# **Carbon Nanotube Working Group NanoICT**

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### NanoICT – Carbon Nanotubes: September 2008

# nang-newsletter September 2008 nº 13 http://www.phantomsnet.net nanoICT coordination action NanoICT Position Papers

Carbon Nanotubes

iiir Current Status of Modelling for Nanoscale Information Processing and Storage Devices

#### Carbon Nanotubes

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#### KeyWords

Growth

Carbon nanotubes, multiwall, singlewall, nanofibres (all the words in a and the subtopics), cap structure, catalysts, adhesion, mechanism, modelling, Post-growth modification

Doping & functionalization, dispersion and separation, purification, annealing, cap opening/closing, graphitization Properties/Characterization

Defects, electron transport, phonons, thermal properties/conductivity, wetting, stiction, friction, mechanical, chemical properties, optical, toxicity, structural properties contacts.

#### Electronic applications

Field emission (X-ray, Microwave, FEDs, Ionization, Electron microscopy), interconnects, vias, diodes, thin-film transistors, this film electrodes, network transistors, single ONT transistors, thermal management, memory Optical applications

Absorbers, microlenses in LCs, optical antennae, lighting Electromechanical applications

NEMS (resonators), sensors, nanofluidics, bio-medical Energy applications

Fuel cells, supercapacitors, batteries, solar cells Blue sky

Spintronics, guantum computing, SET, ballistic transport

#### 1. Introduction

There has been extensive research into the properties, synthesis and possible applications of carbon nanotubes (CNTs) since they came to prominence following the lilima paper [1] of 1991 [2]. Carbon nanotubes are composed of so<sup>2</sup> covalently-bonded carbon in which graphene walls are rolled up cylindrically to form tubes. The ends can either be left open, which is an unstable configuration due to also summarizes possible electrical, electronic and phoincomplete bonding, they can be bonded to a secondary tonic applications of carbon nanotubes (excluding bulk surface, not necessarily made of carbon, or they can be material composite applications). capped by a hemisphere of sp<sup>1</sup> carbon, with a fullerenelike structure [3]. In terms of electrical properties, singlewalled CNTs can be either semiconducting or metallic and growth are Fe, N and Co [10]. There are several routes to this depends upon the way in which they roll up, as illustrated in Figure 1.

Multi-walled CNTs are non-semiconducting (i.e. semimetallic like graphite) in nature. Their diameters range from 2 to 500 nm, and their lengths range from 50 nm to a few mm. Multi-walled CNTs contain several concentric, coastal graphene ovinders with interlayer spacings of crystalizes to form small islands of the metal salt. The salt, -0.34 nm [5]. This is slightly larger than the single crystal is reduced to a metal colde by heating or calcinations and

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Figure 1: (bp) A graphere sheet rolled up to obtain a singlewalled CNT. (bottom) The map shows the different single-walled CNT configurations possible. Were the graphene sheet to rol up in such a way that the atom at (0,0) would also be the atom at (6.6), then the CNT would be metadlo. Likewise, I the CNT rolled up so that the atom at (0.0) was also the atom at (6.5), the CNT would be semi-conducting. The small circles denote semiconducting CNTs and the large circles denote non-semiconducting CNTs. Two thirds of CNTs are semi-conducting and one third metallo 14

graphite spacing which is 0.335 nm. Studies have shown that the inter-shell spacing can range from 0.34 to 0.39 nm, where the inter-shell spacing decreases with increasing CNT diameter with a pronounced effect in smaller diameter CNTs (such as those smaller than 15 nm) as a result of the high curvature in the graph ene sheet [6,7]. As each cylinder has a different radius, it is impossible to line the carbon atoms up within the sheets as they do in crystalline graphite. Therefore, multi-walled CNTs tend to exhibit properties of turbostratic graphite in which the layers are uncorrelated. For instance, in highly crystallized multi-walled CNTs, it has been shown that if contacted externally, electric current is generally conducted through only the outermost shell [8], though Fujitsu have been able to contact the inner walls with resistances of 0.7 kΩ per multi-walled CNT [9].

This position paper summarizes state-of-the-art CNTs dependent on the nature of the desired end-structure. It

2. Cataly st preparation The catalyst metals most commonly used for nanotuble the production of catalyst nanoparticles, the two main methods being the wet catalyst method and the coalescence of this catalyst films.

The wet catalyst method involves the deposition of metal nitrate/bicarbonate colloids onto a surface (shown in figure 2a page 6). On drying, the salt in the solution

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### **Talk Summary**

What are carbon nanotubes? What determines their properties? How are carbon nanotubes made? -Summary of growth methods. -Controlling the growth by CVD Applications (and challenges) -Thermal management -Transparent conductors -Supercapacitors and batteries -Summary of other applications Research Agenda Working Group activities Future NanoICT sponsored symposia (For more refer to:

"Carbon Nanotubes" W.I. Milne, **M. Mann**, J. Dijon, P. Bachmann, J. McLaughlin, J.Robertson, K.B.K. Teo, A. Lewalter, M. de Souza, P. Boggild, A Briggs, K. Bo Mogensen, J.-C. P. Gabriel, S. Roche and R.Baptist. E-Nano Newsletter nº 13 (2008).)







### Wrapping (10,10) SWNT (armchair)





#### Picture: M. Endo



Zigzag-tube

**Chiral-tube** 

Armchair-tube

### Multi-walled Carbon Nanotubes

- Rolled up graphite sheets
- Multi-walled are "semimetallic"



L. V. Radushkevich and V. M. Lukyanovich. (1952). *Soviet Journal of Physical Chemistry* **26**: 88–95.

### **Synthesis Techniques**

#### 1. Arc-discharge Method

- Producing MWNT & SWNT
- Two graphite rods are used as electrodes and He or Ar gas used for inert atmosphere condition during arc-discharge

#### 2. Laser Ablation Method

• Producing SWNT

\*

• Intense laser pulses are utilized to ablate a carbon target containing 0.5at % of nickel and cobalt.

Advantage-Production of high quality carbon nanotubesDisadvantages-High temperature process

-Grow carbon nanotubes in highly tangled forms with unwanted carbon and metal impurities.- need to purify -Hard to control



# **Catalytic Chemical Vapour Deposition**



## **Carbon Nanotube growth by CVD**



Environmental-TEM image sequence of Ni-catalyzed SWNT root growth recorded in  $8 \times 10^{-3}$  mbar C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>2</sub> at 615 °C and schematic ball-and-stick model.

S. Hofmann et al., Nano Lett. 7, 602 (Mar, 2007).

# **Catalyst preparation**

# For bulk growth, thin films are deposited by PVD or by wet chemistry



# Growth possible by CVD and PECVD



Left: (a-d) CNTs grown along quartz crystal planes by the Rogers group Seong Jun Kang *Nature Nanotechnology* **2**, 230 - 236 (2007) (e) Horizontally aligned CNTs grown by Dai's group using field to align the CNTs. Y. Zhang, Y. Li, W. Kim, D. Wang, H. Dai, *Appl. Phys. A* **74**, 325 (Mar, 2002).



Dense forest of Small diameter MWCNT from left to right: a) Patterned layer on a 200mm layer b) 50µm high forest on conductive layer of TiN c) close view of the material with individual CNT making bundles of 60nm of diameter (courtesy of CEA-LITEN)

# **Uniqueness of CNTs**

#### MECHANICAL PROPERTIES

Young's modulus of multi-walled CNTs Young's modulus of single-walled CNTs Tensile strength of single-walled nanotube ropes Tensile strength of multi-walled nanotube ropes Stiction Hydrophobicity of MWNT forest

#### THERMAL PROPERTIES AT ROOM TEMPERATURE

Thermal conductivity of single-walled CNTs Thermal conductivity of multi-walled CNTs

#### ELECTRICAL PROPERTIES

Typical resistivity of single- and multi-walled CNTs Typical maximum current density Quantized conductance, theoretical/measured

#### ELECTRONIC PROPERTIES

Single-walled CNT band gap Whose n=m, armchair Whose n-m is divisible by 3 Whose n-m is non-divisible by 3 Multi-walled CNT band gap ~0.8-1.3 Tpa <sup>(28, 29)</sup> ~1-1.3 TPa<sup>(30, 31)</sup> > 45 GPa<sup>(32)</sup> 1.72GPa<sup>(33)</sup> ~10<sup>-7</sup> N on 5 µm latex beads<sup>(34)</sup> 126<sup>o(35)</sup>-161<sup>o(36)</sup> contact angle

1750-5800 WmK<sup>(37)</sup> >3000 WmK<sup>(38)</sup>

10<sup>-8</sup> - 10<sup>-6</sup> Ωm<sup>(39)</sup> >10<sup>8</sup> A cm<sup>2(40)</sup> (6.5 kΩ)<sup>-1</sup>/(12.9 kΩ)<sup>-1</sup> per channel

0 eV (metallic) <0.1eV (quasi metallic)<sup>(41)</sup> 0.4-2eV(semiconducting)<sup>(42, 43)</sup> ~0 eV (non-semiconducting)

# **Applications: in order of distance to market combined with size of market**

Thermal management

Transparent conductors/contacts.

Batteries/supercapacitors

Interconnects/vias

Sensors (bio-medical sentence)

Field emission (SEM/TEM, backlighting, FED Microwave, x-ray, electronic propulsion)

NEMS/MEMS

Fuel Cells

Solar panels

Nanofluidics

Liquid crystal microlenses

Transistors (flexible, large area, high frequency)

Quantum computing etc

## **Thermal management**

As a thermal interface material for high brightness LED's, CNT has been shown to outperform silver epoxy and other metal systems



Figure 3. Schematic side view of an HB-LED package with CNT-TIM.





### **Transparent conductors**



As the use of ITO becomes ubiquitous and indium becomes more scarce and thence more expensive there is an ongoing search for alternative transparent conducting contact materials.

George Gruner J. Mater. Chem., 2006, 16, 3533– 3539

Despite this progress, the sheet resistance of SWNT networks has remained at ~ 100  $\Omega$ /sq (abount an order of magnitude higher than ITO) at transparency of 85%

> Tenent et al. Adv Mat Volume 21, Issue 31, Date: August 21, 2009, Pages: 3210-3216

# **Batteries and supercapacitors**

Research efforts in the field are directed towards combinations of materials with high dielectric constant (for higher capacitance values) and high breakdown strengths (for the ability to sustain higher voltages). Alternatively, the effective surface area can be enhanced by using nanomaterials.



Enhancement of a capacitor performance by enhancing its surface area by using a ordered CNT backplane (a) Device structure (b) Comparison of capacitance of flat and CNT enhanced structures. Inset shows SEM images of the respective CNT arrays.

J.E. Jang et al. Applied Physics Letters, vol. 87, 2005, p. 263103



 (a) SWCNT random thin film (b) Ordered aligned array of SWCNTs, which have been compressed with liquid. (c) An array of freestanding pre-grown MWCNTs embedded in a cellulose matrix, resulting in a paper-like electrode. (d) An array of MWCNTs used as a scaffold to hold low conductivity but high capacitance MnO<sub>2</sub>.

# **Other applications**

- Interconnects and vias
  - Used to increase the current densities beyond that which can be achieved by copper without electromigration.  $5x10^{-12}$  A/cm<sup>2</sup>
  - Strong interest shown by Intel (Ireland)
- Sensors and resonators
  - Very good for their high aspect ratio and surface area to volume ratio
  - High aspect ratio and supersharp tips for Atomic Force Microscopes
  - Functionalized/non-functionalized networks of CNTs
  - Not necessarily limited to CNTs. Metal oxide nanowires are also candidates. Selectivity can be a problem
  - K. Jensen, K. Kim, A. Zettl, "An Atomic Resolution nanomechanical mass sensor" Nature Nanotechnology, 3, 533 (2008)



# **Other applications**

- Field emission
  - SEM/TEM sources explored because of high brightness and stable structure.
  - Arrays employed for microwave amplifiers and x-ray sources to provide high current density
  - Relatively small market size
- Transistors
  - Due to high carrier mobility, CNTs are potentially very promising candidates for high frequency operation.
  - IEMN and CEA are French groups working on this
  - Largely abandoned for standard electronics due to poor yield and device density
- Hydrogen Storage
  - Largely abandoned



# Roadmapping

- <u>Bulk applications</u>
- <u>C</u>oating applications
- <u>D</u>evice applications

Increasing Increasing Higher process Integration value complexity level added

Longer

to

develop

#### Balanced risk vs reward

| Applications                  | Processrisk | Integration risk | impact/value added |
|-------------------------------|-------------|------------------|--------------------|
| VLSI interconnects            | High        | High             | Very high          |
| Spintronics for data storage  | High        | High             | Very high          |
| Smart gas sensors             | Medium      | Medium           | Very high          |
| X-ray medical tubes           | Low         | High             | Very high          |
| Microwave tubes               | Low         | High             | High               |
| Lab-on-chip chemical analyser | Low         | Medium           | High               |
| Cell analyser                 | Low         | Medium           | High               |
| Supercapacitors               | Low         | Low              | Low                |
| Thermal management            | Low         | Low              | Low                |

Balance between various risks with regard to processing, integration and market impact.

# **Potential near-term applications**



Overview of the possible near-term applications of CNTs. Distance from the centre indicates relative time to market; position dictates the key issues that need to be addressed. Outside the circle, market penetration is the issue, where the proposed devices have yet to justify their application or replacement of an established competing technology.

### Working Group – last meeting Feb 17<sup>th</sup> 2010

### **Attendees:**

Mark Mann Bill Milne John Robertson Stephan Hofmann Ken Teo Jim McLaughlin Peter Boggild

**Contributors to new reports:** Meeting attendees plus **Pritesh Hiralal** Merlyne De Souza Manish Chhowalla Daping Chu Yan Zhang **Tim Wilkinson** Zahid Durrani JC Gabriel Vincent Derycke Andrew Briggs.

# CALL FOR PAPERS

# NanoCarbon 2010 Symposium

**Organized by:** 

Electrical Engineering Division, Engineering Department, University of Cambridge, *U.K* 

School of Electronic Science and Engineering, Southeast University, P.R. China

Nokia, *Finland* 

NanoICT, Spain



14<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> October 2010

Nanjing, P.R. China

# **NanoCarbon invited speakers**

- Sumio Iijima Director of the Research Center for Advanced Carbon Materials, National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology, Japan
- Bill Milne Head of the Electronics, Power and Energy Conversion Group, Engineering Department, University of Cambridge, U.K.
- Gehan A. J. Amaratunga Head of the Electronics, Power and Energy Conversion Group, Engineering Department, University of Cambridge, U.K
- Shoushan Fan Director of Department of Physics and Tsinghua-Foxconn Nanotechnology Research Centre, Tsinghua University, Beijing, P.R. China
- Alan Windle Department of materials and metallurgy, University of Cambridge, U.K
- Shuit Tong Lee Professor (Chair) of Materials Science, Department of Physics and Materials Science, City University of Hong Kong, 83 Tat Chee Avenue, Kowloon, Hong Kong
- Li-Chyong Chen Center for Condensed Matter Sciences, National Taiwan University, Taipei 106, Taiwan
- Xiaowei Sun School of Electrical & Electronic Engineering, Nanyang Technological University Nanyang Avenue Singapore 639798
- Sishen Xie Institute of Physics, Academician of Chinese Academy of Sciences, P.R. China
- Ravi Silva Director of the Advanced Technology Institute, University of Surry, U.K.
- **Didier Pribat** Laboratoire de Physique des Interfaces et des Couches Minces, CNRS UMR 7647, Ecole Polytechnique, F-91128 Palaiseau Cedex, France
- Arokia Nathan London Center for Nanotechnology, University College of London, London, UK.
- Lian-Mao Peng Key Laboratory for the Physics and Chemistry of Nanodevices and Department of Electronics, Peking University, Beijing, China
- Manish Chhowalla Head of the Nanomaterials and Devices Group, Department of Materials Science and Engineering, Rutgers University, USA
- **Zhongfan Liu** Center for Nanoscale Science & Technology and College of Chemistry and Molecular Engineering, Peking University, Beijing, China

# ITC 2011 Cambridge



Sponsored nanoICT session on carbon nanotubes in Cambridge, March 2011