

Accepted Manuscript

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PII: S0925-8388(17)34301-3

DOI: [10.1016/j.jallcom.2017.12.111](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jallcom.2017.12.111)

Reference: JALCOM 44197

To appear in: *Journal of Alloys and Compounds*

Received Date: 29 September 2017

Revised Date: 7 December 2017

Accepted Date: 11 December 2017

Please cite this article as: Q. Shen, H. Li, W. Li, Q. Song, Realizing the synergy of carbon nanotubes and matrix microstructure for improved flexural behavior of laminated carbon/carbon composites, *Journal of Alloys and Compounds* (2018), doi: 10.1016/j.jallcom.2017.12.111.

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Realizing the synergy of carbon nanotubes and matrix microstructure for improved flexural behavior of laminated carbon/carbon composites

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Abstract

Carbon nanotubes have been electrophoretically deposited on carbon fibers to improve the flexural performance of laminated carbon/carbon composites. The synergy effect between carbon nanotubes and different textured pyrocarbon matrix has been investigated. Mechanical testing results showed that after introducing nanotubes into low-texture-matrix and high-texture-matrix composites, their flexural strength increased by 13.9 % (up to 197 MPa) and 89.6 % (up to 309 MPa), respectively. Excessively strong interface bonding in low texture matrix C/C resulted in the deterioration of the in-situ fiber strength and the strengthening effect provided by CNTs. While the fiber-pyrocarbon interface in high-texture-matrix composites was relatively weak, the introduction of CNTs showed a better strengthening effect because of the optimization of the fiber-matrix interface. Additionally, CNTs

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