Potentialité des NANOFORMES de CARBONE Pour les applications composites







CI



marc.monthioux@cemes.fr





GRAPHENE



C-C : very short (= strong) σ bond (524 kJ/mole)

Each C atom has an unpaired π electron \rightarrow cloud of delocalised π electrons



Cohesion maintained by sharing both π electron clouds \rightarrow weak (van der Waals) bond \rightarrow (7 kJ/mole)

High in-plane mechanical strength and modulus

- High in-plane conductivity (electrical, thermal)
- Low transverse mechanical and transport properties



- . Fullerenes
- . Nanohorns
- . Carbon blacks

GRAPHENE-BASED NANOCARBONS

- . Nanotubes : SWCNT
 - 2 nanoD

- (n,m)
- MWCNT concentric, herringbone, bamboo
- Meta-CNT doped, filled, functionalised, substituted coated/decorated,
- Nanofibres : MWCNF concentric, herringbone, platelet
 2 nanob Meta-CNF doped (intercalated), functionalised, coated/decorated, substituted
- . Graphene/s (planar): flakes, nanoplatelets
 - 1-2 nanoD

- nanoribbons
- discs/cones
- nanowalls

FULLERENES

Discovered: 1985 (Kroto, Curl, Smalley)

.C₆₀: Black solid, cubic/hexagonal structure (fullerite)
.Density (fullerite): 1.65 g.cm⁻³
.Sublimation at 400-500°C
.Soluble in organic solvents (toluene)
.Electron acceptor/donor
.Bulk conductivity: 0.001 S/m
.Modulus (of the individual molecule) : ~900 GPa



Synthesis method:

electric arc (sublimation of graphite electrode, no catalyst)

Capacity production: ton scale

Average market price (C₆₀): 10 000-100 000 US \$/kg (Aldricht, Solarischem, SES Research, Mascot, Yurui Chemical, etc.)

Higher fullerenes : scarce, more expensive





Weak cohesion (van der Waals)

Potential/real use in composite systems: Filler

- Cosmetics (trap for free-radicals, anti-oxidant)
- Anti-corrosion paints and coatings
- Organic solar cells Dennler et al, AdvMater21(2009)1323
- Low-friction coatings
- Hard coatings

Advantages:

- High purity (molecule, chemistry)
- High dispersibility (soluble)
- Low nanofiller loading
- Functionalisability → large compatibility
- Biocompatibility

Drawbacks:

- Cost
- Aspect ratio
- Low inter-fullerene cohesion





Rafiee et al, J Nanopart Res (2010)

NANOHORNS

Discovered: 1994 (Harris) Rediscovered: 1998 (Iijima et al)

.Black solid, powder, no structure (amorphous) .Density: 1.1 g/cm³ .Not soluble, unless they are doped .Specific surface area: 250-300 m²/g, expendable to ~1500 m²/g upon mild oxidation .Conductivity: 0.0001 S/m (in resorcinol formaldehyde aerogels)

Ideal (poetic!) model

Synthesis method:

electric arc, laser pulverisation, plasma torch, (sublimation of graphite electrode/target, no catalyst)

Capacity production: 100 kg scale (~1kg/day)

Average market price: ~400 000 US \$/kg (Carbonium, Phosphorex, NEC...)



Potential use in composite systems: Filler

- Coatings (antistatic, hydrophobic...)

Advantages:

- High conductivity
- High surface area
- Functionalisability \rightarrow large compatibility
 - \rightarrow tunable reactivity

Drawbacks:

- Cost
- Low aspect ratio
- Low (van der Waals) inter-nanohorn cohesion
- Dispersibility?

Resulting bulk conductivity of filling resorcinol-formaldehyde aerogel mesopores: 0.0001 S/m

Tao et al, Langmuir 23(2007)9155

Carbon blacks

Since XIXth Century



Graphene-based, polyaromatic, turbostratic
 → NOT amorphous (and ≠ from soot)
 Tunable nanotexture and surface reactivity
 Tunable morphology:

 from isolated spheres to ramified
 chains to grape-like aggregates
 Tunable properties:

Surface area: 5-350 m²/g Conductivity: 5-20 S/m





10 nm

Synthesis method:

incomplete combustion of gaseous (\rightarrow ('thermal blacks', 'acetylene blacks') or vaporised (\rightarrow 'furnace blacks') hydrocarbons \rightarrow homogeneous nucleation in gas phase

Capacity production: ~8-10 million tons/year

Average market price: 6-15 US \$/kg



Real use in composite systems: Filler

- Reinforcement, hardener (~75%: rubber → tires)
- Conducting component (antistatic plastics)
- Pigments (inks, paints, toners, plastics, food, cosmetics)
- Protective coatings (wave absorbent, UV)

Advantages:

- tunability
- cost
- Functionalisability \rightarrow large compatibility
- More favourable aspect ratio (vs fullerene, nanohorn)

Drawbacks:

 Performance (mechanical, transport) will never be extreme





Single-Wall Carbon Nanotubes

CEMES

Discovered: 1993 (Bethune et al; Iijima et al)





Structure (molecular)

Single graphene

$$\begin{array}{ll}
O\vec{A} &= \vec{C}_{h} = n\vec{a}_{1} + m\vec{a}_{2} \\
\vec{a}_{1} = \frac{a\sqrt{3}}{2}\vec{x} + \frac{a}{2}\vec{y} \quad and \quad \vec{a}_{2} = \frac{a\sqrt{3}}{2}\vec{x} - \frac{a}{2}\vec{y} \quad where \quad a = 2.46 \,\text{\AA} \\
d &= \frac{\left|\vec{C}_{h}\right|}{\pi} = \frac{a_{cc} \sqrt{3(n^{2} + m^{2} + nm)}}{\pi} \\
where \quad 1.41 \,\text{\AA} &\leq a_{c-c} \leq 1.44 \,\text{\AA} \\
(\text{graphite}) \quad ccs \quad \theta = \frac{2 \, n + m}{2\sqrt{n^{2} + m^{2} + nm}}
\end{array}$$

(n,m)
$$m \le n$$

 $\theta < 30^{\circ}$ Hamada et al, PRL92





Macromolecule / Nano-Object















Multi-wall carbon nanotubes

Discovered: 1952 (Radushkevich & Lukyanovich) Rediscovered: 1991 (Iijima)

Morphology





branche









h-MWCNTs (helical)

Texture







cb-MWNTs (concentric-bamboo)



h-MWNTs (herringbone)





Texture

c-*MWNTs* (concentric)

hb-MWNTs (herringbone - bamboo)





Nanotexture

- L₁ Average length of the stiff fringes
- L₂ Average length of the continuous (yet distorted) fringes
- N Average number of fringes within the coherent graphene stacks
- β Average misorientation angle



Thermal treatment



Oxidation, irradiation

All kinds of defects: vacancies, heterocycles, disclinations, heteroatoms, *sp*³ carbons, surface groups, ...







1D hexagonal lattices with periodic stacking

> Turbostratic structure

Graphite: Periodic stacking of 1D hexagonal lattices with orientational relationship (ABAB...) → 3D hexagonal

Threshold of radius of curvature for commensurability $\sim 0.5 \mu m$

Graphitisation/commensurability possible via thermal treatment upon facetisation





DWCNTs: the ideal compromise?





Smith, Monthioux, Luzzi CPL315(1999)31

- The smallest MWCNT
- May combine advantages of SWCNT and MWCNT





SUMMARY



Describing carbon nanotubes-nanofibres

SWCNT

MWCNT

The description chart of multigraphene carbon nanofilaments

1. Outer morphology (SEM)	Regular, coiled, branched, conical,	
2. Inner morphology (TEM)	NanoFibre (<i>CNF</i>)	NanoTube (<i>MWCNT</i>)
3. Texture (TEM)	→ Platelet (<i>p</i> -) → Concentric (<i>c</i> -) ← → Herringbone (<i>h</i> -) ← Bamboo (<i>b</i> -) ←	
4. NanoTexture (HRTEM)	L_1 , L_2 , N, β parameters	
5. Structure (diffraction)	turbostratic \rightarrow graphitic d_{002} , <i>hkl</i> with <i>h</i> and/or $k \neq 0$, and $l \neq 0$	

(m,n)



SWCNTs: Importance of molecular structure (helicity)



No more discrimination for diameter > 14 nm (= all metal type)



SWCNTs, CNFs and MWCNTs: Importance of texture



Weak interactions / (van der Waals) between SWCNTs

Detrimental effect to collective mechanical properties and thermal stability



dramatic effect on most of properties (electrical, mechanical, thermal,...)



<u>MWCNTs</u>: Importance of nanotexture



Closely relates to most of MWCNT PROPERTIES (thermal, mechanical, electrical, ...) since related to graphene perfection

As opposed to NANOTEXTURE and TEXTURE, STRUCTURAL aspects (graphitic vs turbostratic) have a limited direct impact on physical properties of MWCNTs

Possible limitations of nanotubes



1. Quality

• Low purity for many marketed CNT grades

(Non-nanotube carbon phases, catalysts, residual solvents,...)



Purified "SWCNT" product (from a CCVD process)



 Poor selectivity in most of marketed CNT grades

(Metallic/semi-conductor type, number of walls, diameter distribution...)



2. Processing

- Mostly: Poor dispersion in (liquid) matrix precursor
 - Clumping due to CNT-CNT weak force interactions
 - Entanglement preventing regular mixing procedure



Maugey, et al J Nanosci Nanotechnol 7 (2007) 2633

Purified "SWCNT" product (from arc discharge) in SDS-added water

Properties...and limitations



3. Low surface reactivity

(9/11)

Perfect outer graphene = chemical inertness (→ no bond possible)



- Limited matrix or medium / CNT interactions (e.g., mechanical: stress transfer in composites)
- Limited CNT/CNT connectibility (e.g., for CNT-based fibres)

Not a drastic requirement for electrical and thermal management applications

Potential use for composites: is "Nano" beautiful?

Carbon nanotubes versus carbon (micro)fibres

Higher aspect ratio

Higher surface area



. Lower percolation threshold

. Higher surface of interaction

Better structural perfection **Improve** · Ultimate properties

Much simpler fabrication processes

Much convenient feedstock (constant quality, easy availability)

Affordable technology



. Low cost

CNT-CNF Properties



"Extreme" and "performance" are the rule!

Properties	Values	Comments	
Aspect ratio	~1 000 – 10 000	Possibly higher	
Specific surface area	~2 780 m²/g	When considering both surfaces of open SWCNTs	
Tensile strength	> 45 GPa	Other values up to 100 Gpa can be found in the literature	
Tensile modulus	1 to 1.3 TPa	Independent on diameter when > 1 nm	
Tensile strain	> 40%	Provides toughness values higher than that of spider web	
Flexural modulus	1.2 TPa		
Thermal stability	> 3000°C	In oxygen-free atmosphere	
Electrical conductivity	10 ⁴ – 10 ⁷ S/cm	Better than copper (~60 10 ⁴ S/cm)	
Transport regime	Ballistic, up to superconductivity	$T_c < 1 K$	
Thermal conductivity ~6 000 W/mK		Better than diamond	
Electron emission	10 ⁶ - 10 ⁹ A/cm ²	Highest current density	

All valuable for use in composites (but electron emission)





Field: structure parts in transport and space vehicles,...

CNTs in composites: Electrically conductive filler





Percolation threshold: ~15% for carbon blacks Black, non-transparent resulting materials

< 0.5% for CNTs

The various ways to use CNTs in composites



1. CNTs as direct filler



Zhang et al Science 306(2004)1356



3. CNT-based microfibres



Sun et al CPL394(2004)266

4. CNTs as interphase

CARBON NANOTUBES-NANOFIBRES

Synthesis methods:

. Thermal decomposition of gaseous or vaporised

hydrocarbons (CCVD) (or CO disproportionation) +

Patel, Nanotech Insights (2011)

catalyst . Electric arc + catalyst

Capacity production:

ton scale





Average market price:

80 000 - 2 000 000 US \$/kg Depending on processes . SWCNTs: < 50 US \$/kg . MWCNTs:

and post-treatments

(low grade PAN-based carbon fibre: ~20 US \$/kg)

2010	Manufacturers	Annual produc- tion capacity (Metric tonnes)	Processing routes	Country
	Unidym, Inc. (acquired by Wisepower Co.), http://www.unidym.com	1500	High-pressure carbon monoxide (HiPco)	USA
SWCNTs	Toray Industries, Inc. http://www.toray.com	1500	CCVD	Japan
	Mitsubishi Rayon Co. Ltd. http://www.mrc.co.jp/english/index.html	1200	CVD	Japan
	SouthWest NanoTechnologies Inc. http://www.swentnano.com	1000	Cobaltmolybdenum catalyst (CoMoCAT)*	USA
	Kleancarbon Inc. http://www.kleandarbon.com	1000	CVD	Canada
	Showa Denko K.K http://www.sdk.co.jp/english	500	CCVD	Japan
	CNano Technology Limited http://www.cnanotechnology.com	500	CCVD	USA
MWCNTs	Nanocyl S.A., http://www.nanocyl.com*	400	CCVD	Belgium
	Bayer MaterialScience AG http://www.bayermaterialscience.com	260 3000 by 2013	CCVD	Germany
	Arkema Inc. http://www.arkema-inc.com	50 400 by 2011	CCVD	France
	Hyperion Catalysis International, Inc. http://www.hyperioncatalysis.com	50	CVD	USA
	Eden Energy Ltd	< 50		Australia
	Nanocomp Technologies Inc., Applied Science Inc.	< 50		USA
	Iljin Nanotech	< 50		South Korea
	NanoCarbon Technology, UBE Ind.	< 50		Japan



Suppliers (not exhaustive!)

Patel, Nanotech Insights (2011)

Potential/real use in composite systems:

More than 100 companies are manufacturing CNTs, 200 expected by 2016

- Sport goods (mechanical properties)
- Built-in sensor for composite damaging
- TRANSPARENT, Conductive plastics (antistatic containers and surfaces, electro-painting, ...)
- Power cables
- Pigments (inks)
- Flexible, transparent display





Patel, Nanotech Insights (2011)

GRAPHENE (single)

Acknowledged as such: in the late 80' Isolated: 2004 (Geim & Novoselov)

If perfect: full benefit of the specificities of the graphene lattice

- mechanical properties: σ = 100 Gpa, E = 1 TPa



- transport properties (mass-less electron conduction: electron velocity = 1000 km/s, i.e., 150x higher than in silicium)
- Thermal conductivity: ~6000 W/m.K (~10x better than silver, copper...)

\rightarrow Similar to SWCNT

GRAPHENE NANOPLATELETS (flakes, FLG,...)











Similar to graphite from N ≈10

1. Powder

Synthesis method: Graphite exfoliation \rightarrow powder Market price: ~250 US \$/kg (NOT single graphene)

2. Film

Synthesis method: Epitaxial graphene on Cu foil \rightarrow Polycrystalline film Market price: single graphene (10x10 mm²): 100 US \$

3. Solution

Synthesis method: Oxidation of graphene \rightarrow graphene oxide (~50%C!) \rightarrow powder or soluble OR reduced graphene oxide rGO Market price (solution): ~130 000-400 000 US \$/kg

Available on market:





SUPPPLIERS: EU: graphenea - USA: Graphene SuperMarket, Angstron Materials, Harp Engineering... - Asia: Sinocarbon, etc.

GRAPHENE NANORIBBON



Orientational discrimination similar to SWCNTs

+ reactive edges

Metallic, semi-conducting, possibly ferromagnetic (if doped)

Synthesis method:

- Etching of graphene
- Unzipping of CNTs



Not available on market (lab-made)

Kosynkin et al, Nature 458(2009)872

GRAPHENE cones and discs

Discovered: 1997 (Krishnan et al)



D O T 2

Diameters: 0.8 – 3 µm

Thickness: 20-50 nm

Synthesis method:

Thermal cracking of vaporised heavy oils (+ Post-HTT)

Capacity production: kg scale (for lab use only)

Average market price: ~130 000 US \$/kg (STREM chemicals Inc, n-TEC...)

Potential use of graphene / nanoplatelets / nanoribbons / nanodiscs in composite systems:

- Same use as CNTs	Issues:		
Advantages:	 Multi-graphene: increasing contribution of the weak strength of van der Waals bond as N increases 		
High conductivityHigh surface area	 aspect ratio not favourable for percolating network (but for nanoribbons) 		
 Functionalisability → large compatibility → tunable reactivity 	- 2D orientation		
	 Dispersibility, processability 		
	- Graphene oxide NOT conducting		
Dattan than CNIT-2	 Reduced graphene oxide ≠ graphene 		
Better than CINTS?	- Cost		

"Modulus, ultimate strength and thermal stability follow a similar trend, with values for functionalized graphene sheetpoly(methyl methacrylate) **rivaling those for single-walled carbon nanotube-poly(methyl methacrylate) composites**"

Ramanathan et al, Nature Nanotechnol 3(2008)327

GRAPHENE NANOWALLS



Wu et al, J Mater Chem 14(2004)469

Synthesis method: - Plasma enhanced CVD

Not available on market (lab-made)

Potential use in composite: As material of interphase, to grow on, e.g., carbon fibres instead of CNTs → increase of specific surface area → increase of fibre/matrix interaction → Increase of fibre surface reactivity

HEALTH AND SAFETY



Toxicity of CNTs towards cells is supposed to increase

- as aspect ratio increases ("Asbestos syndrom")
- as chemical reactivity increases

but NO CERTAINTY REGARDING CYTO- AND ECO-TOXICITY OF CNTs YET

- Too large variety of CNTs
- No standard investigation procedures
- Role of impurities
- Low reactivity of graphene surfaces

Investigations are in progress worldwide for all kinds of nanocarbons (including carbon blacks)

Benefits might overcome hazards



CONCLUSION

- Many types of nanocarbons \rightarrow large variety of potentialities
- 'Nano' is beautiful (but expensive!)
- Perfection is not necessarily a must
- The superiority of graphene over CNTs is not absolute
- Graphene and CNTs will be complementary instead of competitor (as other nanocarbons will as well)
- Attention not to rediscover graphite