# CNT-based nanocomposites with high conductivity and thermoelectric effect

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### **IFW Application Lab – Carbon Nanotubes**







**Functionalization**: n- & p-doped CNT,

coated or filled CNT with metals

**Manufacturing:** Several customized production facilities, mainly by Chemical Vapor Deposition (CVD)

**Carbon Nanotubes**: Tailored, high quality CNT

Messung

Fit

C=O

C-0

532 530

534

### Manufacturing of p- and n-type functionalized CNT



SEM

tubular **p-type CNT** produced by fixed bed-CVD method

bamboolike n-type **CNT** produced by aerosol-CVD method (MeCN)





tubular Heat-**Treated p-type** CNT with high crystallinity (T = 2600 °C)

**Heat-Treated n**type CNT with less bamboolike structure (T = 2600 °C)



#### Chemical states of C, O and N atoms of all CNT-types

C1s and O2s spectra revealed common oxygen and carbon groups (sp2 hybrids, sp3 hybrids, C=O, and C-O) across all CNT-types. N1s spectra showed distinct bonding states (molecular, pyridinic, and graphitic) in n-type CNT. N was not detectable for heat-treated n-type CNT, indicating a disappearance of N in the structure [1].



Raman

n-type and **p-type** CNT a high show defects, degree of D/G the ratio is slightly above 1

#### **Heat-Treated p-type**

CNT show increased crystallinity and reduced defects, D/G ratio is strongly reduced to 0.22

#### **Heat-Treated n-type**

CNT show no difference to the as n-type, the grown amount Of same defects and no improved crystallinity

# Manufacturing CNT-based nanocomposites for smart textiles **Current studies**

- Synthesis / modification of p- and n-type MWCNTs
- CNT-based composite manufacturing 2
  - Buckypaper
  - flexible polymer films
- Testing the thermoelectric performance 3
- Evaluation and optimization of parameters



## **2a** Buckypaper Suspension, filtration, drying

100% CNT, thickness 90-500 µm; d=4cm



### **2b** Polymer films

Multistep process; FILK Freiberg

3-10 % CNT, thickness 50-150 µm, polyurethane

# Thermoelectric performance



#### **Electrical Conductivity**

Buckypaper with high electrical conductivity for **n-type** and **p-type** CNT

**n-typ-HT** CNT have reduced electrical conductivity due to disappearance of N



#### Seebeck Coefficent

- **p-type-HT** buckypaper have high Seebeck coefficient especially compared to p-typ

Compared to buckypaper CNT-Polymer films show lower electrical conductitvity

Heat treatment shows only for **p-type-HT** based polymer films an effect

p-type-HT based polymer films reveal best performance of all polymer films

Similar performance of **p-typ** and **n-typ-HT** CNT buckypaper and polymer films reconfirming the loss of N (after HT) and consequently the negative doping

**n-type** CNT buckypaper and polymer films have comparable negative value

We examined various types of CNTs including p-type, n-type (as grown and heat-treated) as buckypaper and CNT-based polymer films. Very good thermoelectric performance was found in p-type-HT and in n-type polymer films, which could be used to create flexible and conductive composite materials e.g. for smart textile applications.

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