Solution Processable Graphene and Other Two Dimensional Materials for Energy Applications

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Chemical exfoliation of layered two-dimensional materials such as graphite and transition metal chalcogenides allow access to large quantities of atomically thin nanosheets that have properties that are distinctly different from their bulk counterparts. Although 2D materials have recently become popular, their fabrication via exfoliation of bulk crystals has been known for decades. For example, Brodie first exfoliated graphite into atomically thin oxidized form of graphene in 1859. In the case of layered transition metal dichalcogenides (LTMDs) such as MoS₂, WS₂, MoSe₂, WSe₂, etc., Frindt et al. performed seminal work in the '70s and '80s. We have revived these techniques to obtain a wide variety of chemically exfoliated two-dimensional nanosheets and utilized these materials in wide variety of electronic and energy applications. In this presentation, I will highlight some of our key contributions with graphene oxide (GO) and LTMD nanosheets. Specifically, I will present their implementation into large area electronics, strategic implementation into solar cells, and as catalysts.