

Supporting Information

Role of pH Controlled DNA Secondary Structures in the Reversible Dispersion/Precipitation and Separation of Metallic and Semiconducting Single-walled Carbon Nanotubes

Basudeb Maji,^a Suman K. Samanta,^{a,#} Santanu Bhattacharya^{*a,b,c}

^aDepartment of Organic Chemistry, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore 560012, India.

Fax: +91-80-23600529; Tel: +91-80-22932664; E-mail: sb@orgchem.iisc.ernet.in

^bJawaharlal Nehru Centre for Advanced Scientific Research Bangalore 560064, India.

^cJ. C. Bose Fellow, Department of Science and Technology, New Delhi, India.

[#]Present address: Makromolekulare Chemie, Bergische Universitat Wuppertal, Gausstrasse 20, 42119 Wuppertal, Germany.

Corresponding author. E-mail addresses

sb@orgchem.iisc.ernet.in (S. Bhattacharya)

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Purification of the HiPco SWNTs

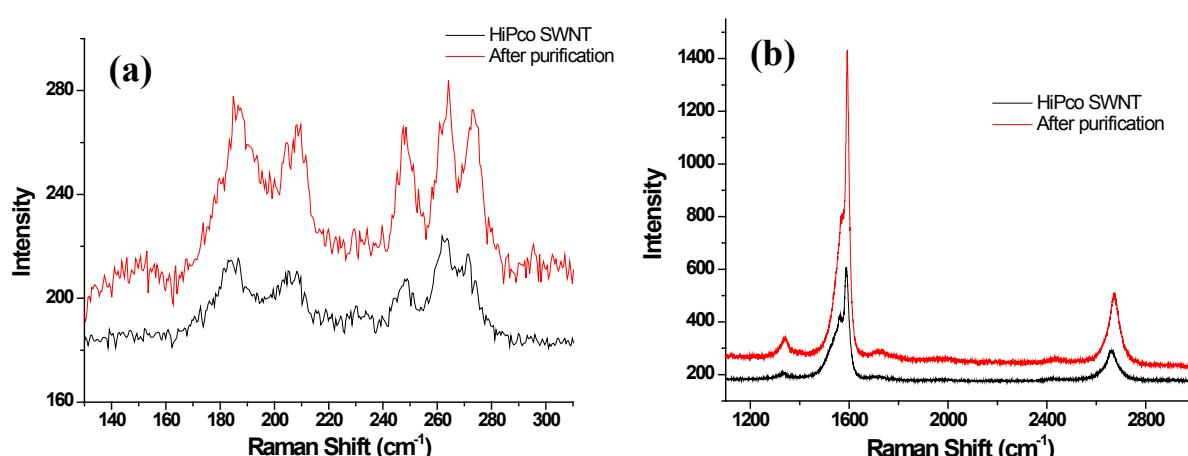


Figure S1. Raman spectra of SWNT before and after purification (a) RBM region and (b) G and 2D band.^[1]

Additional UV-Vis-NIR spectra of the DNA and DNA-SWNT complex

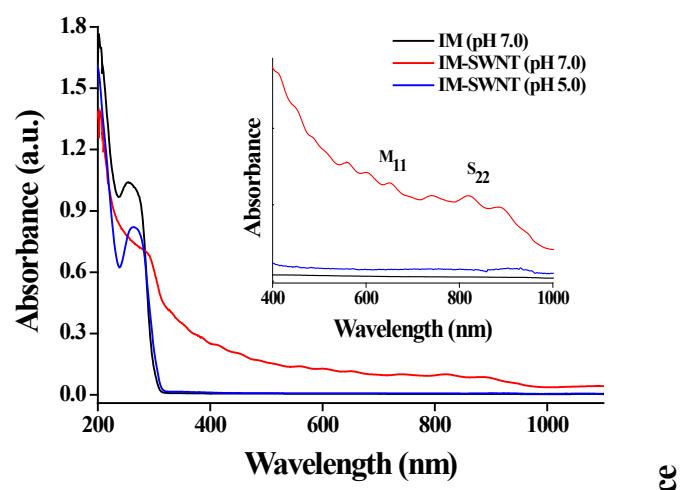


Figure S2. (a) Absorption spectra of IM and IM-SWNT hybrid at different pH, inset showing magnified spectra at 400-1000 nm. Corresponding absorption bands of M₁₁ and S₂₂ disappeared at pH 5 indicating that the SWNTs were absent in the acidified solution.

Zeta potential measurement

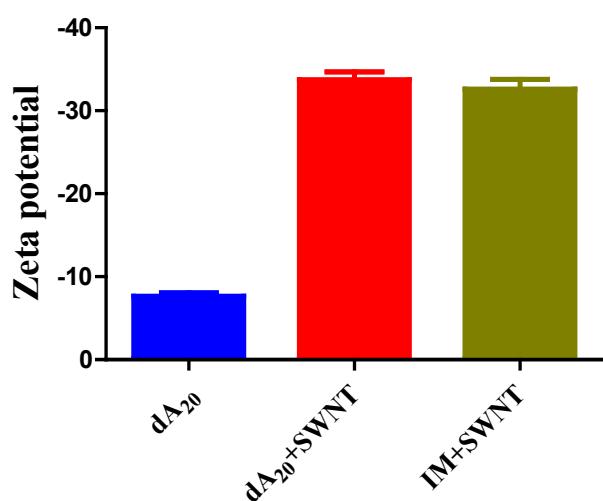


Figure S3. Zeta potential plot of DNA and DNA-SWNT hybrids in deionized water. [DNA] = 10 μ M in each case.

Adddditional AFM images

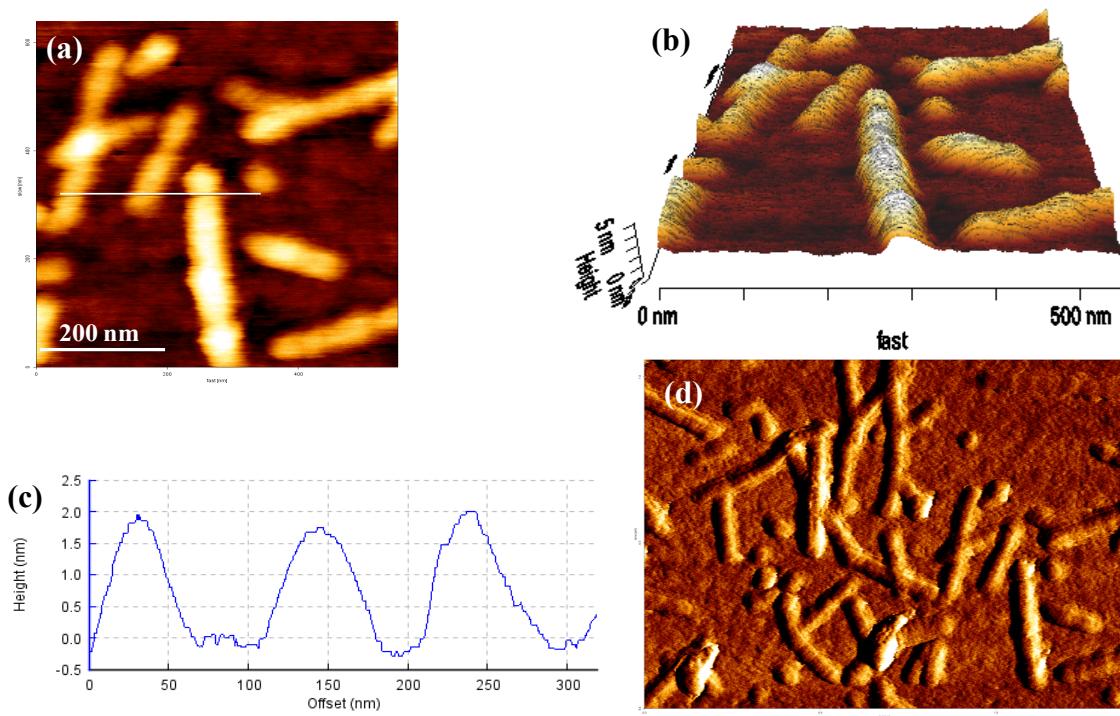


Figure S4. (a) AFM images of dA₂₀-SWNT complexes and (c) corresponding height profile, (b) 3D image profile of the dA₂₀-SWNT complexes. (D) Amplitude image of dA₂₀-SWNT complexes.

Adddditional AFM images

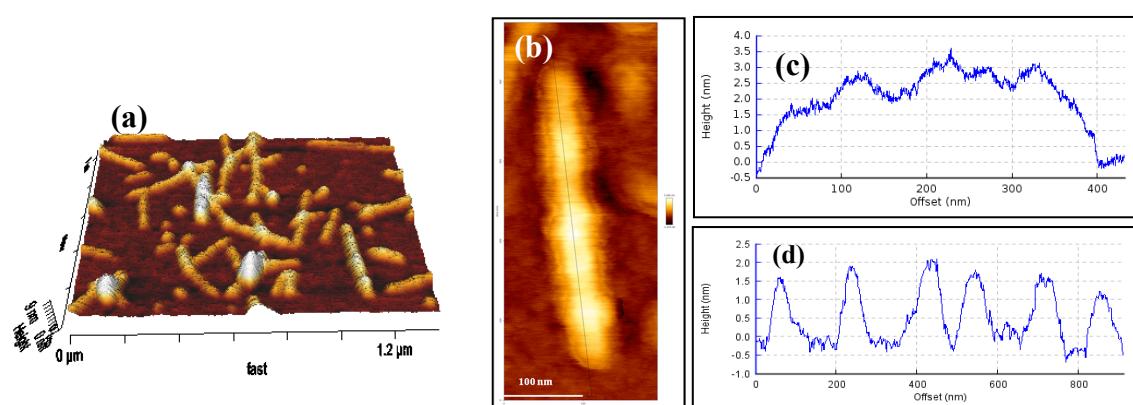


Figure S5. (a) AFM images of dA₂₀-SWNT complex showing individual SWNTs and (d) corresponding height profile. (b) AFM height image of single IM-SWNT complex and (c) corresponding surface height profile.

Base pairing in A/i-motif DNA

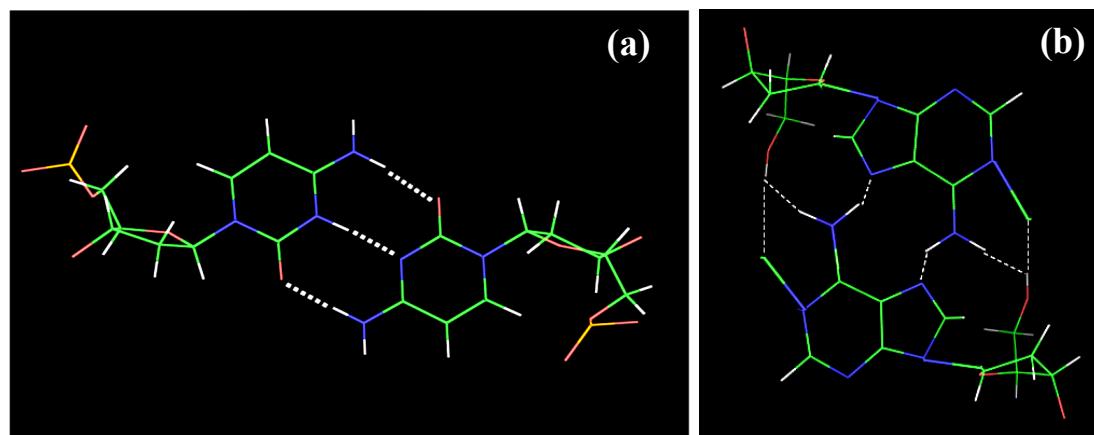


Figure S6. Base pairing scheme in (a) C-C⁺ between the protonated and non-protonated cytosines^[III] and (b) AH⁺-H⁺A through the protonated adenoses.^[III]

Role of dT₂₀ in the dispersion of SWNTs at different pH

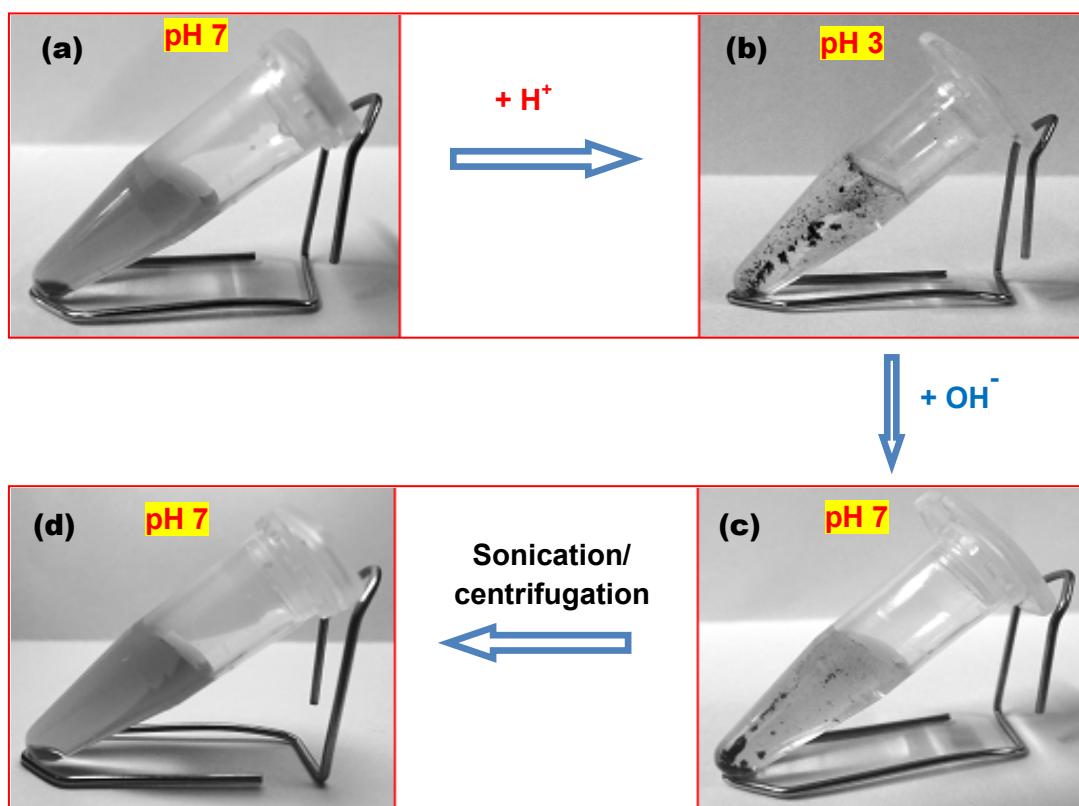


Figure S7. Effect of pH variation on the dT₂₀-SWNT complex dispersion in aqueous medium. (a) dT₂₀-SWNT at pH 7.0; (b) dT₂₀-SWNT at pH 3.0; (c) basification of the sample **b** containing dT₂₀-SWNT to pH 7.0 and (d) Sample **c** redispersed after a brief sonication at pH 7.0.

Ionization of different nucleobases at different pH

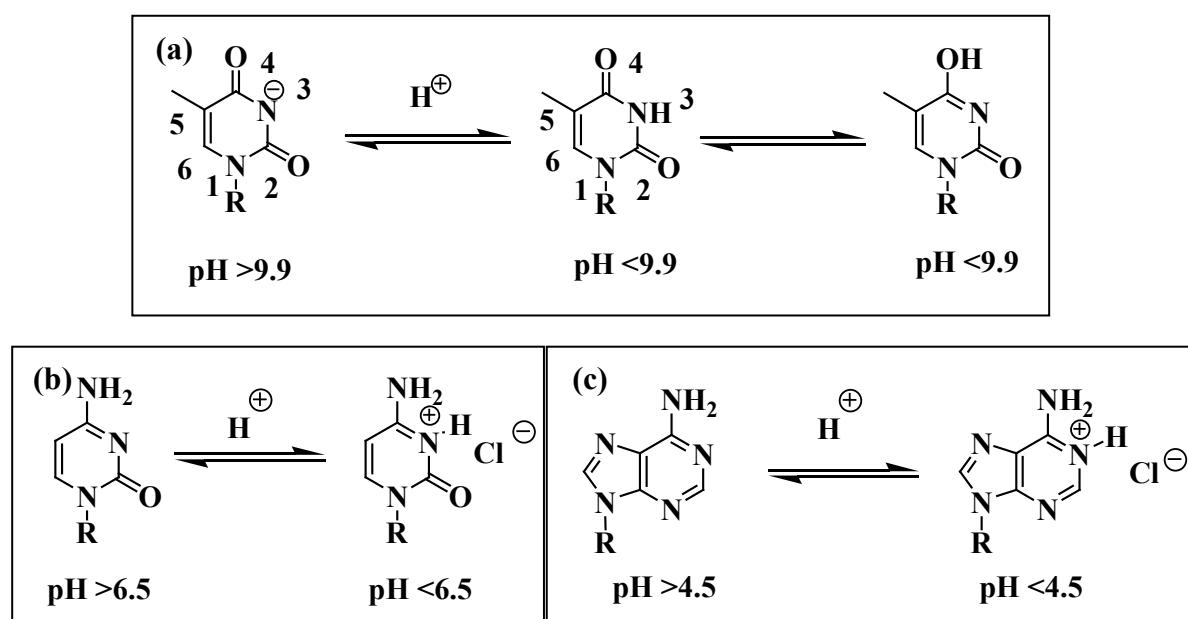


Figure S8. Ionization of different nucleobases in the nucleotide (a) thymine, (b) cytosine and (c) adenine at different pH.

The presence of dT₂₀ along with dA₂₀ generated a duplex DNA (Watson-Crick) structure (Figure S9b) which was found to be inefficient in dispersing SWNT in water. This observation suggests that duplex DNA formation is more favorable than the single-stranded DNA induced SWNT complexation. This is consistent with earlier report.^[IV]

Effect of pH variation on the dT₂₀-SWNT complex

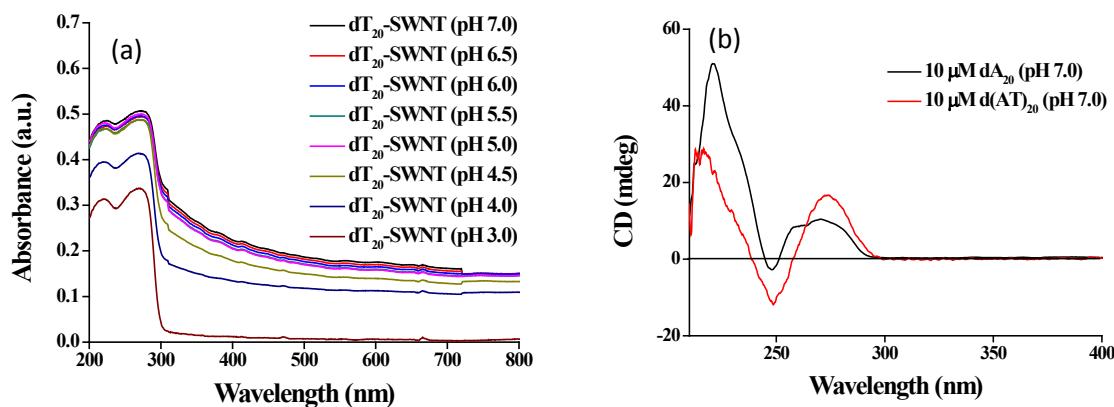


Figure S9. (a) Effect of pH to the dT₂₀-SWNT dispersion probed by UV-Vis-NIR spectroscopy. (b) CD signatures of dA₂₀ and d(A₂₀·T₂₀) duplex DNA at pH 7.0.

Determination of pK_a values

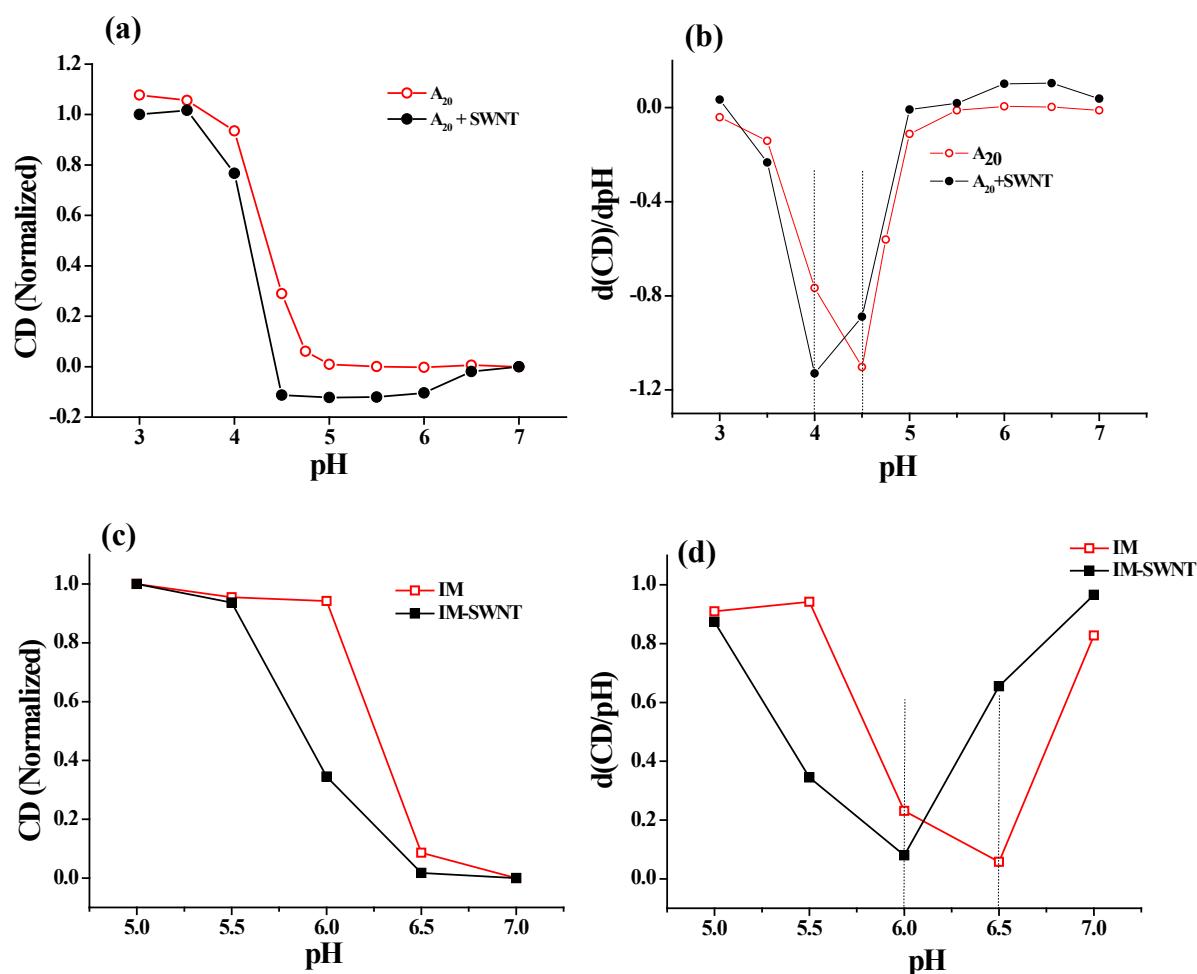


Figure S10. Plot of CD intensity of (a) dA_{20} and dA_{20} -SWNT and (c) IM and IM-SWNT as a function of pH. (b, d) are the corresponding first-derivative plots respectively.

Thermal stability of DNA and DNA-SWNT complexes

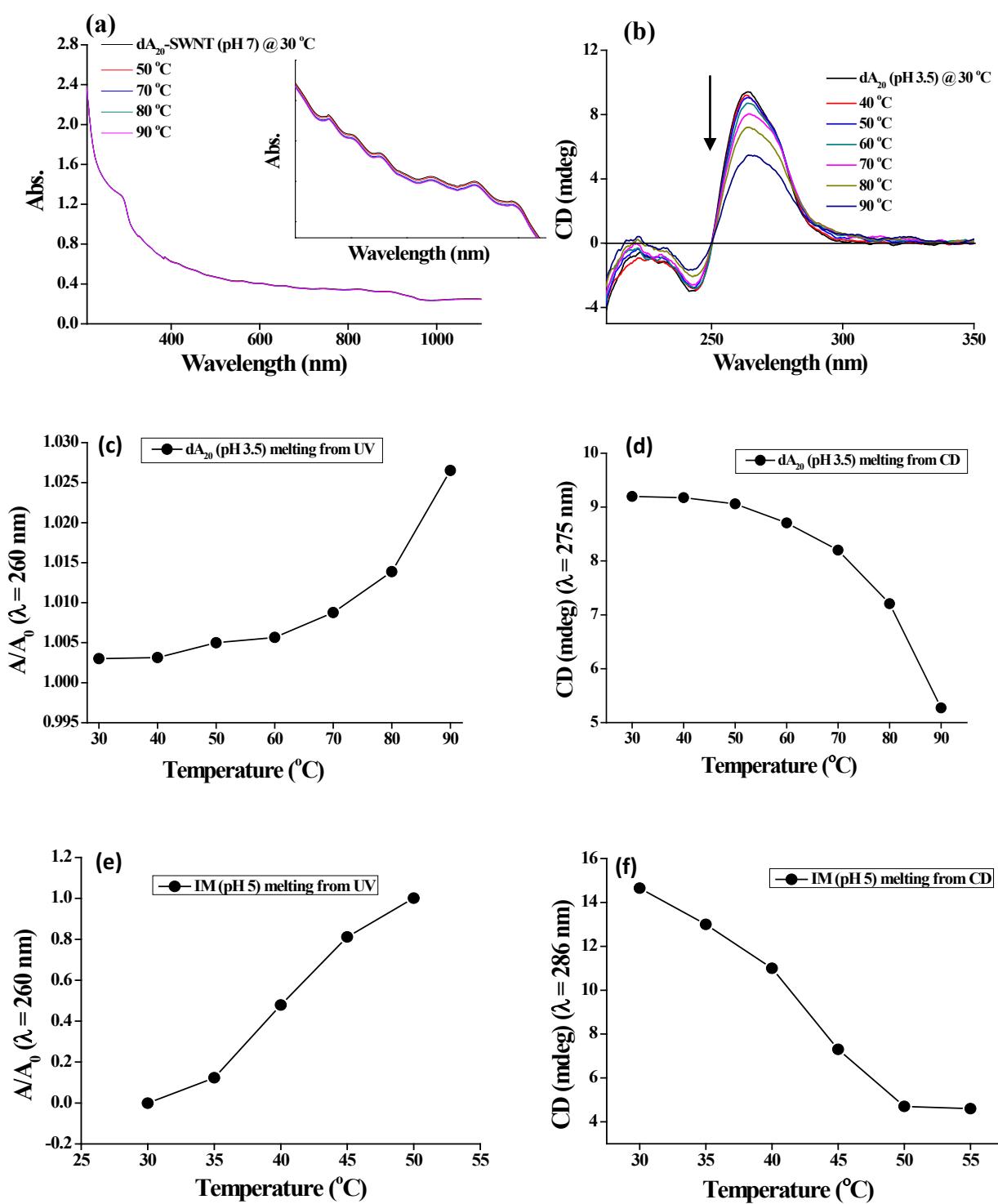


Figure S11. (a) Variable temperature UV-Vis spectra of dA_{20} -SWNT complex solution at pH 7. (b) Variable temperature CD spectra of dA_{20} at pH 3.5 obtained upon acidification of dA_{20} -SWNT complex and (d) the corresponding melting profile. (c) UV melting profile of dA_{20} at pH 3.5 obtained upon acidification of dA_{20} -SWNT complexes at 260 nm. (e,f) UV and CD melting profile of IM at pH 5.0 obtained upon acidification of IM-SWNT complexes.

Laser irradiation of DNA-SWNT complex

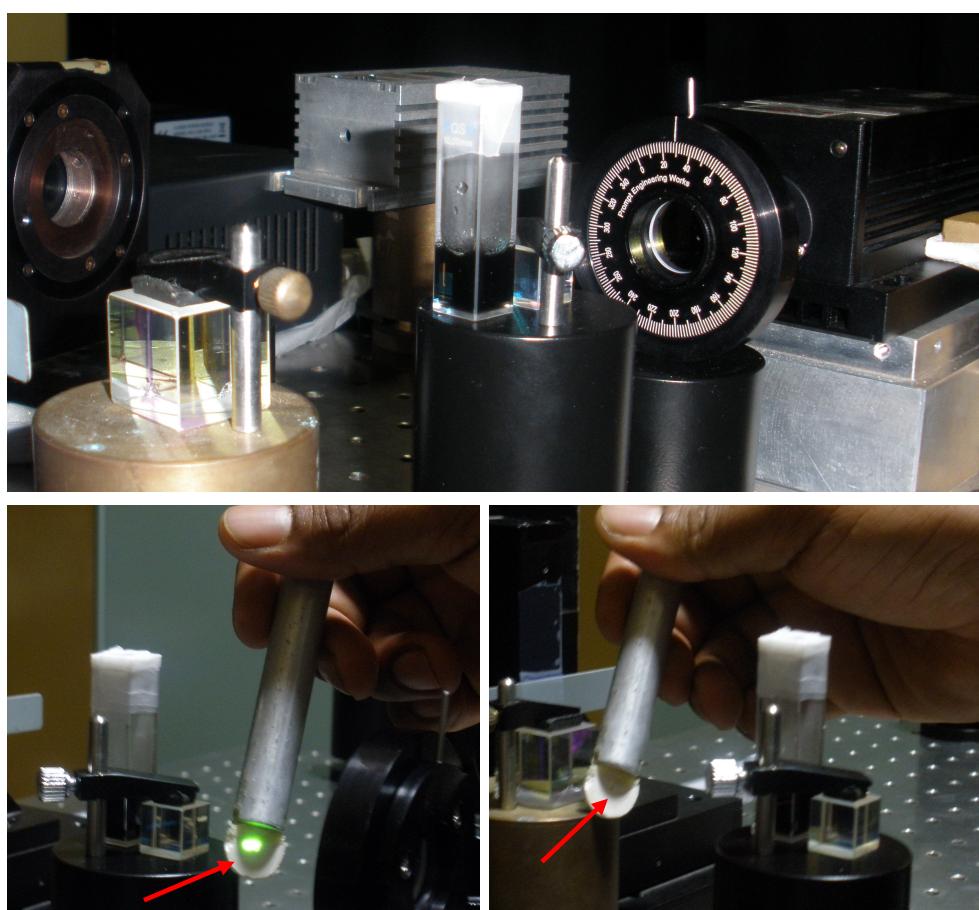


Figure S12. (Top) setup for laser irradiation of DNA-SWNT complex dispersion in water. (Below) ZnO indicator showing intensity of the laser beam before and after passing through the sample. It appears that no laser beam emanating out of the sample suggesting nearly total absorption of the NIR radiation by the sample.

Laser irradiation of DNA-SWNT complex

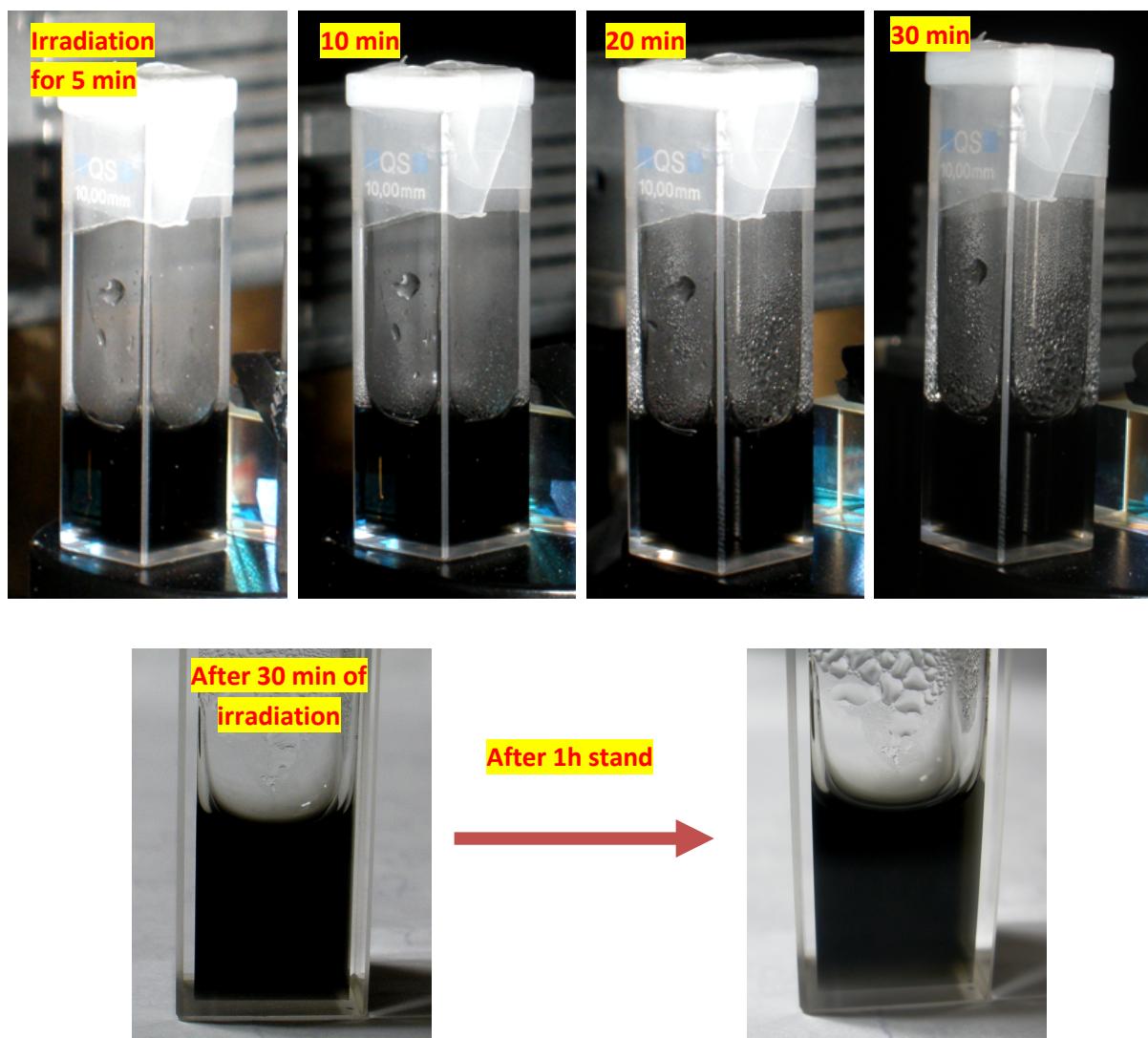


Figure S13. (Top) Photographs showing aqueous suspension of DNA-SWNT complexes which have been exposed to 1064 nm broadband laser radiation for various period of time. The condensation of water vapour on the top of the cuvette surface clearly indicates the heating of the sample upon irradiation. (Below) Photographs showing the stability of the dispersion even after 1h stand of the irradiated sample.

Possible interactions between DNA-SWNT and DNA-DNA at different pH

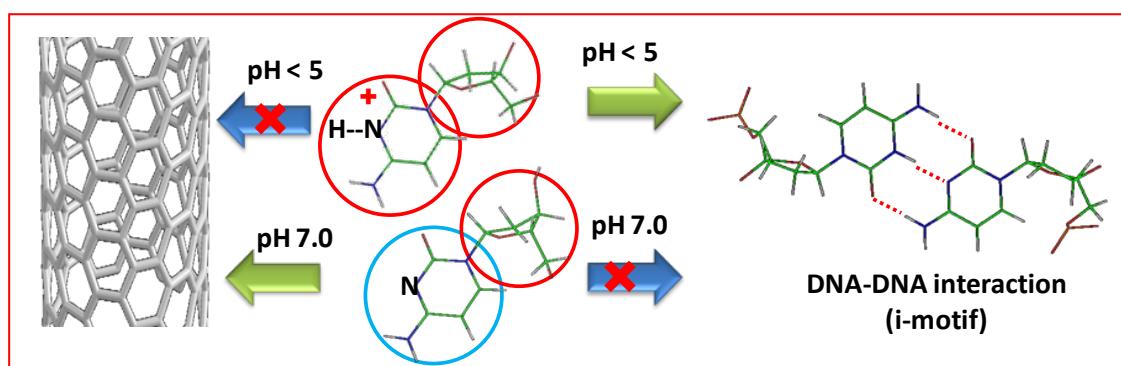


Figure S14. Schematic representation of the various possible interactions between DNA-SWNT and DNA-DNA at different pH of the medium. Blue circle resembles hydrophobic component and red circle resembles the hydrophilic component in DNA.

Conductivity measurement study

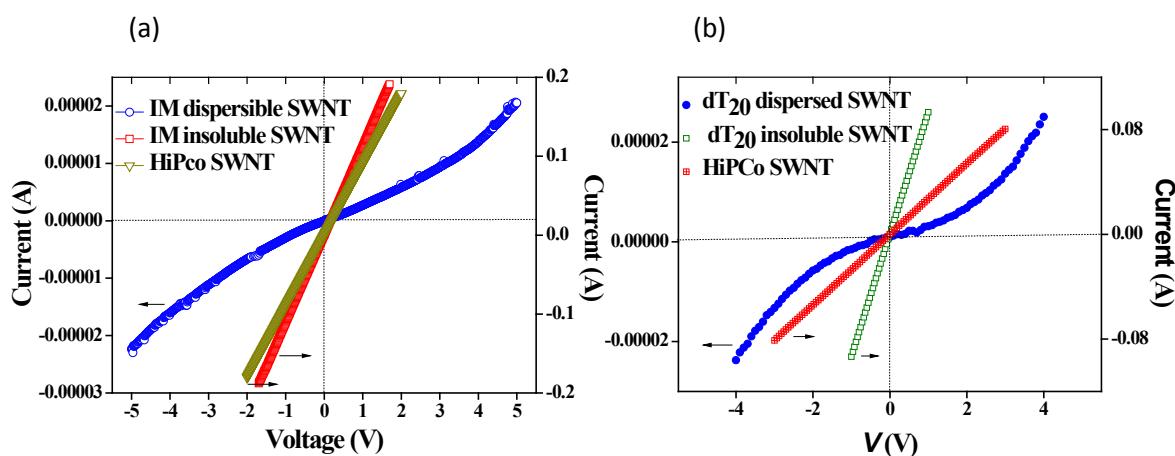


Figure S15. Electrical conductivity (I - V) measurements of (a) HiPco SWNT, IM-dispersible SWNT and the IM insoluble SWNT and (b) HiPco SWNT, dT₂₀- dispersible SWNT and the dT₂₀ insoluble SWNT in a two-probe electrode.

References.

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- [II] J.-L. Leroy, M. Gueron, J.-L. Mergny and C. Helene, *Nucleic Acids Res.*, 1994, **22**, 1600-1606.
- [III] S. Chakraborty, S. Sharma, P. K. Maiti and Y. Krishnan, *Nucleic Acids Res.*, 2009, **37**, 2810-2817.
- [IV] S. Jung, M. Cha, J. Park, N. Jeong, G. Kim, C. Park, J. Ihm and J. Lee, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, 2010, **132**, 10964-10966.