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ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPT

The effect of temperature, defect and strain rate on the mechanical property of

multi-layer graphene: coarse-grained molecular dynamics study

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Abstract

In this work, we investigate the effect of temperature, defect, and strain rate on the

mechanical properties of multi-layer graphene using coarse-grained molecular dynamics (CGMD)

simulations. The simulation results reveal that the mechanical properties of multi-layer graphene

tend to be less sensitive to temperature as the layer increases, but they are sensitive to the

distribution and coverage of Stone-Wales (SW) defects. For the same number of defect, there is

less decline in the fracture stress and Young's modulus of graphene when the defects have a

regular distribution, in contrast to random distribution. In addition, Young's modulus is less

influenced by temperature and defect, compared to fracture stress. Both the fracture stress and

Young's modulus have little dependence on strain rate.

Keywords: coarse-grained, uniaxial tension, multi-layer graphene, mechanical properties

1. Introduction:

Graphene, composed of covalently bonded carbon atoms, with the honeycomb lattice, has

attracted significant research interest due to its outstanding characteristics in optics, electricity

and mechanics since its discovery [1]. Such superior performance enables it to be used in a wide

range of areas, such as composite material [2], super capacitor [3], as well as the electrochemical

sensing [4]. Based on atomic force microscope nanoindentation, Single-layer graphene has been

investigated and proved to be the strongest material with the high mechanical stiffness and

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