Mid-Atlantic Technology, Research & Innovation Center



National Institute of Standards and Technology U.S. Department of Commerce

### Multifunctional Carbon Nanomaterials

Dr. Nolan Nicholas MATRIC, Inc. 2/28/2011

> CNST Center for Nanoscale Science & Technology

### "Multifunctional"

•What is "multifunctional"?

•What does multifunctionality have to do with nanomaterials?



- Weight Savings
- Space Savings
- Redundant Cost Savings



#### **Approaches to Multifunctionality**

#### Adaptive Reconfiguration

Changes properties dynamically
Performs each function as needed (not all at once)

Shape ChangeConductivity ChangeMechanical Properties Change

### Approaches to Multifunctionality "Metamaterials": Architecture Driven Properties

•Materials properties driven by geometric construction rather than bulk aggregation

 Manipulate the topology of the relevant fields within the architecture
 Optics – Electrodynamic Fields
 Mechanical – Stress/Strain Fields

### Carbon Nanomaterials The Carbon Bond



# Multifunctionality from Carbon Nanomaterials

Carbon Properties ~Diamondoid/alkane : Graphene/Alkene: Alkyne

Mechanical

•Thermal

•Electrical

•Chemical

Nano/Microstructure Modification
 Polymers (e.g. polyurethane)
 Ceramics

- •Metals (e.g. aluminum)

High performance density⇒
 Function miniaturization

 Diverse functionality from diverse allotrope structures

•Matrix phase structure modification

#### Nanocomposites: "Percent Contributions"

1% content ⇒ 99% effect
 •conductive CNT networks
 •graphene gas barriers
 •resonance enhanced coupling

~25,000 times volume ratio

•Two origins

•Geometric dimensionality (1D networks in 3D, 2D barriers, etc.)

•Resonance, field modification, periodicity & coherent wave effects

#### Nanoarchitectures: Percolated Networks & Stacked Platelets



http://www.physorg.com/news10408.html



http://parkafm.com/jp/AFM\_image\_gallery

Low degree of architectural order
Distinctive properties dictated by average proximal connection between nano-objects

Percolated networks:
 Field transmission (electrical, thermal, mechanical stress)

Stacked platelets:
Tortuosity (molecular permeability, crack propagation,)
Overlap provides property propagation (e.g. Conductivity)

#### Nanoarchitectures: Pillars & Layers

 "Pillared graphene"
 High Strength
 High Conductivity (electrical & thermal)
 High surface area



10.1021/nl801417w

10.1021/nn102308r

Structural Energy Storages
Hydrogen Storage
Battery & Supercapacitor Electrodes

5.0kV

(c)

#### Nanoarchitectures: Spacefilling Frames

#### Spaceframe

- Architecturally driven properties
- Decoupled variables
- •High surface area
- Large free volume





#### Courtesy Rick Barto - LMCO

 Structural Energy storage
 Structural actuator materials

•Continuously graded materials (e.g. Stiff to soft)

Nolan Nicholas; MATRIC Research; unpublished

### Decoupled Variables vs. Fortuitously Coupled Variables

•Fortuitously coupled variables: you get what you get – hopefully you like it

•The key issue is how to recognize when such couplings are present

•Decoupled variables: menu item selection...

•The key is how to optimize a multidimensional parameter problem

#### **Example Systems & Opportunities**

- "Mechanical Plus"
  - •Electrical Conductivity (both highly conductive and static bleed)
  - Thermal Conductivity
  - •Sensor
  - Energy Harvesting/Storage
  - Vibration Damping
  - •Gas Barrier
- Actuation & "Smart" Materials
- •Environmentally Responsive & "Smart" Materials
- •BioMedical Materials
- Epoxy Curing & Adhesive Interfaces
- •Graded Materials
- •Damage Protection (thermal, chemical, UV, etc.)

#### Structural Energy Storage

•Aircraft fuel fractions around 30% are typical of modern jet aircraft

•19.7% of weight "around town" Nissan Leaf electric car is in its power system



**DOI:** 10.1021/nl801417w



doi:10.1016/j.jpowsour.2008.09.082

#### **BioMedical Materials**

High StrengthEnhanced BiocompatibilityTherapeutic Delivery

- Drug Release Materials
  - graphene oxide
  - nanodiamond
- Biocompatible implants & scaffolds







10.1016/j.ijbiomac.2010.01.006

#### Gas Barrier



- Graphene impermeability
- Nanoplatelet tortuosity
- Material Stress Field & Gas Solubility



#### 10.1021/cm100477v

#### Simultaneous enhancements in

- Mechanical Strength
- •Electrical & Thermal Conductivity
- In-Situ Sensing



#### Nanocomposite Protection



#### **Actuators & Smart Materials**

- Smart/adaptive materials provide adaptive multifunctionality
- •CNTs have been observed to have extraordinarily high electro-actuation properties
- Adaptive thermal-conductivity nanomaterials could provide passive optimization of clothing & device insulation





#### **In-Situ Sensors**

1.25 104

1.24 10<sup>-4</sup>

1.23 104

1.22 104

1.2 10-4

1.19 10.4

1.18 104

1.17 1044

1.21 10 4 💆

4

3



### Achieving Multifunctionality: Multi-Property Optimization

- Topological optimization
- Integrated system optimization
- •Weighted optimization problem in multidimensional space



http://www.civil.jhu.edu/rese arch-highlights



# Achieving Multifunctionality: Multiparameter Measurement



# Mid-Atlantic Technology, Research & Innovation Center

#### **About MATRIC**

MATRIC is a 501(c)(3) non-profit research and development corporation

- -Reinvest earnings in new research
- -Expertise in R&D commercialization from ideation through production
- -Offices in Charleston (WV), Morgantown (WV) and Oak Ridge (TN)

#### •Expertise in

- •Biomass fuels & products
- Fossil fuels & products
- •Environmental technologies
- •Polymer synthesis & processing
- •Nanomaterials
- Separations technologies
- Catalysis
- •Agricultural Sciences
- •Biomedical Device Development
- •Cellular & Immunological Research
- •Aerospace Software & Systems Engineering