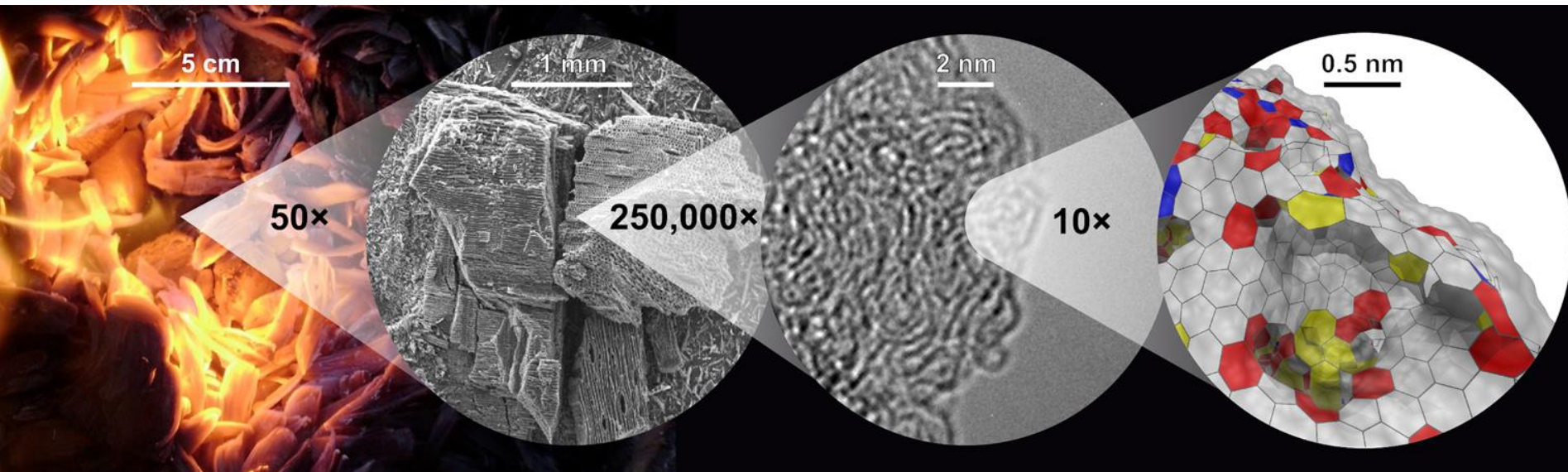


# Understanding the lack of fullerenes in fullerene-like carbons



15<sup>th</sup> Jul 2019 Carbon Conference

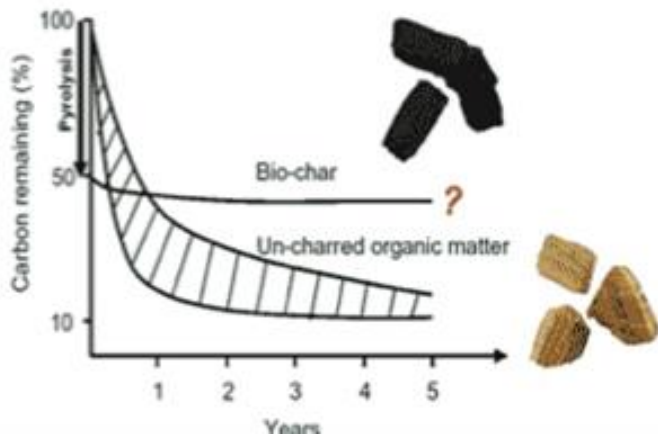
Jacob W. Martin<sup>1</sup>, Leonard Nyadong<sup>2</sup>, Caterina Ducati<sup>1</sup>, Marilyn Manley-Harris<sup>3</sup>, Alan Marshall<sup>2</sup>, Markus Kraft<sup>1</sup>.

<sup>1</sup>University of Cambridge, <sup>2</sup>Florida State University, <sup>3</sup>University of Waikato

# Applications

## CARBON SEQUESTRATION - BIOCHAR

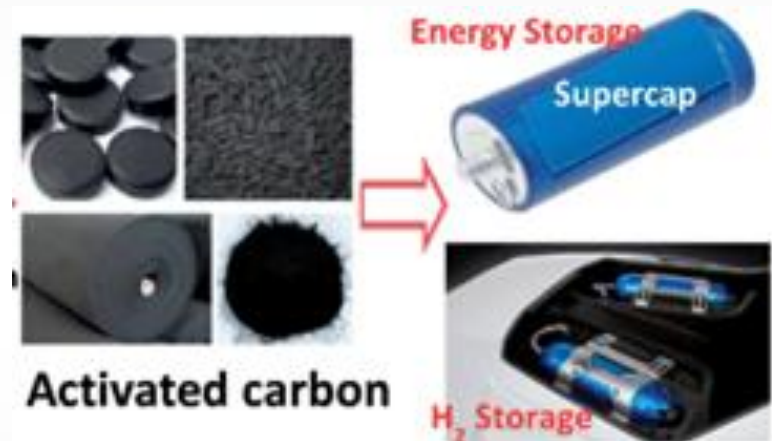
- Why does biochar have such a long life?
- How do we optimise biochar for longevity?
- How does biochar break down?
- How does biochar interact with soil chemistry?
- How do heteroatoms become integrated?



Lehmann et al. 2006, Mitigation and Adaption Strategies for Global Change 11, 403-427

## MATERIAL APPLICATIONS

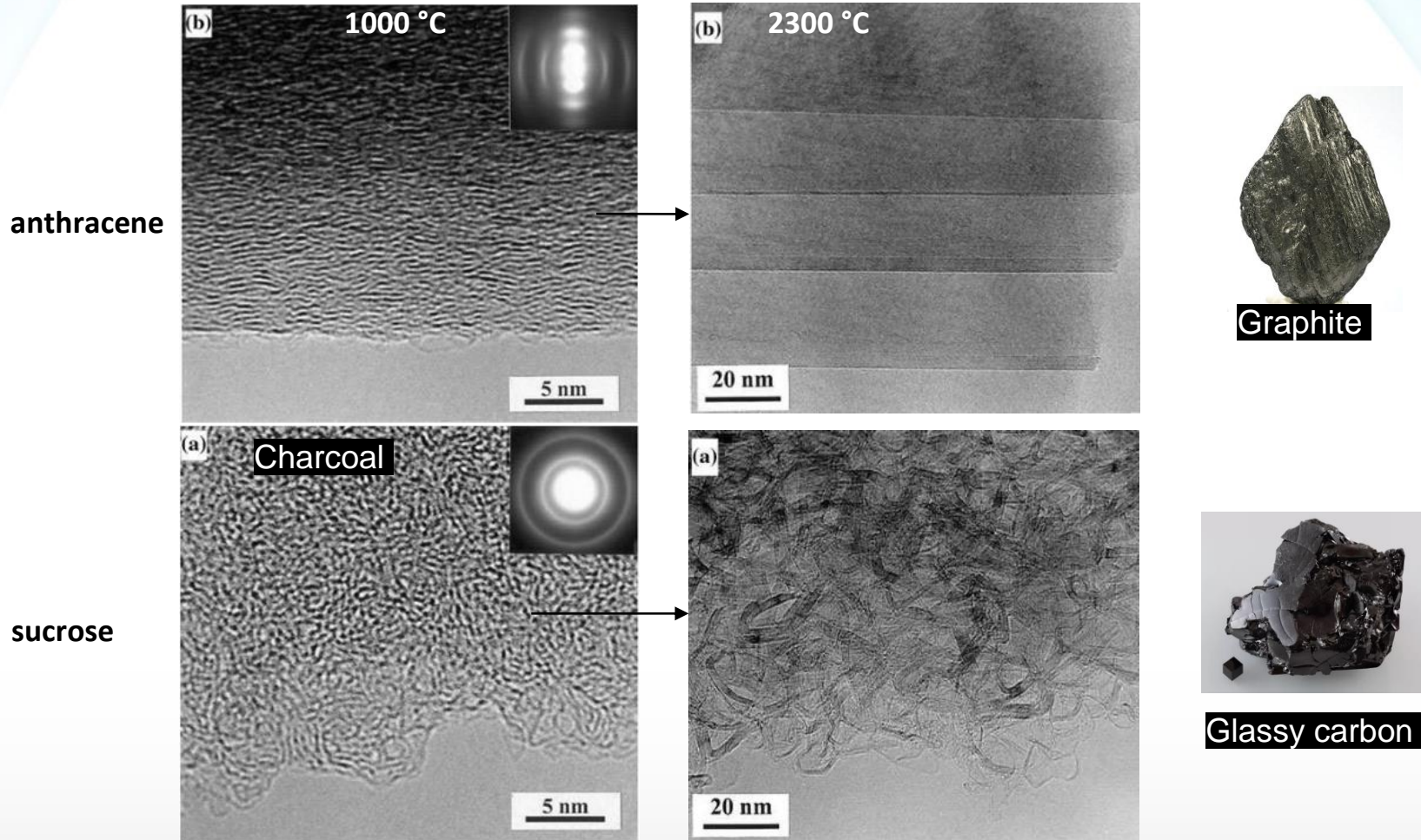
- Sodium-ion batteries (hard/soft carbon electrodes)
- Engineering pores for adsorbents
- Supercapacitors
- Hydrogen storage



Sevilla, Marta, and Robert Mokaya. "Energy storage applications of activated carbons: supercapacitors and hydrogen storage." Energy & Environmental Science 7.4 (2014): 1250-1280.

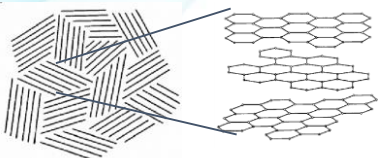


# Fullerene-like or non-graphitising

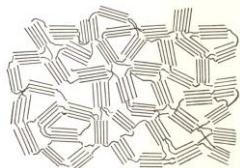


Harris, P. J. F. *Int. Mater. Rev. Structure of non-graphitising carbons*, 1997, 42 (5), 206–218.

Ribbon-like



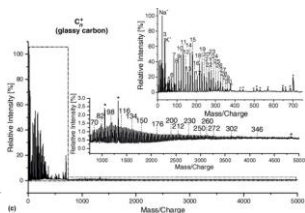
Microcrystalline model  
Biscoe and Warren 1942



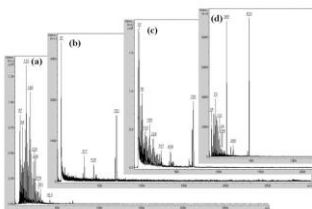
Crosslinked microcrystallite model  
Franklin 1951



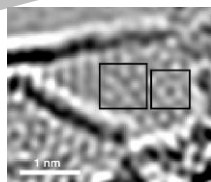
Ribbon model  
Jenkins and Kawamura 1971



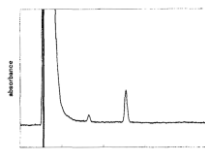
No C<sub>60</sub> in glassy carbon  
Sedo et al. 2006



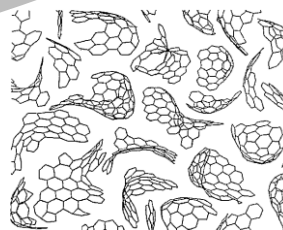
No C<sub>60</sub> in many charcoals  
Bourke et al. 2007



Pentagon imaged  
Harris et al. 2008



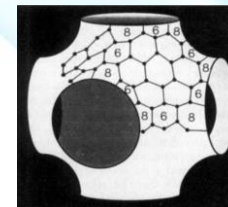
C<sub>60</sub> in some charcoal  
Shibuya 1999



Fullerene-like model  
Harris and Tsang 1997



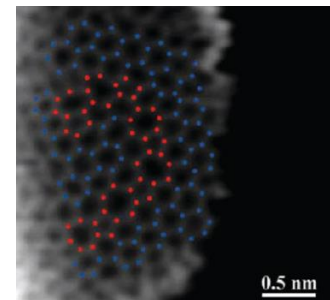
C<sub>60</sub> discovered  
Kroto et al. 1985



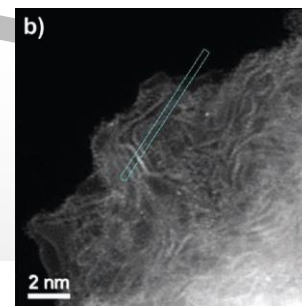
Schwarzite proposed  
Mackay and Terrones 1991



C<sub>60</sub> extracted from soot  
Heymann et al. 1994



Line dislocation imaged  
Guo et al 2012

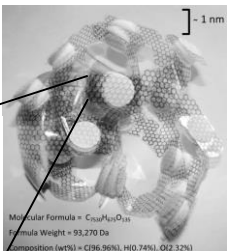


Ribbon structures  
Guo et al. 2012

# Timeline

Fullerene-like

Where are the C<sub>60</sub>?  
Should we expect to see C<sub>60</sub>?



Graphene triad ribbon model  
McDonald-Wharrey et al. 2015

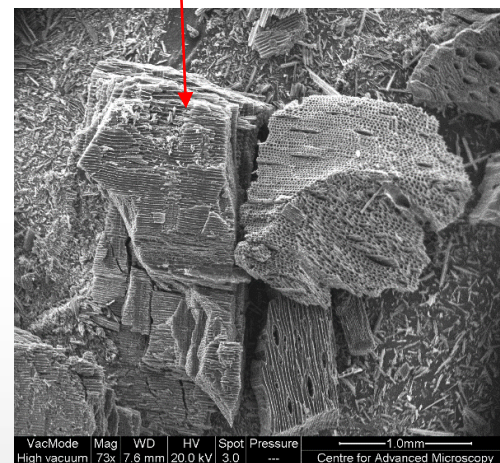
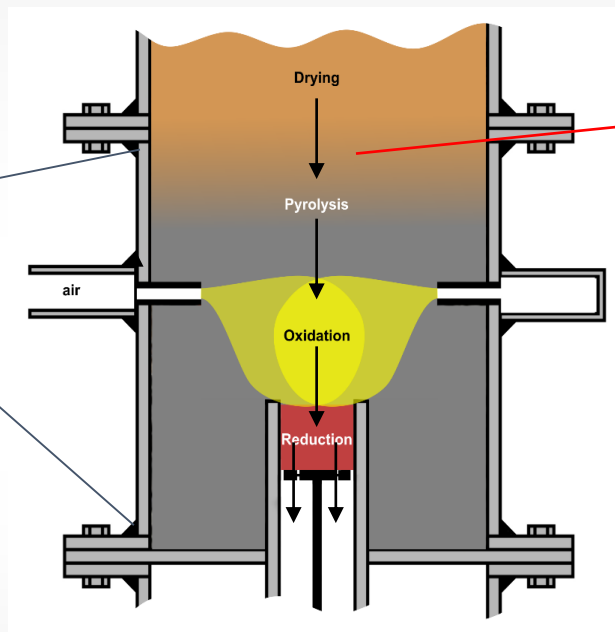
# Where is C<sub>60</sub> in fullerene-like carbons?

## PREPARING SOOT- AND TAR-FREE CHARCOAL



Microlab downdraft  
gasifier from Fluidyne

jwm50@cam.ac.uk



Jacob W. Martin





# Where is C<sub>60</sub> in fullerene-like carbons?

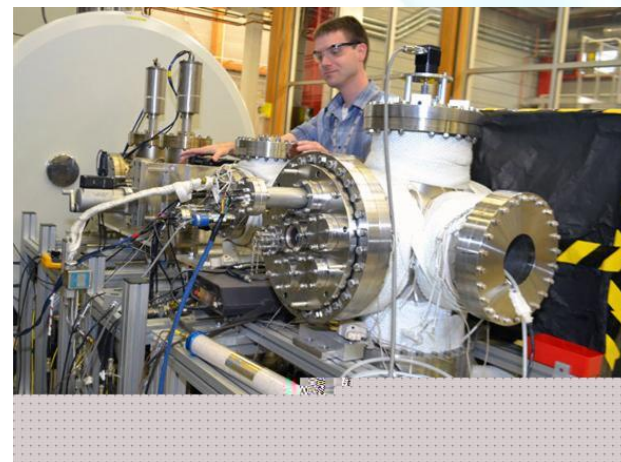


autoflex-II LDI-TOF mass spectrometer

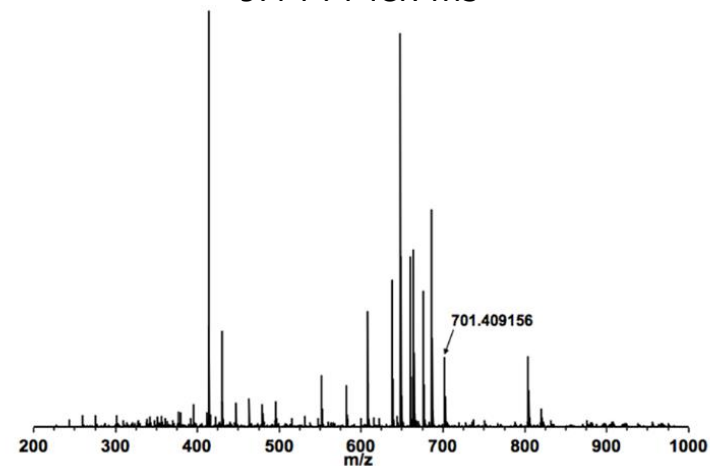
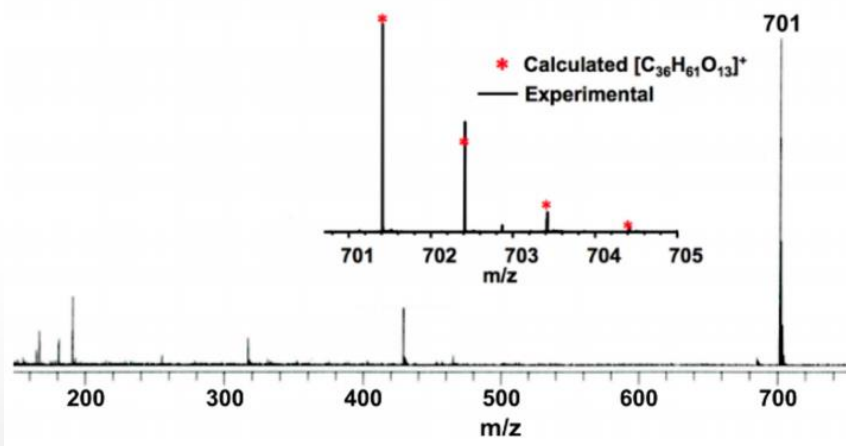
ultrafleXtreme LDI-TOF



micrOTOF-Q II - ESI-Qq-TOF mass spectrometer

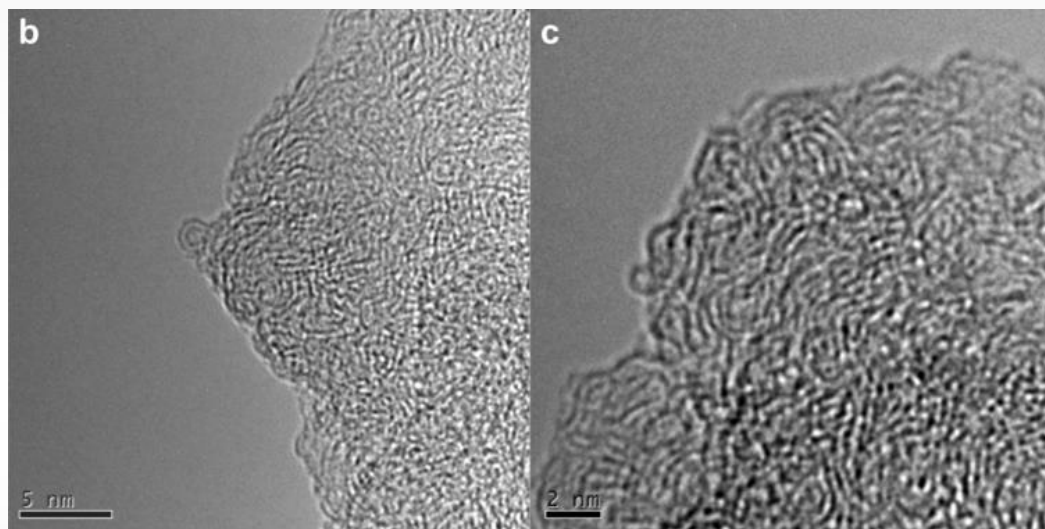
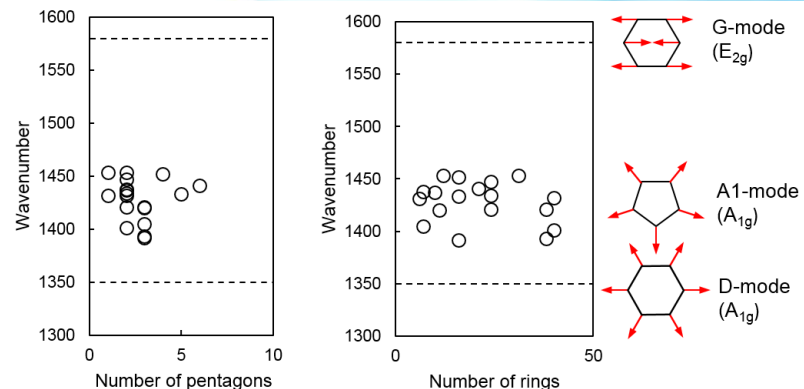


9.4 T FT-ICR-MS

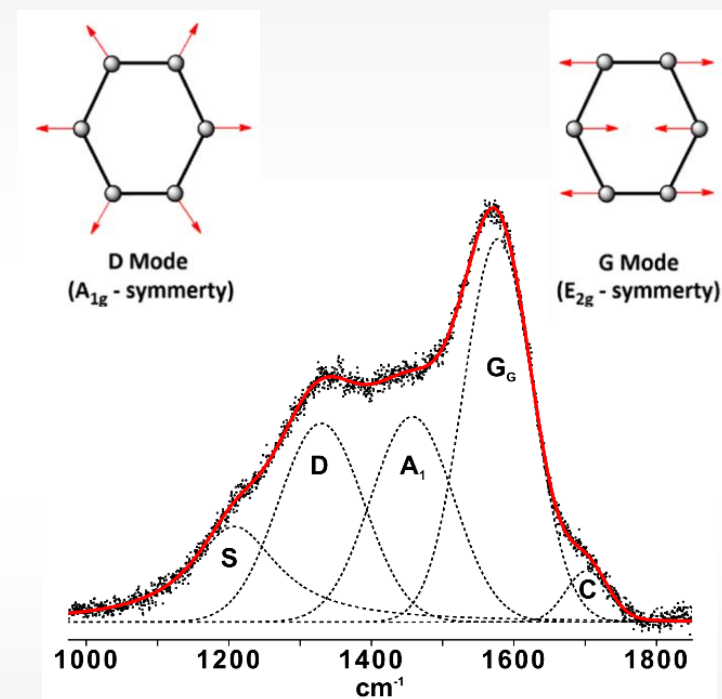


# Appears fullerene-like

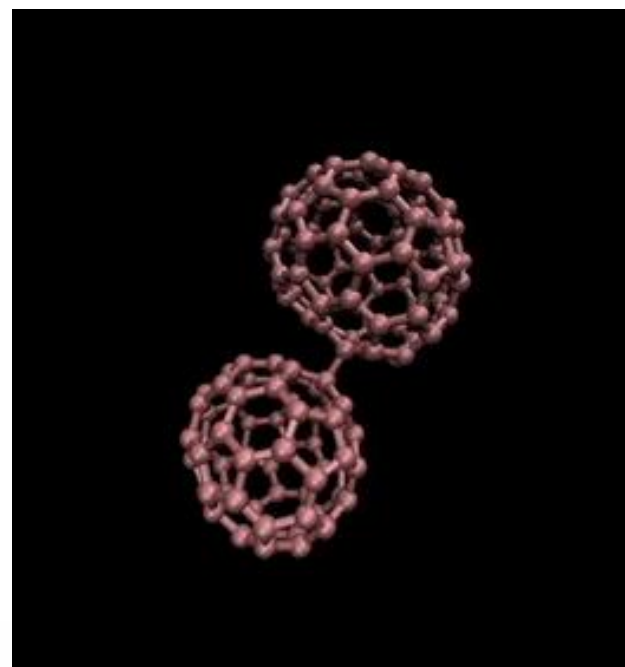
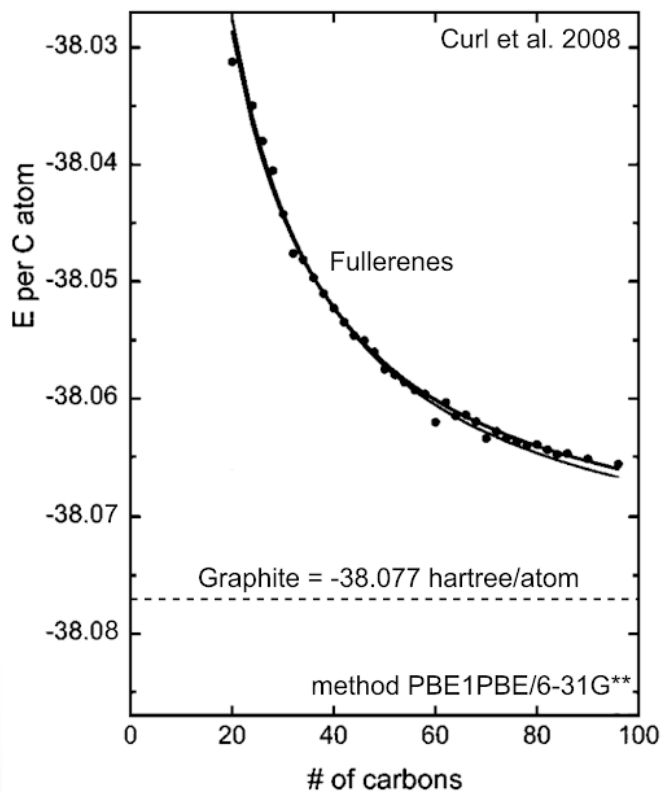
## HRTEM and RAMAN SPECTROSCOPY



HRTEM 200 kV

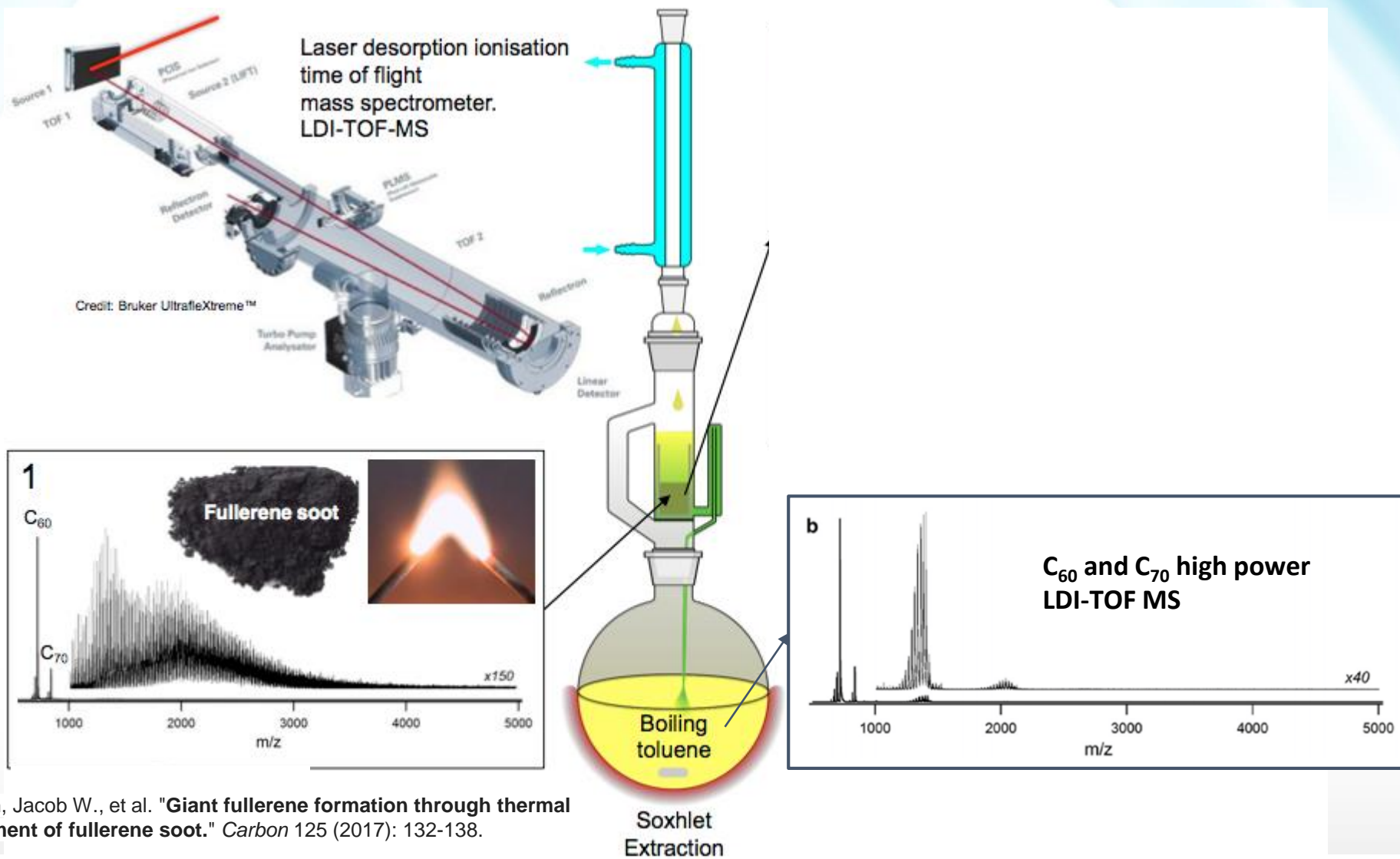


# Should we expect to see C<sub>60</sub> fullerene?



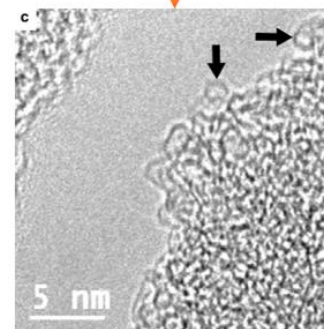
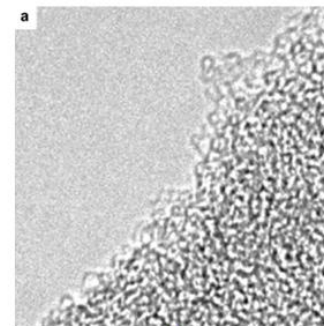
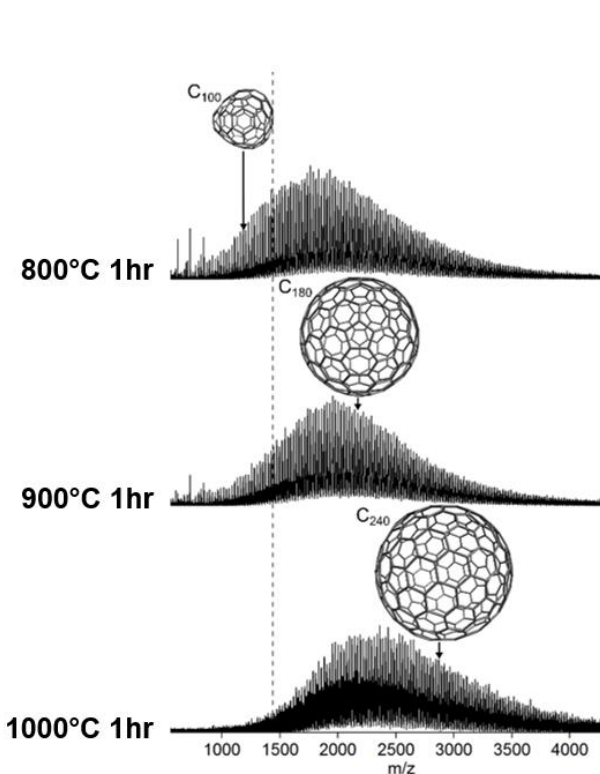
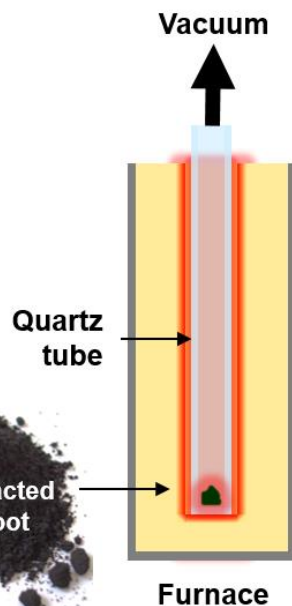


# Should we expect to see C<sub>60</sub> fullerene?



Martin, Jacob W., et al. "Giant fullerene formation through thermal treatment of fullerene soot." *Carbon* 125 (2017): 132-138.

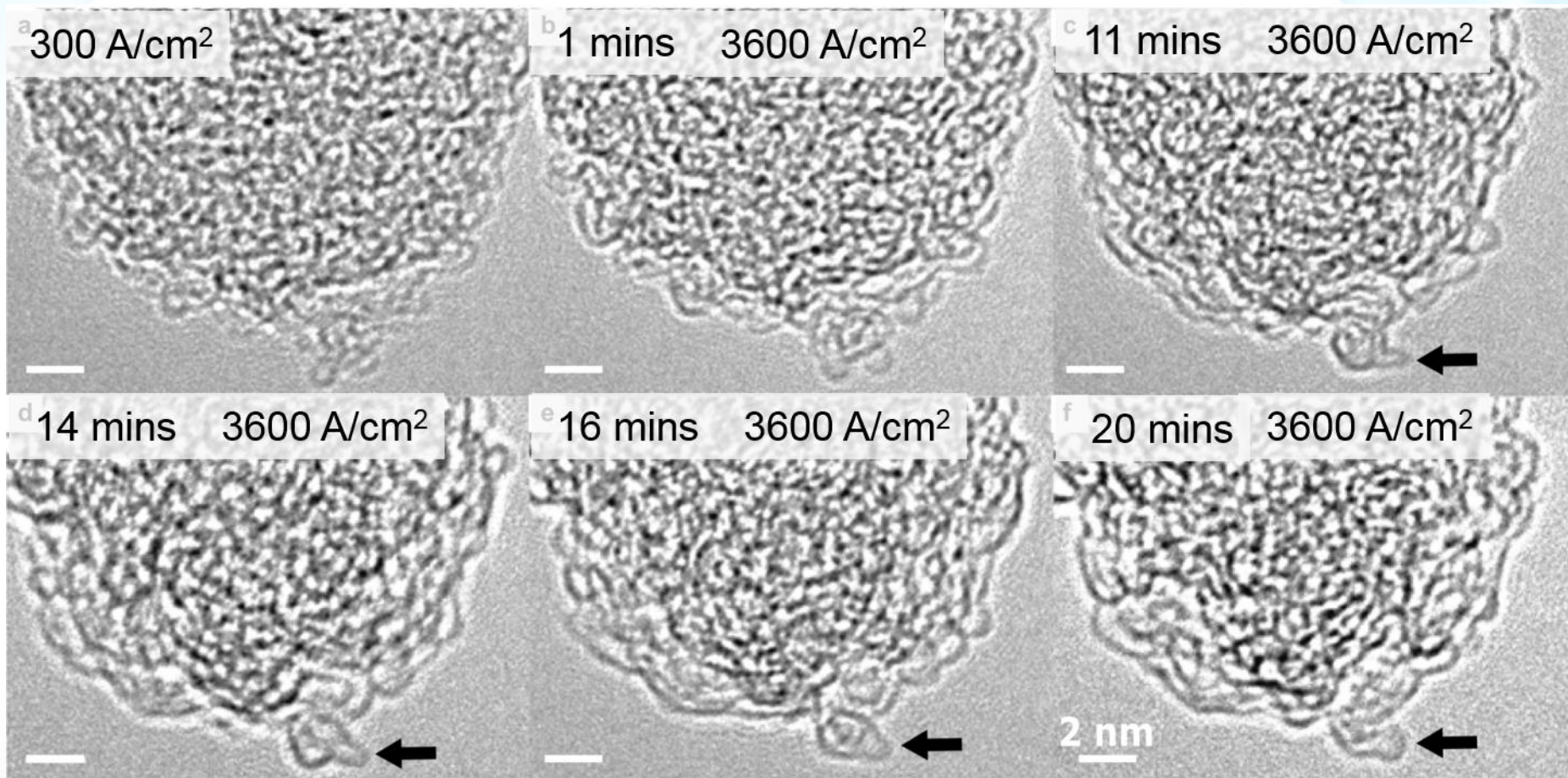
# $C_{60}/C_{70}$ consumed through coalescence



1000°C 1hr

Martin, Jacob W., et al. "Giant fullerene formation through thermal treatment of fullerene soot." *Carbon* 125 (2017): 132-138.

# Giant fullerene formation

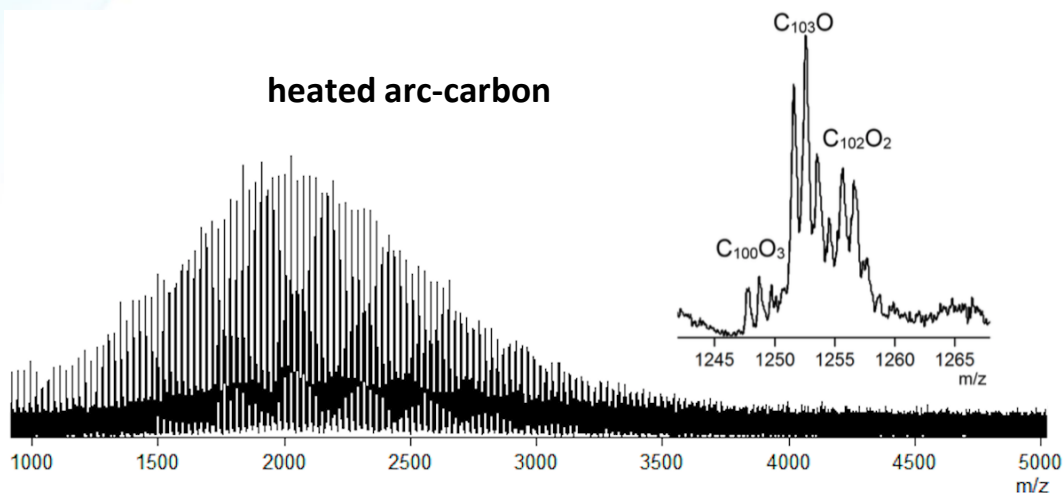


Martin, Jacob W., et al. "Giant fullerene formation through thermal treatment of fullerene soot." *Carbon* 125 (2017): 132-138.

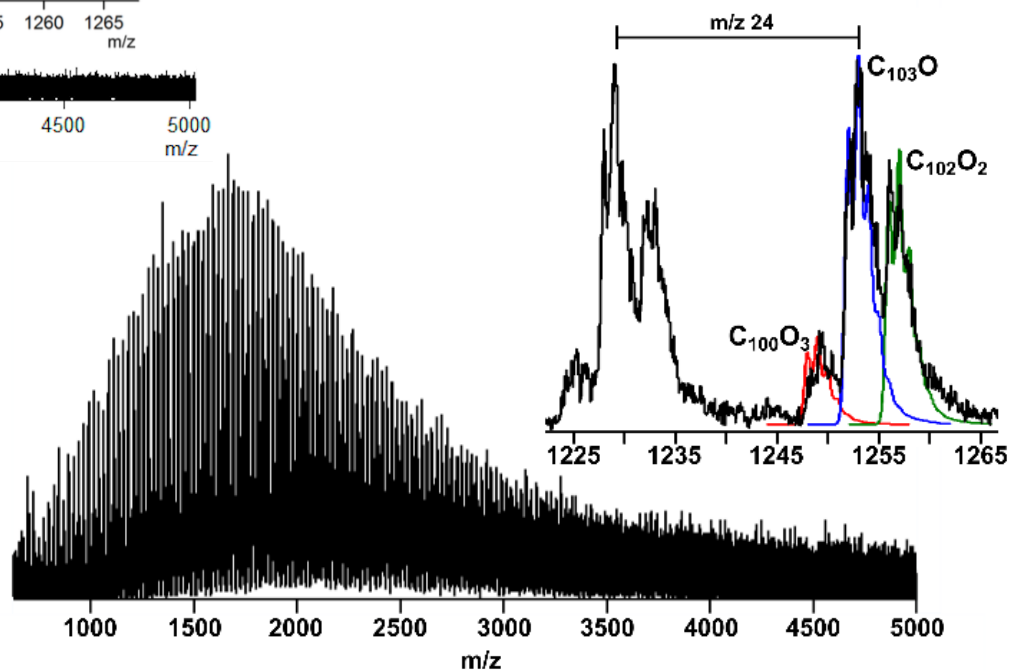


# Oxygenated fragments

heated arc-carbon



Non-graphitising carbon  
wood charcoal



## Nanostructure of Gasification Charcoal (Biochar)

Jacob W. Martin,<sup>†,‡</sup> Leonard Nyadong,<sup>¶</sup> Caterina Ducati,<sup>§</sup> Merilyn Manley-Harris,<sup>||</sup>  
 Alan G. Marshall,<sup>⊥</sup> and Markus Kraft<sup>\*,†,‡,#</sup>

<sup>†</sup>Department of Chemical Engineering and Biotechnology, University of Cambridge, Philippa Fawcett Drive, West Site, CB3 0AS Cambridge, U.K.

<sup>‡</sup>Cambridge Centre for Advanced Research and Education in Singapore (CARES), CREATE Tower, 1 Create Way, Singapore 138602

<sup>¶</sup>Phillips 66 Research Center, Highway 60 & 123, Bartlesville, Oklahoma 74003-6607, United States

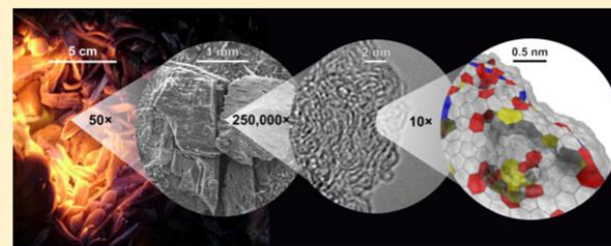
<sup>§</sup>Department of Materials Science and Metallurgy, University of Cambridge, Philippa Fawcett Drive, West Site, CB3 0FS Cambridge, U.K.

<sup>||</sup>School of Science, University of Waikato, Hillcrest, Hamilton 3216, New Zealand

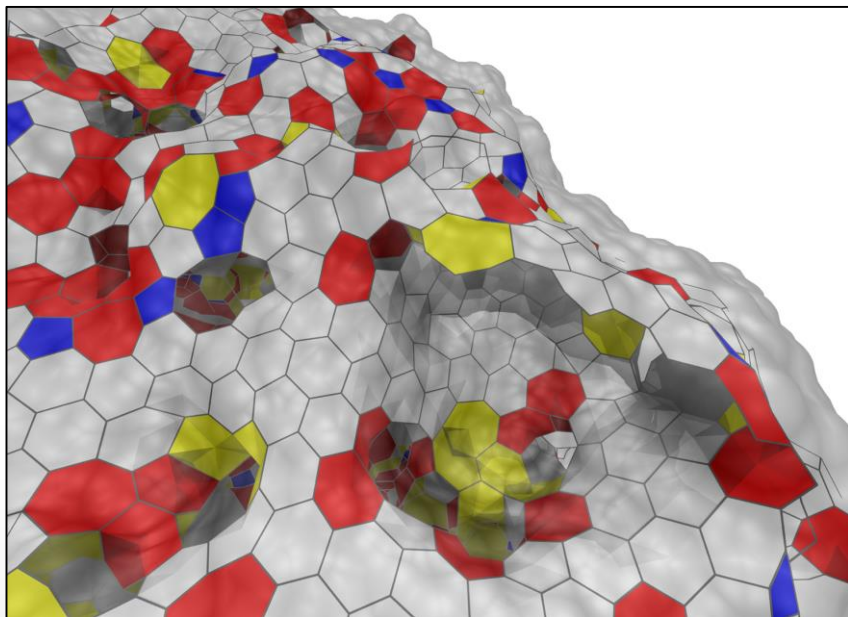
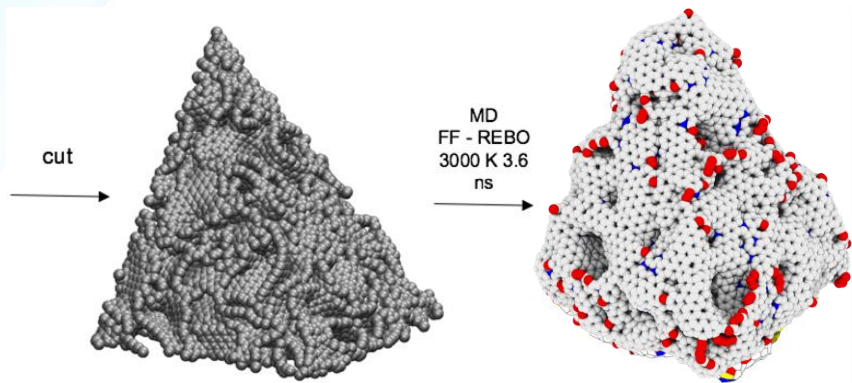
<sup>⊥</sup>National High Magnetic Field Laboratory, Florida State University, 1800 E. Paul Dirac Drive, Tallahassee, Florida 32310-4005, United States

<sup>#</sup>School of Chemical and Biomedical Engineering, Nanyang Technological University, 62 Nanyang Drive, Singapore 637459

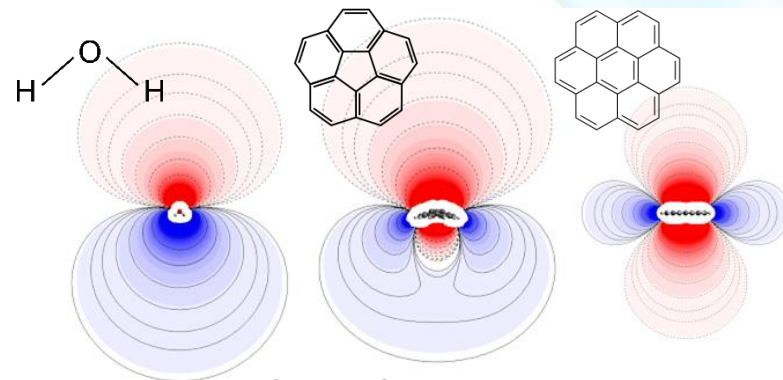
**ABSTRACT:** In this work, we investigate the molecular composition and nanostructure of gasification charcoal (biochar) by comparing it with heat-treated fullerene arc-soot. Using ultrahigh resolution Fourier transform ion-cyclotron resonance and laser desorption ionization time-of-flight mass spectrometry, Raman spectroscopy, and high resolution transmission electron microscopy we analyzed charcoal of low tar content obtained from gasification. Mass spectrometry revealed no magic number fullerenes such as C<sub>60</sub> or C<sub>70</sub> in the charcoal. The positive molecular ion *m/z* 701, previously considered a graphitic part of the nanostructure, was found to be a breakdown product of pyrolysis and not part of the nanostructure. A higher mass distribution of ions similar to that found in thermally treated fullerene soot indicates that they share a nanostructure. Recent insights into the formation of all carbon fullerenes reveal that conditions in charcoal formation are not optimal for the formation of fullerenes, but instead, curved carbon structures coalesce into *fulleroid-like* structures. Microscopy and spectroscopy support such a *stacked, fulleroid-like* nanostructure, which was explored using reactive molecular dynamics simulations.



# Implications for reactivity



# Implications for adsorption



## Flexoelectricity

THE JOURNAL OF  
PHYSICAL CHEMISTRY C

Article

pubs.acs.org/JPC

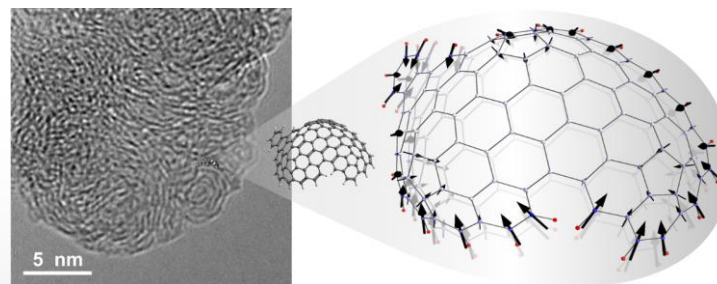
### The Polarization of Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons Curved by Pentagon Incorporation: The Role of the Flexoelectric Dipole

Jacob W. Martin,<sup>†</sup> Radomir I. Slavchov,<sup>†</sup> Edward K. Y. Yapp,<sup>†</sup> Jethro Akroyd,<sup>†</sup> Sebastian Mosbach,<sup>‡</sup> and Markus Kraft<sup>\*†‡§</sup>

<sup>†</sup>Department of Chemical Engineering and Biotechnology, University of Cambridge, Cambridge CB3 0AS, U.K.

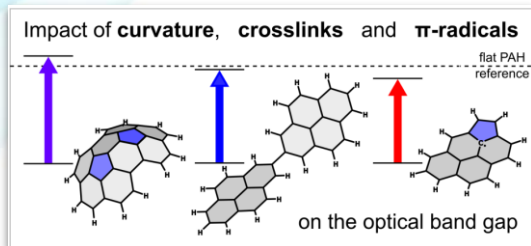
<sup>‡</sup>School of Chemical and Biomedical Engineering, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore 637459

<sup>§</sup> Supporting Information

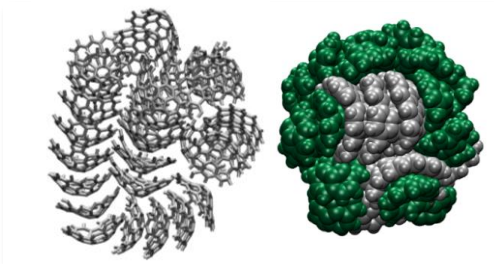




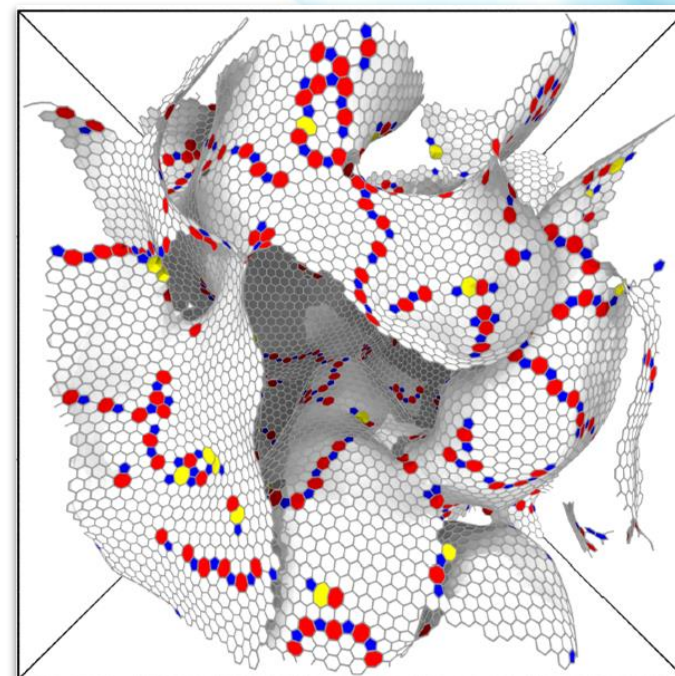
WANT TO SEE MORE!



Impact of curved, crosslinks and radicals on the band gap of nanographenes  
**Menon Thurs. 11:20 am Rm 5**



Investigating the self-assembly and structure of nanoparticles containing curved carbons  
**Bowal Tues. 4:20 pm Rm 2**



Topology of disordered carbons  
**Martin Wed. 3:40 pm Rm. 5**

Thanks to the funder

**NATIONAL RESEARCH FOUNDATION**  
PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE  
SINGAPORE

This project is funded by the

**National Research Foundation (NRF),**

Prime Minister's Office, Singapore under its Campus for Research Excellence and Technological Enterprise (CREATE) programme.

Thanks to all collaborators

Leonard Nyadong<sup>2</sup>, Caterina Ducati<sup>1</sup>, Carla DeTomas<sup>4</sup>,  
Irene Suarez-Martinez<sup>4</sup>, Marilyn Manley-Harris<sup>3</sup>, Alan  
Marshall<sup>2</sup>, Nigel Marks<sup>4</sup>, Markus Kraft<sup>1</sup>.

<sup>1</sup>University of Cambridge, <sup>2</sup>Florida State University,

<sup>3</sup>University of Waikato, <sup>4</sup>Curtin University

**Thanks for your attention**

jwm50@cam.ac.uk



Jacob W. Martin



# Microlab gasifier

## FLUIDYNE GASIFICATION

Experimental downdraft gasifier was developed with Mr. Doug Williams from Fluidyne gasification

Wood block fuel consumption 4.5 kg/hr

Maximum output 9.8 Nm<sup>3</sup>/hr

Test duration 20 mins

Hopper volume 3 L

Blast tube, cyclone, cooling and sawdust filter

Currently installed at the University of Ulster.

