

## Supporting information

### Room temperature amine sensors enabled by sidewall functionalization of single-walled carbon nanotubes

#### Synthesis of methyl 4-azido-2,3,5,6-tetrafluorobenzoate (1)

Methyl 4-azido-2,3,5,6-tetrafluorobenzoate (**1**) was synthesized according to the methods described by Keana et al.<sup>25</sup> Methyl pentafluorobenzoate (10.0 g, 44.2 mmol) and NaN<sub>3</sub> (3.00 g, 46.1 mmol) were dissolved in a 3:1 (v/v) mixture of acetone and water (30 mL) and refluxed for 8 h at 85 °C. Since sodium azide can be explosive when heated as a solid and is highly toxic, this procedure must be done in a fume hood with an additional blast shield in place. The mixture was then cooled to room temperature, diluted with H<sub>2</sub>O (250 mL) and extracted with Et<sub>2</sub>O (3×300 mL). The combined organic layers were dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub> and the solvent was removed under reduced pressure. Drying under vacuum overnight afforded (**1**) as a white solid (8.84 g, 80% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 3.99 (s, 3 H). <sup>19</sup>F NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ -138.6 (m, 2 F), -150.9 (m, 2 F). HRMS m/z: [M+H<sup>+</sup>] calcd for C<sub>8</sub>H<sub>3</sub>F<sub>4</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub>: 250.0234, found: 250.0237.

#### Synthesis of methyl 4-azido-2,3,5,6-tetrafluorobenzoic acid (2)

4.00 g of (**1**) (16.1 mmol) were treated with 20% aqueous NaOH (5.3 mL) in MeOH (66.7 mL) and H<sub>2</sub>O (7.0 mL). The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 24 h. The solution was acidified with 2N HCl in an ice bath to pH < 1 and extracted by CHCl<sub>3</sub> (3×100 mL). The combined organic layers were dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub> and the solvent was concentrated under reduced pressure. The product 4-azido-2,3,5,6-tetrafluorobenzoic acid (**2**) was obtained as a white solid (3.42 g, yield 91%). <sup>19</sup>F NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ -137.1 (m, 2 F), -150.7 (m, 2 F). HRMS m/z: [M-H<sup>-</sup>] calculated for C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>2</sub>F<sub>4</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub>: 233.9932, found: 233.9919.

#### XPS analysis

Briefly, the samples were fixed on a sample holder that was installed in an ultra-high vacuum (UHV) analysis chamber (pressure 5•10<sup>-8</sup> mbar). The X-ray non-monochromatic source (Mg K $\alpha$  radiation, 1253.6 eV) was operated at 100 W (10 kV and 10 mA). XPS spectra were measured at normal emission with a fixed pass energy of 44 eV and 22 eV for survey and high-resolution spectra, respectively. The inelastic background in the spectra was subtracted by Shirley's method.<sup>1</sup> The spectra were aligned by placing the component of the

Au 4f7/2 spectra at 84.0 eV in good agreement with earlier reports.<sup>2</sup> Semi-quantitative analysis has been carried out estimating the intensity of each component using CasaXPS software (Casa Software Ltd., UK) and correcting the extracted areas using the atomic sensitivity factors.<sup>3</sup>

## XPS Spectra

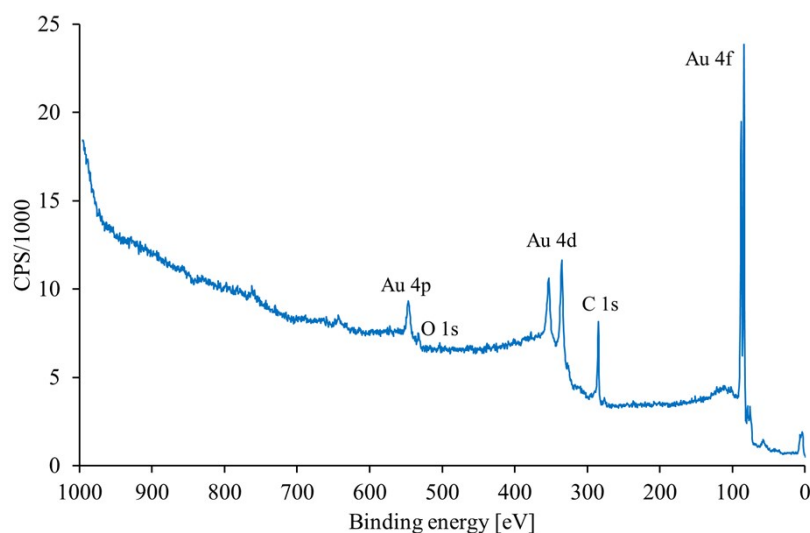


Figure S1. XPS spectrum of *p*-SWCNTs.

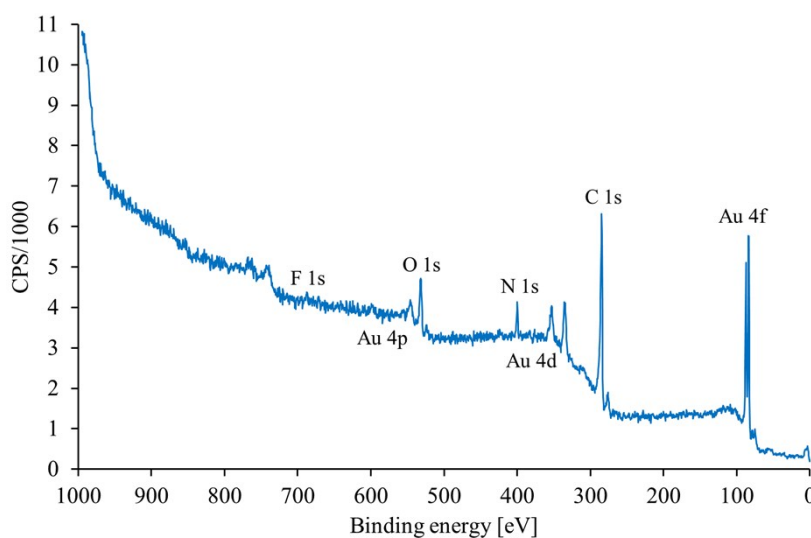


Figure S2. XPS spectrum of SWCNT-N-C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>4</sub>CO<sub>2</sub>H.

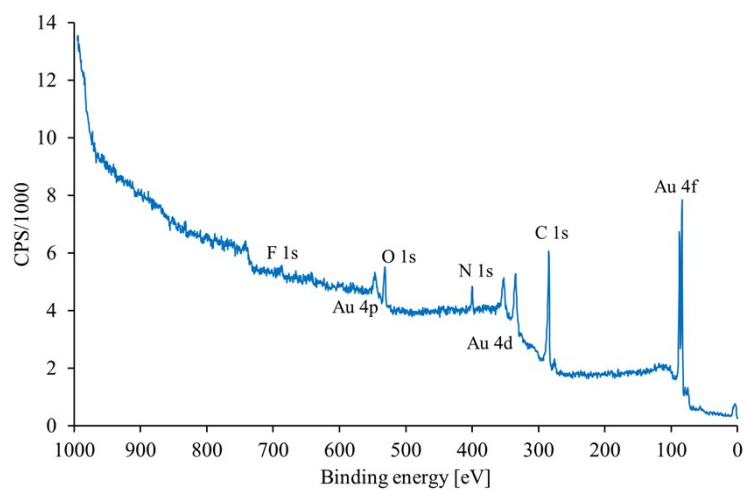


Figure S3. XPS spectrum of SWCNT-N-C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>4</sub>CO<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>.

### XPS: fitting

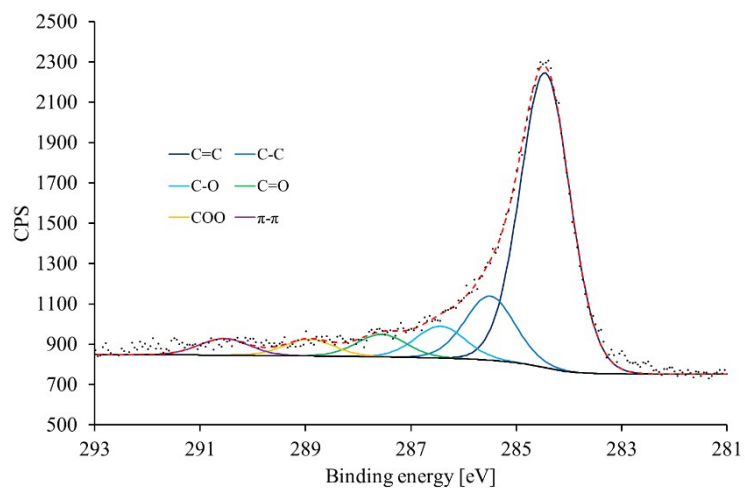


Figure S4. Fitting of the C1s region for *p*-SWCNTs.

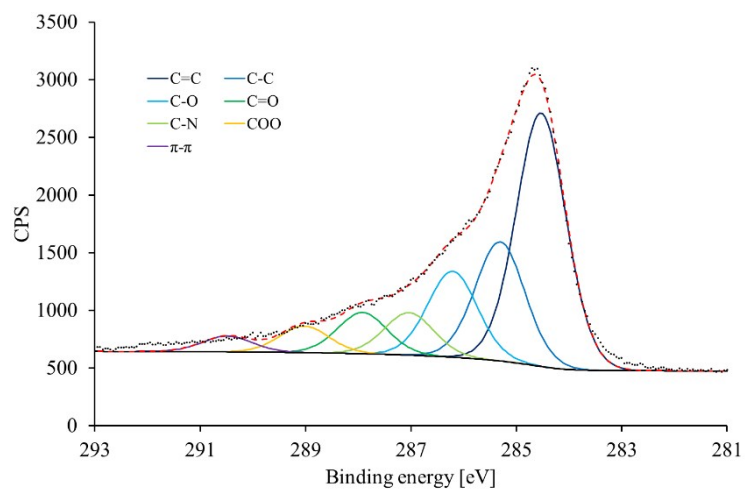


Figure S5. Fitting of the C1s region for SWCNT-N-C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>4</sub>CO<sub>2</sub>H.

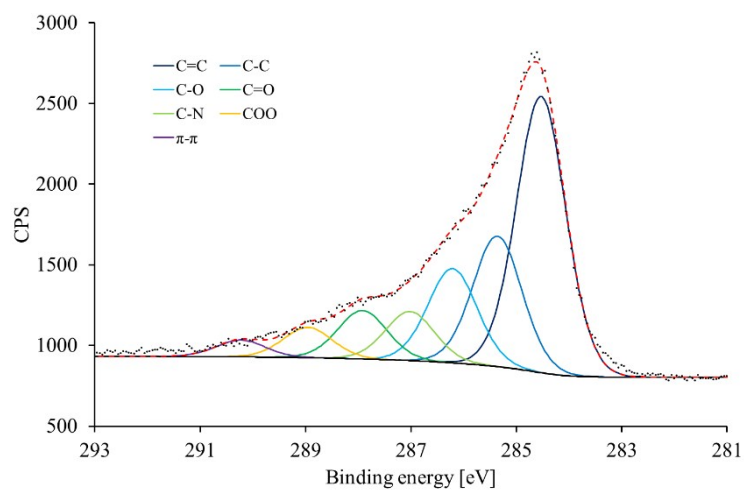


Figure S6. Fitting of the C1s region for SWCNT-N-C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>4</sub>CO<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>.

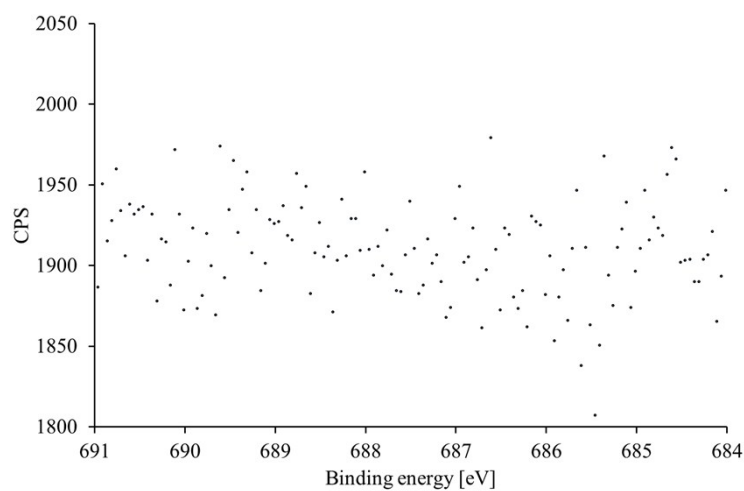


Figure S7. Fitting of the F 1s region for *p*-SWCNTs.

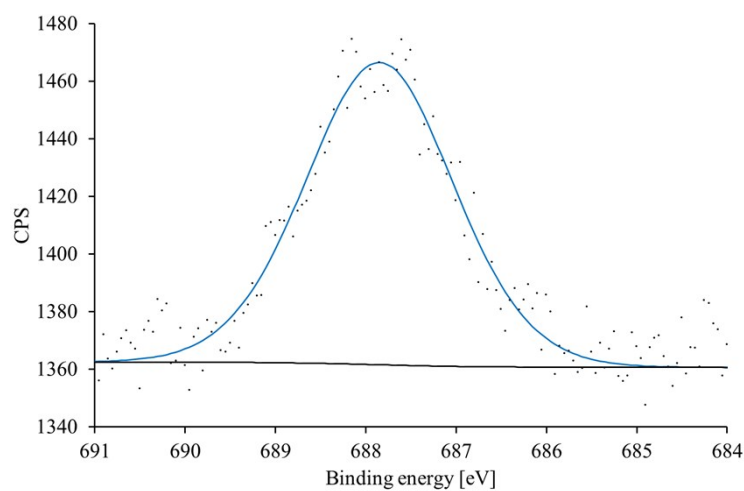


Figure S8. Fitting of the F 1s region for SWCNT-N-C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>4</sub>CO<sub>2</sub>H.

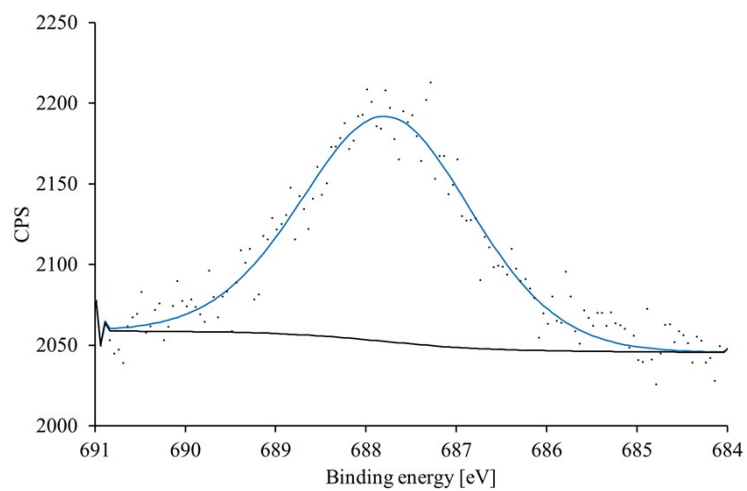


Figure S9. Fitting of the F 1s region for SWCNT-N-C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>4</sub>CO<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>.

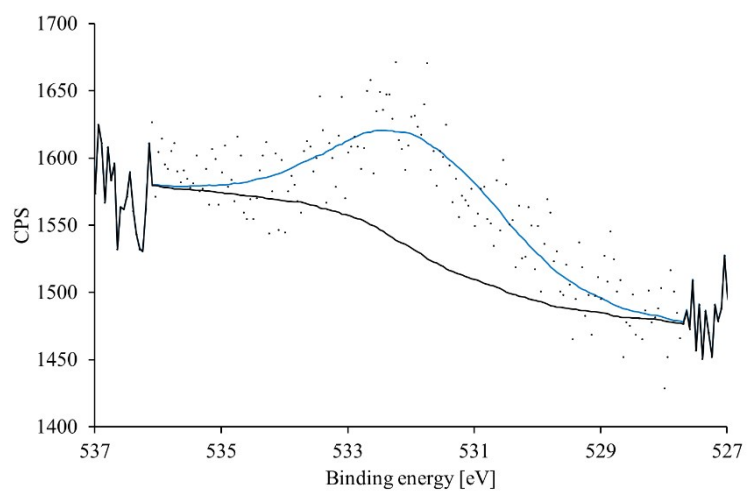


Figure S10. Fitting of the O 1s region for *p*-SWCNTs.

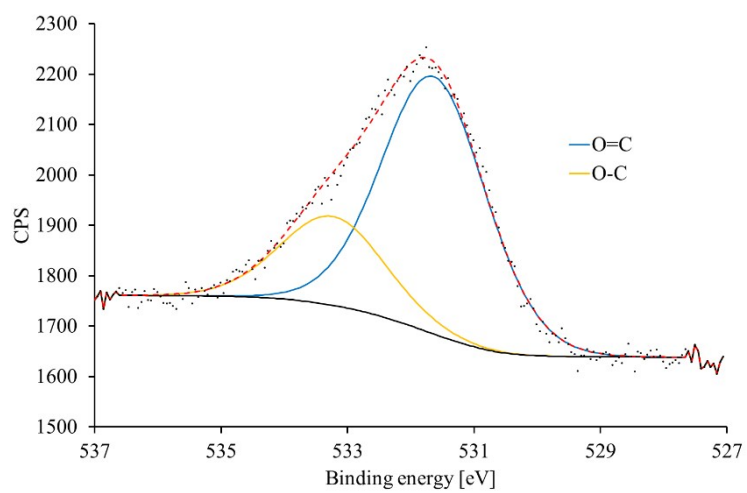


Figure S11. Fitting of the O 1s region for SWCNT-N-C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>4</sub>CO<sub>2</sub>H.

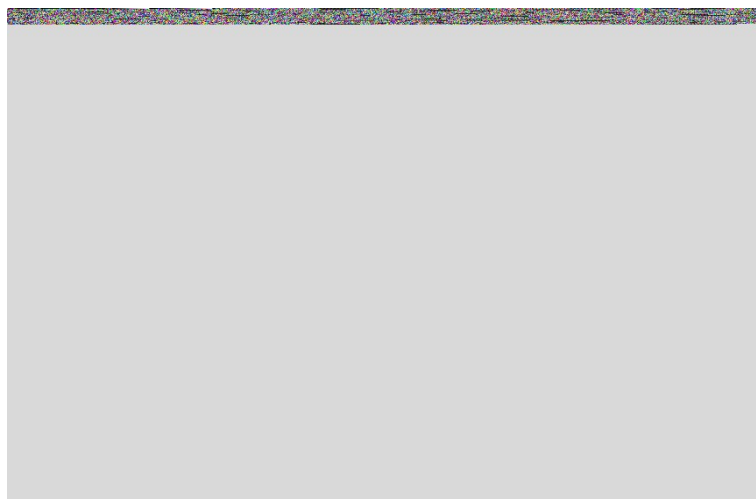


Figure S12. Fitting of the O 1s region for SWCNT-N-C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>4</sub>CO<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>.

### References

1. D. A. Shirley, *Physical Review B*, 1972, **5**, 4709-4714.
2. J. Radnik, C. Mohr and P. Claus, *Physical Chemistry Chemical Physics*, 2003, **5**, 172-177.
3. D. Briggs, *Surface and Interface Analysis*, 1981, **3**, v-v.