

# Nanoparticles as sorbents in analytical processes

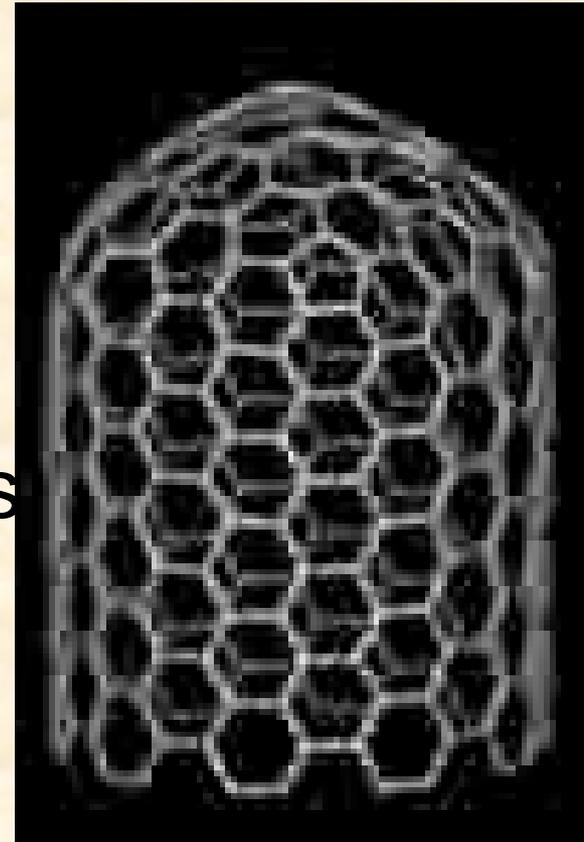
Alina C. Ion\*, Ion Ion\*, Thomas C. Voice\*\*

\*University Politehnica of Bucharest,  
Romania

\*\*Michigan State University, USA

# Presentation Overview

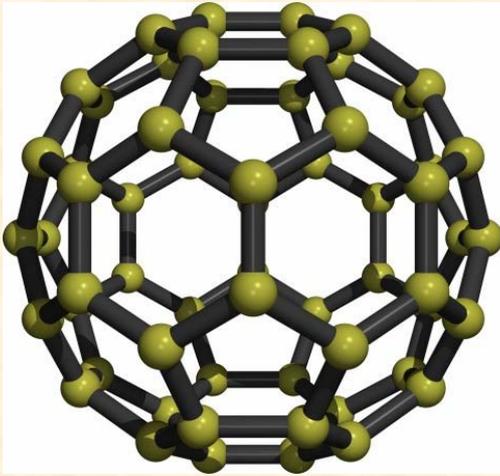
- Definition
- History
- Properties
- Current Applications
- Manufacturing Techniques
- Future Applications
- References



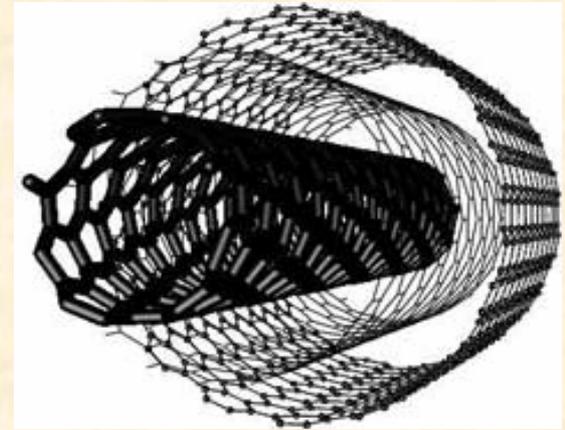
# Important History

- 1991 Discovery of multi-wall carbon nanotubes by S. Iijima
- 1992 Conductivity of carbon nanotubes  
J. W. Mintmire, B. I. Dunlap and C. T. White
- 1993 Structural rigidity of carbon nanotubes  
G. Overney, W. Zhong, and D. Tománek
- 1993 Synthesis of single-wall nanotubes by S Iijima and T Ichihashi
- 1995 Nanotubes as field emitters  
By A.G. Rinzler, J.H. Hafner, P. Nikolaev, L. Lou, S.G. Kim, D. Tománek, P. Nordlander, D.T. Colbert, and R.E. Smalley
- 1997 Hydrogen storage in nanotubes  
A C Dillon, K M Jones, T A Bekkendale, C H Kiang, D S Bethune and M J Heben
- 1998 Synthesis of nanotube peapods B.W. Smith, M. Monthieux, and D.E. Luzzi
- 2000 Thermal conductivity of nanotubes  
Savas Berber, Young-Kyun Kwon, and David Tománek
- 2001 Integration of carbon nanotubes for logic circuits  
P.C. Collins, M.S. Arnold, and P. Avouris
- 2001 Intrinsic superconductivity of carbon nanotubes  
M. Kociak, A. Yu. Kasumov, S. Guéron, B. Reulet, I. I. Khodos

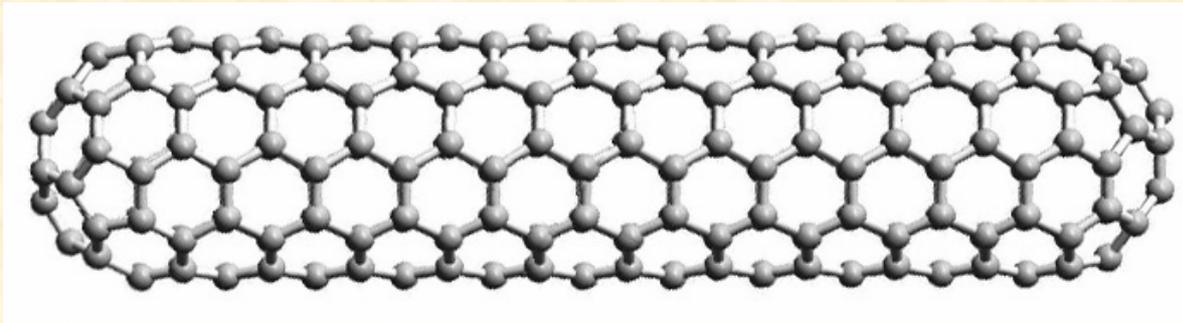
# Carbon nanostructures



C<sub>60</sub>

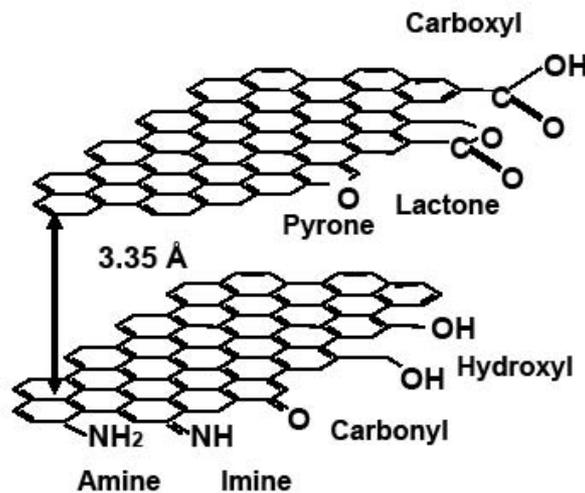


MWCNT



SWCNT

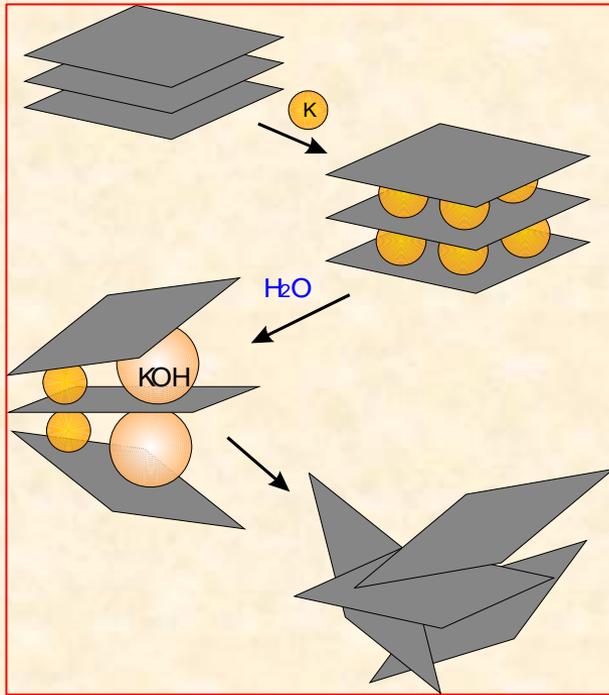
# Graphite Nanoplatelets (xGnP\*)



\* xGnP = Exfoliated Graphite Nano Platelets

- Layered Natural Mineral
- Layers can be intercalated with alkalis, acids, salts, etc. and exfoliated into nanosize platelets with high aspect ratio
- Basal Plane is a graphene sheet and inert ( $sp^2 + \pi$ )-identical to the wall of a carbon nanotube
- Existence of functional groups at the edges can lead hydrogen or covalent bond with polymer matrix
- xGnP + Polymer = Nanocomposite  
*property improvement expected:*  
mechanical, electrical, thermal and barrier properties

# Graphite Nanoplatelets



Schematics of Graphite Nanoplatelet

- Exfoliation tremendously increases total surface area of graphite
- Exfoliated nanoplatelets have aspect ratio of 100 ~1000 and are ideal for increasing mechanical properties
- Nanoplatelets increase conductivities

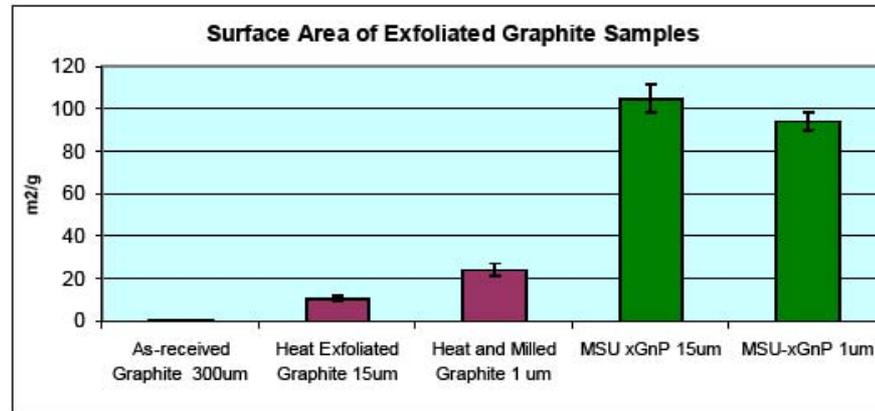
# Processing

- Uniform dispersion of nanoplatelets
  - Ex-situ exfoliation: magnetic stirring and sonication
  - In-situ exfoliation: surfactants
- Degassing at an elevated temperature to remove air
- Curing followed by post curing

# Comparison of nanoreinforcement properties

	<i>Exfoliated Clay</i>	<i>Carbon Nanotube VGCF</i>	<i>Exfoliated h-BN BN Nanotubes</i>	<i>Cellulose Nanowhisker</i>	<i>xGnP-Graphite NanoPlatelets</i>
<i>PHYSICAL STRUCTURE</i>	Platelet ~1nm x 100nm	Cylinder NT ~1nm X 100nm VGCF ~20nm X 100um	Layer	Needle-Whisker	Platelet ~1nm X 100nm
<i>CHEMICAL STRUCTURE</i>	SiO <sub>2</sub> , Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> , MgO, K <sub>2</sub> O, Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	Graphene (chair, zigzag, chiral)	Boron Nitride	Cellulose	Graphene
<i>INTERACTIONS</i>	Hydrogen bond Dipole-Dipole	π - π	Hydrogen bond	Hydrogen Bond	π - π
<i>TENSILE MODULUS</i>	0.17 TPa	NT 1.0-1.7 TPa VGCF 0.25-0.5 TPa	~1 TPa	~ 130 GPa	~1.0 TPa
<i>TENSILE STRENGTH</i>	~1 GPa	(NT 180 GPa) VGCF 3-7 GPa	?	10 GPa	~(10-20 GPa)
<i>ELECTRICAL RESISTIVITY</i>	10 <sup>10</sup> – 10 <sup>16</sup> Ω cm	NT ~ 50 x 10 <sup>-6</sup> Ω cm VGCF 5-100 x 10 <sup>-3</sup> Ω cm	insulator	10 <sup>10</sup> – 10 <sup>16</sup> Ω cm	~ 50 x 10 <sup>-6</sup> Ω cm    ~ 1 Ω cm <sup>⊥</sup>
<i>THERMAL CONDUCTIVITY</i>	6.7 x 10 <sup>-1</sup> W/m K	3000 W/m K (NT) 20-2000 W/m K (VGCF)	~3000W/m K	insulator	3000 W/m K    6 W/m K <sup>⊥</sup>
<i>COEF. THERMAL EXP.</i>	8 – 16 x 10 <sup>-6</sup>	-1 x 10 <sup>-6</sup>	~1 x 10 <sup>-6</sup>	8 – 16 x 10 <sup>-6</sup>	-1 x 10 <sup>-6</sup>    29 x 10 <sup>-6</sup> ⊥
<i>DENSITY</i>	2.8 – 3.0 g/cm <sup>3</sup>	NT 1.2 – 1.4 g/cm <sup>3</sup> VGCF 1.8-2.1 g/cm <sup>3</sup>	~2.0 g/cm <sup>3</sup>	1.5 g/cm <sup>3</sup>	~2.0 g/cm <sup>3</sup>

# BET Surface Area and Thickness of xGNPs



	BET Surface Area (m <sup>2</sup> /g)	Diameter(um)	Thickness (nm)	Aspect Ratio (d/t)
As-received	0.2	300	5172.4	58.0
Heat Exfoliated Graphite	10.5	15	96.5	155.5
Heat Milled Graphite	24	1.1	45.1	24.4
MSU xGnP	105	15	9.5	1573.0
MSU xGnP	94	0.86	10.9	78.8

From ESEM

Theoretically calculated

# Adsorption of Organic Contaminants from Solution to xGNPs

## Batch Adsorption/Desorption Study:



**xGNPs large  
aggregates**

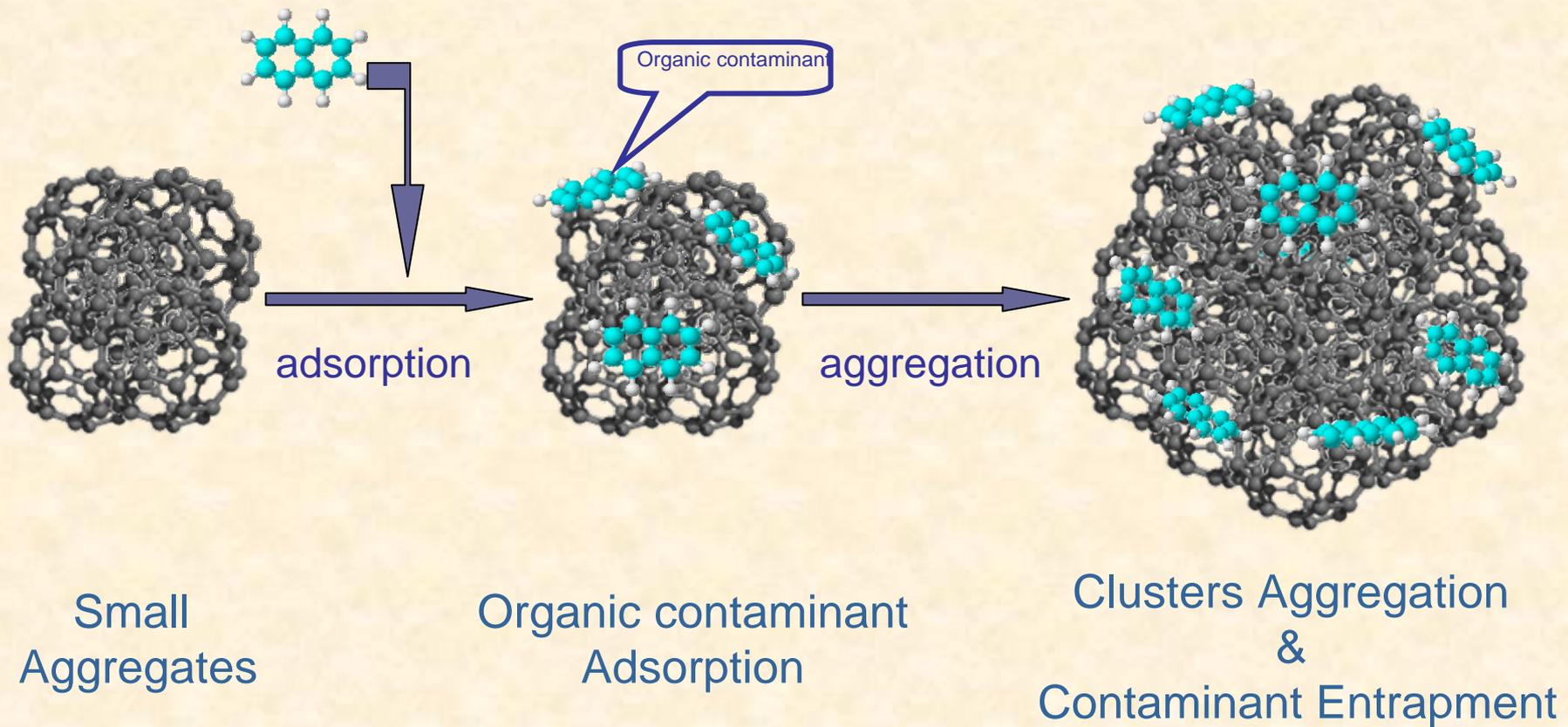


**xGNPs small  
aggregates**



**xGNPs colloidal  
particles**

# What Happened During Adsorption?



# Fate of Contaminants Adsorbed to xGNPs (original results)

## Will the sorption and desorption of organic compounds to xGNPs particles cause enhanced environmental contaminant transport?

Table 1. Concentration of xGNPs in NOM solutions and mass of NOM bound to unit mass of xGNPs

C xGNPs, mg/L	q <sub>e</sub> SR-NOM	q <sub>e</sub> humic acid	q <sub>e</sub> fulvic acid
100	1.59	1.33	1.06
200	0.93	0.65	0.55
300	0.64	0.40	0.39
400	0.50	0.29	0.30

Fig. 4. Langmuir of adsorption of phenol and equilibrium adsorption uptake q<sub>e</sub> (mg/g) in the presence of NOM (50 mg/L) in aqueous solutions containing 400 mg/L xGNPs

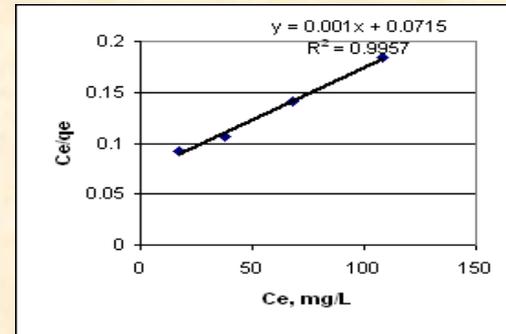


Table 2. Effect of the concentration of the xGNPs in the solution on the percentage removal of phenol

C <sub>xGNPs</sub> , mg/L	C <sub>i,phenol</sub> , mg/L	C <sub>r,phenol</sub> , mg/L	% removal
100	400	190.56	52.36
200	400	160.01	60.01
300	400	140.38	64.90
400	400	90.97	72.25

Table 4. Percentage removal (% removal) of phenol and equilibrium adsorption uptake q<sub>e</sub> (mg/g) in a 10 mg/L concentration of NOM in aqueous solutions containing 400 mg/L xGNPs

C <sub>i,phenol</sub> , mg/L	C <sub>e,phenol</sub> , mg/L	% removal	q <sub>e</sub> , mg/g
100	20.56	79.85	187.45
200	40.25	79.87	347.28
300	59.60	80.13	488.52
400	91.19	77.20	701.28

**Sorption of organic contaminants to xGNPs particles is the same as to soil organic matter and to activated carbon. When xGNPs particles migrate, contaminant transport will be enhanced.**

## The sorption capacity of various sorbents for phenol at optimum pH values (original results)

Sorbent	Phenol, $q_e$ , mg/g
Activated carbon	720
Activated sludge	236.8
Fly ash	3.85
S. muticum	4.6
Rice husk	42.2
Bentonite	1.712
Present work	702

# Properties Enhancements and Applications with xGNPs

- Mass reduction (low density, low concentration);
- Increased stiffness (high aspect ratio);
- Increased toughness (engineered interfacial adhesion);
- Electrical conductivity;
- Thermal conductivity;
- Improved appearance;
- Surface conductivity (controlled deposition and alignment);

# Expected Risks

- Provides the information needed to assess whether this risk is substantial for nanoparticles disposed of in groundwaters.
- Yields the necessary parameters to understand the fate of engineered nanoparticles in the environment.
- Yields the necessary parameters for future development of risk assessment of the engineered nanoparticles.

# References

M. Valcarcel et al., Trends in Anal. Chem., 27(1), 2008, 34-43

D. Lin, B. Xing, Environ. Sci. Technol., 42, 2008, 7254-7259

H. Hiung, J. D. Fortner, J.B. Hughes, J.H. Kim, Environ. Sci. Technol., 41, 2007, 179-184