



NDIA

**2013 Insensitive Munitions & Energetic Materials Technology Symposium**

# **SYNTHESIS OF ENERGETIC MATERIALS USING CARBON NANOSTRUCTURES**

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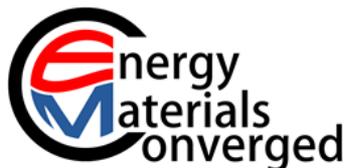
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# the Next-Generation Converged Energy Materials Research Center (CEMRC)

- **Director: Prof. Chang-Ha Lee**  
Yonsei University
- **Period: 2012 – 2020**
- **Research Group: 11 Univ. & 1 Research Institute (34 doctors)**
- **Budget: about 10 mill. USD/9-yr**
- ✓ **Design and synthesis capability for the next-generation converged energetic materials**
- ✓ **Development of more powerful & less sensitive energetic materials**
- ✓ **Eco-friendly green technology for decayed energetic materials to valuable compounds**



# Technical Road Map of CEMRC

3



## Formulation

## Design for Energetic Materials

Destruction, incineration, explosion, etc for decayed energetic materials  
 → pollution, resource waste, safety issues

LLM-116, DNPP, DNTZ, NTO

Formulation: C6H5N3O2 + other explosive esters → C6H5N3O2 derivatives

30MS Cylinder initiation and blast

250 m/s

Shell material

## Multi-functional Energetic Particles

탄소나노튜브

Chemical structures: C1=CC=C(C=C1)C(=O)OCC1=CC=CC=C1

## Demilitarization of Decayed Energetic Materials

Temperature [°C]

Concentration of pollutant [%]

Water,  $X_M$ ,  $X_Q$ ,  $X_E$ , Pollutant

Labels: M, O, S, P, Q

Phases: Solution and ice crystal, Solution and pollutant crystal, Entectic, Solid

Today's Topic



# Research on Energetic materials

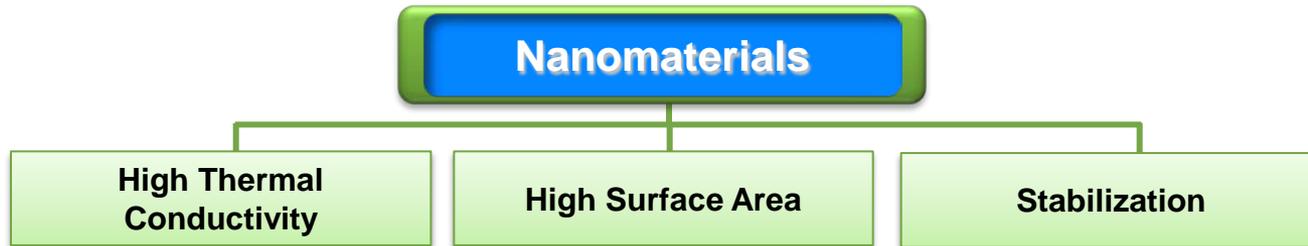
## Research on energetic materials focuses on

- Enhancing the power of its composites
- Increasing its insensitivity & stability
- Controlling the detonation properties
- ➔ Mixing several chemicals to tune the explosive reactivity

## Potential benefits of nano-energetic materials:

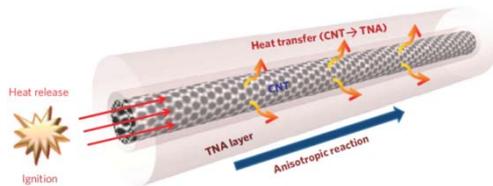
- More powerful *Higher density.*
- More reliable & reproducible *Controlled rate of energy release.*
- Safer to handle *Reduced sensitivity.*

# Nanomaterials : New platform for energetic materials



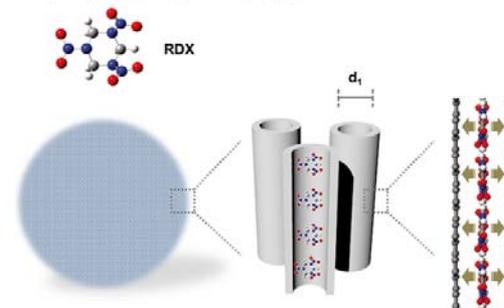
Part I

**A** Carbon Nanotube



**B** Porous Carbon Nanoparticle

Part II

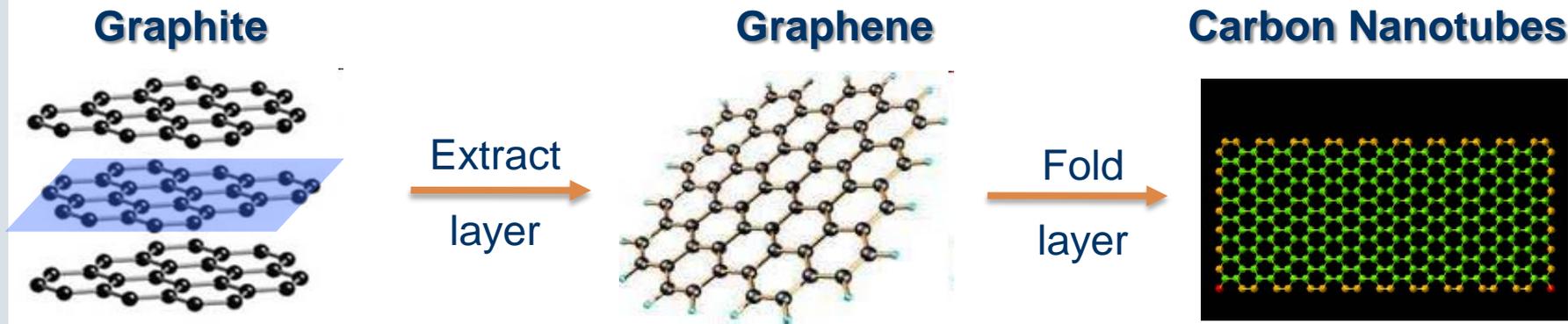


## Advantages of Nanomaterials as new energetic materials

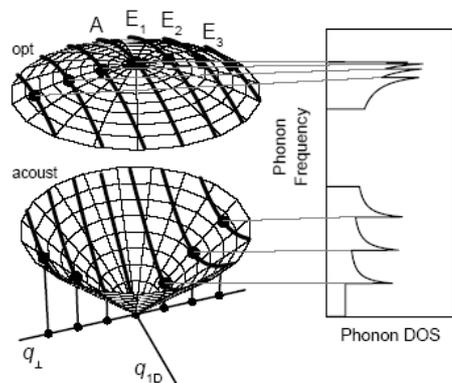
- Increased surface areas for higher density
- Enhancement of chemical reactivity by high thermal conductivity
- Ability to form composites with fuels by surface functionalization

**Nanostructured Energetic Materials is a new concept composite powder, which can dramatically improve the performance of gunpowder and explosives**

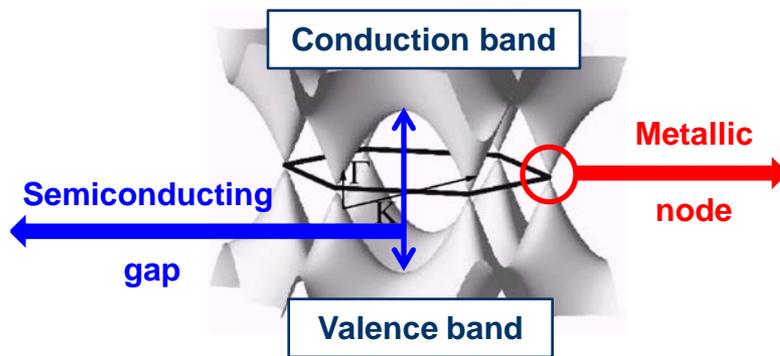
# Single-Walled Carbon Nanotubes (SWNT)



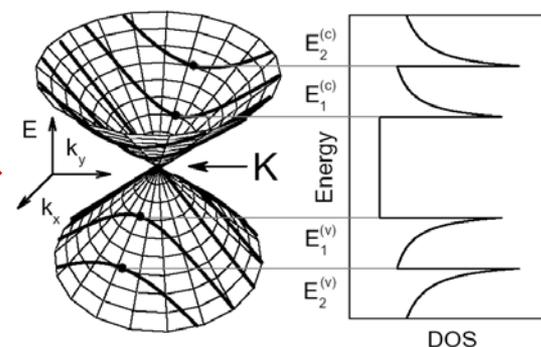
**Method of rolling graphene determines electronic property of SWNTs**



CNT electronic dispersion  
(e.g. **Semiconducting CNT**)



Graphene electronic dispersion  
(Zero-gap semiconductor)



CNT electronic dispersion  
(e.g. **Metallic CNT**)

**SWNTs can be either Metallic or Semiconducting**

# Properties of Carbon Nanotubes



SC CNT



M CNT

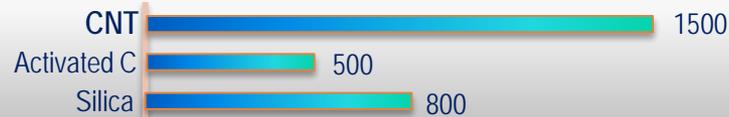
Mobility  
( $\text{cm}^2/\text{V}\cdot\text{s}$ )



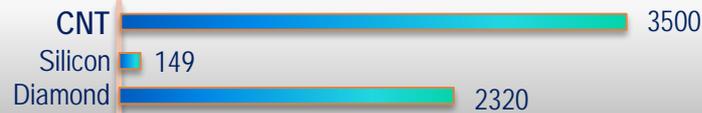
Current Density  
( $\text{A}/\text{cm}^2$ )



Surface Area  
( $\text{m}^2/\text{g}$ )



Thermal Conductivity  
( $\text{W}/\text{m}\cdot\text{K}$ )



Ultimate Strength  
(GPa)



High Performance Transistor

Display Solar Cell

Interconnect

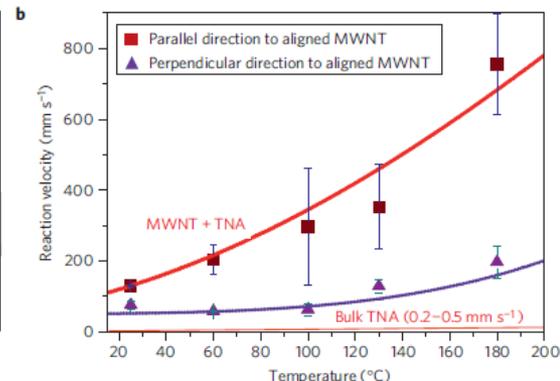
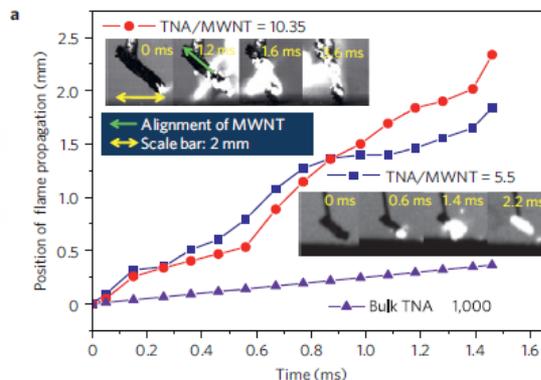
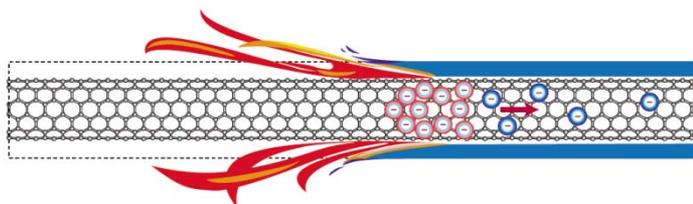
Highly dense energetic materials

Thermal conduits

Propellant composites

# Issues and Motivations

CNT guide thermal waves generated by the combustion of Cyclotrimethylene trinitramine (TNA) (*Choi et al., Nature Mater. 9, p424, 2010*)



The reaction velocity of TNA coated on CNT : 1,000~10,000 times faster than that of bulk TNA

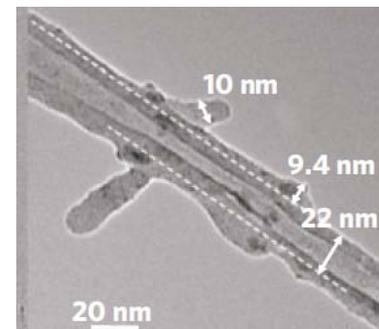
► CNT with high thermal conductivity: Guide a chemically produced thermal wave

## Technology Issues

Heterogeneities in the thickness of MWNTs as well as the TNA coated on the MWNT surface of MWNT/TNA composites

► Irregular performance along axial positions of the composites

► Performance controllability issue



# Objectives

1. Achieve homogeneities of energetic materials-CNT composites (control issue)
  - CNT : Single-walled carbon nanotube (vs. multi-walled carbon nanotube)
  - Energetic materials : chemical attachment (vs. physical )
2. Increase combustion efficiency
  - CNT with high conductivity

## Key factors investigated

We synthesized a series of nitrophenyl decorated CNT using diazonium chemistry

- ▶ explored CNT, with energetic materials, can release energy in a controllable manner
- ▶ investigate how thermal conductivity of CNT affects self-propagating explosive reactions

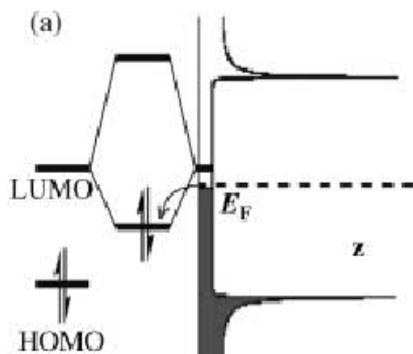


# Diazonium chemistry: attach energetic materials on CNT

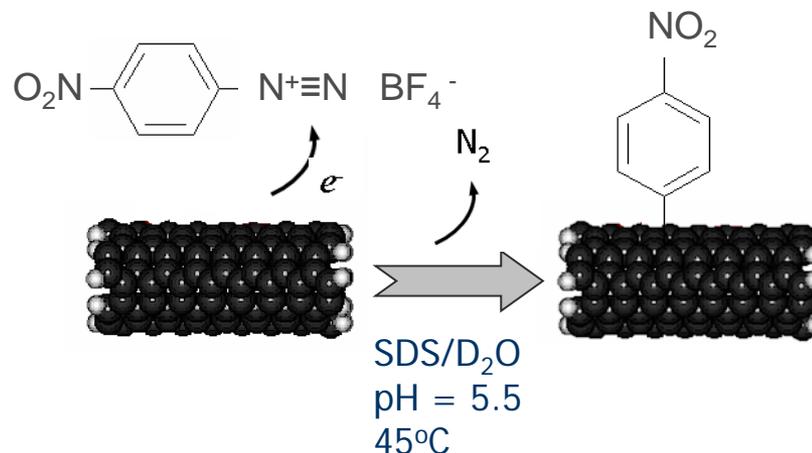
## Chemical Potential of Diazonium-SWNT system

Diazonium

SWNT



## Reaction Scheme of Diazonium-SWNT system

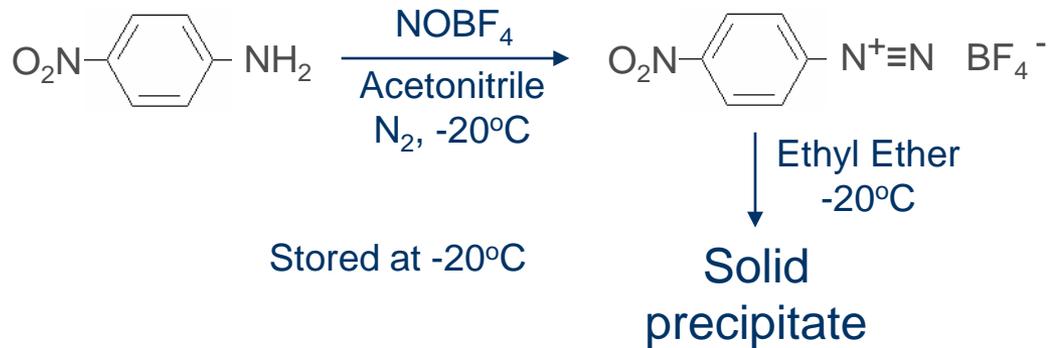


## Electron transfer reaction between CNT – Diazonium

- Favored when oxidation potential of CNT > reduction potential of diazonium
- Nitrobenzene diazonium : highly reactive towards CNT
- ▶ Diazonium chemistry is efficient scheme to attach energetic molecule (Nitrobenzene) onto CNT surface homogeneously with high density

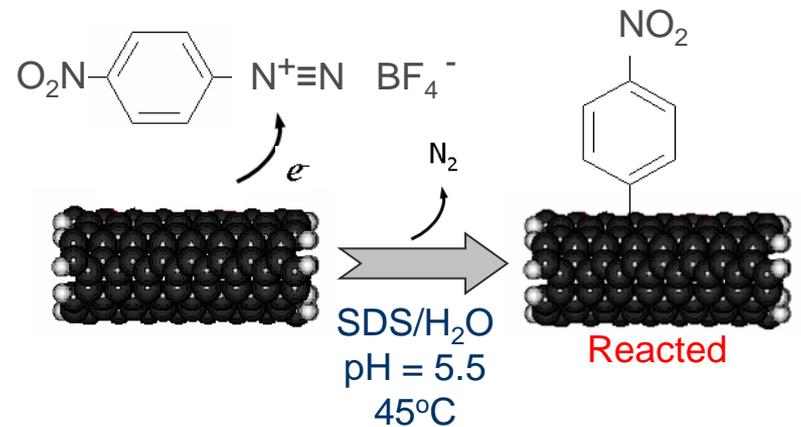
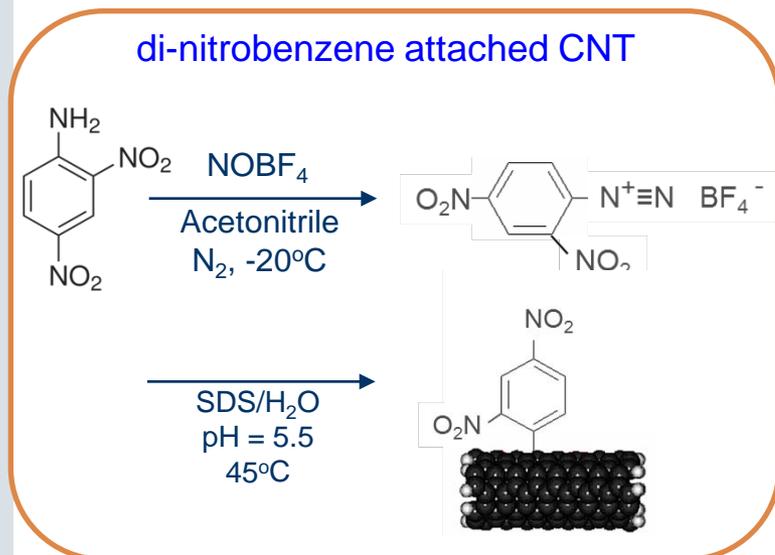
# Covalent reaction scheme

## mono-nitrobenzene diazonium synthesis



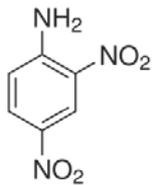
Dissolved  
in  $H_2O$

## covalent reaction

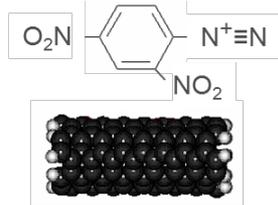


# Experimental

- Energetic Materials Used



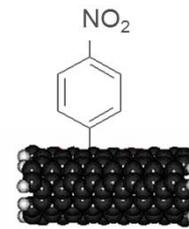
di-nitroaniline alone



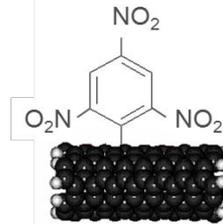
di-nitrobenzene Diazonium + CNT



di-nitrobenzene functionalized CNT



mono-nitrobenzene functionalized CNT



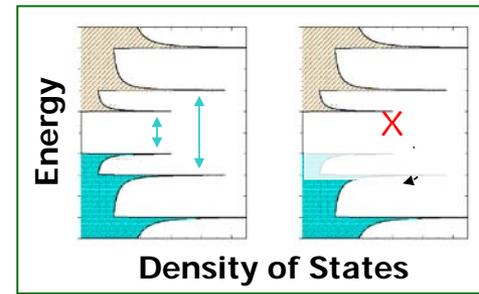
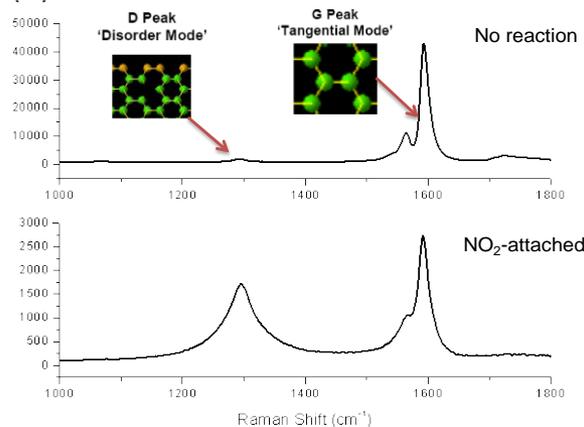
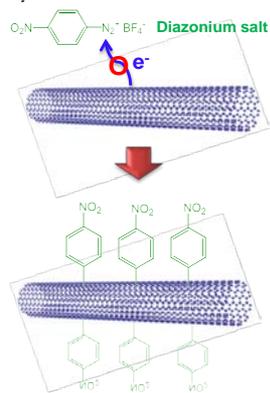
Physically mixed

Chemically bonded

- SWNT with different thermal conductivity used

- HiPco SWNT (Hi-Pressure CO method) : low thermal/electrical conductivity
- Arc SWNT (Arc Discharge method) : high thermal/electrical conductivity

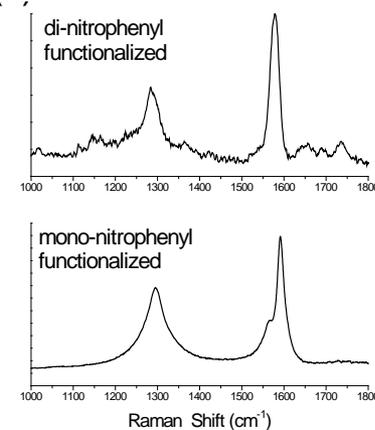
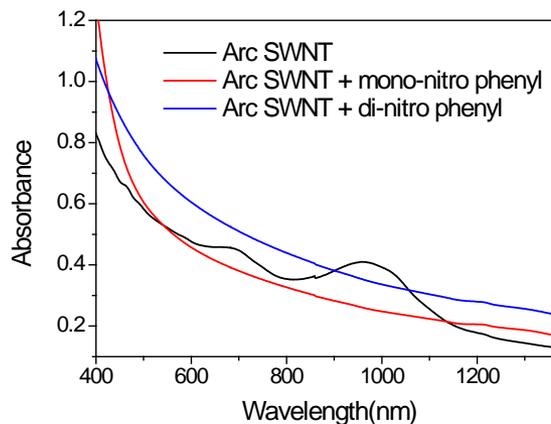
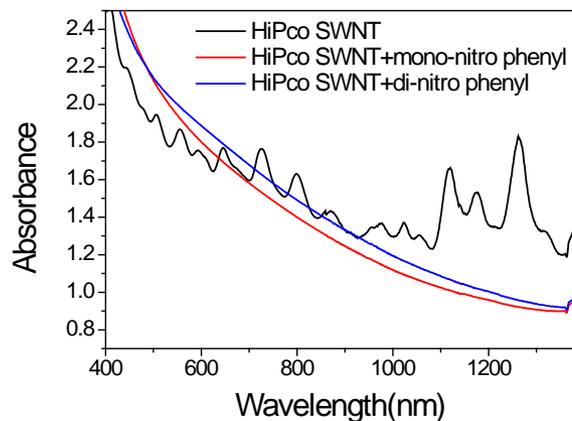
# Energetic materials-CNT composites formation



Reaction

Raman : D-band increases

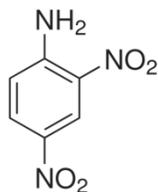
UV-vis-nIR: absorption decays



Nitrophenyl groups (energetic materials) successfully attached to SWNT (monolayer deposition)

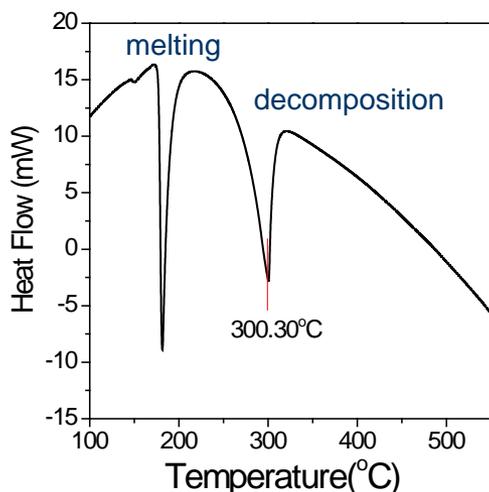
# Chemical Attachment Effect

Alone



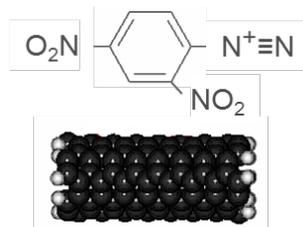
Di-nitroaniline

300.30 °C



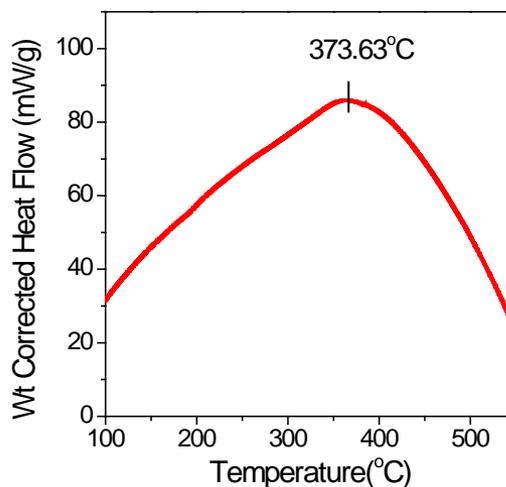
Medium temperature

Physically mixed



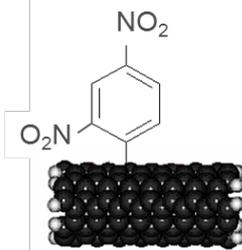
Di-nitrobenzene  
+ CNT mixture

373.60 °C



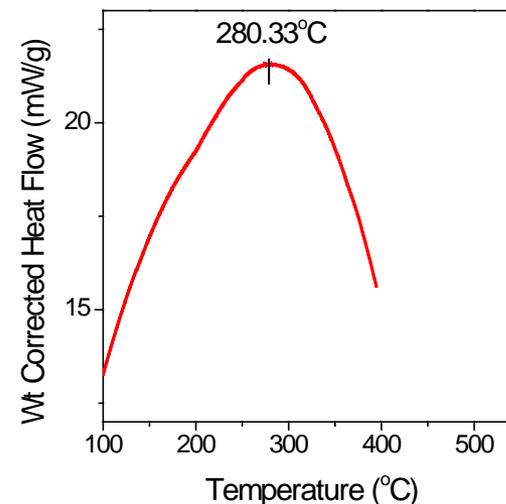
Broad range  
High temperature

Chemically attached



Di-nitrobenzene  
functionalized CNT

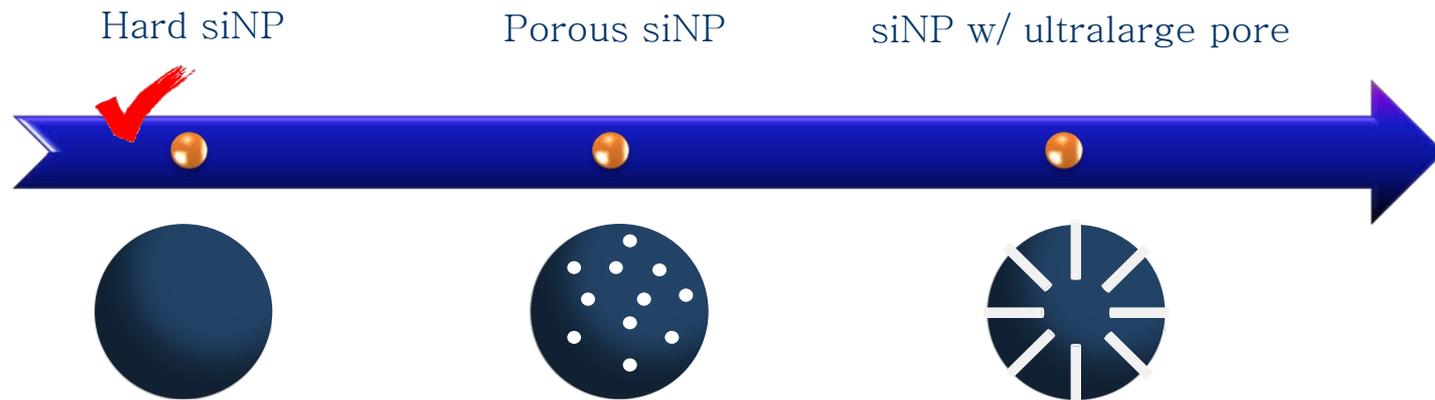
280.33 °C



Narrow range  
Lower temperature

# Experimental

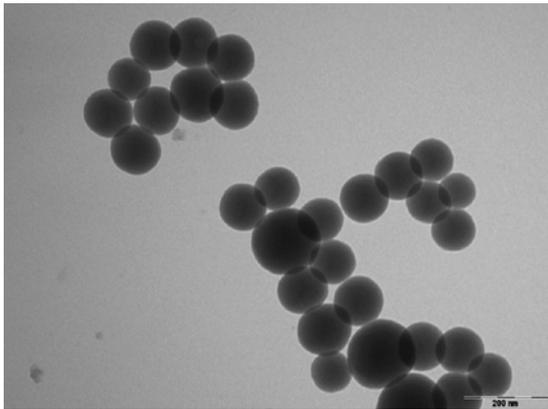
- **Synthesis of silica nanoparticles as a template of nanoparticle.**



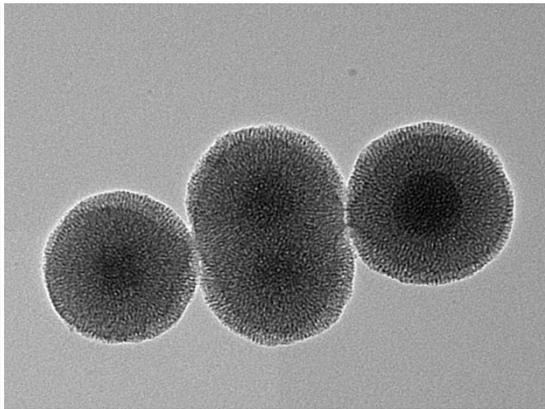
- **Synthesis of carbon nanoparticles**

- $\text{AlCl}_3 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$  was added to strengthen the silica nanoparticles
- Phenol and Paraformaldehyde was added and heated for 36h to generate carbon nanoparticles.

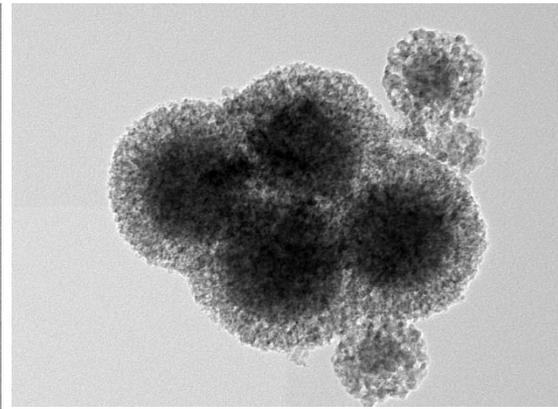
# Synthesis of silica nanoparticles as a template of Porous Carbon Nanoparticle



sphere silica nanoparticles



Porous Layer coated Silica Nanoparticles



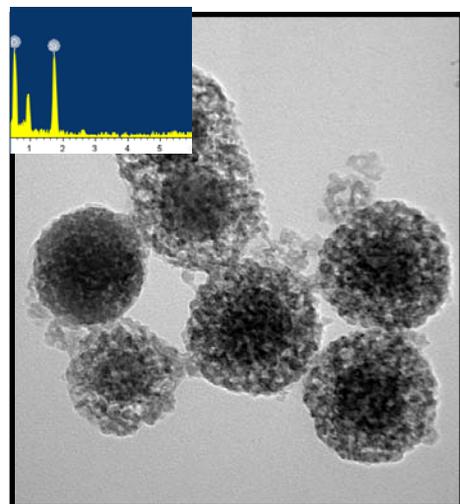
Pore-Enlarged Silica Nanoparticle

(scale bar : 50 nm)

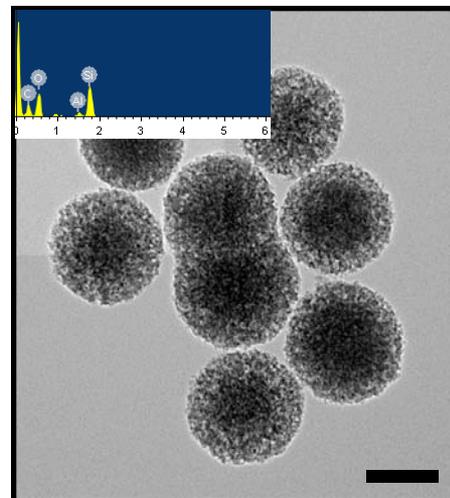
As a template for the porous carbon nanoparticle, we synthesized silica nanoparticles which possess multi-channel.

In order to load large amount of energetic materials, we made sphere silica nanoparticles inside, which will be removed and put out vacant volume as well as enlarge the pore diameter

# Synthesis of Carbon Nanoparticle



silica nanoparticles



(Scale Bar : 100 nm)

Carbon materials coated nanoparticles

We coated the carbon materials on the silica nanoparticles. And it was confirmed that the structure of nanoparticles were maintained

Future Work : we plan to remove the silica template in order to bring out the vacant volume to load energetic materials inside vacant space.

# Conclusions

1. Homogeneous energetic materials-CNT composites were successfully formed using covalent chemistry.
2. Chemically bonded composites release energy at low temperatures over physically mixed ones.
3. Composites with highly conductive CNT show explosion at lower temperatures.
4. Synthesis of silica nanoparticles as a template was successfully fabricated.
5. For the better loading capacity, silica template of carbon nano particles are planned to be evacuated.
6. Enlarged cavity with carbon materials in carbon nanoparticles are expected to contribute better performances in loading and stabilizaing large amount of energetic materials.

## 3rd Korean International Symposium on High Energy Materials

**KISHEM-3 will be held in **September, 2014**: Yonsei University in **Seoul**, Korea**  
(More information: <http://www.kishem.co.kr>)

### TOPICS

- Propellants
- High Explosives
- Insensitive Munitions
- Ageing
- Performance
- Synthesis
- Transformation of Decayed/Expired Materials
- Characterization
- Nano-Materials
- Improvements
- Manufacturing
- Detonation
- Physical Properties
- Theory



The world's oldest movable metal type  
invented by Korea and its printed evidence  
Registered as Memory of the World, A.D. 1377



Gilt-bronze Seated Maitreya in Meditation  
National Treasure No. 78  
Three Kingdom era (A.D. 200-700)

### IMPORTANT DATES

- Due date for One-page Abstract: **May 15, 2014**
- Abstract Acceptance Notice: **June 30, 2014**
- Due date for Registration: **July 31, 2014**
- Session Schedule Notice: **End of July, 2013**



Yonsei Univ.



Han River at night



Changdeokgung Palace (A.D. 1484) and Skyscrapers



**Thank you for your attention!**



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