



Nanocoating materials for packaging and energy technology

Research topic

Feasibility study of high barrier coating from solution-based coating

Introduction

Food packaging

✓ A physical shield, prevents the food from interacting with its surroundings (microorganisms, dust, moisture, light, and gases)

Problem

✓ Exposure of food to these factors can lead to its degradation and spoilage



Troubleshooting

To reduce spoilage risks



Develop and formulate a solution-based coating material



Apply on the surface of plastic packaging to inhibit the permeation of moisture and oxygen

"Preserve quality and extend the shelf life"



Introduction

Film

Polyethylene (PE) film thickness 25 micron

Polyethylene terephthalate (PET) film thickness 12 micron

Coating material	Advantage
Polyvinyl alcohol (PV)	Water-soluble, semi-crystalline polymer, low oxygen permeability, good thermal and organic solvents resistance, excellent adhesive properties, biocompatibility and biodegradability properties
Fatty acid (FA)	Organic solvent-soluble, water repellent property, and non-toxic
Graphene (GP)	Hydrophobicity, preventing oxygen diffusion, applicable to the food packaging

Objective

1. To improve the efficiency of food packaging, thereby enhancing the preservation of quality and prolonging the shelf life of food products

2. To improve a barrier property of PE and PET films and ensure they meet the requirements of WVTR and OTR below 1 g/m² day by applying solution-based coating on surface

3. Comparative analysis of WVTR and OTR between single-layer and muti-layer coating

4. To preserve the characteristics of PE and PET films (thin and transparent film)

5. Develop and broaden strategies for creating innovative coating solutions and techniques, making them suitable for industrial-scale application



Surface treatment & Coating technique

Solution-based Coating

Preparing polyvinyl alcohol (PV) plus crosslinking agent (02,03,05)





✓ Preparing S-graphene (SGP)



✓ Preparing fatty acid-graphene (FA-GP)

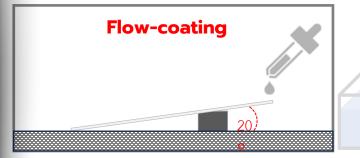




Coating techniques





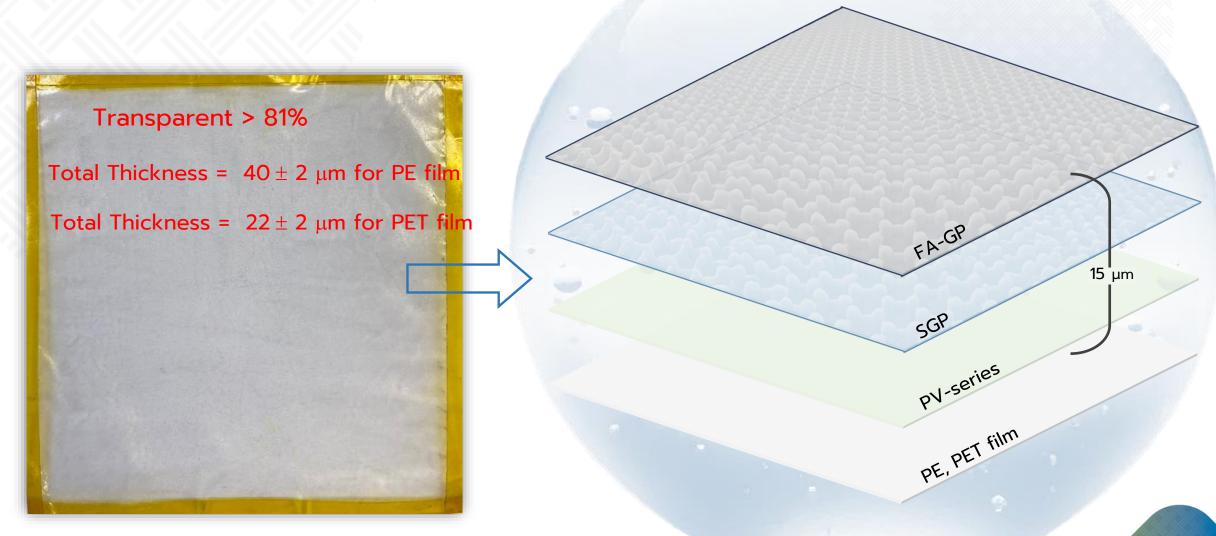




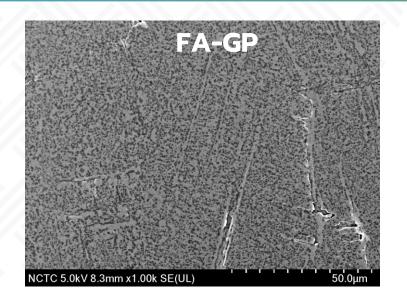


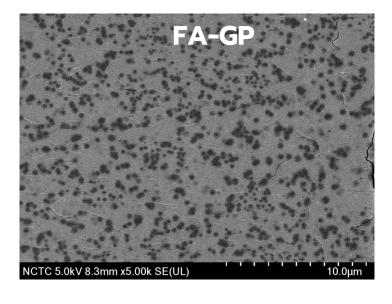


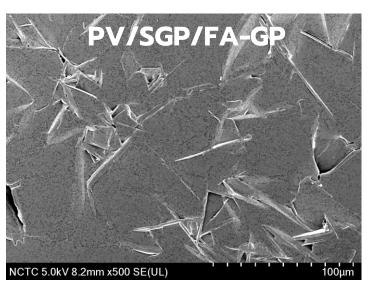
Thin Film Coating

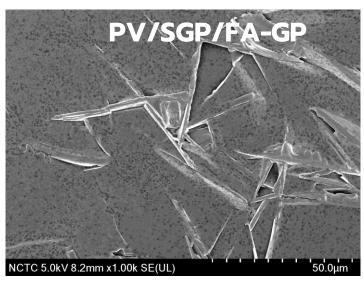


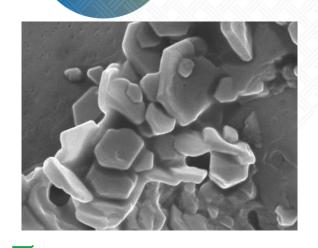
Surface of coating film

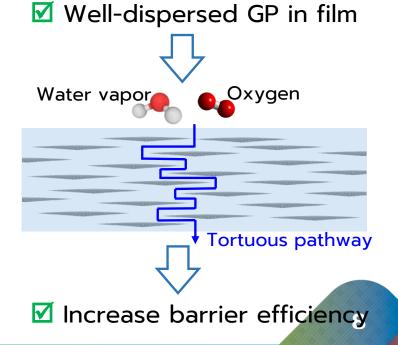












WVTR & OTR of Single layer coating

☑ PERMATRAN-W 3/34 WVTR Analyzer

WVTR = Water Vapor Transmission Rate

Condition = 37.8 °C, 90%RH (ASTM F1249)

MultiPerm O₂ H₂O Permeability Tester

OTR = Oxygen Transmission Rate

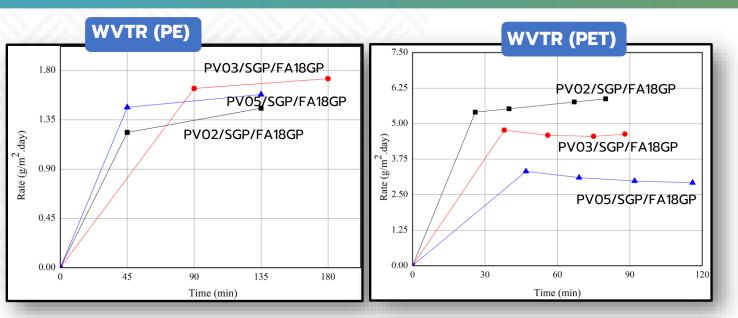
Condition = 23 °C, 50%RH

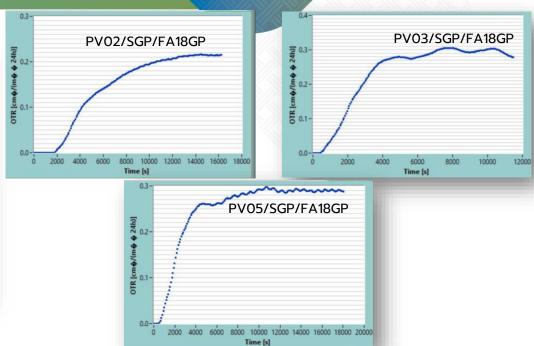
Sample (PE)	Thickness (μm)	WVTR (g/m².day)	OTR (cc/m².day)
PV01	33	8.02	4.82
PV02	29	7.24	0.73
PV03	32	7.70	2.27
PV05	29	4.76	1.51
PV03/SGP	30	7.20	0.27
PV03+GP	29	7.15	0.56
FA-GP	34	0.64	High
FA-GP (PET)	19	1.30	High

Note: WVTR = 7.2 g/m^2 .day for PE, 42 g/m^2 .day for PET

OTR >400 g/m².day for PE, >400 g/m².day for PET

WVTR & OTR of Multilayer coatings





Coating agent	PE Film			PET Film		
	Thickness (μm)	WVTR (g/m².day)	OTR (cc/m².day)	Thickness (μm)	WVTR (g/m².day)	OTR (cc/m².day)
PV02/SGP/FA-GP	42	1.45	0.00	26	5.76	0.21
PV03/SGP/FA-GP	41	1.73	0.00	29	4.55	0.29
PV05/SGP/FA-GP	41	1.58	0.00	28	2.92	0.29 10

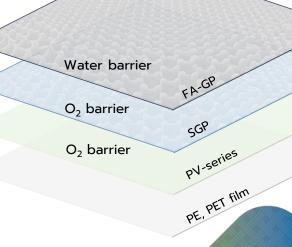
Conclusions

✓ Obtain high-efficiency PE and PET films for food packaging

✓ Achieve high barrier property for PE with WVTR and OTR below 1 g/m².day or cc/m².day by employing a single-layer coating of FA-GP for WVTR and PV02 for OTR

✓ Achieve high barrier property with WVTR and OTR approached to 1 g/m².day and 0 cc/m².day for PE film and WVTR 2-5 g/m².day and OTR 0.2 cc/m².day for PET film by employing multi-layer coating of PV/SGP/FA-GP

✓ Prepare through a simple, low-toxicity process, suitable for industrial-scale application and compatible with laminated films



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