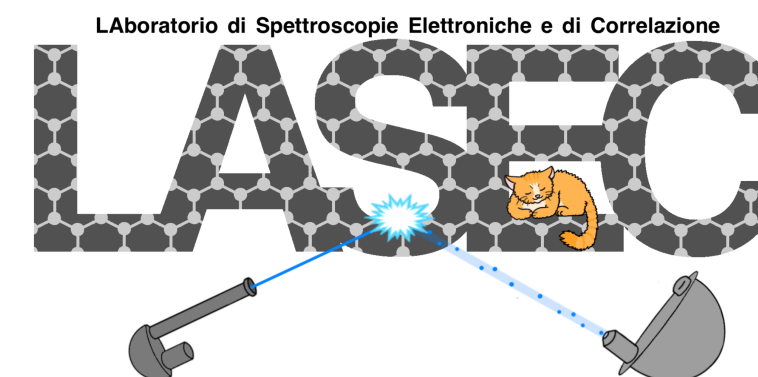


Exploring VACNT Anisotropy through Angle Resolved Electron Emission

Do the nanotubes tube?

Orlando Castellano, Alice Apponi, Luca Cecchini, Ravi Prakash Yadav, Gianluca Cavoto, Carlo Mariani, Ilaria Rago, Francesco Pandolfi, Alessandro Ruocco



ANDROMEDA

Aligned Nanotube Detector for Research On MeV Darkmatter



Photoemission

UV photon source:

He I: 21.22 eV
He II: 40.8 eV

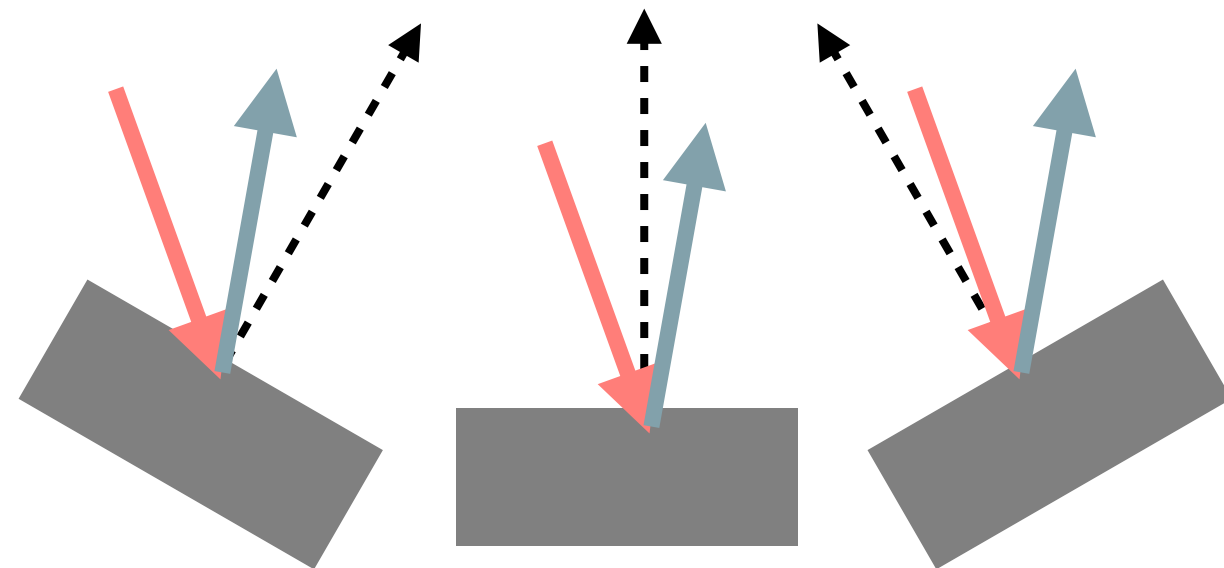
Hemispherical Electron Analyzer

Collects photoemitted electrons

Selected in E_k

Spectrum

The sample rotates



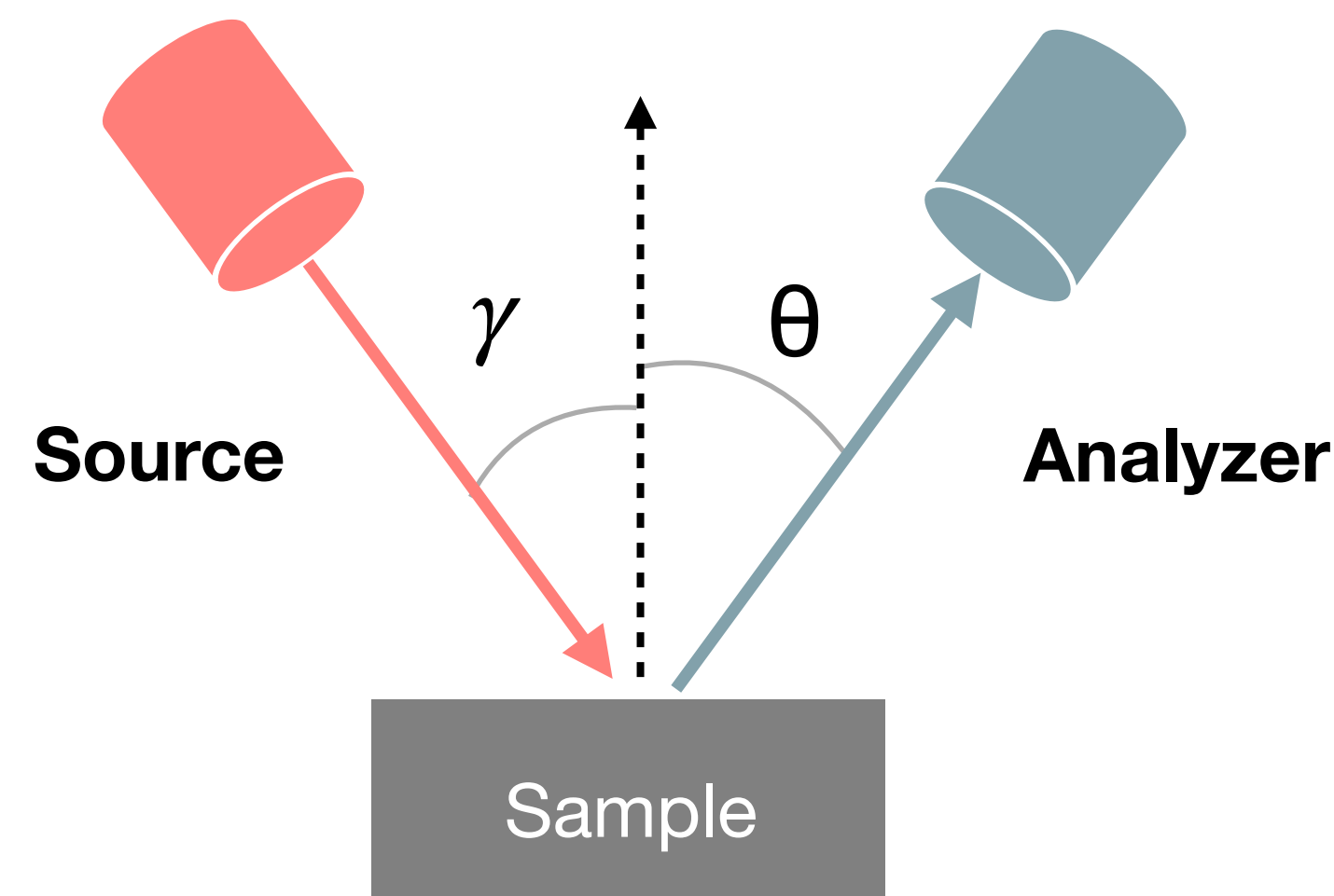
Electron scattering

Monochromatic electron gun

Primary electrons:
KE 90 ± 0.05 eV

Hemispherical Electron Analyzer

Collects elastically backscattered electrons:
KE 90 ± 0.09 eV



Source and Analyzer
are at a fixed angle:

$$\gamma + \theta = 30^\circ$$

Compare VA-CNTs to isotropic samples

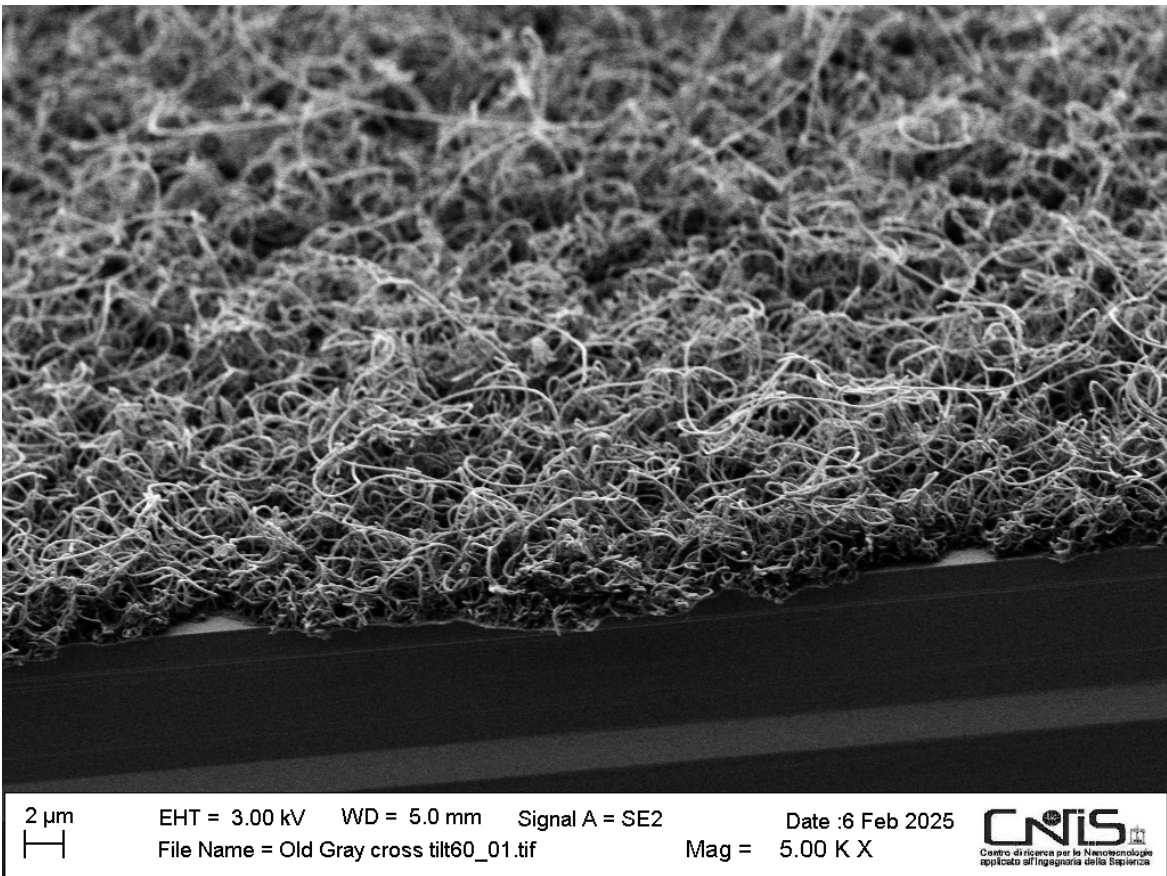
RO-Graphite

Randomly oriented graphite sheets
(TAAB c107 colloidal graphite, Aquadag)

+ bonus **ARCAP** sample holder
(amorphous Copper / Nickel alloy)

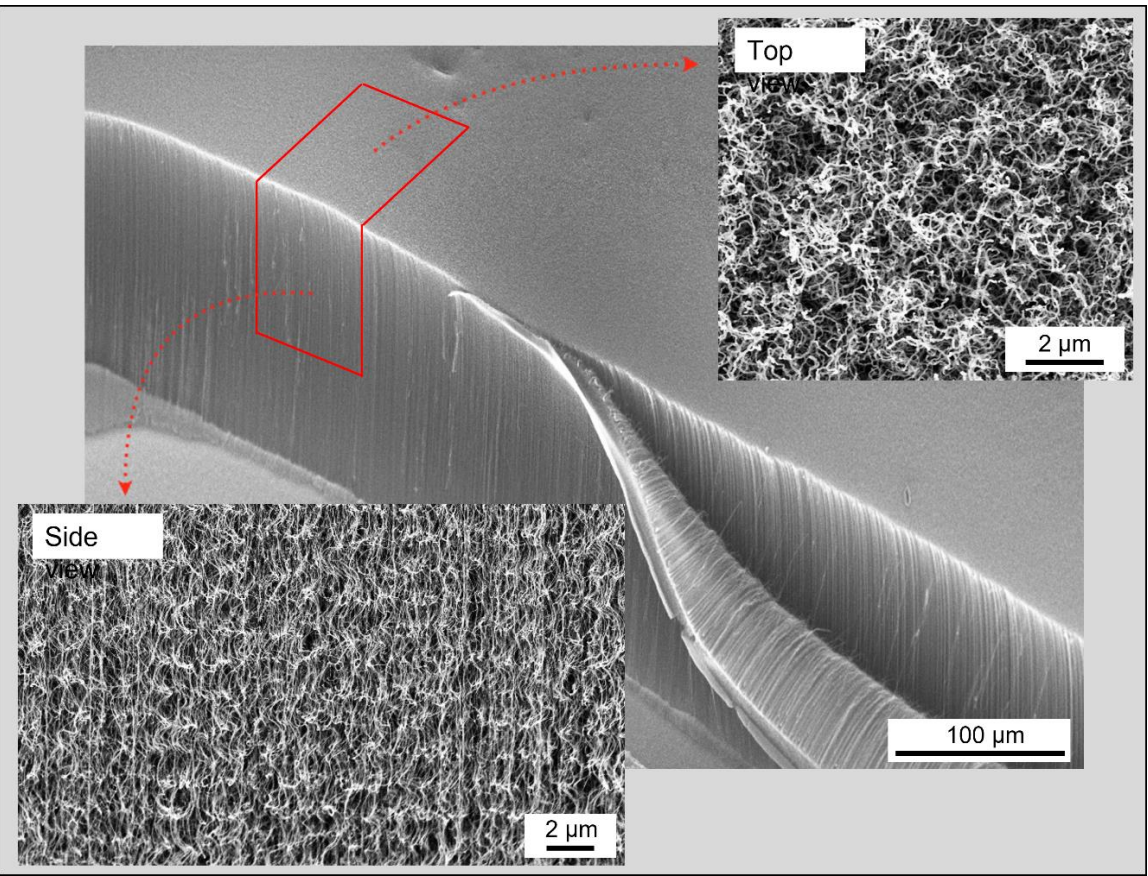
RO-CNT

Randomly oriented
carbon nanotubes

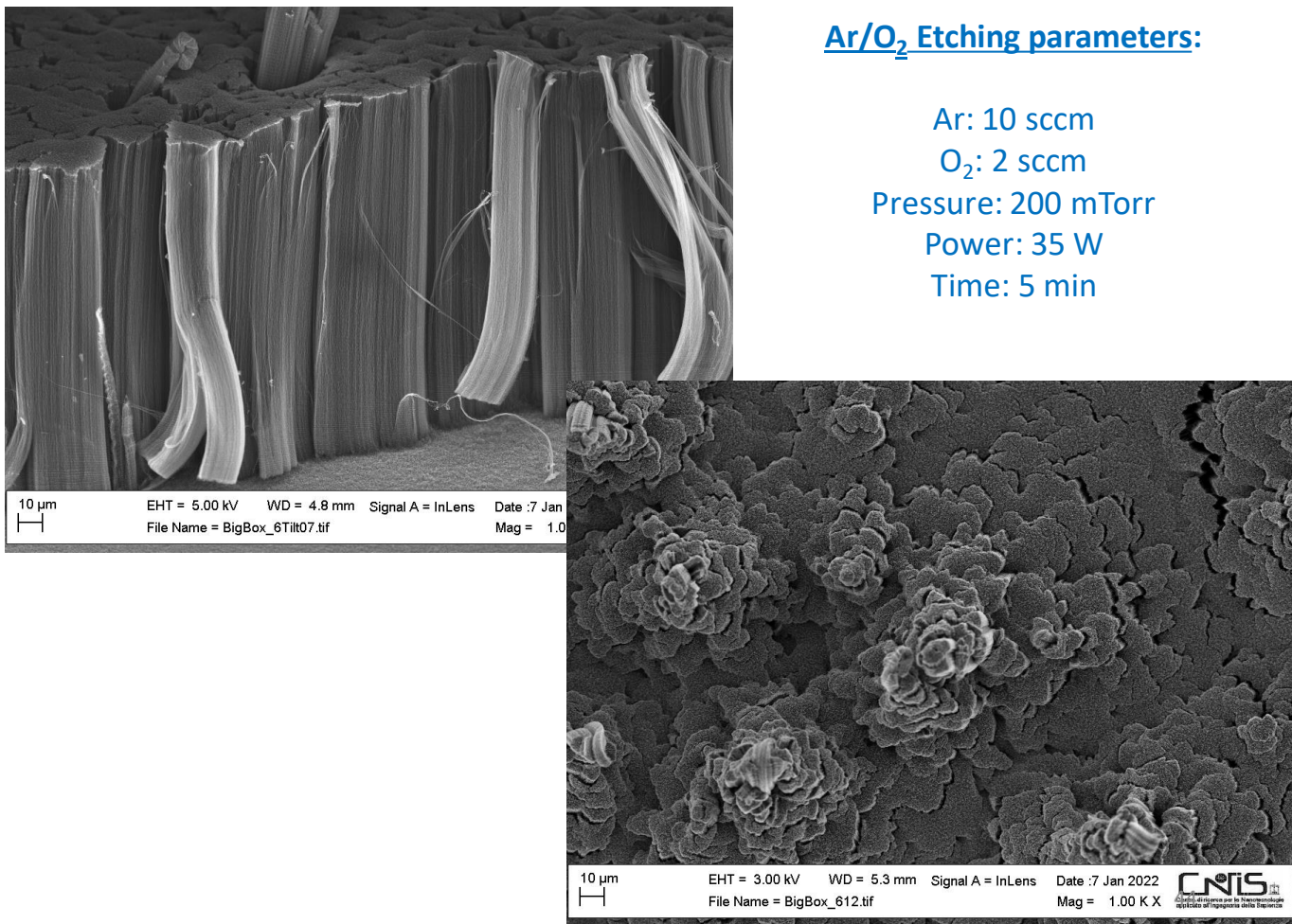


VA-CNT

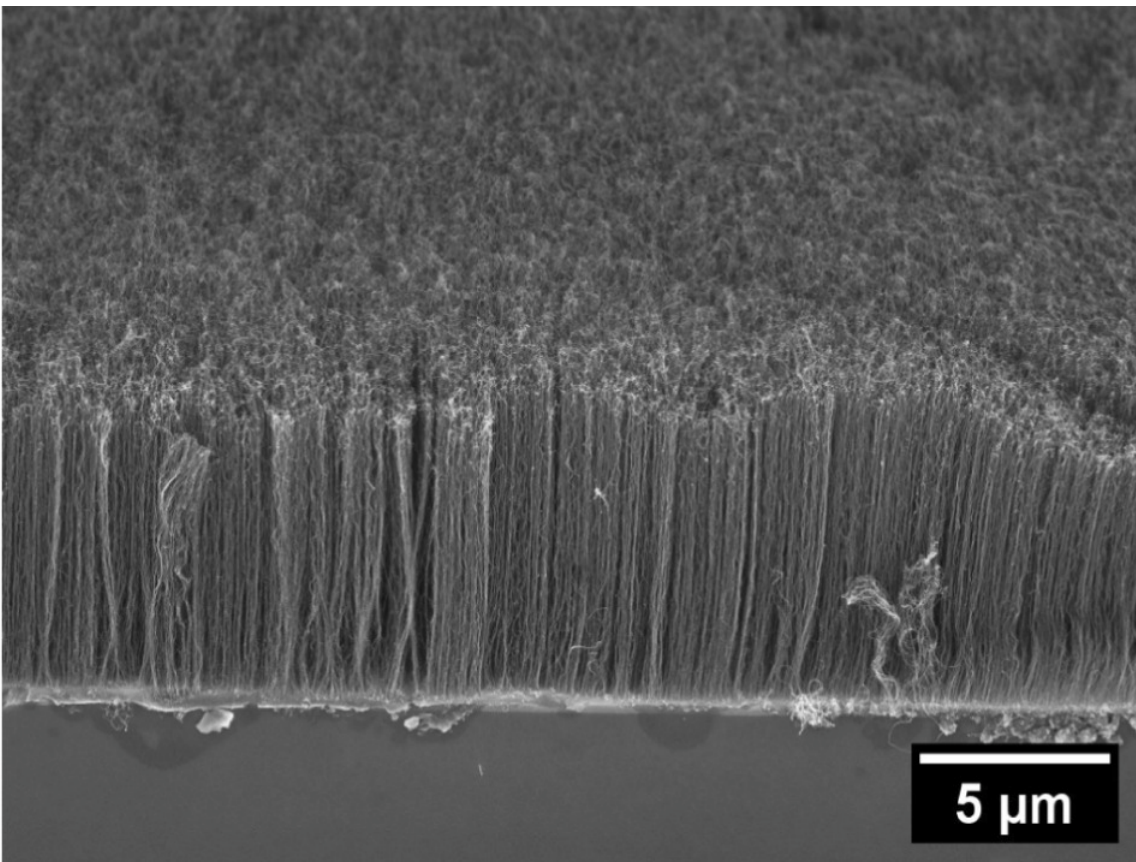
● As grown



● Mild Etched



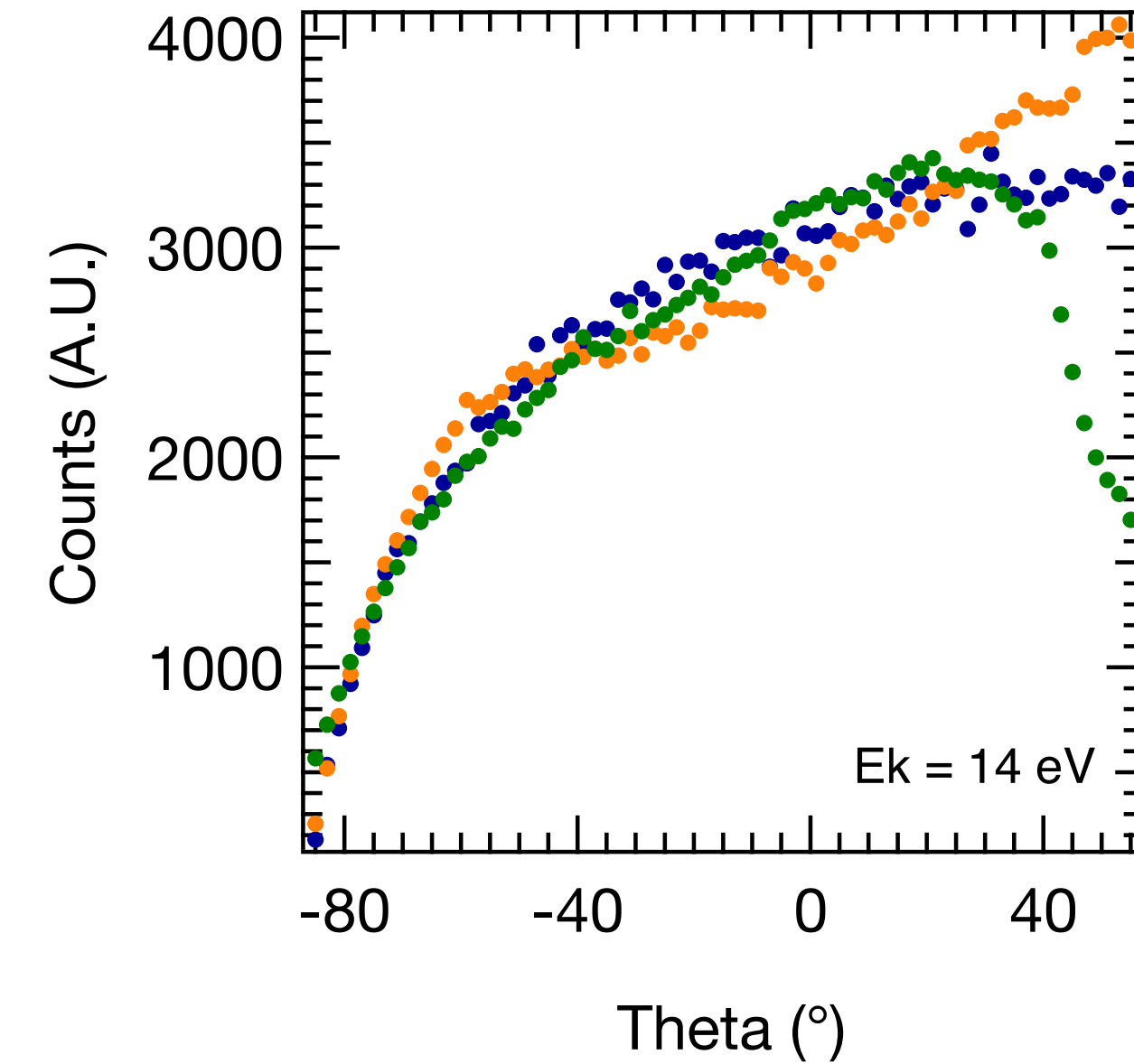
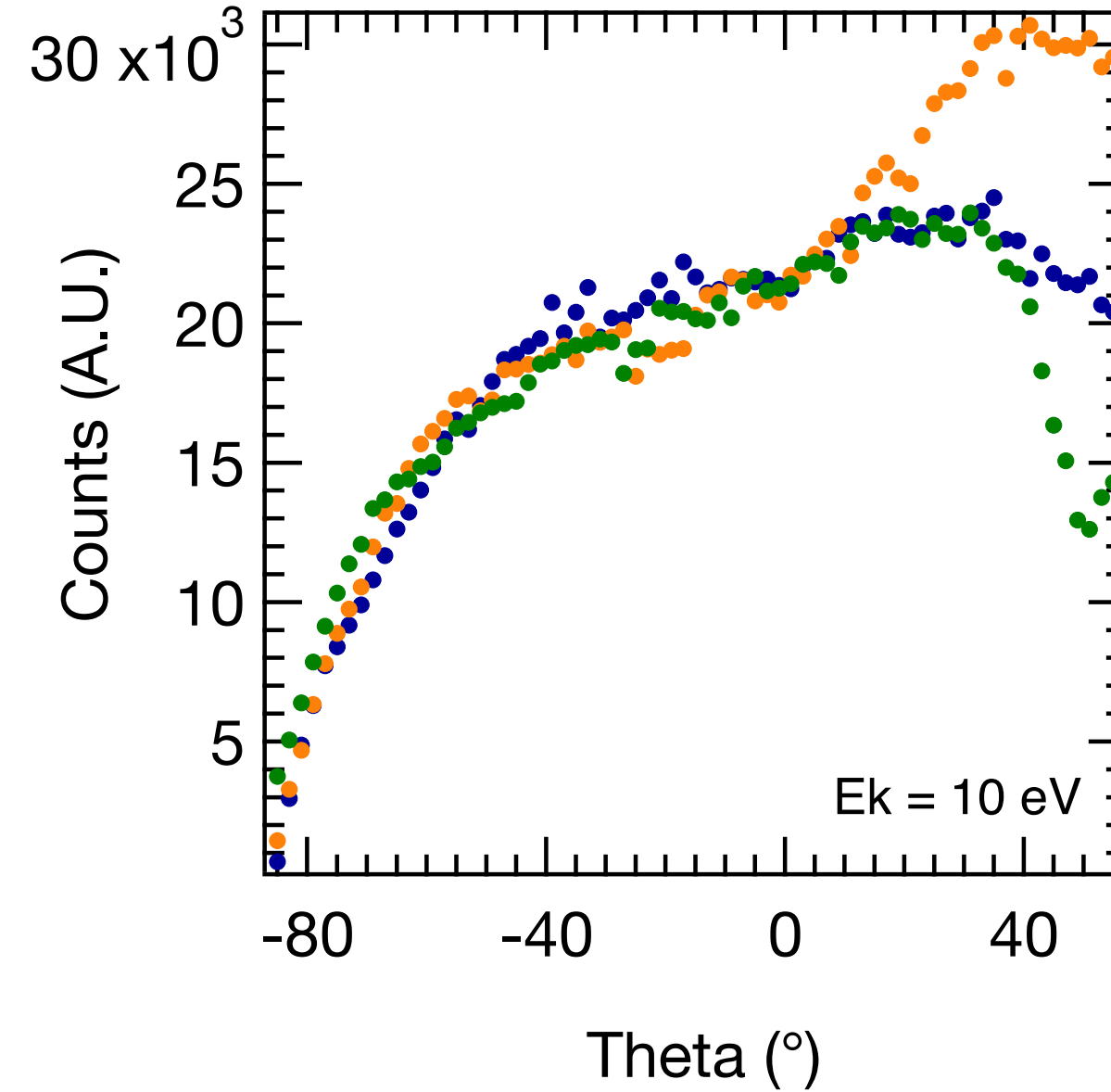
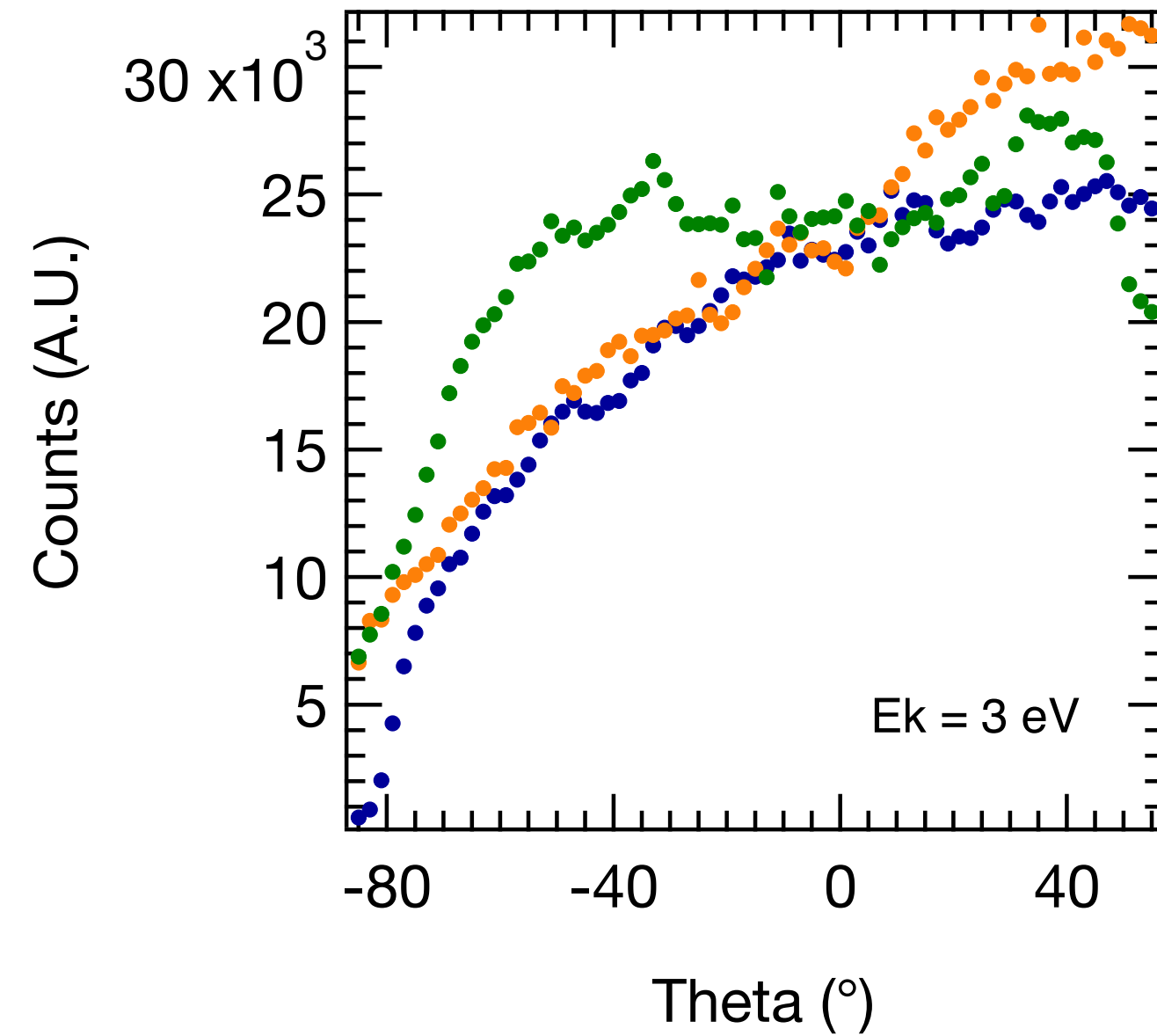
● Plasma Enhanced



Photoemission from Randomly Oriented (RO) carbon and Vertically Aligned (VA) CNTs

Measurements are not so simple to read

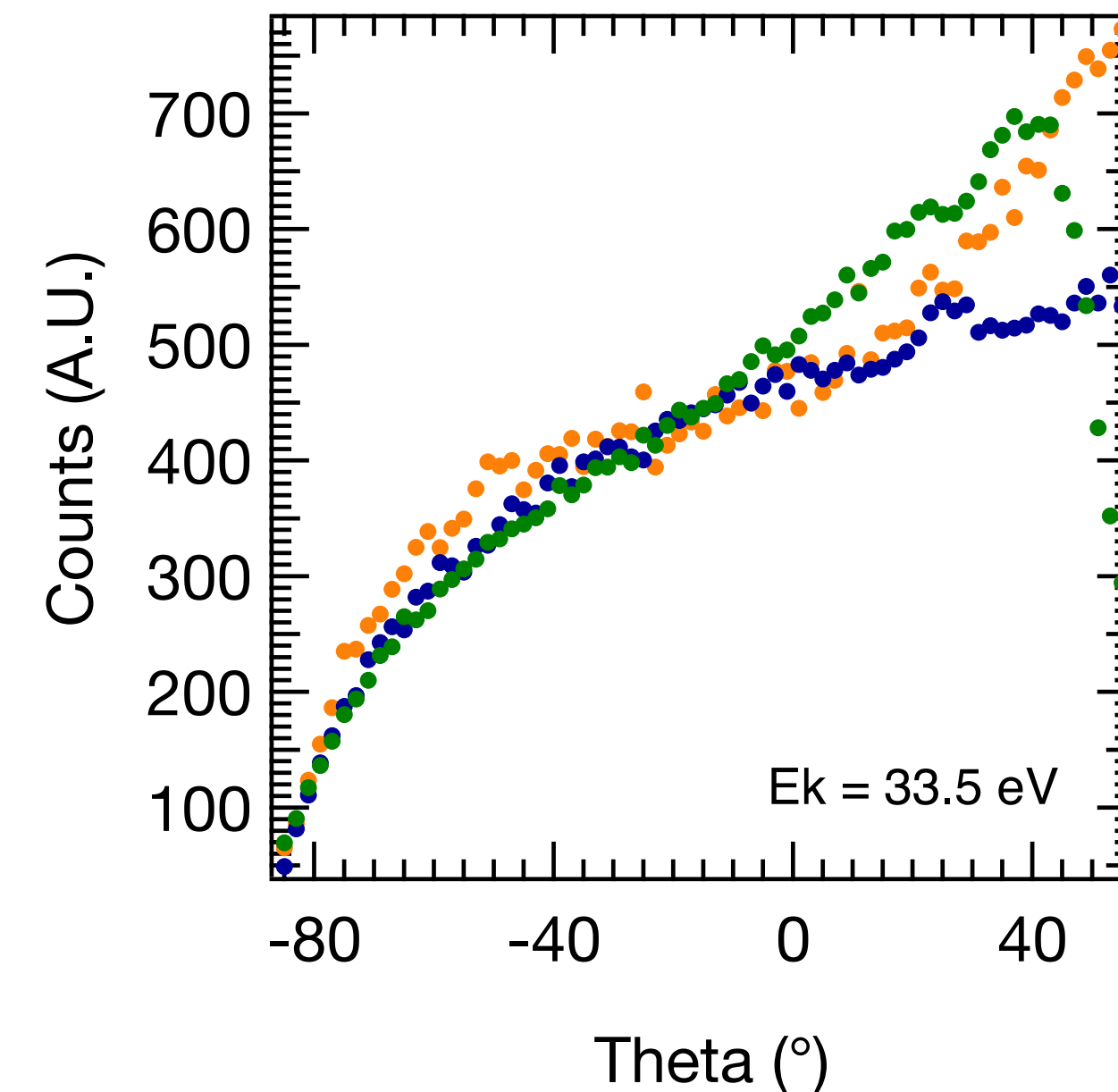
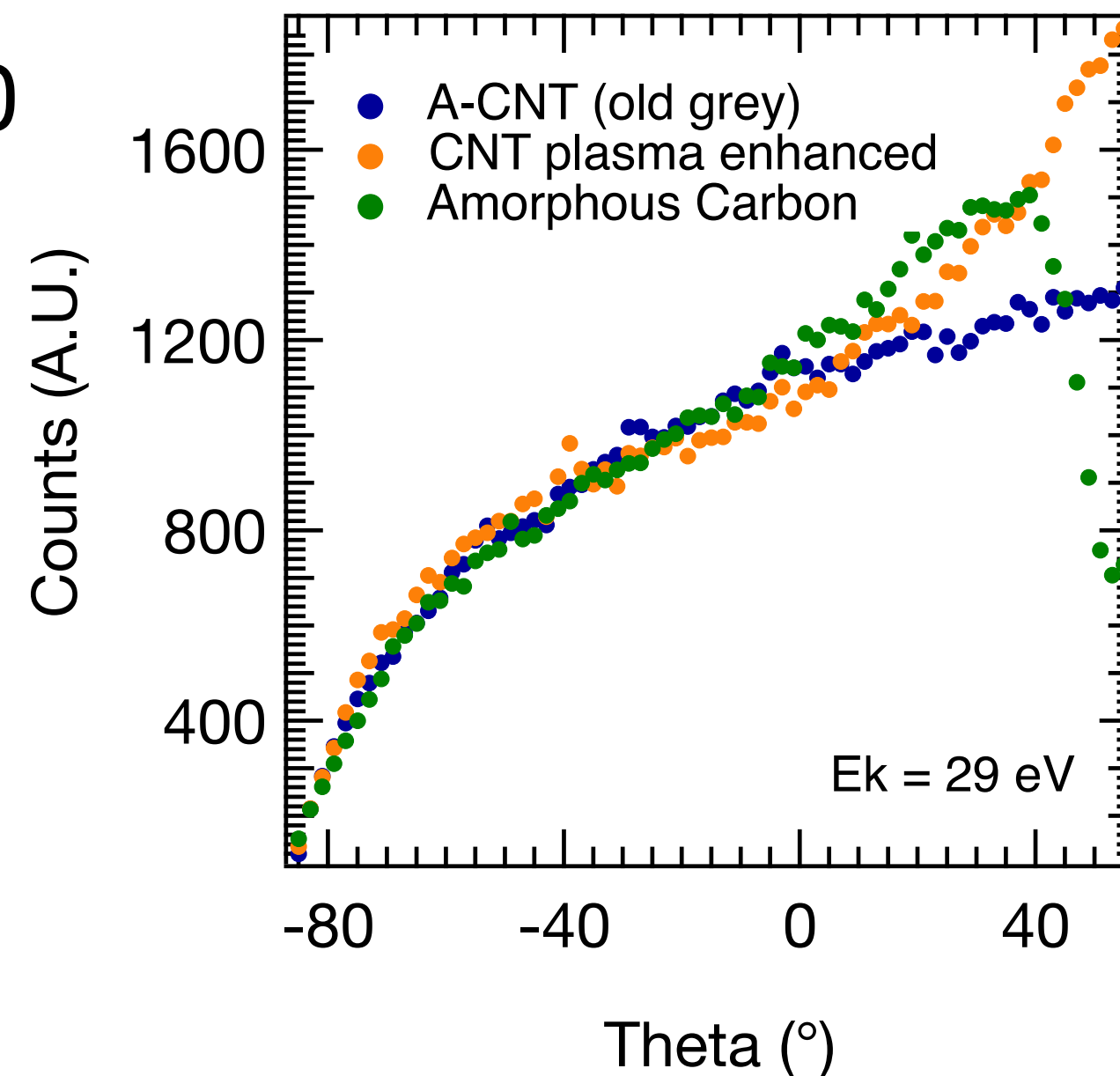
5



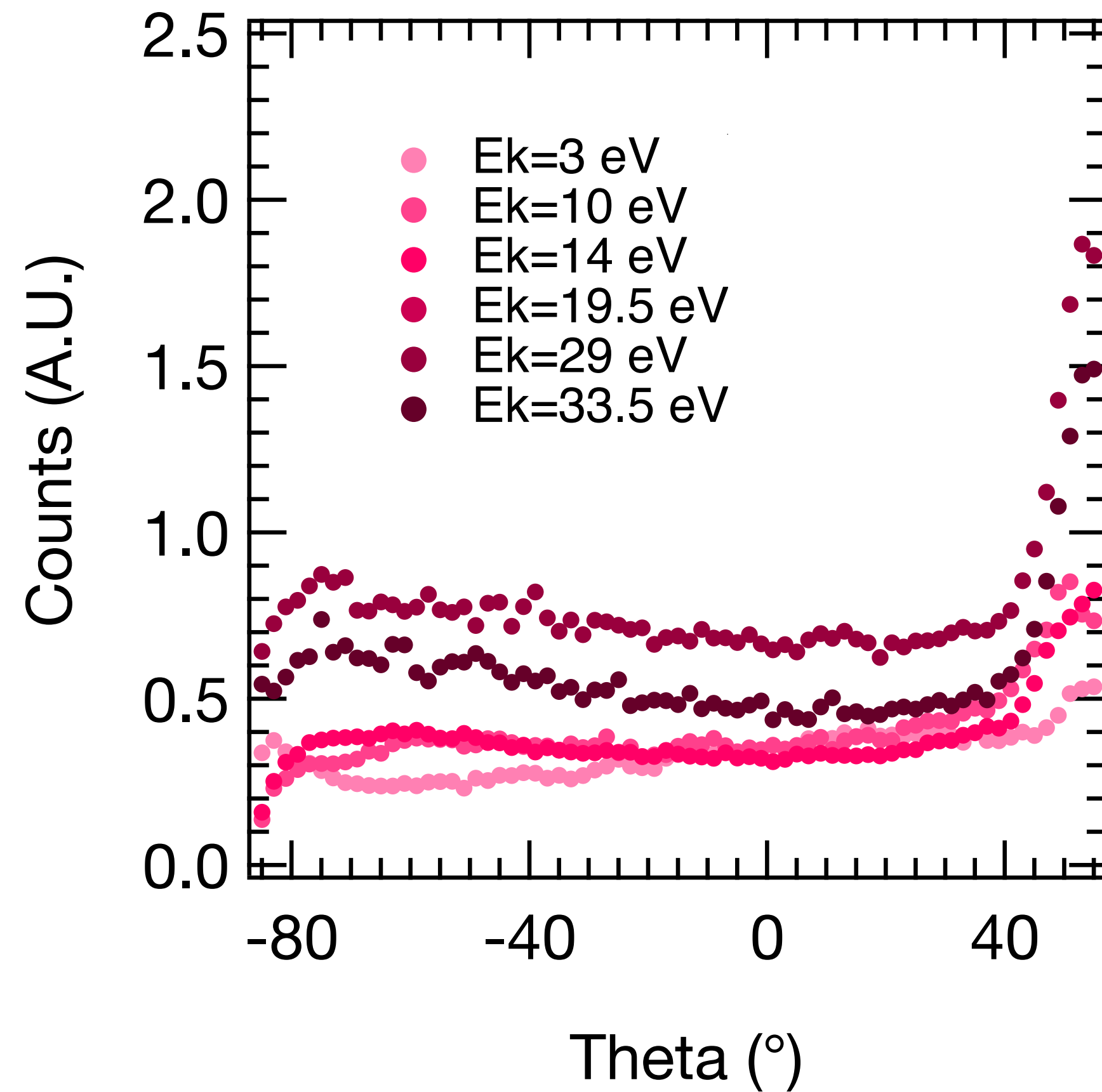
Not symmetric with respect to $\theta=0$

At $\theta \rightarrow \theta_{\max}$
(grazing photon incidence)

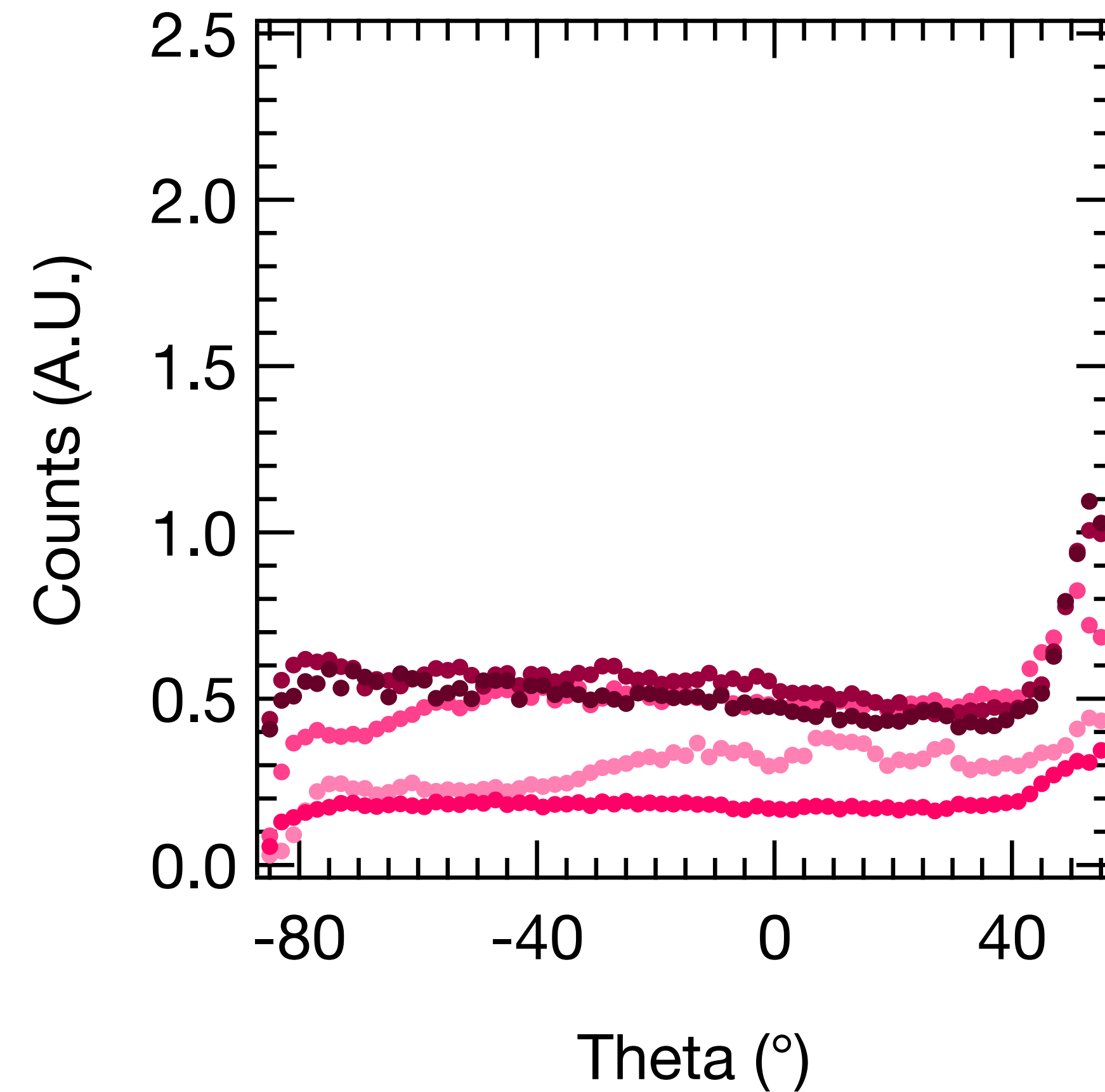
- ◆ Graphite decreases
- ◆ A-CNT slowly increase
- ◆ CNT pe have an enhancement



CNT pe / aC

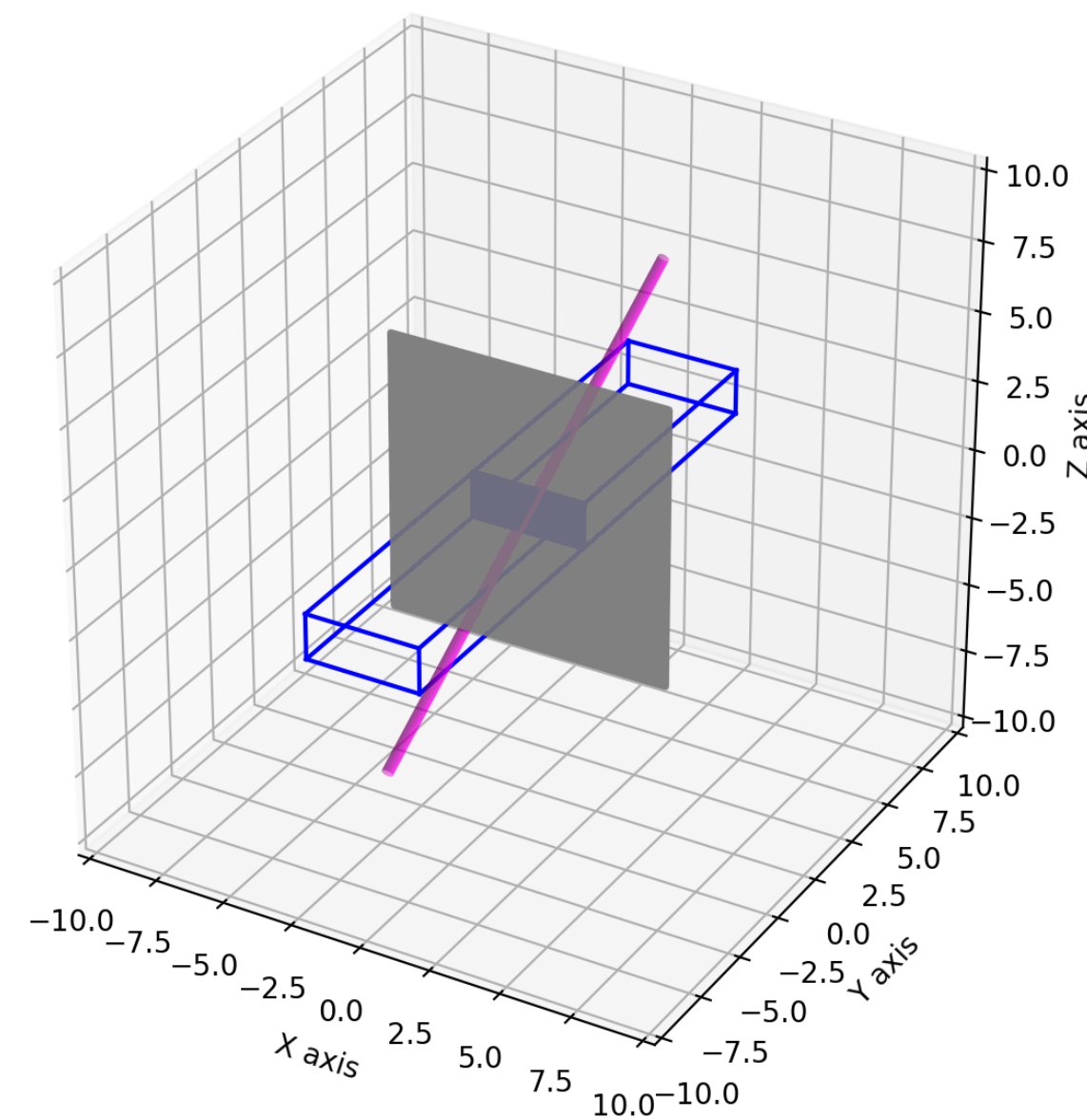


A-CNT / aC



Geometry

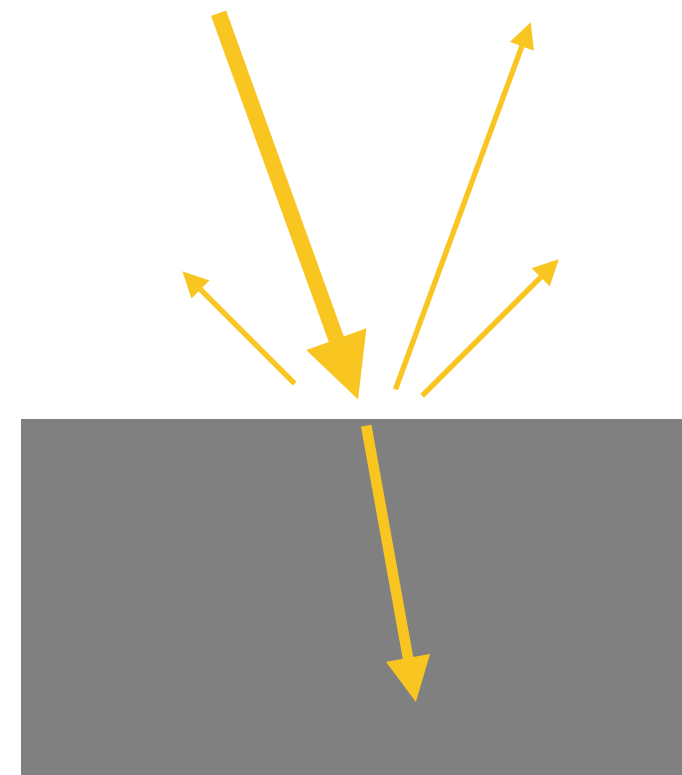
UV beam - Sample - Field Of View
Intersections



Physics

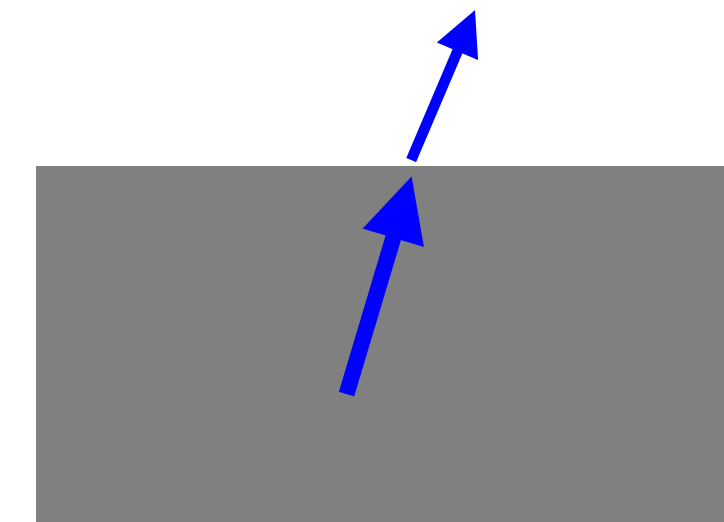
Interaction of UV
photons with matter

- ◆ Reflection / surface diffusion
- ◆ Refraction
- ◆ Transmission



Interaction of photoelectrons
with matter

- ◆ Transmission
- ◆ Refraction



$\frac{I_{pe}^1(\theta)}{I_{pe}^2(\theta)}$ with 1, 2 different sample depends on both reflection, UV and e⁻ transmission

$\frac{I_{pe}^1(\theta)}{I_{pe}^{1'}(\theta)}$ For E_k, E_{k'} different electron energy is simpler

$$\propto \frac{V}{V'} \cdot \frac{\lambda'_e(\lambda_{\gamma,\text{eff}} + \lambda_e \cos \theta)}{\lambda_e(\lambda_{\gamma,\text{eff}} + \lambda'_e \cos \theta)}$$

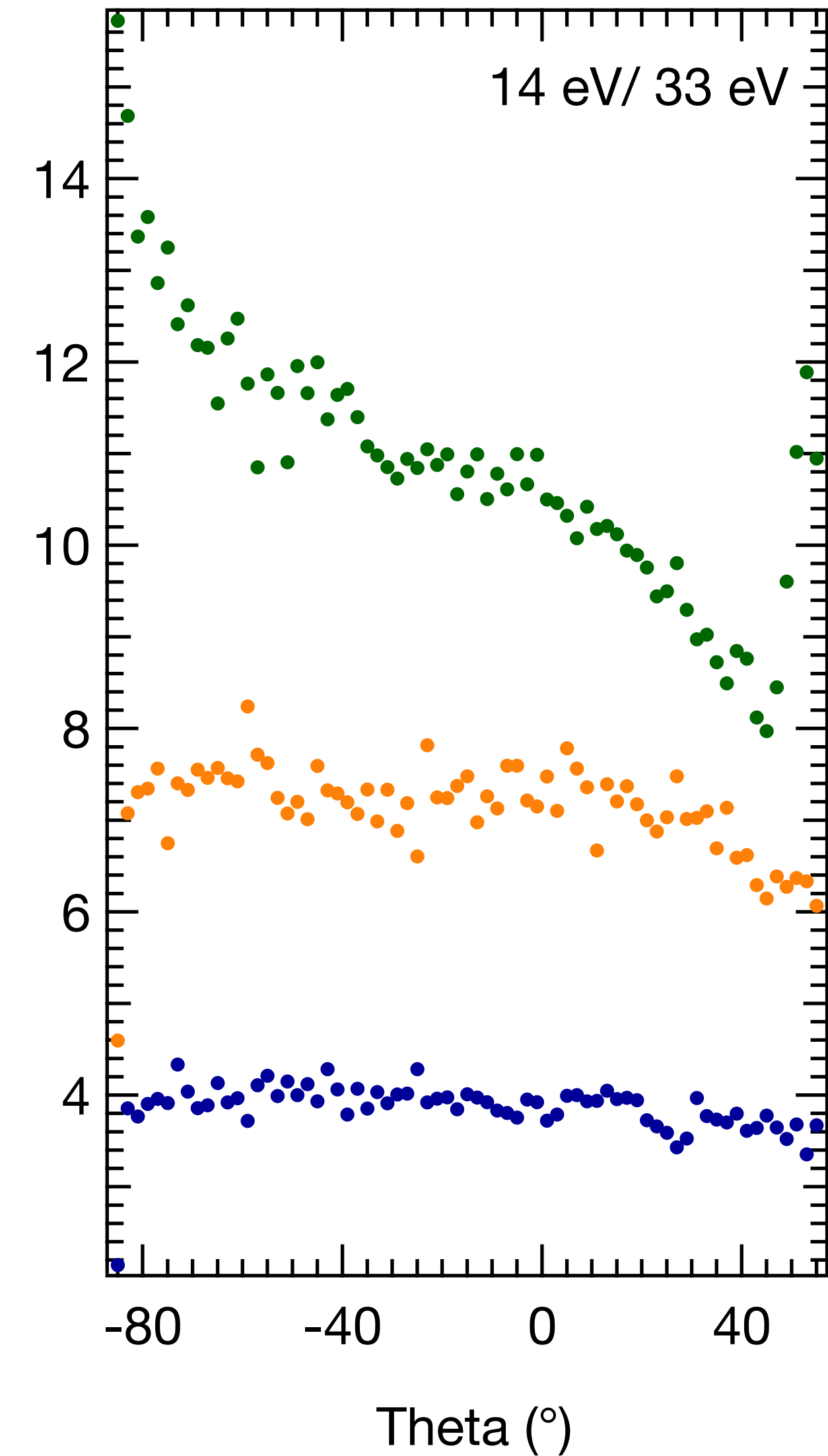
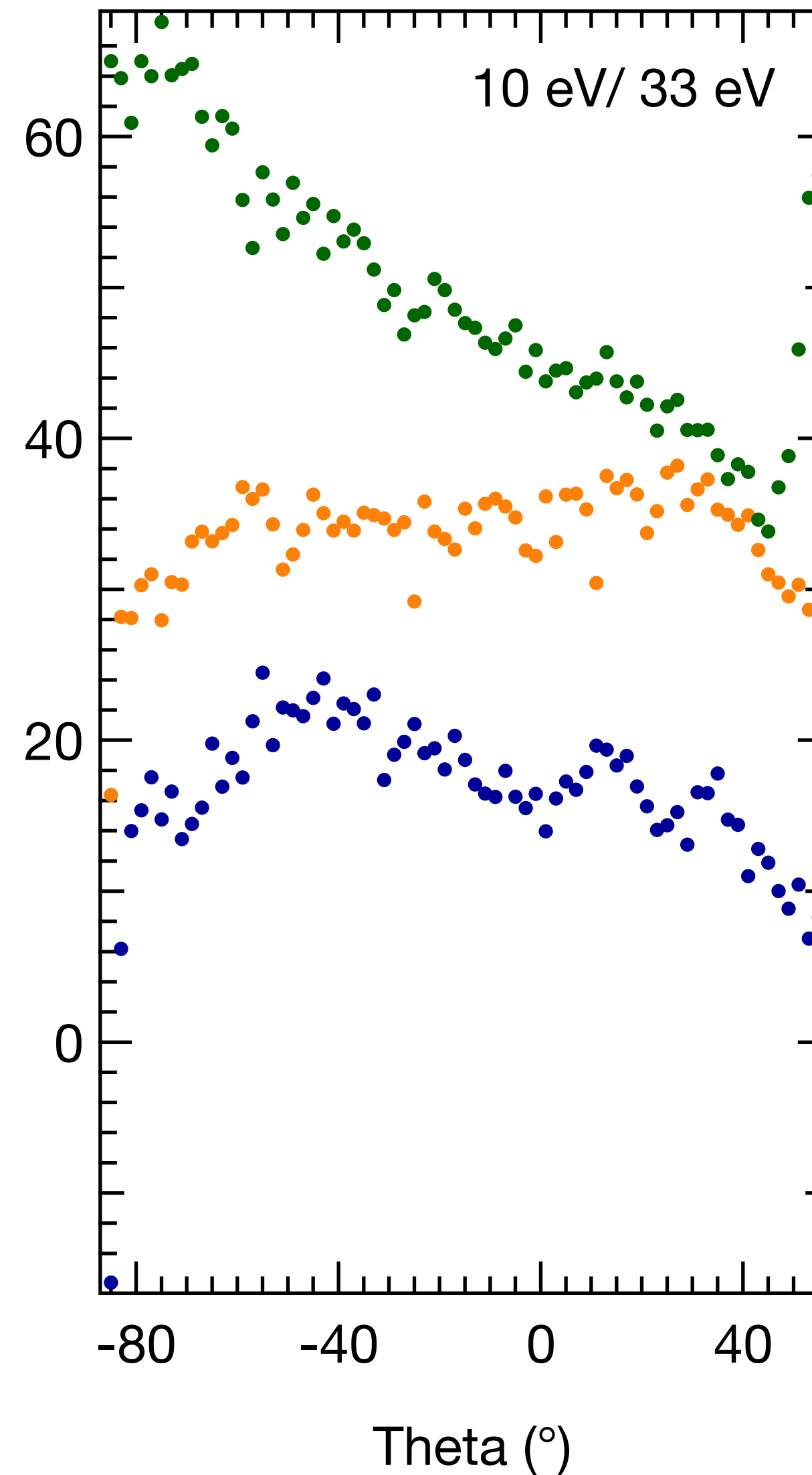
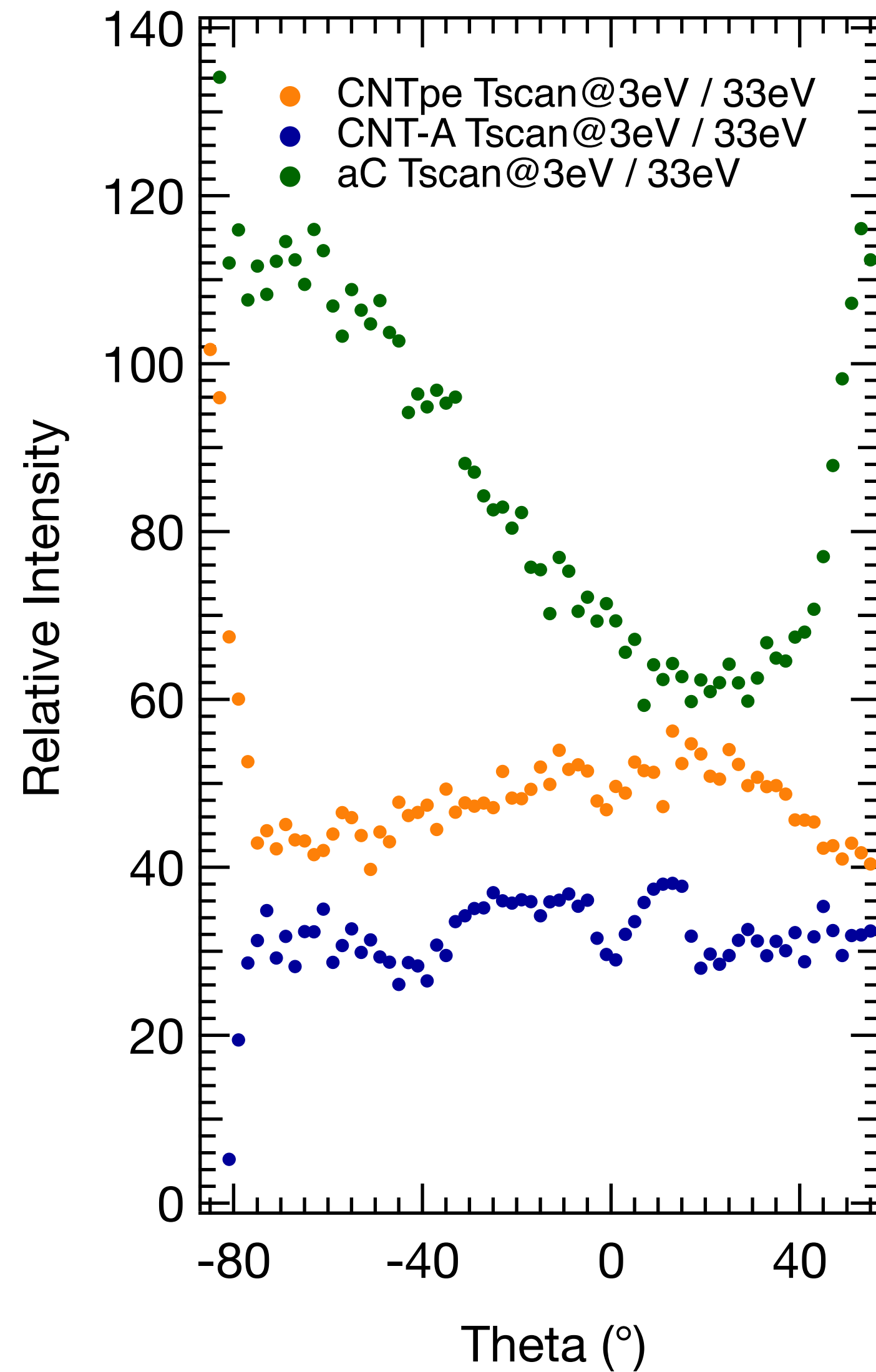
FoV dimension is not the same (for these measurements...)

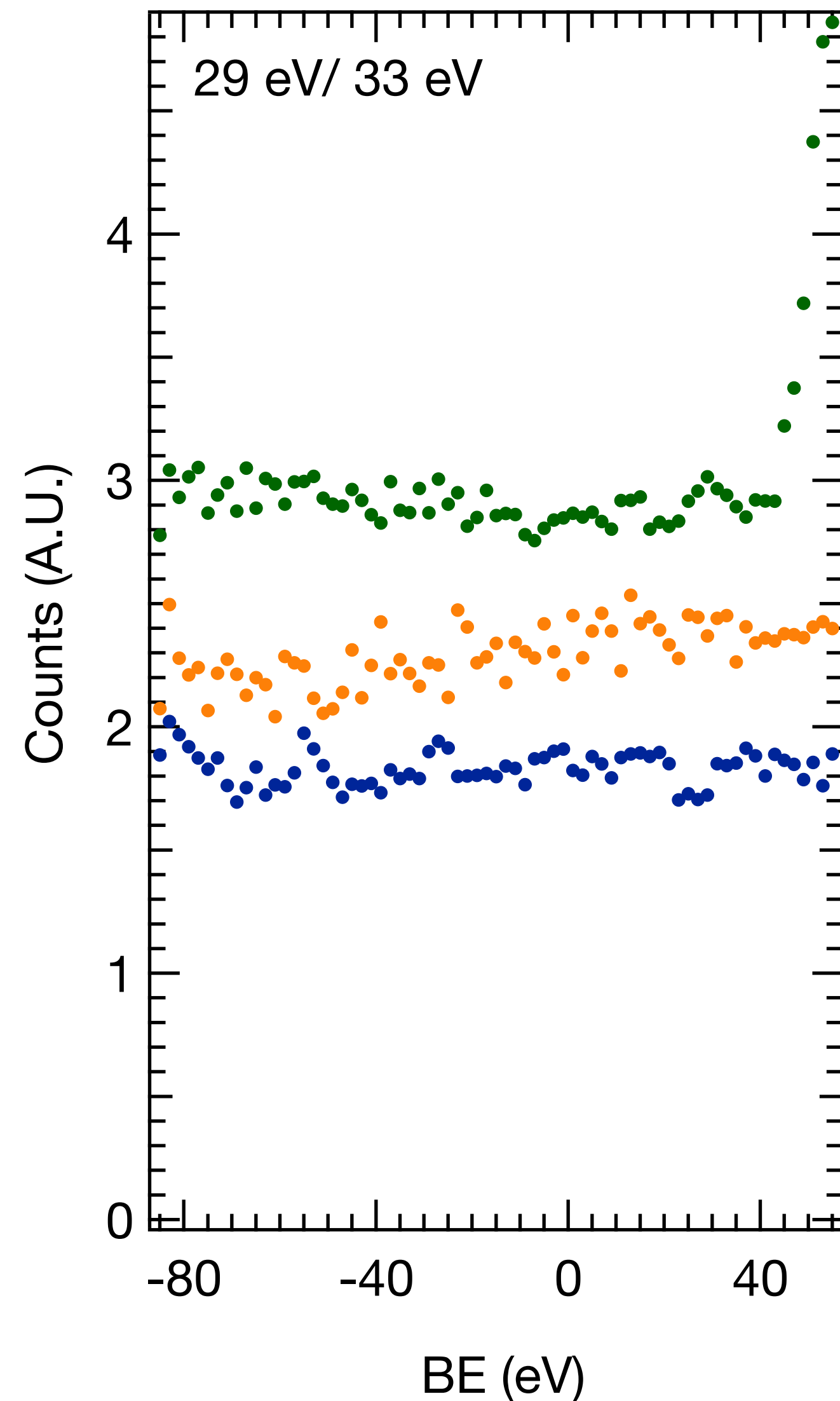
The angular dependence which is energy independent is eliminated

CNTs seems both different from amorphous carbon*

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* for $E_k < 16$ eV, $h\nu = a \cdot 20.21 + b \cdot 40.8$ (Mixture of He I and He II photons, a and b are each time different)





At $E_k > 16$ eV (Fermi Level fo He I)
only He II photon contribution

$$\frac{I_{pe}^1(\theta)}{I_{pe}^{1'}(\theta)}$$

Do not depends on photon flux

(It depends on photoemission cross section
and detector efficiency)

Obviously for $E_k \sim E_{k'}$

$$\frac{\lambda'_e(\lambda_{\gamma,\text{eff}} + \lambda_e \cos \theta)}{\lambda_e(\lambda_{\gamma,\text{eff}} + \lambda'_e \cos \theta)} \sim 1$$

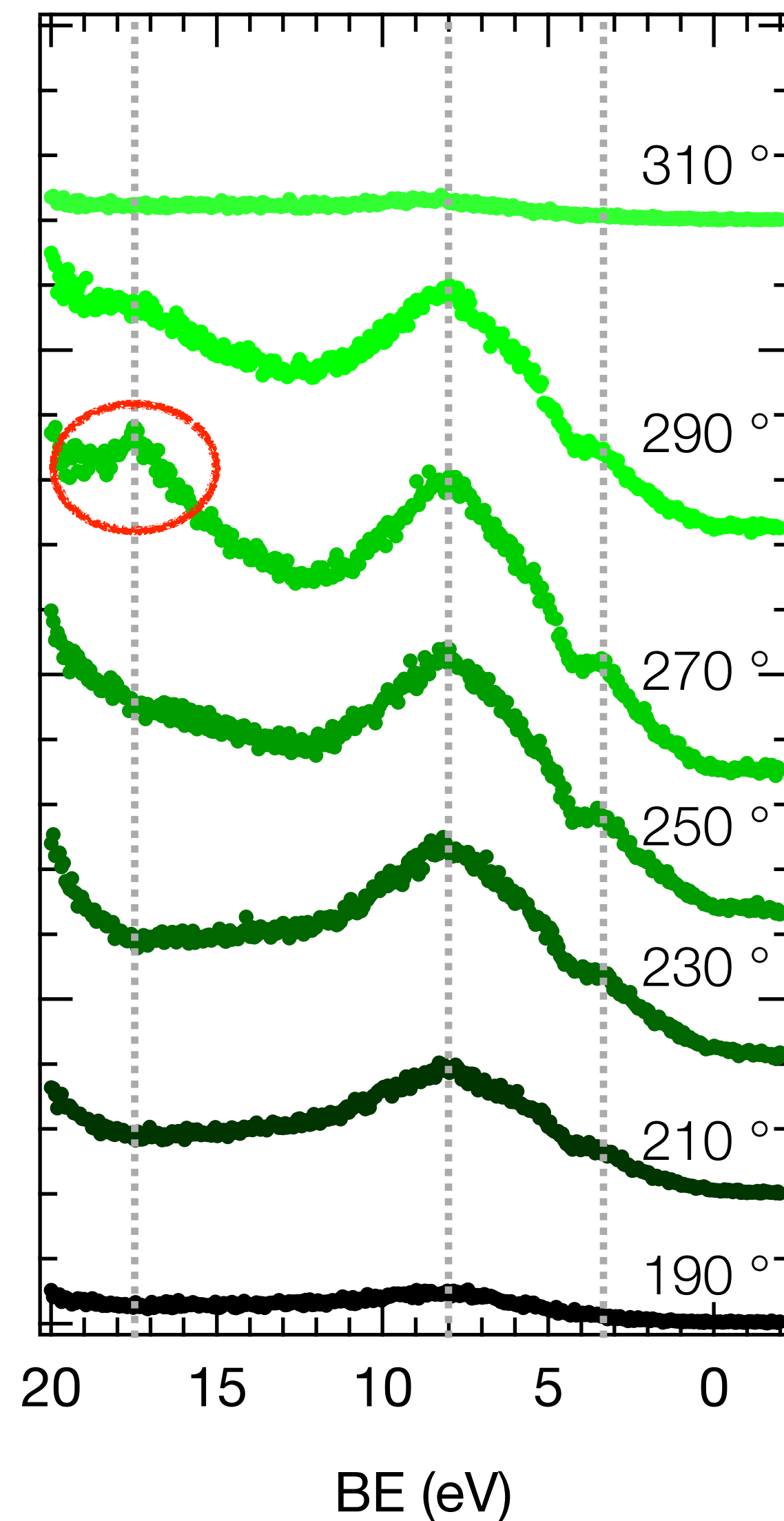
What about secondary electrons?

Are we measuring them?

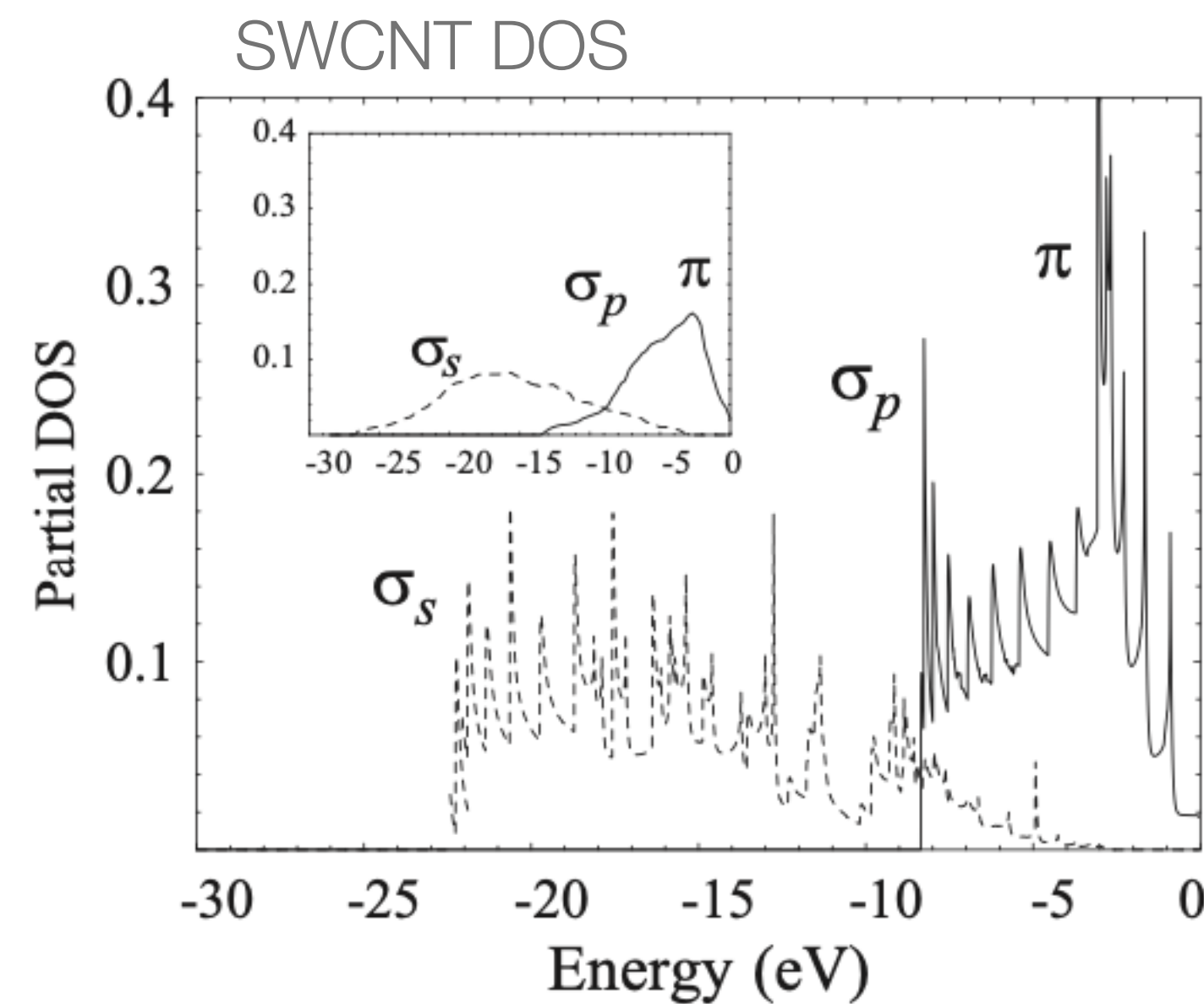
Do they have angular dependence

Can we disentangle them from
“primary” photoelectrons?

CNT plasma etched

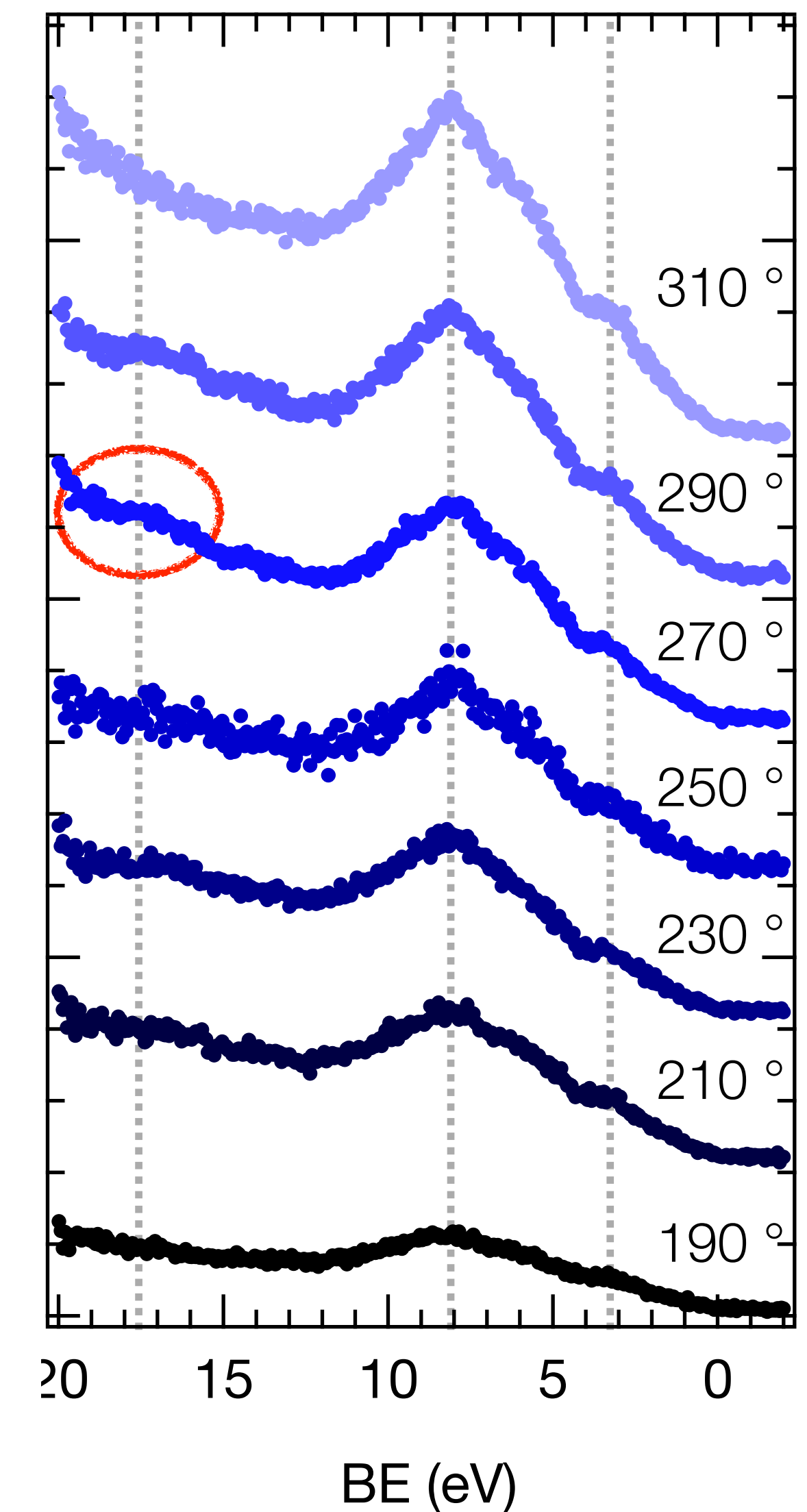


- No clear band dispersion for $BE < 10$ eV
- At $BE = 17.5$ eV a component rises near normal emission condition



DOI: 10.1103/PhysRevB.76.233408

CNT as grown



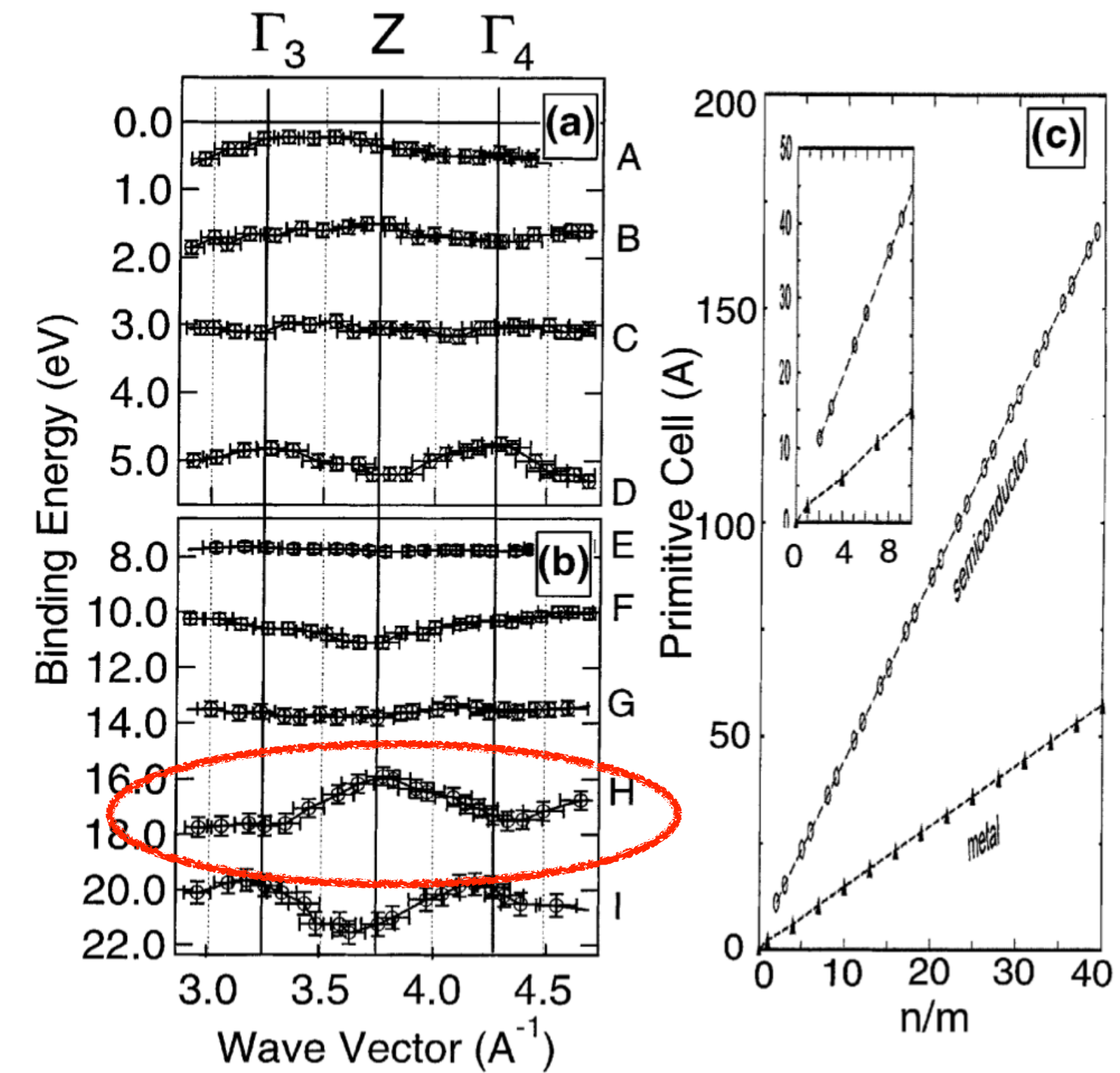
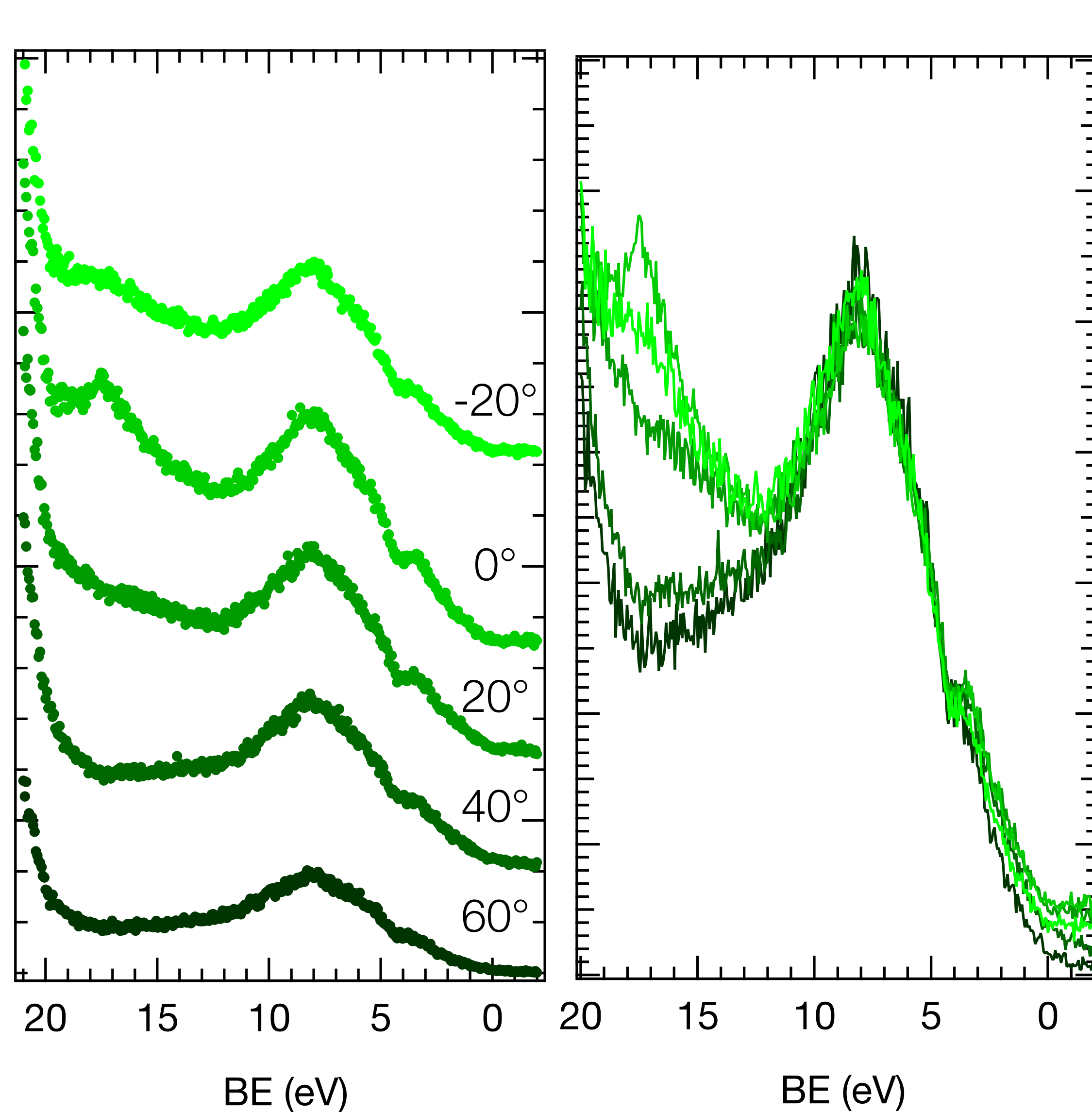


Fig. 4. Electronic band dispersion as a function of k -parallel momentum to the tube axis for: (a) first four low binding energy features (A, B, C, and D) near Fermi level; (b) the next five higher binding energy features (E, F, G, H, and I); (c) length of a primitive cell as a function of integer n/m in (n, m) nanotubes. Note that the scale of y-axis in (a) is different from that of (b).

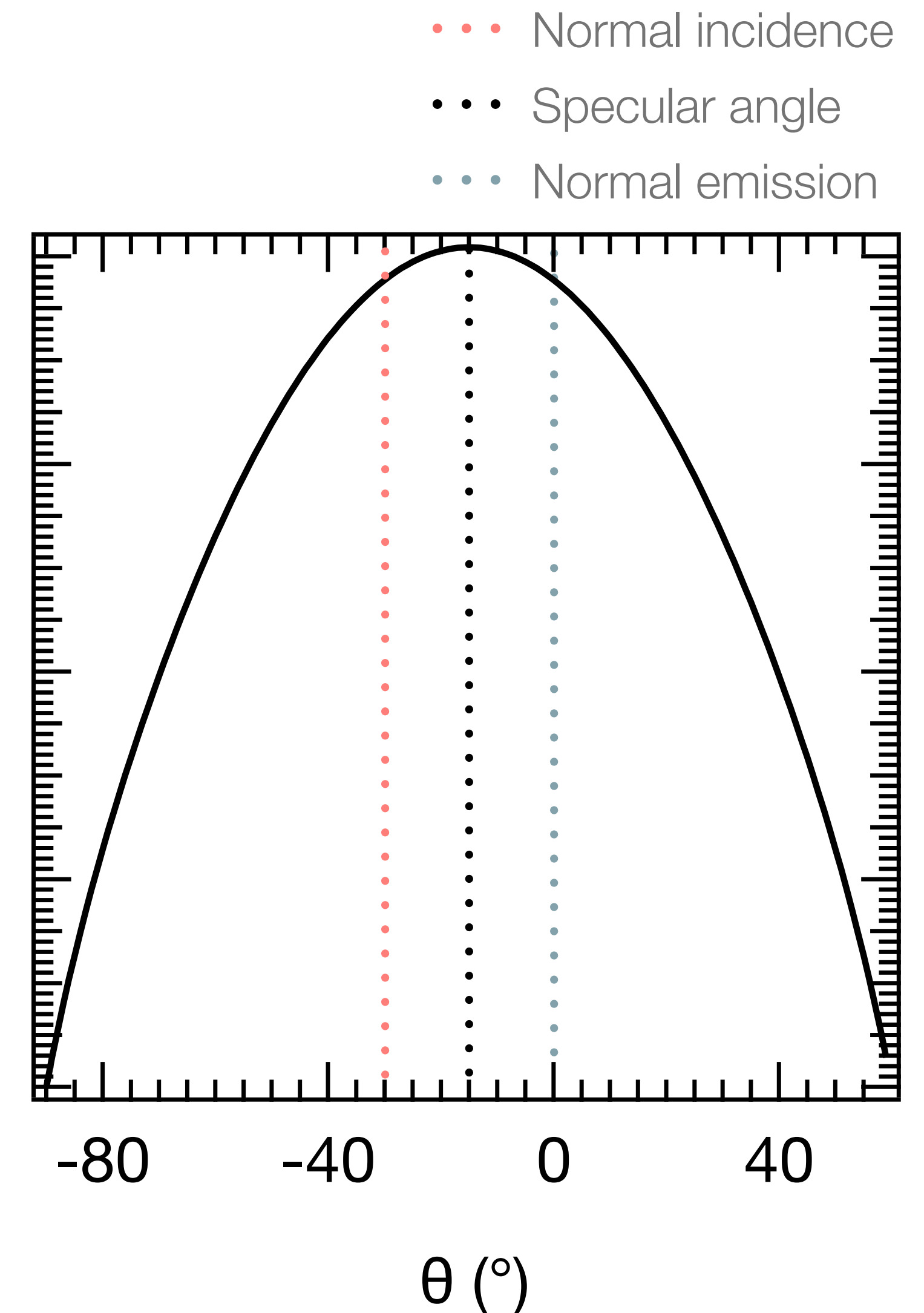
Electron elastic backscattering from Randomly Oriented (RO) carbon and Vertically Aligned (VA) CNTs

Elastic Peak Electron Spectroscopy (EPES) Theory

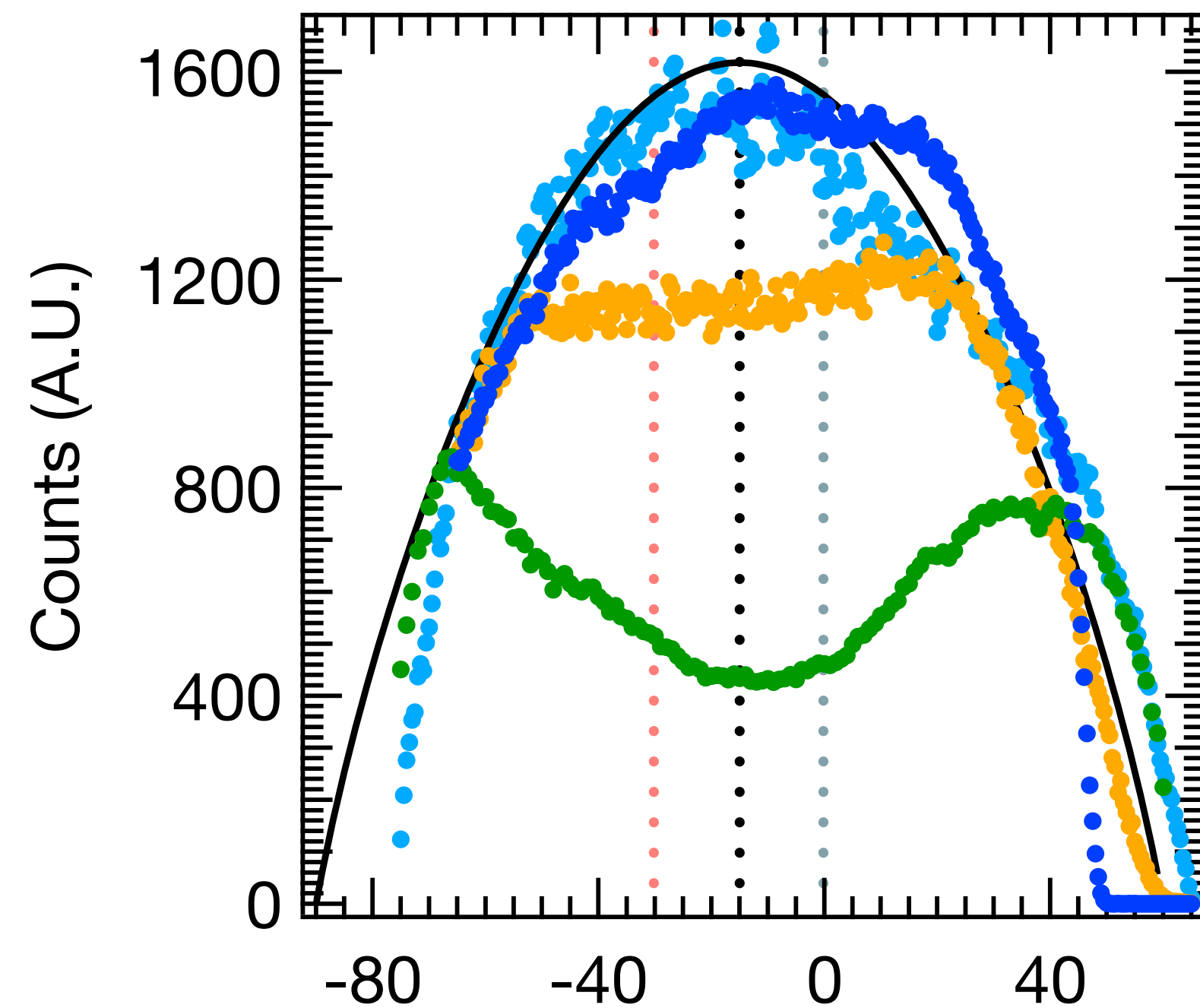
Gergely, G. (1986). Elastic peak electron spectroscopy. Scanning, 8(5), 203–214.
doi:10.1002/sca.4950080503

- Single electron scattering approximation
- Transmission follows Lambert beer law
- Flat surface (no roughness)
- Ideal isotropic = no diffraction / structure factor

$$I_{EBS}(\theta, \gamma) = I_0 \cdot n \cdot \frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} \cdot \Delta\Omega \cdot \frac{\lambda \cos \gamma \cos \theta}{\cos \theta + \cos \gamma}$$

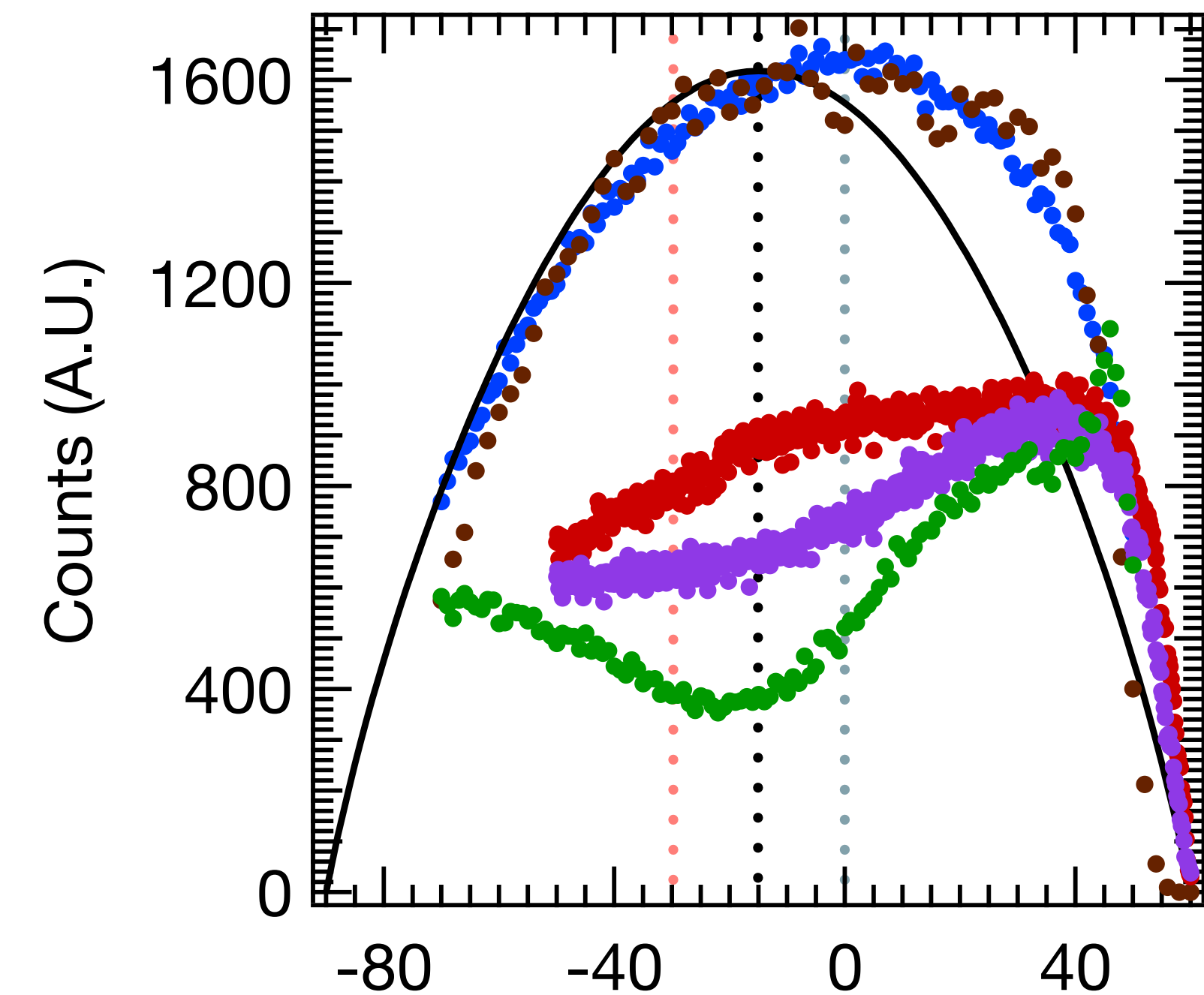


R66 measurements



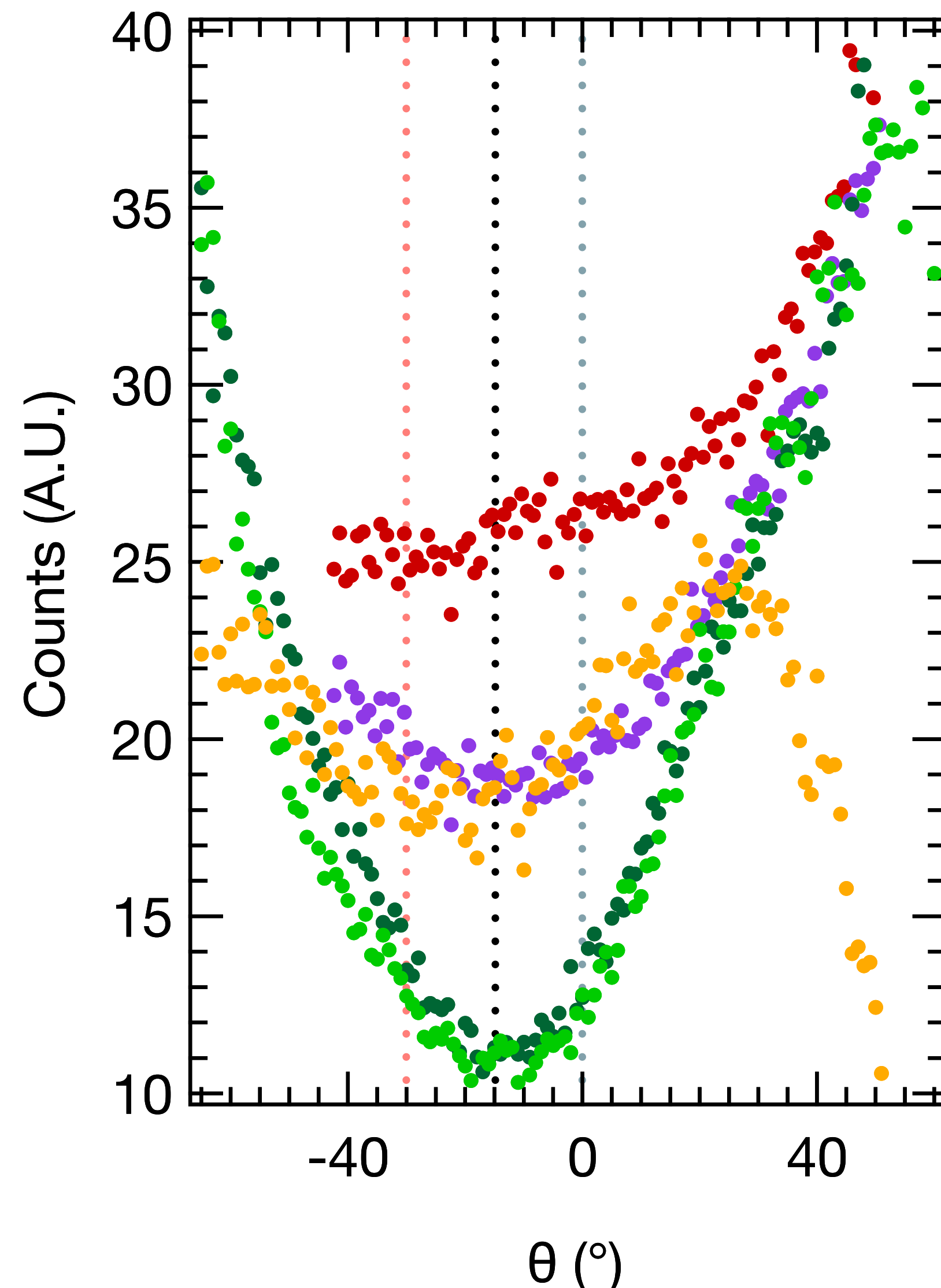
- Isotropic model
- RO-Graphite
- RO-Graphite*
- VA-CNT as grown (2020)
- VA-CNT mild etched (2021)

Aloisa measurements



- Isotropic model
- RO-Graphite
- ARCAP sample holder
- RO-CNT
- VA-CNT plasma enhanced (2025)
- VA-CNT mild etched (2021*)

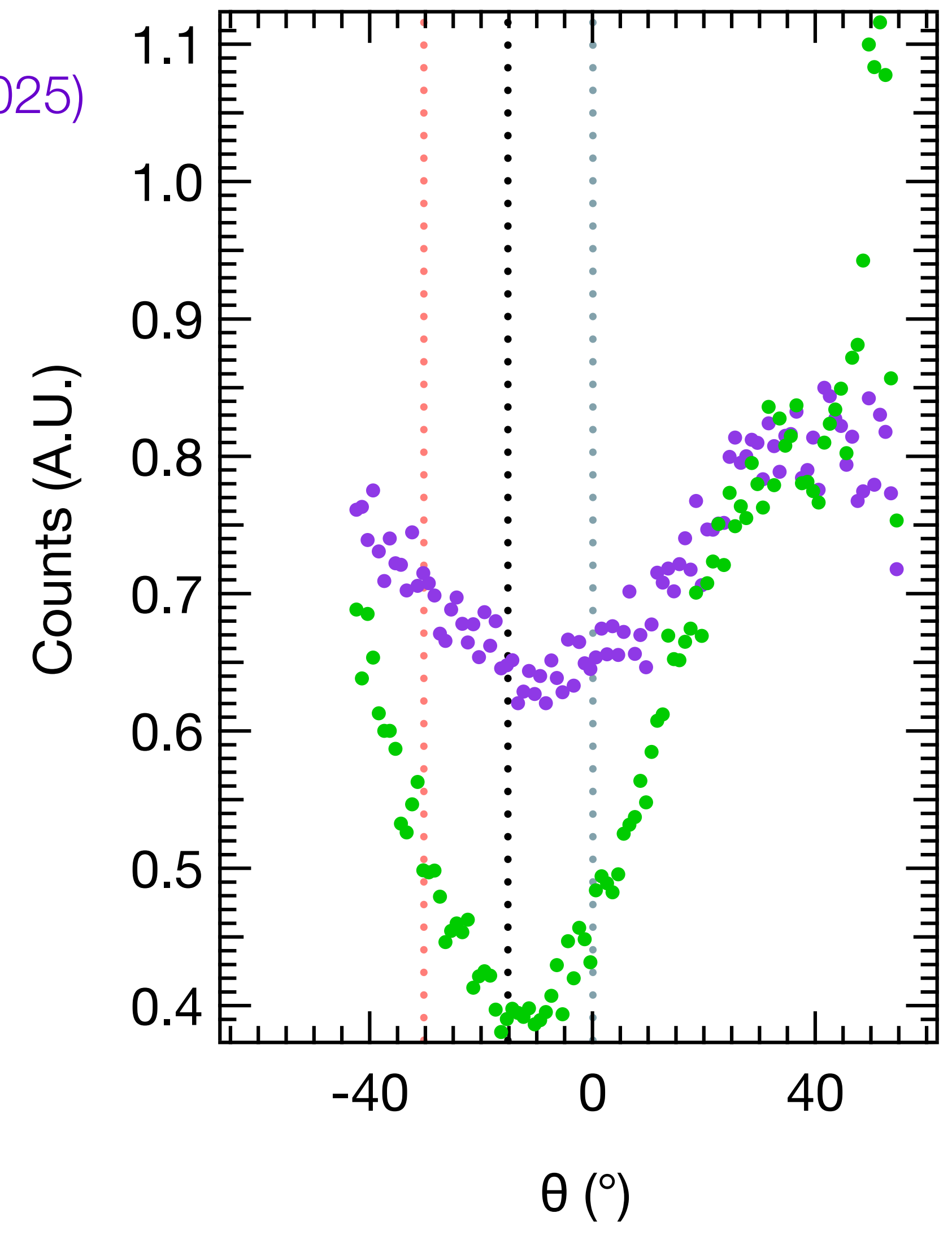
Normalized to RO-Graphite



- RO-CNT
- VA-CNT as grown (2020)
- VA-CNT plasma enhanced (2025)
- VA-CNT mild etched (2021)
- VA-CNT mild etched (2021*)

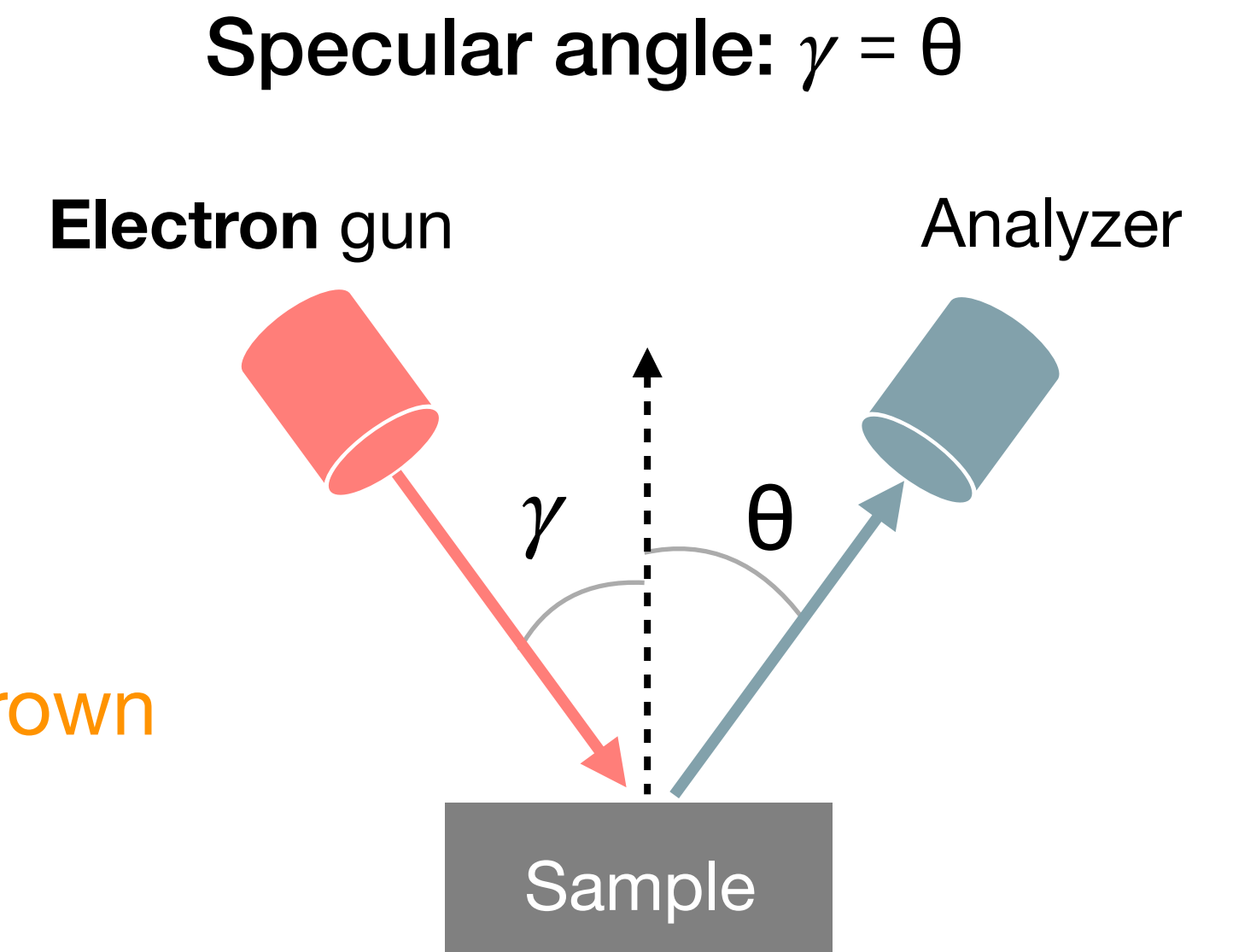
- Normal incidence
- Specular angle
- Normal emission

Normalized to RO-CNT



- Only **RO-Graphite** behave as an ideal isotropic medium
- **RO-CNT** have no clear angular dependence
- **VA-CNT** have a valley centered at the specular angle

VA-CNT mild etched > VA-CNT plasma enhanced, VA-CNT as grown

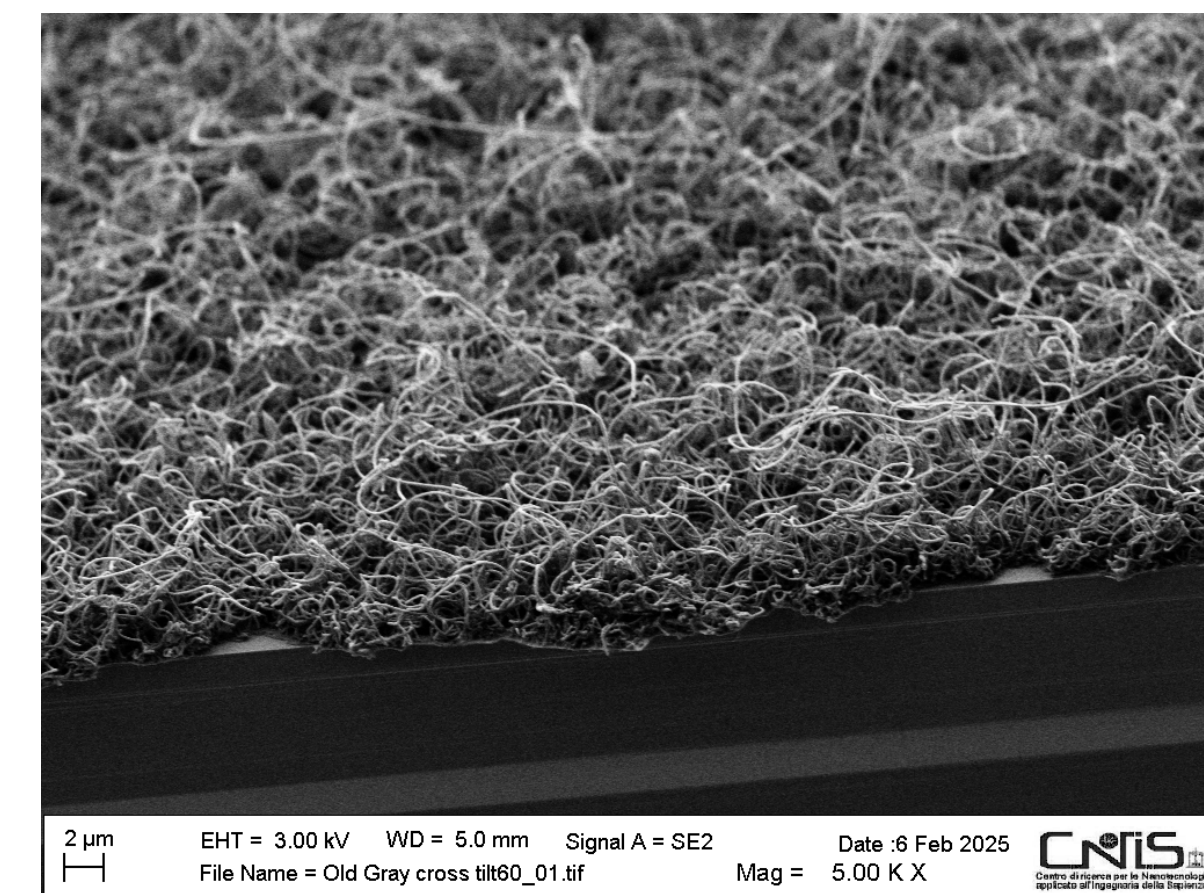


CNT have a rough surface

Totally random

There is no normal surface direction

→ Flat angular dependence



The dark side of the CNTs

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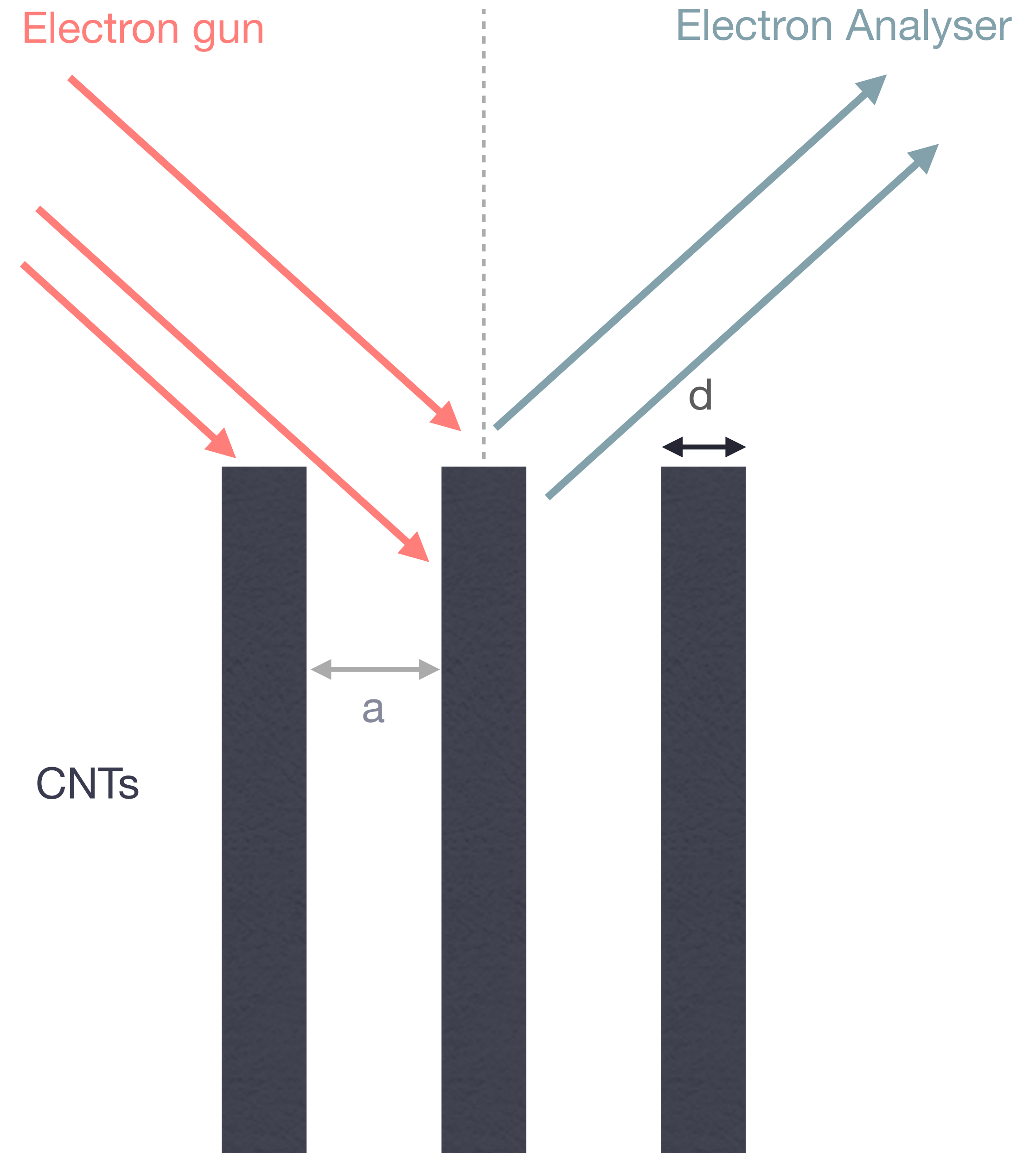
Geometric toy model for aligned nanotubes

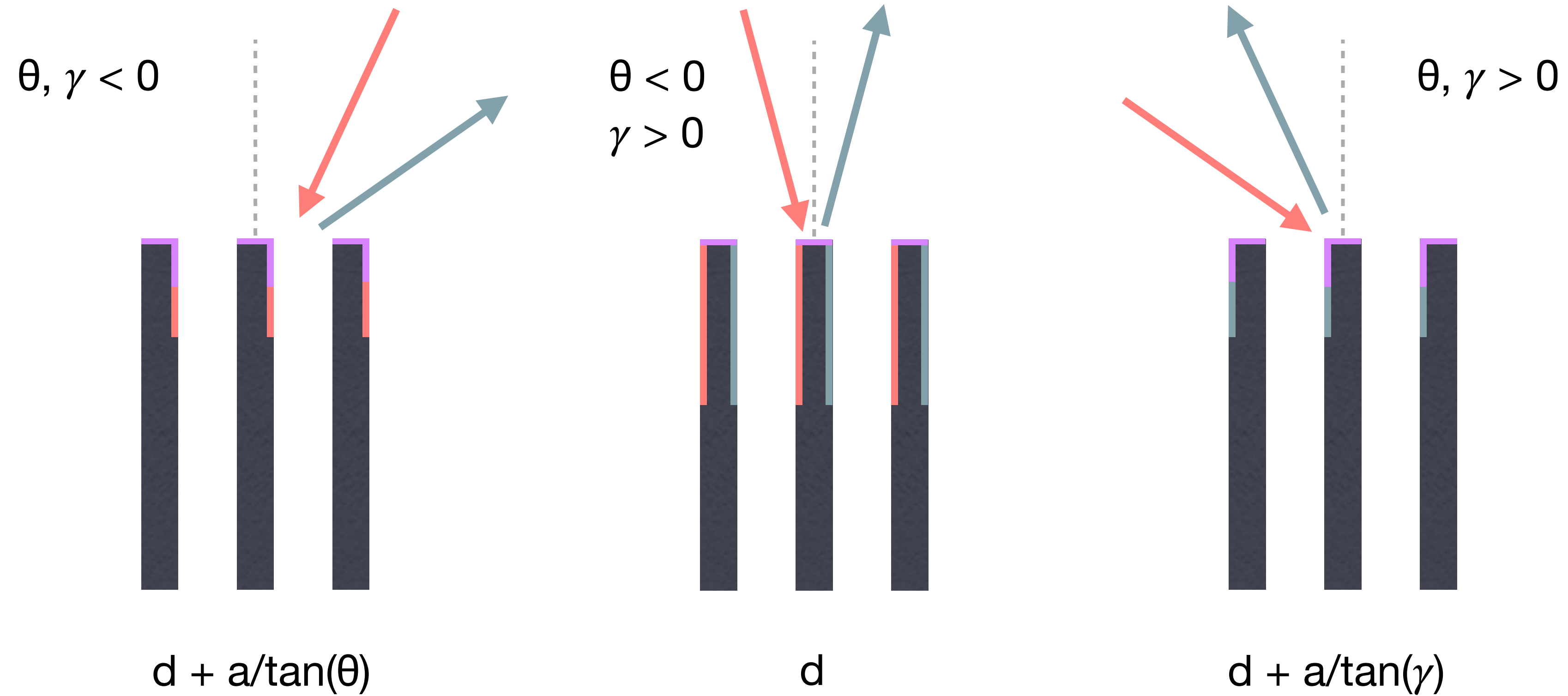
CNT = 2D filled rectangle

2 lateral sides, 1 top side
Infinite height

Impinging outgoing electrons rays are stopped
at the surface

d: CNT external diameter
a: CNTs spacing

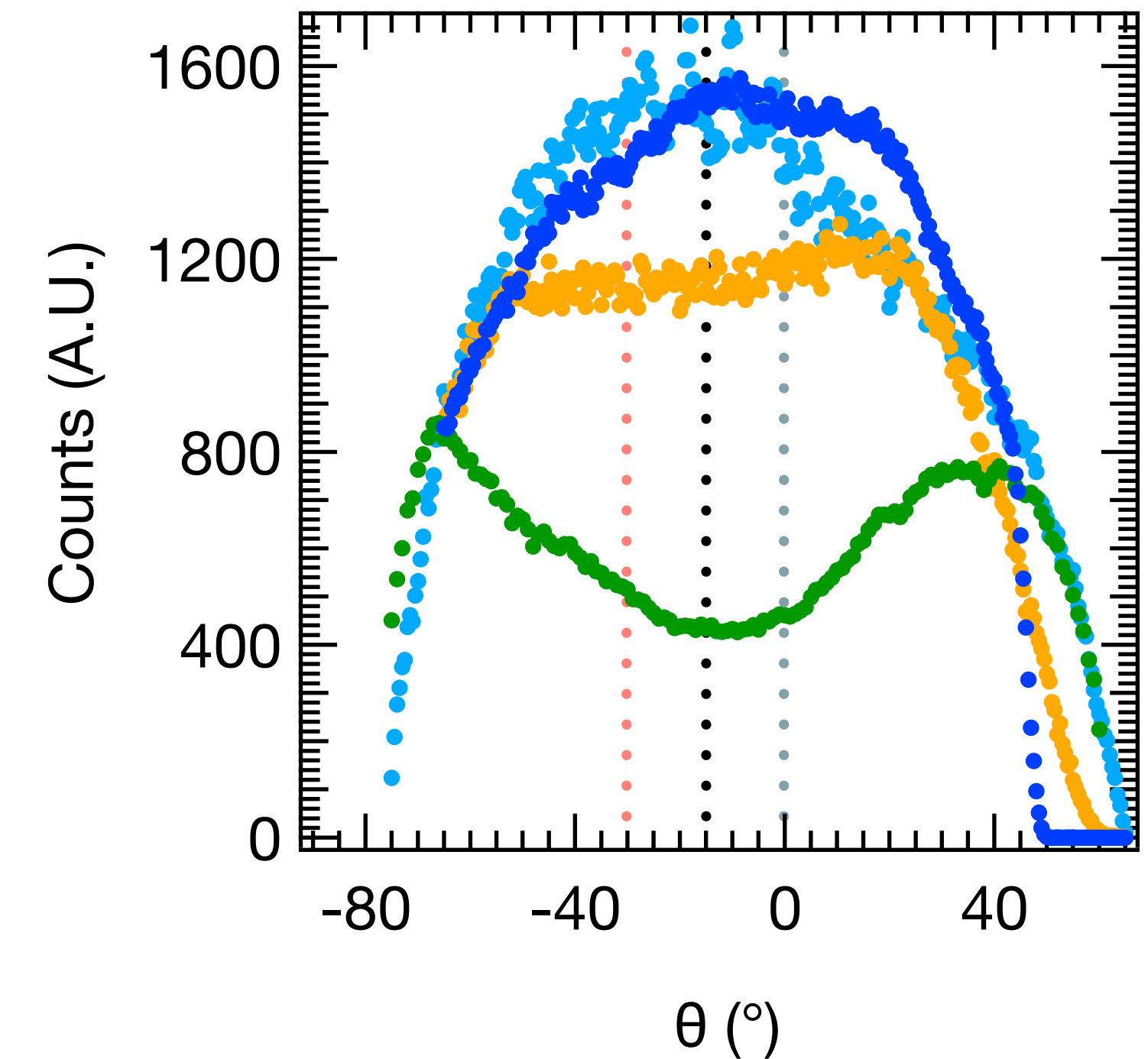
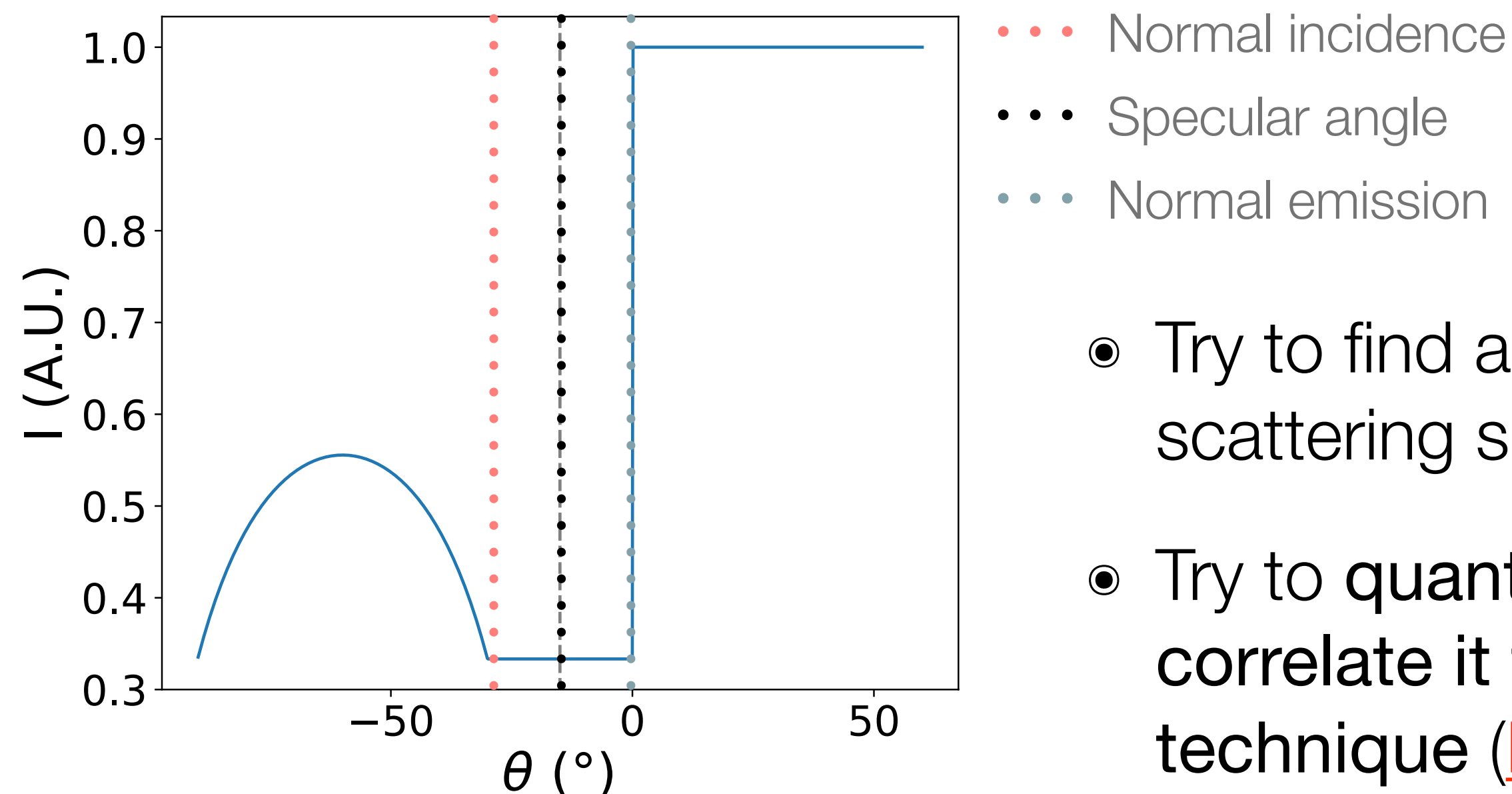




Trying a mathematical formulation...

$$A_i \cap A_s = \begin{cases} d + \min \left(\frac{a}{|\tan(\theta)|}, \frac{a}{|\tan(\gamma)|} \right) & \text{if } \theta \cdot \gamma > 0 \\ d & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

- VA-CNT valley centered at the specular angle can be explained due to simple geometrical considerations for an ideally vertically aligned sample
- The asymmetry of the model function is not observed in data
- Experiment and model give info on the morphology of the tips



- Try to find a more refined theoretical model based on electron scattering simulations (Nebula)
- Try to quantify valley depth (degree of anisotropy) and to correlate it to CNT alignment measured with another technique ([Polarized Raman](#), SEM image analysis)