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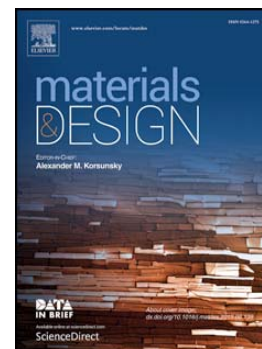
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A comparison of the twisted and untwisted structures for one-dimensional carbon nanotube assemblies

Jingna Zhao^{a,b}, Xiaohua Zhang^a, Yuyao Huang^c, Jingyun Zou^{a,d}, Tong Liu^e, Ningning Liang^d, Fapeng Yu^b, Zhijuan Pan^b, Yuntian Zhu^d, Menghe Miao^f, Qingwen Li^a

^a*Division of Advanced Nano-Materials, Suzhou Institute of Nano-Tech and Nano-Bionics, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Suzhou 215123, China*

^b*National Engineering Laboratory for Modern Silk, College of Textile and Clothing Engineering, Soochow University, Suzhou 215123, China*

^c*Suzhou Creative Nano Carbon Co. Ltd., Suzhou 215123, China*

^d*Nano Structural Materials Center, School of Materials Science and Engineering, Nanjing University of Science and Technology, Nanjing 210094, China*

^e*Vacuum Interconnected Nanotech Workstation (NANO-X), Suzhou Institute of Nano-Tech and Nano-Bionics, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Suzhou 215123, China*

^f*CSIRO Manufacturing, 75 Pigdons Road, Warrn Ponds, Victoria 3216, Australia*

Abstract

The way how carbon nanotubes (CNTs) are assembled together determines the utilization efficiency of mechanical property in their macroscopic assembly materials. For one-dimensional (1D) assemblies, CNTs are often assembled under drawing and twisting into a fiber structure with a twist angle. In this study, an untwisted 1D assembly, CNT strip, is introduced, inside which the CNTs are not only aligned but also overall parallel to strip axis. Due to the shielding effect of the twisted fiber surface, the interior of CNT fiber is loosely packed, and the fiber is more stretchable and hard to become stiff. On the contrary, CNT strip with high straightness or undirectionality can utilize the CNT's mechanical property much more efficiently, as reflected by its higher strength and modulus. These insights can guide different applications of CNT fibers and strips in textile.

Keywords: carbon nanotube, assembly, straightness, twist, mechanical property

1. Introduction

Over the past two decades, the mechanical properties of individual carbon nanotubes (CNTs) and CNT bundles have been intensely investigated [1–7], see a recent review [8]. CNT can ex-

Email address: xhzhang2009@sinano.ac.cn (Xiaohua Zhang)

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