

Article

# Production of Graphene Stably Dispersible in Ethanol by Microwave Reaction

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All sample was analyze with Thermo-gravimetric coupled infrared absorption analyses (TGA-IR) were carried out in a Thermo-gravimetric Analyzer NETZSCH TG 209 F1 coupled by a transfer line heated at 230 °C with an Infrared spectrometer Bruker TENSOR II equipped with an IR gas cell heated at 200 °C. The tests were performed heating from 30 °C to 800 °C with a rate of 20 °K min<sup>-1</sup> about 3 mg sample in alumina pans, under nitrogen flux of 40 mL min<sup>-1</sup>. Before the test three vacuum cycle were performed to purge from air and remove solvent impurities on the surface of the materials. Experimental weight error, is between ±1%. The FTIR analysis was collected in the absorbance mode in the range 650–4400 cm<sup>-1</sup>. Every sample has a starting weight between 2 mg and 3 mg.

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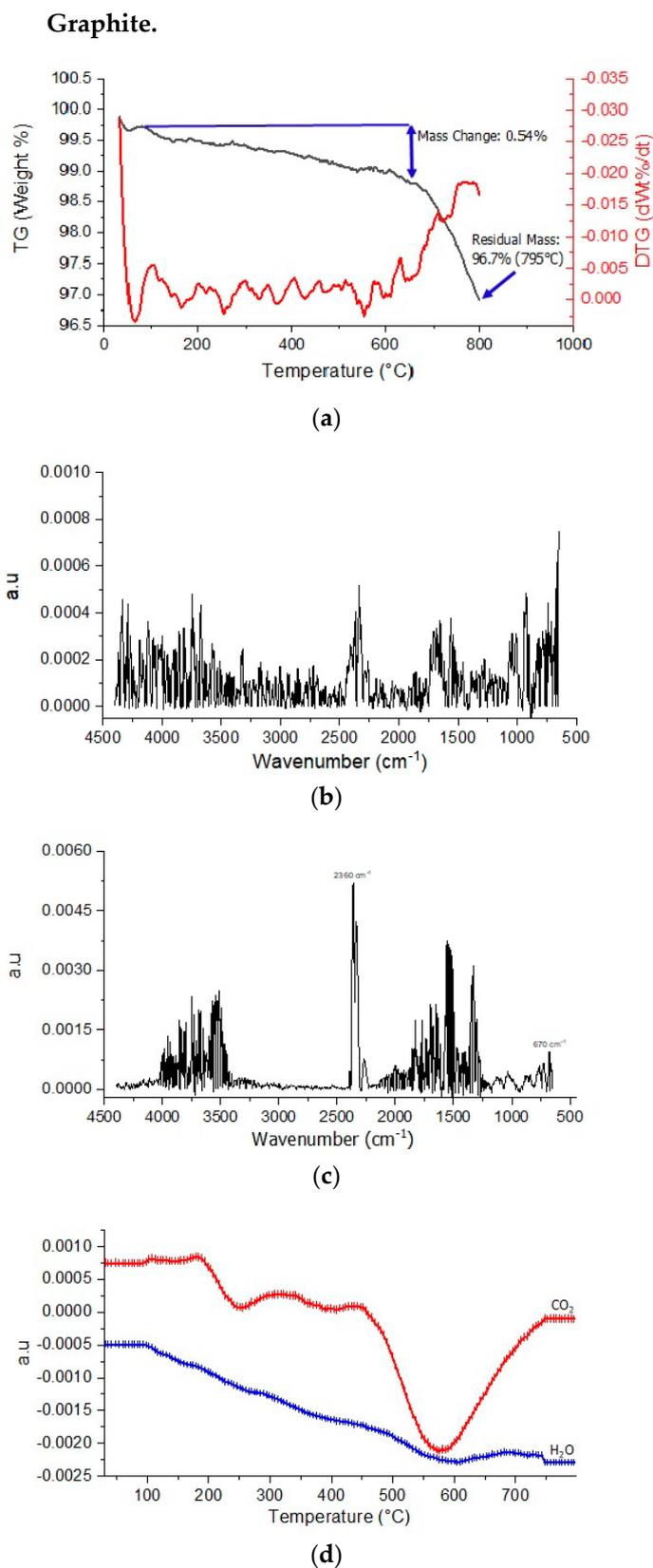
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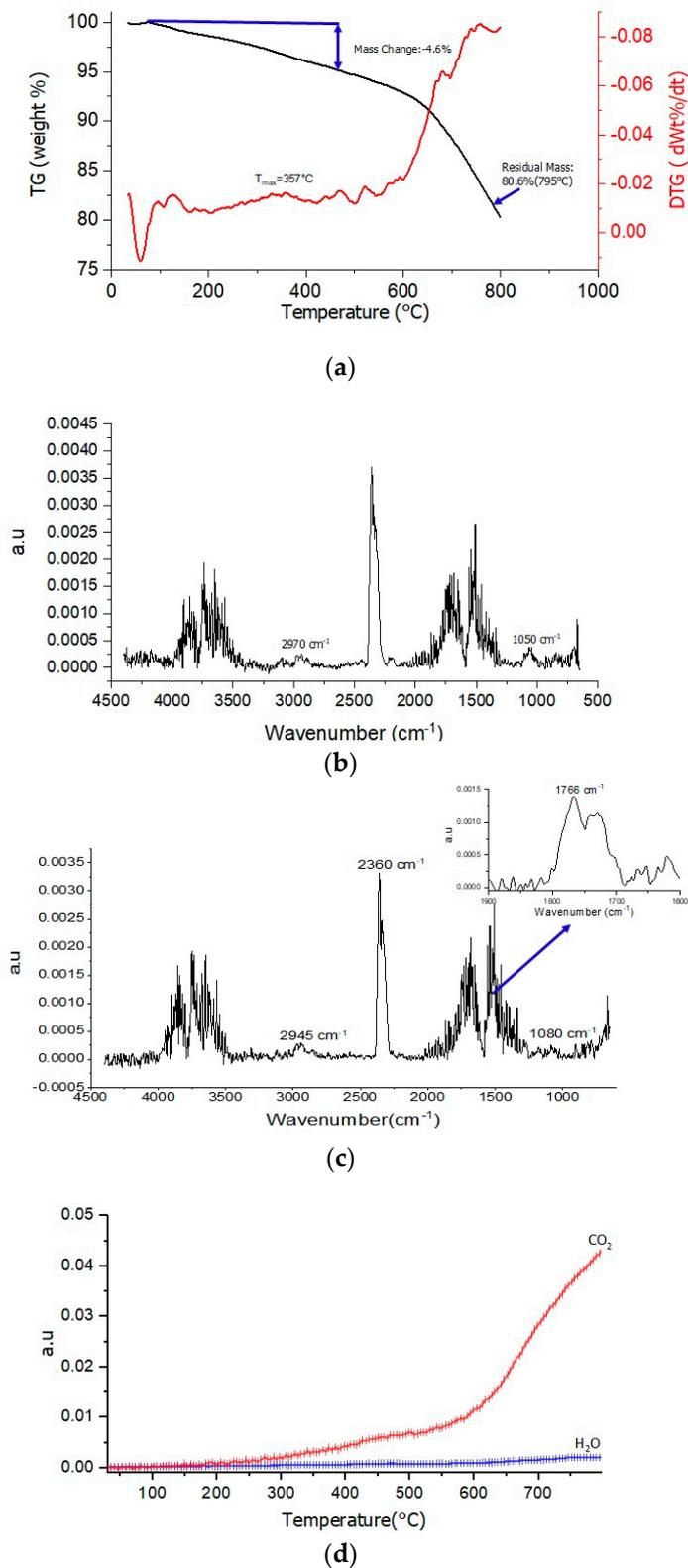


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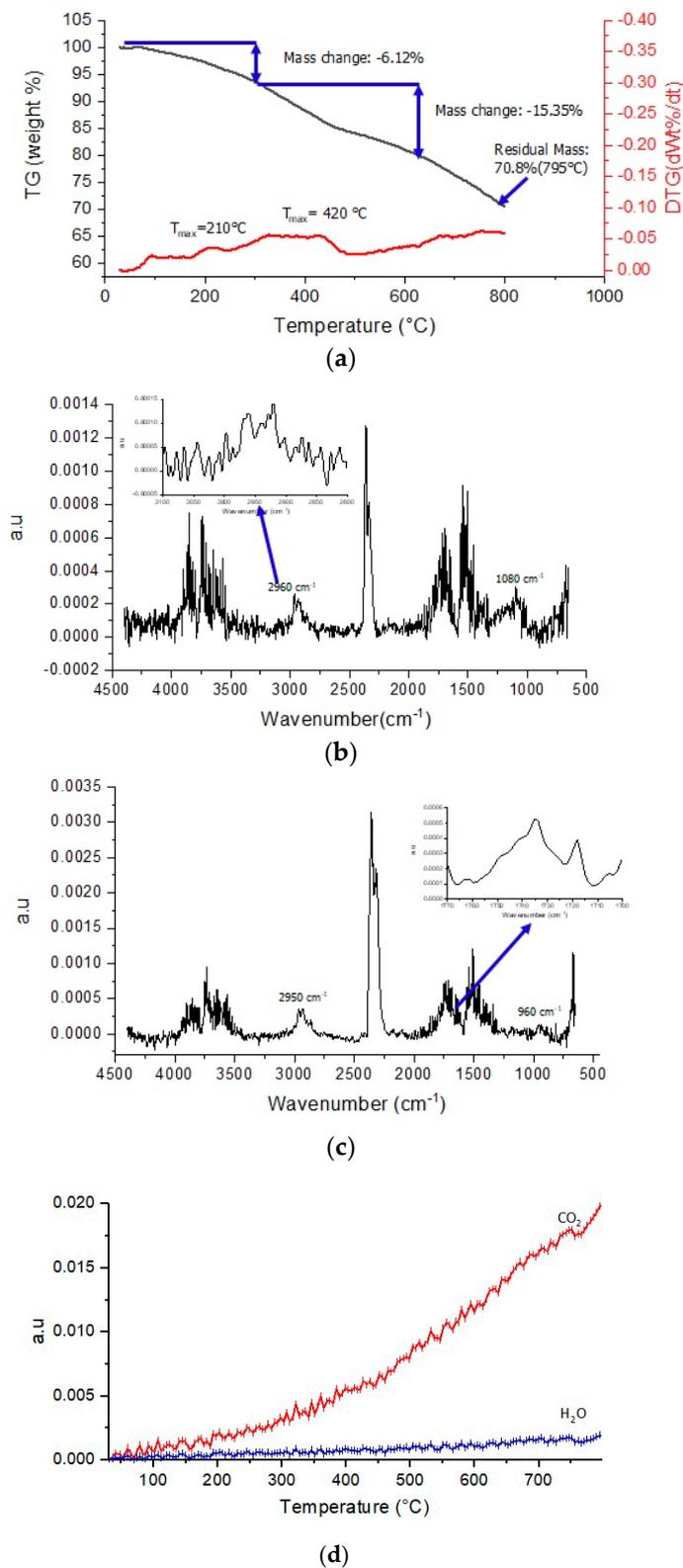
**Figure S1.** (a) Thermal degradation of graphite (b) Gas infrared spectra correlated with the degradation of graphite at 380°C (c) the gas infrared spectra correlated with the final degradation at 798 °C and (d) the kinetics devolution of CO<sub>2</sub> and H<sub>2</sub>O during the heating

## Graphene



**Figure S2.** (a) Thermal degradation of exfoliated graphene(EG) (b) Gas infrared spectra correlated with the degradation of EG at 380 °C, (c) the gas infrared spectra correlated with the final degradation at 798 °C and (d) the kinetics evolution of  $\text{CO}_2$  and  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  during the heating of the sample

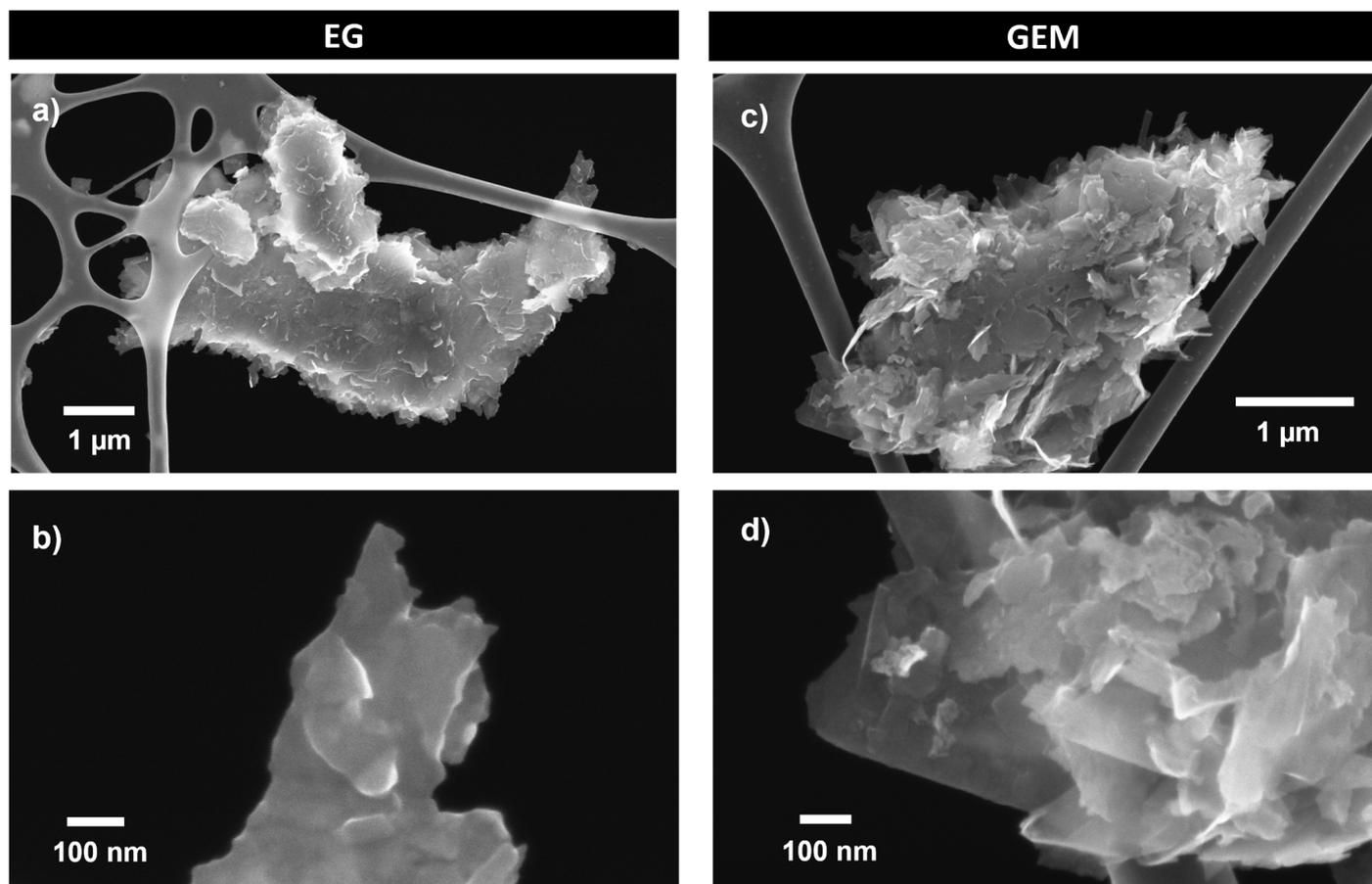
## GEM reaction with AIBN (Azobisisobutyronitrile)



**Figure S3.** (a) Thermal degradation of graphene ethyl maleate (GEM) made with the adding of AIBN (b) Gas infrared spectra correlated with the degradation of GEM at 220 °C with (inside caption) the peak observed with the subtraction of water, (c) 420 °C with the peak observed with (inside the caption) the subtraction of water and (d) the kinetics devolution of CO<sub>2</sub> and H<sub>2</sub>O during the heating of the sample.

**ADDITIONAL FESEM CHARACTERIZATION**

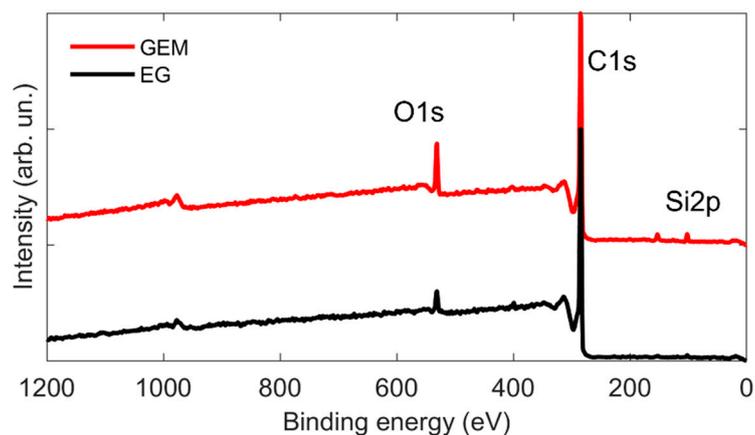
Figure S4 provides additional FESEM images of exfoliated graphene before and after the modification with maleate, confirming the findings discussed in the main manuscript.



**Figure S4.** Field-emission Scanning Electron Microscopy images at different magnifications showing exfoliated graphene (EG) (a,b) and graphene modified with maleate (GEM) (c,d) on lacey carbon membranes.

## ADDITIONAL XPS CHARACTERIZATION

Figure S5 provides XPS survey spectra of exfoliated graphene before and after the modification with maleate. Si-containing contamination is probably due to silicon oil probably present on the lab as vapor contamination.

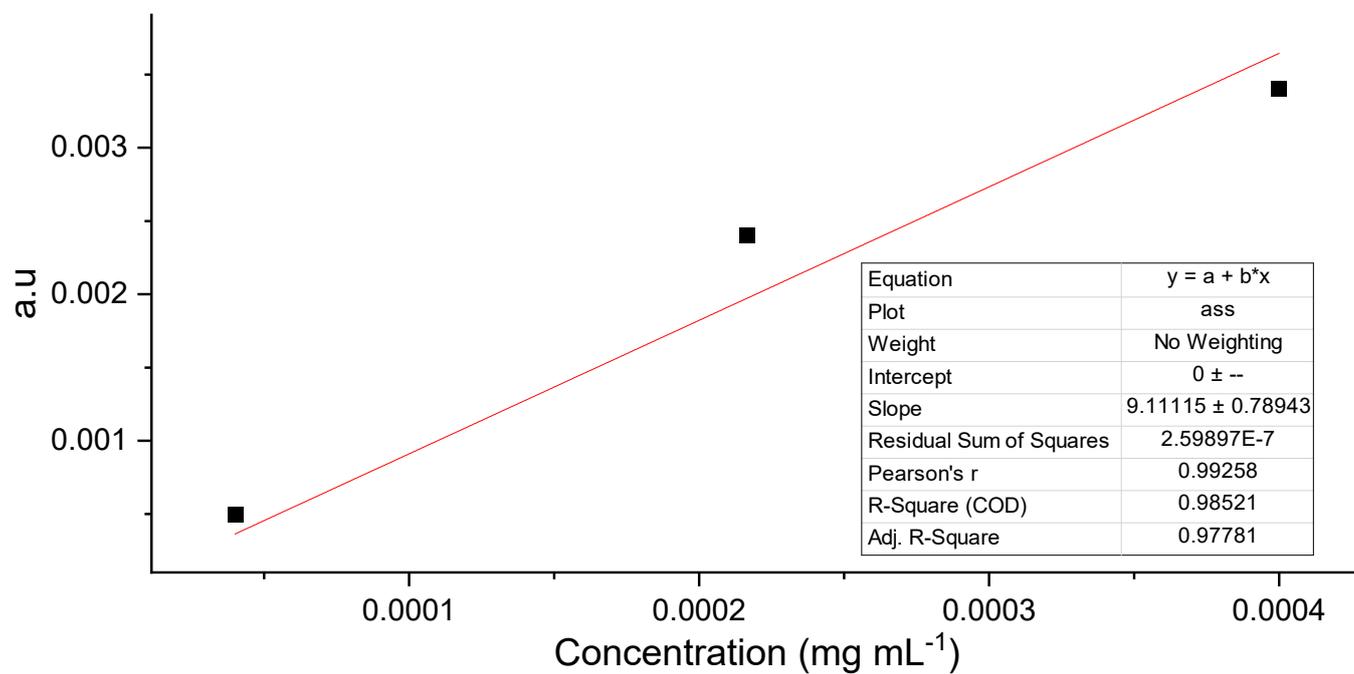


Sample	C (at%)	O (at%)	Si (at%)
EG	95.4 ± 0.3	4.2 ± 0.3	0.4 ± 0.1
GEM	89.2 ± 0.3	8.8 ± 0.3	2.0 ± 0.1

**Figure S5:** X-ray Photoelectron spectroscopy survey spectrum for exfoliated graphene and GEM, alongside semi-quantitative analysis, reported in the table. Uncertainties on relative atomic concentrations were calculated using Monte Carlo routines provided in CasaXPS software.

### UV Calibration Curve

The uv was performed on a dispersion of Exfoliated graphene in ethanol with a concentration of  $4 \times 10^{-5}$  mg mL<sup>-1</sup>,  $2 \times 10^{-4}$  mg mL<sup>-1</sup>,  $4 \times 10^{-4}$  mg mL<sup>-1</sup>.



**Figure S6.** Calibration curve of exfoliated graphene in ethanol.

**Table S1** Legend

<b>Name</b>	<b>Abbreviation</b>
Exfoliated Graphene	EG
Graphene diethyl maleate	GEM
Azobisisobutyronitrile	AIBN
n-methyl pyrrolidone	NMP
Dimethyl formamide	DMF
Dimethyl sulfoxide	DMSO
Graphene colloidal	GC
Graphene composite Polyvinyl pyrrolidone	G-PVP