

## Supporting information

### In situ insight on the unconventional Ruthenium catalyzed growth of carbon nanostructures

*M. Bahri<sup>1,2</sup>, K. Dembélé<sup>1</sup>, C. Sassoie<sup>3</sup>, D. P. Debecker<sup>4</sup>, S. Moldovan<sup>1,5</sup>, A.S. Gay<sup>2</sup>,*

*Ch. Hirlimann<sup>1</sup>, C. Sanchez<sup>3,6</sup>, O. Ersen<sup>1,7,8,\*</sup>*

<sup>1</sup>Institut de Physique et Chimie des Matériaux de Strasbourg (IPCMS), UMR 7504 CNRS - Université de Strasbourg, 23 rue du Lœss, F-67034 Strasbourg cedex, France

<sup>2</sup>IFP Energies nouvelles, Rond-point de l'échangeur de Solaize, BP 3, 69360 Solaize, France

<sup>3</sup>Sorbonne Universités, UPMC Univ Paris06, Collège de France, Laboratoire de Chimie de la Matière Condensée de Paris, 4 place Jussieu, 75005 Paris, France

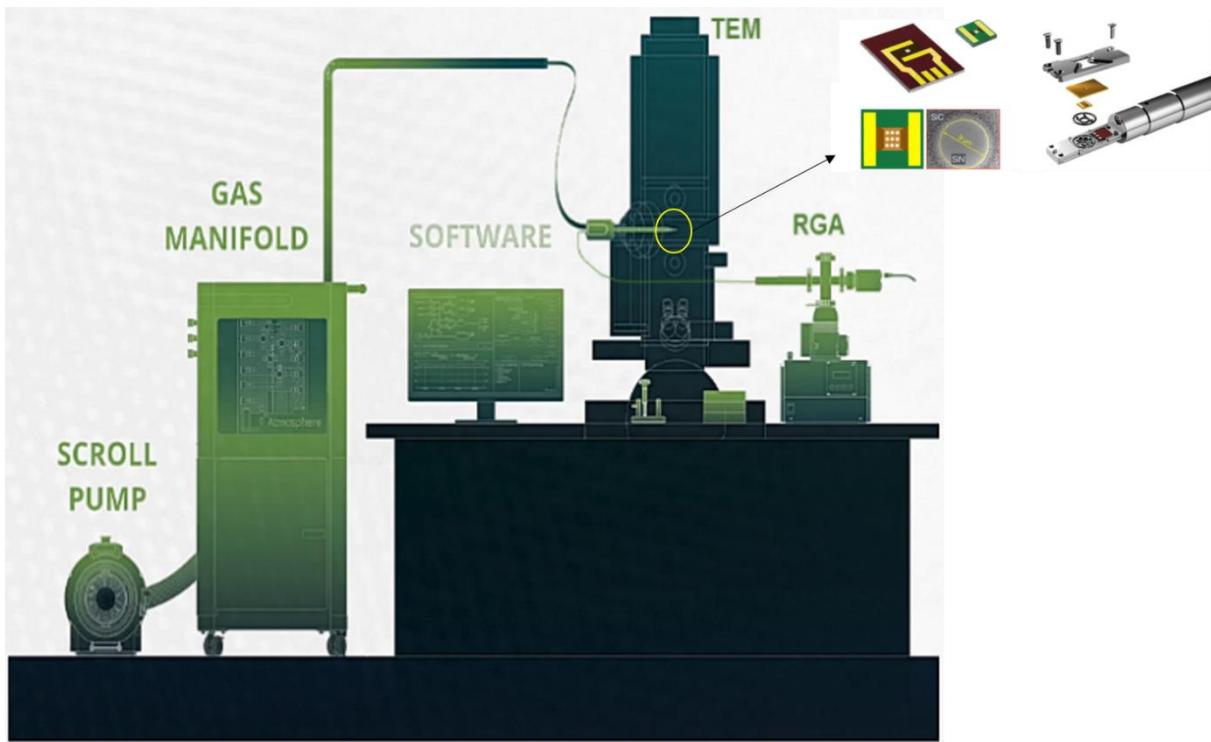
<sup>4</sup>Institute of Condensed Matter and Nanosciences - Molecules, Solids and Reactivity (IMCN/MOST), Université catholique de Louvain, Place Louis Pasteur, 1, box L4.01.09, 1348 Louvain-La-Neuve, Belgium

<sup>5</sup>Groupe de Physique des Matériaux UMR CNRS 6634, Université de Rouen, INSA Rouen, Avenue de l'Université, Saint Etienne du Rouvray, France

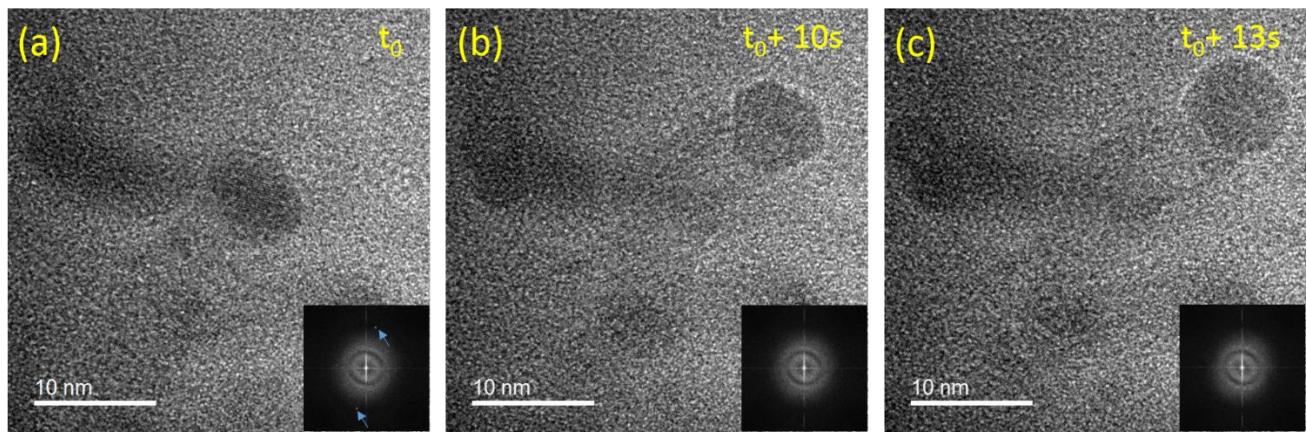
<sup>6</sup>Chaire de Chimie des Matériaux Hybrides, Collège de France, 11 place Marcelin Berthelot, 75231 Paris, France

<sup>7</sup>University of Strasbourg Institute for Advanced Studies (USIAS), Strasbourg, France

<sup>8</sup>Institut Universitaire de France (IUF), Paris, France



**Figure S1.** Schematic representation of the E-Cell system produced by Protochips Company. The gas is controlled by a gas manifold before to be inserted in the sample holder; a residual gas analyzer is connected at the exhaust line. © Protochips company.



**Figure S2.** TEM images showing the particle shape fluctuation from a quasi-spherical shape (a) to a more faceted one (b) and finally to a spherical one (c). Inset images: Fast Fourier transforms on which blue arrows in (a) highlighted the presence of a crystallographic plane with the distance  $d = 0.208$  nm.

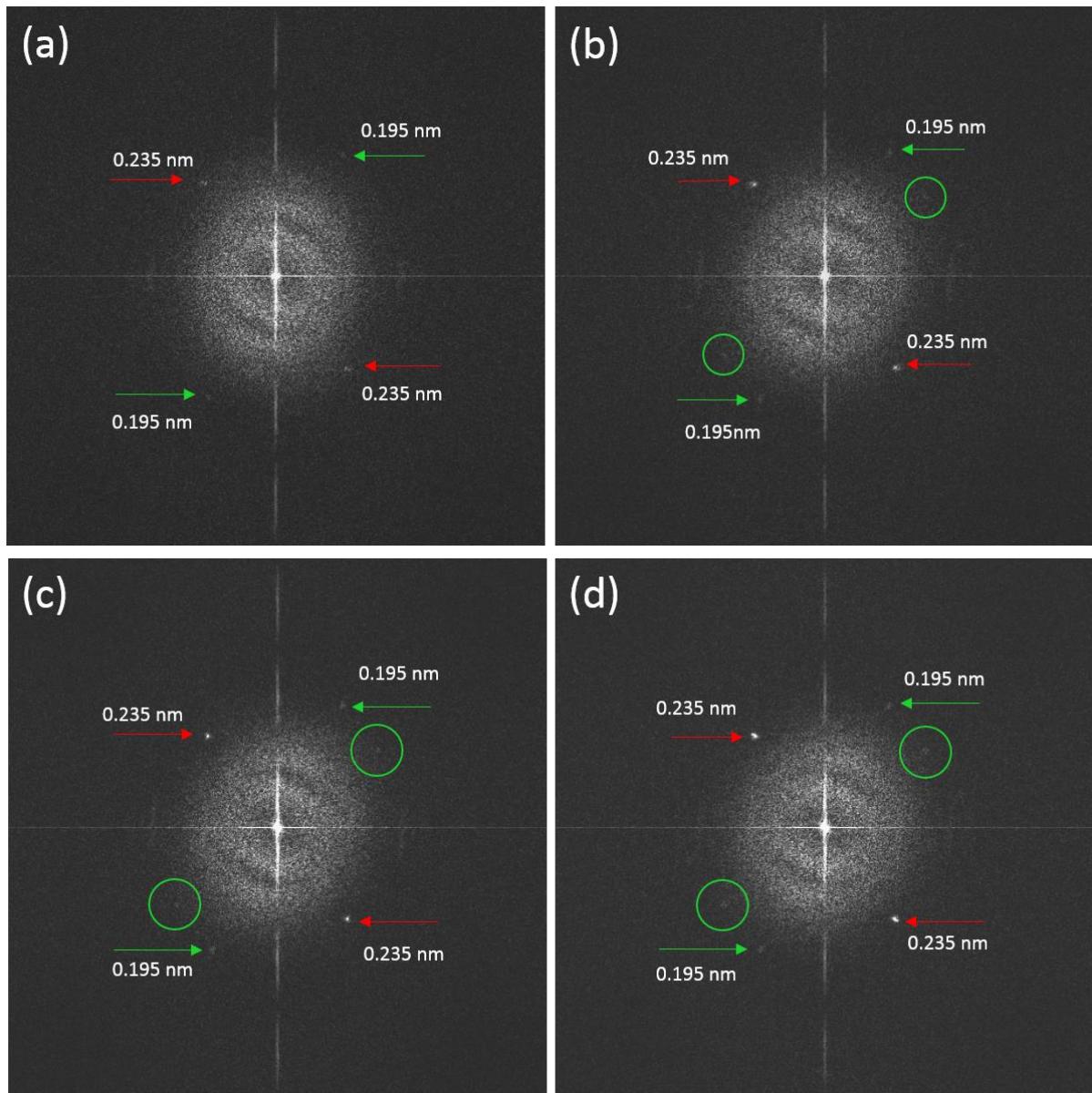


Figure S3: Zooms of the four FFTs shown in Figure 5 in order to better evidence the presence of the  $\text{Ru}_2\text{C}$  planes. The part (a) corresponds to 5 (h), (b) to 5 (j), (c) to 5 (l) and (d) to 5 (m).

Dynamical visualization of the carbon nanotubes growth process.

**Video S1:** Raw video from which the sequence shown on figure 2 was extracted.

**Video S2:** Video highlighting the shape and size fluctuations of the Ru particles.

**Video S3:** Raw video from which the sequence shown on figure 5 was extracted, in relation with the wave reconstruction method.