





# Enhancing carbon-nanotubes luminescence With the help of resonant hotspots

3500 hotspot Light energy (eV) hotspot E. Rousseau 1.1 Light energy (eV) C. Beaufils G. Cassabois 1.1 Light energy (eV) Laboratoire Charles Coulomb CNRS- Université de Montpellier FRANCE



### Carbon nanotubes



Well-defined exciton peak @ Room temperature

Telecom-window range : *wavelength* ~ 1200 nm

Small in diameter but quite long  $\rightarrow$  single CNT

(Can be excited by current injection)

CNT are attractive light source

But...

Nanotube

- $d \sim nm$
- $L \sim \mu m$

with a very small quantum yield (less than 1%)!







Typically : in the sample 5 families of semiconducting carbon nanotubes

Characterized by a well-defined exciton peak





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Characterized by a well-defined exciton peak



#### Carbon nanotubes + photonics crystals



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Radiative Enhancement ~ 200

R. Miura et al. Nature communications 6580 (2014)





Carbon nanotubes + photonics crystals

 $E_v$ (a.u.) d Radiative Enhancement : Data CNT  $\rightarrow$  demonstration of the Purcell Effect *z* = 130 nm Cavity PL (counts s<sup>-1</sup>) 05  $\lambda_{ex} = 797 \text{ nm}$  $\Gamma = \frac{2\pi}{\hbar^2} |<0| - \vec{d}.\vec{E}|1>|^2\rho(\vec{r},\omega)$  $\rightarrow$  increased density of elect. states  $\Gamma \propto rac{Q}{V_m}$ **Dielectric strategy** 0  $\Gamma \propto 
ho(\vec{r},\omega)$ Plasmonic strategy 1,355 1,370 1,385 Emission wavelength (nm) R. Miura et al.

Nature communications 6580 (2014)



## Carbon nanotubes + metallic rough surface



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#### Hotspots strategy

Metal-Enhanced Fluorescence of Carbon Nanotubes Hong et al. Journal of the American Chemical Society (2010), 132 15920-15923

Elementary cell: Gold island (random shape)



### Carbon nanotubes + metallic rough surface



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### Hotspots strategy

Metal-Enhanced Fluorescence of Carbon Journal of the American Chemical Society (2010), 132 15920-15923



## Carbon nanotubes + metallic rough surface

(b) SWNT in polymer film

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Larger enhancement:

~ 10-fold

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More dense rough surface No spacer

No modifications of CNT spectrum

Metal-Enhanced Fluorescence of Carbon Nanotubes Hong et al. Journal of the American Chemical Society (2010), 132 15920-15923











Few carbon nanotubes (1 single) Quantum emitter Collection of gold nanorods

Luminescence Enhancement?

Field of plasmonics (optics of metals)
Purcell effect : how environment modify quantum emitter luminescence
Hotspots + plasmonics strategies?

Broad-band enhancement: for the 5 chiralities













## Plasmonics and plasmonics antennas



Metallic nanoparticles Diffraction => Localized plasmon resonance

Can act as antennas in the visible regime :

-modify radiative pattern (directivity)

 modify luminescence intensity (energy extraction, Purcell effect)





#### The plasmonic strategy: The patch antenna



#### Bottom metallic mirror:

- Light emits in one direction
- Increase electric field confinement

#### Finite size metallic nanoparticle:

- scatter the near-field
- Can increase of the power radiates by the emitter





Cavity (plasmonic) modes : cavity geometry defines resonant modes Large cavity ( $\sim$ 1µm) many cavity modes (kind of continuum)

Smaller nanoparticles = higher enhancement + lower losses









#### Unfortunately not favorable for CNT !!





## The nanorod antenna: dipole orientation

Dipole orientation





Nanorod patch antenna...

Helicoidal plasmon mode along cylinder axis





Cluster of plasmonics nanoparticles: The hotspots strategy:

Collection of nanorods: Breaking of the planar geometry Dipolar resonance in the wavelength range of interest



Dipolar resonance → Large Purcell factor/ low losses

Random distribution of plasmonic nanoparticles & nanoparticles  $\rightarrow$  electromagnetic hotspots

Carbon Nanotubes layer : 5 nm Dielectric spacer : 5 nm





#### The sample : the plasmonic nanoparticles



Colloidal nanorods made on gold => good surface state, low losses

Resonant @ 1200 nm with broad size dispersion







Cartography of the sample luminescence (XY-map) From room temperature to 4 K





#### The experimental setup: Reflectivity



Cartography of reflectivity of the sample surface (XY-map)





## The experimental setup:

Dark field measurement Scattering spectroscopy



Cartography of scattering of the sample surface (XY-map)



#### Map of the sample luminescence

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XY-Map of the Total Intensity – Without particles







Reflectivity and Luminescence cartography

Luminescence



#### Reflectivity





Reflectivity and Luminescence cartography



=> Enhancement due to gold nanorods





Reflectivity and Luminescence cartography



Perfect match between reflectivity/luminescence

=> Enhancement due to gold nanorods

#### Luminescence



Enhancement: (compared to CNT on gold plane)

 $\Rightarrow$ *Typically 3-5 fold on the cluster* 

 $\Rightarrow$  hotspots: 20-40 fold

 $\Rightarrow$  modification of the CNT spectrum

-71

-20

Spectrum modifications



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### Peaks-width histograms and Q-factors



CNT Q-factor  $\sim 30-50$ 

Nanorod Q-factor ~10-15

HotSpot Q-factor  $\sim$  70-80 (up to 200)











Because of the emitter dipole orientation:

Hotspots + plasmonics strategy to enhance the CNT luminescence



Rough surface

Well-controlled elementary cell

Dipolar resonance in the frequency range of interest => High Purcell factor



















## Dark field measurement:

Scattering spectroscopy with temperature

L<sub>2</sub>C





Large antennas = better directivity

