

# RULES AND RATES OF RELEASE FROM NANO-ENABLED PRODUCTS: CORRELATING PROCESS, PRODUCT MATRIX AND NANOMATERIAL

Wendel Wohlleben (BASF SE)

with original data from Richard G. Zepp (US EPA, NERL, Athens GA, USA); E. Sahle-Demessie (US EPA, NRMRL, Cincinnati OH, USA); Socorro Vázquez-Campos (LEITAT, Terrassa (Barcelona) Spain), Janet Carter (OSHA), Christopher Kingston (National Research Council Canada, Ottawa Canada); Richard Canady (Neutral Science L3C); Brad Acrey; Chia-Ying Chen (both US EPA, NERL, Athens GA, USA).

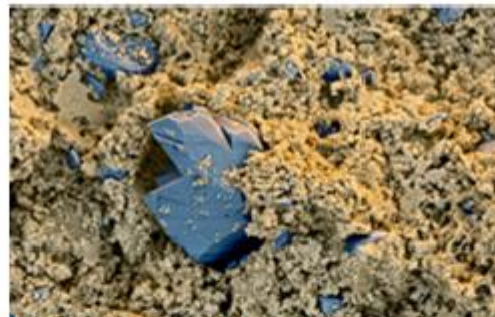
# Examples of nano-enabled products

Co-continuous inorg-org  
scratch-resistant coating



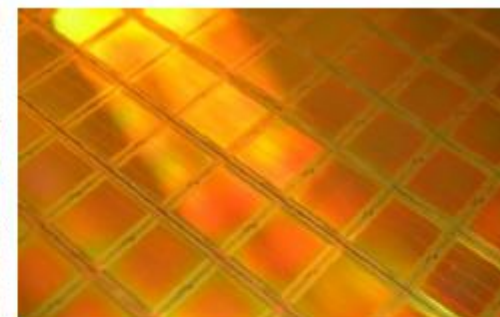
iGloss®

CSH seed crystals as  
cement accelerator



Master X-Seed®

ENM-slurry polishes  
wafers by CMP

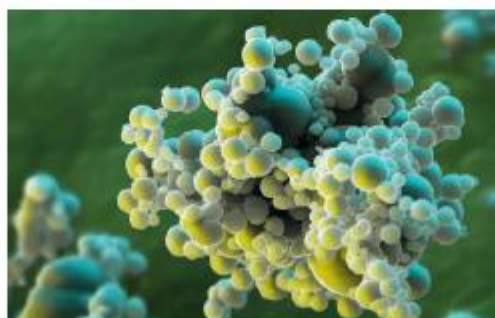


Planapur®



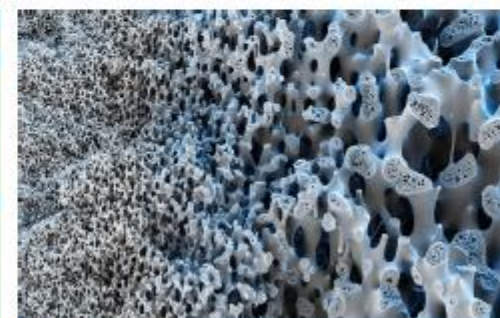
Slentite™

Organic aerogel  
insulation



Carbonyl iron SQ-I

Surface-passivated  
inductive metals



Multibore®

Ultrafiltration by  
designed porosity

**BASF**

We create chemistry

Chem Soc Rev  
(2015)



Cite this: DOI: 10.1039/c4cs00362d

Industrial applications of nanoparticles

W. J. Stark,<sup>a</sup> P. R. Stoessel,<sup>a</sup> W. Wohlleben<sup>b</sup> and A. Hafner<sup>c</sup>

- 1. Highlights from reviews:  
state of release science**
- 2. Release protocol reproducibility**
- 3. Rates and rules of release**
- 4. Complex scenarios**



“Release assessment regards the detachment of a fragment from a larger whole, such as a consumer product during use, and includes the release mechanism, form of the released entity, release scenario, probability of release, and lifecycle simulation, if relevant.”

As a rule, the “form of the released entity” is not identical to the pristine ENM.



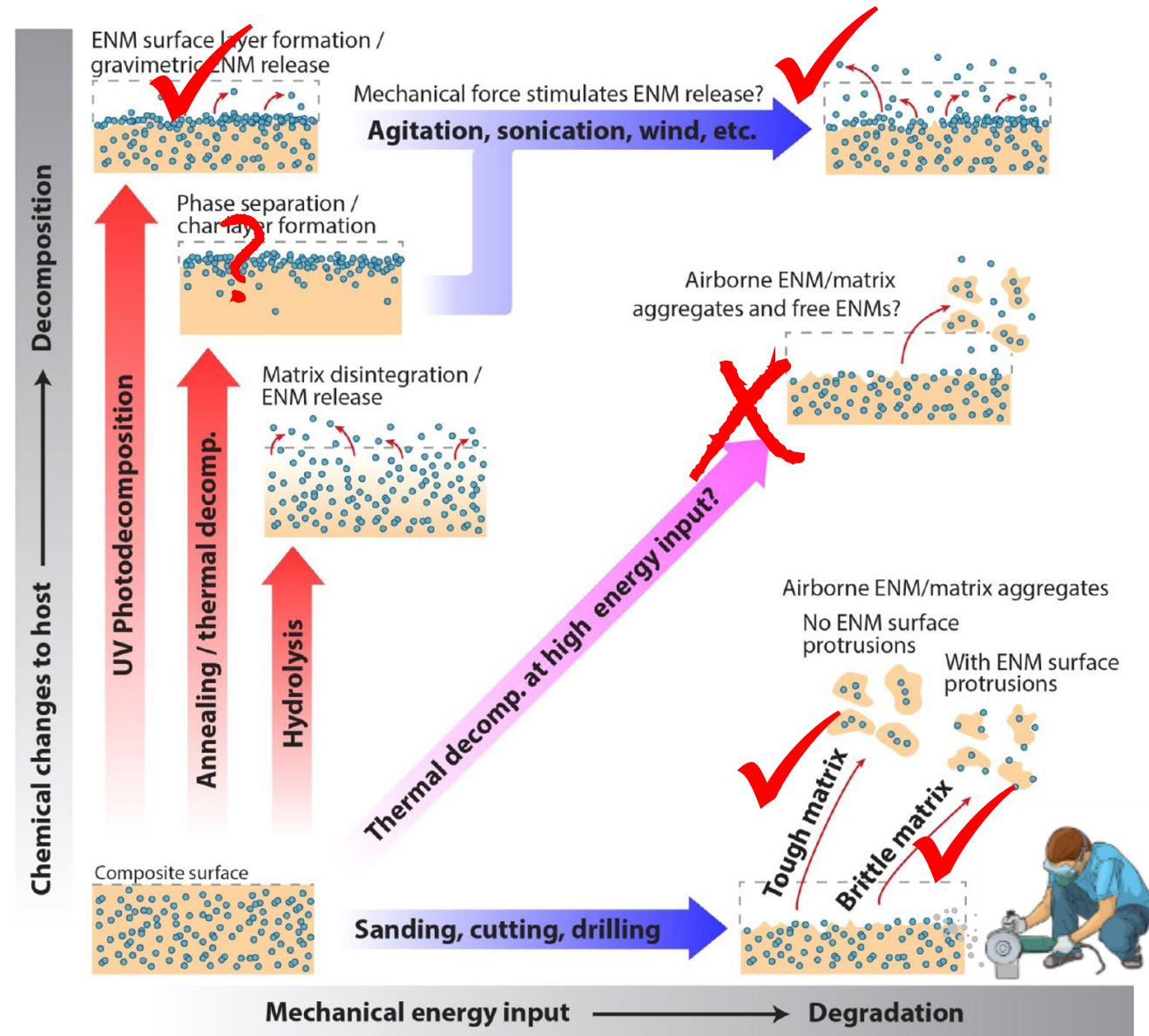
Release symposium proceedings online

Including the [NanoRelease](#) State of the Science Report.


S Harper, W Wohlleben, M Doa, B Nowack, S Clancy, R Canady, A Maynard

*J. Physics Conf. Ser.* **617** (2015) 012026 (*open access*)


# Release



Versions of this scheme for fibers:

Hirth et al (2013)  BASF

J. Nanoparticle Res. 15:1504.

Harper et al (2015)  NanoRelease

J. Physics Conf. Ser. 617 012026

This scheme:

Duncan et al. (US-FDA)

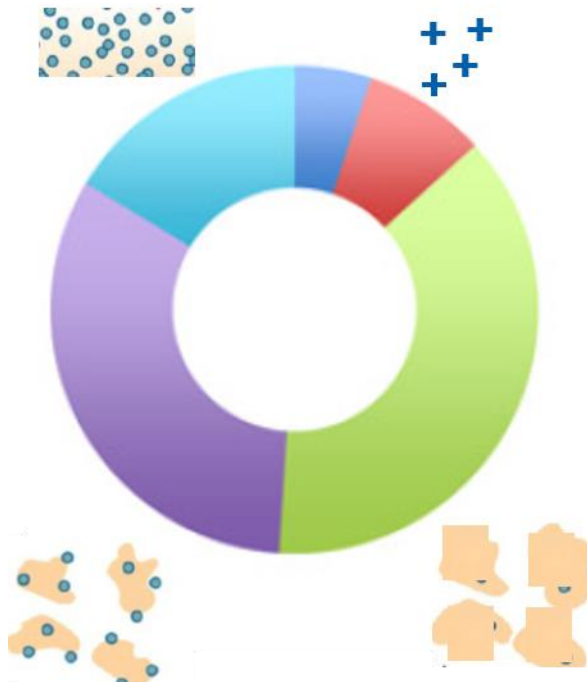
ACS Applied Materials &

Interfaces (2014) 7: 20-39.

# Transformation

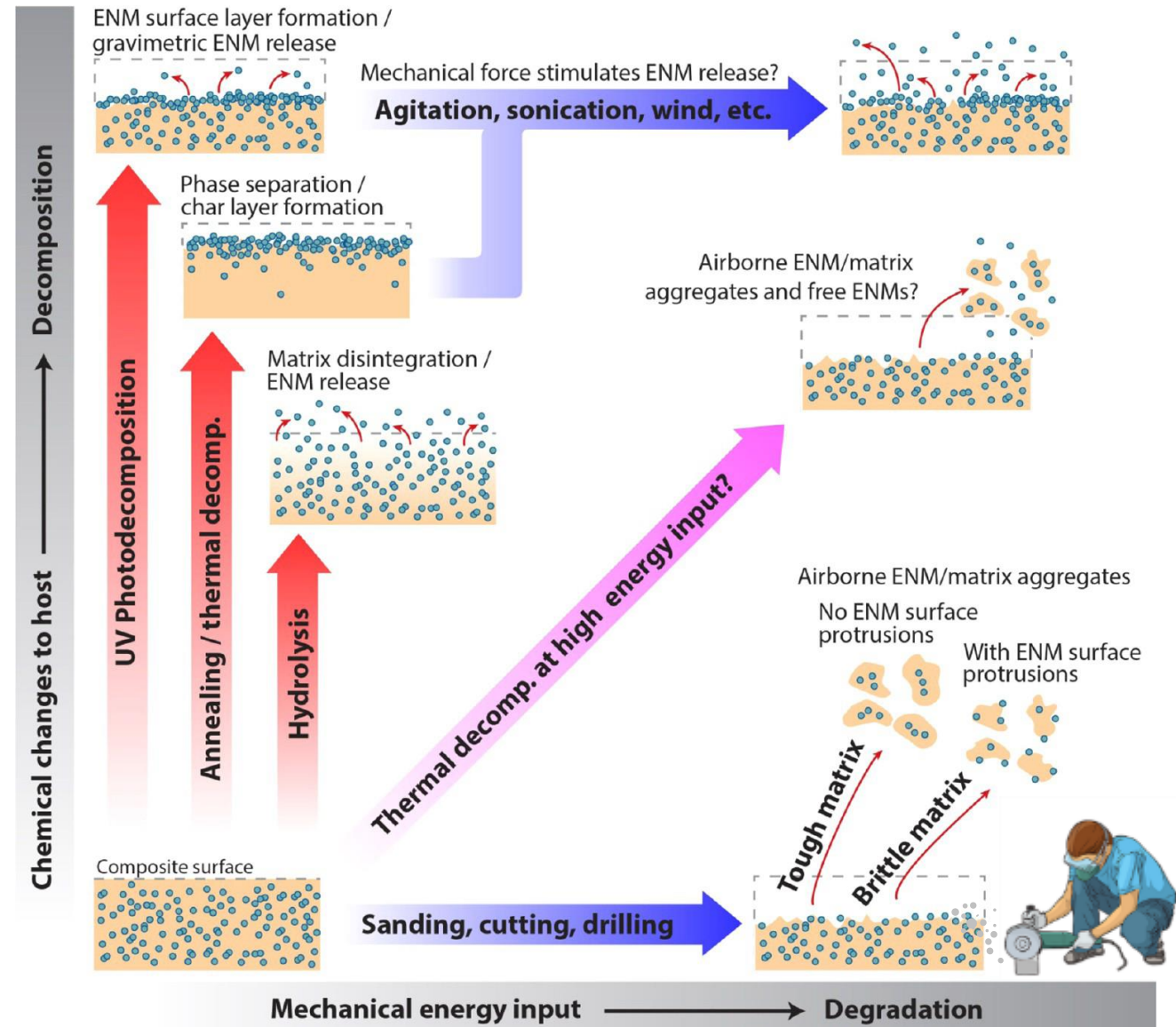


# Release



NanoRelease **2014**  
 Stephan Froggett et al.  
 Part. Fiber Toxicol 11:15

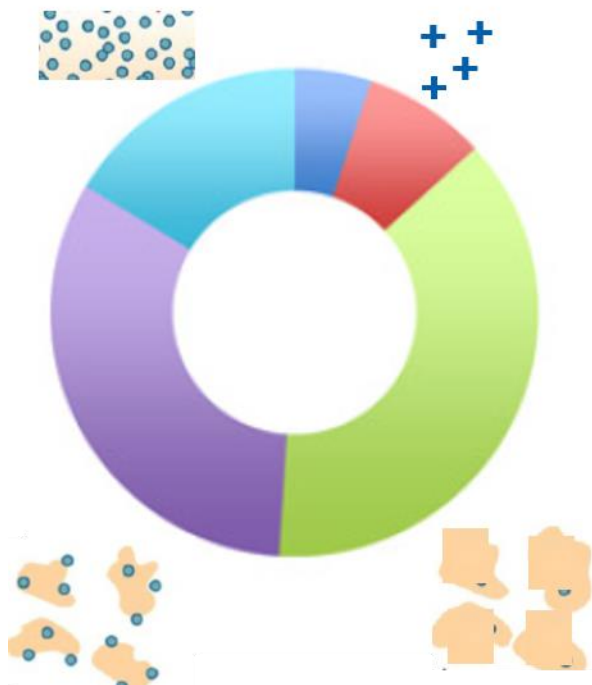
US-FDA **2014**  
 Timothy V. Duncan et al.  
 ACS Applied Materials &  
 Interfaces **7**: 20-39.



# Transformation



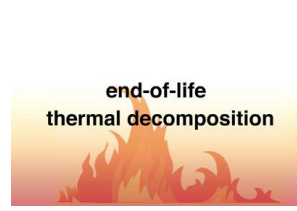
# Release Processes



NanoRelease 2014  
Stephan Froggett et al.  
Part. Fiber Toxicol 11:15



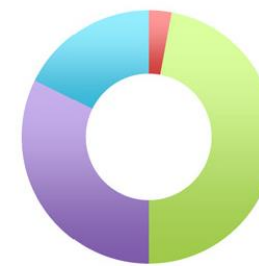
Machining



Incineration



Weathering



Washing



Form of release (54 studies combined)



# Release Rates & Metrics



# Release Processes

320 different scenarios on NEPs: textiles, thermosets, thermoplastics, coated surfaces, sprays, and other articles including cement, ceramics, dental fillings and laser printer toners.



- **Mechanical treatment**: ca.  $10^5$  to  $3 \times 10^{10}$  particles/s.
  - (after weathering: up to  $2.7 \times 10^6$  particles/s).



- **Artificial weathering**: ca.  $10^1$  to  $10^5$  mg/m<sup>2</sup> fragments containing ENM (at UV ca.150 MJ/m<sup>2</sup>)
  - including ca.  $10^{-4}$  to  $10^3$  mg/m<sup>2</sup> ENM, (for comparison:  $10^{-3}$  to  $10^2$  particles/s)
  - alternative release metric:  $10^{-1}$  to  $10^3$  mg/MJ

- **Pump sprays**:  $1.1 \times 10^8$  particles/g. Propellant sprays:  $8.6 \times 10^9$  particles/g.



- First **wash** and rinse of textiles: 0.5 to 35 % of initial Ag // 0.01 to 3.4 % of initial Ti.

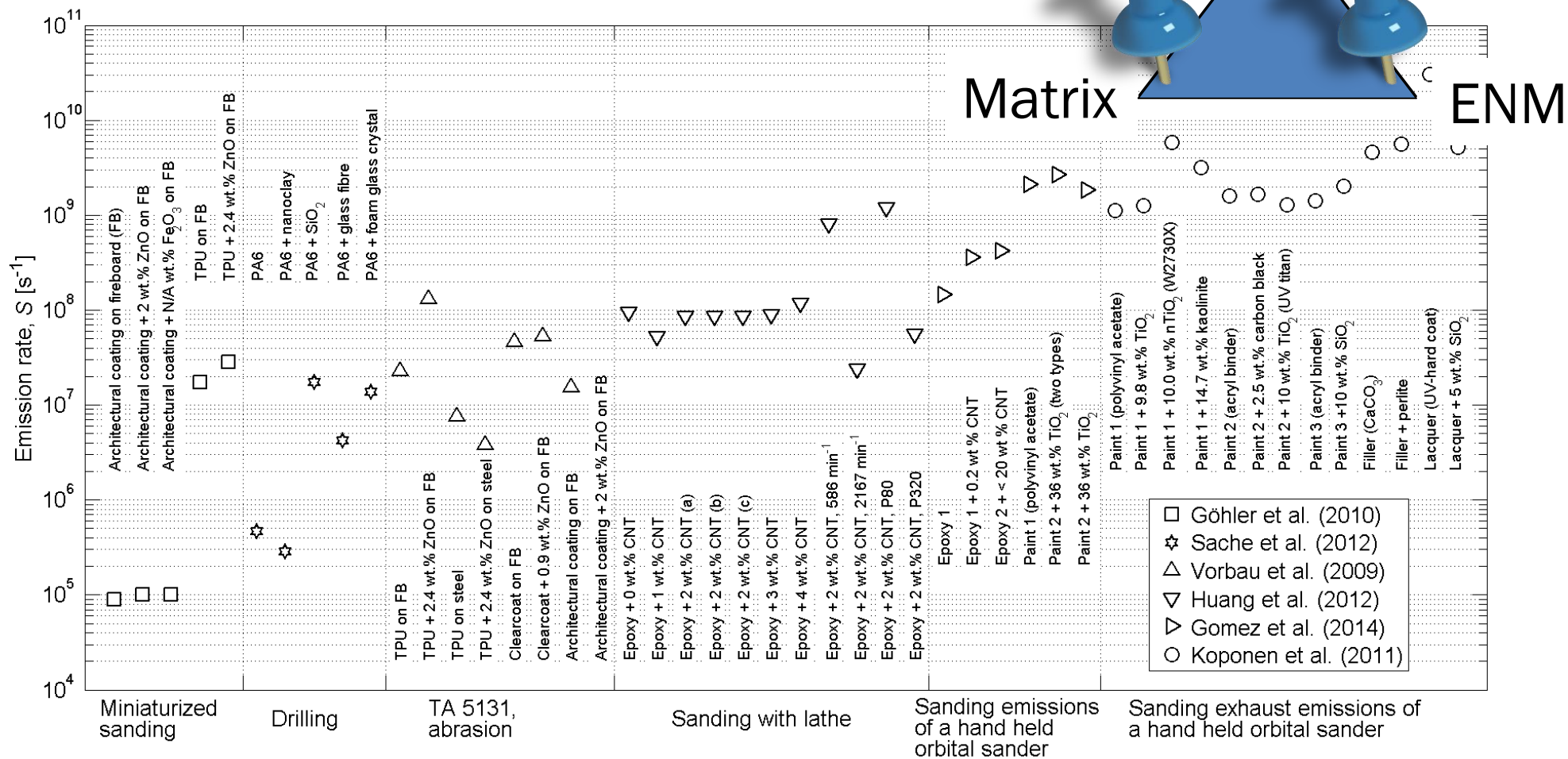
The characteristics of the released particles varied from consisting of pure NM to fully matrix-embedded NM depending on the products and processes.

*Quantitative material releases from products and articles containing manufactured nanomaterials: A critical review*  
 Antti Joonas Koivisto, Alexander Christian Østerskov Jensen, Kirsten Inga Kling, Asger Nørgaard, Anna Brinch, Frans Christensen, Keld Alstrup Jensen (NRCWE + COWI), submitted (2016)



# Release Rates

# Release Processes

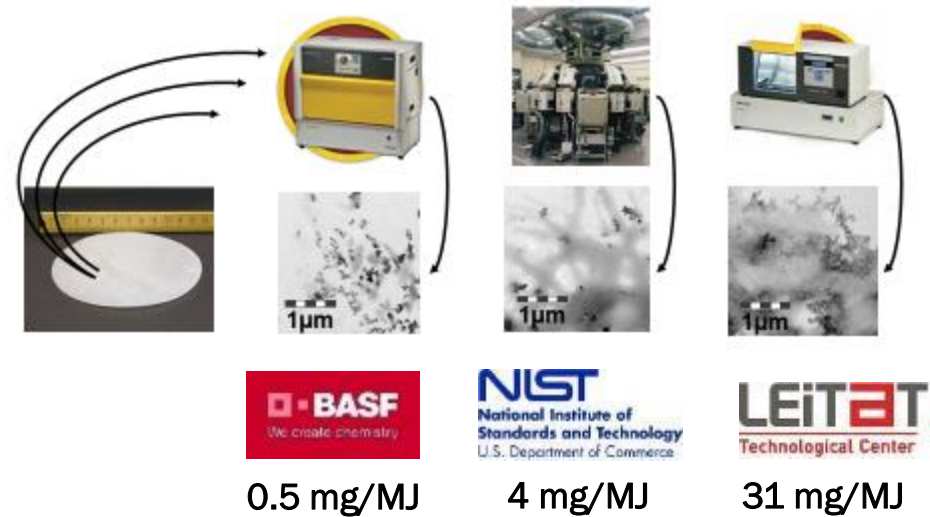
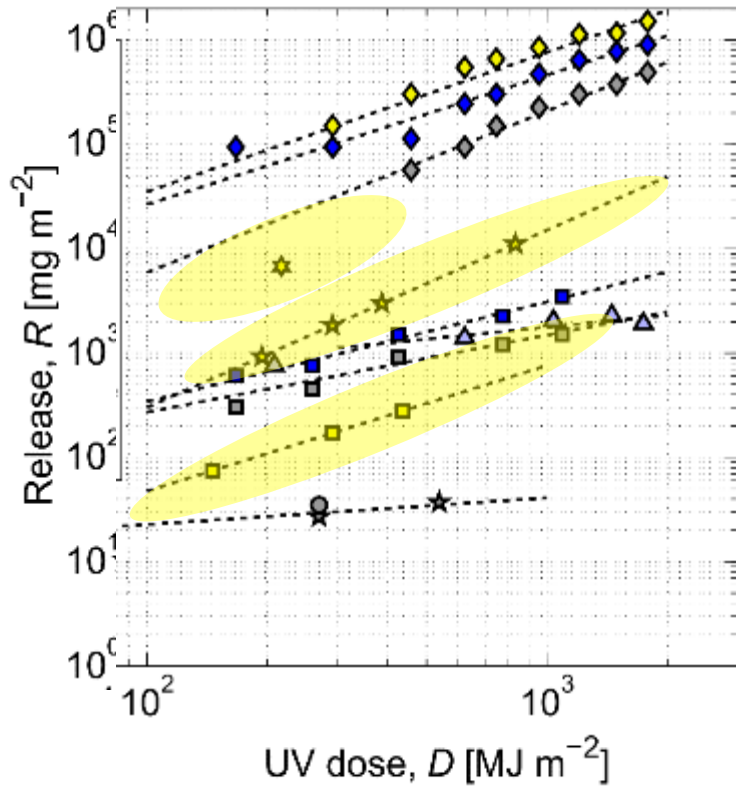
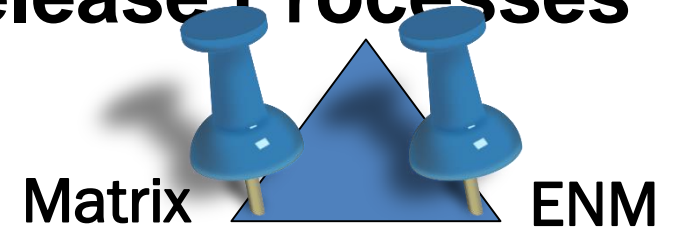


Quantitative material releases from products and articles containing manufactured nanomaterials: A critical review

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# Release Rates

# Release Processes

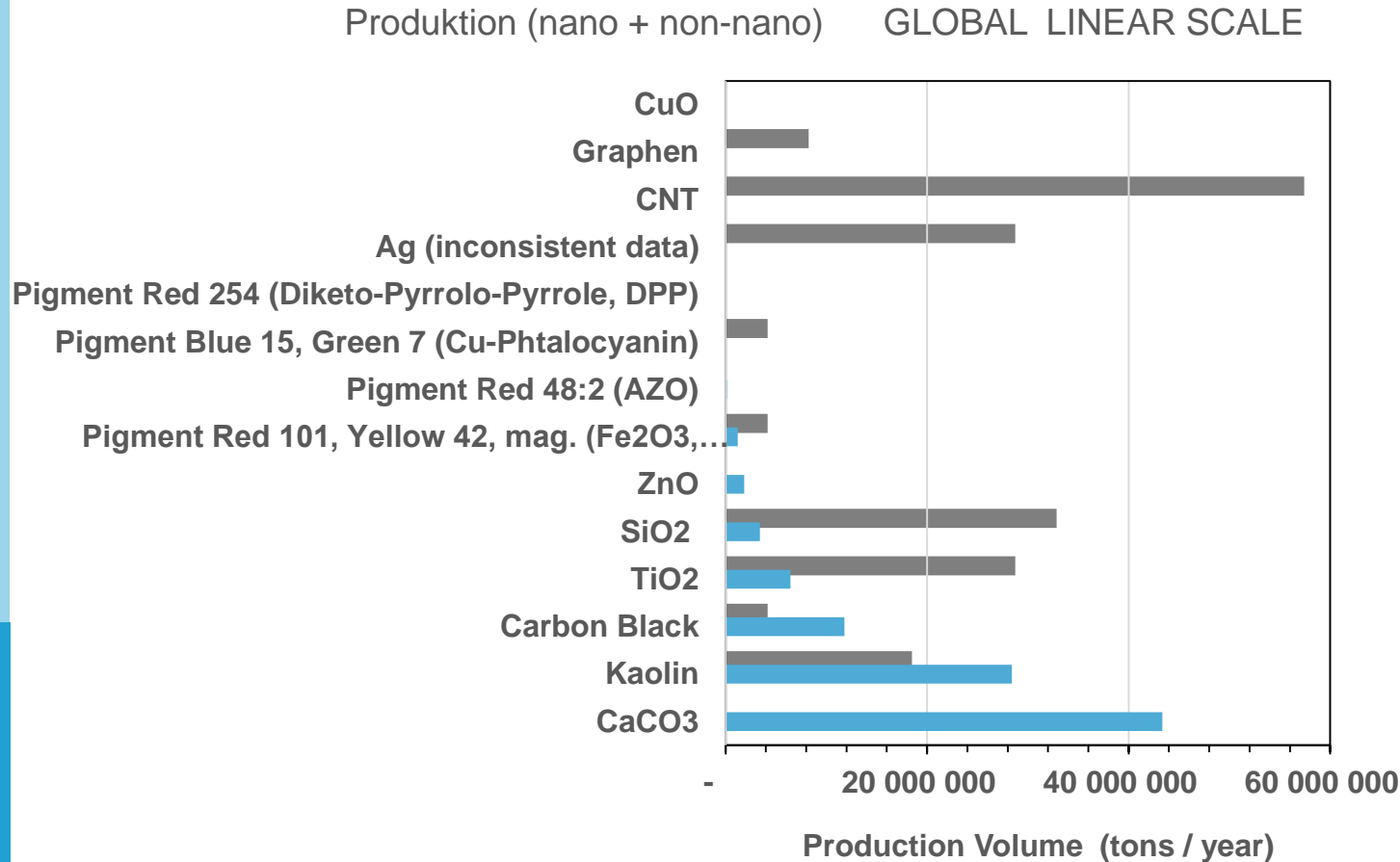


A pilot interlaboratory comparison ...*Environ Chem* (2014) 11:402  
 → aging+sampling process is more critical than analysis

*Quantitative material releases from products and articles containing manufactured nanomaterials: A critical review*  
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# Scratching at the tip of the iceberg?

## Release nanomaterials compared to production volumes



As alternative approach with same conclusion, compare: Ministère de l'Environnement, de l'Énergie et de la Mer (2015) Éléments issus des déclarations des substances à l'état nanoparticulaire

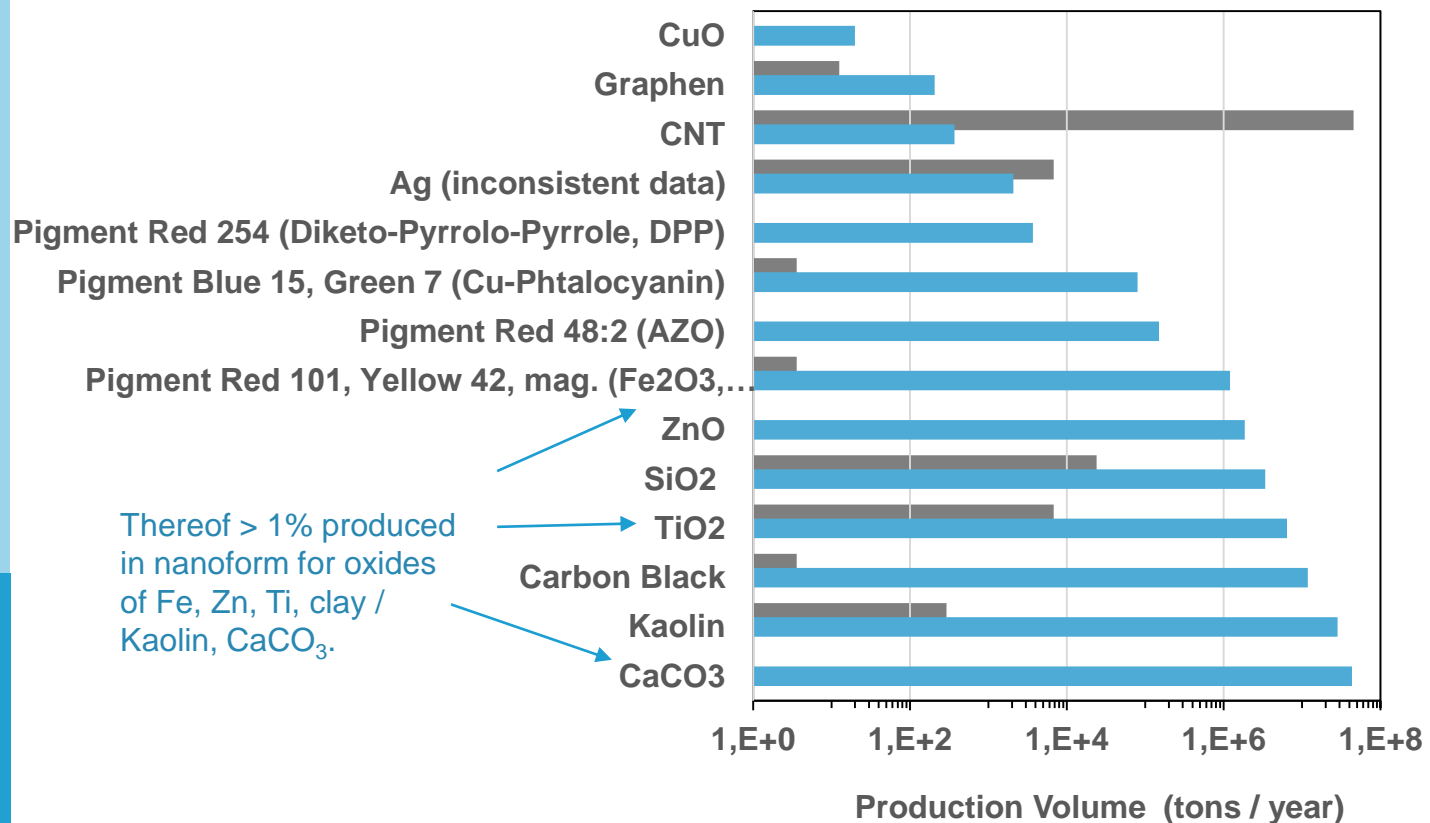
This substance-specific market data from IHS Chemical Economics Handbook (various reports, 2014 - 2015); supplemented with: Freedonia, *World Kaolin* (2012). FutureMarkets, *Zinc Oxide* (2012) Lux Research, CNT, graphene (2015)

Relative share of ENM in release studies from Stephan Froggett et al. (2014) Part. Fiber Toxicol 11:15

# Scratching at the tip of the iceberg?

## Release nanomaterials compared to production volumes

Produktion (nano + non-nano forms) GLOBAL LOG SCALE



Substance-specific market reports from IHS Chemical Economics Handbook (various reports, 2014 - 2015); supplemented with: Freedonia, *World Kaolin* (2012). FutureMarkets, *Zinc Oxide* (2012) Lux Research, CNT, graphene (2015)



# Interim summary on „release“ state of science

**Knowledge is based on a relatively narrow range of ENM and matrices, which is not fully representative for all materials in EU regulatory focus.**

**Reproducibility is good intra-lab but limited inter-lab.**

**→ Extract mechanism of matrix and ENM modulations only from same-lab studies.**

**We need:**

- Inter-laboratory standardization of metrology to characterize and quantify released entities
- Systematic comparison of release phenomena to extract rules on process, matrices, ENM.
- Diversification beyond Ag, CNT, SiO<sub>2</sub>, TiO<sub>2</sub> to assess release from the high production volume materials in scope of the EC regulatory nanodefinition.
- Exploration of combined stresses and secondary fragmentation.
- Exploration of fate, uptake, effects of released entities on humans and the environment

# Reproducibility of release protocols

1. Aging of neat matrix vs. NEP (ISO available)

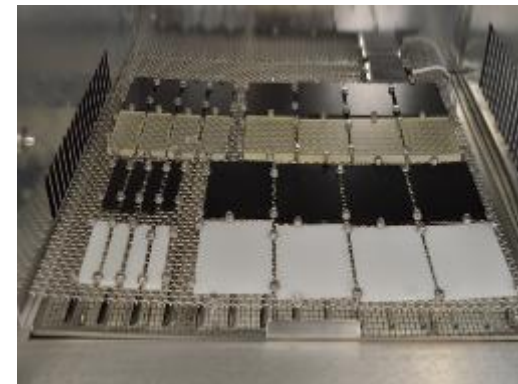
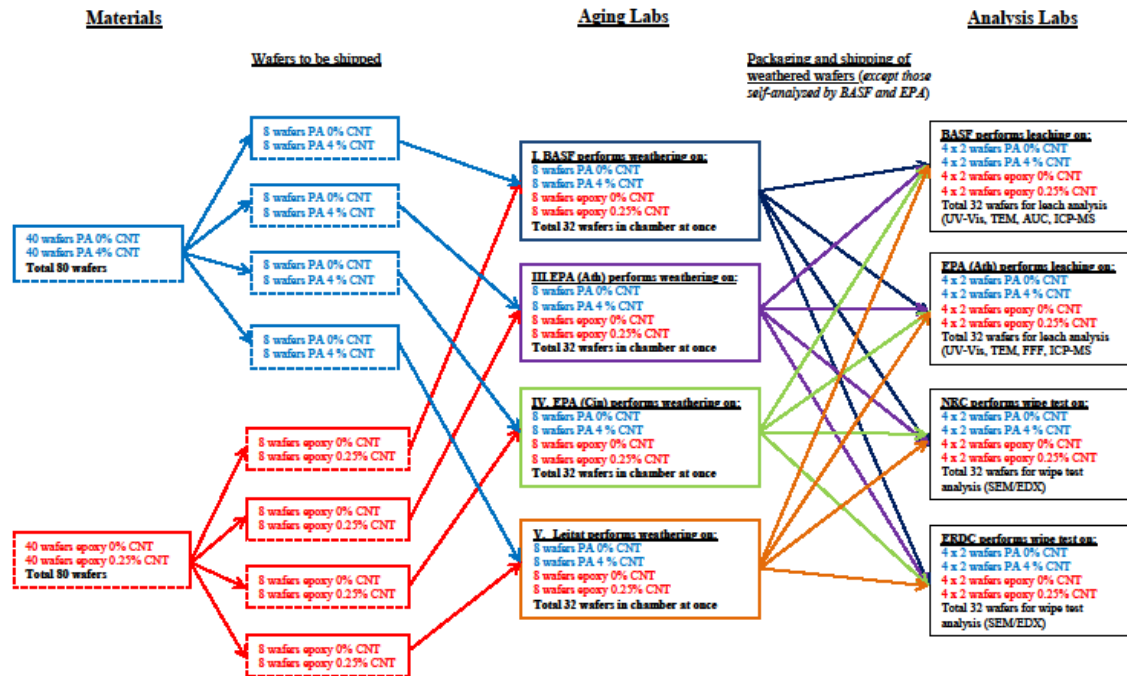
2. Sampling of release (sophisticated)

3. Analysis of fragments / leachates (ISO available)

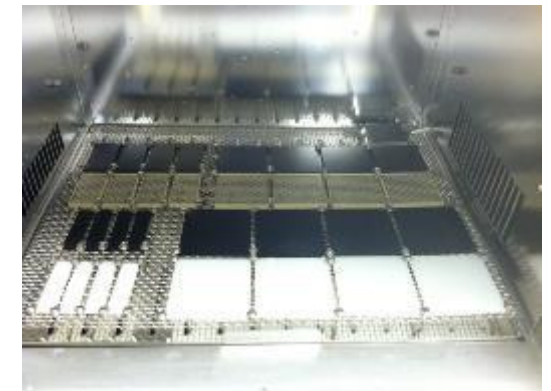
# Interlab comparison on weathering release

## 160 specimen PA and epoxy, w/ and w/o mwCNT

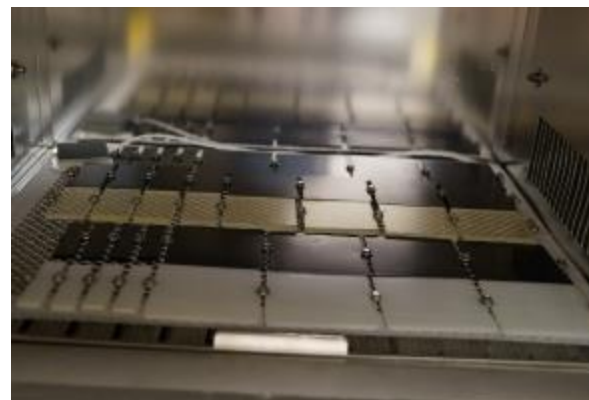
Aging in 2 US, 2 EU labs (ISO 4892)



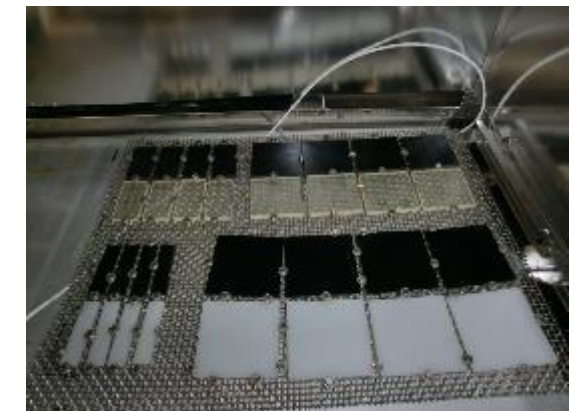
BASF – Ludwigshafen, Germany



EPA – Athens GA, USA



EPA – Cincinnati OH USA



LEITAT – Barcelona, SPAIN

Wendel Wohleben<sup>1</sup>, Christopher Kingston<sup>2</sup>, Janet Carter<sup>3</sup>, E. Sahle-Demessie<sup>4</sup>, Socorro Vázquez-Campos<sup>5</sup>, Brad Acrey<sup>6</sup>, Chia-Ying Chen<sup>6</sup>, Ernest Walton<sup>7</sup>, Heiko Egenolf<sup>1</sup>, Philipp Müller<sup>1</sup>, Richard Zepp<sup>6</sup> \*

Carbon (2016), accepted

# Interlab comparison on weathering release

## 160 specimen PA and epoxy, w/ and w/o mwCNT

### Sampling + analysis in 1 US, 1 EU lab



Each sample in 10.0 mL leaching fluid (EPA Method 1311)



Enclosed platform shaker, 24h



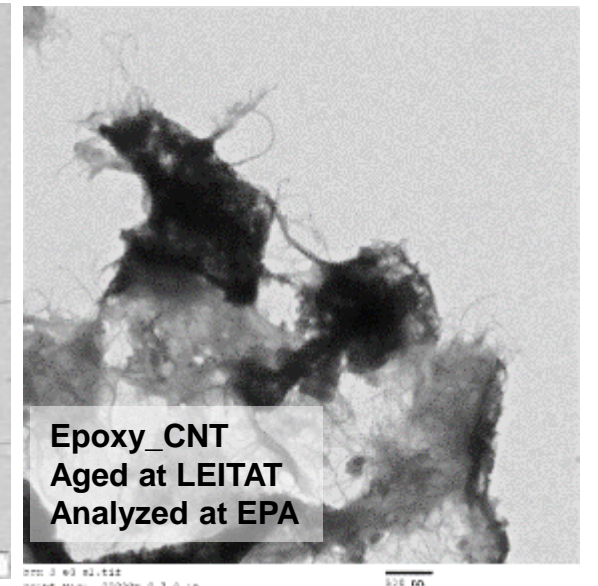
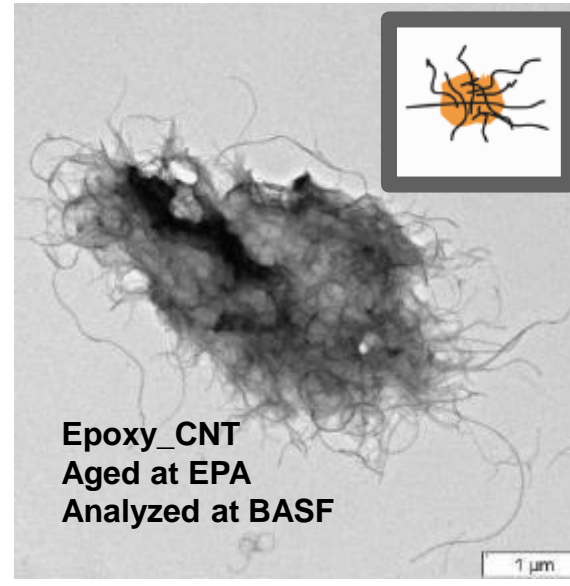
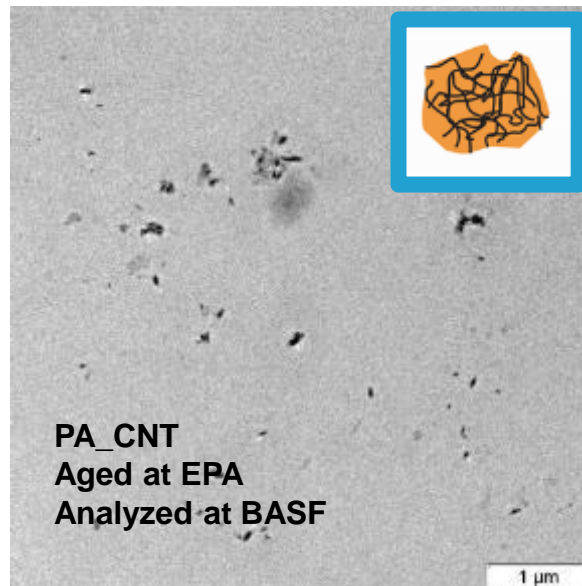
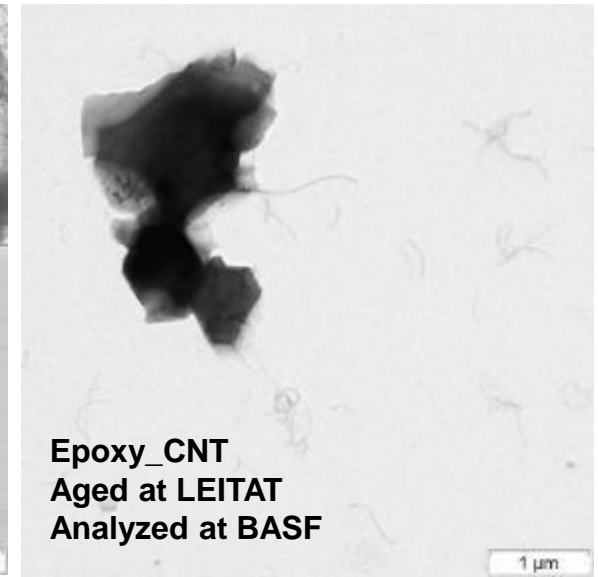
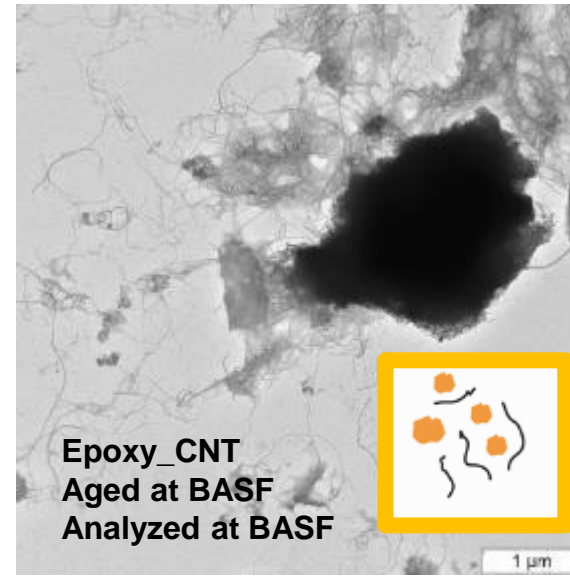
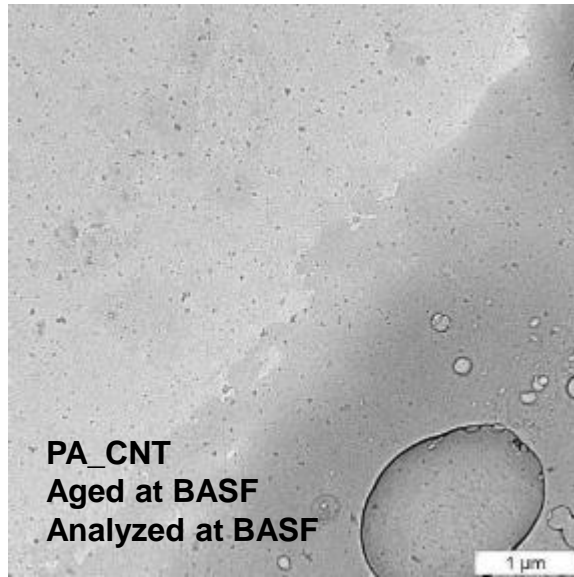
immersion bath sonication, 1h

For each 4-mL aliquot apply the following analyses:

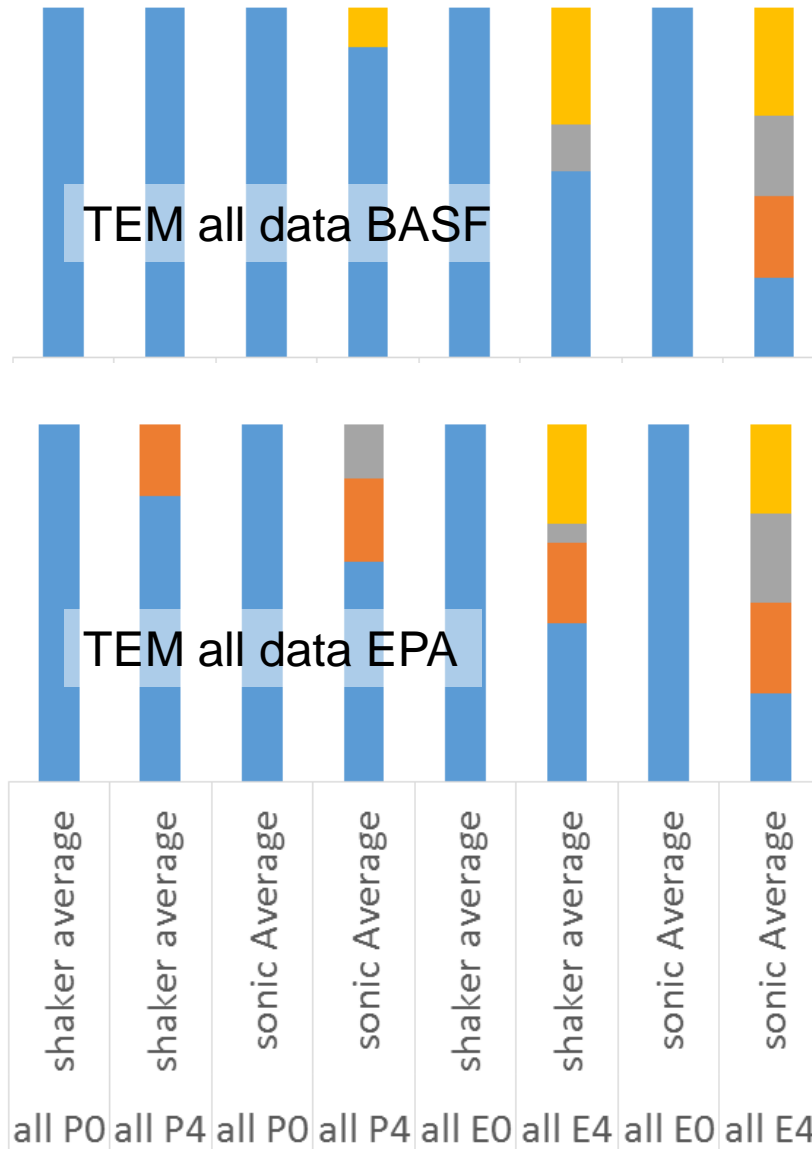
- **TEM** “characterize which structures are observed”
  - washing or dilution, sonicate, place drop on TEM grid, evaporate water.
- **ICP-MS** “tracer elements of ENM”, here Co
  - with acid digestion of any released fragments
- **UVVis** “absorption/scattering of leaching fluid”
- **Absorbance Ultracentrifugation (AUC) or Field Flow Fractionation (FFF)** “characteristic size of free ENM” / “absorption in size range 5-100nm”
  - de-agglomeration by addition of SDS to 10g/L, batch sonication 1h.



# Interlaboratory comparison: exemplary TEM scans



# Form of release, TEM statistics from interlab comparison

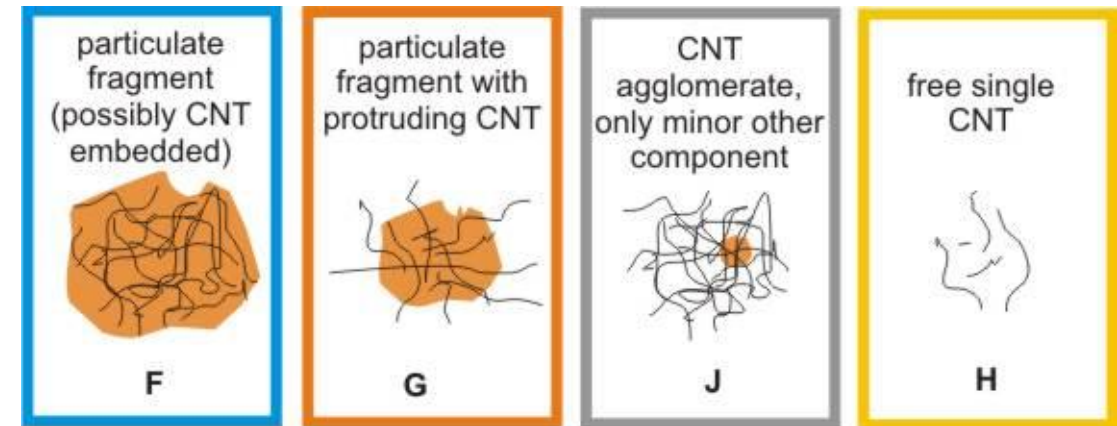


More than 400 TEM images were evaluated manually. Fibrillar structures were identified as MWCNTs, if all three rules were in line with the MWCNT positive control:

- observed hollow core
- matching diameter between 5nm and 20nm
- matching length (not longer than 2µm).

**Excellent reproducibility.**

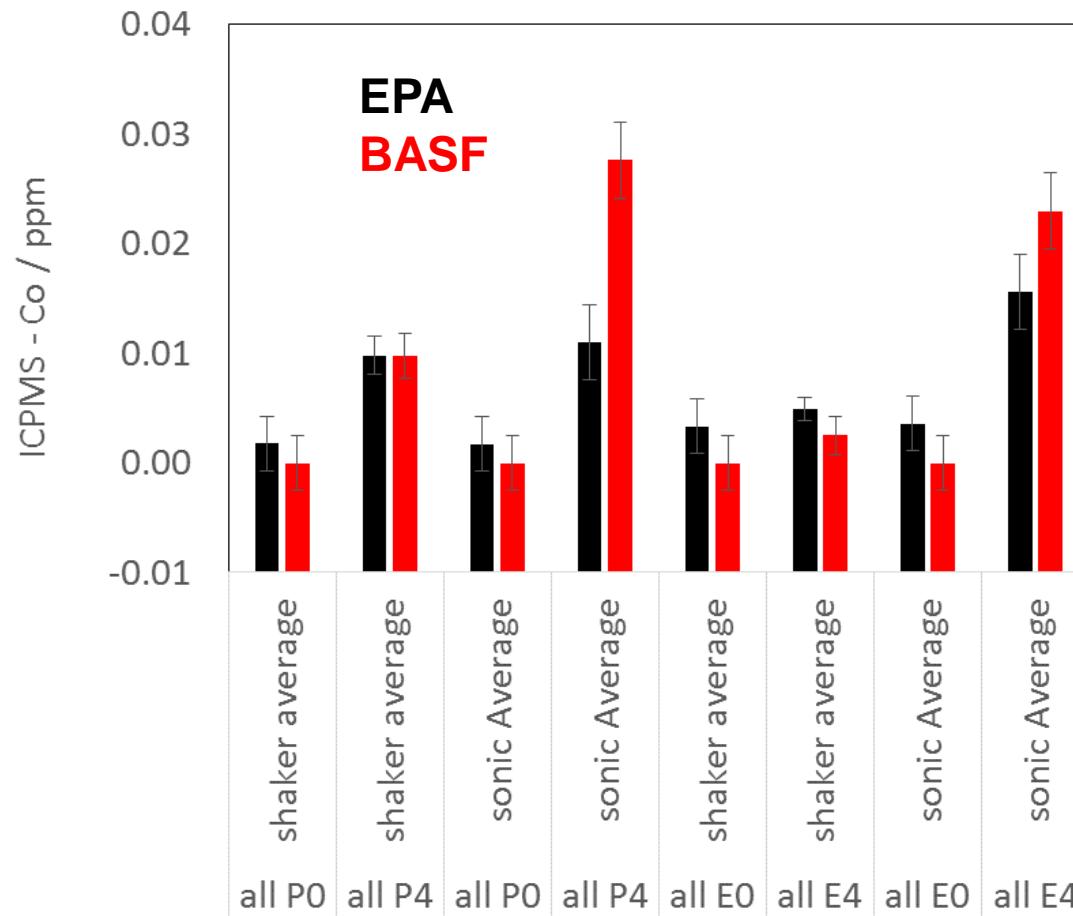
**Minor subjectivity in categories F vs. G**



F - H as in the release systematics by Harper et al. 2015

Wohlleben, Kingston, Zepp et al., Carbon (2016), accepted

# Rate of Release: ICP-MS statistics: quantitative agreement

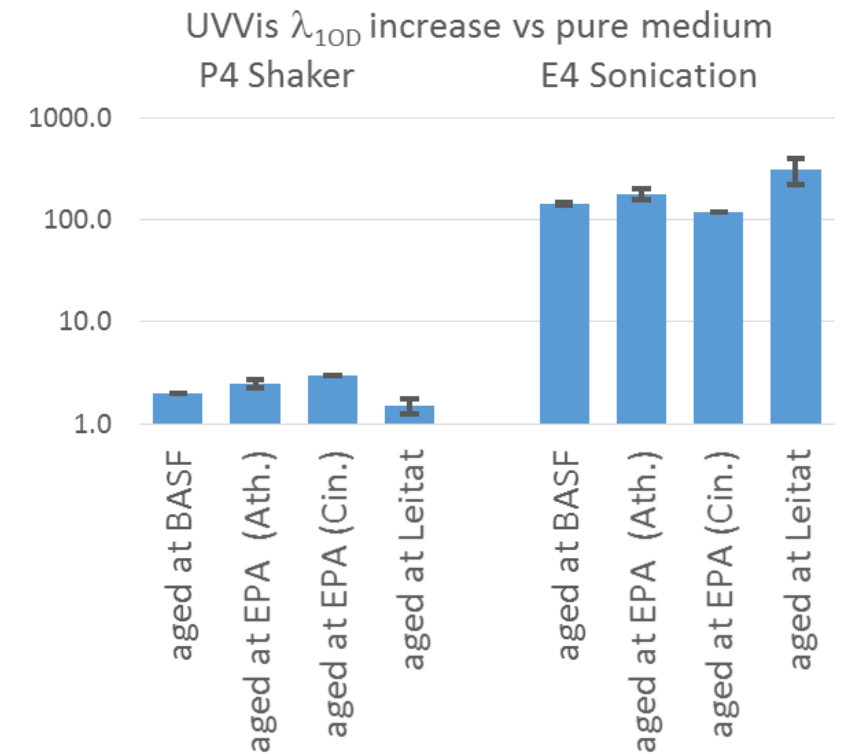
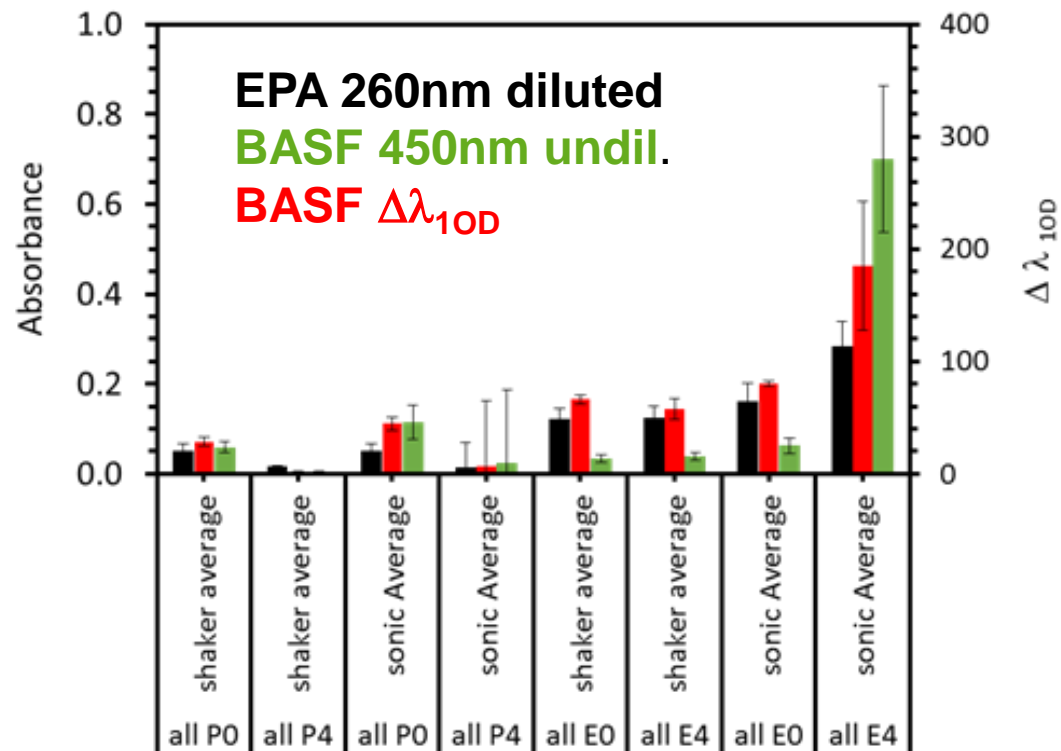


- N=8 statistics, aged at four different labs; no outliers removed.
  - Discrepancy at P4 sonic-sampling is due to EPA ICPMS w/o digestion.
- Note 16-fold lower content of mwCNT in epoxy vs. PA; hence ICPMS is consistent with UVVis and AUC: much higher release rate from epoxy than from PA **matrix**.
- Opposite sign of modulation by ENM:
  - CNT-PA < PA but CNT-epoxy > epoxy.

# Rate of Release: UVVis spectroscopy

both absorbance (260nm) and turbidity ( $\Delta\lambda_{10D}$ ) evaluations are consistent

- High dynamic range, same ranking as conventional absorbance reading
- Excellent discrimination of low-high release

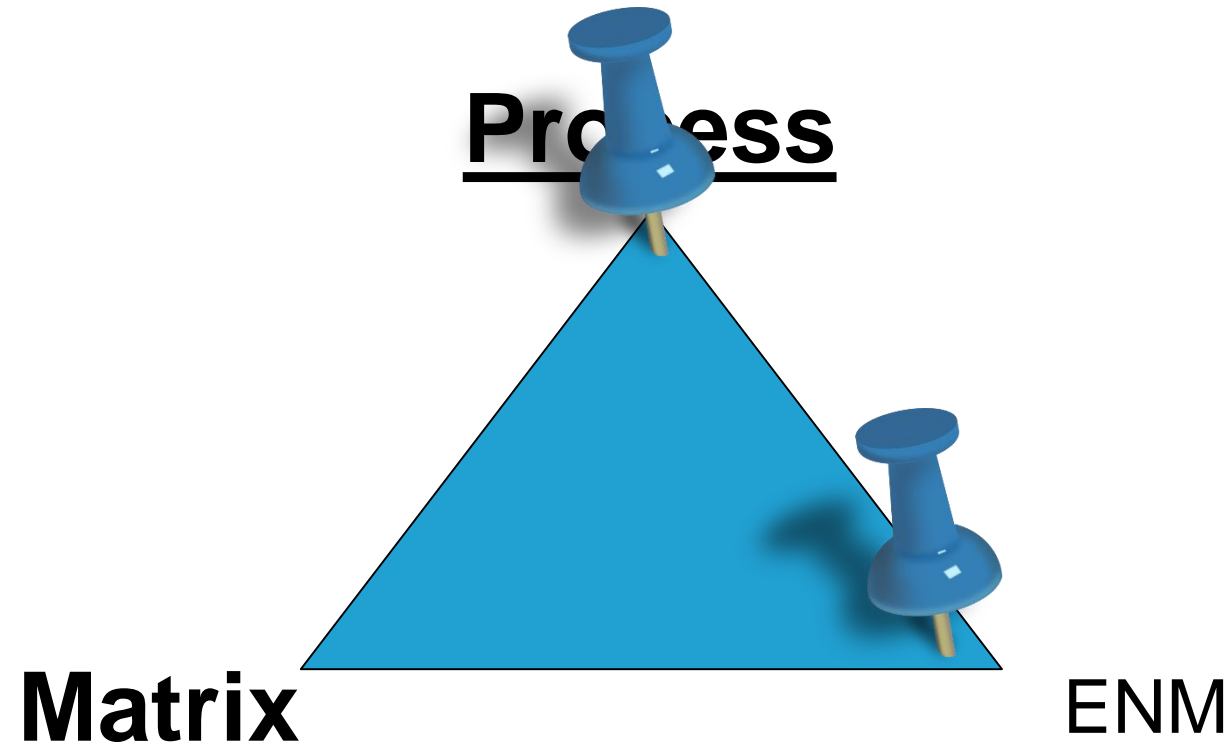




# Pilot inter-laboratory weathering test: Conclusions

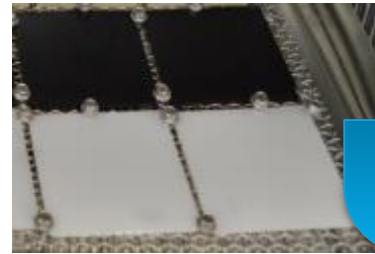
- 160 specimen of epoxy (0%, 0.25% CNT) and PA (0%, 4% CNT); **no UV stabilizer**
- 4 labs (2 US, 2 EU) aging by UV and rain (ISO 4892), then shipping for analysis.
  - 1 lab (CAN) dry sampling by tape → SEM, EDXS
  - 2 labs (1 US, 1 EU) immersion fluid sampling → TEM, ICPMS, UVVis, AUC, FFF
- **Quantitative agreement, often within error bars, within factor 2 in worst case.**
  - ICPMS, UVVis, TEM, AUC consistent. Immersion protocol recommended as voluntary standard. Epoxy-CNT recommended as high-release control material, PA-CNT as low-release material differing in “form” and “rate” of release.
  - Remaining deviations relate *primarily* to differences of the aging (inhomogeneity of UV and spray, surface contaminations (EDXS))
- ***Form* and *rate* of release can be *quantified* using ISO-aging/processing + sophisticated sampling + ISO-analytics.**

**Stick to a single protocol, explore materials, extract rules of release**



# NanoRelease weathering protocol applied to 27 materials of PE, PU, PA, POM, epoxy, cement with organic, metal-oxide, carbonaceous nanomaterials

Aging all by ISO 4892-2, pure matrix in parallel to nanocomposite



Sampling by worst-case approach



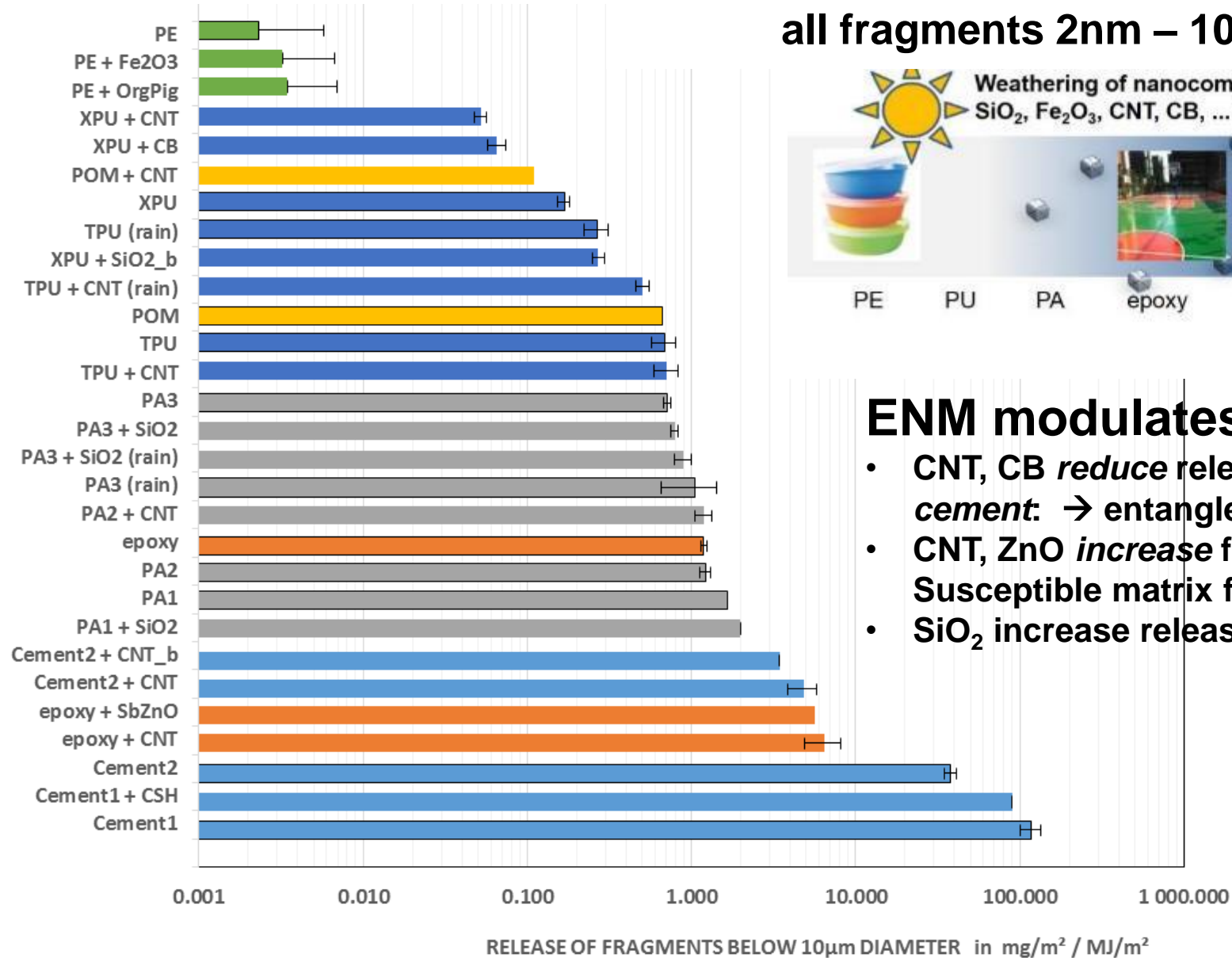
immersion bath sonication, 1h

- **TEM** “check which structures are observed”
  - **AUC** “fragment mass in size ranges 2nm-150nm and 2nm-10µm”
    - Size-selective quantification
- Where applicable, supported by rankings by:
- **ICP-MS** with acid digestion of any released fragments
  - **UVVis** “absorption/turbidity of leaching medium”

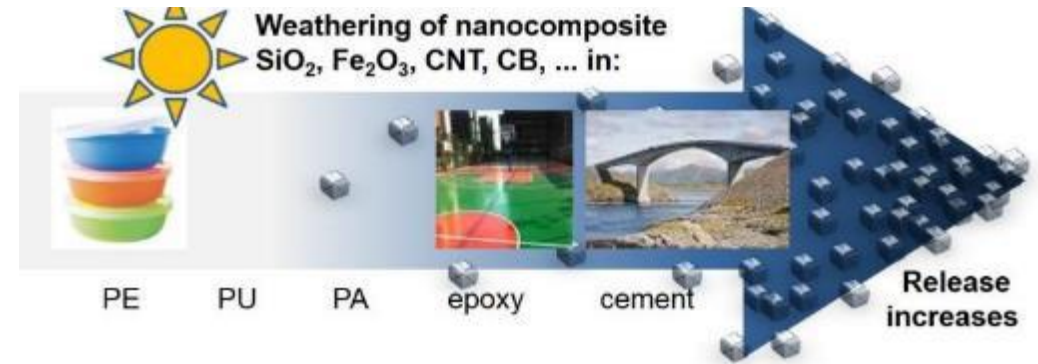
 NanoRelease

Analysis by a sub-set of the NanoRelease protocol

# Matrix determines weathering release rates



all fragments 2nm – 10µm

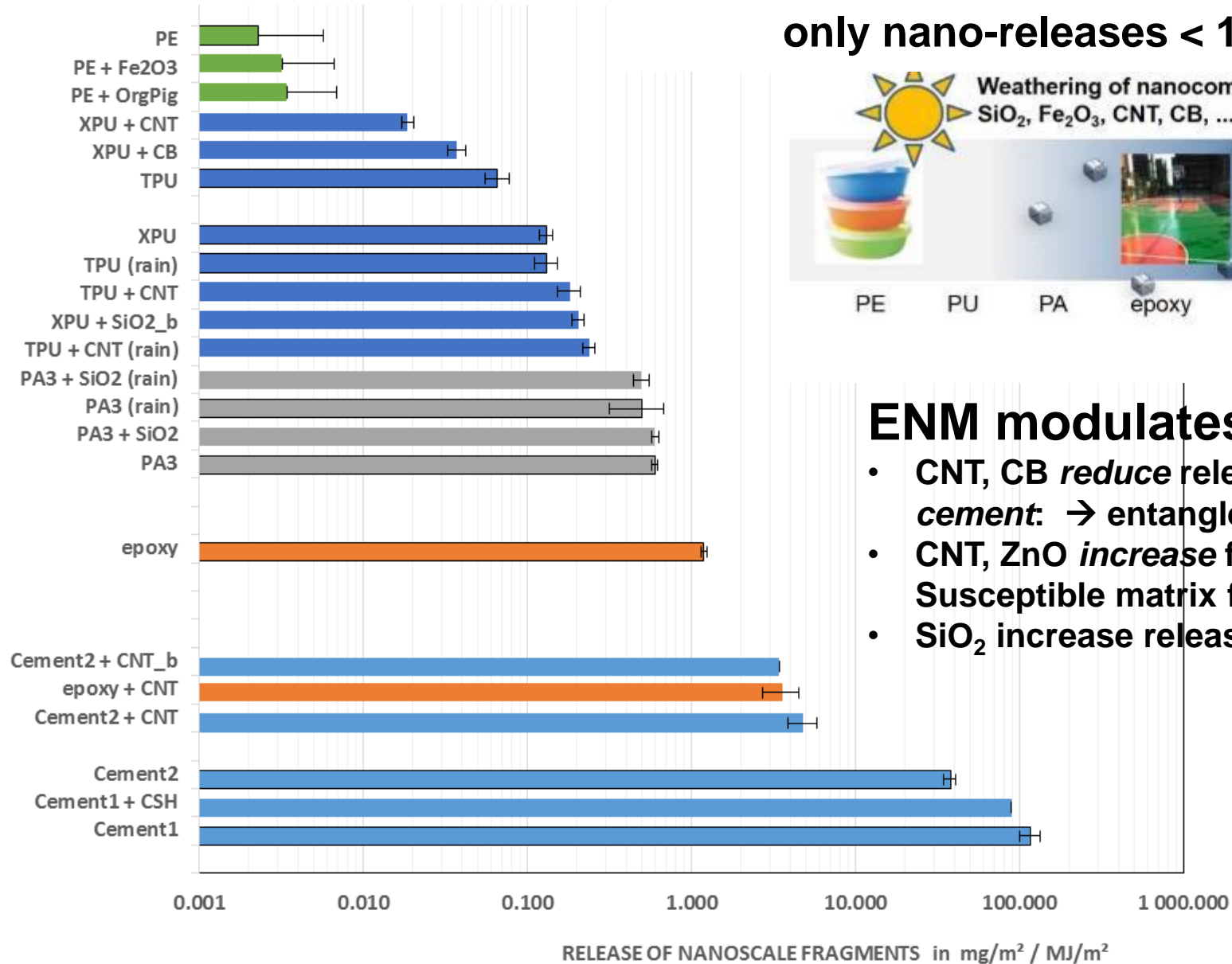


## ENM modulates

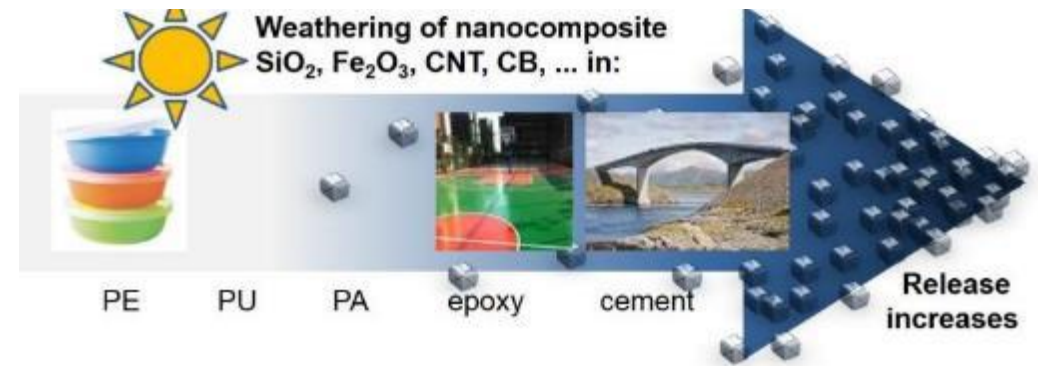
- CNT, CB *reduce* release from PA, PU, POM, cement: → entanglement, passivation
- CNT, ZnO *increase* from epoxy → Susceptible matrix for temperature, radicals
- SiO<sub>2</sub> increase release from PA, PU



# Matrix determines weathering release rates



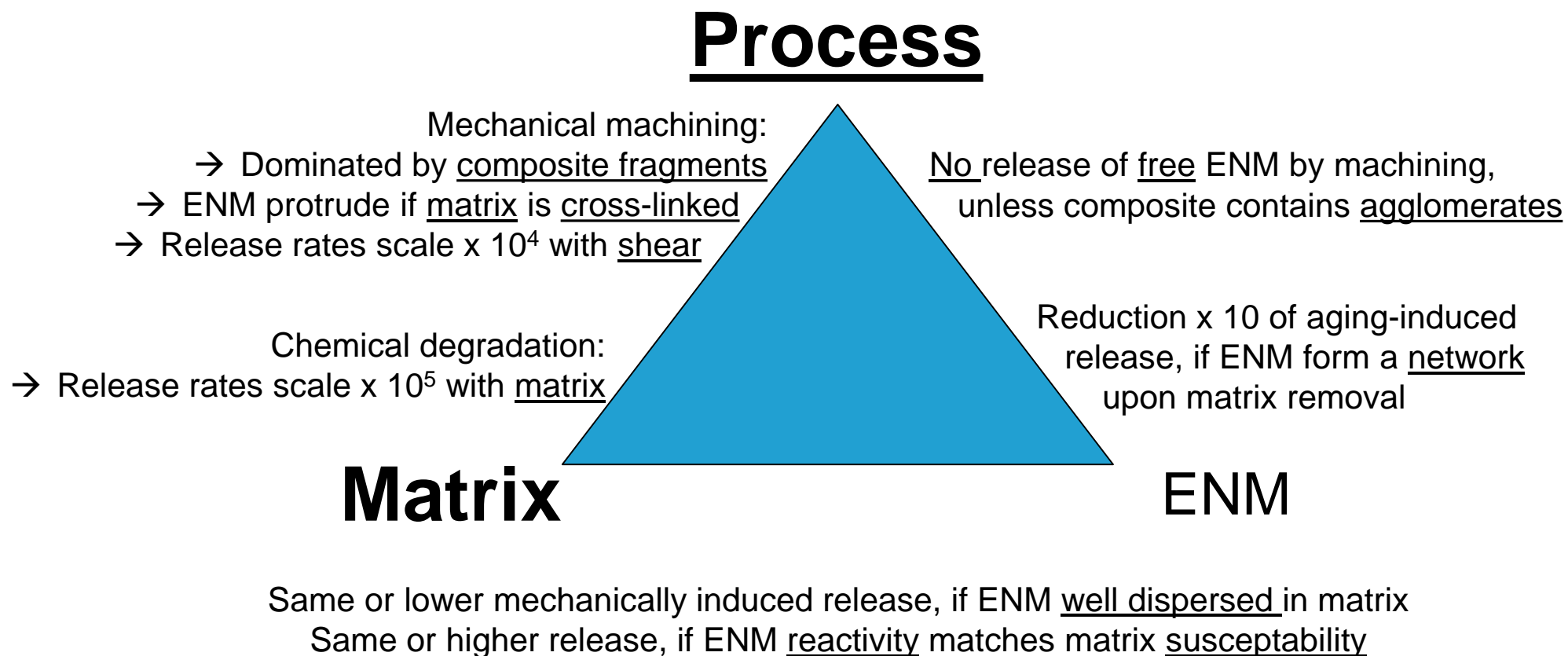
only nano-releases < 150 nm



## ENM modulates

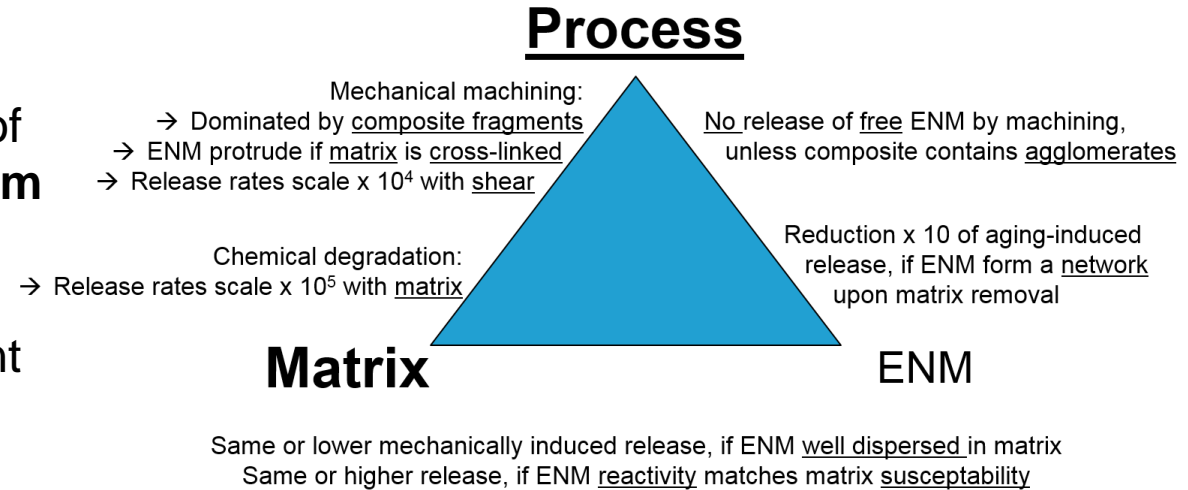
- CNT, CB *reduce* release from PA, PU, POM, cement: → entanglement, passivation
- CNT, ZnO *increase* from epoxy → Susceptible matrix for temperature, radicals
- SiO<sub>2</sub> increase release from PA, PU

# Key parameters that rule form and rate of release from nano-enabled products



# Exploit similarities in *form* and *rate* of release for grouping & modeling

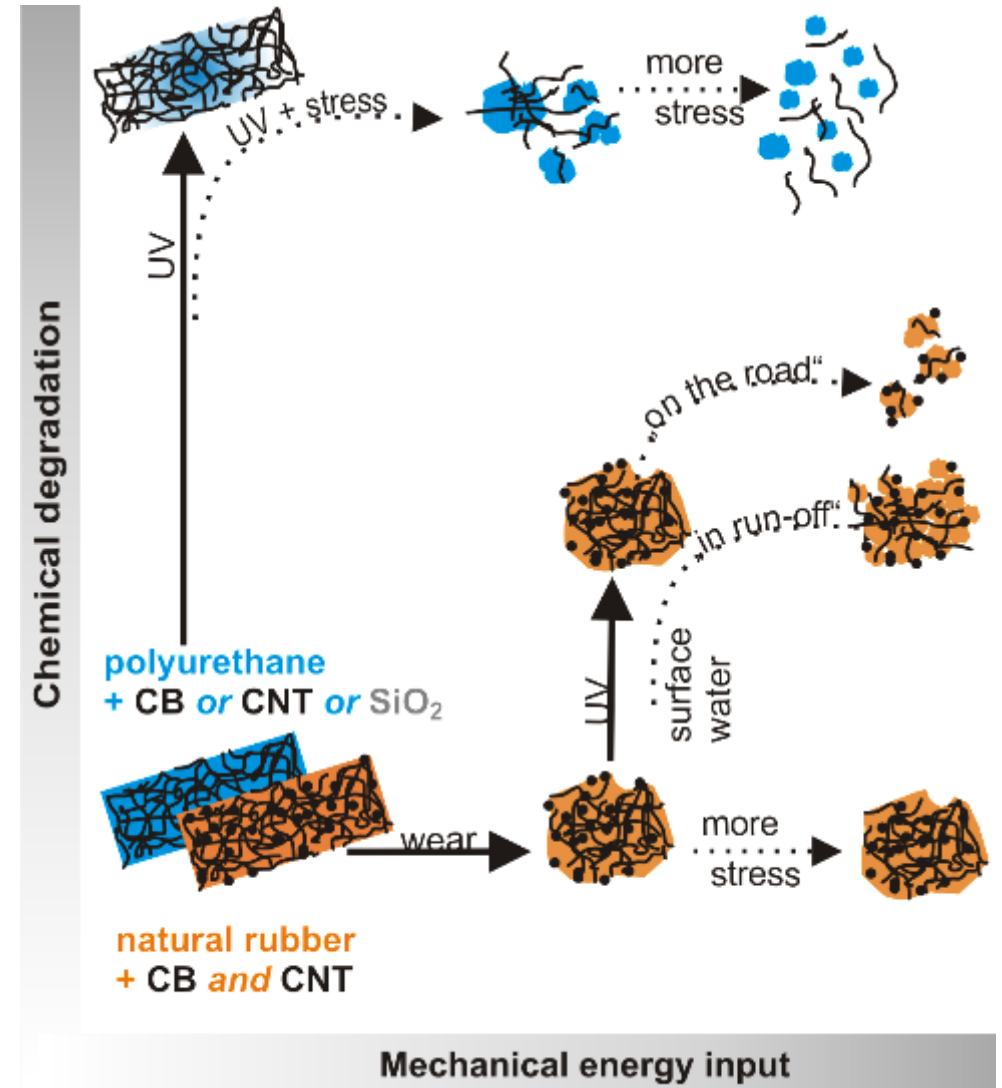
1. Compare to established simulation of similar **process**: → **metrics** and **form**
2. Compare to data on similarly resilient **matrix**: → **rate** (order of magnitude) and → **toxicity** (of fragments)



3. **ENM** release modulation for each process:
  - Washing/leaching: potential to **transform** (ion release vs **particle** release)
  - Machining: potential to **agglomerate** or to **mechanically stiffen** (release **sizes**)
  - Weathering & incineration: ENM reactivity matching matrix susceptibility:
    - **catalytically** accelerate matrix degradation (ZnO by UV; Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> by incineration)
    - **passivate** the underlying matrix (CB, CNT by UV, clays by incineration)

# Where next?

## → Complex scenarios, secondary fragmentation

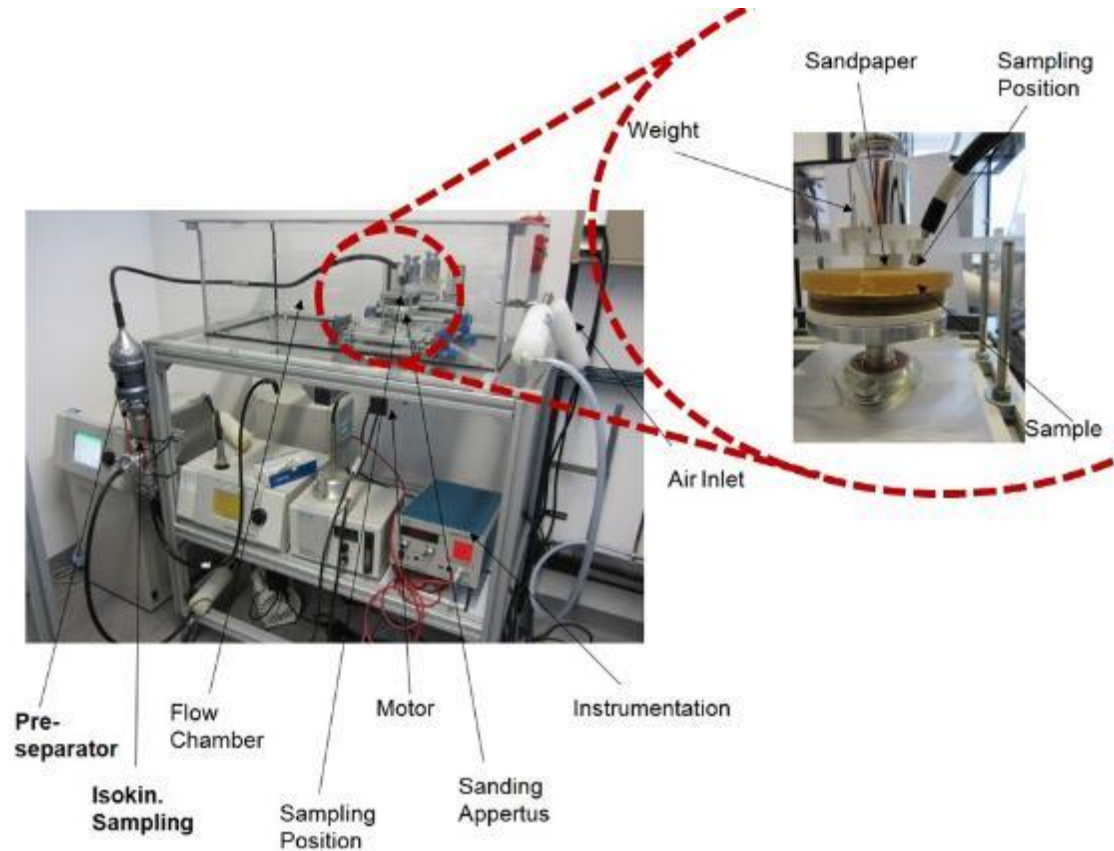
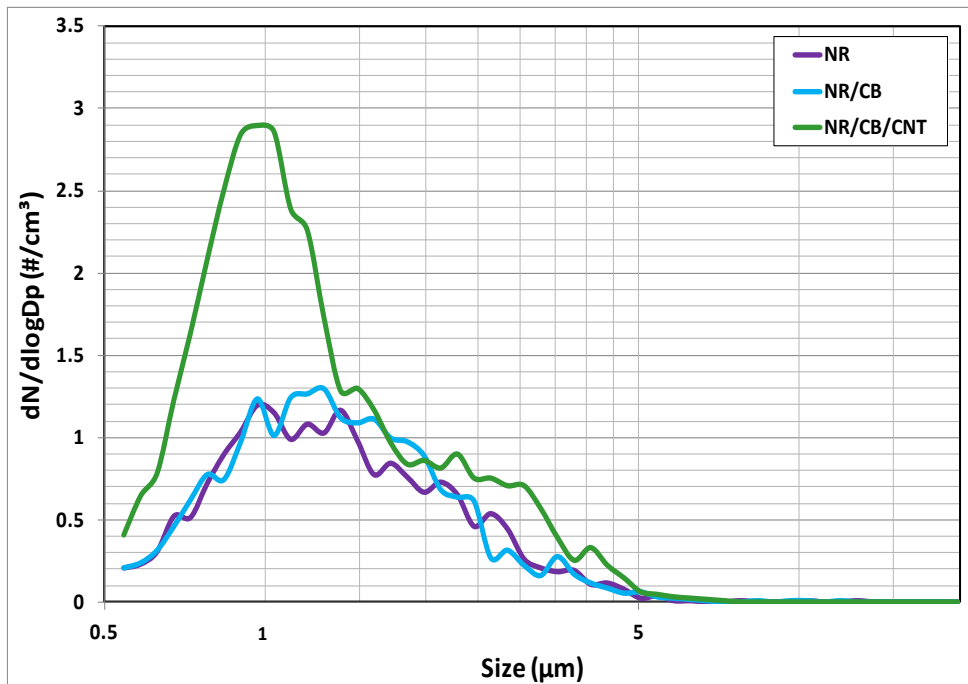




# Primary fragmentation

Natural rubber  
+ 40% Carbon Black  
+ 4% mwCNT

1. Sanding to simulate "full stop"

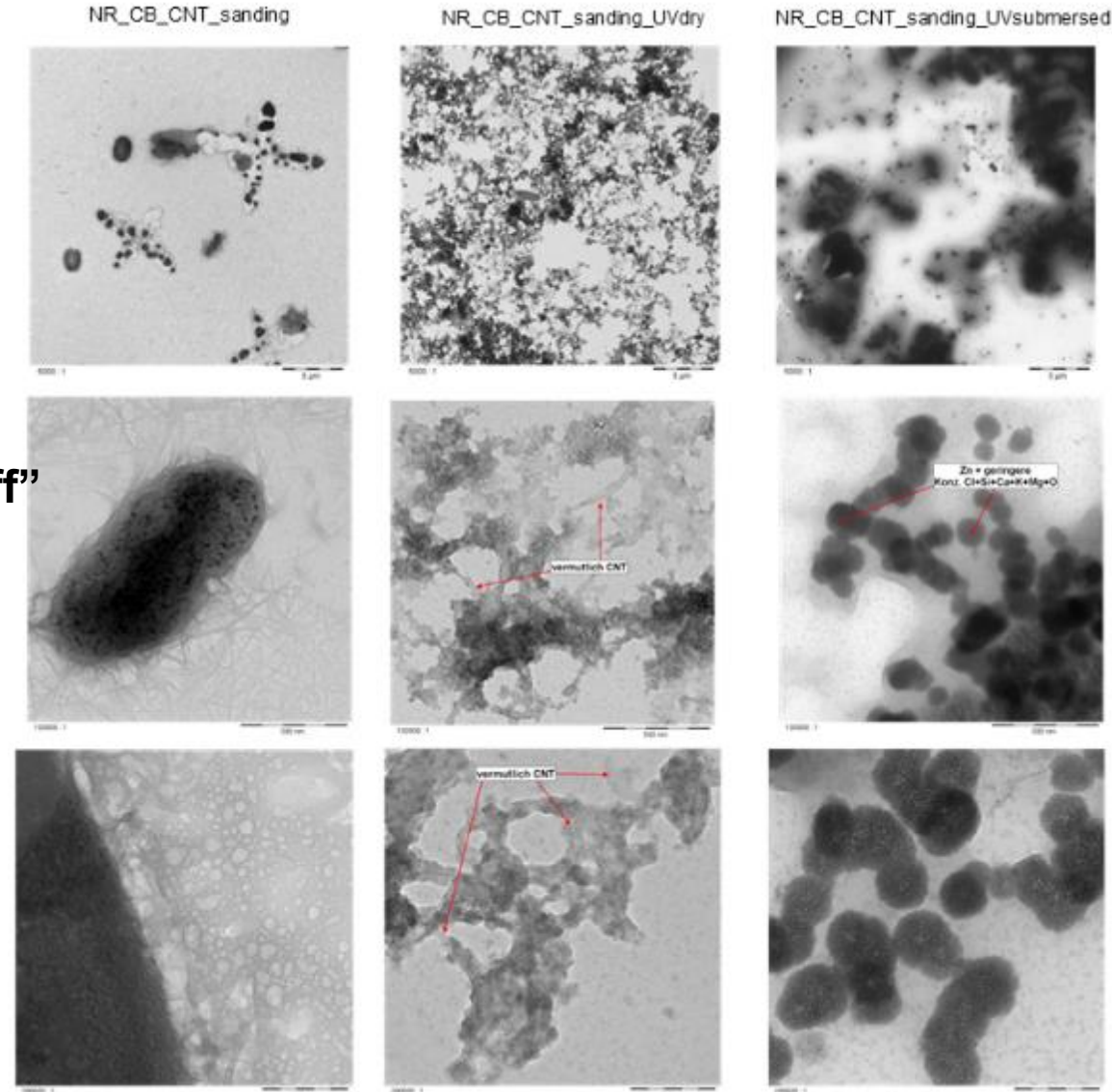


# Secondary fragmentation

1. Sanding to simulate “full stop”

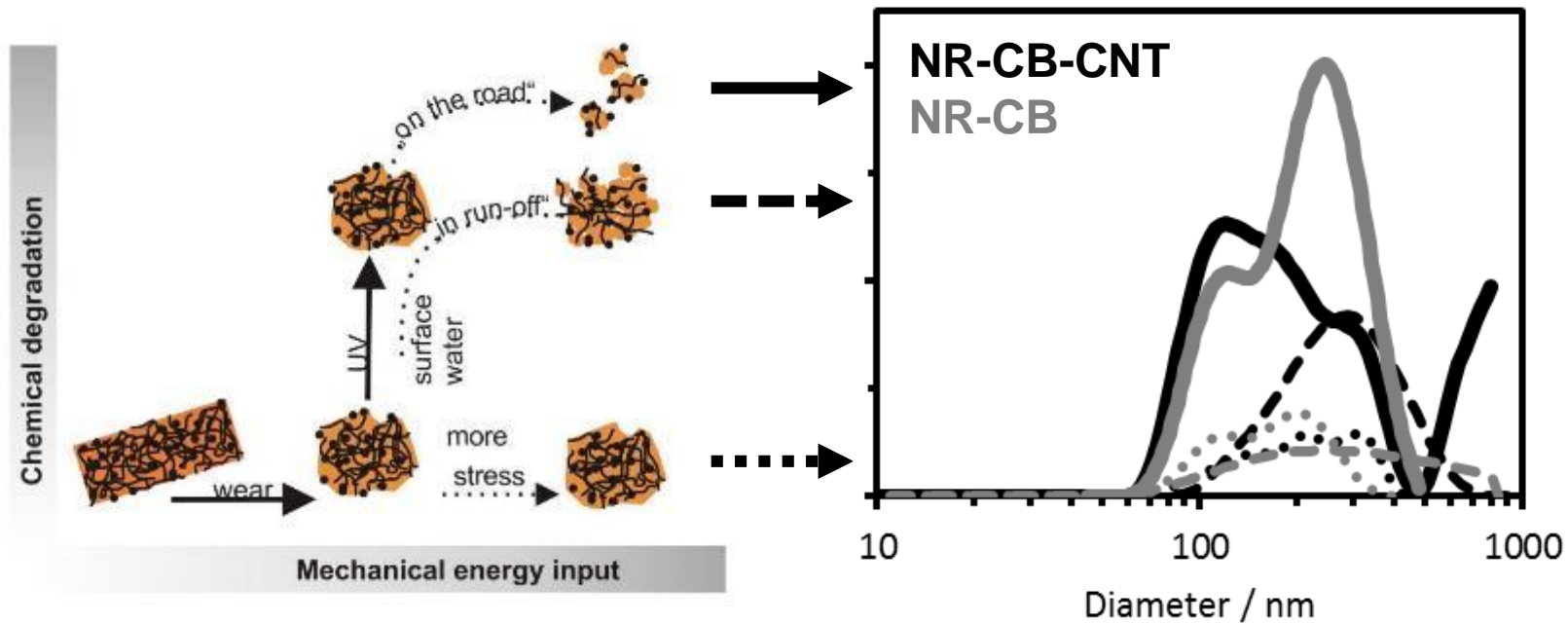


2. Aging
  - UV submersed in M4 = “in run-off”
  - UV dry = “on the road”
3. Sonication in M4 medium
4. Filtration 5µm
5. Analysis as in NanoRelease
  - TEM
  - UVVis
  - AUC
  - EDX



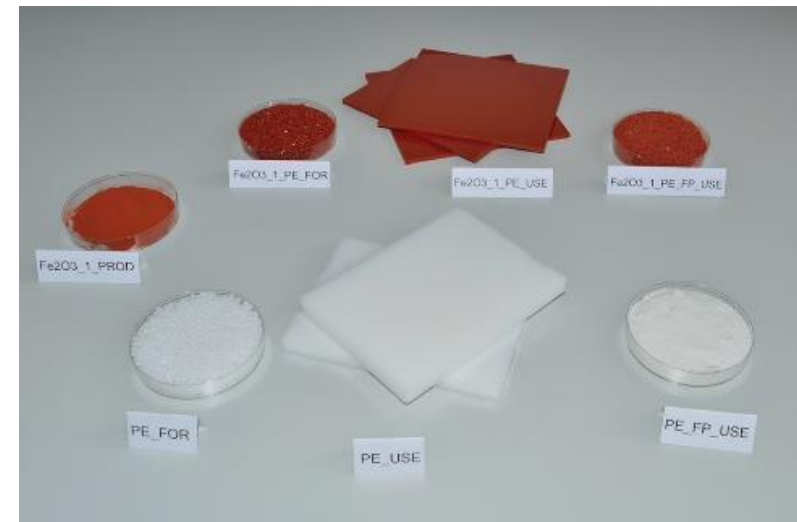
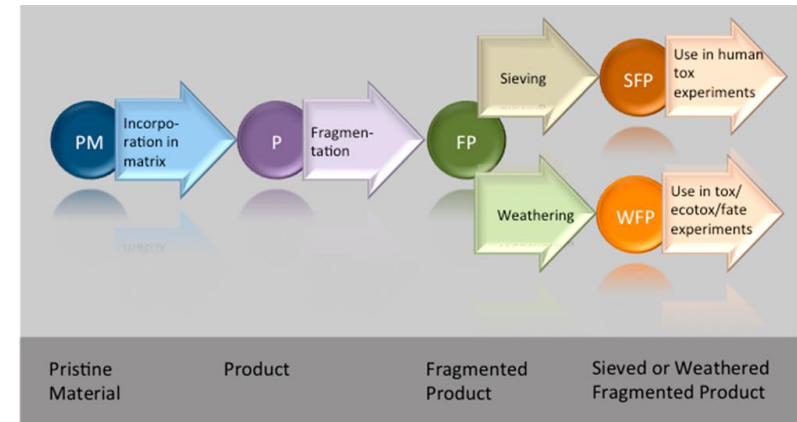
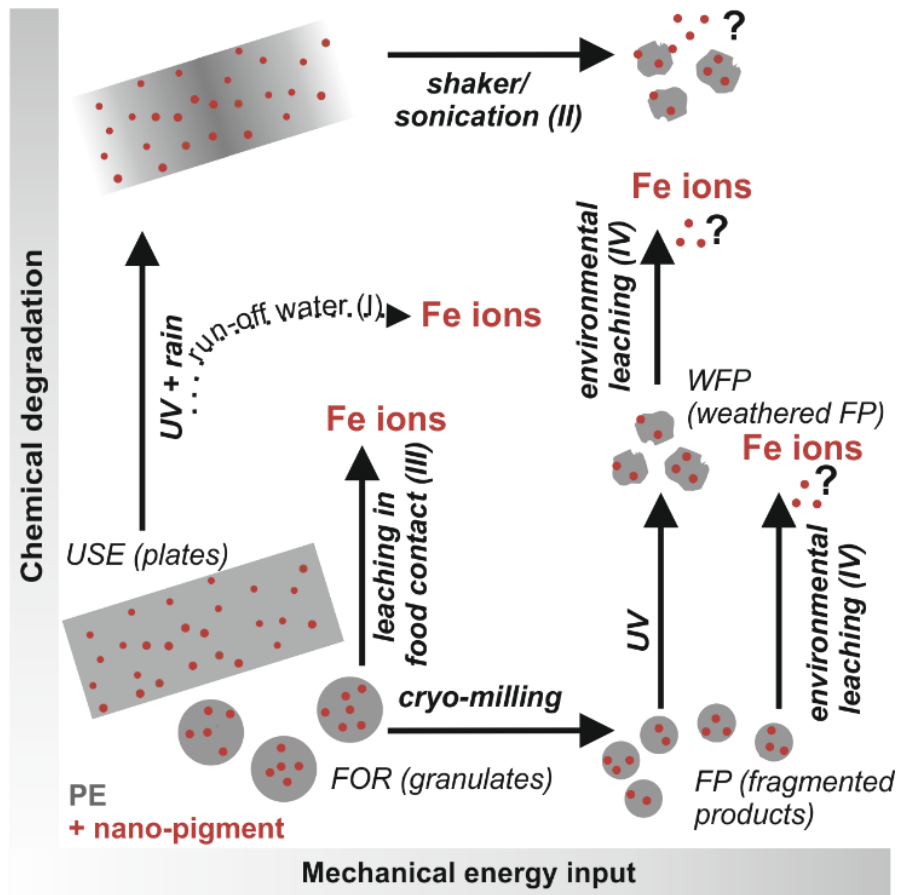
Sample	Scenario to be simulated	Fraction below 5µm % of total solids (gravimetry)	
		NR_CB	NR_CB_CNT
sanding fragments, sonicated in M4	Freshly generated tread wear	0.7 %	0.7 %
sanding fragments, UV irradiated in M4, sonicated	Tread wear with direct run-off into surface water	1.6 %	1.7 %
sanding fragments, UV irradiated, sonicated in M4	Tread wear with delayed run-off into surface water	4.0 %	4.5 %

- UV aging does induce secondary fragmentation.
- **“in run-off” aging significantly less secondary fragmentation vs. “on the road”**
- maximum free ENM is 0.045 % of the tread wear.



# Complex scenarios based on Nowack et al. Environ. Sci. Technol. 2016, 50, 2747

## full life cycles, secondary fragmentation / leaching, ecotox effects of pigmented plastics



MANUFACTURING

USE

DISPOSAL

→ Presentations

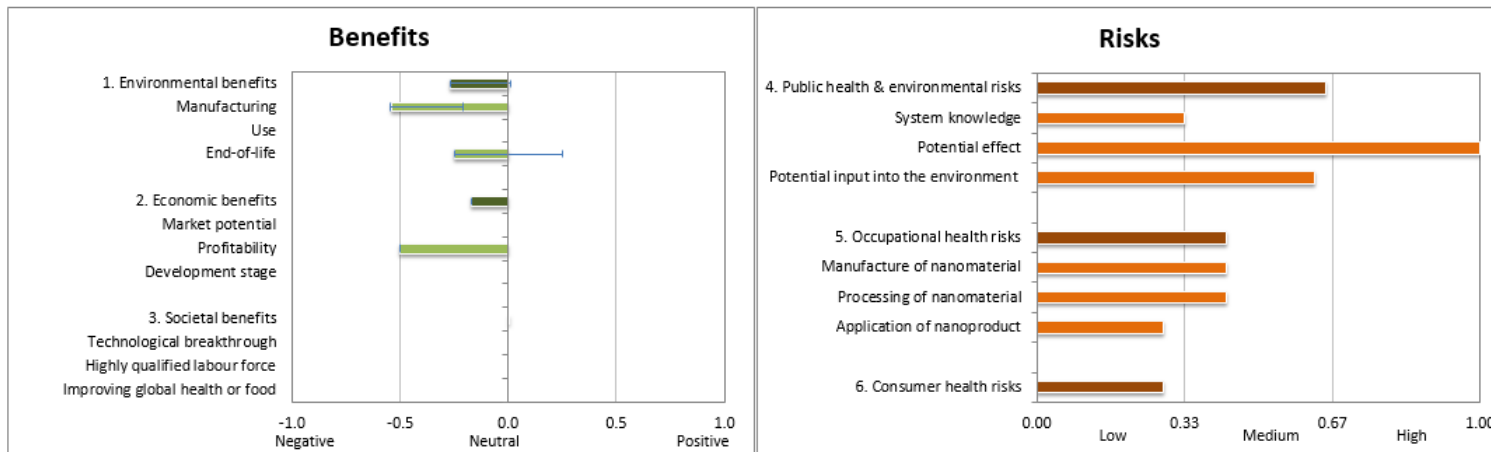
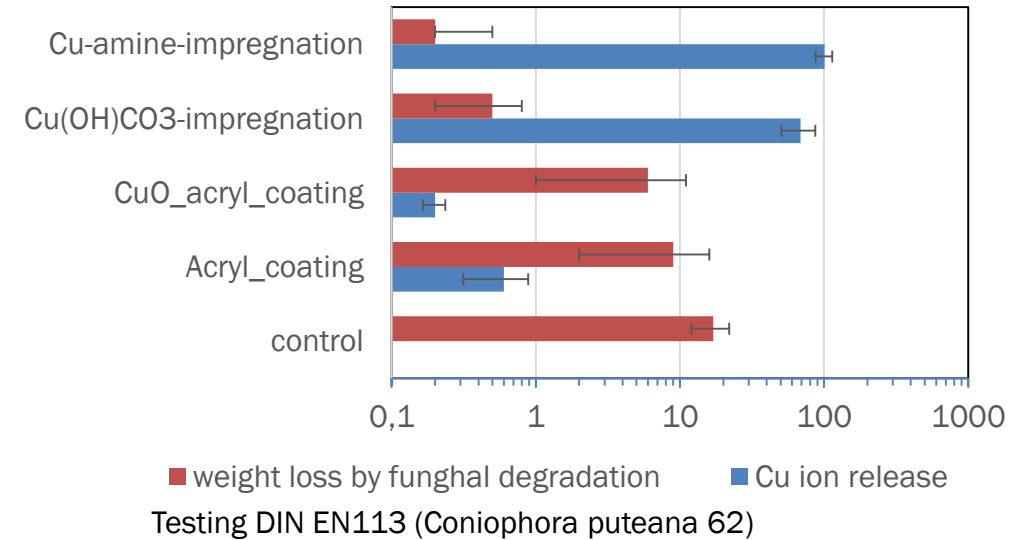
Koivisto et al. (now) + Scifo et al, 14.15 session + Soritiou et al, 17.15 session



# Complex scenarios: CuO vs Cu-amine vs. Cu(OH)CO<sub>3</sub>

Transformation to ions and release determines effectiveness of wood protection

insufficient sustainability of CuO\_coating (LICARA nanoscan) → stop development.



# Please join the release sessions today

**MANUFACTURING** 11.15 h  
Auditorium Platine



WANG Jing  
SCOTT Keana  
KOIVISTO Antti Joonas  
GÖHLER Daniel  
BOUTRY Delphine

**USE** 14.45 h  
Chrome 1



SUNG Li-Piin  
JOSE LUIS Muñoz  
SCIFO Lorette  
NEUBAUER Nicole  
MITRANO Denise

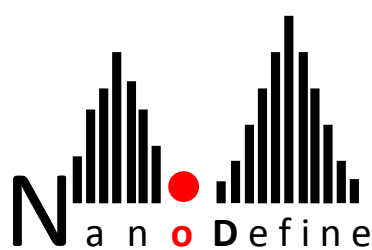
**DISPOSAL** 17.15 h  
Chrome 1



FAIRBROTHER Howard  
SOTIRIOU Georgios A.  
PAUR Hanns-R.  
KUHNBUSCH Thomas A.J.  
CABALLERO-GUZMAN Alejandro

**CONCLUDING CONCEPTS**

# Sincere Acknowledgements to:



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Nicole Neubauer  
Philipp Müller  
Sabine Hirth  
Robert Landsiedel  
...many more...



Jerome Rose & Lorette Scifo, CEREGE  
Bernd Nowack, EMPA  
Joonas Koivisto, Keld Jensen, NRCWE  
Many more...



George Sotiriou,  
Phil Demokritou

Thomas Kuhlbusch, IUTA  
Yaobo Ding, IST  
Julie Mueller, Nanocyl  
Iñigo Larraza Alvarez, Acciona



300 experts... some from the core team here:



# Scratching at the tip of the iceberg?

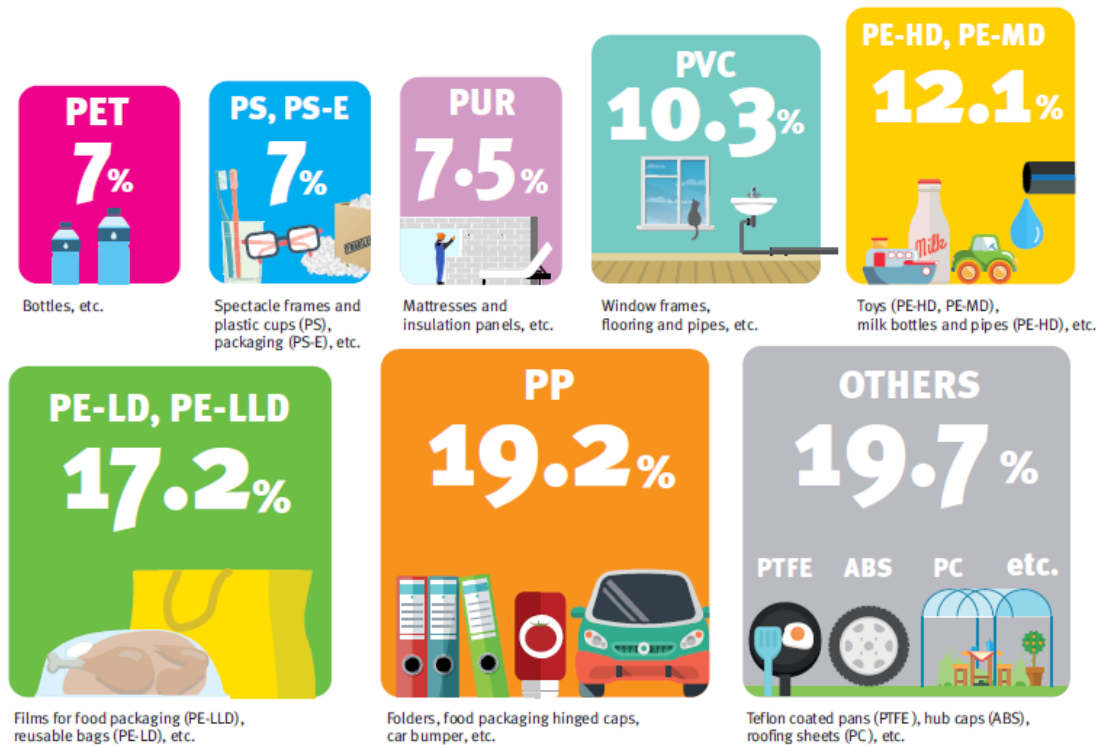
## Matrix materials compared to **production volumes**

The tip: high-performance composites: \$ 5 bn epoxy

*Freedonia, High-Performance composites (US) (2016)*

The iceberg: Consumer goods: € 350 bn other plastics

*Plastics Europe, Fact Sheet (2015)*



European plastics demand\* by polymer type 2014

Source: PlasticsEurope (PEMRG) / Consultic / myCeppi

\* EU-28+NO/CH

