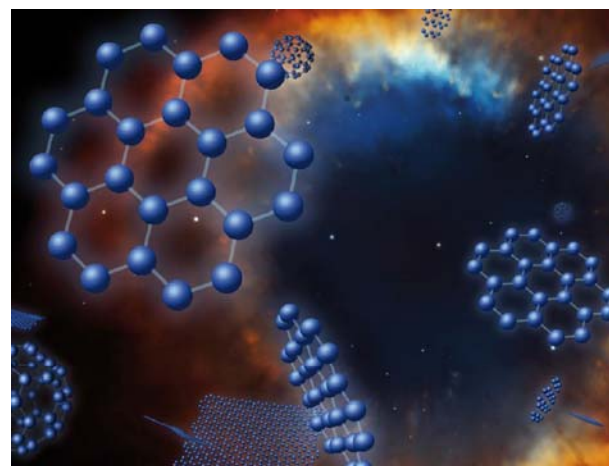


# Multifunctional Graphene Polyimide Nanocomposites

**Mitra Yoonessi, Matthew A. Dittler, Daniel Scheiman,  
Marisabel Lebron-Colon, James Gaier, John Peck,  
Michael A. Meador**

**Ohio Aerospace Institute, Cleveland, OH  
NASA Glenn Research Center, Cleveland, OH  
ASRC, Cleveland, OH**



**Graphene in Space**, NASA's Spitzer Space Telescope has spotted the signature of flat carbon flakes, called graphene, in space

# Nanotechnology Engineered Materials and Structures

## Light Weight Materials

- Multifunctional

-Adaptive Materials

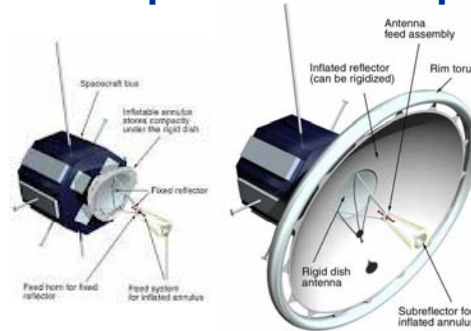
-Self Healing Materials

Development of nanostructured materials 50% lighter than conventional materials with equivalent or superior properties

### Reduced Vehicle Mass



Boeing 787 composite aircraft  
Copper mesh 4000 lb of weight

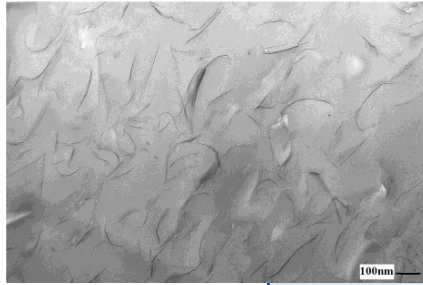


NGST 1/2-scale Sunshield Demonstration Model Deployment,  
Cadogan, D. P. et al.



hour sonication.

Administration

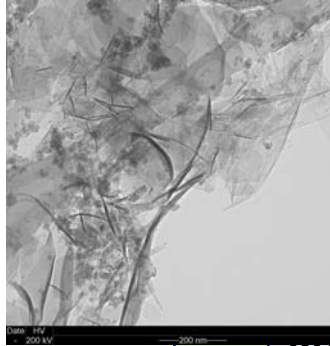
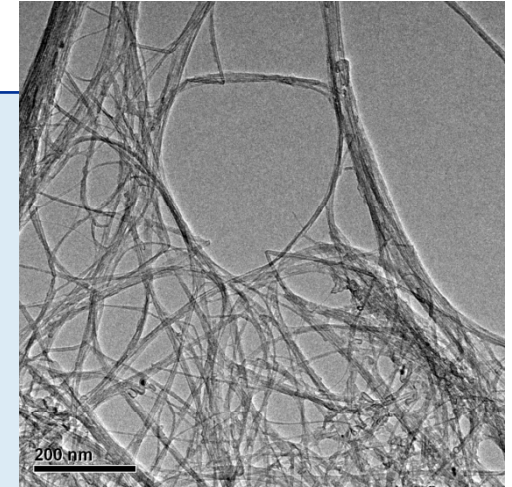


## Carbon Nanotubes:

SWCNT - Iijima 1991

~ 1315 m<sup>2</sup>/g

DCNT ~ 700-800



## Graphite and Graphene – Giem 2004

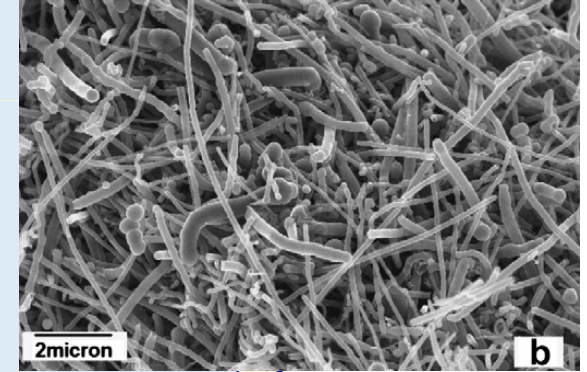
Graphene ~ theoretical: 2600 m<sup>2</sup>/g, 700- 1300 m<sup>2</sup>/g

## Carbon nanofibers

## Alumina silicates – Fukushima, Toyota 1987

Montmorillonite ~ 725 m<sup>2</sup>/g

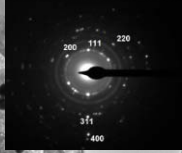
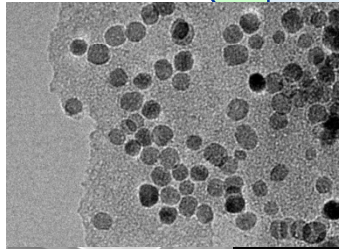
Magadiite, Laponite, Vermiculite



## Magnetic Nanoparticles

Organometallic physical crosslinkers

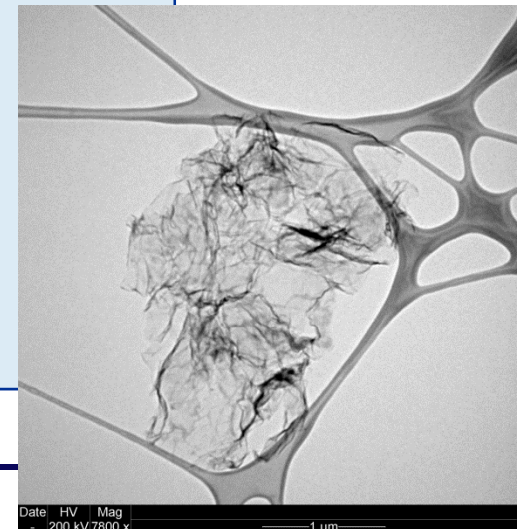
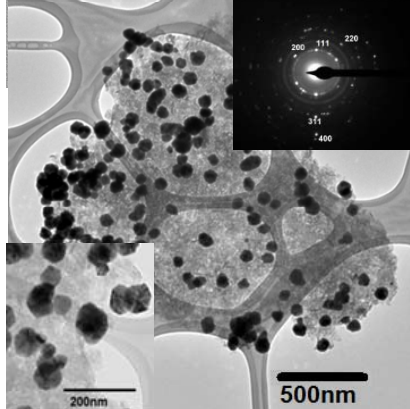
## Cross

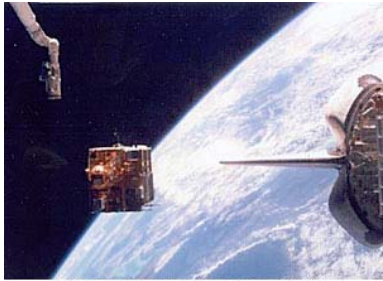


## Composite Nanoparticles

Graphitic graphene

oxide graphene





Space Administration

# Polyimide High Performance Polymer



PMR-15 - GRC  
After burner

## Satellite

### Aromatic polyimide:

- Low color
- Flexibility
- High thermal stability
- Dimensional stability
- Low dielectric constant
- High  $T_g$
- Radiation resistance
- Low coefficient of thermal expansion



## General Ind.

Stiffness and modulus  
and reinforcement

Actuation  
and morphing

Electronics  
and packaging



Quartz fabric-polyimide 815 °C

Electrical performance  
and EMI shielding

Thermal performance  
and stability



Continuous operating  
range between  
-65 °C to +357 °C

- Space
- Aero
- Electronics

<sup>1</sup>Qu,L., Connell, J.W., Sun, Y.-P., Macromolecules, 2004, 37, 6055-6060.

<sup>2</sup>Lebron-Colon, M. Meador, M. A., Gaier, J. R., Sola, F., Scheiman, D.A., McCorkle, L.S. ACS Applied Materials and Interfaces, 2010, 2 ,3 , 669-676 .

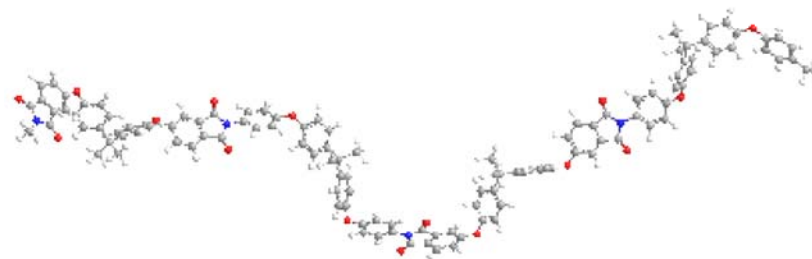
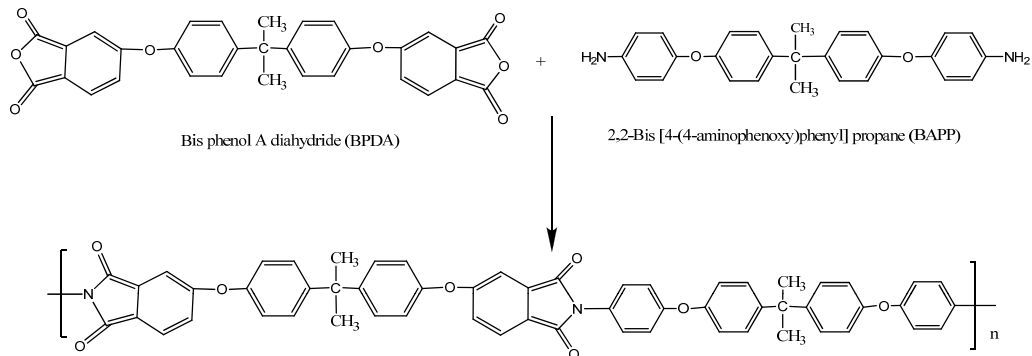


# Polyimide Graphene Nanocomposites



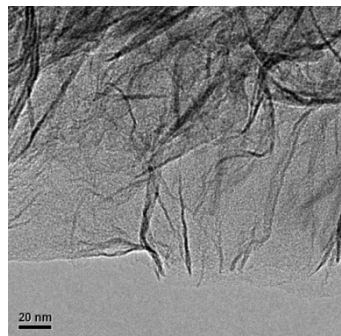
PMR-15  
GRC  
After burner

**Polyimide, thermal stability >500 °C, T<sub>g</sub> > 200 °C, flexible and semi-transparent.**



## Thermal imidization:

- Mixing and dissolving equi-molar ratio diamine in anhydrous-NMP under dry N<sub>2</sub> followed by addition of dry anhydride and stirring for 24h in flame dried vessels.
- Then, increasing the temperature ~230 °C (NMP reflux) for 3h and precipitating in methanol and drying



+

**Polyimide solution**  
sonication

Solvent casting



**0.025 wt% graphene/PI**

<sup>1</sup>Qu, L., Connell, J.W., Sun, Y.-P., *Macromolecules*, 2004, 37, 6055-6060.

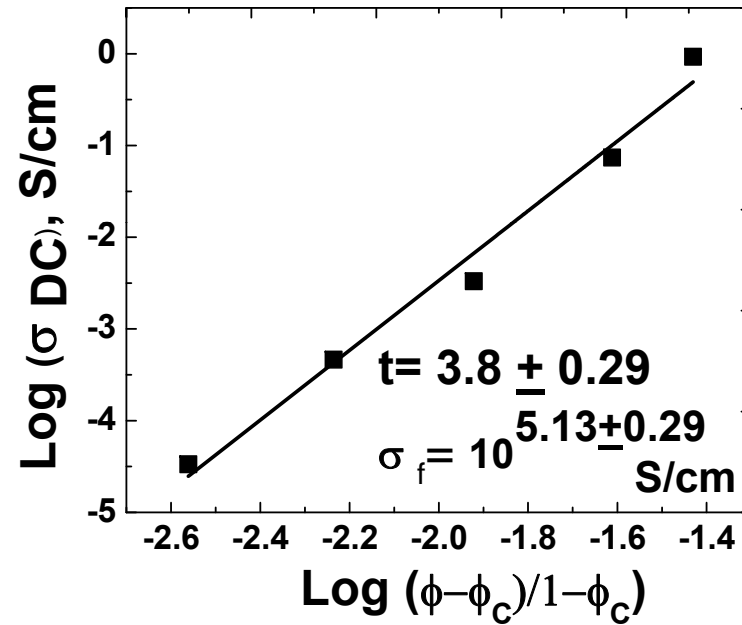
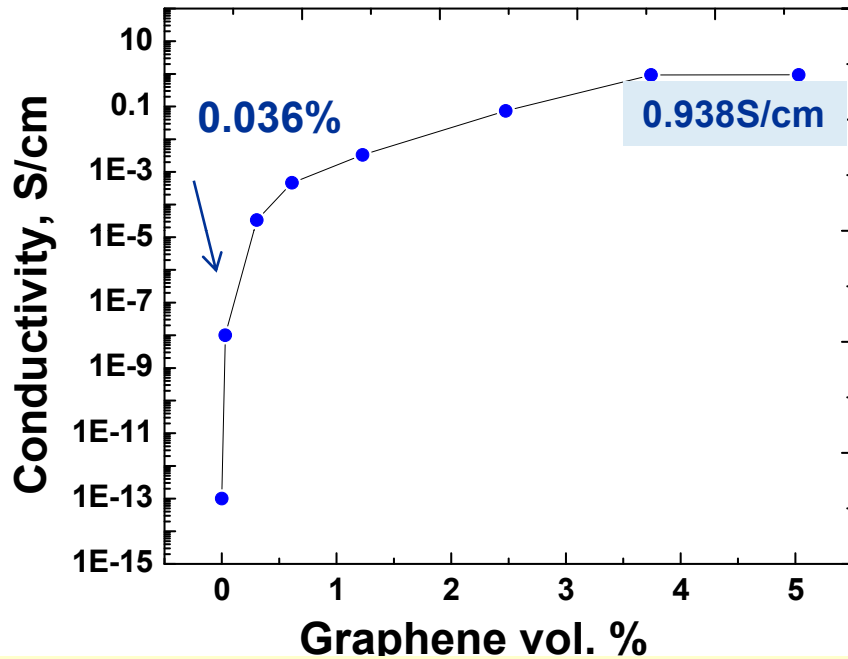
<sup>2</sup>Lebron-Colon, M. Meador, M. A., Gaier, J. R., Sola, F., Scheiman, D.A., McCorkle, L.S. *ACS Applied Materials and Interfaces*, 2010, 2, 3, 669-676.

# Polyimide Graphene Nanocomposites



## Electrical Performance

$$\sigma_{DC} = \sigma_f [(\phi - \phi_c) / (1 - \phi_c)]^t$$



	Percolation	Max. Conductivity	
Chemically graphene PS nanocomposites	0.1 vol.%	0.01S/cm	CNT/nanocomposites $t = 1.2 - 2$ CNF/polyimide $t \sim 3.1$ PET graphene $t \sim 3.47 \pm 0.64$ PS graphene $t \sim 2.74 \pm 0.2$
PS Gr, Latex method	0.6 wt%	0.15S/cm	
PET graphene	0.47 vol.%	0.021S/cm	
PC graphene, emulsion	0.14 vol.%	0.512 S/cm	
PC graphene, solution	0.38 vol.%	0.226 S/cm	
PS CCG	0.19 vol.%	0.722S/cm	



# AC Electrical Performance



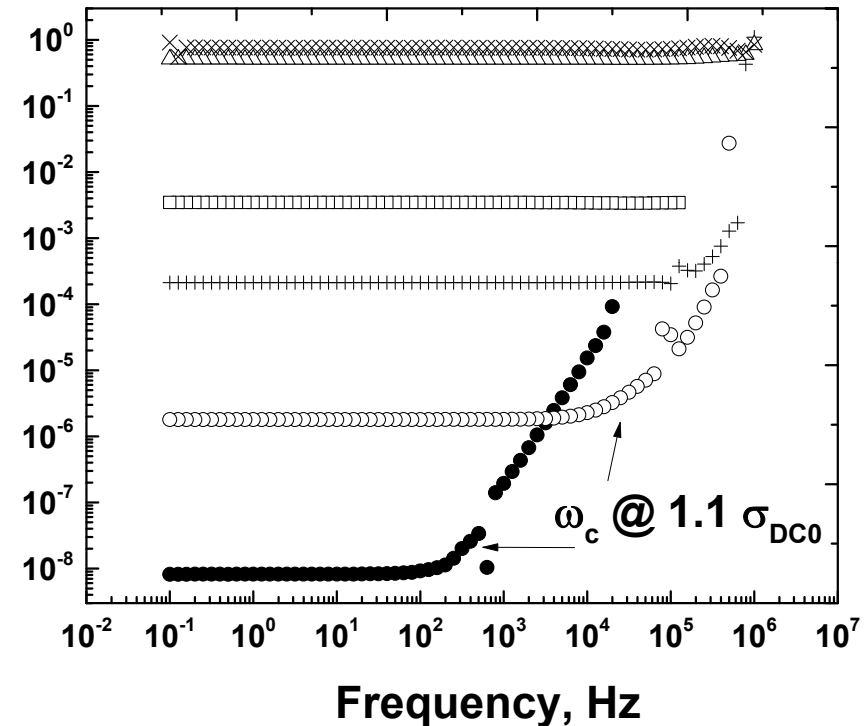
## Broad band AC impedance spectroscopy

### Extended pair approximation model

$$\sigma(\omega) / \sigma_{DC0} = 1 + k(\omega / \omega_c)^s$$

Vol. %	$\sigma_{DC0}$ , S/cm	$\omega_c$ , Hz	S
0.03046	8.21e-9	150.47	0.499
0.3051	1.879e-6	7.027e3	0.647
0.6115	2.11e-4	1.241e5	0.446

$\sigma'$ , S/cm

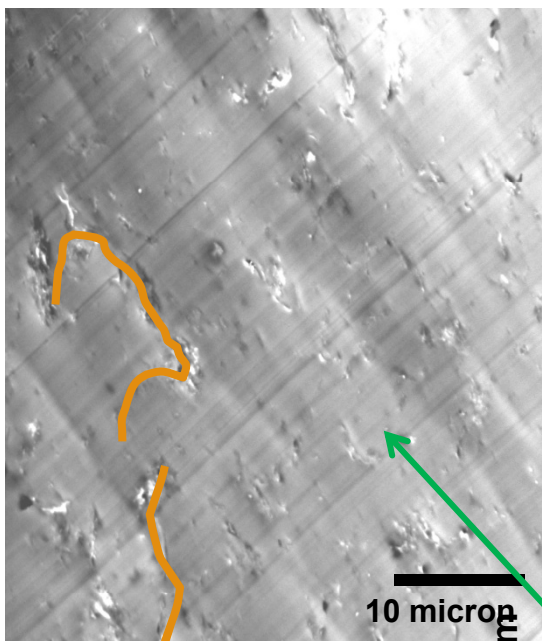


S ~ 0.99 -> hopping

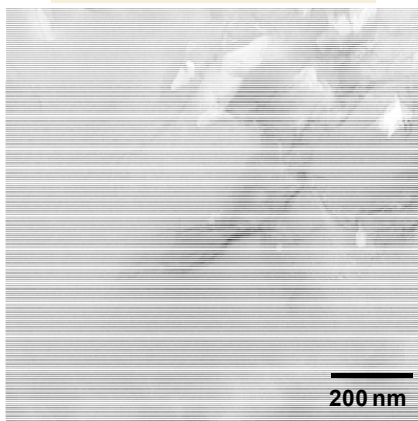
S ~ 0.72 -> 3D material

S ~ 0.58 -> anomalous diffusion in fractal cluster exist

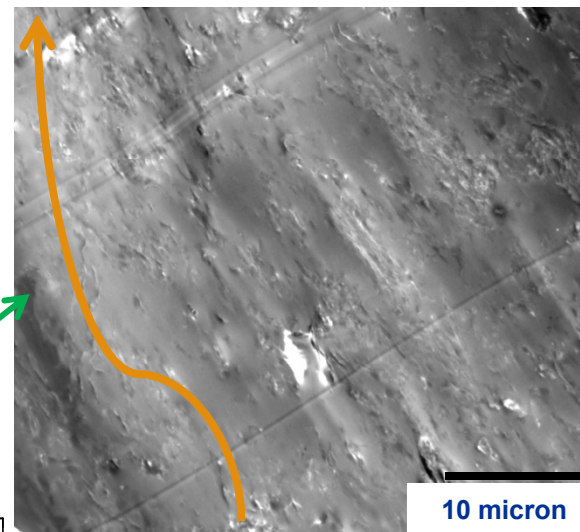
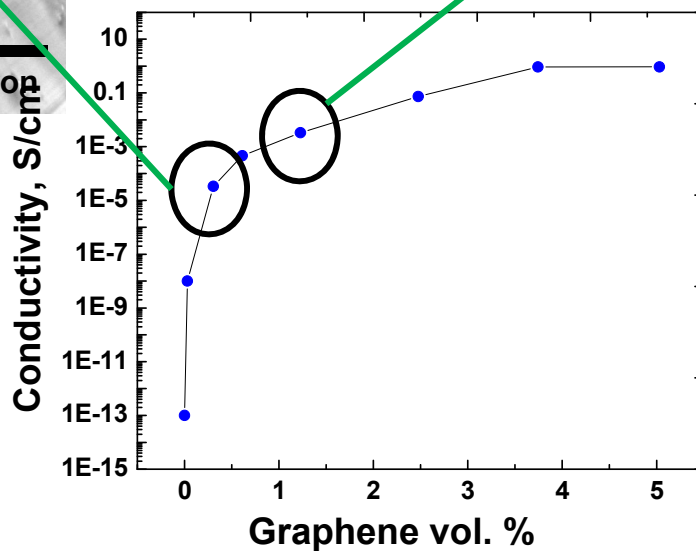
# Dispersion of graphene in polyimide TEM



0.25 vol.%



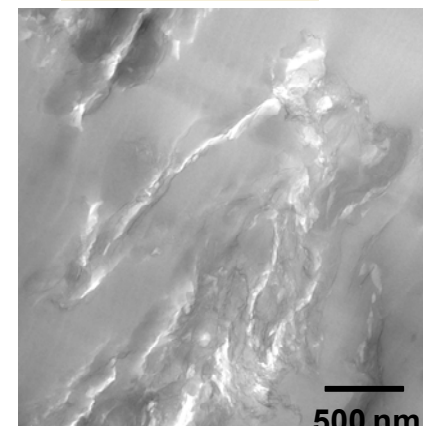
200 nm



10 micron

Conductive path

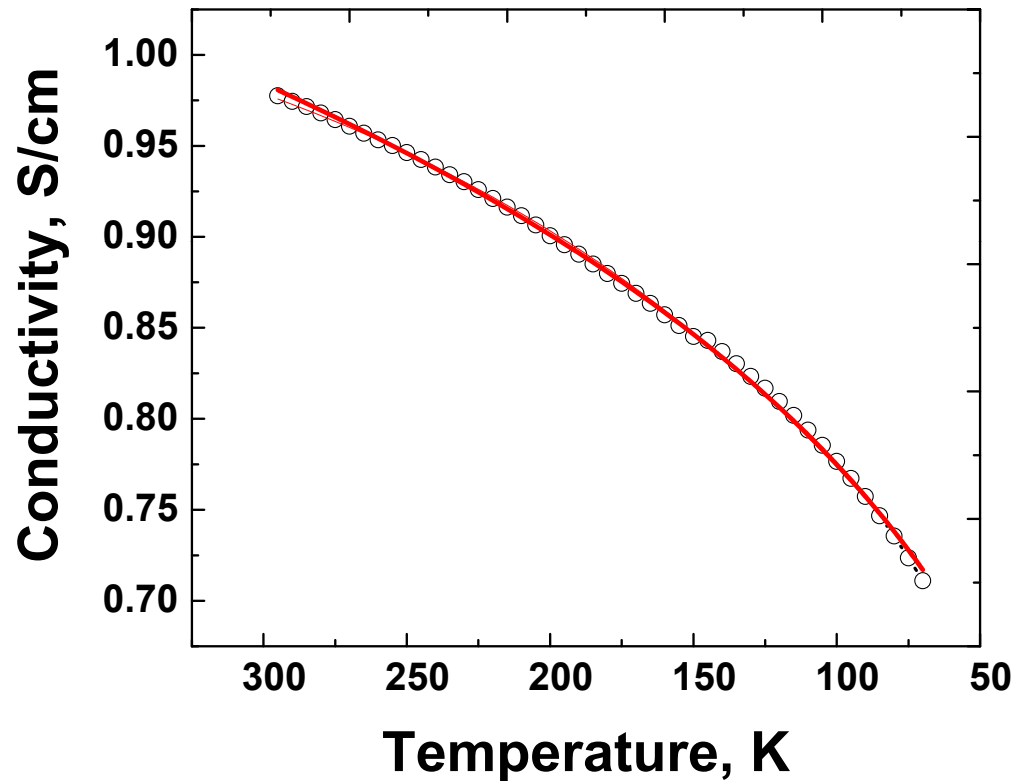
1.1 vol.%



500 nm



# Temperature Dependence Conductivity



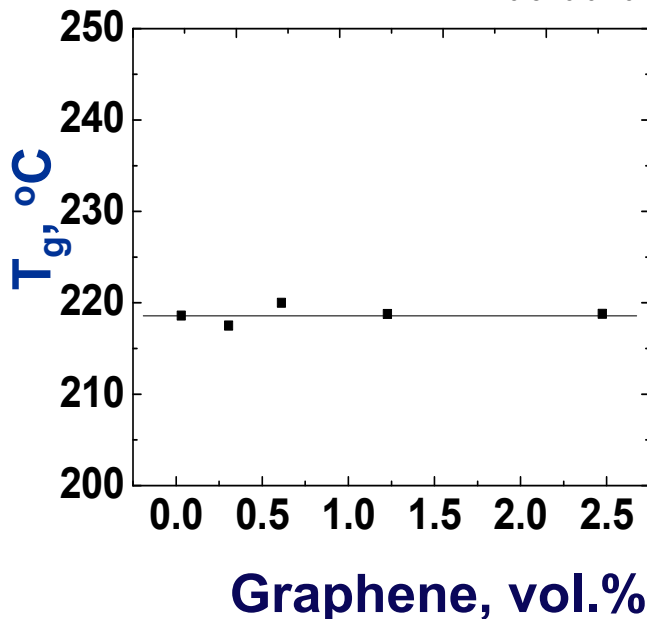
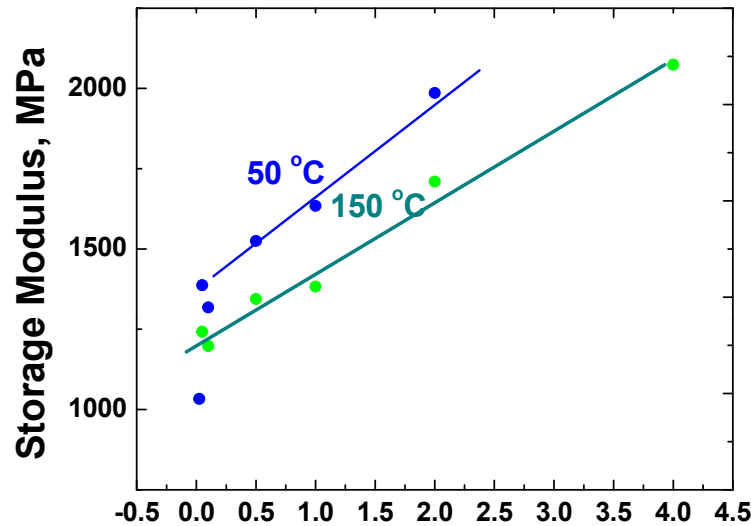
5 vol. % graphene polyimide

$$\sigma = 0.2844T^{0.2177}$$

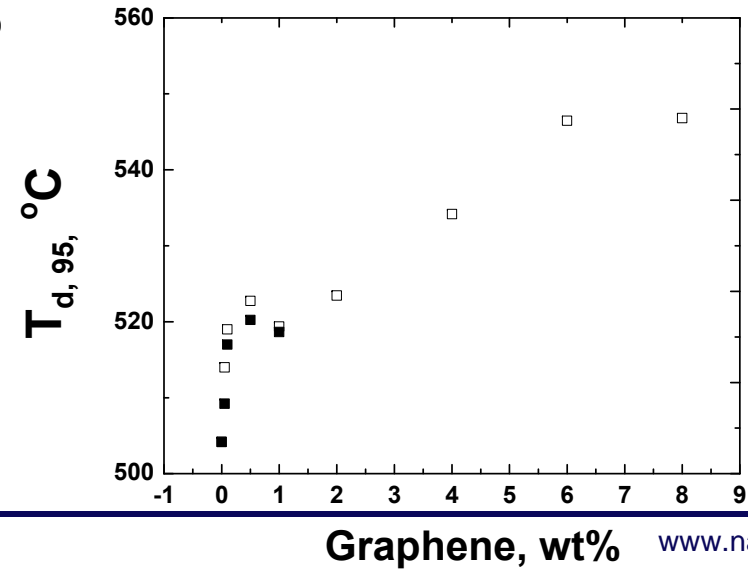
$$T = 322.404\sigma^{4.6}$$

# Thermal and Mechanical Properties

Addition of graphene resulted in composite reinforcement without adverse effect on the  $T_g$



Graphene wt%

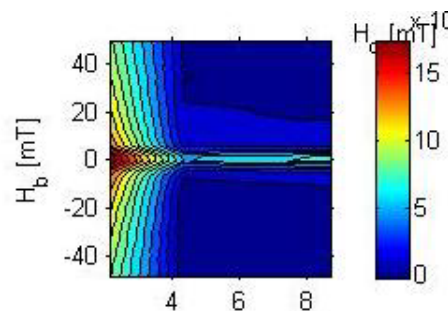
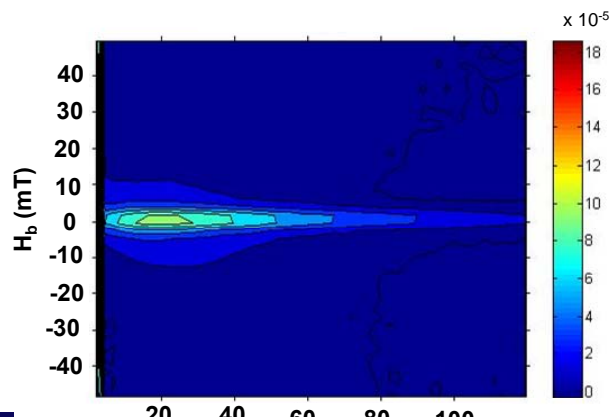
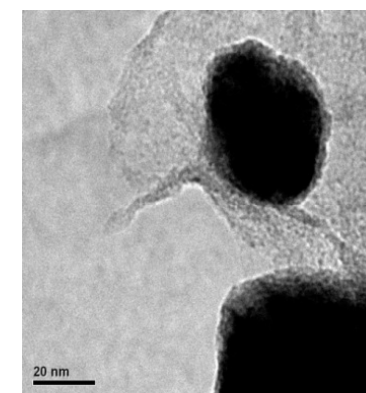
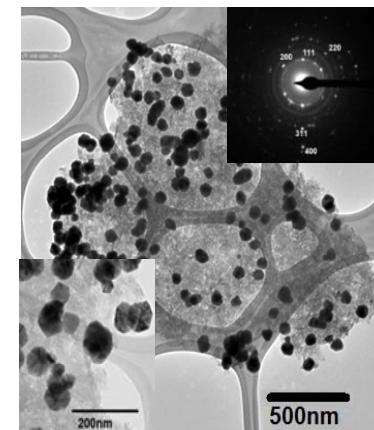
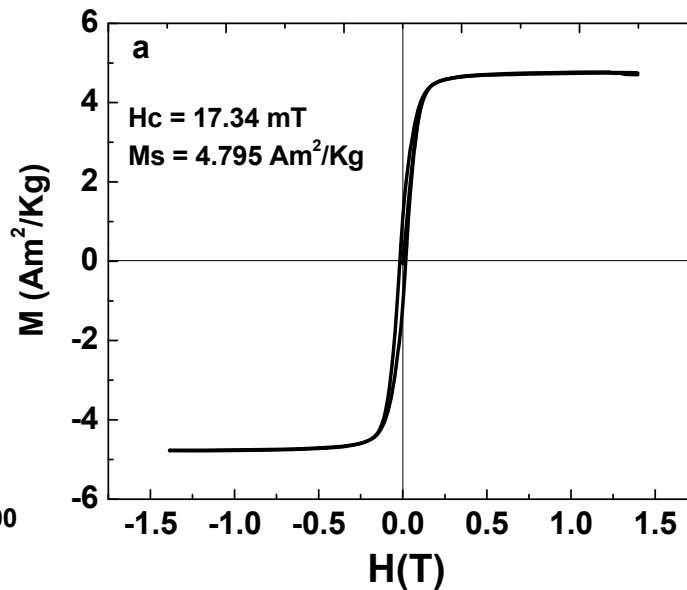
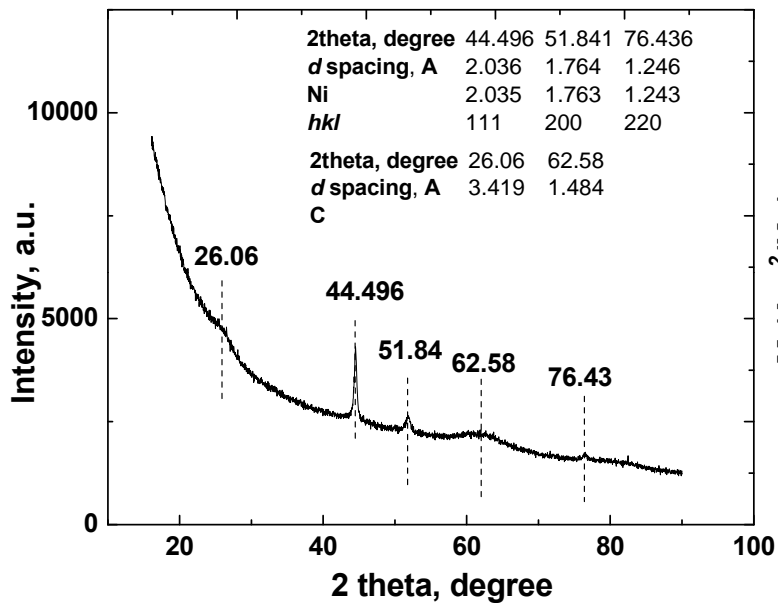


# Controlled Property Direction

## Ni-Tethered Graphene

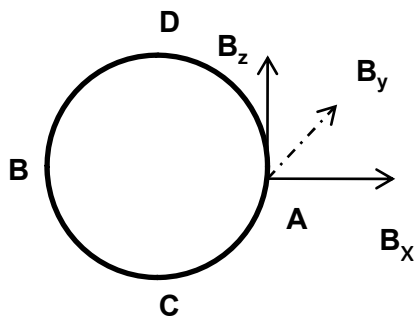
### Composites Nanoparticles

Thermal decomposition of  $\text{Ni}(\text{acac})_2$  in the presence of O-graphene

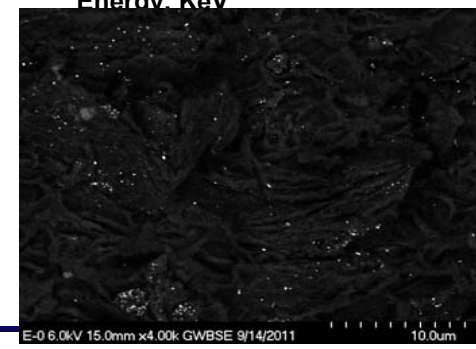
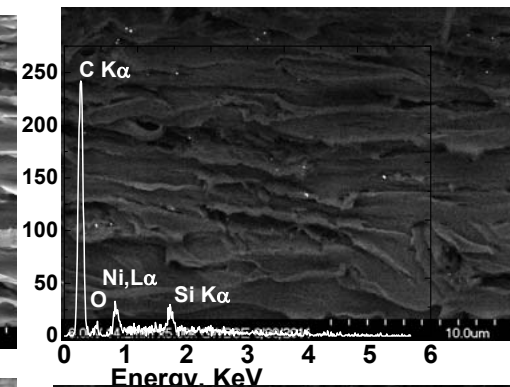
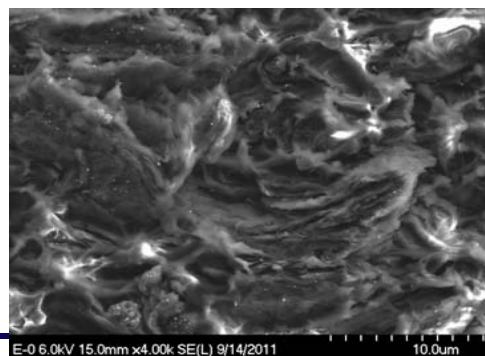
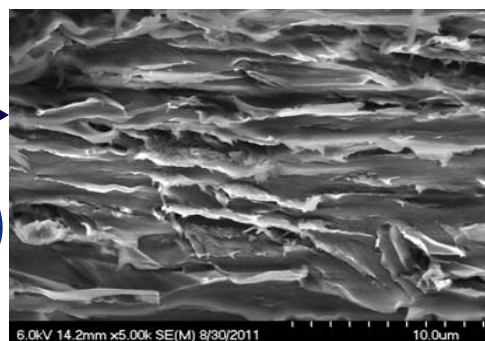
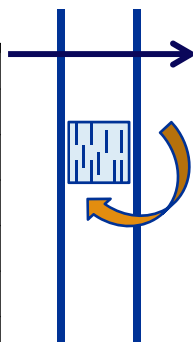
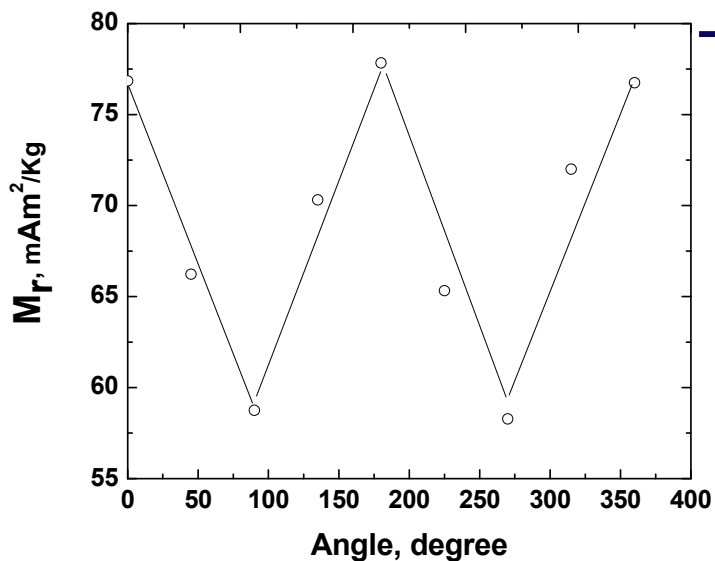
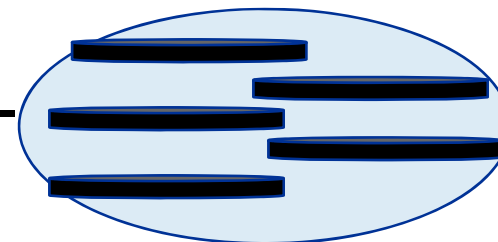


First-order reversal curve (FORC)

# Controlled Directionality



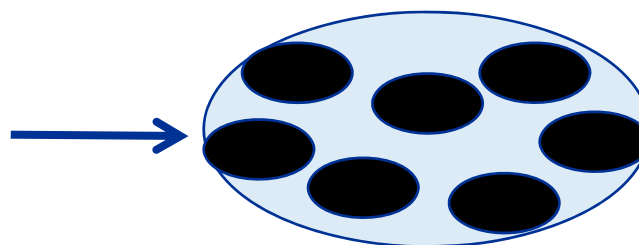
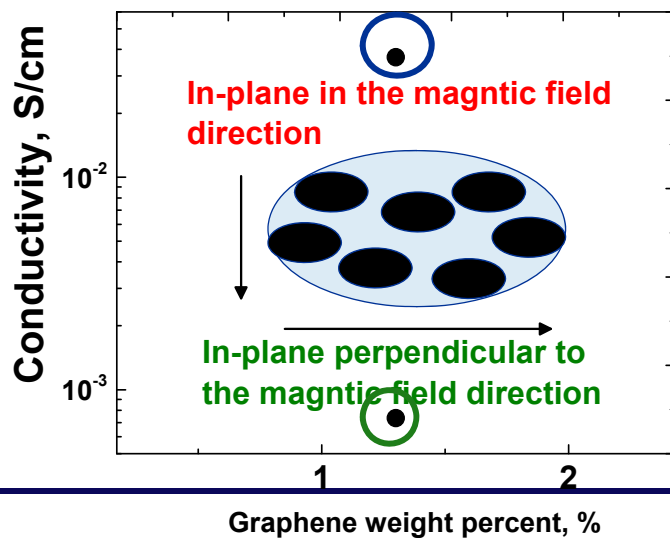
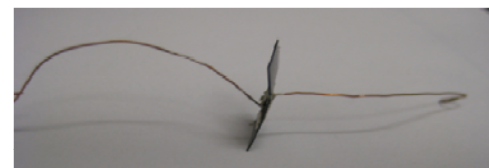
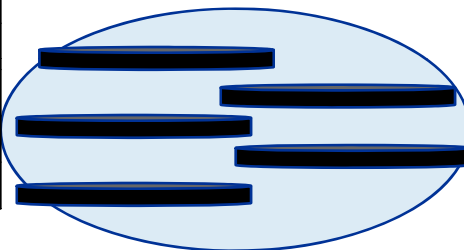
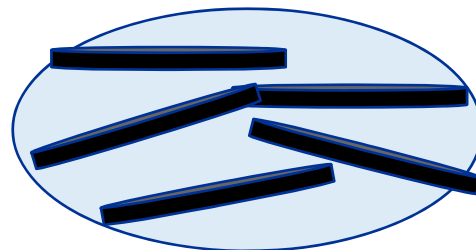
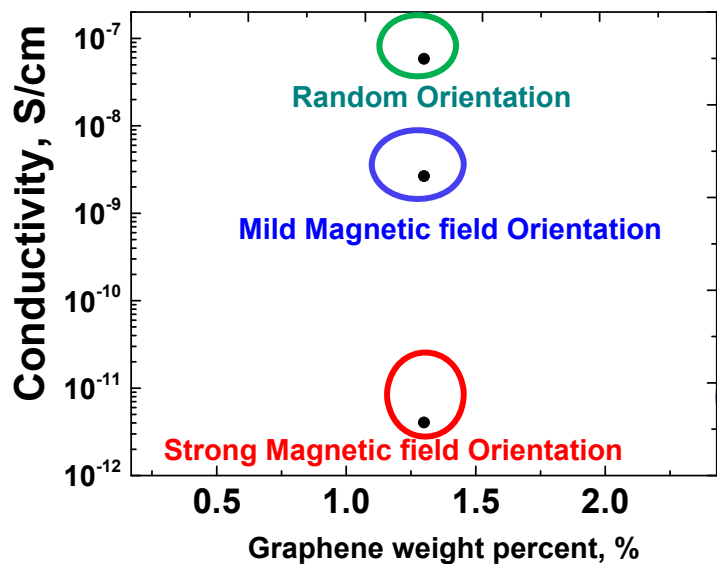
	B	$B_x$	$B_y$	$B_z$
	(Gauss)	(Gauss)	(Gauss)	(Gauss)
A	1150	-1150	-237	-50
B	976	-948	475	50
C	440	-432	-55	-120
D	500	-520	-12	42.3





# Anisotropic Properties

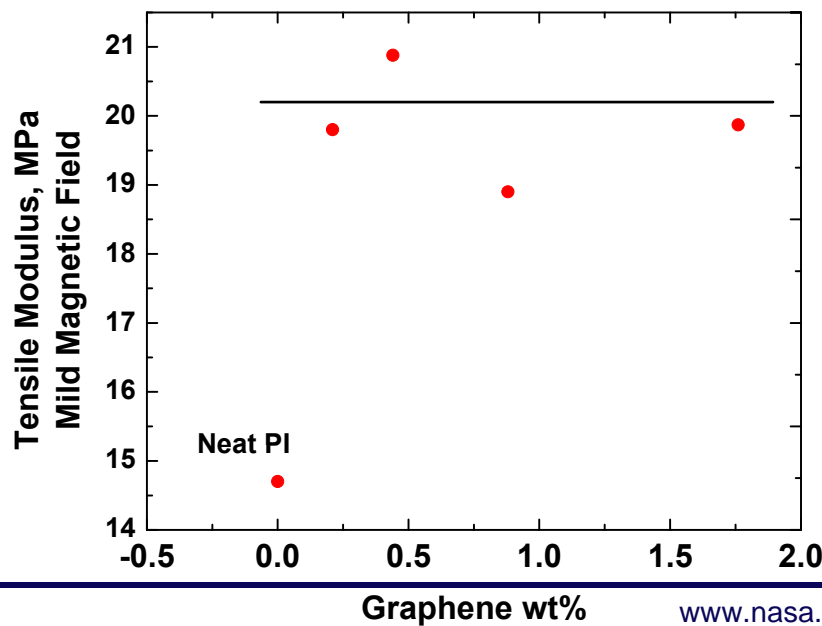
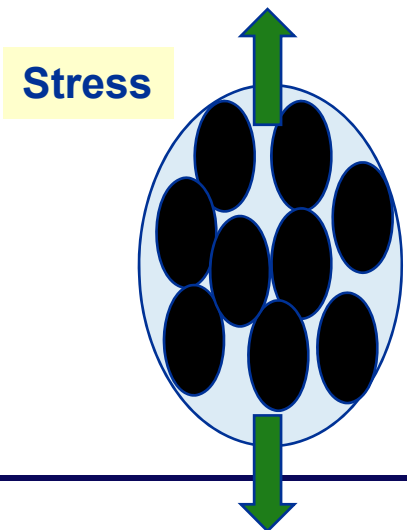
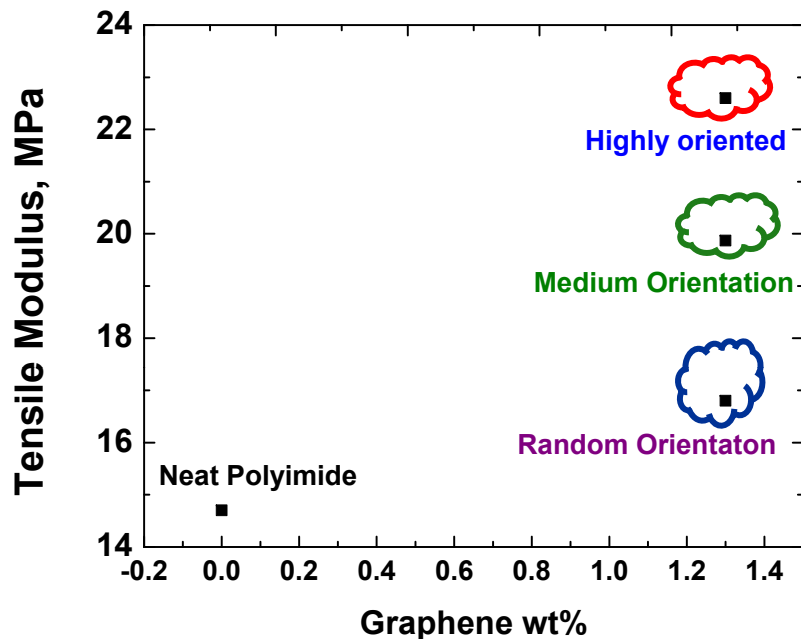
## Electrical properties



In-plane  
Magnetic field

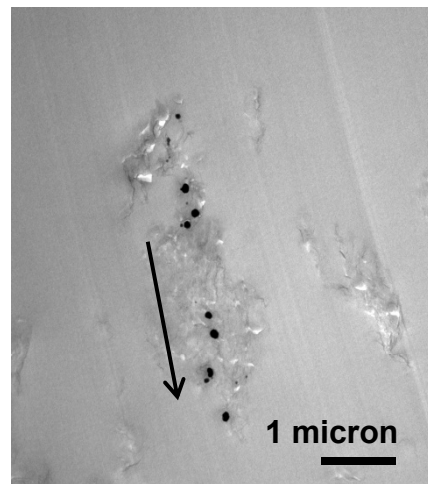
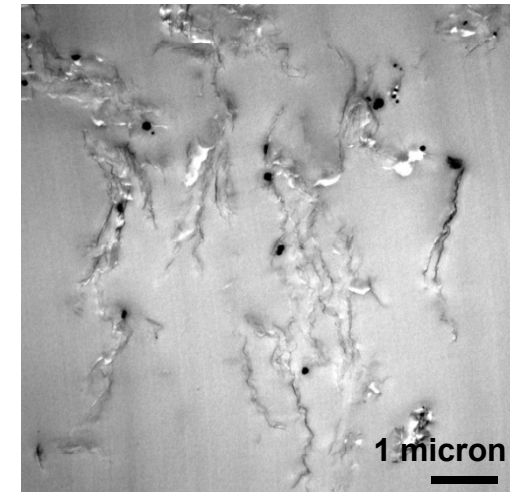
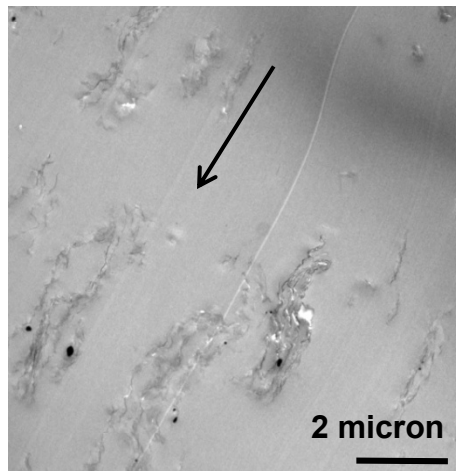
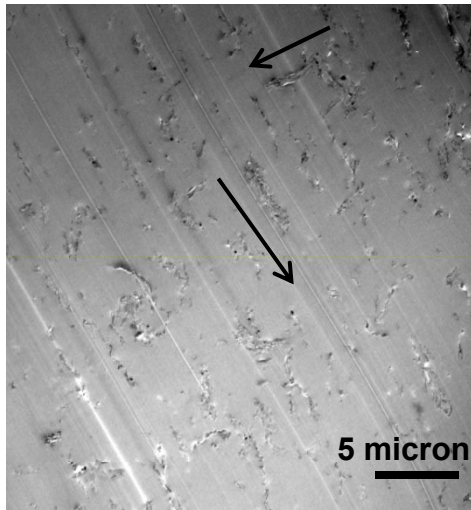
# Anisotropic Properties

## Mechanical properties



# Transmission Electron Microscopy

1.77 wt% Ni-graphene polyimide  
90% parallel and 5% perpendicular



# Conclusions

- Addition of graphene resulted in nanocomposites with high conductivity with a percolation as low as 0.036 vol.% and a maximum conductivity of 0.94 S/cm
- Dynamic moduli of the nanocomposites increased with addition of graphene with no adverse effect on  $T_g$  or flexibility.
- Magnetic graphene were synthesized enabled controlled orientation of graphene in magnetic fields.
- Ni-graphene/PI nanocomposites were obtained which has  $e-2$  S/cm *in-plane* conductivity and insulating in the *through-plane* direction.
- Ni-graphene/PI nanocomposites exhibited increased modulus with increasing orientation.
- The orientation was verified by magnetic characterization and TEM studies.





is and Space Administration



# Acknowledgements

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- **Dave Hull, Derek Quade, Terry McCue, NASA/GRC**
- **Professor Aksay, Princeton University,**
- **Vorbeck Materials Inc., John Lettow**

