Nanotube Mechanics

Rod Ruoff Northwestern University Dept of Mechanical Engineering 2145 Sheridan Road Evanston, Ill 60208-3111

We have used home-built tools inside of electron microscopes to measure the mechanics of carbon nanotubes and other nanowires. For example, the tensile loading response of multi-walled and single-walled carbon nanotubes (MWCNT and SWCNT) has been measured in a scanning electron microscope (SEM), and recently we have pioneered new approaches to measuring the mechanical resonance response of nanowires driven by oscillating electrical fields, including of new materials such as of SiO2 nanofilaments. In this talk, I outline new results obtained by our group while also presenting a broad overview of nanotube mechanics. For downloadable recent articles by the Ruoff group on nanotubed mechanics, please see http://bucky-central.mech.nwu.edu/recentpublications.html