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BS PAS 134 (2012) (English): Terminology for  
carbon nanostructures

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We will sell to no man, we will not deny or defer to any man either Justice or Right.*

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PAS 134:2012



BSI Standards Publication

# Terminology for carbon nanostructures

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### Summary of pages

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## Foreword

### Publishing information

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The PAS process enables a specification to be rapidly developed in order to fulfil an immediate need in industry. A PAS may be considered for further development as a British Standard, or constitute part of the UK input into the development of a European or International Standard.

### Relationship with other publications

This PAS is issued as part of a suite of nanotechnology terminology PASs:

- PAS 71, *Vocabulary – Nanoparticles*;
- PAS 131, *Terminology for medical, health and personal care applications of nanotechnologies*;
- PAS 132, *Terminology for the bio-nano interface*;
- PAS 133, *Terminology for nanoscale measurement and instrumentation*;
- PAS 134, *Terminology for carbon nanostructures*;
- PAS 135, *Terminology for nanofabrication*;
- PAS 136, *Terminology for nanomaterials*.

### Contractual and legal considerations

This publication does not purport to include all the necessary provisions of a contract. Users are responsible for its correct application.

**Compliance with a Publicly Available Specification cannot confer immunity from legal obligations.**

## Introduction

The first edition of this Publicly Available Specification (PAS) was, along with five other vocabulary documents, commissioned by the UK Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) in 2006 for the purposes of developing and encouraging the use of a common language relevant to nanotechnologies and nanomaterials. These PASs were intended to seed, and have seeded, further developments and discussions in formal standards-making. They have informed the preparation of other standards in this area.

Nanotechnologies are a group of emerging technologies, characterized by the “application of scientific knowledge to manipulate and control matter in the nanoscale in order to make use of size- and structure-dependent properties and phenomena, as distinct from those associated with individual atoms or molecules or with bulk materials” (see DD ISO TS 80004-1:2012, definition 2.3). These technologies are evolving quickly and will gain increasing importance over the next few years. Their application is expected to impact virtually all areas of human endeavour, in particular agriculture, construction, energy generation and storage, engineering, environmental remediation, healthcare, ICT, medicine and medical devices, pharmaceuticals, sustainability and transport.

This PAS was commissioned in response to demands by UK industry to provide standards to support future applications. The intention was to bring together the disparate terms and definitions relevant to carbon nanostructures and their production, measurement and characterization.

The principal difference between a PAS and a full British, European or international standard, is that a PAS is created in a consultative process across industry rather than gaining the full consensus of a specific technical committee.

The remit of this PAS is to document and, to a lesser degree, comment on the current use of basic carbon nanostructure terms and definitions in use by manufacturers, suppliers, academia, regulators and governments, and to make recommendations for usage as required. It also includes terms defining production methods and analytical techniques employed by those working with carbon nanomaterials.

Together with six related PAS vocabularies,<sup>1)</sup> PAS 134 has helped to stimulate international activity in the area being undertaken by a joint working group between ISO/TC 229, *Nanotechnologies*, and IEC/TC 113, *Nanotechnology standardization for electrical and electronic products and systems*. This activity has so far contributed to the publication of five internationally accepted vocabularies, the relevant output of which is reflected in this revision of PAS 134, in particular that contained in DD ISO TS 80004-3:2010, *Nanotechnologies – Vocabulary – Part 3: Carbon nano-objects*. While it was the intention to withdraw this PAS once equivalent full consensus international standards on the subject have been published, the scope of DD ISO TS 80004-3 is limited to terms specific to carbon nano-objects and does not include the wider remit of terms covered in the present document. Hence it was decided that PAS 134 should be revised to align relevant terms with the ISO documents but that it should be maintained until such time as its scope is completely addressed by other publications.

This PAS does not provide a nomenclature system for carbon nanostructures, as this is a specialized subject and there is no current consensus in the nanotechnologies or nanosciences communities on how to approach such a system for the collection of carbon nanostructures, although work has commenced in ISO/TC 229 on developing a framework for nomenclature models for nano-objects.

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<sup>1)</sup> See [www.bsigroup.com/nano](http://www.bsigroup.com/nano)

However, IUPAC<sup>2)</sup> has developed a numbering system for one group of carbon nanostructures, the fullerenes [1], together with a nomenclature for a subset of these [2].

This vocabulary attempts not to include terms that are used in a manner consistent with a definition given in the *Oxford English Dictionary* [3], and terms that already have well established meanings to which the addition of the prefix “nano” changes only the scale to which they apply but does not otherwise change their meaning.

The multidisciplinary nature of nanotechnologies can lead to confusion as to the precise meaning of some terms because of differences in usage between disciplines. Users are advised that, in order to support the standardization of terminology, this PAS provides single definitions wherever possible.

## 1 Scope

This Publicly Available Specification (PAS) lists terms and definitions used in or associated with the chemical and physical structure, characterization, functionalization, manufacture and synthesis of carbon nanostructures.

It is applicable to, but not limited to, diamond, graphite, fullerene, nanofibre, nanohorn, nanorod, nanotube and graphene structures.

This PAS is intended for use by technologists, regulators, non-government organizations (NGOs), consumer organizations, members of the public and others with an interest in the application or use of nanotechnologies in the subject area.

## 2 General terms referring to nano-objects

### 2.1 nanocone

cone-shaped **nanofibre** or **nanoparticle**

[DD ISO/TS 80004-3:2010, definition 2.9]

### 2.2 nanofibre

**nano-object** with two similar external dimensions in the **nanoscale** and the third dimension significantly larger

*NOTE 1 A nanofibre can be flexible or rigid.*

*NOTE 2 The two similar external dimensions are considered to differ in size by less than three times and the significantly larger external dimension is considered to differ from the other two by more than three times.*

*NOTE 3 The largest external dimension is not necessarily in the nanoscale.*

[DD CEN ISO/TS 27687:2009, definition 4.3]

### 2.3 nano-object

material with one, two or three external dimensions in the **nanoscale**

*NOTE Generic term for all discrete nanoscale objects.*

[DD CEN ISO/TS 27687:2009, definition 2.2]

### 2.4 nano-onion

spherical **nanoparticle** with concentric multiple shell structure

[DD ISO/TS 80004-3:2010, definition 2.8]

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<sup>2)</sup> International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry.



**2.5 nanoparticle**

**nano-object** with all three external dimensions in the **nanoscale**

*NOTE* If the lengths of the longest to the shortest axes of the **nano-object** differ significantly (typically by more than three times), the terms **nanofibre** or **nanoplate** are intended to be used instead of the term **nanoparticle**.

[DD CEN ISO/TS 27687:2009, definition 4.1]

**2.6 nanoplate**

**nano-object** with one external dimension in the **nanoscale** and the two other external dimensions significantly larger

*NOTE 1* The smallest external dimension is the thickness of the nanoplate.

*NOTE 2* The two significantly larger dimensions are considered to differ from the **nanoscale** dimension by more than three times.

*NOTE 3* The larger external dimensions are not necessarily in the **nanoscale**.

[DD CEN ISO/TS 27687:2009, definition 4.2]

**2.7 nanoribbon**

**nanoobject** with one of its two larger dimensions in the **nanoscale** and the other significantly larger

[DD ISO/TS 80004-3:2010, definition 2.10]

**2.8 nanorod**

solid **nanofibre**

[DD CEN ISO/TS 27687:2009, definition 4.5]

**2.9 nanoscale**

size range from approximately 1 nm to 100 nm

*NOTE 1* Properties that are not extrapolations from larger size will typically, but not exclusively, be exhibited in this size range.

*NOTE 2* The lower limit in this definition (approximately 1 nm) has no physical significance but is introduced to avoid single and small groups of atoms from being designated as **nano-objects** or elements of nanostructures, which might be implied by the absence of a lower limit.

[DD CEN ISO/TS 27687:2009, definition 2.1]

**2.10 nanotube**

hollow **nanofibre**

[DD CEN ISO/TS 27687:2009, definition 4.4]

## **3 General terms relevant to carbon chemistry and carbon nanostructures**

**3.1 carbon hybridization**

merging of the outer *s* and *p* orbitals in carbon atoms

*NOTE* Carbon has four valence electrons. In an isolated carbon atom, two of the valence electrons are expected to be in the *2s* orbital and the other two to be in two of the three *2p* orbitals. However, depending on the local conditions, one of the *2s* electrons may move to the third *2p* orbital allowing the *2s* to merge with the *2p* and form new kinds of orbital called *sp*. Even though the *s* and *p* orbitals are symmetric with respect to the nucleus of the carbon atom, the *sp* orbitals are highly directional and most of the electron cloud exists on one side of the carbon nucleus.  $sp^1$ ,  $sp^2$  and  $sp^3$  below are used to denote the different possible hybridizations in carbon.

### 3.2 carbon nanotube (CNT)

**nanotube** composed of carbon

*NOTE Carbon nanotubes usually consist of curved graphene layers, including single-wall carbon nanotubes and multiwall carbon nanotubes.*

[DD ISO/TS 80004-3:2010, definition 4.3]

### 3.3 fullerene

molecule composed solely of an even number of carbon atoms, which form a closed cage-like fused-ring polycyclic system with 12 five-membered rings and the rest six-membered rings

*NOTE 1 Adapted from the definition in the IUPAC Compendium of Chemical Terminology [4].*

*NOTE 2 A well-known example is  $C_{60}$ , which has a spherical shape with an external dimension of about 1 nm.*

[DD ISO/TS 80004-3:2010, definition 3.1]

### 3.4 graphene

single layer of carbon atoms with each atom bound to three neighbours in a honeycomb structure

*NOTE It is an important building block of many carbon nano-objects.*

[DD ISO/TS 80004-3:2010, definition 2.11]

### 3.5 heptagonal and pentagonal defects

interruption of the structure of graphitic layers with either heptagonal or pentagonal rings of carbon respectively

*NOTE Carbon atoms in graphite are organized in hexagons; when one carbon atom is added or removed heptagonal or pentagonal defects are formed, respectively.*

### 3.6 $sp^1$ carbon hybridization

merging between the 2s and one 2p orbitals

*NOTE The two sp orbitals lie opposite to each other and on a straight line. Hybridization in linear chains of carbon atoms.*

### 3.7 $sp^2$ carbon hybridization

merging between the 2s and two 2p orbitals

*NOTE The three sp orbitals lie on the same plane at  $120^\circ$  from each other. Carbon atoms in graphene are  $sp^2$  hybridized.*

### 3.8 $sp^3$ carbon hybridization

merging between the 2s and all three 2p orbitals

*NOTE The four sp orbitals point to the apexes of a tetrahedron. Diamond is made of  $sp^3$  hybridized carbon.*

### 3.9 turbostratic carbon

disordered graphitic structure where the graphitic planes may be distorted

## 4 Diamond nanostructures

### 4.1 Synthesis

#### 4.1.1 detonation

method of producing nanoscale diamond material by use of a high pressure shock wave

*NOTE Detonation initiates the shock wave.*

**4.1.2 high pressure high temperature (HPHT)**

synthesis method using high temperature and pressure applied to a material held between two anvils to modify the material structure

*NOTE This method is currently used to convert  $sp^2$  bonded carbon into diamond.*

**4.1.3 hot filament chemical vapour deposition (HFCVD)**

industrial synthesis method in which reactant gases are passed over a hot filament and deposit to form large area growth of, especially, polycrystalline and nanocrystalline diamond

**4.2 Materials****4.2.1 adamantane**

$C_{10}H_{16}$  closed structure comprising four benzene rings with hydrogen termination

*NOTE The smallest member of the H-terminated, cubic diamond molecular series.*

**4.2.2 diamondoid**

linked cages of **adamantane**

**4.2.3 hydrogenated nanodiamond**

H-terminated nanoscale diamond

**4.2.4 ultradispersed diamond (UDD)**

isolated diamond nanoparticles

*NOTE Typically produced by **detonation** synthesis.*

**5 Carbon nanofibres – nanorods and nanotubes****5.1 Synthesis****5.1.1 arc discharge**

use of an electric arc, formed by passing a high current between electrodes (in this case, usually graphite/carbon), to vaporize the electrode material and create a plasma

*NOTE This is a technique for producing **carbon nanotubes** and **nano-onions**, **amorphous carbon** and **diamond-like carbon** film deposition.*

**5.1.2 base-growth mode**

growth mode of carbon nanorod catalysed by a particle anchored on a support surface

*NOTE Carbon feedstock is supplied from the base where the growing nanorod interfaces with the anchored catalyst.*

**5.1.3 chemical vapour synthesis (CVS)**

**gas phase synthesis** where vapour is formed in a reaction chamber and condenses to form particles

*NOTE 1 Also referred to as **chemical vapour growth**.*

*NOTE 2 The vapour can be formed by, for example, **pyrolysis**, **reduction**, **oxidation** or **nitridation**.*

*NOTE 3 One application is the synthesis of **carbon nanotubes**.*

[PAS 71:2011 definition 6.5]

**5.1.4 gas phase synthesis**

production method based on nucleation of a supersaturated vapour and subsequent particle growth by condensation, coagulation and coalescence

*NOTE* Examples include **chemical vapour synthesis (CVS)**, furnace flow processing, laser pyrolysis, **physical vapour synthesis (PVS)** and plasma processing.

[PAS 71:2011 definition 6.14]

**5.1.5 laser ablation processing**

**physical vapour synthesis** using the energy from a (typically pulsed) laser beam to evaporate material from the surface of a target

*NOTE 1* Also called *laser assisted ablation*.

[PAS 71:2011 definition 6.16]

*NOTE 2* Used with a graphite target to create a carbon plume, this is a precursor for growth of **amorphous carbon**, **diamond-like carbon**, **carbon nanotubes**, or **fullerenes**.

**5.1.6 liquid arc synthesis**

**arc discharge** carried out in a liquid environment

*NOTE 1* For example, in water or liquid nitrogen.

*NOTE 2* When operated with carbon electrodes this technique provides a rich source of high quality **carbon nanotubes**.

**5.1.7 physical vapour synthesis (PVS)**

**gas phase synthesis** where the vapour is formed by either heating a source material or bombarding it with energetic atoms, ions or molecules

*NOTE 1* Heating may occur by indirect heating through contact with a hot surface, or direct heating using an electric arc, a beam of energetic electrons, a laser beam, etc.

*NOTE 2* The generation of vapour by bombardment with energetic atoms, ions or molecules is called *sputtering*.

**5.1.8 template growth**

growth of nanofibres/nanotubes where their direction is guided by some physical template

**5.1.9 tip-growth mode**

nanotube lengthening involving the removal of the catalyst particle from the support and its transportation to the open end of the tube where it continues to catalyse tube growth

*NOTE* Operates when the catalyst-support interaction is weak.

**5.2 Materials****5.2.1 armchair carbon nanotube**

nanotubes with chiral vector  $n = m$

*NOTE* See *chiral vector of single-wall carbon nanotube*.

**5.2.2 carbon nanohorn**

short and irregular shaped **carbon nanotube** with a **nanocone** apex

*NOTE* Usually hundreds of carbon nanohorns constitute an aggregate nanoparticle.

[DD ISO/TS 80004-3:2010, definition 4.10]

**5.2.3 carbon nanopeapod**

linear array of **fullerenes** enclosed in a **carbon nanotube**

*NOTE* This is an example of a composite **nanofibre**.

[DD ISO/TS 80004-3:2010, definition 4.9]

**5.2.4 chiral vector of single-wall carbon nanotube**

vector notation used to describe the helical structure of a **single-wall carbon nanotube**

[DD ISO TS 80004-3:2010, definition 4.5]

*NOTE 1* Described using the chiral vector,  $Ch = n \times a_1 + m \times a_2$ , which connects two crystallographically equivalent sites on the **graphene** sheet (where  $a_1$  and  $a_2$  are unit vectors from an atom to the next nearest neighbouring atoms in the regular hexagonal honeycomb lattice, and  $n$  and  $m$  are integers). Each **nanotube** topology is usually characterized by these two integer numbers ( $n$ ,  $m$ ), thus defining some peculiar symmetries such as **armchair** ( $n$ ,  $n$ ) and **zigzag** ( $n$ , 0) classes.

*NOTE 2* The chirality of a nanotube determines its electronic properties, i.e. metallic or semiconducting.

**5.2.5 cup-stacked carbon nanotube**

**carbon nanotube** composed of stacked truncated **graphene nanocones**

*NOTE* This is completely different from **single-wall** or **multiwall carbon nanotubes** in structure. The open top and bottom edges of truncated **graphene nanocones** appear on the inner and outer surfaces of the **nanotube**, respectively.

[DD ISO/TS 80004-3:2010, definition 4.8]

**5.2.6 double-wall carbon nanotube (DWCNT)**

**multiwall carbon nanotube** composed of only two nested, concentric **single-wall carbon nanotubes**

*NOTE* Although this is a type of **multiwall carbon nanotube**, its properties are rather closer to **single-wall carbon nanotubes**.

[DD ISO/TS 80004-3:2010, definition 4.7]

**5.2.7 graphitic nanofibre**

carbon nanofibre composed of **graphene** multilayer structures

*NOTE* **Graphene** layers can have orientation with respect to the fibre axis without long-range order.

[DD ISO/TS 80004-3:2010, definition 4.2]

**5.2.8 multiwall carbon nanotube (MWCNT)**

**carbon nanotube** composed of nested, concentric or near-concentric **graphene** sheets with interlayer distances similar to those of graphite

*NOTE* The structure is normally considered to be many **single-wall carbon nanotubes** nesting each other, and would be cylindrical for small diameters but tends to have a polygonal cross-section as the diameter increases.

[DD ISO/TS 80004-3:2010, definition 4.6]

**5.2.9 single-wall carbon nanotube (SWCNT)**

**carbon nanotube** consisting of a single cylindrical **graphene** layer

*NOTE* The structure can be visualized as a **graphene** sheet rolled into a cylindrical honeycomb structure.

[DD ISO/TS 80004-3:2010, definition 4.4]

**5.2.10 zigzag carbon nanotube**

nanotube with chiral vector ( $n$ , 0).

*NOTE* Such a tube has mirror symmetry with respect to a plane that includes its axis.

## 6 Carbon films

### 6.1 Synthesis

#### 6.1.1 cathodic vacuum arc deposition

**physical vapour deposition** technique using a **vacuum arc** on a carbon cathode to produce a high temperature carbon plasma which condenses on a substrate to produce a film

*NOTE This is a type of arc discharge.*

#### 6.1.2 chemical vapour deposition (CVD)

**chemical vapour synthesis** in the presence of a substrate to produce a film

#### 6.1.3 electron cyclotron resonance (ECR) CVD

technique using a low pressure, high density plasma generated by a microwave coupled with a magnetic field to promote chemical dissociation of carbon-containing gases to provide a source of excited carbon atoms for film formation on a substrate

*NOTE This is a type of plasma-enhanced chemical vapour deposition.*

#### 6.1.4 electron cyclotron wave resonance (ECWR) source

high density plasma source for **plasma-enhanced chemical vapour deposition** comprising a single-turn inductively-coupled radio frequency discharge with static transverse magnetic field

*NOTE This is typically used in the preparation of amorphous carbon and diamond-like carbon thin films.*

#### 6.1.5 filtered cathodic vacuum arc (FCVA)

**vacuum arc** source incorporating a magnetic and/or mechanical filter to provide a coating flux that is essentially free of macroparticles

*NOTE One possible realization is the s-bend filter using two curved toroidal filters, widely used for the deposition of tetrahedral amorphous carbon films.*

#### 6.1.6 physical vapour deposition (PVD)

**physical vapour synthesis** in the presence of a substrate to produce a coating

#### 6.1.7 plasma-enhanced chemical vapour deposition (PECVD)

**chemical vapour deposition** where the gas is decomposed using a plasma

*NOTE The plasma can be generated using direct current (DC-PECVD), radio frequency (RF-PECVD) or microwave (MW-PECVD) energy. This is a common technique for synthesizing amorphous carbon, diamond-like carbon, carbon nanotubes and diamond.*

#### 6.1.8 s-bend filter

high efficiency filter for **vacuum arc** deposition using two curved toroidal filters

*NOTE The filtering can be improved by a factor of 100 by adding baffles along the filter section.*

#### 6.1.9 sputter deposition

**physical vapour deposition** technique in which energetic particles, typically gas ions formed in a plasma, bombard a target material which is eroded and transferred (sputtered) onto another surface

*NOTE This is a common industrial process for the deposition of amorphous carbon and DLC. Amorphous hydrogenated carbon (a-C:H) can be produced by reactive sputtering of a carbon target using a plasma of argon together with hydrogen or methane.*

#### 6.1.10 subplantation

process in which atoms are implanted into a material to produce densification

*NOTE This term is typically used to describe the growth mechanism of DLC.*

- 6.1.11 vacuum arc arc discharge** sustained in a vacuum

## 6.2 Materials

### 6.2.1 amorphous carbon

carbon material without long-range crystalline order

*NOTE Short-range order exists, but with deviations of the interatomic distances and/or interbonding angles with respect to the graphite lattice as well as to the diamond lattice.*

[Adapted from IUPAC Compendium of Chemical Terminology [4]]

### 6.2.2 diamond-like carbon (DLC)

**amorphous carbon** material containing a sufficient fraction of  $sp^3$  hybridized carbon atoms, usually stabilized by hydrogen, to impart a high hardness

*NOTE 1 In this context high hardness means greater than 20 GPa as measured according to BS EN ISO 14577-4.*

*NOTE 2 This term is used in the literature and by industry to describe a wide range of carbon-based coatings, some of which do not comply with 6.2.2.*

### 6.2.3 fullerene-like carbon film

thin films with a microstructure that resembles the structure of **fullerenes**

*NOTE The carbon atoms are arranged in sheets curved in 3-D due to the incorporation of pentagonal and heptagonal defects in the structure of **graphene**. The induced microstructure should be evident (in HREM) by the presence of swirls and closed loops. The microstructure should persist over several unit cells (10-20 nm) to clearly distinguish the **fullerene** microstructure from **amorphous carbon**. The main difference between a **fullerene-like** microstructure and **turbostratic carbon** is the presence of swirls and loops in the former while the latter mainly consists of distorted graphitic sheets.*

### 6.2.4 glassy carbon (g-C)

predominantly  $sp^2$  bonded **amorphous carbon** containing **graphene-like** and **fullerene-like** structures

### 6.2.5 tetrahedral amorphous carbon (ta-C)

non-hydrogenated **amorphous carbon** containing over 80%  $sp^3$  hybridized carbon

## 7 Fullerenes

### 7.1 Synthesis

#### 7.1.1 plasma condensation

coalescence from a carbon plasma

#### 7.1.2 pulsed laser ablation (PLA)

use of short high intensity laser pulses directed at a carbon target to generate a plume of plasma

*NOTE Condensation can occur within the plasma to produce **fullerenes**.*

### 7.2 Materials

#### 7.2.1 bridged fullerene

**fullerene** where two or more nonadjacent atoms are linked by additional atoms which might be outside or inside the **fullerene** molecule.

- 7.2.2 buckminsterfullerene**  
type of **fullerene** with 60 atoms in the structure of a soccer ball (12 pentagons and 20 hexagons)  
*NOTE This is the smallest fullerene in which no two pentagons share an edge.*
- 7.2.3 endohedral fullerene**  
**fullerene** with additional atoms, ions, or clusters enclosed within its shell
- 7.2.4 exohedral fullerene**  
**fullerene** with additional atoms, ions, or clusters attached to the outside of the **fullerene** shell
- 7.2.5 fullerene derivative**  
compound that has been formed from **fullerene** by substitution of carbon or covalent attachment of a moiety  
[DD ISO/TS 80004-3:2010, definition 3.2]
- 7.2.6 fullerene-doped polymer**  
polymer with **fullerene** molecules bonded along the backbone
- 7.2.7 fullerene radical ions**  
radical ions formed by the addition of an electron to, or removal of an electron from, a **fullerene**
- 7.2.8 fullerite crystal**  
ordered array of **fullerenes**
- 7.2.9 fulleroid**  
molecule whose structure resembles that of a **fullerene** but does not conform to the definition of a **fullerene**  
*NOTE Often named "modified fullerene".*  
[Adapted from IUPAC Recommendations for Nomenclature for the  $C_{60-I_h}$  and  $C_{70-D_{5h(6)}}$  Fullerenes [2], clause Fu-1.3]
- 7.2.10 fused fullerene**  
**fullerene** which is incorporated into a more complex structure by sharing atoms with the surrounding molecules  
[Adapted from IUPAC Recommendations for Nomenclature for the  $C_{60-I_h}$  and  $C_{70-D_{5h(6)}}$  Fullerenes [2], clause Fu-7]
- 7.2.11 heterofullerene**  
**fullerene** that includes elements other than carbon  
[Adapted from IUPAC Recommendations for Nomenclature for the  $C_{60-I_h}$  and  $C_{70-D_{5h(6)}}$  Fullerenes [2], clause Fu-5]  
*NOTE This is synonymous with fullerene derivative.*
- 7.2.12 homofullerene**  
**fullerene** where a carbon-carbon bond has been replaced by a methylene group  
*NOTE The atoms of the fullerene concerned are still part of the fullerene.*  
[Adapted from IUPAC Recommendations for Nomenclature for the  $C_{60-I_h}$  and  $C_{70-D_{5h(6)}}$  Fullerenes [2], clause Fu-4.1]
- 7.2.13 metallofullerene**  
**endohedral fullerene** with an enclosed metal ion or ions  
[DD ISO/TS 80004-3:2010, definition 3.4]



**7.2.14 norfullerene**

**fullerene** structure from which carbon atoms have been removed

[Adapted from IUPAC Recommendations for Nomenclature for the  $C_{60.I_h}$  and  $C_{70.D_{5h(6)}}$  Fullerenes [2], clause Fu-7]

*NOTE* The dangling bonds created are usually satisfied by hydrogen.

**7.2.15 ring-fused fullerene**

**fullerene** that shares an adjacent pair of atoms with an organic ring or ring system

[Adapted from IUPAC Recommendations for Nomenclature for the  $C_{60.I_h}$  and  $C_{70.D_{5h(6)}}$  Fullerenes [2], clause Fu-7]

## 8 Characterization

*NOTE* The techniques included here are those of particular relevance to the characterization of carbon nanostructures. Other characterization techniques of general relevance to carbon nanomaterials are considered in PAS 133, Terminology for nanoscale measurement and instrumentation.

**8.1 anti-Stokes scattering**

scattering of light by a material where the scattered photon has higher energy than the incident photon

*NOTE 1* This gives rise to an anti-Stokes line on the higher energy or shorter wavelength side of the incident spectrum.

*NOTE 2* This term is used in **Raman spectroscopy**.

**8.2 elastic recoil detection**

method in which measurement of the elastic scattering of ions is used to analyse for light elements in a solid

*NOTE* For carbon materials, the method is often used to determine the hydrogen content, for example, in a-C:H.

**8.3 electron energy loss spectroscopy (EELS)**

method in which the energy distribution spectrum of electrons inelastically scattered as they pass through a material is used to determine compositional and structural information about the material

*NOTE* For carbon materials, it is a well established method for probing the existence of  $sp^2$  and  $sp^3$  hybridized atoms.

**8.4 Fourier transform infrared spectroscopy (FTIR)**

analytical chemical technique, based on spectroscopy, in which a gaseous sample is subjected to excitation of molecular bonds by pulsed, broad-band infrared radiation, and the Fourier transform mathematical method is used to obtain an absorption spectrum

[BS EN ISO 13943:2010, definition **4.158**]

*NOTE* Used to probe bonding types and structures, e.g., double and triple carbon-carbon bonds, and bonds with other elements, such as hydrogen, nitrogen, oxygen, present in a carbon material.

**8.5 near edge X-ray absorption fine structure (NEXAFS)**

characterization using measurement of the energies of photons and electrons emitted from matter following irradiation with photons of energies close to the absorption edge of the material, to derive structural information about the irradiated material

*NOTE 1 This can provide valuable information about bonding in molecular structures.*

*NOTE 2 Requires an intense tunable source of soft X-rays, hence undertaken at synchrotrons.*

**8.6 photoconductivity**

increase in conductivity of a material when illuminated with light

*NOTE Gives information on transport and recombination processes for carbon materials.*

**8.7 photoluminescence (PL)**

luminescence caused by absorption of optical radiation

[IEC 60050-845:1987,04-19]

*NOTE Gives information on the recombination process of electrons and holes and, for carbon materials, it is attributed to the recombination of electron-hole pairs confined in  $\pi$ -rich entities surrounded by a  $sp^3$  matrix.*

**8.8 radial breathing mode (RBM)**

strongest low frequency Raman mode for **carbon nanotubes**

*NOTE Commonly used to determine the diameter of **carbon nanotubes**.*

**8.9 Raman effect**

emitted radiation, associated with molecules illuminated with monochromatic radiation, characterized by an energy loss or gain arising from rotational or vibrational excitations

[BS ISO 18115-2:2010, **6.128**]

*NOTE Hence, this changes the energy of the scattered photon.*

**8.10 Raman D-peak**

peak in the Raman spectrum of carbon-containing materials at about  $1350\text{ cm}^{-1}$  for optical wavelength excitation

*NOTE Directly linked to the breathing mode of aromatic carbon rings and used as an indication of disorder.*

**8.11 Raman G-peak**

peak in the Raman spectrum of carbon-containing materials at about  $1590\text{ cm}^{-1}$  for optical wavelength excitation

*NOTE Directly linked to  $sp^2$  bonded carbon and used as an indication of ordering. Many researchers use the  $I(D)/I(G)$  ratio of the intensities of the G and D peaks to assess the amount of disorder in carbon films.<sup>3)</sup>*

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<sup>3)</sup> Chem. Phys., 2007, **9**, 1276-1290; DOI: 10.1039/b613962k.

**8.12 Raman spectroscopy**

spectroscopy in which the **Raman effect** is used to investigate molecular energy levels

[Adapted from BS ISO 18115-2:2010, 6.129]

**8.13 Rutherford back scattering (RBS)**

method in which the scattering of high energy ions is used to determine compositional and structural information about a solid

*NOTE* The technique can be used, for example, to determine the variation of  $sp^3$  fraction and the density of a carbon film.

**8.14 small angle X-ray scattering (SAXS)**

method in which analysis of the scattering of X-rays at angles close to the transmitted beam is used to determine structural information about materials

*NOTE* This method can be used to obtain data on ultrananocrystalline diamond nucleation and growth behind the **detonation** wavefront.

**8.15 Stokes scattering**

scattering of light by a material where the material absorbs energy and the scattered photon has a lower energy

*NOTE 1* This gives rise to a Stokes line on the lower energy or longer wavelength side of the incident spectrum.

*NOTE 2* This term is used in **Raman spectroscopy**.

**8.16 synchrotron radiation small angle X-ray scattering (SRSAXS)**

<as 8.14> where synchrotron radiation is used as the source of X-rays

*NOTE 1* Synchrotron radiation produces a beam with much higher intensity than conventional X-ray sources, allowing much shorter exposure times to be used.

*NOTE 2* This method can be used to elucidate aspects of the ultrananocrystalline diamond formation kinetics.

**8.17 thermogravimetric analysis (TGA)**

chemical analysis by the measurement of weight changes of a system or compound as a function of increasing temperature

[McGraw-Hill Dictionary of Scientific and Technical Terms, 6th edition, published by The McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc]

**8.18 X-ray Auger electron spectroscopy (XAES)**

method in which an electron spectrometer is used to measure the energy distribution of Auger electrons emitted from a surface after irradiation with X-rays

*NOTE 1* This method is extensively used to determine the bond angles and nearest neighbour atom distance in carbon films. **NEXAFS XAES** data has been used to determine **carbon hybridization**, and the detection of diamond-like bonding in a-C films.

*NOTE 2* Requires an intense tunable source of soft X-rays, hence undertaken at synchrotrons.

**8.19 X-ray photoelectron spectroscopy (XPS)**

method in which an electron spectrometer is used to measure the energy distribution of photoelectrons and Auger electrons emitted from a surface irradiated by X-ray photons

*NOTE 1 X-ray sources in common use are unmonochromated Al K $\alpha$  and Mg K $\alpha$  X-rays at 1 486.6 eV and 1 253.6 eV, respectively. Modern instruments also use monochromated Al K $\alpha$  X-rays. Some instruments make use of various X-ray sources with other anodes or of synchrotron radiation.*

[BS ISO 18115-1:2010, 4.23]

*NOTE 2 This method has been used to measure **carbon hybridization** at the surface of carbon materials such as diamond, **amorphous carbon** and **DLC**.*

**Annex A**  
(informative)

## Abbreviations

a-C	Amorphous Carbon
a-C:H	Amorphous Hydrogenated carbon
CNT	Carbon Nanotube
CVD	Chemical Vapour Deposition
CVS	Chemical Vapour Synthesis
DLC	Diamond-Like Carbon
DWCNT	Double-wall Carbon Nanotube
ECR	Electron Cyclotron Resonance
ECWR	Electron Cyclotron Wave Resonance
EELS	Electron Energy Loss Spectroscopy
FCVA	Filtered Cathodic Vacuum Arc
FTIR	Fourier Transform Infrared Spectroscopy
g-C	Glassy Carbon
HFCVD	Hot Filament Chemical Vapour Deposition
HPHT	High Pressure High Temperature
MWCNT	Multiwall Carbon Nanotube
NEXAFS	Near Edge X-ray Absorption Fine Structure
PECVD	Plasma Enhanced Chemical Vapour Deposition
PL	Photoluminescence
PLA	Pulsed Laser Ablation
PVD	Physical Vapour Deposition
PVS	Physical Vapour Synthesis
RBM	Radial Breathing Mode
RBS	Rutherford Back Scattering
SAXS	Small Angle X-ray Scattering
SRSAXS	Synchrotron Radiation Small Angle X-ray Scattering
SWCNT	Single-wall Carbon Nanotube
ta-C	Tetrahedral Amorphous Carbon
TGA	Thermogravimetric Analysis
UDD	Ultradispersed Diamond
XAES	X-ray Auger Electron Spectroscopy
XPS	X-ray Photoelectron Spectroscopy

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### Further reading

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<sup>4)</sup> Available at [www.chem.qmul.ac.uk/iupac/fullerene/](http://www.chem.qmul.ac.uk/iupac/fullerene/)



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