

# Bridging the Gap between Structure and Properties in Nano-Particle Filled Polymers

NIST

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE Donald L. Evans, Secretary

TECHNOLOGY ADMINISTRATION Phillip J. Bond, Under Secretary for Technology

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF STANDARDS AND TECHNOLOGY Arden L. Bement, Jr., Director

# Bridging the Gap Between Structure and Properties in Nanoparticle-Filled Polymers

May 29-30, 2002

National Institute of Standards and Technology Gaithersburg, MD



Organizers: Erik Hobbie Jack Douglas Francis Starr Charles Han

# I. Nanotechnology Workshop

On May 29-30 of 2002, a workshop on polymer nanocomposites was held at NIST in Gaithersburg, Maryland. The workshop was entitled **Bridging the Gap Between Structure and Properties in Nanoparticle-Filled Polymers** and focused primarily on the interrelation between particle dispersion and the properties of polymers filled with clay and nanotube fillers. The purpose of the workshop was to identify research topics for NIST research and to initiate research collaboration with industrial and academic researchers in this important technological area. The workshop participants included a diverse mix of industrial, government and academic researchers.

This document reproduces the slides presented by the speakers of this workshop along with a few introductory remarks about each contribution. We would like to thank the contributors for providing the presentations that made the workshop a success.

- 1) Douglas Hunter, "The Effect of Extruder Processing on the Extent of Exfoliation in Clay-Polymer Nanocomposites"
- 2) Jeff Gilman, "Flame Retardant Polymer-Clay Nanocomposites"
- 3) Ramanan Krishnamoorti, "Melt Rheology of Polymer Nanocomposites"
- 4) Satish Kumar, "Processing, Structure, and Properties of Nano-Composite Fibers and Films"
- 5) Alex Morgan, "Polypropylene Nanocomposites: Clay Organic Treatment Concentration Effects on Mechanical Properties, Flammability Properties and Clay Dispersion"

- 6) Atsushi Takahara, "Structure and Mechanical Properties of Natural Inorganic Nanofiller / Polymer Hybrid"
- 7) R. A. Vaia, "Impact and Control of Ultrastructure (Meso) in Polymer Nanocomposites"
- 8) Francis W. Starr, "Probing Nanocomposite Structure and Properties Using Computer Simulations"
- 9) Juan J. de Pablo, "Molecular Simulation and Characterization of Ultrathin Films and Nanoscopic Polymeric Structures: Departures from Bulk Behavior"
- 10) Guoqiang Qian, "Applications of Plastic Nanocomposites"
- 11) Eric A. Grulke, "Production, Dispersion and Applications of Multiwalled Carbon Nanotubes"
- 12) Ken McElrath and Tom Tiano, "Achieving Conductive Polycarbonate with Single Wall Carbon Nanotubes"

## **II. U.S. Government and Nanotechnology**

Nanotechnology holds the promise to dramatically change many aspects of the world in which we live. The range and scope of the potential economic and societal benefits from nanotechnologies is so staggering it has been called the "Next Industrial Revolution". Recognizing the large potential for nanotechnologies, the FY2001 Federal Budget included support for a major new initiative on nanotechnology. The National Nanotechnology Initiative (NNI) was established by the U.S. Government to promote longterm nanoscale research and development leading to potential breakthroughs in areas ranging from materials and manufacturing to biotechnology and agriculture to national security and Defense, and many others. The NNI creates a research infrastructure by coordinating activities such as fundamental research, Grand Challenges (which will be described later), and centers and networks of excellence, activities that are all potentially high payoff and broadly enabling. The NNI evolved from publications authored by the Interagency Working Group on Nanoscience, Engineering and Technology (IWGN), and is currently supported and monitored by the IWGN's successor, the Subcommittee on Nanoscale Science, Engineering, and Technology (NSET). In FY 2001, the total investment by the NSET agencies in nanotechnology was estimated to be \$422million, of which NIST has invested approximately \$13.5 million.

The NNI exemplifies the government's critical role in promoting the development of new science and technology. For clarity's sake, we should first consider what types of things we define as nanotechnology. Ask any scientist, engineer, or layperson for a definition of nanotechnology, and you will most likely receive a very different answer. In many cases, it is

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considered hard to define; like good art, most people "know it when they see it" but have difficulty explaining it in general. Thus, we use the definition of nanotechnology given by the NSET:

Nanotechnology is defined as the ability to work at the atomic, molecular or macromolecular levels, in the length scale of approximately 1 -100 nm range, in order to create, manipulate and use structures, devices and systems that have novel properties and functions because of the small size. The novel and differentiating properties and functions are developed at a critical length scale of matter typically under 100 nm. Nanotechnology includes integration of nanoscale structures into larger material components, systems and architectures that are used in most industries, health care systems, environment and national security. Within these larger scale devices, the control and construction of the devices remains at the nanoscale. In some particular cases, the critical length scale for novel properties and phenomena may be under 1nm (e.g., manipulation of atoms at ~0.1nm) or be larger than 100nm (e.g., nanoparticle reinforced polymers have the unique feature at ~200/300nm as a function of the local bridges or bonds between the nanoparticles and the polymer).

It is critical that the Federal government is involved at this stage in the development of nanotechnology, since "the necessary fundamental nanotechnology research and development is too broad, complex, expensive, long-term, and risky for industry to undertake." Industry is unable to fund or is under-funding critical areas of long-term fundamental research and development and is not developing the necessary nanoscience technologies needed to realize nanotechnology's potential.

In supporting the NNI, the participating agencies fund the NNI recommended R&D priorities as a function of their mission, contingent on

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available resources. The stated goals of the NSET involve developing a... ...coherent approach for funding the critical areas of nanoscience and engineering, establishing a balanced and flexible infrastructure, educating and training the necessary workforce, and promoting partnerships to ensure that these collective research activities provide a sound and balanced national research portfolio. By facilitating coordination and collaboration among agencies, the NNI will maximize the productivity and utility of the Federal government's investment in nanotechnology and avoid unnecessary duplication of efforts.

# **III. Nanotechnology and NIST Polymers Division**

Exfoliated clay and carbon nanotube materials can be considered to be two-dimensional polymeric materials, and the Polymers Division at NIST is in a good position to provide essential characterization information and to study the essential physics of this important class of materials, building on former work on conventional polymeric materials.

Similarly to high molecular weight blends, it is difficult to form stable dispersions of clay and nanotubes in polymer matrices. Dispersion is usually a matter of degree and this has a tremendous impact on the properties of polymeric materials filled with these additives. These materials raise many measurement challenges since the dimensions of these particles bridge molecular and colloidal particle scales so that characterization requires an array of techniques. Characterization is also made difficult by the complexity of the materials that depend on their source and processing history. It is clearly important to identify model systems allowing reproducible and meaningful measurement and measurement methods addressing more general questions (dispersion, interparticle interaction) and processes (phase separation, particle clustering). Simulation must play an important role in understanding these systems and the multi-scale physics involved. The workshop was intended to help focus these efforts.

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# **IV. Workshop Presentations**

# 1) Douglas Hunter, **"The Effect of Extruder Processing on the Extent of Exfoliation in Clay-Polymer Nanocomposites"** [PowerPoint] [PDF]

Dr. Hunter emphasized the importance of process conditions on the properties of exfoliated clay materials. Several screw extruders were investigated and the influence of residence time and position of the claypolymer extrudate was considered in relation to the extent of clay exfoliation. The processing history and screw geometry was shown to have a pronounced effect on the state of dispersion and a hierchical dispersion model was introduced to rationalize these results. The importance of combining chemical treatment with processing to achieve good dispersion was emphasized. High shear intensity was found to be not necessarily beneficial for dispersion, but long residence times in the extruder normally has a positive effect on the relative dispersion. One of the general philosophical questions raised by this talk is the need for a better understanding of the role of shear on mixing processes and clustering in colloidal systems.

# Extruder Processing of Nanocomposites - Agenda

•Overview of Presentation given at ANTEC

•University of Akron, Screw Pulling Results

•MXD6: Effect of Die

•Die study with PP

Note: Results Based on XRD, TEM. Properties Important to Market Applications not Determined

### Processing Nanocomposites Critical objectives of the presentation

- Process parameters as important as the choice of clay.
- Online monitoring of exfoliation can be deceptive – consideration needs to be given to the "die" effect.



#### Nanocomposite Processing Antec

- Objective: establish the significance of processing.
- Multiple extruders and screw configurations.
- PA6 with Cloisite 15A, not exfoliate and Cloisite 30B, exfoliate.



## Leistritz Counter Rotating Intermeshing

Low Shear

; = (A). Medium Shear

Britter (1997) (

























### Conclusions

•To Optimize Dispersion: Clay Treatment & Processing
•Longer Residence Time Important, Not only Variable
•Dispersion not Simply a Function of Shear Intensity
•Particles Shear Apart
•Platelets Peel Apart to Disperse











### Conclusions

- Screw Design Important
- Process Conditions Important
- Possible to have the Optimum Design with Only Part of Screw
- What is the die effect?

Effect of Die: MXD6 Study

- •Two Organoclays, Cloisites 30B and 93A
- •Clay Fed Downstream
- •Multi-Kneading Block Screw
- •Past Experience, Screw Should Work







## Conclusions

- Nanocomposite Sheared In Die
- Propose Results Controlled by Resin/Clay Treatment Compatibility
- Less Compatible Nanocomposite, Platelets Align - See in XRD and TEM
- Die Hole Size Problem?
- Possible Solution: Larger Die Hole

# Vary the Die Hole Diameter PP/MA-g-PP/Cloisite 20A







no die plate

#### 6 hole 1mm

4 hole 2.1 mm

## Extruder Monitoring Exfoliation

- Assume slip stream to analysis tool
- Consider effect of shear in lines and analytical tool
- Platelet alignment during analysis alter results of the analysis

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# 2) Jeff Gilman, **"Flame Retardant Polymer-Clay Nanocomposites"** [PowerPoint] [PDF]

Dr. Gilman first stressed the human cost of home fires and the alternatives that exist for making flame retardent polymers. The challenge was indicated to be the development of environmentally friendly and economical approaches to reduce flammibility and the simultaneous improvement of the mechanical properties of the polymer-based materials. Clay nanocomposites were shown to be promising as fire suppressant agents due to the clay reinforcement of the char formed in the course of burning. Degradation issues of these materials under processing conditions were discussed and the advantages of combinatoric flammability tests were discussed in connection with optimizing and understanding the complex parameter space governing these complex materials.

































Polymer	M <sub>a</sub> (g/mole)	% e- Coprolectam*	End-groups*		
			% Amine	% Acid	% ∆
PA-6 as received	13622 ±	0.00	0.83	0.83	0.00
PA-6 injection molded	12311 ± 1489	0.92	0.92	0.92	0,00
Nanocomposite as received	13672 ± 1504	0.19	0.83	0.83	0.00
Nanocomposite njection molded	6321 ± 334	3.80	0.83	1.79	53.4
			*uncertai	nty (20) ±	0.1%























TGA Data				
Sample	Onset - T. °C	Peak - T <sub>dec</sub> (dTGA) °C		
1,2-dìmethyl-3-N-hexadecyl ìmìdazolium/MMT	300	375		
1-decyl- 2,3- dimethylimidazolium/MMT	300	443		
1-butyl- 2,3- dimethylimidazolium/MMT	305	445		
dimethyl-di(hydrogenated tallow) ammonium/MMT	200	310		









Sample"	м.	Ma	Polydispersity
PET/OD	21,350	38,650	1.81
PET/OD	17,75n	30,850	1.74
CD 6 (PET-OD	17,000	30,000	1.76
PET	32,200	61,850	1.92
PET (processed)	21,100	39,150	1.86
CD 5 (PET nanocomposite)	20,600	38.350	1.86
FR PET (as received)	23,420	45,600	1.94
FR PET	16,950	31,100	1.83
CD 16 (FR PET	15.050	27,750	1.84

Polymer	Nanos additive	Counter- Ion	Organie Treatment	Processing Conditions	Other additives	Flome Retardou
PE PP PS PA6 PU PVC PC PC PEO PEO PMMA EVA	MMT Mica Hectorite Saponite Laponite Silica POSS	Na Ca Cu Fe	Mkylaninoninan Inudazohum Crown Ether Sitated Carboxylaic	Temperature Shear Residence time	Stabilizers Processing UV Antiondan Fillers Pignicits	Phosphai Halogenate Sifteon Bas
~ 10	- 5	-5	10	~ 1D	~ 10	- 10



































#### Conclusions

By combining nanotechnology with highthroughput experimentation, we can maximize the effect of additives and thereby provide industry with a powerful tool for the development of a new generation of high performance, low flammability materials.





Marc Nydea, Rick Davis, John Shields, Walid Awed, Takashi Kashiwagi, Richard Harris, Lori Brassell, Kashy Butler, Michael Smith, Roy McLane BFRLNIST

> Duvid VanderHart, Tony Bur, Atsuchi Asano MSEL/NIST

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## 3) Ramanan Krishnamoorti, "Melt Rheology of Polymer Nanocomposites" [PowerPoint] [PDF]

(Talk presented by Charles Han due to family illness.)

This talk emphasized the effect of nanoparticles on the rheological properties of polymer melts. Melt measurements were contrasted for exfoliated (e.g., nylon-6) and intercalated clay-filled polymers. First, small amplitude linear dynamic measurements were considered for a clay-filled block copolymer system and gelation was observed with increasing filler concentration. This was attributed to the formation of a filler network structure, although scattering evidence is not yet available to support this hypothesis. Notably time-temperature superposition applied to the viscoelastic properties of these complex materials. Qualitatively similar behavior was found for intercalated and exfoliated clay-filled materials. Carbon nanotube (single wall) filled materials (polystyrene) were also considered and gelation (reinforcement) was similarly observed with increasing filler concentration-provided the nanotubes were functionalized to improve dispersion. At high concentration of clay, beyond the concentration of gelation, yield was observed and large amplitude oscillatory shear was shown to cause alignment followed by a slow recovery after the cessation of oscillation. An analogy to aging and rejuvenation effects in glass-forming liquids was discussed for these filled materials.













## Melt Rheology of Polymer Nanocomposite

Ramanan Krishnamoorti Department of Chemical Engineering University of Houston

#### Introduction

- Need to understand the effect of adding nanoparticles on the melt dynamics and processing.
- How does the dispersion of the nanoparticles affect the rheology of the composites?
- How does processing affect the dispersion (or equivalently rheology) and how does the system recover?





#### Nanocomposites

- Melt State Viscoelastic Measurements
- Exfoliated Nylon 6 and Poly(ε-caprolactone)
- Intercalated Polystyrene, Polyisobutylene based random copolymers, Polystyrene – Polyisoprene Diblock Copolymers, polycarbonate.
- Layered Silicates Organically Modified
   Montmorillonite (Natural Occurring)
  - Synthetic including Laponite, Fluorohectorite and Fluoromicas.

### Quiescent State Characterization of Nanocomposites

• Linear Dynamic Viscoelastic properties — Oscillatory Strain (small amplitude)


















































#### Conclusions

- Linear Viscoelasticity Sensitive to Mesoscale Structure.
- Recovery from Oscillatory Alignment appears to follow Physical Aging Like Kinetics.
- Recovery from Large Constant Stress Unique and illustrative of the anisotropic layers influence on orientation.
  - No Dependence on Pre Shear Magnitude and Direction.
     Simple scaling of t<sub>w</sub> allows for superpositioning of creep data.
  - α appears to be a powerful parameter to capture the rejuvenation of the nanocomposites.

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- Education(ATP) • Welch Foundation
- NIST
- ARL
- ExxonMobil Chemical Company

## 4) Satish Kumar, "Processing, Structure, and Properties of Nano Composite Fibers and Films" [PowerPoint not available] [PDF]

Dr. Kumar spent some time reviewing the field of nanocomposites as viewed from the perspective of a composite engineer. The geometrical structure of both single and multi-walled materials was reviewed and some measurements on melt-spinning these filler particles in polymer matrices were described. Some impressive improvements in compressive strength and tensile modulus of filled polypropylene and PMMA fibers were noted. Other notable observations include the observation of length changes in the single wall tubes upon blending and fiber spinning and the influence of the tubes on the size and rate of growth of polypropylene spherulites. It was also shown that highly conducting films could be formed from solutions of single wall nanotubes dispersed in Oleum.

#### Nano Composites - Reinforcements Processing, Structure, and Properties of Nano Composite Fibers and Films • SWNT - Diameter ~ 1 nm, From Rice University, HiPCO process Satish Kumar MWNT or Carbon Nano Fibers School of Textile and Fiber Engineering - (Diameter 50 – 200 nm, Applied Sciences Inc., OH) Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta GA 30332 satish.kumar@textiles.gatech.edu Carbon Nanotubes - Historical Perspective Nano Composites - Matrix Systems · Flexible Polymer - such as Polyethylene (1930s). High modulus -[CH2- CH2]-• Insitu Polymerization PE fiber commercialized in 1980s. Rigid Polymers - such as PBZT and - PBO and PBZT PBO (1980s). Zylon fiber commercialized in 1998. Carbon Nanotubes - 1990s. By Melt Blending compariosn, synthesis, purification, -PPand processing of these tubes is in its infancy. - PET $[\eta] = K M^a$ Flexible polymer 0.5 – PMMA Semi-flexible polymer ~1 Rigid polymer 1.8

### MWNT

SWNT

?

TEM image of the wall of a carbon nanotube grown by ASI's Pyrograf<sup>™</sup>-III process.



Photograph from Applied Sciences Inc.

MWNT



PR-21-PS



PR-24-PS

#### **MWNT**

MWNT	Processing method	Oxygen content (wt%)	Sulfur content (wt%)
PR-21-PS	Pyrolytically stripped	1.2	0.3
PR-24-PS	Pyrolytically stripped	0.6	0.4
PR-24-HT	Graphitized at 3000 °C	0.3	0.0
PR-24-AG	As Grown Fiber	2.2	0.5
PR-24-PPO	Post processing oxidation of PR-24-AG	2.1	0.4
PR-24-ISO	In situ oxidation of PR-24-AG	2.2	1.1

CNFs were provided by Applied Sciences, Inc. (Cedarville, Ohio)

### Raman Spectra of MWNT

	Raman intensity
	ratio of D to G
CNF	band
PR-24-HT	0.7
PR-24-PS	1.6
PR-21-PS	3.1
PR-24-AG	1.5
PR-24-PPO	1.6
PR-24-ISO	1.8



#### Melt Blending and Fiber Processing

PET melt blended with 5 wt% carbon nano fibers

- Dry Mixing

  - Ball MillingHand Mixing
- · Drawing
- Melt Compounding
  - Haake Twin-screw extruder TW-100
  - Haake mixer
- PP and PMMA melt blended at 240 °C



- 120°C, draw ratio 4X or 6X
- · Heat treatment
  - 150 °C at constant length



#### PET/MWNT Composite Fibers



lhum

#### PP/ MWNT Composite Fiber







Shrinkage Behavior - PMMA/MWNT Fibers



#### MWNT Length Reduction During Melt Blending and Fiber Spinning



### Fiber Tensile Modulus - PET/CNF Composite



 $V_i$  volume fraction  $E_{\mu}$ : matrix modulus v: Poisson's ratio  $E_f$ : axial tensile modulus g: orientation factor

Can HL. Bril J. Appl Phys. 3 72-79(1952)



#### PET/MWNT Composite Fiber WAXD









	E (GPa)	٤ (%)	σ <sub>t</sub> (GPa)
РВО НТ	138	2.0	2.6
PBO/SWNTHT (95/5)	156	2.3	3.2
PBO/SWNTHT (90/10)	167	2.8	4.2

PBO/SWNT - Thermal Shrinkage



PBO/SWNT Creep Behavior at 400 °C



WAXD: Equatorial Scan













### Acknowledgements

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- MWNT Applied Sciences Inc.
- SWNT work is being done in collaboration with Professor Smalley's group at Rice University and Air force Research Laboratory (Fred Arnold, Thuy Dang, and Richard Vaia).
- Cheol Park NASA
- Hongming Ma, Jijun Zeng, Harit Doshi, Byung Min, T. V. Sreekumar, Arup R. Bhattacharyya, Xiefei Zhang.

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5) Alex Morgan, "Polypropylene Nanocomposites: Clay Organic Treatment Concentration Effects on Mechanical Properties, Flammability Properties and Clay Dispersion" [PowerPoint] [PDF]

Dr. Morgan summarized some of the efforts at Dow at exploiting clayfilled thermoset and thermoplastic nanocomposites. These materials show major improvements in mechanical properties, gas barrier properties, thermal stability and flame retardancy and the factors influencing these property changes were summarized- synthesis method, extent of dispersion, clay type and organic treatment, polymer matrix type. The presentation emphasized the complexity of understanding and controlling the properties of these complex materials. Particular emphasis was given to property changes that accompany the variation in the amount of organic modifier in the material. The presentation covered a wide range of experimental methodologies (x-ray diffraction, transmission electron microscopy, thermal gravimetric analysis, mechanical property testing, Flammability property testing, NMR, Atomic force microscopy, neutron scattering calorimetry and optical microscopy) since no single method allows for the characterization of these multi-scale materials. The extensive efforts in characterizing these materials are an important factor in slowing the development of these materials and the need for faster and additional validation methodologies for emphasized, especially methods relating characterization to the characterization of polymer-clay and polymer-organic interactions that important for dispersion stability.

Polypropylene Nanocomposites: Clay Organic Treatment Concentration Effects on Mechanical Properties, Flammability Properties and Clay Dispersion

> Alex Morgan Inorganic Materials Corporate R&D The Dow Chemical Company 05/29/02

















ABM-L 45 Se	enes: PP/P	PgMA na	nocomposil	es + southlet extr	acied organ	oclays		
All BEMPIES (	are PP (PU)	100 C 2	'QMA (AXI'R	CRIPPOMA]	those 10 mil	n mana of	oraooolou	INA PR. PROMA
Frocassing (	CONDIDUNS	150 0, 2	2 mari maani	YED (100)	TEM	in making of	Machanica	I Properties
	w%	wf%	wf%	d-enacing	Microscale	Nanoacale	Flex Mod	(Zod (BT)
Sample	organociay	PP	PPoMA	change (nm)	Dispersion	Disperson	(ksi)	(IFID/in)
ABM-L-45A	0	72	28	NA	NA	NA	186	11
ABM-1-458	8.5	65 9	25 6	02	Fair	Good	289	07
ABM-I-45C	7.9	66.3	25 8	0 13	Good	Good	312	05
ABM-I-45D	7.9	66.3	25 8	0.06	Good	Good	304	06
ABM-I-45E	79	66.3	25 8	0.01	Good	Good	304	06
ABM-1-45F	79	66 3	25 8	0.06	Good	Good	303	07
			ABM-l- ABM-l- ABM-l- ABM-l-	45A Contro 45B PP+0- 45C: PP+1- 45D: PP+2-	ol day extra day extra day extra	rted clay rted clay rted clay		
			ABM-I-	45E: PP+3-	lay extrac	ted clay		
			ABM-1-	45F PP+4-0	lav extrac	ted clay		













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	Conclusions
•	So this extraction of organoclays removes excess organic treatment after 1 day extraction time.
	<ul> <li>TGA. dTGA data shows materials to be identical in organic content after 1 day extraction time. Additional extraction removes no more material.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>XRD patterns do change with increasing extraction time. Reason anknown</li> </ul>
•	Removal of excess organic treatment does improve mechanical, flammability properties.
	<ul> <li>Flex modulus improved with removal of organic treatment, but lzod impact diminished. (Org. treatment acts as plasticizer)</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Mechanical property changes only occur going from unextracted to 1 day extracted clay. Additional extraction scems to provide no additional baseful despite changes in XRD (d-spacing decrease with increasing extraction time) and TEM (better dispersion with increasing extraction time).</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Extraction time seems to have a larger influence on flammability properties.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Peak HRR lowest for unextracted elay nanocomposite, goes up for 1 day extracted material, and then slowly goes back to unextracted elay nanocomposite peak HRR level.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>T_ delayed with clay extraction (excess organic treatment does cause early ignition.</li> </ul>











#### Conclusions

- Polymer-clay naoocomposites present a complex analytical problem
   Properties of polymer elay nanocomposite dependent on many factors
   No one analytical technique analyzes these many factors
- TGA, XRD, TEM currently major tools for polymer-clay nanocomposites.
   Techniques in combination give a better description/analysis of polymer-clay nanocomposite
   Each technique has positive and negative aspects
- Time to complete analysis on polymer-clay nanocomposite slow step

  - New analytical techniques needed to speed up analysis.
     Techniques that address polymer-clay/polymer-organic treatment interactions are needed.

# Acknowledgements Inorganic Materials, Chemical Sciences: • Steve Lakso, Juan Garces, Mike Paquette, Wanda Stringfield Analytical Sciences: • Joe Harris Fabricated Products: Sylvie Boukami

# 6) Atsushi Takahara, "Structure and Mechanical Properties of Natural Inorganic Nanofiller / Polymer Hybrids" [PowerPoint] [PDF]

Dr. Takahara discussed a novel inorganic counterpart to carbon nanotubes that should be useful in dispersing nanotubes in polymer polar matrices without the need of surfactant additives. This type of nanotube ('imogolite') has an aluminum silicate composition and has molecular dimensions comparable to single wall carbon nanotubes, and naturally occurs in certain volcanic ashes found near Kyushu University. The environmentally friendly nature of this nanofiller and advantages for chemical functionalization were emphasized. After the extraction of the imogolite from volcanic ash was discussed, the properties were characterized by a variety of techniques (TEM, AFM, wide angle x-ray diffraction) and a tendency towards gel formation was observed. The functionalization of the imogolite was characterized though the adhesive force with an AFM cantilever tip and it was shown that the functionalized imogolite could be dispersed in an organic solvent (hexane). Films of PVA and PMMA and imogolite were prepared and the viscoelastic properties were characterized. Modified imogolite was also dispersed in PMMA and formed fibrous network of gelling nanotubes within the polymer matrix. Notably the transparency of the PMMA was not sacrificed for these nanotube additives. This could be important for applications where carbon nanotubes have a negative impact on appearance because of the characteristic black color of the filled polymers. Finally, clay-filled polymer (nylon) composites and the fatigue and mechanical properties of these materials were considered. The resulting materials are excellent in comparison to glass-fiber reinforced nylon.





























































Sample	modulus/GPa	strength/MPa	Elongation at break/%
Nylon 6 (1015B)	2.00	70.9	350
NCH2	2.33	81.1	330
SMSGF/N6=30/70	4.64	101.8	6.5















#### Conclusions

A. Takahara

- Surface of imogolite was successfully modified by organic molecule with phosphonic acid. Modified imogolite was successfully dispersed in organic solvent.
- Novel-Green nanohybrid was prepared from imogolite (natural inorganic nanofiber) and environmentally benign poly (vinyl alcoho!) (PVA).
- (Imogolite/PMMA) nanohybrid was successfully prepared through surface modification of imogolite with P-HEMA.
- NCH showed excellent fatigue performance compared with conventional short glass-fiber reinforced nylon 6.

بالميشظية



# 7) R. A. Vaia, "Impact and control of Ultrastructure (Meso) in Polymer Nanocomposites" [PowerPoint] [PDF]

Dr. Vaia emphasized the balance between cost and added value in filled materials that drive the development of these materials at the Air Force Research Laboratory and elsewhere. After giving a valuable summary of opportunity areas for development of nanocomposites in aerospace and the challenges for understanding structure-property relationships in these systems, he summarized some experience of filled systems in relation to self-passivation and erosion in aggressive environments. Tools found helpful in characterizing these systems are summarized (SAXS, WAXS). Challenges in understanding filled rubbers and parallels of the filled systems to complex liquids were also considered. It was suggested that many useful properties of these nanocoposites could be obtained by exploiting the high particle anisotropy and field structuring and preliminary work on this topic (e.g., orientation of clay particles with an E-field).


































































Nano	structured Polyı Team	mer System	s 200	
Air Force Research	Laboratory	Nanostructured Materials		
Morphology & Rheology D. Lincoin H. Koarnar G. Prica R. Rautar W. Liu R. Kriahnamoorti (U. Houst B. Halao (SUNY Stony Brool E. Glannella (Cornell) MIT DURNIT	Synthasis T Dang F Vastuner E Vasiu C Co (U. Cinn) D. Dean (Tuskegee) n) W J Brittian (U. Akron) K)	3D Fabrication &NanoPhotonics R Jakubiak D Tomlin B J. Gazdecki C. Denni L. Natarajan V Tondigila T Bunning	<u>Şimulatlona</u> R. Bharadwaj A Sansuiate B Farmer	
<u>C-Nanotube and Fiber</u> M. Alexander F Arnold S Kumar (G Tech) C -S Wang T. Dang	Thermal Stability W Xie (U W Kentuck) W P Pan (U W Kentu D. Hunter (Southern C Space Durability H. Fong J. Sandara C. Cerbus S. Philips	() Ther () Mec (cky) T. B (lay Prod ) J Br N Pi C C MIT I	mosets & hanics anson Tolle own gano hen DURNIT	















Air Force	N Resear	lea:	sure oratory	d vs t	theory Nanostr	uctured Materials
	η=	sin² (•	2 <u>/</u> _ (n1	-n2)sin $\lambda \cos \theta_B$	$\frac{\alpha(\alpha\pi)L}{2}$	
	fc	α	n1-n2	L (µm)	n (calc)	n (meas)
Gold	0.05 0.04	0.25 0.25	1.05* 1.05*	6.75 6.75	0.5 0.35	0.33 0.33
Clay	0.75	0.25	0.03*	10.0	0.25	0.30
PS spheres	0.78	0.33	0.07 <sup>6</sup>	20.0	.04	0.09
	* Real a high b 1.57 i	part (l.e end of c for PS	e. No abso lay	rption)		









## 8) Francis W. Starr, "Probing Nanocomposite Structure and properties using Computer Simulations" [PowerPoint] [PDF]

Dr. Starr emphasized the need to study nanofilled systems using idealized models with the intention of identifying general properties. First, he summarized recent molecular dynamics work by himself and coworkers showing that the glass transition T<sub>g</sub> of filled systems can be shifted to higher or lower temperature depending on the polymer particle interaction. This effect was compared to similar results, supported both by experiment and theory, for shifts of T<sub>g</sub> in thin polymer films with variable polymer surface interactions at the boundaries. Preliminary results were then shown for simple simulation models of clay sheets and compact nanoparticles. Not surprisingly, the compact nanoparticles aggregated when the polymerparticle interaction was weak. This effect was quantified through the 'phase diagrams' governing the clustering state of the particles in the plane of temperature and polymer-particle interaction and the plane of the concentration of particles versus polymer-particle interaction. The clustering transition was identified through a maximum in the specific that accompanies the particle clustering transition. These observations are consistent with an equilibrium clustering transition that requires further investigation. Useful criteria for identifying this clustering from scattering measurements were then summarized. Finally, the influence of shear on the clustering of model clay particles in a polymer matrix was investigated by molecular dynamics and the thermodynamic clustering line was found to shift under shear. Finally, the importance of developing hierarchical multiscale modeling approaches was emphasized in order to model nanoparticle systems under more realistic processing conditions.













































IST. M



9) Juan J. de Pablo, "Molecular Simulation and Characterization of Ultrathin Films and Nanoscopic Polymeric Structures: Departures from Bulk Behavior" (talk presented by Kevin Van Workum) [PowerPoint]
[PDF]

Dr. De Pablo's approach to modeling polymer thin films and nanoparticle filled polymer materials stresses the need for molecular modeling (molecular dynamics and Monte Carlo), continuum theory and measurement. As in the talk of Dr. Francis Starr, this contribution emphasizes simple model systems capable of inferring behavior of qualitative importance for process applications. First, recent experimental and simulation studies of the glass transition in thin films are summarized as an illustration of the value of computational methods in interpreting measurement. This is followed by the challenge of understanding finite size effects in polymer lithography applications where the scale of the patterns becomes below the scale of convenient measurement and where continuum theory can no longer be trusted. Simulations provide insight into what might be expected in this nanoscale regime. The Young's modulus of the etched lines depends on the line width and elastic constants become anisotropic. Nanoparticle fillers are shown to offer some promise in improving the properties and stability of these nanoscopic patterns. Further simulation applications explore the alignment of liquid crystal molecules about nanoparticles in connection with the development of sensors based on the binding of biological molecules to liquid crystalline substrates. Segregation of nanoparticles in block copolymer systems was also investigated in connection with the self-assembly of metal nanostructures on diblock copolymer scaffolds.













































































## 10) Guoqiang Qian, "Applications of Plastic Nanocomposites" [PowerPoint] [PDF]

The main purpose of this talk was to provide ample evidence of the growing commercial importance of clay-filled polymer materials. Dr. Qian summarized numerous Nanocor products and the desirable property changes achieved by these products in the area of control of gas permeation, food packaging. The promise of these materials in the area of fire suppression and anti-sagging agents for fiberglass processing was also noted. The development of pre-dispersed pellets enlarges the number of users of these products.



### APPLICATIONS OF PLASTIC NANOCOMPOSITES

Guoqiang Qian and Tie Lan

Nanocor

#### OUTLINE

- NANOCOR PRODUCT INTRODUCTION
- Nano-NYLON 6
- Nano-MXD6: ULTRA-HIGH BARRIER
- Nano-POLYOLEFIN
- Nano-UNSATURATED POLYESTER
- SUMMARY

Nanocor

### PRODUCTS

- NANOMER<sup>®</sup> POWDERS

   I.24TL, I.34TCN, I.42TC for Nylons
   I.30P, I.44PA for Polyoletins
   I.30E, I.28E for Thermoset Epoxy
   Rhoespan<sup>®</sup> AS for UPE
- NANOMER<sup>®</sup> CONCENTRATES C.30P, C.44PA, C.30PE, and C.44TPO for Polyolefins
- IMPERM<sup>TM</sup> NANOCOMPOSITES
   High Barrier Packaging Applications

Nanocor







WWW.NANOCOR.COM





## FILM APPLICATIONS Mono and multilayer Thin-wall structures Stiffness ideal for stand-up pouches Barrier/strength combo permits down-gauging



#### Imperm<sup>TM</sup> ULTRA-HIGH BARRIER NANOCOMPOSITES

- Nylon MXD6 based nanocomposite
- Easy processing for multi-layer and blend applications

Nanocor

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WW.NANOCOR.COM

## Imperm™ ULTRA-HIGH BARRIER NANOCOMPOSITES

#### COMMERCIAL SOURCE:

Nanocor

#### • FEATURES:

3-5X improvement in oxygen barrier vs MXD6 Low haze Rigid and flexible packaging Multi-layer or blends with PET and PA6

Nanocor





# Imperm<sup>TM</sup> MULTILAYER PACKAGING Juice and other beverage package Paper coating/laminate PP/Imperm/PP Thermoform package PE/Imperm/PE Co-extrusion film PET/Imperm/PET film PA6/Imperm/PA6 film



## POLYOLEFIN NANOCOMPOSITES • COMMERCIAL SOURCES: Nanocor, PolyOne, and Clariant Corporation • COMMERCIAL PRODUCTS: Nanomer, Nanomer Concentrates and Nanocomposites • FEATURES: Enhanced mechanicals Enhanced barrier Synergy with FRs for flame retardancy

POL	.YOLE	EFIN NA	ANOC	COMP	OSIT	'ES
Masterbetch	Polyolefin Type	Nanomer Londing (%)	Tennile Strength (MPa)	Flexural Modulus (MPs)	Notched IZOD (ft-lb/u)	HDT (C)
	Homo PP	0	32.0	1148	0.7	86.0
C-30P	Homo PP	6	38.0 (+19%)	2043 (+78%)	0.8	114 (+33%)
	ТРО	ø	19.5	780	9.8	71.0
C.44TPO	ТРО	6	21.8 (+12%)	1228 (+57%)	9.8	84.7 (+19%)
						Nanoco







IO-PP (nt%) 73.3 80 77 74 74
PO(wt%) 211 15 15 15 15
(wt%) 6.7 \$.0 5.0 5.0 5.0
omer 1.44PA (wt%) 0 0 3.0 6.0 (3.0)
omer C.44PA (wt%) 0 0 0 0 6
4 Rating V-0 Fail V-2 V-0 V-2
(wt/s)         6.7         5.0         5.0         5.0         5.0           smer L4PA (wt/s)         0         0         3.0         6.0         (3.0)           smer C4PA (wt/s)         0         0         0         6         4           starsg         V.0         Fait         V.2         V.0         V.2           Nanomer can be added in powder or concentrate form         6 wt/%         Br-FR

#### FR APPLICATION OF NANOCOMPOSITE

#### Nanomer Synergy with Mg(OH)<sub>2</sub>

Components				
EVA (wt%)	40	45	42	47
Mg(0H) <sub>2</sub> (wt%)	60	55	55	50
Nanomer I.30P (wt%)	0	0	3	3
UL-94 rating	V-0	Fail	V-0	V-0

Nanomer can be added in powder or concentrate forms 3 wt% Nanomer can replace at least 10 wt% Mg(OH)2

Easy Processing

Nanocor WWW.NANOCOR.

## FR APPLICATION OF NANOCOMPOSITE

#### Mechanical Properties of Nano-FR Formulations

Properties	UL-94	Tensile Modules (MPa)	Elongation @ Break	Specific Gravity
Regular FR EVA Mg(OH) <sub>2</sub>	V-0	533	30-40%	1.42
Nano-FR EVA Mg(OH) <sub>2</sub>	V-0	569	30-40%	1.34
Regular Br-FR PP DBDPO/ATO	V-0	2018	20-30%	
Nano-Br-FR PP DBDPO/ATO	V-0	2055	20-30%	

WWW NANOCOR



Nanocor

WWW NANOCOR.CO





## UPE NANOCOMPOSITES • COMMERCIAL SOURCE: Nanocor and Polymeric Supply Inc. • COMMERCIAL PRODUCTS: Formulations containing 1-2% loading • FEATURES: Enhanced chemical resistance Char formation for flame retardancy Sag control

Nanocor





## Acknowledgment

NIST

Amcol/Nanocor Management

Nanocor Technology Group

Nanocor

## 11) Eric A. Grulke, "Production, Dispersion and Applications of Multiwalled Carbon Nanotubes" [PowerPoint] [PDF]

Dr. Grulke provides an overview of the many activities of the Advanced Carbon Materials center at the University of Kentucky, which specializes in the production characterization, and development of applications of multiwalled carbon nanotubes. The first part of the talk provided a contrast between the morphologies of the single and multi-walled nanotubes. It was made clear that these materials exhibit a variety of hierarchal structures, depending on the conditions of their formation and that dispersion is a matter of degree because of these superstructures. The synthesis procedure for the mass production of multi-walled tubes was then discussed along with economic factors relevant to developing these materials. TEM images showed that these tube layers grow as a 'turf' from the substrate on which they are grown where the iron catalyst particles tend to concentrate near the tips of the growing tubes. The mechanism of the tip growth was identified as a fundamental problem in understanding and controlling the structure of these materials. The further essential problem of tube dispersal makes the functionalization of the tubes another essential problem. Progress on functionalization and the characterization of this functionalization was then summarized. Some essential properties of polymer materials filled with multi-walled tubes are considered. The viscosity depends strongly on shear in these non-Newtonian fluids and large changes in the conductive properties are found. Finally, a variety of processing techniques for forming nanotube filled polymers are reviewed and dispersion and property changes resulting from these various methods are characterized. Preliminary observations indicate that the concentration of the tubes has a large impact on the tendency of the particles to cluster and the resulting properties.






























## Melt Blending Dispersion Summary

- The MWNTs are dispersed with respect to bulk properties
- Multiple step dispersion: fragmentation of "Astroturf", expansion, individual tubes
- Evidence that some agglomerates exist that are mechanically entangled
- Potential problems in fiber spinning, high surface gloss

Bridging the Gap

0

Surface Chemistry
Distinct differences on solvent removal from MWNT solutions
Drying from toluene gave agglomerates of 25 microns in size, while drying from THF gave much smaller agglomerates
Surface chemistry (with control by solvent, polymer, surfactants, etc) may be useful in developing aggregate structures







# Agglomerates that appeared to be physically entangled will redisperse when the MWNT concentration is reduced Consistent with statistical approach to percolation, i.e., as the concentration increases, a distribution of particle agglomerates form

# Conclusions. Melt Blending. MWNT mat fractures to dense fragments, which then "expand" and can disperse

- 30 min. melt blending samples show few dense fragments, but do have "expanded" structures that are mechanically intact
- There is a MWNT length distribution

0

 Continuous phase affects particle-particle associations, particularly when an air-fluid interface is present

Endoing the Geo. NIS

Conclusions. Ultrasonic Dispersion

Distribution of MWNT lengths

0

- Few expanded structures, but long dispersion times used to attain constant viscosities
- Dilutions show that most of the MWNTs can be individually separated

Bridging the Gap. NIS

Darticle Comminution
Ultrasonics
Melt blending
High shear mixing
High shear nozzle
mechanical















# Conclusions. High Shear Dispersions. Very efficient dispersion, but lengths are < 10 microns</li> Still achieve "percolation" limits, but these should be based on different lengths from the starting material









### Commercial Forming Methods for Nanotube Composites . Pultrusion: applicable for yarns Filament winding: MWNT-containing fibers (2) Compression molding: extrusion and pelletizing (3) Hand lay-up: thin films fabricated (2) · Hand spray-up: spray coatings (3) Reactive RIM: suspending agents (2) 0=science fiction, 2=demonstrated, 4=ready for market (=\$ Bridaing the Car









































































































	Effe	ct of C:	H Ratio	
Gas mixture	C:H ratio	Length (µm)	Average OD (nm)	Purity
0 % H,-	1: 1.25	2	18.2	< 50 %
Ar		(1)	(12.3)	NT
5 % H <sub>2</sub> -	1:4.3	10	14.1	~ 70 %
Ar		(3.0)	(6.86)	NT
10 % H <sub>2</sub> -	1:7.4	35	24.4	~ 90 %
Ar		(31)	(8.83)	NT
25 % H <sub>2</sub> -	1: 16.6	6	14.4	~ 95 %
Ar		(1.8)	(7.09)	NT

































•



# 12) Ken McElrath and Tom Tiano, "Achieving Conductive Polycarbonate with Single Wall Carbon Nanotubes" [McElrath Powerpoint] [McElrath PDF] [Tiano PowerPoint] [Tiano PDF]

Dr. McElrath and Dr. Tiano give an emphasis on the single-walled carbon nanotubes that is complementary to the presentation of Dr. Grulke that emphasized the multi-walled tubes. The single wall materials should have remarkable strength, electrical conductivity and electrical conductivity and are characterized by a rather precise molecular structure. The realization of this potential is limited by the tendency to form rope like structures and thus there is a great need to improve the dispensability to fully realize the potential of this type of material. Progress on the development of single wall tubes as commercial materials were summarized along with the intense scientific interest generated in the course of the development of this exceptional material.

After the introductory material, the presenters focused specifically on the problem of nanotube dispersal and which solvents were favorable for this. The importance of ultrasonic processing in effective dispersion was also emphasized. The most dramatic success in dispersion was found and characterized for single wall tubes dispersed in polycarbonate. Substantial improvements in electrical and thermal conductivity were found for polar polymer matrices where appreciable dispersion of the tubes was possible. The presentation was concluded with a summary of the many areas where single walled nanotubes have promising commercial applications.



























- Bench unit g
- Pilot plant kg
- Commercial unit kt
- Creating commercial products
  - Joint development
  - End-use alliances
- Exploding IP portfolio
  - CNI research
  - Joint research with corporations
  - ~ Ongoing relationship with Rice
  - Research support at other universities

CN Copyright 2002









### 🚺 Foster-Miller

## Dispersing Single-Wall Carbon Nanotubes in Polycarbonate to Achieve Electrical Conductivity

Thomas Tiano - Foster-Miller, Inc.

Ken McElrath and Ken Smith - Carbon Nanotechnologies, Inc.

Presented to

National Institute of Standards and Technology May 29 & 30, 2002



- Develop processes for preparing single wall carbon nanotube (SWNT) composites in which the SWNTs are highly dispersed in the polymer matrix.
- Assess electrical and thermal conductivity and mechanical properties.
- Target applications in the electronics industry.





### Poster-Miller

### Impediments to Dispersion of SWNTs in Nanotube Composites

- Strong Van der Waals interactions
  - SWNTs form ropes (bundles of tubes) ranging from 10 to 100 nm in diameter
  - Ropes are very difficult to de-bundle
- Low surface energy
  - Low affinity for organic solvents and matrices
  - Extremely high critical length

### D Foster-Miller

### **Processing Steps**

- Disperse SWNT into polar polymer (assisted by polar solvent)
- \*Remove and recover solvent
- Process composite into parts and specimens
- Perform electrical, thermal and mechanical assessment
- Perform "let-down" studies for processability

### Totte-Miller

### SWNT Dispersion Polymer and Solvent Selection

- \* Solvent Requirements
  - Good dispersant for SWNTs
  - · Good solvent for polycarbonate
  - Low boiling point
- \* Polycarbonate grades
  - + Lexan 101-112 (multi-purpose)
  - + Lexan HF1110 (high-flow)

### Tostar-Miller

# "Solubility" for SWNTs in Organic Solvents

Solvent	**Solubility*	Solvent	Solubility	Boiling
	(mg/L)	density (g/cc)	(wt percent)	Point °C
1,2 dichlorobenzene	95	1.306	0 0073	180
chloroform	31	1.492	0.0021	61.5
1-methylnaphthalene	25	1 001	0.0025	243
1-bromo-2-methylnaphthalene	23	1 418	0.0016	296
n-methylpyrrolidinone	10	1.028	0.0010	202
dimethylformamide	7.2	0.944	0 00080	153
tetrahydrofuran	49	0.889	0.00055	67
1,2-dimethylbenzene (o-xylene)	47	0 870	0.00054	145
pyridine	4.3	0 978	0.00044	115
Carbon disulfide	2.6	1.266	0.00021	46
1.3.5-tnmethylbenzene	23	0 864	0.00027	164

Bahr, Mickelson, Bronikowski, Smalley, Tour, Chem. Comm., 2001;193-194

### Postar-Miller

SWNT Dispersion Ultrasonic Processing

- \* Dissolve polymer into solvent
- Add SWNT to solvent and insonify for 30 minutes
- High amplitude insonification induces cavitation
- Cavitation bubbles nucleate on nanotube clusters
- De-agglomeration occurs when cavitation bubbles collapse on SWNT bundles
- Implosion of voids is driven by reversal of pressure in the sound wave

### Tostar-Miller

SWNT Dispersion Ultrasonic Processing

- Branson titanium wedge tip ultrasonic welding horn
- \* 40 kHz frequency
- \* 2:1 amplitude gain
- Branson 940B power supply
- \* 700W continuous power
- \* Adjust amplitude to 45%























### Toster-Hiller

Potential Applications of SWNT-Filled Thermoplastics

- \* Electromagnetic interference protection
- \* Electrostatic discharge materials
- \* Electrostatic paint substrates
- Lightweight thermal management materials
- \* Thermoplastic die attach

# FinalParticipants' List

# Bridging the Gap between Structure & Properties in Nanoparticle-Filled Polymers

May 29-30, 2002

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