

Supporting Information for

Enhancing the Interaction of Carbon Nanotubes by Metal-Organic Decomposition with Improved Mechanical Strength and Ultra- Broadband EMI Shielding Performance

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Supplementary Figures and Tables

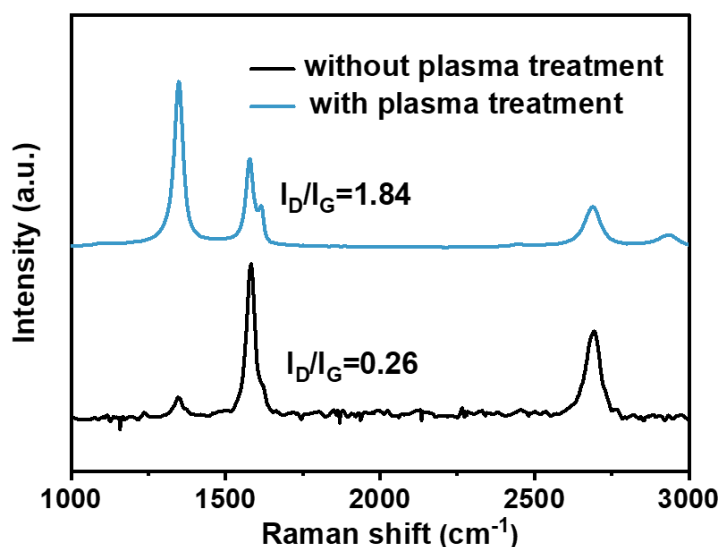


Fig. S1 Raman spectra of CNT films with and without plasma treatment

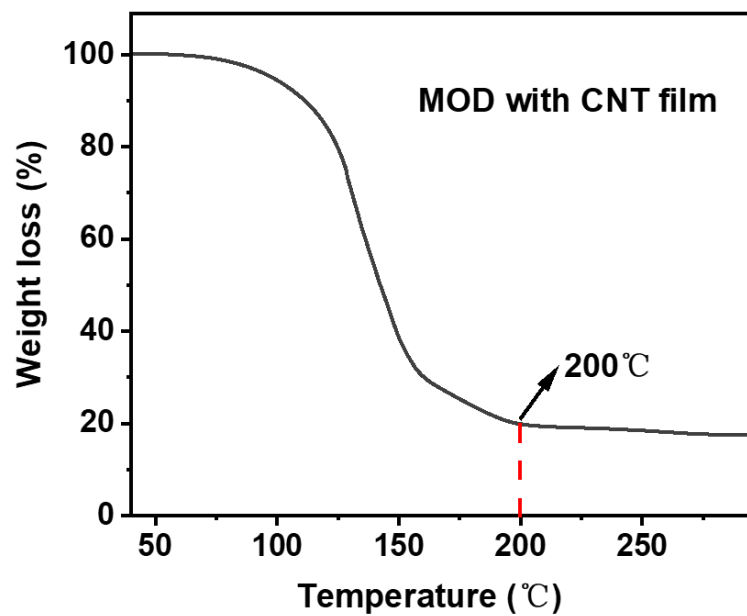


Fig. S2 Thermogravimetric analysis curves of the MOD with CNT film

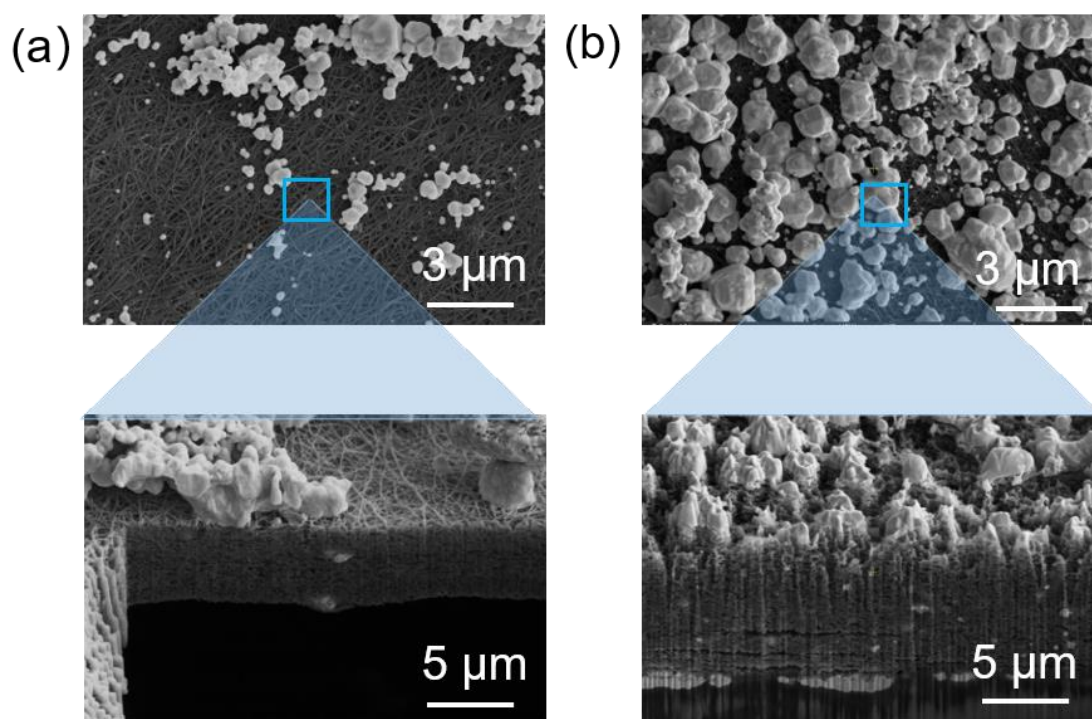


Fig. S3 SEM images of Ag-CNT film (a) without plasma treatment and (b) with plasma treatment

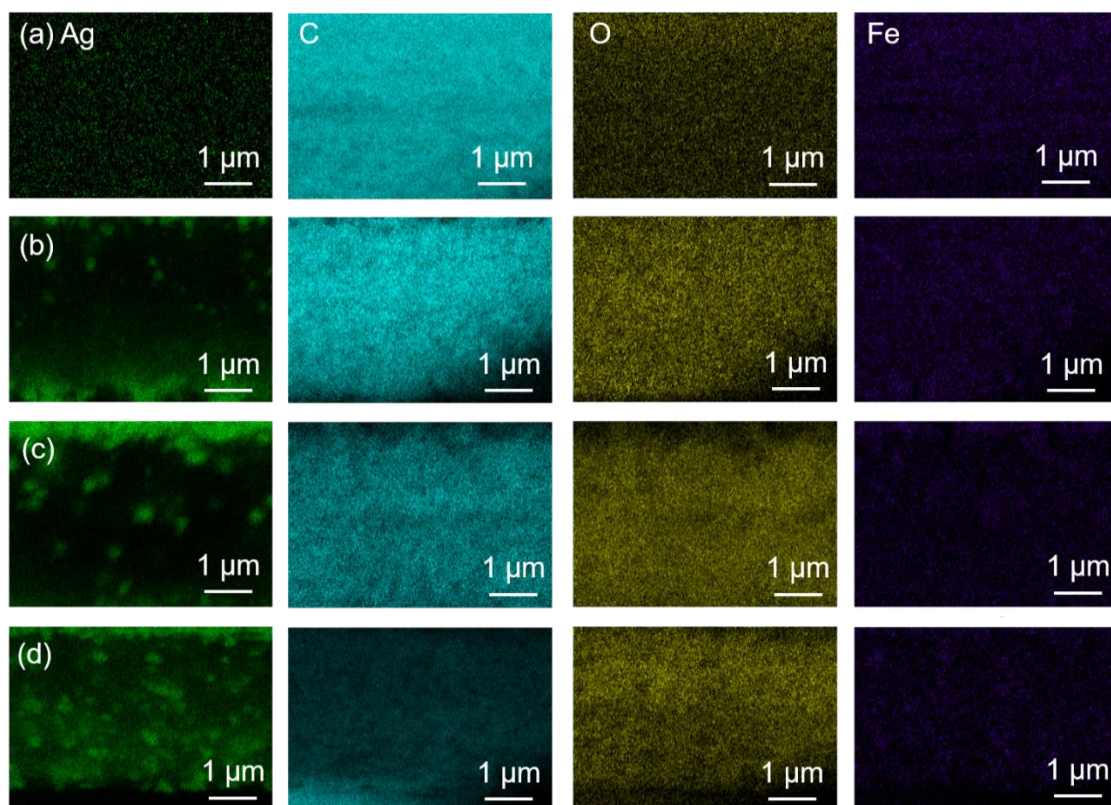


Fig. S4 The corresponding EDS maps of (a) CNT film. (b) Ag-CNT film-1. (c) Ag-CNT film-2. (d) Ag-CNT film-3

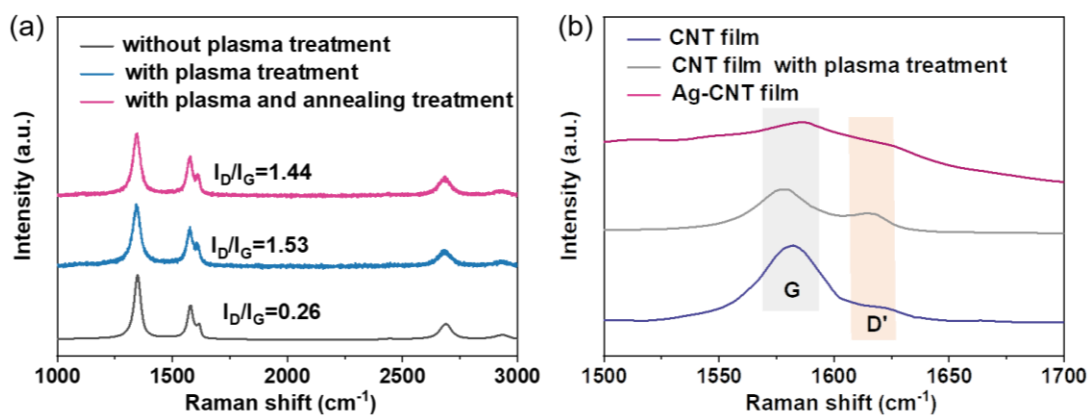


Fig. S5 (a) Raman spectra of CNT films. (b) Strong G peak with a small shoulder D' peak of CNT and Ag-CNT films

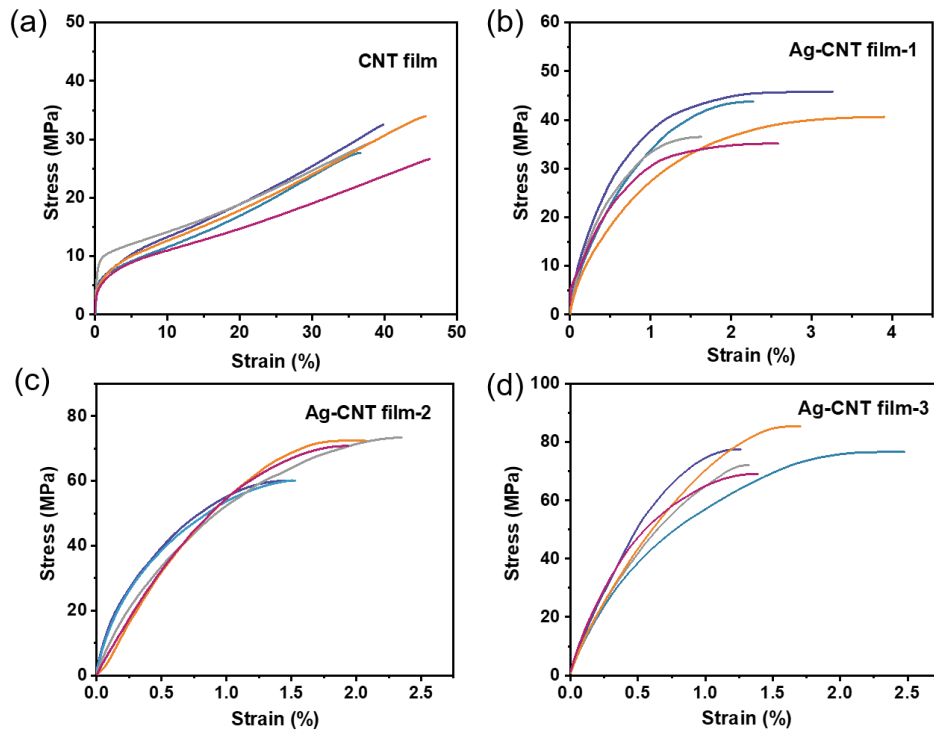


Fig. S6 (a-d) Stress-strain curves of CNT film and Ag-CNT films with different Ag content

Table S1 Summary of mechanical properties of CNT film and Ag-CNT films

Sample	Tensile strength (MPa)	Elongation at break (%)	Young's modulus (GPa)
CNT film	30.09±3.14	41.39 ± 4.30	1.12±0.33
Ag-CNT-film-1	40.38±4.56	2.73 ± 0.87	4.55±0.65
Ag-CNT-film-2	71.52±7.42	2.06 ± 0.73	7.04±0.71
Ag-CNT-film-3	76.06±6.20	1.63 ± 0.50	8.90±0.97

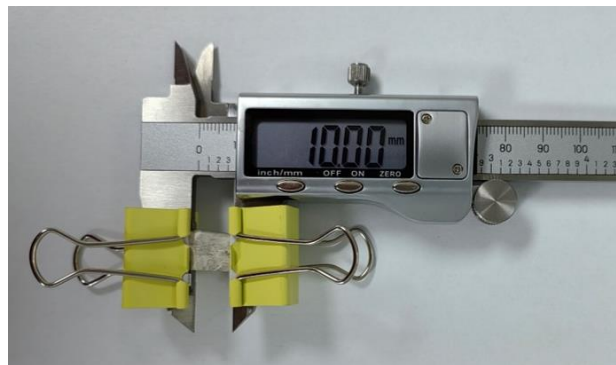


Fig. S7 Home-made devices for *in-situ* Raman test

Table S2 Summary of mass, thickness, electrical conductivity, and EMI SE of Ag-CNT films

Sample	CNT film	Ag-CNT-film-1	Ag-CNT-film-2	Ag-CNT-film-3
Ag content (wt %)	0	42	51	66
Thickness (μm)	5	5.9	6.5	7.8
Electrical conductivity (S/m)	77040	84960	324333	682000
Average EMI SE (3 - 40 GHz, dB)	37	41	48	66
SSE (dB • cm ⁻¹)	74000.0	69491.5	73846.2	84615.4

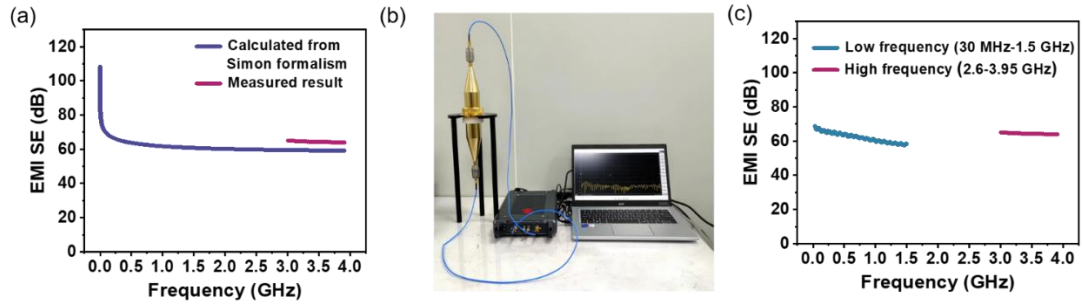


Fig. S8 (a) Experimental and theoretical EMI SE of Ag-CNT film. (b) Measuring equipment of shielding performance and (c) Experimental EMI SE measurements of Ag-CNT film, show similar EMI SE values at lower and higher frequencies

The theoretical EMI SE values derived from Simon's formula over a broad frequency range are compared with the experimental values in the S-band (Figure S8a). Calculated results predict high EMI SE values at low frequencies as well. According to ASTM D4935-99 standard, the EMI SE in the frequency range of 30 MHz - 1.5 GHz is tested by coaxial transmission line method. The measurement set-up consisted of a sample holder (KEYCOM, Japan) with its input and output connected to the network analyzer (Figure S8b). The SE values of the films in the low-frequency range were evaluated, and the results are shown in Figure S8c.

Equation part

(1) The input impedance of a single-layer shield (Z) can be calculated according to the following equation [S1]:

$$Z = Z_0 \left(\frac{\mu_r}{\epsilon_r} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \tanh \left(\frac{j(2\pi f d)(\mu_r \epsilon_r)^{\frac{1}{2}}}{c} \right) \quad (S1)$$

(2) The reflection loss of the shielding surface from front to back can be calculated

using the following formula [S2]:

$$SE_R = 20 \log \frac{(Z+Z_0)^2}{4ZZ_0} = 39.5 + \log \left(\frac{\sigma}{2f\pi\mu} \right) \quad (S2)$$

(3) The absorption loss of shielding material can be expressed as follows [S3]:

$$SE_A = 20 \left(\frac{d}{\delta} \right) \log e = 8.68 \left(\frac{d}{\delta} \right) = 8.68 \frac{\sqrt{f\mu\sigma}}{2} \quad (S3)$$

where Z_0 , ϵ_r , and μ_r are the impedances of in free space, relative complex permittivity, and relative complex permeability, respectively. As Z approaches Z_0 , the impedance matching between free space and the shield improves, allowing EMWs to penetrate more into the shielding material. f and c are the frequency and velocity of the EMWs. d , σ and μ are the thickness, electrical conductivity, and magnetic permeability of the shield, respectively.

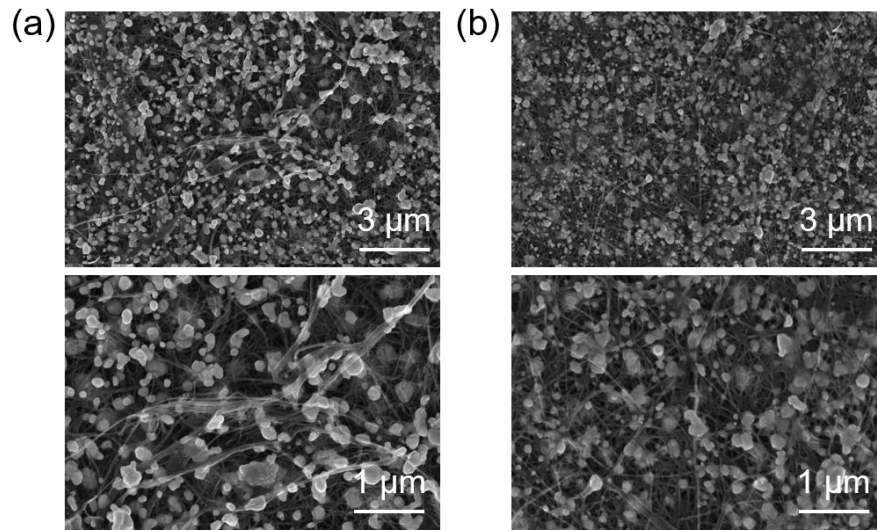


Fig. S9 The SEM images of Ag-CNT films (a) before and (b) after 2000-cycle bending



Fig. S10 Measuring equipment of near-field shielding performance

The near-field radiation is typically dominated in the region of $KR \ll 1$. The delay between phase and energy propagation of the EM waves can be ignored in this case, and the near-field radiation can be served as a quasi-static condition. To accurately measure the near-field SE of Ag-CNT film, a microstrip antenna embedded in a printed

circuit board serves as an analog chip and used as a near-field EM radiation source⁴. The scanning probe connected to VNA via a coaxial cable with an SMA connector is employed as the signal collector, as shown in Figure S10. The probe directly measures the electromagnetic wave radiation intensity at a specific point in space, while the shielding efficiency of the material is determined by comparing the radiation intensity before and after shielding.

Supplementary References

- [S1] M. Panahi - Sarmad, S. Samsami, A. Ghaffarkhah, S. A. Hashemi, S. Ghasemi et al., MOF-based electromagnetic shields multiscale design: nanoscale chemistry, microscale assembly, and macroscale manufacturing. *Adv. Funct. Mater.* 2023, 2304473. <https://doi.org/10.1002/adfm.202304473>
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- [S3] S. A. Hashemi, A. Ghaffarkhah, E. Hosseini, S. Bahrani, P. Najmi et al., Recent progress on hybrid fibrous electromagnetic shields: Key protectors of living species against electromagnetic radiation. *Matter* 2022, **5**, 3807-3868. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.matt.2022.09.012>
- [S4] Y. Xu, Z. Lin, K. Rajavel, T. Zhao, P. Zhu et al., Tailorable, lightweight and superelastic liquid metal monoliths for multifunctional electromagnetic interference shielding. *Nano-Micro Lett.* 2022, **14**, 29. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s40820-021-00766-5>