

Charles University Center of Advanced Materials (CUCAM)

Opening of the High-Resolution Electron Microscopy Laboratory
Jan 14th 2019



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European Structural and Investing Funds
Operational Programme Research,
Development and Education





Jul 2015

Project call

Feb 2016

Project submitted

Aug 2016

Project starting date

Oct 2016

Labs reconstructed/equipped

Dec 2016

Project approved/contract signed

Jan 2017

Building the research team

Building the research
infrastructure

Research activities

Jan 2019

Call No. 02_15_003 (ERDF)

To support excellent research teams.

Project outputs:

1. Building the excellent research team
2. Upgrade of the research center infrastructure
3. Strengthening the international collaboration

Conditions:

1. More than ½ of center members must be new
2. Research is headed by established foreign professor
3. Team size is limited but not budget



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Excellent conditions – “a dream call”



- Starting date planned for Aug 1st 2016
- Call results not announced yet

Starting in ca 75% operation capacity

- Hiring only 2/3 of new researchers
- Buying just the essential equipment
- Two labs reconstructed



CHARLES UNIVERSITY
CENTRE OF ADVANCED MATERIALS



FACULTY OF SCIENCE
Charles University

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Materials synthesis lab



Materials characterization and catalysis lab



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100+ % operation

Jan 2017

Building the research team

Building the research
infrastructure

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Total project allocation

215 214 556,41 Kč

Including investments

97 004 359,05 Kč

Jan 2019



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Jan 2017

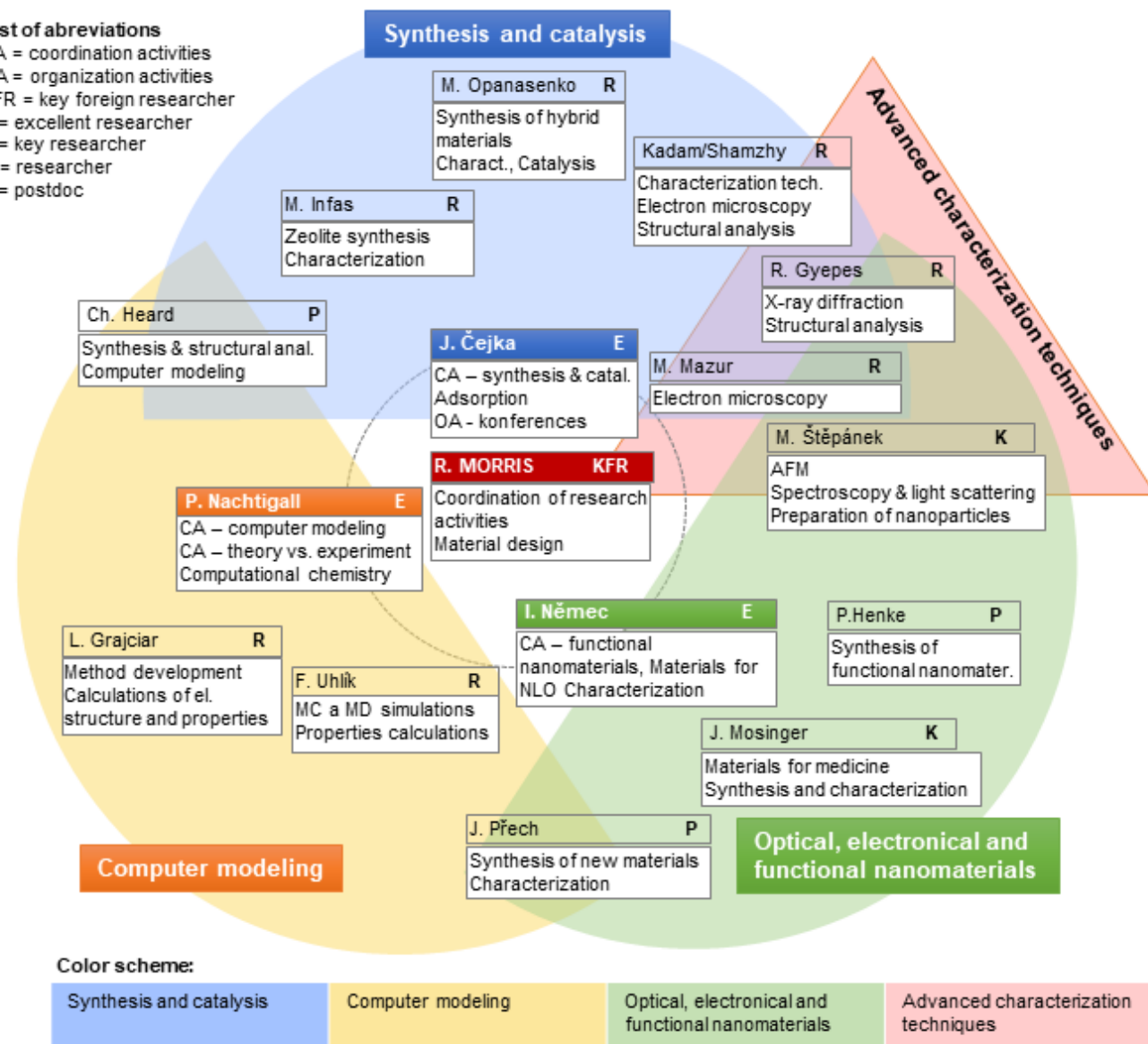
Building the research team

Building the research infrastructure

Research activities

Jan 2019

List of abbreviations
 CA = coordination activities
 OA = organization activities
 KFR = key foreign researcher
 E = excellent researcher
 K = key researcher
 R = researcher
 P = postdoc



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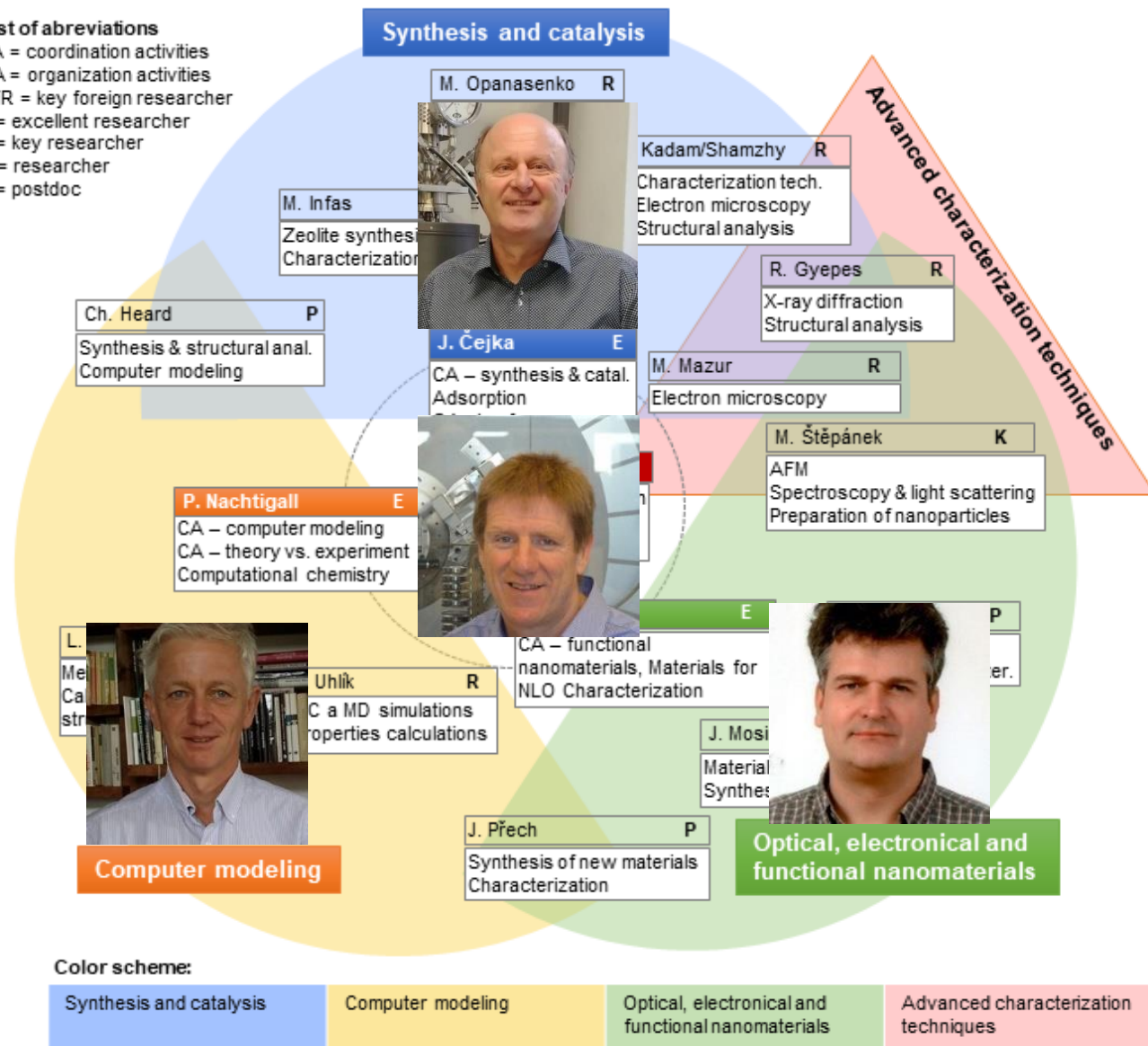


CUAM structure:

KFR Prof. Russell E. Morris
ER's Prof. Jiří Čejka
Prof. Ivan Němec
Prof. Petr Nachtigall

6 foreigners vs. 10 Czechs/Slovakes
8 below 35 years vs. 8 above 35

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Large number of public procurements

Building the lab for HRTEM

Examples of equipment purchased:

X-ray powder diffractometer

Raman spectrometer

GC MS and GC machines

Adsorption measurement devices

Quantum yield spectrometer

FTIR spectrometer

Computer cluster

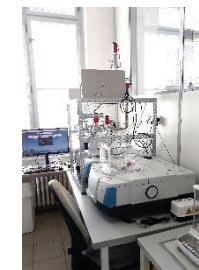
Ultramicroton

Sputter coater

Autoclaves, ovens

....

HRTEM



Already almost
finished: 94%



Jul 2015 Project call
Feb 2016 Project submitted
Aug 2016 Project starting date
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Feb 2017: First procurement for HRTEM announced

Feb 2018: Third procurement successfully finished

Jun 2018: UK-JEOL contract signed

Jan 2019



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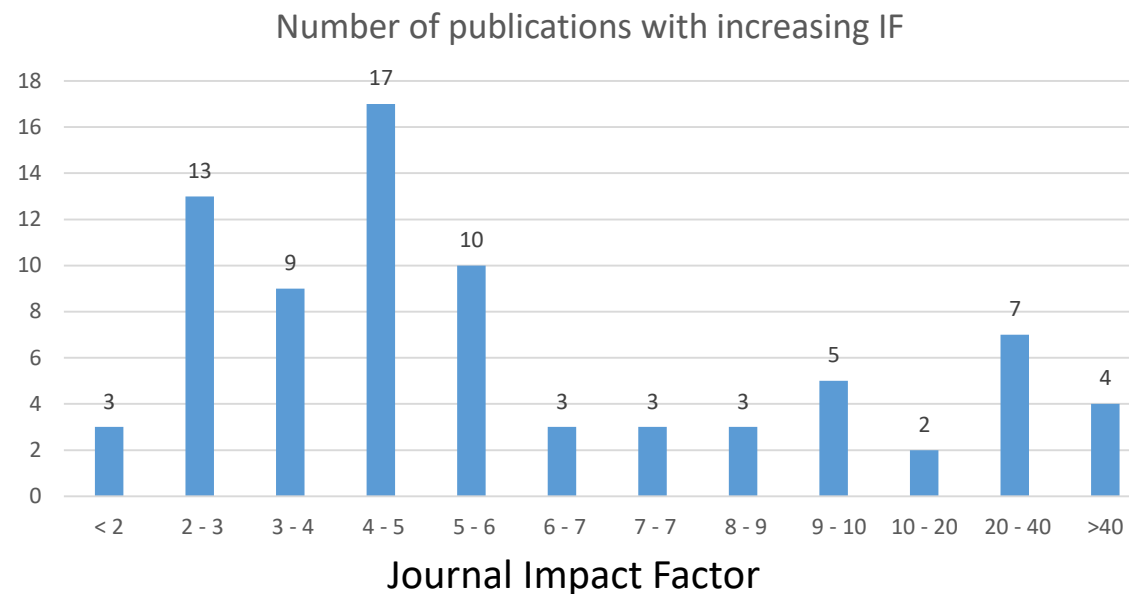
Research strategy – Prof. Morris

Research output

In 24 month of full operation + 5 months reduced operation

79 papers, including Nature Chemistry (3), Chem. Soc. Rev. (4), Advanced Materials (4), Angewandte Chemie (2), J. Mater. Chem. A (4)

37 out of 79 at IF > 5; ~50% within international collaboration



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Where we are in Jan 2019:

Project outputs:

1. Building the excellent research team
DONE.
2. Upgrade of the research center infrastructure
94% finished (few items planned for later stage)
3. Strengthening the international collaboration
Twinning H2020 – application filed Nov 2018
H2020-ICT-2018-2020 – application filed Nov 2018
BTHA – running, 2017-2020

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MINISTERSTVO ŠKOLSTVÍ,
MLÁDEŽE A TĚLOVÝCHOVY

Advanced Materials

- *mastering the design, research and development of new and improved materials will remain key for achieving the goals of the European Innovation Policy, in agreement with the European Strategy for a smart, sustainable and inclusive growth (EUROPE 2020).*
- *All major economies have initiatives in Advanced Materials*



Mission

- **Our mission** is to develop a leading Centre of Excellence in Advanced Materials located at Charles University (CU) in Prague, covering the Design, Synthesis and Application.

Vision

Our vision is that creative chemistry completed in CUCAM will be the wellspring from which the next generation of advances in materials technology design will flow.



3Ps strategy

The strategy by which we will achieve this vision is based on developing the three Ps

- **Prague**
 - the environment and facilities – making these world-class
- **People**
 - The young talent in the centre is extremely important – our priority is to develop their careers so they are competitive with anyone in Europe
- **Promise**
 - The potential for top quality science is very much at the forefront of why this group of scientists make an exciting centre



Success

- For a successful Centre the output of the work should be more than the sum of the individual researchers.
- An internationally recognised and trusted centre of scientific excellence
- A Centre that has impact!

HRTEM facility

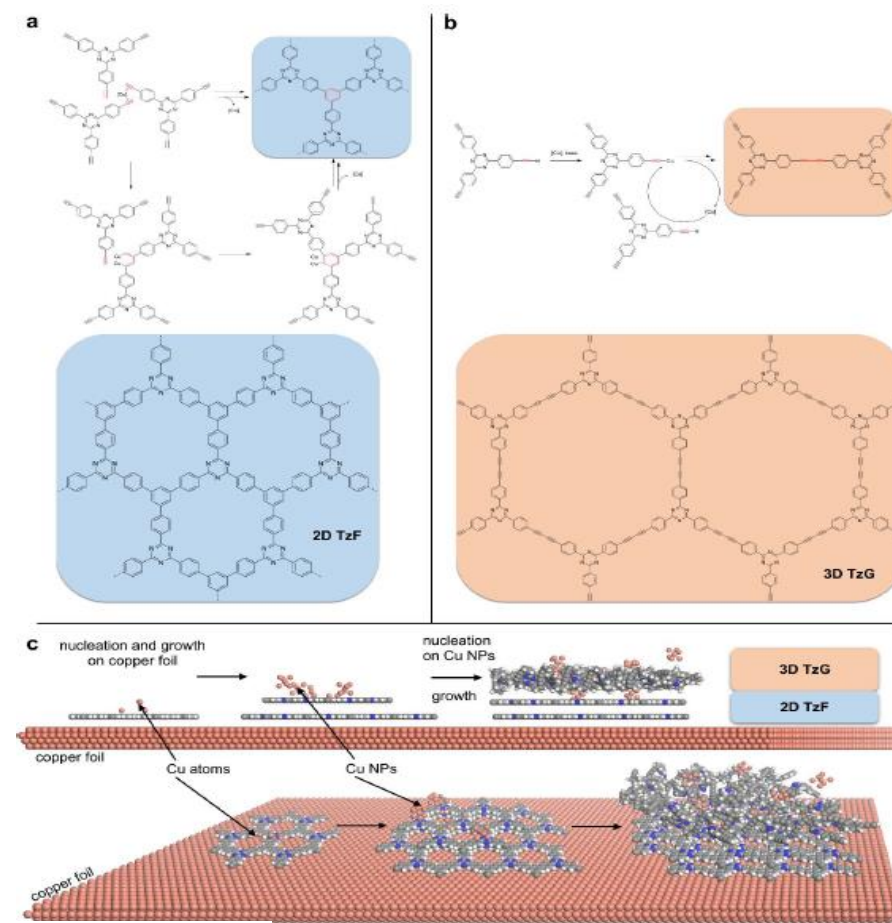
- Investment in **Prague**
 - Purchase of new instrumentation
- Investment in **People**
 - Dr Michal Mazur
 - Research training trips to the UK and Sweden



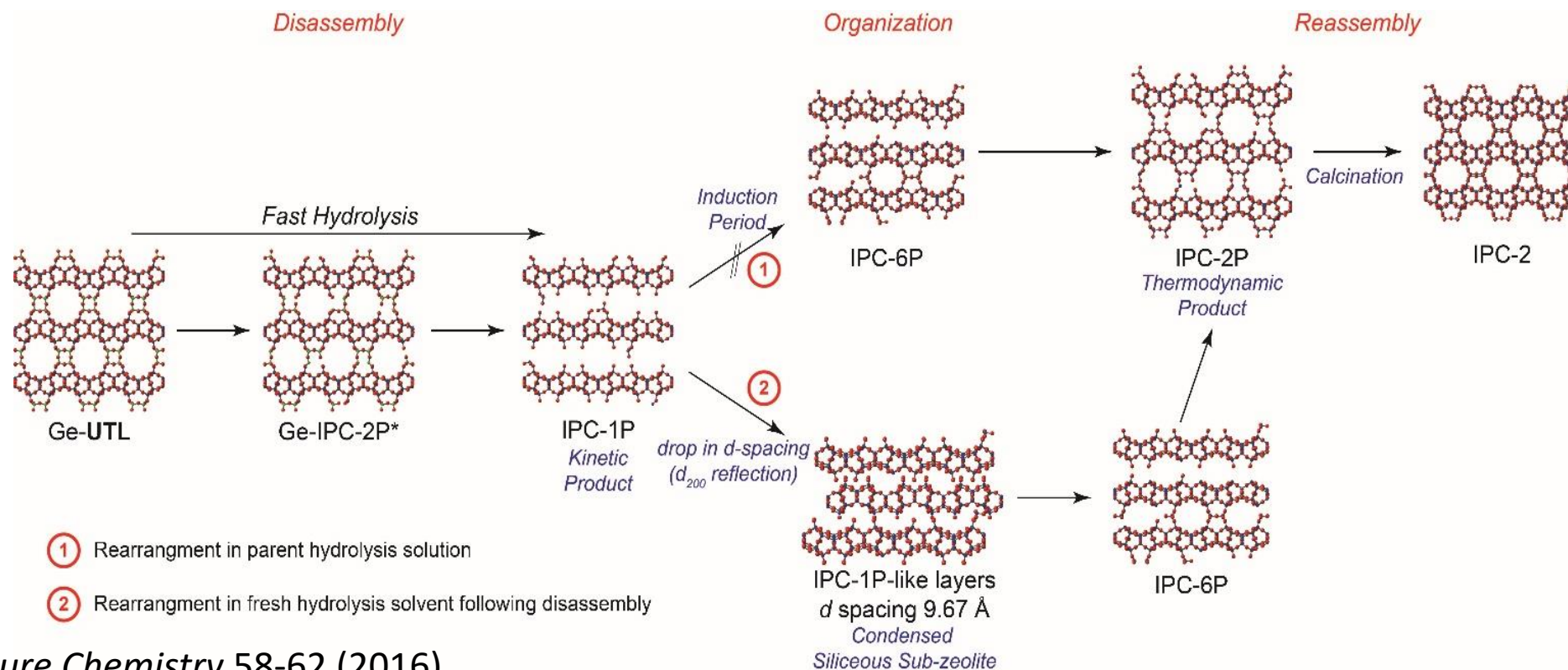
Theme 1. ADOR routes to 'unfeasible' inorganic and hybrid catalysts

Theme 2. Electronic and Optical Materials
Novel modular materials for nonlinear optics.
Design and Synthesis of free-standing 2D organic materials.

Theme 3. Multifunctional delivery of multifunctional therapeutic agents
Design and synthesis of materials for storage of multiple therapeutic agents.
Formation of modular mixed-matrix composite materials.



ADOR process



Mazur et al *Nature Chemistry* 58-62 (2016)

Mazur and coworkers *Nature Protocols* In press (2019)

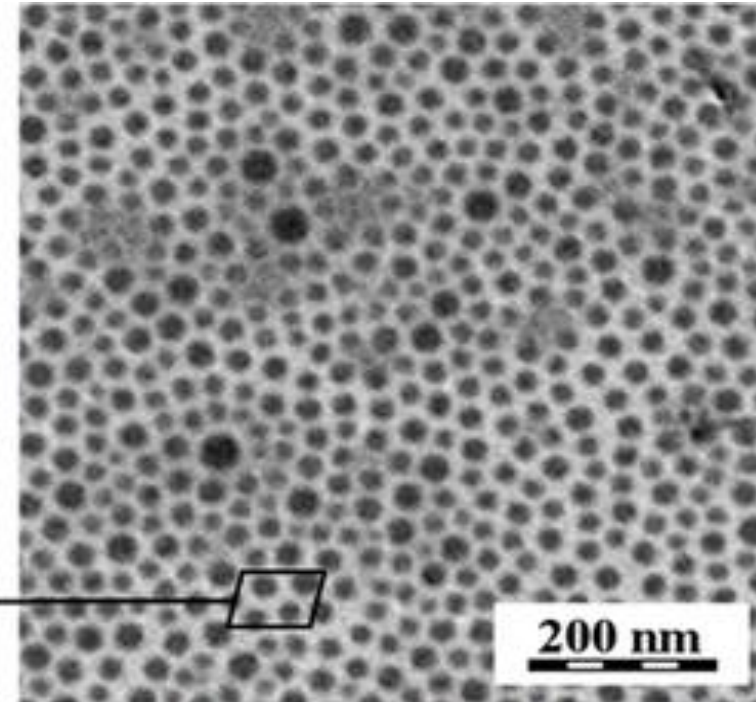
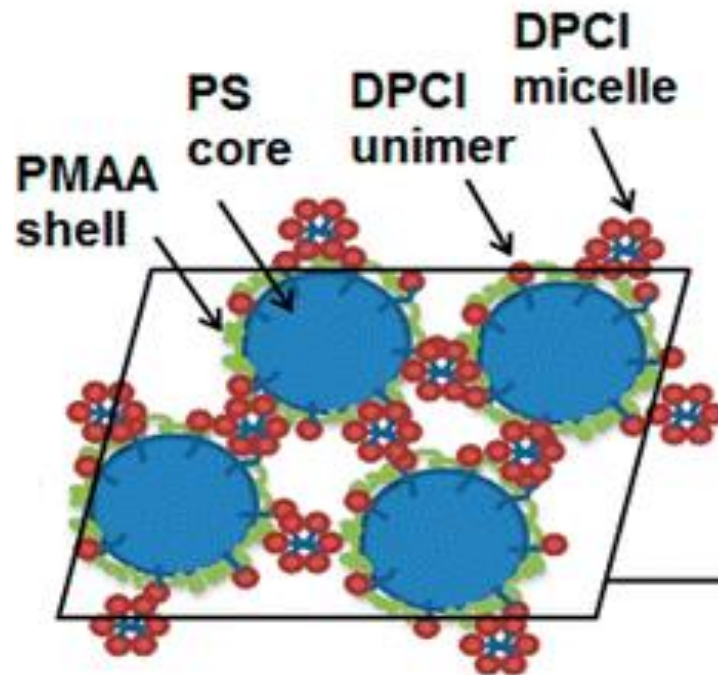
Mazur and coworkers *J. Am. Chem. Soc* Submitted (2019)



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Polymer nanoparticles



Stepanek and coworkers *Soft Matter* 7578-7585 (2018)

Stepanek, Mosinger and coworkers *ACS Appl. Mater. Interface* 36229-36238 (2017)



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Werner von Siemens prize 2017 for the most significant result in basic research



**Discovery of a new method
for zeolite synthesis and its
application in catalysis**



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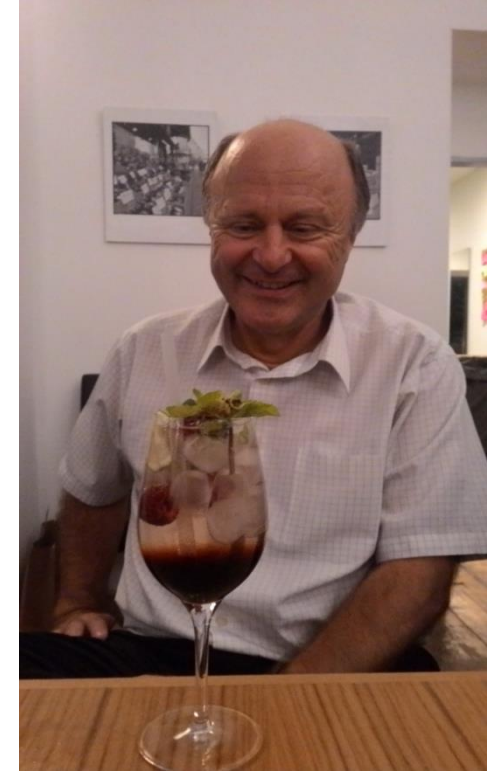

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Jiří Čejka awarded €1.9 M ExPro GAČR Grant

Only 5 Expro Grants was given in Czech Republic in chemistry

“ADORable catalysts”

Project based on the design, preparation and application in selective catalysis of novel zeolites synthesised by unconventional approach



Electron Microscopy Laboratory at the Faculty of Science

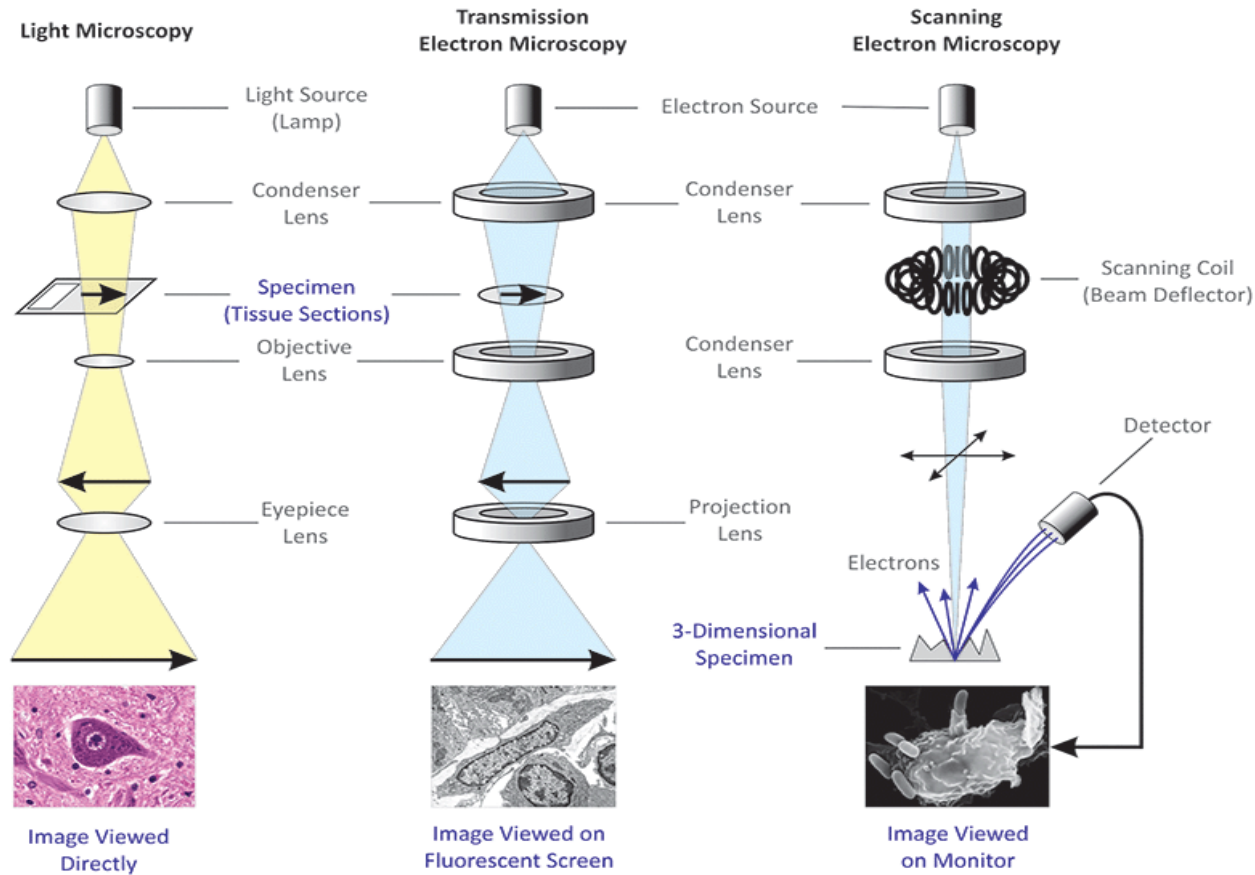


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Electron Microscopy



microbiologyinfo.com



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Key steps in Electron Microscopy science

1924: French physicist **Louis de Broglie** (1892–1987) realizes that electron beams have a wavelike nature similar to light. Five years later, he wins the [Nobel Prize in Physics](#) for this work.

1931: German scientists **Max Knoll** (1897–1969) and his pupil **Ernst Ruska** (1906–1988) build the first experimental TEM in Berlin.

1933: **Ernst Ruska** builds first electron microscope that is more powerful than an optical microscope.

1941: **Manfred Von Ardenne** and **Bodo von Borries** patent - electron scanning microscope (SEM).

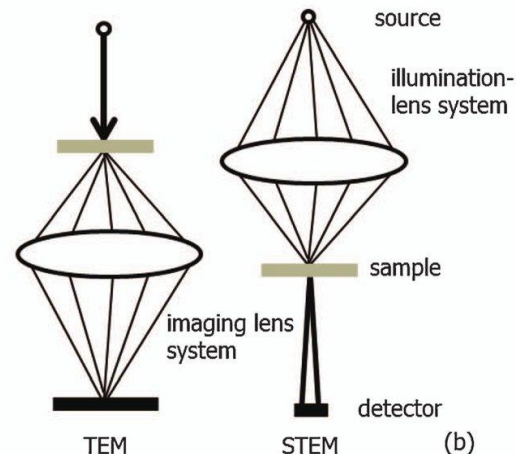
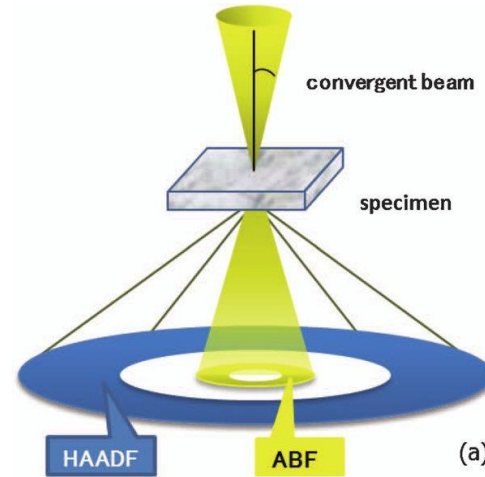
1981: **Binnig and Rohrer** - detailed images of atoms on the surface of a crystal of gold.

1986: **Binnig and Rohrer** share the [Nobel Prize in Physics](#) with the original pioneer of electron microscopes, **Ernst Ruska**.

2017: **Dubochet, Frank, and Henderson** helped to develop cryo-electron microscopy. The 2017 [Nobel Prize in Chemistry](#) has been awarded for work that helps researchers see what biomolecules look like.



Transmission Electron Microscopy



JEOL JEM NEOARM-200F



Microscope is equipped with:

- Schottky-type Field Emission Gun (30-200 kV voltage)
- Condenser Lens with Cs aberration correction
- CMOS camera (4096 x 4096 pixels, up to 200 fps redout)
- Specimen tilting stage ($\pm 35^\circ$)
- STEM image acquisition unit
- Phase plate
- Cryo holder for low-temperature measurements
- EDS detector for elementary analysis (Be to U)



JEOL JEM NEOARM-200F



Microscope is able to image:

- Structure of zeolites and zeolitic materials
- Structures in atomic resolution
- Metal-organic frameworks (MOFs) structures
- Carbon nanomaterials
- Polymer nanoparticles
- Self-assembly supramolecular structures (micells, vesicles)

Resolutions:

- HAADF Resolution 0.10nm
- TEM point resolution 0.23nm



Equipment



Ultramicrotome Leica EM UC7



High Vacuum Coater Leica EM ACE600



Automatic Plunge Freezer Leica EM GP2

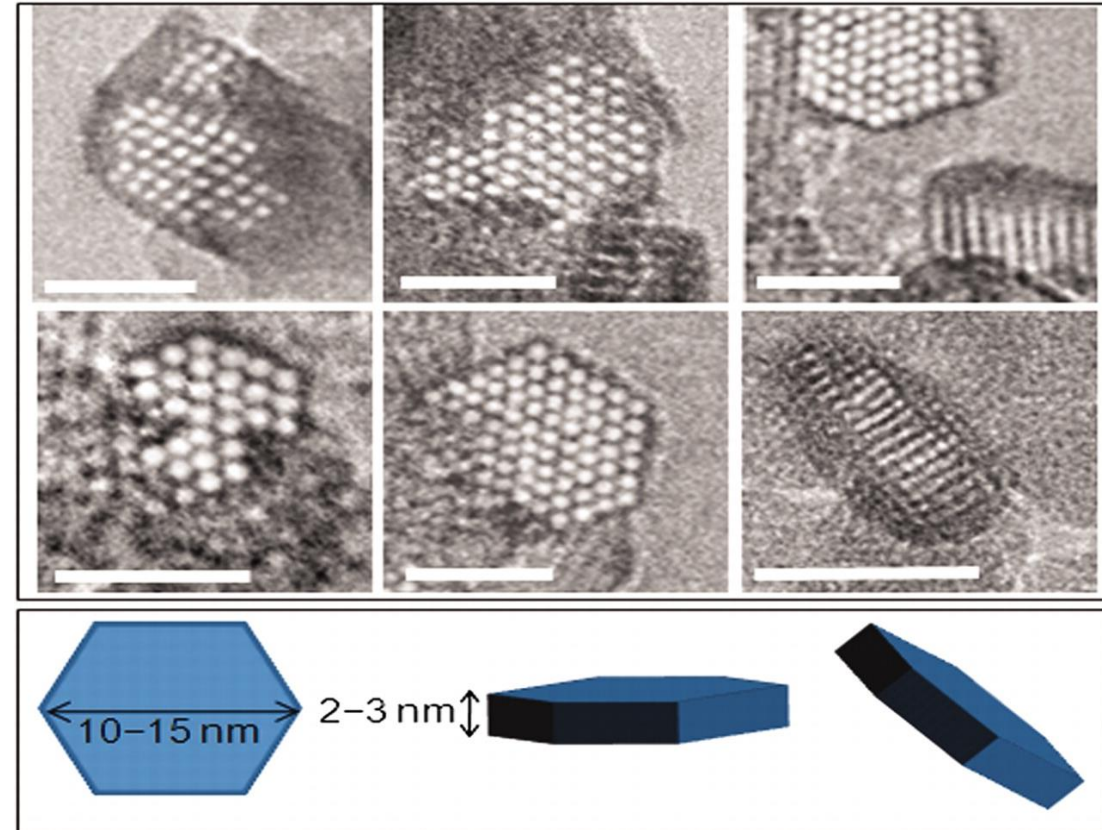
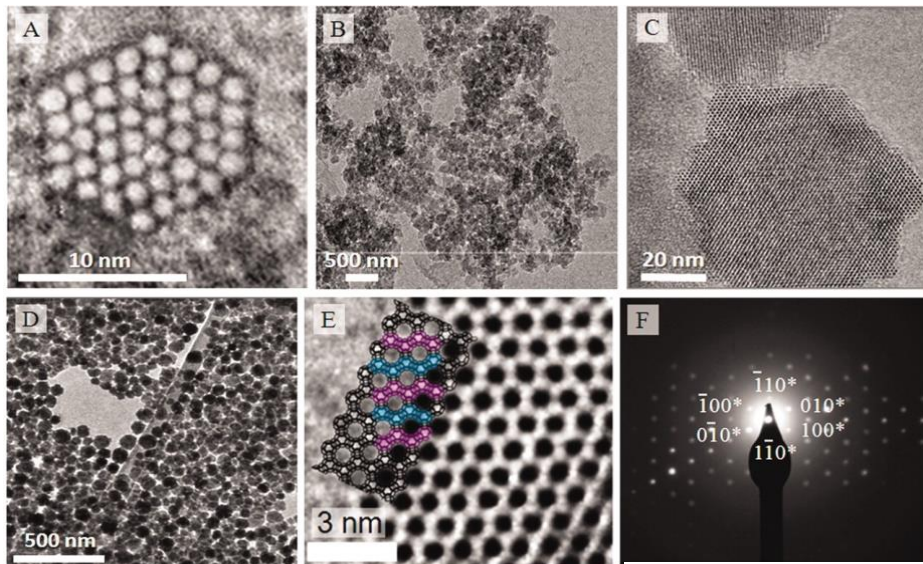
Zeolites

Porous aluminosilicates

Low electron-beam stability

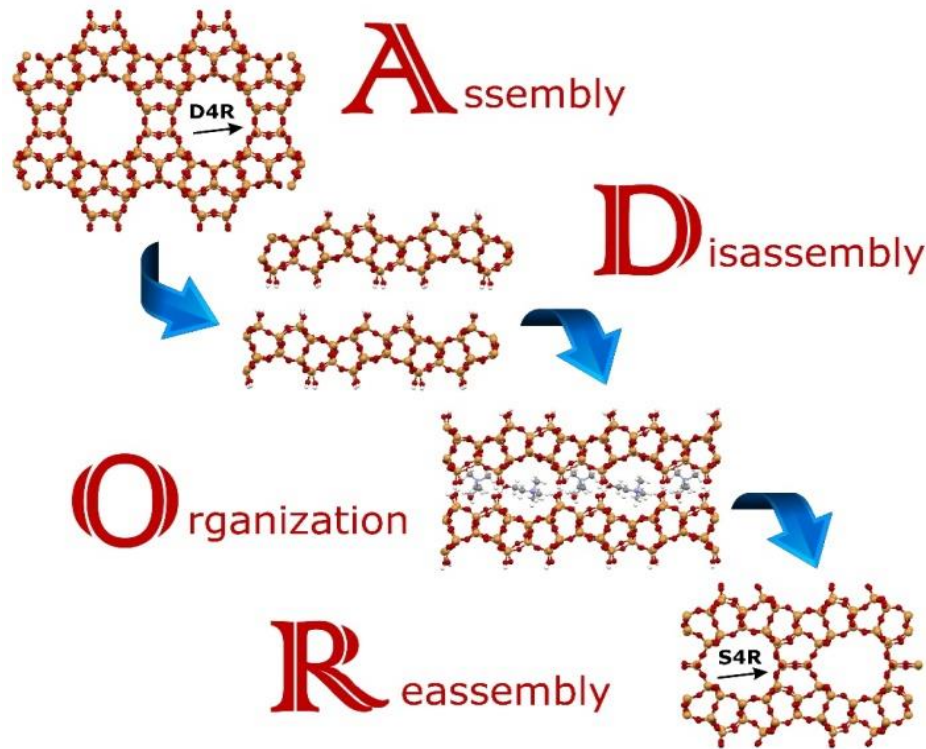
Adsorbed water decreases stability

Low dose of electrons required



Mintova et al., Science, 335, 6064, pp. 70-73

ADOR zeolites



M. Mazur et al. J. Chem. Mater. A, 2018

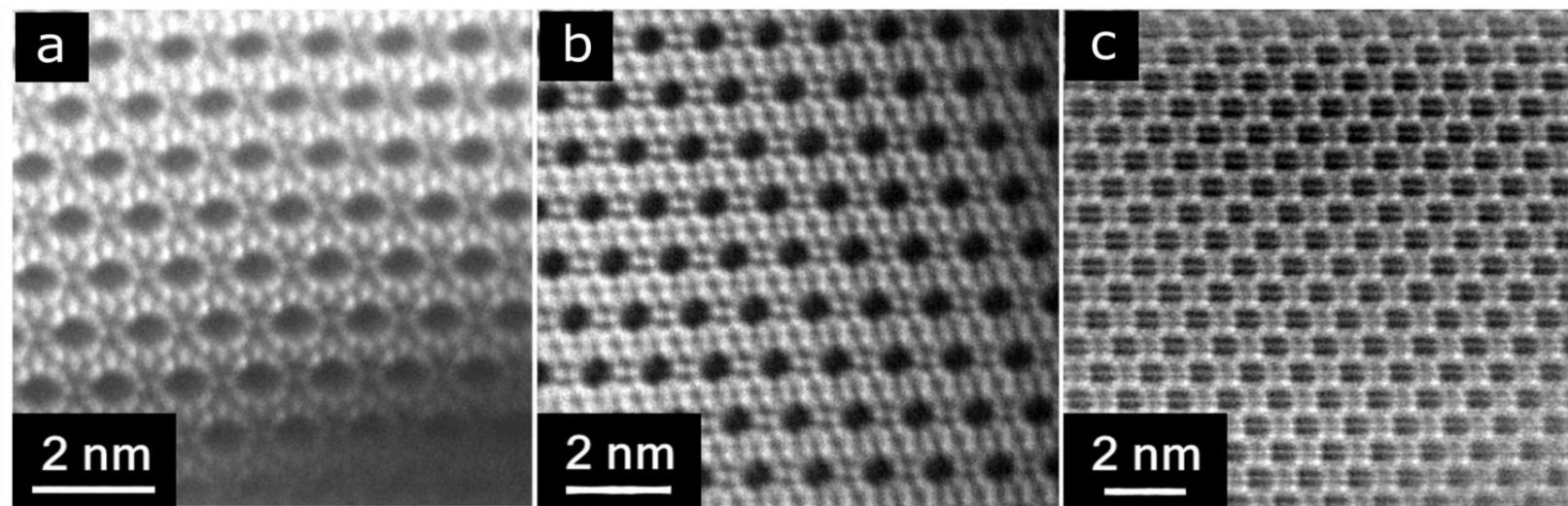
The **ADOR** (**A**sssembly-**D**isassembly-**O**rganization-**R**eassembly) process involves the synthesis of 3D germanosilicate during first step. Then, selective disassembly of it to form a layered material followed by organization of layers and reconnection of them to get new zeolite.

The ADOR is a way for the preparation of layered zeolite precursors, that can be further modified to get the **related zeolitic architectures**.

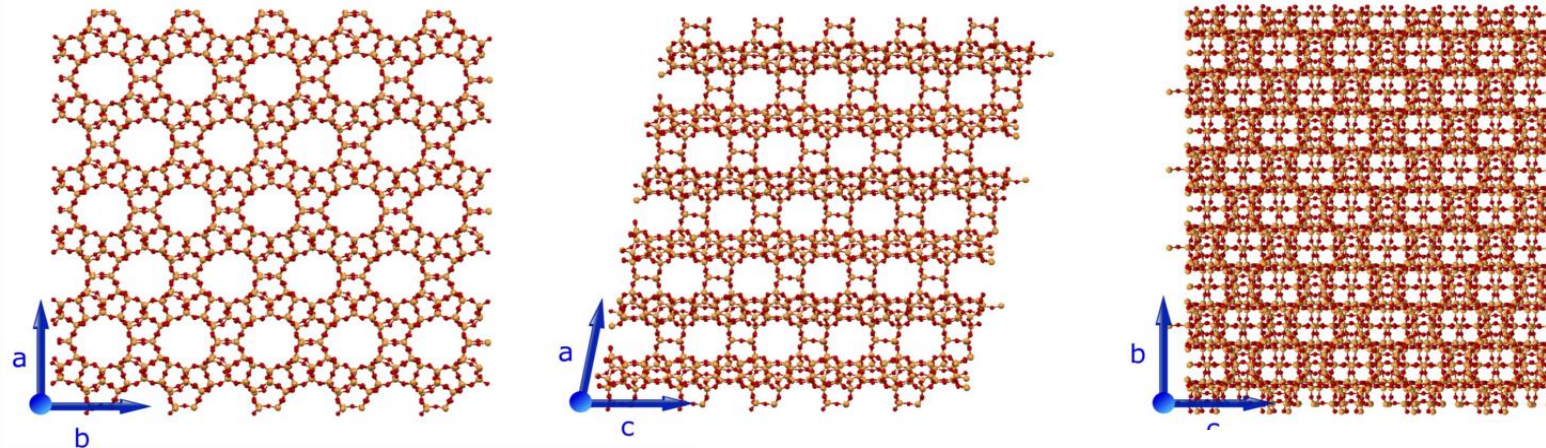
12 new topologies were revealed so far.

Two recognised Czech Zeolites: PCR and *PCS

Imaging of ADOR zeolites



Atomic resolution images

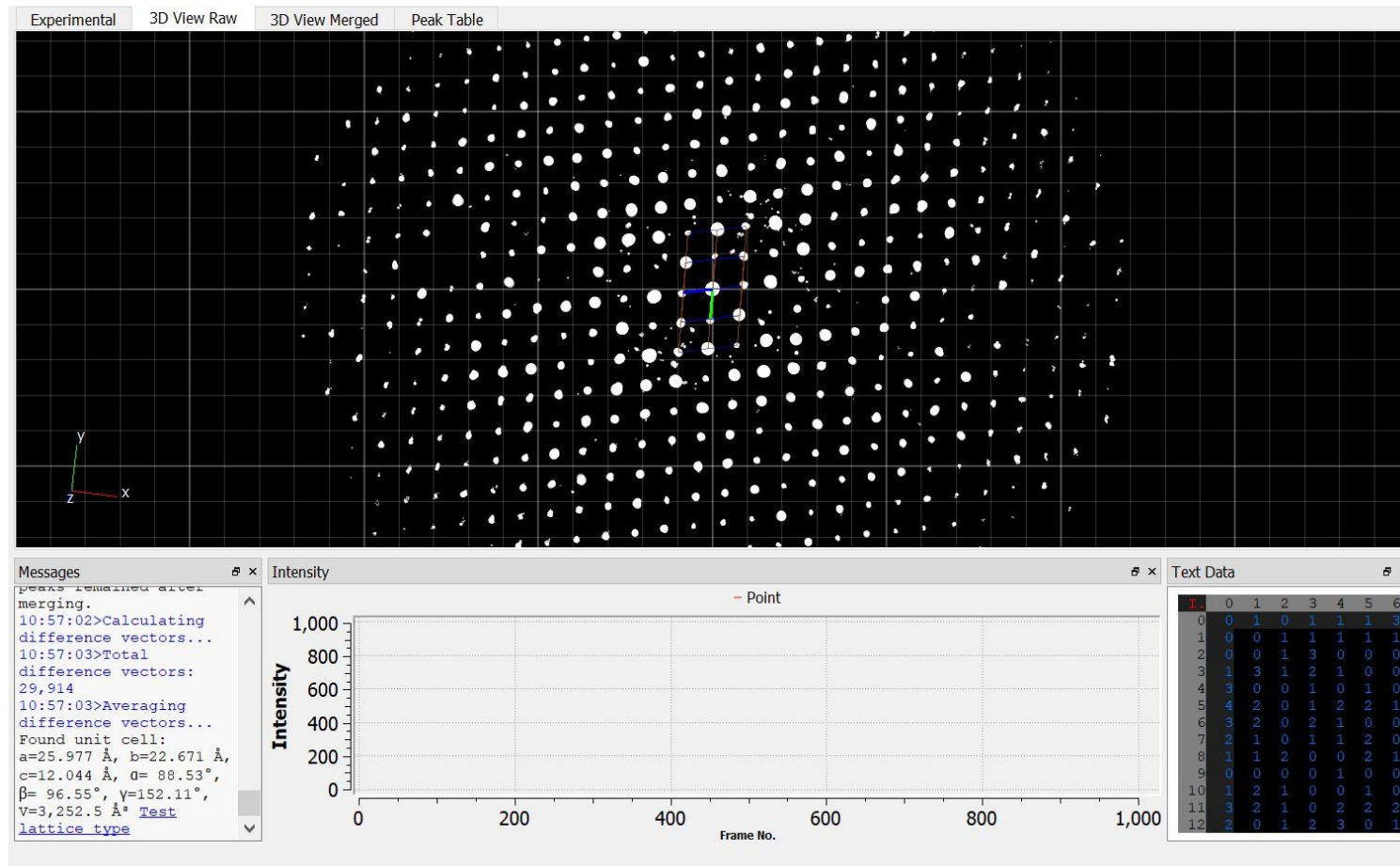


Nanoscale measurements

M. Mazur, V. Kasneryk, J. Přech, F. Brivio, C. Ochoa-Hernández, A. Mayoral, M. Kubů and J. Čejka, *Inorganic Chemistry Frontiers*, 2018, 5, 2746-2755.

Rotation Electron Diffraction

IPC-8 sample
(novel Czech zeolite)



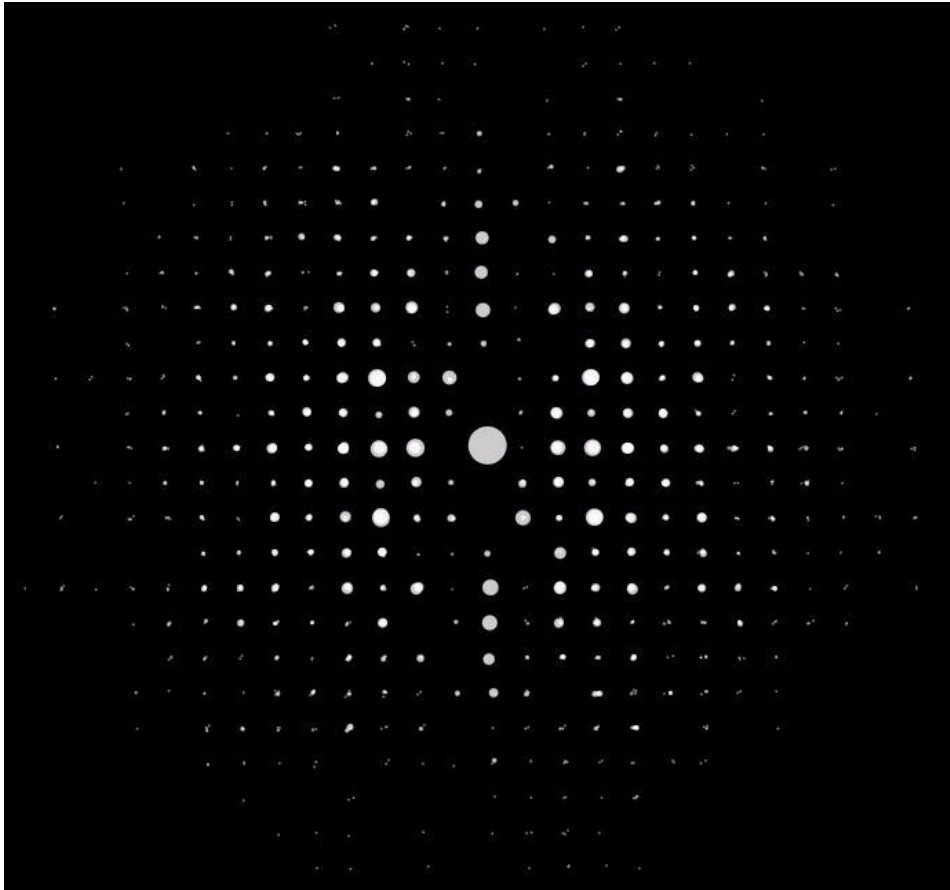
J. Zhang et al. manuscript in preparation



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Rotation Electron Diffraction



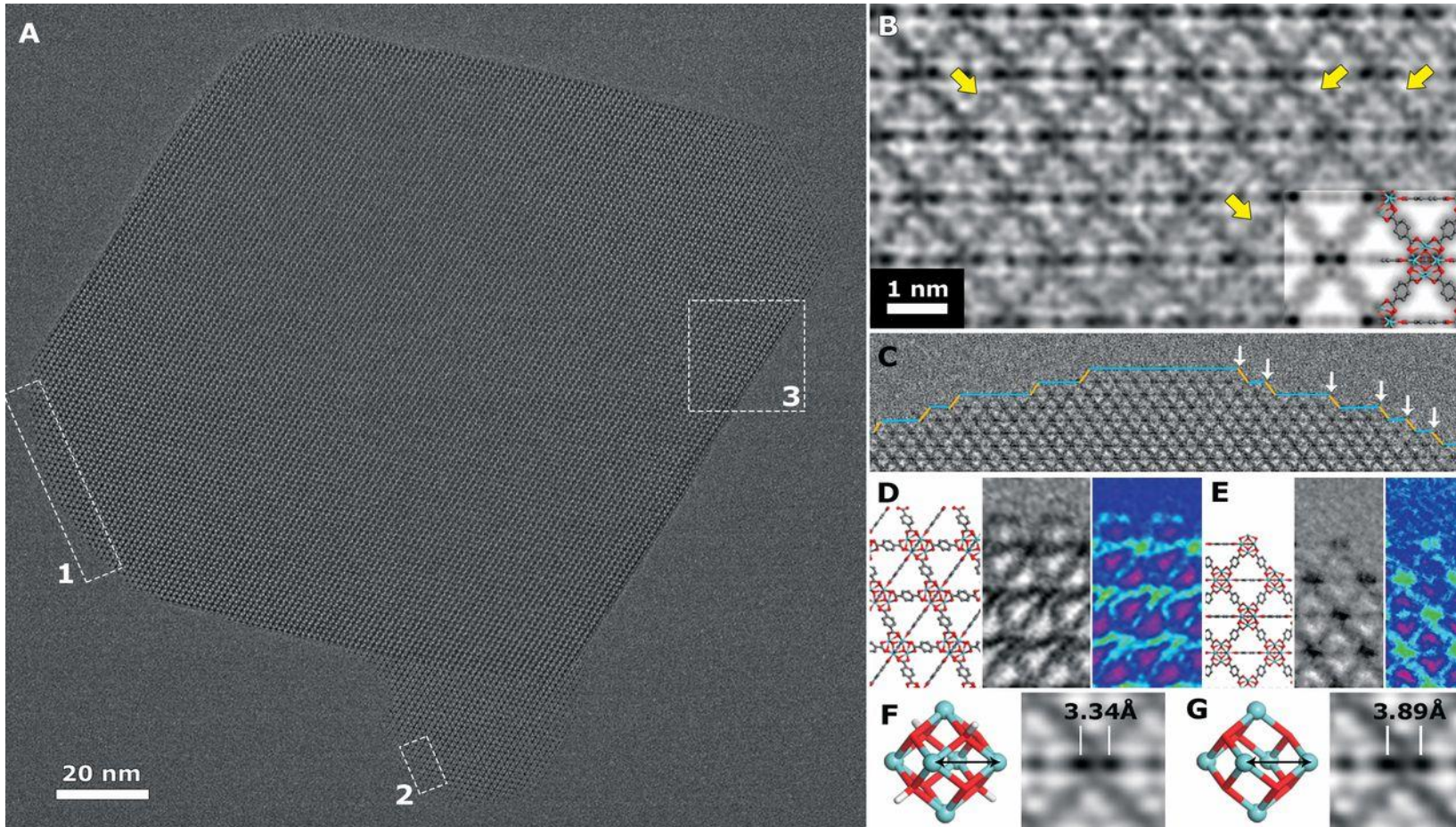
Kagomé geometry Cu-MOF

Method for solving the structure
(describing atoms positions)

M. Infas H. Mohideen, et al. manuscript submitted



Beam-sensitive materials



MOF

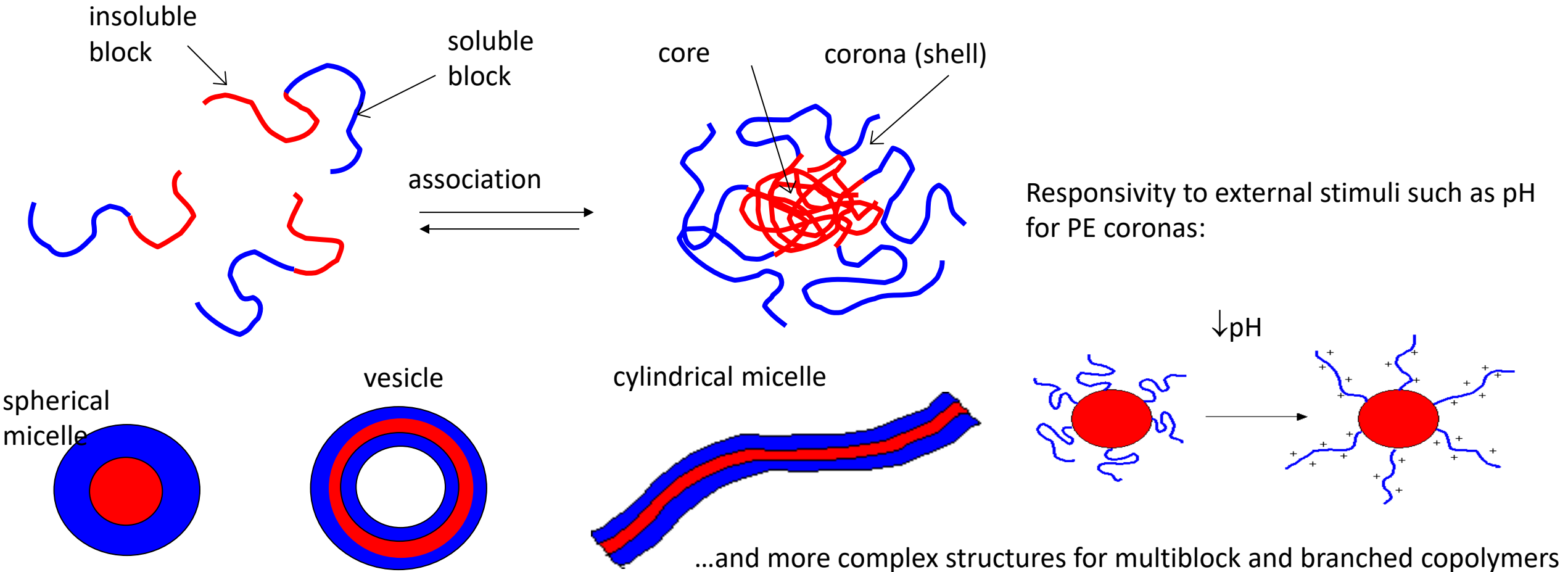
UiO-66 crystal

Measurements in cryo conditions
makes sample more stable

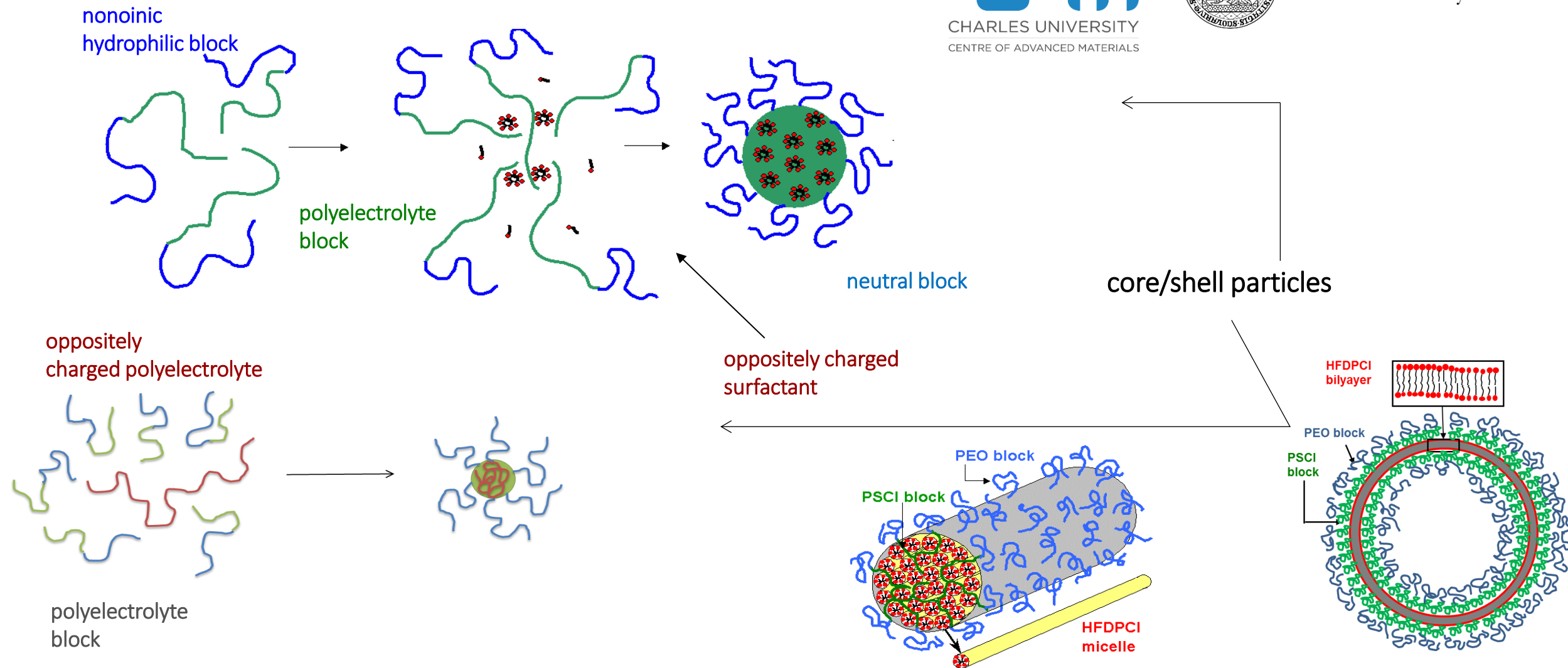
D. Zhang, Y. Zhu, L. Liu, X. Ying, C.-E. Hsiung,
R. Sougrat, K. Li and Y. Han, *Science*, 2018,
DOI: 10.1126/science.aao0865

Associating block copolymers

Block copolymers in selective solvents

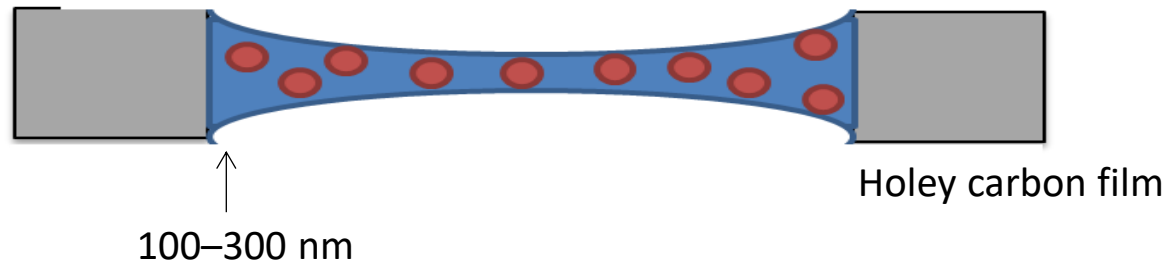


Electrostatic coassembly

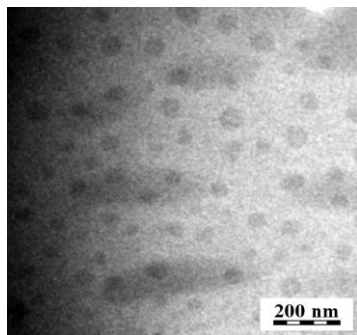


Cryo-TEM

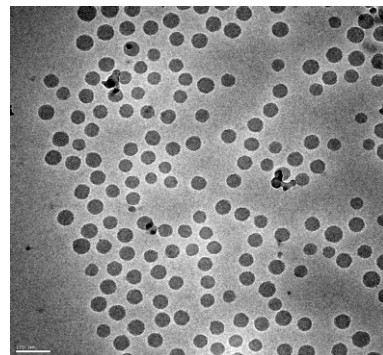
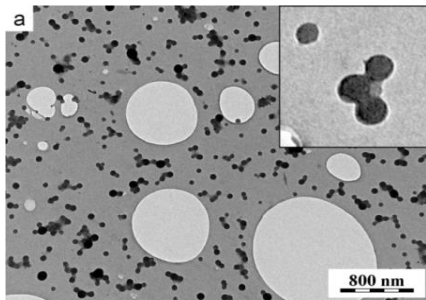
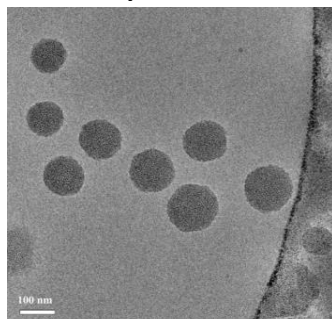
Thin layer of NP aqueous solution trapped in holey carbon film is fast cooled (105 K/s) to form **vitreous ice**



Dry sample TEM

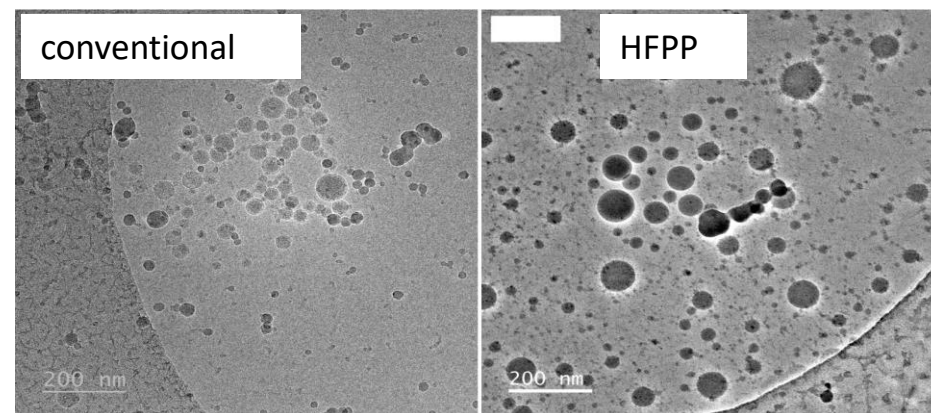
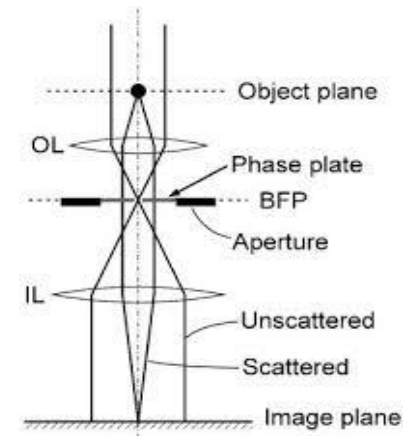


Cryo-TEM

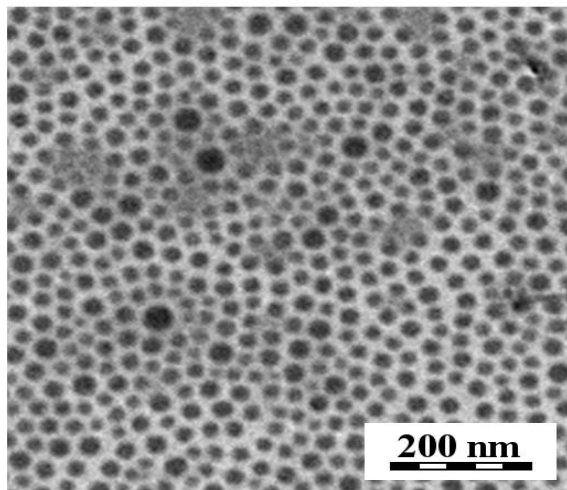


Hole-free phase plate

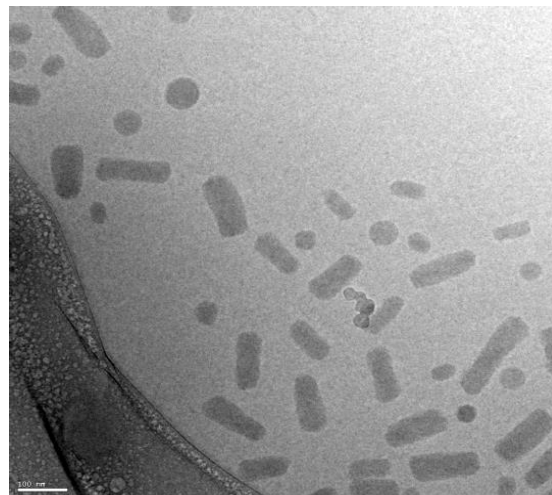
Contrast enhancement



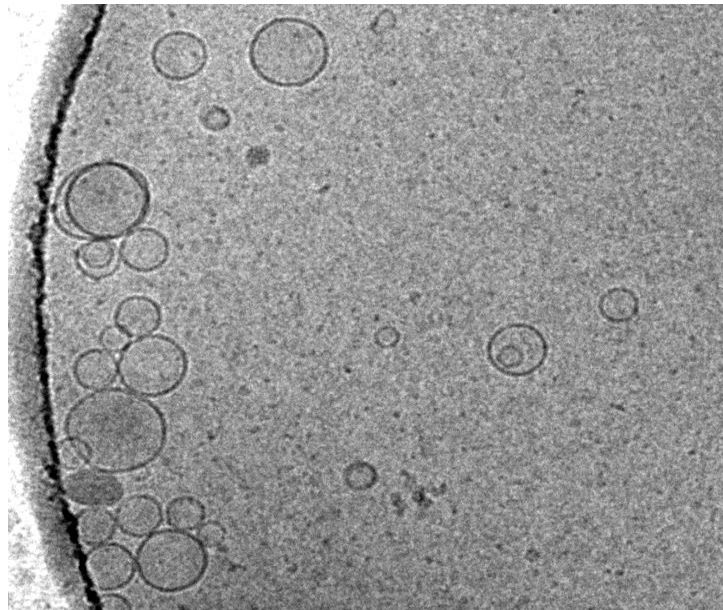
spherical micelles



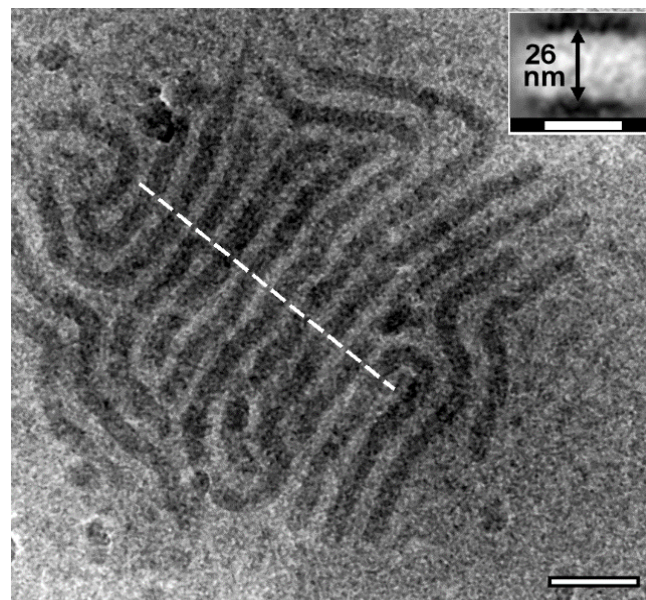
cylindrical micelles



vesicles



wormlike micelles



Delisavva, F.; Uchman, M.; Škvarla, J.; Woźniak, E.; Pavlova, E.; Šlouf, M.; Garamus, V.M.; Procházka, K.; Štěpánek, M. *Langmuir* **2016**, 32, 4059

Uchman, M.; Pispas, S.; Kováčik, L.; Štěpánek, M. *Macromolecules* **2014**, 47, 7081.

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