From shear exfoliation of graphite in Coca-Cola® to few-layer graphene for smart ink

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ABSTRACT

Liquid-phase exfoliation of few-layer graphene in Coca-Cola [®] was performed by a kitchen blender for rapid preparation of strain/light/humidity sensitive ink. The advantages of Coca-Cola as an exfoliating medium have been identified from the low structural defect ($I_D/I_G = 0.39$) and, moderate carbon to oxygen ratio (C/O = 2.6) obtained by the resulting graphene. It is discovered that a deposition of graphene on photo paper allowed a facile fabrication of smart paper that is able to detect minor strain (0 – 2.0%) with GF of 18.7. Meanwhile, the multi-responsiveness of ink towards light/humidity had been validated from the 10 s response time after the exposure to stimulants with the maximum resulting curvature degree of 16° and 14° under light and humidity changes, respectively. Finally, it is shown that our actuator is able to vertically lift a load (545 mg) from its initial flat position upon irradiation of light (200 mW/cm²).

KEYWORDS

Smart ink; Few-layer graphene; Coca-Cola; Actuator; Light and humidity driven

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This work is supported financially by grant awarded from Universiti Malaysia Pahang (RDU1803134) and Ministry of Higher Education of Malaysia (FRGS/1/2019/TK05/UMP/02/16). We would definitely like to thank ITMA (Universiti Putra Malaysia) and CARRIF for the fruitful discussion and assistance provided during the characterization of graphene by Raman and TEM.