



Magic of Carbon

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Carbon. Starting point



In the second part of the eighteenth century carbon was first identified as an element.

The name "carbon" comes from the Latin word carbon, meaning "charcoal".

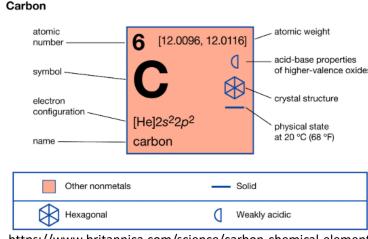
After hydrogen, oxygen and helium, carbon is the 4th most abundant element in our solar system and the 17th most abundant element in the earth's crust.

After oxygen, carbon is the second most abundant element in the human body.

Carbon (C) is the sixth element on the periodic table and the sixth most abundant element in the universe.

Carbon is unique because of its four valence electrons, which make it very versatile and allow it to bond with many other elements.

More than 10 million carbon-containing compounds (organic and inorganic) are known.



https://www.britannica.com/science/carbon-chemical-element

Allotropy is the property of certain chemical elements to exist in two or more distinct forms (phases), known as elemental allotropes..

Allotropes have different structure: the atoms of the same element are bonded together in different ways.

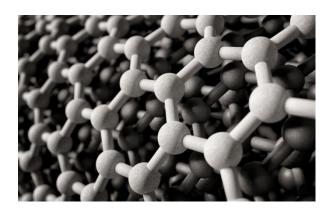
The allotropes of carbon includes:

diamond (the carbon atoms are bonded together to form a cubic lattice of tetrahedra), graphite (the carbon atoms are bonded together in sheets of a hexagonal lattice), graphene (single sheets of graphite),

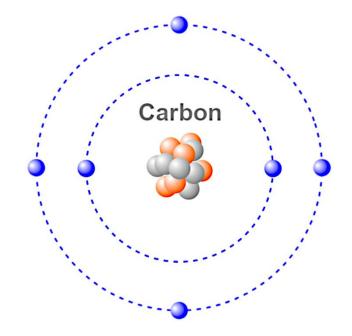
fullerenes (the carbon atoms are bonded together in spherical, tubular, or ellipsoidal formations).

carbon nanotubes

Q-carbon
Carbyne
amorphous carbon
schwarzites
cyclocarbon
glassy carbon



What is the reason for structural variations and cardinal changes in properties?



Carbon atoms are made up of a nucleus of six protons and six neutrons (¹²C isotope) and surrounded by six electrons.

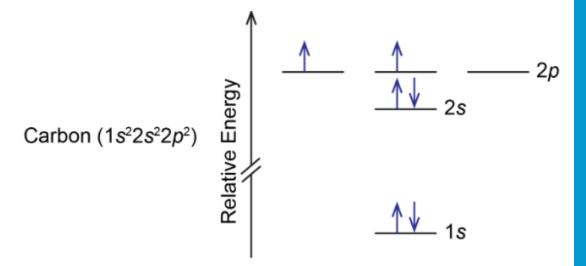
The electron configuration of carbon is 1s² 2s² 2p².

The 1s orbital is the lowest energy level. Since 1s can only hold two electrons the next 2 electrons for C goes in the 2s orbital, and it can also hold a maximum of two electrons.

The 2p orbital is the third energy level, and it consists of three sub-levels: $2p_x$, $2p_y$, and $2p_z$.

Each of these sub-levels can hold a maximum of two electrons. In carbon atom two of the 2p orbitals $(2p_x)$ and $(2p_y)$ hold one electron each, while the third 2p orbital $(2p_z)$ is empty.

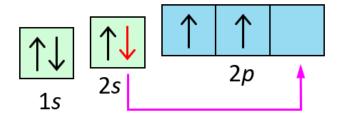
The electronic structure of carbon (1s² 2s² 2p²) accounts for the ability of carbon to form four covalent bonds, as it can share its four valence electrons with other atoms to achieve a stable electronic configuration.



The first wonder of carbon is the electronic structure

1*s*

Excited state C $1s^22s^12p^3$



An e⁻ jumps to a higher energy orbital

Ground state C $1s^22s^22p^2$

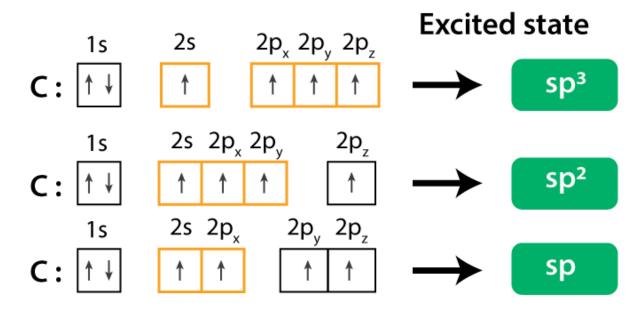


Carbon. Electronic structure

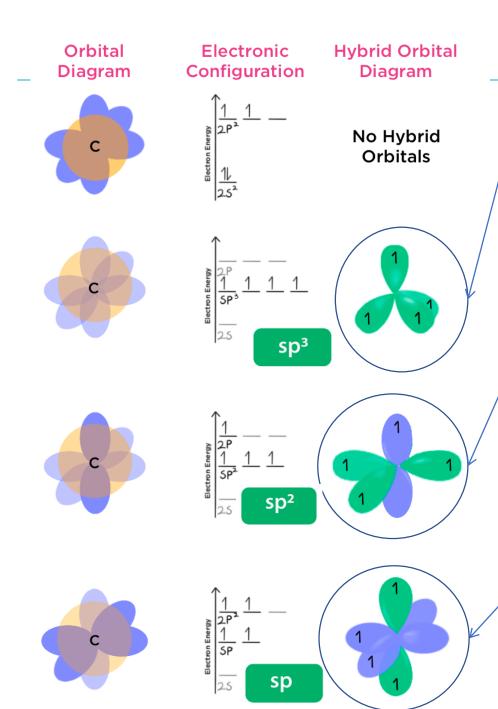
An excited state of an atom is a state of the atom in which the total energy of the electrons can be reduced by transferring one or more electrons to other higher energy orbitals.

Hybridization is a concept describing the mixing of atomic orbitals to form hybrid orbitals with *different geometries and energies*.

This hybridization occurs when atoms join together to form a more energetically favorable configuration.



The most common types of hybridization for carbon are: sp^3 , sp^2 , sp



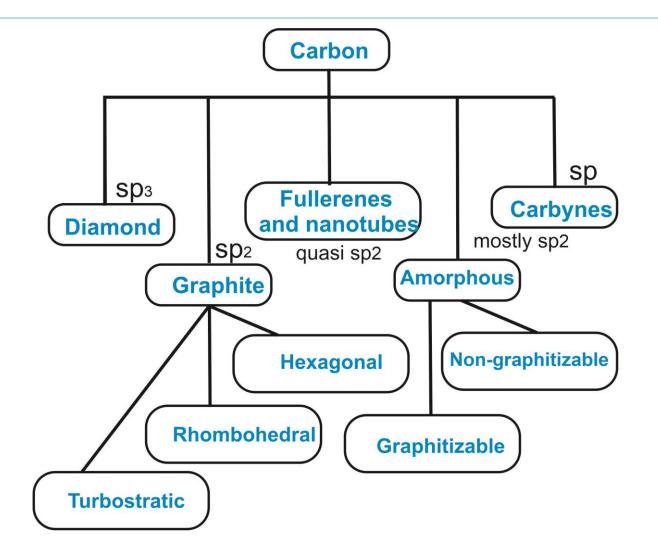
Carbon. Electronic structure

Each *sp³-hybridized* orbital has an electron, and the electrons repel each other. To minimize repulsion between electrons, the *four sp³-hybridized orbitals* are arranged around the carbon nucleus so that they are as far away as possible from each other, resulting in the *tetrahedral arrangement* of the four sp³-hybridized orbitals around the carbon nucleus

To minimize repulsion between electrons, the *three sp*²-*hybridized* orbitals are arranged around the carbon nucleus so that they are as far apart as possible, resulting in their planar *trigonal arrangement*. The 2p orbital that did not participate in hybridization has one electron. Again, to minimize the repulsion between electrons, it positions itself to be as far away from each sp2-hybridized orbital as possible, which results in the 2p orbital perpendicular to each sp2-hybridized orbital.

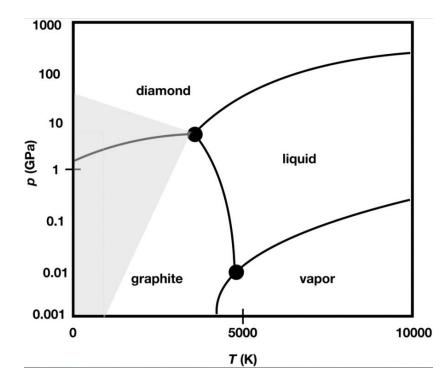
To minimize repulsion between electrons, the two sp-hybridized orbitals are arranged around the carbon nucleus so that they are as far away as possible, resulting in their linear arrangement. Two 2p orbitals that did not participate in hybridization and are perpendicular to each other have one electron each. Again, to minimize repulsion between electrons, they are arranged to be as far away from each sp-hybridized orbital as possible.

Carbon. Structure of Allotropes

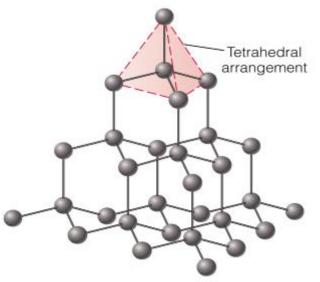


Different geometries of hybridized orbitals result in linear (1-dimensional), planar (2-dimensional), or tetrahedral (3-dimensional) spatial organization of crystalline and amorphous allotropes of carbon.

Two main allotropes: graphite and diamond corresponding to sp² and sp³ hybridization

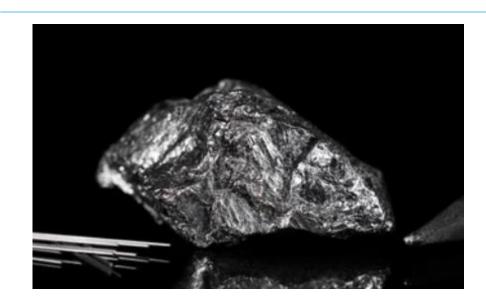


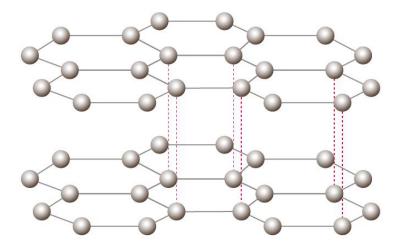




Properties

- Diamond is the densest form of carbon.
- Diamond is the hardest natural substance.
- ✓ The melting point of the diamond is 3843K (approx 3570 °C).
- ✓ In diamonds, all valence electrons participate in bond formation. It does not have a lone pair of electrons due to the fact that this diamond has a very low electrical conductivity.
- Diamond is insoluble in all solvents.
- ✓ When heated at 475K in presence of sulfuric acid and potassium dichromate, diamond is oxidized directly into carbon dioxide, leaving no residue.
- ✓ Diamond has a very high refractive index.
- ✓ It is a good conductor of heat.

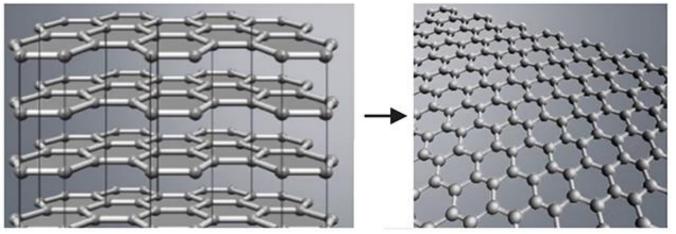




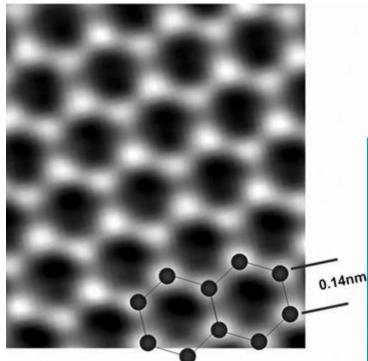
Properties of graphite:

- ✓ Graphite is black in color and has a metallic luster.
- ✓ High melting point: The carbon atoms in each layer are bound by strong covalent bonds, so that the melting point of graphite is high, about 3500°C.
- ✓ Conductivity: Every carbon in graphite is sp2 hybridized. Thus, one valence electron of each carbon atom can move freely from one point to another. Non-hybrid orbitals containing one electron each overlap in the transverse direction, forming bonds in one layer. These free electrons are delocalized and move under the influence of thermal and electric fields. Thus, it is a good thermal and electrical conductor.
- ✓ Low density of 2.26 g/cm³ due to large distance between layers.
- ✓ Graphite is slippery because of its characteristic layered structure. It is often used as a dry lubricant.
- ✓ Graphite is chemically stable





Carbon. Graphene. General



Graphene is a single atom thick sheet of carbon.



For the discovery of graphene in 2004, the 2010 Nobel Prize in Physics was awarded jointly to Andre Geim and Konstantin Novoselov "for ground-breaking experiments regarding the two-dimensional material graphene"

What is the advantage of graphene over graphite?

Strength, flexibility, electrical conductivity, exceptional optical properties have opened up new horizons for research in the field of high energy particle physics, as well as for electronic, optical and energy applications.

In graphene, each carbon atom is covalently bonded to three other carbon atoms. Thanks to the strength of its covalent bonds, graphene boasts great stability and, for example, very high tensile strength (the force you can stretch something before it breaks).

Carbon. Graphene. Unique Properties

Atomic thickness

A single layer is only one atom thick (therefore called "2D" or "two-dimensional"), about 0.335 nanometers

Transparency

Absorbs only 2.3% of reflecting light; better than ITO¹⁹¹



Electron mobility

The highest electron mobility of all electronic materials with theoretical limit of 200,000 cm²/(V+s) (>100x higher than silicon) [1]

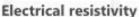


Up to 5300 W/mK at room temperature; [8] higher than diamonds



Strength

Defect-free, monolayer graphene is the strongest material ever tested^[3] with a strength of 42 N/m, which equates to an intrinsic strength of 130 GPa (>100x stronger than the strongest steel)



1x10⁻⁸ Ω•m among the lowest of any known material at room temperature (~35% less than copper)^[1]



Key Graphene Properties



Toughness and Stretchability

Although graphene is relatively brittle, it can be stretched by up to25% – highly relevant for flexible electronics [3,52]

Impermeability

Even the smallest atom (helium atom) cannot pass through a sheet of graphene^[6]





Stiffness

Experiments on defect-free graphene monolayer have yielded a Young's modulus of ~1.0 TPa^[3] – one of the highest value of any material; abot the same as diamond

High surface area

2630 m²/g ^[5] – with less than 3 grams you could cover an entire soccer field Very exiting, but what is a reason for these properties?

Carbon. Electronic structure-glossary

The electrical and optical properties are due to a very special band structure.

Five quite important facts

- 1. There are two types of electrons in solid carbon electrons in the s- and p-shells associated with the atom, (they can participate in the formation of chemical bonds) and electrons that have left the shells and transferred to the crystal due to thermal excitation of external electric field
- 2. The energy of all electrons is quantized
- 3. According to Pauli exclusion principle, only two electrons with opposite spins can have the same energy in the same quantum system (for example, a graphene particle); when a system consists of many identical atoms, the individual energy levels of the electrons of individual atoms turn into energy bands
- 4. The energy of electrons depends on the lattice (the type of atoms, the number of electrons in atomic shells and protons in nuclei, lattice symmetry and distance). The spatial distribution of atoms is the reason for a certain symmetry of the intracrystalline electric field, which determines the allowed energy state of electrons (according to the Schrödinger equation).
- 5. The grouping of these different energy levels for free and bound electrons forms energy bands.
 - Valance band consists of energy levels of valence electrons..
 - Conduction band consists of energy levels of free electrons.
 - Forbidden energy gap is the energy gap between the valence band and the conduction band.
 - The valence band and conduction band overlap in the case of a conductor
 - There is a small band gap between the valence band and the conduction band in the case of semiconductors.
 - Between the valence band and the conduction band in the case of insulators there is a large band gap.

Carbon. Electronic structure-glossary

The wave vector (k-vector) determines the quasi-momentum and energy of an electron in a crystal \vec{k}

stal
$$ec{k}_w$$

$$\vec{p}_{w} = \hbar \vec{k}_{w}$$

Quasimomentum

$$KE = \frac{|\vec{p}|^2}{2m} = \frac{(\hbar \vec{k}|)^2}{2m} = \frac{(\hbar k_x)^2 + (\hbar k_y)^2 + (\hbar k_z)^2}{2m} = f(k_x, k_y, k_z)$$

The Energy Band

Diagram

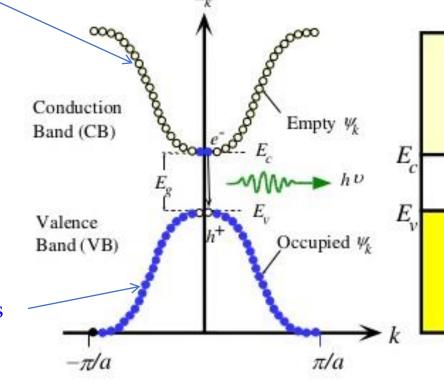
VB

kinetic energy of the electron

The space in which an electron exists is quantized and consists of separate cells, each of which can contain a maximum of two electrons with opposite spins at the same time.

Occupied cells

Empty cells



The E-k Diagram

Absorption or emission of electromagnetic waves occurs when an electron passes between cells

bandgap determines the class of material - conductor, semiconductor or insulator

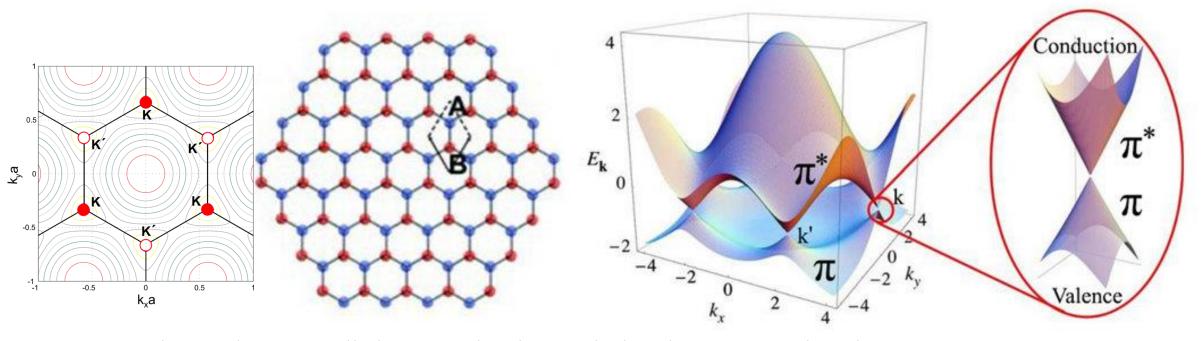
Carbon. Graphene. Electronic structure

Graphene has a special electronic structure:

Each atom in a graphene sheet is connected to three nearest neighbors by σ -bonds and a delocalized π -bond, which contributes to the formation of a valence band that spans the entire sheet.

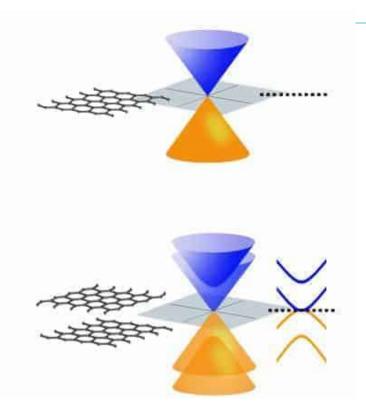
The valence band touches the conduction band, making graphene a semimetal with unusual electronic properties that are best described by massless relativistic particle theories.

Charge carriers in graphene show a linear rather than quadratic dependence of energy on momentum.



Result: Graphene typically has a zero band gap, which is due to its massless electrons.

Carbon. Graphene. Electronic structure

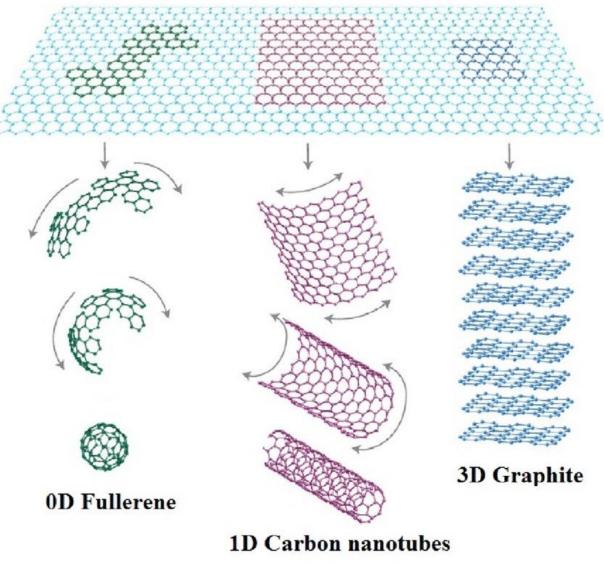


Quantum confinement effect is a restriction on the movement of an electron in a material to specific discrete energy levels rather than to quasi-continuum of energy bands when the length of a particle is reduced to the same order as the wave packet (the condition is fulfilled for single and multilayer graphene)

The difference in energy between filled states and the empty states depends on the size of graphene particles, so the band gap can be tuned (band gap typically increases with decreasing particle size)

The transition from single-layer to multilayer graphene makes it possible to vary the electronic properties of the material along with a change in the interlayer distance.

2D Graphene



Carbon. Graphene as a building block

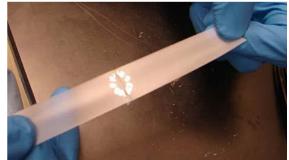
Graphene sheets are building blocks for other graphitic materials

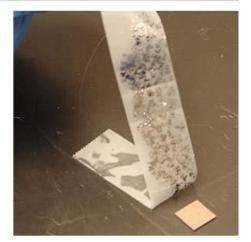
- 1. Graphene sheets stacked on top of each other make 3*D graphite* (1 mm thick graphite contains about 3 million layers of graphene)
- 2. Graphene sheets rolled up make a *carbon nanotube*
- 3. Graphene sheets cutting and folding into a spherical shape make a *fullerene*

Yes, the properties of nanotubes and fullerenes are special and size-sensitive

Carbon. Graphene. Obtaining

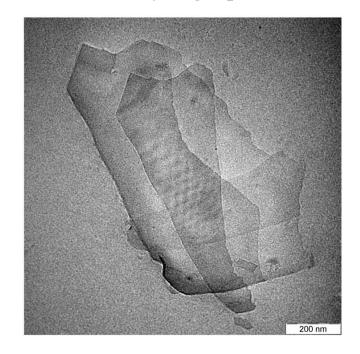






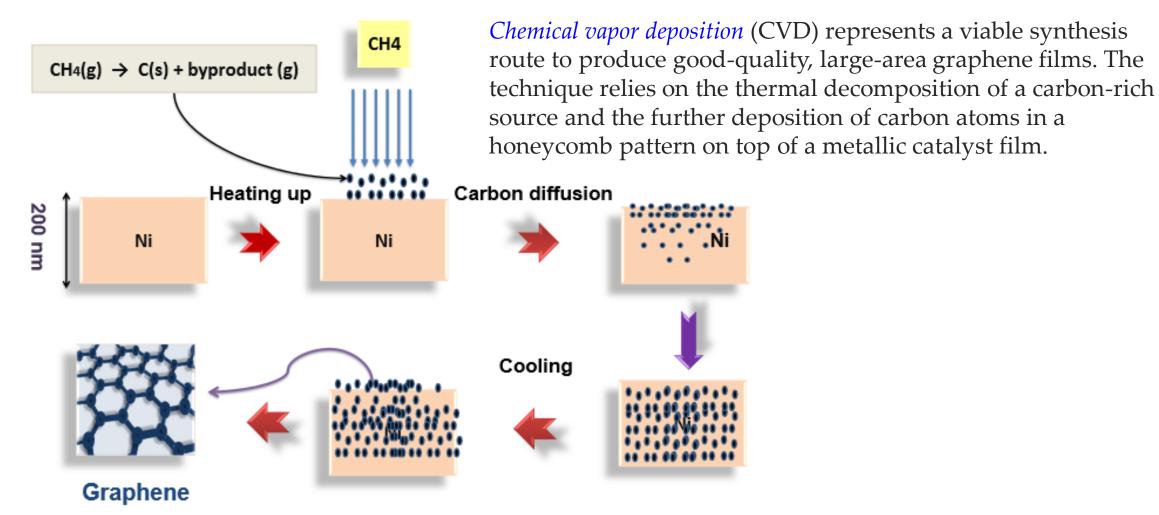
In *micromechanical exfoliation method*, graphene is separated from a graphite crystal using adhesive tape. After peeling it off the graphite, multiple-layer graphene remains on the tape. By repeated peeling the multiple-layer graphene is cleaved into several flakes of few-layer graphene.

This simple method was applied by graphene inventors



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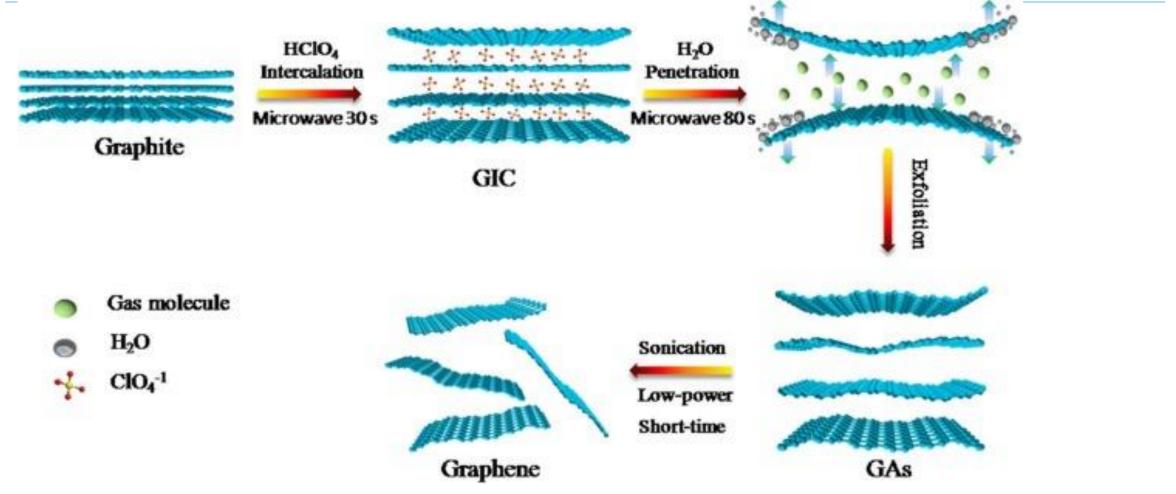
Carbon. Graphene. Obtaining



Complicated and expensive, but scalable

Meanwhile, graphene costs less than \$0.1 per gram, which can be very profitable, with gold being around \$60-65 per gram.

Carbon. Graphene. Obtaining



Chemical exfoliation is a top-down approach to obtain graphene in dispersion from graphite using stages of intercalation, exfoliation, and sonification The advantage of this manufacturing route is that the intercalation compounds spontaneously dissolve in polar solvents.

Graphene

Carbon. Graphene Oxide. General

Contains epoxy, hydroxyl and carbonyl groups on the basal plane, and carboxylic groups on the edges.

Higher interlayer spacing than graphene, due to sp³ carbons.

Higher ability to retain compounds.

Lower electron mobility compared to graphene.

Soluble in water.

Amphiphilicity.

СООН

Surface-functionalization capability and versatility.

Biocompatibility and ability to interact with biological cells and tissues.

Highly hydrophilic, forming stable aqueous colloids.

Substrate-deposition capability.

Convertible into a conductor.

Possible functionalization points:

- Hydroxyl groups
- Epoxy groups

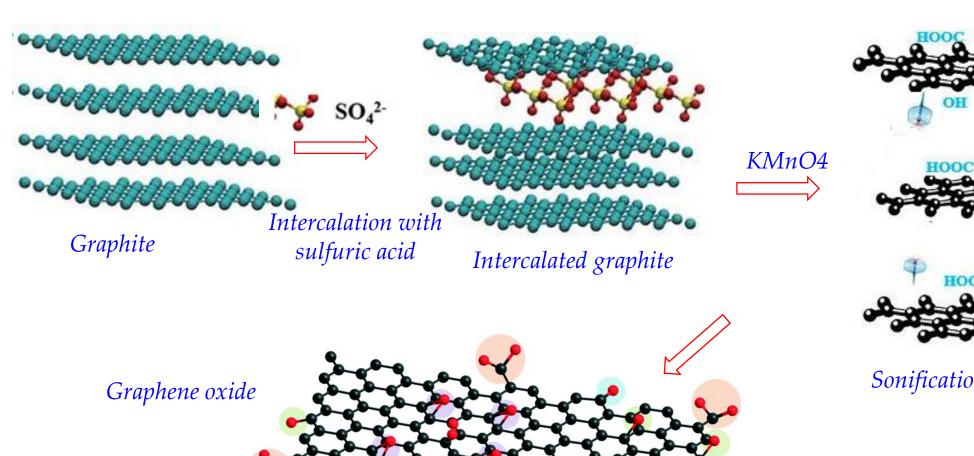
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- Carboxylic groups

Really cheap multifunctional material

Functional groups are arbitrarily located and randomly aggregated

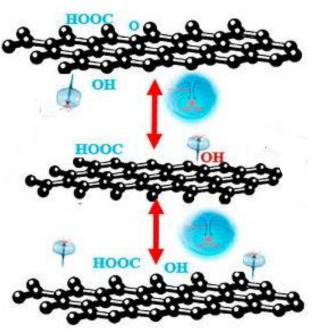
Carbon. Graphene Oxide. Obtaining



Hydroxyl

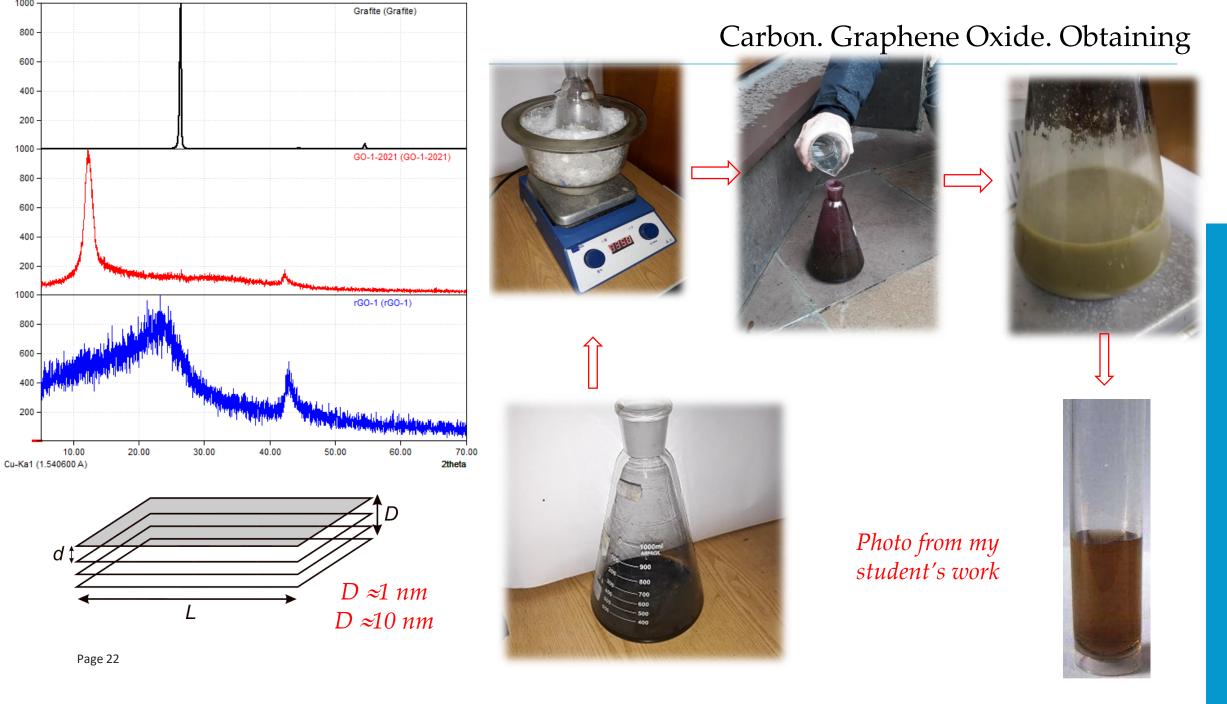
Carbonyl

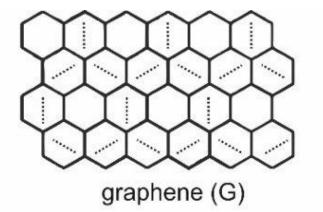
Carboxylic

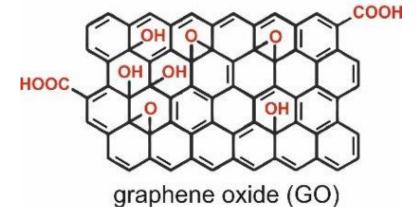


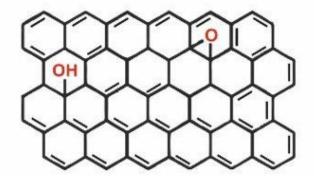
Sonification and exfoliation

Epoxide









reduced graphene oxide (rGO)

Carbon. Reduced Graphene Oxide

Reduced graphene oxide (rGO) is the form of GO that is processed by chemical, thermal and other methods in order to reduce the oxygen content, while graphite oxide is a material produced by oxidation of graphite which leads to increased interlayer spacing and functionalization of the basal planes of graphite.

One of the most important differences between GO and rGO is the electrical conductivity of these materials. While GO shows insulating or semi-conducting behavior, rGO shows excellent electrical conductivity which is almost as good as graphene.

The main disadvantage of the rGO is defect structure

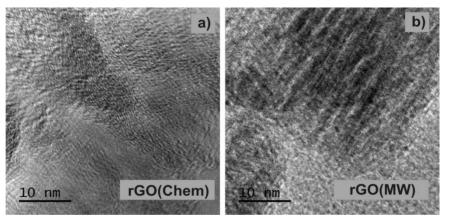
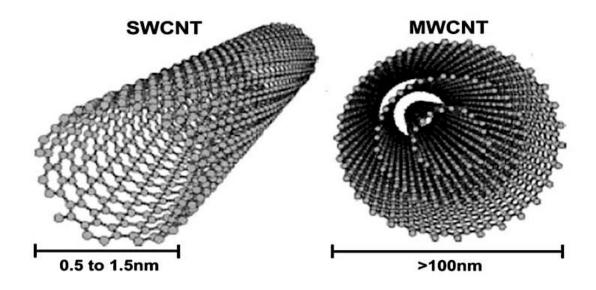
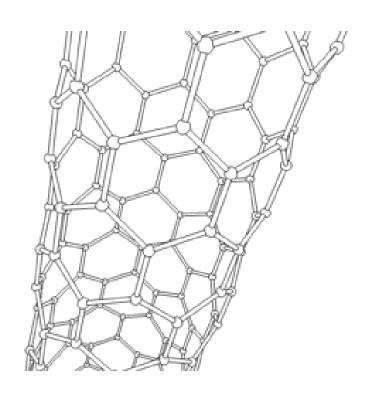


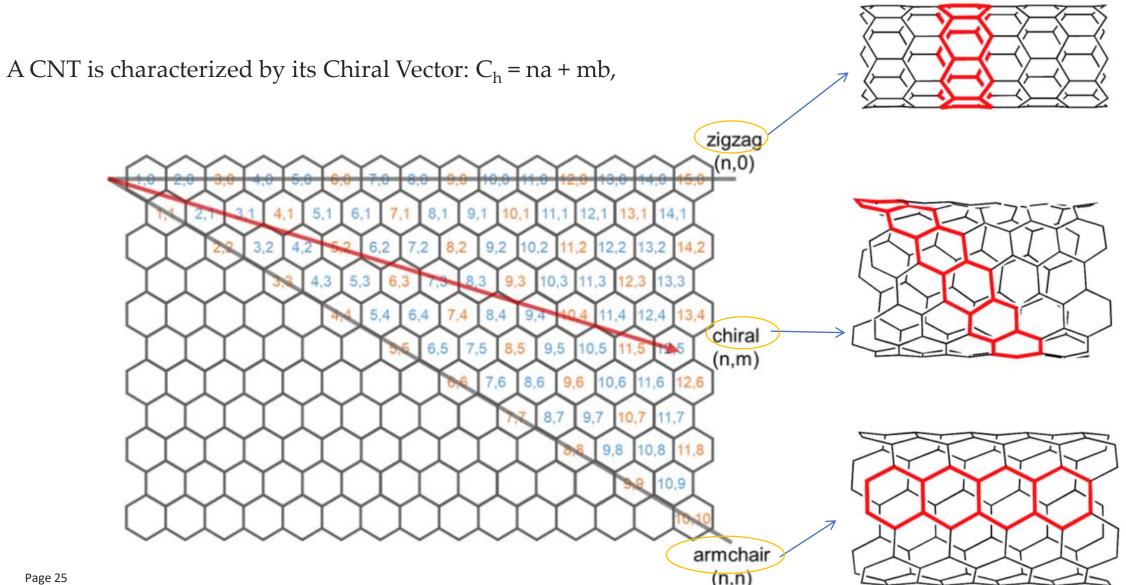
Photo from my student's work

CNT is a tubular form of carbon with diameter as small as 1nm (single wall). Length: few nm to microns.

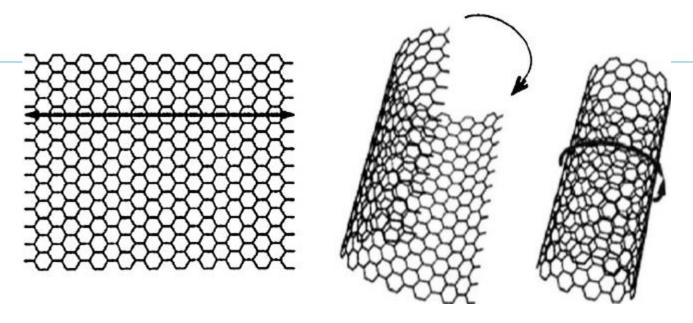


Single Wall CNT (SWCNT)
Multiple Wall CNT (MWCNT)
Can be metallic or semiconducting depending on their geometry





Carbon. Nanotubes. Reason



CNT is configurationally equivalent to a two-dimensional graphene sheet rolled into a tube.

What is the cause of carbon nanotube formation?

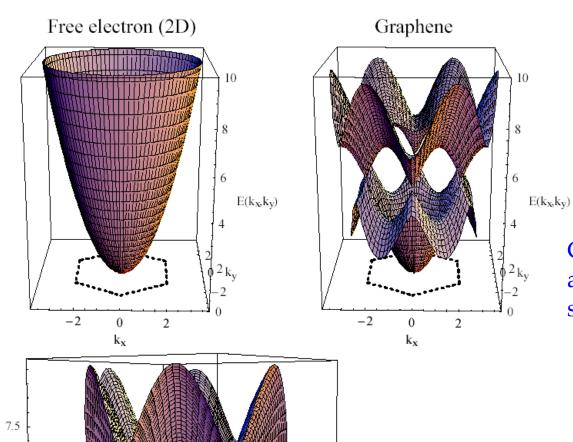
Nanotube/Fullerene combines $sp^2 + sp^3$ hybridized carbon atoms.

Finite size of graphene layer has dangling bonds (an unsatisfied valence of an immobilized atom).

These dangling bonds correspond to high energy states.

Both the elimination of dangling bonds and an increase in the strain energy lead to a decrease in the total energy.

Why does something happen spontaneously? Because it leads to a decrease in the energy of the system.



Empty

Filled

Metallic CNT

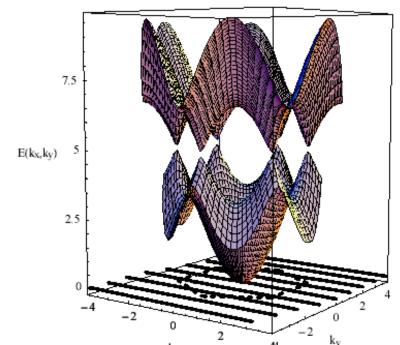
 $E(k_x,k_y)$

2.5

Carbon. Nanotubes. Electronic properties

Band structure of CNTs in comparison with band structures of free electrons and graphene

Changing the type of geometry (zigzag, chiral, armchair) makes it possible to tune the CNT band structure from metallic to semiconductor.



Semiconductor CNT

- The strongest and most flexible molecular material because of C-C covalent bonding and seamless hexagonal network architecture
- Young's modulus of over 1 TPa vs 70 GPa for Aluminum, 700 GPA for C-fiber
 - strength to weight ratio 500 time > for AI; similar improvements over steel and titanium; one order of magnitude improvement over graphite/epoxy
- Maximum strain ~10% much higher than any material
- Thermal conductivity ~ 3000 W/mK in the axial direction with small values in the radial direction

CNT electronics

Carrier transport is 1-D.

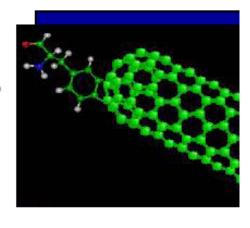
All chemical bonds are satisfied \Rightarrow CNT electronics is not obligated to use SiO₂ as an insulator.

High mechanical and thermal stability and resistance to electromigration \Rightarrow Current densities up to 10^9 A/cm² can be sustained.

The diameter is controlled by chemistry, not fabrication.

Carbon. Nanotubes. Properties

- Electrical conductivity six orders of magnitude higher than copper
- Can be metallic or semiconducting depending on chirality
 - 'tunable' bandgap
 - electronic properties can be tailored through application of external magnetic field, application of mechanical deformation...
- Very high current carrying capacity
- Excellent field emitter; high aspect ratio and small tip radius of curvature are ideal for field emission
- Can be functionalized



Page 28 Both active devices and interconnects can be made from semiconductor and metallic nanotubes.

Arc Discharge (close to Laser Ablation method)

Involves condensation of C-atoms generated from evaporation of solid carbon sources.

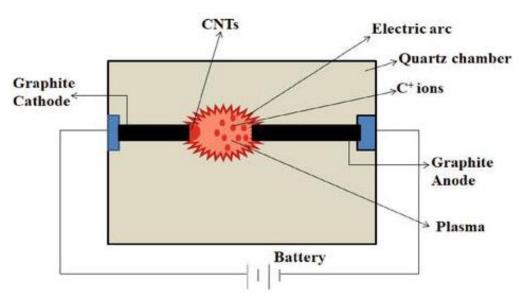
Temperature ~ 3000-4000K, close to melting point of graphite.

Both produce high-quality SWNTs and MWNTs.

MWNT: 10's of μ m long, very straight & has 5-30 nm diameter.

SWNT: needs metal catalyst (Ni, Co, etc.).

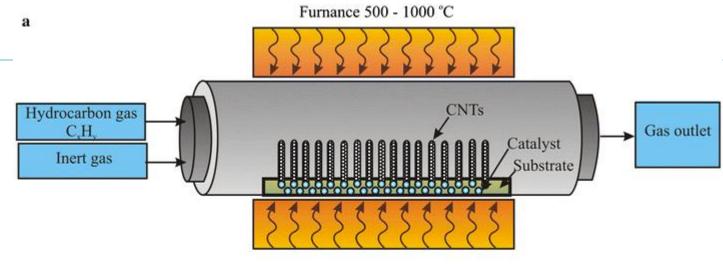
Produced in form of ropes consisting of 10's of individual nanotubes close packed in hexagonal crystals.

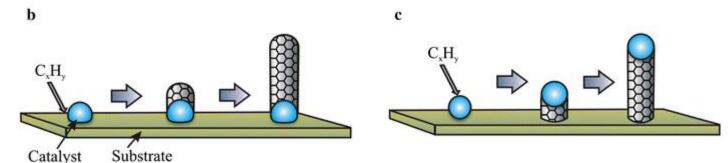


Electric arc discharge method:

A potential of 20–25 V is applied across the pure graphite electrodes separated by 1 mm distance and maintained at 66.7 kPa pressure of flowing helium gas filled inside the quartz chamber. When the electrodes are made to strike each other under these conditions, it produces an electric arc. The energy produced in the arc is transferred to the anode, which ionizes the carbon atoms of pure graphite anode and produces C⁺ ions and plasma forms (atoms or molecules in vapor state at high temperature).

These positively charged carbon ions move towards cathode, get reduced and deposited and grow as CNTs on the cathode. As the CNTs grow, the length of the anode decreases, but the electrodes are adjusted and always maintain a gap of 1 mm between the two electrodes.





Hydrocarbon gas + Fe/Co/Ni catalyst at 550-1000°C *Steps:*

- Dissociation of hydrocarbon.
- Dissolution and saturation of C atoms in metal nanoparticle.
- Precipitation of Carbon.

Carbon. Nanotubes. Synthesis

Chemical Vapor Deposition:

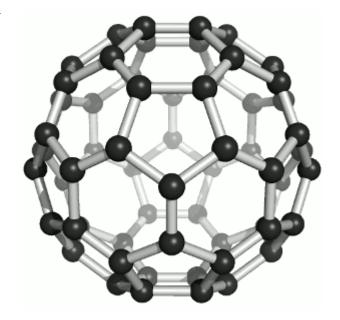
The chemical vapor deposition method is to cleave a carbon atom-containing gas continuously flowing through the catalyst nanoparticle to generate carbon atoms and then generate CNTs on the surface of the catalyst or the substrate.

Fullerenes consist of 20 hexagonal and 12 pentagonal rings, which form the basis of a closed framework structure with icosahedral symmetry. Each carbon atom is bonded to three others and is sp^2 hybridized. The C_{60} molecule has two bond lengths - 6:6 ring bonds can be considered "double bonds" and are shorter than the 6:5 bonds.

C₆₀ is not "superaromatic" as it tends to avoid double bonds in the pentagonal rings, resulting in poor electron delocalization.

As a result, C_{60} behaves like an electron deficient alkene, and reacts readily with electron-rich species.

The geometry and electronic bonding factors in the structure determine the stability of the molecule.



Physical properties of C_{60} :

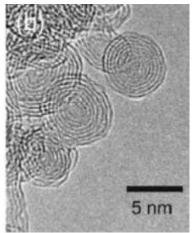
Density: 1.65 g cm⁻³

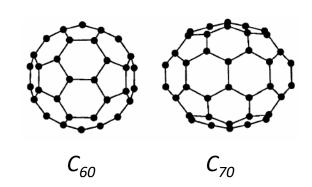
Standard heat of formation: 9.08 kcal mol⁻¹

Boiling point: sublimes at 800 K

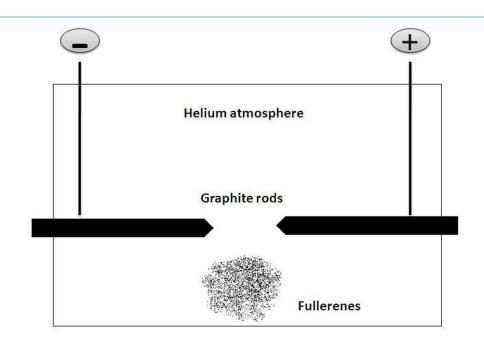
Resistivity: 10¹⁴ ohms m⁻¹

Crystal form: hexagonal cubic



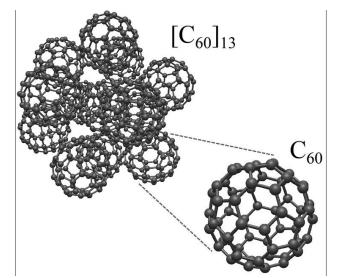


Carbon. Fullerenes. Synthesis



Electric arc process for the production of fullerenes is based on the evaporation of graphite electrodes in a low-pressure helium atmosphere by passing an electrical current through the electrodes, resulting in an arc that produces carbon black containing fullerenes.

These methods usually lead to the production of various fullerenes in various mixtures and other forms of carbon. So, the fullerenes are mainly extracted from the soot using appropriate organic solvents.

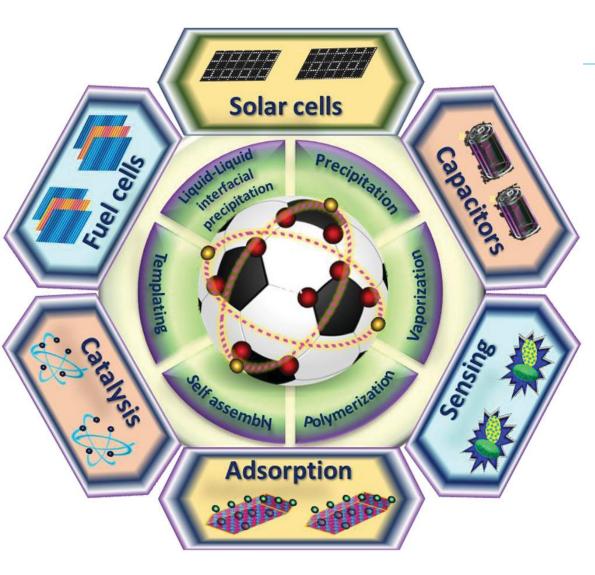


During the synthesis, not individual fullerenes are obtained, but their aggregates.

The reason is that the system reduces the excess surface energy, which is proportional to the surface area of the material.

The specific surface area can be very large for carbon

nanomaterials - up to 2500 m²/g for *graphene*, up to 700 m²/g for *fullerenes* and up to 3500 m²/g for *microporous* carbon



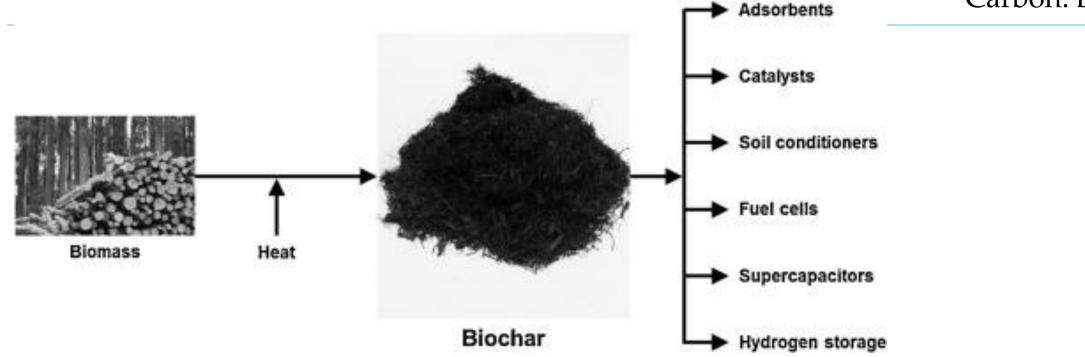
Carbon. Fullerenes. Applications

Fullerenes are also used in the medical field as photosensitizers in photodynamic therapy and antimicrobial agents.

It is also used in several biomedical applications including the design of high-performance MRI contrast agents, X-ray imaging contrast agents, photodynamic therapy, and drug and gene delivery. C_{60} is used in drug delivery systems, lubricants, and as a catalyst.

Some types of fullerene can be used as gas absorbers. Films based on C_{60} are used for photovoltaic applications and hydrogen gas storage material.

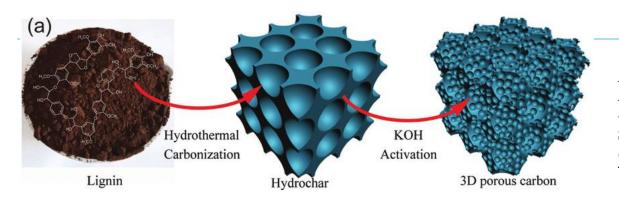
Carbon. Biochar



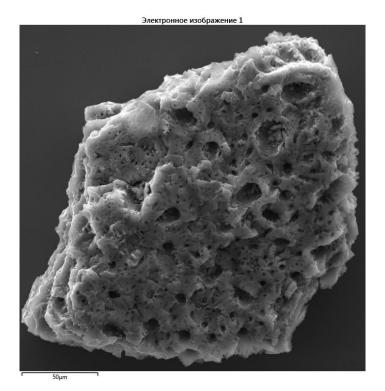
Biochar is produced by burning organic material in a controlled pyrolysis (burning without oxygen). The energy or heat generated during pyrolysis can be collected and used as clean energy. Biochar is much more efficient at converting carbon into a stable form and cleaner than other forms of charcoal.

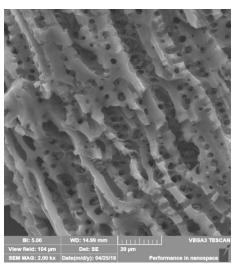
Biochar is black, very porous, light, fine-grained and has a large surface area. Approximately 70 percent of its composition is carbon. The rest is made up of nitrogen, hydrogen and oxygen among other elements. The chemical composition of Biochar varies depending on the raw materials used to produce it and the methods used to heat it.

Carbon. Porous carbon



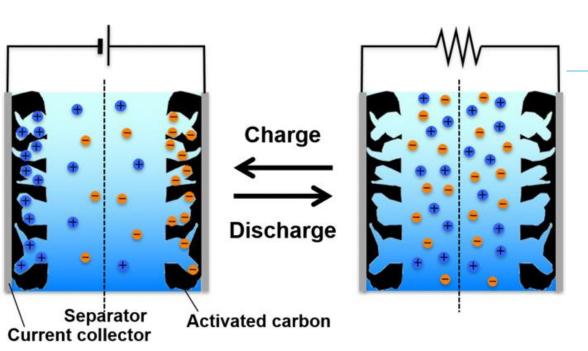
A microporous carbon has most of its porosity in pores less than 2 nm wide and has an apparent surface area that is typically in the range of 1000 to $2000 \text{ m}^2 \text{ g}^{-1}$.





Materials with pore sizes between 2 and 50 nm are called mesoporous, and materials with pores sizes smaller than 2 nm are called microporous. In addition, the term nanoporous material covers materials that have pores up to 100 nm

There are two methods of preparing activated carbons using biochar as raw material: physical (steam) and chemical (bases or acids, carbon dioxide) activation.



Fuel cells 10² Batteries 10¹ Supercapacitors 10² 10¹ P (W kg⁻¹)

Carbon. Porous carbon. Applications

Extremely wide scope - from medicine and industry to energy storage

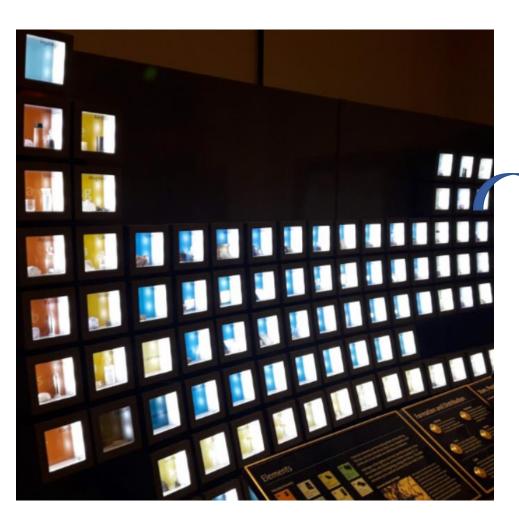
An Electrochemical Double Layer Capacitor (EDLC) is an energy storage device based on electrostatic effects occurring between two carbon electrodes with a large specific surface areas. The electrodes are immersed in an electrolyte, and a separator is used between the electrodes.

The mechanism of absorption and desorption of ions by an electrical double layer on carbon electrodes promotes charge and discharge. By applying voltage to the facing electrodes, ions are drawn to the surface of the electrical double layer and are charged with electricity.

The main reasons are the extremely high specific surface area, chemical stability and good electrical conductivity.

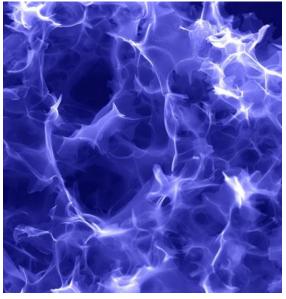
Supercapacitors fill the gap between conventional capacitors and batteries in terms of energy density and power.

Carbon. Porous carbon. Applications



Griffith Observatory











Thank you for attention!

Volodymyra Boichuk





