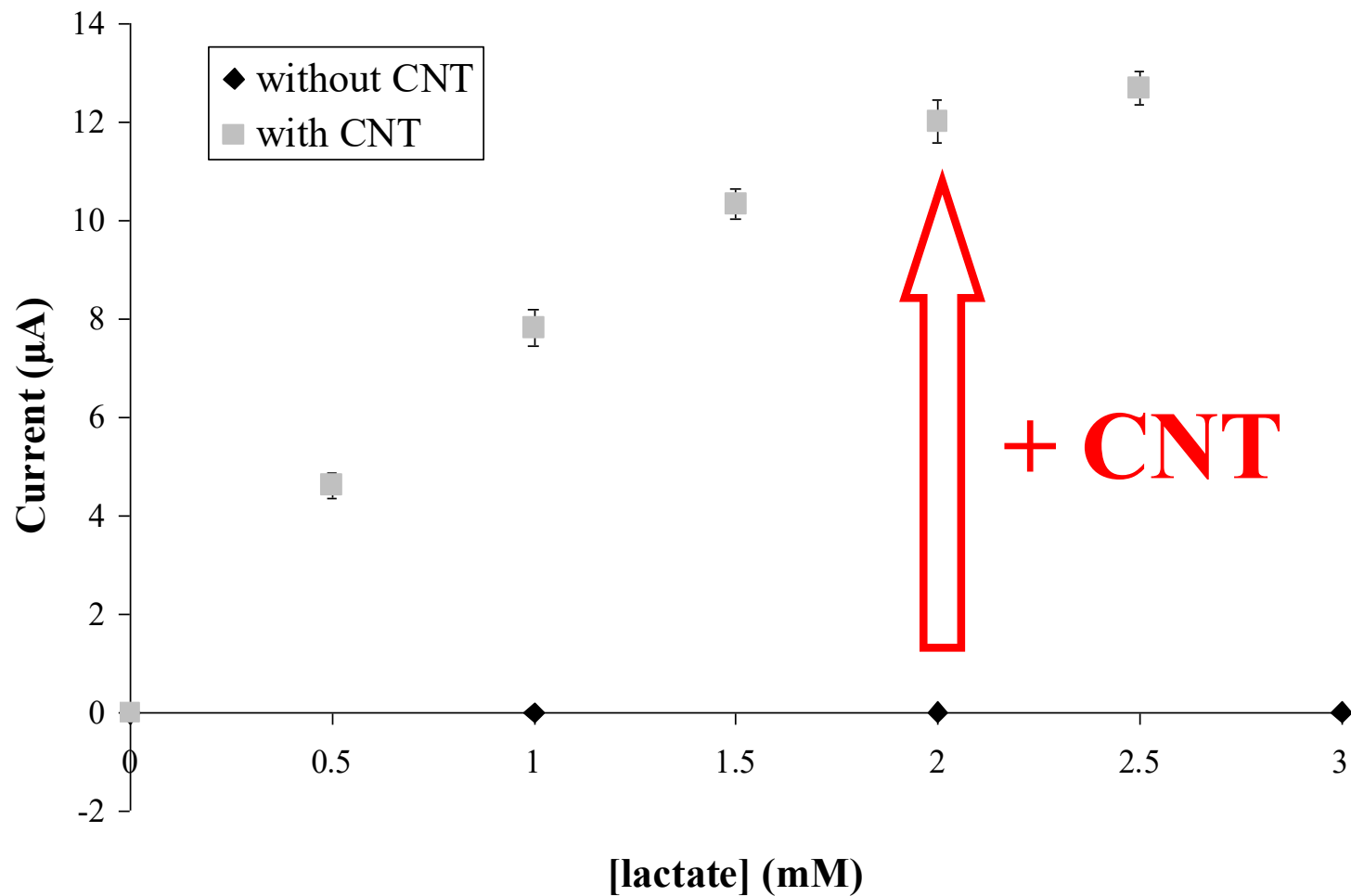
# Cottrell effect on Glucose Oxidase



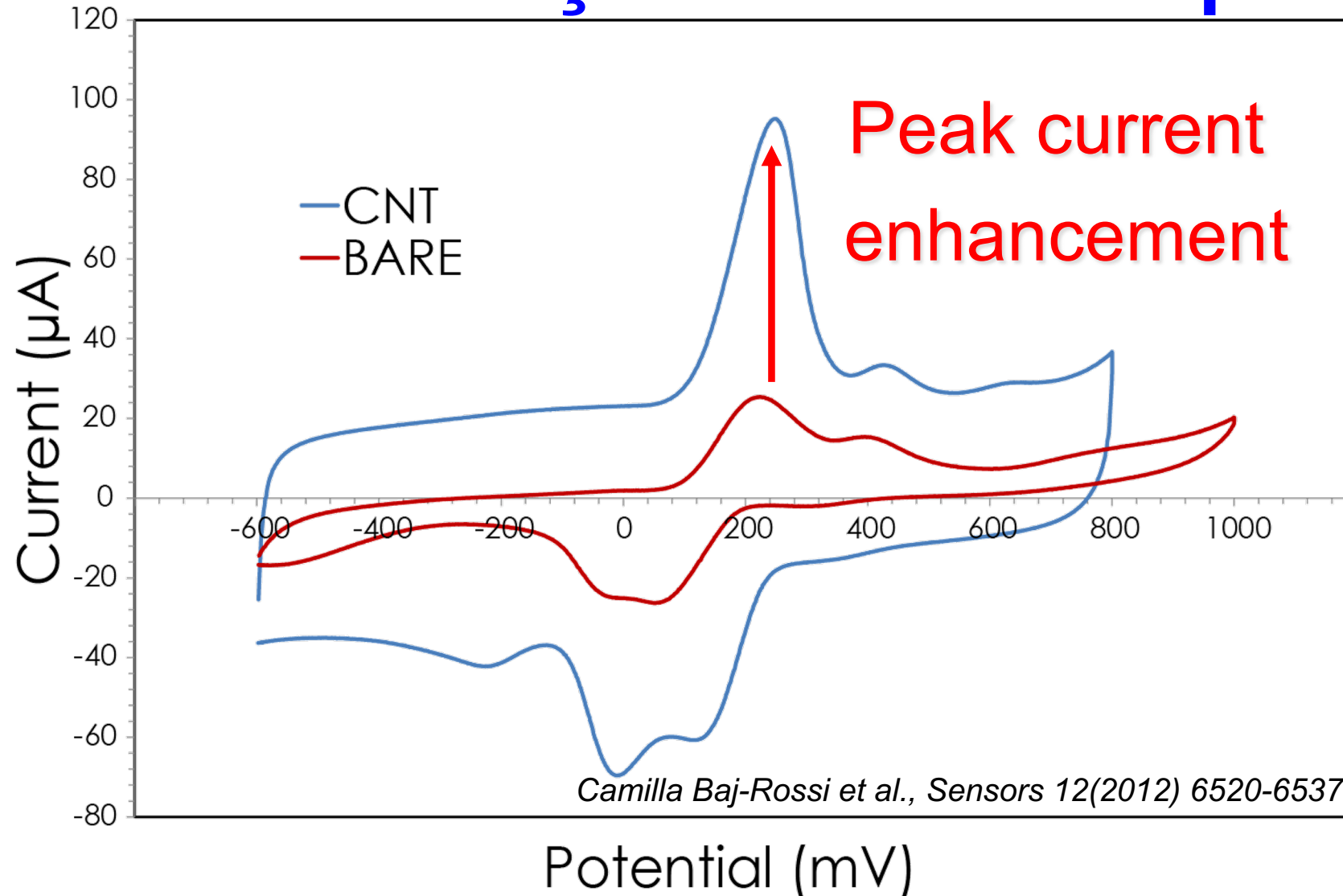
# Increased Sensitivity by different techniques

|                       |                                                                                     | Sensitivity *<br>[ $\mu\text{A}/(\text{mM}\cdot\text{cm}^2)$ ] | Limit of Detection *<br>(LOD) [ $\mu\text{M}$ ] |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
|                       |                                                                                     | * on Glucose detection                                         |                                                 |
| DROP<br>CASTING       |    | $27.7 \pm 0.1$                                                 | $73 \pm 1$                                      |
| MICRO<br>SPOTTING     |    | $0.46 \pm 2$                                                   | $115 \pm 1$                                     |
| ELECTRO<br>DEPOSITION |   | $63 \pm 15$                                                    | $8 \pm 2$                                       |
| CVD growth            |  | $111.2 \pm 0.3$<br>( $5703 \pm 566$                            | $0.745 \pm 0.005$<br>$3.5 \pm 1.3$ ) #          |
|                       |                                                                                     |                                                                | # on Uric Acid detection                        |

# Cottrell effect on Lactate Oxidase



# Randles-Sevcik Effect on Etoposide

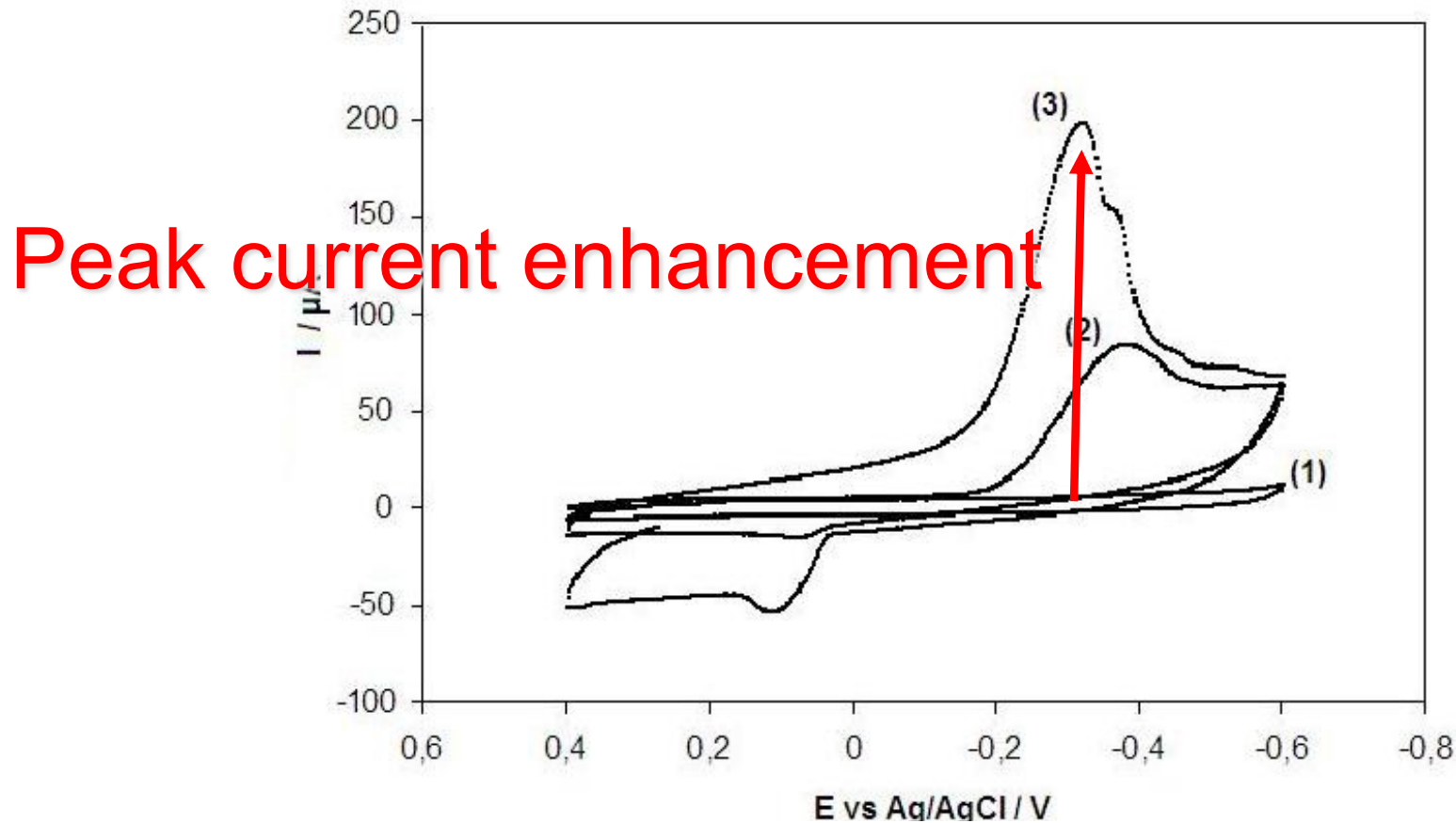


The Peak Current is larger when the Etoposide detection is mediated by Multi Walled Carbon Nanotubes



# Randles-Sevcik Effect on P450

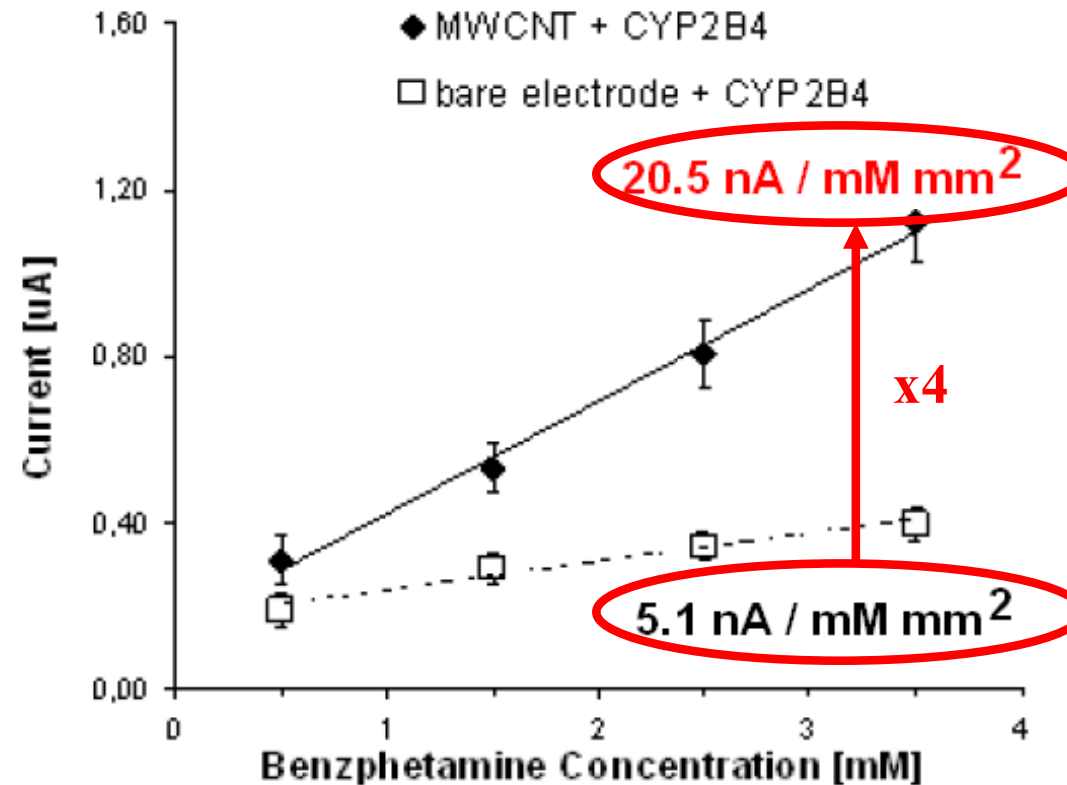
Figure 1



*S. Carrara et al. / Biosensors and Bioelectronics 24 (2008) 148–150*

The Peak Current is larger when the P450 11A1 Activity is mediated by Multi Walled Carbon Nanotubes

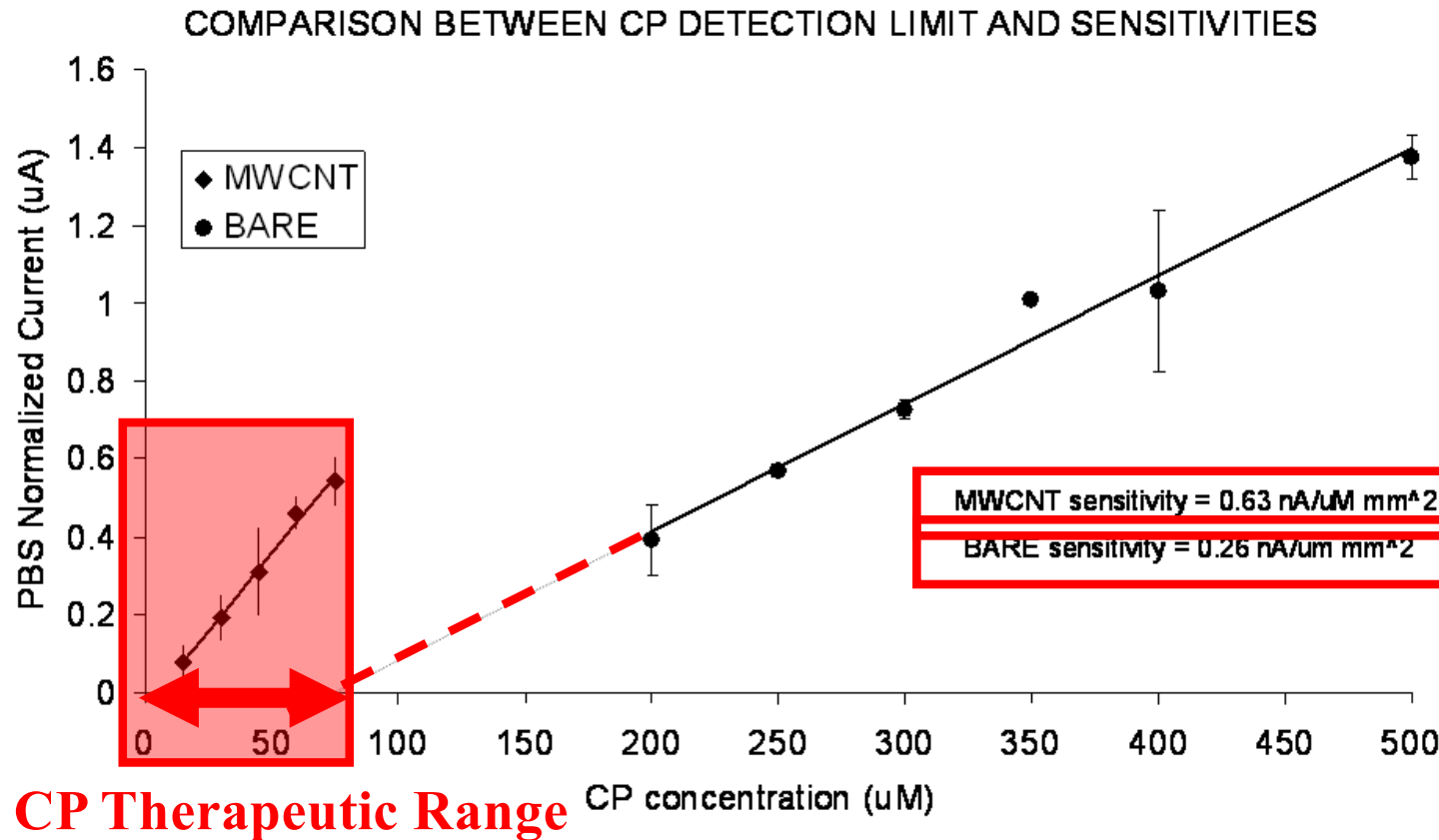
# Randles-Sevçik on calibration



*S. Carrara et al., Conference Proceedings of IEEE CME2009, Tempe (US), 9-11, April, 2009*

P450 2B4 performance in detecting Benzphetamine is enhanced by a factor 4x by using MWCNT

# Randles-Sevçik on calibration



*S. Carrara et al. / Biosensors and Bioelectronics 26 (2011) 3914–3919*

Cyclophosphamide (CP), an anti-cancer agent, is detected by P450 3A4 in its therapeutic range