Supporting information

Details on how the rod-like structures in the SEM images were identified as fibres from the filter papers

SEM images of a clean piece of filter paper showed the same rod-like structures that had been observed together with the particles filtered out of the oil. EDS analysis showed that the rod-like structures in the piece of clean filter paper and rod-like structures that had been observed together with the particles were all composed of Si. It was therefore concluded that these structures were fibres from the filter papers and not particles from the oil.