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# A green approach to the edge functionalization of graphene layers with a bio-based 2-pyrone

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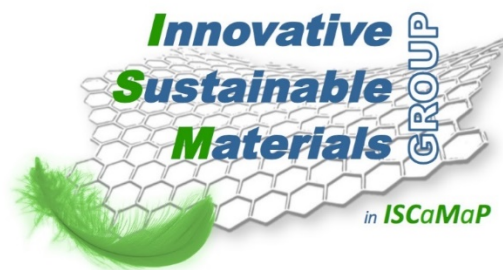
*IX Workshop AICIng*

*June 16-17, 2022*

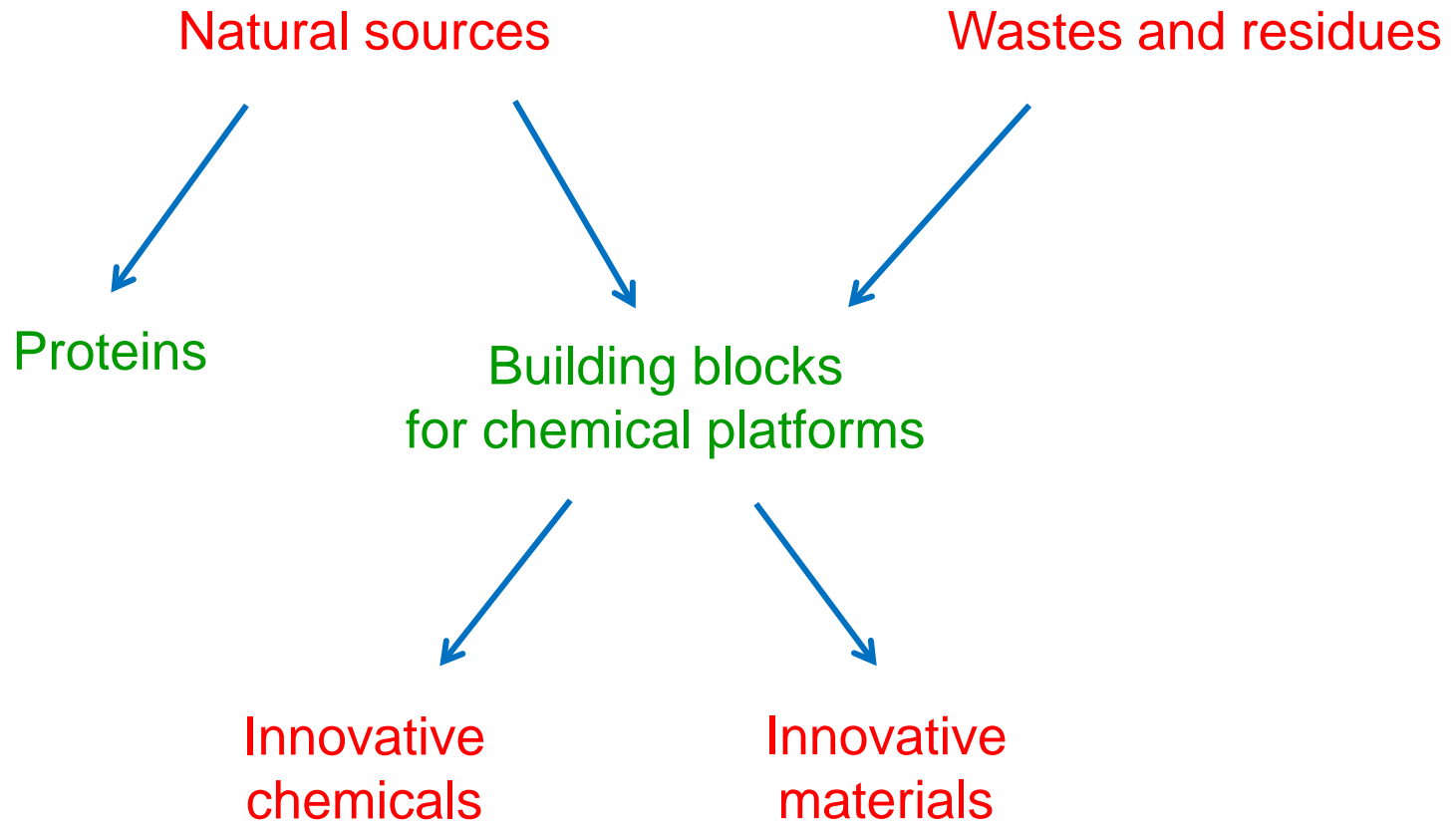


## **ISCaMaP**

*Innovative **S**ustainable **C**hemistry and **M**aterials and **P**roteins Group*



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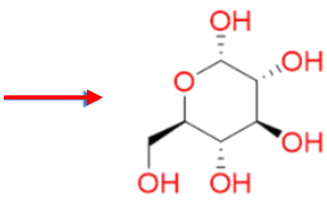


👉 Chemicals, Additives, Modifiers, Polymers

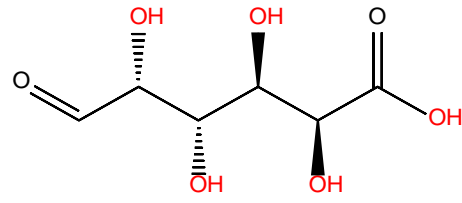
# C6 building block: Sugars from hydrolyzed biomass



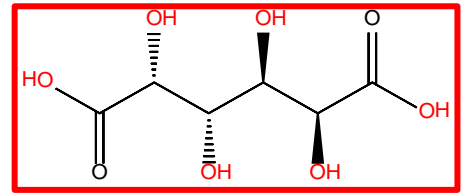
**Arundo Donax**



**D-Glucose**



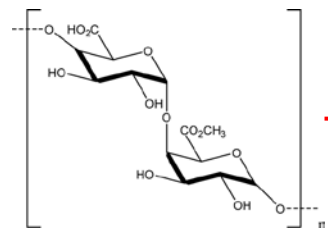
**D-Glucuronic Acid**



**Mucic Acid  
Or  
Galactaric Acid**



**Orange Peels**



**Pectin**

☞ Symmetrical structure: achiral

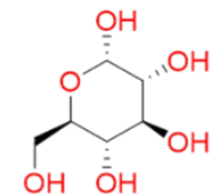
☞ Platform molecule

☞ Not toxic, Biocompatible

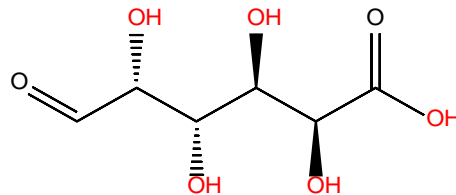
# C6 building block: from polysaccharides to pyrone compounds



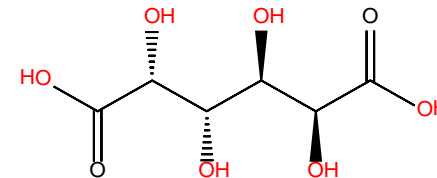
Arundo Donax



D-Glucose



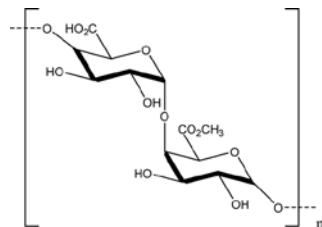
D-Glucuronic Acid



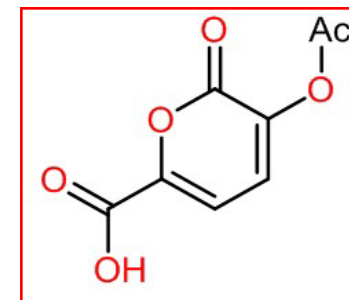
Mucic Acid



Orange Peels



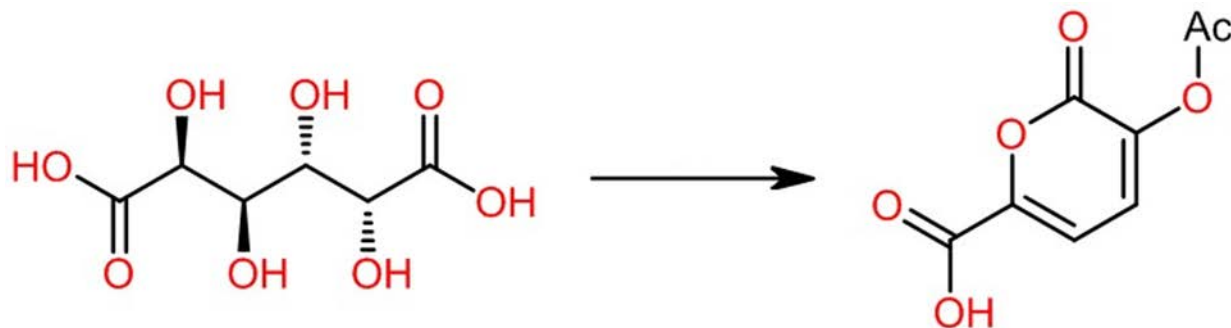
Pectin



2-pyrones

# Synthesis of Pyrone Derivatives from Galactaric Acid

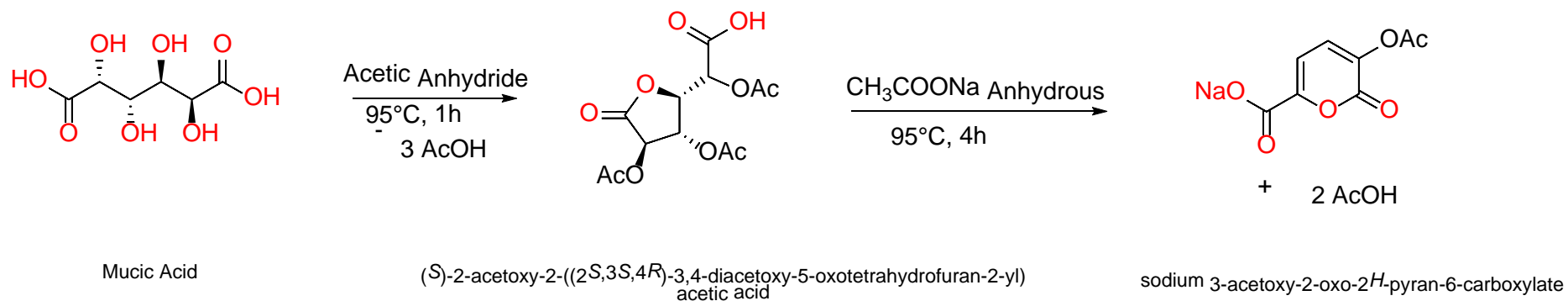
The strategy



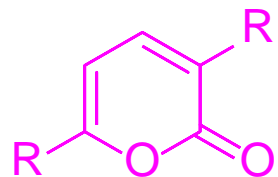
- ➡ Easy procedure
- ➡ No solvent
- ➡ High Conversion

# Synthesis of Pyrone Derivatives from Galactaric Acid

Reaction scheme for the synthesis of sodium 3-acetoxy-2-oxo-2*H*-pyran-6-carboxylate (Pyr-Na)



Yield  
up to 76%

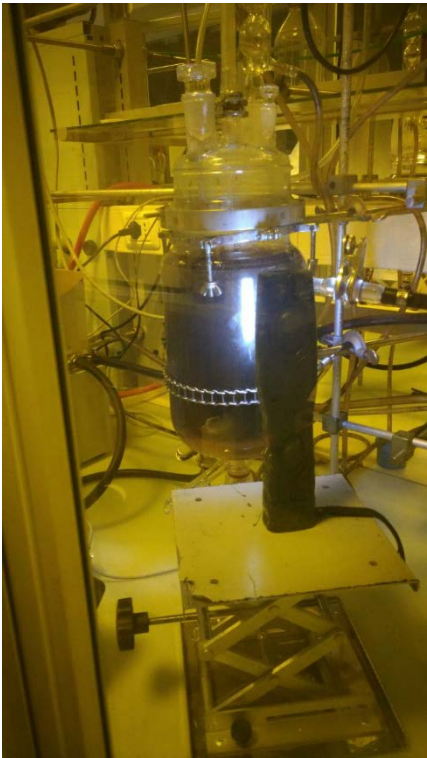


# Synthesis of Pyrone: Scale Up





# Synthesis of Pyrone: Scale Up

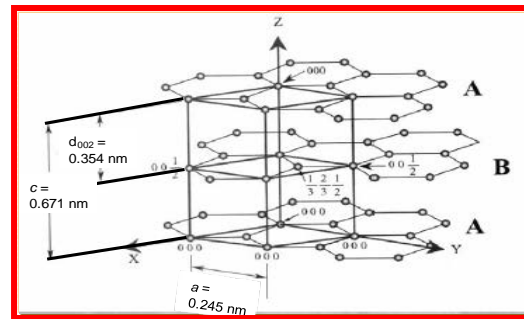
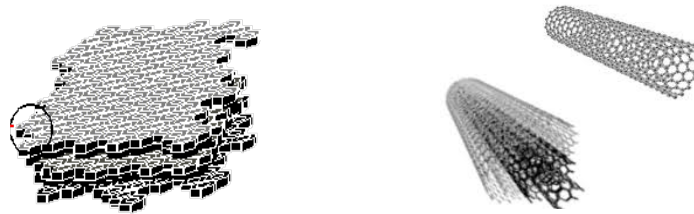


One Pot  
4 hours  
Yield = 75%



300 gr

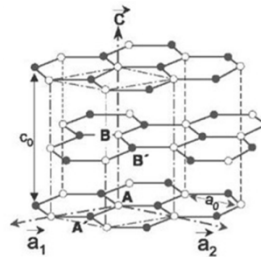
# Functionalization of $sp^2$ carbon allotropes



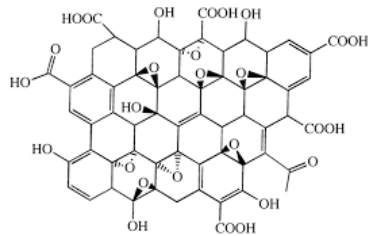
# Functionalization of graphene layers

Facile preparation of graphene layers and graphene layers with controlled functionalities is a *Holy Grail* in the field of materials chemistry.

## Suitable approach

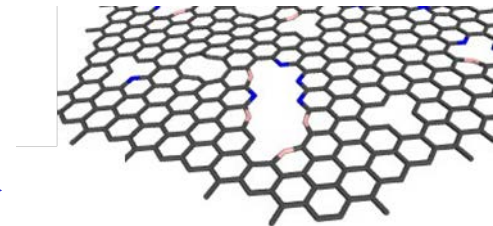


**GO**



**C  $sp^3 \gg sp^2$**

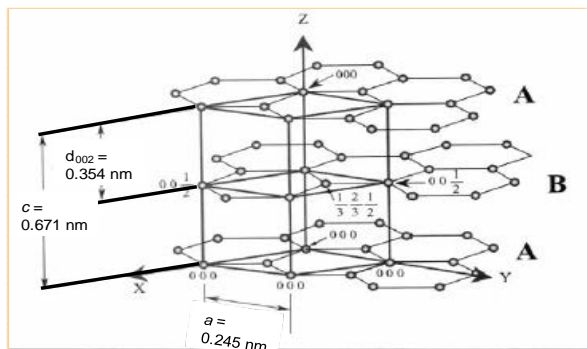
**CRGO**



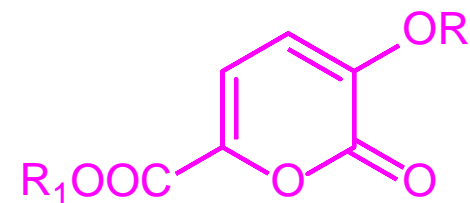
**C  $sp^2 \gg sp^3$**

# Functionalization of graphene layers

HSAG



Pyrones  
(Pyr)



+

HSAG

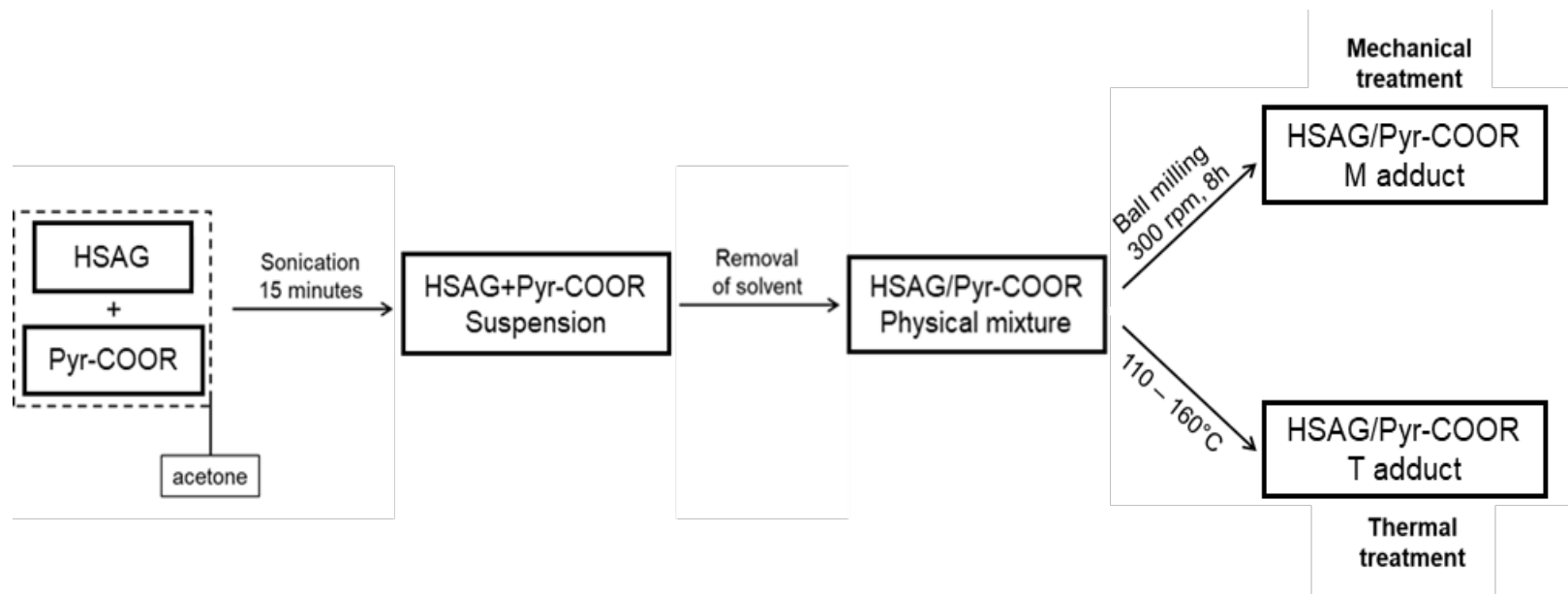
=

High Surface Area Graphite  
(300 m<sup>2</sup>/g)

Main objective

To introduce oxygenated functional groups on HSAG  
without altering the bulk crystalline structure of the graphitic substrate

# Preparation of adducts of Pyrone with HSAG



## Adducts were analyzed through:

1. TGA
2. FT-IR spectroscopy
3. WAXD
4. HRTEM
5. Raman

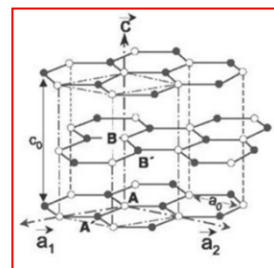
V.Barbera, A. Citterio, M. Galimberti, R. Sebastiano, G. Leonardi, J LI – Italian patent application 2019

F.Margani, M. Magrograssi, M. Piccini, L. Brambilla, V.Barbera, M. Galimberti, – ACS Sustainable Chemistry & Engineering 10, no. 13 (2022): 4082-4093.

# Preparation of Adducts of Pyrone with HSAG – Degree of functionalization

Sample	Yield % <sup>a</sup>
HSAG-P/M	85
HSAG-P/T 110°C	81
HSAG-P/T 130°C	83
HSAG-P/T 150°C	82
HSAG-P/T 160°C	91

(a) Determined via TGA

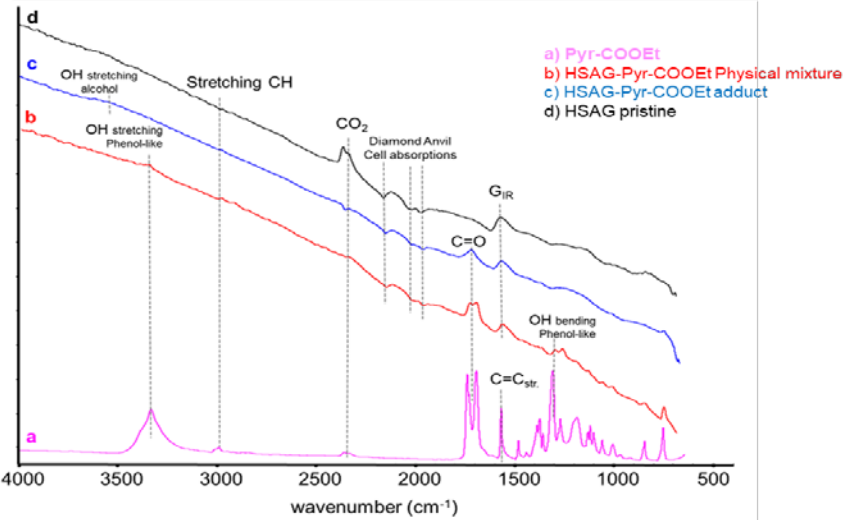


↓ Increasing temperature

➤ Thermogravimetric Analysis (TGA) reveal a high degree of functionalization

$$\text{Yield} = \frac{\text{mass of the adduct after filtration}}{\text{mass of the mixture}} * 100\%$$

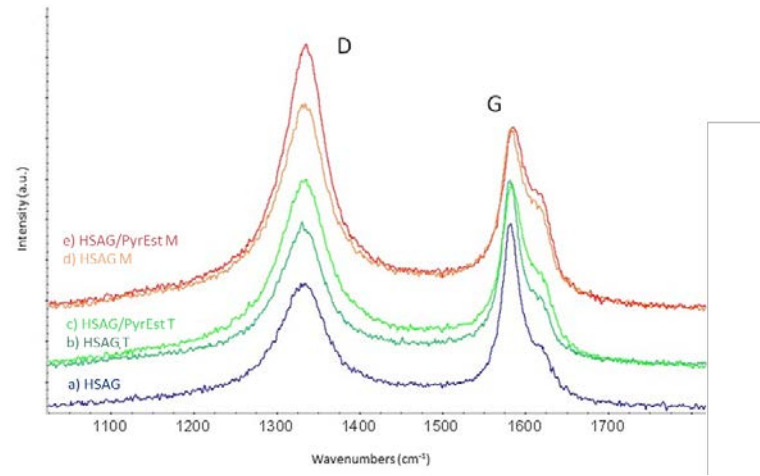
# Characterization of Adducts – FT-IR and Raman



In the spectra of HSAG/ Pyr-COOEt adducts a new signal at 1729 cm<sup>-1</sup> appears.

➤ IR findings support the formation of HSAG/Pyr adduct

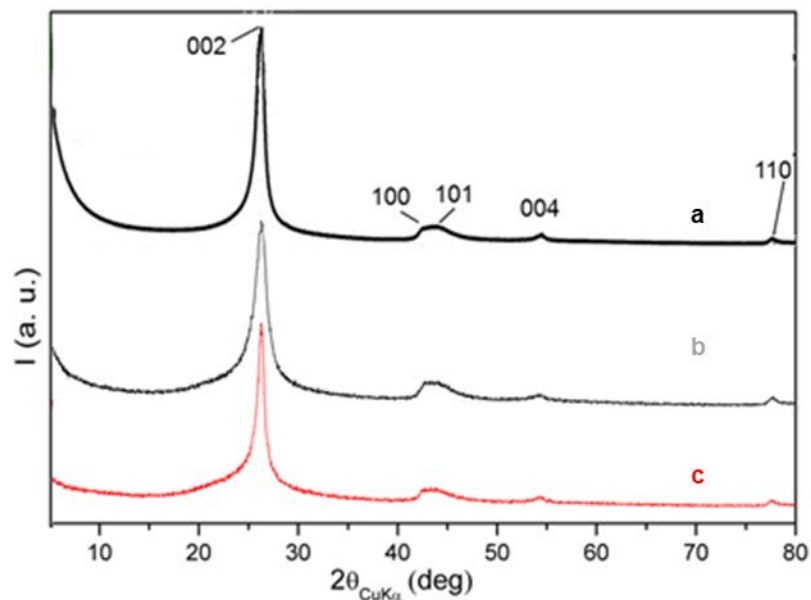
Sample	I <sub>D</sub> /I <sub>G</sub>
HSAG	1.21
HSAG T	1.19
HSAG/PyrEst T	1.47
HSAG M	1.58
HSAG/PyrEst M	1.83



➤ Substantially unaltered bulk structure



# Characterization of Adducts – WAXD



- a) HSAG
- b) HSAG/Pyr-COOEt-M
- c) HSAG/Pyr-COOEt-T160°C

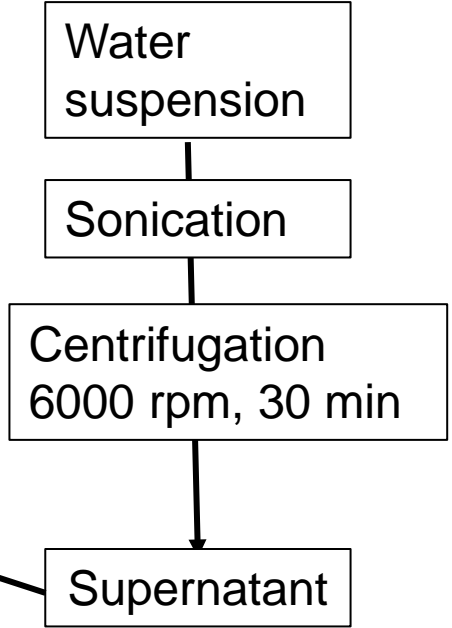
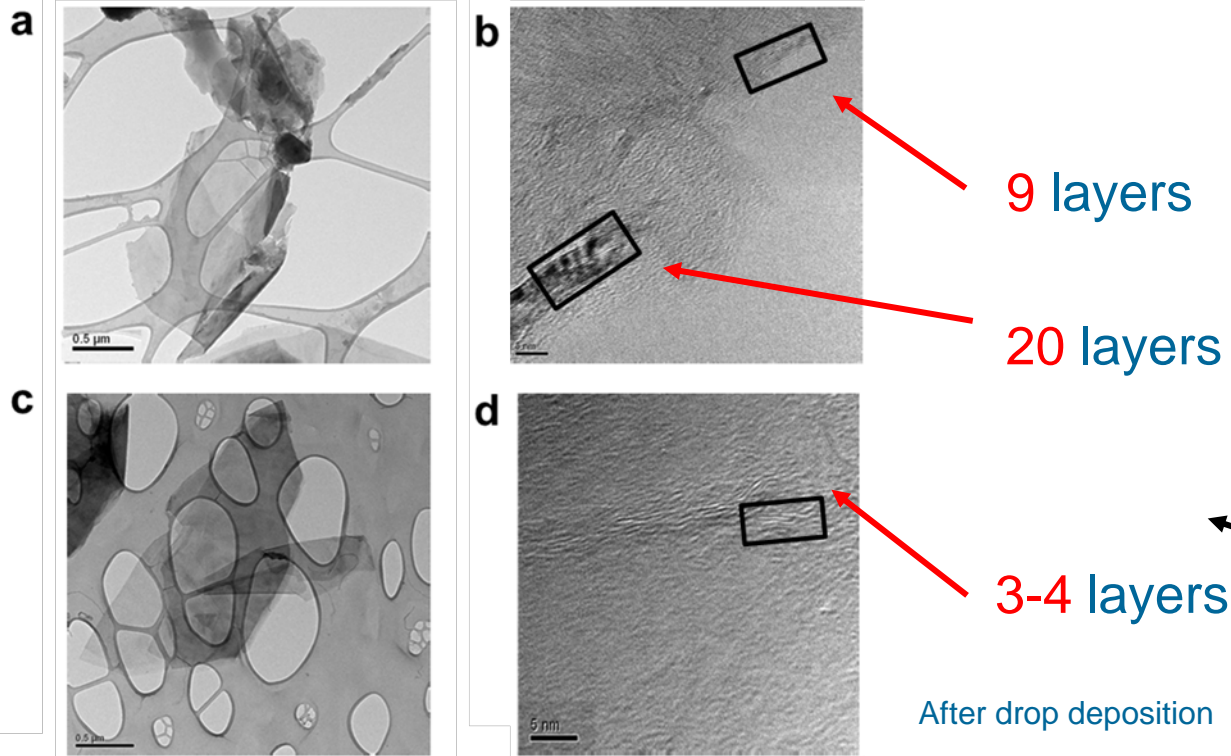
Sample	number of layers
HSAG	35
HSAG-P/M	21
HSAG-P/T 160°C	31

- No expansion of the interlayer distance
- Unaltered in **plane order**
  
- Edge (peripheral) functionalization of graphene layers



# Characterization of Adducts – HRTEM

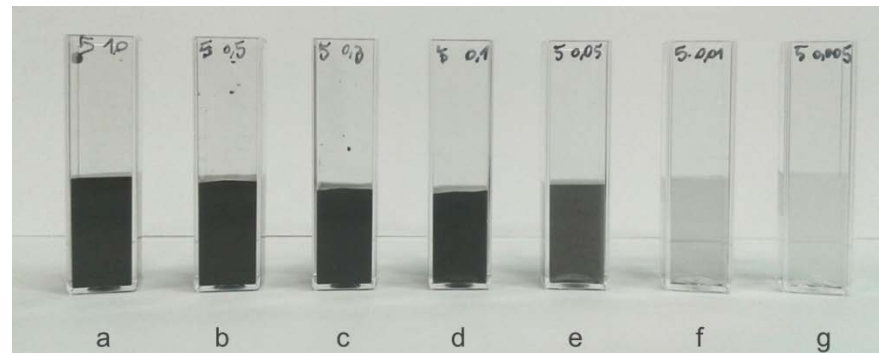
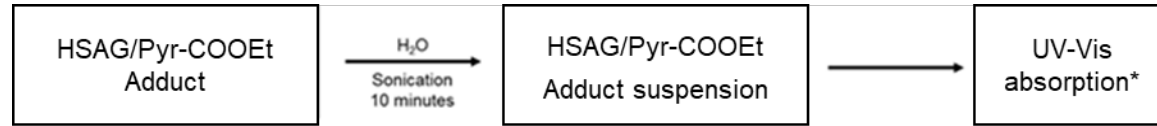
## HSAG-P/T 160°C adduct



## HSAG-P/M adduct

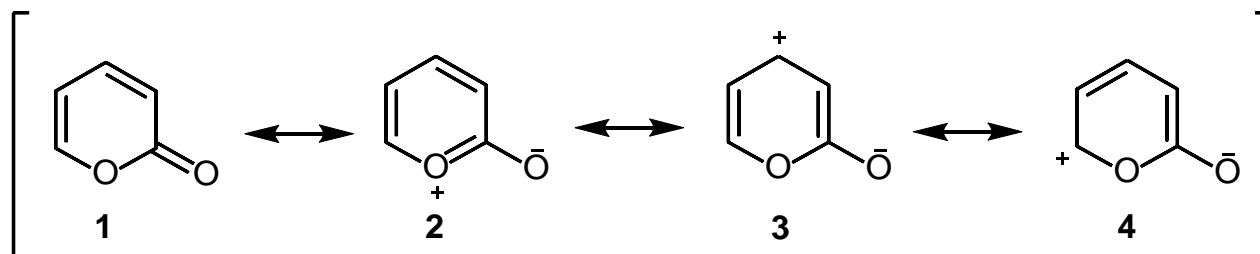
➤ Exfoliation to few layers graphene

# Water suspensions of HSAG adducts with PyrEst

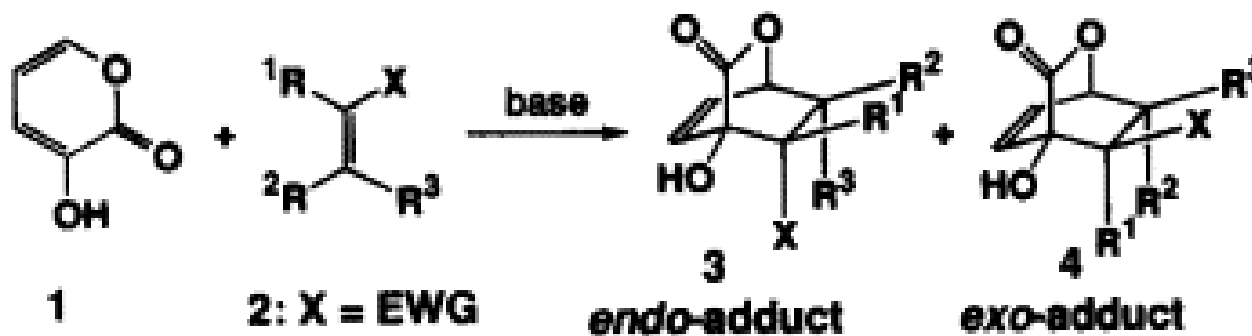


- Stable water suspension, even after 1 week

# What about the mechanism?

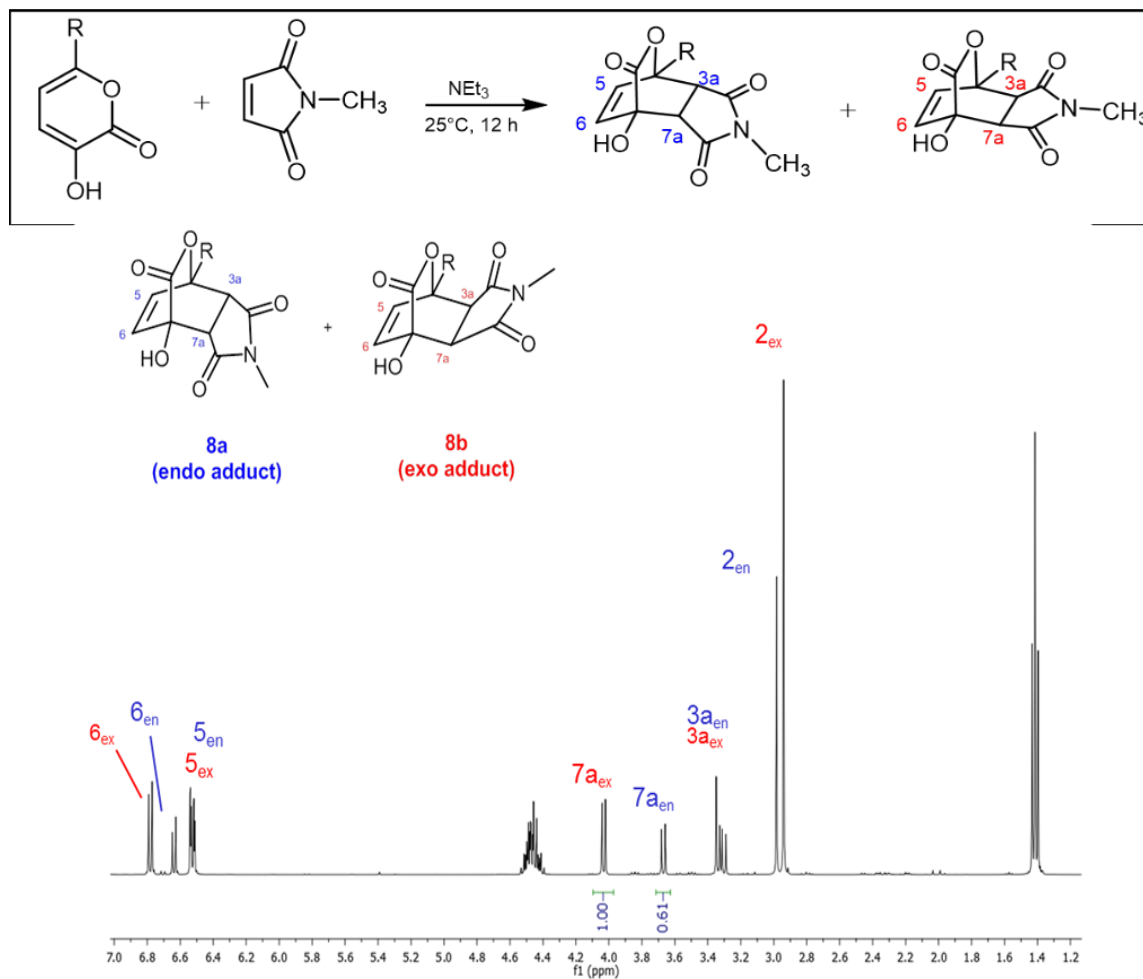


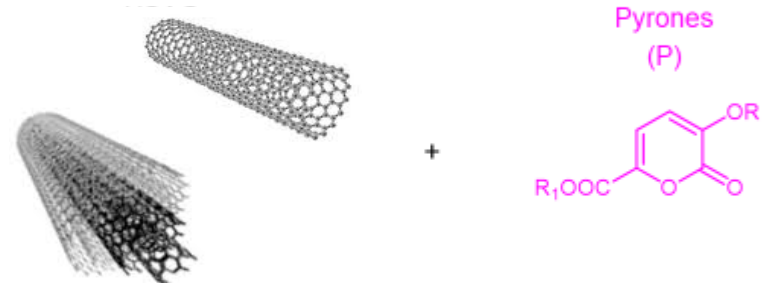
2-pyrone is able to act as diene in Diels Alder reactions



# Pyrone compounds as functionalizing molecules for $sp^2$ carbon allotropes

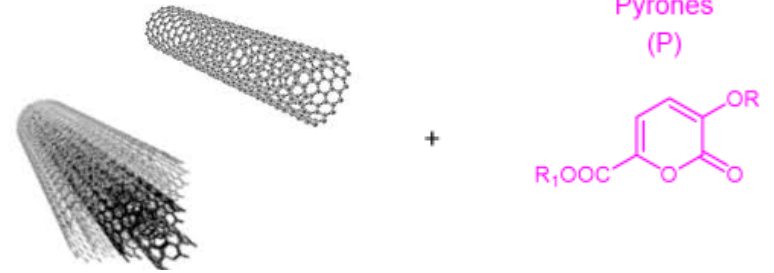
Model reaction: 5-hydroxy-6-oxo-6H-pyran-2-carboxylic acid ethyl ester (Pyr-Est)  
with a dienophile such as *N*-methylmaleimide





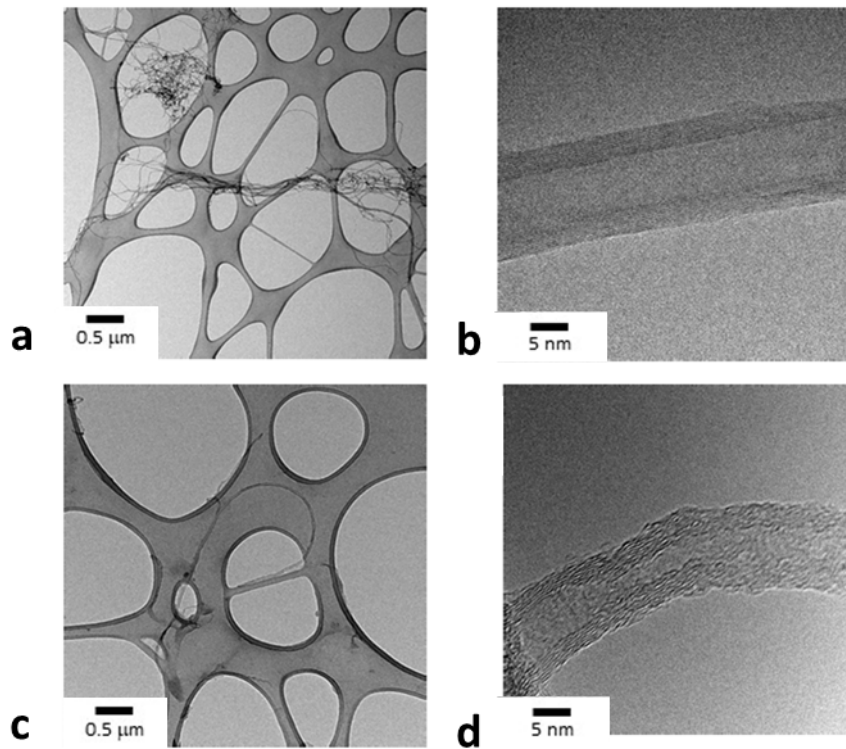
### Main objective

To introduce oxygenated functional groups on HSAG, CNT and CB without altering the bulk crystalline structure of the graphitic substrate



**Main objective**

To introduce oxygenated functional groups on HSAG, CNT and CB without altering the bulk crystalline structure of the graphitic substrate



Pristine CNTs

CNTs/Pyr





- Introduction of oxygenated functional group onto the carbon allotropes
- Very high yield of the modification, even about 91%
- Edge (peripheral) functionalization of graphene layers
- Exfoliation in water suspension
- Stable water dispersion

## Bio-Edge GO

Versatile platform for the preparation of further derivatives

ACS  
Sustainable  
Chemistry & Engineering

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Research Article

### Facile Edge Functionalization of Graphene Layers with a Biosourced 2-Pyrone

Fatima Margani,<sup>†</sup> Martina Magrograssi,<sup>†</sup> Marco Piccini, Luigi Brambilla, Maurizio Galimberti,<sup>\*</sup> and Vincenzina Barbera<sup>\*</sup>

Cite This: ACS Sustainable Chem. Eng. 2022, 10, 4082–4093

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Supporting Information

**ABSTRACT:** Edge functionalization of graphene layers is of great interest in the field of materials chemistry: the properties of graphene are substantially unaltered and its compatibility and chemical reactivity with various environments can be tuned. In this work, edge functionalization of graphene layers was performed with a 2-pyrone, ethyl 3-hydroxy-2-oxo-2H-pyran-6-carboxylate (Pyr-COOEt). 2-Pyrones are C-6 unsaturated heterocyclic sugar derivatives and are intriguing building blocks for the preparation of innovative chemical structures. Sodium 3-acetoxy-2-oxo-2H-pyran-6-carboxylate was prepared starting from mucic acid, in a one-pot synthesis with a yield of about 74%, and was then transformed into the acid and then into ethyl ester derivatives. The





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