

# What we do (not) understand about carbon nanomembranes

Jürgen Schnack

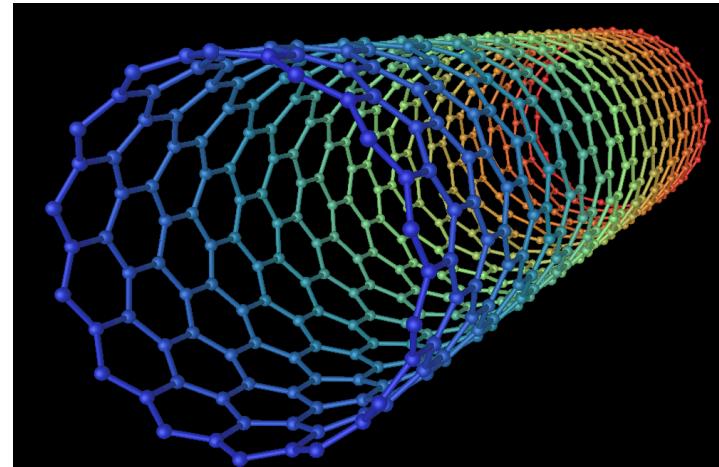
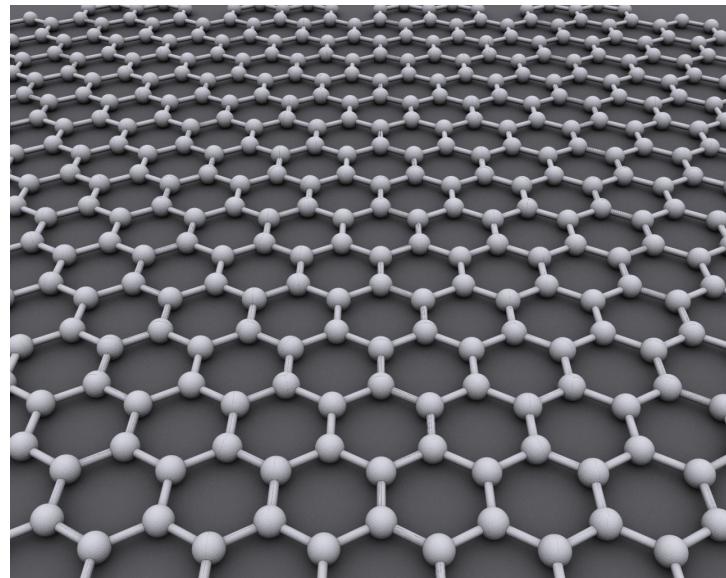
Department of Physics – University of Bielefeld – Germany  
<http://obelix.physik.uni-bielefeld.de/~schnack/>

Seminar, Mainz University, 10 January 2019

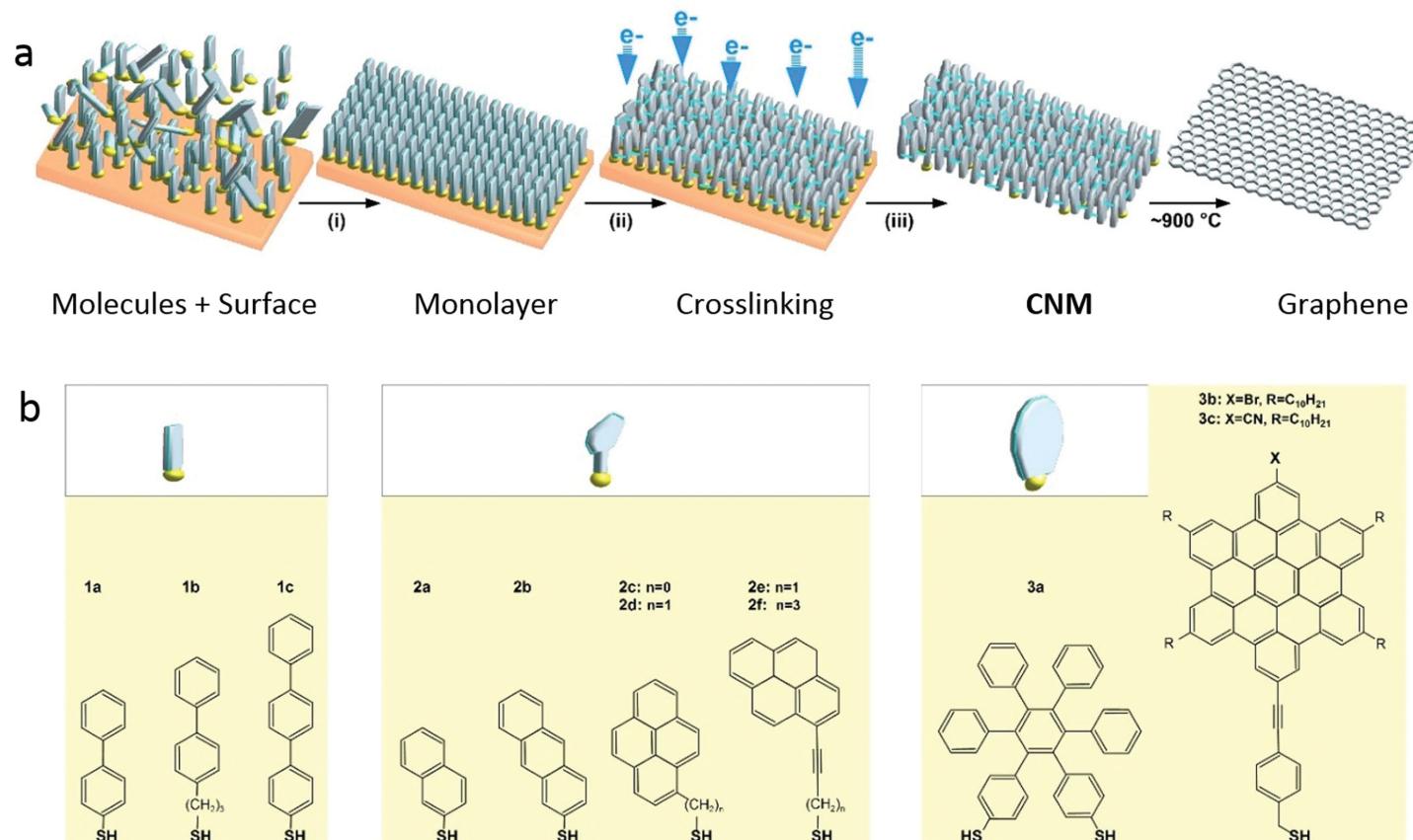


# Introduction

There are various carbon-based nanostructures . . .



# ... and carbon-based cross-linked SAMs (I).

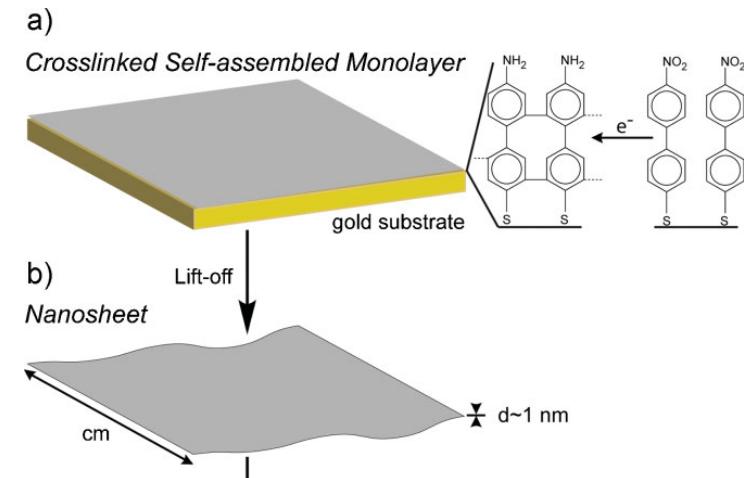
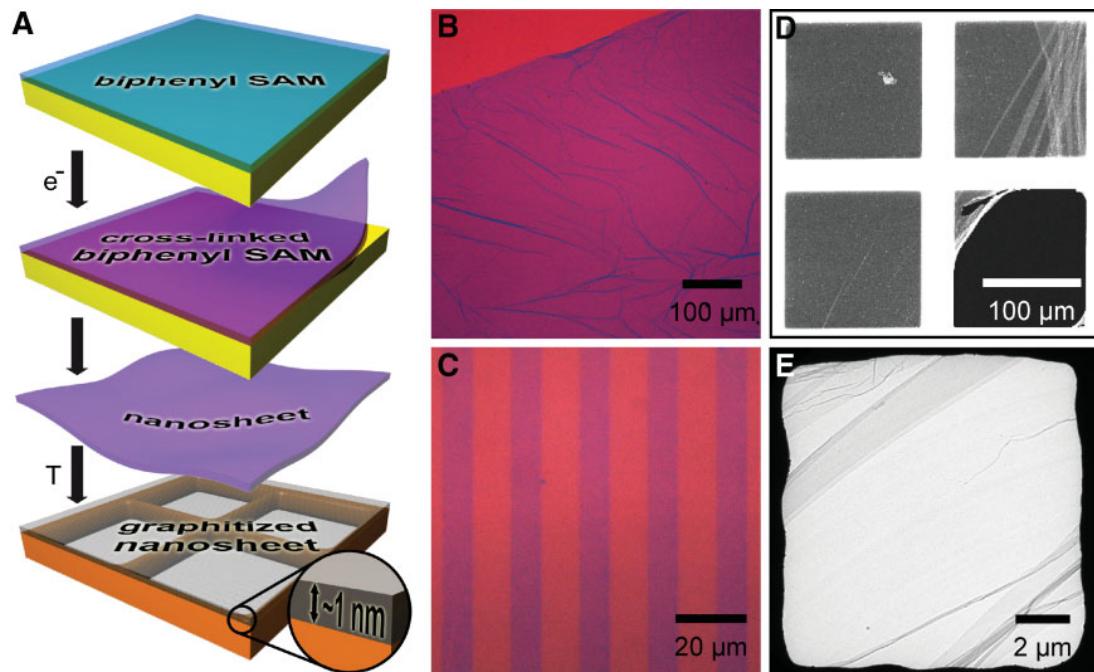


A. Turchanin, A. Gölzhäuser, Advanced Materials **28**, 6075-6103 (2016).

# ... and carbon-based cross-linked SAMs (II).

## ADVANCED MATERIALS

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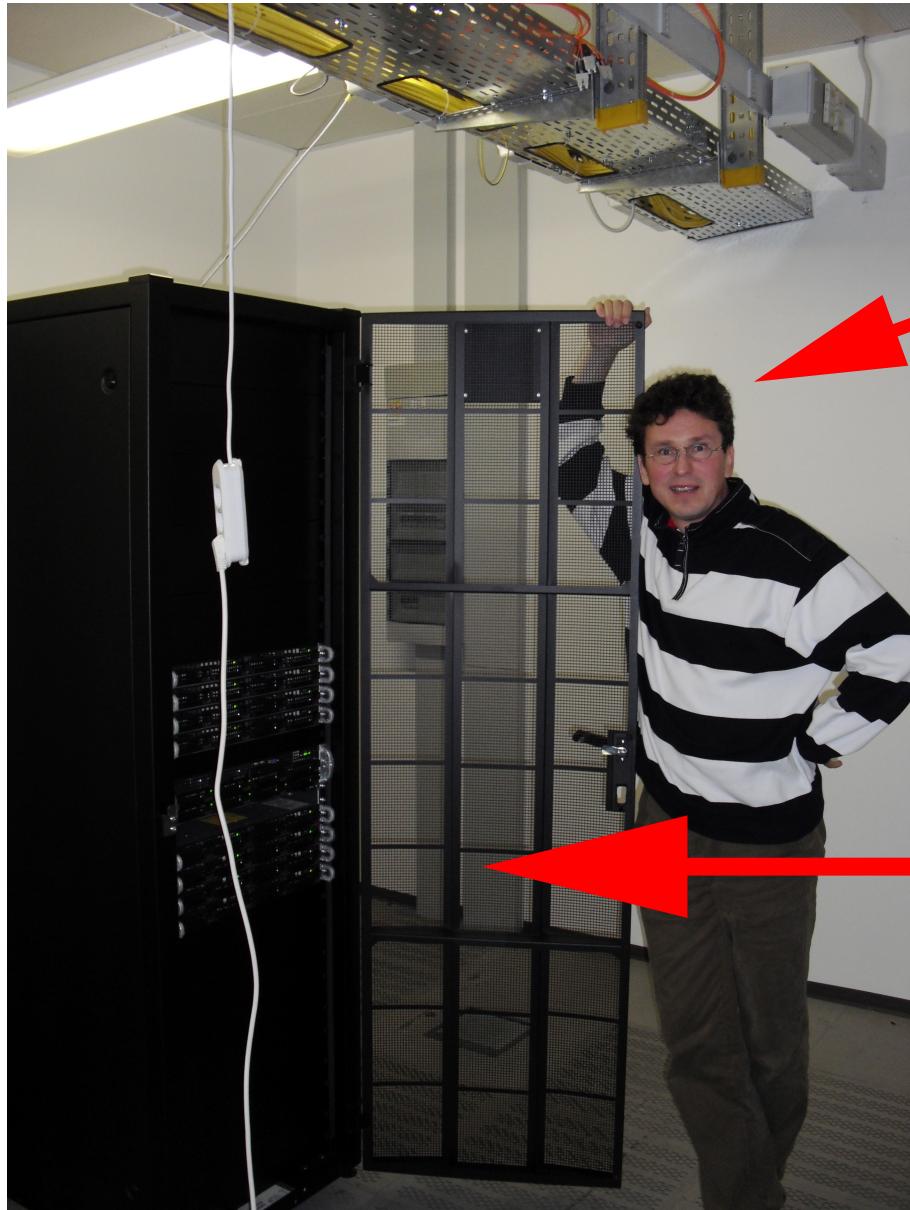
A. Turchanin *et al.*, Advanced Materials **21**, 1233 (2009); I. Amin *et al.*, Small **6**, 1623 (2010).

# Problems

- Systems contain very many carbon atoms.
- Structure very likely irregular. Defects?
- Quantum Methods, even DFT, cannot deal with such systems.

... and there are more questions to come.

# Thank God, we have computers



“Espresso-doped multi-core”

128 cores, 384 GB RAM

... but that's not enough!

# Contents for you today



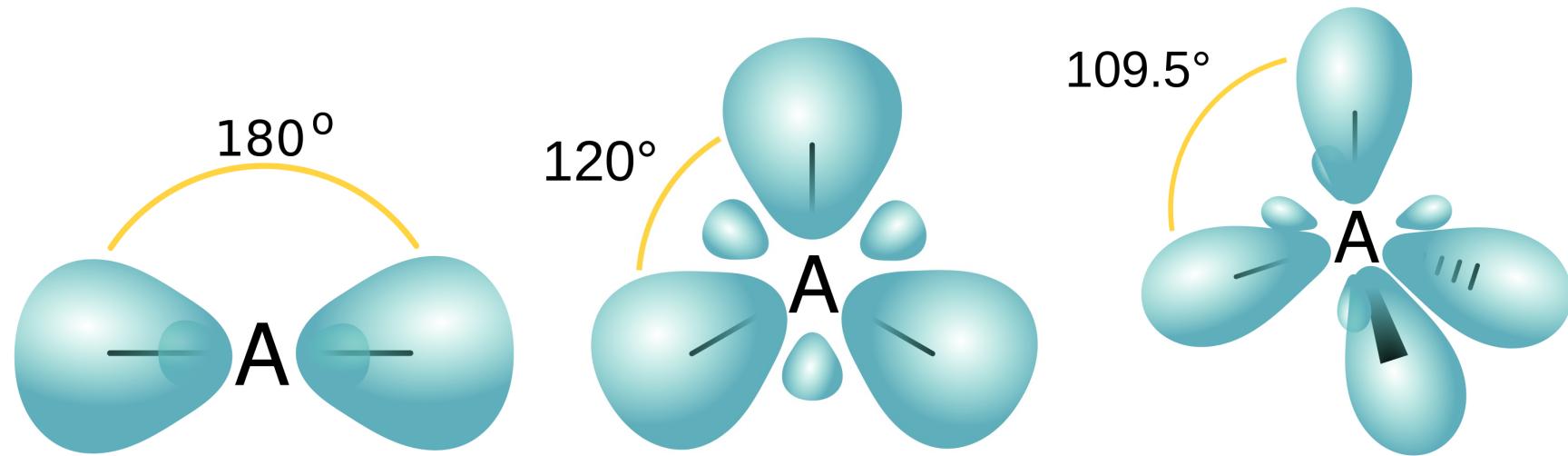
1. Carbon nanomembranes ✓
2. Classical molecular dynamics
3. Mechanical properties
4. Structure of CNMs
5. Open problems

# Classical Molecular Dynamics

# Classical Molecular Dynamics

- CMD can model very large systems (~ 10.000.000 particles).
- CMD can find ground states and model dynamics.
- But how should this be realistic for carbon-based compounds, where the chemical bond is of quantum nature?

## *sp* hybridization modes



*sp*, *sp*<sup>2</sup>, and *sp*<sup>3</sup> hybridization modes.

wikipedia: orbital hybridization

# Very sophisticated carbon potential

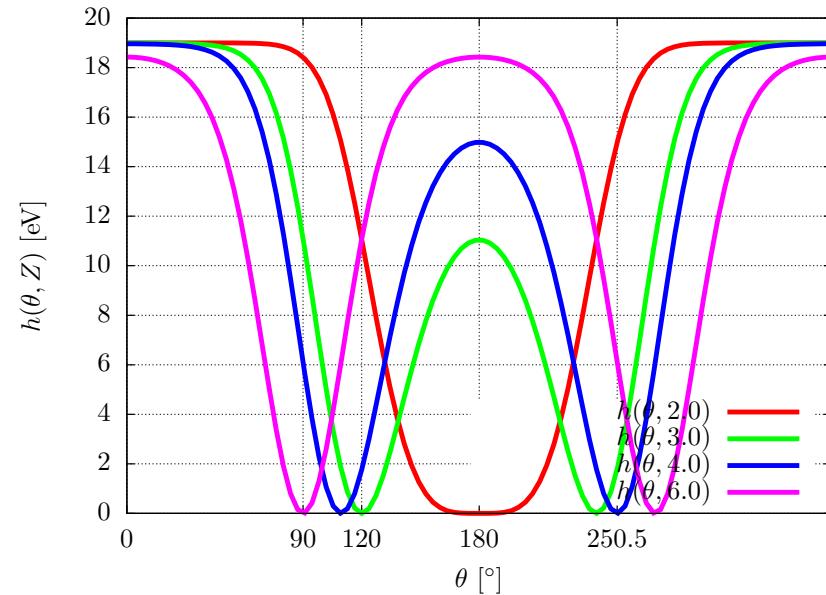
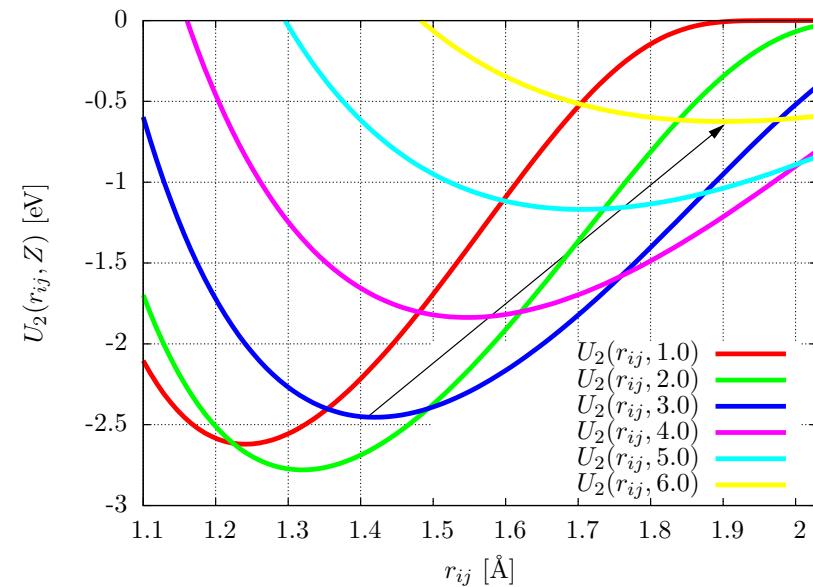
$$H(\vec{r}_1, \vec{p}_1; \vec{r}_2, \vec{p}_2; \dots) = \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{\vec{p}_i^2}{2m} + V(\vec{r}_1, \vec{r}_2, \dots)$$

$$V(\vec{r}_1, \vec{r}_2, \dots) = \sum_{i \neq j}^N U_2(|\vec{r}_i - \vec{r}_j|, Z_i) + \sum_{i \neq (j < k)}^N U_3(|\vec{r}_i - \vec{r}_j|, |\vec{r}_i - \vec{r}_k|, \Theta_{ijk}, Z_i)$$

D. W. Brenner *et al.*, J. Phys.: Cond. Mat. **14**, 783 (2002).

N. A. Marks, Phys. Rev. B **63**, 035401 (2000).

# Coordination dependence



Coordination influences strength and direction of bonding.

N. A. Marks, Phys. Rev. B **63**, 035401 (2000).

A. Mrugalla, Master thesis (2013)

# What can be achieved realistically?

- Structure calculations.
- Dynamical self-organization (1).
- Mechanical properties, such as vibrational spectra and response to mechanical stress.
- Sorry, no electronic properties, such as conductance or heat conductance.

(1) R. C. Powles, N. A. Marks, and D. W. M. Lau, Phys. Rev. B **79**, 075430 (2009).

# Mechanical properties (Young's modulus)

F. Gayk, J. Ehrens, T. Heitmann, P. Vorndamme, A. Mrugalla, and J. Schnack, Physica E **99**, 215 (2018).

## Question

What is the predictive power  
of classical carbon potentials  
for structure and moduli  
for known carbon materials?

... before we start to investigate unknown materials!

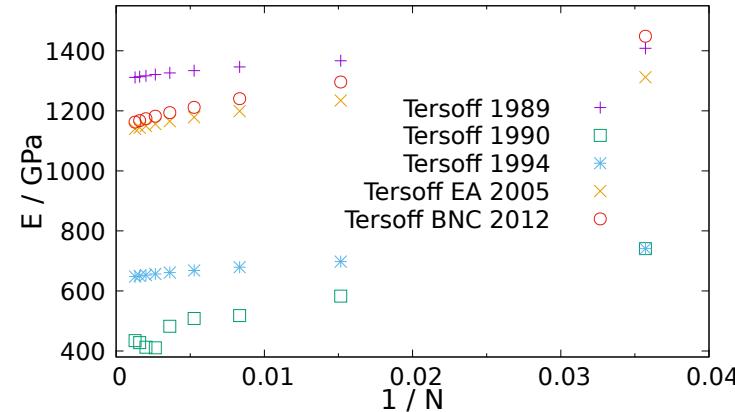
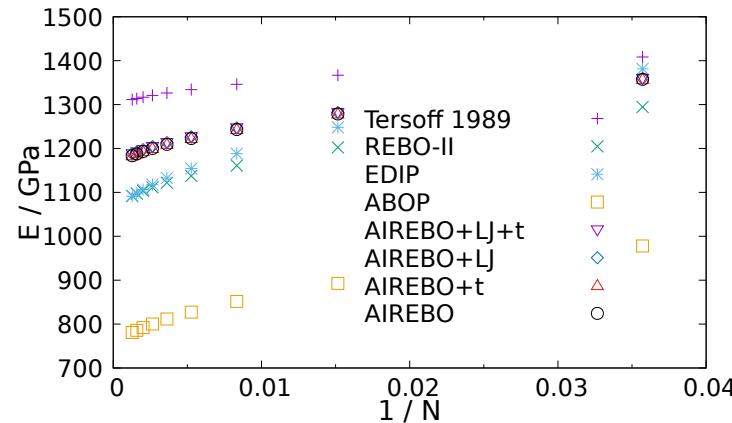
# Ground state distances for graphene, CNT, and diamond

Table 1: Ground-state dimensions in Å of graphene, CNT, and diamond for the investigated potentials (LAMMPS).

(\* No proper ground state structure found; † anisotropic.)

potential	graphene C-C distance	CNT C-C distance	diamond lattice const.
EDIP	1.42	1.42	3.56
REBO-II	1.42	1.42	3.58
ABOP	1.42	1.424, 1.417 †	3.46
Tersoff 89	1.46	1.46	3.57
Tersoff 90	*	*	3.56
Tersoff 94	1.55	*	3.56
Tersoff BNC	1.44	1.44	-
Tersoff EA	1.48	1.48	3.57
AIREBO+LJ+t	1.40	1.41	3.58
AIREBO+LJ	1.40	1.40	3.58
AIREBO+t	1.40	1.40	3.58
AIREBO	1.40	1.40	3.58
experimental	1.42	1.42	3.567

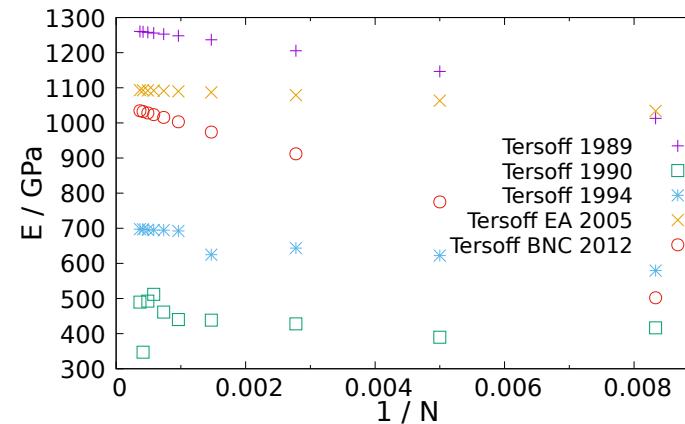
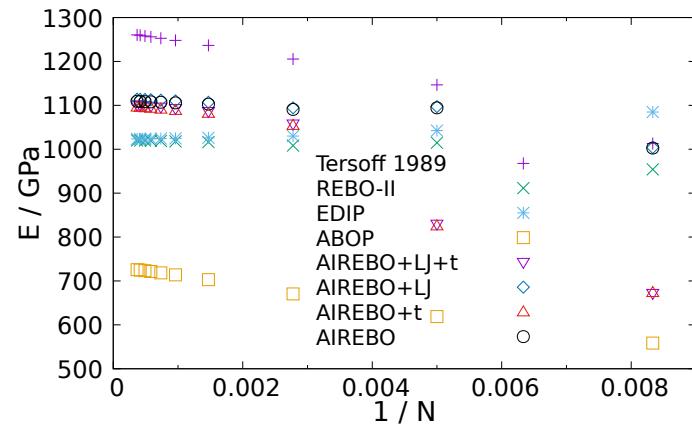
# Young's modulus for graphene



Young's modulus of graphene for various sizes and potentials.  $N$  denotes the number of atoms in the approximately square graphene sheets. Open boundary conditions are applied.

Experimental value: 1000 GPa.

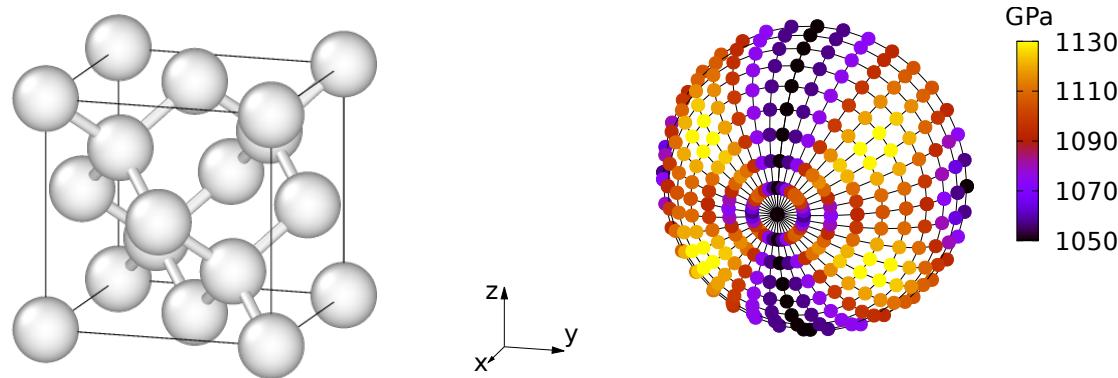
# Young's modulus for CNT



Young's modulus of a (20,20) CNT with armchair geometry along the tube, taken as  $x$ -direction, for various sizes and potentials.  $N$  denotes the number of atoms of the tube. Open boundary conditions are applied.

Experimental value: 1000 GPa.

# Young's modulus for diamond



Structure and directions as well as Young's modulus of diamond taken in various directions on the northern hemisphere around the positive  $x$ -direction for  $N = 8631$  and the EDIP potential. Open boundary conditions are applied.

Experimental values: 1.05 TPa ... 1.21 TPa

## Conclusion

For the investigated observables  
(bond length & Young's modulus)  
and the chosen carbon materials  
EDIP and REBO-II  
perform overall well.

F. Gayk, J. Ehrens, T. Heitmann, P. Vorndamme, A. Mrugalla, and J. Schnack, Physica E **99**, 215 (2018).

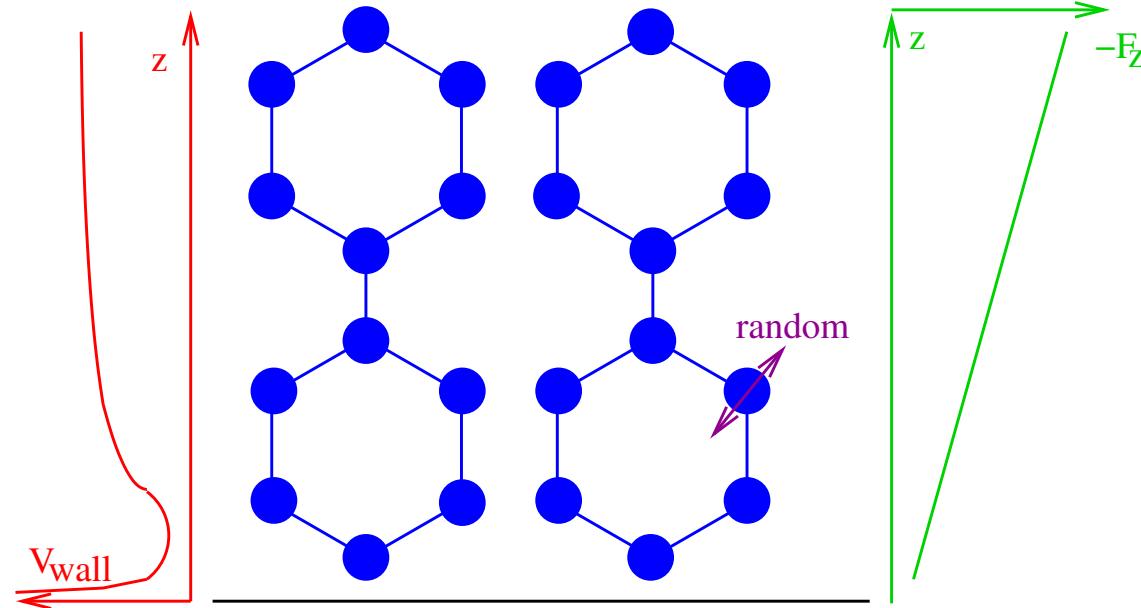
How to find the

# Structure of CNMs?

# Questions

- The structure or a structure?
- Structure very likely a metastable state, a local energy minimum. Glas-like?
- How to model? Initial conditions, cooling, ... ?
- Which structures are correct? Observables?
- X-ray structure determination impossible!

# Initialization



Model: includes only carbon atoms (+ surface);

Initial state: randomized carbon positions in SAM, vertical force field;

Cooling: Nose-Hoover or alike;

LAMMPS: EDIP and analytical forces included in our version.

# Examples of CMNs

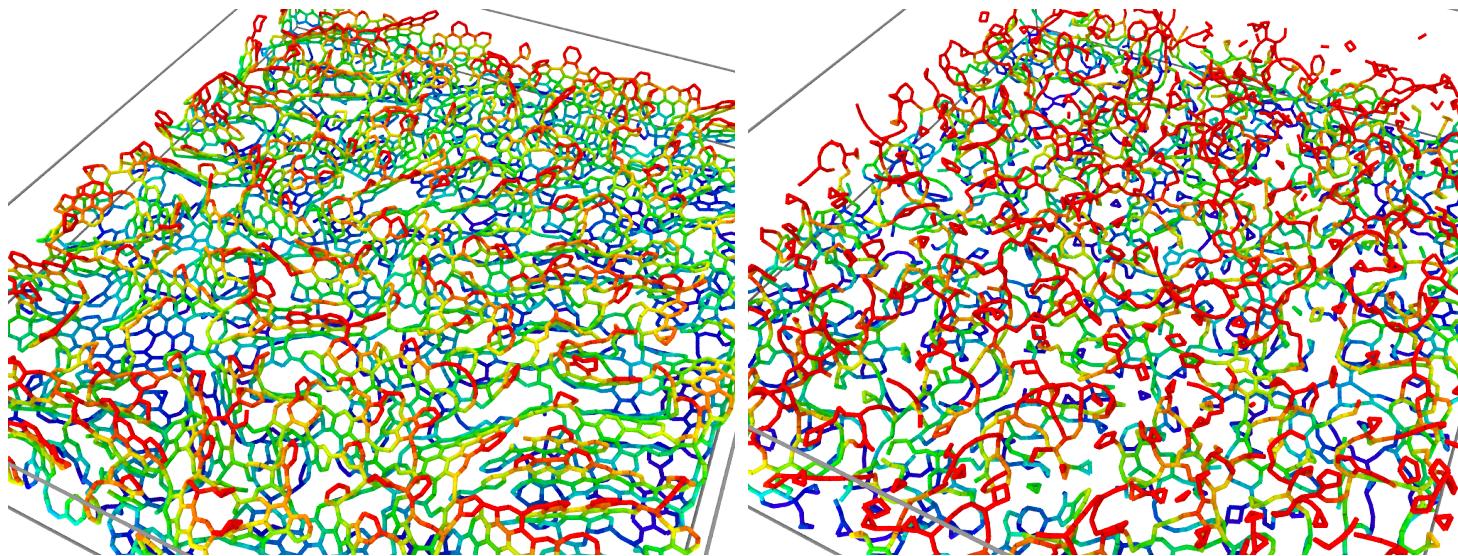


Abbildung 17: TPT,  $T = 700$  K;  $k = 30 \frac{\text{eV}}{\text{\AA}}$  (links) und  $k = 200 \frac{\text{eV}}{\text{\AA}}$  (rechts)

F. Gayk, Master Thesis, Bielefeld University (2018)

# Examples of CMNs

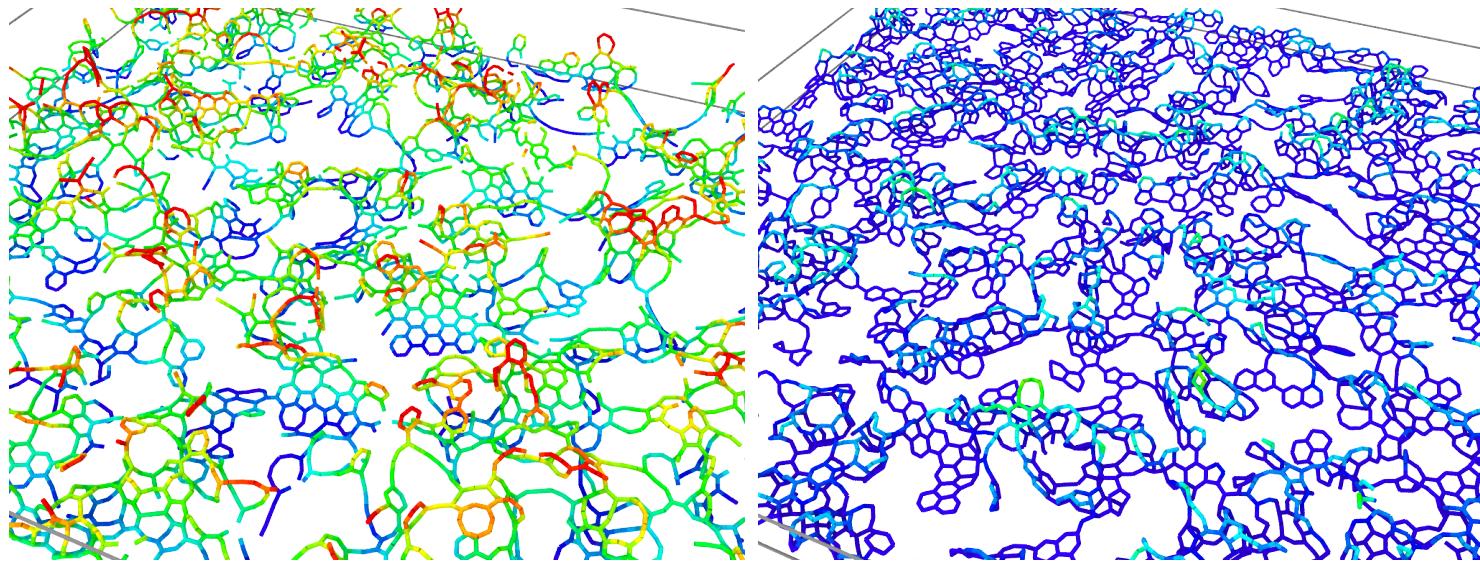


Abbildung 21:  $k = 60 \frac{\text{eV}}{\text{\AA}}$ ,  $T = 300 \text{ K}$ ,  $v = 35 \frac{\text{\AA}}{\text{ps}}$ ; BPT,  $N = 4900$  (links) und NPTH,  $N = 2500$  (rechts)

F. Gayk, Master Thesis, Bielefeld University (2018)

# Examples of CMNs

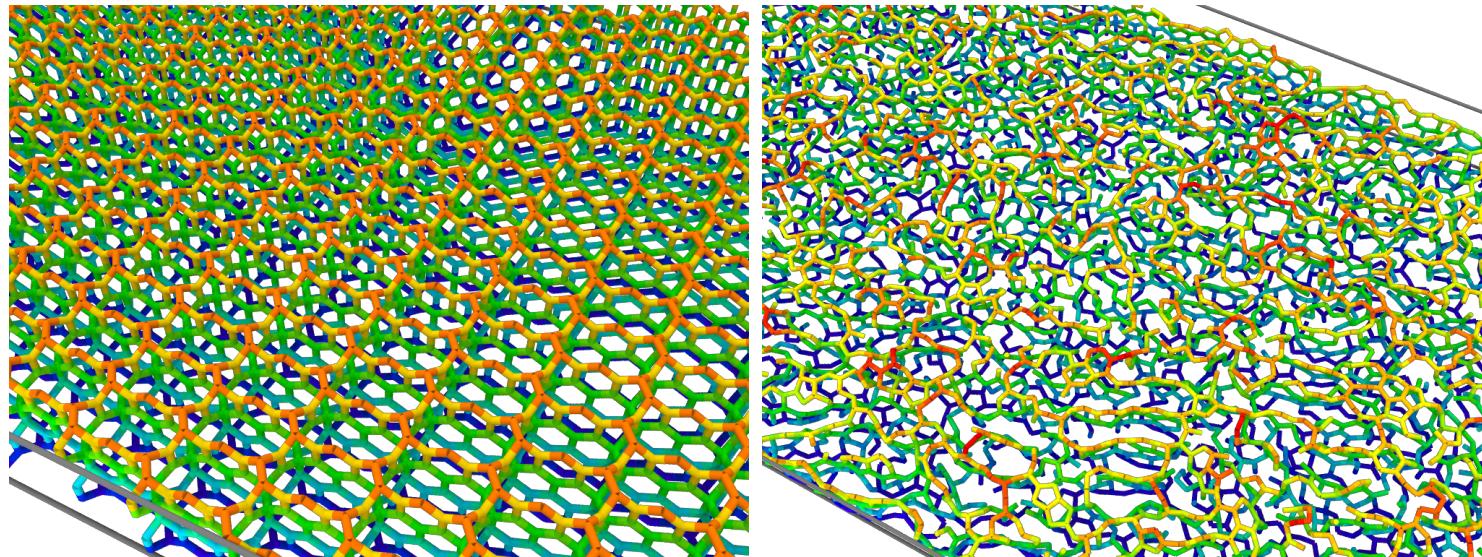
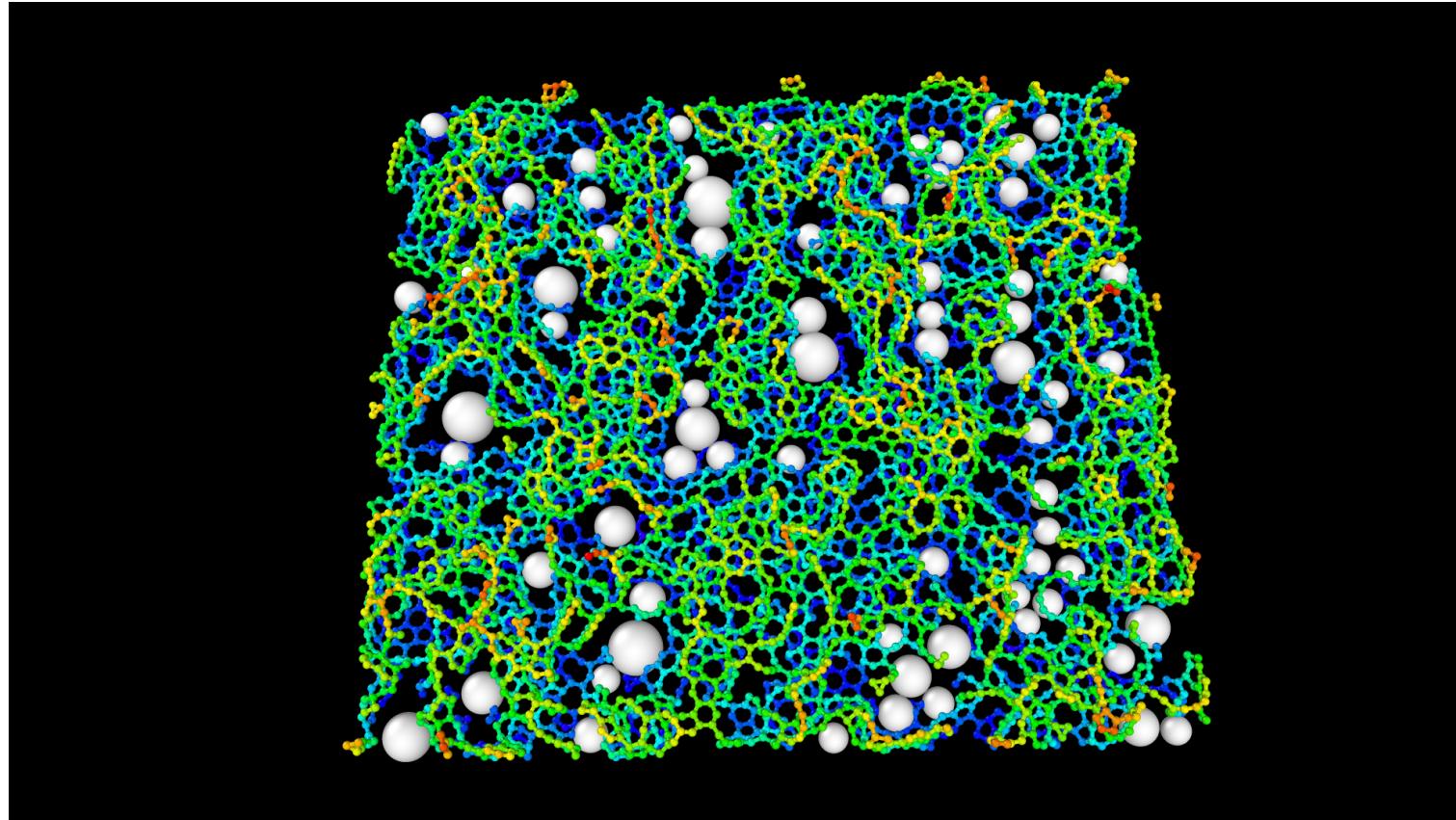


Abbildung 26: DFT Struktur (links);  $k = 60 \frac{\text{eV}}{\text{\AA}}$ ,  $T = 300 \text{ K}$  auf DFT Struktur (rechts)

Randomized and cooled DFT structure (1).

- (1) P. Cabrera-Sanfelix, A. Arnau, and D. Sanchez-Portal, Phys. Chem. Chem. Phys. **12**, 1578 (2010).  
(2) F. Gayk, Master Thesis, Bielefeld University (2018)

## Examples of CMNs



CNM have got holes (pores)! In simulations this depends on initial conditions: more violence  $\Rightarrow$  more holes.

# Young's modulus of CMNs

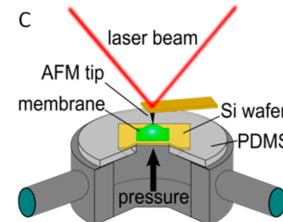


Abbildung 13: Aufbau des Beultests [44]

Tabelle 7.2: E-Module (bezüglich: Boxvolumen|Oberflächennetzvolumen)

	$E_x$ / GPa	$E_y$ / GPa
TPT (T=700 K, $k = 30 \frac{\text{eV}}{\text{\AA}}$ )	436   847	334   649
TPT (T=700 K, $k = 200 \frac{\text{eV}}{\text{\AA}}$ )	215   448	220   457
TPT (T=300 K, $k = 60 \frac{\text{eV}}{\text{\AA}}$ )	325   987	316   960
TPT (T=1100 K, $k = 60 \frac{\text{eV}}{\text{\AA}}$ )	351   866	339   838
BPT (T=700 K, $k = 60 \frac{\text{eV}}{\text{\AA}}$ )	202   736	191   695
NPTH (T=700 K, $k = 60 \frac{\text{eV}}{\text{\AA}}$ )	536   1367	500   1277

precursor molecules	thickness of SAM [Å]	structure of SAM	area per molecule [Å²]	carbon density [nm⁻³]	Young's modulus [GPa]
BPT	10	2 × 2	28.7	42	9.9
TPT	12	$\sqrt{3} \times \sqrt{3}$	21.6	64	9.0
NPTH	6	$\sqrt{3} \times \sqrt{3}$	21.6	77	18.6

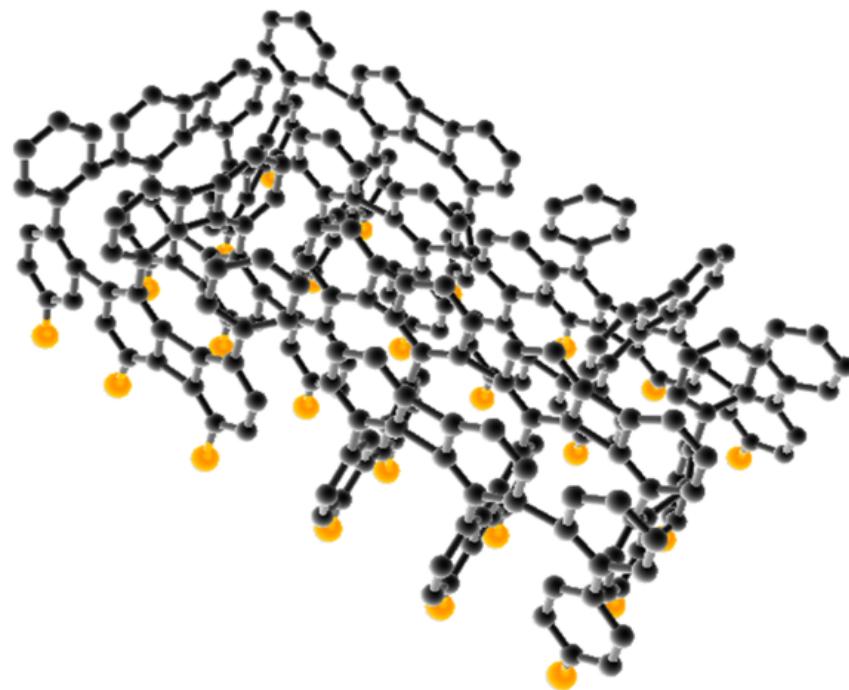
Abbildung 14: E-Module aus Beultest [44]

Theoretical Young's moduli closer to graphene;  
factor 10 ... 50 bigger than experiment.

F. Gayk, Master Thesis, Bielefeld University (2018)

X. Zhang, C. Neumann, P. Angelova, A. Beyer, and A. Gölzhäuser, Langmuir **30**, 8221 (2014).

## Alternative structure

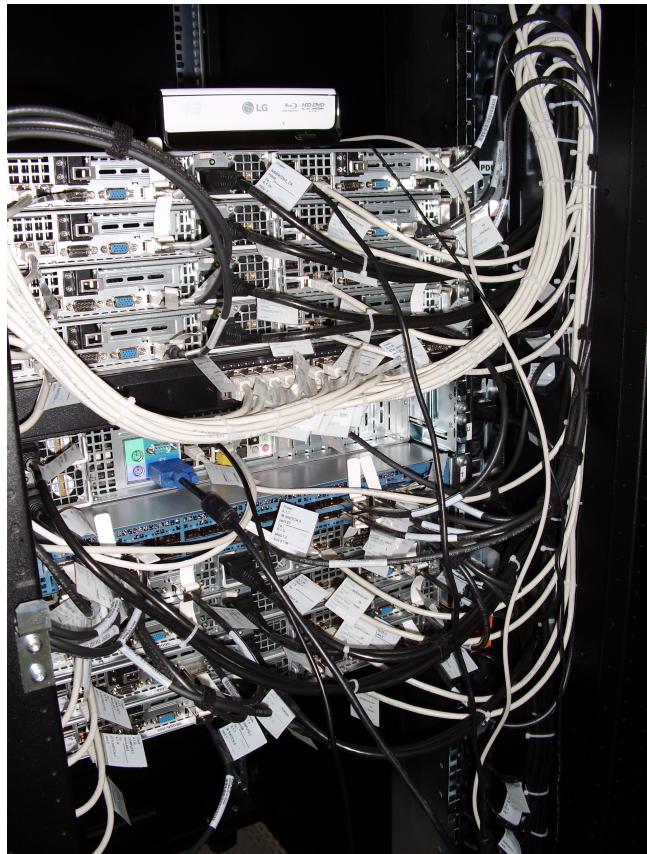


Possible configuration of a Biphenyl layer, ARGUS Lab (1).

Not realistic, since construction principle works only for BPT.  
NEXAFS shows about 60 % aromaticity, i.e. 40 % of phenyl rings are broken.

(1) D. Rhinow, N.-E. Weber, A. Turchanin, J. Phys. Chem. C **116**, 12295 (2012).

# Summary



- Classical Molecular Dynamics can be set up for carbon systems using effective many-body carbon potentials.
- Ground-state geometries can be determined with great accuracy (exception graphite).
- Dynamical self-assembly can be simulated.
- Prospect to simulate nano sheets with realistic, i.e. probably irregular structure.
- Electronic properties CANNOT be modeled.

# Many thanks to

Professor Nigel Marks, Curtin University, Australia

Thank you very much for your  
attention.

## References

- [1] A. Turchanin and A. Gölzhäuser, *Adv. Mater.* **28**, 6075 (2016).
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