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Multifunctional carbon nanotube composite fibers: Properties and electronic textile applicationsJ.A. Benedicto¹, R. Marcilla², E. Azaceta³, A. Seral-Ascaso¹, E. García-Bordejé¹, M. Laguna⁴, V.L. Cebolla¹, R. Garriga⁵, E. Muñoz^{*1}¹*Instituto de Carboquímica ICB-CSIC, Spain*, ²*Institute IMDEA Energy, Spain*, ³*IK4-CIDETEC, Spain*, ⁴*Universidad de Zaragoza-CSIC, Spain*, ⁵*Universidad de Zaragoza, Spain*

Remarkable progress in the fabrication of carbon nanotube composite fibers has resulted through the development of the wet-spinning technique pioneered by Vigolo *et al.* [1] This process implies the fabrication of gel fibers as a result of the collapse of surfactant-stabilized carbon nanotube dispersions when injected into a coagulation bath. When dried, those gel fibers become solid fibers with high carbon nanotube contents (≥ 50 wt.%), significantly higher than those achieved by other fiber spinning technologies, such as melt-spinning or electrospinning.

We here report how this wet-spinning method provides carbon nanotube composite fibers with tunable properties, which mainly depend on the composition of the coagulation bath used. Polymers including polyvinyl alcohol (PVA) [2-5] and polyethylenimine (PEI) [6] have been here investigated as coagulants.[7] Remarkable transport-, supercapacitor- and electrochemical actuation properties are demonstrated for these coagulation wet-spun fibers, that can be woven into fabrics and therefore offer promise for a variety of electronic textile applications [2-4].

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