



NanoCommons
Nano-Knowledge Community



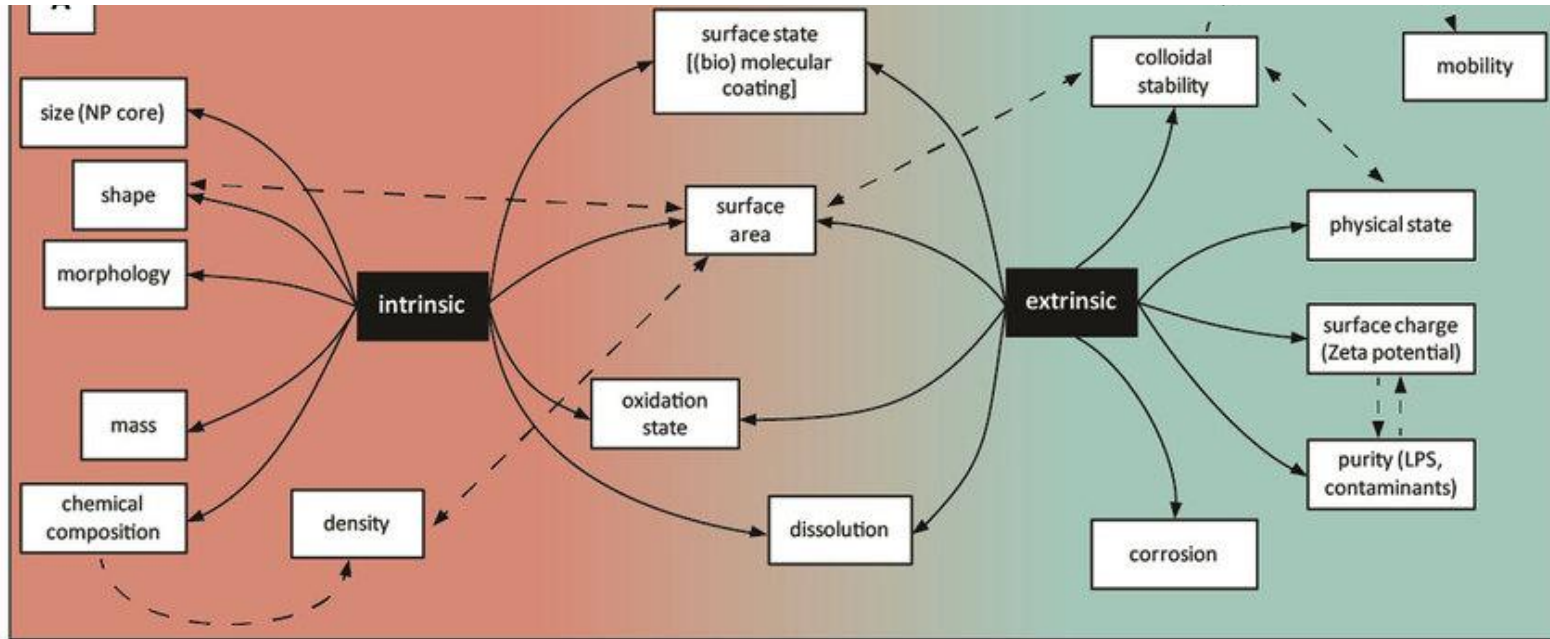
NanoSolveIT

Introducing the InChI for Nanomaterials (NInChI)

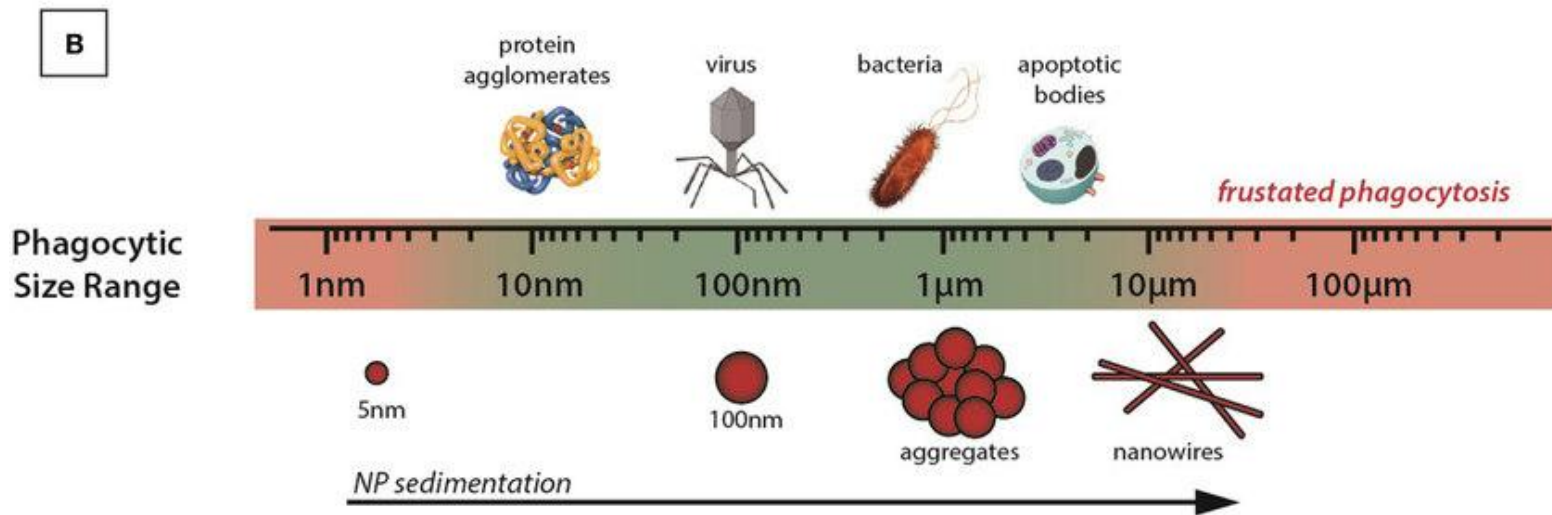
Prof. Iseult Lynch, University of Birmingham

Dr. Antreas Afantitis, Novamechanics Ltd.

Dr. Thomas Exner, Seven Past Nine

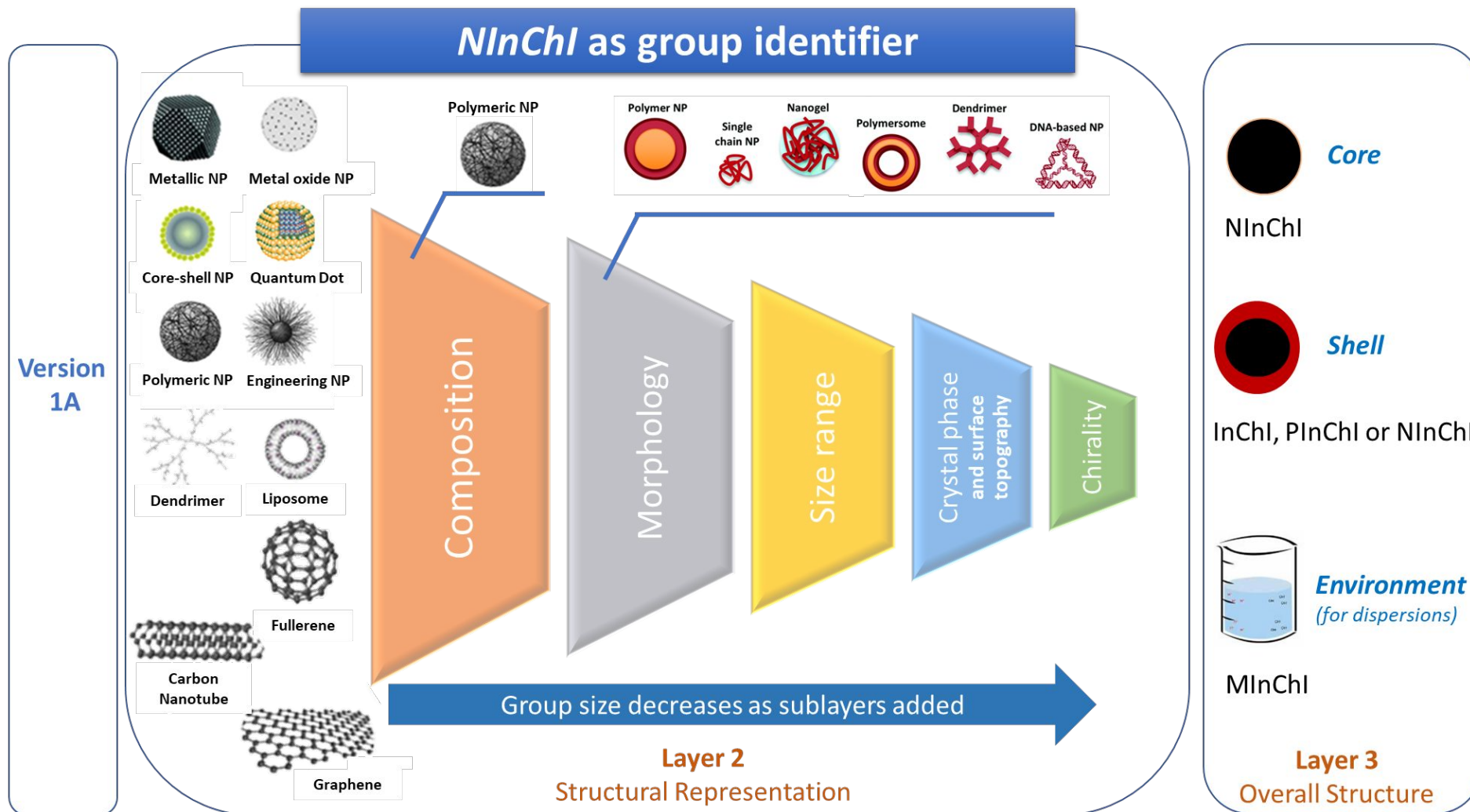


INTRINSIC VERSUS EXTRINSIC PROPERTIES OF NANOMATERIALS



<https://www.frontiersin.org/article/s/10.3389/fimmu.2017.00970/full>

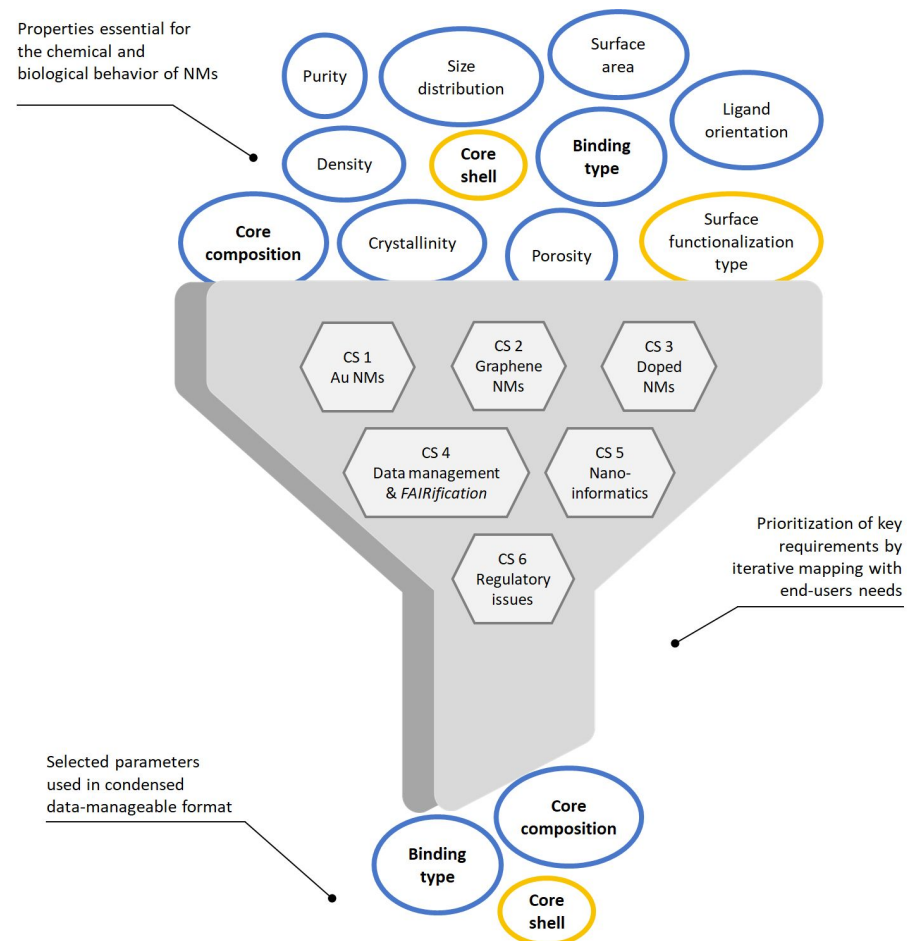
NInChI – enhancing interoperability of data – supporting “nanofoms”



NANOMATERIAL IDENTIFIER - InChI FOR NANO

Case studies

1. Library of Au NMs of different sizes and surface functionalities (ligands)
2. Library of carbon nanotubes
3. Complex chemistries and structures (Multi-metallics – doped / core-shell)
4. NM-related data management and incorporation into the FAIR data landscape
5. NInChI in Nanoinformatics
6. Regulatory challenges (e.g., nanoforms / sets of nanoforms)





Component 1:

Composition: Au -> InChI=1S/Au

Morphology: shell -> sh

Size: thickness of 2 nm given as lower and upper radius -> 2t-9

Part of NInChI for component 1: Au/msh/s1t-9



Component 2:

Composition: Si -> InChI=1S/O2Si/c1-3-2

Morphology: sphere -> sp

Size: diameter of 20 nm -> 20d-9

Space group: amorphous -> 000

Part of NInChI for component 2: O2Si/c1-3-2/msp/s20d-9/k000



Layer 1: 1A

Layer 2: /Au/msh/s2t-9!O2Si/c1-3-2/msp/s20d-9/k000

Layer 3: /y2&1 (ordering from inside out)

BUILDING ON EXISTING InChI CONCEPTS

Component 1:

Composition: Au -> InChI=1S/Au

Morphology: sphere -> sp

Size: diameter of 20 nm -> 20d-9

Space group: not specified



Part of NInChI for component 1: Au/msp/s20d-9

Component 2:

Composition: Si -> InChI=1S/C19H42N.BrH

/c1-5-6-7-8-9-10-11-12-13-14-15-16-17-18-19-20(2,3)4;

/h5-19H2,1-4H3;1H/q+1;/p-1

Morphology: none

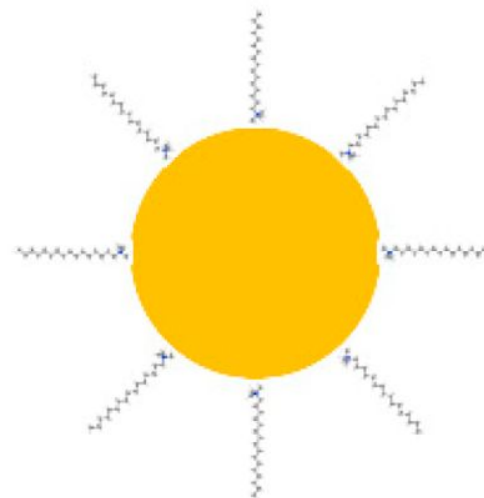
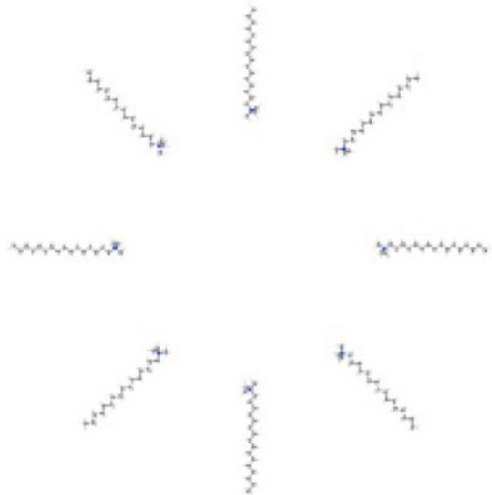
Size: none

Space group: none

Part of NInChI for component 2: C19H42N.BrH

/c1-5-6-7-8-9-10-11-12-13-14-15-16-17-18-19-20(2,3)4;

/h5-19H2,1-4H3;1H/q+1;/p-1



Layer 1: 1A

Layer 2: /Au/msp/s20d-9

!C19H42N.BrH

/c1-5-6-7-8-9-10-11-12-13-14-15-16-17-18-19-20(2,3)4;

/h5-19H2,1-4H3;1H/q+1;/p-1

Layer 3: /y1&2 (ordering from inside out)

CTAB-capped gold nanoparticles,
diameter = 20 nm

Other examples

Polystyrene-coated silica, diameter = 20–100 nm:

NInChI=0.00.1A/C8H8/c1-2-8-6-4-3-5-7-8/h2-7H,1H2/z200-1-8!1S/O2Si/c1-3-2/msp/s20:100d-9/k000/y2&1

Chiral single-wall nanotube of the (3,1) type with 0.4 nm diameter:

NInChI=0.00.1A/C/mtu/s4d-10/w(3,1)/y1

TiO₂ nanoparticle of 2 nm in the anatase form doped with 5% HfO₂:

NInChI=0.00.1A/2O.Hf&2O.Ti/n{1&2}/g{5wf-2&}/msp/s2d-9/k{l 41/a m d}/y1

TECHNICAL IMPLEMENTATION

**NInChI
Server**



Nanocommons - NanoSolveIT NInChI Server

The nanomaterial is being built with a layered architecture from core to outer layers

Composition	Morphology	Size (nm)	Crystal layer	Chirality layer
	Sphere	d	None	n,m

NInChI



Ag Sphere d = 10.0 Ag

NInChI `NInChI=1A/Ag/msp/s10d-9k[Fm-3m]y1`

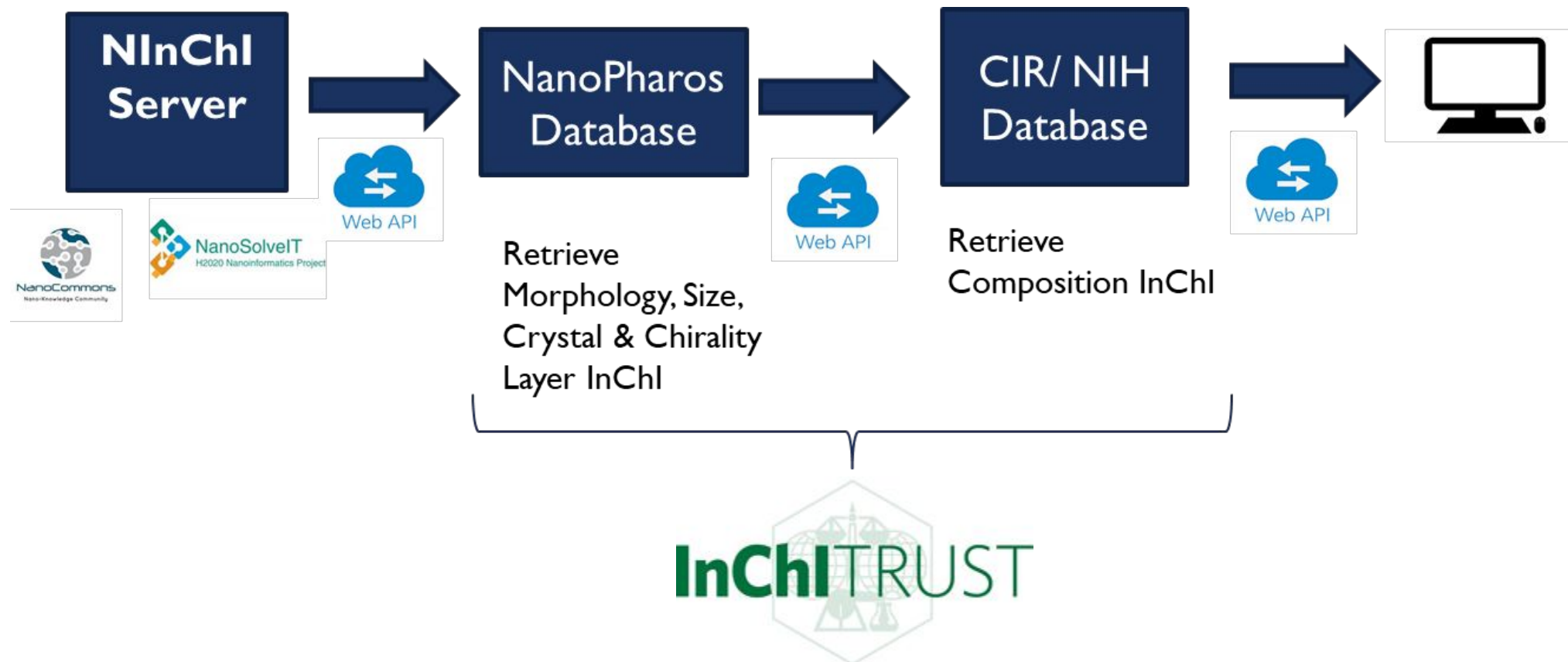
Example with two components



Composition	Morphology	Size (nm)	Crystal layer	Chirality layer
	Shell	t	None	n,m
Au	Sphere	d = 20.0	None	
Si	Shell	t = 20.0	amorphous	

NInChI `NInChI=1A/Au/msp/s20d-9!Si/msh/s20t-9k[000]y1&2`

TECHNICAL IMPLEMENTATION

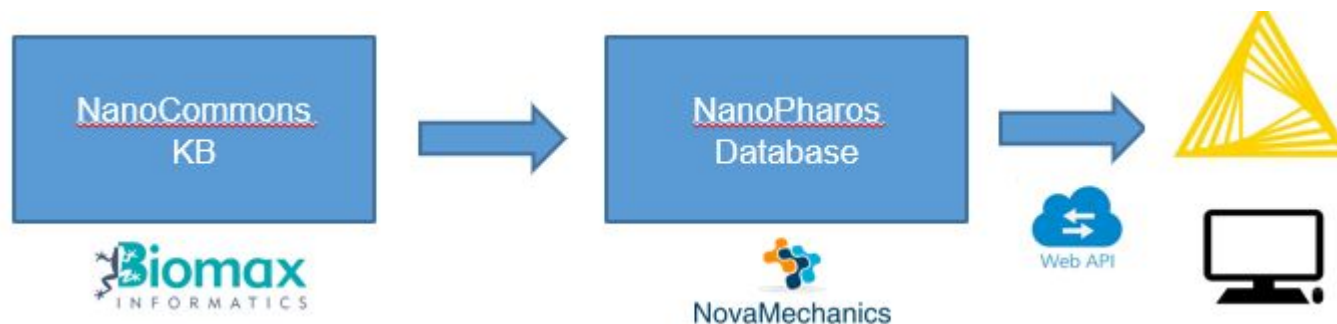


Future Plans: Include these steps in the InChi software

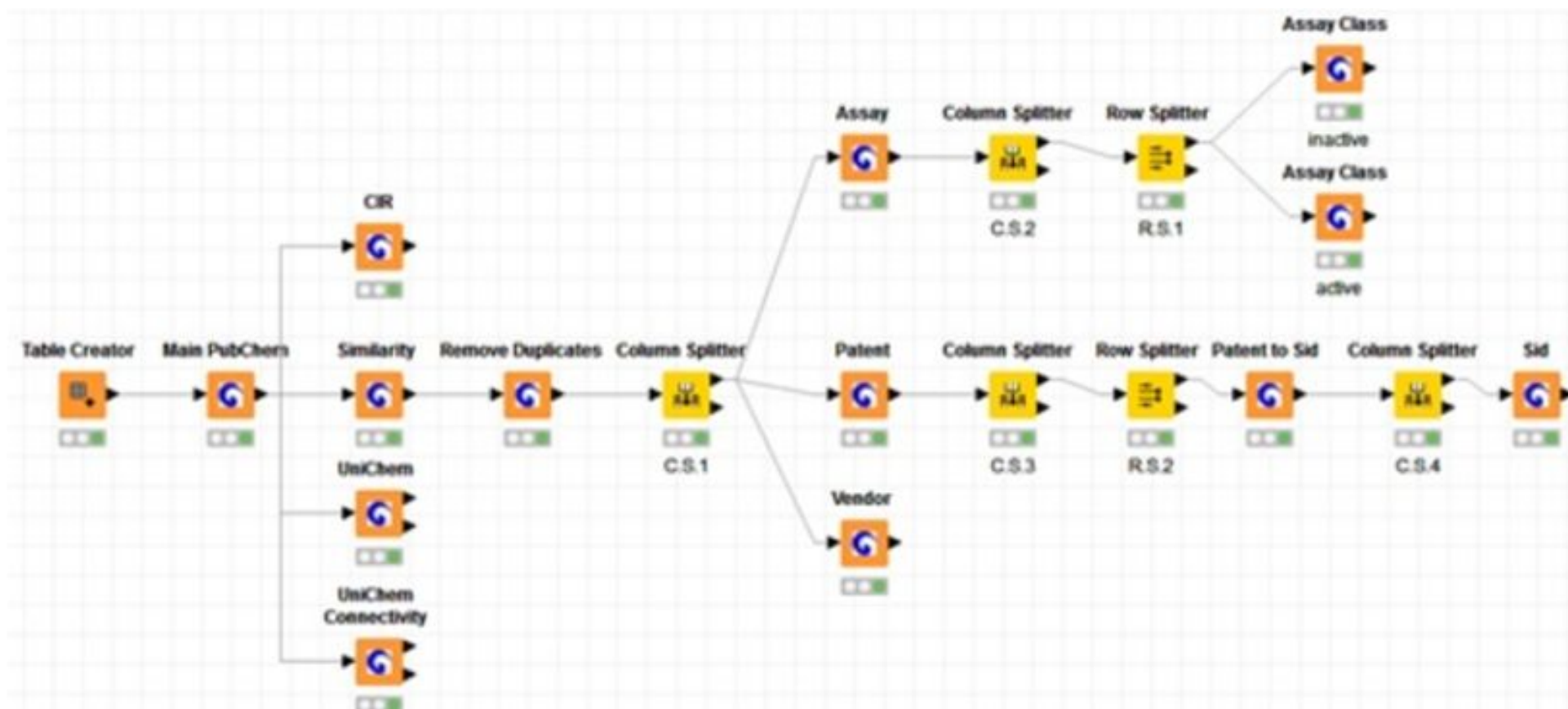
Under Development - NInChI KNIME node

Advantages

- Enable high throughput calculation of several NInChI simultaneously
- Access Nanomaterials Databases through APIs for Look up search (currently compatible with NanoCommons & NanoSolveIT KBs)
- Direct integration with nanomaterials descriptor calculation tools
- Direct integration with image analysis tools



Blend >35 databases together with the aid of InChi, why not for NInChI



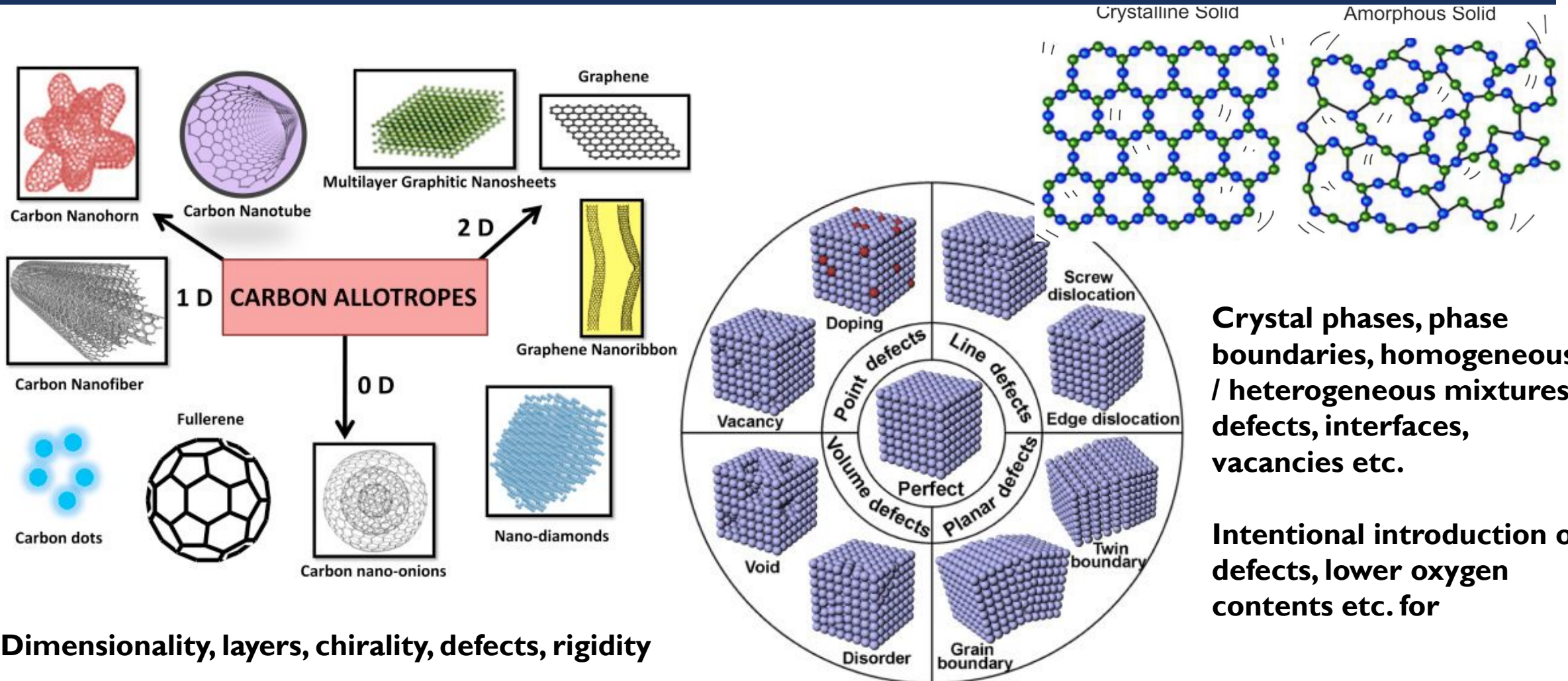
NInChI WORKING GROUP - TERMS OF REFERENCE

- Is a nanomaterial an extension of a molecule, or is a molecule a component of a nanomaterial?
- Is the nanomaterial InChI canonical?
- Can developments of the core InChI, including improved descriptions of organometallics and inorganics, fit easily into the Nano InChI without requiring substantial reprogramming?
- Does the Nano InChI describe nanomaterials in a way which is globally accepted, or might take up in some regions be higher than in others?
- How should the Nano InChI software interact with the core InChI software?

Questions arising from InChI conference (22-24 March 2021)

- Are there ways to include metal-organic frameworks?
- Are non-integer atom counts supported? Again this is more a question of the representation of the chemical constitution of the components.
- Different/specific types of NMs - is there a need to have more specific NInChIs?
- Dispersed NM?
- Group identifiers versus individual substance identifier - precedent here from Markov structures for example

Key requirements to capture in the NInChI?

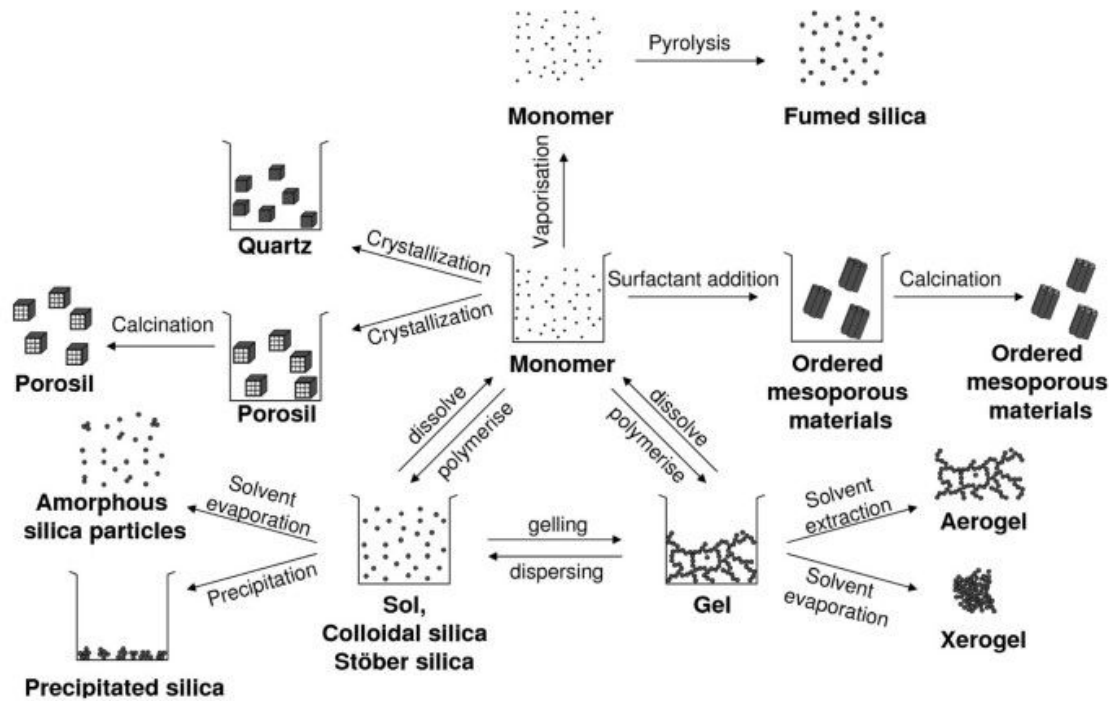


Dimensionality, layers, chirality, defects, rigidity

Crystal phases, phase boundaries, homogeneous / heterogeneous mixtures, defects, interfaces, vacancies etc.

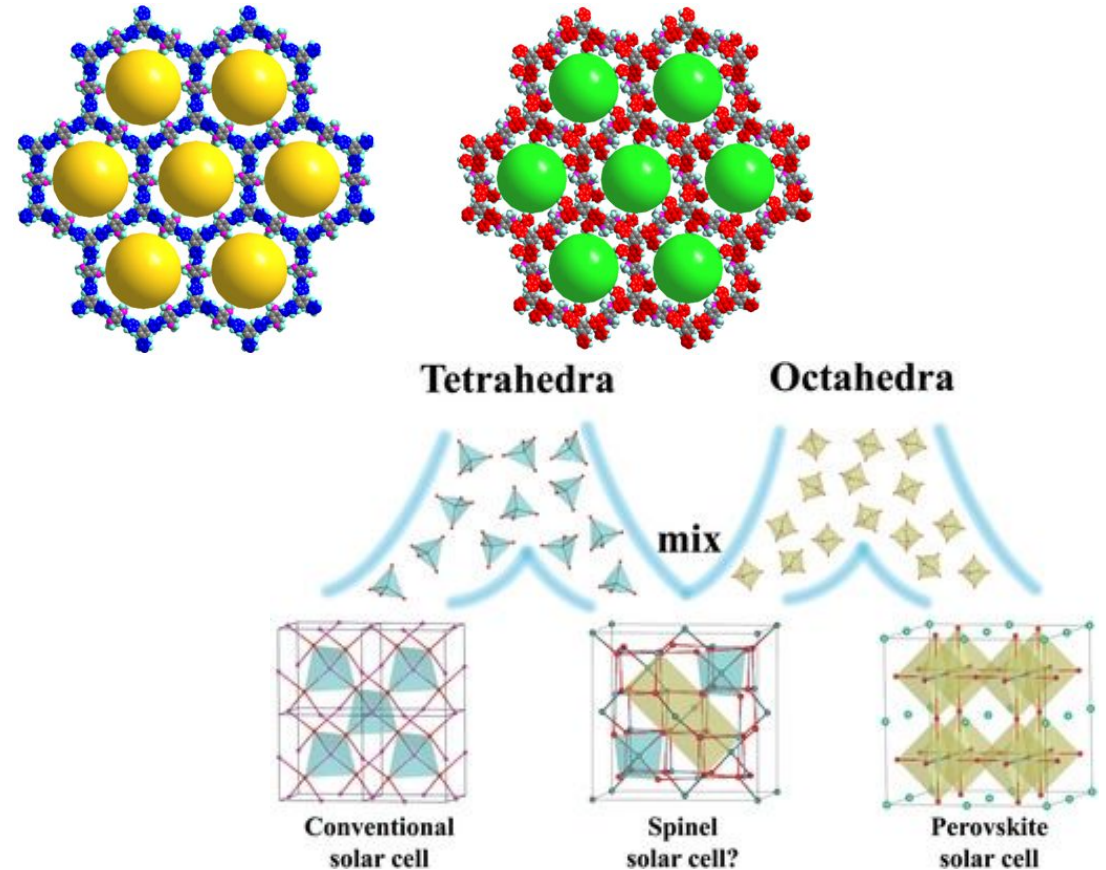
Intentional introduction of defects, lower oxygen contents etc. for

Key requirements to capture in the NiChI?



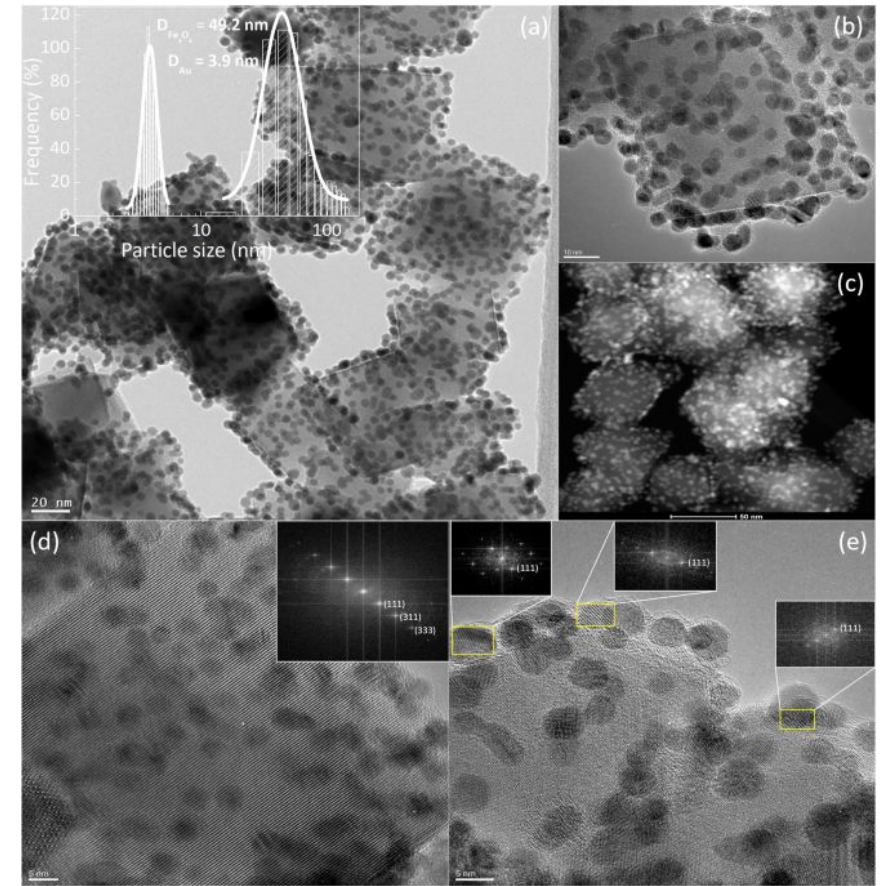
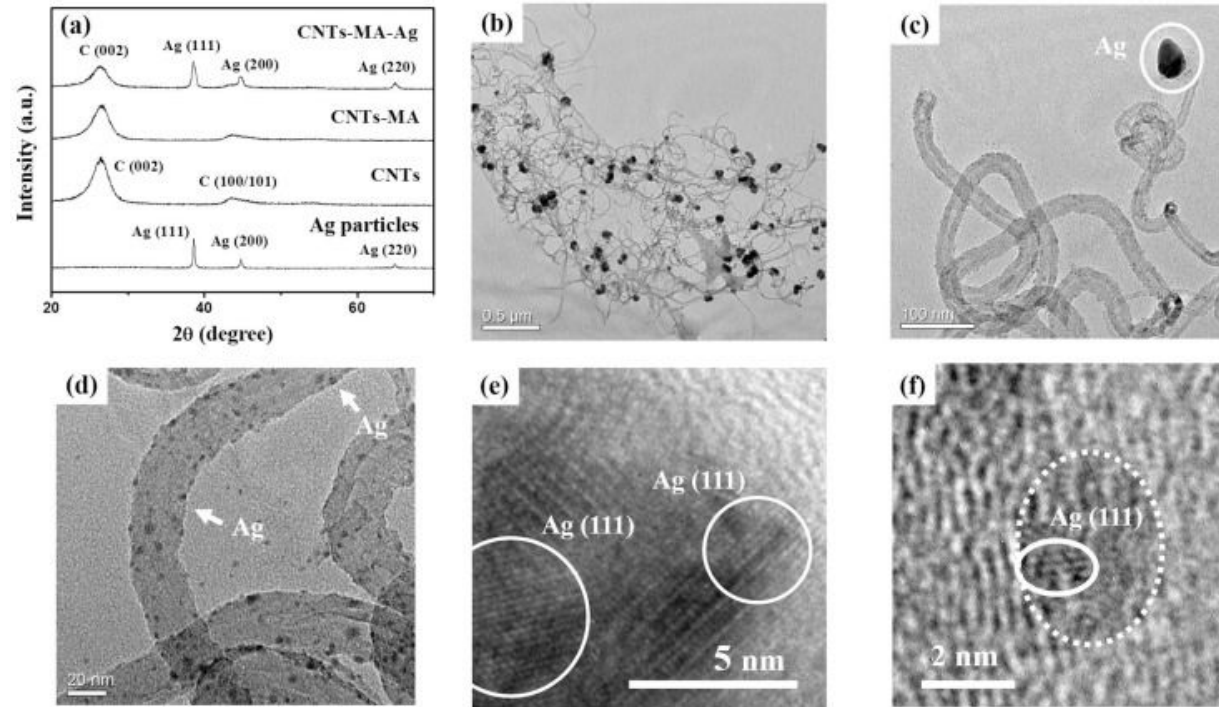
Form, associated liquid / gas, solid or dispersion, heterogeneous or homogeneous mixture etc.

Metal organic Frameworks



Alkyl halide perovskite materials

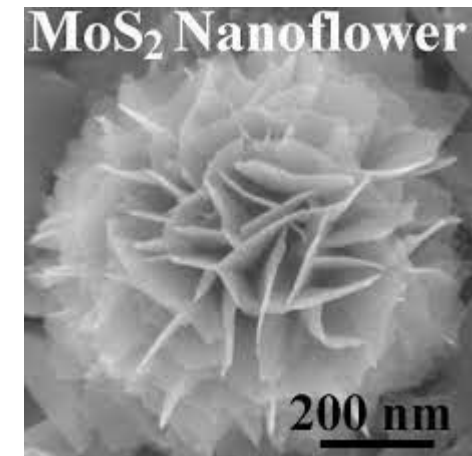
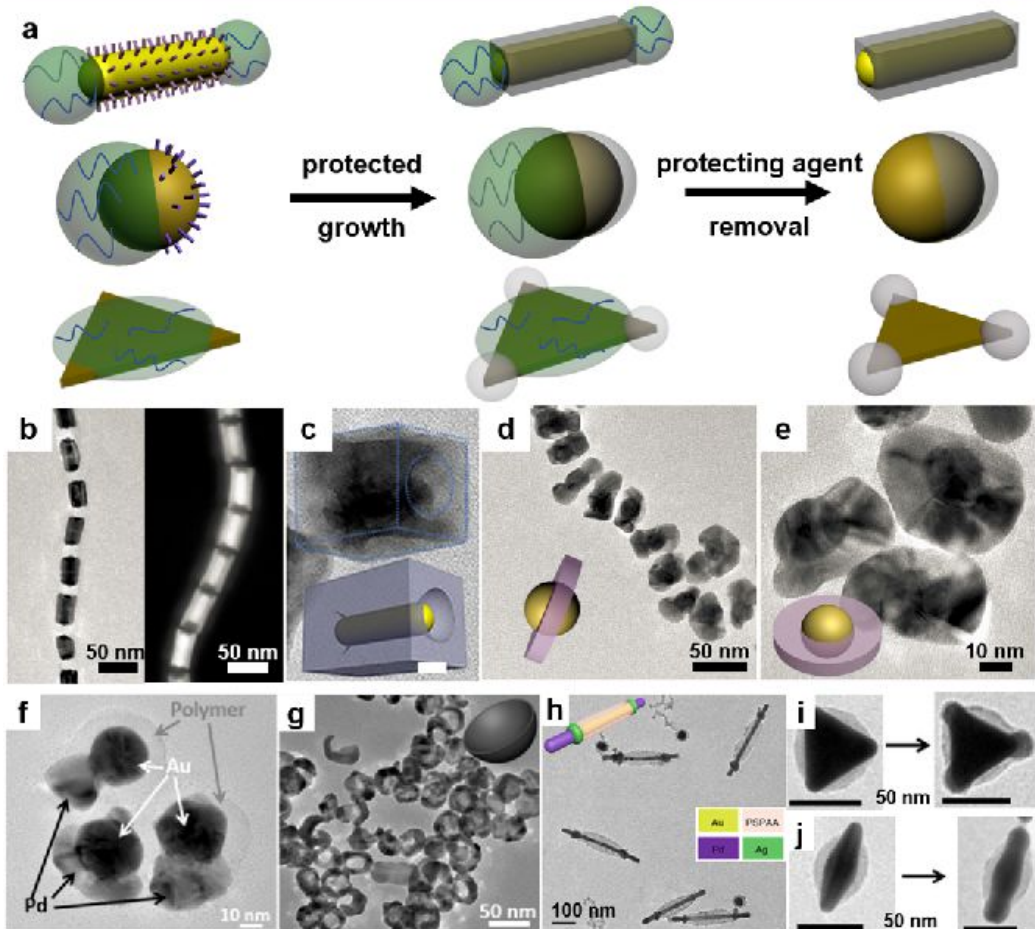
Some challenges to consider.....



Hybrid materials - e.g. silver NM functionalised CNTs
 - **Distribution, relative %, surface or inside tubes etc.?**

Gold NP-decorated iron oxide nanomaterials for hyperthermia

A lot beyond our current scope.....



Very complex shapes

Symmetry-breaking nanomaterials

What can we exclude from first iteration of NInChI standard?

Nanostructured surfaces / nanocomposites

Inverse NMs (nano holes in a bulk material),

Nanoporous materials ?

Dynamic properties (extrinsic properties) such as dissolution, agglomeration, and protein corona formation were also excluded for now, although it seems likely that these could be added using a modified reactions extension of InChI, in which reactions are considered to be transformations, or added via AuxInfo files associated with NInChI..



Backup slides

ALPHA VERSION – PUBLISHED DEC 2020 – NInChI GENERATOR



Article

Can an InChI for Nano Address the Need for a Simplified Representation of Complex Nanomaterials across Experimental and Nanoinformatics Studies?

Iseult Lynch ^{1,*}, Antreas Afantitis ², Thomas Exner ³, Martin Himly ⁴, Vladimir Lobaskin ⁵, Philip Doganis ⁶, Dieter Maier ⁷, Natasha Sanabria ⁸, Anastasios G. Papadimitis ^{1,2}, Anna Rybinska-Fryca ⁹, Maciej Gromelski ⁹, Tomasz Puzyn ⁹, Egon Willighagen ¹⁰, Blair D. Johnston ¹¹, Mary Gulumian ^{8,12}, Marianne Matzke ¹³, Amaia Green Etxabe ¹³, Nathan Bossa ¹⁴, Angela Serra ¹⁵, Irene Liampa ⁶, Stacey Harper ¹⁶, Kaido Tamm ¹⁷, Alexander CØ Jensen ¹⁸, Pekka Kohonen ¹⁹, Luke Slater ²⁰, Andreas Tsoumanis ², Dario Greco ¹⁵, David A. Winkler ^{21,22,23,24}, Haralambos Sarimveis ⁶ and Georgia Melagraki ^{2,*}

¹ School of Geography, Earth and Environmental Sciences, University of Birmingham, Edgbaston, Birmingham B15 2TT, UK; a.papadimitis@bham.ac.uk

² Nanoinformatics Department, NovaMechanics Ltd., 1666 Nicosia, Cyprus; afantitis@novamechanics.com (A.A.); melagraki@nvemechanics.com (A.T.)

³ Edelweiss Connect GmbH, Hochbergerstrasse 60C, 4057 Basel, Switzerland; thomas.exner@edelweissconnect.com



Nanocommons - NanoSolveIT NInChI Server



The nanomaterial is being built with a layered architecture from core to outer layers

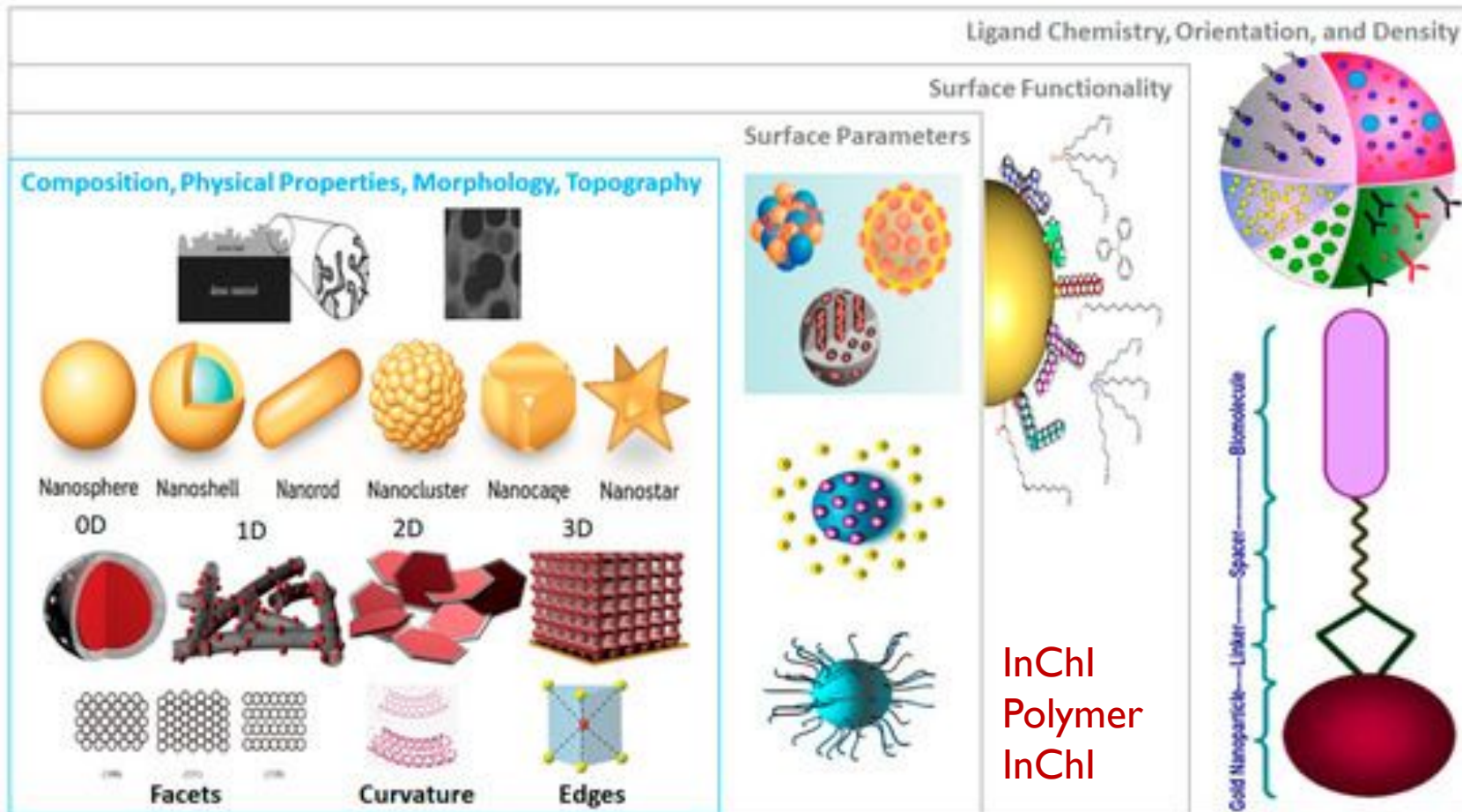
Composition	Morphology	Size (nm)	Crystal layer	Chirality layer	
	Sphere	d	None	n,m	+

NInChI

<https://www.mdpi.com/2079-4991/10/12/2493>

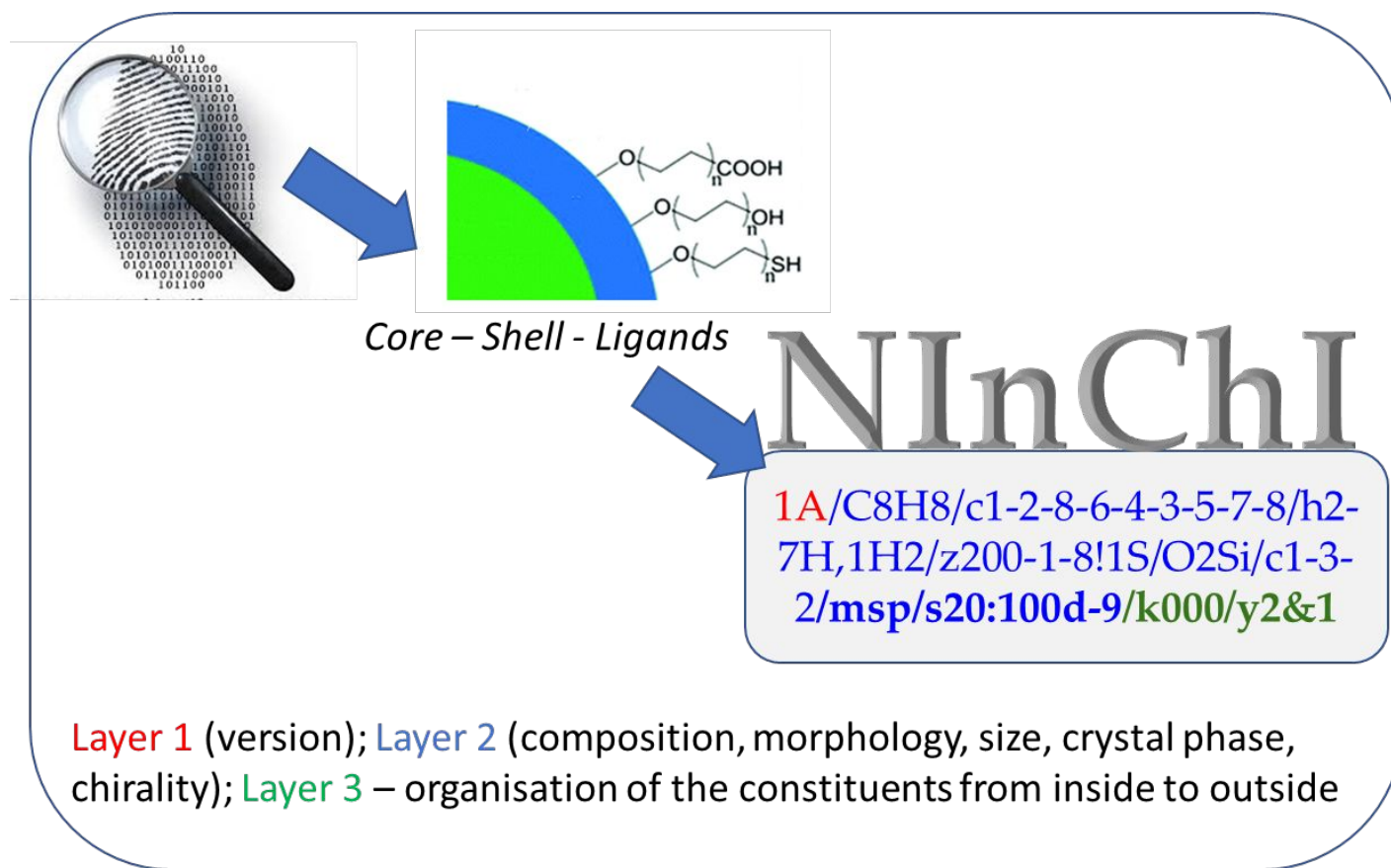
<http://enaloscloud.novamechanics.com/nanocommons/NInChI/>

CHALLENGES OF DISTINGUISHING NANOMATERIALS



- Crystal phase or mixed phases
- Chirality
- Dopants
- Defects
- Powder vs dispersion (Mixtures InChI)

NIChI AS A STRUCTURAL NANOMATERIAL IDENTIFIER



Layer 1 (version); **Layer 2** (composition, morphology, size, crystal phase, chirality); **Layer 3** – organisation of the constituents from inside to outside



Article - original research manuscript

Can an InChI for nano address the need for a simplified representation of complex nanomaterials across experimental and nanoinformatics studies?

Iseult Lynch^{1*}, Antreas Afantitis², Thomas Exner³, Martin Himly⁴, Vladimir Lobaskin⁵, Philip Doganis⁶, Dieter Maier⁷, Natasha Sanabria⁸, Anastasios G. Papadimitriou⁹, Anna Rybinska-Fryca⁹, Maciej Gromelski⁹, Egon Willighagen¹⁰, Blair D. Johnston¹¹, Mary Gulumian⁹, Marianne Matzke¹², Amaia Green Etxabe¹², Nathan Bossa¹³, Angela Serra¹⁴, Irene Liampa⁶, Stacey Harper¹⁵, Kaido Tamm¹⁶, Alexander CØ Jensen¹⁷, Pekka Kohonen¹⁸, Luke Slater¹, Haralambos Sarimveis⁶, Georgia Melagraki^{2*}

INITIAL RESPONSES FOR DISCUSSION BY NInChI WORKING GROUP

- Is a nanomaterial an extension of a molecule, or is a molecule a component of a nanomaterial? If it is the former, then an AuxInfo approach might be best.
 - Nanomaterials are materials, not molecules - multiple InChIs are currently used as part of the NInChI
- Is the nanomaterial InChI canonical? The RInChI achieves this by minimising the information in the main string, and using AuxInfo to hold anything with a floating point number
 - Not yet since properties can be quantified using different measures (e.g. radius or diameter for spherical NM)
 - Proposal of NInChI also as a group identifier makes canonicalization even more demanding
 - Transferring the values into AuxInfo should be tested

INITIAL RESPONSES FOR DISCUSSION BY NInChI WORKING GROUP

- Can developments of the core InChI, including improved descriptions of organometallics and inorganics, fit easily into the Nano InChI without requiring substantial reprogramming?
 - Existing descriptions should definitely be used - this is already done with mixture and polymer InChIs
 - Will need reprogramming, but the NovaMechanics team have the capability to do this
- Does the Nano InChI describe nanomaterials in a way which is globally accepted, or might take up in some regions be higher than in others?
 - Large efforts were taken to collect views from as many researches across the world to get consensus inside the nanosafety community - outreach has been started towards other communities and has resulted in immense interest

INITIAL RESPONSES FOR DISCUSSION BY NInChI WORKING GROUP

- How should the Nano InChI software interact with the core InChI software? Would the aim be to integrate it, or could it be an independent program which called the core software whenever an InChI needed to be generated?
 - NInChI software will need to provide specific functionality and being independent, at least at the beginning, will allow faster development of these
 - Core software already used for creating the InChI for the components
 - Mutual exchange of functionality between the core and the NInChI software might make merging beneficial later on
 - Currently we are extracting the InChIs for the elements from the core InChI software

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS



Dr. Antreas Afantitis
Novamechanics Ltd.



Dr. Thomas Exner
Seven Past Nine



Dr. Georgia Melagraki
Novamechanics Ltd.



Dr. Martin Himly
Paris-Lodron
University of Salzburg



Dr. Andreas Tsoumanis
Novamechanics Ltd.

[Email: i.lynch@bham.ac.uk](mailto:i.lynch@bham.ac.uk)
to join the NInChI working group



European
Commission

Horizon 2020
European Union funding
for Research & Innovation