

Summer School Sustainable nanosensors for water pollution detection Barcelona, April 15-17, 2024

Graphene derivatives and their applications by Michal Otyepka



Funded by the European Union



Classification of nanomaterials based on "dimensionality"



Taken from J. Nanobiotech. 20: 262 (2022)



2D materials

- Graphene 2004 by Novoselov and Geim
- Wide family of 2D materials
 - One element
 - graphene (C), phosphorene (P) ...
 - More elements
 - graphene derivatives graphane (C_xH_x), fluorographene (C_xF_x), graphene oxide
 - graphene analogs hBN
 - G-C₃N₄
 - MXenes (Ti₃C₂ ...)
 - transition metal chalcogenides (MoS₂ ...)
 - transition metal oxides and hydroxides (TiO₂, ... |
 - 2D zeolites
 - 2D MOFs, COFs



Band-gaps of 2D materials



2D materials are chosen for their experimental significance and demonstration, with depictions of a perspective view of their crystal structures. Arrangement is in accordance with their bandgap, guided by the bottom wavelength/bandgap scale, whereas the bar beneath each structure indicates bandgap range from bulk to monolayer. Typically, the bulk bandgap is smaller than that of its monolayer (black bars), but there are exceptions (red bars). 2D materials on the far left, indicated by a gray box, are zero or near-zero bandgap, metallic, or semimetallic.

npj 2D Materials and Applications 4, 29 (2020)



For applications and upscaling ...



Roughly, the size of an element's own niche ("I almost wrote square") is proportioned to its abundance on Earth's surface, and in addition, certain chemical similarities (e.g., Be and AI, or B and Si) are sug-

gested by the positioning of neighbors. The chart emphasizes that in real life a chemist will probably meet O, Si, Al, . . . and that he better do something about it. Periodic tables based upon elemental abundance would, of course, vary from planet to planet. . W.F.S.

NOTE: TO ACCOMMODATE ALL ELEMENTS SOME DISTORTIONS WERE NECESSARY, FOR EXAMPLE SOME ELEMENTS DO NOT OCCUR NATURALLY.

Abundance (atom fraction) of the chemical elements in Earth's upper continental crust



taken from Wikipedia



Carbon allotropes 2D

Carbon nanoallotropes

(i) 0D carbon nanostructures such as fullerenes, OLC structures, C-dots, and nanodiamonds, (ii) 1D nanoallotropes such as CNTs, carbon nanofibers, and SWNHs (although the latter are organized into 3D aggregates), and (iii) 2D nanoallotropes such as graphene, graphene nanoribbons, and few-layer graphenes

Chem. Rev. 2015, 115, 11, 4744-4822





Enhance/Introduce/Control

Water dispersibility Chemical functional groups Lateral size Keep conductivity

but

Graphene is quite chemically inert



Graphene functionalization



Biosens. Bioelectron., 166, 112436, 2020

CDs: carbon dots GO graphene oxide rGO reduced GO NP nanoparticle.

> Georgakilas V, Otyepka M, Bourlinos AB, Chandra V, Kim N, Kemp KC, Hobza P, Zbořil R, Kim KS: Functionalization of Graphene: Covalent and Non-Covalent Approaches, Derivatives and Applications. *Chem. Rev., 112(11), 6156-6214, 2012*.





Concentration, Δn , of induced charge carriers in single-

(A) Band structure of graphene and zoom-in of the energy bands close to the Dirac points. (B) Ambipolar electric field effect in single-layer graphene. (C) Position of the Dirac point and FL as a function of doping. The upper panel is ntype doped, pristine and p-type doped free standing graphene (a-c). The lower panel is n-type doped, pristine and p-type doped epitaxial graphene grown on silicon carbide (SiC) (d to f).

layer graphene exposed to different concentrations, *C*, of NO₂. (b) Changes in resistivity, , at zero *B* caused by graphene's exposure to various gases diluted in concentration to 1 ppm. The positive (negative) sign of changes is chosen here to indicate electron (hole) doping. (c) Constant mobility of charge carriers in graphene with increasing chemical doping. The parallel shift implies a negligible scattering effect of the charged impurities induced by chemical doping.

J. Mater. Chem., 2011, 21, 3335 (+ refs therein)





Early history of graphene functionalization

- 1859 Graphite oxide by Brodie
- 1957 Hummer's graphite oxide
- 2007 Graphene oxide
 - Stankovich S et al. Carbon 45, 1558 (2007)
- 2007 Graphane and Graphene fluoride predicted
 - Sofo JO et al. PRB 75, 153401 (2007)
- 2009 Graphane synthesized
 - Elias DC et al. Science, 323, 610 (2009)
- 2010 Fluorographene/G. fluoride prepared
 - Fluorination of graphene
 - Robinson JT et al. Nano Letters 10, 3001 (2010)
 - Cheng SH et al. PRB 81, 205435 (2010)
 - Mechanical exfoliation of graphite fluoride
 - Nair RR et al. Small 6, 2877 (2010)
 - Chemical exfoliation of graphite fluoride
 - Zbořil R et al. Small 6, 2885 (2010)



Chem. Eur. J. 25, 2019, 8955





Graphene oxide

- Prepared by oxidation of graphene/graphite + exfoliation, hydrophilic material, non-conductive
- Chemically very complex material





ChemNanoMat 4, 3, 224, 2018

Nature Communications 11, 1566 (2020)



Graphene functionalization

sp² carbons to sp³, decrease in conductivity depends on the element, DF, topography/arrangement, ...



ACS Nano 2013, 7, 8, 6434



Graphene functionalization

sp² carbons to sp³, decrease in conductivity depends on the element, DF, topography/arrangement, ...







Nano Lett. 2010, 10, 3001

J. Chem. Phys. 2012, 137, 034709



Graphene derivatives

- Noncovalent
 - Affecting properties of both graphene/adsorbate
 - Can be used for detection ...
- Covalent
 - Significant effect on properties band gap opening
 - Depend on element, degree of functionalization and topography



Fluorographene

Discovered in 2010

Mechanical exfoliation of graphite fluoride Nair RR *et al.* Small 6, 2877 (2010)

Chemical exfoliation of graphite fluoride Zbořil R *et al.* Small 6, 2885 (2010)

Fluorination of graphene Robinson JT *et al.* Nano Letters 10, 3001 (2010) Cheng SH *et al.* PRB 81, 205435 (2010)

Graphite fluoride is produced ~300 mt/y (Procedia Engineering 138, 240 (2016)) – industrial lubricant, electrode for primary Li



ACS Nano 7, 6434, 2013 Appl. Mater. Today, 9, 60, 2017



Properties of Fluorographene



ACS Nano 7, 6434, 2013 Appl. Mater. Today, 9, 60, 2017



Fluorographene is Reactive

Fluorinated graphene

Graphene

Fluorographene: A Two-Dimensional Counterpart of Teflon

Rahul R. Nair,* Wencai Ren, Rashid Jalil, Ibtsam Riaz, Vasyl G. Kravets, Liam Britnell, Peter Blake, Fredrik Schedin, Alexander S. Mayorov, Shengjun Yuan, Mikhail I. Katsnelson, Hui-Ming Cheng, Wlodek Strupinski, Lyubov G. Bulusheva, Alexander V. Okotrub, Irina V. Grigorieva, Alexander N. Grigorenko, Kostya S. Novoselov,* and Andre K. Geim*

A stoichiometric derivative of graphene with a fluorine atom attached to each carbon is reported. Raman, optical, structural, micromechanical, and transport studies show that the material is qualitatively different from the known graphene-based nonstoichiometric derivatives. Fluorographene is a high-quality insulator (resistivity > 10² Ω) with an optical gap of 3 eV. It inherits the mechanical strength of graphene, exhibiting a Young's modulus of 100 N m⁻¹ and sustaining strains of 15%. Fluorographene is inert and stable up to 400 °C even in air, similar to Teflon.

Nair et al., Small 6, 2878, 2010





Graphene Fluoride: A Stable Stoichiometric Graphene Derivative and its Chemical Conversion to Graphene

Radek Zbořil, František Karlický, Athanasios B. Bourlinos,* Theodore A. Steriotis, Athanasios K. Stubos, Vasilios Georgakilas, Klára Šafářová, Dalibor Jančík, Christos Trapalis, and Michal Otyepka*

Stoichoimetric graphene fluoride monolayers are obtained in a single step by the liquid-phase exfoliation of graphite fluoride with sulfolane. Comparative quantum-mechanical calculations reveal that graphene fluoride is the most thermodynamically stable of five studied hypothetical graphene derivatives; graphane, graphene fluoride, bromide, chloride, and iodide. The graphene fluoride is transformed into graphene via graphene iodide, a spontaneously decomposing intermediate. The calculated bandgaps of graphene halides vary from zero for graphene bromide to 3.1 eV for graphene fluoride. It is possible to design the electronic properties of such two-dimensional crystals.

Zbořil et al., Small 6, 2885, 2010

$\mathsf{CF}+\mathsf{KI}\to\mathsf{KF}+[\mathsf{CI}]\ ;\ [\mathsf{CI}]\to\mathsf{C}+{}^{1\!\!}_{2}\mathsf{I}_{2}\quad (180\ ^{\circ}\ \mathsf{C})$







Fluorographene Reactivity



Appl. Mater. Today, 9, 60, 2017 Nanoscale, 10, 4696, 2018



Reaction control by solvent





Reaction control



J. Phys. Chem. Lett. 9, 3580, 2018



 $\textbf{FG + NaCN} \rightarrow \textbf{G-CN}$



ACS Nano 11, 2982, 2017



$\textbf{FG + NaCN} \rightarrow \textbf{G-CN}$







Table S2. The binding of Cu(II) cations to G-CN in various solvents. The structures, selected bond lengths (Å), binding energies (kcal mol⁻¹), spin density plots (contour value: 0.001), atomic spin, and natural charge densities (a.u.) on the copper atom of model R-CN-Cu(II) systems were computed at the U-B3LYP/6-31+G(d)/SMD level of theory. The structures were obtained via constrained geometry optimizations at the same level of theory (see text for details on the constraints).





^bThe values in parentheses were determined via Mulliken population analysis. Adv. Mater. 31(17), 1900323, 2019



$\textbf{FG + NaCN} \rightarrow \textbf{G-CN}$



ACS Nano 11, 2982, 2017



BE: -28.0 kcal/mol







$\textbf{FG + NaCN} \rightarrow \textbf{G-CN}$



ACS Nano 11, 2982, 2017







Enzymes use binuclear Cu(I)/Cu(II) sites for O₂ activation





$FG + NaCN \rightarrow G-CN$



Binding Energy (eV)

ACS Nano 11, 2982, 2017

Adv. Mater. 31(17), 1900323, 2019



$G-CN + HNO_3 \rightarrow G-COOH$

Cyanographene to Graphene Acid

70 nm





$G-CN + HNO_3 \rightarrow G-COOH$

Cyanographene to Graphene Acid

dilution

z-av Dh=225 nm

PDI = 0.23

1000

GCE GCE/GO

0.4

- GCE/G-COOH

0.6

29

D_{vol}=222 nm D____=128 nm

--- Intensity

-- Volume

-- Number

100 Hydrodynamic diameter (nm)

0.0

-0.2

0.2

Potential vs. Ag/AgCI (V)

10





$G-CN + HNO_3 \rightarrow G-COOH$

Functionalization of Graphene Acid





G-COOH + NH₂-R



ACS Nano 11, 2982, 2017

Binding Energy (eV)





ACS Sustainable Chem. Eng., 8, 4764, 2020



SC-GN3 synthesis via chemistry of fluorographene





SC-GN3 material is highly N-doped (16 at. %) graphene-related material synthesized from graphite fluoride via wet chemistry in one step.

After synthesis purification steps are needed.



SC-GN3 powder and example of 50 g packing of purified product.



Reaction scheme, XPS, MS-NMR, and FTIR characterization of SC-GN3.



SC-GN3 is N-doped graphene

combines graphene-type layers with tetrahedral C-C bonds and high nitrogen doping (16 at. %), thermally stable to 400 °C+, scalable synthesis











Supercapacitor

Energy storage mechanism is a physical process of ion accumulation on electrode material + electrolyte ion separation

Quick and reversible charging/discharging

Applications: requiring many rapid charge/discharge cycles (circuit protection, combined with batteries for recuperation etc.)

Capacitor discharged

Capacitor charged



Operational principle of electrostatic double-layer capacitors (EDLCs)



The PAT-Core **SC-GN3 testing** Upper plunger (-) (current collector) Upper electrode (-) (18 mm diameter) Insulation sleeve (with separator and ring reference electrode) Lower electrode (+) (18 mm diameter) Lower plunger (+) (current collector)

SC-GN3 is mixed with binder, electrodes are prepared.



Scheme of El-Cell used for testing (figures taken from el-cell.com).





4.5

4.0

3.5

3.0

2.5

2.0

1.5

1.0

0.5

0.0 -

Voltage (V)





GCD profiles and supercapacitor performance comparison of commercial porous high surface area carbon materials and Ndoped graphene (at 2 A g^{-1}).

Energy and power density of SC-GN3 at increasing specific currents. SC-GN3 delivers energy densities of 200 Wh L⁻¹ at a power of 2.6 kW L⁻¹ and 143 Wh L⁻¹ at 52 kW L⁻¹.

porous carbon (PC) from ACS Material (0.3 g cm⁻³, 2000 m² g⁻¹ according to N₂ BET) and YP-80F Kuraray carbon (KC) (0.6 g cm⁻³, 2363 m² g⁻¹ according to N₂ BET



SC-GN3



GCD profiles and supercapacitor performance comparison of commercial porous carbon materials and N-doped graphene.



Stability of GN3 showing the GCD profiles at the beginning, mid-point, and end of a 10,000 cycle test.



SC-GN3



GCD profiles and supercapacitor performance comparison of commercial porous carbon materials and N-doped graphene.

- 1. Angewandte Chemie International Edition 58, 2397–2401 (**2019**).
- 2. Nature Communications 5, 5554 (**2014**).
- 3. Nano Energy 2, 764–768 (**2013**).



Current state-of-art comparison.

- 4. Science 341, 534–537 (**2013**).
- 5. Energy Environ. Sci. 9, 3135–3142 (**2016**).
- 6. Nature Nanotechnology 10, 313–318 (2015)



Comparison - State of the art

Science 350, 1508–1513 (2015)

Nitrogen-doped mesoporous carbon of extraordinary capacitance for electrochemical energy storage

Few-layer Carbon

2000 m²/g, 22 Wh L⁻¹



Ni/Few-layer carbon

ACSNANO <u>9, 3, 2556–2564 (2015)</u>

Hierarchical Porous Nitrogen-Doped Carbon Nanosheets Derived from Silk for Ultrahigh-Capacity Battery Anodes and Supercapacitors

2494 m²/g, N: 4.7%, 0.5 g/cm³



45 Wh L⁻¹

Science 350, 1508–1513 (2015) Anomalous Increase in Carbon

Capacitance at Pore Sizes Less Than 1 Nanometer



Science 332, 1537–1541 (2011) **Carbon-Based Supercapacitors Produced by Activation of Graphene**

3100 m²/g, 0.34 g/cm³ 0.34 g/cm³ ession 0.74 g/cm³ npr 48 Wh L⁻¹

 $26 \text{ Wh } \text{L}^{-1}$

Nano Energy, 2, 764 (2013)

COMMUNICATIONS Nat. Commun., 2014, 5, 5554 Holey graphene frameworks for highly efficient capacitive energy storage



Science 341, 534–537 (2013)

Liquid-Mediated Dense Integration of **Graphene Materials for Compact Capacitive Energy Storage**



 $0.7 \, g/cm^3$

nature

energy Nat Energy 5, 160–168 (2020)

Tuning the interlayer spacing of graphene laminate films for efficient pore utilization towards compact capacitive energy storage

300 m²/g, 1 g/cm³











+ trans2Dchem -





(=)





EP 3907184 PCT/CZ2021/050016 En. Environ. Sci. 15, 740, 2022





Background and characterization

- highly and covalently sulfurized graphene cathode
- exploiting the nucleophilicity of polysulfide anions and the electrophilic centers in fluorographene
- Sulfur chains are immobilized by covalent bonding to graphene







GPS: C–F at ~1200 cm⁻¹ decreased (i.e., defluorination) 1580 cm⁻¹ band emerged (graphene lattice formation).

The new band at ~1150 cm⁻¹ demonstrates the development of covalent C–S bonds.



Lithium-Sulfur Batteries (LSB)

- a promising alternative for energy storage
- high theoretical capacity (1672 mAh g⁻¹) and specific energy (2600 Wh kg⁻¹)
- sulfur is environmentally friendly and a key byproduct of the petroleum industry
- several bottlenecks hamper the practical development of the LSBs
 - sulfur's poor conductivity
 - large volume change
 - "shuttling effect" of lithium polysulfides (PSs), formed during the charge/discharge process. The dissolution of Li-PSs into the liquid electrolyte leads to low Coulombic effciency, poor sulfur utilization, fast capacity fading, and other parasitic reactions with the Li anode.



From: Energy Storage Materials 20, 55-70, 2019



Electrochemical performance of the graphene-polysulfide cathode

High electrochemical reversibility for more than 50 cycles at 0.1 C (167 mA g⁻¹)

- Alkylhalide-like and elegant chemistry of fluorinated carbon matrices exploitation
- Effective pathway for the development and study of previously unexplored cathode materials for LSBs.
- ✓ Electrochemical cycling of the sulfurized-graphene material against lithium exhibited top-rated performance with only 5 wt. % of conductive additives and at low temperature of 25 °C



Supported by ERC PoC



EP 3978431 Tantis et al. Adv. Funct. Mater. **2021**, 2101326



Biosensors – general overview







Graphene based (bio)sensors

- Noncovalent functionalization
 - functionalized anchor (e.g., based on pyrenebutyric acid)
 - Risk of leakage/disintegration
- Covalent functionalization
 - Graphene oxide

 - Great water dispersibilityEnables covalent functionalization
 - Complex chemistry
 - Nonconductive
 - Standardization challenge
 - Reduced Graphene oxide
 - Conductivite
 - Limited water dispersibility
 - Hard covalent functionalization
 - Fluorographene derived graphene derivatives
 Precise chemistry

 - Reasonable conductivity





ChemNanoMat 4, 244, 2018





Biosensors – Detection of antibiotic ampicillin



Highlights

- using click chemistry, an aptamer is immobilized and used as a platform for the selective determination of antibiotic ampicillin in real samples
- detection limit of 1.36 nM eight-fold lower than the European maximum residue limits in milk (4 μg L–1)
- the storage stability of 4 weeks, high selectivity among other antibiotics



Real sample detection. B) Voltammograms were recorded in different samples. C) Bar chart of the current response in different samples.



Biosensors – Inkjet Printing







Impedance_{real} (kΩ)



Biosensors & Bioelectronics 256, 116277, 2024







Nanoscale 10, 4696, 2018 J. Phys. Chem. Lett. 9, 3580, 2018 ACS Sustainable Chem. Eng., 8, 4764, 2020

Appl. Mater. Today, 9, 60, 2017 [refs therein]



Graphene derivatives based on fluorographene chemistry





Graphene derivatives based on fluorographene chemistry



graphene-derivatives.com



Applications explored in our labs for graphenederivatives

Adv. Mater. 2019, 31, 1900323 Green Chemistry 2019, 21, 5238 Chem. Sci. 2019, 10, 9438 ACS Appl. Mater. Interfaces 2020, 12, 250 Adv. Mater. Int. 2021, 2001392 Small 2021, 17, 2006477 Nature Commun. 2023, 14, 1373

Biosens. Bioelectron, **2020**, 166, 112436 ACS Omega **2019**, 4, 19944 Biosens. Bioelecron. **2017**, 89, 532 Biosens. Bioelecron. **2021**, 195, 113628 Green Chem. **2023**, 25, 1647 Small **2023**, 19, 2207216

Antibacterial mat.; Adv. Sci. 2021, 2003090

Sensing

Nano-bio interface

maitre

Environment

Detox-monitoring

ACS Nano 2021, 15, 3349

Small 2022, 18, 2201003

Spin control Magnetism

pyridinic-graphene

Batteries

Nat. Commun. 2017, 8, 1 ACS Nano 2018, 12, 12847 Nat. Commun. 2018, 9, 1 Adv. Mater. 2019, 31, 1902587 ACS Appl. Mater. Interfaces 2020 12, 34074, 2020

200 Wh

- Al

Fe^{2+/3+}

erc

erc

erc

Supercaps

Adv. Mater. 2018, 30, 1705789 Adv. Funct. Mater. 2018, 28, 1801111 Adv. Fun. Mater. 2019, 27, 1906998 Chem. Mater. 2019, 31, 4698 J. Mater. Chem. A 2020, 8, 25716 Adv. Mater. 2021, 33, 2004560 Env. En. Sci. 2022, 15, 740

Adv. Funct. Mater. **2021**, 2101326 *Adv. Energy Mater.* **2022**, *12*, 2103010



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Program **Gama**





GRAPHENE ACID CARBOXYLATED GRAPHENE

lent graphene derivative bearing carboxyl groups on both sides of the id behaves as a 2D carboxylic acid with pKa of 5.2









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