

Morphological Electrical and Hardness Characterization of Carbon Nanotube-Reinforced Thermoplastic Polyurethane (TPU) Nanocomposite Plates

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The figures S1-S4 show the Nyquist and Bode plots obtained from the impedance spectroscopy experiments ($|Z|$ vs. frequency and ϕ vs. frequency, where $|Z|$ and ϕ represent the impedance magnitude and phase, respectively). Experimental data are plotted with black dots, red lines represent the fitting curves obtained by modeling the impedance behavior to the equivalent electrical circuit proposed in the manuscript.

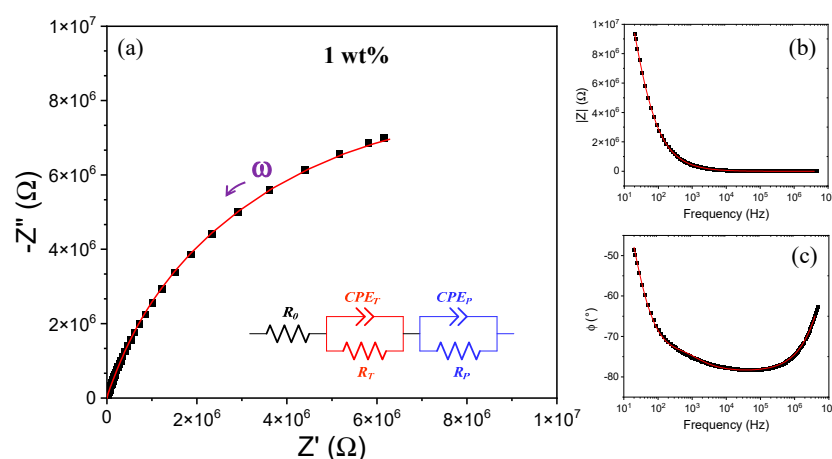


Figure S1. (a) Nyquist and (b,c) Bode plots for the TPU plate with 1 wt% NWCNT loading.

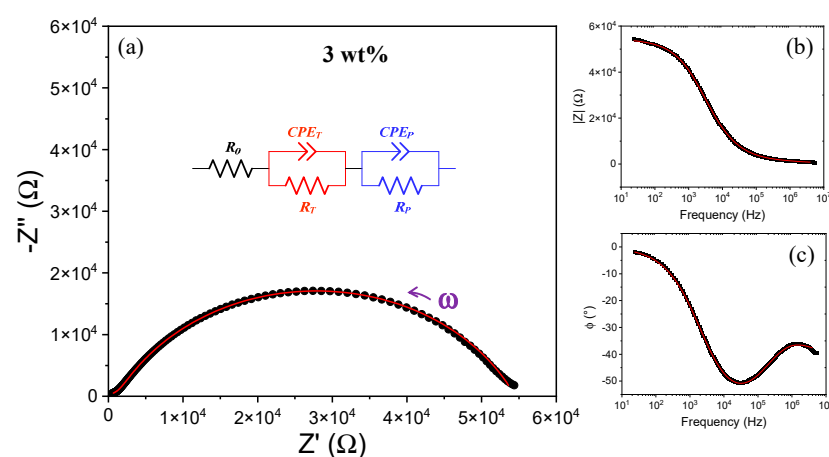


Figure S2. (a) Nyquist and (b,c) Bode plots for the TPU plate with 3 wt% NWCNT loading.

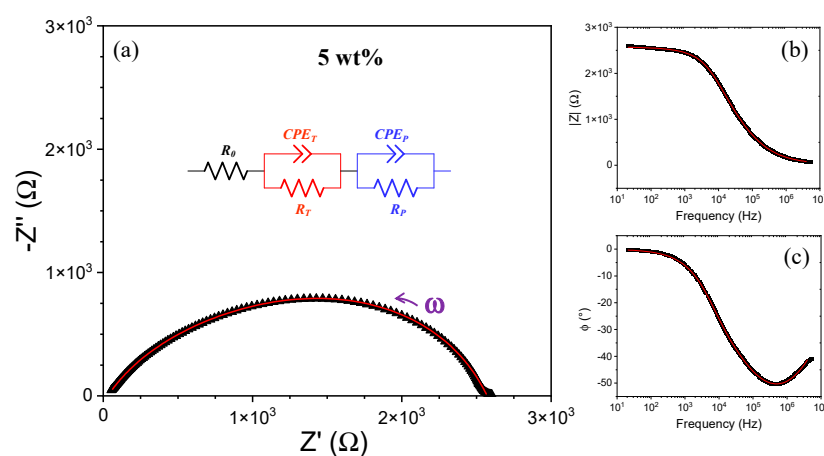


Figure S3. (a) Nyquist and (b, c) Bode plots for the TPU plate with 5 wt% NWCNT loading.

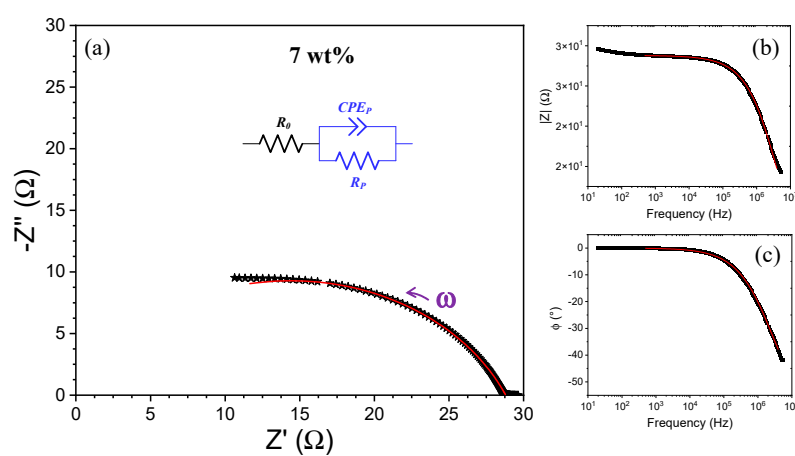


Figure S4. (a) Nyquist and (b,c) Bode plots for the TPU plate with 7 wt% NWCNT loading.

The fitting parameters obtained for each equivalent circuit are listed in Table S1. R_x and CPE_x ($x = 0, T$ [tunneling] and P [percolation]) represent the resistor and constant phase elements, respectively. In the case of the CPE, it is described by the following equation:

$$CPE = R^{\frac{1-n}{n}} Q^{\frac{1}{n}}$$

where n is an empirical constant ($n = CPE_{x-P}$), Q corresponds to a pseudocapacitance ($Q = CPE_{x-T}$) and R is the resistor element which is in parallel to the CPE. In addition, Table S1 also contains the calculated values of conductivity for each resistor element.

Table S1. List of the electrical parameters obtained by an IS analysis on the TPU/MWCNT plates under study.

| 1 wt% | | | 3 wt% | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| | Value | Error | | Value | Error |
| $R_0 (\Omega)$ | 85.4 | 0.8 | $R_0 (\Omega)$ | 80 | 20 |
| $CPE_{T-T} (F)$ | 8.4×10^{-9} | 0.8×10^{-9} | $CPE_{T-T} (F)$ | 4.8×10^{-8} | 0.8×10^{-8} |
| CPE_{T-P} | 0.87 | 0.02 | CPE_{T-P} | 0.59 | 0.01 |
| $R_T (\Omega)$ | 8×10^4 | 2×10^4 | $R_T (\Omega)$ | 1250 | 30 |
| $CPE_{P-T} (F)$ | 1.19×10^{-9} | 0.02×10^{-9} | $CPE_{P-T} (F)$ | 1.86×10^{-8} | 0.01×10^{-8} |
| CPE_{P-P} | 0.876 | 0.003 | CPE_{P-P} | 0.7268 | 0.0008 |
| $R_P (\Omega)$ | 1.80×10^7 | 0.02×10^7 | $R_P (\Omega)$ | 5.316×10^4 | 0.006×10^4 |
| $L (cm)$ | 0.1606 | 0.0001 | $L (cm)$ | 0.1772 | 0.0001 |
| $L/A (cm^{-1})$ | 0.269 | 0.001 | $L/A (cm^{-1})$ | 0.294 | 0.001 |
| $\sigma_0 (S \cdot cm^{-1})$ | 3.16×10^{-3} | 0.04×10^{-3} | $\sigma_0 (S \cdot cm^{-1})$ | 3.5×10^{-3} | 0.6×10^{-3} |
| $\sigma_T (S \cdot cm^{-1})$ | 3.2×10^{-6} | 0.7×10^{-6} | $\sigma_T (S \cdot cm^{-1})$ | 2.34×10^{-4} | 0.07×10^{-6} |
| $\sigma_P (S \cdot cm^{-1})$ | 1.50×10^{-8} | 0.02×10^{-8} | $\sigma_P (S \cdot cm^{-1})$ | 5.53×10^{-6} | 0.03×10^{-6} |

| 5 wt% | | | 7 wt% | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| | Value | Error | | Value | Error |
| $R_0 (\Omega)$ | 29.9 | 0.2 | $R_0 (\Omega)$ | -- | 0.01 |
| $CPE_{T-T} (F)$ | 7.6×10^{-8} | 0.3×10^{-8} | $CPE_{P-T} (F)$ | 1.85×10^{-7} | 0.04×10^{-7} |
| CPE_{T-P} | 0.87 | 0.01 | CPE_{P-P} | 0.729 | 0.001 |
| $R_T (\Omega)$ | 1040 | 70 | $R_P (\Omega)$ | 28.80 | 0.02 |
| $CPE_{P-T} (F)$ | 2.03×10^{-7} | 0.05×10^{-7} | | | |
| CPE_{P-P} | 0.665 | 0.008 | | | |
| $R_P (\Omega)$ | 1510 | 70 | | | |
| $L (cm)$ | 0.1808 | 0.0001 | $L (cm)$ | 0.1850 | 0.0001 |
| $L/A (cm^{-1})$ | 0.301 | 0.001 | $L/A (cm^{-1})$ | 0.308 | 0.001 |
| $\sigma_0 (S \cdot cm^{-1})$ | 1.01×10^{-2} | 0.01×10^{-2} | $\sigma_0 (S \cdot cm^{-1})$ | -- | -- |
| $\sigma_T (S \cdot cm^{-1})$ | 2.9×10^{-4} | 0.2×10^{-4} | $\sigma_T (S \cdot cm^{-1})$ | -- | -- |
| $\sigma_P (S \cdot cm^{-1})$ | 2.0×10^{-4} | 0.1×10^{-8} | $\sigma_P (S \cdot cm^{-1})$ | 1.072×10^{-2} | 0.005×10^{-2} |

Figure S5. illustrates how we estimate the DC conductivity for each TPU plates by applying the Jonscher's power law at low frequency:

$$\sigma_{AC} = \sigma_{DC} + A\omega^s$$

where A is a pre-exponential factor, s is an exponent that helps to fit the frequency dependence of the AC conductivity (σ_{AC}), and σ_{DC} is the DC conductivity of the system.

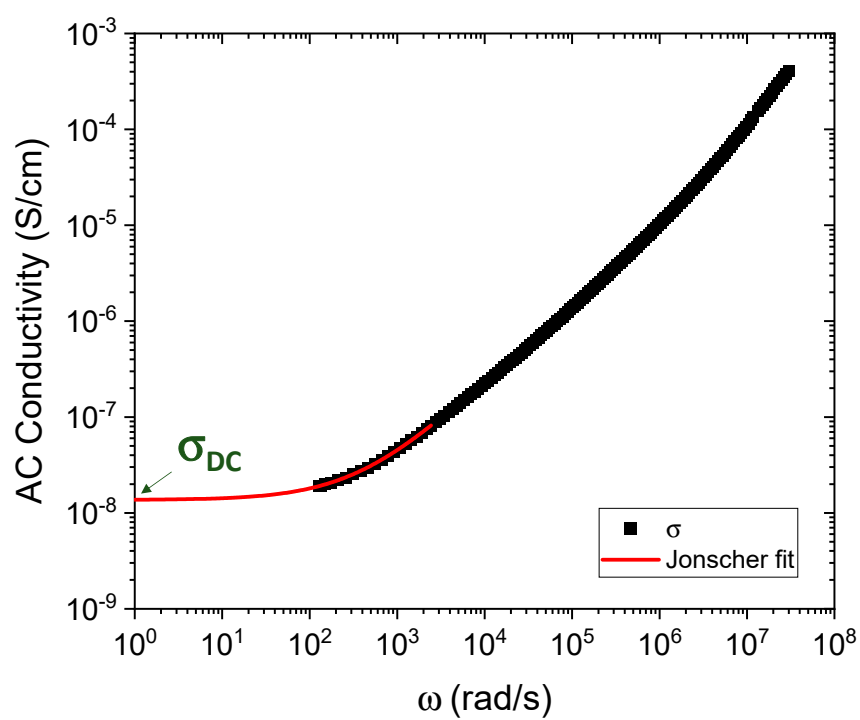


Figure S5. Plot of AC conductivity as a function of the angular frequency for the TPU/MWCNT plates with 1 wt% .