

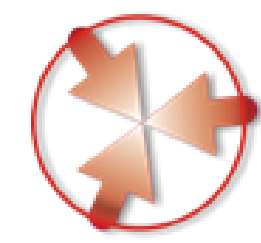
Ioffe Institute

# Graphene chemical derivatives: from synthesis to applications

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## Graphene chemical derivatives: point of interest

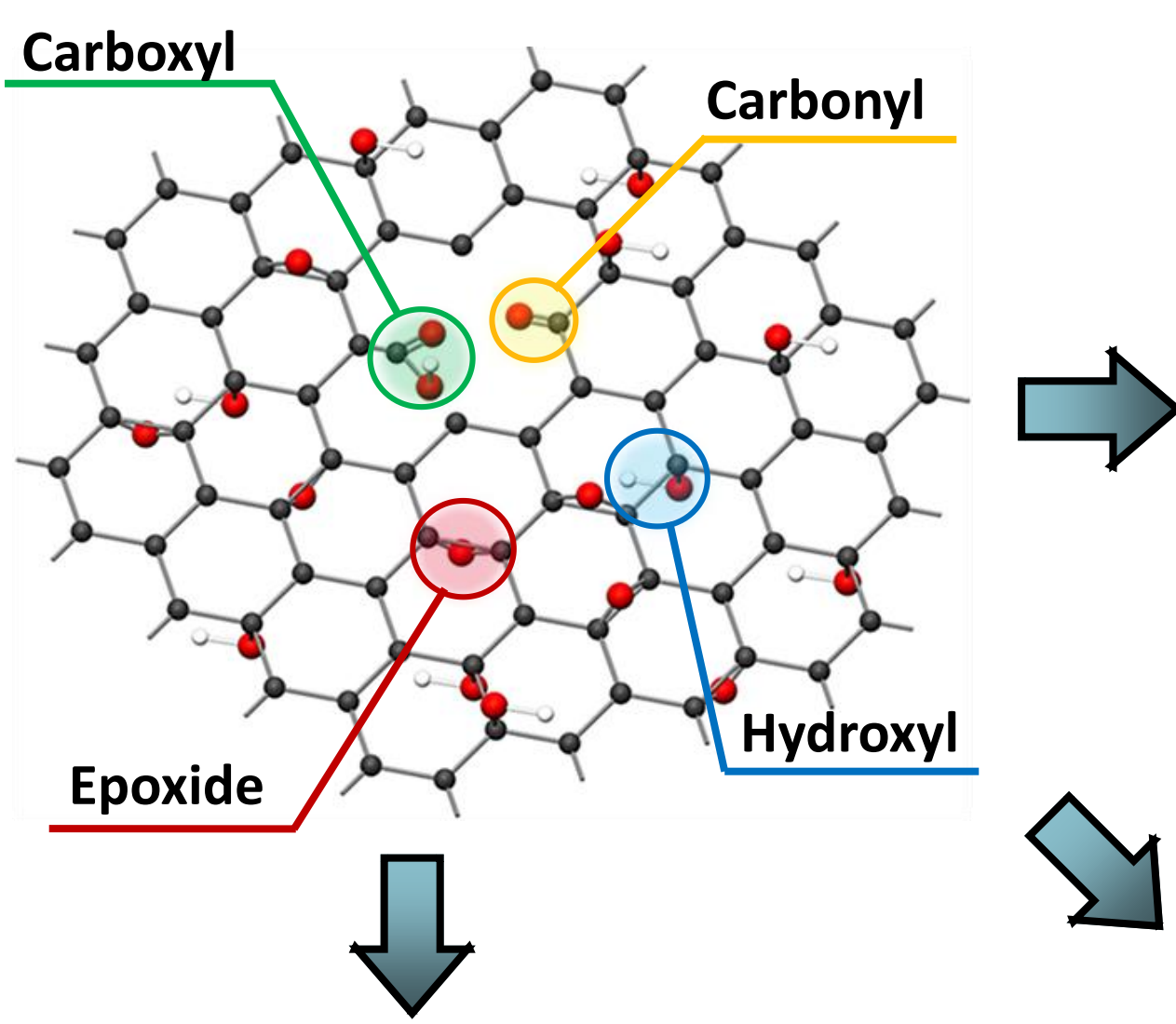
### Graphene oxide (GO):

- o Inefficient for the graphene production (introduction of defects & contaminants during the GO reduction)
- ✓ versatile platform for the synthesis of graphene layers with the intended composition of organic groups

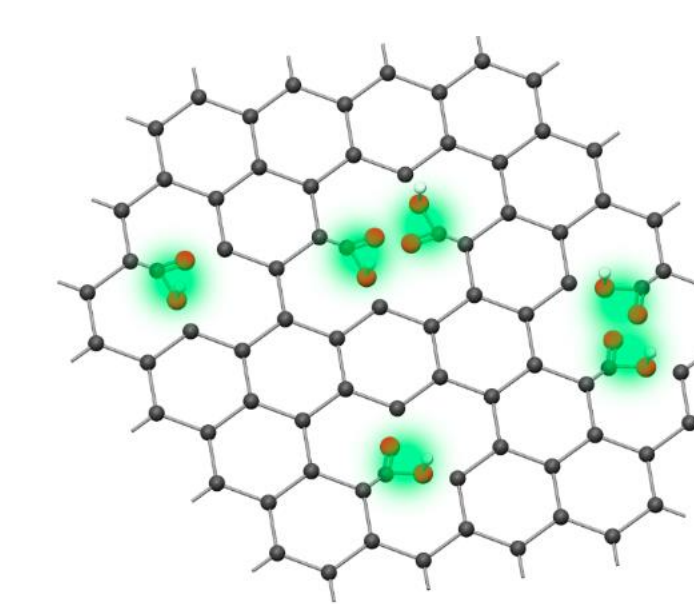
### Graphene derivatization provides:

- Tunable electronic structure, charge transport and optical properties
- Variable chemical reactivity
- Easiness of the subsequent grafting

### Graphene Oxide



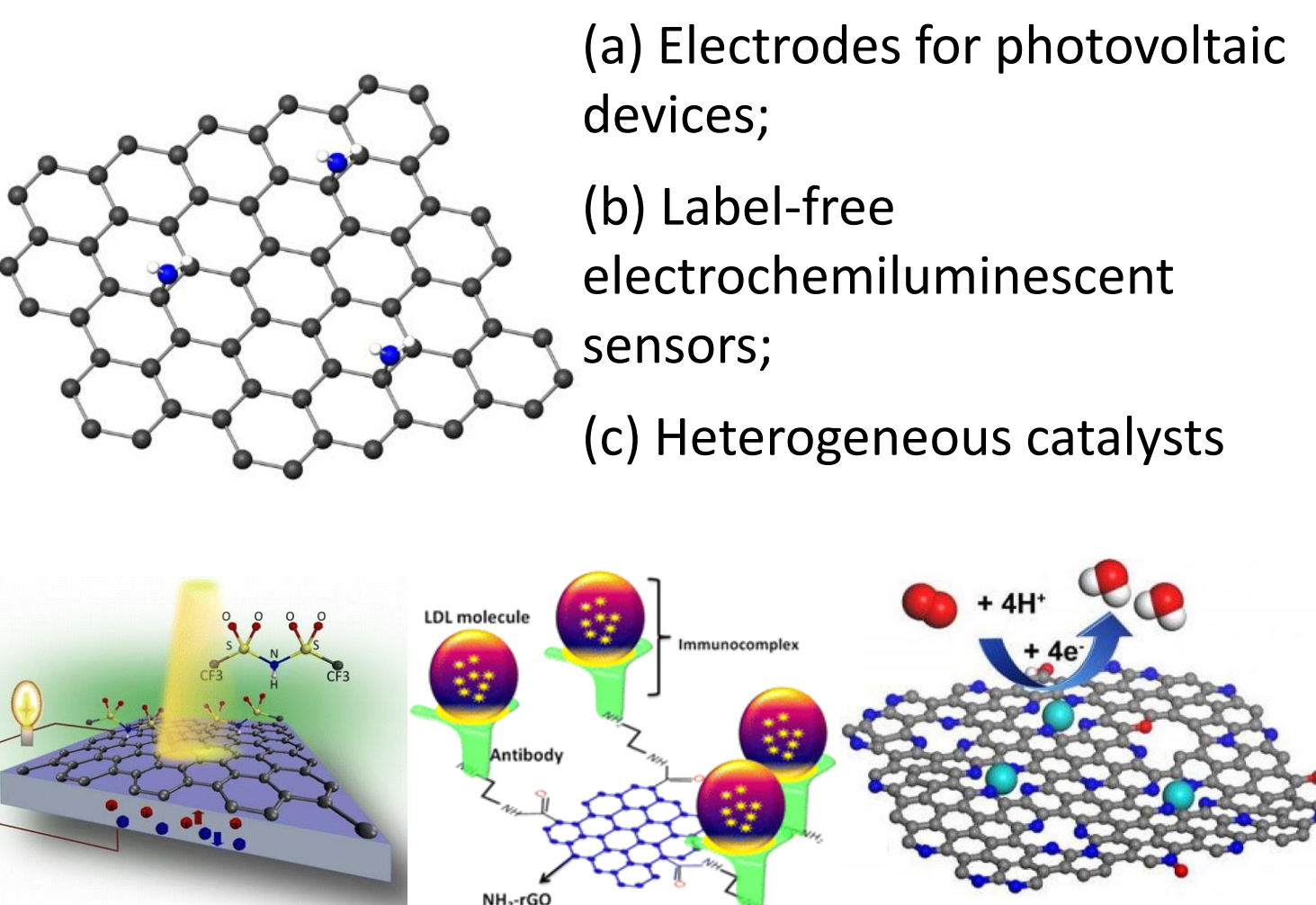
### Carboxylated



### Applications:

- Graphene-based aptasensors with high selectivity and sensitivity;
- Pseudocapacitors with high power density;
- Membranes for water purification & desalination

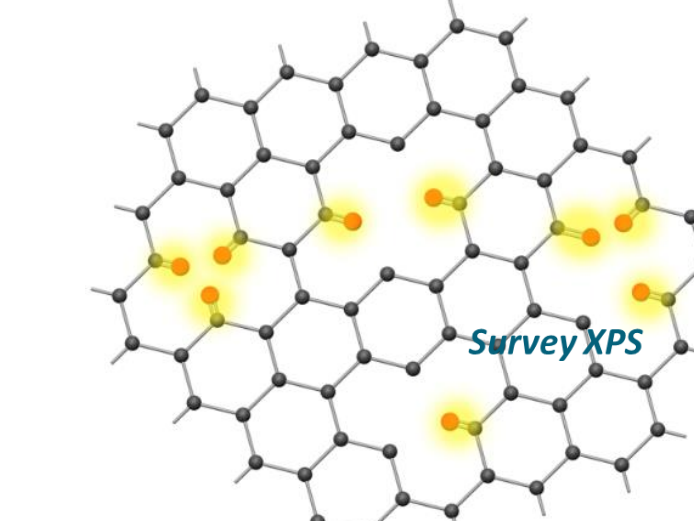
### Aminated



### Applications:

- Electrodes for photovoltaic devices;
- Label-free electrochemiluminescent sensors;
- Heterogeneous catalysts

### Carbonylated



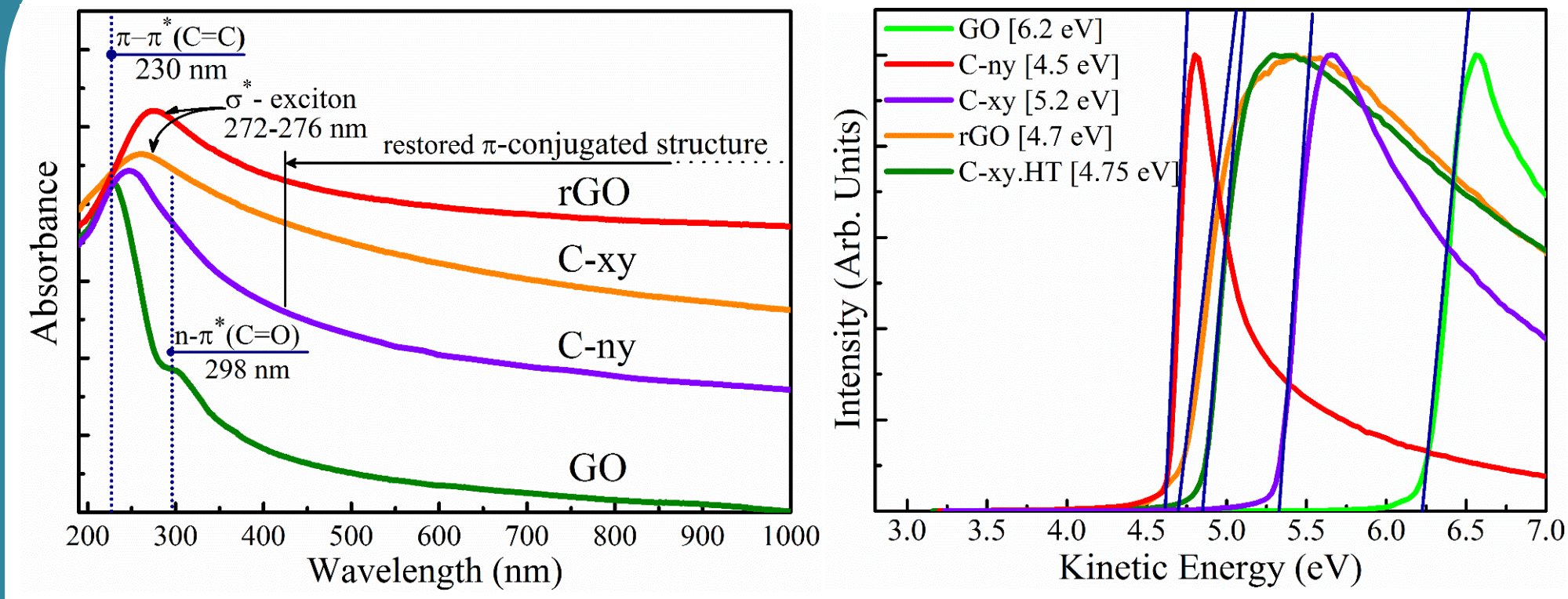
### Applications:

- Graphene-based gas sensors and multielectrode chips with tunable selectivity;
- Graphene-based E-inks;
- Organic light-emitting coatings

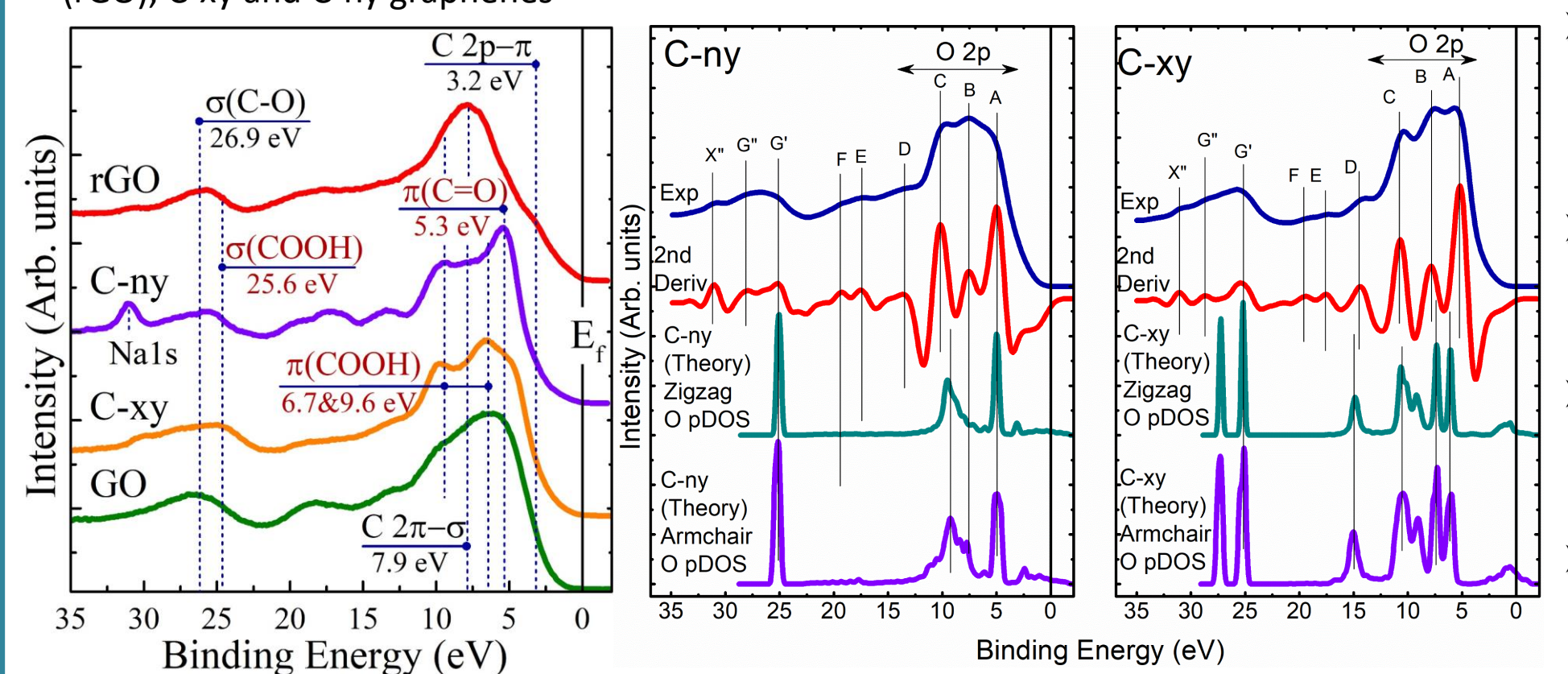
### How to obtain?

### The effect of derivatization?

## Carboxylated (C-xy) & Carbonylated (C-ny) graphenes:



UV-Vis spectra and secondary electron energy cutoff spectra of the initial GO, reduced GO (rGO), C-xy and C-ny graphenes



(left) XPS valence band spectra of pristine GO, rGO, carboxylated, and carbonylated graphene. (right) Experimental graph, its 2<sup>nd</sup> derivative and theoretically calculated valence band spectra of the C-xy and C-ny graphene

Type	Resistance, kΩ/sq	Conductivity, S/m
GO	> 10 <sup>9</sup>	< 10 <sup>-12</sup>
C-xy	1-1.4	180
C-ny	1000-5000	0.4-3
rGO	0.3-0.6	220

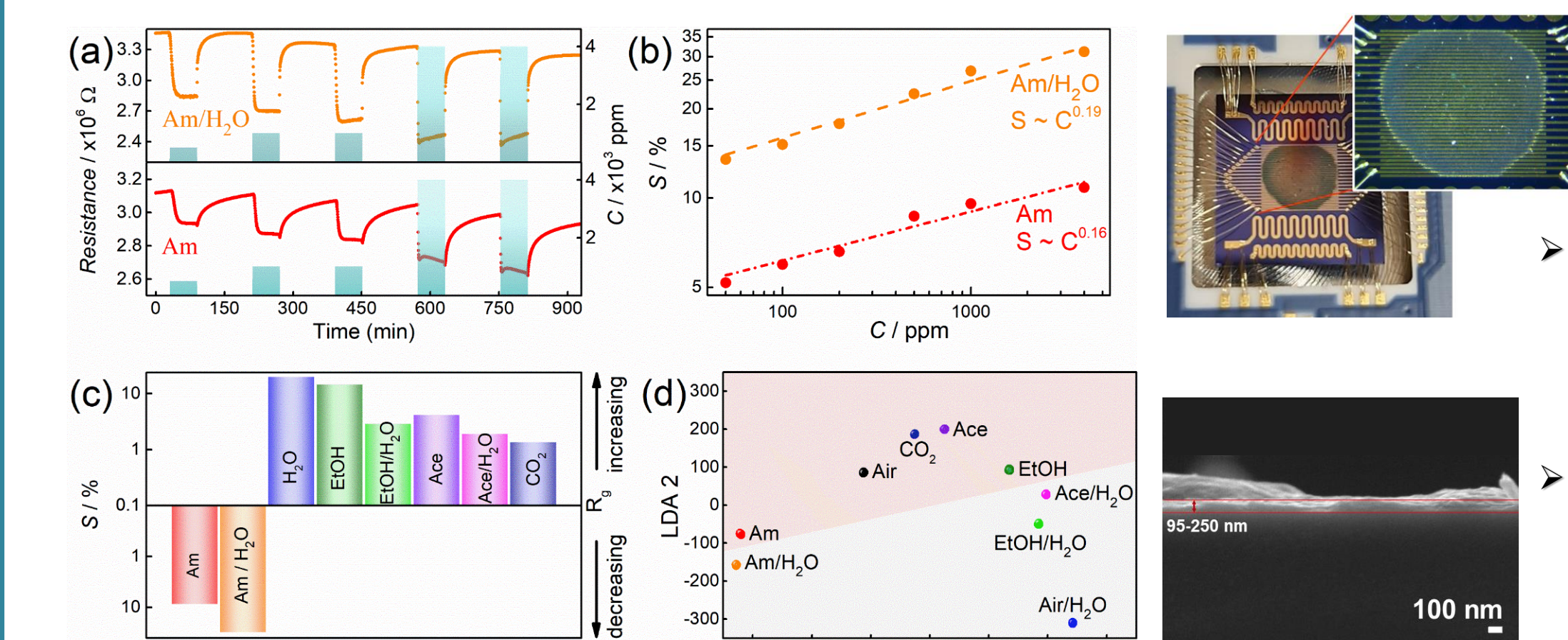
Sheet resistance and the corresponding conductivity values for the studied materials

UV-Vis spectra demonstrate almost complete restoration of  $\pi$ -conjugated structure in C-xy and only partial - in C-ny, although both are perforated

Despite C-ny terminated by electron-withdrawing C=O groups - it has the lowest Work Function value in graphene derivatives

Carboxylation and carbonylation leads to formation of new localized electronic states in the valence band of the graphene layer

New electronic states arise from the molecular orbitals localized on the introduced carboxyl and carbonyl groups as is verified by DFT calculations



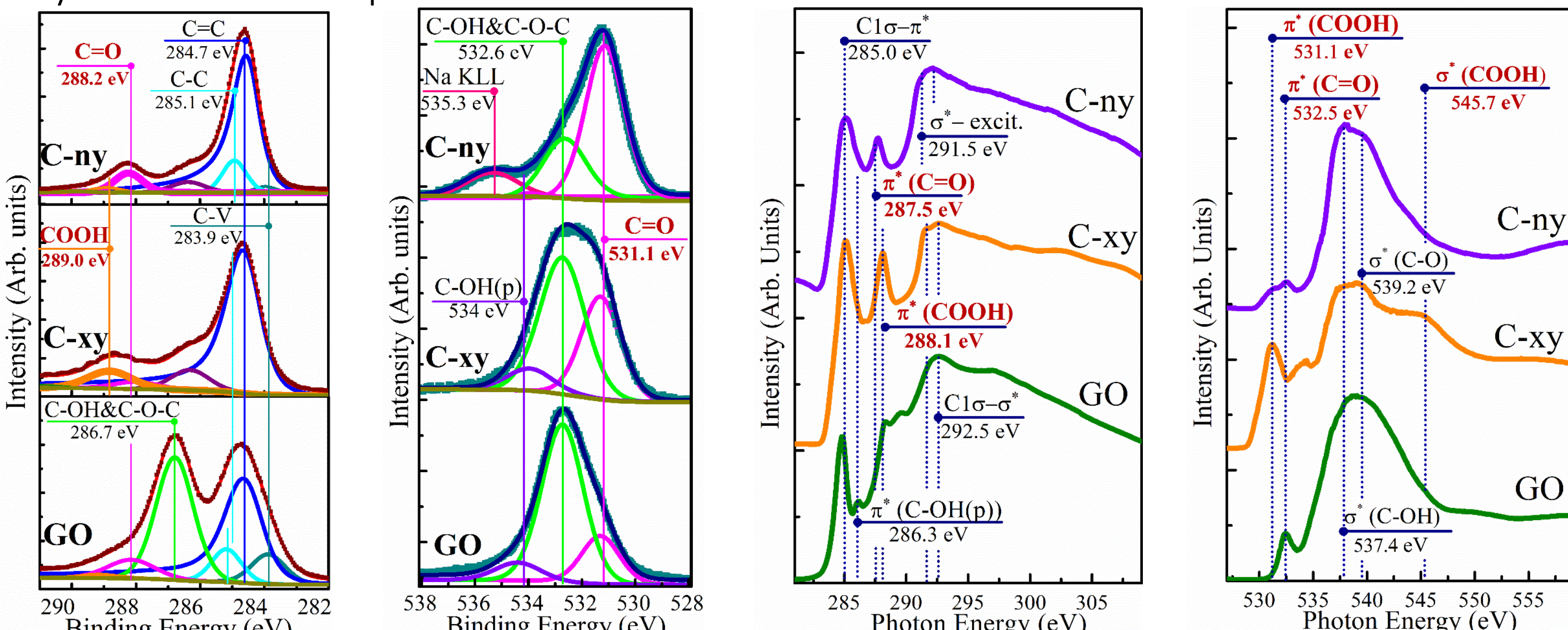
The gas-sensing performance of C-ny graphene layer. (a) The resistance transient of the exemplary sensor exposed to NH<sub>3</sub> in humid (upper curve) and dry (lower curve) air. (b) The dependence of median chemiresistive response of sensors in the on-chip multi-sensor array on the concentration of NH<sub>3</sub> in humid and dry air. (c) The values of median chemiresistive response of sensors in the on-chip multi-sensor array to various analyte VOCs: water (H<sub>2</sub>O), NH<sub>3</sub> in dry and humid air (Am and Am/H<sub>2</sub>O)), ethyl alcohol in dry and humid air (EtOH and EtOH/H<sub>2</sub>O), acetone in dry and humid air (Ace and Ace/H<sub>2</sub>O), and CO<sub>2</sub>. (d) The results of the recognition of the studied analyte VOCs using LDA: the red-highlighted zone indicate a location of analytes in dry air background.

M. K. Rabchinskii et al. Carbon, 2020, DOI: 10.1016/j.carbon.2020.09.087

## Carboxylated (C-xy) & Carbonylated (C-ny) graphenes:

C-xy: Photoinduced reduction of graphene oxide layers in the inert atmosphere

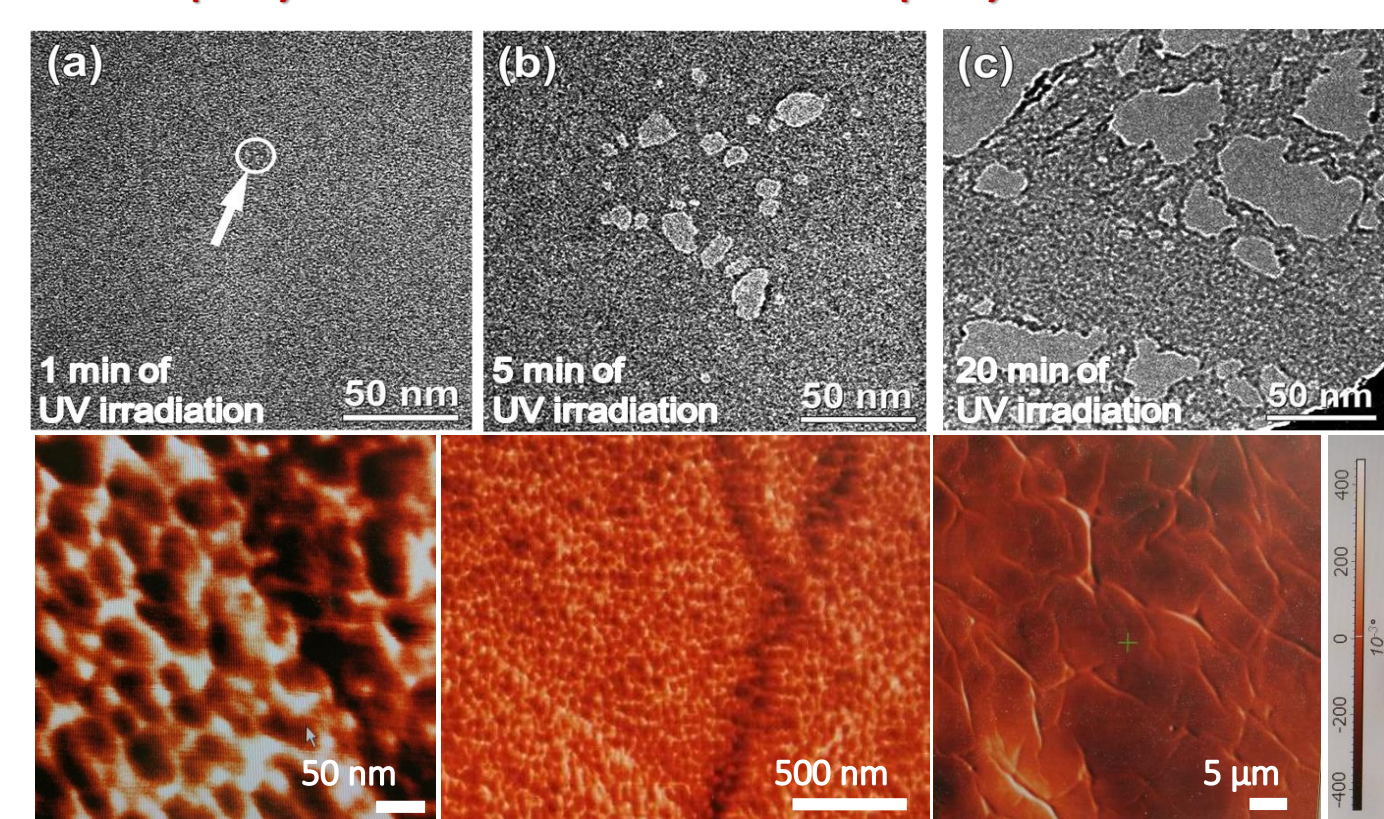
C-ny: Liquid-phase graphene oxide reduction using combination of sodium silicates



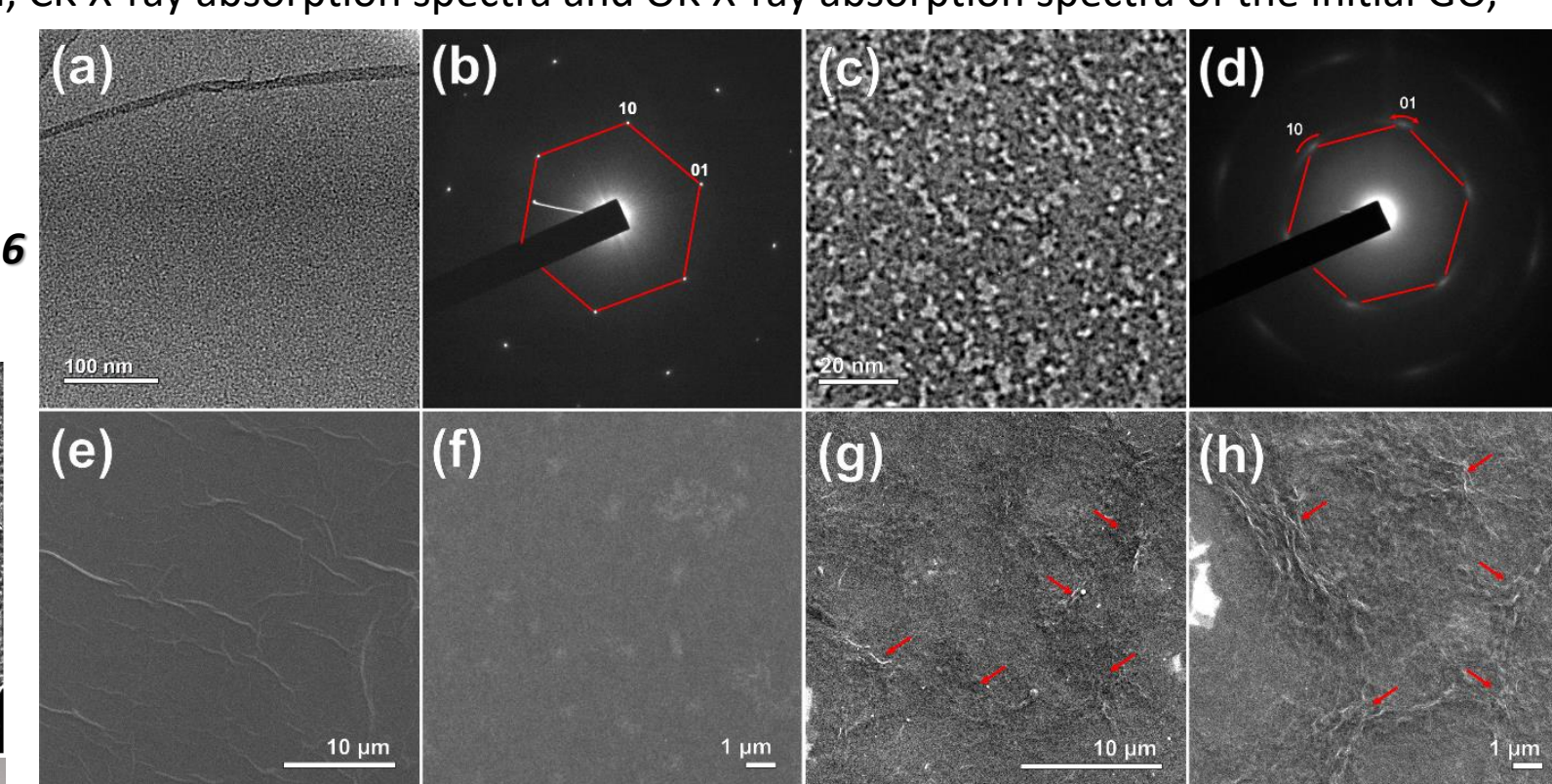
C 1s X-ray photoelectron spectra, O 1s X-ray photoelectron spectra, CK X-ray absorption spectra and OK X-ray absorption spectra of the initial GO, carboxylated graphene and carbonylated graphene

**Carboxylated graphene:**  
✓ C/O ratio: 1.68 → 7.41  
✓ C-OH&C-O-C (at%): 53.2 → 2.3  
✓ COOH (at%): 3 → 10.8

**Carbonylated graphene:**  
✓ C/O ratio: 1.68 → 5.4  
✓ C-OH&C-O-C (at%): 53.2 → 5.6  
✓ C=O (at%): 3 → 8.9

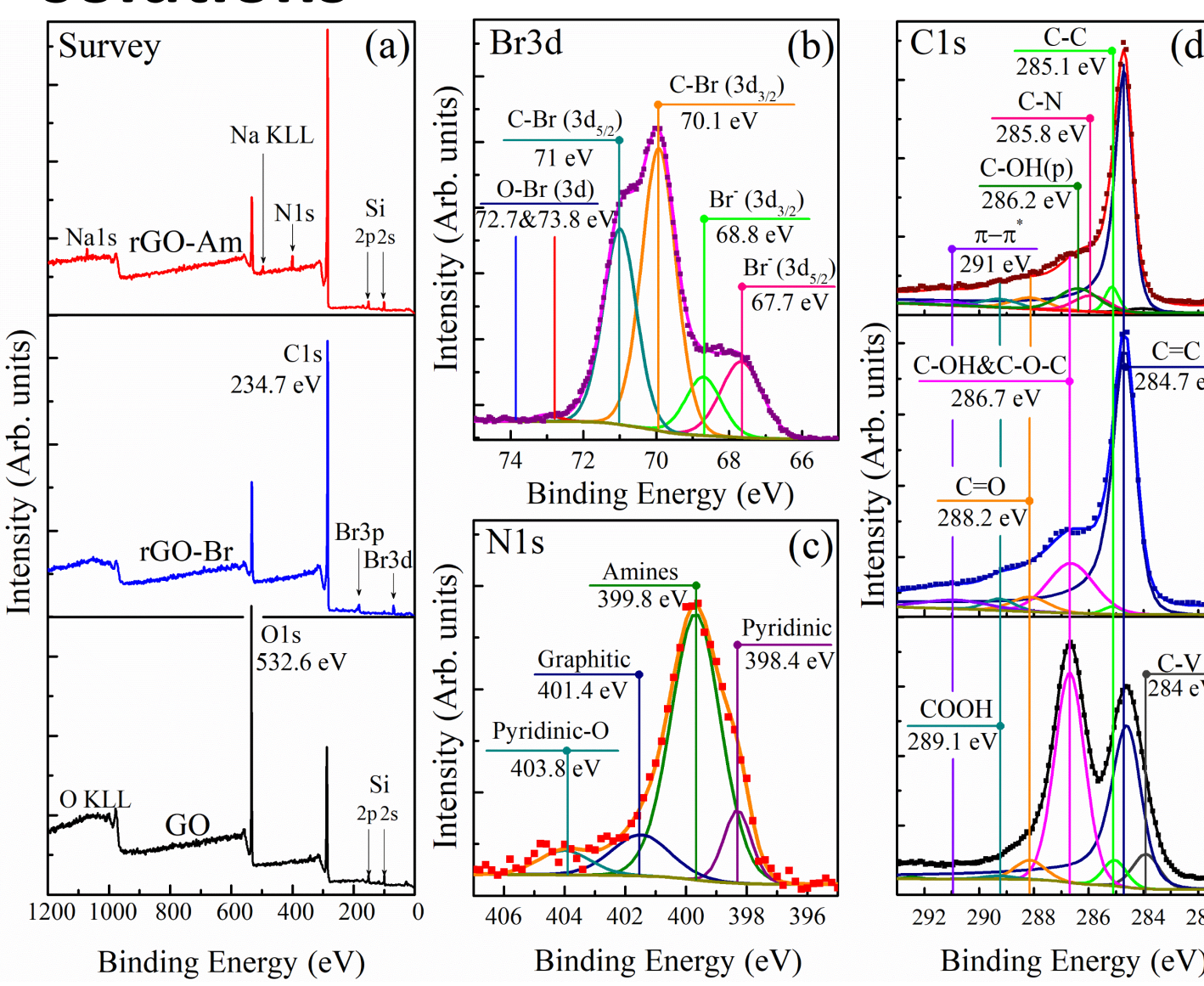


TEM (upper row) and AFM (lower row) images of the C-xy graphene



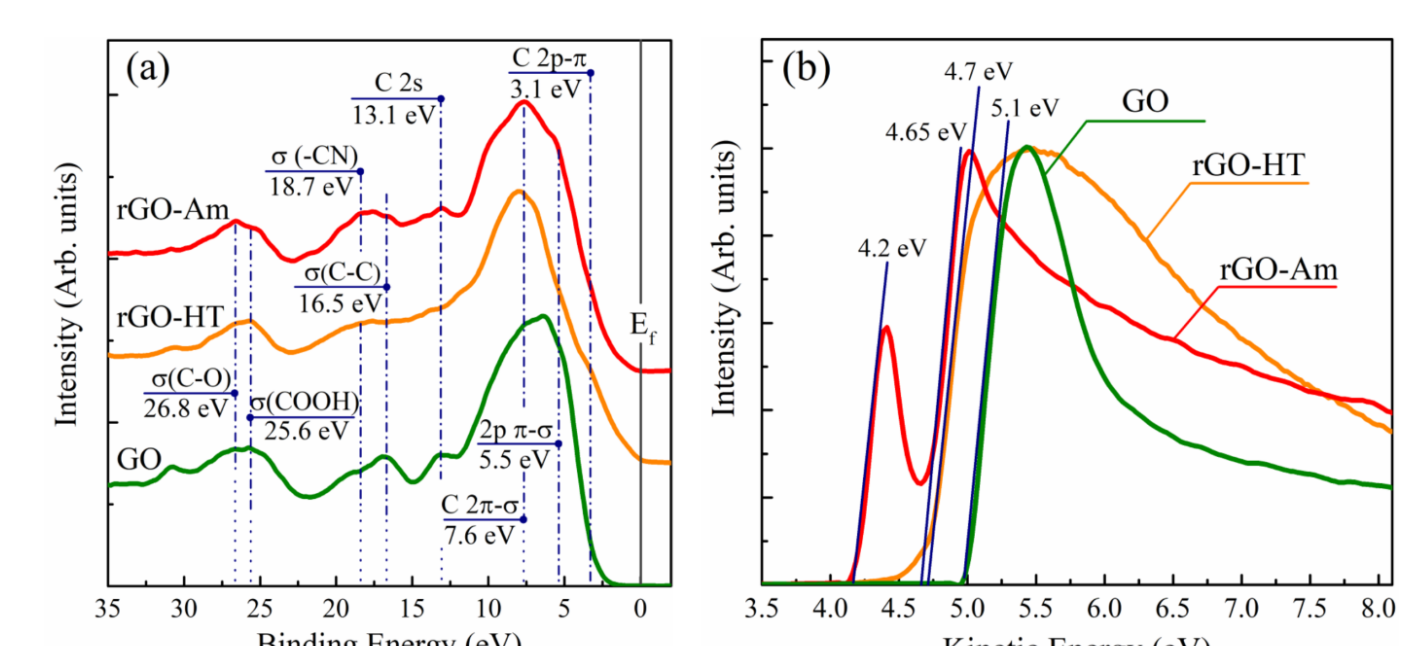
TEM images, SAED patterns and SEM images of the (a,b,e,f) initial GO and (c,d,g,h) C-ny graphenes;  
➤ Carboxylation results in perforation of graphene layers (20-100 nm holes)  
➤ Carbonylation leads to holey and corrugated structure of graphene layer  
➤ The obtained films preserve intact structure, containing massive arrays of holes

## Aminated graphene: GO treatment with hydrobromic acid & ammonia solutions



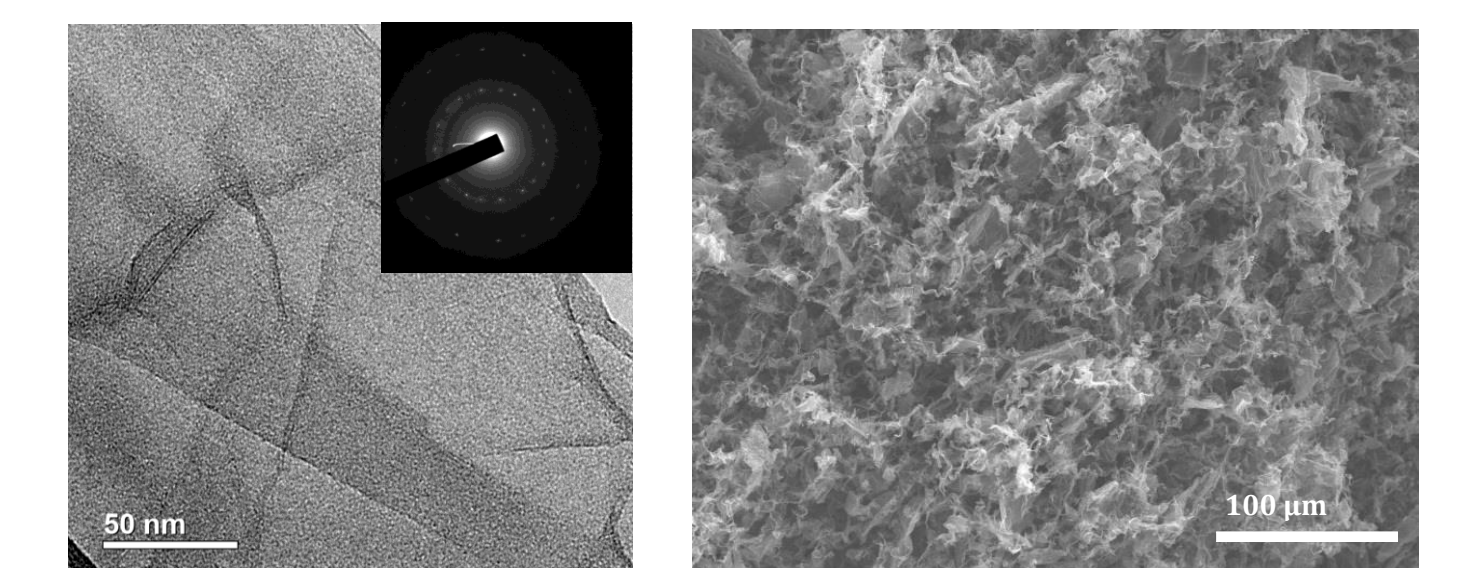
XPS characterization of the initial GO, brominated graphene (rGO-Br) and aminated graphene (rGO-Am)

➤ C/O ratio: 1.68 → 19.41  
➤ C-OH&C-O-C (at%): 53.2 → 1.8  
➤ NH<sub>2</sub> (at%): 4.87



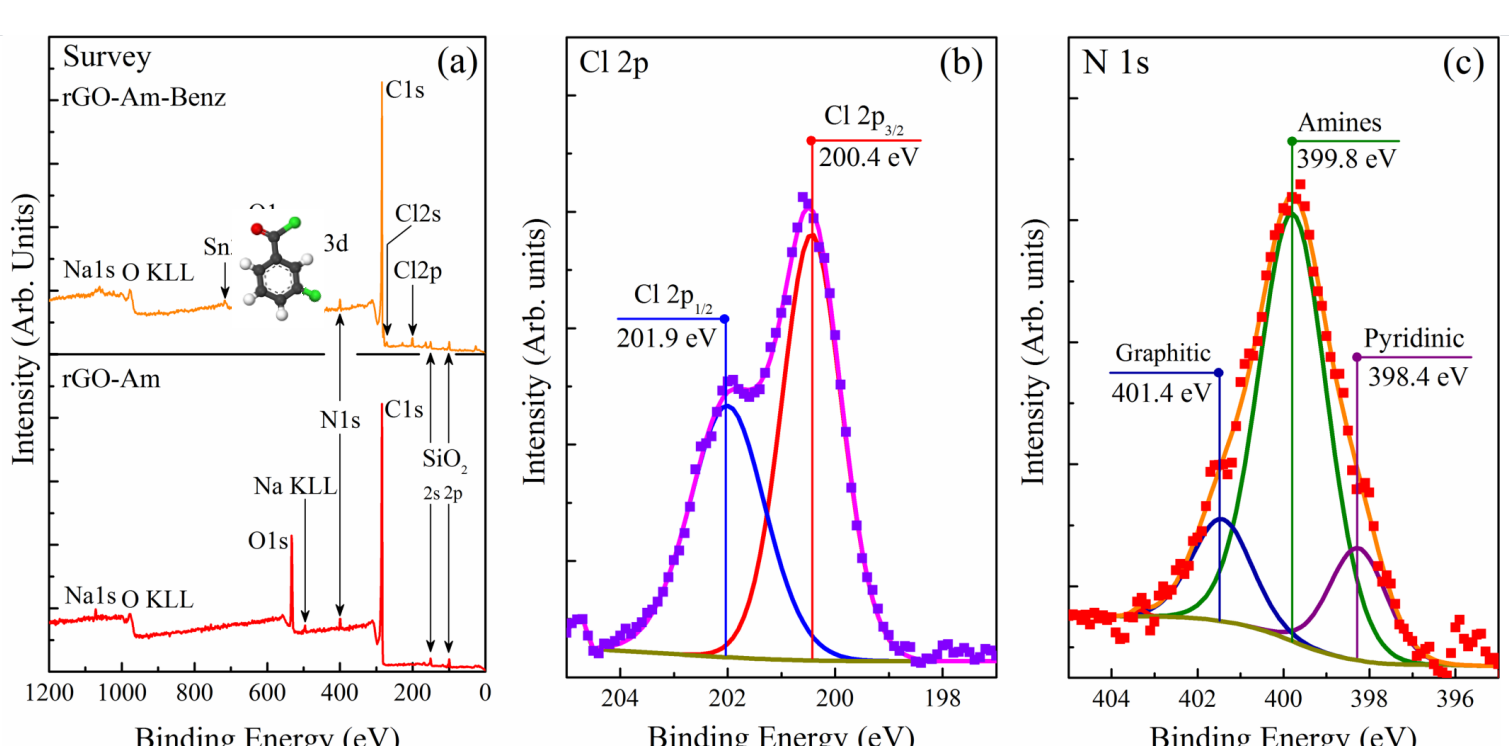
XPS valence band spectra of the initial GO, rGO and aminated graphene

✓ Amines has little effect on the Valence band structure  
✓ Local areas with reduced work function value due to the introduction of amines are formed within the graphene layer



(Left) TEM image and the corresponding SAED pattern of the individual layer of aminated graphene; (Right) SEM image of the aminated graphene film

✓ Aminated graphene exhibits defect-free structure  
✓ Owing to the presence of amines - Am graphene layers demonstrates tendency to corrugate and roll



XPS characterization of the aminated graphene after its grafting with 3-chlorobenzoic anhydride

✓ The chemical reactivity of the synthesized aminated graphene was verified by i) successful grafting with 3-chlorobenzoic anhydride and ii) the test reaction between the amines on graphene layer and Cl<sup>-</sup> ions with formation of tetraamine copper hydroxide complex (indicated by blue color)

M. K. Rabchinskii et al. Sci. Rep., 2020, 10, 6902 DOI: 10.1038/s41598-020-63935-3

## CONTACTS

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Presented materials (Graphene Oxide & Functionalized Graphenes) are commercially available.  
See: <https://graphtechrus.com/products/>

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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