

Supplementary material (ESI) for Dalton Transactions

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Electronic Supplementary Information (ESI†)

Viscoelastic Nanocomposite Composed of Titania Nanosheets: Multiple Conductometric Sensitivities

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Measurements. FT-IR spectra were measured on KBr pellets or in dispersed KBr pellets with a Perkin-Elmer 1000 Series spectrophotometer. UV-Vis-NIR spectra were measured on quartz substrates using a Shimadzu UV-3100 spectrophotometer. Fluorescence emission spectra were recorded on quartz substrates using a Horiba FluoroMax-4P spectrofluorometer. Excitation wavelength is 250 nm. EDS experiments were conducted with a JEOL JSM-5510LVN Scanning Electron Microscope operated at 20 kV. The nanocomposite was mounted onto carbon tape. Powder XRD measurements were carried out with a MAC Science M18XHF diffractometer using Cu K α radiation at a scanning rate of 0.01° s⁻¹ in a 2 θ range of 5–80°. Rheology measurements were conducted on a Thermo Scientific HAAKE MARS rheometer at 25 °C. The moduli G' and G'' were measured on frequency sweep from 10² and 10⁻³ Hz under a constant strain of 0.1%, and on strain sweep from 10⁻² to 5% at a constant frequency of 1 Hz. Ionic conductivities were measured using a Wayne Kerr impedance analyzer 6440B over the frequency range between 20 Hz and 3 MHz. The nanocomposite was filled in a conductivity cell constructed with a pair of ITO glasses (surface resistance: 10 Ω/\square) as electrodes and acetate films as a spacer (cell constant: 6.0 $\times 10^{-2}$ cm⁻¹), and the cell was placed in a temperature (25–80 °C) and humidity (50–95% RH) controlled chamber

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ESPEC SH-221. A 200 W Xe lamp (San-ei Electric, XEF-501S) was used as the white light source, and a UV intensity of *ca.* 50 mW cm⁻² was determined with a solarmeter (San-ei Electric, ANS-001).

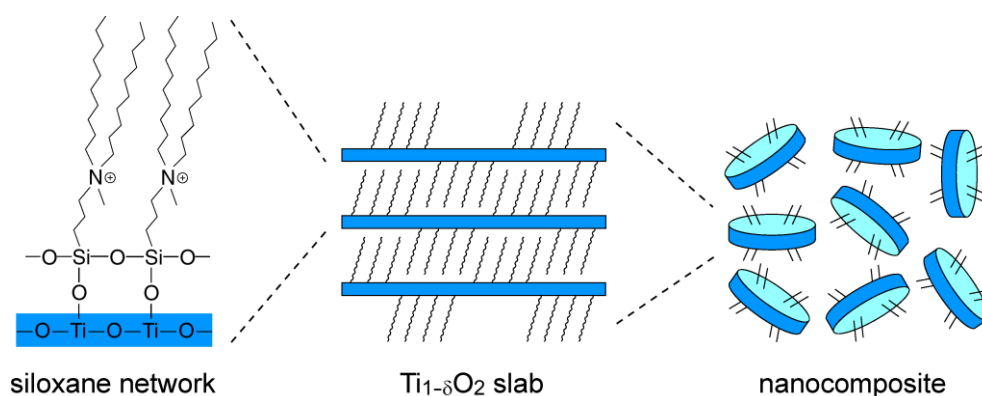


Figure S1. Schematic models of a siloxane graft network imprinted on a Ti_{1-δ}O₂ nanosheet (left), a Ti_{1-δ}O₂ slab (middle), and the nanocomposite structure (right).

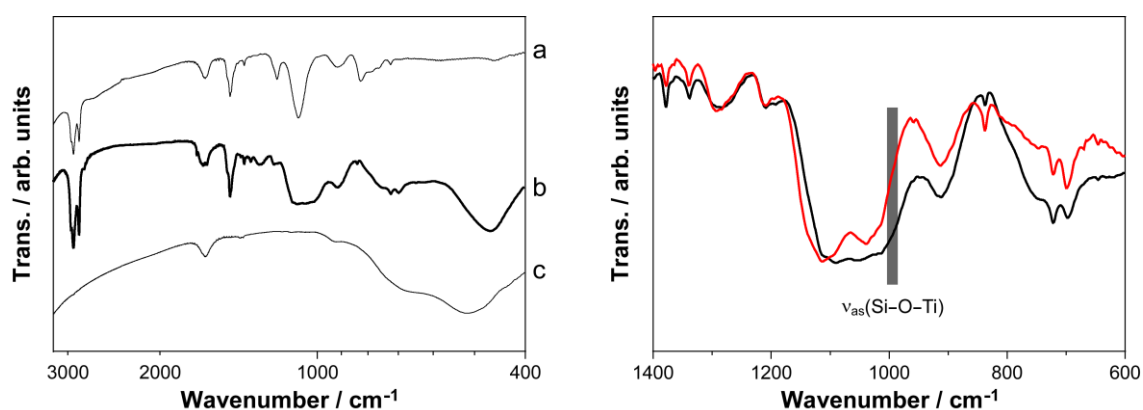


Figure S2. (Left) Infrared spectra of (a) [(CH₃O)₃Si(CH₂)₃N(CH₃)(C₁₀H₂₁)₂]₂Cl, (b) WNC, and (c) layered protonated Ti_{1-δ}O₂, dispersed in compressed KBr pellets. (right) Enlarged spectra of WNC (black line) and nanocomposite prepared by adding [(CH₃O)₃Si(CH₂)₃N(CH₃)(C₁₀H₂₁)₂]₂Cl methanol solution to tetramethylammonium hydroxide aqueous solution (red line) in the frequency range of 600–1400 cm⁻¹.

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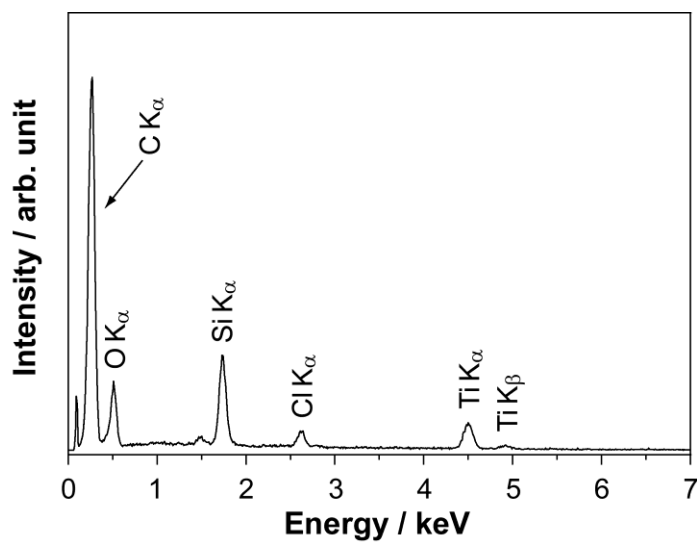


Figure S3. EDS spectrum of DNC.

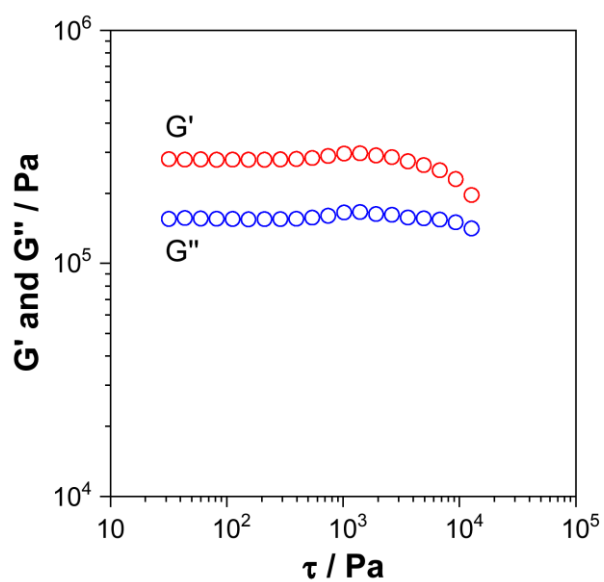


Figure S4. Stress dependences of dynamic storage (G' , red circles) and shear-loss (G'' , blue circles) moduli of WNC at a constant frequency of 1 Hz at 25 °C.

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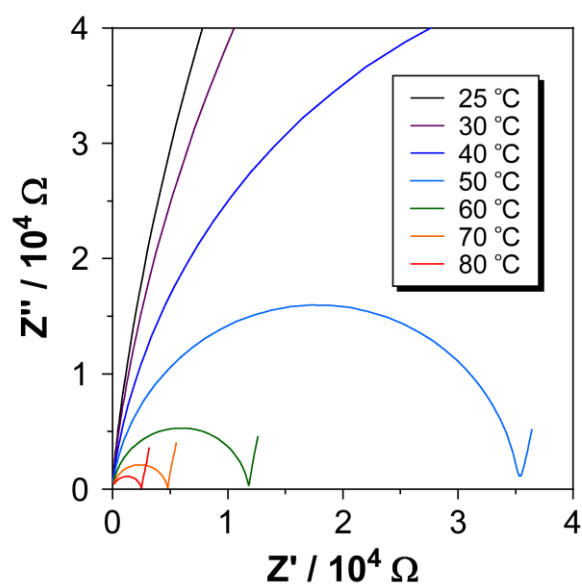


Figure S5. Impedance Cole-Cole plots of the nanocomposite under 50% RH, as a function of temperature.

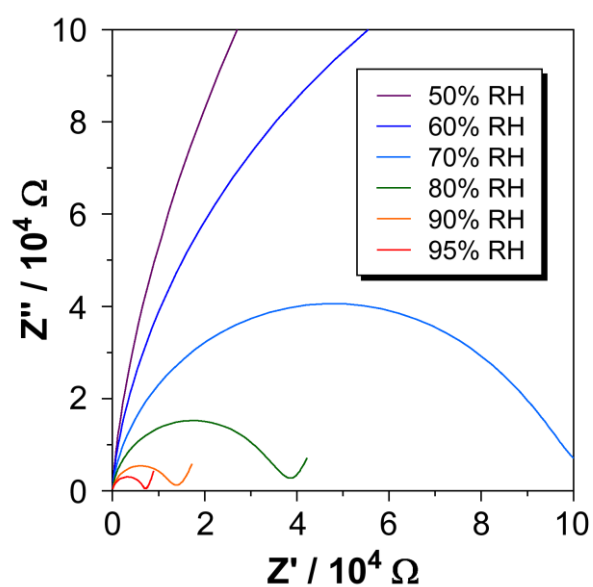


Figure S6. Impedance Cole-Cole plots of the nanocomposite at 25 °C, as a function of relative humidity.