

# Nanosensors:

Transitioning Nanosensors from the laboratory  
to the marketplace:  
Challenges and Lessons learned

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# Science –to –Technology (S<sub>2</sub>T)

- A vast amount of nanosensors have been developed, tried and tested
  - biosensors
  - electrochemical capacitors
  - batteries, fuel cells, novel membrane systems and many more
- There are many roadblocks in bridging the gap between academic research and the market place

# Highlights

- Operational definitions
  - Category 1 nanosensor
  - Category 2 nanosensor
- Case studies-
  - *Ultra-sensitive Portable Capillary Sensor (U-PAC™)*
  - $\text{CeO}_2$ ,  $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3$ ,  $\text{TiO}_2$ ,  $\text{ZnO}$ , and fullerenes
- Testbeds and performance metrics
- Bridging the gap
  - a proposal for moving forward

How do you bridge the gap between research and commercialization?

Answer the two key questions of successful innovation:

- Can you make a product?
- Can you get anyone to buy it?

# Nanosensor Classification

- **Type 1 Nanosensors:**

**Nanotechnology-enabled sensors or sensors that are themselves nanoscale or have nanoscale materials or components**

- **Type 2 Nanosensors:**

**Nanoproperty-quantifiable sensors that are used to measure nanoscale properties**

*Sadik et al, Journal of Environmental Monitoring, 11, 25, 2009*

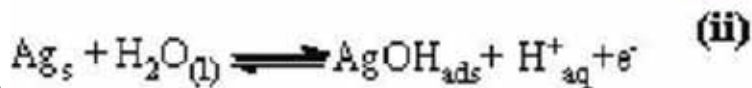
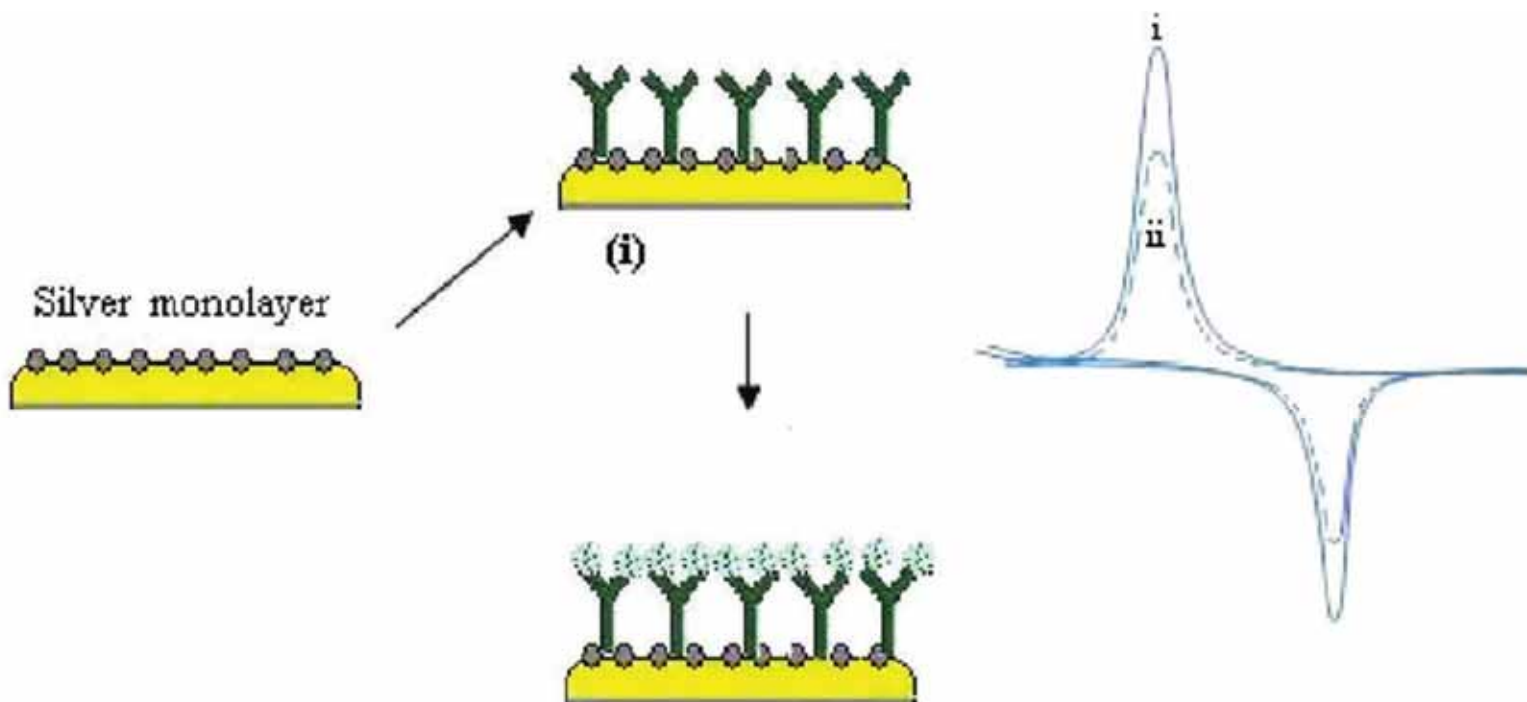
# Category 1 Nanosensors

- Hundreds of research articles using nanomaterials for chemical & biosensors have been published. There are dozens of reviews available which partly deal with use of nanomaterials for electrochemical nanobiosensors
  - Nanoparticles
  - Nanowires
  - Nanoneedles
  - Nanosheets
  - Nanotubes
  - Nanorods

*Biosensors & Bioelectronics*, **24**, 2749-2765, 2009.

# Metal-Enhanced Electrochemical Detection (MED)

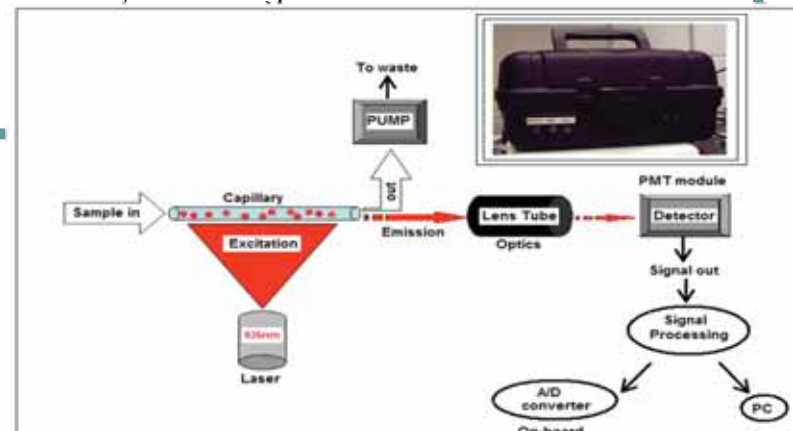
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# UPAC Biosensor

*SUNY-Binghamton scientists and engineers have developed a portable, fully autonomous, and remotely operated sensing device, called Ultra-Sensitive Portable Capillary Sensor (U-PAC™)*

1. Sadik, O., Karasinski, J, "Ultra-Sensitive, Portable Capillary Sensor", U.S. Patent No. 8,414,844 B2, April 9, 2013.
2. Sadik, O., Karasinski, J, "Ultra-Sensitive, Portable Capillary Sensor", U.S. Patent No. 7,708,944, May 5, 2010.
3. Sadik, O., Wang Q., Blythe, P., US Provisional Application No. 32291/1310 (RB-347), "Capillary Biosensor and its Method of Use", April 19, 2010
5. *Analytical Chemistry*, 74,713-719, **2002**
6. Guide 101-10, March **2007**, US Department of Homeland Security, Preparedness Directorate, Office of Grants and Training Systems Support Division, Washington DC.

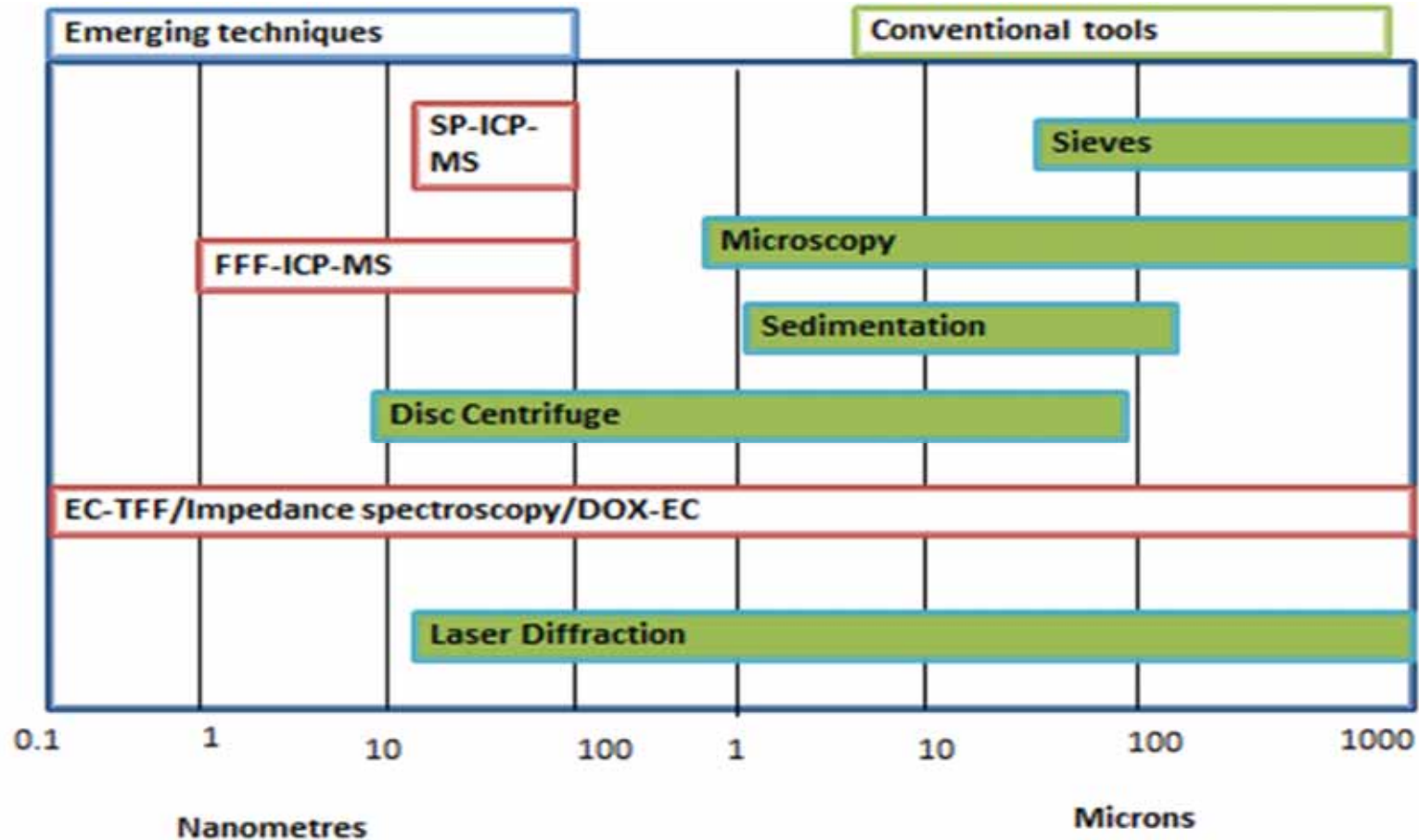




# Performance Characteristics

Technique	LOD	Response Time	Sample Preparation
UPAC Biosensor	112 spores/ml	30 min	Minimal
Standard ELISA	4269 spores/ml	6hrs	Extensive
Standard PCR	250 spores/ml	12 hrs	Extensive (PCR extraction)
Optical Leaky Clad waveguide biosensor	10,000 spores/ml	40 min	Autonomous
DOX	Qualitative	30 min	Minimal

# Conventional and emerging tools for characterizing engineered nanoparticles

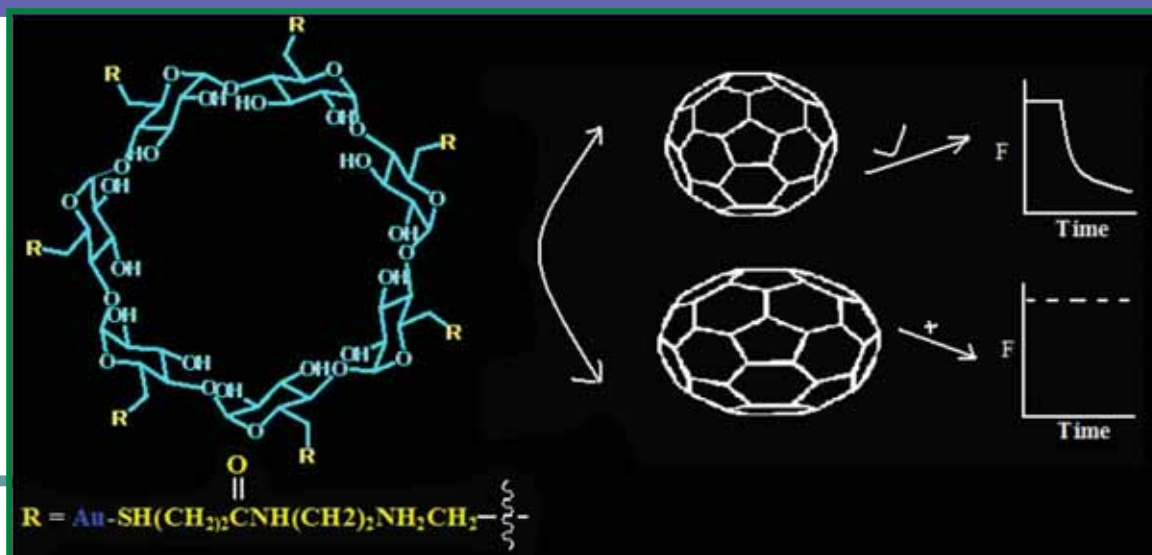


*SP-ICP-MS= Single Particle Inductively Coupled Mass Spectrometer, FFF-ICP-MS=Fluid Flow Fractionation Inductively Coupled Mass Spectrometer, EC-TFF=Electro-Chemical Tangential Fluid Flow, DOX-EC=Dissolved oxygen Sensor coupled with Electrochemical technique, DLS= Dynamic Light Scattering.*

## Category 2:

# Size-exclusive Nanosensors for Quantitative Analysis of Fullerenes

SADIK et al, ES&T 2011, 45, 5294 – 5294

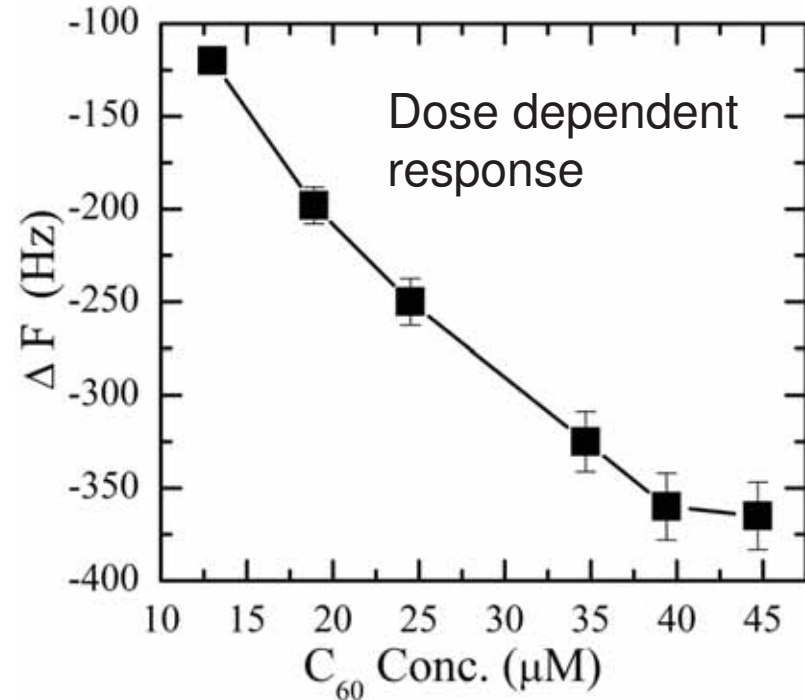
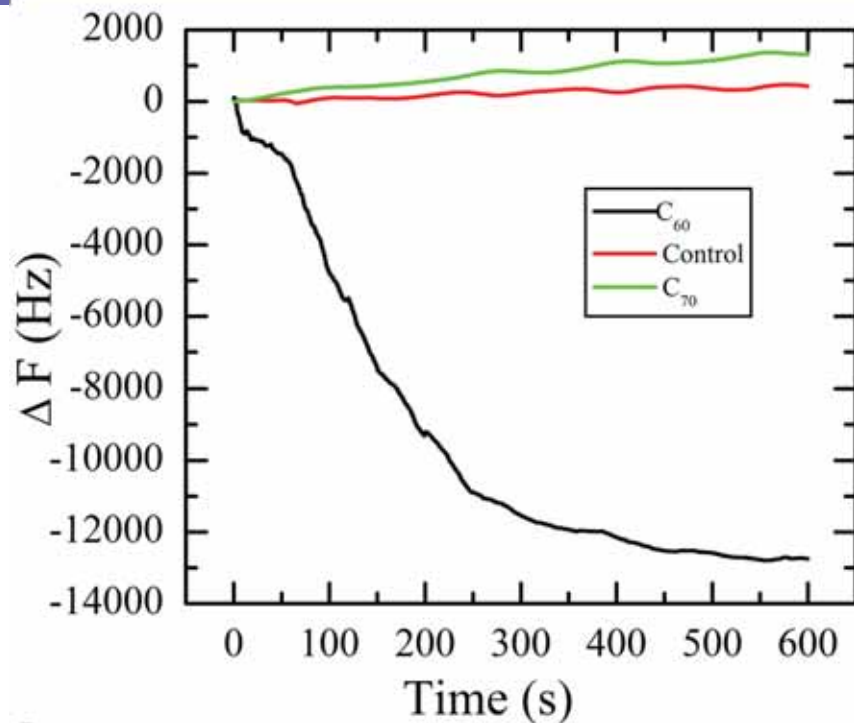


A single-use quantity of cosmetic (0.5 g) may contain up to 0.6  $\mu\text{g}$  of  $\text{C}_{60}$  and demonstrates a pathway for human exposure to engineered fullerenes

**BINGHAMTON**  
UNIVERSITY  
State University of New York

*Benn et al., Environ. Poll. (2011)*

# Nanosensor Responses

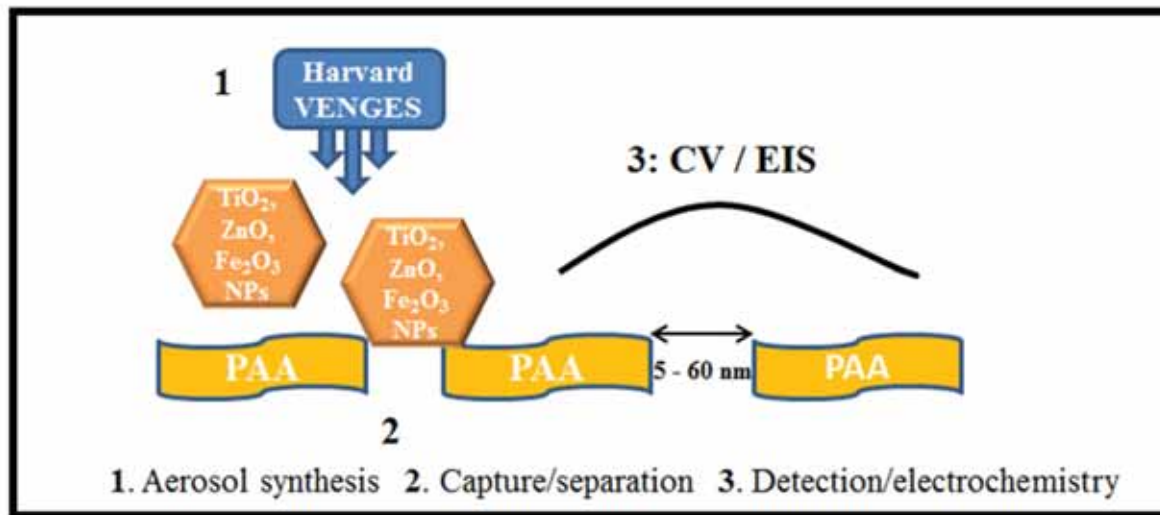


- Active sensing electrode surface area of  $0.196 \text{ cm}^2$ , an equivalent of  **$2.02 \times 10^{12}$  beta-CDs** should fit on the QCM sensor
- At low concentrations, the ratio of *beta*-CD/ $C_{60}$  molecules was  **$\sim 1.12$   $C_{60}/\text{cavity}$**  which, is consistent with the host-guest chemistry of *beta*-CD- $C_{60}$  1:1 inclusion chemistry

ES&T 2011, 45, 5294 – 5294.

## Category 2:

# Capture and Detection of Aerosol Nanoparticles using Poly (amic) acid, Phase-inverted Membranes



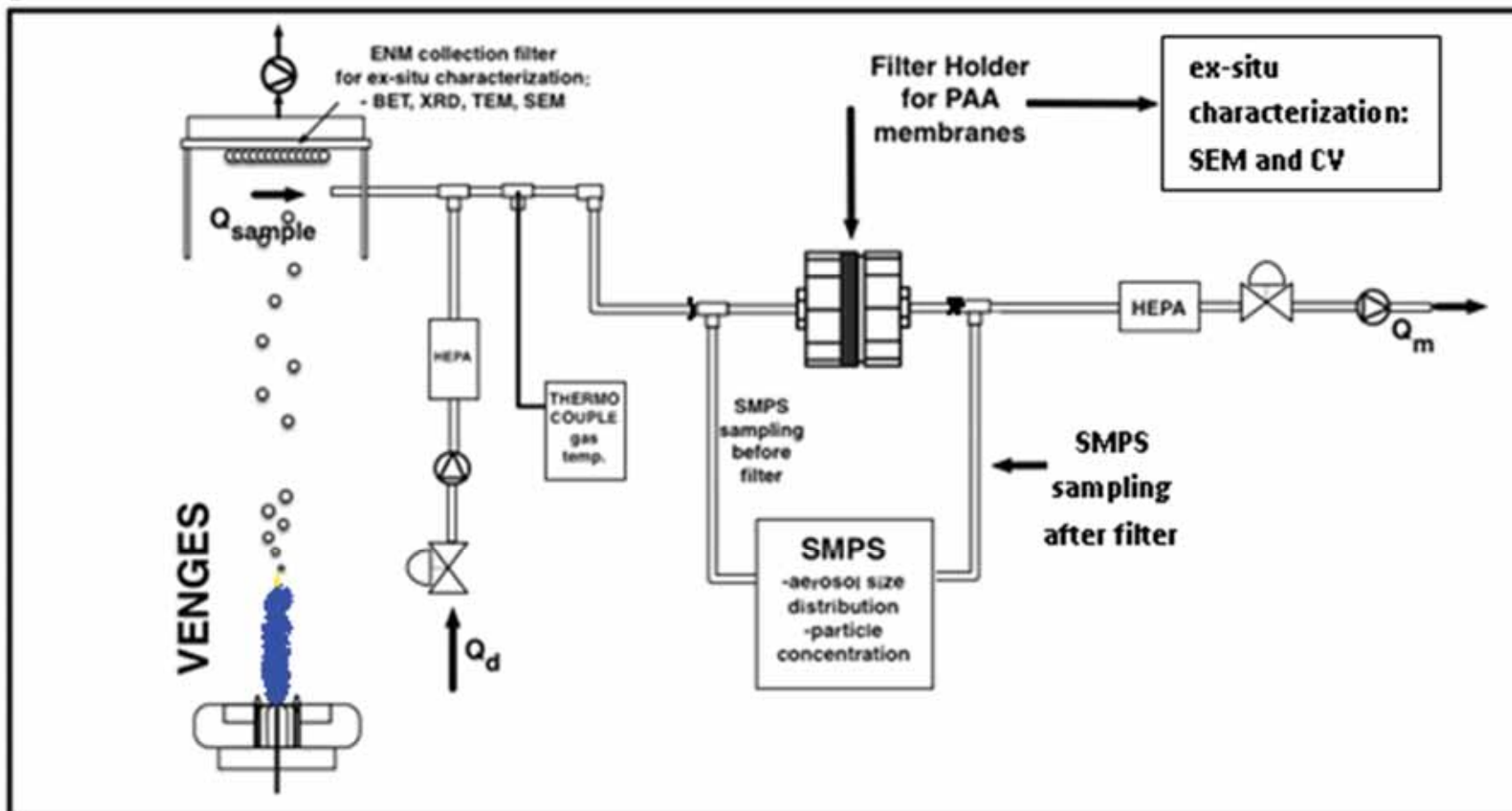
<sup>1</sup>SUNY-BINGHAMTON, NY

<sup>2</sup> HARVARD SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH, MA, Sadik, Demokritou et al, J. Hazardous Materials, 2014(In press), Nanoletters 2014

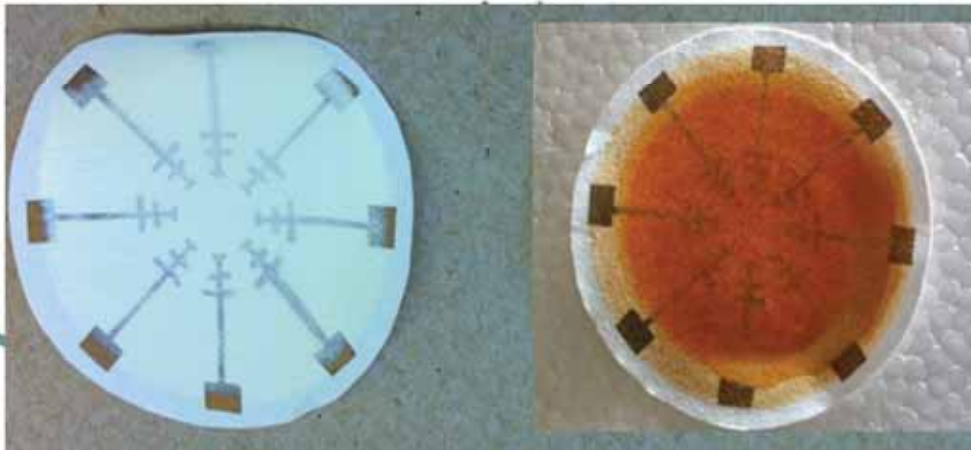
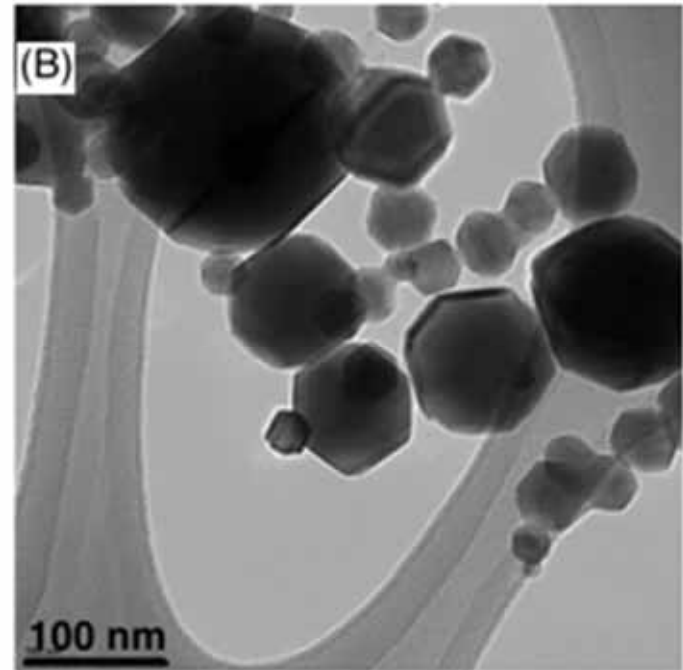
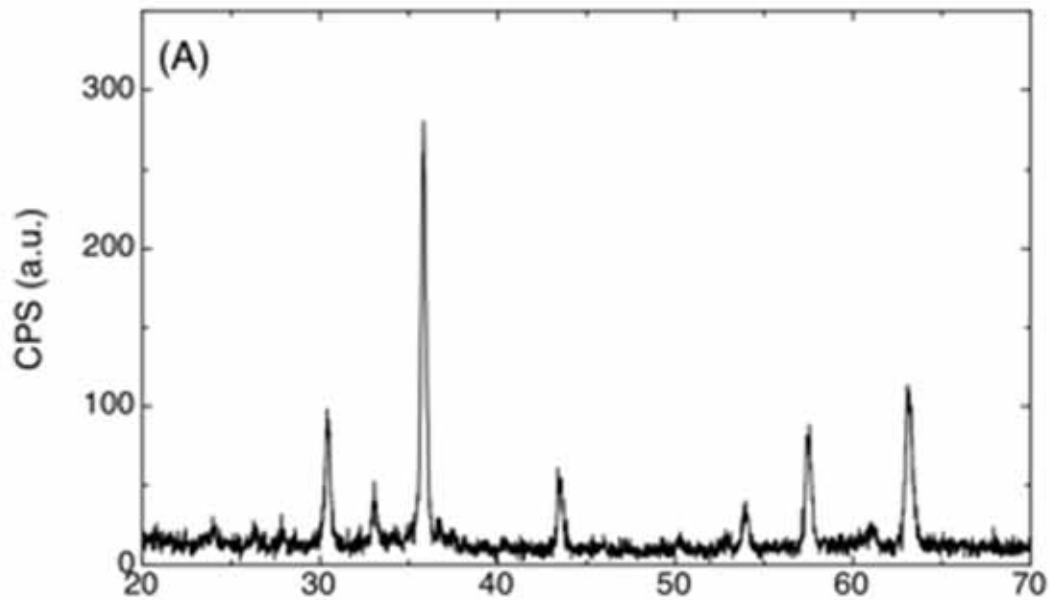


# Harvard's VENGES

New Platform for pulmonary and cardiovascular toxicological characterization of inhaled ENMs



# Surface Characterization





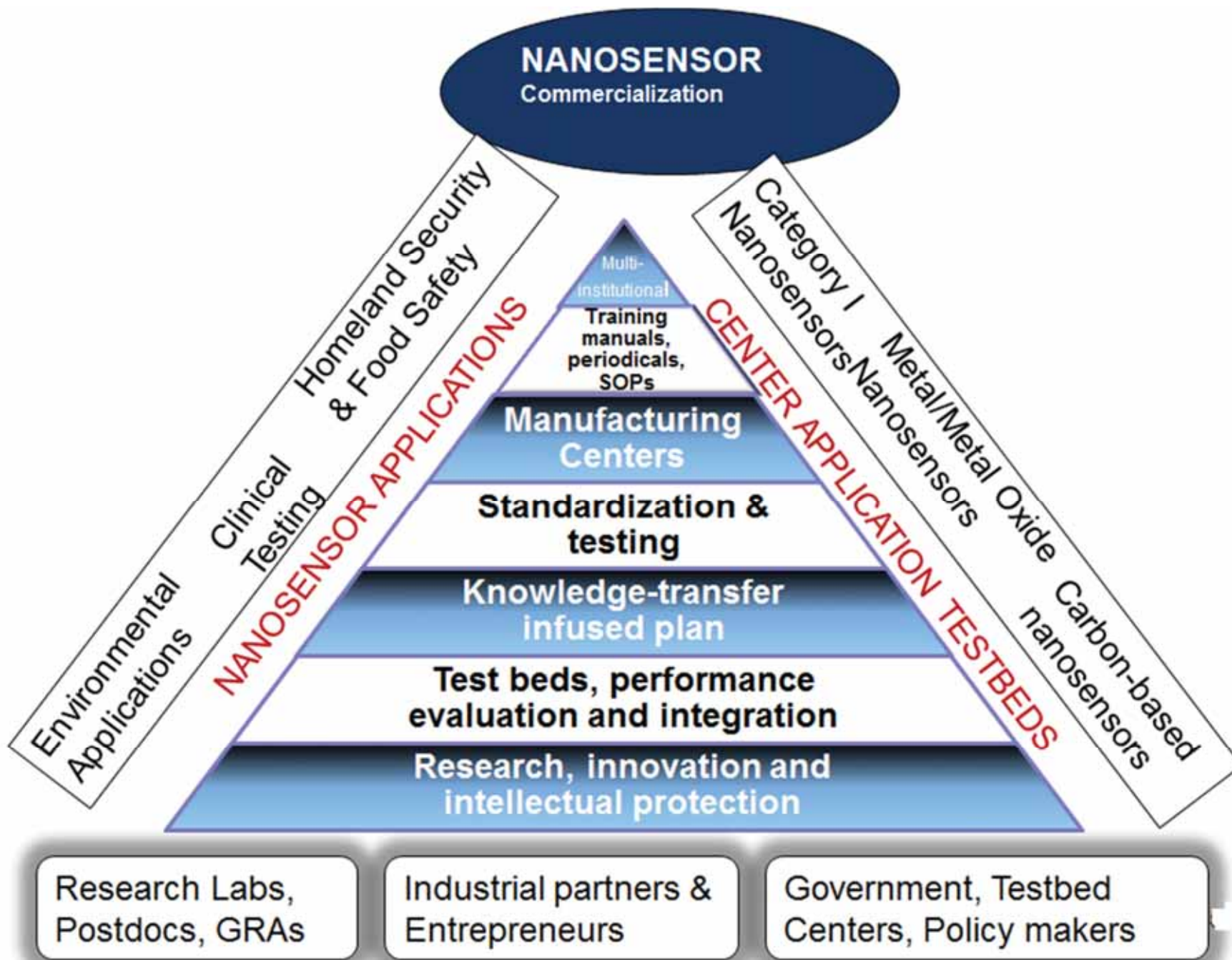
# Proposal for Going Forward

- ❑ Develop the necessary calibration and validation tools
- ❑ Develop SRMs and the analytical quality control tools
- ❑ Develop acceptable standards testbeds & characterization centers



# Overcoming Present Challenges

- **Develop acceptable SRMs**
  - Depends on testbeds
- **Calibration/validation tools**
- **Standardization and Testing Centers**
- **Develop training manuals & SOPs**
- **Define measures of success**



# Test beds depend on the application

- **Health**
- **Food**
- **Pharmaceutical**
- **Process**
- **Environmental**
- **Defense & Security**

# Testbed Specifications

- Environmental sensor should be sensitive, specific, provide fast response, must be reliable, flexible and capable of rapid and direct detection of toxic compounds.
- Additionally, there should be no need for sample preparation steps when analyzing environmental matrices or point-of-care biomedical samples.
- The sensor should be capable of convenient signal processing that will allow immediate remedial actions to be taken after detection

# Environmental and Clinical Requirements

- **Precision, accuracy, measurement range, total error**
- **Interference**
- **Reference**
- **Response time**
- **Calibration**
- **Manufacturing**
- **Single use Vs. multi-use**

# Nanosensor Performance Metrics-EPA QA/QC

- Data quality parameters
  - Precision, accuracy, LOD, robustness etc
- Method Determination
  - Method positive control, matrix spike, negative control (buffers, blanks, reagent water)
- Frequency
  - With every field sample, 1/batch or 20 samples, 10% of field samples, all standards, blanks, samples
- Quality objective & Comparability
  - % RSD, MDL, intended use of data
- Designated Analytical Levels.

- Sadik et. al, *Journal of Environmental Monitoring*, 6,513-522, **2004**; US-EPA (1995) and revisions. *Test Methods for Evaluating Solid Waste & Emergency Response*, Washington DC.

# Performance Metrics

- Experimental variables should be defined
  - Sensitivity should be defined
  - Selectivity and reliability (false positives and false negatives) should be assessed using SOPs.
  - Optimization of experimental variables influencing sensor selectivity and sensitivity as well as the transfer to manufacturing platforms.
- Comparable to standard EPA, AOAC or FDA methods.

## Conclusions -Needs of the Community)

- Manufacturing must produce stable sensors with uniform and non-distortable signals across sensing area
- Sensor layers must be mounted with a suitable transducer that does not distort them
- Unpreventable calibration errors in the devices must be reduced to an acceptable level
- Developing QC for the sensor industry requires the collaboration between the manufacturing, government, and research laboratories





U.S. EPA - Science To Achieve  
Results (STAR) Program  
Grant #

**DTRA**Link