



**COLORADO**SCHOOL OF **MINES**



## **Recent Advances in Nanoparticle Analysis Using ICP-MS**



Dr. James F. Ranville  
Department of Chemistry and Geochemistry  
Colorado School of Mines



# Detection of Engineered Nanomaterials: Semi-Conductor Facilities and Consumer Devices (*Task Number: 425.040*)

## PIs:

- Paul Westerhoff, School of Sustainable Engineering & The Built Environment, ASU
- Pierre Herckes, Department of Chemistry & Biochemistry, ASU
- James Ranville, Department of Chemistry, CSM
- Jonathan Posner, Mechanical Engineering, UW

## Graduate Students:

- Xiangyu Bi, PhD candidate, School of Sustainable Engineering & The Built Environment, ASU
  - Kyle Doudrick, PhD candidate, School of Sustainable Engineering & The Built Environment, ASU
  - Manuel Montano, PhD candidate, Chemistry, CSM
  - Jing Jing Wang, PhD candidate, Chemistry, CSM
- 
- Project Goals:
  - Develop analytical methods for detecting and quantifying trace quantities nanomaterials relevant to the semiconductor industry in waste and recycled water, in lab air, and leached from packaged semiconductors
  - Develop analytical methods for NM size distribution and quantification
  - Develop capability to monitor NMs used in semiconducting manufacturing in air and water
  - Assess NM release or leaching from electronic devices

# CSM Acknowledgements



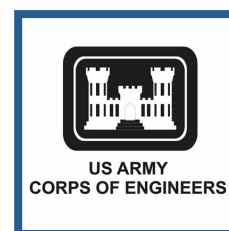
Current CSM Students working on Nano:  
Manuel Montano, Robert Reed, Evan Gray, Denise Mitrano  
\*Not pictured: JJ. Wang, Emily Lesher, Heather Pace

## Collaborators

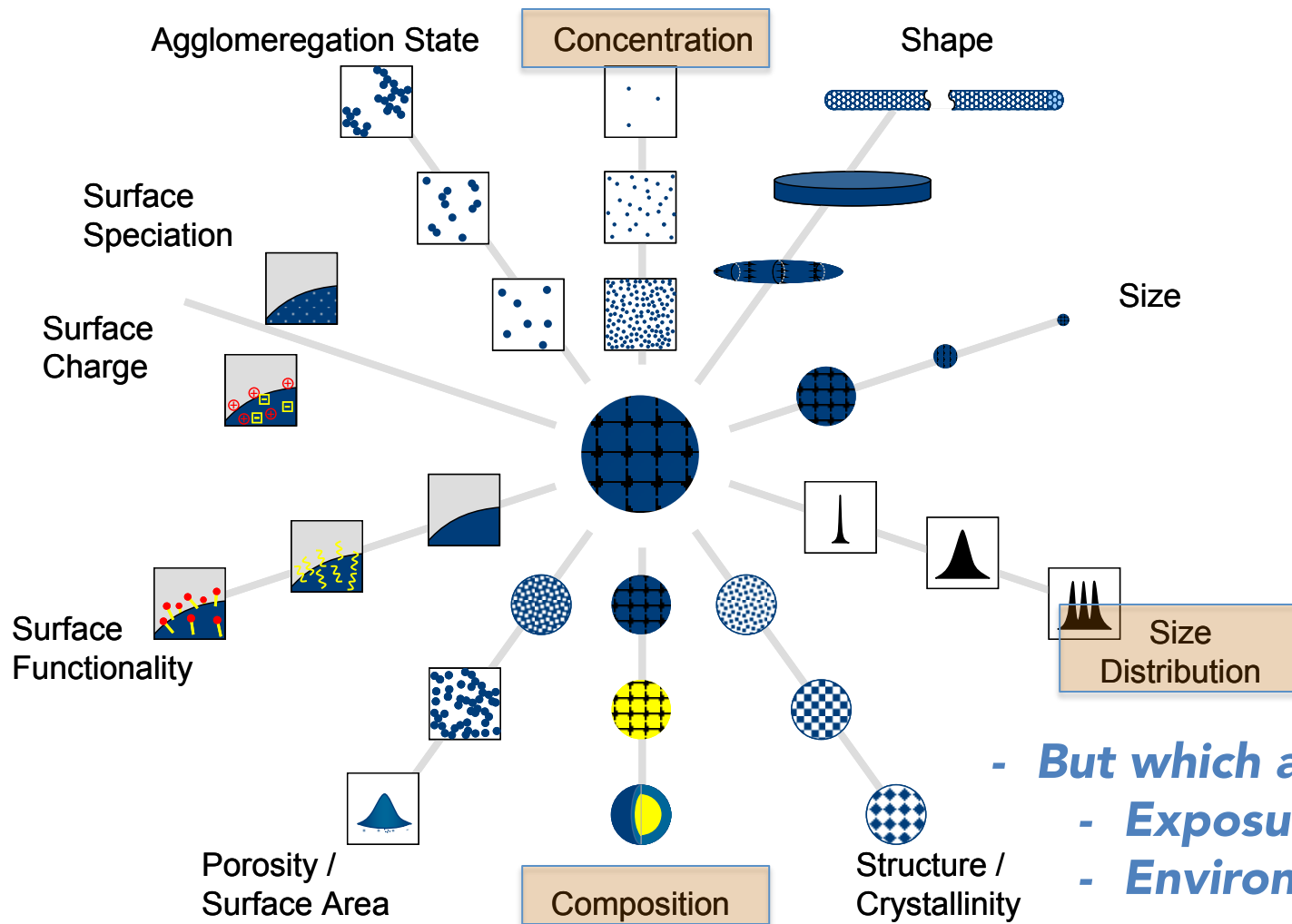
- Christopher Higgins (CSM)
- Paul Westerhoff (ASU)
- Brian Majestic (DU)
- Tony Bednar, Jessica Coleman, & Alan Kennedy (USACE)
- Howard Fairbrother (JHU)
- Ken Neubauer, Andy Salamon, Chady Stephan, and Hamid Badiei (Perkin Elmer)
- Soheyl Tadjji (Postnova)
- Scientists at the National Measurement Institute, Sydney Australia

## Funding

- National Institute of Health Grand Opportunities (RC2) program Grant DE-FG02-08ER64613
- US Army Corps of Engineers Grant Number W912HZ-09-P-0163.
- USEPA STAR grant program RD-83332401-
- SRC Task Number: 425.040

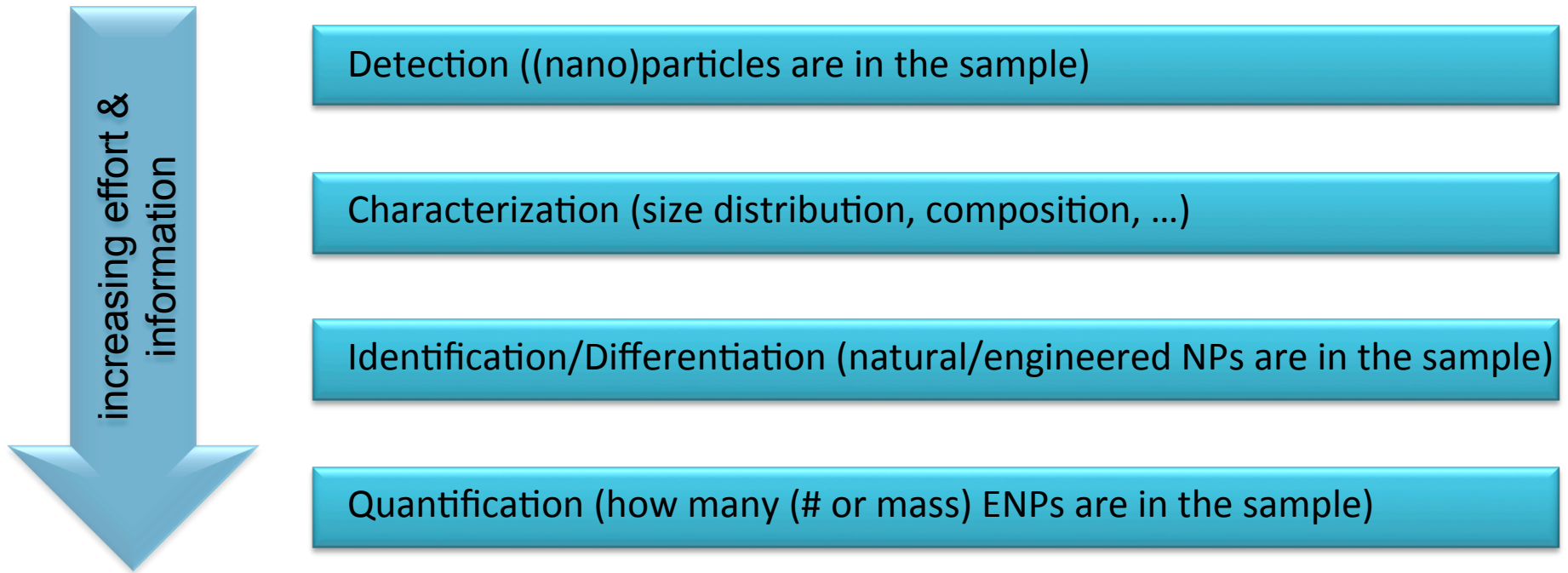


# Nanomaterial Characterization: *There are many parameters that can be measured*



- **But which are critical to:**
  - **Exposure assessment**
  - **Environmental fate ?**

**There are many nanometrology methods available: *what level of analysis is needed?***



modified from v.d. Kammer et al. ET&C 2012 & TRaC 2011

# Topics of the talk

- \* Development of nanometrology techniques for characterization of metallic NPs

- \* Comparison of techniques

**Method Development**

- \* Implementation of techniques for “real world” studies

  - \* NP stability (nano Ag)

  - \* Product release (CNTs)

  - \* NP biological uptake (nano Au & Ag)

**Implementation**

- \* Collaborations with ICP-MS manufacturers

**New Approaches**

\* Development of nanometrology techniques for characterization of metallic NPs

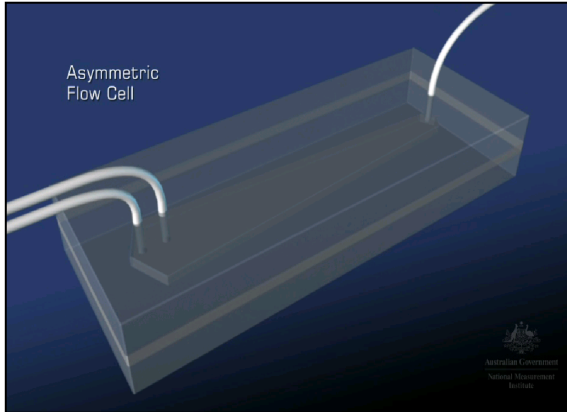
\* Comparison of techniques

**Method Development**

- Characterization by FFF-ICPMS
- Counting and Sizing NPs by spICPMS

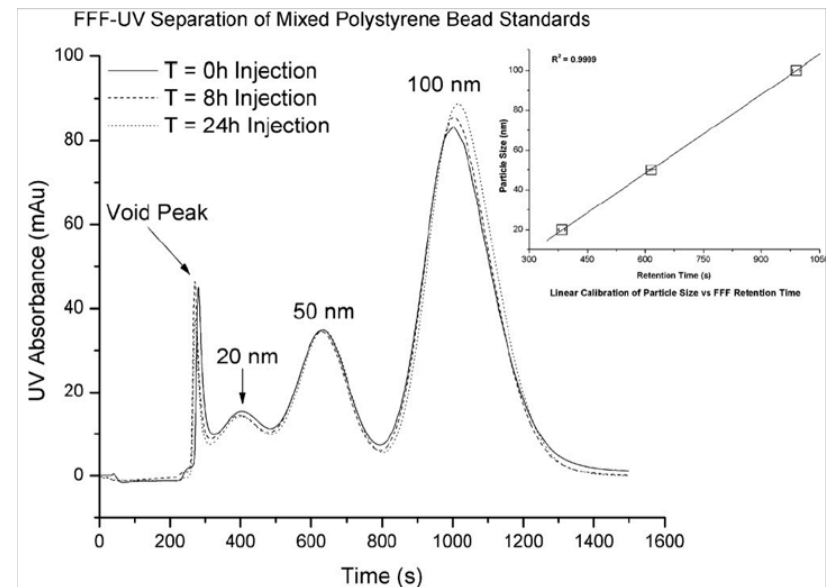
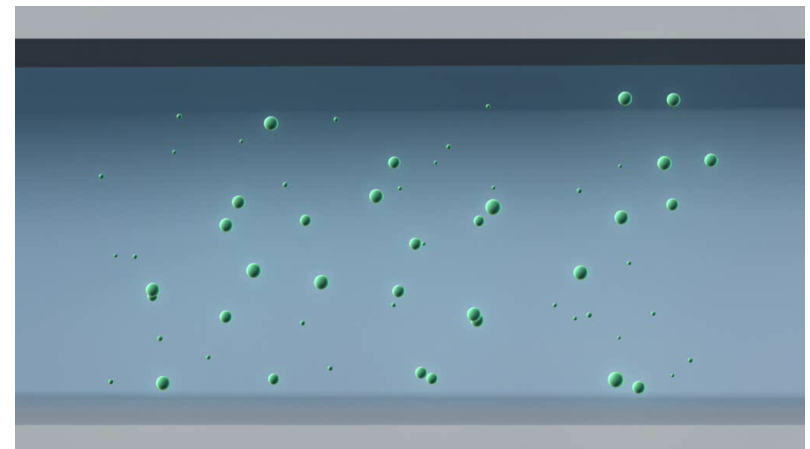
# FFF: Diffusion-based method

## Field flow fractionation



- Applicable from 2-1000nm
- “Size” analysis by theory or calibration
- Multi-element composition data with element specific detectors (ICP)
- Shape analysis by off-line TEM of fractions
- Long analysis times (30-60 minutes) currently limit possibilities for high-throughput applications

Slide courtesy of NMI, Sydney Australia, Animation by MagiPics

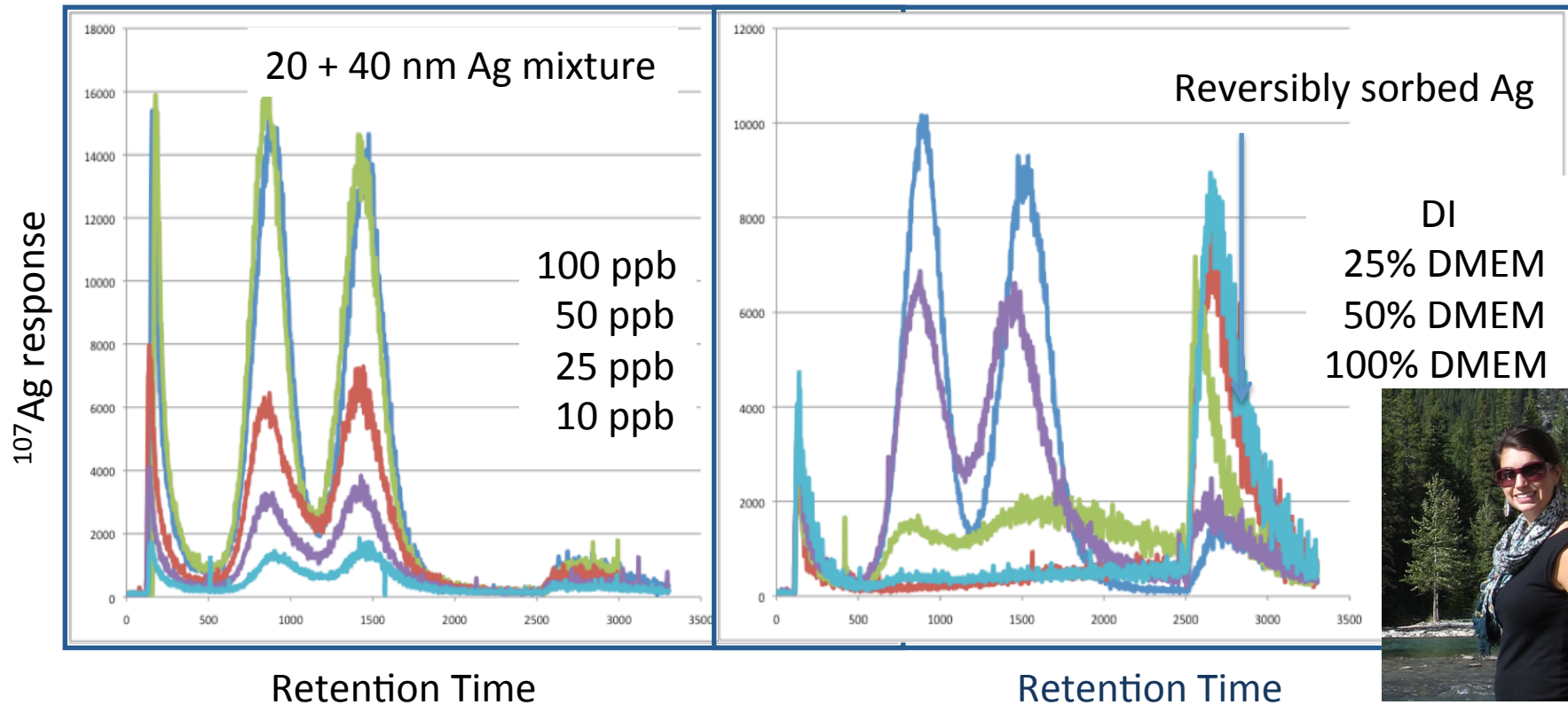


Bednar et al, 2012



# Flow field flow fractionation-ICPMS

- **Complex matrices, in this case cell line fluid (DMEM), can affect recovery and resolution (NP interaction with the AF4 membrane)**
- **Significant method development can be required for EHS applications**
- **Improvements in software/hardware allow for "automated" testing of membrane/carrier composition/flow rate to optimize method (see von der Kammer papers)**



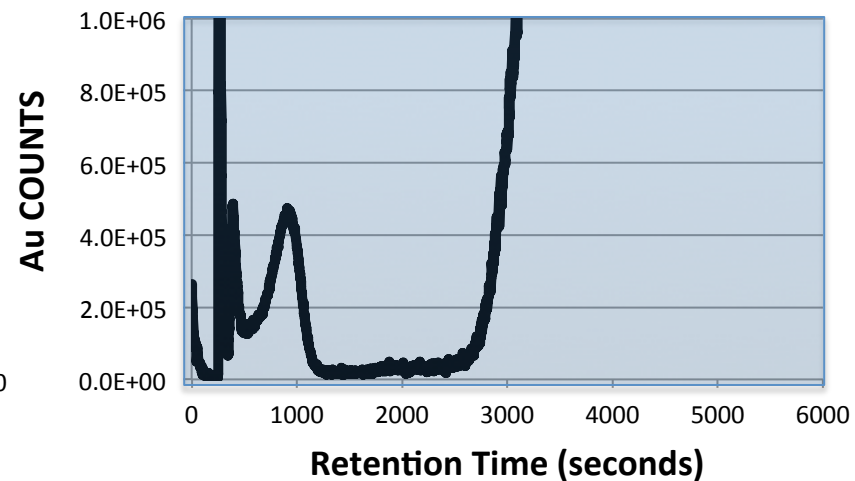
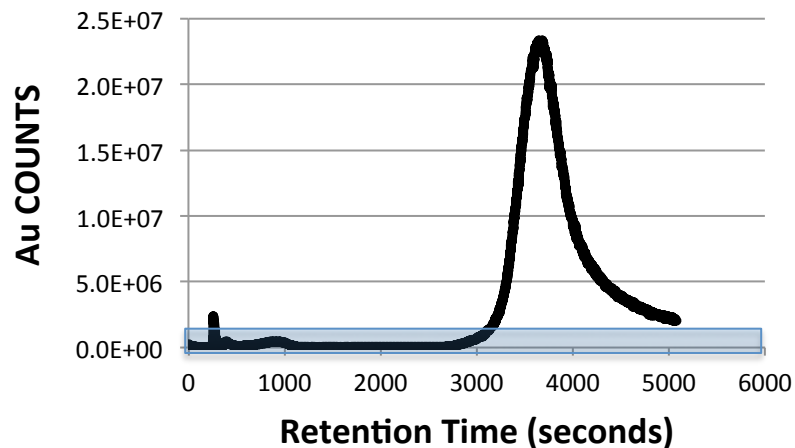
Mitrano et al, JAAS, 2012

# Sedimentation field flow fractionation-ICPMS

**NMI (Sydney, AUS) inter-laboratory comparison**

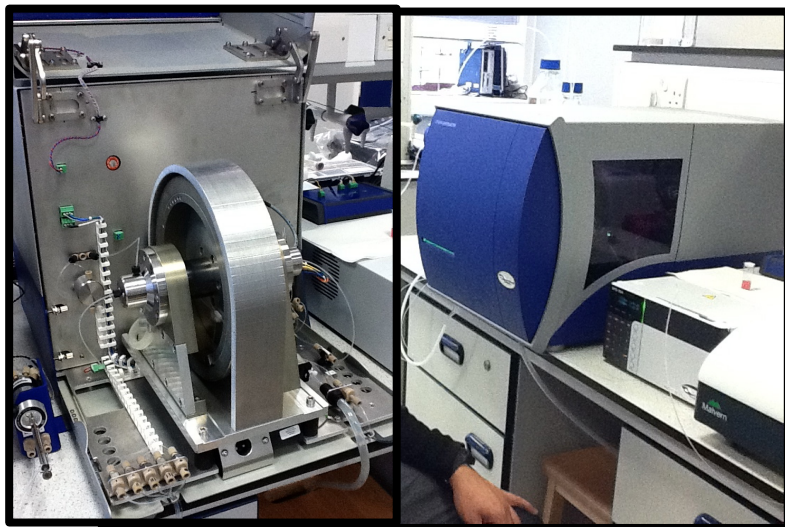
**Two samples examined: Equal # and equal scattering intensity 20 +100 nm**

**NPS-4: Equal number 20 & 100 nm Au**



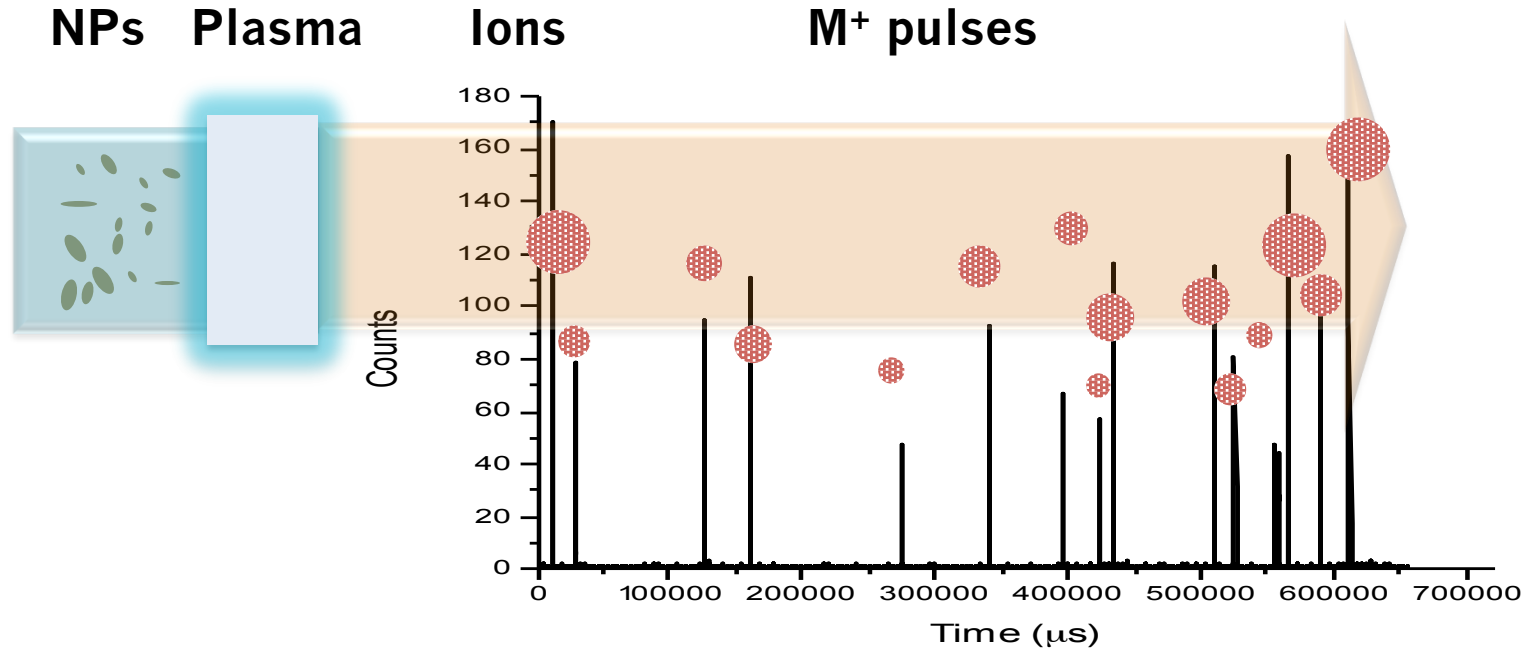
Mass ratio 100nm/20nm: Theoretical 125 ( $5^3$ )  
Measured 95

- **Measurement of size and element concentration can be used to compute number-based size distribution for simple ENPs**
- **Results affected by size-dependent recovery**





# spICPMS: Element-specific counting method

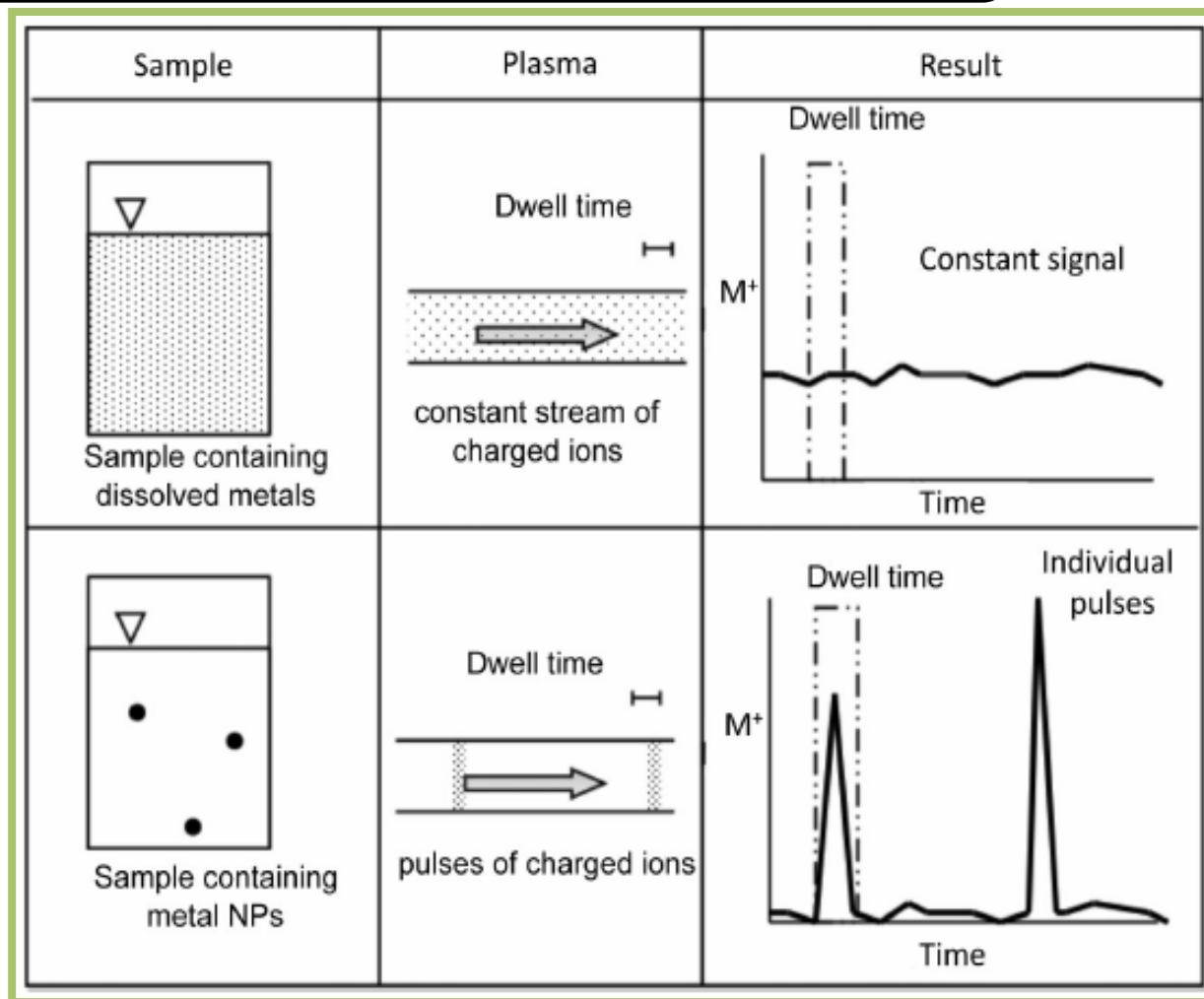


- Uses readily available ICPMS instrumentation
- Method development simpler than FFF
- Provides # distributions
- Higher size detection limit than FFF (depends on MS)
- Single element detection
- Rapid analysis allows for high-throughput applications



# Principles of Single Particle ICPMS

- Dissolved analyte gives a constant signal
- Dilute NP solution: single nanoparticle in a single dwell time
- Assumption: one pulse = one particle
- Number of pulses = number of nanoparticles (corrected for nebulization efficiency)
- Size of pulse related to NP size

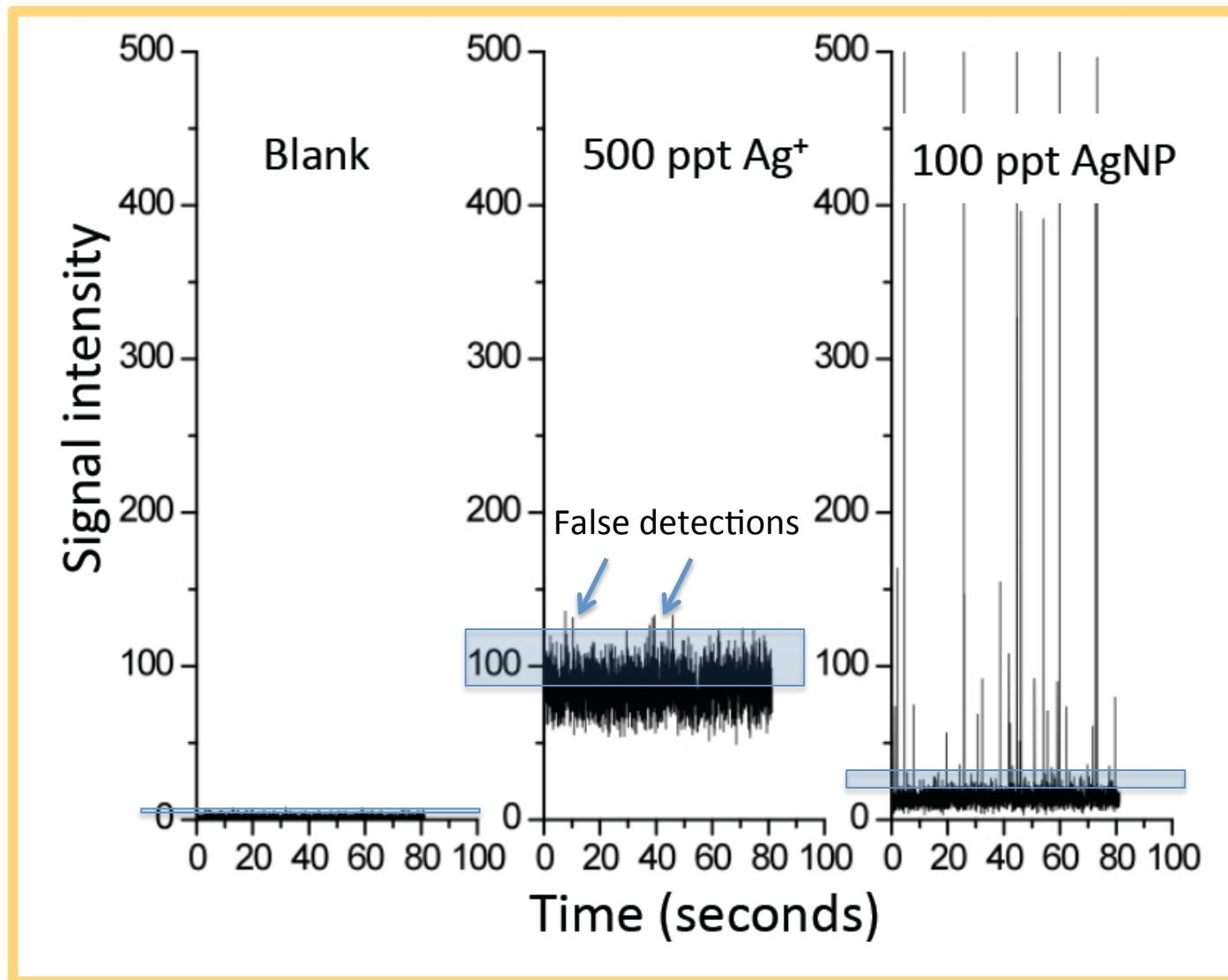


Mitrano, D., Leshner, E., Bednar, A. et al. 2012.  
*Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry*, **31**, 115-121

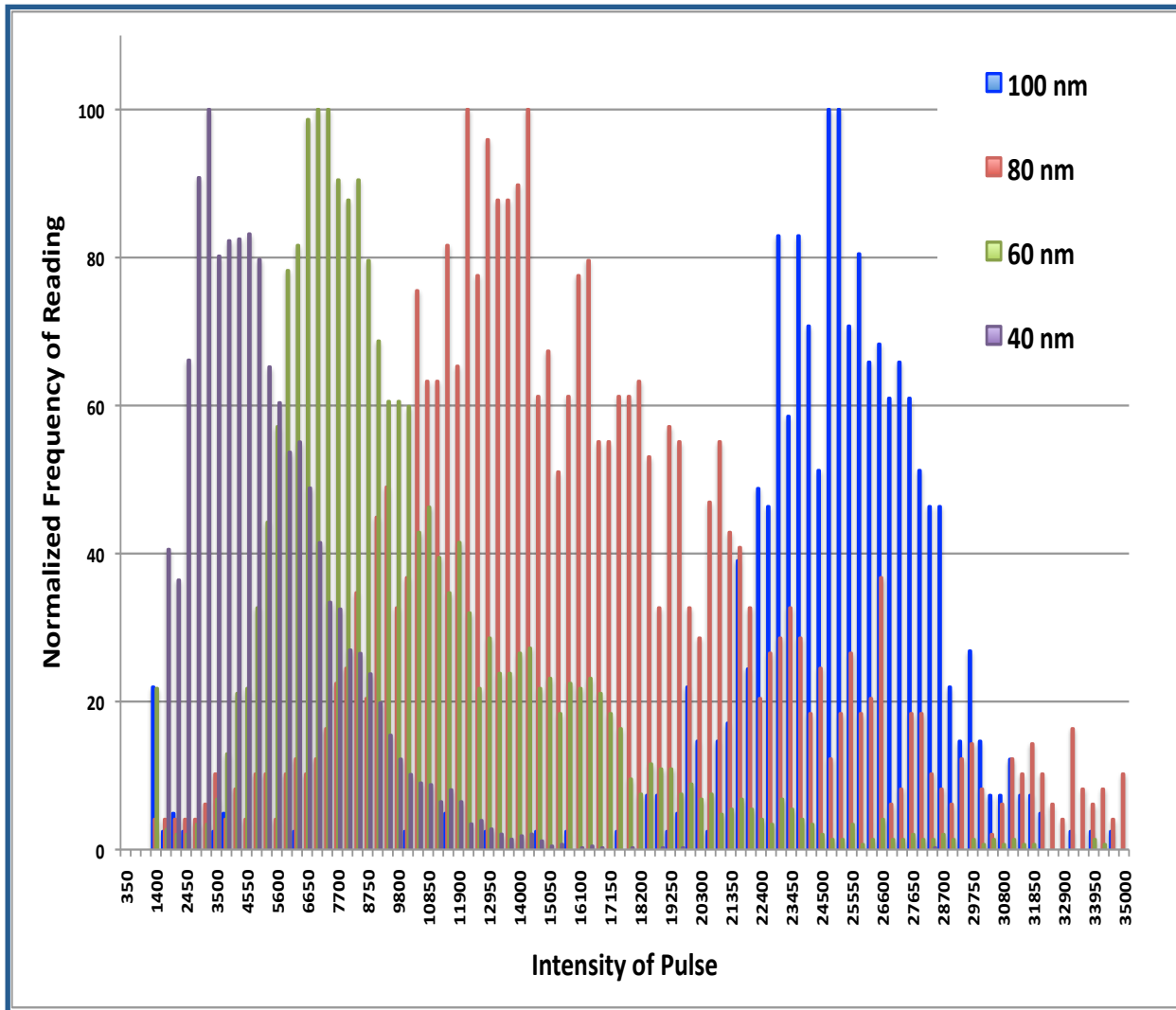
# Defining NP size cutoff

Typically  
choose 3 to 5  
 $\sigma$  above  
background

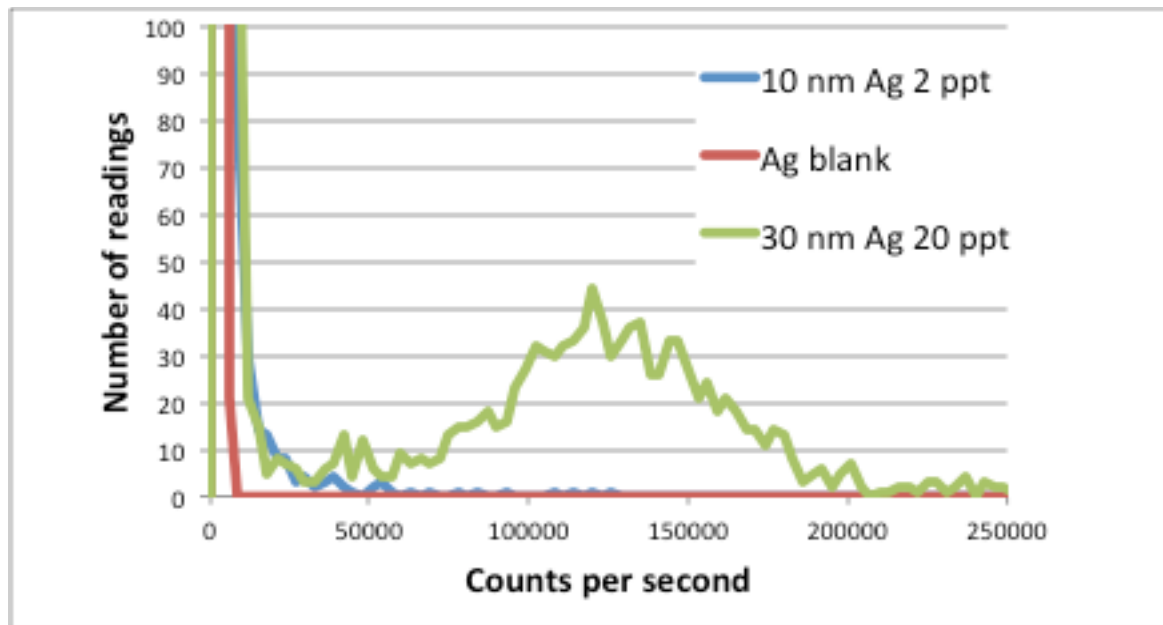
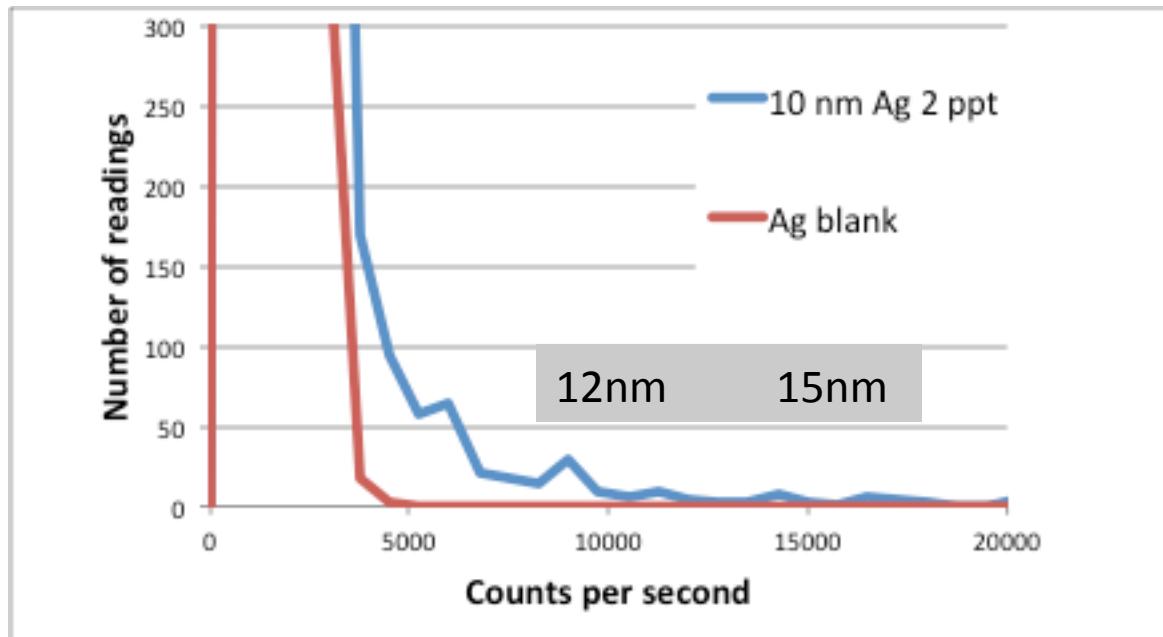
Other  
statistical  
approaches  
examined by  
ASU team and  
others



# Size Detection Limit



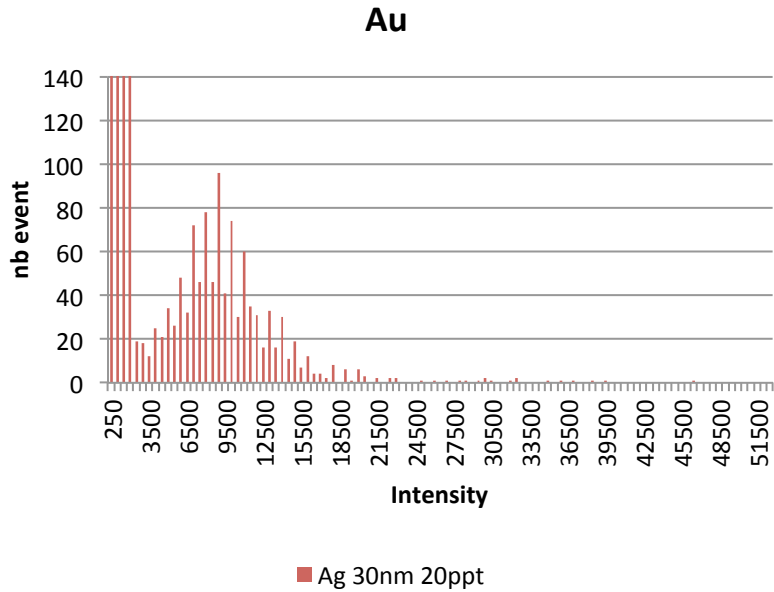
- Normalized frequencies to highest value for each sized particle for clarity
- Background/ dissolved Ag+ omitted from graph (< 1400 cps)
- Smallest detectable particle with Quadrapole ICPMS: 30-40nm for Ag



## ELEMENT II Size detection limits-Ag

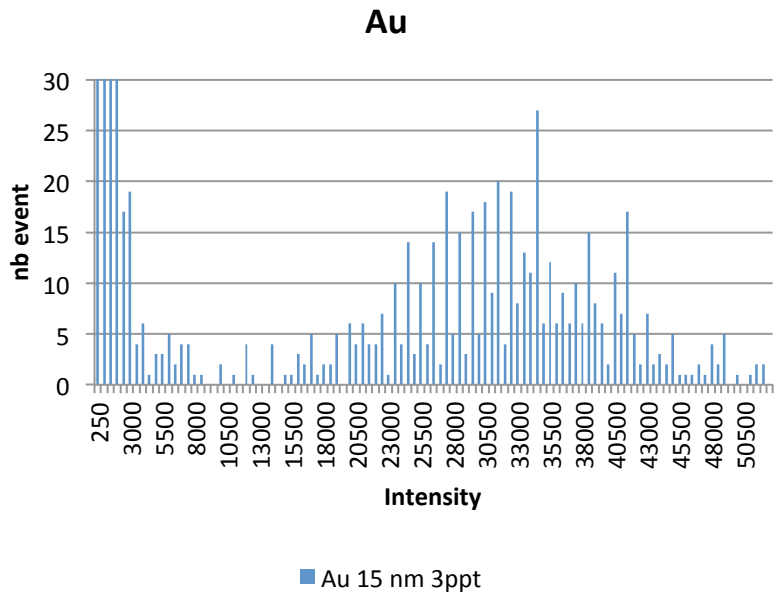
12-15 nm (8000-15000  
cps or so) possible?





Au seed in 30 nm Ag NP  
NanoComposix states the  
size is 8 nm

Intensity in cps

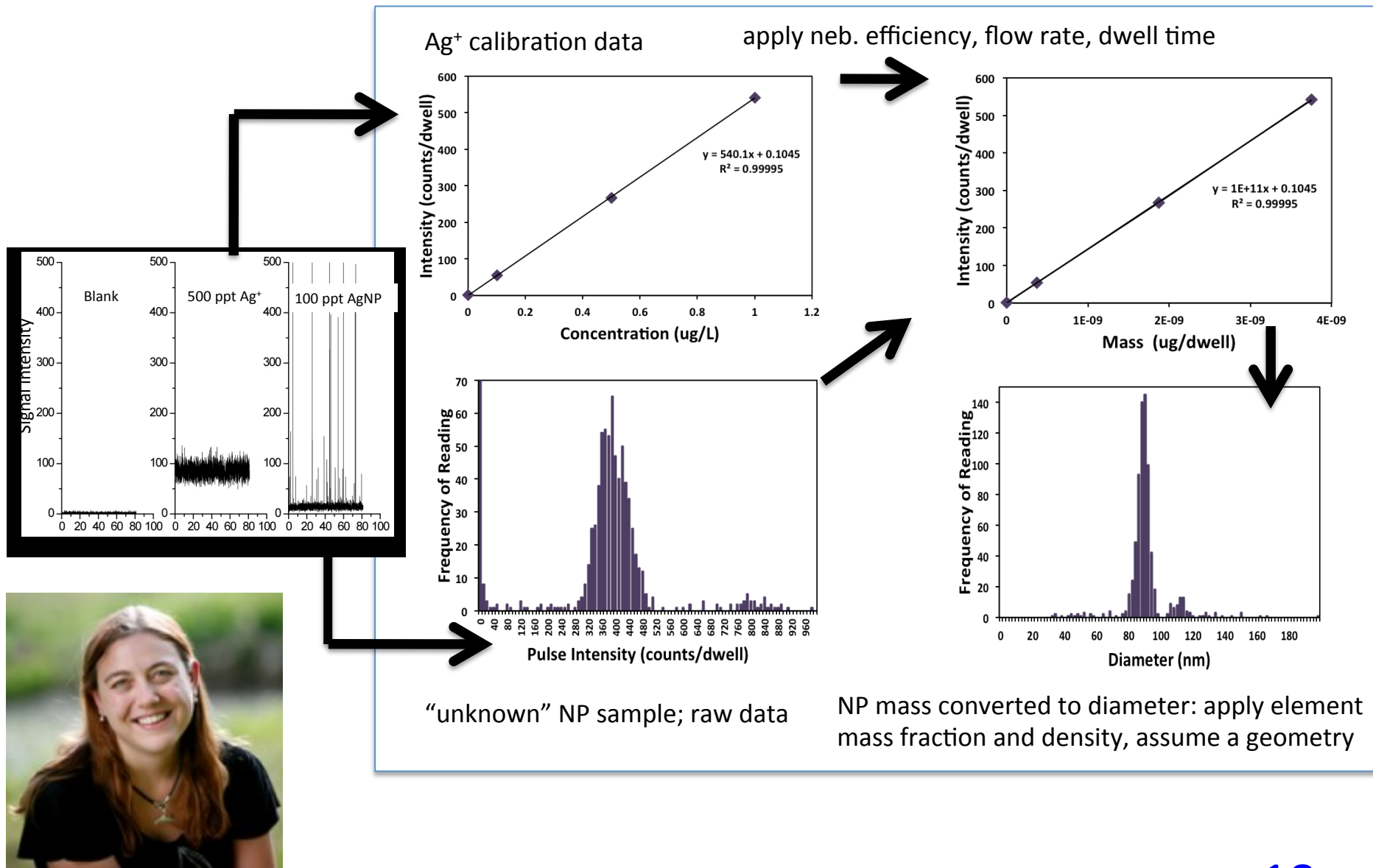


15 nm Au NP

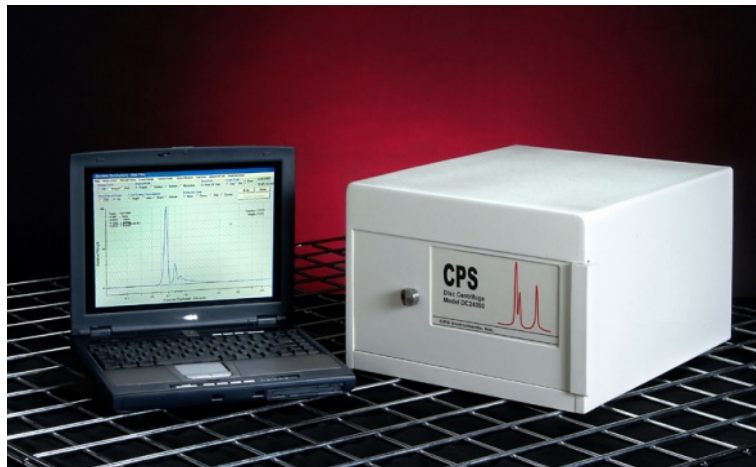
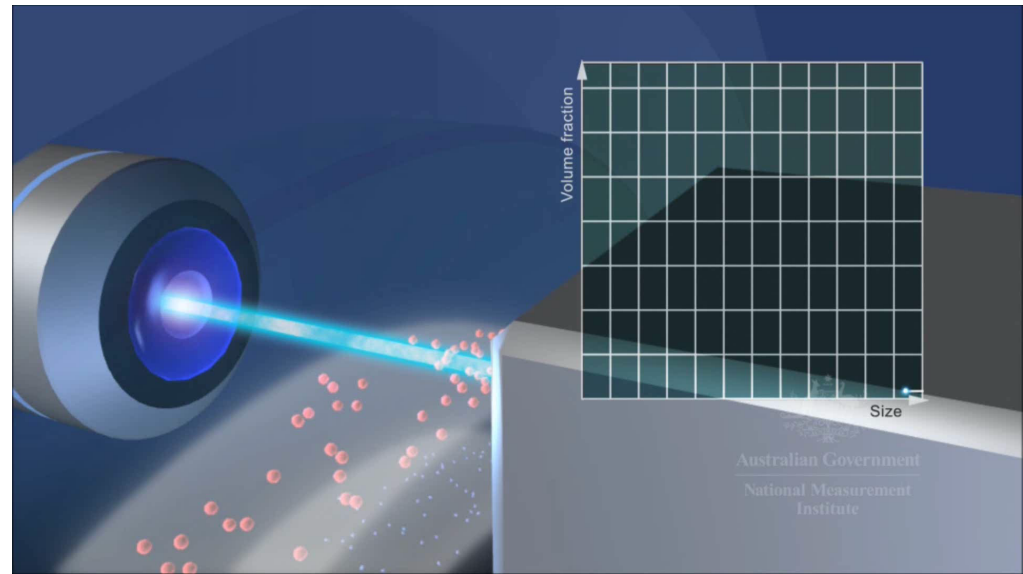
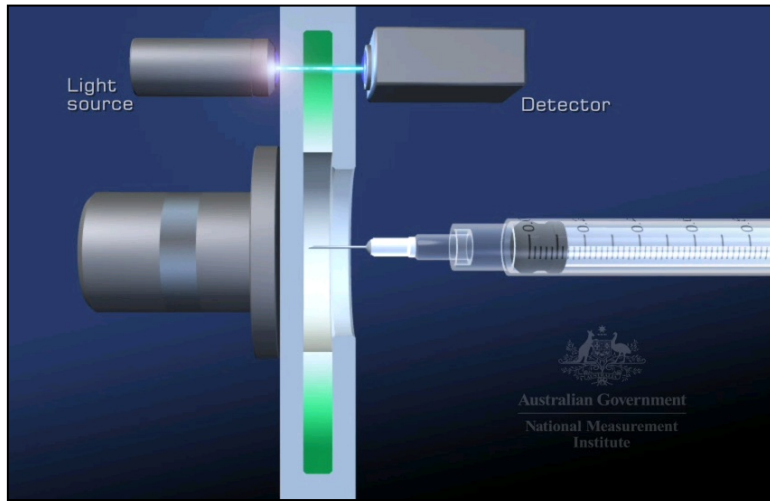
**ELEMENT II**  
Size detection  
limits-Au

< 7 nm possible?

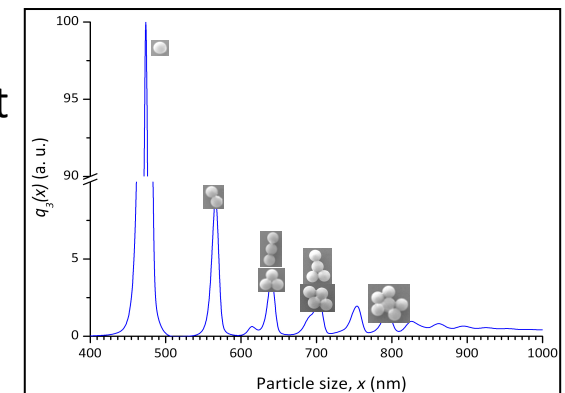
# Convert pulse counts to diameter



# Comparison of *spICPMS* to Other Methods: Disc Centrifugation



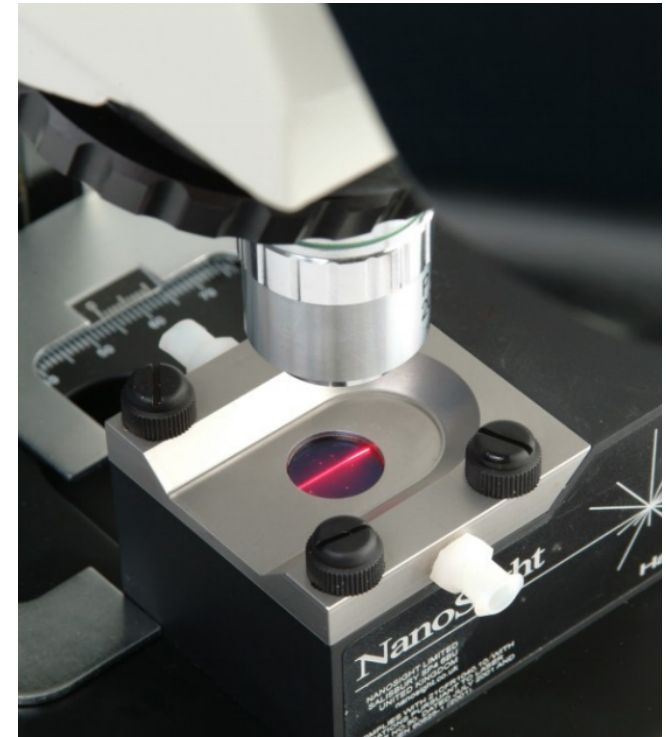
Very high resolution but  
need to know density



Slide courtesy of NMI, Sydney Australia,  
Animation by MagiPics

# Comparison of *spICPMS* to Other Methods: Particle Tracking

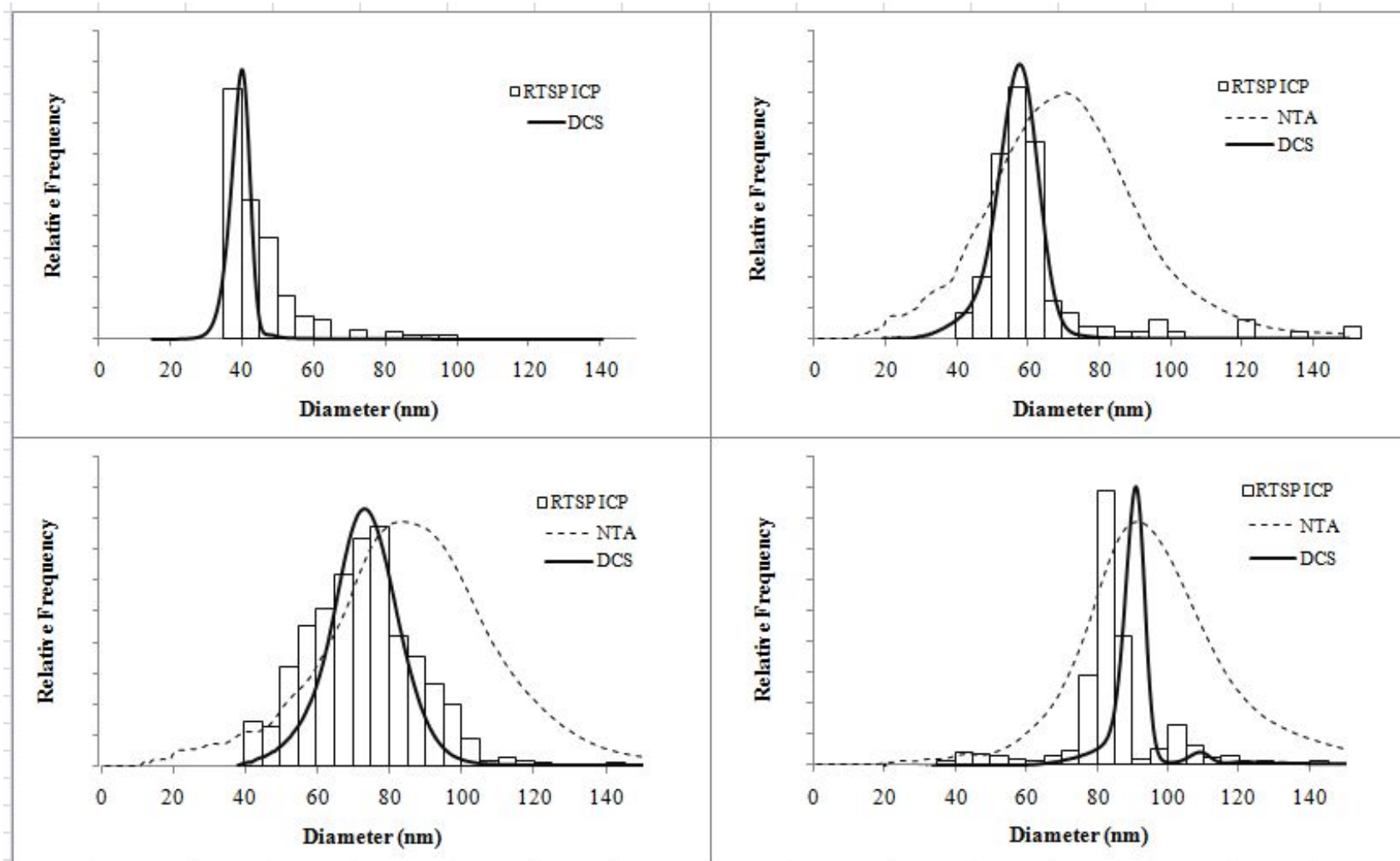
- Visualize particles via laser beam through liquid sample
- Size determined by Brownian motion of visualized particle (hydrodynamic size)
- Able to size polydisperse samples
- Can discriminate particles of different composition via different refractive indices



[www.nanosight.com](http://www.nanosight.com)

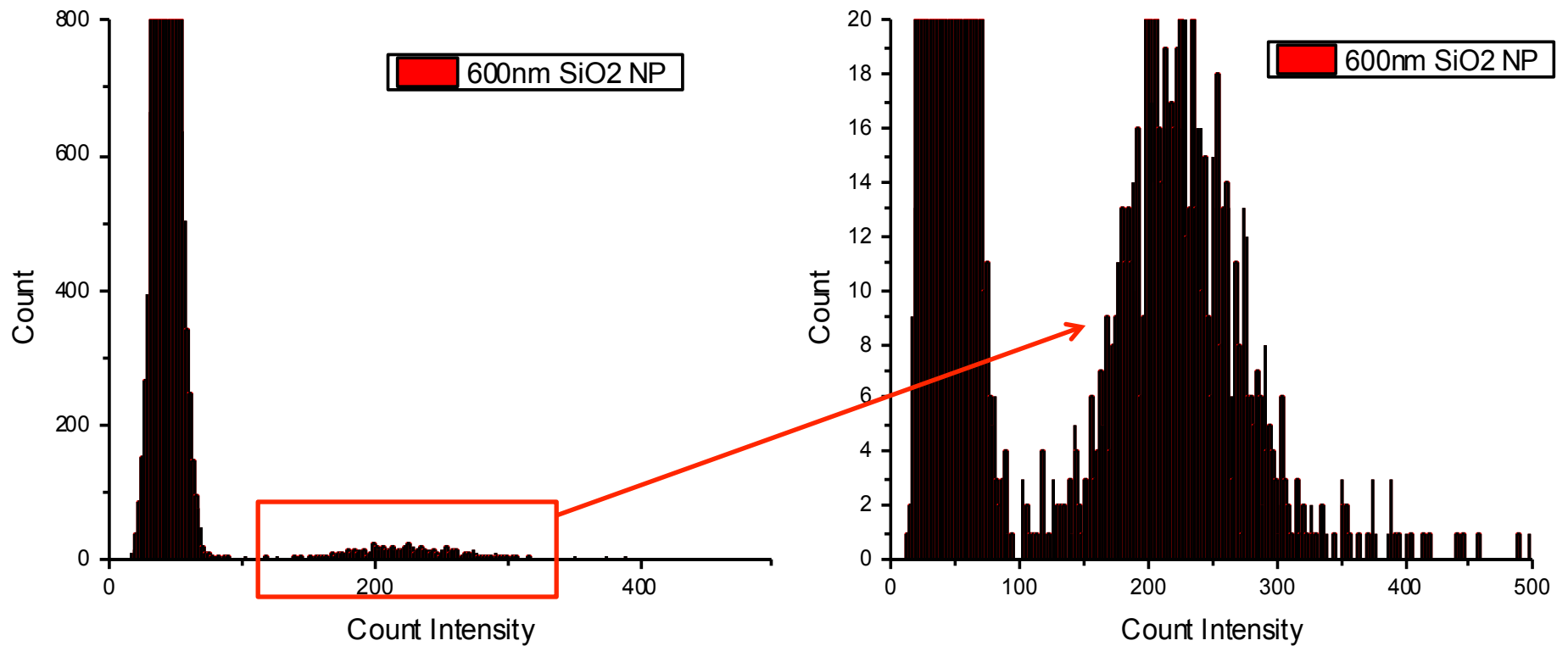
# Method Evaluation

- Comparison ICP-MS to disc centrifuge and particle tracking analysis

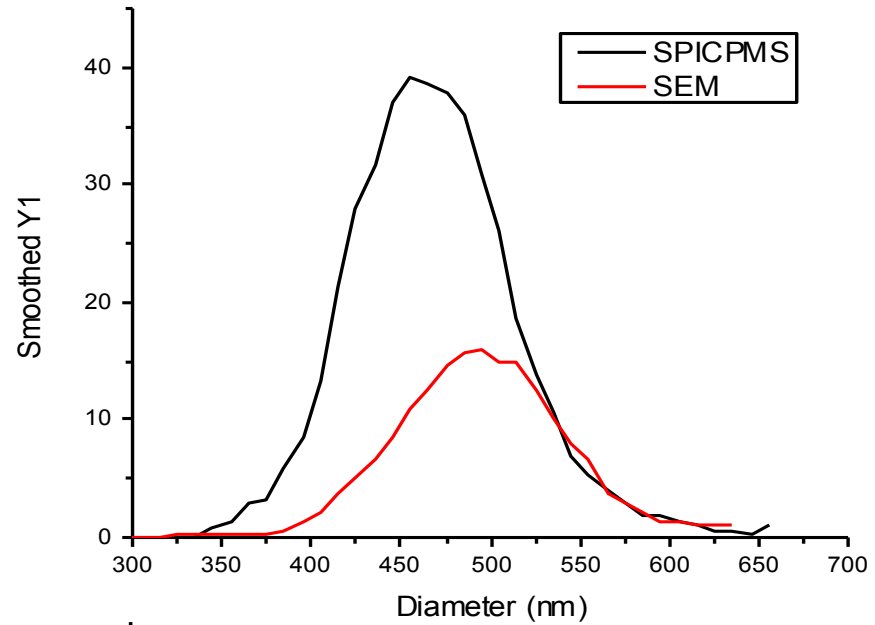
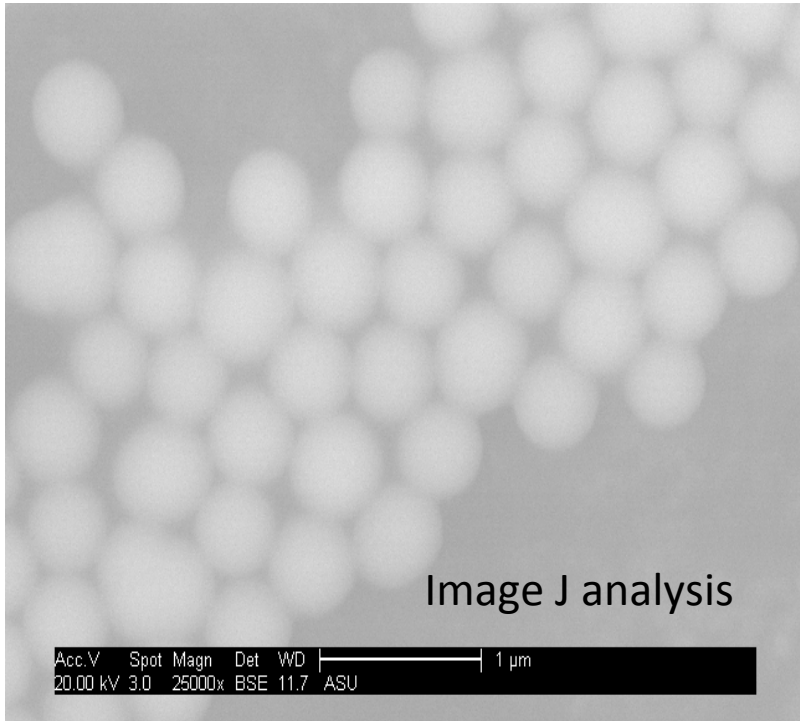


# Frequency count of 600nm SiO<sub>2</sub> Data

Data collected with an Agilent 7700 using He collision gas (3.5 ml/min)  
(Collaboration with University of Denver)



# Size Analysis of "600 nm" SiO<sub>2</sub>



**SEM Average size: 495 ± 46 nm (n= 180 particles)**

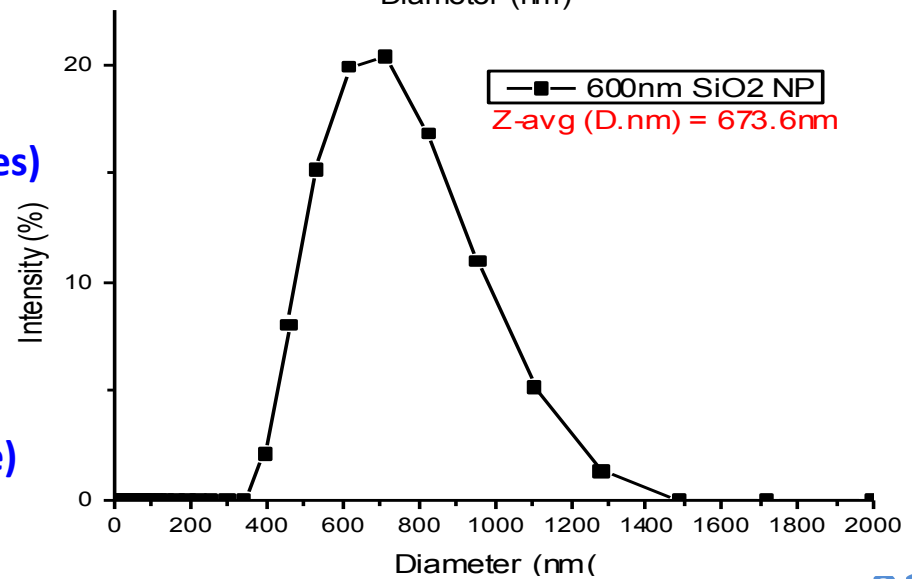
**Data collection and analysis: ≈ 60 minutes**

**spICPMS Mean: 460 nm (n = 430 pulses)**

**Data collection and analysis: < 10 minutes**

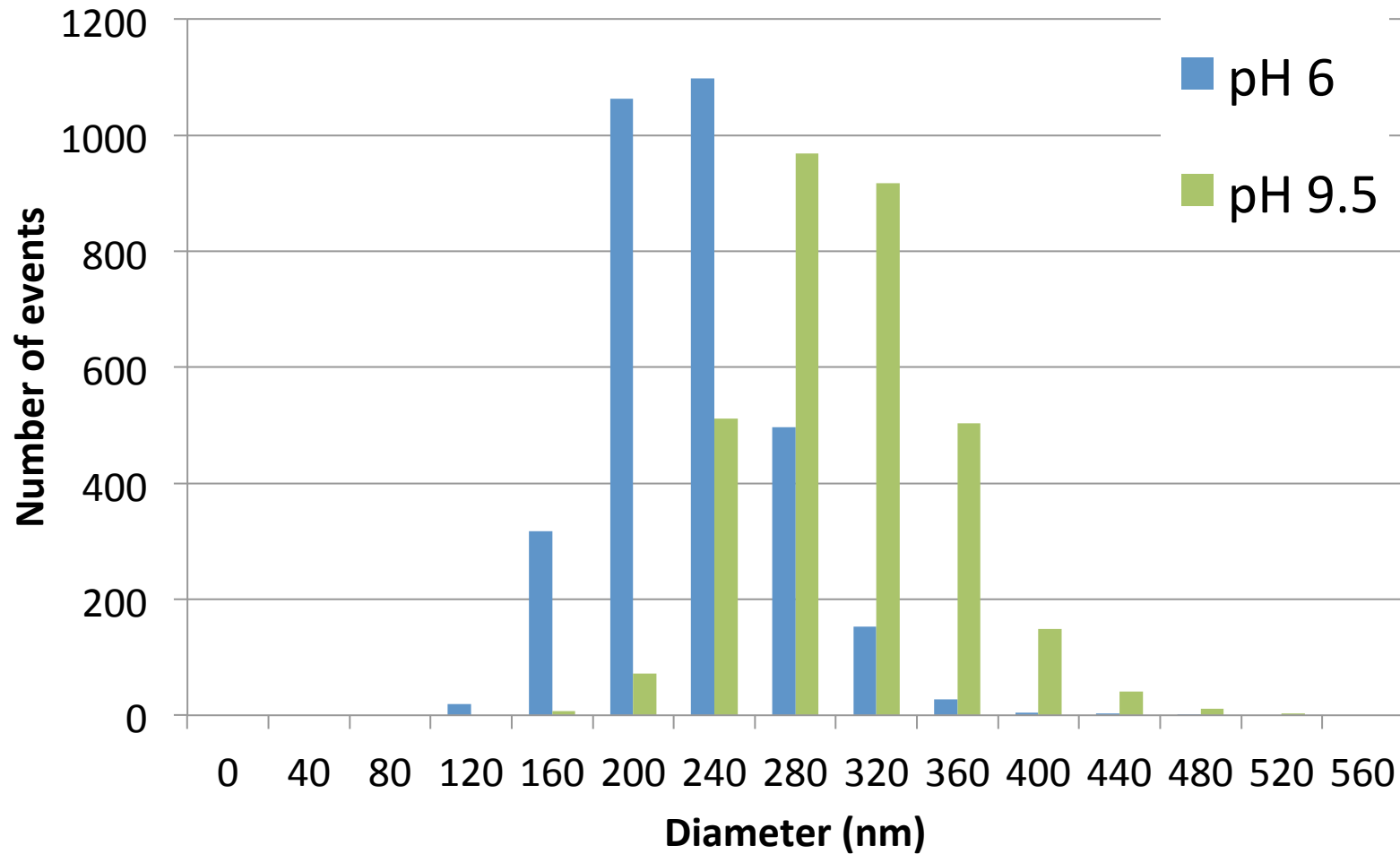
**DLS Z-average: 674 nm (n = thousands or more)**

**Data collection and analysis: < 5 minutes**



# Aggregation of Hematite

Use of spICPMS to study aggregation untested  
Preliminary results encouraging





# Recent test of spICPMS



## Interlaboratory study sp-ICPMS

Thomas P.J.. Linsinger<sup>1</sup>, Ruud Peters<sup>2</sup>, Stefan Weigel<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> European Commission, Joint Research Centre, Institute for Reference Materials and Measurements,  
Retieseweg 111, 2440 Geel (BE)

<sup>2</sup> RIKILT - Institute of Food Safety, Akkermaalsbos 2, 6708 WB Wageningen (NL)

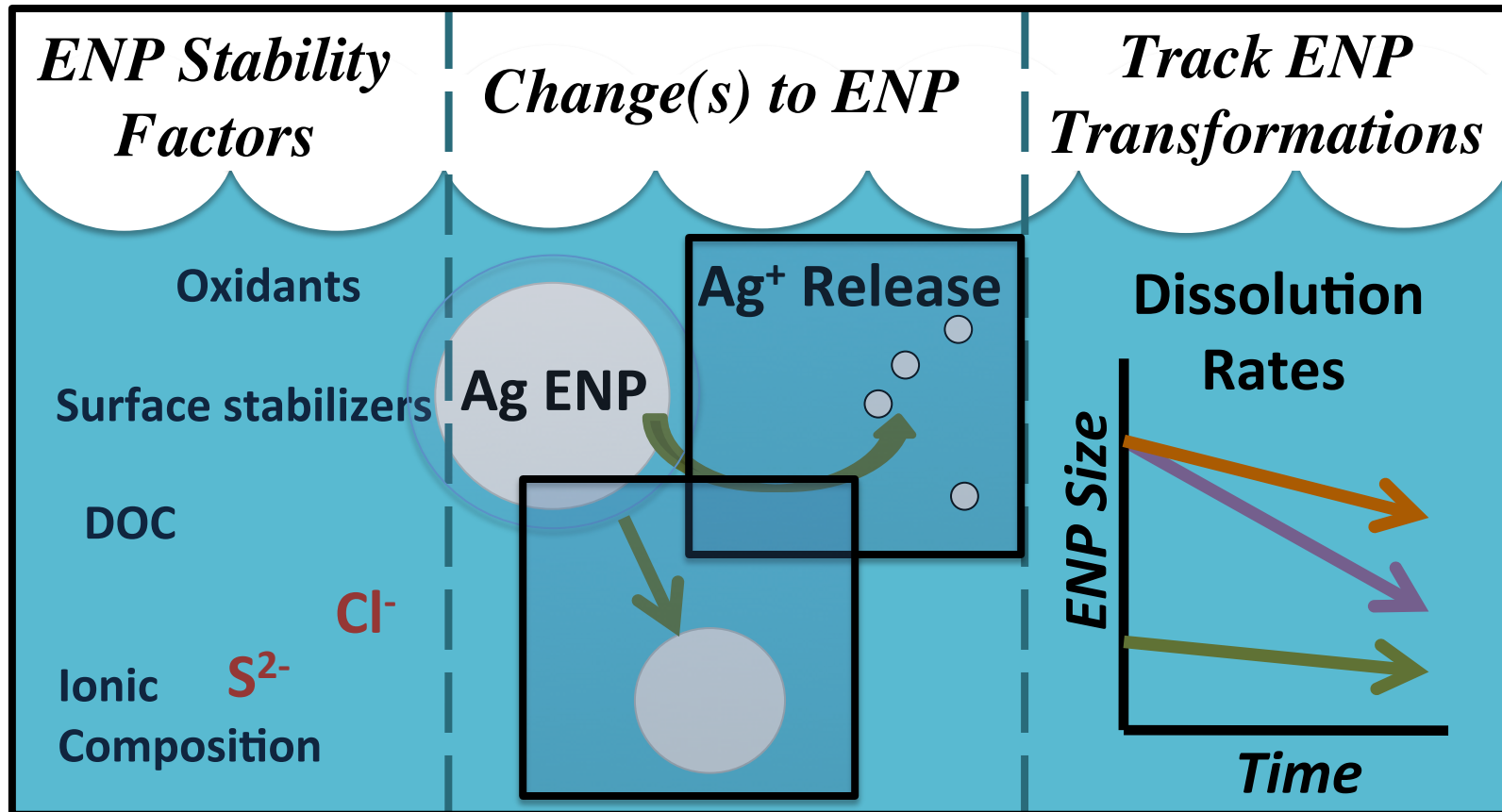
- 21 labs across the globe
- Several Ag nanoparticles mailed out
- ASU and CSM facilities performed excellent – right on measured values
- A few labs showed poor results, but most showed consistent findings
- Validates reproducibility of SP-ICP-MS method

# Outline

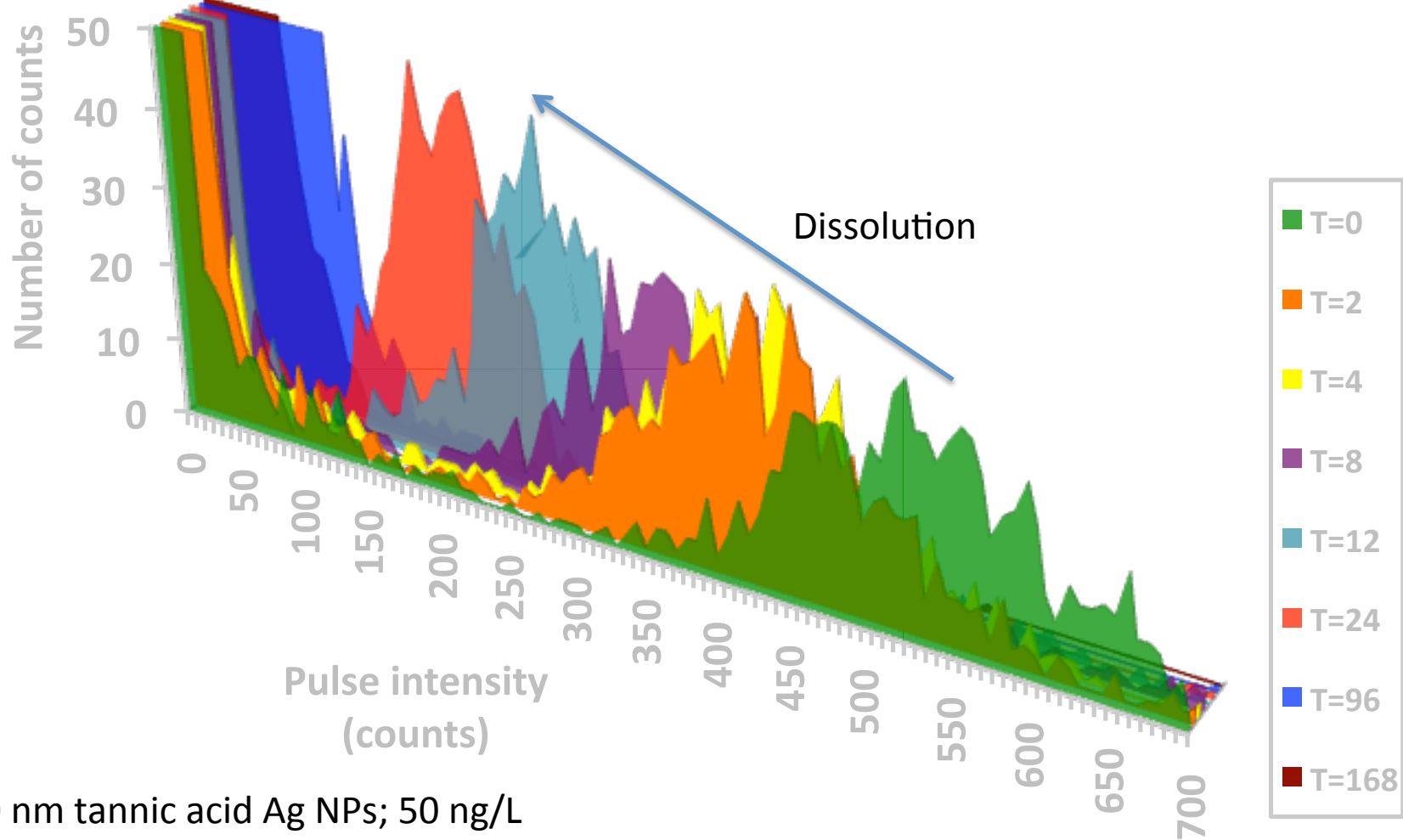
- \* Implementation of techniques for “real world” studies
  - \* NP stability (nano Ag)
  - \* Product release (CNTs)
  - \* NP biological uptake (nano Au & Ag)

**Implementation**

# Following NP Transformations



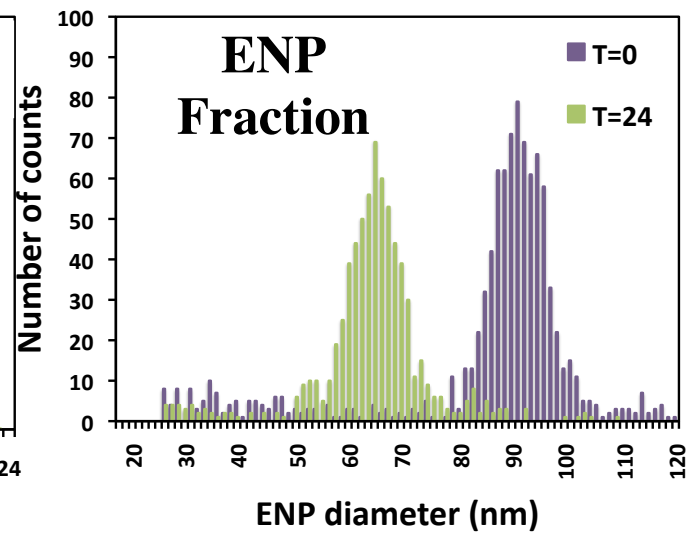
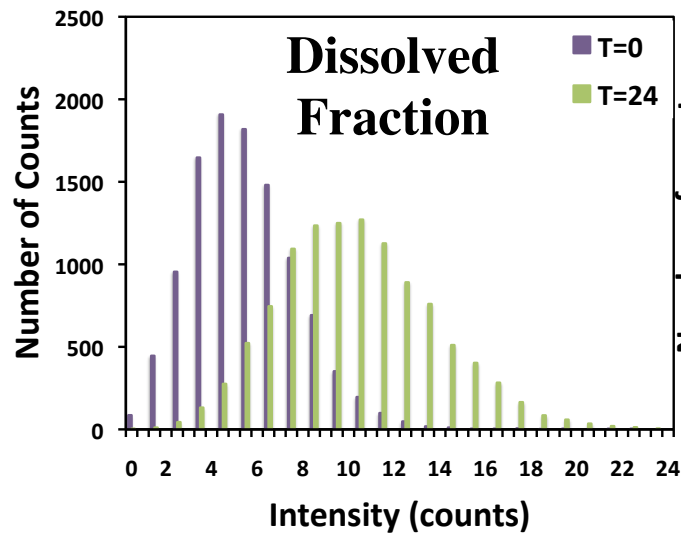
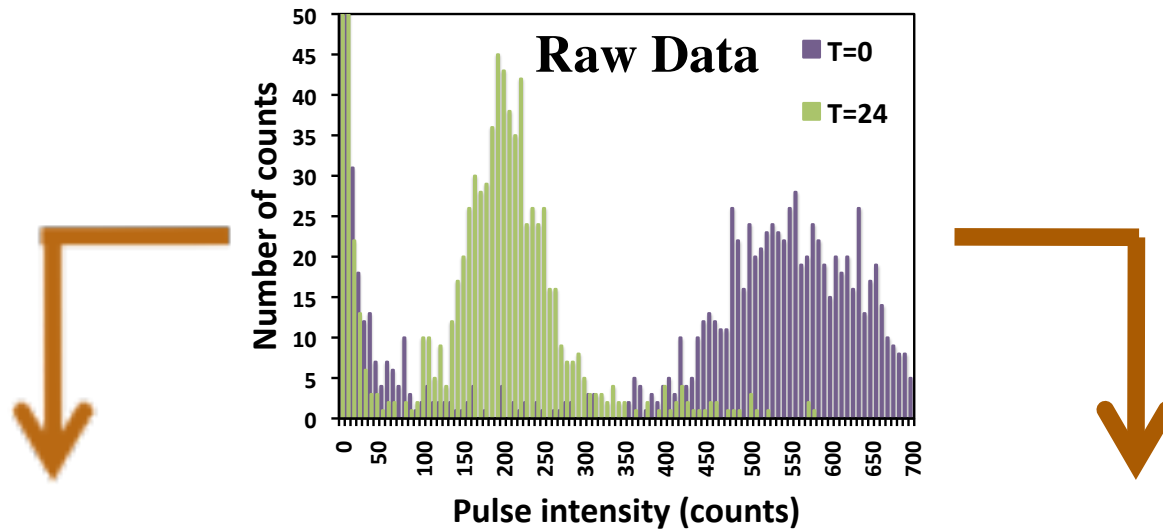
# Dissolution vs pulse intensity



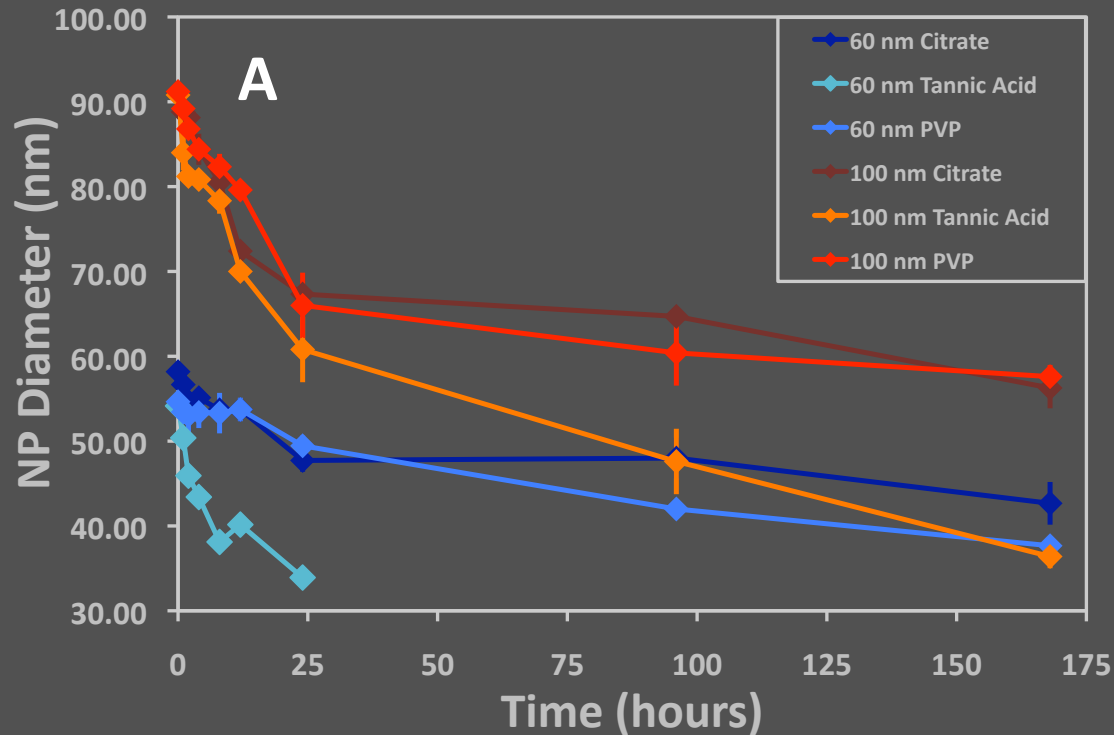
100 nm tannic acid Ag NPs; 50 ng/L

Decrease pulse intensity correlates with decreasing particle diameter

# spICPMS: nanoAg dissolution



# Dissolution in laboratory-prepared waters

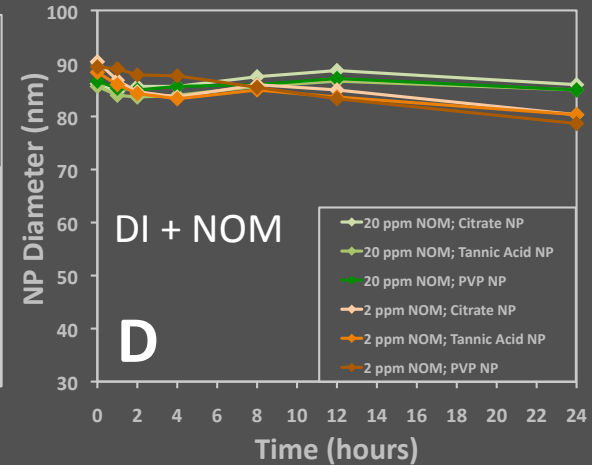
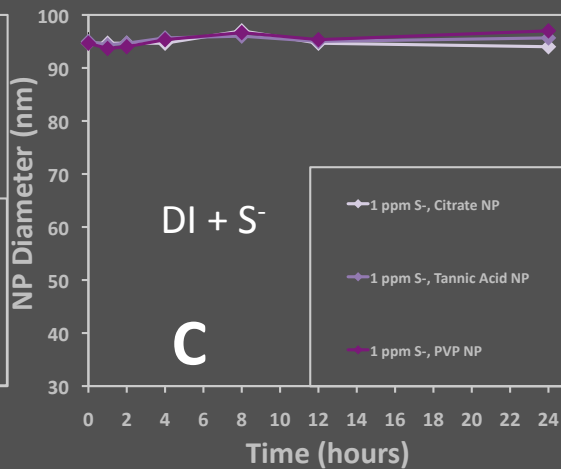
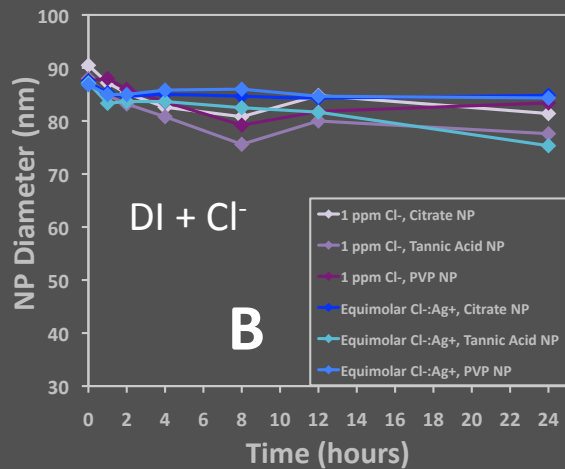


A) Comparison of 60 nm and 100 nm NPs in DI water

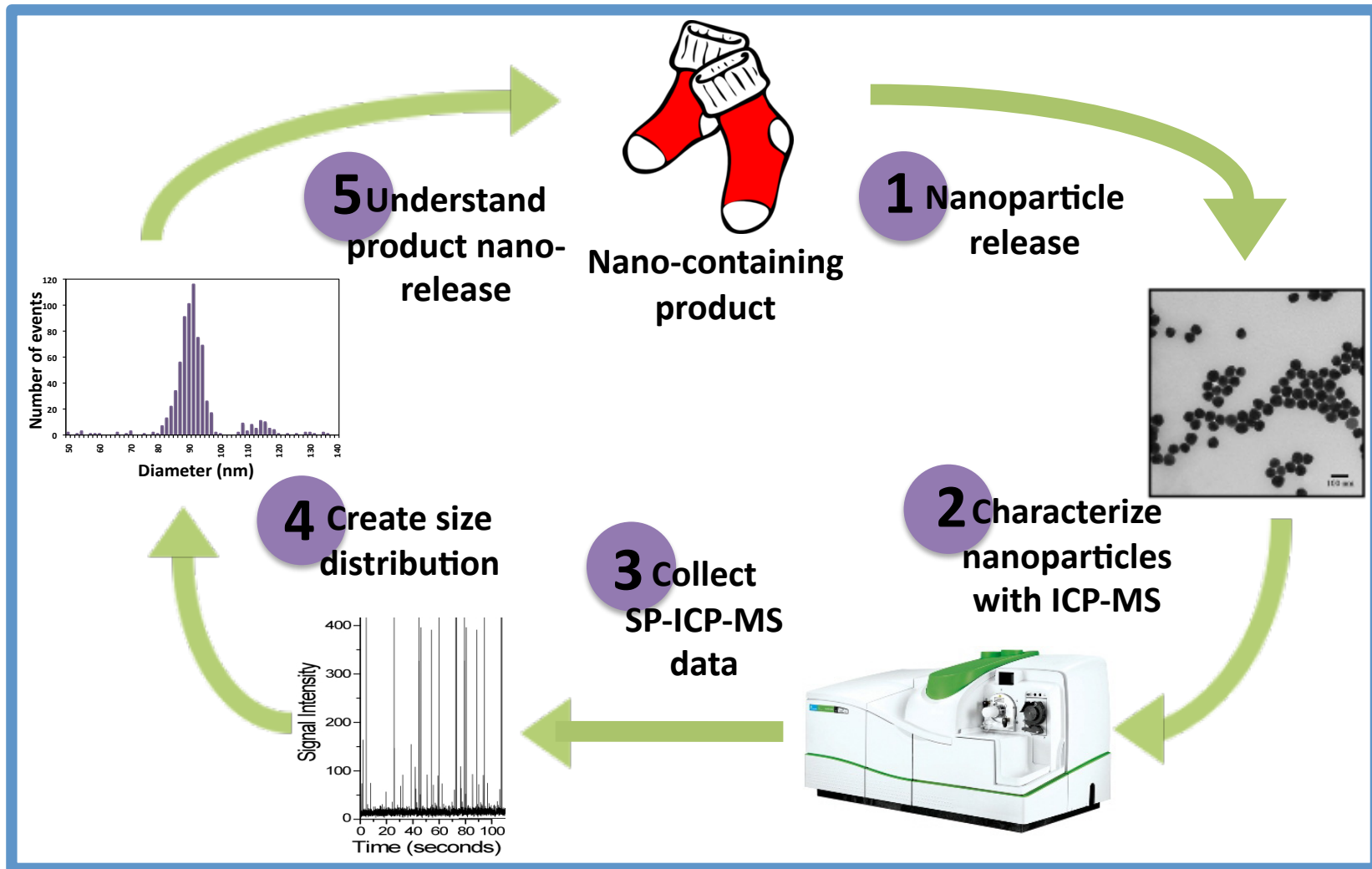
B) Addition of 1 mg/L and equimolar  $\text{Cl}^-$

C) Addition of 1 mg/L and equimolar  $\text{S}^-$

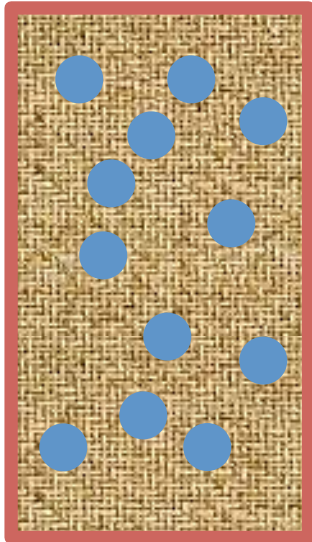
D) Addition of 2 and 20 mg/L NOM



# Applying spICPMS to product release studies



# spICPMS can be applied to carbon-based NPs



NMs  
embedded in  
polymers or  
other  
composites

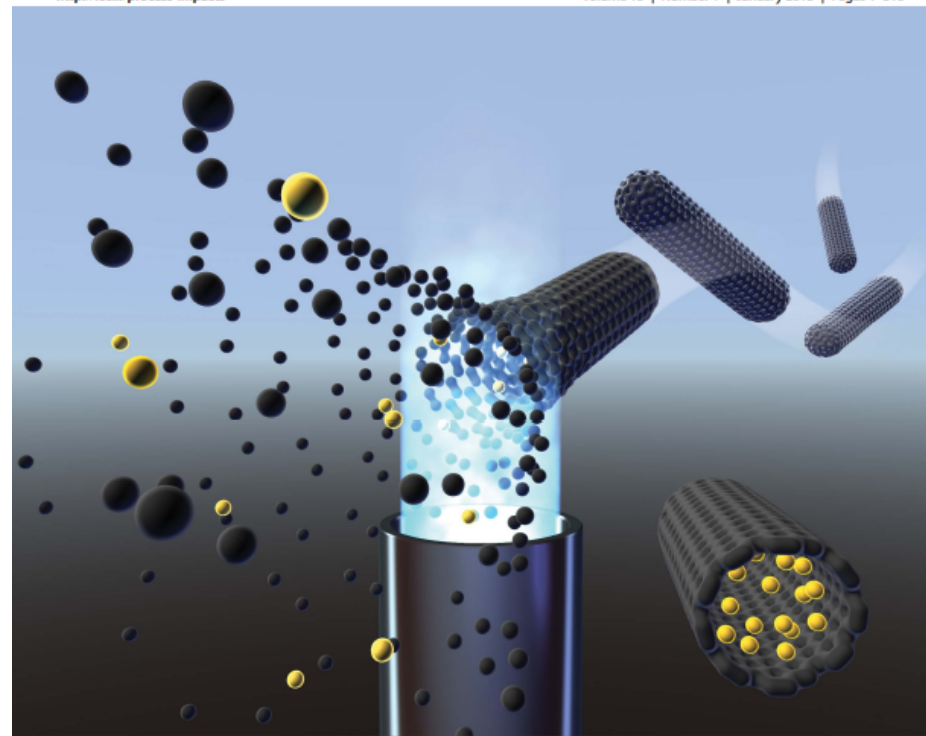


## Environmental Science Processes & Impacts

Formerly Journal of Environmental Monitoring

<http://rsc.li/process-impacts>

Volume 15 | Number 1 | January 2013 | Pages 1–316



Themed issue: Anthropogenic nanoparticles in the environment

ISSN 2050-7887

RSC Publishing

PAPER  
James F. Ranville et al.  
Detection of single walled carbon nanotubes by monitoring embedded metals



2050-7887 (2013)15:1;1-#



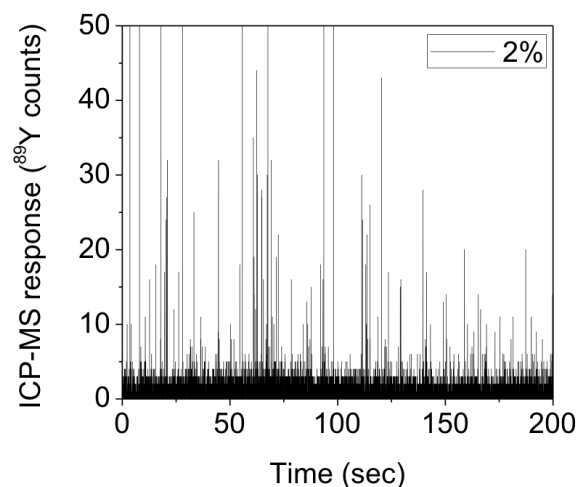
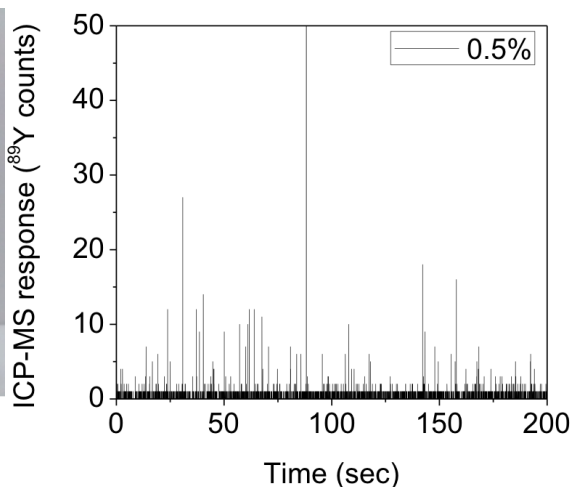
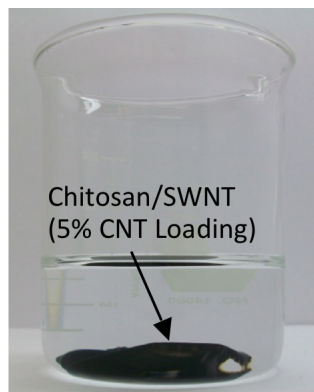
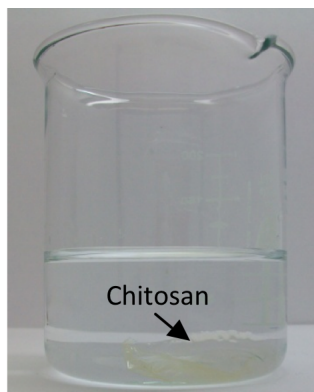
# spICPMS detection of CNT metallic impurities

- CNTs can contain residual catalyst metals
- spICPM can detect these as a surrogate for direct detection of CNT
- Variable metal content, polydisperse length and width, and poor dispersion make analysis challenging

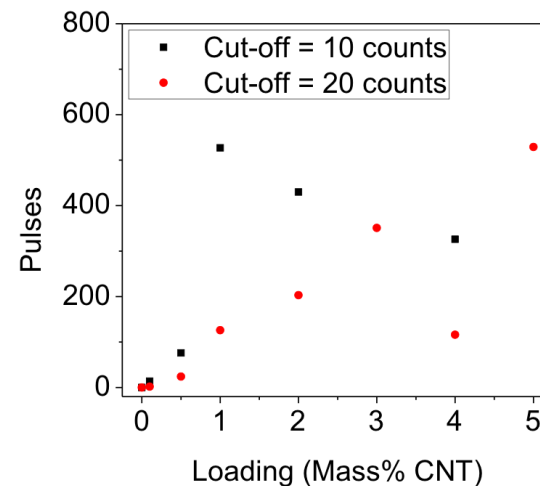
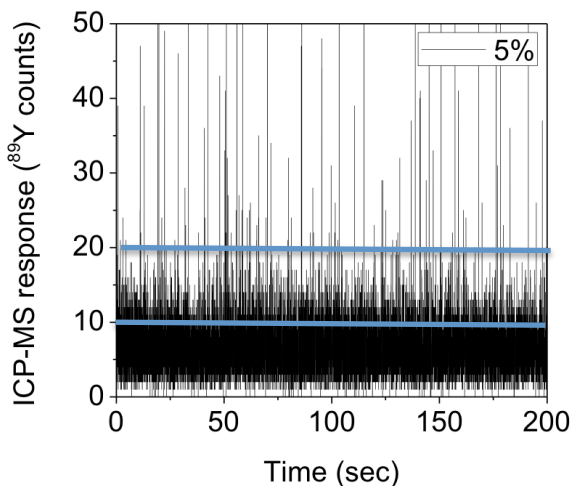
<b>CNT brand</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Length (nm)</b>	<b>Diameter (nm)</b>	<b>Metal content (manufacturer)</b>	<b>Metal content by EDS</b>
Nanostructured and Amorphous Material (NanoAmor)	SWNT	5000-15000	1.1	Co 0.6%, Mo 0.1%, Mg 1.2% (at%)	Co 0.5%, Mo 0.1%, Fe 0.1% (at%)
Carbon Solutions	SWNT	1800±1000	3.8±1.8	Ni, Y (1-30 wt%)	Ni 19.4%, Y 6.0% (at%)
Southwest Nanotechnologies	SWNT	578±358	0.8±0.1	Co, Mo (1-15 wt%)	Co 1.1%, Mo 3.7% (at%)

# Results of polymer loading

- Prepare chitosan matrix with variable CNT concentration
- DI leach for 7 days
- Collect spICPMS data and analyze with variable background cutoffs

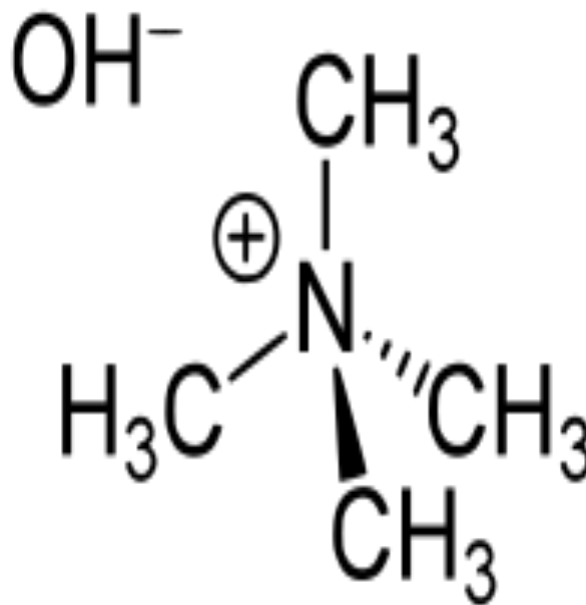


- Both NP size (length) and metal content control pulse intensity
- High polydispersity and lack of clear separation from background are challenges



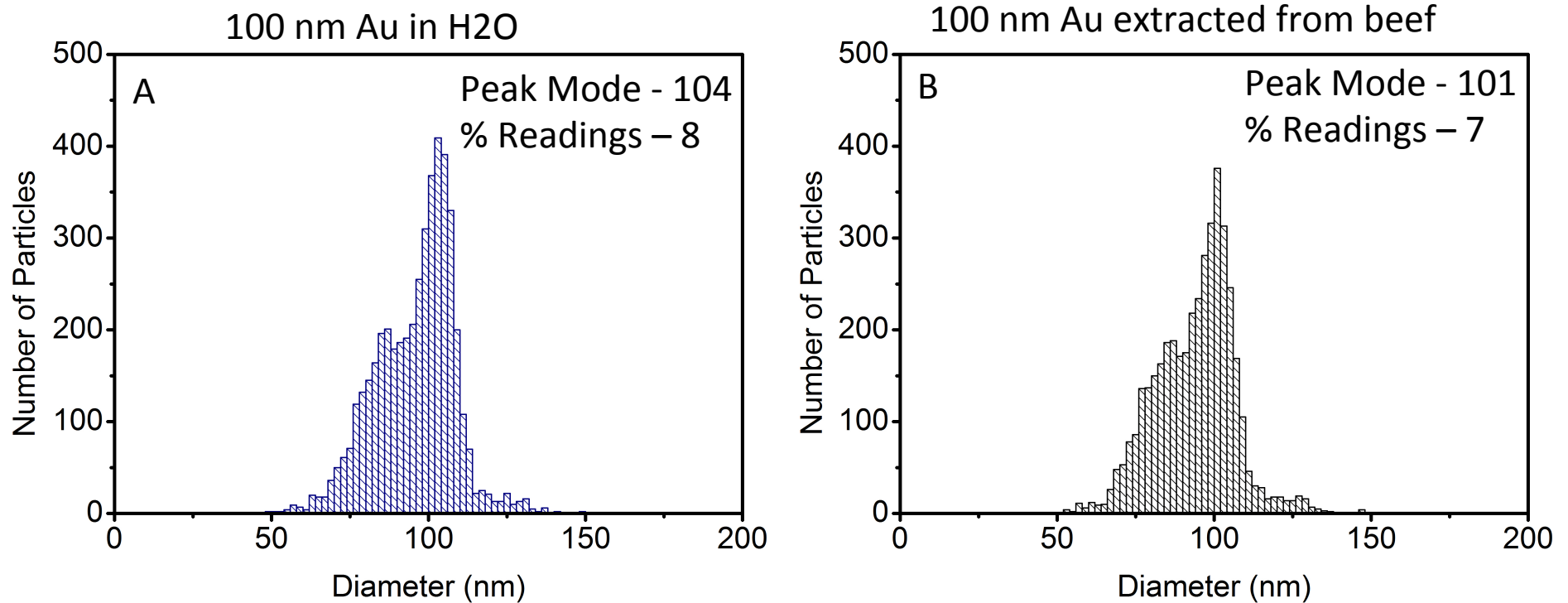
# Determining Dose

- What is the external and internal dose in toxicity testing?
- Tissue digestion method development
- Tetramethylammonium Hydroxide
  - 20% solution (w/w)
  - pH 13.5
  - 24 hour digestion
- Cleanup steps
  - Filtration (abandoned)
  - Low G Centrifugation
  - Dilution to ppt levels

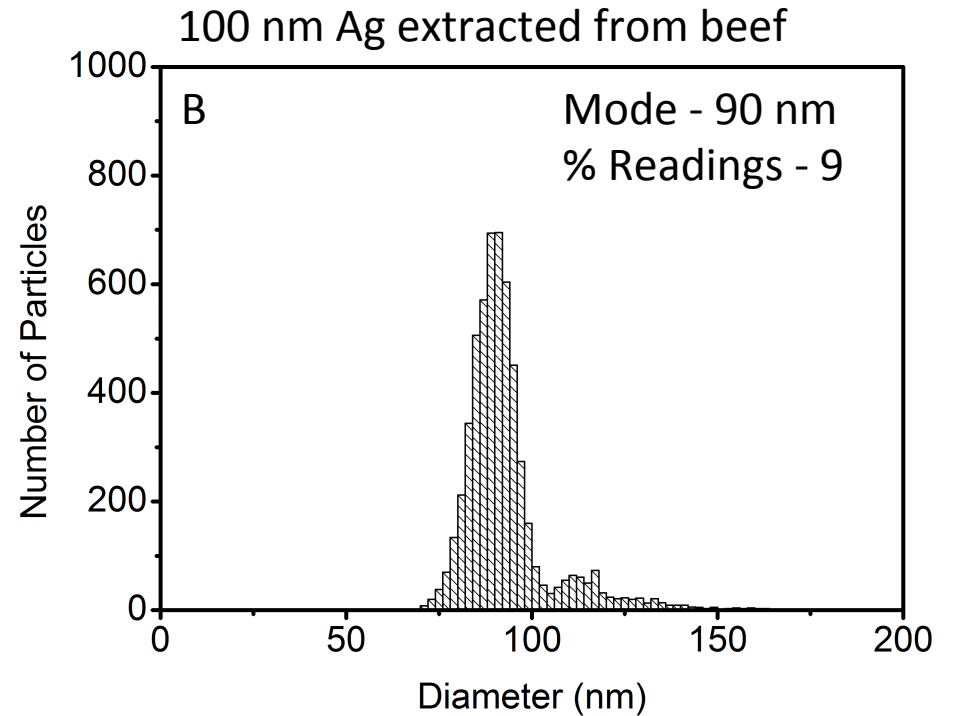
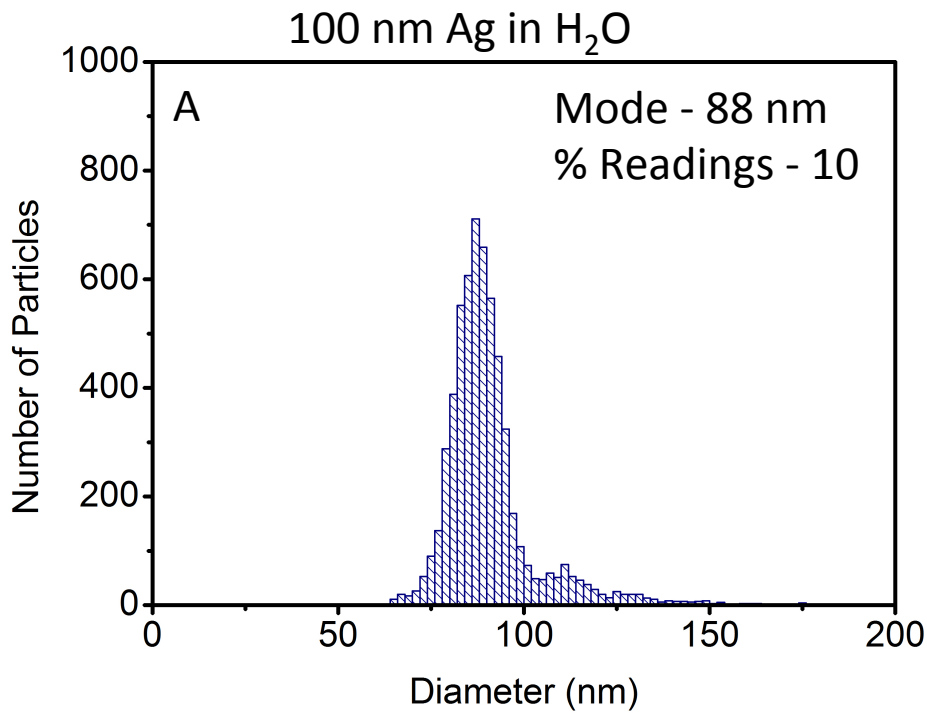


# Au NPs extracted from beef:Spiked

Equivalent dilution allows direct comparison of particle number



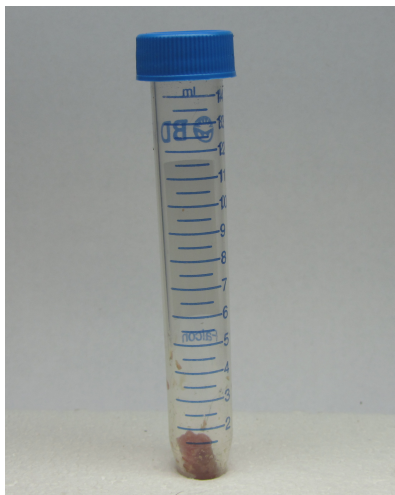
# Ag NPs extracted from beef: Spiked



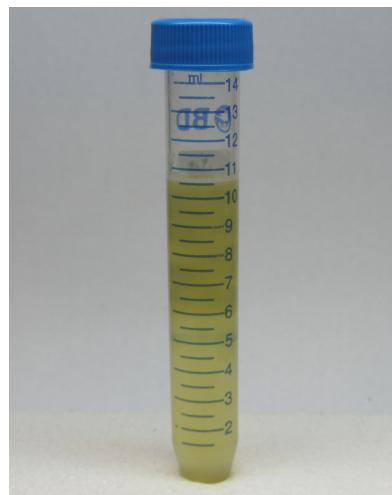
# NP Recovery (spiked tissues)

Tissue Matrix	Particle Number Recovery % ( $\pm$ SD)	Particle Mass Recovery % ( $\pm$ SD)
Au		
Ground Beef	94 (3)	89 (3)
<i>D. magna</i>	95 (2)	109 (4)
<i>L. variegatus</i>	95 (3)	95 (3)
Ag		
Ground Beef	95 (3)	104 (3)
<i>D. magna</i>	84 (4)	105 (8)
<i>L. variegatus</i>	95 (3)	107 (7)

Beef only



Digested beef

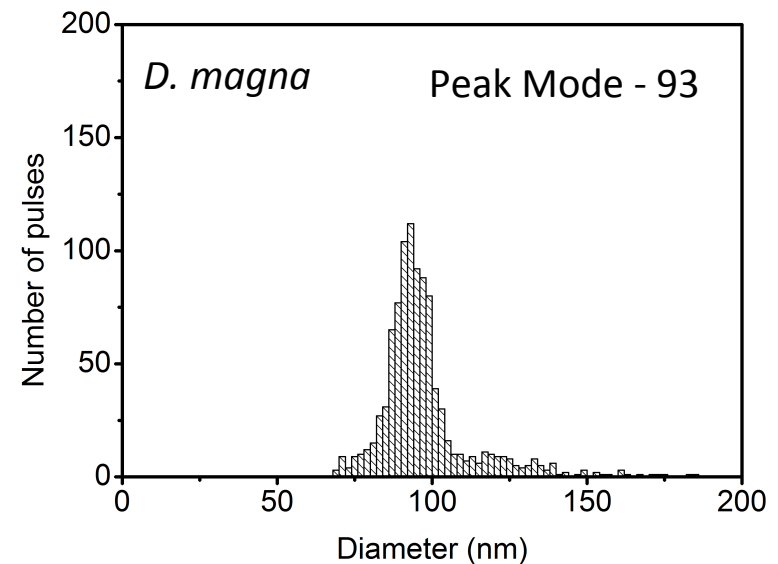
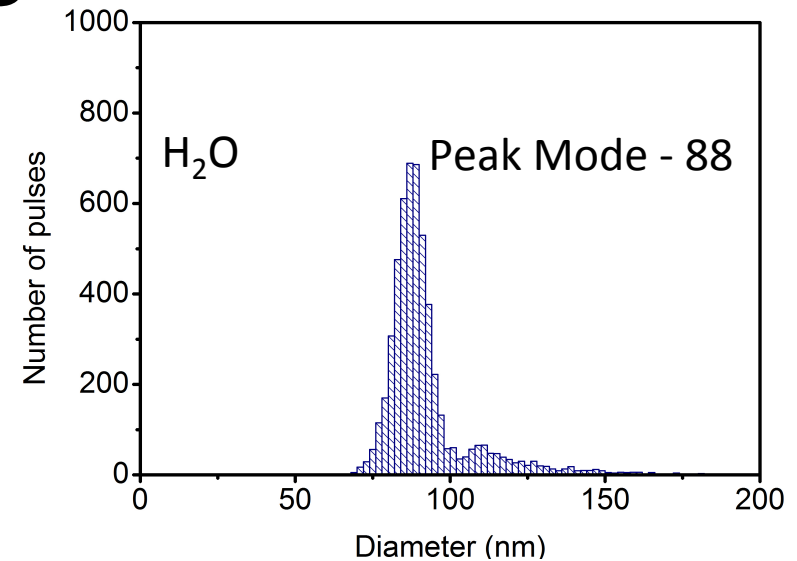


Digested *L. variegatus*



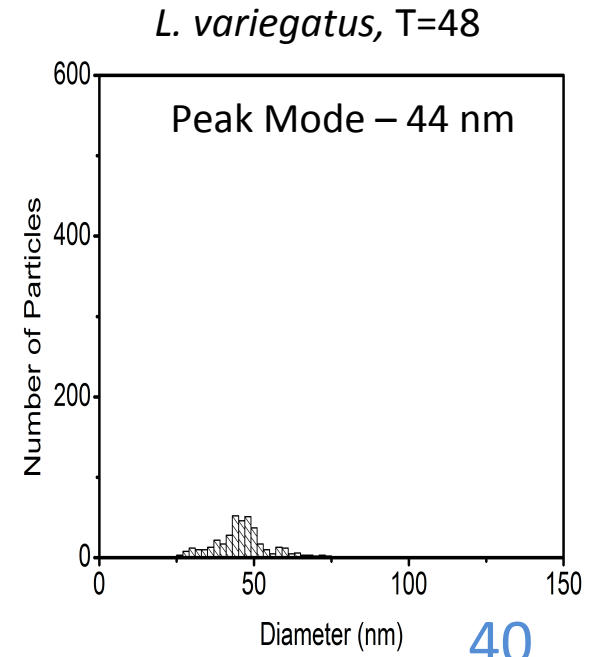
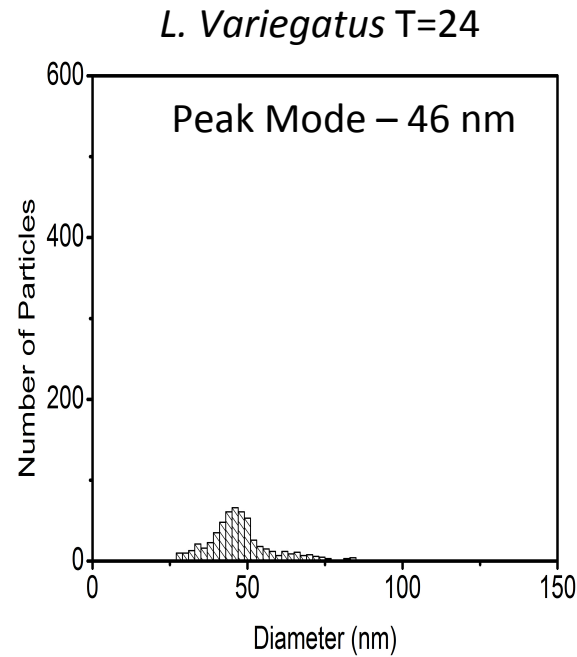
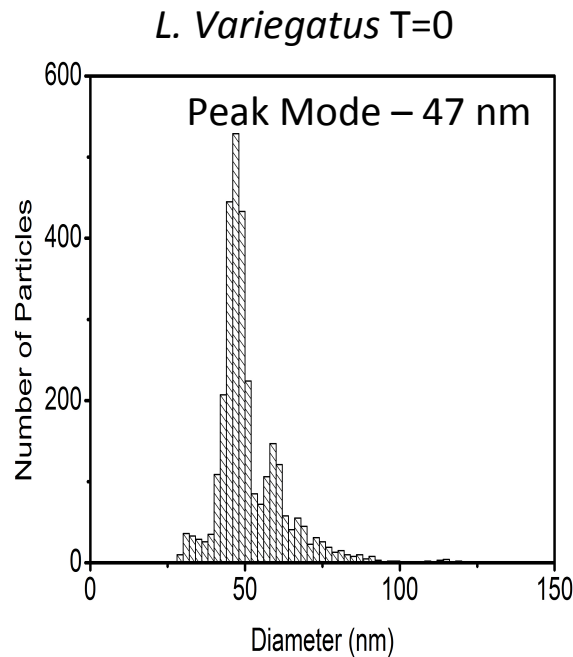
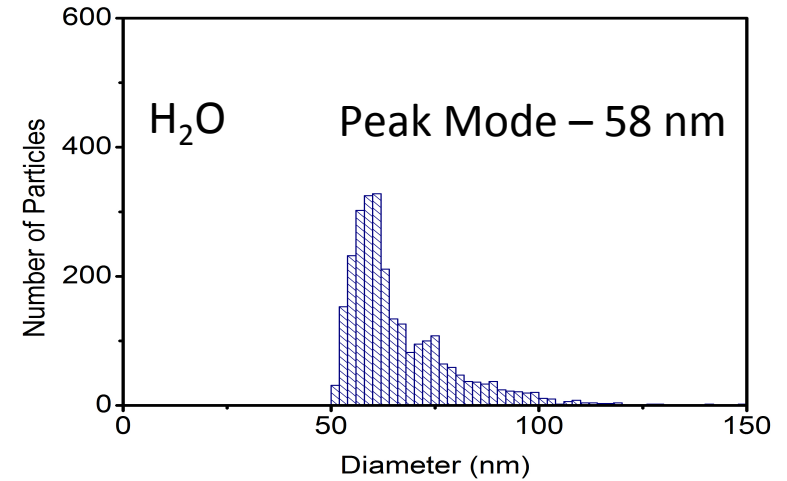
# *D. magna* Whole Organism Extraction

- *D. magna* bioaccumulation test
  - 5 *D. magna* per test chamber, total of 20 *D. magna* per treatment (EPA 2021.0)
  - Exposed at 10  $\mu\text{g}/\text{L}$  of 100 nm Ag particles, PVP capped



# *L. variegatus* Whole Organism Extraction

- *L. variegatus* bioaccumulation test
  - Exposed 24 hours at 5 mg/L and depurated for 0, 24, 48 hours in de-chlorinated tap water
  - 0.5 grams of worms analyzed per treatment, n=3 chambers per treatment.
  - 70 nm Ag PVP capped
  - Percent readings all below 10%



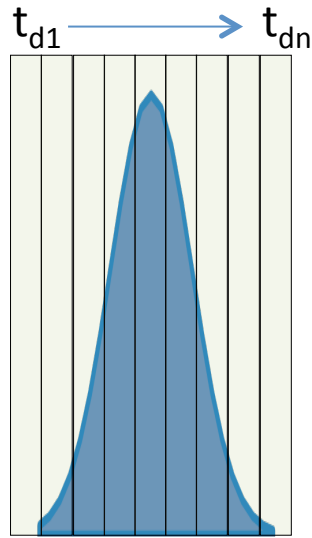


# Topics of the talk

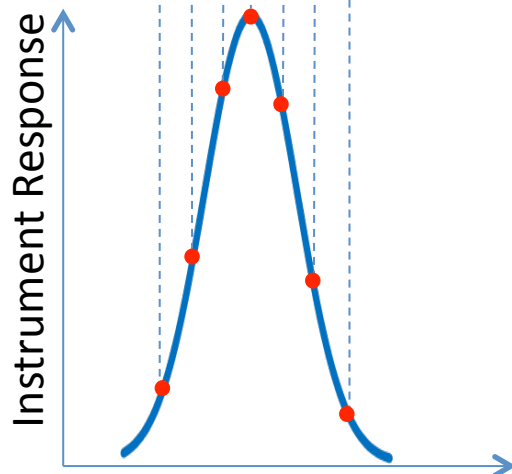
\* Collaborations with ICP-MS manufacturers

**New Approaches**

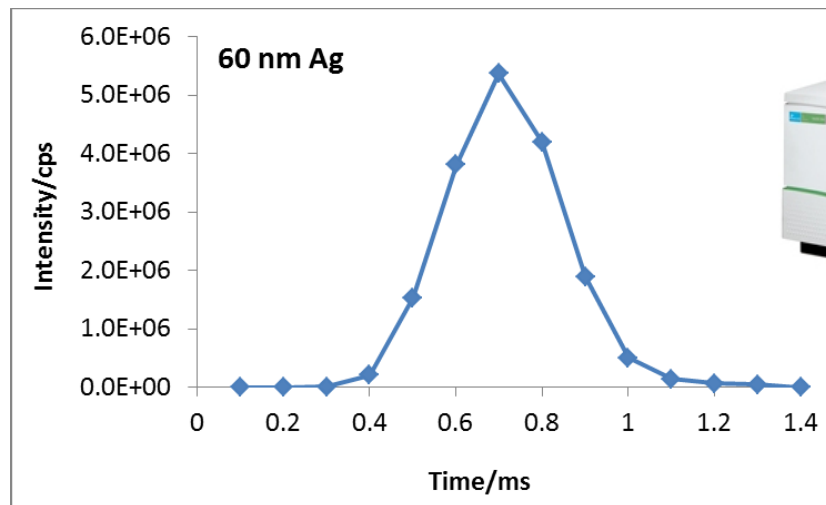
# Collaboration with Perkin Elmer: NexION's Fast Scanning Mode



- NexION is only Quad instrument capable of < 3 msec dwell times
- Data shown for 100  $\mu$ s dwell time
- No settling time for single mass measurements
- Dwell Times as short as 1  $\mu$ s
- **Benefits: reduction in background contribution to signal, reduction in potential particle coincidence, multi-element detection (?)**



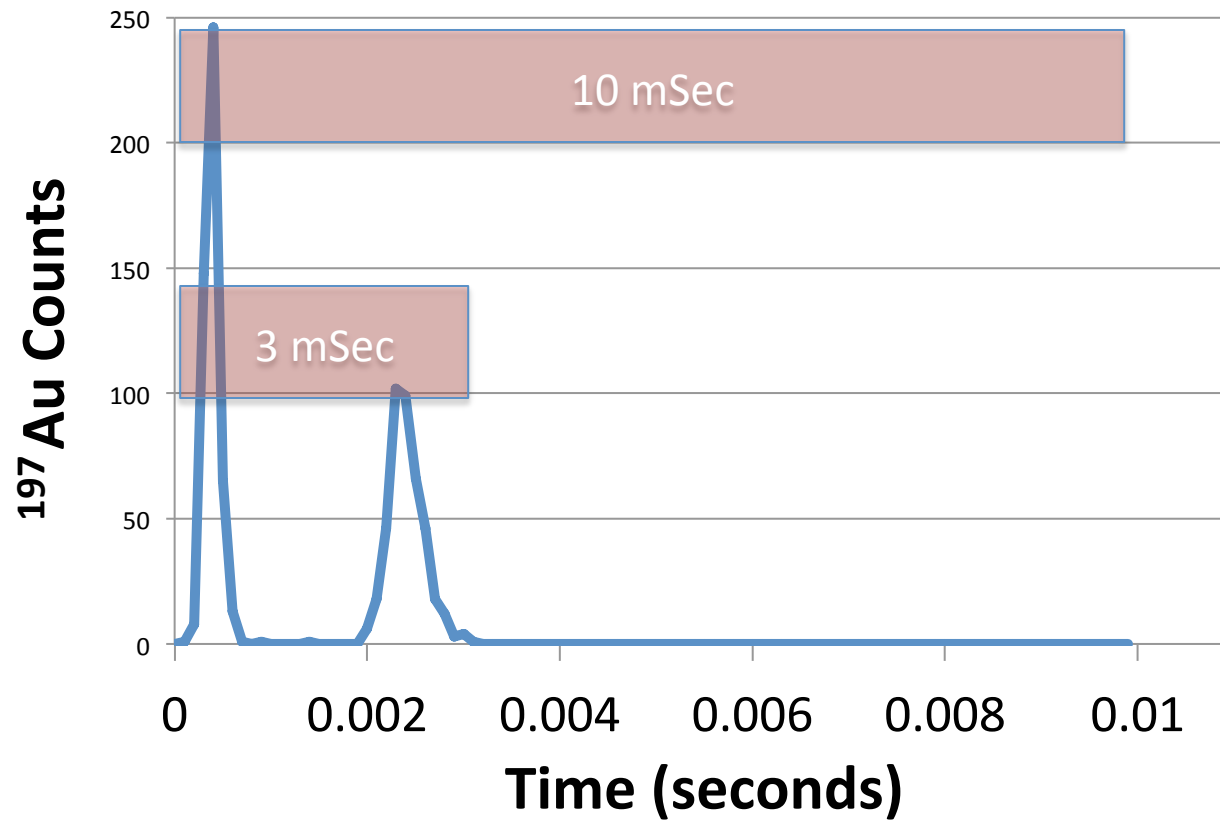
Nanoparticle Signal



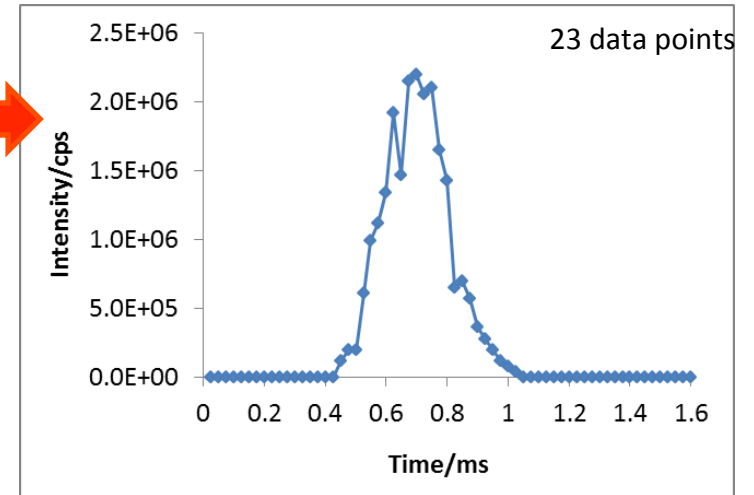
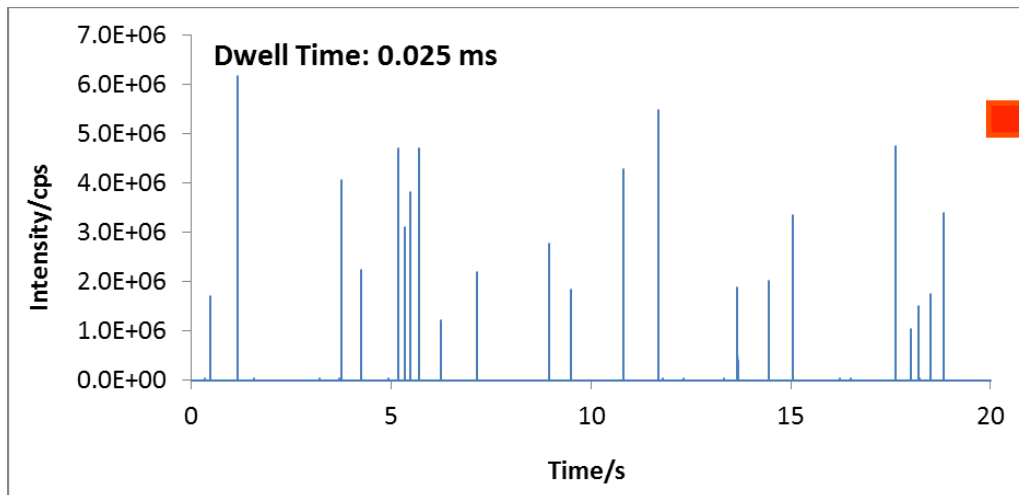
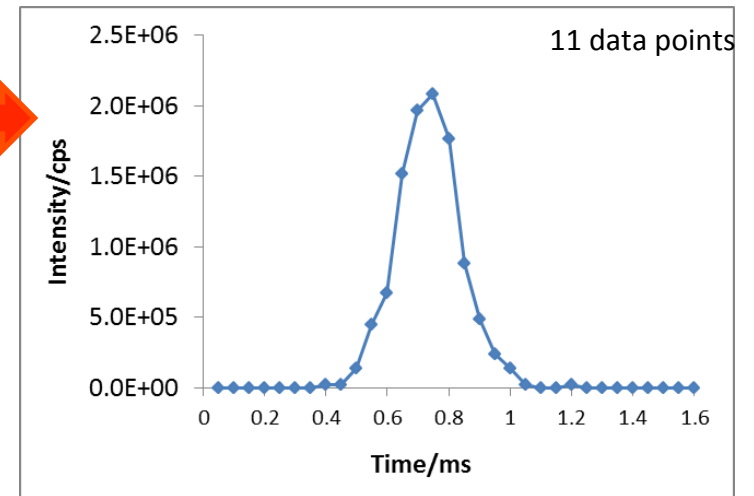
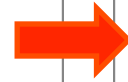
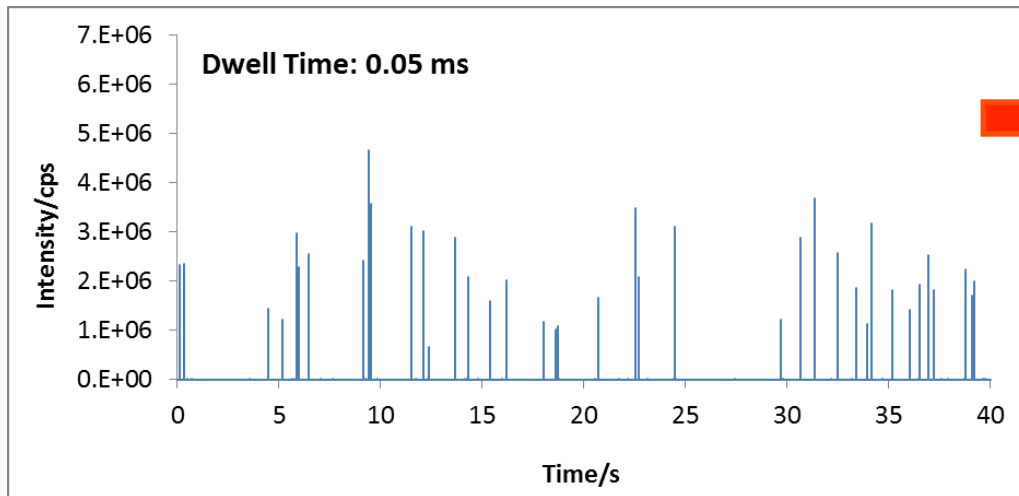
*Slide courtesy of Perkin Elmer*

## Elimination of Coincidence at short dwell times

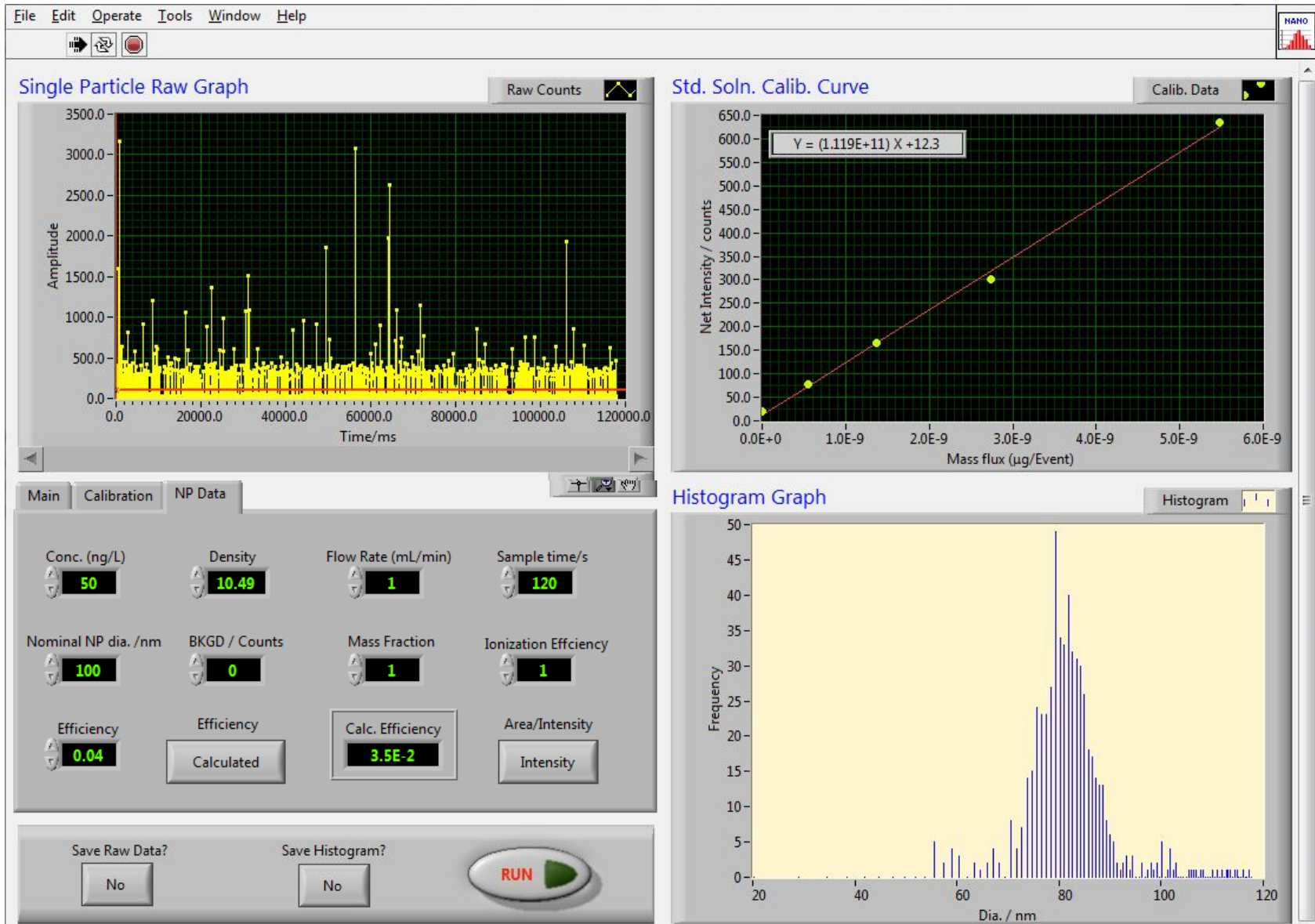
**500 ppt Au**  
**0.1 msec dwell times**



# More Fast Scanning Examples



# Automating Nano Data Processing



Slide courtesy of Perkin Elmer

## Other collaborations

---

- PE- Wyatt Collaboration: Integrating FFF data collection and analysis into PE Chromera software to improve FFF-ICPMS method optimization.
- Coordinating spICPMS method development with NIST (E. Peterson).

# Upcoming Webinars



## NANOPARTICLES: LIVE WEBINAR SERIES

### DO YOU CARE ABOUT NANOPARTICLES?

Latest regulations and solving analytical challenges

Live Webinar Series: for Scientists by Scientists

The ongoing race for nanotechnology development has resulted in a need for analytical methods that can accurately and efficiently detect and characterize nanoparticles.

The hyphenation of Field-Flow Fractionation (FFF) with Inductively Coupled Plasma Mass Spectrometry (ICP-MS) presents a state-of-the-art method for high sensitive nanoparticle analysis.

During these three webinars, leading scientists in the field of nanotechnology will present the latest legislation and regulations that govern nanoparticles and will discuss the analytical challenges and solutions for nanoparticle analysis in **food**, **cosmetics** and **environmental** samples.

REGISTER NOW

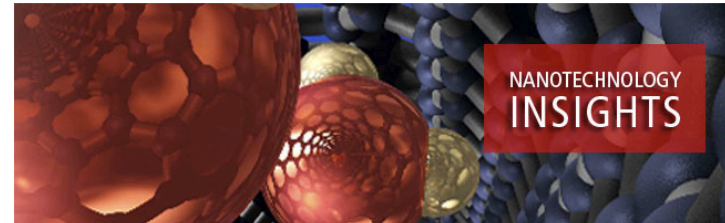
- 4 June 2013** • [Nanoparticles: Definition, regulations and analytical challenges](#)  
**4pm CET (1h)** *Speakers: Dr. Hubert Rauscher (European Commission),  
 Dr. Sebastien Sannac (Agilent Technologies), Dr. Sohey! Tadjiki (Postnova Analytics)*
- 11 June 2013** • [Food and cosmetics application examples for nanoparticle characterization and detection](#)  
**4pm CET (1h)** *Speakers: Dr. Heidi Goenaga-Infante (LGC London),  
 Dr. Frank von der Kammer (University of Vienna)*
- 18 June 2013** • [Environmental application examples for nanoparticle characterization and detection](#)  
**4pm CET (1h)** *Speaker: Prof. James R Ranville (Colorado School of Mines)*

Unable to attend on a specific date?

[Register now](#) and you will receive the recording after the event.



Mobile-Friendly version  
 Trouble viewing? [Read the online version](#)



NANOTECHNOLOGY  
 INSIGHTS

### Live Webcast - Breakthrough Technology: Single Particle ICP-MS for Characterizing Five Attributes of Metallic Nanomaterials

**Date and time:**  
 June 25, 2013 at 9:00-10:00pm EDT

In recent years, there has been ever-increasing activity and interest within the scientific and engineering fields about engineered nanoparticles (ENP). With the advancement of nanomaterials used in products, new regulations requiring the characterization of nanomaterials, and the unknowns of the hazards of these materials, researchers and manufacturers will have an increased need to quantitate nanomaterials. PerkinElmer offers a breadth of solutions that enable engineers and scientists to measure, characterize and better understand nanomaterials for industrial and academic nanotechnology research. One such technology is Single Particle ICP-MS, which allows the quantitation of nanoparticles for particle size, particle size distribution, agglomeration, concentration and composition, delivering accurate, fast and reliable results. Attend this free webcast to learn how this revolutionizing technology will change the way you can measure nanoparticles.

#### In this webcast you will learn:

- What is Single Particle ICP-MS (SP-ICP-MS) and what types of information it provides
- The ability to screen for nanoparticles in real-world samples with SP-ICP-MS
- Who will benefit the most from SP-ICP-MS technology to analyze nanoparticles
- Examples of key applications for SP-ICP-MS

The webcast will be followed by a live question & answer session.

**>> Click here to register for the webcast and download our nanotechnology applications**

REGISTER NOW

Presenters:



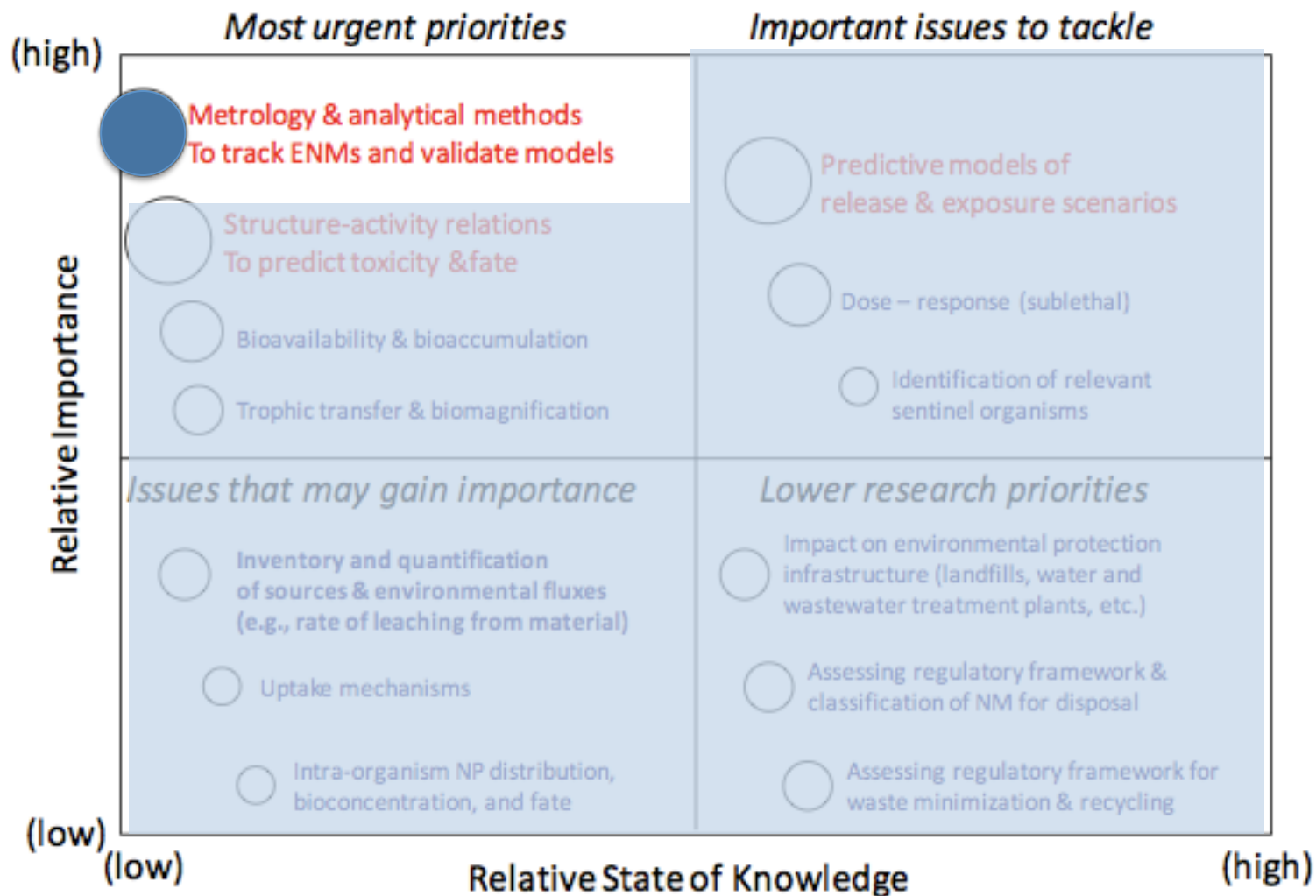
Chady Stephan  
 PerkinElmer



Dr. James Ranville  
 Professor Colorado School of Mines

HUMAN HEALTH | ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

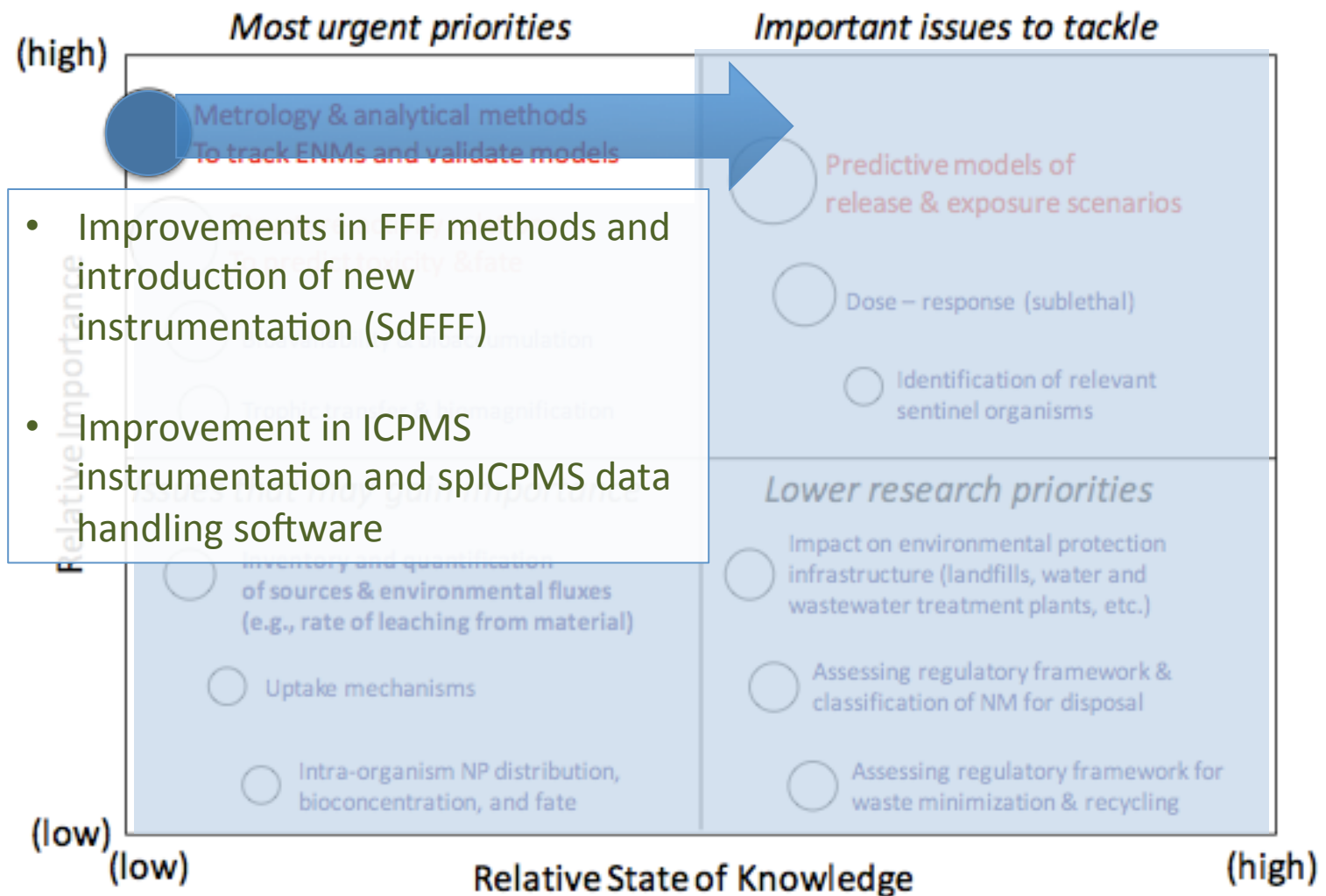
# Summary



National Nanotechnology Initiative Workshop, Arlington VA, 2009



# Summary



National Nanotechnology Initiative Workshop, Arlington VA, 2009

# Thank You

