

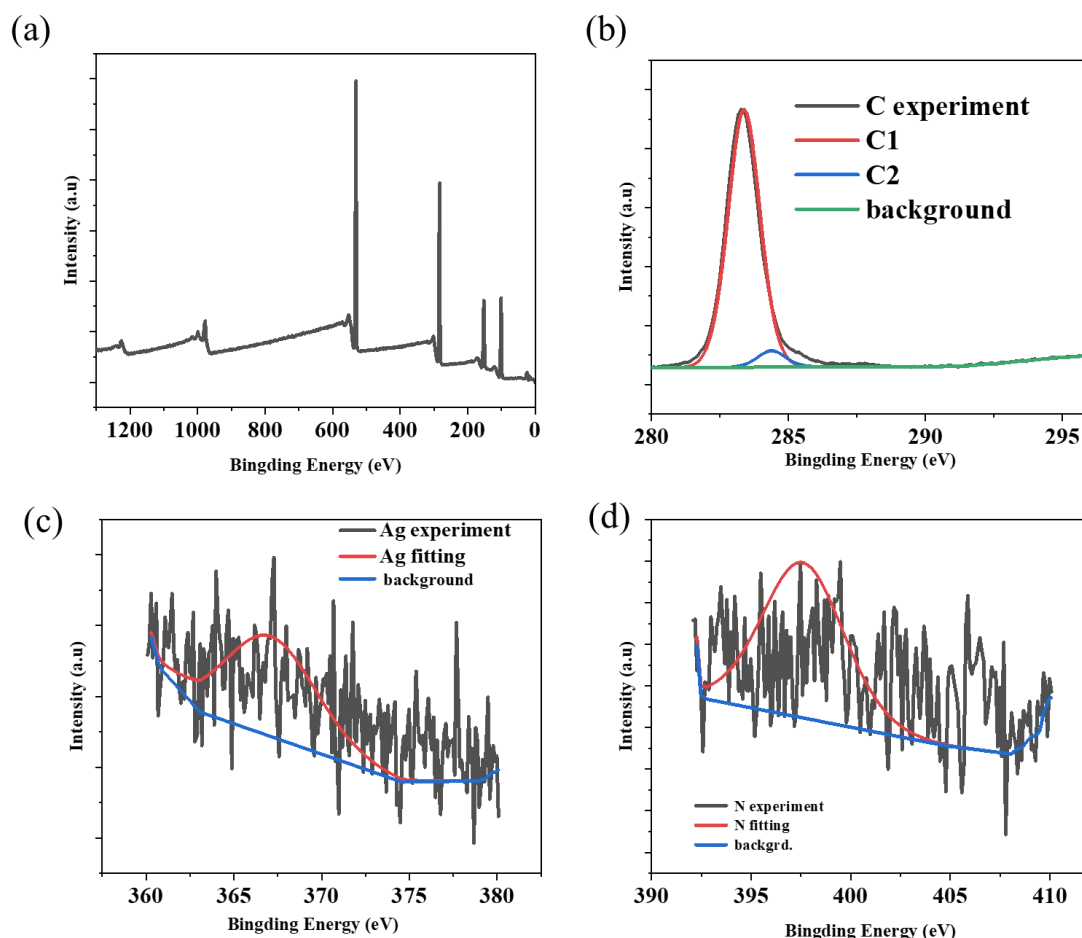
## Supplementary Materials

### **Synergistic effect study of g-C<sub>3</sub>N<sub>4</sub> composites for high-performance triboelectric nanogenerators**

**Yana Xiao, Jian Lu, Bingang Xu\***

Nanotechnology Center, School of Fashion and Textiles, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University, Hong Kong 999077, China.

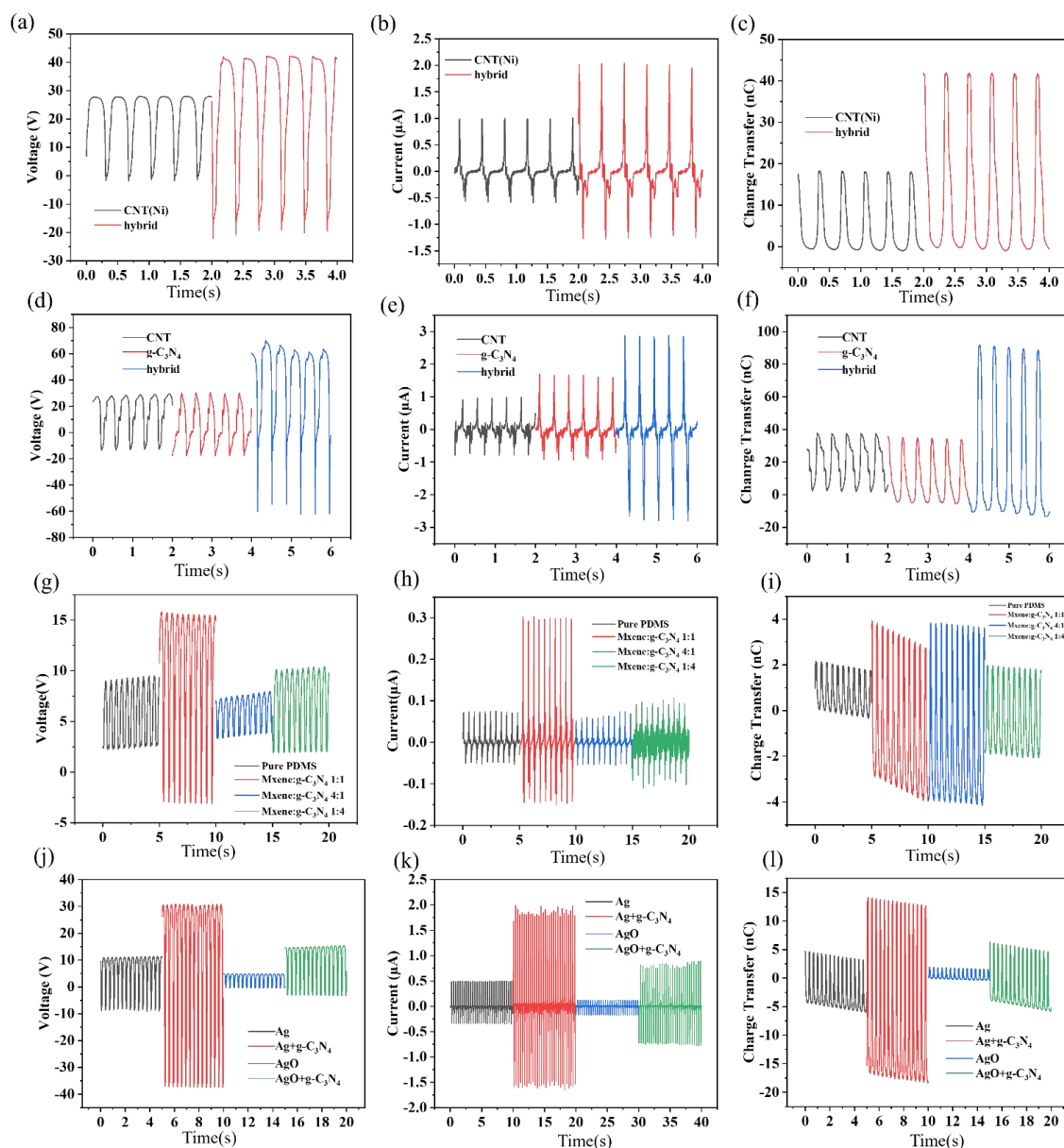
**\*Correspondence to:** Prof. Bingang Xu, Nanotechnology Center, School of Fashion and Textiles, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University, 11 Yuk Choi Road, Hung Hom, Kowloon, Hong Kong 999077, China. E-mail: [tcxubg@polyu.edu.hk](mailto:tcxubg@polyu.edu.hk)



**Figure S1.** (a) XPS survey spectra of Ag/g-C<sub>3</sub>N<sub>4</sub> PDMS composite. High-resolution XPS spectrum showing the binding energy of (b) C, (c) Ag, and (d) N electrons.

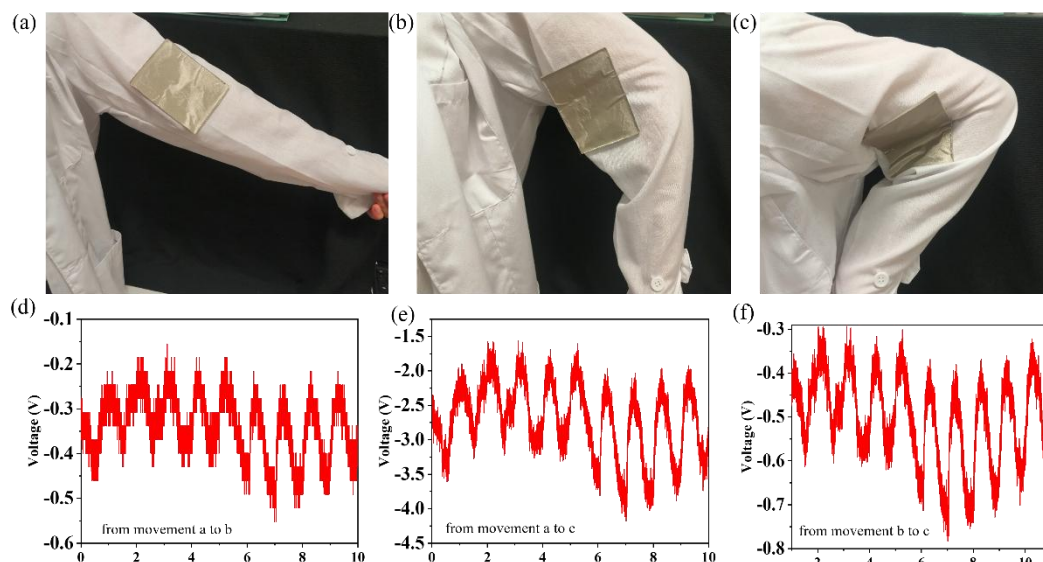
In Figure S2, doping nickel-coated CNTs with g-C<sub>3</sub>N<sub>4</sub> at a 1:1 ratio in PDMS composite resulted in improved TENG performance, with  $V_{oc}$ ,  $I_{sc}$ , and  $Q_{sc}$  reaching 70 V, 3.5  $\mu$ A, and 45 nC, respectively, doubling output compared to pure nickel-coated CNTs. Similarly, 1:1 ratio of multiwall CNTs and g-C<sub>3</sub>N<sub>4</sub> yielded a twofold increase in electrical parameters, with  $V_{oc}$ ,  $I_{sc}$ , and  $Q_{sc}$  at 140 V, 6  $\mu$ A, and 100 nC, respectively. For MXene/g-C<sub>3</sub>N<sub>4</sub> PDMS composites, the optimal electrical performance was reached at a 1:1 ratio, with peak  $V_{oc}$  of 20 V and  $I_{sc}$  of 0.45  $\mu$ A, while the highest  $Q_{sc}$  of 8 nC was observed at a 4:1 ratio. The comparative investigation found that silver dopants outperformed silver oxide in all parameters, while hybrid dopants consistently surpassed the performance of individual dopants. Our experimented dopants were either

conductive (metal particles, carbon nanotubes) or semiconductive (g-C<sub>3</sub>N<sub>4</sub>, MXene).



**Figure S2.** (a) Open circuit voltage, (b) Short circuit current, and (c) Charge Transfer of TENG with nickel-coated carbon nanotubes and nickel-coated carbon nanotubes together with g-C<sub>3</sub>N<sub>4</sub>. (d) Open circuit voltage, (e) Short circuit current, and (f) Charge Transfer of TENG with pure multiwall carbon nanotubes, pure g-C<sub>3</sub>N<sub>4</sub>, hybrid multiwall carbon nanotubes with g-C<sub>3</sub>N<sub>4</sub>. (g) Open circuit voltage, (h) Short circuit current, and (i) Charge Transfer of PDMS TENG doped with different ratios of MXene and g-C<sub>3</sub>N<sub>4</sub>. (j) Open circuit voltage, (k) Short circuit current, and (l) Charge Transfer of PDMS TENG doped with Ag, Ag and g-C<sub>3</sub>N<sub>4</sub>, AgO, AgO and g-C<sub>3</sub>N<sub>4</sub>.

Figure S3 demonstrated one application as TENG adhered to the elbow generating different levels of voltage with different movements, 1.5 V from total stretching (Figure S2a) to bending angle 45°, 0.3 V from stretching to 100° fold (Figure S2b), and 0.5V from 100° to 45° bending (Figure S2c).



**Figure S3.** Monitoring elbow bending angles by pasting hybrid dopant/PDMS TENG on the elbow (a) stretching, (b) moving to 100°, and (c) bending to 45°. Voc generated while moving (d) between a to b, (e) between a to c, and (f) between b to c.

**Table S1. Comparison with other similar works**

Dopants	Substrate	Size (cm <sup>2</sup> )	V (V)	I (μA)	Power	Ref.
					density (mW/m <sup>2</sup> )	
CNT on surface	PDMS/steel	12×10	1.7	-	-	1
Aligned Li	ZnO nanowire	-	1.6	-	-	2
Ag	ZnO nanowire	10	2	0.5	-	3

<b>TiO<sub>2</sub></b>	PVDF	9×7.5	8.8	-	16	4
MAPbBr	PVDF	9.5×8.5	5	-	2.8	5
<b>Vitamin B<sub>2</sub></b>	PVDF	-	0.27	-	-	6
ZnO	PVDF	3×3	1.7	-	2	7
ZnS	PVDF	8×8	6	-	1.5	8
Cu nanowire	PDMS	2×2	45	-	134	9
FCB	PDMS	5×5	50	4	12	10
<b>Ag+ g-C<sub>3</sub>N<sub>4</sub></b>	PDMS	2×2	92	4.2	1,450	This work
<b>CNT+ g-C<sub>3</sub>N<sub>4</sub></b>	PDMS	2×2	122	5.8	1,502	This work

Video S1: Hybrid dopant/PDMS TENG lighting up 40 LEDs connected in series by gentle hand slapping

Video S2: Real-time intelligent system of hybrid dopant/PDMS TENG, wireless Bluetooth module and mobile software application transferring signal wirelessly

## References:

1. Javadi, M.; Heidari, A.; Darbari, S., Realization of enhanced sound-driven CNT-based triboelectric nanogenerator, utilizing sonic array configuration. *Current Applied Physics* **2018**, *18* (4), 361-368.
2. Sohn, J. I.; Cha, S. N.; Song, B. G.; Lee, S.; Kim, S. M.; Ku, J.; Kim, H. J.; Park, Y. J.; Choi, B. L.; Wang, Z. L.; Kim, J. M.; Kim, K., Engineering of efficiency limiting free carriers and an interfacial energy barrier for an enhancing piezoelectric generation. *Energy Environ. Sci.* **2013**, *6* (1), 97-104.
3. Lee, S.; Lee, J.; Ko, W.; Cha, S.; Sohn, J.; Kim, J.; Park, J.; Park, Y.; Hong, J., Solution-processed Ag-doped ZnO nanowires grown on flexible polyester for nanogenerator applications.

*Nanoscale* **2013**, 5 (20), 9609-9614.

4. Alam, M. M.; Sultana, A.; Mandal, D., Biomechanical and Acoustic Energy Harvesting from TiO<sub>2</sub> Nanoparticle Modulated PVDF Nanofiber Made High Performance Nanogenerator. *ACS Applied Energy Materials* **2018**, 1 (7), 3103-3112.
5. Sultana, A.; Alam, M. M.; Sadhukhan, P.; Ghorai, U. K.; Das, S.; Middya, T. R.; Mandal, D., Organo-lead halide perovskite regulated green light emitting poly(vinylidene fluoride) electrospun nanofiber mat and its potential utility for ambient mechanical energy harvesting application. *Nano Energy* **2018**, 49, 380-392.
6. Karan, S. K.; Maiti, S.; Agrawal, A. K.; Das, A. K.; Maitra, A.; Paria, S.; Bera, A.; Bera, R.; Halder, L.; Mishra, A. K.; Kim, J. K.; Khatua, B. B., Designing high energy conversion efficient bio-inspired vitamin assisted single-structured based self-powered piezoelectric/wind/acoustic multi-energy harvester with remarkable power density. *Nano Energy* **2019**, 59, 169-183.
7. Sun, B.; Li, X.; Zhao, R.; Ji, H.; Qiu, J.; Zhang, N.; He, D.; Wang, C., Electrospun poly(vinylidene fluoride)-zinc oxide hierarchical composite fiber membrane as piezoelectric acoustoelectric nanogenerator. *Journal of Materials Science* **2018**, 54 (3), 2754-2762.
8. Sultana, A.; Alam, M. M.; Ghosh, S. K.; Middya, T. R.; Mandal, D., Energy harvesting and self-powered microphone application on multifunctional inorganic-organic hybrid nanogenerator. *Energy* **2019**, 166, 963-971.
9. Li, G.-Z.; Cai, Y.-W.; Wang, G.-G.; Sun, N.; Li, F.; Zhou, H.-L.; Zhang, X.-N.; Zhao, H.-X.; Wang, Y.; Han, J.-C.; Yang, Y., Performance enhancement of transparent and flexible triboelectric nanogenerator based on one-dimensionally hybridized copper/polydimethylsiloxane film. *Nano Energy* **2022**, 99.
10. Mu, J.; Song, J.; Han, X.; Xian, S.; Hou, X.; He, J.; Chou, X., Dual-Mode Self-Powered Rainfall Sensor Based on Interfacial-Polarization-Enhanced and Nanocapacitor-Embedded FCB@PDMS Composite Film. *Advanced Materials Technologies* **2022**, 7 (6).